

The Lock Loft has been designed to create a bond. A bond between the people and the place they live in. This bond should give hope and inspiration to old places, that need a new function. It reclaims unused, abandoned spaces, and provides them with a chance of being noticed, wondered about, and loved by the users and people who pass by again. Every day's abandoned object or neighbourhood had its moment when people said -I like this space. Later, they all had a time, when people thought -It's not what it used to be, I remember when it was new and shiny. Now -they should tear it down -it's no good any more.

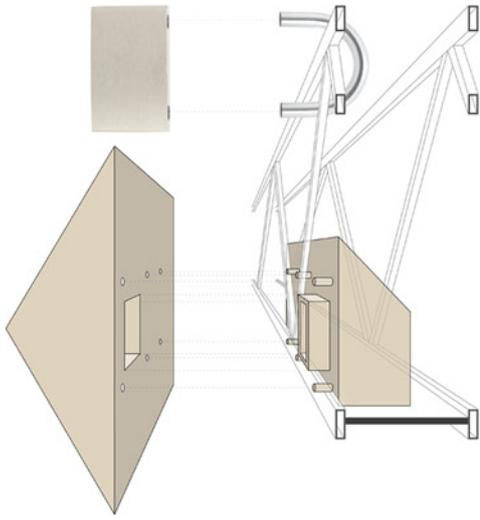
This is the point, when the Lock Loft becomes useful. The space will become alive once more.

The idea of occupying bridges and turning them into streets with housing is not new. Ponte Vecchio [the Old Bridge] in Florence had this idea already in the renaissance. Gold markets which were held along the bridge had spots for the salesmen, and the earlier in the morning one got there, the better spot he had, so some started bringing tents to sleep there and make reservations for a spot. This race made the structures more solid, and finally they started hanging houses above the Arno River like they still do today. The padlock tradition on the other hand is much younger. In many countries padlocks are attached to steel elements of famous bridges (like Ponte Vecchio). This is done usually by lovers, who believe that by doing so, and by throwing the key into the river they strengthen the bond between themselves. A single bridge can be "decorated" with thousands of locks at a time. We have decided to look at this tradition in a new way. It became more of a gesture, which proves that in a very short time, two elements can be combined and last until they will be removed by forces stronger than nature. That's how the Lock Loft was born.

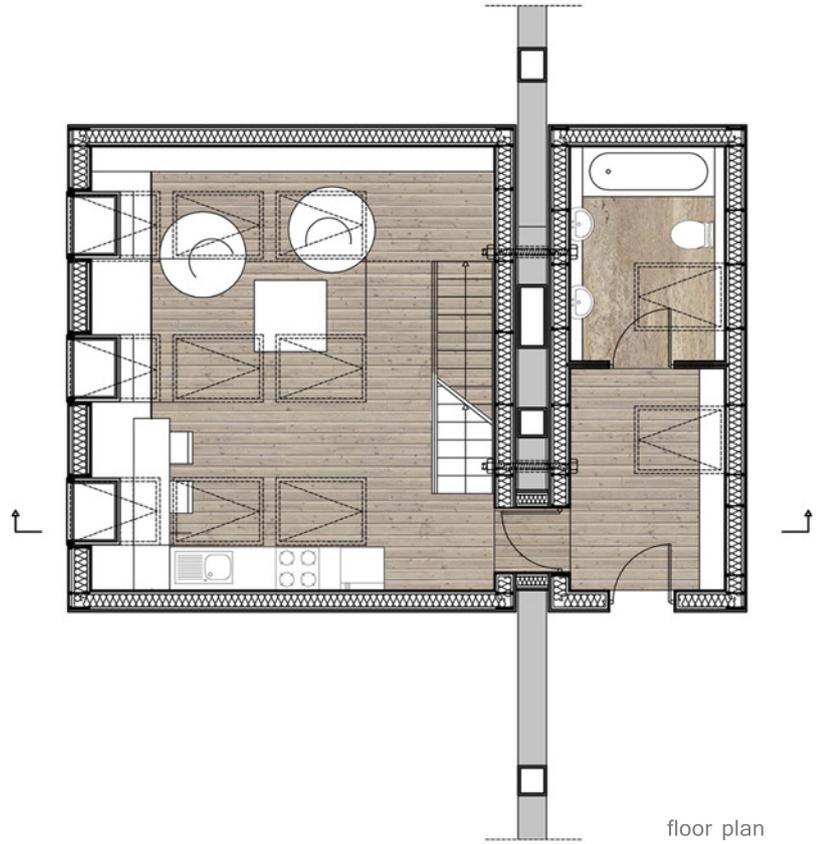
We found an abandoned train bridge near Krakow city centre, and suggested turning it into a street with luxurious lofts and jaw dropping views. Imagine the sight, seen off the middle of a bridge. The sun bouncing on the surface of the water, with little boats floating under your feet. Now imagine having this view in your living room. That's the feeling we endeavour to provide for the owners of one of our Lock Lofts.

The structure tries to be as harmless as a simple pad lock. Two light wooden frame structures tied together through the steel bracings of the bridge side. Another LL as a counter weight on the other side of the bridge, and that's how we kept the harmony. Lock Loft can be hung from bridges, frames or concrete wall buildings. The number and size of the Lock Lofts can easily be adjusted to accommodate the stress properties and the size of the host structure. Standard Fakro windows allow plenty of light into the house, giving the best views one can dream of. Sun collectors which repeat the window module blend into the three glazed stripes, supplying the unit with hot water and heating through the year. If the occupant decides to move somewhere else -the Lock Loft can be as easily removed from its location, by just unscrewing the two elements apart. Practical, eco-friendly and beautiful. What more would one need?

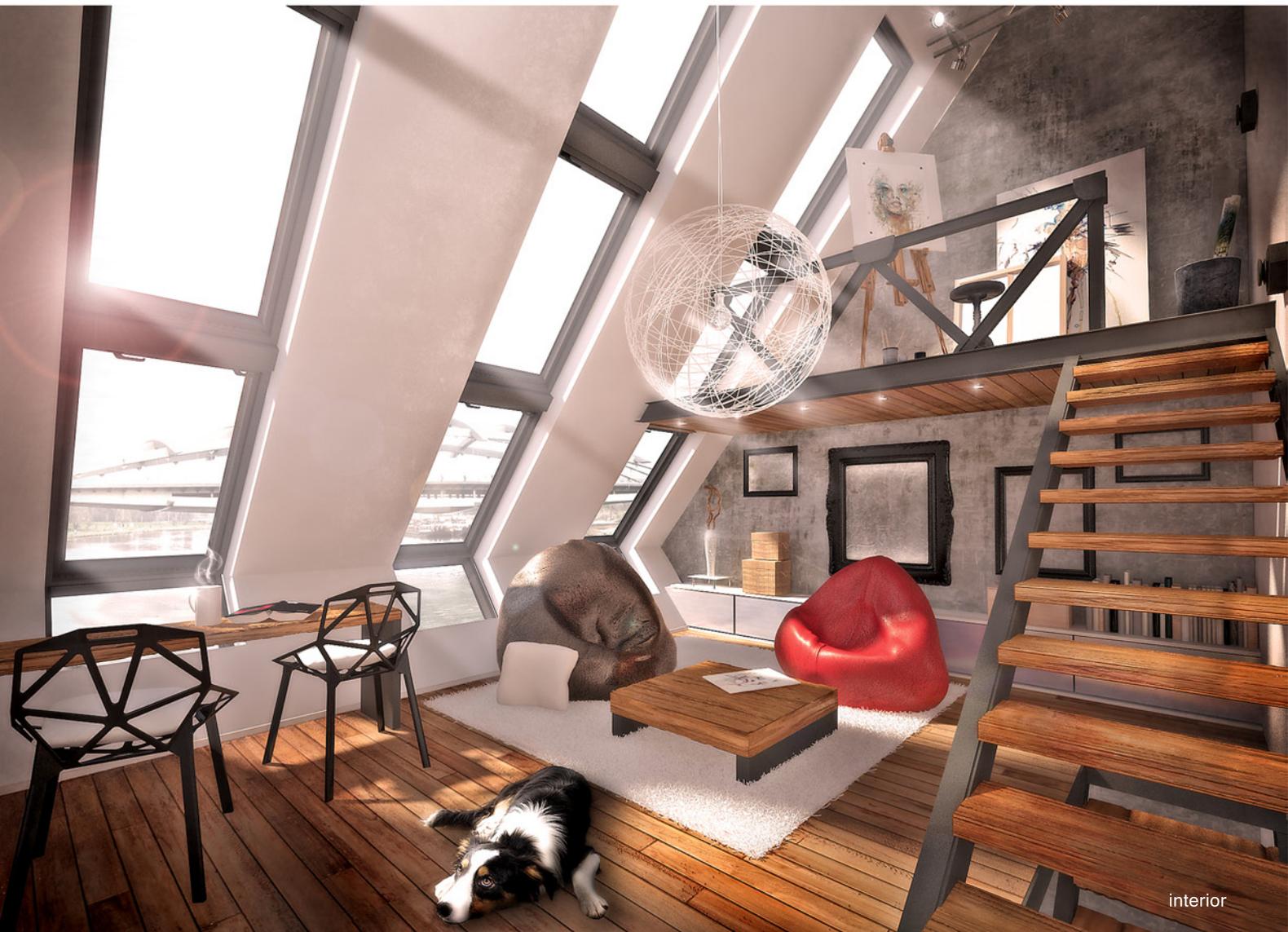




schematic



floor plan



interior

78x140 SKW solar collectors

external awning blind AMZ FAKRO

94x140 FYP-V pro Sky window

FAKRO mansart slat

94x95 BXP window

94x140 FYP-V pro Sky window

sustainable solutions used in the Lock Loft:

- external awning blinds, allowing control over sunlight transmission
- double glazed low emission windows prevent temperature from easy transmission
- solar collectors make the unit sustainable, by heating the water for tap and radiators directly from the sun
- light timber construction frame is fully biodegradable and eco-friendly
- thick and tight insulation blocks the heat from entering or leaving the unit

