

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF BEIRUT
Department of Architecture & Design
Faculty of Engineering & Architecture

The Other Dimensions of Sport

UNDERGRADUATE DESIGN THESIS
IN ARCHITECTURE

By Hiba Nabil Itani
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AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF BEIRUT

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SUBMITTAL FORM

THE *OTHER* DIMENSIONS OF SPORT

by
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ARCH 508/509– FINAL YEAR THESIS I & II
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ABSTRACT

The standard of sports in Lebanon is at an all-time low. The country's capital, Beirut, suffers from a lack of sports infrastructure and sports culture that is vital for the advancement of Lebanese athletes. More importantly, the approach to sports in the region is lacking. Reaching full potential in sports rests not only on the physical strength of the athlete, but also on the mental and spiritual. Al-Wah'a is a holistic athletic center of excellence that aims to support Lebanese athletes in reaching their full potential and achieving national and international success. Community involvement in sports is a crucial factor in total athlete performance, thus, the sports-system is brought together by a dynamic public-private program that serves the country's top athletes in addition to the community as a whole. Embedded in nature, the center establishes a spiritual connection by closely following biophilic principles of design. In addition, Al Wah'a offers advanced research, learning, and counselling through different programmatic divisions to ensure constant intellectual advancement. The project thus offers a holistic approach to sports by ensuring the balance of all three aspects of mind, body and soul.

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The **Other** Dimensions of Sport

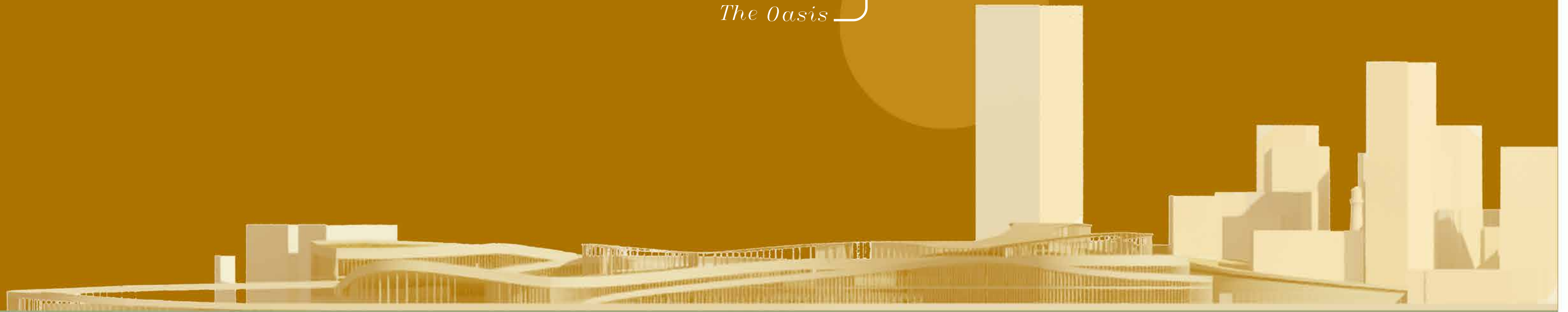
HIBA ITANI / MAY 2020

“Sport has the power to change the world. It has the power to inspire. It has the power to unite people in a way that little else does. It speaks to youth in a language they understand.”

- Nelson Mandela

The standard of sports in Lebanon is at an all time low. The country's capital, BEIRUT, suffers from a **LACK OF SPORTS INFRASTRUCTURE** and **SPORTS CULTURE** that is vital for the advancement of Lebanese athletes. More importantly, the **APPROACH TO SPORTS** in the region is lacking. Reaching full potential in sports rests not only on the physical strength of the athlete, but also on the **MENTAL** and **SPIRITUAL**.

الواحة
The Oasis



Al-Wah'a is a **HOLISTIC ATHLETIC CENTER OF EXCELLENCE** that aims to support Lebanese athletes in reaching their **FULL POTENTIAL** and achieving national and international success.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT in sports is a crucial factor in total athlete performance, thus, the **SPORTS-SYSTEM** is brought together by a dynamic public-private program that serves the country's top athletes in addition to the community as a whole.

- SPORTS CLUBS & FITNESS CENTERS
- EDUCATIONAL CENTERS
- RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS
- RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL
- OTHER

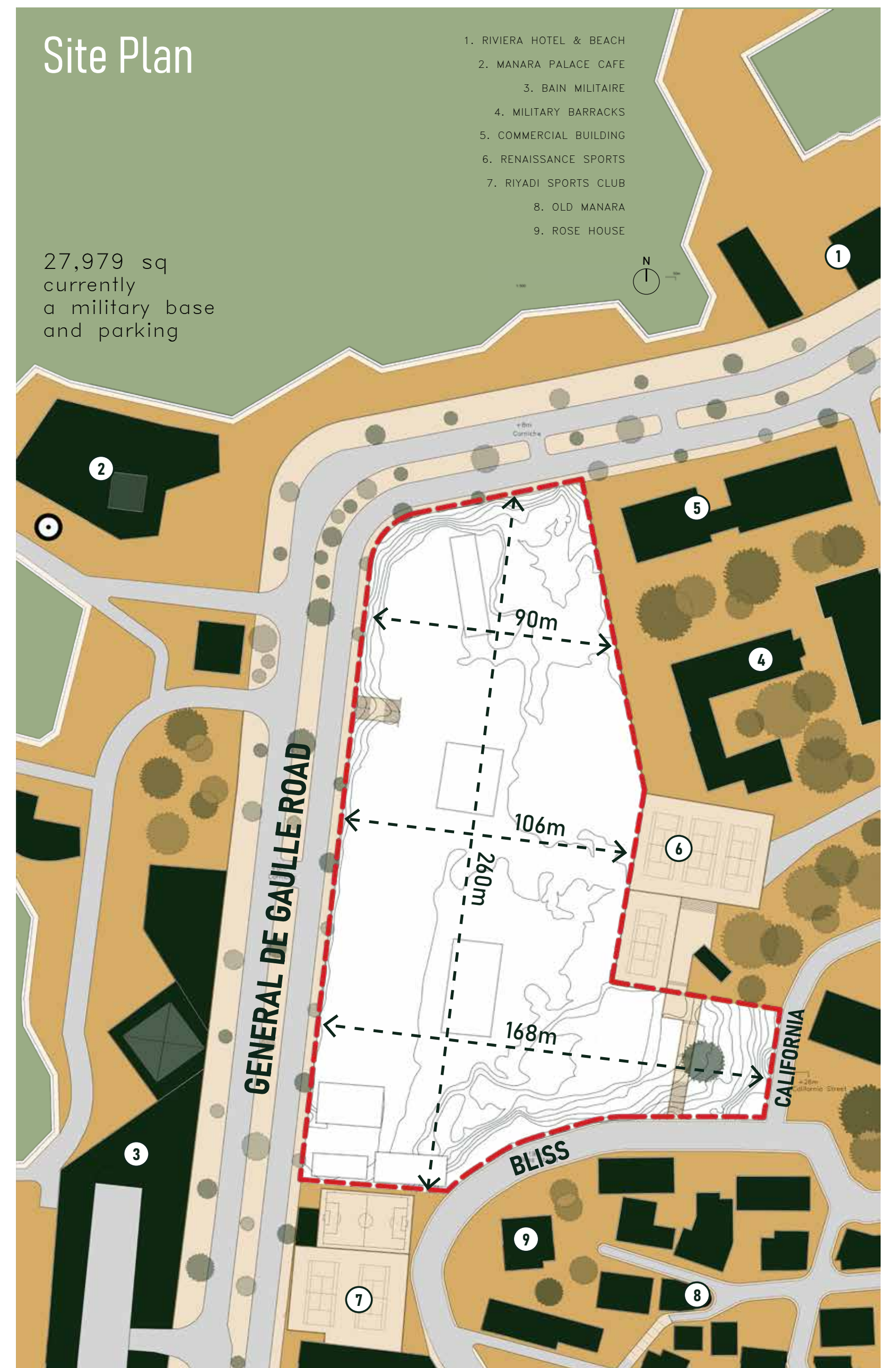
Land Use Plan



Site Plan

1. RIVIERA HOTEL & BEACH
2. MANARA PALACE CAFE
3. BAIN MILITAIRE
4. MILITARY BARRACKS
5. COMMERCIAL BUILDING
6. RENAISSANCE SPORTS
7. RIYADI SPORTS CLUB
8. OLD MANARA
9. ROSE HOUSE

27,979 sq currently a military base and parking



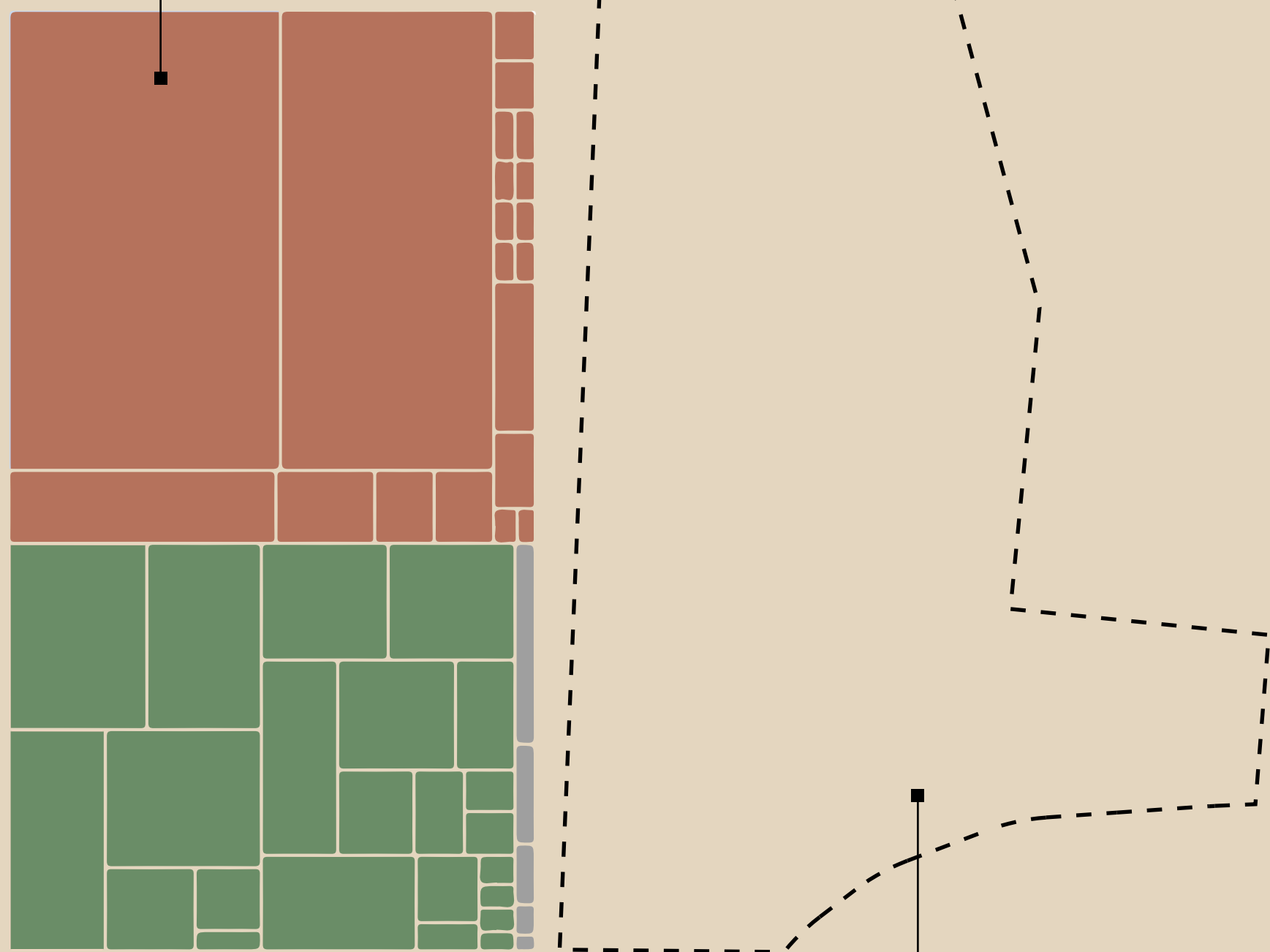


Embedded in **NATURE**, the center establishes a spiritual connection by closely following **BIOPHILIC PRINCIPLES OF DESIGN**. In addition, Al Wah'a offers advanced research, learning, and counselling through different programmatic divisions to ensure constant intellectual advancement. The project thus offers a **HOLISTIC** approach to sports by ensuring the balance of all three aspects of **MIND, BODY AND SOUL**.

PROGRAM

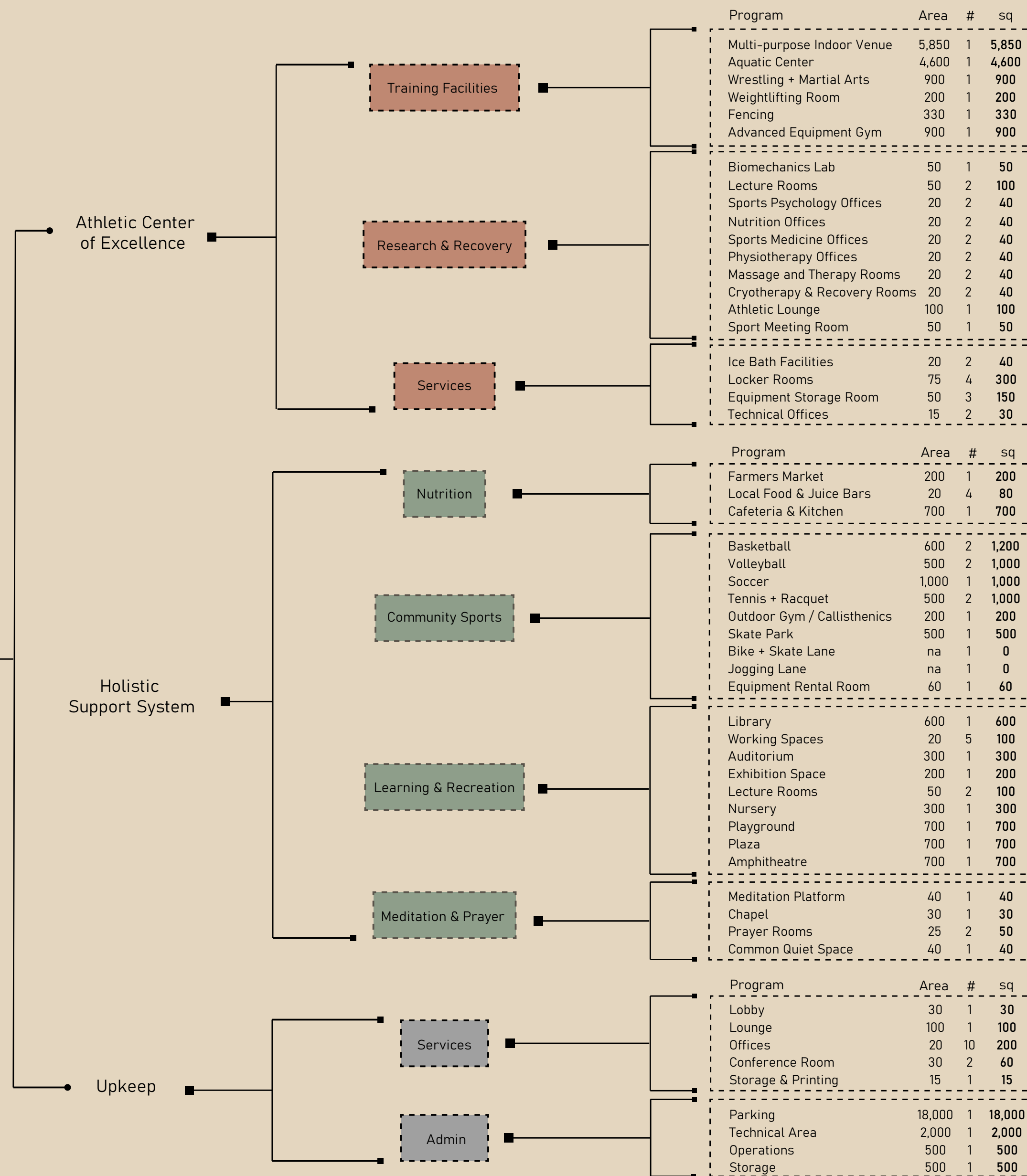
PROGRAM SIZE / 1:1000

Site Area : 27,979 sq
 Program Area : 27,000 sq

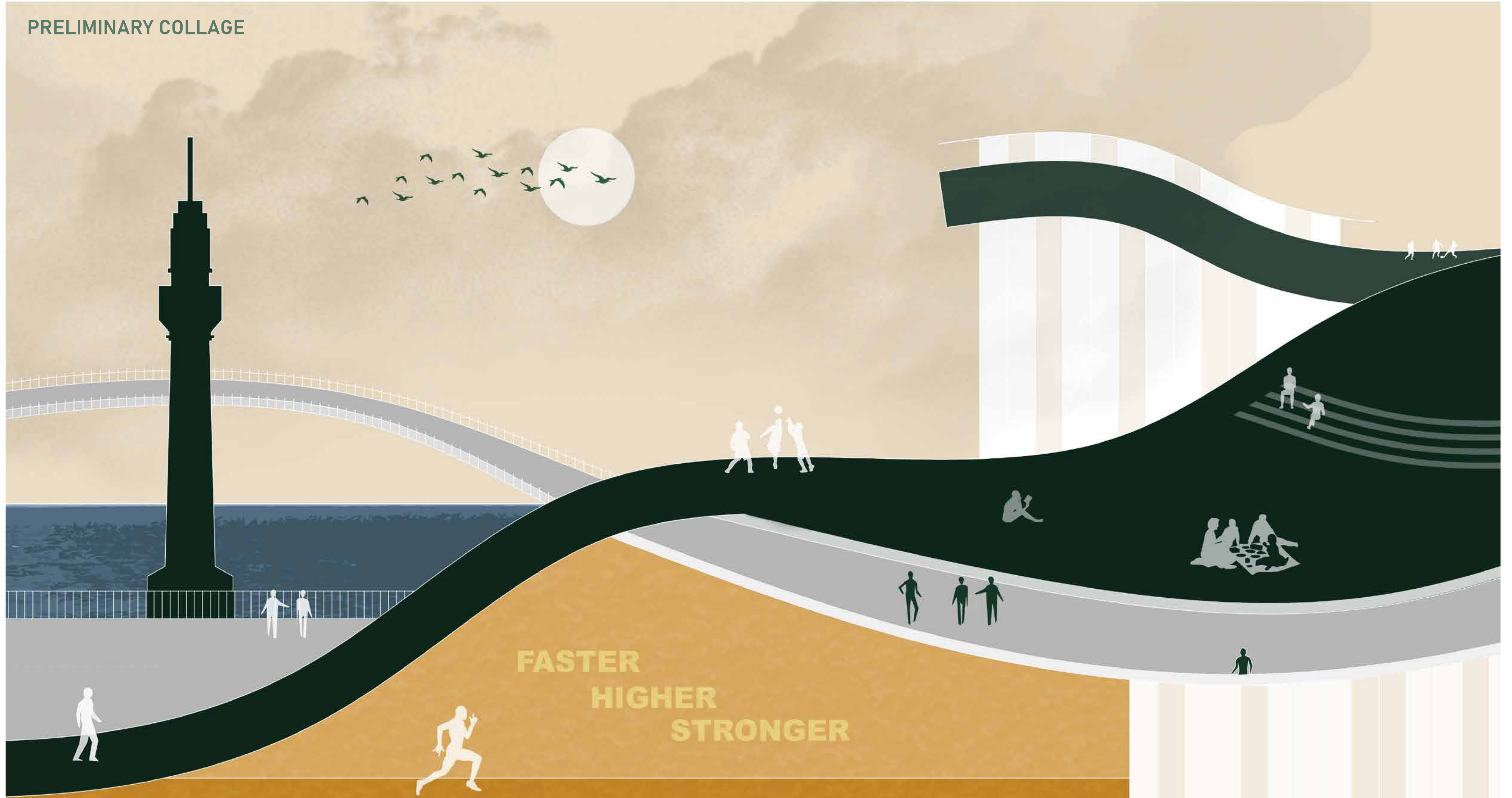


- Athletic Center of Excellence
= approx 14,000 sq
- Holistic Support System
= approx 10,000 sq
- Upkeep
= approx 3,000 sq

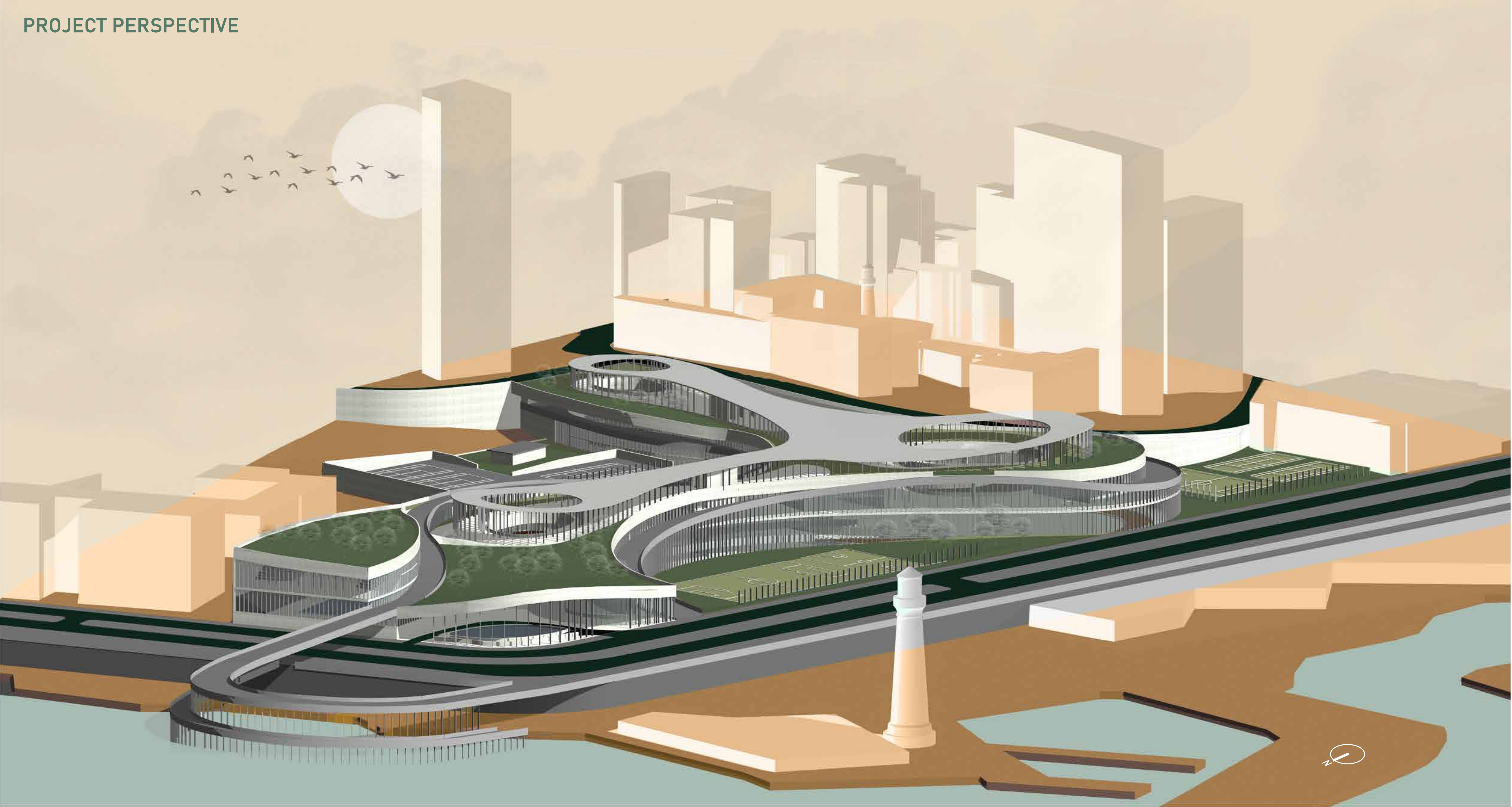
Site Area = 27,979 sq
 Total Floor Area (FAR) = 40 % = 11,191 sq
 Residual From FAR = 16,787 sq
 Total Area Ratio (TAR) = 2.5 = 69,948 sq



PRELIMINARY COLLAGE



PROJECT PERSPECTIVE

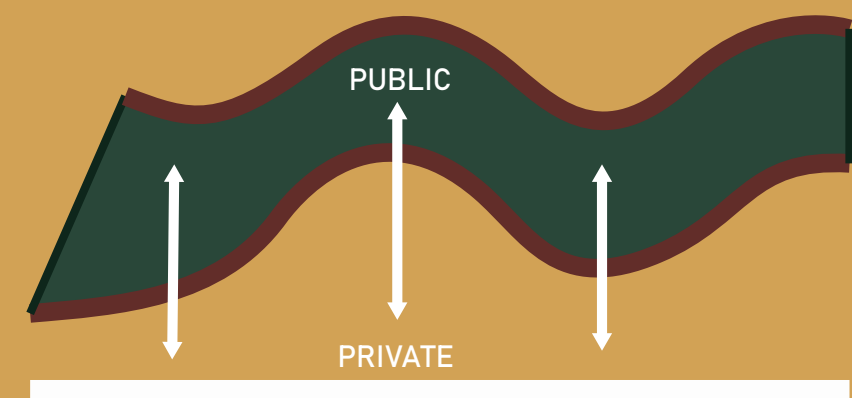


Located in a very strategic corner facing the sea, the design of the building is inspired by the physical characteristics of **WATER WAVES**. The **CONTINUOUS LANDSCAPE** seems to flow, vibrate, and intertwine with the more organized programs to create moments of connection and discovery. Through the **PUBLIC-PRIVATE** partnership model (PPP) and programmatic **SELF-SUFFICIENCY**, Al Wah'a improves public spaces, encourages community and public activity, and **HARMONIZES** the surrounding context.

DESIGN FORMATION



DESIGN STRATEGIES



PUBLIC / PRIVATE DIVIDE
ENSURING PUBLIC FREEDOM
WHILE LIMITING ACCESS TO
SPECIALIZED UNITS

**TANGIBLE CONNECTION
TO NATURE**
EXTENSION OF CORNICHE
INTO THE SEA & LANDSCAPE
TO CREATE A JOURNEY

**VISUAL CONNECTION TO NATURE
THROUGH ELEVATED LANDSCAPE**

CONNECTION TO CONTEXT
PRIVATE ACCESS THROUGH
NEARBY ATHLETIC FACILITIES
RIYADI AND RENAISSANCE

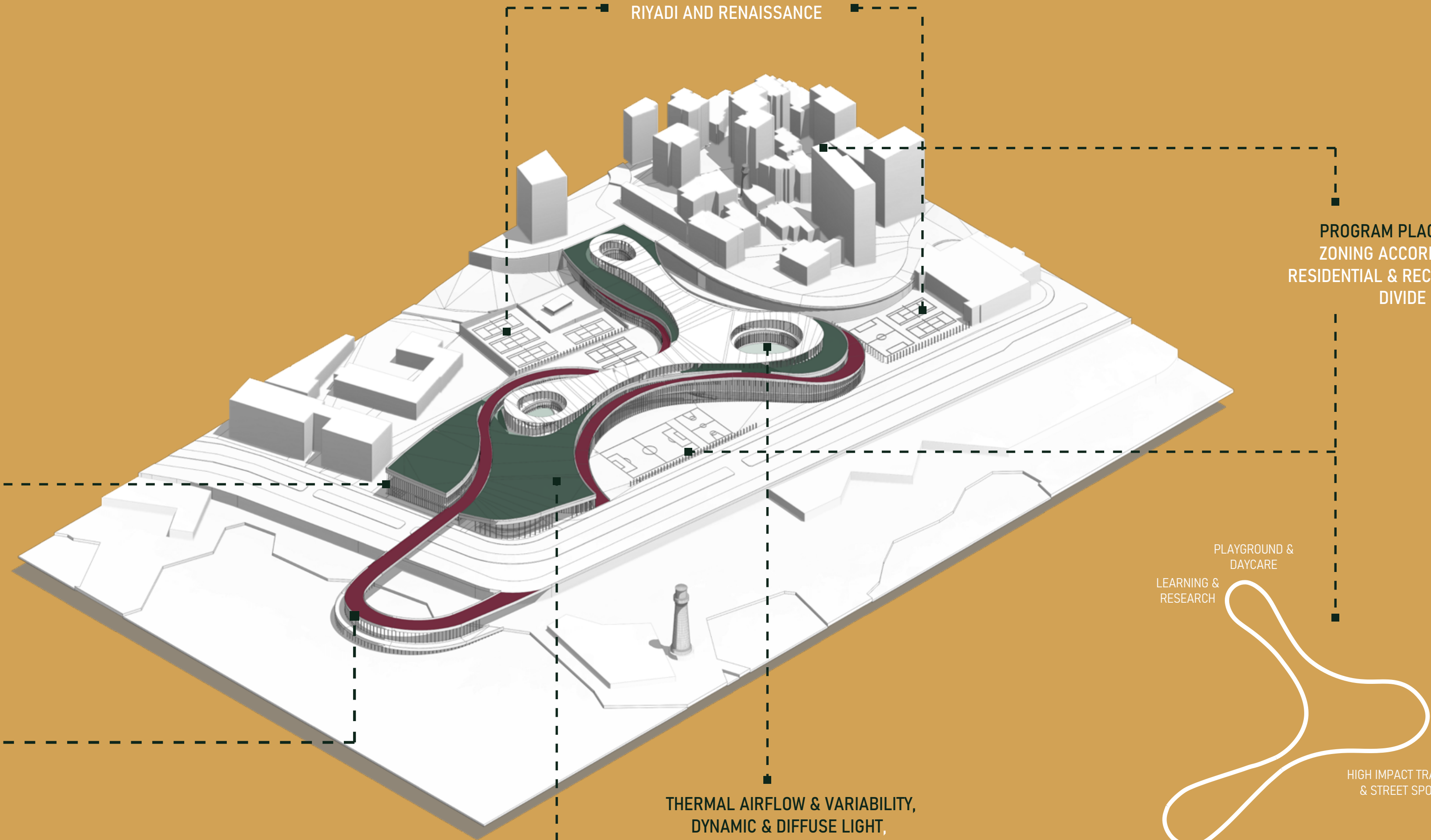
PROGRAM PLACEMENT
ZONING ACCORDING TO
RESIDENTIAL & RECREATIONAL
DIVIDE

PLAYGROUND &
DAYCARE
LEARNING &
RESEARCH

HIGH IMPACT TRAINING
& STREET SPORTS

AQUATICS & RECOVERY
FOOD & EXHIBITION

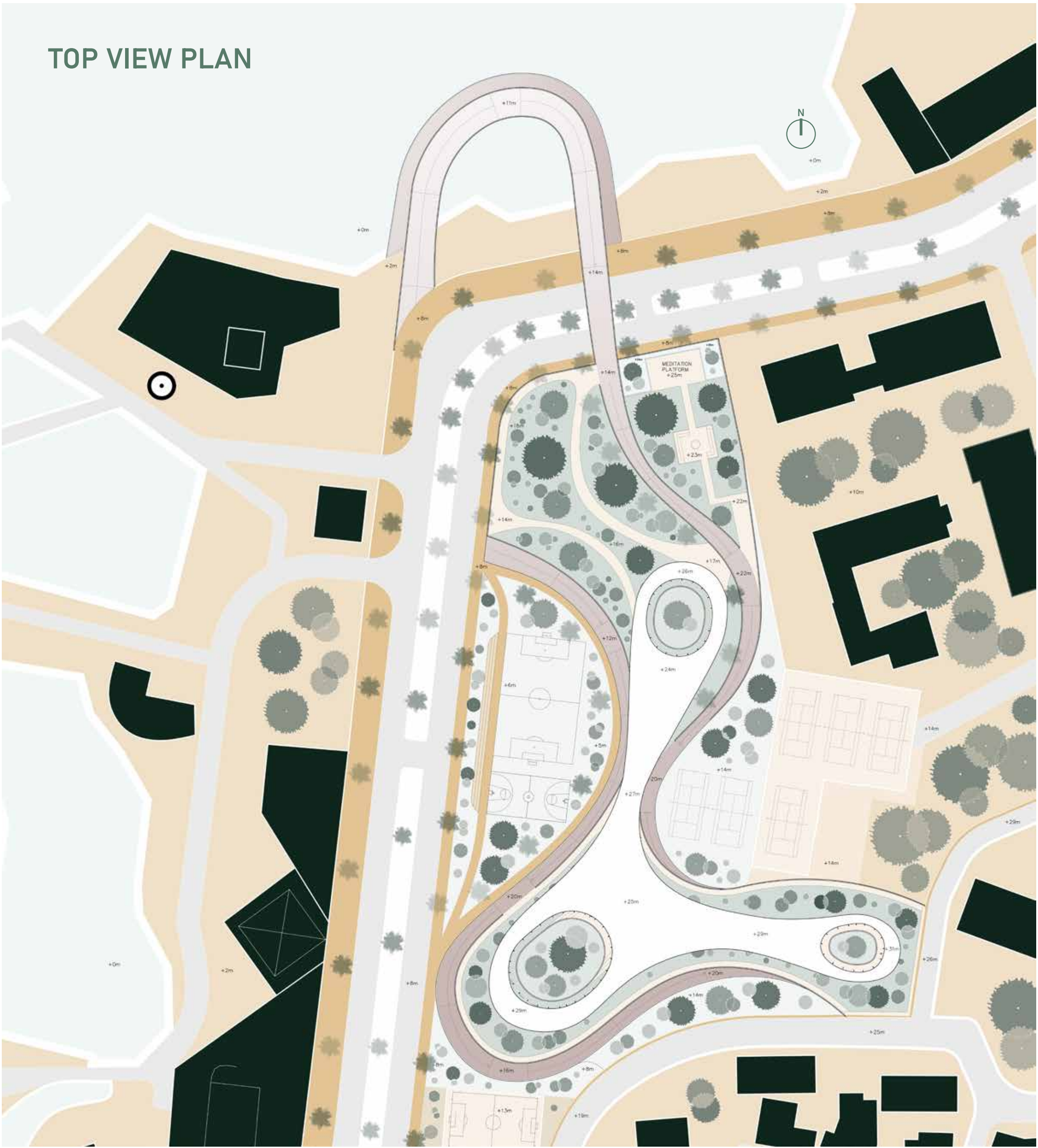
**THERMAL AIRFLOW & VARIABILITY,
DYNAMIC & DIFFUSE LIGHT,
AND VISUAL POROSITY**
CREATED BY COURTYARDS &
CHANGES IN LANDSCAPE



LANDSCAPE PLAN



TOP VIEW PLAN



LANDSCAPE PLAN

CITRUS TREES



JACARANDA



AQUATIC PLANTS



PLUMERA TREES



PALM TREES



KINA (GUM) TREES



GOLDEN TRUMPET TREE



RUBBER TREES



COURTYARD OF THE RUBBER TREES

EVERGREEN SHADING TREES



LOW SHRUBS & PLANTS



PINE TREES



COURTYARD OF THE PINE TREES

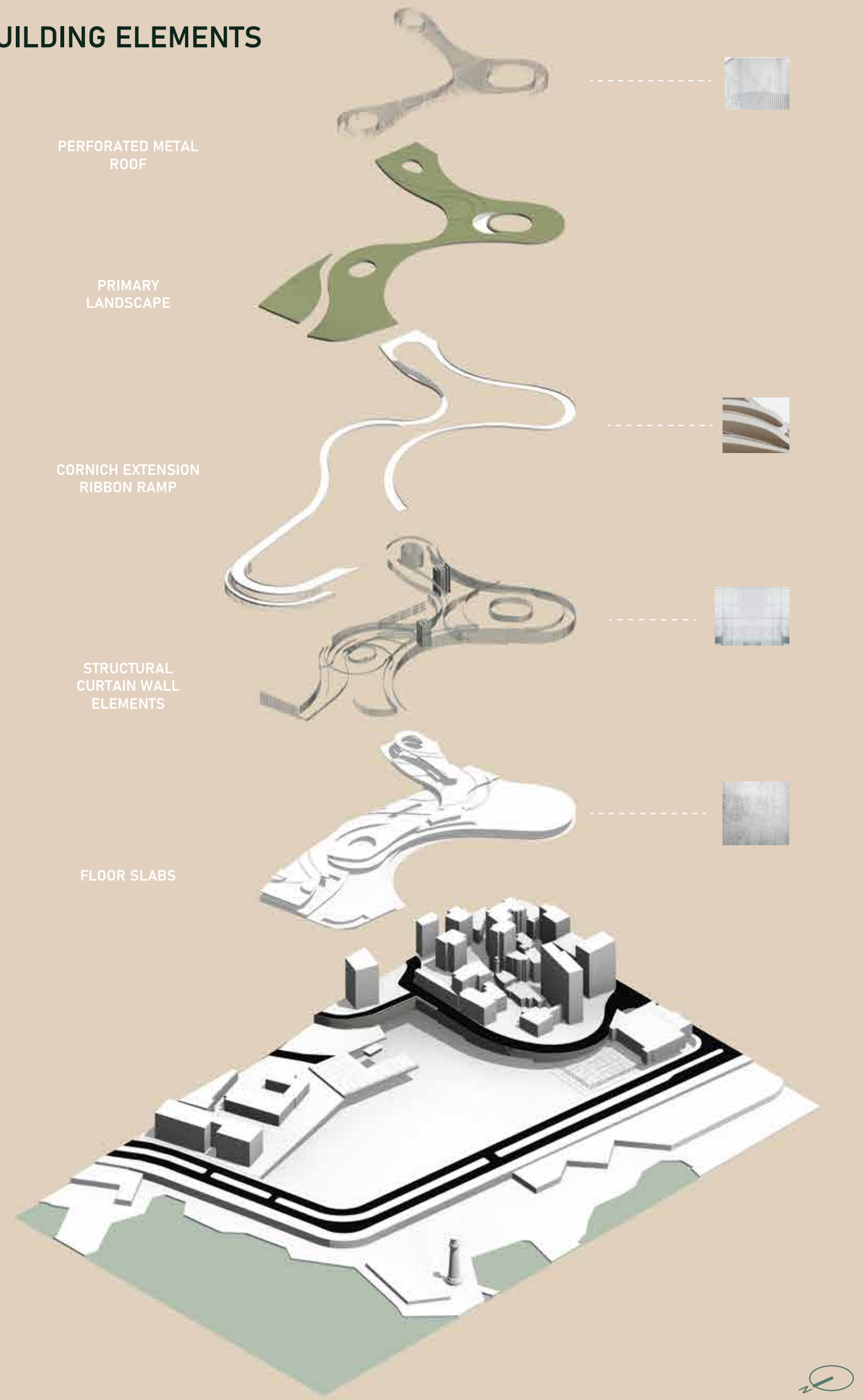
OLIVE TREE



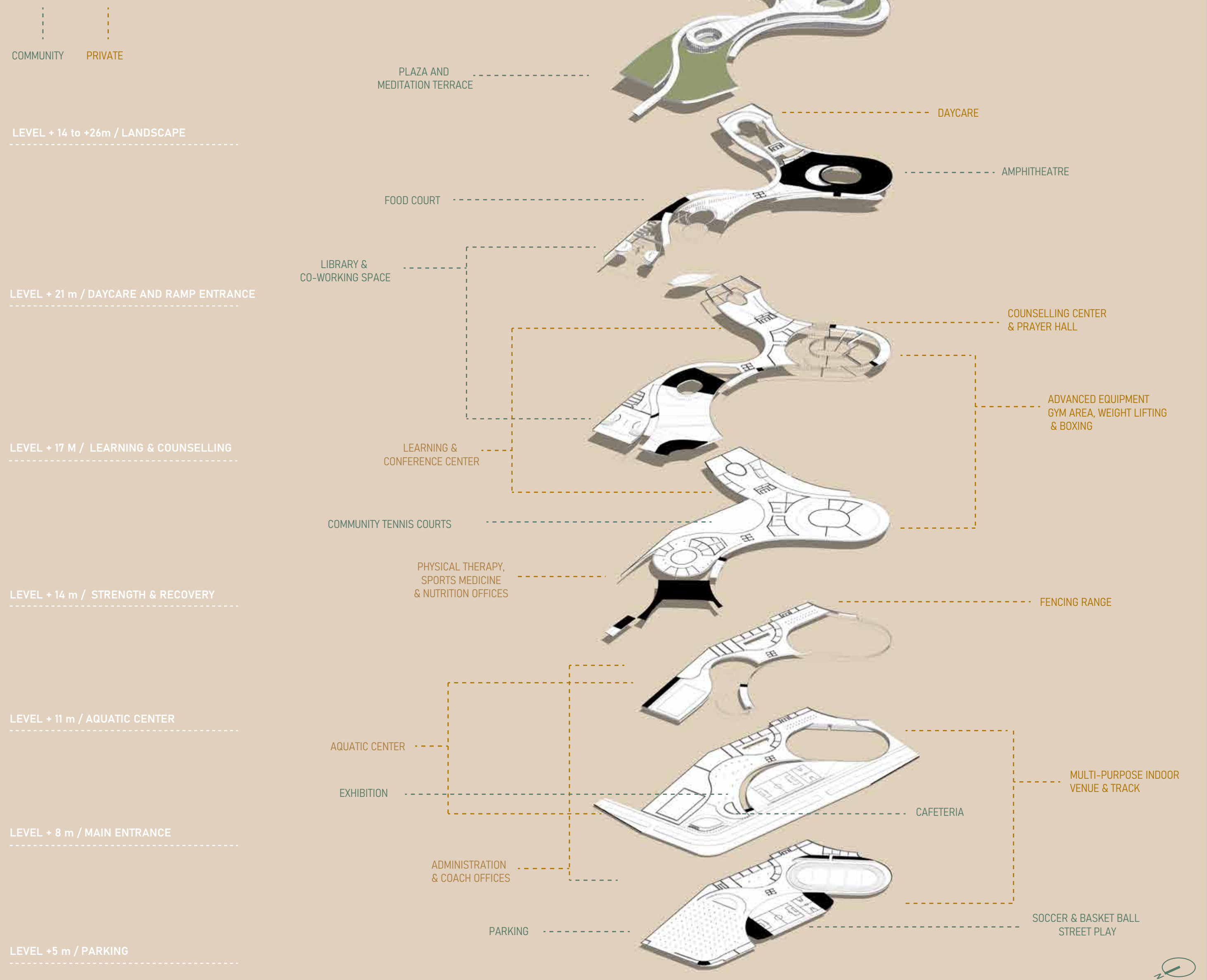
THE OLIVE TREE COURTYARD



BUILDING ELEMENTS



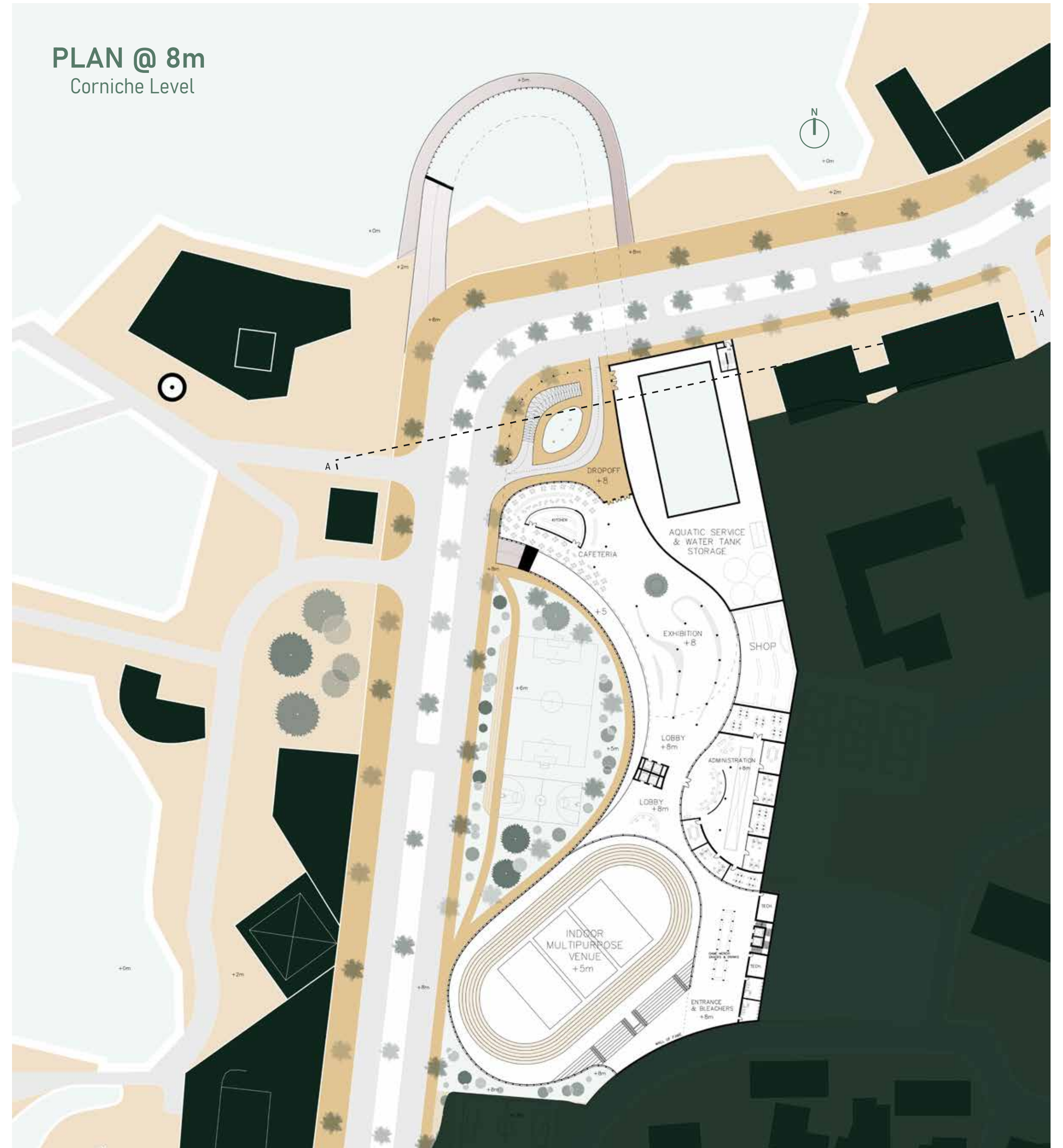
PROGRAM BREAKDOWN



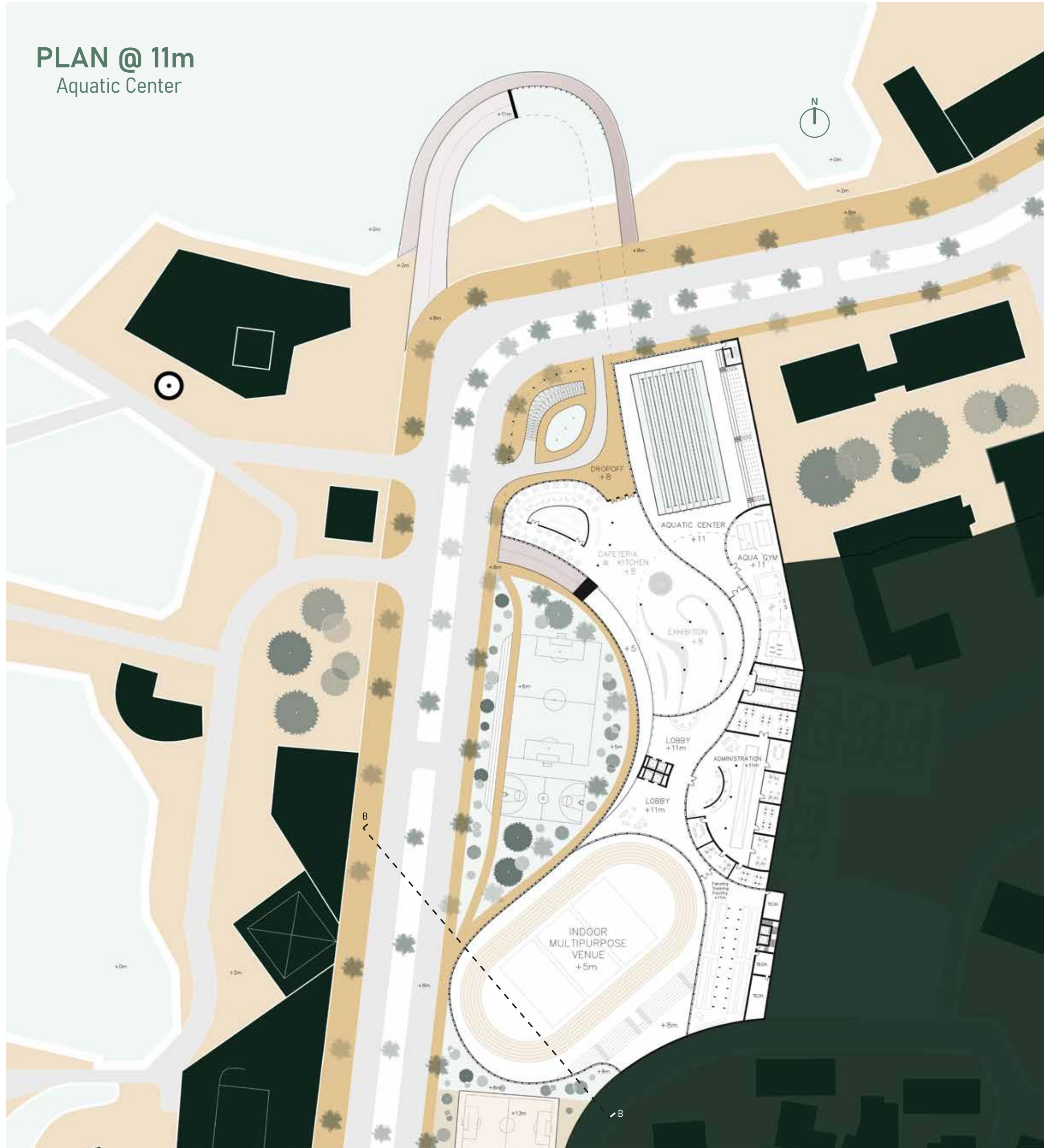
PLAN @ 5m
Parking Level



PLAN @ 8m
Corniche Level



PLAN @ 11m
Aquatic Center



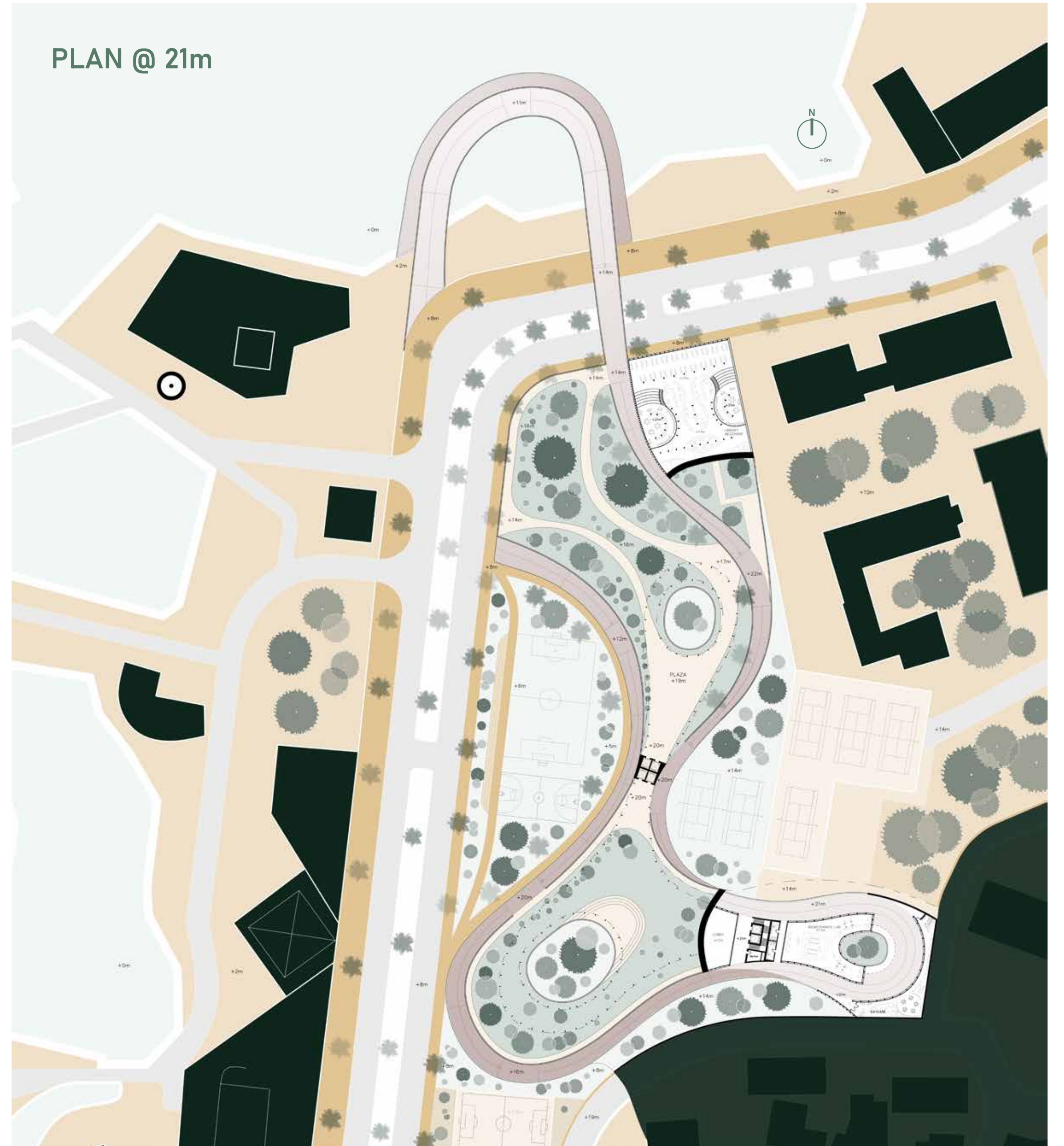
PLAN @ 14m
Strength & Conditioning



PLAN @ 17m



PLAN @ 21m



SECTION AA

Cutting through
Aquatic Center
& Main Entrance



SECTION BB
Cutting through
Indoor Venue & Gym

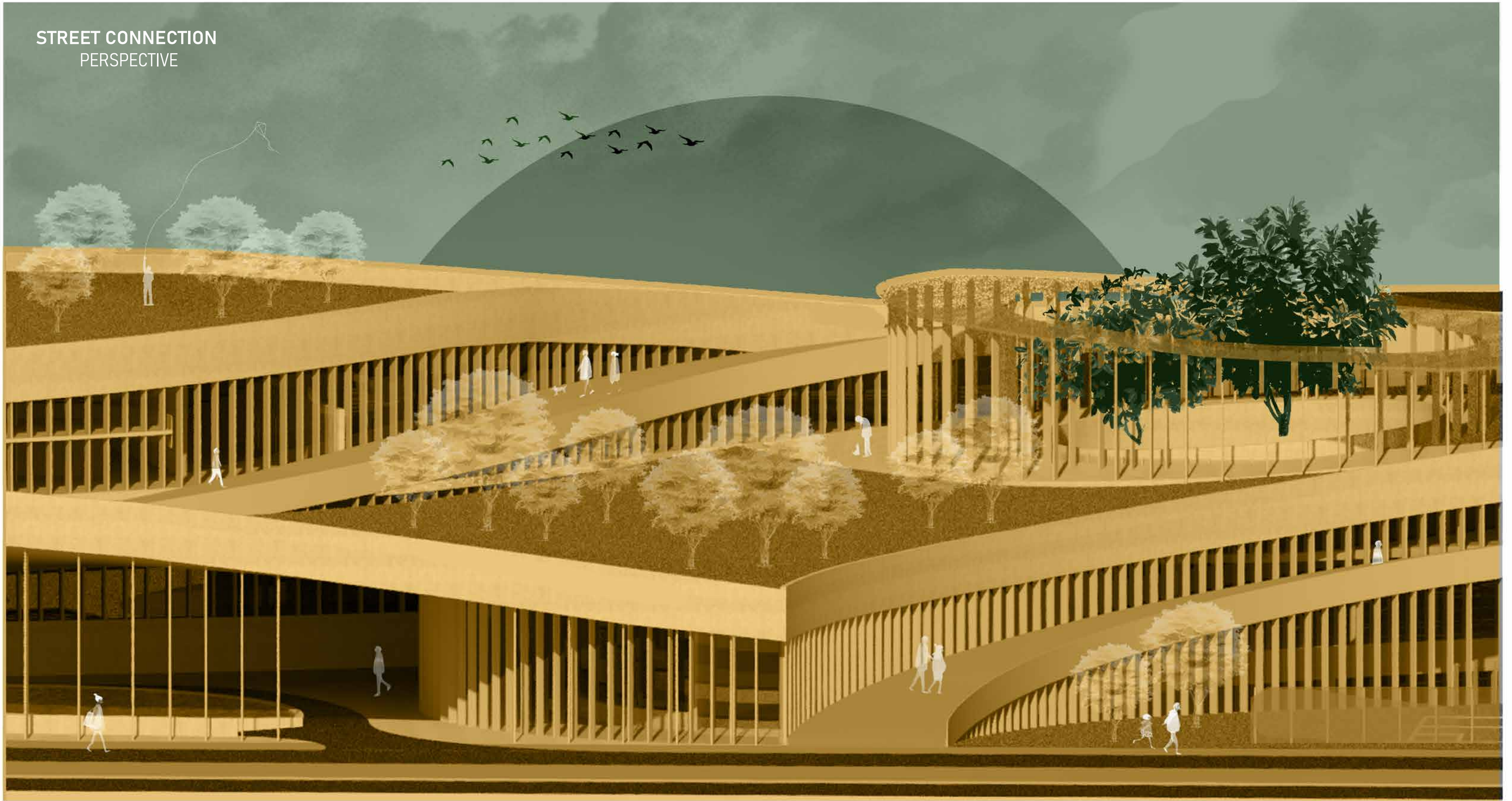


SECTION CC

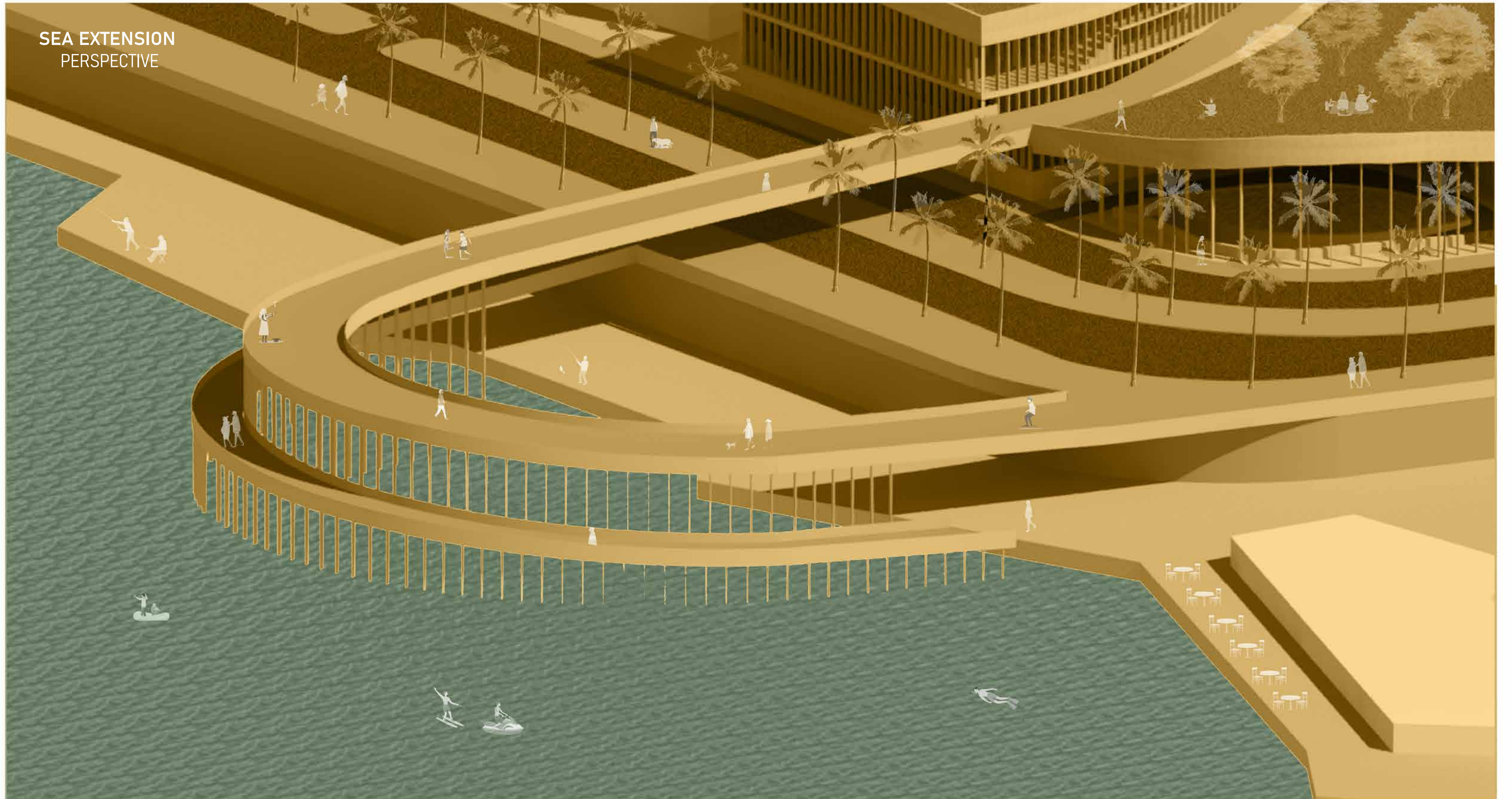
Cutting through
the Conference Center
& Indoor Venue



STREET CONNECTION
PERSPECTIVE



SEA EXTENSION
PERSPECTIVE



BLISS STREET
PERSPECTIVE



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