Aleksandr V. Karpov

2010 - 2016

PORTFOLIO

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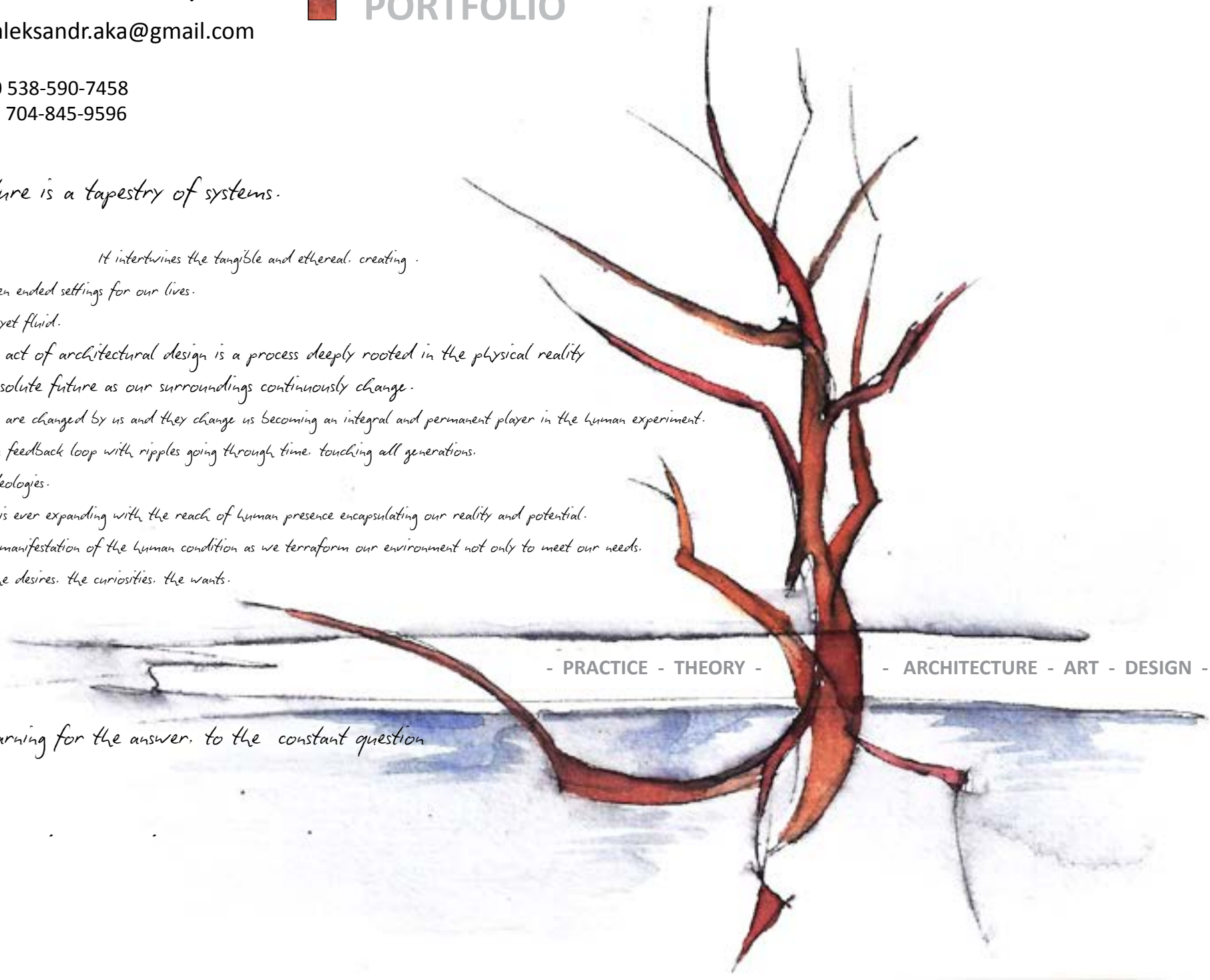
Architecture is a tapestry of systems.

It intertwines the tangible and ethereal. creating .
The unavoidable. yet open ended settings for our lives.
It is absolute. yet fluid.
The act of architectural design is a process deeply rooted in the physical reality
and yet it has no absolute future as our surroundings continuously change.
They are changed by us and they change us becoming an integral and permanent player in the human experiment.
This becomes a feedback loop with ripples going through time. touching all generations.
cultures. climates and ideologies.
This tapestry is ever expanding with the reach of human presence encapsulating our reality and potential.
Architecture is the very manifestation of the human condition as we terraform our environment not only to meet our needs.
but also to satisfy the desires. the curiosities. the wants.



- PRACTICE - THEORY - - ARCHITECTURE - ART - DESIGN -

It is an yearning for the answer. to the constant question

what if . . .

Curriculum Vitae

Aleksandr V. Karpov

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LANGUAGES : Russian, English

DOB : Aug. 5. 1989

CITIZENSHIP : USA

ADDRESS : 9818 Fairway Ridge Rd.
Charlotte, NC, 28277 (USA)

DIGITAL SKILL SET :

- ●●●●● Revit Architecture 2015
- ●●●●● Autocad 2015
- ●●●●● Sketch Up 2016
- ●●●○○ Rhino 5 (Grasshopper, V-ray)
- ●●●○○ Lumion 5.0
- ●●○○○ Cinema 4D
- ●●●●○ Photoshop
- ●●●○○ Illustrator
- ●●●●○ InDesign
- ●●○○○ Ecotect 2011
- ●●●○○ Climate Consultant
- ●●○○○ Vectorworks
- ●●●●● Microsoft Office

ANALOG SKILL SET:

SCULPTING, WATERCOLOUR, PAINTING, HAND DRAFTING, MODEL MAKING, WOOD TURNING, METAL WORKING, FURNITURE MAKING, CASTING AND FORM WORK

DIGITAL FABRICATION EXPERIENCE :

LASER CUTTING, PLASMA CUTTING

EDUCATION: BACHELOR OF ARTS IN ARCHITECTURE (UNCC) 3.488 GPA

2007-2013 UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHARLOTTE (UNITED STATES)

2009 SUMMER STUDY PROGRAM IN CHINA (UNCC)

2010 SUMMER STUDY PROGRAM IN ITALY (UNCC)

2010-2011 INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE PROGRAM AT LUND UNIVERSITY (SWEDEN)

EXPERIENCE:

1999-2007 TAE-KWON-DO INSTRUCTOR AT KING TIGER ACADEMY (CHARLOTTE)

2001-2006 VIOLINIST WITH THE CHARLOTTE SYMPHONY YOUTH ORCHESTRA (CHARLOTTE)

2008-2010 TEACHING/ DESIGN ASSISTANT AT LABORATORY FOR INNOVATIVE HOUSING (UNCC)

2012 WOOD TURNING UNDERSTUDY WITH BILL MCINNIS (CHARLOTTE)

2015 SARAJEVO GREEN DESIGN BIENNALE PRESENTATION (ABOUTBLANK)

2016 WHO BUILDS ISTANBUL WORKSHOP (STUDIO X, WBYA)

2012-2013 **PROJECT MANAGER AT RD&D (CHARLOTTE)**

As a part of this 3 person office, I was in charge of design, development and construction for over 20 small local businesses. This process included client relations, design development, MEP and architectural design, municipal submissions demolition and construction.

2013-2016 **PROJECT ARCHITECT / BIM MANAGER AT ABOUTBLANK (ISTANBUL)**

As a member of the design team, I contribute to conceptual design, development and visualization of competitions, construction projects, intern instruction and other academic endeavors. I am in charge of realized and ongoing projects as BIM manager of the office, charged with documentation, technical output and production of construction documents for multiple ongoing projects.

AWARDS:

2007 SCHOLASTIC SILVER KEY RECIPIENT (MYERS PARK HS)

2008 BOARDMAN SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT (UNCC)

2013 1ST PLACE - IZKA- IZMIR DEVELOPMENT AGENCY HEADQUARTERS (ABOUT BLANK)

2014 3RD PLACE - GOKCEADA HIGH SCHOOL CAMPUS (ABOUT BLANK)

2014 HONORABLE MENTION - BISHKEK 2040 URBAN VISION AND MASTER-PLAN (ABOUT BLANK)

2014 3RD PLACE - MEHMETKAVUK CAMI IN MALATYA (ABOUT BLANK)

2015 1ST MENTION - CLIMATE ZONE 7, 7 NATIONAL ARCHITECTURAL COMPETITION (ABOUT BLANK)

2015 1ST PLACE - ESKISEHIR VEHICLE MAINTENANCE. WORKSHOP INDUSTRIAL REGENERATION (ABOUT BLANK)

2015 HONORABLE MENTION - MALTEPE GULSUYU CEMEVI NATIONAL COMPETITION (ABOUT BLANK)

2015 3RD PLACE - BEYLIKDUSU MUNICIPALITY BRIDGE AND VALLEY COMPETITION (ABOUT BLANK)

REFERENCES:

RD&D Sean Reymann (owner) seanreymann@gmail.com
ABOUTBLANK Hasan Sıtkı Gümüşsoy (founding partner) hasan@aboutblank.cc

BUILT WORKS:

2012-2013 OVER 20 RESTAURANTS AND SMALL BUSINESSES, INCLUDING: “AMORE DE BRAZIL RESTAURANT”, “KEBABJE RESTAURANT”, “LEE NAILS AND SPA” (CHARLOTTE, NC)
2013 “COW FISH SUSI AND BURGER BAR” (RALEIGH, NC)
2013-2016 “SKY BLUE” RESIDENTIAL TOWER (KARTAL, ISTANBUL)
2015-2016 “SKY GARDEN” RESIDENTIAL TOWERS (ECZACIBASI, ISTANBUL, ONGOING CONSTRUCTION)
2015-2016 CEKMEKOY HIGH SCHOOL (CEKMEKOY, ISTANBUL)
2015-2016 MULTIPLE RESIDENTIAL TOWER PROJECTS PENDING CONSTRUCTION (ISTANBUL)

SHOWCASE:

I HAD A MAJOR ROLE IN DESIGN AND PRODUCTION OF ALL PROFESSIONAL PROJECT PRESENTED
I WAS THE SOLE DESIGNER IN ALL ACADEMIC AND THEORETICAL PROJECTS PRESENTED.

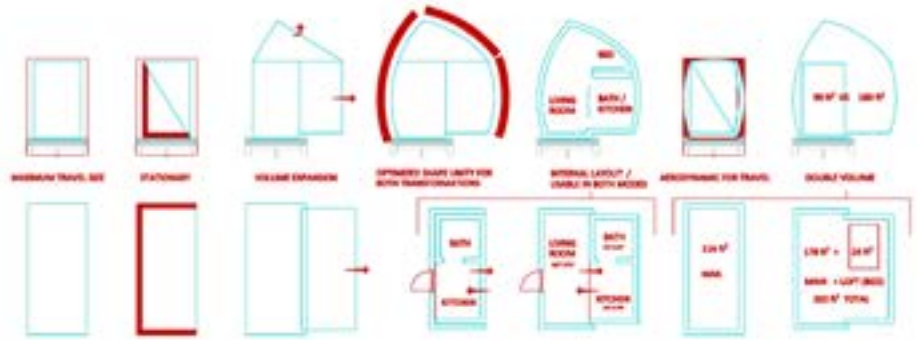
THE PRESENTED PROJECTS ARE A SAMPLING OF MY ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL ENDEAVORS. THESE SHOW THE VARIETY OF SCALES AND TYPOLOGIES THAT I HAVE EXPLORED, EACH PROJECT FOCUSES ON DIFFERENT ELEMENTS OF THE DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT PROCESS :

INFRASTRUCTURE, MIXED USE, MASTER PLANING, HOUSING COMPLEX, PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL, OFFICE, CULTURAL, SPORTS, SOCIAL, ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIO-POLITICAL, PUBLIC, PRIVATE...

SEED - Artists' Getaway

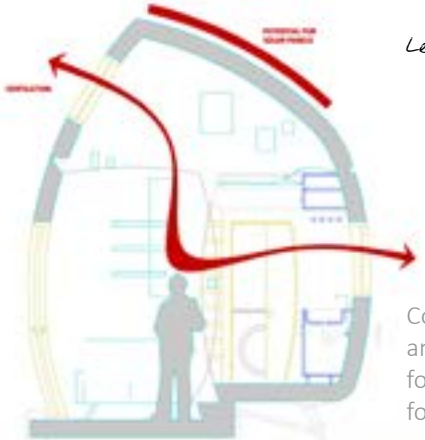
DATE: 2015
TYPE: Private Commission
USE: Residence/ Art Studio
SIZE: 202 ft²
PLACE: Mobile (New Mexico, USA)
STATUS: Concept

Specific to the harsh climate of New Mexico, with a contingency for packing and relocating, the concept looks at organic forms for aerodynamics on the road, and expanding the living space from a footprint of a road-legal trailer bed.



PACKED / UNPACKED

Geometry optimized for maximum footprint with necessary shell insulation. Circular sections used to continue interior space uninterrupted and wall edges pushed out to make interior feel larger, wrapping around the guest.



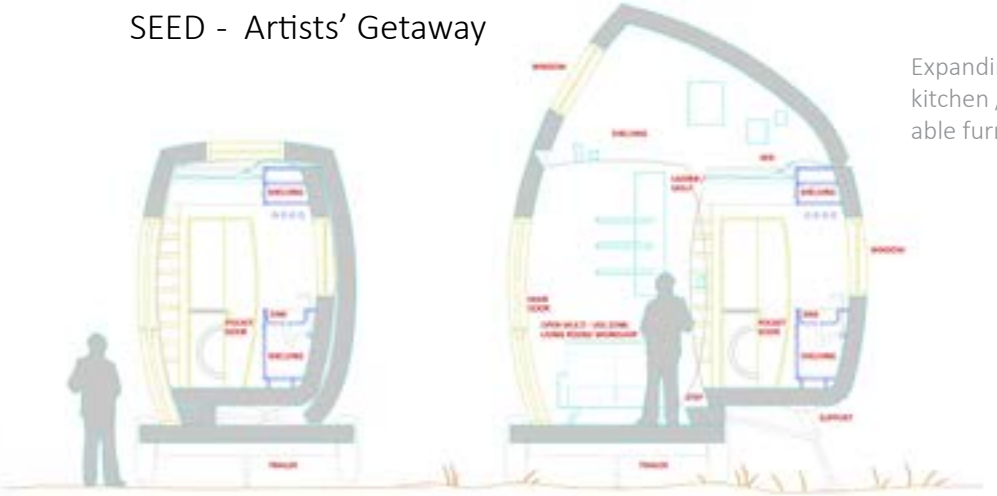
Let the seed take root wherever it falls.
And let it be fruitful.

Connecting to off grid solar and water, with thick insulation for winter and cross ventilation for summer.

SECTION - UNPACKED

SEED - Artists' Getaway

Expanding mechanism allows use of wet spaces even when in compact mode. A large workshop area and a full kitchen / bathroom provide comfort for long term stay. Bed and shelving to be stored in interior wall cavities, foldable furniture and supplies can be carried in the kitchen shelving during transport.



SECTION - PACKED

SECTION - UNPACKED

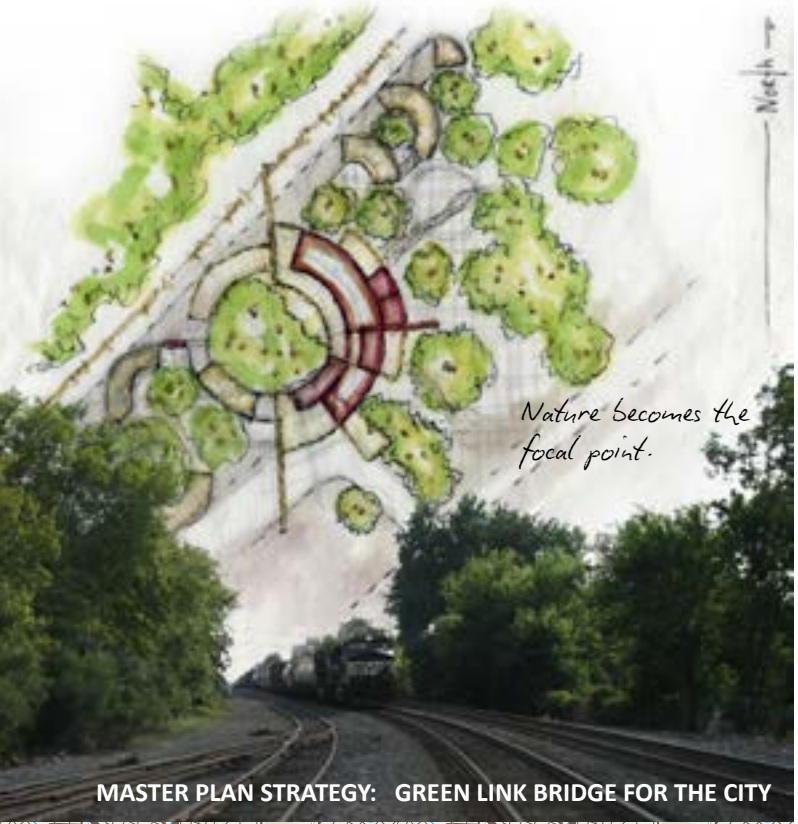
PLAN - PACKED

PLAN - UNPACKED MAIN FLOOR

PLAN - UNPACKED LOFT

QCT- Queen City Train Station

DATE: 2010
TYPE: 3rd year (UNCC)
USE: Transportation, Urban Park
SIZE: 12,000 ft²
PLACE: Charlotte (NC, United States)
STATUS: Academic
PROF. : Michael Williams



MASTER PLAN STRATEGY: GREEN LINK BRIDGE FOR THE CITY

The train station infrastructure is to be used as a city-wide intervention to develop a continuous green-way through the center, linking existing pockets of neighborhood parks into a pedestrian and business friendly unifying zone. The path loops over the tracks and acts as an introductory platform for a vantage of the city skyline.

QCT- Queen City Train Station

OVERVIEW spanning the divide

Lifting a nature walk over the tracks creates a viewing platform and a covered path onto the platform. The circulation is split into open air and indoor paths, leading a procession from entry to ticketing, to luggage drop off, waiting and the train.

Material path study

Program layout

Structual systems model

TOPKAPI 3S KALE

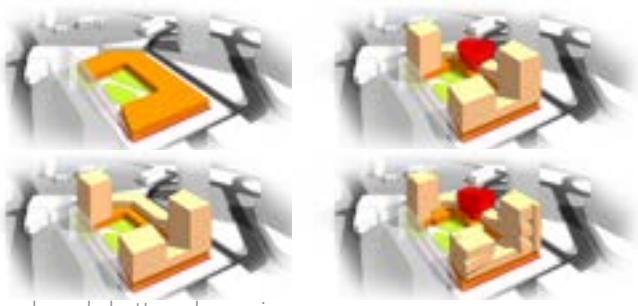
DATE: 2016
TYPE: Developer Proposal
USE: Mix-use Development
SIZE: 50,600 m²
PLACE: Istanbul (Turkey)
STATUS: Proposal
TEAM: Aboutblank

Located in an urban site with close proximity to universities, with student and family housing above ground level shopping and the new office space for the client organization.

Growing an urban island

Site use diagrams

Master Plan



Developed shattered massing

TOPKAPI 3S KALE

Varied office plan layouts

Contained tower layout plan

Expanding tower layout plan

Caferga Community Center

DATE: 2016
TYPE: Municipal Competition
USE: Cultural Center / Theater
SIZE: 14,000 m²
PLACE: Istanbul (Turkey)
STATUS: Proposal
TEAM: Aboutblank

Situated in a dense and vibrant neighborhood, an existing sports hall requires an overhaul. The proposal attempts to give a large plaza to the neighborhood as a community garden. The theater and cultural functions frame the plaza, while the sports functions are below.

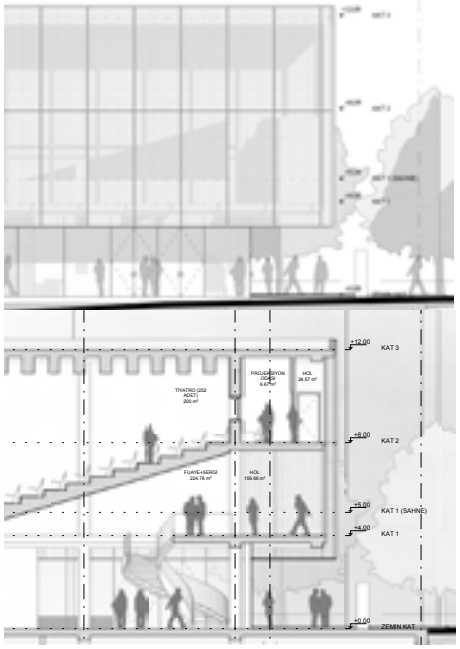
Removing the existing mass

Split level access to functions

Cultural edge and public plaza

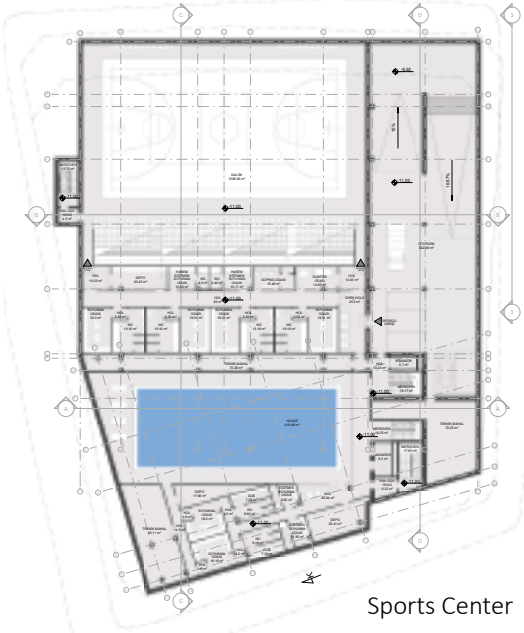
Scaling mass to context

Caferga Community Center

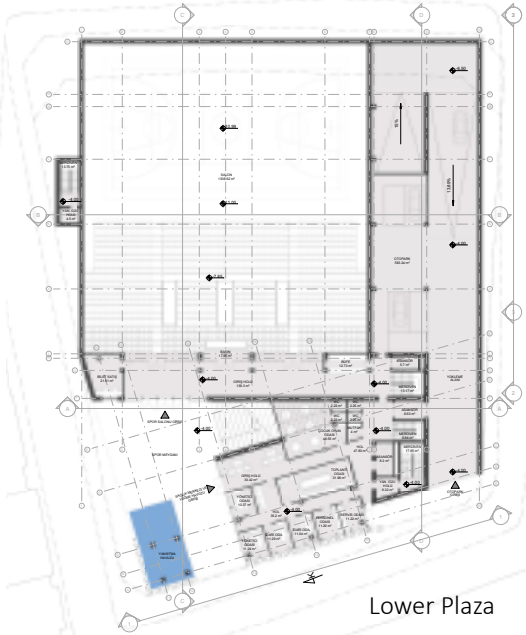


Mesh facade providing a depth and transparency to the overlapping volumes.

Basketball Arena and Sports Club are accessed from a smaller plaza across from the neighborhood school. The public plaza is framed by public offices, a food court and the entrance to the theater. The cultural hall floats above the ground plane, creating a seamless, inclusive public zone.

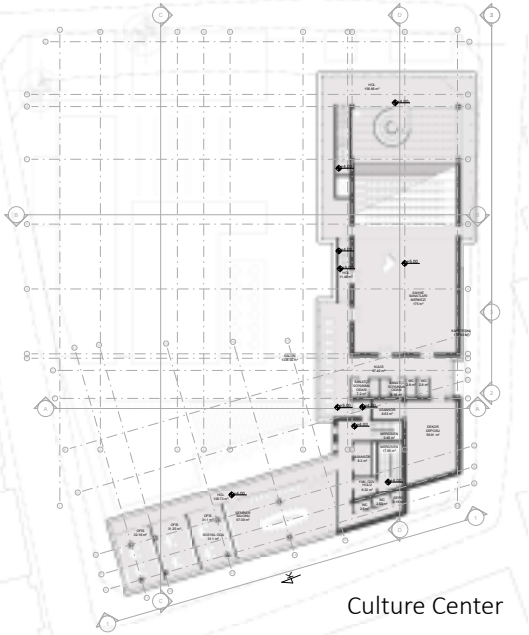


Sports Center



Lower Plaza

Main Plaza



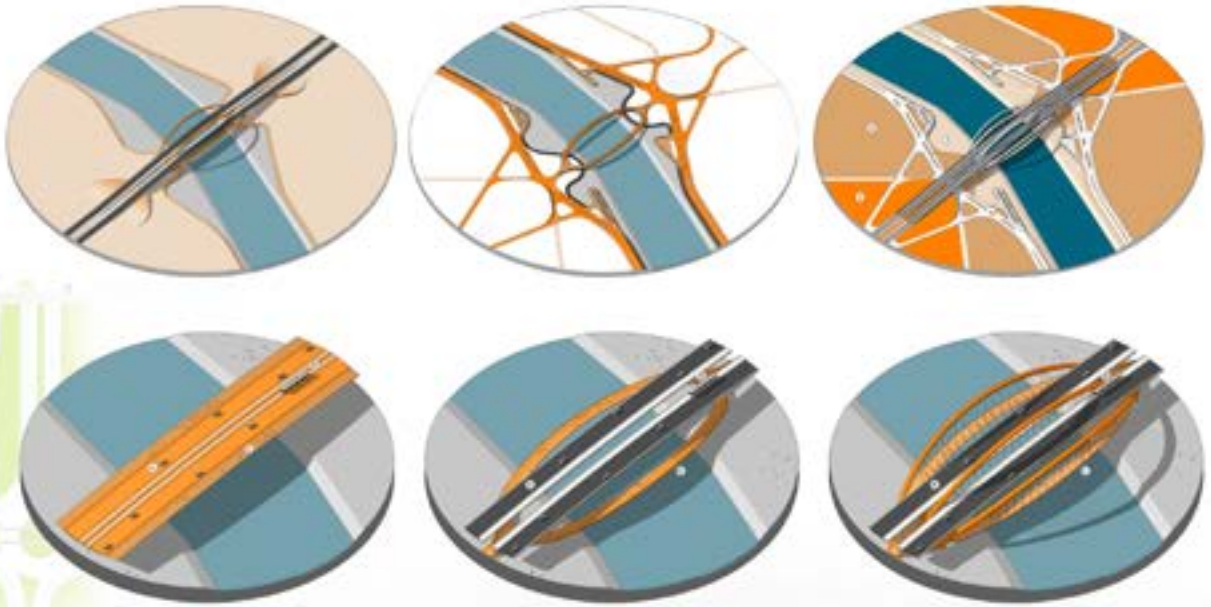
Culture Center

Sivas Unity Bridge

DATE: 2016
TYPE: National Competition
USE: Bridge/ Park-scape
SIZE: 150 m span, 120,000 m²
PLACE: Sivas (Turkey)
STATUS: Proposal
TEAM: Aboutblank

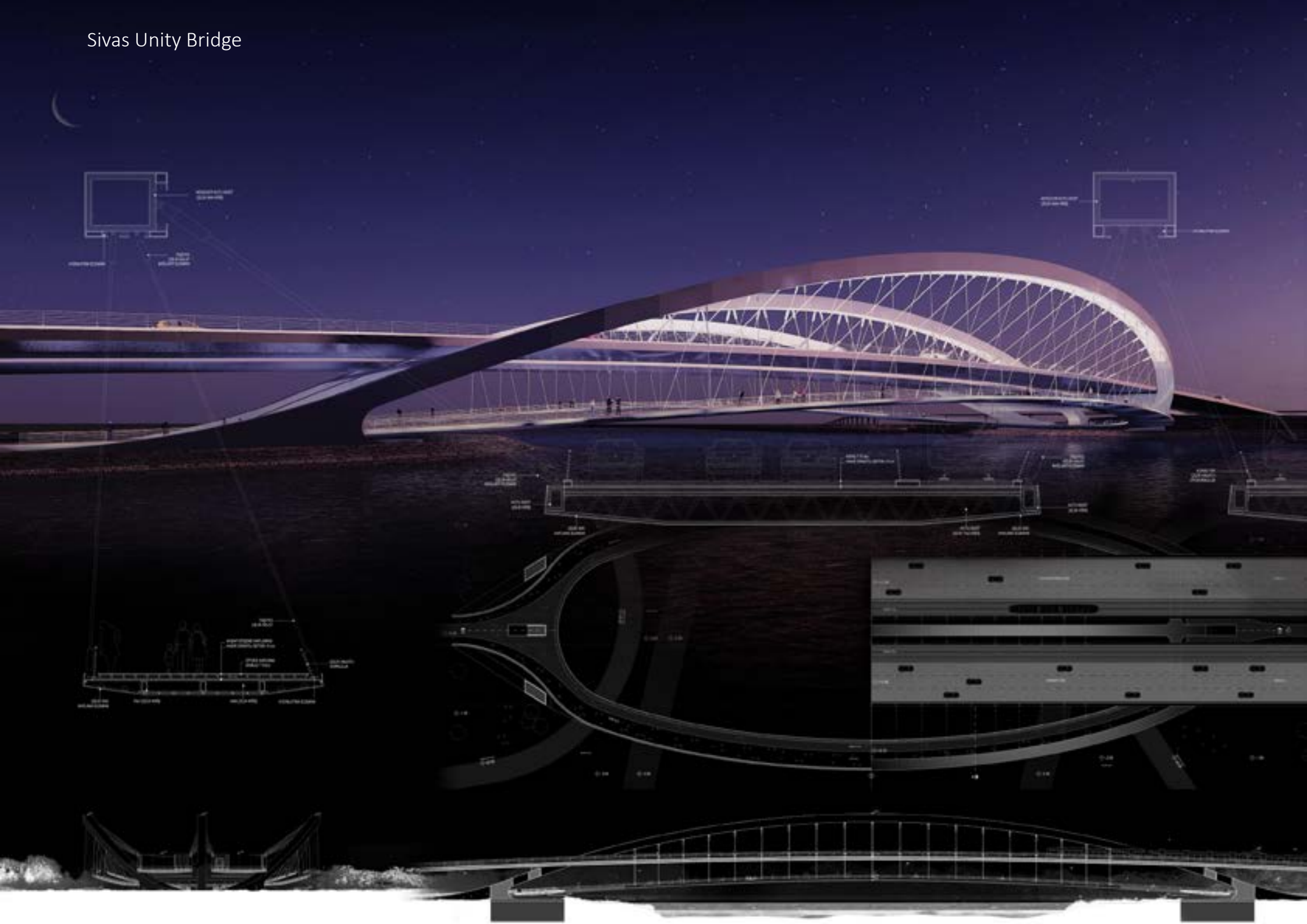
The bridge connects the main city to the university complex through a riverside park. The flatland inspired a longer drawn out path for the tram and car bridge. Pockets of social spaces are formed within park-lane and bridge intersections.

The width of the river is 100 m. The bridge is expanded to accommodate the vehicular and pedestrian requirements while opening the bridge to the river and park. An airy sculpture forms the bridges uninterrupted span. Park paths are integrated into a pedestrian ring road by the water. Seasonal overflow zones in the park frame garden wetlands at each end of the bridge.



A traditional solid bridge is split into smaller segments for a lighter structure and lessened impact on the park. Pedestrian path is brought closer to the water and is complimented by the structure beams above.

Sivas Unity Bridge



Beylikduzu - Valley of Life

DATE: 2015
TYPE: National Competition
USE: Multi Bridge/ Park master-plan
SIZE: 1,750,000 m²
PLACE: Istanbul (Turkey)
STATUS: 3rd Place
TEAM: Aboutblank/ BOOM Landscape

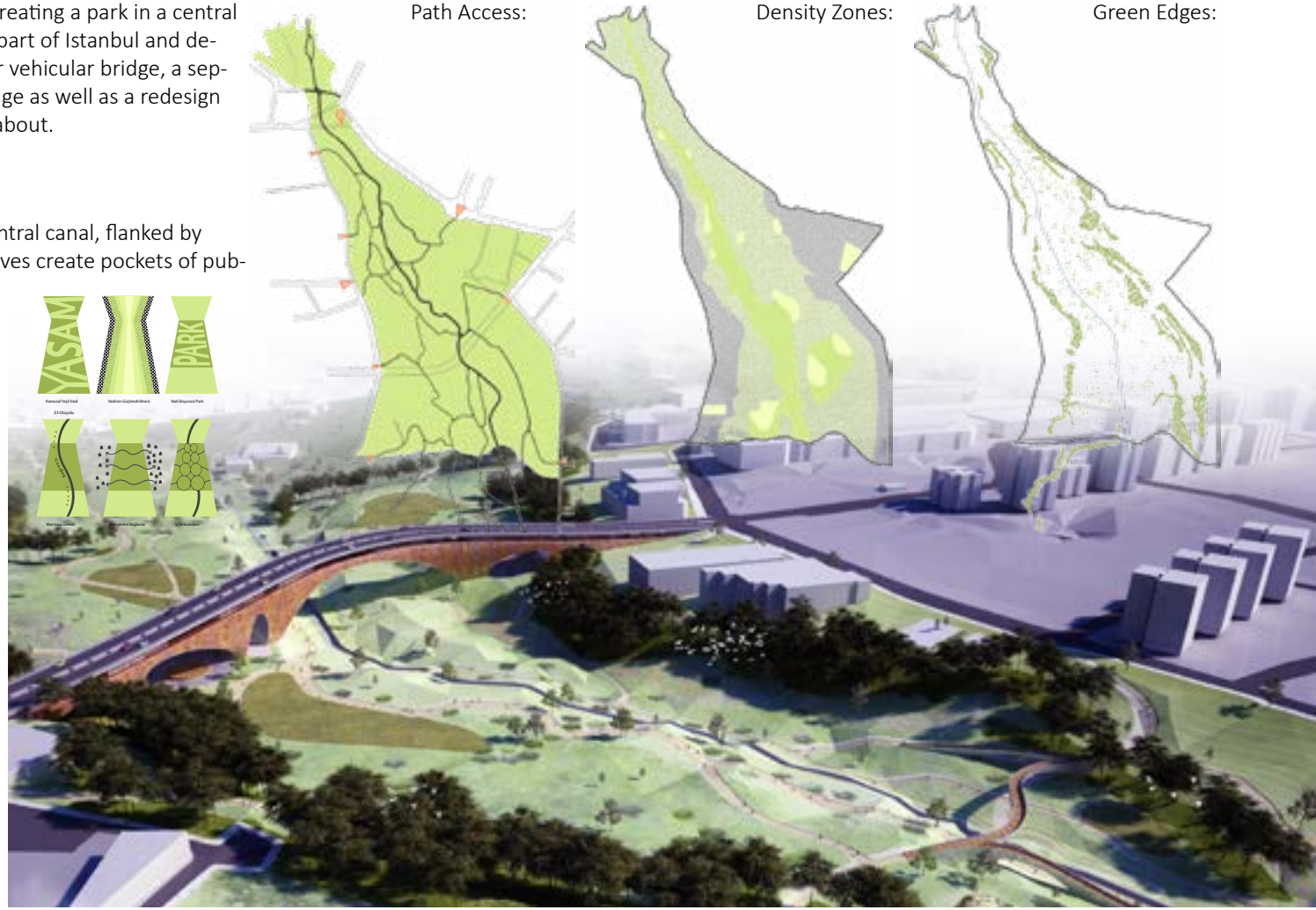
The objective was creating a park in a central valley of a growing part of Istanbul and designing a new major vehicular bridge, a septate pedestrian bridge as well as a redesign for an existing turnabout.

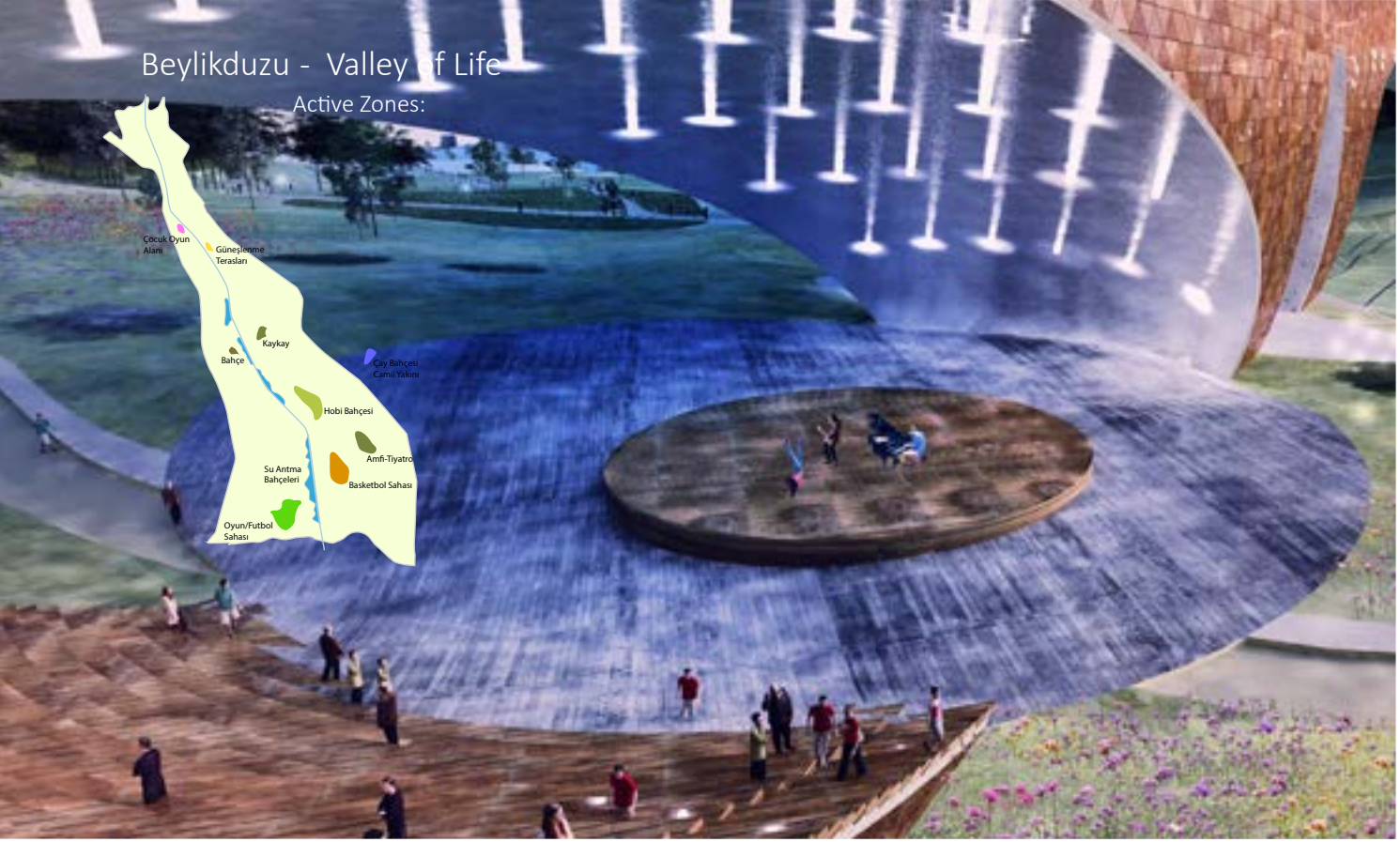
Creating a series of natural park loops along the spine of a central canal, flanked by trees along the steep edge of the valley. The bridges themselves create pockets of public interactive space and become fixtures in the park.

Path Access:

Density Zones:

Green Edges:

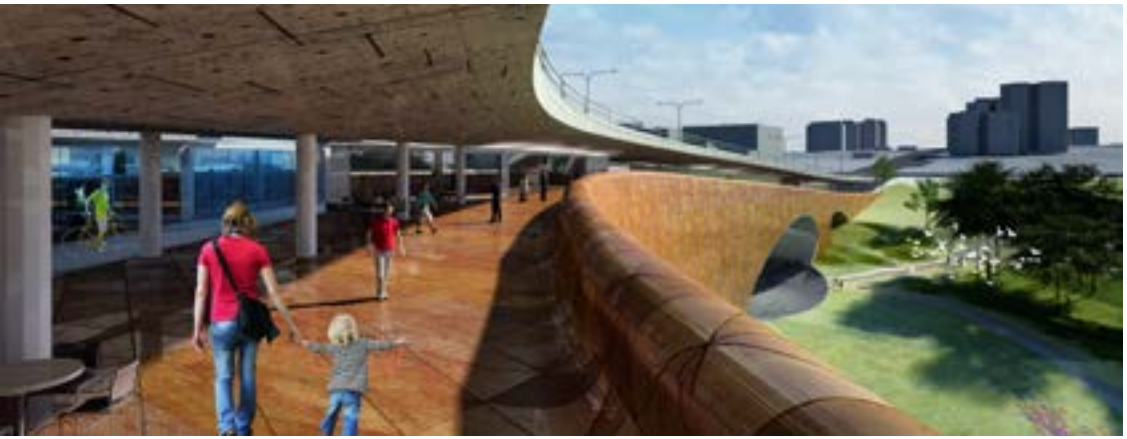




Within the cavities of the main bridge, a seris of active spaces for recreational, sports and cultural activieis are built in as part of the park itself. The bridges become active zones above and inside the park.

The turnabout redesign forms two additional twin bridges at the edge of the park.

The pedestrian bridge is extrusion of the path system and forms a sculptural sweep over the valley.



Main bridge concept:

1- Barrier through park

2- Sculptural Voids

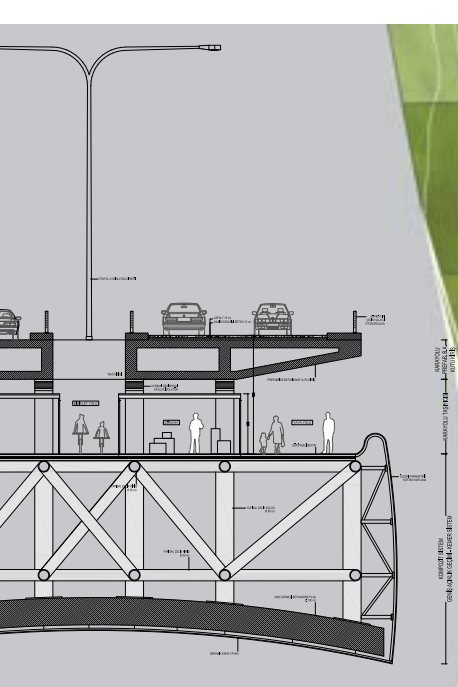
3- Diverse Spatial Pavilions

Main bridge structure:

1- Structural Ribbon

2- Regulating Frames

3- Vehicular Road



Small shops and park view cafe inside the bridge.

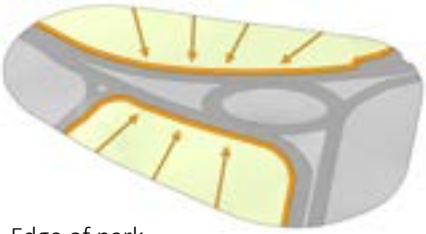
Pedestrian bridge concept:

1- Level Crossing

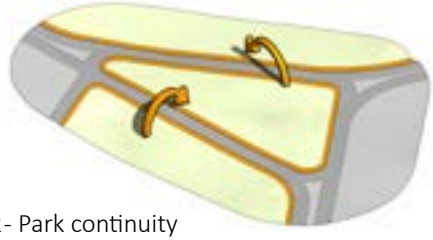
2- Extruded paths

3- Transition into park

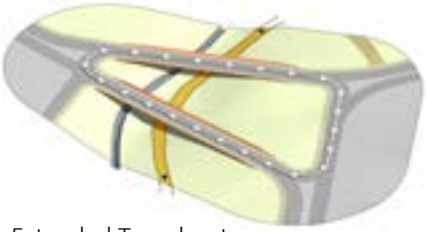
Turnabout Redesign:



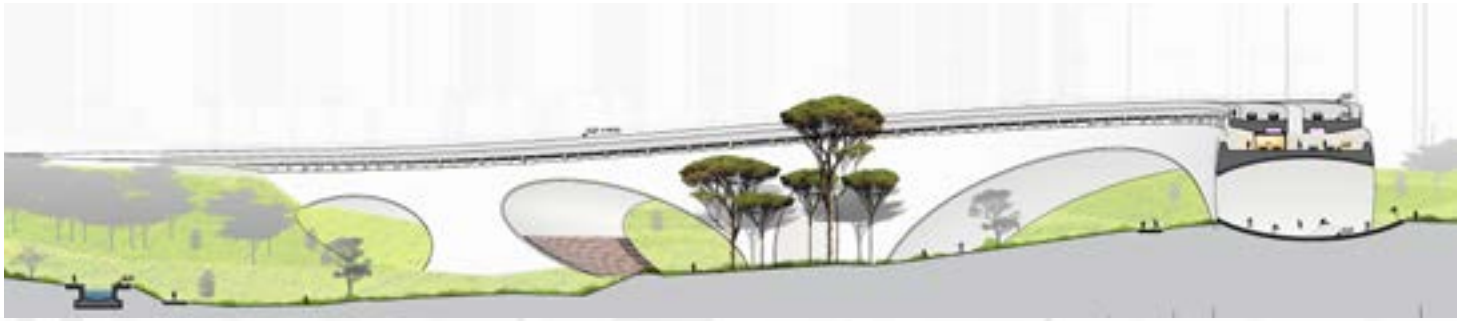
1- Edge of park

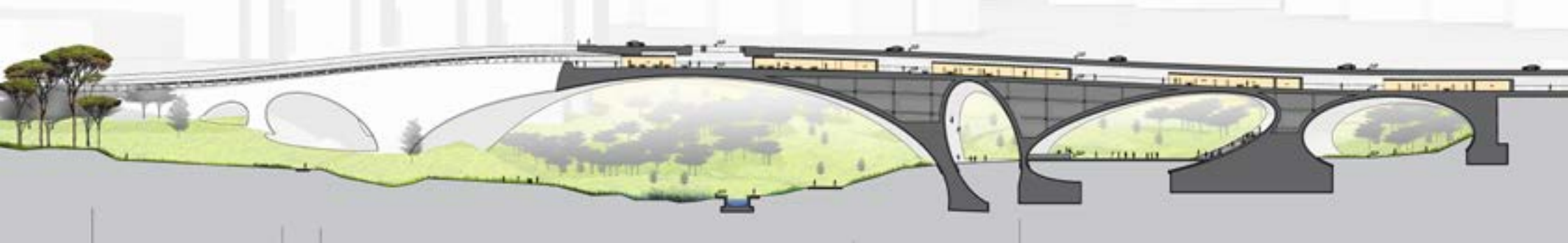


2- Park continuity



3- Extended Turnabout





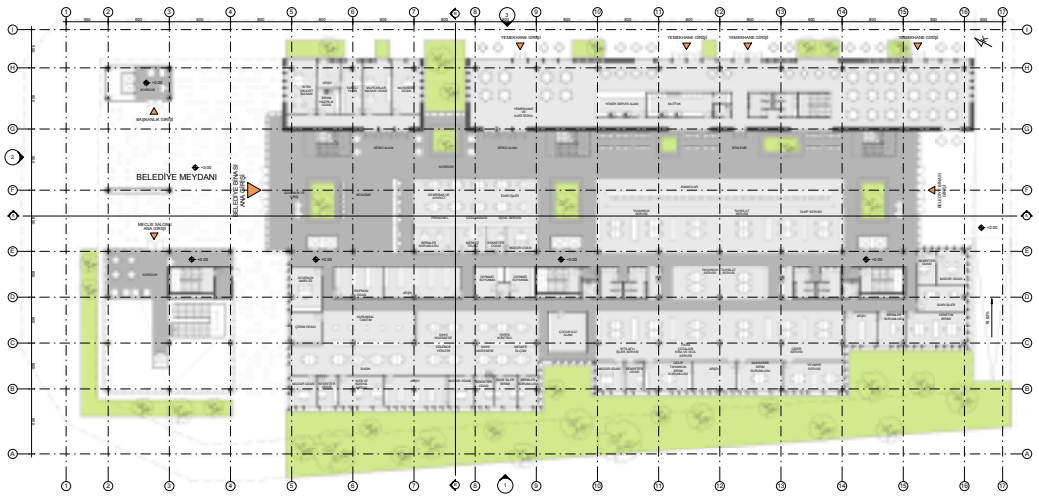
Konak Government Center

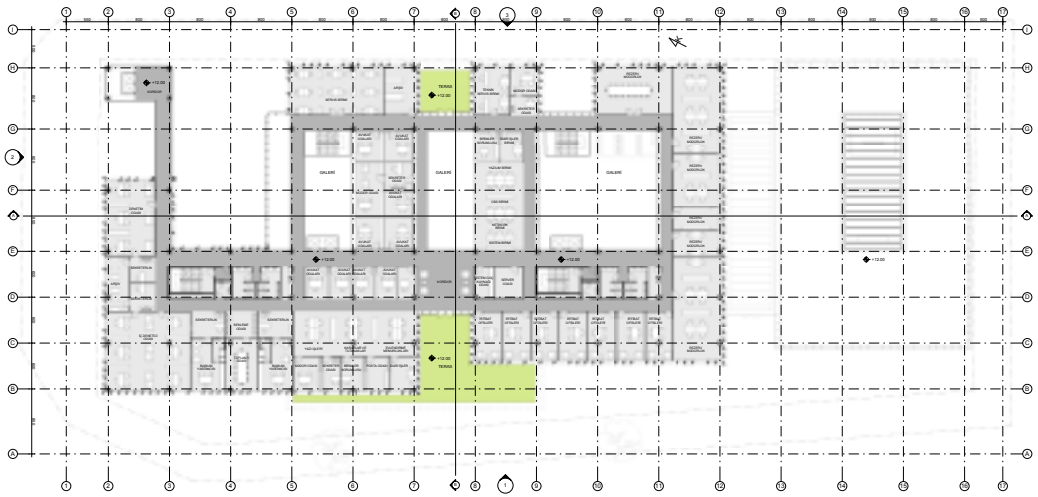
DATE: 2015
TYPE: National Competition
USE: Municipal Office / Local Master Plan
SIZE: 22,000 m²
PLACE: Izmir (Turkey)
STATUS: Proposal
TEAM: Aboutblank

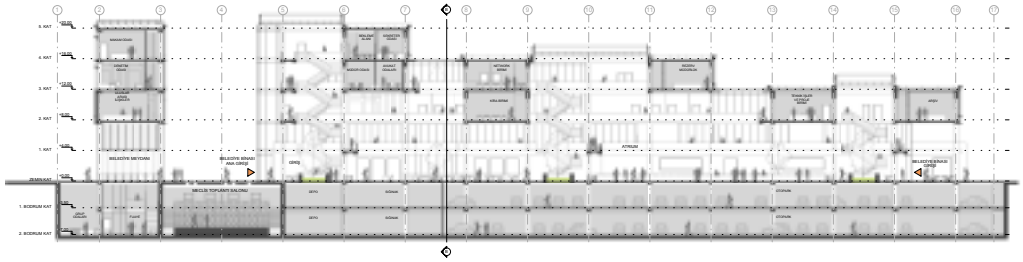
The municipal office is developed along the logic of a dividing cell. As office function recedes from public to private, each department is formed around its own courtyard. The mini gardens form into a single public atrium linking the building to the gardens outside. The facade facing the highway is broken up into a series of horizontals, while they break up into smaller elements on the residential side. This scales the building to each surrounding context.

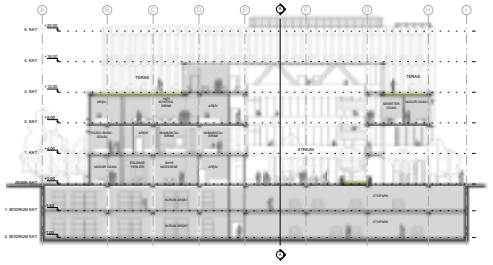
The zone between the river and highway is developed as a community park, with cultural and educational buildings along its edge, beginning with the municipal office. A new residential plan establishes a medium density neighborhood with courtyard housing typology connecting the park to the existing city fabric. A central square with an old mosque becomes an anchor of the newly established park, preserving the old for the new.

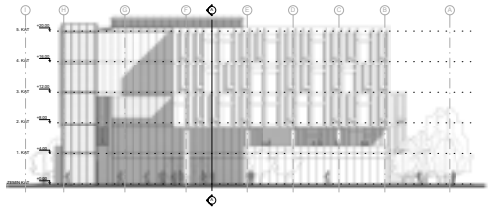
Konak Government Center

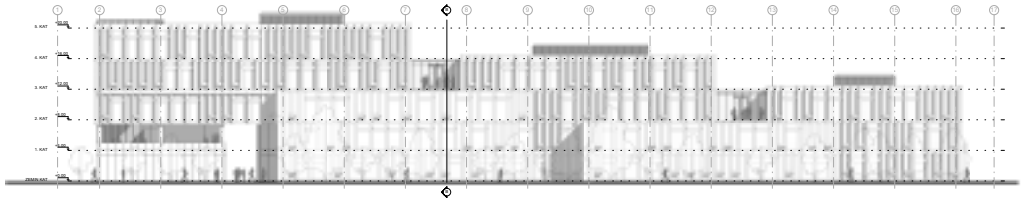


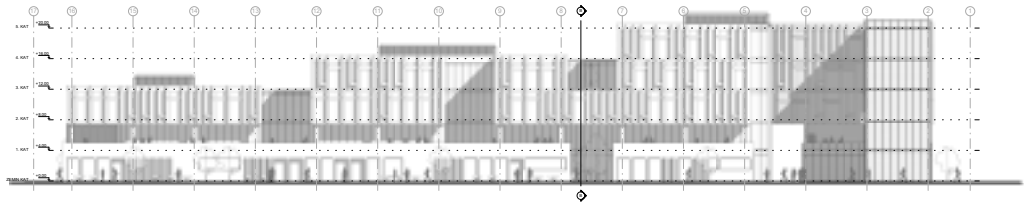












Sky Garden Residences

DATE: 2015-2016
TYPE: Commission
USE: Residential
SIZE: 33,360 m^2
PLACE: Istanbul (Turkey)
STATUS: Under Construction
TEAM: Aboutblank

A residential complex with 375 units, a private gardens complex along with sports and recreational facilities. The development provides housing for existing tenants on the site as well as new developer owned apartments. Located in a newly upgrading part of Istanbul and offering spectacular sea side views, this is one of multiple similar ongoing projects I am involved with.

I have been tasked with leading the team producing the documentation for the project, coordination with the client, engineers and other consultants. The project accommodates garden duplex apartments on the ground floor, diverse floor plans ranging from 1+1 to 5+1 apartment layouts, including clients private penthouse at the rooftop. The final design plays off the idea of the garden by evoking an image of a sprouting seedling from the base, using a contrast of material and assembly types.

Sky Garden Residences

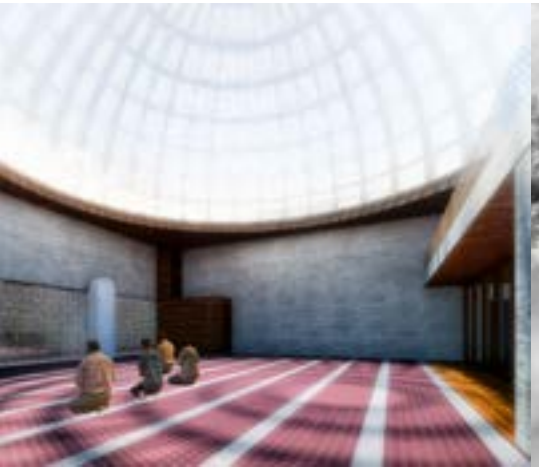
Residences for existing tenants
are located in the midsection
of the tower complex.

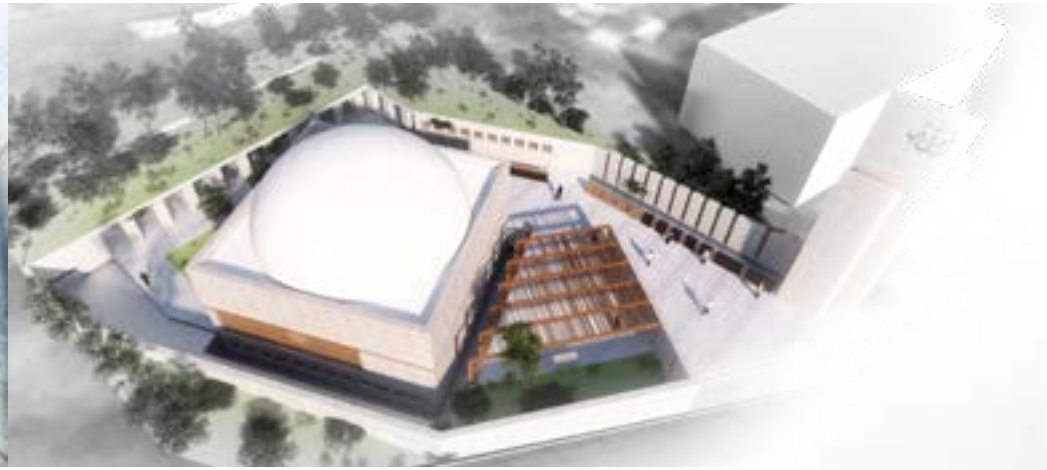
Private Gardens and sports complex
including a pool and basketball courts.

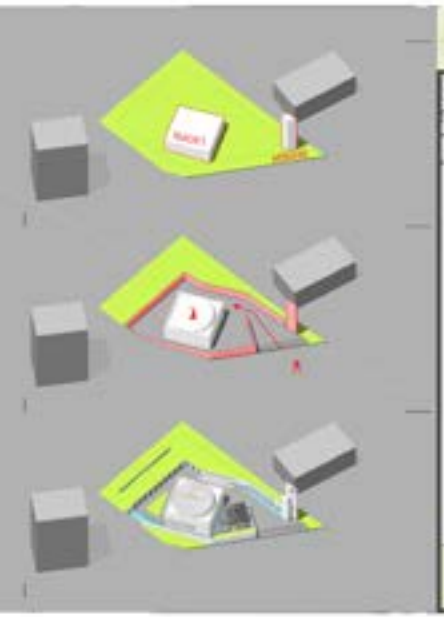
Aziz Mosque

DATE: 2015
TYPE: Municipal Commission
USE: Religious/ Cultural
SIZE: 2,000 m²
PLACE: Istanbul (Turkey)
STATUS: Proposal
TEAM: Aboutblank

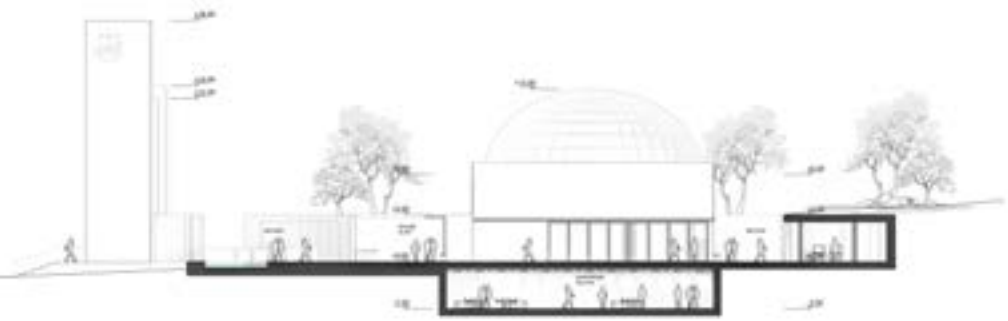
This is a small mosque proposal for a sloped site. The classroom functions are cut into the hill creating a natural shelter from the city. The main mosque is a simple, serene object inhabiting the newly excavated square. A series of water features adds to the calm atmosphere and guide the path through the complex. A cultural center is located below the mosque and a waterfall cascades to the inner sanctum. The dome typology is explored with new materiality, with a translucent skin, letting in natural diffuse light into the prayer hall. Adjacent gardens and outdoor activity rooms frame the central hall and provide different material textures for the activities, solidifying the sense of place formed by the complex.



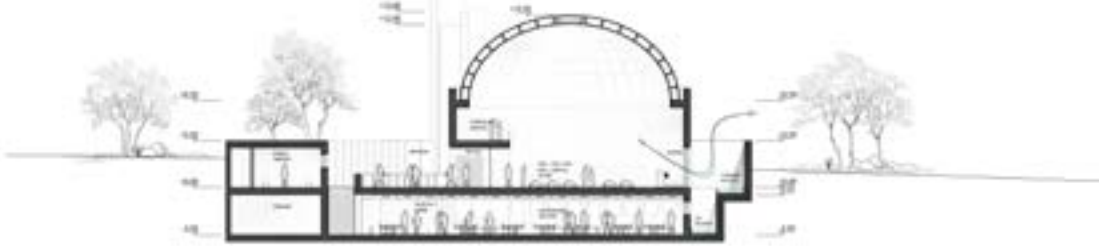




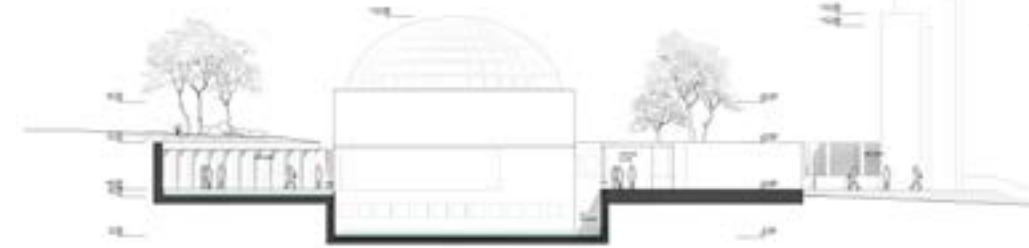
Aziz Mosque



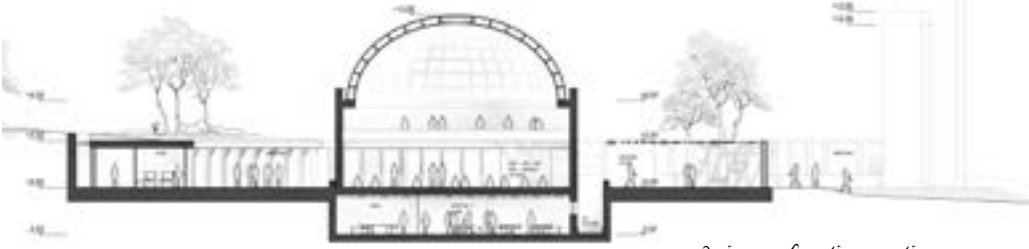
Entry procession elevation



Entry Section



Courtyard elevation



Primary functions section

Main plaza and entry into the prayer hall sheltered from the outside by a retaining wall cut from the hill.

Center City East

DATE: 2011
TYPE: 4th year short project (LUND)
USE: Social Housing/ Master-plan
SIZE: 1,500,000 ft²
PLACE: Los Angeles (CA, United States)
STATUS: Academic
PROF. : John Ross

"SKID ROW"
ONE OF THE LARGEST HOMELESS POPULATIONS IN THE USA

17,740 PEOPLE
2,410 HOUSEHOLDS

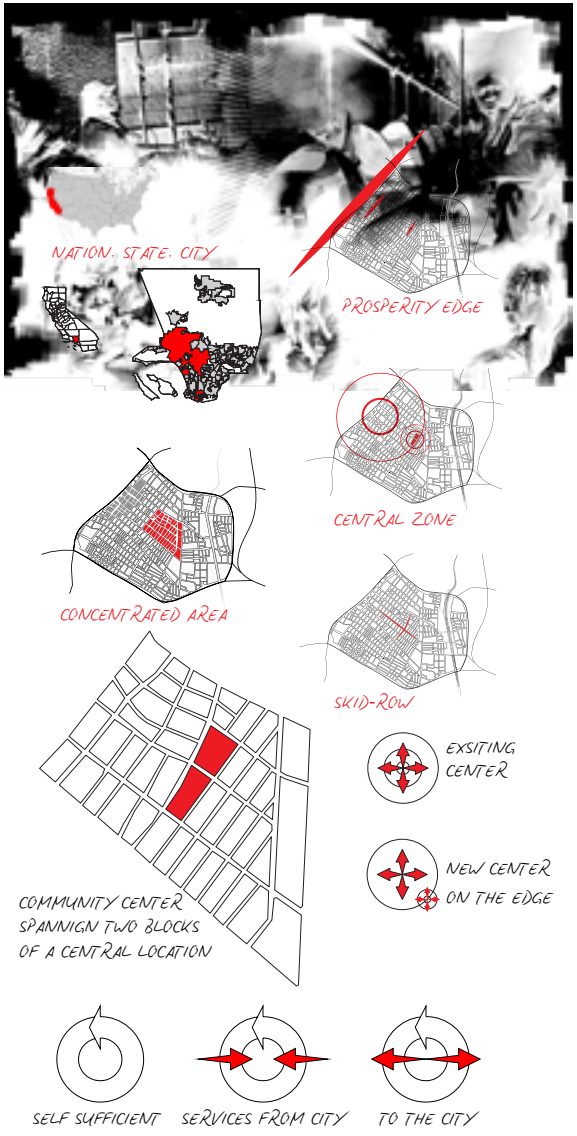
4,111 /SQ. MI POP. DENSITY
4.31 SQ. MILE AREA

$ 14,210 PER CAPITA INCOME

41.8% BELOW POVERTY LINE

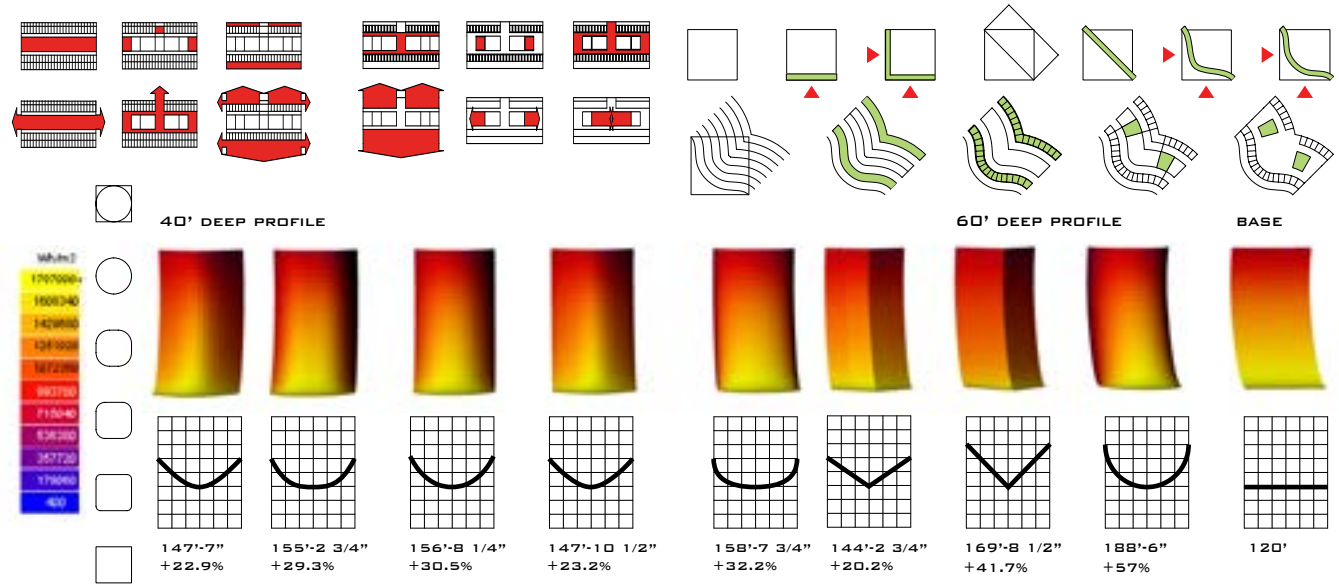
9.8% under age of 18
54.7% from 18-34
39.9% from 35-64
4.6% older then 65

"THE VALLEY OF SMOKE"
ONE OF THE MOST POLUTED CITIES IN THE USA

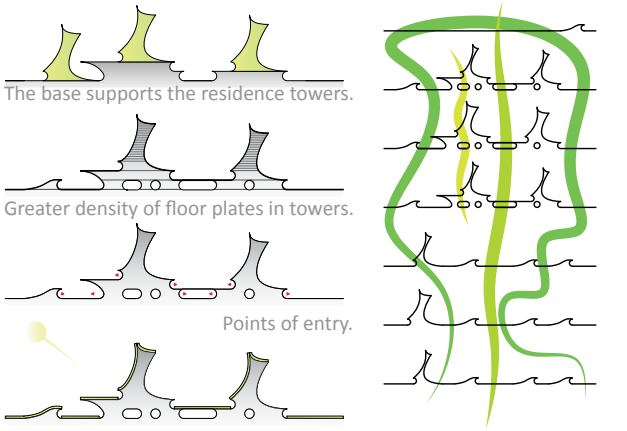


An extensive study of homelessness, specific to the Skid-Row site lead to an exploration of a housing and care typology. The idea of home, comfort and purpose intertwine in this proposal. Long term and temporary housing is made available through social contract and community work and learning facilities. Concept development took form of simultaneous geometrical analysis and optimization for both inhabitant use and on-site garden program.

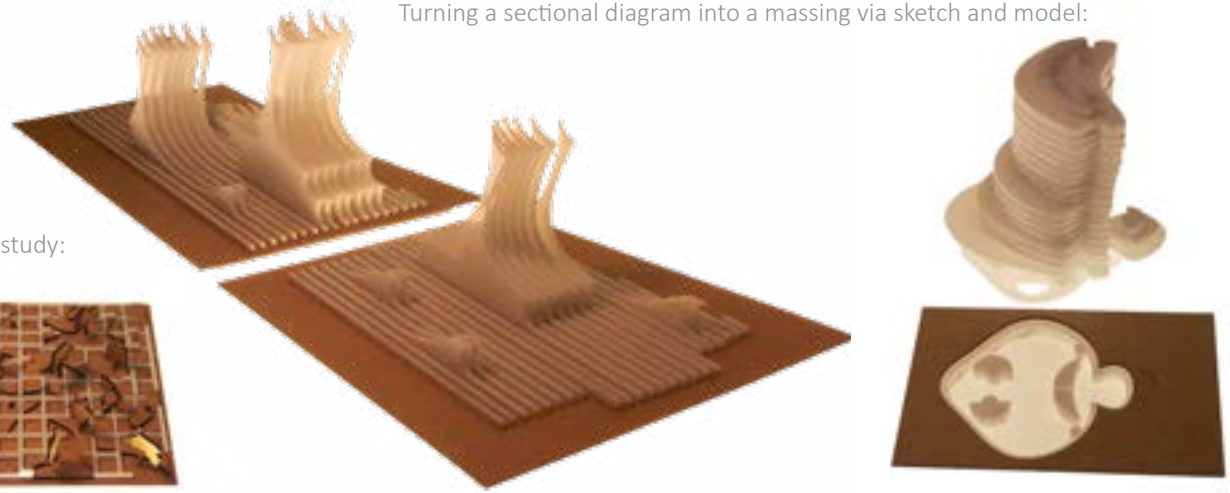
Layers of analisis: Social Housing Typology, Unit Optimization Geometry, Solar Exposure:



SECTION STUDIES: Arranging the Master Plan



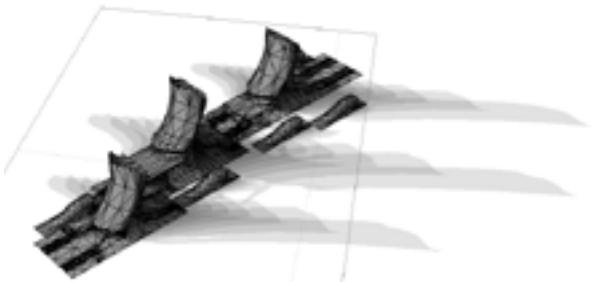
Turning a sectional diagram into a massing via sketch and model:



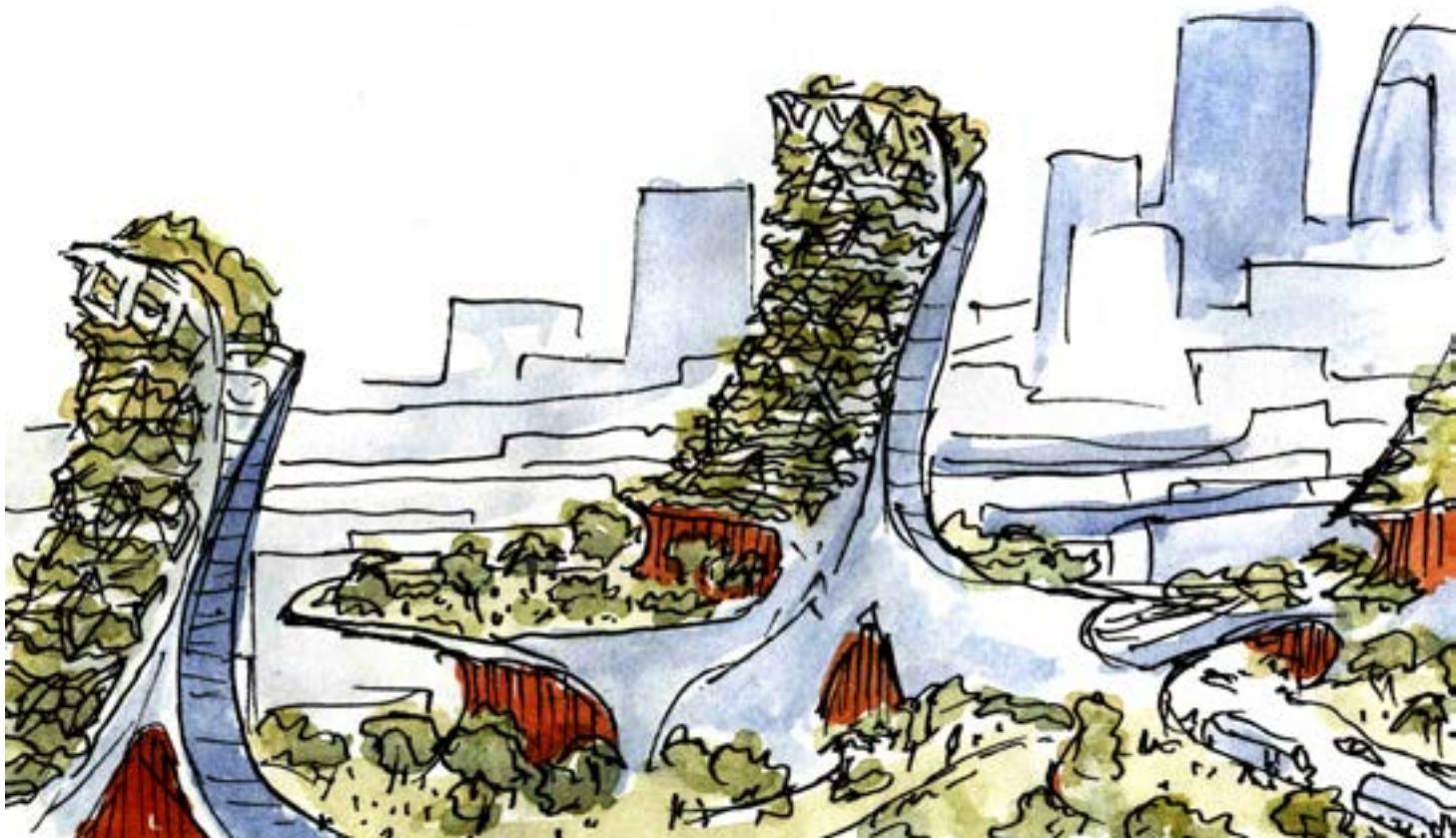
Landscpe study:

CONCEPT VISUALIZATION

Transforming Section studies to a depth massing:

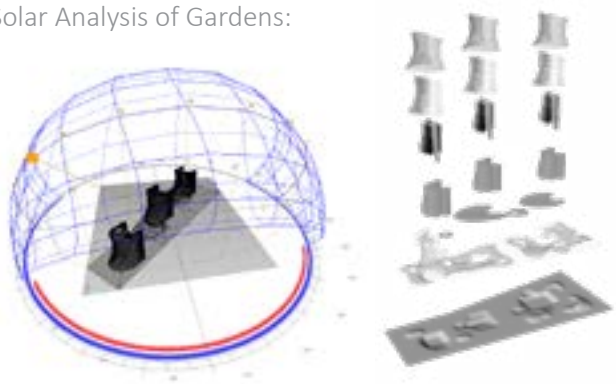


Shadow study for Site arrangement, no shadows on adjacent towers or garden zones.

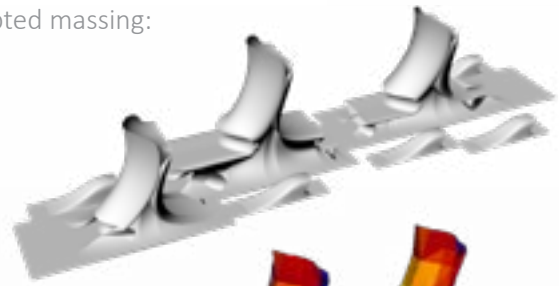


MASSING DEVELOPMENT: **Transformation of Layers**

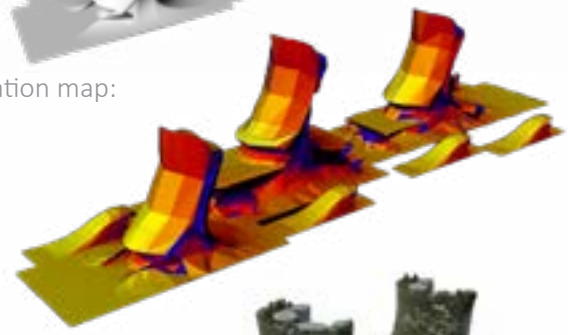
Solar Analysis of Gardens:



Sculpted massing:

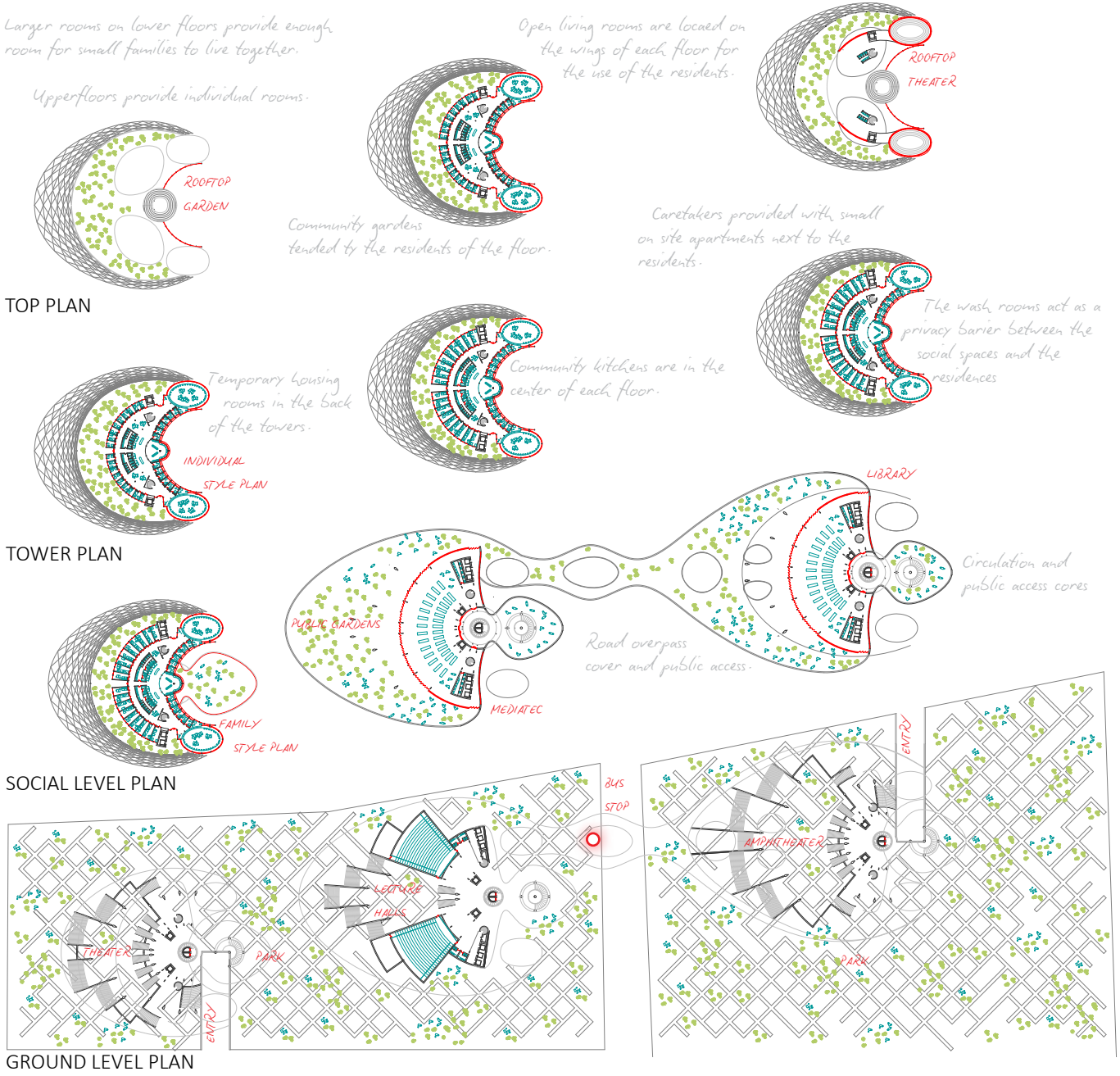


Radiation map:



Planting :

Developed to be the icon and function of the lungs of the city.



HUMANIZING DETAILS: **Tangible texture interactions**

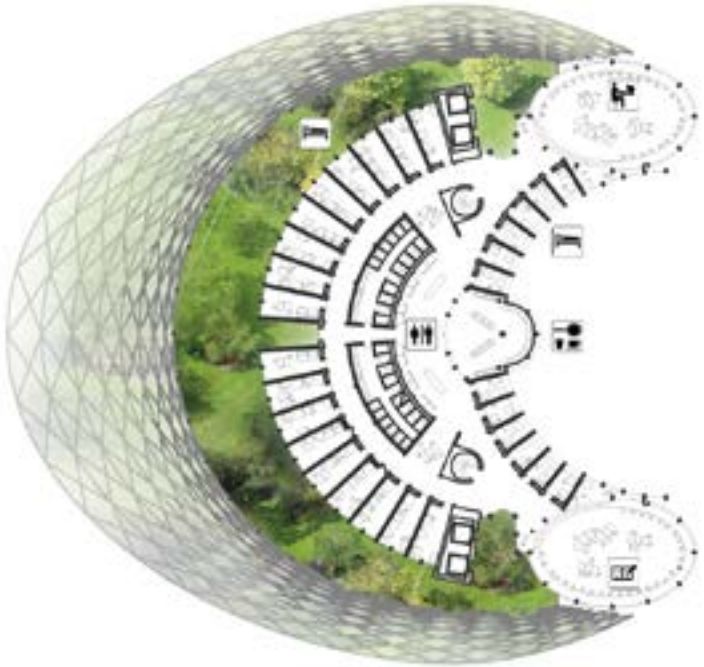
Private Residence

Garden Facade

Garden Interior

Public Facade

Layers of comfortable, warm and familiar materials for a soothing environment.



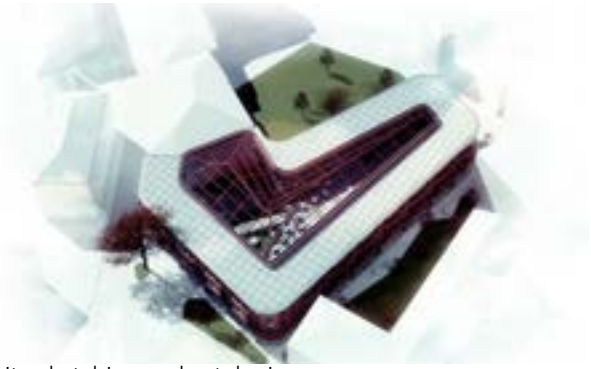
TYPICAL TOWER PLAN

INSIDE

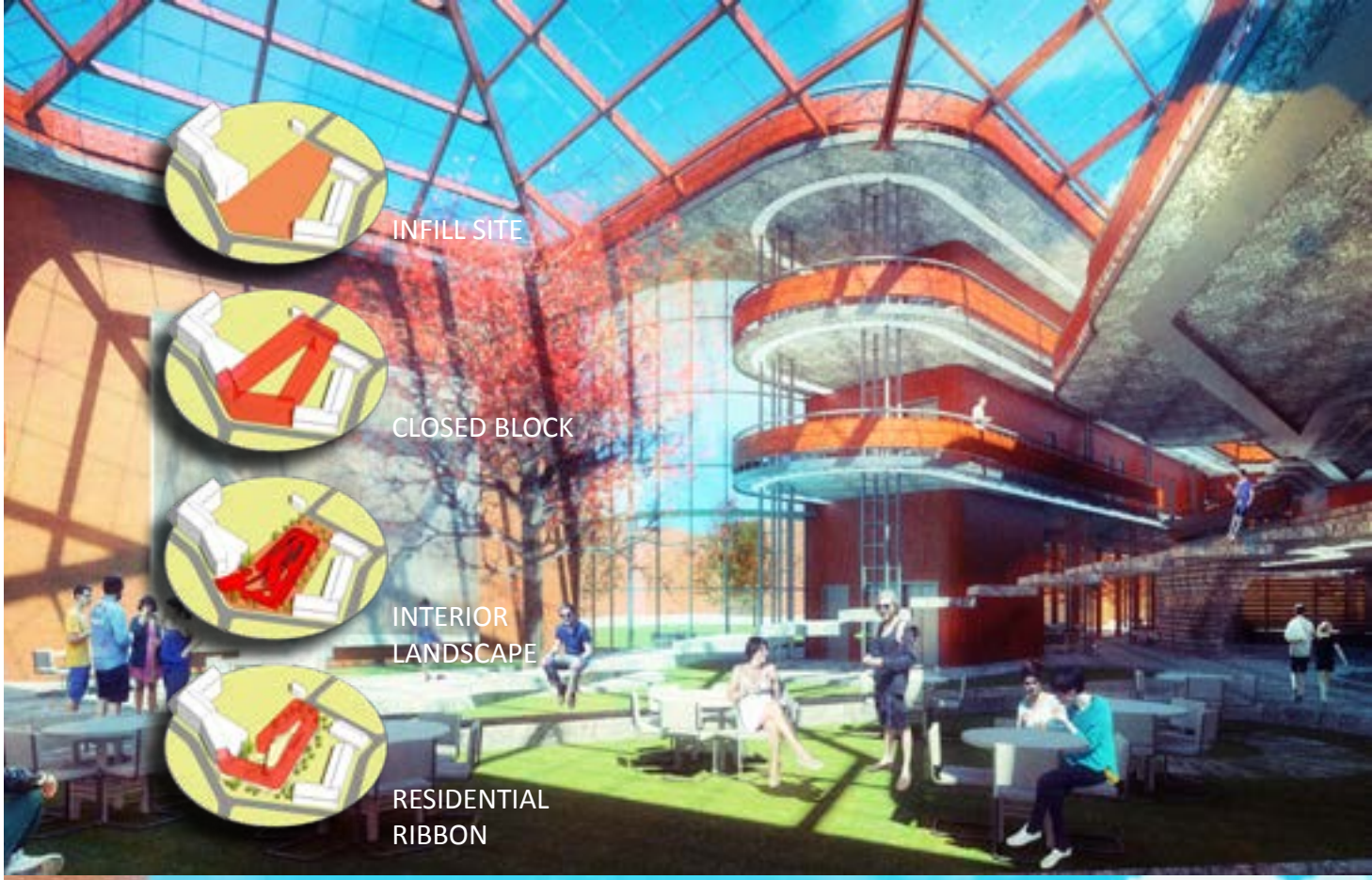
Lund Barca- nation Social Center

DATE: 2011
TYPE: 4th year short project (LUND)
USE: Cultural/ Residential
SIZE: 5,000 m²
PLACE: Lund (Sweden)
STATUS: Academic
PROF. : Bernt Nilsson

Developing a “Nation” collegian cultural clubhouse with a Spanish theme inspired by my own experience in Lund. The city wall is continued around a greenhouse garden preserving summer for the whole year.



On site sketching and cataloging :



Lund Barca- nation Social Center

The residence volume creates an inner shelter for the social spaces, including open theater, closed and open meeting rooms, and open dining and kitchen area. The perimeter of the building is wrapped with a garden that will grow vines to cover the space frame structural pillars blending the interior and exterior of the social space.

The materiality is a cultural reflection of the Spanish and Swedish. Regular geometrical red wood contrasts with organic forms of the interior Mediterranean inspired tiling.

ENTRANCE LEVEL PLAN

RESIDENCE LEVEL PLAN

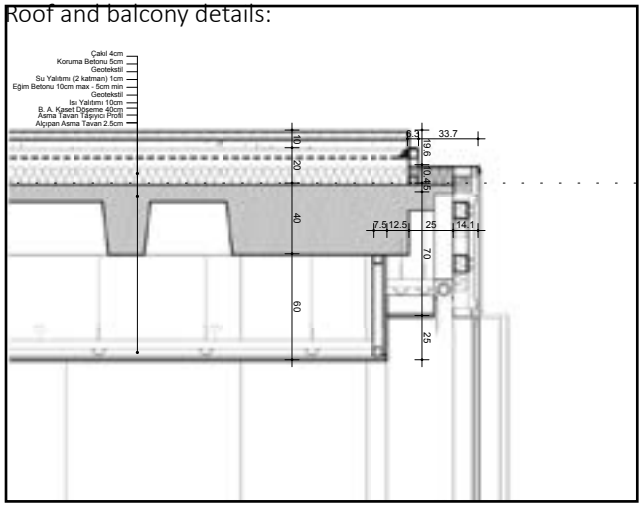
İZKA- İzmir Development Agency HQ

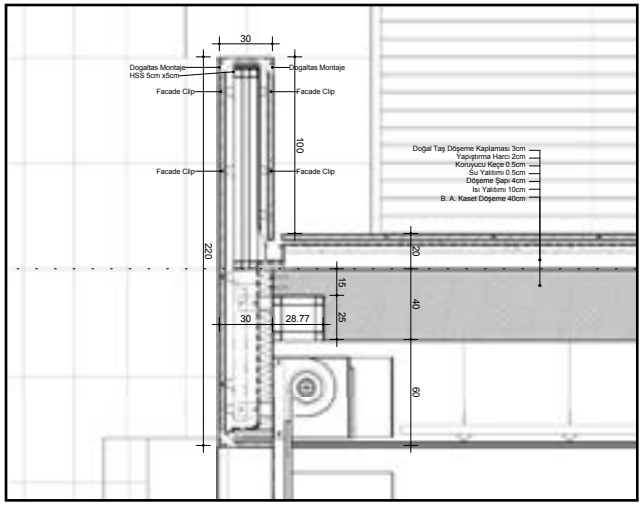
DATE: 2014-2016
TYPE: National Competition
USE: Office/ Commercial
SIZE: 10,000 m^2
PLACE: İzmir (Turkey)
STATUS: 1st place, Pending Construction
TEAM: Aboutblank PROJECT LEADER

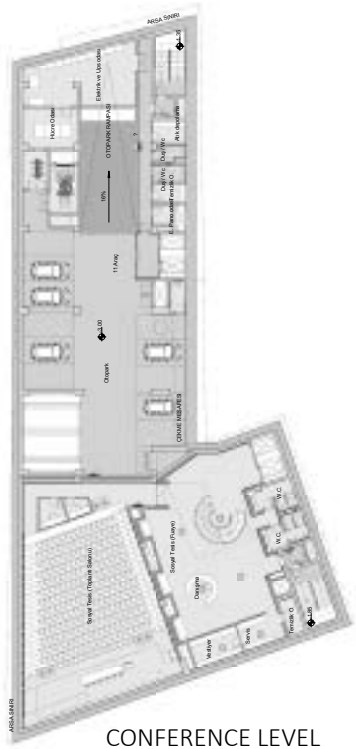
A small infill site near the Izmir waterfront. The public program is arranged in a series of pavilions along the base, merging with the circulation cores hugging the adjacent building. The office program is arranged in an open plan bar on the upper floor. The bar is then snapped to form the entrance and a public plaza on the ground floor. The inner space between the solid core and glass volumes is a gallery light well that permeates the entire building. The project has retained its core ideas from the competition phase into the built phase. It is currently pending approval, and is due to go into construction within the year.

İZKA- İzmir Development Agency HQ

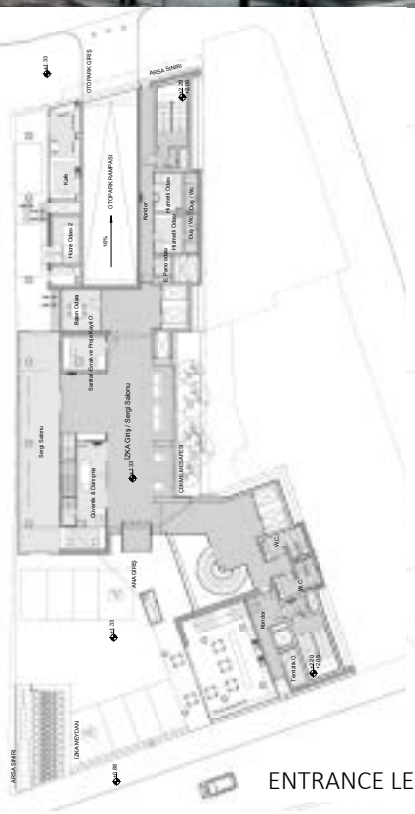
Roof and balcony details:





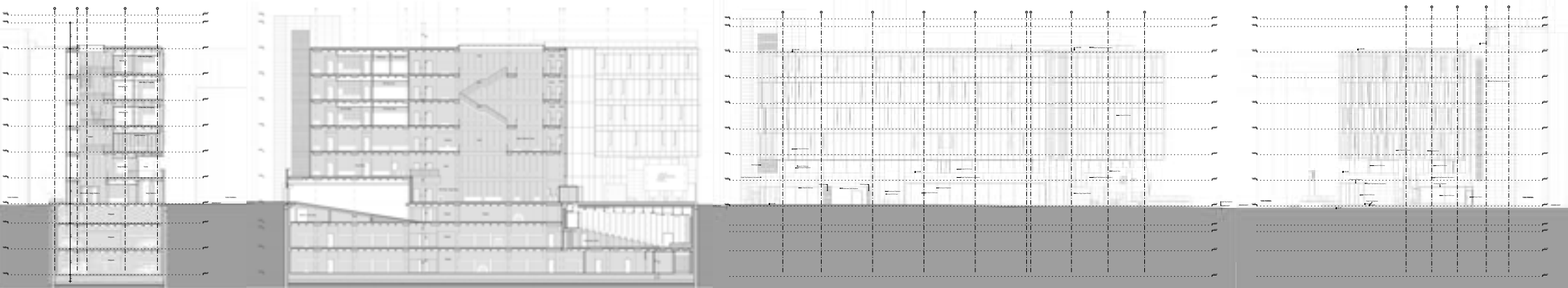


CONFERENCE LEVEL



ENTRANCE LEVEL

OFFICE LEVEL



Multi- City

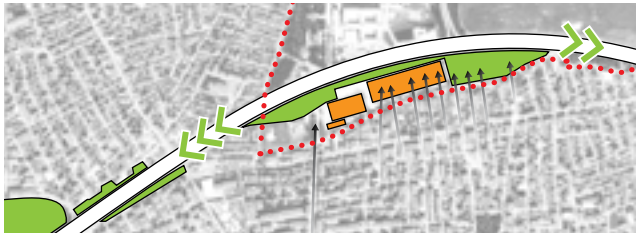
DATE: 2015
TYPE: Two Phase Invited Competition
USE: Mix use: Cultural/ Commercial/Residential
SIZE: 51,000 m²
PLACE: Eskişehir (Turkey)
STATUS: 1st place
TEAM: Aboutblank PROJECT LEADER

An existing vehicle depot is to be reused as a cultural hub, expanding the functions and dorm space of the nearby university and adding a new commercially viable zone for the local neighborhood.

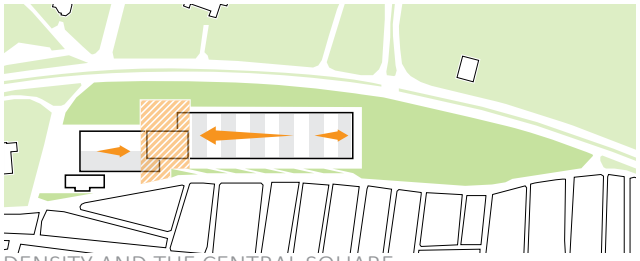
The first stage involved a blank slate ideas competition, the second stage introduced an expanded residential program.

Most of the warehouse structure was not fit to keep, but the main rhythm of the loading bays could be used in the project.

SITE REUSE: Old Vehicle Maintenance Depot



The first stage of the competition resulted in a low, unimposing scheme that allowed each bar of the program to present itself as an icon above the roof datum. The two warehouses are joined by a gateway framing the central square as the new action node of the neighborhood. The central square and mediatec volume acted as the icons of this project to the neighborhood.



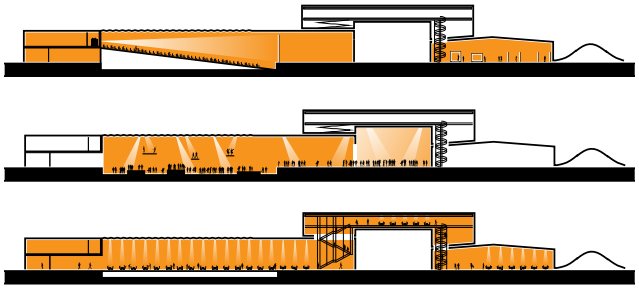
DENSITY AND THE CENTRAL SQUARE

DIVERSITY AND PERMEABILITY

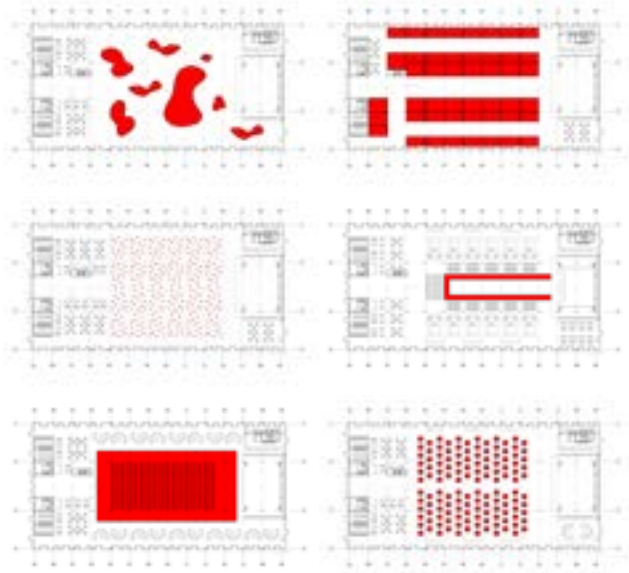
SITE VEHICULAR ACCESS

Multi- City

THE CONVENTION CENTER: Linking Sections



Minimal intervention left the primary warehouse in an ideal state for diverse event functions and the overhead gate linked it to the museum. Resulting combinations offer a convenient venue for a variety of public events.



PHASE 2 AND FINAL DEVELOPMENT:

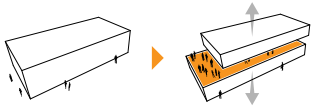
The final master plan retained the diverse function banding from the first stage, and had an added element of an elevated courtyard dormitory housing concept above tying it together. The individual bars become linked in the housing courtyard.

Functions were rearranged based on use proximity to the conference center. Each zone has a unique diagram infusing its function with a tectonic identity. The iconography of the original scheme becomes legible from the ground level. The complex itself is an extension of the park and is fully permeable. The development is meant to be used in close collaboration with the university and hold functions and events for the city, neighborhood and school.

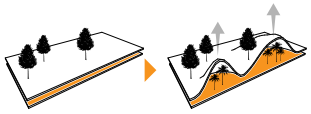
Multi- City

PASSIVE ZONES:

Interior gardens, private

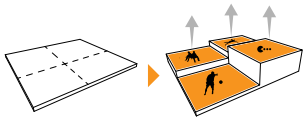


HOTEL



GREEN HOUSES

PHD RESIDENCES



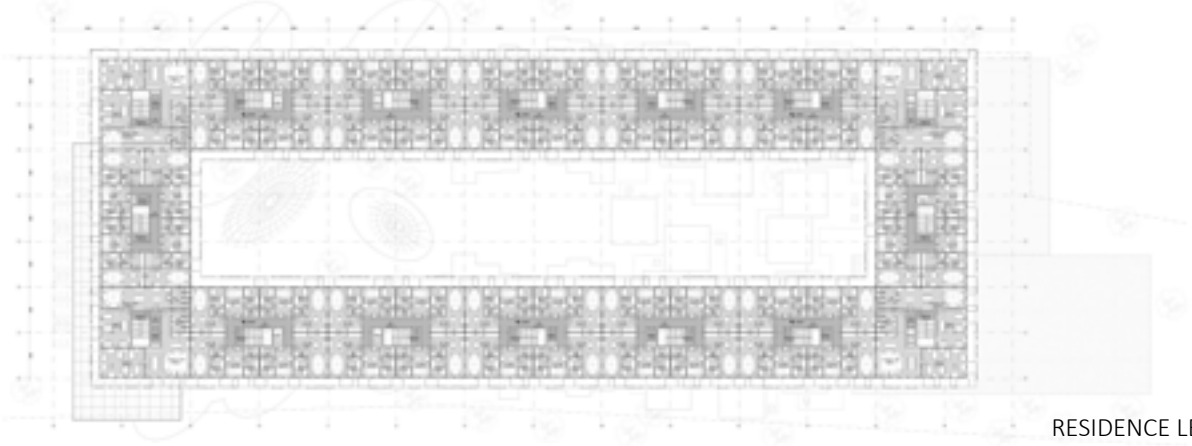
SPORTS HALL

PARKS

These series of bands represent the static aspect of the project as a mostly quiet recreational/ residential zone of the development, with lesser public access.

GROUND LEVEL

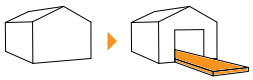
2ND LEVEL



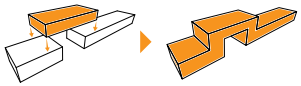
RESIDENCE LEVEL

ACTIVE ZONES:

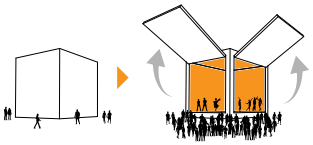
Cultural plaza, public



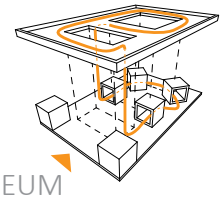
RESTAURANT



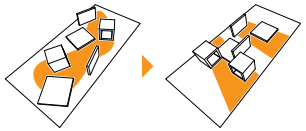
CULTURAL SQUARE



STAGE CUBE



MUSEUM



ART GALLERY

This is the dynamic, social hub of the project, constantly changing and full of activities, presentations and performances.

The variety of functions will maintain the vitality of the project, while the local community and university housing will maintain a dense population to sustain the activities and allow them to evolve over time as new construction increases local density.

MAIN PLAZA

PUBLIC BOULEVARD

ART GALLERY

Travel Sketchbook

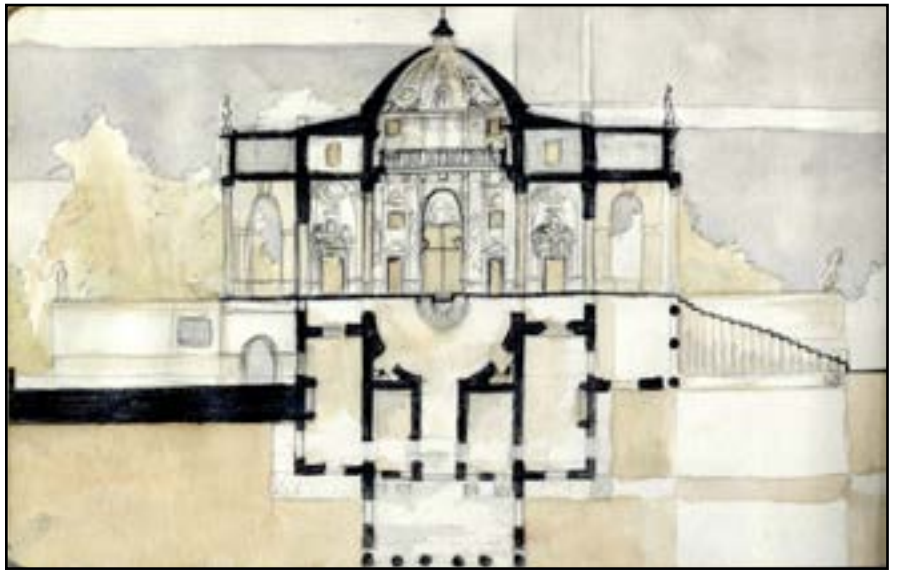
ROME (watercolors, 2010) :

"Tartarughe" Turtle Fountain, Rome

"Villa Rotonda" Villa Capra, Vicenza

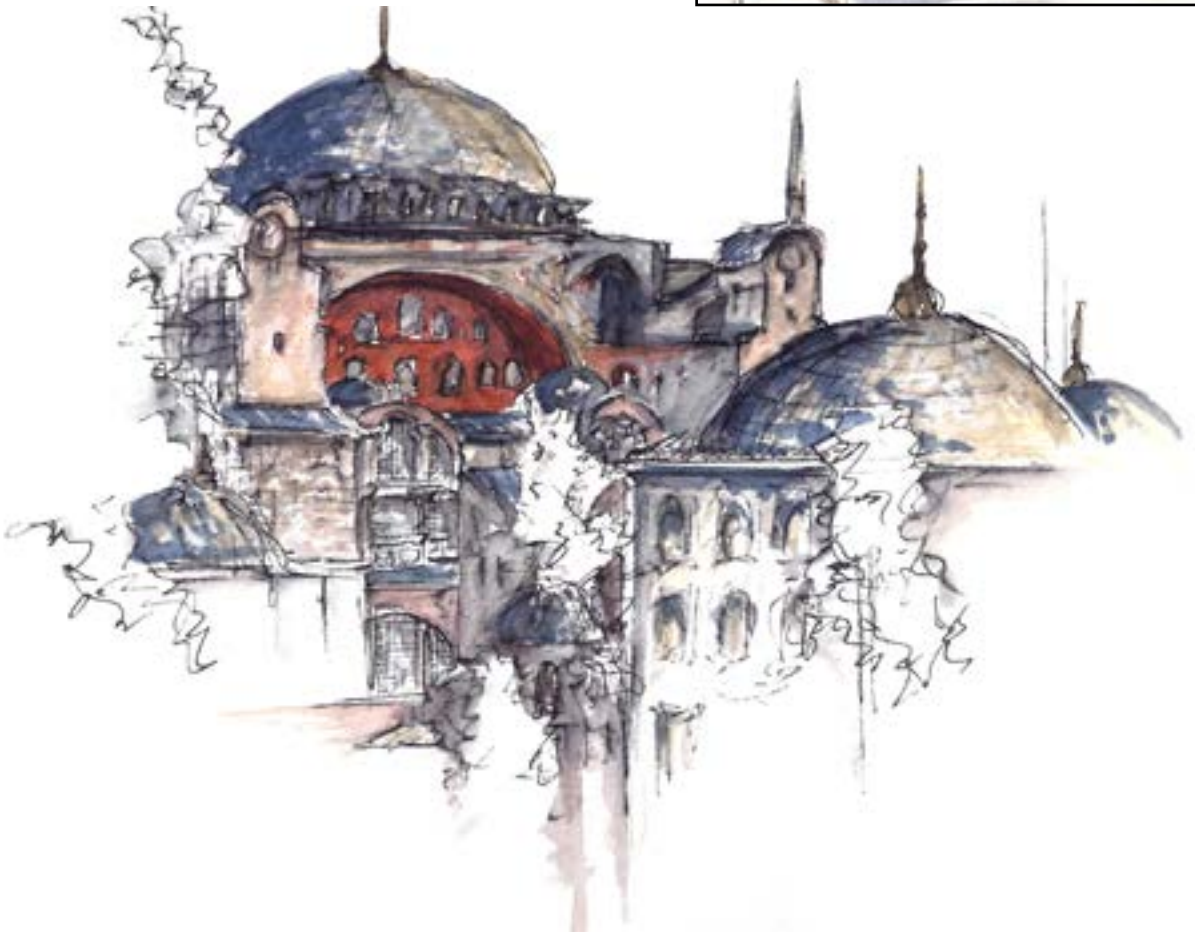
VENICE (sketch, 2015) :

"Canal Street"



ISTANBUL (watercolors, 2015) :

"Crossing Continents" Bosphorus Bridge

"Hagia Sophia"

"Market Day" Büyük Mecidiye Cami, Ortaköy