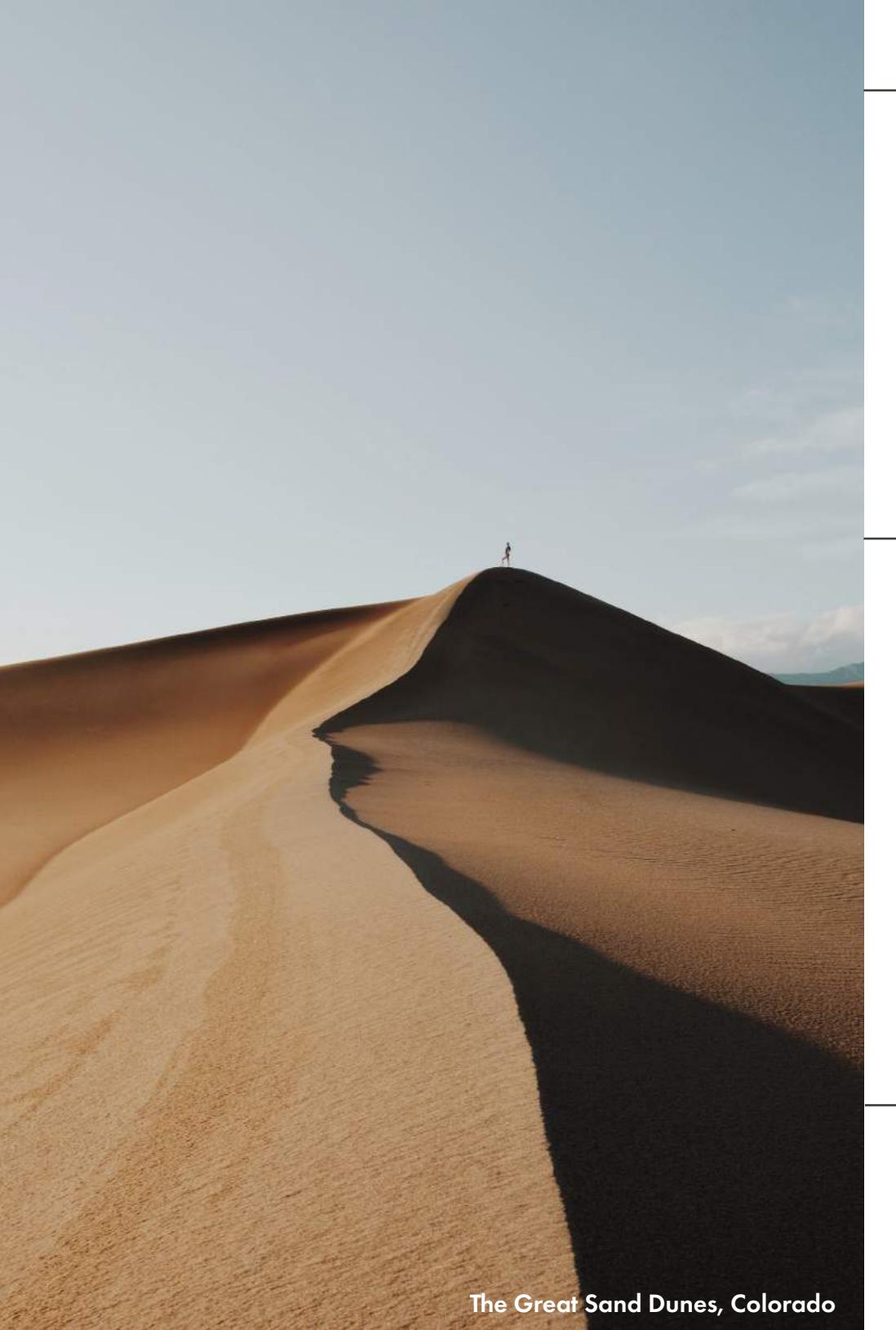


A landscape sketch in black ink and red washes. On the left, there is a detailed drawing of a large industrial facility, possibly a power plant or refinery, with several tall, cylindrical structures and complex piping. To the right, a large hillside rises, covered in sparse vegetation and rocky outcrops. The sky above the hill is filled with light, wispy clouds.

Madison S. Hutchings

Landscape Architecture Portfolio



Philosophy

My work seeks to bring Landscape Architecture into national dialogues as a medium to overcome the many obstacles our society faces. I strive to make our work and profession relevant and powerful by engaging with the emotions people experience when visiting my sites. I believe design must be bold and empowering, never invisible, to capture and shape emotions and ensure that a design's intentions expand well beyond its site boundary.

School Work

3 - 15

Thesis: De-Carcaration through Community Empowerment, 2020 - 2021.

Relief Housing, Virginia Beach, 2020.

Splashpad Project: Arise, 2020.

Community Planning: Delta District, 2019.

Fiber Artist Community: Patchwork, 2018.

Other Media

16 - 18

Independent travel photography



DE-CARCERATION



THROUGH COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT

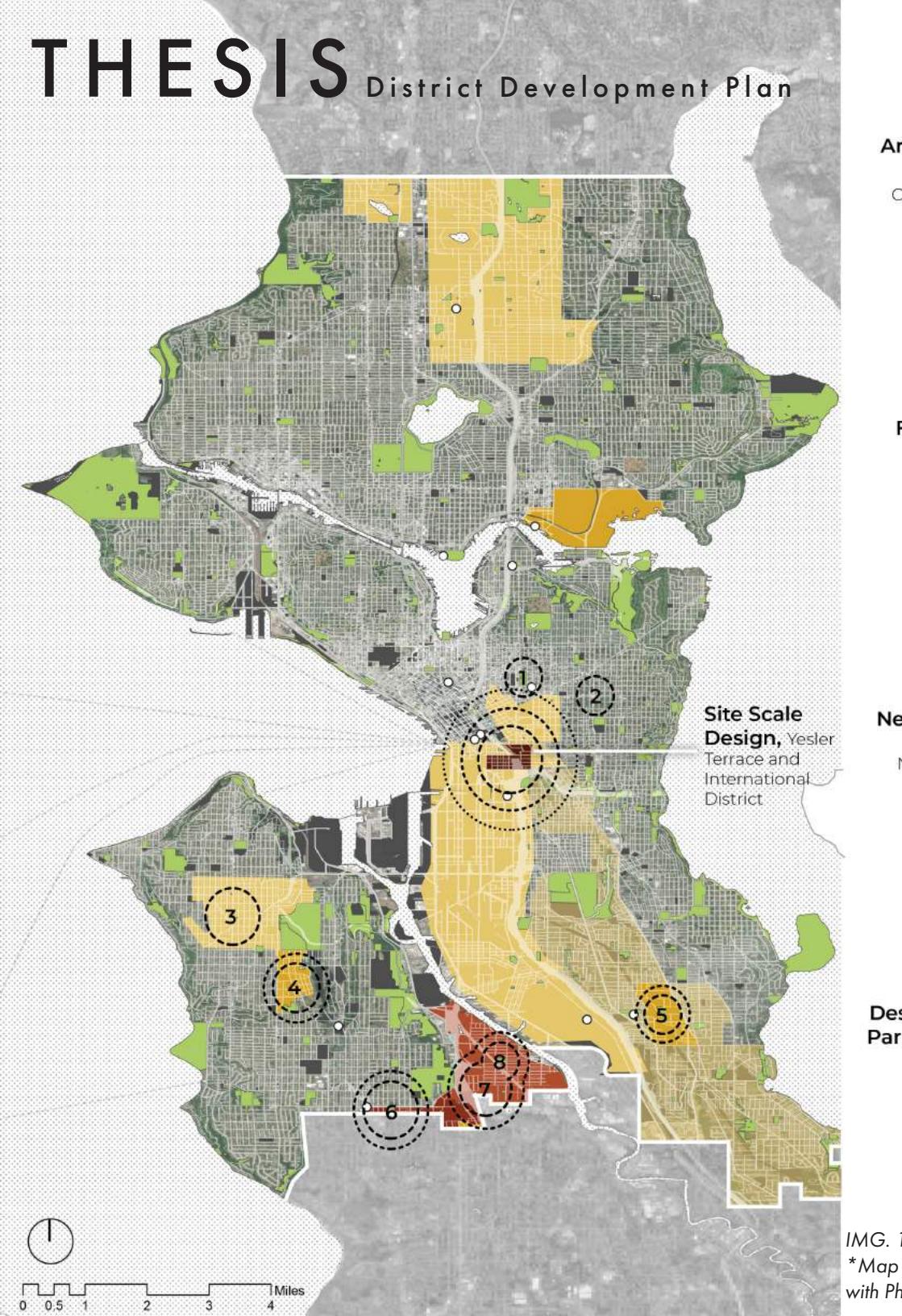
This project is a study of how the design and programming of public spaces can reduce incarceration by addressing its root causes. The goal of the project is to challenge the way crime preventative design has been approached in the past and to ultimately design spaces preventative and alternative to the system by providing spaces for healing, trust, reparations, and restorative justice to take place.

Through this project, I've learned a lot about mass incarceration in the US, equitable and human centered design, biophilic design and its benefits, and reconstructing urban landscapes.

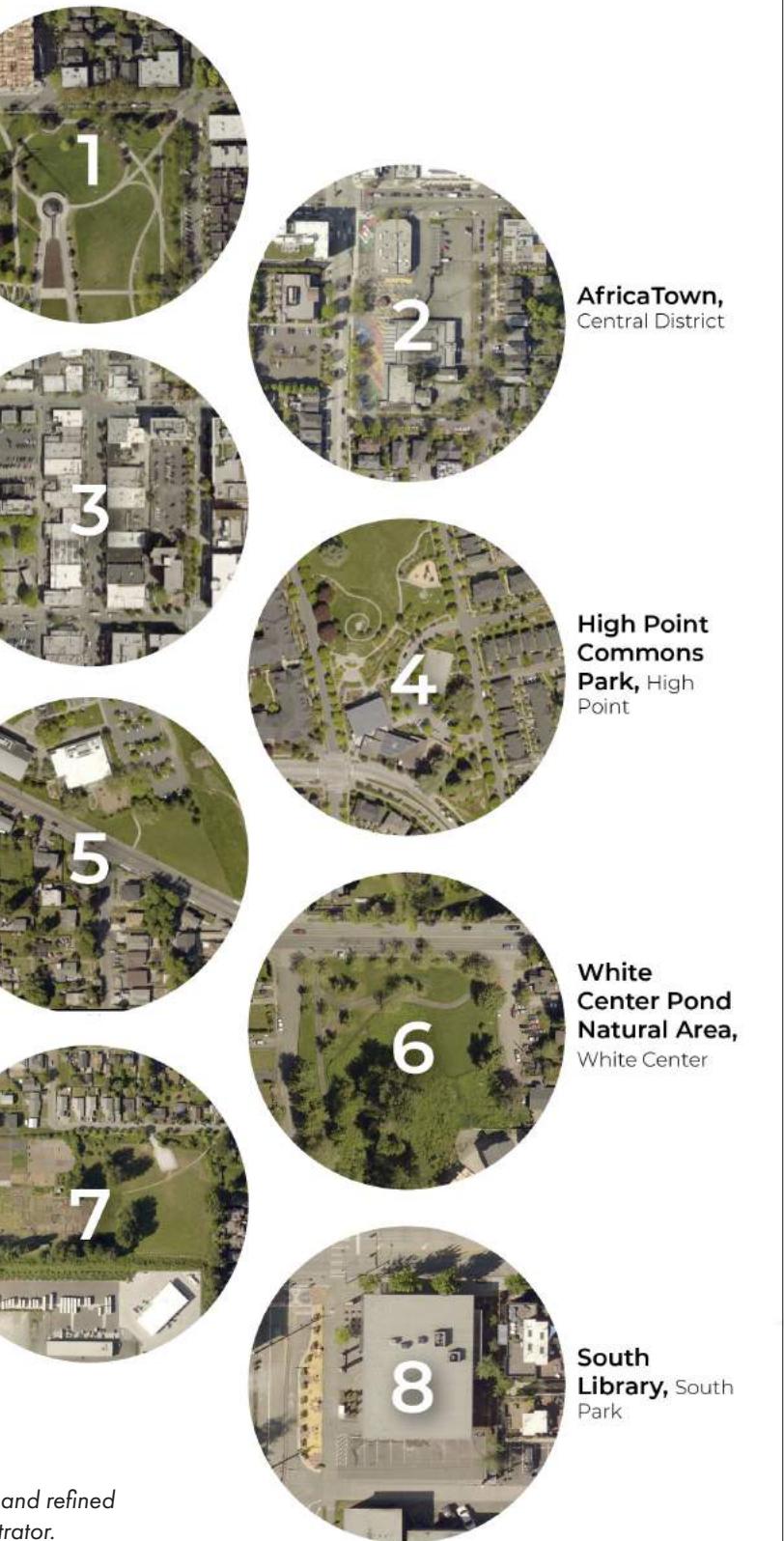
I chose Seattle as the city to focus this project because of its existing social programs, progressive culture, and my previous experiences living in this city.

THESIS

District Development Plan



IMG. 1
*Map info from ArcGIS and refined with Photoshop and Illustrator.



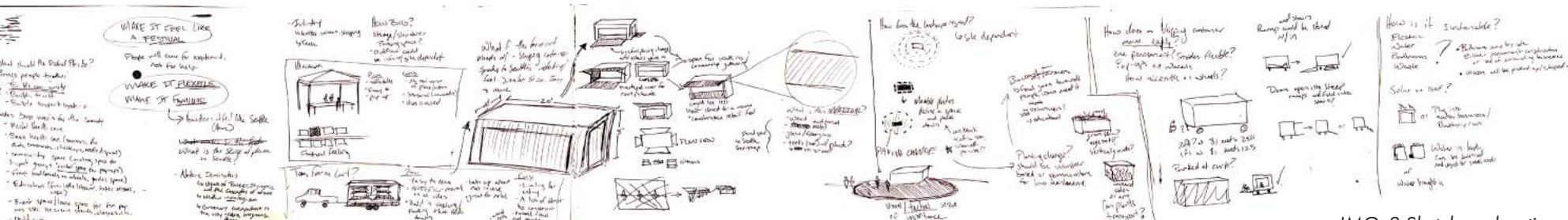
After months of research, conversations, and reading, I had a fairly good grasp on the root causes of incarceration and the first steps to making a change. **Being an issue so rooted in racism and other discrimination, a necessary approach would be to go into the most vulnerable communities and promote equity.**

Through census data, SPD data, and GIS, I was able to find the areas suffering from higher crime rates and with more POC, lesser education levels, and less income - the attributes that correlate highest with those incarcerated. (IMG. 1)

I learned that these communities needed dependable and trustworthy relationships with their families, communities, and city. I did a lot of sketching exploration for an easily replicable and adaptable/

flexible space where the **community could come together in search of nurturing, support, empowerment, representation, and sense of belonging.** (IMG. 2)

The flex pod was born - a familiar shipping container upgraded and left open for government provided services or free space for local economy to occur in each of these identified communities. It becomes a space the community gathers at daily for essential services, socializing, fun, nourishment, engagement, skill acquisition, and unlimited possibility. **It becomes a permanent, flexible, and additive space for its community that will listen to the voices and needs of the people and be adopted and adapted by them - building relationships, trust, sense of purpose, and growth upon multiple scales.**



IMG. 2 Sketch explorations

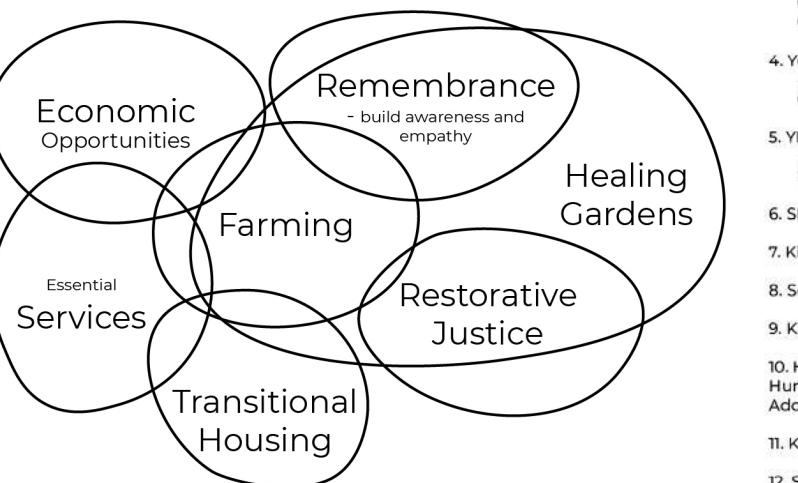


PROMOTING HEALING | TRUST | REPARATIONS

Graphic made through Rhino and Photoshop 4

THESIS

Site Scale

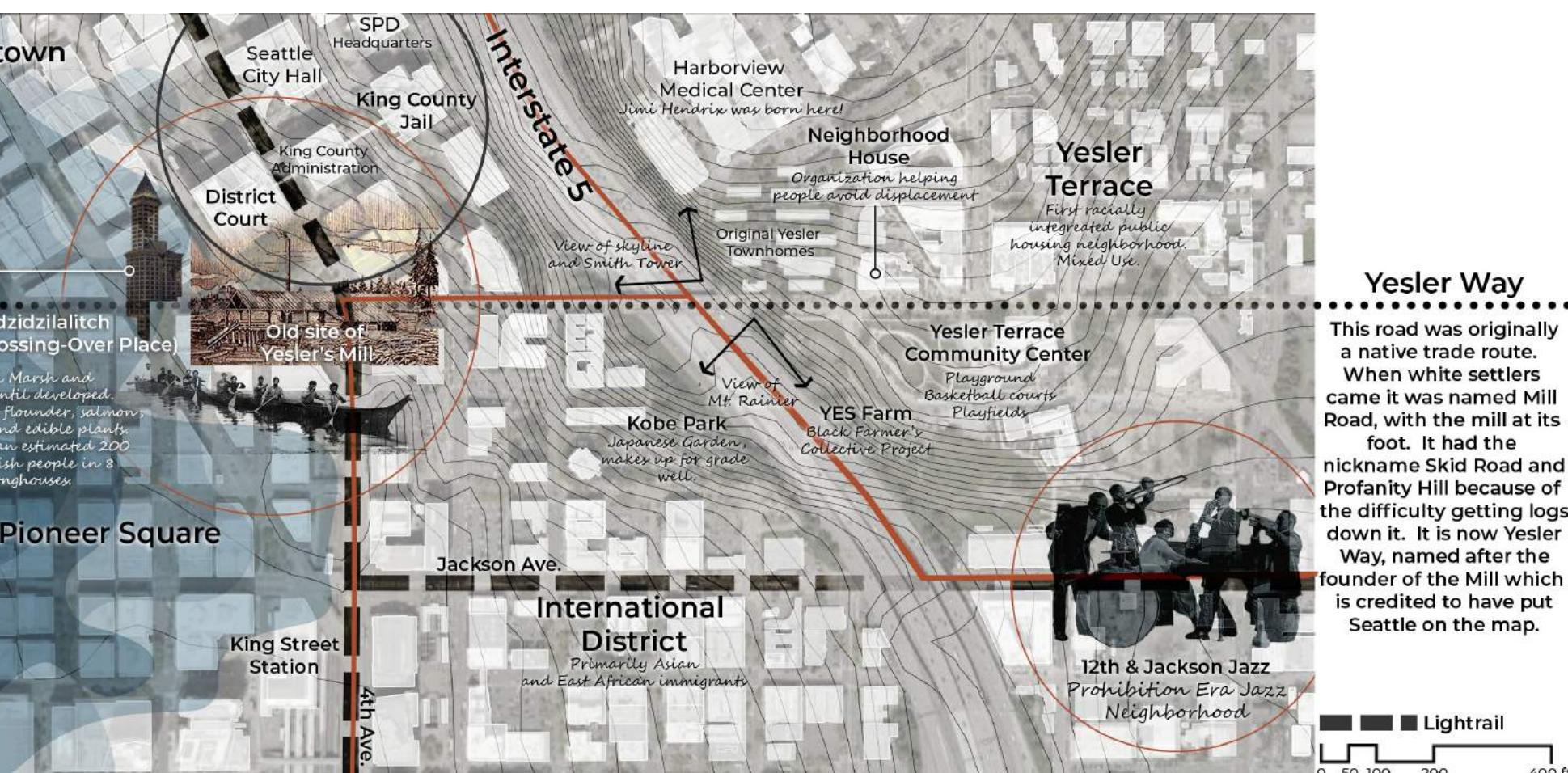
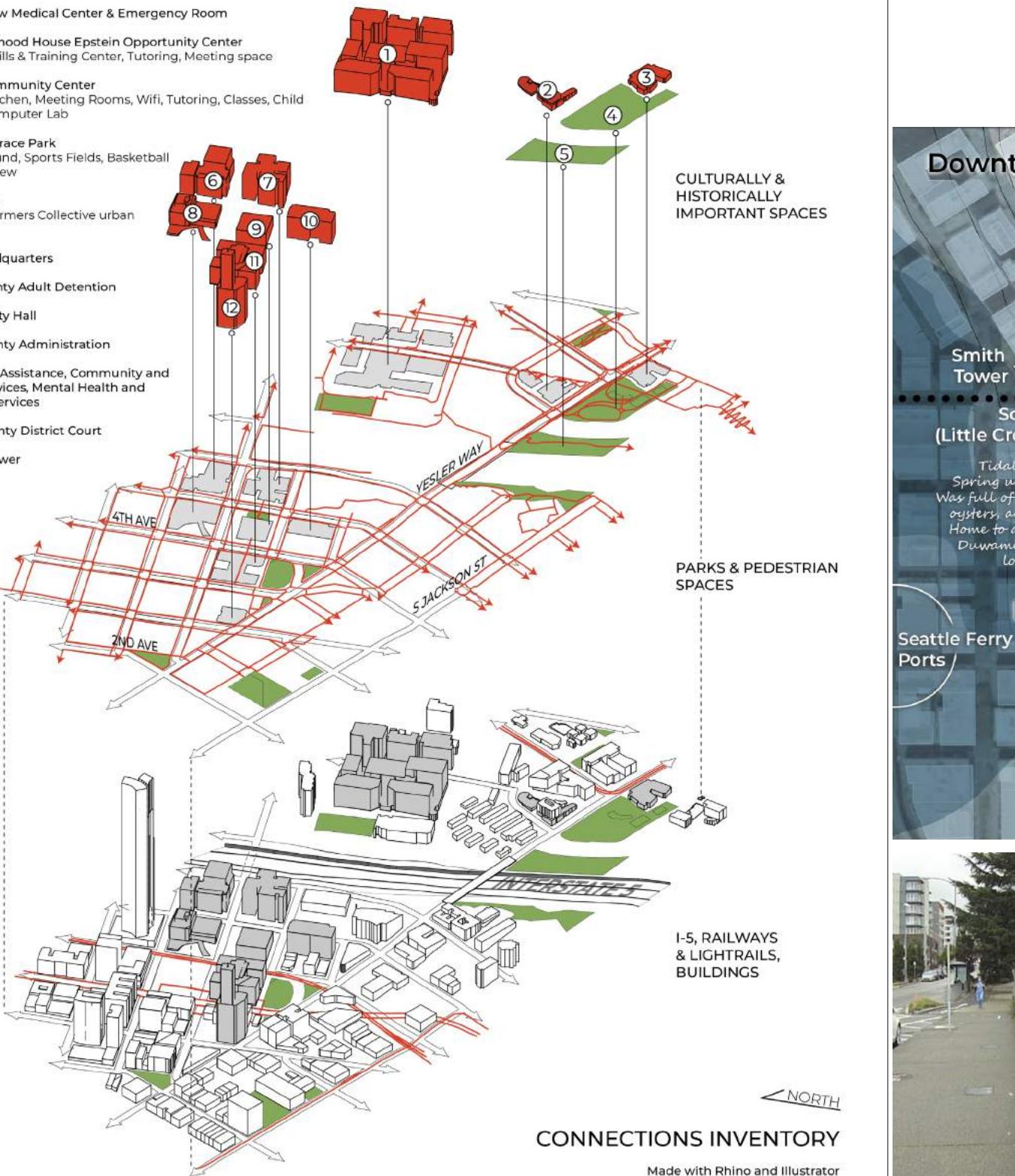


The goal of the site scale, like the district plan, will be to be preventative but with an additional focus on alternative measures for incarceration and healing from it. The above diagram shows some programs that are necessary or impactful to empowering people, promoting healing and trust, and reduce recidivism - grounding each program around farming would be a powerful way to increase vulnerability, promote conversation, and build relationships and sense of self.

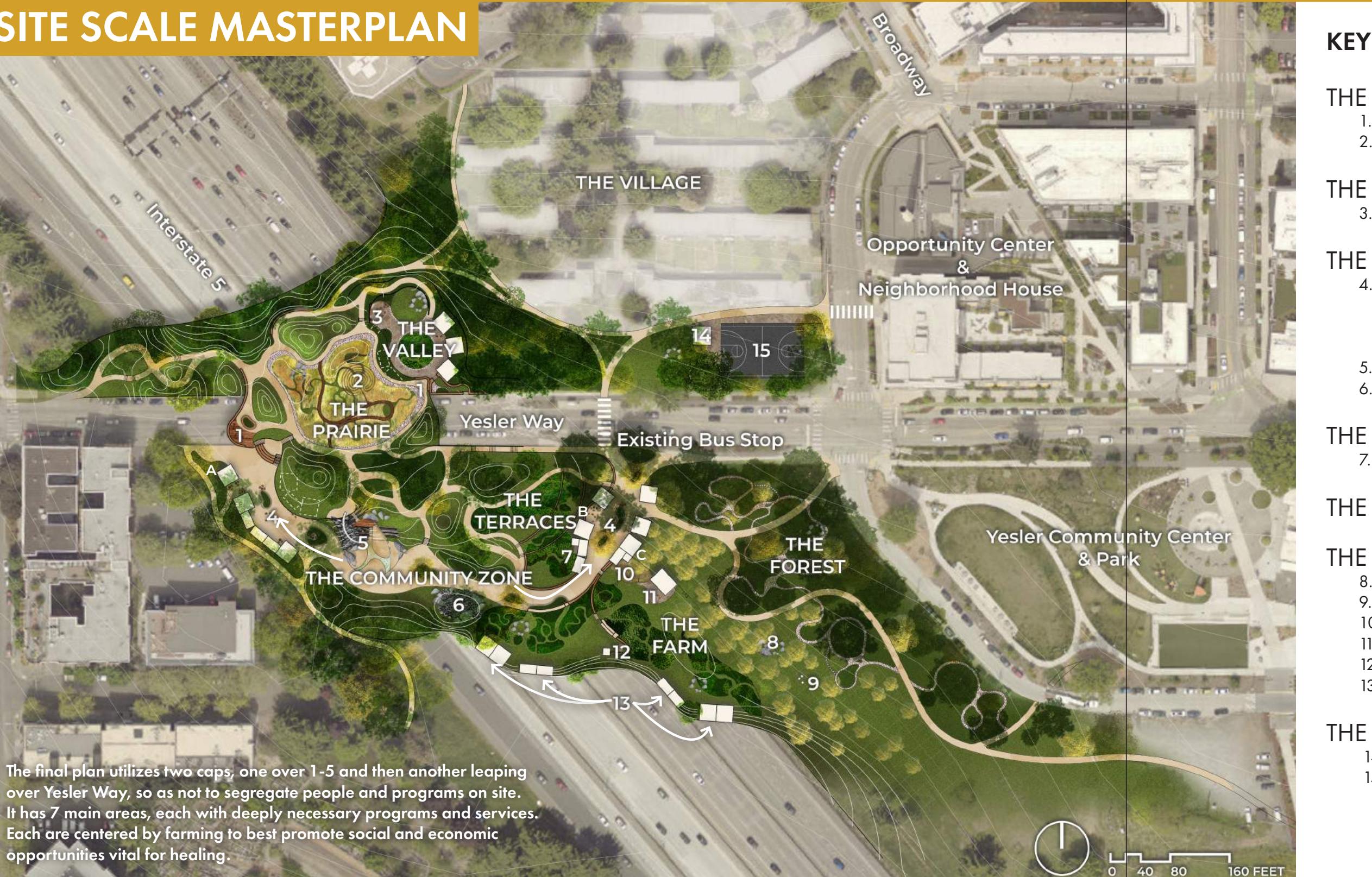
The tract has a very unique history and culture, it also straddles I-5 and has close proximity to many power houses with similar goals and services as my project. I decided to cap the highway to connect the two side's services and people, healing the harm I-5 did while simultaneously helping to heal the people in these neighborhoods, those accused, and those returning from the carceral system.

The expanded axonometric begins to make sense of the surroundings in attempt to begin designing a cap to house the necessary programs.

*All graphics made between Rhino and Illustrator



SITE SCALE MASTERPLAN



KEY

THE PRAIRIE

1. Overlooks
2. Labryinth

THE VALLEY

3. Kitchen

THE COMMUNITY ZONE

4. FlexPod Zone
 - A. Coffee Shop + Info Booth
 - B. Seed + Crop Exchange
 - C. Library
5. Splashpad
6. Rock Garden

THE TERRACES

7. Compost + Shed

THE FOREST

An explorative area meant primarily for reflection, memorialization, and for raising awareness.

THE FARM

8. Orchard
9. Beehives
10. Chicken Coops + Yard
11. Pavilion, Kitchen + Firepit
12. Compost + Shed
13. Winter Healing Huts/Greenhouses

THE VILLAGE

14. Pavilion/Kitchen
15. Basketball Court

AREA INTENTIONS

A first impression for those entering from the North, this area provides overlooks to allow them to read the site and make their choices for exploration. Filled with opportunities to hide and explore as well.

A very private and secluded area for Restorative Justice sessions, centered around farming and circular forms to encourage interaction and break down uneven power dynamics.

The most active and public portion of the site, a flexible space full of social and economic opportunities to help empower the community and build relationships.

Terraced garden space for the YES Farm to expand into or for community gardening programs to phase into by demand.

An explorative area meant primarily for reflection, memorialization, and for raising awareness.

More public and open farmspace intended for later, more light-hearted sessions of Restorative Justice and group therapy sessions. An inviting and public space for program alumni to meet and revisit. It also capitalizes on this most sunny part with greenhouses which can also be warm spots used for Winter Healing Huts. On the edge of I-5, the thick glass not only retains heat but acts as a sound buffer and they allow for a beacon of light at nighttime, catching the eye of drivers below.

A transitional co-housing village, left up for developers to design but sited with strong connections to the site as well as the Opportunity Center and Neighborhood House which can help community members find and adjust to their next steps. The village enjoys its own amenities and should be planned around gardening and community centers.



THE VALLEY

With its hugging landforms, this valley creates a comfortable embrace for the vulnerable and emotional sessions of Restorative Justice. It utilizes prospect and refuge techniques; creating sense of privacy and protection thus allowing for people to let their guard down and relax.

In Restorative Justice, participants sit in a circle to break down any sense of hierarchy that may exist. The valley encourages circles through its forms, allowing for better conversation and engagement.

The central element here is the garden - a powerful medium in bringing

people together, whether in work or harvest. It is shown to create deeper relationships while simultaneously calming the nerves. The gardens is intercropped – a practice more familiar to the Duwamish and African cultures. This practice is all about relationships, planting unlikely pairings together that form a cooperative relationship and help each other thrive. This practice is just like those relationships formed in this valley, bringing together people on both sides of conflict to work together and learn to trust, forgive, and heal with each other.



THE COMMUNITY ZONE

The Community Zone is full of movable seating and cozy alcoves for them to be placed within, allowing for a sense of power and control. Then there is the stepped seating, great for people watching and a waiting area to meet up with friends.

At the landing of these steps are chalk walls which may showcase local art or prompts for people to leave a mark on the space and take photos with. This one asks them to go on a sort of scavenger hunt through the site with a wider goal of grounding them to the space through their senses.

The community zone has the same FlexPods as the district scale, but with some more permanent anchors. This allows community members prime real estate for their products, services, and opportunities. It is a space full of economic and social opportunities to help support and empower this community.



THE PRAIRIE

Full of native edible and medicinal plants, the Prairie allows for quiet exploration, foraging, private conversations, and meditation.

The unique PNW prairie ecosystem was found in rocky soils downhill of Yesler Way and was one reason the Duwamish people found The Little Crossing Over Place so special. They had a beautiful symbiotic relationship with this prairie, maintaining it through seasonal burning to encourage reseeding and keep the fast-growing coniferous trees at bay. Using this same method on this site, this space can be demonstrative of the restorative power of nature, adding more meaning

to healing and relationships already so prominent in this concept and this site. This can once again become a ceremonial space at the time of these burnings, inviting people to sit and watch from the surrounding mounds.

Between burns and reseeding, this landscape will continue to hold its meditative qualities, with the fire revealing a labyrinth of single laid bricks that was previously hidden beneath the plants.

THE LEGACY

This plan achieves its very ambitious goals through its careful use of space and programming within an immersive design. It provides an opportunistic and comfortable space for restorative justice to thrive within, while also demonstrating the power of transformative justice and healing based justice. It will be successful in teaching healthy ways to manage trauma which people can then go practice and relay to their circles in the district scale, creating a wonderful relationship throughout the city.

This project does not attempt to say it will end mass incarceration, but it

analyzes and addresses many of the faults within our built systems that lead to incarceration and attempts to create solutions in the public space that will be transformative of this system.

By creating spaces dedicated to building strong and healthy relationships between and among people and place, we can begin to support the programs necessary to help our loved ones and neighbors avoid the carceral system and live the full and healthy lives they have the right to.

RELIEF HOUSING

Virginia Beach, 2020

In this project, the city was attempting to find alternatives to a 10 acre grove of trees planned to be stripped for a cemetery. They were open to any plan that would save the trees.

In the midst of both Covid and Sea Level Rise greatly impacting people in the city, I saw a need for temporary relief housing for people who may be displaced. I was inspired also by my time in Taos, knowing how important a sense of community is in hard times when you have so little.

PROJECT GOALS:

- Provide a range of relief housing for displaced individuals and families in the region
- Design as lightly and as sustainable as possible while accomodating the program
 - Clear as little trees as possible
 - Choose a house-type with a small footprint and



9

KEY

■ 1 - 2 PERSON SHELTER
20 ON SITE

■ 2 - 4 PERSON SHELTER
10 ON SITE

■ 4 - 6 PERSON SHELTER
10 ON SITE

■ RESTROOM

■ GARBAGE

WETLAND +
EXPLORATION

PERMACULTURE
EDIBLE GARDEN

NATURAL
PLAY
AREA

COMMUNITY
KITCHEN + REC.
SPACE

SALEM ROAD

The scheme utilizes modular AbleNook housing, allowing for a maximum amount of 140 residents at it's current depicted layout. Upon entering the site, people are encouraged to park in the entry and walk on the shared 9 foot wide paths from there. The housing is pulled off the main road to create mini communities and a greater sense of privacy. Shared space has natural play structures and permaculture gardens. At the highest point of the site is a large community kitchen and rec space for

the residents or rented out for events like yoga retreats or cooking classes during other points of the year. With this, the many paths and boardwalks to explore, and the versatility of the housing, this becomes a stress free and comforting environment to help people get back on their feet while preserving the trees and being a gift to the community.

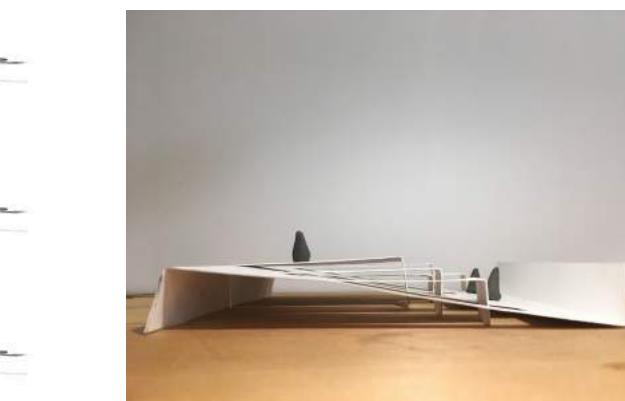
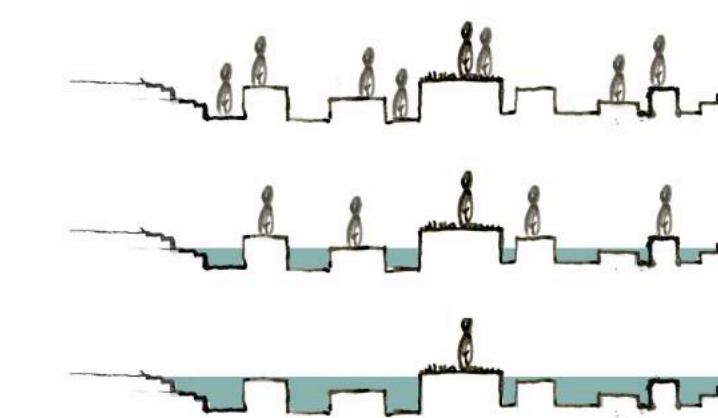
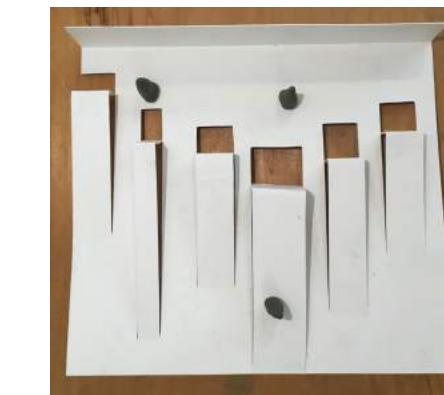
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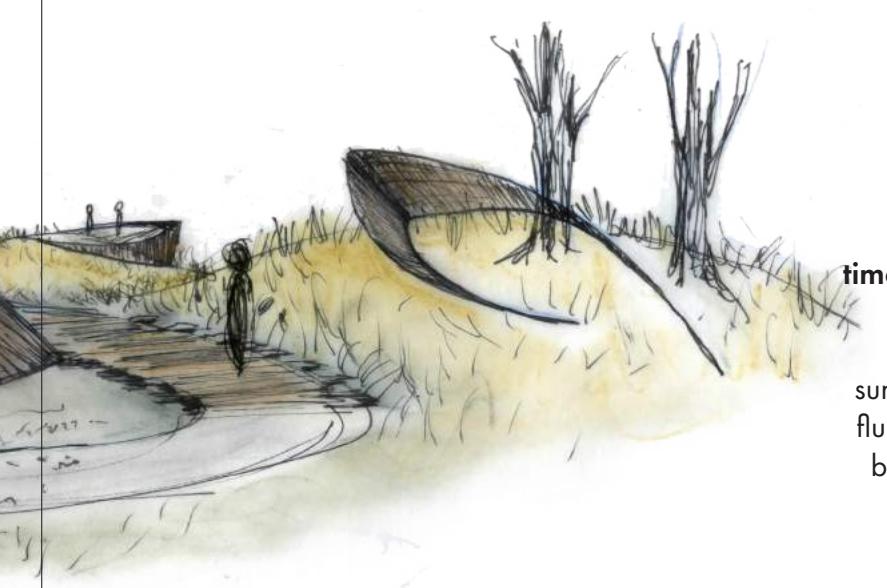
ARISE Mount Trashmore Splashpad, Virginia Beach. 2020 (Preliminary Design)



Sketches done with Ink and Colored Charcoal



Study Models and Diagrams to understand sunken concept.



In a city so susceptible to sea level rise, I was inspired to create a space that could be relatable to its residents and raise awareness to its visitors, while being abstract and timeless. The form is inspired by the contrasts of the verticality of the built and natural and the interactions between the two amidst sea level rise.

The initial design presented to the city drew a visitor in through curiosity. The water feature was sunken and only revealed after wandering through a bermed landscape. The water levels of the space fluctuates, completely covering the built structures or revealing them, representing nature overtaking the built. It becomes a lively place of chasing water, impromptu performances, gathering, sunbathing, and play.

Because of the site's landfill history, this concept became impractical with the city's apprehension to dig too deep into the ground.

ARISE Mount Trashmore, Virginia Beach. 2020



The final design draws a visitor in through curved paths framing glimpses of the water feature. **The pavement pattern is reflective of a topographic map, giving a tactile first impression of the concept of verticality.** One has the option to enjoy bermed lawns, secluded sandpits, and sensory raingardens before reaching the crescendo of the site.

When the visitor arrives at the splash pad, they see **a structure rising and overtaking the pavement below, like a wave washing up the shore.** Underneath is a variety of mystic and chaotic water types, as well as a fluctuating floor and ceiling creating moments of compression and relief. To represent the human push and pull with nature, an option exists to wander up a ramp and overcome the chaos, enjoying the sound of unseen water and the views of the park from above.



The idea of a topographic map carries through within the planting. The all native plant palette is in swaths of planting varying in heights to represent waves rising and falling to further immerse the visitor.



A view from under the splash canopy. The supports are laid in a grid, representing the built environment overtaken by nature. Water pools, flows, pours, mists, and erupts to represent phases of a storm.

All graphics made from AutoCAD linework then brought into Photoshop and Sketchup for perspectives.

DELTA DISTRICT

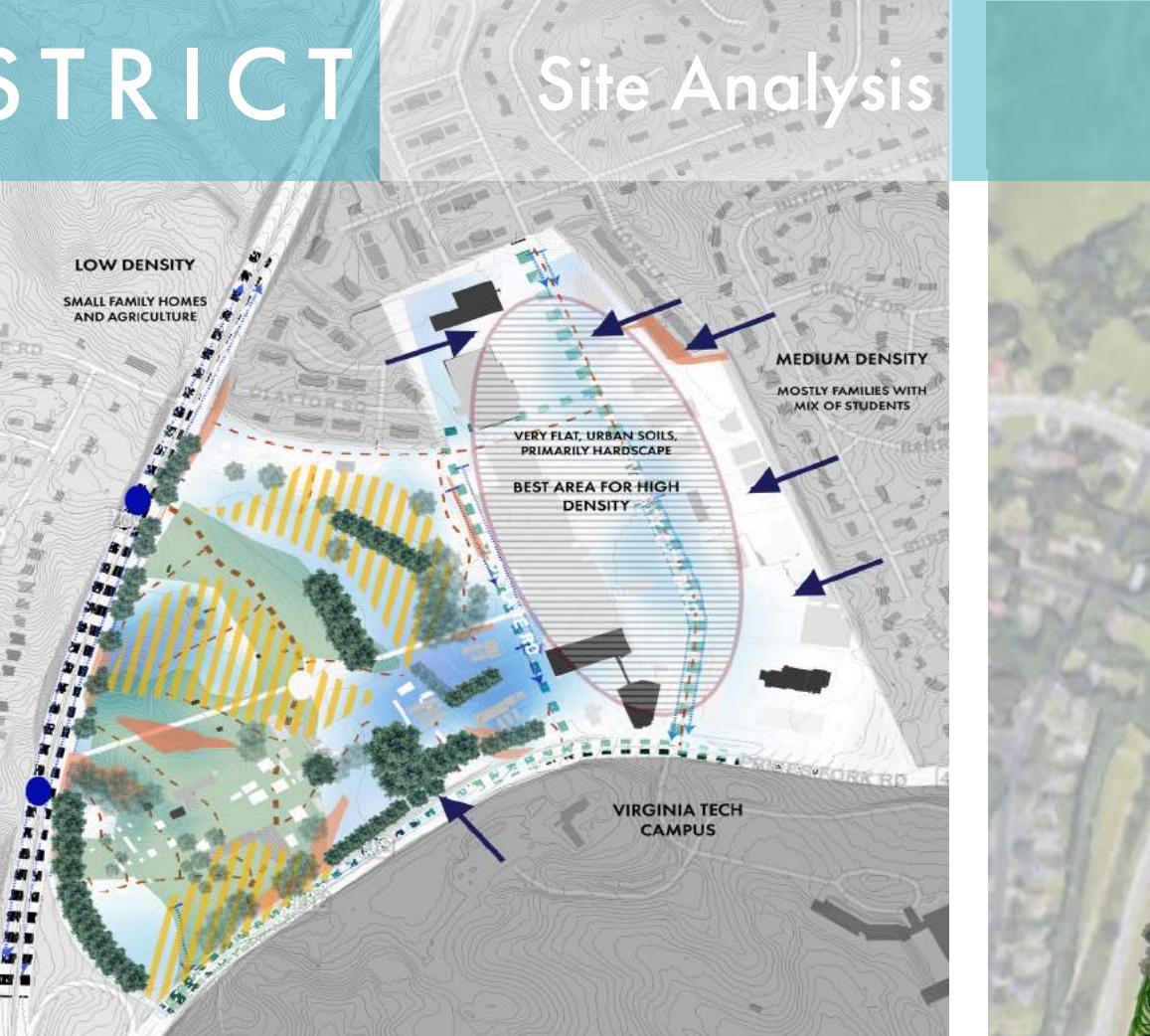
Blacksburg, VA. 2019

Project Challenges

Working with a group to design a sustainable, mixed-use community on an existing box store and agricultural site while keeping in mind accessibility, safety, economic opportunity, and environmental aspects throughout the design.

Project Goals

1. Offering diverse housing options in terms of family size
2. Creating a strong sense of place and community
3. Building the economy within the site
4. Creating a non-car-dependent community
5. Offering spaces that can be flexible and change with future transportation and community needs
6. Establishing mixed use buildings to offer live-work opportunities
7. Providing a density high enough to support public transportation



Site analysis conclusions:

- Identified areas entrances can be established in form of roads and greenways to help make the site more accessible.
- The site has some areas of high quality soil, well suited for agriculture, an important aspect to establish food production on site.
- Half of the site is flat, paved, and retail, making it the ideal spot for a dense mixed-use area. It also has the connection to a future greenway.
- Some areas are best left more natural based on the current hydrology and adjacent highways. This will establish new habitats, create natural buffers, and help reduce runoff and contamination from the site.



Designed and rendered with Anthony Rosa and Tess Reeves



Land Use

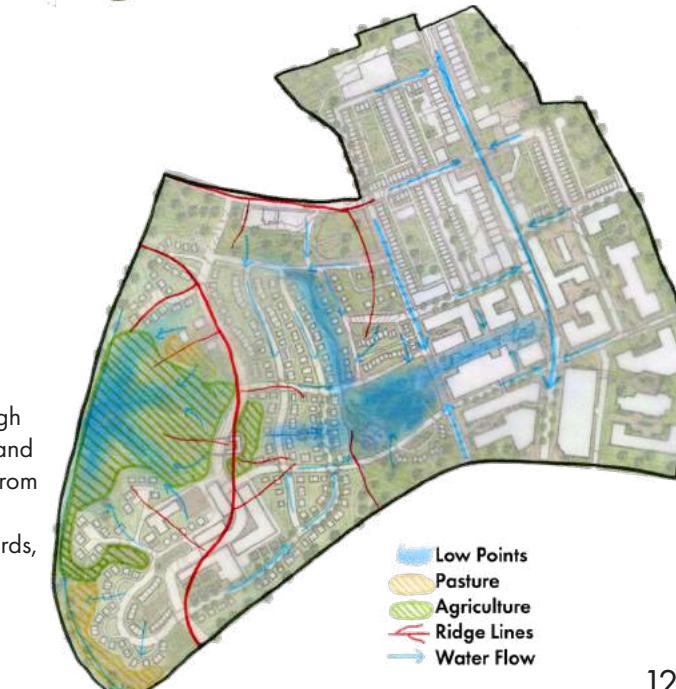
This diagram shows the diverse range of housing options on site, and that in each area the residents have short walking distance to green space and commercial zones.



Delta Plaza. See next page.

Hydrology

A diagram showing the high and low points of the site and how water travels to and from them. Also shows farming areas for vineyards, orchards, and pasture lands.



DELTA PLAZA

Delta District cont. Individual Site Scale Design.

Designed with native stone, wood, and planting, the Delta Plaza transforms a former parking lot and box store site into a thriving urban plaza. The plaza is the main feature of the new community, **where water and people will gather**.

Inspired by the sensuous curves above ground contrasted with the geometric striations below and the water that runs through them both, architectural layering of stone and wood on the ground plane becomes more naturalistic as the eye moves up among rich tree canopies and lush raingardens collecting overflow from the greenroofs and balconies. As one walks



Marker, oil pastel, and ink

from East to West, they are taken on a journey from a landscape that seems linear and angular, like a rocky stream bed, to a more soft-surfaced and vegetated portion of the plaza, before entering the more curvilinear and meadowlike greenland across the street.

This plaza is an **extremely flexible space** with high visual and programmatic appeal throughout the day or season. The plaza has a space for everyone, whether it be a retailer, family, child, senior, or teen; by providing spill out space for small businesses, flex space for festival tents, yoga classes, skating, screening wall, stage space, rockclimbing, etc.



20 feet

Perspective showing different use of space throughout the day. Drawn with marker and oil pastel, then added scenarios with photoshop



PATCHWORK

Blacksburg, VA. 2018



Context

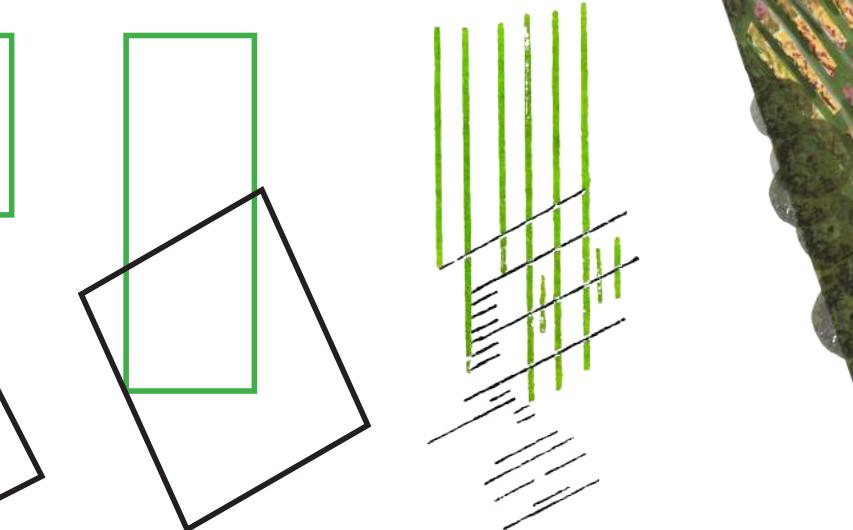
Tasked to design a fiber artist studio on a 10 acre plot of land in Blacksburg, VA.

The site was a corn field and sat in a valley with great views of the Appalachian mountains. It is surrounded by many multipurpose trail systems and farmland. The site also happens to be adjacent or very close to schools of every level, giving it the unique opportunity to serve as an educational resource for students.

Behind the Design

Beginning this project with research on fiber art, I discovered just how harmful the textile industry is to the people practically enslaved in it, the animals mistreated by it, and to the environment. The textile industry has been one of the world's largest polluters for over one hundred years, speeding up the effects of climate change.

This design strives to bring together students from all of the neighboring schools and teach them safe textile production practices through organic farming, reflective of its agricultural surroundings. It becomes a beautiful and peaceful site, showing what the world could be like with the right measures taken.



The parking lot takes on the geometry of both the studio and the orchard, allowing the trees from the orchard to emerge into the building's space

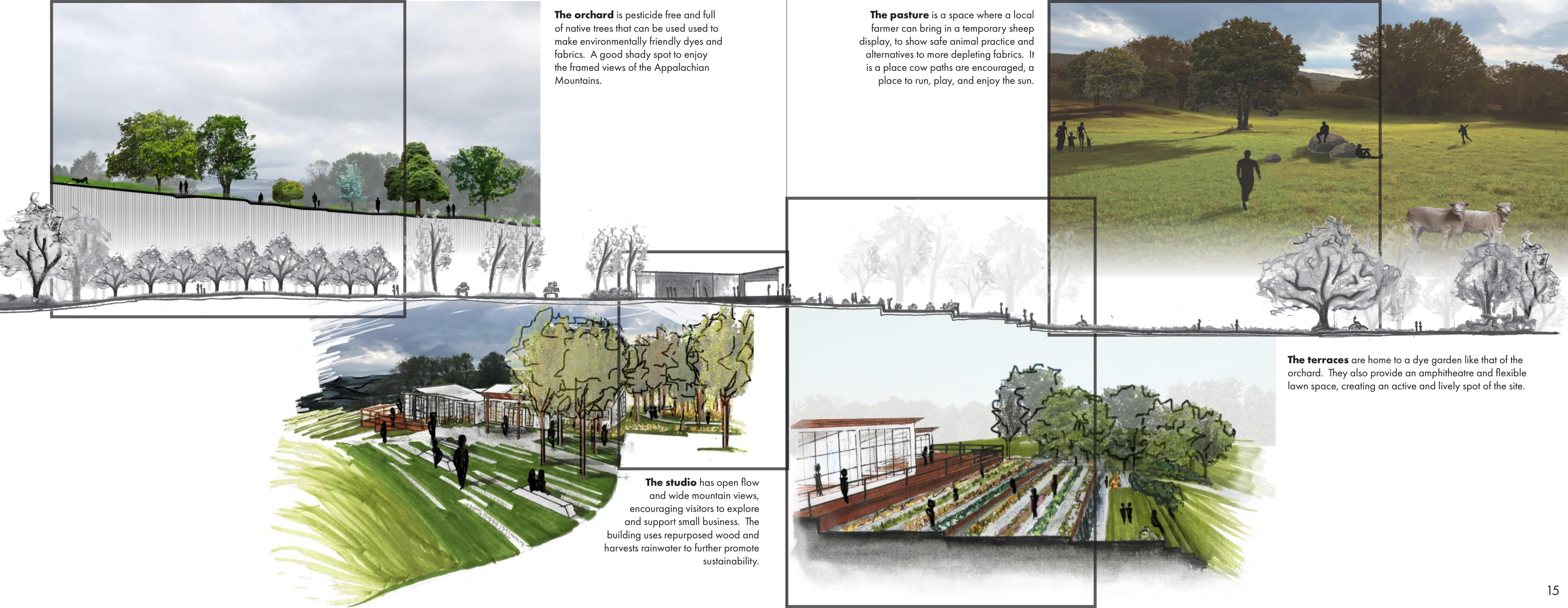


The meadow is a spot to reflect and seek inspiration while wandering through a palette of plants of varying color, form, texture, scent, etc. Here, the senses and mind will come alive.



The Air BNB lodging on site allows for people who aren't interested in fiber art to find Patchwork during their visit to Blacksburg, leaving with an interest in fiber art and changing the textile industry.





The orchard is pesticide free and full of native trees that can be used to make environmentally friendly dyes and fabrics. A good shady spot to enjoy the framed views of the Appalachian Mountains.

The pasture is a space where a local farmer can bring in a temporary sheep display, to show safe animal practice and alternatives to more depleting fabrics. It is a place cow paths are encouraged, a place to run, play, and enjoy the sun.



The studio has open flow and wide mountain views, encouraging visitors to explore and support small business. The building uses repurposed wood and harvests rainwater to further promote sustainability.

The terraces are home to a dye garden like that of the orchard. They also provide an amphitheatre and flexible lawn space, creating an active and lively spot of the site.

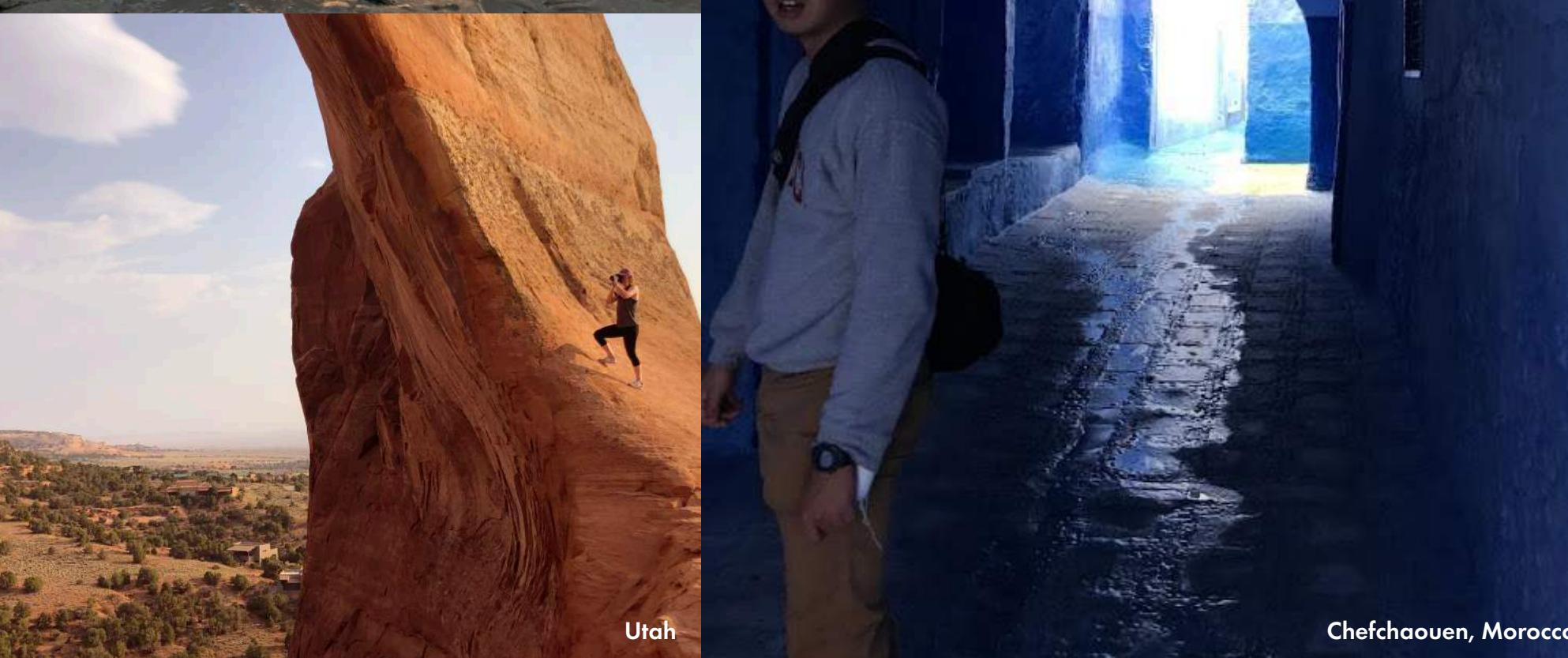
Independent Travel Photos



Las Setas, Sevilla, Spain



Kairo, Zanzibar, Tanzania



Utah

Chefchaouen, Morocco

"Life it is not just a series of calculations and a sum total of statistics, it's about experience, it's about participation, it is something more complex and more interesting than what is obvious."

Daniel Libeskind, Architect



Zapata Falls, Colorado



Sevilla, Spain

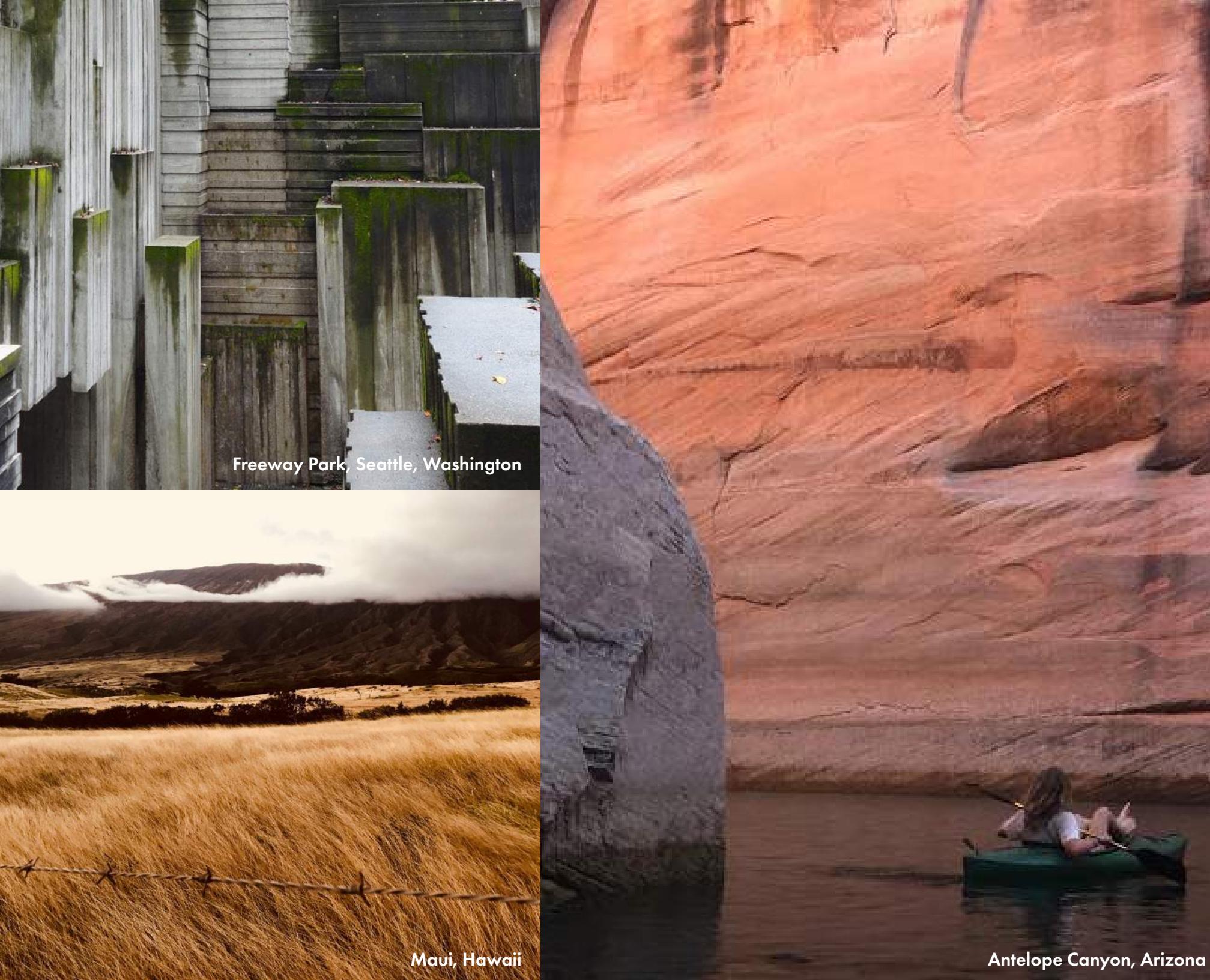


Chicago, Illinois

Travel is the reason I have grown as a designer over the years. I have come to love the unmatched energy, excitement, and culture in cities just as equally as I love the incredible power and awe of the wild. I believe that you cannot observe culture and design through a screen or book, you must be immersed in the environment to fully learn from it and its people. Travel has taught me to adjust to quick and unexpected changes, and find joy and excitement in those moments. Most importantly, observations through my travels have shown me how incredibly important public spaces and nature in every day life are and the extreme responsibility landscape architects yield when creating or touching these spaces. It has made me a more conscious and empathetic designer and will continue to do so.



The Great Sand Dunes, Colorado



Antelope Canyon, Arizona



Freeway Park, Seattle, Washington



Antelope Canyon, Arizona