MAP OF ROSEMONT
1 : 1500

While environmental education programs have historically been conducted in both urban and rural contexts, today the stimulation and educational resources that can be found in urban settings outside school buildings are often overlooked. A city like Montreal offers a wealth of objects, peers, skill opportunities and informal educators, but they mostly remain isolated from schoolchildren by distance, the enclave nature of institutional schools, and cultural norms that restrict autonomy from children as subjects unfit to traverse the "dangerous city" on their own.

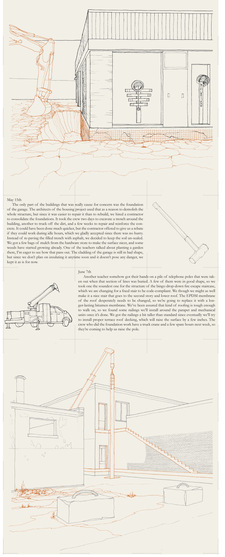
The project puts forth the neighborhood of Rosemont as the locus for an "exploding school" of the Smutwonk framework, modelled by Gaba Ward and Anthony Fyson. The proposed installation, making use of a recently vacated building in the underdeveloped East end of the busy Masson Street, is one shoot of an educational rhizome--a place chosen not to be a container for education, but restricted as a knot where a multiplicity of learning paths are bound together. Working as an access-point to existing community networks like the citizen-organized studio ecoles, and situated near the existing overflowing public schools, the project offers itself as a waystation for those on different educational journeys in, along, and beyond the city itself. They may learn from studying their environment that any built fabric is malleable, and not an immutable reality.

"The fruit-and-snakes model of place" Tim Ingold, Lines: A Brief History, 2007, p. 78

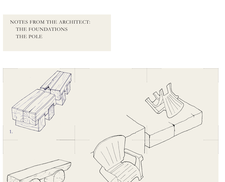
"Place as a knot of entangled lifelines" Tim Ingold, Lines: A Brief History, 2007, p. 78

Hecate of the both-hinged double-spiral Ursula K. le Guin, Always Coming Home, 1985

It Takes a City



May 15th
The only part of the buildings that was really risen: for contours was the foundation of the garage. The settlement of the housing project used that as a reason to demolish the garage and build a new one, which would be the first step in the construction process to consolidate the foundations. It took the crew two weeks to excavate a trench around the building, another to truck off the dirt, and a few weeks to repair and reinforce the foundation walls. Because the garage was built into the hillside, it was necessary to dig down to it if they could work during the heavy, which we gladly accepted since there was no heating forecast of an opening the filled trench with asphalt, we decided to keep the soil on-sided. We had to remove a couple of trees, but we planned to replace them with new saplings. Maybe even a couple of extra. Already I have the trees in mind: where planting and where not to plant them, I'm eager to see how that pans out. The cladding of the garage is still in bad shape, but since we don't plan on insulating it anytime soon and it doesn't pose any danger, we hope it as it is for now.



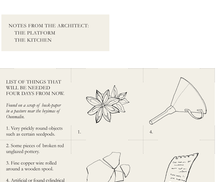
June 7th
Another teacher somehow got their hands on a pile of telephone poles that were taken down from the neighborhood when they switched to buried lines. We decided to work into the retaining wall on the downhill side for the extension of the longe-drop down the coupe staircase, which we are changing for a fixed seat to be scale-compliant. We thought we might as well do it now, since we're already digging and have the poles on hand. We had a couple of the steel sleepersonly made to be changed, so we're going to replace it with a less gas-heating-luxuries-membrane. We've been assured that kind of sealing is tough enough for the job, but we'll see. Also, we've been told that the poles are treated with arsenic, so extra extra extra if it rains. We got to the bottom of the retaining wall, which is 12x taller than standard and was actually well by a small pooper tonnes roof shelving, which will raise the outlets by a few inches. The pooper is also getting a new seat, which will be made of extra and a few spare boards were ready, so they're coming to help us raise the pole.

NOTES FROM THE ARCHITECT:
THE FOUNDATIONS
THE POLE

AXONOMETRIC VIEW OF BASECAMP
1 : 150

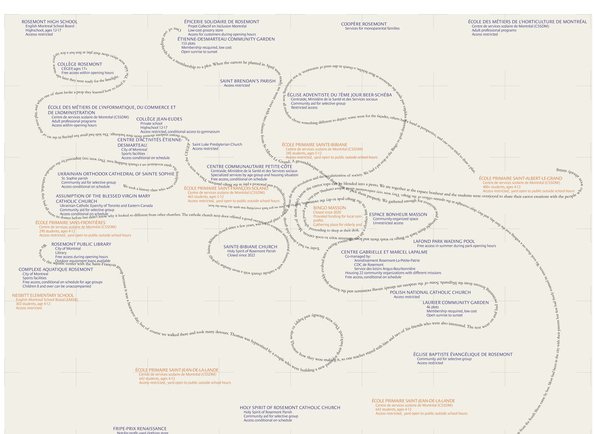
EQUIPMENT FOR A DAY PACKAGE
IN SUNNY AUTUMN

October 30th
The rotunnet is well under way and the first raising-bees have existing to on the knee. With the foundations and roofing repairs done, and the new rotunnet installed, most of the interior is unfinished. We kept all the tables, chairs, and cabinets, but the kitchen was equipped to prepare dish-sanitarities and promise for large patrons, not to teach children how to cook. The first priority was to add a sink and a stove, which we found in the basement of the old school. The sink was cleaned and had to be thrown out. Luckily several parents had a stove in storage and offered it. We received two stoves, enough kitchen racks and utensils to almost fill up the ample storage space. Unfortunately, we were unable to find a refrigerator, so we'll have to make do with ice. In the interior we ran down parts of the wall to expose the brick and wood beams. Where old counters installed, all that's left now is a neat covering made to gather all the appliances and sink. We also built a small platform in the corner for the reading nook. Although it's small, the room can withstand 8x, but it is more than good enough for one or two classroom's worth of students to crash their own food and teach each other recipes.



NOTES FROM THE ARCHITECT:
THE PLATFORM
THE KITCHEN

PLACES IN THE CITY WHERE STUDENTS MIGHT SIT



SCHOOLS AND EDUCATION RESOURCES IN ROSEMONT
1 : 5000

NOTES FROM THE ARCHITECT:
THE PLATFORM
THE KITCHEN

LIST OF THINGS THAT WILL BE NEEDED FOUR DAYS FROM NOW

Found on a single sheet of hand-paper in a footer near the Avenue of Chestnuts.

1. Very prickly sound-objects such as certain seedpods.

2. Some pieces of broken red unglazed pottery.

3. Fine copper wire wiked around a wooden spool.

4. Artificial or found cylindrical objects with at least one flared end, not pierced.

5. Writing or markings of ink on thick paper.

6. Small disks that reflect light.

7. Chia seeds, or dead ants.

8. A young donkey.

9. Rain.

Ursula K. Le Guin, *Always Coming Home*, 1985.

INITIATION SONG FROM THE FINDERS LODGE

Please bring strange things.
Please come bringing new things.
Let very old things come into your hands.
Let what you do not know come into your eyes.
Let down your hands and hasten your feet.
Let the arch of your feet be the mountains.
Let the paths of your fingertips be your maps
and the ways you go be the lines on your palms.
Let there be deep snow in your sidewalking
and your outbreath be the shining of sea.
May your mouth contain the shapes of unsung words.
May you smell food cooking you have not eaten.
May the spring of a foreign river be your navel.
May your soul be at home where there are no houses.

Walk carefully, well loved one,
walk mindfully, well loved one,
walk fearlessly, well loved one.

Return with us, return to us,
be always coming home.

Ursula K. Le Guin, *Always Coming Home*, 1985.

A NOTE AND A POEM GATHERED FROM UTOPIA