

Project statement

What is a house? and what is a home?

House is a physical manifestation of location.

Home is an emotional connection of belonging.

I think when we are talking about the icon of a city, it is important to connect the emotionality in our humanity. I think that it is most meaningful of an icon, which people may relate to. It should be an element which people can express their feelings, and which may stir their homesickness. Therefore, this icon should be something we may call home.

What is the future for this icon?

If there will be people shopping here;

If there will be people working here;

If there will be people growing up here;

What do they want?

From the articles provided, we understand that there are many plans currently underway. The residential, commercial, and other potential amenities, we should ask how may we connect everything together to form a sense of community.

What is the future of the river?

Guadalupe river is the lung of the city.

As she is going through revitalization, we need to bring back a sense of connection between the community and nature again. Nature is not something to be viewed from afar; and, humans are not outsiders on this earth. In order to have a lasting relationship with the river, we need to bring her into our daily routine.

We need to hear the flow of water while listening to our radio and podcast.

We need to smell the freshness of the stream while sharing the dinner with families.

We need to see the sparkle of the spring while looking into the concrete jungle beyond.

Hence, I think that we should incorporate the potential future of the surrounding, and ingesting multiplicity of mundane daily life.

A public gym, where everyone may access with a reasonable fee.

A public library, where people may have a place to seat and mingle.

A community center, where people may gather and share.

A park, where our animal friends may run and enjoy.

Through different programs, we may bring the river back to the everyday.

People may run tracks around the river.

People may dine on the bench sided by the river.

People may simply walk by the river.

I think a central park along the river is the best example of this vision, where the river is not just a nature to be preserved, but a place where people grow up.