AND SURFACE

The Detroit

Revival:

Re-purposing the

interstitial spaces

of the fallen

giant.

Location: West Industrial district of Corktown. Detroit, Michigan

Site: 1.7 million sq ft.

Southwest Greenway Pedestrian Pathway

1448 Wabash St. (Abandoned)

Proposed Bridge

2030 Howard St. (Empty/For Sale)

Asphalt Storage Lot



Existing Site Conditions

2030 Howard St.

Project Brief:

This project introduces a transformative approach to urban regeneration. Through the strategic application of point, line, and surface interventions, this project seeks to revive the forgotten pieces of Detroit's past with the vibrant threads of contemporary urban life and urban agriculture. It harnesses the potential of underutilized spaces, integrating them into the daily rhythms of the city while fostering sustainable practices and community connectivity. By blending historical elements with innovative green initiatives, this project aims to create a resilient, dynamic urban environment that honors its heritage and embraces future possibilities.

Project Brief:

Detroit, Michigan, experienced a significant decline after the manufacturing exodus of the 70s and 80s. Despite this downturn, recent revitalization efforts are breathing new life into the area, reconnecting it with its roots. Key projects like the Riverfront Revitalization, the remodel of Michigan Central Station, and the development of the Southwest Greenway Path are transforming these neglected zones into vibrant, functional spaces. These initiatives signal a broader movement to rehabilitate and rejuvenate forgotten parts of Detroit, promising a sustainable urban future.





1448 Wabash St.

Point: Adaptive Reuse

2030 Howard St: This brick warehouse is re-imagined as a vibrant mixed-use hub. The structure will feature cafes, restaurants, and market spaces on the ground floor to energize the local community. The middle four floors will be dedicated to offices, classrooms, workshops, and coworking spaces tailored for nonprofits and startups focused on urban agriculture and sustainability. The top three floors will transform into residential apartments, offering modern, sustainable living environments. This layout ensures a functional separation, allowing both living spaces and professional areas to thrive side by side, supporting a balanced urban lifestyle.

1448 Wabash St: This facility operates as a vertical farm, supplying fresh produce to the community and local businesses. It also offers educational tours and volunteer opportunities to engage the community in sustainable farming practices.

Line: Connectivity and Greenways

Pedestrian Bridge: An aesthetically pleasing pedestrian bridge connects the two buildings and extends to the Southwest Greenway. It provides a safe and accessible route for pedestrians and cyclists, encouraging exploration and interaction between the urban core and green spaces.



Surface: Transformation of Asphalt and Vacant Lots

Urban Farming Initiative: The surface areas surrounding the buildings and along the bridge path have been reimagined as vibrant urban farmlands and green spaces. This initiative includes community gardens, outdoor classrooms, and recreational areas, fostering community engagement, education, and well-being. It collaborates with other urban farming initiatives in the area.



West Elevation

Structural Floor plan





Urban Farm

Mixed Use Residence/Office/Retail

Indoor Vertical Farm

