

Architecture of Transience:
Developing Communities for Migrant Farm Workers

A Thesis Presented for the
Master of Architecture
Degree
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DEDICATION

I dedicate this work to the memory of my father.

To my mother for her everlasting love and support.

To Susana, Patricia, Daniel, Jennifer, Petrona for their love and encouragement.

To H.R, for helping me through Graduate School.

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It was an honor to have such a talented, dedicated and enthusiastic committee. Thank you.

ABSTRACT

Migrant farm workers are an economically disadvantaged group who perform labor-intensive work for long hours in the fields. The housing available to migrant workers in the United States is typically substandard and limited in availability. Housing is usually provided by a grower or acquired by the migrant worker away from the farm. The housing available to migrant farmworkers provides little support for their families.

This study investigates strategies for developing community in transient situations. Transient populations, such as migrant farmworkers, are constantly on the move, and are ungrounded. Communities provided transient populations with rootedness and a sense of belonging. Communities will also allow transient individuals to become engaged in a social setting. This study creates an architectural intervention that can provide support for the creation of community in transient situations.

“ If we think of space as that which allows movement, then place is pause; each pause in movement makes it possible for location to be transformed into place.”

– Yi-Fu Tuan

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Part 1

Framing

TRANSCIENCE

A transient individual is one who travels habitually because of a lifestyle choice, or because their job requires it. They usually stay in a particular location for a short amount of time. Transient populations, such as truck drivers, circus workers, salesmen and women, and migrant farmworkers, are constantly on the move, and are ungrounded or unrooted.

COMMUNITY

The word “community” as first defined by the Oxford English Dictionary refers to groups of people living in the same place or having a particular characteristic in common, such as location or as a “body of people” with common interests. Furthermore it refers to “a feeling of fellowship with others, as a result of sharing common attitudes, interests and goals”, specifically such as achieved or felt through religion, with shared similarity or identity, or with joint ownership or liability (OED Online). Transient individuals in many cases do not have a community, which they belong to since they are always on the move, and don’t have the opportunity to be immersed into the surrounding community. They lack a sense of place, belonging, stability, and ownership.

A community does not have physical boundaries; it is not bound to a particular place. It does however need its members who are actively working together for a

common purpose. A community supports resilience and positive development in its members. Individuals build relationships in community, and they are able to have commitment and responsibilities. Aging populations are able to integrate into the group and have a sense of being needed and belonging.

The formation of communities in transient situations provides transient populations with rootedness and a sense of belonging. In communities transient individuals have the opportunity to become engaged in a social setting, and form a cultural identity among them. Individuals have a personal investment in the community and provide them with a feeling of belonging to the place, instead of just passing through it. This study creates an architectural intervention that can provide support for the creation of community in transient situations. This exploration looks at the formation of communities that embrace transience in today's culture.

NOMADIC COMMUNITIES

Nomadic communities travel from one location to another as a group. They tend to share an economic specialization ranging from hunter-gathers, to pastoral nomads. Unlike settled communities in industrialized societies, nomads deal constantly with aspects of migration. Nomadic societies such as the Reindeer People in Serbia and the Romani in England, as well as many other migrant communities around the world have developed a variety of concepts relating to

the qualities of movement. These communities often rank cultural and social qualities above the economic gains. Nomadic people have developed strong ties within their communities and have created a strong sense of identity.

MIGRANT FARM WORKERS

Small family farmers relied on family and local workers to meet the seasonal labor demands of the farm. As crop production grew larger and more specialized, additional seasonal labor was required. By the 1850s, the need for more production led to farmers hiring workers from neighboring counties to meet the demand. As farming production grew and new machinery and technology was introduced small family farms died out, and larger farms took their place. The advances in farming allowed for more production but also increased the cost of farming, which demanded larger production, which led to a reliance on immigrant labor.

The demand for immigrant labor continued to grow. When the U.S entered into WWI the country faced food demands and a shortage of workers. In response, Congress passed the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1917. The law allowed the immigration of 73,000 workers (NCFH). At the end of the war the crop prices plummeted and Mexican workers became desirable and immigration from Mexico increased.

When the Great Depression hit the United States Immigration and Naturalization Service deported Mexican immigrants to open up jobs to native-born citizens. U.S born workers were unwilling to fill the open positions until the droughts of the mid 1930s. Upon entering WWII the United States was once again faced with a

high demand for food but a reduced labor force. In 1943 the United States and Mexico signed the Bracero Agreement, which called for the immigration of laborers into the United States. The Bracero Program continued until 1964 when farm employers turned to the H-2 Visa Program for their labor needs.



Figure 1: Bracero housing
Source: America on the Move

It is estimated that currently over 3 million people work on farms in the United States. Every year migrant farmworkers move around the country looking for jobs. They cultivate and harvest fruits, vegetables, nuts and other crops. Although they seem invisible the presence of migrant farmworkers in many rural communities throughout the nation is unquestionable. Most of them work on large farms that hire from several dozen to a few thousand farmworkers every year.

Migrant farmworkers are employed in agricultural work of a seasonal nature and spend a large amount of time away from a permanent residence. Farm workers labor long hours and perform physically intensive tasks. The jobs available to farmworkers range from planting, trimming, harvesting, weeding, sorting, packaging, as well as transporting and distributing. However there is a spike in the number of workers needed during the harvest. During the harvest the majority of fruits and vegetables need to be picked by hand during a short period of time. A large percentage of farmworkers are hired through farm labor contractors or crew leaders. Crew leaders are middlemen who coordinate between the farmworkers and their employers.

Migrant farmworkers are predominantly foreign born. The majority (68%) are born in Mexico. A minority of farmworkers come from countries such as El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Puerto Rico, and the Dominican Republic. They immigrate from their birth country with hopes of providing a better life for their

loved ones. While the farmworker population is culturally diverse, 48% of migrant and seasonal farmworkers are U.S. citizens or Permanent Residents of the United States. They are families who have spent several generations working on farms. More than half of all farm workers (52%) are unauthorized workers with no legal status in the United States (NAWS, 2000).

The farmworker population is a fairly young group with an average age of 31. Approximately 79 percent of all farmworkers are between the ages of 18 and 45, While 6 percent of the group are between the ages of 14 and 17, and 15 percent are 45 and above.



Figure 2: Children in the fields.
Source: Migrant Advocates In Action

Migrant Farmworkers and their families are some of the most economically disadvantaged people in the country. Annually, the average income is \$11,000 for an individual and \$16,000 for a family. According to the NAWS 23 percent of all farmworker families have income levels, that fall below the national poverty line (NCFH). Farmworkers are excluded from almost all federal labor laws passed in the 1930's. There have been some state amendments that have set a minimum wage for farmworkers, but there are exemptions and loopholes to those laws.

Farmworkers are either paid by the hour, by piece, and a small percentage is salaried. Payment by piece is used often especially when the crop that is being picked is easily weighed and measured. When farmworkers are paid by piece they are hesitant to take breaks for water or shade, because the breaks would take time from being productive on the field (NFWM). Even though a federal law requires employers on large farms to pay a minimum wage there are loopholes in the law. For example, if a farmworker is hired through a crew leader or a labor contractor they can avoid federal employment laws. Approximately half of farm employers use contractors to do their hiring.

To increase productivity in the fields and increase wages, children often accompany their parents to work. The exact number of children who work in the fields is not known but the Department of Labor has estimated that 300,000 to 800,000 children work in agriculture every year. Children who work on farms are

governed by different rules than those in other industries. The minimum employment age is 14, but children can start to work as young as 12 years if a parent accompanies them (NCFW). In agriculture there is no limit to the number of hours a child may work. The only restriction is that work cannot be performed during school hours. The risk of occupational injury is greater for children than adults due to their lack of experience. Children are also exposed to pesticides on plants and soil. Childcare facilities are rarely available, resulting in many children being present in the fields even if they are not working.



Figure 3: Child working in a blueberry field
Source: ABC News Investigates

The lifestyle of a child migrant farmworker causes physical, emotional and mental strains. Children also face challenges in regard to their education. Moving frequently makes it difficult for children to complete their education. Farmworkers and their families face many challenges in receiving an education. The median highest grade of school completed by farmworkers is seventh grade (NAWS). In addition, only 10 percent of migrant farm workers finish high school.

Migrant children move between 3-5 times during the school year. According to the Catholic Migrant Farmworker Network, children who move frequently are two and a half times more likely to repeat a grade. They miss many days of school while traveling from one job site to another. Parents have to take time to find a school and enroll their children. Locating schools in rural areas is difficult as they can be far away from farms and transportation is limited. Transitioning to a new school in the middle of the academic year is challenging because the curriculums vary from school to school (Emery).

Children also have difficulty in school because most live in poverty. Statistics place 75 percent of migrant children below the poverty line. Children in poverty are unable to afford supplies they need to help them succeed. They also lack adequate nutrition, which prevents them from concentrating during the school day. Living in poverty and struggling to make ends meet sometimes forces children to work in the fields with their parents to contribute to the family's income. The Association of Farmworker Opportunity Programs (AFOP) found

that children work in the fields an average of 30 hours per week during the school year.

Language is another barrier migrant children face in education. English is a second language for many migrant children. According to National Agricultural Workers Survey, 18 percent of farm workers speak English, while 81 percent speak Spanish. Not having command of English leaves migrant children at a disadvantage in a classroom and when completing homework assignments. A language barrier also affects social situations, for example, making friends and communicating with classmates.

As a result of moving frequently, migrant farmworkers have very few resources and connections in communities. When arriving in a new location farm employers have traditionally met the farmworkers housing needs through labor camps, which are provided for a fee. Labor camps are composed of rows of housing with communal bathing and cooking facilities. Not all areas have enough camps for all the farmworkers in one area, and many camps have been neglected and are in disrepair. Labor camps are often located in rural areas, isolated from the surrounding community. Sometimes fences with locked gates enclose the camps. They lack public transportation and access to facilities that can support the farmworkers.



Figure 4: Labor camp in Oregon.
Source: Leeksoup

When labor camps are unavailable farmworkers must consider renting private housing. However, migrant farmworkers face obstacles in finding housing in the local housing market. Rural communities may not have enough rental units available, or they may not be available to migrant farmworkers because they cannot provide deposits, fulfill credit checks or make long rental commitments. If housing is unavailable or too expensive for farmworkers, they may be forced to sleep in tents, cars, or open fields, where they lack safe drinking water, as well as sanitation and bathing facilities (NCFH).

Agriculture is consistently ranked as one of the most dangerous occupations in the United States. The occupational risks involved in farm labor are numerous and can include skin conditions, exposure to pesticides, lung and vision problems, as well as strained muscles and bones. Farmworkers come into direct contact with plants and soil, which are sometimes treated with a variety of pesticides and chemical fertilizers. Pesticide exposure can cause eye injuries, cancer, skin conditions and respiratory illnesses (NCFH). The EPA estimates between 10,000 and 20,000 pesticide incidents occur on farms every year. Farm work often requires hunched labor, lifting, climbing, and carrying heavy loads, which can result in muscle or bone injuries.

Migrant farmworkers face many obstacles in receiving health care. Often farmworkers do not have insurance and cannot afford to pay for services. At times they may work in rural areas that do have medical facilities nearby. When they are available the limited service hours may prevent them from getting medical care. Farmworkers do not have sick leave, and to attend an appointment during business hours they must miss work and lose their wages for the day. Language can also be a challenge for receiving care when interpreters are not available.

MIGRATION PATTERNS

Migrant farmworkers can move 11-13 times per year in search of work (NCFH). The typical travel patterns of migration farmworkers typically traveled are known as streams. These streams are the East Coast stream, the Midwest stream, and the Western stream. The East Coast stream originates in Florida and extends into New England. The Midwest stream begins in Texas and flows to the Great Lakes and Midwestern states. The final stream that is largely traveled is the Western stream, which starts in California and extends to the Northwestern portion of the United States (Emery).

Florida, Texas and California are the hubs for each of the streams. They are also the areas with the longest harvest season. Generally the farmworkers will return to the hub states once the season has ended in the northern states, to await the start of the next season.

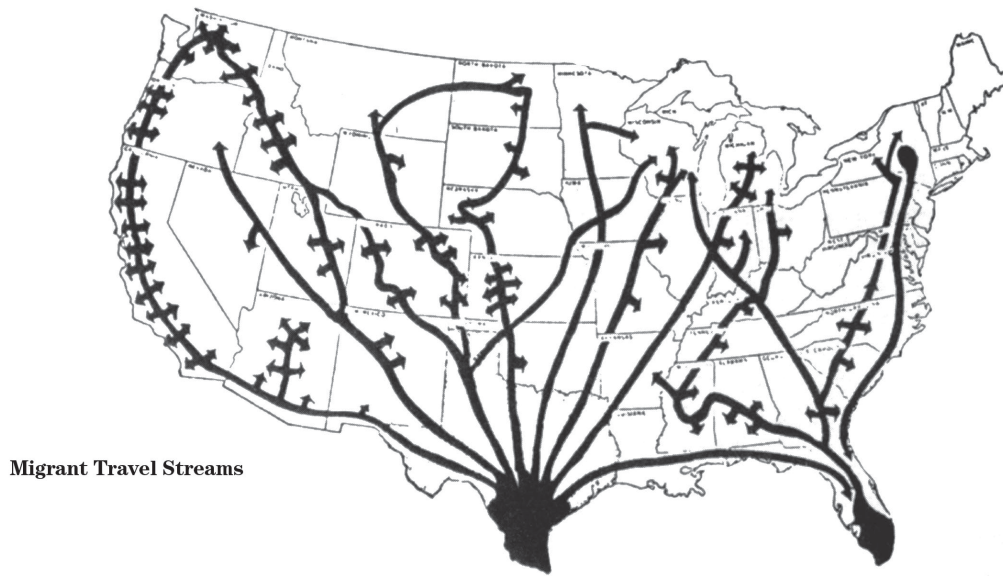


Figure 5: Migrant Streams
Source: Embrey

TRADITIONS + FAMILY

In Mexico and Central American there is a strong emphasis on families, and communities. Families live in multi-generational households, and value social spaces in their community, such as the church, the plaza and the market. They have traditions of working as a community and sharing in skills, such as weaving textiles, sewing, cooking and woodworking.

LATIN AMERICAN COMMUNITIES

Communities in Latin America focus on the town square. The town square contains a plaza surrounded by the church. Catholicism is the dominant religion in Mexico. A market is also an important space in Latin American communities. The market is a place where families go several times a week to not only purchase food and household items but also socialize.

The city of Poncitlan, Mexico has a community of 43,000 residents. The town has an area of 259 square miles. The town has several plazas, the most important being Plaza Hidalgo, which is adjacent to a Catholic Church. A market takes place in the plaza 6 days a week.

Part 4 **Rootedness + Grounding**

TRANSIENT COMMUNITY

The design of the migrant farmworker community is for approximately 30 multigenerational families and some individuals (adults and seniors). The community is sized for approximately 270 people (adults, children, and seniors). Of those members, roughly 70 adults would be working in the farms. There will be flexibility for individuals who would like to join the community. The community program seeks to generate a sense of identity and belonging, dignity, rootedness, and to empower individuals.

A new social contract exists among the families and individuals in which they support and invest in each other. Seniors play a vital role in the community as teachers and leaders. Even though they do not produce work in the fields their work in the community as care givers, educators, ministers and priests, repairmen and women is very valuable. The community allows individuals with special knowledge and skills to have a personal investment in the community by furthering their skills and teaching others. The community members are able to support the community by fulfilling roles that help each other.

The hub location for this Eastern Stream community is Brandenton, FL. The community resides there from December to April. After the harvest, the community moves to Moultrie, GA and stay for the harvest from May through August. The last portion of the year is spent in Middletown, New York where the

harvest spans from September to November. Both sites in Georgia and New York are located in rural towns. The sites are located around a cluster of farms, and along a road, which is easily accessible from the highway.

Table 1: Harvest schedule for sites along the Eastern stream
Source: Author

State	Crop	Harvest Months
Florida	Citrus fruits	January-April
	Strawberries	January-April
	Carrots	January-May
	Spinach	January-April
	Broccoli	November-March
Georgia	Watermelon	June-September
	Peaches	May-August
	Cucumbers	May-August
	Corn	June-August
	Plums	June-July
	Blackberries	June-July
	Sweet Potatoes	July-October
	Strawberries	August-July
New York	Apples	August-November
	Onions	July-November
	Cabbage	June-December
	Beets	June-November
	Pumpkin	September-November
	Cauliflower	June-December

Eastern Stream

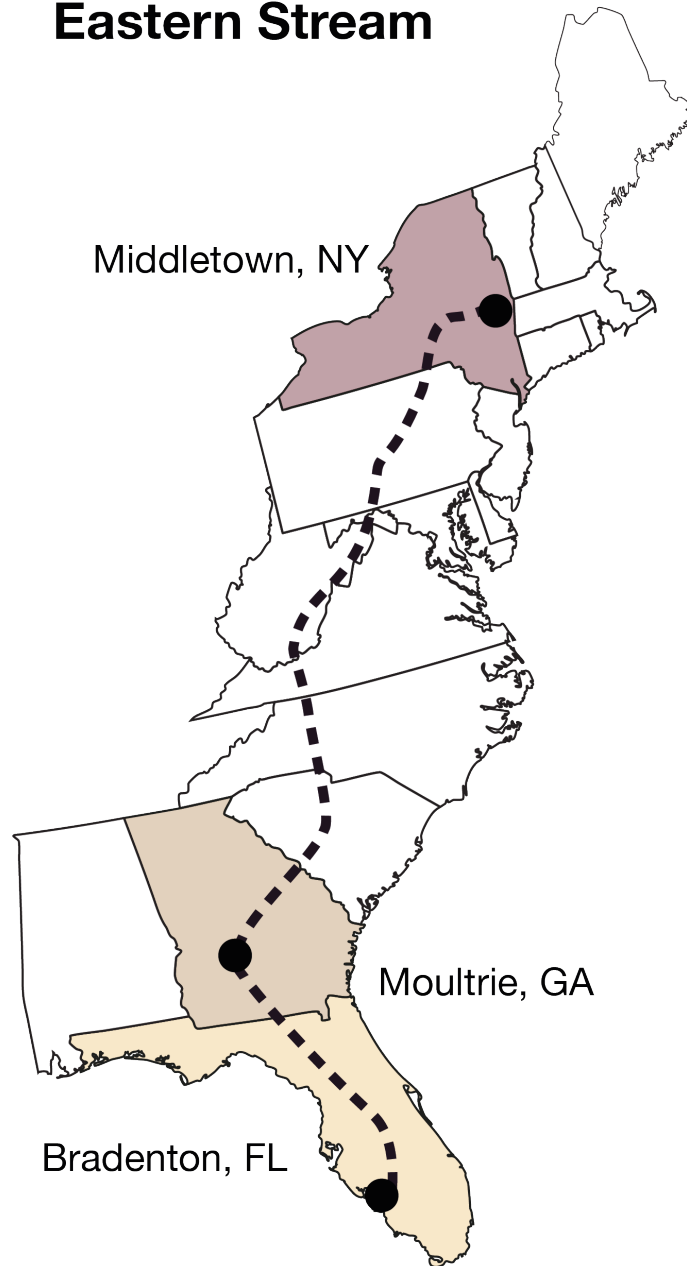


Figure 6: Community sites
Source: Author

The site in Moultrie, Georgia is located on a farm that harvests peaches, blueberries and black berries and is composed of 435 acres. The farm is located 313 miles away from Bradenton, Florida. The site in Middletown, New York is 1,067 miles away from Moultrie. The farm in Middletown harvests apples, pumpkins, and raspberries on 515 acres.

COMMUNITY PROGRAM

The community features a core community space, which focuses on generating social places. It contains a church, a bathhouse, a kitchen, a market and craft hall as well as a bell tower, and a variety of gardens. The gardens give the community vegetables and herbs of their own. The community draws on the special skills and knowledge individuals learned in their birth countries and creates space for shared learning and working. Such skills vary from cooking to fabric weaving, to car repair and religious studies. The community creates a place for individuals to share special skills and training they may have, as well as pass on traditions of working they have in their families.

Some elements in the plan are permanent while other are mobile and travel with the community from site to site.

Table 2: community program and Mobility
Source: Author

Program	Mobility	Explanation
Church	Mobile	The Church does not exist without its people. The Church building travels with the community and is rebuilt from site to site
Bath House	Permanent/Mobile	The bath house is grounded due to its need of infrastructure. A small portion is mobile to allow access to water on route.
Craft & Market Hall	Mobile/ Permanent	The craft hall contains the communities' belongings and travels with them.
Bell Tower	Permanent	The Bell tower is grounded because of its symbolic permanence.
Kitchen	Permanent/Mobile	The kitchen is partially grounded to site because of its infrastructure needs. A portion is mobile to allow for meal preparation while traveling.
Housing	Mobile	The house belongs to each individual family and travels along with them.
Mechanic's Garage & Woodshop	Mobile	These elements are mobile because they contain the community's tools and materials.

COMMUNITY PLAN

The Church is a large gathering space that accommodates religious services and educational sessions (worship, prayer groups, continuing education, supplemental k-12 education).

The bath house contains showering facilities, and restrooms. There is exterior space for field cleansing, and storage. An additional family bath house provides space for the bathing of children. Mobile water stations are located at the edges of the community. A washhouse contains washers and dryers and exterior clotheslines.

A Craft + Market Hall has space for the community to come together to participate in learning, making, and teaching. It re-introduces cultural crafts to the younger generations. There is an exterior market area for the surrounding community to visit; it is the public face of the migrant farmworker community. as well as provide supplemental income for families.

The kitchen is a community space that provides shared cooking facilities with food preparation, food storage, and dining. There is also space for exterior food preparation, dining and cooking.

Housing for the migrant farmworkers is composed of mobile units owned by the individual families. Housing is based on a module that can be adjusted to accommodate multi-generational families. Permanent structures are in place to

facilitate the placement of senior housing. Housing for groups of individuals remains on site.

The bell tower allows views out into the surrounding fields, and signals important times of the day. The tower chimes at the meal times, mass times and marks the end of the workday.

The mechanic's garage provides storage for tools and space for the maintenance and repair of community vehicles. The mechanic's garage also functions as a vocational classroom to teach skills to other members of the community. The woodshop also functions as an outdoor classroom and provides space for the storage of the tools and supplies owned by the community.

Throughout the community there are community gardens that provide the community with supplemental food items, small vegetables, herbs and fruits. There are also plants such as trees, flowers and roses. The garden space also contains space set aside for play areas.

Neighborhood nodes provide the community with supplemental access to water, and exterior cooking around a fire. The nodes create space for smaller gatherings.



Figure 7: Community plan built out during the harvest
Source: Author



Figure 8: Community plan during the off season
Source: Author



Figure 9: Aerial view into community during the harvest
Source: Author



Figure 10: Aerial view into community during the off season
Source: Author

COMMUNITY CHURCH

The church is the keystone of the community. The church represents the community and allows them to come together for mass, meetings, teaching, learning, working, and communicating. It is the center of the community for religious, cultural and social exchange. The church is a place for children, adults and seniors to meet, and invest in each other. The church, much like the entire community, draws on the special knowledge and talents of individuals in the community.

The church is a mobile element in the community plan. It can be re-assembled from site to site, as well as on route from location to location for a service. It is transported on two semi trucks, one with a larger container and another composed of two smaller containers. The containers store all the pieces needed to construct the church. Once the containers are on site they are positioned and hydraulic jacks are used to remove the tires and lower the containers. Once lowered the walls are folded down to create the floor for the church. The construction of the church involves the entire community.



Figure 11: Church plan
Source: Author

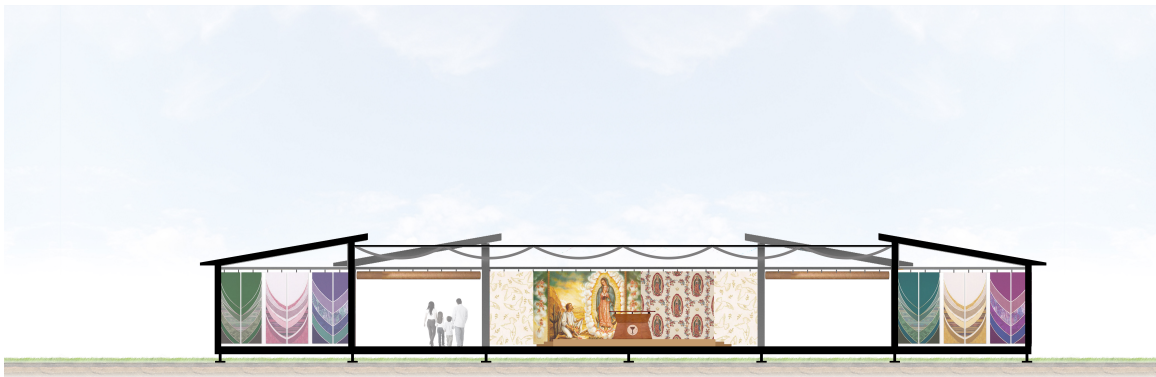


Figure 12: Church section through main gathering space
Source: Author



Figure 13: Church elevation
Source: Author



Figure 14: View of Church interior space
Source: Author



Figure 15: View towards church from mechanic's garage
Source: Author

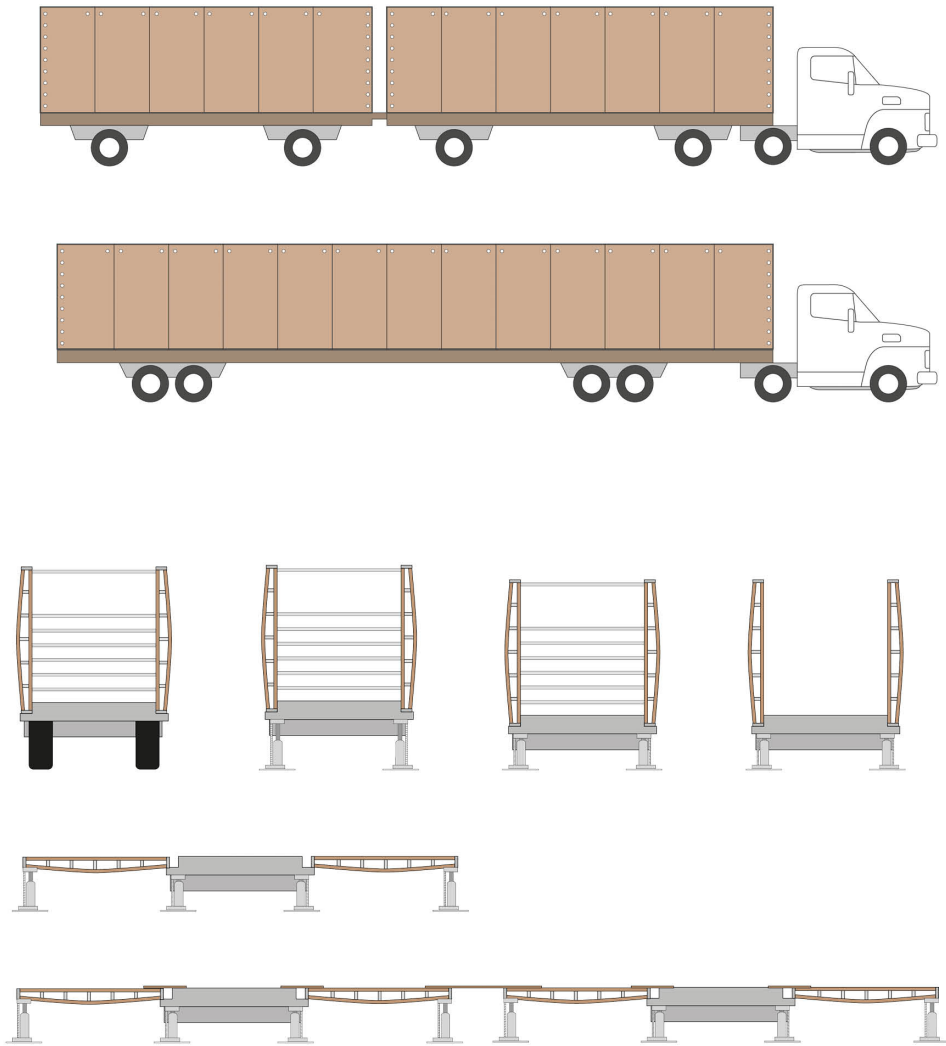
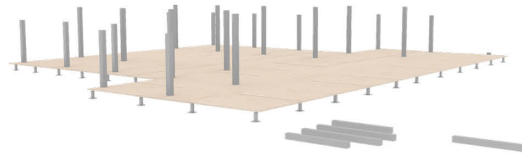


Figure 16: Paneled truck system with hydraulic Jacks
Source: Author



- 1 Trucks are positioned on site. Hydraulic jacks are used to remove truck wheels and lower trucks. The tie rods are removed and the panels are lowered into position to form the floor.



- 2 Once the floor is in place the columns are inserted into position.



- 3 Beams, trusses, and secondary structures are positioned to support roof and fabric walls.



- 4 The roof is constructed out of smaller metal panels that snap into each other. They are installed row by row from the lowest point of the roof.



- 5 The walls are made out of textiles created by the farm workers. Once hung the fabric can be rolled up to provide views into the landscape.



- 6 Wires are installed running from one edge of the metal roof to the other. The wires will support the fabric canopy.



- 7 To finish the construction of the community church the stoop is placed to allow easy access within.

Figure 17: Church Assembly
Source: Author

BATH HOUSE

The community Bath House is a permanent structure on site. It contains spaces for bathing, restrooms, clothes washing and drying, as well as space for the bathing of small children. The central bath house is composed of two wings, one for females and another for males. Each wing is composed of two smaller spaces, which contain showers, and bathrooms. In between the two wings is a breezeway that is covered by a fabric canopy. In the space is seating and hand washing stations.

Adjacent to the bath house is a smaller bath house for the bathing of small children. Also adjacent is the wash house for washing and drying clothes.

Outside of the Laundry room there are clothes lines for the drying of clothes and large linens and textiles. Satellite cleansing stations are located at the entrance points between the farm and the community. These stations are portable and create a place for farm workers to have access to drinking water and to wash their hands. These are important in creating a threshold between work and home. These small spaces allow for farm workers to enter into their community clean and reinforce the need of cleansing when dealing with pesticides.



Figure 18: Bath house plan
Source: Author



Figure19 : Bath house section
Source: Author



Figure 20: Bath house longitudinal section
Source: Author



Figure 21: Bath house section through breezeway
Source: Author



Figure 22: View towards bath house from neighborhoods
Source: Author



Figure 23: Bath house breezeway
Source: Author



Figure 24: View towards family bath house and wash house.
Source: Author

CRAFT + MARKET HALL

The Craft Hall and the Market is a mobile space that contains storage space for the creation of textiles from weaving and sewing. When the community arrives in a new location, the Craft Hall and Market is installed adjacent to a permanent structure of columns and beams. The purpose of the permanent structure is to be covered by fabric and create the outdoor market. The interior space opens up on one side to accommodate a larger working space, which faces the large community courtyard.

Through the Craft Hall and Market the community has a space to practice cultural traditions and skills which they might have had in their birth country, or a skill which has been in their family for generations. The space functions as a workspace and as a classroom in which the entire community can learn new skills. The Market allows for the items that have been created to put on display and to be sold for additional income. The Market functions as the public face of the community and welcomes visitors.

The Craft Hall and Market is transported by one truck, which carries the craft building. The truck positions the structure on site, and hydraulic jacks are used to remove the wheel and to lower it into its final position. One side of the structure hinges so that the wall becomes the floor, and a fabric canopy can be installed above to create a large workspace.

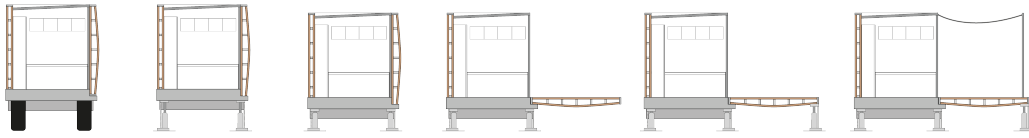


Figure 25: Craft + Market Hall structure
Source: Author



Figure 26: View towards Craft + Market Hall from the street
Source: Author



Figure 27: View towards Craft + Market Hall from Kitchen
Source: Author

MECHANIC'S GARAGE + WOODSHOP

Both the Mechanic's Garage and Woodshop are transported in two trucks. The structures use hydraulic jacks to position the structures into place. They provide storage space for tools and materials owned by the community. They also engage with on site structures and platforms that provide shading while working outside. The two provide services that are important for the community, while giving individuals with knowledge in the field to practice their trade and educate the community.



Figure 28: View towards mechanic's garage and woodshop
Source: Author

BELL TOWER

The bell tower is an important symbol for the community as it connects the community with the workers out on the field. The bell tower signals important events throughout the day, such as meals times, time to return home, and mass time. At the top of the tower are three different sized cowbells to provide different tones. The tower allows for communication between those who stay behind in the community and those individuals who go out to the fields.

The tower also provides views into the community and to the surrounding fields around the community, as well as to the city beyond.



Figure 29: View towards bell tower
Source: Author

COMMUNITY KITCHEN

The kitchen is shared by the community. It contains food storage, food preparation space, and space for dining. There is some interior dining space, and a larger exterior dining space. The Kitchen has removable wall panels to open the interior space. The exterior dining space is covered by a fabric canopy that can be expanded and contracted depending on the weather.

Adjacent to the community kitchen is a garden for herbs and small vegetables. The garden can provide the community with supplemental food.



Figure 30: View towards community kitchen and garden
Source: Author



Figure 31: View towards community kitchen from craft + market hall
Source: Author

HOUSING NEIGHBORHOODS

The homes in the community are mobile, and contain a core space that can be expanded on site to create a larger living space. The core space is based on the dimensions of a trailer. Once trailers are positioned in the community neighborhoods, hydraulic jacks are used to remove the wheels and lower the house into position. The walls of the house fold down to expand the living space. During transport the core living space is accessible to families. Each home has a vertical garden for small herbs on an exterior wall.

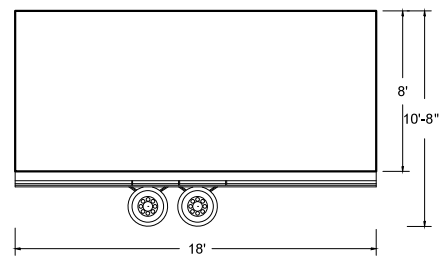
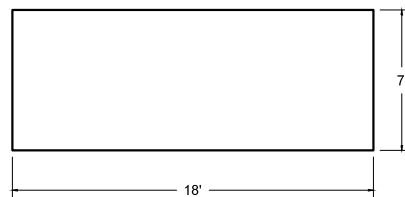
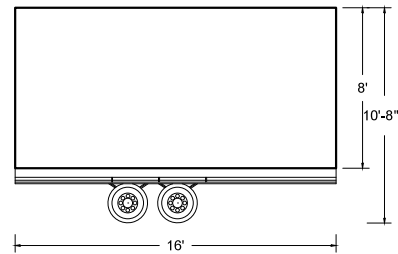
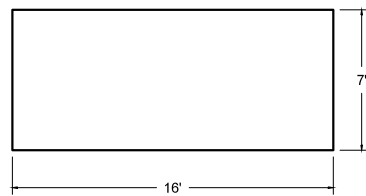
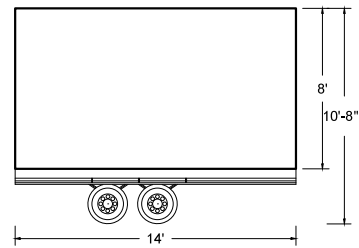
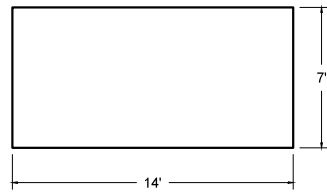
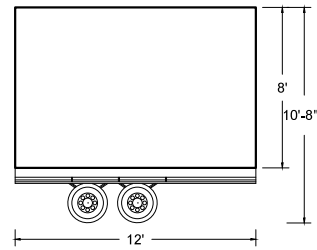
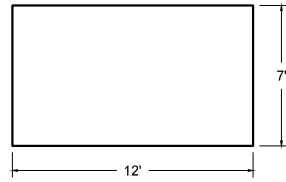
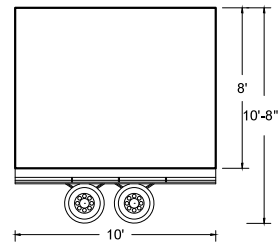
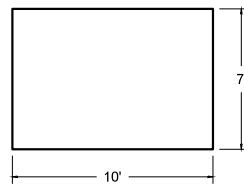


Figure 32: House Core Modules
Source: Author

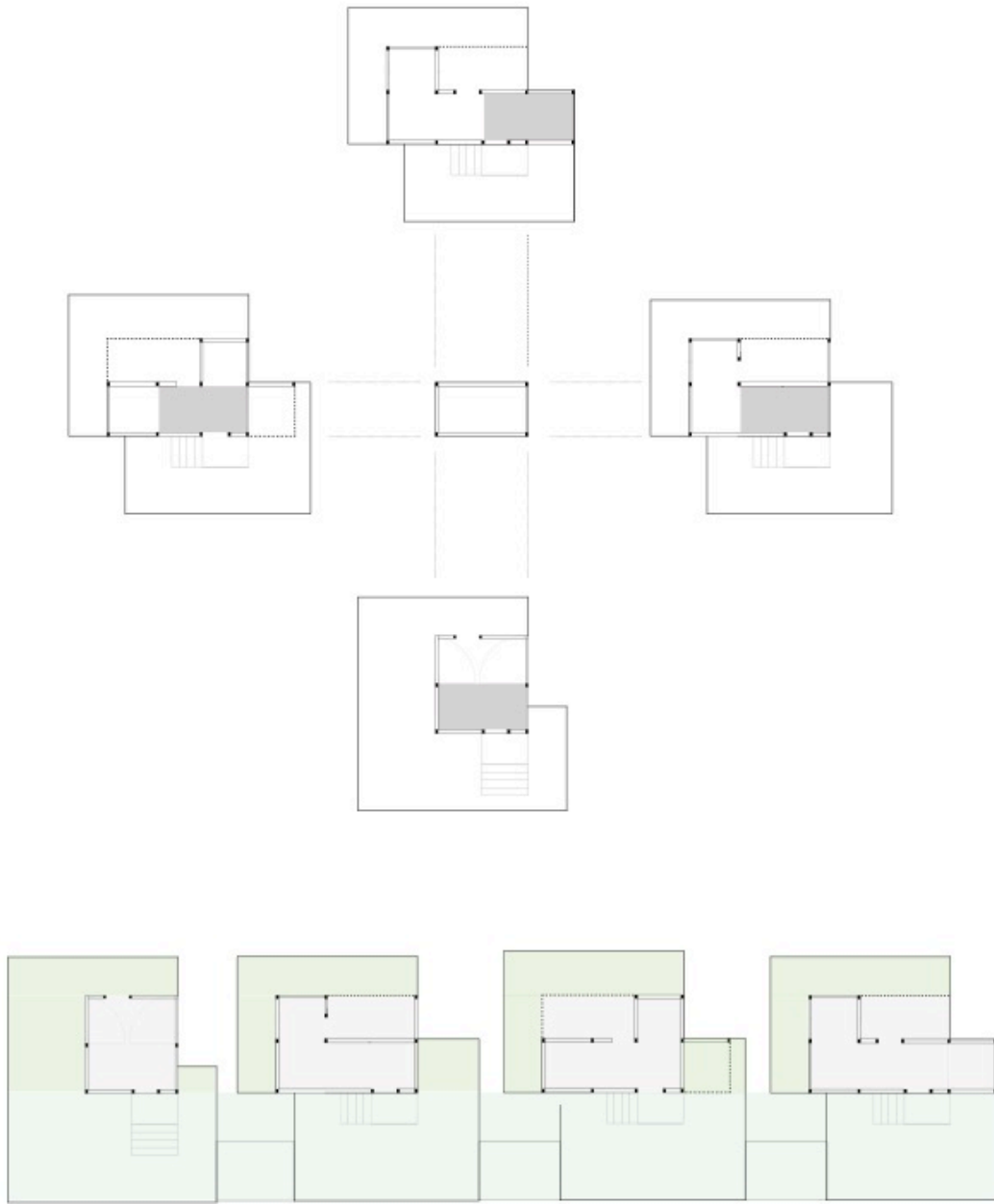


Figure 33: House core expansion
Source: Author

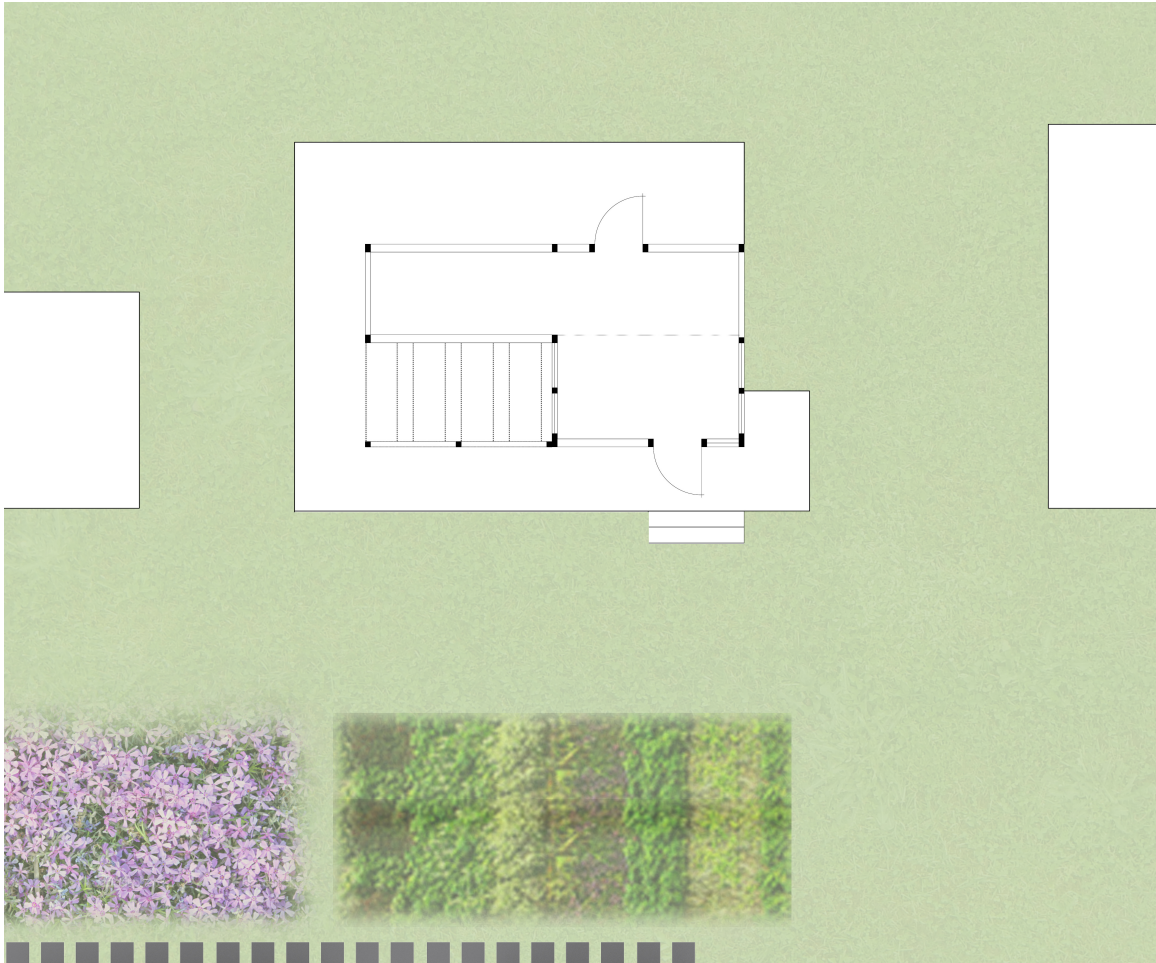


Figure 34: Typical house plan
Source: Author



Figure 35: Typical House section
Source: Author



Figure 36: Typical house elevation
Source: Author

Homes in the community are laid out in free form neighborhoods, arranged around a central node. The central nodes provide water access and space for smaller community gatherings. Depending on the site the neighborhoods can be rearranged to respond to a particular site and its conditions. The size of the community at any particular time will determine how many neighborhoods are needed.



Figure 37: Neighborhood layout
Source: Author

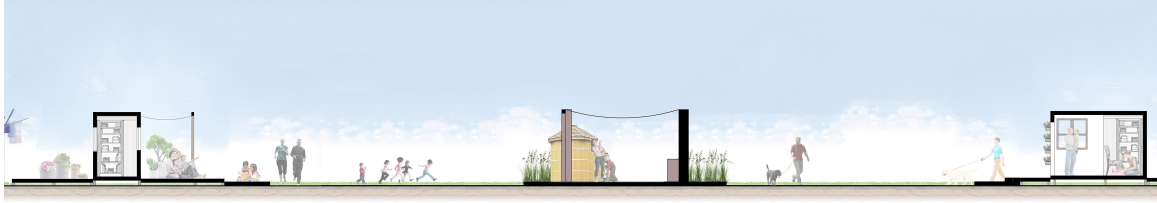


Figure 38: Neighborhood section
Source: Author

Neighborhood nodes create smaller gathering spaces within the community housing neighborhoods. They contain cisterns for closer water access, hand washing basins, and a fire pit. The fire pit allows for outdoor cooking to occur for a much smaller group. The neighborhood nodes also allocate additional space for smaller vegetable gardens and plants.

The structure can be disassembled and reassembled on different site, and repositioned to fit the needs of the community and to adapt to the varying site conditions.



Figure 39: Neighborhood node plan
Source: Author



Figure 40: View towards neighborhood node
Source: Author

The individual and senior neighborhood provides permanent structures on site to accommodate different lifestyles. This neighborhood provides on site housing for groups of individuals who have created non-traditional families while working. It allows for them to take on other responsibilities in the community, such as helping in transporting the church, craft hall and market, wood-shop and the mechanic's garage. They share a neighborhood with the community seniors who travel alone or as couples. Seniors move their homes from site to site, but there is a platform on site to facilitate the installation of their homes.



Figure 41: View towards individual and senior neighborhood
Source: Author



Figure 42: View from individual and senior neighborhood
Source: Author

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VITA

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