

Bioremediation

uses living organisms to decontaminate soils and water. Microbial bioremediation uses fungi and bacteria to break down contaminants by using them as a food source. Phytoremediation uses specific plants to bind and extract a variety of organic and inorganic pollutants, including dioxins and heavy metals. Toxins are removed from the ground through absorption in plant roots and then metabolism in roots, stems and leaves. Plants with high biomass, extensive root systems and strong microbial associations are particularly effective, including willows (*Salix spp.*), poplars (*Populus trichocarpa*) and sunflowers (*Helianthus annuus*).

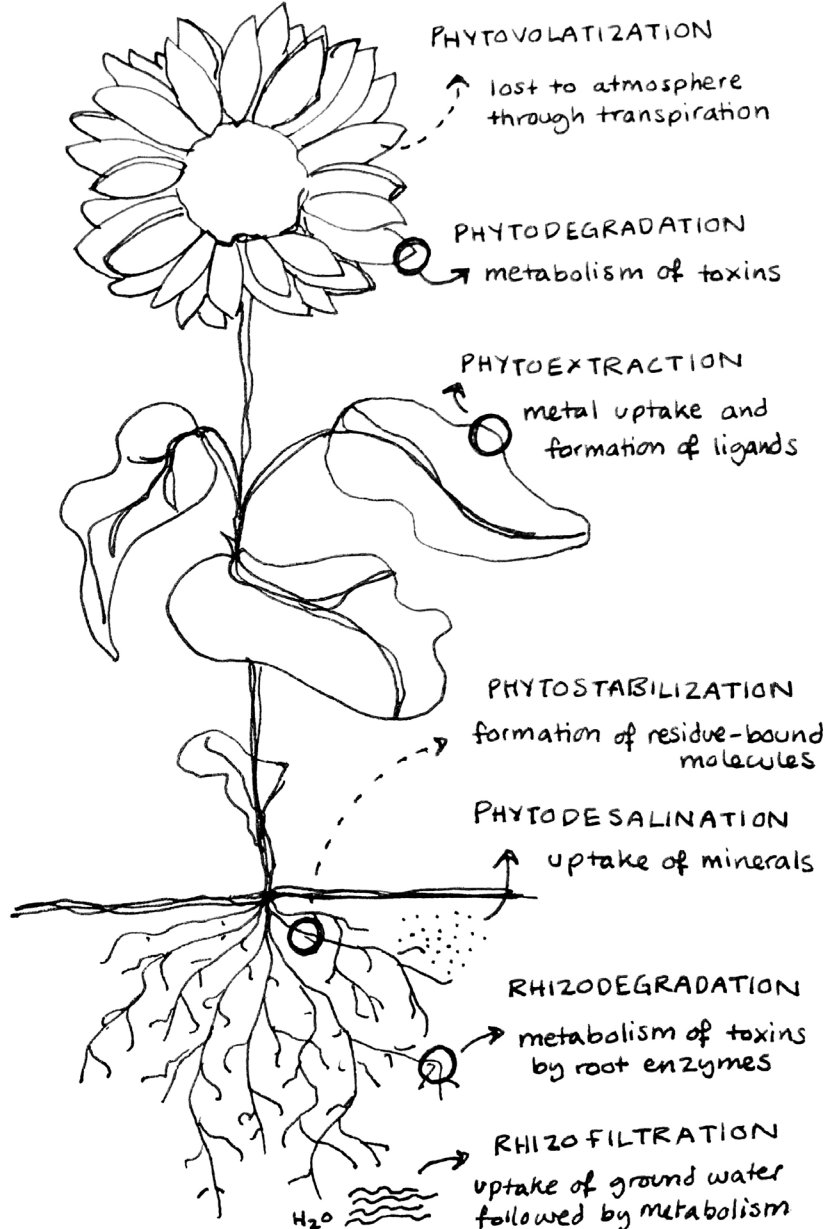


Diagram adapted from 'Phytoremediation: Mechanisms, plant selection and enhancement by natural and synthetic agents,' A. Kafle



Latz + Partners, Duisburg-Nord Landschaftspark
Germany, 1990 – 2002.



Visual language

Color and form being used as active elements rather than decoration. Bold colors help define structure, create a certain rhythm, and guide perception, while simple, repeated forms emphasize clarity and balance. Together, they allow space to feel approachable and open to interpretation, encouraging intuitive reading rather than fixed meaning.



Stratification

The formation of layers within a system or organism, each with its own role but connected as a whole. In natural environments, it organizes habitats from the ground up whereas in architecture, it stacks different functions and spaces. Each layer is independent yet interacts with the others to support the whole system.

Anchoring

A dialogue between structure and ground. Whether it be through screw piles, walls, or trees, anchoring defines the way a building enters conversation with its substrate. In this project, anchors vary across sites, translating soil, asphalt, and vegetation into distinct but related foundations. Anchoring becomes less an act of fixation than one of correspondence.



Michael Beutler
Bozar Monumental, 2025.



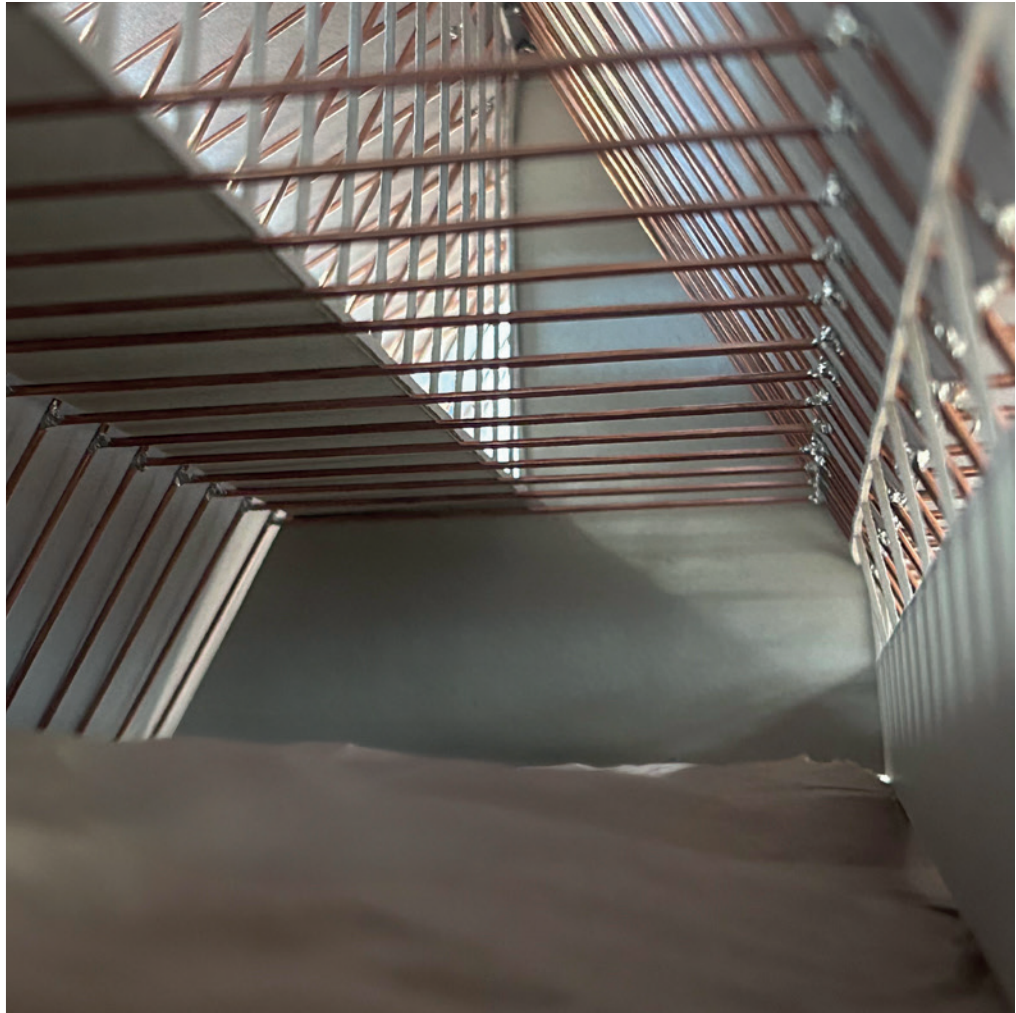
Anchoring

It was essential to understand how to offer punctual, precise support using the tree trunks. Holding each existing floating element in place like a made-to-measure scaffolding that stabilizes and makes the whole structure viable.



Unhousing

suggests a deliberate stepping away from the conventional idea of housing, what a house should look like, how it should function, and who or what it should serve. The central question that emerged throughout the process: where do we stop, and what are the limits? Depending on the structure, some spaces may lend themselves to more conventional, designed forms of living, while others do not require the same level of comfort. These alternative structures may offer different qualities and therefore suggest different uses, perhaps temporary ones, or even uses that are not intended for humans at all.



Temporality

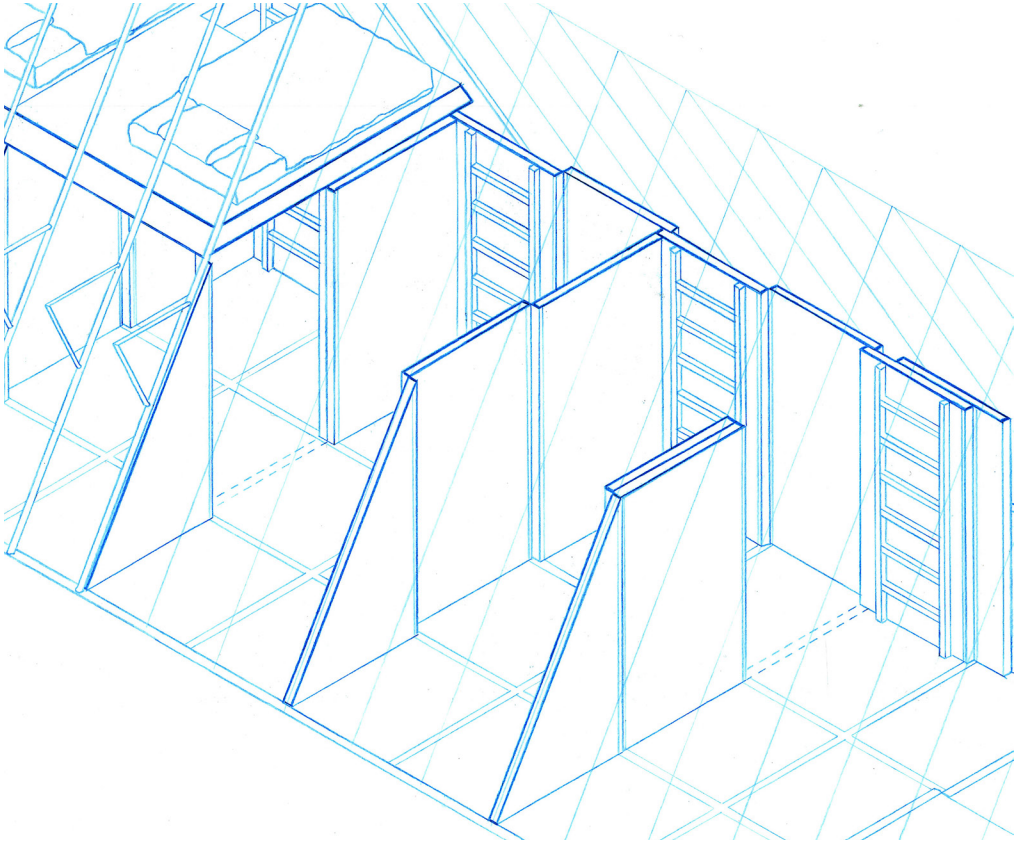
became a central theme on this site, requiring us to consider how each structure could respond to change rather than resist it. The triangular structure proposes a more perennial presence: a community monument that encloses the existing slope and earth, preserving the memory of the pollution endured and reminding us that transition does not need to erase history. In contrast, another structure functions as a ready-made element, stable yet movable, able to relocate as the community's needs evolve. The final structure remains intentionally open-ended, an ongoing exploration that embraces change and allows its users to shape its future form



Bruno Taut,
Katsura Rikyu, early 20th century, Kyoto

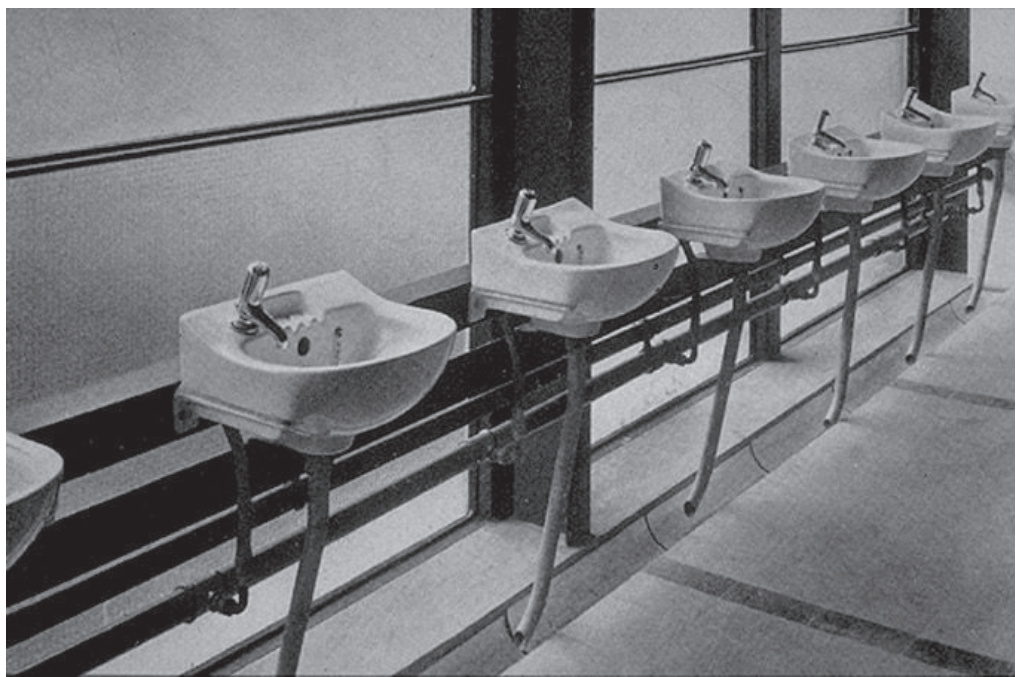
Slidings walls

In this project, sliding walls create an ambivalent space that allows users to choose whether to open or close the room. The lines on the floor follow the structure's grid and create an interesting interplay of space in which the eye is lost between the different surfaces.

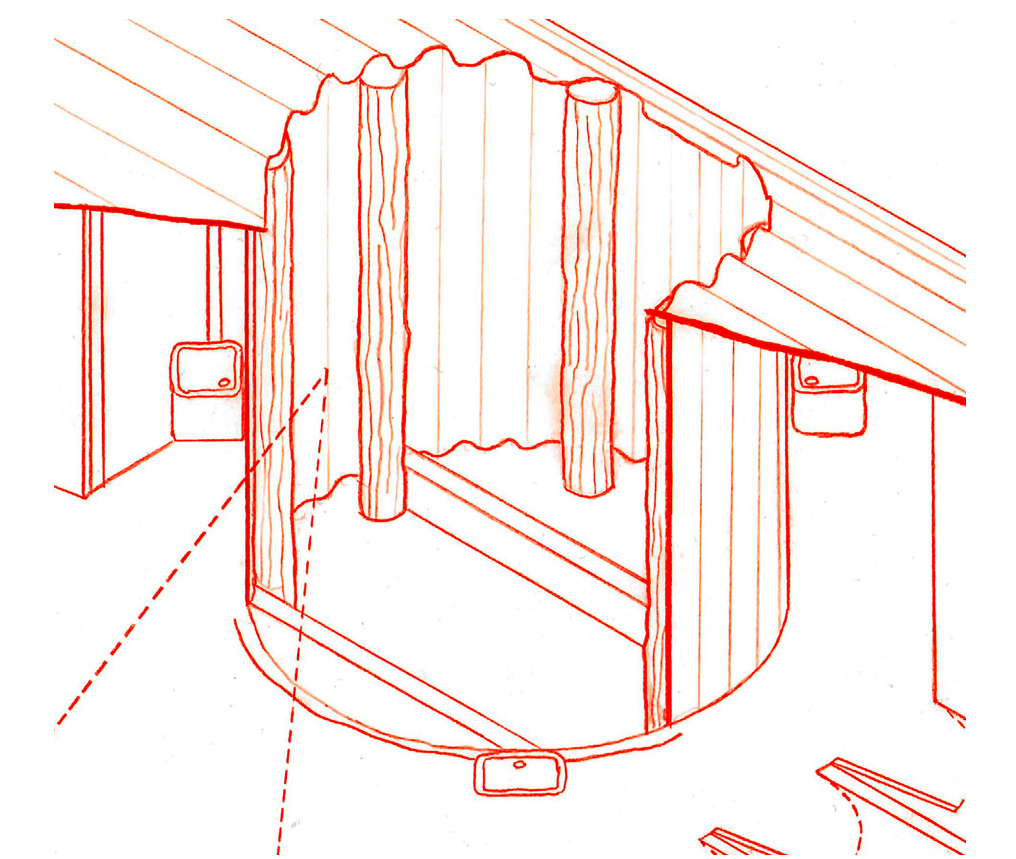


Multiple buildings

The house reinvents the traditional concept of the Japanese dwelling by distributing a group of independent volume. To maintain the morphology of the nearby context, instead of concentrating the program in a single volume, the space has been divided into autonomous units that generate between them small gardens and interconnected courtyards, which act as gathering spaces for tenants and enhance the sense of belonging to a community of neighbors.



Alison and Peter Smithson,
Hunstanton School, 1954, UK



Dry toilets

Dry toilets work by separating liquids from solids so that the excrement can be composted. Ventilation is necessary for the process to occur naturally. Once composted, the material is released into the environment.

