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Preliminary Design Work

Solar Decathlon 2014: Techstyle Haus

2013

Techstyle Haus

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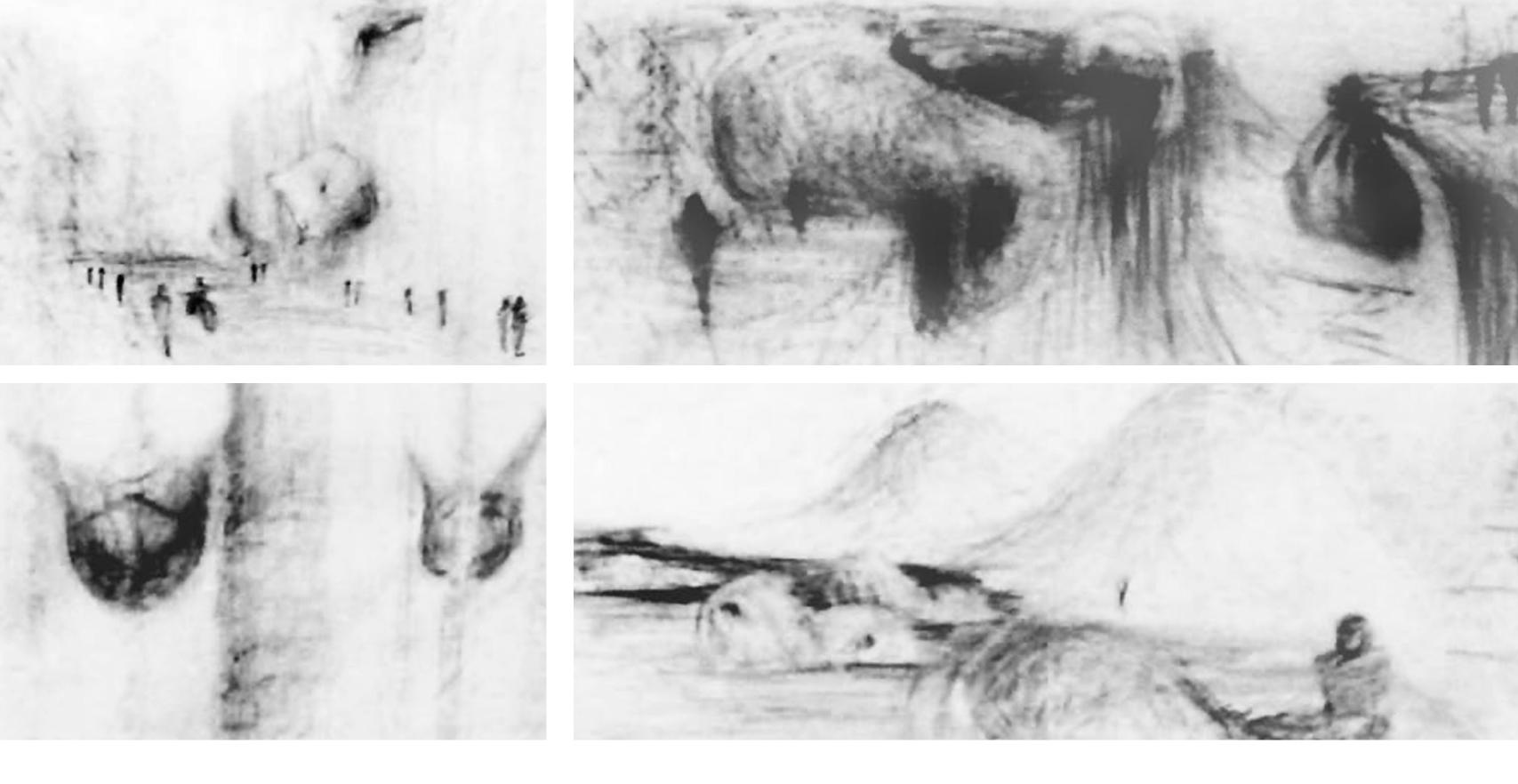






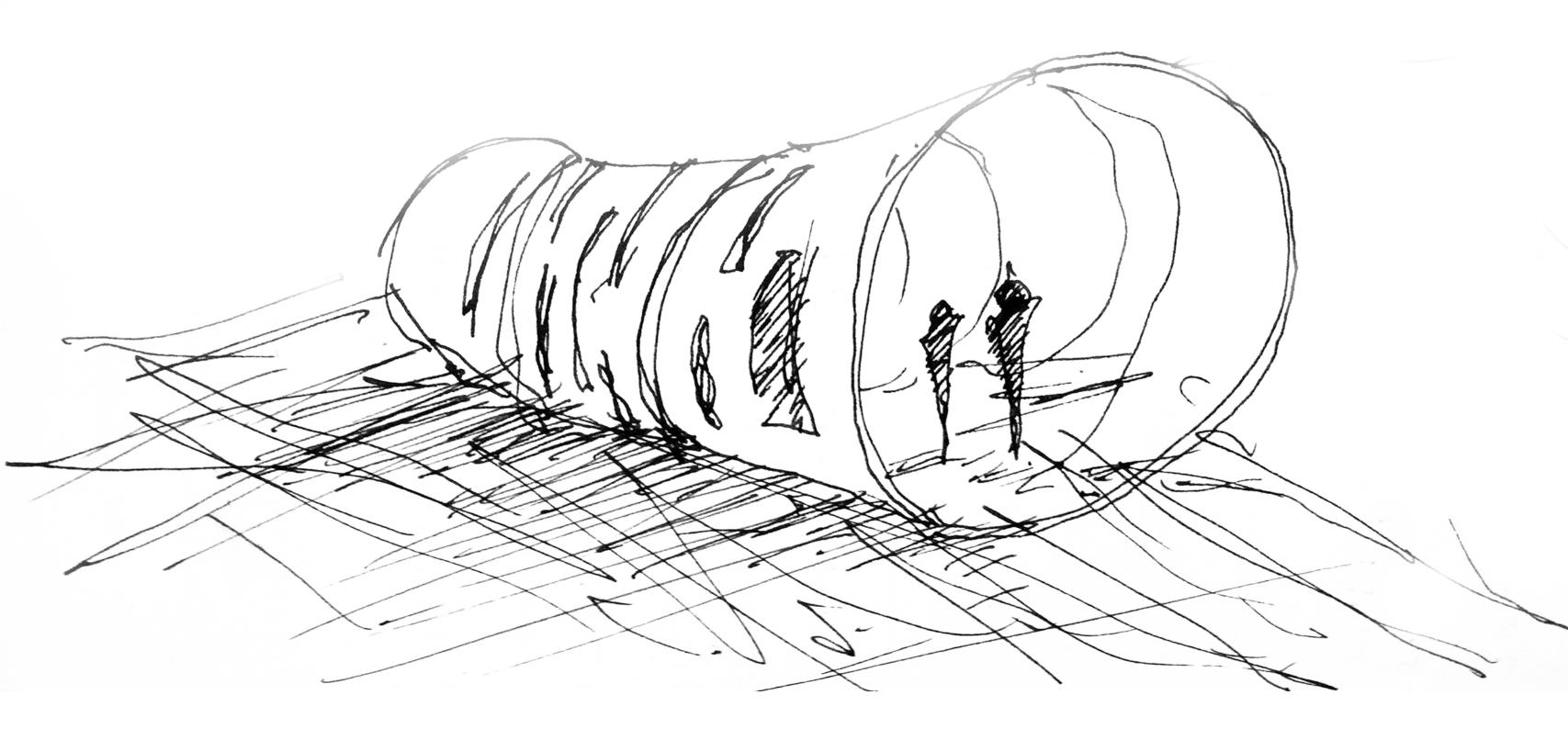
A house made of textiles can function in the same way a child conceives of a tent, in a spirit of play and dialogue between hard and soft surface.





Textiles can perform the role of a cocoon, whereby a soft material stretches and bends to embed itself in the environment.





Cradled by its sloping landscape, the house opens itself up to the south end to create points of entry, light and ventilation.

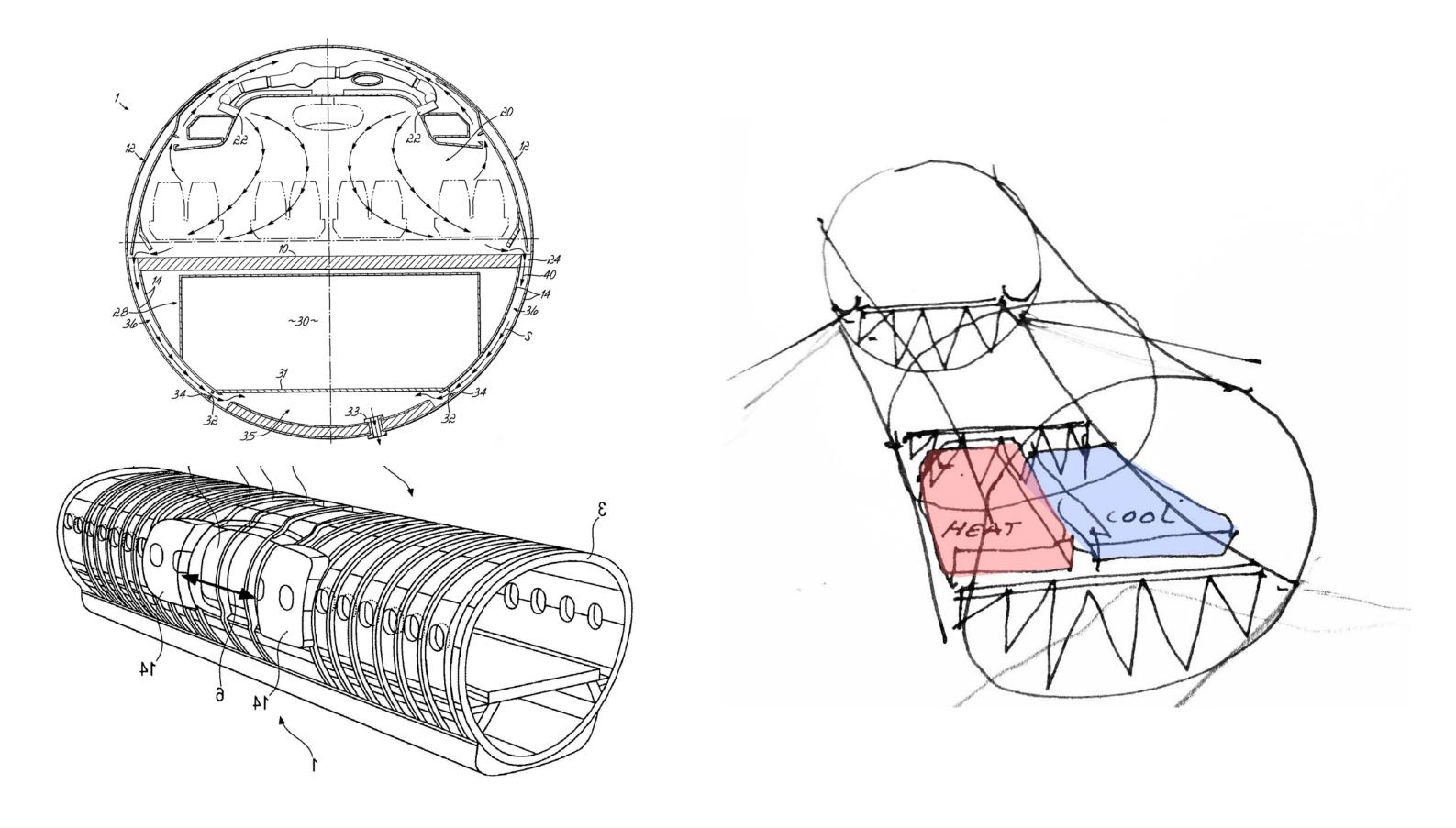




(SYSTEMS INSIDE OUT)

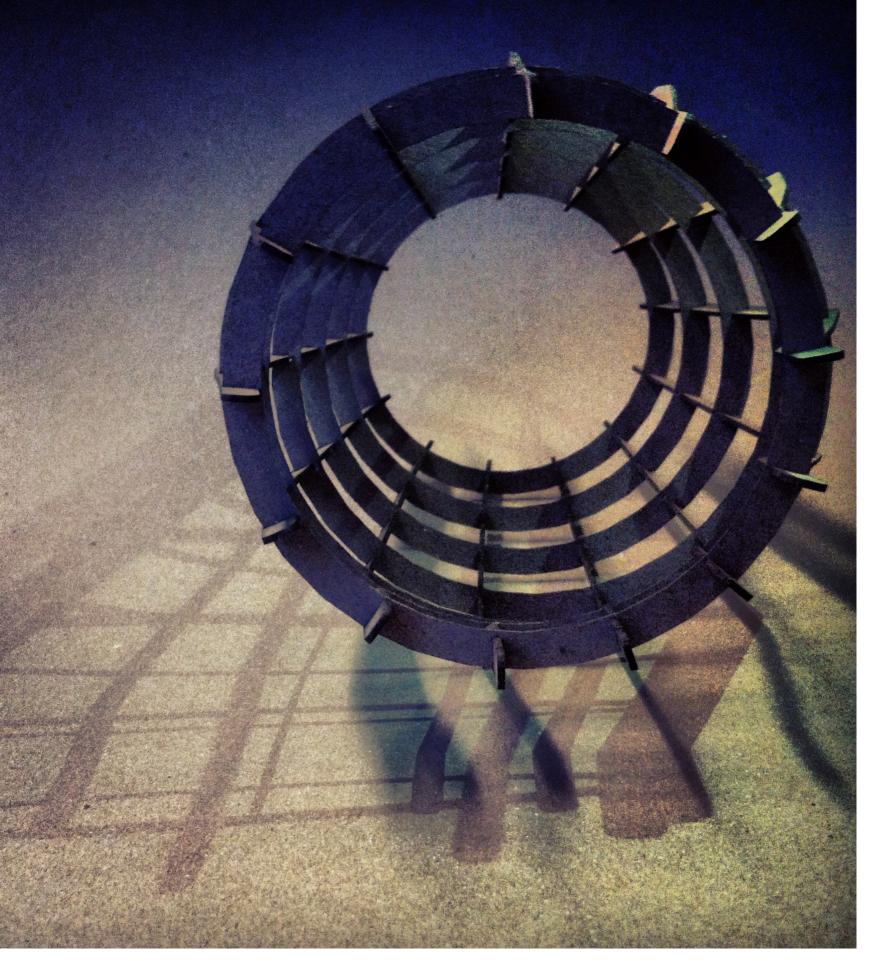
The layers of the house work much like human anatomy. Interior becomes organ tissue; structure becomes bone; enclosure becomes skin.

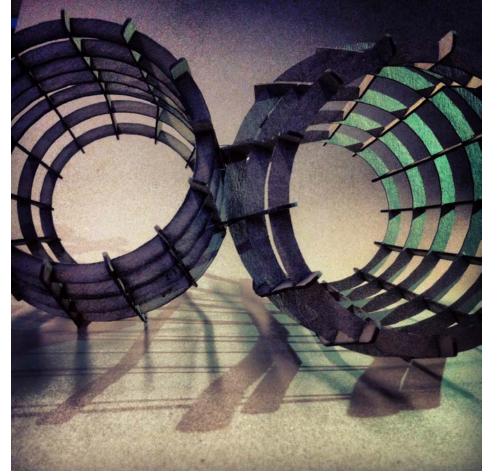


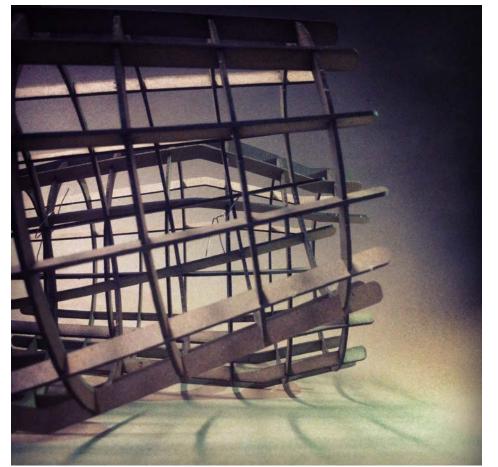


With a curved outer shell and a flat floor plate, the subfloor vacts much like an airplane fuselage to create space for mechanical systems.



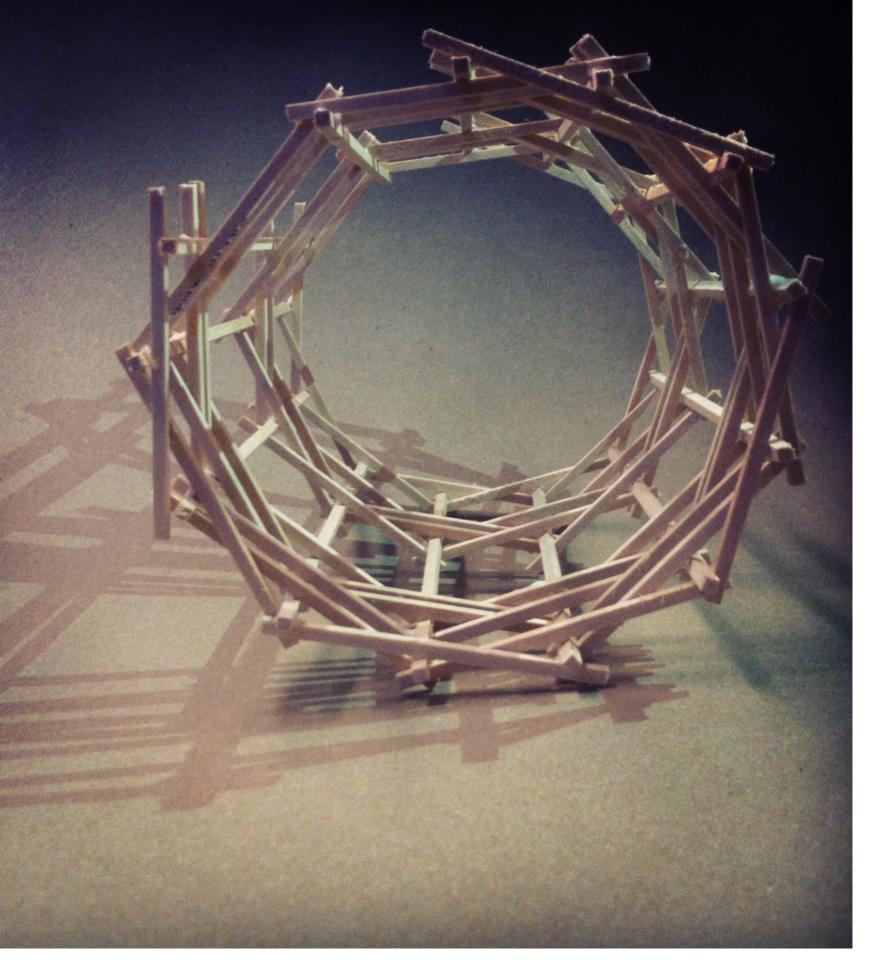


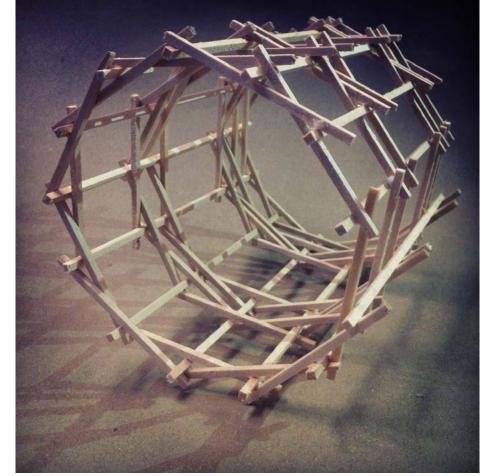




Several structural systems have been considered for the house, including this application of a semimonocoque strategy.



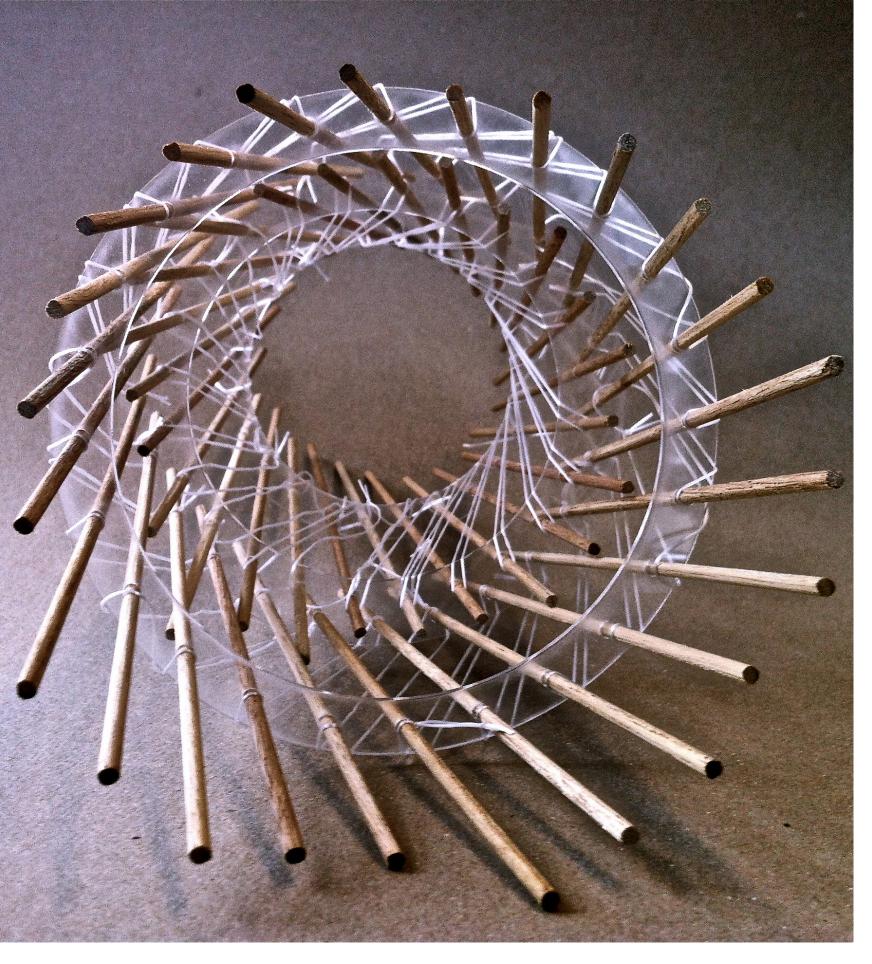




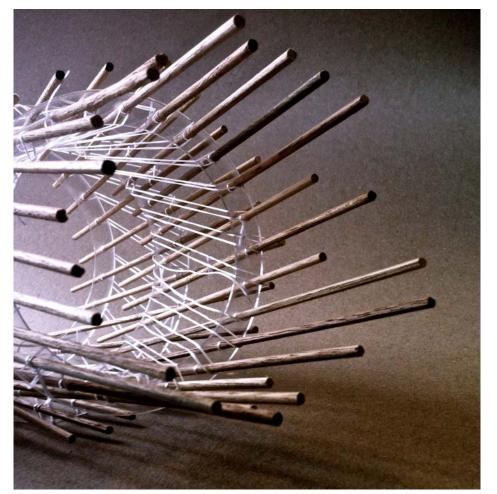


A reciprocal frame can also offer stability, but with little potential for curves, it limits its form to straight homogeneous tubes.



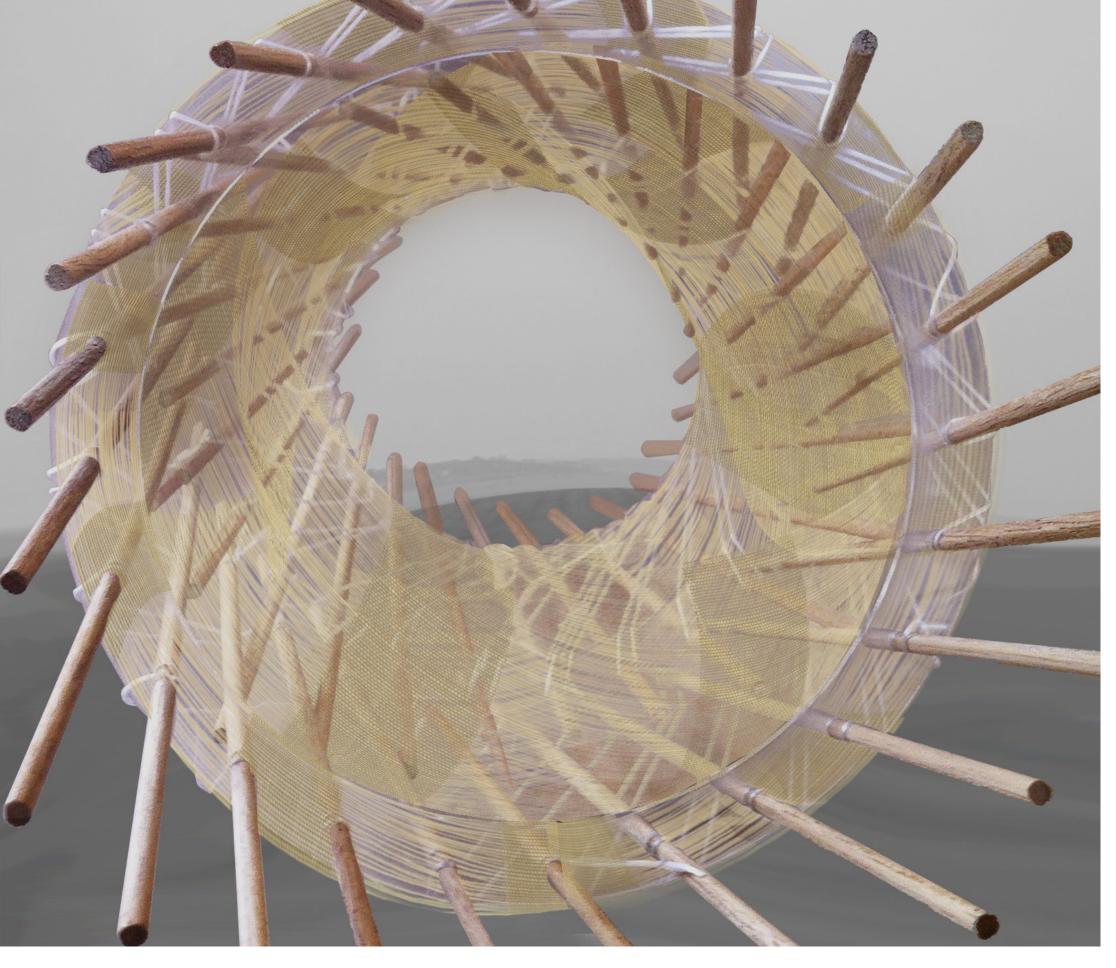






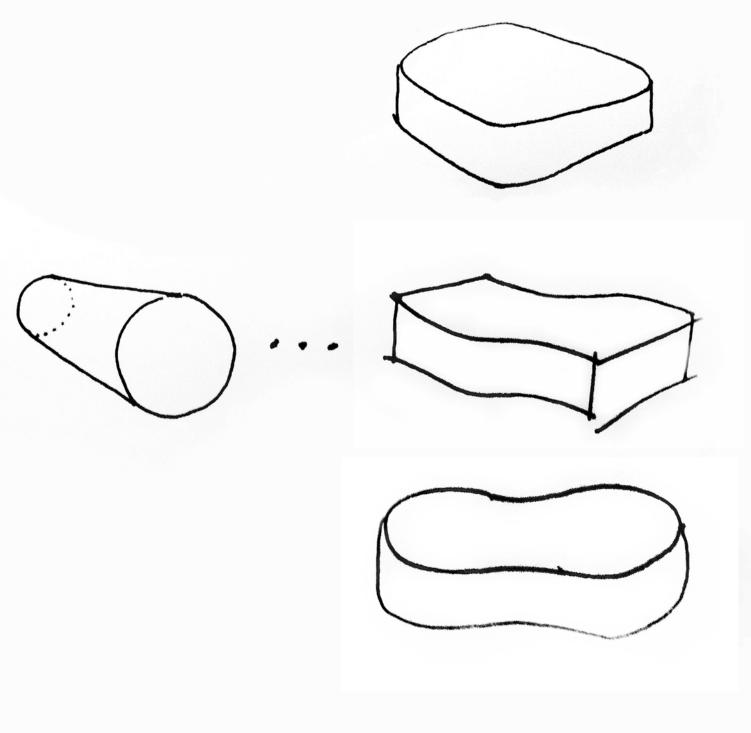
Ring-assisted tensegrity permits greater variation in diameter and engenders a double skin condition.











Since the outer skin morphs in response to its structural frame and to inner protrusions from the floor or walls, one may imagine any number of resulting forms when considering the potential for aggregation in an urban context.





Multiple urban options are possible, including staggering and stacking for both single- and multi-level growth.





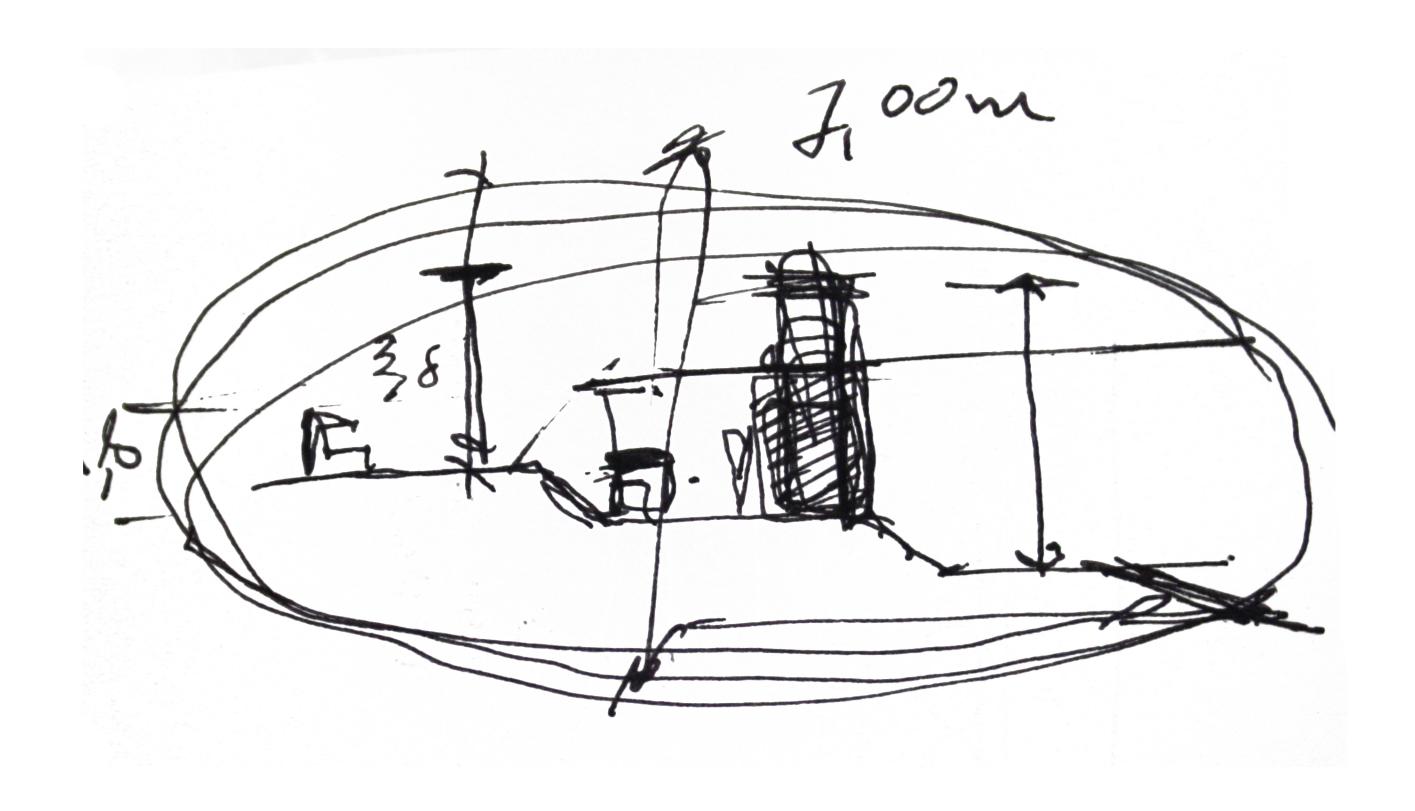




These strategies are meant to address the relationship of this housing with street, courtyard and adjacent buildings.

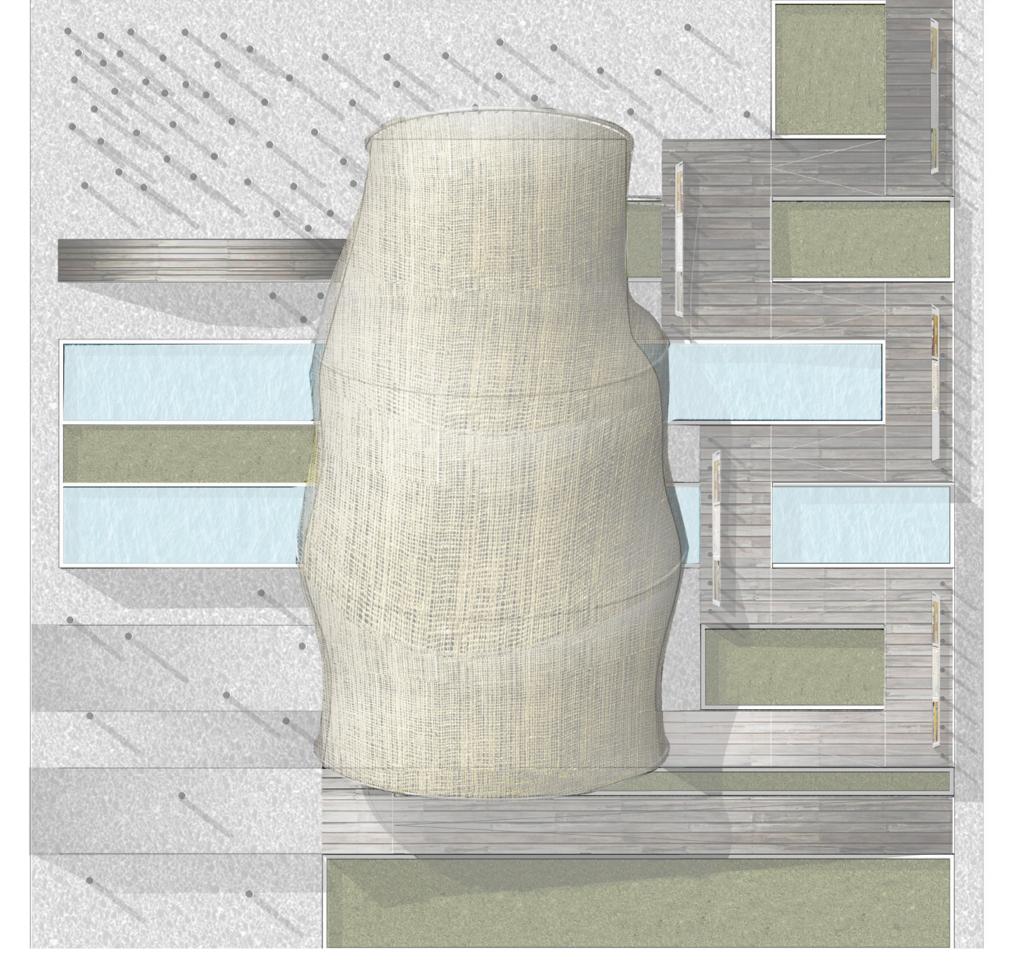






The concept of fuselage also aids in planning, with the potential for level changes and the separation of mechanical and habitable spaces.





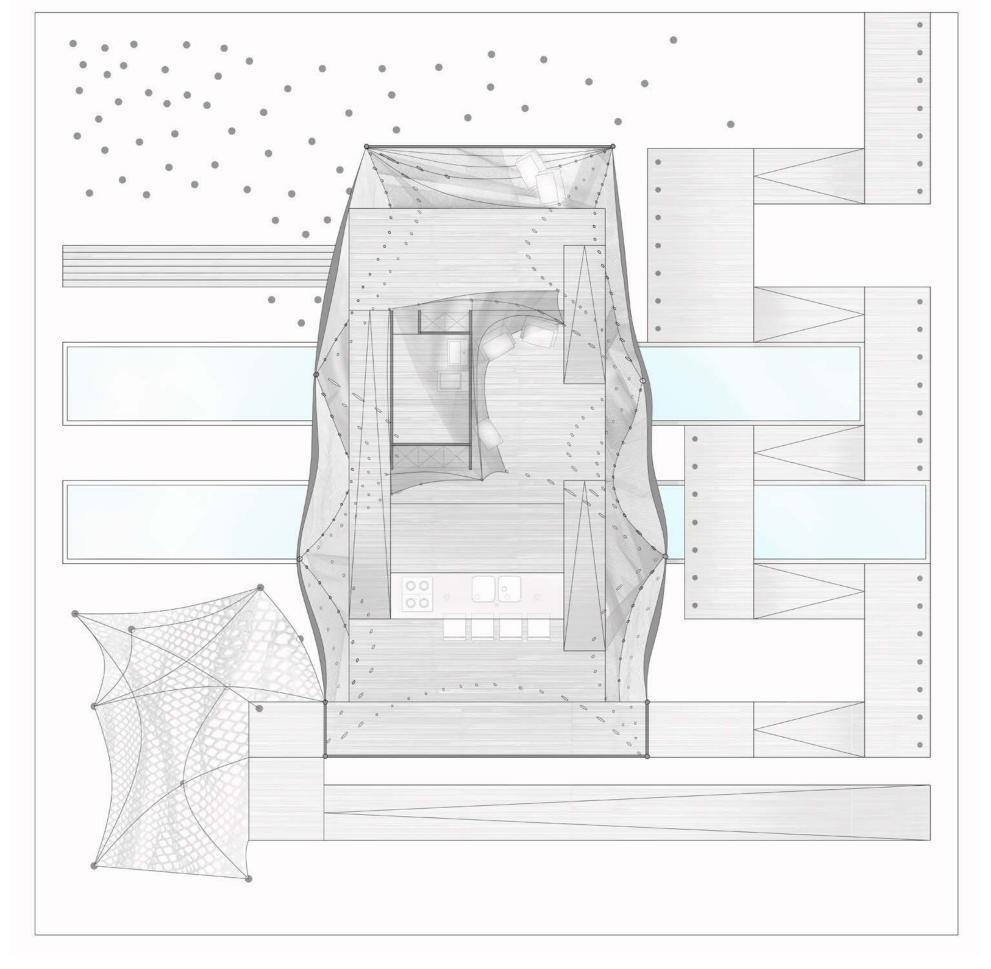
A grain forms across the site with the orientation of water beds, planters, sloped terrain, ramps and play areas.





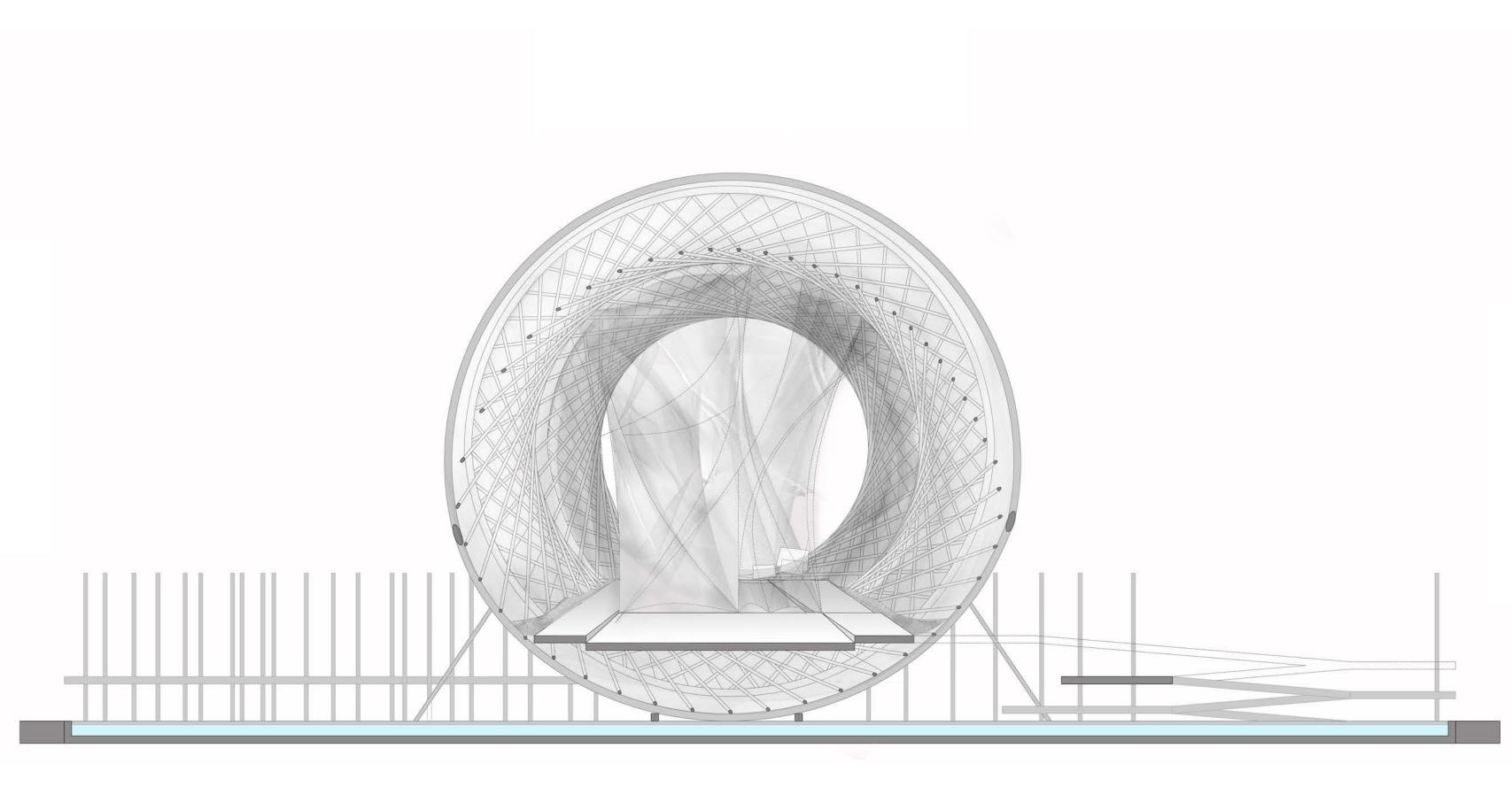
The landscape might benefit from a strategy of sloped terrain which not only reinforces the grain across the site but also delineates planted and walkable space.





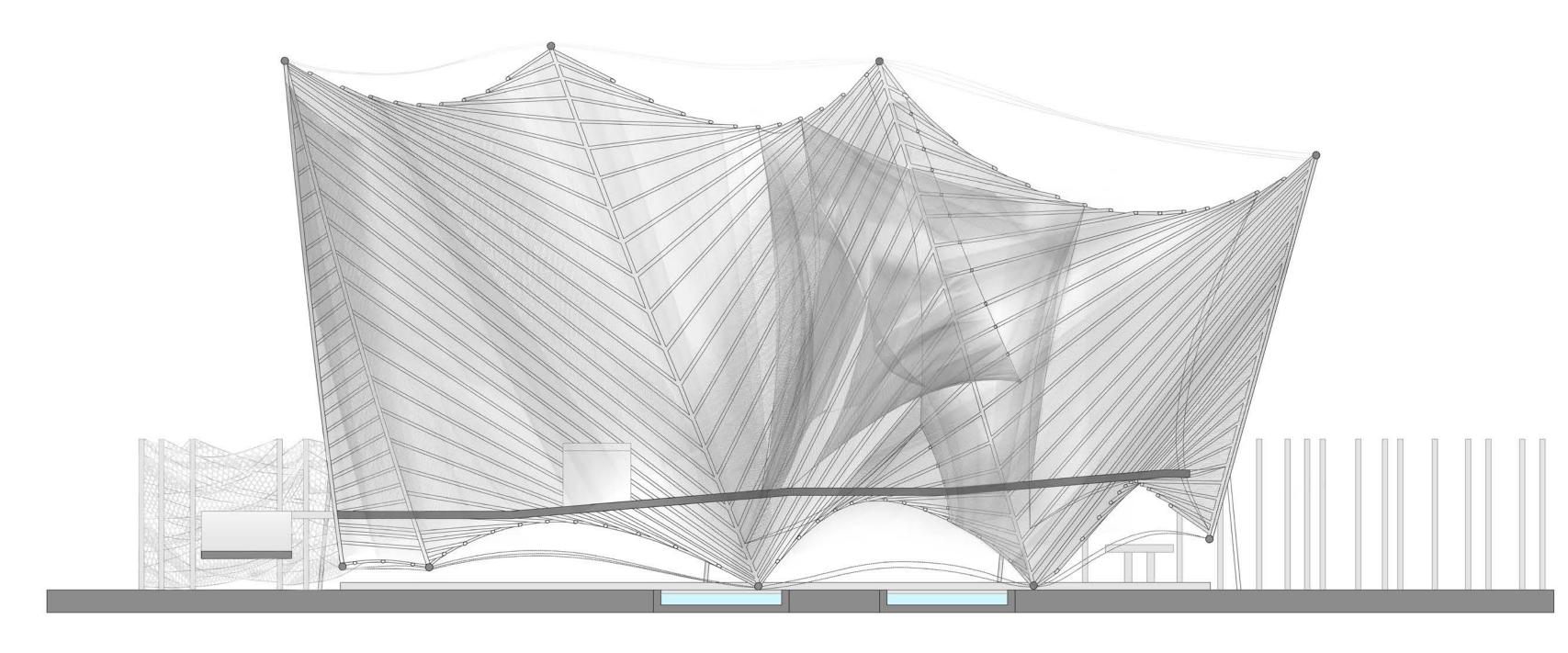
The interior consists of an open plan with a floating core to contain the bathroom, mechanical closet and storage. The house divides into three levels separated by ramps along the perimeter: the first a more social space for cooking and entertaining; the second a more relaxed space for living; and the third a more private space for sleeping and working.





The cross-section denotes the fuselage-like arrangement of space, a clear impression of the rigid outer frame and a generous ceiling height.





Level changes happen subtlely but serve to divide space, as do the four outer rings which pinch the fabric membranes into pockets.





PERMEABLE TRANSLUCENT OPAQUE EMBEDDED

The layers of the outer fabric wall may vary in permeability and opacity as needed to provide better lighting and ventilation.

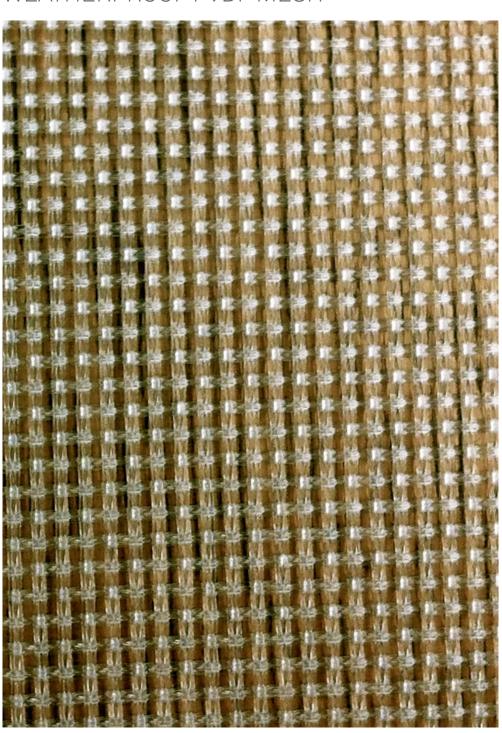


Research in the material collections at RISD have yielded multiple possibilities for skin. Samples include such beneficial properties as waterproofness, superinsulation, light diffusion, light embedding, compact solar collection, evaporative cooling, thinness and durability.

POLYPROPYLENE SRP COMPOSITES



WEATHERPROOF PVDF MESH



WOVEN NATURAL FIBERS



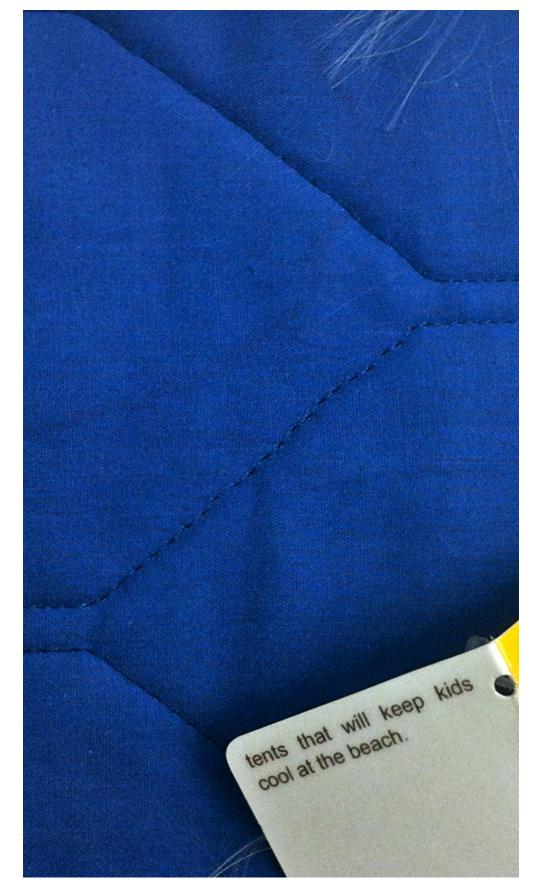












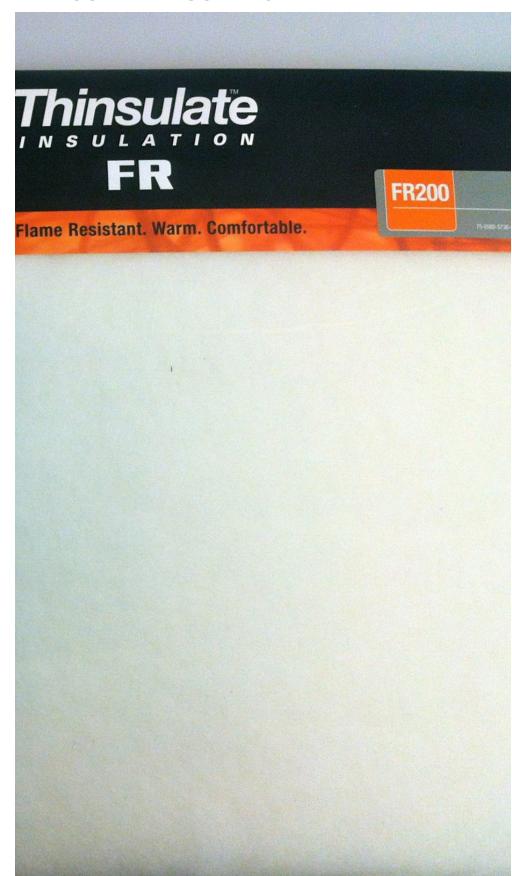


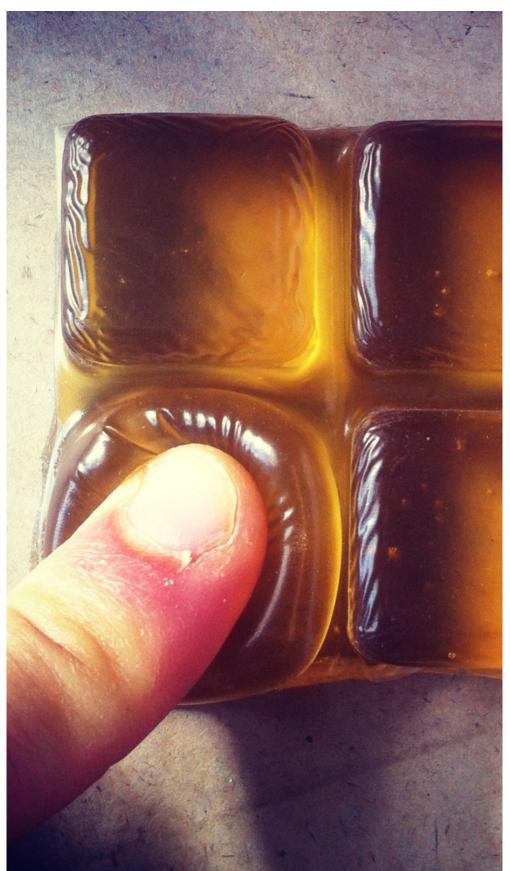




CUSHIONING GEL

STRUCTURAL PET PANELS



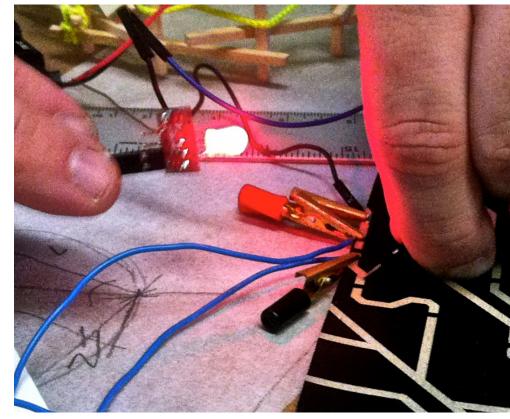


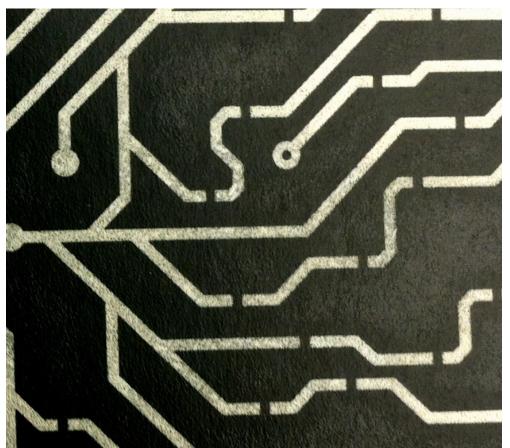


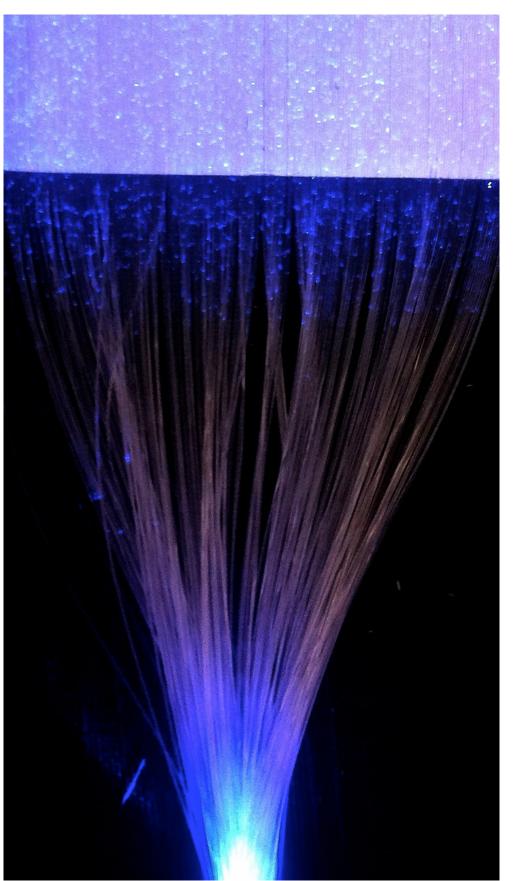


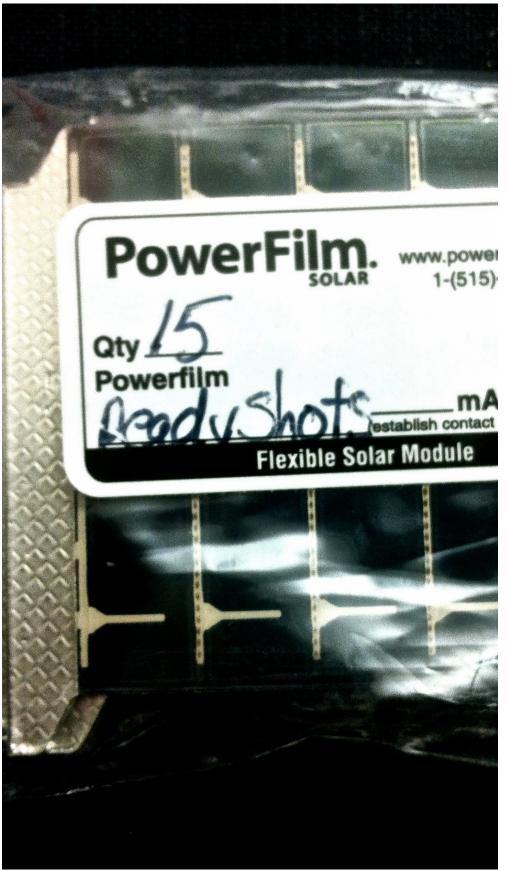
FIBER OPTICS

FLEXIBLE SOLAR MODULES



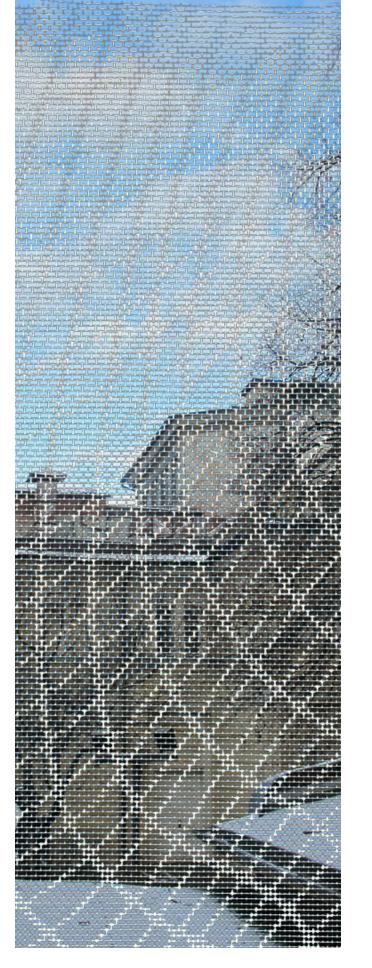








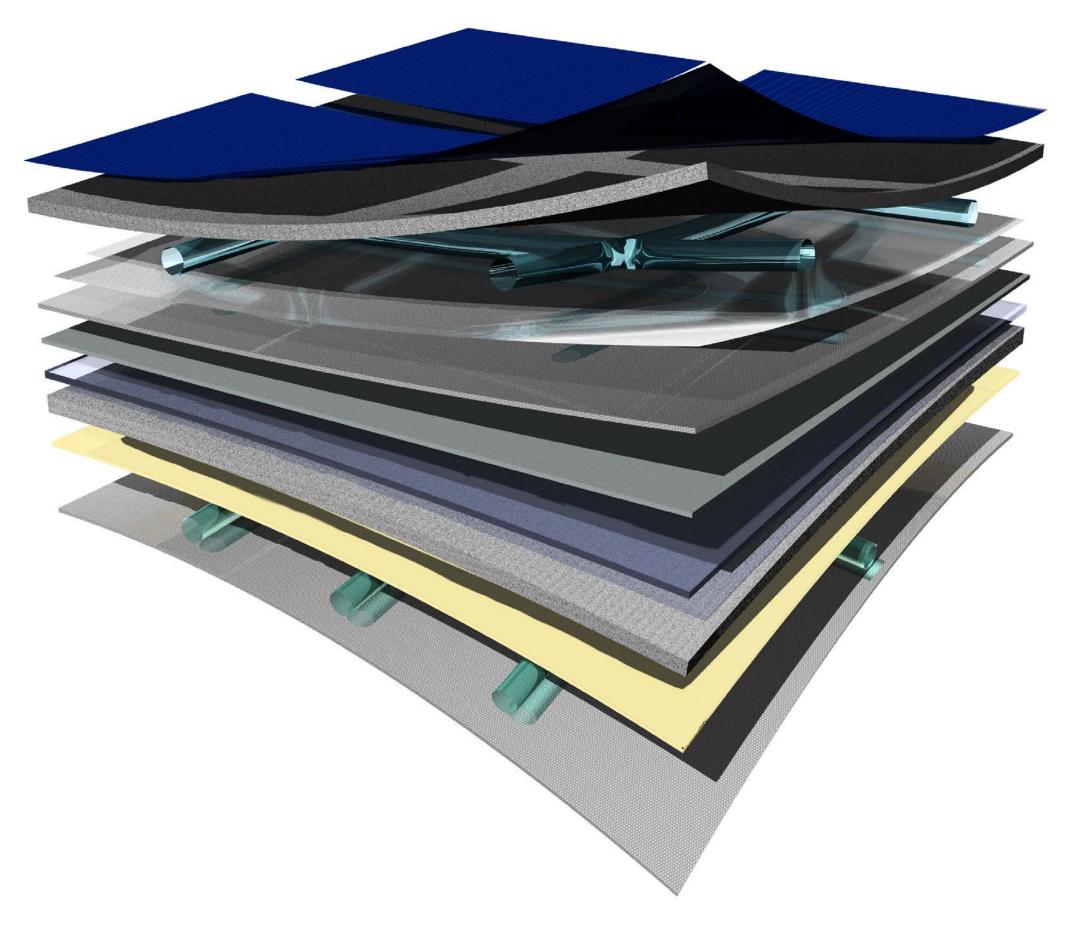








PLAY SHELL URBANISM PLANNING SKIN LIGHTING



DEPOSITED THIN-FILM PHOTOVOLTAIC CELLS

WATER ABSORBTION SUBSTRATE

COLLECTED WATER & HEATED WATER TRANSPORTTUBES

GORE-TEX KEVLAR NOMEX

DEPOSITED ELECTROCHROMIC POLYMER

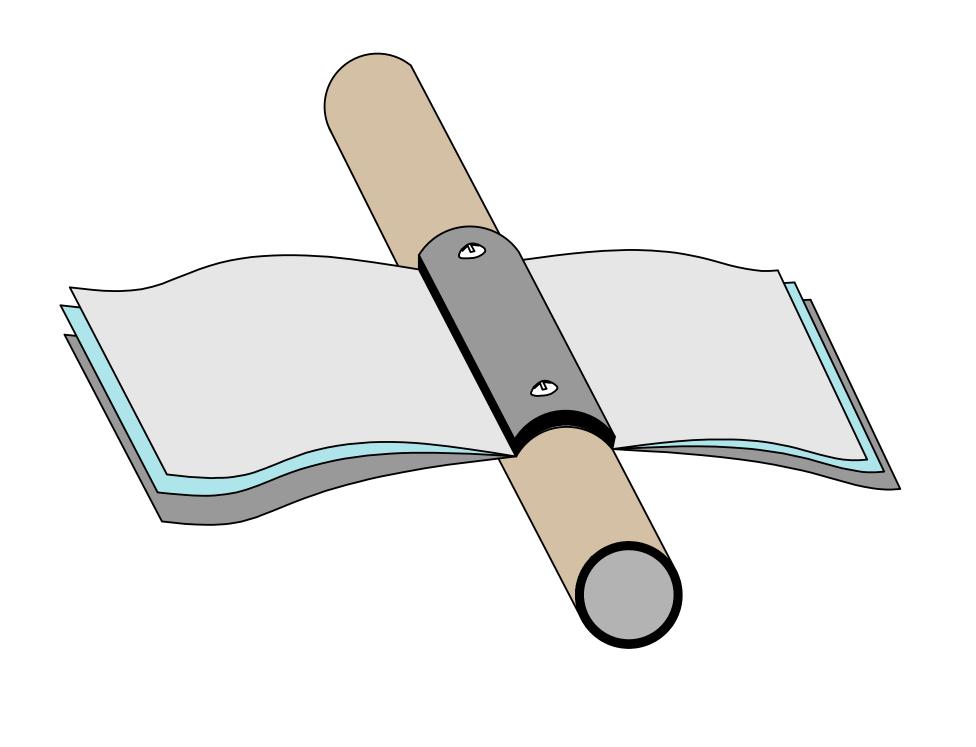
THINSULATE

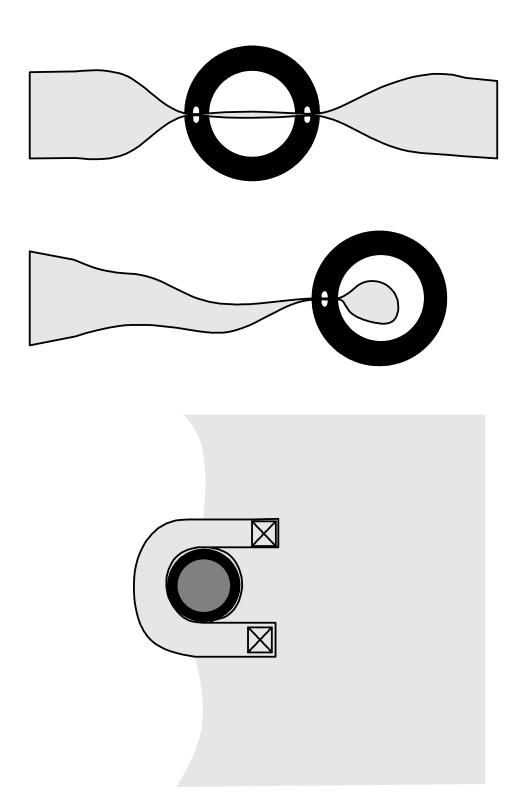
SILVERED MYLAR

RADIANT HEATING & **COOLING WATER TUBES**

INNER SKIN

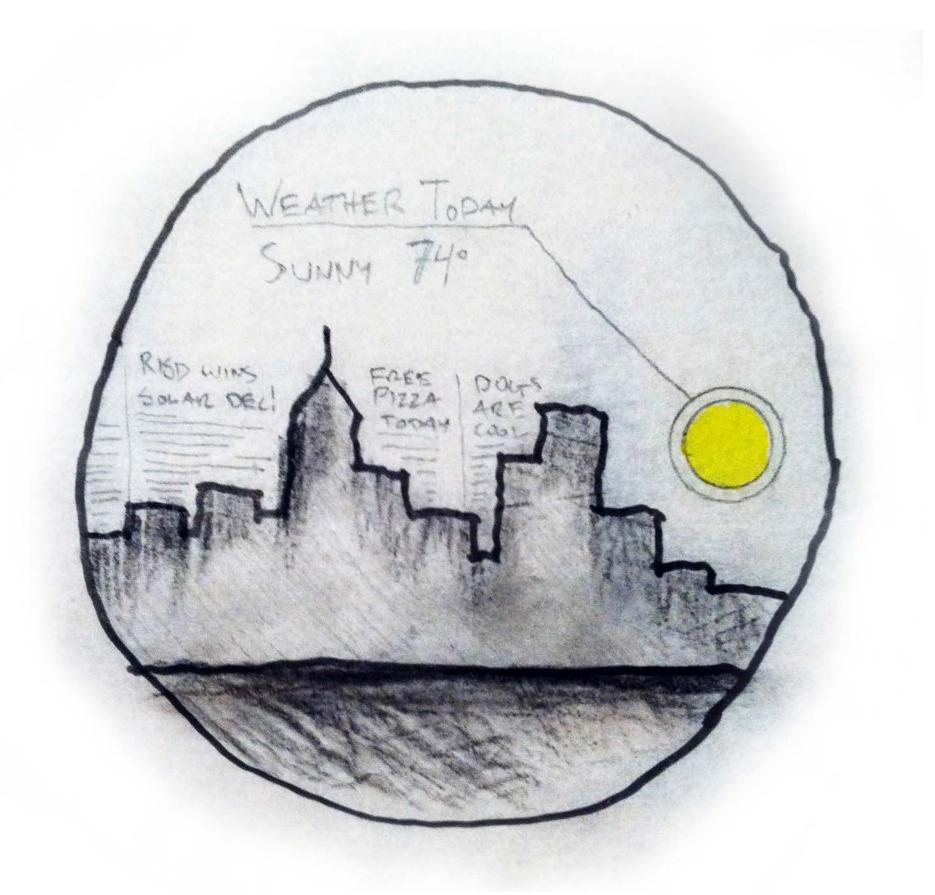






The fabric skin may attach to the rigid structural frame through a system of clamping, bunching or wrapping.



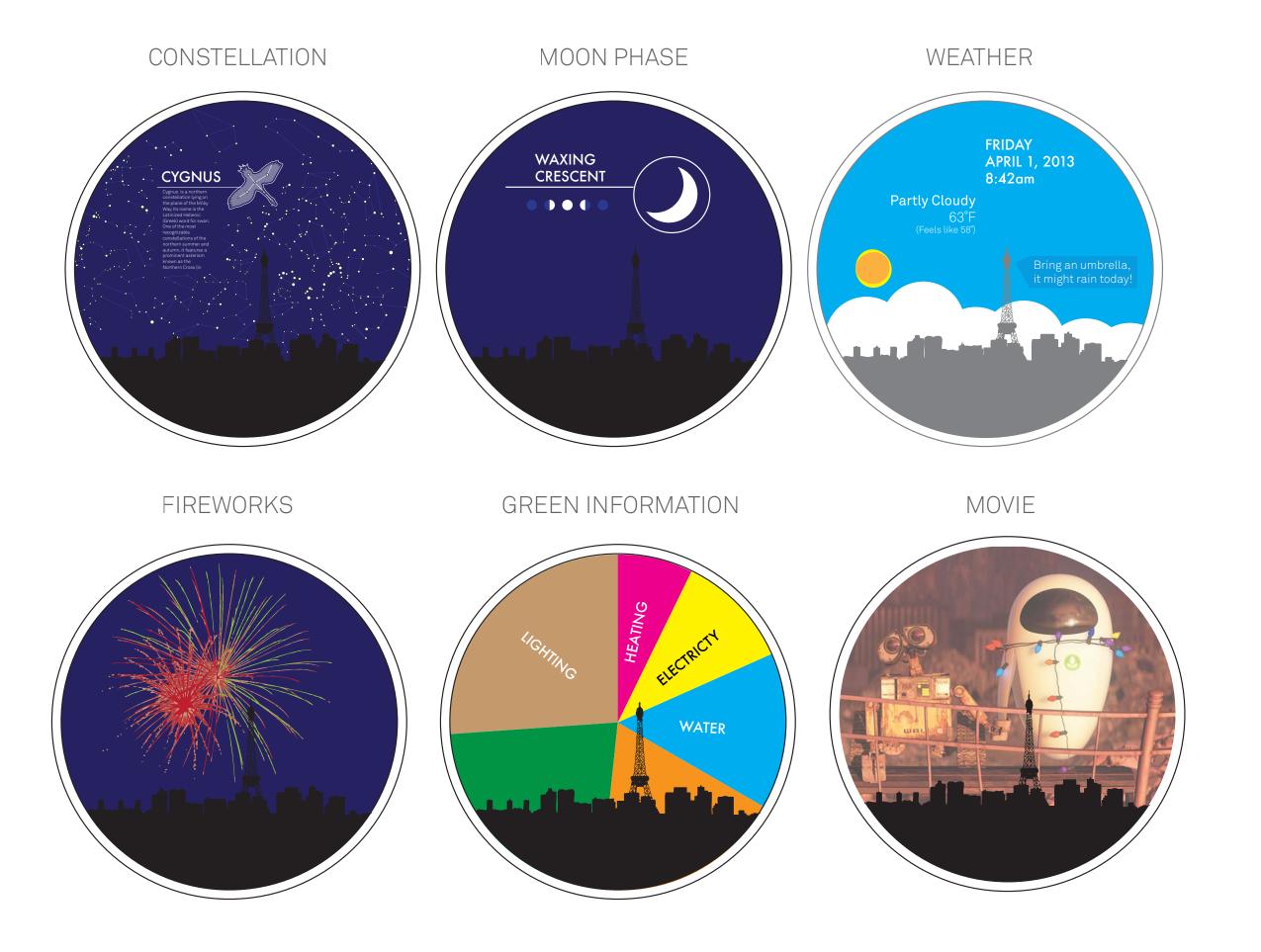




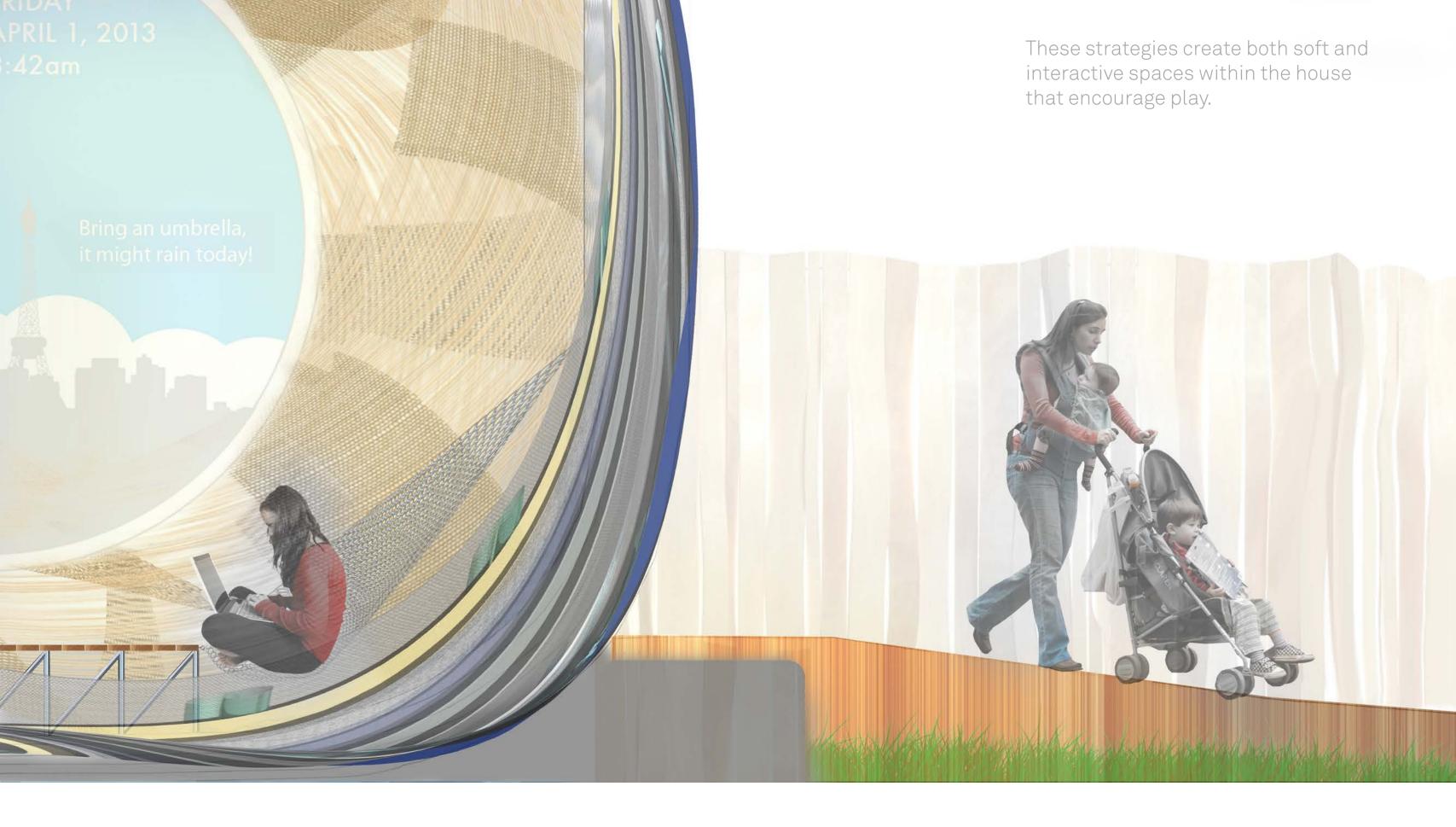


Augmented-reality windows will be installed in the house to provide the user with practical information about the outside surroundings.





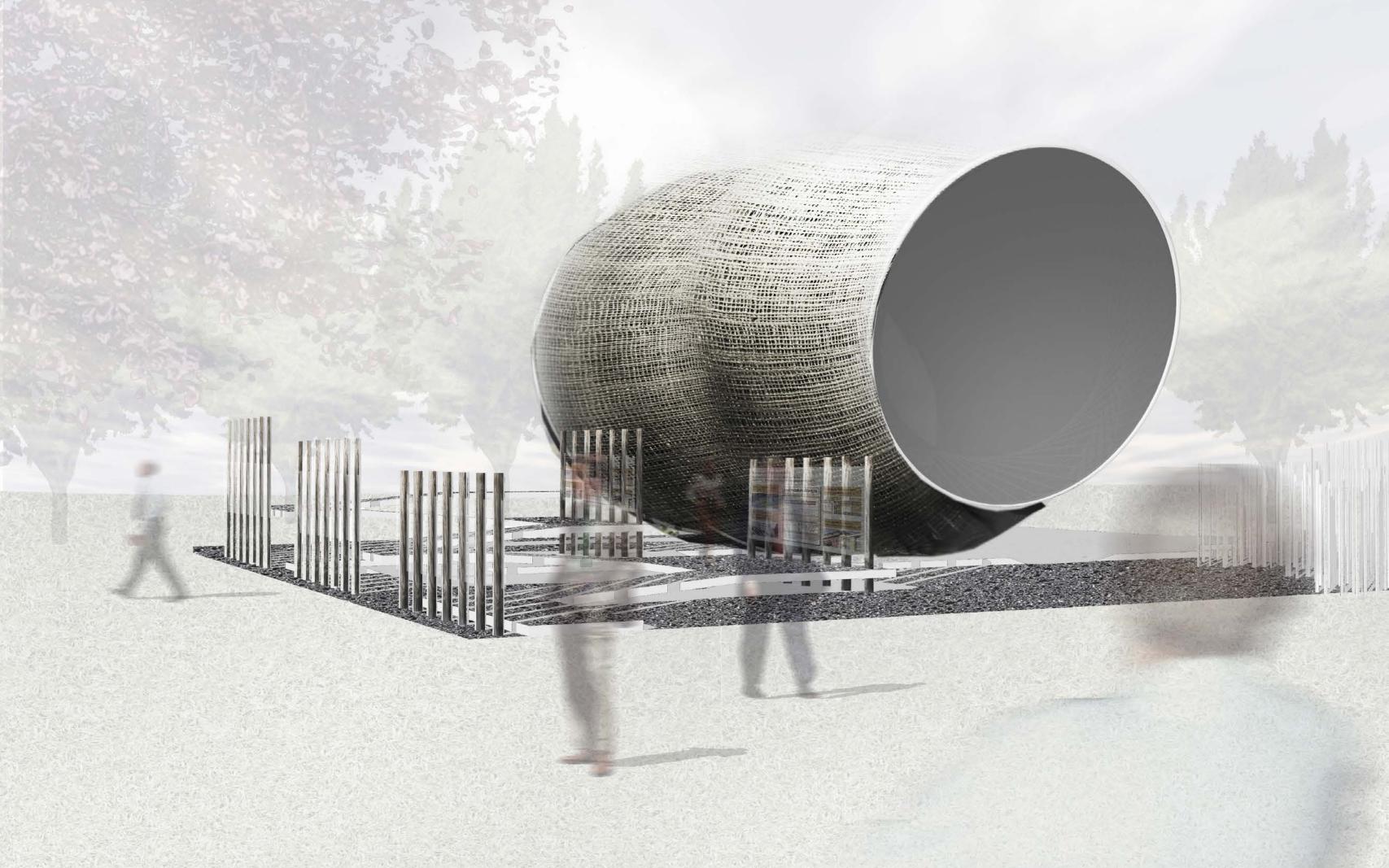




















Fiber optics and LED lights are embedded in both the landscape and skin to emphasize the relationship of the ground to the sky.

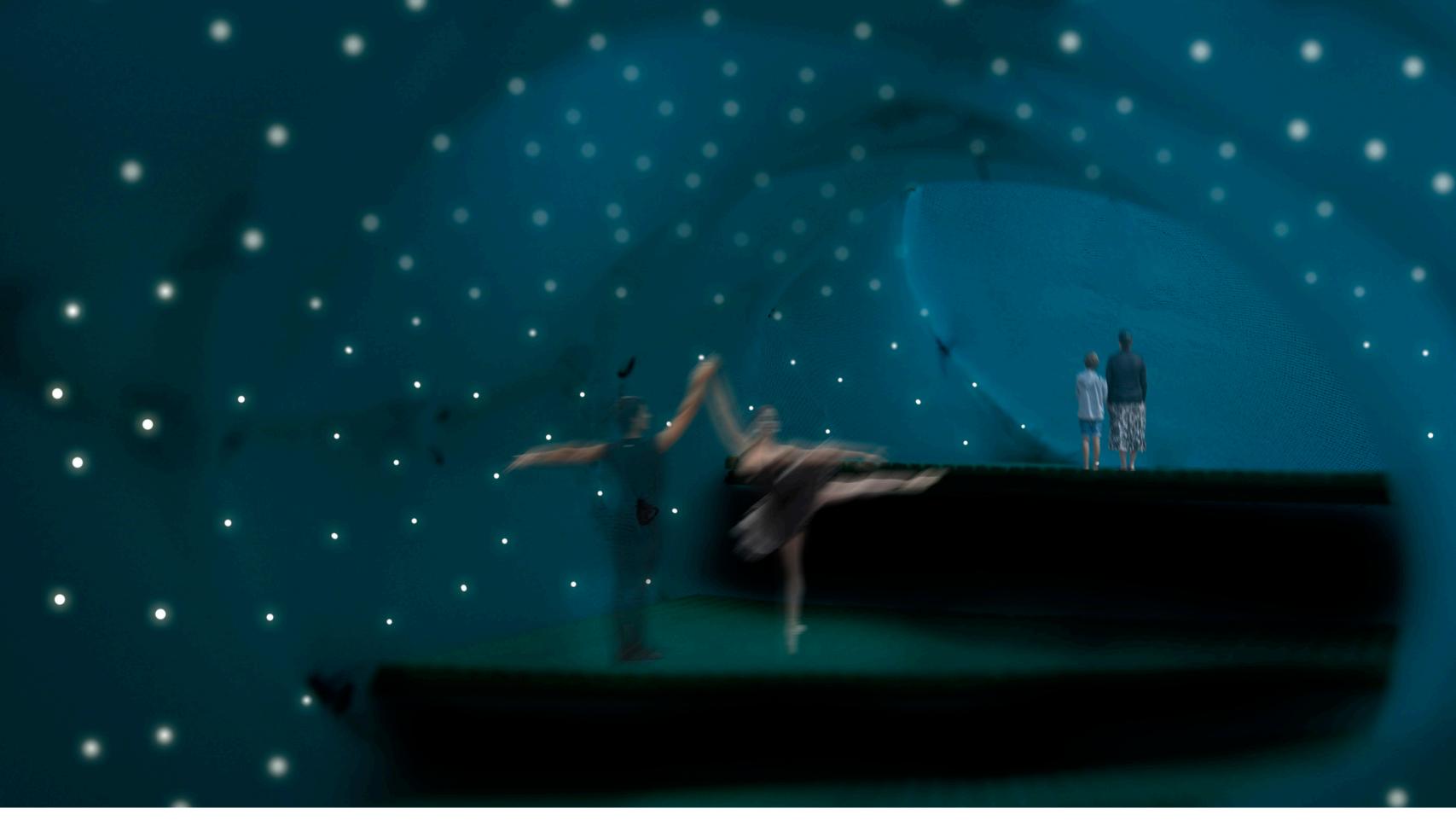












PLAY SHELL URBANISM PLANNING SKIN LIGHTING





PLAY SHELL URBANISM PLANNING SKIN LIGHTING

