

A slice of life.
new interpretation of the typical English residential lot

What is my gift for this part of Unbridge road and to people who live there?

I propose to "open" the ground floor of the existing building facing Unbridge Road with the introduction of a new public function related to art and I made Cowley Road closed to traffic while the access for cars is guaranteed from the back-street. This as a paradigmatic action for further and possible transformation of the borders of Unbridge Road, nowadays blocked by the opacity of the shops and the facades. The intention is to bring the street inside my site, through the existing building.

With the same intention of enlivening the pedestrian walkways I decided to extend the sidewalk on Cowley Road. So the ground becomes "one piece" and people walking down Unbridge Road will naturally turn into this retrained semiprivate space which is the "incipit" of a story. A story that takes place in a new sheltered residential complex.

My thesis wants to explore, verify and propose a new interpretation of the typical English residential lot, starting from the traces and the measures of the site.

My site-analysis started from the observation of the potential of the property walls and the existing gaps between each private house. Could those gaps might become a sort of visual-connections or pedestrian accesses? Could they become the rule of a new infiltration strategy?

So starting from these points, I tried to break the rigid pattern of the city which is a repetition of a flat sequence: green - building - green backyard.

The challenge of my project consists on the proposal of a residential complex that keeps the same qualities of the typical Georgian house but organized in a different way: a low rise-high density-complex that creates a form of urbanity reinterpreting the suburban way of living.

This means that I introduced the courtyards, the basements levels, the presence of the bricks, the research of a sort of bow window. But above all, I focused my attention on the definition of the boundary between the very private spaces and the very public ones by working the complex in section.

In detail, I considered crucial also the windows dimensions, thickness and position in order to give light and cut out the city at the same time.

I tried to image the atmosphere of the house and I designed the facade like a "collection of windows".

LET ENGLAND SHAKE

Architectural drawings showing a site plan, a perspective view of the building facade, and a section showing the internal structure and courtyard.

Architectural drawings including a detailed floor plan, a section, and a perspective view of a window detail.

Architectural drawings including a floor plan, a section, and a perspective view of the building facade.

Architectural drawings including a site plan, a perspective view of the building facade, and a section.

Architectural drawings including a floor plan, a section, and a perspective view of the building facade.

Architectural drawings including a large perspective view of the building facade and a section.