

{investigator formerly known as architect}

< / > an architectural thesis disguised
as a murder investigation



when architecture student, alexander barr, is murdered inside of a mysterious room that he was secretly designing in an undisclosed location, (investigator formerly known as architect) is hired by one of the suspects to find new ways of doing architecture in order to solve the crime...

given a strange series of clues, bibliographies, evidence, and prototypes, (investigator formerly known as architect) must discover the motive and location before they run out of time. trapped inside a darkened landscape where tangled duplicity, time loops, and puzzles challenge their understanding of spatiality, (investigator formerly known as architect) finds seemingly concealed information that reveals an unlikely character as the prime suspect of his alexander barr's murder...

what happens when the architect's dedication to solve the climate crisis becomes a pawn in the game of binary thinking? when do dreamscapes end and investigations begin? how can you find other ways of doing architecture? How can (investigator formerly known as architect) solve the crime in a peculiar world where nothing is quite as it seems?

...who murdered alexander barr?

...why was he the central target of the crime?

...and what did he know?



JEBEL | WADI | SAHRA:

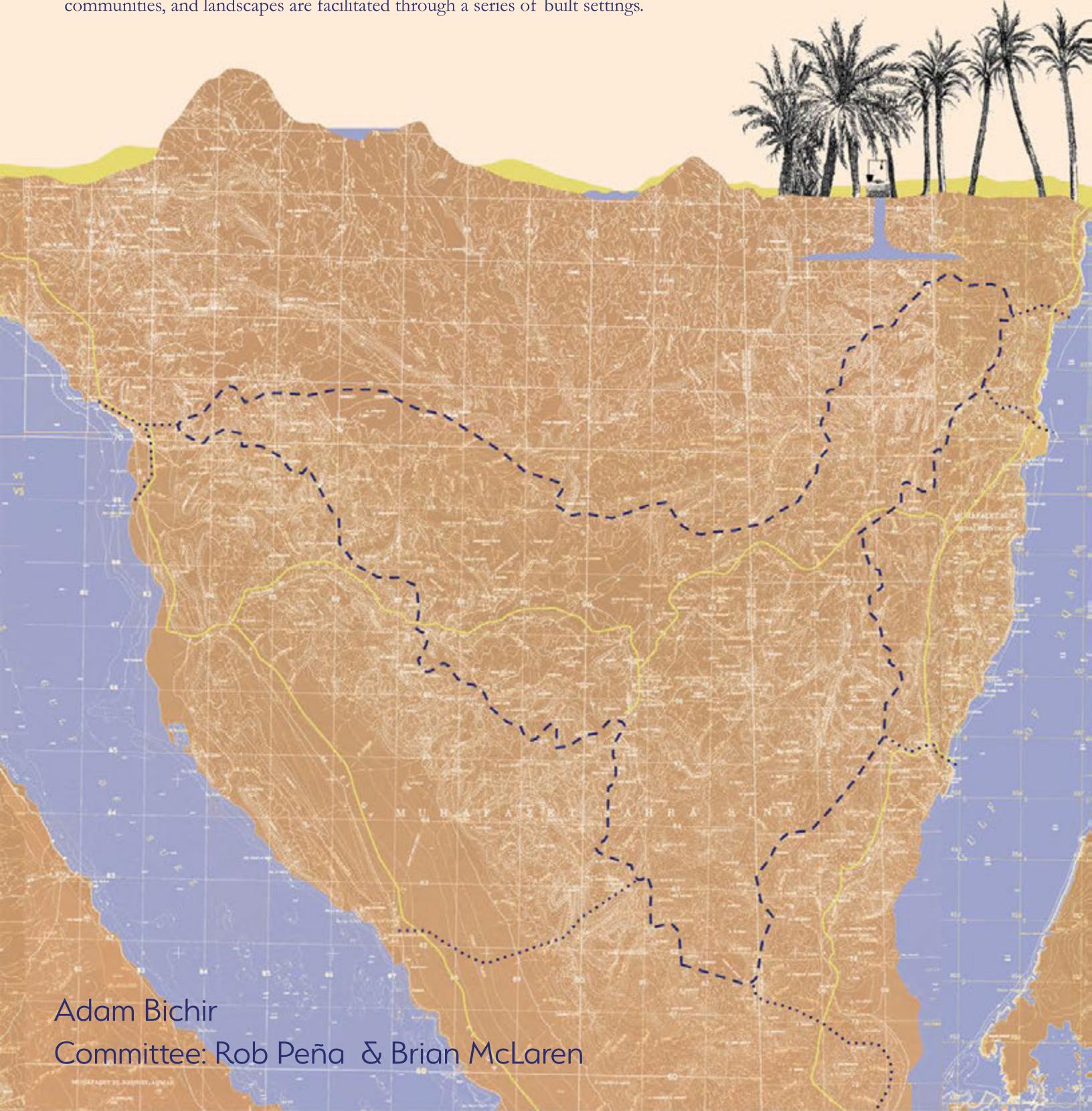
جبل

WADI
وادي

SAHRA:
صحراء

Exploring Culture and Landscape
along Egypt's Sinai Trail through
Narrative Place-Making

The Sinai Trail, established in 2015, is Egypt's first long distance recreational hiking trail. The trail is both administered by Bedouins – Bedouin guides are required – and located on Bedouin land. This thesis seeks to explore the complex relationships along the Sinai Trail and propose a network of interventions that prioritize preservation, adaptability, and resilience of a people and place that have a captivating and unique story to tell. Mutually-beneficial interactions between travelers, existing Bedouin communities, and landscapes are facilitated through a series of built settings.



Adam Bichir

Committee: Rob Peña & Brian McLaren

BIRDS AND THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The Impacts of Architecture, Structures, and Green Spaces on Avian Populations in the United States

Building first on a history of birds and architecture, this thesis seeks to provide designers and architects with knowledge about how birds interact with the built environment, a critical assessment of design strategies and architecture-specific policies that benefit urban birds, and proposals for making built environments more amenable to birds through design, policy, and education.

Judy Bowes

Committee

Alex Anderson

Ann Huppert

Kaeli Swift



Bird building collisions are one of the leading anthropogenic threats to birds, killing 335-998 million birds a year in the United States (Loss, et al. 2017).



Above: US Bank Stadium Kills 100+ Birds a Year

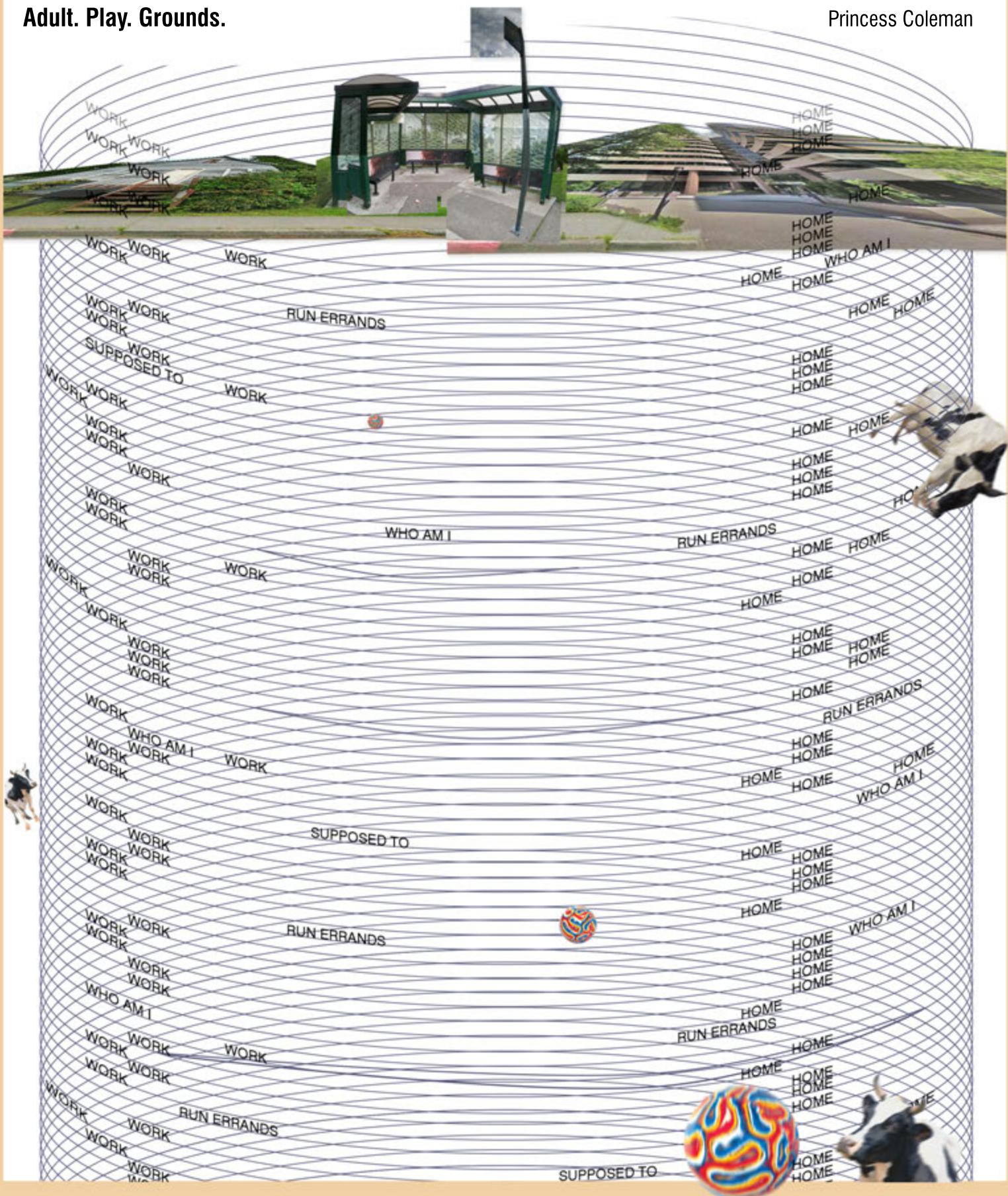
Left: NASCAR Hall of Fame Killed 300+ Chimney Swifts in One Night

Bottom: One Moody Plaza Killed 350+ Birds in One Night

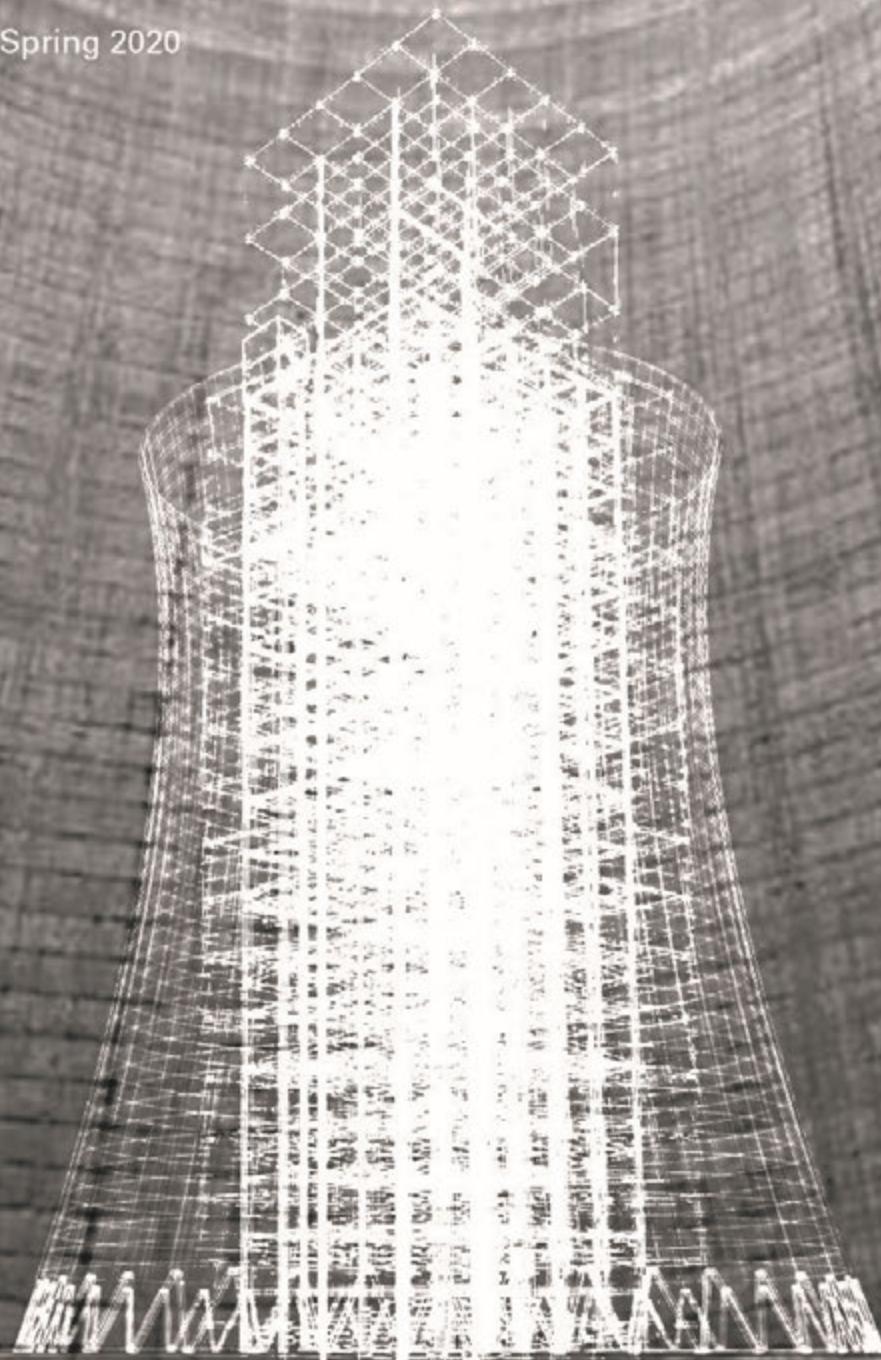


Adult. Play. Grounds.

Princess Coleman



Where there is a will, there is a way. But with the need for will comes a need for play. Ignoring the problem doesn't make it go away. Maybe we are ready for play to be given space today.



REIMAGINING SATSOP

FUTURE LIFE FOR AN INDUSTRIAL RUIN

This thesis explores the meaning and memory of past infrastructure in a visible, but largely unknown site. The never finished Satsop Nuclear Plant is irreversibly tied to the optimism of 20th century nuclear technology and the project's subsequent failure, trapped in a state of tension between permanence and decay, the future and the past. It is both vacant and saturated in memory. How can this uncelebrated monument transform for a renewable energy future? Reimagining Satsop is a speculation about the space of transience within stigmatized abandoned structures, highlighting the ephemerality of experience and the role of architecture in constructing layers of physical strata and collective meaning.

Michelle Culaba | University of Washington | College of Built Environments
Committee: Jeffrey Ochsner & Susan Jones

Contemplating Sanctuary :

Contemplative design strategies for an urban sanctuary of silence, stillness, and spirit with a cleansing wastewater treatment park.

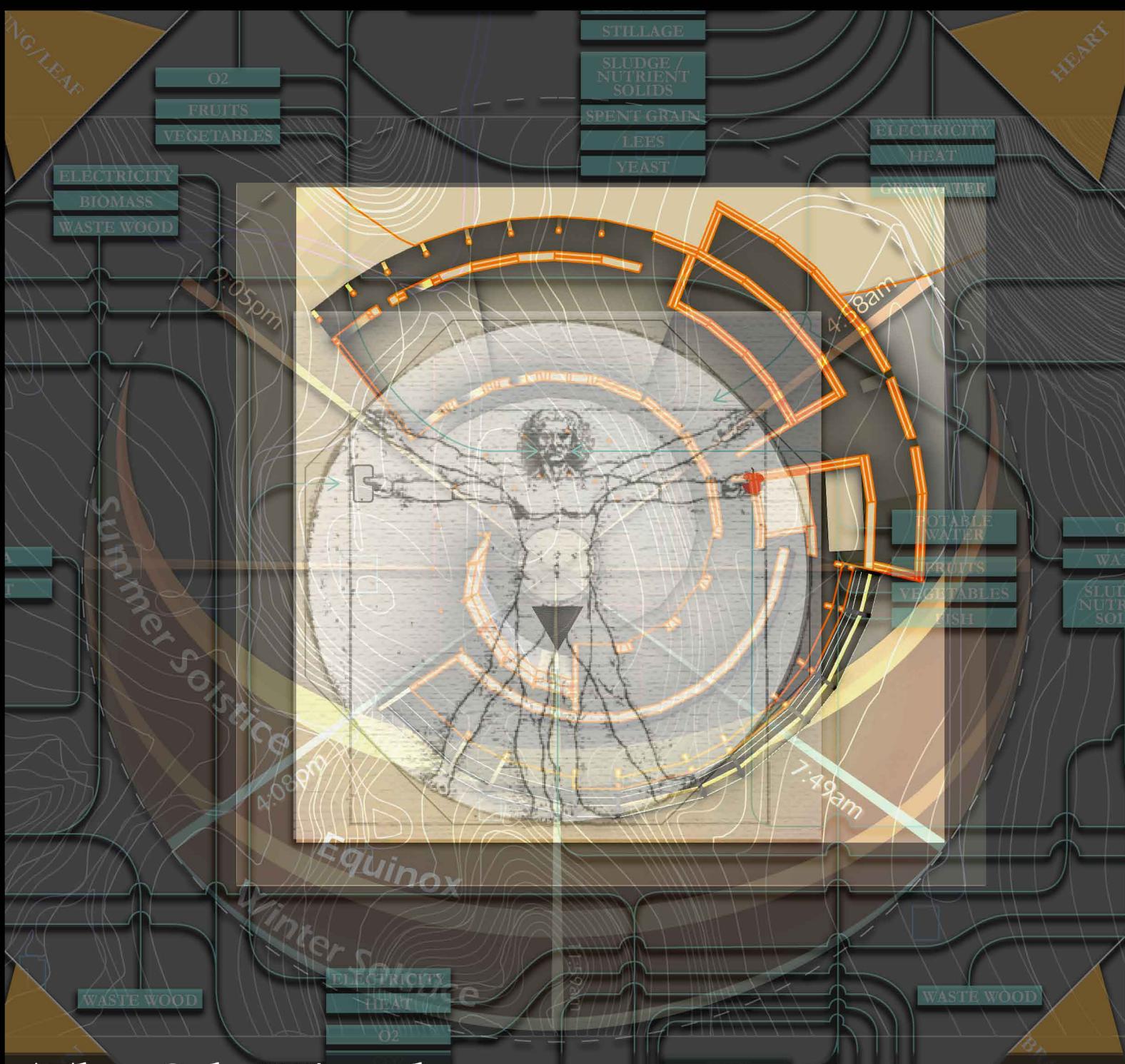
Brian Deck
M. Architecture & M. Landscape Architecture



This design thesis explores the relationship of water gardens to aid as portals to contemplation and the sacred. Designers can frame and scale the perception of natural phenomena that can assist in emotional, psychological, and spiritual renewal.

Synthesizing design principles with Japanese and Puget Sound case studies, contemplative design strategies offers ways to place and time stillness, silence, and solitude.

Water, soundscapes, earthworks, and gardens sculpt an urban pilgrimage to an ecological water retreat This project explores ways to engender spiritual communion and tranquility with sensuous, cleansing, and temporal water in time.



The 8th Kingdom: Biomimicry and the Biological Basis for the Built Environment

What if we start with an assumption that a building is a living thing? They consume, expel waste, take up space, might move or be stationary like a person or a tree. They reproduce through us, as does corn. They provide microclimates which are hospitable to life at various scales. What do such creatures look like when they are freed from the life support systems of a centralized energy grid and sewers? This thesis approaches a site and building program through a model of biological organs, using permaculture and mycoculture to build soils and manage wastes, taps into renewable energy streams, and emphasizes local indigenous knowledge of place and species to mitigate the effects of occupation on the land.

Masters of Architecture & Masters of Landscape Architecture Thesis by Jim Ditto
Committee Co-Chairs Gundula Proksch & Julie Johnson

APPLICATIONS OF

DYNAMIC SHADING SCREEN

FOR RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS
IN TAIWAN

STUDENT

BEN-HSIN DOW

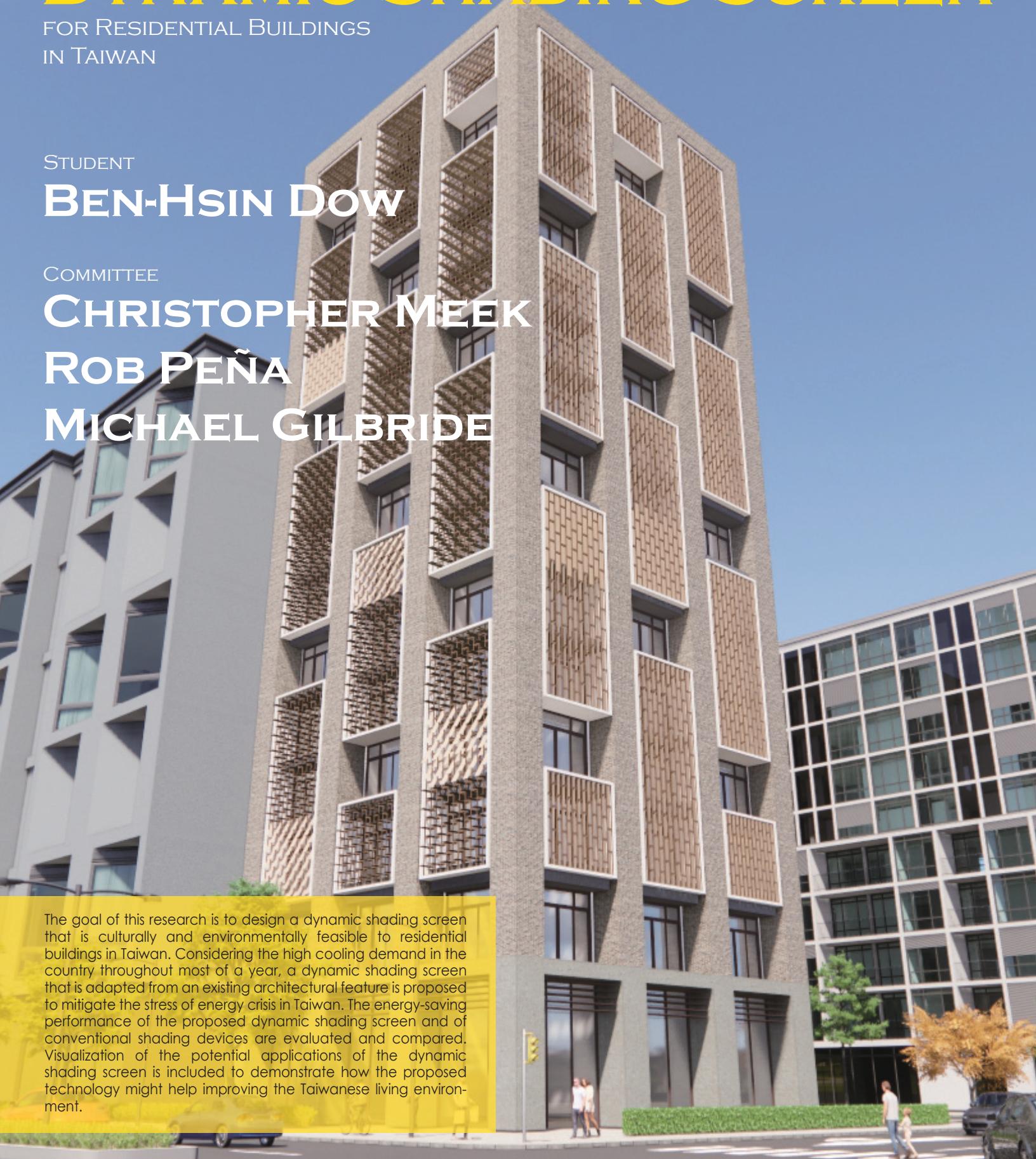
COMMITTEE

CHRISTOPHER MEEK

ROB PEÑA

MICHAEL GILBRIDE

The goal of this research is to design a dynamic shading screen that is culturally and environmentally feasible to residential buildings in Taiwan. Considering the high cooling demand in the country throughout most of a year, a dynamic shading screen that is adapted from an existing architectural feature is proposed to mitigate the stress of energy crisis in Taiwan. The energy-saving performance of the proposed dynamic shading screen and of conventional shading devices are evaluated and compared. Visualization of the potential applications of the dynamic shading screen is included to demonstrate how the proposed technology might help improving the Taiwanese living environment.





Acoustically Sensitive Large Assembly Spaces at School: An Elementary School Retrofit and Expansion

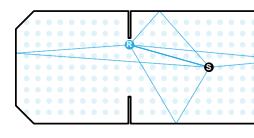
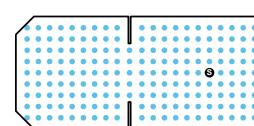
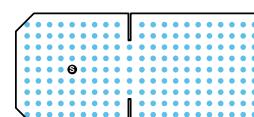
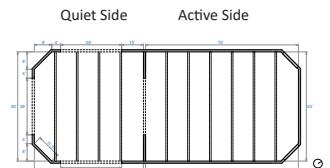
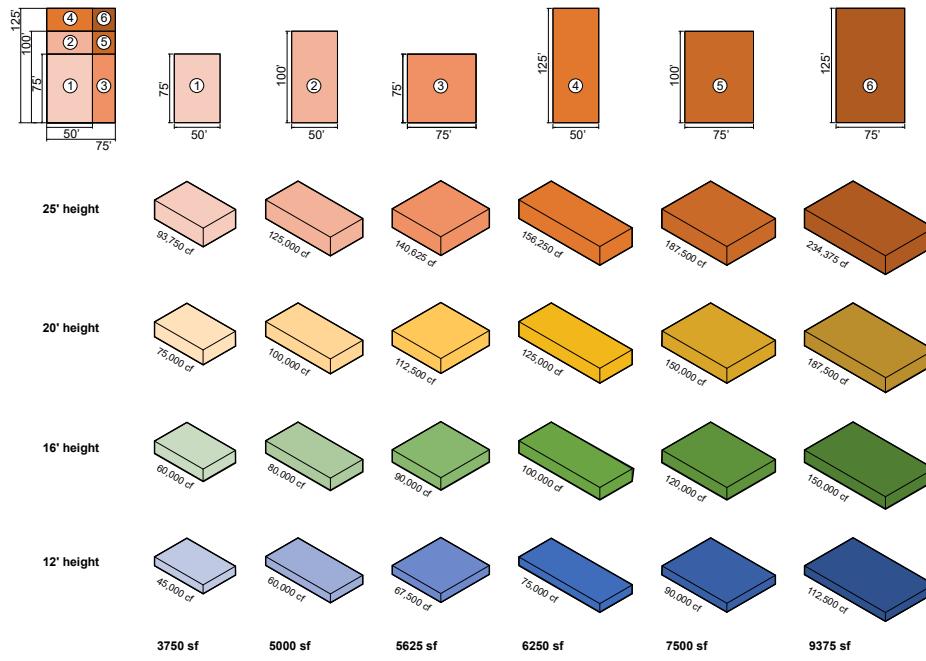
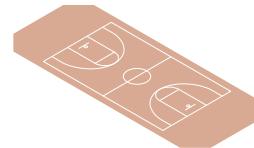
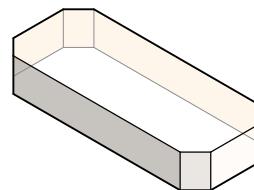
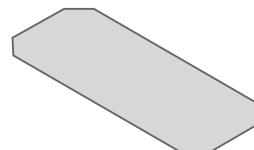
Gayle Ayers Elam

Committee: Rob Corser & Tomás Méndez Echenagucia



Acoustic standards for classrooms and other core learning spaces establish healthy environments where the teacher's speech is understood by students. Appropriate acoustic environments, with controlled overall sound levels, also improve health by protecting teachers from vocal strain, protecting hearing, reducing stress and anxiety, and supporting social interactions. The large social spaces of a school such as gymnasiums and social commons require attention to address the special acoustic challenges of these large social spaces: their large volumes, higher ceilings, and many people talking simultaneously.

This thesis investigates three approaches to shaping the acoustic experience of large assembly spaces in schools: fixed acoustics, variable acoustics, and acoustic microclimates. The acoustic retrofit and expansion of a typical double-duty gymnasium/cafeteria is a case study with a focus on acoustic microclimates, motivated by improving the health and wellness of students and staff. First reverberation times of a test set of possible gym/cafeteria volumes are calculated by Sabine's equation. The calculations show that ceiling height and ceiling materials have more influence than different floor areas. Next basic gym/cafeteria design options are generated and the reverberation times are calculated by Sabine's equation. Promising design options are evaluated using acoustic simulations in Rhino+Pachyderm with quantitative metrics for reverberation time (RT), speech intelligibility (STI & D50), overall sound levels (SPL-A), and quieter areas within the large assembly space. Heatmap displays of metrics on a five-foot grid show illustrate the acoustic microclimates within the space.



Urban Recycling Center

— A Recycling District Along Suzhou's Ancient Canal



Recycling Center

The relationship between architecture, waste and city is inextricably linked but full of problems throughout China and in specific Chinese cities. Today, the production and consumption of goods and foods are the most extensive in human history. Waste generation continues to increase with the growth in consumption. The issue of waste then comes because of the unsustainability of the development model and waste management that harms environmental and social balances.

The thesis critiques the current waste management system in Chinese cities which is a necessary but undesirable invisible infrastructure. The thesis aims to generate a sustainable system of waste management within the design of a recycling district in Suzhou. The goal of the thesis is to encourage the public and waste pickers to work together to reinforce each other through architecture. The thesis will seek to tightly link public activities and waste process through the merging of architecture and landscape to create public engagement and break the physical and mental 'border' between the public and waste.

Waste Pickers





DICHO HOUSE

Dicho: The wisdom of many, the wit of one.

The stories of the house that my dad grew up in and that my grandfather built, *Dicho House* is a process listening and presenting the memories of a house, using architecture to connect with our histories, and carrying these lessons into my own practice of design.



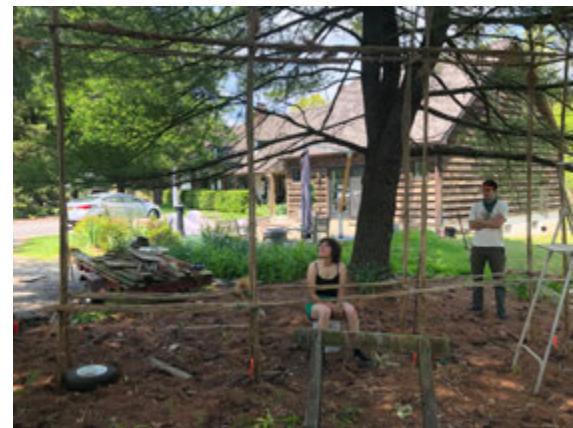
SHELTER +

a domestic violence response network
in Newfoundland and Labrador

The Canadian province of Newfoundland and Labrador is experiencing rising incidences of domestic and intimate partner violence due to a variety of economic and environmental stressors. This is further exacerbated by limited advocacy and low availability of healthcare. Understanding domestic violence as a systemic issue that needs to be addressed on multiple levels drives the design of this thesis. Both a regional network and a new architectural typology that integrates shelter, housing justice, advocacy, and community engagement are proposed. Together they seek to provide independence and autonomy as well as reinforce humanity and empathy for domestic violence survivors.

Rosemarie Grégoire
m.arch - spring 2020

Committee: Gundula Proksch
Alex Anderson



a shared human currency

: craft and conviviality

This thesis explores how we can more meaningfully engage with the world by making useful things with our hands out of natural materials. As we do this more and more, it makes plain the adjacency of our abuse of the natural world and our volunteered dissociation from it in consumer culture.

In this thesis, a case will be made for the ritualization of the mundane, finding that the remedies to many of our inherited cultural ills are hidden in the every day stuff that already lives in front of us.

Caleb Killian with Kimo Griggs & Alan Michelson

This thesis explores concepts for future university spaces in response to the growing use of automation and Artificial Intelligence (AI). By 2040, nearly half of jobs in the U.S. will be automated, accounting for \$2 trillion in annual wages. While experts agree that technology driven industries will create new jobs of its own, the efficiency of technology results in far fewer high-skilled, high paid jobs for people than in prior corporate-office and manufacturing-based economies.

Higher Education has the opportunity to redefine the university experience: the exploration of new jobs where people and AI work together to solve urgent issues and improve life on this planet.

Set in 2040, the Cybernetic Campus proposes an institute located in Denny Triangle, Seattle, within proximity of the city's research institutions and tech industry. A flexible network of programmatic and spatial variation provides an institutional infrastructure that is adaptable to the needs of the individual while engaging a society where humans and machines coexist.

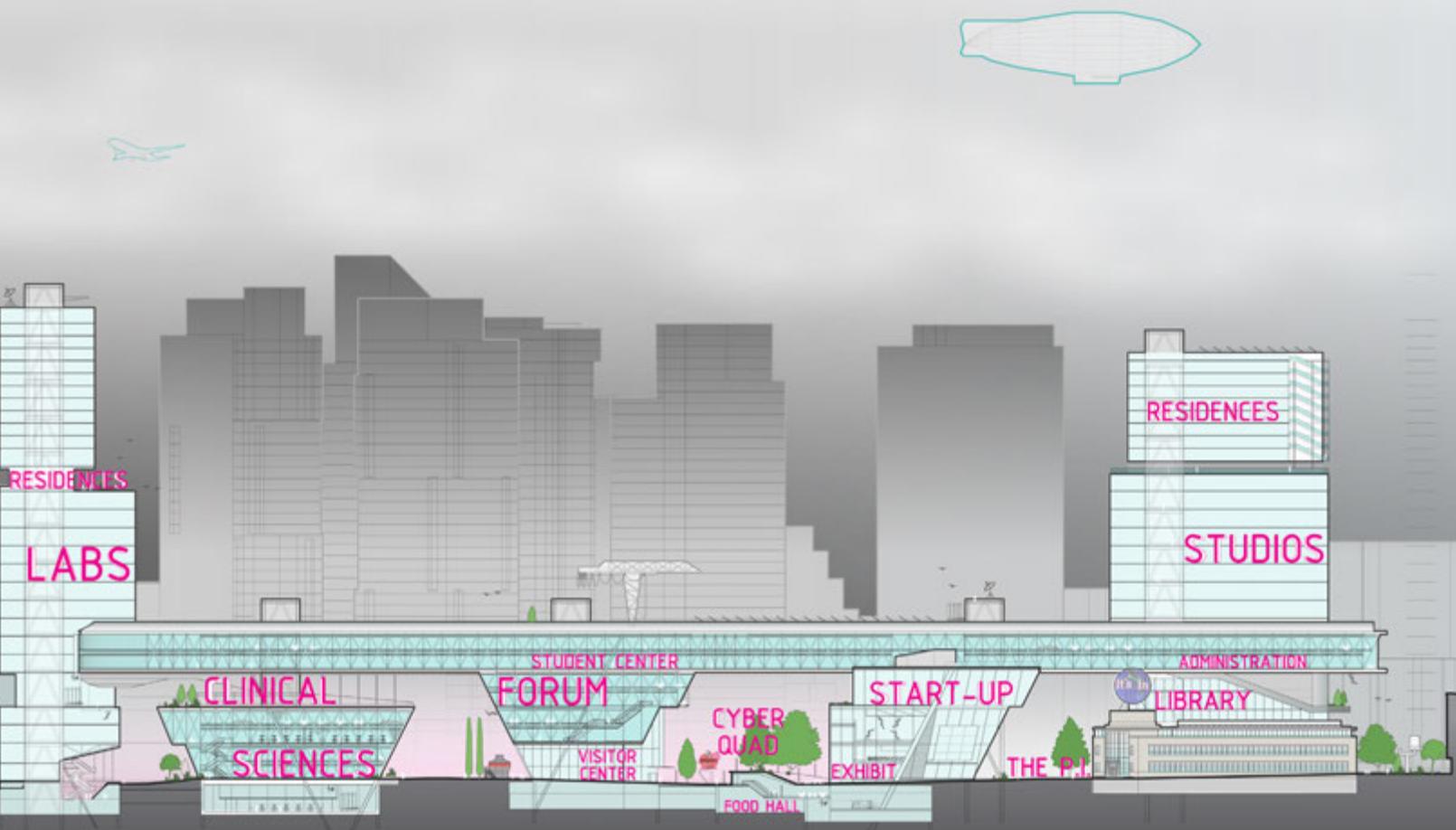
CYBERNETIC CAMPUS

University in the Age of AI

EDWARD KIM
M. ARCH THESIS
SPRING 2020

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON
COLLEGE OF BUILT ENVIRONMENTS

COMMITTEE:
DAVID MILLER, CHAIR
JEFFREY OCHSNER



BETWEEN THE CITY AND THE SEA:

Experiencing Identity in a Changing Landscape

How can a community tackle demographic and climate-based challenges without losing its existing self-identity in the process?

The rising tides will bring grief, pain, and mourning. Allowing those affected some control over their narrative will help us all accept that. Between the City and the Sea offers a large scale design for Puget Sound's Stillaguamish Estuary which embraces change and allows users to involve themselves not just in reading the landscape, but in actively writing their own stories upon it.

Jen Kriegel

DESIGN FOR 203X

LIVING ARCHITECTURE FOR THE SUSTAINABLE TRANSITION

george lee
m. arch thesis
spring 2020

committee:
jeffrey ochsner
gundula proksch

a vision of what residential architecture would look like if sustainability was the primary driver of all work, resulting in designs that address social, economic, and environmental sustainability through an incremental and flexible approach. this thesis raises questions about ownership, development, and construction technology models through investigating the past, present, and future.

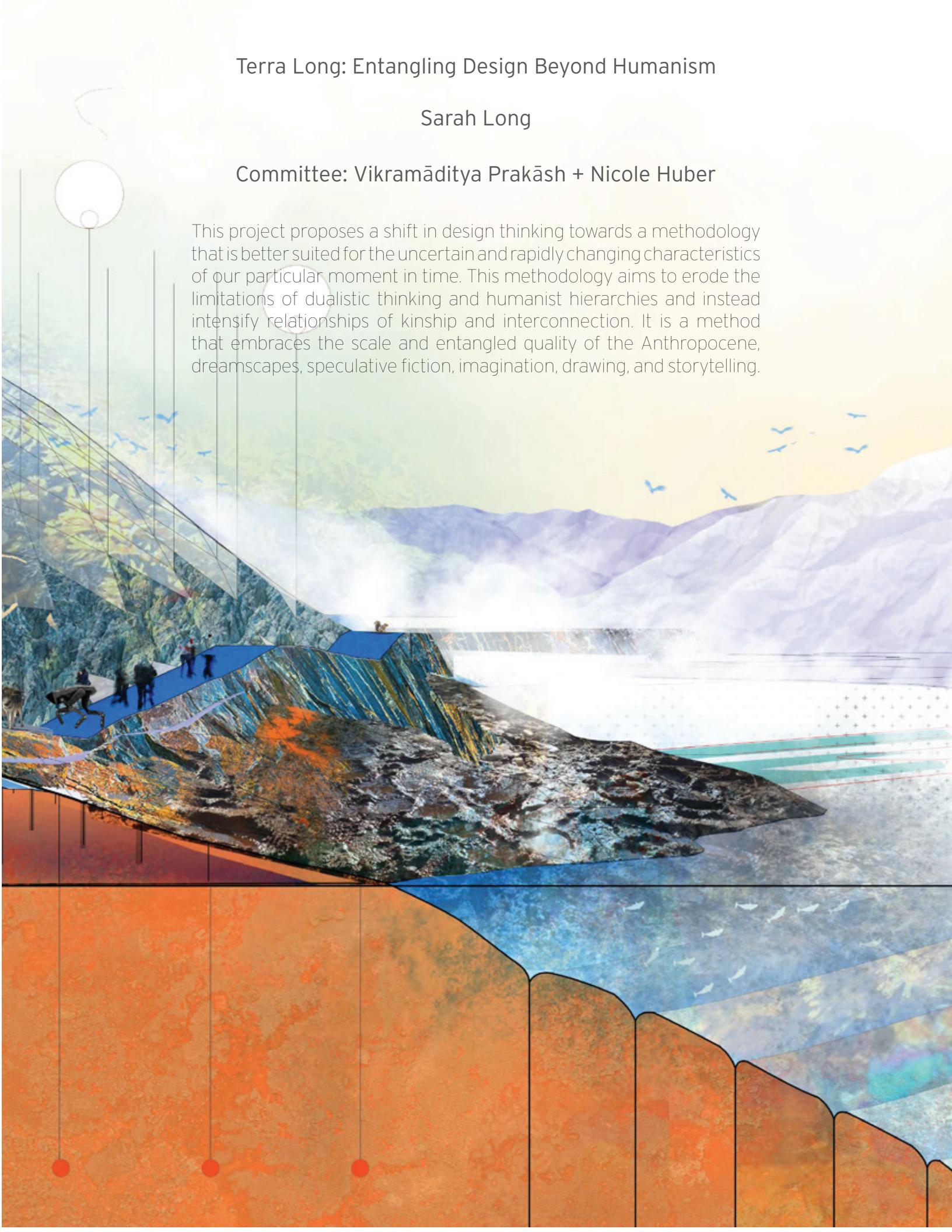


Terra Long: Entangling Design Beyond Humanism

Sarah Long

Committee: Vikramāditya Prakāsh + Nicole Huber

This project proposes a shift in design thinking towards a methodology that is better suited for the uncertain and rapidly changing characteristics of our particular moment in time. This methodology aims to erode the limitations of dualistic thinking and humanist hierarchies and instead intensify relationships of kinship and interconnection. It is a method that embraces the scale and entangled quality of the Anthropocene, dreamscapes, speculative fiction, imagination, drawing, and storytelling.



SPACE AS A DOUBT

mapping the inner landscapes of the body and the mind

This project is looking for ways to represent space as a psychological construct of our mind, which can be accessed and understood through the movement and performance of our physical body. It unfolds the questions of existentialism, body memory, perception of time, and making sense of our position in the universe.

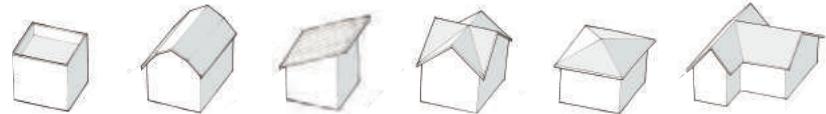


maksym matviichuk

committee: nicole huber, vikramaditya prakash



PILOTING NEIGHBORHOOD CONSERVATION DISTRICTS IN SEATTLE: A CASE STUDY IN WALLINGFORD

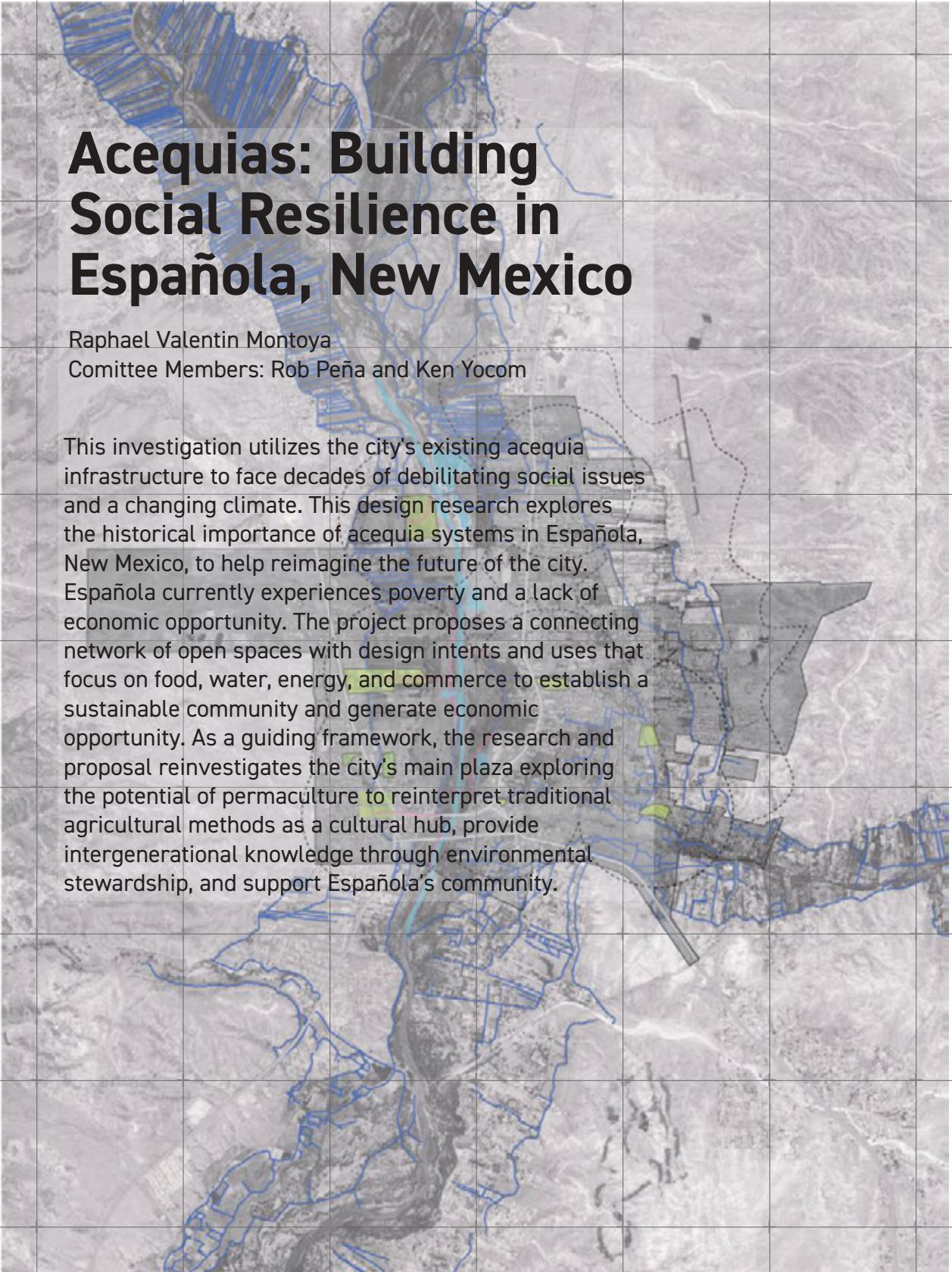


Applying the Conservation District typology to Seattle's Wallingford neighborhood as a method of preserving historic character, increasing neighborhood pride and awareness, and designing for growth.

NICOLE MCKERNAN

CHAIR: JEFFREY OCHSNER

COMMITTEE: KATHRYN ROGERS MERLINO

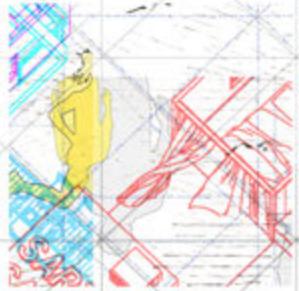


Acequias: Building Social Resilience in Espanola, New Mexico

Raphael Valentin Montoya

Committee Members: Rob Peña and Ken Yocom

This investigation utilizes the city's existing acequia infrastructure to face decades of debilitating social issues and a changing climate. This design research explores the historical importance of acequia systems in Espanola, New Mexico, to help reimagine the future of the city. Espanola currently experiences poverty and a lack of economic opportunity. The project proposes a connecting network of open spaces with design intents and uses that focus on food, water, energy, and commerce to establish a sustainable community and generate economic opportunity. As a guiding framework, the research and proposal reinvestigates the city's main plaza exploring the potential of permaculture to reinterpret traditional agricultural methods as a cultural hub, provide intergenerational knowledge through environmental stewardship, and support Espanola's community.



fragments of home

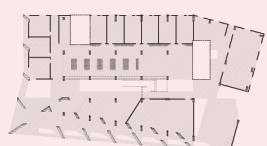
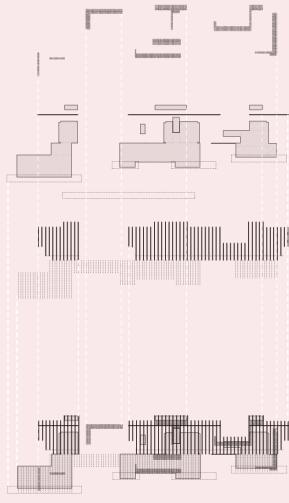
Lean Octavio

Brian McLaren | Elizabeth Golden

This thesis is an exploration of meaning of the Filipino identity through the architecture of the home in its many forms. With emphasis on the culture of the Philippines and its long colonial history, the project tells a narrative through architectural allegory to discover and reveal the different multitudes of the house. Homes are conceptualized, each representing a story particular to the cultural and physical landscapes of history, identity, memory and becoming.



S,M,L, del tail



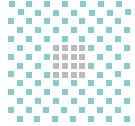
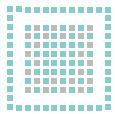
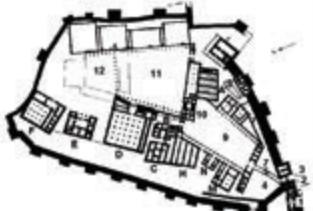
Jin Park

Jim Nicholls [chair]
Mary Johnston

This thesis seeks to understand the syntactic use of expressive and suppressive details as a strategy for constructing space by identifying construction elements (details) as a set of nested scales within works of architecture.

The argument for this strategy will be two-folds -- an analysis of recent works of architecture following Kenneth Frampton's *Rappel à L'ordre* and a demonstration of this strategy through the design of a new civic institution in a post-pandemic future.

UW CBE M.ARCH THESIS SPRING 2020

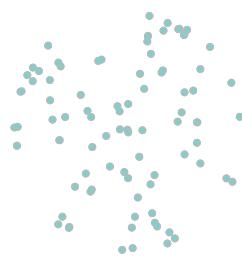


Renenvisioning the Network of Public Branch Libraries in Tacoma Library System

The library has been part of human society for centuries as a means to provide a physical space for conversation between individuals and information. The physical representation and organization of the library has undergone waves of adjustments by means of technological advancements and societal changes. We are amidst the next evolution of what a library will mean to society since Andrew Carnegie's revolutionary ideas of libraries for each community, open stacks, and the introduction of a community space.

Even as the Archives of information grows, library systems are utilizing technology to minimize the physical footprint in their buildings but increase the access for their members. The reduction of needing to store print materials creates new opportunities for the space. With the average individual visiting 2.5 different libraries a year, could these spaces expand their shared resources beyond the homogeneous prototypical program of libraries today.

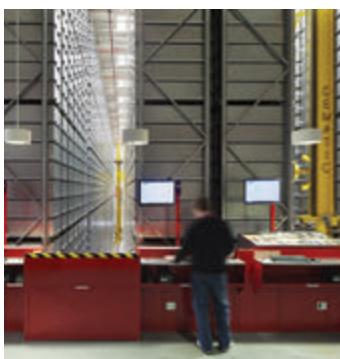
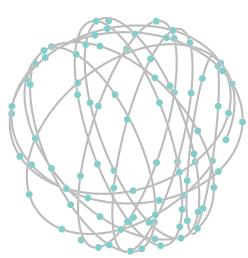
This thesis is an investigation of reenvisioning the network of Tacoma Library System by strengthening the connection of neighboring libraries via the local programs offered at each public branch.



Steffen Pawlosky
M.Arch Thesis
Spring 2020

University of Washington
College of Built Environments

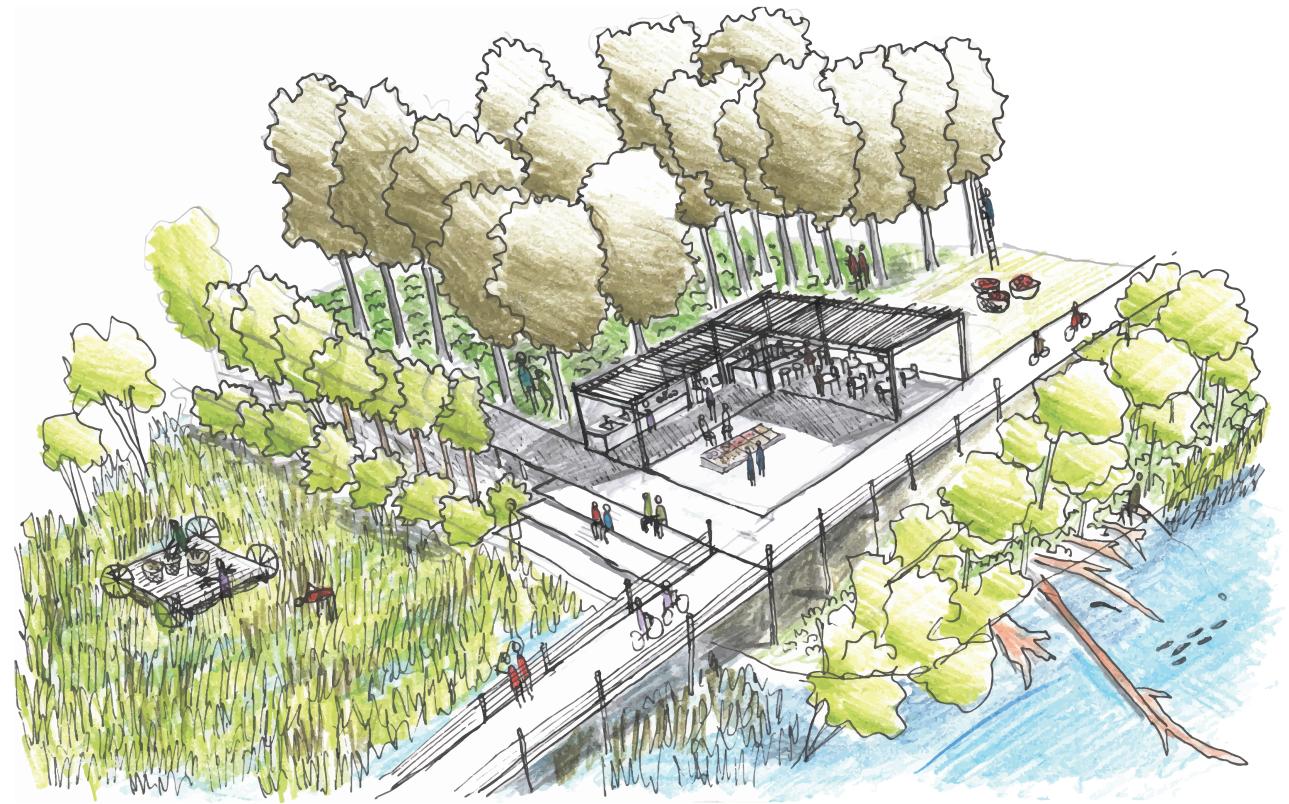
Committee
Bob Mugerauer
David Strauss

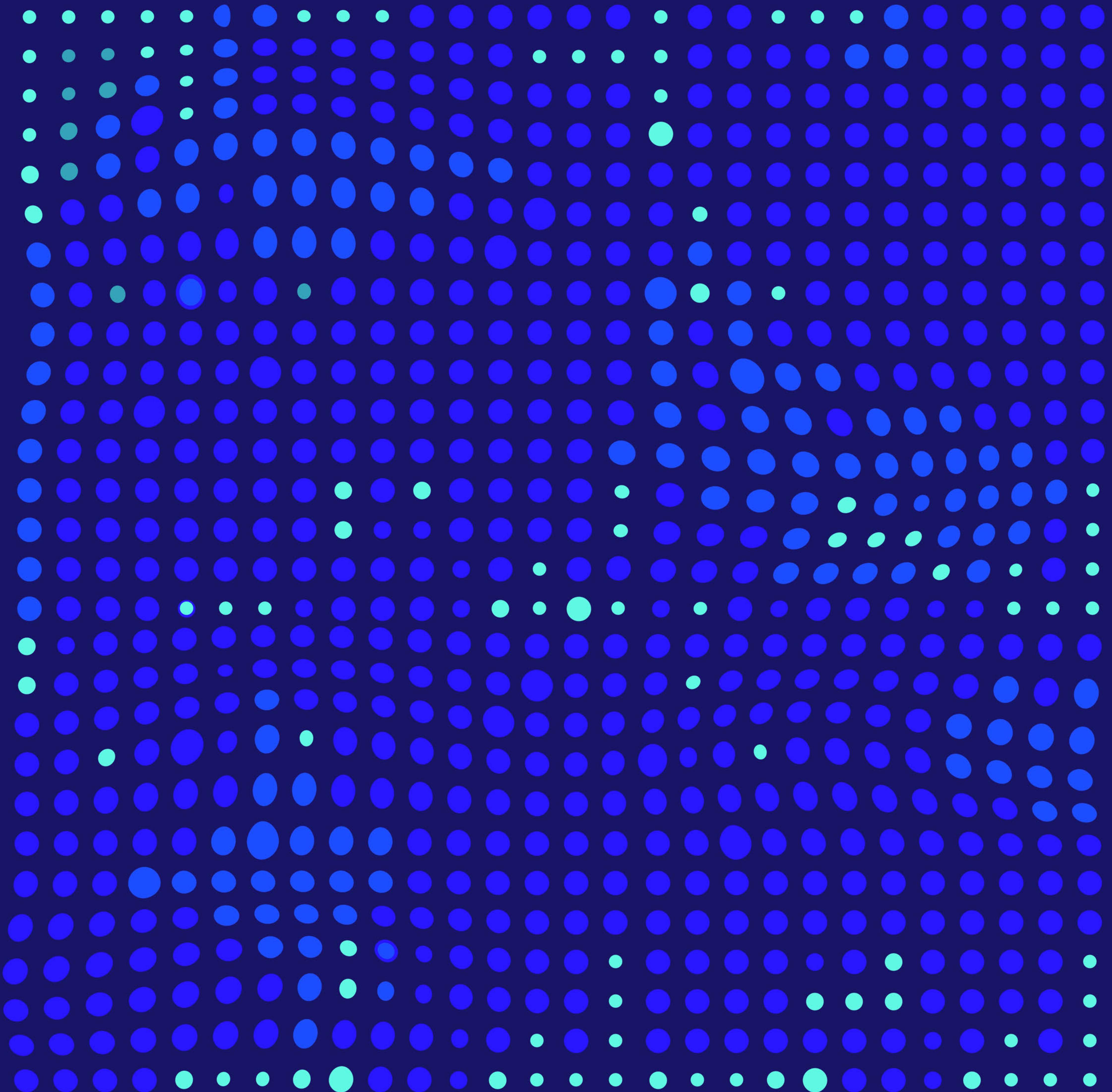




LIBERATING RIVERS

NICCOLO PIACENTINI

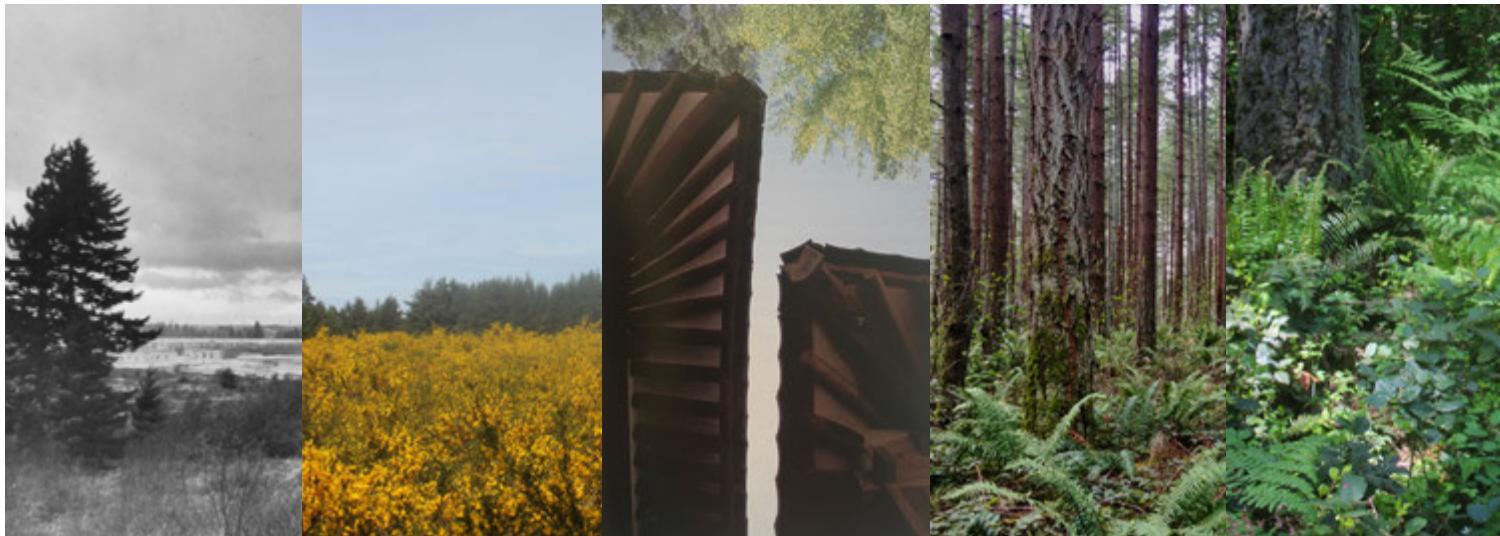




Heavenly Rooms

Design and fabrication of a sound absorptive panel composed of Helmholtz Resonators (HR) for improving the open office acoustics through reducing the annoyance caused by speech sounds

Vidhya Rajendran, Master of Science in Architecture - Design computing
Committee: Tomás Méndez Echenagucia and Brian R Johnson



First, let us look together .

through forests, trees, wood, and building

Wood construction has grown out of the relationship between people and the landscapes they inhabit. Small diameter timber is a material that was once a key component of vernacular building around the world but is now problematized as a low-value by product of forest management. This thesis studies the material's prevalence in Korean and Coast Salish architecture as a dimension of their respective traditional ecological knowledges. Their stories provide lessons that prompt us to question our contemporary relationships to materials and the landscapes that create them. To further explore this, I imagine Swan Creek Park in Tacoma, WA as a productive forest shaped over time by community memory, stewardship, and building.

Bennet Walker Song

Daniel Vu

Master of Architecture
Spring 2020

Oshima | Anderson

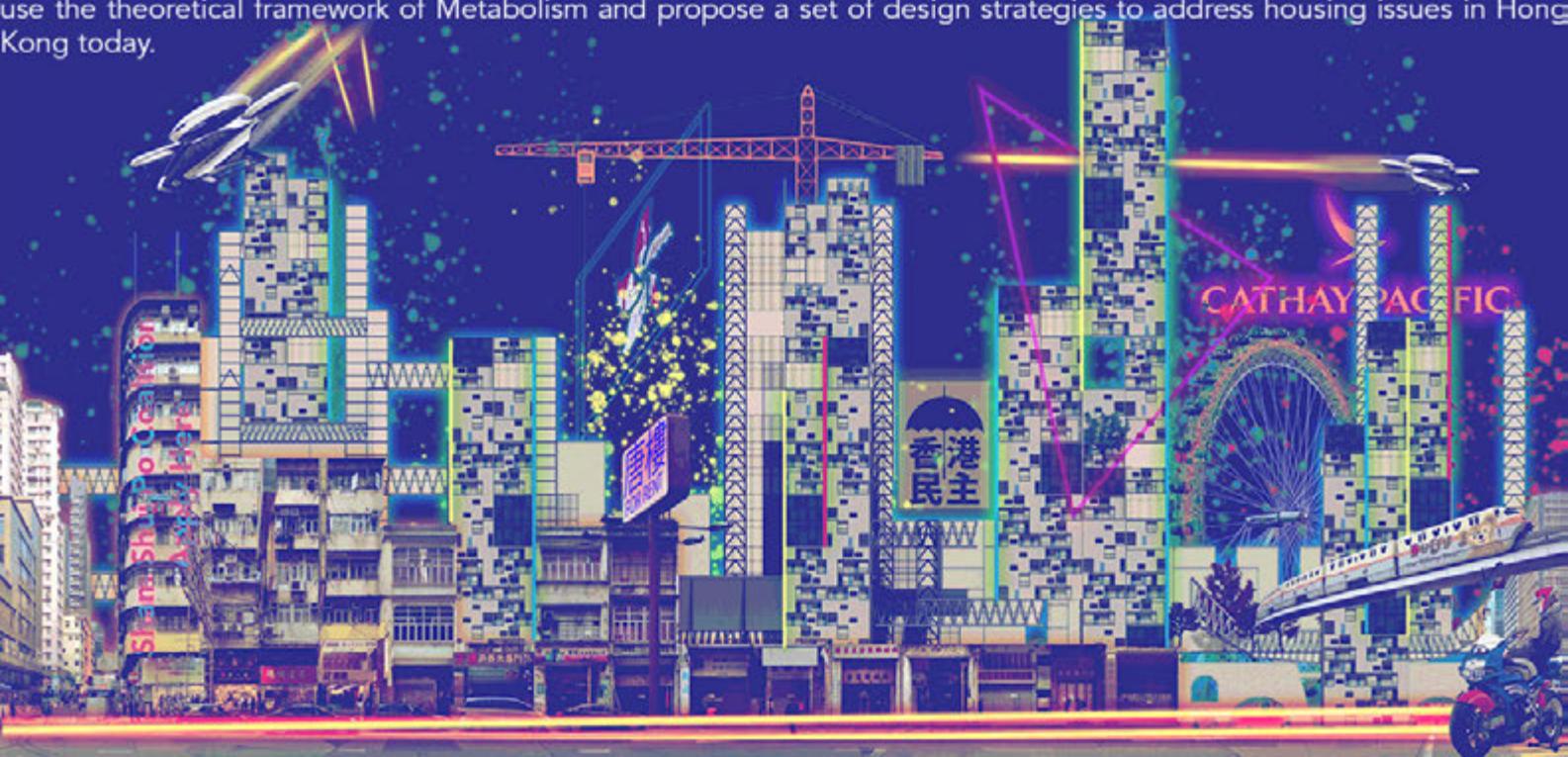
College of Built Environment
University of Washington

PLUGIN HOMES

Metabolic Framework: Hong Kong as a Testing Ground

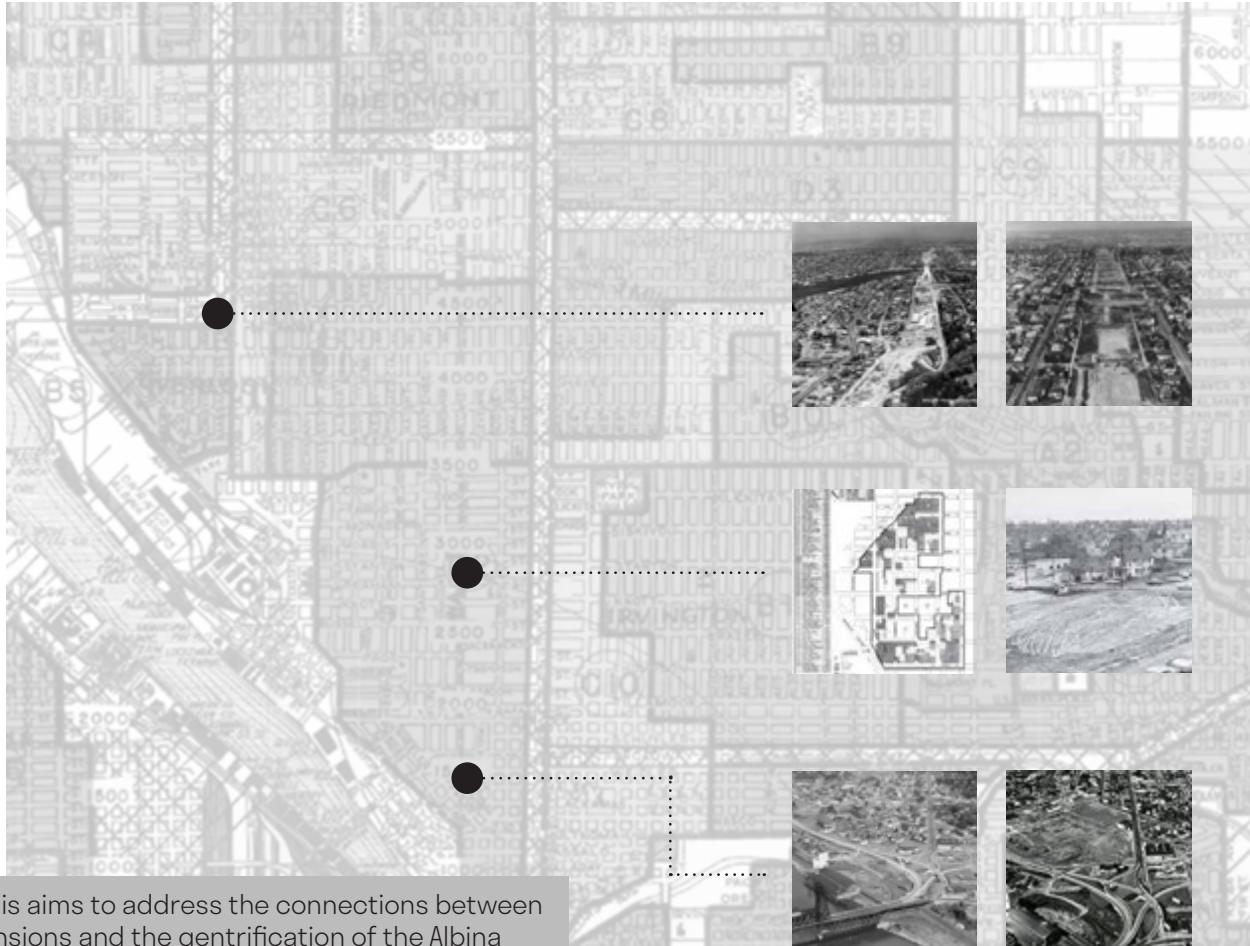
Hong Kong presents a complex and oftentimes paradoxical system of housing that is the product of traditional village development and more recent urbanization, of extremely organic process of urban growth and extremely standardized market, of self-built architecture and centralized regulatory body. One of the symptoms of a system built on the two extremes is the divide between the wealthy and the poor. While Hong Kong has the most millionaires per capita, the region also has the lowest rating in global housing affordability where even the middle-class families struggle to acquire a home and safeguard their home ownership.

In many ways, Hong Kong is facing the very problems that Japan used to face in the postwar years and during the reconstruction of the nation. Limited resources, growing population, the clash of old and new, the urgency of a nation-wide urban planning program that addresses necessity and reflects optimism, to name a few. In this rebuilding effort of the country, a movement was born under the tutelage of Japan's national architect Tange Kenzo: Metabolism. This thesis will use the theoretical framework of Metabolism and propose a set of design strategies to address housing issues in Hong Kong today.



FOLLOWING THE COLONIAL STANDARD:

Hidden Motives Behind Urban Planning



This thesis aims to address the connections between racial tensions and the gentrification of the Albina district, a predominantly black neighborhood in Portland, Oregon, and the inaccessible housing stock and lack of social infrastructure within planning leading to the displacement of black residents. Portland, is one of the highest in terms of social turmoil and tensions between the two ethnic groups. Sadly, racism has been entrenched in Oregon's history for nearly two centuries, maybe more than any state in the north. When the state entered the union in 1859, for example, Oregon explicitly forbade black people from living in its borders, being the only state to do so. In more recent times, the city has repeatedly undertaken "urban renewal" projects (such as the construction of the Emanuel Hospital) that discriminated against the small black community that existed here.

HALEY WILSON

M.ARCH THESIS
SPRING 2020

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON
COLLEGE OF BUILT ENVIRONMENTS

COMMITTEE:

BRIAN MCLAREN
KATHRYN MERLINO

PORTLAND, OR

The **Value** of Values: Collaboration in the Built Environment

Competing and often contradictory values that shape the built environment hinder progress towards practices that are better for people and the planet. These values, both personal and professional, are key factors in project decision-making and inherently reinforce top-down practices within relationships, making true interdisciplinary collaboration difficult or impossible. The fear of risk and uncertainty prevents innovation and risk-taking, leading to a continuation of buildings which are detrimental to the health of both humans and the environment.

An alternative system based on interdisciplinary teamwork, in addition to an understanding of value-based decision making, establishes the base practices which prioritise working in collaborative teams to create valuable, healthy, and sustainable spaces. As the built environment demands a better integrated method of design, construction, and management, challenges and opportunities in technologies and strategies will arise. In order to create a valuable and impactful future that incorporates the challenges of the climate crisis, what we value in our built environment will need to change.

POETIC INQUIRY IN THE ARCHITECTURAL ARCHIVE: POSSIBILITIES FOR IMAGINING PASTS AND FUTURES

Gregory T. Woolston / M.Arch

This thesis interrogates and transforms my experiences in architectural archives through poetic inquiry. Following the Feminist Art and Architecture Collaborative (2017), I consider the role of the archive in architectural history and design, especially its limitations and possibilities. I draw on feminist and queer approaches to archival work, such as those of Ann Cvetkovich (2003) and Tavia Nyong'o (2015), in my critique and as a way forward for engaging with archives. For example, Nyong'o argues for “enter[ing] the archive phenomenologically, to move and be moved by the past ... and to build narrative, speculative, and creative accounts accordingly.” I then evaluate the potential of poetic inquiry, or “the use of poetry in social science qualitative research (Prendergast 2009),” as a method with which to approach architectural archives, through examining and creating collages from several poems on the built environment from the Seattle Poetic Grid (2017), Washington Poetic Routes (2019), and Poetic Shelters (2020).



Profanity Hill, 1940

*UW Libraries,
Special Collections
SEA3460*

Committee

Nicole Huber, Chair
Michelle Habell-Pallán

READING THE WHITE SPATIAL IMAGINARY IN THE REDEVELOPMENT OF YESLER TERRACE

Gregory T. Woolston / M.S. Architecture History + Theory

This thesis considers the ways in which built environment professionals, namely urban planners, architectural designers, and real estate developers, imagine the spaces they plan, design, and develop. In particular, it examines the physical and social consequences of said imaginings through a case study of the redevelopment of Yesler Terrace. Its policies and buildings are very much a discourse, and I argue we can better understand their rhetorical meaning through an against the grain reading of the various documents involved in their production. Through this critical reading, I follow George Lipsitz (2007, 2011) and Anna Livia Brand (2018) to argue that Yesler is a built expression of the “white spatial imaginary,” as evidenced in the ways its documentation selectively writes history, reproduces commercialized multiculturalism, and forms normative identities. In this way, the thesis expands the notion of the “white spatial imaginary” into other parts of the built environment with evidence from an overlooked archive.



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