



# EUNOIA

Wellness Centre

*Centre for Women and Children*

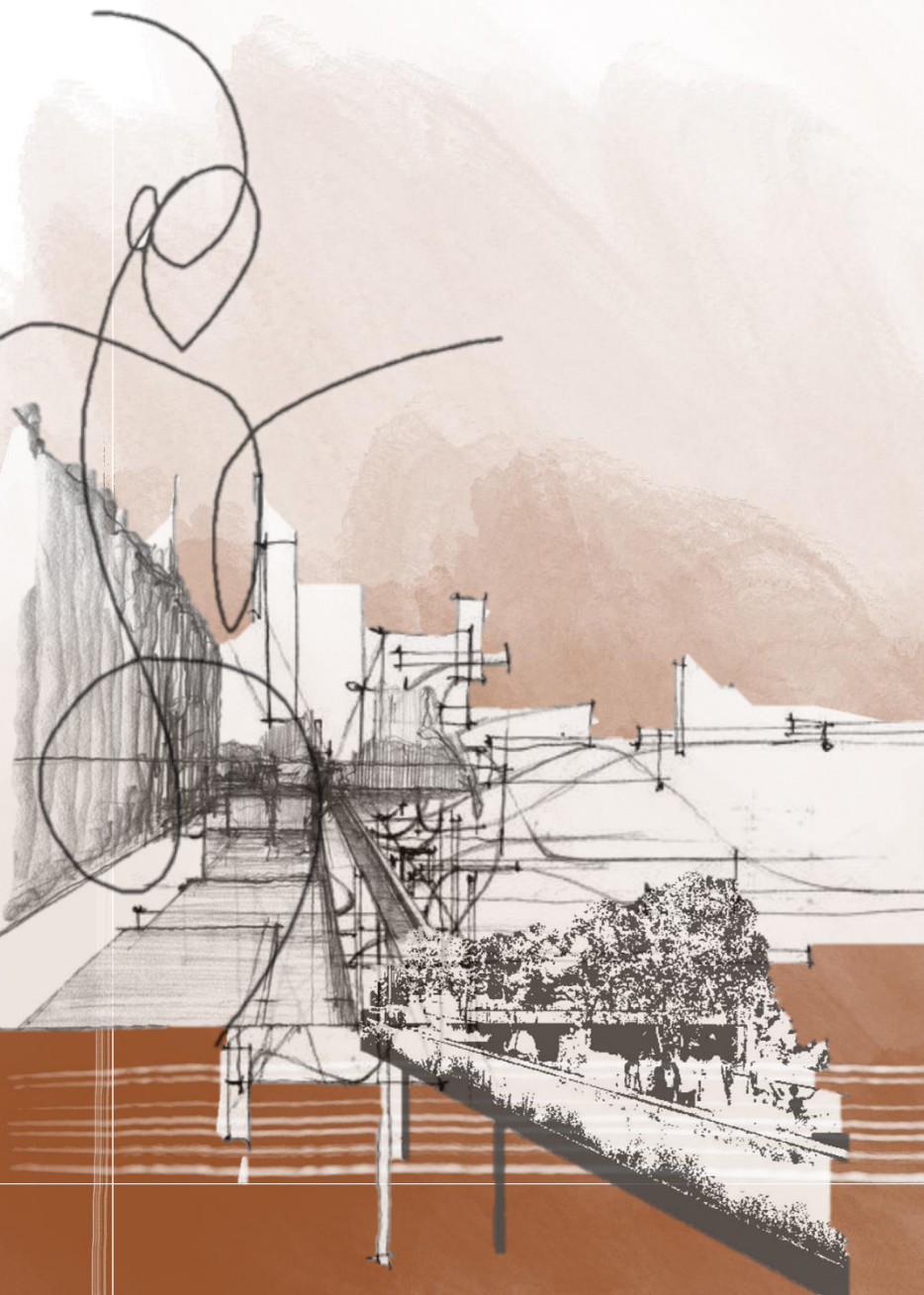
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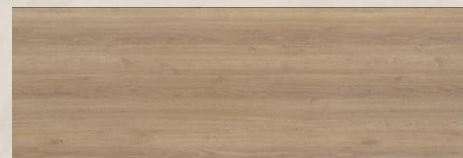
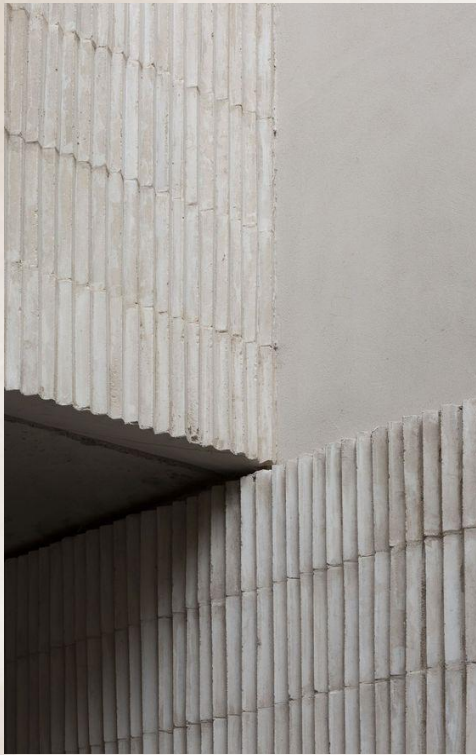
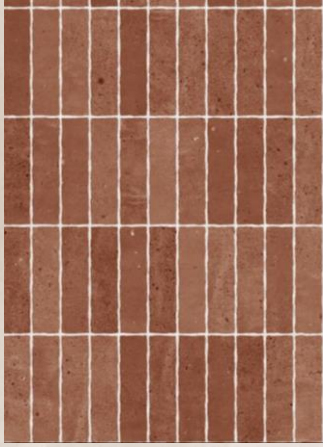
# eunoia

Centre for Women and Children  
Wellness Centre

Eunoia Wellness Centre is a wellness center for women and children. The redevelopment of a former redundant site in Sunnyside, Pretoria, promotes the holistic wellbeing of its community by introducing a wellness center that will act as an architectural interface promoting a *safety climate* in the public realm of Pretoria. The vision of this design would be architecture that enables *operation, rehabilitation, and connection* and *inclusion* of women in their communities. This project aims to react against the current place of women and children within the public realm and cityscapes within Tshwane that promotes violence and crime against these women and children. This project is developed through theoretical concepts such as *Biophilic design* and *Feminine placemaking*. These concepts drive the spatial identity of the Wellness Center, a safe haven for women and children in Tshwane. The design captures the encapsulating *safety climate* of feminine placemaking within a rigid masculine cityscape.



Mood & Inspiration





## Normative Position

The aim is to improve the health and well-being of city residents by enhancing public spaces. It recognizes the role of public spaces in fostering social cohesion and happiness within urban environments (Savvides, 2015). The project prioritizes safety, health, and public life considerations and addresses climate change resilience in Tshwane.

The IPCC's annual reports express serious concerns about climate change's direct impact on people's physical and psychological well-being worldwide (IPCC, 2022:8–15). This has prompted global cities to focus on 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) introduced by the UN to promote environmental revitalization and healthier communities. (UNDP, 2022). This project aligns with specific SDGs, including *good health and well-being*, *sustainable cities and communities*, and *climate action*, while emphasizing safety for women and children in communities (UNDP, 2022).

# Problem Statement

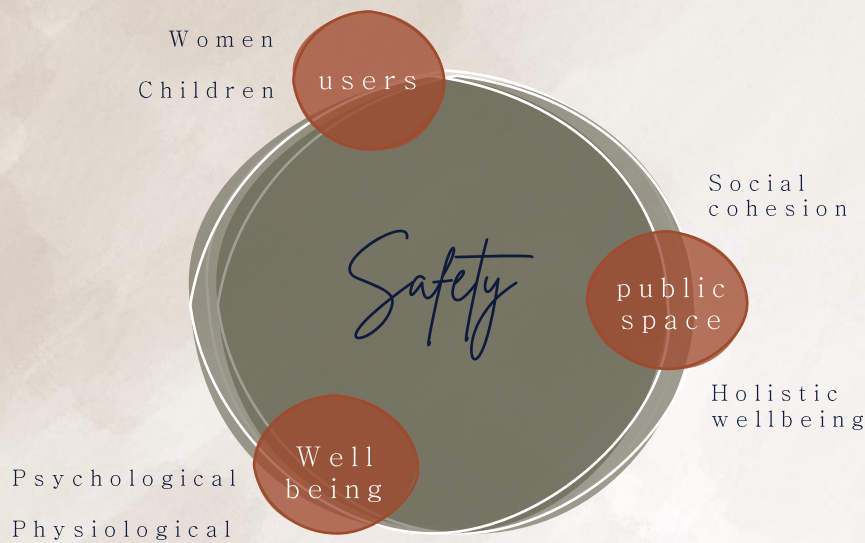


Fig. 2. Project Statement Diagram.

Design significantly impacts people's well-being. Reiling (2006) notes that physical environments signal safety and performance, with Ulrich and Zimming's study (cited in Reiling, 2006) supporting this. The design of spaces can shape user behavior (Kleeman, cited in Reiling, 2006). This project focuses on designing a safe public interface for women and children within Tshwane. Architecture is used as an interface within the public realm to encourage a *safety climate* for women and children in the city. Arzahan, Ismail, and Yasin (2022) define *safety climate* as users' perception of safety in an environment.

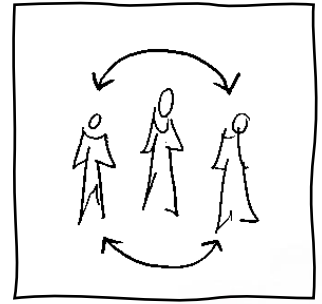
Global concerns about violence against women and children underscore the need for safety in public spaces (Garcia-Moreno et al., 2015). Ensuring a strong sense of safety and security is crucial in public interventions (Reiling, 2006). This project introduces Architecture's role within public space, and how a building within public space can foster a safety climate and ultimate social-cohesion within the larger cityscape. The role of Architecture in the project is to create an interface for rehabilitation and ultimately re-connection and social inclusion of users within their communities.

According to the 2013 WHO report, over 30% of abused women face violence from intimate partners, highlighting a pressing concern for community socio-cultural health and the need for intervention. Changing socio-cultural norms regarding violence and empowering women is essential (Garcia-Moreno, 2002). An architectural intervention, in the form of a women's and children's wellness center, will aim to promote the holistic health and well-being within cities.

Following a holistic approach to the overall health and well-being of communities, design itself should promote these objectives. This project is informed by principles promoting healthier and happier communities by making use of Regenerative thinking, Biophilic design and feminine placemaking principles.

## Design Question

How can architecture promote the health and well-being of communities, and establish a strong narrative safety and inclusion within public spaces, enhances the overall *safety climate* within cities?



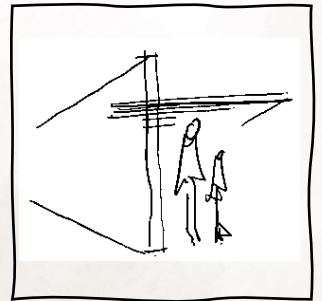
1

Enhance Social Cohesion within the community, by introducing asset-based community development

## Project Aim

*Creating a Safety Climate for women in the city.*

The aim of this design would be a building that will enhance the health and well-being of women and children, by creating a safe space within the public realm for women and children to heal and grow, and to establish an inclusive and cohesive presence of women within communities. Having a holistic design approach that focuses on person and place centered well-being.



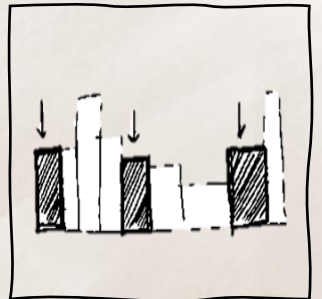
2

Establishing a Public Interface that promotes the health and well-being of women and children.

## Project Vision

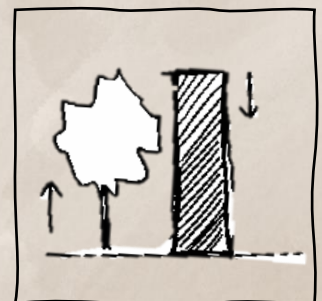
*Heating cities holistically through architecture.*

Revitalizing a disused city site promotes regenerative design through architecture, prioritizing user well-being. The goal is to establish a building within public space that enhances safety in the city, fostering safer and healthier urban communities. This project acts as a catalyst for improving public spaces and urban well-being, particularly for women and children. The project envisions architecture that supports users and their cities in terms of operation, rehabilitation, and connection.



3

Enhancing the safety climate in the current cityscape.



4

Sustainable design thinking promotes the prosperity and longevity of the overall health of the city itself.

# Programme

*Centre for Women and Children*

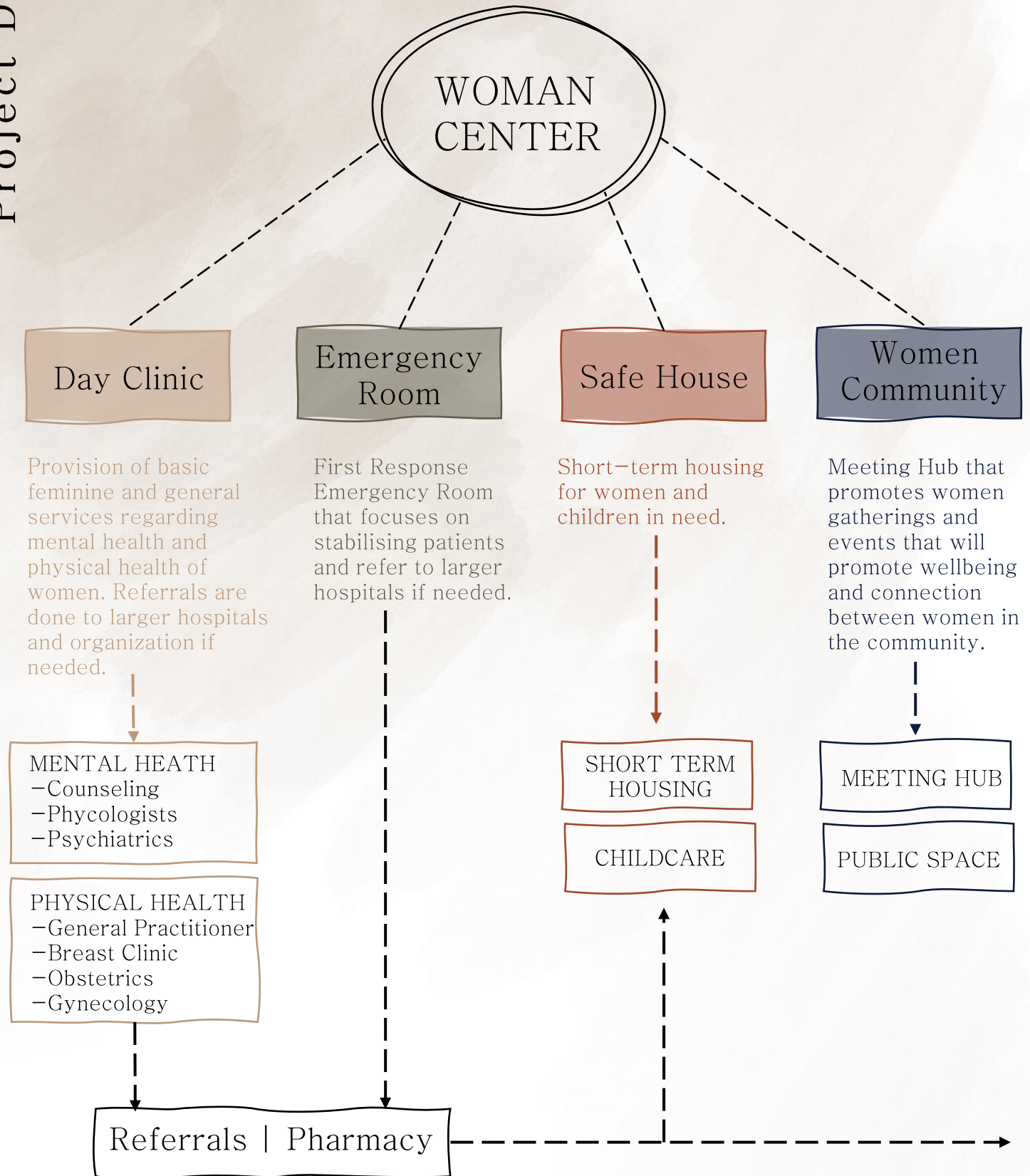


Fig. 3. Project programme diagram.



# Stakeholders *Role players*

UNISA, as the landowner, plays a central role. Various NGOs and NPOs will facilitate the intervention by supporting healthcare training and protocol development in collaboration with the Department of Health. These organizations also work to change socio-cultural norms, empowering women and raising awareness against violence (Garcia-Moreno, 2002). Local authorities like the City of Tshwane and the Department of Public Works will help connect the intervention to the public interface.

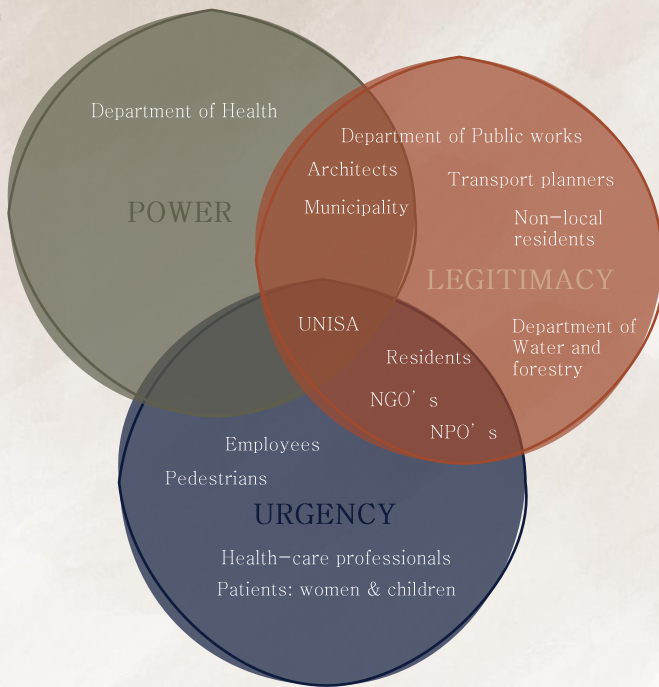


Fig. 4. Salience Model

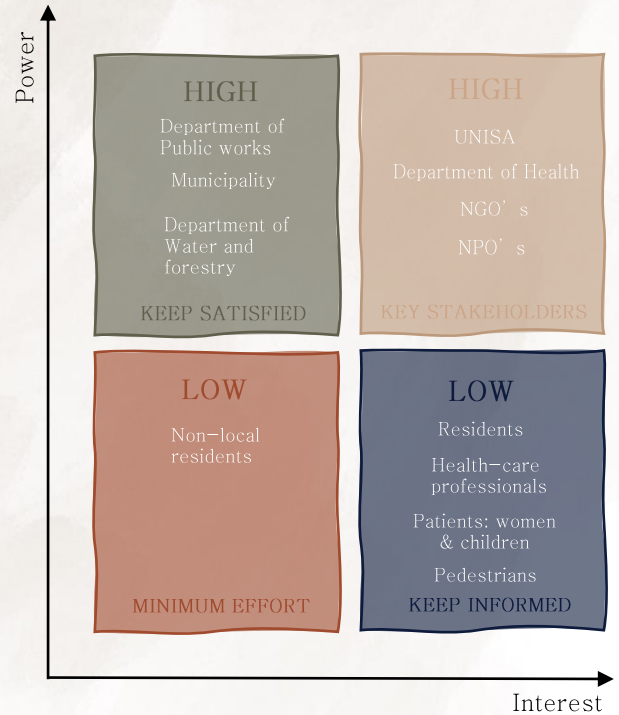


Fig. 5. Power-interest Matrix

Identifying stakeholders and defining what their roles are, the PMBOK Guide (5<sup>th</sup> Edition), introduces 4 methods of stakeholder analysis (Singh, 2022). This project used a Salience Model and a power-interest matrix. These models identify the prominence of the project.

It is evident from the Salience model that Unisa is identified as the *definitive* stakeholder, whereas architects and the municipality are the *dominant* role players in the project (Singh, 2022). The community and other NGO's and NPO's also play a critical role in the prominence of the project and are categorised as the *dependent* stakeholders. The department of health is also a stakeholder with a lot of power but is seen as a *dormant* stakeholder (Singh, 2022). The power-interest matrix similarly identifies Unisa as the key stakeholder with high power and high interest in the project. The users are identified as stakeholders with lower power but higher interest. This indicates that the prosperity of the project will be highly dependent on their participation together with the health-care professionals.

# Site Introduction

## Sunnyside South Campus

The site is located at the Unisa Sunnyside South Campus. Pelser (2013) explains in the heritage report conducted on future development initiatives, that the current site exists on a number of different land uses and there is potential for rezoning and consolidation into a single site for the development of a new precinct. This project aims to form part of a larger framework for the development of the precinct.

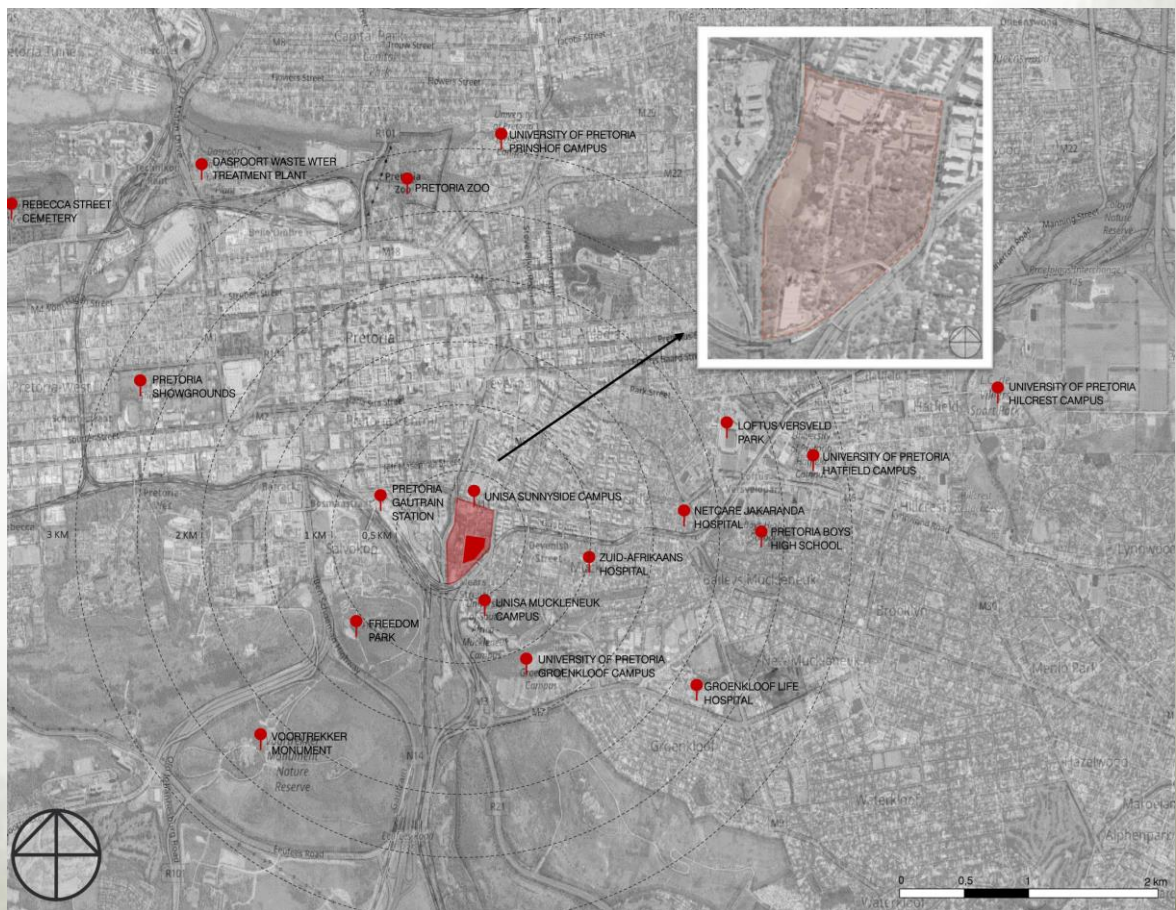


Fig. 6 Macro site plan, indicating site in Macro context.



Fig. 7. Site Photo: Foundations and infrastructure not completed and left to decay. Nature taking over the redundant former infrastructure.



Fig. 8. Site Photo: Abandoned former houses, stripped by theft and no maintenance over a long period of time.



Fig. 9. Site Photo: Uncompleted infrastructure, left as concrete islands in the landscape.



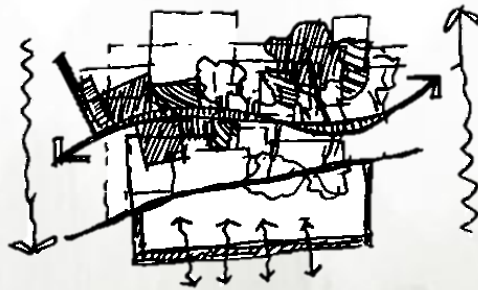
Fig. 10 Site Photo: Abandoned house, stripped by theft and nature, leaving a skeleton of what once was.

# Socio-ecological analysis

*Reaction to the discourse of sustainability.*

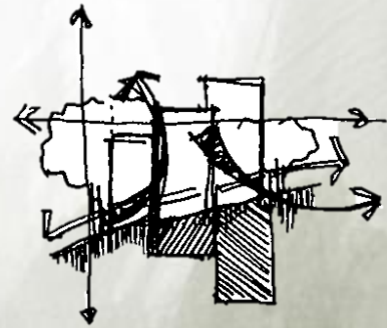
This project focuses on climate responsiveness to enhance overall sustainability and contribute to socio-ecological discussions. It aligns with specific SDGs, primarily promoting good health and well-being, sustainable cities and communities, and climate action, with secondary goals related to clean water, sanitation, and clean energy (UNDP, 2022), which will be integrated into the project's operation and technical aspects.

Additionally, the project aims to promote regenerative design through climate action, addressing the intensifying heat island effect in urban areas and public spaces due to climate change (Foshag et al., 2020). This underscores the need for sustainable practices and a paradigm shift beyond sustainability, as discussed by Du Plessis (2023), to create more livable cities.



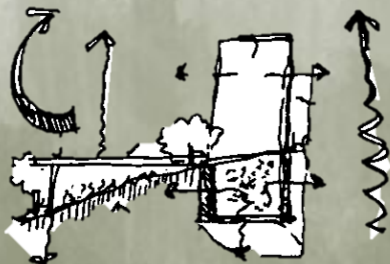
CLIMATE RECILIENCE ADAPTATION

THE PROJECT SHOULD AIM TO ESTABLISH ADAPIVE REUSE OF CURRENT DELAPITATED SITE IN THE CITY. THE DECAYED SITE HAS THE POTENTIAL TO ACT AS REGENATIVE ACUPUNCTURE POINT WITHIN THE CITY, WITH THE AIM TO ESTABLISH CLIMATE RECILIENCE ADAPTATION TECHNIQUES THAT CAN BE INFILTRATED INTO THE LARGER CITY.



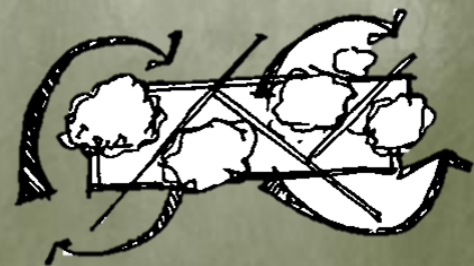
RESPONSE TO NATURE

THE MASSING SHOULD AIM TO SIT WITHIN THE NATURAL LANDSCAPE AND TYPOLOGY, ALLOWING FOR ADAPTATION AND INHABITATION OF EXISTING TYPOLOGIES. THE PROJECT SHOULD MORPH INTO ITS NATURAL TYPOLOGY BY CREATING A CONTINUUM IN THE SEQUENCE OF THE SITE NARRATIVE, ESTABLISHING AN OPEN SYSTEM, SYMBIOSIS BETWEEN NATURE, USERS AND BUILDING.



REGENERATIVE POTENTIAL

THE DECAYED SITE HAS THE POTENTIAL TO ACT AS REGENATIVE ACUPUNCTURE POINT WITHIN THE CITY, WITH THE AIM TO ESTABLISH CLIMATE RECILIENCE ADAPTATION TECHNIQUES THAT CAN BE INFILTRATED INTO THE LARGER CITY, REGENERATING THE CITY FROM THE INSIDE-OUT, GOING BEYOND SUSTAINABILITY.



INDIGENOUS THINKING TYPOLOGY

THE SITE HAS AN EXTING INDIGENOUS TYPOLOGY, WITH RICH VEGISTATION, THAT HAS ESTABLISHED ITSELF OVER THE LAST 40+ YEARS. THE VEGISTATION HAS STARTED INFILTRATING THE INFRASTRUCTURE AND BECAME AN INFORMANT TO RETHINKING THE DESIGN, TO DESIGN IN COLLABORATION AND PARRALLEL TO THE EXITING TYPOLOGY, CULTIVATING INDIGENOUS RICHNESS OF THE SITE.

# Socio-economic analysis

*Reflecting on project relevance.*

The area currently has a dense population, averaging one person per square meter, with 97.2% residing in formal dwellings, including standalone homes and apartment blocks (Statistics SA, 2023). The majority of the population falls within the working-class bracket, aged 15 to 65, with a relatively educated community, accounting for 42.4% with higher education qualifications (Statistics SA, 2023). This highlights the need for education and skills development to support the community's economic sustainability.

The gender ratio shows a predominance of women in the city, emphasizing the significance of women-centered public spaces that prioritize safety. Safety is a pressing concern, as only 31.8% of Sunnyside households feel safe walking alone at night (Statistics SA, 2023). Given safety's profound impact on a city's socio-economic well-being, educating citizens is crucial for fostering better and healthier communities.

Designing safe spaces for women creates smaller, more intimate communities with specific spatial requirements, such as privacy, intimacy, separation, and confidentiality (Garcia-Moreno, 2002). With rising violence against women, there's increased strain on the public health sector, particularly in providing care for women and children, resulting in significant social costs (Garcia-Moreno et al., 2015). Studies have shown that women positively engage with healthcare interventions in communities, highlighting the need for mental health services, emergency departments, pharmacies, specialized services, and short-term housing initiatives (Garcia-Moreno et al., 2015).

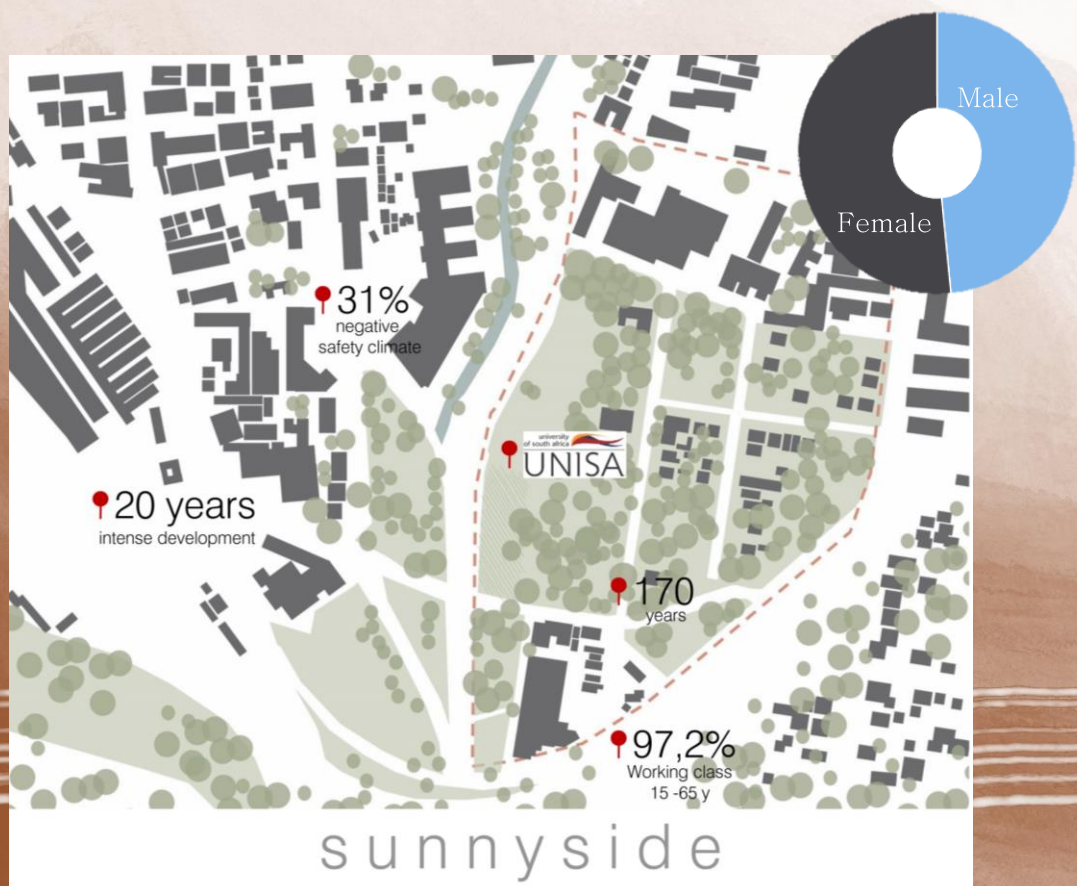


Fig. 11. Socio economic Analysis diagram.

# Precinct Development

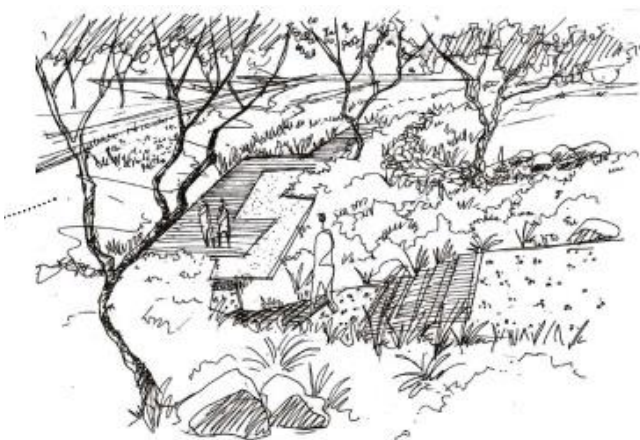
## Urban Development Framework



The urban development framework is collectively developed in group framework by K. Smit, A. du Plessis and K. Meissner-Roloff.

The precinct development minimizes disruption to natural vegetation while introducing new buildings for housing, education, business, and markets, enhancing user activity. Nature pockets, including rain gardens, connect people with green spaces. Water harvesting initiatives address water scarcity.

 URBAN DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK  
Developed collectively in group framework 2023.



FLOODPLAINS  
Sketch by Du Plessis, group framework 2023.



VEGETATED EDGES  
ENGAGEMENT PLATFORMS  
Sketch by Du Plessis, group framework 2023.

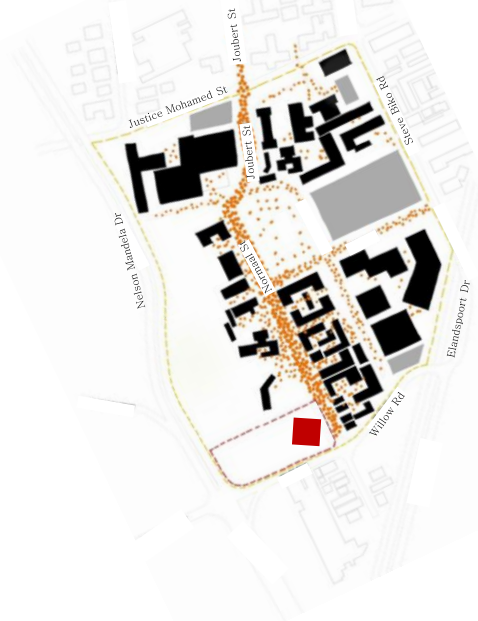
# Precinct Development

## Urban Development Framework



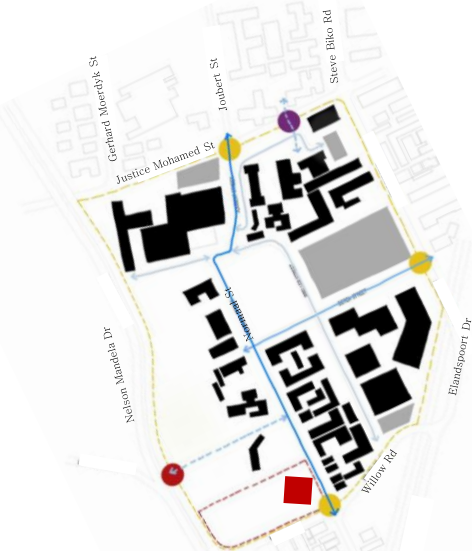
### ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

A newly constructed wetland and park follows the site's slope, connecting with the adjacent greenbelt along Apies River. This extends the wetland, offering healing gardens and paths, aligning with wellness initiatives.



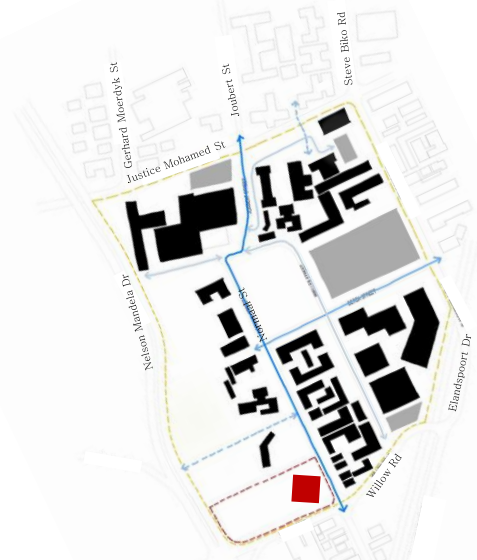
### OCCUPANCY DENSITY

Normal Street acts as the main movement corridor with dense occupation, featuring market spaces, community centers, and a wellness center.



### ACCESS & MOBILITY

Access nodes in Justice Mohamed Street and Elandsport Drive encourage walking. A new accessibility node is introduced in the precinct development, to connect users from the city, and large transport nodes such as the Gautrain station, directly with the site.



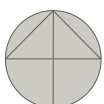
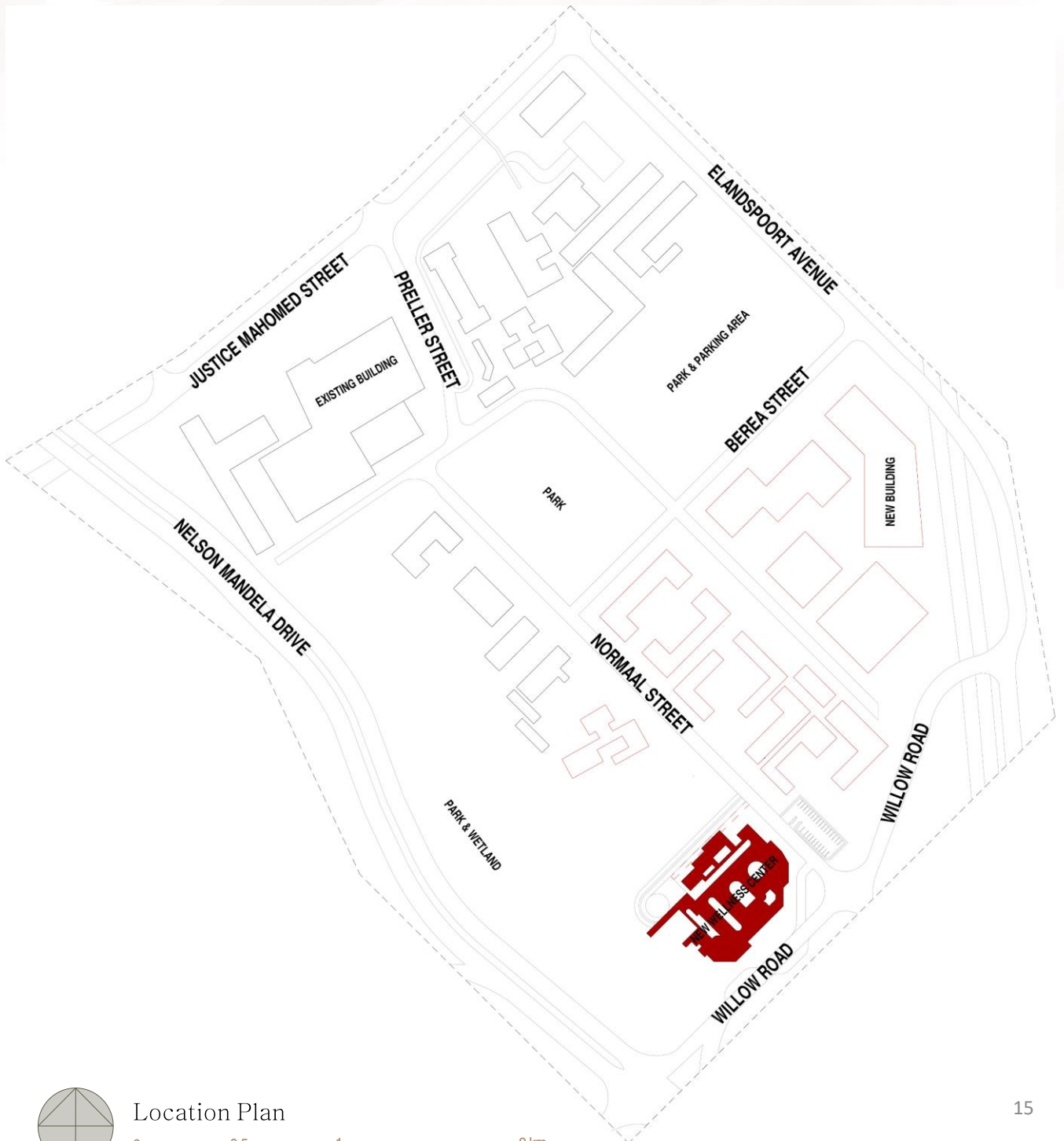
### MOVEMENT

Promoting a holistic wellness approach, limiting parking reduces vehicular traffic, encouraging walking. A new accessibility node connects the site to the city, linking users with walking paths.

# Project Location

## *Eunomia Wellness Centre*

The wellness center is strategically located on the main activity corridor within the precinct for easy access and visibility by local women. Its healing concept is strongly influenced by its connection to the greenbelt on the western side of Normal Street, offering a balance between public engagement and private well-being. Additionally, its proximity to the Willow Street accessibility node ensures convenient access to the center, including its emergency unit and safe house for women in crisis

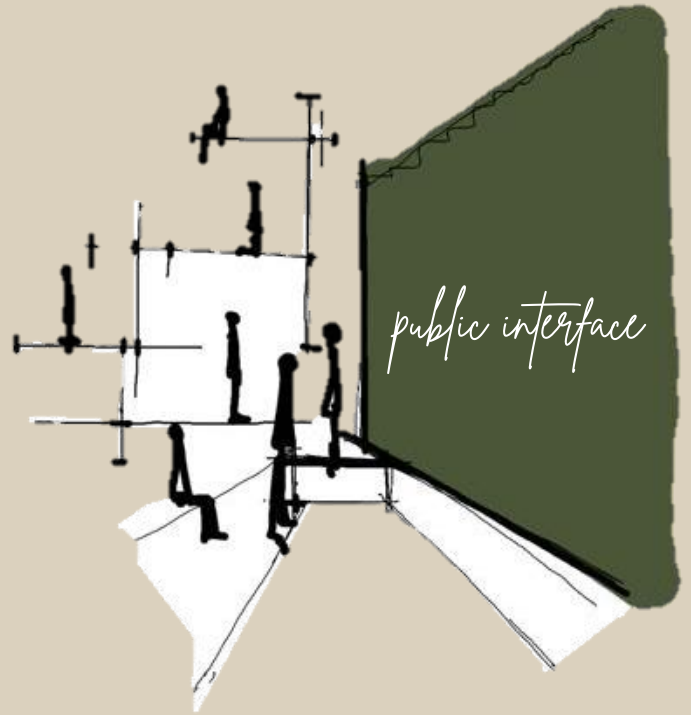


Location Plan

0 0.5 1 2 km

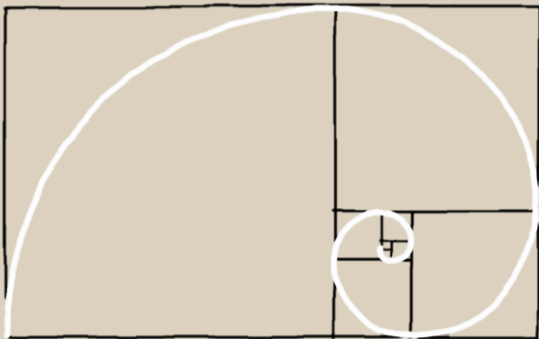
# Spatial Concept

*Healing cities holistically through architecture.*



Healing through  
spatial intervention

BIOPHILIC DESIGN &  
FEMININE SPACES



Relationship and connection.  
Relationship between feminine and  
masculine space-making.

The cityscape is structured with strong geometry reflecting the masculine form of architecture. This current cityscape leaves little room for femininity, organic movement and natural flow between spaces, softening the transitional language of public and private spaces throughout the city. The city center uses biophilic design principles and feminine space making to for a public interface that enhances the movement and connection between user and architecture.



In-between spaces becomes feminine, defining movement patterns. Relationship between feminine and masculine space-making.

Fig. 12. Diagram of in-between space defining movement.



# Design Approach

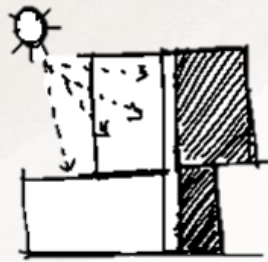
*Healing through spatial intervention*

Using biophilic design to heal body, mind and soul

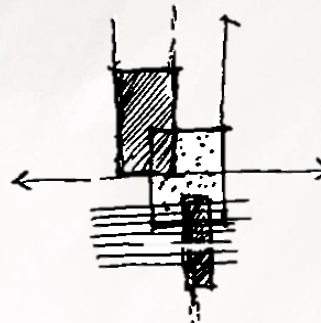


Biophilic design celebrates life and the human connection to living systems (Yen, 2012). It emphasizes the interplay between people, nature, and buildings, enabling architecture to narrate stories of place and contribute to placekeeping. Given that people spend nearly 90% of their time indoors (UGREENUS, 2021), there's a design opportunity to bridge the gap between indoor and outdoor spaces, making indigenous architecture place-specific and in harmony with the environment.

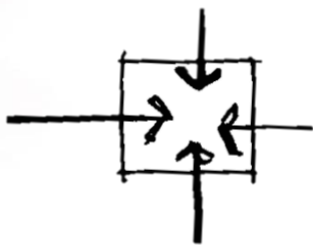
Biophilic design also influences how buildings shape communities. In addition to blurring indoor-outdoor boundaries, biophilic design also addresses the delicate balance between prospect (connection and visibility) and refuge (safety and security) (Sturgeon, 2019).



Daylight



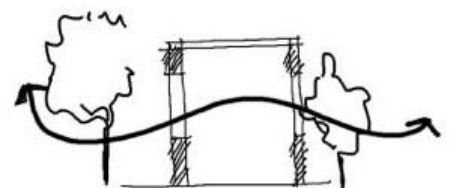
Texture & Elements



Opportunities for interaction



Space-making through light manipulation



Natural Ventilation

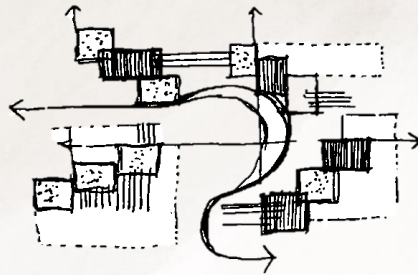
# Design Approach

*Healing through spatial intervention*

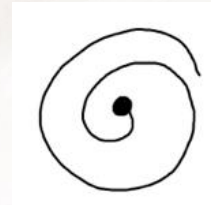
## Feminine Spaces

2

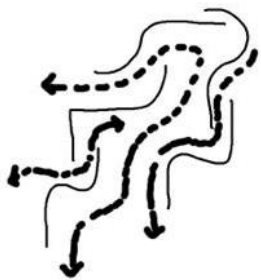
Creating feminine spaces is a deliberate design decision to carefully design and consider the physical infrastructure. Feminine spaces have a critical alliance to social implications and behaviour (Cosgrave, 2019). Feminine spaces has a strong *safety climate*. This leads us to the question of how architecture and design can ensure safety for women? There is a large debate whether these spaces should be crowded or not-crowded, each with a long list of pro's and con's, but neither in entirety is the answer. The essence of good feminine spaces allows for mobility and opportunities, and the freedom to choose the type of space you would have a greater sense of personal safety (Cosgrave, 2019). Having a good integration of feminine activity in public spaces raises the need of designing transformative public spaces within the city (Cosgrave, 2019).



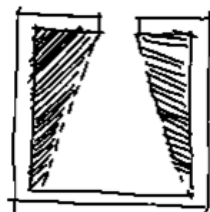
Connection, Integration,  
Interactive, Togetherness



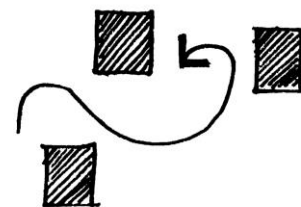
Safety



Accessibility &  
organic movement



Light



Programme &  
activation

# Technical Concept

*Structure promoting honesty, stability & connection.*

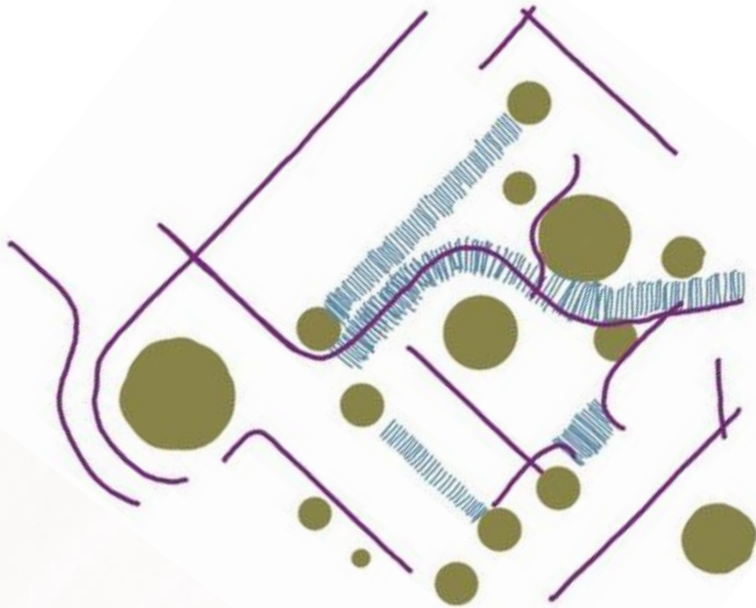
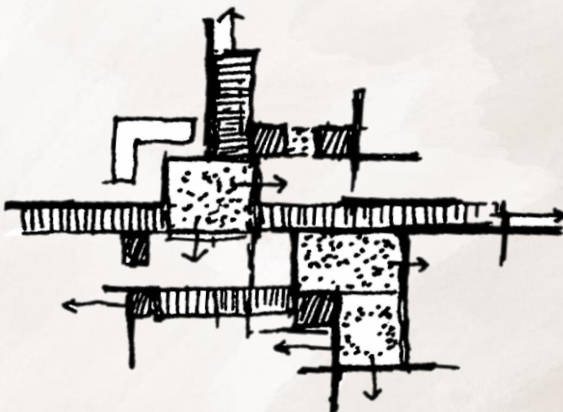


Fig. 13. Concept Diagram.

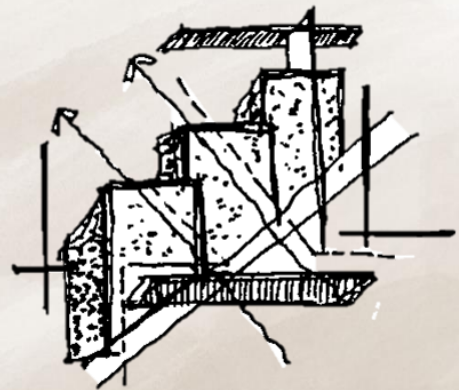
Concept diagram identifying the connection between structural systems, Vertical planes, horizontal planes and nature

The technical concept is to design a structure that promotes honesty, stability and connection through its relationship between materials, users and the site itself. Enhancing the well-being of users, these elements are essential between human connection. Creating architecture that enhances the well-being of its users, the relationship between user and building should also reflect these concepts of honesty, stability and connection.



## COURTYARD CONCEPT

THE CONNECTION BETWEEN VERTICAL PLANES, HORIZONTAL PLANES AND EXISTING NATURE CREATES THE OPPORTUNITY FOR COURTYARD SPACES. THIS CONCEPT AIMS TO REACT TO THE EXISTING TYPOLOGY AND CAREFULLY INSERTING TECTONICS TO FOR SPACE-MAKING.



## VISUAL TECTONICS

VISUAL TECTONIC SHOULD AIM TO CREATE DISTINCTION IN THE PROGRAMME OF THE SITE, ACTING AS VISUAL AID TO ENHANCE THE LEGIBILITY OF THE SITE. TECTONICS SHOULD INFORM MOVEMENT AND PROGRAMME, ALLOWING ACCESSIBILITY TO THE NARRATIVE OF THE DESIGN, PLACE, OCCUPANTS OR BUILDING.

# Structural System

*Structure promoting honesty, stability & connection.*

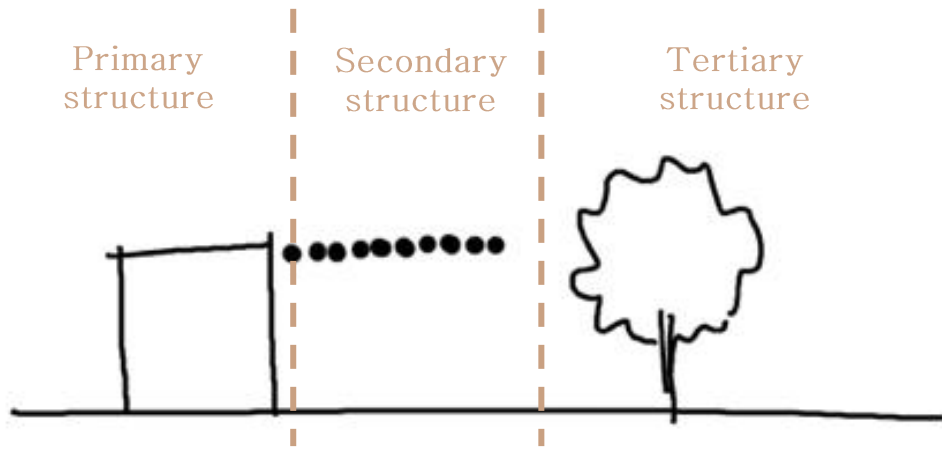


Fig. 14. Diagram of Structural System.

The structural system can be read horizontally throughout the building. The connection between the primary, secondary and tertiary structure creates an emphasis on the layering of spaces to create threshold, aiding users through the building and creating a spatial identity throughout the building. Just like the layering of these structures creates thresholds to different spaces, they also introduce a narrative between public and private spaces throughout the building. The assigned materials reflect this concept, enhancing the transition between different structural systems.

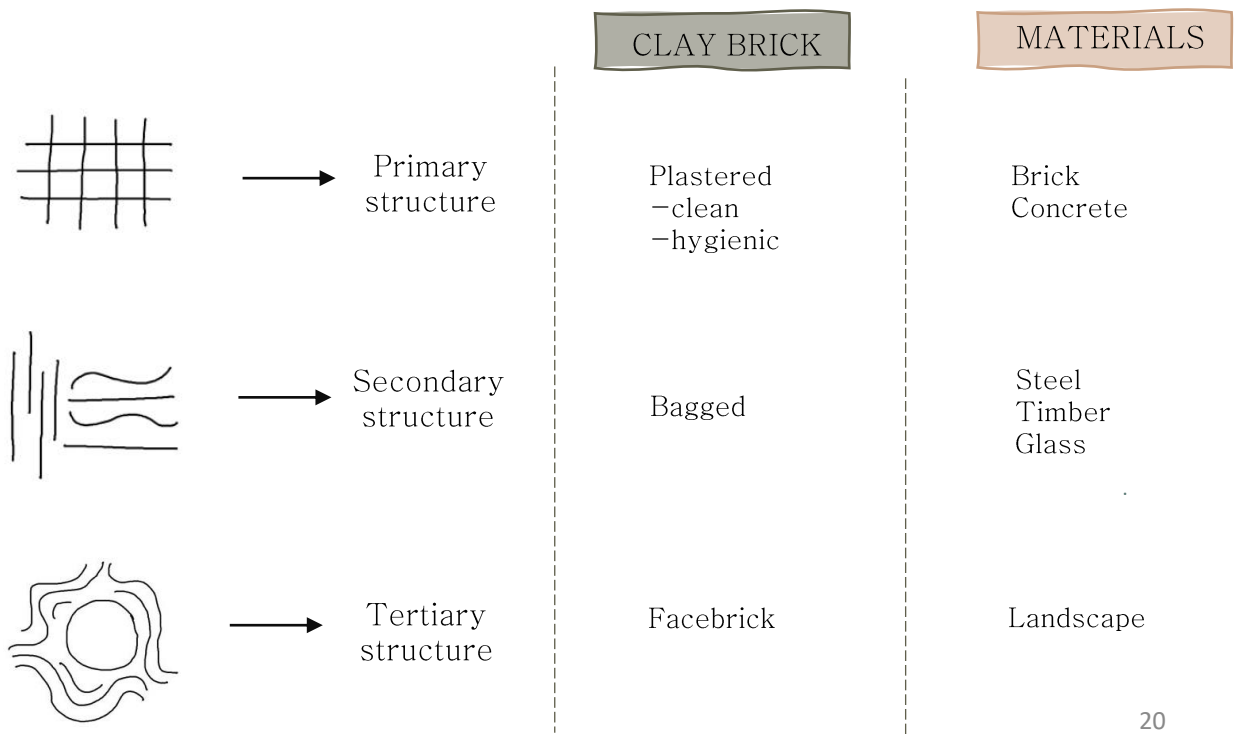


Fig. 15. Diagram of Structural System Materials.

# Structural System

*Structure promoting honesty, stability & connection.*

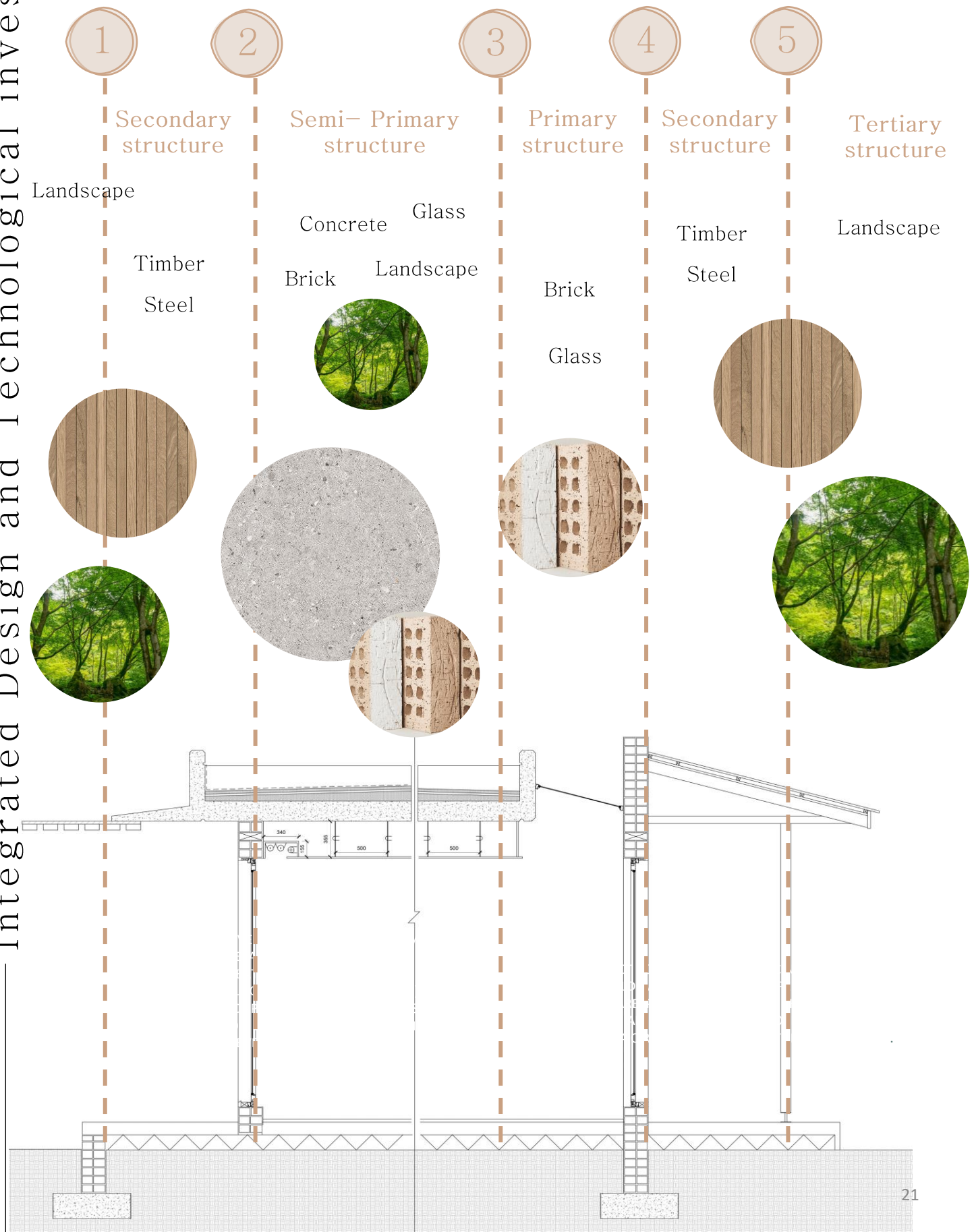


Fig. 16. Sectional Diagram showing Structural integration.

# Structural System

*Structure promoting honesty, stability & connection.*



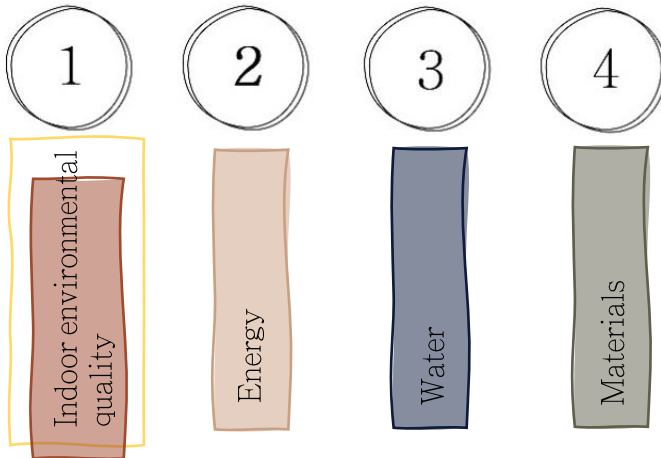
# Passive Systems

*Regenerative design thinking*



## GREEN STAR RATING TOOL

Green Building Council South Africa

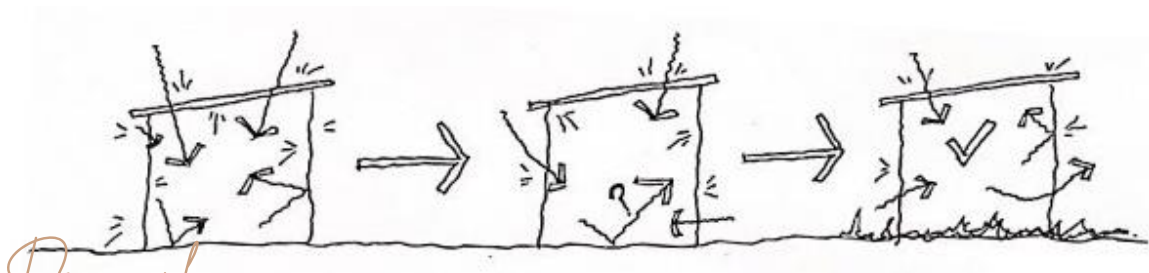


### Green Star Rating Tool Categories:

1. Management
2. Indoor Environmental Quality
3. Energy
4. Transport
5. Water
6. Materials
7. Land use & Ecology
8. Emissions
9. Innovation
10. Socio-economic environment

(Green Building Council of South Africa. 2017)

The Green Star Rating tool is developed by the Green Building Council of South Africa. This initiative is consulted to identify relative passive systems to investigate in the building. These categories introduces precedent studies that was consulted to act as metrix for the evaluation of Passive systems in the building.



*Principle*

“How do you design a building that cools itself?”

Natural climate controlling system



Fig. 18. Floor plan indicating focus area for investigation.

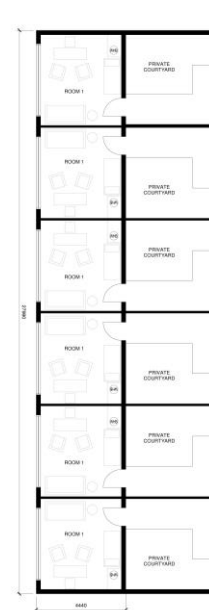


Fig. 19. Floor Plan. Building part under investigation.

# Passive Systems

*Regenerative design thinking*

## Base Case

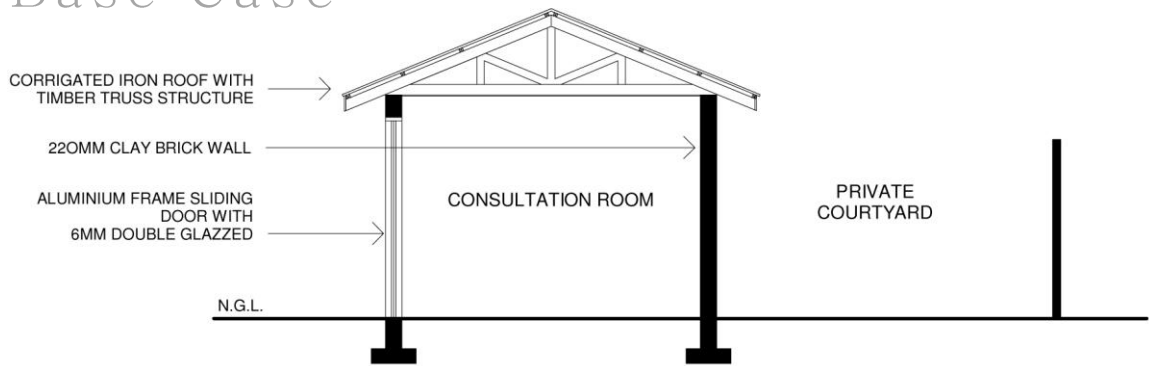


Fig. 20. Diagrammatic Section of Base Case.

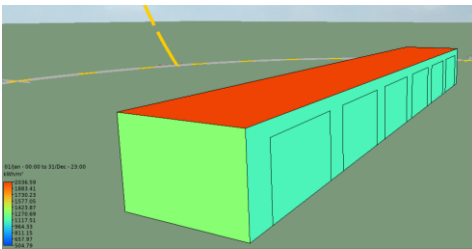


Fig. 21. Diagram of Heat gain on surfaces (IESve 2021).

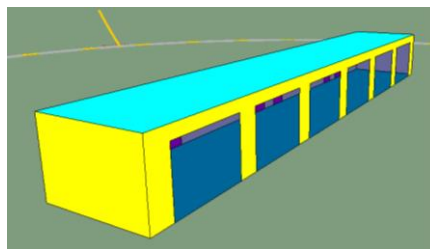


Fig. 22. Diagram of assigned materials (IESve 2021).



Fig. 23. Graph indication relationship between indoor & outdoor temperatures (IESve 2021).

## Iteration A

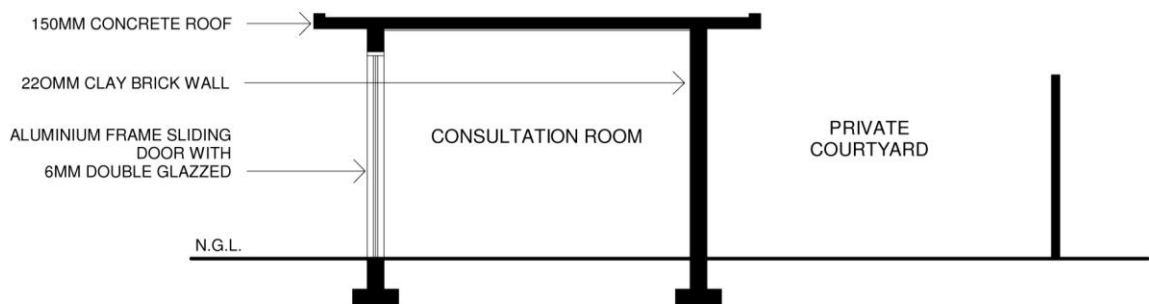


Fig. 24. Diagrammatic Section of Iteration A.

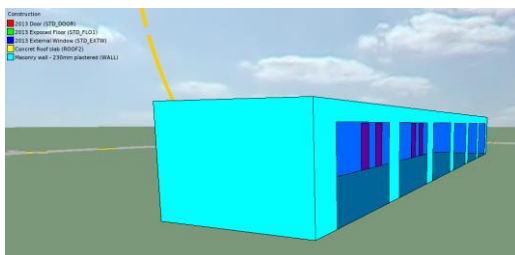


Fig. 25. Diagram of Heat gain on surfaces (IESve 2021).

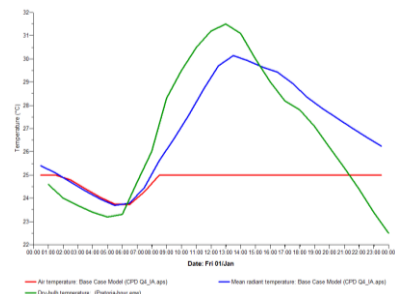


Fig. 26. Graph indication relationship between indoor & outdoor temperatures (IESve 2021).



# Passive Systems

*Regenerative design thinking*

## Iteration B

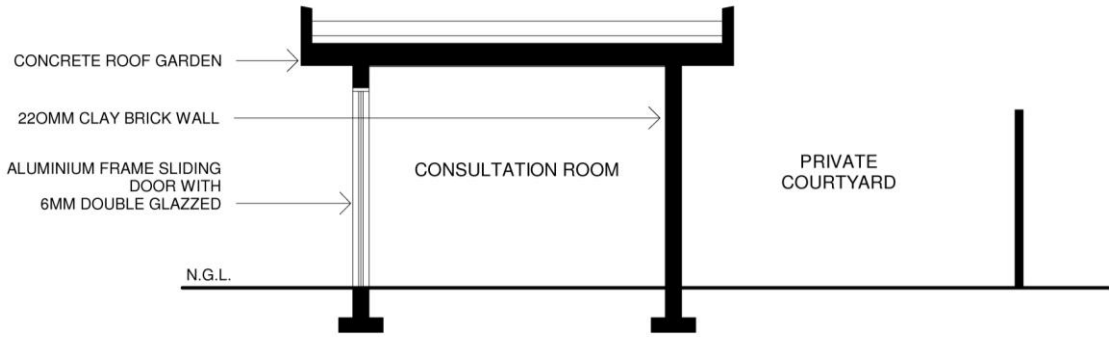


Fig. 27. Diagrammatic Section of Iteration B.

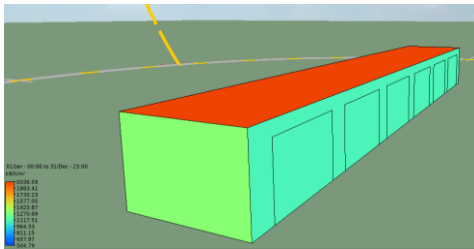


Fig. 28. Diagram of Heat gain on surfaces (IESve 2021).

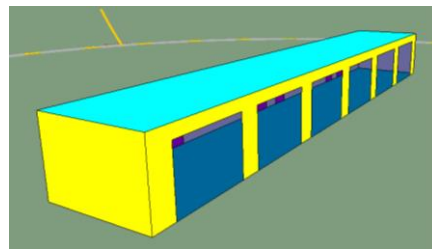


Fig. 29. Diagram of assigned materials (IESve 2021).

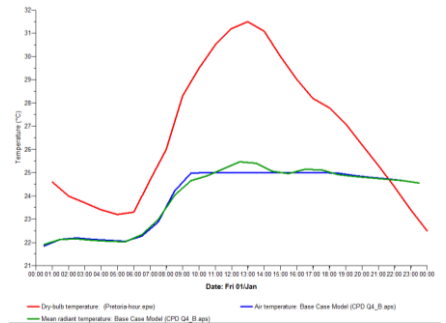


Fig. 30. Graph indication relationship between indoor & outdoor temperatures (IESve 2021).

## Iteration C

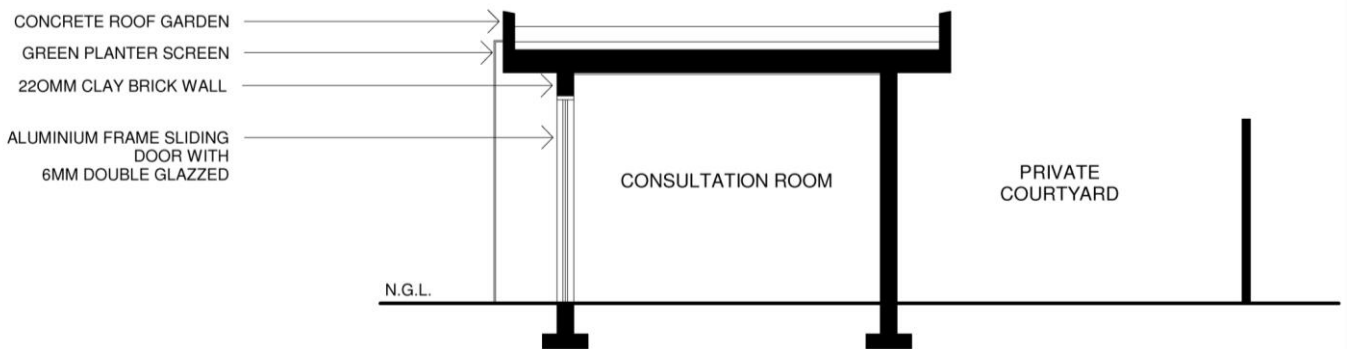


Fig. 31. Diagrammatic Section of Iteration C.

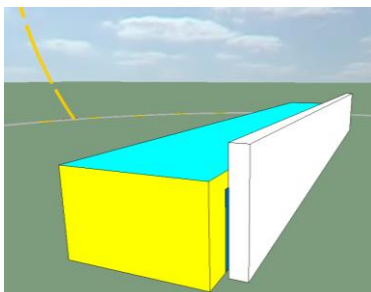


Fig. 32. Diagram of Heat gain on surfaces (IESve 2021).

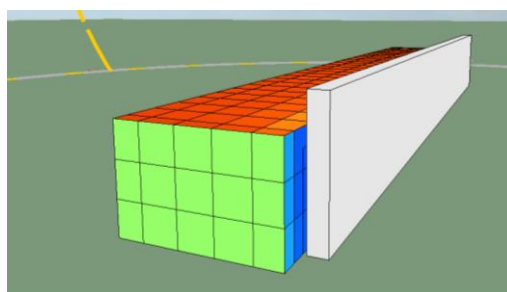


Fig. 33. Diagram of assigned materials (IESve 2021).

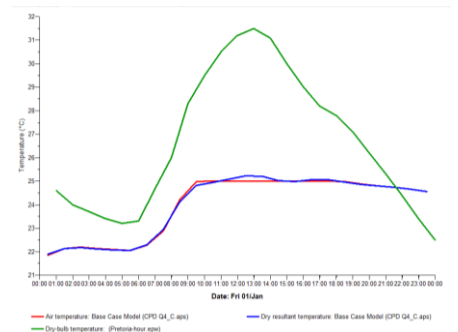


Fig. 34. Graph indication relationship between indoor & outdoor temperatures (IESve 2021).

# Passive Systems

*Regenerative design thinking*

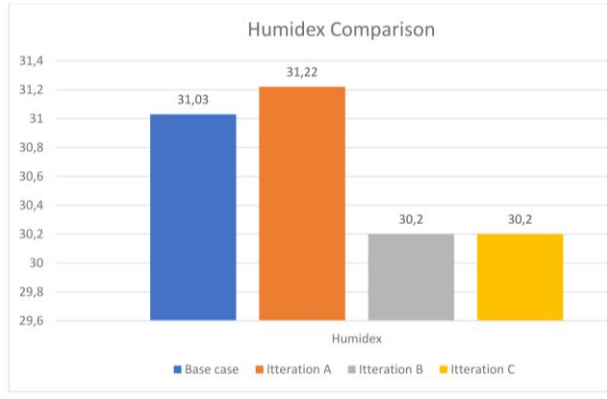
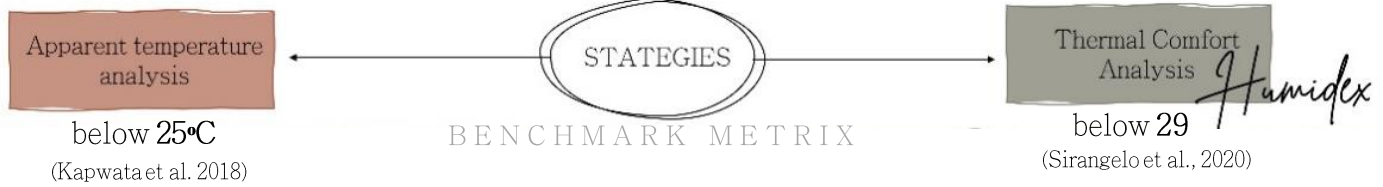


Fig. 35. Graph indicating Humidex comparison.

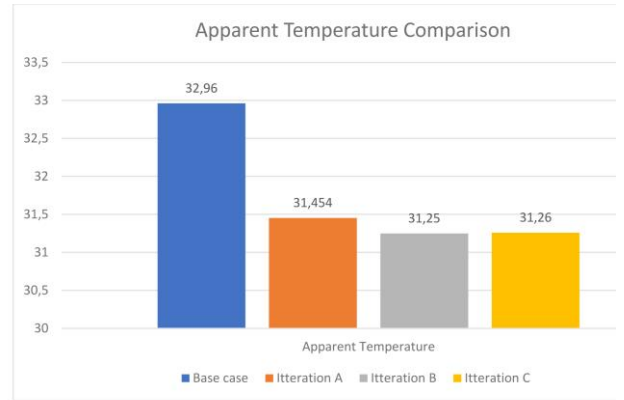


Fig. 36. Graph indicating AT comparison.

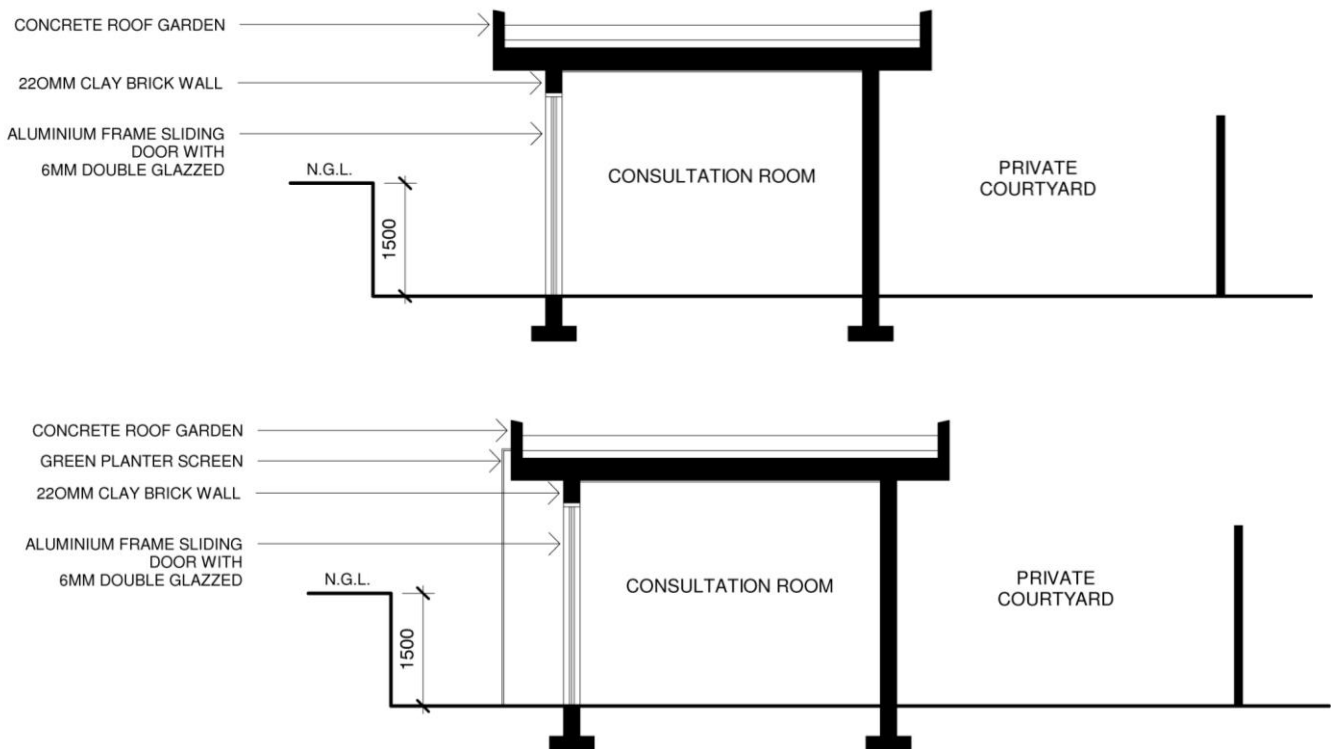


Fig. 37. Diagrammatic sections of strategies to be explored further.

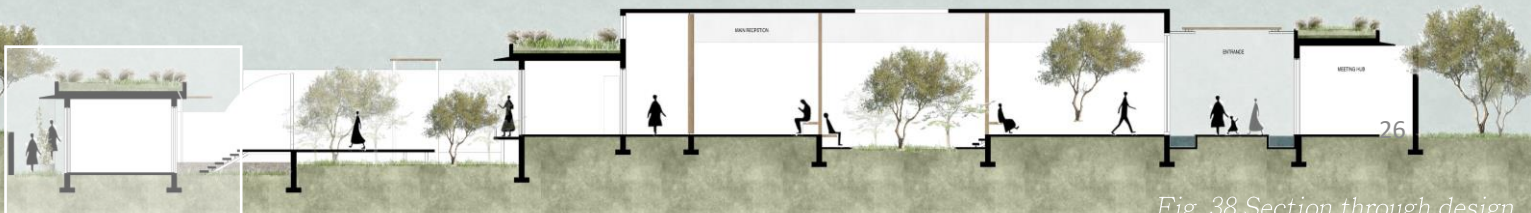


Fig. 38 Section through design.

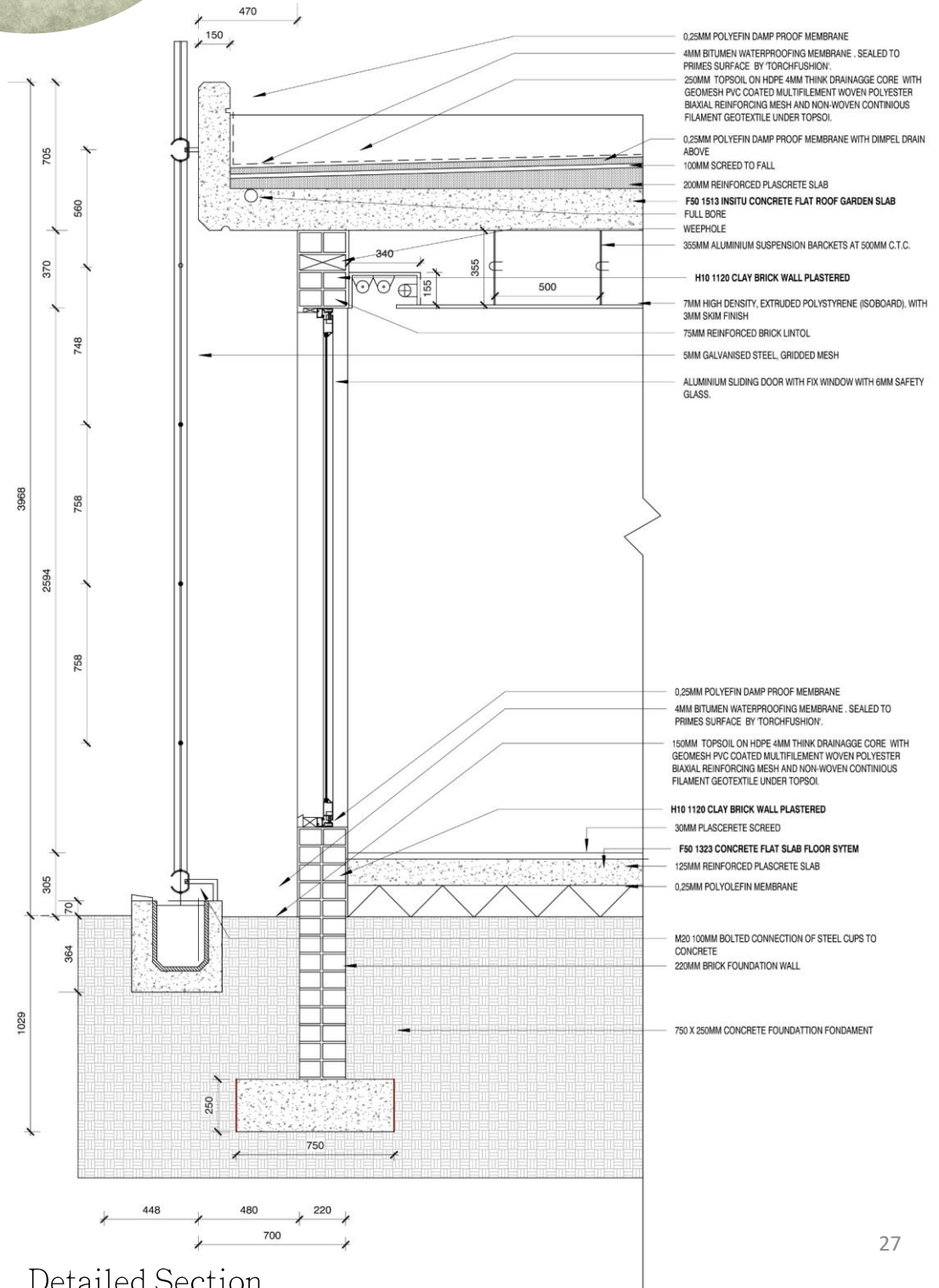
# Passive Systems

*Regenerative design thinking*



Fig. 39. Section through area under investigation.

It is evident that the increase in thermal mass in the roof structure aids the regulation of the indoor temperatures. The additional soil density also contributes to this statement, allowing even better results. The final resolution of the planter screen seems to be the best solution, especially protecting the windows on the western façade from direct sunlight and intense heat gain. The increase of roof gardens are now also considered throughout the design.



Detailed Section

# Systems

Storm water and rain water harvesting

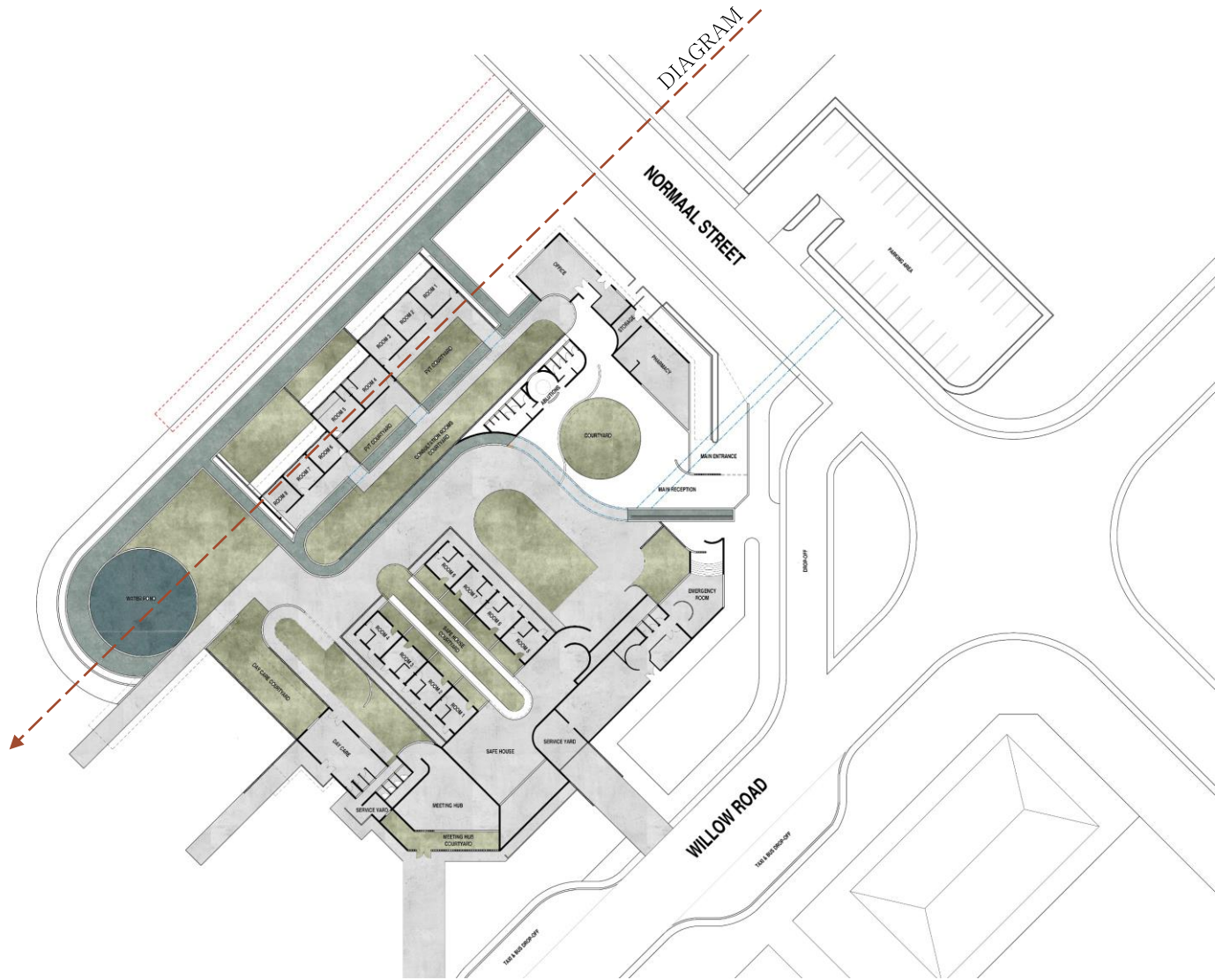


Fig. 40. Design plan highlighting water bodies in the building.

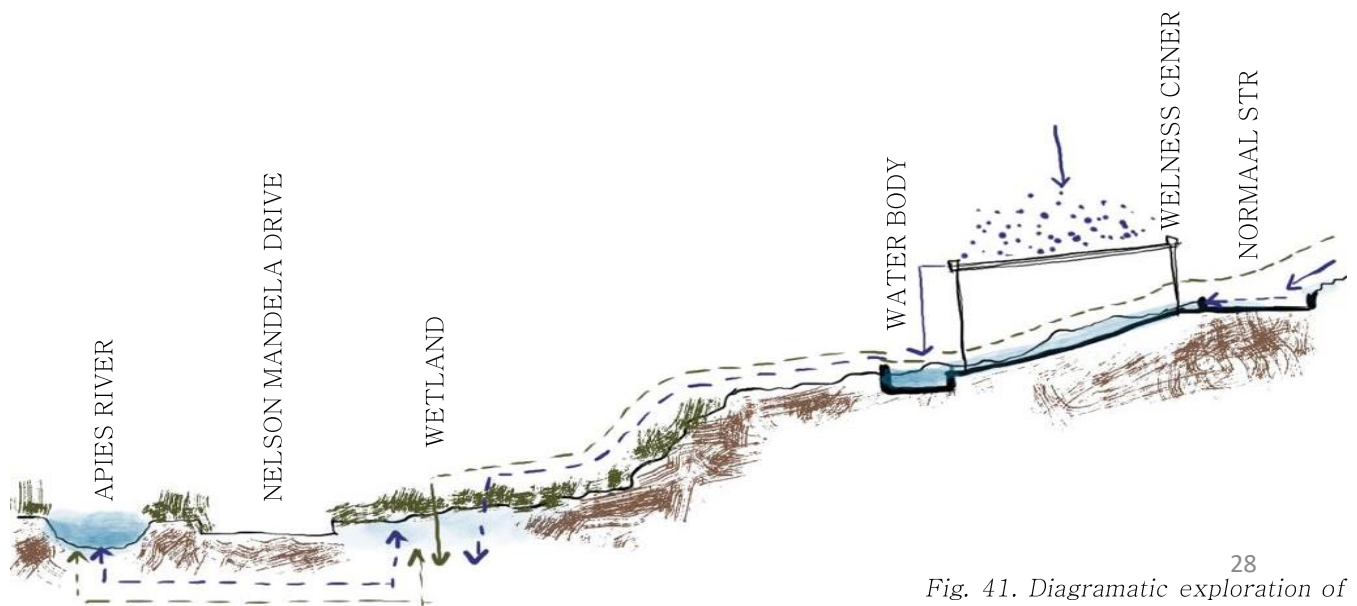
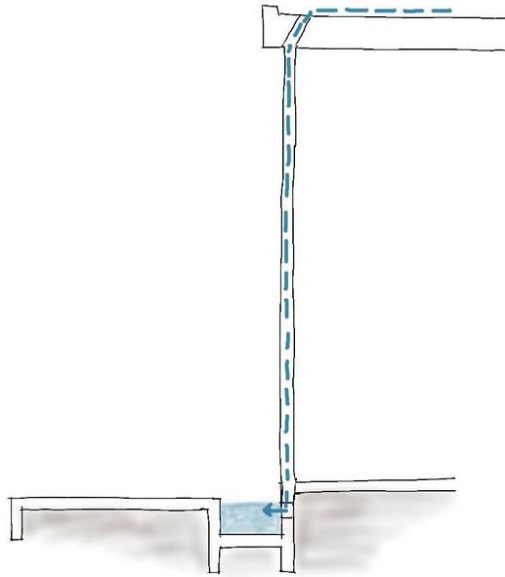


Fig. 41. Diagrammatic exploration of stormwater and rainwater on site.

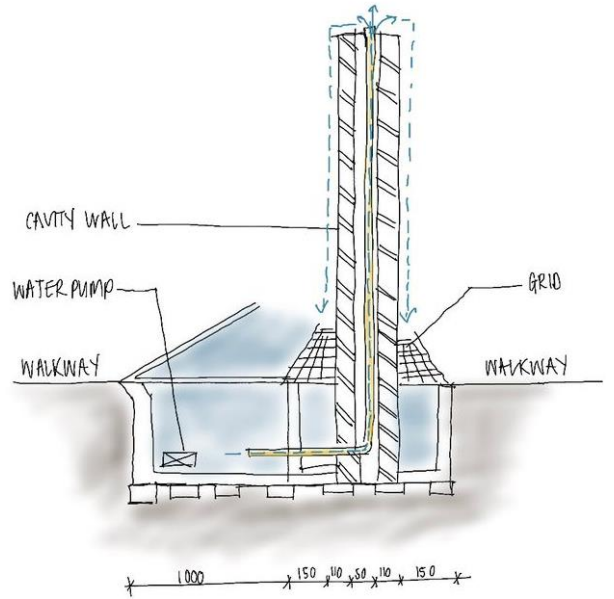
# Systems

Storm water and rain water harvesting

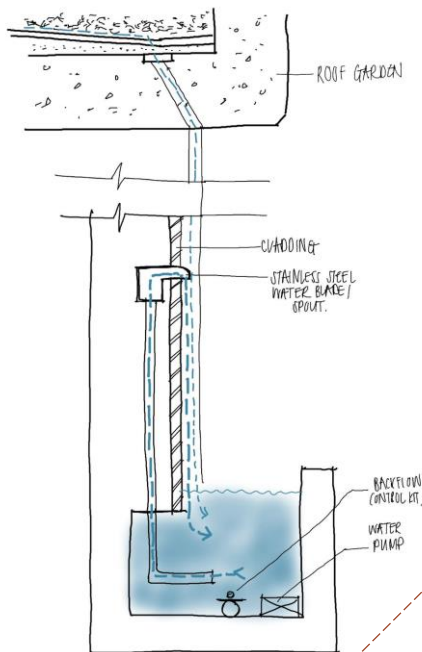


RAINWATER CAPTURING FROM CONCRETE ROOFS.

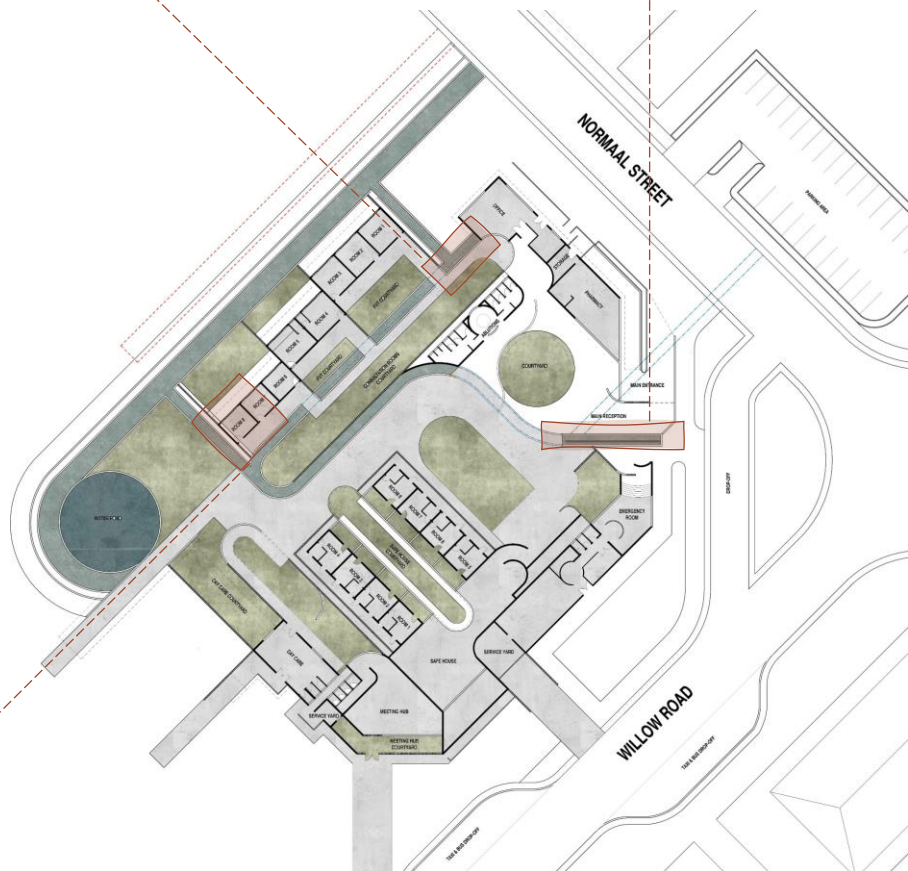
Rainwater capturing from concrete roofs.  
Location: Main Reception and central walkway



Water wall & pond  
Location: Main walkway along Safe House



Water wall & pond  
Location: Private Courtyard of consultation room.



29  
Fig. 42. Design plan highlighting water bodies in the building.

# Design Development 1

*Centre for Women and Children*

The first design concept focused on the massing's relationship with the site and between the systems within. A rigid geometry is inspired by the existing cityscape and infrastructure. The building aims to sit within the natural slope of the site and becomes integrated with nature and its existing planes.

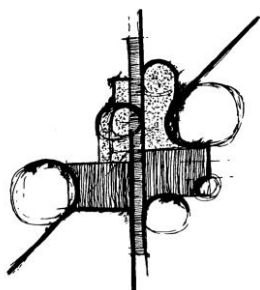
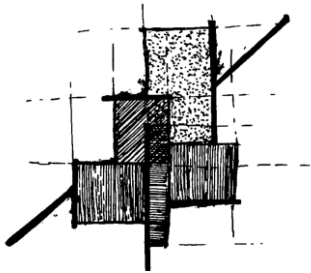
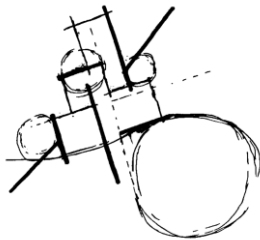
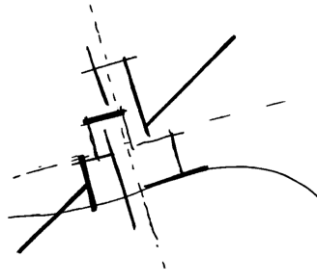


Fig. 44. Series of Concept sketches of massing proposal.

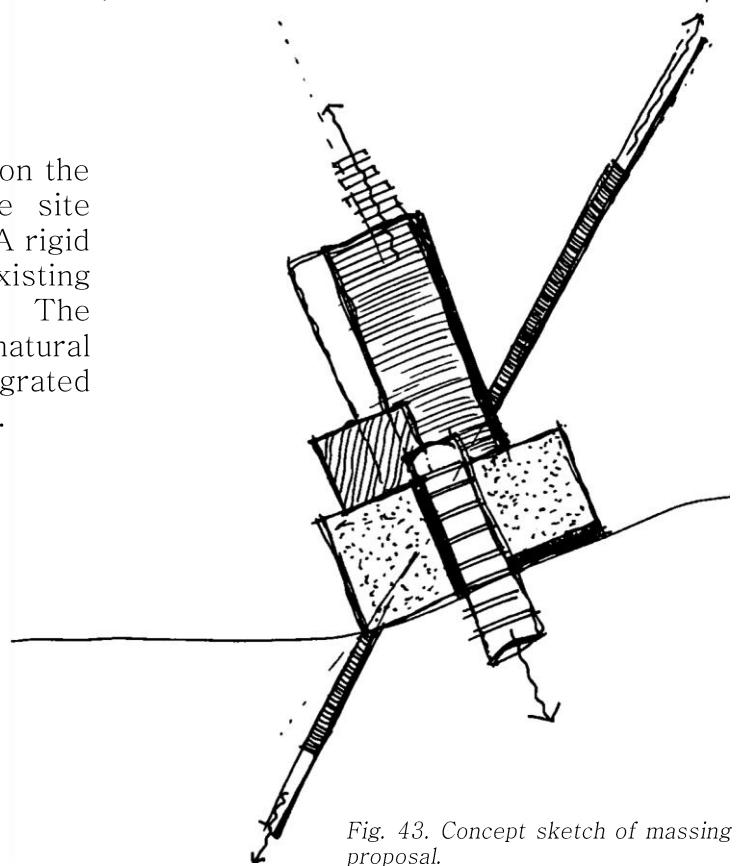


Fig. 43. Concept sketch of massing proposal.

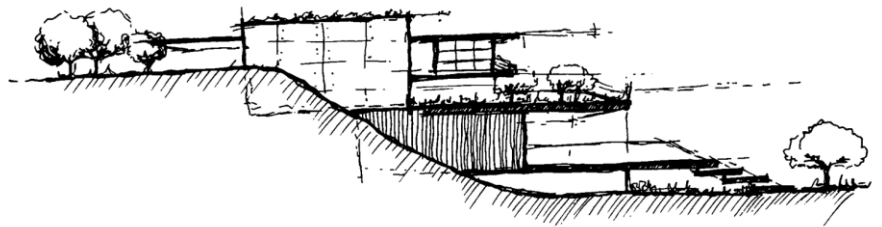


Fig. 45 Concept sketch of sectional massing proposal.

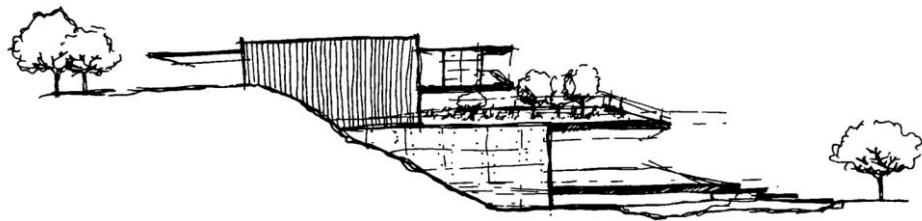


Fig. 46 Concept sketch of sectional massing proposal.

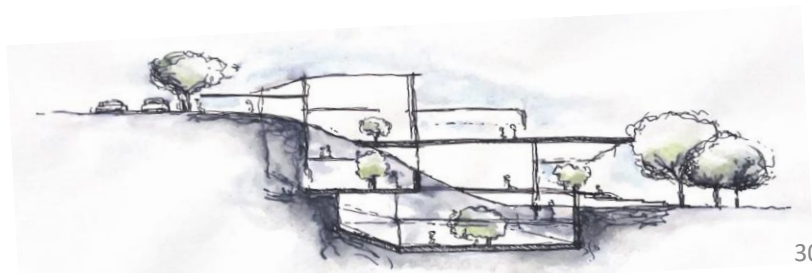


Fig. 47. Concept sketch of sectional massing proposal, massing's relationship with typology and site.

# Design Development 2

Centre for Women and Children

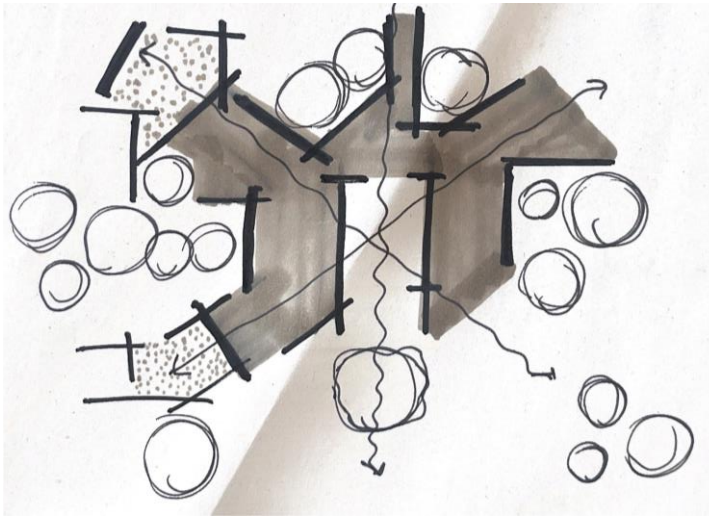


Fig. 48 Conceptual exploration of geometry.

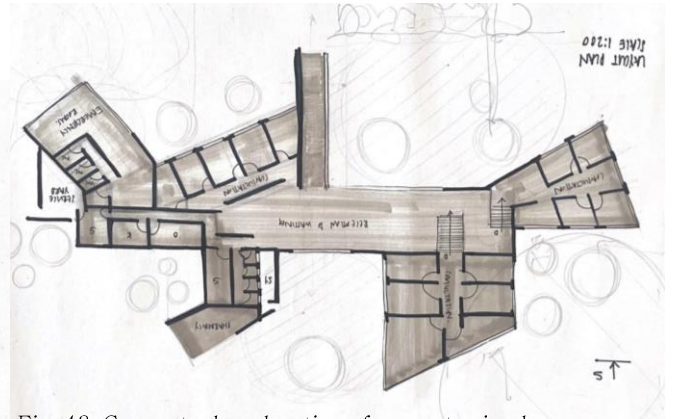


Fig. 43. Conceptual exploration of geometry in plan.

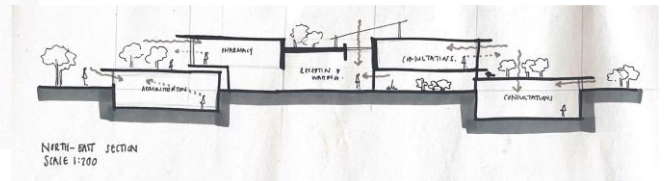
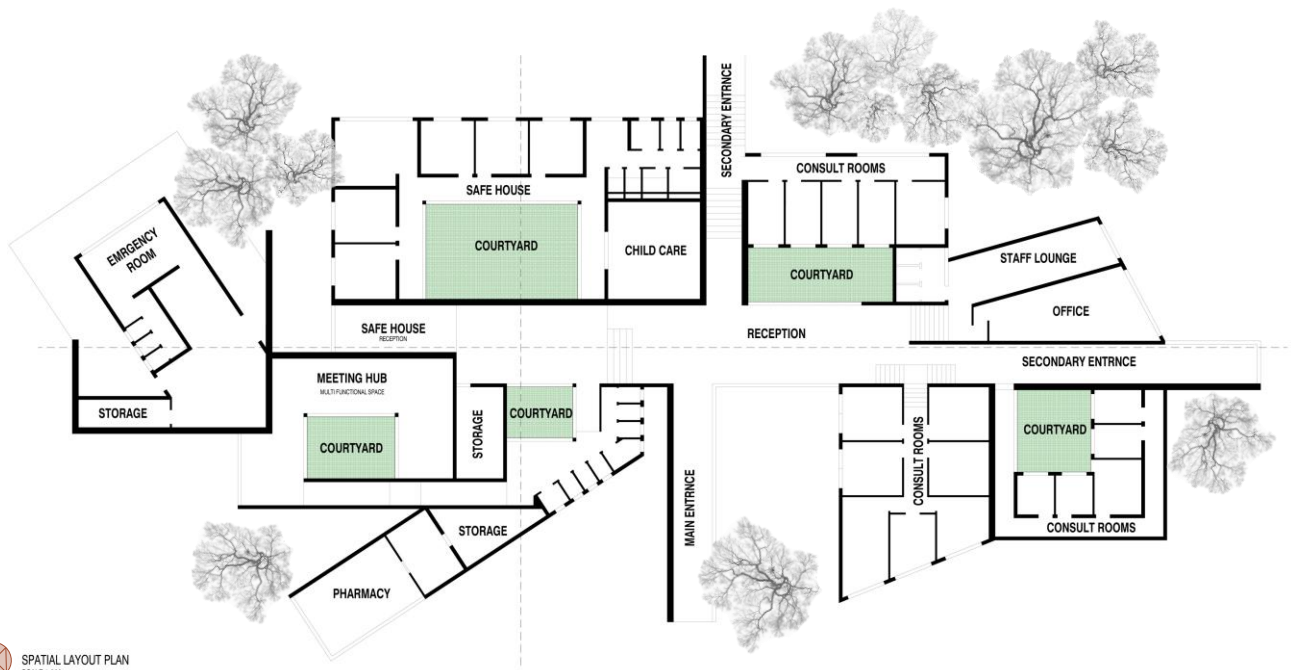
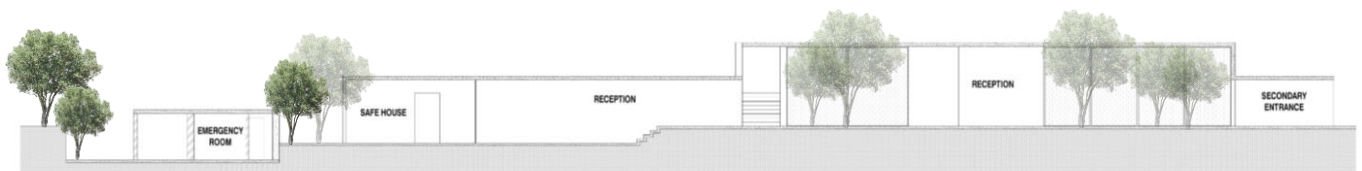


Fig. 49. Conceptual exploration of geometry in section.



SPATIAL LAYOUT PLAN  
SCALE 1:200

Fig. 50. Design Plan.



LONGITUDINAL SECTION A-A  
SCALE 1:200

Fig. 51. Design Section.

# Design Development 3

*Centre for Women and Children*



Fig. 52 Conceptual exploration of vertical spaces and interaction with nature.



Fig. 53. Conceptual exploration of spatial layout and zoning.

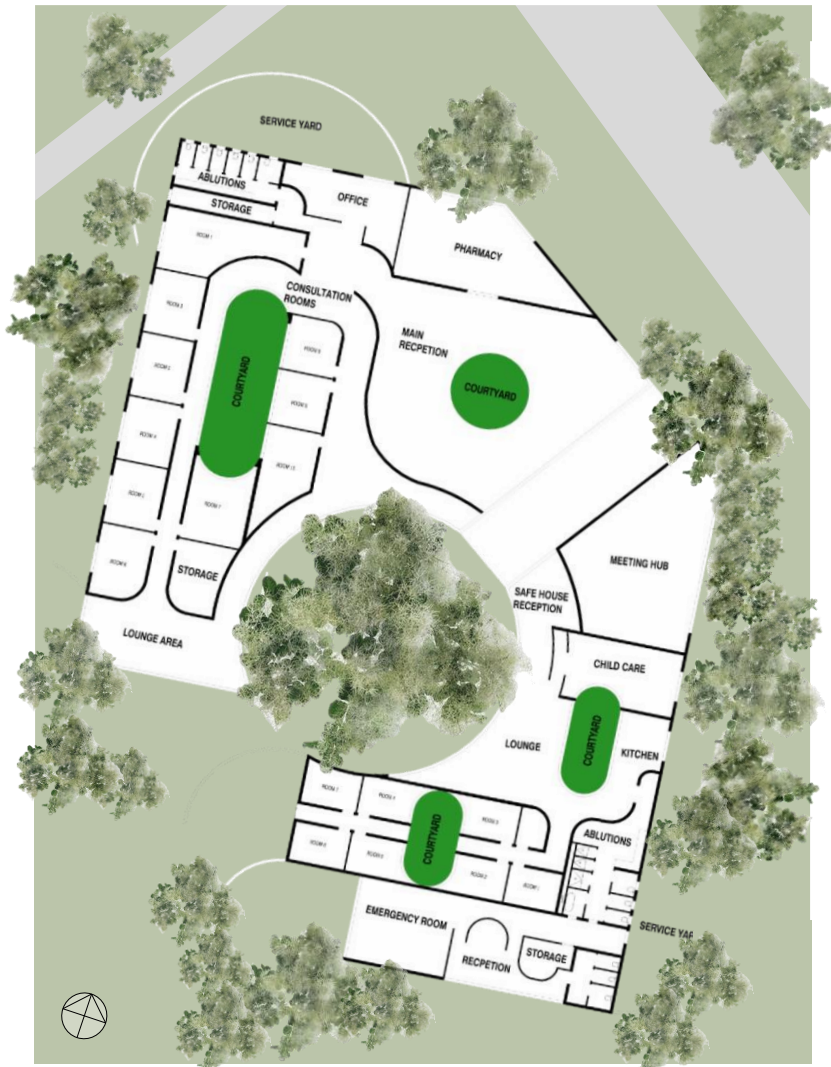


Fig. 54. Layout Plan

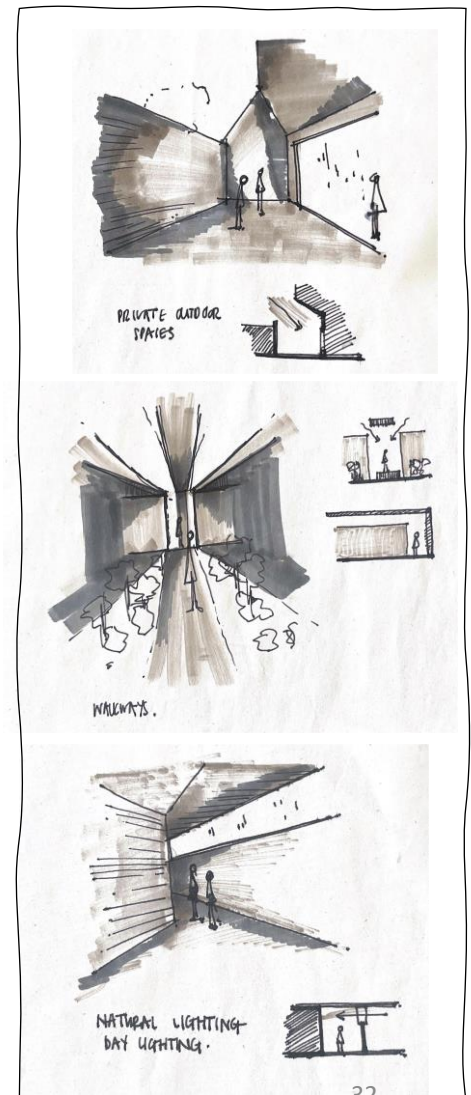


Fig. 55. Exploration of spatial quality.

This design iteration became critical to the final design as this iteration introduces the new orientation and placement on site. Feminine space-making becomes evident in the spatial planning of the center, with an exploration of hierarchy in space through vertical volumes.



# Design Development 4

Centre for Women and Children

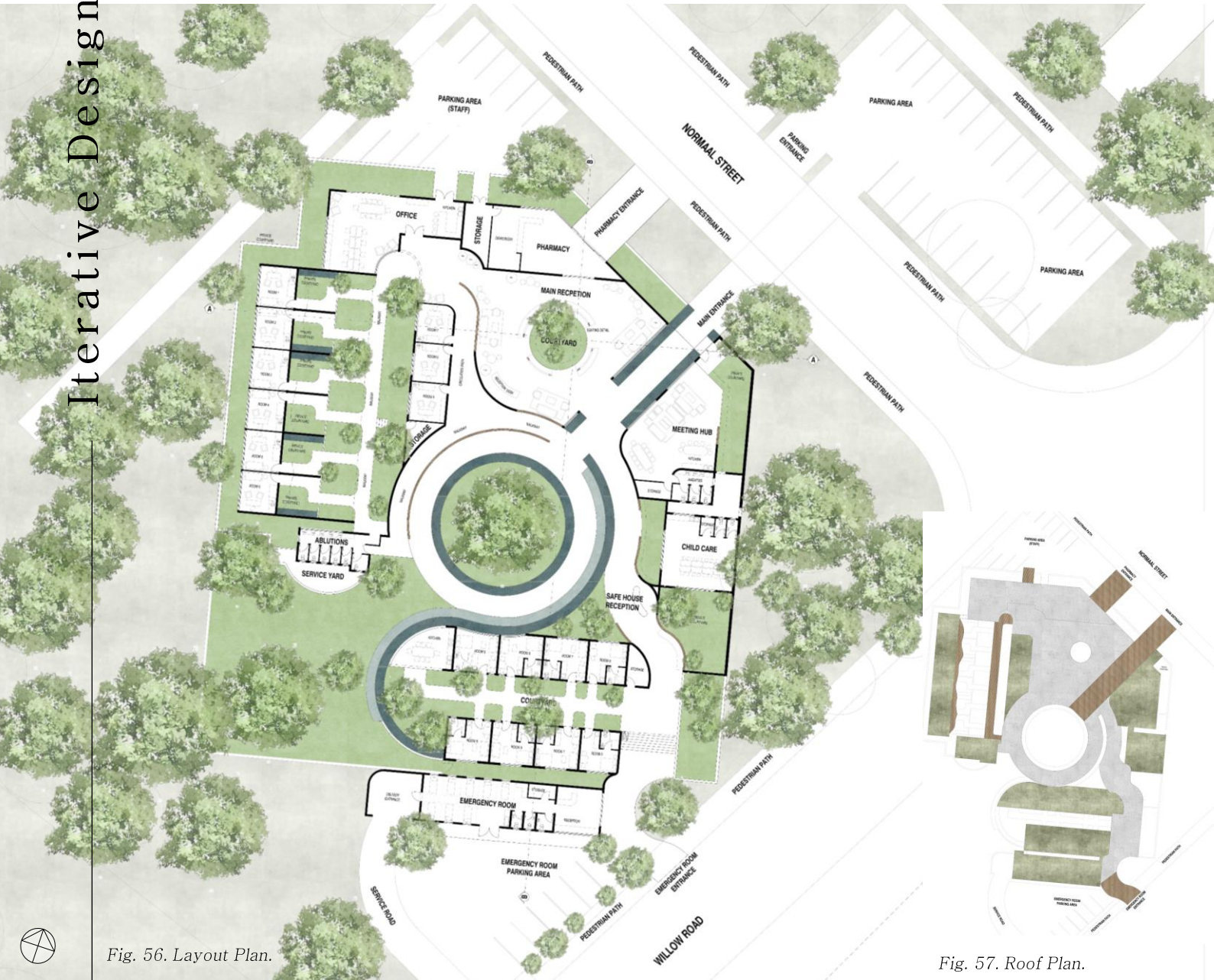


Fig. 56. Layout Plan.

Fig. 57. Roof Plan.

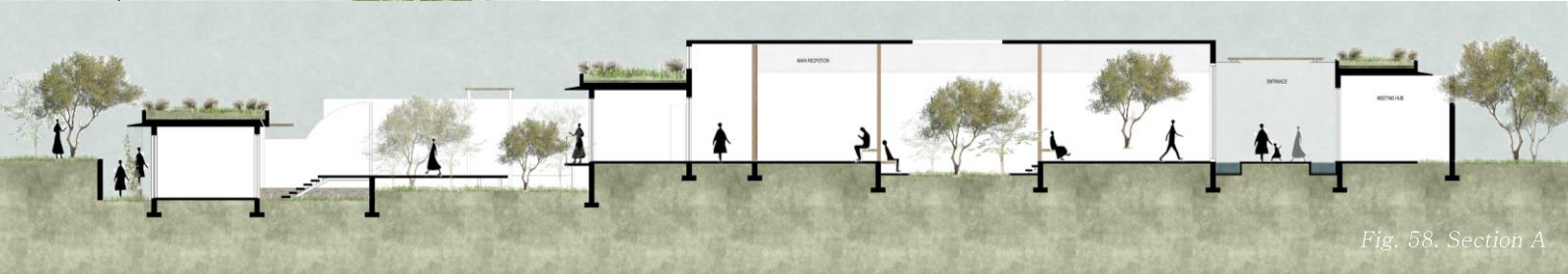


Fig. 58. Section A



Fig. 59. Section B

# Design Development 5

*Centre for Women and Children*

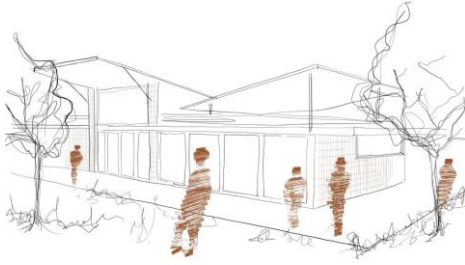


Fig. 60. User connection with the building façade. Single storey creates an intimate scale between users and building.

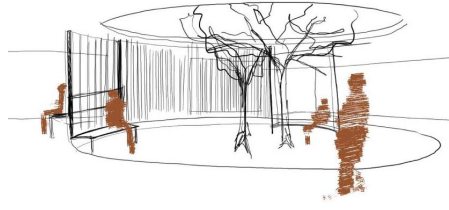


Fig. 61. Sketch showing the relationship between indoor and outdoor spaces, and the symbiosis between inside and outside, nature and building, human and architecture.



Fig. 62. Pattern is created throughout the design, connecting to biophilic concepts and creating a spatial hierarchy of public and private spaces.

This iteration pays attention to the concept of spatial layering and applying structural systems to space-making. An influence of biophilic principles are introduced through courtyard spaces, water bodies, materials and overarching relationship between indoor and outdoor spaces.

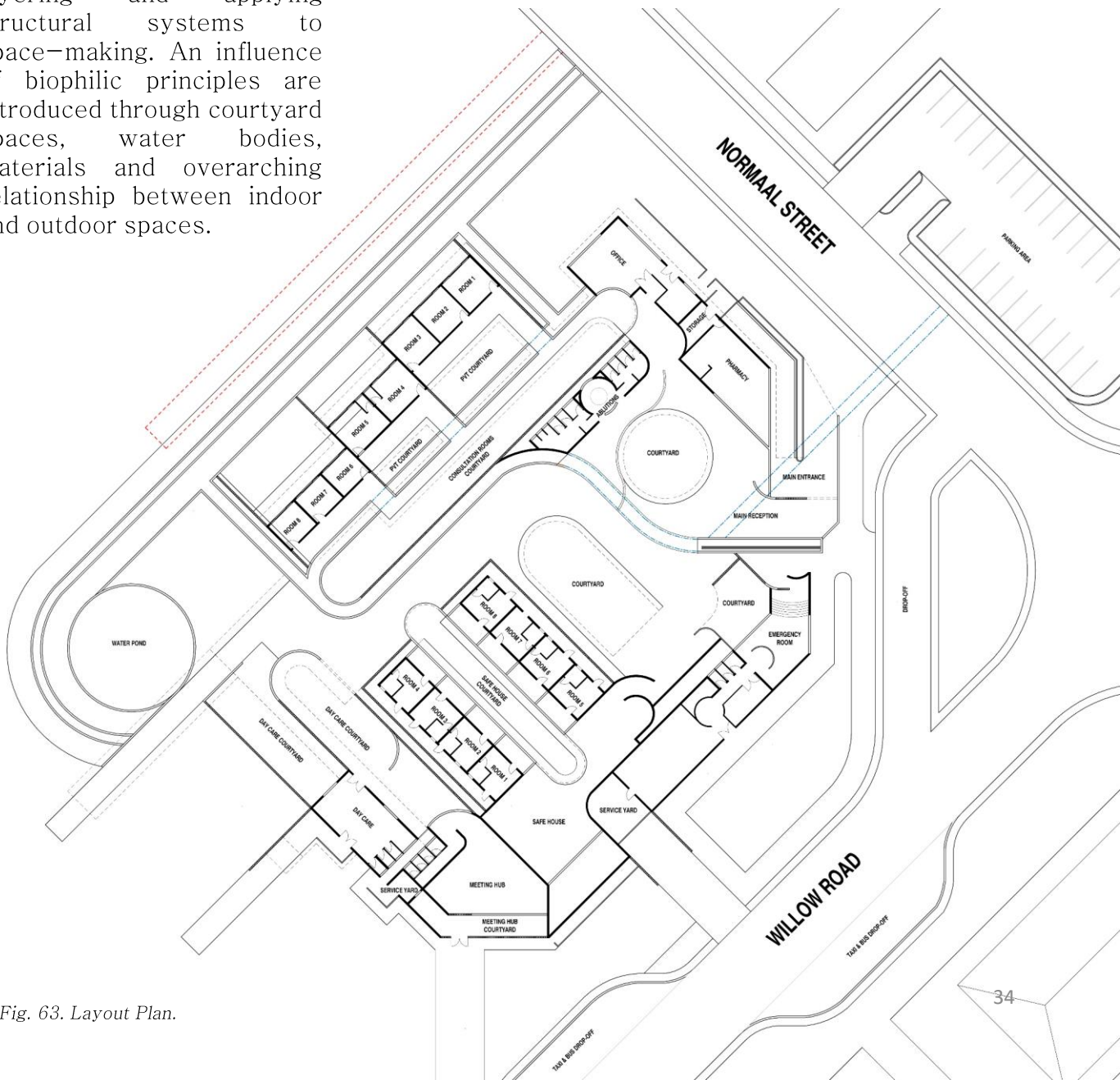


Fig. 63. Layout Plan.

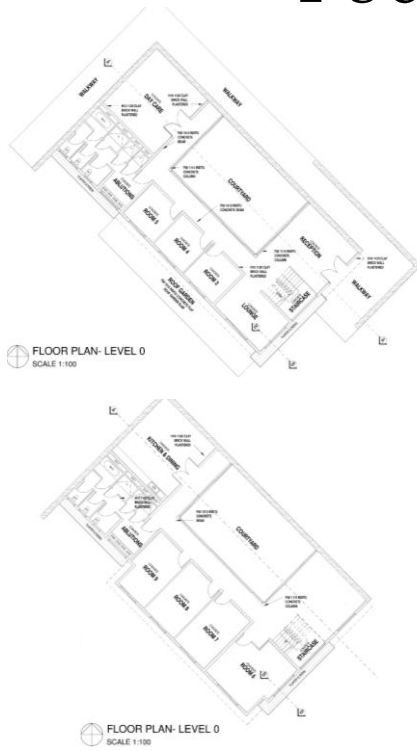


Fig. 64. Diagrammatic Plans for Safe House proposal.

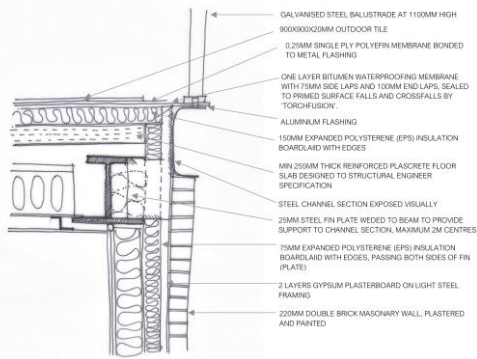


Fig. 65. Detail exploration for balconies.

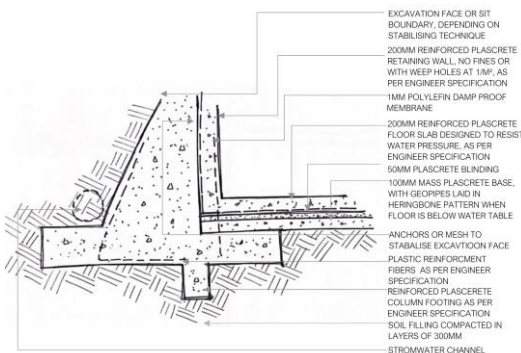


Fig. 66. Detail exploration for retaining walls and interior spaces.

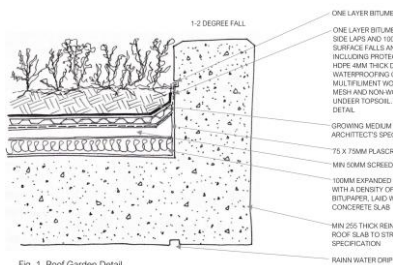
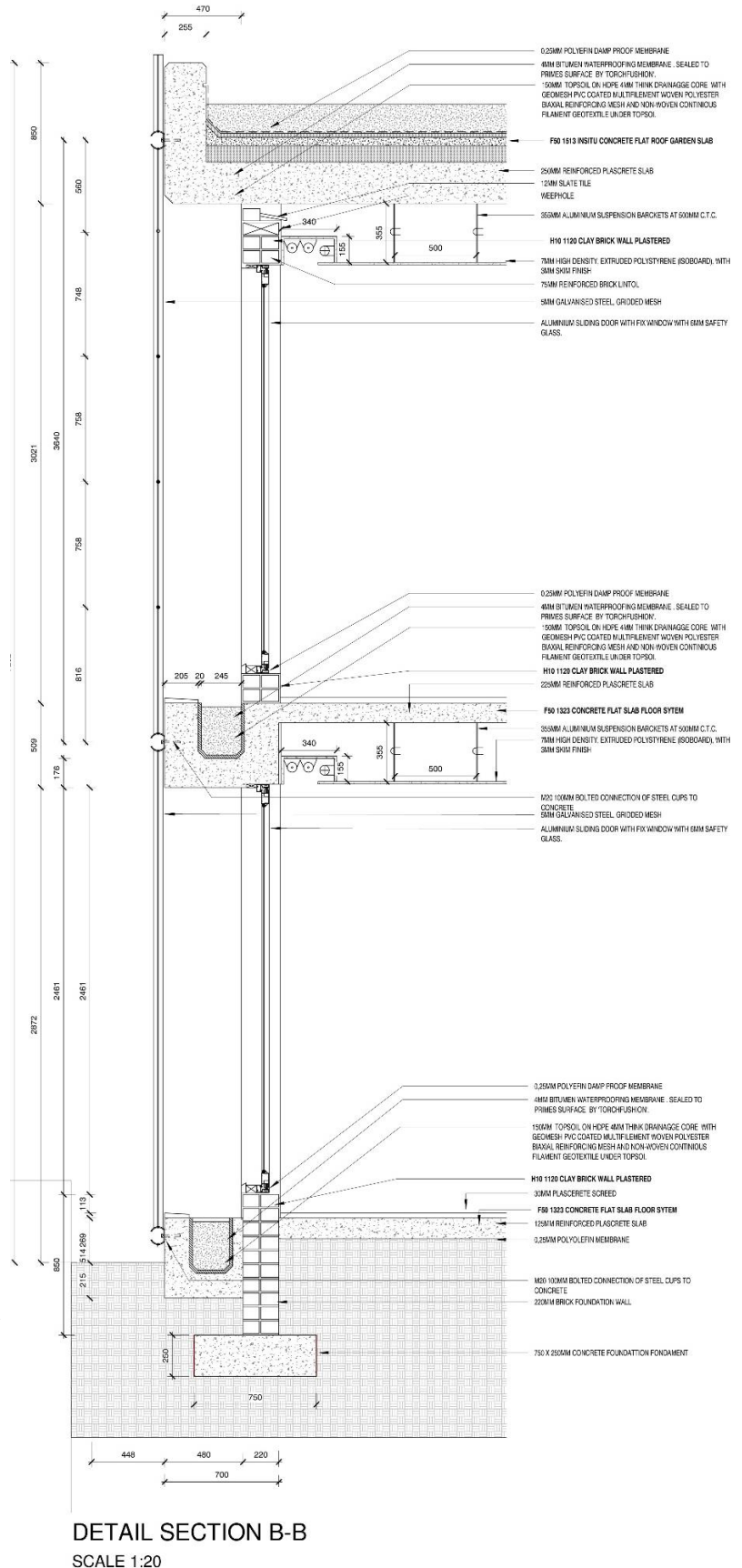


Fig. 1. Roof Garden Deta

Fig. 67. Detail exploration for roof gardens.



# Technical Development 2

*Centre for Women and Children*

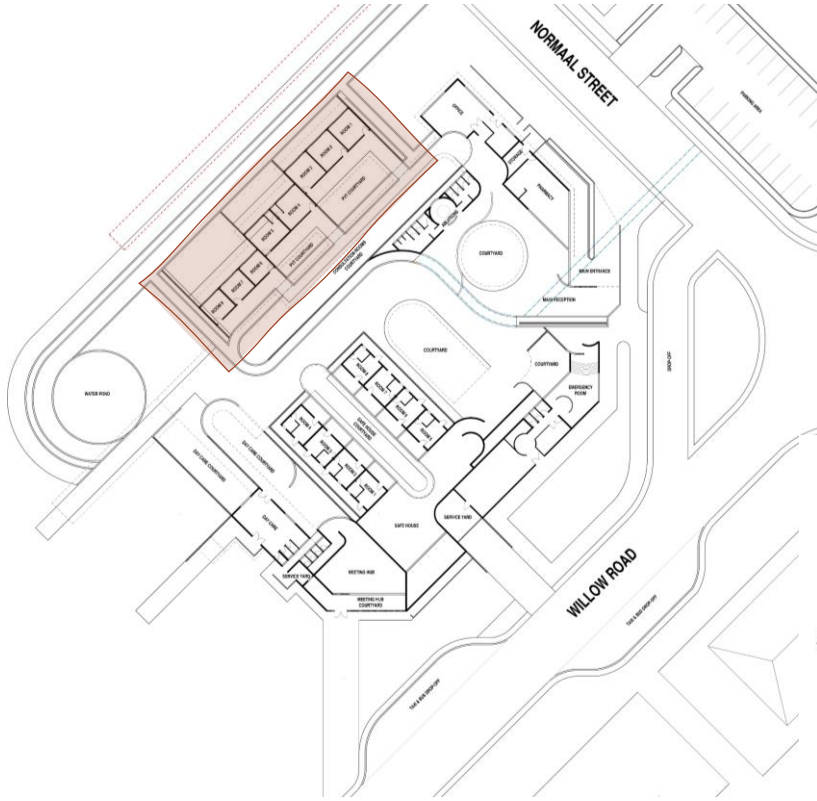


Fig. 68. Plan indicating section for technical development.

The technical development of the design highlights a focus area that aims to be technically resolved structurally, identifying detail development for the next technical iteration. These details aims to contribute to the relationship between the identified structural systems throughout the building.

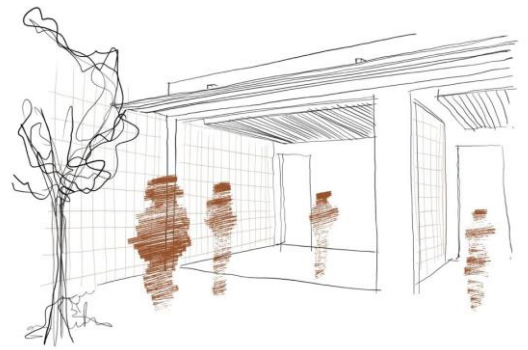


Fig. 69. Perspective drawing of highlighted section.

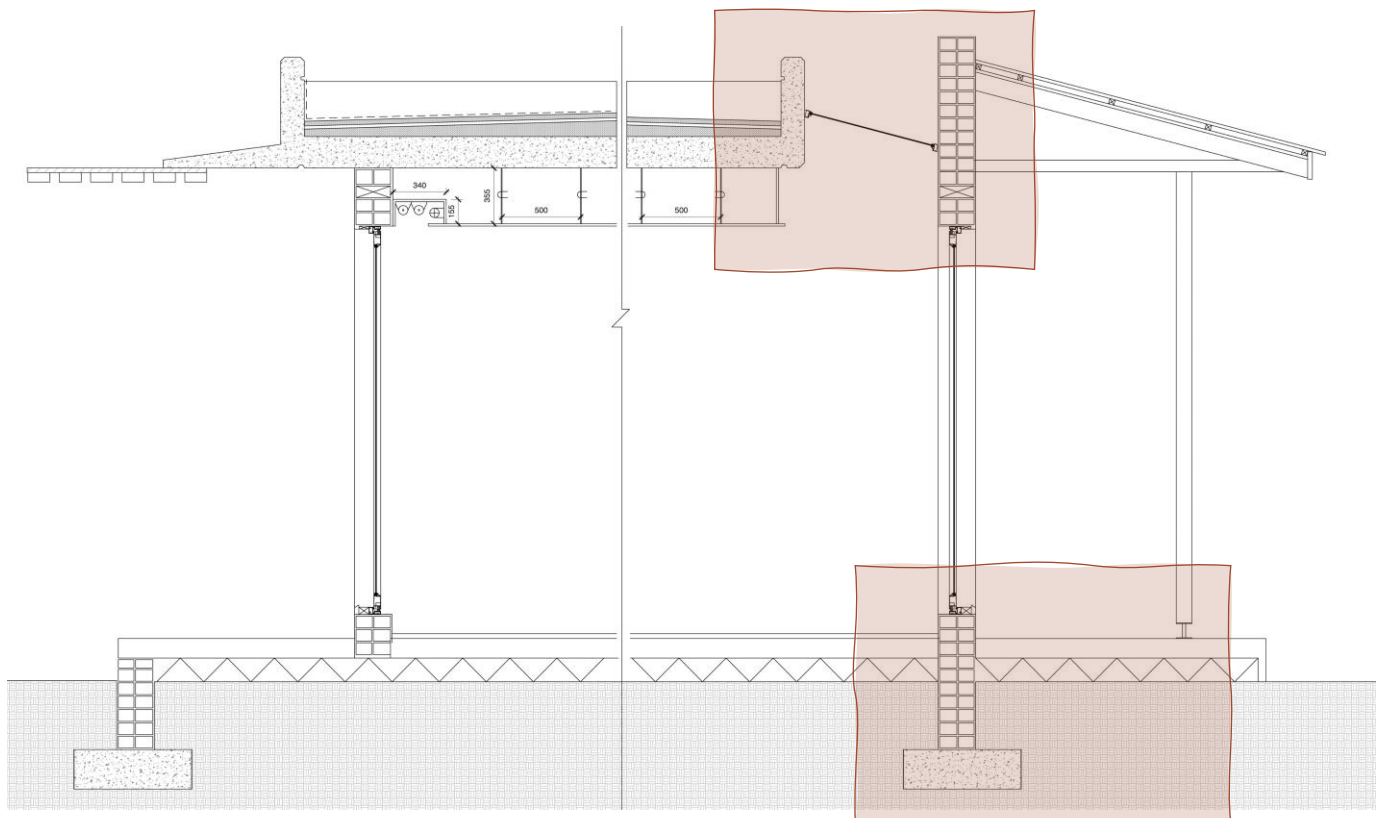


Fig. 70. Section through Consultation Rooms, investigating technical detail.. Highlighted sections identified for further technical investigation and detailing.

Oasis

Ek sien die oggend dou stadig verdywn  
soos die son deur die wolke verskyn.  
Die geristel van die blare  
het my hart kom vang.  
Strome lewende water kom vloei  
in 'n dorre woestyn land

Waar het hierdie sukkie onstaan  
'n stukke mooi  
'n stukkie heel  
'n stukkie kans

'n oasis in 'n woestyn  
Jy kom bring weer nuwe lewe.  
Met jou lewende wáter kom jy genees.  
Operasie.  
Rehabilitasie.  
Reintegrasie .

Dalk sien ek weer kans.  
Miskien more.

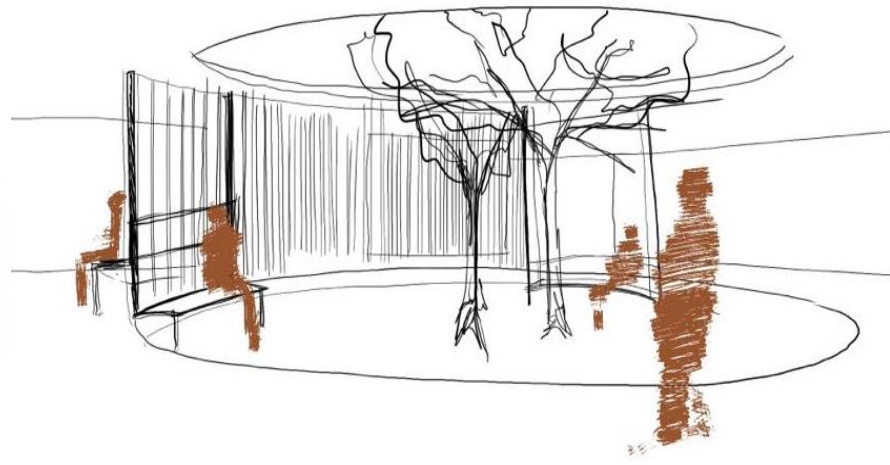
-K.S.

Fig. 71. Photograph of conceptual model built for the mini project.

# Mini Project 1

*Centre for Women and Children*

The Mini-project introduced in the beginning of the year gave a good introduction on concept development. This exercise informed the spatial intention and urban development concept that is presented in the major project. Through literature, sketching and modelling a strong concept of femininity and care is cultivated. The mini project gave foundation to the concept of planes, and how these planes, vertical and/or horizontal becomes important elements of placemaking and spatial identity.



## Major Project 2 *Centre for Women and Children*

The design process of the major project has tested the ability of creating architecture that connects with its users. A particular focus in this project focuses on the user scale and how architecture is experienced by users, enabling place-making, and ultimately place keeping for women within the cityscape of Tshwane. The design process was iterative, with each iteration making prominent changes and testing concepts, to allow the design process to conform to the desired objectives set out at the beginning of the project.

Architecture is the intimate connection between human and structure. It portrays a relationship between structure and context, most importantly that it is when connecting these elements with Community that it becomes architecture refined—merging these relationships into a trilogy of spatial experience which contributes socially, economically and environmentally to Community.

The site has a rich narrative and identity within the city. The precinct development allows for a new way of thinking and designing public space the relationship between users and space. The significance of the site can elevate the sense of value perceived by the community. By enhancing the intangible assets, more specifically, creating a dominant *safety climate*, within the public realm, encourages an environment that promotes the health and well-being of women and children, who are often considered vulnerable in the community.

The beauty of architecture lies within the defined structures where the intangible becomes tangible. Hildebrandt (2004) supports this concept by highlighting that the interrelationship between context, structure and user, when combined, creates a mutual foundation of design knowledge and methodology which then supports anthropological environmental needs.

Architecture should be a place of connection. Most of existing architecture is a result of Modernism— “*an evolution of the Built-Environment*” Bryans (2017) describes it. It was a celebration of Industrialism where production was a focus and community barely considered. Today we experience the ripple effects of this revolution in Architecture, leaving us with un-programmatic spaces.

The Wellness Centre highlights the importance that now lies with architecture being a place of intimacy, refuge and human connection. The approach to Urbanism has shifted, Kevin J. Krizek (2021) explained this needed shift, familiarising it to the ideologies of Urban planning presented by Charles Montgomery in his book *Happy Cities*.

Architecture is an intricate juxtaposition between creativity and realism. Good architecture is thus one that captures the essence of experience without imposing. It's when architecture contributes to meaning when it becomes art within the realm of our everyday life, adding to quality of lives within communities. Architecture is thus explored in this project, as not only a building and materials, but a human experience of healing, connecting and thriving.

To conclude, architecture is complexly juxtaposed into a way of connecting a variety of concepts into a singular experience. In order to achieve success, we need to transform conceptual ideas into tangible realities that transforms our cities, communities and our people. Architecture is a tool into empowering people and creating a sense of place in a frameless world.

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