



Kyena Clarissa Adara

Architecture | 2024
Selected Works



Jakarta | Istanbul
kyenaadara@stu.khas.edu.tr

Work Experience

June '24 - August '24 | Istanbul
DILEKCI Architects
Architectural Intern

Education

2021 - 2025
Kadir Has University
Bachelor of Architecture

2022 - 2023
Yonsei University
AI & Design
Winter at Yonsei Program

Organizational Experience

Head of Media Relations
Batik x Ebru
Indonesian Student Association in Turkey

Creative Directorate Officer
Overseas Indonesian Student Association Alliance in
America & Europe

Media Relations Officer
Military Attache (ATHAN) Cup in Ankara

Member
Kadir Has Architecture Students Club

Member
Kadir Has International Students Club

Achievements

December '24
23. Architecture Student Awards (MimED2024)
Finalist
Mimarlık Eğitimi Derneği

December '23
22. Architecture Student Awards (MimED2023)
Finalist
Mimarlık Eğitimi Derneği

December '22
Türkiye Bursları (YTB) Success Scholarship
Yurtdışı Türkler ve Akraba Topluluklar Başkanlığı

August '22
Honor Scholarship
Kadir Has University

Exhibitions

The Collective Nexus: Yenikapı
FAD Summer Show 2024 | Kadir Has University

Weaving Through the Strawberries
FAD Summer Show 2024 | Kadir Has University

Spatial Rain
TürkSMD Basamaklar'23 | Türk Serbest Mimarlar Derneği

Dwelling in Balat
TürkSMD Basamaklar'23 | Türk Serbest Mimarlar Derneği

Dwelling in Balat
FADPort Online Exhibition | Kadir Has University

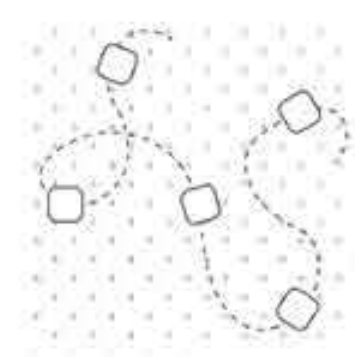
Skills

Softwares

Adobe Illustrator
Adobe Photoshop
Rhino 7
AutoCAD
Sketchup

Languages

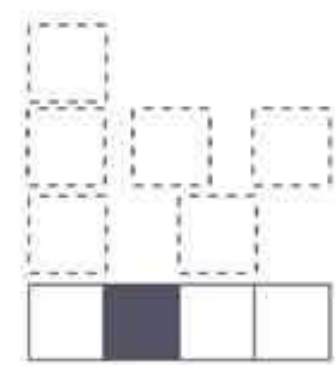
English | C1
Indonesian | Native
Japanese | Basic
Turkish | Basic



Palimpsest of Pyrgos

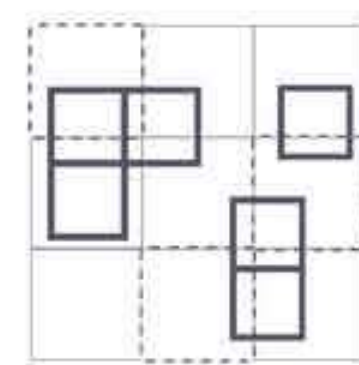
Kemerburgaz, Istanbul

in process



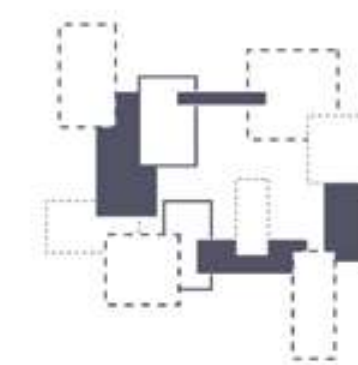
The Collective Nexus

Yenikapı, Istanbul



Weaving Through the Strawberries

Arnavutköy, Istanbul



Dwelling in Balat

Balat, Istanbul



Spatial Rain

Palimpsest of Pyrgos

Kemberburgaz, Istanbul

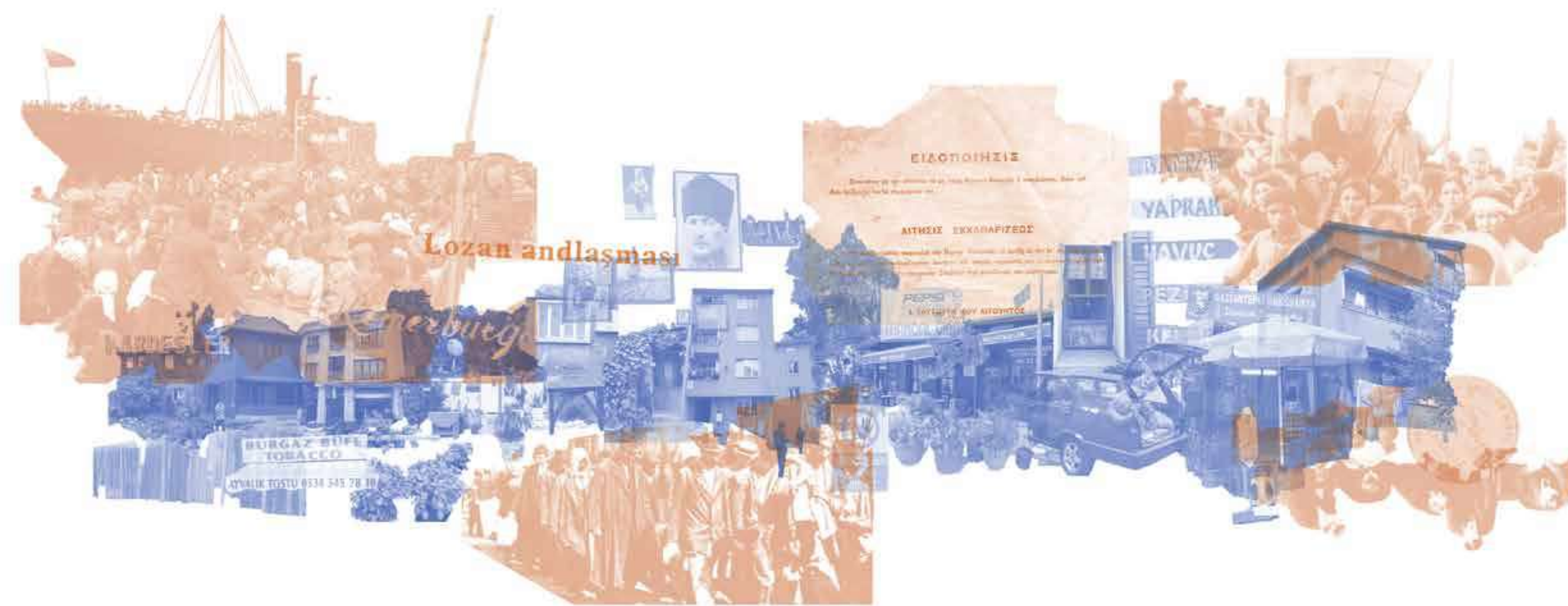
In Process

Individual Work

Kyena Adara

Supervisor

Tania Daphne Feldzer Şan



Kemberburgaz or was previously familiarized as **'Pyrgos'** has a deep-rooted Greek history within the crooks of its neighborhood. What once was a thriving Greek settlement area during the Ottoman period is now merely just remnants of the past. The population exchange in 1923, marked by forced displacement and ethnic cleansing, not only compelled Greek settlers, despite being born and raised in Turkey, to be returned to Greece- a land that, for many, have never stepped foot on. In this upheaval, their collective historical and cultural imprint were further eroded from Turkey's urban fabric. What lies in the neighborhood are **fragments of memory** that quietly embed the neighborhood and city, just waiting to be rediscovered and acknowledged by the local community once again.

Palimpsest of Pyrgos explores the notion of finding solace in solitude through a sequence of architectural spaces that reflect and evoke the five stages of grief- **denial, anger, bargaining, depression, acceptance**. These spaces aim to become a compass in healing and self-discovery through the comfort of solitude in facilitating one's journey to acceptance in grappling with loss. The project addresses the collective historical trauma caused by the Lausanne Treaty and to evoke reflection while **unraveling traces of a painful past** without hurting the environment. Timber, originated from Belgrad, from land owned by past evicted Greek minority, will be taken and replanted through community and government intervention; returning resources to original custodians and fostering connection and restitution with nature and the community.

Through an adaptive-reuse approach, **Palimpsest of Pyrgos** serves as a collection of experimental interventions done with regards to all five stages of grief- denial, bargaining, anger, depression, within the neighborhood and ultimately reaching acceptance. These stages are reflected through thoughtful interventions within the urban and historical context of the neighborhood, culminating in the reinterpretation of the remnants of St. George's Chapel in the forest as a sign of **acceptance** and a symbol of **reconciliation with the past** and becoming a beacon of hope for the future.

denial

solitude in withdrawal



bargaining

solitude in worship



anger

solitude in art



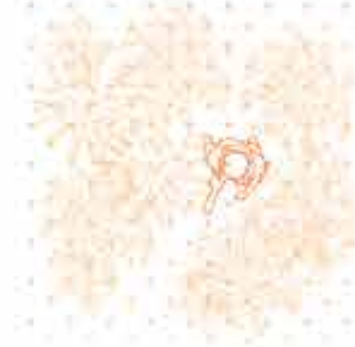
depression

solitude in reflection



acceptance

solitude in nature



[denial]

The treated original facade acts as a symbolic barrier between living in the past and present. Preserving visual memory while creating the illusion that the past remains unchanged. The juxtaposition between the old facade and supporting structural layer suggests a refusal to acknowledge the present. Rather, holding on to the original identity of the building.



[bargaining]

Gradually introducing contemporary intervention through material and the addition of a new axis symbolizes the act of negotiation—a balance of preserving the building's essence and addressing contemporary needs. Reflecting an effort to reconcile loss by retaining its historical context while embracing transformation.



[anger]

The aggressive visibility of contemporary materials used to complete the silhouette of the original building symbolizes frustration and asserts inadequacy of the past. The stark contrast mirrors a confrontational approach—expressing a need for transformation while refusing to fully reconcile with the past.



[depression]

The disjunction between the completely new addition above the original structure encapsulates the detachment with the past while the remains of the original building reflect the inability to fully integrate with the present—portraying conflict between reconciling between the past and present leading to a fragmented connection.



[acceptance]

Represented through a VR (Virtual Reality) intervention, this immersive experience of exploring the remnants of a worn down chapel in Belgrad forest allows users to experience the past in the present, encouraging a peaceful coexistence between preserving historical context through contemporary means.



Existing Buildings



Memory | Past

The memory of "Pyrgos" will be brought back into the neighborhood through modern intervention of a virtual reality (VR) experience. Allowing the user to immerse in a space of transformation, to linger in a moment in time of a multicultural exchange, and providing self-realization of how cultures can be altered and erased over time. In experiencing lost memory, the user can witness a world that has disappeared caused by an unwanted historical episode.



Decay | Present

The present state of ruin should not be overlooked, but rather celebrated as a decay of time and a symbol of resilience. From its visible wear and eroded facade, it marks as a physical space that carries the ghost of displacement of a once vibrant culture. They stand as mute witnesses of Greek presence, evoking nostalgia, longing, and mourning of the loss caused by the 1923 Population Exchange.



Restoration | Future

In honoring the memory of "Pyrgos", these sites will act as a collection of shared memories in creating a nostalgic pilgrimage of grief for those who were affected by the 1923 Population Exchange and for those, who would simply want to revive the lost Greek community within the neighborhood. Through refurbishment, revitalization and introducing new functions, once-decaying spaces will transition into hubs that breathe new life within the neighborhood, as if the Greeks have never left.

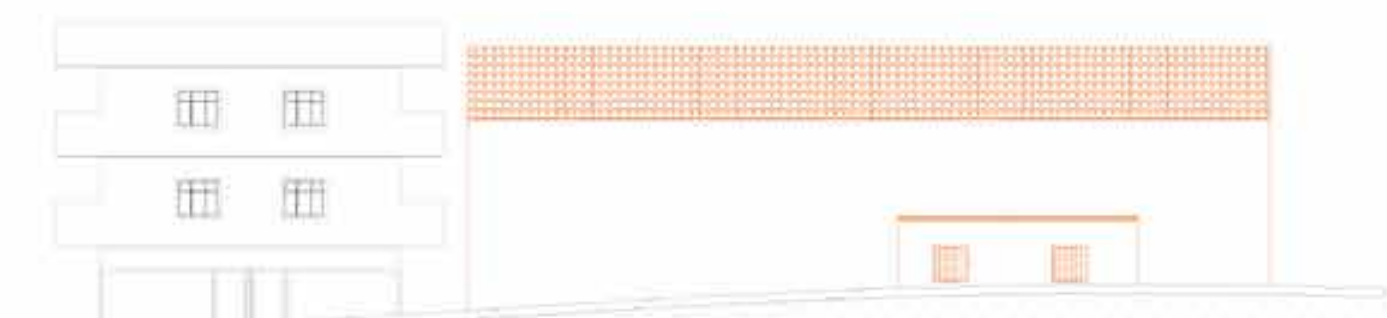
Past Situation



Denial 01



Denial 02



Bargaining 01



Bargaining 02



Anger 01



Anger 02



Depression 01



Depression 02

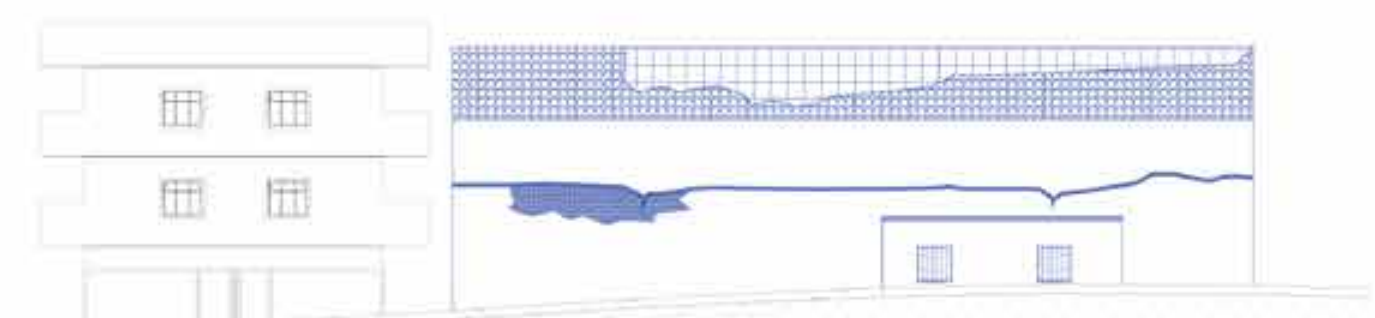
Present Situation



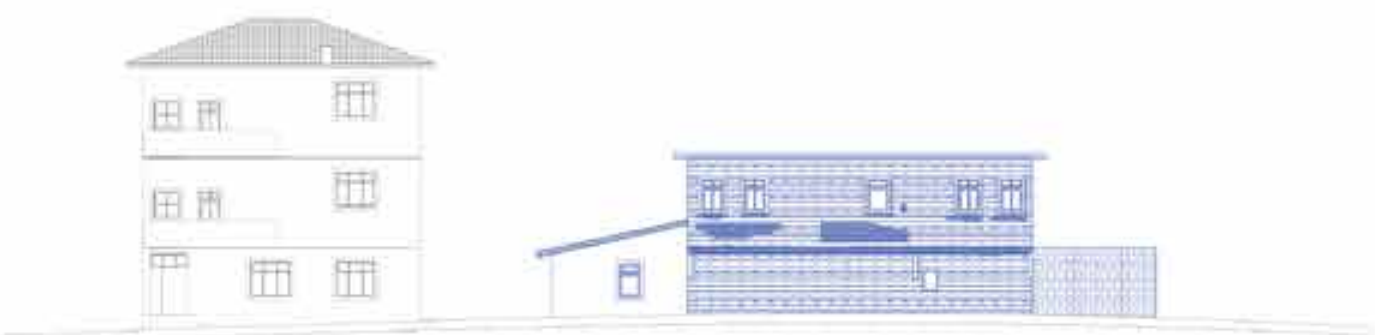
Denial 01



Denial 02



Bargaining 01



Bargaining 02



Anger 01



Anger 02



Depression 01



Depression 02

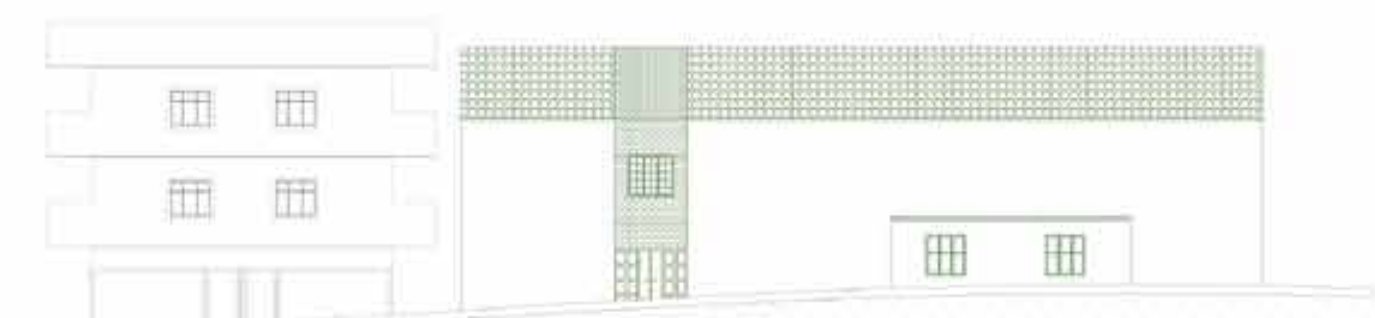
Future Projection



Denial 01



Denial 02



Bargaining 01



Bargaining 02



Anger 01



Anger 02



Depression 01



Depression 02

Preserving its original façade by retaining its integrity while, integrating a steel structural support layer as reinforcement.

Opening a new entrance aligned with the main road's axis to facilitate easy access.

Altering and deconstructing the original form utilizing the juxtaposition of different materials.

Rehabilitating and extending the revitalized ground floor of the original structure using contemporary materials.



The Collective Nexus

Yenikapı, Istanbul

Finalist in 23. MimED Architecture Student Awards (MimED2024)

Featured in Kadir Has University's FAD Summer Show 2024

Team

Kyena Adara

Kemalcan Çiftci

Supervisor

Tania Daphne Feldzer Şan

The Collective Nexus envisions transforming the area into a revitalized, sustainable community with a strong shared identity. This plan aims to overcome challenges such as isolation caused by major transport routes, abandoned buildings, and the lack of green spaces, which currently contribute to insecurity and weak community ties.

The proposal addresses these deficiencies by integrating a new transitional urban settlement between **Yenikapı and Langa district**.

The core to our vision is the idea of a **circular economy**, where materials like timber and steel—gathered from local junkyards, waste centers, and other leftover resources—are repurposed to support the development of adaptable community structures. A refurbishment facility located on-site minimizes the need for new materials and helps reduce carbon emissions.

To go one step further from Alejandro Aravena's Elemental Project, the design incorporates a **growth model** that adapts to future population needs while using local resources. In the first phase, public spaces and private housing will be constructed alongside a framework designed to allow vertical expansion. This approach enables residents to gradually expand their homes over time, supported by the refurbishment center's resources, allowing the community to grow organically and sustainably.

Drawing inspiration from the Elemental Project, led by Alejandro Aravena, in Chile, our design incorporates a growth model that anticipates future population demands.

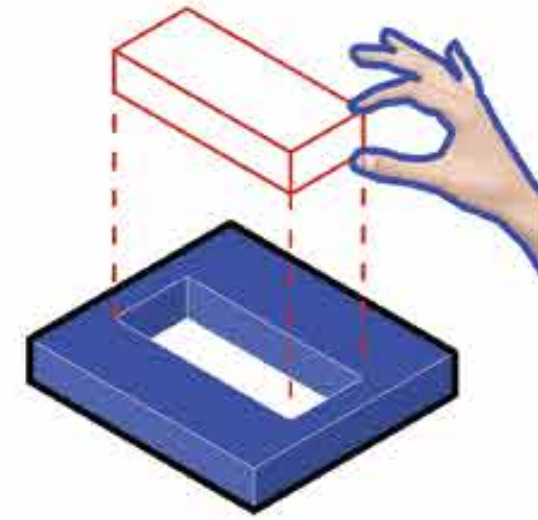
**Initial Phase 1.1
2025**



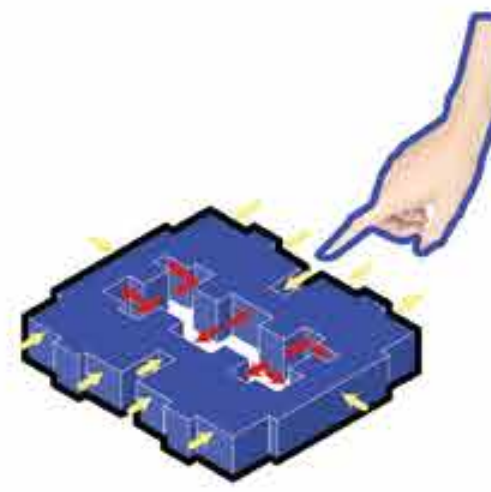
In the initial phase, public spaces will be constructed on the ground level, along with private housing units on the first floor.



The form-finding process begins with a simple block.

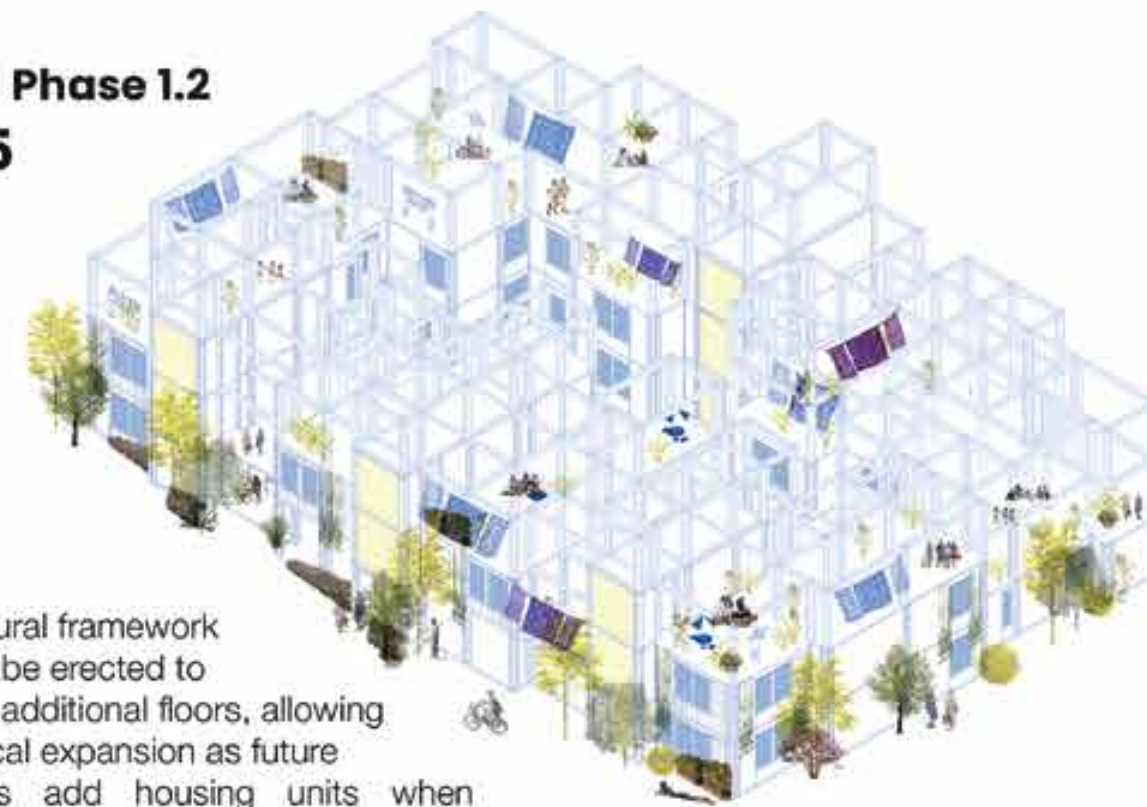


Inspired by the 1936 Pervititch Maps, an inner section is then removed to reflect the neighborhood's historical pattern of shared courtyards.



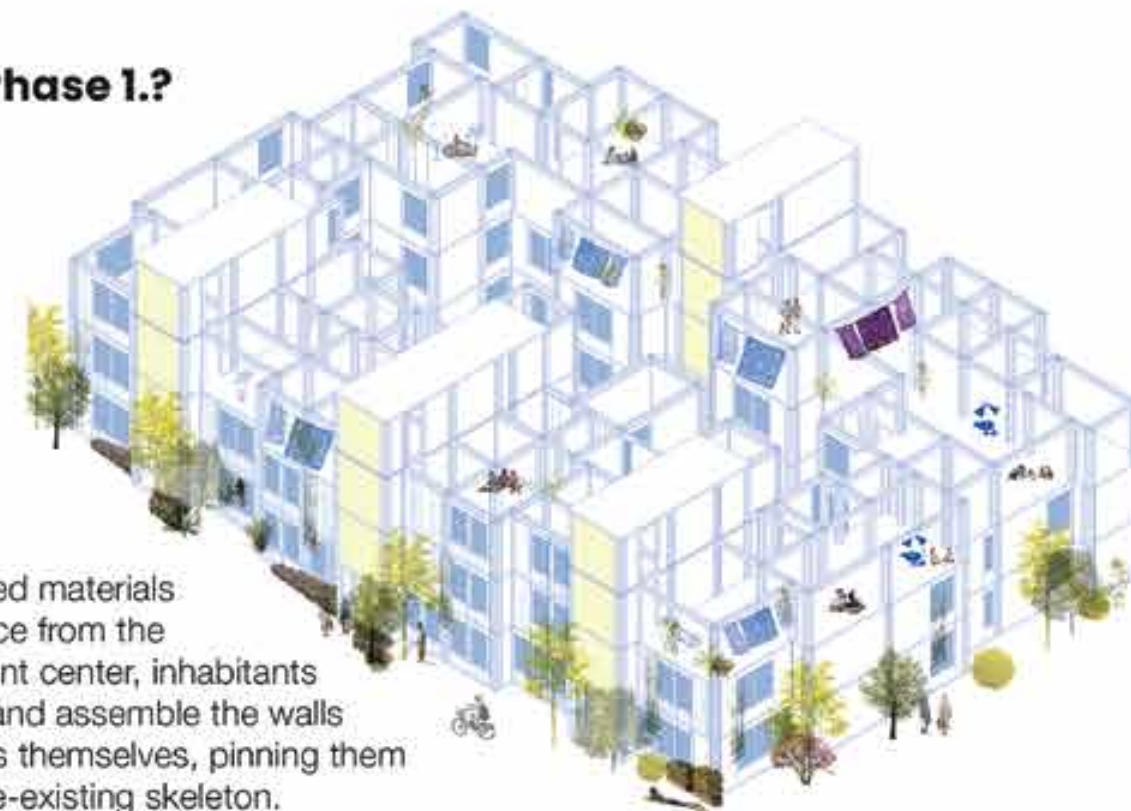
The addition of 'cumba' (bay window) allows the design to align with the neighborhood's traditional character.

**Initial Phase 1.2
2025**



A structural framework will also be erected to support additional floors, allowing for vertical expansion as future residents add housing units when needed.

**Future Phase 1?
2045**

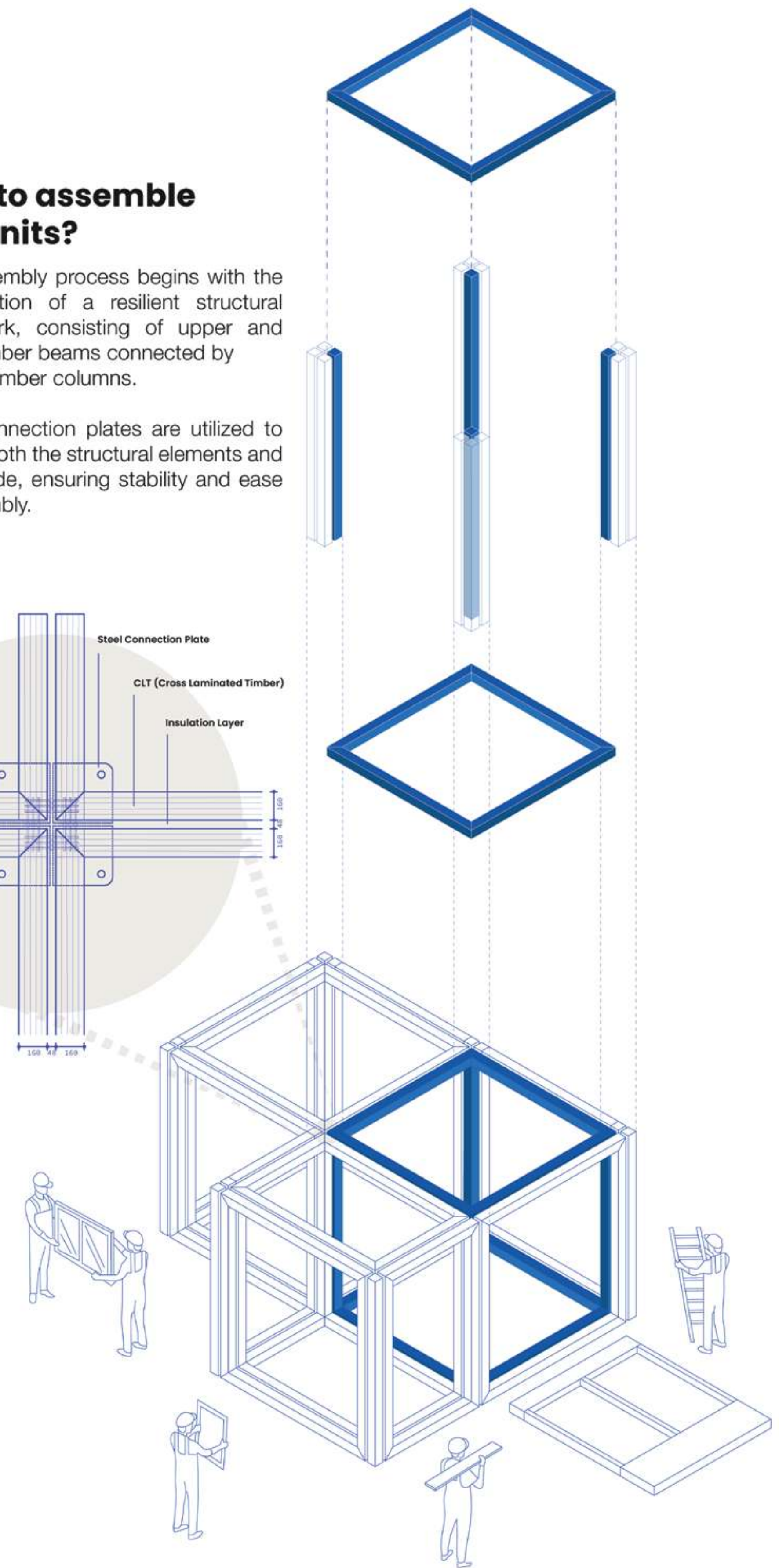
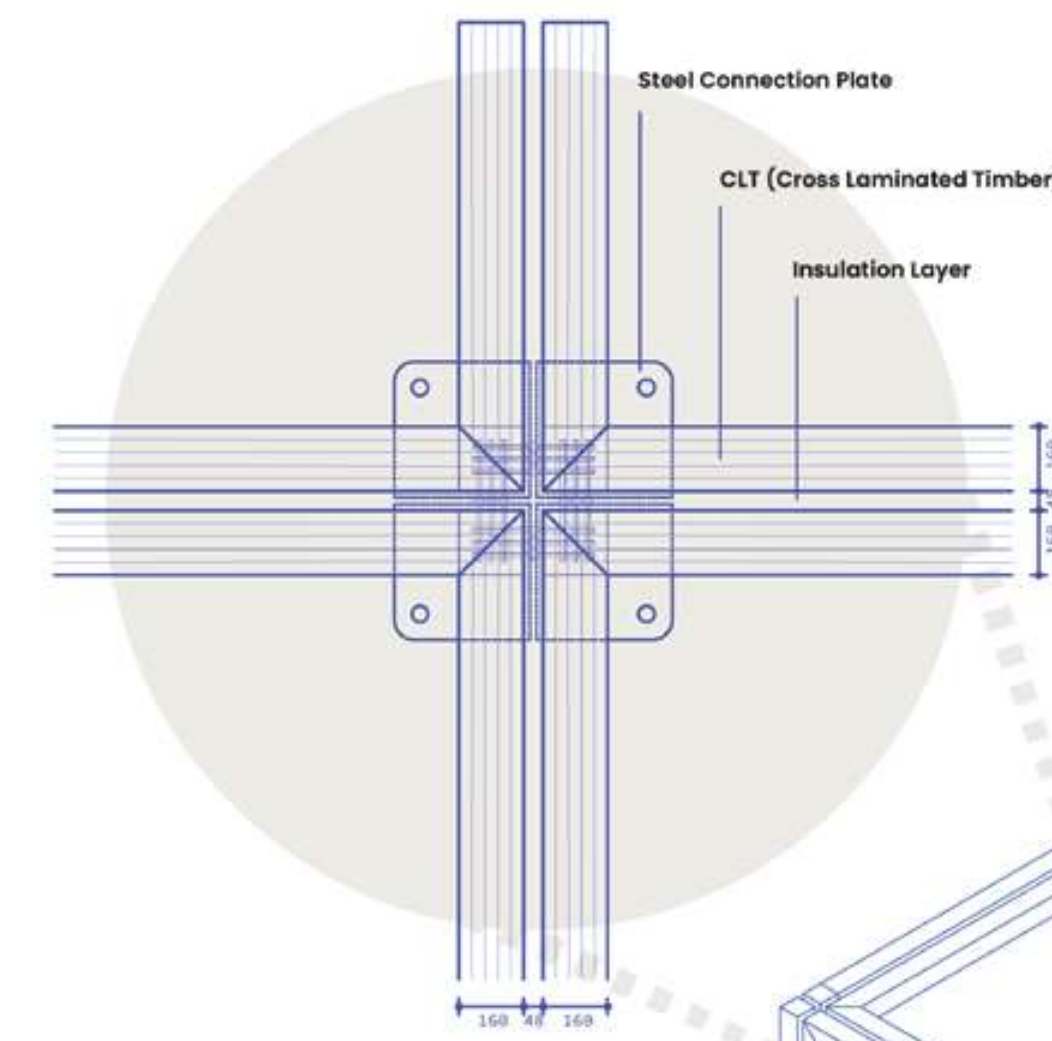


Using the reconditioned materials and guidance from the refurbishment center, inhabitants will design and assemble the walls and facades themselves, pinning them onto the pre-existing skeleton.

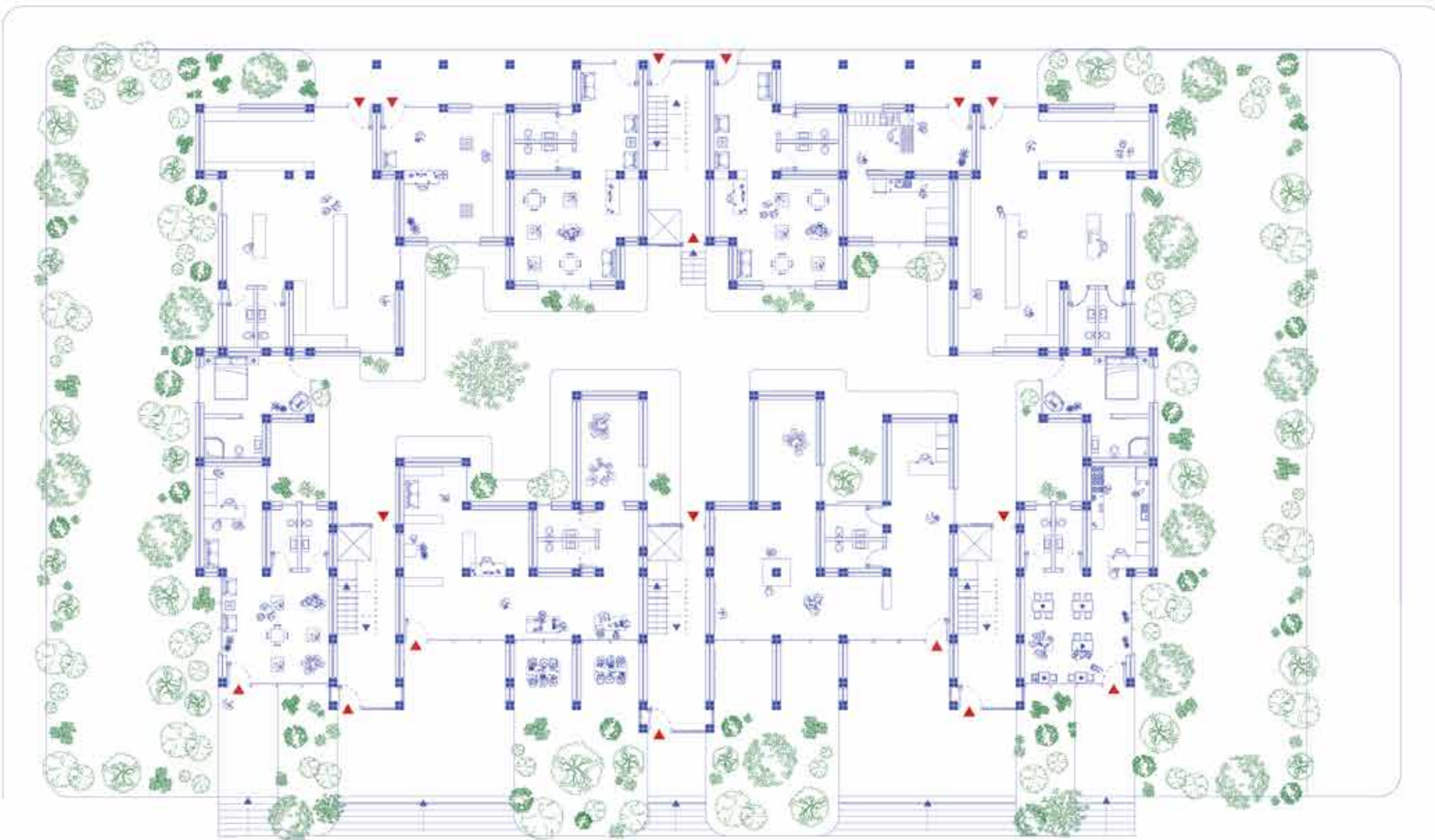
How to assemble the units?

The assembly process begins with the construction of a resilient structural framework, consisting of upper and lower timber beams connected by vertical timber columns.

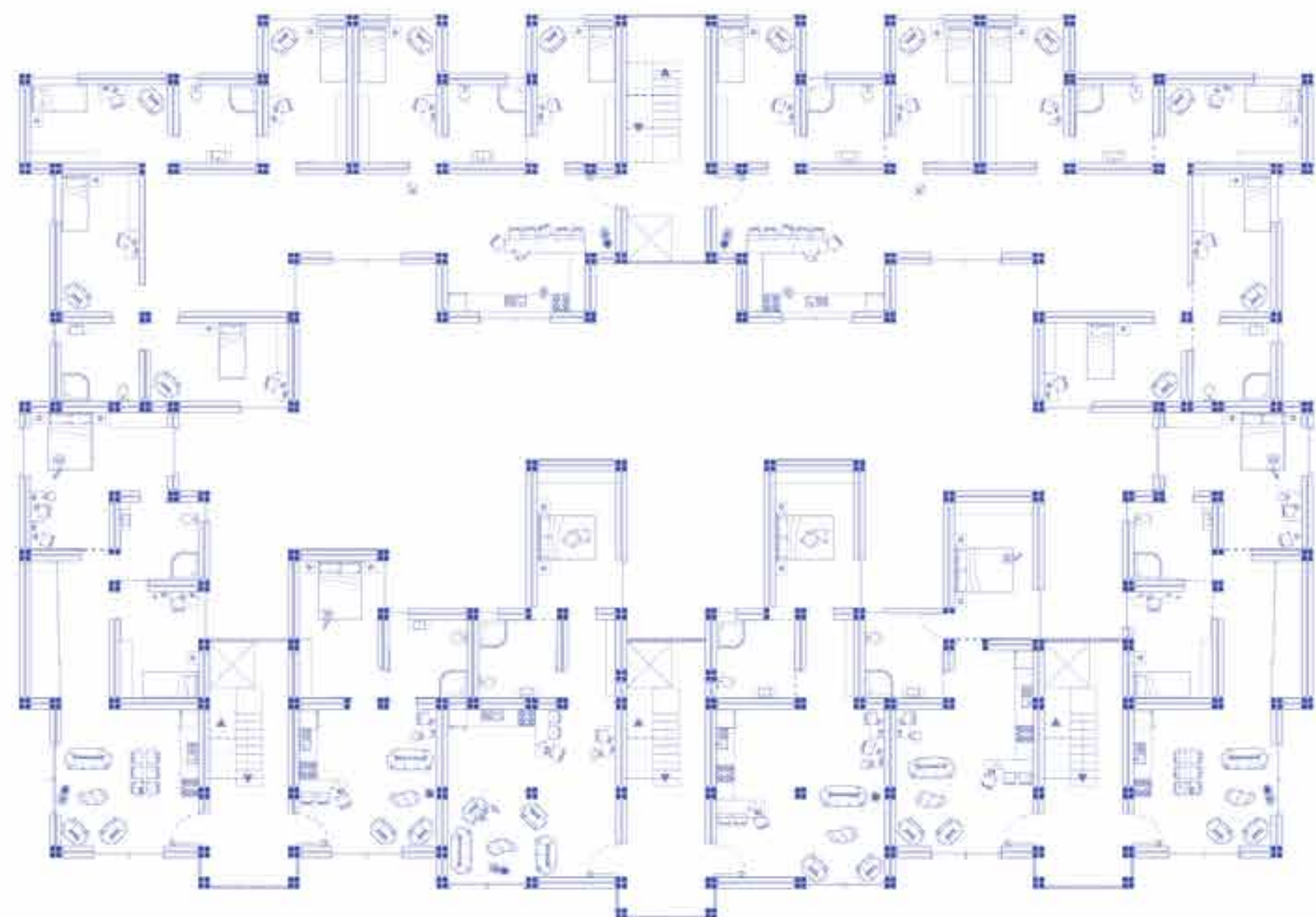
Steel connection plates are utilized to secure both the structural elements and the facade, ensuring stability and ease of assembly.



This modular system allows the facade, or outer shell, to be pinned seamlessly onto the framework, enabling future inhabitants to attach facades with ease. This straightforward assembly process empowers residents to actively participate in construction and customization, fostering a sense of ownership and adaptability as the community grows.

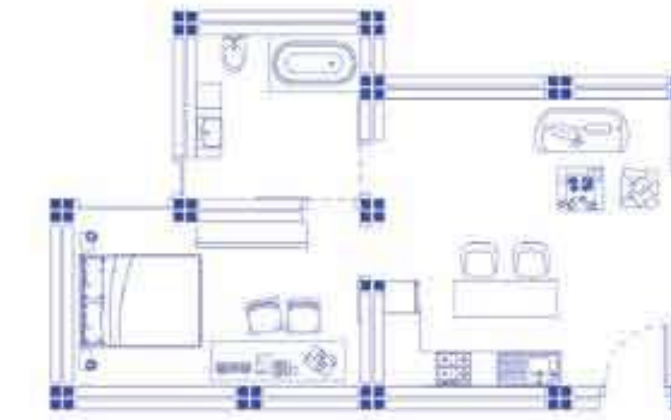


Ground Floor Plan

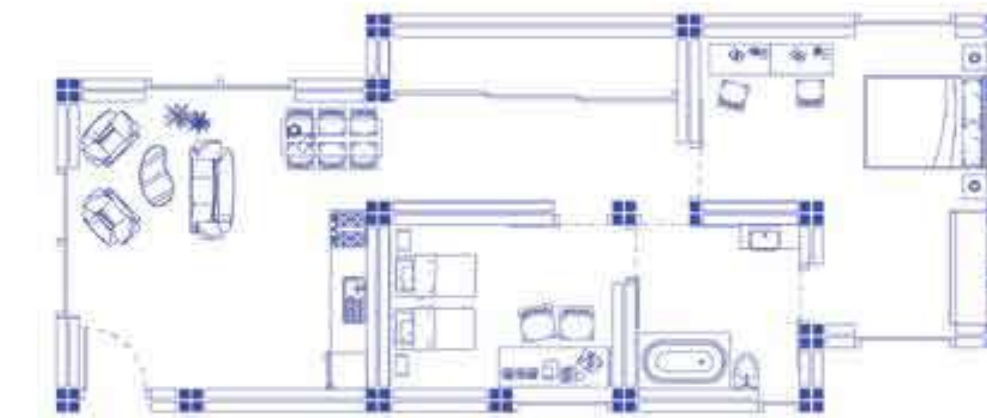


First Floor Plan

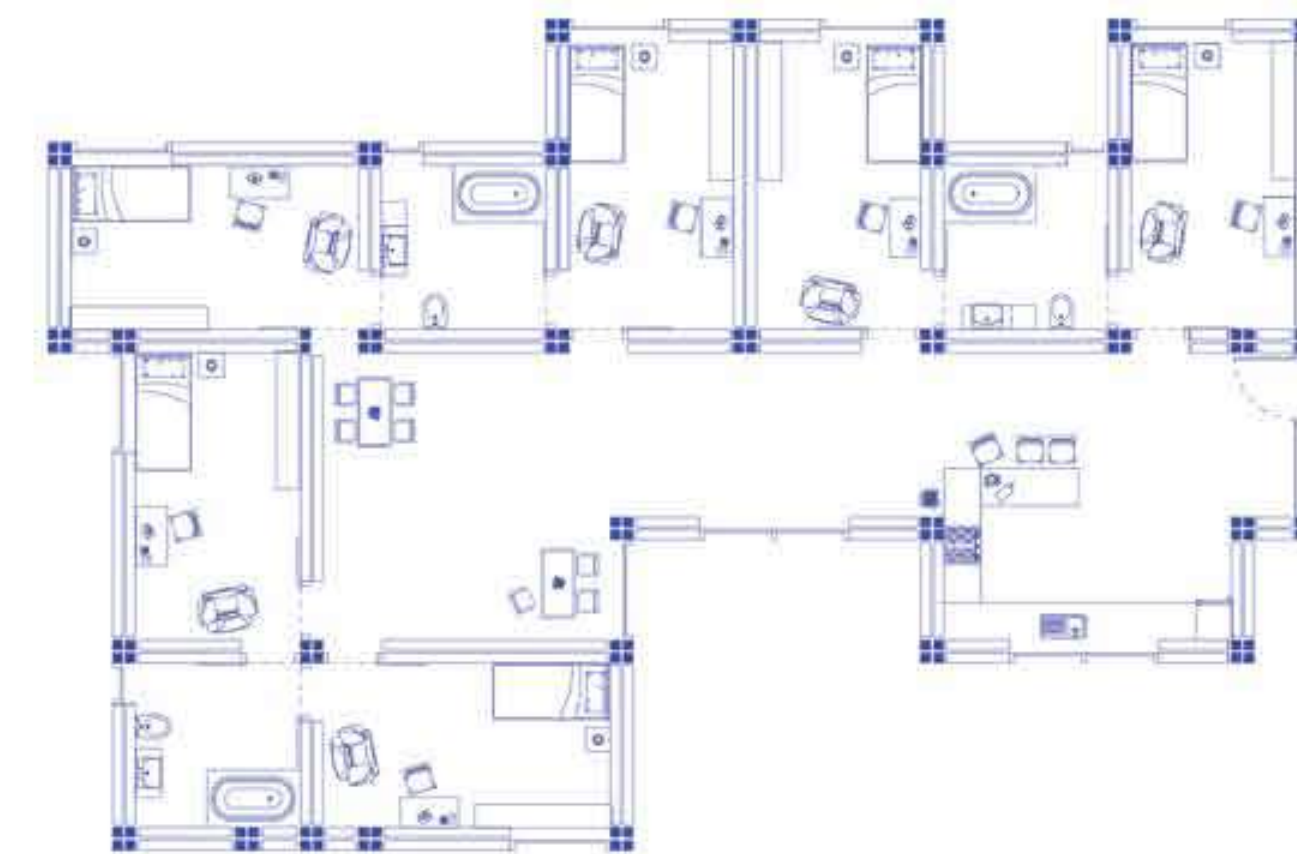
Possible Dwelling Unit Types



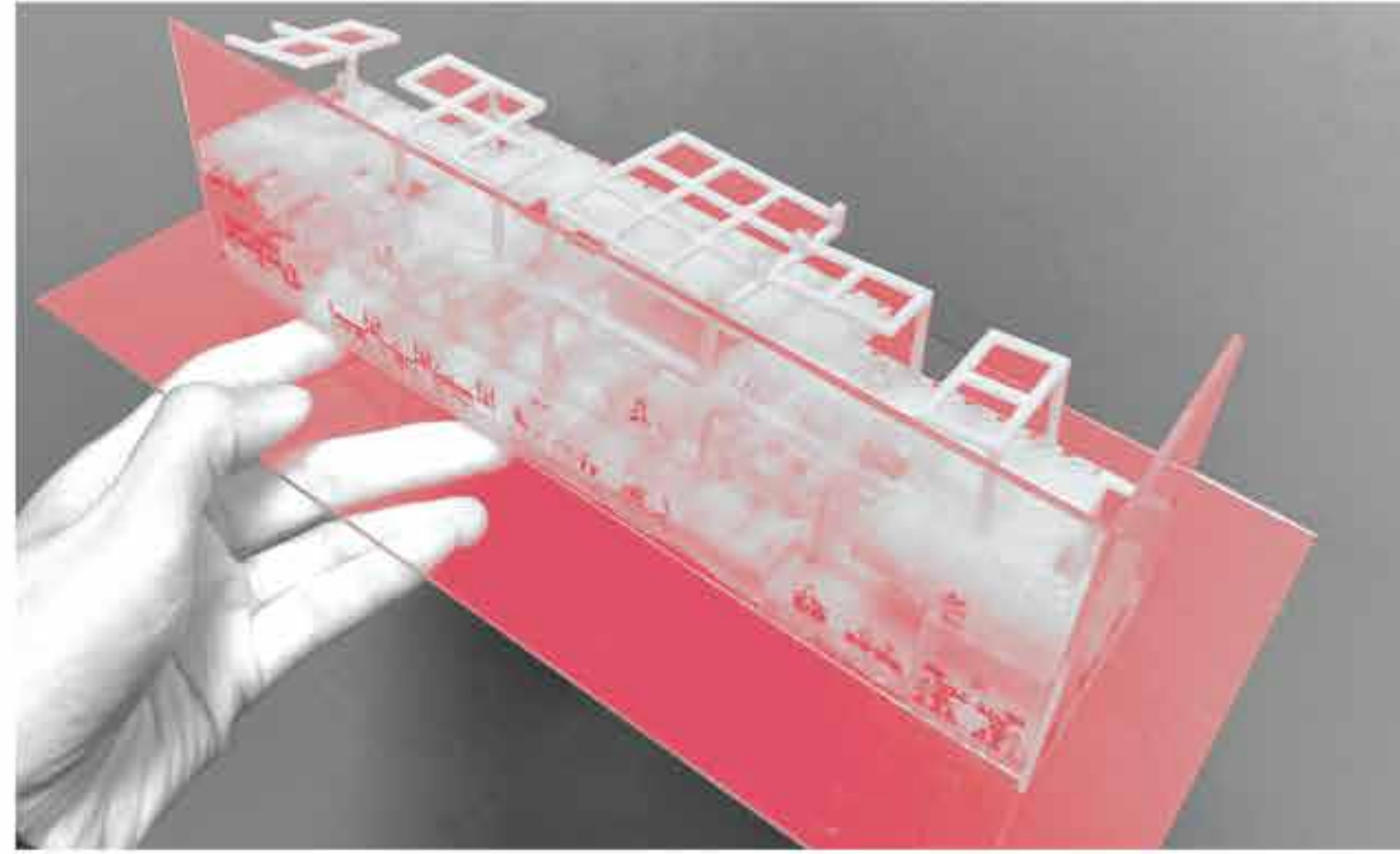
1-2 People Dwelling Unit



3-4 People Dwelling Unit



6 People Dormitory Unit



Weaving Through the Strawberries

Arnavutköy, Istanbul

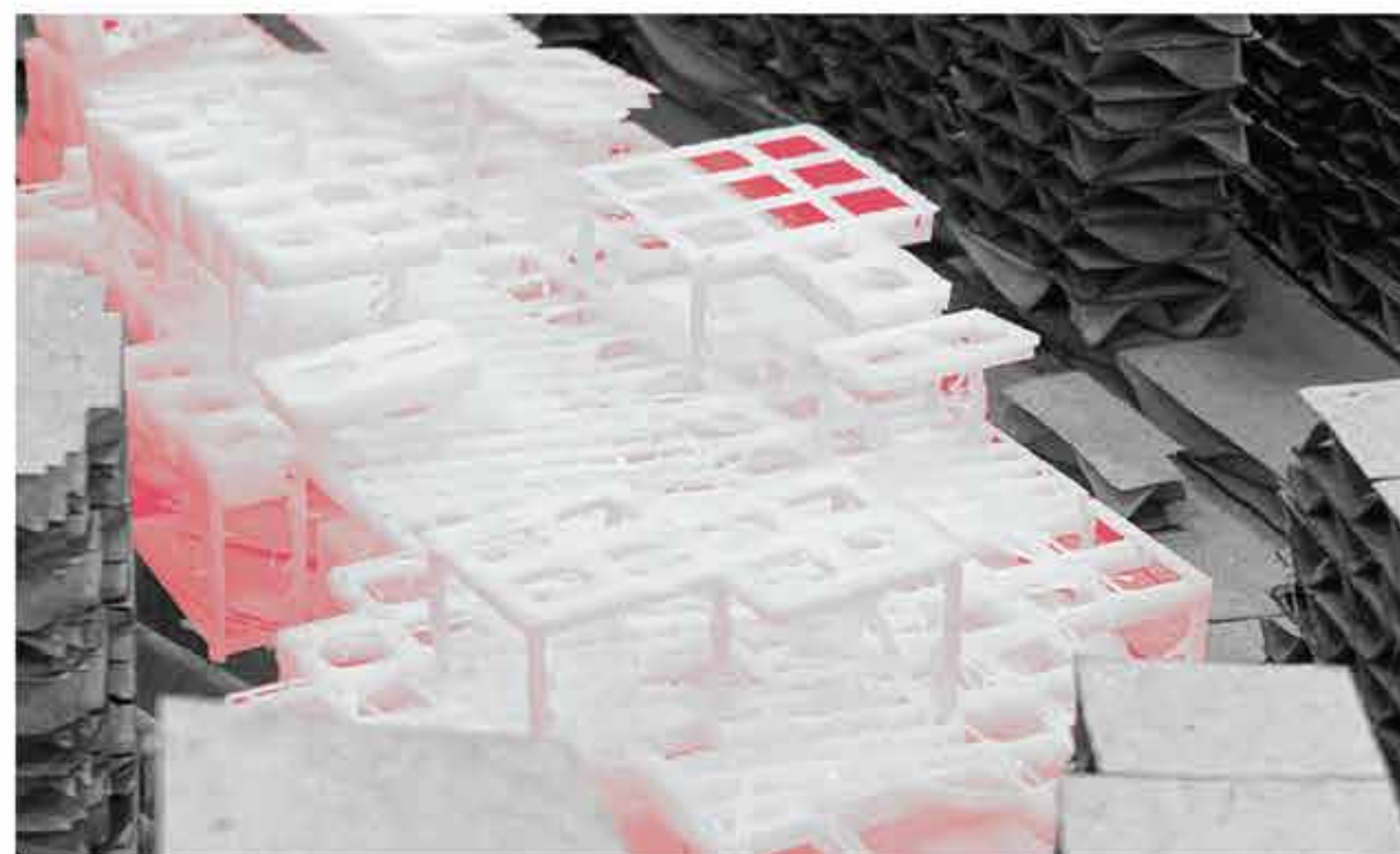
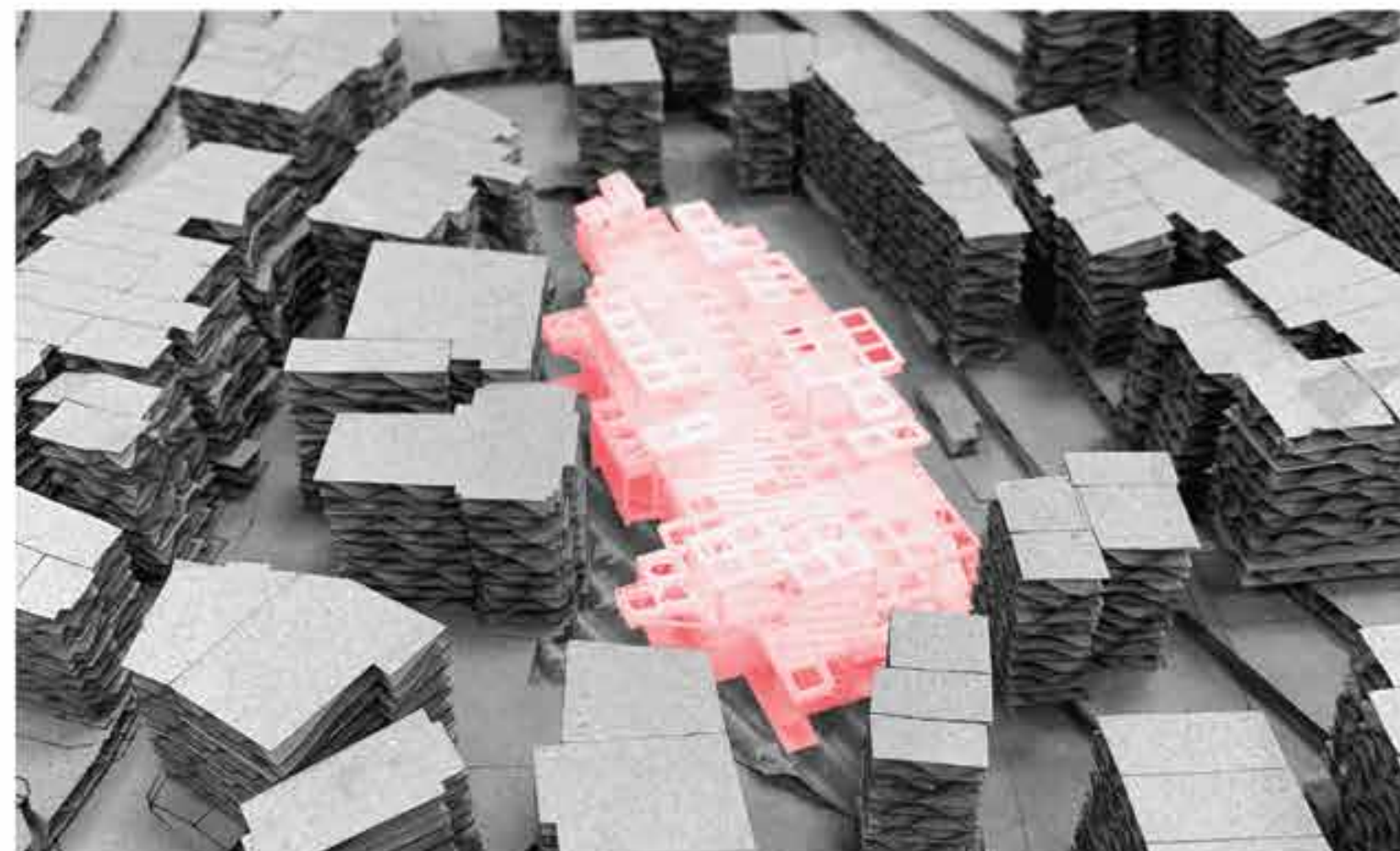
Featured in Kadir Has University's FAD Summer Show 2024

Individual Work

Kyena Adara

Supervisor

Ezgi Tuncer



Arnavutköy was once known for its incredible strawberry fields and as time has passed, those fields have only become mere remnants of time. Just like the fields, the older demographic of inhabitants who have settled in the neighborhood for years have been increasingly neglected.

Despite the aging population of Arnavutköy dominating the area, the neighborhood has yet to provide **leisure spaces** suitable for their needs; especially, to women. Research has revealed a huge disparity in women's and men's circulation patterns in the neighborhood where men feel safer roaming freely around the neighborhood.

The design of the market aims to provide a leisure space for women, with its form taking inspiration from **anyaman** (a traditional leisure activity for Indonesian women), the market acts as a heart of a series of urban networks ranging from utilizing tuk tuk transportation, boosting local economy through vegetable sellers and community-driven guerilla gardening.

Re-imagining a public space through a culturally sensitive and inclusive approach, bringing back agricultural history, bridging gaps between generations and ultimately **creating a safe space for older women**.

Main Site



Extending the main site throughout the whole neighborhood in a series of urban networks fosters a sense of community, enhances inclusivity within our older generation and enriching daily rituals of current inhabitants.

Urban Network



Guerrilla Gardening

The local community of gardening enthusiasts tackle empty plots of land to grow their own vegetables within the neighborhood.



Tuk Tuk Transportation

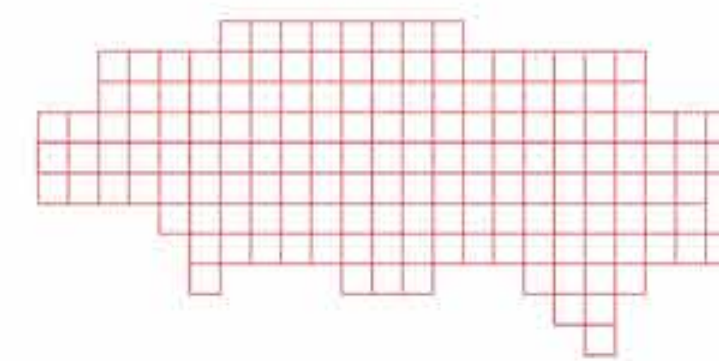
The Tuk Tuk transports vegetables from neighboring areas in supplying the market in the main site and vice versa.



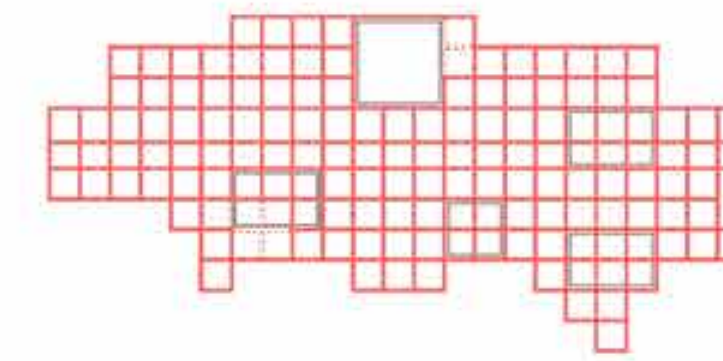
Local Vegetable Sellers

Local sellers bring market goods to sell around neighboring residential houses throughout the district.

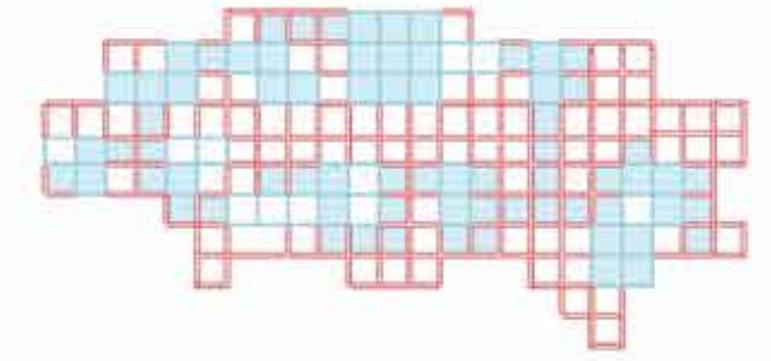
Urban Network Map



Establishing a grid system



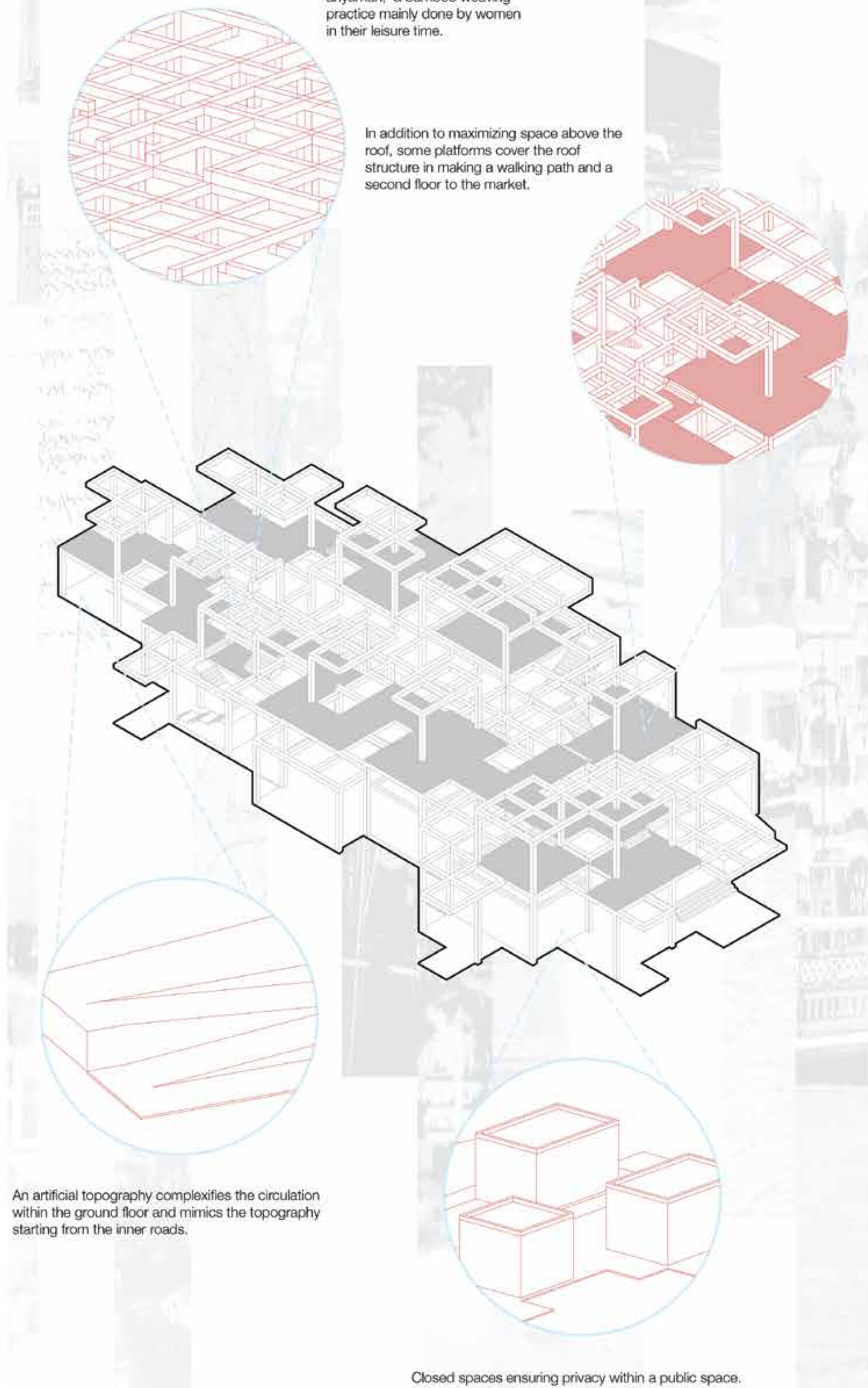
Initiating a roof corresponding to the closed spaces



Instating a walkable path with a second layer roof

The concept of the roof was inspired by the Indonesian anyaman, a bamboo weaving practice mainly done by women in their leisure time.

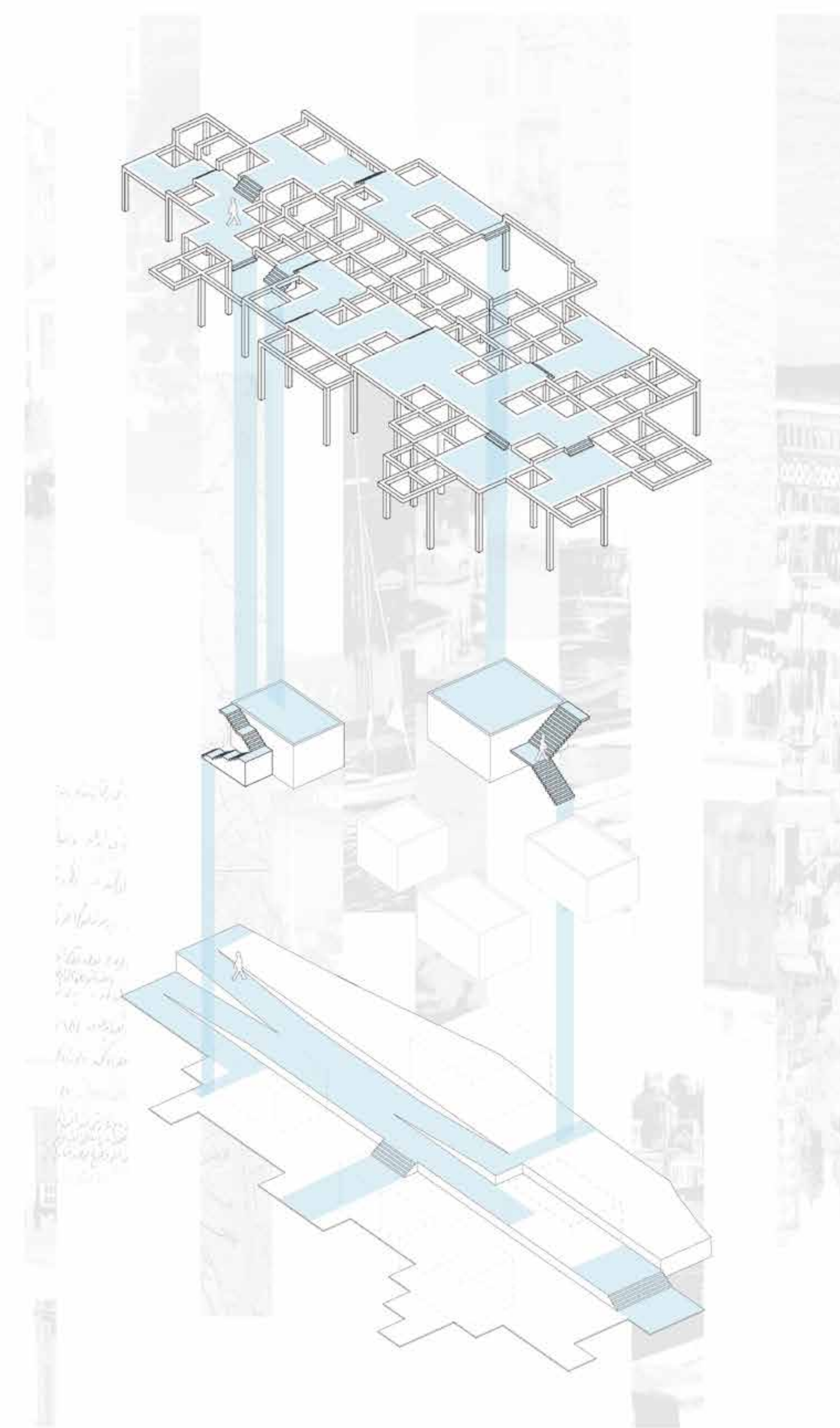
In addition to maximizing space above the roof, some platforms cover the roof structure in making a walking path and a second floor to the market.



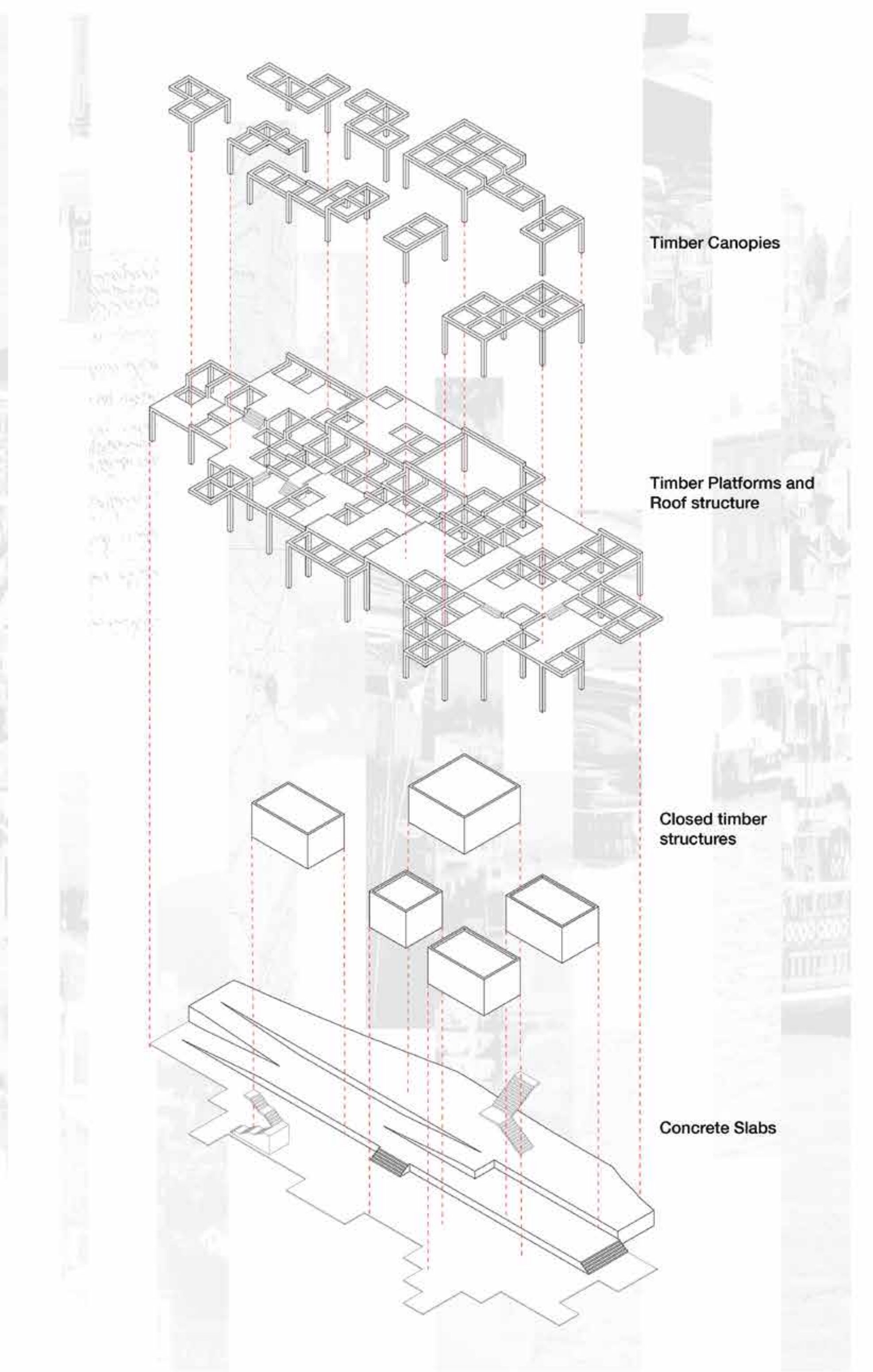
An artificial topography complexifies the circulation within the ground floor and mimics the topography starting from the inner roads.

Closed spaces ensuring privacy within a public space.

Programmatic Diagram



Circulation Diagram



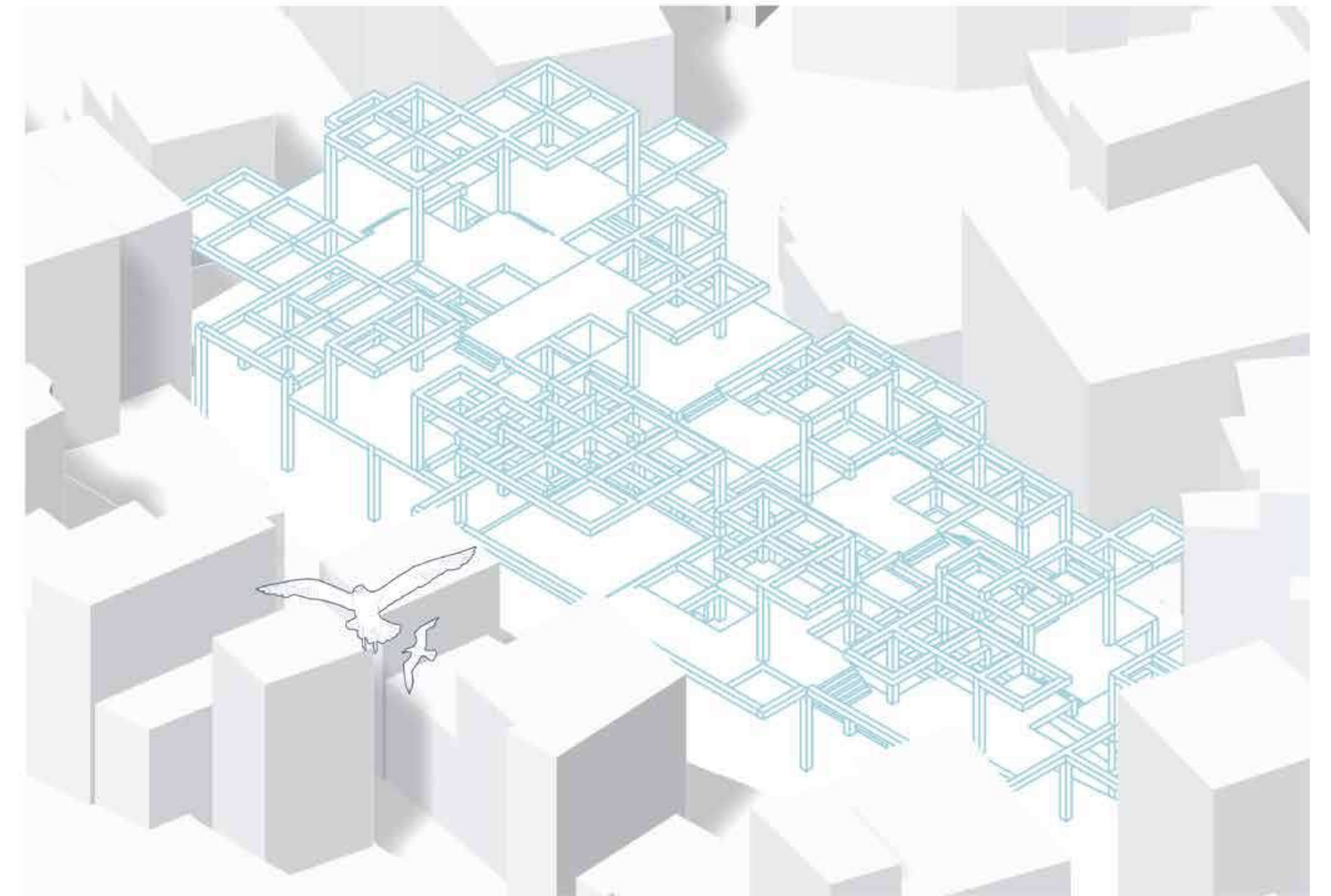
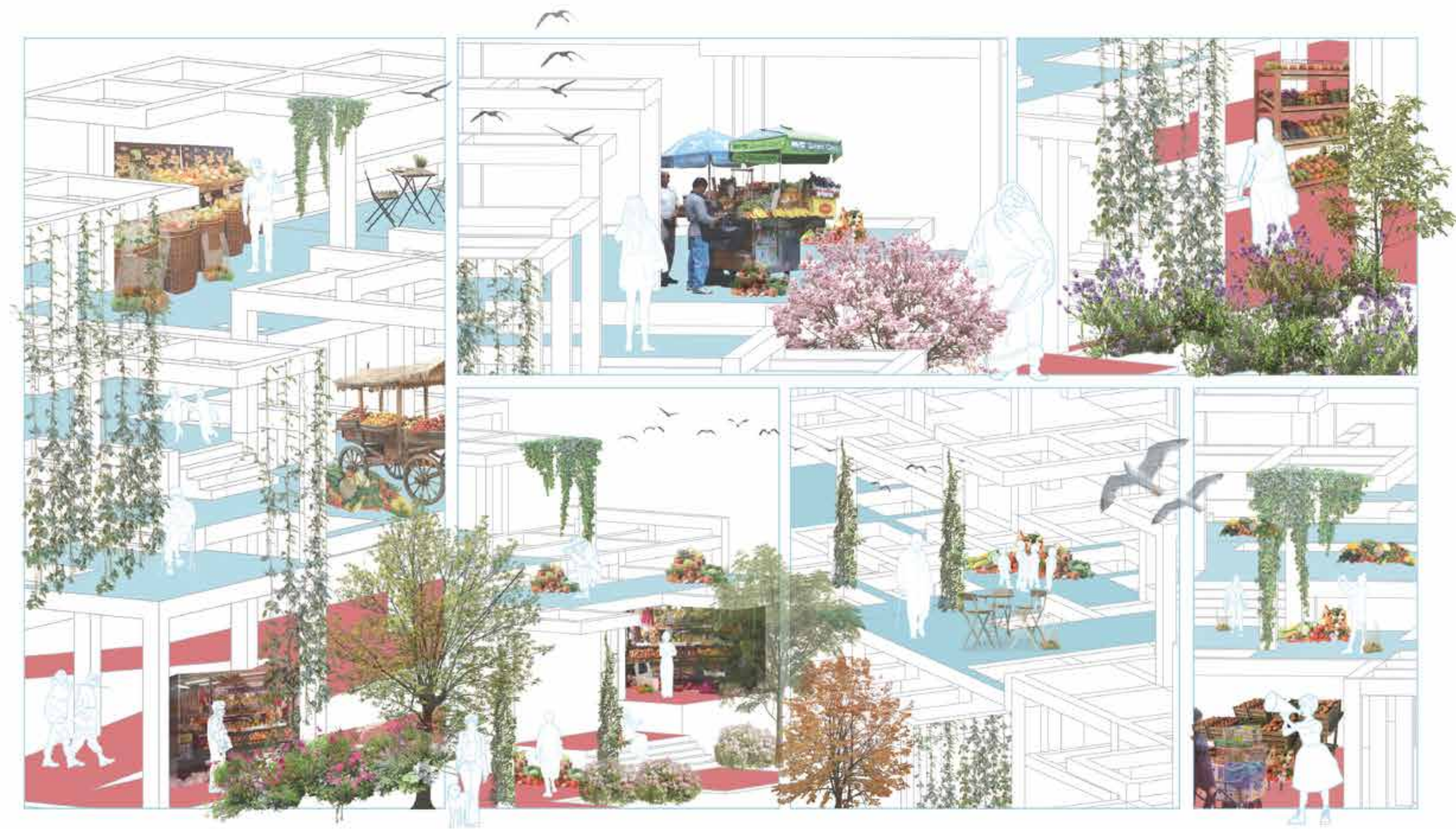
Timber Canopies

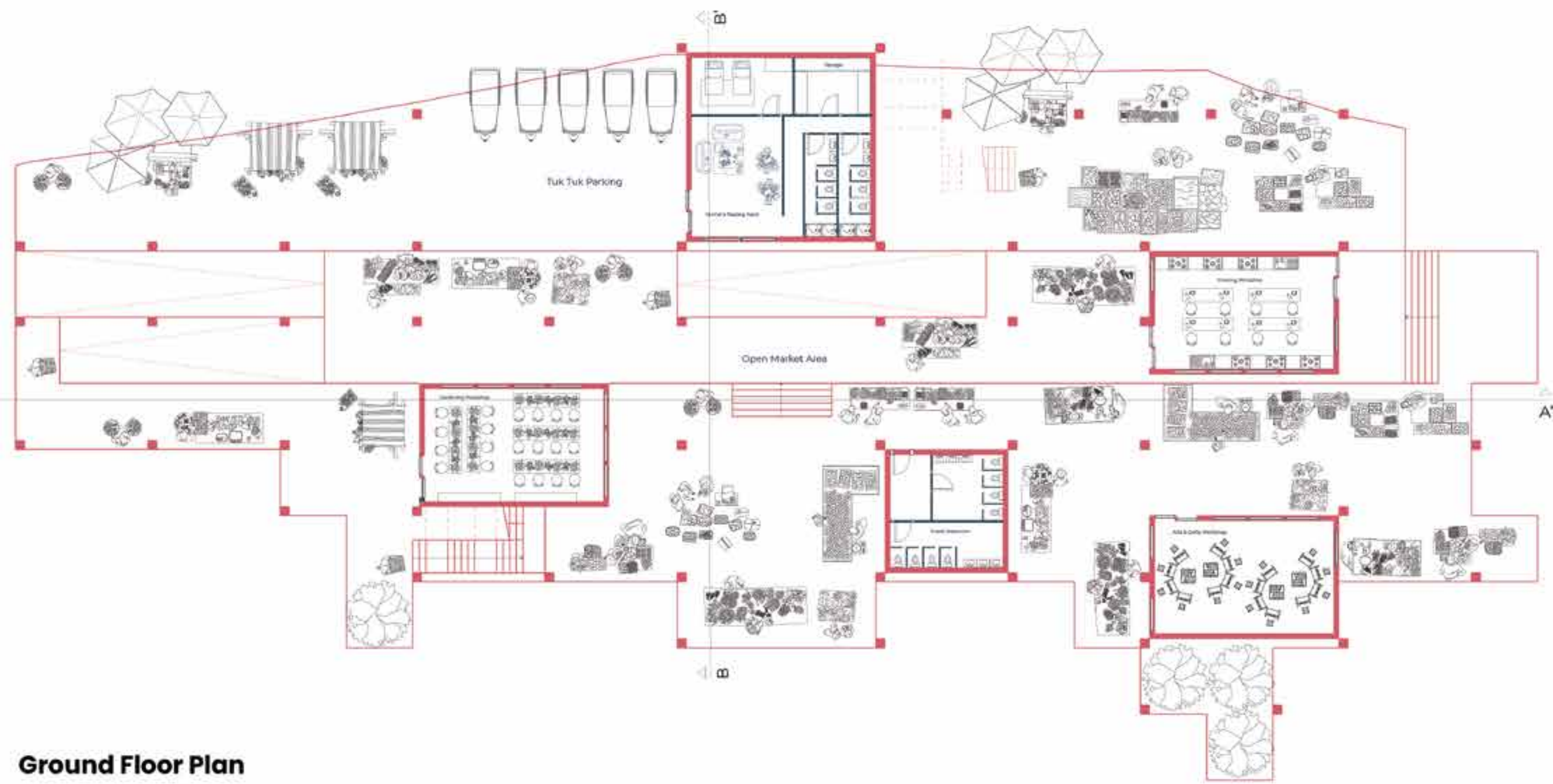
Timber Platforms and Roof structure

Closed timber structures

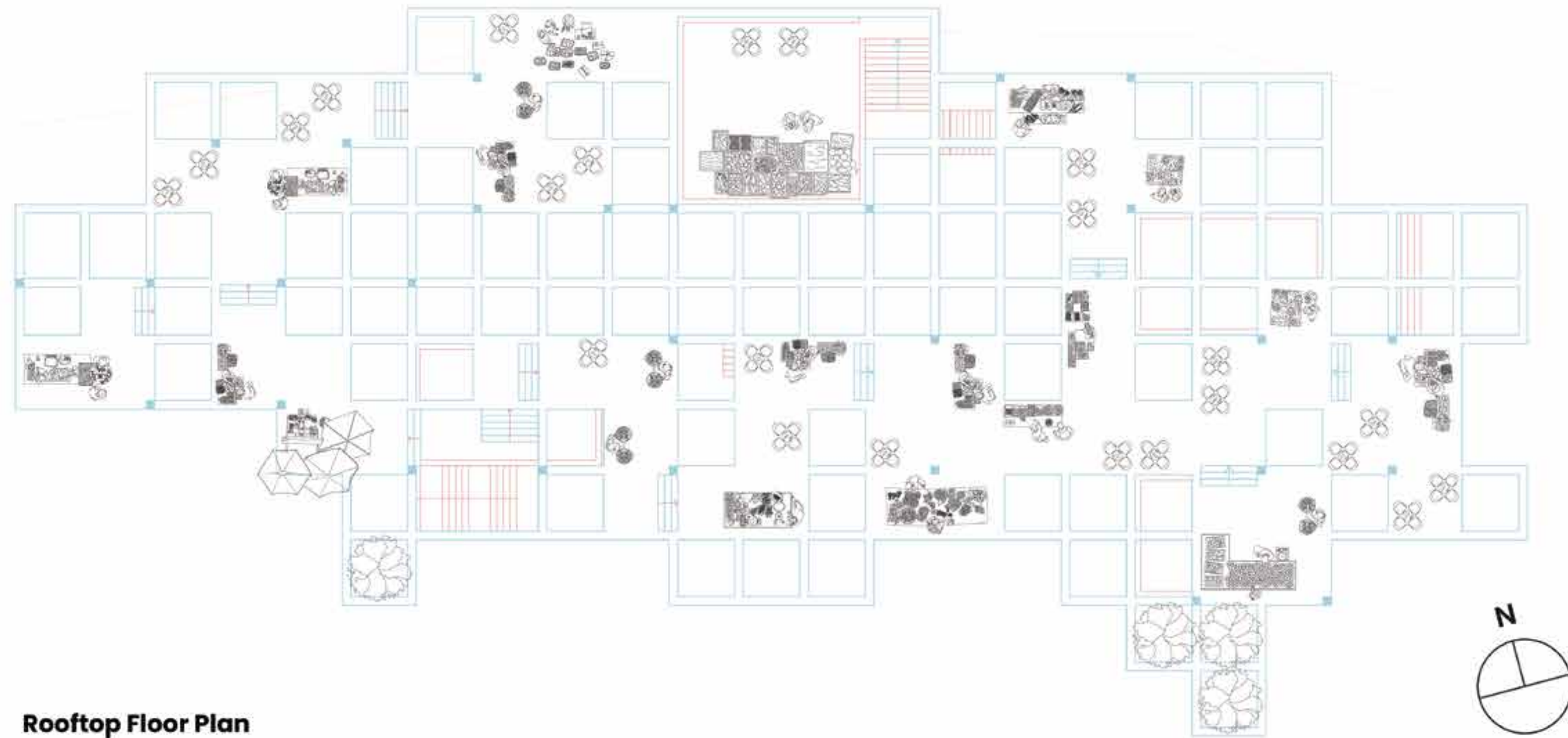
Concrete Slabs

Structural Diagram

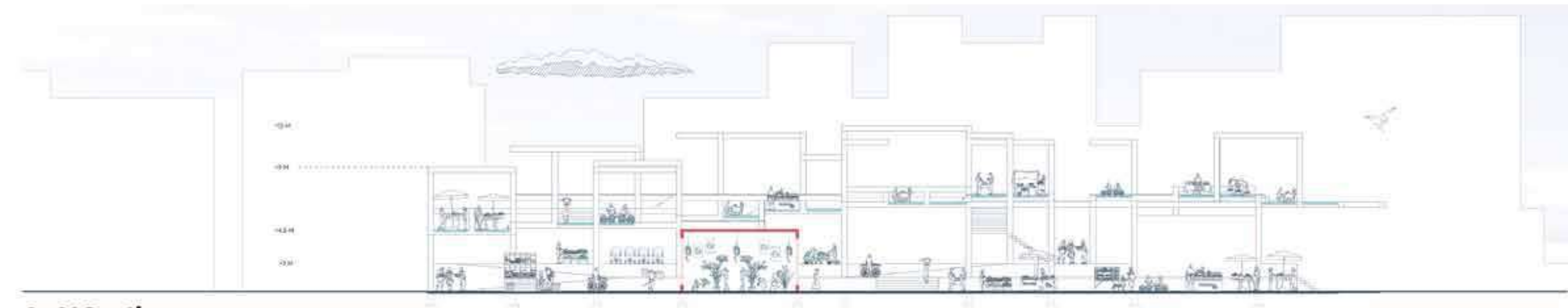




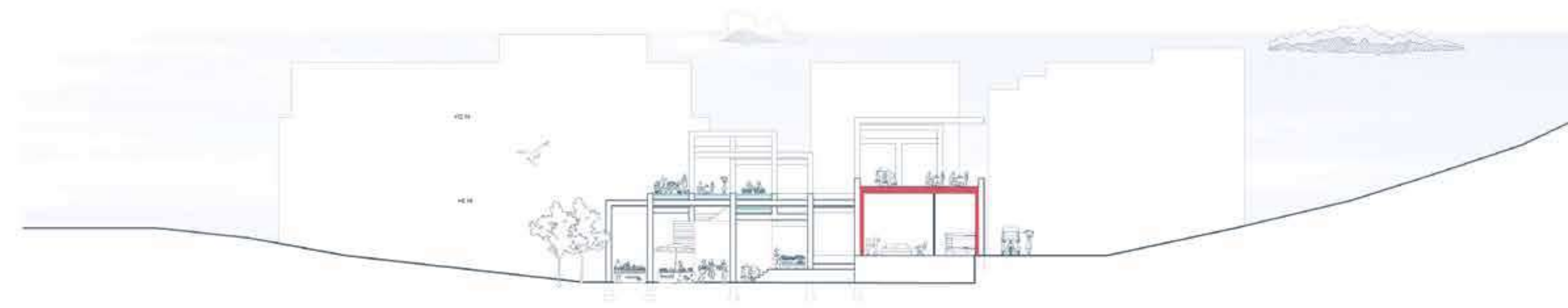
Ground Floor Plan



Rooftop Floor Plan



A-A' Section



B-B' Section



Dwelling in Balat

Balat, Istanbul

Finalist in 22. MimED Architecture Student Awards (MimED2023)

Featured in Türk Serbest Mimarlar Derneği (TürkSMD) Basamaklar'23

Individual Work

Kyena Adara

Supervisor

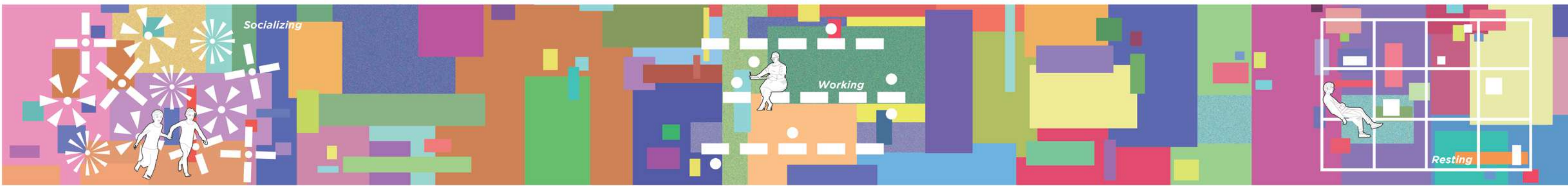
Tania Daphne Feldzer Şan

Dwelling in Balat is more than just a collective housing endeavor; it embodies the spatial soul of Balat. Designed to accommodate the influx of students within the area, this spatial complex attempts to assist students through their 3 main activities: **working, resting and socializing**. All while fostering relationships between people and nature, and with each other.

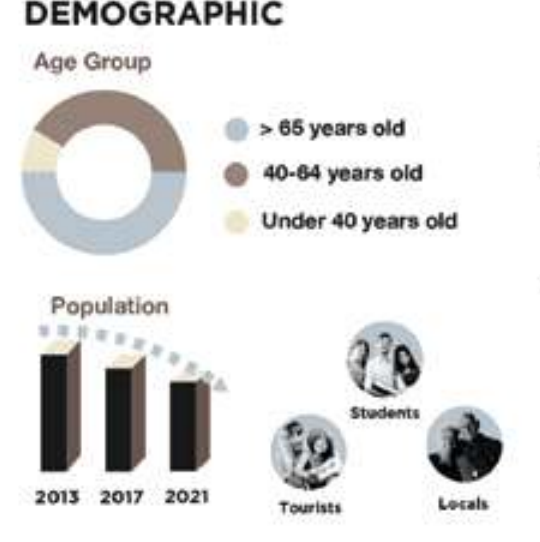
Considerably, Balat is included in UNESCO's list of heritage sites, where generally students find this particular neighborhood stimulating based on its distinct atmosphere.

The proposed site itself is situated across the landscape of **Çukurbostan park** where two worn-down residential buildings already stand, with an inaccessible plot hidden behind it. The proposed design concept includes a private void divided into residential and co-working spaces, with a public courtyard that establishes connections with its surrounding buildings.

The design also features a functional staircase which is able to accommodate many socializing and planting activities that will lead students to the rooftop garden. The facade is a representation of the neighborhood, through its variety of colors, shapes and sizes, the design aims to be an **inclusive space** which perfectly represents Balat's deep history in fostering relationships between different people of different religions and cultures.



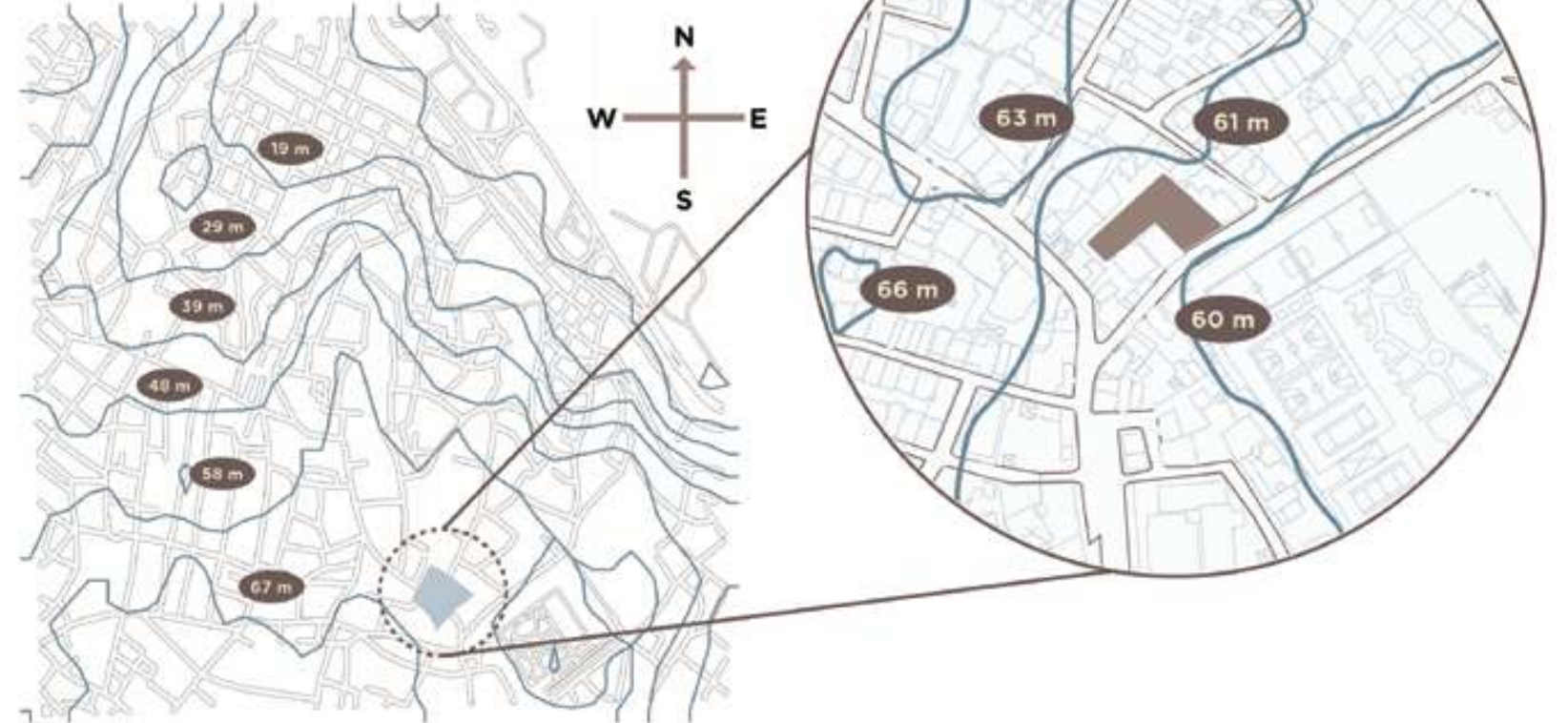
SITE LOCATION
CITY: ISTANBUL
DISTRICT: FATİH
NEIGHBORHOOD: BALAT



LANDMARKS



TOPOGRAPHY



The Balat neighborhood consists of many slopes and it gets on a higher ground level as we walk south. The proposed site is located on the higher end of the neighborhood.

GREEN SPACES

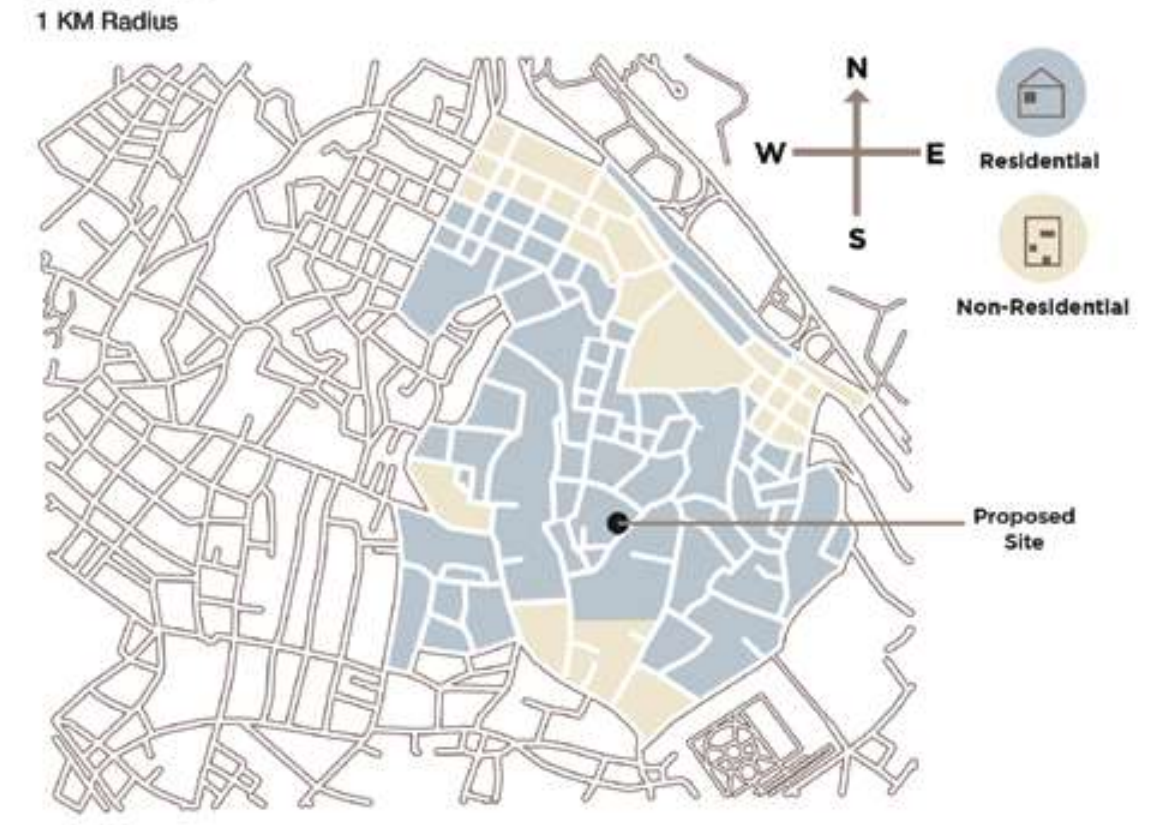


The proposed area has an adequate amount of existing vegetation around the area and a close proximity to a public park alongside having a view of Cukurbostan Park.

HISTORY

Balat, one of Istanbul's oldest neighborhoods, is on the list of UNESCO's heritage sites and used to be the former Jewish quarter of Istanbul. Historically, it's a place of passage for newcomers, welcoming mostly the Sephardic Jewish community in Constantinople and now it's one of the most charming neighborhoods in Istanbul. The neighborhood saw many devastation and fires throughout the years, but still stands out as it preserves Istanbul's historical texture. Despite it now being a crowded tourist attraction, the neighborhood experienced a depopulation during the Ottoman empire and later followed by the industrialization of the Golden Horn. While most of the city have changed over the past hundred of years, Balat has remained as a link to Turkey's Ottoman past and its modern era. On top of that, Balat has a deep neighborhood culture where it became a place where Muslims, Jews and Christians could co-exist as the neighbors were very close with each other as if the entire street were like they all came from the same big family.

ZONING



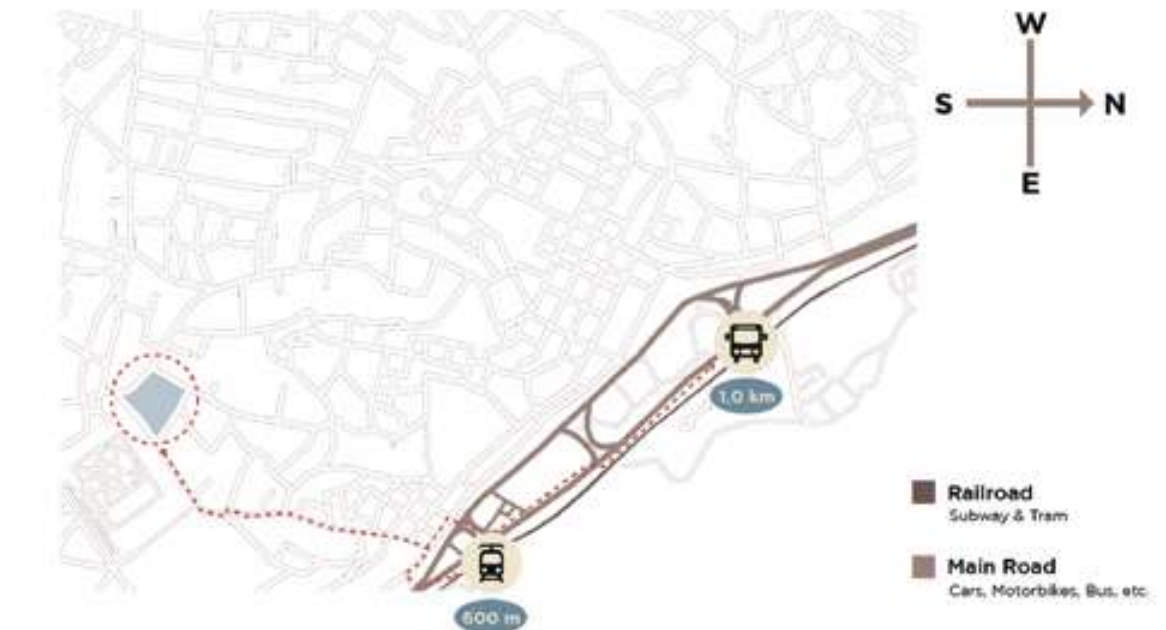
Balat's non-residential, majority retail areas, are on the edges of the neighborhood as the chosen site is close to the non-residential area in the south of Balat.

BUILDING DENSITY

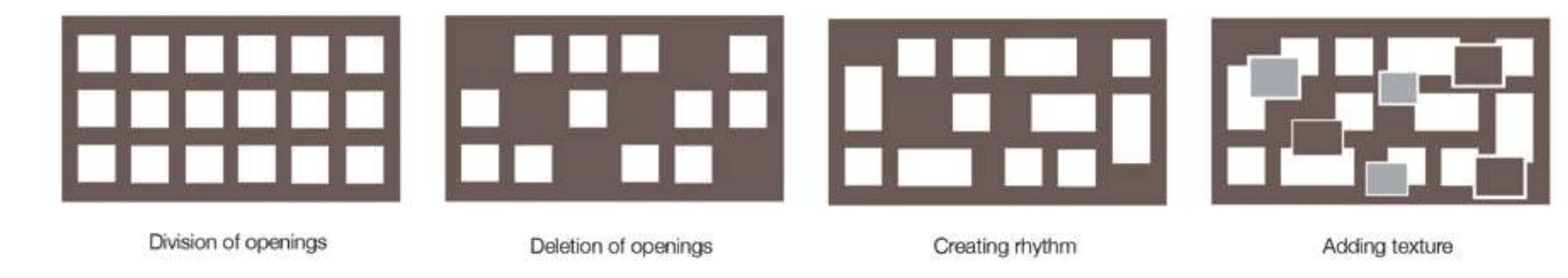
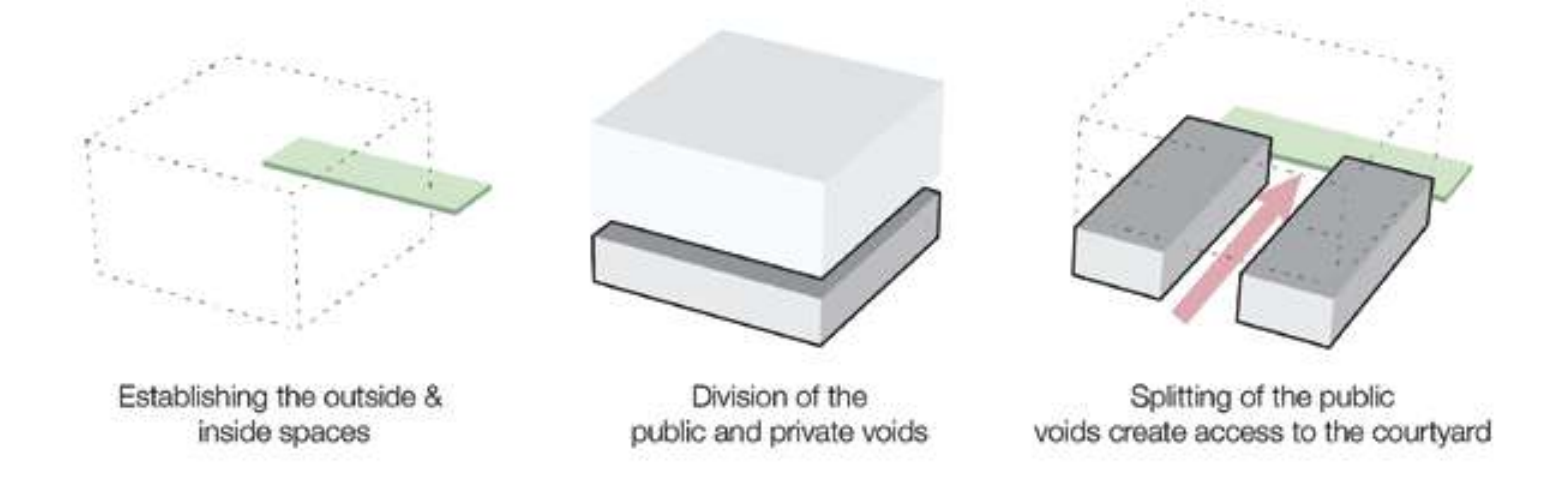
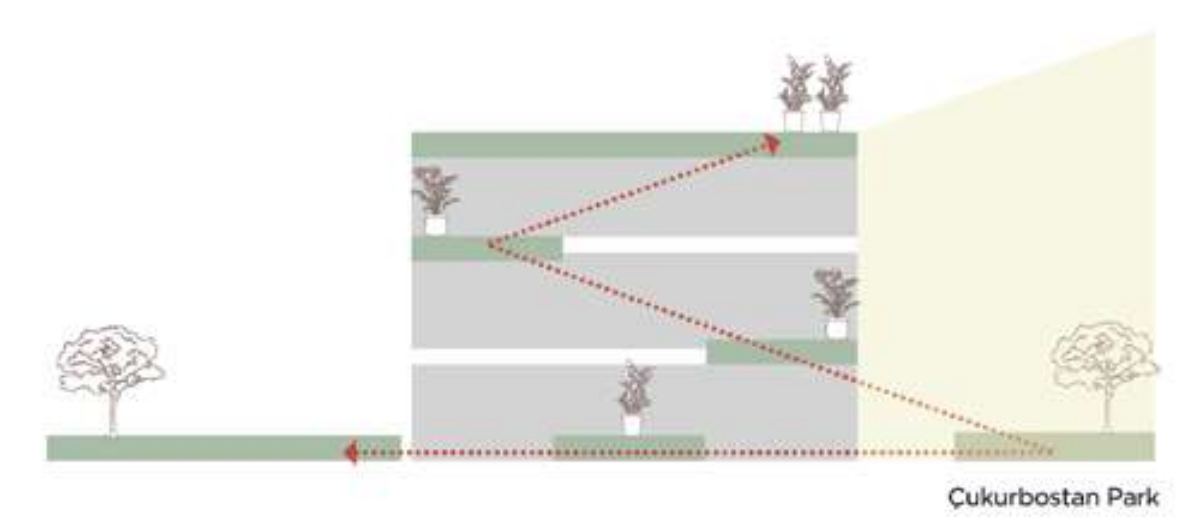
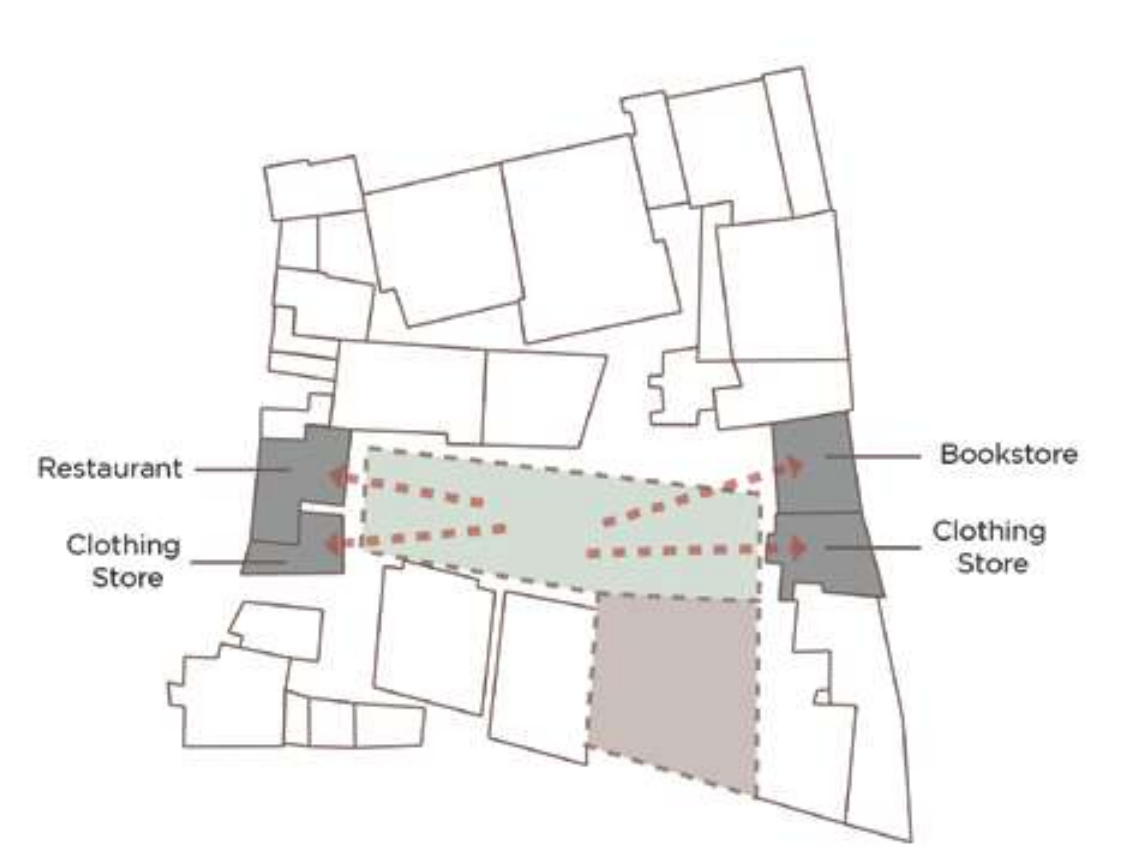


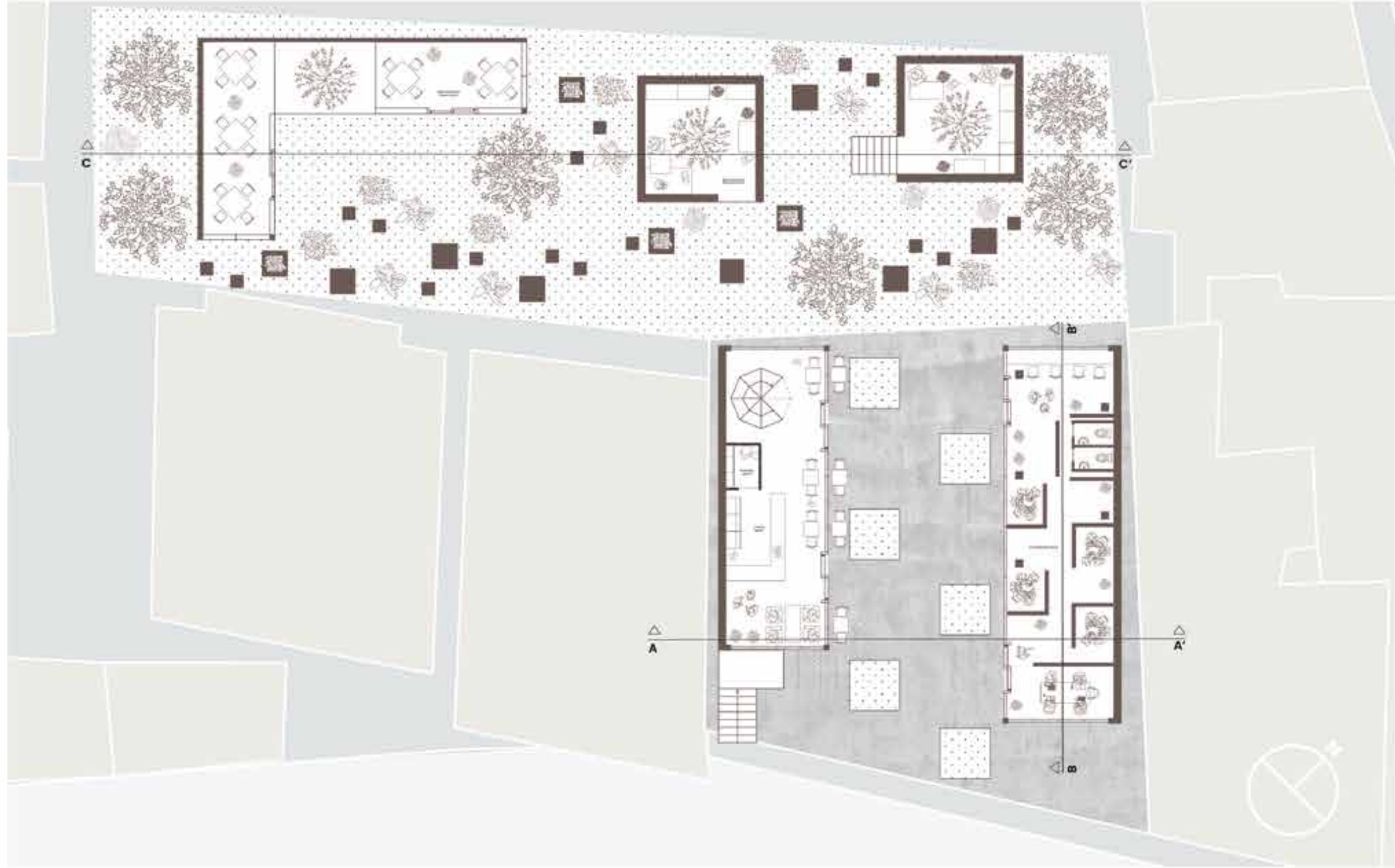
Balat, Fatih
Building density in Balat, compared to other neighborhoods in Istanbul, is more cluttered and seem more claustrophobic.

ACCESS AND MOBILITY



The proposed area is quite inaccessible to public transport as the closest proximity to public transport is approximately 600 m and is limited to only the tram and the bus.

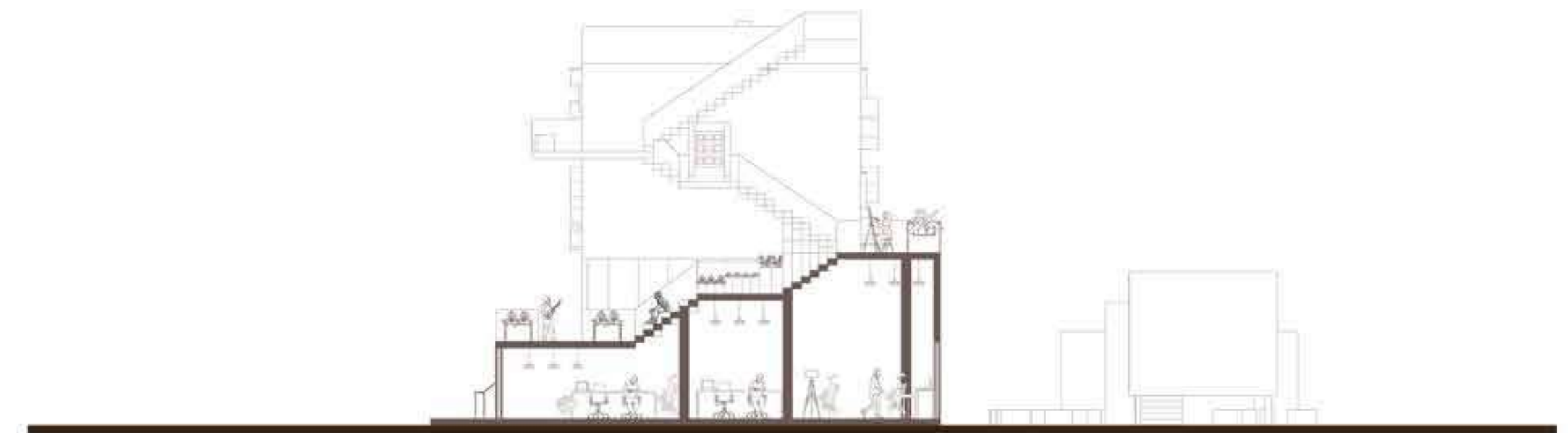




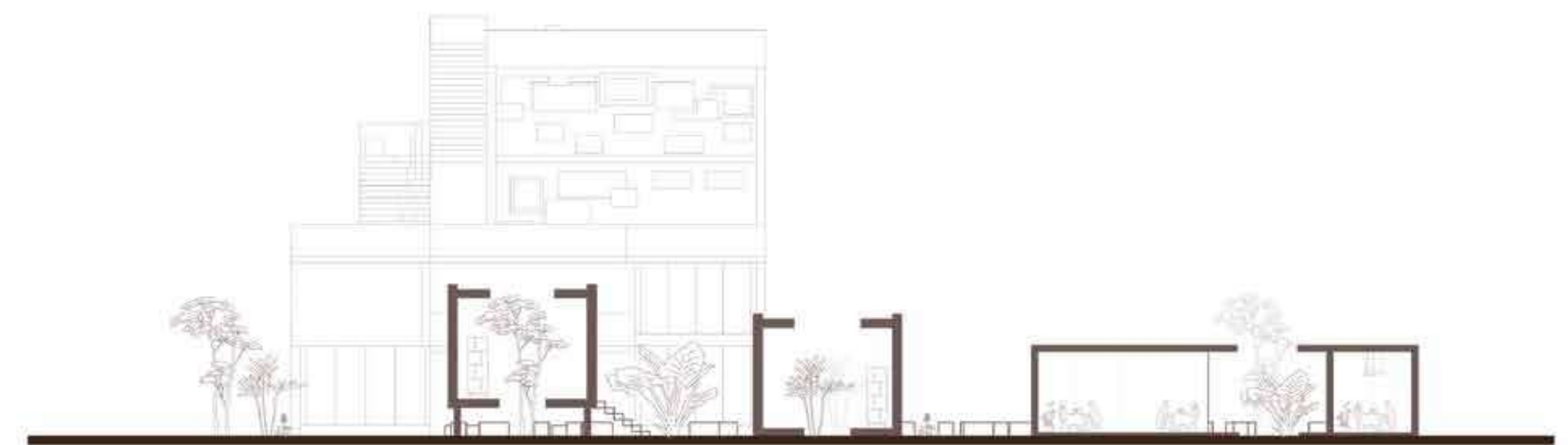
Ground Floor Plan



A-A' Section



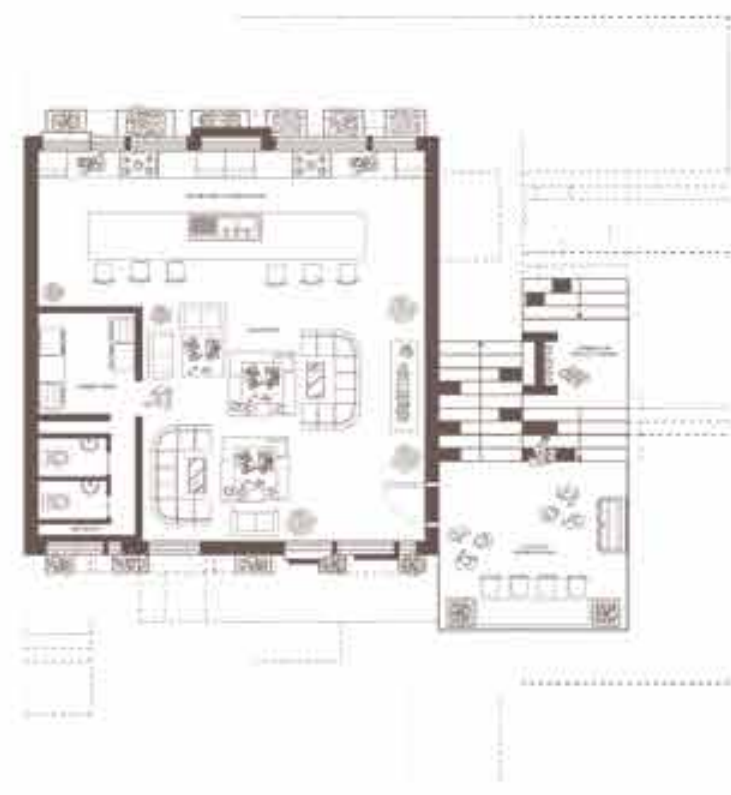
B-B' Section



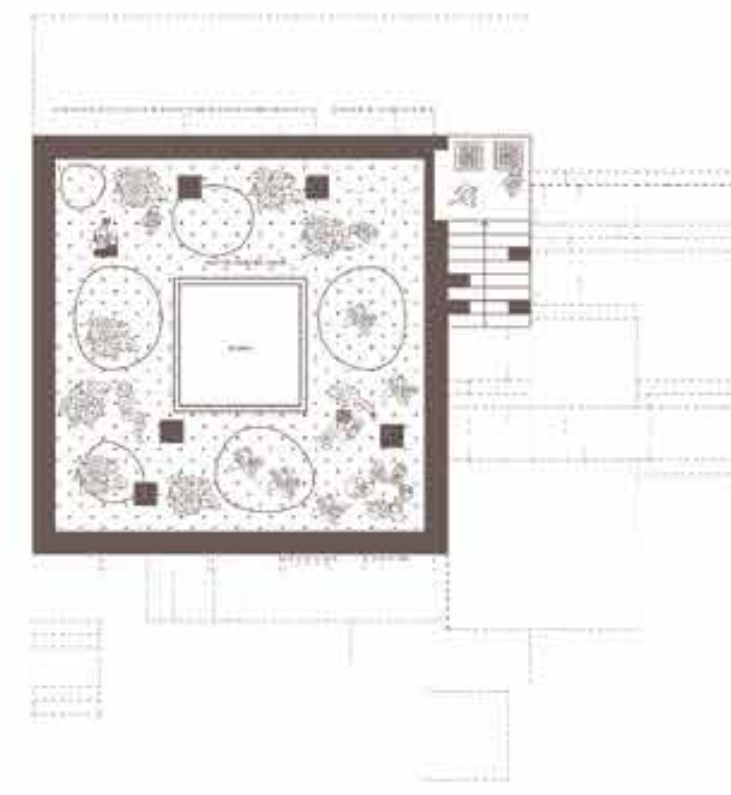
C-C' Section



+1 Floor



+2 Floor



Rooftop

Spatial Rain

Somewhere...

Featured in Türk Serbest Mimarlar Derneği (TürkSMD) Basamaklar'23

Individual Work

Kyena Adara

Supervisor

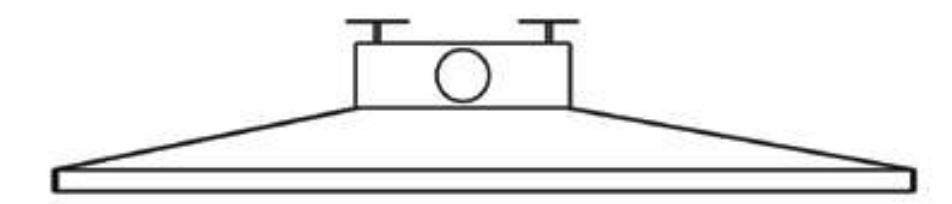
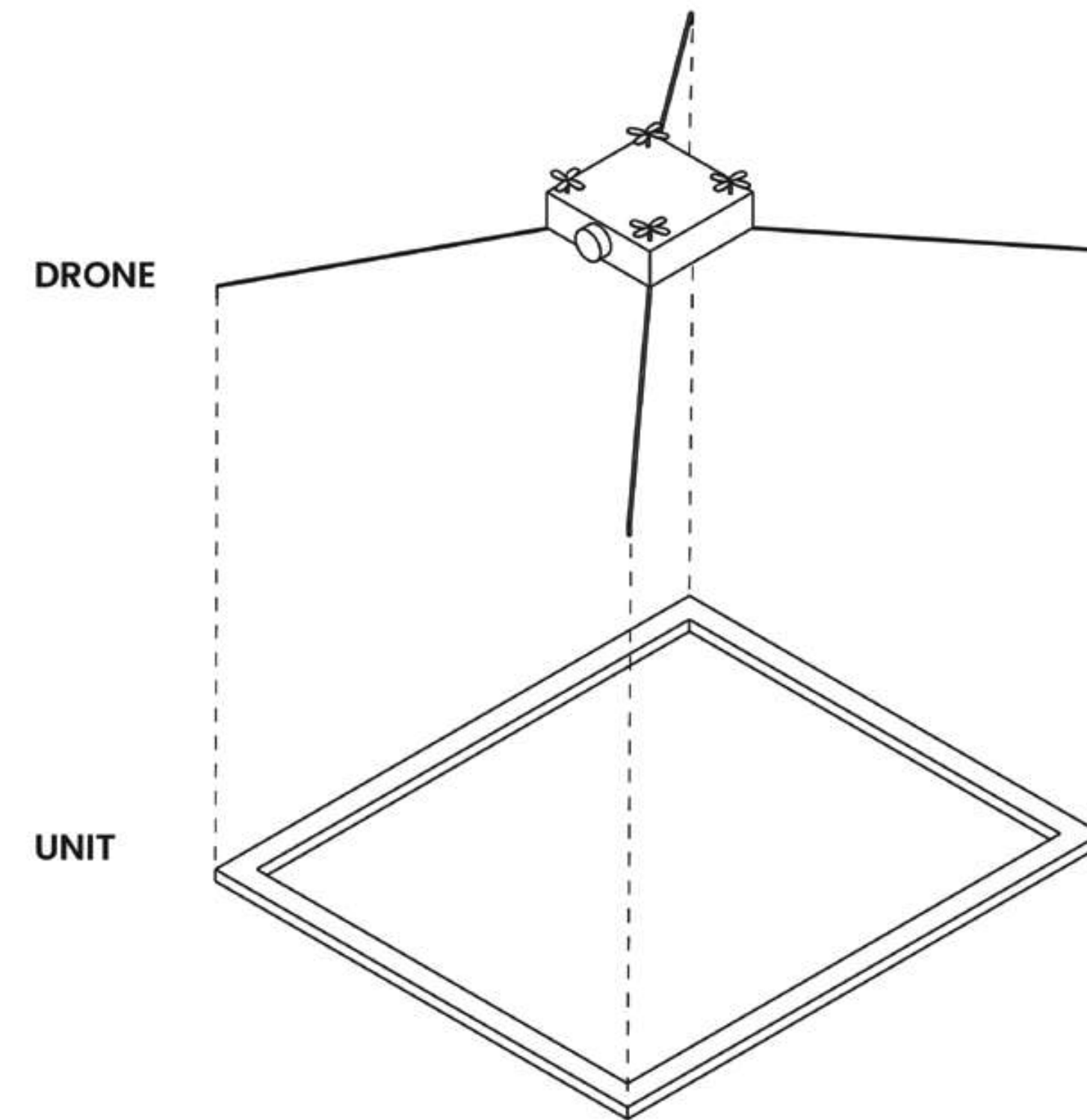
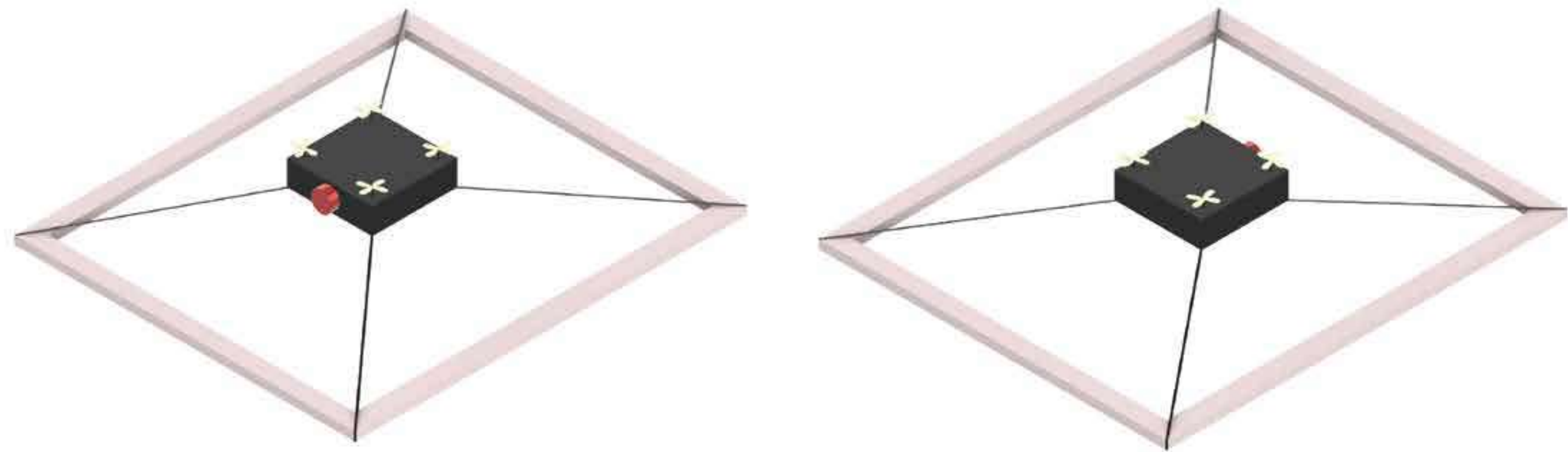
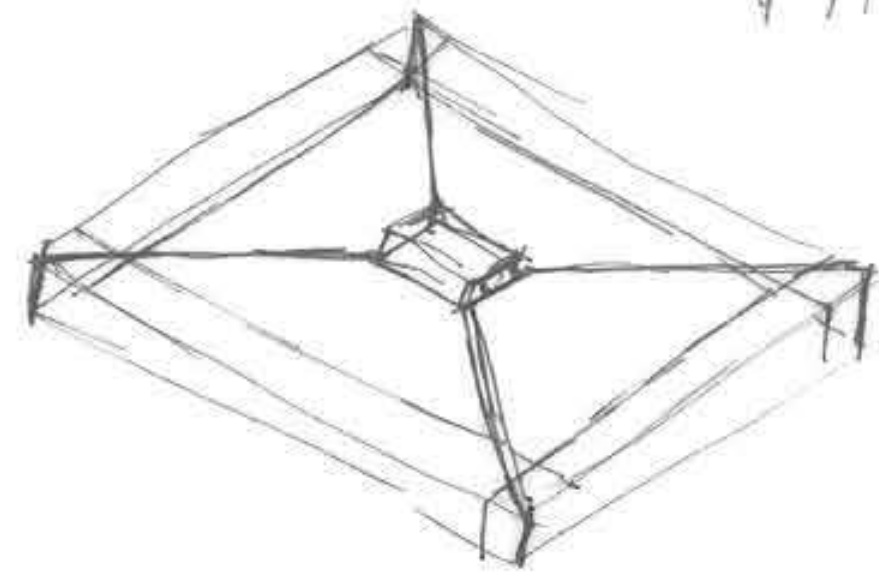
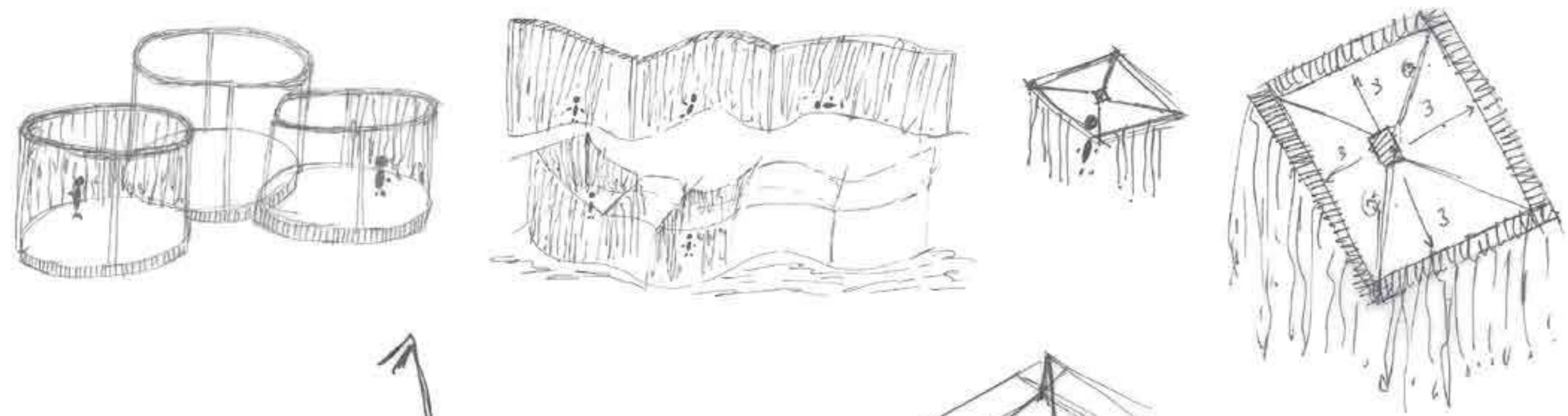
Ali Dur



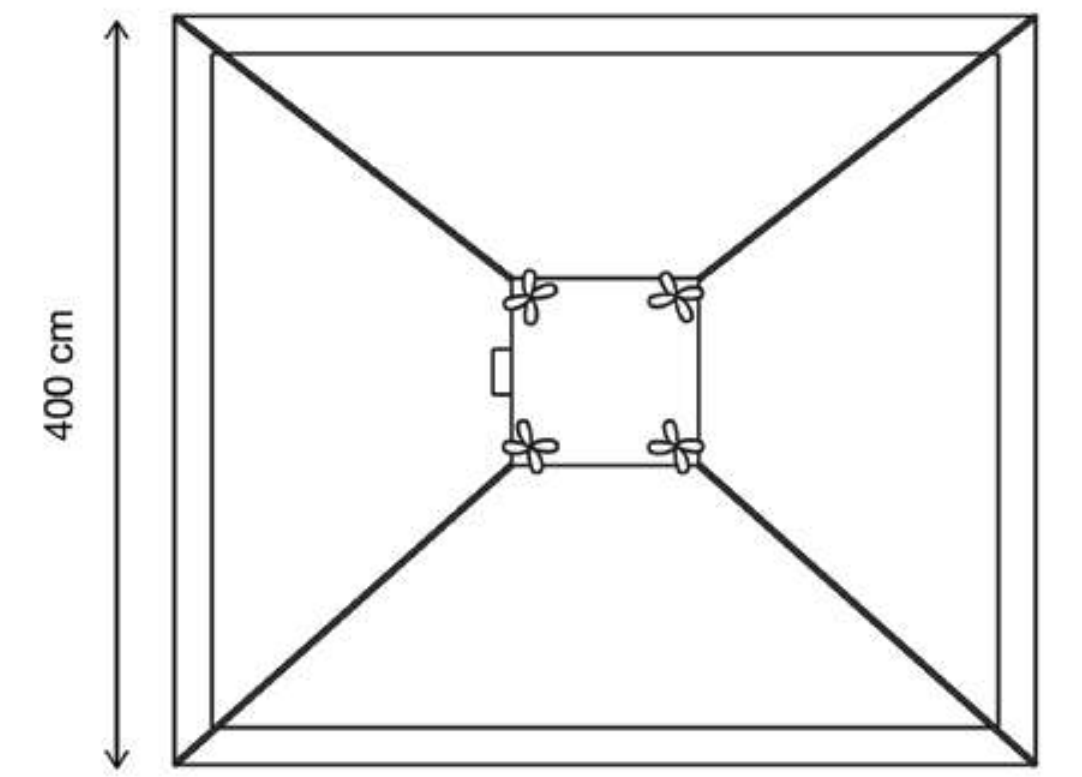
The "**Randoms**" module is a prompt-driven design project in which we were challenged to create anything within the spatial context, considering factors like location, size, and purpose. My assigned prompt was the following: "to protest", "visual range up to 3 meters" and "the exchange of 1-2 items."

Spatial Rain is a mechanism designed for highly drought areas and/or areas with hot surfaces in *protesting* against the high temperature. alongside providing a spatial experience between the user and their surroundings.

The drone carries the unit to the user and creates a "curtain of rain" which can be adjusted to the user through the app. The *heat exchange* between the cold rain and the hot surface creates a new boundary for the user and its surroundings- limiting their visual range to up to 3 meters.



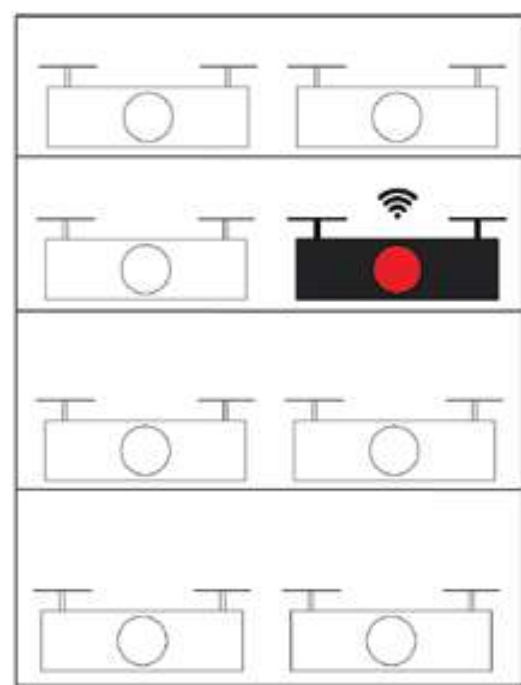
Front View



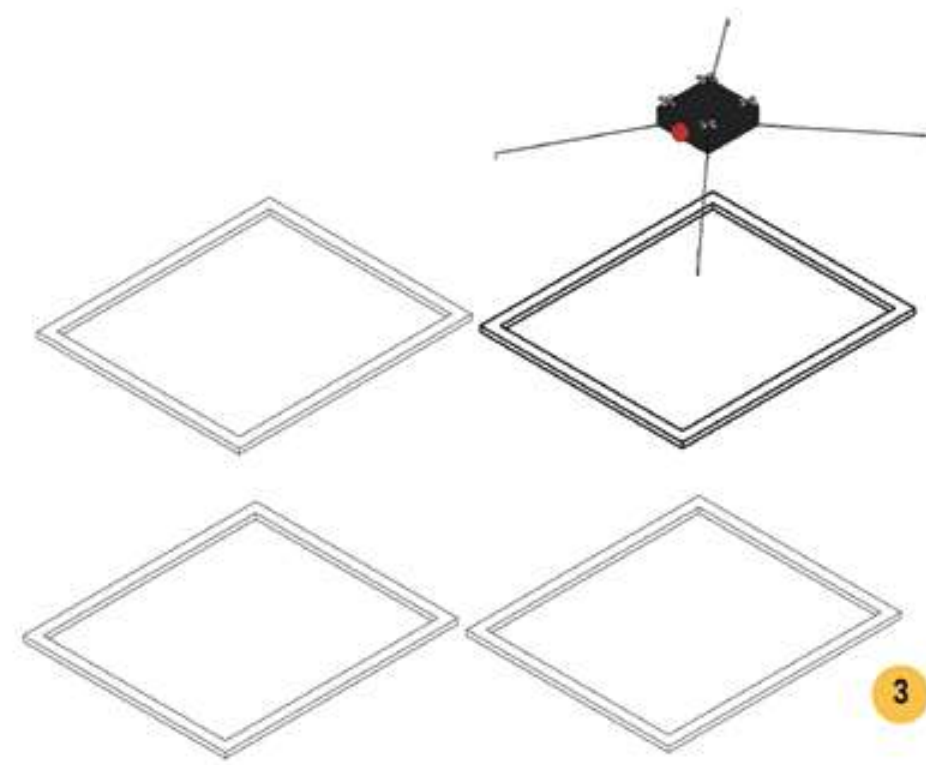
Top View



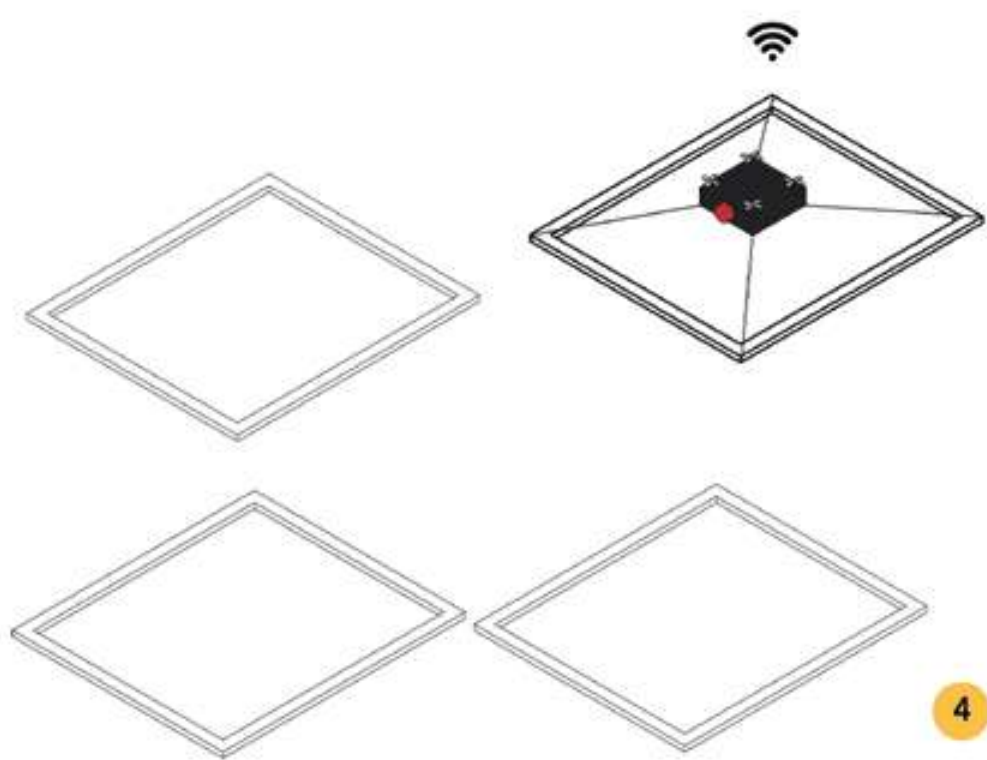
1



2



3



4



5



6

