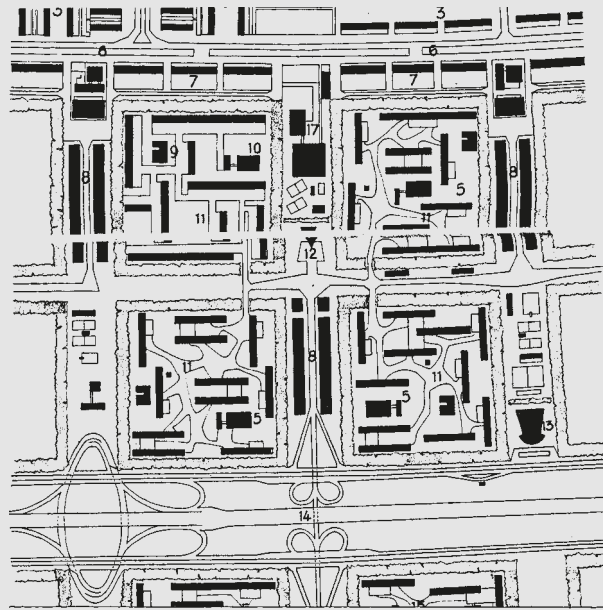


1. Institutional use
2. Row houses
3. Park
4. Service lane
5. School
6. W-3 Street
7. Commerce
8. Shops
9. Nursery school
10. Elementary school
11. Six-story apartments
12. Church
13. Cinema
14. Motor axis
15. Superblock
16. Three-story apartments
17. School park



Source: Evenson (1973); © Yale University Press

Figure 7.4 The plan of the residential superquadrads.

convincing report. The scheme featured two great axes. One axis, the monumental, would contain the capital complex; the other, in the form of an arc tied to the drainage pattern of the site, would house the residential and associated sectors. Conceptually the plan had four parts:

- 1 the government buildings,
- 2 the residential *superquadrads* (superblocks), (see Figure 7.4)
- 3 the vehicular circulation pattern,
- 4 the city centre.

In his original report Costa said the lake-front should be reserved for recreation but ultimately the lake divided the totally planned world from that of the private lots on its south (see Figures 3.1 and 7.3a).

The plan has antecedents in two generic city designs of Le Corbusier: the City for 3 Million (1922) and the Radiant City

(1930). The dwelling units are of uniform height and appearance, and are grouped into superblocks with communal facilities and gardens. The administration, business and finance towers are located at the central crossing of axes. Thus Brasília was a total urban design north of the lake with NOVA-CAP as the developer, Lucio Costa as planner and Oscar Niemeyer as architect. The team was responsible for the design and implementation of a single-unified product. Beyond the 'plano piloto', it is a piece-by-piece urban design and satellite towns have grown up somewhat haphazardly plugging into whatever pieces of infrastructure were available (Figure 7.3a).

The funding of the infrastructure and buildings, apart from the foreign embassies and the private lots south of the lake, was provided and controlled by the central government of Brazil. Even so, significant changes were made in the plan due to political and economic