SOUTHWYCK OPEN HOUSE

CONVERSATION TOPICS

Looking at new high rise living in the City of London, - Top People, Look at life documentary, Rank Organisation , 1960

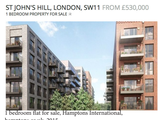
Right to Buy Scheme, Thatcher & Kang family, Getty images, 1979

Brixton, Google Street View, 2014

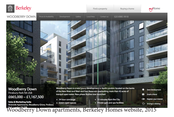
Hamemstead residents, George Fletcher, 1976-1984

Brixton demonstration, London, photograph: Peter Marshall, 23 April 2013

YouTube video, The Great Estate - The Rise and Fall of the Council House, BBC-TV, 2011



1 bedroom flat for sale, Hamptons International, hamptons.co.uk, 2015



Woodberry Down apartments, Berkeley Homes website, 2015

Boris Johnson - Heygate Estate residents move from London, BBC News, 2013

Playground Zaanhof, Amsterdam, Aldo van Eyck Archive,Wim Brusse, 1948

Albany Place under construction, Google Street View, 2014

Aylesbury Estate Residents - TV Ident, Nick Street, 2014

Street chess players, Hungary, Jeremy Faludi, 1999

Community work with salvaged bricks, Melon Neighborhood Commons, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 1960

Court of Ideas, Troy West, Ed Ellis, Pittsburgh, 1965

Aylesbury Estate protest, fightfortheaylesbury.wordpress.com, 2015

23rd St. stoop sale, New York, 2014

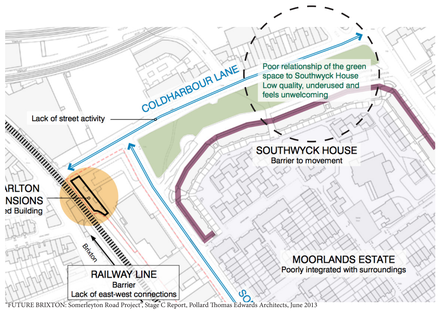
Franz West, Gagosian Gallery, London, 2012

Stoop in Brooklyn, Reuben Radding, New York, 2013

Sculptural playground in residential estate, Ernst Cramer, Zurich, Switzerland,1963

SITE INVESTIGATION

SOUTHWYCK HOUSE, BRIXTON, SW9

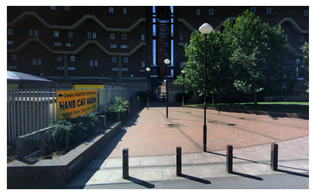


*FUTURE BRIXTON: Somerleyton Road Project", Stage C Report, Pollard Thomas Edwards Architects, June 2013

"I don't feel included in the plans and there is no opportunity to express my voice. I want to get involved" - Tameca, local resident

"Of course it is a good idea. Develop the place, why not? It doesn't exclude me, I am happy about it" - Sonny, local resident

Mixed feelings over Somerleyton Road developments, brixtonblog.org, July 2013



edge 1

hard edge, unwelcoming boundary and pathway

edge 2

corner threshold, used for bins / potential sitting space

edge 3

separation of private from public could be softened

The Guardian

'There they stand, grey, sullen wasterlands, robbing people of self-respect'

The house that John built

Ideal living for the masses

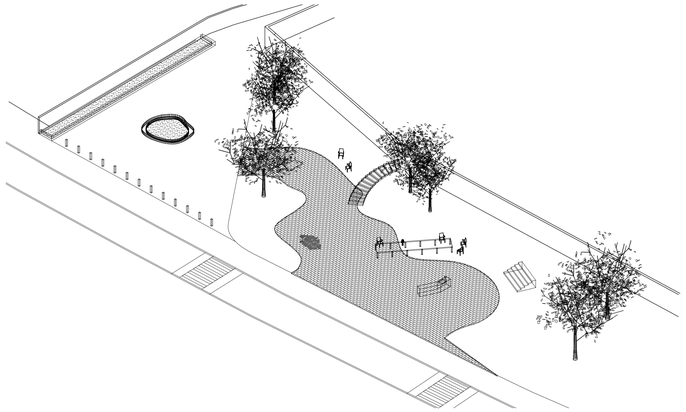
VANISHED JOURNEY: 7.2%

DIY bench on Coldharbour Lane

DESIGN PROPOSAL

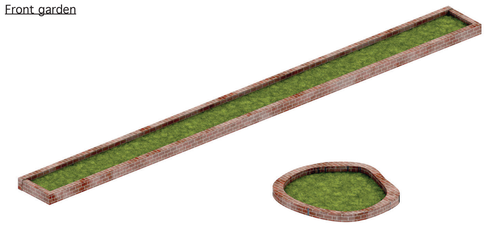
Our idea of a re-politicization of public space brings familiar elements of the household out into the street in order to visually articulate a conversation between the two realms. By involving the community in the placement and the appropriation of these elements, we anticipate that resident participation will encourage a discussion to develop from the initial stages and evolve as the space changes according to the occasion.

Due to the specific facade of the Southwyck house, this common in-between space would also function as a mechanism to reconnect the otherwise inward-looking estate to the street. The social value created by this private-public interaction would hopefully remain within the hands of the children and adults involved in activating this user-defined social condenser.



Houshold Elements:

Front garden


These elements are positioned in the pathway area in-front of the entrance to the estate in a way that will address the flow of people coming and going while also functioning as an area for communal gardening

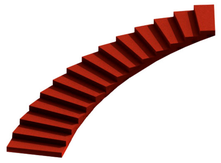
Flooring

An artificial rock made to resemble laminate flooring incorporates the element of home interiors in a natural setting

Moveable chairs

Moveable chairs allow small groups to gather and form pockets of concentrated activity

Staircase


The staircase is an emblematic yet functional architectural element that lends itself to be used in many different ways

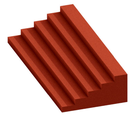
Communal table

A long communal table in the centre of the space emphasizes the key characteristics of the urban commons, encouraging people to share the same space and to find different ways to use it

Tap water

The provision of drinking water in public places is a great way of offering people a free refreshment while they spend time outdoors

Stoop


The stoop is commonly used as an in-between space for sitting and watching the goings on of the street