Native Americans were forced to leave their reservations. Their nomadic habits, like those of the buffaloes, didn’t fit in a system where the land had to be parcelled and sold. Cities and cultivated land expanded on a dramatic scale. We coined the term “sprawl” to depict the limitless, formless growth of cities to the detriment of the natural environment, and what about farming, what about our relationship with fellow animal species? We tend to consider ourselves one step above: animals to us are either pets or food; when they are food very few have the privilege to graze on green pastures. For most of them it’s a very short life of confinement to prisons. Without the freedom no one wants to adopt the point. The land is our home, we share it with other species. From our point of view the environment is an area usually occupied with the use of renewable resources and ecosystems’ destruction. It’s not only that, there is more we must consider that the way we parcel the land makes prairies to build parking lots and clearing forests to house bigger farms is an outrage too. What if we imagine a place where human made moves upward, towards the sky? What if agriculture is carried on in more efficient way in vertical farms? These questions led to the “Ghost Dance 2.0 Ranch” idea.

Moving upward human’s place could somehow realize Wovoka’s vision, a place where the skies are not as empty, where human beings can grow and feed themselves in a sustainable way. At the top of the structure, in the middle level ring, we have re-thought the concept of the old wild west’s bunkhouse to host the community that will inhabit the building.

To develop an idea of self-sufficiency and food sustainability we implemented vertical farm on the top of our design to partially supply to the food needs of our building’s inhabitants. To be the ground level our idea is to leave as much wilderness as possible, but to use the central point as an exhibition space for events and outdoor community activities.

Like all things in nature have a beginning and an end, we thought our design as a temporary structure, meant to be dismantled and recycled for other purposes, leaving no trace of its passing.

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