

To translate the city into a vertical expanse; the students will select one of the typologies outlined below; make a thorough survey plan and dissect the locus typologies and specific uses, in order to design new possible connections. A taxonomy of a specific urban use: observe and identify components and their functions; track their evolution and its causes; and project these conclusions into a slice of the chance-based compound model.

Public Institutions — examples: New York City Hall, New York Public Library, New York City Criminal Court, New York City Supreme Court

Cultural Institutions — examples: Lincoln Center, Madison Square Garden, Metropolitan Museum of Art, Whitney Art Museum, 9/11 Memorial

Places of Worship — examples: Temple Emanu-El, Trinity Church, Islamic Cultural Center, Riverside Church, Lincoln Square Synagogue

Education — examples: Columbia University, NYU, Millennium High School, Stuyvesant High School, Nightingale Bamford School, P.S. 257

Market — examples: Chelsea Market, Union Square Greenmarket, 82th Street Greenmarket, Astoria Flea Market, Broadway Market, street food carts

Parks and Recreation — examples: Sixth Street Community Center, Central Park, Gramercy Park, New York Chinese Community Center, Riverside Park, Battery Park, Four Freedoms Memorial

Offices — examples: Midtown, Wall Street, Lower Manhattan

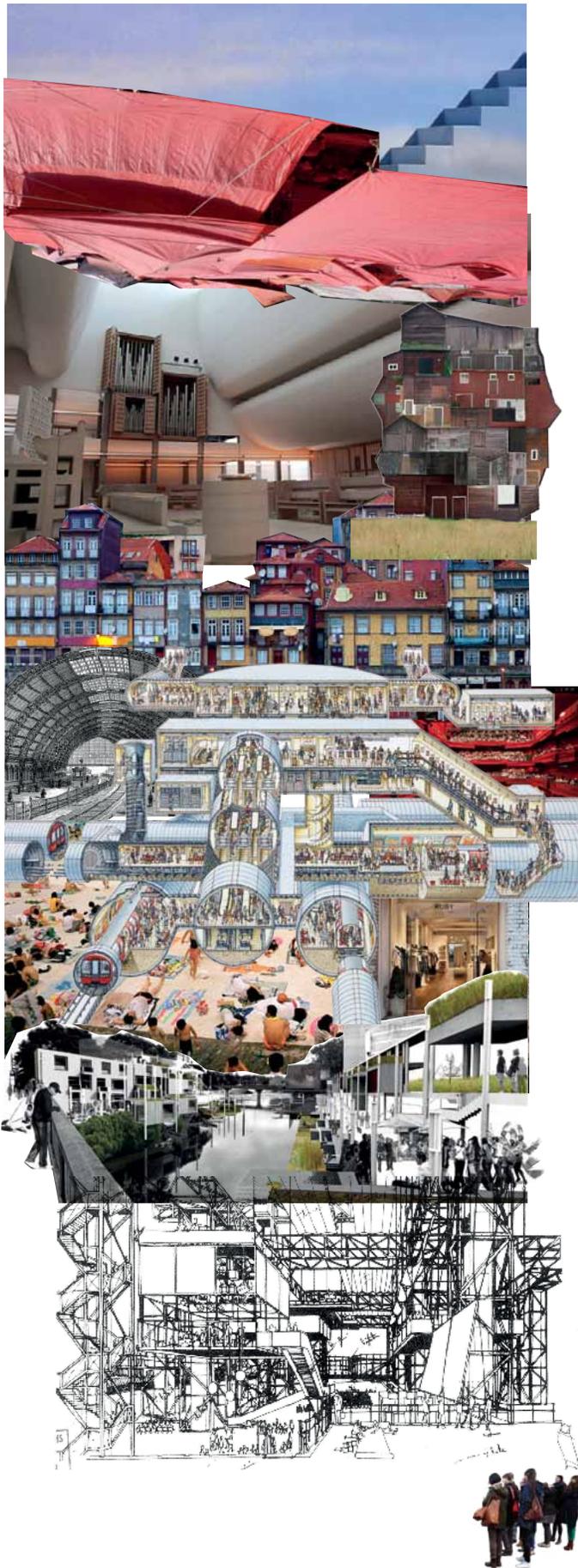
Housing — examples: Stuyvesant Town, Superior Ink Condominiums, 15 Central Park West, Brooklyn Brownstones, Amsterdam Nursing Home

Healthcare — examples: Metropolitan Hospital, New York Presbyterian Hospital, Mount Sinai Hospital Psychiatric Center Transportation Hub

Systems of Transport — examples: Grand Central Station, Port Authority Bus Central, Penn Station, Fulton Center, World Trade Center Hub

Monumental Gate and the Street — examples: Brooklyn Bridge, Washington Park Arch, Statue of Liberty, Grand Army Plaza, Columbus Circle

Facades and Typologies of the City — examples: Fire escape staircases, water tanks, stoops



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exchange / market

housing

religious

circulation

housing/offices

culture/entertainment

transportation

commercial

public

housing

industrial

III.

SITE

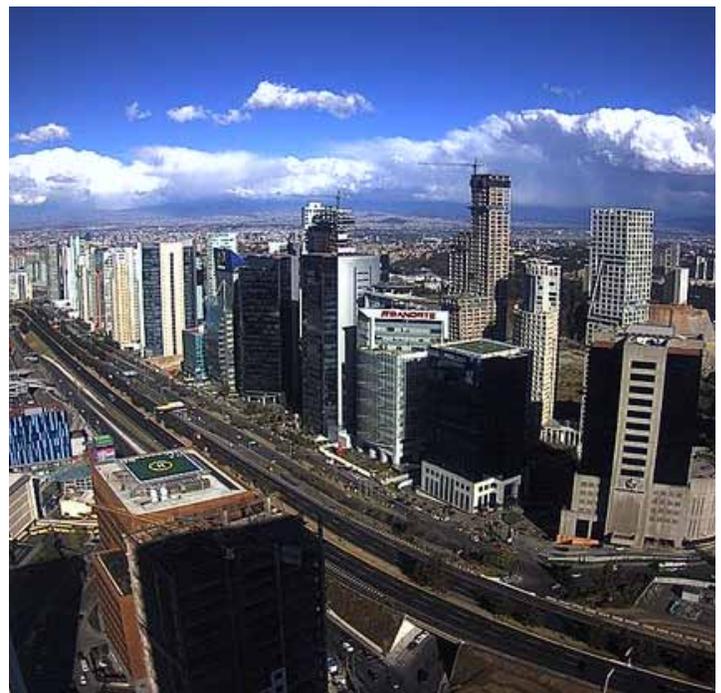
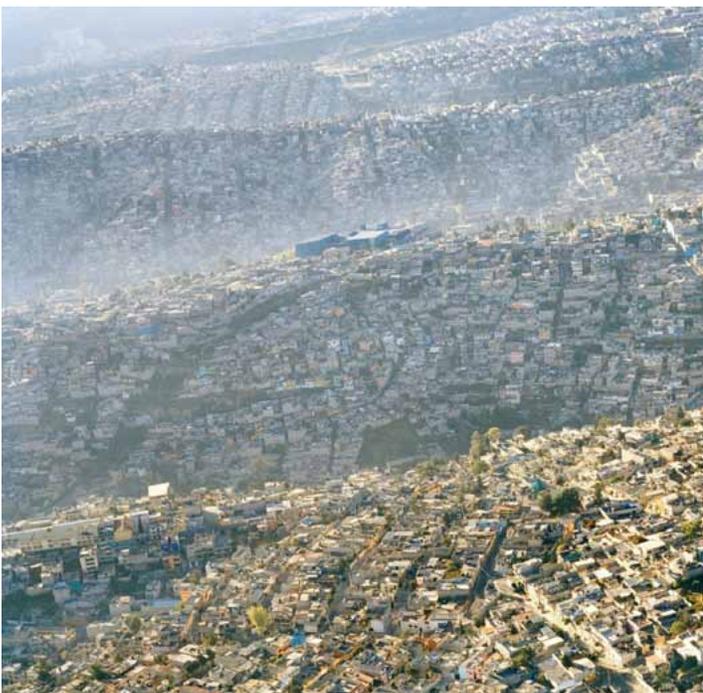
The studio will be focused on vertically reconstructing a representative section of New York City. The translations of the city's civic activities into a vertical form is to be situated on a plot the size of the standard New York sized block, as established by the Commissioner's Plan of 1811, which is 264' by 900'.

Consider conducting a *dérive* of the streets of New York, exploring its areas you do not know, undertaking an archaeological analysis of the different typologies found in your life in the city, combining the exactitude of the existing context with the abstraction or imaginary reproductions of the typologies. Following individual explorations, the aim is to combine each layer into an exquisite corpse collective exercise and build a model.

View this as an opportunity to translate the urban experiences of your everyday environment, the one you know best, into a meditative reflection of what living in a city means today and an exploration into its essence.

As an additional exercise consider the growth of Mexico City. Originally a centralized urban area, with surrounding villages and residential areas, the rural exodus resulting from the Mexican Revolution (1920) catalyzed the rapid expansion of the city which swallowed the peripheral villages. As more people from the Mexican hinterlands made their way to Mexico City in the 1960s, an informal periphery proliferated around the capital. Although this periphery is adjoined to the existing urban fabric, its growth and its needs do not respond the urban core. This process continues today, consuming large tracts of virgin land. Contrast your studies of this Mexican metropolis with New York's planning, growth, form, and civic life.

Even when things appear to be incompatible, the key is to work with this uncertainty and explore the possible connections and relations between the spaces. It is in this ground that we will have to improvise as architects of the future of densely populated urban areas.



IV.

SCHEDULE AND DELIVERABLES

The idea of the exquisite corpse is to explore what happened when combining individual typologies in a non-obvious pattern. After the *dérive*'s empirical survey and dissecting the urban behavior of individual local typologies (perhaps extrapolated with a global resemblance, or tied to exclusively local characteristics), the studio will abstract and combine the spatial uses, re-inventing their relationships, forging a dialogue between each student and each space. Archaeologically identified periods, layers, architectural features, social behaviors, and compositions translated into a search to find connections, similarities, archetypes, methods, explanations. Then, the students are to speculate and project an eclectic densified vertical growth... an exquisite corpse building!

Research (3 weeks) — During the first section you are to explore New York City, take notes, draw, read analyzing various instances of your selected typology and how they interact with the city. Take a *dérive*, keep track of people's movements at varying times of the day, research original plans and previous uses of the space. At the end of the research period the following deliverables are due:

A layered analysis of one case study example of your typology presented in a graphic manner.

An analytic diagram demonstrating the various public functions and connections to civic life of your typology.

Bas-relief collage. Using the knowledge derived from the study of your typologies make a two and a half dimensional collage of how you hope to translate this typology into a vertical form. This must be handmade and measure at least 3'x3'x4".

Translation (4 weeks) — Take what you have learned and translate it into a section, a vertical slice that will fit within the plot size given but still maintains the essence of the city and civic life in a vertical format. At the conclusion of the translation period, you will present your finished designs at the mid-term review whose deliverables shall include:

An analytic, conceptual model of your section (urban scale)

A model for your vertical type section to be completed at the scale of 1:25.

A complete set of drawings for your scheme.

Mid-Term Review: October 24th, 2016.

Combination (7 weeks) — Use the feedback from the mid-term review to revise and improve your individual schemes. Then, collaborate as a group towards making one cohesive project that expresses a clear hypothesis of the city vertically reconstructed. As a studio, you will agree on the size of the population, large enough to host civic life whilst not too large so as to make your vertical city unrealistic. Combine, split, and graft your various slices into one exquisite corpse to be presented at the final review whose deliverables shall include:

A detailed sectional slice model of part of the building to be completed at the scale of 1:25.

A complete set of drawings including an axonometric drawing of the final exquisite corpse.

Final Review: December 13th, 2016.

The following writings are a small sample of works whose preoccupation is civic life. Some of these are historical, tracing the development of the city at present. Some are theoretical, proposing new spatial and social means for citizens to inhabit. Others are literary, stories of people's lives in the city. They are all provided for your benefit as you begin thinking of how to analyze the existing city or develop its new vertical typologies.

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