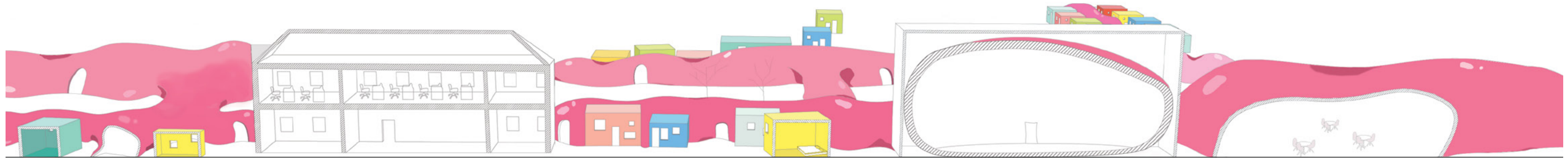




# Defrost



Preservation, more often than not, implies a physical conservation of matter. This conservation of matter suspends a moment in time, isolating it from continuous flux. We argue that preservation can enter a broader discourse on time and its effects on architecture. After all, the objective of preservation is to reflect on the past in order to imagine a greater future.

Whereas nature often accelerates time, in the arctic context, nature stops time. Due to frigid temperatures, the existing structures at Pyramiden will last 500 years without human intervention. The remarkably intact ruins at Pyramiden are suspended in a frozen state.

Conservation without growth is the museumification of architecture and the fetishization of ruins. A passive preservation of Pyramiden will only perpetuate its frozen state. De-frosting Pyramiden is an animating of the static ruins and a restoring of the progression of time.

We propose a network of arteries which enclose existing circulation paths and establish a framework for distributing basic infrastructural amenities. By condensing infrastructural necessities and circulation into a single structure, a flexible system is established: one in which the uses of existing structures can change and additional living units can be plugged in based on population fluctuation.

Pyramiden is an isolated terrain that has a history of both permanent settlers and temporary visitors. Our proposal mediates the static and dynamic elements of Pyramiden and offers a platform for a community of constant flux and maximum flexibility.