THE BOTTLE TOP PROJECT

Tackling rural homelessness in Cornwall with an innovative solution for a disused and unloved site

RURAL HOMELESSNESS
And Cornwall

IN THE SUMMER OF 2021 CORNWALL HAD 10,290 AIRBNB LISTINGS YET RIGHTMOVE HAD ONLY 62 PROPERTIES AVAILABLE TO RENT ACROSS THE WHOLE COUNTY (Tapper and Bearne, 2021).

A staycation boom fueled by the COVID 19 pandemic has brought Cornwall to its knees. ‘LOCALS HAVE BEEN LEFT HOMELESS’ by soaring property prices and the staycation boom as landlords evict tenants to put Airbnb and capitalise on the tourist boom (Davies, et al., 2021).

‘The housing situation in Cornwall is the worst I’ve ever seen [...] we are seeing ‘FAMILIES FACING ABSOLUTE DISASTER’... So many people are living in TENTS or VANS—there is nowhere for them to go’ (Davies, et al., 2021).


EMPTY HOMES STATISTICS

https://www.instagram.com/p/CVtVku5IcWw/
https://www.instagram.com/p/CVtR5X2IGOL/
https://www.instagram.com/p/Ca-Ky53LMNk/
https://www.instagram.com/p/CVIR8X1GSL/
http://www.ccp.org.uk
**THE BRIEF**
The Bottle Top Project populates an abandoned industrial site which once produced bottle tops for many different companies including Chanel. It was once an employer of the community but has been in disuse since 2006 and has since been left to decay.
The Bottle Top Project will transform the site to provide a HOUSING CRISIS HUB that support families who have experienced ENFORCED HOMELESSNESS to help alleviate the STRESS and TRAUMA from losing security of living.
Thoughtful spaces have been created to mitigate the DEHUMANISING stress that homelessness can cause when trying to attempt daily activities when you have a FAMILY.
The core spaces use Maslow’s hierarchy of needs- what all humans need to survive (FOOD, SHELTER, OXYGEN), supporting spaces then evolve from the hierarchy to create nurturing spaces to provide support from crisis to stability.

**SITE ANALYSIS**

**NEWLYN** has MULTIPLE INDICES OF DEPRIVATION and ranks between 1 and 6569 MOST DEPRIVED 20% in England for living environment, income, employment, education, skills, training and BARRIERS TO HOUSING AND SERVICES (Cornwall council, maps, 2019).

**SITE AUDIT**
Pre demolition audit and intentions for re-purposing and recycling

**CONCEPT**

‘SEA VIEWS THAT AREN’T JUST FOR MILLIONAIRES’
Lifting building 4 and creating a lighthouse tower will provide my user with incredible sea views of Newlyn Harbour and Mounts Bay beyond to enjoy.
A space for quiet contemplation or for social interaction, the tower will lift spirits and users will have a piece of Cornwall back.

*WHAT IF A LIGHTHOUSE COULD PROVIDE A BEACON OF HOPE FOR THE RURALLY HOMELESS?*

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Steve Tanner. 2017
**LIGHTHOUSE**

A LIGHTHOUSE IS A TOWER, BUILDING, OR OTHER TYPE OF STRUCTURE DESIGNED TO EMIT LIGHT FROM A SYSTEM OF LAMPS AND LENSES AND TO SERVE AS A BEACON FOR NAVIGATIONAL AID. (Wikipedia 2022.)

**STRATEGY**

- **STRATEGY DIAGRAM**
  - Site section crossing the building
  - New floor section
  - Lighthouse floor section

**TECHNICAL SECTION**

- **PLANS**
  - Bottle Top Lighthouse Section AA
  - Bottle Top Lighthouse Section BB
  - Site key

**FOOD BANK VISUAL**

*Inside food bank in Lighthouse building, note salvaged windows and doors used as wall feature*

**MEMORY TOWER + LIBRARY STUDY AREA VISUAL**

*Climbing up the stairs users get to view the original building graffiti and also messages and art from the new users of the building arriving at the library/study area*
FACILITIES

USER PROFILES

LAUNDERETTE

PROGRAM DIAGRAM

FA\n
FAMILY ACCOMMODATION-SHELTER for different family units

ACCOMMODATION
Scale 1:100 @ A3

APARTMENT ONE
Mother
Father
Daughter age 3
Son age 3

APARTMENT TWO
Mother
Daughter age 12
Daughter age 5
Daughter age 3
Son age 5

APARTMENT THREE
Mother
Daughter age 6
Daughter age 4
Son age 2

APARTMENT FOUR
Mother
Daughter age 17
Son age 2

APARTMENT FIVE

LAUNDERETTE
Section BB

"Morwenna arrives at the Bottle Top Factory Project and puts a load of washing on- note red piping upcycled into a light fixture"
WINTER PLAYGROUND

USER

WINTER GARDEN PLAYGROUND
Section CC

MATERIALITY

COURTYARD

PORCH

*View from accommodation out into courtyard. WC + shower block directly ahead with lighthouse beyond. Winter playground to the right with community hub attached*

*View from porch of community Centre with Lighthouse beyond and winter playground to the left. After a few hours in the greenhouse, Matt cooks up some food*

"Cadan arrives with his family and immediately checks out the winter playground*