



3<sup>rd</sup> Stage/ Spring Semester/ Housing

## The Concept of Housing Planning Definitions & History

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### The Meaning and Definition of Housing

- A house: is a building for **human habitation**. the term is usually applied to a **single-family dwelling**. house generally refers to a shelter or building that is a dwelling or place for habitation by human beings.
- The Housing contains the meaning of **calm**, **stability**, and **tranquility**.
- A dwelling is a **basic unit in the spatial organization** of housing development. Its function is to accommodate a household being the society's basic unit. A dwelling should give a shelter and create suitable conditions for living activities of its dwellers, i.e. resting and sleeping, family co-existence care and training of children, entertaining, and reception of relatives and guests.
- **Planning** is the process of making plans for something.
- **Housing Planning** is the science that refers to the **organization, coordination, and arrangement** of dwelling units in the city or (housing sector) with its facilities.
- **Also, a house means Shelter:** an architectural structure or natural formation (or a combination of the two) providing protection from the local environment. A shelter can serve as a home or be provided by a residential institution.



**Adequate Shelter** means more than a roof over one's head. It also means

- Adequate privacy;
- Adequate space;
- Physical accessibility;
- Adequate security; (the state of being free from danger or threat).

- Structural stability & (safety); (the state of being protected from risk, or injury).
- Adequate lighting, heating and ventilation;
- Adequate basic infrastructure, such as water-supply, sanitation;
- Suitable environmental quality and health-related factors;
- An affordable cost.

### Difference Between A Home and A House: A House VS A Home

In fact, they can mean the same entity, but in different contexts.

#### A house

1. A house refers to a building in which someone lives. (Physical concept) (a **physical thing**)
2. Houses come in different shapes and sizes.
3. A house is an area enclosed in four walls with a roof on top. (**specific area**)

#### A home

1. A home can refer to any location that a person thinks of as the place where lives and that belongs. (Sensory & Spiritual concepts) (an **abstract thing**)
2. In a home, size or design does not matter. What matters is that it provides comfortable, safety, happy, and makes them feel that they belong.
3. The word “home” is also used to refer to the **country**. It is where one feels that he/she belongs, a place which gives one warm memories.

### Who Built the First Houses in the World?

Early humans created temporary shelters, it was built by Neanderthals in the Kurdistan region who built the first permanent houses some 11,000 years ago. People utilized river boulders to create some of the earliest dwellings at Zawi Chemi Shanidar cave in the Zagros Mountains during that period<sup>1</sup>.



Shanidar cave  
Kurdistan Region

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.realtygroup.property/brief-history-of-houses>

## History of housing

Some references showed that the oldest house is approximately from 10,000 B.C and was made of mammoth bones, found **near Kiev in Ukraine**. The house was discovered in 1965.

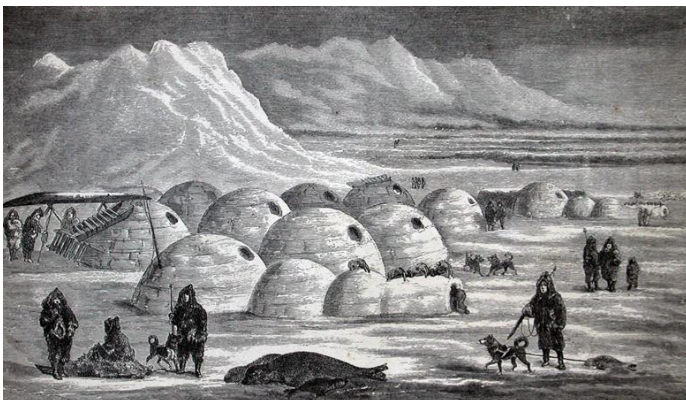
Architect **Norbert Schoenauer**, in his book *6,000 Years of Housing*, identifies three major categories of types of housing:

1. "**Pre-Urban houses**" include temporary dwellings such as the igloo, pueblo
2. "**Oriental Urban houses** " include houses of the ancient Greeks and Romans, and traditional urban houses in China, India, and Islamic cities.
3. "**Occidental Urban houses**" include medieval urban houses, the Renaissance town house, and the houses, tenements and apartments of the 19th and 20th centuries.

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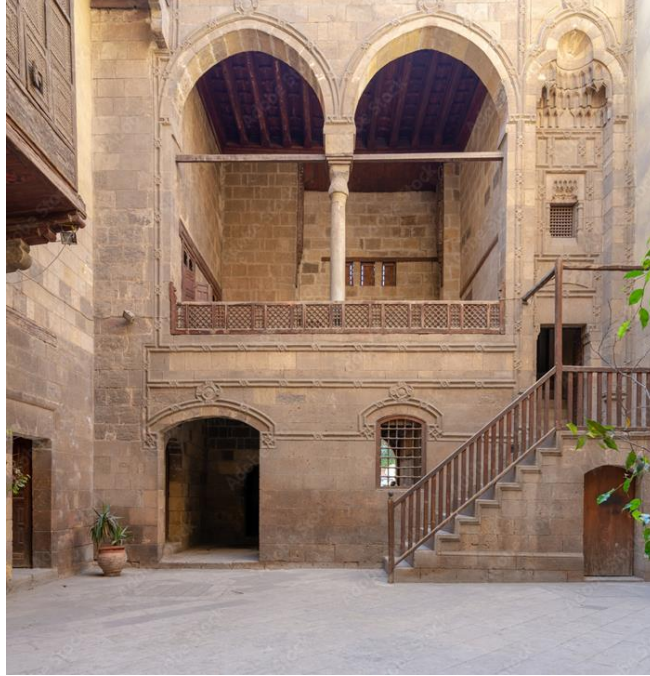


Igloo -Built from **compressed snow**



Pueblo **clay, grasses and reeds, stone, and wood.**

2. **Oriental Urban houses** include houses of the ancient Greeks and Romans, and traditional urban houses in China, India, and Islamic cities.



**3. Occidental Urban houses** include medieval and Renaissance houses, and apartments of the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.

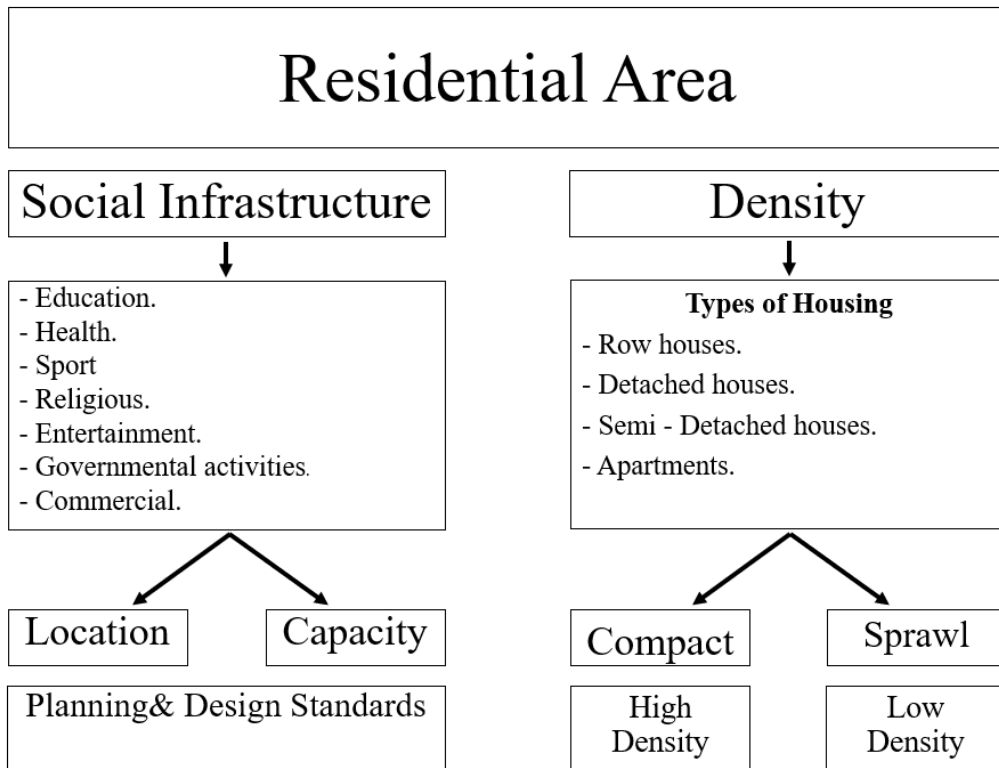
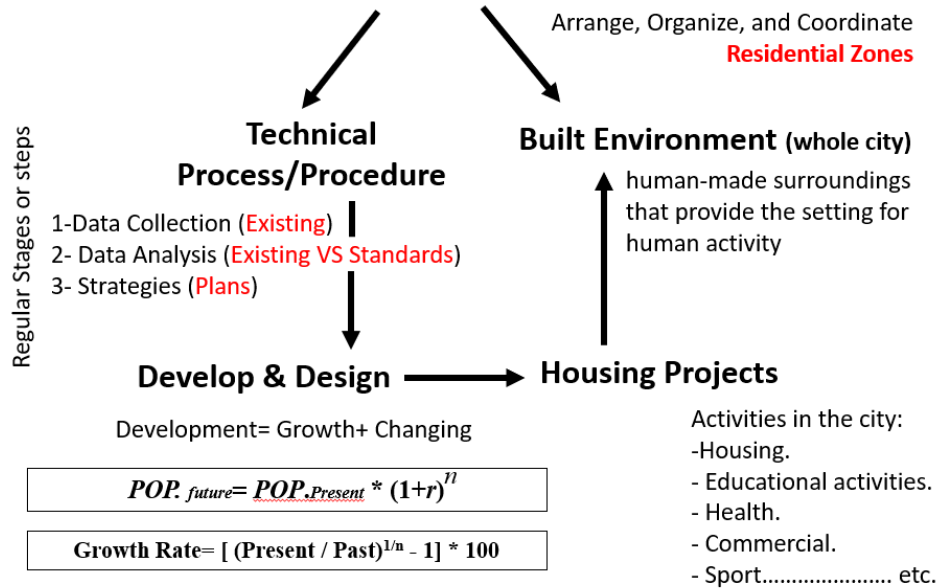


A Medieval House



A Renaissance House

# Housing Planning



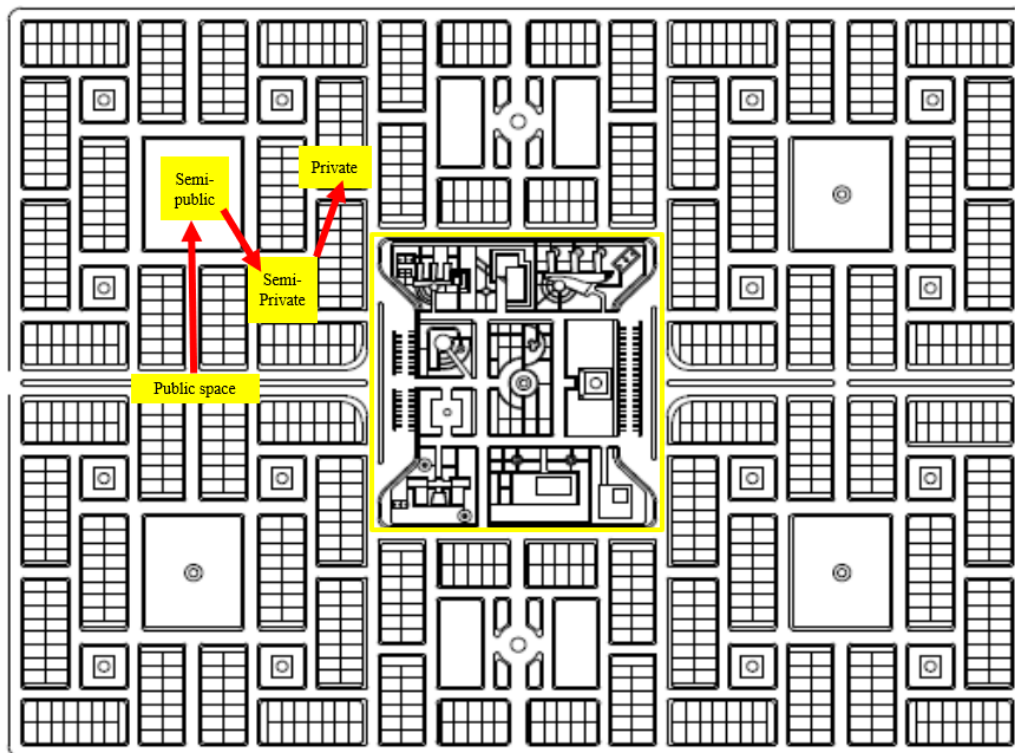
The following represents the core factors that must be taken into account in the neighborhood design:

In the planning of the residential area must be taken into account the **recommendations of the master plan** of the city in terms of density or the types of housing that achieve the required density.

There are some considerations that must be taken into account when planning of housing:

- 1- Density:** Determine the ratio of net population density and the ration per capita.
- 2- Facilities:** Identify the necessary services for a residential area and the ration per capita.
- 3- Urban Network:** The residential street or access roads must achieve minimum distance for walking to the house, in other hand must reduce a through traffic that tearing the residential mass.
- 4-Zoning:** Complete separation between the movement of pedestrians and traffic.
- 5-Hierarchy:** Achieve hierarchy in open spaces to get good accessibility to the services.
- 6- Open Space:** Do not exceed the proportion of housing to other uses such as green area, playground and recreation areas.
- 8- Housing types:** Diversity in housing units so as to achieve the desired beauty and health in housing.

## Hierarchy- Neighbourhood Community



## Residential activity system and spatial location

A residential activity system is usually related to urban form characteristics. The main patterns can be divided into compact and sprawl patterns in terms of density. **The compact urban form requires high density to reduce the distance between home and the local center with its transport hub. The aim of planners is to design urban areas so as to encourage a modal shift in travel behavior from high carbon forms of transport –principally individual car use on roads – to lower carbon forms such as public transport, cycling, and walking, maximum distance considers an essential factor to create an efficient urban system to achieve good walking distance from dwelling**

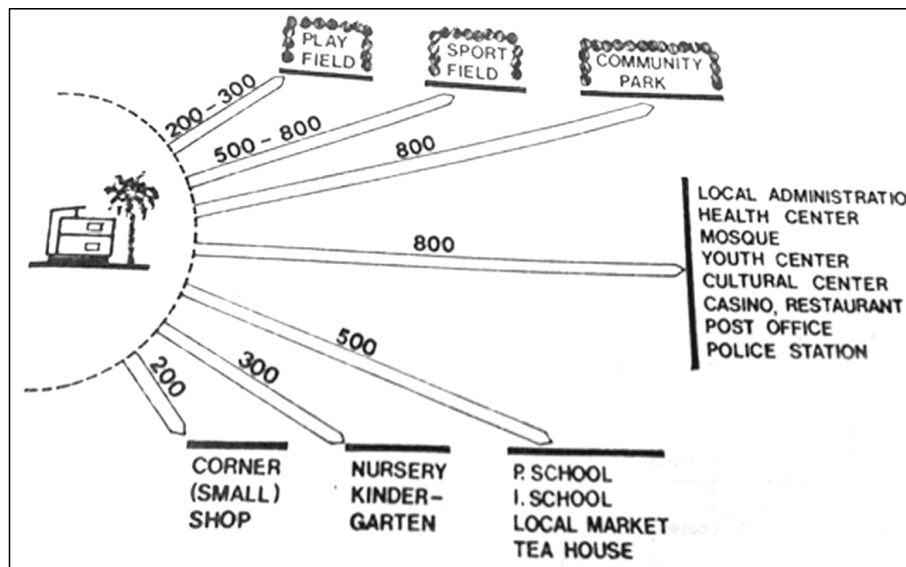
In this way; carbon emissions reduce because dwellers will not mainly depend on a car to travel from origin to destination, so successful spatial planning reduces car dependency. On the other hand, many advantages will be done at the level of the transportation system and energy consumption, therefore the essential element in promoting sustainable land use planning and management to achieve sustainability in city planning and to create a healthy environment for the residents.



Compact urban form: "high density"



Sprawl urban form: "low density"



Maximum access distance in (m) from dwellings to community facilities.

Source: Polservice, 1983, p141.