PROJECT DESCRIPTION:
Our project revolves around two general concepts:

1. Decentralized Urbanism

Our goal is Decentralized Urbanism where the advantages of suburb, town and metropolis are merged. Our approach is at the scale of planning landscape, networks, infrastructure and transport replace buildings as ordering elements and organizational means.

We are interested in new ways to construct community and dwelling, living and working, production and play, shared and private. We want to create conditions where housing, clean industry, farms, commerce and civic activities are all immediately adjacent and in a field of decentralized distribution, linked by streets, paths, courts, yards and gardens, scaled to domestic life and a larger public.

We are designing generic systems and structure to allow specific and varied occupation as a sacred layer. Interspersed connective open spaces weave and thread public and private. Cars are stored in compact collective sunken moats, freeing the ground for other uses and activities.

PROJECT DIAGRAMS:

1. Decentralized Urbanism

Our project is structured as a network of frameworks for growth – a means of SOMA, than suburbia. Horizontally slabs extend and multiply the ground. Generous areas of glass enclose these plates and fill the interiors with light and air, basic for inhabiting as both gathering, working and living. Structure and party walls partition these made ground planes into lots and individual lots. Thickened walls accommodate services, leaving the rest of the space open and free, instruments, apparatus for inhabiting, frameworks for occupants to particularize.

We want to thread main street and porch, office and living room, storefront and garden, seniors and daycare, swimming and study, school and business. Rather than divisions and zoning, we are interested in the simultaneous overlapping of everything. Community and amenity replace privacy and isolation, use replaces ownership, life replaces life.

PROJECT SKETCHES:

2. Fabric as Type

Our spaces are modeled on urban fabric buildings that adopt and change over time and generations, rather than specific functional types. This architecture is core and shell more than designated programs, more akin to the cast iron buildings of SOMA, the brick industrial structures of the Meatpacking District or the warehouses of FABRIC A.

Fabric A are 60' lateral grids that run north/south and occupy the space above parking moats. Here more collective spaces are accommodated. The commercial strip, restaurant and bars, the gym, school, offices, occupy these zones. They bridge and connect the two sides of NE John Deshields Blvd, and float above the landscapes. Fabrics B are 40' lateral grids that line NE John Deshields Blvd and the site boundaries and create the 6 framed linked landscapes. Party walls at 10' intervals partition these made ground planes into lots and individual plots. The bordered walls accommodate services, kitchens, bathrooms and storage, stairs and elevators, leaving the rest of the space open and free, with light penetrating on both sides. Do both sides of NE John Deshields Blvd, ground floor spaces are a mix of workflow or commercial, creating main street.

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