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VIGNA MAGGIORE

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Tags: Comfort, Compressed Stabilized Earth Blocks, Concrete, Corsica, Earth, France, Housing, Landscape, Local materials, Natural materials, Project, Rural environment, Singular Housing, Soil

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The site is located at the bottom of the village of Olmeto in southern Corsica, an ancient medieval village built largely of stone and with a strong connection to the surrounding territory.

Overlooking the Gulf of Valinco, the site faces the town of Propriano and frames the Mediterranean Sea. It is a former hillside farm that previously housed a vineyard and an olive grove.

The geographical location is exceptional, first of all, because of its proximity to the sea, which means that it is swept by the sea breezes, carrying a fine mist that the old hills can capture. In addition, the remarkable quality of the soil has made it a particularly fertile area. Our reflection focused on the toponymy of the place, called "Vigna Maggiore" (the most abundant vine), and delved into this ancient use which became the origin for the design.

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Driving Force Behind the Project and its Development

The landscape qualities of the project site include its remarkable century-old trees (eucalyptus and olive trees), views of the sea, and a geological base of ochre-colored tuff, a source of inspiration. The preference was to fully realize the geography of the site by turning it into the raw material for the project.

Agriculture is a deep part of the history of Corsica: the tillage of the land with a view to crop production. In this historical continuity, the project was designed using stabilized and compacted earth to tell the history of the site. The horizontal strata visible on the façades, derived from the use of this material, talk about the stratification of the ground as a kind of geological cut.

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