

UN MANIFIESTO POR LA RECIRCULACIÓN A SALVAGE MANIFESTO

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→ El entorno construido es un sitio de intercambio material; una potencial mina urbana. El ladrillo, la piedra, la madera, el metal e incluso la tierra extraída de los residuos de construcción y demolición (RCD) son literalmente materia fuera de lugar, una materia situada en algún lugar entre la construcción y el escombros en espera de una reutilización futura. De hecho, los desechos de construcción y demolición se recuperan, transportan, clasifican, limpian, etiquetan, almacenan y recombinan de manera rutinaria para su recirculación. Estas laboriosas prácticas locales exceden los alcances y presupuestos de la construcción, pero son cruciales para hacer una adecuada evaluación de una industria abrumada por la extracción.

¿Qué pasaría si los RCD se consideraran recursos valiosos? Mediante el rastreo de una activa cadena de suministro de materiales recuperados en la región de Nueva Inglaterra (EE. UU.) hacemos reconocimiento de los proveedores expertos detrás de dichas prácticas organizativas. Los siguientes dibujos y fotografías documentan nuestras visitas a un depósito de chatarra, un banco de suelo municipal, un centro de reutilización basado en donaciones, un reciclador de madera, un comerciante de granito/profesional de la deconstrucción y una cooperativa de intercambio de herramientas.

El stock puede ser impredecible, pero los estantes siempre están llenos.

Los recortes, excedentes, residuos y productos dañados se tratan con cuidado.

No hay desechos, sólo intercambio de material vivo.

La economía material secundaria de la arquitectura es energética, local, organizada: y ya existe. Al igual que muchos otros en el giro hacia una circularidad colectiva, hacemos un llamado hacia una práctica arquitectónica de inventiva material, incluyendo el uso de materiales usados, irregulares e impredecibles. Nuestra industria necesita (1) descentralizar su gestión de recursos, (2) aumentar las tolerancias de diseño, y (3) revalorizar el arduo trabajo de recuperación de materiales, actualmente ensombrecido por el fetiche mercantil del edificio como producto.

→ The built environment is a site of material exchange, a potential urban mine. Brick, stone, wood, metal, and even excavated soil on construction and demolition (c&d) sites are literally matter out of place—situated somewhere between building and debris, awaiting future harvest. c&d waste is in fact routinely salvaged, transported, sorted, cleaned, labeled, stored, and recombined for future recirculation. Such laborious local practices exceed the scopes and budgets of construction, yet are crucial for taking stock of an industry overwhelmed by extraction.

What if c&d waste were regarded as valuable resources? We trace an active supply chain of reclaimed materials across New England (USA) and celebrate the organizational practices of its knowledgeable suppliers. The following drawings and photographs document our site visits to a scrap metal yard, a municipal soil bank, a donations-based reuse center, a lumber broker, a granite trader/deconstruction practitioner, and a tool-sharing cooperative.

The stock may be unpredictable, but the shelves are always full.

Offcuts, surpluses, dusts, and damaged goods are treated with care.

There is no debris, only lively material exchange.

Architecture's secondary material economy is energetic, local, and organized—and it already exists. Like many others in the turn towards collective circularity, we call for an expanded architectural practice of resourcefulness—including sourcing used, irregular materials in contingent supply. The design and construction industries need to: (1) decentralize their resource management; (2) increase design tolerances; and (3) revalue the lively labor of salvage, currently obscured by the commodity fetish of building-as-product.

La construcción se ha conocido durante mucho tiempo como una industria en crecimiento, donde el consumo de materiales se orienta hacia un constante aumento del Producto Interno Bruto (PIB).¹ Este manifiesto ofrece una nueva definición: Prácticas Domésticas Brutas (PDB), en la cual la minería urbana se entiende como una práctica interna (o doméstica) que opera en bruto. Un enfoque de práctica total que reconoce el mantenimiento de edificios, el trabajo de desecho, los servicios ecológicos y los límites materiales del crecimiento. Este “PDB” alternativo representa un mundo post-extractivo donde ya no es el “producto” el motor económico clave, sino que los procesos locales que respaldan la continua demolición y reconstrucción del entorno construido. **m**

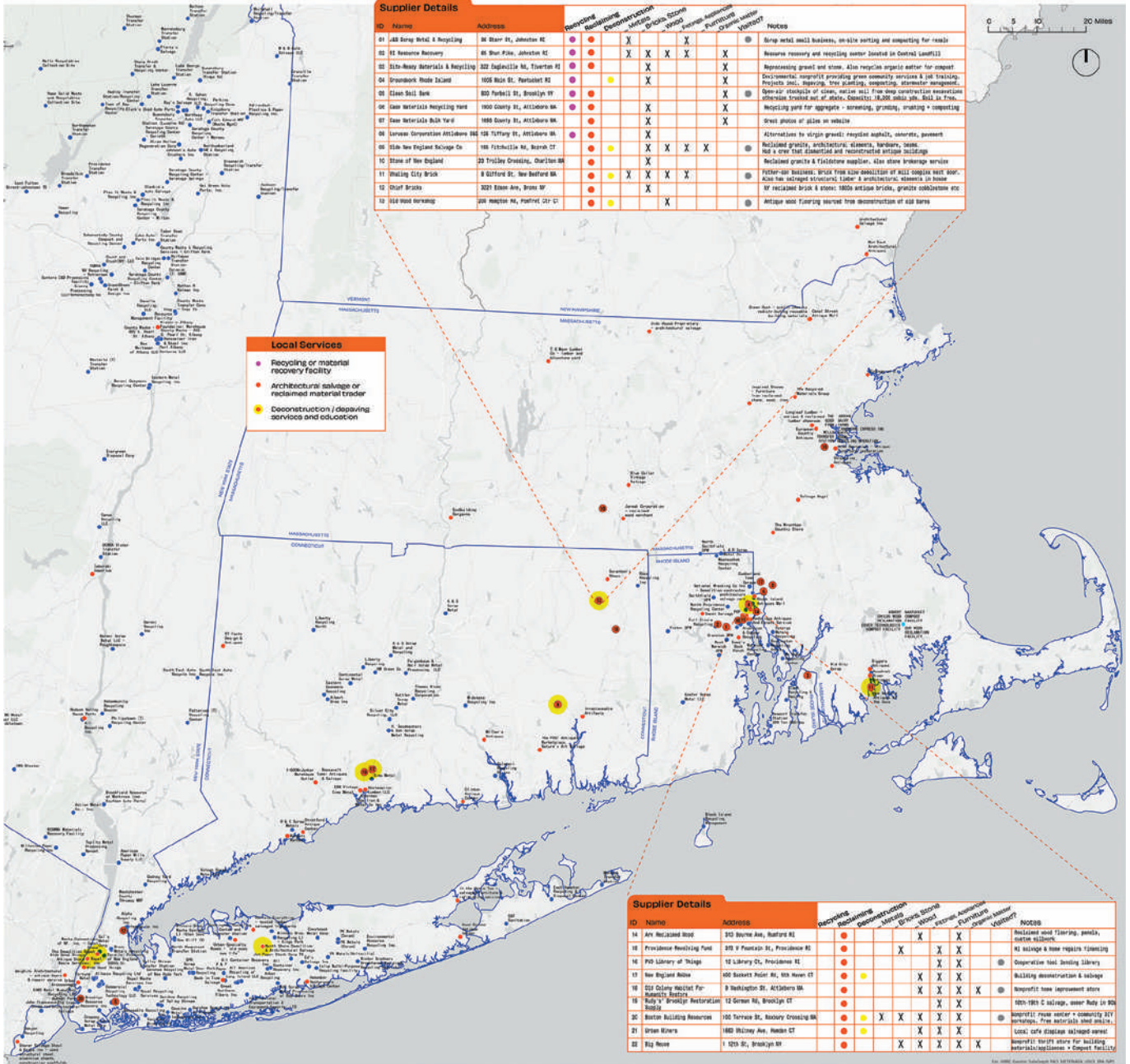
Construction has long been known as a growth industry, where material expenditure is geared towards ever greater Gross Domestic Product (GDP).¹ This manifesto offers a new definition: Gross Domestic Practices (GDP), a total-practice approach that recognizes building maintenance, waste work, ecoservices, and the material limits of growth. This alternative GDP stands for a post-extraction world where ‘product’ is not the key economic driver, but rather, local processes that support the continual unmaking and remaking of the built environment. **m**

¹ El Producto Interno Bruto (PIB) mide el valor monetario total de los bienes y servicios finales producidos y vendidos en un determinado país. Como estándar internacional para evaluar el crecimiento y el progreso de un país, el PIB es un instrumento extremadamente simplista: una abstracción económica del mundo material que excluye el trabajo no remunerado, como el trabajo doméstico o el mantenimiento

D.I.Y., así como las contribuciones que no se transan en los mercados, como los servicios que prestan los ecosistemas. En el ámbito de la construcción, el imperativo de crecimiento del PIB pasa por alto las relaciones sociales, las historias de inequidad y el agotamiento de los recursos planetarios. Redefinir el PIB significaría enfrentar las abstracciones inherentes a la propia cadena de suministro de la arquitectura.

¹ Gross Domestic Product is a measure of the total monetary value of final goods and services produced and sold in a given country. As an international standard for evaluating a country's growth and progress, GDP is an incredibly blunt instrument—an economic abstraction of the material world that excludes unpaid labor such as domestic work or D.I.Y. maintenance, and

‘non-market’ contributions such as ecosystem services. In construction, the growth imperative of GDP disregards social relations, uneven histories, and planetary exhaustion. To redefine GDP would mean to confront the abstractions in architecture's own supply chain.



Guía de recirculación para especificaciones arquitectónicas alternativas. Este mapa sugiere que es posible generar una arquitectura post-extracción a través de un giro en la cadena de suministro hacia redes de recirculación y recuperación de materiales (economías materiales energéticas que ya existen). Enfocándose en el noreste de EE. UU., los conjuntos de datos SIG señalan centros de reutilización, instalaciones de procesamiento de desechos y reciclaje, servicios de deconstrucción e intermediarios de materiales recuperados en los estados de Nueva York, Rhode Island, Massachusetts y Connecticut.

Salvage Directory for Alternative Architectural Specification. This map suggests that post-extraction architecture is possible through a supply chain shift toward networks of salvage and material recovery—energetic material economies that already exist. Focusing on the US northeast, GIS datasets pinpoint reuse centers, recycling, and scrap processing facilities, deconstruction services, and reclaimed material brokers in the states of New York, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and Connecticut.

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- #1 BARE BRIGHT COPPER WIRE
- #1 COPPER TUBING
- #1 FLASHING COPPER
- #1 HEAVY MELTING STEEL
- #3 ROOFING COPPER
- 304 STAINLESS STEEL

\$ 325 / lb	▲ -0.20 (-0.00%)
\$ 305 / lb	▲ 0.42 (13.77%)
\$ 305 / lb	▲ 0.43 (14.10%)
\$ 250.00 / ton	▼ -249.88 (-99.95%)
\$ 285 / lb	▲ 0.25 (0.77%)
\$0.37 / lb	▲ 0.01 (2.70%)

A 10 MINUTE DRIVE AWAY FROM THE SITE IS CENTRAL LANDFILL, WHICH PROVIDES DISPOSAL SERVICES TO 67% OF RHODE ISLAND RESIDENTS. AROUND 3,800 TONS OF TRASH ARE BURIED IN THE LANDFILL DAILY. AT HIS CURRENT RATE, CENTRAL LANDFILL WILL REACH CAPACITY IN 2040.

ITS ON-SITE MATERIALS RECYCLING FACILITY SORTS AN AVERAGE OF 950 TONS OF MIXED RECYCLABLES DAILY. THEY ARE COMPRESSED INTO BALES AND RESOLD GLOBALLY.

SMALLER SCRAP YARDS AND RECYCLING DEPOTS DIVERT THE FLOW OF WASTE FROM LANDFILL AND DECENTRALIZE THE LABOR OF SORTING, CRUSHING, AND BAILING RAW MATERIALS FOR RESALE.

A BOBOAT SKID STEER ACTIVELY DRIVES FRESH SCRAP TO THE NARROW BACKYARD, WHILE A CAT CRANE RUMMAGES THE HEAP.

MATERIALS TURN AROUND QUICKLY ON SITE: "BY TOMORROW THE BACK AREA WILL BE CLEAN AND EMPTY."

WORKER CUTS COPPER TUBE ENDS AND SORTS DIFFERENT GRADES OF COPPER (#1 AND #2).

SCALE WINDOW

SITE OFFICE NOT PART OF VISIT

WAREHOUSE **

BACKYARD*

FRONT YARD*

POINT OF SALE

THERE CAN BE AS MANY AS 100 TRUCKLOADS DROPPING OFF ON A BUSY DAY. ON A SLOW DAY, 40 TRUCKLOADS CAN BE EXPECTED.

COMPACTORS CRUSH LIKE MATERIALS INTO BALES FOR SHIPPING AND GLOBAL RESALE. BALE DIMENSIONS RANGE FROM 2' X 3.5' TO 2.5' X 5'. AT THE TIME OF VISIT, ELECTRICAL WIRES WERE BEING CRUSHED, TUBING AND ALL.

LANDSCAPING SERVICE

THERE ARE 5-6 EMPLOYEES. WORKER USING THE COMPACTOR HAS BEEN THERE FOR 14 YEARS.

* LESS VALUABLE SCRAP GOES OUTDOORS, SUCH AS RUSTY OR MAGNETIC ITEMS, OLD BOLERS, ETC ("3 cents / lb").

** INDOORS RESERVED FOR MORE VALUABLE SCRAP, SUCH AS METAL WIRES, SHAVINGS, AND MACHINE PARTS ("3\$ / lb").

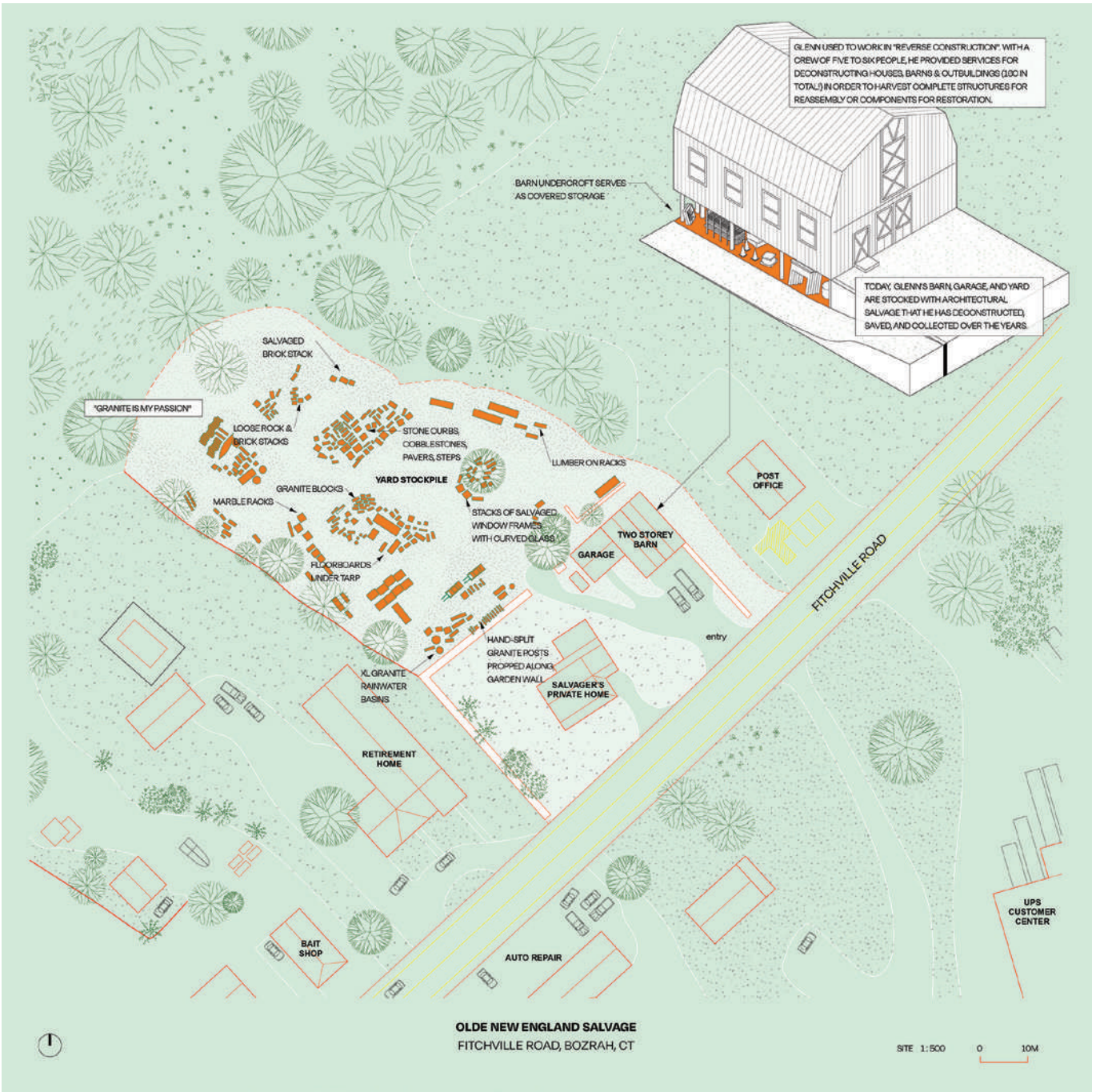
J&S SCRAP METAL & RECYCLING
STARR ST, JOHNSTON, RI

MAP 1:25,000 0 500M

SITE 1:300 0 5M

ARRIBA ABOVE J&S Scrap Metal Recycling, Johnston RI. DERECHA Fotografías del sitio. RIGHT Site photos.
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OLDE NEW ENGLAND SALVAGE
 FITZVILLE ROAD, BOZRAH, CT

ARRIBA ABOVE Olde New England Salvage Co., Bozrah CT.
 DERECHA Fotografías del sitio. RIGHT Site photos.
 © Amelyn Ng, Gabriel Vergara, Christine Giorgio.





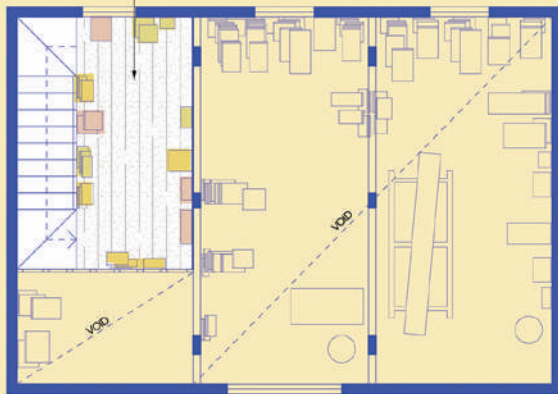
FLOORBOARDS MUST BE DECONSTRUCTED CAREFULLY DURING DEMOLITION TO AVOID RIPPING BOARDS FROM NAILS

SINGLE PIECES ARE KEPT ON THIS FLOOR FOR INDIVIDUAL SALE. FEATURED ARE A SOLID OAK BAR TOP TABLE WITH GLASS TRACES, AND A WIDE WHITE PINE BOARD WITH "GHOST STRIPS" WHERE WALL BATTENS USED TO BE.

UNIQUE BOARDS ARE MORE DIFFICULT TO SELL INDIVIDUALLY — BUT ARE NEVERTHELESS KEPT IN STORAGE FOR FUTURE USE



"LIVE EDGE" RENDERERS FLOORBOARD UNWORKABLE BUT MAY BE MORE ATTRACTIVE FOR FURNITURE WOODWORK



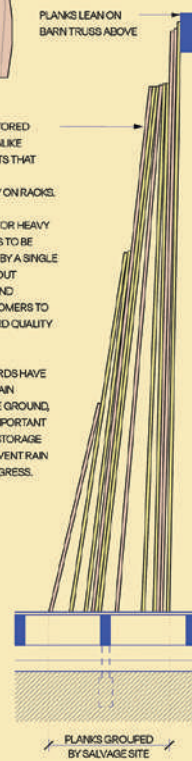
MEZZANINE

PLANKS LEAN ON BARN TRUSS ABOVE

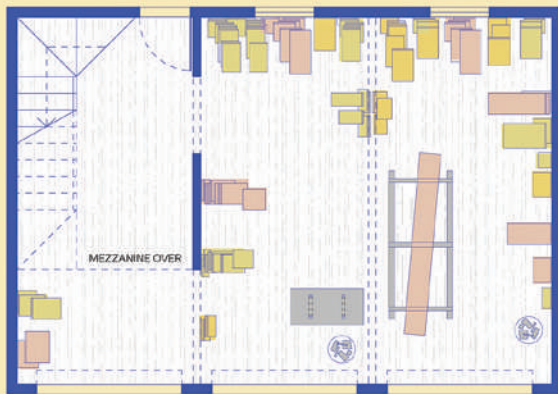
PLANKS ARE STORED VERTICALLY, UNLIKE TYPICAL DEPOTS THAT STORE WOOD HORIZONTALLY ON RACKS.

THIS ALLOWS FOR HEAVY FLOORBOARDS TO BE MANEUVERED BY A SINGLE PERSON WITHOUT ASSISTANCE, AND ALLOWS CUSTOMERS TO BROWSE BOARD QUALITY QUICKLY.

BECAUSE BOARDS HAVE THEIR END-GRAIN TOUCHING THE GROUND, IT BECOMES IMPORTANT TO RAISE THE STORAGE FLOOR TO PREVENT RAIN AND WATER INGRESS.



PLANKS GROUPED BY SALVAGE SITE



GROUND FLOOR

"SISTER BOARDS" ARE ADJACENT BOARDS THAT HAVE AGED IN PLACE TOGETHER AND HAVE A PARTICULAR FIT.

THEY ARE TAGGED WITH CHALK, KEPT TOGETHER, AND SOLD TOGETHER.

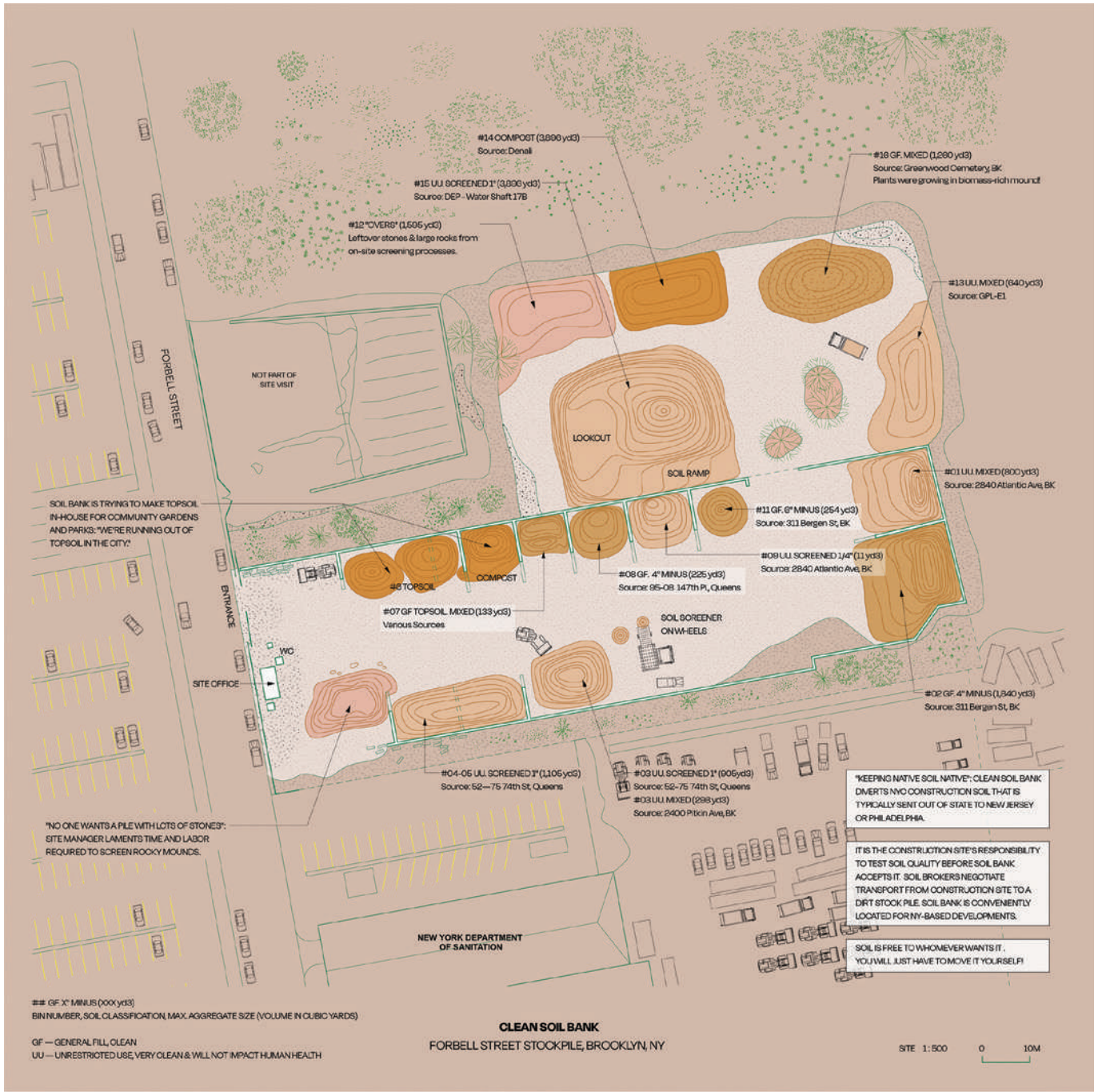
OLD WOOD WORKSHOP

RENTAL BARN, POMFRET CENTER, CT

OBJECTS 1:20 0 0.5M

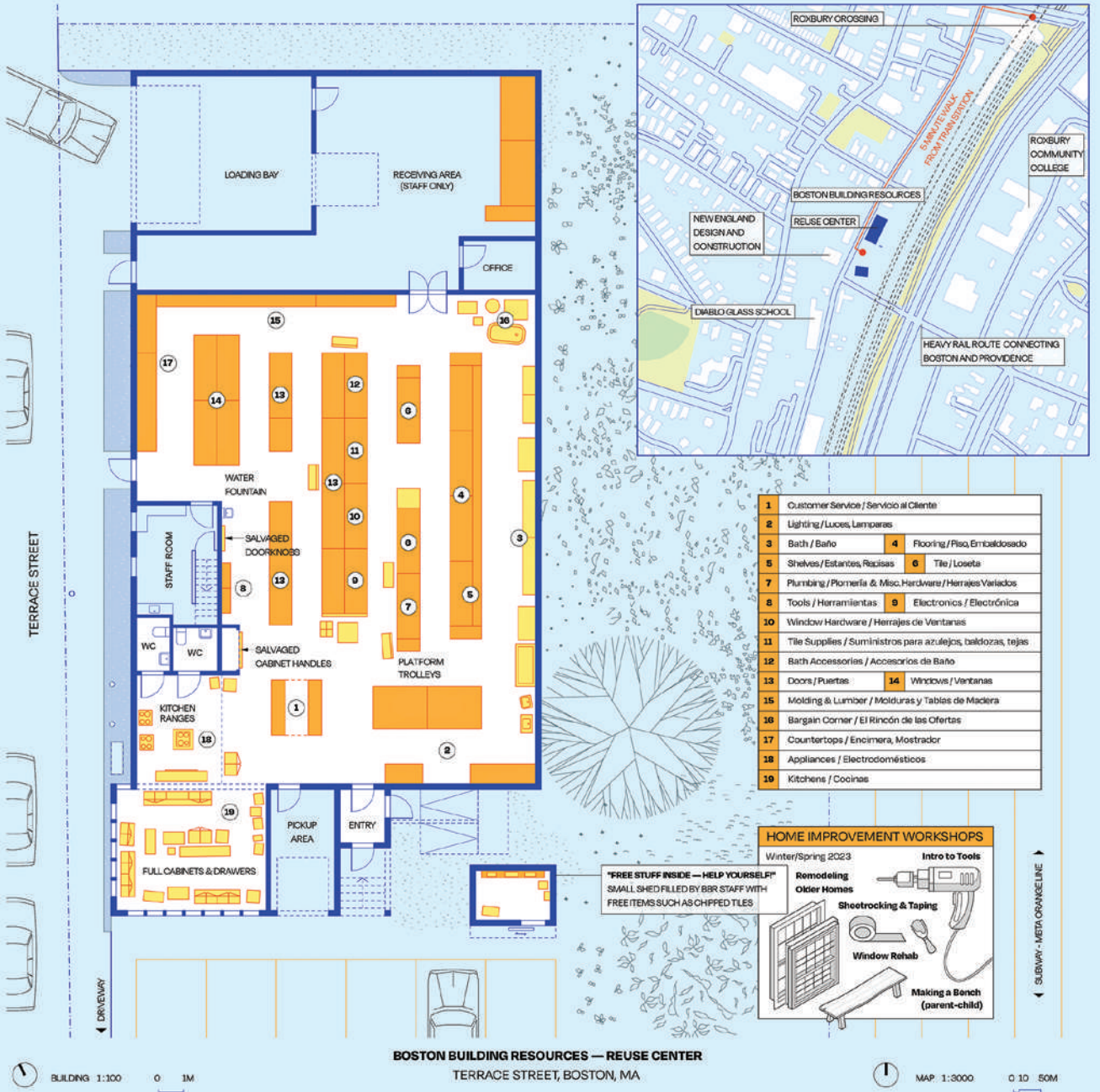
BUILDING 1:50 0 1M





ARRIBA ABOVE Clean Soil Bank, Brooklyn NY.
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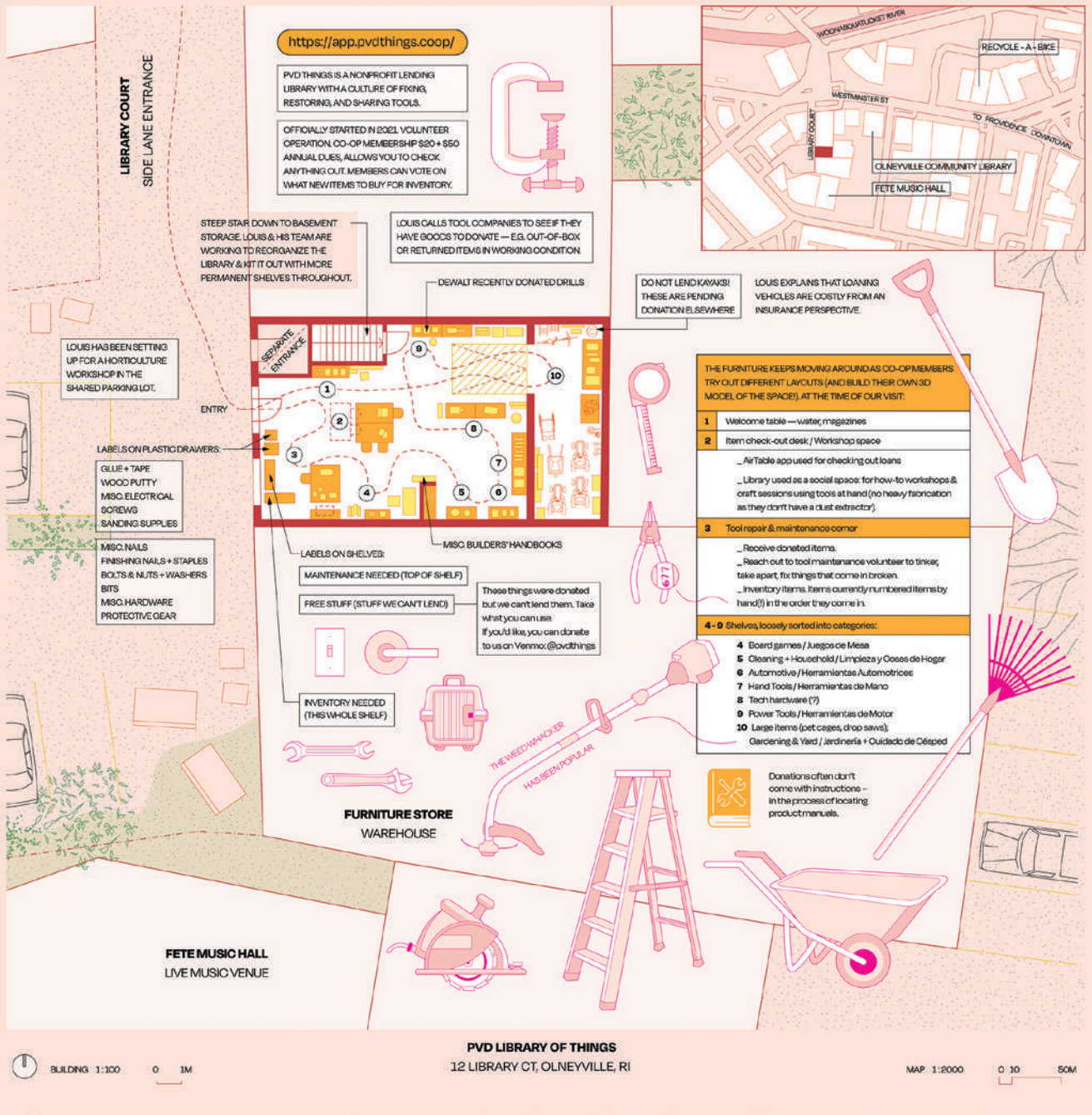




BOSTON BUILDING RESOURCES — REUSE CENTER
TERRACE STREET, BOSTON, MA

ARRIBA ABOVE Boston Building Resources, Boston MA.
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ARRIBA ABOVE PVD Library of Things, Providence RI.
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