

Alameda Plateau Cottage Cluster Cohousing

Portland, OR



On Portland's Alameda Plateau, a group of like-minded individuals came together to imagine a different way of growing older—one rooted in collaboration and care. The design vision took shape as an intentional co-housing community with light-filled dwellings, shared kitchens and craft spaces, a future caretaker's home, and outdoor spaces designed to bring people together.

The buildings are oriented to provide privacy from the street, and between shared and are clustered around a common space with overlapping outdoor “rooms,” including a shaded pavilion, multiple patios area, a covered workshop space.

Building Type: New Construction

Project Type: Residential, Cottage Cluster Cohousing

Project Scope: Full Contract: Architecture, Planning and Landscape Design

Client: Private

Size: 10,000 sq. ft. site

~800 sq. ft. houses

Team: Geotech, Survey, Structural, Landscape

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Rainwater is captured on-site to irrigate gardens and landscapes. Edible zones with planting beds, fruit shrubs, and trees are complemented by localized, reforested areas of native overstory trees, layered with mid-shrubs and understory companion plantings, tailored to each micro-zone.

The landscape design aims to leave the site improved, using native plants to build carbon-sequestering soils and create habitats that support both wildlife and humans, including a keystone oak micro-habitat with the added benefit of offering privacy and shade. In a neighborhood sense, the project also seeks to connect with other green spaces across the Alberta–Killingsworth district to support resilient ecological and community networks.



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