RE - TIRE - TENT



The concept of our design focuses on adaptive reuse ("AR"). In the practice of architecture, adaptive reuse refers to the process of reusing an old site, building, or recycled materials for a purpose(s) that may be different then original use.

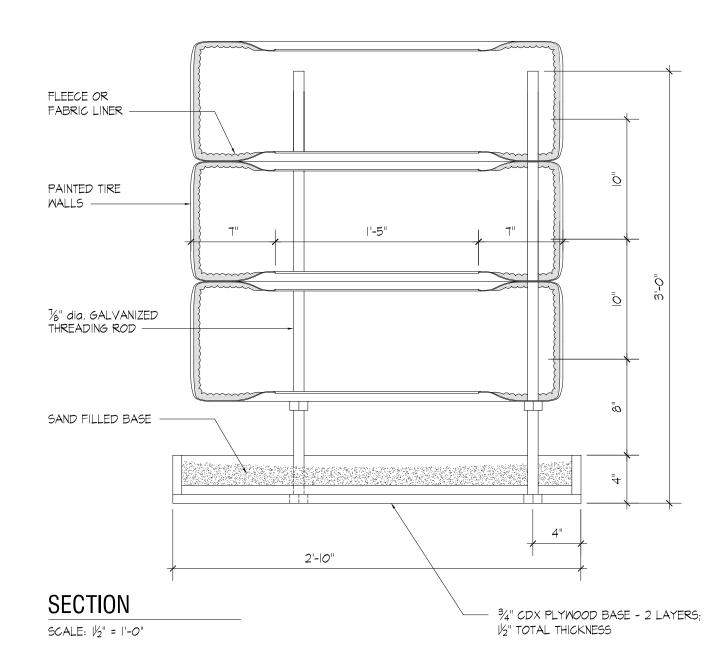
Throughout the design process, we continually challenged ourselves to identify materials that were deemed waste items to use as functional components of our assembly. During this investigation we discovered that the inner profile of a tire was a perfect fit for a cat.

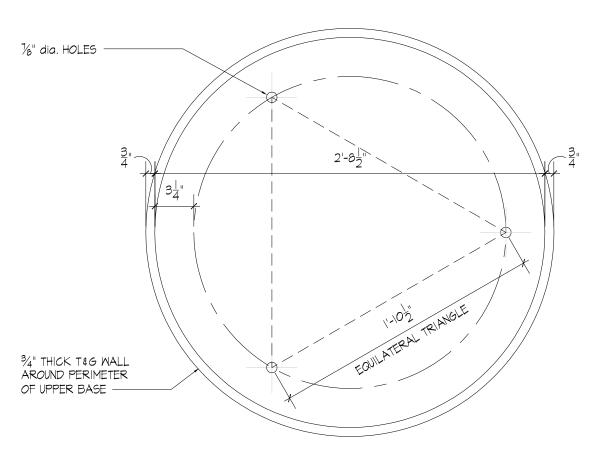
So it became, that the main body of the dwelling is made up of old tires. In this prototype 3 tires are assembled and elevated above a base in order to allow access from below while shielding from harsh elements. The inner channels of the tires can be lined with a variety of materials to provide our feline friends with a comfortable resting surface while adding another layer of insulation. Also, we envision collaborating with local artists, schools, retirement homes to paint, decorate or whatever their vision is, so these dwellings become a more interesting and appropriate urban element.

The elevated tires sit over a base primarily comprised of scrap wood taken from a jobsite dumpster. Threaded rods, which are fastened through the base, act as the main supports for the structure.

The canopy was designed with several key principles in mind: providing a barrier from the elements, preventing heat loss, and sound attenuation. So in keeping with the spirit of "AR" we decided to use umbrellas. We can foresee drop off bins that frustrated and wet users dump their broken umbrellas into. The first umbrella was fixed in the open position and the shaft removed. We then took the fabric from a second umbrella and sewed it to the underside of the first. Straw was used to fill the space between the two layers. The result is a waterproof canopy with insulating and sound attenuating properties.

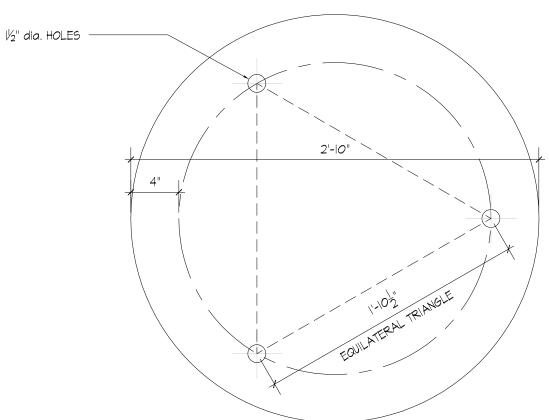
Built for a material cost of less than \$150.00, we see this dwelling as an economical and viable solution towards creating a protective environment for our homeless friends.





UPPER BASE

SCALE: $|V_2|' = |V_2|'$



LOWER BASE

SCALE: 1/2" = 1'-0"

