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Andes Artist Community proposes housing and studios for the artist-in-residence program offered by the Andes Sprouts Society in Andes, New York. The design proposal offers five units: three artist studios; one media hub; and one bathroom. The units are carefully sited to create a feeling of community among the artist studios, display and gathering for the media hub and privacy for the bathroom. While these relationships exist, the deployment of the structures on the site gives the impression of sculptural objects casually meandering along the slopes of the site. This provocation provides a place for communal participation in the exchange of knowledge of farming and emergent media exploration, consistent with the agenda of the sponsoring organization. A metal angle frame and a metal grate exterior skin allow for repeated assembly and disassembly of the structures. A waterproof seal is achieved by lining the frame with a tarp enveloping a wood interior made of panels from disassembled shipping pallets. The rigid and movable enclosure sits on a firm base of field stone filled gabion cages lightly dug into a gently rolling patch of land. For the three artist studios, furniture is reconditioned or constructed of disassembled wood pallets. A small solar panel system is installed to produce enough power to operate a small projector or other devices within the unit. The media hub is a place for the artist community to gather, work and exhibit. An off-grid solar panel system provides power for laptops, projectors and other devices while a battery powered refrigerator and a propane stove allow for the preparation of food. The bathroom houses three solar showers and a composting toilet and water is collected through a rain catcher barrel. The composting toilet offers a chemical free way to return useful nutrients to the surrounding soil.

