

bloom hub

by Yen Yi Pan

Located in the transient city of Brighton, the space is designed to bloom a community and scatter seeds of connection.

Inspired by the community-driven nature of a church, the project aims to revive the site's original purpose as a gathering space.

It seeks to do so without any religious associations, promoting inclusivity and connections beyond belief systems.

This project aims to promote community building, especially considering the increase in global migration and the desire for people, particularly young adventurers, to find community in their new surroundings.

Recognising the ever-changing nature of the world, the project also focuses on a circular economy. It is designed to be flexible and adaptable, capable of serving different functions as times change.

The space is for locals and residents to interact and form friendships. Its primary function is to provide temporary accommodation for newcomers to the city, featuring a communal kitchen and dining area that serves as the heart of the home. Additionally, it offers locals a free coworking space, thereby bringing together these two groups and fostering a united community.



objectives

newcomer hub



Offering temporary housing and fostering connections among young adult newcomers and locals to integrate them into the city's community fabric.

promoting minimal living



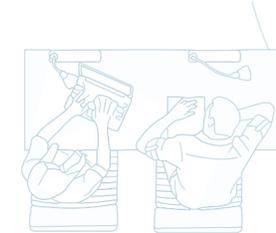
Advocating for minimalistic bedroom setups to encourage residents to utilize communal areas, enhancing social interaction and cohesion.

creating shared experiences



Offering spaces for group gardening, communal TV watching, and joint cooking sessions to foster a sense of togetherness and friendship.

public coworking + information hub



Serving as a workspace and information center to advertise Brighton's attractions and events for residents and locals, encouraging interaction between the two



inspiration:
church is home away from home

"This beautiful building will signify 'home' to all who see it and be a shining beacon to the city"
-St Peters, Brighton



Brighton is a transient city and the site is in town, yet surrounded by a peaceful residential area

SWOT analysis

strength



- strategic location:
- close to town + many necessities nearby



- residential area:
- perfect for housing use

opportunity



- surrounded by residential areas:
- opportunity to introduce a different way of living, minimal communal living



- transient and curious city:
- opportunity for locals and short term visitors to access travel information
- opportunity for residents to network with locals and visitors

weakness



- inadequate sunlight in the existing building



- many existing hotels and accomodation in the area

threat



- people would rather stay in hotels or other temporary accomodation

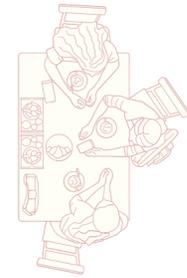
solution

bloom hub

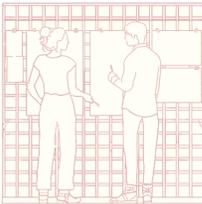
6 month cycle of a resident



arrival



building connection



decided to stay in Brighton, looking for housing information



securing a more permanent tenancy

space programming

precedents:



St Peter's Church, Brighton

a space used to host people, creating community, where life long friendships are built and nurtured



Cohabs

coliving spaces in major city centres where our members can call home

kollontai

one shared house, kollantai

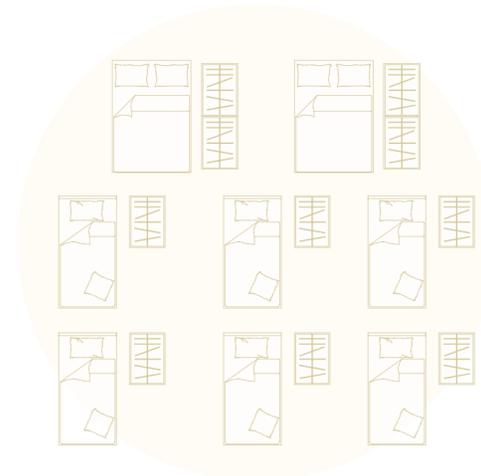
a social experiment in 1980s Amsterdam on community-based coliving

bloom hub spaces

50% communal spaces



30% minimal bedrooms



10% utility spaces

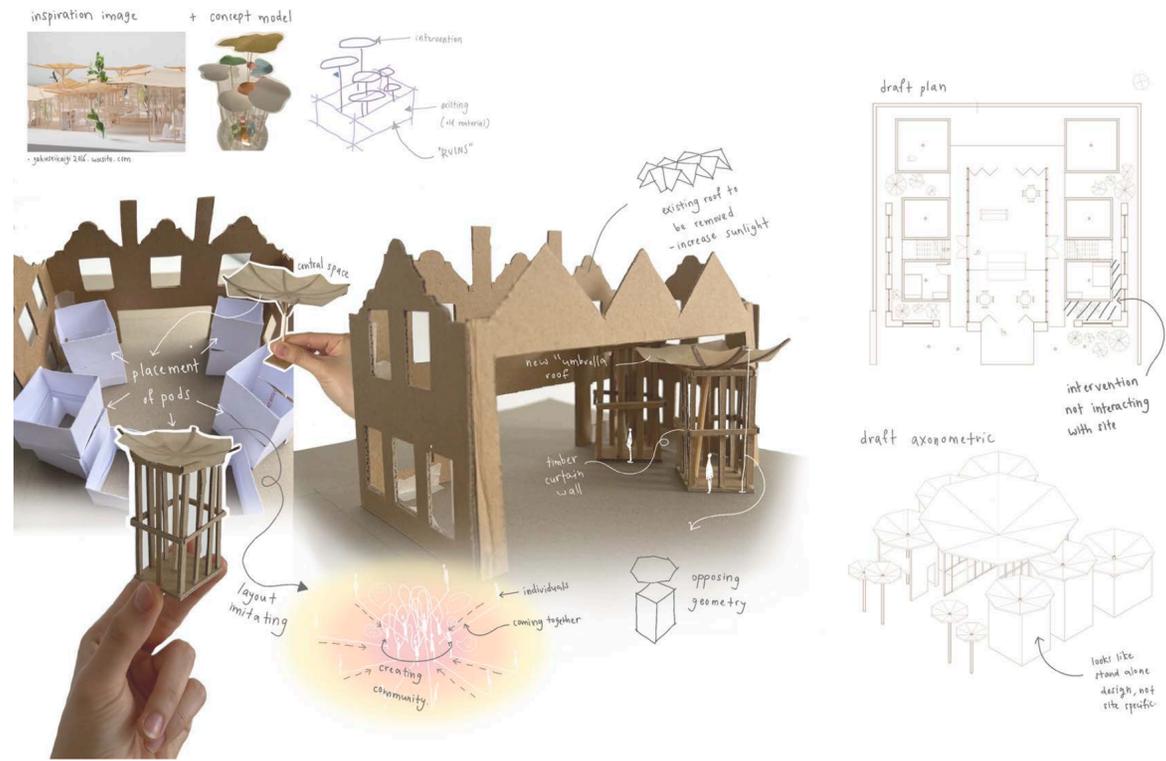


10% outdoor space

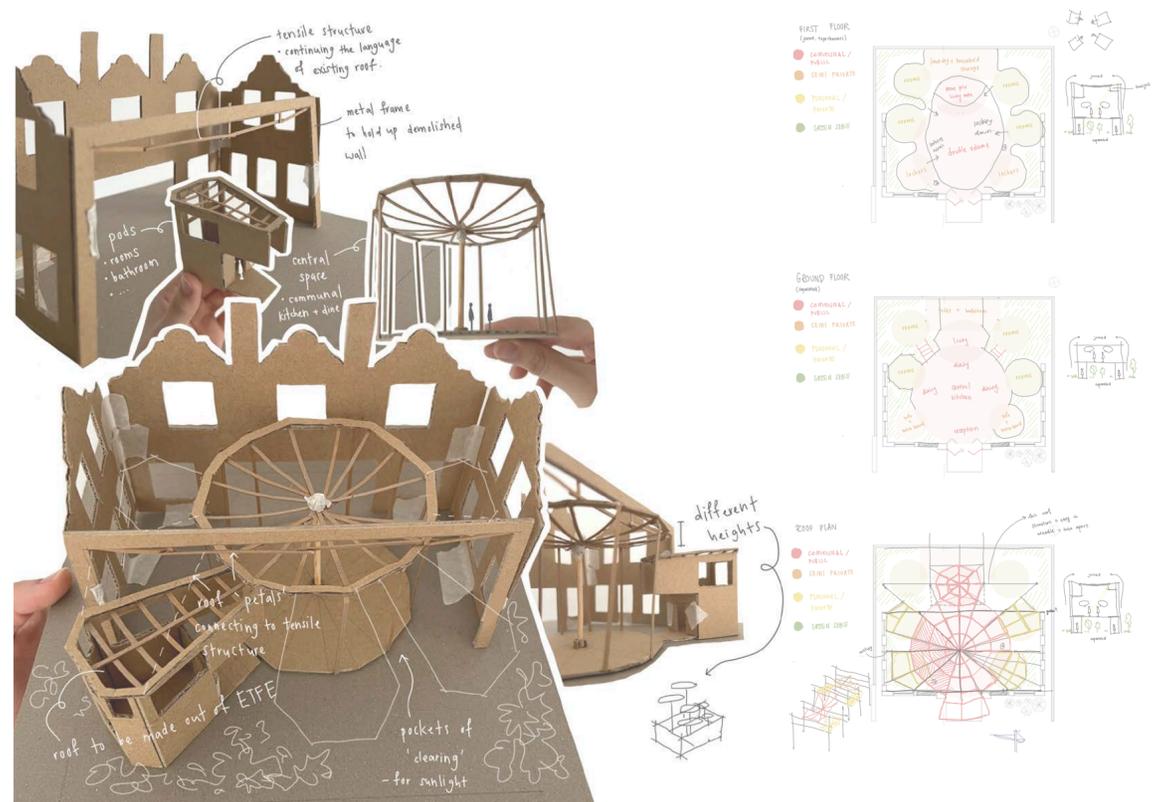


design development

design iteration 1 pushing site boundaries



design iteration 2 connecting the design intervention to the language of the existing building by using tensile structure



final layout plans

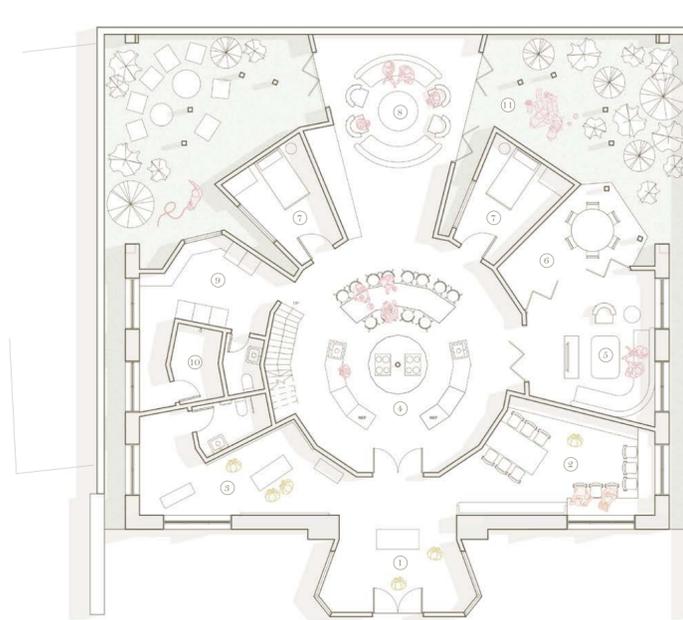
ground floor

final plan



- ① reception
- ② public coworking
- ③ information centre
- ④ communal kitchen and dining
- ⑤ tv area
- ⑥ outdoor dining
- ⑦ single bedroom
- ⑧ conversation area
- ⑨ laundry
- ⑩ shower and toilet
- ⑪ outdoor garden

● residents ● locals ● residents and locals interacting



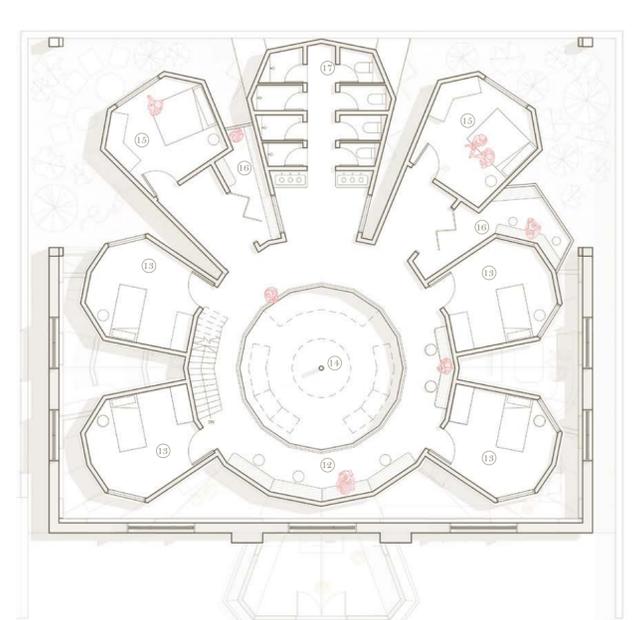
first floor

final plan



- ⑫ seating area
- ⑬ single bedroom
- ⑭ void
- ⑮ couples bedroom
- ⑯ balcony
- ⑰ bathroom and toilet

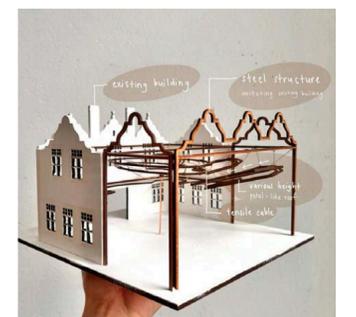
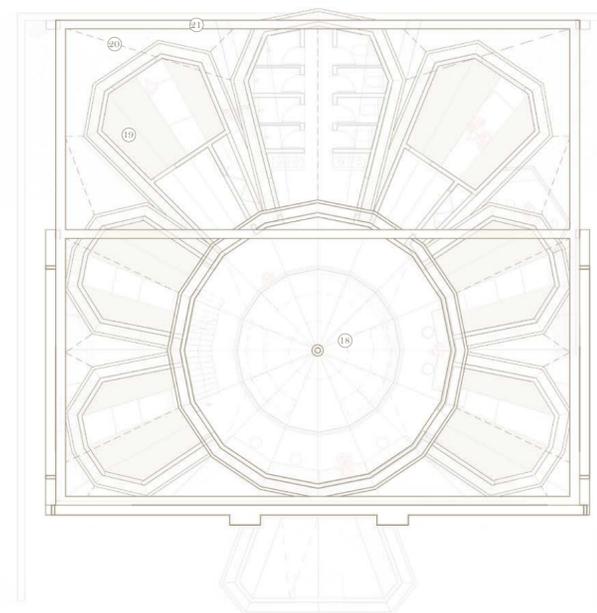
● residents



roof plan



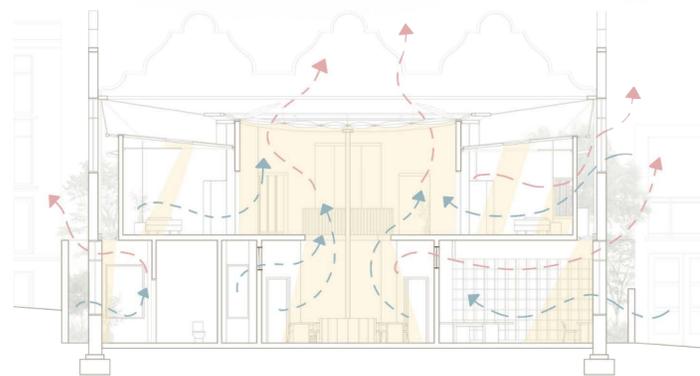
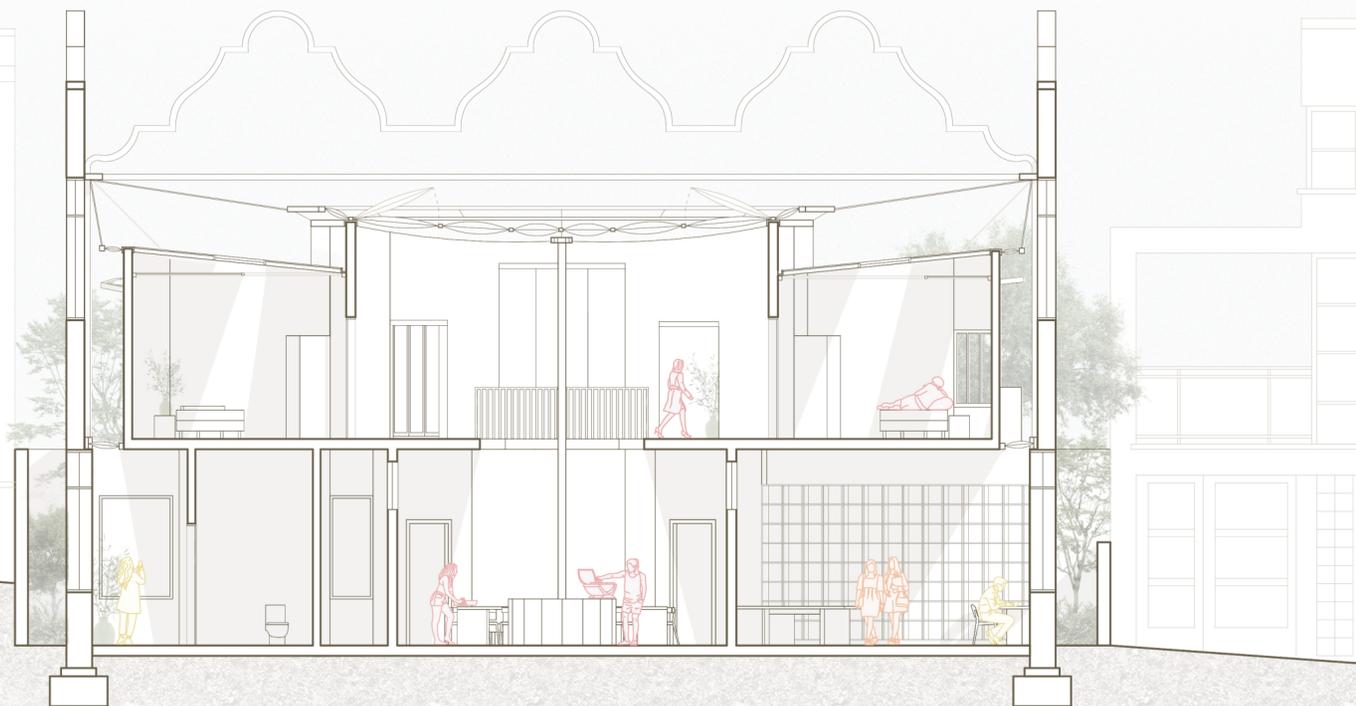
- ⑱ ETFE
- ⑲ larch roof
- ⑳ tensile cable
- ㉑ metal structure



section AA'

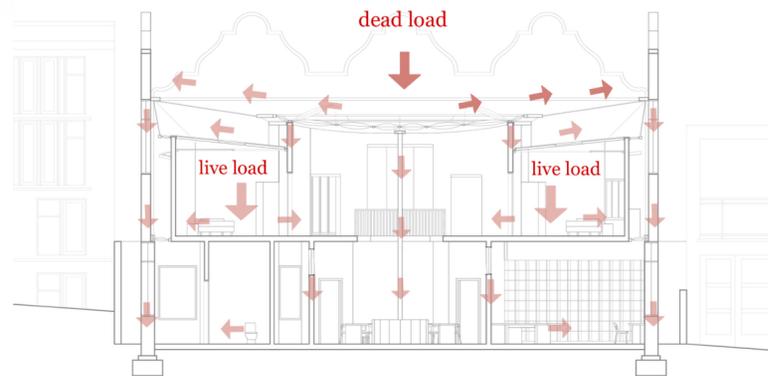


● residents ● locals ● residents and locals interacting



sun and ventilation diagram

● sun light ● warm air ● cool air

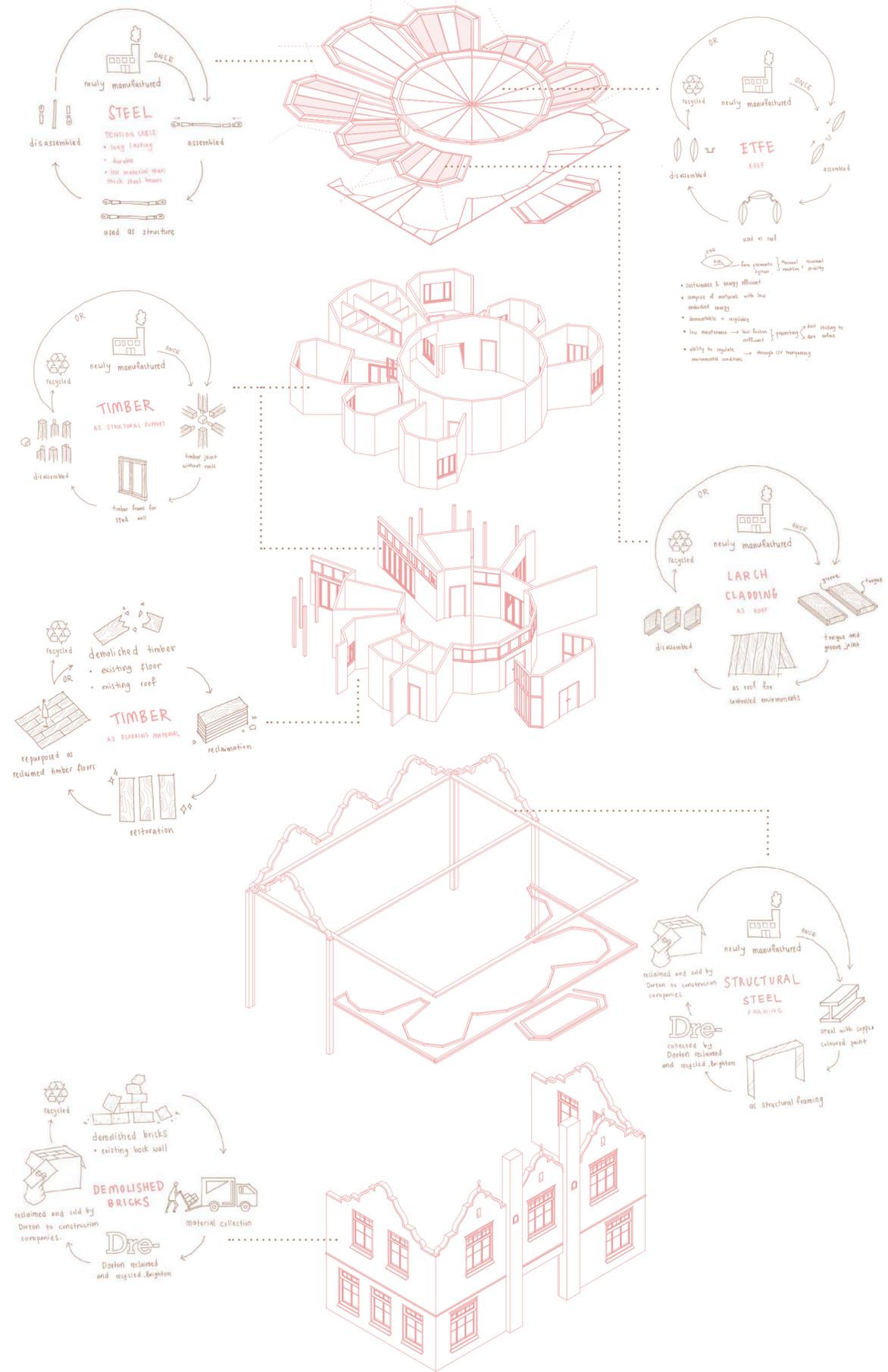


load diagram

● load path

material selection & circular diagram

most materials can be reused, recycled and disassembled once the site evolves into another function to fill the need of the community





communal kitchen and dining

ground floor

At the heart of the building sits a circular communal kitchen and dining area, enveloped by a lofty double volume. It serves as a hub for social interaction, fostering connections over shared meals and conversations. The space gazes upward through the translucent ETFE material, welcoming daylight and lending an airy ambiance.



public coworking/ library space

ground floor

At the entrance of Bloom Hub, is a public coworking/library space, bridging the gap between the local community and residents of Bloom Hub. While the residential area remains separate behind a double door, both groups are drawn to this shared space. With no desks in their bedrooms, residents naturally gravitate here, fostering interaction and collaboration among all who gather.



outdoor garden

ground floor

The perspective paints a picture of Bloom Hub's architectural design and its functional essence. The name Bloom Hub mirrors the organic growth of a blossoming flower, with its varied heights symbolising the building's role in fostering connections. As each space within the building is utilized, the metaphor unfolds, depicting the vibrant bloom of community and collaboration within its walls.



single bedroom

first floor

Bloom Hub's bedrooms are deliberately minimalist, designed to nudge residents into the communal areas. With essential amenities and a inviting ambiance, these spaces encourage inhabitants to venture out and engage with their neighbors, fostering a sense of community and collaboration.