

"Please, spare a copper, For my grotto, Only a ha'penny please" (Olde Wansdworth saying)
 For Grotto 42 We thought of tunnels through the landscape, holes in the ground, then caves and their adornment. And our minds turned to the shell Grottos of rococo English gardens and their Italian renaissance precursors, allegorical journeys into a magical underworld. We would build the two tunnel entrances as fabulous sparkling arches, formed of 'Oystercrete', a sustainably sourced material made from Oyster shells, waste of the restaurant trade, baked at a low temperature on flaming ricks to form a naturally sparkling lime cement of varied hues. The collection and baking of the shells would be a community event in itself: a theatrical moment of participation in the production of the Grotto arches, and the beginning of the consultation process of creating the magical underworld within. The monolithic oystercrete arches of grotto 42 would be built, free standing off the face of the viaduct, a sparkling shellwork invitation to a brief journey through the underworld. Shell structures, made of a shell based cement forming shell grottos.

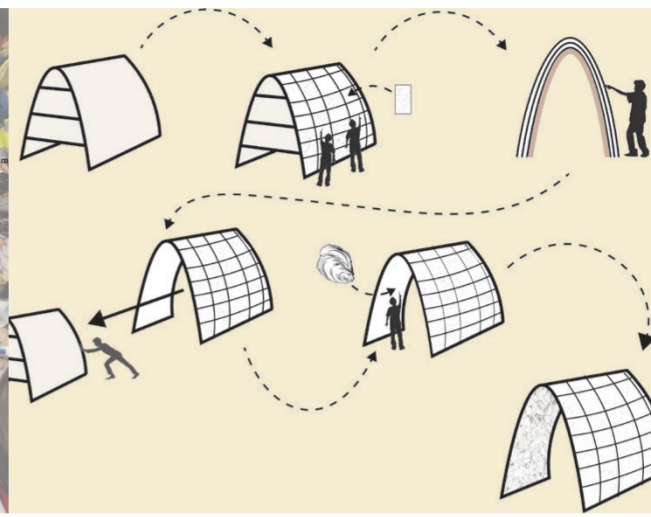
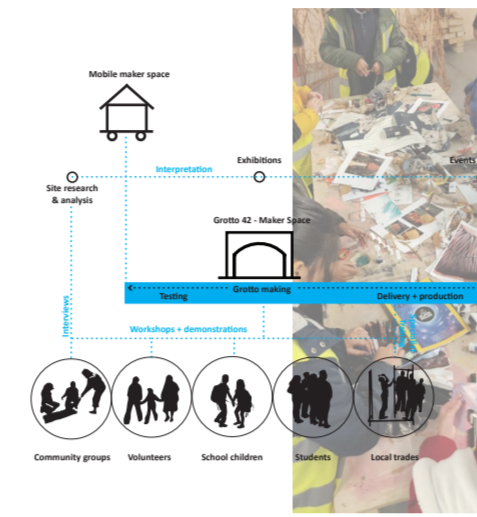
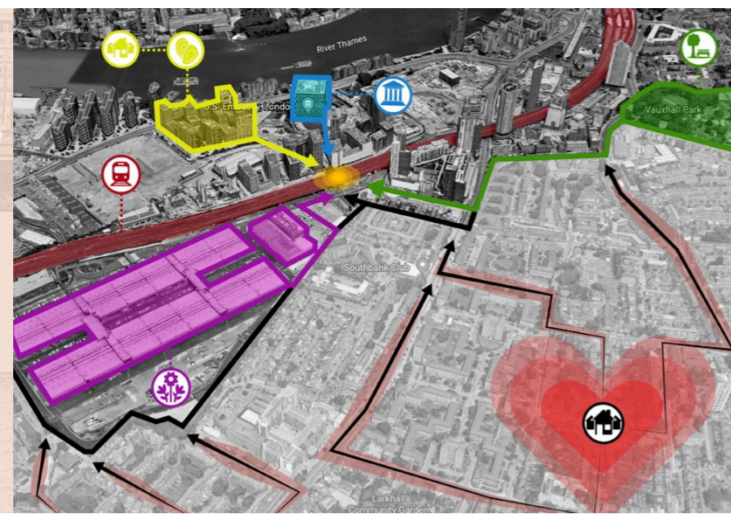
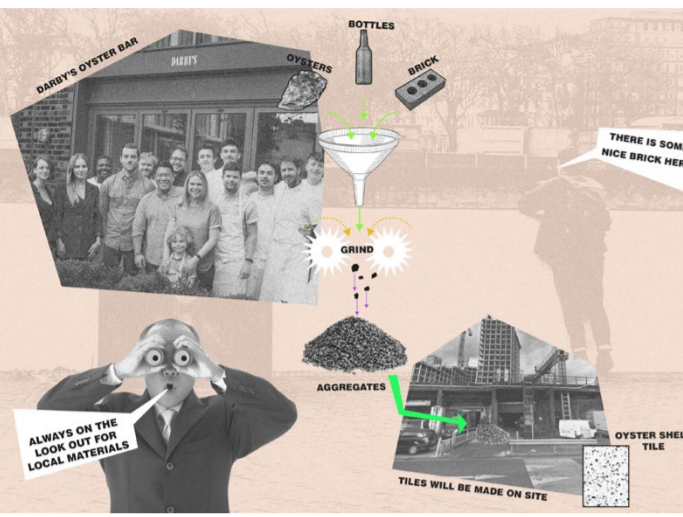


Story of GROTTO 42, a shell grotto, a magical cave

the structure of the grotto is made of tiles created from oysters

we can eat them or collect them from the oyster bar

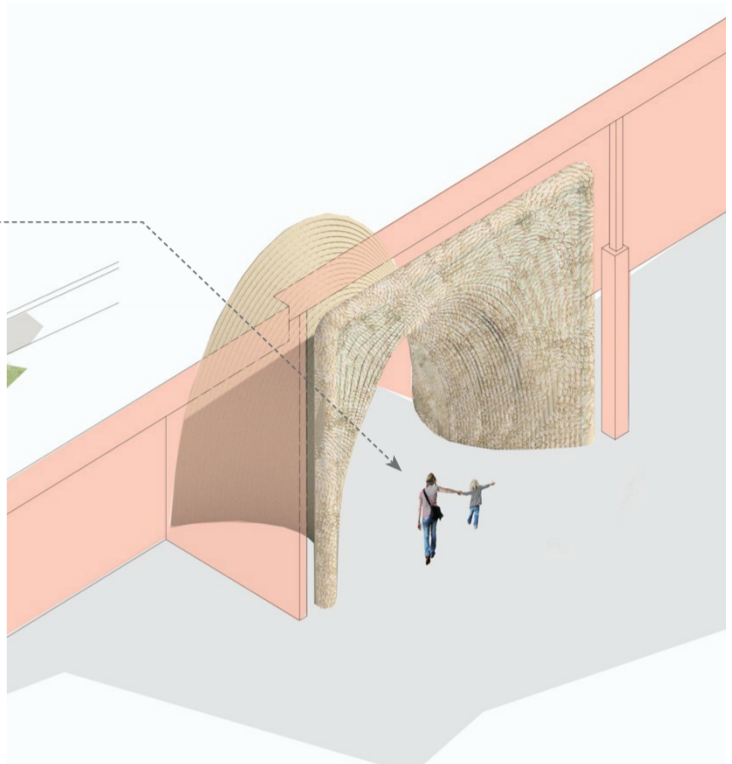
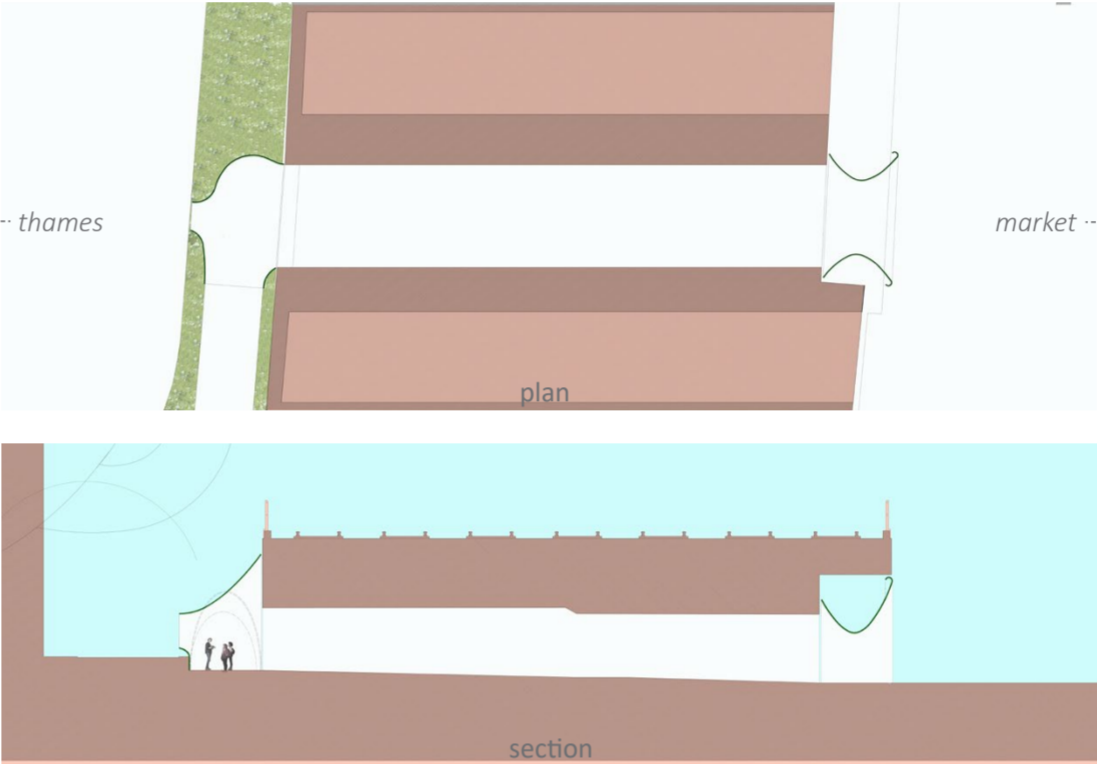
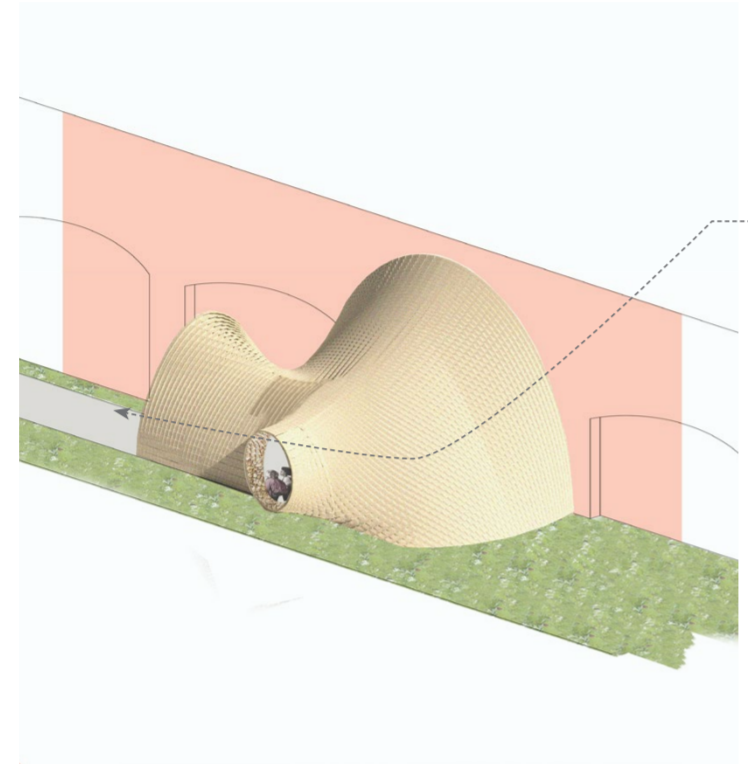
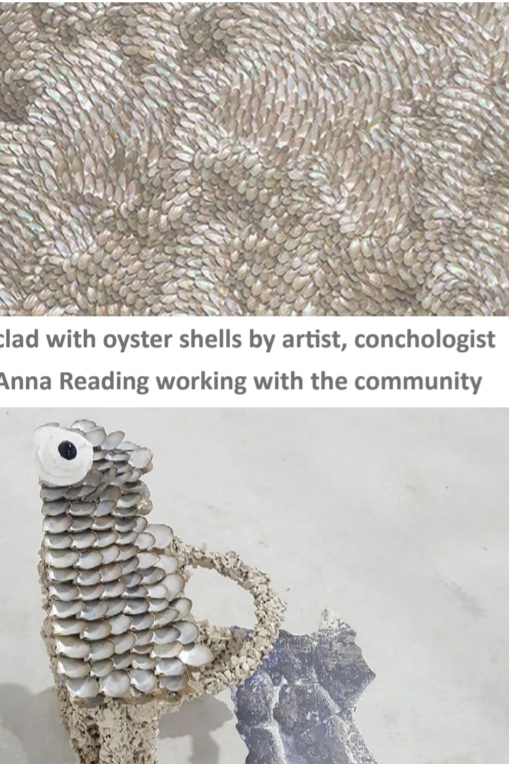
then burn them crush them and press them



the lime from the shells is mixed with other waste rubble and glass from the area

everyone can help, the tunnel will become a store and a maker space

the tiles are then sandwiched together to form the outer 'shell' structure whilst the interior will be



market side



thames side



inside

GROTTO 42 is brought to you by FFLO, Local Works Studio, Allt Engineering, and Anna Reading. is a very sustainable structure. It is made from local waste materials mixed and reassembled, a process everyone can enjoy seeing, and learning if they choose, to make a beautiful organic structure from waste.