

For my final project, I aimed to explore the beauty within entropy. My inspiration was sparked when I came across photographs of the Kowloon Walled City. Before its demolition in 1993, it was the densest city in the world, containing over 33,000 residents within a tenth of a square mile. Although few, the photographs of the fallen city were gripping, showing the chaotic miscellany of congested wires, pipes, walls and balconies Kowloon once was. The cracks and crevices and secret pockets of the city held the reticent existence of hidden temples and fishball factories bustling with life and industry. There was so much beauty within the city, although lawless and abandoned. I wanted to replicate this beauty with a replica of one of the units. I used cardboard, watercolor and super glue to create the buildings and for the details like windows, I used found objects, parchment paper and plaster tape. I dry brushed corrugated cardboard with copper pigment to imitate metal, and dark washed the buildings to add age. An almost dystopian anomaly, Kowloon inspired the world with the persisting spirit of a complicated community, and reminded that within disorder there can be balance.

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KOWLOON WALLED CITY

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