

## **Yaya Brown - Architectural Brief**

### **1. About your client: What are the needs of the person you are housing?**

My building provides a place to stay the night, a bathroom, storage for art supplies, and space to do artwork. The clients in question are traveling or homeless artists who need shelter for the night and a safe place to practice and express their art.

### **2. What site did you choose given your client's needs?**

The site is called "Graphite Bike Trail" on an unnamed road in Long Beach California. This is a space that was previously occupied by homeless people and has since been turned into a sort of tourism attracting bike path full of amazing graffiti and murals. It's a really creative space with lots of inspiring work but it is no longer a place that allows for homeless people to take refuge. I would like to help the homeless reclaim this space in a way that also integrates the new artistic vibe of the location.

### **3. What are the characteristics of this site?**

The building sits on top of a slope that faces towards the road just before the series of tunnels that are full of amazing murals. The building is in direct sunlight so solar panels are definitely a possible way to generate power. The bridges that create the series of tunnels are off and on ramps for the freeway. The bridges provide sufficient shade and shelter from the sun. The area is entirely concrete and asphalt.

### **4. What are the Physical and Mechanical restraints/needs?**

Because the staircase must be built on a slope, the engineering of the stairs is kind of tricky. They could be portable roll-out stairs made of metal or they could be concrete poured stairs since the slope is made of concrete. The building shouldn't have many constraints in construction.

The site would be funded by the Los Angeles department of arts because the space is really an artistic space more than a residential building. It has residential aspects but its main purpose is to provide a space for creativity and a place to satisfy the needs of a restroom and a place to take shelter at night.

### **5. What type of shelter/home did you design and how big is it?**

The building itself is a fully grounded triangular prism with a possibly portable double staircase. It is not a permanent residence or a fully functioning home but more of a communal creative space that also provides a place to spend the night as well as a bathroom. The size of the building is 530 square feet with each of the three walls being 35 feet long and 14 feet high. It can provide anywhere from one to ten beds depending on how the space is used or what people want to do with the space.

### **6. How does your design fit on the site? How many units could be on your site?**

The unit sits on top of a hill at the entrance of the path. There are other locations similar to this one along the path where there is the potential to put more units, but only one unit would fit on this particular site. The space will be one that fosters creativity because of the design of the site. The site is full of huge murals and graffiti that invite artists and creatives alike to partake in making art in a space space.

### **7. What are the best materials to use to build this?**

The building will be constructed out of wood and metal and the stairs could be made of either concrete or a recycled material if it is to be retractable or movable.

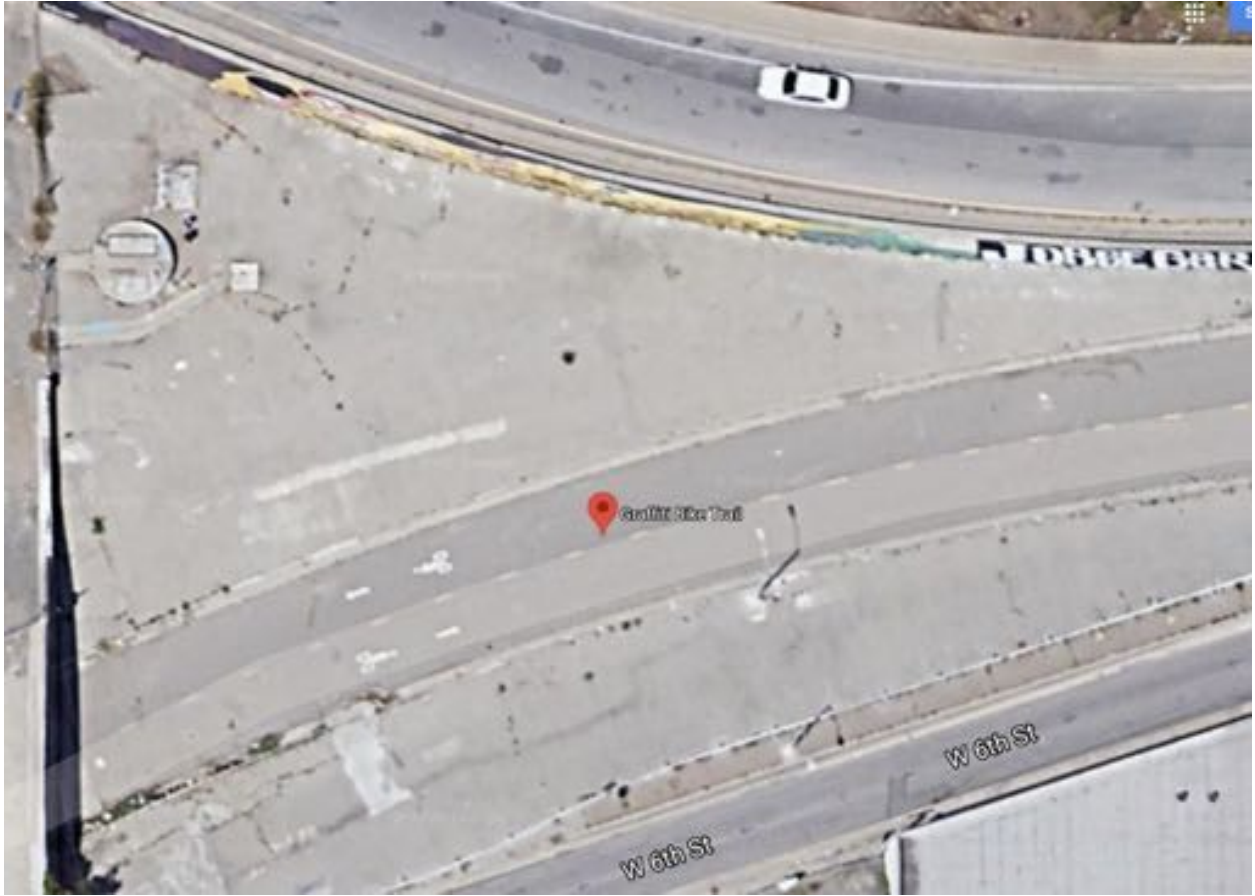
### **8. What are the aesthetic special and visual priorities used to enhance livability?**

The entire exterior (and most likely the interior) is covered in art (graffiti or other) which fosters an environment of creativity. Also, the availability of beds to rest for the night and a bathroom allow for other needs to be given priority.

**9. Describe your main motivation for your design.**

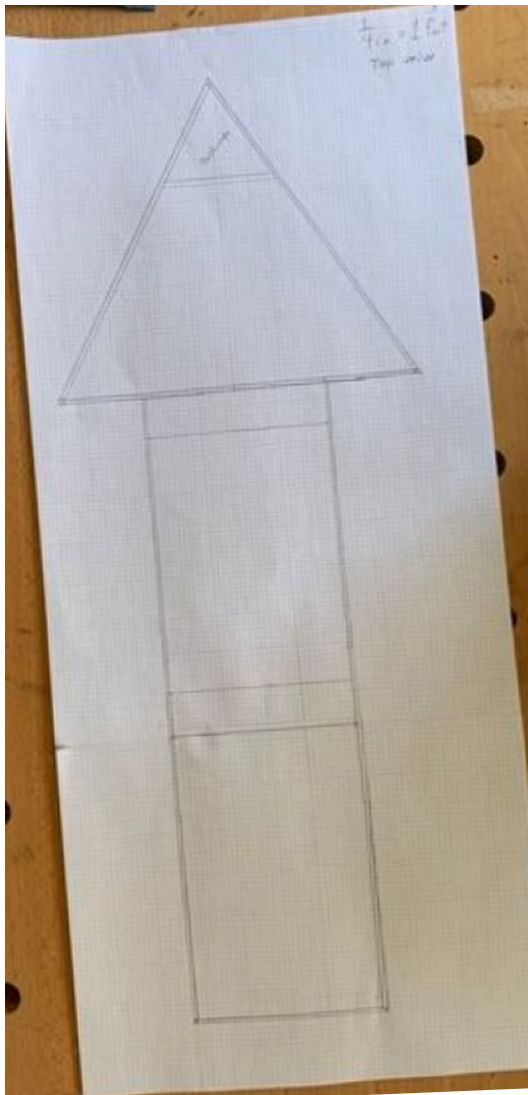
The main motivation behind this design is reclaiming a space that was once a safe place for homeless people and fostering a creative environment.

**Location**

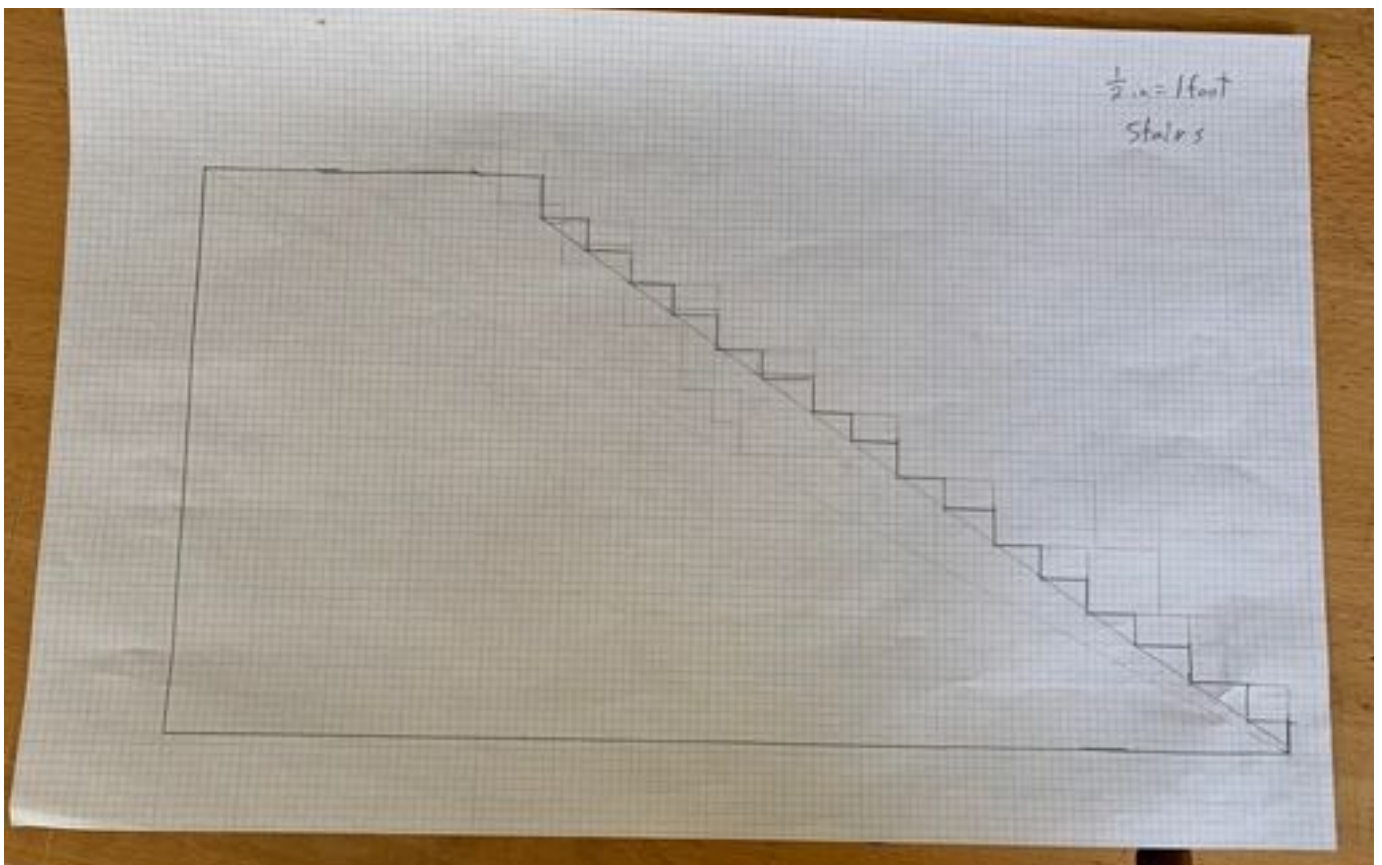
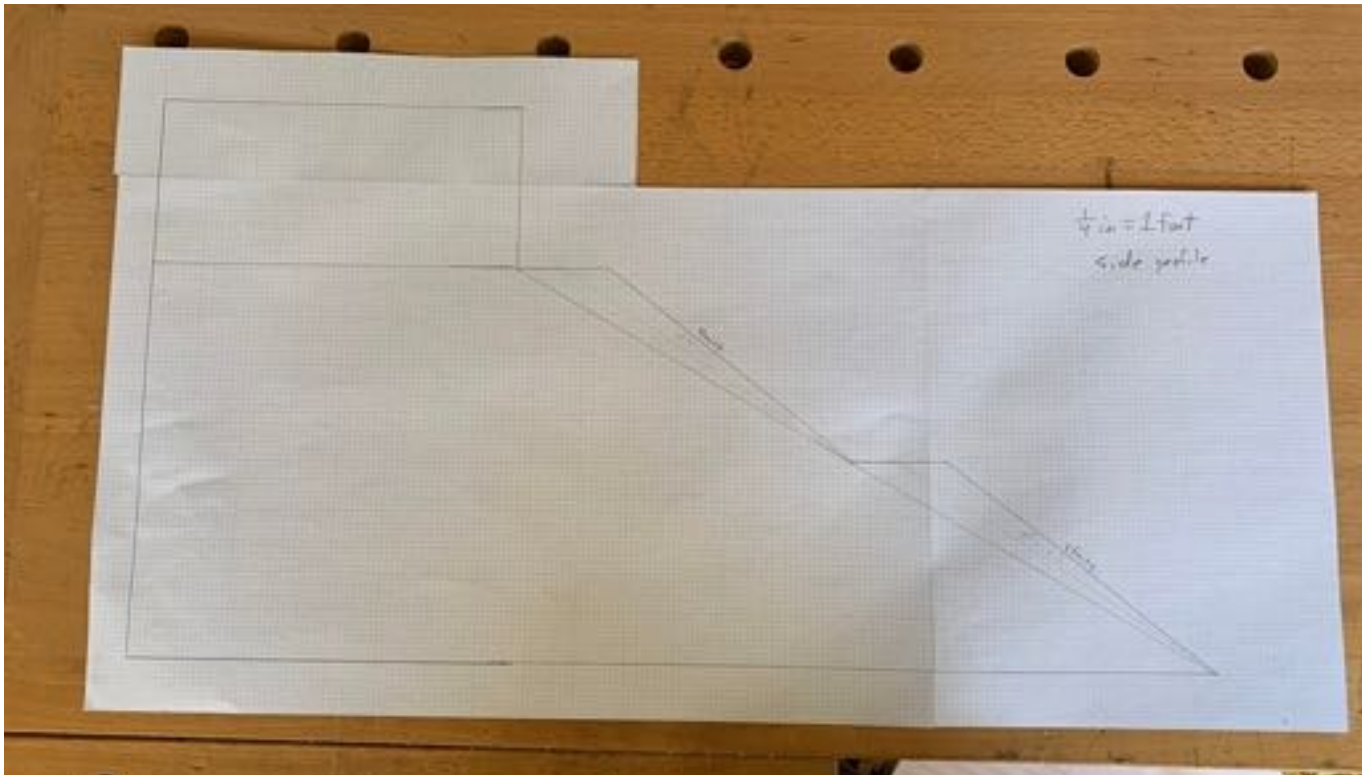




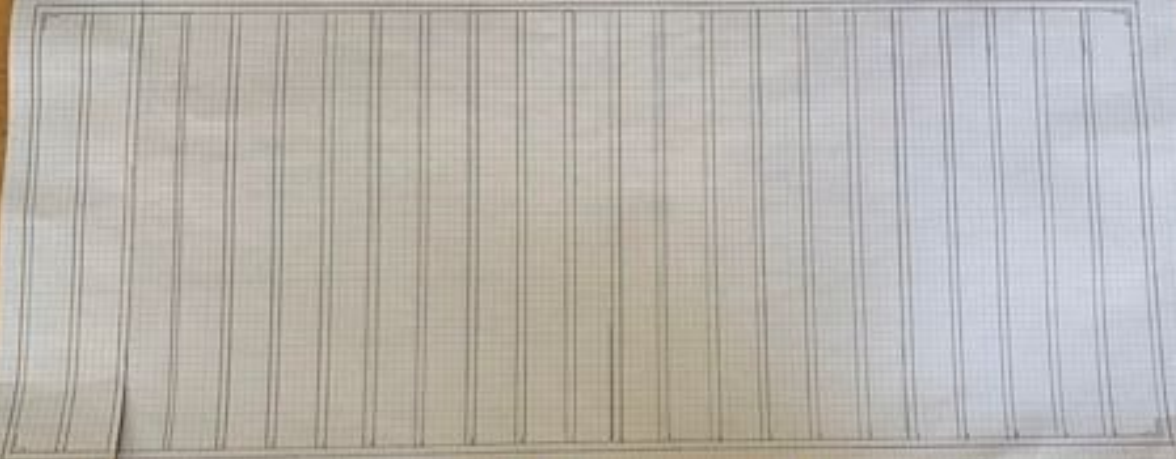
## Drawings



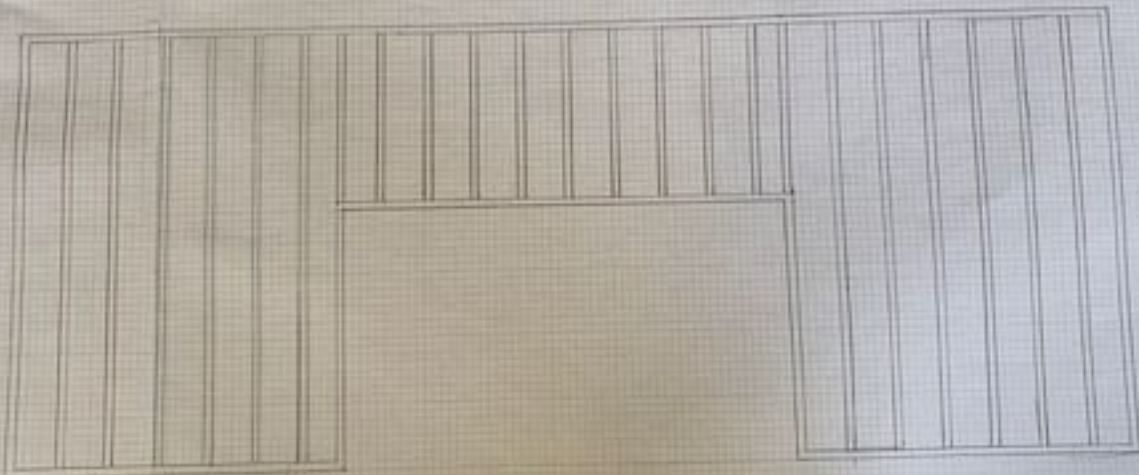




$\frac{1}{2}$  in = 1 ft  
walls



$\frac{1}{2}$  in = 1 ft  
6 in wall



Model













