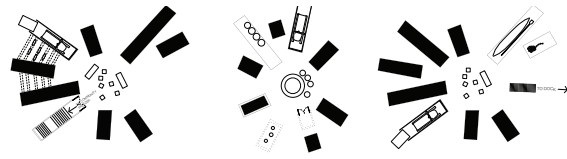


Shared Snowmobile Garages



TEAM CHAR-G-00022

Hey Emily and Marc-Antoine! Hope you are both doing well. We are doing a competition this weekend (due Sunday at midnight) for the Canadian Centre for Architecture. The theme this year is 'Reassembling the North.' If you have a little bit of time, I would love to hear any ideas you might have off the top of your head. We're trying to create a design to create something both practically useful, while also resonating culturally. Here is the brief: <http://www3.cca.qc.ca/charrette/2016/challenge.html>

TEAM

Would that be best as individual spaces outside people's homes or outside a collective town hall (or place of gathering)?

TEAM

We were also trying to find some sort of social program (relating to a cultural tradition or ritual) that would (ideally) help to combat some of the sense of isolation and depression and bring people together in a kind of playful way.

TEAM

We love how both of your ideas use a sedentary architecture to facilitate their nomadic lifestyle. Emily, your idea really resonates with us, especially when considering that in the last decade there has been much discussion around ideas of collective ownership - a societal shift that architecture has been lagging behind. We imagine that these snowmobile garages could exist as shared nodes decentralized throughout the city and facilitate a basic social structure for the Inuit's otherwise nomadic lifestyle. Marc-Antoine, we have thought a lot about these Nomadic customs that Inuit people share. 78% hunt, 88% fish, 86% harvest white plants and 49% trap. This rich and unique knowledge ought to be preserved as these communities grow and develop. We imagine these snowmobile garages could be designed in a flexible and multi-purpose way so that they could be used all year round for a variety of educational purposes.

TEAM

We have. To successfully put this sharing economy into practice, we imagine there would have to be some restructuring of existing space planning models. While conventionally designed subdivisions divide all land into houselots and streets, conservation design abides by principles that preserve the integrity, stability, and beauty of the biotic community. Always trying to keep new housing ground-oriented, we would also work on tweaking the zoning of new developments in order to maximize density.

Team CHAR-G-00022 chats with Leslie Wood and Mark-Antoine Fortin Robitaille about DIY approaches to reassembling the town of Kungiqsujuaq.

LESLIE WOOD

Off the top of my head, I'd say something that uses seacans, which are shipped up full and sometimes don't make it back down south. You could probably design a pretty great drive-in ski door garage. It's such a pain to start those things when they have been sitting out in the cold all night. I'll do more thinking on this.

LW

Hmmm, good question. I like the idea of a gathering place but people usually need their machines close to their houses in order to load up the qammatiq (sled), etc. In the summer you could park your atv in there. You would also have a place to hang fishing nets, etc.

MARC-ANTOINE FORTIN

When I was there, no restaurant had local food on their menu - just bad poutine and fried chicken. Many locals told me they would like to have a place where they could eat traditional cuisine and learn more about it. I also imagine that teaching children of traditional hunting practices and craft techniques would help them cope with their general identity crisis.

LW

Great idea! I agree with Marc-Antoine. People have lost their ability to cook. Traditionally, when hunters brought back their caribou, the villagers would gather and share. This tradition almost does not exist anymore, and bringing back a space where people could cook together and share food and knowledge is something that I think Inuit would be happy to have.

MF

Hunter's support is already helping hunters and fishermen in accessing the resources necessary to maintain their practice but more needs to be done. Many programs also exist for encouraging food security initiatives. Anything related to this, especially if there is a community aspect, will be somehow supported I am sure. Have you considered improving on existing community freezer designs or creating a space for processing locally-produced foods?

LW

Fantastic! This framework for growth that you propose would reground Inuits' sensitive relationship with the land, while simultaneously creating denser community nodes that support a culture of sharing and teaching.

Leslie Wood is a friend of the team and lived in Nunavut amongst Inuit people for a number of years working for the

Marc-Antoine Fortin is an old roommate of one member of the team and spent the last summer working for the Société du Plan Nord on a greenhouse and waste to energy project in Kuujuaq.

The team is grateful to Leslie Wood and Marc-Antoine Fortin for their contribution to the conceptual development of this project. Together, they gave the team a rare opportunity to brainstorm ideas with people who really know what it's like to live in the communities for which the team is designing.

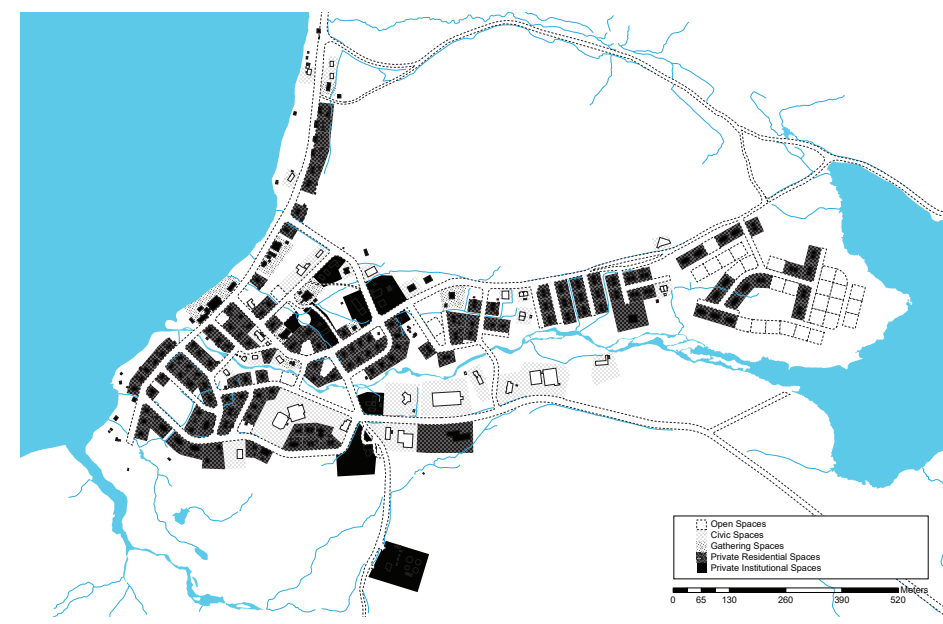


Figure 1. Noll diagram showing the existing public realm in Kungiqsujuaq

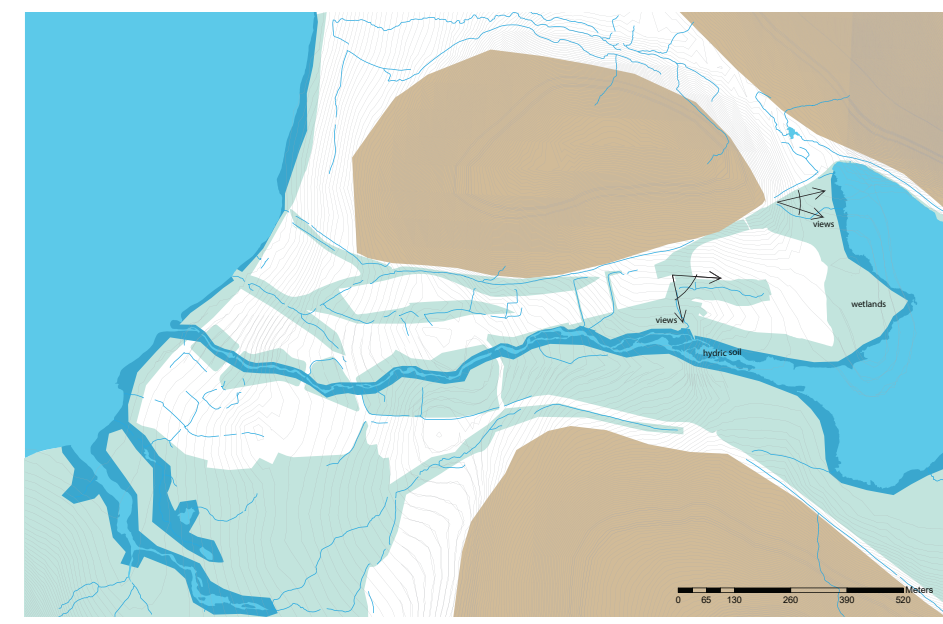


Figure 2. Identifying Primary Conservation Areas in Kungiqsujuaq

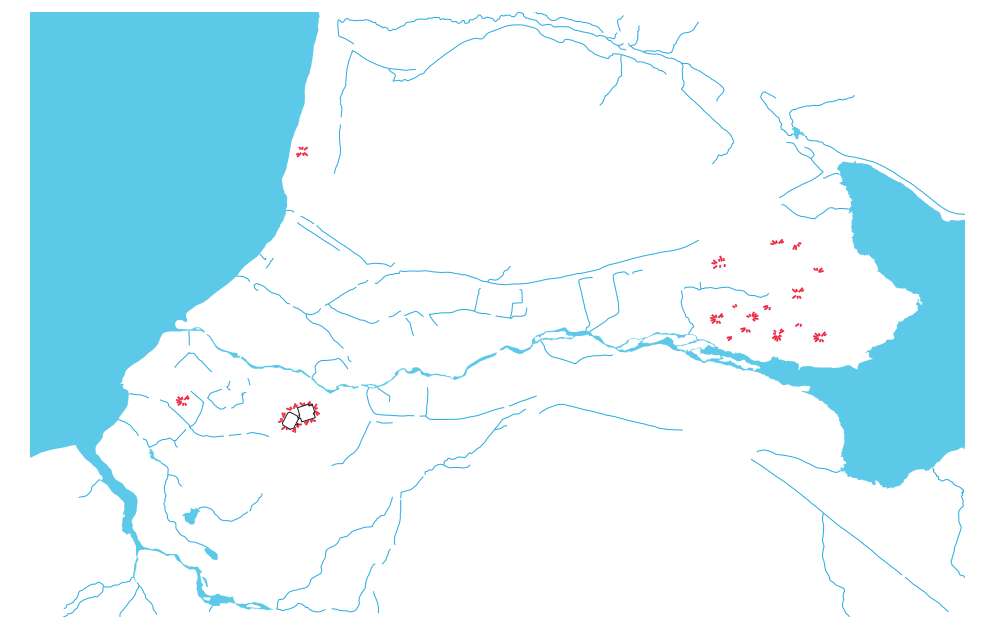


Figure 3. Decentralizing shared snowmobile garages throughout Kungiqsujuaq

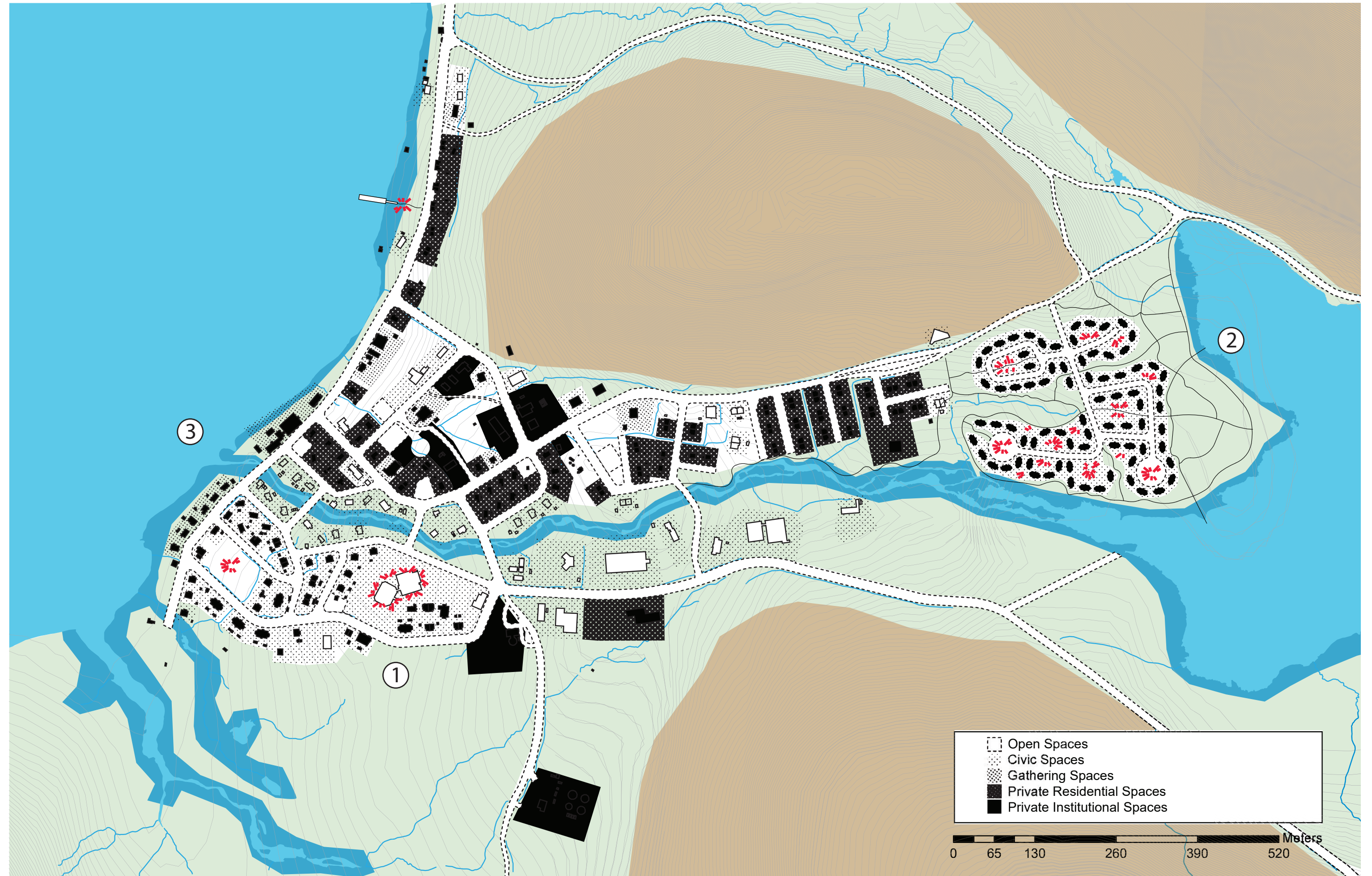
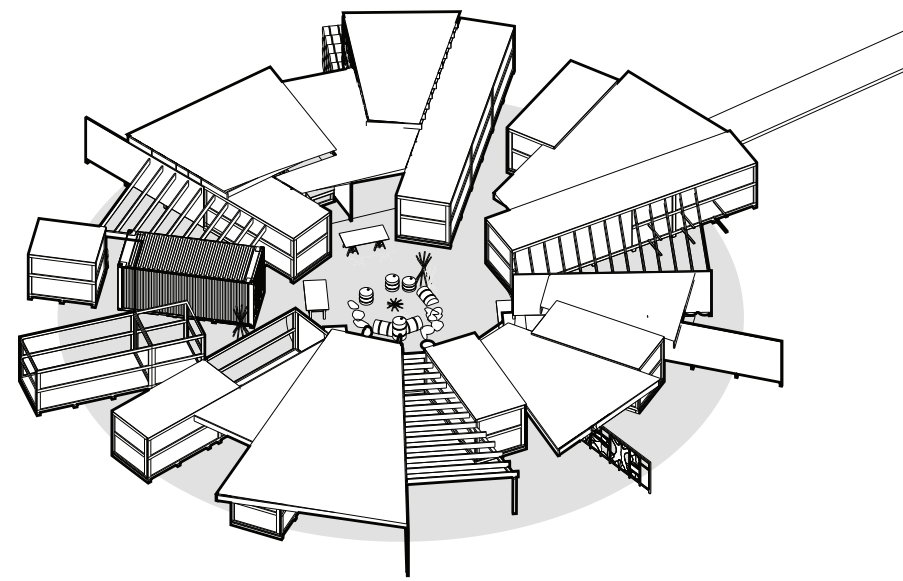
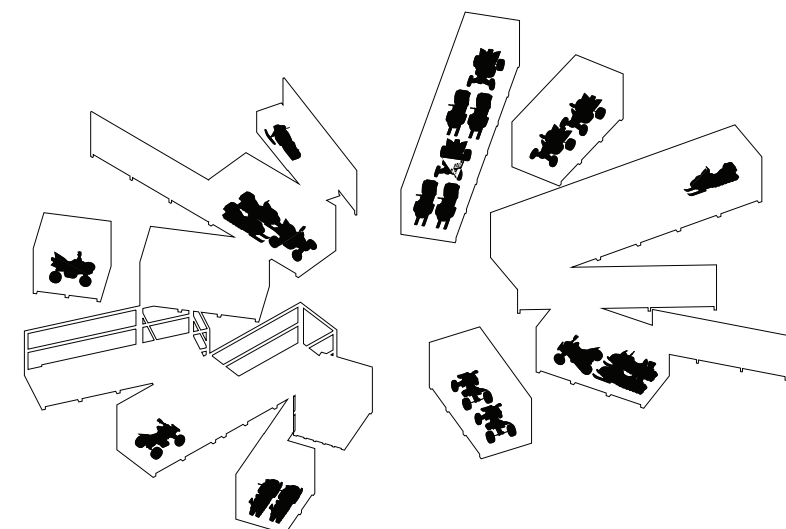


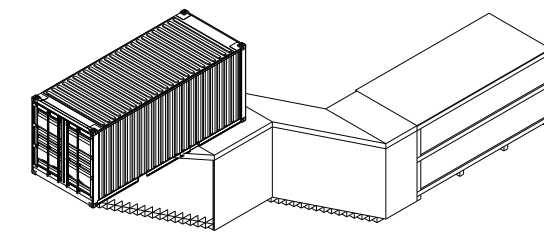
Figure 4. Reconfigured noll plan addressing previously poor public realm and lack of attention to natural areas worth conserving. The proposal: (1) reorients the focus of existing residential neighborhoods to shared snowmobile garages, additionally (2) frames future development according to conservation design principles for subdivisions, and (3) rediscovers and restores existing environmental elements by limiting new construction in conservation zones.



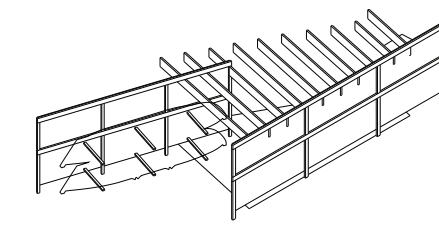
multipurpose garage



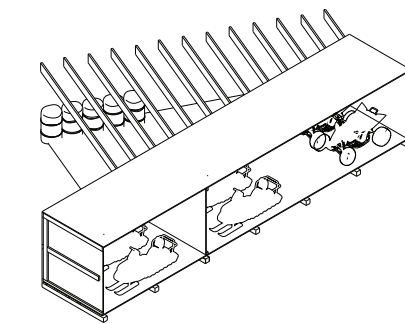
vehicle storage



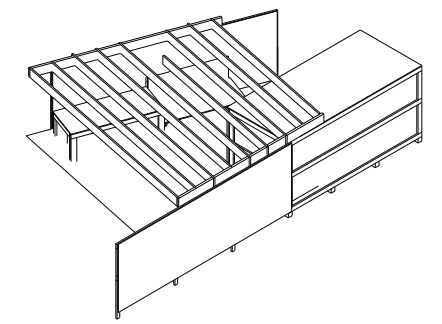
community freezer



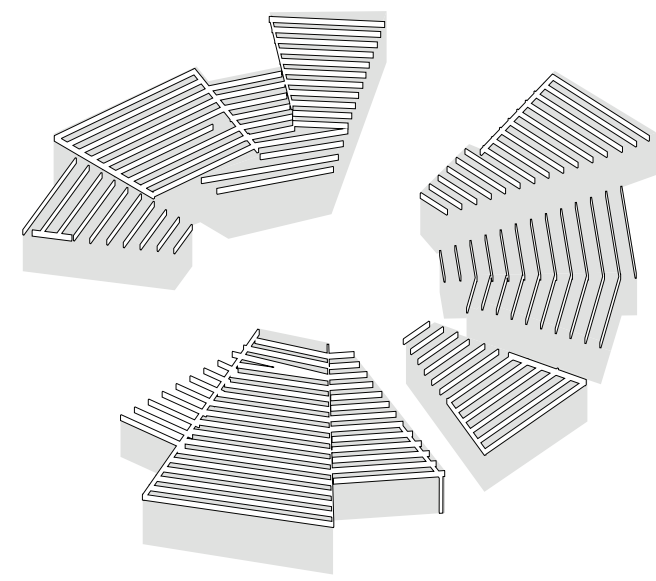
canoe racks



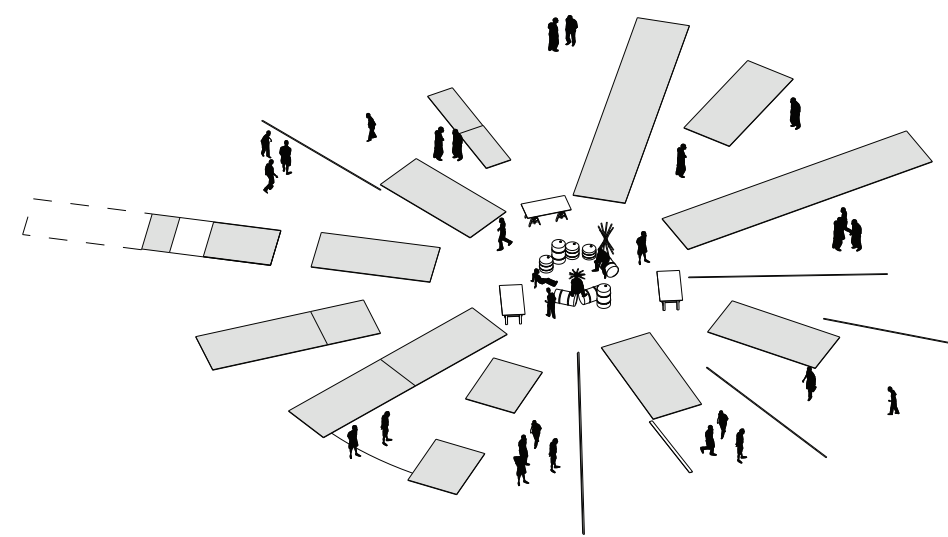
garage



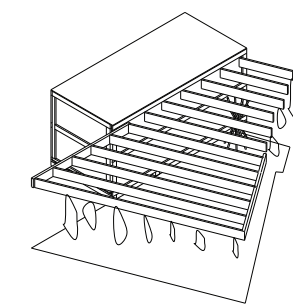
workshop



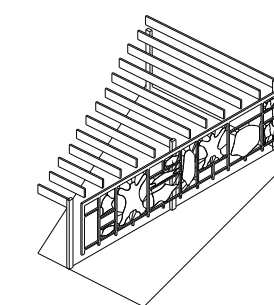
functional inbetween space



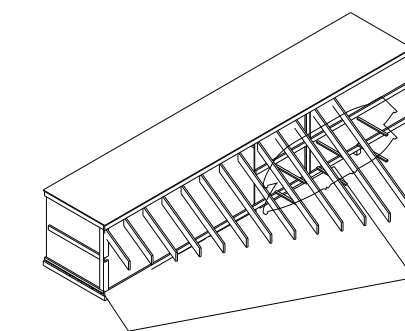
gathering space



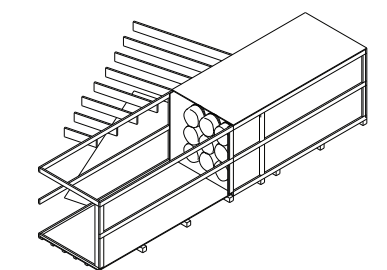
meat preparation



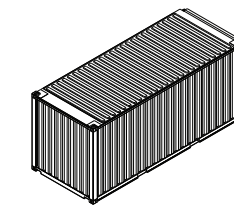
skin drying



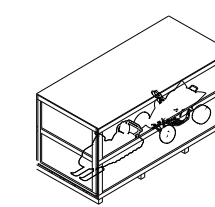
open storage



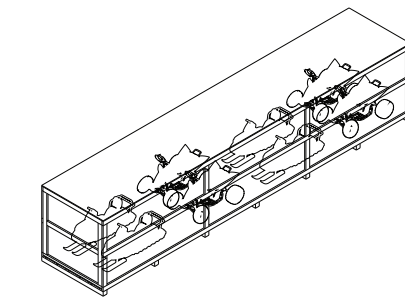
closed storage



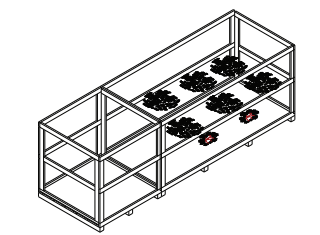
garage



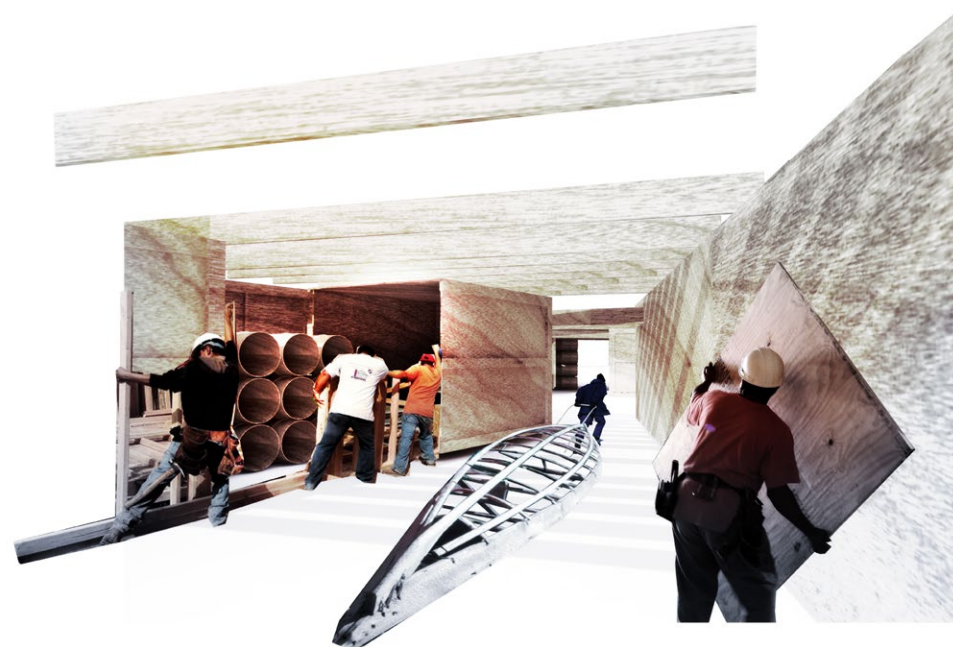
garage



garage



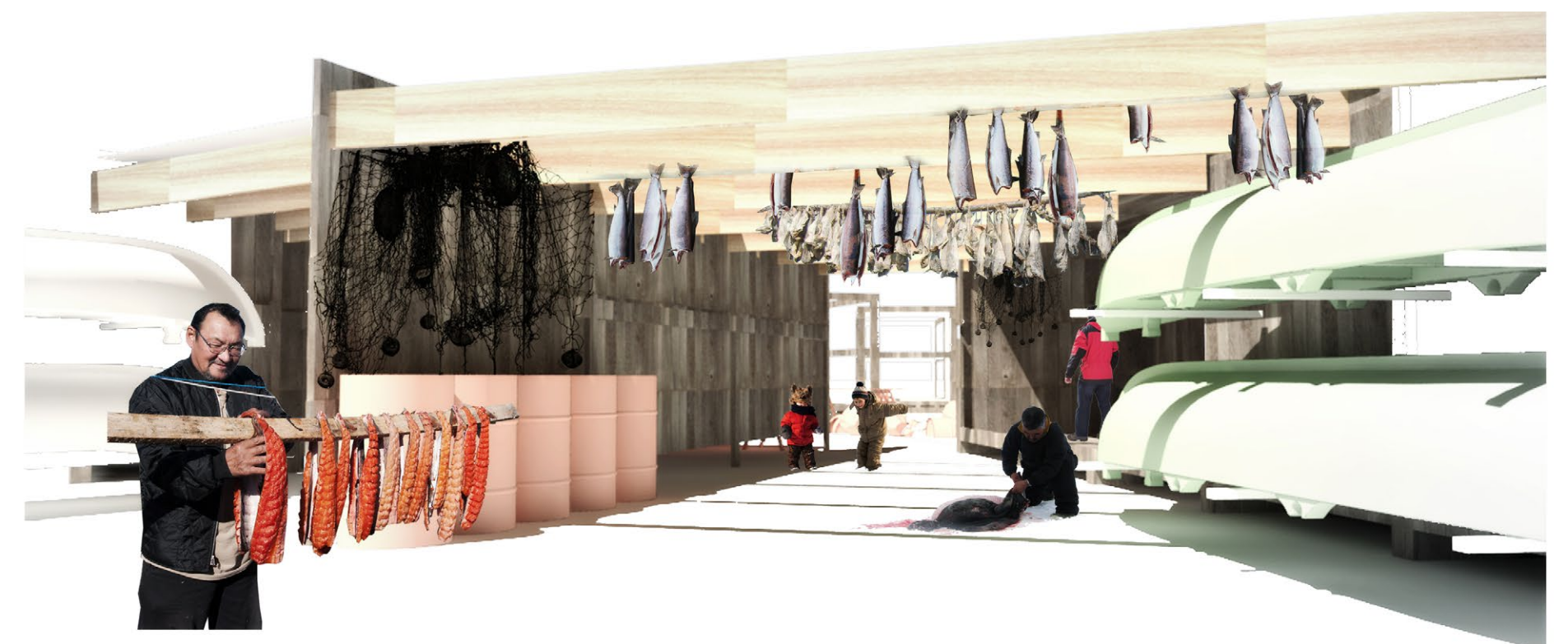
greenhouse



built with found material



access to water



community food prep