**Schizophrenia and the process of gardening**AUD5251 - Realities in Architecture  
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*The garden design is meant to accommodate users with schizophrenia between the age of 18 and 35. It would serve as a place for therapeutic activity in which individuals would maintain and improve their state of well-being.*

The intention of design was to instill a sense of purpose and stability through experiencing the garden as an ongoing process of observation and helping things grow and develop. This would provide a sense of certainty and gratification to the patients who would enjoy their effort yield flowers and produce throughout the year.

The idea of enclosure is not seen as a restriction but rather as a safety barrier in which one feels comfortable and free from harm. By subtly defining boundaries between the outside world and the garden, anxieties and suspicions are reduced as one’s surroundings are within control. The garden is seen as a safe place where patients are given the opportunity to engage in activities within what they can call their own space.

The way we interpreted the intentions in a physical space mostly involved identifying a series of architectural elements that would allow for degrees of control over visibility, light, shadow - while at the same time using natural materials and vegetation to blend, soften and ground the elements into one cohesive environment.

The landscape itself is defined by a softly mounding topography which allows users to perceive as much of the space as possible, as well as soft transitions between different categories of spaces. The environment was also designed with the intention to present visual cues to the user on what activity the space can host.