

CONVERGENCE

SUBMITTED BY:

OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY

DESIGN TEAM:

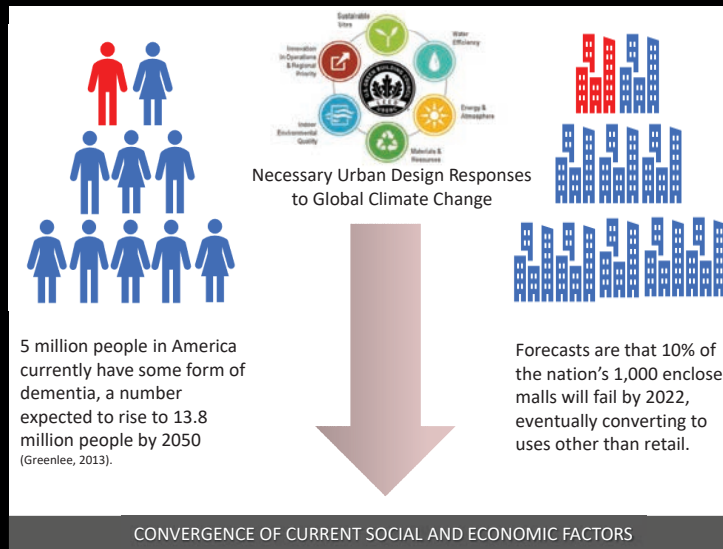
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THE CONCEPT:

Currently 5.4 million Americans have some form of dementia and these numbers will rise in the coming decades, leading to an unprecedented demand for memory care housing and services. At the same time, consumer spending habits are changing, and forecasts show that 10% of U.S. indoor malls will fail by 2022, eventually converting to uses other than retail. As a creative option to create more autonomy and better quality of life in dementia care settings, the repurposing of existing structures (in particular, vacant urban malls) may be one option for the multi-use sites needed for primary and supporting medical care, social services, housing and opportunities for retail, dining, physical activity and fine arts. Our conceptual model simultaneously addresses numerous issues, including community revitalization, building sustainability and the nurturing of innovation to further a culture of dementia care that is inclusive, progressive and convergent with the needs of an aging population.



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Convergence of needs
Photo: Lisa Reid

Case study site
Photo: Lauren Harle

