

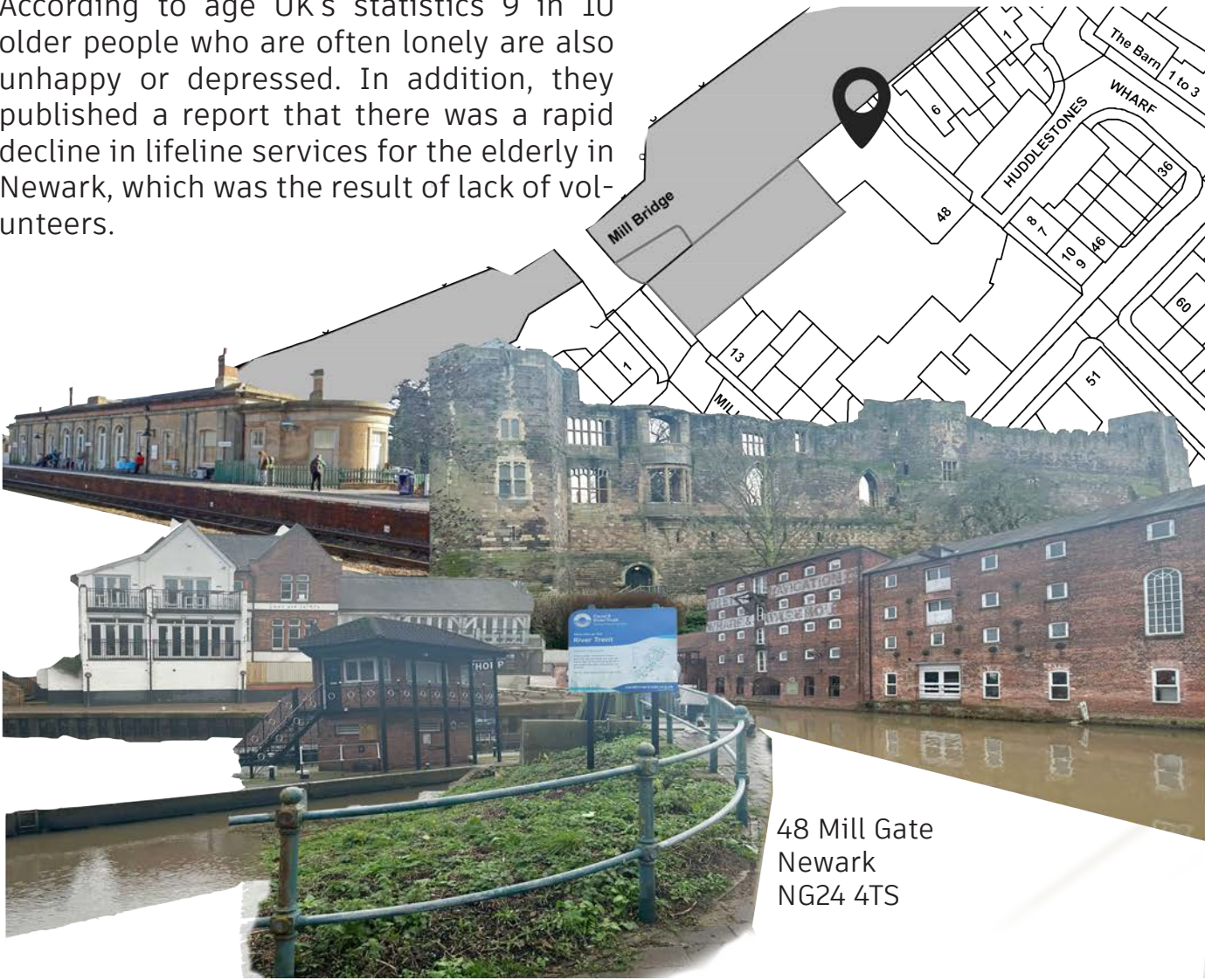


This library is a vibrant hub for all generations, built on the timeless value of honouring our elders as a source of wisdom. It's more than just a place to read, it's a space where stories can be shared, connections are made, and loneliness is replaced with purpose. Here, elders find fulfilment by sharing their experiences and life skills with younger generations, creating a legacy of knowledge that bridges age gaps.

With inviting communal areas that spark natural conversations cozy reading nooks for storytelling, private rooms for focus and an open crafts room, this library is designed to bring people together. Elders contribute by writing recipe guides, diary entries and personal anecdotes to curate the library's resource collection.



According to age UK's statistics 9 in 10 older people who are often lonely are also unhappy or depressed. In addition, they published a report that there was a rapid decline in lifeline services for the elderly in Newark, which was the result of lack of volunteers.



Exterior Elevation

Age UK held a survey of 1000gp practices which found that 90% felt that some [patients were coming because they were lonely. Funding cuts meant that services including meals on wheels and day centres have declined. Research into loneliness can be linked to feeling a sense of lacking purpose, which can come from the ability to provide for/ help others. In Nottinghamshire, it is estimated that 10-20,000 are at risk of chronic loneliness. When researching into countries with significantly lower statistics of loneliness, a common denominator was multigenerational living. Where three or more generations live together and elderly are respected as pillars of wisdom in their community. My proposal for this library space is to create space for multi-generational activities by working with Age Uk Newark and local primary schools. Inspiration for including our youngest members of society came from Channel 4's Tv Show "Old People's home for 4-year-olds". These activities foster intergenerational connections and significantly improves both the well-being of elderly and development of young children.



Ground Floor Communal Space

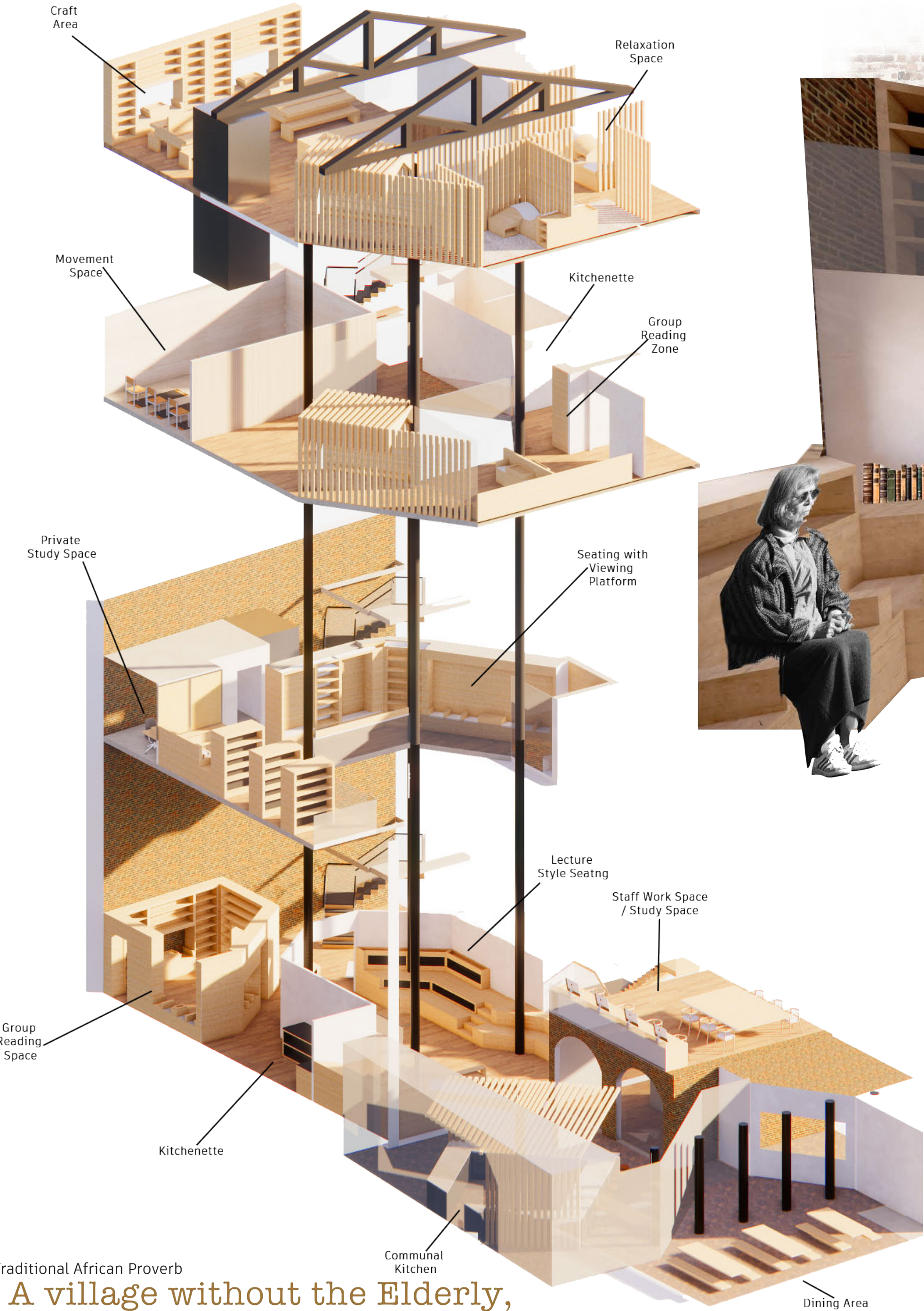


Relaxation Area on Second Floor



Group Reading Area

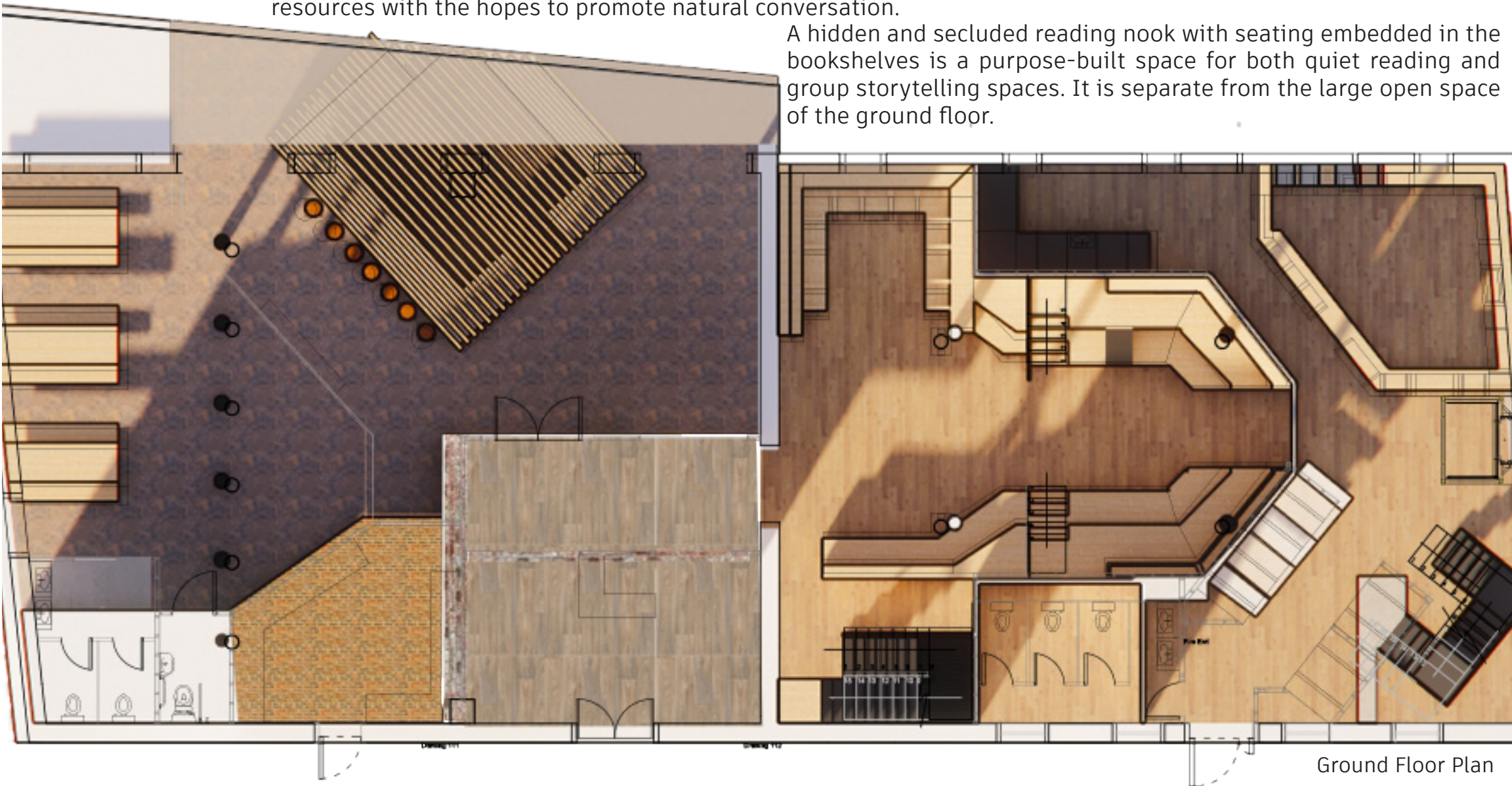




Communal Space on Ground Floor

The open space of the ground floor has various different styles of seating which adapts to the comfort of the elderly and younger generations. The seats have been constructed with ergonomics which consider the elderly. Such as higher seating levels and structural arm rests. The tiered seating with large benches meet the needs of the younger occupants who may be more restless and need space to fidget. The adaptive space has been loaded with books and resources with the hopes to promote natural conversation.

A hidden and secluded reading nook with seating embedded in the bookshelves is a purpose-built space for both quiet reading and group storytelling spaces. It is separate from the large open space of the ground floor.



Ground Floor Plan

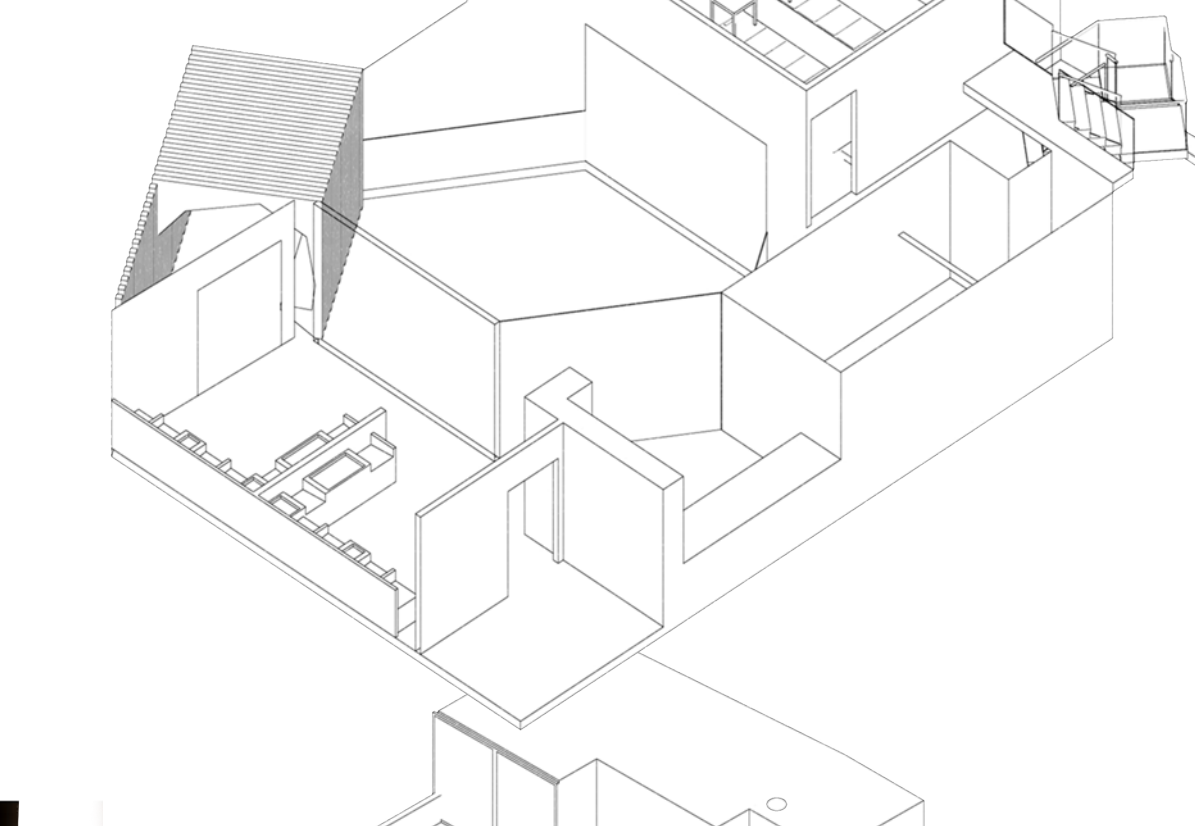
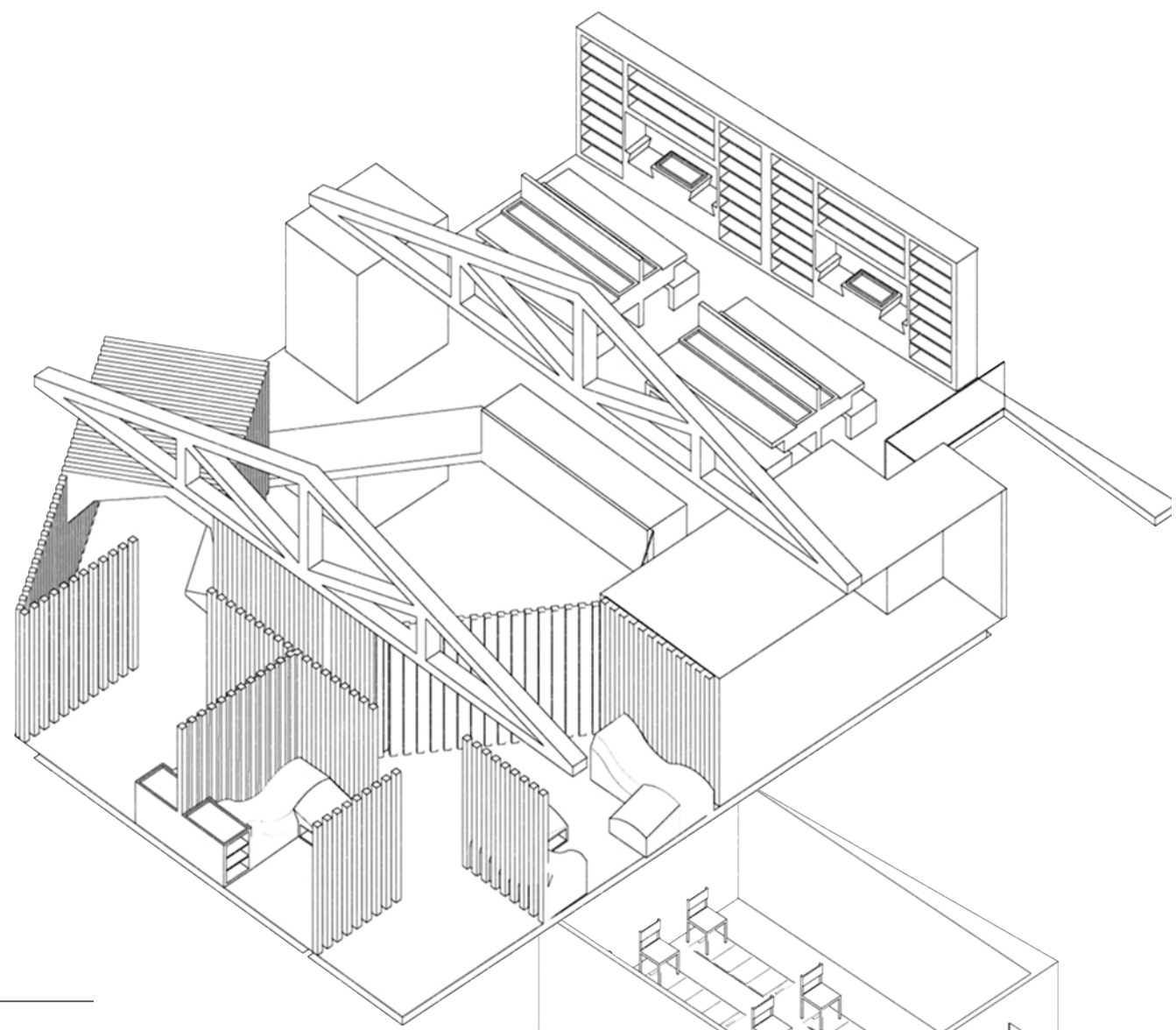
Traditional African Proverb
**A village without the Elderly,
is like a well without water.**



The mezzanine floor overlooks the open communal space and is an extension of the traditional library. Fitted with book shelves and rest bite areas of purpose built seating which looks out onto the floor beneath.

The first floor consists of a movement studio, group reading spaces and a small kitchenette for refreshments. The movement studio fitted with acoustic foam for sound proofing can be adapted for different low impact activities. Currently, the proposal shows chair yoga which improves flexibility and the range of motion in the elderly.

Crafting space and private relaxation spaces can be found on the top floor. When looking at the multi-generational activities simple crafts seem to have a large impact on both elderly's social skills and the children's development. The simple activity allowed for elderly to assist the children and the children to inspire creativity. The relaxation spaces are fitted with a long seat which supports the curvature of the spine when an adult needs a moment to relax. There is also small storage spaces for their belongings.



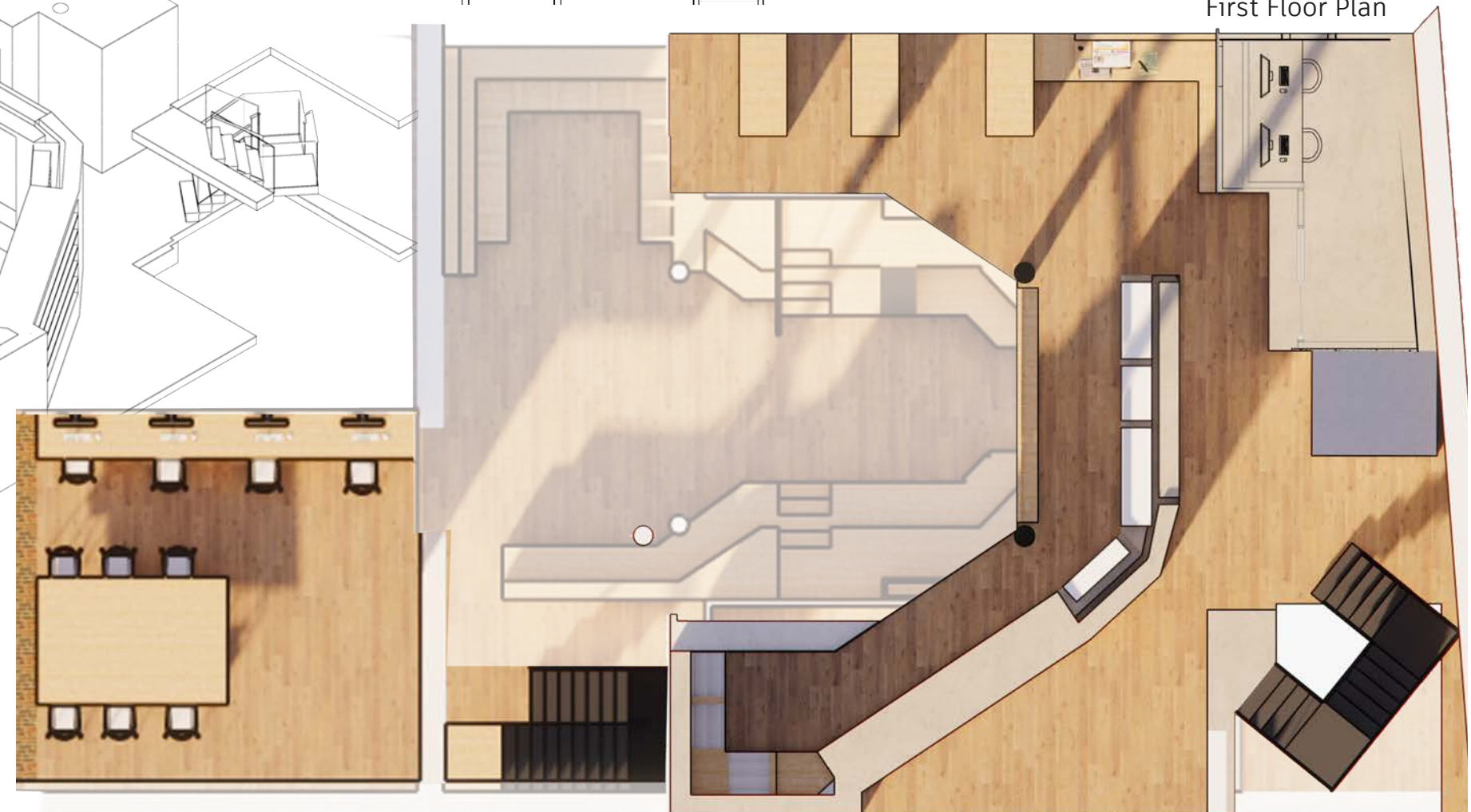
Second Floor Plan



First Floor Plan



Reading Space on The Mezzanine



Mezzanine Floor Plan

As people age, they experience a change in their physical abilities however design for their environments don't adapt to this change. This can make older adults feel more excluded and isolated. One the earlies functions that change is their vision and how they perceive colour. The lenses of our eyes begin to yellow which can cause a reduction of clarity. This is why I decided to select warmer tones of neutral colours as they are less harsh on the eyes. With features that needed more attention such as stairs I used darker colours as a contrast making them more visible to aging eyes.

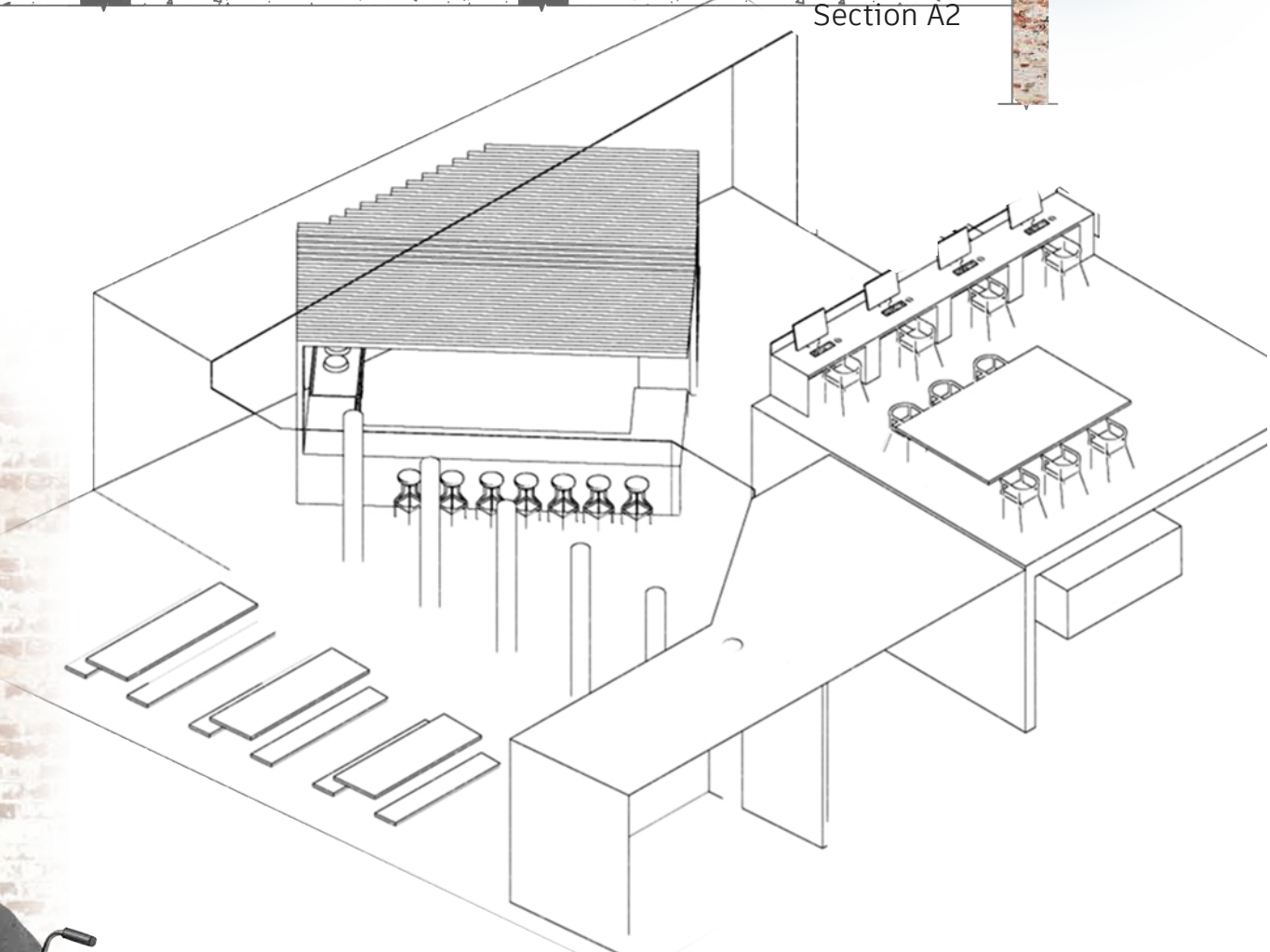
For the sustainability in materials, I intend to use a range of existing materials found on the site along with the addition of recycled materials. The exterior walls I intend to keep the exposed brick in respect to the existing site and others using the nearby buildings. In the kitchen I will keep the existing stone tile to align with the building's historical identity of the old mill. For soft furnishings, I selected linen which is renewable, biodegradable and has low impact on the environment.



Materials Palette



Communal Cooking Space



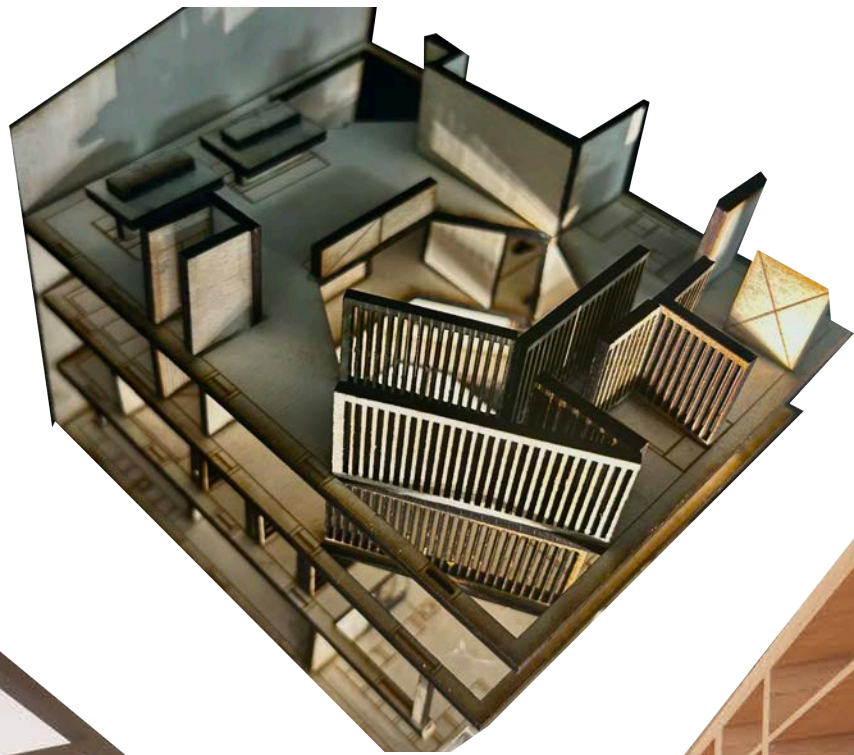
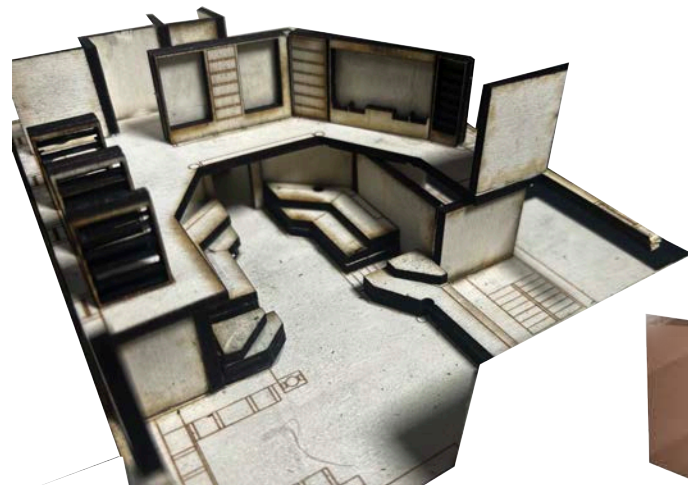
Adopting the idea of “Meals on Wheels’ by giving hearty and nutritious meals to the elderly. Whilst also adopting the social aspect of mealtimes and cooking. My proposal includes working with local food banks along with making use of school meals. A common opinion of the elderly is that they are resourceful. So along with supervision, the elderly can help and guide the younger generations with creating meals from the food donated.

Axonometric showing
Kitchen and Dining Space





Photographs of 1:100 Scale Model



Mezzanine Floor, viewing area.



Craft Area



First Floor Visual

