## MINING THE UNDERMIND

Samuel Diamond

Ledston Luck is a small village located just east of Leeds. The first residence of ledston appeared when a coal pit was sunk in the 1870s which later formed part of the super pit of interlinked workings around Selby. Two winding houses were built in 1911, two years before the UKs alltime peak of coal production. Shortly after, the winding houses were introduced to some of the world's first electric winding gear with many of the components left in place today. The small mining village held a constant community of workers and their families throughout the mid twentieth century, until shortly after the national miners strikes when the colliery closed in 1986.

The project will attempt to immediately contrast the original redundancy of Ledston Luck colliery by reaching out to new communities of insecure workers. The Project will explore the integration of construction union members and young ex-offenders (16-24) who struggle to stay in education, employment and training (NEET). The site will primarily provide construction skill courses as well as contain a meeting point for construction union members. The aim is to create a system of education in which young people are informed with the importance of workers protection as well as the values of craftsmanship. The site will include a union hall, classrooms and large practical spaces for workshops. The space will also provide exhibition space, which looks further into the 'acts of unity' displayed throughout the events of the miners strikes. Some of the space will be dedicated to Leeds 2023, which will hold a celebration exhibition on the history of mine workers within Leeds.





Collierys in South West Yorkshire Conceptual section







The construction union members and students occupy NO.2 winding house on the east side of the site. A large path which includes a bridge links this space to NO.1 winding house, hosting the miners exhibitions as well as private study space for the students.





MINERS EXHIBITION



LEARNING HUB



UNION HALL

## MAJOR INTERVENTIONS

The major intervention on No.2 winding house was the replication of the original trusses. Within the original space, more trusses were installed to hold up the two inserted floors. Outside of the original space, 5 large truss structures were used to extend the space 20m west, to create the masonry yard. This new structure further supports the door system, opening the yard to the outside. To the east the coal shed was extended backwards slightly allowing for more union space. NO.1 winding house makes use of the original cranes, by using them to display the Leeds 2023 exhibitions. The displays can be rolled back and forth depending on the current exhibition in the space. Users are guided down to the permanent exhibition which include spaces dedicated to exploring the 'acts of unity' displayed in the miners strikes in the mid-80s.

The building includes, a classroom/ workshop, a masonry yard and a union hall. The objective is to integrate the two communities while maintaining a very practical and interactive space. Union members will have meetings and discussions, as well as hold workshops and lectures for the younger students on employment and workers protection. The space uses moving elements such as rotating doors and dividers inspired by the original winding machinery to allow for adjustable space.











## MASONRY YARD

Focusing closer into the workshop area on site, the section shows the masonry yard. The space includes 5 large workbenches, attached to rails which can be rolled outside once its own door has been lifted. The work areas allow freedom of space and encourage an interactive experience with the building itself. The large doors are lifted to a point of 90 degrees after its own winding device has been used.

Each workspace has its own door controlled by a winding device inspired by the existing machines on site. The disk will move around the cylinder 21 times before stopping. This will move relatively fast, due to larger wheel the user will turn. The cylinder will not allow the door to not go any further than 90 degrees.











