How does architecture produce a person that is both a citizen and a high-security felon, or that is one or the other? Furthermore, how does architecture produce an entire society of subjects?

To probe these questions, the project will use prisons as a lens to explore the following architectural themes related to subject formation: (1) sanitation, (2) observation and (3) security. Beginning in England, the birthplace of the modern penal institution, I will travel through France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Germany and Denmark, visiting and researching one “primary” prison per country. Whether it be the Netherlands’s Arnhem Prison (one of the world’s few built panopticons), Denmark’s Horsens State Prison (an archetype of post-reform era institutions) or Belgium’s Beveren Prison (one of a group of high-tech, newly built facilities in northern Europe), each “primary” prison exemplifies a particular penal typology. Visits to other prisons and museums will provide supplemental research. (It should be noted that I have selected only publicly accessible prisons.)

I estimate the cost of the trip, to be taken in fall 2015, to be $9,000:

- $1,350 – Roundtrip airfare (New York to London and Copenhagen to New York)
- $6,300 – $150 per day for food, hostel lodging and local transportation for 42 days
- $650 – Eurail Select Pass
- $150 – Eurostar train London to Paris
- $200 – Roundtrip airfare (New York to Ann Arbor)
- $350 – Exhibition printing and material costs

Thank you kindly for your consideration. I am passionately hopeful for this opportunity.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth J. Nichols

Date of birth: August 9, 1988
Phone: (757) 810 5905
Email: Elizabeth.j.nichols@gmail.com
Address: 680 Manhattan Avenue, Apartment 22, Brooklyn, NY 11222

In addition to a travel blog, the research will take two forms: a small-format publication and large-format drawings. While there does exist survey texts on the history of prisons, such as Johnston Norman’s *Forms of Constraints* (2003), there is no accessible, graphically-rich publication that allows one to compare penal institutions across time and space in architectural terms. This is partly because the work of documenting prisons falls to photographers and journalists. Therefore, I would like to publish (online and in print) the research of the six prisons in a format similar to WORKac’s *49 Cities* (2009) with original text, drawings, diagrams and photographs. With the publication as a foundation, the large-format drawings will be a means to examine architecture and subject formation through unconstrained, unsystematic means.

1 **HER MAJESTY PRISON DARTMOOR, DEVON, ENGLAND (1812)**  
Days 01–10  
Fly New York to London  
See Newgate Prison, the Clink Museum and the Tower of London and conduct research at the British Library and the Royal Institute of British Architects in London  
See Her Majesty Prison Dartmoor in Devon  
See Malmaison Oxford in Oxford  
See Buckingham Old Gaol in Buckingham (time permitting)

2 **LA SANTÉ PRISON, PARIS, FRANCE (1867)**  
Days 11–16  
Train London to Paris  
See La Santé Prison in Paris  
See the National Museum of Prisons in Fontainebleau

3 **BEVEREN PRISON, BEVEREN, BELGIUM (2013)**  
Days 17–22  
Train Paris to Ghent  
Conduct research on the Maison de Force in Ghent  
See Beveren Prison in Beveren (near Arnhem)

4 **ARNHEM PRISON, ARNHEM, THE NETHERLANDS (1886)**  
Days 23–29  
Train Antwerp to Arnhem (or Breda)  
See Breda Prison in Breda (time permitting)  
See Arnhem Prison in Arnhem/Antwerp  
See Haarlem Prison and the Bijlmerbajes prison complex in Amsterdam

5 **STASI PRISON, BERLIN, GERMANY (1939)**  
Days 30–36  
Train Arnhem (or Amsterdam) to Berlin  
See Stasi Prison and the Moabit Prison Historical Park in Berlin  
See JVA Fuhlsbüttel prison complex in Hamburg

6 **HORSENS STATE PRISON, HORSENS, DENMARK (1853)**  
Days 37–42  
Train Berlin (or Hamburg) to Horsens  
See Horsens State Prison and the East Jutland State Prison in Horsens  
Fly Copenhagen to New York
CRITIC  Jason Young
YEAR  2013–2014
PROJECT  M.Arch thesis exploring architectural representation in the context of today’s post-natural “blend” of man, nature and machine (continues on the following two pages).
Medieval Christian ideology posited man and nature as a single entity under the umbrella of God. Today in the Anthropocene, we will see a return to “oneness” and an erasure of the longstanding perspective of dualism established during the Renaissance. Today as smartphones extend our bodies, man, nature and machine will again be conceived of as a single entity (now under the umbrella of post-nature). The project explores architectural representation in the context of today’s merging of man, nature and machine. It is a post-natural “gardenscape” with a set of architectural characters...
...The gardenscape functions to produce human subjectivities that are both animalistic (“subjective”) and machinic (“objective”). A blurring of animalism and machinism is achieved by both the architecture of the imagined spaces and the techniques used to represent those spaces. Each drawing couples perspective (“subjective”) drawing with plan and section (“objective”) drawing. There is no site plan. Rather, the drawings relate to one another through the architectural characters. Human subjects barely occupy the imaged spaces; they are as unsure of their place in the gardenscape as we are in the Anthropocene today.
Y E A R 2011–2014

P R O J E C T S  Selected models completed while at Taubman College. Clockwise from upper left: Villa Müller visitor center, scale 1:50; staircase, scale 1:10; leather and suede wall pocket, scale 1:1; 3D-printed scale figures; facade study, scale 1:300; pool installation diagram; walled maze, scale 1:500; theater, scale 1:50; Water Thief Housing massing, scale 1:1000; facade study, scale 1:300; prison concept model, scale 1:100; PETG vacuum form study; pool installation (with collaborator Peter Halquist), scale 1:100.
CURRICULUM VITAE

EXPERIENCE

REX Architecture
Junior Architect. New York, NY, September 2014–Present
Necklace Residence. Lloyd Harbor, NY

Leong Leong Architecture
Architectural Intern. New York, NY, August 2014
Competition for the Los Angeles LGBT Center. Los Angeles, CA

Lee and Macgillivray Architecture Studio
Competition for the 2014 MoMA PS1 Young Architects Program. Long Island City, NY

Adams + Gilpin Design Studio
Designer. Ann Arbor, MI, May–August 2013
Plum Market Cart Corral. Ann Arbor, MI
“Understanding the Role of the Built Environment for Mobility through Technology,” University of Michigan MCubed Grant, Ann Arbor, MI

MILLIGRAM-office
Curatorial Assistant. Ann Arbor, MI, March–April 2013
“Rights of Way: Mobility and the City” at the Boston Society of Architects, Boston, MA

Tuition

University of Michigan, Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning
Taubman College Merit Scholarship. 2013–2014
Linn and Grace Smith Memorial Scholarship. 2012–2013
Architecture + Adaptation Research Travel Studio. Jakarta, Indonesia, 2012

Vandebilt University
Frances and John Downing Research Travel Award. London, England, 2009
Harvard University, Career Discovery Program. Cambridge, MA, 2009
University of Auckland, Study Abroad Program. Auckland, New Zealand, 2008

TEACHING

Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning
Arch 323 History of Architecture. Instructor for Assoc. Prof. A. Herscher. 2014

Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning
Arch 589 Site Operations. Instructor for Assoc. Prof. G. Thün. 2013

PUBLICATIONS AND EXHIBITIONS


Editor. Dimensions 25, eds. R. Chhabra, N. Mattson, E. Kuttil, E. Nichols and S. Scharrer (received the Center for Architecture Foundation's Douglas Haskell Award for Student Journals, Honorable Mention). 2012

Featured work. Taubman College Student Show, CMYK Gallery. Ann Arbor, MI, 2012 (received Second Place), 2013 and 2014


E L I Z A B E T H N I C H O L S