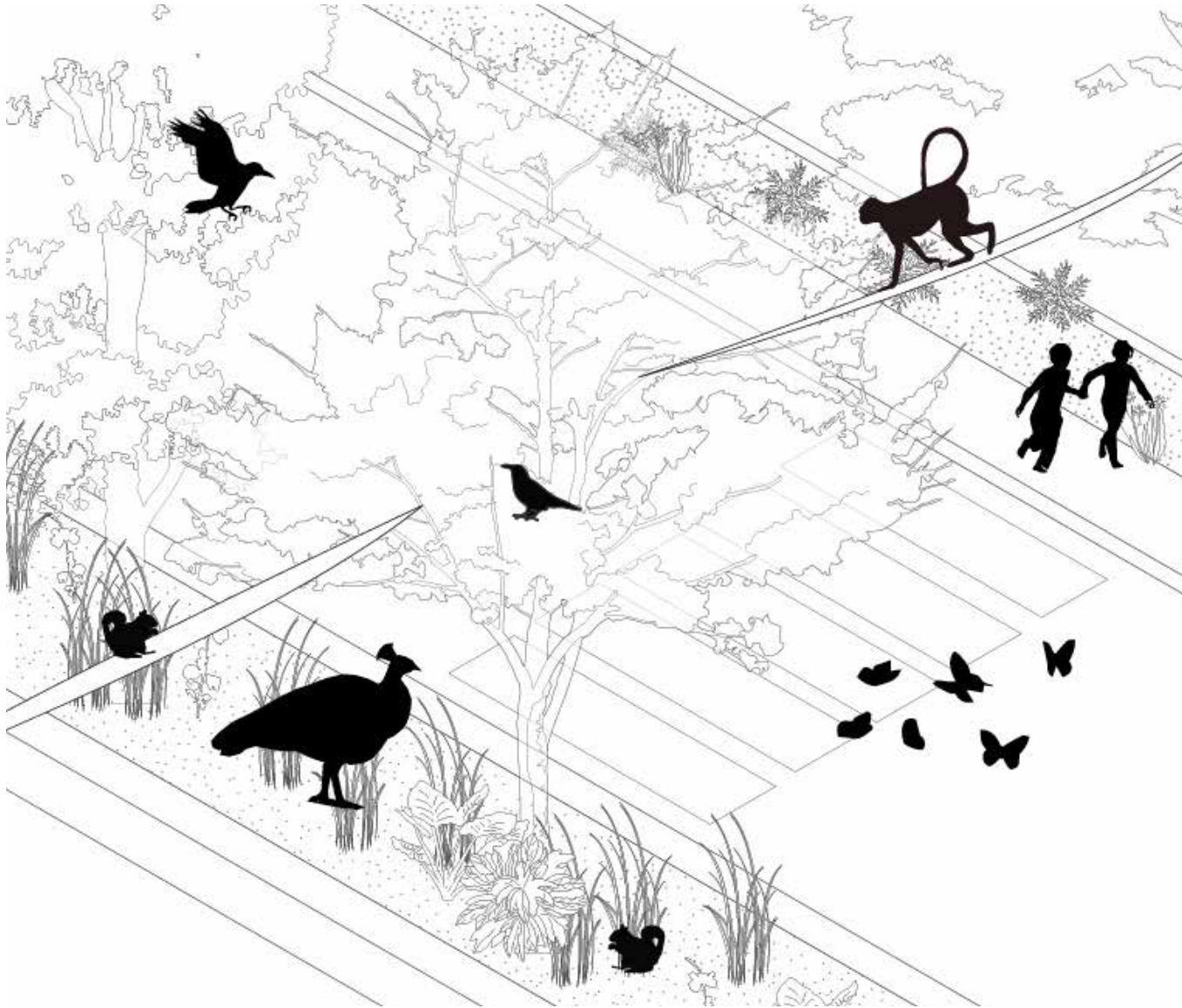selected work | **portfolio** | from 2020 to 2023

Radhika Maitra | Bachelor's in Urban Design, CEPT

this portfolio is a curated selection of academic projects from 2020-2023 done in CEPT University.

born and brought up in Mumbai and Delhi, Radhika has been aware of the exponential growth occurring in the two largest cities of India, which led her to pursue Urban Design.

her interests include mapping, urban inserts, mathematics, and creative pursuits such as photographing clouds. She also enjoys debates, delving deep into research topics and exploring the way cities work.

"Growth for the sake of growth is the ideology of a cancer cell."
- Edward Abbey, American essayist

date of birth: 26th August, 2002
based in: New Delhi, India
nationality: Indian

languages:
full proficiency -   English
                       Hindi
                       Bengali
basic proficiency - French (A2 Level)
limited proficiency - Gujarati

address   -   H-1464,   Chittaranjan Park, New Delhi - 110019

contact:
email address -
radhika.uur20109@cept.ac.in
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                      whatsapp works as well

socials -
https://www.linkedin.com/in/radhi-ka-maitra-b2a65110 (Linkedin)

@radhika_maitra (Instagram)

Radhika Maitra
4th year Bachelor's in Urban Design student, CEPT University

education

CEPT University | Ahmedabad
2020 till present

Delhi Public School, R.K. Puram | New Delhi
(CBSE Board)
2018 - 2020

Lilavatibai Podar High School | Mumbai
(ICSE Board)
2012 - 2018

experiences

Graphic team
Prameya Event 2023 | Member
Roots Event 2023 | Core Member
BUD Buddy Project 2022 | Core Member

Volunteer
CanSupport NGO | Outreach team
Gulmohar Park, New Delhi

areas of interest

Urbanism and the urban realm
Placemaking and participatory approaches
Streets and Public Space Design
Landscape Design

Climate Responsive Design in the Urban

achievements

CEPT Excellence Awards
Climate Responsive Architecture | SS23
Project nominated

Vulnerability in a Pandemic City | MS23
Studio awarded

skillset

digital skills
Drafting and Modelling
Autodesk AutoCAD | *proficient*
SketchUp | *proficient*
Rhinoceros 3D | *working*
Archicad | *basic*

Representation
Adobe Photoshop | *proficient*
Adobe Illustrator | *proficient*
Adobe Indesign | *proficient*
Adobe Premiere Pro | *basic*

Sketching
Sketchbook | *proficient*

manual skills
Hand drafting | *proficient*
Model making | *working*
Laser cutting | *proficient*
Sketching and Diagramming | *proficient*
Site Documentation and Analysis | *proficient*
Site Modelling | *proficient*

additional courses

Post-Colonial Museum and the Location of Memory
Debasish Borah | ETH Zurich
Summer School 2023

Food and the City
Mansi Shah | CEPT University
Elective Course SS23

All Things Majuli! Documenting People, Culture and River Societies
Subhasish Borah | Majuli, Assam
Winter School 2022

Traversing Ahmedabad
Supriya Pal | CEPT University
Elective Course SS22

City in Literature
Neha Krishana Kumar | CEPT University
Elective Course MS21

French A1 & A2 Levels
Alliance Francaise de Mumbai
2018

hobbies

Art and related fields
Photography and videography
Watercolour, Oil Pastel and Ink illustrations

Reading, Writing and Research

FOLDED ELEVATION CC'
Scale 1:75

Construction Site   Mixed use   Newer construction

8.2M   2.7M   11.8M   2.7M   10M   2.7M   5.6M   0.3M   6.3M

+12.3M
+8.6M
+5.6M
+3.7M
+0.0M

01

Hearth: An Architect and a Baker's Studio and Residence, Leh
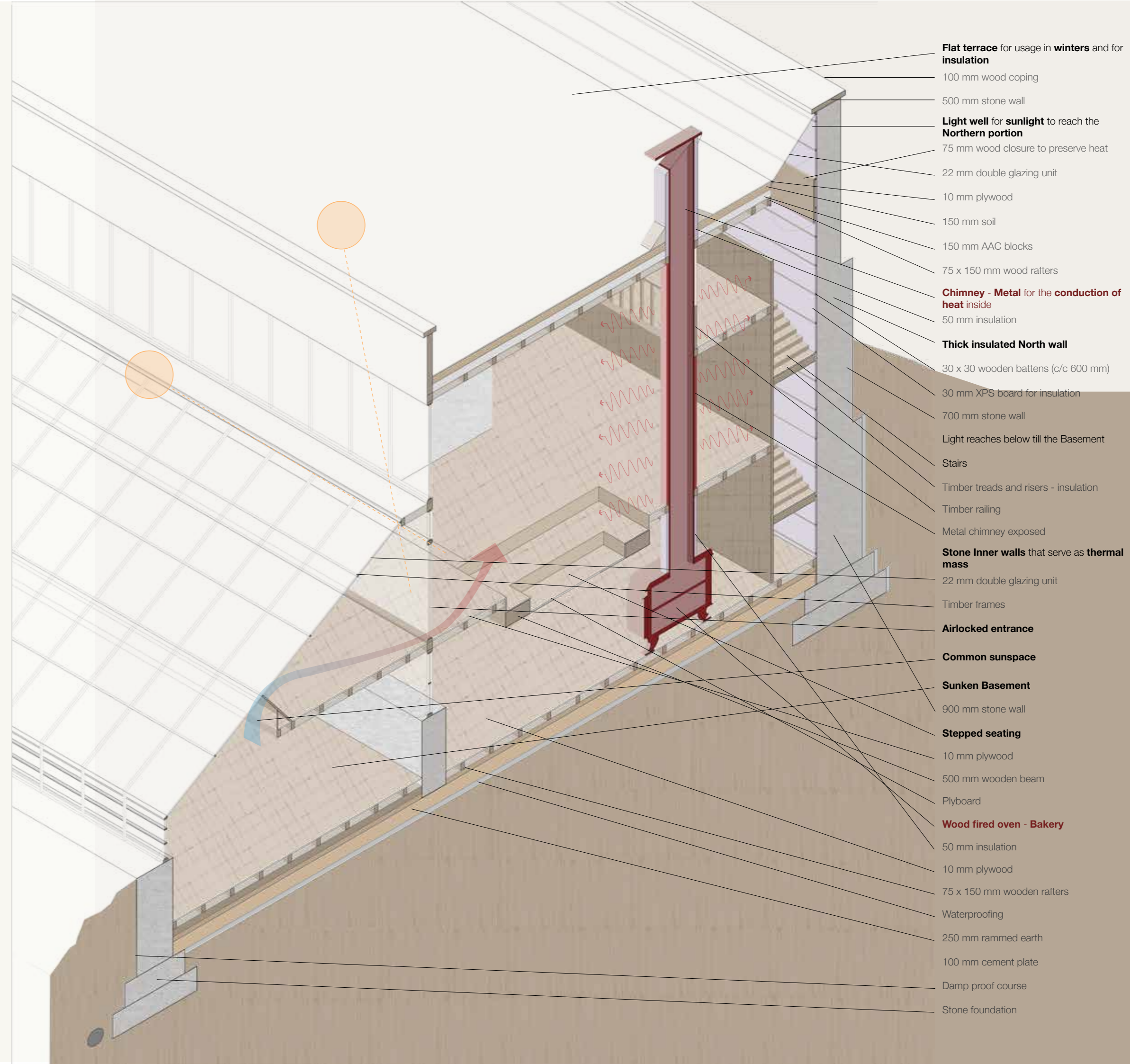
studio: Climate Responsive Architecture
site: Leh, Ladakh
semester: Spring 2023
tutors: Ravi Kashyap and Hiten Chavda
faculty: Architecture

learning outcomes: understanding the scale of a human and how space is used at a detailed level, along with multifunctionality of spaces

project details: harshness is a feature common to Leh's rugged landscape and cold-dry climate, and its vernacular architecture shows how residents have come to deal with it. The climatic conditions that one has to tackle in such a cold desert-like climate are:
- Extreme cold during winters, - Cold NE winds, - Ventilation and prevention of glare during August.

this project aims to create a comfortable residence and workspace for an Architect and a Baker using Bioclimatic techniques and passive heating strategies. The following main strategies are used:
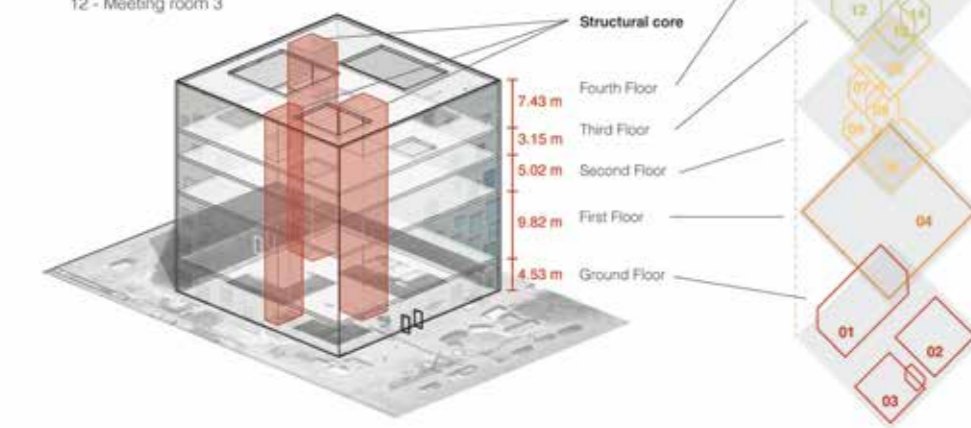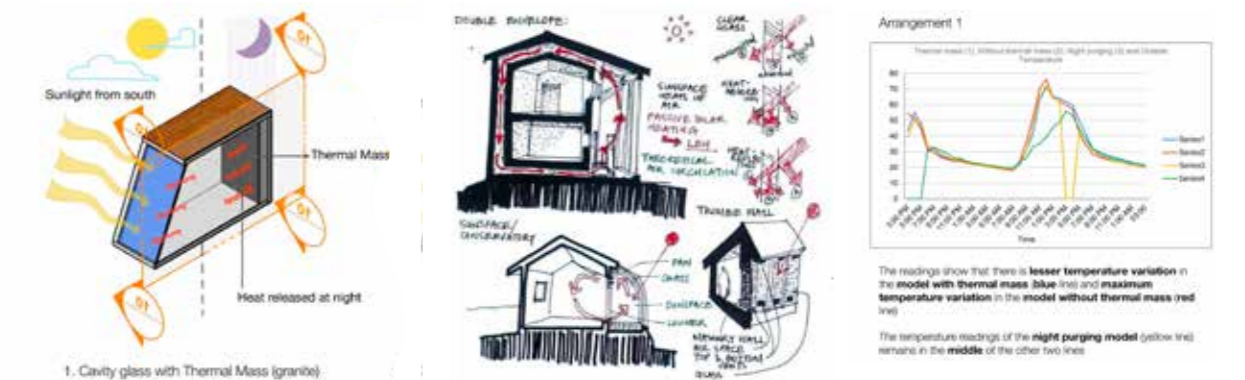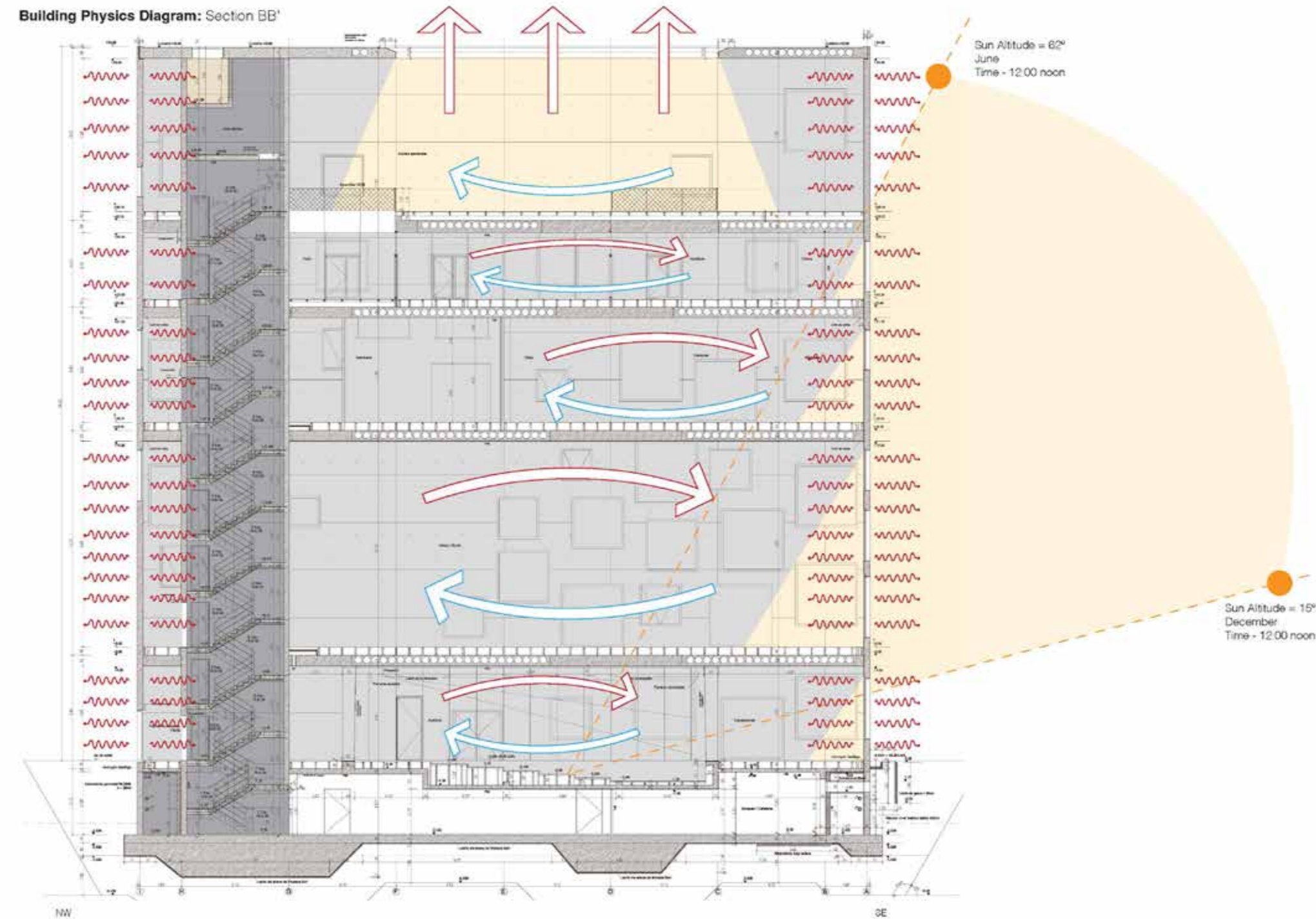1. The bakery's chimney
2. Sunspaces
3. Trombe walls
4. Buffer spaces

Flat terrace for usage in **winters** and for **insulation**
100 mm wood coping
500 mm stone wall
Light well for **sunlight** to reach the **Northern portion**
75 mm wood closure to preserve heat
22 mm double glazing unit
10 mm plywood
150 mm soil
150 mm AAC blocks
75 x 150 mm wood rafters
Chimney - Metal for the **conduction of heat** inside
50 mm insulation
Thick insulated North wall
30 x 30 wooden battens (c/c 600 mm)
30 mm XPS board for insulation
700 mm stone wall
Light reaches below till the Basement
Stairs
Timber treads and risers - insulation
Timber railing
Metal chimney exposed
Stone Inner walls that serve as **thermal mass**
22 mm double glazing unit
Timber frames
Airlocked entrance
Common sunspace
Sunken Basement
900 mm stone wall
Stepped seating
10 mm plywood
500 mm wooden beam
Plyboard
Wood fired oven - Bakery
50 mm insulation
10 mm plywood
75 x 150 mm wooden rafters
Waterproofing
250 mm rammed earth
100 mm cement plate
Damp proof course
Stone foundation

Case study: **Zollverein School of Management and Design**, Essen, Germany

Working Passive Strategy model: **Testing thermal mass** *(group work)*

Form: Massing and organisation of the building

Interior Spaces:
Ground Floor:
01 - Auditorium
02 - Exhibition Space
03 - Cafeteria
First Floor:
04 - Studio spaces with open plan
Second Floor:
05 - Open Space
06 - Catering area
07 - Seminar A
08 - Seminar B
09 - Seminar C
Third Floor:
10 - Meeting room 1
11 - Meeting room 2
12 - Meeting room 3

13 - Meeting room 4
14 - Conference room
Fourth Floor:
15 - Roof Terrace

Structural core

7.43 m — Fourth Floor
3.15 m — Third Floor
5.02 m — Second Floor
9.82 m — First Floor
4.53 m — Ground Floor

Building Physics Diagram: Section BB'

Sun Altitude = 62°
June
Time - 12:00 noon

Sun Altitude = 15°
December
Time - 12:00 noon

Understanding climate: **Measuring dry bulb temperature and relative humidity** *(group work)*
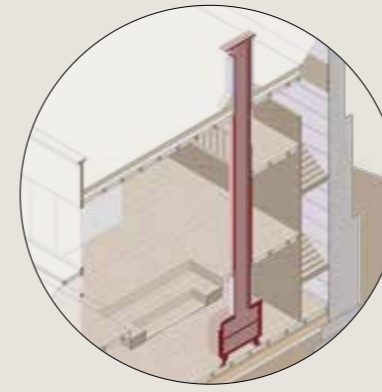

Measuring the temperature of different portions of a South facing stone wall

Lower stone wall: 17.6 °C
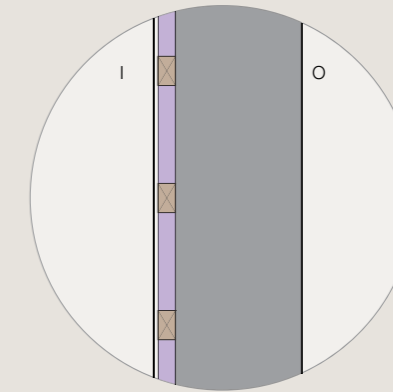
Middle stone wall: 23.3 °C

Upper stone wall: 23.2 °C

First Floor Plan

Ground Floor Plan

1. ACTIVE HEATING

The chimney of the bakery is used to heat up the entire house by using heat generated from the wood-fired oven
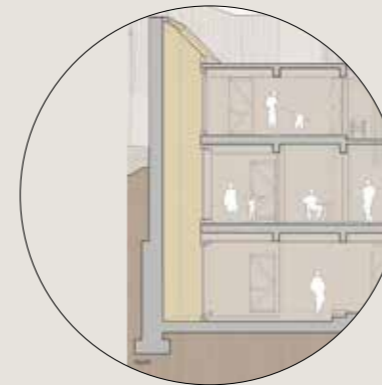
Thus, the heating engines in this design are the chimney and the sun

2. INSULATION

Thick stone wall acts as the thermal mass in Northern walls

Insulation is done using timber battens placed at center to center distance of 600 mm, and the gaps are filled with XPS board

3. CONNECT

The 3 floors are connected using a light well present on the Northern side, so that light reached the basement as well

Along with this, the chimney and sunsapces also serve as connectors due to the double heights created
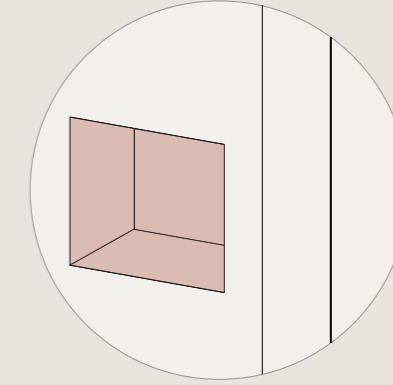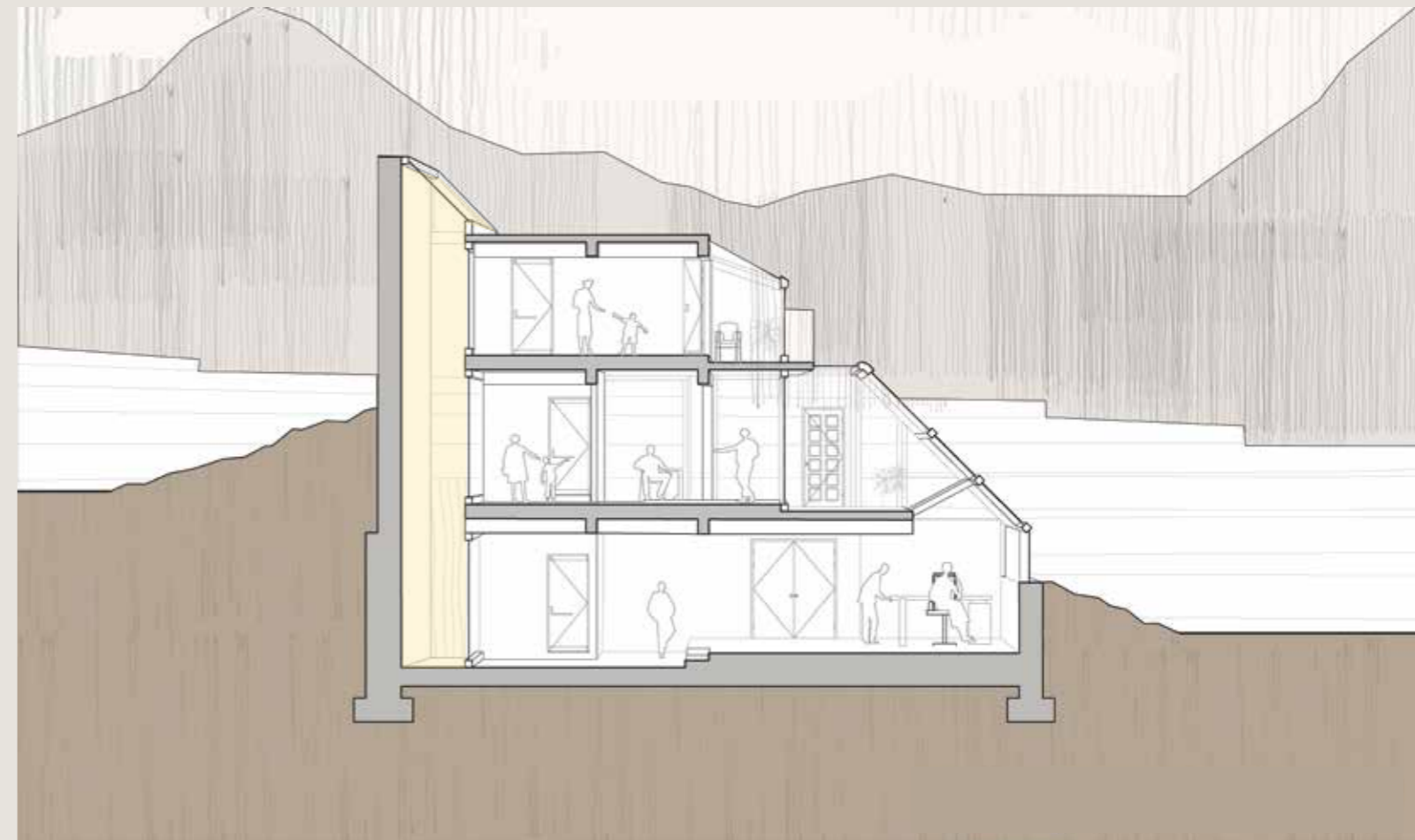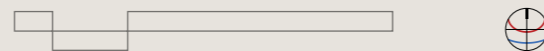
4. USER DETAILS

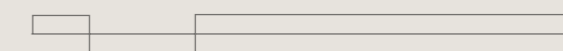Thick walls that serve as thermal mass have niches present on them that act as storage

This is present primarily in spaces like the kitchen, bakery, library and cafe

Section AA'

02

## *Nivaas:* Migrant Housing in Dharavi Koliwada

studio: From Utopias to Heterotopias
site: Dharavi, Mumbai
semester: Monsoon 2022
tutors: Imran Mansuri
faculty: Planning

learning outcomes: envisaging mass housing in a complex site located in the largest slum in the world, and designing according to the users' way of living

project details: understanding the culture and space-making of the Kolis of Dharavi Koliwada shows us that they require spaces to express their traditions, cultures and themselves such as space for shrines, crosses, otlas, and ways for self expression.

this project is an attempt to maintain that along with the connection to the creek, their traditional source of income, which was lost due to various reclamations.

community interaction is also important to the Kolis as well as other communities present in Koliwada, and this was maintained in the design proposal by the formation of micro-neighbourhoods and multifunctional open spaces near institutions. Thus, this project aims to reconsider mass housing with the perspective of the user in mind
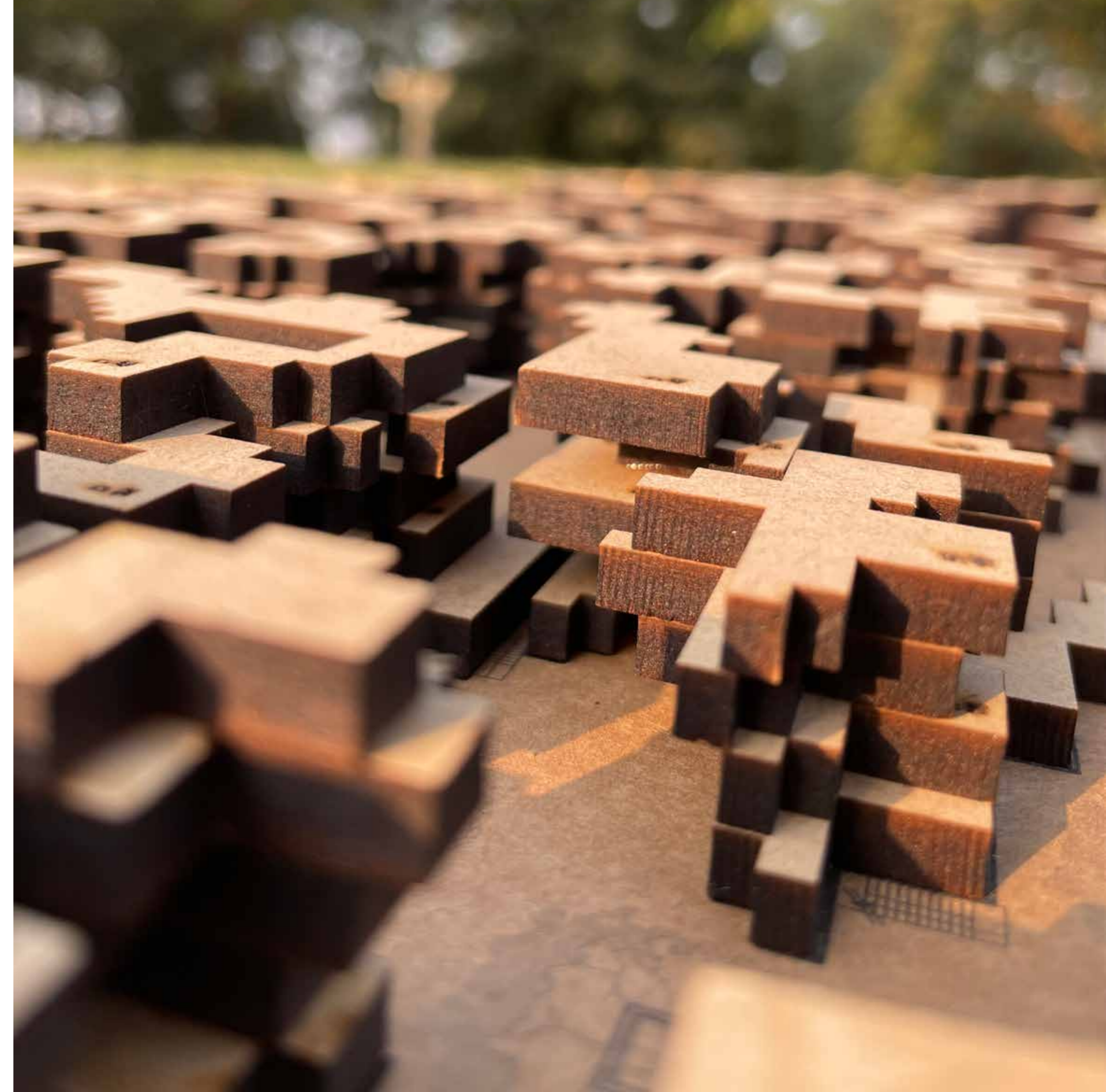
Case study: **Tietgenkollegiet**, Tietgen Dormitory, Copenhagen

LUNDGAARD & TRANBERG ARKITEKTER

Basics:
Firm: Lundgaard & Tranberg Architects
Architects: Boje Lundgaard & Lene Tranberg
Engineer: COWI A/S
Site Location: Rued Langgaards, Copenhagen, Denmark
Construction time: 2005-2006
Site Area: 12,550 ㎡
Total Built Area: 26,500 ㎡
No of units: 360 (Approx. 400 students)
End Users: University students (10% rooms are reserved for International exchange students)

About the Architects:
Brief history:
Lundgaard & Tranberg Architects is a Danish firm founded in Copenhagen in 1985, by architects Boje Lundgaard and Lene Tranberg. They are rooted in construction technology, detailing and interdisciplinary practices.

Previous work:
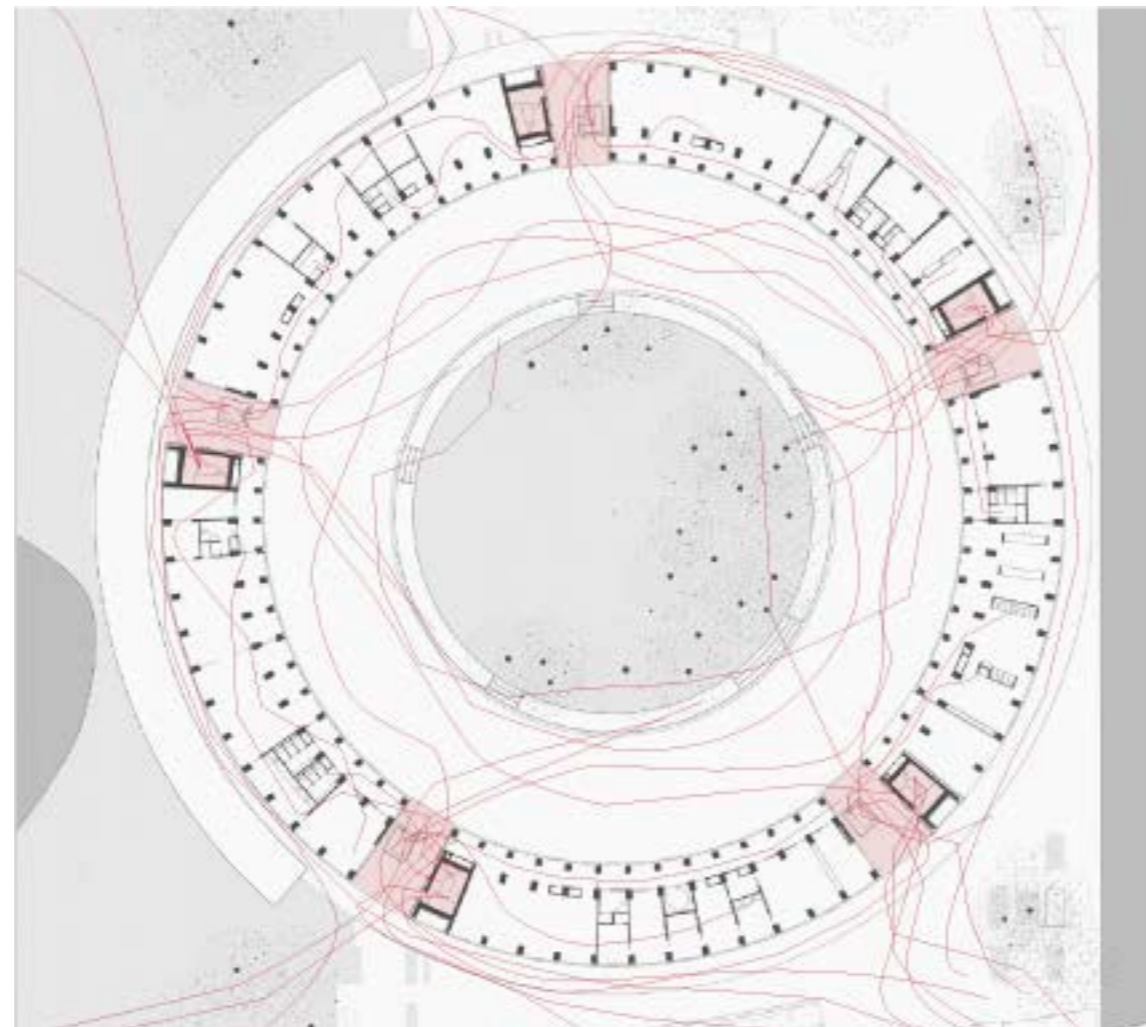1. *Bellevue Park*
   Housing for senior citizens

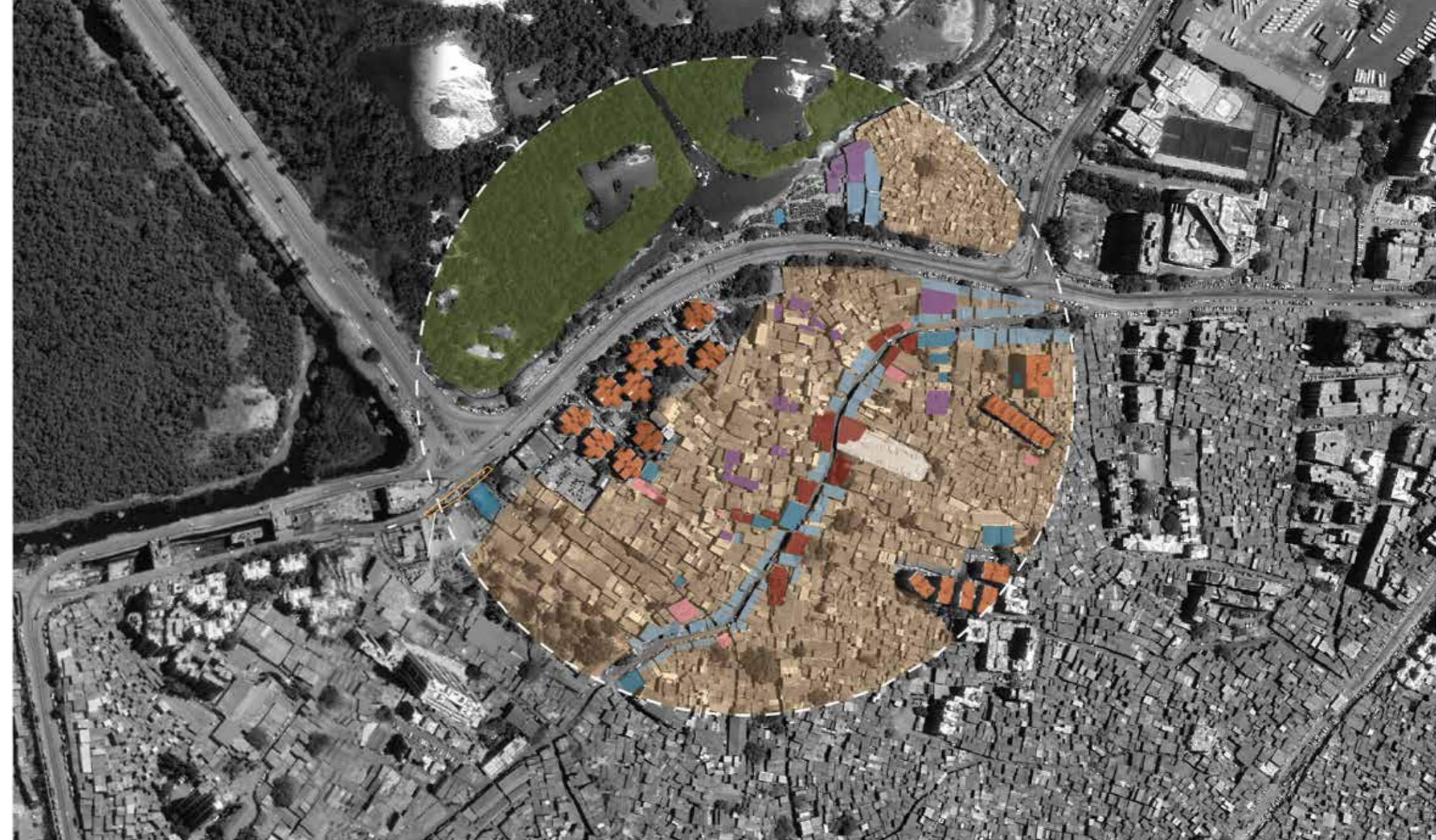2. *Kalvebod Faelled*
   School

Timeline:
2002: The design for Tietgenkollegiet won 1st place
2005 - 2006: Construction took place
2006: Tietgenkollegiet opened

Legend
● Entrance
— Circulation

Circulation Diagram
Since the ground floor contains common spaces, circulation does not differ much. The courtyard and entrances has more footfall than the inner spaces,.

Extended Site Context: **Vicinity Map**

■ Organised settlements	■ Institutions	■ Open ground	■ Commercial
■ Unorganised settlements	■ Religious	■ Mixed use	■ Industrial

Historical context: **Timeline**

Mumbai's 7 islands (Mumbai Island, Parel, Mazgaon, Mahim, Colaba, Worli, Old Women's island) came to be inhabited by the Kolis

The English managed to acquire Dharavi among other areas under Portuguese rule

A sparsely populated fishing village came up in Dharavi, which was called Koliwada then

After years of urban growth under the British, Mumbai's population reached 10 million

Reclamation of islands and creek at Sion cut off inlets for fishing for Kolis, and informal industries near Kurla started polluting the Mithi River

Beginning of Common Era (or before)   *1665 - 1666 CE*   *By the 19th century*   *1850s CE*   *1900s CE*

South Asian Stone Age Till 3300 BCE   *Portuguese Rule 1534 - 1661 CE*   *Till the 18th century*   *1782 - 1845 CE*   *1887 CE*   *Present day*

Traces of human habitation found in coastal areas near Kandivali

The Portuguese built churches and forts, encouraged intermarriages and began converting the local Kolis

Dharavi was an island with a prominent mangrove swamp

Mumbai was coalesced into a single landmass via large scale land reclamation

Dharavi's 1st tannery (most polluting industry) came up, along with a huge migrant population

The live-work relationship of the Kolis has been badly affected by the construction of Sion-Bandra Link Road, ONGC housing and other projects cutting off access to the creek

Documentation: **Courtyards of Koliwada**, Dharavi, Mumbai

Analysing a Street and Understanding its Thoroughfare

In all kinds of cities, streets form the main transition spaces and give character to different localities. The thoroughfare that develops and segregates streets into primary, secondary and tertiary, also helps create pause points and leads to the formation of commercial edges. This is distinctly visible in the street connecting the Dharavi Main Road from Urbz to the T-Junction.

The street being analysed has four courtyards, which
1. The **Old Jamat Courtyard**
2. The **Fish Market** and **Ganesh Mandir**
3. The **Mitra Mandal**
4. The **Velankanni Mata Chapel**

Understanding the relationship between the street and its thoroughfare will be done by looking at the following factors:
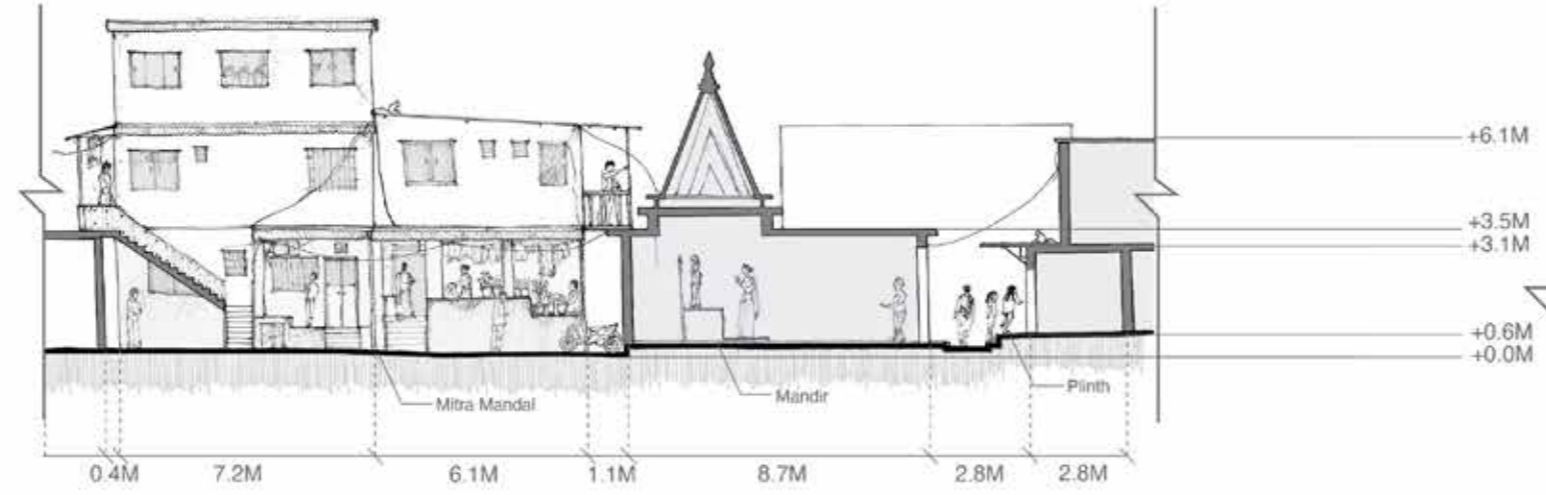1. *Movement* - restricted or open, and density v/s time
2. *Pause points* - creation of these pause points

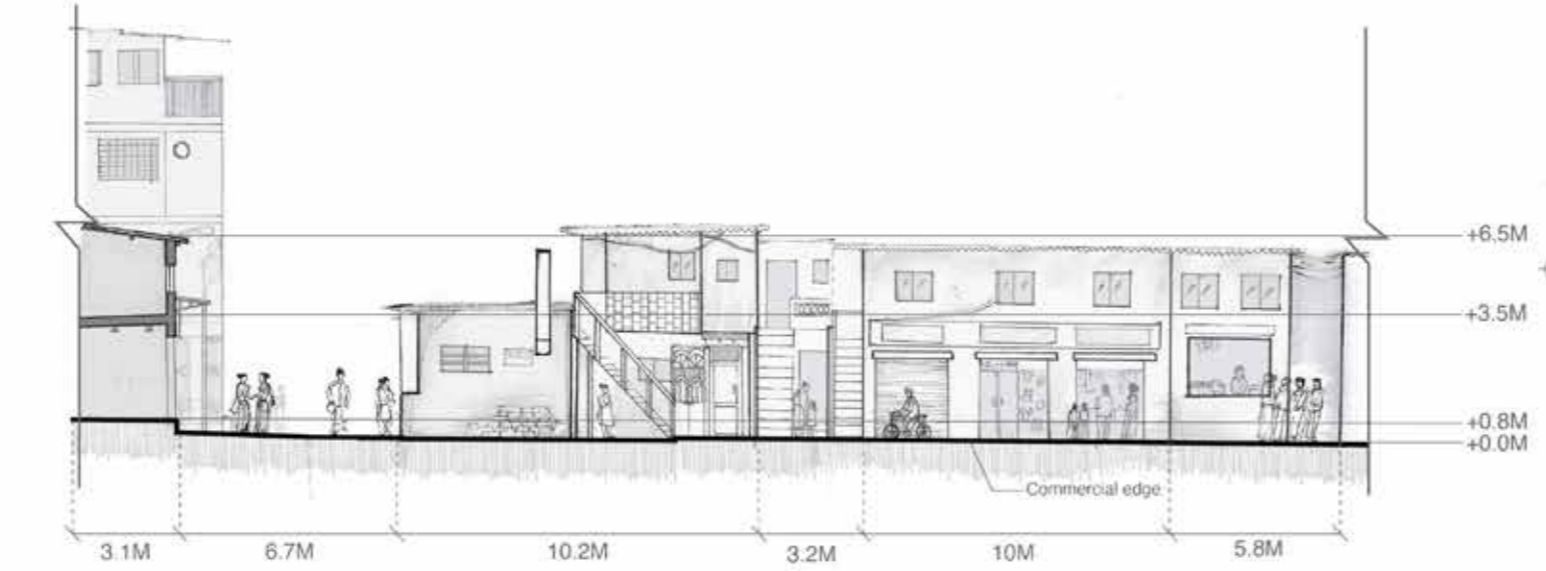Along with this, the usage of the courtyards will also be looked at. Movement is restricted or opened up by:
1. *Tangible aspects* - for vehicular movement - the use of built elements or hav- ing narrow lanes
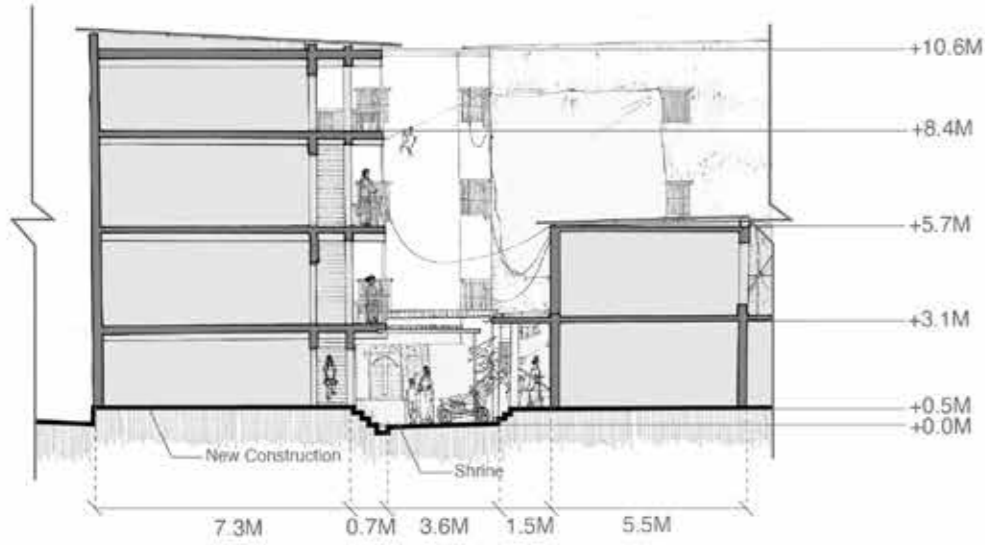2. *Intangible aspects* - for pedestrian movement - social control

KEY PLAN

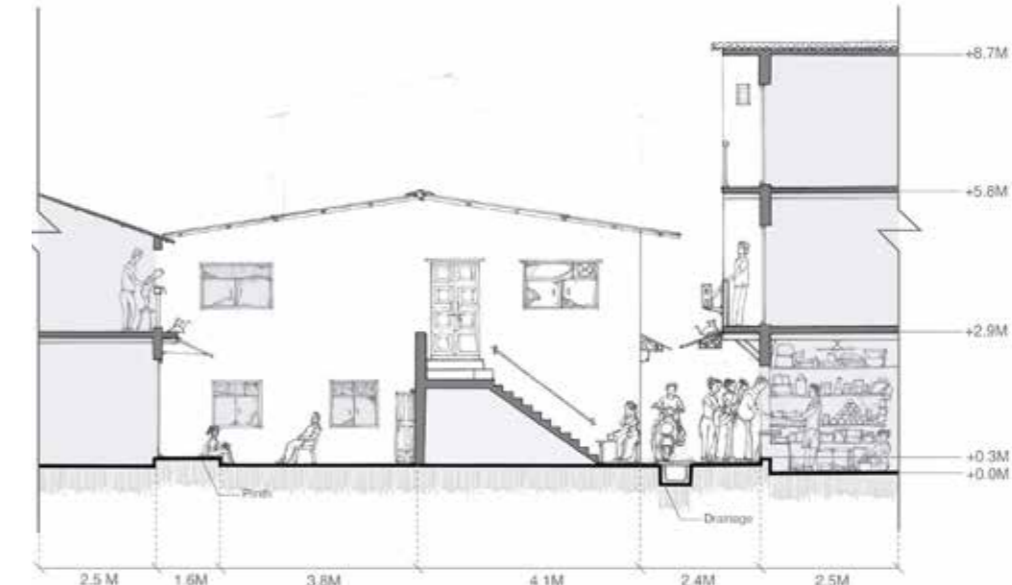SECTION DD' (Ganesh Mitra Mandal)
Scale 1:100

0.4M 7.2M   6.1M   1.1M   8.7M   2.8M 2.8M

Mitra Mandal   Mandir   Plinth

+6.1M
+3.5M
+3.1M
+0.6M
+0.0M

SECTION EE'
Scale 1:100

7.3M 0.7M 3.6M 1.5M 5.5M

New Construction   Shrine

+10.6M
+8.4M
+5.7M
+3.1M
+0.5M
+0.0M

SECTION AA' (Entry Courtyard)
Scale 1:100

3.1M   6.7M   10.2M   3.2M   10M   5.8M

Commercial edge

+6.5M
+3.5M
+0.8M
+0.0M

SECTION BB' (Entry Courtyard Street)
Scale 1:100

18.2M   7.8M   5.2M 1M   9.2M   5M   3M   5M 1.6M 3.4M 3.4M

New Construction

+15.4M
+12.9M
+10.7M
+6.4M
+3.4M
+0.5M
+0.0M

SECTION FF' (Entry Courtyard)
Scale 1:50

2.5M 1.6M   3.8M   4.1M   2.4M   2.5M

Plinth   Drainage

+8.7M
+5.8M
+2.9M
+0.3M
+0.0M
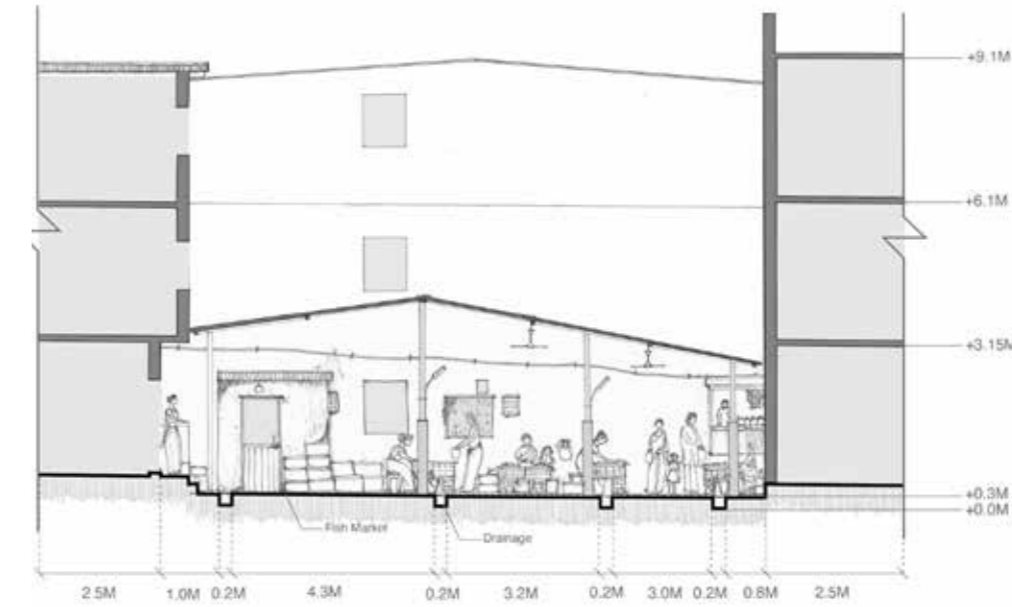
SECTION GG' (Fish Market)
Scale 1:50

2.5M 1.0M 0.2M   4.3M   0.2M 3.2M 0.2M 3.0M 0.2M 0.8M 2.5M

Fish Market   Drainage

+9.1M
+6.1M
+3.15M
+0.3M
+0.0M

Legend
········· Primary Thoroughfare Route
- - - - - Secondary Thoroughfare Route
||||||||| Vehicular Movement
▨ Pause Points
◯ Female Dominated
◯ Male Dominated

Documentation: **Sections** and **Mapping**

S
1. Completely connected through paths
2. Highly pedestrianised, with low two wheeler vehicular access only
3. Nodes present in intermittent intervals
4. Shade used to create nodes in a path with high thoroughfare

W
1. Low amount of spillover activites occur
2. Access for emergency services is not present due to width of road
3. Light and ventilation is blocked by newer construction

O
1. Green infrastructure can be incorporated in open spaces (trees act as culturally important landmarks)
2. Multifunctional spaces (pandals near Mitra Mandal)

T
1. High level of development both inside and outside Koliwada, causing
   i. lack of connection with the Mithi River
   ii. newer construction reducing open space and ventilation

To understand and analyse the streets selected, **sections** were made. Factors like **topography, climate** and **access** were looked at, along with the five elements of Kevin Lynch

Movement mapping was done at different intervals of time to perceive the usage of these streets as a social space

Proposed design: **Site Plan**

Proposed design: **Cluster Plan**

Edge towards the mangroves

Open Space between clusters

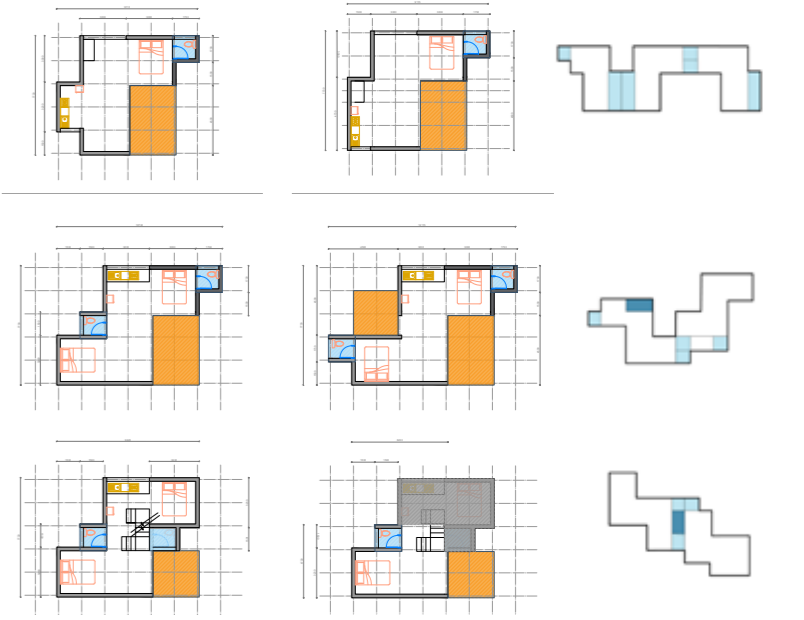Edge between existing community and proposed design

Design of units:

Units are designed to be multifunctional and thus, folding doors are provided instead of main doors (similar to traditional Japanese houses)

Each unit has walls facing differently in different open spaces - blank walls face away from more private open spaces

Linking is done by clubbing services (bathrooms and kitchens)
Stacking - 1st and 3rd floor, and 2nd and 4th floor are similar
**Clusters** formed in this way are organic, similar to the existing community

Types of units

Linkages

Site Model at 1:500

Part model at 1:200

Elevation AA': Edge conditions

This shows the relationship of the flyover with the mangroves and the proposed design

The microneighbourhood spaces formed in the proposed design are also visible here

Flyover | 6 m road | Footpath | Proposed housing | Microneighbourhood formation

Section BB': Institution
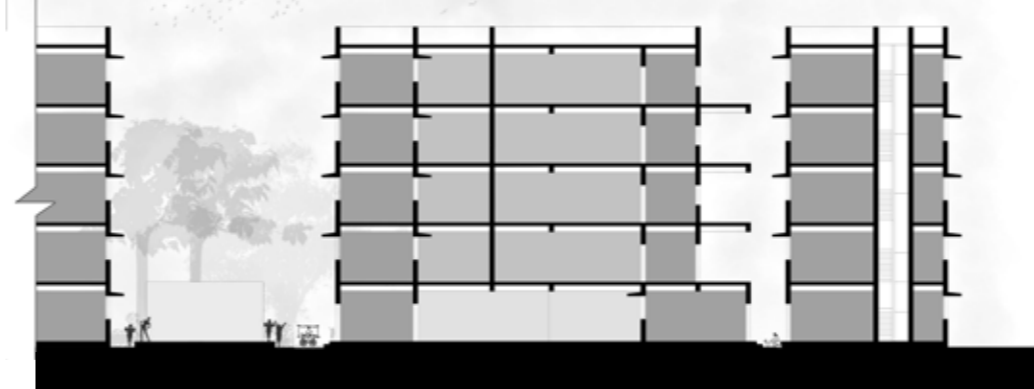
Section CC': Microneighbourhood within a cluster
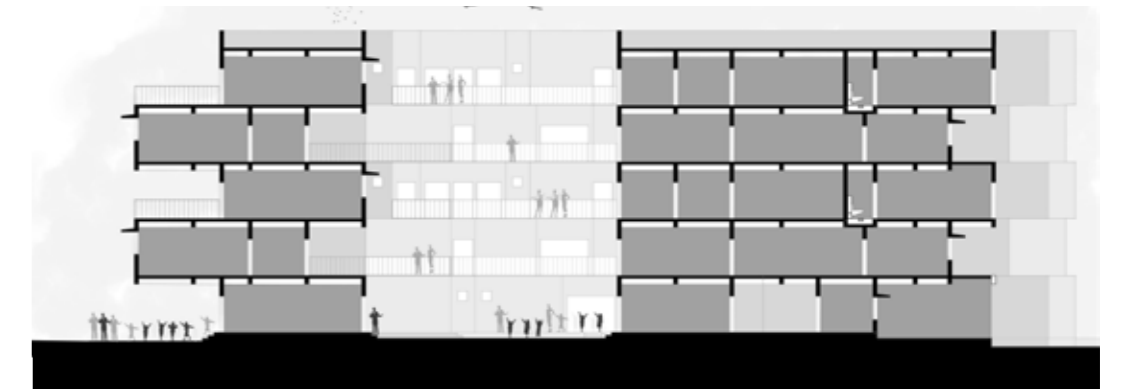
03

Project EKAM:
Understanding
Community Engagement

studio: Light Infrastructures
site: Ahmedabad, Gujarat
semester: Spring 2022
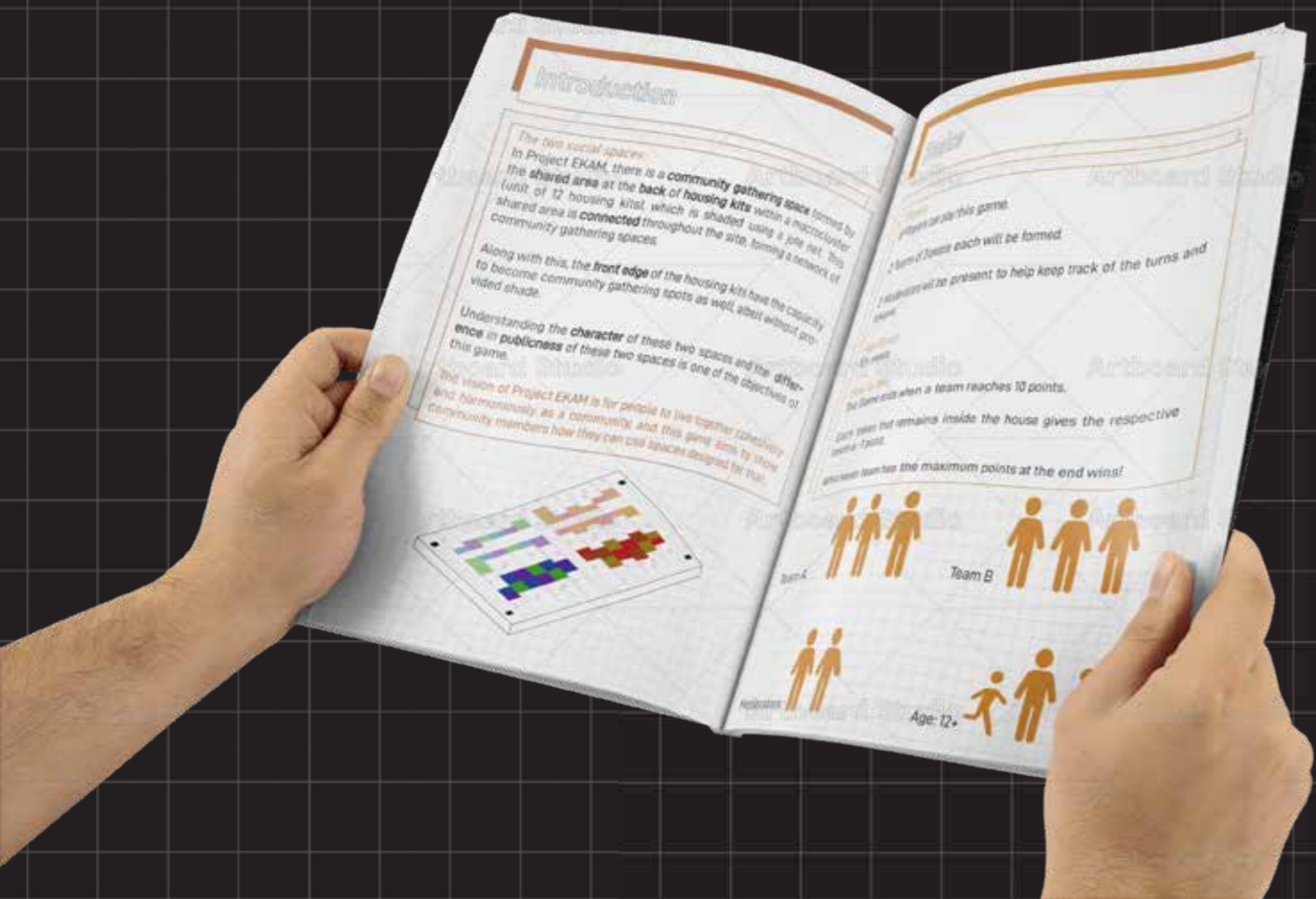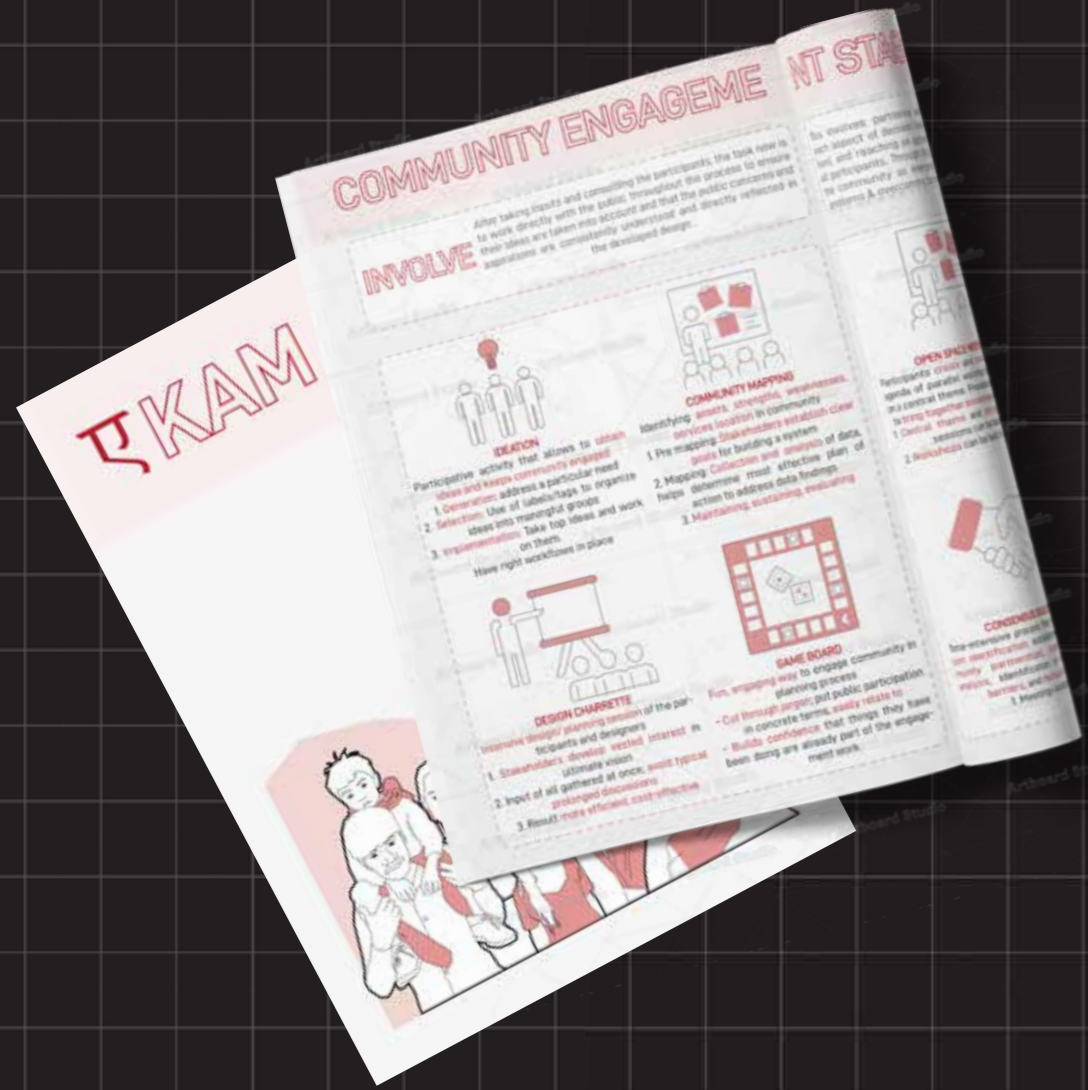tutors: Kruti Shah
faculty: Planning

learning outcomes: perceiving the need for sensitivity in design by engaging with the user group and involving them in each step of the design.

project details: unlike current transit settlements, Project EKAM (Oneness) aims to become a harmonious, self-sustaining community where everyone's voice matters and collective, cohesive co-living occurs among different groups, while being situated in the heart of Ahmedabad.

EKAM is an acronym, where E stands for 'Ek Saath' (Together), K stands for 'Kaayam' (Sustainable), A stands for 'Aavaaz' (Voice), and M stands for 'Mera, Humara, Apna' (Mine, Our, Ours).

after proposing Project EKAM, 'Chalo Banaye Apna Social Space' (Come, Let's Make Our Social Space) - a gameboard - was designed to find an engrossing way to engage community members for finding multiple uses of their social space

चलो बनाएं अपना SOCIAL SPACE

Community Engagement Ways: Gameboard

Involving the Community in Design

In order to design for the vulnerable community of resettled people in Ganeshnagar, a framework for engaging them in the process was developed in a group of two

Once this framework was worked out with steps, funding and reasoning, a gameboard - Chalo Banaye Apna Social Space (Let's Make Our Social Space) was conceptualised and made

This gameboard was made for the community members in the very last stages of the design as a way to explore the spaces created by the housing, institutions and road networks

Instead of being a way to just take basic inputs during the housing design stage, this gameboard is designed to be played in the stages during design, execution and post-occupancy

It is a means to understand the ways one can use their social space, how compromise must occur if issues arise among neighbours, and how neighbours collaborating will lead to increased happiness among all community members

Link to the video made to explain the gameboard

04

Abhigamyata aur Apnapan: Access and Belonging

studio: Vulnerability in a Pandemic City
site: Ahmedabad, Gujarat
semester: Monsoon 2022
tutors: Vrushti Mawani and Mariana Paisana
faculty: Planning

learning outcomes: designing at street level to make an inclusive design in a world post-covid

project details: When thinking of a traffic-heavy site such as Pakwan Junction, the lack of accessibility immediately comes to mind, especially for the user group of elderly and disabled people. However, after mapping and analysing the site, a much deeper problem came forward - the lack of a sense of belonging.

This project aims to include: 1. Accessible and affordable healthcare for all, but especially for the elderly and the disabled people, and 2. A space for rest and recreation, which encourages interaction with others as well as physical exercise to foster a sense of belonging.

Apart from this, green space has been maximised to combat air pollution due to vehicular emissions and improve mental wellbeing, elements like ramps, tactile paving and no level difference have been incorporated to ensure accessibility, and the vendors present on-site have been included as well.

Analysis: **Mapping and Spatial Analysis of site**, Pakwan Junction, Ahmedabad, India
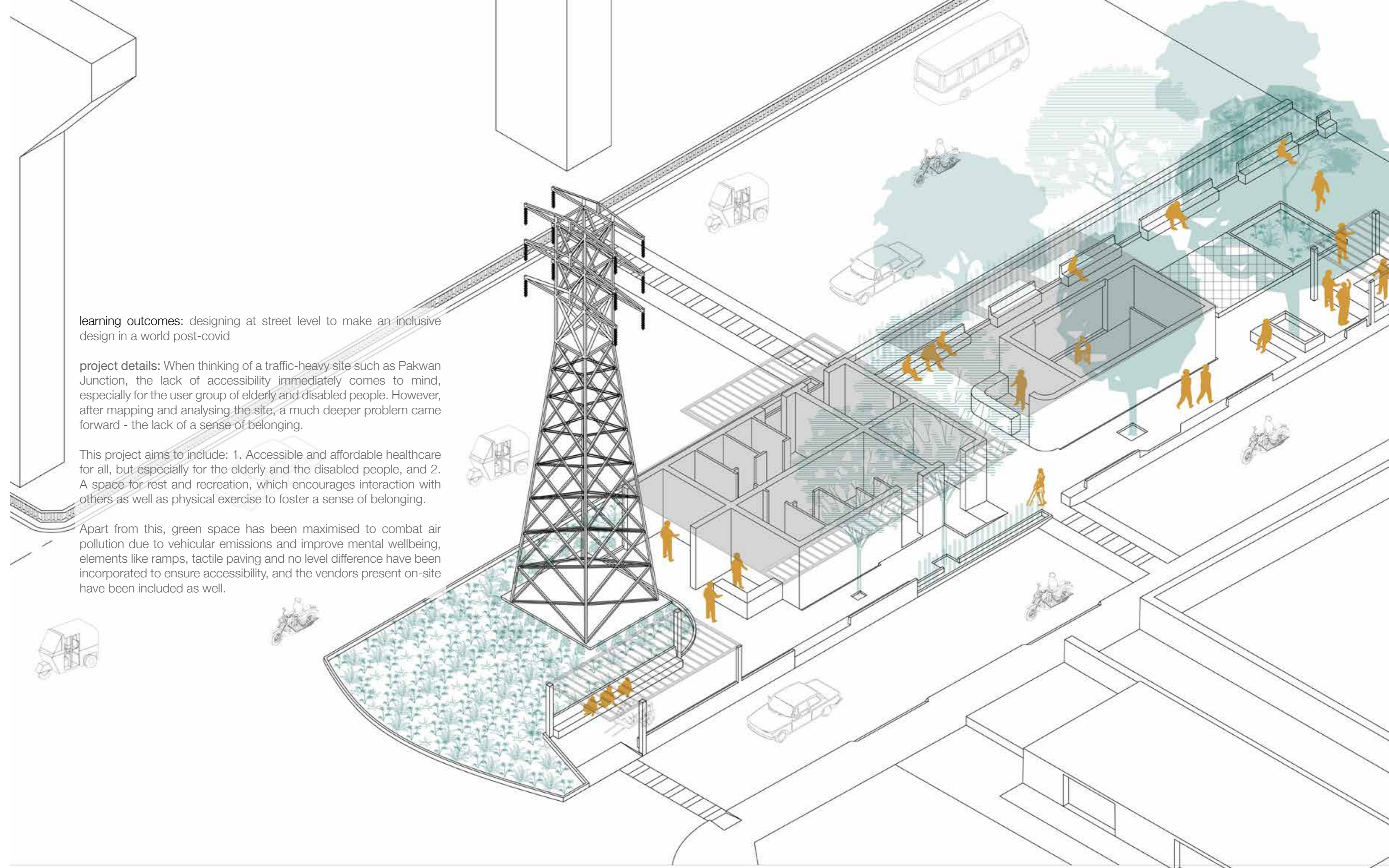
Spatial and Material Aspects of Site

Litter present on roads make it difficult for people with mobility aids to navigate.

People are sitting on the footpath due to a lack of seating elements on site.

Paving under the flyover:
Provides uniform surface for living and carrying out daily activities, especially helpful for wheelchair users.

Public toilet with wheelchair access:
Rs. 5 for using the toilet
Rs. 10 for bathing
Rs. 15 for washing clothes
However, some said that the guard overcharged them, quoting different amounts.

Using the roads for crossing, begging or selling items is very difficult due to heavy traffic.

The paving under the flyover provides a uniform surface for shelter and is easier to navigate for wheelchair users. The railings are used to dry clothes and the flyover provides protection from weather conditions such as harsh sunlight and rain.

The railings under the flyover provide protection from traffic, but the roads are filled with heavy traffic and areas such as the raised plinth of the drainage line have very little protection against vehicular traffic, and are accident prone.

Sections

Grassy patches and litter make it difficult for movement of people using mobility aids.

Muddy patches make it slightly difficult to access, but the gentle slope is easy to navigate using mobility aids.

Ramp makes public toilet easy to access, and the paving is uniform throughout.

Drainage plinth, elevation difference and litter hinder the movement of people using mobility aids.

Public Space and accessibility

Narratives

While begging, I have to sit by a wall for support, near few restaurants.

We have formed alliances with a security guard in front of a kirana ki dukaan for food and drinking water.

We have 4 kids, and one of my sons works at a repair shop and has modified a cycle for me.

LAXMAN: Old man
In his late 70s
Disabled

He used to be a construction worker, but after a road accident he lost control of one leg, and now he and his wife's main source of income is begging.
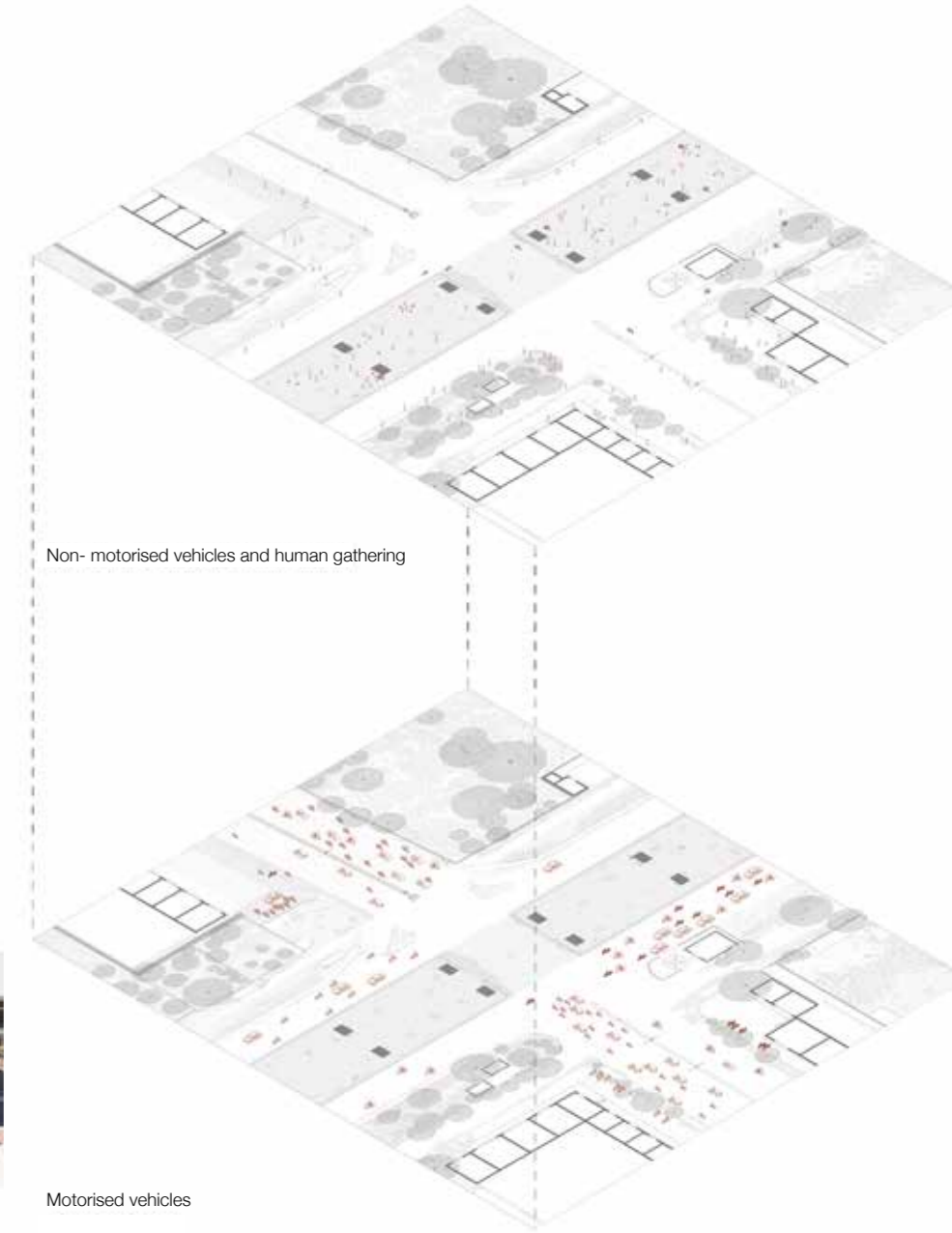
His wife, old woman
In her late 60s
Has knee pain due to old age

"Mera to koi beta aur parivaar nahi hai. Khana bhi koi tum jaisa de to hum khalete hai. Koi humare liye kuch nahi karta. Mera koi ghar nahi, mujhe idhar hi marna padega."

GEETA: Old woman
In her early 70s
Widow

She does not have any family to take care of her, and her source of income is begging. The pavement dwellers around her help her out, but they can only do so much.
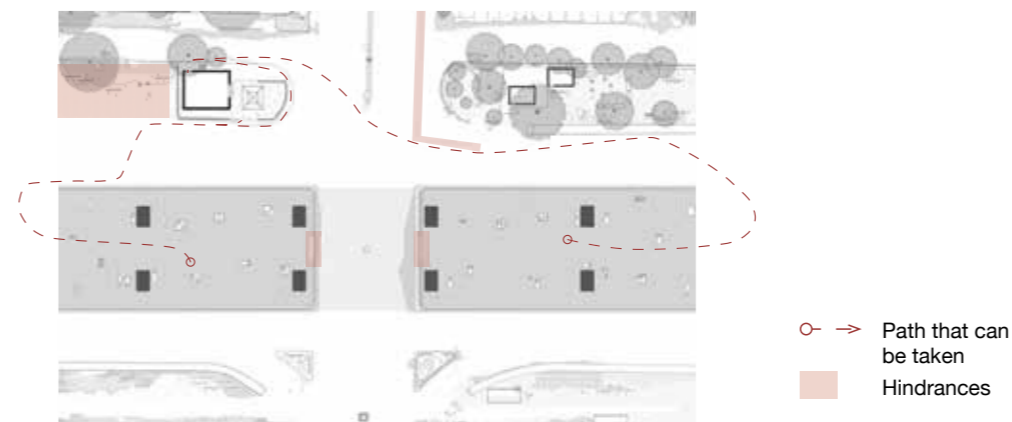
Non- motorised vehicles and human gathering

Motorised vehicles

Population of Urban Homeless of Ahmedabad

2,840 — People that can be housed in shelters

12,318 — Total

Of the **12,318** total urban homeless in Ahmedabad, only **2,840** can be housed in **46** shelters

Out of these only **17** were functioning properly

○—⇢ Path that can be taken

▭ Hindrances

To understand and analyse the street junction, a physical traces map was made and movement mapping was done at different intervals of time. Factors like access, litter and footpaths were looked at, along with the requirements of the pavement dwellers living on the junction

Spatial analysis was done to perceive the usage of these streets as a social space, and to understand how materiality and other factors were barring (or creating) accessibility on site. Based on this, the focus of the design was chosen

Overall strategies

Accessible Healthcare for all, especially the elderly and the disabled people

Maximise green space as:
i. It reduces pollution, which is prevalent near traffic junctions due to vehicular emissions
ii. It improves the mental wellbeing of people

Promote 'Active Ageing':
Elderly people, especially in countries like India, gradually stop going outside their homes alone because they need assistance from others in crossing roads and navigating.
This leads to decrease in physical activity and interaction with members outside their family, which has a negative impact on health and mental wellbeing.

Space for Rest and Recreation:
Combining the need for green space and active ageing, a space for rest and recreation would serve the purposes of increasing interaction with others and encouraging physical exercise.

Design strategies

1. Tactile Paving:
Acts as guide for visually impaired people and indicates when crossings are present.

2. Seating:
Has angled backrest for comfortable sitting and seating around tree pits present
Plinth acts as barrier from traffic as well as seating

3. Shade:
Provided by trees like Neem, Jamun and Gulmohar
Roof of Mohalla Clinic is extended to provide shade to waiting area
Pergolas are used to shade vendors' spaces and near the public toilet

4. Difference in language of buildings:
The Mohalla Clinic has a curved edge and its roof is extended with openings, while the Public Toilet has pergolas that provide shade
Also, the edge of the Mohalla Clinic (with Bougainvillea present on the wall and no visual barrier) is more open than that of the Public Toilet (which has a 1 m thick visual barrier of bamboo), inviting people to use the space
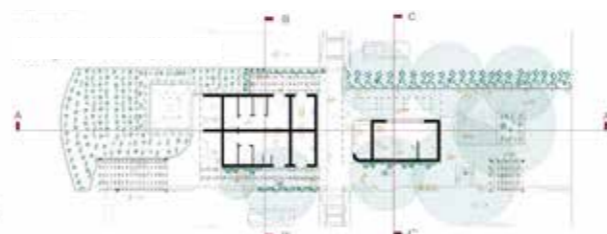
Proposed design: **Plan**
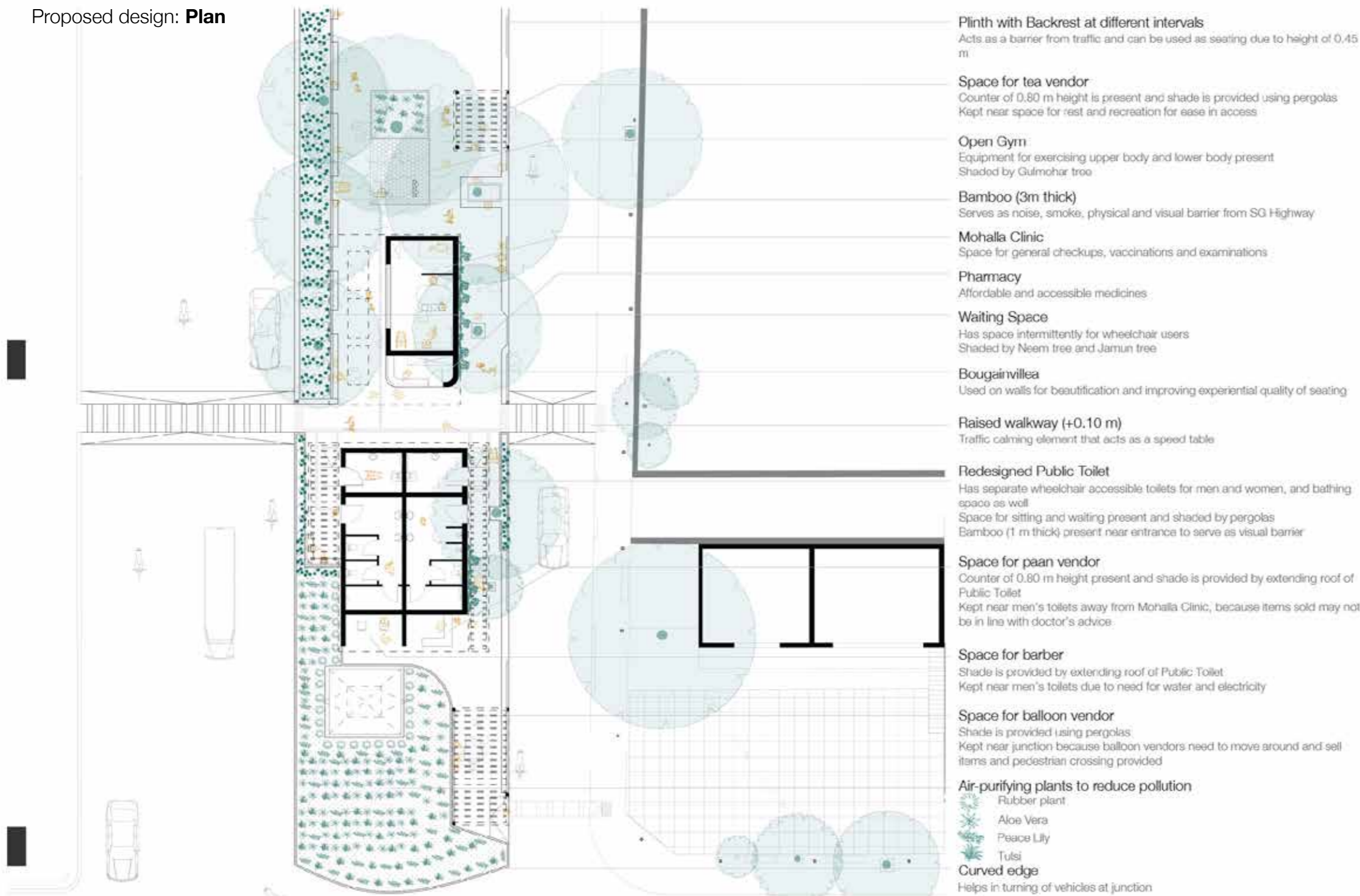
Plinth with Backrest at different intervals
Acts as a barrier from traffic and can be used as seating due to height of 0.45 m

Space for tea vendor
Counter of 0.80 m height is present and shade is provided using pergolas
Kept near space for rest and recreation for ease in access

Open Gym
Equipment for exercising upper body and lower body present
Shaded by Gulmohar tree

Bamboo (3m thick)
Serves as noise, smoke, physical and visual barrier from SG Highway

Mohalla Clinic
Space for general checkups, vaccinations and examinations

Pharmacy
Affordable and accessible medicines

Waiting Space
Has space intermittently for wheelchair users
Shaded by Neem tree and Jamun tree

Bougainvillea
Used on walls for beautification and improving experiential quality of seating

Raised walkway (+0.10 m)
Traffic calming element that acts as a speed table

Redesigned Public Toilet
Has separate wheelchair accessible toilets for men and women, and bathing space as well
Space for sitting and waiting present and shaded by pergolas
Bamboo (1 m thick) present near entrance to serve as visual barrier

Space for paan vendor
Counter of 0.80 m height present and shade is provided by extending roof of Public Toilet
Kept near men's toilets away from Mohalla Clinic, because items sold may not be in line with doctor's advice

Space for barber
Shade is provided by extending roof of Public Toilet
Kept near men's toilets due to need for water and electricity

Space for balloon vendor
Shade is provided using pergolas
Kept near junction because balloon vendors need to move around and sell items and pedestrian crossing provided

Air-purifying plants to reduce pollution
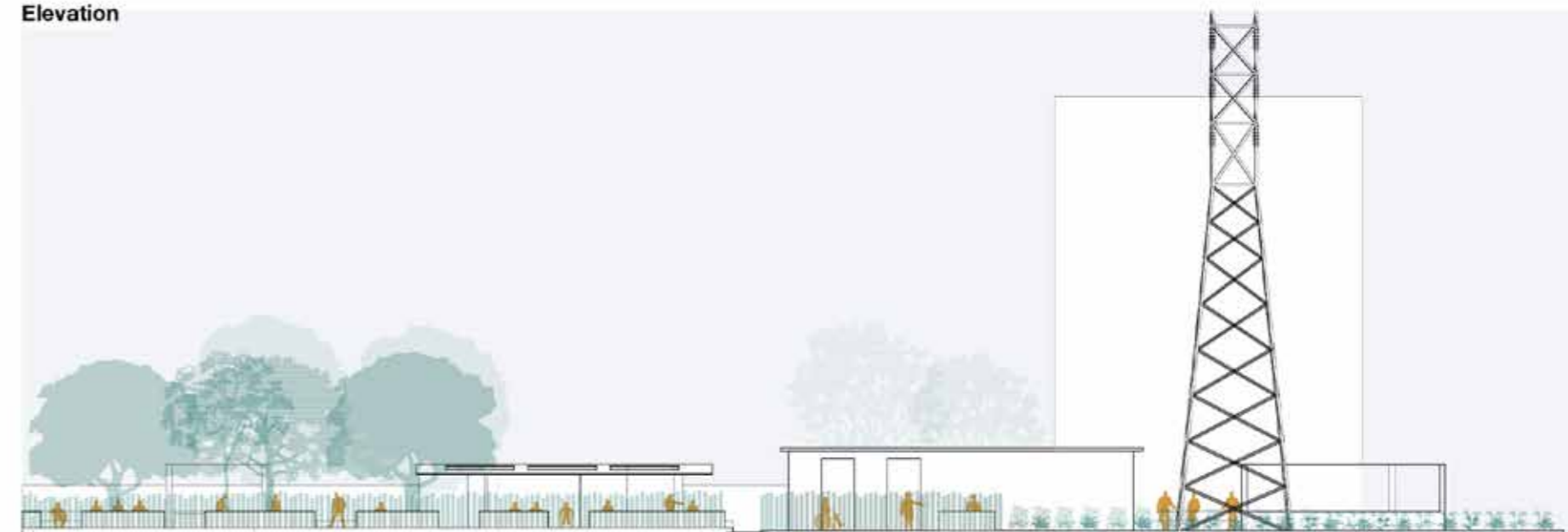Rubber plant
Aloe Vera
Peace Lily
Tulsi
Curved edge
Helps in turning of vehicles at junction

Scale: 1:100
0 1   5   10 M

Elevation

Bamboo barrier
Serves as noise, smoke, physical and visual barrier due to its thickness of 3 m

Seating
0.45 m high plinth with angled backrests serves as seating
It has intermittent gaps to accommodate wheelchair users

Mohalla Clinic and Pharmacy
Roof has openings and is extended to shade waiting area as well

Raised walkway
At a height of 0.10 m, it acts as a speed table and calms the heavy traffic near the junction
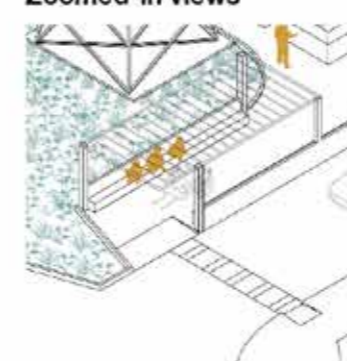
Redesigned Public Toilet
Space for sitting and waiting present, which is shaded by pergolas near the junction
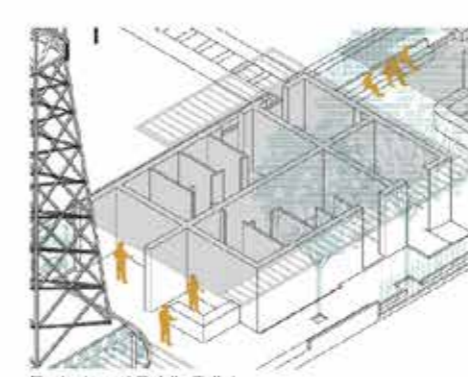
Balloon vendors
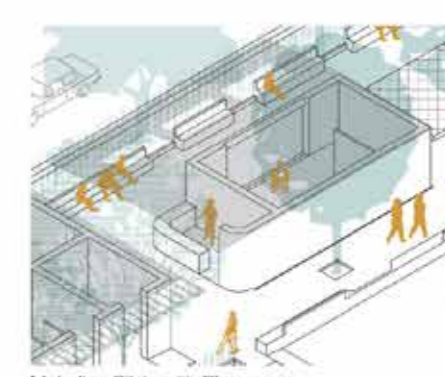Space for balloon vendors is shaded by pergolas and kept near the junction
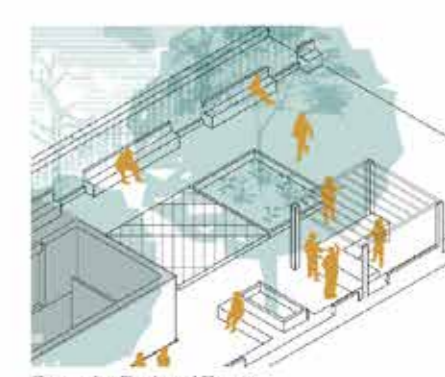
Zoomed-in views

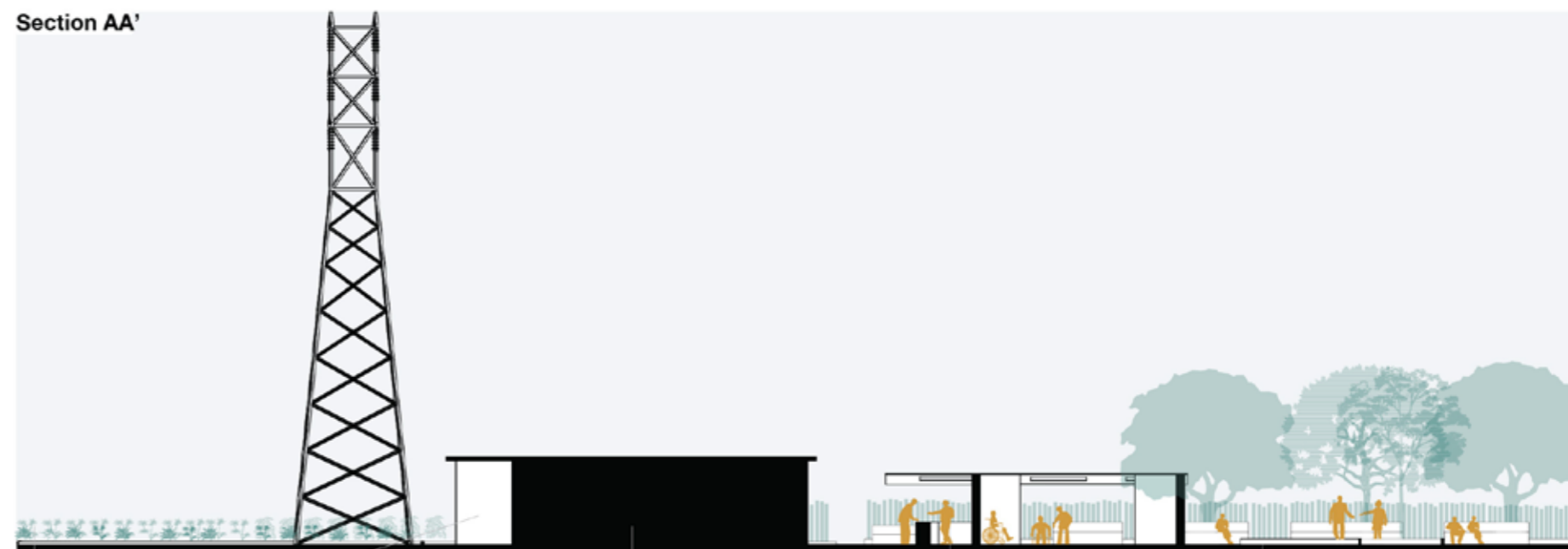

Space for balloon vendors

Redesigned Public Toilet

Mohallac Clinic with Pharmacy

Space for Rest and Recre-

Section AA'

05

Miscellany: Other Work

topics: Photography, writing, graphics
site: various
semester: Monsoon 2020 to 2024
tutors: various
faculty: Planning

Photography | Additional Courses
All Things Majuli! Documenting People, Culture and River Societies
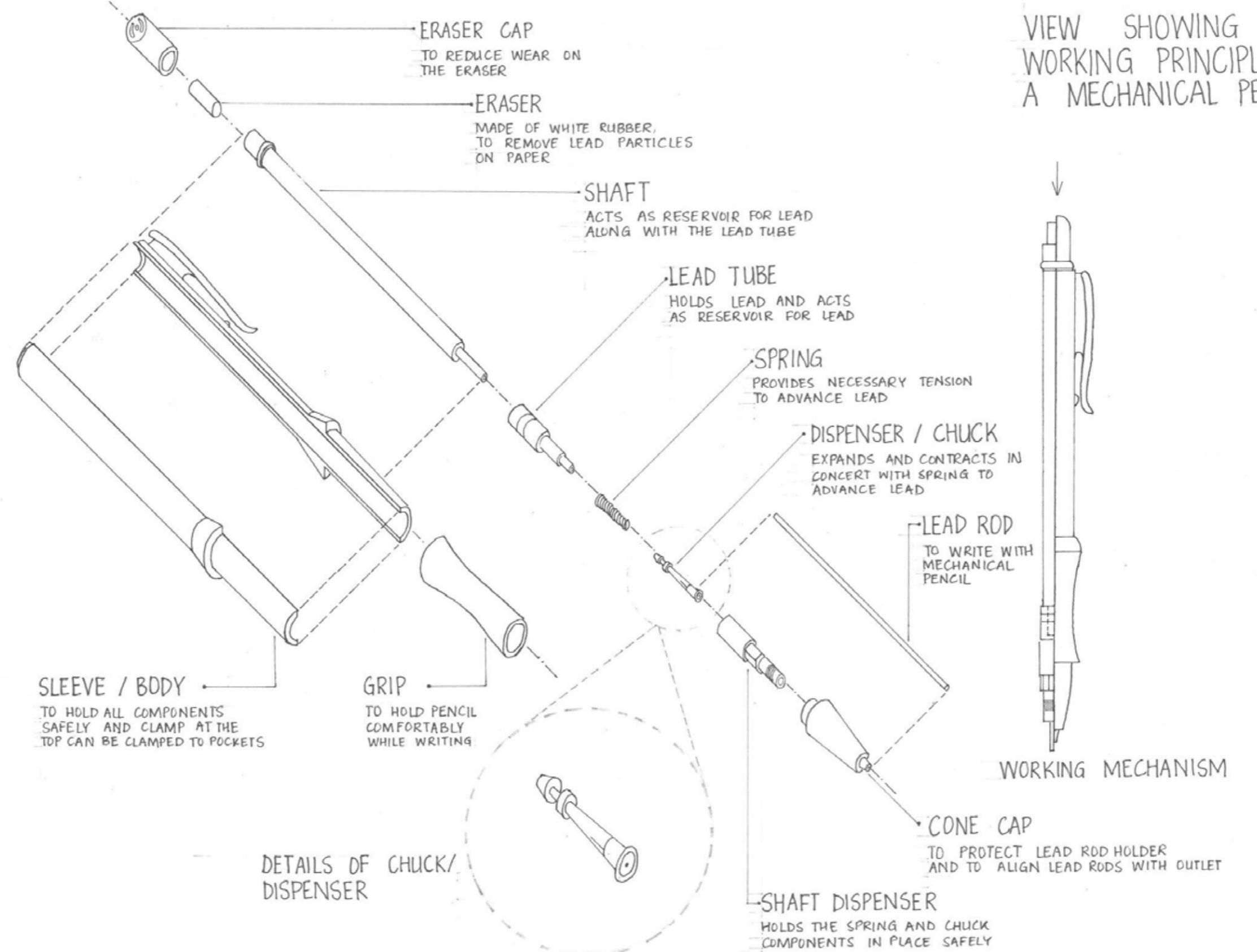*Food and the City*

Writing and Research | Additional Courses
City in Literature
Post-Colonial Museum and the Location of Memory

Graphics | CEPT Foundation Year

29/01/2021   S4.2   U20109

VIEW SHOWING
WORKING PRINCIPLE OF
A MECHANICAL PENCIL

ERASER CAP
TO REDUCE WEAR ON
THE ERASER

ERASER
MADE OF WHITE RUBBER,
TO REMOVE LEAD PARTICLES
ON PAPER

SHAFT
ACTS AS RESERVOIR FOR LEAD
ALONG WITH THE LEAD TUBE

LEAD TUBE
HOLDS LEAD AND ACTS
AS RESERVOIR FOR LEAD

SPRING
PROVIDES NECESSARY TENSION
TO ADVANCE LEAD

DISPENSER / CHUCK
EXPANDS AND CONTRACTS IN
CONCERT WITH SPRING TO
ADVANCE LEAD

LEAD ROD
TO WRITE WITH
MECHANICAL
PENCIL

SLEEVE / BODY
TO HOLD ALL COMPONENTS
SAFELY AND CLAMP AT THE
TOP CAN BE CLAMPED TO POCKETS

GRIP
TO HOLD PENCIL
COMFORTABLY
WHILE WRITING

WORKING MECHANISM

DETAILS OF CHUCK/
DISPENSER

CONE CAP
TO PROTECT LEAD ROD HOLDER
AND TO ALIGN LEAD RODS WITH OUTLET

SHAFT DISPENSER
HOLDS THE SPRING AND CHUCK
COMPONENTS IN PLACE SAFELY
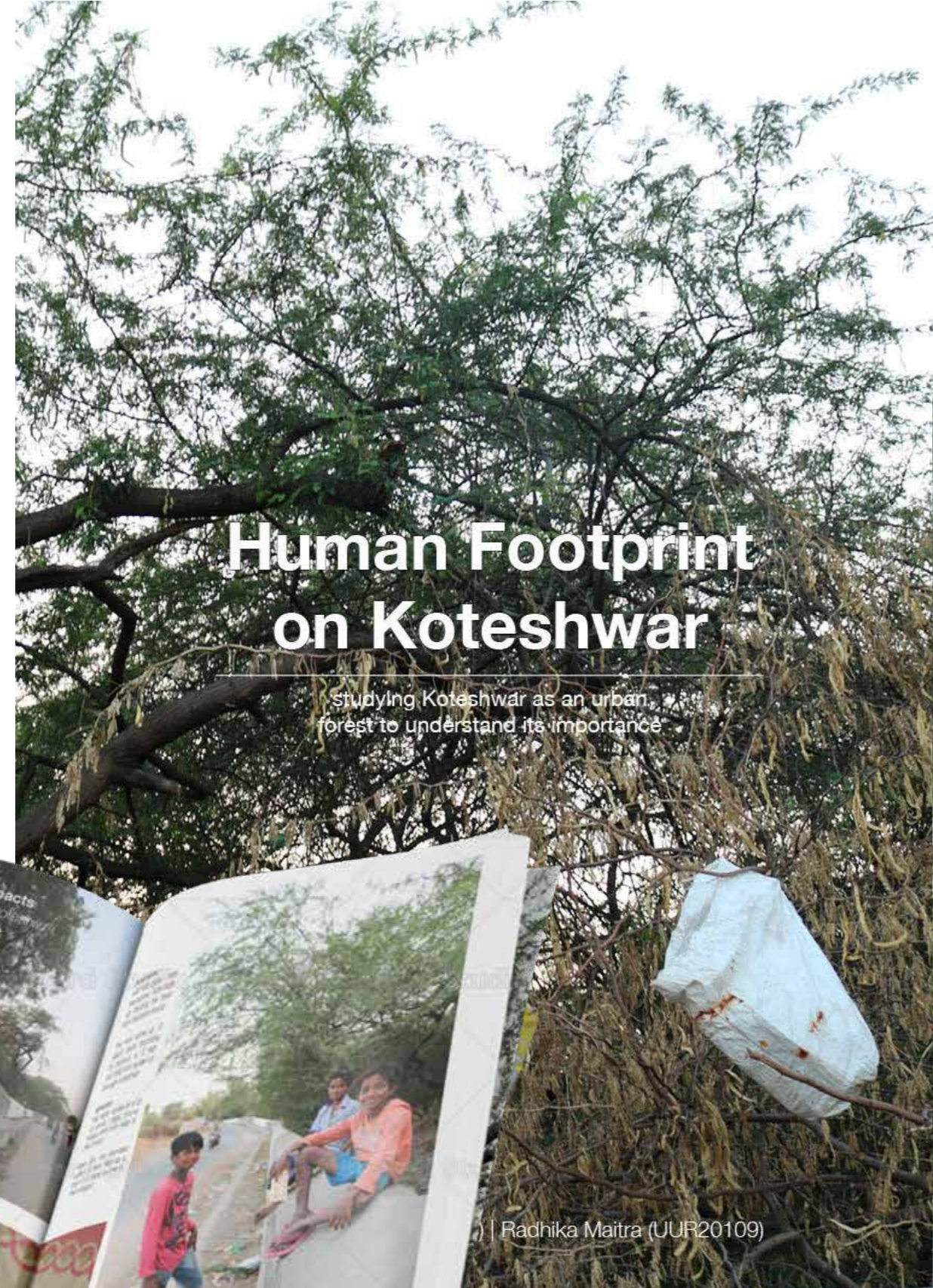
Photography: **Zine-making**

course: Food and the City
site: Koteshwar, Ahmedabad, Gujarat
semester: Spring 2023
tutors: Mansi Shah
faculty: Planning

The aim of this project is to document how an **urban forest** - the **Koteshwar wilderness** - is used by **villagers** living nearby and simultaneously, to draw attention to the **depletion** and **importance** of **forests**, especially in **cities**.

The Koteshwar wilderness is a **biodiversity hotspot** in Ahmedabad, which will soon be cut down according to the new TP Scheme. Thus, this project aims to document how **interlinked** the Koteshwar wilderness is with the **lives of residents** around it.

Details about the activities and impacts of various stakeholders of Koteshwar can be found in the complete booklet linked at the end

group exercise: done in a pair

Human Footprint on Koteshwar

studying Koteshwar as an urban forest to understand its importance

| Radhika Maitra (UUR20109)

course: All Things Majuli! Documenting People, Culture and River Societies
site: Majuli, Assam
semester: Winter School 2022
tutors: Subhasish Borah
faculty: Planning

The aim of this project - Sutaal: yard (in assamese) - is to document how the citizens of Majuli occupy their space - mainly their front yards and back yards

Vernacular housing is made with the needs of users in mind by the users themselves, and thus, the spaces were designed to be multi-functional and comfortable to use

The usage of bamboo was noted, and the space made under the house by the stilt housing was also utilised as storage or a cool shaded working area. Along with this, each village and monastery visited during the course had a distinct usage of their front yards and back yards.

Details about the activities and usages of these different yards of Majuli can be found in the complete booklet linked at the end

ছুটাল

/sutaal/:
(n.) yard (*in assamese*)

Writing: Research and Literature

In this elective, the main areas of focus were research and literature about cities. After going through a few texts that managed to convey the character of a city through literature in a gripping manner, poems, stories and essays were written to better understand cities' character and portray them as such

Urban markers were identified for this too
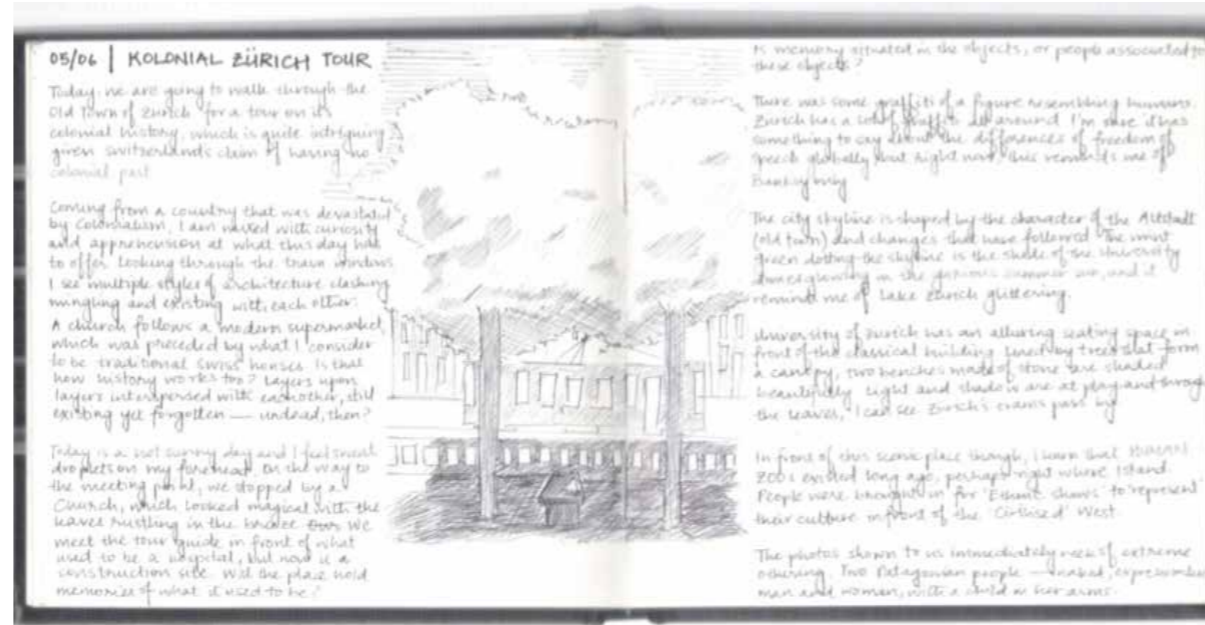
The Guards at Chiyoda City

I. History-Laden Lanes
The guards at Chiyoda city chatter,
Whispers fill the quiet night, a voice alone
Tells stories five centuries could not scatter
Of a place called Edo in the years bygone.

Built on its ancestor's grave, the Palace
Longs for familiar faces and names.
Mother Earth's harsh tremors, Nature's red blaze,
Man's bombings levelled Edo's surface, for shame.

The guards at Chiyoda city go on,
One million in this fishing town's brim
Spilled. Tokyo from Edo's ashes reborn,
Renamed on a seventeen year old's whim.

The streets, transformed, held the common man's feast,
Samurais held swords and sushi the same;
And the low city, the Venice of the east,
All show Tokyo's history-laden lanes.

II. A Michelin Galaxy
The guards at Chiyoda city ramble,
Waxing poetic about Edo's grub.
Tales of fast food set stomachs a rumble,
Time periods blended in Japan's food hub.

A heritage, its cuisine gained flavour
Before fish and meat were in it instilled,
A sure-fire way to gain the west's favour,
Nihon's food was by the teenage king built.

The guards at Chiyoda city remark,
The Meiji period made Japan's food
What it is now, shone light into the dark
So that tastes of the world could be imbued.

Oshizushi, nigiri and soba,
All date back to the Edo period.
From Portuguese shores travelled tempura,
The Chinese brought ramen a myriad.

The guards at Chiyoda city recount,
Yatai evolved to meet people's demands,
For once, the common man was paramount,
And street food born to fulfil these commands.

History and food in Tokyo intertwine,
Like Tonkatsu greets its Italian roots,
Indian curry is in Japan enshrined
As karre, many others follow suit.

The guards at Chiyoda city declare,
Omelette and rice merged to omurice,
Names embark on this Japanese affair,
These dishes have traversed seas to entice.

Even French croquettes turn to korroke,
The future itself Tokyo showcases.
With cronuts and acai bowls from LA,
Tokyo's street food covers all the bases.

The guards at Chiyoda city reveal
How umami, the taste of savoury,
Was coined in Tokyo by Ikeda's zeal,
Tokyo's sky, a Michelin galaxy.

III. The Loneliness of the Palace
The architecture of Tokyo, distinct
Though it may seem, lacks history of old.
However, its character is succinct,
Skyscrapers galore and neighbourhoods bold.

The guards at Chiyoda city assert,
Tokyo even has street fashion cultures.
Harajuku and Lolita invert
Expectations patriarchy nurtures.

Shinjuku and Shibuya brought closer
To the world through manga and anime,
Tokyo's skyline now seems familiar,
The symbol of tomorrow blooms today.

The guards at Chiyoda city proclaim
Overpopulation, the city's bane.
People pouring in, Tokyo's streets aflame
With crowds the city cannot sustain.

Titles bestowed by the economy
And growth make Tokyo a rich man's haven,
A poor man's grave. Sought after by many,
Railway tracks become a stairwell to heaven.

The guards at Chiyoda city murmur,
Energy and water crises loom ahead,
The land grows golden further and further,
Small disasters would paint the city red.

Through the world shimmers the Tokyo skyline,
Its culture dressed in history's best lace,
Its rapid growth engraved in people's minds,
It helps abate loneliness, says the Palace.
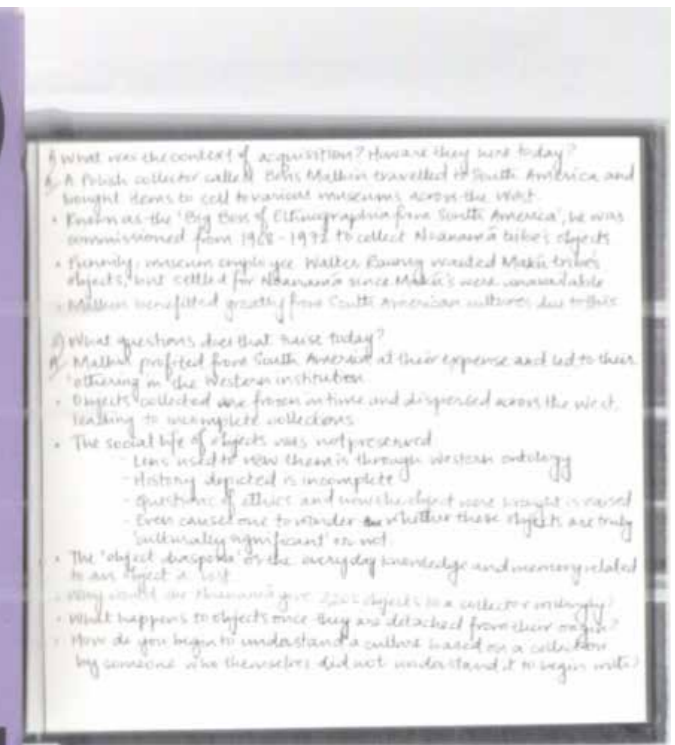
In this summer school, the idea of cultural memory, its location and preservation were explored through visits to various museums in Zurich such as Museum Rietburg and Volkerkunde Museum. Ethnographic museums as a concept were delved into in the context of post-colonialism.

Radhika Maitra
Bachelor's in Urban Design
CEPT, Ahmedabad

Link to extended portfolio:
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+91 9920210515