

BENJAMIN SLATER

ARCHITECTURE PORTFOLIO

Selected works 2018-2020



BENJAMIN J SLATER

BA Hons Architecture RIBA Part 1
Curriculum vitae

CONTACT

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EDUCATION

-  Rawlins Academy 10 GCSE's
grade A-C
2013-2015
- Rawlins Academy A levels
Maths
Design
Double Media BTEC
2015 - 2017
- University of Huddersfield
BA Hons Architecture

AWARDS

- Best overall performance,
Tutors award BA2
- Best academic society of the year,
UHAS, BA2
- Best academic event of the year,
ADA Christmas event, BA2
- Mohammed Patel Design Award
Rawlins Academy, 2017

INTEREST



REFERENCES

Available on request

ABOUT ME

I define myself as a professionally engaged young designer with great passion for the work I produce. As an architecture student I have been able to develop my design skills as well as transition into a young professional who takes pride in being punctual, hard-working and organised. Architecture has been a lifelong passion of mine and I hope to complete the journey to one day become a fully chartered architect. Particularly I am interested in minimal linear design that uses its form to celebrate place as well as successfully blend into its surrounding context.

QUALIFICATIONS

A levels

Maths	C
D&T: Product design Graphics	B
Media BTEC Subsidiary Diploma (level 3)	Distinction*
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Further education

On track to receive a 1st class degree in BA Hons Architecture (International) from the University of Huddersfield

Driving Licence

Full UK British driving licence as of February 2017, and own car

EXPERIENCES

President of University of Huddersfield's Architecture Society (UHAS) during my second year

This role entailed managing and organising a series of events throughout the year, both independently and alongside the university, including guest speakers, social nights, portfolio show & tell evenings, CAD tutorials and more. I thoroughly enjoyed this experience and it has allowed me to improve my networking, public speaking and organisation skills.

Academic representative

During my second year and now my third year I have been involved within the course as an academic rep. This entails reporting issues within the course and implementing solutions as well as offering support and guidance to other members on the course when required.

Assisted in curating Morecambe bay exhibition

During my second year at the university there was an opportunity to present some of our work from our Morecambe bay refuge tower project in an exhibition within Queensgate market Huddersfield. Myself and one other student were asked to help curate the exhibition. This involved creating advertisement posters, selecting prints for the back wall and producing a booklet of all the works for guests to takeaway. The exhibition lasted for two weeks and incorporated our 1:20 scale models from the project.

Student ambassador

Whilst at University I worked part time as a student ambassador representing the Architecture course. This paid role involved giving guidance on open days and UCAS events as well as talking to potential new students about studying architecture at Huddersfield.

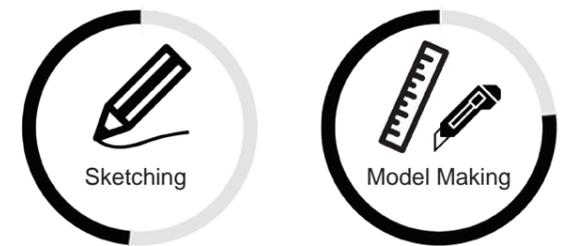
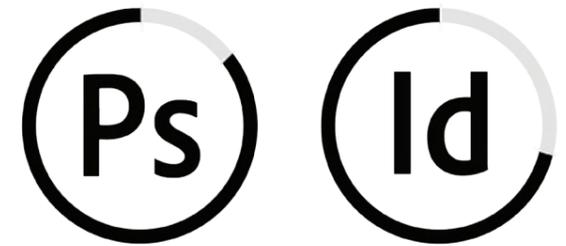
Peer mentor

During my second year at University I was involved in the peer mentoring scheme. The intention of this was to help first years settle into university life by pairing them with a peer mentor in their second year. From this I was given a group of 6 students to help resolve any issues they were having and guide them in the right direction when necessary. This experience was extremely beneficial for both myself and the first year students allowing me to pass on what I had learned from first hand experience. This scheme has continued into my third year and I still meet with the students regularly.

Work experience, BRP Architects, Leicestershire, 2016

During my A levels in February 2016 I was successful in obtaining a week's work experience within BRP Architects, Leicestershire. During this week I was given a hypothetical brief to design the company's new offices on a carpark site. This was the first opportunity I had to experience architecture at a first-hand level and having thoroughly enjoyed my time with the company I decided to pursue a career in architecture. The opportunity also allowed me to visit a live construction site and sit in on client meetings to gain a full appreciation of the architecture profession.

SKILLS



01

The task for this project was to design a house for a family of four on a greenfield site in Meltham, near Huddersfield.

Both adults work full time, one from home and one sometimes from home. The family needed stabling for two horses and a tack room. They enjoy regularly entertaining in an informal setting so required a space which is comfortable but also appropriate for hosting

The whole design should cost a maximum of £500,000 to construct

Meltham, House for change, BA2 - 2018

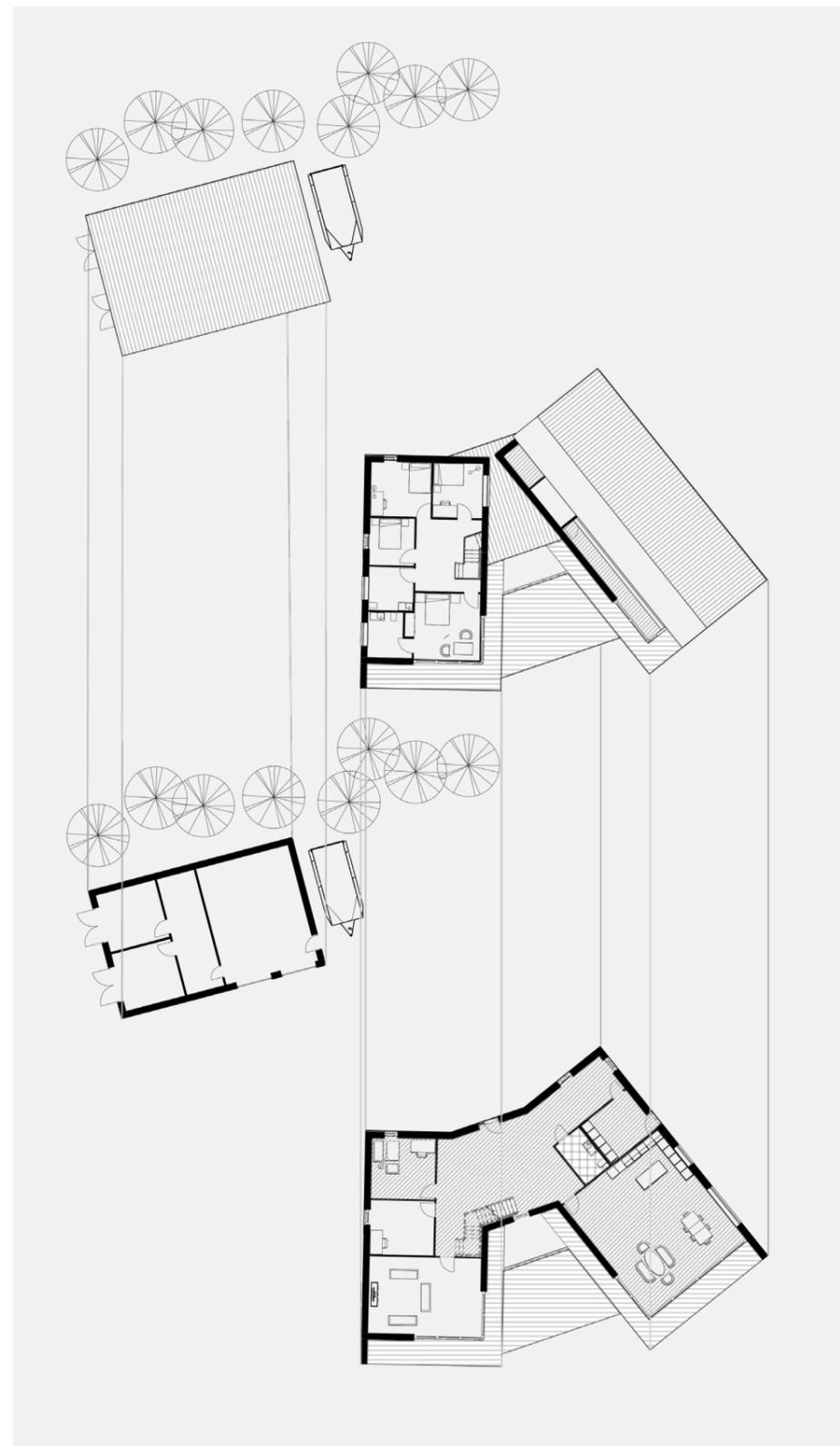
For this project I wanted to produce a contemporary design that celebrated the views available from this countryside site. The design incorporated a combination of zinc, timber and a white plaster render to achieve this modern yet homely aesthetic.



A house for change



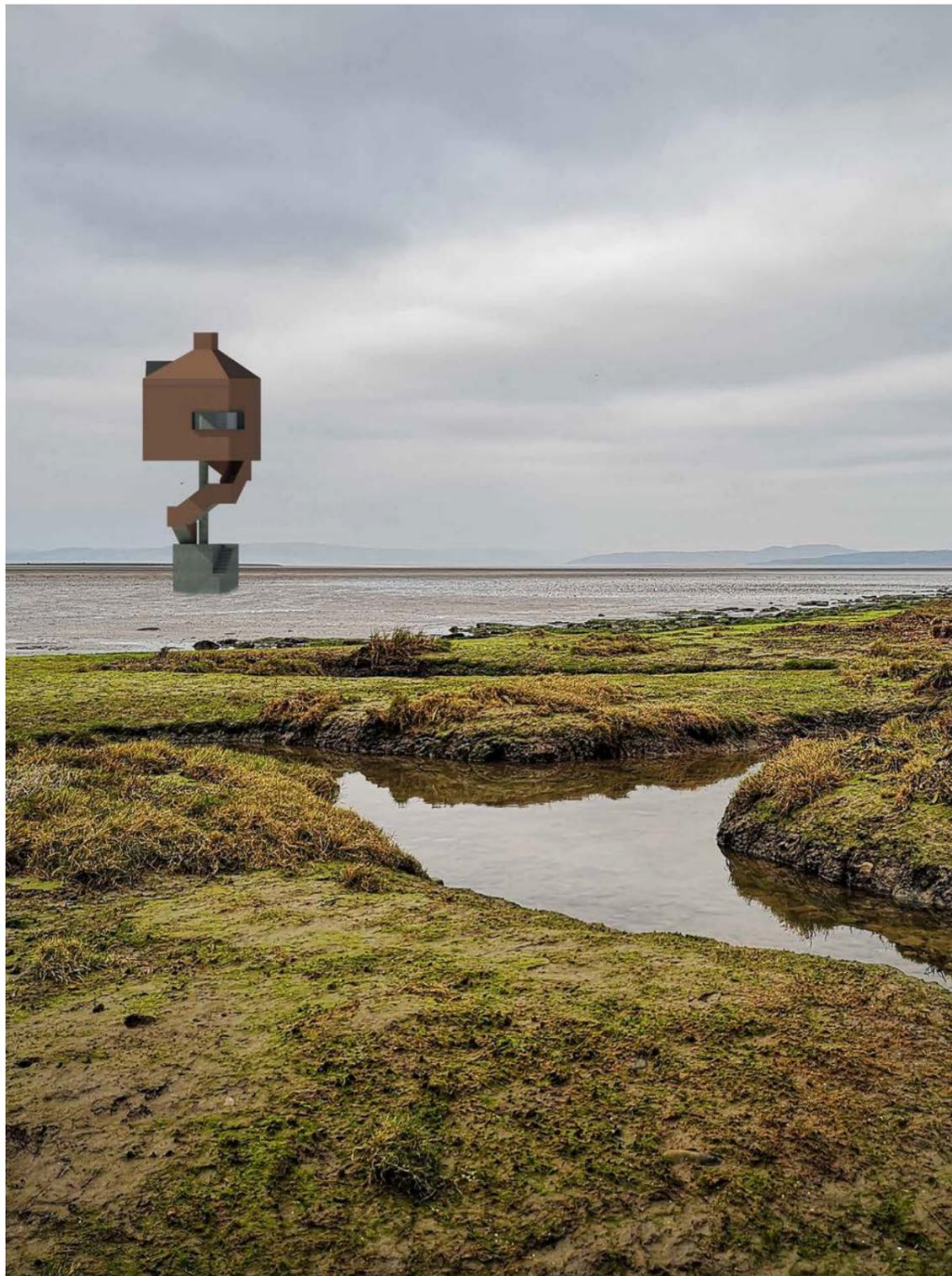
By dividing this house into two butterfly wings I could successfully provide both private and public sections for when the house owners were entertaining. One wing houses an open plan kitchen dining area, perfect for hosting and enjoying the views on offer, with a direct connection to the garden. The other wing provides a more private sector with smaller cosier spaces for the owners to relax in privately during the evenings. Separating the wings is a decked exterior space, perfect for summer days.



As demonstrated, the building only has two storeys in one wing, this allows the sun to penetrate into all parts of the building by travelling over the kitchen wing and into the decked courtyard.

02

Morecambe bay - Micro Museum, BA2 - 2018



Refuge tower

The task for this project was to design a tower in Morecambe Bay that will act as safe refuge to those caught in the bay, in the face of rising water. It will also act as a memorial to those drowned in the bay, including the 21 cockle pickers who tragically drowned in February, 2004. Finally it will act as a Micro-Museum, curating an aspect of the bay of my choice.

The towers will be situated every 500 meters along the bay walk between Hest Bank and Kent Bank. The foundation for the Micro Museum will be a 3m x 3m x 3m cube of concrete, set into the sands. The floor of the micro museum must be a minimum of 5 meters above the top of the cube. Lastly the micro museum must be no more than 100 square meters and must be off grid.

This project allowed me to experiment with design on a smaller scale whilst tackling the issues that arose with the climate this design would be exposed to. From the very start of this project I wanted to create a minimalist design that incorporated some brutalist elements. I also wanted to ensure the entrance to the tower was clearly visible, thus resulting in leaving the stairs on the exterior, rather than hiding them within the tower.



Throughout this project I was inspired by the mood board above, created during my site visit. I wanted to incorporate biomimicry into the design, from small details to the colour of the building. A key example is how the bone marrow from the image above is represented in the buildings staircase as shown to the left.

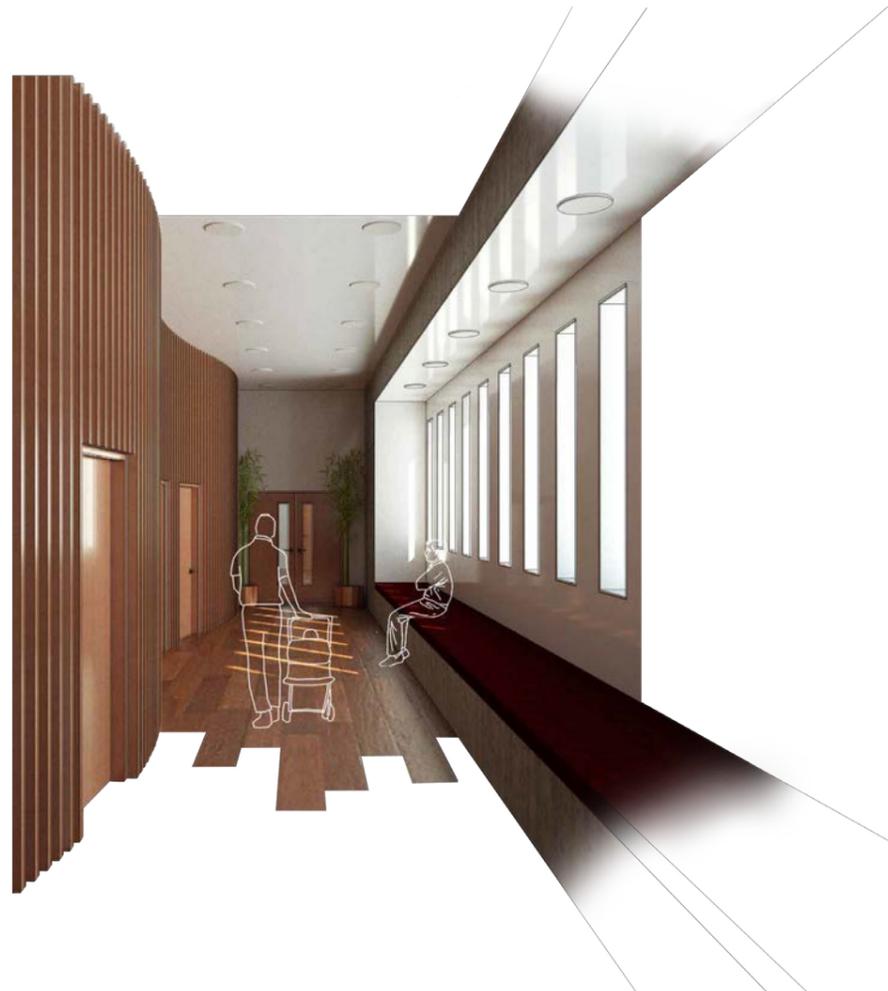
Below is an image of my completed 1:20 scale model of the project. Here you can see some of the elements I incorporated, including a light tunnel, corner window, inset concrete stairs and handrail, full height window and Corten steel panels, complimented by zinc window frames. This brutalist design will stand out across the bay, making it easily recognisable for those in need of refuge.



Healthcare and community centre

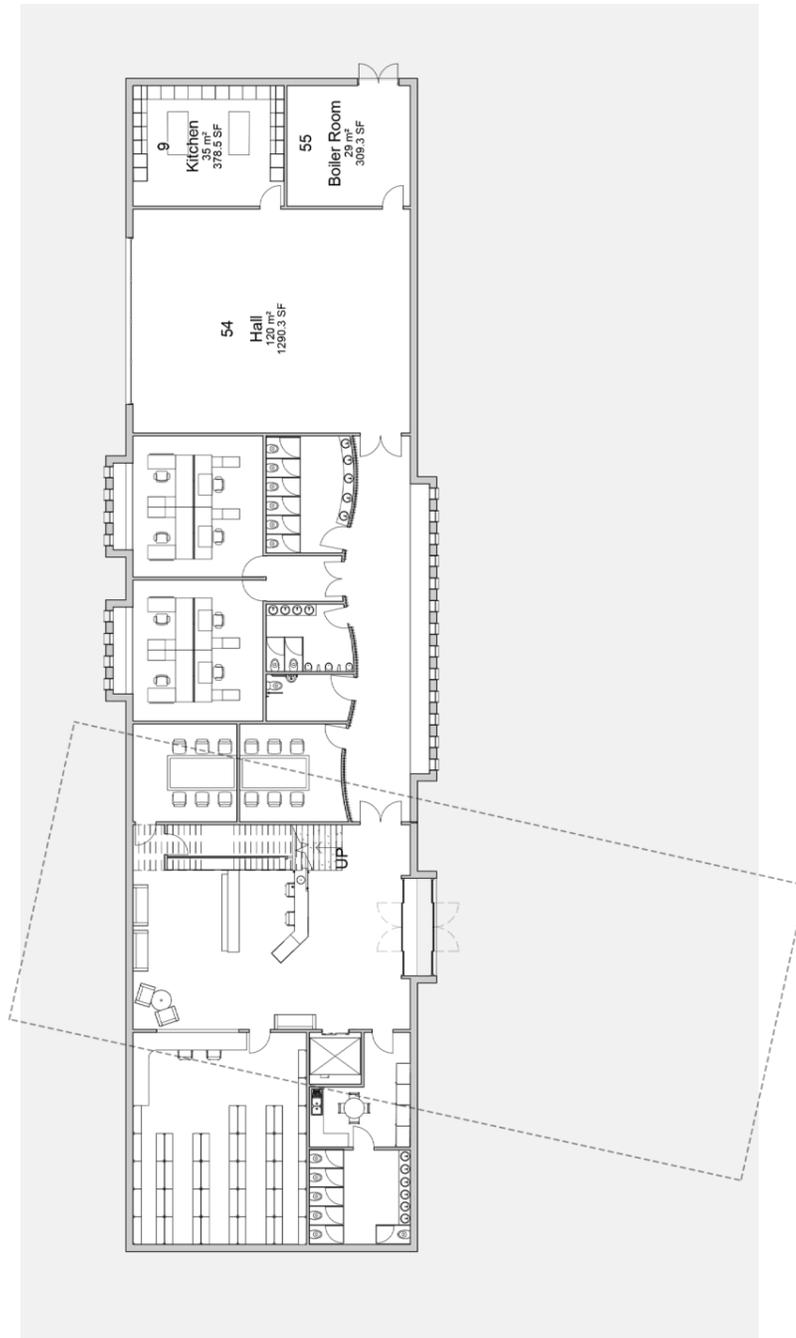


The task for this project was to design a healthcare and community centre within central Huddersfield. We were also required to create a new surrounding exterior space for community activities. For this project I wanted to separate the two functions of the building into separate storeys, positioning the healthcare centre upstairs and the sports-hall and other community facilities downstairs. I also wanted to ensure the building/site was better connected to the surrounding area. To achieve this I connected to a nearby subway as-well as adding another entrance to the site.

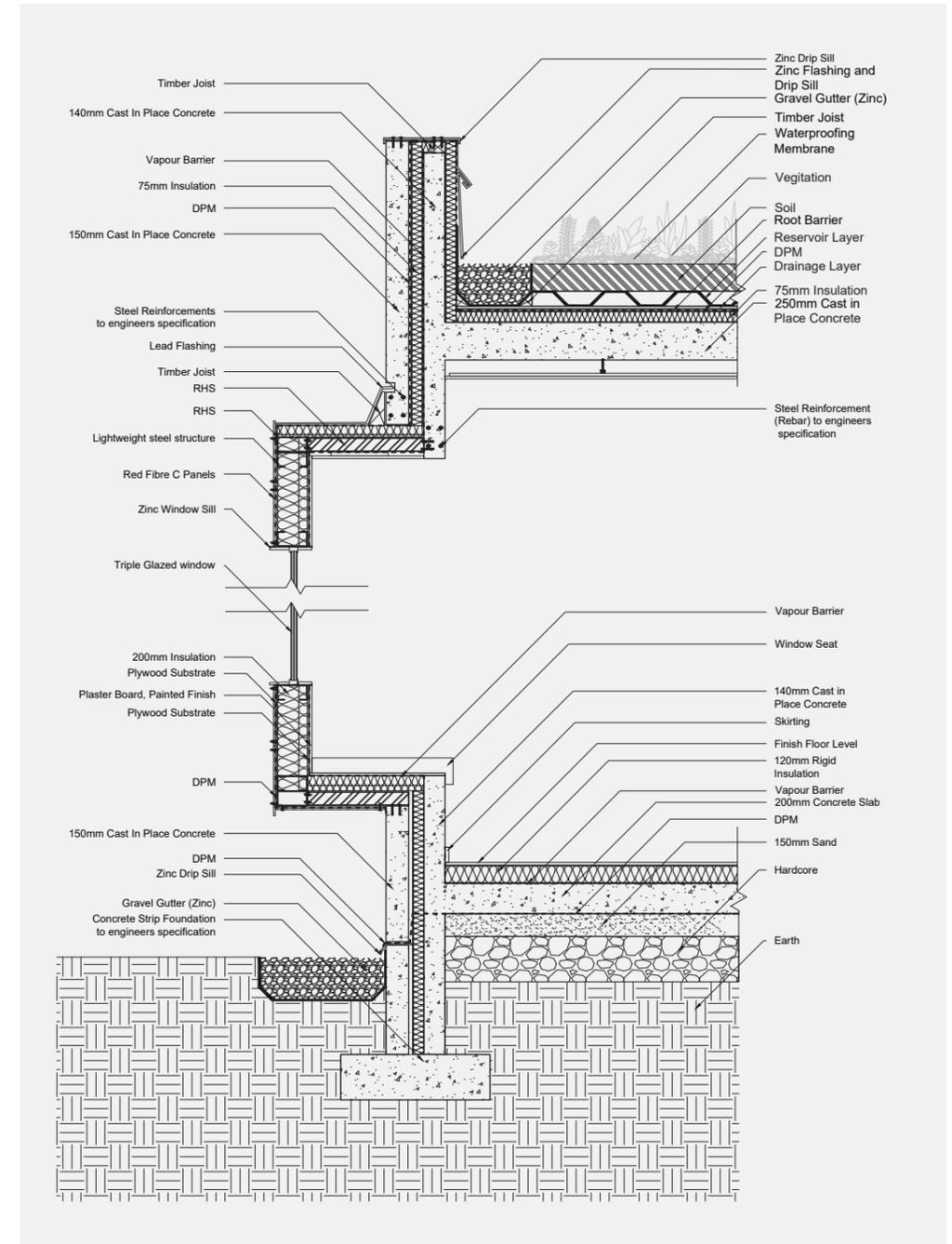


03

As this building would become a key part of the community I wanted to ensure the entrance was welcoming and reflected the buildings aesthetic. This meant designing custom furniture to allow for better integration into the building. I also designed a cantilever windowsill seat to provide a waiting area for the community hall.

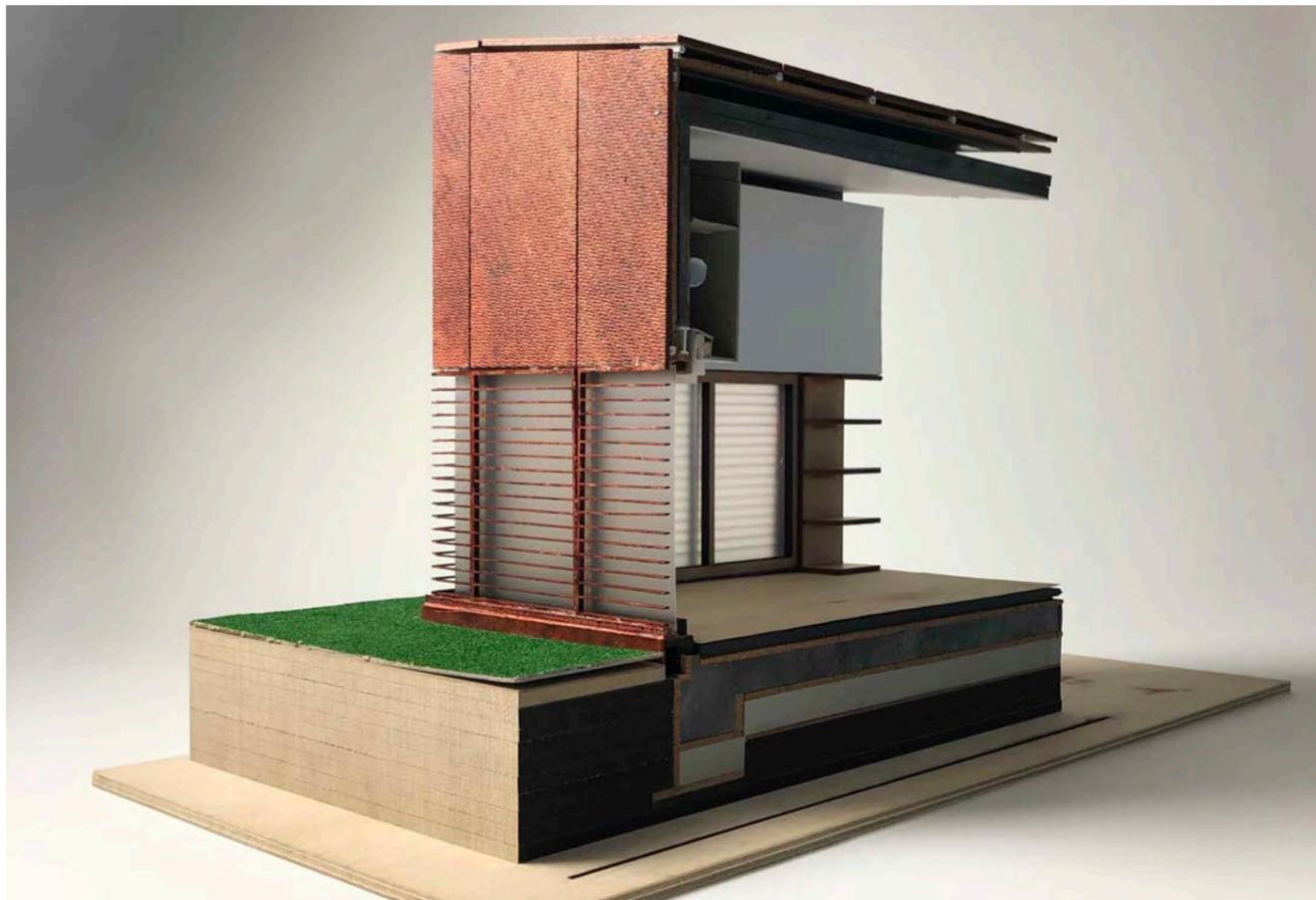


Above demonstrates the ground floor plan of the healthcare and community centre. As demonstrated this level included an entrance foyer, pharmacy, staff areas, a sports hall, offices, toilets, a boiler room and a kitchen. As well as the cantilevered windowsill waiting area.



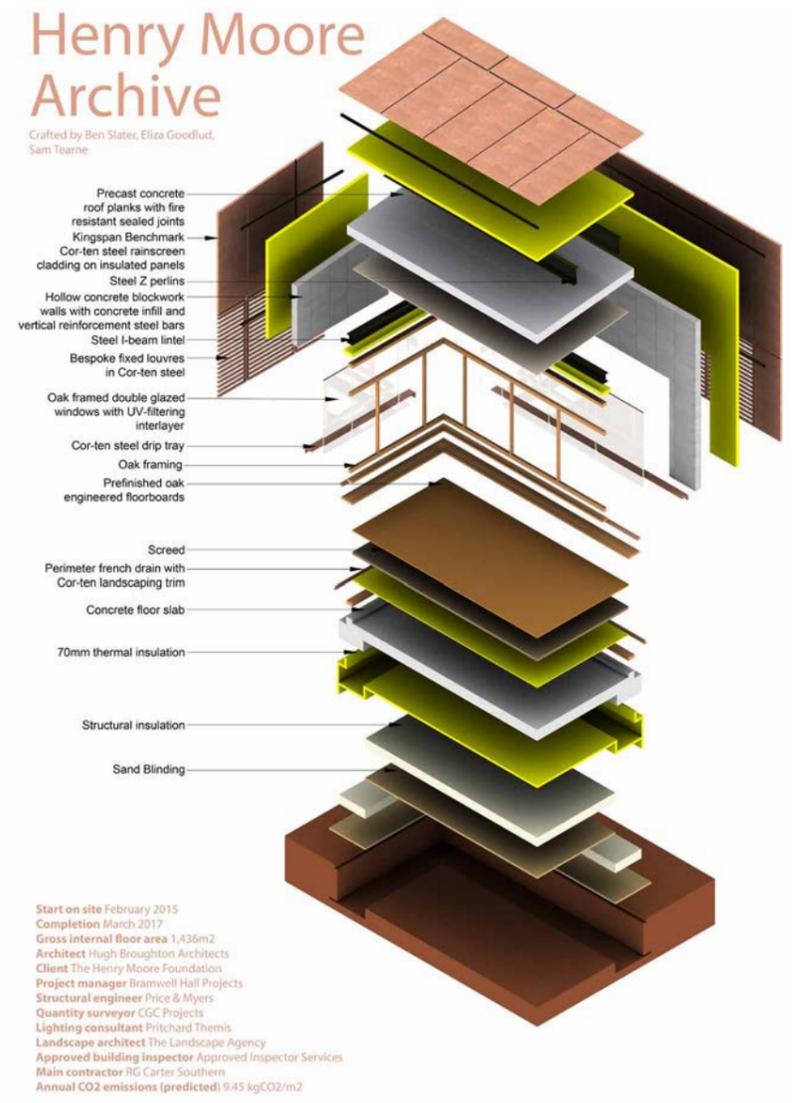
This detail depicts a construction section through the building from ground level to the rooftop garden. It also demonstrates how the cantilever windowsill and green roof would be constructed. Throughout producing this detail I wanted to ensure I minimised thermal bridges within the building to the best of my ability

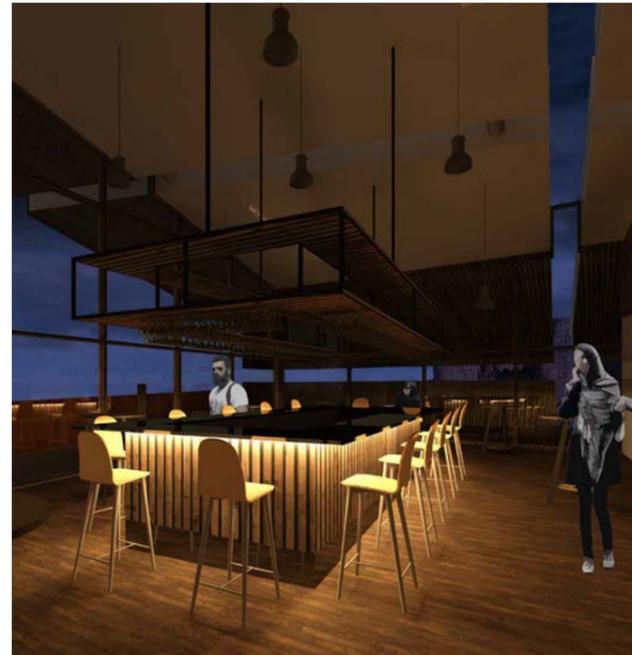
Attention to detail Henry Moore Archive



At the start of my third year of my degree we were tasked to produce a 1:20 detail construction model of an existing building in groups of three. Our group attempted to reproduce a corner section from Hugh Broughton Architects, Henry Moore Archive.

This project involved using whatever information we could find to reproduce the detail both in a physical format and in a 3D digital format, allowing us to gain a better understanding of the thought behind the construction process.





Performance Venue

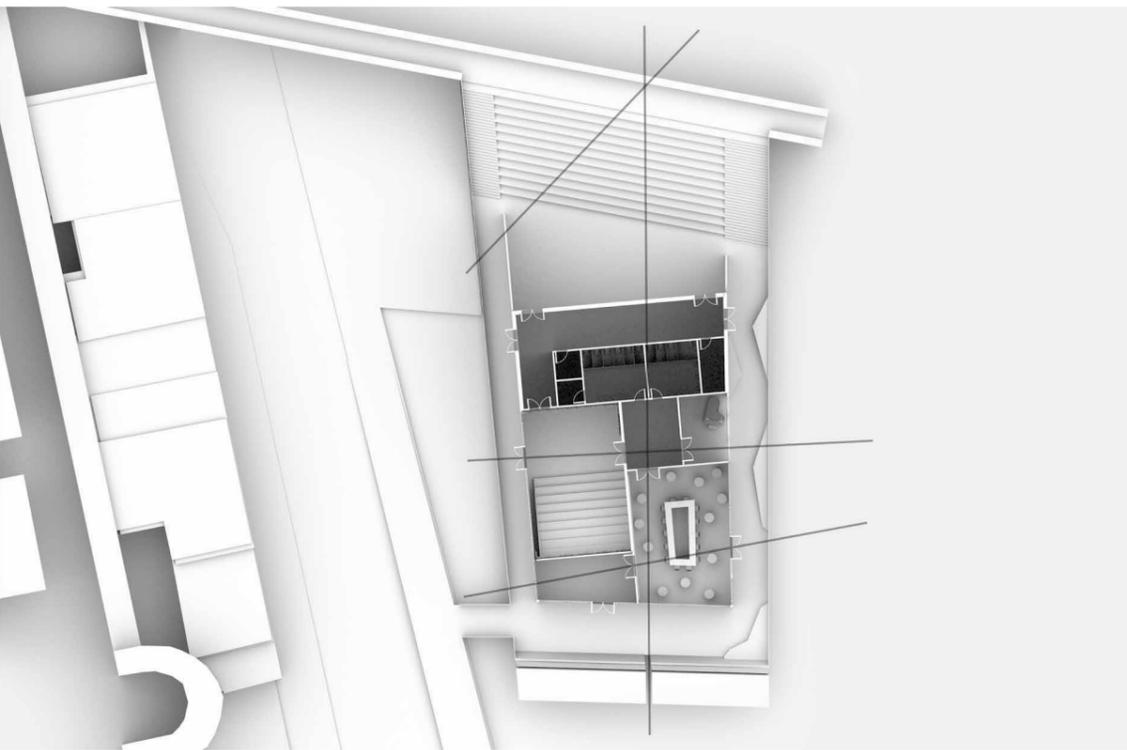
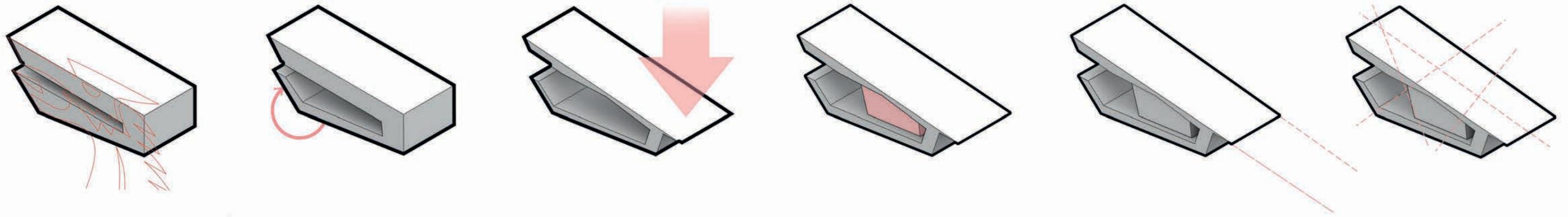
05

My first design project of my third year involved designing a performance venue for Conwy, Wales that connected to its historic town walls. This venue had to include a rehearsal space for up to 20 people, an interior venue for 200 people and an exterior venue for 200-400 people as well as any other necessary amenities

Conwy - Performance Venue, BA3 - 2019

For this project we were also required to design the building around a particular narrative. For this I chose to base my design on the Welsh dragon, the national symbol of Wales, hence the name 'The Dragons Jaw'





Above depicts the layout of my building which was derived by several leading factors. One feature I wanted to achieve within the design was to allow users to view and exit the exterior performance from the top of the town wall, therefore I incorporated amphitheatre style seating that led from the top of the wall to the base of the stage, this was sheltered by a large cantilevered canopy that extended over the top of the wall. Another key feature I wanted to incorporate was a series of skylights that ran the length of the building, each orientated to different local landmarks. Finally the whole building tapered to one end, this was orientated to allow the axis lines to join at Conwy castle, just down the bay.

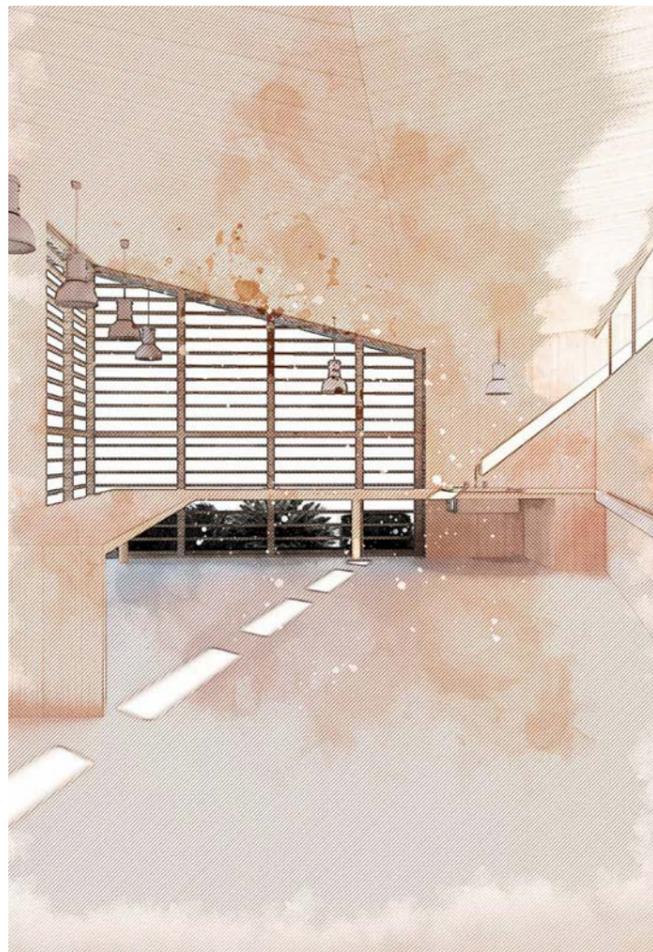


When developing a construction detail for this project there were several issues to overcome, including the whole building being wrapped in Cor-ten steel panels, the large cantilever and the building being raised slightly off the ground to allow the tide to run under it.

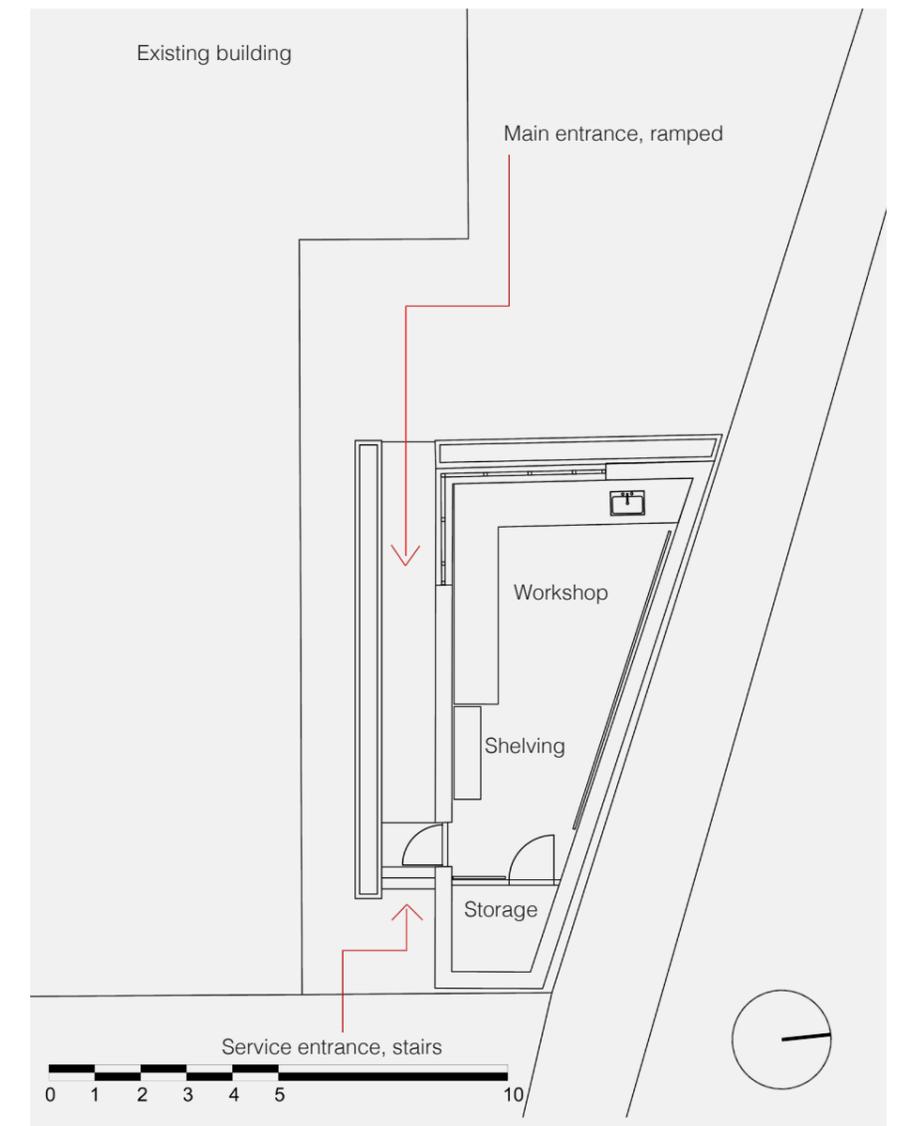


Winning Entry Castle Hill School- Recycling centre

This small project is my winning submission to an ideas competition ran by one of my university tutors, based on a live project. The task was to produce an initial design idea for a small classroom that could be used as a recycling/up-cycling centre for students from a special needs school in Huddersfield. This meant the classroom had to be extremely accessible and designed especially with the children's different needs in mind. The building also had to be completely off grid to ensure it did not tamper with the existing school grounds in anyway. This ultimately led to the building being designed to a passive haus standard.



The school originally provided some basic plans demonstrating what they required. I took these and developed the project into this modern pod that reflected the sustainable ethos of the project. The building included features like a green roof, raised planters, a plywood interior, a water collection system, handles around the perimeter of the interior and a ramped entrance to allow services to run underneath.



Cultural food centre - Melaka, Malaysia

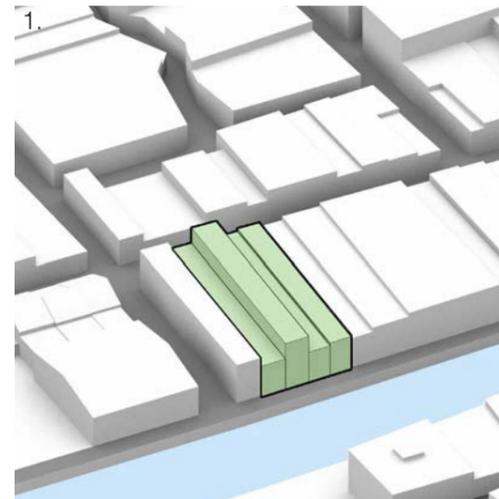
I have recently completed my BA Hons Architecture degree at the university of Huddersfield, for which I am predicted to receive a first class qualification. The final project of my degree was part of an international module my University offered situated in Melaka, Malaysia, which we had the opportunity to visit as a group for three weeks in January 2020.

For this project I have designed a new Cultural food centre, celebrating the varied Asian food found in Melaka. This centre will offer an open airy place for locals and tourist alike to come and enjoy Asian food from many different cultures as well as offering the opportunity for visitors to learn to cook these dishes in a purposefully designed cooking classroom.

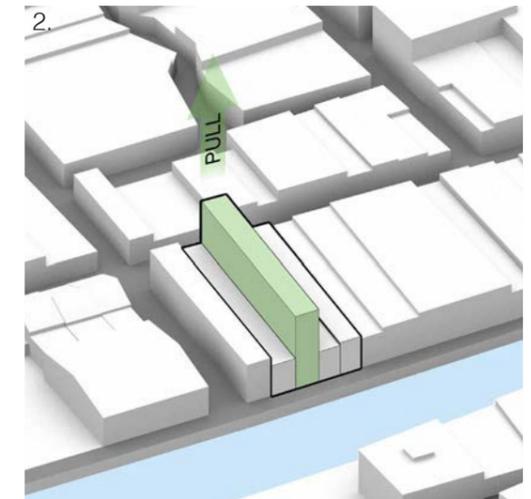
This opportunity has allowed me to tackle a design scheme with a whole new set of issues to overcome to ensure the building is suitable for the conditions and culture of Melaka.



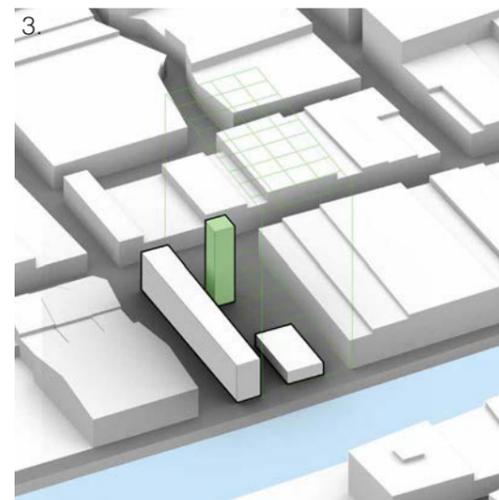
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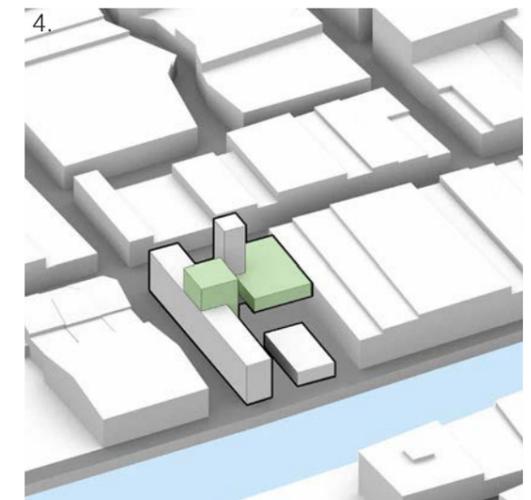
1. This diagram highlights the existing buildings situated on my chosen site



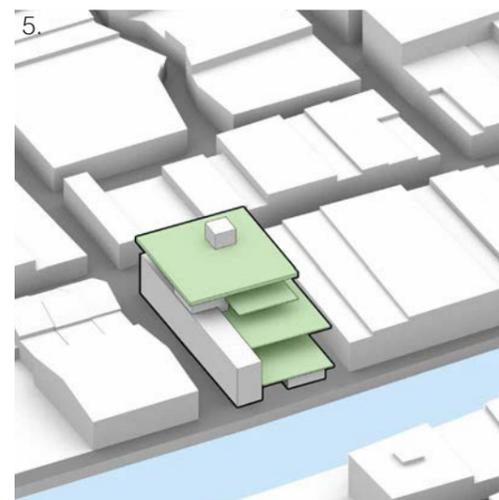
2. As part of my scheme I wanted to continue the rhythm of the street as well as celebrate the juxtaposition created by the varying roof heights



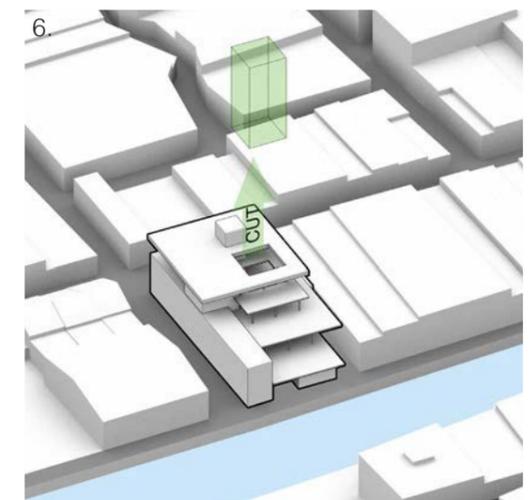
3. To ensure the buildings didn't look out of place I broke the different components of the project into small modules.



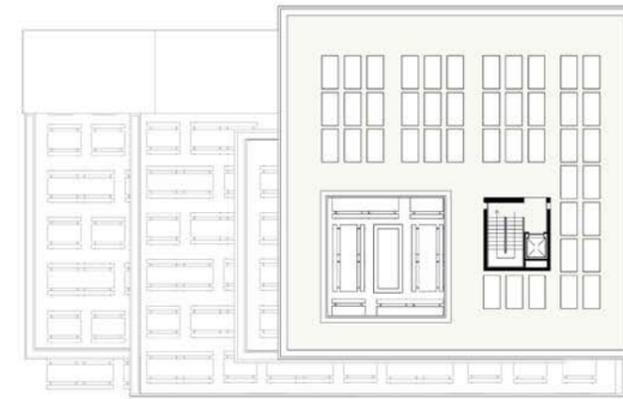
4. These modules would help to keep the rhythm of the street by breaking up the building.



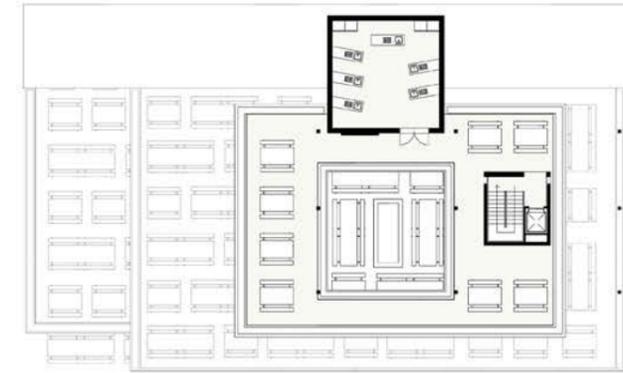
5. To join these modules together I created a series of levels that stepped back along the river, thus creating ideal viewing platforms and eating spaces.



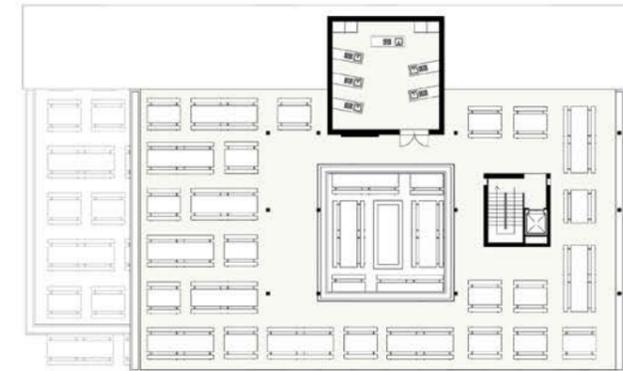
6. Finally to allow light into the lower levels of the project I created a central courtyard that penetrated all layers of the building.



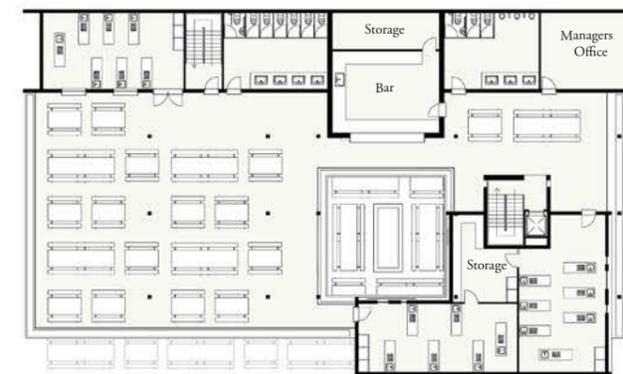
Roof Plan



3rd Floor



2nd Floor



1st Floor



Site Plan

