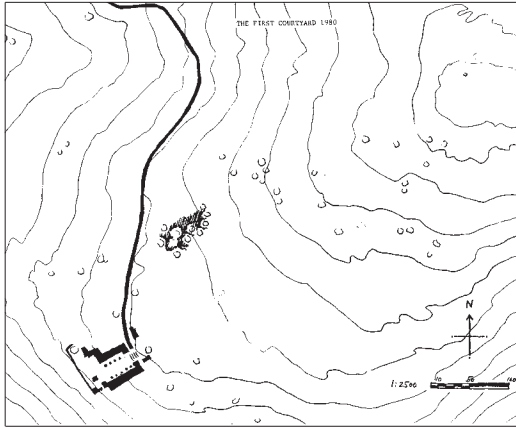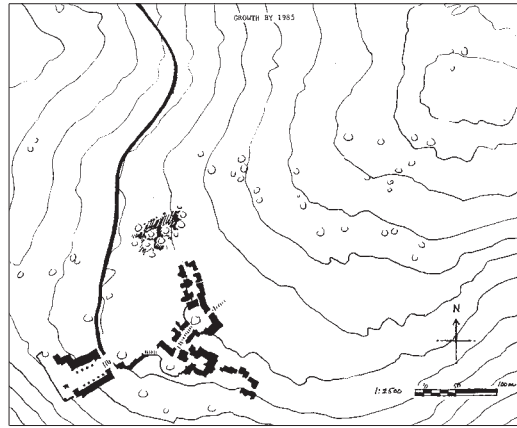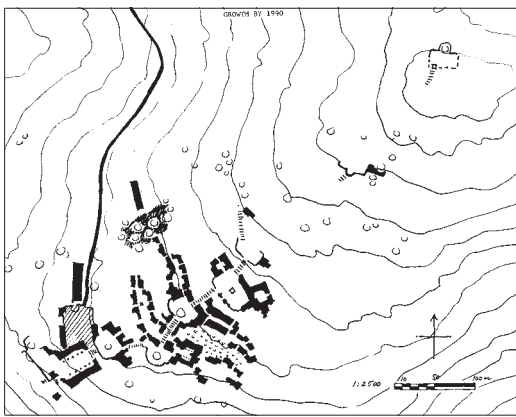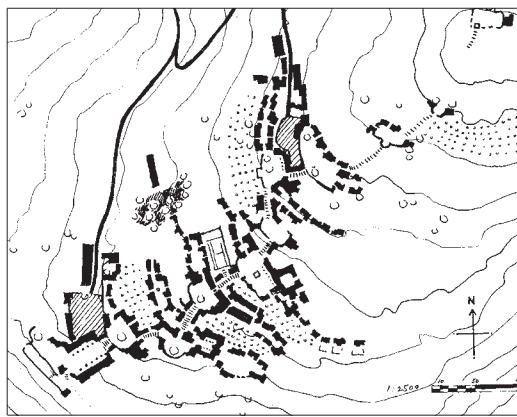## 6 / MOSHAV SHORASHIM IN THE GALILEE

Moshav Shorashim. Year 1. Sketch of projected growth, starting with the synagogue at the edge of the bluff.

Moshav Shorashim. Year 5. Sketch of projected growth, first groups of houses.

Moshav Shorashim. Year 10. Sketch of courtyards, houses, shops, and stairs as they are added.


Moshav Shorashim. Year 19. Approaching complete population, trees, orchards, retaining walls, houses and workshops.

We did manage to build a community of Israeli immigrants in the mountains of the Galilee, using an early version of a generative process. Although much of the process was too difficult to implement at the time we started (about 1982), some parts of the plan were indeed designed and built dynamically and the community is thriving today. Above, you can see four phases of an early simulation of the community growing. On page 350, I show a drawing of four houses forming a cluster, with detailed drawing of one of the four houses. As you can see from the site plan, the four

houses in the cluster are very different — each one governed by the interaction of family choices and the conditions of slope, topography, and orientation. As a result each house comes out unique, though all are made with the same general rules.

Of interest is the construction of the houses, visible in the plan and section on page 350. Each house is made of simple rectangles, with modest opportunities for variation of roofs, ceilings, balconies and so on. The variation of the plans, together with the simple construction, produces a cheaply built, yet rich community atmosphere.
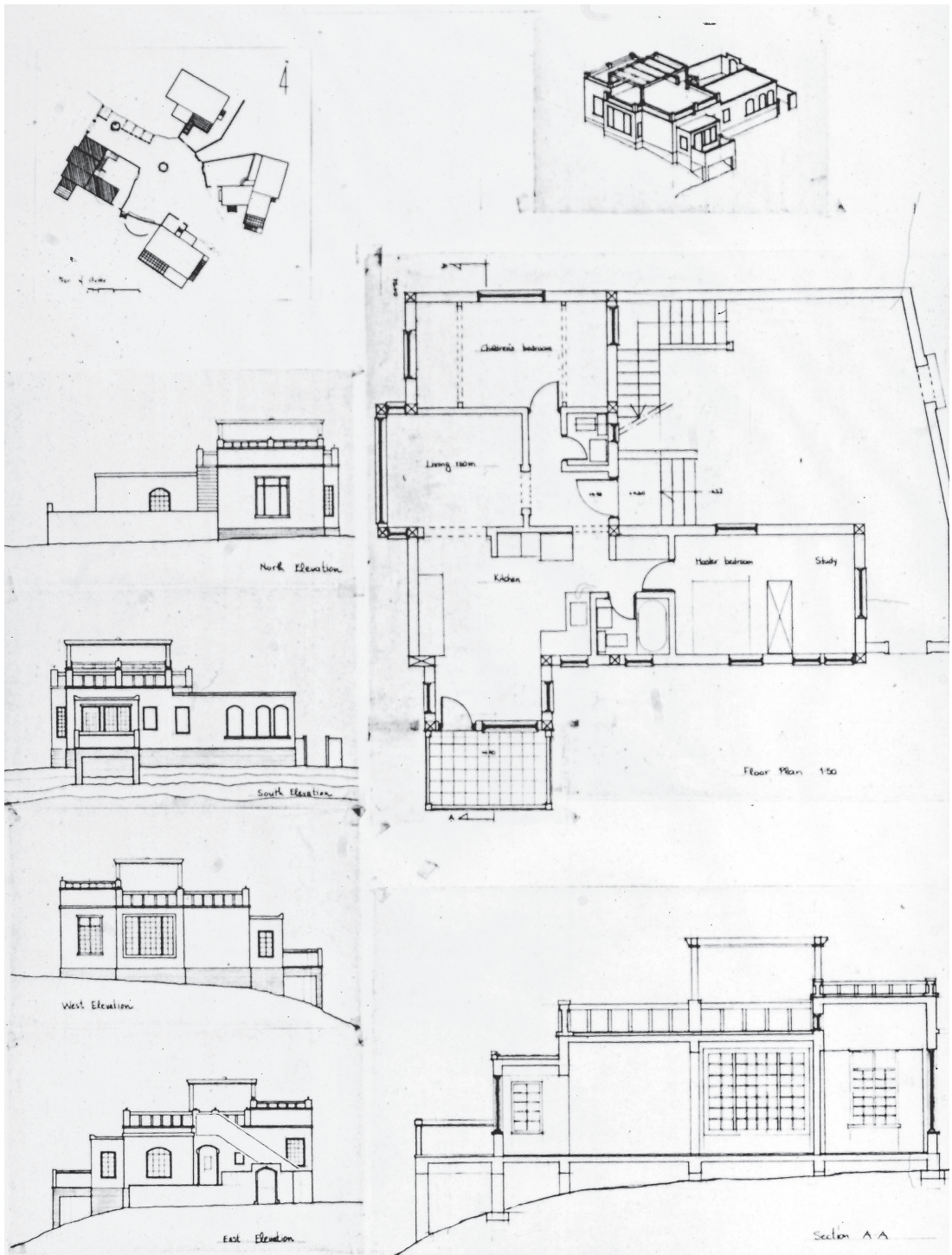
One Shorashim house designed by Amy and Yehuda Daskal for themselves, using the generative process prepared by our team at the Center for Environmental Structure. As you can see from the site plan (top left), the four houses in this cluster are entirely different, each governed by family choices interacting in a unique way with conditions of topography and orientation. The house shown here is the one at the bottom of the site plan, the sketch is seen from inside the cluster courtyard.
Sadly, about 1985 I felt obliged to leave the project in protest, since I could no longer accept my clients' painful and hostile views about the Palestinians who lived in the next door village, when they began wanting me to share these views.

Shorashim: the result of neighborhood dynamics when Shorashim was actually laid out on the ground, and as it was subsequently built. If this drawing is compared with the earlier sketch simulations on page 349, here we see the reality of form which comes from the reality of process, building by building and family by family, each thought out on the ground itself, shaping each place precisely according to its unique conditions. Christopher Alexander, Artemis Anninou, Nili Portugali, Amos Gitai, 1982–86.

As built and occupied: Moshav Shorashim, Galilee, Israel, Christopher Alexander, Artemis Anninou, Nili Portugali, 1988. On the right, a similar more urban project: Hosh Complex built by Moshe Safdie in Jerusalem, 1978.