THE MANNIE WILSON

ROOFTOP DESIGNS FOR SENIOR LIVING
WHAT:
Design ideas for rooftop programming at the Mannie Wilson

FOR:
Senior residents to socialize, gather, grow and relax

HOW:
Quick and easy strategies to reduce build time and allow easy maintenance
LOCATION
ROOF PLAN
Assumptions of available roof surfaces
A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE MANNIE L. WILSON TOWERS
SYDENHAM HOSPITAL (1925 - 1980)

- America’s first interracial hospital
- First full-service hospital in NYC to hire African-American nurses, doctors, and physicians.
- In 1978, Mayor Ed Koch released a plan to close Sydenham.
- A “Coalition to Save Sydenham” occupied the lobby for 10 days and stressed its importance to the medically underserved black community in New York.

HISTORY

REV. MANNIE LEE WILSON (1906 - 1982)

- Pastor, Convent Avenue Baptist Church in Harlem
- President, Council of Churches
- Activist and community leader
- First black clergyman to speak at the White House
REFERENCES
STRATEGIES:

Social Programming for Seniors with Integrated Sustainable Practices

➔ GARDENING
  ◆ RAISED GARDEN BEDS, VERTICAL GARDENING, HYDROPONICS, COMPOSTING

➔ GATHERING
  ◆ SEASONAL, COLORFUL, MODULAR / EXPANDABLE, OUTDOOR EATING, MOVIE NIGHTS

➔ EXERCISING
  ◆ WALKING PATH, GROUP CLASSES, AL FRESCO DANCING, TACTILE SURFACE COMBINATIONS

➔ RELAXING
  ◆ WATER AS SENSORY STIMULUS, INTIMATE vs PUBLIC SEATING WITH SOLAR FABRIC CANOPIES
AUDITORY STIMULATION

HAPTIC STIMULATION

COOLING EFFECT

GARDENING
RAISED BEDS W/ INTEGRATED SEATING

GARDENING

GREENHOUSES
VERTICAL HYDROPONICS

GARDENING
MODULAR, EXPANDABLE, COLOURFUL FURNITURE

GATHERING - SOCIAL
TEMPORARY SEASONAL STRUCTURES

GATHERING - SOCIAL
Different parts of the roof can be designated for different types of greenery. It seems like there are some taller walls, perhaps those could be used for vertical gardens and we can have a mixed garden option, for example, low-lying garden beds enclosed by solar panels.

Possibility of turf; I don’t know if it has the same environmental benefits but it could help to make the space easier to use for exercise purposes and/or socializing and is easier to maintain.

Composting might be a good possibility.

Different gardening options might be able to become a community program.
DIFFERENT SURFACE TREATMENTS

EXERCISE
SOLAR PANEL CANOPIES / SOLAR FABRIC SHADES

SOLAR HARNESSING
NEXT STEPS
CONTEXTUAL STANDARD QUESTIONS FOR ROOFTOP ADDITIONS (per NYC Landmarks Preservation Commission)

1. Is the addition visible at a significant distance?
2. Is the addition visible from limited vantage points, through alleyways, yards or similar open portions of sites that are not vacant building sites?
3. Is the addition visible from an oblique angle?

NEXT STEPS

Once finalized, we should determine the heights of any rooftop additions and determine if they will be visible from public thoroughfares (i.e. Manhattan Avenue, 123rd Street, and 124th street).
FEATURES:
- Vegetable/community gardens
- Raised garden beds
- Lounges
- Creative arts facilities
- Multi-use fitness area
- Running circuit
- Stage for tai-chi and dance classes

YINIAN ROOFTOP GARDENS, Chongqing / GVL GOSSAMER

COMPARABLE ROOFTOP SPACES FOR SENIOR CITIZENS
HARGRAVE HOUSE, Upper West Side, NYC / Project FIND

COMPARABLE ROOFTOP SPACES FOR SENIOR CITIZENS

FEATURES:
- Hydroponic farm that can produce up to 700 vegetable plants at the height of summer.
- Focus on high yield vegetables like lettuce, cucumbers, peas, and herbs.

-COST: $38,000
IDEAS
OPTION 2

- solar panels
- plants/shrubs
- raised garden
- compost
- foot bath
- walking path
- seating
- retractable roof
- rain water collection
ROOF PLAN
Options