Project 1 Repatriation

Site: Hawaii, USA
Time: Summer Studio, 2021
Partnership Status: Group work
Tutor: Dominic Leong, Sean Connelly

Concept
Under the invasion of American urbanism, Hawaii gradually lost its own characteristics. How to reverse this process is the design goal.

Therefore, the design is based on the concept of reappropriation. We plan to gradually transform punchbowl, which has long been occupied by American national cemetery, into a cemetery and park for the public. In this process, the prominent crater was returned to Hawaiians, and the Hawaiians' view of life and death and identity were reshaped.
The last century was chaotic and turbulent, so the migration and trajectory of my ancestors were always related to war or military strategy, and even my own path was indirectly related to war.

During the Second World War, my father’s ancestors fled from Jiangxi to settle in Guizhou for survival. Years later, the continuous friction between China and India has led the Chinese government to increase its border defense forces in Tibet. At that time, my father happened to be recruited as a member of the frontier garrison so he lived in Tibet for 4 years.

After the close partnership between China and the Soviet Union, there were contradictions and disagreements between these two countries. China is also under military pressure from the United States at the same time. Under such circumstances, the Chinese government put forward a policy named three-front construction. The policy aims to move the important industrial equipment and technology chain originally located in China’s eastern coastal areas to the remote and backward western regions (including Guizhou). Complex terrain can provide cover for industry, but also promote the economic development of the region. My mother’s family came to Guizhou under such a strategic background.

My path is also indirectly linked to war. In 1900, the Allied forces of eight countries attacked and occupied Tianjin. In the end, there were 9 concessions belonged to different countries in this city. This period of history has left a rich architectural heritage and cultural heritage for the city. As a municipality directly under the central government adjacent to the capital Beijing, Tianjin has got further policy preference and development after Beijing hosted the Olympic Games in 2008. It also greatly increased the attraction of the city to me.
Maybe before we set out, we were full of confidence in sailing.
We can also anticipate possible difficulties and trials.
But when the sea fog blinds us,
The waves almost overturned our boat,
The sea breeze is driving us away.
Our mind began to become complicated.
We are hesitant, we feel lost; we question ourselves.
But we may also be more determined.
Conversely,
In the course of a smooth voyage,
These do not necessarily bring ease and joy.
It can also arouse our fear in an unknown future.
Anyway, we can accept any situation in the journey.
We choose to remember them or at least,
The only thing we can't forget is our destination.
TIMELINE

- 70000 - 100000 years ago | Cestus formation during the Humboldt period of secondary volcanic activity
- Prior to 1778 | The battle of Waianae, cleared the way for invasion of the Island by the Spanish
- In 1779 | The Hawaiian’s “Hill of Sacrifice” formalized their practice of human sacrifices to pagan gods and the kahuna who controlled the ceremonies.
- In 1779 | King Kamehameha I united the Island under his leadership.
- In 1879 | State of Hawaii was admitted to the Union.
- In 1893 | Hilo was the capital of Hawaii until 1889.
- In 1971 | Located in Honolulu, the Honolulu Museum of Art was founded.
- In 1972 | The Blaisdell Convention Center opened.
- In 1973 | The Honolulu Zoo opened.
- In 1974 | The Honolulu International Airport opened.
- In 1975 | The Honolulu Convention Center opened.
- In 1976 | The Honolulu Zoo opened.
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- In 2099 | The Honolulu Zoo opened.
- In 2100 | The Honolulu Zoo opened.
Kingdom of Hawaii

Oahu became the capital of Hawaii
Honolulu is now downtown

Labor Shortage

After hundreds of years, the population of Hawaii declined, and the mainland began to draw labor into the islands.

Immigration Period

Labor importation including
- South Sea Islanders
- Filipinos
- Chinese
- Japanese
- Koreans

Slope transformation

The Slope transformation, using the techniques of 3D printing, shifted the coastline and added new land to the island of Oahu.
1956 - 1964 National Cemetery
Local opposition to a National Cemetery which, by one of the sites as given marks it instead a Christian
burial ground for the remains of all races. Proposals with
flat markers.

1961 Lady Columbia
Modern Landscape

1981-2015 Newly-built Buildings
Local opposition to a National Cemetery which, by one
of the sites as given marks it instead a Christian
burial ground for the remains of all races. Proposals with
flat markers.

2000-2021 Historic preservation
There are some efforts made to preserve and document
the history of the site and its cultural significance. Efforts
by preservationists have been made to protect the site
from further development.

100%

7 New Controversies
The current site of Pearl Harbor is now used for
navigation and as a memorial to those who lost their lives.
Efforts are being made to preserve the historical
importance of the site.

Skyline Honolulu
The city of Honolulu is located near Pearl Harbor and
features modern buildings and a lively downtown area.

Kawainui Village Center
The Kawainui Village Center is a historic site located
near Pearl Harbor and is an important cultural
landmark.
Double process makes this site dynamic.

1. Awareness
2. Excavation
3. DNA Test
4. Identification
5. Ceremonial

Giving back to Hawaiian

Repatriation of Existing Burials

Restoring functional capacity of the site as a sacred burial

Occupation of Future Burials

A. Site Transformation
Repatriation of Existing Burials

Occupation of Future Burials

B. NATIONAL CEMETERY TOWER

A. GATE OF COME AND GO

C. PURIFYING TEMPLE

D. ROCKS CATCHER

Collection 61,000 Volcanic Burial

Remain

Exit And Entrance

From an entrance for DNA test tower;

From an entrance for DNA test tower;

To a new observation pavilion;

As this volcano is dying;

To return rocks back to this volcano;

Construction Circulation

B. Architectural Transformation
Double process makes this site dynamic.

C. Future Envisioning
Project 2: Revive the Community: Remix

Project Type: Architecture
Site: New York, USA
Time: Fall Studio, 2021
Partnership Status: Independent work
Tutor: Stephen Burks

Summary and Concept

After NYCHA (New York City Housing Authority) withdrew investment in public housing projects, the communities represented by the site - Gowanus community seemed abandoned.

The buildings began to be damaged, but life still had to go on. Under such circumstances, it is inevitable how to use the surplus space of the community efficiently to create economic value and improve the quality of life of residents. Therefore, I propose a feasible funding strategy. It is to add a new Remix system containing new housing and commercial space to the site.

With the concept of superimposing the new housing and commercial remix spatial system based on the common New York blocks, the relationship between existing residents, new residents, and business customers is defined and the isolated site will be reintegrated into the city economically and spatially again, finally.
Gowanus Housing is one of many public housing projects invested by NYCHA (New York City Housing Authority) in the last century. It is a very representative housing form in New York. The site occupies the area of four standard blocks, but the buildings are completely different from the surrounding low-density housing. There are high-rise apartment buildings.

**Funding Strategy: Add Commercial Space and Housing**

- **INVESTMENT**
  - ADD THE REMIX SYSTEM
    - COMMERCIAL SPACE
      - PUBLIC SPACE & PUBLIC ACTIVITIES
        - NEW HOUSING
          - EXISTING HOUSING
            - Attract & Serve
              - RESIDENTS FROM OTHER COMMUNITIES
                - NEW RESIDENTS
                  - EXISTING RESIDENTS
                    - Consume & Earn
                      - COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES
                        - RENT
                          - SALE

This is a feasible funding strategy. 1. Investment supports the construction of the Remix system to introduce commercial space, new housing and public space. 2. Public space and public activities can attract new residents, existing residents, nearby residents and even distant people. 3. They are involved in commercial activities, so commercial space and new housing can be continuously rented or purchased. 4. This income is used to maintain the above-mentioned spaces and is the return of investors.

**Predicament and Opportunity**

- **PREDICAMENT**
  - NYC HOUSING AUTHORITY NO LONGER INVEST IN PUBLIC HOUSING.
- **OPPORTUNITY**
  - Grass is fenced to reduce maintenance cost.
  - Poor maintenance of the buildings in the site.
  - Building coverage: 33%
    - Plenty of space for new construction.
  - COMMERCIAL POTENTIAL
    - 1125 Existing households but only 6 restaurants or grocery stores nearby.
  - CREATE VALUE TO SAVE ITSELF

**Concept - Impose New Remix System to Existing System**

1. The site is incompatible with the surrounding blocks and even the urban texture of New York city.
2. The common blocks of New York are space-inspiring for the strategy of implanting new commercial and housing Remix system.
3. New Remix system is continuous and the internal surface is flexible.

**Spatial Modality of New System - Grids**

The new Remix space system consists of Grids and boxes. Grids provide the possibility of changing and adapting to existing architecture and landscape configuration under control. Under such a space system, the street interface can always be continuous and complete even though it is not fulfilled with boxes sometimes.
1. Demolish of lower residential buildings makes the site more open.

2. The extension of the roads changes the site into four common block sizes.

3. Implant four housing and commercial Remix systems. Four public spaces inside these four new blocks are formed.

4. Take the first block as an example. The new Remix system overlaps with the existing residential buildings.

5. Cut out the overlapping parts of the new system when two systems overlap.

6. Replace the bottom two floors of the existing buildings with transparent glass boxes, which are the new lobbies for residents.

7. Connect the lobbies with the new system on the first floor to form a circular circulation for new residents. Thus, the lobbies are shared for existing residents and new residents.

8. Remove some boxes to avoid existing trees and blocking the view of existing buildings.

9. The boxes on the ground floor are defined as transparent commercial space. Further remove some boxes on the ground to form several entries to the middle public space.

The curved lobbies is the way for new residents and existing residents to return to homes. They are the places where all residents converge and enjoy public activities frequently. This can promote the integration of them.

Unifying the entrance also makes the circulation of open commercial and public space and the circulation of residents not interfere with each other.
There are five functions in the lobbies, one in the south and one in the north block. The yellow street is a pedestrian street that can provide commercial space for dining cars. Therefore, this strategy provides a commercial form combined with street form.
The different relationship between the location of stairs and corridors and housings makes 44 different apartment types appear. This provides more choices for new residents.
Shopping people come and go from the well-connected entrances in the green space of the center. They sit under the trees to rest, and enjoy the residents’ own impromptu concerts in the outdoor small theater.

It is almost impossible for the residents living in this mega-city with a population of 8 million to own a private swimming pool. But the pool - themed lobby makes this a reality. This is a water park shared by the residents.

Community Library - themed lobby allows people to spend a long time together while increasing their knowledge. So social activities happen naturally. The close relationship with neighbors gives residents a stronger sense of community belonging.
Project 3 Methods of Extraction

Site: Washington, DC, USA
Time: Spring Studio, 2022
Partnership Status: Group work, Individual work
Tutor: Emanuel Admassu

Concept

The first half is designed to study the site (Washington), a looted object and a successful artistic practice. Through these studies, I put forward the superposition of historical layers to obtain the hierarchical structure of the mall and then break the hierarchical structure of the site through a series of strips.
For less urban heat island effect, option 037 or option 222.

The buildings are loosely arranged, the streets receive less direct light, and the park area is reduced and receives less direct light, too.

The buildings are densely arranged, the streets receive more direct light, and the park area increases and receives more direct light, too.