

I chose the Parking Lot as the site for my structure. Although the farm site sounded very interesting and beneficial for the workers needing a place to live, I felt more drawn to the prospect of designing for those without a home so near to me. I felt a stronger connection with the site given that it is physically adjacent to Reed campus and is a place I am somewhat familiar with. My client is a single person, a couple, or a single person with a child. The client(s) are those without a house to call their own and are looking for a place in which they can be safe and secure, at least temporarily. The intention of my design is for it to be used as a temporary housing arrangement for those in need while they look for/receive help moving forward in their life whether that be in securing a job/source of sustainable income or finding more permanent living spaces or both.

The ideal person to live in my space is a single person who does not require lots of space and is instead content to live in a small sleeper-like structure meant to provide shelter while also, despite its size, being comfortable and more than spartan in its amenities. Alternatively, the space is large enough to conceivably house a couple or a single person and a child without feeling too cramped and lacking in livable space. Again, those living in this space would not be here permanently. It is a space meant to be occupied temporarily with the aim of relieving the stress of being unhoused while trying to sort other aspects of their lives that have led to their need for the space in a first place. Housing insecurity is a massive obstacle to pursuing essentially any other direction in a person's life and by providing these structures, the goal is to alleviate that obstacle and allow for other things to be made a more central focus in an individual's life.

The parking lot site seemed to fit the goals of this project best as it is located in an urban area with preexisting populations of houseless/housing insecure people in the surrounding area as opposed to the farm site which is geared much more specifically to the needs of the farm workers employed there.

The parking lot is made of asphalt and is therefore an imperious surface. This means that the structure will be on a wheeled trailer which sits on the parking lot surface. This is convenient as the trailer will allow for the structures to be easily moved to virtually any other location if need be. In order to make the asphalt environment

more aesthetically pleasing, there will be greenery in the form of potted, bedded plants and trees as well as the use of bamboo shoots as both privacy screens for the structures and additional incorporation of more natural forms.

The structure will be situated in the lot so that its front door faces south which will allow for plenty of afternoon/evening and sunset light to filter in through the larger windows facing west. Taking advantage of the rainy winter season in Portland, the sloped roof of the structure will allow for water collection.

The structure I designed definitely falls under the “sleeper” category. There is room for one or two people to sleep comfortably in a loft as well as a small living space on the ground floor. The idea is to have a collection of these structures which together would function like a small community of people. Because the individual structures are small and sleep-oriented, there will be a common building situated in the center of the lot that will provide communal bathrooms, laundry, kitchen space, and larger communal living areas meant for gatherings outside of the individual homes.

Given the size of the parking lot, it would be appropriate to have a maximum of 5 or 6 units there. This would ensure that there is enough space between each one and prevent it from feeling tight and overcrowded. Since the structures are all on trailers, they are modular and could be configured in any way that best suits the needs of those living there.

These structures would be best built out of timber in a standard four wall framing configuration. The outside would be either a corrugated metal or T111 siding. Both these materials are inexpensive but, importantly, do not look *cheap*. They are affordable, easy to find finishes that will make the structures look nice while still keeping their overall build costs down.

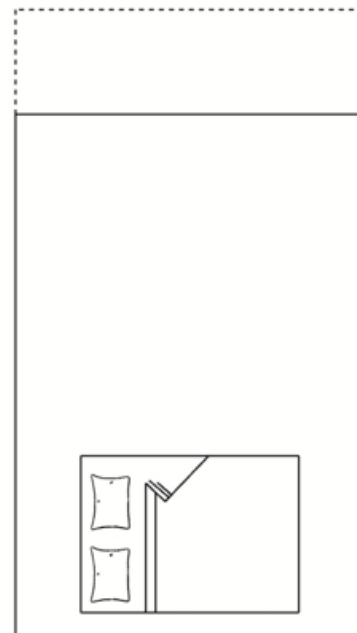
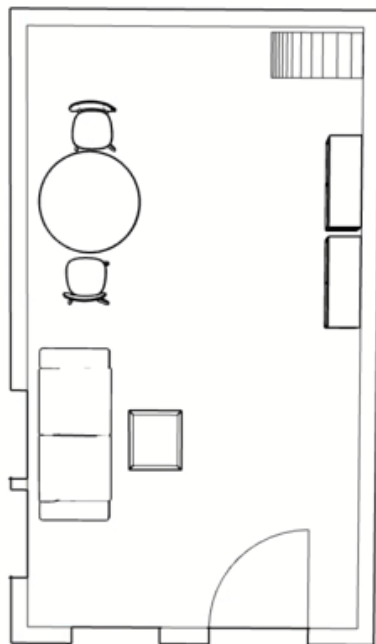
To make the space feel more livable and welcoming, I wanted to emphasize the usage of windows. I incorporated large windows on the western wall to allow lots of sunlight from that direction as well as the front of the structure. Additionally, the lot has a long window spanning the horizontal distance of the wall which will allow lots of light to the upper loft level. There are also three skylights above the rear section of the house where the loft floor falls to the ground floor. These skylights will provide both the

loft and ground floor with even more light and ensure that the structure stays bright from front to back without having to add more windows to the walls.

The motivation behind this design was to make something that is simple, easy and cheap to build, and modular. I wanted the spaces to be both livable and utilitarian. The simplicity of the design is intended to make the structures simple to build without requiring excessive time/money to do so. However, they were designed with the health and wellbeing of the occupants in mind and are not purely utilitarian in execution but incorporate many elements that make them comfortable to live in. I believe that housing (especially low-income housing) does not need to be dull or harsh aesthetically and in fact shouldn't be in order to improve the overall quality of life for anyone living in them. With that in mind, I designed a living space that is not oppressive but instead enjoyable to occupy.

### Images

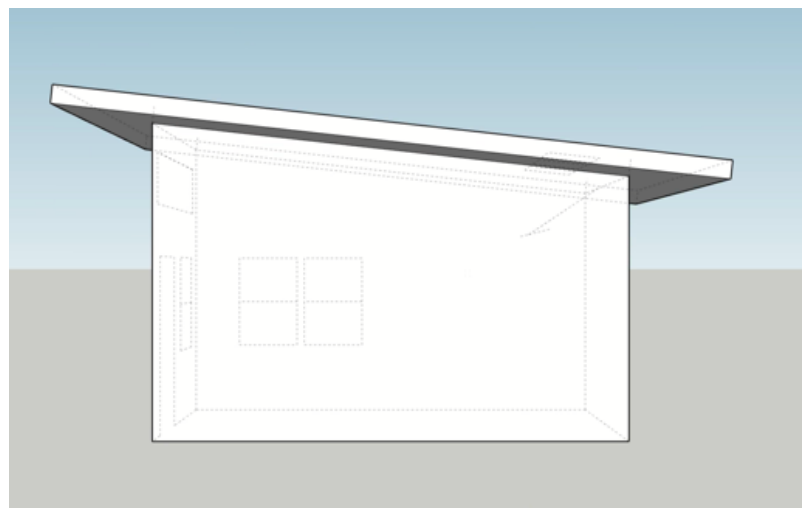
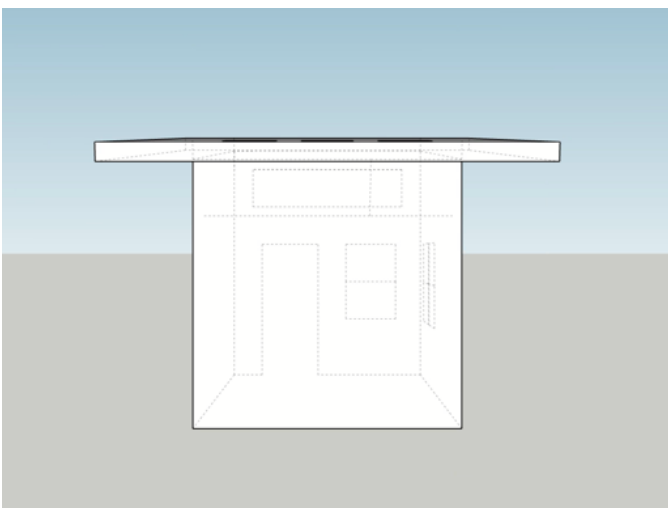
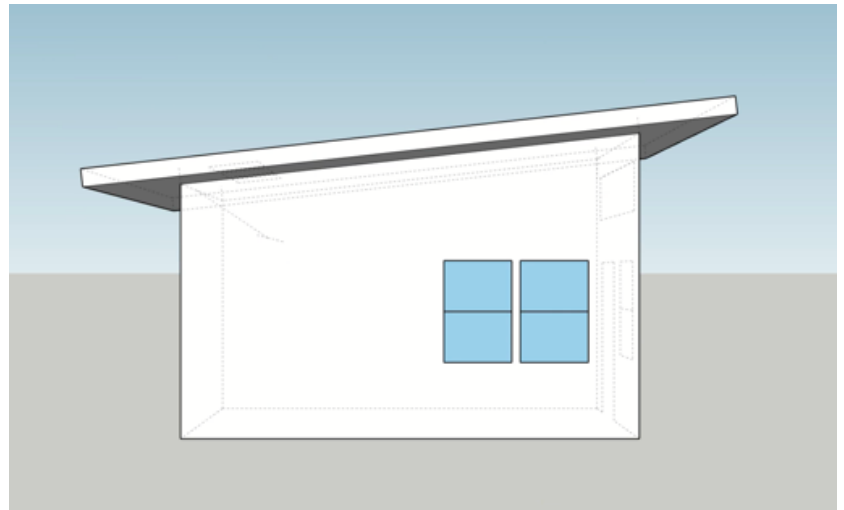
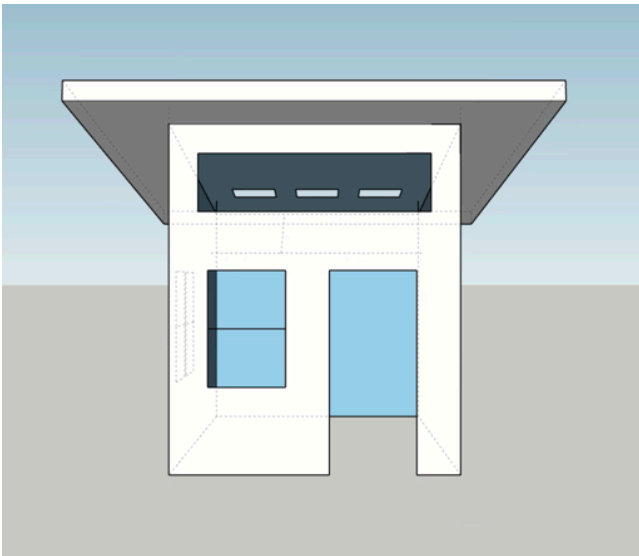
Floor Plan:

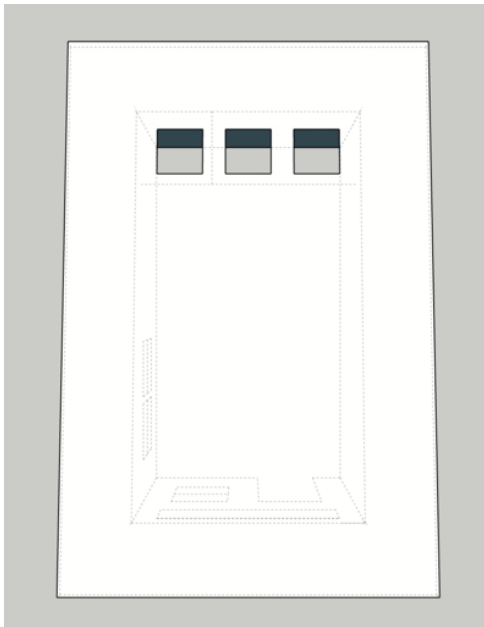


On the left is the downstairs floor plan. It includes diagrams of the main living space with furniture (couch/sofa, small table and chairs, and bookshelves) as well as a ladder (back right) to access the upstairs loft space.

On the right is the floor plan for the loft space. It includes a bed on the window face of the building. The dashed lines indicate empty space where the ladder provides access to the downstairs floor. The loft is not as deep as the first floor, hence the empty space there.

Elevations:





These elevations show a mock up of the five faces of the building (from top, left-to-right): the front face with a door, large window on the first floor and long, horizontal window in the loft space provides ample natural light. The west facing wall has another two large windows to allow afternoon/evening light into the space. The rear of the building is simple and will include a drainage system for rain catchment. The east facing wall is windowless which will ensure privacy and prevent living in the building from feeling like being inside “an aquarium” of full visibility. The roof of the building shows the three skylights that will bring in even more light to both the first and loft floors.

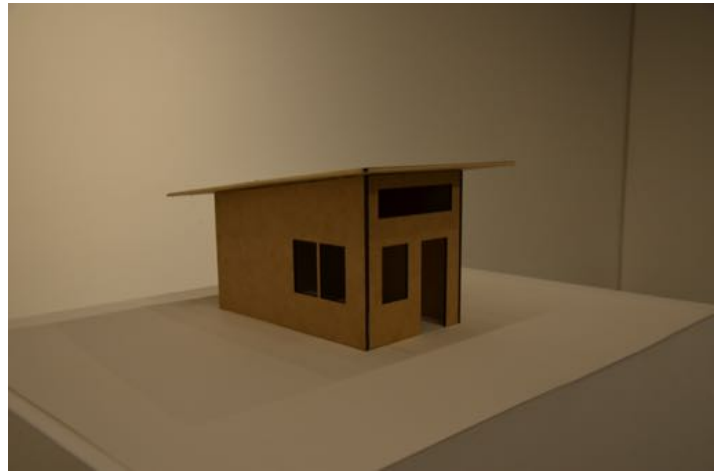
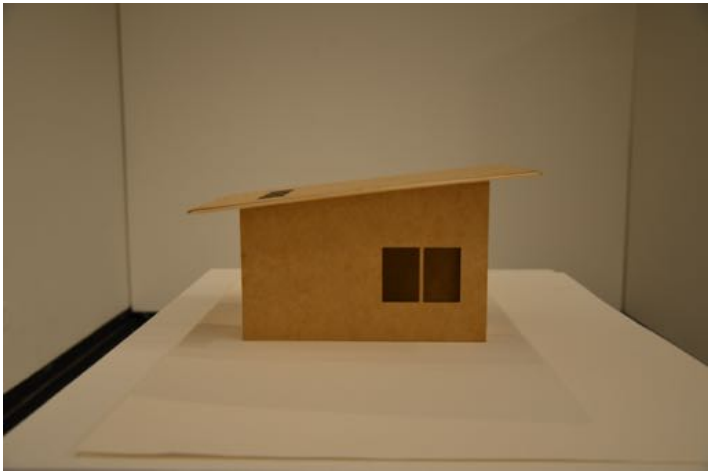
On-Site:



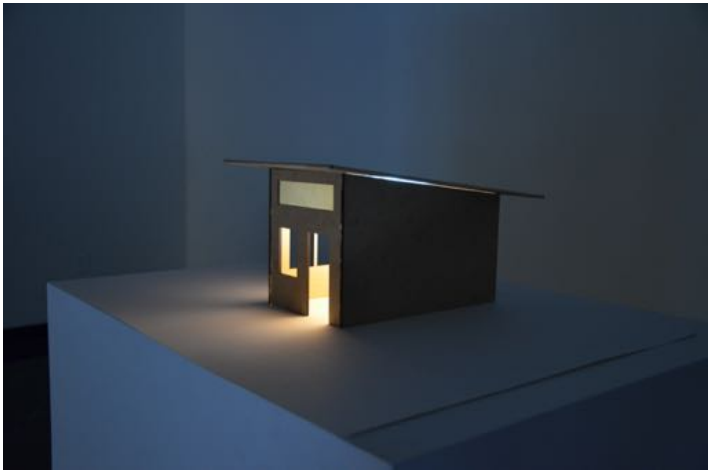
Above is a mock-up of the model on site at the parking lot.

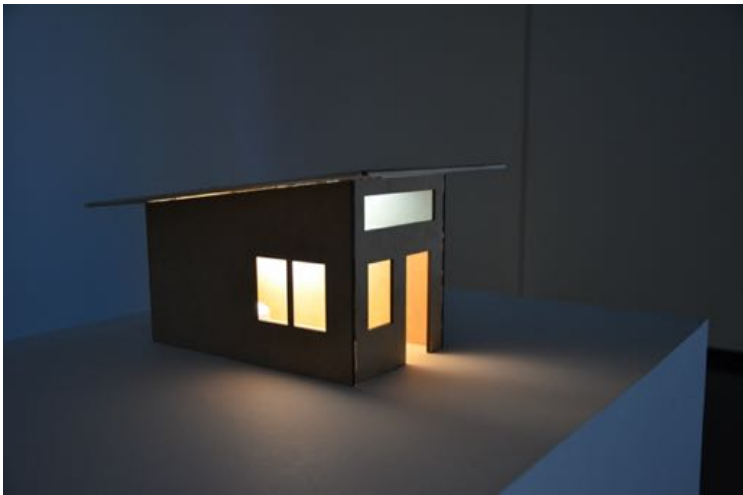
The Model:





The above images show the model (in “daylight” conditions) from all its four sides as well as on the diagonals to provide perspective.





The above series of photos are of the model from all faces and diagonal perspectives  
In “nighttime” conditions to illustrate the effect of light emanating from the interior.





