

| CONTEXT |

Manhattan, New York serves as the epicenter for the American consumerist attitude, both presently and historically. Immersed in such a fast-paced society, how does one understand nature? While the everyday New Yorker may be quick to identify a couple thousand other glittering corporate logos, it may be hopeless to ask him to identify a mere dozen native plant species. In such a case, nature becomes an isolated concept that may be synonymous with Central Park, the local community garden, the trees flanking the streets of Greenwich Village, or even the banana that was had during the breakfast hour.

| SITE & PROGRAM |

This project addresses the disconnect between nature and the urban way of life. Typically, nature is viewed in direct opposition to urbanization and modern civilized culture. The garden landscape is a distant concept that does not fully exist within Manhattan. However, fragments of the landscape can be extracted from the dense city. Clusters of markets and scattered parks for example become subjects for analysis. Their interaction and orientation in relation to the opposing context serves as a programmatic impetus for the architecture.

The eastern lot adjacent to Dewitt Clinton Park is the site for this project. The park is conceptualized as a garden. This idealized farmway will be programmatically fortified accordingly with lots and spaces for cultivation, markets, and parks. These elements will fold out of the park and then into the site. The architecture will address an overlap between agriculture and the commercial economy. This overlap creates an interesting condition that begins to inform an approach to program. The program of an Urban Gardenway.

