

Seeds

This proposal is built on the premise that relationships in any community are created and strengthened through the repeated interactions of our daily lives. These interactions are the seeds for growth.

The project supposes that four loose categories - education / discourse, goods / services, leisure / self expression, and dining, represent the bulk of activities that might present opportunities for interaction within a community. A variety of businesses, facilities, and public spaces representing these activities have been programmed onto the three block site adjacent to Plymouth Avenue between N. Logan Ave and N. Oliver Ave.

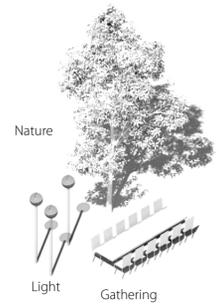
In an attempt to foreground the activities associated with these programs, a series of dots (blue), representing imagined activity, were mapped onto the site. An accompanying set of dots (red) representing three basic needs of human gathering, light, nature, and respite, were clustered near imagined activity. Existing trees were used as attractors for the activity locations. This provided a two-fold benefit - the first being that nature was not relegated to an afterthought in the course of development and second was that it left significantly more room on the site for outdoor public spaces. These outdoor public spaces become a mediating space between Plymouth Avenue and the business and facilities with vehicular traffic rearranged to arrive on the alley side of the site. Finally, their close proximity to private business began to suggest means in which each business or facility might expand and inhabit some of the public realm.

These spatial studies led to a proposition for a modular architectural typology that can couple, cluster, grow and shrink in order to house activity throughout the site. The proposed module is a 30'x30' two story structure consisting of a materially transparent ground level and a more private, insular structure above grade. The scale of the modules locates them neatly within the tree canopy of the existing site and suggests a smaller, village type scale as the neighborhood meets Plymouth Ave. The roof of each structure is pitched in a manner reminiscent of the residential structures surrounding the site. The similarity of building form and material provide a continuity throughout the site and give an equality to the architecture.

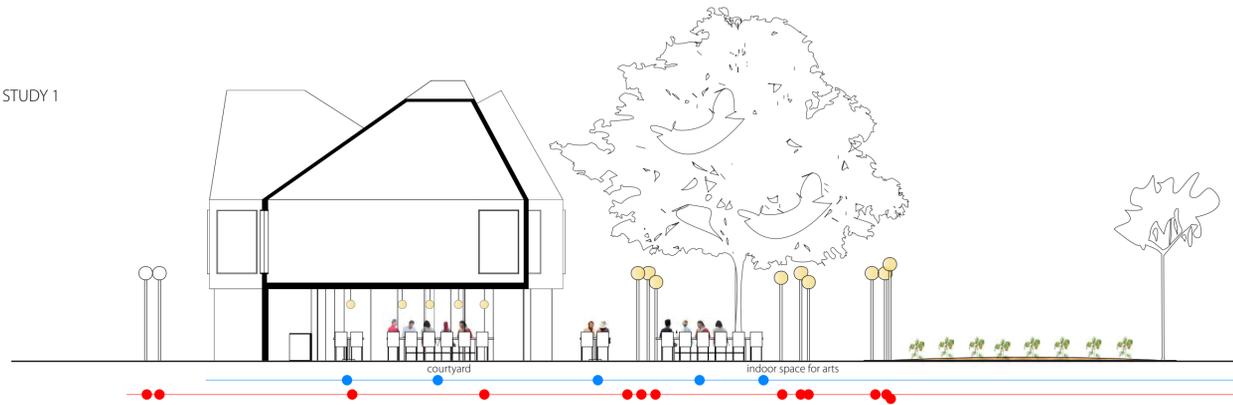
Several scenarios have been imagined for how the typology could respond to program, ranging from a full two and a half story space (meeting room, arts, fitness) to a lower level business and housing above (corner market, butcher, etc.).

Notes on Approach:

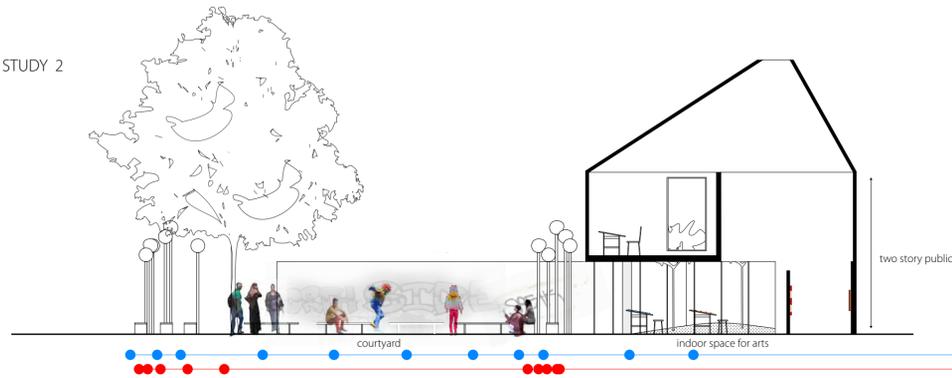
- Expand on park-like feel of current site. Maintain & utilize trees and open feel of site.
- Use light and material transparency to improve safety, wellness, and perceptual transparency
- Maintain ground level as public or public business space. Consider providing housing on site (live where you work)
- Cluster activities -> cluster lighting, trees, seating -> cluster enclosed spaces.



SECTION STUDY 1



SECTION STUDY 2

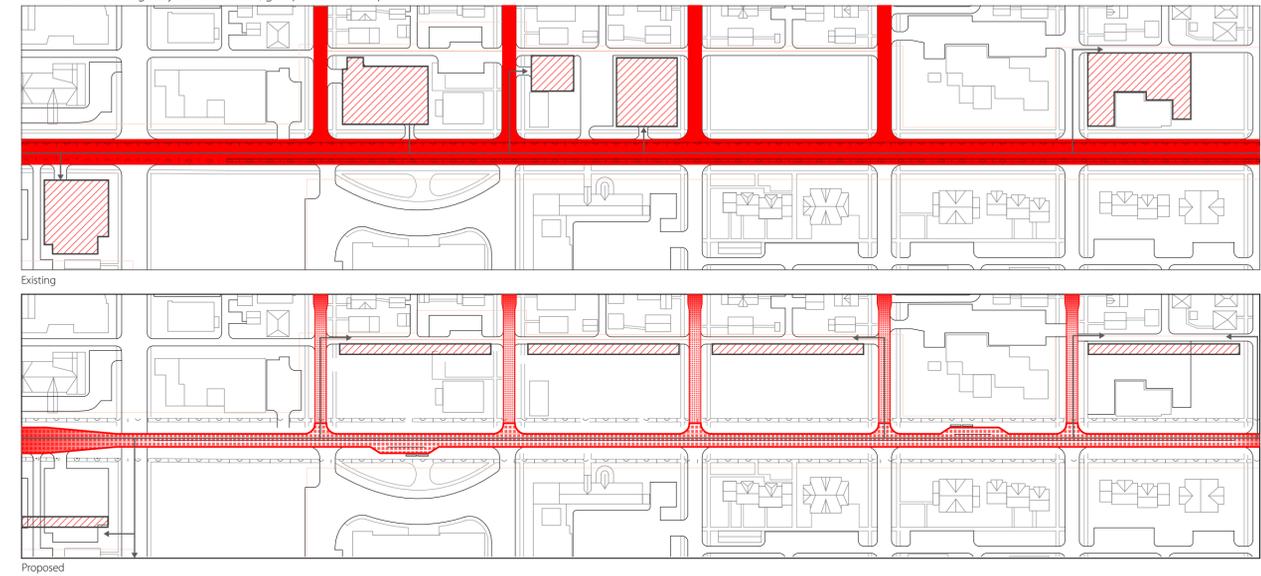


SECTION STUDY 3

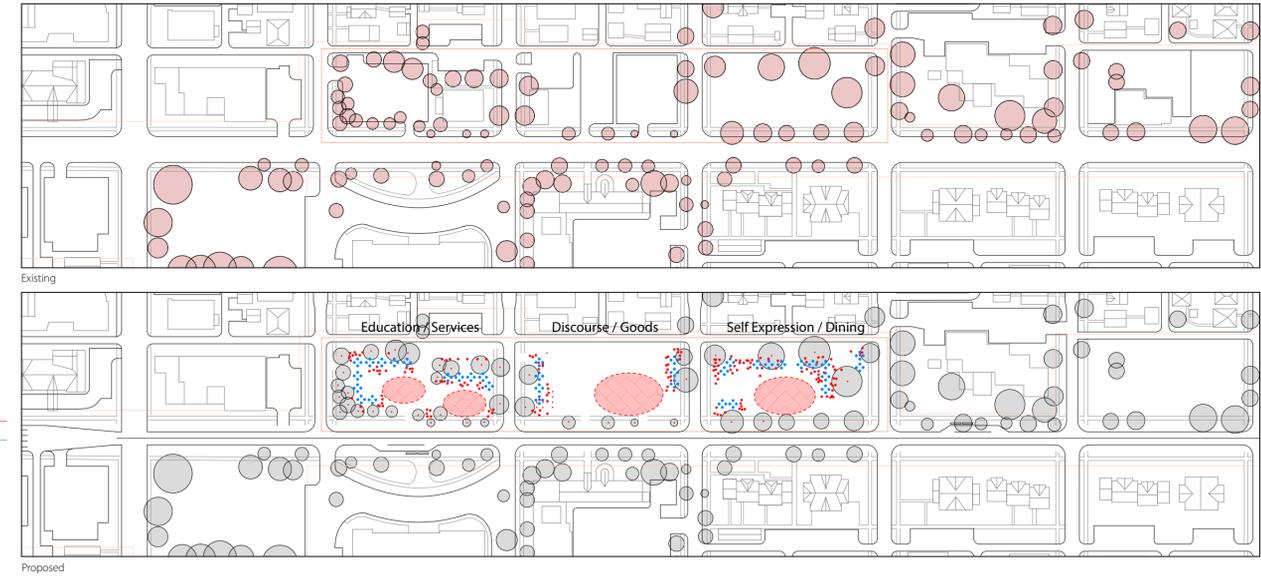


SITE CIRCULATION: narrowed lanes, separation of bike lanes from road, material change in road along site

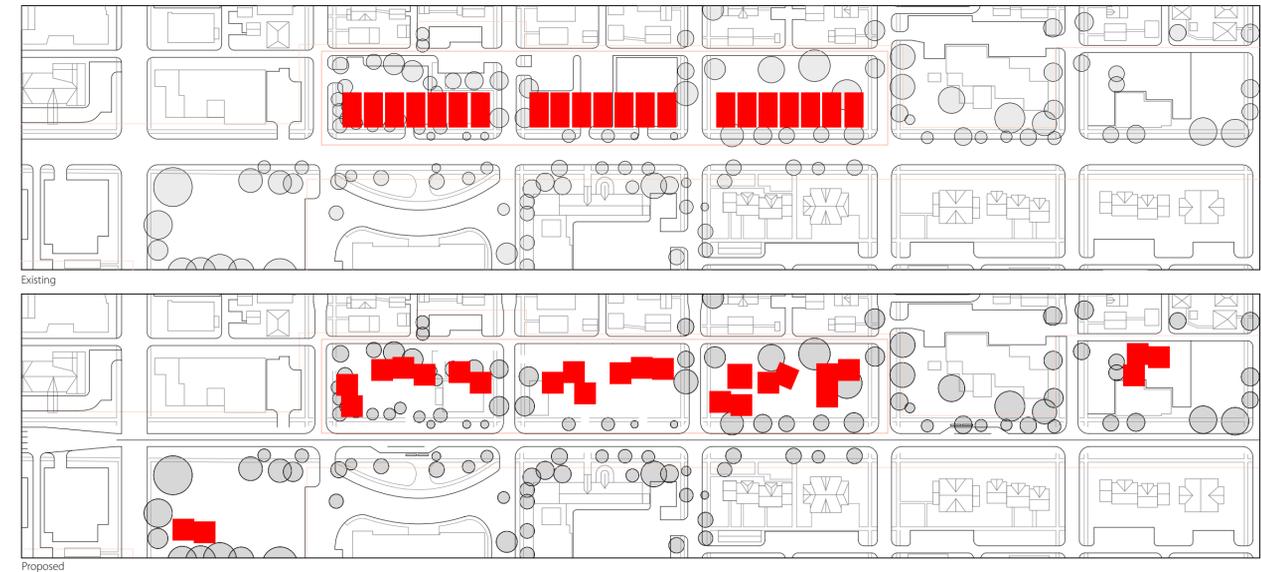
PARKING: use existing alleys for circulation, give precedence to pedestrian movement



COUPLED + OBJECTS



SPACES : FROM ROW TO CLUSTERED VILLAGE





ISOMETRIC VIEW I



ISOMETRIC VIEW II



ISOMETRIC VIEW III

