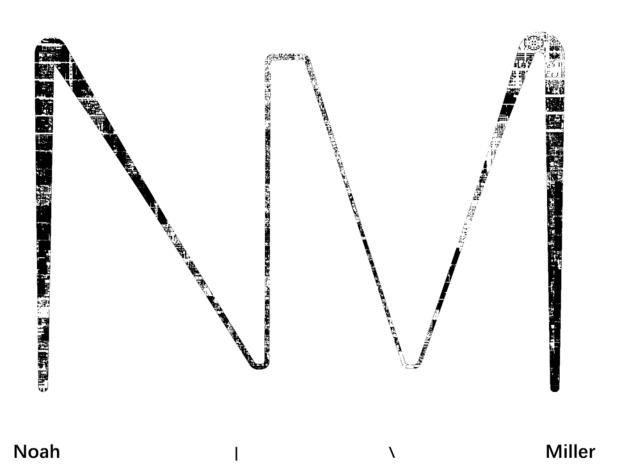
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Design Manifesto: A Gene+Culture Evolution

I.	Our individual identity is an intricate tapestry that is woven from the fibers of memory, identity, and the burgeoning field of epigenetics.
II.	Formal history is in direct opposition to collective memory.
III.	Epigenetics is the bridge between the lived experience and genetic expression.
IV.	When our primordial roots are fed, an epigenetic knowledge is created.
V.	Communication and collaboration are biological.
VI.	Different types of infrastructures maintain a balance of utility throughout the scalar world.
VII.	Anthropomorphism is not just a means of description, but rather proof of human traits being an assumption.
VIII.	Bacterial politics is an opportunity to understand the duality of indivdual identity within a society of large scale populations.
IX.	The interplay of an intradisciplinary collaboration connects the individual and collective memory, gene expression and embryo development within epigenetics and crafts the continuum of identity and experience.
X.	The future of the human and their designated microbiome will become a Microbial Cosmopolitan.

Neu-Pneu 02 Shulchan Kodesh 03 Homestead Retentive Sentiments 0 Witness Marks 5 0 The Living Epithet 6 07 Ancestral Matter 08 Cloud

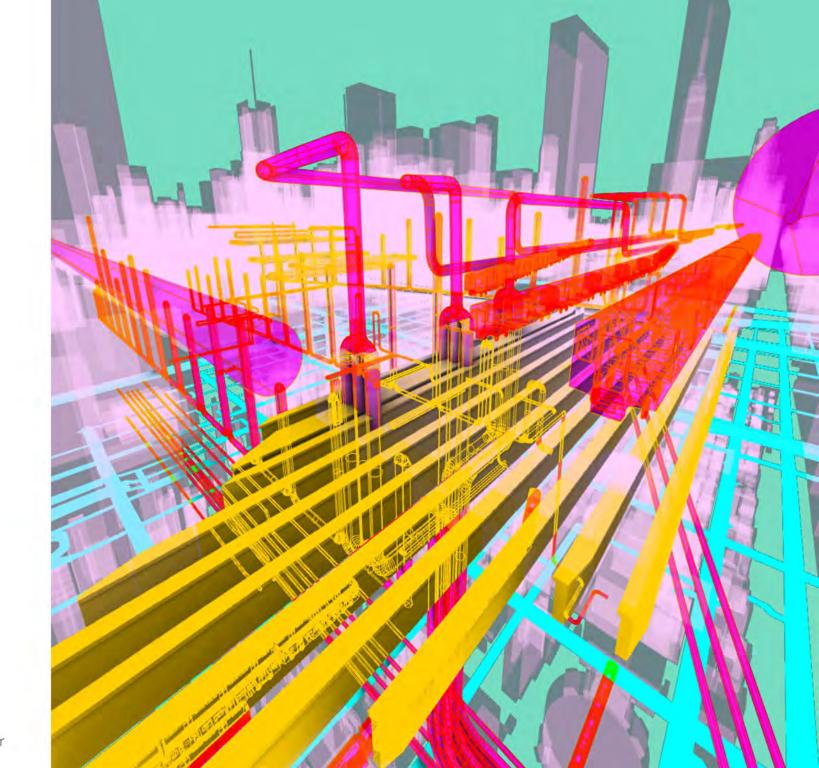
Fall 2023 Extreme Design Mark Wigley

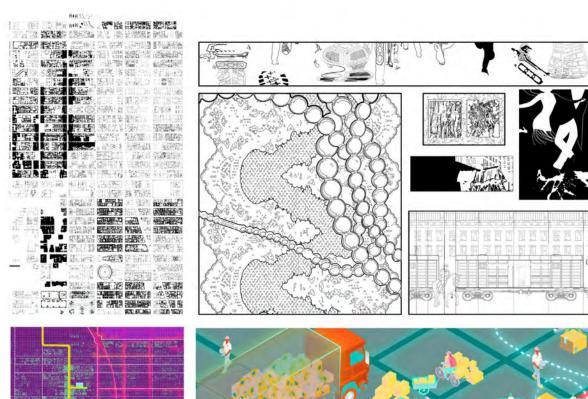
Neu-Pneu

Manhattan, New York

New York City's rising congestion is symptomatic of a system prioritizing corporate convenience over public spatial needs. With over 1.5 million packages delivered daily in Manhattan, public streets have become logistical battlegrounds. Neu Pneu reimagines infrastructure by embedding delivery systems into the city's forgotten networks—drawing from historical precedents like the cow tunnels beneath 12th Avenue and the pneumatic postal tubes that once connected libraries and exchanges.

By treating Penn Station as the central node, existing subway lines (1, 2, 3, AEC, LIRR) are retrofitted for parcel transport. Post offices become sorting centers, dark stores serve as last-mile intermediaries, and pneumatic tubes revive as connective tissue. The system operates invisibly, revealed only through architectural ornamentation—cornices, dentils, columns—subtly marking its presence. Neu Pneu separates public and corporate circulation while provoking awareness of urban consumption through infrastructural camouflage.

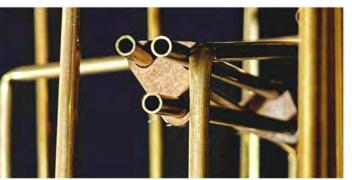








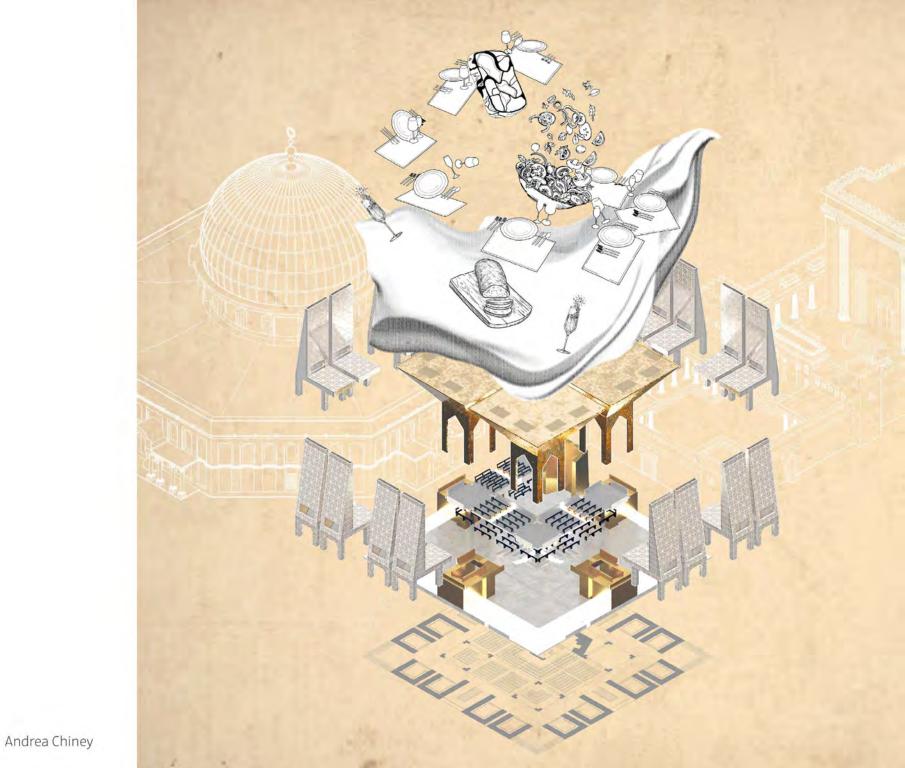




Shulchan Kodesh

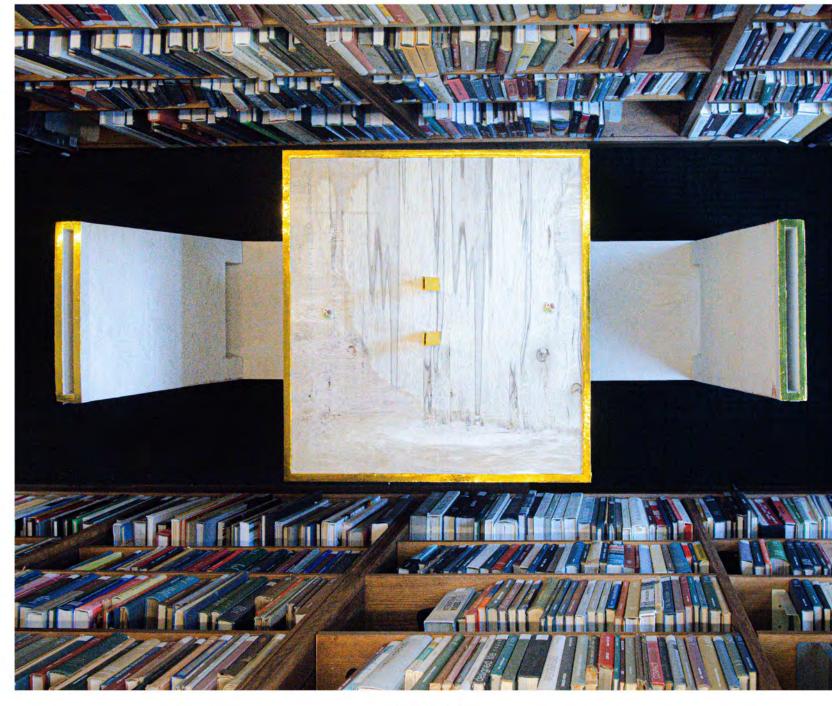
Israel

Images of monumental structures of the past cannot live again with the same intensity and meaning if destroyed. Louis Kahn stated that "Their faithful duplication is irreconcilable".In duplication, contemporary spirituality can be fed with religion, ruins, and monumentality. It's neighbors become The Dome of the Rock and Christian Church of the Holy Sepulchre.The notion of creating a "spiritual campus", a table. These monumental buildings in proximity become characters of dialogue in a broader vision of unity among different faiths, perhaps offering a peaceful coexistence that transcends historical conflicts. The architectural design thus becomes a medium for a deeper intercultural conversation, rooted in respect for the past and hope for the future.





Synagogue Hurva Unbuilt, Louis Kahn, Section

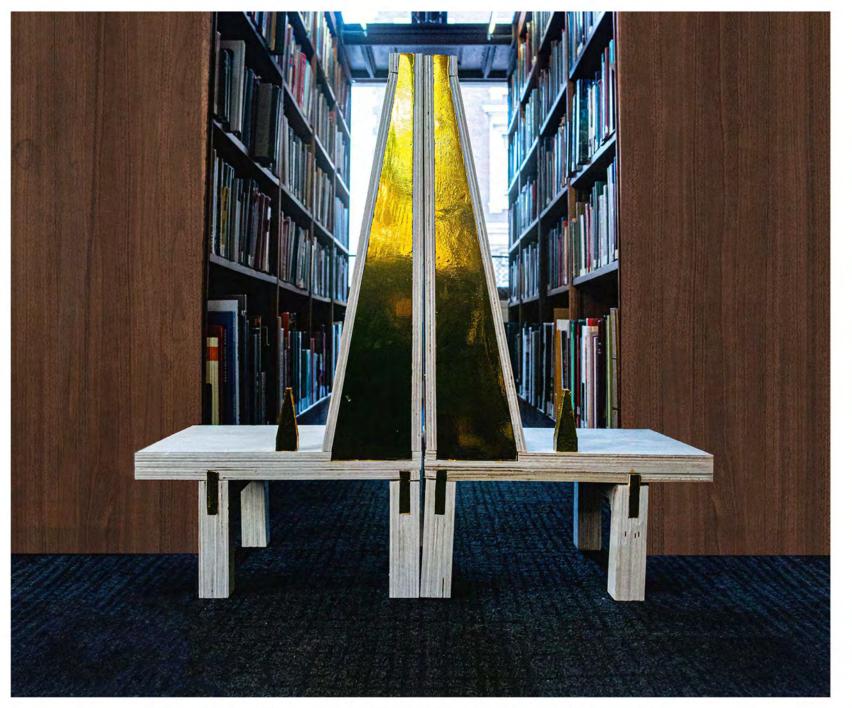




Top View Joint Detail Views



Intrascalar relationships begin to transform objects into ideas



Lowered seats break any sense of heiarchy when sitting for a meal.

Homestead

West Harlem, New York
Collaboration with Lucas Gonzalez

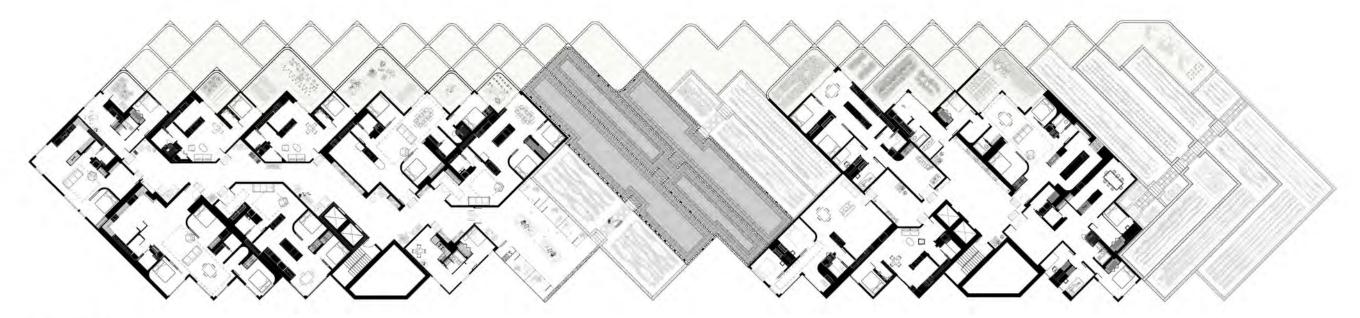
Our well-being often improves when we reconnect with our primal instincts—and declines when we ignore them. This proposal uses that idea to explore "primal architecture" and how it might shape the modern city.

Our ancestral roots still influence us today, creating a deep need for connection and care. Multigenerational housing can support this by allowing different generations to live and heal together, sharing knowledge and working through challenges as a community.

As a broader model, Homestead includes a system of agricultural exchange, where families grow and share crops through balcony networks. Each floor houses multiple families, creating opportunities for intergenerational support, shared wisdom, and a kind of informal therapy—where healing happens through living, growing, and working together.



Fall 2023 Core Studio III Galia Solomonoff



Typical Floor Plan

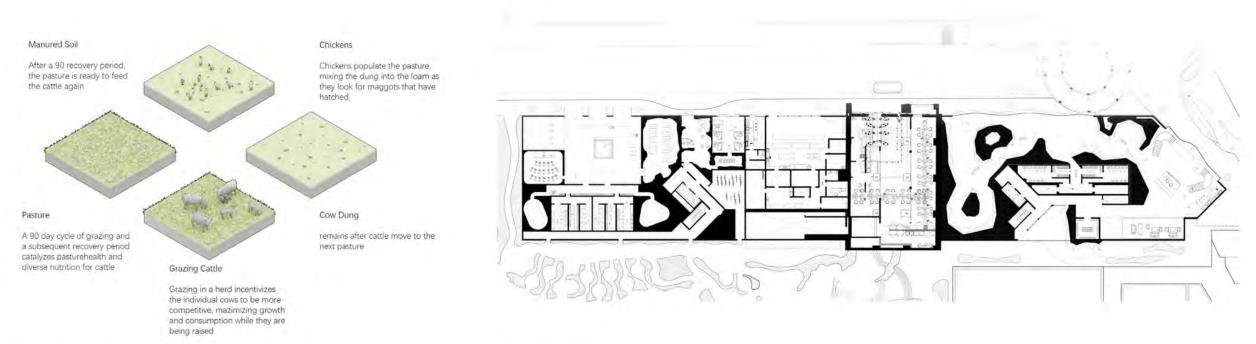
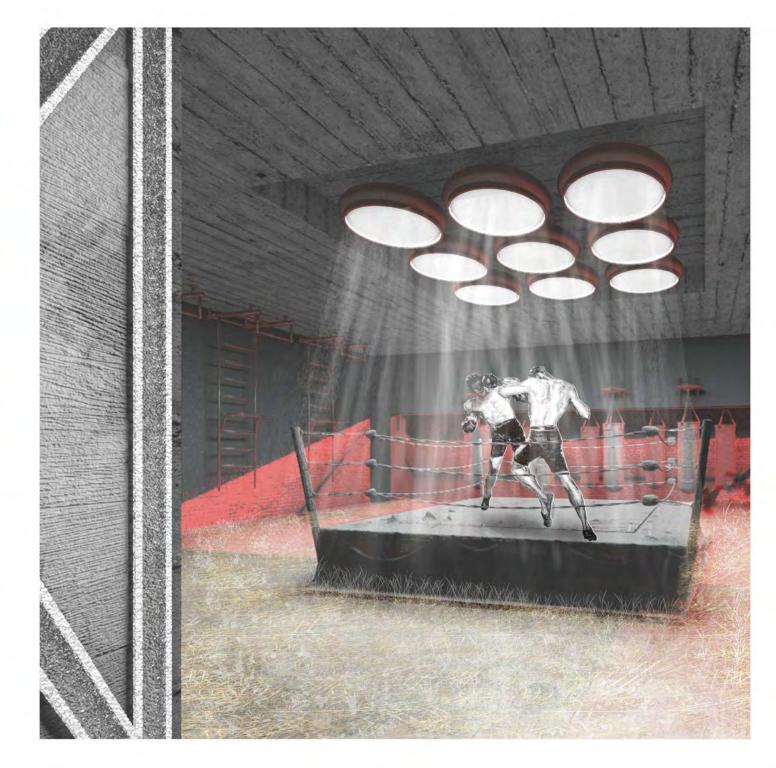


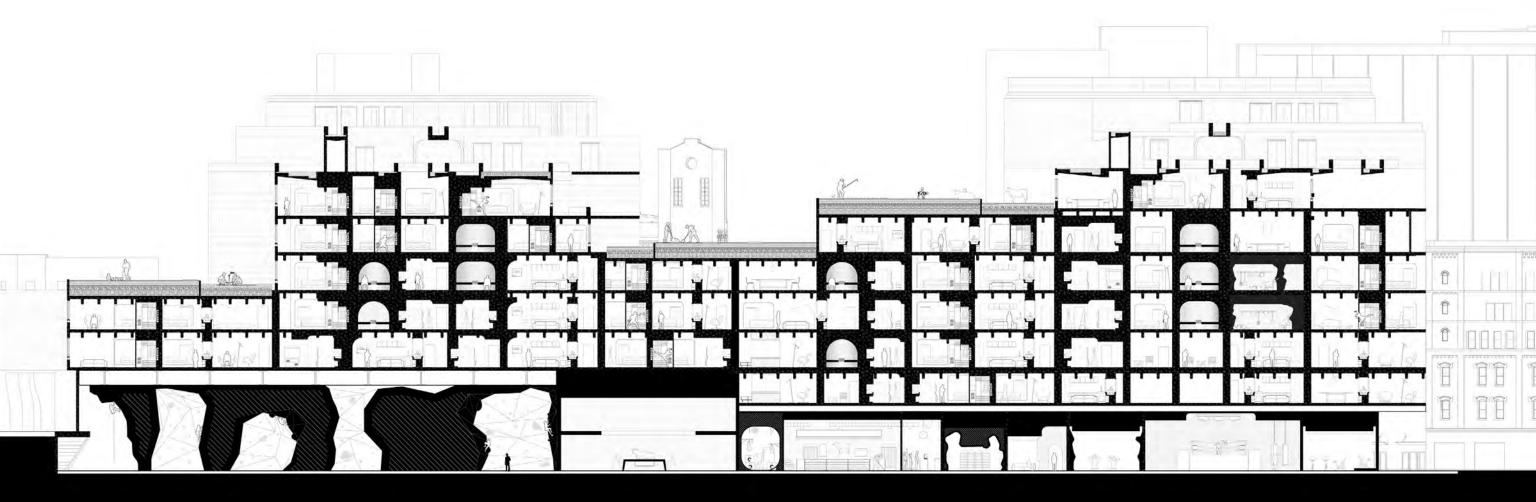
Diagram of Pasture Maintenance

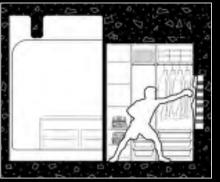
Ground Floor Plan



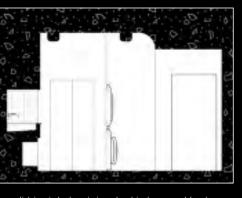












Monolithic sink that joins the kitchen and bathroom



Indoor Hearth doubling as cooktop and fireplace

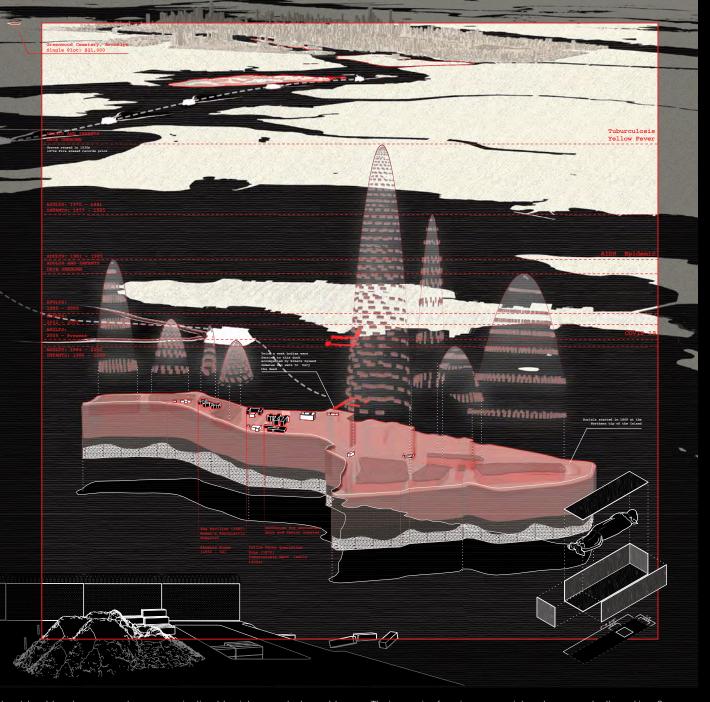
Retentive Sentiments

Hart Island, New York

For over 150 years, Hart Island has been a burial ground for the marginalized, where over a million unclaimed bodies have been interred in mass graves, reinforcing a legacy of erasure. Once a prisoner-of-war camp, a psychiatric institution, and a burial site for victims of epidemics, the island has been historically intertwined with systems of incarceration and neglect. Managed by the Department of Corrections until 2020.

Retentive Sentiments proposes an ossuary that creates space for remembrance. Built in mass timber with traditional castle-joint connections—referencing the island's lost buildings—it introduces small memorial units within the burial grid. Each unit matches the nine cubic inches once allotted per body and invites families to leave personal objects. These memory nodes turn a site of collective loss into one of care and presence. The project reimagines Hart Island as a place of dignity, where remembrance is no longer denied.

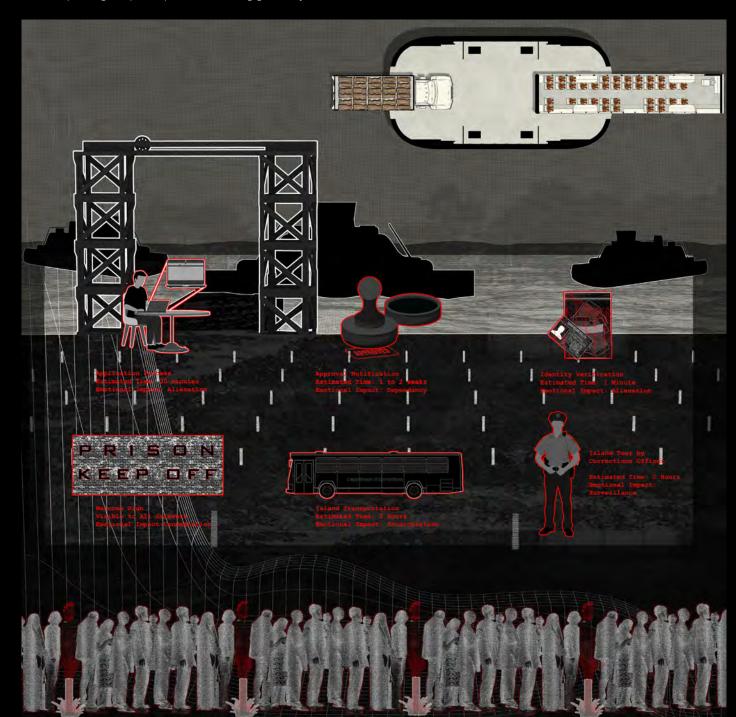




Hart Island has long served as a marginalized burial ground, shaped by past pandemics and 150 years of Department of Corrections management.

Their remains forming a material ecology—each allotted just 9 square inches within the island's 101 acres.

Those buried on the island and their families were subject to the treatment of the incarcerated. Visitors are made to apply for visitation, prove their relationship, and give up their phone while being guided by a corrections officer and driven in a retrofitted corrections bus while on the island.

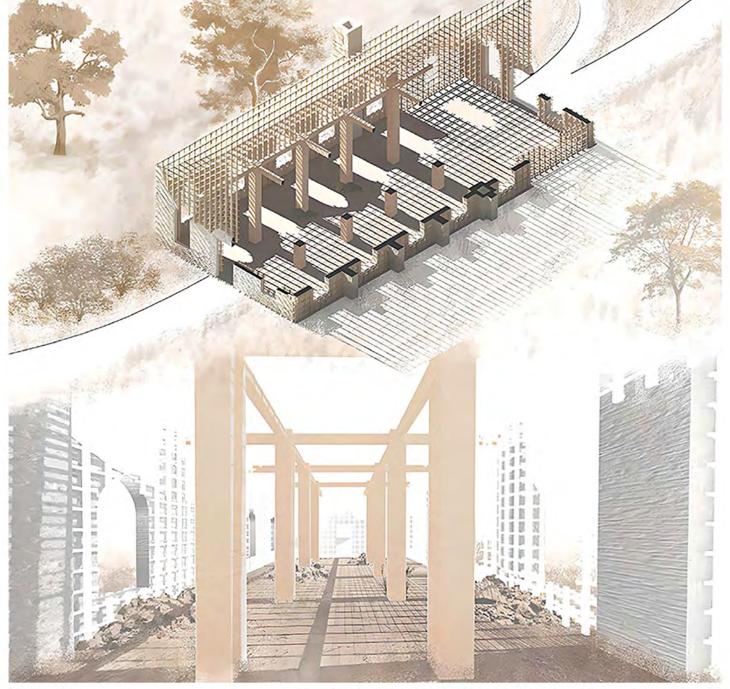




The Fog embodies not only the laborious beaurecratic journey to Hart Island and emphasized through a threshold that is experienced at the welcome center which also act as the satellite archive department of Records and Registry of New York.

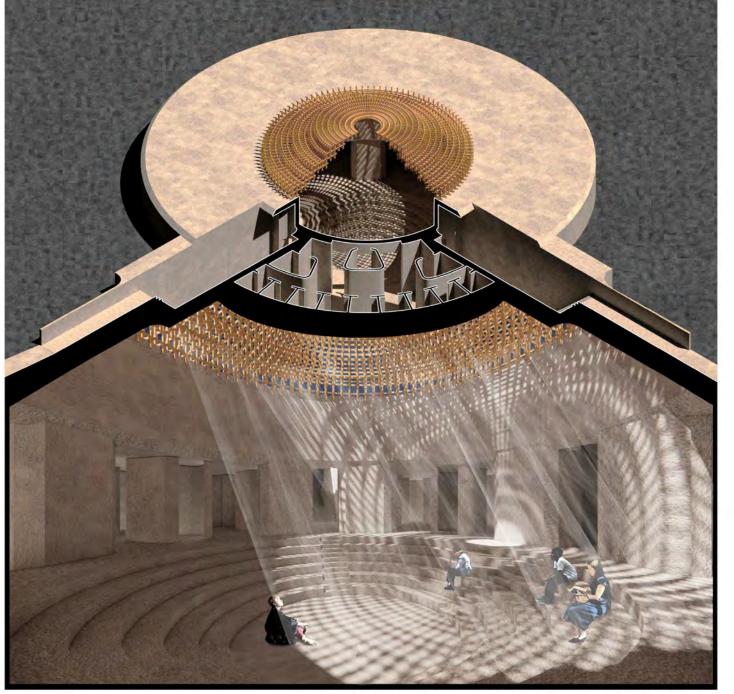
Isolation

Framing the lives of those subjected to marginalization through an ossuary of objects placed by visiting kin. The Ossuary acts as a meeting point where nodes of memory become supplements to the density of what lies beneath.



Immersion

An earthen threshhold invites visitors to root themselves within a non-denominational spiritual environment by taking off their shoes and feeling the dirt beneath them



Stabilization

A subterranean meditation space serves as a threshold between the living and the dead.

N.Y. ADC. 142 9 31-110: NY CODE - SECTION 21-110: POTTER'S FIELD IT STATES THAT, THE COMMISSIONER SHALL HAVE CHARGE OF THE POTTER'S FIELD'S, AND WHEN THE INCEGSSITY HEREFORE SHALL HAVE POWER TO LAND OUT ADDITIONAL POTTER'S FIELD OR OTHER PUBLIC BURNA! PLAYER FOR THE POOR AND STRANGERS AND FRUM HIME TO THIS L' 1 DOS AND SATENDER. AND TO PROVIDE ALL NECESSARY LABOR AND FOR INTERNENTS THEREIN, THE POTTER'S FIELD ON HART ISLAND, HOWEVER SHALL REMAIN UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE "APPARTMENT OF CORRECTIVES, AND THE BURNAL UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE CONTROL OF THE CONTROL OF THE AUPERSTHEREIN SHALL CONTINUE UNDER RULE OF SOCIAL SENTELL AND GREET!", OR THE HORT AND STATE OF SOCIAL SENTELL AND GREET!", OR THE HE CASE OF "SAGREEMENT BETWEEN SOCIAL SENTELL AND "OR THE HE CASE OF "SAGREEMENT BETWEEN SOCIAL SENTELL". INDUST SUCH REGULATIONS SAME SENTELL SENTELL SOCIAL SENTELL AND SET ADDITIONS OF THE SAGREEMENT BETWEEN SOCIAL SENTELL AND "OR THE SUCH REGULATIONS SAGREEMENT BETWEEN SOCIAL SENTELL AND "OR THE SUCH REGULATIONS SAME SENTELL SENTELL SOCIAL SENTELL SENTELL SOCIAL SENTELL SOCIAL SENTELL SENTELL SOCIAL SENTELL SOCIAL SENTELL SOCIAL SENTELL SENTELL SOCIAL SENTELL SOCIAL SENTELL SOCIAL SENTELL SENTELL SOCIAL SENTELL SO

Death Infrastructure, 2023

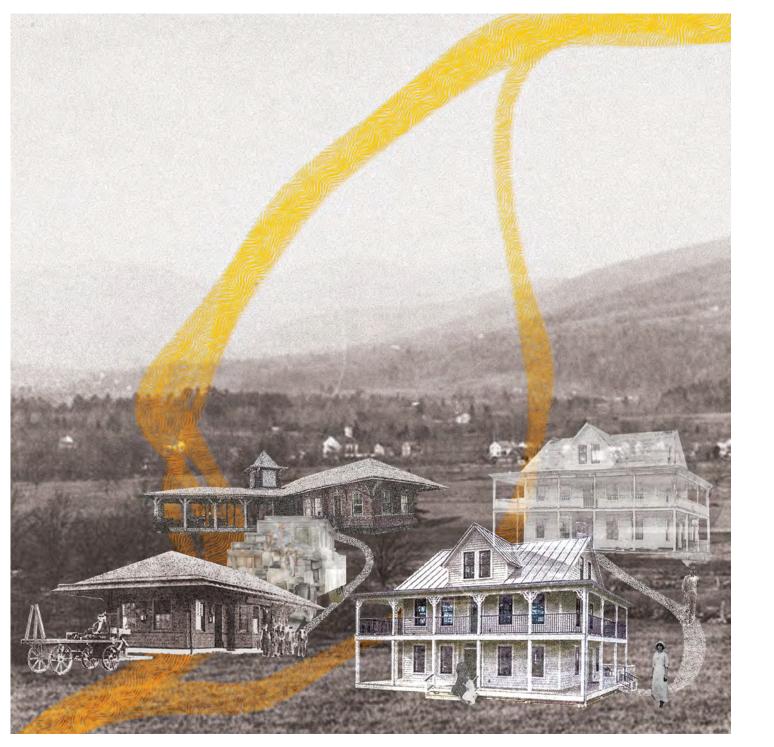
Agar, Cellulite, Brass Tubing, Acrylic, and Wood

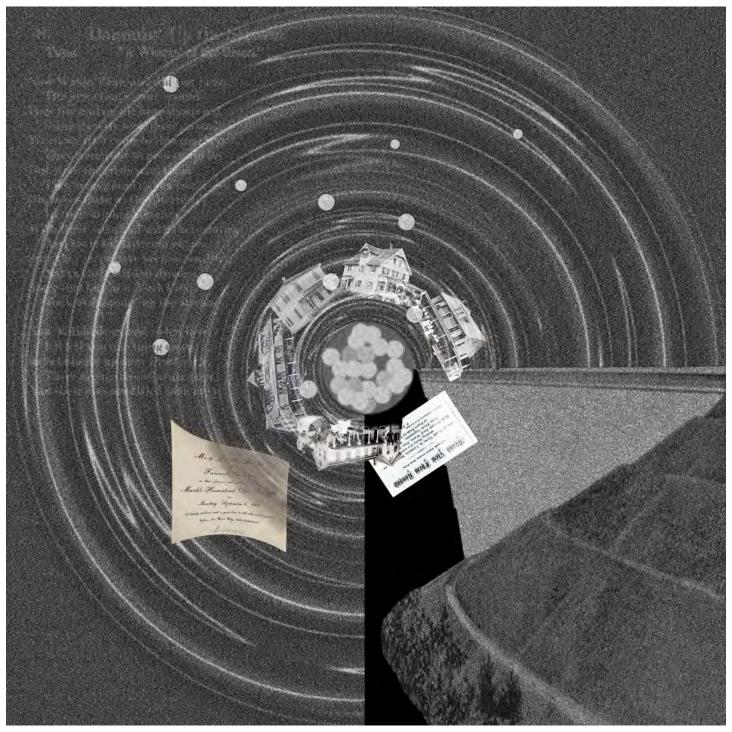
Witness Marks

Ashokan, New York

The Commons can be described as a spatial infrastructure that harnesses symbiotic relationships consisting of a trans-species population, similar to that of a microbiome, where its inhabitants exist in space and benefit from one another. The commons can be shared space. The commons can be a multiscalar, mutually-adopted ethic towards sharing of resources, space, and territory that transcends property enclosure and works across society, culture, economy, and ecology. Sited on the dividing weir that stagnates the resevoir's turbidity, the structure becomes a site of local extraction, turning New York City's Resevoir into a site of trans-scalar extraction which reintroduces the Ashokan community to the resevoir.

















Davis Cottage

Sunset View House

Locust Farm



Grand View Hotel









Roosa House Cottage

The Ovilette



Hamilton House West

Shokan



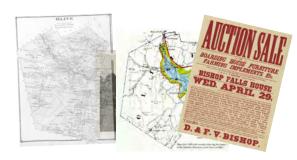


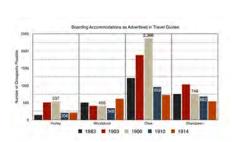


Mapel House

Brookside Cottage

Browns Farm









Du Boise House



House



WHERE WATER MEETS EARTH
LIGHT BREAKS THE CALM SURFACE THAT BELIES THE CENTURY OLD LOSS THE TRACES OF PAST MARK THE PLACE WHERE THEIR HEARTS WERE LEFT BEHING ACHING FOR THEIR OWN LONG AGO









Dammin' Up the Stream. "A Wearin' of the Green." Tune:

Now Waldo, dear, and did you hear, The news that's goin' 'round, How the natives all have prospered, Since the city took their ground? When we first came to this country, They were poor as poor could be, But since the city's paid them They're as grand as you could see. Oh, to see them as they're ridin' In their automobile cars, With their silks and with their satins, And their big five cent cigars. Sure they ne'er have been so wealthy, Not in their wildest dreams, Since that big New York City, Took to dammin' up the stream.

Now Waldo dear, and listen here, I'll tell you one thing more. In Schoharie up near Prattsville, There are natives who are poor, And their eyes are filled with envy,

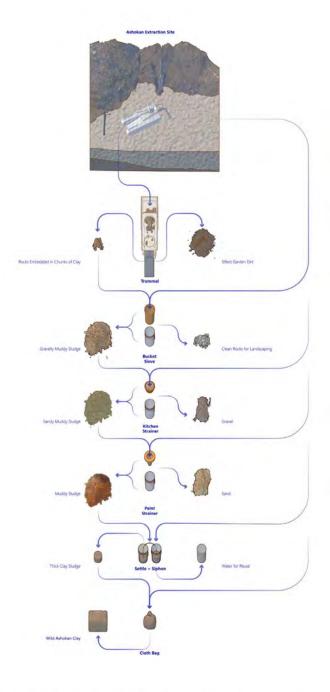
And their heads are filled with schemes, To get old New York workin' And a dammin' up their streams. And while I'm hear a tellin' Let me whisper soft and low, There are others who are wishin' That it soon will be a go. Now just look around you Waldo, And beneath the bright lights gleam, You'll see the very boys who would be Dammin' up the stream.

Here's a welcome to you engineers Who come from "Down the Line," To see the waters startin' On their climb up to flow line. We boys up here have done our best To make a first-class job; And your praises as we've shown you 'round, Sure make our proud hearts throb. But there's something I've been thinkin', And I'll tell it now to you, Widout drawin's from Headquarters Sure we'd not know what to do, And unless you'd built the aqueduct, And you conceived the scheme, New York would be no wetter For our dammin' up the stream.









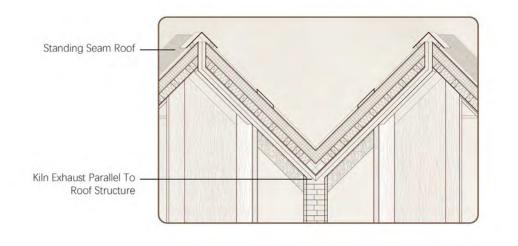
Sited over the overflow gate of Olive Bridge Damn, the structure extracts turbid water. Through a process of seiving, drying, and silt seperation, the turbid water can be filtered into natural clay for pottery.

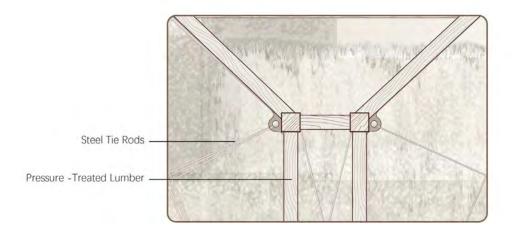
The meditative practice of ceramics becomes a therapeutic experience. Locals are given the ability to work with the land that was once taken from them.

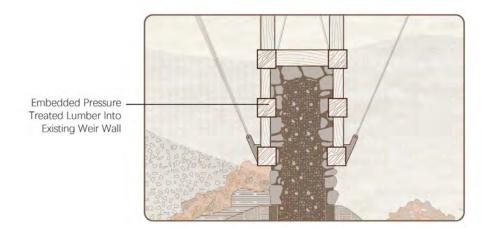


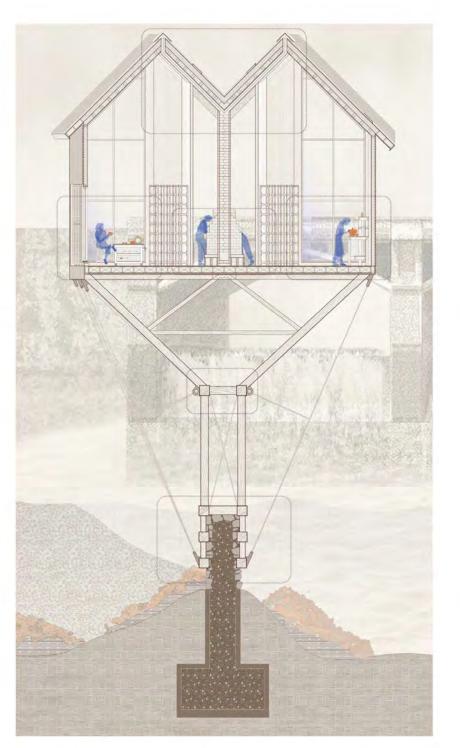


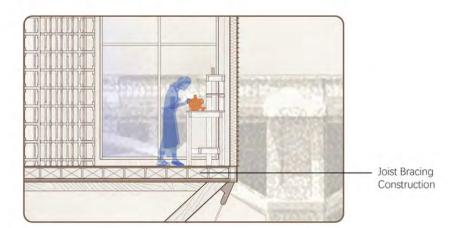
An elevated ramp terminates tangentially to the structure, inviting those walking the bridge to stop by for the sweeping views of the resevoir and later the encounter of natural clay production.

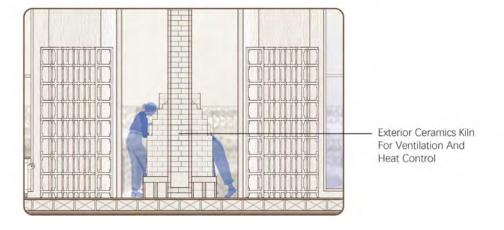


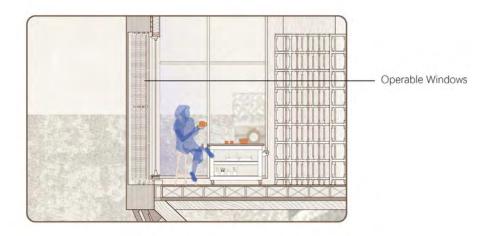


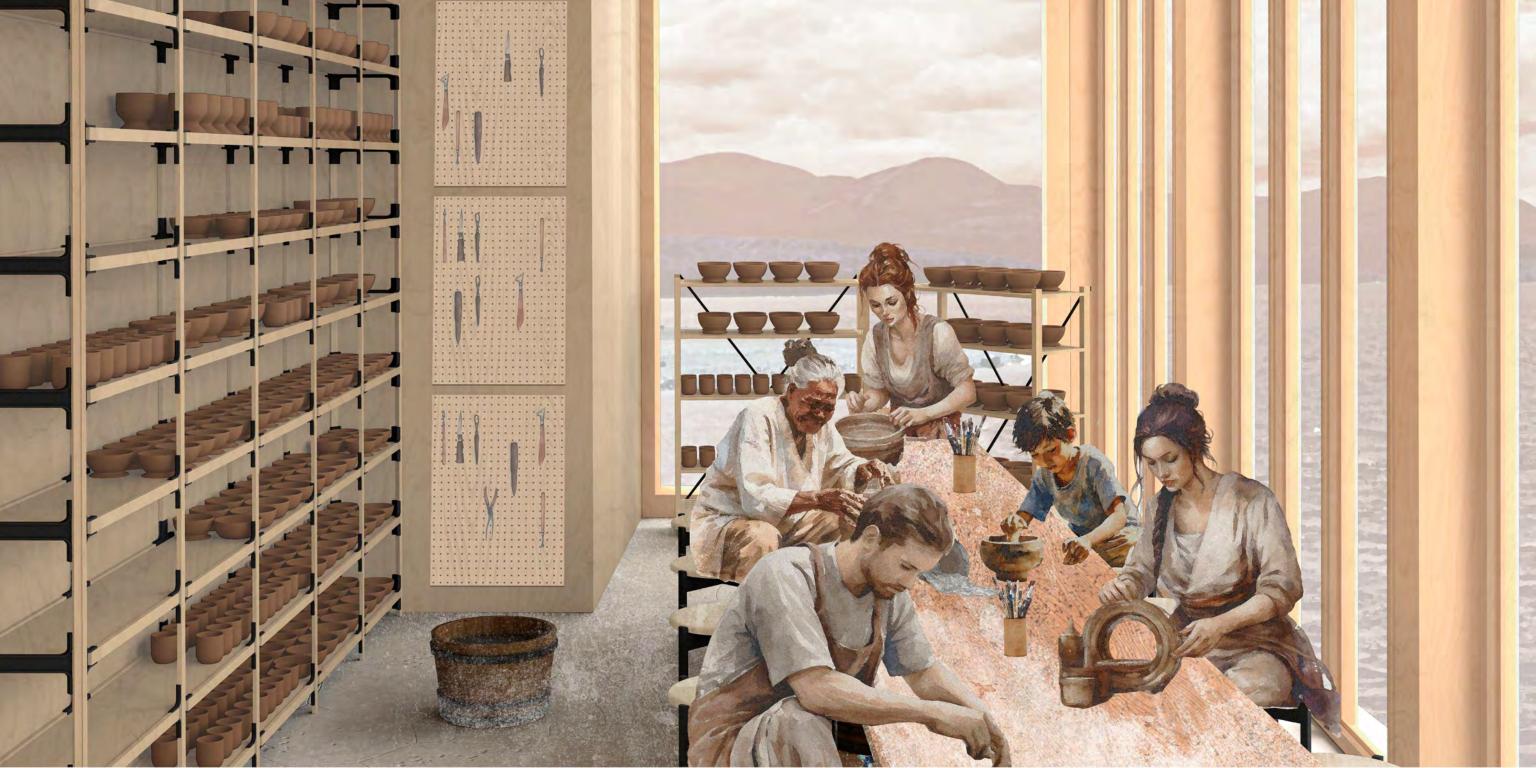












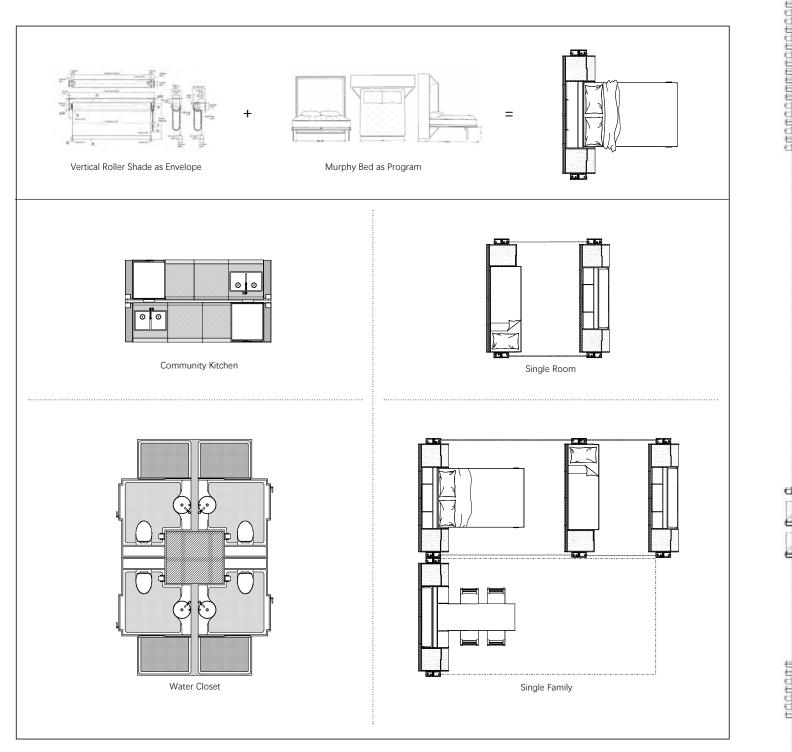
The Living Epithet

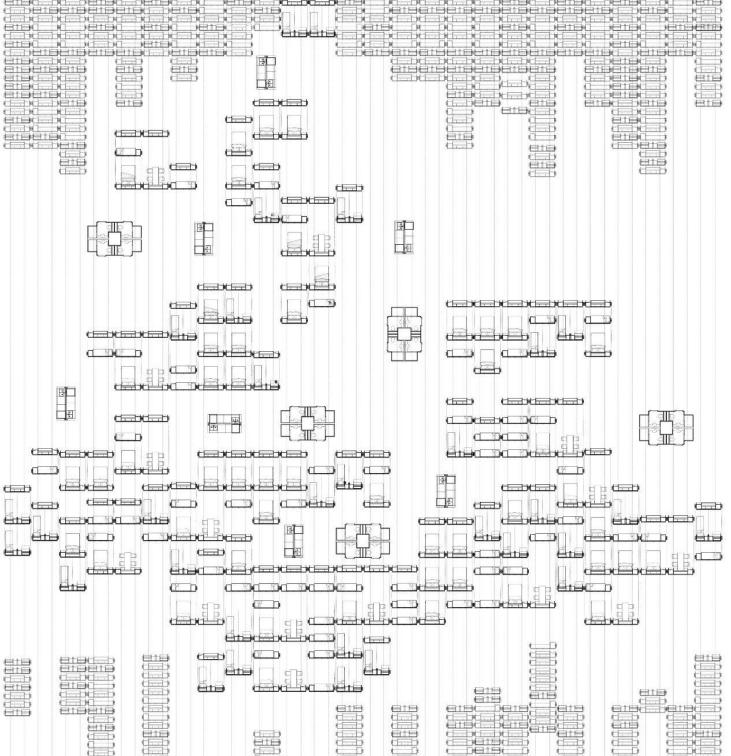
A Response to John Hejduk's Lancaster Masque Un-sited

Much like shrines or relics, the assemblage of familiar objects fosters a sense of belonging within transient conditions. Living in the Epithet becomes an architecture of congregation—where memory, mobility, and adaptability converge to redefine what home can be. The Living Epithet embraces flexibility, using known objects to construct temporary communities where inhabitants can shape their environment based on evolving needs. The home is distilled into its most essential element—a place to rest—materialized as a singular bed. By merging a Murphy bed with vertical roller blinds, the design creates an enclosure that can expand or contract, shifting between private retreat and communal space. This lightweight, collapsible dwelling is both personal and collective, offering agency to those who occupy it.

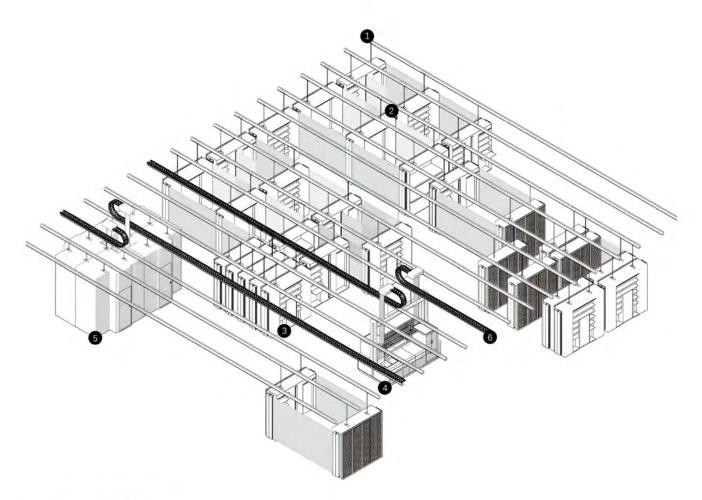


Fall 2024 Advanced Studio V Michael bell









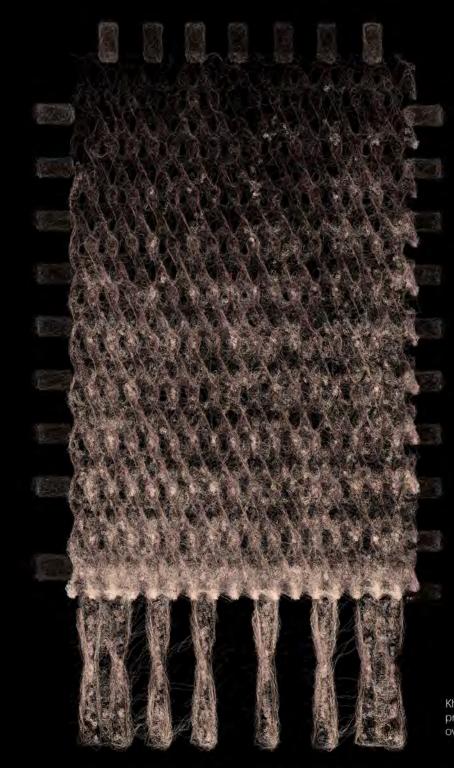
- Horizontal Track
- Single Family Configuration Vacant Stacked Configuration
- Community Kitchen
- Community Bathrooms Flexible Plumbing Tray



Ancestral Matter: An Act of Repair

A Response to John Hejduk's Lancaster Masque Un-sited

Material Sociology offers a critical lens for rethinking architecture's relationship to extraction and consumption. The social lives and afterlives of materials—their depreciation and reprogramming—matter more than their methods of fabrication. Materials are not inert; they are temporal agents embedded in cultural contexts, ecological geographies, and familial histories. When cultivated as an heirloom, mycelium resists commodification and becomes a medium for intergenerational stewardship. Like a sourdough starter passed down and reactivated over time, mycelium carries a lineage that is re-encountered through repair and reuse. It reframes architecture not as a static object, but as a regenerative act grounded in care, continuity, and reciprocal material economies. Meaning and making become inseparable.



Khatiya hardened in mycellium, protecting it from weathering over time

Spring 2025 Advanced Studio VI David Benjamin





























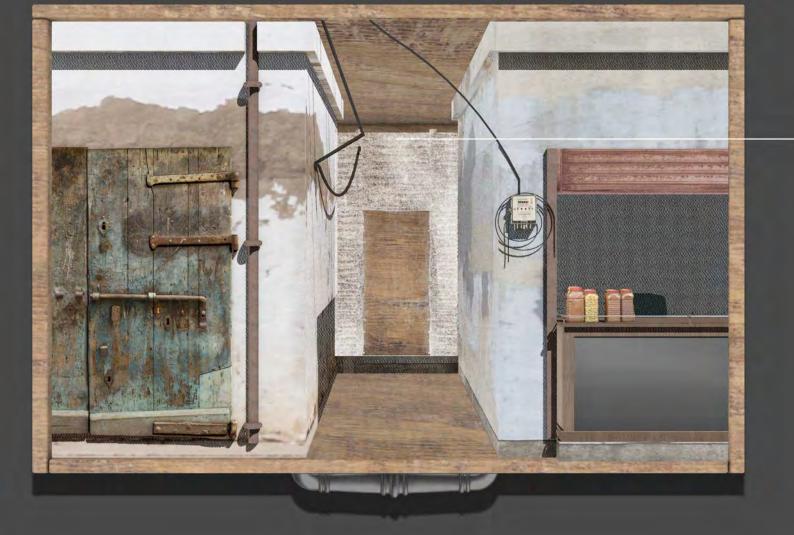




Behaving as a binder between fibers, Mycelium can become — a mediator between temporary structure and permanent dwelling.

Mycelium's insulation properties allows it to be seamlessly integrated into the urban environment, becoming a protective skin for vulnerable infrastructure.

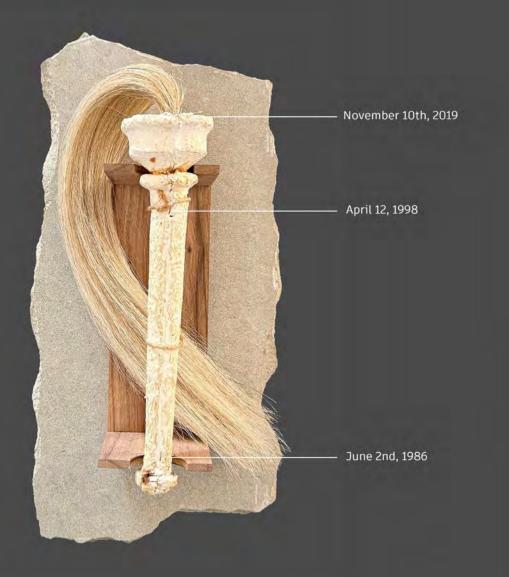




Cultural knowledge can integrate seamlessly into building — maintenance and repair

 A fuzzy light wall that was covered in woven branches, each wrapping aorund vertical logs that tethered it to the ground, preventing it from flying away.











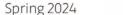


Cloud - Outside In

Avery Plaza, Columbia University Produced with Entire Class

Cloud envisions a participatory experience that emphasizes the interconnectedness of peoples' actions in shared spaces. Stretched above the inflatable is a large net that positions seating within, which descends into the Plaza through the center, creating a device for people to modify and curate the space. Measuring 20 meters (66 feet) wide, and suspended by 25 cables, this floating inflatable reframes the relationship between Avery Hall and Avery Plaza, questioning notions of connectivity between interior and exterior spaces. Powered by four electric blowers, the metallic form expands from the 400-level window and classroom, inviting visitors inside its contemplative interior and challenging boundaries of conditioned space.





Outside In







Galia Solomonoff+ Laurie Hawkinson