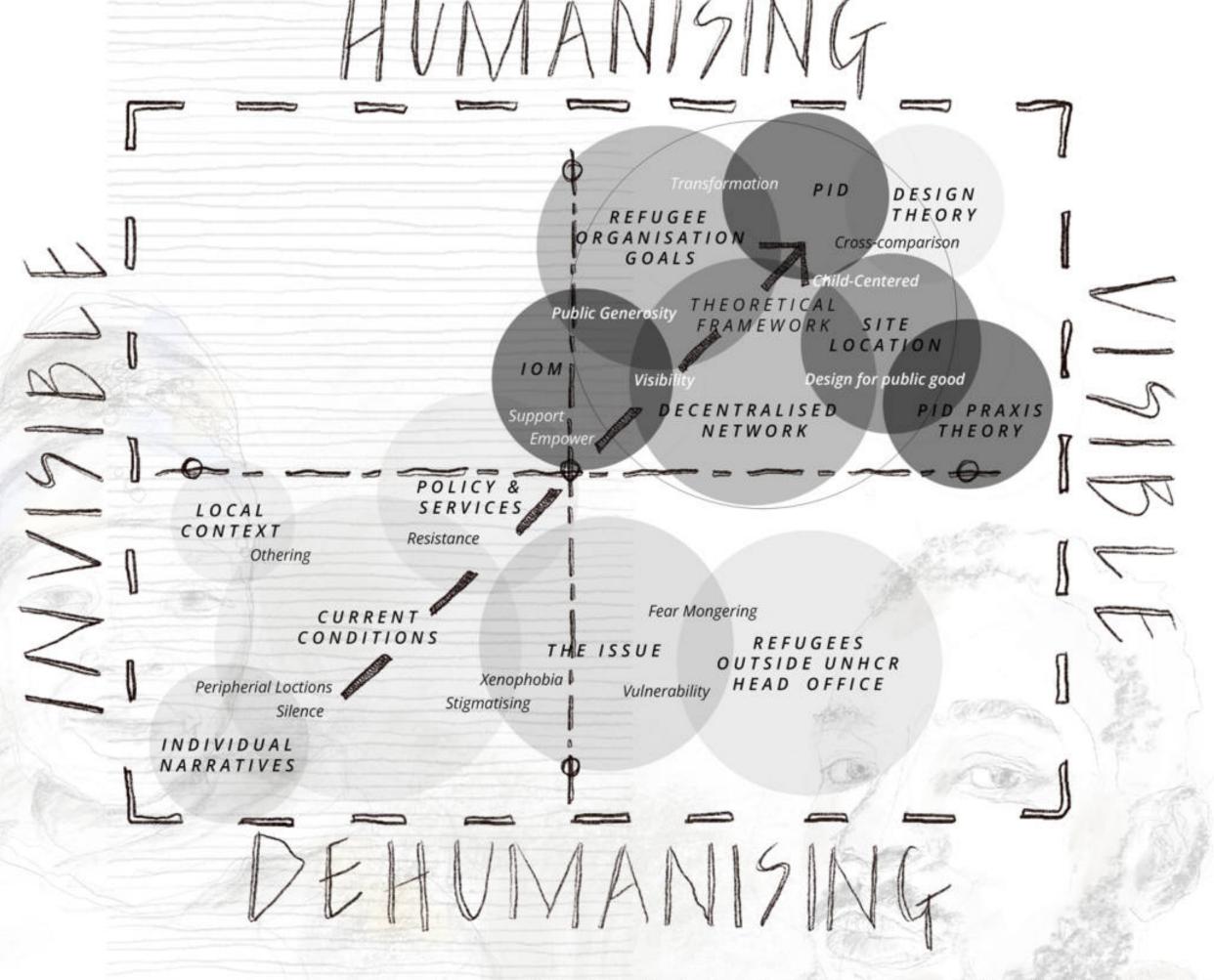


Megan Haese 18027513 Supervisor: Dr. Carin Combrinck Course Coordinator: Dr Jan Hugo DPD801_Design Report

© University of Pretoria



CONCEPT MAPPING



2002

The South African government opened five Refugee Reception Offices across South Africa where asylum seekers could apply for asylum (Cape Town, Durban, PE, Johannesburg & Pretoria)



2010:

The South African government starts to close Refugee Reception Offices across the country. Crown Mines, JHB in 2010. PE in 2011, CT in 2012



2012:

Lengthy & complex litigation is initiated in an attempt to demand the South African government re-opens the Cape Town Refugee Reception Office.



2018:

Asylum seekers at the
Desmond Tutu refugee
reception centre in
Marabastad, Pretoria, say it is a
living hell to come to the facility
as they are subjected to
ill-treatment and demands for
bribes. The centre becomes
one of the offices worst
affected by the closure of the
Cape Town and Port Elizabeth
reception offices.



2022

Dozens turned away as refugee office reopens two years after the COVID19 pandemic. Since 26 March 2020, there has been no way for refugees to apply for asylum, and people who already had refugee or asylum-seeker status have been unable to renew or replace their permits and papers. The "family joining" process – granting refugee status or a similar secure status to family members accompanying a recognised refugee – also stopped.

1996:

A new democratic South Africa signs the UN Refugee Convention



1998:

Refugee Act of South Africa signed into law by former president Nelson Mandela to allow South Africa to comply with international law

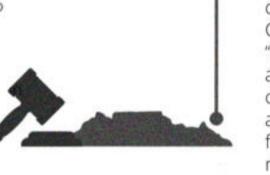
2008 Yenopho

Xenophobic violence breaks out across the country. Home Affais attempts to assist individuals. Musina RRO established as a means to try and address capacity issues



2012:

Asylum system under immense strain in South Africa. Permits for asylum seekers valid for 1-6 months menas Cape Town based refugees have to navigate to offices in different provinces, during adjudication which takes several years to finalise



2017:

Supreme Court of
Appeal finds the
decision to close the
Cape Town RRO
"substantively irrational
and unlawful". The court
orders DHA to reopen
and maintain a fully
functional refugee
reception office in or
around the Cape Town



2019:

Refugees won't leave the
UNHCR Pretoria offices, fearing
attacks on foreign nationals.
Dozens of foreign nationals
gathered at the UN Refugee
Agency's offices in Cape Town,
asking for help to leave South
Africa. The refugees in Pretoria
demand protection after
clashes between locals and
foreign mainly in Gauteng,
where at least 12 people were



2023:

Refugees evicted from UNHCR offices in Pretoria. The 33 families of refugees were given an option to voluntarily go to Lindela, a detention centre for undocumented immigrants. They refused. After refusing the offer, police promised to come and forcefully remove them.

THEISSUE

What does life without a Refugee Reception Office mean?

For a person seeking asylum to a Refugee Reception Office is a matter of survival. Without an office, asylum seekers must travel to different provices every two to six months to renew their papers.

This is a journey which must be completed with every member of a family seeking asylum, again and again until their final status can be determined. This is a process which takes five years on average and in some instances up to eighteen or twenty years.

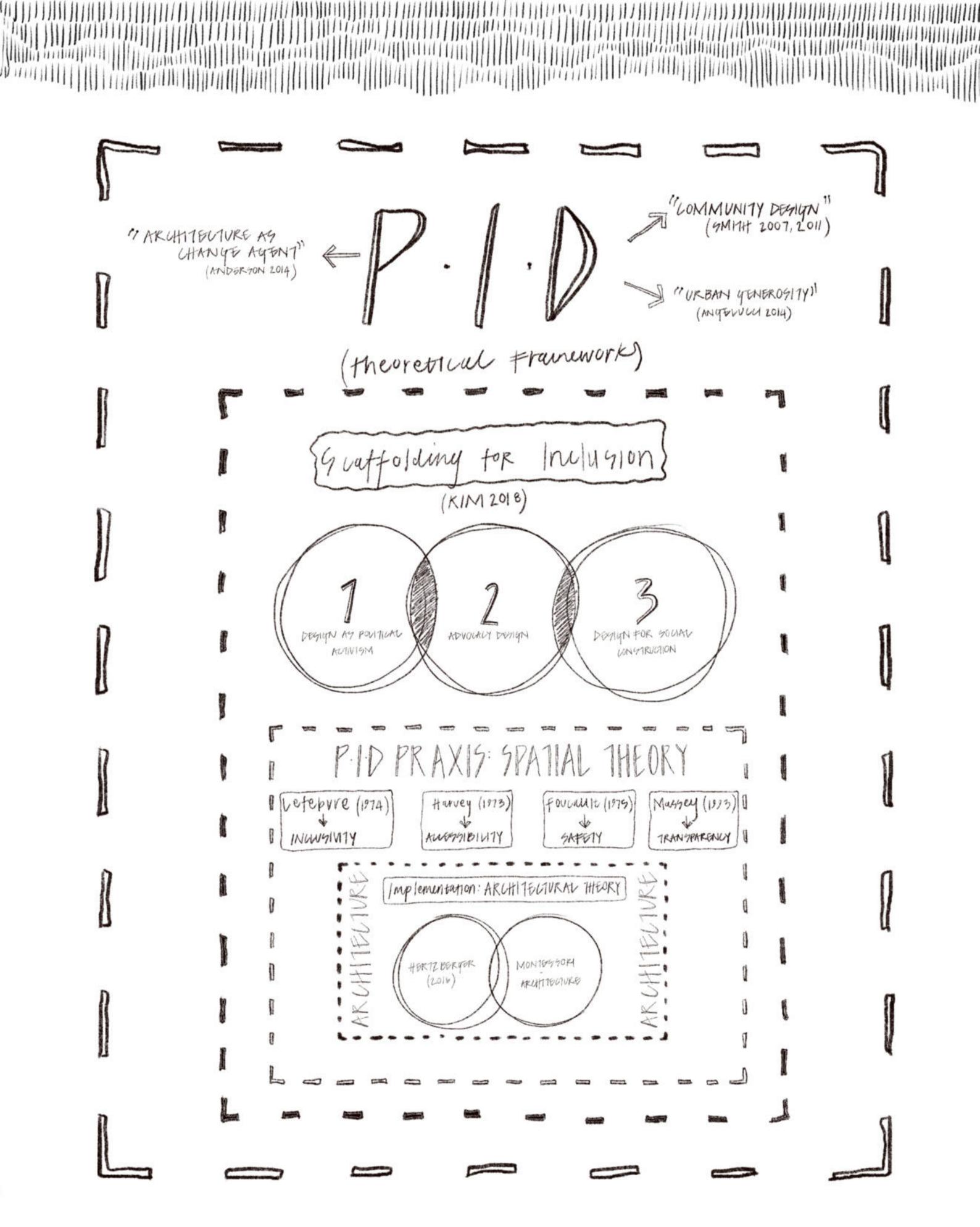
This is something we cannot accept.

To date there are no signs of RRO (Refugee Reception Office) in Cape Town being reopened

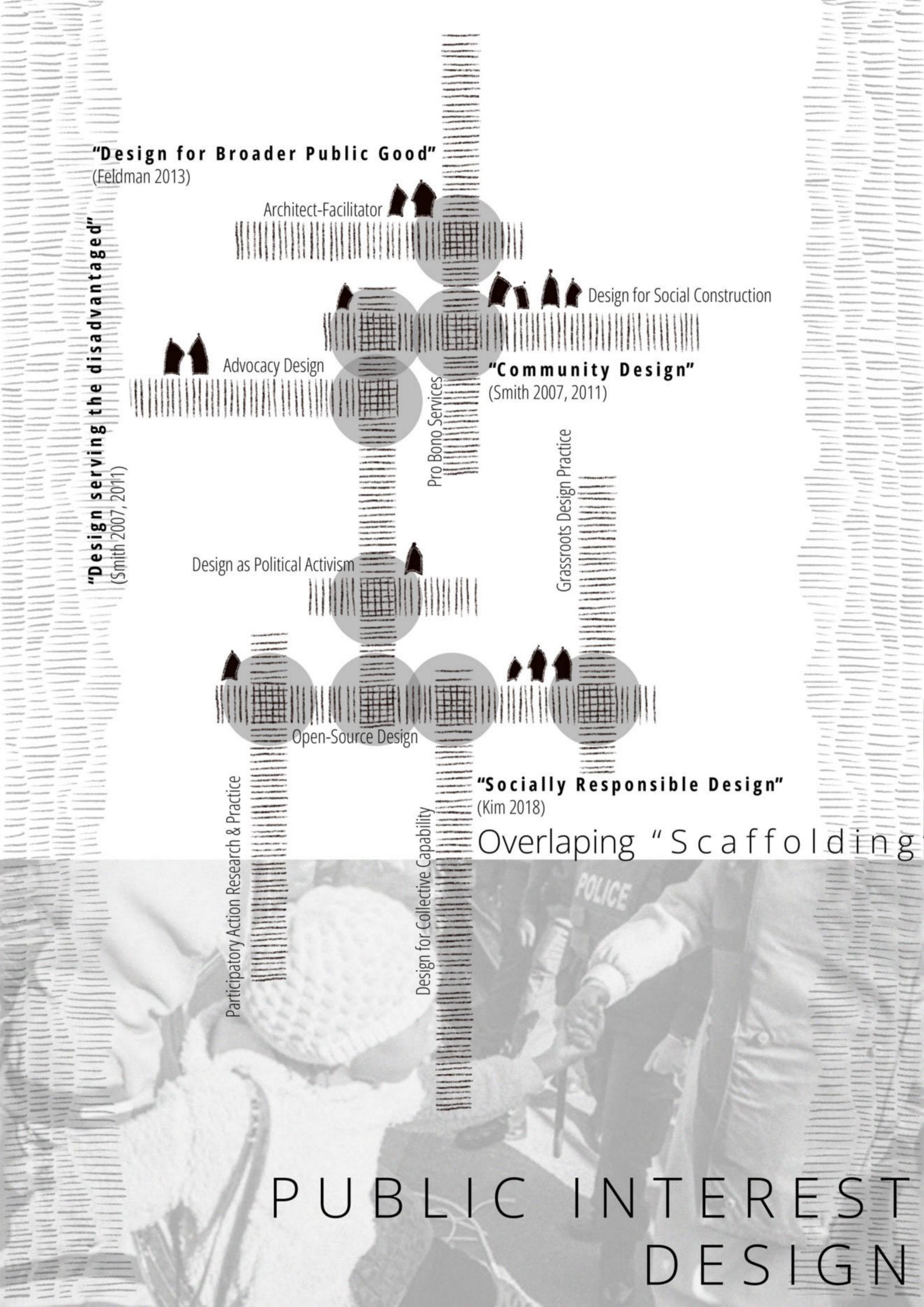


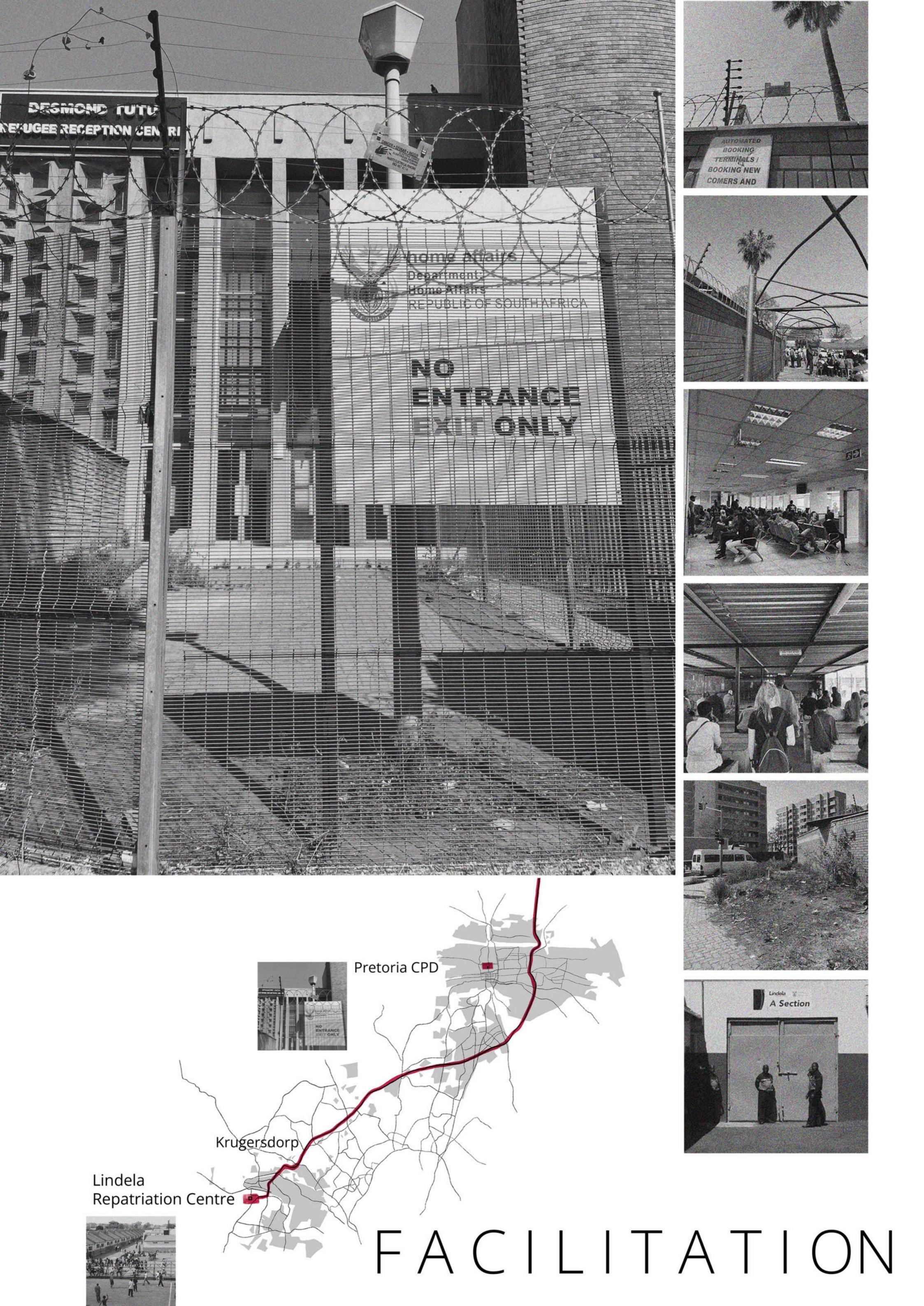


IN SA



THEORETICAL







International Organization for Migration

Agency Migration Logistics

Mandate
Migration
Management
Humanitarian Aid
Data Collection

Role
Migration
Services
Logistics &
Support
Data Analysis
Coordination
Advocacy
(IOM 2019)

Stakeholdeı



United Nations High Commisioners for Refugees

Agency

Refugee Assistance Protection Legal Aid Advocacy Mandate

Protect Refugees Find Solutions Advocate Role

Refugee Protection Legal Support Human Rights Advocacy (UNHCR 2022)



United Nations Children's Fund

Agency
Child-Centered
Protection
Health & Education

Mandate Child Rights Survival Development Role
Child Protection
Education
Health Care
Nutrition
Child Welfare
(UNICEF 2018)





Blessing

I am from Moz

I want to go back to my children

I have no money for transport

My husband was arrested for no papers

I am alone

I am scared



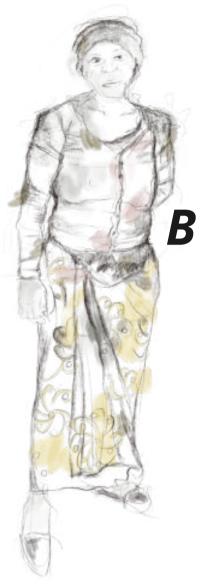


I am from Malawi

I have been living here for 10 years

It is to expensive to travel home and see my daughter

I am your brother



a m

Barbra

I am from Somalia

I have two small boys

They sleep cold at night

Our papers are invalid

My husband has no job

We are stuck

We need help We need hope

My name is **Faith**

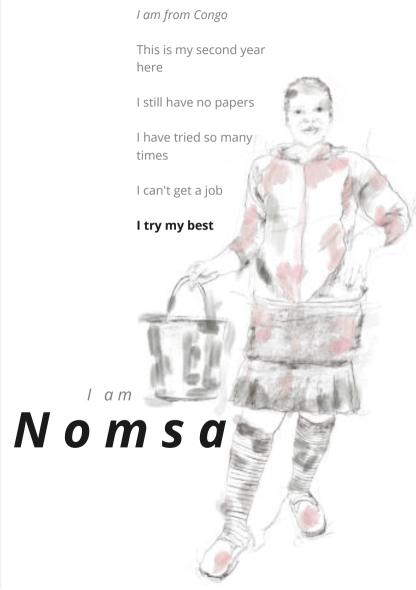
I am from Zim

I left my children behind last week to find a better life for them here

I have no job

My husband has no





My Name is

Ali

I am born to Congolese refugee parents.

I have not left Gauteng in my life.

I do not have citizenship.

I can't pay my studies.

I am a South African

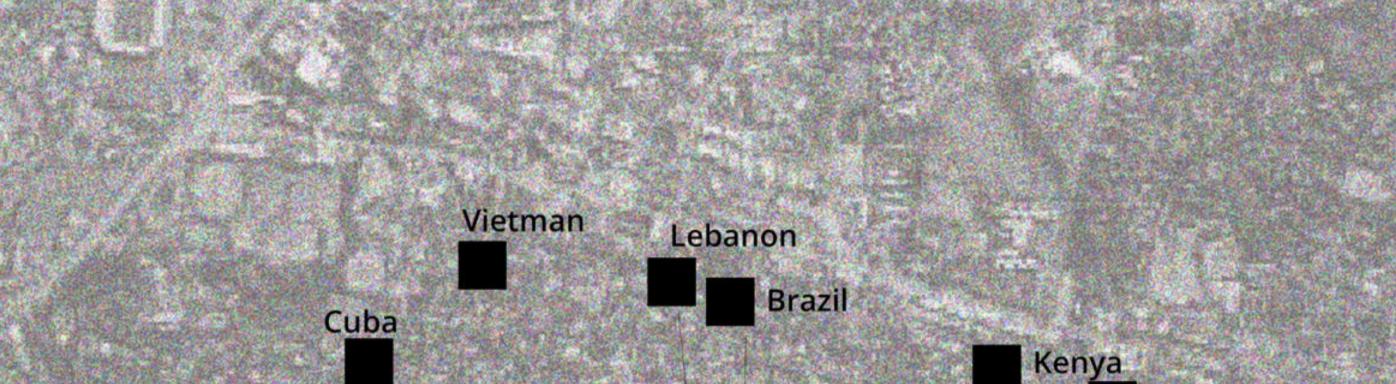
just like you.



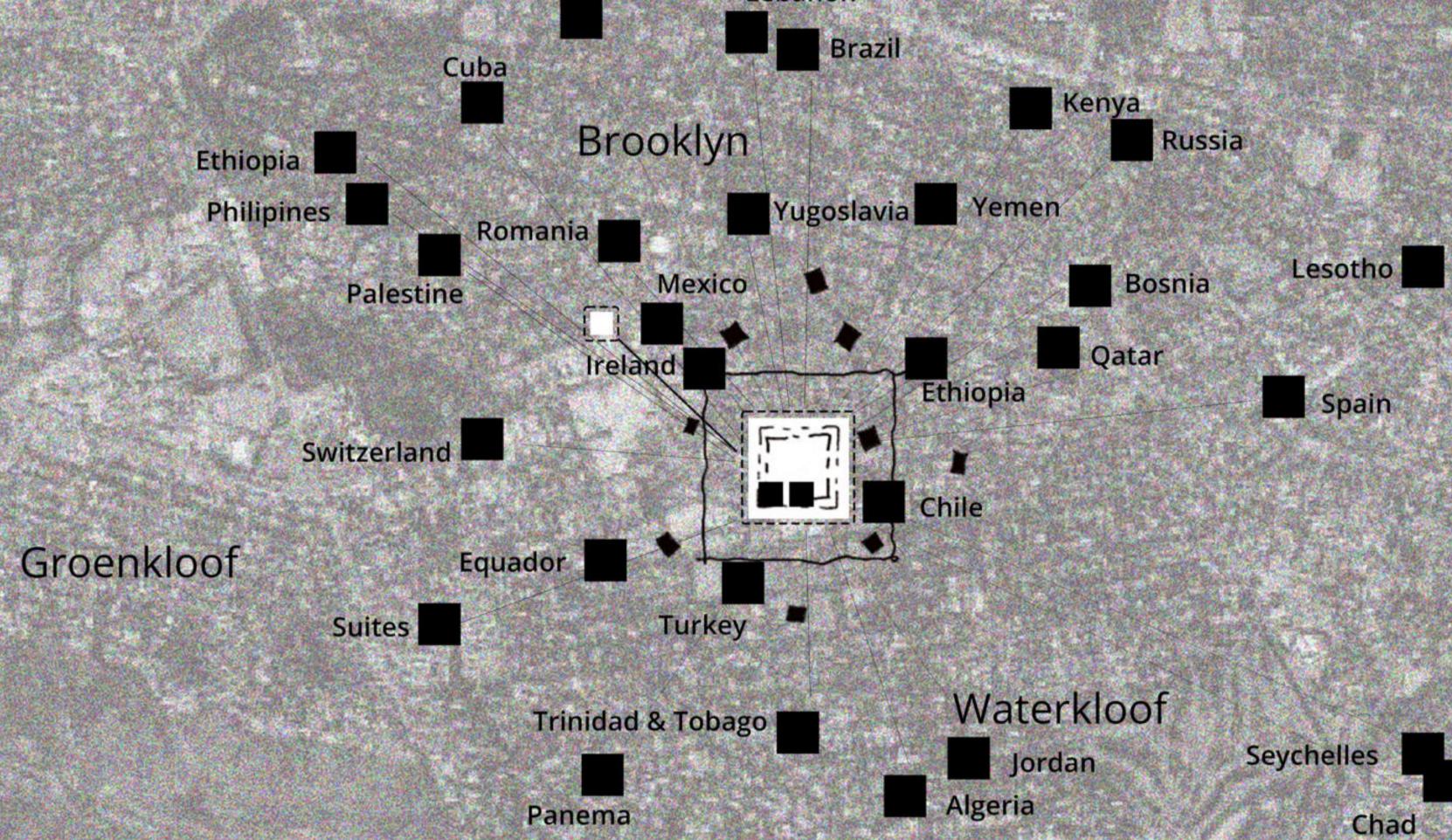
HUMANISING

Pretoria CBD

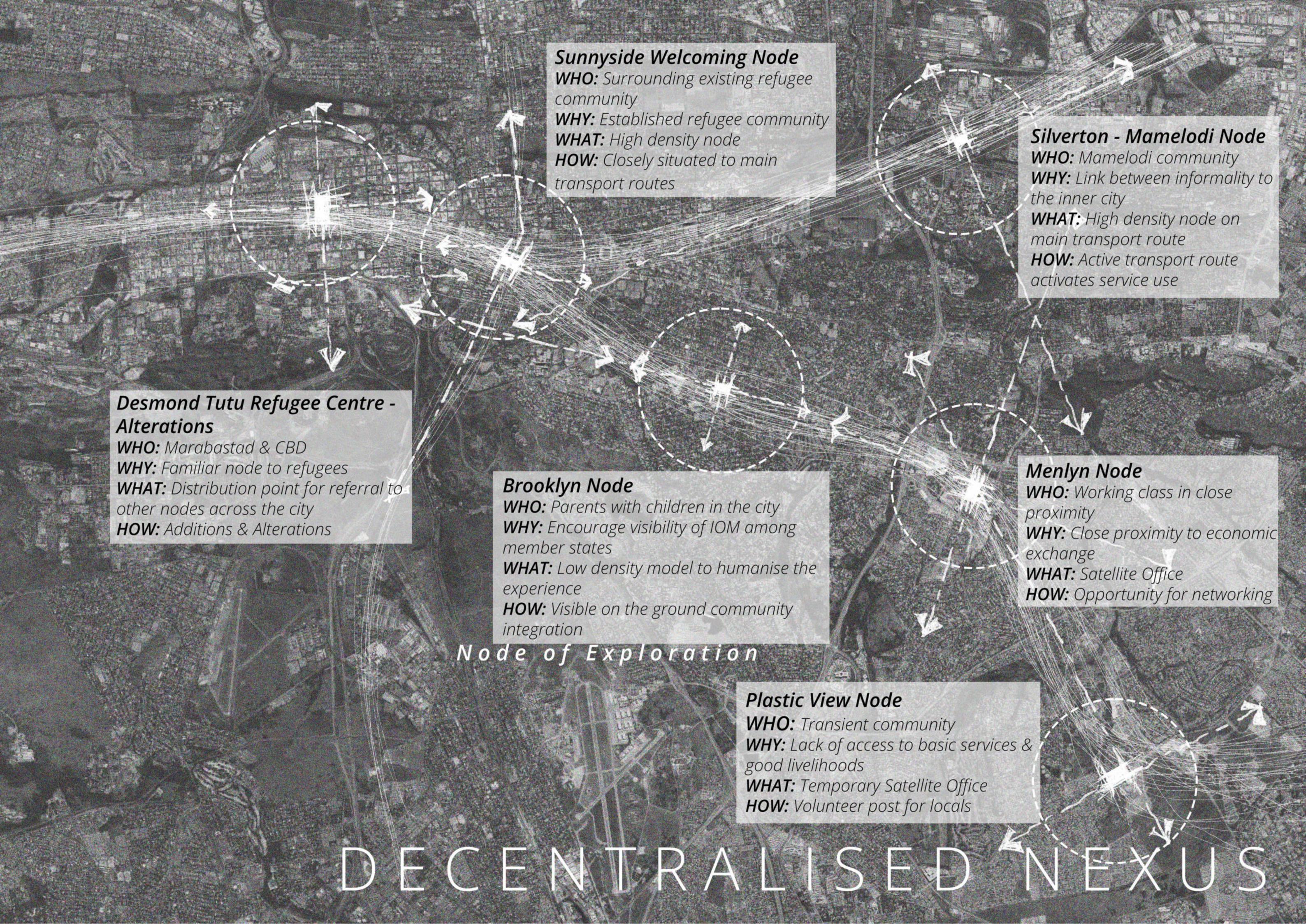
Sunnyside



Hatfield



Current IOM Regional Office for Southern Africa Embassies 10M+VISIBILITY





Mobility & Access

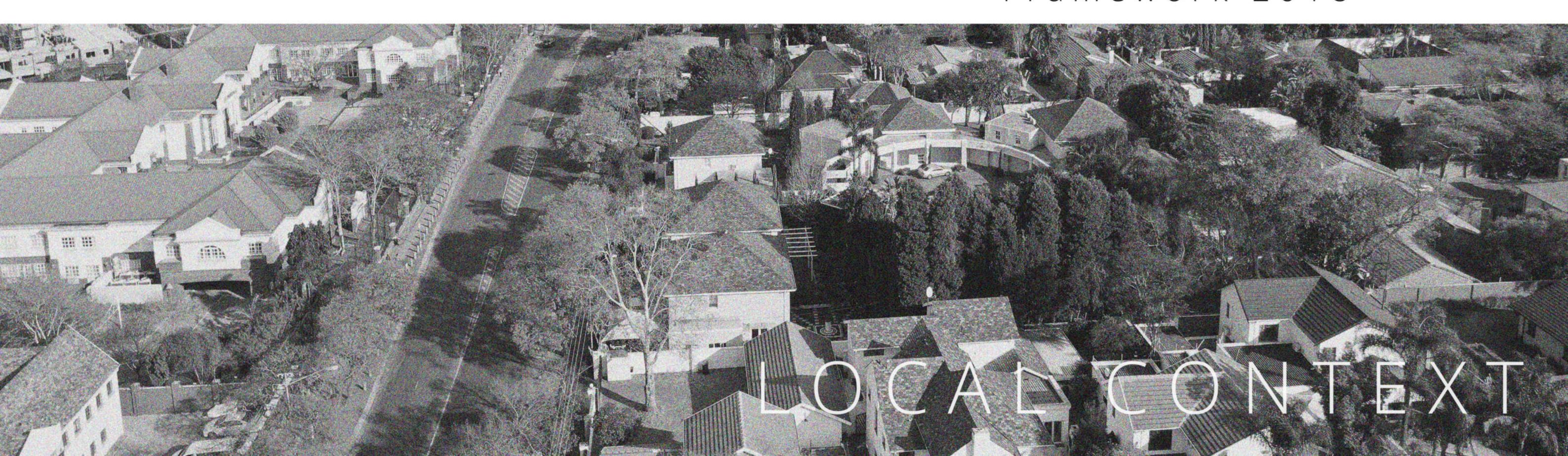
Public Activity



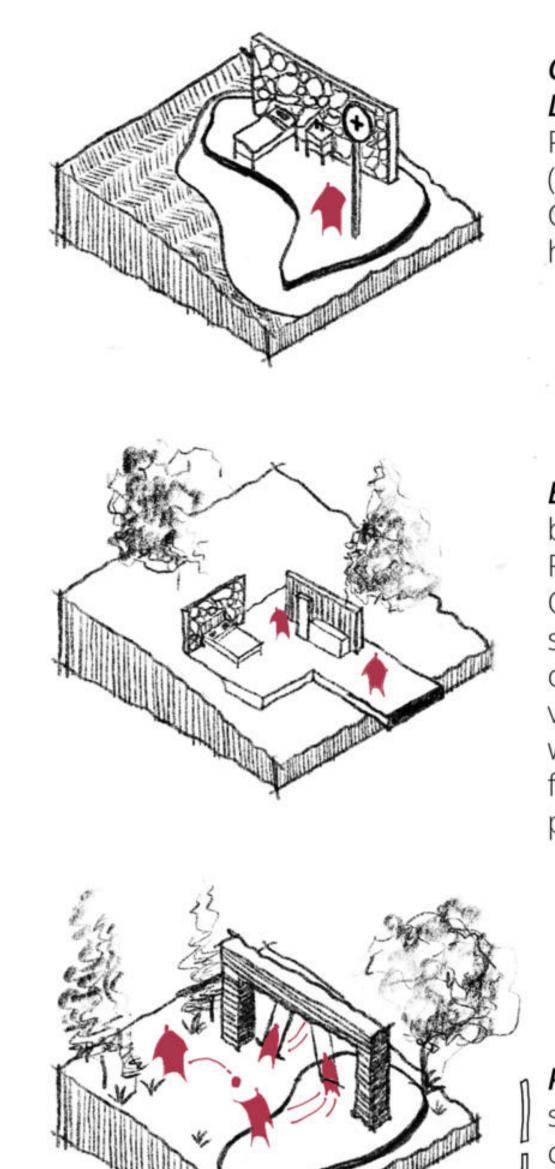


Land Use

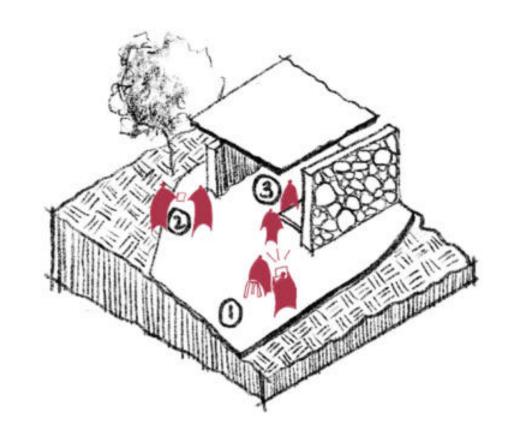
Tshwane Spatial Development Framework 2018



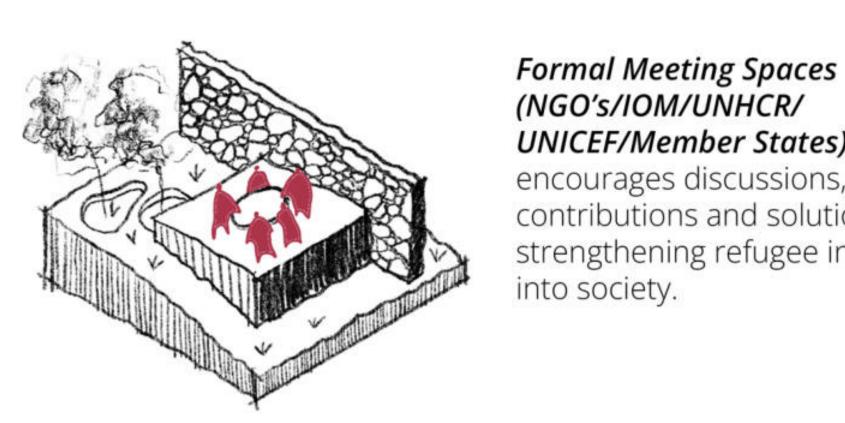




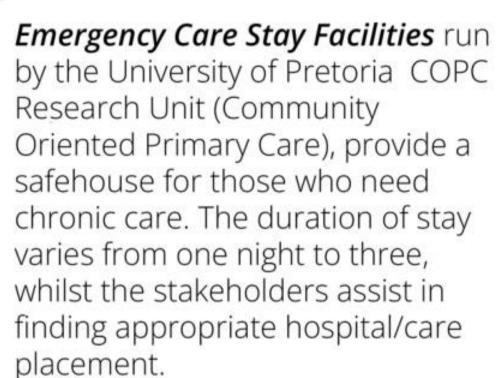
Care Facilities - Clinic and **Dispensary** run by the University of Pretoria COPC Research Unit (Community Oriented Primary Care), provides access for initial health screening and medication.

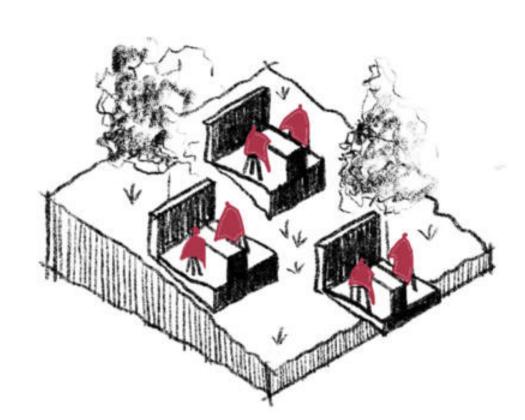


Documentation Facilities run by IOM in collaboration with government, assist refugees with needed registration, applications, legal frameworks, renewals, and status determination.

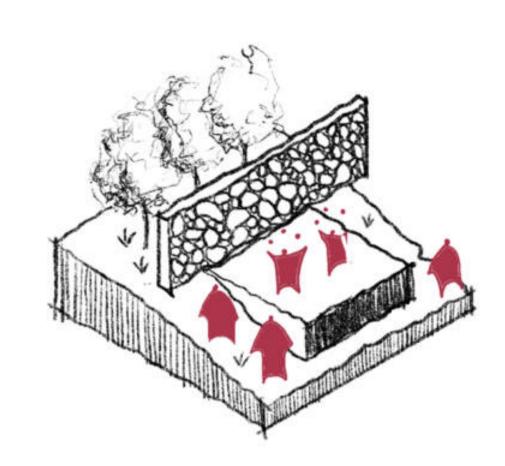


(NGO's/IOM/UNHCR/ **UNICEF/Member States**) encourages discussions, contributions and solutions, strengthening refugee integration into society.

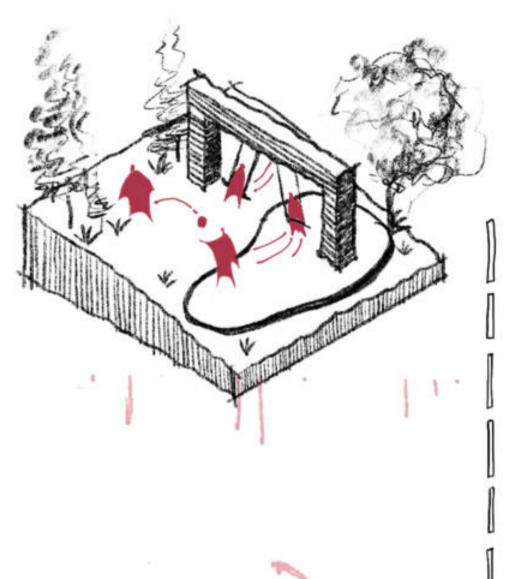




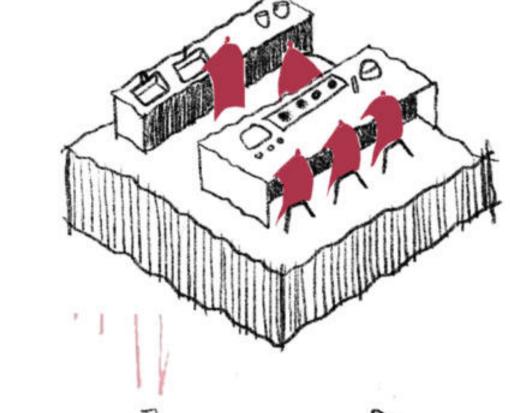
Private Consultation Areas/Offices run by IOM, to provide assistance on a humane & intimate scale, whilst remaining visually linked to other offices for a sense of accountability and safety.



Public Event Space providing opportunity for community gathering, fund raising events, political discussions, public preformances, and private/public lectures facilitated by the IOM.



Play Areas encouraging spontanious interaction among children and parents, building a network and community.



long journey of travelling, funded by the IOM and run by volunteers from the community.

transport to placement facilities

for futher integration after being

welcomed in the centre.

nourishment to the user after a

A Food Court provides



Gathering Spaces encourage networking and community building.

PROGRAMME

A language of welcome

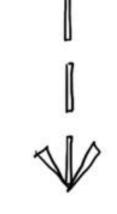
Enforce Social Control

Henri Lefebvre

Three interconnected dimensions of space - perceived space, conceived space, and lived space - guides the architectural intervention as a framework for understanding the social and cultural aspects of space, to encourage a responsive intervention within its context & promote democratic and inclusive forms of spatial production.

Social Exclusion

These dimensions are produced within the project through social practices and power relations (Lefebvre 1974).



Design for Inclusivity

David Harvey

Designing and building cities that are inclusive and accessible to all members of society, regardless of their social, economic, or cultural background is realised through the "Right to the City" by working closely with communities to understand their needs and priorities, and by designing spaces and structures that reflect those needs and priorities.

By prioritising social justice, democracy, and accessibility, the project can facilitate an inclusive urban environment that benefits all members of society (Harvey 1973).

Accessible

Public

Space

Needs Understanding

Michel Foucault

Foucault explores how institutions are designed and operated to exert power and control over individuals, creating spaces that are highly disciplined and regulated, with strict rules and surveillance systems to ensure compliance. Architecture is thus a tool to reinforce power relationships and maintain social control, and the implications of these practices negate individual freedom and encourage autonomy (Foucault 1975).

From this spatial theory, the project aims to use architecture as a tool for passive safety through a humanitarian lense, rather than forced control through rigid power relations.



Fostering a Sense of Safety

Doreen Massey

The way space is organised and structured can either reinforce or challenge existing power relations. Power relations are embedded in space not only through overt forms of control, but also through processes of exclusion and marginalisation (Massey 1993).

Challenging Existing Stigmas

Through a nuanced understanding of current power relations, the project aims to challenge these structures by providing transparency within programme, space, and interface.



Design for Transparency

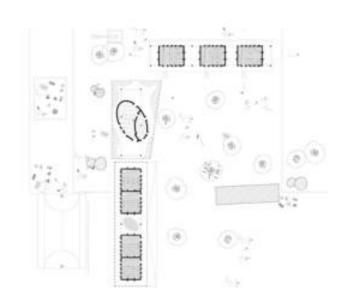
KEY SPATIAL THEORY

KEY ARCHITECTURAL THEORY

Herman Hertzberger Montessori-Architecture

Hertzberger, H., 2008. Space and Learning Lawrence, S & Stæhli, B., 2023. Montessori Architecture: A Design Instrument for Schools

Plan



Primary and Secondary School, Gando, Burkina Faso Diébédo Francis Kéré, 2008

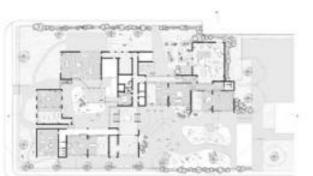




(Montesorri-Architecture 2022)



METI Primary School, Rudrapur, Bangladesh Anna Heringer, Eike Roswag, 2006 (Montesorri-Architecture 2022)



Stichting Casa School, Pijnacker, Netherlands Tessa Wessels, 2011 (Montesorri-Architecture 2022)



Exterior



Interior



Transitional







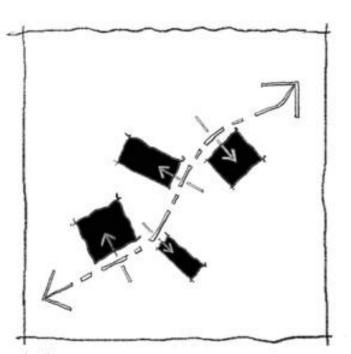
Feature



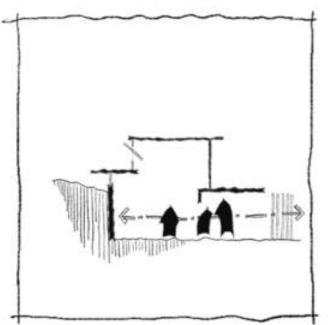




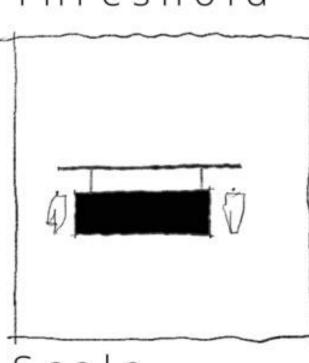
DESIGNINFORMANTS



Movement



Threshold



MITHERITAL

ò

461 BACK

Scale

Clear Primary Indicator

Movement is clearly established through a single, accessible line where programme intersects movement for visibility.

Layered **Transparency**

Thresholds are transparent ecouraging visibility, whilst layered for a sense of privacy to the user.

Human Centered

Scale attempts to convey a sense of intimacy and safety to the user through reducing the scale of interior spaces from the exterior.

Sense of **Embrace**

Natural light is controlled through one singular interface, leaving the other vertical planes to contrastingly embrace the user through stereotomic solid planes.

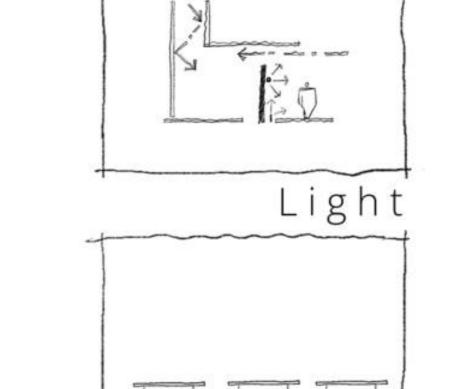
Textures for Warmth

A single colour is used throughout the space for uniformity, applied to various textures for welcoming a sense of warmth into the space.

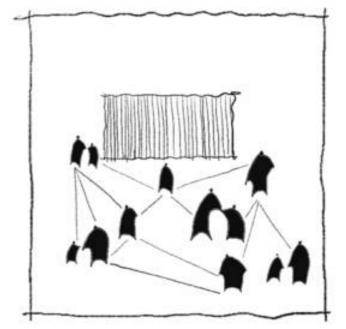
Agency

Moveable furniture and an

open floor plan convey a sense of ownership and agency to the user, navigating through community in their own



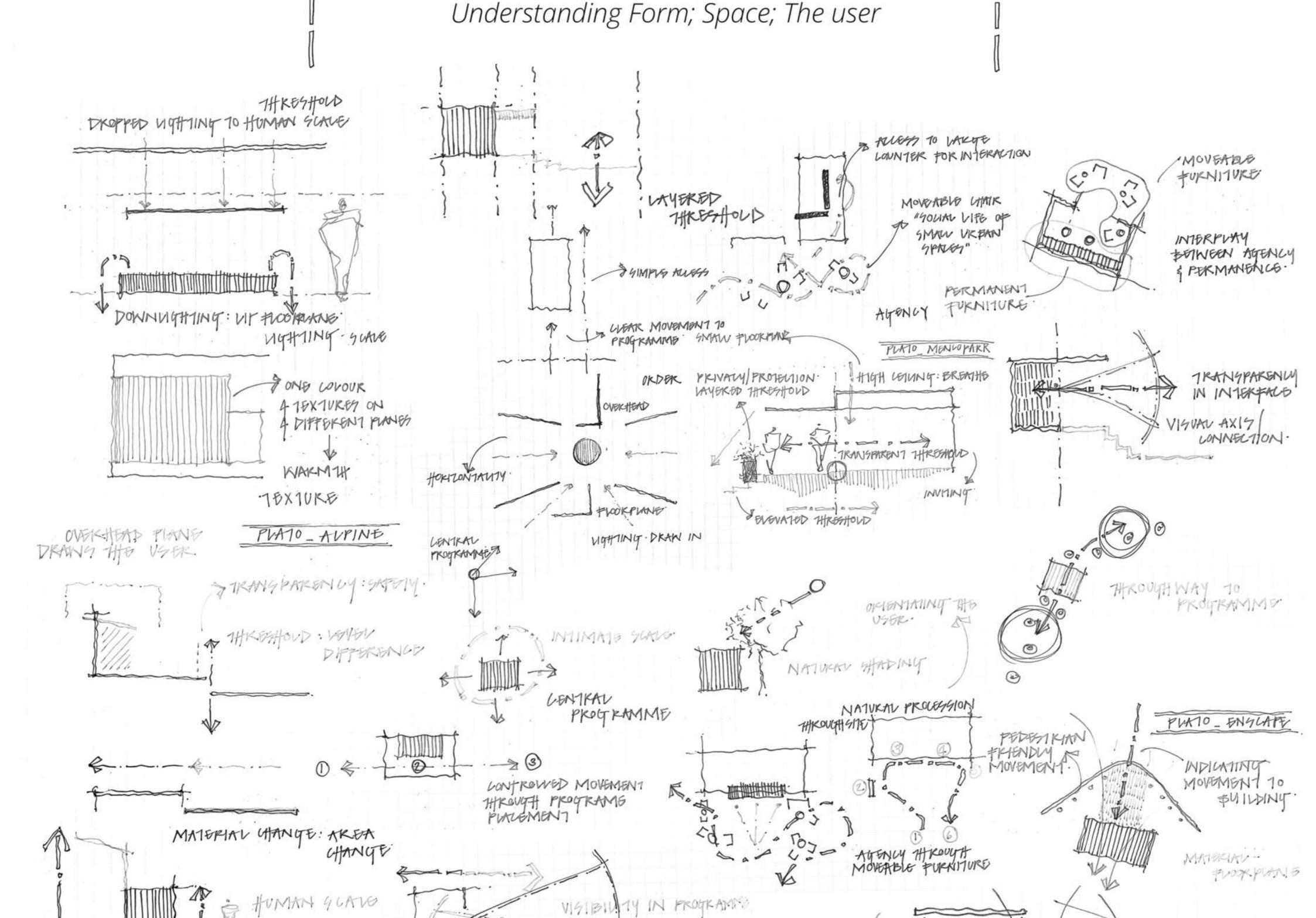
Material



Community

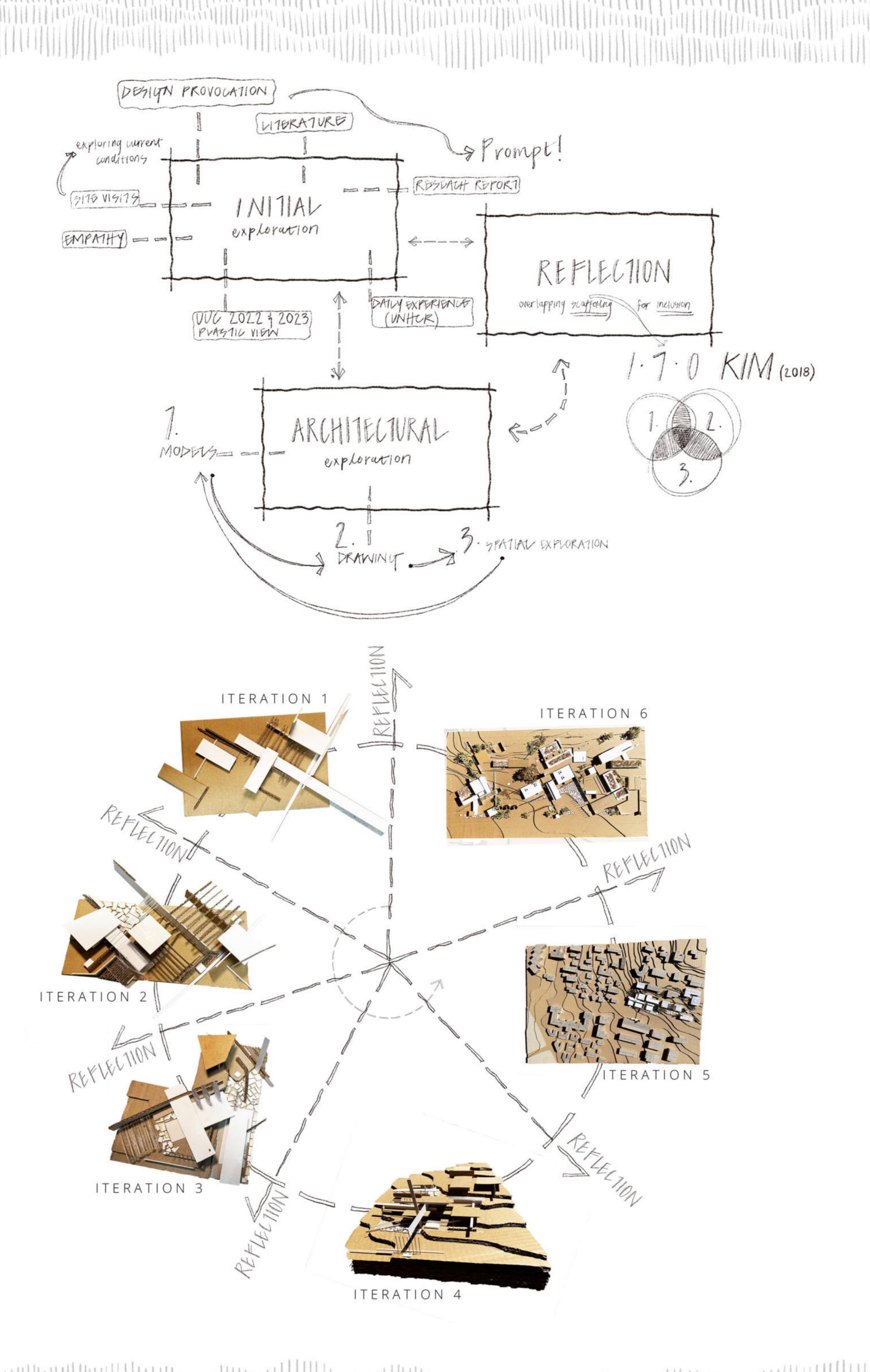
TRANSPARENCY/VI41BILITY

FACADE

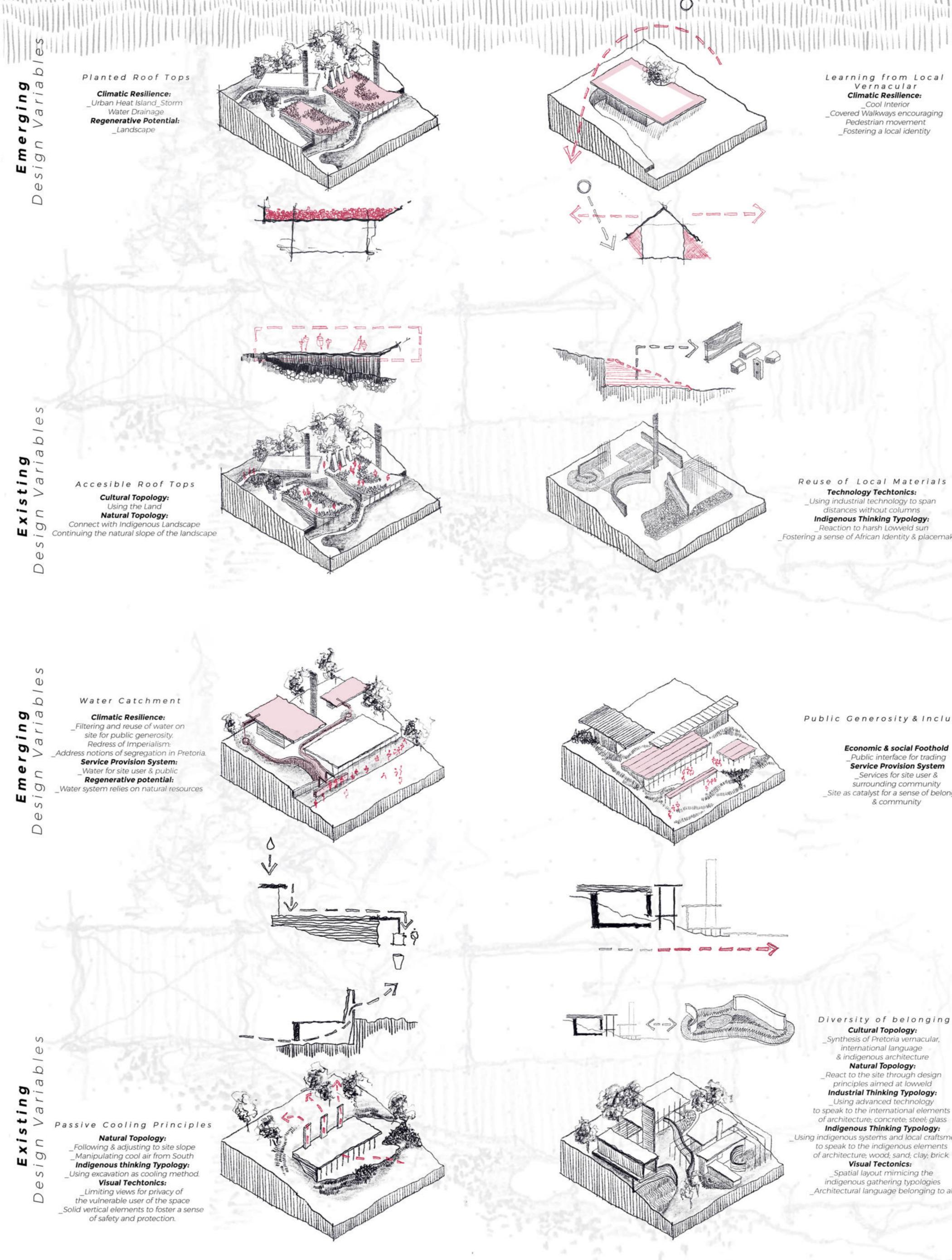


1/ PASSIVE SUKVEILLANCE

Language of welcome



ITERATION PROCESS



Learning from Local Vernacular Climatic Resilience:

Cool Interior Covered Walkways encouraging Pedestrian movement

_Fostering a local identity

Reuse of Local Materials

Technology Techtonics:

distances without columns Indigenous Thinking Typology:

Reaction to harsh Lowveld sun

Fostering a sense of African Identity & placemaking

Public Generosity & Inclusion

Economic & social Foothold Public interface for trading Service Provision System

_Services for site user & surrounding community _Site as catalyst for a sense of belonging & community



_Synthesis of Pretoria vernacular, international language & indigenous architecture

Cultural Topology:

Natural Topology: React to the site through design principles aimed at lowveld

Industrial Thinking Typology:

Using advanced technology to speak to the international elements

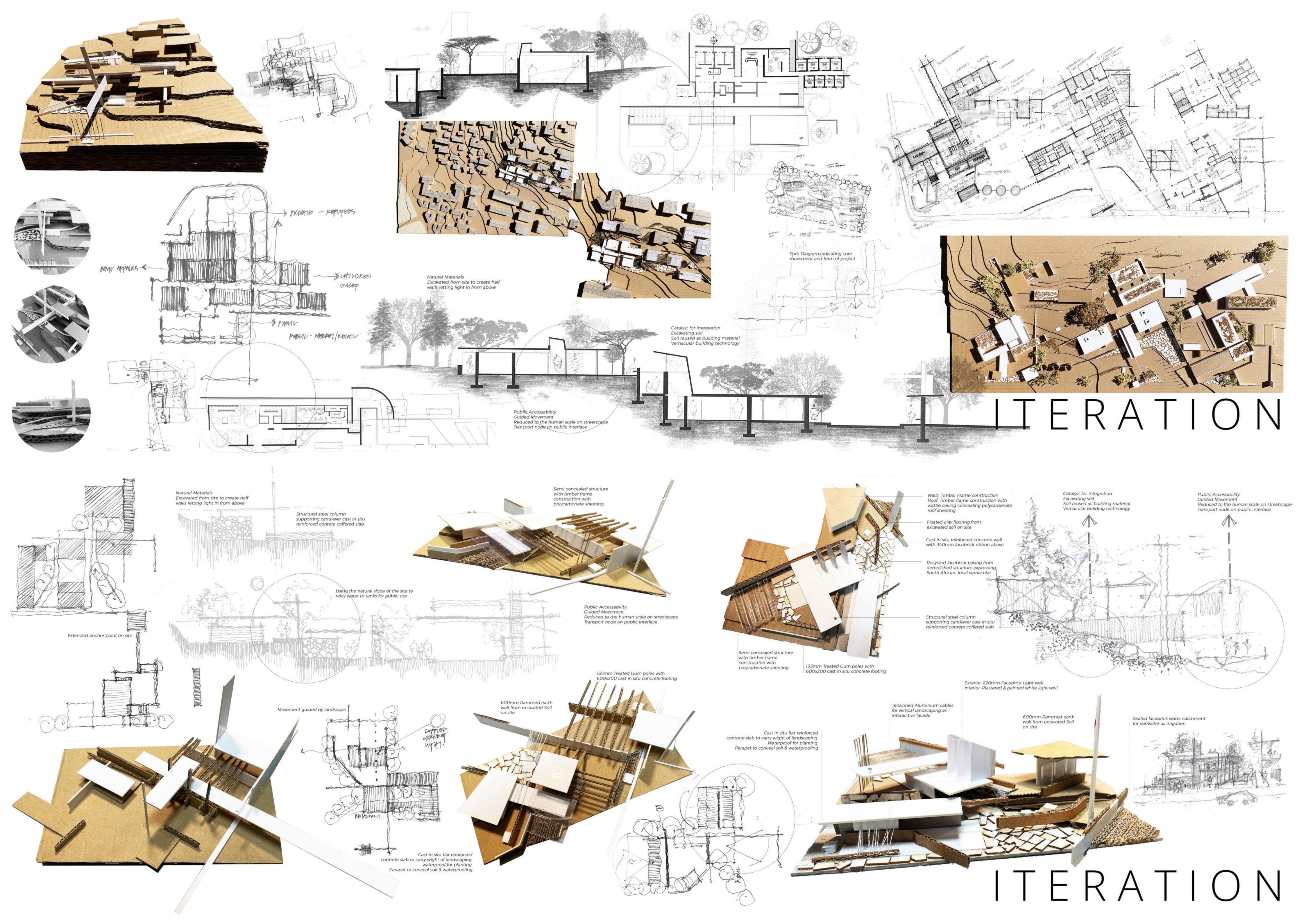
of architecture; concrete; steel; glass Indigenous Thinking Typology:

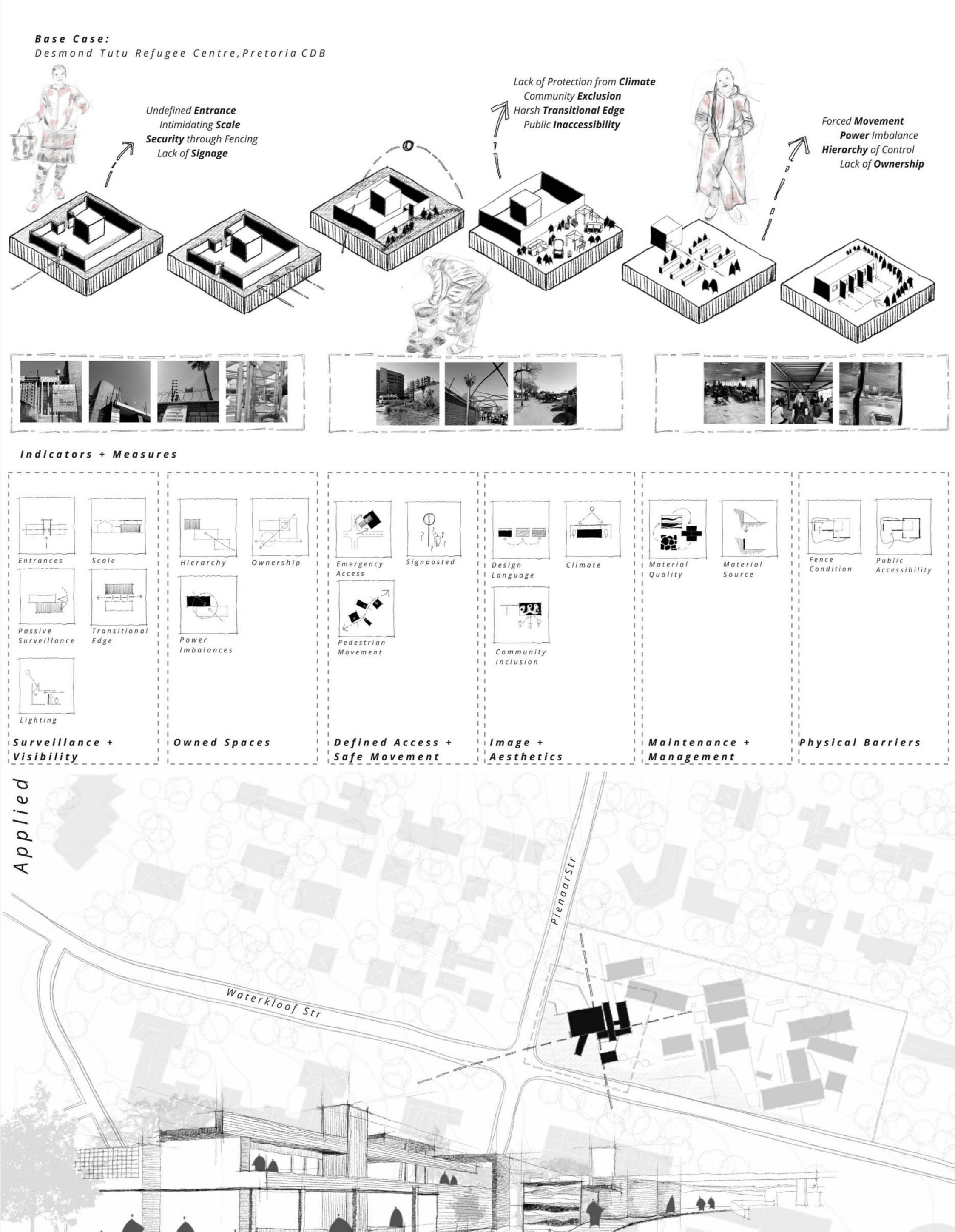
_Using indigenous systems and local craftsmenship to speak to the indigenous elements

of architecture; wood; sand; clay; brick Visual Tectonics:

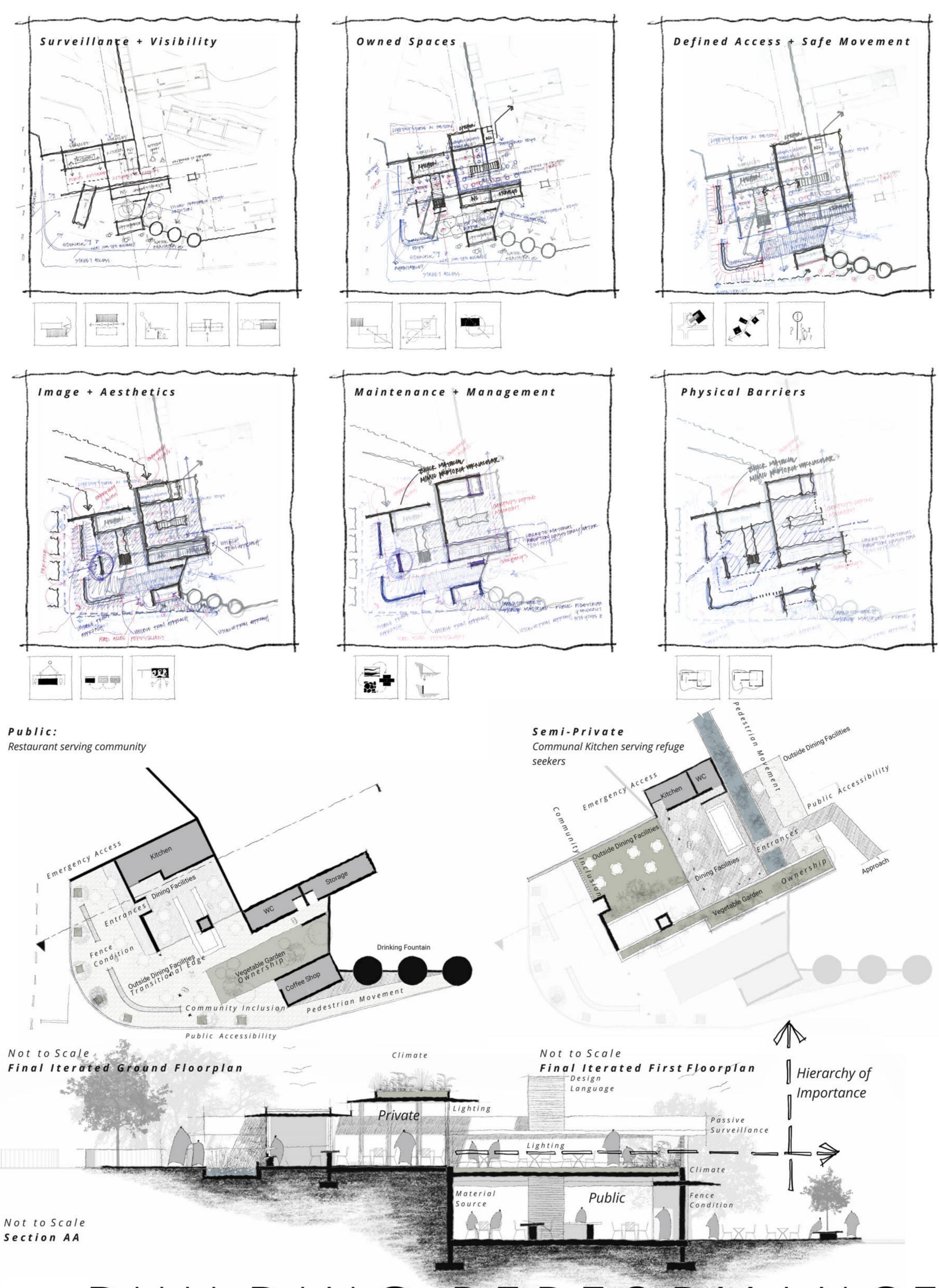
_Spatial layout mimicing the indigenous gathering typologies _Architectural language belonging to all

KEYELEMENTS





BUILDING PERFORMANCE



BUILDING PERFORMANCE



01 Hierarchy of interconnected spaces

Sequential spaces are explored through pace and the elements which foster a sense of secure orientation within it (Mostafa 2022). Orientation for the user is explored through directional spaces on one central movement spine and differentiating between floor plane, and roof plane heights (Montessori-Architecture 2023).

02 Local materials

soil from site, wood, stone, and textiles are explored to foster the feeling of comfort and warmth within the user experience. Materials conveying sensory comfort encourages the sense of safety for the user, in turn creating opportunity for interaction (Montessori-Architecture 2023). Children are highly attuned to the tactile quality of the building surfaces around them. There is inherent beauty in the roughness, simplicity, modesty and intimacy of natural substances such as wood or

stone.

Natural materials of excavated Unstructured spaces animated by circumstance that can be transformed to suit any new situation are nestled by relatively structured, inclusive, containing elements. The unstructured communal areas become anchor points for users to settle down on their journey, through a presence of communal cohesion, embraced by the built fabric (Hertzberger 2016).

space and form

Threshold is explored through overlapping the public and private realms, inviting passers-by through a sense of duality and transparency. The threshold stands as its own platform, where two worlds overlap rather than a stark demarcation (Hertzberger 2016). This overlap in public and private realms contributes to the idea of sharing space, and forming part of a collective society.

04 Transitional spaces between inside & outside

Articulated circulation, through one primary movement route, orientates the user on site, without the need for signage, conveying legibility, and accessibility to users speaking different languages. This articulated route provides an inclusive, safe, efficient, and engaging user experience (Mostafa 2022). Open floor plans and transparent materials are explored, to create a sense of transparency, inclusivity and accessibility to the user, serving the public interest. Open floor plans convey a sense of accountability and communication among users, creating a trust-building environment. The free floor plan encourages new freedoms and potentials as a result of reconfigured social space, giving agency in one's own contexts. This realises Lefebvre's idea of the appropriation of space as an essential component of the right to the city as participants use their own everyday practices to produce space (Anderson 2014).

circulation space & floorplane

06 Openings

2016).

Light reaches interior spaces from clerestory ribbons, where the interior is enveloped in stereotomic vertical planes, embracing the user as a gesture to safety and security (Hertzberger

07 Accessibility for children

Stimulating the senses of the children using the site, is considered throughout interior and exterior spaces including water, sand, landscaping, and play structures. Sensory stimulation encourages engagement among children playing, building connections and fostering a sense of community among users (Montessori-Architecture 2023).

08 **Observation** without

The terraced landscape offers pockets of seclusion & safety, for users within the site, observing the street edge from above (Montessori-Architecture 2023).

Flexibility in space is explored, encouraging spaces that can easily be adapted for various purposes, such as meetings, workshops, or social gatherings. This flexibility encourages a range of activities to take place, for smaller intimate gatherings to larger public events, as well as different activities for different age groups of children (Anderson 2014).

10 Independent self-care

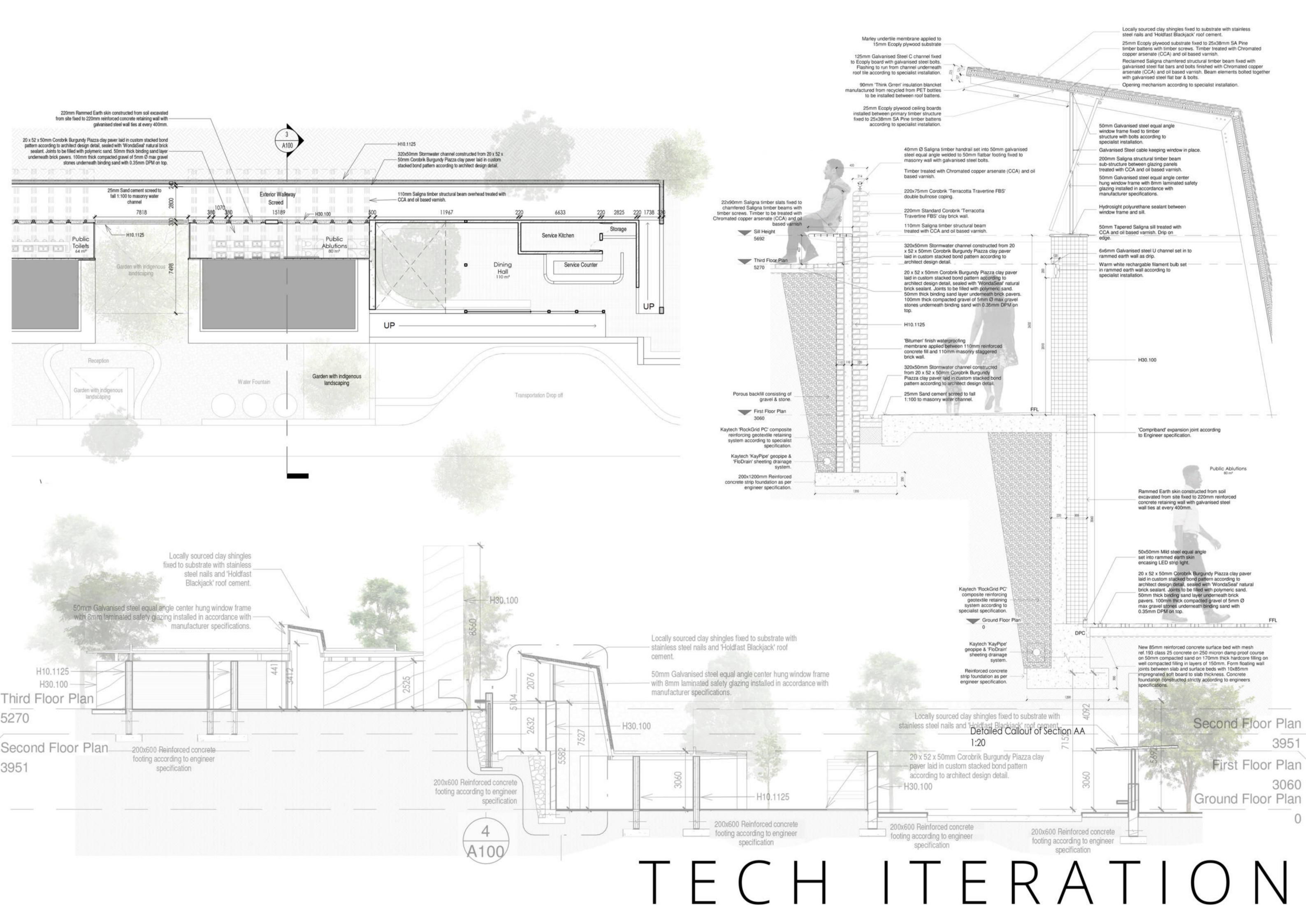
Scaled at Adult-and child ergonomics, to convey a sense of responsibility and ownership to the (Montessori-Architecture 2023).

11 Grounds as a habitat

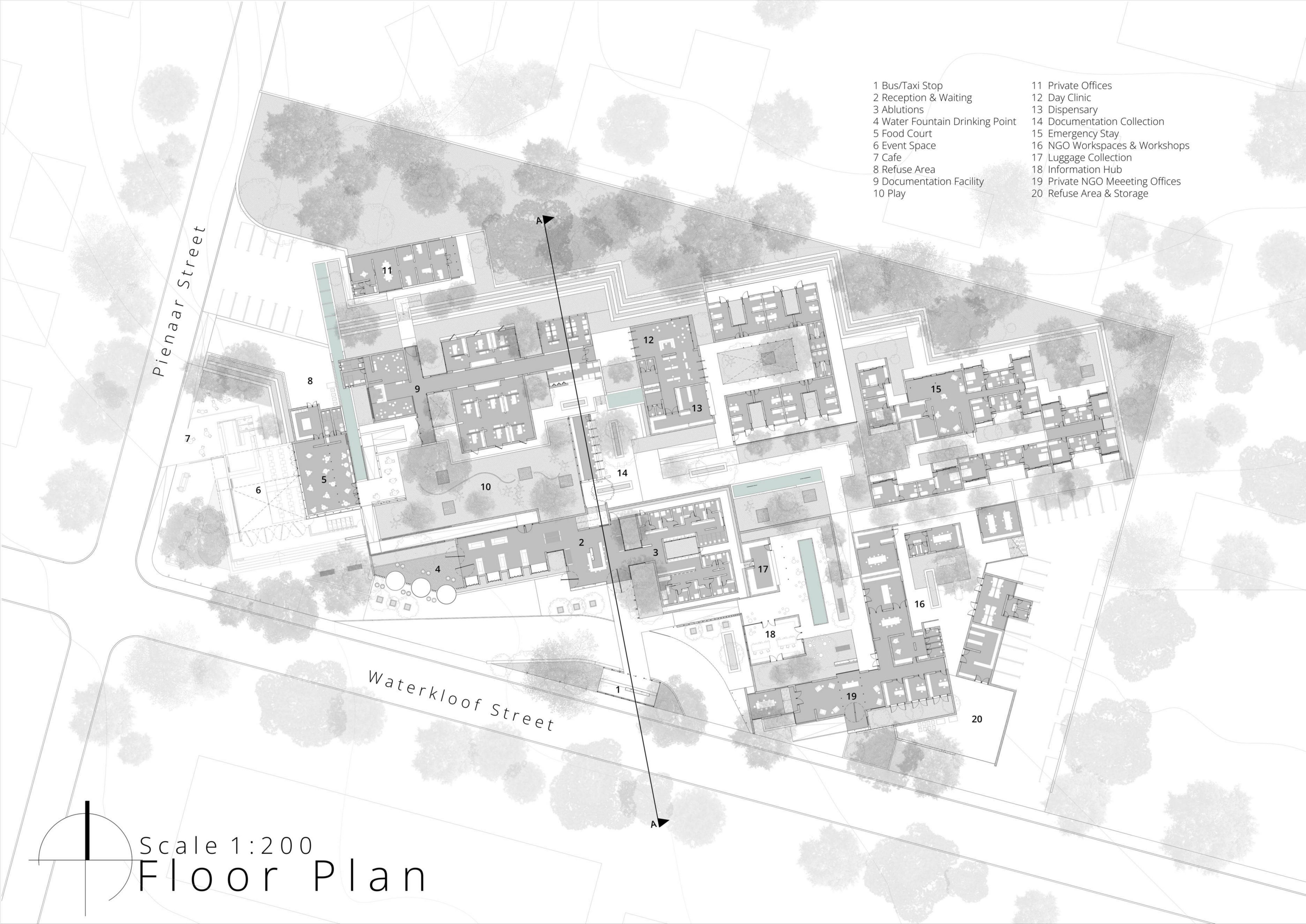
Indigenous landscaping is proposed to enhance the welcoming atmosphere, woven in between outdoor seating areas to provide a sense of calm and serenity for the user, whilst providing shade and reducing erosion. Playscapes run adjacent to the primary circulation route for continuous passive surveillance on children. Indigenous landscaping is a tool used to convey a narrative aimed at generating and balancing positive social, institutional, environmental and economic change (Anderson 2014).

Natural light is explored to create a warm and welcoming atmosphere. Where large overhangs protect the user from harsh climate factors. Interior lighting from above skylights is used as a tool to convey a sense of safety and security to the user, whilst nestled in their stereotomic surroundings. Lighting encourages inclusivity and accessibility for the user, making their journey effortless on site. Light is also drawn into interior spaces for warmth and comfort (Montessori-Architecture 2023).

KEY DESIGN THEORY









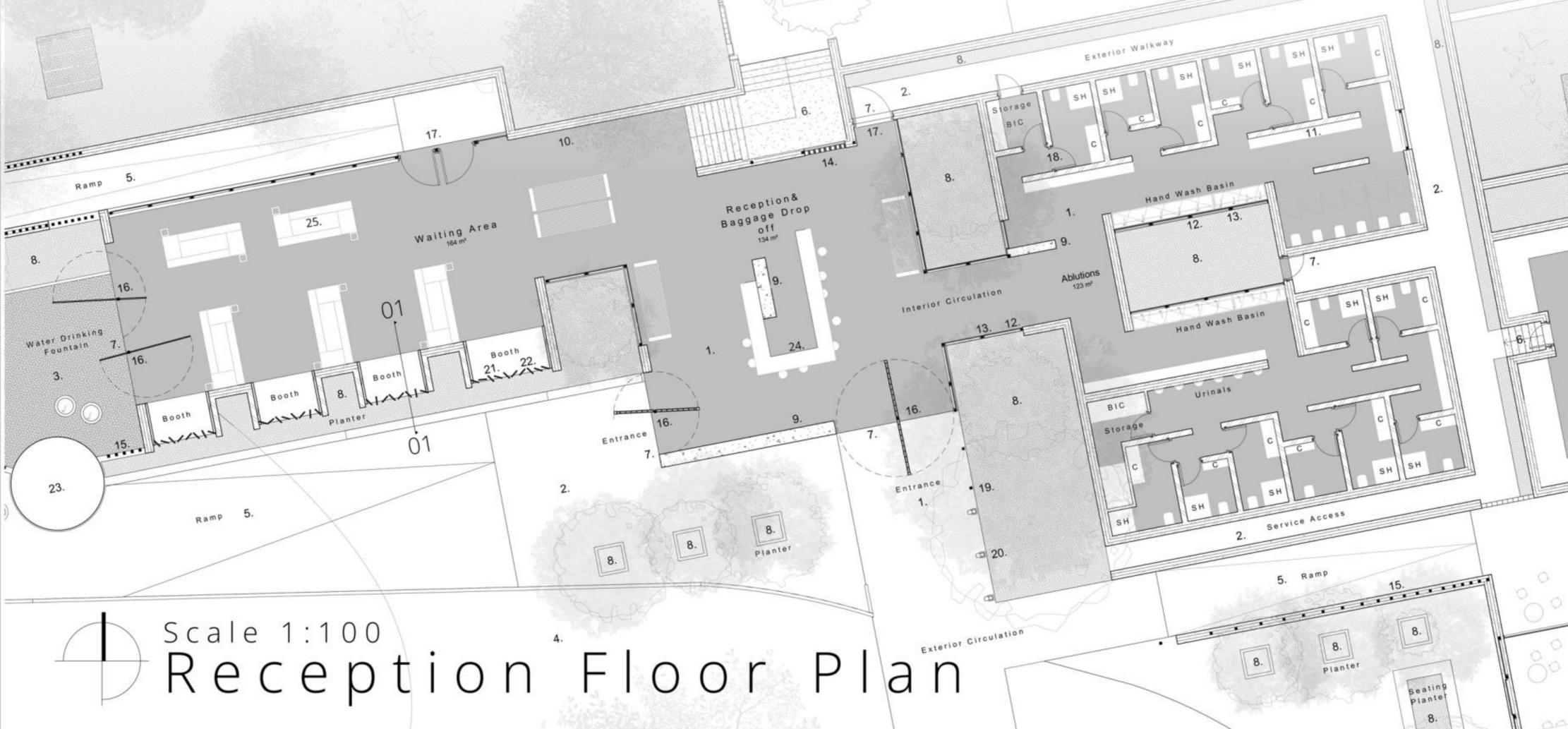
1. 220 x 52 x 50mm Corobrik Burgundy Piazza clay paver laid in custom stacked bond pattern according to architect design detail, sealed with 'WondaSeal' natural brick sealant. Joints to be filled with polymeric sand. 50mm thick binding sand layer underneath brick pavers. 100mm thick compacted gravel of 5mm Ø max gravel stones underneath binding sand with 0.35mm DPM on top of 85mm reinforced concrete slab.

85mm Reinforced Concrete Slab with floated finish according to engineer specification.

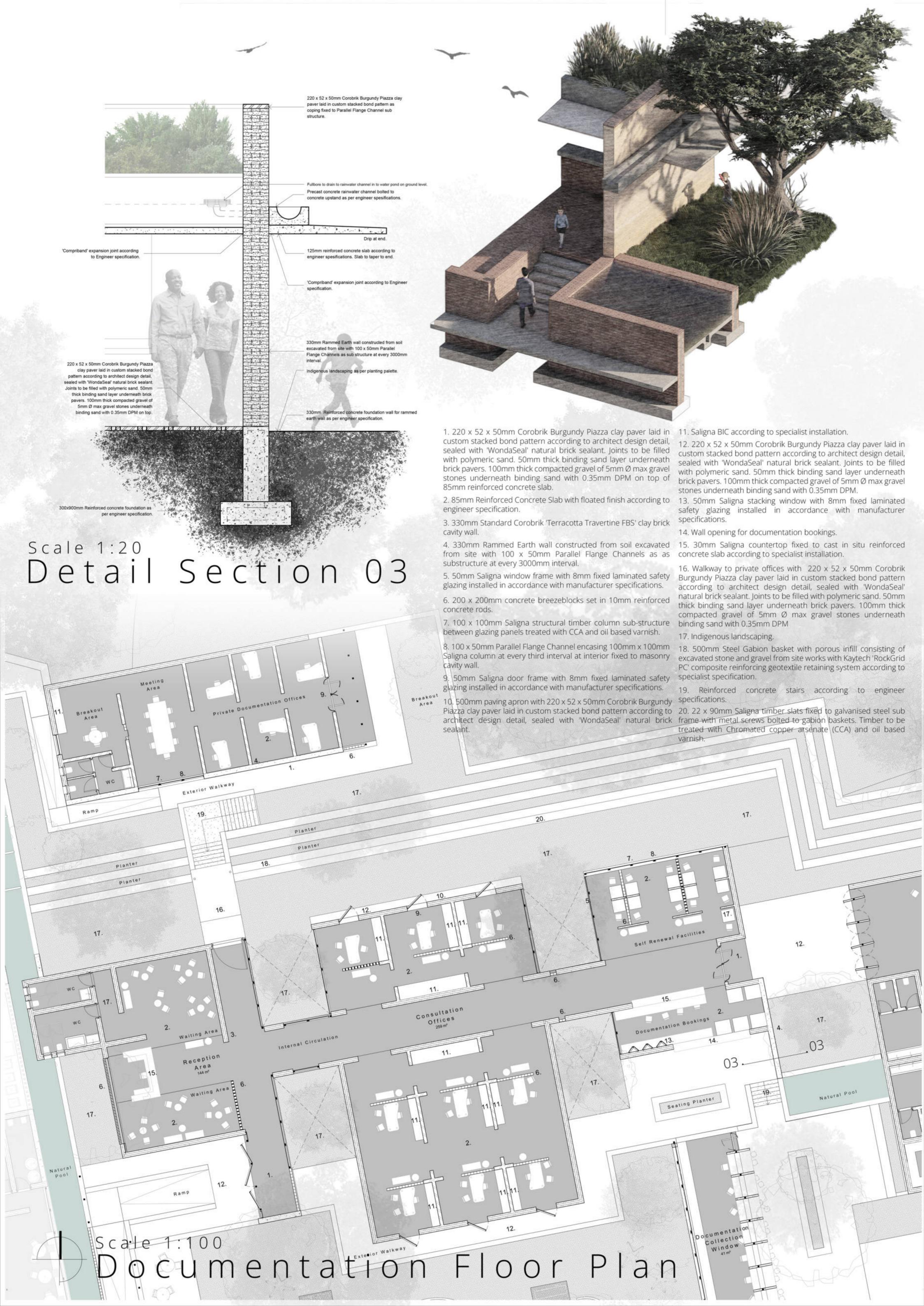
- 3. 100mm Sand surface bed.
- 4. 30mm continuously graded medium grade asphalt on 100mm thick G2 base compacted to 100% MOD AASHTO density on 125mm thick G5 subbase compacted to 95% MOD AASHTO density on 150mm thick G9 upper selected subgrade compacted to 93% MOD AASHTO density on 150mm thick G10 lower selected subgrade compacted to 93% MOD AASHTO density on 150mm RIP & recompact to 90% MOD AASHTO density.
- 5. Ramp with 220 x 52 x 50mm Corobrik Burgundy Piazza clay paver laid in custom stacked bond pattern according to architect design detail, sealed with 'WondaSeal' natural brick sealant. Joints to be filled with polymeric sand. 50mm thick binding sand layer underneath brick pavers. 100mm thick compacted gravel of 5mm Ø max gravel stones underneath binding sand with 0.35mm DPM.
- 6. Reinforced concrete stairs according to engineer specifications.

- 7. 170mm Weather step.
- 8. Indigenous landscaping.
- 330mm Reinforced concrete wall according to engineer specifications.
- 10. 330mm Standard Corobrik 'Terracotta Travertine FBS' clay brick cavity wall.
- 11. 22 x 90mm Saligna timber slats fixed to galvanised steel sub frame with metal screws bolted to 85mm concrete plinth. Timber to be treated with Chromated copper arsenate (CCA) and oil based varnish.
- 12. 100 x 100mm Saligna structural timber column sub-structure between glazing panels treated with CCA and oil based varnish.
- 13. 100 x 50mm Parallel Flange Channel encasing 100 x 100mm Saligna column at every third interval at interior fixed to masonry cavity wall.
- 14. 200 x 200mm concrete breezeblocks set in 10mm reinforced concrete rods.
- 15. 100 x 100mm Saligna timber slats fixed to galvanised steel sub frame with metal screws bolted to 330mm masonry cavity half wall. Timber to be treated with Chromated copper arsenate (CCA) and oil based varnish.
- 16. 100mm solid Saligna pivot door frame installed in accordance with manufacturer specifications.

- 50mm Saligna door frame with 8mm fixed laminated safety glazing installed in accordance with manufacturer specifications.
- 18. 50mm Saligna door frame with frosted 8mm fixed laminated safety glazing installed in accordance with manufacturer specifications.
- 19. 100 x 100mm Saligna structural timber column bolted to precast concrete footing treated with CCA and oil based varnish.
- 20. 700mm Saligna exterior lighting bollards bolted to concrete footing according to specialist installation.
- Custom made Saligna seating sill according to specialist installation.
- 22. 100 x 30mm Saligna timber pivot slats as window threshold between exterior and interior according to specialist installation.
- 23. 10 000 liter 0,8mm thick galvanised corrugated steel water tank fitted with 720gsm potable liner with 400mm manhole as storage for filtered rain water collection for public use.
- 24. 500mm Saligna countertop fixed to masonry footing according to specialist installation.
- 25. Custom shopfitted furniture as per architect detail and specialist installation.

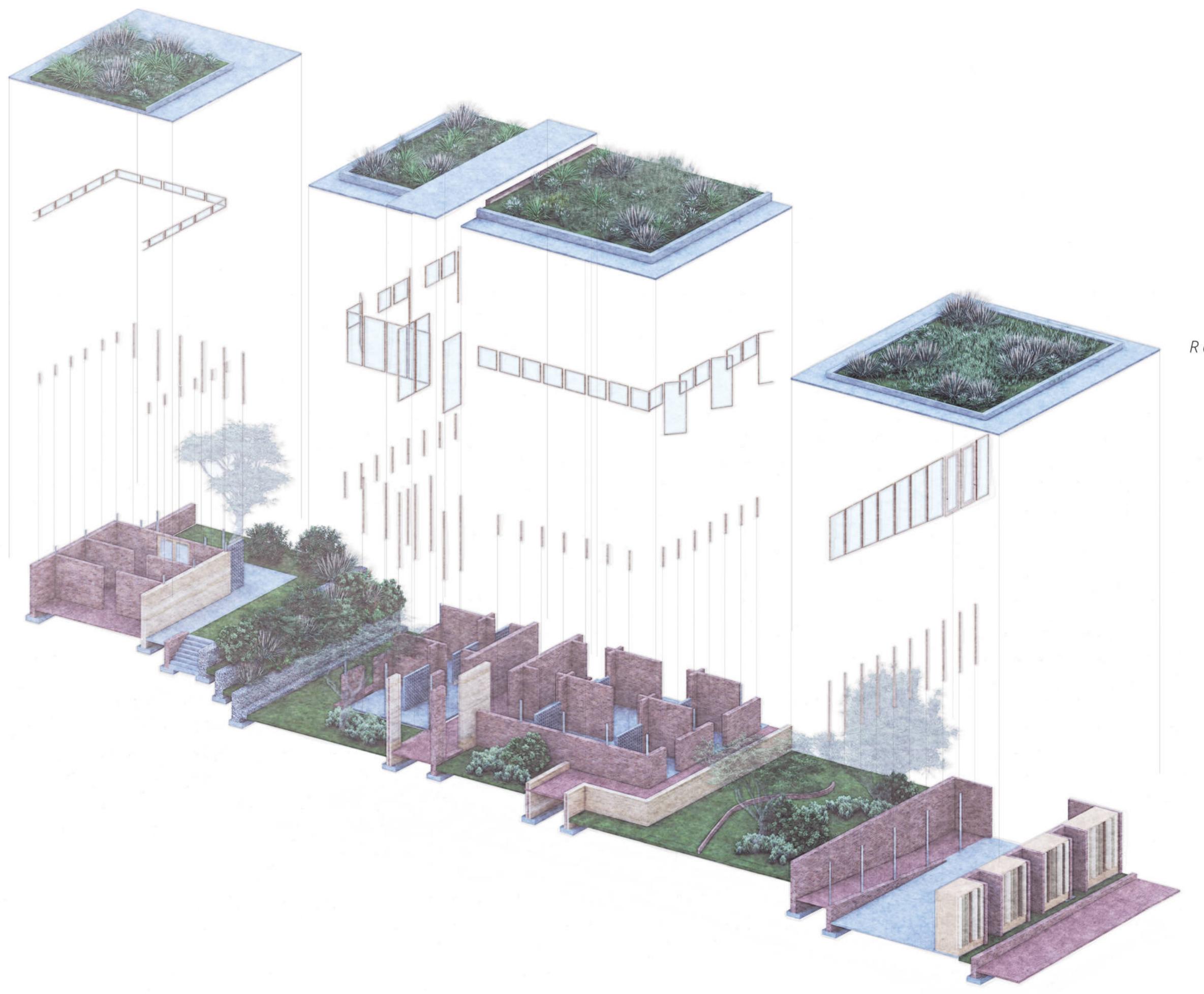








- 1. 220 x 52 x 50mm Corobrik Burgundy Piazza clay paver laid in custom stacked bond pattern according to architect design detail, sealed with 'WondaSeal' natural brick sealant. Joints to be filled with polymeric sand. 50mm thick binding sand layer underneath brick pavers. 100mm thick compacted gravel of 5mm Ø max gravel stones underneath binding sand with 0.35mm DPM.
- 85mm Reinforced Concrete Slab with floated finish according to engineer specification.
- 3. 20mm Saligna hardwood flooring according to specialist installation.
- 4. 220 x 52 x 50mm Corobrik Burgundy Piazza clay paver on compacted soil to 1:12 accessible ramp in accordance with SANS 10400 requirements.
- 5. 300mm Reinforced concrete steps according to engineer specifications.
- 6. 330mm Rammed Earth wall constructed from soil excavated from site with 100 x 50mm Parallel Flange
- 330mm Standard Corobrik 'Terracotta Travertine FBS' clay brick cavity wall.
- 8. 350mm Reinforced concrete wall according to engineer specifications.
- 50mm Saligna door frame with 8mm fixed laminated safety glazing installed in accordance with manufacturer specifications.
- 500mm Steel Gabion basket with porous infill consisting of excavated stone and gravel from site works with Kaytech 'RockGrid PC' composite reinforcing geotextile retaining system according to specialist specification.
- 10. 200 x 200mm concrete breezeblocks set in 10mm reinforced concrete rods.
- 11. 50mm Saligna window frame with 8mm fixed laminated safety glazing installed in accordance with manufacturer specifications.
- 12. 100 x 50mm Parallel Flange Channel encasing 100 x 100mm Saligna column at every third interval at interior fixed to masonry cavity wall with 100 x 100mm Saligna structural timber column sub-structure between glazing panels treated with CCA and oil based varnish.
- 13. 50mm Saligna window frame with 8mm fixed laminated safety glazing installed in accordance with manufacturer specifications.
- 14. 50mm Saligna door frame with 8mm fixed laminated safety glazing installed in accordance with manufacturer specifications.
- 15. 100mm Saligna sliding window frame with 8mm fixed laminated safety glazing installed in accordance with manufacturer specifications.
- 16. 30mm Saligna countertop fixed to cast in situreinforced concrete slab according to specialist installation.
- 17. 450 x 550mm Custom built seating boxes fixed to reinforced concrete slab according to architect detail and specialist installation.
- 18. Custom shopfitted [or built-in] furniture as per architect detail and specialist installation.
- 19. 100mm solid Saligna pivot door frame installed in accordance with manufacturer specifications.
- 20. 600 x 220mm 'WoodUpp' Akupanels in colour 'Classic Oak' fixed to 330mm masonry retaining wall according to specialist installation.
- 21. 3230 x 2020mm 'JK Thin' fixed-frame screen according to specialist installation.



Masonry cavity walls provide a regulated interior climate for the user and echoes the built fabric of the surrounding context. The textured surface is used in its raw form, and conveys a sense of warmth, stability and permanence to the user. The scale of the humble brick speaks of humility and non intimidation establishing a welcoming and approachable atmosphere.

Masonry Vertical Plane

Rock and sand excavated on site, is reused as building material for rammed earth as well as stone walls, for earth stewardship and sustainable practice (Kim 2018). These solid elements act as vertical privacy devices, to convey a sense of stability and safety to the user (Montessori-Architecture 2023).

Rammed Earth Vertical Plane

The concrete overhead plane as structural element becomes a system within itself, where planted roofs act as rainwater catchment and filtration, for public use at water fountain points on the street edge as a gesture of generosity to the public (Kim 2018).

Concrete Overhead Plane

The main circulation route for the user to meander on is emphaseized my masonry brick stacked bond pavers, orientating the user on their journey through a new country.

Masonry Walkable Plane

Rocks excavated from site are reused in steel Gabion baskets as retaining elements, nestling the user in the site, and conveying a sense of safety and privacy to the user.

Rock Retaining Elements

MATERIALITY



Concrete Planted Roof System

Concrete overhead plane supported by Parallel Flange Channels at every second timber column interval.

Saligna Timber Frame & Glazing

Timber window panes are set in-between the timber column framework.

Saligna Timber Columns

Saligna timber columns set halfway into concrete infill of masonry cavity wall. These timber columns act as the framework in which the glazing panels are set.

Parallel Flange Channels

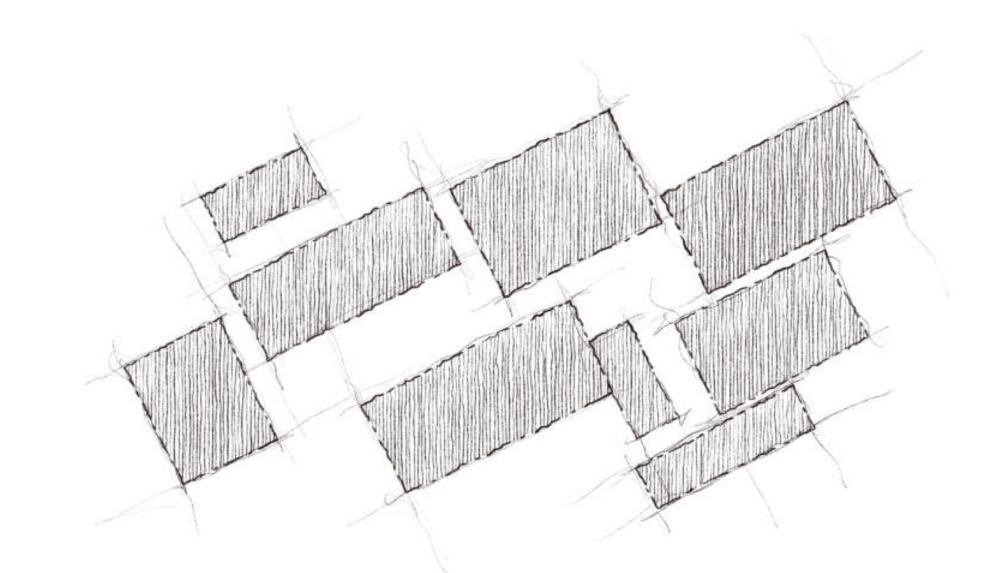
Parallel Flange Channels at every second timber column interval to carry the load of the overhead concrete plane. The channel is fixed to a metal plate cast into overhead slab as well as set in the foundation of the masonry wall.

Masonry Cavity Wall with Concrete Infill

Masonry cavity is filled with concrete to act as support for the PFC & Saligna timber frame. The Masonry wall is left in it's natural finish.

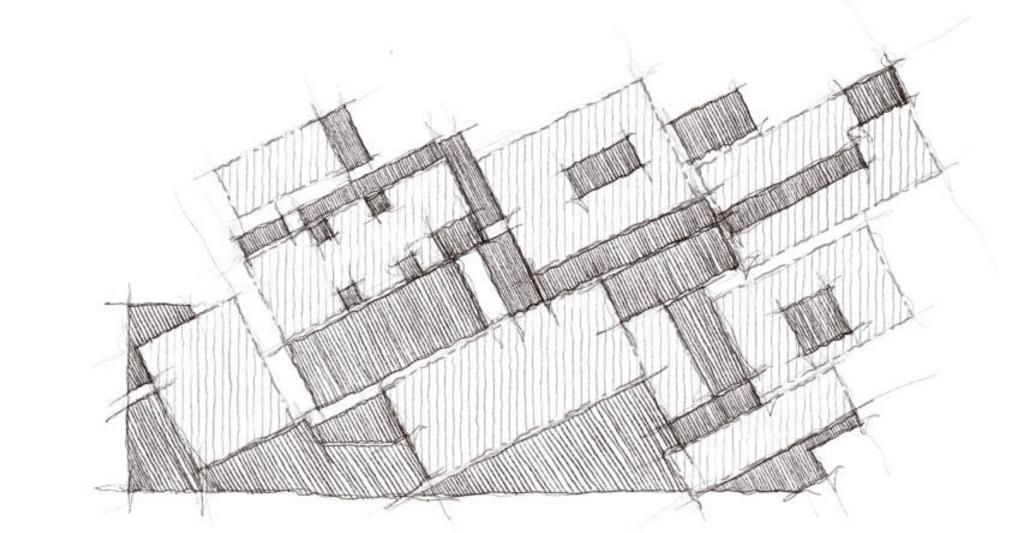


Scale 1:50 Section AA

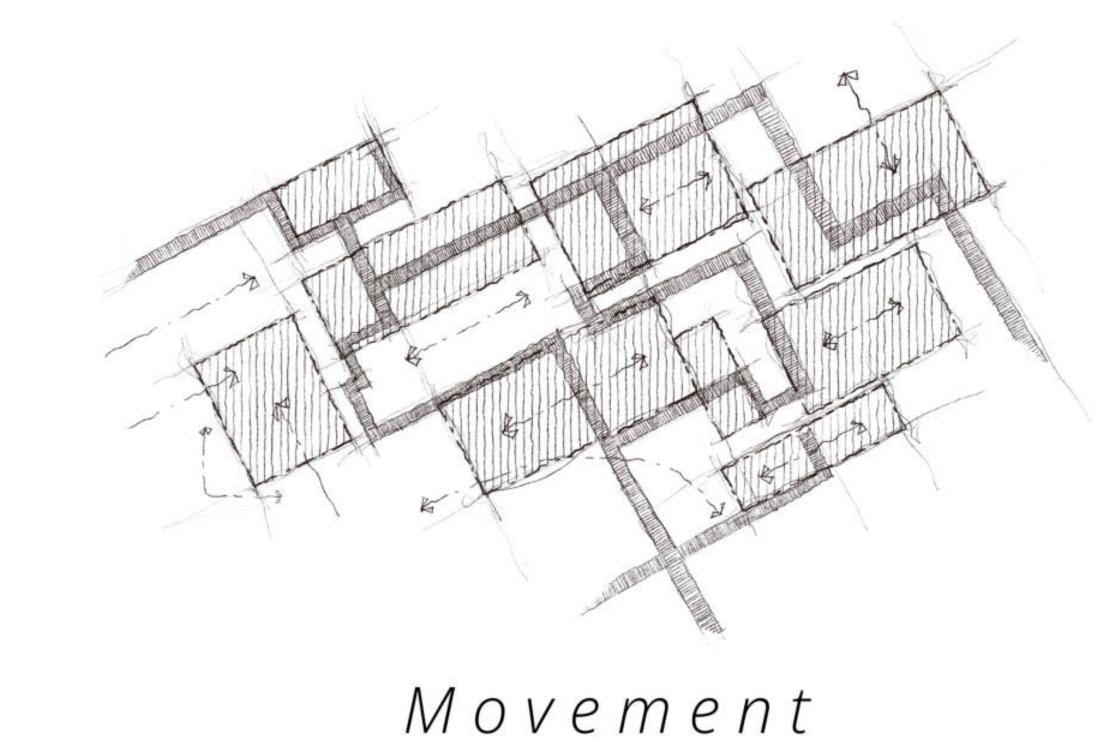


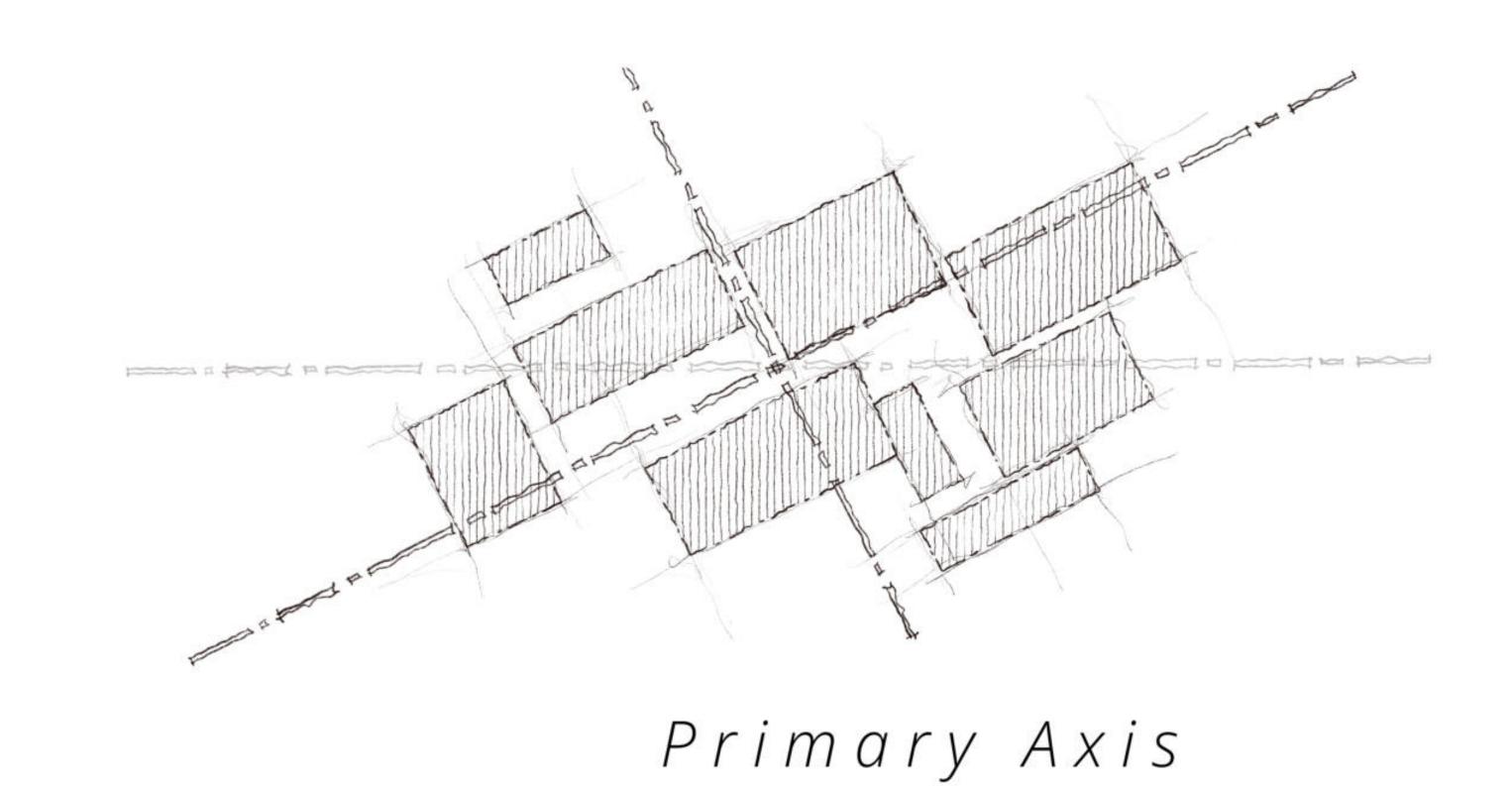
Mass Arrangement

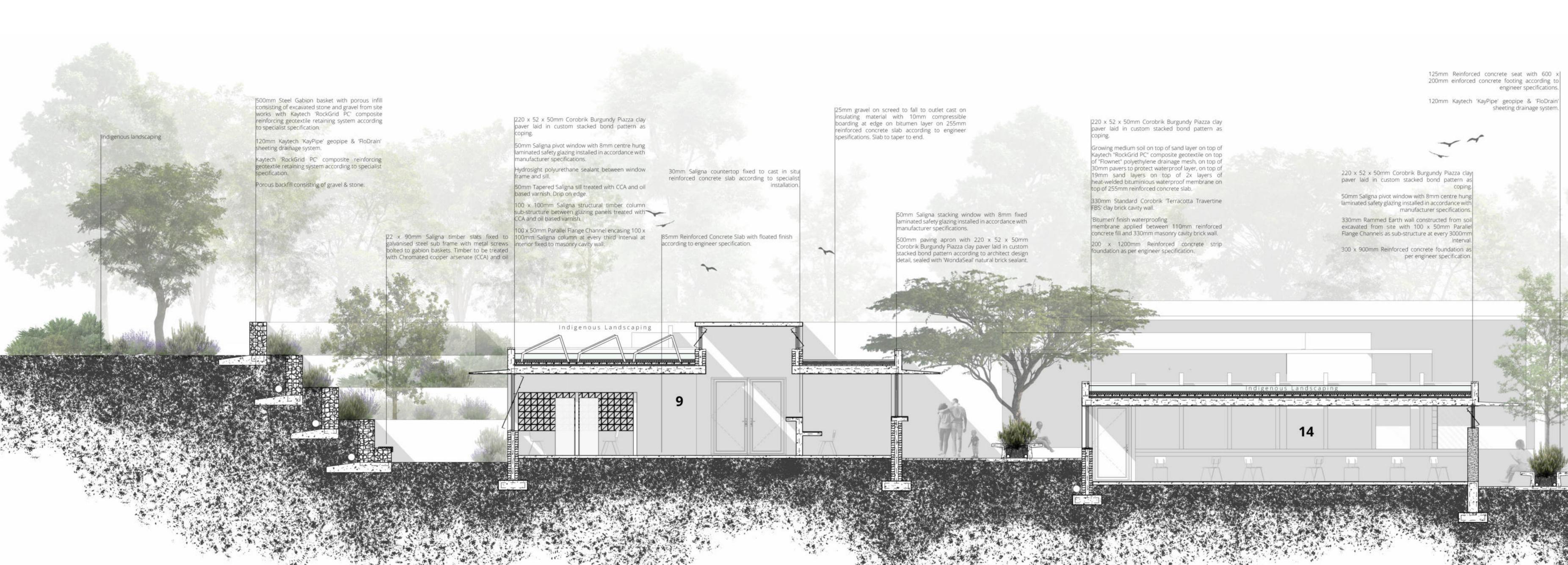
- 15 Emergency Stay16 NGO Workspaces & Workshops
- 18 Information Hub 19 Private NGO Meeeting Offices
- 20 Refuse Area & Storage



In-between Spaces

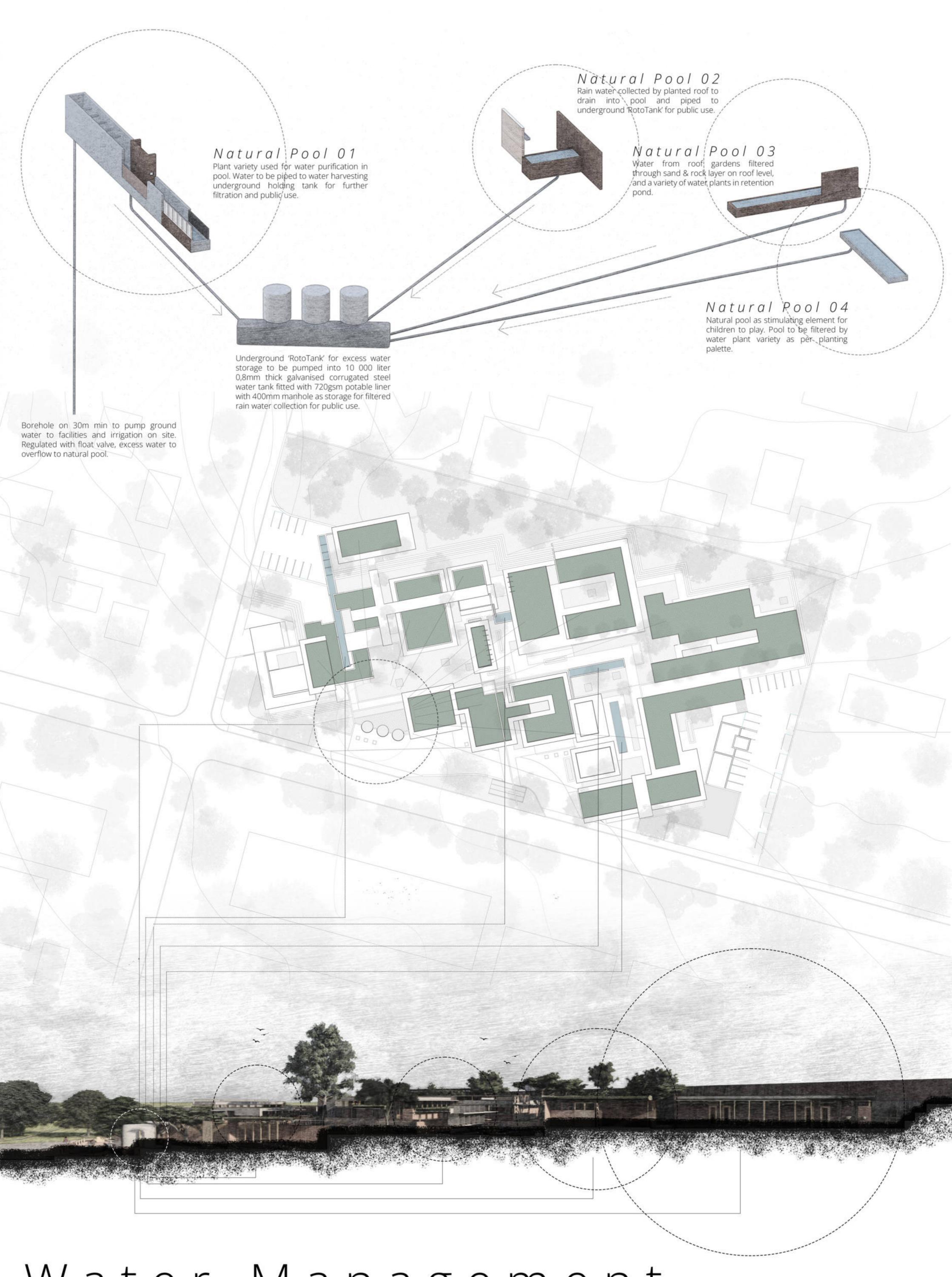








Scale 1:50 Technical Section AA



Water Management



