

wild [life] nomad bootcamp_

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Context:

The COVID-19 pandemic exposed the *fragility of global supply chains*. The immobilisation of global workforces and restricted international borders has led to severe disruptions of essential imports such as foods, medicines and daily necessities. Import-dependent Singapore is left to fend for herself - drawing on limited stockpiles and scavenging for alternative food sources.

Abstract:

A *rewilding of Singapore into a productively secure nation must occur to address the continued crises*. The thesis starts the process to reconcile food production with the household, beginning with a Back-to-Basics Bootcamp education of rewilding in the Northwest countryside. Singapore's rewilding suggests *production security as a shared responsibility* between companies, the state and the individual.

This thesis proposes a Back-to-Basics Bootcamp, an intermediary between the Northwest and the city. Over the course of 50 years, the Bootcamp mints an urban population into resourceful and productive agents for Singapore's rewilding. Life post-Bootcamp compels one to apply knowledge and physical specimens within our urbanized surroundings. By the year 2070, after the gathered Northwest practices root themselves into our daily existence, the Bootcamp will be rendered obsolete.

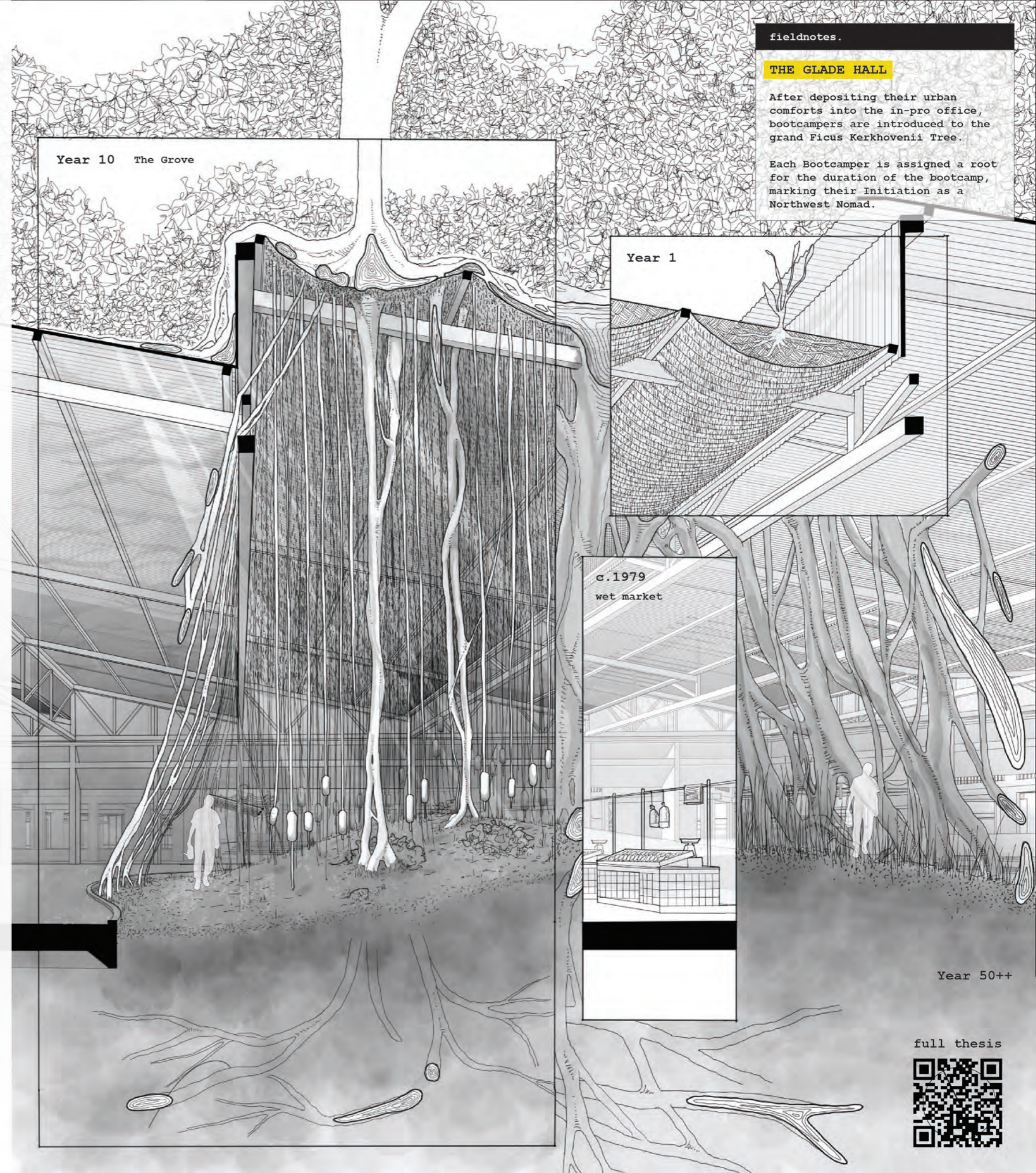
The Bootcamp is sited in *Northwest Singapore*, the last vestige where ground-based farmlands and wild jungle coincide. People and programmes in the Northwest retain an integral relationship to the wilderness, tapping into indigenous, generational and endangered knowledge of non-urban living to grow food and keep lands productive. The Bootcamp is experienced through the recovered fieldnotes of an alumni that unfolds in four phases - 1. Sprout (Initiation), 2. Seedling (Skills Acquisition), 3. Rooting (Farmhands), 4. Fruiting (Graduation).

Wild nature exists in many material forms - from barnacles to wild mushrooms. Through the manipulation of such materials, the architect enters an equal partnership with the wild to sculpt spaces of learning. This proposal demonstrates one such partnership through the detailed development of *architecture's collaboration with the native Ficus Kerkhovenii plant*. The architectural outcome is in a tectonic centred around the Ficus' behaviour as space-maker, construction material, educational tool and timekeeper which facilitates the transfer of basic knowledge and low-technology.

Keywords: Rewilding, Northwest Singapore, Basics, Nature

Website: wildlifenomadbootcamp.squarespace.com

Film: <https://youtu.be/XmuV6ORudkc>



fieldnotes.

THE GLADE HALL

After depositing their urban comforts into the in-pro office, bootcampers are introduced to the grand *Ficus Kerkhovenii* Tree.

Each Bootcamper is assigned a root for the duration of the bootcamp, marking their Initiation as a Northwest Nomad.

Year 1

c. 1979
wet market

Year 50++

full thesis



23

mon

W. 04/5

fieldnotes.

MUSHROOM BASE CAMP

Mushrooms grow well in damp and dark environments. Increasingly, mushrooms have been used to make furniture and "myco-leather", apart from its primary use as a food source.

The Fig Capsule is able to set up camp anywhere, employing a series of low, DIY technologies to live off the land.

The only limit of the Fig Capsule is the user's imagination.



MIST COLLECTOR

DIY WATER PURIFIER

coffee filter
large gravel
fine gravel
coarse sand
fine sand
activated charcoal
cotton/foam

MOSQUITO COIL, clamped

MUSHROOM HOUSING module
PVC bags

200cm

25cm

66cm

56cm

BICYCLE

FIRE PIT

SEA FRESH: THE KELONG+

Offshore fish farms use low technologies to breed fish, and are at risk of being outmatched by large fish farms due to economies of scale only achievable by big players.

The indigenous knowledge of working the sea is preserved through the bootcamp, continuously imparting these transferrable skills to Bootcampers for application in other parts of the island's maritime territory.

This ensures that rearing fish for food remains democratic and ground up - not a field exclusive to big companies.

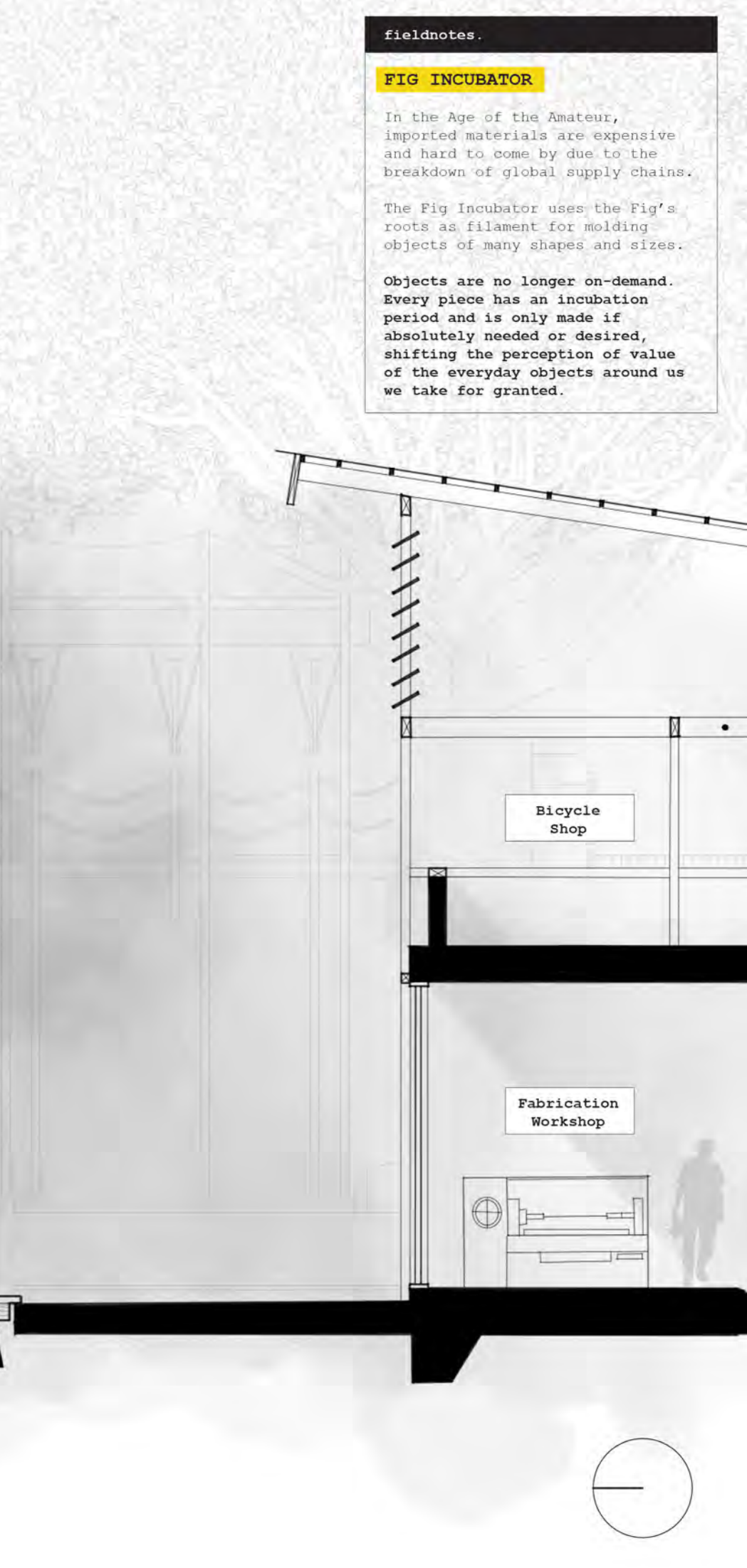
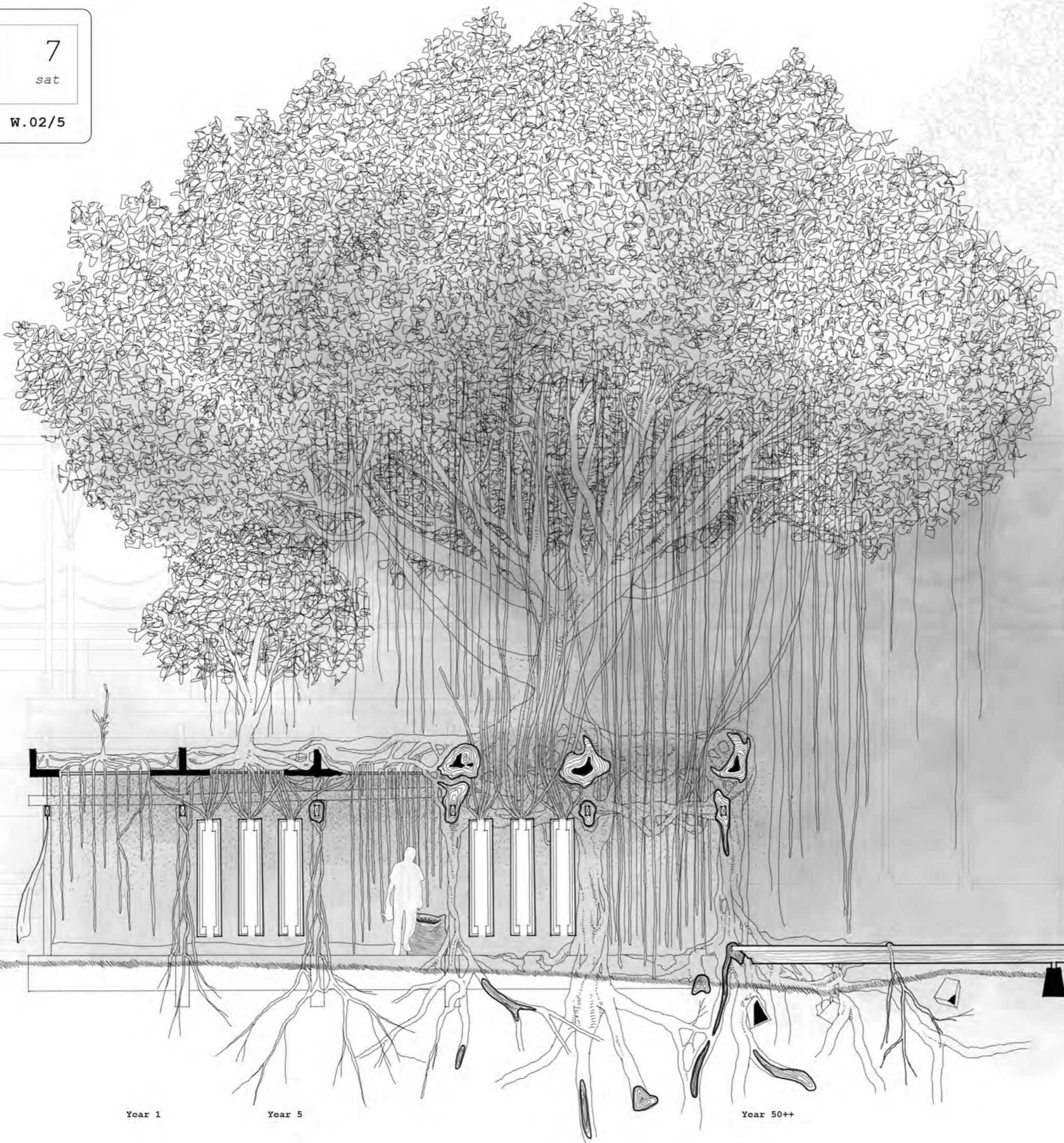


FIG INCUBATOR

In the Age of the Amateur, imported materials are expensive and hard to come by due to the breakdown of global supply chains.

The Fig Incubator uses the Fig's roots as filament for molding objects of many shapes and sizes.

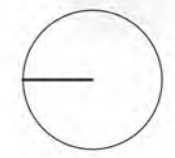
Objects are no longer on-demand. Every piece has an incubation period and is only made if absolutely needed or desired, shifting the perception of value of the everyday objects around us we take for granted.



Year 1

Year 5

Year 50++

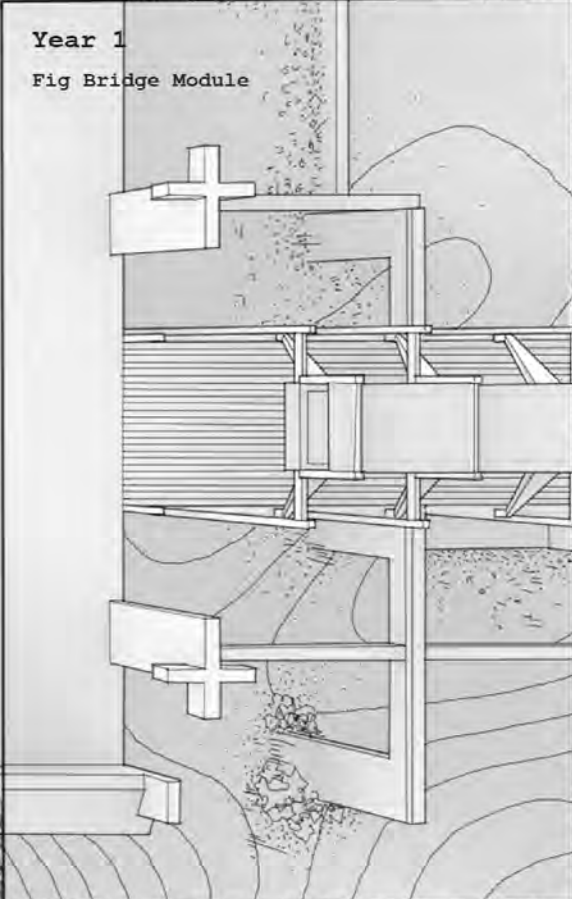
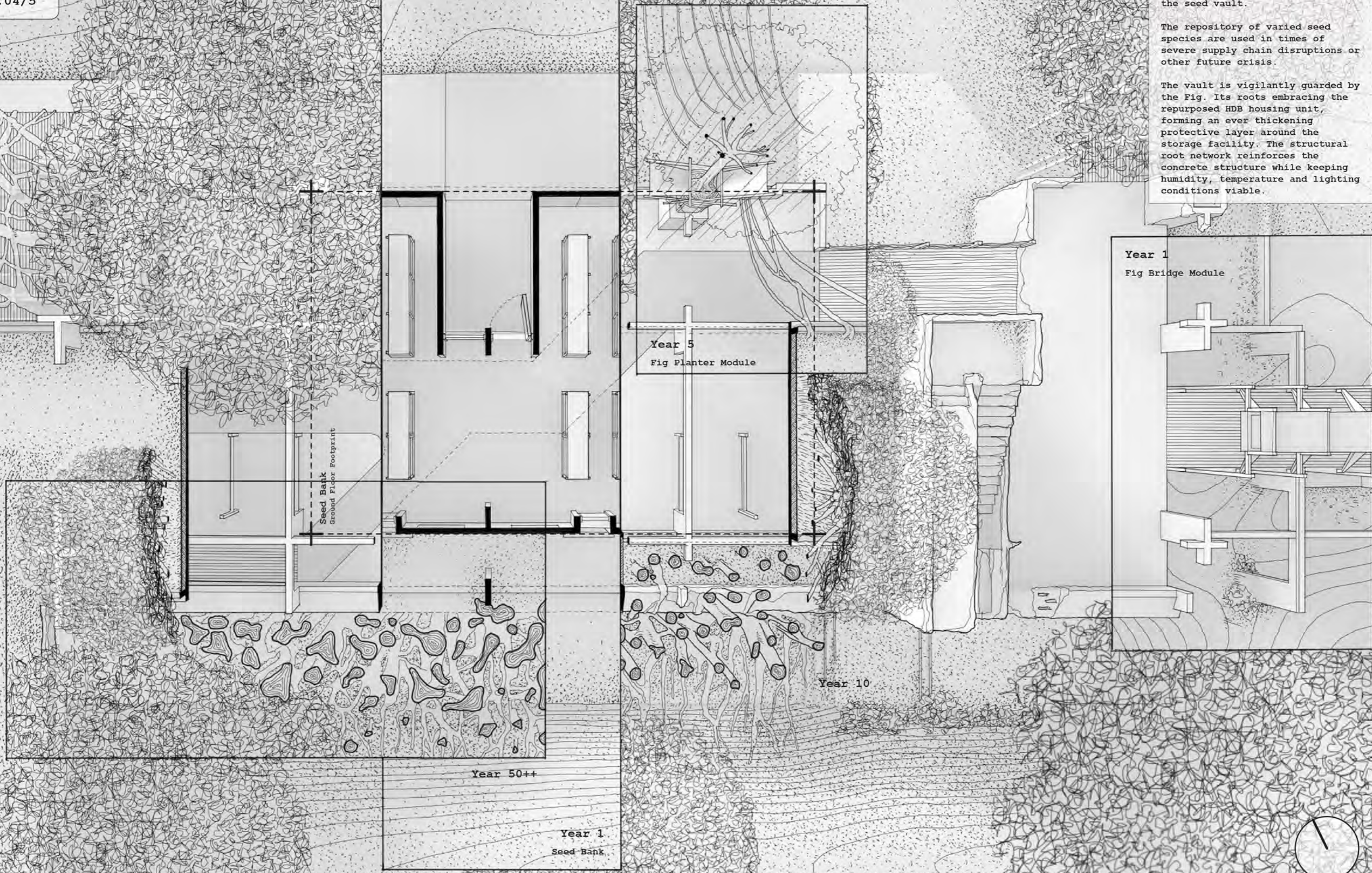


SEED VAULT

Seeds collected by decades of bootcampers from the northwest farms are stored and deposited in the seed vault.

The repository of varied seed species are used in times of severe supply chain disruptions or other future crisis.

The vault is vigilantly guarded by the Fig. Its roots embracing the repurposed HDB housing unit, forming an ever thickening protective layer around the storage facility. The structural root network reinforces the concrete structure while keeping humidity, temperature and lighting conditions viable.



Seed Bank
Ground Floor Footprint

Year 5
Fig Planter Module

Year 1
Fig Bridge Module

Year 50++

Year 1
Seed Bank

Year 10