

Waste is a Construct Exhibit Plan

Concept:

Waste is a Construct uses pieces of derelict vessels and transforms them into art and functional pieces. The main goals are to educate and bring light to the issue of derelict vessels and marine debris as a wider concept. Using art to explore the environmental and social impact that waste has on our planet and its inhabitants, it will begin to shed much needed light on the issues surrounding marine debris, reuse, and re-creation.

Intro Text:

What if waste wasn't the end but a beginning?

Waste is a Construct reimagines maritime debris as a source of creative potential. Centered around derelict (abandoned) boats and associated marine waste, this exhibit invites you to explore how marine waste can be transformed through art and community-based projects.

By viewing these discarded vessels not as waste, but as material for storytelling and renewal, we begin to expand our understanding of reuse and what it means to truly reclaim the things we leave behind.

This project is the result of a collaboration between artists, community members, and organizations committed to sustainable reuse, primarily the Center for Wooden Boats, the UW Museology Graduate Program, and Walrus.

Themes:

Waste:

The Pacific Northwest is known for its strong maritime culture, which brings its own unique set of waste-related challenges. One major issue is derelict (or abandoned) boats, which pose serious hazards to both wildlife and boaters. These vessels can leak dangerous chemicals into the water further damaging delicate ecosystems. Removing abandoned boats is often expensive and difficult, and too often they end up in landfills. Finding alternatives to these harmful practices is essential; and *Waste is a Construct* highlights some of the innovative solutions being explored.

Most of the time, we don't think twice about what happens to the waste that we see everyday; *Waste is a Construct* explores what happens to everyday waste through the use of plastics, electronics, and other waste that has found its way into the waterways and that can be commonly found in everyday life.

Reuse:

Maritime waste including derelict vessels often ends up in landfills, where valuable materials are left to decay. Yet much of this debris holds untapped potential. *Waste is a Construct* explores new possibilities by salvaging abandoned boats and transforming them into functional, sculptural furniture. This work highlights just one of many ways maritime waste can be reimagined and given new life both within the maritime community and beyond.

Re-creation:

Not all maritime waste or derelict vessels can be fully restored or reused in their original form. Smaller fragments or structurally unstable pieces often require a different approach. *Waste is a Construct* explores this potential through a wide range of artworks that incorporate pieces of abandoned vessels and other maritime debris. No matter the size or condition, maritime waste can find new purpose even if not in a traditional sense.

Text Format:

All text will be printed on the laser printer at the Center for Wooden Boats on wooden pieces. We will use the Open Serif font. Font size will be 24 for the titles and 36 for the text. All text will be black.

Installation Info:

All hanging objects have to be on a wire system. Maximum weight for hanging is 68 lbs for one wire, 78 lbs for two. All other art will be on a stand or are able to stand without additional support.

Objects:

Object 1:

Artist: Amy O'Brien

Title: Waste is a Construct Sign

Dimensions: 27" x 13"

Installation Info: Hanging above intro text, Wall A next to main entry.

Image: progress photo



Object 2:

Artist: Clara Rasmussen

Title: Orca Cafe

Dimensions: 50" x 22"

Installation Info: Displayed on a stand. Located on Wall A

Image: progress photo



Artist: Jason Lucas

Title: Chair

Dimensions: 24" x 24" footprint, 96" tall

Installation Info: Displayed on the floor. Located on Wall A.

Image:



Object 4:

Artist: e2

Title: Soundings to the Heart

Dimensions: 72" x 72"

Installation Info: Displayed on Wall A. Hanging from the wall. Will likely need two wires.

Object 5:

Artist: Steve Jensen

Title: As the Ice Melted, the Fish Died

Dimensions: 29" x 13.5" x 8.5"

Installation Info: Displayed on stand (provided by artist). Located on Wall B

Image:



2"

Installation Info: Displayed on stand (provided by artist). Located on Wall B

Image:



Object 7:

Artist: Gregor Doig

Title: Chair

Description:

Dimensions: 30" x 30" x 48"

Installation Info: Standing on floor. Located on wall B.

Image: progress picture



Object 8:

Artist: Holly Glasser

Title: Impractical Kayak

Dimensions: 40" x 8" x 6"

Installation Info: Displayed on stand. Located on Wall B

Image:

Object 9:

Artist: Addie Boswell

Title: Fancy Vase

Dimensions: 20" x 8"

Installation Info: Displayed on a stand. Located on Wall B.

Image:



Object 10:

Artist: Leo Carmona

Title: Rustic Lamp

Dimensions: 36" x 36" footprint

Installation Info: Self Standing, Wall B next to stairs.

Image:



Object 11:

Artist: Peter Brodsky

Title: Cartoon Boat

Dimensions: 24" x 12" x 16"

Installation Info: Displayed on a base. Located on Wall B.

Image:



Object 12:

Artist: Yolanda Galery

Title: The Price of Progress

Dimensions: 36" x 32"

Installation Info: Hanging on Wall C.

Image:

Object 13:

Artist: Jeff Moonski

Title: Boat Windows

Dimensions: 62 " x 18.5 " x 3" (three windows side by side)

Installation Info: Displayed on stands. Located on Wall C.

Image: (one of three windows, rest are in progress as of 5/12)



Labels:

Steve Jensen

As the Ice Melted, the Fish Died, 2025

My family is from Norway. My father was a fisherman. My grandfather was a fisherman. I personally feel that, had I inherited my father or grandfather's fishing boat, that right now it is easier to make a living as an artist than a fisherman. For me, this is a very sad commentary on the state of our marine environment.

Made from wooden derelict boat pieces.

Steve Jensen

Floating Portal, 2025

The boat in this portal, or porthole is floating off to another space, we don't know where it is, we only know it exists.

Made from wooden derelict boat pieces.

Leo Carmona

Rustic Lamp, 2025

This lamp is inspired by the colors, materials, and forms found in boats and the ports they inhabit.

Made from metal, wire, and electronic pieces from derelict boats.

Amy O'Brien

Waste is a Construct, 2025

Every element of this piece has been diverted from landfill, turning discarded materials into a statement about the very idea of waste. The process involved cutting each letter and affixing them in place, emphasizing labor, resourcefulness, and the power of transformation through reuse.

Made from plastic, sails, and wood from derelict boats and marine waste.

Peter Brodsky

Cartoon Boat, 2025

MYTANIC was created with one goal in mind - use as much recovered material as possible in a single piece.

Originally there were lofty visions of a profound connection, like Man's Inhumanity to Man. But that morphed into a simpler exercise in converting refuse into amusement. And hopefully that's what it is.

Made from wood and rope from derelict boats.

e2

Soundings to the Heart, 2025

Made from sails from derelict boats.

Holly Glasser

Impractical Kayak, 2025

Made from wood from derelict boats.

Jeff Moonski

Vessels of Tradition, 2025

The Tlingit believed that each canoe had its own spirit! I think that is true of any beloved vessel to this day. Boats have a name and a soul to be cared for and loved.

Made from windows from derelict boats.

Addie Boswell

Fancy Vase, 2025

Made from buoys, floats, plastics from marine debris and derelict boats.

Jason Lucas

Chair, 2025

Made from wood from derelict boats.

Clara Rasmussen

Orca Cafe, 2025

A study on the many factors that together are killing our resident orca populations.

Made from wood and metal from derelict boats

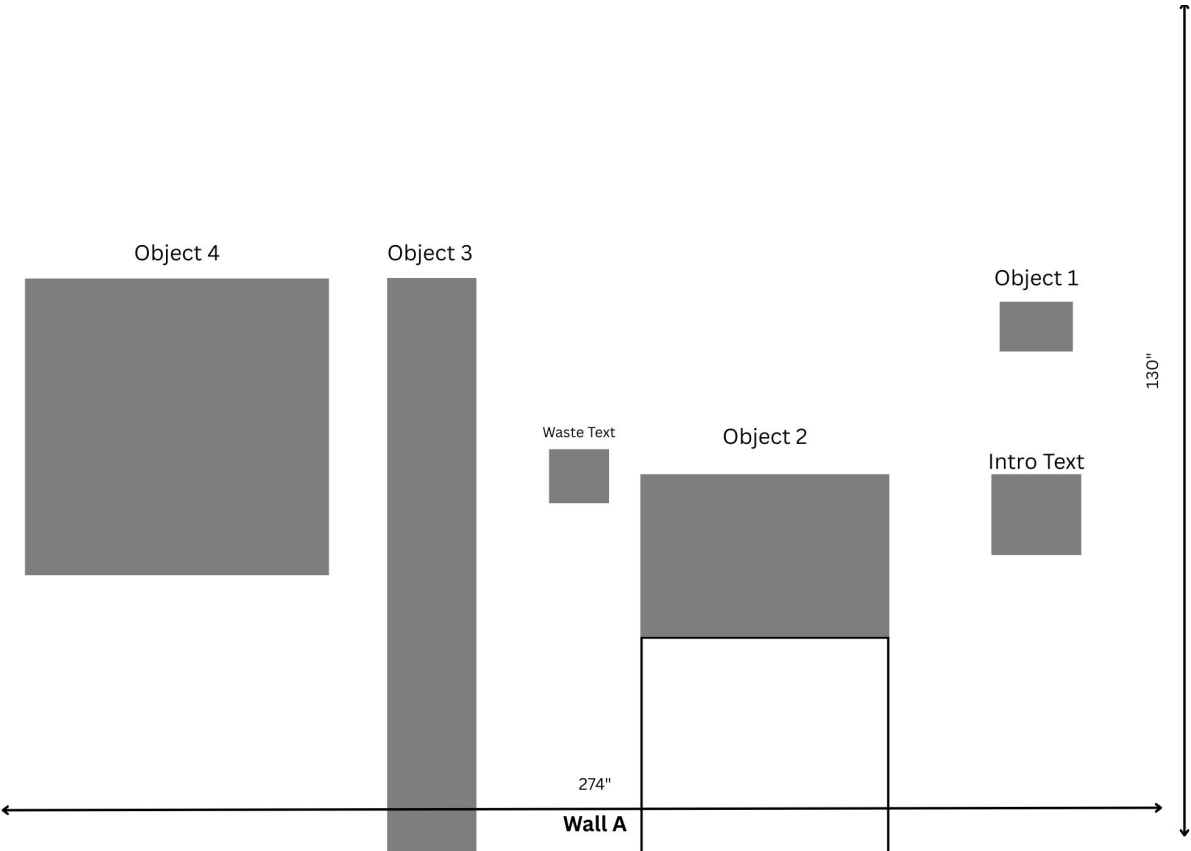
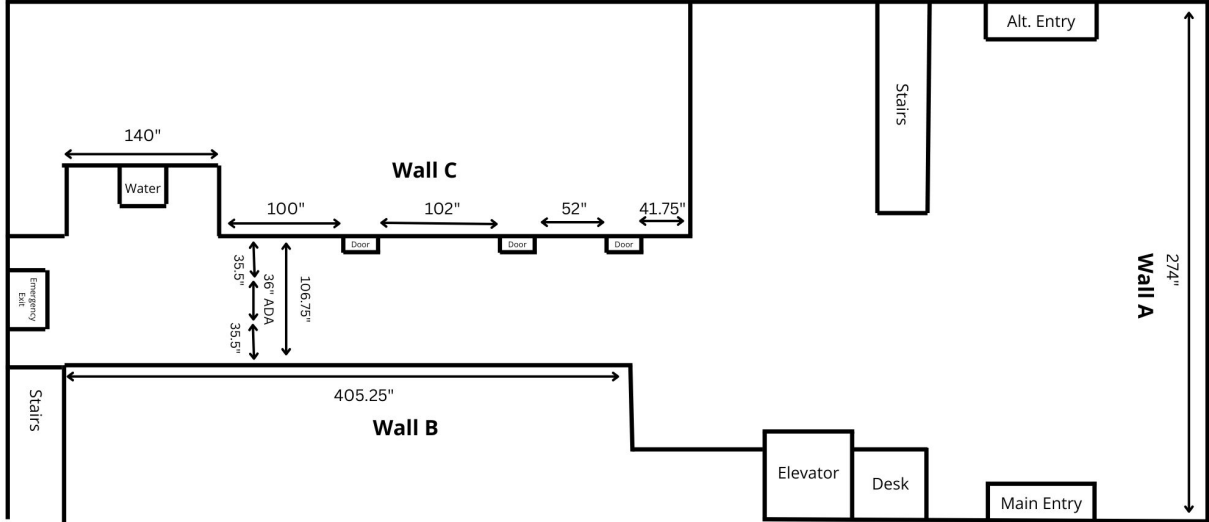
Yolanda Galery

The Price of Progress, 2025

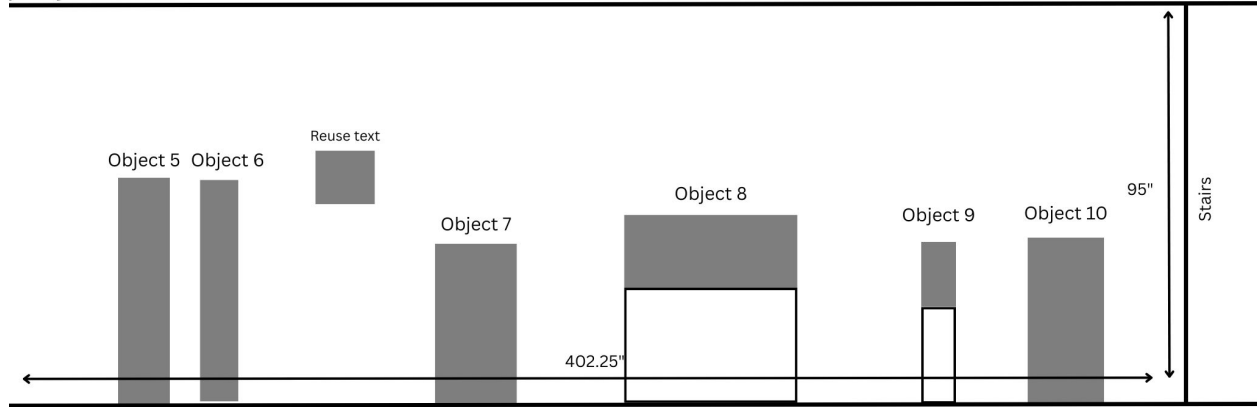
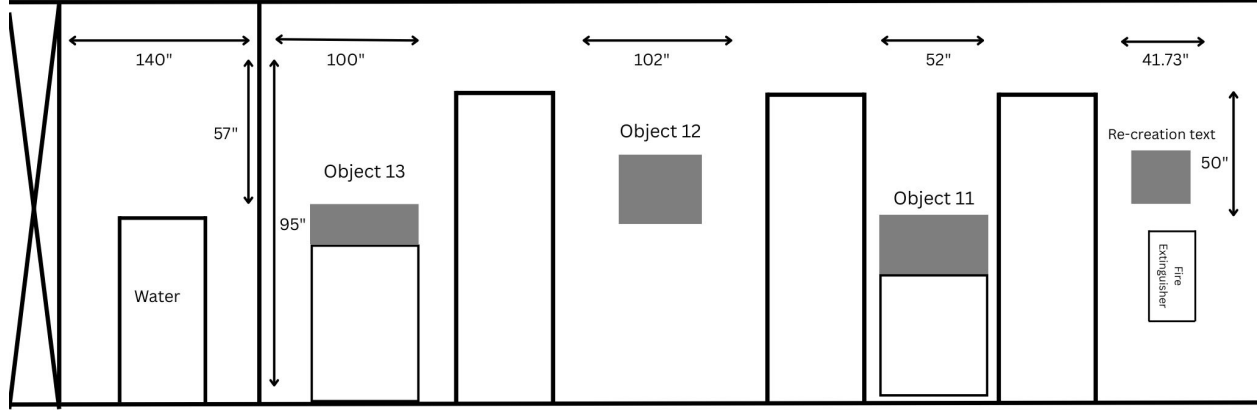
With every new vision, the earth bears the weight of our dreams

Made from sails from derelict boats.

Layout Plan:



Wall C



Wall B

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