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Pillars Scholarship

NewSchool of Architecture & Design

Paradise:

## Reflection Paper

With the award received from the Pillars Scholarship, I was able to spend a week interviewing and photographing the current conditions of Paradise, CA. I documented the ways in which it is redeveloping in response to the devastation of the 2018 Camp wildfire.

I met with associates from a manufactured home agency, spoke with representatives from the local building department, utilities providers, fire department and supporting organizations. I took photos of fire damage, new building construction, debris clearing and contamination inspection. Along with this, I have researched and documented my findings and speculated on architectural design solutions for, not only Paradise, but other communities affected by wildfires.

This research shows the effects of severe fire damage on a small community as well as the operations and functionality of the systems in place that help facilitate its redevelopment. A closer look at the local agencies of Paradise and interaction with its citizens and workers has helped me understand the community and the design intent of the town of Paradise.

My trip to Paradise has benefited my educational career at NewSchool in many ways. With the knowledge gleaned from my trip, I have learned very much about the infrastructure of Paradise, the strength of community, the legal processes in its redevelopment and the fragility of its environment. This research has helped guide my interests and ambitions of my personal pursuits in architecture. I hope to use the knowledge from this trip to become a more informed and adept professional as a future California architect.