Floating mARkeT – Create, Produce, Eat, shop, meet & exchange ideas
Sustainable, Responsive Design

ARCH 4101 Topic Studio Fall 2018
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Premise

The mARkeT is a new public/private initiative to revive the vibrant heart of Savannah, Georgia. It provides a vision of sustainability, restoration and revitalization for the historic waterfront neighborhood of East River Street, which is currently a waterfront access hub for commuters, boaters, and tourists with foot traffic. The mARkeT will be an innovative public space where regional residents and tourists interact. It will promote a healthy interaction and living while participates in a sustainable regional discourse. mARkeT is a year-round hub for fresh food and culinary events, a daily market and community gathering place that celebrates Georgia’s abundance. The principal of this mixed-use project is to extend the Savannah fabric towards the water, defying the current barriers and creating continuous pedestrian connections and increased waterfront access. The addition of retail, and cultural, facilities will transform the waterfront area to an essential asset for the community and the city. The architecture will integrate contemporary and sustainability vision into both programming and public space.

Studio

The mARkeT plans to rise up and act as an icon for the waterfront district. It complements the vibrant interests, habits, and tastes of those who live in and visit Savannah. Visitors will immediately feel a central sense of place created by regional craft culture, local retail, art, and cultural activities that connect people and artists with their passions. With flexible outdoor spaces, retail, and stalls all designed with a careful eye on the preservation of the Georgia’s unique culture, will enhance the community’s access to the riverfront and enhance tourism. Each student will incorporate an ecological response to create a sustainable project. The Focus of studio is to Design a Sustainable Floating Market that revitalize the waterfront and promotes sustainability and responsive design.

Program

The primary program for the mARkeT is to develop a vibrant urban hub that accommodate gathering, exhibition, instructional, communal uses such as hosting food trucks, farmers’ market, vendors and small concerts. Open spaces will be designed with mix of landscape and hardscape for visual and functional appeal that balance Georgia historic and eclectic look. Required elements include indoor/outdoor transit lounge, café, market stalls of various scales and purposes (lunch stands, demonstration areas,...) spaces for small sit-down, truck lot and service spaces, a raised stage area, and a rooftop terrace with dramatic views to the river. Pedestrians and bikers will have access to a bridging platform from the riverfront walk, and sidewalks. Program challenges include questions regarding the nature of contemporary public space, various adjacencies between interior and exterior conditions, the organization and negotiation of multiple scales and proportions of space.

Site

The site is located on the River Street, which is a glittering, multi-faceted gem along the broad Savannah River. The century old buildings, once cotton warehouses, have been converted to antique shops,
distinctive boutiques, spectacular galleries, quaint brew pubs, fabulous restaurants, unique nightspots, elegant inns and hotels. Bustling with welcoming hospitality, it’s also the place to see Savannah from the river that made her by taking a cruise or watching ships from around the globe sail into one of the busiest ports in America. Address: 223 E River St, Savannah, GA 31401

The Challenge of the studio is to understand the contextual condition and find the best solution to address both typological, ecological, site, form and performance based issues.

[Method] The studio project will follow an iterative process. The methodology of the studio focuses precedents, program development to site planning to building design and tectonic resolution. The history of the urban market is rich and complex and the students are expected to responding to program and site, students will produce a schematic design, which will then become the vehicle through which issues such as tectonics, building envelope, and ecological issues will be explored. At each new stage in the project, new information will be generated and incorporated into the design, with the aim of resulting in a project that is well-developed both in concept and technical content.

[Evaluation] Studio consists of four reviews:
I: Precedent, Climatic analysis, Concept + site work – program and site analysis; pre-schematic design and form development.
II: Schematic Design: development of overall sustainability strategies based on an integrated design between site, building envelope and building systems using the developed form and architectural program.
III: Integrated design development: the development of tectonic solution and envelope details that are integral to the building form and architectural programs developed in the previous stages.
IV: Final review: Presentation of the one semester design and detail work.

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