THE PETITE SUITE

As we considered typical sites around town and found how common it was to have a detached garage or shed. Many of these structures appear to be suitable for an ADU conversion so we continued to refine the idea. In situations where these garages or sheds back up to an alley they could become very successful ADU's providing a private entrance away from the primary residence thus allowing for fully separate long term or short-term living situations.

The Petite Suite concept centers on the connection with the outdoor spaces to promote communal living and socialization. By proposing an open floor plan and floor to ceiling doors, we are connecting to the exterior landscape and capturing the sense of larger interior space. The center structure serves as a partition between private and public space, having the horizontal murphy bed-desk on one side and a couch backdrop on the other. Its effect is mirrored on the division of the bathroom and the kitchen nook, keeping both accessible from either space. The design achieves the balance of natural light by bringing light into the structure from all directions, including the use of tubular skylights as a cost effective and maintenance efficient alternative to regular skylights.

To preserve affordability, the project proposes the reuse of the existing garage shell, the integration of energy-efficient appliances, LED lights, tubular skylights, low-flow shower heads and toilets. Along with vegetable garden beds, served by a rainwater barrel collection system. The design takes advantage of the existing structure by utilizing the same footprint and concrete slab, locating the bath-kitchen nook addition at the existing garage door opening.

The Petite Suite is committed to providing accessible and inclusive design for all individuals by integrating universal design principles into the floor plan, furniture, and cabinetry. The kitchen layout proposes knee clearance for sinks and stoves, accessible appliances, a single lever faucet and lower counter heights. As well as pull-down shelves, pull-out drawers for accessible storage, providing comfortable restocking and perusing. The project proposes a wet room as a roll-in shower-bathroom combination, featuring toilet grab bars and sink with knee clearance.