

THE HABITABLE FURNITURE

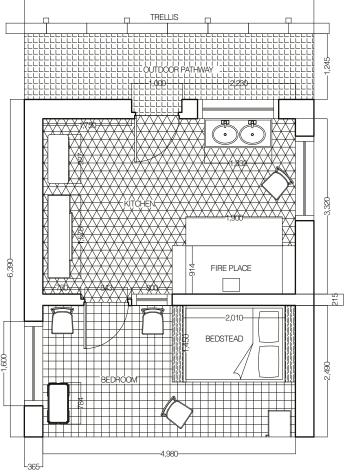
The design of the habitable bedstee apartment originates from a critical analysis of Pieter de Hooch's painting, revealing the potential of the traditional Dutch bedstee—a small, enclosed bed nook—reimagined as a contemporary solution to the current housing crisis and urban spatial shortages. This project, titled "Why Can't We Live Together," proposes a radical rethinking of shared living spaces, centering the bedstee structure as the core component. Constructed using sustainable Cross-Laminated Timber (CLT) within a large hardwood-framed building with a double ceiling height, these bedstees offer modular, flexible, and efficient living units.

Each bedstee unit functions as a self-contained micro-apartment, including a sleeping alcove, compact kitchen, and toilet. The design optimizes space efficiency and privacy while fostering a sense of community through shared spaces and visual connectivity. The double ceiling height allows for vertical integration, enhancing openness and light. Common areas are strategically distributed throughout the building, creating social interaction nodes that promote a sense of belonging among residents. The versatility of the bedstees, which can be customized by occupants, addresses the diverse needs and preferences of modern urban dwellers.

The project's title reflects its central inquiry into urban living and community. By re imagining the traditional bedstee, the design aims to create heavily convivial spaces that balance private and communal living. This strategic spatial configuration ensures intimate connections between private bedstees and communal areas, fostering a harmonious blend of solitude and social interaction. The habitable bedstee apartment design offers an innovative and sustainable housing solution, redefining the concept of home in the modern city and answering the question, "Why Can't We Live Together."

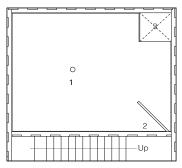
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University of the Creative Arts
2024





Pieter de Hooch's painting "The Bedroom" provides a captivating glimpse into 17th-century domestic life, with a keen focus on the interior architecture and furnishings of a typical Dutch home during that period. The central feature of the composition is undoubtedly the bedstee, a large and substantial piece of furniture that dominates the room. The bedstee, with its grand proportions, serves as a focal point, conveying a sense of comfort, privacy, and security within the domestic setting. The meticulous attention to detail in portraying the bedstee highlights its significance in the daily lives of the occupants, underscoring the importance of rest and repose in the context of the home. The inclusion of interior windows in the painting adds an interesting architectural dimension to the scene. These windows not only facilitate the flow of natural light but also create a sense of spatial depth within the composition. The play of light and shadows through these windows enhances the atmosphere of the room, making it feel warm and inviting. The bedstee led to the developmental design of a new habitable model where comfort, aesthetics, and modern functionality are all included. Following the comprehensive analysis of the apartment blocks, the architectural exploration delves into an intricate study of the painting to develop the foundation for the creation of a highly accurate and descriptive 3 dimensional model at a 1:10 scale. By navigating the intricacies of the de Hooch composition, this project transforms a two dimensional canvas into a tangible and immersive architectural manifestation pushing the boundaries of interpretation and representation.



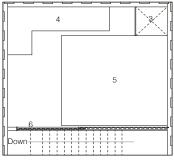


Key

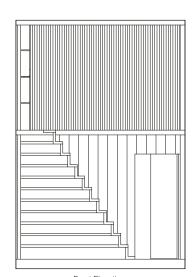
Toilet / Bathroom
 Entrance
 Technical Shaft

4. Storage
5. Sleeping Area
6. Sliding Door

First Level Plan



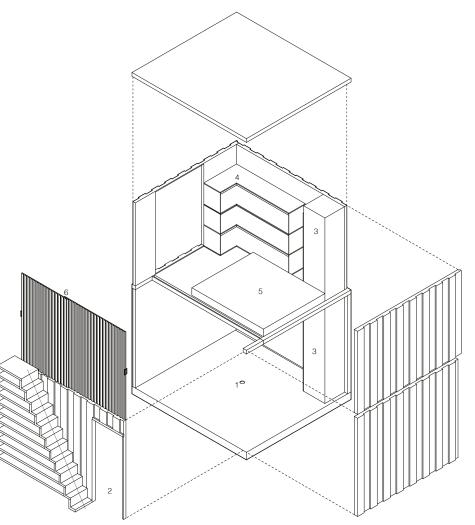
Second Level Plan

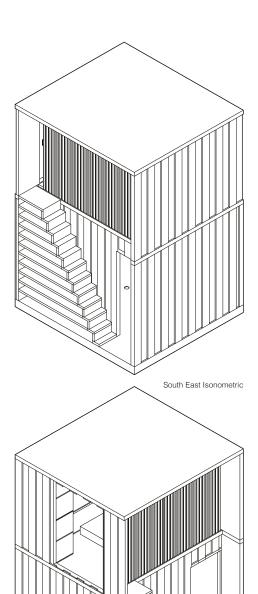


Front Elevation

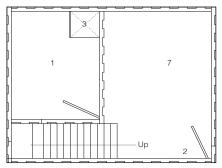
Bedstee Design 1

Introducing a modern two-story bedstee, seamlessly blending elegance with functionality. The ground floor features a black and white tiled bathroom with essential amenities and a discreet technical shaft. Thin wooden stairs lead to the first-floor sleeping alcove with inbuilt closets, thin wooden sliding doors for privacy, and a glass cutout for light. Extra storage or book shelves are cleverly tucked under the stairs, maximizing space and maintaining a minimalist design. This bedstee redefines contemporary living, offering a stylish and efficient solution for a compact, wooden and functional bedroom.

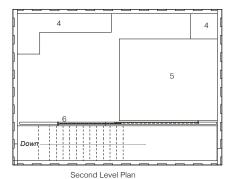


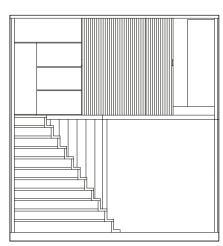


Exploded Isonometric



First Level Plan





Bedstee Design 2

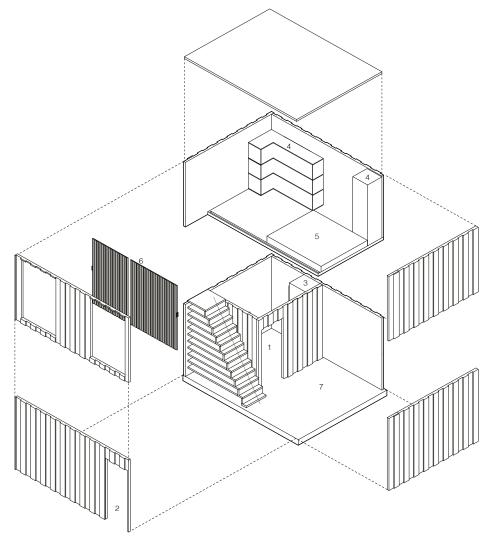
Key

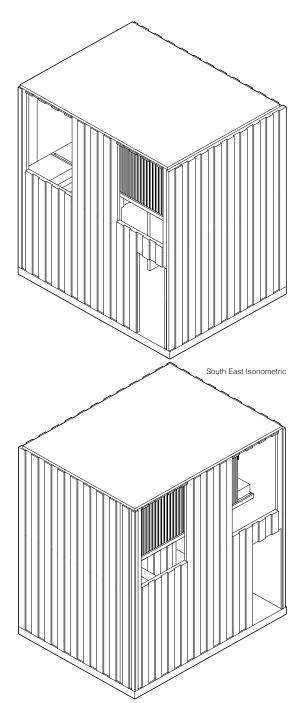
1. Toilet / Bathroom

Technical Shaft
 Storage
 Sleeping Area
 Sliding Door
 Kitchen Space

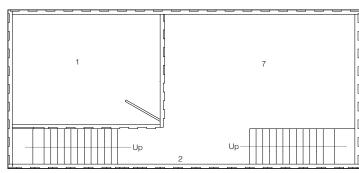
2. Entrance

The ground floor features a black and white tiled bathroom and an open kitchen space with acrylic-designed tiles, providing a versatile cooking area. A set of wooden stairs leads to the first floor, where a sleeping alcove with inbuilt closets is complemented by thin wooden sliding doors that offer warmth, privacy, and multifaceted functionality. Large windows strategically cut into the wooden wall above the stairs create a visual connection with the external environment, enhancing the bedstee's openness. Additional storage beneath the stairs, in the form of bookshelves, maximizes space utilization, contributing to the bedstee's efficiency.

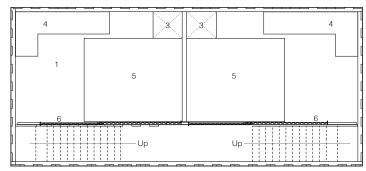




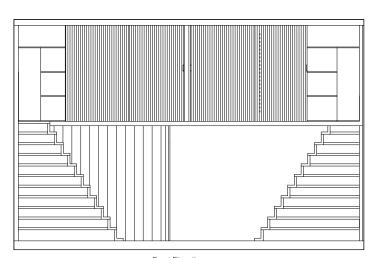
Front Elevation



First Level Plan



Second Level Plan



Front Elevation

Bedstee Design 3

Key

Toilet / Bathroom
 Entrance
 Technical Shaft
 Storage
 Sleeping Area

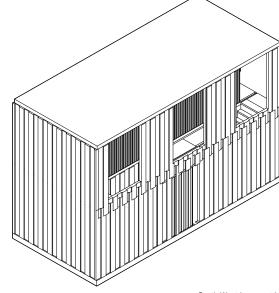
Sliding Door
 Kitchen Space

The two-story modern bedstee design is a carefully crafted architectural solution for shared living, balancing functionality and aesthetics. The ground floor hosts a shared black and white tiled bathroom with a bath, toilet, and sink. Adjacent to the entrance, an open kitchen space is designed for two occupants,

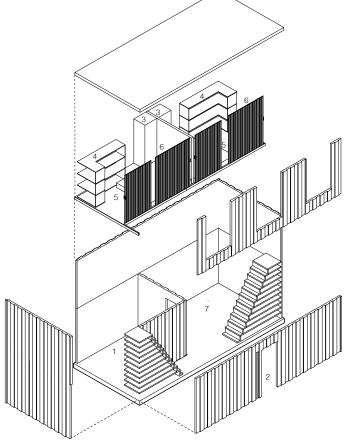
featuring acrylic-designed tiles.

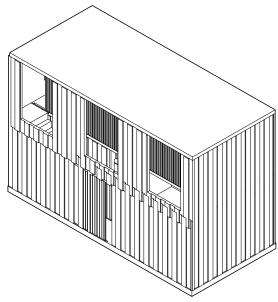
Wooden stairs ascend to the first floor, leading to separate sleeping alcoves on the left and right, each equipped with inbuilt closets or storage space. Thin wooden sliding doors offer versatility, providing warmth, privacy, and more. Large window chunks strategically cut out above the stairs, fitted with glass, allow occupants to enjoy a visual connection with the external surroundings while inside the bedstee.

Extra storage or book shelves under the stairs maximize space utilization. The sleeping alcoves are divided by a wooden wall, ensuring privacy for each occupant. This architectural concept exemplifies a modern, shared living arrangement within a bedstee, where thoughtful design elements enhance the overall experience of the space.

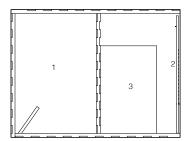


South West Isonometric

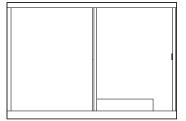




Exploded Isonometric South East Isonometric



Floor Plan



Front Elevation

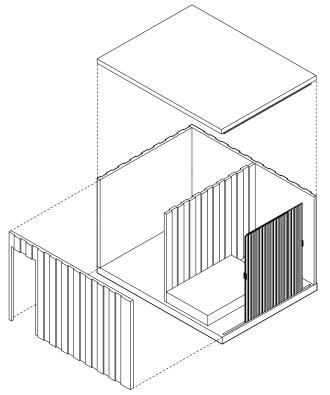
- Toilet / Bathroom
 Sliding Door
 Sleeping Area

Key

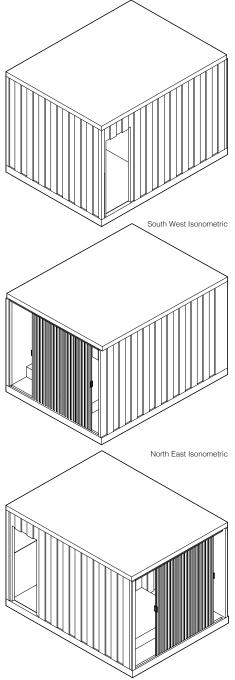
Bedstee Design 4

The bedstee design is an inclusive architectural solution tailored for individuals with limited mobility seeking independ-ent living. It features a black and white tiled bathroom equipped with a bath, toilet, and sink, designed to be wheelchair accessible. The sleeping alcove is strategically arranged to allow ample space for wheelchair users to navigate and access the bed with ease. The bed itself is slightly raised, facilitating straightforward entry and exit for individuals.

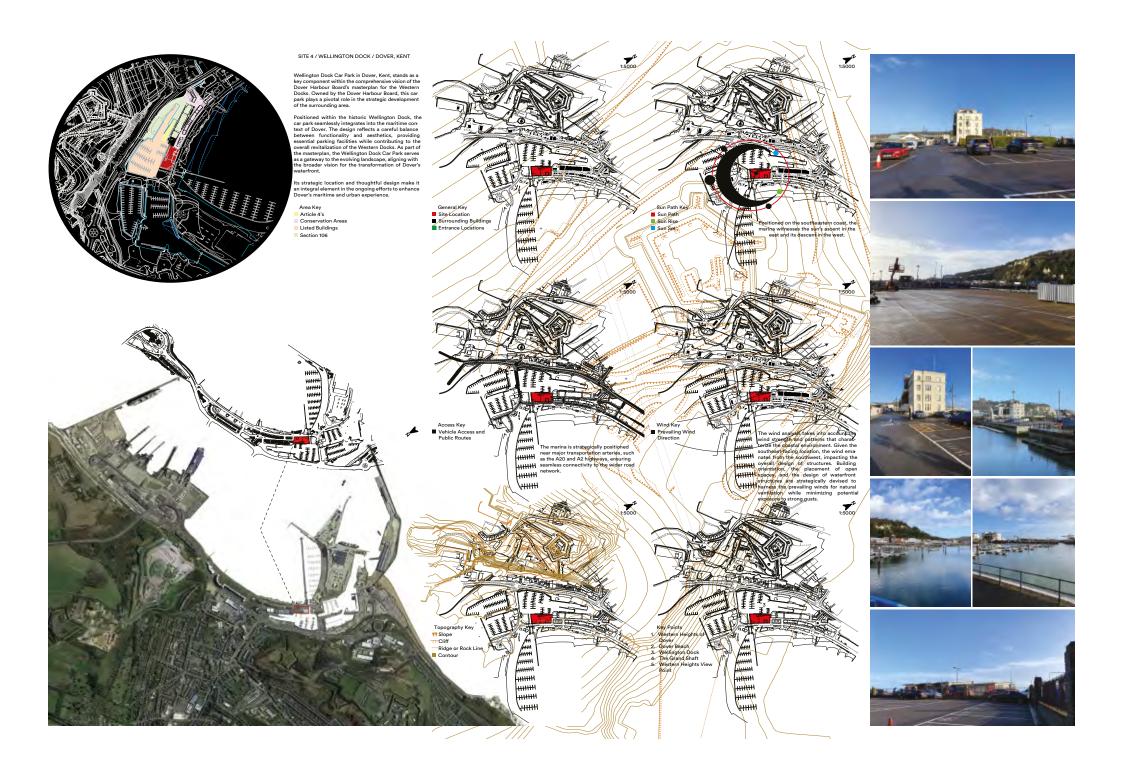
Thin wooden sliding doors offer privacy and warmth to the occupant, ensuring a comfortable living environment. The bedstee is set within a room, occupying a significant portion of the space, and is complemented by other essential furniture such as closets and tables arranged outside its design. This arrangement maximizes functionality and accessibility, creating a living space that enables independent living for those with mobility limitations.

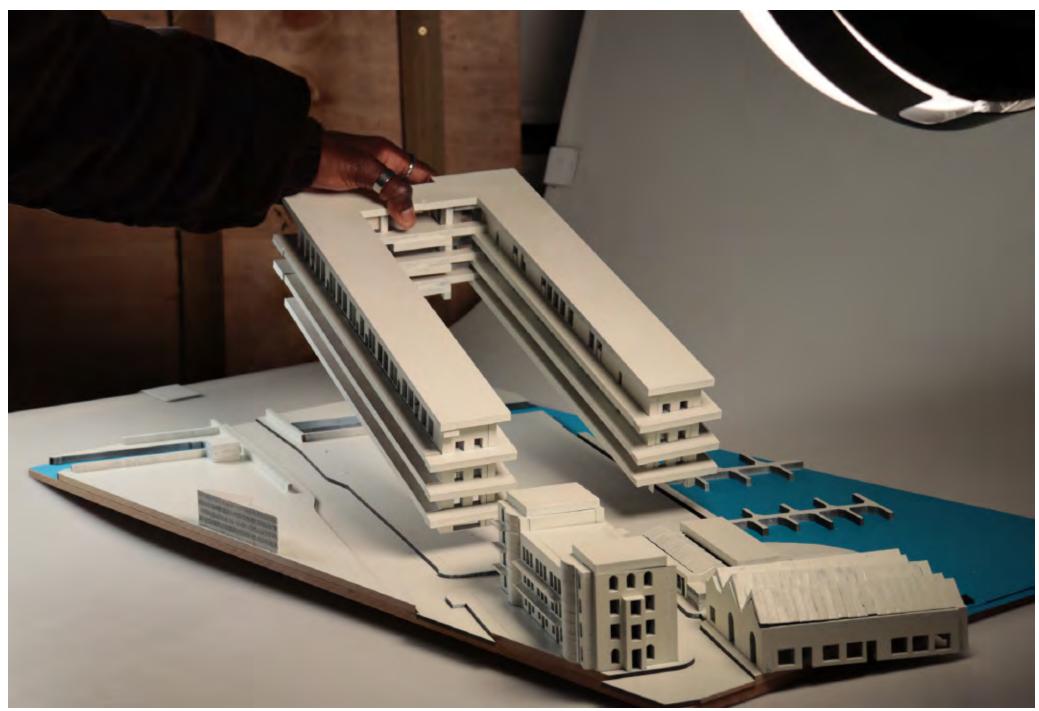




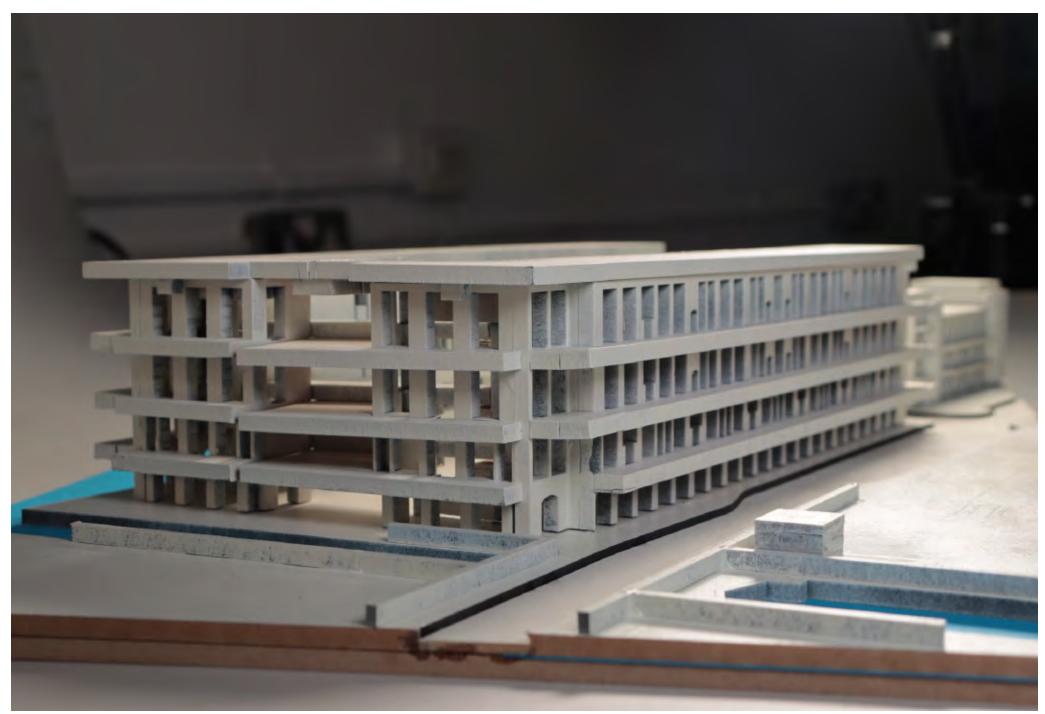


South East Isonometric

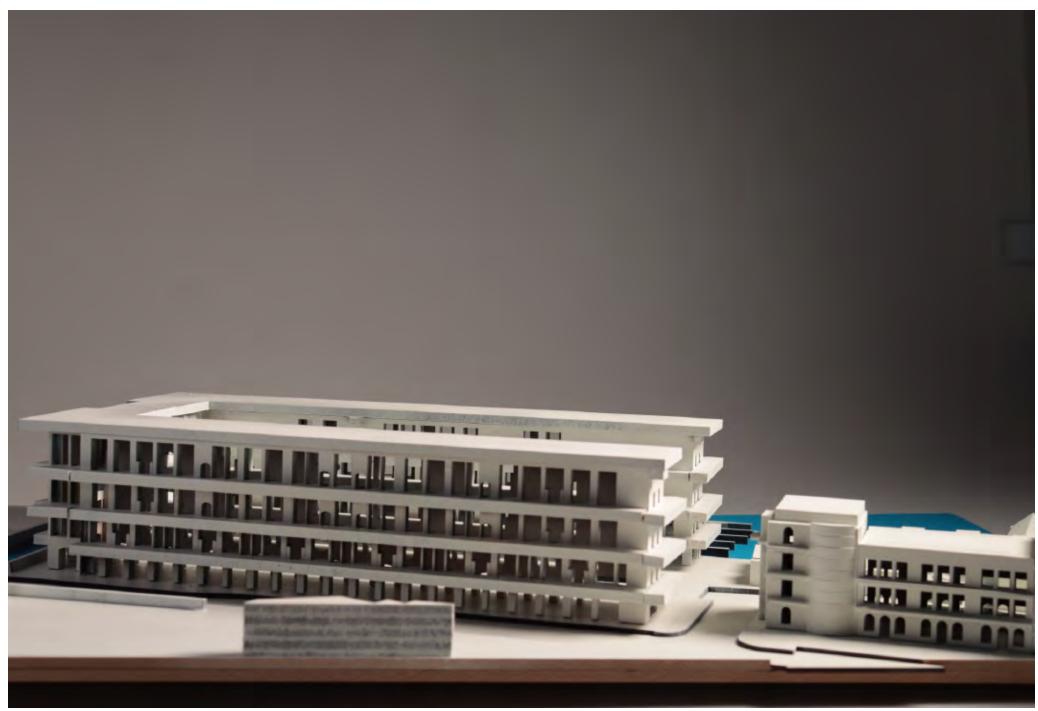




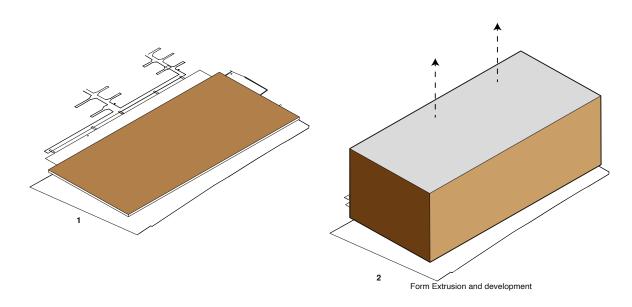
Site Model 1:250

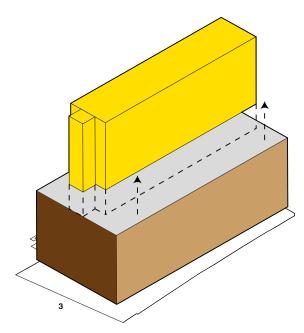


Site Model 1:250

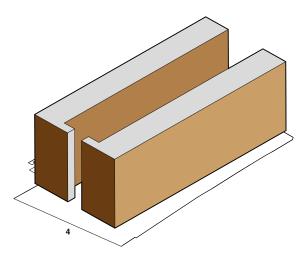


Site Model 1:250

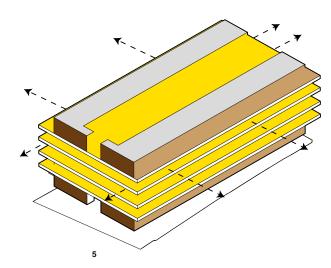




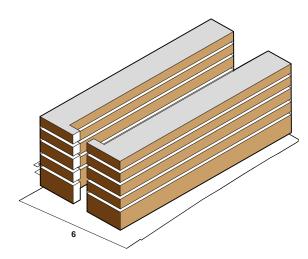
Creation of the centered outdoor space and removal of unwanted building form



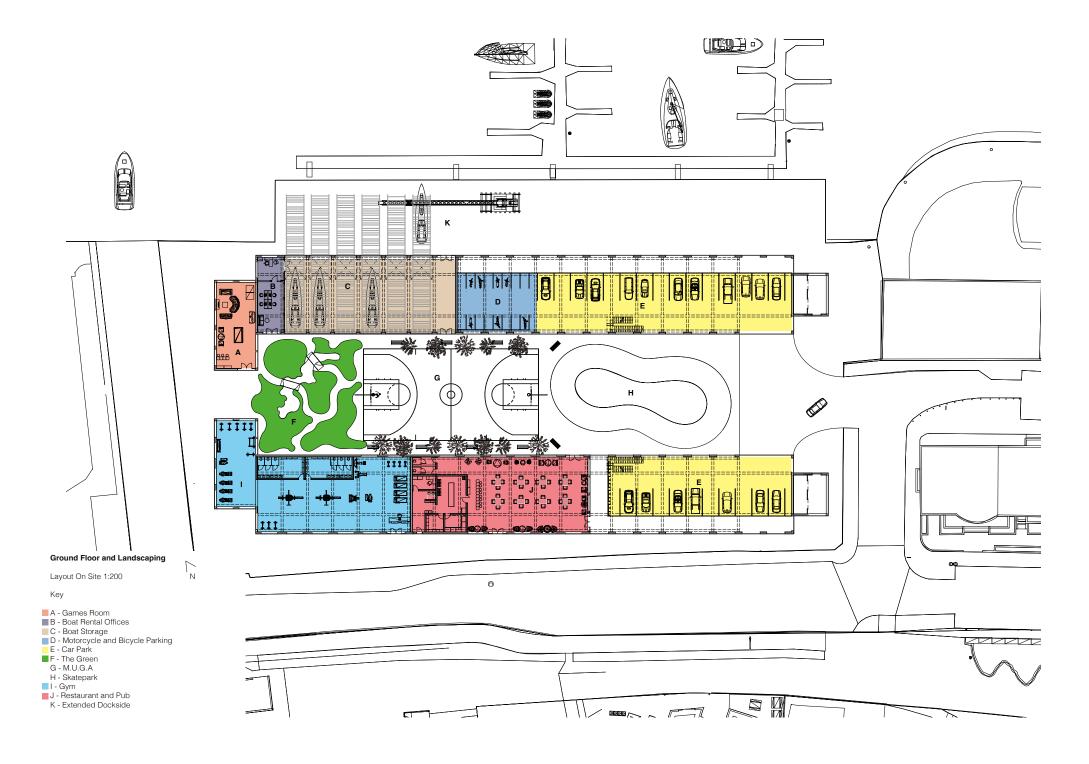
Building Shape Development



Division of spaces and creation of individual spaces



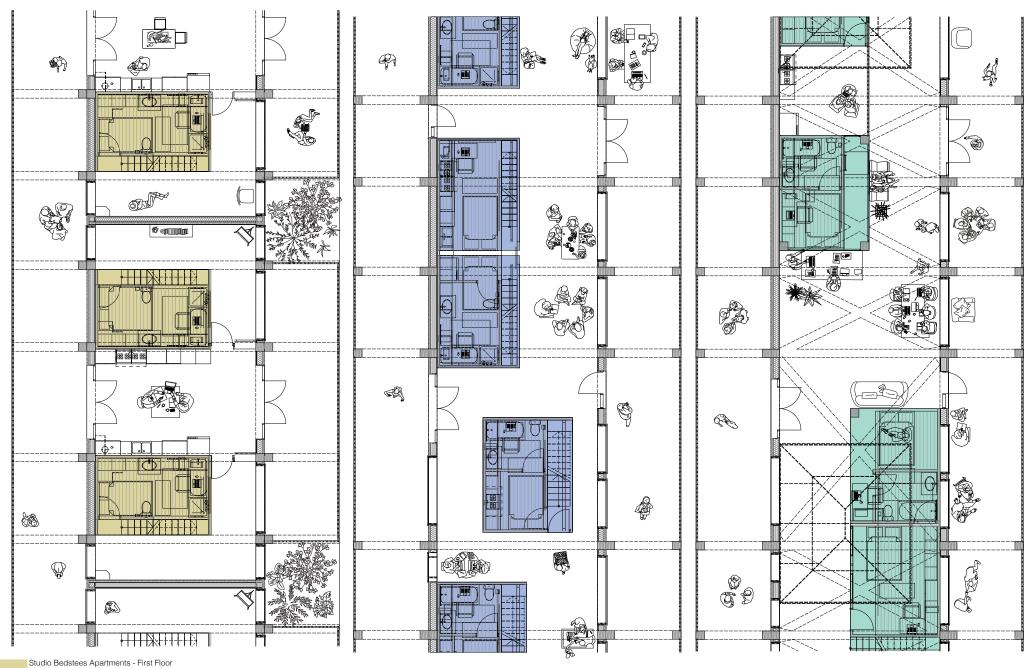
Building Integration -The Habitable Furniture Development











Private Habitable Furniture Bedstees - Second Floor
Shared Habitable Furniture Bedstees - Third Floor





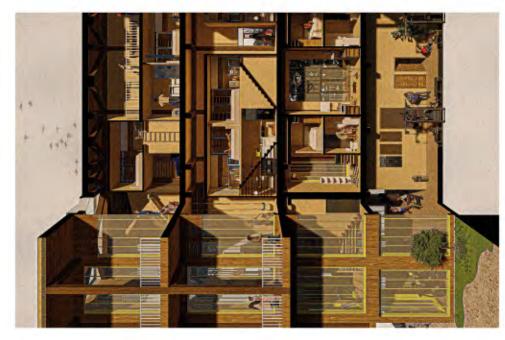
Section Perspective



Section Perspective





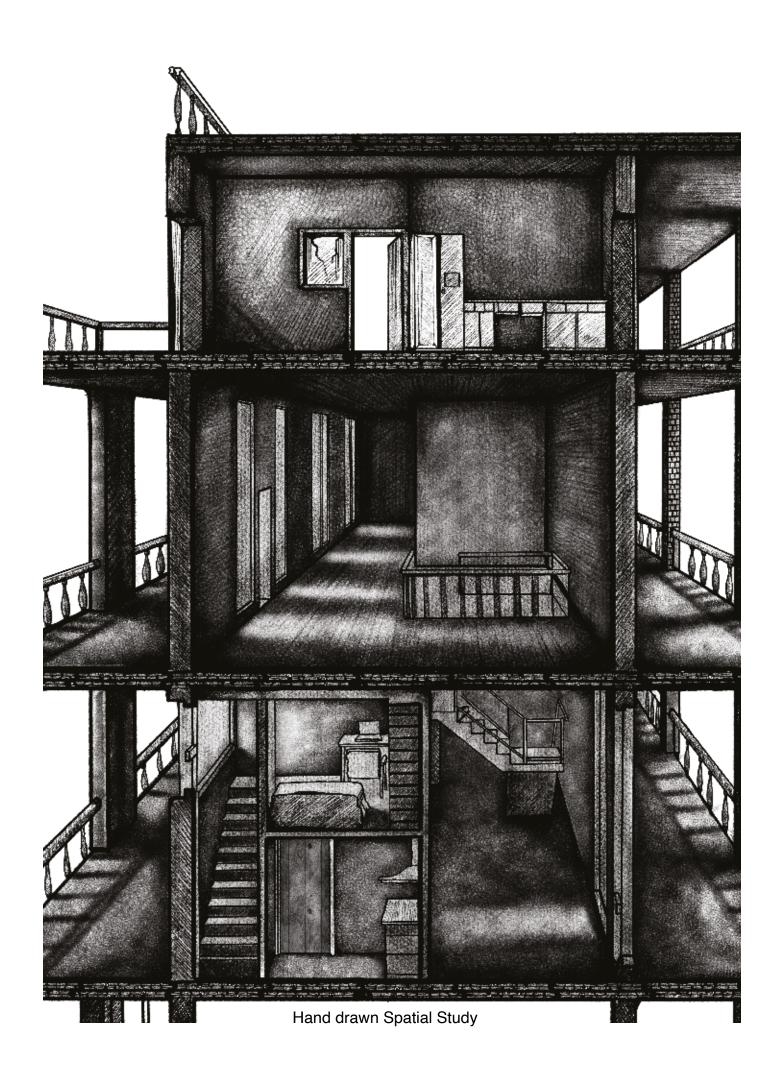




Front Elevation





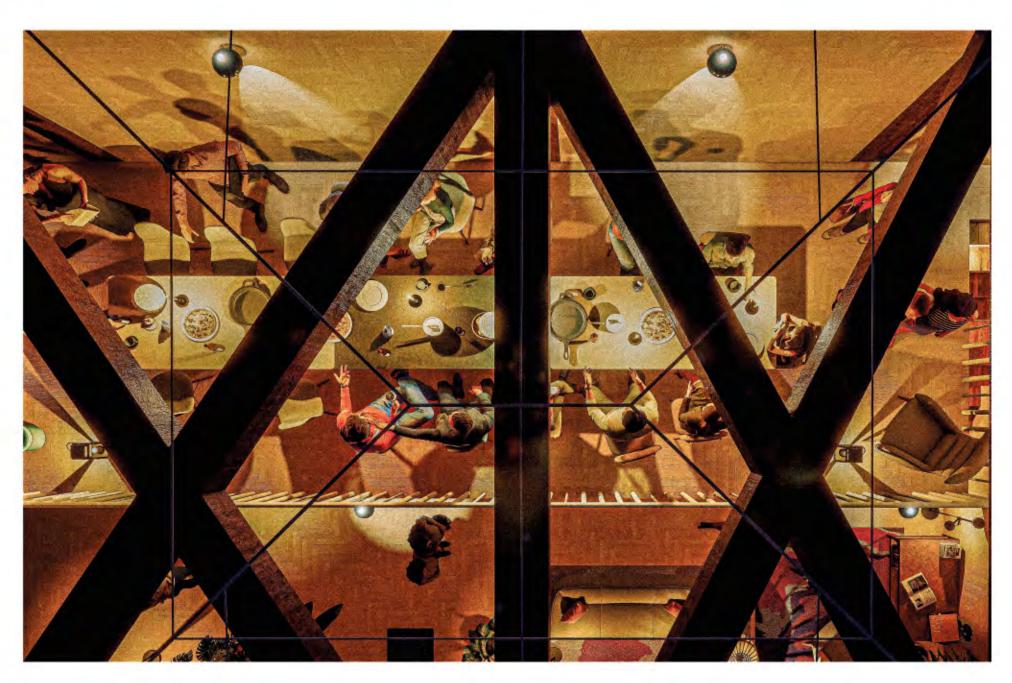




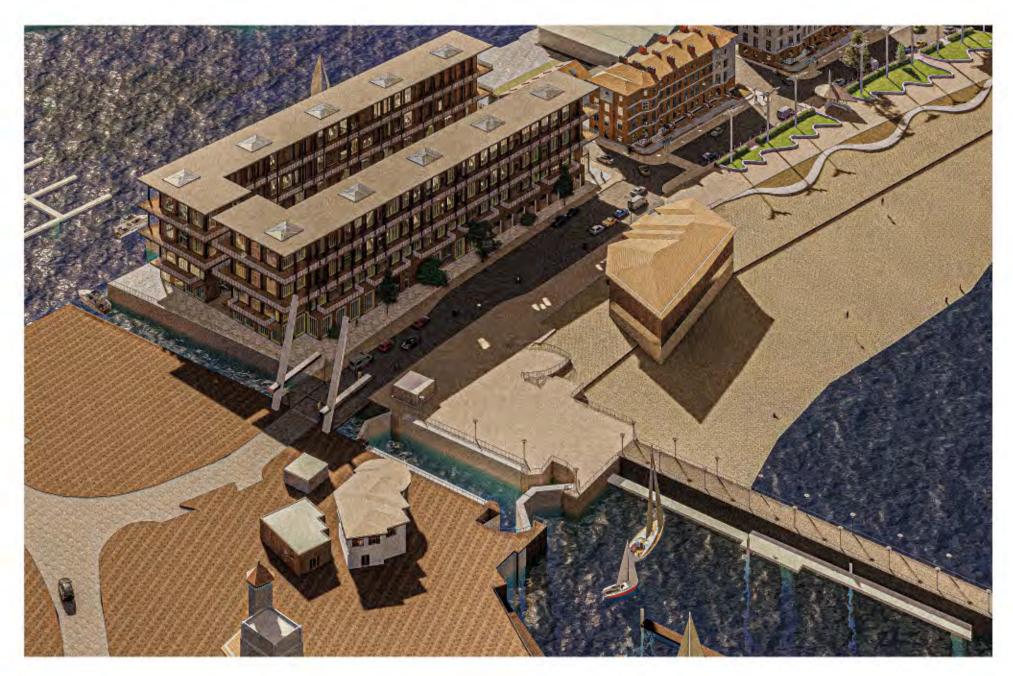
Bedtsee Studio View



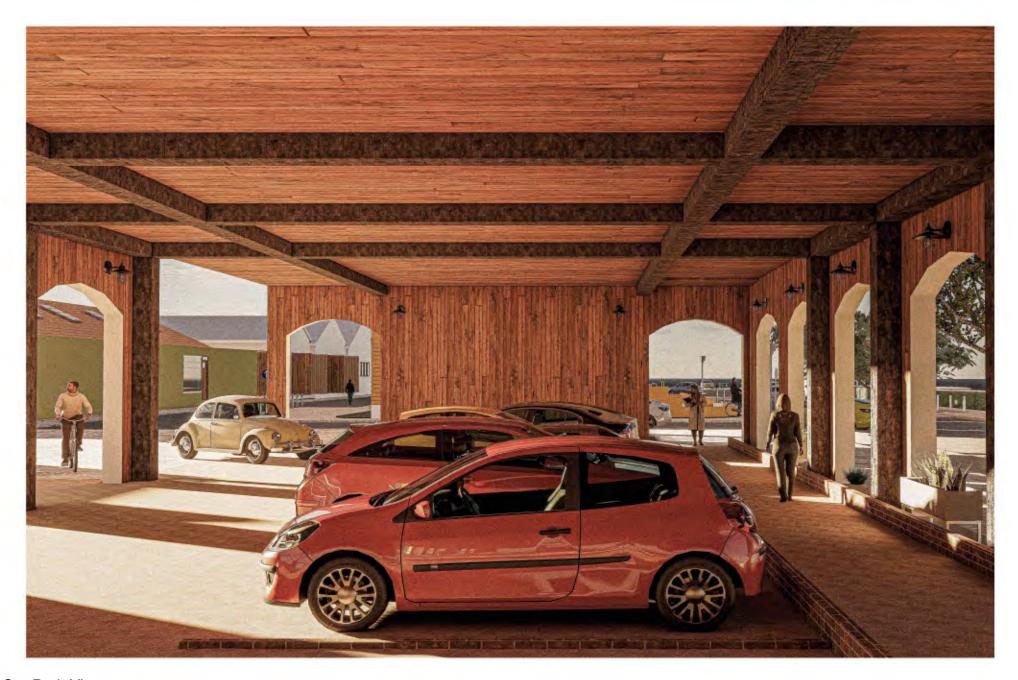
Why Can't We Live Together



Convivial Living View



Isometric View



Car Park View



Centred Garden Space View



Multi Use Games Area



Street View

