Prior to my studies at GSAPP, I received a bachelor’s degree in architecture and worked for two years in a Los-Angeles architectural office that focused primarily on designing and renovating public schools. It was rewarding work, but at times was repetitive, standardized, systematic, and dry. A desire grew to subvert these systems, these repetitions, and to think critically, as I had in years past during my schooling. I re-entered school to ask how our educational trainings and critical thinking could exist in our professional practices?

I entered GSAPP with this ambition, to think big, to reconsider systems, to work site-specifically and propose innovative and critical new systems. Through studio projects, I aimed to experiment with ideas that were not on the table in my former corporate office. Here, I was fortunate to have opportunity to explore a wide range of concepts, forms, and systems, with a cohort of the most inspiring peer group I have ever met.

Although I wanted to explore big, innovative, subversive experiments, I wanted to focus on the aspects that were relatable, grounded and human. I wanted to find ways to act empathetically in my work, address human conditions, dichotomies, and recognize the already-in-place grassroots systems and organizations that impact our day-to-day in powerful ways. I have aimed to better understand sustainability initiatives in design, design that is affordable, accessible and local. I have pursued studies to understand the effects of architecture on our external, non-human, natural environment. Through this research, I believe that critical and innovative ideas become relatable, plausible, and grounded. In this way, subversive ideas can express human value.

By pursuing these initiatives, I believe that I am better prepared to enter architectural professional practices thinking critically, persuasively and with an energy of purpose. I am excited to see how this thinking might be implemented in practice.

I am grateful for the opportunities that GSAPP has provided me over the past three years. I am grateful for the people I have met who have guided and inspired along the way. Through our projects and experiments, we have gained a deeper understanding of the social, environmental, and economic impact that our field can have, and I am excited to see what comes next.
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The research-based project focused on the public schools in the Upper West Side of New York City. Research began by plotting an urban map of public schools and housing of non-white communities in the upper west side. Additionally, through diagramming population densities of public school children and non-white populations in relation to local schools, I found obvious correlations between these demographics. With these studies, my interest grew in three public schools, which surround the Amsterdam projects and whose zone boundaries demonstrate drastic disparities between racial and economic demographics. Urban plans were used to analyze the boundary conditions of two public school zones near the Amsterdam houses, which in 2018, were rezoned to divide the population of the apartments and create a third, new public school in the area. These representational urban maps conclude that despite rezoning, these three public schools remain segregated by race and class.

A comic book visualization helps to convey the real life stories of families and students of these three zones in the aftermath of the 2018 rezoning effort. These stories illuminate issues including the division of mostly non-white communities, far commutes for students to independently access their schools, the discrimination against lower-income students in the higher-income schools. This is typically due to overcrowding, and the relocating of white, wealthy families to neighborhoods zoned to their schools of choice.

In response to rezoning’s failure to impact economic and racial imbalances, the mobile school unites these economically and racially diverse neighborhoods by traveling through residential streets of the area each morning and evening to pick-up and drop-off students.

Along the path, there are multiple mobile units, each specializing in different programs and age-ranges. Each unit hosts at least 5 programs, and therefore, is utilized by a student for an entire day. A day later, the student may be scheduled to another mobile unit. In addition to balancing demographics, and providing accessibility, the mobile school benefits the ability for students to learn about their communities, and provides easy transportation and learning opportunities to different areas in the school zone, such as literary walks in central park, and the Lincoln center. Further, during the times of the day that the mobile school does not need to access these sites and neighborhoods, they become static and the space between the tracks of their path becomes available to the public for activities such as farmer’s markets, protests, sports, ice skating, and a variety of other seasonal recreation.
RESEARCH

POPULATION DEMOGRAPHICS AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS

UPPER WEST SIDE, NYC

Research of the Upper West Side began with analyzing demographics of the neighborhood. Demographic research focused on age, race, income, and access to resources such as public schools and their funding. Initial maps were made to understand where the highest concentration of older people and school-aged young people, locating public schools, and understanding economic pockets and the racial makeup of the neighborhood.

Through this research, it became apparent that there was a significant disparity of wealth between the upper and lower portions of the Upper West Side, to the middle, and that these populations were also more diverse and representative of communities of color. To further investigate these zones, I mapped the lower portion of the Upper West Side, and the three PS schools the area is zoned to, PS 199, PS 191 and PS 452. Residencies and neighborhoods on the map were color coded to represent average income, while the schools in the area were color coded to represent public funding, through measures like fund-raisers, donations, and governmental assistance. This mapping exercise exposed a significant disparity in income from the east side to the west side. The map shows NYCHA’s Amsterdam Houses, to the south west of the neighborhood to be the most economically disadvantaged.

Prior to 2018, the Amsterdam Houses and surrounding area were zoned for one school, while higher income neighborhoods were zoned to another. This discrepancy led to one school with much more significant funding and access to resources than the other. After 2018, the district rezoned the neighborhood, and added a third public school, in attempt to mitigate the disparity.
Highlighting Public Schools and PS-dependent neighborhoods

Aging populations over 60

Population Non-White

Upper West Side Grid

ANALYSIS: INCOME DEMOGRAPHICS OF TODAY'S NEIGHBORING SCHOOL DISTRICTS
RESEARCH
REAL STORIES OF STUDENTS, THEIR FAMILIES & SCHOOLS
UPPER WEST SIDE, NYC

Reading dozens of testimonies of families and students in the lower UWS public school zone revealed the impact of the 2018 re-zoning. Despite the attempt to ensure more equitable resources for public schools across the neighborhood, families and students reveal its flaws. Many families, like those in the Amsterdam Houses, expressed frustration over being split up from their close neighbors during the rezoning. While some residents of the Houses were zoned to PS 191, others were rezoned to PS 199, and others to PS 452. With this, many students who were used to walking to and from school with neighborhood friends were denied this safety and comfort.

In other cases, some families of higher income areas were rezoned to the previously lower-funded school and were not accepting of this. Some of these families went so far to decide to move to a different neighborhood, in order to relocate their student to the school of their choice. Families without the means to relocate were forced to accept the outcome of the rezoning.

Results from few years after the rezoning show that the attempt to equalize the public school’s resources were not successful. By 2020, one of the three schools already had significantly higher funding than the other two, and one of the three schools had significantly fewer after-school resources, and safety incidents.

These stories illuminate issues including the division of mostly non-white communities, far commutes for students to independently access their schools, the discrimination against lower-income students in the higher-income schools, due to overcrowding, and the relocating of white, wealthy families to neighborhoods zoned to their schools of choice. With this research, three important at-stake factors emerge: economic imbalances, racial segregation, and accessibility of the school from the home.
In response to rezoning’s failure to impact economic and racial imbalances, the mobile school proposes a new public schooling system that unites these three school zones, their funding, and their students, in order to balance and connect these diverse groups of people. Under the scope of a single school, this proposal intends to reflect the economic and racial demographics of the city, rather than the neighborhood. In order for this single school to be accessible to all students, the school is mobile and utilizes street space that is handed over to the department of education. A site map represents the path of travel of the school, and the locations of the three buildings that previously hosted these students. With the mobile school system, no student would have to walk further than a block to access a pick-up spot of the mobile school.

Each morning and evening, the mobile school travels under a 45-minute, scheduled commute to retrieve all students. Along the path, there are 12 mobile units, each specializing in different programs and age-ranges. Each unit hosts at least 5 programs, and therefore, is utilized by a student for an entire day. A day later, the student may be scheduled to another mobile unit. In addition to balancing demographics, and providing accessibility, the mobile school benefits the ability for students to learn about their communities, and provides easy transportation and learning opportunities to different areas in the school zone, such as literary walks in central park, and the Lincoln center.

Beyond the structure of the school, its site provides an inviting space for communities. In some locations, the ground provides pockets for vendors to prop up posts for market booths. Other locations provide space for protest, ice skating, sports, and other seasonal activities. The space between the lines of the rails reclaims this land as space for the public, around the schedules of the school’s daily commutes and community engagements.
STREETS OF SCHOOL PATH USED FOR RECREATION & MARKET AROUND SCHOOL-PASSING HOURS
24 - HR PARKITECURE balances its provision to both students and the community with site, learning, and recreational spaces that are accessible on a 24 hour cycle.

The school features conceptual and formal qualities of spontaneity and balance, which are notions derived from my analog movement of study - skateboarding. Formal operations rely on balancing new masses and carving existing masses – as balance and carving are two verbs central to skateboarding activities.

Like in skateboarding, the school offers balance in a variety of scales of spaces, hard and soft materials, prospect and refuge, indoor and outdoor, and day and nighttime activity. The school enables spontaneity in its unprescribed interstitial spaces, which provide for the creative and interpretive use of the student. In this way, the school provides informal and curious learning opportunities for students.

Initial sun studies reveal optimized daylighting conditions by rearranging the central H bar. With this, my siting solutions were motivated to extract existing central mass, allowing natural light through. Additionally, studies of the site exposed a privilege point in the existing volume, off of 9th street, which currently serves as the only access point to the school. With the site divided in two, the existing mass does not accommodate equal access, or ground for community circulation. With this, I began to consider a site strategy that disassembles the unit of the school, in order to activate the site and allow for freedom of movement and use. With this, my site offers approach from either 9th or 10th street, and offers 24-hour outdoor space. In order to balance its provision to both students and the community, the new PS64 becomes 24 - HR PARKITECURE.

While in the day, a classroom may serve a 7-year-old; nighttime provides space for GED courses, community kitchens, resources for at-risk and homeless students, and more. Daytime hosts concentrated activity on the interior of the school, while the nighttime plans show the continued glow of both classrooms and community oriented spaces on site, which engage and activate the neighborhood. In this way, the school balances its responsibility for students and the larger scope of the neighborhood.

Each program receives the formal attention of a unique geometric volume, to feature the ways in which they intersect each other. A section of the art and dance studio shows a visual connection in between. The dancer may inform the artist of the movements of the body, and the artist may inform the musician the art of performance, making these visual access points critical to the balance of the curriculum. The stacking and intersecting of these unique geometries call for considerations of balance into formal operations and programmatic organization. Additionally, program is organized to balance places of prospect and refuge. Program, often considered "elective or extracurricular" is given emphasis, and located on and above site, promoting engagement with the cityscape. Below the site, core-subject classrooms are organized around courtyards, to continue a balance of indoor and outdoor learning opportunities, and to allow for visual access across classrooms. Thus, the first grader, has the ability to engage with older students and realize future learning objectives.
Site studies were conducted to understand the current effects of PS64 on the neighborhood's natural lighting, circulation and green space. Through these studies it was noted that the current school privileges circulation to the south side of the neighborhoods. The massive monolith structure crosses through the width of the block, but does not provide access through for either students or neighbors. With this, the proposal of 24 - HR PARKITECTURE seeks to open up circulation through the block and create more convenient access across the neighborhood.

This notion was further convinced by site sun studies. With the current structure of PS 64, a H-form school, the sun is blocked from the northern half of the park, and is only allowed into the southern courtyard for a few hours in late morning and early afternoon. This form is not conducive to natural lighting in exterior spaces or within the classrooms. With this, 24 - HR PARKITECTURE proposes to open the central axis of the site to allow for natural light to reach the outdoor courtyard and reflect into interior spaces.

Additionally, the current school does not provide green space or outdoor space for play. Play, being a crucial aspect to child development and learning must be a critical aspect of 24 - HR PARKITECTURE. With this, the project proposes to define the ground plane with park space of varying material, surfaces, slopes, for individual interpretation of use within the child's preference. This centralized park space within the school also benefits to re-green the neighborhood, and offers space for community gardens and public use.
The kinetic movement of skateboarding guided formal qualities of 24-HR PARKITECURE. Skateboarding thrives off of materiality, unique intersections, reinterpretation of use, rethinking systems and equilibrium of the body. It has inspired a school and pedagogy based on balance, multi-function and spontaneity. The school provides balance in a variety of scales of spaces, hard and soft materials, prospect and refuge, indoor and outdoor, and day and nighttime activity. The school enables spontaneity in its non-prescribed interstitial spaces, which provide for the creative and interpretive use of the student. Like in skateboarding, with focuses of balance and spontaneity, the school intends to provide informal and curious learning opportunities for students.
INTERIOR OF KITCHEN AND SKATE COURTYARD BETWEEN CLASSROOMS
VIEW OF 24 - HR PARKITECTURE FROM ABOVE
Plug-In House is a multi-generational housing complex, developed with partner Yuli Wang, that responds to the neighborhood of Melrose's need for sustainable, affordable, and adaptable housing. Considerations of multi-generational housing guided motivations of Plug-In House. Implicit in the concept of multi-generational housing is change - the expectation that tenants, families, couples, students, seniors, will have changing needs, lifestyles, capacities, and accordances. Therefore, it became a priority that Plug-In House provide affordable, flexible, and adaptable housing for a variety of needs.

When potential residents consider living at Plug-In House, they are offered a selection of wall types to choose from, varying in transparency, size, and operability. These walls, if selected, may be laid out in any formation on the grid to suit the needs of the tenants. They may also select a location within the grid structure that may accommodate the size, layout and orientation of their home. Walls and grid space are purchased by new tenants, but may be sold back or sold to new tenants at any time. This system allows for a lower-economic entry point for potential tenants, by allowing them choice of what they invest in, and further allows for possibility in the future to adapt.

Additionally, the project reprograms portions of the existing block, from residential to commercial in order to further engage the new with the existing. These reprogrammed commercial zones attach to each level of circulation within our housing and are reserved for tenants to own and rent their own businesses, office space, working studios, etc. These spaces inherited from the existing site, also host essential programs such as mail-rooms, management offices, children's playrooms, lecture halls and more. With this, the existing and new site and tenants merge and benefit from each other.
PROPOSAL
HOUSING SYSTEM DETERMINED BY TENANTS AND
EXPANDABLE OVER TIME
MELROSE, BRONX, NYC

The large axon expresses the life-cycle timeline of an apartment over 50 years. Beginning to the right side of the timeline, a single-owner tenant purchases a one-bedroom apartment. Ten years later, the tenant has found a partner and had a child. They decide to purchase an extra unit in the grid to expand their apartment to include a child’s bedroom. 25 years after the tenant moved in, they are a middle-aged couple with two teenage children, and have expanded their apartment to be double the size of their initial purchase. Finally, 50 years after the original tenant moved in, their children are grown up with partners of their own. They purchase adjacent units, with private living spaces, and still sharing the kitchen with their parents.

This axon expresses how the Plug-In House expands over time, and adapts to the needs of multi-generational family conditions. The Plug-In House does not intend to prescribe a particular way of living or a particular standard family or tenant. Instead, it allows for a low-economic entry point with a modest initial purchase, and allows for future expansion. It allows for adaptability and customization. It allows for the tenants to define their lives and needs for themselves.
AXON ASSEMBLY OF A HOUSING UNIT

TYPICAL STRUCTURAL BAYS, AND MULTI-GENERATIONAL APARTMENT EXPANSION AT PLUG - IN HOUSE
PROPOSAL

HOUSING SYSTEM DETERMINED BY TENANTS AND
EXPANDABLE OVER TIME

MELROSE, BRONX, NYC

These floor plans represent speculative tenant-designed apartments that could exist in Plug-In House. They show four speculative apartments, each color-coded with a different color. Each apartment spans multiple levels, and each one hosts a different tenant type, one is a micro-apartment, one is for a young couple, one is for a family of four, and the last is for an elderly couple.

Each of these apartments may have been expanded or reduced over the years of tenant occupation. Tenants may purchase space in Plug-In House's structural grid for anticipated expansions of family size, program, or lifestyle. Similarly, families may sell back grid spaces of their home, in the case of downsizing or moving out. In this way, tenants of Plug-In House have a sense of ownership, autonomy and responsibility to their apartments.

The structural axon shows a block of the grid filled in with customizable wall types, and utilized for a two-bedroom apartment. It also reveals the sections of the structural grid, which host the internal systems, HVAC, electricity, to supply the Plug-In House. Similarly, a structural section reveals the insulation, systems and structure of the project.
THE HOUSING STUDIO: STATES OF HOUSING

ERICA GOETZ

CUSTOM FAMILY FULL HOME

LEVEL 2

MULTI-LEVEL CUSTOMIZED LAYOUTS

LEVEL 1

TWO NEIGHBORS WITH SHARED PATIO

TWO NEIGHBORS WITH SHARED PATIO

ONE LARGE FAMILY CUSTOMIZED HOME

APARTMENT CUSTOMIZATION POSSIBILITIES
WALL - TYPE CATALOG FOR TENANTS
MODEL OF A LARGE FAMILY APARTMENT, 3 LEVELS
VIEW OF INSIDE OF INTERIOR COURTYARD
The site of Guinea Town is rooted deep in an historic past marked by fugitivity, sanctuary, community, and effort for independence and citizenship. It was a site in which many formerly enslaved people passed through and lived in, in their search for freedom and autonomy. It was a site in which people of the free black community first owned land and their homes, and were valued members of their community and neighboring communities. It was a site where other free black people passed through quietly, remained hidden from black and/or white communities, and continued moving north for more secure freedom and opportunities. Additionally, it is a site in which many free black people struggled to achieve equal status of citizenship, stable work, and stable living conditions. This is a past that demands consideration of the site as a "site of memory", however, it is also important to recognize this history, in some ways, is still living in the Hudson River Valley today. With this, we conclude that the site should act as a visible index of memory and history, in addition to a resource or sanctuary for those living in modern, but similar situations.

Network of Care is a site of memory and sanctuary, developed with partner Chi Chi Wakabayashi. Network of Care considers the historic site of Guinea Town in Hudson River Valley as both a site of memory, of the free black community who settled in the area, and a site of historic and modern sanctuary. The project takes the position that sanctuary depends on its provision of community, network, and resource, and intends to be a space to provide this to today's vulnerable or at-risk communities. Networks of Sanctuary serves as a transitional space for people who seek its resources, and as a collector for pre-existing local organizations and communities to gather, advocate, and provide support.

Research specific to the project's conceptualization focused on looking at organizations that are involved in providing support to immigrant and undocumented communities. We mapped these organizations in relation to our site and divided their programs across our intervention.

Conceptualization also focused on program visibility and invisibility across our site, with an intention to program visible spaces with community-oriented program, and hidden spaces with programs that require more anonymity, such as legal counsel and language classes.

Formal conceptualization utilizes the domestic form of the historical home of Guinea Town. Formal decisions are founded in recognizing the site as a site of memory, rooted in domestic tradition. Utilizing the domestic typology is additionally another method used to hide program that is functionally non-domestic, and includes community resources for undocumented immigrants, such as communal kitchens, child-care, educational classrooms for adults, legal counsel, library and more.
RESEARCH

PRECEDENT STUDY

STEILNESET MEMORIAL

LOUISE BOURGEOIS & PETER ZUMTHOR

Research began with precedent studies, with focus on Louise Bourgeois and Peter Zumthor’s Steilneset Memorial. Precedent studies intended to grow understanding of sites of memory, and how formalization of a space of memory can recall both historic events, but also their materiality, their environment and a feeling.

The Steilneset Memorial is located in Vardo, Norway, and comprises two separate buildings: a 410-foot-long wooden structure framing a fabric cocoon that contains Zumthor’s installation; and a square smoked glass room, its roof 39 feet on each side, that contains the work of Bourgeois. The memorial commemorates the trial and execution of 91 people for witchcraft in 1621. A historic context map was created to visualize this history and location of the events.

Zumthor’s structure is made from wooden frames, suspended by cable-stays, and is coated fiberglass membrane. Inside is a timber walkway traversing a long narrow corridor, with 91 small windows representing those executed, each one accompanied by an explanatory text based on original sources. Each window is accompanied by a small hanging light bulb. The building that houses Bourgeois’ installation stands in stark contrast. It is fabricated from weathering steel and 17 panes of tinted glass. Inside, Bourgeois has set a metal chair with flames projecting through its seat. A material map was created to account for the building structure of both components.

Finally, an experience map was created using the plan of both Zumthor’s and Bourgeoisie’s installations, accompanied by photos and renders of the procession.
RESEARCH
SITE VISIT AND ANALYSIS
GUINEA TOWN HISTORIC SITE, HYDE PARK
RESEARCH IN COLLABORATION WITH LUCAS PEREIRA, JP PARK, AND CHI CHI WAKABAYASHI

In consideration of the present day Hudson River Valley, we sought to map our research concerning population demographics, landscape and its labor, and critical events and tourism.

Our first map is used to assess population demographics. We specifically sought to represent the density of non-English speaking immigrant populations throughout the region. With this, we noted a heavy density of non-English speaking immigrants, located in remote and disconnected areas, which lends to the implication that these communities may face difficulties in accessing and assimilating into the region. We overlaid this information with locations of formal institutions that provide protection for undocumented immigrants, such as churches and universities. With this, we found that resource density is incongruous with this vulnerable population. Because of lack of access to legal resources, or sanctuaries that may offer physical protection, many populations remain at risk of ICE raids, and non-ideal labor conditions.

This mapping left us with the question of how to best serve immigrant populations, through formal measures like resource centers or sanctuaries, and informal measures, such as citizens opening their doors, or providing resources to new immigrants.
SITES OF MEMORY, SITES OF SANCTUARY
NINA COOKE-JOHN

HUDSON RIVER VALLEY NARRATIVE OF IMMIGRATION AND UNDOCUMENTED PEOPLE

1. COURTHOUSE ARREST, Chatham, NY
   "Attorney started invoking his rights and asking if they had a warrant. ... The police officer told the defense attorney not to obstruct ICE."  APR, 2018

2. RESTAURANT ARREST, Hudson, NY
   "Profusely apologized and stated he was from this country, waving but was very scared of our Movida staff."  AUG, 2015

3. HOME RAID, Amenia, NY
   "Two local police officers and four ICE agents arrested RCC at his home at 6:30am"  APR, 2018

4. WORKPLACE ARREST, Amenia, NY
   "ICE agents showed up, did not introduce themselves. ... The family told the agents that UCCG actually worked at Kaplan's farm, nearby farms stated. By then, ICE agents had showed up at the stables and arrested RCC."  MAR, 2016

5. SANCTUARY CAMPUS, Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, NY
6. SANCTUARY CAMPUS, Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, NY
7. SANCTUARY CHURCH, Holy Cross Santa Cruz Episcopal Church, Kingston, NY
Our second map focused on the landscape and labor of the region. The region has a large concentration of farming and agricultural production. These primarily seasonal jobs have historically offered poor wages and working conditions. Today, a large population of farm workers are undocumented. Because of an absence of labor laws and labor contractors; these undocumented workers are commonly exploited for their labor and can often live in a state of vulnerability. Our agriculture and labor map represents the agricultural districts and the density of farms, represented in green, within each county, noting that Dutchess County has a relatively high density of farmland.
Our critical events map focuses on the recreational activity and touristic engagements of the Hudson River Valley. This focus of this map, in relation to our other two maps, intends to depict the full range of experiences and ways to view the site. In addition to the site being marked by heavy agricultural production, sites of sanctuary, critical historic events, and a diversifying local population, it is also a place of destination, for escape from the city, for natural and cultural experience, and for viewing from the outside.
"DACA has always been a band aid to a big wound. I would like a pathway to citizenship, I would like to know that I can continue to live and contribute to this country."

- Diana Cruz, a first-year graduate student of International Affairs at SUNY Albany.

"But the church supported me. I came to sanctuary because I didn't want to hide anymore. I want to live like a normal person. I believe that God has a plan not just for me, but for humanity, for all the injustices."

- Marie Chavalan Sul, The Washington Post
"I am very happy to be a farmer in America. I came all the way from African Gambia, to get here to be a farmer."

"For the farm workers, they would have less hours, they would have less money, for myself, my expenses would go up, and for the public, probably the price of food would go up."

"Hundreds of undocumented immigrants from the crisis at the southern border are being flown into Westchester County Airport each of the past several nights, including last night," former Westchester County Executive Rob Astorino (also a Republican candidate for New York State Governor) wrote on Facebook.

After landing in the Hudson Valley, they are taken by bus to Health and Human Services designated locations.

"Moreover, the vast majority were unable to obtain a driver’s license legally due to their immigration status."

– Margaret Gray, The Workers

"Eighty-five percent of those in my study relied on their friends, family, employer, or a paid ride for their basic transportation needs. It was quite common for a grower or chief laborer to bring workers into the local town to shop for food, but this rarely happened more than once a week; weekly transportation is required on farms that hire H-2A guest workers but not on others."

– Margaret Gray, The Workers

"Narrative of undocumented labor, immigration, people and transportation in Hudson Valley."

NINA COOKE-JOHN

SITES OF MEMORY, SITES OF SANCTUARY
Network of Care is an intervention over Fredonia Lane that responds to the difficulty undocumented immigrants face in attaining resources today in the Hudson Valley. The site organizes pre-existing non-profits and organizations that provide resources such as legal and employment counsel, after-school care for children, and library and classroom access. With limited access to transportation to pre-existing resources that are often spread far across the region, this site compiles these resources locally for convenient access to multiple programs.

The axon is used to show the full site composition. It explores the nesting of hidden programs within the more exposed, public programs. Further, it shows the variety of activity that might occur within each program.

The axon also exposes the contrast of the intervention's path to the historic path of Fredonia lane. Fredonia lane serves as a more physically and visibly accessible route to the intervention's program. In contrast, the intervention's loose and wandering path intends to encourage discovery of the site and the program through gradual encounter along the route.
Formally, the axon highlights the domestic form of the intervention. The domestic form is utilized to disguise a resource program for undocumented immigrants into the environment of its residential surroundings. The domestic form also calls heritage to the historic setting of Guinea Town, and the residencies of the free black community that settled there. This axon diagram shows how domestic exteriors of the intervention are manipulated, pulled away, or preserved for different programs. Program that is intended to remain more intimate and private retains the purity of the domestic form. In contrast, spaces that are meant to host more public, community-oriented program utilize more formal operations and manipulation of the domestic form.
SITE LAYOUT AND VISIBILITY OF PROGRAM FROM PATH
SECTION OF EVENT SPACE AND MEETING ROOMS
EVENT SPACES & PRIVATE MEETING ROOMS FOR LEGAL COUNSEL
MEDITATION REFLECTION ROOM
The Network of Care aims to address the concept of sanctuary by creating a place where people can find a sense of community, belonging and resource. A place where knowledge and stories are shared and passed on. The site intends to foster the kinship between those who live in the community and in adjacent areas around Hudson Valley.

In addition to providing resource, the site provides moments focused on experience of the site and reflection. Moments that provide stillness, connection to the landscape and to oneself.

The site of Guinea Town is rooted deep in a historic past marked by fugitivity, sanctuary, community, and effort for independence and citizenship. This is a past that demands consideration of the site as a "site of memory", however, it is also important to recognize that this history, in some ways, is still living in the Hudson River Valley today. With this, we conclude that the site should act as a visible index of memory and history, in addition to a resource or sanctuary for those living in modern, but similar situations. The Network of care builds a program that interweaves history with the modern. It recognizes the history of Guinea Town in addition to the larger Hudson Valley's past. It considers this context in relation to domestic, economic, citizenship history to contextualize the resources we aim to offer to support today's Hudson River Valley community.
INTERIOR VIEW OF REFLECTION ROOM
Like much of America in the wake of Dobbs v Jackson, the north Midwest stands at a moment of change and uncertainty for protections of health care, reproductive justice, and access to information. The proposed organization, Detroit Cares, seeks to respond to both inaccessible abortion and reproductive care, and to uncertain safety conditions brought on by protest and attack in spaces of reproductive justice.

Siting in Detroit gives opportunity to access an abundance of affordable land, across which Detroit Cares will provide health and abortion resources. With 19 square miles, or 20,000 vacant lots in Detroit, the city has for decades sold off land parcels to locals and non-profits for $100. Through purchasing 20 affordable and scattered Detroit properties, and by providing care spaces that are temporal, shifting, and un-trackable Detroit Cares will provide health care that is temporal, reaches a broader community, and may in the future serve as a system that can be duplicated or expanded outward from Detroit. Detroit Cares stands with a few spatial goals. These healthcare spaces intend to provide spaces of care that are temporary, simple to pop-up, and at the same time secure, comfortable, private, and encouraging of social connection when desired.

Further, because Detroit Cares intends to allocate affordable neighborhood land through non-profit land grants it is critical that the sites both socially and formally serve as a neighborhood asset, and may be utilized by locals when not functioning as a healthcare facility. Providers of these land grants select local applicants, based on their ability to implement interventions that will activate community spaces, beautify neighborhoods, and improve the quality of life of low-income residents. Therefore, it is essential that Detroit Cares act on these fronts. With this, Detroit Cares lots will permanently serve as sites for monarch rehabilitation, storm-water collection, and urban farming / neighborhood gardening.

To serve as both beneficiaries of and stewards to Detroit Cares sites, there is a permanent network of pre-existing local non-profits and communities. These are local neighbors churches and mosques, whose community members may both volunteer to upkeep the site, and benefit from its assets. Also in this network are local organizations that distribute food, provide medication to those in need, and youth organizations that focus on sex education. These stakeholders make up the permanent organization of each site, and they host Detroit Cares as a temporary user, when its clinics are installed in their neighborhood.

Formally, the pod-like framing of the clinic and overnight spaces creates dynamic nooks, organic, and soft, and allows for intersections of framework. Intersections of exam rooms and overnight spaces, host thick permanent poche, for storage spaces and restrooms between exam rooms and the pods. Circulation allows for direct access from exam rooms to overnight stay spaces, so patients are not required to enter public spaces after their exams. Intersections between the overnight stay rooms provide openings into neighboring rooms, allowing for small moments of connection between neighbors, through shadows, light and color. Where overnight stay rooms penetrate the external insulating skin, they transition from fabric to thickened wood poche. At these moments, poche walls open to provide natural light, and the thickened poche allows for extra seating or the insertion of an overnight bed. This may also be used as seating and congregation space for neighbors when not a clinic.
FULLY-INSTALLED TEMPORARY CLINIC IN EVENING
RESEARCH
PRECEDENT STUDIES
FARE WOMEN’S CENTER, BURKINA FASO
WOMEN ON WAVES

Research on reproductive justice began with precedent studies. These precedents were precedents of both spatial examples of reproductive justice support, and organizational precedents. Precedent studies across the studio considered how health clinics utilize environment, nature, people, materiality, color, and other tools to provide spaces of comfort to those who need resources. Precedent studies also considered how organizations use Do-It-Yourself methods, legally subversive tactics, and coalition organizations to provide health care for reproductive justice.

The FARE Women’s Center in Burkina Faso is an example of a spatial health clinic precedent that utilizes local organizations of people and materials to create an affordable, easily-constructed and comfortable space for patients. The structure was created by the organization themselves, with the help of local support and volunteer labor. All materials were gathered locally, and murals painted to reflect the place. With this, we see how a health clinic can be created by a small community, and made to feel like home.

Women on Waves was a precedent study in organizational and legally subversive tactics to provide medical support. Women on Waves utilizes international waters, a boat, drones, and other methods to usurp local laws against abortion and other health resources to provide abortions and other reproductive resources to people around the world. With this precedent, we see how grassroots organizations can utilize loopholes to provide health aid to at-risk communities.
RESEARCH

REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE

UNITED STATES

IN COLLABORATION WITH FULL STUDIO

The Reproductive Justice Network Studio utilized the first half of the semester to research and map histories and present situation on reproductive justice in the United States. This research was compiled to build a 150-page publication on reproductive justice in the US.

Research began with mapping timelines on the history reproductive, abortion and sex education and justice. The timeline began in the 1950s and ends at Dobbs v Jackson, a major decision on reproductive justice in 2022.

Other research considered geographical differences in reproductive justice across the country, including mapping local access to abortion, income, child-care, transportation, and deterring factors like local protests and legislation against reproductive care. From here, our studio also mapped at-risk communities. Communities at-risk for proper reproductive justice include communities of color, the LGBTQ+ community, lower-income communities, communities with disabilities, and others. Mapping included narratives of these communities and personal stories of how they have been affected by reproductive injustice.

Research also analyzed different spatial practices for reproductive care. These spatial practices come in many forms, from precedents of health clinics occurring in homes, mobile units and cars, institutional and self-made clinics, and virtual health care access. Through this intensive research and publication, our studio was able to begin to determine spatial practices that may be useful for reproductive justice across the US.
### History of Reproductive Rights & Technologies

**1960s - 1970s**

- **1968**
  - Griswold v. Connecticut: Held that married couples had a constitutional "right to privacy" regarding decisions about childbearing and that a state ban on the sale of contraception was thus unconstitutional.

- **1969**
  - Founded in Chicago, NARAL was the first national group created solely to campaign for the legalization of abortion, marking the start of direct action to repeal abortion bans.

- **1970**
  - In 1970, New York state legalized abortion. One day after that law took effect, a Planned Parenthood health center in Syracuse became the first Planned Parenthood health center to provide abortion services, and the first free-standing abortion center nationwide.

- **1967**
  - Colorado Gov. John A. Love signs the first American Law Institute-model abortion law in the United States, allowing abortion in cases of permanent mental or physical disability of either the child or mother or in cases of rape or incest.

- **1970**
  - New York legalizes abortion up to the 24th week of pregnancy - similar laws are passed in Alaska, Hawaii and Washington state.

- **1972**
  - This case extended the right to contraception to unmarried individuals.

- **1973**
  - In a landmark decision, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that the due process clause of the 14th Amendment to the Constitution protects the right to abortion. In particular, the Supreme Court recognized for the first time that the constitutional right to privacy included a woman’s right to choose to terminate her pregnancy.

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**FORCED STERILIZATION OF NATIVE AMERICAN WOMEN**

Thousands of Native American women were forcibly sterilized by the IHS (Indian Health Service), due in large part to the beliefs that the high Native American birth rate should be stemmed. From 1970 to 1976, between 25 and 50 percent of Native American women were sterilized. In 1976, Congress passed the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, which gave tribes the right to manage or control the IHS, and reports of sterilization abuse have subsided.

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**THE LAST LIBERAL COURT: BROADENING REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE LEGISLATURE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
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**RELATED EVENTS**

- Expansion of Civil Liberties
- Technological Developments
- Restriction of Civil Liberties
- Turkey to Public Health

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**RESEARCH ON HISTORY AND MODERN ISSUES OF REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE IN THE UNITED STATES**

Jacqueline Perhac and Joe Milman
GARDEN CLINIC

ADVANCED V STUDIO

1 LOT SITE

4 FAMILIES OVERNIGHT
2 FULL-SCALE EXAM ROOMS
3 SMALL-SCALE EXAM ROOMS
19 PATIENTS DAILY

WARM SEASON

Community Gardening
Farmer’s Market
Community Events / Gathering
Public Restrooms
TYPICAL PLAN OF LARGE SITE PLOT
INSTALLED CLINIC INTERIOR VIEW OF SHARED "BACK PORCHES" AND OVERNIGHT ROOMS
The Elephant Temple is important for the lives of the elephants at Ban Taklang village as a way to reintroduce them to their natural habitat, routines, way of life, and to provide a program and space in which they can do what makes them happy. It intends to provide a space in which they may practice their elephant rituals, including birth, play, bath, rest, grazing and mourning, in order to connect with each other and themselves.

The site of our Elephant Temple is in the north-western area of Ban Taklang village. It is located between the existing bathing pond and the Wat Pa Jiang temple, a 3 minute walk through wild forest. The village, where many elephants reside with families, lies just to the east. Locating the elephant temple here sets it on the threshold of the human-built environment, and the elephant’s natural habitat, the wild forest. This connection is important as a threshold to connect the elephants to both the village and the village elephants, and to nature and their soul. Another connection this site selection establishes is the connection between life and death - a connection important to the context of a temple. With a three minute walk west, elephants of our temple come upon the Wat Pa Jiang temple, which includes a pre-existing elephant graveyard. This site celebrates the area’s history and legacy of elephant village, but also serves as a site for the death or afterlife of the elephant.

To develop our Elephant Temple, we utilized three main tools - the path and sloped walls for circulation, water to supply and provide life, and natural landscape to connect forest and nature. The main three circles of the site program specific rituals, birth, bath, and death. The main pool serves as an entry point from the village to the temple. It is a space where elephants can bathe themselves but also where monks can wash themselves and perform their own rituals. To traverse the main pond, one can circulate around the pond’s shading structure, or pass through the water.

The second circle, to the northwest of the site, provides sanctuary for birthing rituals. The sloped shading structure allows gathering elephants a place for shade and an extra barrier for protection during an elephant birth.

Finally, the third circle to the southwest corner of the temple, opens to the forest and environment beyond. Here, the soil is loose, sloped to a natural depression, and provides a shaded and remote area for elephants to lay their family to rest, on their own, near their relatives at the Wa Pa Jiang graveyard.

To accommodate daily elephant rituals, the temple also provides satellite water and mud pools both for a variety of bathing and to provide access to water across the site. In addition to the pools, a curving river spreads water throughout the site for convenient access to bathing while elephants wander through the forest and graze. A final perimeter wall reminisces the traditional layout of a temple, but instead of acting as a barrier, it supplies freshwater for elephants drinking as they wander. We were determined to allow the natural environment to invade the temple, nurturing the elephants final ritual, that of grazing. Through their grazing, elephants also carry plant seeds across their local habitat, further rehabilitating their natural environment. Through this, the elephants contribute to the formalization of the temple themselves.
RESEARCH

MATERIAL STUDIES: BRICK MAKING

BAN TAKLANG, THAILAND

On site, in Ban Taklang, we were able to make new observations of our site. Here are some of our observations, starting at the pre-existing pond. Here, we were able to witness elephants bathing, sometimes on their own, and sometimes with the aid of the mahouts, their handlers. Still regardless of how they bathed, they were always under human supervision and were allowed to bathe for as long as their human companion allowed. Other observations included the natural wildlife permitted to grow into the pond, the vibrancy of the colors, including the rich soil, plants, and water. Largely, the pond was quiet, natural, and beautiful.

Moving into the forest, we noticed some small human-centered structures, such as storage units and restrooms. Largely, the forest is dense, wild, quiet, and untouched outside of a few low-impact trails. After becoming familiar with our site, the pond and forest, we knew that many of their preexisting features were experiences we wanted to preserve, rehabilitate, and give to the elephants, in a village where so much of their life is under human will.

At the Wat Pa Jiango temple, the elephant is celebrated, and elephants live besides the monks. Here, monks hold festivals to revere the elephants, host elephant funerals, and bury elephants on site. Here, elephants are beloved and held to high esteem. Still, in ways, their lives are framed under the human eye, human symbology, and human ritual. Some examples of these anthropocentric motifs include the use of elephants as symbols, as the monks spend much of their time creating symbolic reproductions of elephants to decorate their temples. Daily, elephants participate in human-centered rituals, such as the passing of gifts to monks. And at the temple, elephants are buried in separate graves, under the symbolic hat of a soldier. With these observations of our site and neighboring Wat Pa Jiang, we hope that our elephant temple can serve as a reaction against the anthropocentric nature of the elephants’ daily lives, and support their own natural rituals, needs, and emotional happiness.
RESEARCH

RITUAL STUDIES OF MONKS AND ELEPHANTS

BAN TAKLANG, THAILAND

To understand the traditional typology of the Thai temple, we studied the program, layout, and practices of laypeople, monks and elephants on temple sites. In terms of layout, the traditional Thai temple is structured on a cardinal grid, with two central and perpendicular axes centered within a built perimeter wall. Within the perimeter wall, there are several gates to allow for circulation through the site. The sites typically host many structures, including an ordination hall, salas which are open pavilions for eating, resting, and meditation, and chedis, which are structures that usually contain relics, and are used for performance of Buddhist rituals.

Like the traditional temple, the Elephant Temple must respond to daily and life rituals, and provide an environment that assists these rituals. The goal of the temple is not to reinvent or define their rituals, how they are performed, or the resources traditionally used. The goal is to provide, protect and encourage an ever-growing environment in which elephants may both benefit from the safety of Ban Taklang village and reconnect to their nature. Elephants have many rituals that they practice on a daily basis. These include eating, which they do for 16-18 hours a day, bathing, as most elephants bathe around four times a day, to cool down, and hydrate, and rest. Elephants need shade and prefer sloped surfaces to lean against while they sleep and rest between baths and grazing. In addition to the daily ritual, our temple considers the life cycle of the elephant within its ritual programming. Both birth and death are very specific practices in the life of the elephant. During births, elephants will gather around the mother, a tight circle surrounding her, to protect her from a potential attack. Elephants also have specific practices involving death. When one of their own dies, elephants gather to mourn. And finally, elephants sometimes lay their deceased to rest with other members of their family, if they pass in proximity to each other.
RESEARCH OF RITUALS: ELEPHANTS AND MONKS
RESEARCH

RITUAL STUDIES OF MONKS AND ELEPHANTS

BAN TAKLANG, THAILAND

Utilizing the traditional typology and layout of the Thai temple, we began to develop the program and layout of the elephant temple. The elephant temple intends to re-contextualize the human-centered-ness of religion and spirituality within the traditional temple, and replace it with an environment that can lend to the spirit and nature of the elephant and their environment.

The traditional temple has a central vertical axis that ends at a lower horizontal axis, which spans the width of the temple. Programatically, the lower portion of the temple often hosts domestic resources, while the upper portions host ceremonial, gathering and library spaces. The perimeter wall hosts a couple entrances and exits at each edge, and the outer perimeter guides meditative and ceremonial perimeter walks, sometimes involving elephants.

The reprogrammed elephant temple utilizes this same outline, with a layout of domestic spaces to the lower half and ceremonial and ritual spaces in the upper half. Two central circulation axes remain. The perimeter wall is opened up to be more porous and to allow the surrounding forest to enter. Superimposed over this traditional layout, we began to diagram elephant-related program, program that is more natural, organic, and related to the forest and water. Within this more organic superimposition, we began to program spaces that lend themselves to elephant rituals. The large curved pond and rivers for bathing, a depression of loose soil near the elephant graveyard for elephant-initiated burials, and a protective circle for elephant birthing rituals. With this, we established the foundation for the elephant temple's programmatic layout.
PROGRAM DIAGRAM OF ELEPHANT TEMPLE AND INVASION OF THE FOREST
VIEW OF MAIN POND FOR ELEPHANT BATHING RITUAL
VIEW OF BIRTHING AREA FOR ELEPHANT BIRTHING RITUAL
VIEW OF MAIN AXIS ACROSS ELEPHANT TEMPLE: ENTRANCE FROM VILLAGE TO WAT PA JIANG
IMMERSIVE VIEW OF MAIN POND FOR BATHING
ELEPHANT TEMPLE FROM ABOVE
ELEPHANT TEMPLE INTERIOR VIEW: SHARED SPACES BETWEEN MONKS AND ELEPHANTS