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IN
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

SUBMITTAL FORM

THE MEMORY LANE

by

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INTRODUCTION

Bikfaya is a small town located in the Metn region, at an altitude of about 800 meters. It is at about 23Km from Beirut. The site is an important hub of the Metn region as it’s a center of circulation towards different destination like Dhour el Choueir.

Bikfaya used to be qualified as a village however as it will be shown throughout the inventory of the site it has evolved a lot through the years and can not be considered as such today; it’s a town. Although the site witness a demographic change between summer and winter it can not be considered as summer town since the difference in population is minimal. In fact due to its strategic location and proximity to the coast and to Beirut a lot of the inhabitants find it convenient to live there all year long.

Bikfaya is however, not only known due to its location but also due to its political symbolism as it is the hometown of the “Kateb” party as well as the usage of the serail as the summer house of the president. This town is also known, and visited for its peaches the “babcok” that are one of the main pride of the people there as they were initially imported and they are the only ones to grow them in the country.

This site is also interesting as it has witnessed a fast and important urban growth over the past few years, and although the town has become very modernized it is still surrounded by very green patches on both sides (el Naas & el Wadi).

Bikfaya is a very interesting town as it has both the characteristics of a village and a city and has a big potential due to its history location and people’s attachment to it.
SITE ISSUES & PROJECT STATEMENT

Fig 3- Axonometric highlighting the main issues

Scattered open spaces

Open spaces closed to public

Discontinuous sidewalks

Highway

Fig 4- Pictures highlighting the main issues
Lebanese villages are characterized by the presence of a main square where people gather and where the main events and festivals take place. Also when the word village is used the idea of safety, kids running, low traffic load also come to mind.

However, in Bikfaya we have a loss of this identity of the village and this is mainly seen by the division of the village in half by a main large street highlighted in red (fig3) this physical break created a division between people by decreasing the gathering spaces and the easy pedestrian circulation as well as destroying the old traditional character. In fact the public lands are now scattered all over the town and dispersed into narrow unused spaces, also the access to those spaces are very limited making them even less appealing to people. Finally, the town have lost on of its main features the town square that used to be the main area for gathering as well as the symbol of the town, it is important to note that all villages would be defined by the presence of a village square where people can gather, meet and where important festivals take place.

The main objective here is to reconstruct the village mood and feeling the site has lost by rethinking the pedestrian flow of bikfaya, and redefining the open spaces and their functions as well as rethinking and redesigning the future town square.
THEORETICAL SECTION

Fig 7-Diagram explaining place attachment

As shown in fig 7 Psychologist argue that place attachment is mainly formed by three important factors the process the person and the place each subdivided into different subcategories. Therefore in order for landscape architects to achieve a feeling of belonging in the users heart he should keep in mind those three main point. In reality a design is only considered successful if people help it sustain over different generation which is reached when they can have a form of attachment to those designed space.

In Bikfaya's case, the town is a very good example of a site towards which people feel attachment as they can relate different type of memories at different moment in their life to the site. However with tie a lot of their behavior toward the site as well as their old traditions have changed, and this is mainly due to the physical changes the town have witnessed.

In fact, the cognition and the behavior as well as the activities are still present in people's memory, however the “place” changed a lot over the year. Therefore two of the main component of place attachment are fulfilled in this town, and only one is lacking which lead to an important change in people's opinion of their hometown.

The main aim here is to understand the relation of the different spaces as they will serve to reconstruct a new physical space for people to interact and recreate new memories, leading hopefully to a reconstruction of the place attachment.

Finally it is important to note that in Bikfaya's case people are already trying to reconnect with their hometown and increase the community atmosphere as they started an organistaion “bibikfaya” wich aim is to create portunities for people to gather, reconnect to the past, and help the local production.

Logo of the community based organisation
## SITE INVENTORY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1845</td>
<td>Emire Haidar Governor of Mount Lebanon living in the serail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1870</td>
<td>Descendent of Emire Haidar living in the serail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1920</td>
<td>Serail given to municipality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1976</td>
<td>Enlargement of the highway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1974</td>
<td>Summer house of the president Amine Gemayel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1978</td>
<td>Flower Festival (1 week Long, once a year)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1982</td>
<td>Christmas, Flowers, Pesach Festival (1 or 2 week end long once a year)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The three figures 8-9-10 show the important changes the town have witnessed over the years. One of the most important ones being the change of the main square and its fragmentation into smaller entities, knowing that town’s square in Lebanon are very important we can easily understand how this Lebanese town have been loosing its characteristics elements. Also we can notice from the timeline how a lot of activities and festivals that used to happen in Bikfaya have stopped over the years but are now booming again as people have a need to gather and interact.
Fig 11-Land use map, Scale 1:3000
Most of the town is residential, however after widening the main road the commercial part of the village developed as well. In fact the number of shops grew from 20 to 200 in Bikfaya most of which are located along the main road on both sides. Also we can find a big number of churches in the town, which shows the importance of the religious practice among the residents of Bikfaya. Finally 3 important landmarks are located at the entrance of the village, all of which have an important emotional value to the people of the town.
Fig 13 - Road map, Scale 1:6000

Fig 14 - Road's pictures

Fig 15 - Graph showing the traffic flow on the main road
This axo highlight the real gap existant between the land ownership and the actual usage of the spaces. In fact most of the open spaces publicly owned in Bikfaya are fenced and closed to the public. Als a lot of land used by the different communities for public activities are initially privately owned.
Fig 17 - Entrance map, Scale 1:3000

Inaccessible to handicapped people (stair cases)
Most of the buildings located on both sides of the main road are shops and have their access points towards this circulation hub. This high intensity of shops along the main road leads to high density of people and a relatively low traffic speed. In fact, having a lack of public open spaces (fig16) and with this important intensity of shops (fig11) having their openings along the main road we can notice an important usage of the sidewalks as public spaces (fig18). As people take advantage of the shops as a meeting moment among each other.

Fig 18-

Fig 19-Collage showing the different shop entrances along the main road
Fig 20- Activities and users map
This map highlights the segregation of users in the different activities areas of the site. In fact, the different users groups only meet in a few activity areas which are usually the religious part of the site. Also based on this map, we can notice the centralisation of most of the activities of the site. In fact, they are mostly located at the entrance of the village and in the lower parts of it which is not very representative of what is normally found in typical Lebanese villages.

**Activities**
- Library
- Church
- Restaurant
- Cemetery
- Football Court and Play-ground
- Supermarket

**Users Group**
- Elderly (>60 years)
- Adults (25-60 years)
- Youth (15-25 years)
- Kids (<15 years)
Fig 22- Neighborhood map, scale 1:3000
Fig 23- Viewsheds map, and panramique view
Fig 24- Old buildings map, scale 1:3000
We can notice while looking at a section of the village that a lot of new buildings are being built along the town and that the old houses became scattered all over bikfaya. Which bring us back to the idea of the lost identity of the town. These typical lebanese houses (fig24) were a major component of the village character from an architectural point of view giving a certain character to the streets and the pedestrian train all over bikfaya.
"I spent all my childhood there, it was really fun, we used to have football and basketball tournaments with other villages."

"My kids used to play there with the other kids of the neighborhood."

"When I was a kid this is where I used to go bike with my sisters."

"This is where we used to gather, all the festivals were happening there, I still remember the flower festivals and the election of Miss flower."

"We used to go collect drinkable water, we always ended up with a gossiping session with my friends.

"When I was younger I used to do experiments with my friends in this empty land."

"This is the only place where we used to all be together during the war."

"I used to meet with my neighbors over there for coffee and chicha."
When talking to the inhabitant of Bikfaya memories could be map all over the site for different type of activities. Here again we notice a difference between the past and the presence. The passage from a typical and traditional lebanese village to a more modernised town within the Mount region. Also we notice that the different people from the different group age and the different neighborhood have common memories as they used to gather a lot in the past.
Finally we notice that the open spaces used by the people who were interviewed are scattered all over the village, which prove that there weren’t any neighborhood that was disadvantaged.
Fig 28-Elements blocking the sidewalks, scale 1:3000
The pedestrian flow on the sidewalks of the main road is very disturbed not only by the entrances to the different shops but also by the presence of different elements like shops displays, large trees or even bollards. Also this disturbance and irregular flow will be created by the fact that all over the village the sidewalks are discontinuous as they are inexistant along certain roads, but also by the fact that they have variable width.
Site Analysis

Fig 30-Car speed map, scale 1:3000
Although some speed limitation signs can be found on site they are not really respected as it is shown on the map (fig26). An interesting fact to notice here is the fluctuation of speed on the main road of the town and this is due to the activities happening on both sides, when the commercial activities is high on both side and the density of openings toward the main road is big the vehicular speed is reduced. Also another striking element here is the fact that the car speed on secondary roads is equal and sometimes bigger than on the main road and this can be explained first by the fact that there aren’t any activities happening on the sides of the streets, second due to the large width of those streets and third due to the absence of sidewalks and pedestrian circulation on them. This speed analysis highlight the unsafe character of the vehicular infrastructures for pedestrian usage on the site.
Fig 32-Slope analysis map, scale 1:3000
The difference in levels on site is quite important as the town is on a mountain side. Therefore it is important to analyse the different slope percentages to be able to categorize them according to the activities that could take place. Here the slopes are divided according to their bikability, walkability as well as for vehicular facilities and wheel chairs.
Fig 34-Crossings density map, scale 1:3000
Based on the activities happening on both sides of the road as well as the observations on site a map highlighting the densities of crossings needed at the different part of the main road was created (fig34). In fact, with this high commercial activity along the main road of Bikfaya crossings are important as people tend to gather on the sidewalks, do their shopping or simply go for a walk. Therefore, it is important to understand this dynamic and flow of pedestrian in this part of Bikfaya.
Fig 36-Crossings safety map, scale 1:3000
Along the main road the crossings are mainly unsafe as the road is very wide and no crossings facilities are present, also by looking at the car speed as well as the activities happening on the sides of the street it was easy to establish the extreme cases of unsafety. The opposite was also easy to establish in fact on tertiary narrow road within purely residential part of the town the car speed is much slower which allow for very safe pedestrian circulation.
Fig 38-Streets with special character map, scale 1:3000
By looking at the location of the old traditional houses as well as the width of the street and the presence of viewsheds the streets with a special character within the town were highlighted. In reality those street will provide the pedestrian with a better setting and an agreeable journey while walking in the streets like they used to do in the past.
Pedestrian Speed on the Main Road
Scale 1:3000

Continuous walk, fast speed
Disturbed walk, Lower speed

Fig 40 - Pedestrian flow map, scale 1:3000
Fig 41- Photomontages highlighting elements blocking the flow of pedestrian

By looking at the variation of the width of the different sidewalk along the main road as well as the presence of blocking elements or even the activities happening on the sides the flow of speed of pedestrian along the main road was analysed knowing that the narrower the sidewalks or the more blocked the slower the pedestrian the less the activities or shops on the side the fast the flow of people.

Continuous walk, fast speed

Disturbed walk, Lower speed
Fig 42 - Axo highlighting open spaces proximal to all the neighborhoods.
When looking at the distribution of the open spaces and activities as well as the distribution of neighborhoods we can notice that 3 of the main neighborhood of Bikfaya are “disadvantaged” when it comes to the proximity to the hubs of activities and gathering. Also as mentioned before the main road acts like a physical break not allowing an easy pedestrian circulation from the neighborhoods to the activities area. Here this axo allow us to locate potential hubs of gathering or small gathering area that would cater for the different neighborhood as they will be proximal to them (5 mins walk). Those will be part of a bigger network including the open spaces towards which the locals have a certain sense of belonging or that used to be important hubs to the inhabitants of the town.
GENERAL STRATEGY

Fig 43-Road Punctuation

Fig 44- Centralized space, main square

Fig 45- Linking spaces
At the beginning of the concept phase 3 different concept diagrams were created: Road punctuation, centralized spaces and linking spaces. Each of this concept aim was to tackle one of the main issues destroying the village mood and the place attachment of the site. In the first one (fig 42) the aim was to transform the main road from a physical break in the site to an area for gathering and connection of the two sides of the village. The second one (fig 43) aimed to create a central space that will act like a traditional Lebanese village square which will comprise all the activity and the main meeting area for the locals, finally (fig 44) the last one aim was to connect the small scattered open spaces all over the village in order to build a network that will be used to reconnect the people all over the village.
Fig 46- The memory lane
The final concept is a combination of the 3 initial concept diagrams developed. In fact “the memory lane” aim to reconnect the people all over the town by creating a network of spaces with different functions that would push people to gather, meet and perform different types of activities. Also, the connection will be across and along the main road as it is an important and imposing element of the site. Also, with this concept the pedestrian flow of the village will be reorganized in order to allow free circulation on the site as well as an increase of pedestrian activity as it is an important component of the village mood in Bikfaya.
Fig 47- Master plan concept diagrams

Connection along the main road

Connection through the main road

Connect the communities

Catering for all neighborhoods

Separation of users
The general strategy will mainly rely on 5 concepts 3 of which are about the connection through the site in order to make it easier for people to circulate in a pedestrian friendly manner as well as to bring back the communities together, also the aim will be to differentiate between the private area that will be used by the locals only and the areas where locals and visitors will interact.
Fig 48- Master plan scale 1:3000
Fig 49- Photomontage of bus stops and community garden festival

As a general strategy, different areas were identified according to functions as well as locations. First, pedestrian trails as they are a main feature of the village mood and safety for the locals. Second, church squares for gathering and celebration since religion and churches is a main component of their daily life, sports and play areas for teenagers and kids to interact and make the most of the location of the village in order to play in outdoor spaces. Some seatings along the sidewalks were identified in order to control the activities on this feature of the site. Finally, bus stops were identified in order to facilitate the access to the town from the different areas of the country.

It is also important to highlight the linking elements of the design; the continuous paver as well as the trees along all the streets of the site. The main area of interest will be the new town square as it is one of the most important features of a “village mood” and creating a new version of it will enhance place attachment.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Users</th>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Analysis Layers</th>
<th>Reason</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Visitors</td>
<td>Everyone</td>
<td>Parking</td>
<td></td>
<td>Create</td>
<td>40 Cars; 1340 m²</td>
<td>On one of the secondary roads as it will allow easy access for vehicles and at the edge of the main area catering for the public.</td>
<td>Cars density on main road&lt;br&gt;Car speed map</td>
<td>Since there is heavy traffic flow on the main road people will need to park in order to visit or &quot;discover the village&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adults and elderly</td>
<td></td>
<td>Memorial</td>
<td>Meditation, seating and viewing sheds</td>
<td>Maintain</td>
<td>1600 m²</td>
<td>already existing maintain it as it has an important symbolism</td>
<td>Land use (landmark)&lt;br&gt;Usegroup (activities)</td>
<td>The memorial for the kathea martyrs already exist and is visited by people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adults</td>
<td>Kids</td>
<td>Playground</td>
<td>Swings, slides, climbers, etc.</td>
<td>Maintain</td>
<td>2000 m²</td>
<td>maintaining its location as it is easily accessible from the main road and it is located next to the sports fields</td>
<td>Land use&lt;br&gt;Usegroup (activities)&lt;br&gt;Density of users map</td>
<td>It has a very specific character and it will continue bringing people together from any age. Since the community started promoting local goods and they are selling them all over the country they can promote their production within the village this will also help reducing the displays on the sidewalk.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adults</td>
<td>Adults</td>
<td>Market</td>
<td>selling local products and generating income</td>
<td>Create</td>
<td>3000 m²</td>
<td>located next to the main church often visited by people from other villages as well as to the parking lots to allow easy access to the people</td>
<td>The presence of Bilibilaya and the festivals Displays on sidewalks</td>
<td>As the area is known for sports tournaments between the different villages and Bilibilaya has a good basketball team it will be interesting to enhance the existing terrain as it has a very special character for recreation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth and young adults</td>
<td>Youth</td>
<td>Football &amp; basketball field</td>
<td>All types of sports activities (football, basketball, tennis, etc.)</td>
<td>Enhance</td>
<td>2260 m²</td>
<td>creating a new sports field facing the old one to cater for more sport activities. This site is also strategic as it is next to a school and an open recreational area for sports and youth</td>
<td>Activities map&lt;br&gt;Usegroup map&lt;br&gt;Memory map</td>
<td>As this part of the village will become very active and entertaining it is important to organise it in a way to accommodate for the biggest number of people.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Everyone</td>
<td>Everyone</td>
<td>Sports square</td>
<td>All types of sports activities as well as sports gathering if it can also serve as a square for the kids of the school</td>
<td>Create</td>
<td>1900 m²</td>
<td>Once the sports fields are redesigned and enhanced it will be important to cater for the parents and all the people coming to observe the games</td>
<td>Activities map&lt;br&gt;Usegroup map&lt;br&gt;Memory map</td>
<td>As this part of the village will become very active and entertaining it is important to organise it in a way to accommodate for the biggest number of people.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Everyone</td>
<td>Everyone</td>
<td>Cultural center &quot;maison du futur&quot;</td>
<td>Reading publishing and research</td>
<td>Create</td>
<td>2000 m²</td>
<td>It is newly created by the municipality and it is located next to the parking and market which will make it more practical for the visitors to use</td>
<td>Landmarks&lt;br&gt;Future plans and people's need</td>
<td>There is already a plan of creating this center and this can be an occasion for the town to be known in the region.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mix between locals and visitors</td>
<td>Everyone</td>
<td>Bus stop</td>
<td></td>
<td>Create</td>
<td>2000 m²</td>
<td>Along the main road</td>
<td>Car speed map&lt;br&gt;Crossings safety&lt;br&gt;Crossings density&lt;br&gt;Crossings safety&lt;br&gt;Disturbed pedestrian flow&lt;br&gt;Disturbed sidewalks</td>
<td>Having bus stop along the main road will allow a better organization of the traffic and ensure more safety for the pedestrians.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Everyone</td>
<td>Everyone</td>
<td>Safe crossings</td>
<td>walking and allowing for easier connectivity on site and commercial activity</td>
<td>Create</td>
<td>2000 m²</td>
<td>Located according to the analysis and the density of activities on both sides of the street</td>
<td>Crossings density&lt;br&gt;Crossings safety&lt;br&gt;Crossings safety&lt;br&gt;Disturbed pedestrian flow&lt;br&gt;Disturbed sidewalks</td>
<td>Having an important commercial area along the main road which creates a clear cut in a village people have to cross, this safety will increase the connection between the two parts of the town</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Everyone</td>
<td>Everyone</td>
<td>Library</td>
<td>books donation, books rental, reading and research</td>
<td>Maintain</td>
<td>1400 m²</td>
<td>maintained as it is it is proximal to the play ground as well as the cultural center and the sports area</td>
<td>Activities map&lt;br&gt;Density of users map</td>
<td>This library is a cultural center for all the region to use.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elderly</td>
<td>Elderly</td>
<td>Sacred garden</td>
<td>Praying, meditation etc.</td>
<td>Create</td>
<td>1400 m²</td>
<td>Located next to wall of gratitude and secluded from the other spaces with a dense vegetation</td>
<td>Based on observation and discussion with locals</td>
<td>Very religious community they have the tendency to use small gardens to pray those should be enhanced and properly managed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Everyone</td>
<td>Everyone</td>
<td>Multifunctional space</td>
<td>Backgarden a pinic table, also a space for ephemeral activities like festivals</td>
<td>Create</td>
<td>1400 m²</td>
<td>Located next to the parking in order to allow an easy access for visitors, this space is also large enough to cater for different activities</td>
<td>Based on needs and existing activities that are happening elsewhere</td>
<td>A community oriented town that organize a lot of festivals and ephemeral activities that need to take place in a more proper space.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Everyone</td>
<td>Everyone</td>
<td>Viewshed platforms</td>
<td>seating, meditation and admiring the view</td>
<td>Create</td>
<td>1400 m²</td>
<td>Located on the different highpoints oriented towards the valley</td>
<td>Based on existing viewsheds to highlight</td>
<td>It's an important feature to highlight for the visitors of the town.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local community</td>
<td>Adults</td>
<td>Gathering on streets</td>
<td>Gathering, interaction between people, seatings</td>
<td>Create</td>
<td>450 m²</td>
<td>located on existing large sidewalks and proximal to important activities hub</td>
<td>Activities and users group map&lt;br&gt;Disturbed pedestrian flow map&lt;br&gt;Discontinuous sidewalks</td>
<td>This activity already exist but is not done in an organized manner.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Everyone</td>
<td>Everyone</td>
<td>Pedestrian friendly street</td>
<td>walking</td>
<td>Create</td>
<td>450 m²</td>
<td>Chosen according to the special character of the spaces on these roads Streets with special character Unsafe crossings Disturbed pedestrian flow</td>
<td>Streets with special character&lt;br&gt;Unsafe crossings&lt;br&gt;Disturbed pedestrian flow&lt;br&gt;</td>
<td>This is a major component of the village mood.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Everyone</td>
<td>Everyone</td>
<td>Small pocket garden</td>
<td>seating, gatherings, small events, picnics etc.</td>
<td>Create</td>
<td>450 m²</td>
<td>Chosen according to the existing open spaces that are used today or were used by the locals as well as their proximity to the neighborhoods.</td>
<td>Memory map&lt;br&gt;Proximity of open spaces to neighborhoods&lt;br&gt;Locations</td>
<td>Locals have deemed of meeting in areas next to their houses in order to recreate a feeling of unity and village mood which will enhance the place attachment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Everyone</td>
<td>Everyone</td>
<td>Church square</td>
<td>marriage, funerals, religious festivals etc.</td>
<td>Maintain</td>
<td>3000 m²</td>
<td>Chosen to be next to the churches Streets with special character Users group and activities map</td>
<td>Streets with special character Users group and activities map</td>
<td>There is a need in a village to have open squares along with churches as people gather for happy and sad ceremonies, today they exist but they are not designed and managed.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
After looking at specific needs and strategic locations programs were assigned to the site this distribution of programs and functions will allow a reorganization of the pedestrian flow as well as the activities happening on site and the different users group. This table didn't only highlight the activities programs and location but also helped organize the programs according to the needs and the results of the analysis making them stronger and more easily to justify later in the design.
AREA OF INTEREST: DEVELOPMENT

Fig 51 - Concept diagrams (areas, connection, vegetation, users)

Fig 51.2 - Axonometric of the design elements
The main area of interest was designed based on the different areas important to create based on the table (fig 50) as well as the importance of connection through the site and the interaction between locals and visitors by creating a main hub of activities. Finally, the design was divided based on the most important features that are mainly related to the ground materials and colors and that highlight the connection towards the rest of the town (sidewalks).
Fig 52- Design lines preliminary trials

Fig 53- Final design line process (topography, walls, final design lines)
The design lines evolved a lot during the design process as it was hard to take decision regarding the pathways shapes and weather or not to make them curved or geometric, the connection between the different platforms was also hard to achieve but the final design lines were the mix between the existing contour lines directions and the existing geometric retaining walls making them much stronger than they were.
Fig 54- Final design lines scale 1:2000
The final design lines had to adapt to the existing elements of the site and had to differ from one area to the other according to the elements of the site and the programs but the colors of paving as well as the material created a certain homogeneity throughout the site and its different areas, programs and experiences.
AREA OF INTEREST

Fig 55- Rendered plan scale 1:2000
The final design of the new town square is about creating a space where locals and visitors can interact on different levels; sports, religious practices, markets and so on. By enlarging the town square and forbidding vehicular access the design offers a large space at the entrance of the town for all the people to meet regardless of their age beliefs or the activities they want to practice. This new village square doesn’t only offer a space for gathering and meetings but also a space for people to practice sports retrieve or even religious beliefs. The design is not only about the different platforms it is also about an easy access to the different part of the design through a very changing floor color as well as material indicating to the visitors of the site the different experiences they can have or the different programs they are entering. Also I took the decision to expand and preserve the existing vegetation of the site in order to preserve its mood and identity and increasing the peach trees as well as the peach color which is the symbol of the town. More modern furniture have been placed in order to create a contrast. It is important to note that in order to enhance place attachment and reconstruct a physical space doesn’t mean to recreate the exact place but give the people a physical space to recreate new memories.

In conclusion, this design is a very simple example of what can be done in the different villages of the countries that have lost their identity especially by the creation of large oversized main roads that cut villages in half. In fact, the Lebanese community have a very present sense of belonging and it is relatively easy to create place attachment in the different community however we have a lack of physical spaces and places where people can go meet, and create memories in order to reinforce this feeling.
Fig 56- Hardscape plan scale 1:2000
Fig 57.1 - Wall detail

Fig 57.2 - Sidewalk detail

Fig 57.3 - Plating on sidewalk detail & link between pavers detail

Fig 57.4 - Paving details
Fig 58- Softscape plan scale 1:2000
Active Area
1. Recreational space for school + mini basketball
2. Sports field “Nadi el amal” (ping pong, Basketball and mini football)
3. Playground

Sacred Area
4. Wall of gratitude, prayer square
5. Church entrance platform
6. Large square acting like church square and gathering space for the people (religious festivals, weddings, etc.)

Arrival Area
7. Memorial square
8. Connector structure between the arrival area and the interactional area, viewing points with seatings areas

Interactional Area
9. Outdoor exhibition square for the Serai (newly the “maison du futur”) the new cultural center
10. Reading area
11. Multi-usage space for festivals, concerts, birthdays and every day usage (baskinrood and picnic tables etc.)
12. Parking

Legend
Trees
- Pinus pinea, Stone Pine, and Quercus Ilex Oak Forest
- Pinus 15x15 m, Quercus 20x15 m

- Pteropus Orientalis, Oriental Plane (existing street trees)
- Plane: 30x5 m

- Cedrus Libani, Lebanese Cedar and Juniperus Communis, Juniper Trees
- Cedar: 20x12 m, Juniper: 10x3 m

- Prunus Persica, Peach Tree
- Peach: 5.5x4 m

Shrubs
- Photinia Red, Japanese Photinia
- Photinia: 10x3 m

- Rosa Rugosa Rose
- Rosa: 1x2 m

- Ramunius Officinalis Rosemary
- Rosemary: 1.5x1 m

Grass
Fig 59- Sections & elevation
Fig 60- Inspiration images

Outdoor basketball field
Backgamond and chess tables
Pathway through mediterranean vegetation

Outdoor reading area
Pedestrian friendly street
Seating around tree trunks
Fig 61-Design perspectives
Fig 62-Lighting Plan
Fig 63 - Lighting Plan

- Lighting of the main road
- Lighting of trees on the arrival area
- Lighting of the buildings on site (church and serail)
- Lighting for pathways in the area of interest
- Lighting for pathways in vegetated areas
CASE STUDIES
Paley Park

Location: New York City

Designed by: Zion and Breen

Implementation: Completed in 1967

Size: 4,200 Sq feet

This project is dealing with a small pocket garden in New York City. It's an urban oasis in the middle of tall buildings that was designed with movable seatings as well as fixed seatings integrated with the planters. The location of this garden is interesting as it's right on the street and allow people to have interaction with the people passing. Also the fountain of the garden buffers the sound of the street and allows people to feel in a cocoon and disconnected from the urban life within a very narrow open space.
Superkilen Park

Location: Copenhagen, Denmark

Designed by: BIG

Implimentation: Completed in 2002

Size: 355,000 Sq feet

This project was designed through an intense public participation process with the surrounding community, representing the voices of more than 60 nationalities. It includes a variety of features giving different functions to the spaces and catering for all the different group ages (fig50). The designer was able to create a healthy environment for the whole community to interact far from city pollution and vehicular traffic.

Cities are built for humans; however, if you look at most of them, you would feel like they are designed for cars, especially in the world’s most populated places like Sao Paulo, Brazil.

Seeing that, a Brazilian urban planning collective called Urb-i set out to demonstrate that imbalance and show off examples of more people-friendly design. The results give us hope that our cities are becoming more beautiful places to live in. In fact, by looking at the evolution of the streets over the year on Google Street View, one will notice how more attractive the streets become when they create more pedestrian-friendly facilities.

Queens Plaza

Location: Queens, New York

Designed by: WRT

Implementation: Completed in 2012

Size: 0.6 Acre Plaza, 2Km streetscape

The site was very dangerous harsh and hostile, it was resigned in order to improve the transportation infrastructure to smooth the flow of traffic and provide a safe and comfortable bicycle and pedestrian route. It is a very successful example of how pedestrian ecology and vehicles could use the same infrastructure in a sustainable way.