Recyclage /

In search for nomadic application of aluminium from urban mining in the design of a recycle learning center



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Manifesto



Educational specimen box, a tool for object-based teaching to enhance the holistic transmission of cognitive knowledge, manual skills, and ethical values; all through interaction with materials and things.

"Everyone is equipped by nature to receive and to assimilate sensory experiences. Everyone is sensitive to tones and colors, everyone has a sure 'touch' and space reactions, and so on."

Lehmann, 2017

The project site in Anderlecht, Belgium exists a fragmented urban fabric in terms of morphological evolution in the post-industrial period, functional mix of the urban plot, connection with the immediate urban grains and the ephemeral state of ownership of spaces around the site. However, the nomadic site actors practise informal 'urban mining' which enables material flow despite physical distance of the urban fragments. The flow of resource becomes the immaterial spolia that gives experiential qualities and grants adaptability to the neighbourhood. The urban planning proposal thus endeavors to orchestrate the process of urban mining from collection, disassembly, extraction, recovery, consumption and reinvention within the site plot, challenging the status quo of recycling industry as infrastructure. Besides industrial programmes, educational, cultural and commercial spaces can be derived from the elaborated process of urban mining. The master plan endowed contrasting characters to recycling spaces which can integrate production and consumption, infrastructure with education, and practicality with playfulness. It is significant to weave different kinds of working and living relationship within the plot to sustain the vibrancy and security of the neighbourhood. To achieve this, redrawing the boundary between private and public, providing a spectrum of spatial hierarchy for the communal space among these groups help generate the symbiosis of consumption and production activities of the neighbourhood. The site is re-zoned into a production strip, mixed commercial and production public interior strip, and a cultural strip, forming a sprawling alley-yard internally that connects the major urban nodes of the plot at its periphery. The organization stitches the urban fragments thematically and functionally with narrating the process of urban mining.

"Everyone is equipped by nature to receive and to assimilate sensory experiences," (Lehmann, 2017). Recyclage is a hybrid that encompasses a material library, makerspace for material experiment, exposition space for new prototypes, auditorium, meeting rooms, office space for researchers and archive, providing a converge point for inhabitants,

entrepreneurs, researchers and everyday makers. Being juxtaposed with teaching space of Le goujon and confronting the street of institutions, the recycle learning center serves as an extension of the educational cluster. The programmes are devised in zones that foster a pedagogical environment based on the observation of how a person understands and approaches material when I conducted the sensory experience mapping for the research. The spatial arrangement suggests exploratory and ascending movement with constant sightlines towards Le goujon which predominantly constitutes to the site context. The center interpreted materials as interlocutor between people from all walks of life, unleashing the inherent material literacy of individuals, reinventing architectural opportunities between traces of events, time as well as memories.

The materiality of the building illustrates the boundless possibility of materials and the humanized facet of urban mining. Aluminium is highly available, omnipresent in ever-changing commercial and residential buildings, and associated with domestic life and the remembrance of Anderlecht being a post-industrial city. The architecture ensemble is depicted as a living life account of aluminium that it is finished with mainly reused aluminium which undergoes a myriad of transformation strategies: reuse, repurpose, reconfigure and transform to take up different expressions. The 'patchwork' language presents an amateur character and recognizes the potential of anthropocene waste in elevating the design outcome.

Preliminary/

The unstable city_ unstable programme in stable structures





Structure | Space

Structure serves as the permanent frame of the building which allows changes in the requirements imposed on it over times without damaging its essential characters. Adaptive reuse is transformation which is not inferior to a the structure; nor is it a compromise to the existing. The architecture responds to the instability fostered by uncertainty and time in accordance to different building layers: skin, space plan and stuff, at different pace. The independence of layers is recognised and the changeability of space planning and stuff is exploited more often due to the limitation of knowledge, time and cost. A promising trend of providing a spectrum of space with predetermined bandwidth of functions (functional flexibility) and polyvalent space that promotes affordance (indeterminate flexibility) can be discerned. By designing the proportion and organization of these spaces, and calculating the user scenarios, we could be closer to authentic flexibility.





Methodology

Research objective

How do the stable structures of South Cureghem accommodate unstable programs?



CASE

STUDY

Case study

- 1. Leonidas (Previnairestraat 58)
- 2. Studio Citygate (Grondelsstraat 152)
- 3. Davi (Kommenstraat 16)
- 4. TicTac (Emile Carpentierstraat 34)

Specific research questions

1. What is the reasoning behind the changing or temporary program? (political/economical accommodation) 2. How have stable structures been accustomed the different programs? (zoning/programmatic accommodation/ spatial organization/accessibility/ visibility) 3. What are the user-initiated strategies of accommodating the new program within a stable structure? (space plan/ stuff/ ambience accommodation)

Literature review

Historical map study

Phenomenology

1. Observation of movement, accessibility, visibility and users' activities with sketching and photography 2. Qualitative interviews with stakeholders (plot owners/ plot tenants/ users/neighbours)



3. Filiming the spacial quality of walking experience





Interview Results



Interview with plot tenants

	Site	Leonidas			Studio Citygate				
	Tenants Questions	Rotor		AdHoc interior (Cabinet Maker)	Île (climbing hall)	Wing A G/F: Antidote (pop-up bar/cafe/canteen)	Wing B floor 0: Byrrrh And Skate	Wing A Floor 2: Marlies de Clerck	Wing B floor 3: Petite Île (climbing hall)
1.1	Age range sex	29 F	28 (M)			38 (M)		~30 (F)	~28(F)
	Nationality	Belgain, living in the neighbourhood		Belgian, living in Sant Gilles				Belgian, living in the north of Brussels	Italian,have been in brussels for 7 years
2.3 General	How long have you been in this position?	Empoyee since the establishment of the company		He has his own workshop since October in this building. Even though he is sharing it with an iron maker.		The cafe has been opened for 2 weeks.		Since a year, before this an old office building in Leopold neighborhood. Now adaptive resued for homeless people.	1 to 2 years, ever since it was open.
1.4	Why do you choose this place?								Wanted to have a bouldering gym, a friend of her knew the place and she contacted the owner
2.1.1	What are the users? (keeper and consumer)		neighbourhood, families, schools, the football club with regular training	is not representable. His clients are all over Belgiun and Brussels.		Tenants in citygate and people from nearby cities	and nearby cities	She is an artist, so she invites her clients in her atelier	Keeper >they are know each other through friends, most of them are investor, some are immigrgants for many years, but very diverse from different parts of europe Consumer >many of them are from everywhere in brussels, some of them are from the neighbouring town, because this is the only bouldering gym in the brussels kid and family do come but there are difficulties to separate them from the user around 20 to 30s because no body reallly like kids shouting and screaming around, they are trying to have course for kids in the weekdays to minimize the concentration of different people in the weekend many climbers are beginners as before this, there is no bouldering gym in brussel



















Space Planning Leonidas

- 1-3 Erasing programmes with permeability and non-hierarchial space4-6 Insertion of modular systems7-9 Personal adaptation



















Space Planning Studio Citygate

1-3 Operational elements4-6 Insertion of modular systems7-9 Personal adaptation



















Space Planning

TicTac Art Center

Flexibility is attained by the provision of neutral space that promotes affordance. For example, the dance studio can support individual rehearsaling, dialogue dancing, group learning, performance and so on and so forth due to its airy and naturally lit-up space. The additional volume contains the amenity that support the major programmes and produces another loft space for more functional opportunities. Personal adaptation can be witnessed on all surfaces to give character of each sections.

- 1-3 Spatial neutrality
- 4-6 Insertion of modular systems
- 7-9 Personal adaptation













Space Planning Davi

The flexibility is attained by zoning, which condenses functional systems and allows us-ers to use the rest of the space as they want. Abundant circulation space is included for more flexible layout of the display shelves and racks. The furniture also helps to highlight the regularity of the shop and spatial axis.

1-2 Maximizing the unprogrammed3-4 Insertion of modular systems

5-6 Personal adaptation



The space planning strategies applied are the resolution of tension between control and freedom. Extra modular volumes are tended to be added to give room for more private functions such as working and meeting given it can limit the heating requirement within the poorly insulated industrial buildings. The public programme is usually designed with neutrality that welcomes affordance.

The collages of materials deliver the idea of how the industrial features are retained in different ways, such as bricolage, stacking, repurposing and preserving the in-situ salvaged materials. Layering styles gives a tasteful vintage look and also avoids unnecessary finishings. Huge graphics define a bold urban image, and are also the cheapest way to brand a blind wall. Thus, industrial appearance is part of the charm of reused places.

sing change of property and expre











The graphical matrix illustrates how the buildings provide a spectrum of indeterminate (i.e. the space is interpreted and is used in various ways within a certain boundary) and functional flexibility (i.e.the space performs various intended functions with limited room for interpretation.

Synthesis and transformation of materials









Dressing



Stuff









Design factory



Studio Citygate

Building layers





Insertion of modular systems





Rotor





New facade





Functional neutrality





In-situ recycling



Tictac

Buildings are composed of levels that absorb and respond to changes in varying time and functions. The fast-changing inner layers are usually dictated by the outer layers. The projects have been accommodating to the changing programme mostly in the stuff and space plan layers. It is crucial to optimize the adapting capacity of all building layers and make them coherent to each other.

Rescaling









New roof



Maximize the unprogrammed



Furniture as zoning & axis



Davi



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Davi

Site Analysis/

Context Accessibility_Edge · Path · Node Working · living



- Residential buildings show the greatest resistance over time.
 Patches along the major infrastructure exhibit higher degree of instability.



1. The plot consists of both consumption and production spots of metal waste 2. The consumption and production spots are not integrated or supporting each other.



Keep

Remove

1 Leonidas factory

- Highly adaptable structure - Confusing circulation due to for space of production and the different tenants occupation consumption

> - poor condition of the warehouse

2 Production Squatter

- Highly adaptable structure - High vacancy for space of production and consumption

3 De Goujons



increasing population - the faded landmark identity

- The height and density for - Poor equipment HVAC, not insulated

- the lack of social interaction and connection - The inequality of "front and
- back"

4 The communal restaurant



5 The Park



6 The Row House



7 The Consumption Squatter

8 The houses





9 The Covered Zenne

Remove

- Highly gated and unfriendly presence
- The insufficiency of private communal space
- The confusing, hidden and long route of access
- Confusion of access, publicity and use
- The conflict between the curvy urban morphology and edgy urban plot boundary

Keep



Legend



Solid & void

Landuse

Circulation

Node 1

Problem/ 1.The interface of corners are dissected by car circulation

Potential/

1.Congregation node for the immediate neighbourhood2.Continue the inclusive intersection on the

east of the railway towards the west 3.Junction is formed by chamfered corners

with setback buildings 4.Pubic programme extends into the public area

5.urban furniture allows communal function

Building status



Problem/ 1.The corner is detached from its immediate housing slab

Potential/

 Extrovert and active node
 All the corners are complete with either triangular open space or green area
 The corners are stitched to the main road
 Pubic programme extends into the public area

5.urban furniture allows communal function

Node 5







Problem/

 The roundabout obstructs the interaction of the five corners
 The corner where the private housing slab is situated is not addressing the roundabout

Potential/

 The main node connecting to the city center
 Both pedestrian and car traffic are

regulated







Problem/

1. There is no accessible buffer zone at the junction

2.The splitting of the car circulation is abrupt and can be prone to car accidents 3.The point of interest and open space are gated

Potential/

 Relocate or reduce the ground plot size of the corner office building to generate more generous buffer zone for pedestrians
 Create point of interest on the existing greenery as a orientation reference





Landuse



Circulation



Problem/

1.The islands are alienating the corners without proper crossings
2.The corner buildings on the residential/ office block is dividing up the corner
3.Both the car and pedestrian circulation among the corners are confusing
4.The profile of the corners are not interactive and responding to each other

Potential/

1. Reconnect the corner park to the interfacing building patches

Landuse

Solid & void



Problem/

1.The islands, railway, car parking zone beneath the railway are separating the plot in terms of connectivity and visibility

Potential/

 Make use of the islands
 Relocate the car parking zone beneath the railway





Edge 1/

Bound by the railway, inanimate walls and gates and chaotic parking, creating a hostile atmosphere.



Edge 2/

The interface between working and living spaces. The void separates the working and living groups with circulation, dumpsters and rows of fences.



Edge 3/

An institutional street filled with kids and their parents. However, the park confronting the schools is densely gated which make a lot of kids playing on the street.



Edge 4/

A residential side usually filled with unwanted furniture and rubbish.



River Senne flowed through the site plot and nourished the growth of factories and housing units for the workers. The street facade was the most complete compared to the later times.



After de-industrialization, River Senne was covered and building density decreased. Le Goujons with a concave built-form was constructed, creating an invisible boundary along the river trace. Housing units resided only on the east of the railway.



2004

The density of factories further reduced while more housing units were built along the plot periphery.





2019

The site vacancy was filled and complemented in a piecemeal approach with clearer alienation of working and living space.





Work inside/ Live outside



1. poduction space are separate from the living space by the railway

2. the plot is an extraordinary mixed various living space and working space

3. neibouring plot are dominated by shophouse boundary with some working space infilled



Work outside/ Live inside

The existing living and working groups are physically situated beside each other. This situation is attributed to the lack of communal space that connects the working and living spots. They are consuming and occupying the site at different times without encounters. The working group is hidden behind the facades and at the backside of the plot next to the railway. It is important to weave different kinds of working and living relationship within the plot to sustain the vibrancy and security of the neighbourhood. To achieve this, redrawing the boundary between private and public, providing a spectrum of spatial hierarchy for the communal space among these groups help generate the symbiosis of consumption and production of the neighbourhood.

Existing living/working mode



Urban Design/

A plot for urban mining

Typology









Scheme C



Legend









- c. rechaps the riner. and
- d. regraanize the plot with grids ropondy to the urban trace.

Flexible Yards

to breakdown the inflostructural boundary

- 02a. connectly the mega social hansing, new productal & consumption pace to the existing theteries over the Atactance.
- b. ondulating strip of live + consumption + production & concumption & production.
- 03 Q. . changeable yards for D weeds of & actors in a timp.

b. orgulary the boundary with noche.

Solid & Void to activate the fragment boundaries

- OZA. juxtaposing production and consumption spare to evente a finge relationship for efficient transpert of moderiels intusing the moderiels b.
 - circulation with communal spore to more the plot more pedestricus friendly
- 03a. the additional consumption spaces complete the plot boundar: es and structscope b. the communal void generated by
 - the existing production and new consumption space retreive the hodden trave of Senne.
 - C. the new consumption space can be the zoning quindance afor the future (programmatic re-zone)













1. the block scale diminished eastward

2. gated void define the boundary
 3. typology_solid scatted in the middle, void enclosed, void engulfing the boundary

Programme zoning

Legend

Existing building

Flexible space

New intervention

Programme integrated with urban mining



1. Fragmented organization

2. Inequality, not all shared space are connected to the private space



1. walkways at the corner are ussually widen with some turn to flexible yards 2. the boundary of the plot are evaded by both human and traffic activities
 3. the parking are found along the road and inside the boundary, sometimes merge with the flexible yards









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node









1. Demolishing poorly conditioned buildings, modifying the private row houses to open up the plot entrance and extending the Rotor building.





2. Redrawing the boundaries of public and private. A public private alley-yard is created. Existing built surfaces are used as spolia as different roles.



3. The inner plaza is further differentiated into two, one dedicates to Recyclage and the other one to Le goujon. The two plazas are narrated with progressive uncovering of the water of Senne. Pedestrians are always meandering with the presence of water, the old and the new.


Master plan



existing buildings which are partially adapted



• ۲ + 6 • G 0 * • G N 4 0

Section BB'

Legend

Urban planning 1. Workshop 2. Conceptual store/workng studio 3. Plaza

Plaza

Recyclage 4. Cafe/ retail for prototype 5. Makerspace (digital) 6. Group workshop 7. Makerspace (metal/wood) 8. Classroom 9. Open workstation for researchers



Section AA'

- Urban planning 1. Renovated slab housing 2. Entrance gate

 - Le Goujon -- ·· ·· ··

- Recyclage 3. Reception 4. Material library
 - - Gallery
- Group workshop Group workshop Makerspace (digital) Material archive Sitting steps Courtyard



Urban planning 1. Existing residential building 2. Extraction and shredding plant 3. Loading/unloading 4. Warehouse 5. Flea market

4 6

CU

4



Section CC'









Sequential perspectives

Material Proposal/

Reuse and application of aluminium









1000W x 2150H

1250W x 1440H



700W x 1200H



1030W x 1300H



1120W x 1190H

Salvaged windows

1080W x 1200H

2990W x 2090H





1540W x1450H



2359W x 2570H



1240W x 1330H



1310W x 1570H



950W x 2200H



950W x 2730H



scrap

Space plan Ceiling

Stuff Furniture





open cell ceiling



pipe

Process of materials/ Materials/



double facade with reclaimed wood lumber





RECONFIGURED

patchwork panels with aluminium scrap

aluminium foam











Quartier Des Spectacles / Ædifica



Collage House / S+PS Architects



Evangelical Temple in Terrassa / OAB







Scrigno del Cielo, architecture in a window"/ Cherubino Gambardella and Simona Ottieri



Ξ.











Architectural Design/

A pedagogical environment for material learning

Pedagogical environment for recycling learning

Knowledge acquisition	1. auditorium 2. classrooms 3. material library	330 m² 430 m²
Inspiration	4. courtyard/roof terrace 5. cafe/retail for prototype	200 m ² 200 m ²
Realization	6. group workshop 7. flexible makerspace	170 m ² 355 m ²
Rea	8. gallery	90 m ² 55 m ²
Support	10. co-working space for researchers 11. material archive	230 m ² 96 m ²
-0)	administration	210 m²



Total area: 2366 m²









- Reception
 Material library
- 3. Classroom
- 4. Auditorium
- 5. Gallery

- 6. Cafe/ retail for prototype
 7. Group workshop
 8. Makerspace (Wood/ metal)
 9. Courtyard
 10. Storage
 11. Mechanical room









- 12. Material archive
- 13. Open workstation for researchers
 14. Breakout space
 15. Makerspace (digital)
 16. Conference room

- 17. Roof terrace











Building technology/

Structure · Climate · Details













Portal Frames



Structure design

double glazed electric solar roof window
corrugated tuff roofing sheets
contigued fail rooming sites
fixed double glazed side glazing
IPE 240 120/ 240 mm steel I-beam
steel beam:HE700A 300/690 mm
HE240A steel column 230/240 mm
corrugated aluminum roofing sheet
interior partition with piled
salvaged aluminium pipes
steel frame: IPE 500/250 dropped open-cell ceiling
Exterior cladding: untreated wood panels+salvaged aluminium windows aluminium foam panels
salvaged aluminium doors patchwork panels with salvaged aluminium corrugated panels and profiles mounted steel frame RHS 75/150/5
SHS 75/75/2 rod bracing
aluminium grating catwalk
single glazed glass panels



- Strip foundation
 Steel portal frame
 Knee bracing
 Apex haunch
 Sidewall grit
 Bottom haunch



'Patchwork' cladding

- Deconstruction
 Cutting of salvaged aluminium profiles , corrugated and flat cladding sheets
 Hardware components such as hinges, locks and brackets are retained
- Corrugated sheets and profiles are fastened on the flat back panels with slats
 The reconfigured panels are hung on the steel profiles
 Clips on the steel back frame allow refitting and dismounting



Aluminium open-cell ceiling

- 1. Deconstruction
- 2. Cutting of salvaged aluminium sheets
- 3. The blades are hung onto the carrier profiles in multiple directions. Each row of blades can be folded down and removed individually.



Winter (passive + mechanical heating & mechanical ventilation)

- 1. Twin-face facade creates air buffer which works as a barrier to heat loss. Sun-heated air contained in the cavity can heat spaces outside the glass, reducing the demand for indoor heating systems.
- 2. Radiant floor heating
- 3. Natural illumnation and heat gain from skylight
- 4. External air filter
- 5. Heat pump to enable hybrid ventilation with heat recovery for days in
- which the weather does not allow natural ventilation.
- 6. Solar thermal collectors for domestic hot water, room heating and seasonal storage. During summer solar cooling works with heat pump.
- 7. Seasonal storage of heat undergraound can store energy in summer which is to be used in winter.



Summer (passive + mechanical cooling & ventilation)

- 1. Double skin facade reduces solar gain
- 2. The cavity twin-face facade can be vented outside the building to mitigate solar gain and decrease the cooling load. Excess heat is drained with chimney effect, where differences in air density create a circular motion that causes warmer air to escape. As the air temperature in the cavity rises, it is pushed out, bringing a slight breeze to the surroundings while isolating against heat gain.
- 3. Cross ventilation and stack effect ventilation
- 4. Reflective roof cladded with corrugated aluminum
- 5. Mechanical cooling and ventilation
- 6. Ceiling fan to facilitate stacking ventilation
- 7. Water tank to collect rain water for storm water reuse









G/F

1/F



- 1. Rooftop cap
- 2. Roof construction: 4mm tuff roof/ corrugation: 45mm 200mm rock wool insulation sub-purlin
 - 50mm structural deck
- 3. 120/ 240 mm IPE 240 steel I-beam
- 4. Rainwater down pipe
- 5. Stainless steel grated channel
- 6. Glazing with aluminium profiles with motorized opening part
- 7. 75/150 mm steel RHS beam
- 8. Fixed single glazing panel :12mm lam. safety glass
- 9. 30mm reclaimed barn wood panel
- 10. 25 + 20 mm gypsum panels
- 11. Reclaimed double-glazed aluminium window
- 12. Linear graze luminaire
- 13. Aluminium grating catwalk for maintenance
- 14. Floor construction:
 - 20mm oak parquet
 - 60mm raised floor system floor underfloor heating pipes
 - 160mm precase concrete slab
- 15. Floor convector
- 16. 25mm aluminium foam cladding
- 17. Dropped open-cell ceiling with reclaimed alumnium blades
- 18. 120mm rockwool insulating panels
- 19. HVAC system
- 20. 100mm dia. PVC pipe connectd to storm drain
- 21. Pendant line luminaire





1:50 Elevation





- Ridge cover cap plate
 Stainless steel spring
- 3. Expanded metal support screen
- 4. Aluminium Z bracket
- 5. Compound AI. clip with thermal barrier
- 6. Top-hat sub purlin
- 7. Vapour control layer

- 1. 6mm dia. threaded rod
- 2. L-shaped primary carrier
- 3. Carrier-U
- 4. Spring panel hanger
- 5. Reclaimed aluminium blade



1: 20 Plan





- 1. 230/240 mm HE240A steel column
- 2. 65/150 mm metal stud
- 3. 30mm reclaimed wood panel
- 4. clip
- 5. reclaimed double-glazed aluminium window
- 6. 2x 10 mm gypsum panel
- 7. 20/65 mm metal stud
- 8. 75/75 mm SHS steel profile
- 9. 6mm laminated glazing
- 10. 20mm dense mineral wool panel
- 11. Cavity filled with mineral wool
- 12. 2mm aluminium casing