

'A Ceramic Retreat'

In this project, I will renew and redesign the old China Clay Store building located in Porthleven, Cornwall, so that it provides the space for a ceramic studio being opened by The Leach Pottery. The space will need to be effectively delegated in order to host both a throwing and glazing room and a social space where people can gather for lunch and events.

The ceramic retreat will offer a selection of courses and sessions for the public to take part in, whilst also being available for practising ceramicists to book for their own use.

An apartment will be located within the building, to provide a place for guest ceramicists to stay whilst they are teaching sessions and courses.

The Building

China Clay Store, Porthleven Harbour, Cornwall

The china clay store was built in 1893 and was originally used to hold clay from the quarries in Tregonning Hill prior to shipment from the harbour. In 2001, the building received a grade II listing from the English Heritage Legacy and since then has been used to host one of Rick Stein's restaurants. It has recently reopened as a new restaurant, under the management of renowned chef, Michael Caines. The harbour is also full of cafe's, restaurants and pubs which means there is potential to source food from other local businesses.



Site Analysis

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 The Wrestling Fields | 7 Supermarket & Car Park |
| 2 The Ship Inn (Pub) | 8 Doctors Surgery |
| 3 Host Site | 9 Main Road |
| 4 The Harbour | 10 The Harbour Inn (Pub) |
| 5 Kota Kai Restaurant | 11 The Clock Tower |
| 6 Bus Stop | 12 Porthleven Beach |

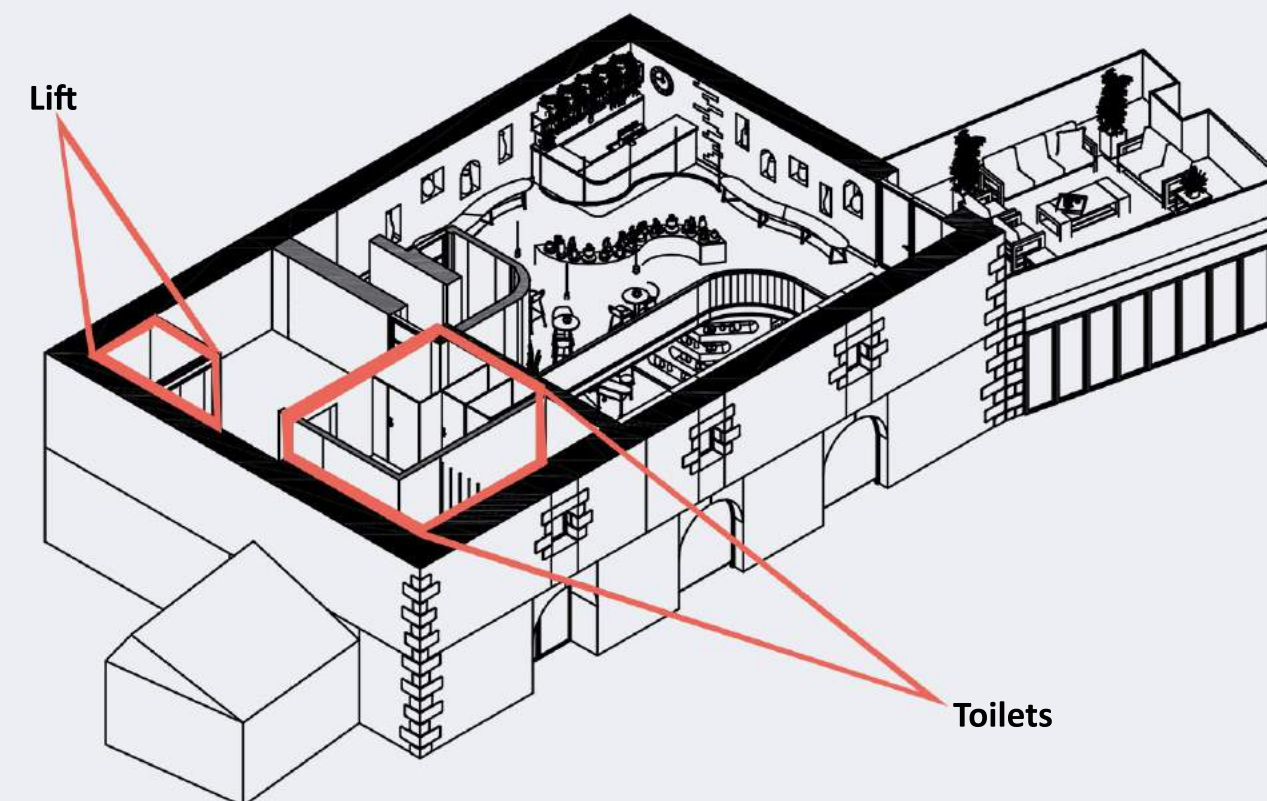
The site analysis of the area identifies the key places around Porthleven Harbour. From this I was able to come to the conclusion that my retreat would not need to provide its own food, allowing it to be sourced from one of the local pubs or restaurants. This would not only save space within the building where a kitchen would have been located, but also contributes positively to local business within the village.



Key Moves

1 Adding Toilets to the First Floor

Originally, the building only had toilets located on the ground and second floor meaning the only access to them was via the stairs. Considering that I designed the first floor to be a social space where drinks can be served, it made sense to add toilets to that floor to stop unnecessary travel to the floor above or below, thus improving the general circulation of the building.

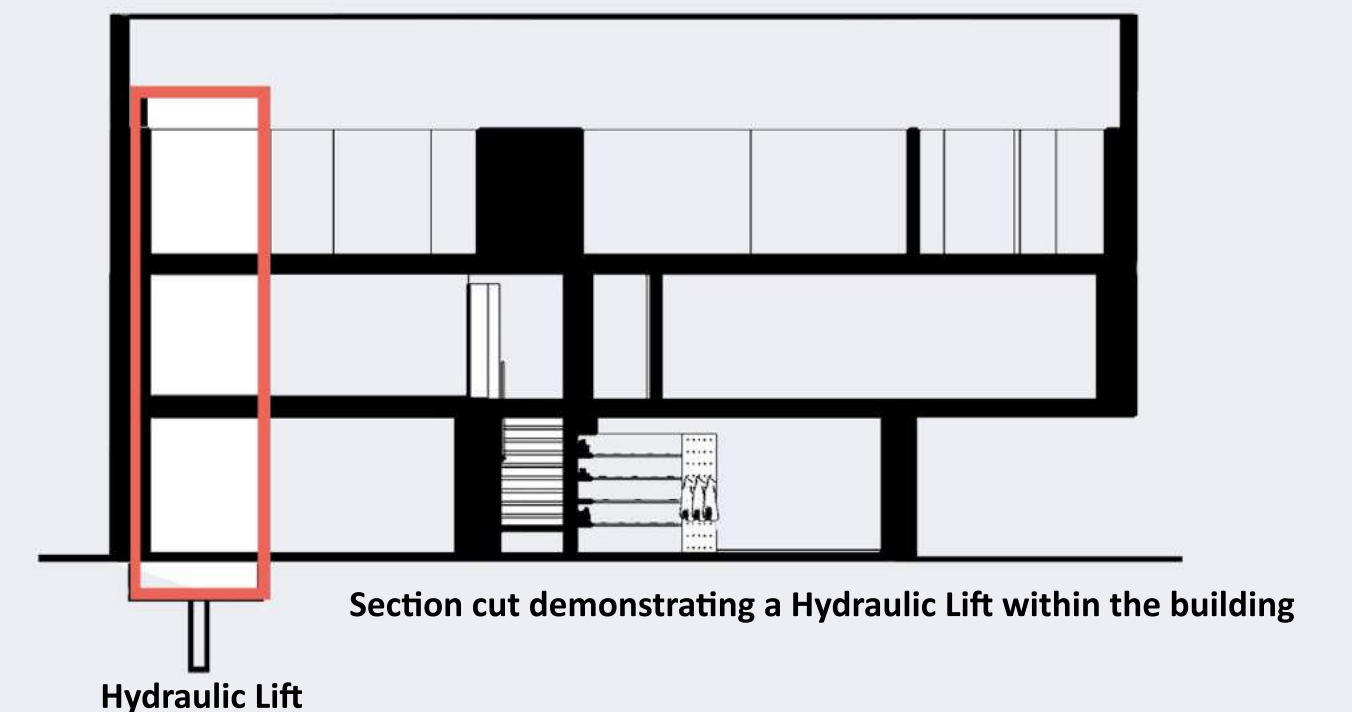


Isometric showing First Floor 1:200

2 The Addition of a Hydraulic Lift

The Leach Pottery have strong values of inclusivity, so in order to make all floors of the building fully accessible a lift needed to be added. This would be an expensive addition due to the building's position on the landscape, but I felt as though it was a necessity.

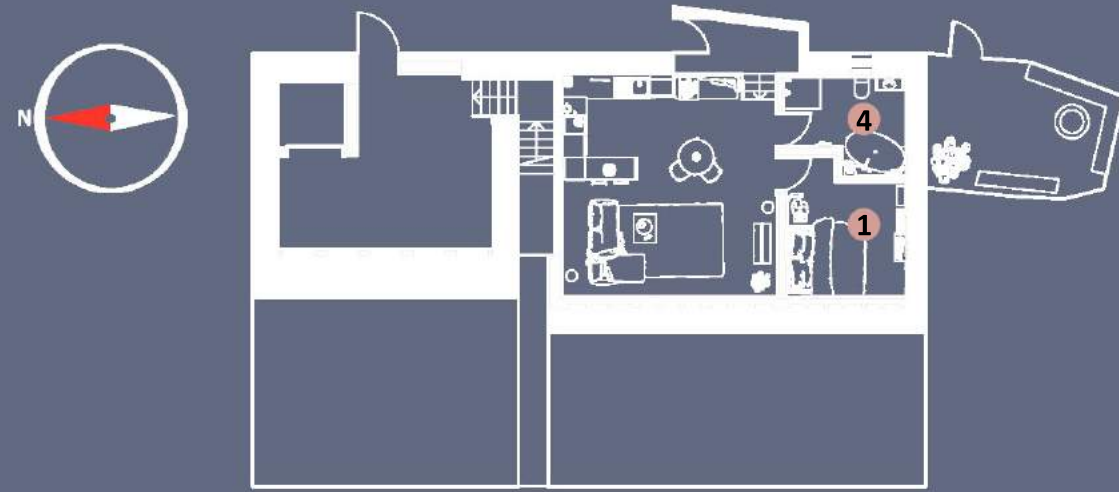
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Hydraulic lifts work by the use of a pump, piston and oil. In order for the lift to go up, the pump pushes oil into a cylinder which then allows the piston to push the lift car up. Oil flows back into the reservoir, allowing the gravitational force of the lift car to push it back.

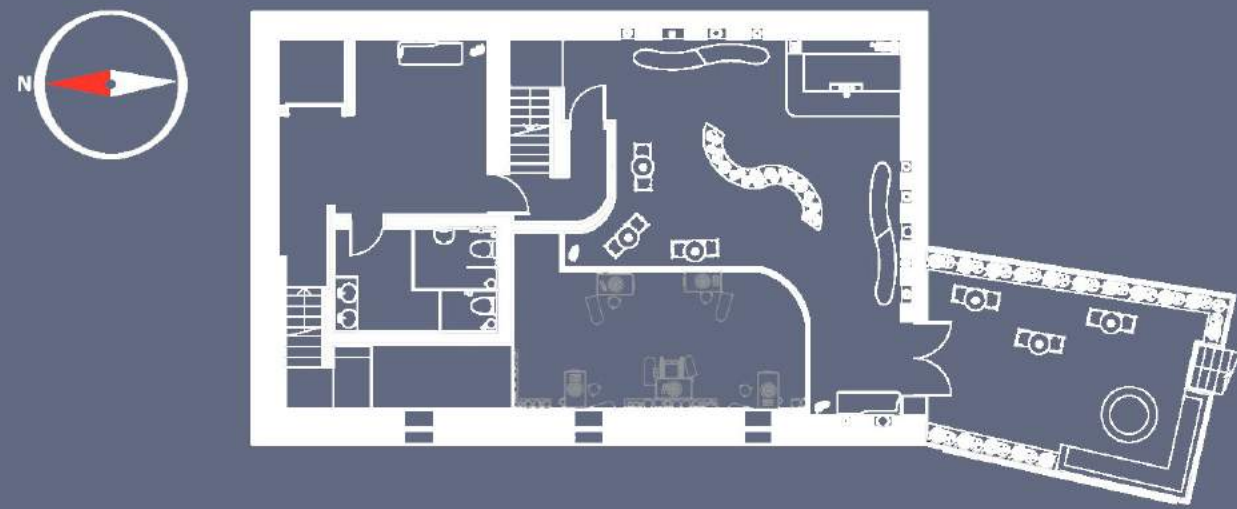
Final Floor Plans

Second Floor Plan 1:200



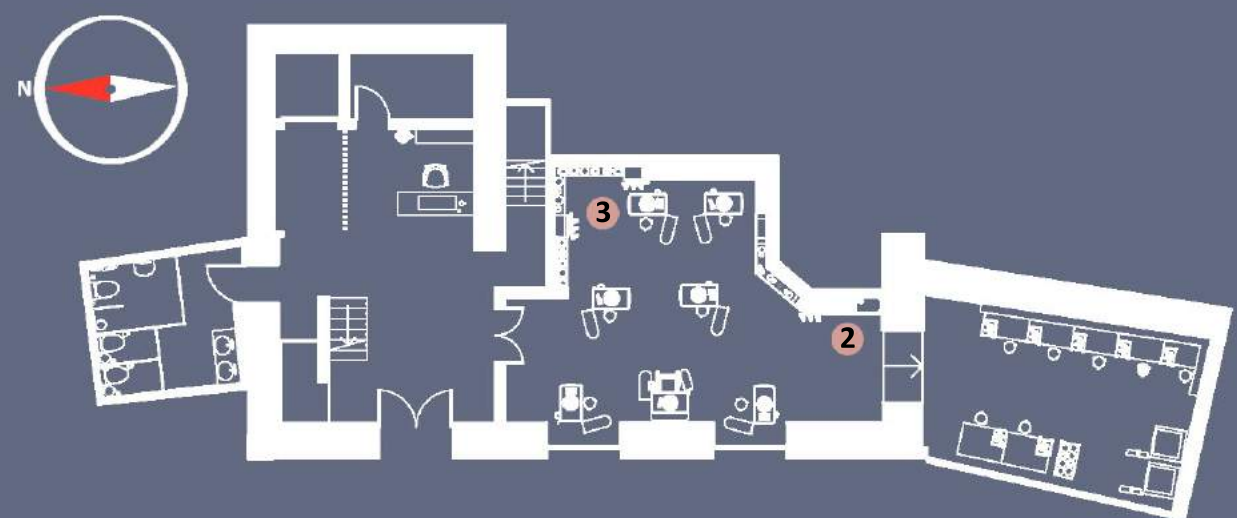
The Second Floor is where the apartment is located. It includes a bedroom, bathroom, open plan living/dining space and a private terrace. It can be accessed via the building exterior on Harbour View Road. The apartment will host any guest ceramicists that come and teach sessions in the studio.

First Floor Plan 1:200

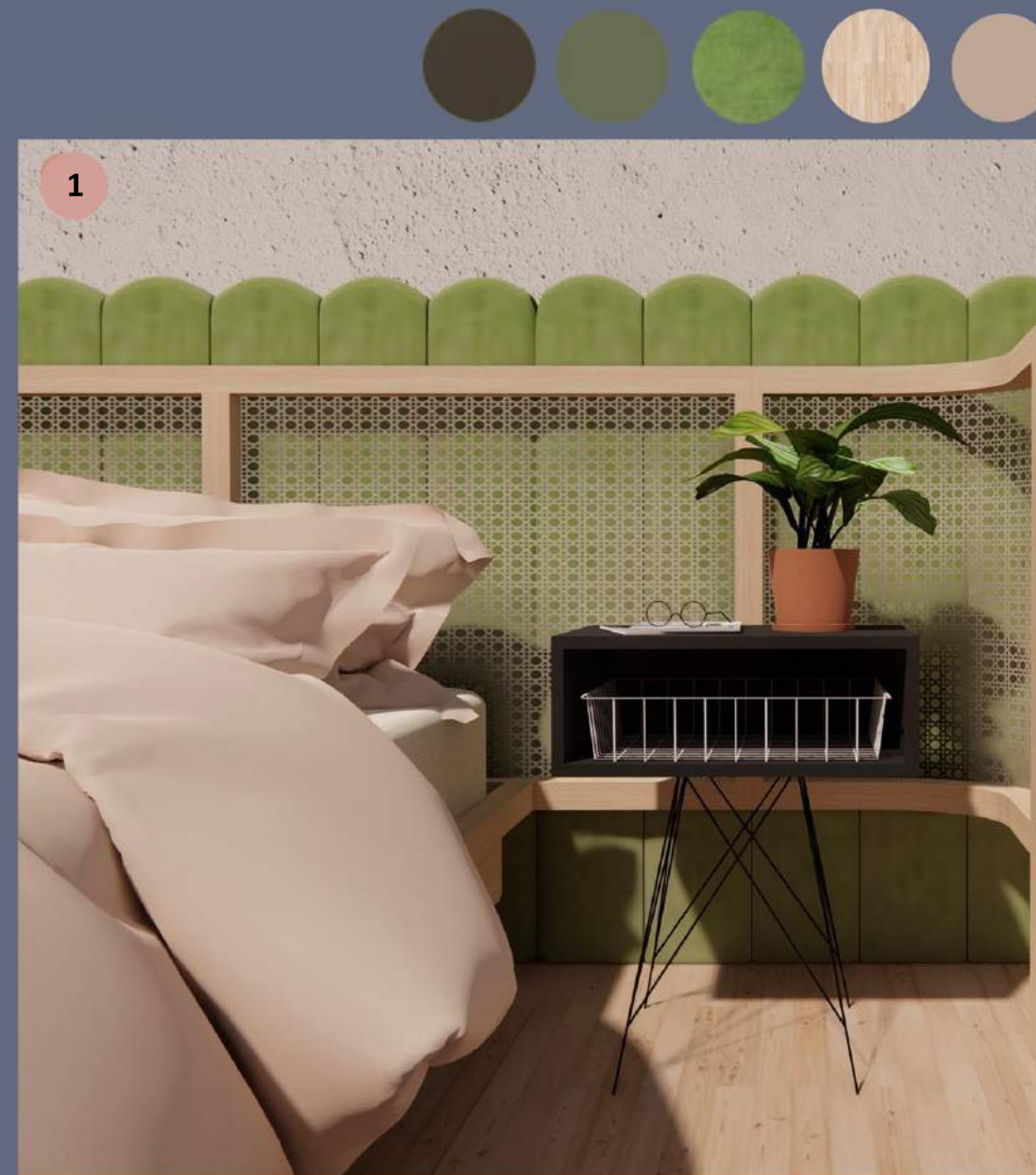


The First Floor is where the bar/gallery space that connects to the outdoor terrace is located. The part of the building provides a social area that can be used to display the ceramics made in the studio and host events to celebrate it. This floor also hosts toilets and lift access.

Ground Floor Plan 1:200



The Ground Floor hosts the studio space which consists of both a throwing room and a glazing room, which can be used by the public through attending sessions but also freelance ceramicists who need access to a studio. There is also a store room, reception and toilets located on this floor.



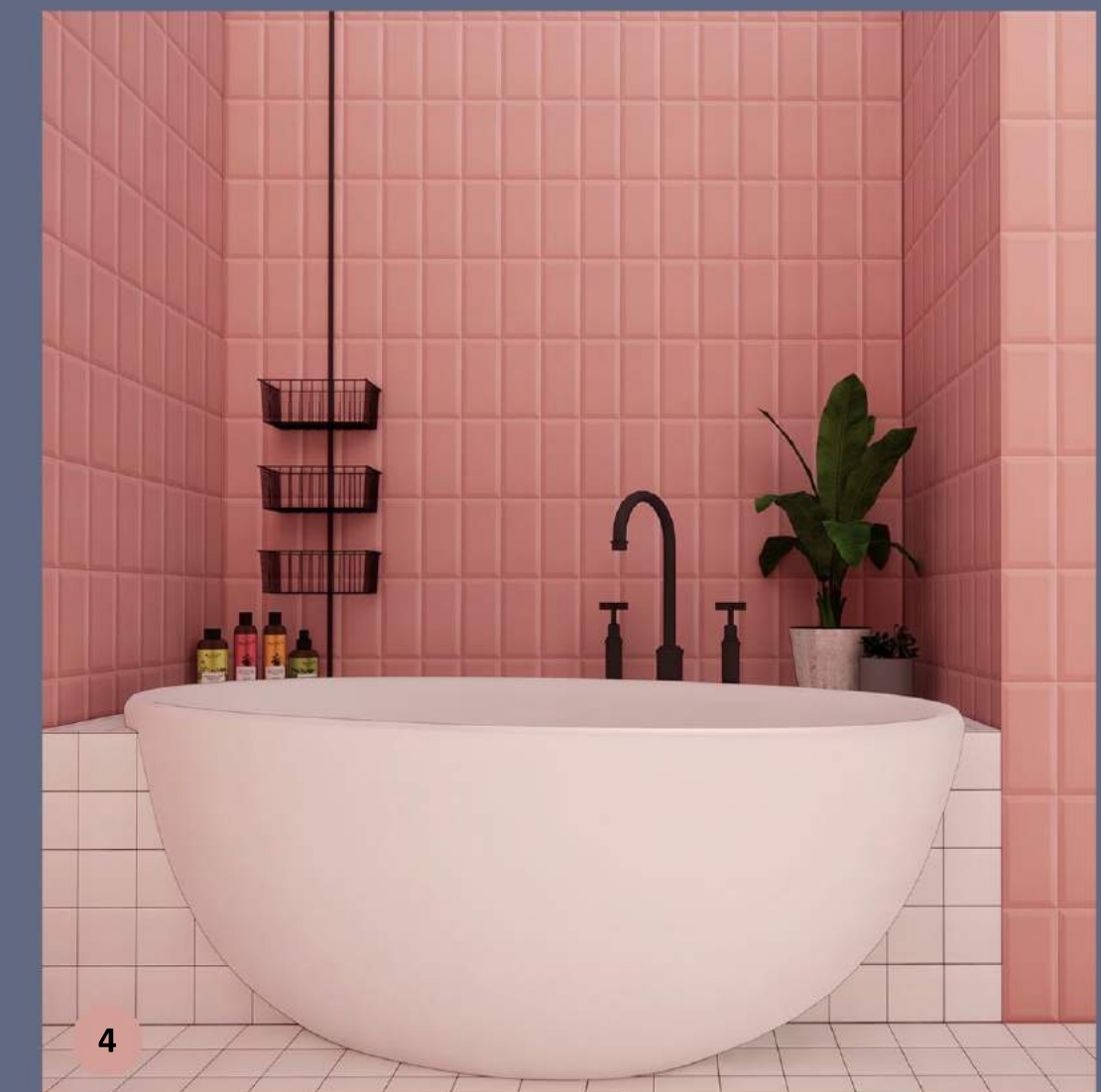
Apartment Bedroom



Pottery Studio - Washing Up Area

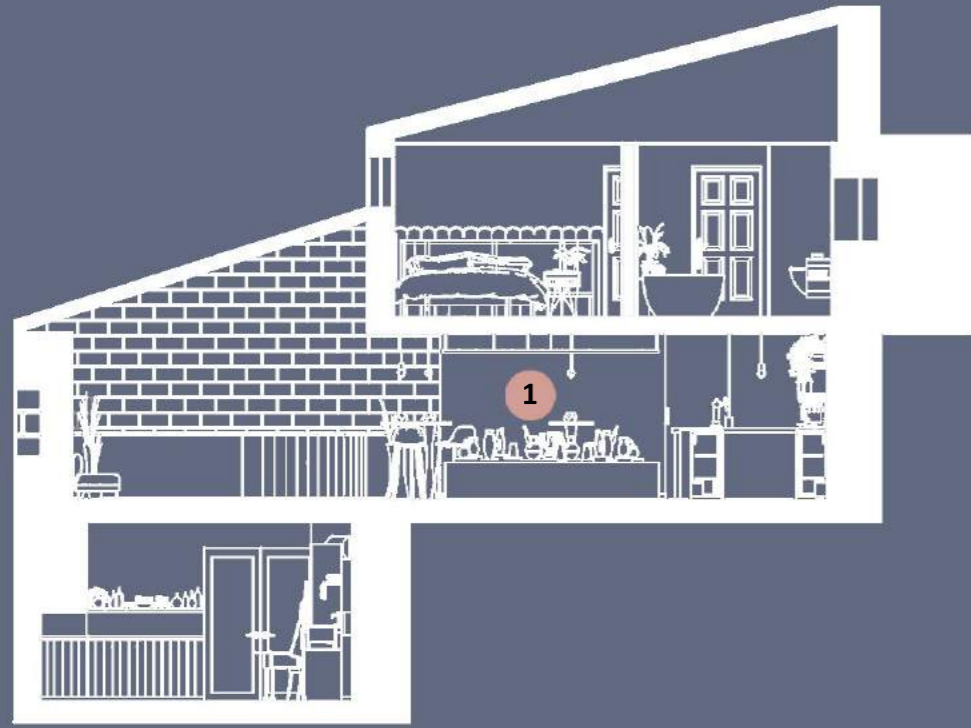


Pottery Studio



Apartment Bathroom

Elevations

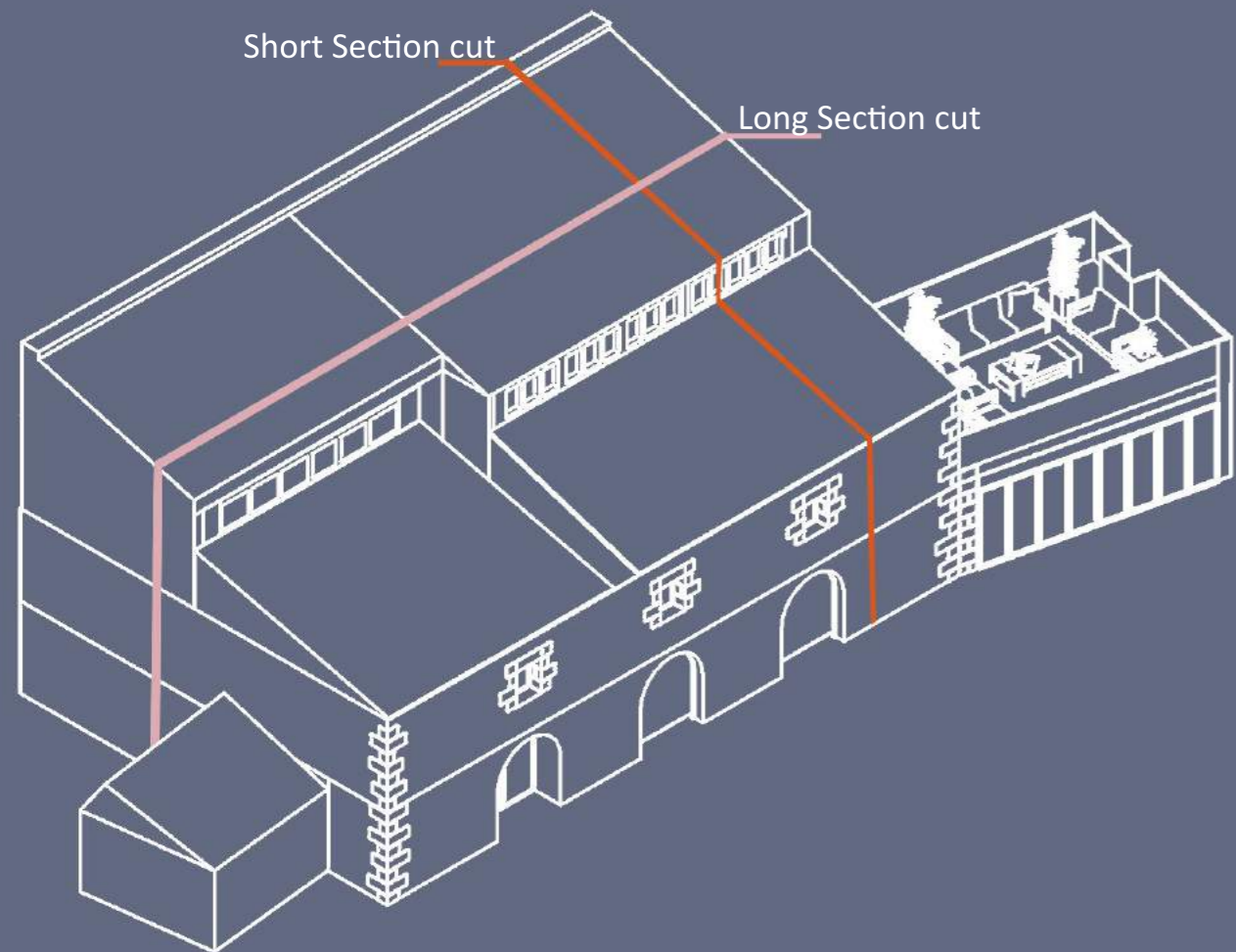


Short Section 1:100

The short section demonstrates how the building sits on the landscape thus causing a staggered affect between each of the floors. This meant that allocating functions to each of the floor had to coincide with the amount of space that was available.



Long Section 1:100



Isometric showing section cuts 1:200



Bar/ Gallery Space on First Floor

Living Area in Apartment

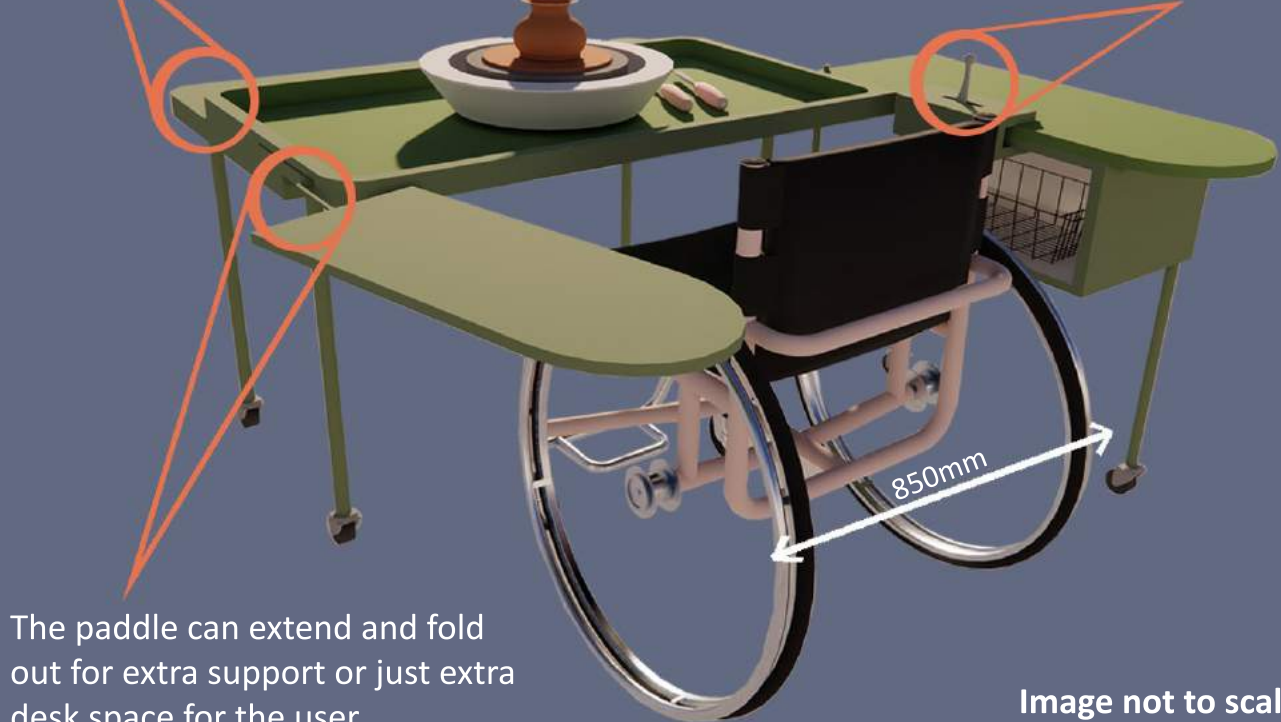


Multifunctional Pottery unit

I was inspired by The Leach Pottery's core value of inclusivity to design a throwing unit that can be used by all people. By doing this, a sense of equality is provided within the studio through the use of multifunctional equipment. The units would come in two colours - blue and green.

Desk can be extended to the user's preference

The lever can be detached/ attached depending on whether the individual can use the foot pedal or not



The paddle can extend and fold out for extra support or just extra desk space for the user

Image not to scale

Underneath the second worktop is a storage area where the pedal/lever can be stored when not in use. There is also space for extra tools and clay so there is less need to get up and down throughout the throwing process.

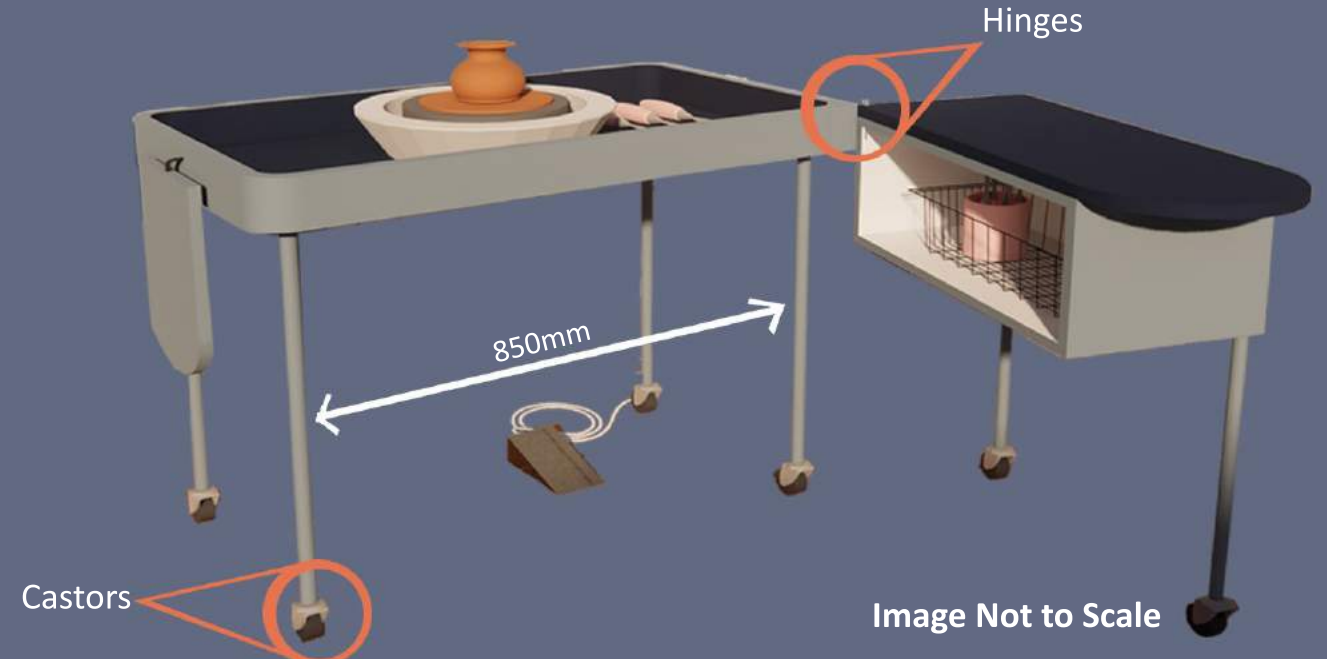


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The unit is on castors and a connecting hinge, so can be open and closed to suit the users preference. The closed option means the unit can be easily wheeled out the way when it's not longer being used. The depth of the tray allows all clay mess to remain contained for an easy clean up.



Top View Open & Extended - Not to Scale



Top View Closed - Not to Scale

Microtectonics

The addition of ball bearing runners to the tray top allows it to extend out to meet the needs of the user and provide ultimate comfort whilst using the wheel. The mechanism works by the coming together of a drawer profile that slides into the cabinet profile, or in this case, the one fixed to the outer frame of the tray. The ball bearings allow both profiles to slide past each other and therefore create movement.

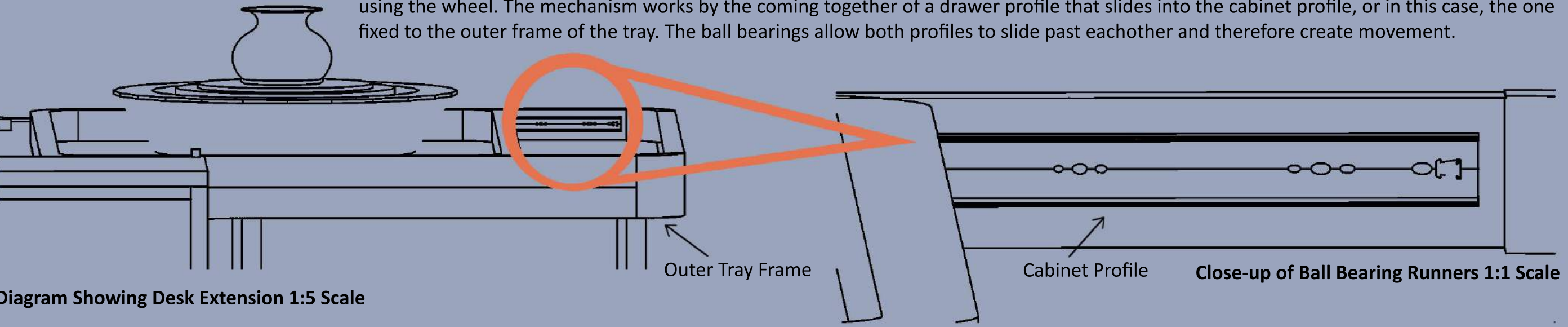


Diagram Showing Desk Extension 1:5 Scale



Ground Floor View of Pottery Studio