



Bed filters along the sides of the alleys collect storm water runoff and allow water to re-enter the atmosphere via evapotranspiration. Any water that passes through the system leaves filtered and overflow from the beds enters the existing drainage system. They are planted with Japanese timber bamboo, which will be cut down and replanted at intervals. The bamboo will then be available to make the bamboo nests. The primary intent in using these is to create community identity and improve street livability. The audible experience of live bamboo in the alley helps to quiet and soften its starkness. Visually contrasting the red of the brick walls and the black of the mosaic ground, it helps bring the alley into a smaller scale as it engages the senses and physically encloses or compresses space through its tall arching form.

Bamboo Nests, primarily a move to address community identity and street livability, hide the dumpsters. These provide an experience of harvest in the alley, where bamboo will be cut down, dried, split, and made into huge “nests” throughout the alley. They will be rebuilt at intervals in accordance with the harvesting of the bamboo. They would therefore look different every time the artists in the community rebuild them. A tourist attraction, eye-catcher, or reason to enter the alley, they also allow for a sense of community to begin to evolve and a cyclical event to be established. The tradition and the craft of growing, harvesting, preparing, building and sculpting with bamboo can be passed on, observed, or learned in the community.

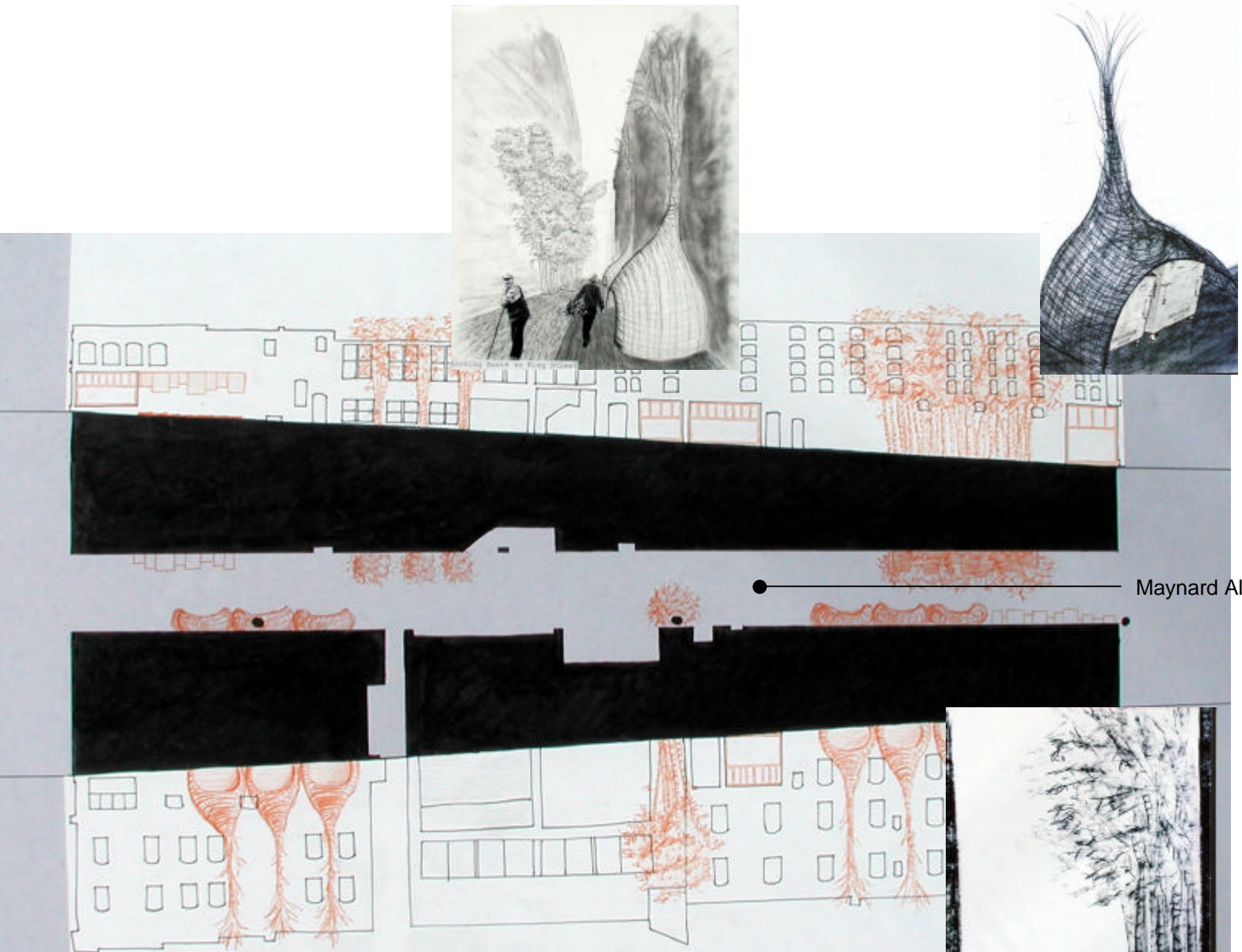
Pillars are primarily in the flea market but are also in several places along the alley. These stone benches are simple two feet square pillars of varying heights, allowing for places to sit, gather, or use as tables to sell from or use as an extension of the studio table. Small in dimension and varying in height, their form reflects the awnings and scale found in precedent studies of small alleys.

Signs placed on the corners of the buildings leading into the alley let people realize that it is not a typical alley. These signs are community boards, announcing events occurring in the alley. Notices for classes taught by the artists, demonstrations, sales, or open houses fill these signs. The frame is bamboo twig bundles harvested from the bamboo growing in the alley, and remade in a similar manner as the bamboo nests. Transparencies are placed in the

building facades that are opened up. Most of these already structurally exist in the facades but have been boarded up. The intent is to address street livability by opening up the alley in spaces so it does not feel like a canyon. They also serve to draw in visitors, as most of them exist on the corners of the buildings. Transparencies allow opportunities to create more building entries on the alley. With people coming and going, the alley will be enlivened, and will become safer as a result.



4. Design Proposals



Maynard Alley



S. King Street

