Through activation devices, this Clergy House hoped to provoke its users—retired priests—to partake in building their own space. Assigning each a piece of land, it was expected they contributed to shape the central courtyard. This proposal, however, raised differences among its users, which led not only to transform the original distribution of the land but also to generate internal alliances for its maintenance.

**KEYWORDS**
- land
- dispute
- participation
- activation
- politics

There is no possibility for consensual society without exclusion. The architecture of the Plasencia Clergy House is equipped to promote the emergency of the differences among its inhabitants. Discussion and controversy can be the material to produce affection under a social technical constitution.

Historically, the Catholic Church has defined the territory by superposing two occupation structures: an ideological one—tree-shaped and with the vertex at the Vatican—and another one of distribution in indirect action cores, around interconnected diocese-nodes. This pattern of implantation has arbitrated the social relations and the insertion in the territory of individuals linked to the Church, while currently the clerical population in Europe experiences a fast aging process, which makes it difficult to maintain an individual attention model.

The intervention for the Diocesan Residence in Plasencia is the device that articulates this transformation through the activation of a series of transfers, understood as synthesis and approximation of linkage elements between the expanded landscape and users (parts of ecosystems: cork oak meadow and pond, cherry tree valley, lemon tree orchard; memory-objects: benches, books, canopies, clouds, lamps, chimneys; sensitive contacts: limestone plaster, paving stones, shade, scents) thanks to the mediation of low-tech devices,
Arquitectos / Architects
Andrés Jaque / Office for Political Innovation

Colaboradores / Collaborators
Maria-Solange Faría, Raquel Limeres, Henar Molinero, Ana de Miguel

Dirección de obra / Construction management
Andrés Jaque, Miguel de Guzmán, Enrique Krahe, Marco Antonio Durán

Ubicación / Location
Plasencia, Cáceres, España

Cliente / Client
Diócesis de Plasencia

Superficie construida / Built surface
5.262 m²

Superficie terreno / Site surface
2.155 m²

Año de proyecto / Project year
2001-2004

Ingeniería estructural / Structural engineering
Alfonso Pérez-Gaité, Belén Orta

Instalaciones / Mechanical Engineering
Vectoría Consulting

Cálculo y presupuesto / Quantity survey
José Ramón Pérez-Arroyo

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Architect and Doctor ETSAM, Madrid. Founder of the Office for Political Innovation, an international architectural practice. They have been awarded with the Silver Lyon to the Best Research Project at the 14th Venice Architecture Biennale (2014), the MoMA PS1 (2014), and the Kiesler Prize for Architecture and the Arts (2016). His projects and articles have been published in the most important media, including A+U, Bauwelt, Domus, El Croquis, The Architectural Review, Volume or The New York Times; and exhibited among others at the Museum of Modern Art MoMA, London Design Museum, the Venice Biennale (2014), or the Chicago Architecture Biennale (2015), besides being invited to the Oslo Architecture Triennale and the Istanbul Biennial, both to be held this 2016. Jaque is Adjunct Assistant Professor at the GSAPP, Columbia University in New York, and Visiting Lecturer at the Princeton SOA.
Diagrama de elementos / Diagram of elements
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and of invitations to participate, as elements that stimulate reactions in the inhabitants and favor associations and shared uses. All in all, a construction of opportunities. 

1. Jardín ornamental vs de vegetales. / Ornamental vs vegetables garden.

2. Sumando apoyos. / Gaining Support. The people responsible of five plots are not willing to take care of them. This will have a negative impact the garden. Then #1 is willing to take care of those plots, and by doing that he will be providing a service to the community. This contribution to the commons is enough for him to be enabled to pursue his preferences.

3. Asociación con una segunda controversia. / Association with a second controversy. The people responsible of five plots are not willing to take care of them. This will have a negative impact the garden. Then #1 is willing to take care of those plots, and by doing that he will be providing a service to the community. This contribution to the commons is enough for him to be enabled to pursuit his preferences.
4. El hombre #1 convenció al hombre responsable de los cinco pedazos descuidados que le diera permiso para cultivar hortalizas en sus sitios, acordando compartir los cultivos con ellos.

Man #1 convinced the man responsible of the five uncared plots, to give him permission to grow vegetables in their plots, by agreeing to share the crops with them.

5. Incorporación de un jardinero profesional. / Enrollment of a professional gardener.

ocupación de la entrada. / Occupation of the entrance.

6. Redistribución de todos los pedazos de suelo. / Redistribution of all the plots.

Para posibilitar la creación de una frontera de hortalizas, evitando así futuras ocupaciones. / To make it possible to create a vegetable-growing border line to prevent future occupations.