Fascination

1. EPIDERMIS
2. CLOTHES
3. HOUSE
4. IDENTITY
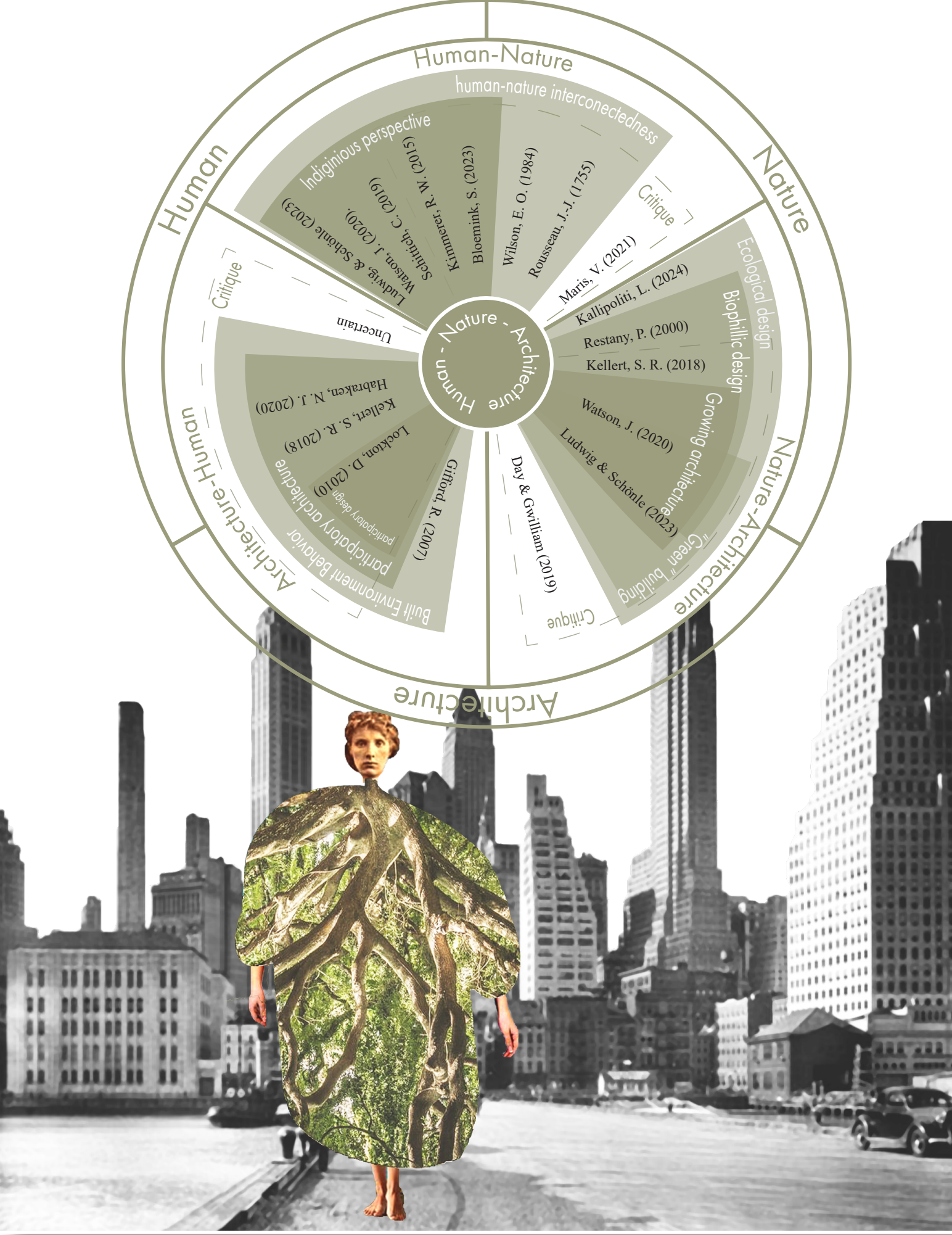5. EARTH

Problem Statement

Inhabitants of urban environments are increasingly disconnected from the natural world, leading to ecological alienation, greenwashing and unsustainable practices. A shift in how we build and live is necessary to cohabitate with our surrounding world.

Theoretical Framework

"Anyone who makes the effort can become indigenous to a place, provided there is enough time spent observing, listening to, and forming a reciprocal relationship with the land where one lives."

Robin Wall Kimmerer

"Coming to terms with an uncertain future and confronted by climate events that cannot be predicted, species extinctions that cannot be stopped, humanity is tasked with developing solutions to protect the wilderness that remains, and transform the civilizations we construct. *While we are drowning in this Age of Information, we are starving for wisdom.*"
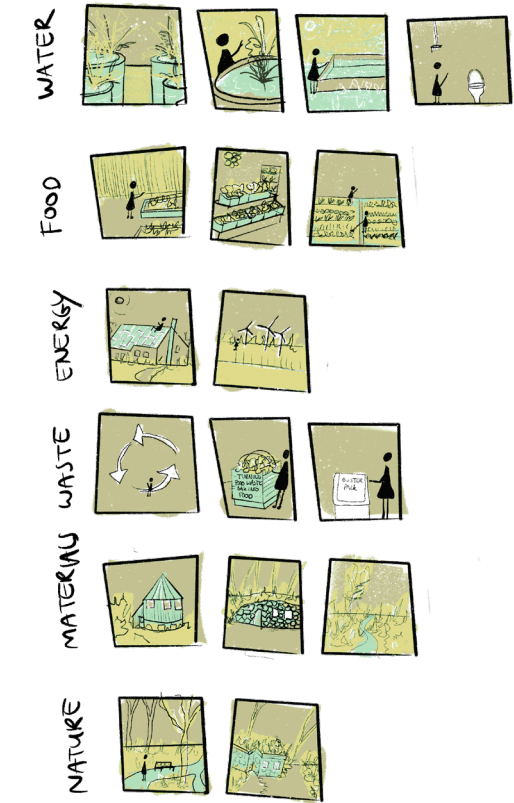
Julia Watson

Visual Diagram
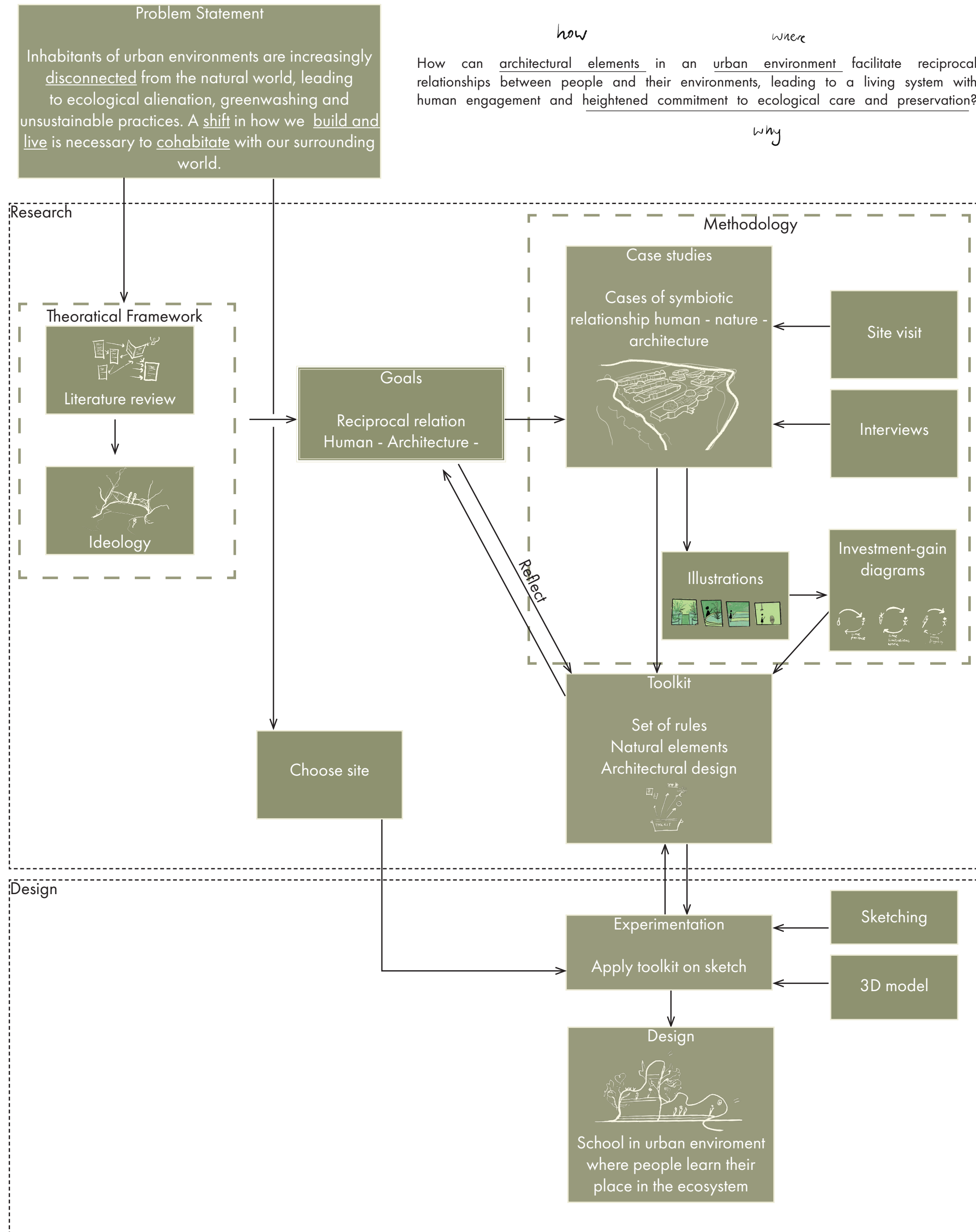
How can the theoretical foundations inform the design of reciprocal relationships between individuals and their environments?
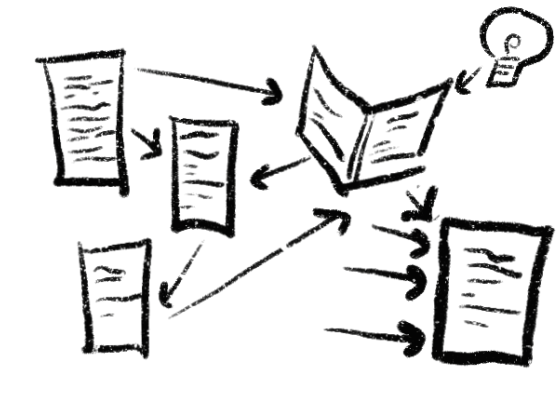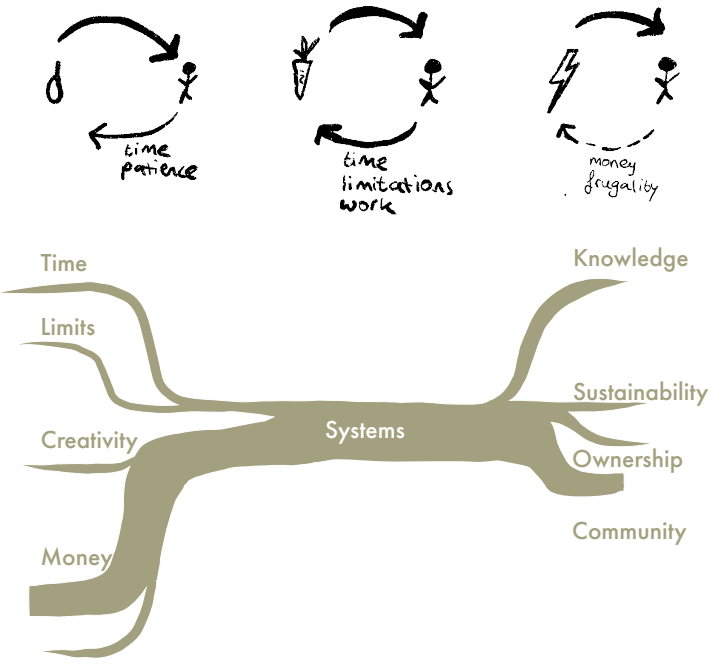
Literature review

How do individuals engage with specific architectural elements that encourage reciprocal relationship in the selected case studies?
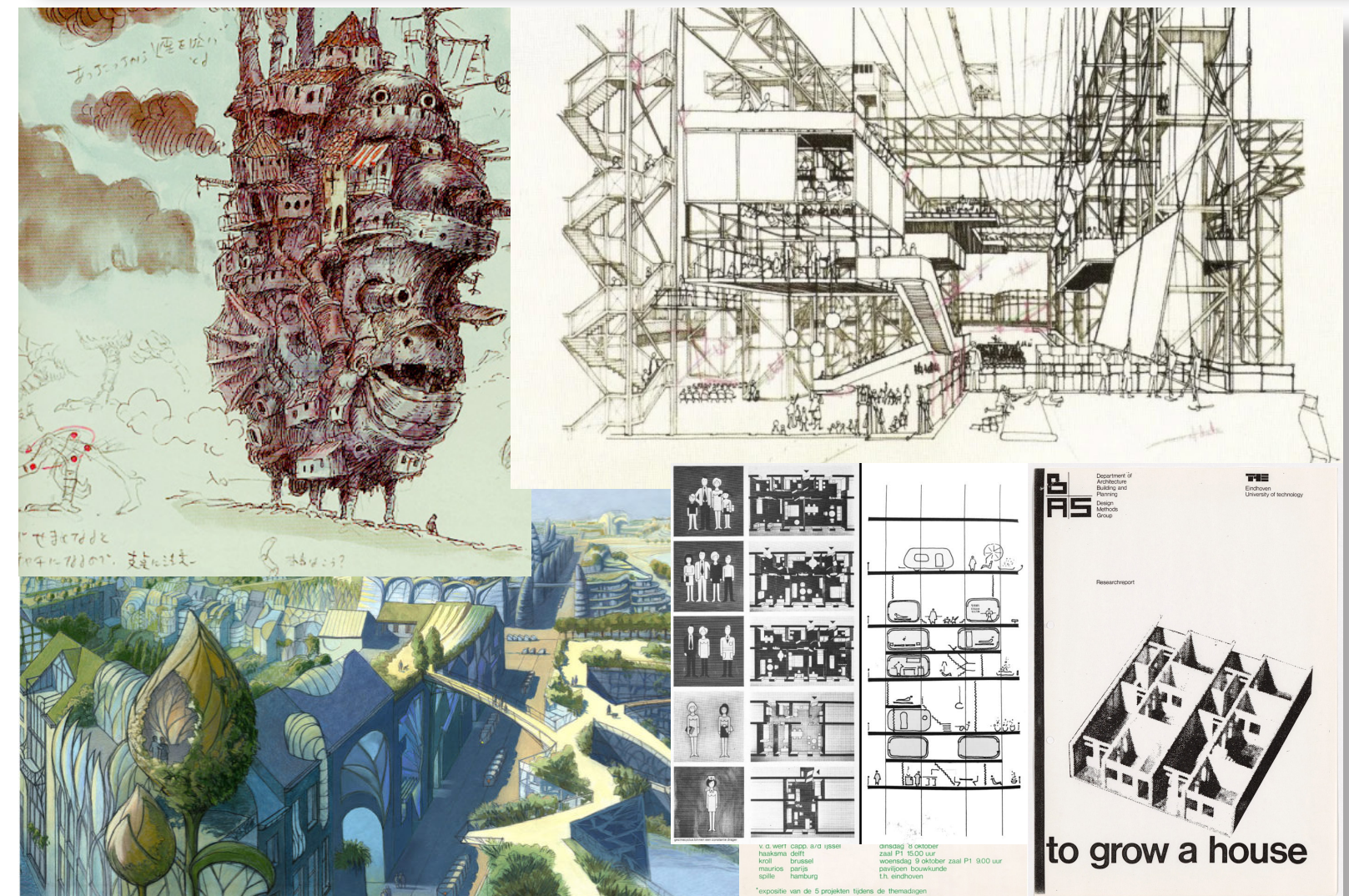
Comic style illustrations and diagrams

What is the balance between human involvement and the building's "response" in these case studies, and how does it influence ecological awareness and stewardship?

Investment-gain diagrams

Objective

"The first step in saving nature is the rewilding of our own mind"

Kristine mc Divitt Tompkins

PRODUCT

PROCESS

1900

2024

Research Question

How can *architectural elements* in an *urban environment* facilitate reciprocal relationships between people and their environments, leading to a *living system* with human engagement and heightened *commitment to ecological care* and preservation?

Unknown makes unloved and unloved makes unprotected

Kaat Biesemans-Hoogewijk

Participation architecture
Indigenous wisdom
Ecological design

GROWING ALIFE CHANGING → RECIPROCAL RELATIONS → PROUD OWNERSHIP STORY'S

Design Question

How can the design of a school integrate natural elements in ways that require students' active involvement, promoting a deeper connection to and understanding of local ecosystems?

Human-Nature Connection
In Biophilia by Edward O. Wilson (1984), this connection refers to humanity's kinship with nature, where people have an intrinsic psychological need to interact with the natural world.

Urban Environment
Day & Gwilliam describe cities as hubs of human activity, where there exists a distance between inhabitants and the ecosystems that sustain them.

Indigenous Wisdom
Rooted in Braiding Sweetgrass by Robin Wall Kimmerer (2013), this is the understanding and practices passed down through generations that honor reciprocity, respect and coexistence with the natural world, seeing humans as active participants in nurturing ecosystems.

Participatory Design
In Habraken's work (2020), participatory design emphasizes the involvement of people in shaping their own built environment. Rather than passive users, individuals become active participants, with a sense of ownership and control over the spaces they inhabit.

Ecological Design
Kalipoti (2024) described ecological design as the seamless integration of human activities with natural processes in Fields including architecture, industrial ecology, sustainable agriculture, and water treatment.

Living Architecture
As described by Ludwig, living architecture are buildings as adaptive entities, responding to environmental and human influences over time. Rather than static structures, these buildings operate like living organisms within their ecosystem.

Visit Earth Houses in Olst

Finhorn - Scotland

Aardehuizen - Olst

Choosing a site

P1 Sterre Joore
08.11.2024
Poster pin up