[RIVER ISLAND ECOLOGIES]

Wetlands, fishing, seasonal flooding,
island ecology, livelihoods, cultural landscapes, riverine communities.

MArch Thesis
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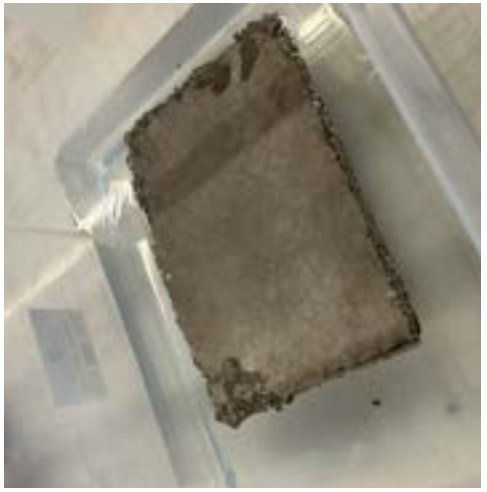
The physical model explores the relationship between architecture, landscape, and movement within the Mbamu masterplan. Through elevated walkways, clustered forms, and adaptive structures, the proposal responds to flooding, circulation, and communal living along the Congo River.

Crafted using natural materials including clay, mud, pigments, candle wax, tea, herbs, and small sticks
Reflects the local landscape and ecological context
Explores materiality through tactile, earth-based construction

1:1000 site model

The floating market model explores a flood-adaptive waterfront system for Mbamu, designed to respond to seasonal flooding along the Congo River. Buoyant platforms support modular timber-framed spaces that rise and fall with changing water levels, maintaining continuous river access and market activity.

Inspired by local floating markets and river-based trade, the proposal promotes resilience, flexibility, and community interaction. Material testing informed the use of local, low-tech materials such as timber, bamboo, and corrugated metal to create a practical and adaptable construction system.



1:100 model