BOECRAFT CONTINUUM



What is tradition? Careening 100 miles per hour across a thin shelf of ice, compelled solely by a precise manipulation of the wind atop razor sharp steel blades? This sounds more like a death wish than tradition. Yet building and sailing a wooden ice boat is an art that has been passed down for 300 years. It is a composition of elegance, engineering, and craftsmanship, yet still is on a trajectory to extinction. In a high-speed era of innovation, where does this tradition find its place?

Lake Geneva, Wisconsin is known as the Ice Boat Capital of the World. Geneva Lake is surrounded by a tourist town and is a summer home for many of the Midwest's wealthiest individuals. What exists here is a story and tradition of ice boating that is completely unique. This thesis tells this story through a new destination at the heart of downtown, bringing to light what is unknown to many. Skeeter Yacht Club is a portal of history, a facility of education, and an establishment dedicated to bringing all people to the art of building and sailing these wooden masterpieces.

Boecraft Continuum is the all-encompassing project name under which the Skeeter Yacht Club exists. The Boecraft Boat Company used to build and repair ice boats on Geneva Lake. This project is the continuation of what once was, striving towards what will be.

SKEETER YACHT CLUB

100 Center Street Lake Geneva, Wisconsin 53147 Lat. 42.58968, Lon. -88.43410



HISTORY



Ice boats first arrived to Geneva Lake in the 1870's following an influx of residents escaping the aftermath of the Great Chicago Fire. These boats were steered by a rear rudder



Geneva Lake's Walter Beauvis invented a front-steering boat in 1930 and decreased the sail size to 75 square feet. This became known as a "Beau-Skeeter", precedent for modern day ice boats.



Throughout the years, the B-class Skeeter boats were experimental - every summer, sailors would modify blades, masts, sails, and more to improve speed and handling.



Beau-Skeeter Ice Boat Club was formed on the lake in March



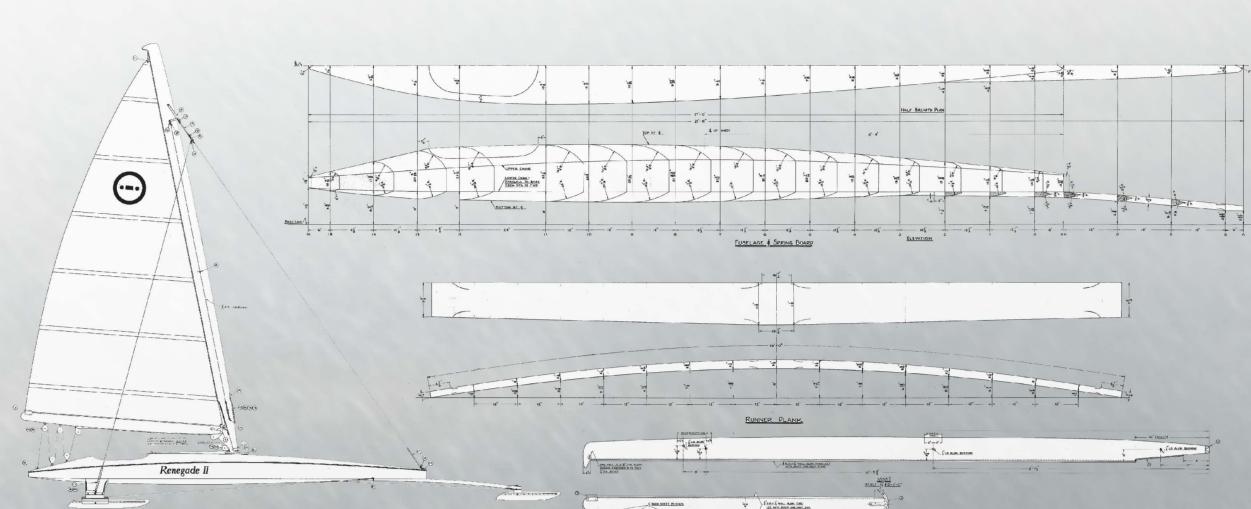
Modern day skeeters still race on Geneva Lake and across the

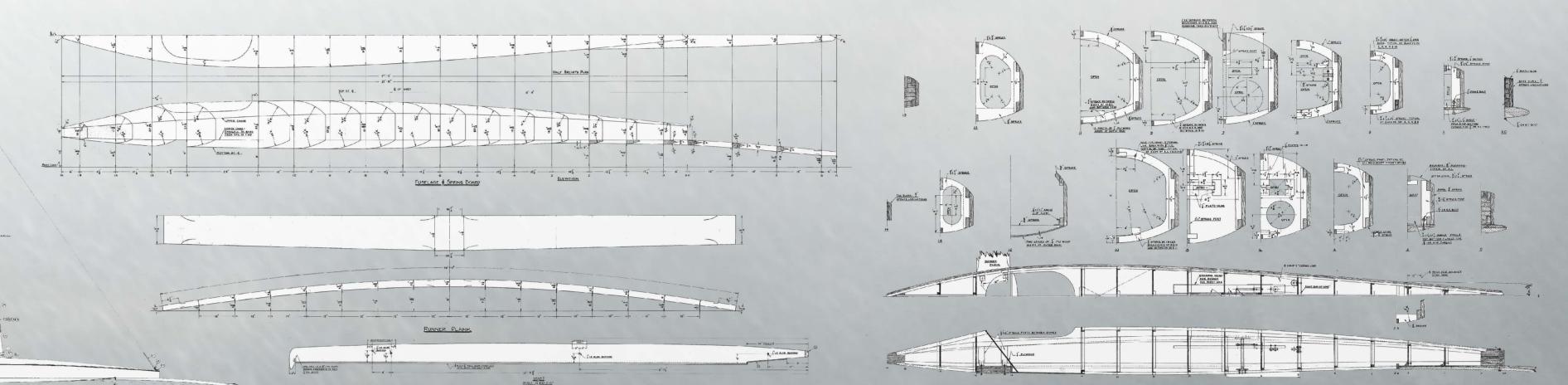


skate, driven by large sails.

Skeeter Ice Boats are built by hand, using Sitka spruce as the primary construction material. The construction utilizes iterative bulkhead support members to obtain the lofted form of the boat's hull. Skeeter Yacht Club derives its materiality and construction from these same principles, employing a repetitive glue-lam structure to support the gallery space. Much of the building's design draws inspiration from elements of the ice boat.

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COMPOSITION

Skeeter Yacht Club is designed to be flexible in how it services the community. Geneva Visitor's Center, "Hiker's" bar and food venue, and the Boecraft Workshop are all contained within the Skeeter Yacht Club. The club can service special events, lead workshops, and host meetings all from within the same building. These

it an ideal lake-home and tourist

destination for urban dwellers. This

economic pipeline makes Skeeter Yacht

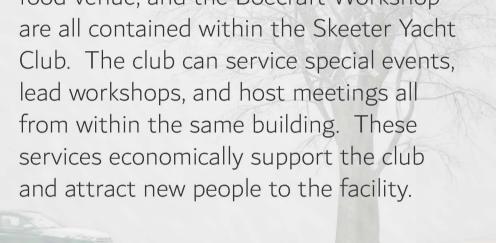
Lake is also flanked by Lake Como and

Delavan Lake, which historically provide

opportunities for a rotation of ice boat

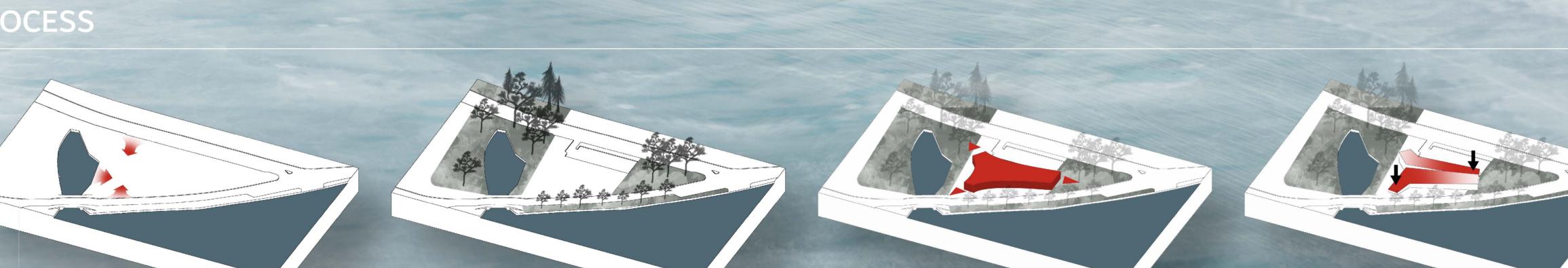
wooden boats. The site is located in an

races and summer cruises in vintage









The adjacent wetland preserve is extended to the The buildings massing is formed to respond to all The initial form is optimized to account for solar gain

The massing is further separated to distinguish uses, reating a central node unites all uses and points of site, bolstering pedestrian circulation in green spaces. three points of Flatiron Park.

PASSIVE STRATEGIES

The form of the main gallery is conducive to passive cooling strategies. With such a large surface area of glazing on the western exposure, the volume is cooled with the prevailing winds from the lake. Operable windows allow the hot air to exit the space at the highest point in the structure. The roof is also adjusted to the optimal angle for a photo voltaic array, generating power for the















