

WEAVING PALIMPSEST

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Weaving Palimpsest is a socio-temporal intervention embracing the histories of the Lenape people, the Harlem neighborhood, and Columbia University. This space of connection, learning, and growth invites individuals from the surrounding community to encounter the past together.

As a material, wood has preceded and borne witness to human history. Oak echoes the old forests of present-day Manhattan which emerged in the Late Pleistocene; reclaimed longleaf pine honors the lumber that fueled 20th century industry in New York City; and modern cross-laminated timber asks how GSAPP and the architectural field can steward future generations of sustainable building.

Using the language of layered weaving informed by the Lenape wigwam, the wood beams cross over and under each other to create shelter and evoke history as an interwoven fabric, rather than an aggregate of disconnected strata. Etched signage tells the stories of the Lenape people, the Harlem neighborhood, and the influence of protest throughout the history of Columbia University.

