

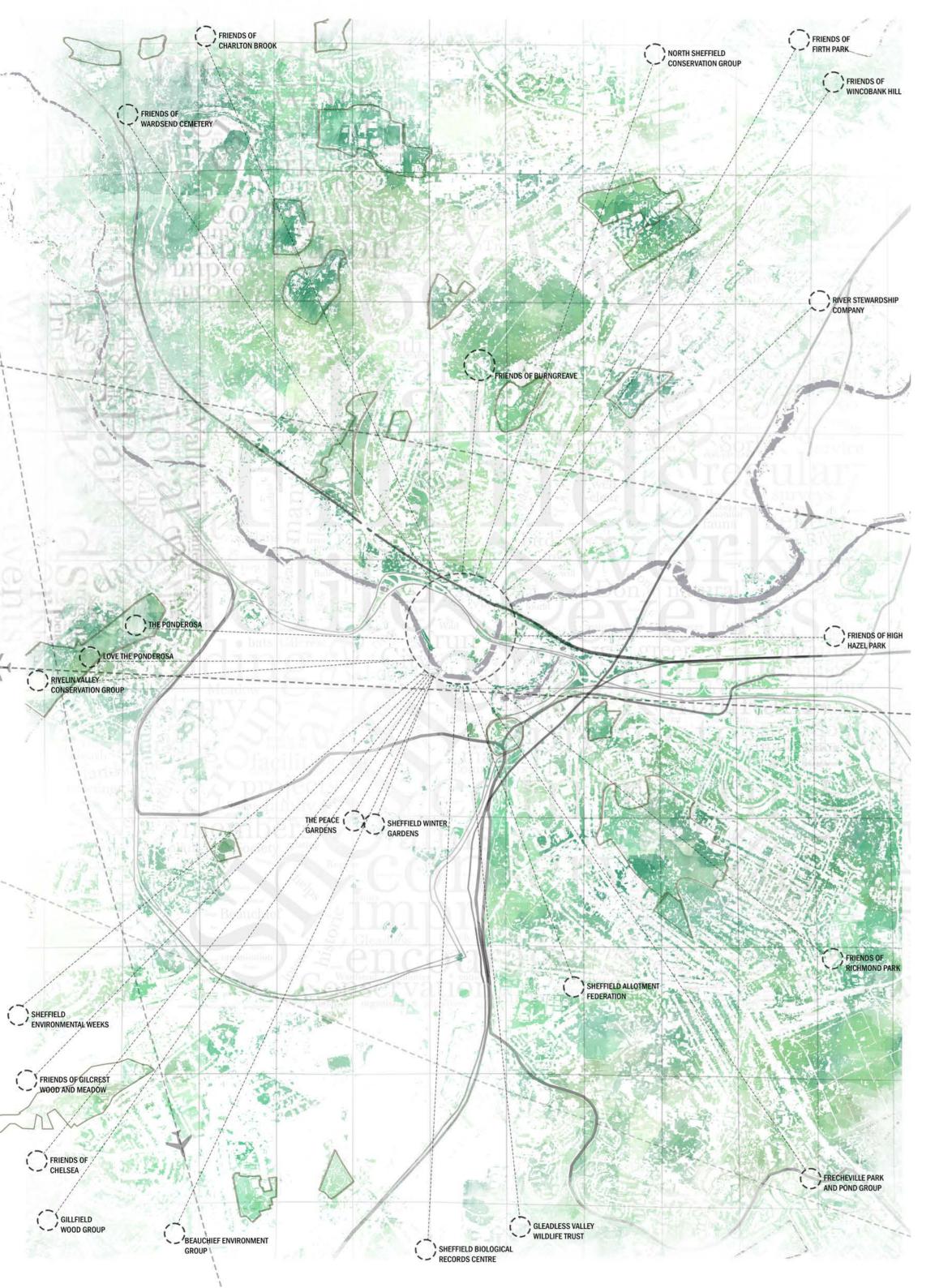
Over Your Cities Grass Will Grow



Inspired by The La Ribaute Project by Anselm Kiefer and his Seven Heavenly Palaces, I adopted my project title.

The photo joiner aims to encapsulate abandoned Victoria station succumbing to the natural world that it was designed to keep out. This contains images of both the past - with historic flashbacks of Victoria station, combined with images from the present day. Today, images are evident of the state of vegetation and overgrowth that is now taking over.

Abandoned Victoria station succumbing to the natural world it was designed to keep out



The Outdoor City

Sheffield is The Outdoor City.

'Sheffield is the UK's leading destination for people seeking city culture and outdoor recreation'.

Due to the natural topography, the city can offer a wider number of unique outdoor activities. Sheffield is the only city in the UK with a National Park within its boundary; the rivers, valleys, reservoirs and rocks allow countless outdoor activities both outside and within a vibrant and cultural city.

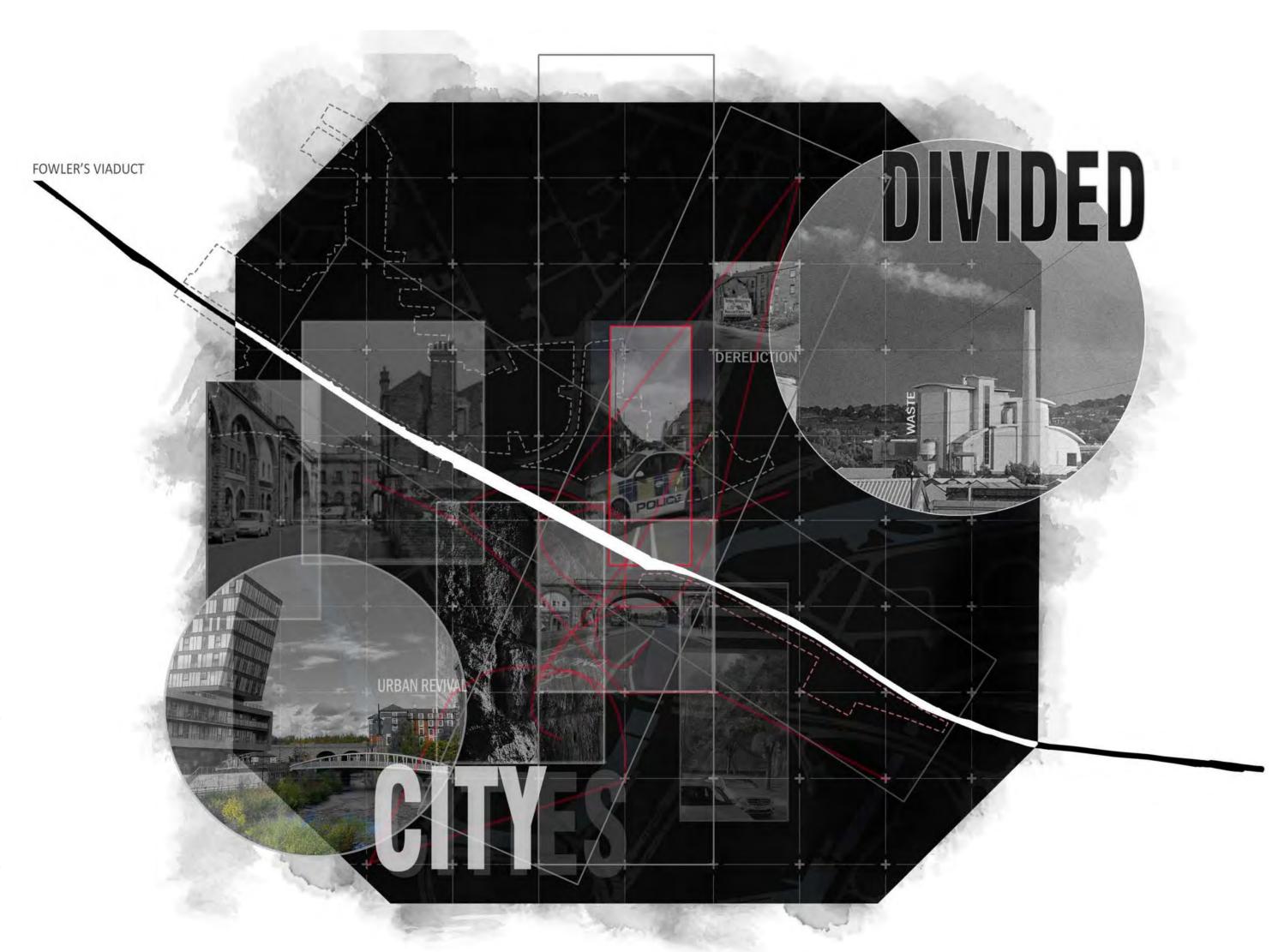
Sheffield is proud of its industrial past. It is a special city still of innovation and manufacture. The juxtaposition of modern day industry and historic nature seems to provide a harmonic relationship with social cultures.

The mapping diagram (left) extends to further macro scale to display the extent of green space in the wider city. More importantly and in contrast to the previous map, it also identifies usable public green space in the city (highlighted by bold outlines).

The drawing shows how man-made intervention has pierced through this landscape over time - the railway, tram line and ring road all making divisions in the green space. I also believe it important to raise detail above ground and into the air, drawing common flight paths where infrastructure permits international travel.

To preserve the landscape and ecologies of Sheffield, independent environment groups engage with environmental issues within the city. These organisations are documented on the map. Some are community led, using bottom-up strategies, and others are government-led that possess authority to engage with aspects of the river and larger areas of land.

However, all allow for a community to become engaged. Thus, there could be a possibility and opportunities for city-wide communities to link together and work coherently with each other to facilitate a large-scale change.



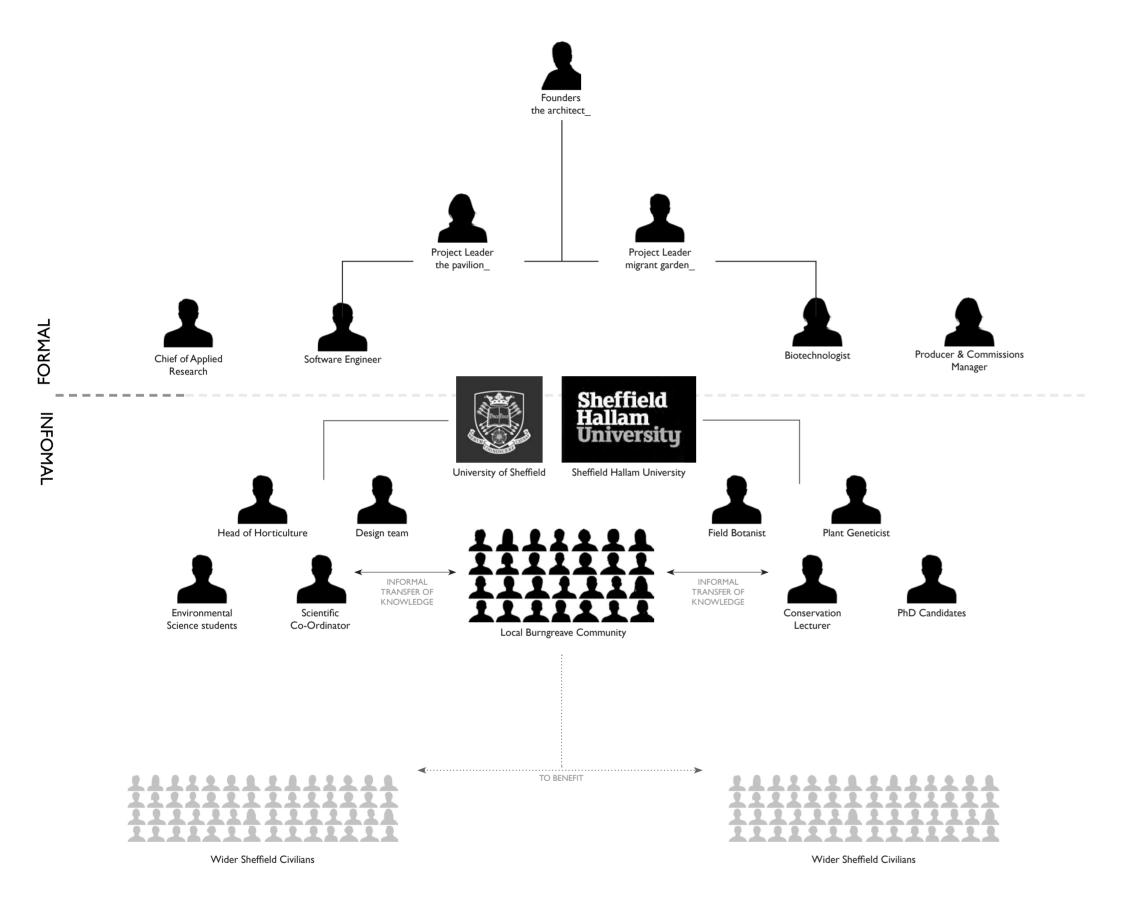
A city divided? A divided city.

At macro level, different scales of divide within Sheffield can be identified. Physical barriers seem to divide these areas of the city - the River Don ultimately separating the city from Wicker. Wicker is separated from Spital Hill by three physical barriers - the A61 ring road, A6109 road and former railway viaduct - all three distorts any transition between the two locations.

Of definite interest is a socio-economic, spatial segregation issue. This situation has occurred where people of similar backgrounds, country of origin, culture and consequently income all live concentrated in certain parts of the city - obviously separated from other groups. While this can be positive and negative, the segregation issue in Spital Hill is historically involuntary. Over time, this has lead to few interactions among the separate resident groups which in turn has caused fewer access to opportunities.

The argument against mapping socio-economies and spatial segregations at macro levels is that a depth of understanding of an area cannot be truly illustrated. Just because less development may occur, this does not mean that people are necessarily less happy.

Stakeholders to Learning



मामार् मामार guidance of future building The Pavilion granted creates a space of mplementing required regulations Chief of Applied Sheffield Research Relaying info i.e new city sites to propose Funding Body applications to obtain funding application direct the architect engagement Local Burngreave Community External Research (Actors) INFORMAL TRANSFER OF KNOWLEDGE **Sheffield** Potential for student/ student engagement here Hallam Field Botanist University Sheffield Hallam University Biotechnologist Conservation Lecturer end product created by the community Science students University of Sheffield Head of Horticulture overseeing the success of High level skills, access to latest technologies, plant intervention on the environment Migrant Garden equipment and implement an agenda and findings to demonstrate feasible for learning an research PhD Candidates Scientific Co-Ordinator Wider Sheffield Civilians

Arnstein's Ladder of Citizen Participation

B Citizen Control

Delegated Power

Partnership

Placation

Consultation

Degrees of tokenism

Informing

Therapy

Nonparticipation

Source: Arnstein, 1969

Delegation. 'Citizens holding a clear majority of seats on committees with delegated powers to make decisions. Public now has the power to assure accountability of the programme to them.' (Dobson, u.d)

The above stakeholder process illustrates how knowledge is transferred within the project. However it does not truly demonstrate the ways the community are placed in a position of delegated power - an crucial element to successfully implement a new balance between social, economical and environmental factors.

The Architect's role is primarily the initiator to the project. Partly, the architect acts as the mediator between formal/informal actors and between small-scale/large-scale actors to collaboratively bring them together.

The program is designed to be founded and devised by a team of people who engage with participants within the Burngreave community. This core team of actors all inherit different expertise and technologies which can deeply develop the program in a variety of areas.

SPACES OF LEARNING

USER INVOLVEMENT

These diagrams seek to demonstrate the spaces of learning within the project, and which actors within the 'Stakeholders of Learning' use these spaces.

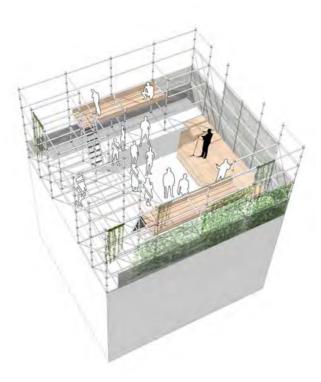
With reference to the 'Stakeholders of Learning' page, different participants use their roles and responsibilities to engage with the learning spaces to harvest knowledge through physical output. Such outputs have the potential to dictate the infrastructural, ecological and social impacts to the scheme.



TEACHING AREA

Local Burngreave Community Environmental Science students PhD Candidates

Conservation Lecturer



COMMUNITY PERFORMANCE SPACE

Local Burngreave Community Wider Sheffield Civilians

Conservation Lecturer The Architect Producer & Commissions Manager



GROWING AREA

Local Burngreave Community Wider Sheffield Civilians Environmental Science Students Field Botanist

Head of Horticulture



WORKSHOP

Local Burngreave Community
Wider Sheffield Civilians
Biotechnologist

Project Leader the pavilion_

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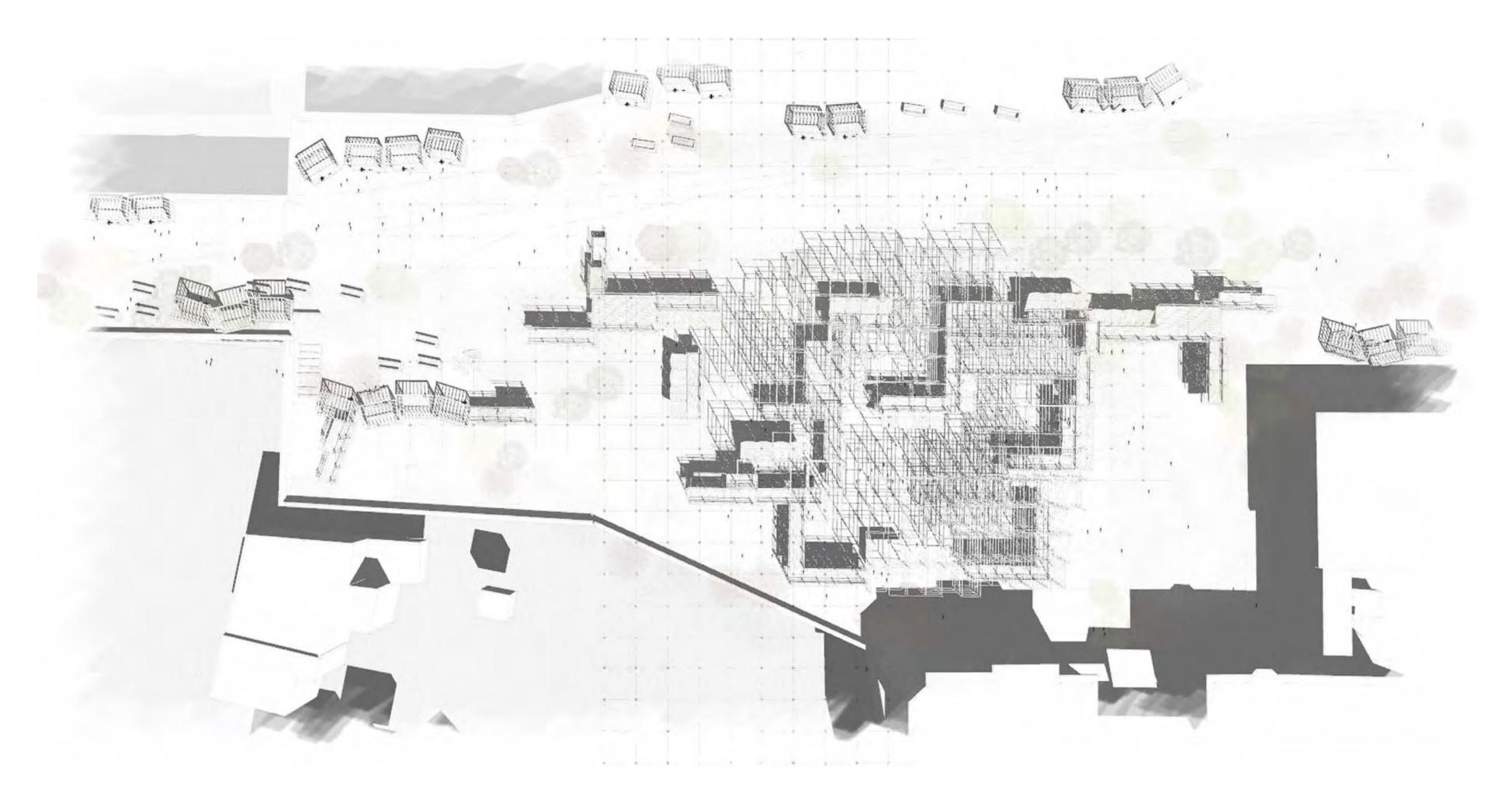


MIGRANT GARDEN

Local Burngreave Community Field Botanist

Project Leader migrant garden_





_THE PAVILION

20X

As participative work accumulates and pods and kiosks are added, the pavilion evolves. This plan shows just one version of how it could transform in the future.

Previous spaces could be retained or removed, and replaced with an alternative space dependent on what the future requirements are.

This focus on random transformations goes through a physical and spatial relationship between machine and humankind. As there is limited digital component, an interaction is created purely from merging material movement and human movement.

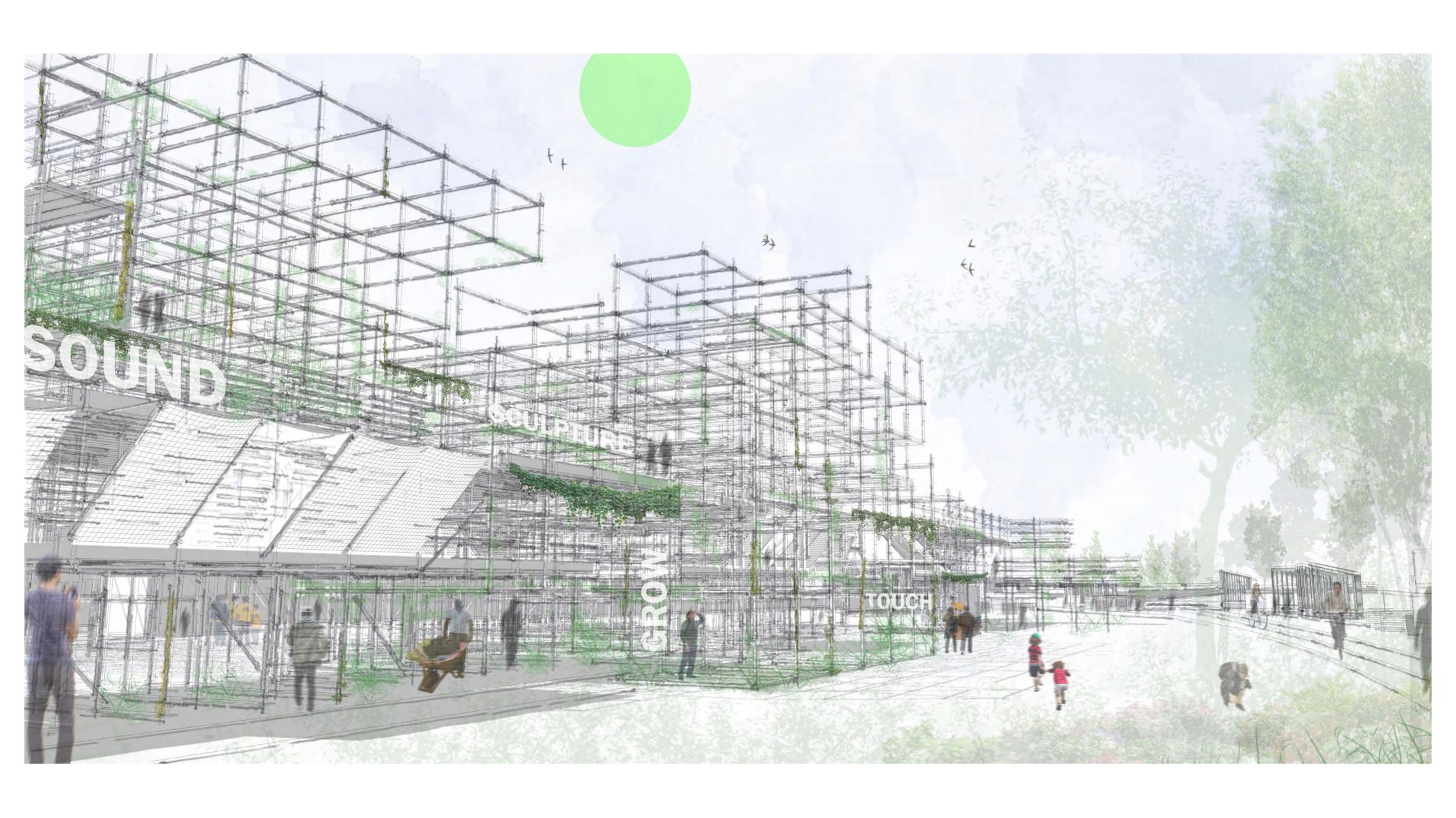
THE SECTION

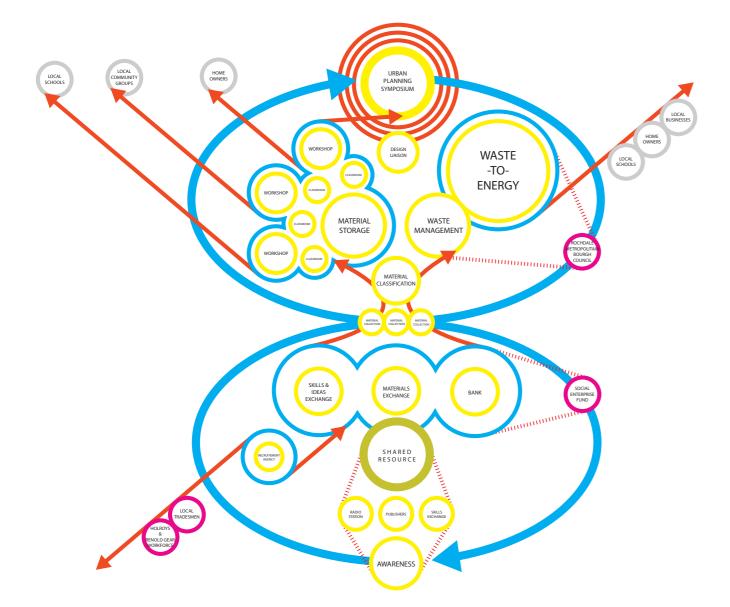
20XX

Over Your Cities Grass Will Grow dramatically transforms the section of Sheffield. The importance of this new section is to allow nature to reclaim its land which man-made intervention previously severed through. It is the hope that natural growth transfers to different layers in the hyper-local and wider contexts of the city. It becomes a thick landscape.

As such, the section deconstructs a previous political and socio-economic divide in the city to instead create a usable productive condition of public realm which connects city cultures, stimulates urban ecologies and increase quality of life for every citizen in the city.







MANIFESTO FOR MILNROW

As local authority cuts loom over threatened public services throughout the UK, Rochdale is not alone. Its self imposed local authority targets are being missed across the board. To counteract this, £64m worth of savings has to be secured by Rochdale Metropolitan Borough Council over the next three years. As a result cuts to essential and widely used services are being made, despite emotional and well backed outcries from local groups.

This concerning issue provides the perfect opportunity for Milnrow to once again establish itself as a self reliant community. Through a process of devolution, the transfer of governing powers will be gifted back to the people of Milnrow. In an age where there is not enough money to go around, and minorities are left without, the removal of external agendas will enable local issues to be dealt with by locally minded people.

With the approval of this new local authority structure it is now up to the community of Milnrow to raise their expectation of themselves, take control and work together.

To enable Milnrow through this transition, a system of guiding principles must be put in place with an agenda of Open-Source firmly at its centre. New structures for the sharing of materials, education and skills, and ideas, as a way of forming new meaning full relationships will be formed. The collaborative efforts that are expressed as part of this system will enable residents to improve their individual quality of life, while also presenting them with the opportunity to take ownership of larger, Milnrow wide issues, of waste management, urban planning, future developments and town management.

This is in no way a reinstatement of the old council structure, but rather a redistribution of ownership to the people of Milnrow, instating them with a right to collectively and creatively influence the place where



his system advocates now procedures in the imagination and formation of real spaces within an inclusive infrastructure. This appears to towards a collaborative social integration will manifest itself as

USER PROFILE

To develop the programme components beyond illustrative icons, I created a user profile to demonstrate how the component activities my manifest through the varying requirements of individual and collaborative working environments.

The user profile scenes depict a range of independent working and group based moments, as well as some break out activities, offering more social and recuperative environments.

This array of varying moments suggests a clear divide between the serious working environments and the more informal social spaces, but can these two kinds of space be brought together?

Here I have begun to develop a idea for a series of linked spaces. There is larger central point for congregating and networking, which is served by a series of smaller spaces where intimate groups can come together to develop ideas. Once ready these smaller groups can converge on the central space to present, share and exhibit proposals for the reuse of the donated materials.

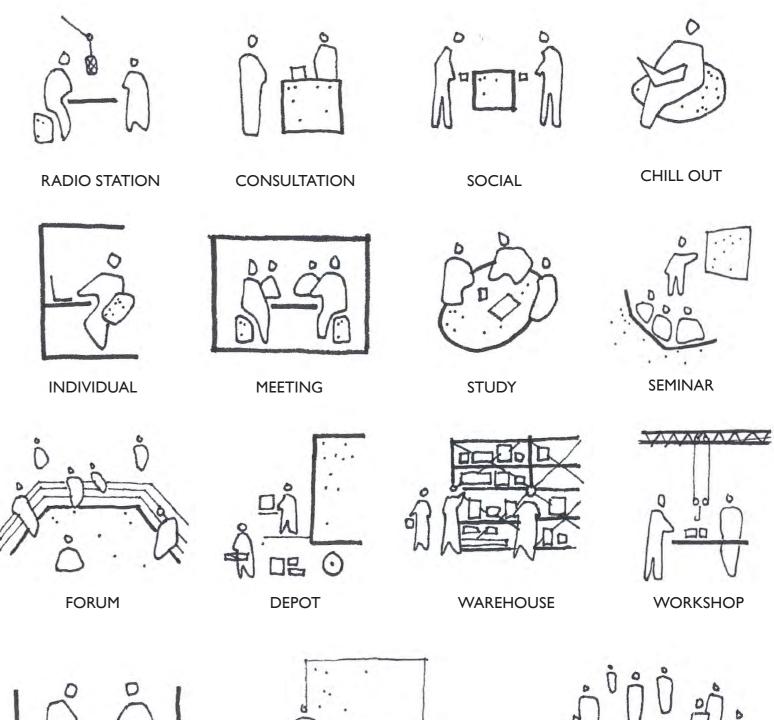
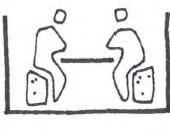


FIG.6

Scenes depicting user profiles and assumed work spaces

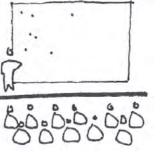
FIG.7

Process work to developing work space combinations

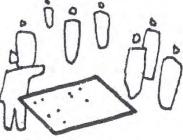


PEER TO PEER

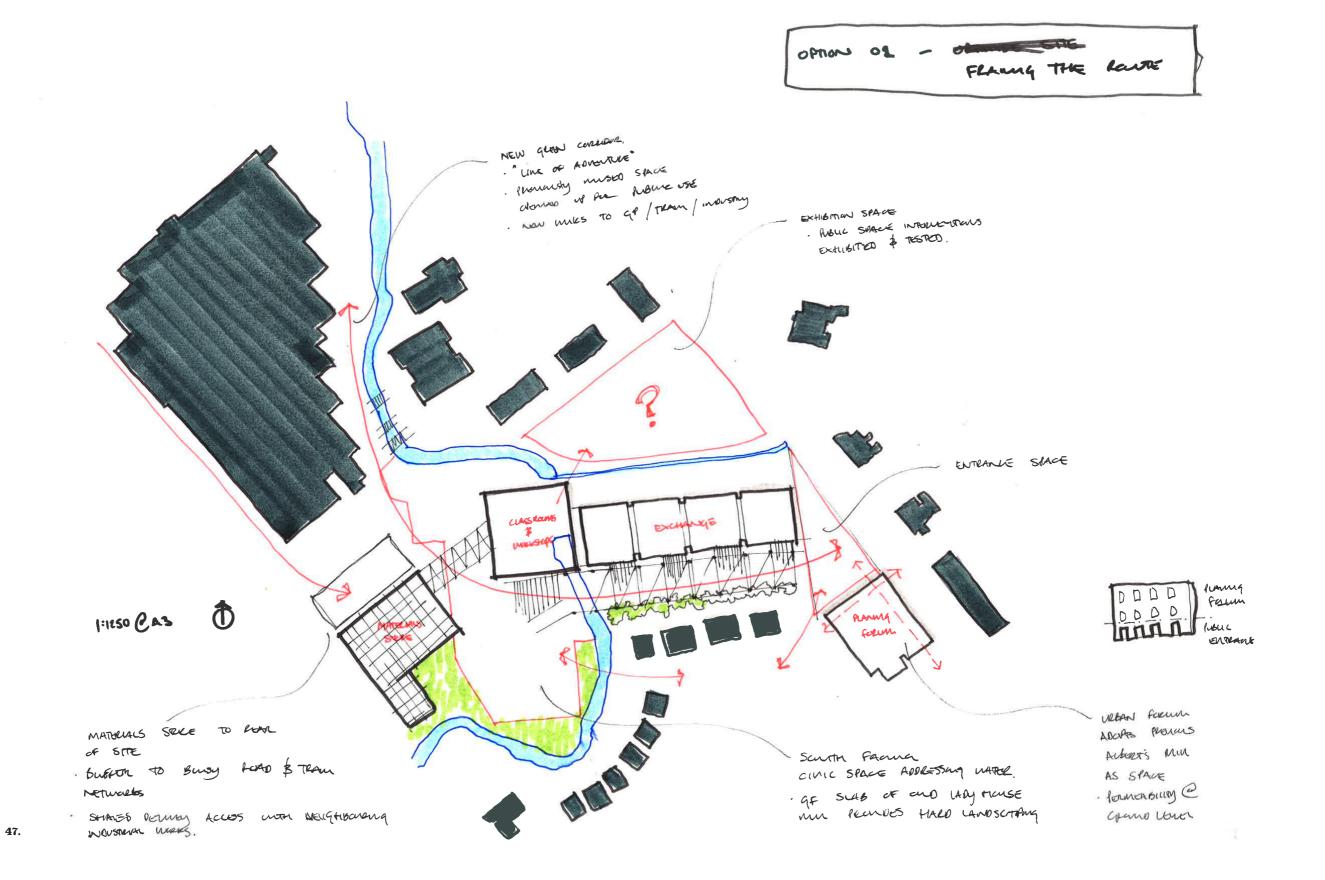
6.



LECTURE



DEMONSTRATION



Once the framework and courtyard concept was in place, a more rigorous development of the programme components was needed to develop the proposal further.

For this I conducted series of precedent studies around the different programme component uses in order to understand the reasonable area requirements for each space.

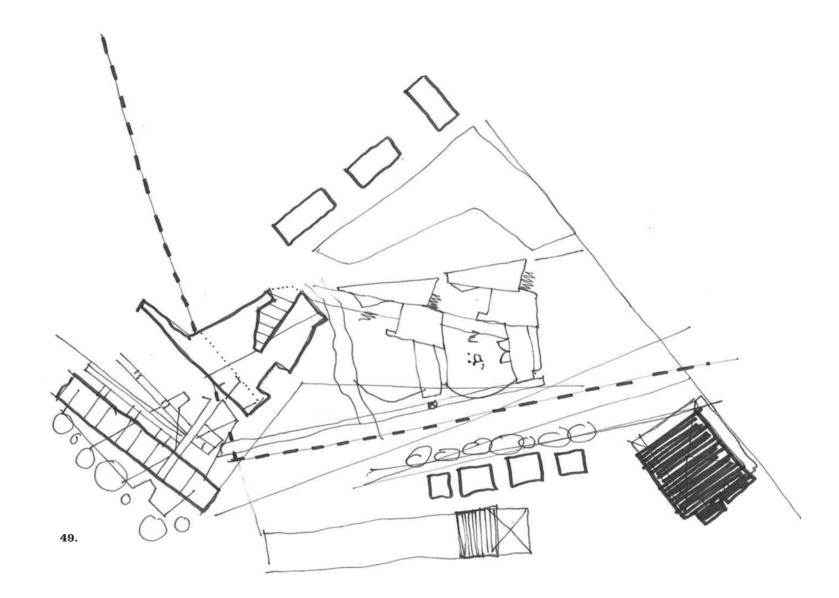


FIG.49 ▶

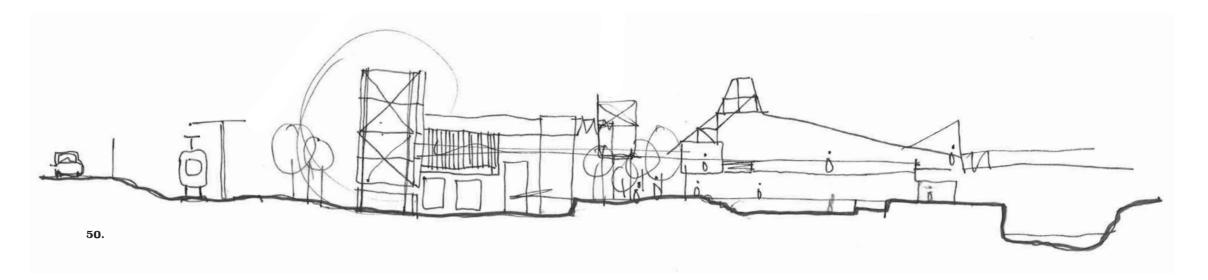
Site option development sketch exploring the use of courtyards

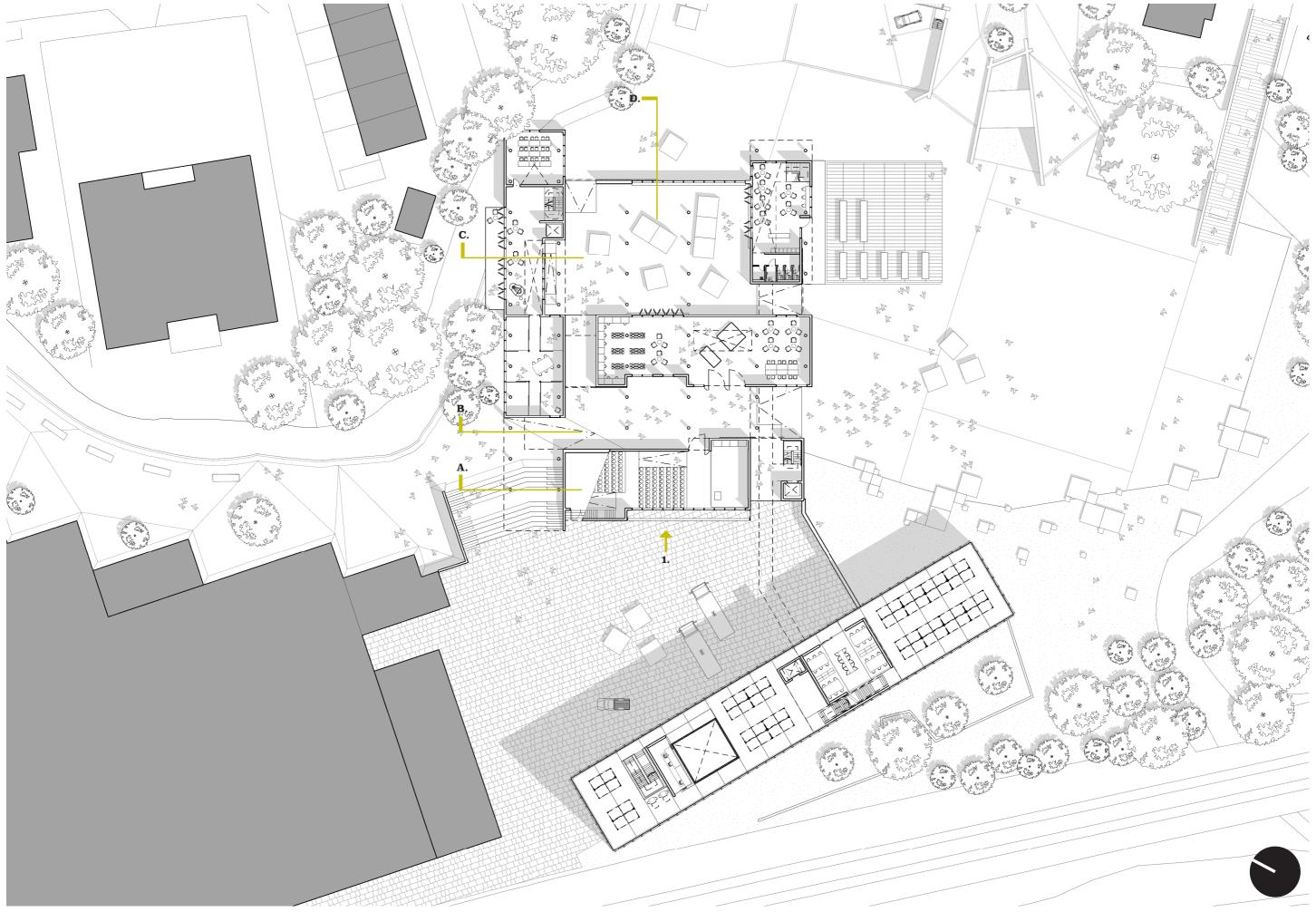
FIG.50 ▶

Sketch section through Materials Archive, delivery yard and Exchange

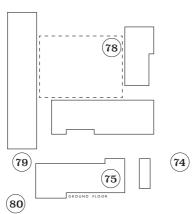
FIG.51

Developed courtyard site option with programme component areas



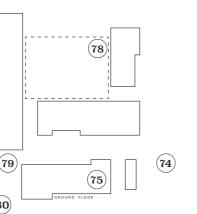


SCENES



These scenes have been arranged to describe how the main spaces in the building flow from one to another, inviting exploration and integration of all the users.

The main entrance off the new civic space offers views into the delivery yard and across the materials archive. Once inside the, internal street is connected to the exhibition space where presentations, demonstrations and performances are held to showcase the work being produced in the building. To the rear of this space a First floor link bridge offers elevated views of exhibition space, as well as external perspectives of the delivery yard and the green corridor to the rear of the building. The collaboration space is then accessed by ascending through the classroom wing from the link bridge. This the busiest part of the building, reforms itself daily, with users constantly adapting their self organised space to suit new challenges and projects. Back on the internal street, this bustling thoroughfare sees people bringing their unwanted goods and skills for exchanging with others. Upon exiting the rear of the building access is granted down to the delivery yard via a terraced seating area, and on to the green corridor for walks along the River Beal.



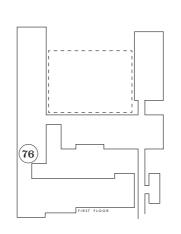




FIG.74 ▶

View approaching main entrance to Street, overlooking the delivery yard

FIG.75

Scene depicting a demonstration activity in the exhibition area

FIG.76 ▶

View across the first floor link bridge between the classroom wing and the observation space

FIG.77 ▶

Detail sketch study of the reclaimed timber rafters used along the link bridge





View of the collaboration space with work space modules being constructed

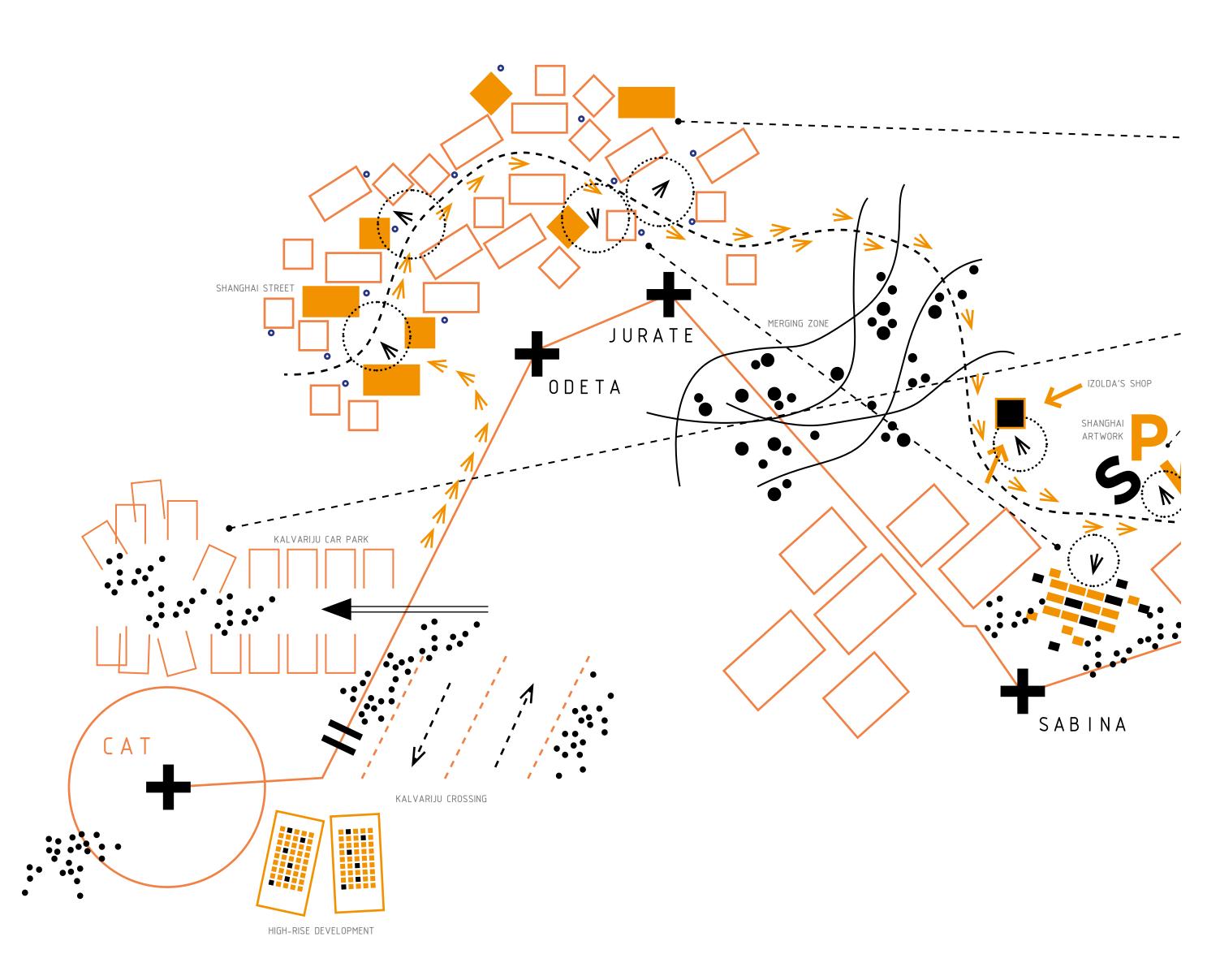
FIG.79 ▶

Street scene with collaborators bringing materials and skills to exchange

FIG.80 ▶

View of delivery yard in full operation







SPONTANEOUS EXPLORATION



FOCUSED EXPLORATION



District Shanghai's social-political assemblage is the system of

MOTIVATION

This thesis project has emerged from a personal interest in the development of infrastructures of autonomy in urban environments and how diverse socio-political scenarios can impact their evolution.

highlighted below as following: organisation between the actors, agents and audiences of the THE GAME OF SHANGHAI Community Land Trust (CLT) and the political agents represented by the Municipality. The stakeholders mostly originate in the neighbourhood of Shanghai and seek autonomy in front of the authorities. Community disputes Breaking ownership boundaries Developers try to overturn the Cultural Heritage status of Shanghai. They are dispute on whether the approach should be burned down by investment companies. A as a way of showing their control of the lands to be developed. peaceful or aggressive. As a result, there is a lot of tension in Shanghai. Testing strategies through playing out Instigating Cards Each board is unique as it's approaching different tactics towards cradicating the conflicts & disputes investigated in the game. New players, diverse conflicts and tactics can be introduced in the game, making this tool of engagement very dynamic and complex in its resources. Architect & Organic Children Clothing Designer Dublin with her Irish husband and children. She decided to starf a clothing business here, whilst freelancing as an architect for the community. District Shanghai aims to become a community expression and negotiation device that can be used to test fictional scenarios and potential outcomes before real action. Carpenter & handyman Algis claims to have been approached by people from construction companies over and over again, threatening him. 'Leave or you'll have no more life, they said.' He is .----twice the victim of arson. Unfolding the layers of Shanghai Scenarios are created using knowledge out of separate scenarios interfering out of separate scenarios interfering in each territory of the game to simulate possible developments, unfolding, on test sires. The programmes and desires of the Retired, gardiner enthusiastic Asta is one of Shanghai's longest people, having lived here for over 35 years alongside her husband, Samuil. Although she is retired not. Asta grows food and sells it in Kalvariju Market every morning. She thinks that Shanghai could sustain itself because it has good, fertile soil where they could grow anything they want. Game instigated by architect self-initi-Acting as an urban curator of the game of Shanghai, the architect will understand what skills are required to materialise the briefing tool brief, how to manage the unknown factor of the scheme and what resources may be required to deliver this project. Siaudine (Straw) Community Engagement Group In terms of design process, the architect will occupy the Design Team Leader role in the project. This will be specified within the architect's appointment and is set out within the Plan of Work. (Marsh, 2017) As part of the early design process it board member of Shanghai CLT Intimate platform from the one ran by the Municipality where the locals talk about their neighbourhood. 1 / the architect: is necessary for the architect to consult widely in order to materialise a realistic Catalina Ionita framework for the brief and then to assure that the scheme will evolve through the Planning process as smooth as possible. (Marsh, 2017) ← board member of Shanghai CLT Community Engagement Group 2 / the project Community online group led by Jekaferina. It is a platform for the Municipality to talk to the people of Shanghai. manager: Jekaterina Lavrinec acting on behalf of an opportunity for design arises as 3 / the funders the instigations are being played our Resident of Shanghai e potential member of Shanghai CLT As the Game of Shanghai is being played, new actors are being introduced, new stories stimulated, new resolutions explored. 4 / the resources: community engagement groups - Siaudine represented by Miroslavas Bielnis District Shanghai has been designed as a tool to bring together diverse community groups in a creative, collaborative, and playful approach to learning about pressing social & political issues. The game requires players to address real neighbourhood problems by learning from peers and community members and drawing on core content knowledge. It Instigations / Constituencies affecting Shanghai has been created as community brief generating tool that challenges conventional approaches to design and social projects and ultimately Potential Design Interventions tackles the planning system and authorities' governance. conflicts Prime Minister orders locals to move out of their homes. **←---**This creates a crisis in the neighbourhood of Shanghai There is a lot of tension and people start reacting. Design interventions through Development Director at Hanner Holding the Community Land Trust Motivated by the investment opportunities and support from the authorities, Arvydas tries to pull as many strings possible to overturn the Cultural Heritage status <----In order to bring together all the stakeholders it is imperative to understand how the group will work together as an entity. (Sheffield CLT, n.d.) As such, organised as a Community Land Trust (CLT), District Shanghai will run as a non-profit District Shanghai will run as a non-profit organisation that develops and stewards affordable housing, community gardens, civic buildings, commercial spaces and other community assets on behalf of a community. (Wikipedia, 2017) Daniel Libeskind International design competitions are emerging and new high-rise schemes get planning approval in the neighbourhood of Shanghai. One of the most controversial 'CLTs balance the needs of individuals **←---**----to access land and maintain security of tenure with a community's need to maintain ones has been recently won by famous architect, Daniel affordability, economic diversity and local access to essential services.' (Wikipedia, In his statement, Libeskind says: 'I don't understand what the problem is with my tower; I won the competition and the design is of better quality than the other towers they're already building.' sharing knowledge & skills affordable housing fixing the roads diagonal common shared workshops space development

A GAME OF POSSIBILITIES

INTERVENTIONS

As an outcome, each intervention is unique and evolves from the tactics the players tackle throughout the game. The tactics, all recorded in the game log book, become briefs for design interventions. Some of the most played ones are

SPATIAL INSTIGATIONS



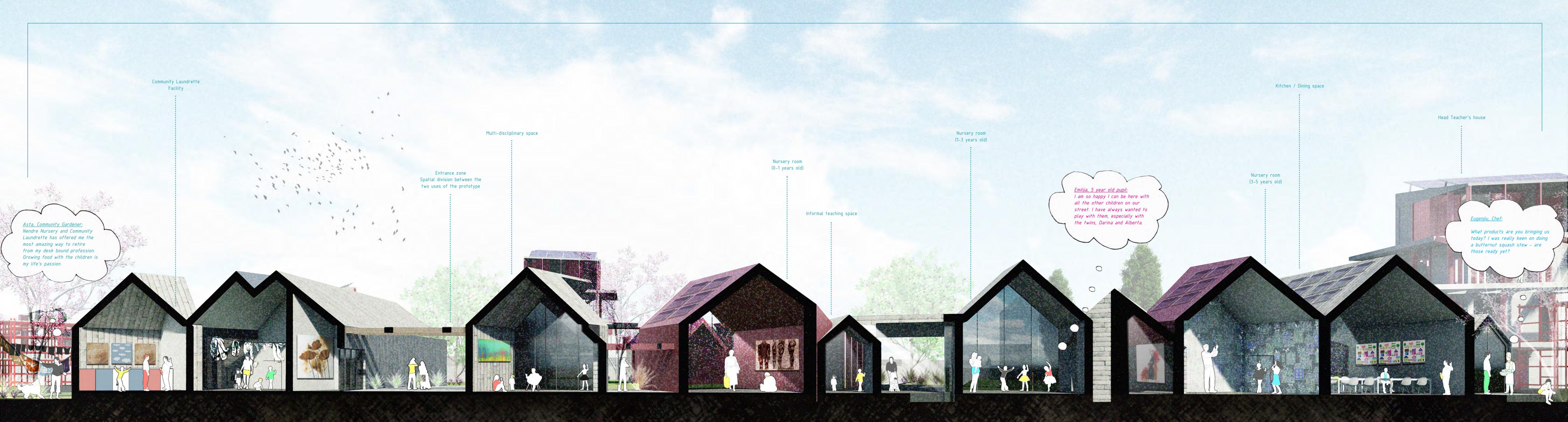
PROTOCOL 7

PROTOTYPES & URBAN DEVICES / GARDEN AT KALTANENY G. STREET

Cluster of prototypes emphasizing the core theme of the project, infrastructure as an ecology. Activating the unused commonhold space such as the derelict land at Kaltaneny g. has allowed for social interaction and opportunities for dialogue.







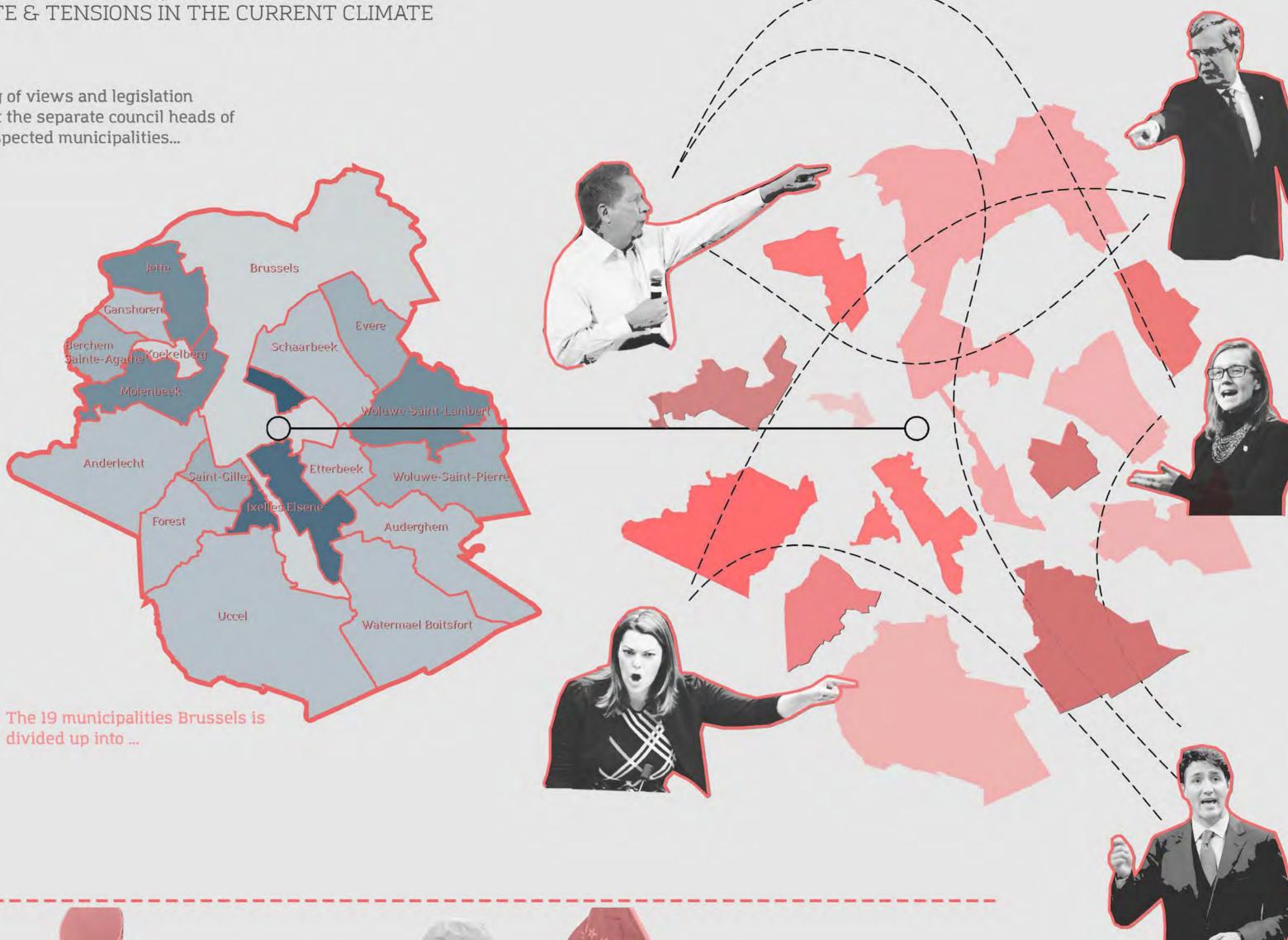
For someone visiting or driving in Brussels, the city appears to be a seamless urban area without boundaries. Although they differ in architecture and population and may look like separate towns or even villages, the visitor still feels that they belong to one city. In reality however, Brussels, with a total population of 1.2 million inhabitants, is divided into 19 municipalities or communes with populations ranging from about 20,000 to over 170,000.

The government of each municipality is responsible for the handling of local level duties, such as law enforcement and the upkeep of schools and roads within its borders. Municipal administration is also conducted by a mayor, a council, and an executive.

In recent years and months, Brussels institutions have been accused of being poorly managed, a source of financial waste and in need of urgent reforms. Among these institutions, the 19 municipalities of the Brussels Region are the main targets.

The cause of these issues can stem from many factors, however one constant issue is the tension between the large number of political leaders within the highly populated area. Terms such as 'passing the book' and 'pointing the finger' can be seen croping up in various texts describing the issues within the political situation of Brussels

Clashing of views and legislation amongst the separate council heads of their respected municipalities...



As the home of European politics, Brussels is the city that best exemplifies European political life. Accessible from all corners of Europe, the city is steeped in political pedigree and long-standing historical traditions



THESIS PROPOSAL & SCENARIO OUTLINE

KEY STAGES AND CONCEPTS RUNNING THROUGH THE PROJECT

With the existing narrative embedded within Brussels concerning the issues regarding water pollution, including political failures and lack of responsibility and action, the main thesis of the project is to unite agencies who's main ideologies and ambitions align. Through the cross pollination with the members of varied organizations involved, the project will stage and build a series of interventions which will not only help to sustainably tackle the environmental issues but expose through various medium such as performance, debates and events, the political failures they are collectively passionate about. It will also create an initiative that will help support similar groups around Brussels who may need it, supplying biomaterials for interventions around the city.

Proposed Initiatives

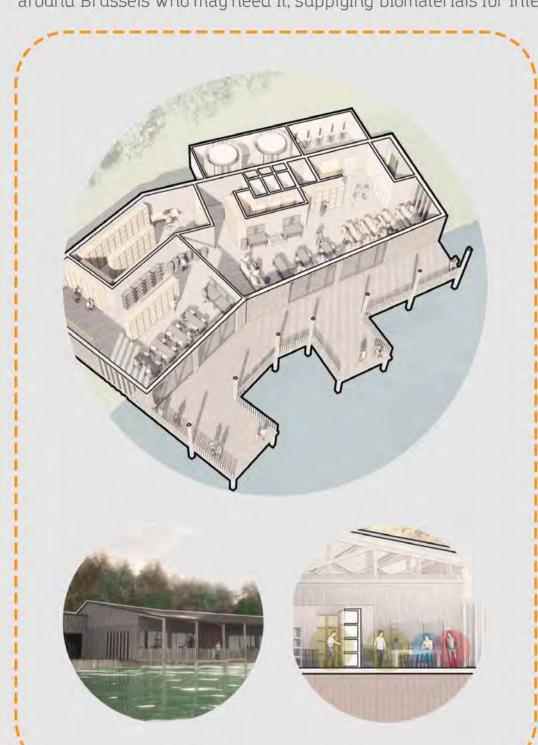




Existing Agents













Brussels mycelium initiative workshop & Research Centre

The first phase of the project is the construction of workshop facilities where the production of the 'Mycelium Filter bags' will take place, which will be placed around the lake in the problem areas concerning pollution. Once the bags have gone beyond use, they are then reused as compost for reeds in the lakebed to further clean the water. This will re-open the lake for leisure usage, a prominant issues surrounding Brussels is their lack of these outdoor swimming facilities.

At this stage in the project the initiative will be set up with the help of the architect, not only on the design of the building but the assimilation of the various organizations which will be involved. This is achieved by facilitating the platform for the agents taking part, who share the same ambitions in tackling environmental issues and exposing political failures, as a result various lines of dialog/relationships begin to form.

Brussels Mycelium initiative Theatre & Workshop

The second phase of the project will start with be the expansion of phase one, developing larger facilities including a higher spec workshop and more 'Grow Lockers' for the 'Mycelium Filter Bags'. The building will also be used by the local theatre within the park who specialize tackling in political/ social issues through performance.

The concept of encouraging cross-pollination of the various actors and agents involved will be embedded in the design, creating spaces of overlap surrounding the mix-use/ multi purpose building. The space will also be used for public debate regarding various political and environmental issues within Brussles.

Another initiative/ sister project is set up within the workshop wil be named 'Hors de la Forret', translating into 'Out of the Woods'. This collective of individuals will be made up of actors from the various agencies involved. They will produce/manufacture Mycelium construction materials to be used in interventions around Brussels to benefit the groups involved. This will lead onto the next phase.

'POOL IS COOL' Main Facility

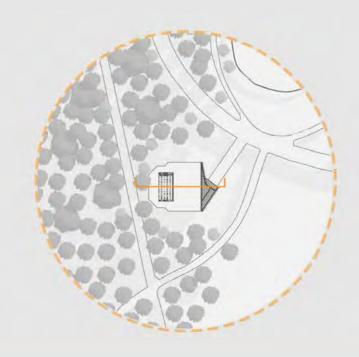
With the Lake in the 'Bois de la Cambre' now rid of the pollution due to the use of the filtration bags and planted reed beds from the Brussels Mycelium Initiative, the sister Project 'Hors de la foret' work with 'Pool is Cool', an initiative who push for more outdoors swimming facilities in Brussels, to construct their first project.

With the need for changing facilities and showers now needed within the urban park, pool is cool work with both initiatives to design the new building. The materials, where possible, will be grown and manufactured within the workshops of the BMI Theatre. The design of the building will push for the use of eco-friendly methods and processes, seen in the resulting build. The harvested water will be filtered through the BMI sacks ready for use in the various ammenties the building facilitates.

'POOL IS COOL' & 'Hors de la Foret' Pairing project

'Hors de la Foret' now pair with 'Pool is Cool' and design and manufacture a small environmentally sustainable facility, which essentially can be constructed anywhere. With the nature of 'Pool is cool' events being ephemeral in essence, the design of the building with be tailored to the idea that the process to build is relatively quick and easy. The materials for this interventions will be grown and produced in the workshops of the BMI Theatre and will be erected at various locations neighboring water around Brussels.





This Key section through the B.M.I Theatre & workshop shows the multi-purpose building at a peak time being occupied by all the agencies involved with the initiative. As seen in plan and on the section key to the left, the location of the building is just off the edge of the woodland to the south of the Lake in the Bois de la Cambre, also just off an existing road which runs through the urban park. The Theatre/ political debate space is sunk into the topography, creating an element of secrecy within the architecture, inspired by the sub culture the Theatre de poche have worked to create through their daring political performances.

The numerous steps in level surrounding the Theatre/ Debate space is a design concept implicated to foreshadow a new democratised area for political discussions, their is no hierarchy to the space and everyones imput is welcome. These debates are both held by Pool is Cool and Theatre de Poche.









open debate within the multi-purpose space, the people attending are made up of members from the collective agancies such as Pool is Cool, Theatre de Poche, The Brussels Mycelium initiative, but also a few visitors who decided to sit in and contribute to the discussion. Members of the Brussels Mycelium Initiative can see/ hear the discussions while tending to the grow lockers that clad the internal wall of the performance/ debate space.

Debate initiated by...



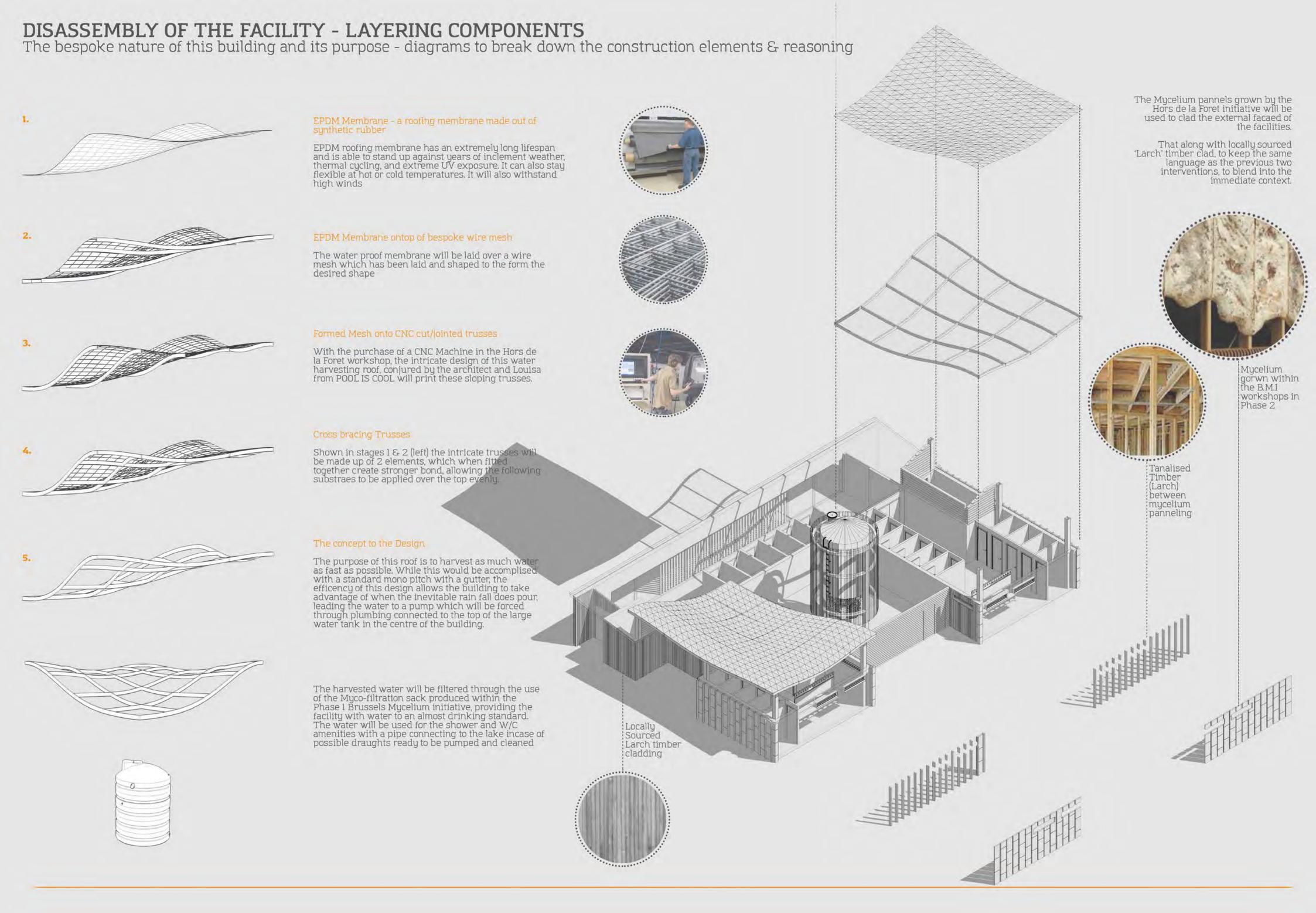
Louisa P.I.C



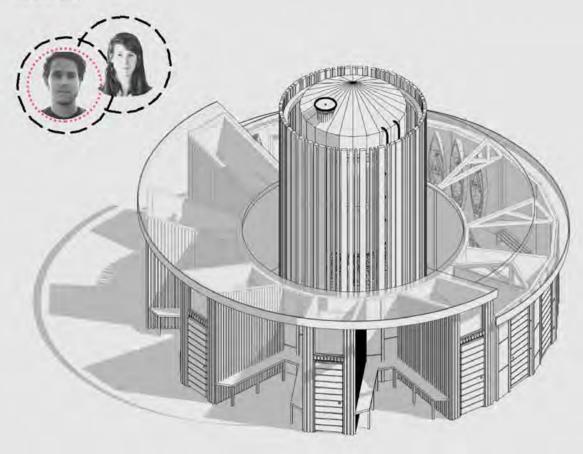


Theatre de Poche





The design of this Phase would be a collaboration between Loiusa of Pool is Cool, who is also through cross-pollination of Phase 2 involved with the new initiative 'Hors de la Foret'.



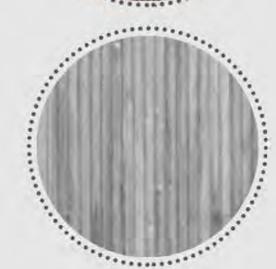
Much like the previous phase at the POOL IS COOL main facility at Bois de la Cambre, this smaller intervention will use the filtration bags grown and produced by the B.M.I. ensuring the miniture/ portable facility will have clean water for its amenities.

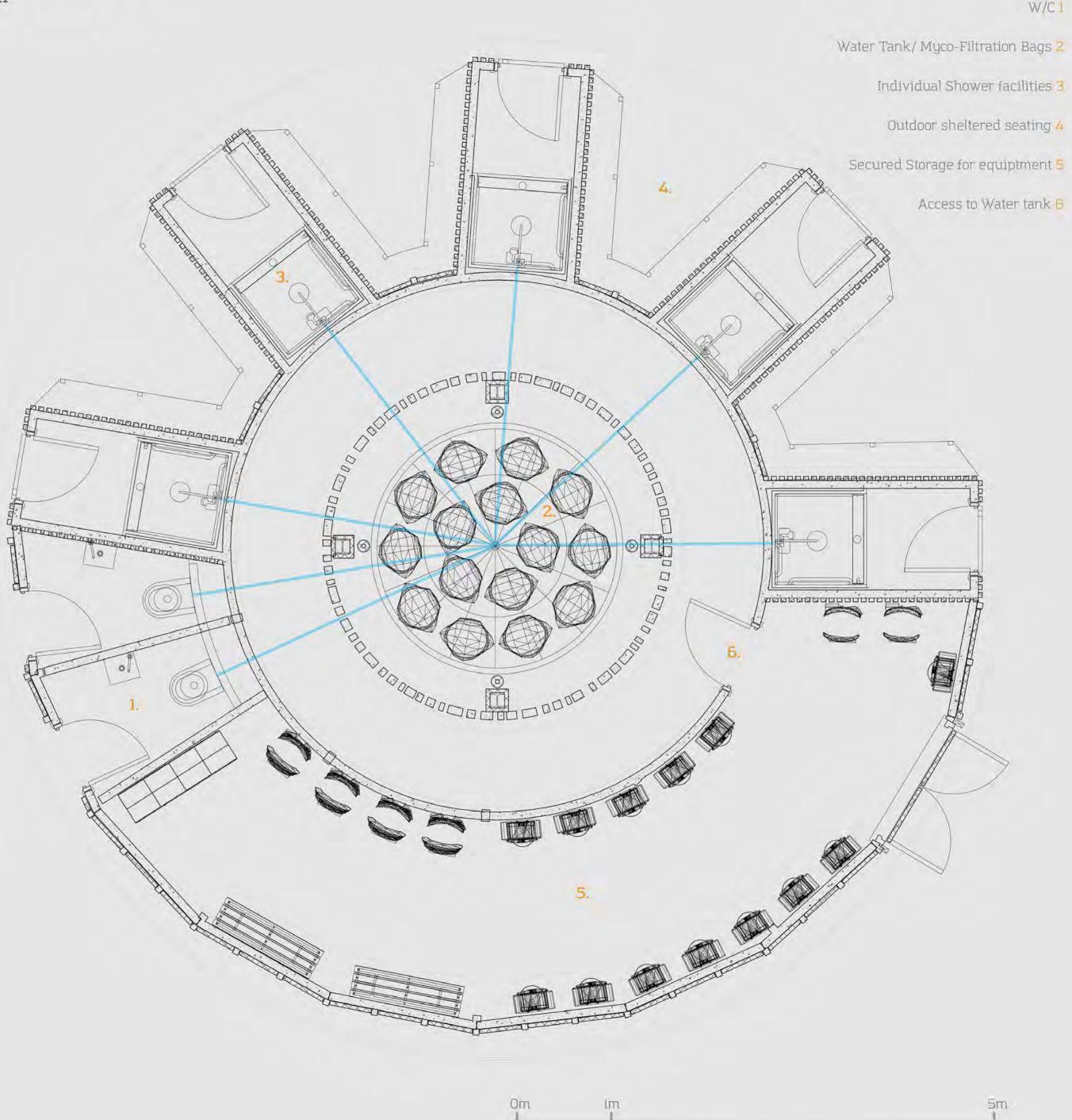


Much like the previous phase at the POOL IS COOL main facility at Bois de la Cambre, where possible the materials used will be Mycelium, grown within the workshop of the Phase 2 building. Lousia, a member of POOL IS COOL, is a founding member of the 'Hors de la Foret' initiative.

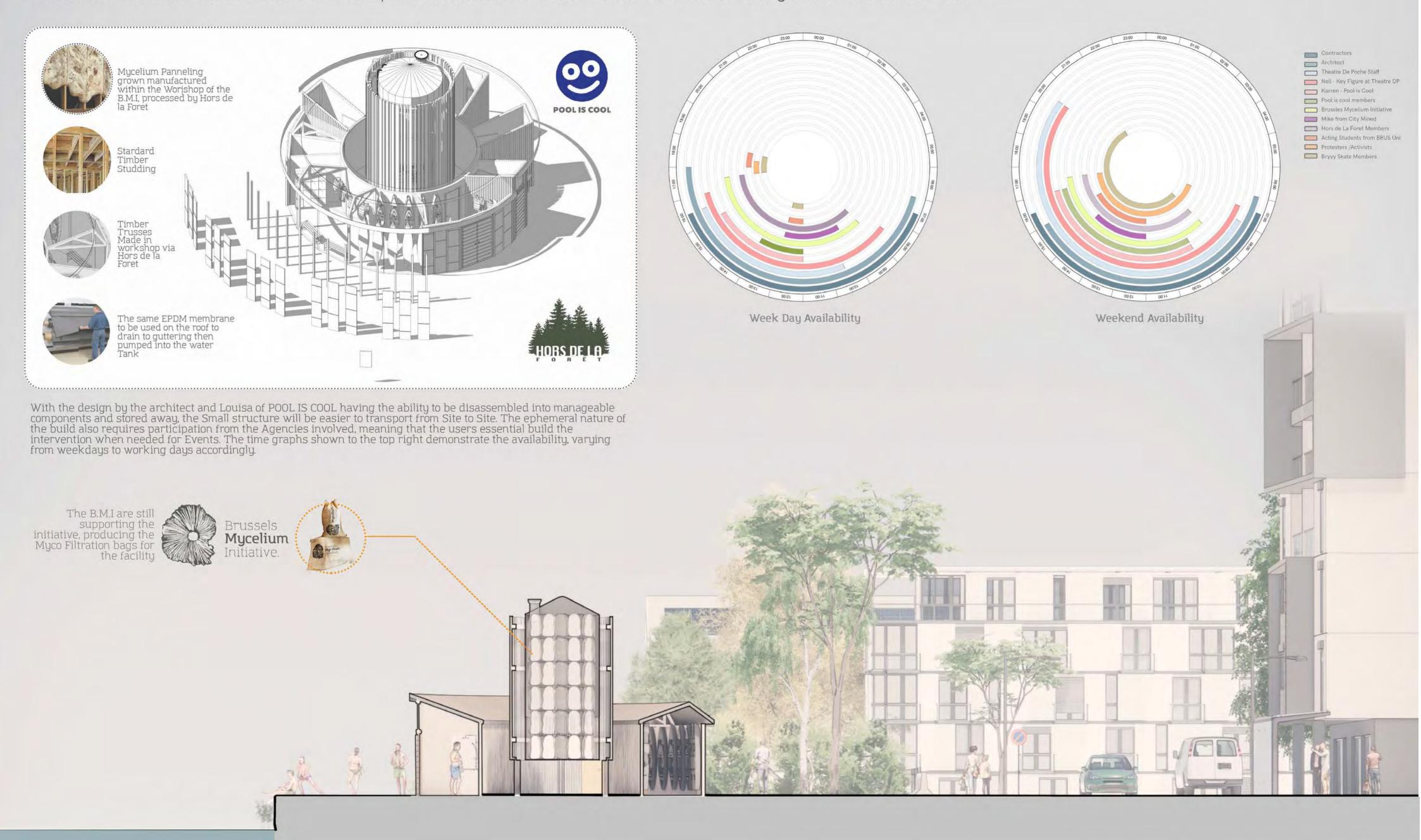


The elements that can't be made from the biomaterial mycelium will be made from Larch from a sustainable souce located towards the south of Brussels.





SECTION THROUGH THE 'POOL IS COOL' INTERVENTION WITHIN URBAN SETTING The idea of this intervention is that it can take place at numerous locations around Brussels, starting in the Anderlecht Canal



EICHIM

COULD WE LOOK TO SUSTAINABLE FISHING TECHNIQUES?...

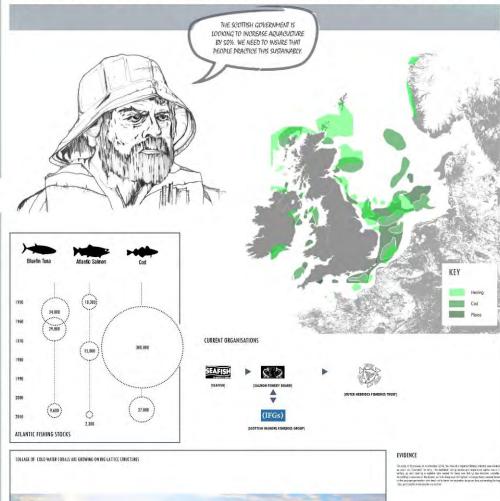
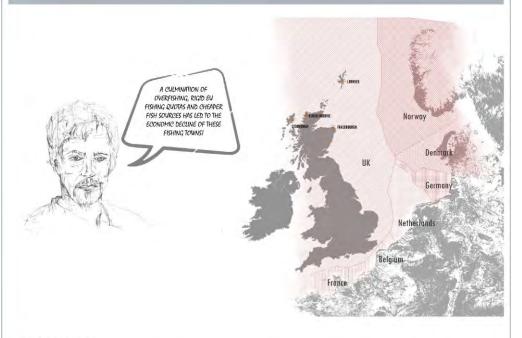






FIGURE TOWNS

TO STOP AN ECONOMIC DEPENDENCE ON OIL & GAS AND THE PUBLIC SECTOR.



NOMINATED BENEFICIARY TOWNS













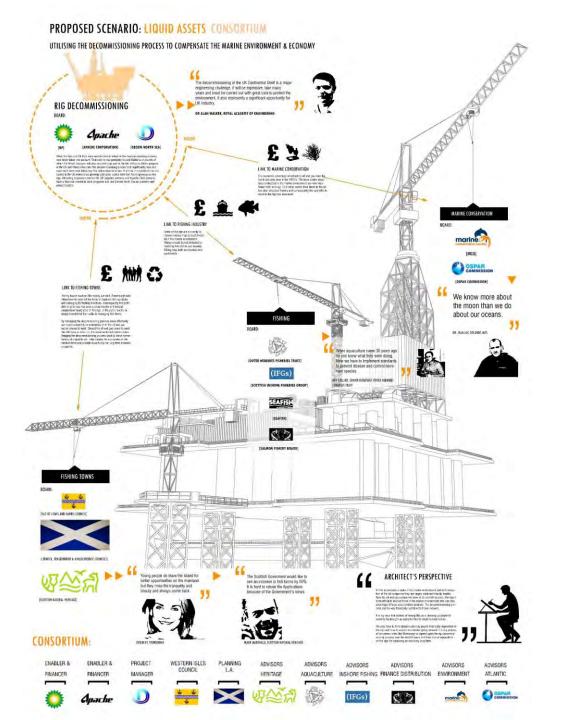


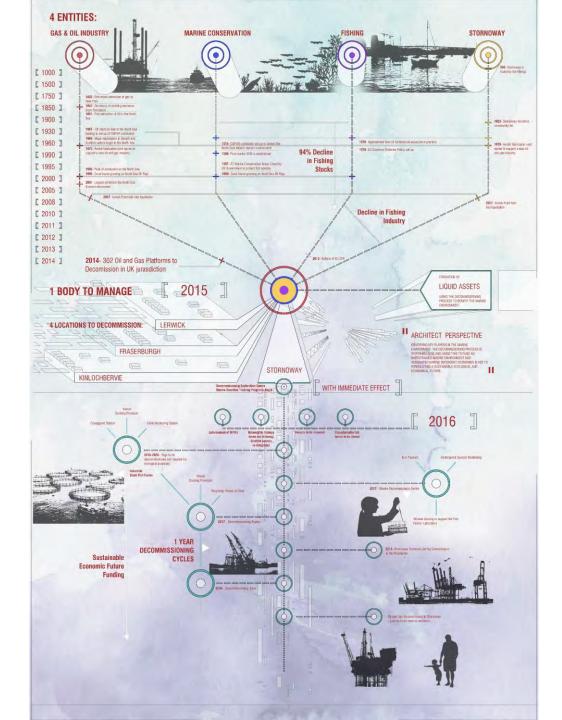


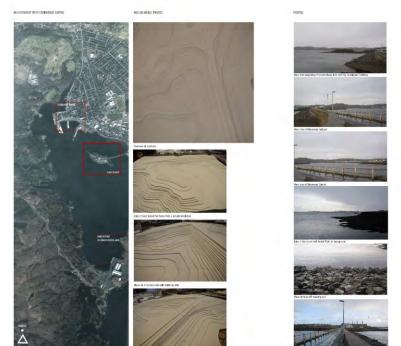












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