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Advisory Group: The Architecture of the Scattered City

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Title: Deviant Tours

Subtitle: Exposing Hidden Narratives

Statement

This thesis reveals narratives within the sprawling city of Los Angeles. An average tourist experience misinterprets the relationship between citizens and their landscape. The true life of the city has been concealed leaving little to no engagement with the local social ecologies. Because of the inaccurate portrayal of L.A.'s lifestyle many are indifferent to the deviant attitudes present in these scattered conditions. In reality, infrastructure systems are consistently subjected to an array of multifunctionality to accommodate activities beyond their planned use. Therefore a deviant act can be defined as a human interaction with architecture in an unanticipated function.

The attitudes of L.A.'s inhabitants illustrate the enthusiastic exploitation of architecture and its elements. Sidewalks are more than just a means for transportation. They become opportunities for informal housing, food culture, and exhibitions - all of which go against their intended application. Communities serve as the agent for adaptive environments causing unique narratives through their deviant acts.

This project proposes an alternative to the predictable tours encountered throughout L.A. to help accentuate the influence of urban sprawl on communities. The true life of the city showcases the unavoidable deviant attitudes of the inhabitants. It is imperative to provide insight to the variety of architecture present in L.A. because each location contributes to a new social ecology.

Experiencing these different locations advocates insight to deviant gestures with the surrounding architecture, curating narratives that are frequently disguised. Similar to the persistent adaptation of cities throughout history, these acts are in constant irregularity depending on location and time.

Architecture that anticipates and hosts these deviant actions promote relations between tourists and locals offering a new awareness of the city. The intersection of these hidden narratives also presents an opportunity to explore the potential of architecture's form, aesthetic, and material which ultimately frames the engagement between tourists and local residents.

Image Caption: Uncovering social ecologies of the sprawling city.