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"Considering home as constituted by intersubjective relations and as a human construction in both its materiality and imagination, home becomes crucial for senses of self, belonging, well-being, marginalization, estrangement, and mental health." (Gronseth and Thorshaug, 2022)

Migrating at an early age has led me to search for elements that could help reconstruct the sense of dwelling, whether through a variety of activities or a single space. This journey has taught me the importance of creating environments that foster community and connection, bridging the gap between past and present.

"Under One Roof" aims to close the gap between newly arrived refugees in London, particularly in Peckham, and the local residents who have been affected by recent gentrification. The project's goal is to reconstruct the sense of home by connecting these diverse communities and bringing back significant memories and moments that we all share when thinking of home. Through a range of activities, the project strives to foster a sense of belonging and unity where both refugees and long-term residents can rebuild their sense of home together.

Linking back to my personal experience of migration, the loss of collaboration and the effort of finding a home alone can be considered a significant element. If addressed, it could be effective in redefinnig the concept of home. Thus, the project specifically targets refugees and displaced locals in Peckham above the age of 13, including adults and parents to rebuild a collaborative relationship and create a sense of stability and permenance.





About the Site:

Located in southeast London, Peckham is known for its diverse community. However, since 2004, the area has undergone revitalization efforts, leading to gentrification and the displacement of residents, as well as the loss of local businesses leading to a pattern migration within these communities and the loss of diversity in the area.

The main site of this project is located in Peckham, an existing residential building situated in Talfourd Road which has the potential to illustrate the importance of gathering displaced individuals and reimagining the concept of home by integrating the notion of adaptation and flexibility for affected communities.





Examining the existing data on the percentage of different ethnicities in Peckham and the ethnicity of those migrating to this area, a significant fluctuation can be seen amongst the Afro-Caribbean community between 2011 and 2021. This fluctuation suggests the need to shift the focus on this group and those arriving in the UK. Over this period, gentrification has led to the displacement of Afro-Caribbean residents, impacting the cultural fabric of Peckham and therefore, It is crucial to create spaces that honor and preserve the heritage of the community while welcoming and supporting new arrivals. Thus, proposing a series of shared activities such as culinary workshops, community gardening and communal dining could promote inclusivity and resilience and create opportuinities for cultural exchange, contributing to a more cohesive community.



Precentage of ethnicities of Refugees arriving in England and the borough of Southwark



Home as Shelter, Shelter as Home:

The experience of Refugees can be unsetteling as they are loacted in temporary spaces that often fails to convey a sense of home and belonging. Experimenting with the idea of folding architecture and traditonal yurts, I decided portray a sense of "permanent temporariness" by adding an extension to the existing house which would be the key element of my design. sought to create a roof structure that embodies flexibility and permanence simultaneously. This design choice aims to offer a stable, enduring space that can adapt to the changing needs of its inhabitants, ultimately fostering a stronger sense of home and community for refugees.

























House Extension Zoning





The house extension consists of several principles that can be transformed and improved as the community sees fit. Under One Roof has designed the extension around a thermal mass principle which can be found in many diverse cultural designs. The main structure along the roof is made of Glulam Timber covered by bio-based polycarbonate roof panels to deliver the ideal temperature for the garden but also portrays a strong resemblence with idea of connceting the interior and the exterior through the concept of temporariness due to its light weight. As a secondary benefit these panels shade a large part of the structural roof and allow ventilation to pass in-between. Additionaly, the main structure of the extension is built using the traditonal construction technique of Brick nog which not only portrays memories and materials used in the existing house, but also add a sense of permenance and stability to the structure. Another key feature of this house extention is using the structural roof as a method to provide clean water for drinking and watering the plants in the garden through rain water. These passive climate interventions along the underground cold storage amount to significant savings in energy but also promote diversity and inclusivity by gathering people together.

The main materials used for this project form a hybrid between the best of local traditions, skills, and new economy with global engineering potential. This system makes use of the enginnering skills and resources of the diverse international community of refugees alongside locals in Peckham to design a modular lightweight main structure to create a sense of home through merging the borders between the interior and the exterior.

Sense of Permenance Cultural Significance Historial Roots Stability













Dining Space

Culinary learning and Workshp Space

Sun light directly going through





Community Garden Space