

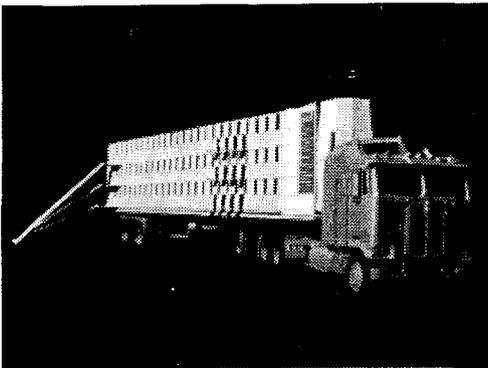
A Shelter for Strays

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model: view of expanded compartment



model: view of cat shelters



model: view of human shelters

THE SHELTER

A mobile home for 72 stray cats and six homeless people is proposed. This structure can be delivered to various sites and remains attached to the frame of a trailer. In this case the site is Rome and its ruins. By choosing the Rome drawn by Piranesi, we wished to emphasize the possibility of restoration and permanence, which we argue this might achieve by inviting the interaction of the temporarily lost.

Homeless people, detached from the moorings of conventional society, will be asked to care for the stray cats attracted to this structure: to its warmth and food. Thus the flotsam of a careless society can, if they choose, begin again to forge the ties that may enable their re-enfranchisement. The project is thus an allegory of responsibility - both of society for its members, human and animal, and of the value of responsibility in their reorientation.

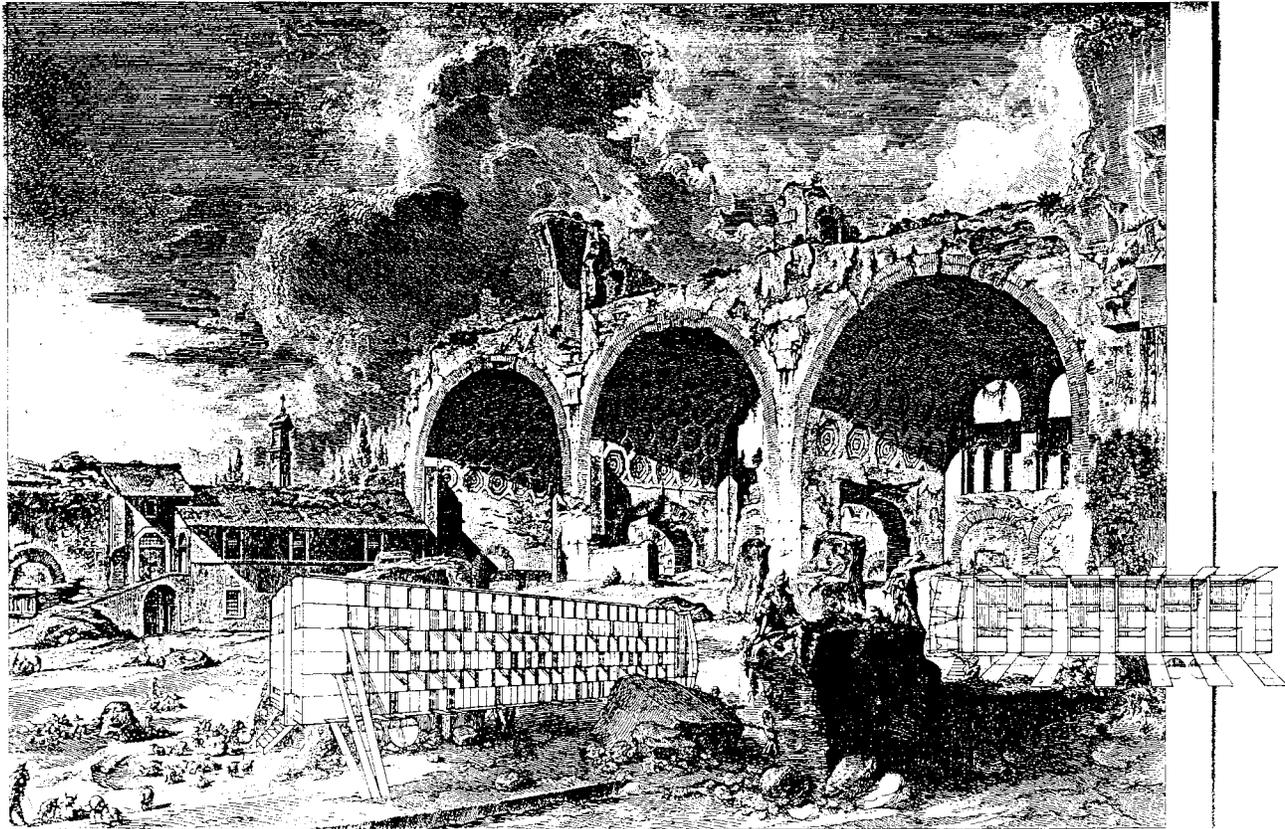
THE STRUCTURE

On the trailer are compartments in which stray cats may shelter. The compartment has two doors, one leading from the out-of-doors and one into the rooms where humans will live. The outer doors of the cats' rooms flip down to become perches. On the other side of the flat-bed are compartments for people. In each are twelve doors from the cats' rooms. These rooms have flip-down beds and sinks. The room expands when the structure is not moving, increasing the interior length from two to three meters. A panel in the outer wall pivots to become a table and opens the room to the exterior.

Separating the feline shelter and that of the newly housed inhabitants is a thick wall in which run all services, including heating pipes which warm the wall which, in turn, warms the rooms. The living units are bracketed by the principal service elements of the project: bathrooms and mechanical equipment at the front end of the trailer-bed, and a storage and food/water service module to the rear. A public telephone is also located here.

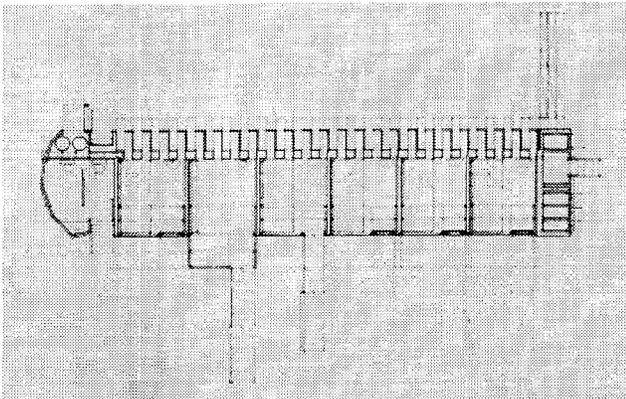
THE CITY

The party wall building; residential housing of the insulae and post-war apartment blocks; porches and street edges: the types and forms of the city are reiterated, blurred together, in this particular location (for these shelters are themselves itinerant and universal) with the city's long layered history. Inhabiting this structure is a first return to the fabric of the city.



VEDUTA DEGLI AVANZI DEL FIANCO DELLA CASA AUREA DI NERONE, DETTI VOLGARMENTE IL TEMPIO DELLA PACE
veduta del programma, la parte opposta del Tibere - *St. Anselmo, il Museo del ...*

above two shelters in the forum



above: plan
 right: exploded isometric
 below: section

