C HAPTER

05

*This Chapter presents
the programme and sub
programmes based on the
production of spaces through
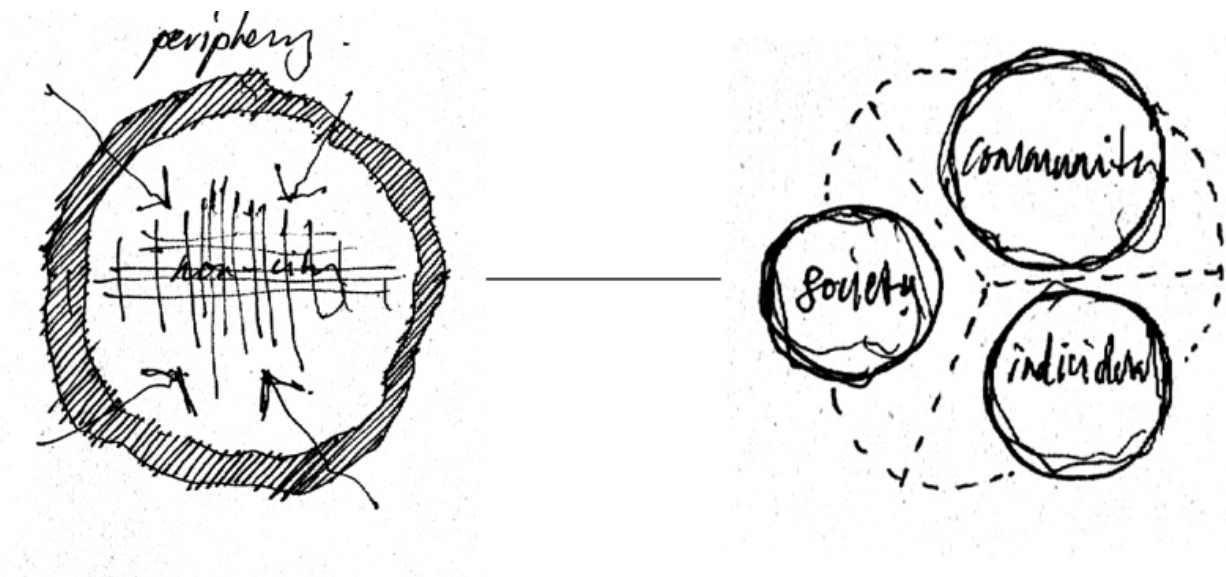the identities of the characters.*

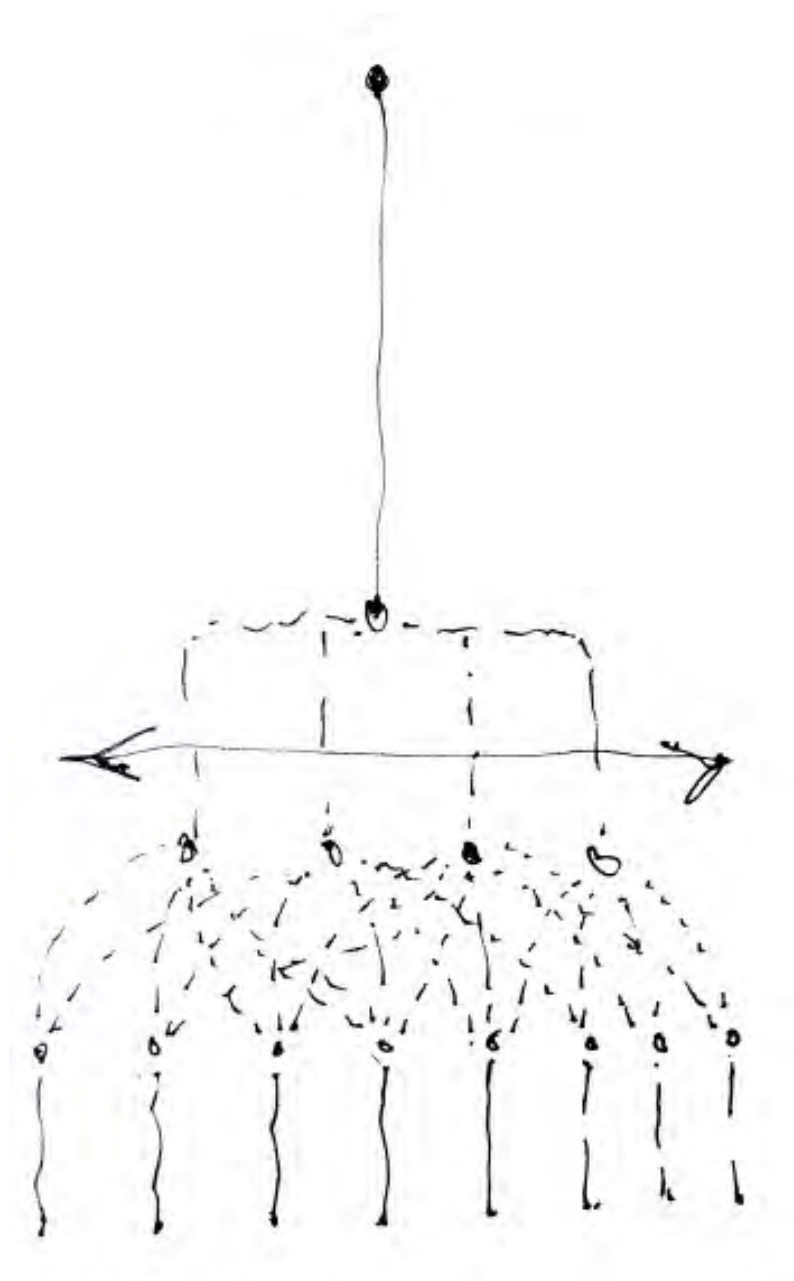*Figure 72: Forced integration versus facilitated and mediated integration. (2016)*

Figure 73: An image representing unity in difference and the relationships created through different activities. (2016)

5.1. IDENTITY

In the design development the different phases of the building is centred around the identities of the characters and how they fit together in a spatial formation.

Based on the argument that the marginal community has the potential to challenge views on society and ultimately become the only self-sustaining community post-disaster, each space is proposed to illustrate and interpret different identities.

As part of a systematic procedure and a mode of inquiry the method is used to justify a specific mode of investigation aiming, in the end, to challenge conventional principles of the built environment.

The spatial development proposes meaningful relationships as architecture cannot exist without these. Relationships connect the mind with the body, and the body with space.

If the marginal community is excluded from mainstream access, it is suggested that major potential lies in the production of a sustainable community that could function by itself in future. New ways of thinking, building, preservation and study can exist in the proposed intervention, by looking at traditional methods of surviving and altering these ideas to suit the current and future condition.

The next section aims to give insight into how specific programmes were developed to accommodate symbolism of the different characters.
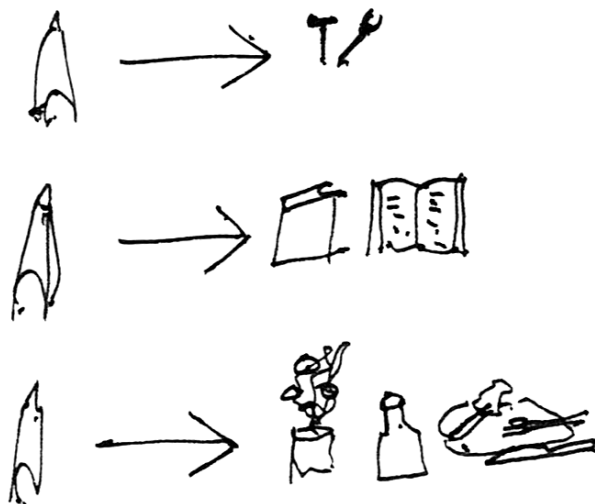

Figure 74: Different skillsets based on different identities. (2016)

Figure 75: Segragated identities versus a collective identity. (2016)

5.1.1. PROGRAMME

The function of the proposed building is mainly to provide refuge for marginal people in the anticipation of disaster. Yet the problem statement suggests that different characters would have to co-exist in such an environment. The narrative also proposes that the future function of the intervention would have to accommodate specific activities to develop the skills of the characters and preserve the knowledge gained through this experience. The programmes will now be stated and illustrated.
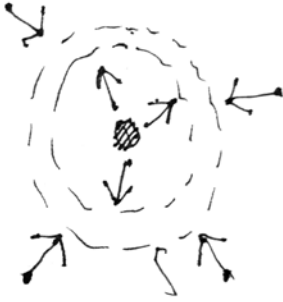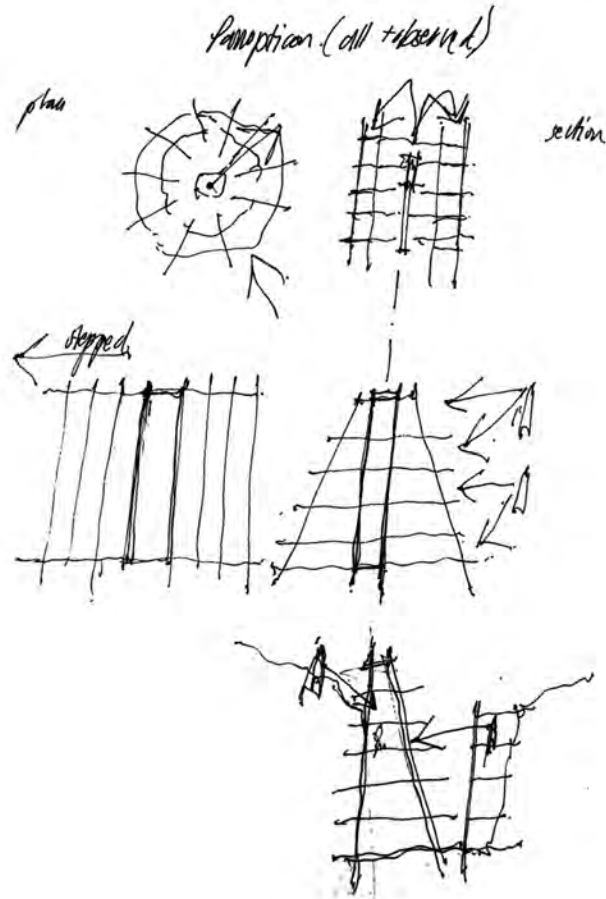
Figure 76: Interpretation of the panopticon. (2016)

THE WORKSHOPS

The interpretation of the panopticon, the theory created by Jeremy Bentham, aims to illustrate the act of observation and surveillance in the controlled environment of a prison. The scenario which symbolises the 'prisoner' responds to the controlling nature of a typical prison cell. The person that inhabits a cell is confined and limited. It is stated in this proposed scenario that security is the main concern to confine the 'prisoner' character to an extent. However, through the therapeutic activities taking place in the workshop spaces the future condition leaves the scenario open to adaptation. The workshops are therefore multifunctional in terms of spatial layout and depending on the future development of the characters these spaces could be inhabited by other characters as well.
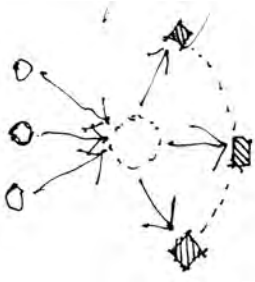
To conclude the essence of these spaces is grounded in the act of observation.
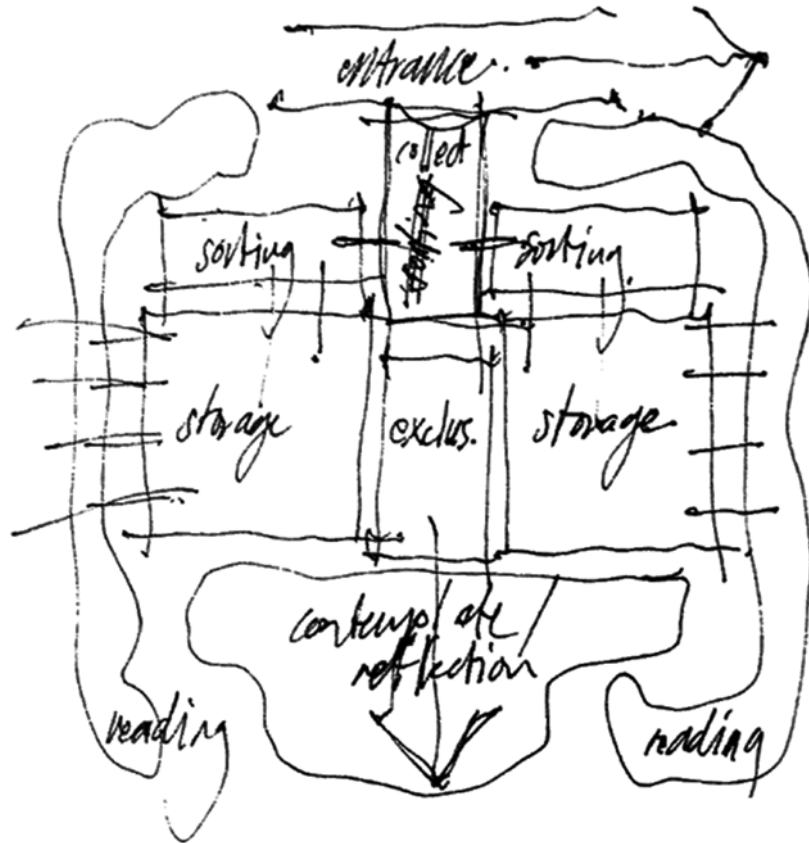
Figure 77: Interpretation of an archive. (2016)

THE ARCHIVE

The interpretation of the archive relies mainly on the act of collection and preservation. As previously mentioned the character of the elderly has the responsibility to oversee these activities based on the experience and knowledge that this character possesses. In the proposed scenario of this character, artefacts such as books, plants, geology and other forms of documentation are collected and ordered in several storage spaces for preservation. These spaces become the vaults of knowledge which could ultimately assist in the rebuilding of society after a disaster.

To conclude the essence of these spaces is grounded in the act of preservation.
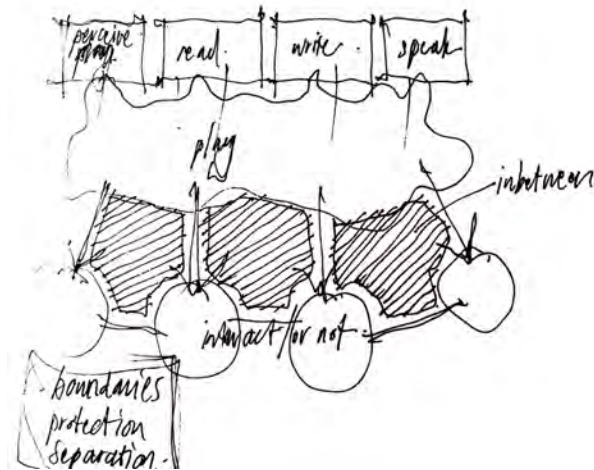
5.4. FUNCTION 3: OBSERVATION DECK

Figure 78: Interpretation of observation. (2016)

OBSERVATION DECK

The interpretation of observation in the scenario of the mentally disabled is aimed at the skill of collecting mental and physical images which are stored in the minds of these characters. The aim of this scenario is to suggest that the interaction between similar characters can evolve into the sharing of these intangible ideas whether it is through writing, speaking or merely observing each other. The power of mental images and observing the surrounding world could potentially evolve into strategic ways of dealing with future threats.

To conclude the essence of these spaces is grounded in the act of observation.
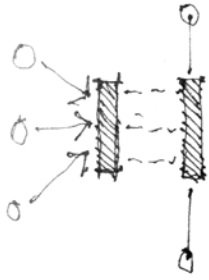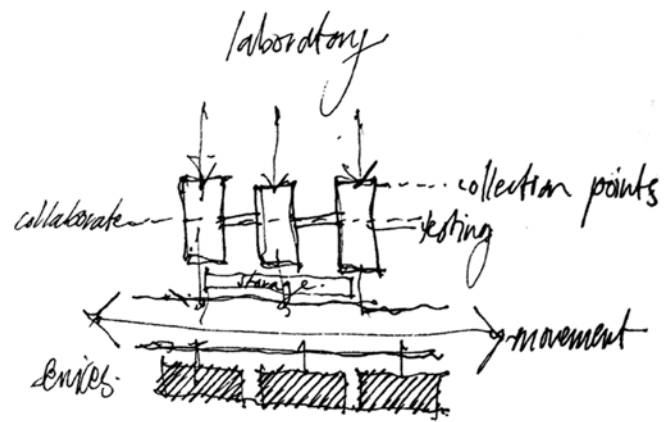
Figure 79: Interpretation of a laboratory. (2016)

THE LABORATORY

The interpretation of a laboratory in the scenario of the physically disabled is aimed at strengthening the argument that these people have value. In fact, this is the case for all the characters. The character of the physically disabled has limited physical movement. In the scenario presented earlier, instead of recognising the limitation the focus is on their mental abilities in order to initiate innovation. After disaster, these characters have little means to replace their prostheses or wheelchairs (which are already costly) therefore the activities involved in the laboratory includes finding new ways to create such objects.

To conclude the essence of these spaces is grounded in the act of innovation.
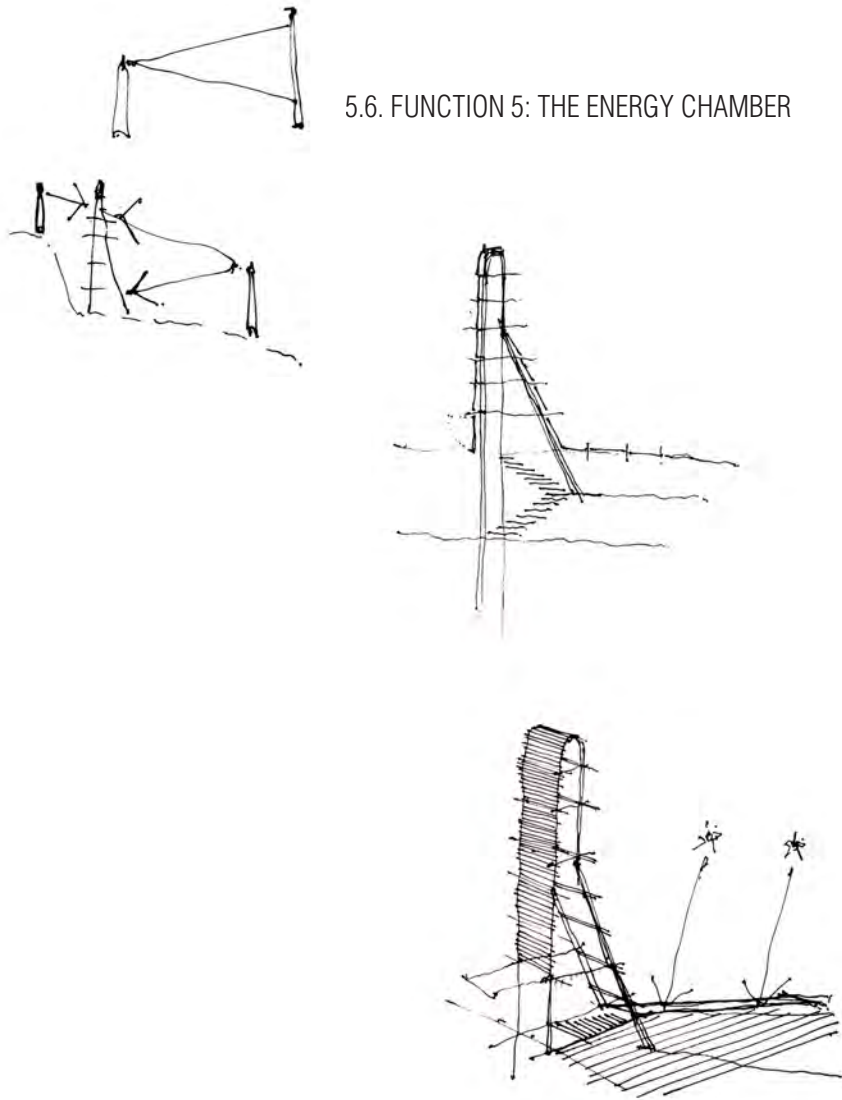
5.6. FUNCTION 5: THE ENERGY CHAMBER

Figure 80: Interpretation of a beacon and energy chamber. (2016)

THE ENERGY CHAMBER

The interpretation of energy in the scenario of the homeless aims at giving hope to others. The value of the homeless characters in the overall scenario of the building is to create a sense provision for the rest of the characters. Due to the fact that these characters are able to adapt very quickly in different environments, they are tasked to assess and adapt the flow of energy for the structure to function efficiently. This may include the provision of food and the functioning of service components in and around the building.

To conclude the essence of these spaces is grounded in the act of provision and services.

5.7. CONCLUSION

The premise stated at the start of the document relating to intentions of the project, is illustrated in the choice of programmes to create a sense of obscurity about function and form. Through the engagement of meaning and the value of the different characters a relationship is formed between activity and inhabitant.
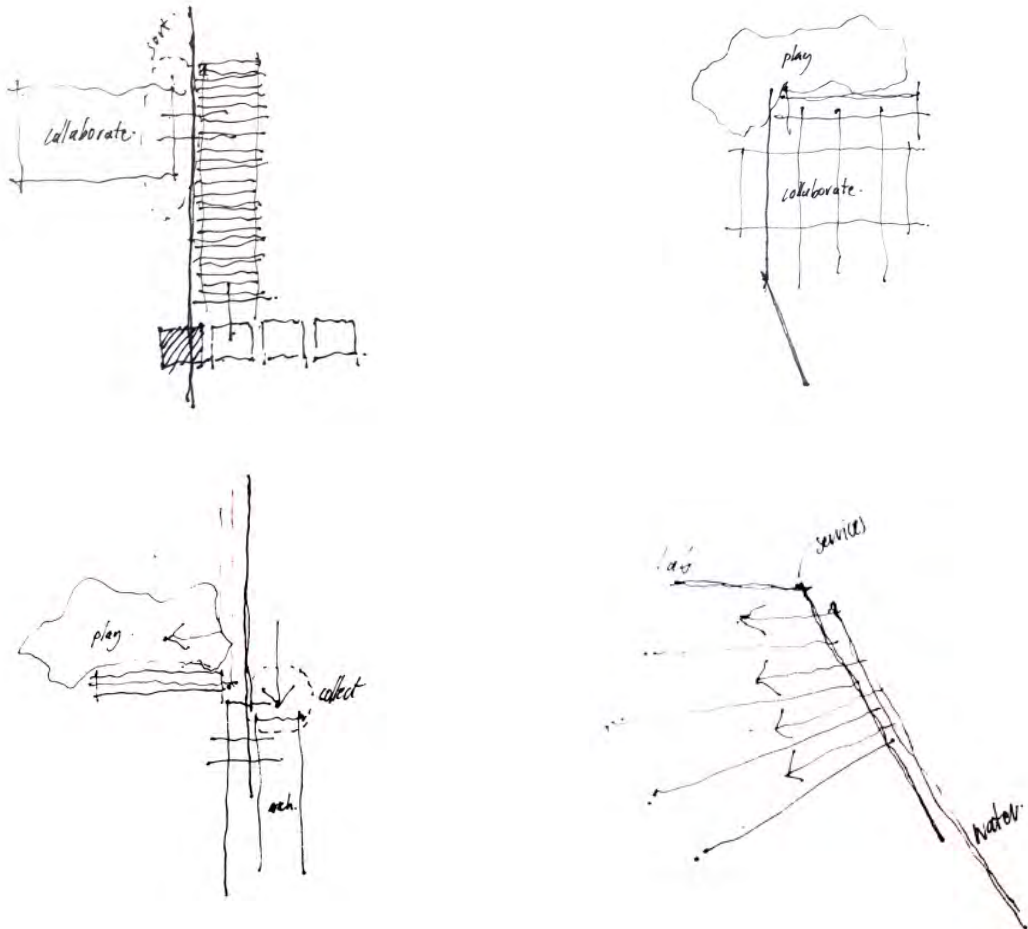

Figure 81: Interpretation of functions in a collaborative setting. (2016)