

Soft Housing

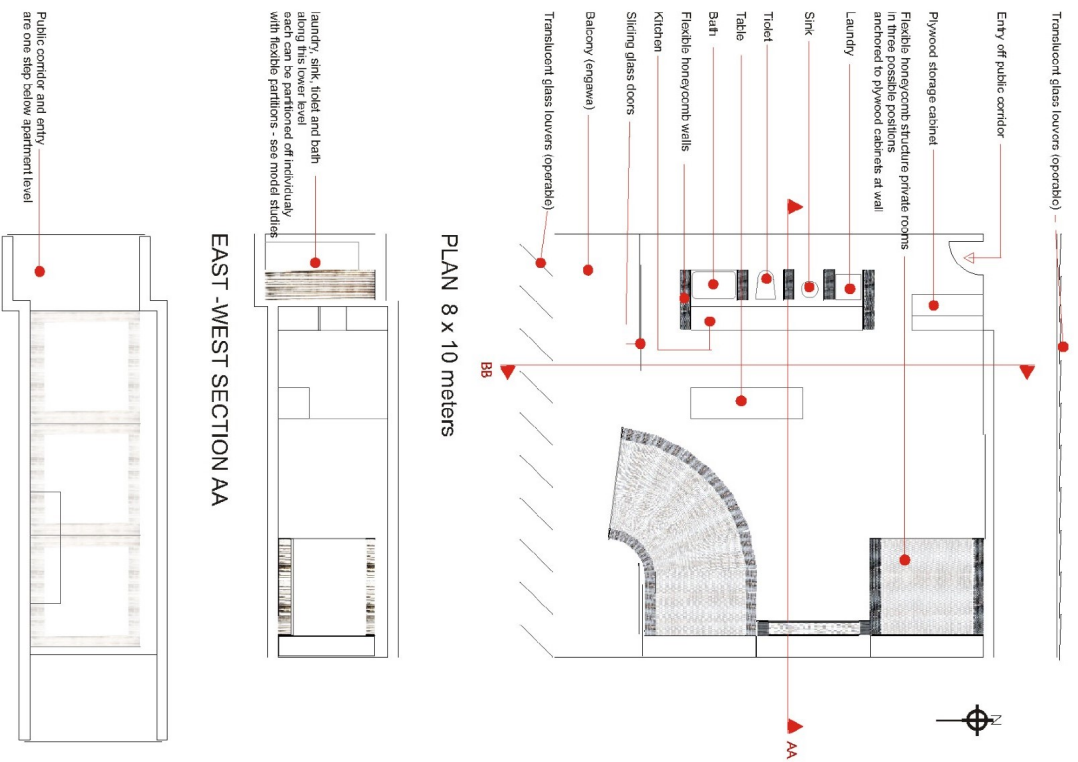
FORSYTHE + MAC ALLEN DESIGN

Soft House is a flexible, honeycomb structure, textile housing system. Private rooms for sleep, study or play are prefabricated from essentially one material, a soft, translucent, nonwoven textile. The main idea of soft housing is to provide a flexible, relationship between private rooms and the open gathering space of the family or household. The flexible honeycomb structure allows rooms and walls to open in a variety of ways or fold away when not in use, giving space back to the open living/working area of the house. The textile honeycomb structure also makes the most of the acoustic dampening properties of the textile and it's soft tactility. There is an abstract sculptural quality to the Soft Wall system that can transform a domestic environment into a place of work, study or a world of pure imagination in the hands of a child.



With the Soft House concept we are creating spaces that offer individual privacy without completely removing the presence of the individual from the family realm.

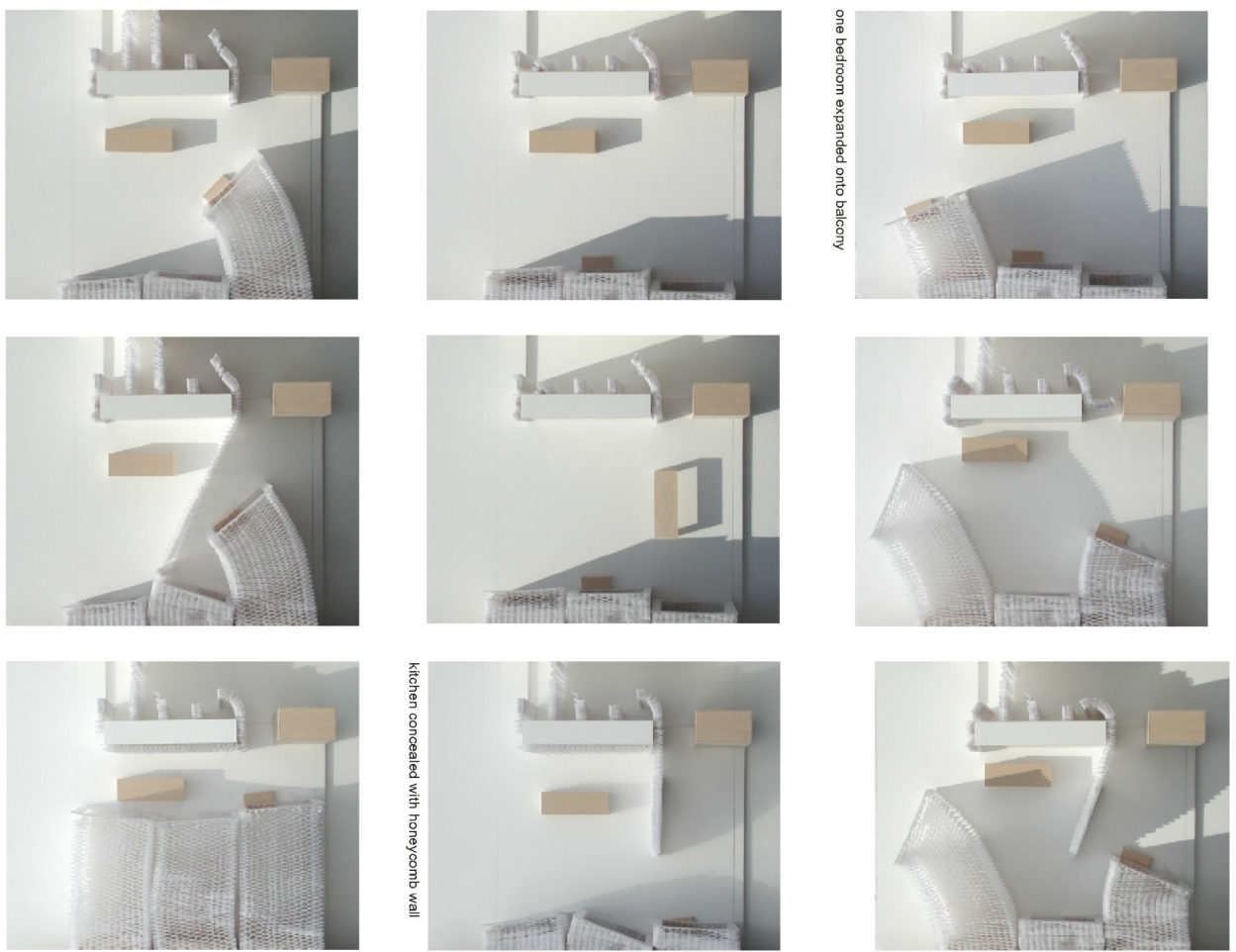
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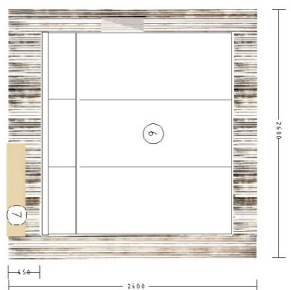
Public corridor and entry are one step below apartment level

The combination of an open plan together with the Soft Walls and Soft Rooms, allows for making the most of space energy and material resources. The flexibility of the system supports diversity in ways of living, working and definitions of family.

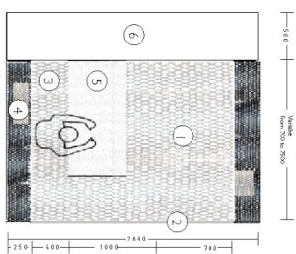
Three Soft Room/bed room Apartment Plan - ariel views of model showing space transformations



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Private Room Section

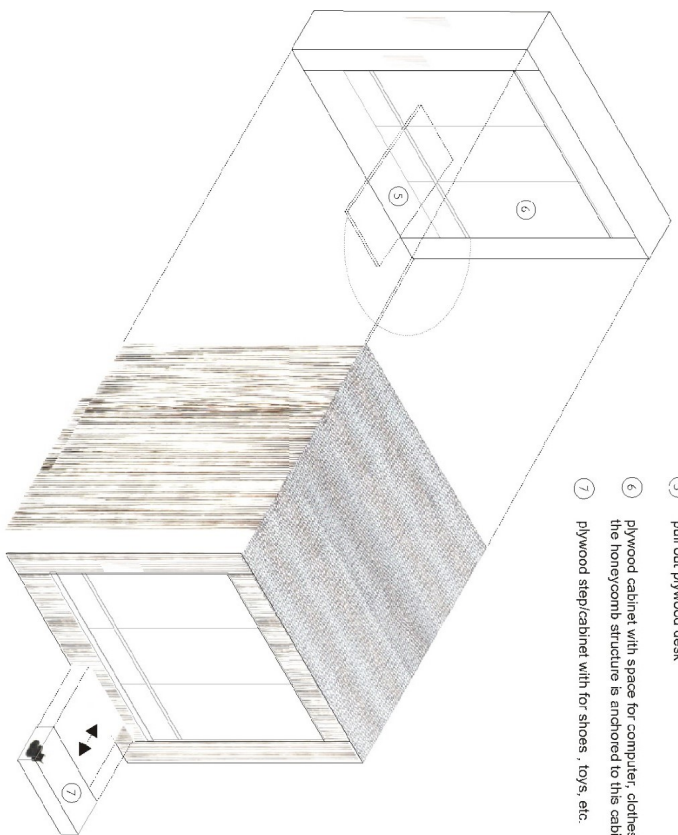


Private Room Plan



Unit Plan squeezed

- ① integral bed; futon or thin foam mattress rests on honeycomb structure
- ② facing panel of rigid honeycomb with sliding/ folding door
- ③ integral lounger (chair)
- ④ niches and alcoves; storage which can be cut into walls, under bed, and under lounger
- ⑤ pull out plywood desk
- ⑥ plywood cabinet with space for computer, clothes, toys... the honeycomb structure is anchored to this cabinet
- ⑦ plywood step/cabinet with for shoes, toys, etc.



Axonometric of flexible honeycomb structure bedroom



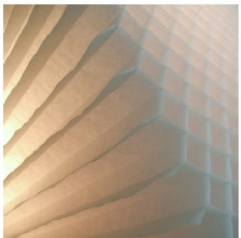
bedrooms and partition walls can be opened freely in any direction



Blankets of honeycomb tissue being opened up into walls - full size material explorations



Light transmittance and soft touch
Water/sain resistant, air permeable
Recyclable



Integral lighting/luminosity



Sound and light absorbed within cells



Shape memory



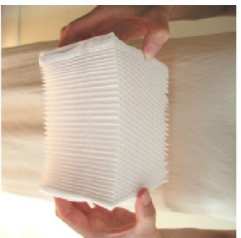
Resistance to tearing and puncture



Lightweight - less material for structure



Contracting



Expanding



Flexibility

We are essentially inventing or engineering the material for Soft House together with the technical expertise of a nonwoven textile manufacturer and honeycomb fabricators.

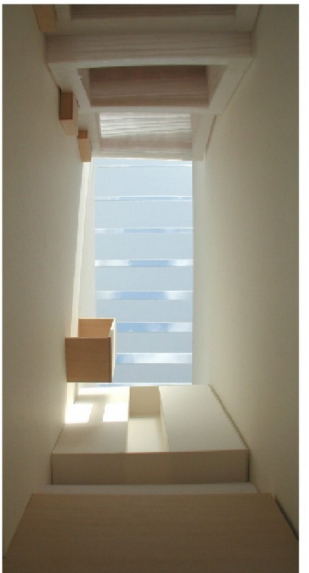
The material is being designed to be:

- Nonwoven, paper-thin type of textile
- Permanently flame retardant
- UV resistant
- Chemically resistant to cleaners, food, beverages and body fluids
- 100 % recyclable and made with recycled content
- Good acoustical absorption
- Water repellent yet vapor permeable
- Waterproof fibers
- Lightweight
- Strong, resistance to tearing, puncture and abrasion
- Good compressive strength when fabricated into honeycomb structure
- Good shear strength at joints when fabricated into honeycomb structure
- White, slightly translucent to absorb sunlight and give off a soft glow
- Soft and/or smooth to the touch
- Hypoallergenic
- Low linting, Economical

Full-size mock-up of honeycomb structure using tissue paper



child's room fanned open like a tent onto the balcony



view from inside bedroom



view of family gathering space with table , kitchen is covered with one of the honeycomb walls.

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