MORE THAN HUMANS

ARCHITECTURAL PORTFOLIO | COLUMBIA GSAPP

M.S. ADVANCED ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN 2023-2024

MANFEI SHI

EDUCATION

Columbia University

Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation 2023-2024

New York, NY

M.S. Advanced Architectural Design

The portfolio is an accumulation and reflection of my sense and thinking through the year of 2023-2024 at Columbiea GSAPP. This year is a questioning process of rethinking architecture as a media involving with **human and non-human**, **nature and other nature**, such subjects may be neglected during the past, but can be evolving during the present, and be foreseened for the future.

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DUST MEMORIAL

Othered natures, Recompositions and Geographies of breath

Keywords: Dust, Suffering, no human, memorial, living ecology

Site: Freshkills Park, Staten Island, NY

Program: Memorial Monument

Semester: Summer 2022 Collaborator: Aimee Yang Professor: Nerea Calvillo

Teaching Associate: Simran Raswant

The debris from 9/11 is buried under Freshkill Park. It is in the West Mound, the largest and the last mound to be capped. How can 9/11 being memorialized, not only for the victims, but for all the people that suffered?

What else can a memorial be?

9/11 was one event within one of US histories of neo-imperialism that can be described through 4 different forms of dust: explosion dust, dust clouds, suspended dust and war dusts. Those bring together matter, destruction and suffering.

Instead of silencing the past of 9/11, we suggest a living ecology that keeps the multiple forms of suffering created by its history of neo-imperialism present. Through Debris, birds, fireflies and soya's breath.

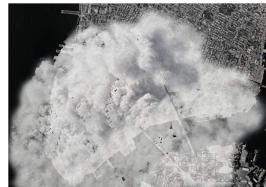


HOW COULD WE HONOR THE SUFFERING OF ALL THE BODIES INVOLVED IN THIS HISTORY OF U.S. NEO-IMPERIALISM?

9/11 suffering never end till now. Victim families suffered for their lost beloved ones; The firefighters, rescuers, and emergency workers who responded for 9/11 victims have suffered losing their jobs, being sick and dying, whilst being constantly ignored by the government. Sorting experts in DSNY worked 24/7 after the incident suffered the toxic dust particles that settled in their lungs, causing health diseases like cancer for decades. Suffering also took place outside the US. Through the "War on Terror", Bush initiated bombing campaign in Afghanistan, which has lasted more than 20 years.

How is 9/11 being memorialized now? Is a shrine the only way to remember? What else can a memorial be?















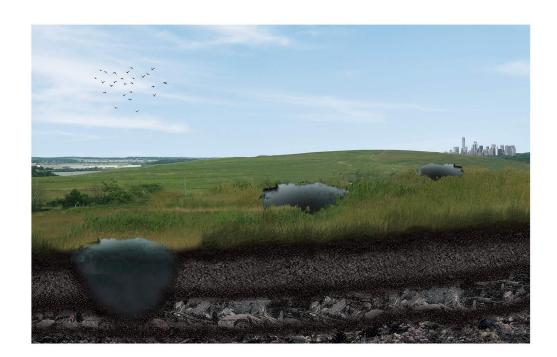




of the sufferings: uncovering the layers of history through an explosion, and creating new layers of living ecology through four new forms of "dust".

WINTER

An one-off explosion reaches the 9/11 debris underneath, and releases it into the surface, reshaping the landscape of West Mound on its hilltop. The debris is then uncovered to the public through explosion, transformed into a living ecology, reborn as a monumental landscape. After explosions, the remaining craters are gradually transformed into ponds. Seeds are dispersed in two ways.







SPRING

Every year, clouds of colorful seeds are released. carried by wind, these seeds create a living habitat on West Mound. Seeds are also carried by local birds. As an invitation, nesting wooden sculptures that are built along the hilltop. It is aligned with the migration route of birds, built in different heights. Eventually, the seeds are spread out to the entire Freshkills. The weeds will be collected for medicinal use to clean the residues in the lung for the sorting people who are suffering from diseases.







SUMMER

2 years later, the ponds grow larger with diverse weeds growing around, gradually becoming an attractive habitat for fireflies. West Mound is a restricted accessible area to the public, but this can be even more preferable for fireflies to stay. The fireflies, only visible during the summer nighttime, are a re-enact of the invisible suspended dust. The light dust of fireflies in memory of the 9/11 events, viewed from a distance and advocated public donation activities.







FALL

The fund will be given to Codepink, an active organization working to demilitarize the US. The crop seed that dispersed in the spring, are harvested by volunteers in the fall. In the meantime, Red-wing blackbird, red tail hawk, green herons, creating their own temporary nests around the site. Flocks of birds, who change across seasons, are formed on the west mound and remind us of the war dust in Afghanistan. The soybean, as one of the profitable crops in New York, grows and harvested on the site, will be sold for profit and given to those first responders that suffered for their loss of jobs after 9/11.

SALT MARSH RESILIENCE

Impermanence, Biomaterials, and Regeneration

Keywords: Habitat Restoration; More than Human; Salt Marsh; Ecosystem; Entropy; Decay; Time

Site: Jamaica Bay, Queens, NY Program: Recreation + Research

Semester: Fall 2023 Collaborator: Ziyi Zhu

Professor: Marc Tsurumaki

Teaching Associate: Daniel Chang

Salt marsh is a productive ecosystem that provides habitats for a variety of species. It is used to be seen on every coast in the United States including Jamaica Bay where has the largest and richest coastal wetland ecosystems, but continuously lost due to the sealevel rise in the past decades.

The project aims at studying entropy, associated with deterioration and decay is anathema to architecture. Yet, buildings and cities are not static objects, but dynamic and evolving systems: temporary accretions of matter, energy and human activity that shift over time. How can a building both serve as architectural spaces and salt marsh restoration, extended and transformed through time to constantly serve all the species here at Jamaica



JAMAICA BAY WILDLIFE REFUGE: 2020s

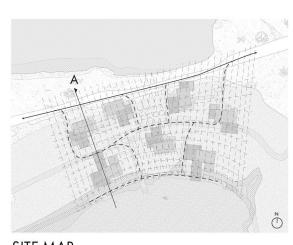
ONGOING ACTIVITIES AT JAMAICA BAY The Wildlife Refuge area, highlight with the only freshwater resource at Jamaica Bay, is activated with the maximum amount of wildlife, recreation, and research activities at Jamaica Bay. The rich resource attracts people to develop many recreation and research activities on site. In 2012, when hurricane Sandy attacked New York City, the saltwater from the shore breached into the west pond and mixed with the freshwater through flooding. Since then, many programs and projects have been focused on repairing and restoring the salt marsh and shoreline to create coast resilience. **WILDLIFES & PLANTS** Great Blue Heron Peregrine Falcon Canada Goose Terrapin Invertebrates Axillaris Juncus Inflexus Gracilis Fish Mammals Fresh Water Amphibians and Reptiles OPR Campground NYR Bike Rental (4) USACE **(** Fishing DEP **Boat Rental** JBRPC Kayaking Kayak/Boat Launch Spot NYC Health Hiking _ _ Kayaking Route NPS (8) 2.5 km Brackish Water (**OYSTER REEFS** Recycle oyster shells Transport to shoreline Oyster larvae settle onto the shell to form oyster reefs **EROSION CONTROL** Collect straws and coconut coirs Install to restore habitat across salt Reduce land erosion and add up -----> FLOODING WEAK POINT height for salt marsh flora to habitat and roll into stabled 'coir logs' marsh landscape

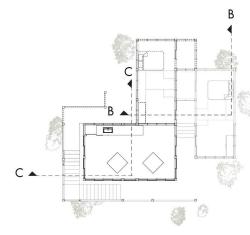


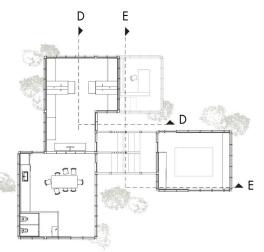
LONG-TERM VS SHORT TERM; HUMAN VS MORE THAN HUMAN

Inspired by structural-infill system, stable pile construction was proposed for permanent use, while all the other walls and floors were seen as infill, can be adjusted and replaced for any changing proposes later years. The pile columns have three main functions: a long-term structure for building, the holding structure for stabilizing salt marsh sausages below, and poles for birds to stand and nest above.

Considering the existing interrelationship between visitors, researchers, and wildlife, the buildings were constructed for ongoing recreation and research activities, and would be able to evolve over time to form habitats for wildlife and other species.







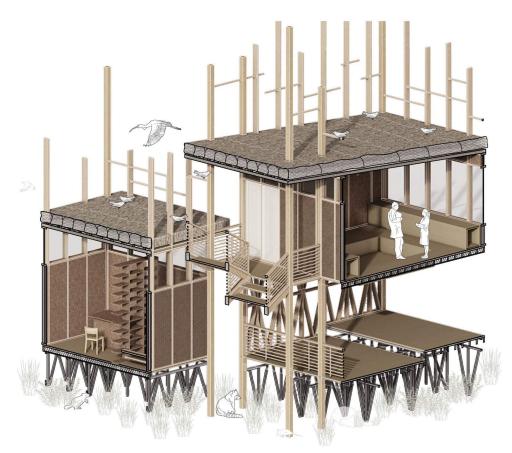
SITE MAP

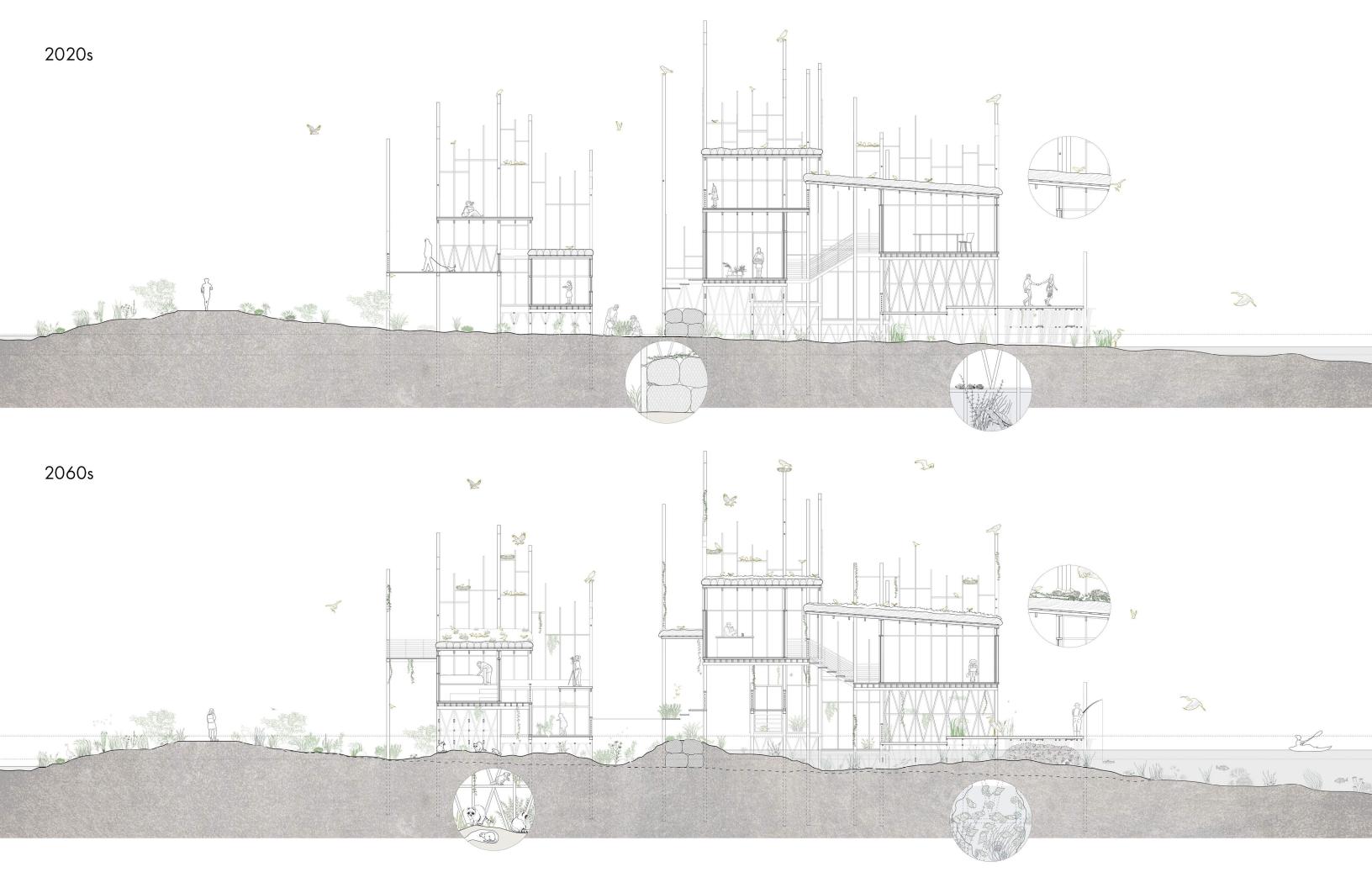
RECREATION: GETAWAY

RESEARCH LAB









FLOATING AQUACULTURE

Floating NY: Expanding an over-expanded city

Keywords: Floating, Aquaculture, East River, Flood, Shelf-Framing Structure

Site: South Brooklyn Marine

Terminal (SBMT), BK, NY

Program: Recreation + Research

Semester: Spring 2024

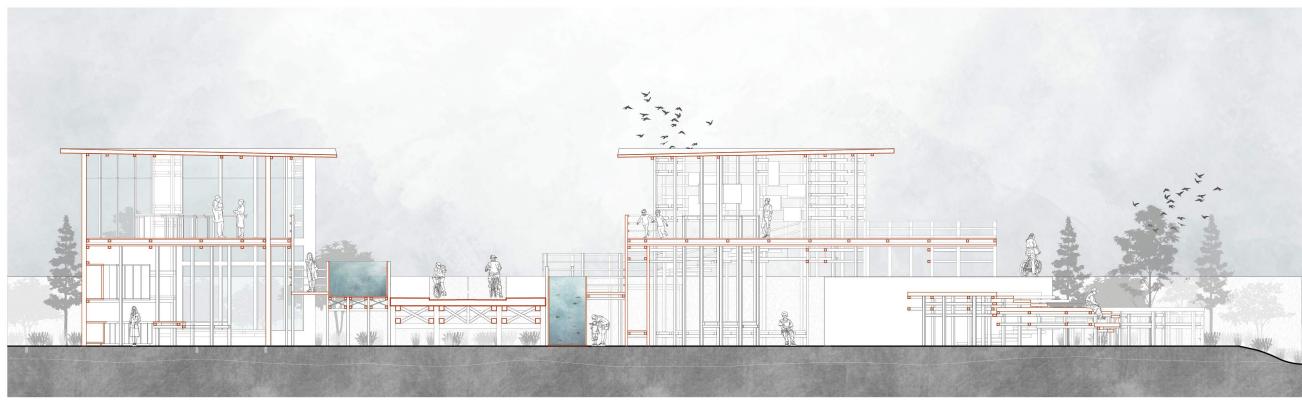
Professor: Laurie Hawkinson

Teaching Associate: Steven Lin

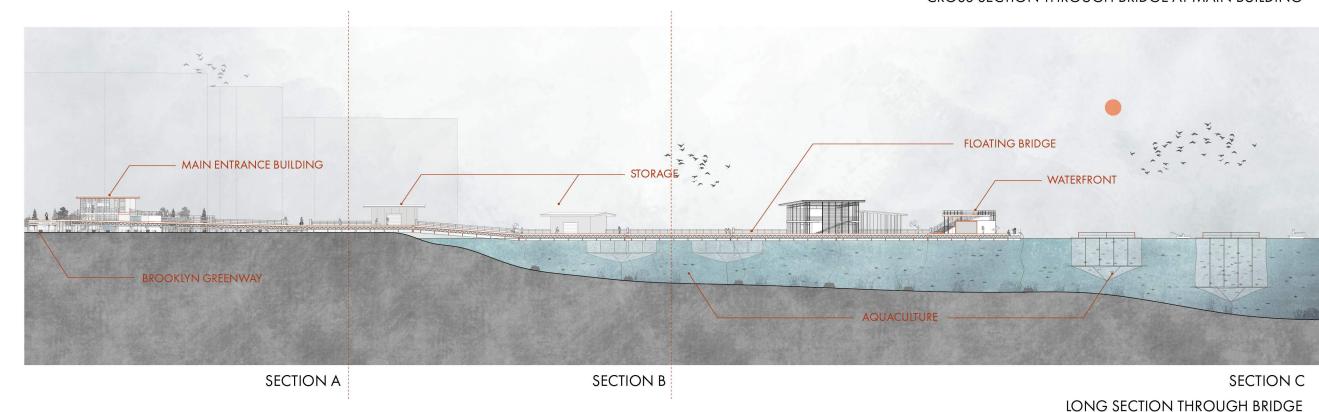
South Brooklyn Marine Terminal (SBMT) is featured by the great East River waterfront resource with rich fish species in various depths of water. However, due to the pollution in past centuries, the districts is constantly losing this precious feature resources.

As looking into the future, how could New York City bring back its surrounding water and fishes, and how could it connect with the existing network arround the neighborhood, achieve a prospective growing resource for the community?

From land to water, utilizing the current on-site Greenway proposal, a line is created as a main path to create an access for the public, educated through and interacted with a series of programs in the floating landscape, inviting the kids and local residents to learn about their neighborhood - the river and the aquacultre.



CROSS SECTION THROUGH BRIDGE AT MAIN BUILDING



SBMT EXISTING CONDITIONS

Brooklyn as a district far away from the main New York City fish market network, has much fewer connection to the resources. Looking into the future, could SBMT be a new center point of the market by raising aquaculture here, as a way to bring back the water and fishes in East River. Meanwhile, the site combining other programs to educate the local residents and children for a prospective growing environment.

Considering the current on-site Greenway proposal is designed by WeDesign: an elevated bikeway 9 feet tall above the ground level to protect the neighborhood from stormwater and flooding caused by sea level rises - a sloped floating bridge is extended out from the Greenway, inviting the public access from land to the open sea water with aquaculture landscape.



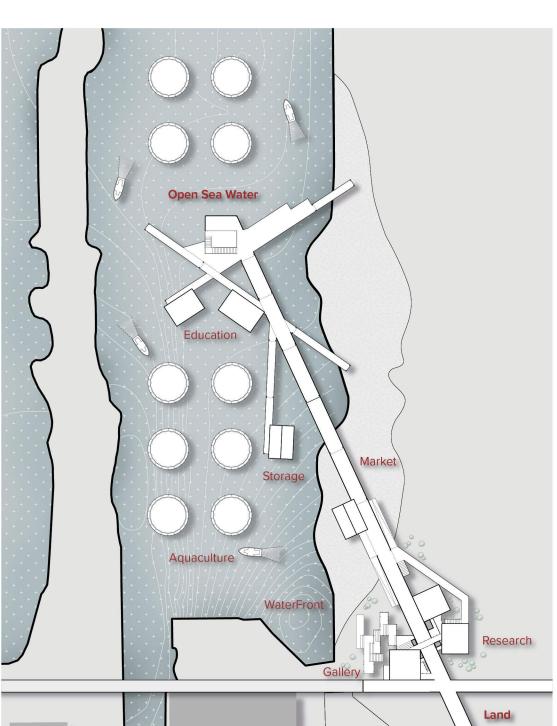
NYC FISH MARKET

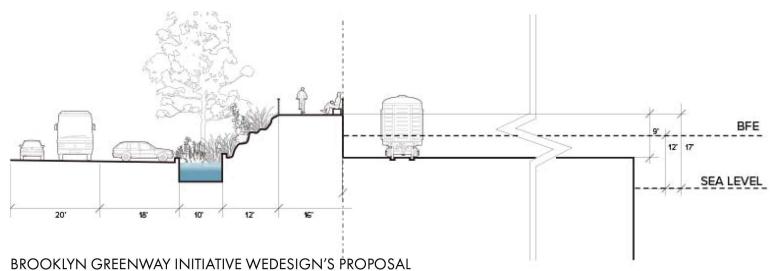


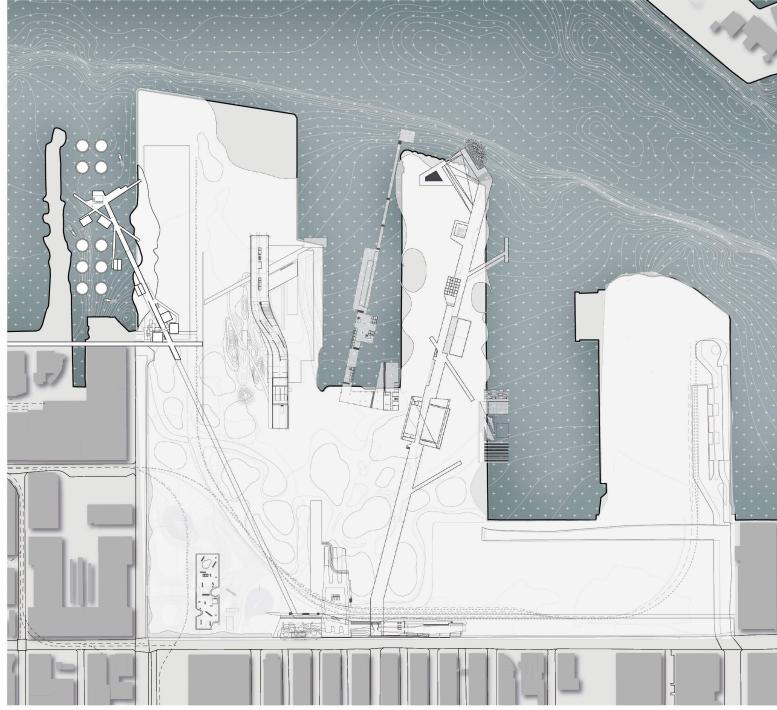
TRANSPORTATION



EDUCATION ENLARGED SITE PLAN



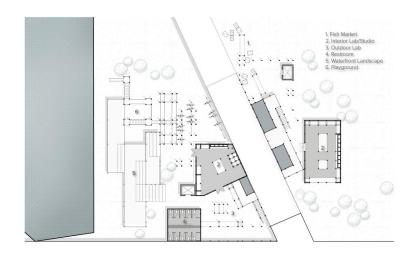




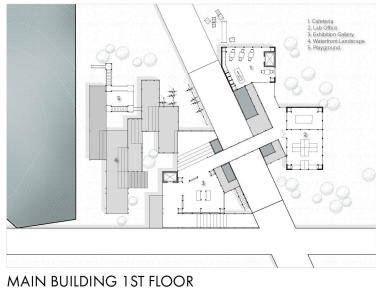
NOLLI PLAN (LAURIE HAWKINSON'S STUDIO - ALL PROJECTS)

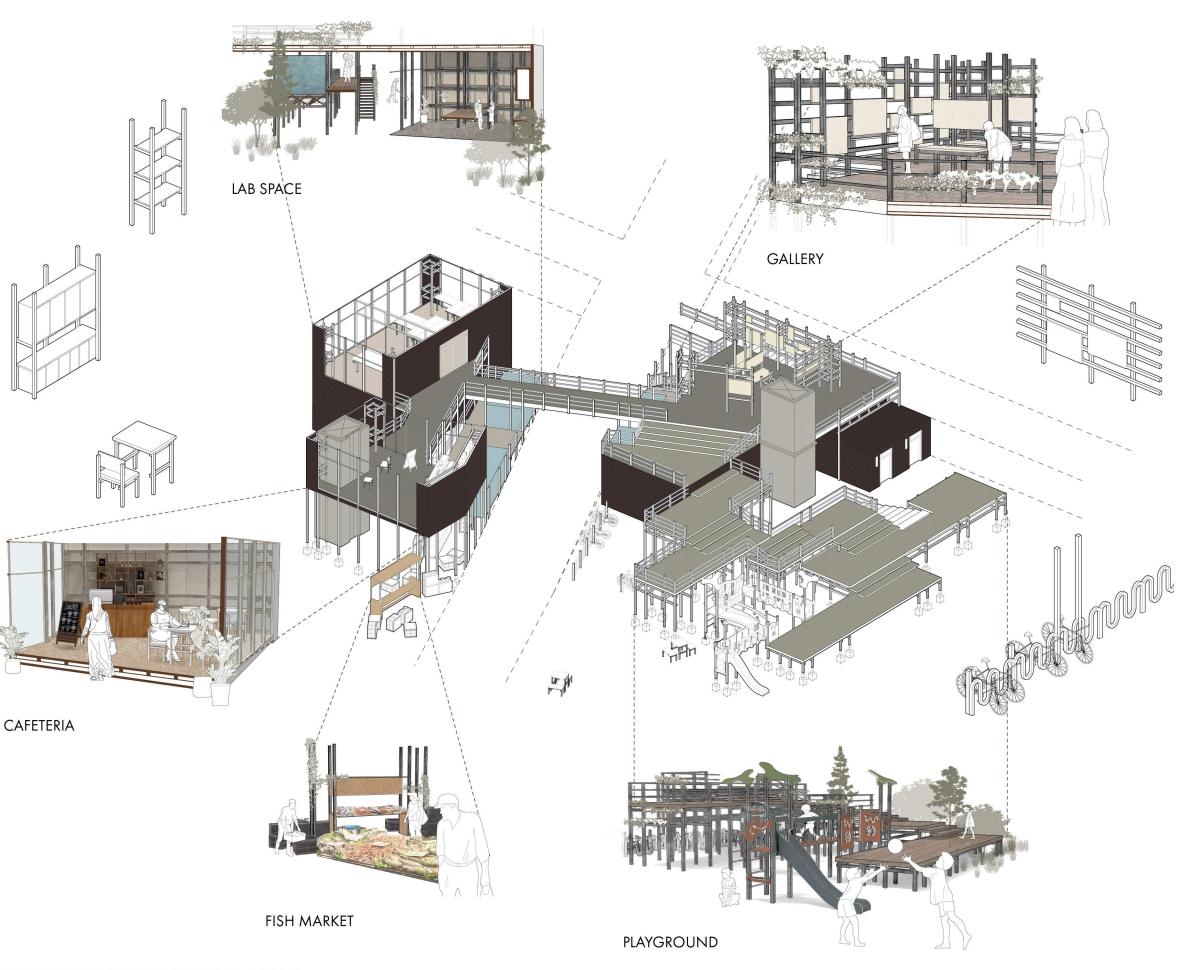
MAIN ENTRANCE BUILDING

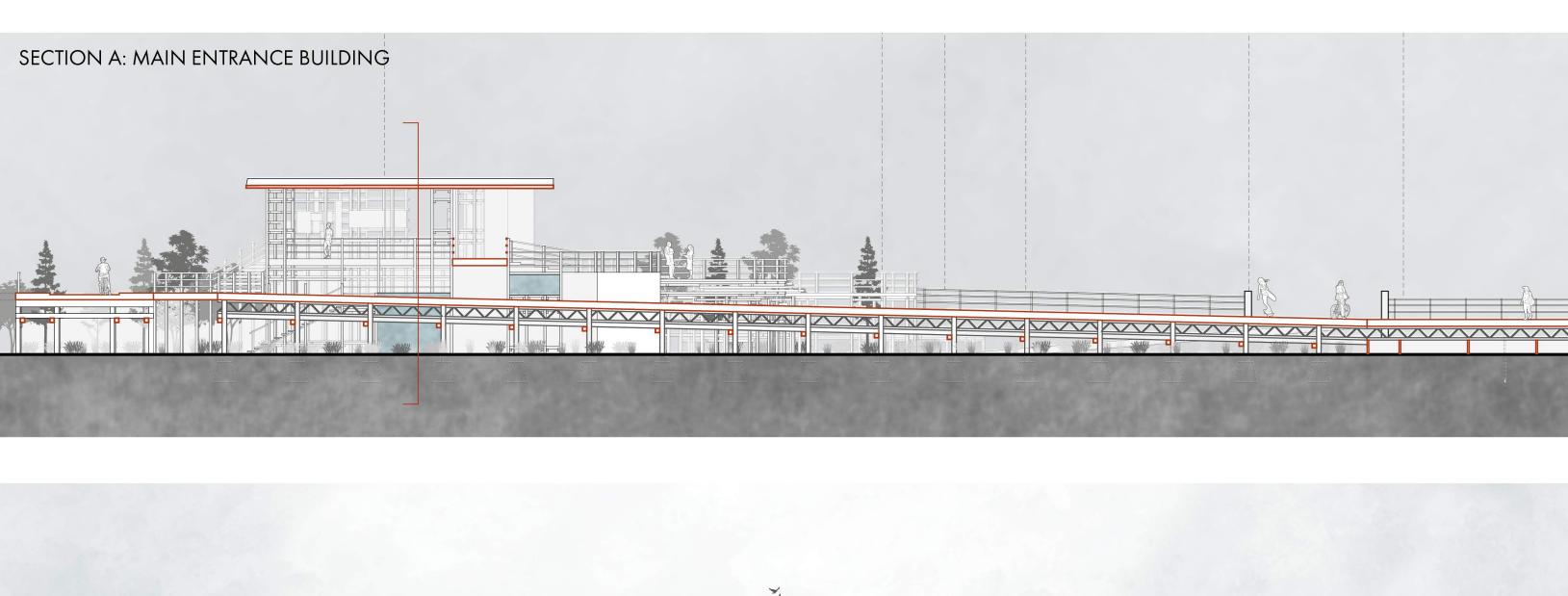
The main building functions as an entrance to the waterfront. The bridge goes between the buildings, connecting with the second floor and sloped to the first floor. The second floor is mainly open to the public with enclosure clean lab space, and the ground floor is designed for open lab and fish market, which are more open to the air as the area will be flooded. The framing system are used for structural support, meanwhile the subsystem could be utilized for designed furniture elements, such as shelves, tables, cabinets, fish market stalls, and playground for the children.

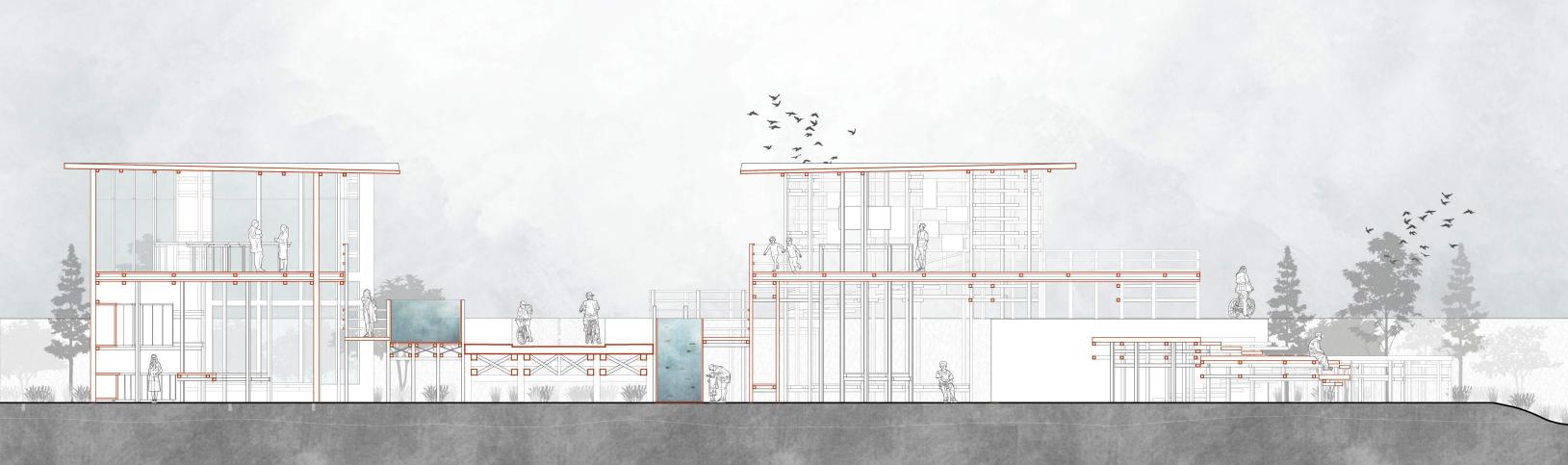


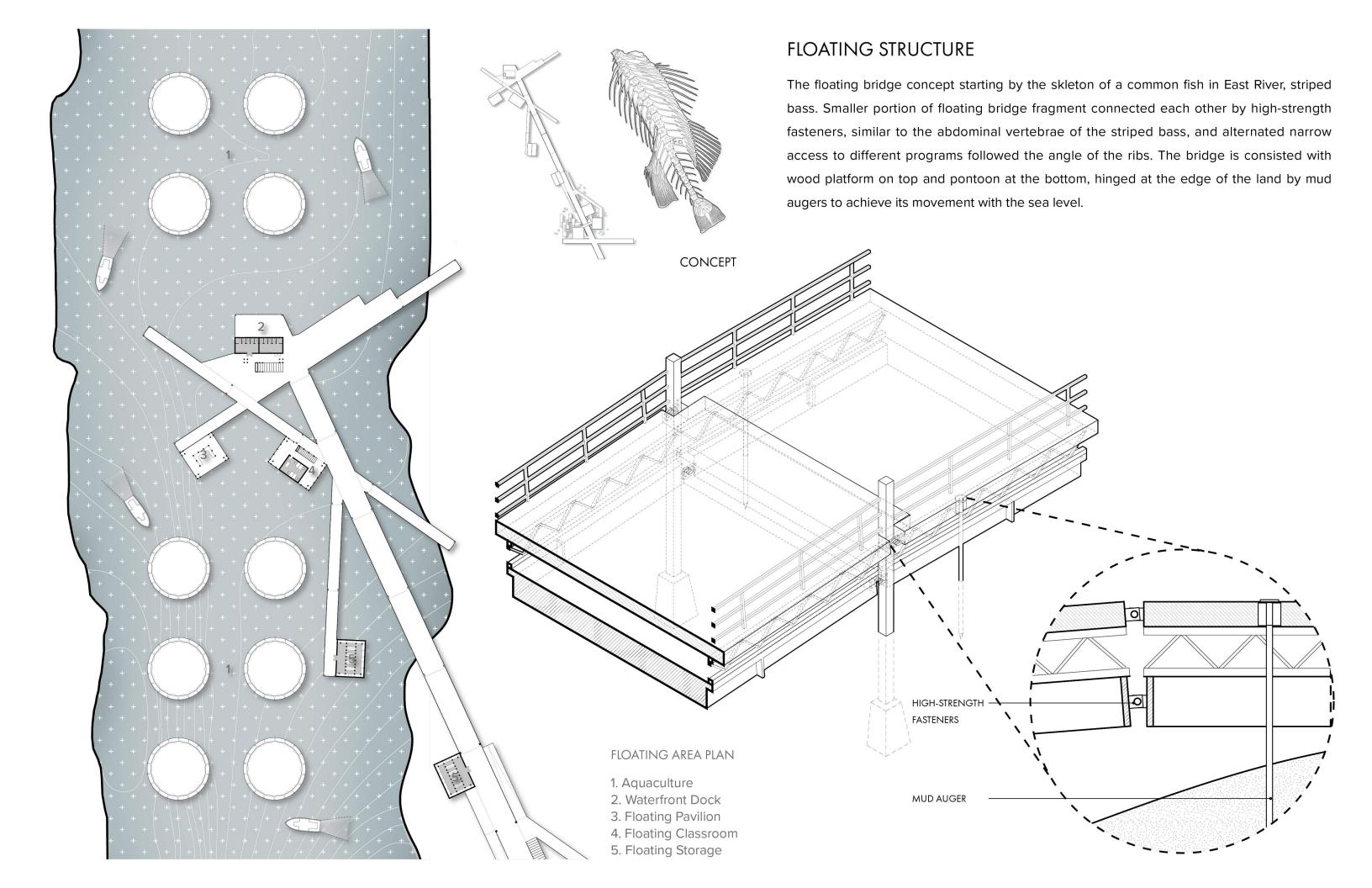
MAIN BUILDING 2ND FLOOR



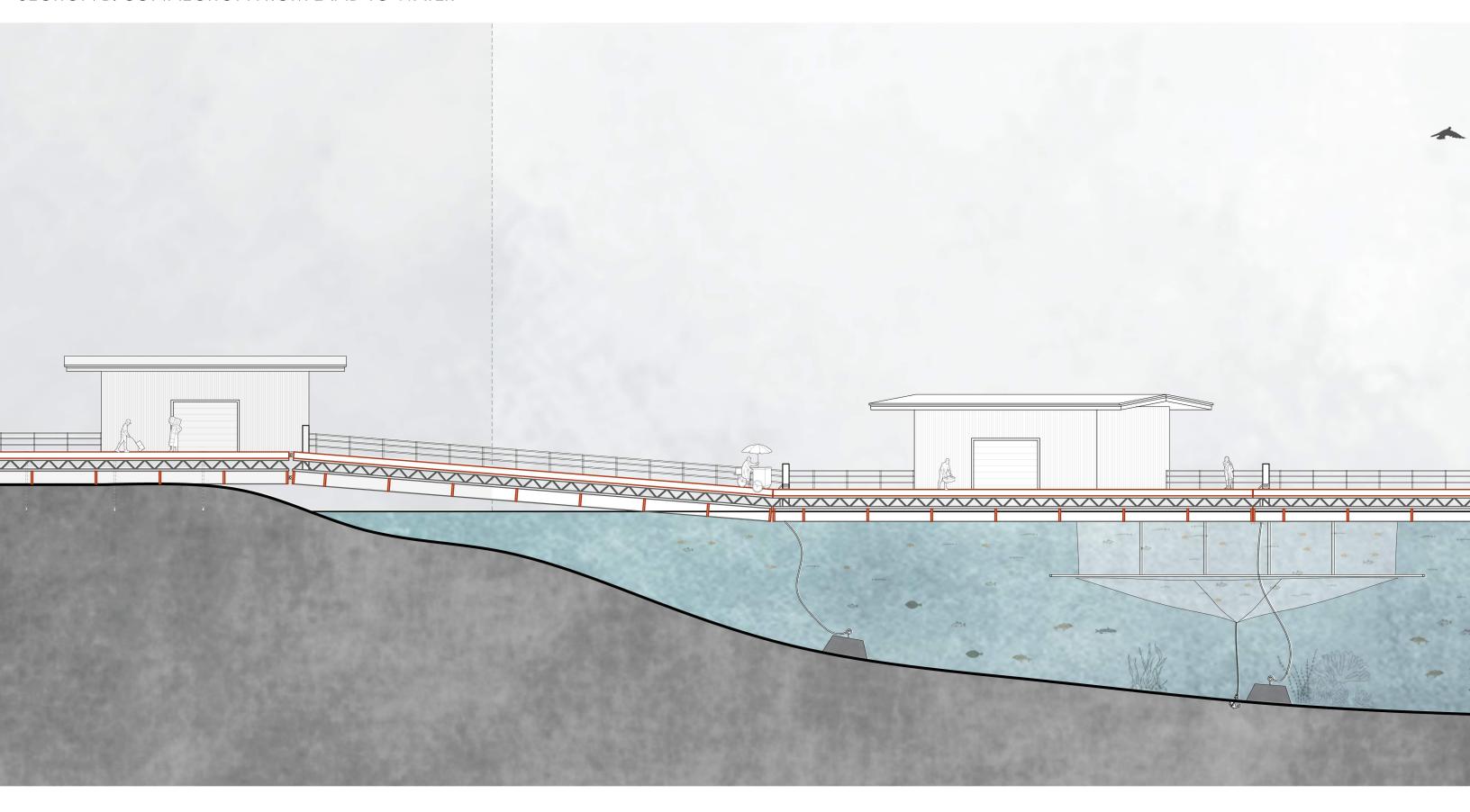


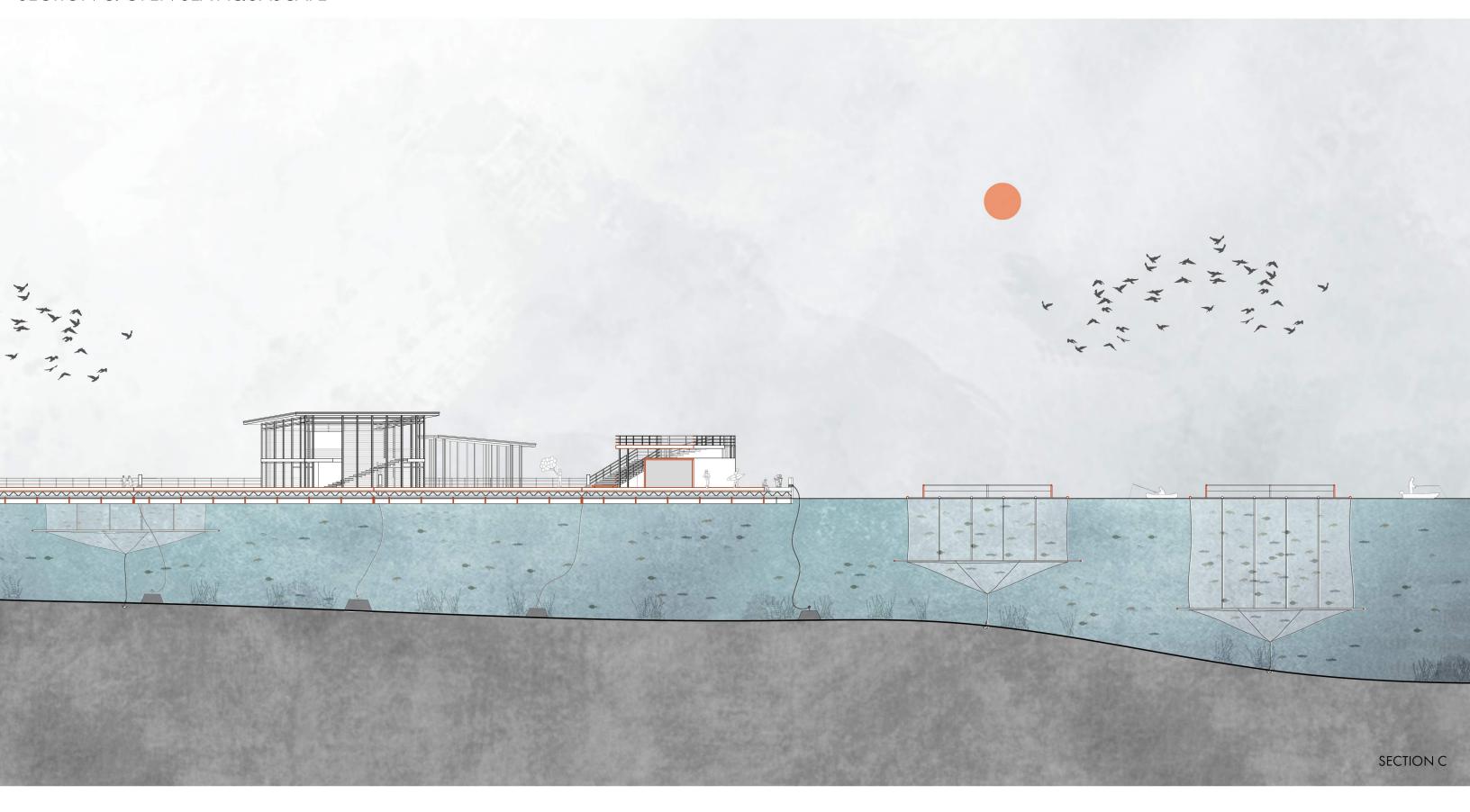






SECTION B: CONNECTION FROM LAND TO WATER





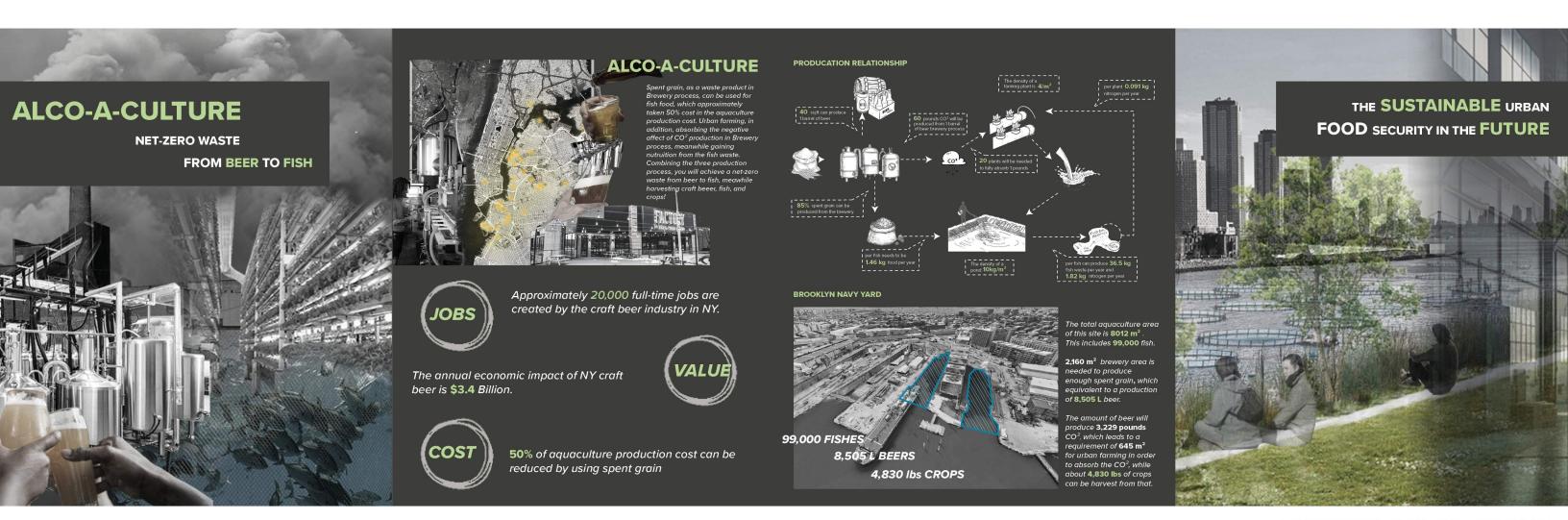
04

ALCO-A-CULTURE

Emerging Optimism: Resources + The Fourth Industrial Revolution

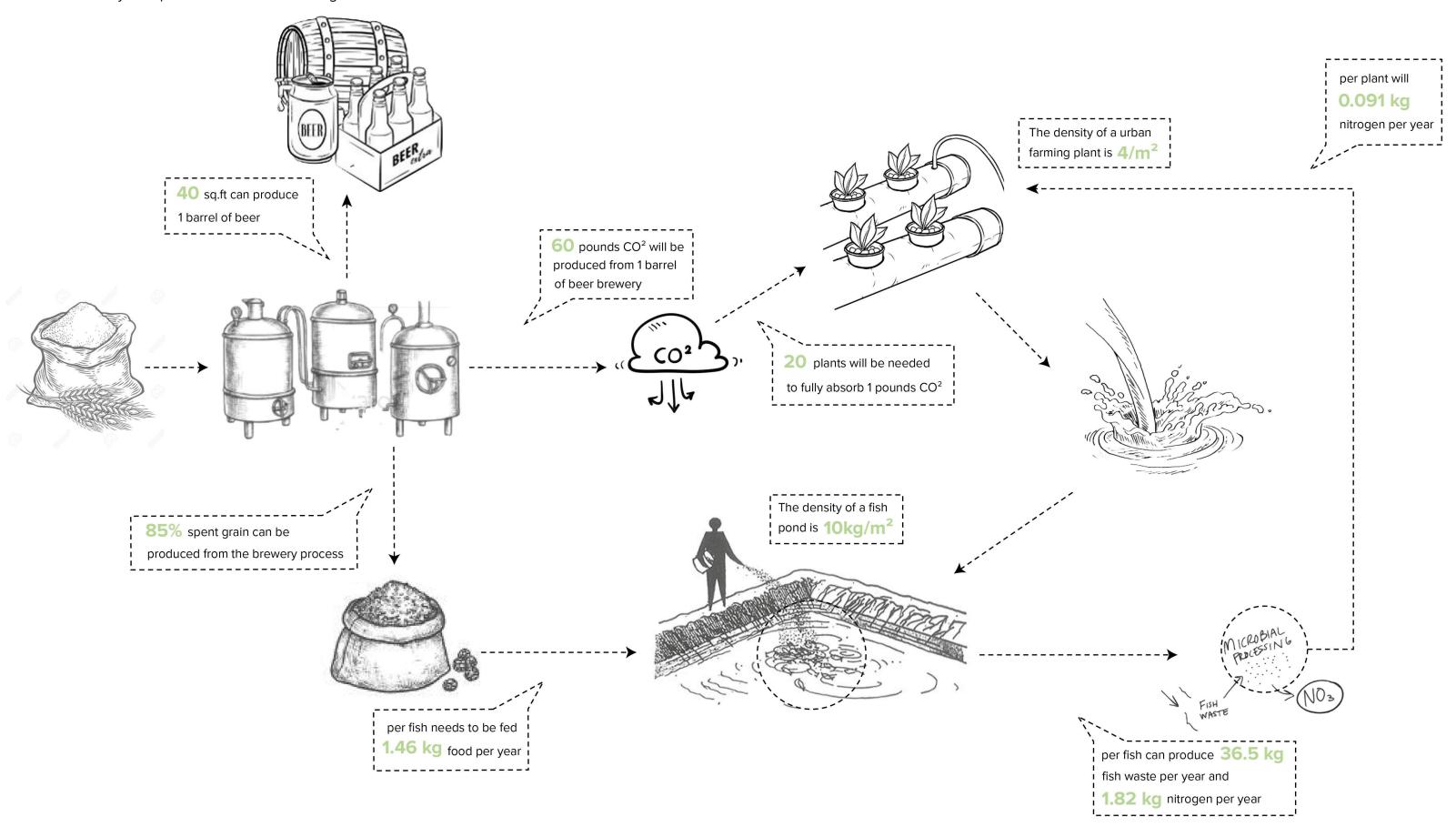
Professor: Sean A. Gallagher Semester: Spring 2024

Spent grain, as a waste product in Brewery process, can be used for fish food, which approximately taken 50% cost in the aquaculture production cost. Urban farming, in addition, absorbing the negative affect of CO² production in Brewery process, meanwhile gaining nutruition from the fish waste. Combining the three above production process can lead to an achievement a net-zero waste from beer to fish, meawhile harvesting craft beeer, fish, and crops.



PRODUCTION RELATIONSHIP

From Brewery to Aquaculture to Urban Farming





05

VACANT STOREFRONT IN NEW YORK

Speculative City

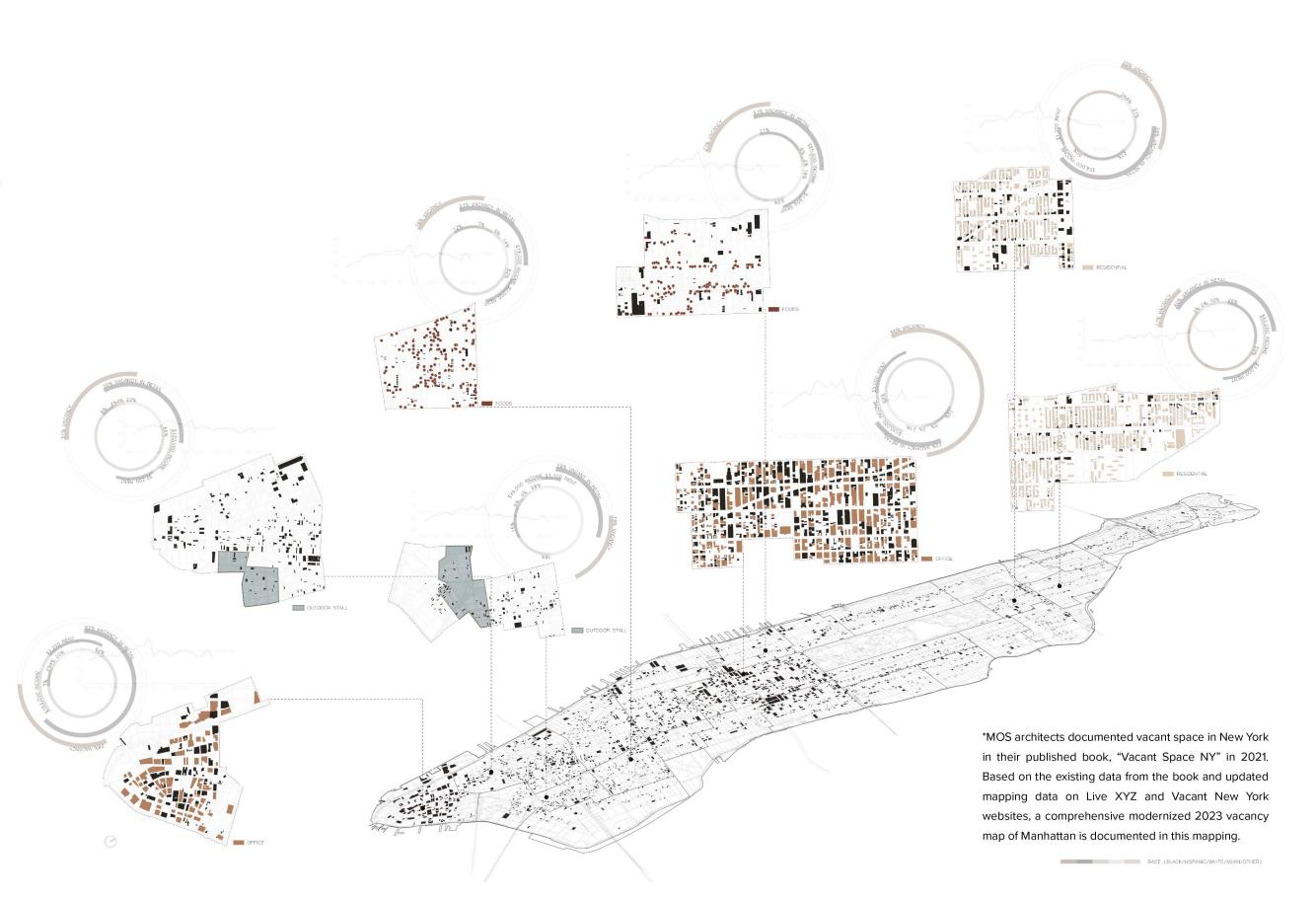
Professor: David Eugin Moon

Semester: Fall 2023

Walking along the avenues and streets of Manhattan Island, the surrounding environment undergoes significant changes from district to district. The bustling streets are renowned for their vibrant and eclectic atmosphere, filled with crowded pedestrians walking along the sidewalk.

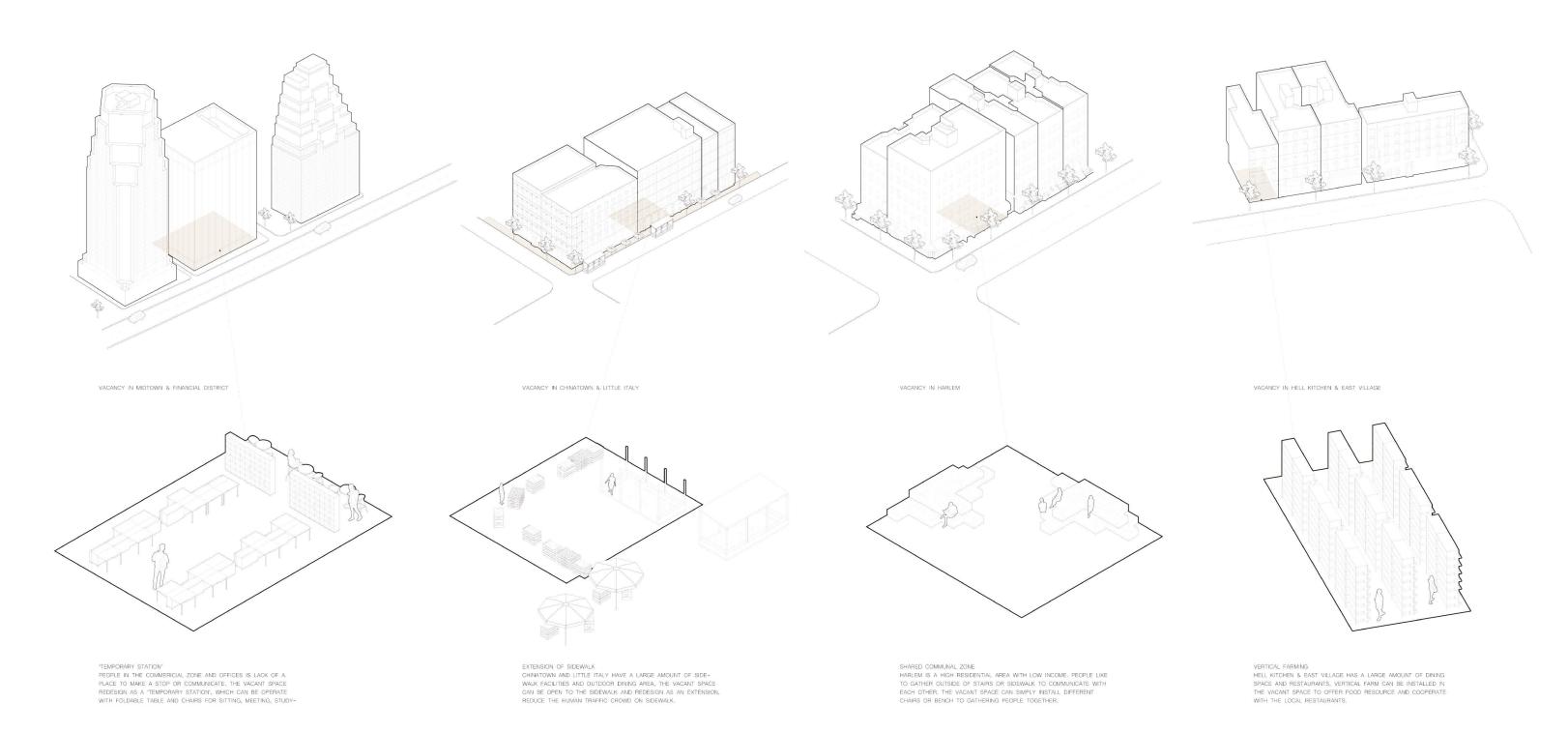
In contrast to the liveliness in the city, one noticeable growing phenomenon is the presence of vacant storefronts.

Large shop windows covered with plastic bags or brown rosin paper signify their emptiness and are nonnegligible to the passersby. Vacancies can be observed throughout New York City. Some are are adorned with a "For Rent" sign, displaying a striking color on the storefront, while many remain empty or dusty, quietly sitting between the busy and noisy streets. maintenance issues.



REDESIGN STOREFRONTS WITH DISTRICT CHARACTERISTICS

Different districts in Manhattan have their unique characteristics influenced by land use, stores, building types, and residents, all affecting the vacancy rate. Through the analysis of income, rent, race, and human traffic in comparison to the vacancy rate, 8 districts are selected as examples from the 27 districts in Manhattan. Each pair of districts shares certain street characteristics, and the final 4 types of street characteristics represent typical street vibes in New York City. With the walking experience along these 4 types of streets, vacant retail in these types is proposed to be redesigned based on their specific characteristics.

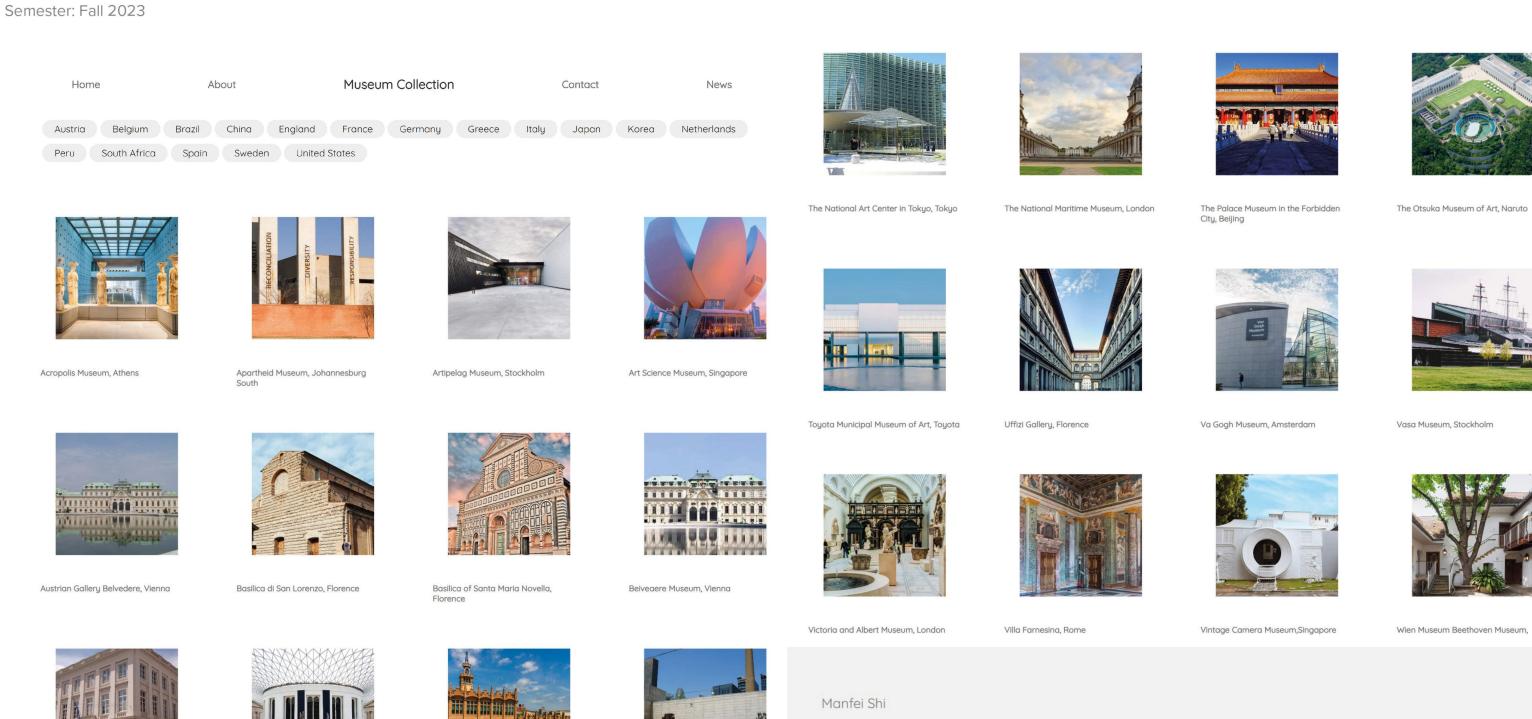


06

Museum Collection

Web Design

Professor: Celeste Layne



Magritte Museum, Brussels

British Museum, London

eum, London Caixa Forum, Barcelona



Can Framis Museum, Barcelona

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Museum Collection Home About Contact News England France Germany Greece Italy Japan Korea Netherlands



South Africa

Everson Museum of Art, New York



Field Museum of Natural History Chicago, Chicago



Guggenheim Museum, Boston



History of Natural Museum, New York



Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston



Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum,



Lucas Museum, Chicago



Magazzino Italian Art, New York



Menil Collection Museum, Houston



MET, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York



Mogrgan Library, New York



National Museum of African American History and Culture, Washington D.C.

```
JAVASCRIPT
const allImages = [
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     image: "img/Acropolis Museum Athens.jpg",
    Location: 'Greece',
function filteredCategory (category) {
let imagesToHTML = ";
allImages.forEach(
  function (imgObj, index) {
     if (!category | I imgObj.Location === category) {
       imagesToHTML = imagesToHTML +
      <figure class="item item--${index}">
       <img class="clip-square" src="${imgObj.image}">
       <figcaption><h4>${imgObj.title}</h4></figcaption>
      </figure>
 document.querySelectorAll(`.category li`).forEach(function (el) {
  el.classList.remove('active');
 });
  document.querySelector(`.M-${category}').classList.add('active');
 console.log(imagesToHTML);
 document.querySelector('.grid-container').innerHTML = imagesToHTML;
filteredCategory();
```

```
CSS
.flex-container {
display:flex;
text-align:center;
flex-wrap:wrap;
justify-content:space-around;
align-self:flex-start;
font-family: 'Quicksand', sans-serif;
color: #767676:
text-align:inherit;
img {
width:100%;
object-fit: cover;
.grid-container {
margin: 5px;
display: grid;
grid-template-columns: repeat(4, 1fr);
grid-gap: 5px;
.clip-square{
  width: 300px;
  height:300px;
.category {
  list-style: none;
  padding: 0;
  margin: 0;
  display: flex;
  flex-wrap: wrap;
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 .category li {
  background: #eee;
  border-radius: 20px;
  padding: 5px 20px;
```

margin-right: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;

.category li.active {

color: #767676;

background: #4c4c4c; color: #eaeaea;

font-family: 'Quicksand', sans-serif;