

OMNIA



A MUNICIPAL POLICY CHANGE THAT FIGHTS HUMAN ALIENATION FROM LAND AND FOOD SYSTEMS THROUGH INDIVIDUAL CONFRONTATION OF HOUSEHOLD FOOD WASTE.

WHY IS IT NEEDED?

We exist in an epoch orchestrated by capitalism, which is not only a globally dominant economic system, but also an organizational framework that defines our relationships to self and nature. This epoch assumes the right and ability of humans to alter, control, access, and hold dominion over that which is non-human. In Vancouver this is evident through the historical destruction of creeks in favour of development, a landfill that is nearing capacity, and the continued overflow of raw sewage into natural water bodies. The urban landscape has been constructed as a mechanism that alienates us from interactions with, and an understanding of, natural processes and non-human beings.

This project is necessary in order to create urban ecologies of reparation in Vancouver that attempt to reconnect citizens with land and food systems.

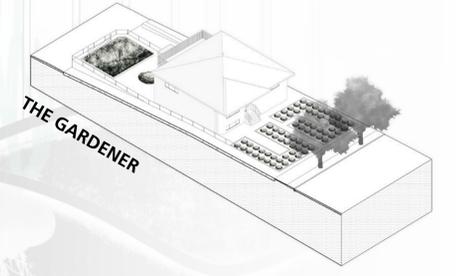
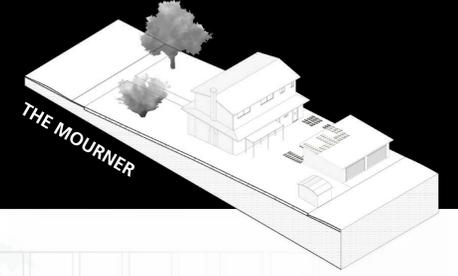
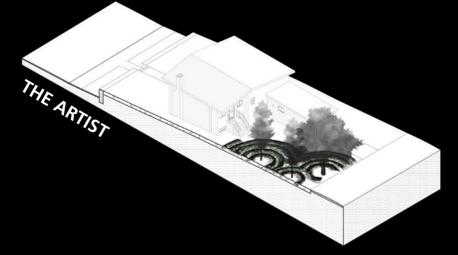
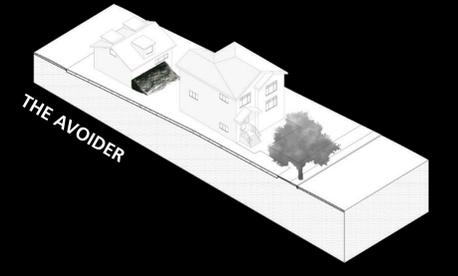
WHAT IS IT?

We propose a policy change that abolishes the current green bin program, requiring each household in RS1 zones to manage food and organic waste on their property. Rather than industrializing the management of urban food waste, this process is scaled down forcing households to contend with the evidence of individual consumption habits by burying food waste in their yard. By seeing topographic change proportional to household masses of food waste, this policy forces the individual to internalize their own place in larger systems of food production.

HOW IT WORKS:

The green bin will be replaced by a city mandated spade. Each household will decide how to dispose of their waste, resulting in many different approaches and methods. To speculate on individual responses we identified four personas: The Mourner, The Artist, The Gardener, and The Avoider. Each deals with the new policy in their own way. They bury with reverence, create land art, cultivate compost to grow food, and discard the food waste in a discrete corner, respectively.

The rapid addition of waste in these small yards will change the landscape at a rate that is visible and proportional to the individual. The result is an inevitable enhancement of plant growth and habitat creation for non-humans.



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CityStudio is an innovation hub where city staff, students, faculty and community work together to design experimental projects that make Vancouver more sustainable, liveable and joyful. It works in collaboration with the City of Vancouver and six post-secondary institutions (SFU, UBC, BCIT, Langara, ECUAD and NEC).

