A Community Center for NW Portland.

The NW District of the City of Portland, known as the "Alphabet District" or "Nob Hill" is the most densely populated area in the State of Oregon. Highly diverse in its economic, demographic, and social regards, this area is centrally located and is therefore able to take advantage of the city's offerings to the fullest.

While the district has 2 schools, 2 parks, numerous houses of worship, a hospital, and two significant streets providing retail, services and entertainment establishments, there is no clear "center" or identifying characteristic to the district.

Therefore, this studio will investigate the opportunities inherent in a Community Center to be located at the intersection of West Burnside, NW 23rd, NW Westover, and SW Vista, on the site of the shopping complex complex located between West Burnside and NW Westover.

The program will be based on that of the SW Community Center and will include athletic/recreation facilities and community meeting spaces. The retail functions on the site will need to be accommodated, and the parking lots will be considered as building sites and/or public space. The re-establishment of NW Westover's historic alignment will be considered.

The intent of the studio is to investigate public space and place making, both built and open, and the relation of buildings to urban form.

The building program offers the opportunity to explore building structure and form, providing for large span and small repetitive spaces required to serve functions including: a gymnasium, natatorium, ball courts, offices, locker rooms, and the community meeting/gathering spaces.