Amilee Sharon Brotodihardjo

PATCH & POUR

Repair. Reuse. Reconnect.

Patch & Pour is a repair cafe rooted in care: for people, for objects, and for the environment.

Located in Hulme, Manchester, a neighbourhood shaped by gentrification and changing demographics, it aims to reconnect communities through shared, sustainable practices. By encouraging habits like repairing, repurposing, and skill-sharing, the project offers a gentle resistance to throwaway culture and the rising environmental cost of consumption. It directly addresses issues of climate change and resource depletion by extending the lifespan of everyday items and reducing the need for energy-intensive manufacturing.

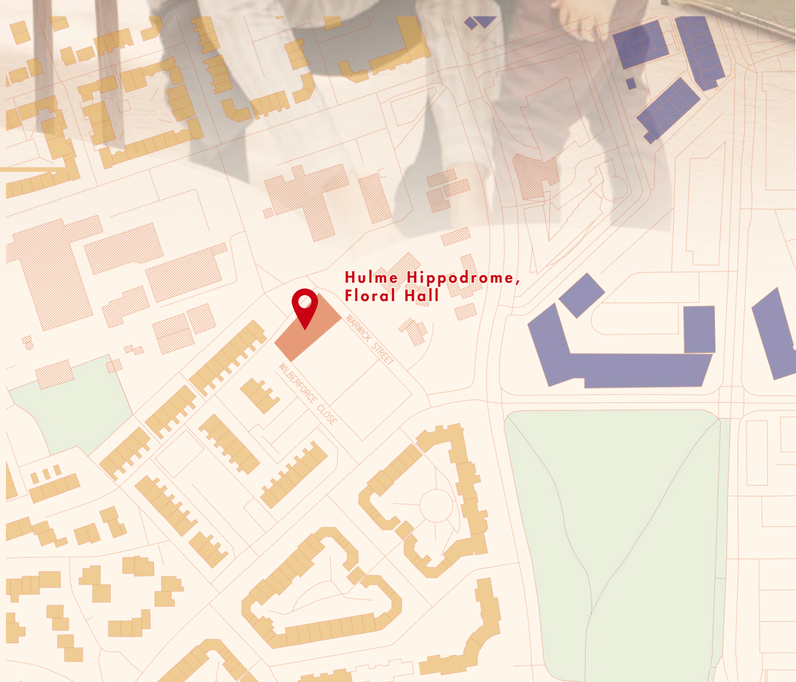
Its purpose is simple: to make low-impact living feel accessible, communal, and empowering. Guided by the belief that people and planet are inseparable, Patch & Pour supports ways of living within Earth's natural limits and fosters resilience not just in the things we fix, but in the relationships we rebuild.

THE LOCATION

Set within the historic Hulme Hippodrome, Patch & Pour is grounded in a site rich with cultural memory, yet at risk of being forgotten. As the surrounding area undergoes ***rapid redevelopment***, this once-vibrant venue stands as a symbol of both neglect and potential.

By choosing to ***repurpose rather than replace,*** the project ***resists the cycle of demolition and high-carbon new builds.*** Instead, it reactivates an existing structure through ***low-impact means***, honouring the past while addressing today's climate realities.

The central location allows Patch & Pour to become a ***hyper-local resource***, bridging the gap between long-time residents and newer populations. It's not just about saving the building, it's about reviving the role of place in shaping ***sustainable, inclusive communities***.



- **Residential Buildings**
- **Community & Shared Ammenities**
- **University Facilities**
- **Green/Open Spaces**

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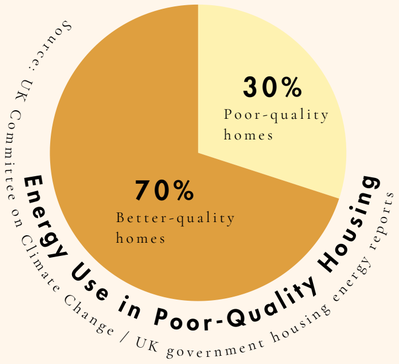
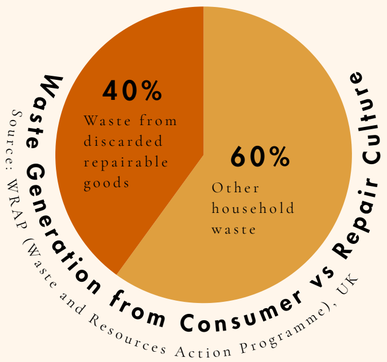


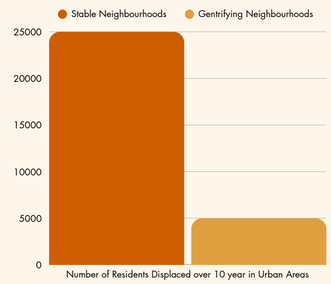
Poor-quality homes (e.g., poorly insulated) account for 30% of UK residential energy use.

While, well-insulated homes account for 70% of energy use but are more efficient per household.



40% of household waste comes from discarded goods that could be repaired or reused.

While, 60% of waste comes from unavoidable sources or items that are difficult to repair.



Impact of Gentrification on Displacement

Source: Studies from Joseph Rowntree Foundation or UK housing inequality reports

Community-Led Energy Savings

Source: National Energy Foundation or UK community energy initiatives reports

You can't separate people from the planet. True sustainability supports both environmental health and social wellbeing because how we live together shapes how we live on Earth.

Environmental and social challenges are closely linked with poor housing quality that not only drives up emissions but also weakens the community's ability to live sustainably. At the same time, wider changes like gentrification and rising energy prices are putting pressure on the low-impact lifestyles that many Hulme residents rely on.

To understand the full picture, it's important to look at how housing conditions, social change, and climate impacts all interact to shape everyday life in the area.

Demolition & Poor-Quality Housing

In Hulme, poor-quality housing and inefficient infrastructure contribute directly to higher energy consumption.

This increases greenhouse gas emissions, exacerbating climate change while also driving up energy costs.

As a result, residents experiencing fuel poverty often turn to harmful, inefficient heating methods that pose risks to both human health and environmental sustainability.

Gentrification & the High Consumption Lifestyle

Gentrification and urban change are dismantling community-led practices such as communal gardening, tool sharing, and repair initiatives.

These grassroots efforts have historically minimized waste, reduced material consumption, and fostered a culture of sustainability.

Their erosion leads to increased demand for new goods, accelerated resource depletion, and higher carbon emissions from production and disposal cycles.

Rising Energy Costs due to Climate Change

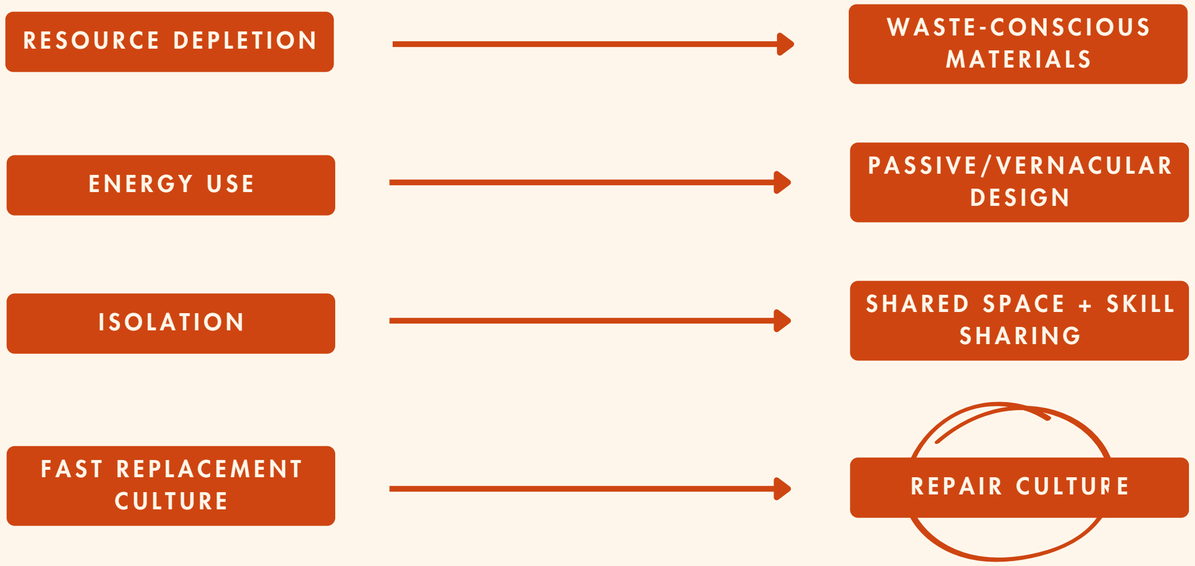
Communities like Hulme face heightened vulnerability to the effects of climate change, including heatwaves and rising energy costs.

Strengthening local resilience through shared sustainability projects, like energy-saving programs or emergency resource planning, not only reduces reliance on overstretched systems but also empowers residents to adapt collectively and sustainably.

This connection between people and the planet is especially clear in Hulme, where community resilience has long shaped the area. However, recent waves of gentrification have disrupted local networks, displaced long-time residents, and replaced low-impact habits with higher-consumption lifestyles.

As these changes happen, a quieter form of environmental damage takes place. Knowledge about repairing, sharing, and making do is lost, and everyday waste increases. These community-led practices represent low-impact climate action that can be scaled up and copied in other places.

The climate emergency is not just a sudden event; it is built into the way neighborhoods change and who gets left behind. When gentrification occurs, it is not only homes that are lost, but also inclusive, local, and low-carbon ways of living. These ways of living are exactly the solutions communities need to stay within Earth's limits.



Conceptual Collage

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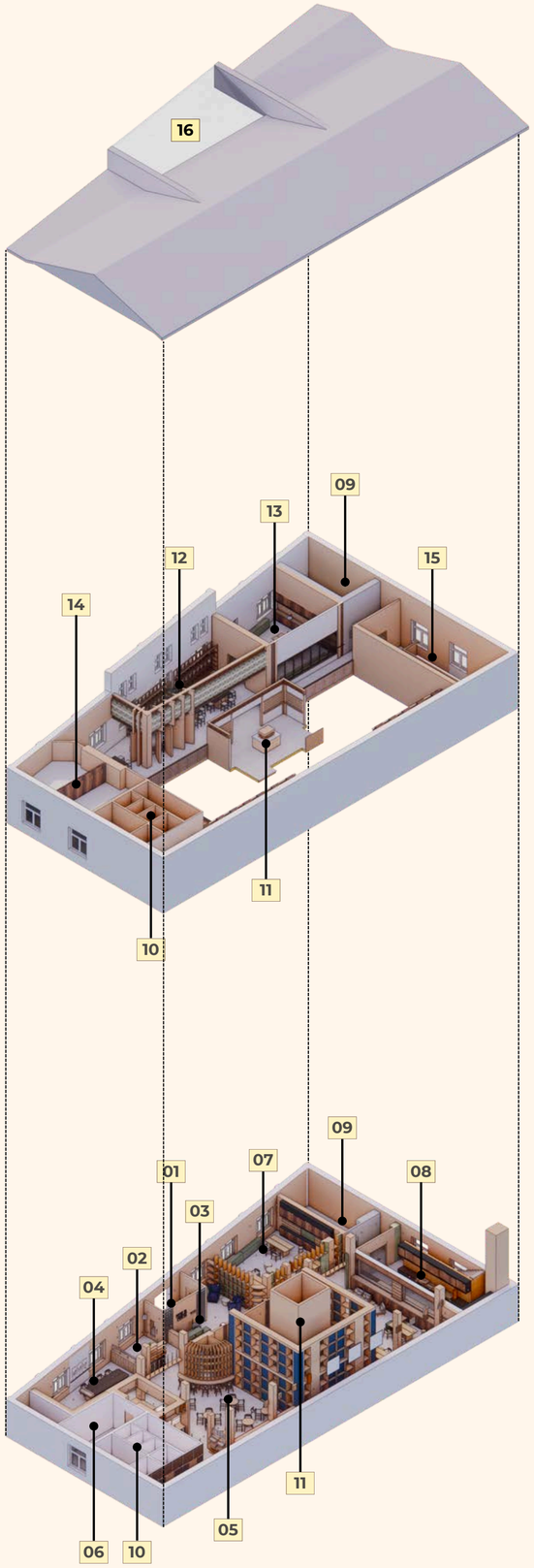


THE FACILITIES

Mini Lobby

Completed with glass blocks that improve thermal performance

A Repair Cart

To pick up a few items to do your own repairs

The Reception

Modular and Simple

Bonding Bar Seating

Bonding Bar

A space for stories, not just sips.

Bakery

The Fix-It Point

Where broken items are mended with care

The Repair Atelier

For larger repairs that need more attention

Emergency/Fire Staircase

Unisex Toilets

Revival Shelf

Where repaired items find new meaning, and personal stories are recollected

Open Workshop

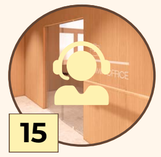
A hands-on space for learning, making,

Private Workshop 1

Flexible spaces that can be used for different needs

Private Workshop 2 & 3

Flexible spaces that can be used for different needs



Staff Office

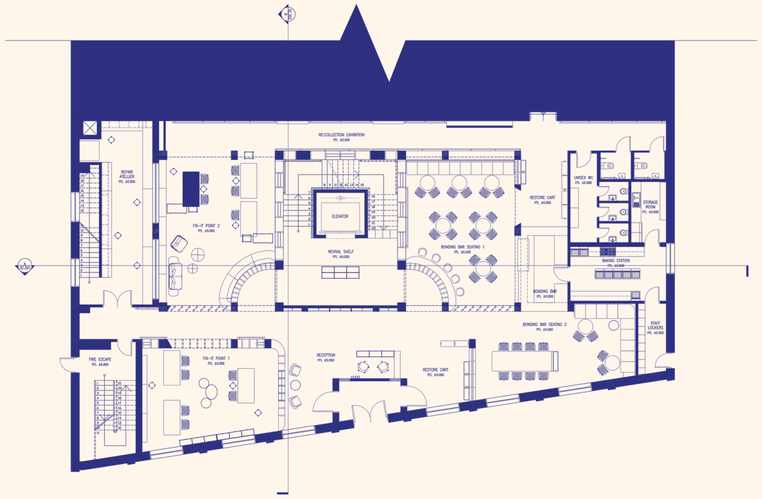
The backbone of Patch & Pour

Central Skylight

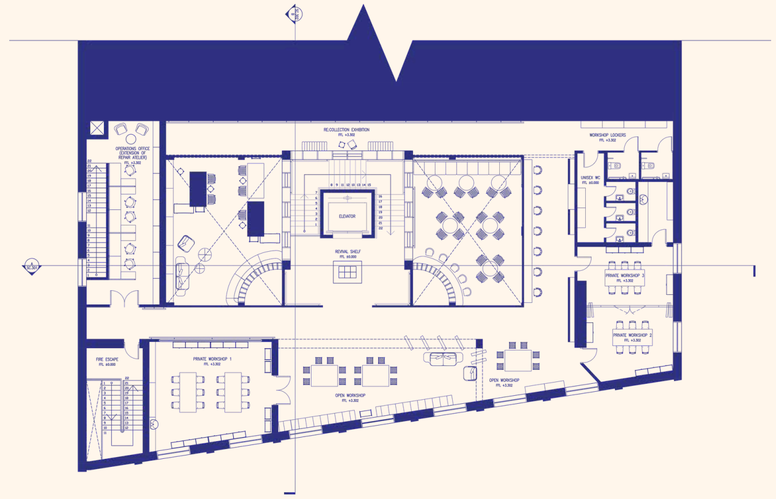
SPATIAL LAYOUT

At Patch & Pour, spatial design becomes an act of climate care. The open-plan layout encourages natural air circulation, reducing the need for energy-intensive ventilation while mirroring the movement of people, ideas, and shared skills. The space isn't just built to be used, it's designed to keep people comfortable while using less energy.

These strategies work with and not against, the environment. By using natural airflow, sunlight, and selective intervention, the space stays bright, breathable, and low-impact, proving that climate resilience can be simple, adaptable, and built into everyday experiences.



GROUND FLOOR GENERAL ARRANGEMENT PLAN
Not to Scale



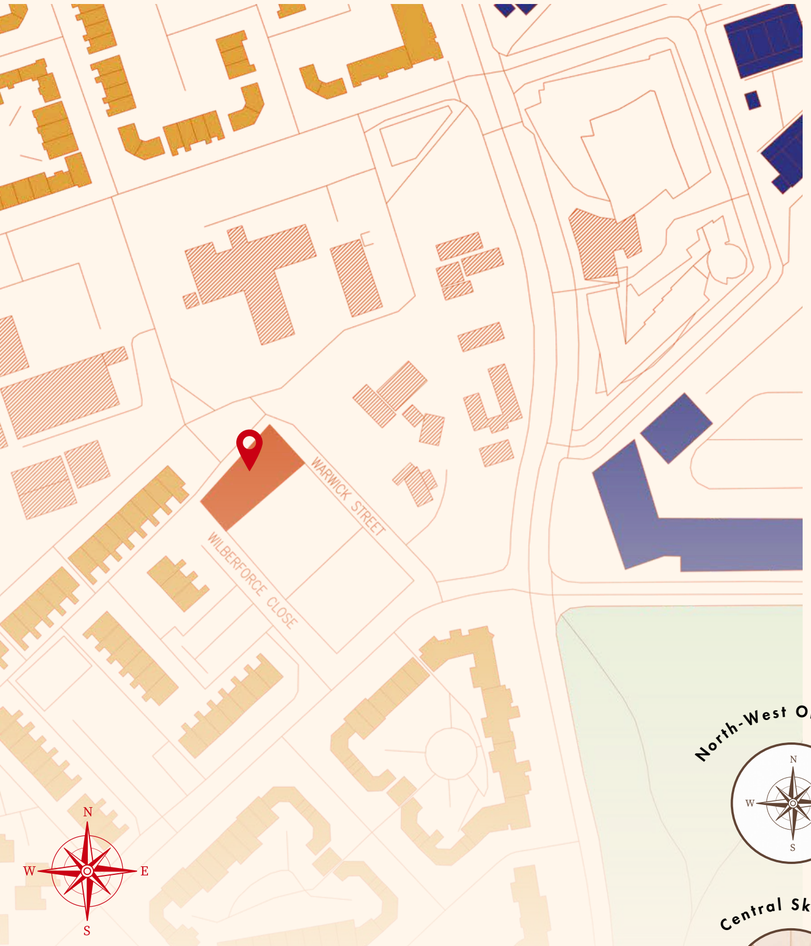
GROUND FLOOR GENERAL ARRANGEMENT PLAN
Not to Scale

SECTION A | Not to Scale

SECTION B | Not to Scale

THE LIGHTING

Set on a north-west facing site, the space makes use of soft, indirect afternoon light while avoiding excessive heat gain. A central skylight pulls daylight into the core, reducing the need for artificial lighting during the day. In areas where lighting is needed, like the main double-height void and the ground floor, energy-efficient COB LED spotlights provide targeted, low-energy illumination without over-lighting the space.



THE MATERIALITY

Material choices prioritise reuse, locality, and longevity, forming the foundation of a low-impact and resilient design approach. Terrazzo crafted from demolition waste sourced on-site reduces landfill contributions and the need for virgin materials. FSC-certified wood veneer supports sustainable forestry and ensures renewable resource use. Eco-friendly, air-purifying paints enhance indoor environmental quality without harmful chemicals, while glass blocks improve daylighting and thermal performance, lowering energy consumption.

Together, these materials reduce embodied carbon, minimise waste, and demonstrate how thoughtful selection can align construction with the Earth's natural limits.

01 Locally Sourced FSC Certified Satin Walnut Wood Veneer

02 Locally Sourced FSC Certified Natural Oak Wood Veneer

03 Recycled Polyester Upholstery (FR)

04 Terrazzo Tiles Made from Recycled and Waste Marble Materials

05 Low-VOC Eco-Friendly Purifying Paint

06 Terrazzo Tiles Made from Recycled and Waste Marble Materials

07 Navy Acoustic Paneling

08 Terrazzo Floor Tiles incorporating Demolition Waste from Site

09 Terrazzo Floor Tiles incorporating Demolition Waste from Site

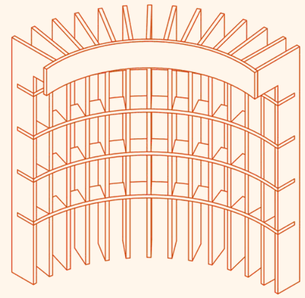
10 Glass Blocks that improve Thermal Performance

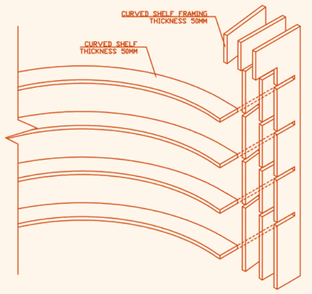
THE JOINERY

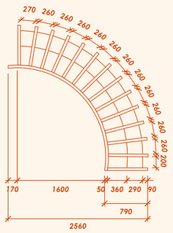
Using traditional carpentry joints reduces reliance on metal fasteners and adhesives, materials that typically involve energy-intensive production and can complicate recycling or repair. These joints are designed to fit together precisely, creating strong, stable connections without the need for additional chemical or metal components.

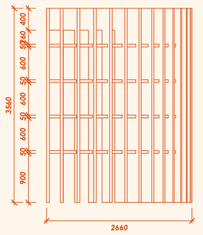
Because they can be easily disassembled, this method supports ongoing maintenance and repair, allowing parts to be replaced or adjusted without damaging the surrounding structure.

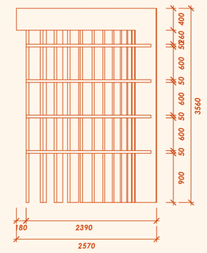
This flexibility not only extends the lifespan of the building but also minimises construction waste over time. By valuing craftsmanship and adaptability, this approach promotes a more circular use of materials and resources, embodying a practical and thoughtful response to sustainable design challenges.











SECTION B LIGHTING DIAGRAM | Not to Scale

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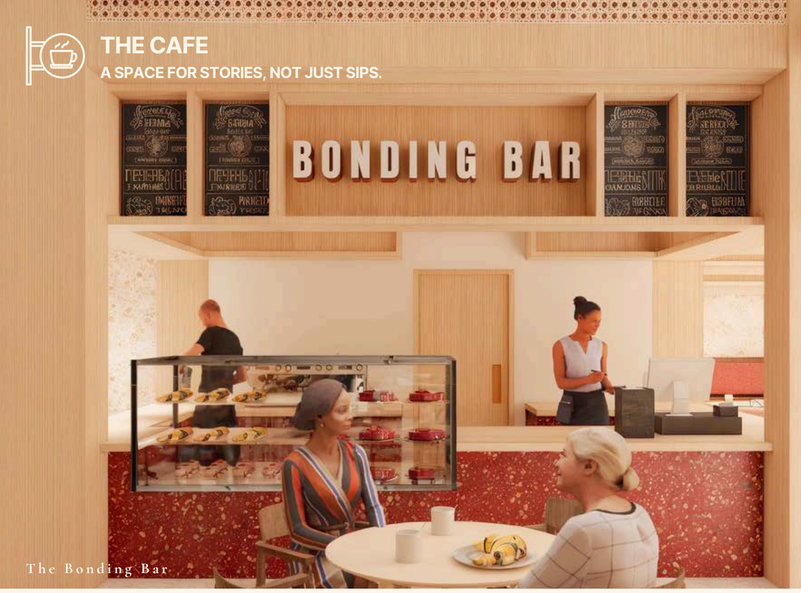
THE CAFE

A SPACE FOR STORIES, NOT JUST SIPS.

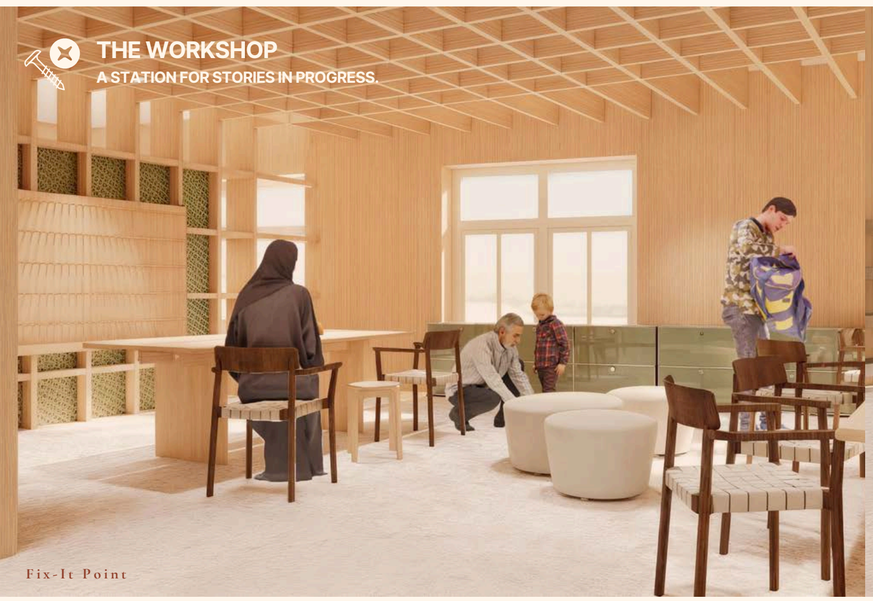


The Bonding Bar

The Bonding Bar

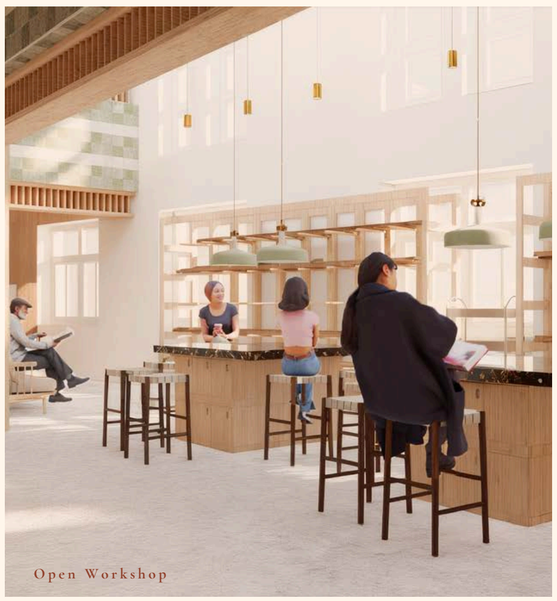
THE WORKSHOP

A STATION FOR STORIES IN PROGRESS.



Fix-It Point

Private/Closed Workshop

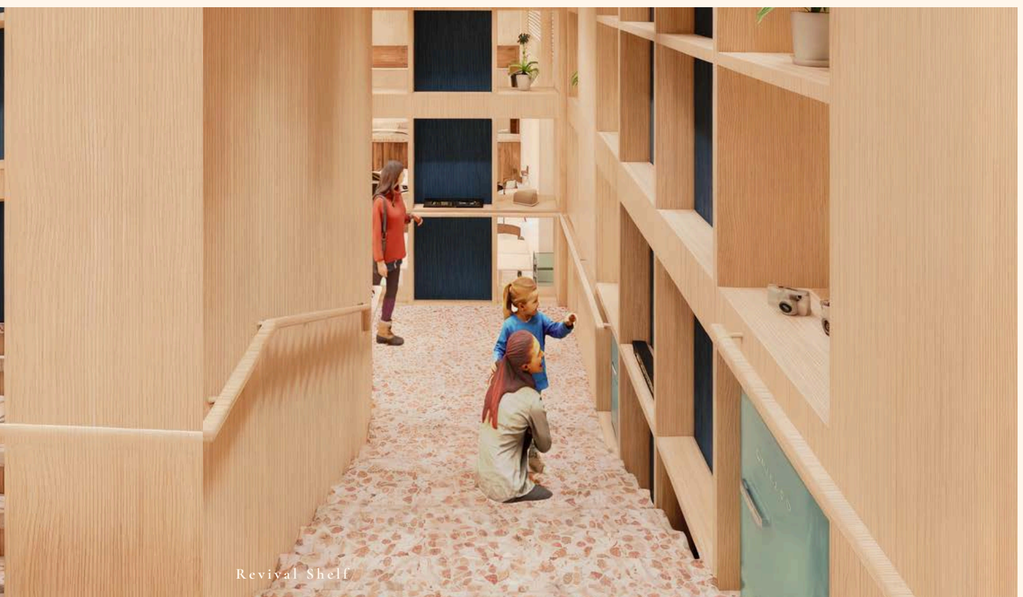


Open Workshop

THE EXPERIENCE

A SHELF OF SECOND CHANCES.

Revival Shelf



Revival Shelf

WITH PATCH & POUR

Item is used

Item breaks or becomes unusable

Item taken to Fixers at Patch & Pour

Item repaired and placed on Revival Shelf

Item returned back to owner

WITHOUT PATCH & POUR

Item is used

Item breaks or becomes unusable

Owner discards item

Item goes to bin/landfill