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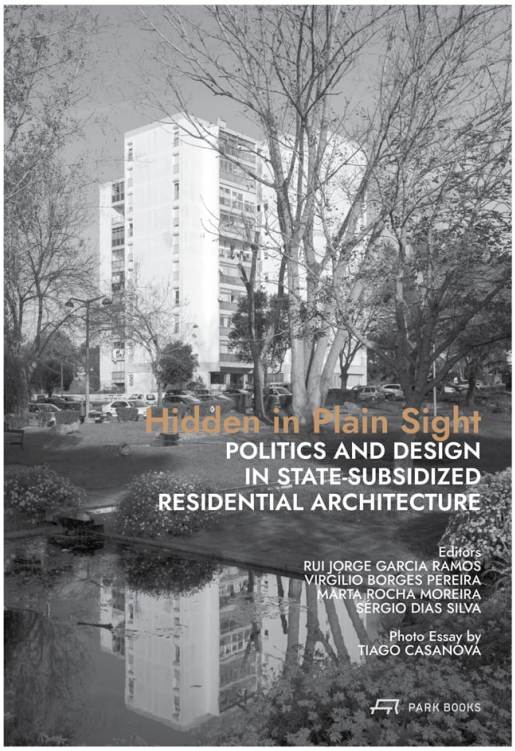

Hidden in Plain Sight

Politics and Design in State-Subsidized Residential Architecture

Edited by Rui Jorge Garcia Ramos

Edited by Virgílio Borges Pereira

Edited by Marta Rocha Moreira

Edited by Sérgio Dias Silva

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- A compendium on the history and development of subsidised housing in Europe of the 20th century
- Features exemplary social housing developments Germany, Great Britain, Portugal, Switzerland, and Spain
- Illustrates the importance of publicly funded housing as part of Europe's architectural history
- With a contemporary photo essay on a 1960s social housing complex in Lisbon of the 1960s

Social housing has a long tradition in Europe. Since the early 20th century, these often anonymously built and unappreciated structures have arisen all across the suburbs of Europe's major cities. In the multidisciplinary and international research project Mapping Public Housing, the Center for Studies in Architecture and Urbanism at the University of Porto's Faculty of Architecture has been tracing the architectural heritage of social housing. The findings demonstrate that, in many cases, vibrant neighbourhoods and entire city districts have emerged from such social housing programs.

This book takes a closer look at exemplary developments in Germany, Great Britain, Portugal, Switzerland, and Spain. The case studies cover a wide range of social and historical contexts, from the beginnings of social housing in Portugal sparked by German investment during World War I to the propaganda policies associated with subsidised housing for the working class in the 1940s, and to sustainable concepts and ideas for the future. ***Hidden in Plain Sight*** offers a wide-ranging panorama that recognises the development of subsidised residential construction as a part of Europe's cultural history and traces the important role that state-funded housing has played in the emergence of the European welfare state.

Rui Jorge Garcia Ramos and his collaborators **Virgílio Borges Pereira, Marta Rocha Moreira**, and **Sérgio Dias Silva** work at the Center for Studies in Architecture and Urbanism (CEAU), a research unit at University of Porto's Faculty of Architecture (FAUP). Since 1994, CEAU has been conducting interdisciplinary research projects such as Mapping Public Housing.






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