

Annotating design solutions

Annotating design solutions is the best way to generate a deeper understanding of design, specifically, designs which relate to your own project or task.



Step 1. Identify and describe the audience the purpose of the design is and the context.

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Step 2. Analyse what decisions the designer made in response to the above. Consider both aesthetic and functional decisions.

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Step 3. Evaluate the effectiveness of these decisions and identify areas for improvement or expansion.



To describe the audience, you will need to identify the:

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demography (i.e. their Age, location, economic status, gender)

Habits (i.e. What they do and when they do it)

Mindsets (i.e. What and how they think)

Values (i.e. What they find important)



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To describe the context, you will need to identify the:

Where (i.e. where will the design appear)

When (i.e. When will people see the design. If it is a past design, what was the era?)



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To describe the purpose, you will need to identify the:

Broader purpose (i.e. the chair is designed to sit on)

Niche purpose (i.e. the chair is designed to provide lightweight, low cost, easy to clean, ergonomic seating that appeals to its audience and suits its context.)



Step 2. Analyse what decisions the designer made in response to the above. Consider both aesthetic and functional decisions.

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Consider how the designer has employed the design elements, principles, methods, media and materials in order to respond to the purpose, function and context.

Use the Cheatsheet for definitions:

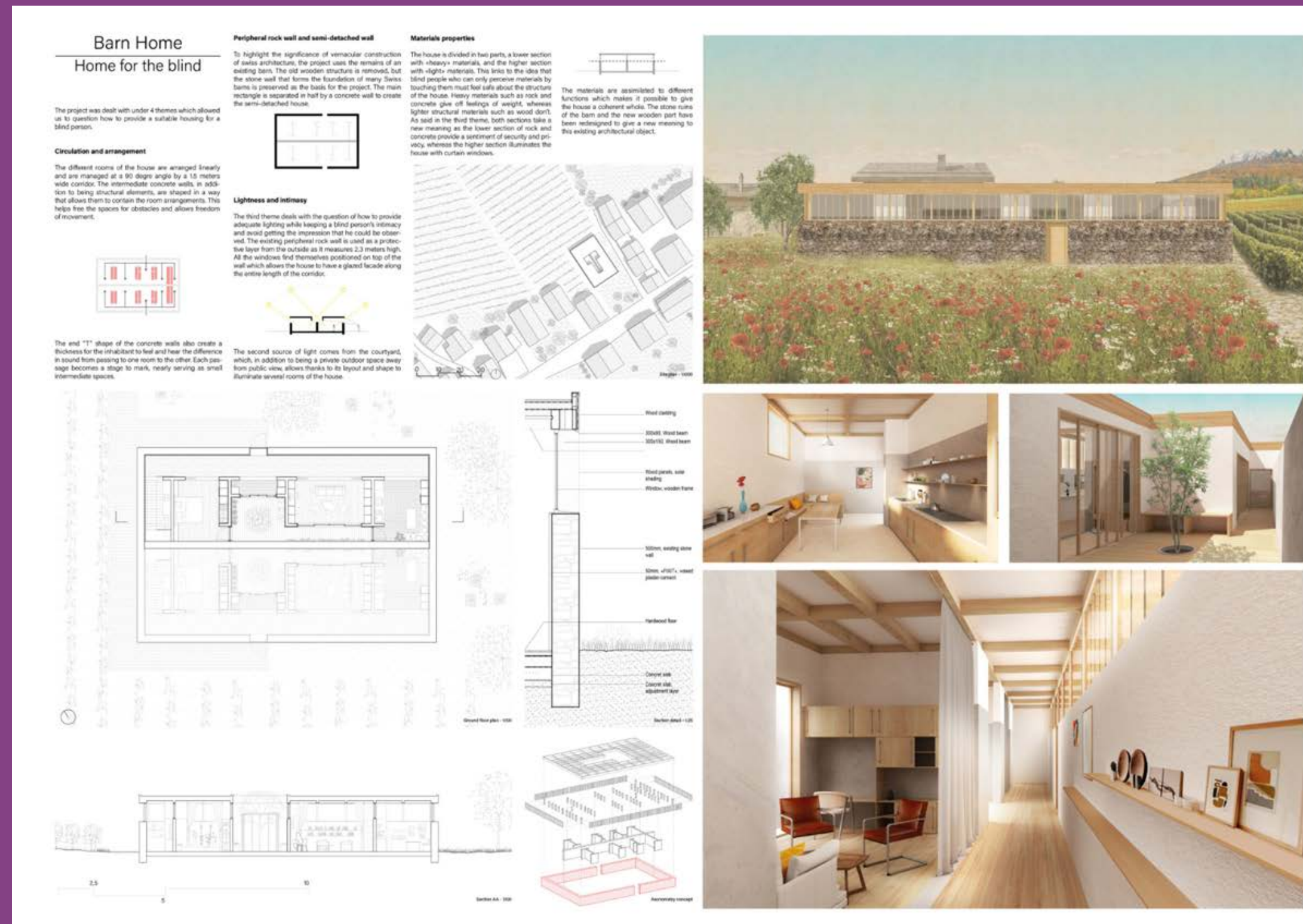
<https://damienlees.com.au/vcd/cheatsheet/new/>



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Evaluate whether the design would appeal to the audience, whether it serves it's purpose effectively and whether it appropriately responds to its context.

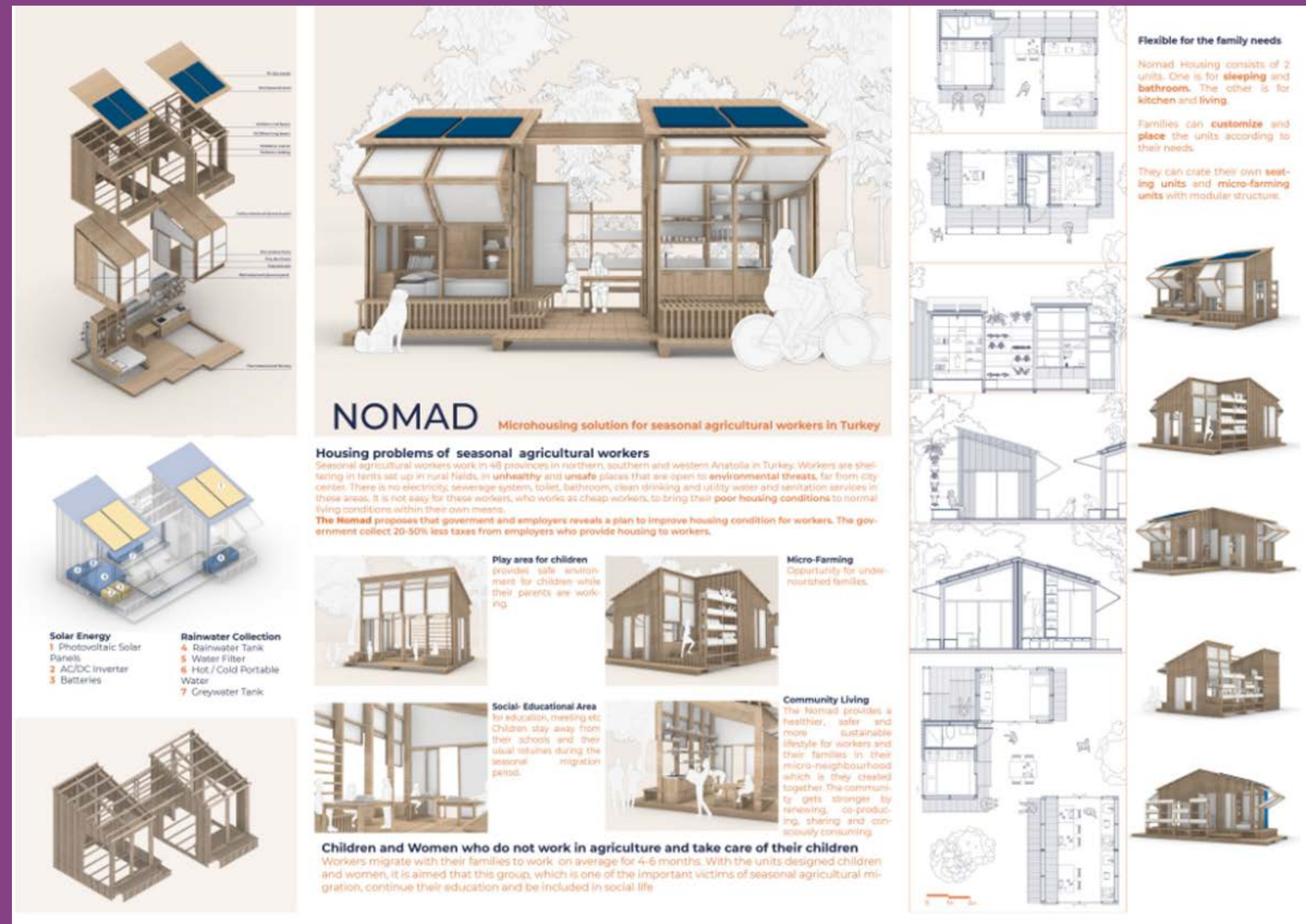


This poster is designed to raise awareness for depression among children up to 18 years of age. The poster appears in a metropolitan context at a large scale, where there is a high pedestrian traffic.

Focus on audience

The audience for this home is those with significant vision impairments. In response to this, the designer has produced a simplistic, open floorplan, with the incorporation of a long, wide, straight hall of which all rooms adjoin. This allows the residents to navigate their home safely, unencumbered by obstacles. Further to this, the incorporation of railing along the side of the hall assists in providing a physical guide.

<https://architecturecompetitions.com/blindhome/>

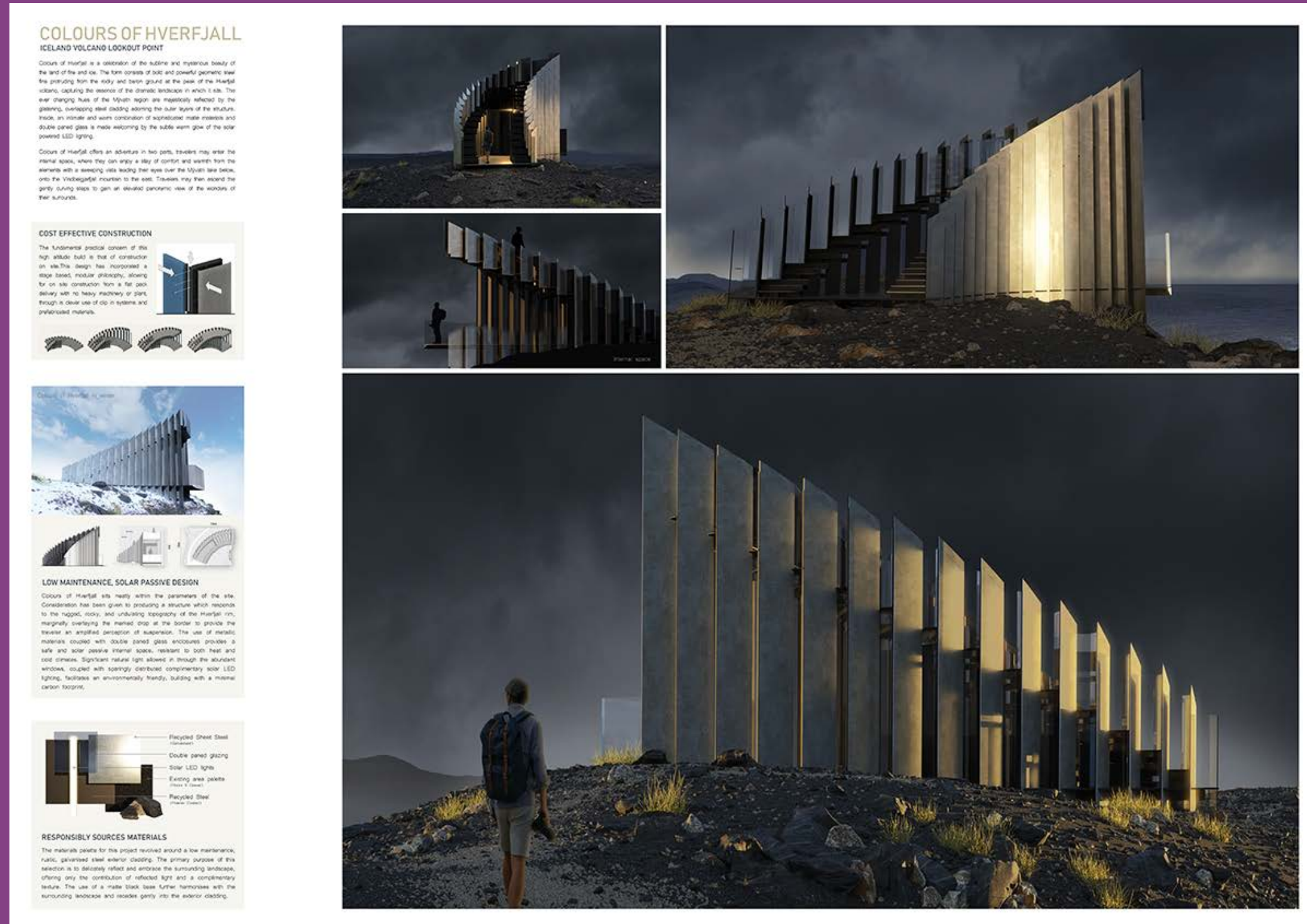


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Focus on Purpose

The purpose of this home is to provide safe and private accommodation for seasonal agriculture workers in Turkey. In response to this purpose, the designer has elected to use a series of lightweight, low cost timbers to comprise a lightweight, simple frame which can be easily assembled and disassembled in response to the fluctuating

<https://architecturecompetitions.com/microhome4/>



This poster is designed to raise awareness for depression among children up to 18 years of age. The poster appears in a metropolitan context at a large scale, where there is a high pedestrian traffic.

Focus on Context

The context of this environment design is that of the remote, rocky volcanic lands of Hverfjall in Iceland. This area is a popular tourist destination due to its rugged and picturesque natural landscapes. This design seeks to respond to this context through the incorporation of bold steel pillars in the outer shell, which celebrate the rugged nature of the surrounds, further, the pillars are reflective so to reflect the natural beauty of its surrounds. The gently curved, ascending form mimics the sloping landscape of the volcano in which it sits.

architecturecompetitions.com/icelandvolcanolookoutpoint/