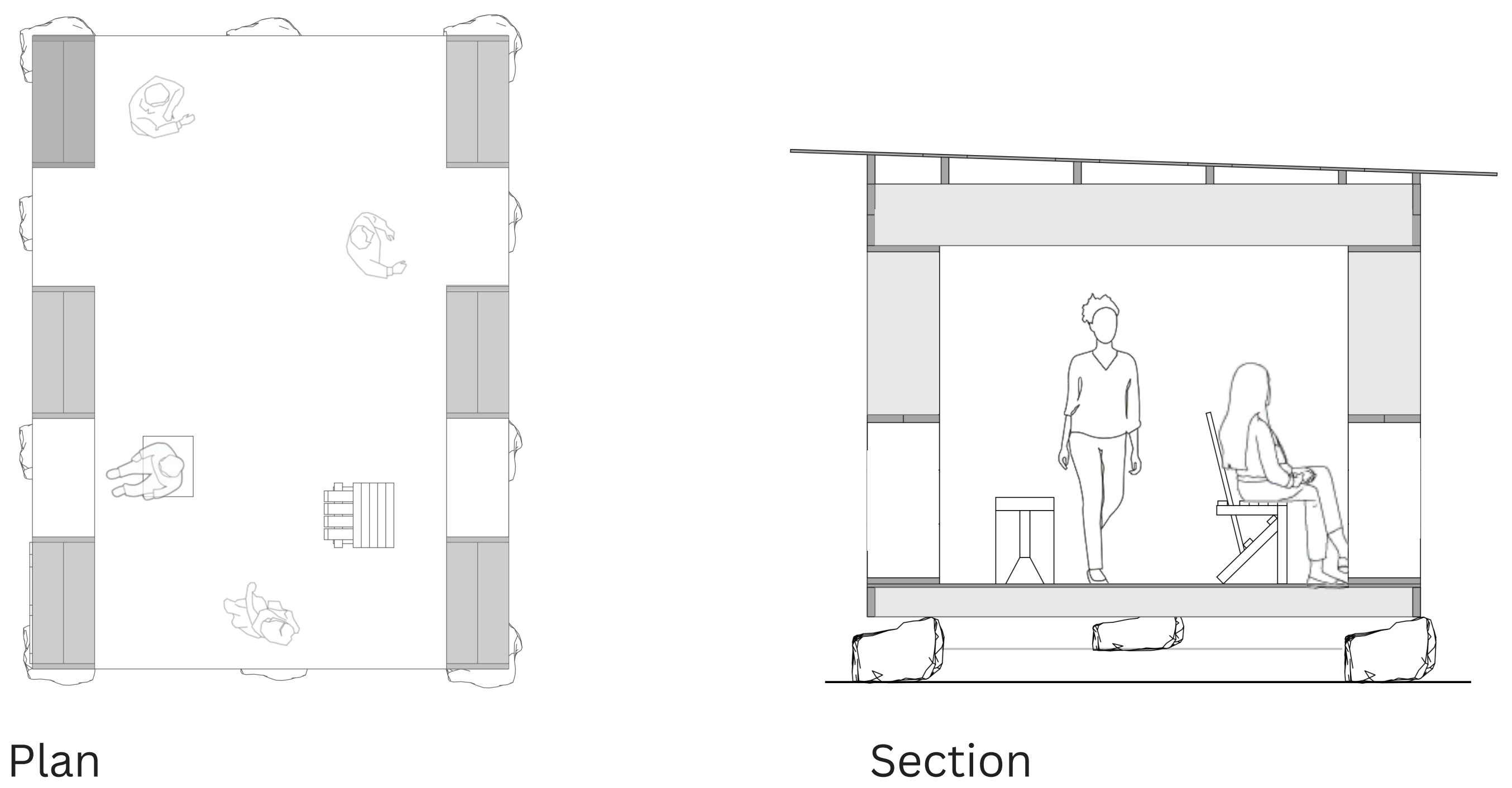


High/Low Impact Strawbale Pavilion



Why we are passionate about Live Projects

Expanding on architectural education, students co-designed and co-constructed this pavilion as part of our Live Projects Programme to provide a deeper understanding of the complex relationships between spatial, environmental, economic, political and social factors in connection with our lived experience. There is the possibility for practical and tangible outcomes, which can be communicated to a wide range of audiences in an engaging way whilst promoting authentic learning. Live Projects promote an understanding of complex relationships of stakeholders and introducing novel ways of practice whilst being useful, applied and with specific project outcomes as well as action research.

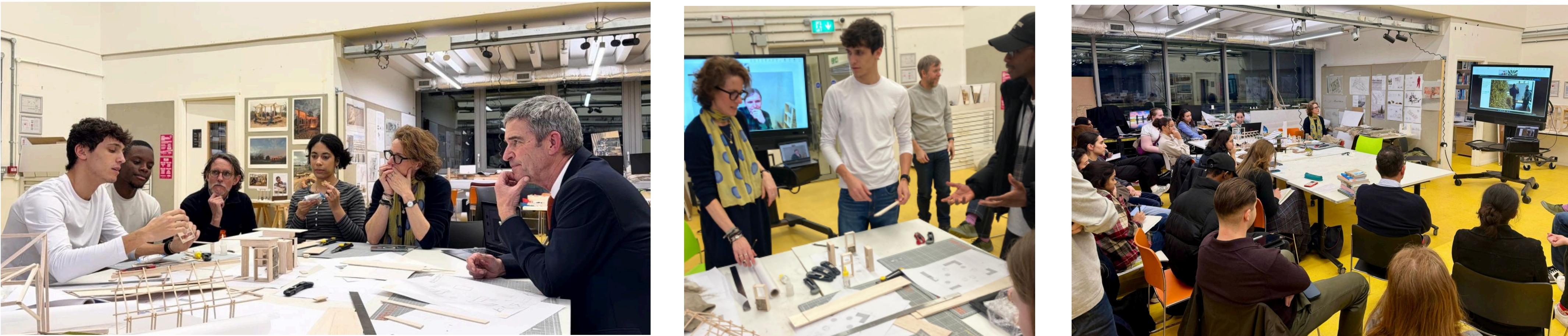
"Embodied knowledge challenges the traditional view of knowledge as purely mental and abstract. It highlights the inseparable connection between the body, the mind, and the environment in shaping how we learn, perceive, and understand the world." M.K.

This is a bio-based experimental Live Project Pavilion co-designed and co-constructed with staff and students from the School of Architecture+Cities of the University of Westminster led by Maria Kramer and funded by CETI with thanks to our partners: LiveProjectsPractice, Room 102 ltd, Mark Rowe (less.eco), Michael Buchert (Bauwende), Steve Webb (WebbYates Engineers), Nicholas Alexander, The Stone Masonry Company, Margent Form, Harrow Estate Team; Part of LFA (London Festival of Architecture);

"Education is about the production of agency...This is a call for co-created, collectively managed cities."
Alicia Pivaro

We champion the research value of Live Design Projects as a way of engagement, exploring change and promoting immersive and new ways to generate knowledge. We introduce new ways of working collaboratively and take our multidisciplinary skills within academia and use these to have a positive impact on society whilst introducing students and staff to alternative practice.

"The university can - and should - act as a civic catalyst and anchor." Maria Kramer



Corrugated Hemp Roof Panels

Corrugated hemp roof panels are lightweight, durable, and made from rapidly renewable natural fibres "fusing high-performance engineering with natural intelligence." Hemp has a much lower carbon footprint than conventional roofing material absorbs CO₂ as it grows, making these panels a sustainable alternative that combines strength, insulation, and environmental performance. With thanks to Margent Form.

StrawBale Walls

The walls are made out of straw bales, which is a net-positive, carbon-sequestering material that is fire-certified, low-cost, rodent- and insect-resistant, and capable of multi-storey construction. Straw, an agricultural by-product requiring no extraction and minimal processing, regulates humidity, supports healthy indoor environments and returns to the earth at end-of-life. The pavilion will provide a space to experience straw-bale construction firsthand.

Stone Foundations

Stone has a far lower carbon footprint than concrete because it requires minimal processing and avoids cement production, a major source of CO₂ emissions. It is also naturally stronger and more durable than concrete, allowing structures to last for centuries with minimal environmental impact.

Design Ideation

Walls are made out of straw bales, which is a net-positive, carbon-sequestering material that is fire-certified, low-cost, rodent- and insect-resistant, and capable of multi-storey construction.