

INTERIOR DESIGN PORTFOLIO

JAI PATEL

A PROPULSIVE APPROACH TO INTERIOR DESIGN, STITCHING DEEP CONCEPTUAL RESEARCH WITH CELEBRATORY NARRATIVES. DEDICATED TO TRANSFORMING COMPLEX PATTERNS INTO BESPOKE, ADAPTABLE SPACES THAT FOSTER A LASTING SENSE OF BELONGING.



Interior Designer
Jai Patel

Wembley, London

Self-Regulating | Transformative | Receptive | Bespoke-Minded

Design-led professional with a focus on creating transformative spaces that foster a sense of belonging. I pride myself on a proactive work ethic, frequently undertaking self-initiated technical improvements to ensure project excellence before it is requested. By studying human psychology and spatial patterns, I translate complex client needs into clear, readable, and appealing design solutions. A highly adaptable collaborator, eager to align with firm ideologies while pushing the boundaries of bespoke, sustainable, and celebratory architecture.

Professional Experience

Senior Designer and Site Supervisor | Innovations Design Studio | Mumbai, India

End-to-End Delivery: Managed the full project lifecycle for two properties, from initial civil structural transformation to final FF&E and lighting installation.

Logistics & Finance: Oversaw daily site operations, including contractor scheduling, Bill of Quantities (BOQ) calculation, and expense tracking to ensure budget adherence.

Conflict Resolution: Acted as the primary liaison between the firm, contractors, and clients, successfully navigating opinionated arguments to reach mutual design grounds.

Junior Designer | ARCLAIN Design Studio | Ahmedabad, India

Technical Lead: Developed comprehensive technical drawing packages for a high-traffic airport outlet, ensuring 100% accuracy for remote implementation.

Remote Coordination: Mastered digital project management, ensuring seamless execution through precise visual communication and rigorous follow-ups via email and media.

Software Mastery: Advanced proficiency in technical detailing, translating complex spatial requirements into readable, contractor-ready documentation.

Design Intern | JWRA - Jeff Wigbert Rodricks Architects | Mumbai, India

Proactive Engagement: Secured role via direct outreach, demonstrating a spontaneous and strategic approach to professional opportunities.

Client Relations: Assisted in high-level client meetings and material selection, developing a strong foundation in persuasive recommendation and collaborative teamwork.

Software Proficiency

AutoCAD

Sketchup + V-ray/ Enscape

Revit

Adobe Suite : Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign

MS Office & Google Workspace

AI generation

Academic Teaching Experience

Technical Workshop Mentor | AMC – Architecture Master Class

Workshop Leadership: Mentored 12 groups through physical model-making, focusing on material strategy and conceptual clarity.
Quality Control: Oversaw precision, scale-accuracy, and finishing techniques to ensure professional-standard 3D outputs.

Graduate Teaching Assistant | Aditya College of Architecture and Design Studies

Technical Instruction: Led 6 tutorials on organic SketchUp modeling and the translation of 3D concepts into 2D technical packages.
Layout & Practice: Advised junior students on presentational layouts and professional documentation standards.

Education

Masters

MA Interior Environment Design
University of West London | First Class | London

Bachelors

Bachelor of Science in Interior Design
Aditya College of Architecture/ University of Mumbai | 8.6 GPA | Mumbai

Interests and Professional Hobbies

Analytical Urban Sketching: Using hand-drawing as a tool for site analysis and conceptual re-imagining of existing structures.
https://www.linkedin.com/posts/jai-patel-0508uk_ealings-inspiring-my-latest-design-journey-activity-7343370416352092160-RdSd?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAAEjubu0BSQTLT1CCZJgakbhxy0SvYf_lGWM

Architectural Excursions: Intentional travel to study spatial psychology and the 'celebratory' function of public and private design in the UK.
https://www.linkedin.com/posts/jai-patel-0508uk_looe-cornwall-sketching-activity-7355194604482174977-V3-q?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAAEjubu0BSQTLT1CCZJgakbhxy0SvYf_lGWM

Behavioral Observation: Documenting human interaction with built forms to enhance the adaptability and 'belonging' of future projects.
https://www.linkedin.com/posts/jai-patel-0508uk_theclerkenwellwellspring-tcw-architecture-activity-7401107543420354560-OFWD?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAAEjubu0BSQTLT1CCZJgakbhxy0SvYf_lGWM

Languages

English
Native or Bilingual

German
Lower Intermediate

Italian
Basic

Contact

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phone : 07767902738

LinkedIn : www.linkedin.com/in/jai-patel-0508uk

Instagram : https://www.instagram.com/the.unusual.eye/?hl=en

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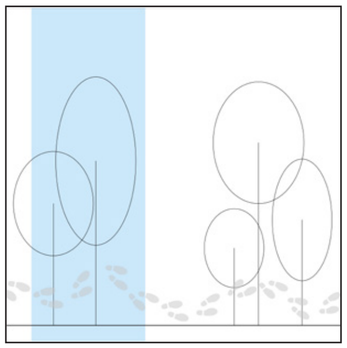
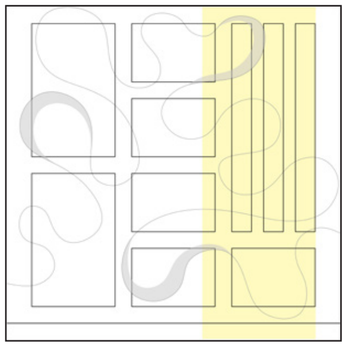


01
YAY

Ealing - London
Pg 5 - 13



02
TCW - THE CLERKENWELL WELLSPRING

Farringdon - London
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Multi-activity Public Walkway

01 YAY

Project type - Residential Amenity Space
Location - West Ealing W13 0JS

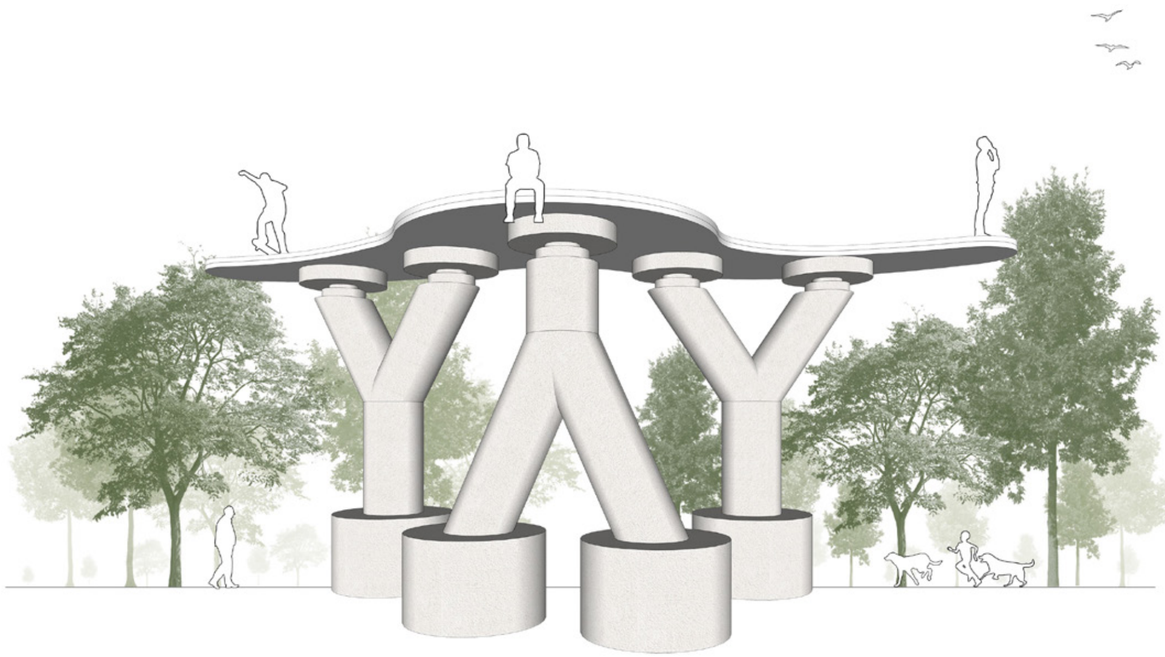
DESCRIPTION

This module investigated innovative and experimental technologies and advanced materials for constructed forms, responding to the climate change emergency. Building on prior design work, the focus was on developing technical strategies using concepts like rapid prototyping, robotics, new and hybrid materials, and modern construction methods.

Key areas explored included complex and transformative structures, surface/skin materials with embedded technologies, and circular economy principles in construction. The module emphasized individual research, translating design concepts into detailed working drawings and specifications.

PERCEPTION

The architectural perception is to create a space that feels inherently comfortable, safe, and nurturing. Residents should perceive the walkway as an extension of their home, a comfortable retreat where they can find quiet solitude or gentle social interaction. The design emphasizes thoughtful transitions, varied seating, and sensory elements to foster this feeling of ease and sanctuary.



Design Intent and Iteration

To inform the project's perception of community and well-being, the design process began with unstructured derive walks across the site. These initial studies, visually represented in the following maps, revealed untapped potential and behavioural insights by observing how residents currently interact with the space. The psycho-geographical explorations directly informed the strategic placement and character of the walkway and its varied programmatic elements, ensuring an empathetic and contextually responsive design.







The design process commenced with a rigorous site analysis, a critical step in comprehending the multifaceted layers of the project's setting. The following maps provide a comprehensive overview, illustrating the site's location within the city, its surrounding neighbourhood, and its exact physical parameters.



- Service buildings
- Historical buildings
- Public landscapes



Analysing these maps revealed the site lacked any engaging features for residents' daily lives. This clear deficiency made it the ideal location to propose a design intervention to enrich their experience.



Initial Site Interventions

Ideas needing area from built spaces



Drayton green park

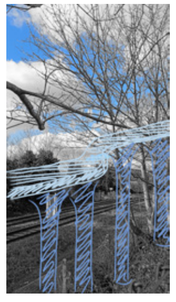


Tennis Club Parking

Idea enhancing the existing free space

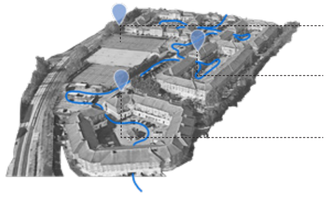


Residents' Parking side yard

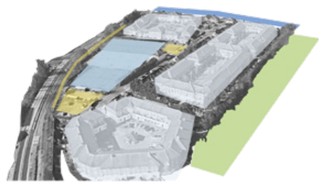


Railtrack side yard

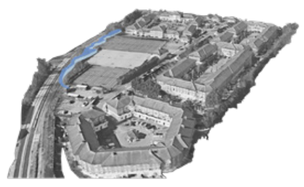
Site Empathy



Observation : Kids' Play and Lacking Playground
Further observation revealed children playing an unofficial game on the tennis courts. Their collective '**YAY**' after each point, full of friendly teasing, highlighted their close bond and the clear need for a dedicated, informal play area beyond the structured court space.
Chat 2 : Pet Walk and Winter Light
This conversation highlighted specific needs: '*I wish I had somewhere interesting for my pet to walk around other than the open-park.*' They also noted, 'My mother finds it a little difficult to pass her time at my house' due to small windows and darkness in winter.
Chat 1 : Shared Bond and Gathering
One resident expressed a desire for more frequent gathering opportunities: '*We share a good bond and even share food often. We're looking for chances to gather frequently and spend even more time together.*'

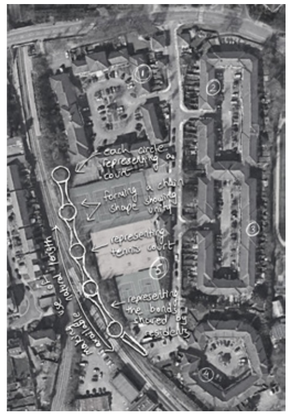


- Current active space
- Nearest Public Road
- Target Users
- Potential installation space
- Nearest public landscape

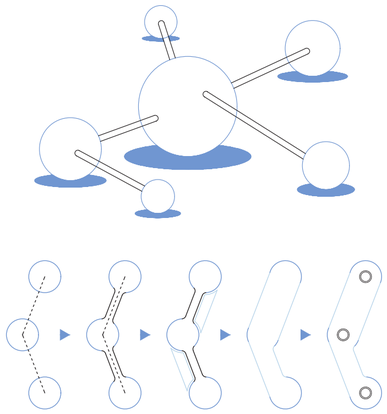


Based on comprehensive site analysis and resident insights, this map shows the finalized walkway location. This strategic alignment leverages an existing, naturally undisturbed length of the site, presenting the optimal conditions for construction without disrupting established features. This placement directly responds to identified needs for enhanced communal space.

Conceptualizing Form: From Bond to Bridge



Initial hand sketch visualizes the walkway's fundamental shape and its integration with the site.



This visual sequence illustrates the formal evolution from the abstract chemical bond to the final walkway design.



The full plan provides a comprehensive overview of the walkway's detailed integration and programmatic elements on site.

SITE ANALYSIS

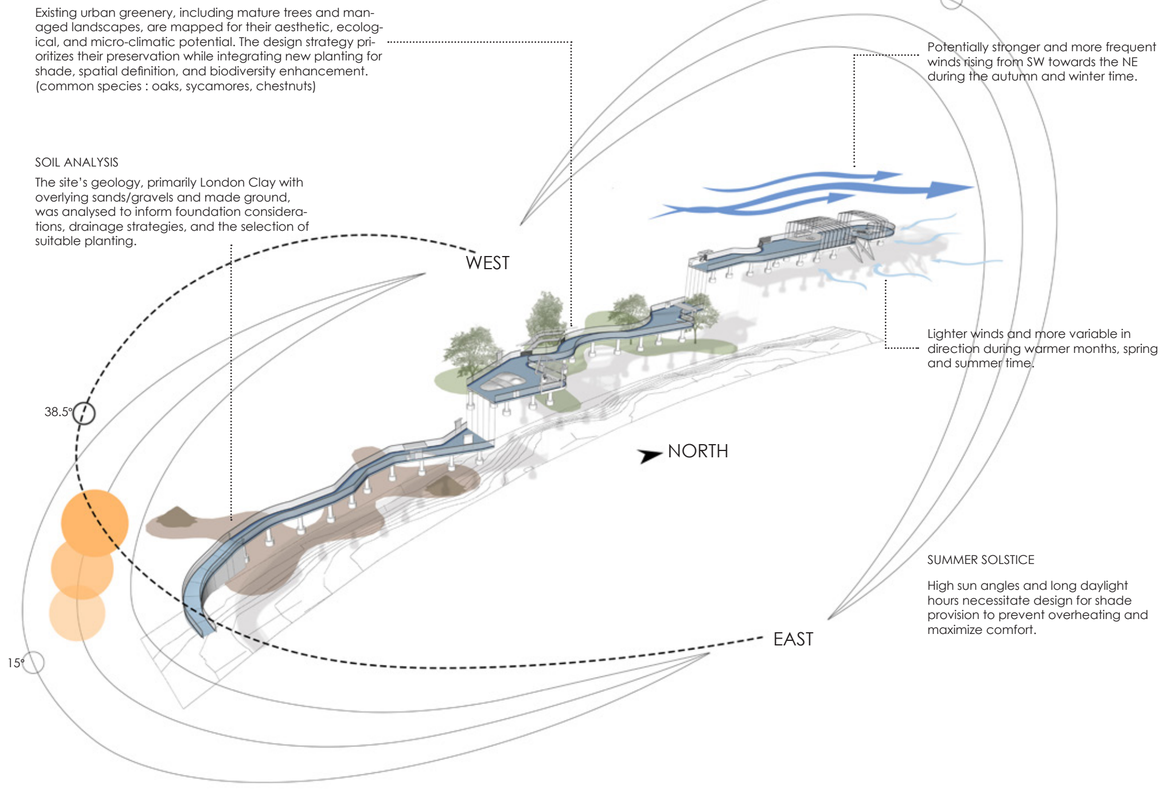
Following the broader analyses, this detailed image specifically highlights the site's existing vegetation, providing critical data for the walkway's efficient design. Understanding the presence and types of greenery was paramount in developing a strategy that preserves valuable existing flora, while simultaneously integrating considerations for optimal sun exposure, prevailing wind patterns, and soil conditions to create a harmonious and sustainable intervention.

VEGETATION ANALYSIS

Existing urban greenery, including mature trees and managed landscapes, are mapped for their aesthetic, ecological, and micro-climatic potential. The design strategy prioritizes their preservation while integrating new planting for shade, spatial definition, and biodiversity enhancement. (common species : oaks, sycamores, chestnuts)

SOIL ANALYSIS

The site's geology, primarily London Clay with overlying sands/gravels and made ground, was analysed to inform foundation considerations, drainage strategies, and the selection of suitable planting.



SUMMER SOLSTICE

High sun angles and long daylight hours necessitate design for shade provision to prevent overheating and maximize comfort.

WINTER SOLSTICE

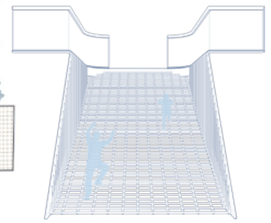
Low sun angles and short daylight hours demand design to maximize solar gain in activity zones for warmth and light.

SEGMENTED PLANS

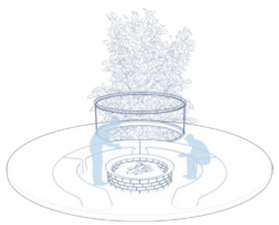
To truly convey the walkway's refined layout and its impact on user experience, the overall plan is presented in three detailed segments. This approach offers an in-depth exploration of each section, revealing the precise relationship between the walkway, its integrated activity nodes, and the surrounding site elements. By breaking down the complexity, these views ensure a clear and comprehensive understanding of the entire intervention, allowing the viewer to appreciate its functional organization and refined spatial qualities.

SPLIT 1





CLIMBING NET



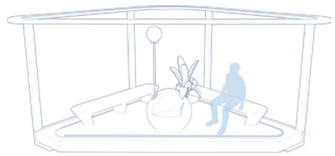
FIRE-PIT

SPLIT 2





STORAGE PIT



SITTING AREA

This initial segment defines the walkway's inviting start, directly enhancing residents' daily routines. It integrates bespoke, multi-purpose dog furniture, significantly improving the experience for pet owners by providing dedicated, engaging spaces. Optimizing the primary path, this section ensures a comfortable and clear beginning, signalling a space designed for both human and animal well-being.

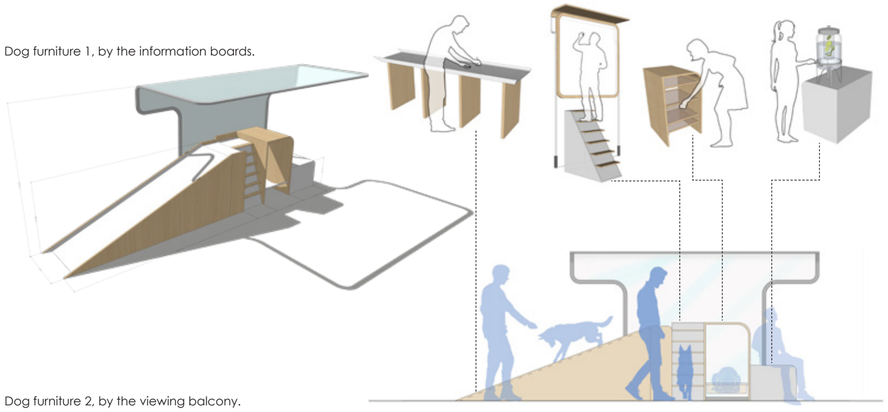
SPLIT 3



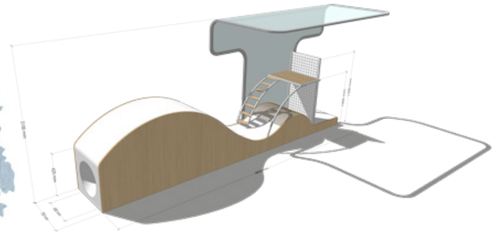
BESPOKE DOG FURNITURE

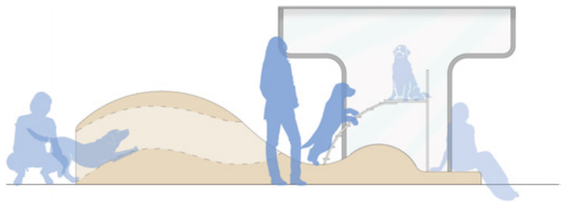
This bespoke dog furniture piece, specifically designed for multi-purpose use when disintegrated, offering adaptability beyond its primary function.

Dog furniture 1, by the information boards.

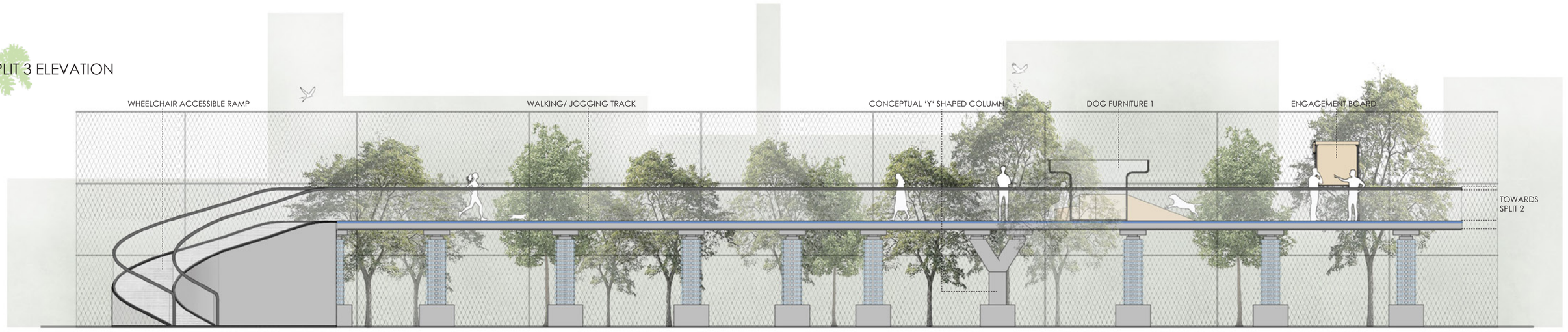


Dog furniture 2, by the viewing balcony.

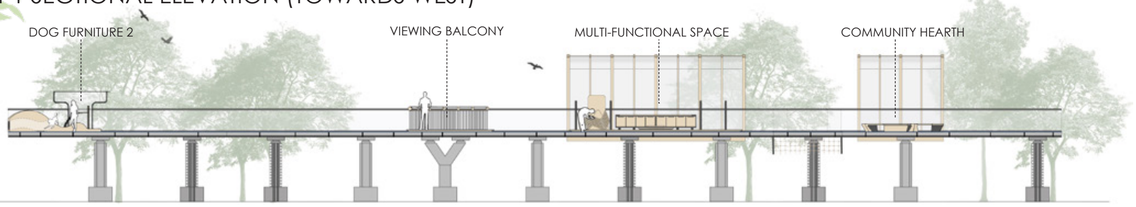




SPLIT 3 ELEVATION



SPLIT 1 SECTIONAL ELEVATION (TOWARDS WEST)



THE MULTI-FUNCTIONAL HUB: ADAPTABLE CONFIGURATIONS

The Multi-functional Hub is the walkway's dynamic core, directly impacting residents' daily lives by fostering stronger community bonds and addressing diverse needs. This highly adaptable space empowers users, making it their central amenity.
Its innovative adjustable roof ensures year-round comfort and utility, transforming from a sheltered performance space to an open-air leisure zone for films or discussions. By integrating varied seating and pet-friendly elements, the Hub turns an overlooked area into a vibrant communal asset, enriching residents' sense of belonging and well-being.

1. Community Performance & Shelter:
This setup depicts a small concert or talent showcase, with the roof fully closed to provide shelter and acoustic enhancement, ensuring uninterrupted performances regardless of weather.

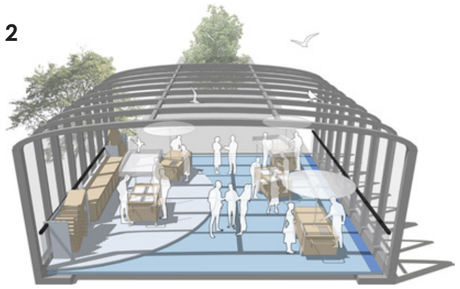
2. Collaborative Discussions & Sun Access:
Here, the space transforms into a large-scale meeting and discussion area. Sections of the roof are partially opened, inviting natural light and a connection to the outdoors, fostering an engaging environment for collective conversations.

3. Shared Memories & Open Air Leisure:
The final configuration illustrates a film screening or shared viewing experience, with the roof fully retracted. This open-air setting allows users to enjoy natural breezes, promoting a sense of connection and relaxed leisure while sharing memories or enjoying entertainment.

1



2



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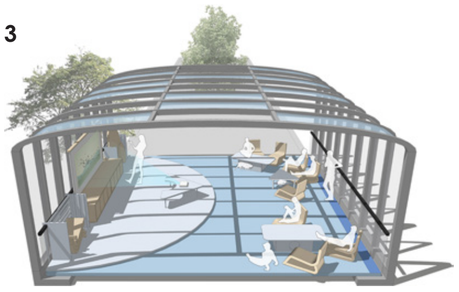
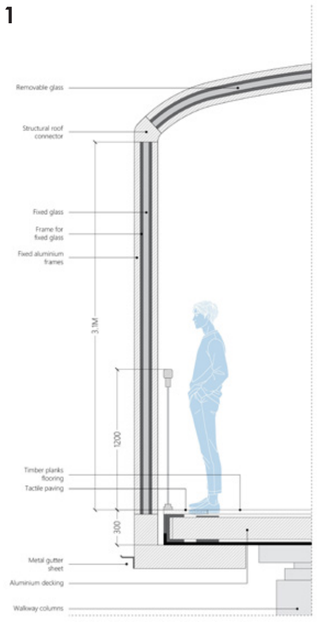


CONSTRUCTION DETAILS

1. Multi-functional Hub: Roof Sectional Detail
This sectional drawing offers a detailed look at the Multi-functional Hub's adjustable roof system. It precisely illustrates the material specifications and assembly for the framing, structural roof, walkway deck, and guttering, clearly demonstrating the construction logic and material choices.

2. Conceptual Glowing Column: Sectional Detail
This sectional drawing offers an in-depth look at the conceptual glowing column. It details the integration of the Litracon layer and other essential components, illustrating its construction both above and within the ground, highlighting its illuminated effect and foundational stability.

1



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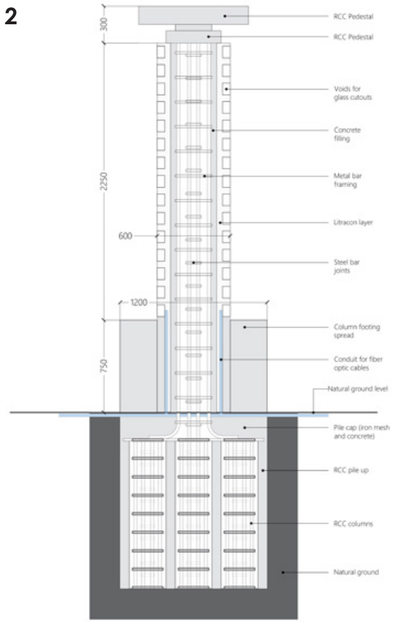
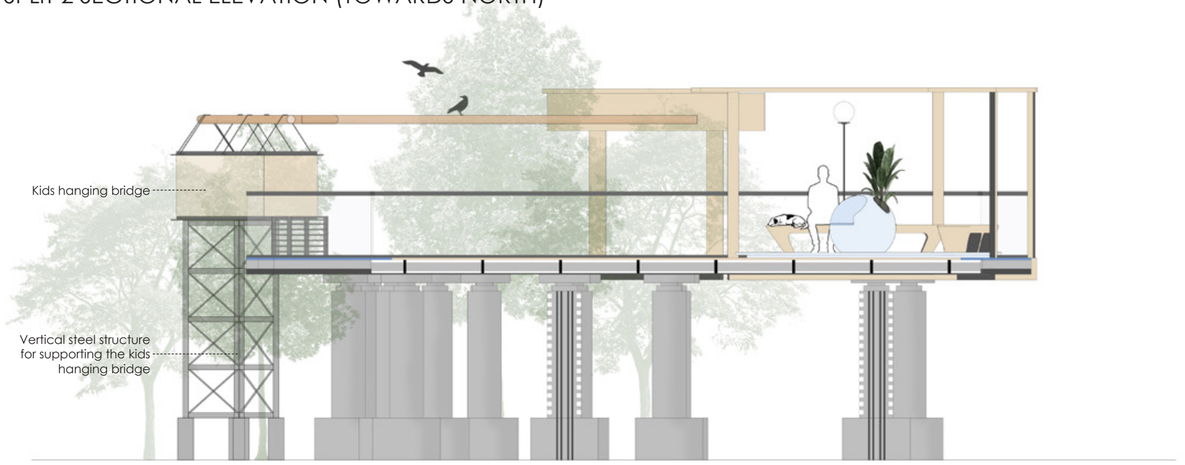


SPLIT 2 SECTIONAL ELEVATION (TOWARDS NORTH)



SHARED GARDEN

This Shared Garden provides residents with a much-needed common green space to enjoy, fostering a sense of shared ownership and connection to greenery.

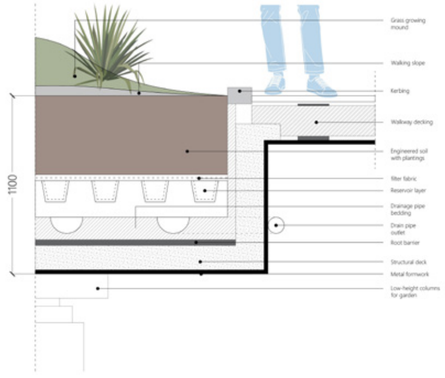






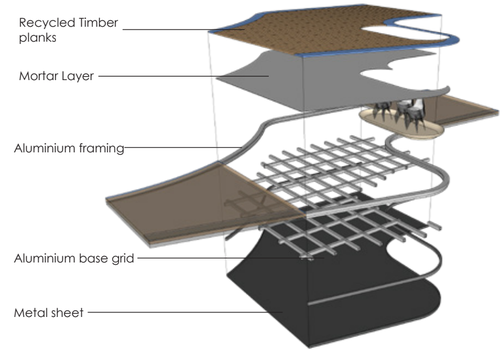
GARDEN BASE : SECTIONAL CONSTRUCTION DETAIL

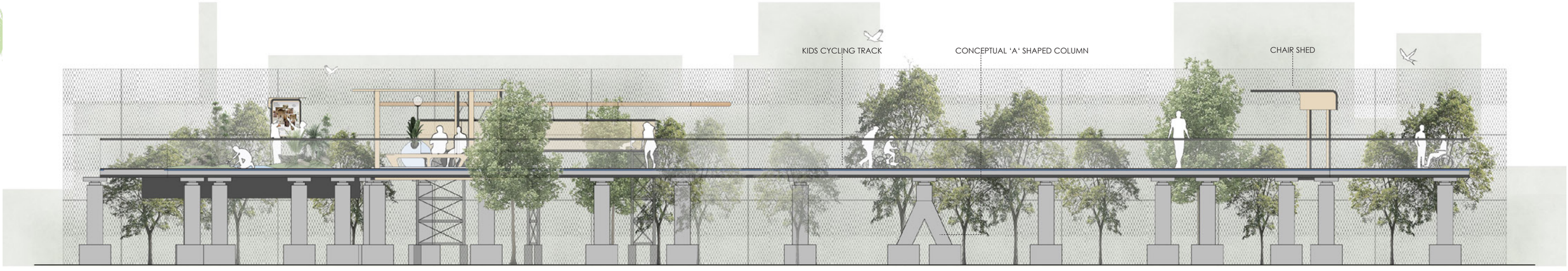
This sectional drawing provides a meticulous look at the engineered solution for creating a sustainable green space on the elevated walkway. It clearly defines the various layers of the base, demonstrating a robust and thoughtful approach to construction and long-term vitality.



WALKWAY CONSTRUCTION : EXPLODED ISOMETRIC

This exploded isometric drawing illustrates the walkway's construction, showcasing how basic, lightweight materials are layered to ensure the structure remains as light as possible. It clearly demonstrates the assembly logic and structural integrity of the design.

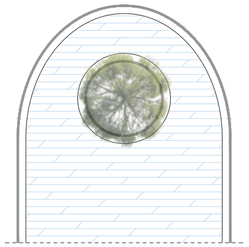




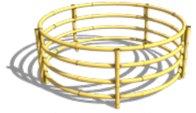
DESIGN ELEMENTS - MATERIALS AND PROCESSES

RAILING

The railing of the walkway is a crucial element for both safety and design, especially where the path curves. The final design required a careful study of materials that could be both aesthetically pleasing and robust, leading to a comparison between a conventional approach and a sustainable alternative.



NATURAL OR RECYCLED BAMBOO



ANODIZED ALUMNIUM



This conventional option uses anodized aluminum for a sleek, modern aesthetic. The material is strong, durable, and resistant to corrosion, making it a reliable choice for a permanent, low-maintenance structure.

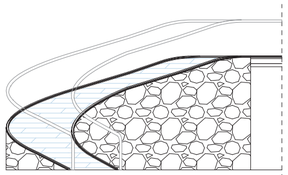
As a sustainable alternative, this design uses natural or recycled bamboo. Bamboo is a highly renewable material with a lower embodied energy compared to aluminum and provides a muted look as it forgoes the use of bamboo.

ACHIEVING REQUIRED ANGLE



The required curve for the railing is achieved by heating small sections of bamboo until they are pliable, allowing them to be gently bent to the desired angle. The pieces, on cooling are then secured with a custom joint, creating a structurally sound and aesthetically pleasing connection.

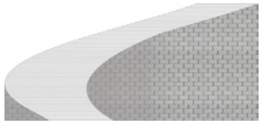
ENTRANCE SLOPE



This section provides a material and process study for the entrance slope, examining a range of options to demonstrate a commitment unifying aesthetic integration and sustainable construction.

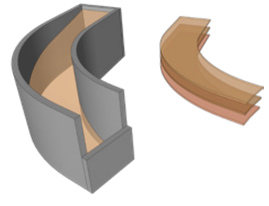
Rock and mortar is used for the construction, ensuring durability of the key structure. This combination also prevails the overall look of the walkway's construction.

CONCRETE BLOCKS AND MORTAR



As a conventional alternative, the slope could be made from concrete blocks and mortar. While this option offers a robust and cost-effective solution, it has a high embodied energy and a visually monolithic appearance that would detract from the project's naturalistic theme.

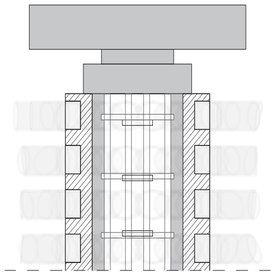
RAMMED EARTH



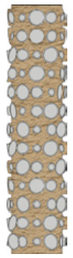
A highly sustainable alternative considered is rammed earth. This technique uses compressed natural soil to create a strong and visually striking surface, but its construction is quite tedious due to the manual layering process. The complexity and maintenance needs in this specific application made the rock and mortar solution a more balanced choice for the final design.

COLUMN SKIN

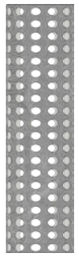
The conceptual column is the most important addition to the design, so it was crucial to test an alternative material to ensure its viability. This led to a study of two very different surface options, both of which presented unique aesthetic and functional properties.



COB



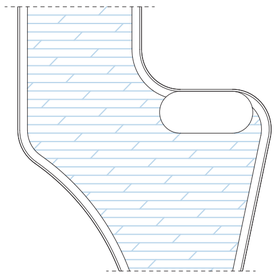
LITRACON LAYER



This alternative uses cob with embedded timber tubes of varying radii to create a complex and naturalistic surface. However, this material choice could make it difficult to hold soil for future planting of climbing vegetation.

The final design uses Litracon (translucent concrete) as the primary surface material. This choice aligns with the column's core purpose, creating a glowing effect that transforms it into an illuminated focal point at night. This option represents a bold step in material innovation.

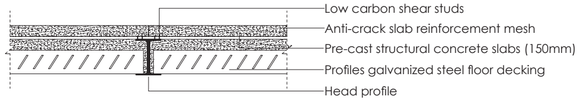
WALKWAY FLOOR



The walkway's flooring is a critical design decision because, unlike other elements that can be easily repaired, it is the most difficult and costly to refurbish. Therefore, the choice of material must prioritize longevity and durability. Here are two alternative options to the current design :

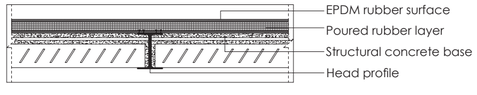
PRE-CAST CONCRETE BLOCKS

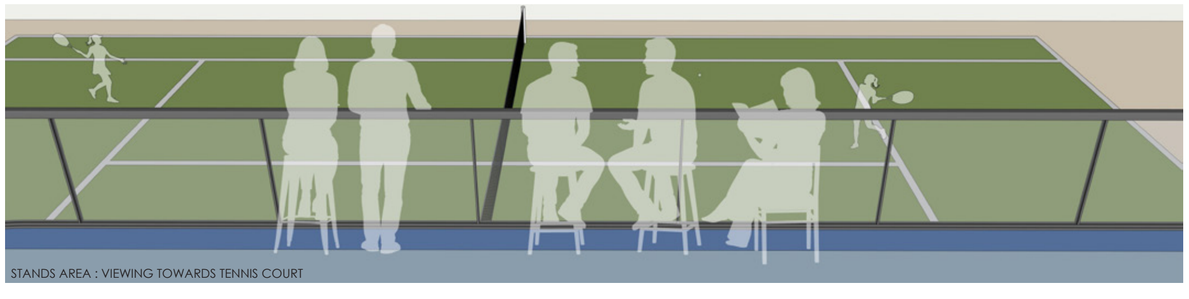
A conventional option, the poured concrete floor provides a durable and robust surface. However, its significant weight adds to the structural load of the elevated walkway, and its appearance is typically limited to a solid, monolithic look unless the overall design is specifically modified.



POURED RUBBER FLOORING

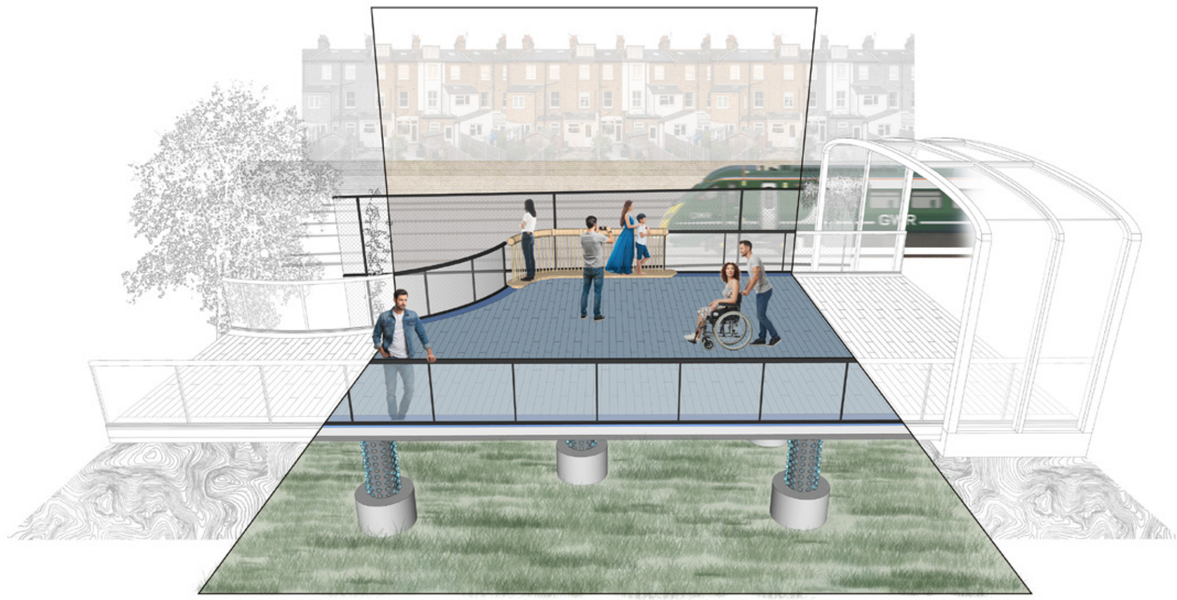
The poured rubber floor (EPDM) is an excellent alternative to timber decking, offering exceptional durability, longevity, and low maintenance, which are crucial for a surface that is difficult to refurbish. Its lightweight nature also significantly reduces the structural load on the elevated walkway. The material is eco-friendly and provides a high degree of aesthetic appeal with a range of color and texture options.





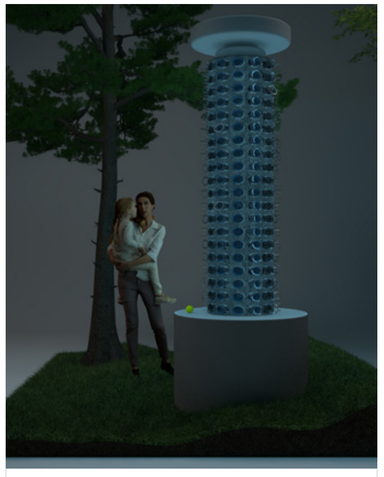
STANDS AREA : VIEWING TOWARDS TENNIS COURT

VIEWING BALCONY



This drawing showcases the Viewing Balcony, a pivotal amenity designed to offer residents a new perspective on their neighborhood. Taking advantage of a natural window in the landscape, it provides an uninterrupted panorama that fosters a deeper connection to their environment and offers a quiet space for contemplation.

CORE VISUALIZATIONS



LITRACON GLOWING COLUMN

A key material innovation, the glowing column acts as a constant, illuminated focal point at night. Inspired by the "YAY" from the tennis court, it provides a sense of life and a memorable landmark that always draws attention.





BESPOKE DOG FURNITURE

This bespoke dog furniture is a direct solution to a user-identified need, providing a dedicated and engaging space for residents and their pets.





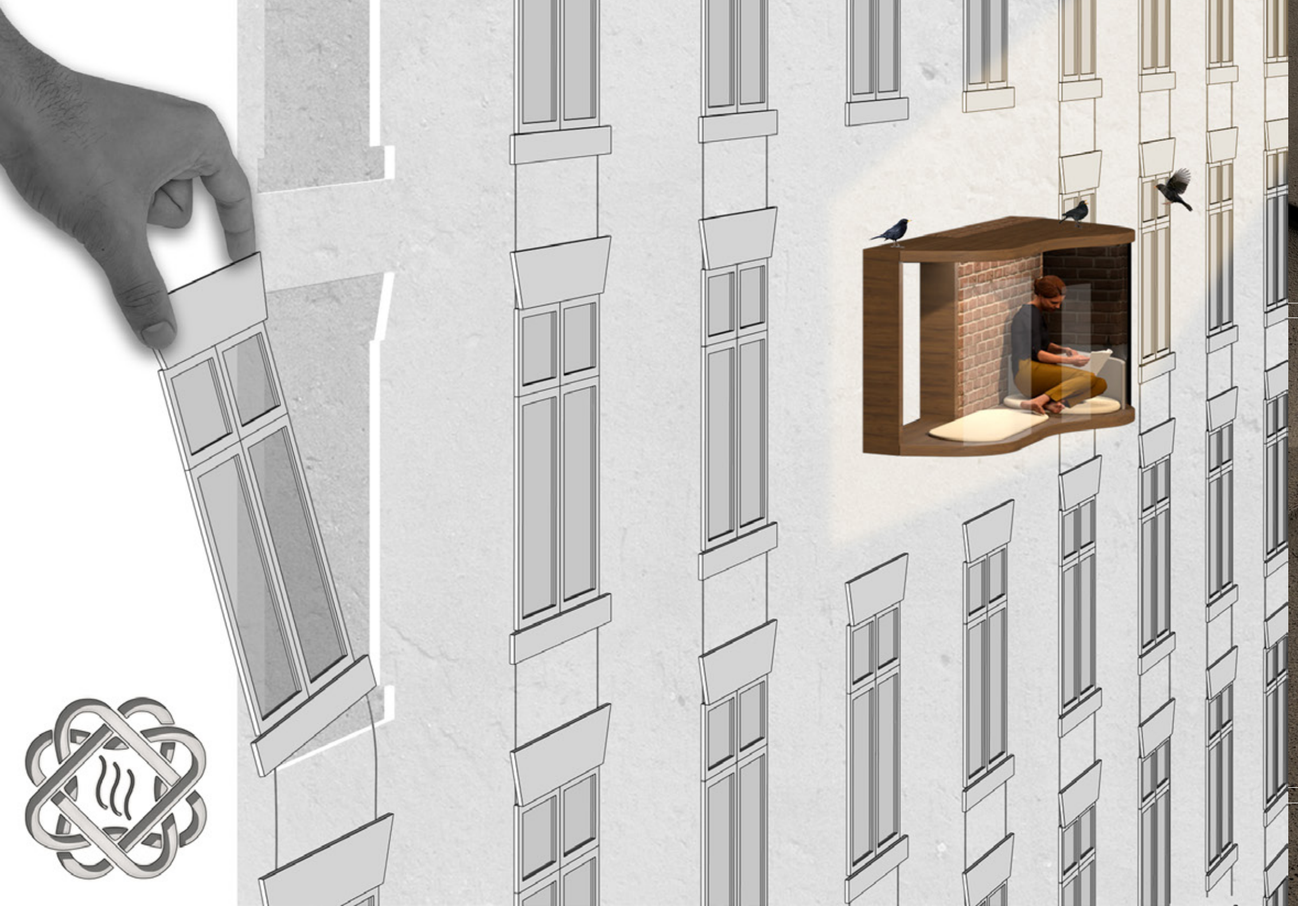
KIDS' HANGING BRIDGE

The Kids' Rope Bridge is an add-on amenity, born from a deep understanding of the community's potential. It encourages playful interaction and a sense of adventure for all ages.



TEMPUS EX MACHINA

This project presents a comprehensive interior environment design that critically responds to the conceptual theme 'tempus ex machina', an investigation into the nature of time itself. The primary task required a methodical site analysis of Clerkenwell, London, to identify a core societal and psychological problem. The design is explicitly mandated to challenge the citys linear, stressed Chronos (clock-time) by creating intentional spaces that foster Kairos (qualitative, opportune time). The final product should be a fully resolved design proposition that addresses contemporary issues of wellbeing, inclusivity (IDE), and vital societal function within the urban realm.



SHADOW OF HEMP LEAF PATTERN CASTED BY A LIGHT
USED IN THE PROJECT AS PART OF CONCEPT

02 Holistic Community Hub

THE CLERKENWELL WELLSPRING

Project type - Mixed-Use Community Infrastructure
Location - Farringdon, EC1R 0HR

The Clerkenwell Wellspring is the architectural solution to the psychological and societal deficiencies identified in the commercial urban core of Clerkenwell. The building's ideology a source of community renewal and energy is a direct conceptual response to the module's demand: actively countering the city's linear, stressed Chronos (clock-time) by designing a hub that facilitates Kairos (qualitative, opportune time).

The core purpose of this design is to bring three generations under one roof, ensuring that the presence of every user from local residents to professionals fortifies the building's social purpose. This is achieved by functionally celebrating the locality's older crafts and business activities.

This philosophy is structurally and aesthetically realized through the Japanese concepts of Shippo, Uchi-Soto, and Musubi, and anchored by a responsive naming structure: the café Ippuku, the seating zone Yutori, and the workspace Kansho. The project operates as a vital, intergenerational hub, resolving the critical need for wellbeing and genuine social connection in the urban realm.

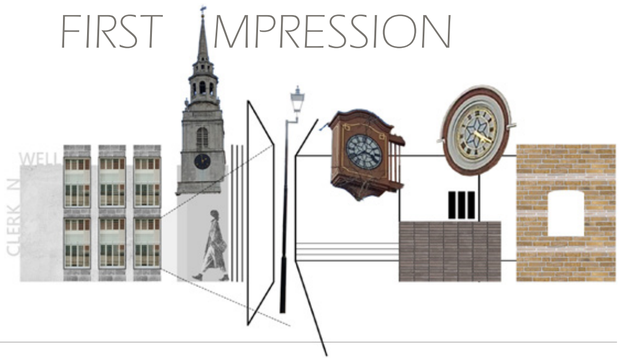


ENGAWA
A STRUCTURAL ADDITION ON THE GROUND FLOOR

FIRST IMPRESSION

My first encounter with Clerkenwell revealed an urban landscape defined by a pervasive sense of Chronos - quantitative, linear time. The Georgian architectural rhythm, punctuated by prominent clocks and repetitive, linear elements, created an overwhelming impression of structured monotony. This initial observation framed the existing urban condition as somewhat dreary and functionally rigid, laying the groundwork for a design intervention focused on injecting dynamism and qualitative experience.

The psychological severity of Clerkenwell's environment was distinct from other London commercial centers. Unlike the vast commercial expanses of Canary Wharf, Euston, or Shoreditch, which often utilize large-scale glass facades or extensive public realm features to introduce visual distraction and mitigate generic 'dullness,' Clerkenwell's austerity was more profound. Its unyielding, historic linear forms offered no such visual appeal, intensifying the observed structural rigidity and contributing to a deeper, psychological dreariness. This environmental severity validated the design imperative: TCW must not merely provide functional space but establish an essential, organic sanctuary against the pervasive structural Chronos.



Day 1 Observations - Structural Chronos & Urban Rush

My initial site analysis of Clerkenwell, conducted on a weekday, focused on mapping the pervasive influence of Chronos within the urban fabric. The map illustrates key areas of traffic, public commute movement, and cultural landmarks, highlighting zones of high kinetic energy and the structures of linear time.
The investigation further revealed significant structural constraints in height and form. Images with purple lines, depict the rigid linearity and repetitive forms of the architecture, where vertical and horizontal planes impose a visual order that contributes to a sense of unyielding structure.
This physical environment, dominated by Chronos, profoundly shapes human experience. The image with human silhouettes represents the cacophony of chaos, rush, constant movement, boundless energy, and the relentless pressure of time that defines daily life in Clerkenwell. These observations collectively underscored the pressing need for a design intervention that could offer respite and an alternative mode of being within this highly structured urban context.











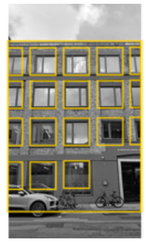
Day 2 Observations - Aesthetic Constraint & Repetition

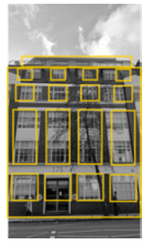
My weekend analysis focused on the visual and social impact of structural constraint. The images with yellow lines, illustrate the hard grid and repetitive linear forms in the everyday life of the resident population, reinforcing a rigid, almost "jail-like" feeling in the architecture. This visual monotony contributes to the pervasive influence of Chronos.

This rigidity highlighted a profound aesthetic absence. The sight of unexpected color and flowy, organic shapes shown in the images with green pop in highlight, immediately drew attention precisely because they were uncommon. This moment of awareness cued the design imperative: the necessity of introducing organic forms, visual flow, and sensory richness to actively challenge the hard grid of Clerkenwell and usher in the qualitative experience of Kairos.









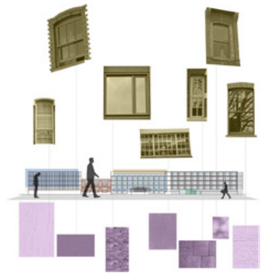






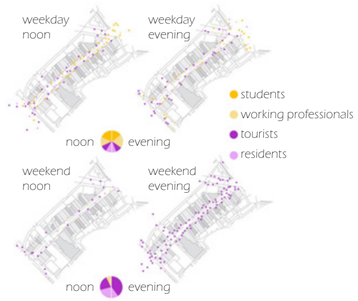
A Failed Edge

The Bowling Green Lane survey confirmed structural rigidity creates a Failed Edge, marked by closed windows and pervasive drabness, demanding an Active Frontage design.



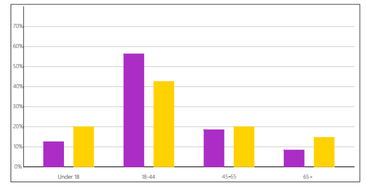
User availability and density

Analysis of Exmouth Market confirmed consistent availability of diverse user groups across the week, providing the necessary social density for TCW to execute intergenerational fortification.



Demographic shift

This analysis tracks the shift in Clerkenwell's demographic profile between 1991 (Yellow) and 2021 (Purple), providing the crucial justification for TCW's intergenerational mandate.
While the 18-44 age group remains the largest demographic, driving the area's Chronos, the data reveals a significant increase in the 45-65 and 65+ age groups over the three decades. This population dynamic confirms a growing need for a dedicated, non-commercial space that actively fosters intergenerational fortification and serves the long-term residents alongside the working population.



The Chronos Enclosure

This conceptual image illustrates the psychological pressure exerted by Clerkenwell's rigidly built environment. The continuous, solid architecture wires the subconscious for work, manifesting as a feeling of being subconsciously trapped and leading to a failure of work-life balance.



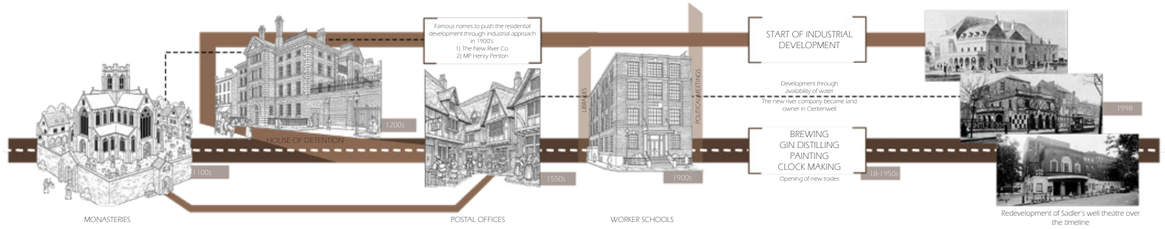
T hreshold of hesitation

This conceptual image captures the psychological effect of Clerkenwell's formal environment on social behavior. The observation of initial hesitancy to engage by local children confirmed that the area's formality subconsciously discourages spontaneous social connection. This justified the design mandate to architecturally manage the Uchi-Soto (public-to-private) boundary, ensuring spaces like Ippuku actively dissolve this social barrier and foster genuine connection.



Historical justification

The historical timeline links the area's past emphasis on order and trades directly to the current structural rigidity, providing historical justification for challenging Chronos.



Subjects to celebrate

SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY INTERACTION
CRAFTSMANSHIP AND HERITAGE
LIFELONG LEARNING AND CREATIVITY
WORK-LIFE BALANCE & WELL-BEING
NATURAL LIGHT AND BIOPHILIA

Subjects to counter

MONOTONOUS AND RIGID ARCHITECTURE
SOCIAL FRAGMENTATION & HESITATION
'ILLUSION' OF WORK OBSESSED LIFE
FORMALITY & EXCLUSIVITY
ABSENCE OF EDUCATIONAL AND FAMILY-FRIENDLY SPACES

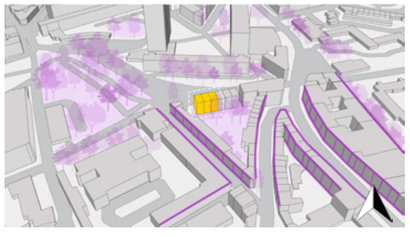
The Kairos Blueprint

This collage documents the contrasting experience at Broad Yard, which served as the architectural blueprint for Kairos.
The open, uninterrupted space allowed for genuine, casual use. The core finding was the strong synergy between serenity, natural elements (trees, wind), and maximized skylight. This successful integration provided the cue for TCW: the necessity of creating an internal environment that consistently offers these three elements to effectively challenge Chronos and foster wellbeing.



Site context

This map clearly explains TCW's site vicinity. The three blocks selected are intentionally placed to counter the surrounding structural rigidity (purple lines, referencing Day 1 Chronos observations).
The presence of the nearest public park provides a crucial biophilic connection. Furthermore, the uninterrupted northern façade offers the ideal condition for integrating the bay windows and maximizing natural light intake, a core component in creating Kairos-focused spaces.



CONCEPTUAL PRINCIPLES

MUSUBI



THE PHILOSOPHICAL PRINCIPLE OF INTERCONNECTION, BINDING, AND ENERGY FLOW. IT DEFINES THE BUILDING'S ROLE AS A NEXUS, ENSURING THAT DIVERSE PEOPLE AND SPACES ARE LINKED IN A CONTINUOUS, PRODUCTIVE RELATIONSHIP.

UCHI-SOTO



THE CONCEPT GOVERNING THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN INTERIOR (UCHI) AND EXTERIOR (SOTO). IT DICTATES A SMOOTH, MANAGED TRANSITION FROM THE HIGHLY PUBLIC STREET TO THE PRIVATE, CONTEMPLATIVE ZONES WITHIN THE BUILDING.

SHIPPO



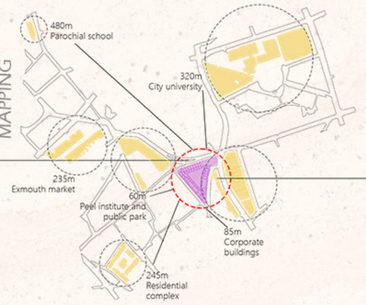
A CLASSICAL DESIGN PATTERN BASED ON INTERLOCKING CIRCLES, SYMBOLIZING CONTINUOUS HARMONY, WEALTH, AND COMMUNITY CONNECTION. IT IS THE GEOMETRIC LANGUAGE USED TO CHALLENGE THE LINEAR RIGIDITY OF CLERKENWELL'S ARCHITECTURE.

SITE LOCATION PROGRESSION

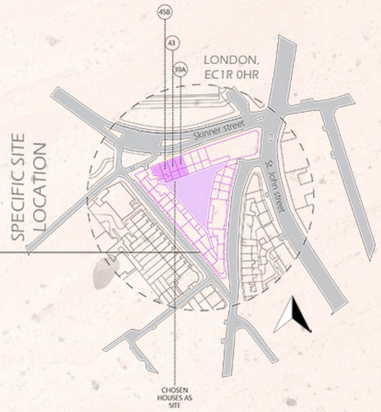
CLERKENWELL AREA CONTEXT



LOCAL CONTEXT MAPPING



SPECIFIC SITE LOCATION



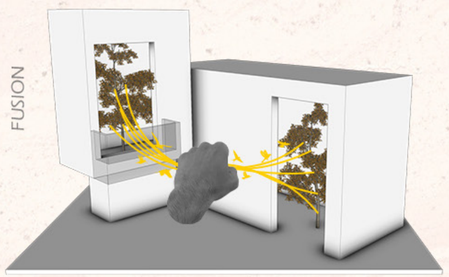
ARCHITECTURAL INTERVENTIONS

PROTRUSION



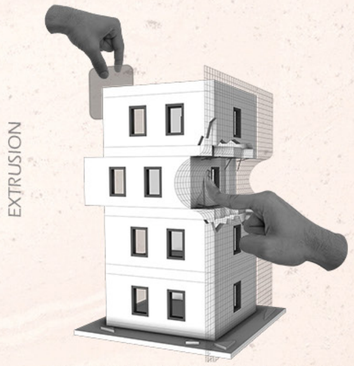
THE STRATEGIC EXTENSION OF THE BUILDING'S ENVELOPE THROUGH ELEMENTS LIKE THE EXPANDABLE CAFÉ AND TERRACE. THIS INTERVENTION VISUALLY AND FUNCTIONALLY BREAKS THE RIGID FAÇADE, INVITING INTERACTION AND CAPTURING LIGHT.

FUSION



THE DELIBERATE INTEGRATION OF NATURAL LIGHT, WIND, AND BIOPHILIC ELEMENTS DEEP WITHIN THE BUILDING. THIS FOSTERS A SENSORY CONNECTION TO NATURE, ESSENTIAL FOR CULTIVATING KAIROS MOMENTS AND PSYCHOLOGICAL RESPITE.

EXTRUSION



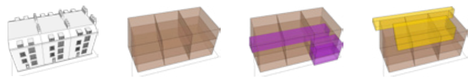
THE SEAMLESS BLURRING OF INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR BOUNDARIES. THIS IS ACHIEVED THROUGH ELEMENTS LIKE THE INDOOR TREES WITHIN IPPUKU, EFFECTIVELY EXTENDING THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT INTO THE BUILT SPACE AND ENHANCING THE UCHI-SOTO EXPERIENCE.

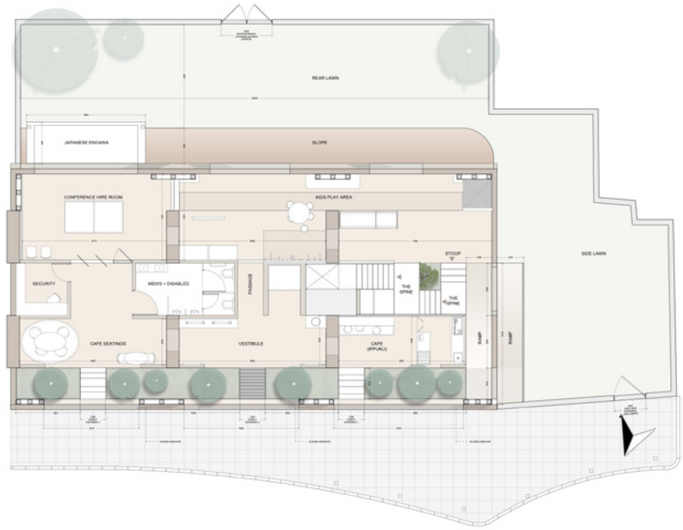




This visual directly contrasts the surrounding rigid grid (left) that enforces Chronos with TCW's fluid form (right).
The design dissolves the invisible grid by introducing organic shapes and protruding elements, successfully replacing linear rigidity with Musubi and Shippo's principles of interlocking flow to facilitate Kairos.

TCW's transformation is a three-step process designed to break structural rigidity and establish Kairos. It begins with Protrusion (adding elements like the terrace), followed by Fusion/Extrusion (blending interior/exterior and integrating biophilia), and concludes with the Roof Addition (integrating light diffusion) to successfully turn a constrained form into a dynamic, flowing environment.



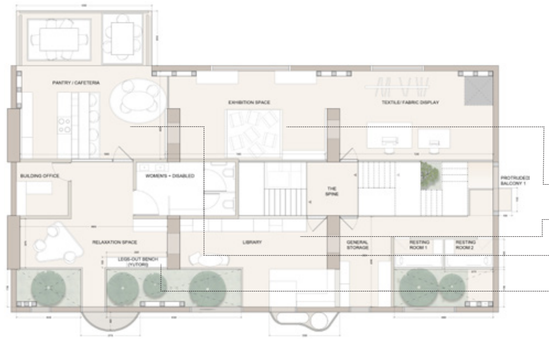


Ground floor plan

The Ground Floor acts as TCW's Active Frontage, managing the Uchi-Soto (public-to-private) boundary. Ippuku (café) serves as the low-commitment engine, strategically drawing users into the space and initiating flow.

Key multi-functional zones, including the Accessible Ramp and the Common Indoor Play Area, are positioned to foster diverse activities and intergenerational contact. The entire layout culminates at The Community Spine, which vertically channels users toward the concentrated Kairos spaces above.





First floor plan

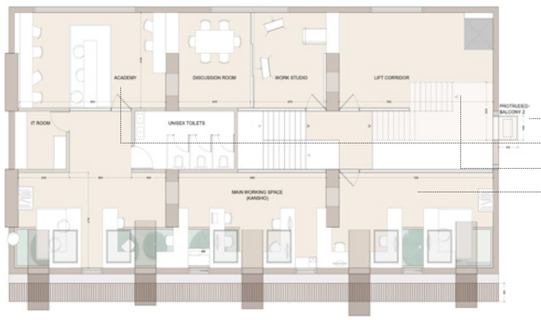
The First Floor serves as TCW's primary hub for Kairos and community learning, logically separated by The Community Spine. It features Resting Rooms for Elderly Users and the signature Yutori bench, an explicit intervention for psychological release. The floor is anchored by the Library/Learning Center with its dynamic roadside balcony, and features the Exhibition/Workshop Space for celebrating heritage crafts. The expandable Communal Kitchen is vital for intergenerational fortification, transforming to host a larger event.

A threshold connecting local residents, visitors, and resident artists.

A quiet basin facilitating shared knowledge and intellectual exchange.

A communal hearth for spontaneous dialogue and nourishment.

A restorative pause for individual reflection or quiet connection.



Second floor plan

The Second Floor is dedicated to focus and expertise, using the mid-landing to separate functions. It houses the Professional Hub (Kansho), featuring Desktop and Drafting Rooms tailored for Clerkenwell's creators. The Academy provides essential, free learning for children of the locality, conducted by young professionals in a direct and engaging intergenerational effort.

A visual anchor for observing the urban fabric from within the core

A bridge bringing young individuals into contact with mentors

A transitional portal connecting the interior life to the open sky.

A workshop for collaborative friction and professional focus.

This visual set showcases three intentional spaces engineered to facilitate Kairos (qualitative time) and social flow. The layout progression moves from the low-stakes Ippuku (café) which serves as the warm Uchi-Soto threshold to the Library/Learning Center, which fosters contemplation and connection to the streetscape. The Exhibition/Workshop Space completes the set, actively promoting hands-on creativity and engagement with local heritage. Collectively, these spaces demonstrate how TCW utilizes diverse programs to manage the transition from the city's formality to accessible moments of community renewal.

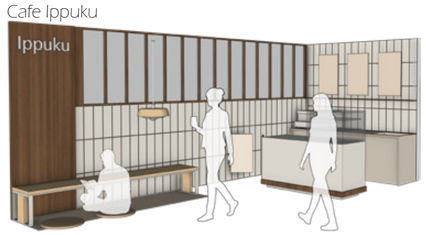
Exhibition room



Library



Cafe Ippuku



Elevation 1 : Filtering Chaos in Calm

Here we are looking at the elevation where TCW utilizes the planted trees to filter the roadside chaos and visual rigidity, effectively transforming the exterior urban energy into the calm, contemplative flow of the interior Uchi-So-to experience.



Uchi-Soto Threshold

This render highlights the bespoke floor lamp, whose plan view subtly reflects the Uchi-Soto symbol, marking the key public-to-private threshold. The lamp's soft, atmospheric lighting is designed to offer a moment of immediate psychological decompression upon entry, reinforcing the project's ability to mechanically control and soften the rigid external conditions of Chronos through deliberate design.

Original symbol



Plan

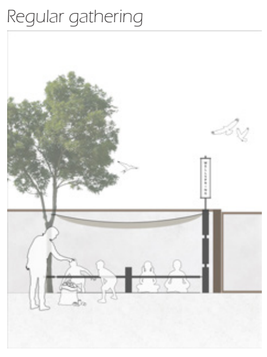




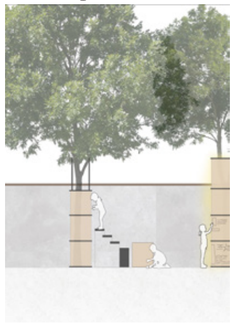
Garden expansion

This visual set demonstrates the adaptability of the rear garden, showcasing non-permanent, proactive activities that prioritize generic and flexible use. By keeping the garden free of rigid additions and promoting temporary, creative events, the design ensures its longevity and resilience across changing needs. This strategy embodies the concept of Aion, providing a durable and timeless space that actively resists the disposable nature of Chronos.

Regular gathering



Decorating



Origami celebration



Elevation 3 : Activating the Garden Edge

This elevation shows the successful activation of the ground floor's rear edge, illustrating the seamless transition from the Conference Room/Kids Play Area to the garden. This is the ultimate expression of the Fusion strategy, achieving a complete spatial and psychological connection to nature, which is essential for renewal and intergenerational activity.



Elevation 2: Kitchen and Kairos Integration

This elevation illustrates two contrasting primary Kairos interventions, the cafeteria promoting active communal life and Yutori promoting individual Kairos moment for psychological release.

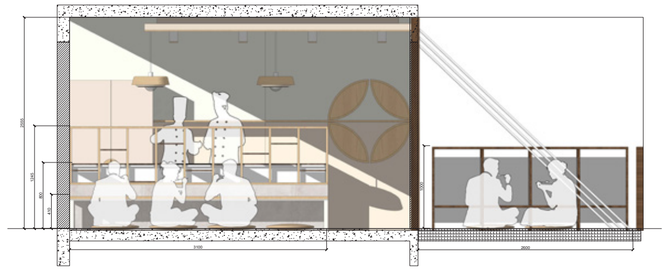


Cafeteria/Communal Kitchen elevation

This elevation details the Communal Kitchen (Cafeteria), a core element for intergenerational fortification. The design is inspired by the Teppanyaki concept, making food preparation a visible, central performance to encourage interaction. The structure dynamically protrudes mechanically, creating a highly valued outdoor seating area that actively demonstrates the TCW's dynamic nature and expanded social footprint.

Floor 1 plan for context





Cafeteria/Communal Kitchen expansion visuals

This visual sequence illustrates the mechanical dynamism of the Communal Kitchen. The images show the structure expanding (A >B >C), demonstrating TCW's theme of Protrusion in action.

The mechanism structurally relies on the strong roof of the Engawa directly below. This feature instantly transforms the space, replacing static architecture with a flexible, highly desired outdoor seating area and reinforcing the building's dynamic, Kairos-enabling nature.



A



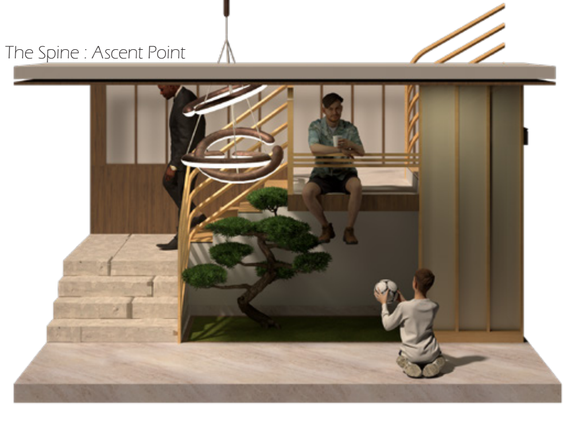
B



C



The Spine : Ascent Point



Wabi-Sabi light

This image spotlights the custom-designed, Wabi-Sabi-inspired hanging light positioned at the start of The Community Spine. This light serves as a symbolic marker for the user's ascent.

The adjacent plan view and render detail the light's composition: its segmented form references the Enso circle (the symbol of enlightenment and the universe) , while its illuminated aesthetic captures the soft, natural imperfection of Wabi-Sabi. This design reinforces the core philosophical transition as users move toward the concentrated Kairos spaces above.

Everlasting Connection



This visual sequence illustrates the design genesis of the bespoke hanging light, moving from the geometric Shippo (Seven Treasures) symbol to the final illuminated form. The Shippo pattern signifies everlasting connection, reinforcing the Musubi principle and the project's Aion-focused goal of fostering an enduring, intergenerational community through design.

Strength and Growth



This sequence details the design of a second bespoke light fixture, based on the Hemp Leaf (Asanoha) pattern, a traditional symbol of strength, growth, and resilience. This precise, geometric pattern reinforces the educational focus of the working spaces (Kansho and the Academy) and embodies the concept of Aion by celebrating enduring strength and continuous growth within the community. The technical execution of the pattern highlights the mechanical precision required for "Tempus ex Machina."

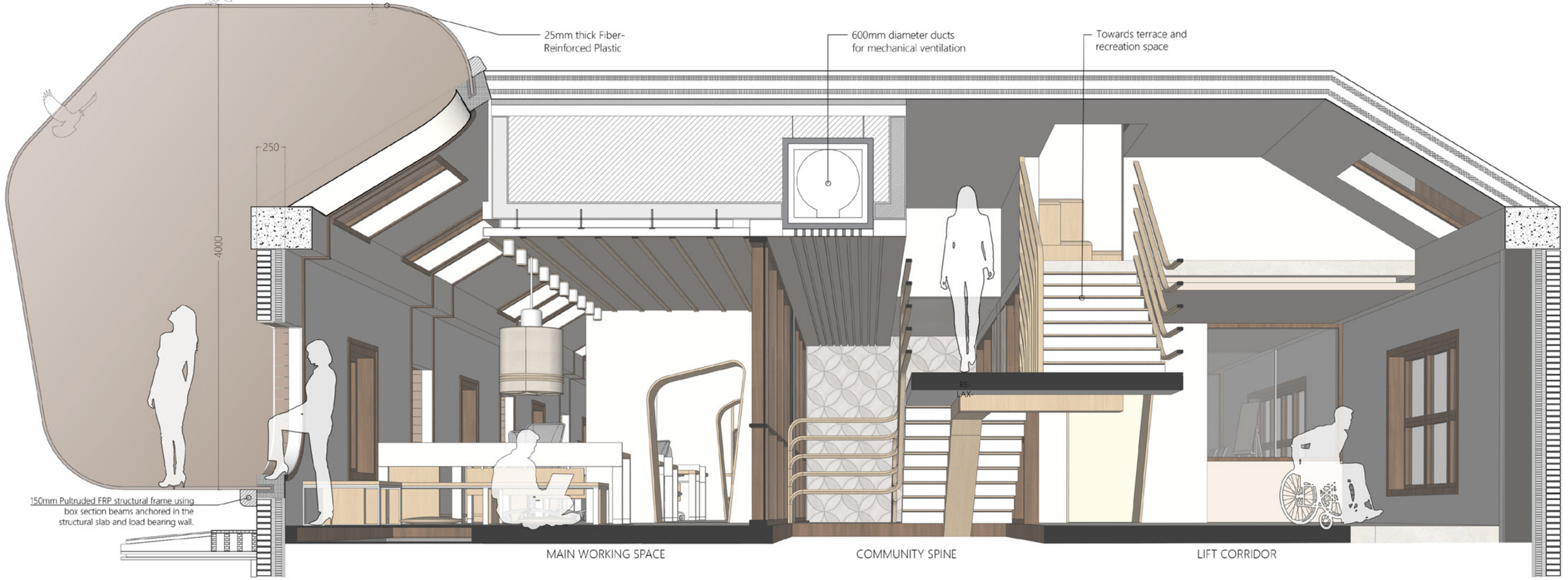
Elevation 4 :

This elevation captures the Kansho (mindful working) space, showing the highly controlled environment on the Second Floor designed to counteract the distractions of Chronos. The view emphasizes the interior access to the bay windows, which maximize light intake and provide focused, individual working zones.



Sectional elevation of second floor

This sectional elevation reveals the technical sophistication driving the focused environment, embodying 'Tempus ex Machina.' It details the Kansho (Main Working Space) on the left, where carefully engineered light and structure create a distraction-free hub against Chronos. The central Community Spine is highlighted by its mid-landing, featuring Shippo (interlocking)-shaped paneling. This view clarifies the structural and mechanical systems,



Front Facade view (facing North-west)



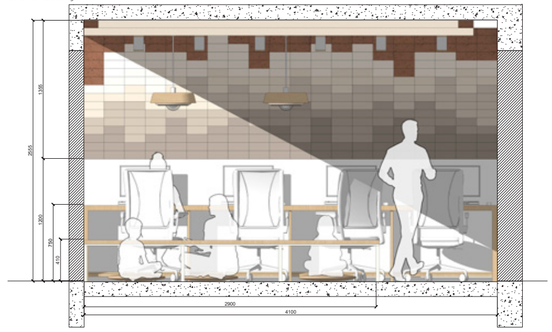
Bespoke furniture piece for Kansho



This render showcases the bespoke furniture designed for the Kansho (Main Working Space). The refined, precise design of the rounded, modular shelving contributes directly to the calm and organized atmosphere required for focused, mindful work. This attention to interior detail is a crucial component of the architectural mechanism ('Tempus ex Machina').

Inter-generational learning

This elevation showcases the Academy (Learning Center), the space dedicated to lifelong learning and intergenerational skill transfer. The design facilitates young professionals and adult users teaching digital skills to local children, embodying the project's goal of fostering Musubi (connection) and ensuring community resilience. This programming reinforces the concept of Aion by investing in the enduring skill set and social fabric of the locality.

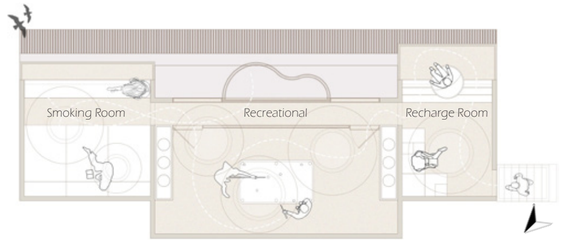


Floor 2 plan for context



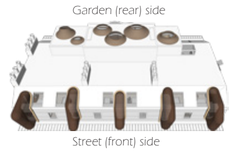
Structured Leisure and Release

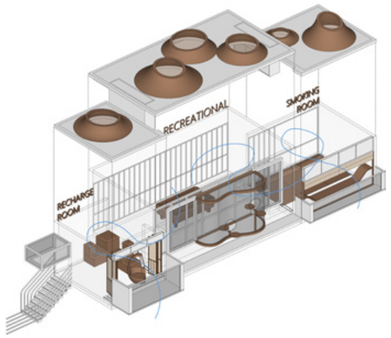
This plan illustrates the final leisure sequence, designed as a structured release from the focused work below. The movement flows through distinct spaces for opportune relaxation, including the Recharge room, Recreational room, and traditional smoking room. This carefully choreographed progression ensures users culminate their journey with intentional decompression, replacing mechanical rigidity with sequential, qualitative rest.



This isometric view clarifies movement and air circulation toward the South-East light. The structured flow through the Recharge, Recreational, and Smoking Rooms acts as a decompression machine, demonstrating how 'Tempus ex Machina' provides intentional release.

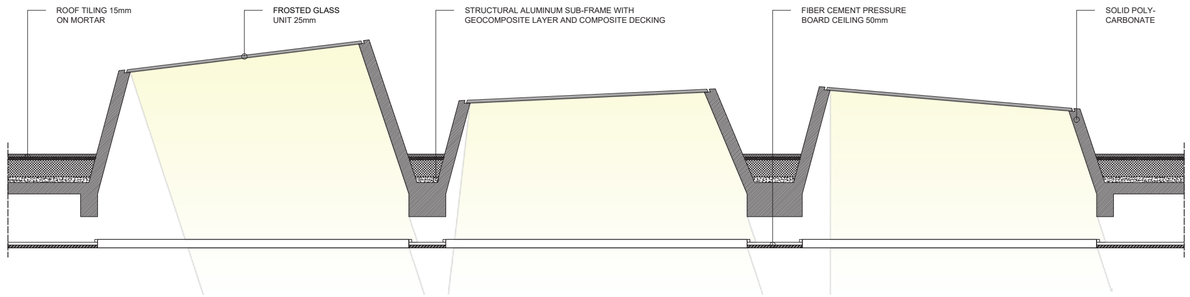
Aerial view from street side for context

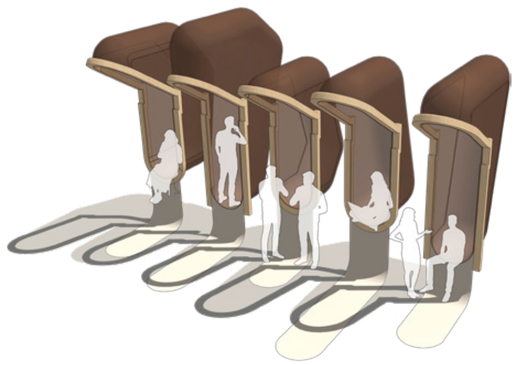




Terrace Roof detail

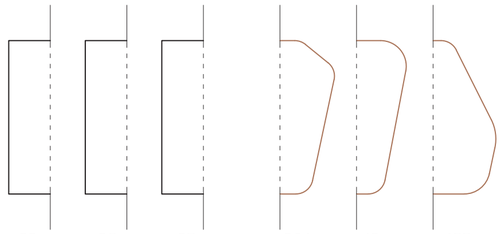
This sectional detail explains the construction of the roof fixtures, emphasizing the use of lightweight materials to achieve the project's dynamic forms. The system utilizes a Structural Aluminum Sub-frame combined with a geocomposite layer and composite decking, and Solid Polycarbonate, all contributing to a light assembly. Further detailing includes a Fiber Cement Pressure Board Ceiling (50mm) and a Frosted Glass Unit (25mm), showcasing the material precision essential for the architectural mechanism for qualitative time.





Bay Windows

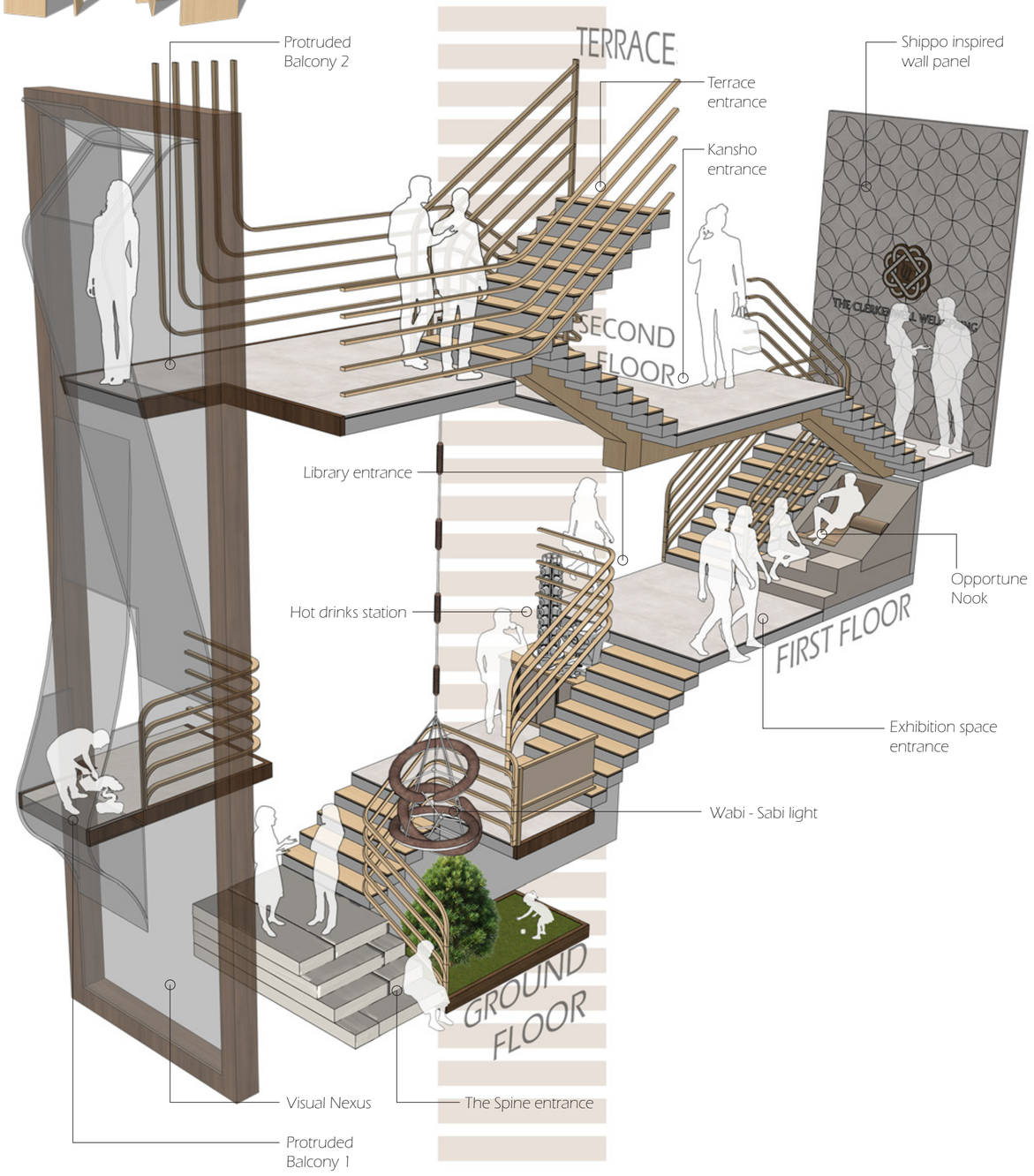
This graphical view highlights the significance of the Bay Windows as individual protrusions that maximize user interest and visual dynamism within the Kansho working space. By capturing the play of light and shadow throughout the day, these spaces offer distinct, personalized pockets for focused work or momentary retreat. This design ensures that every professional user has access to a unique point of visual and psychological engagement, enriching the quality of their time spent working.





The Community Spine :

This isometric view highlights the Community Spine, the vital structural and social artery of TCW that connects all floors from the Ground Floor to the Terrace. It serves as a vertical Visual Nexus, utilizing a dynamic stair sequence to bridge different functional zones while providing a clear sense of orientation. By integrating features like the Opportune Nook and the Luminous Veil, this central void transforms simple circulation into a shared, light-filled experience, embodying the principle of Musubi by weaving together the building's diverse spaces and users into a unified community.



Opportune Nook : The Opportune Nook is a small, built-in seating area placed strategically off the main circulation of the Community Spine (e.g., near a stair landing). It converts what would typically be mechanical space into a niche for spontaneous, individualized activity or rest. Its purpose is to provide micro-moments of qualitative time (Kairos), a quick pause, a moment of contemplation, or a short phone call, against the demands of the main movement sequence.

Visual Nexus : The Visual Nexus (or Luminous Veil) is the full-height, full-width window system along the Community Spine that includes the protruding balconies. It acts as a major mechanism for drawing and distributing amplified natural light deep into the building's core, creating a dramatic, illuminated circulation experience. It serves as the primary point of exchange, reinforcing the Uchi-Soto principle by giving a strategic visual peek into the building's dynamic core from the outside.



Yutori - Breathing Space

This visual set details Yutori, the dedicated "breathing room," designed as the project's most explicit intervention to mitigate the rigidity of Chronos. The space is architecturally defined by its ergonomic seating and strong biophilic connection to the void below, embodying the principle of Uchi-Soto by offering a contemplative pause that bridges the interior self and the exterior landscape. Yutori functions as a precise component within the 'Tempus ex Machina' system, ensuring that every user has guaranteed access to a moment of pure qualitative time (Kairos) for psychological release and rest.



Yutori facilitates quiet collaboration and community connection amongst users.



Yutori is an essential machine for contemplative rest and individual psychological unwinding.



This space offers guaranteed moments of Kairos for diverse users and meaningful shared time.



Library

This render showcases the library's bookshelf component, featuring a low-cost, modular assembly that unifies different furniture pieces into a cohesive, serene whole. The inclusion of natural elements and dedicated seating reinforces the building's commitment to providing accessible, contemplative space. This environment actively mitigates the distractions of Chronos, ensuring a moment of qualitative time (Kairos) for reading and intellectual engagement within the community.



Contextual Fit

This sequence of images illustrates the building's vital connection to its surroundings, demonstrating the success of the Fusion strategy in its urban context. The design seamlessly integrates the new, fluid architectural language with the traditional brick streetscape, ensuring TCW acts as a restorative engine within the existing urban fabric, providing a clear visual contrast that emphasizes qualitative time and community presence















Symbolic Accents



This final detail focuses on the additional steel columns located around the building's perimeter, which feature the Akechi flower symbol. Chosen as a representative motif from traditional Japanese patterns, the symbol is integrated to enhance the visual texture of the structural elements. By providing a delicate ornamental layer behind the natural foliage, these accents amplify the aesthetic depth of the columns and maintain a consistent design language throughout the project.

Design, to me, is a perpetual cycle of intentional growth and transformative observation. My work bridges the technical precision of projects with the ‘celebratory’ narratives discovered through psychogeographical research. By deconstructing complex patterns social, cultural, and structural I strive to deliver bespoke environments that offer more than just order; they provide a profound and lasting sense of belonging. I remain propulsive in my pursuit of excellence, ever-ready to walk the extra mile to ensure that every space we create is as adaptable as the lives it serves.