

Co-Living for the Changing Family:

Thriving through Sharing in Expandable Buildings

Fall 2022– Spring 2023

ARCH 4/586 Advanced Architectural Design

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COLLEGE OF DESIGN









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About SCI

The Sustainable Cities Institute (SCI) is an applied think tank focusing on sustainability and cities through applied research, teaching, and community partnerships. We work across disciplines that match the complexity of cities to address sustainability challenges, from regional planning to building design and from enhancing engagement of diverse communities to understanding the impacts on municipal budgets from disruptive technologies and many issues in between.

SCI focuses on sustainability-based research and teaching opportunities through two primary efforts:

1. Our Sustainable City Year Program (SCYP), a massively scaled university-community partnership program that matches the resources of the University with one Oregon community each year to help advance that community's sustainability goals; and

2. Our Urbanism Next Center, which focuses on how autonomous vehicles, e-commerce, and the sharing economy will impact the form and function of cities.

In all cases, we share our expertise and experiences with scholars, policymakers, community leaders, and project partners. We further extend our impact via an annual Expert-in-Residence Program, SCI China visiting scholars program, study abroad course on redesigning cities for people on bicycle, and through our coleadership of the Educational Partnerships for Innovation in Communities Network (EPIC-N), which is transferring SCYP to universities and communities across the globe. Our work connects student passion, faculty experience, and community needs to produce innovative, tangible solutions for the creation of a sustainable society.

About SCYP

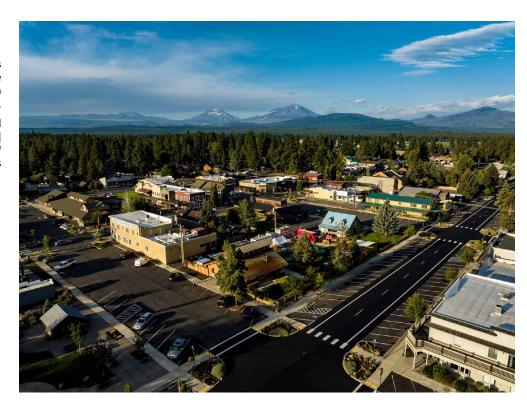
The Sustainable City Year Program (SCYP) is a yearlong partnership between SCI and a partner in Oregon, in which students and faculty in courses from across the university collaborate with a public entity on sustainability and livability projects. SCYP faculty and students work in collaboration with staff from the partner agency through a variety of studio projects and service-learning courses to

provide students with real-world projects to investigate. Students bring energy, enthusiasm, and innovative approaches to difficult, persistent problems. SCYP's primary value derives from collaborations that result in on-the-ground impact and expanded conversations for a community ready to transition to a more sustainable and livable future.

About City of Sisters

Located at the foot of the Cascade Mountains in Central Oregon, the city of Sisters offers beautiful natural surroundings, a variety of year-round recreational opportunities, and a vibrant local economy.

The City of Sisters is located near the Three Sisters mountains in Central Oregon. Source: Visit Central Oregon, n.d. | visitcentraloregon.com/ cities/sisters



Sisters was a place where Paiute, Warm Springs, and Wasco peoples stopped during movement across central Oregon. The name of Whychus Creek, a tributary that runs through town and joins the Deschutes River just beyond the city limits, comes from a Sahaptin phrase, "The Place We Cross the Water." Sisters became a way station and became accessible once roads were constructed through McKenzie Pass and Santiam Pass in the Cascade Mountain Range. In the early twentieth century, Sisters was a center for sheep and cattle ranching and later became a focus for the timber industry, with numerous mills surrounding Sisters and even a mill in town.

The townsite of Sisters was platted in 1901, although the town was not incorporated until 1946. The original townsite for the City was six blocks in size, circumscribed by Adams Street on the north, Larch Street on the east, Cascade Street on the south, and Elm Street on the west, which represents the downtown core of the City of Sisters north of Cascade Avenue today.

With Sisters' strategic location as the "Gateway to the Cascades," major industries have included sheepherding, cattle ranching, timber production, and provision of goods and services for travelers. Sisters has capitalized on

accommodating visitors, initially serving the transient tradesmen that traveled through central Oregon.

Many people know Sisters for its Western frontier design theme that derives architectural inspiration from the town's beginnings in the 1880s. However, Sisters did not always look this way. When Brooks Resources developed Black Butte Ranch, a resort community eight miles west of Sisters, it envisioned a plan to help the Sisters downtown core reinvent itself. In coordination with the City Council, Brooks Resources offered loans, forgiveable after 10 years, to businesses who built with a Western theme. From this idea, the City developed a strong identity that helped

attract people to Sisters as a tourism destination. The economy strengthened, the population returned, and in 1992, the Sisters School District reopened its high school after 25 years of sending students to Redmond High School.

The 2021 population in Sisters totaled 3,475 residents, a result of the population doubling every decade since the 1990s. Sisters continues to serve as a gateway to the central Oregon region while also being known for local attractions including Hoodoo Ski Area and prominent community events such as the Sisters Rodeo, Rhythm and Blues Music Festival, Harvest Faire, the Sisters Outdoor Quilt Show, and the Sisters Folk Festival.

Course Participants

Master of Architecture

Alexandra Gottlin
Andrew Tesmacher
Leah Lockwood

Bachelor of Architecture

Delaney Fettig Tommy Ehringer Wolfgang Meckem

Abstract

Project Description

The city of Sisters identified the need for 1,100 housing units to accommodate its 2041 projected population growth and is exploring "efficiency measures" as an alternative to expanding its urban growth boundary. Final year Architecture students studied the situation and considered contemporary approaches to how people are choosing to live as the definition of "family" continues to evolve. As innovative design thinking is needed for new household types, students looked at how homes and communities can adapt to changing household needs. They envisioned inclusive places where people can thrive through mutual support and sharing.

Recommendations

The student design projects show how attractive housing options for the Sisters Elementary School site can be balanced with community amenities and services that attract on-site residents and the public. From the student design explorations, the main takeaways for the development of the site are as follows:

- Locate community buildings or commercial spaces on the northern edge to promote engagement with downtown Sisters.
- Reuse the existing school building as a community center with functions such as recreation, childcare and senior services. Its renovation can be phased over time to fit the community's needs.
- Build housing on the southeast and southwest areas that are currently empty to show how that middle housing can be attractive and affordable.
- 4. Keep parking to the site edges and limit on-site vehicular access, with roads and paths designed to for high-quality walking and biking experience.
- 5. Use earth berms with attractive plantings to reduce highway and roundabout traffic noise.
- Active recreation can be located in the center of the site, with vegetation, berms, and topography adjustments to provide privacy for adjacent homes.
- Sisters School District ownership or part-ownership could make district energy initiatives such as groundsource heat pumps and connected photovoltaic panels cost-effective.

More development of these ideas can be found in the conclusion.

Studio Aspirations

How people want to live is changing. New architecture is needed for new types of blended households, non-romantic kinship and the changing needs of an individual over a lifetime.

As LGBTQ+ identities proliferate and the definition of family morphs, housing also needs to change. Soaring rates of income inequality, housing insecurity, urbanization and forced migration demand attention to creating affordable, livable places. Even idyllic Sisters, Oregon struggles to provide housing that its workforce can afford. While architecture cannot solve the societal condition, architectural designers can visualize inclusive places where people can thrive through mutual support and sharing, where spaces can adapt to changing needs.

Underlying this need for new housing options is the challenge of loneliness and social disconnection that started growing in the U.S. in the 1970's, according to Robert Putnam's Bowling Alone. In the past, villages, extended families and religious institutions more strongly grounded people by giving them a role in a larger framework, which supported their identity, self-worth and connection to place. While the internet links people into a network, group belonging through social media comes at the cost of losing privacy. Enforced COVID-19 lockdowns increased isolation and caused many to question their daily work life, examine their home environment, and seek more supportive places.

The challenge: This studio asked students to envision co-living that values the common good, by designing an intentional community where people and nature can flourish together. Could the students propose alternatives to the single-family residential subdivisions that can isolate homeowners, exclude low-income workers and reduce natural habitat through sprawling pavement?

Concept

Designers can bring hope to dire circumstances by imagining alternative futures. Students identified society's biggest challenges and created compelling visions that addressed these challenges. This studio was inspired by the Evolo competition that asks designers "to solve economic, social, and cultural problems of the contemporary city including the scarcity of natural resources and infrastructure and the exponential increase of inhabitants, pollution, economic division, and unplanned urban sprawl. The competition is an investigation on the public and private space and the role of the individual and the collective in the creation of a dynamic and adaptive [vertical] community... based on a dynamic equilibrium between man and nature—a new kind of responsive and adaptive design capable of intelligent growth through the self-regulation of its own systems."

To develop a strong design concept, students sought to answer, "What makes a great place?"

In answering this question, students researched the context of past utopian manifestos, current alternative communities, and future emerging technologies. They analyzed promising natural and architectural examples to understand the underlying relationships behind resilient, livable communities. They studied how the built form and open space of sharing communities support activities to bring people closer. From this understanding, each student shaped a specific agenda about how environments for working, living, and playing could form a thriving, responsive mega-community. They each selected focus activities or services that could act as a social magnet.

Process

The illustrated projects are the culmination of a year's effort. In Fall 2022, the class of 16 students took a seminar to study intentional communities and students selected between three Oregon sites: Portland's high-rise South Waterfront site, a hillside community in Newport's South Beach or the current Sisters Elementary School site in Sisters, Oregon. While this report focuses on the six students who worked on Sisters, all students benefited from dialogue about and comparisons with the two other locations, which varied greatly in terms of climate and site constraints. In Winter 2023, students developed their preliminary site and building designs with input from local and remote architects, and student peers. In Spring 2023, they were coached by specialists to develop the building's structural, environmental and enclosure systems to make their buildings stable and energy efficient.

Playful speculation can generate design options. Students gather around Delaney Fettig's model proposing new housing on the Sisters, Oregon elementary school site for the Sustainable City Year program (left to right): Honour Colby, Alexandra Gottlin, Ethan Frolov, Nancy Cheng and Delaney Fettig.



Site Analysis

Site Quick Information

SISTERS, OREGON





Figure SA.1: Downtown Sisters, Oregon. Source: Tommy Ehringer

Sisters, Oregon

- Population: 3,270
- Climate: Warm-Summer Mediterranean Climate
- Nearby Attractions: Three Sisters Wilderness, Deschutes
 National Forest, Hoodoo Ski Resort, Smith Rock State Park
- Demographics:
 - o 93% White, 1% Native American, 1% Asian, 7% Hispanic
 - o 32% have children, 48% married couples, 29% individuals
 - ∘ 55–64 years old = largest age group
- Median Sold Home Price = \$926.3K
- Median Household Income = \$60,318

Existing Elementary School

- Address: 611 East Cascade Avenue, Sisters, OR 97759
- · Location type: Semi-Urban City
- Current use: Sisters Elementary School
- Acreage: 1.934 mi²

Site Description Summary

Sisters is located in central Oregon, and it is a little under three hours by car from Portland. The City of Redmond is approximately 20 miles east of Sisters. The City of Bend is about 22 miles to the southeast, with Bend and Sisters being tourist destination towns.

The site location is in the eastern most part of Sisters, along US Highway 20 to the southwest. The site is about 0.4 miles east of the downtown area (about an eight-minute walk). Creekside Park is

south of the site, about 0.3 miles away and a seven-to-eight-minute walk as well. Creekside Park contains the city's municipal campground. Additionally, there is an established bike route, "Sisters to Smith Rock Scenic Bikeway" that goes by the site. Overall, there are about 290 parking spaces within 0.2 miles of the site, indicating that there is an abundant number of parking for daytime visitors. Further, one can see Mt. Jefferson and the Sisters Mountains from the site location.

Figure SA.2: Site context and surrounding location. Source: Tommy Ehringer



The site is accessible from all sides (north, south, east, and west), although it is located to the east of downtown. Therefore, the west and south sides of the sites are the busiest locations as that is where the main roads to town are located.

In general, Sisters is rated as a Warm-Summer Mediterranean climate, however it still has varied temperatures throughout the year. In July, the monthly average temperature is 69.8 degree; in December, the monthly temperature average is 29.6 degrees. The month with the highest

precipitation is April, with an average rainfall of 1 inch.

Sisters is at an elevation of 3,182 feet and is surrounded by mountainous areas:
Three Sisters Wilderness, Willamette and Deschutes National Forests, Hoodoo Ski Resort, and Smith Rock State Park. It is also situated at the base of the Cascade Mountains. Because of its proximity to the outdoors, Sisters is well known for its fishing, mountain bike and horseback riding trails, whitewater rafting, backpacking, and hiking communities.

CLIMATE

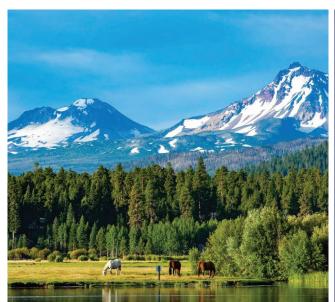




Figure SA.3: The beautiful surrounding area of Sisters, Oregon. Source: Tommy Ehringer

City of Sisters Planning Context

The class built on ideas presented by graduate Community and Regional Planning students within UO's School of Planning, Public Policy and Management, as well as City of Sisters, Sisters School District, and Sisters Parks and Recreation staff, prior to the start of site analysis and design. For this studio, the main takeaways from these meetings were:

1 Highway intersection revision:

A new roundabout is planned for the southwest part of the site. Students considered how this will impact noise, traffic, and parking access along Highway 20.

- **2 Fire safety:** Emergency vehicle access throughout the site. Emergency vehicles must be able to drive within 150 feet of all parts of all buildings.
- **3 Recreational outdoor areas:** Residents are eager for playing fields and space for sports such as soccer and pickleball.
- **4 Commercial development:** The north side of the site has close access to the downtown area, and it is recommended that this should be developed for commercial use.

Figure SA.4: Proposed location of new roundabout on Highway 20



While each student independently developed their own site plan for the proposed site, the above factors greatly influenced the decision making of the schemes. The Student Project Highlights section reveals how students created commercial areas along the northern edge of the property, as well as mitigated the extra noise on the southwest side through

use of berms or foliage. All site plans have emergency vehicular access and outdoor recreational access.

The following diagrams highlight some of the main context that the students responded to, such as noise conditions, walkability, and traffic flow.



Figure SA.5: Site map highlighting main attractions. Source: Delaney Fettig

Figure SA.6 (pages 15-16): Diagrams highlighting housing typology, nodes/edges and paths, surrounding conditions, and site images of Sisters, Oregon. They show how the site is surrounded by low-density neighborhoods, with a link to downtown in the northwest and a natural park to the south.

Source: Delaney Fettig

HOUSING TYPOLOGY OF SURROUNDING AREA



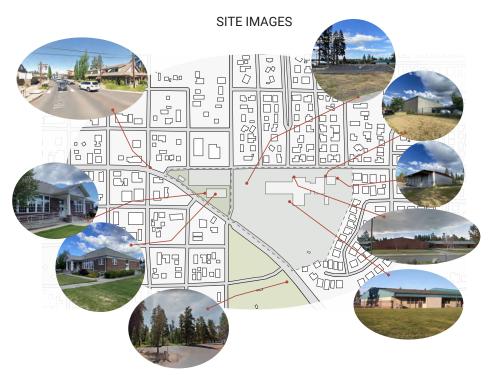
LYNCH'S 5 ELEMENTS



FIGUREGROUND DIAGRAMS







Student Project Highlights

Student Project Introduction

The Co-Living studio asked each student to envision inclusive communities where spaces can adapt to changing household needs and the unpredictable consequences of climate change. The class started by approaching the design as a conceptual inquiry, and then developed both a top-down site response and considering a bottom-up modular systems approach to housing.

Students studied approaches for flexible housing and worked with German partners from the RheinMain Hochschule to see how one, two or three households might share the same overall building form. The students learned that consolidating kitchens and baths and centralizing stairs allowed more flexible use of surrounding spaces for living, sleeping, working and playing. They considered volumetric modular construction, but none adapted the approach due to transportation size limits. Instead, some students embraced a modular planning approach that provides room for growth around a core dwelling.

Students worked to provide privacy and identity within the large community. For the shared duplexes, they provided

individual, customizable entrances with private yards and balconies.
Each student adapted their own vision for how the Sisters site can combat social isolation through different co-living schemes, as well as promote community through the phased development of the Sisters Elementary school. Students worked to combine social and ecological strategies with innovative forms. While each student developed co-living housing and shared services, different focus areas were as follows, with their final household unit counts.

Healing and Wellness

- Yoga House by Alexandra Gottlin (44 units)
- Metolius Sanctuary by Andrew Tesmacher (24–36 units)

Recreation/Music

Sisterville by Leah Lockwood (84 units)

Community Services (daycare, community dining/kitchen, etc.)

- Elementary Arbor by Tommy Ehringer (up to 54 units)
- The Sisters Gateway by Delaney Fettig (90 units)
- Winsome Haven by Wolfgang Meckem (34 units)

Yoga House by Alexandra Gottlin

One of the biggest problems we face today is this idea of "busy-ness" that takes us out of our present selves and causes us to be overly stressed. The purpose of this cohousing community is to live in the present moment, which is achieved by practicing a lifestyle that is conducive to the here and now, instead of always being in the future-stressed state. The design

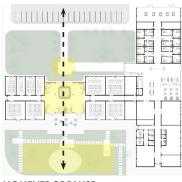
goals for Yoga House are thus as follows: to create a space of transition from a busy lifestyle to a peaceful mindset, restore human connection to nature, promote sustainable design through the adaptive reuse of the existing school, and to increase community connectedness through co-living units.



Figure AG.1: Exterior view of the Wellness Center; community members relaxing by the meditation pond

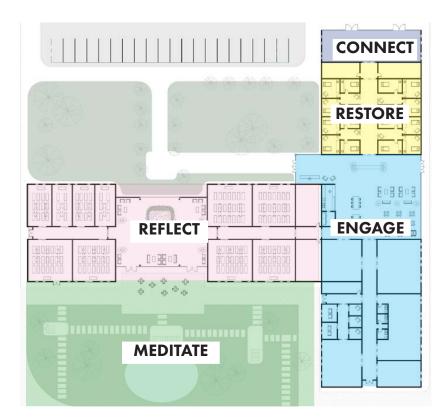
In an effort to promote more sustainable design thinking, this project re-uses the existing building instead of demolishing the site and building new construction. The existing building was transformed into a Health and Wellness Center that focuses on a present lifestyle guided by yoga, daily meditation, outdoor gardens, and community spaces to create space for feelings of harmony and connection. The Wellness Center was designed to have moments of pause along the entry sequence, transforming one from stressed to peaceful. Further, there are defined areas within the center to reflect, mediate, restore, and foster community engagement.

Figure AG.2 (above): Diagrams showing Moments of Pause, Circulation, and Feeling by Zone





MOMENTS OF PAUSE



PROGRAM

TRANSITION SEQUENCE: BUSY TO ZEN

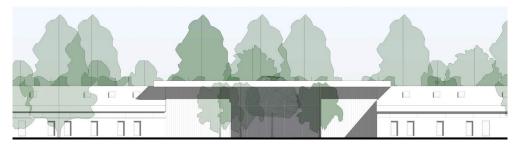


Figure AG.3 (left): Transition sequence from busy to zen

1. FRONT WALKWAY / MOMENT OF PAUSE





2. FRONT ENTRY / ENGAGE

3. CAFE / ENGAGE



4. YOGA STUDIO / RESTORE

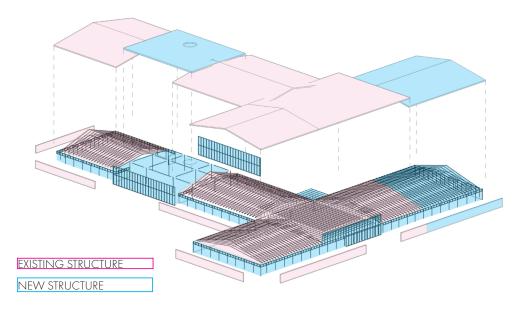
5. MEDITATION ATRIUM / PAUSE

To achieve feelings of enlightenment throughout the building and establish a connection to nature while one is inside the space, clerestories were added throughout the building. New structural support beams and columns were added to the existing structure to support this concept.

Figure AG.4: Interior view of one of the yoga rooms in the wellness center (left); structural framing overview of the existing vs. new structure of the center (right)



ELEVATED AND ENLIGHTENED FEELING THROUGH USE OF CLERESTORY



STRUCTURE FRAMING OVERVIEW

On a social level, the community will also strive to solve feelings of isolation that are easy to develop in more traditional living environments. Two units are attached by a semi-private, semi-public "flex" space to be used for yoga, reading, playing or any way the residents sees fit. By using set common cores, each unit can be expanded to account for changing family needs.

MODULAR DESIGN & EASE OF EXPANSION



Figure AG.5: Housing spaces can be added to account for changing family needs

PROGRAM BY FEELING

The housing is set up so that there are areas to reflect, engage, connect, restore,

and meditate throughout the different spaces, just like the Community Wellness Center.



Figure AG.6: Housing program by feeling

COURTYARD LAYOUT AND HABITAT CREATION FOR POLLINATORS

Lastly, to provide transspecies habitats, as well as strength human connection to nature, the housing units are each situated around courtyards filled with drought-resilient plantings.



Further information on Yoga House can be found in the Appendix.

Metolius Sanctuary by Andrew Tesmacher

Given the number of homeless and domestic abuse cases, this project explored the potential of design to alleviate suffering. The project explores how to make healing spaces that bring ideas of hope and reintegrate

marginalized individuals into society.
Research into Trauma Informed Design led to crafting spaces dedicated to mitigating sensory overload, providing safety and comfort through design, and designing spaces for dignity of the individual.



Figure AT.1: Metolius Sanctuary site overview (above), housing and gardens (below)

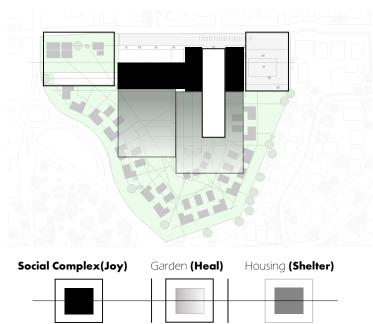


The three ideas most associated with the decisions made in this project are:

- Flexibility: Consider how the users interact with space, and provide a range of agency to individuals.
- Security: Consider perceived security of each zone, and how adjacencies can support it.
- Defensibility: Consider how layers of space, landscaping, and paths create spaces that are defensible; spaces that create layers of protection and options to close off or defend through arrangement (doors, gates, paths, inclines, view corridors)

Figure AT.2: Site plan divided up by Social Complex (Joy), Garden (Heal), and Housing (Shelter) to instill sense of flexibility, security, and defensibility





The community center requires consideration of the existing structure. While the existing Sisters Elementary School is structurally sound, it lacks a sense of identity, continuity with the community, and welcoming, comfortable spaces within the building. Further, the existing structure allows for minimal daylight and could be more conducive to social interaction.

To create beautiful spaces that capture as much daylighting as possible while preserving the existing form, this proposal sought to remove certain spaces from the existing structure, only adding where it can bring better conditions to space. In this example, we can raise the central corridor of the structure to create a beautiful center hallway that brings light through the center via white walls and capitalizes on cross and stack ventilation through its arrangement.

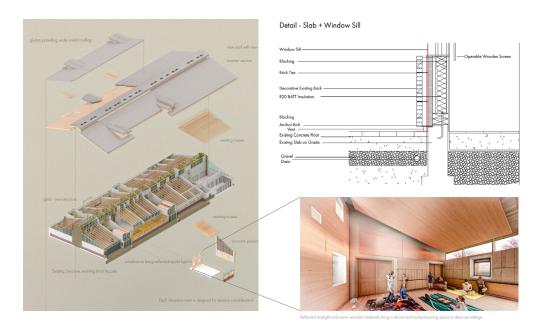


Figure AT.3: Proposed modifications to the existing structure to allow for more daylighting and welcoming, comfortable interior spaces



Figure AT.4: The butterfly pavilion is a metaphor for healing. It can be inhabited privately or opened up for large groups.

As a shared community experience and service, Metolius Sanctuary provides outdoor healing spaces, including the Healing Garden. The most important function of the Healing Garden is its range of use. No healing garden is complete without considering how it heals; this one

does so by providing opportunities to occupants to experience a range of spaces which challenge their comfort levels. As is observable by the separation of spaces in the garden, there can be a multitude of activities going on at once from games of catch to cathartic, isolated experiences.

Figure AT.5: Outdoor space between buildings provides sense of security and healing through beauty



Further information on Metolius Sanctuary can be found in the Appendix.

Presentation video: https://www.dropbox.com/s/dr8r34whsfm3329/586_AndrewTesmacher.mp4?dl=0

Figure AT.6: Healing garden



Sisterville by Leah Lockwood

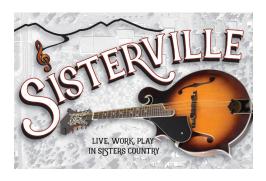
Sisters has become well-known as a destination for experiencing live music, with the Sisters Folk Festival being one of the most successful music festivals in the region.

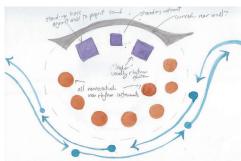
Sisterville is a community that features housing as well as a center for studying, playing, performing, and listening to live music. The project was inspired by the idea of informal music creation, and therefore, the community housing is based on an idea of a circle jam. A circle jam is created by a few musicians, usually

one has to be a reliable rhythm guitarist. The songs have simple chord structures and melodies that people already know or can easily figure out. People can come by with an instrument and a portable chair, sit down and play for a while, and then move on. People can walk by and sit for a while and watch, or not.

Circle jams helped organize the project; a series of circle jam nodes are located throughout the site (areas where people can stop and listen or play for a minute or an hour and then move on).

PARTI





community supports informal gathering around music. Diagram (upper right) shows how circle jam participants can join and leave. Model (bottom) shows Solo cottages, Duo flats and Trio townhomes arranged around a green space for circle jams. Photovoltaic panels for community electricity are shown on parking shelters in the foreground and townhomes.

Figure LL.1: The



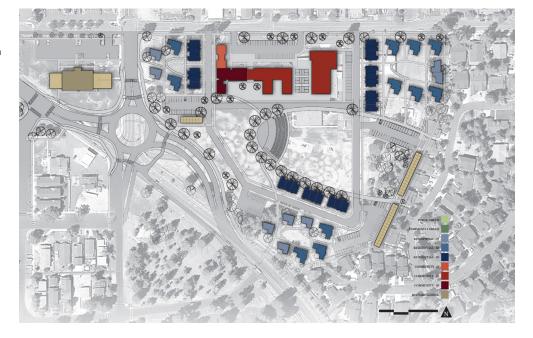
The idea of community music translates to community housing, which consists of three clusters of small homes in which some spaces are private, such as home interiors, and some spaces are shared, such as gardens. Homes feature covered porches and balconies that mediate between private and public, giving the option of interaction. The community homes favor walking paths over roads. At the center is an outdoor amphitheater

with staggered seating design and elevated viewing platforms. When there isn't a performance happening, and the sun is out, the floor of the amphitheater doubles as a splash pad with water that comes up in fountains and occasionally floods the floor. Parents and grandparents can watch their children run through the water below and have a picnic above, while enjoying the community of Sisters.

Figure LL.2: Site plan showing housing clusters defined by nodes of music



Figure LL.3: Site plan



In Sisterville's three clusters are a total of 84 units of housing, which could provide homes for 200-300 new residents. Each cluster has three different building types, cottages, flats, and townhomes. Solo cottages are accessible units designed

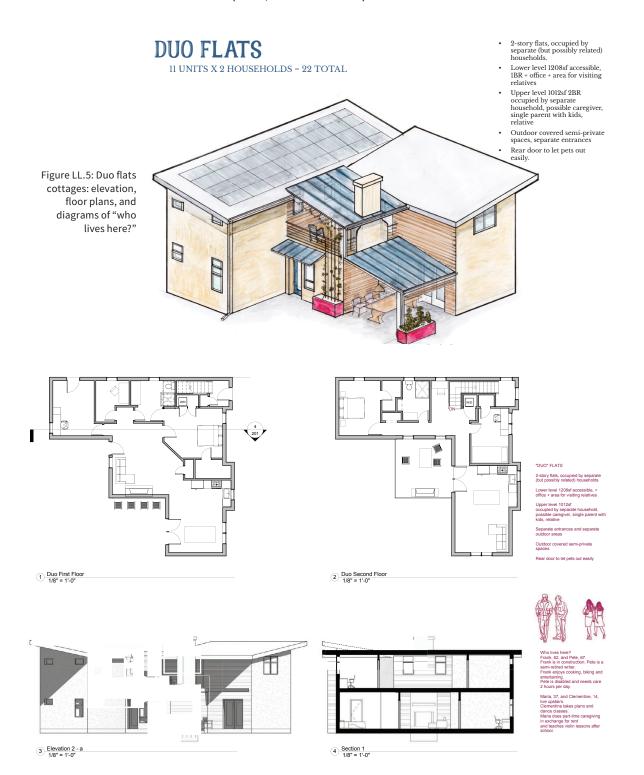
36' - 1 21/32"

for older singles and couples who might still be working from home and have guests who visit. Solo cottages have single bedrooms and an extra room that is convertible for overnight guests and/or a separate office.



West (Secondary Entry)
1/8" = 1'-0"

Duo flats are designed for older singles or couples who can live and work downstairs. The upstairs Duo units are entirely separate with separate entrances and outdoor spaces, and can be occupied by relatives or caregivers as needed, or rented out as separate units to help finance the lower units. The upstairs units are also suitable for families with children.



Trio townhomes are for families with circumstances in which there may be a dependent adult child (for example a

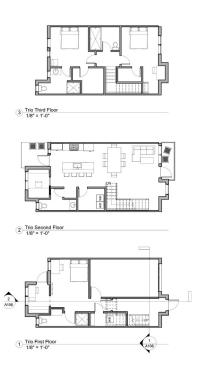
grown person with autism) who needs independent living but in a structured supportive environment.

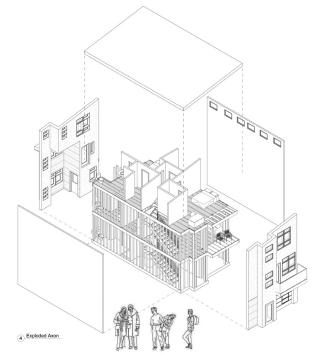
TRIO TOWNHOMES

27 UNITS X 2 HOUSEHOLDS = 54 TOTAL



Figure LL.6: Trio Townhomes: elevation, floor plans, and diagrams of "who lives here?"





This project also features a grouping of community amenities, shared by the residents of the cluster housing and the surrounding townspeople. These amenity spaces include an area for community music classes and performances, a commercial kitchen with pizza oven, areas for food trucks and booths for events, a

parks and recreation facility that features weightlifting and cardio equipment and wellness classrooms, a basketball court that includes indoor pickleball courts and can be used as a performance space, and additional spaces for community classrooms and childcare.

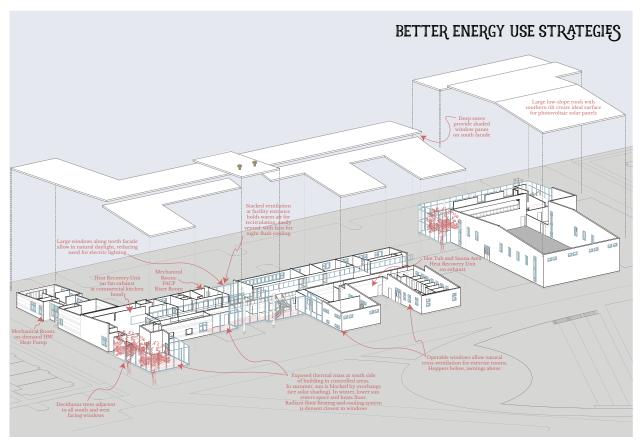


Figure LL.7: Energy strategies for new proposed community center

Further information on Sisterville can be found in the Appendix.

The Sisters Getaway by Delaney Fettig

This proposed project is designed to support multigenerational housing, along with additional commercial development, catering to the growing population of Sisters. Three main issues that drove the programming elements are the limited number of housing typologies and affordability currently available on the market; the lack of community-

based spaces often seen in housing developments; and the rising need for outdoor spaces and pedestrian-friendly spaces. To address these issues, this design provides six kinds of residential duplexes and townhomes with units from a compact 840-square-foot, two-bedroom, one-bath home to a 1,570-square-foot, four-bedroom, 2.5 bath home.



Figure DF.1: Bird'seye view of the site, showcasing new community and residential buildings. Outdoor community space (below)



The mixed-use community buildings located throughout the site provide new private and open office spaces, commercial shops, smaller apartment units, a community pool, and daycare, among other program elements. These amenities make working from home and recreation convenient and enjoyable, supporting the needs of all ages.

Figure DF.2: Site map with key programmatic elements that promote co-living and co-working within the community

SITE MAP SCALE: 1"= 80'-0"

MAP KEY

- 1. MIXED-USE BUILDING 2. COMMUNITY EVENT HALL
- 3. GREENHOUSE + GARDEN 4. TOWN HOMES E/F
- 5. COMMUNITY BUILDING
- 6. APARTMENTS
- 7.BASKETBALL COURT
 8.PICKLE BALL COURTS
 9.ADULT EXERCISE COURSE
- 10. PLAYGROUND
- 11. DUPLEX HOUSING
- CLUSTER

 12. TOWN HOME HOUSING
 CLUSTER
- 13. BIOSWALES
- 14. EARTH BERM 15. COVERED PARKING





The range of unit types welcome a variety of individuals who can select a unit that fits their needs and family size. The variety makes it easier to move to a different unit type within the community if these

needs ultimately change. In addition, the beautiful and inviting outdoor amenities and shared spaces bring a higher quality of life to not only the residents of the development, but to all citizens of Sisters.

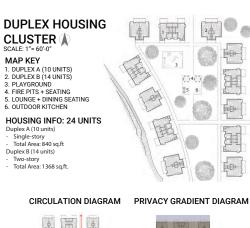


Figure DF.3: Duplex cluster design design illustrating the range of family sizes and needs of those who live there



PUBLIC SEMI-PRIVATE PRIVATE

DUPLEX CLUSTER USER GROUPS
AGING-IN-PLACE ROOMMATES

GROWING FAMILIES

TOWNHOUSE A/B



Figure DF.4: Rendering and elevations of the Townhouse A/B housing unit show buildings that could fit into the single-family neighborhood while housing two families. This typology is one of several housing unit options offered in order to increase availability and affordability

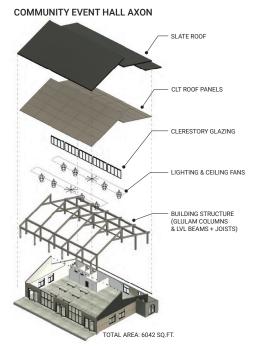
Figure DF.5: Shared community spaces include a laundry lounge that overlooks a green courtyard.



In order to support community gatherings, a new community event building is proposed for the site. In order to promote the use of carbon-sequestering Oregon mass timber, the building is constructed using Glulam columns and Laminar Veneer

Lumber (LVL) beams/joists. Consistent daylighting was also a major concern, and the building is oriented with glazing so that it receives constant north light throughout the day, reducing the need for electric lighting.

Figure DF.6:Community Hall Axon



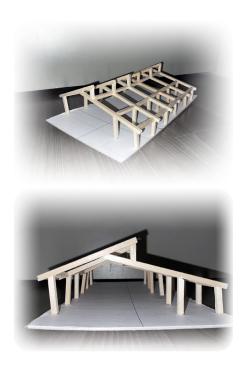




Figure DF.7: The
Community Hall's south
facing windows provide
views of green space
and controlled natural
illumination. January
lighting studies show
even reflected morning
light (top), direct
afternoon sun (middle)
and playful evening
lighting (bottom)





Further information on The Sisters Gateway can be found in the Appendix.

Elementary Arbor by Tommy Ehringer

The Elementary Arbor proposal for the Sisters Elementary School site focuses on creating spaces that foster community creation and prioritizes pedestrians and foot traffic. The overall site layout preserves existing mature ponderosa pines due to their benefits of carbon sequestration, shading, and privacy

buffers. A park and walk system keeps parking at the perimeter and uses a European style woonerf street. This means cars can still travel through the site, but the paths are intended for pedestrian use and programming as indicated through rougher permeable road paving.

INDIVIDUALISTIC NEIGHBORHOOD

- Dominant housing development method in America
- Maintains high levels of privacy and self autonomy
- Lends itself to isolated family units
- Front yards are rarely used, and create barriers between houses

COLLECTIVE NEIGHBORHOOD

- Provides spaces that are shared and owned by everyone
- Creates neutral spaces where residents can comfortably meet
- Privacy issues need to be addressed due to condensed space



Figure TE.1: Annotated site plan highlighting program and use types

The design for the new community center focuses on creating a central gathering space for the residential community and greater area. The center aims to combat social isolation by providing multiple spaces for people to connect:

game rooms, lounge areas, a community kitchen, and guest suites are all available for use by the community. The form of the center draws inspiration from the local mountains, a homage to the community's connection to nature.



Figure TE.2: The new Community Center welcomes residents and visitors with activity spaces

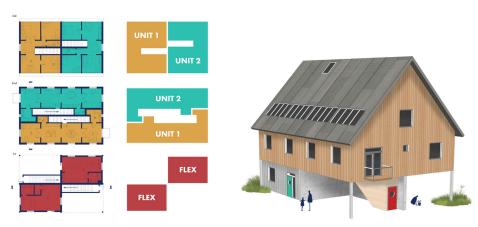


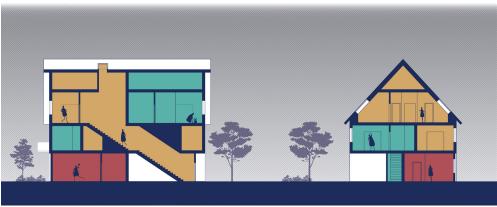
Student Project Highlights

To further combat social isolation and changing family needs, the housing duplexes on the site focus on versatility. Each duplex has the potential to be split into six housing spaces. While each stairway provides access to a unit, the units themselves can be divided in half

between the second and third floors. The stairs turn into a circulation space that is shared between two different units. In addition, the first floor provides space that can be used to construct additional studio apartments, or small retail spaces.

Figure TE.4: Flexible duplex units. Floor plans and sections highlight unit versatility and how the interior spaces can accommodate a varying range of family sizes and needs





The development also includes 4-bedroom, 2.5-bath rowhomes, a new housing unit type within the Sisters area introduced to create flexible work/live housing within a compact footprint. The rowhouses are oriented around a shared courtyard, creating a space for residents to socialize with one another. Varying levels of privacy are achieved through a variety of plantings.



Figure TE.5: Exterior rendering of the community-focused rowhomes



Further information on Elementary Arbor can be found in the Appendix.

Winsome Haven by Wolfgang Meckem

Winsome Haven is a site-sensitive design proposal that focuses on fitting into the rural Sisters context while providing a new "park and walk" neighborhood for the community. This project also proposes a new recreational center on the site that hosts a range of community activities

such as a daycare, workout/exercise area, meditation room, and flexible gathering areas to ensure that the community and the greater population of Sisters were both able to benefit and enjoy the new recreational facilities.

Figure WM.1: View looking north shows pedestrian friendly path through housing in the foreground and community buildings beyond, facing the central soccer field



To support safety from car traffic, parking is located on site edges. The buildings

and earth berms form a strong perimeter around the central soccer field.

Figure WM.2: Winsome Haven site plan



The homes, which would be built first, are designed to fit the Sisters neighborhood with gable roofs and heavy timber aesthetic. Two families fit in each building, so that initially 34 families could be housed. In an effort to provide more affordable housing in the area, the housing units were developed with the idea that

each 1,600-square-foot unit has a rentable "extra" 800-square-foot unit, which can house an independent family member or can be rented out to another person, to help pay for the home and also increase affordability. Units share certain amenity spaces, such as kitchens and exterior gardens to promote community.



Figure WM.3: Walking along the pedestrian pathways of Winsome Haven. View of exterior housing units

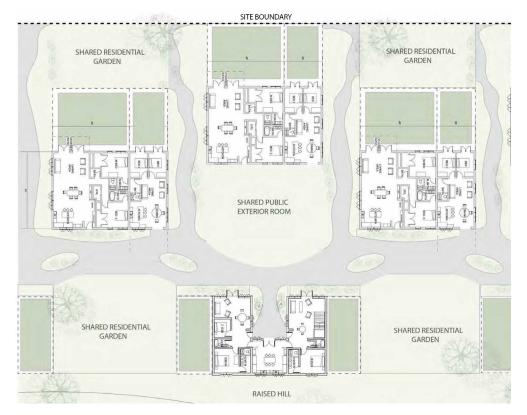


Figure WM.4: The clusters have shared lawns and gardens shown in light green and private yards shown in darker green. The square units have a more spacious family unit (left) and a more compact "extra unit" (right). The U-shaped duplexes feature a shared kitchen and private side yards

Further information on Winsome Haven can be found in the Appendix.

Main Takeaways and Conclusion

The projects illustrate how the Sisters Elementary School site could be transformed into attractive green communities.

The projects generally restrict cars to the site perimeter and place low-rise housing south of the existing school, where it can be buffered from Highway 20 noise with earth berms and landscaping. They place community buildings on the site's North edge, where they can act as a gateway marking the transition from residential to civic and commercial activities. Each one proposes how common interests such as music or wellness could draw people together.

A big decision is how much of the site should be allocated to housing vs amenities such as a community center, recreational facilities and other services. Consequently, the projects illustrate how the site can accommodate a large range of density –proposals ranging from 24 to 90 housing units on the site.

The students brought differing ideas about how to phase the site development: some felt that creating a visible change on Cascade Avenue would successfully launch the rest of the site redevelopment. Others wanted to keep the initial construction away from this major street, and wait to develop the northern edge so that unforeseen changes could shape its use, perhaps with the replacement of the existing Elementary School building. The projects show how the existing school building could be repurposed for current community needs or alternatively how it could be replaced with new buildings for the arts, wellness and recreation to better fit the growing city. Graduate students

Andrew Tesmacher and Alexandra Gottlin each proposed how the existing construction could be amended to bring in more natural light and ventilation.

The projects show different ways that smaller, more affordable homes can be paired or clustered to fit into the existing neighborhood, with sizes from 540 to 1550 square feet per unit and densities from 2.9 to 7.6 units per acre. Pairing large and small units, as in Wolfgang Meckem's duplex, can invite mixing of different household types. Alexandra Gottlin's flex space between two homes invites creative negotiation as the small homes incorporate room for growth, a critical aspect of designing for change. By providing six different housing sizes, Delaney Fettig welcomes those from many incomes.

Outdoors, all the proposals show possibilities for shared walks, recreation, picnicking and gardening. These shared spaces support community interaction and natural habitat, and can act as green reserves for future development. Maximizing natural ventilation, daylighting, passive solar and rainwater harvesting could make the site resilient. Centralized management could make district energy resources such as photovoltaic panels and geothermal earth tubes cost-effective.

Overall, these designs paint promising possibilities for the Sisters Elementary School site.

Appendix: Individual Student Boards

YOGA HOUSE / SISTERS, OREGON M.ARCH THESIS BY ALEXANDRA GOTTLIN 1 / Transition from busy life to peaceful mindse 2 / Restore human connection to nature 2/ National Common of Indian American Strain 囲 SITE CIRCULATION LEGEND 1 / WELLNESS CENTER 2 / REFLECTION POND 3 / HOUSING 4 / GUEST UNITS 5 / SPORTS COURT 6 / GARDENS 7 / PARKING WHITH THE PARTY OF DENSITY 44 UNITS 3.5 UNITS PER ACRE SITE PLAN 1" = 60'-0" REUSE VS. DEMOLITION

00 00 00 00

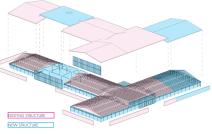
AST SITE SECTION / 1" = 16'-0"

Ш

COMMUNITY WELLNESS CENTER







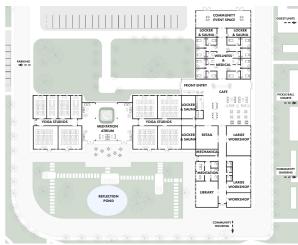
ELEVATED & ENLIGHTENED FEELING THROUGH USE OF CLERESTORY

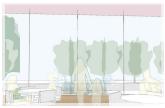
STRUCTURAL FRAMING OVERVIEW











COMMUNITY CENTER PLAN 1"=30'-0"

3. CAFE / ENGAGE

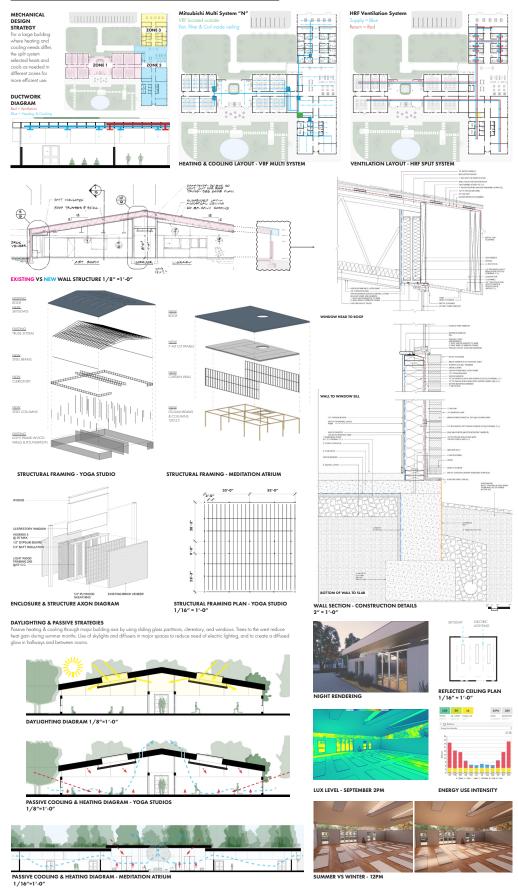




WELLNESS COMMUNITY SECTION B 1"=16'-0"

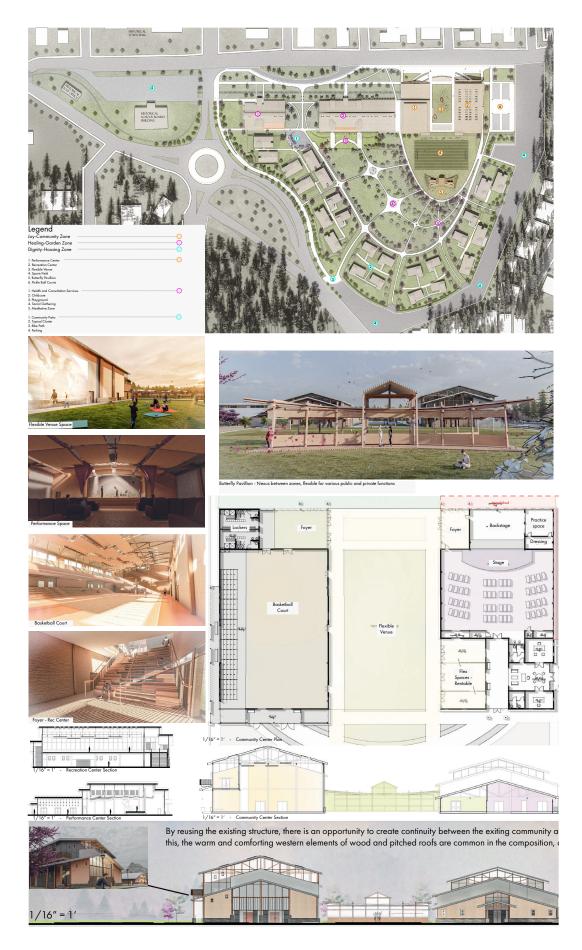
5. MEDITATION ATRIUM / PAUSE

COMMUNITY WELLNESS CENTER - TECHNICAL DETAILS



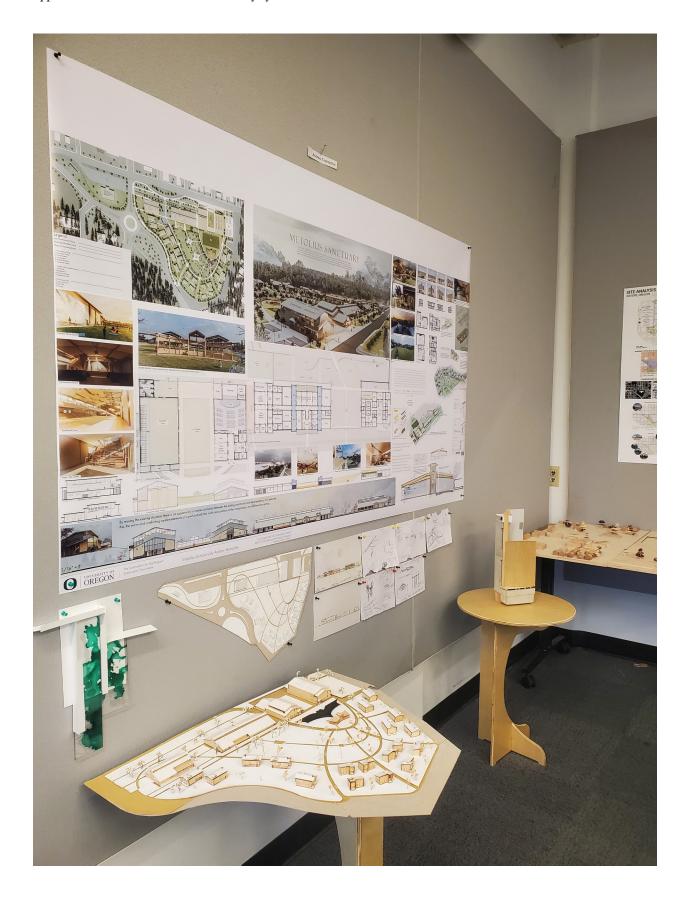
COMMUNITY CO-LIVING: FLEXIBLE LIVING













NORTHWEST HOUSING CLUSTER 6 UNITS • 18 HOMES















ELEMENTS OF A GOOD CLUSTER:

Change

DON'T CUT THROUGH THE MIDDLE

LARGE NEUTRALS, SMALL ACCENTS Cladding in natural, neutra materials, jewel-tone accent VIEWS OF NATURE Cultivated greenspace, views of wilderness

Opaque borders on private spaces, transparent on public

PORCHES AND BALCONIES

SIZE IS EVERYTHING A handful of buildings for a couple dozen households

ENOUGH SPACE IN BETWEEN 15-25' Ideal space between structures

GREENSPACE IN THE CENTER All can view the central green from a key living space

PRETTY ENTRANCES Places to sit and visit nearby

INVISIBLE STORAGE Usable storage spaces for bikes and strollers

FIREPLACES Something to look at and warm your toes

COVERED OUTDOOR AREAS Areas to cook and gather VERSATILE HARDSCAPE Planters can create sitting ARBORS AND TRELLISES Grow something to link separate spaces and divide connected spaces spaces

INTERESTING LIGHTING Vary outdoor light fixtures between units



















Dog-friendly, covered outdoor rooms, fenced yards, open air dining, fireplace

1-story 912sf cottage for singles and couples Accessible unit with IBR + office + extra room for visiting relatives



- households.

 Lower level 1208sf accessible, IBR + office + area for visiting relatives.

 Upper level 1012sf 2BR occupied by separate household, possible caregiver, single parent with kids, relative.
- Outdoor covered semi-private spaces, separate entrances
- Rear door to let pets out easily.

- A









TRIO TOWNHOMES 27 UNITS X 2 HOUSEHOLDS = 54 TOTAL

3-story town homes occupied by 2 separate (but possibly related) households

- Downstairs: 395sf Studio Upstairs Unit: 1465sf 2BR, 2.5BA + 2 offices
- Separate entrances & outdoor & areas
- Covered, semi-private, outdoor spaces
 Controlled acoustics & organization on lower level unit





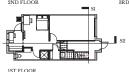






SECTION 1



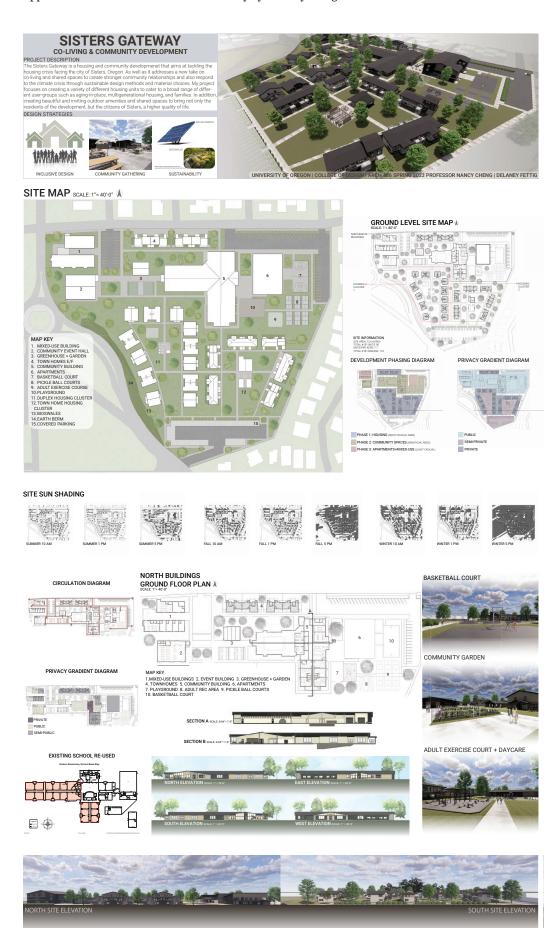


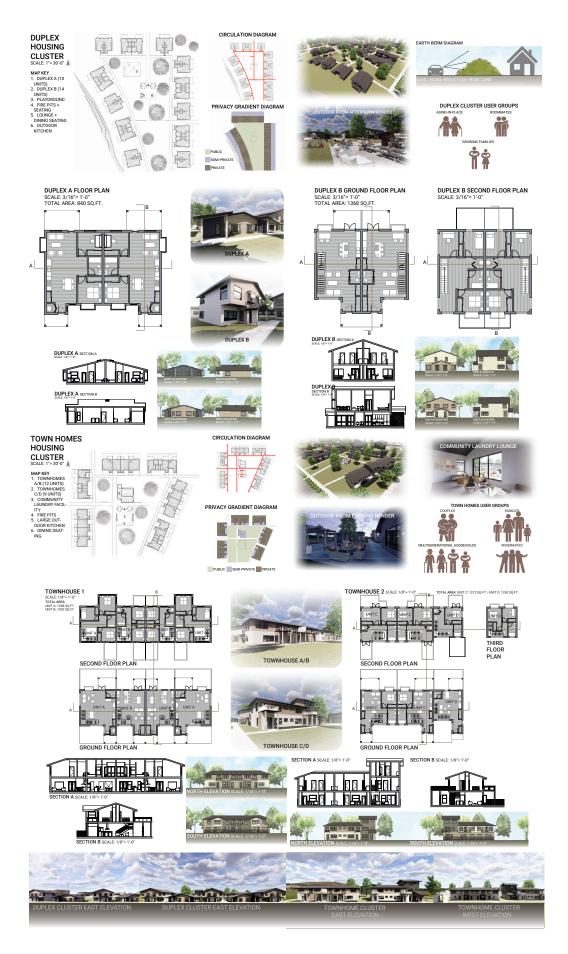


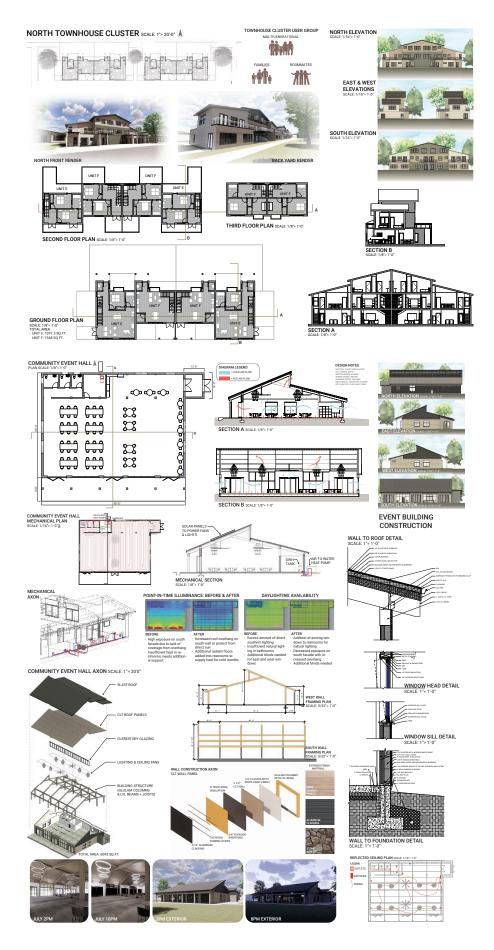
WHO LIVES HERE?

COMMUNITY SPAGE PROGRAM MUSIC, FOOD AND PARKS & REC DAYLIGHT & SHADOW IN WINTER BETTER ENERGY USE DAYLIGHT & SHADOW IN SUMMER DESIGNING FOR AUTISM TRIO GROUND FLOOR STUDIO APARTMENT CONSTRUCTION DETAILS WANTS: AXON OF TRIO

SITE CIRCULATION & CLIMATE RESILIENCE









3. Community Plaza 1. Resident Parking

DESIGN PERSPECTIVE

Standard suburban developments provide little space for people to interact, and instead support isolation and individualism. Front yards, fences, and streets divide space and often create unusable or uncomfortable spaces, possibly exacerbating feelings of isolation. By borrowing elements of European planning, this project aims to create spaces that incentivize people to leave their homes and attempts to create a friendlier built environment.



- Prioritization of **people over cars** through a woonerf, allowing for streets to become usable spaces
- Densification of housing provides more housing to more people, increasing the likelihood of relationships to develop
- Public spaces and mixed use zoning generates spaces for people to go without a car, and creates neutral spaces for people to interact

SITE DESIGN STRATEGIES







