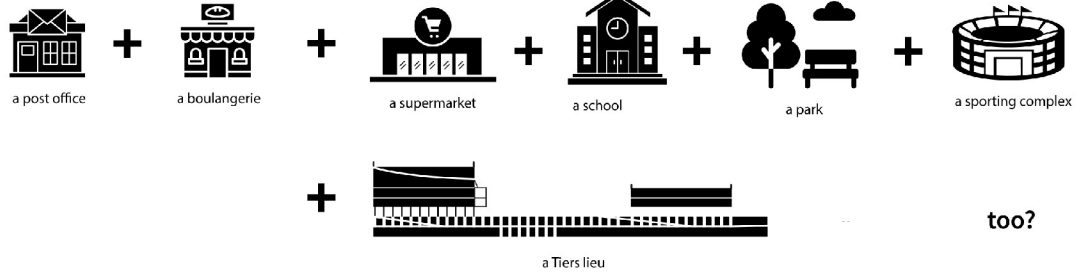


LES
AMARRES

If the 15 minute-city ensures you...



Why not...

The architectural perception of the city presented in this project is based on the idea of a city consisting of clearly defined areas - the archipelago. In the areas separation from the context, confrontation and thereby strengthened identity manifests itself in terms of its dialogue with the city, both architecturally and socially. The project is an attempt to create a dialectical architecture that originates in a community, the city, but at the same time emphasizes the individuality and the tension between the city's differences.

The vantage point of the process came through the identification of the Seine riverfront as a contested public space. Monument, ecological zone, essential infrastructure, zone of gentrification, and even for some, zone of habitation and essential needs. With these frames in mind, a number of sites were noted for vacancies or uncertain states due to the effects of the Olympics on the urban landscape. They were often discovered during daily commutes along the riverfront as a student in Paris and researched using a combination of historical analysis, controversy mapping and architectural theory.

Simultaneously, a specific position was established through the experience of volunteering in a Parisian Tiers-Lieu (French for Third place) during the fall of 2023; Les Amarres on Quay d'Austerlitz, soon to be closed down before the 2024 Olympics. In recent years, The Tiers Lieu model of organization has proven to be a successful way of coordinating and mobilizing actors outside of capital or government systems. Les Amarres, a tiers lieu "festif et solidaire", is just one example of what this type of conglomeration might take shape.

The use of the existing facilities was researched through interviews with both staff and users on their four years of occupying the riverfront storage space. On one hand these are stories about inclusion and giving a dignified platform and civic presence within the city for the marginalized - on the other hand, the realities of running an institution catering to a wide range of needs of care and security. Currently, there are serious concerns of what will happen to its 80 000 yearly users as no viable option nor guarantee of return after the Olympics is given. As the wider community of NGOs lose their offices and event spaces, a crucial aid for the already pressured homeless population disappears.

Platforms of exchange between different people with different backgrounds and different values is vital to our communities and therefore to architecture. As the building is reconverted back into a logistics terminal, this project proposes a possible relocation to the site of a vacant parking garage also bordering on the Seine and belonging to the newly inscribed historic monument and national broadcasting house Maison de la Radio. The location was identified as a critical zone both for bordering between these two monumental sites, as well as its placement between the two wealthiest and most intensely gentrified arrondissements of Paris. The goal of the project is to introduce a new typology which challenges both the role of the center in the Metropolitan project of Grand Paris as well as the role of a modern national monument for a country in deep political turmoil.

The resulting confrontation can be seen as the construction of a new city in the existing city, is an attempt to redefine the architecture of the city through a reinvestment in architectural form as a way of confrontation, both a rediscovery and new interpretation of the city's defined features through articulated delimitations and definitive architectural forms. Hence, the goal of the project is establish new relationships, and challenge existing ones by introducing heterotopia in front of the fading utopia of 68. Partly complementary and partly antagonistic, a building that can help the institution stay relevant and Parisians from all classes and backgrounds stay with the trouble.

