



RE>CRETE>

BLK>
FACTORY>
SHOWROOM>
BETA>

a material > a process > a solution
a 21st century adobe



1> COLLECT

Sources: local recycling facilities, dumps, thrift stores, laundromats, friendly solicitations, neighborhood trash pick-up days and RE>CRETE> donation centers.

RE>CRETE> HOW>TO>

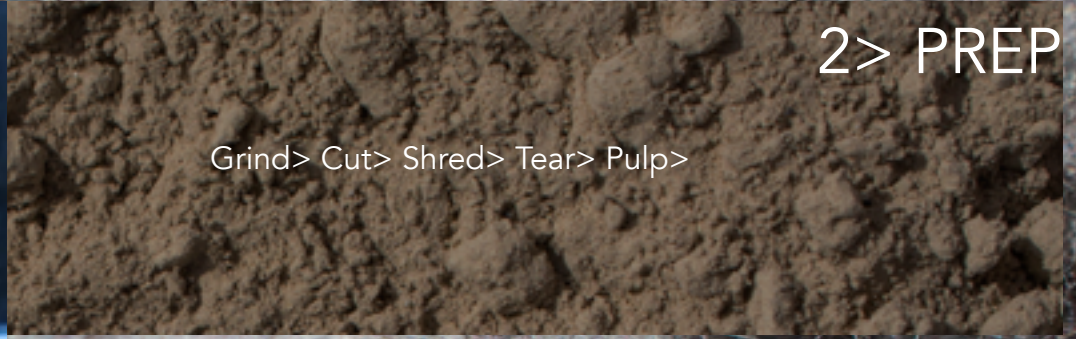


This publication is both a document of a RE>CRETE> workshop that took place at UMASS Amherst during the Spring of 2016 and a HOW TO manual for anyone interested in exploring this 21st century adobe block. The basics for RE>CRETE> are similar to more traditional adobes found all over the world: collect the material from your immediate environment, prep it, mix it, form it, dry it, finish (patch, sand and coat) it, and build with it. Any necessary adjustments for location, season, or temperature should be made.



2> PREP

Grind> Cut> Shred> Tear> Pulp>



3> MIX

Mix together the allotted proportions of all the prepared materials, along with some rain water, salvaged house paint, Portland cement and fly ash, in a cement mixer.



4> FORM

An interior armature and an exterior mold will be needed to create the blocks.

Discarded milk crates and zip-ties work well as an armature. And we used blocks of foam insulation and pre-cut sheets of corrugated plastic, all held together with stretch plastic, as a mold.





6> PATCH, SAND, & COAT

Discarded paint, acrylic sealers or other surface treatments help waterproofing. Sanding and planing help keep the structure plumb and level.

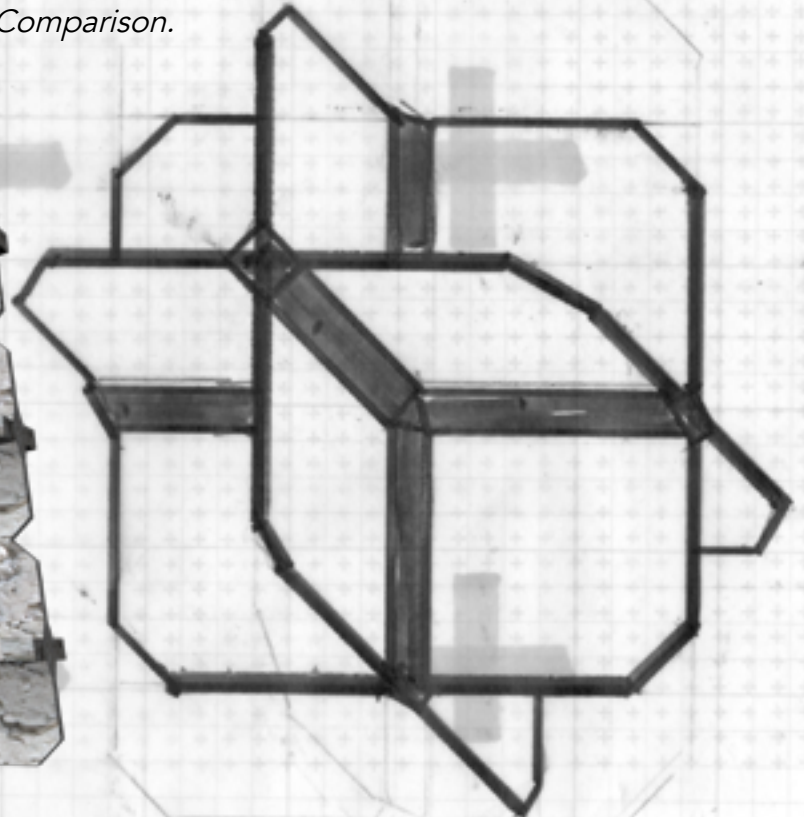
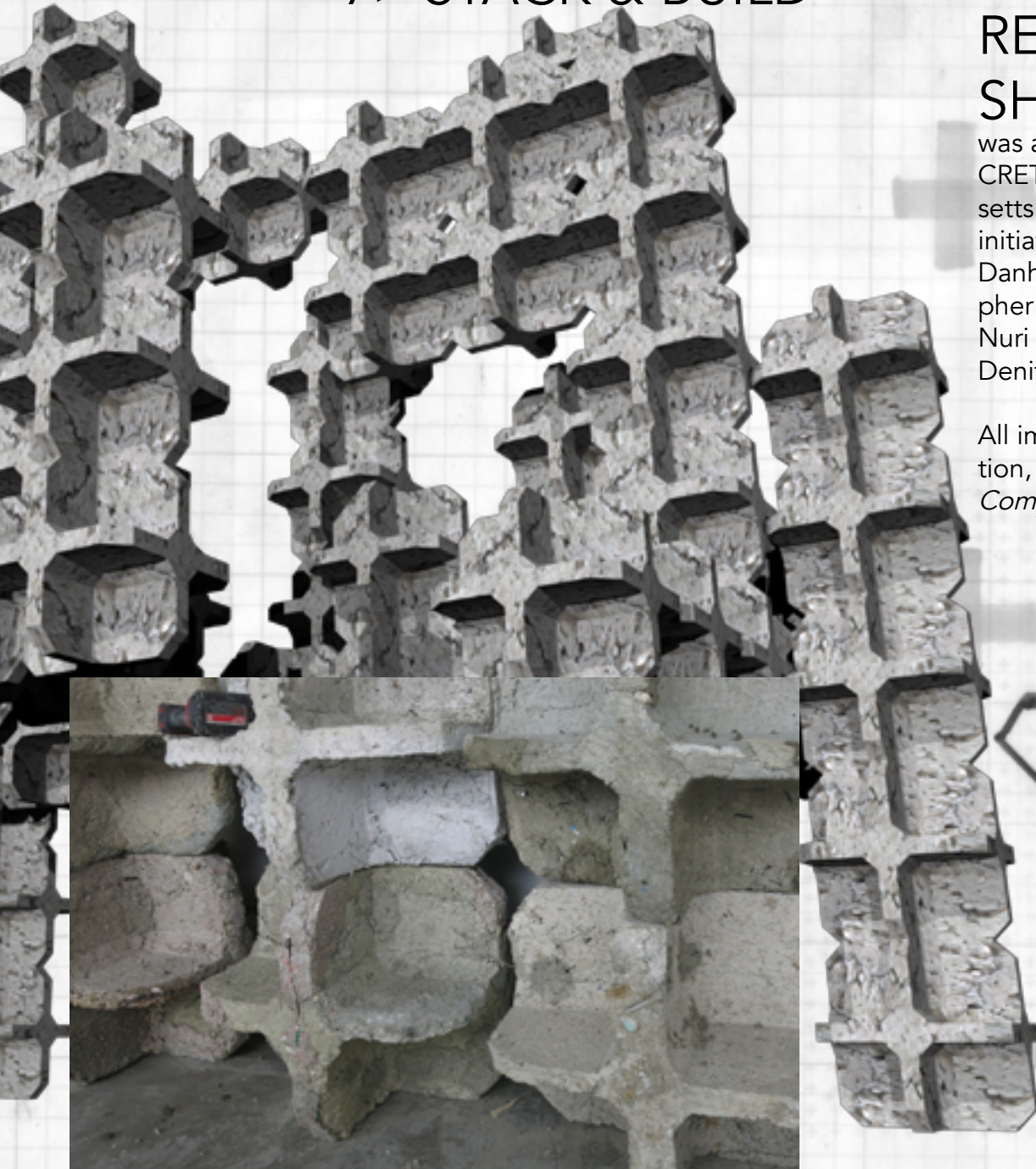


7> STACK & BUILD

RE>CRETE>BLK>FACTORY> SHOWROOM>

was an a experiment in the mass production of a RE>CRETE>BLK that took place at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst in the Spring of 2016. The project was initiated by Charles Goldman, with the assistance of Brian Danh, Nina Friesen, David Hannon, Jennifer Hersh, Christopher Janke, Robin Mandel, Marco Monroy, Procheta Olson, Nuri On, and Samuel Webber, and with the UMCA staff: Lyle Denit, Jenny Lind, Betsy Wolfson, and Loretta Yarlow.

All images in this publication were taken during the production, with the addition of stills taken from Harun Farocki's *In Comparison*.



RE>CRETE>RECIPE

- Newspaper and Junk mail, 50 gallons, shredded
- Packing Styrofoam, 5 gallons, ground up
- Home electronics wire, 25 yards, cut
- CDs, DVDs and credit cards, one quart, chipped
- Bleach, one cup
- Dryer lint, one bunch
- Cement, one and a half gallons
- Fly ash, one half gallon
- Add rain water and salvaged house paint; mix

