



# TANZANIA

A NEW ARCHITECTURAL PEDAGOGY

CAMERON LEANDRI | THESIS PROJECT 2019

**TANZANIA: A NEW ARCHITECTURAL PEDAGOGY**

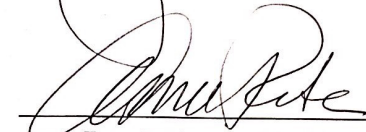
A thesis presented in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Architecture in the Department of Architecture of the Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, Rhode Island.

By Cameron Leandri  
2019

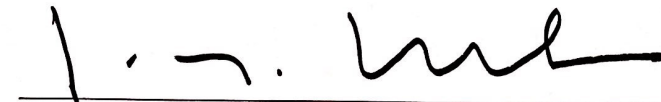
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Jonathan Knowles, Professor of Architecture, Secondary Thesis Advisor



## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

This project stems from a series of work I was fortunate to be involved with during and after my undergraduate studies at the Massachusetts College of Art & Design,, working under Paul Paturzo. We paired with Deo Bawibregure, founder of KICORA (Kigoma Community College by Radio) to develop a university in Kigoma Tanzania called the East Africa University of Science & Technology. This university would act to serve as a bridge of knowledge to the local community to help solve a series of issues ranging from over-fishing to agricultural crises. As the project was put on hold due to the governments seizure of the project's hilltop site, I hope that the research of this thesis can inform some continuation of this project (or a similar one) in the future.

To Anne Tate, Jonathan Knowles, Colin Christensen, my thesis group "Tater Tots", Andrew Hartness, David Amdie, Rob Diaz-Vincente, Sara Naja, Anya Drozd, Matt Koegel and my wonderful family- thank you for your unconditional support.

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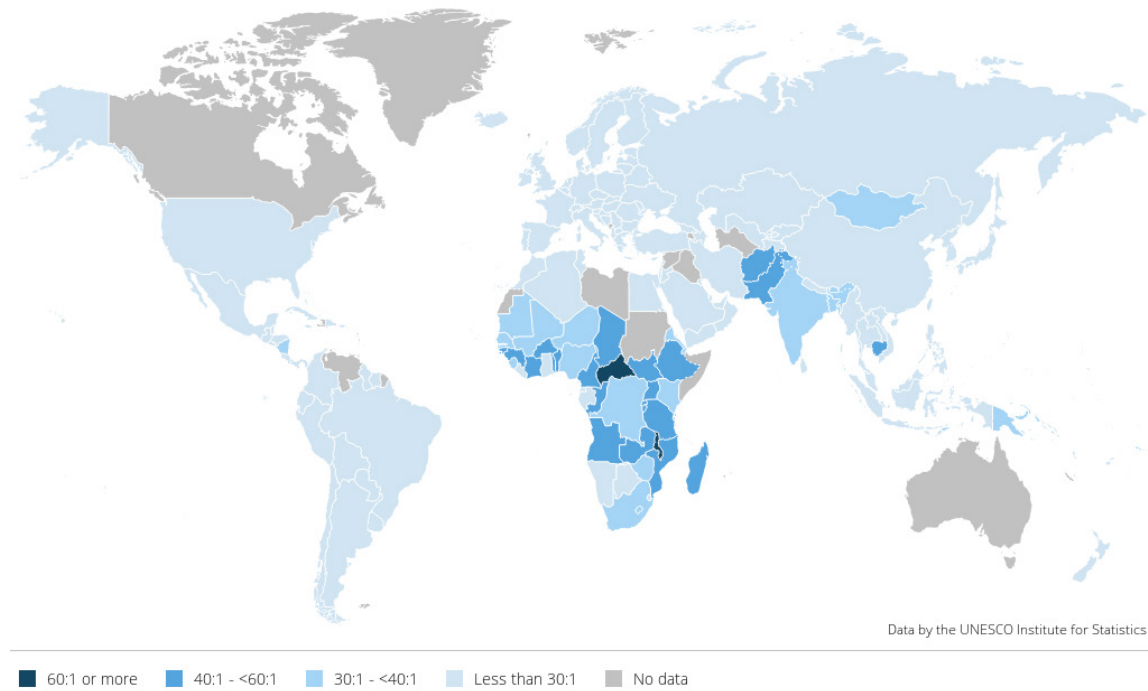
■ 48 WALL / CENTRAL HUB

## SATELLITE SCHOOL(S)

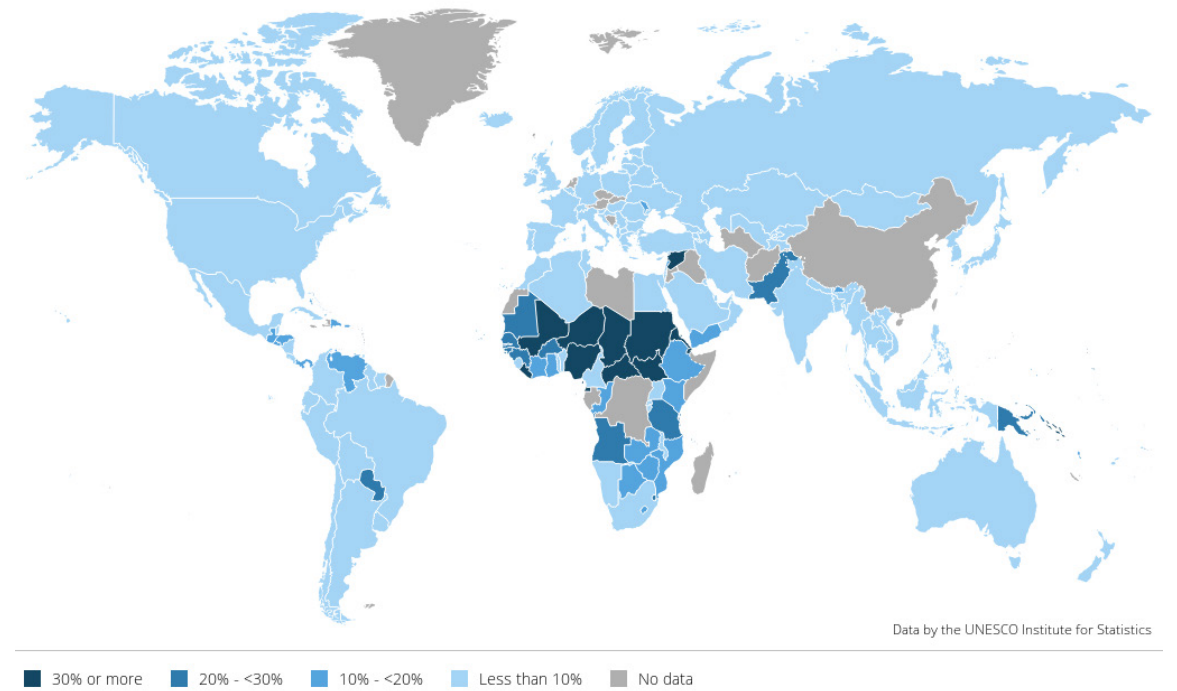
■ 64 DEVELOPMENT

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Pupil-teacher ratio in primary education (headcount basis) (2018)



Out-of-school rate for children of primary school age, both sexes (%) (2018)



## **A NEW ARCHITECTURAL PEDAGOGY**

According to Habitat for Humanity, the impact of poverty on education in East Africa remains one of the biggest challenges faced by the region. Self sufficiency is the most sustainable way to advance a society and is a missing link that would help empower developing communities. This thesis imagines a more accessible network of education for the greater region of Kigoma, Tanzania. It proposes this through a two-step system, the first programmatic, the second architectural. Both strategies seek to strengthen the connection between local and global communities, as an education mission.

The proposed educational network utilizes a Central Hub located within the urban context of Kigoma. This Hub acts as an information collection center, vocational school and community center. Then, through both radio broadcast and physical exchange of materials (a mission inspired by Open Learning Exchange and KICORA), the Central Hub distributes educational materials to Satellite Schools which are strategically placed throughout the countryside. The connection generated is a two-way information flow between global, urban and rural communities.

The proposed architectural language investigates the marriage of native materials with innovative, yet simple design techniques, with the purpose of enriching and simplifying the construction process for local builders, both unskilled and artisan. It seeks to enhance, but not adulterate, vernacular architecture through use of the rammed earth wall and bamboo armature. These local materials are then paired with imported metal and fabric roofs, with strategic technological interventions, which act as an architectural expression of outreach.

While a perimeter security wall is normal and recommended by local leaders, this generates an interesting conundrum for a project which is focused on community engagement and worldly connectedness. Hence, the wall has become a vehicle which embodies outward engagement, through responding to exterior neighborhood conditions and giving back to the adjacent community. Paired with varying roof conditions, the wall accomplishes this through designed moments of porosity, water collection and distribution, shade, performance space, inhabitation, protection and openness.







**PRECEDENTS**

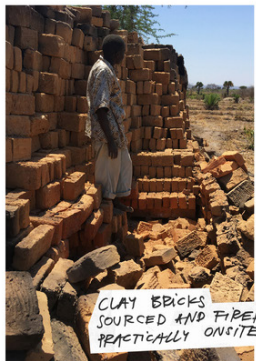


■ **WAYAiR/JEJU STUDIO- Ulyankulu School**  
Ulyankulu, Tanzania, 2018





LOCAL INSPIRATIONS



CLAY BRICKS SOURCED AND FIRED PRACTICALLY ONSITE



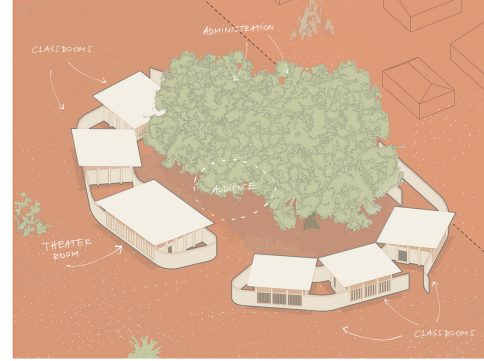
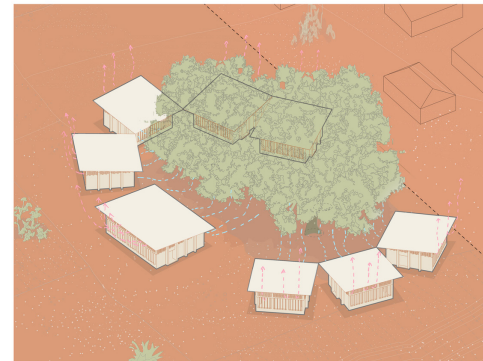
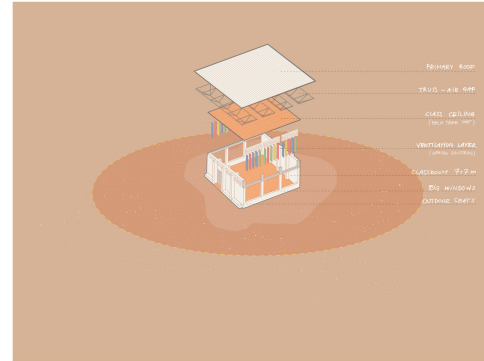
PRIMARY CEILING WEAVE

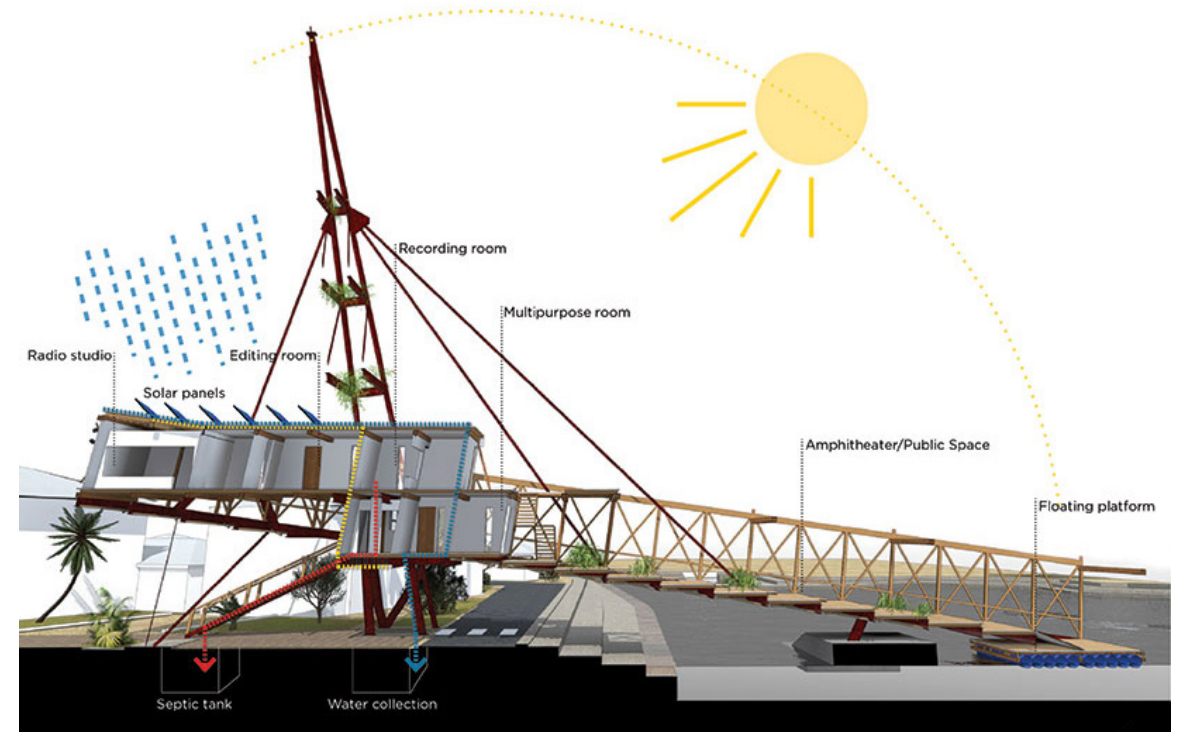


LOCAL WOOD



LOCAL WELDING SCHOOL





■ **NLE- Chicoco Radio Center**  
Port Hartcourt, Nigeria, 2014

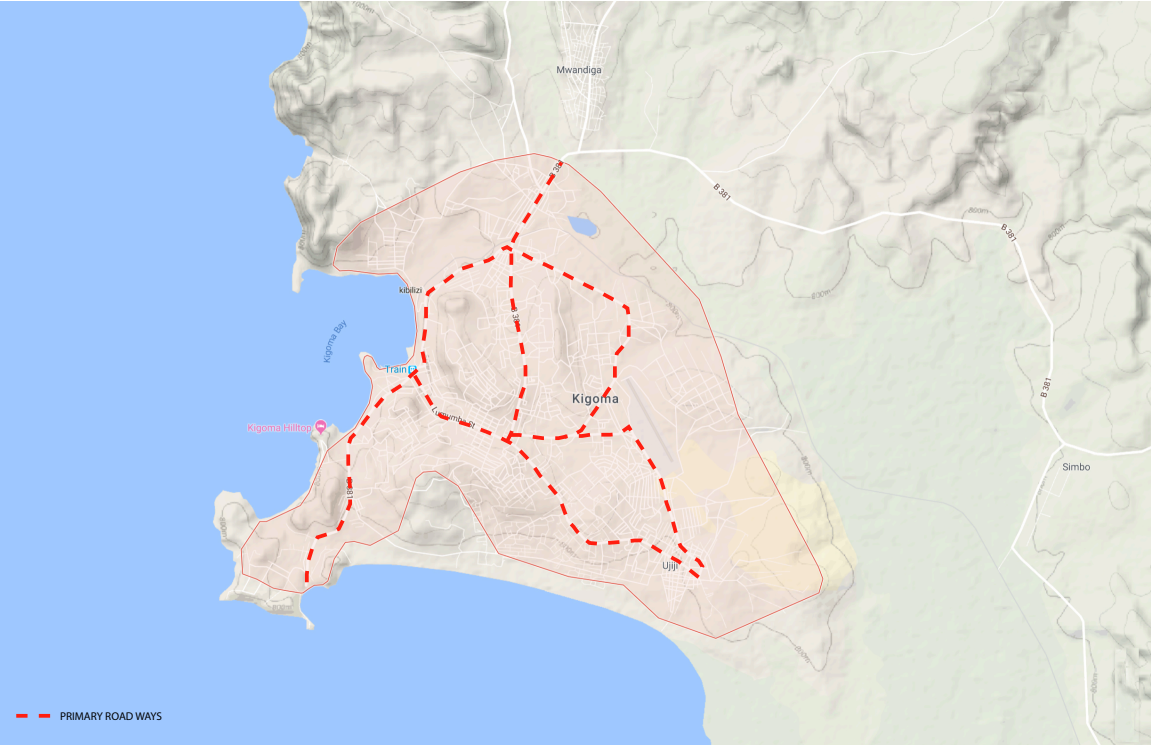
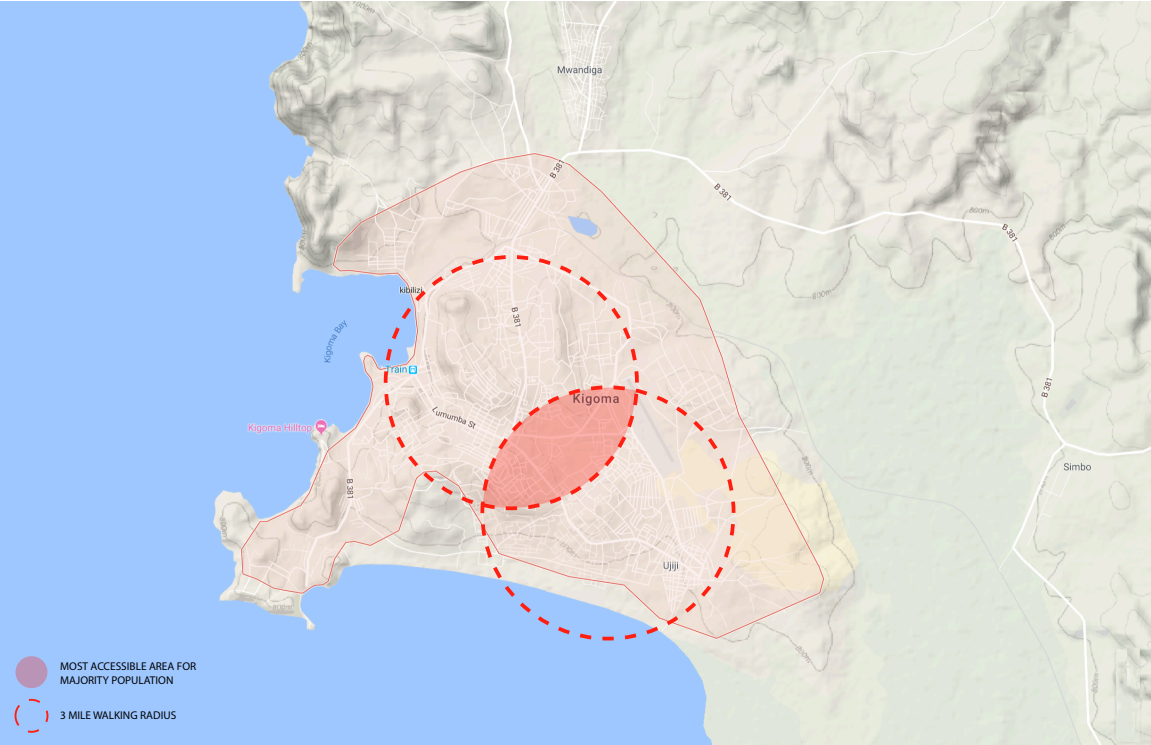


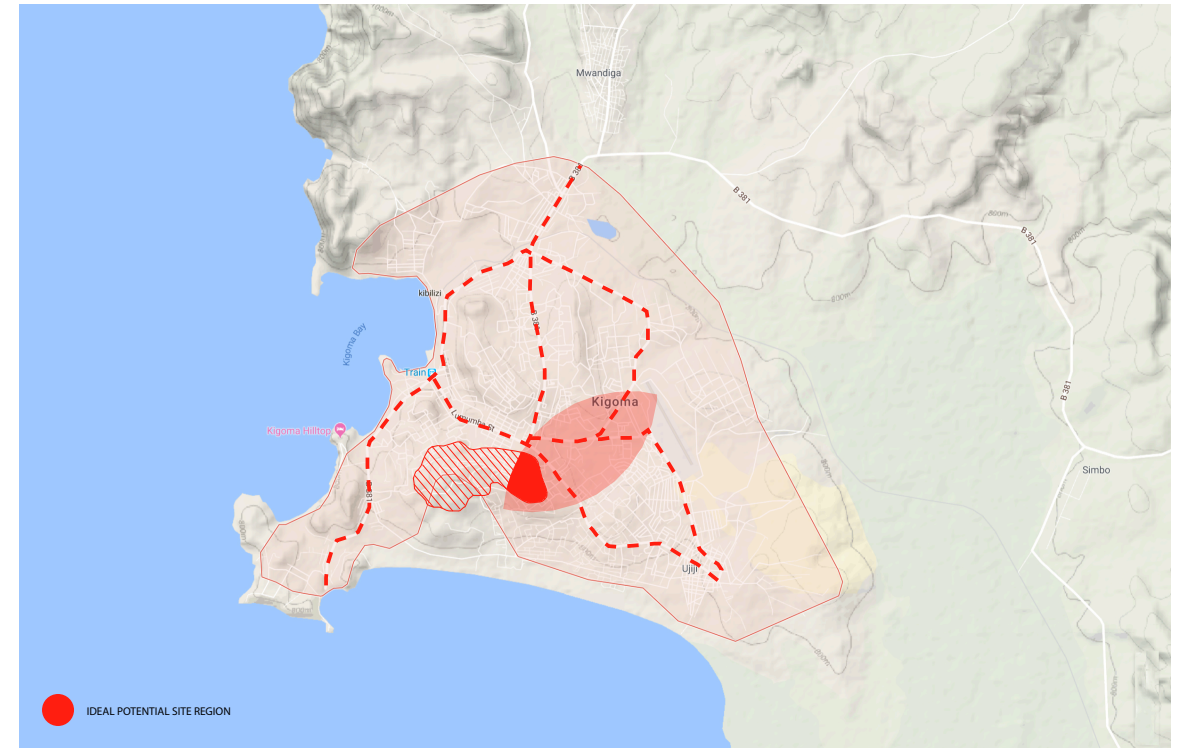
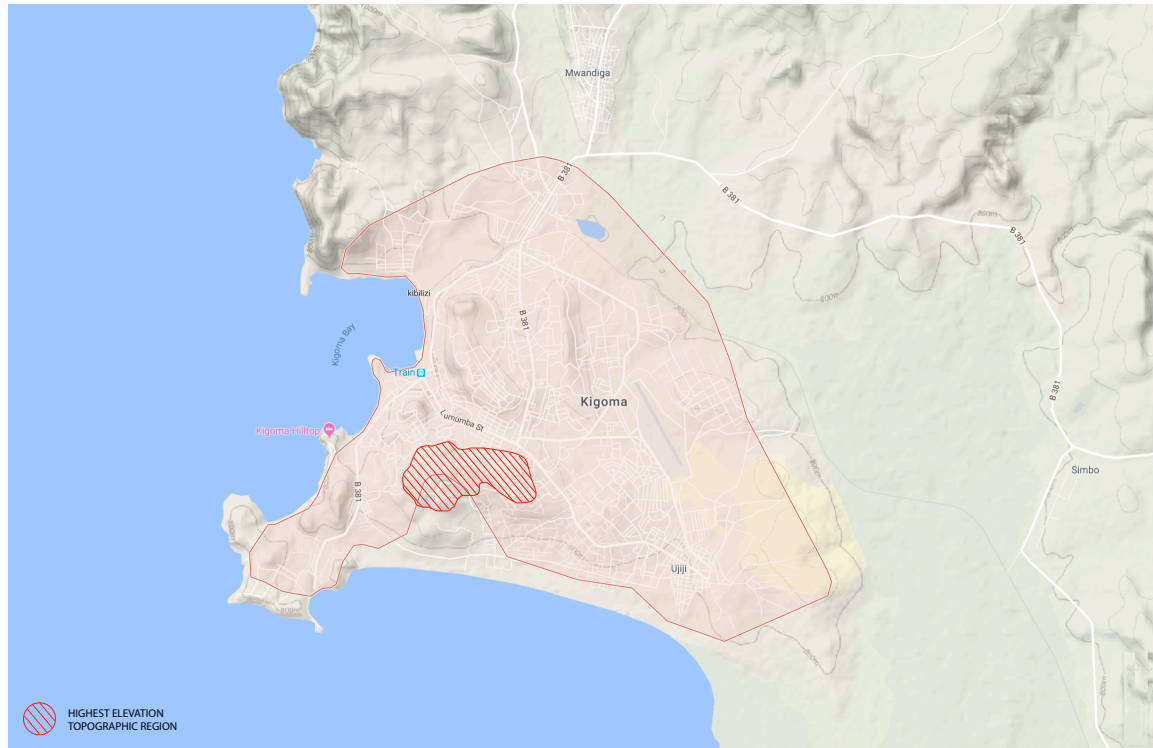
## CENTRAL HUB / SATELLITE SCHOOL(S)

The proposed educational network utilizes a Central Hub located within the urban context of Kigoma. This Hub acts as an information collection center, vocational school and community center. Then, through both radio broadcast and physical exchange of materials (a mission inspired by Open Learning Exchange and KICORA), the Central Hub distributes educational materials to Satellite Schools which are strategically placed throughout the countryside. The connection generated is a two-way information flow between global, urban and rural communities.

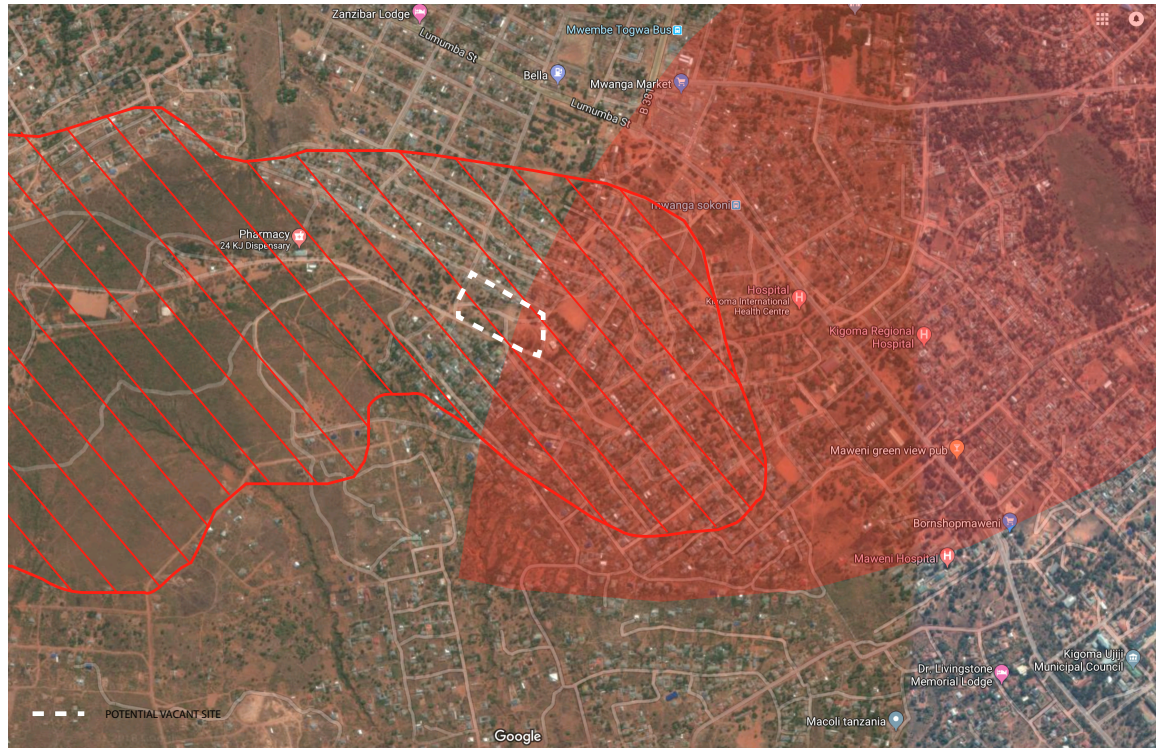


# CENTRAL HUB / SITE FINDING



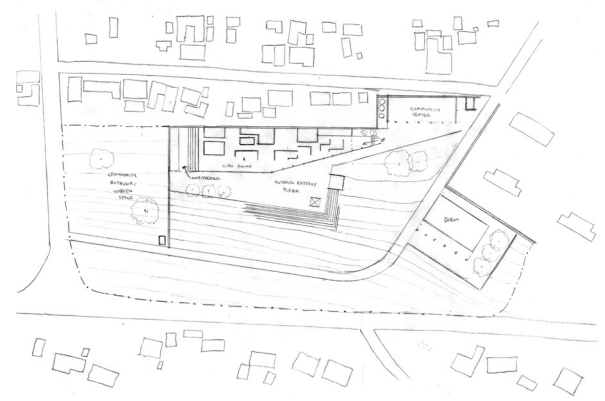
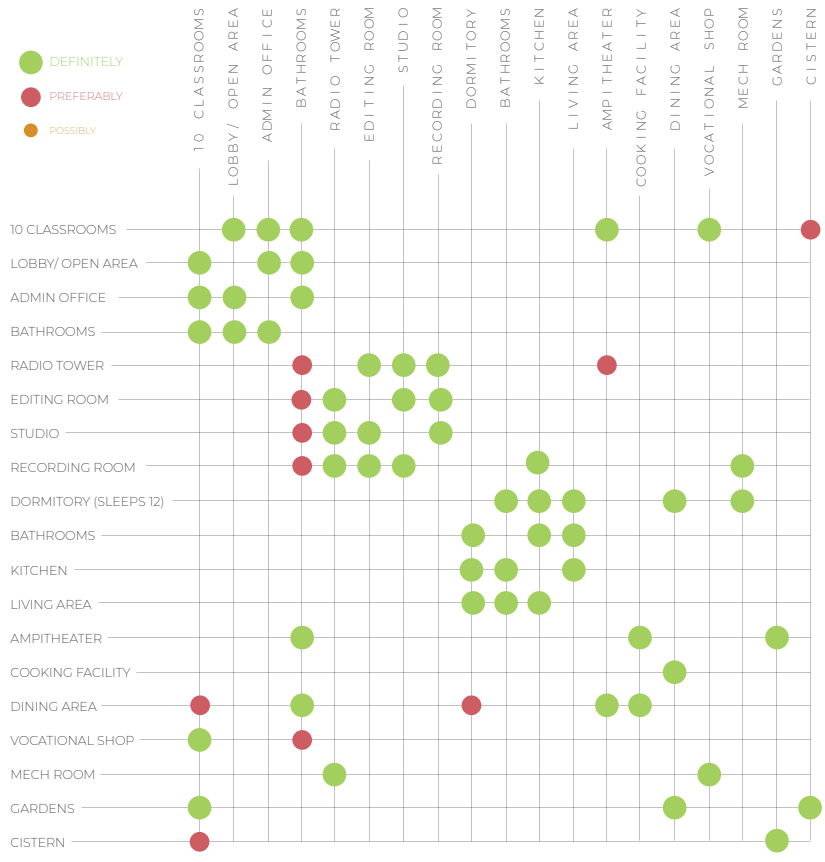




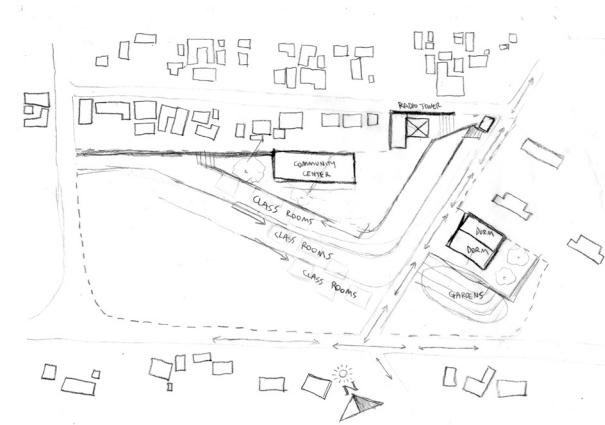




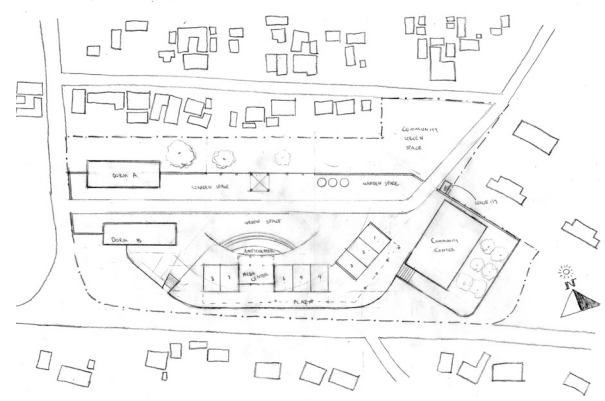
# CENTRAL HUB / DEVELOPMENT



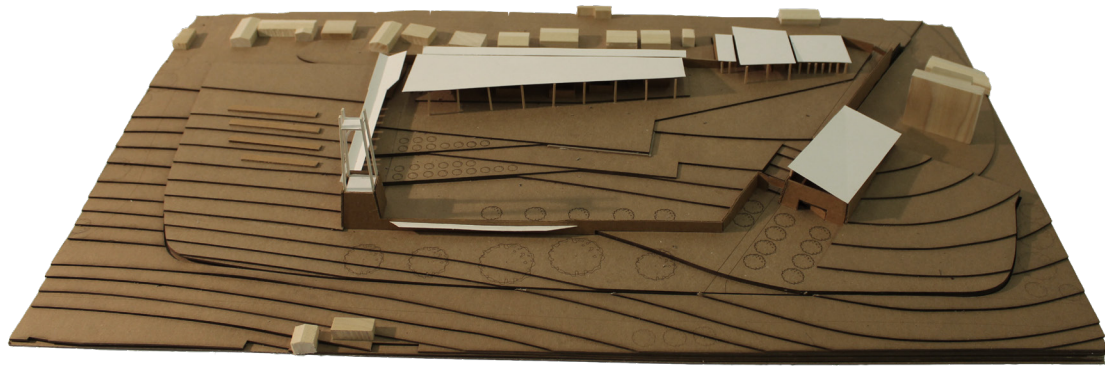
Iteration A



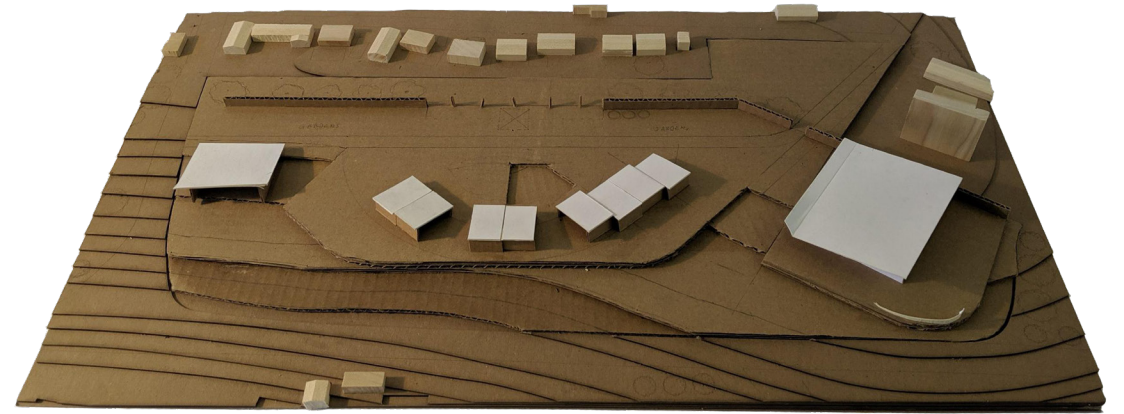
Iteration B



Iteration C



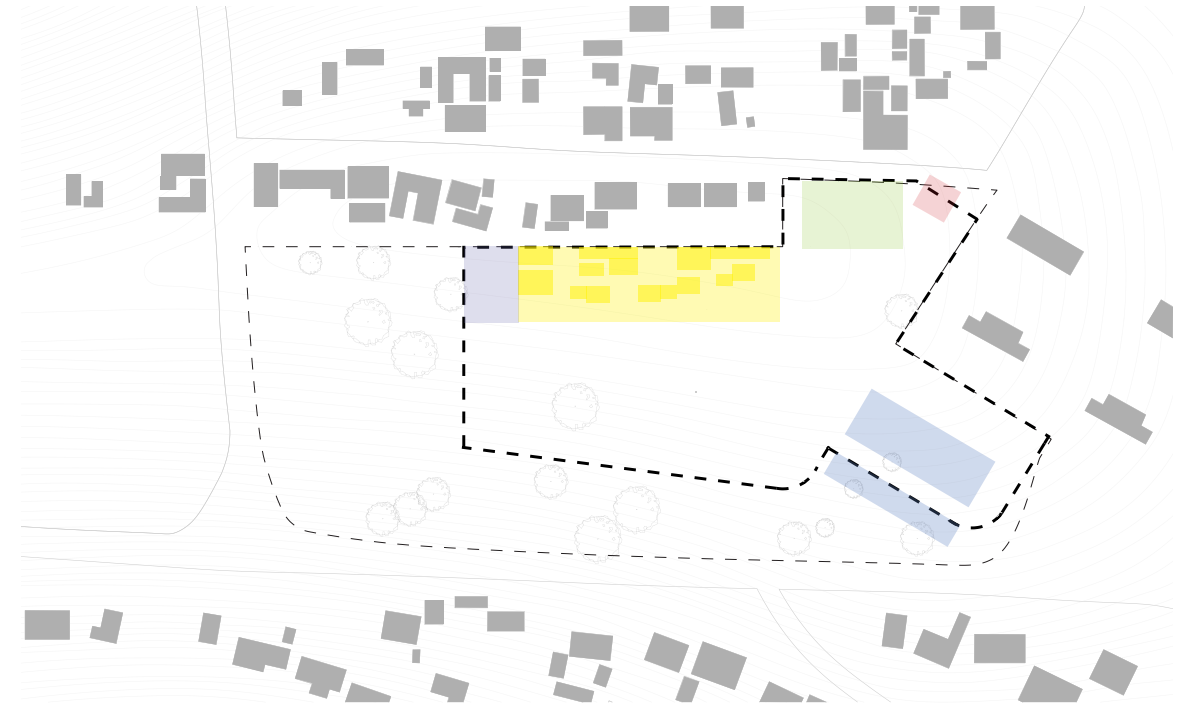
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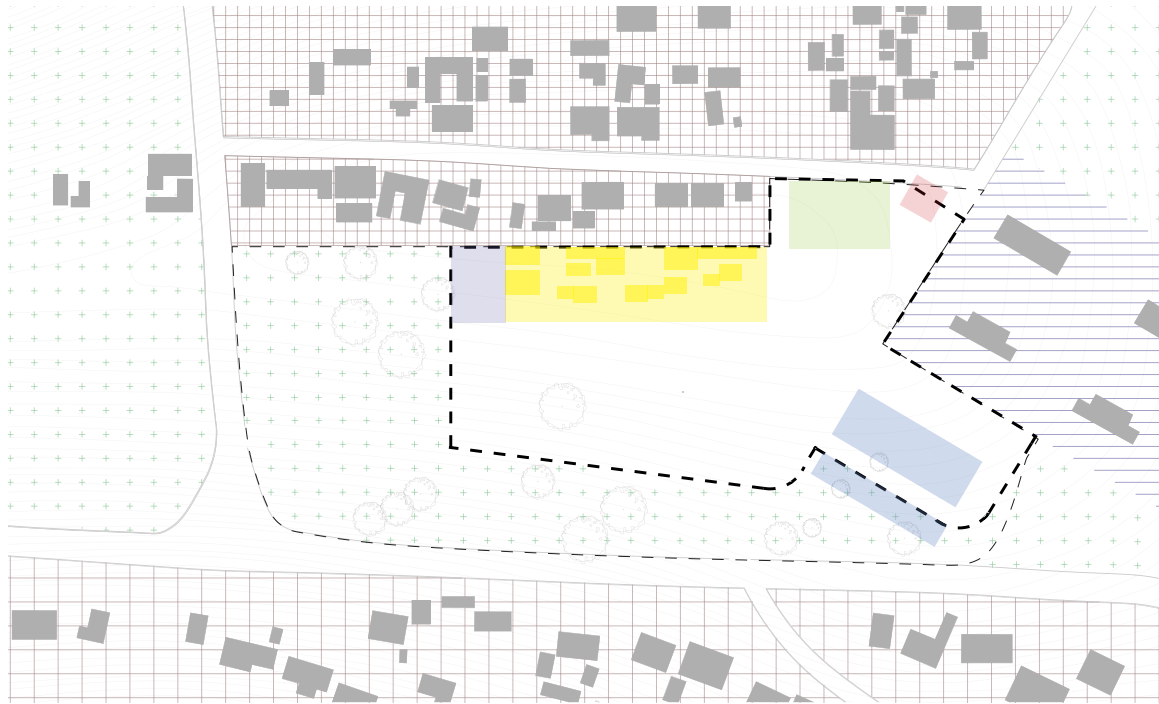
Iteration C



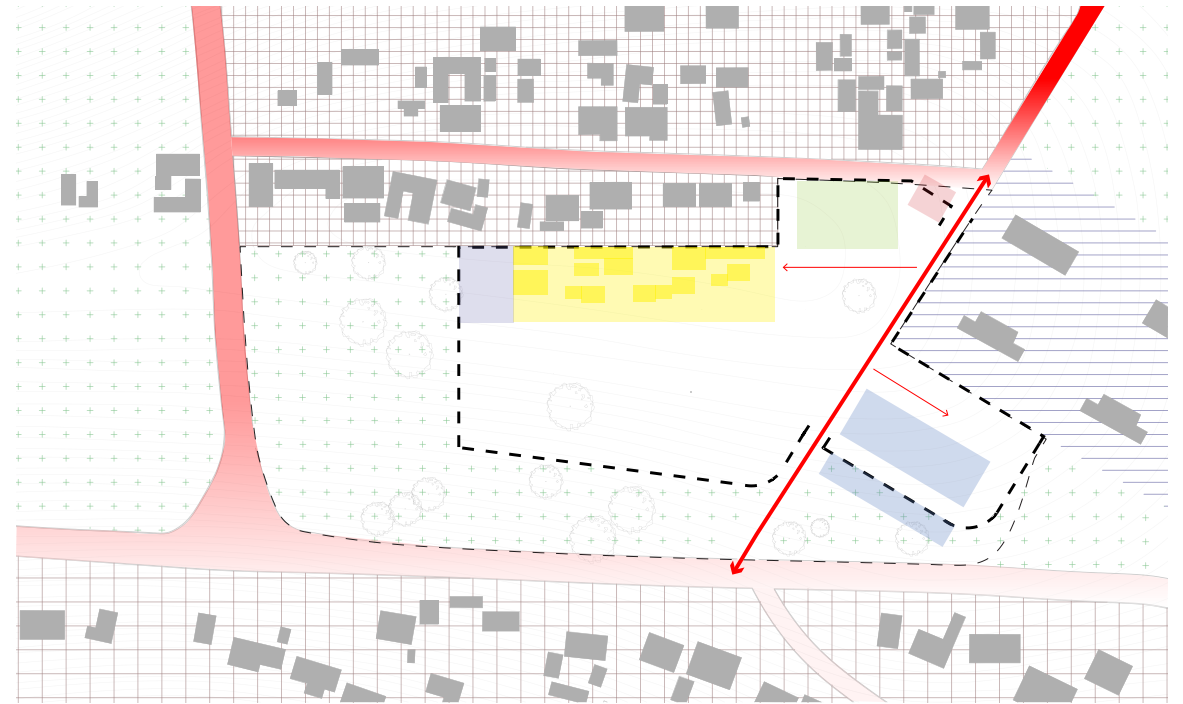
Adjacencies



Program

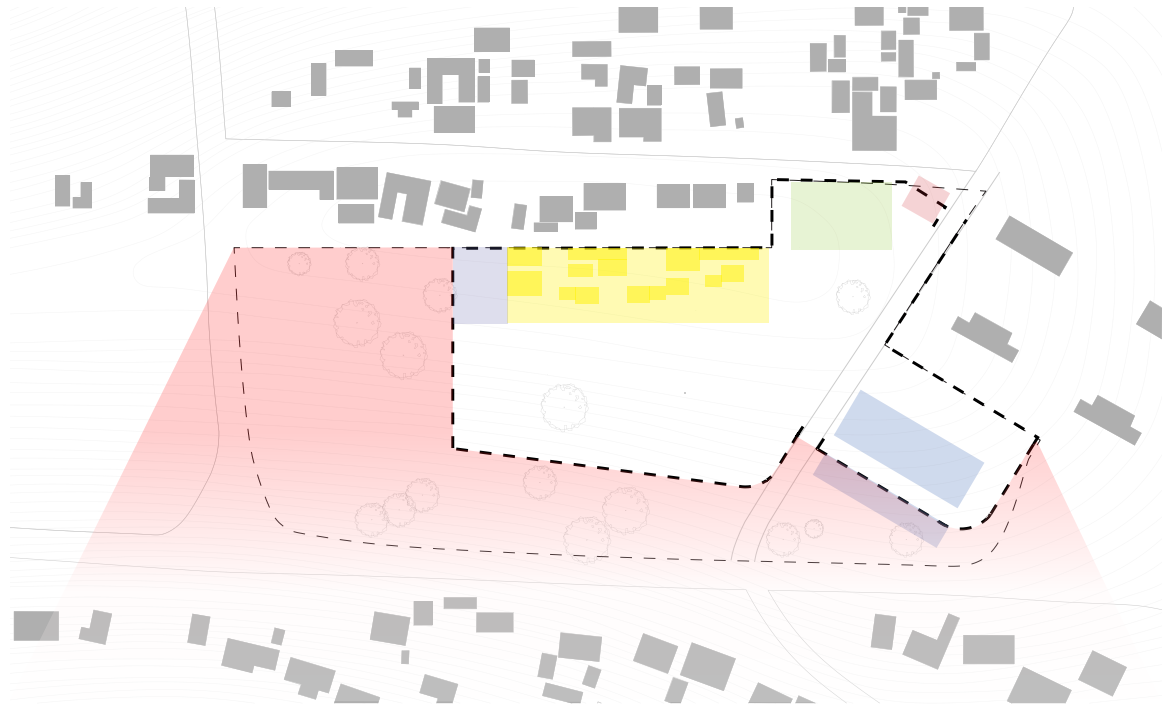


Adjacencies / Program

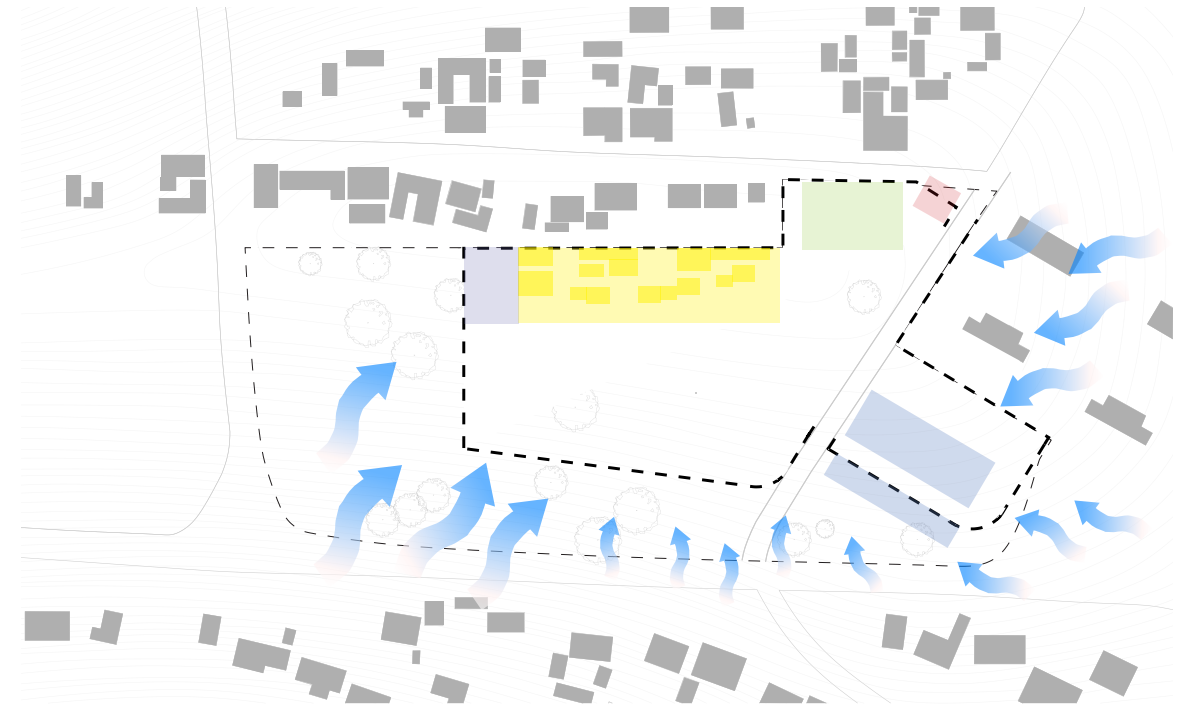


Traffic Flow



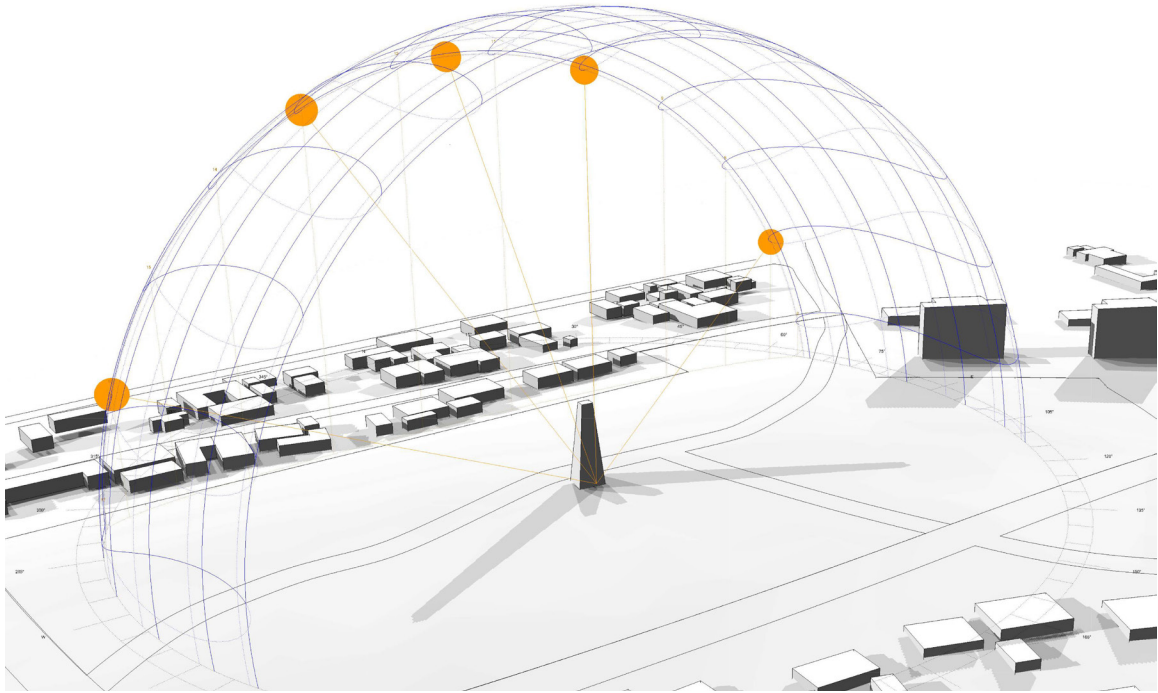


View

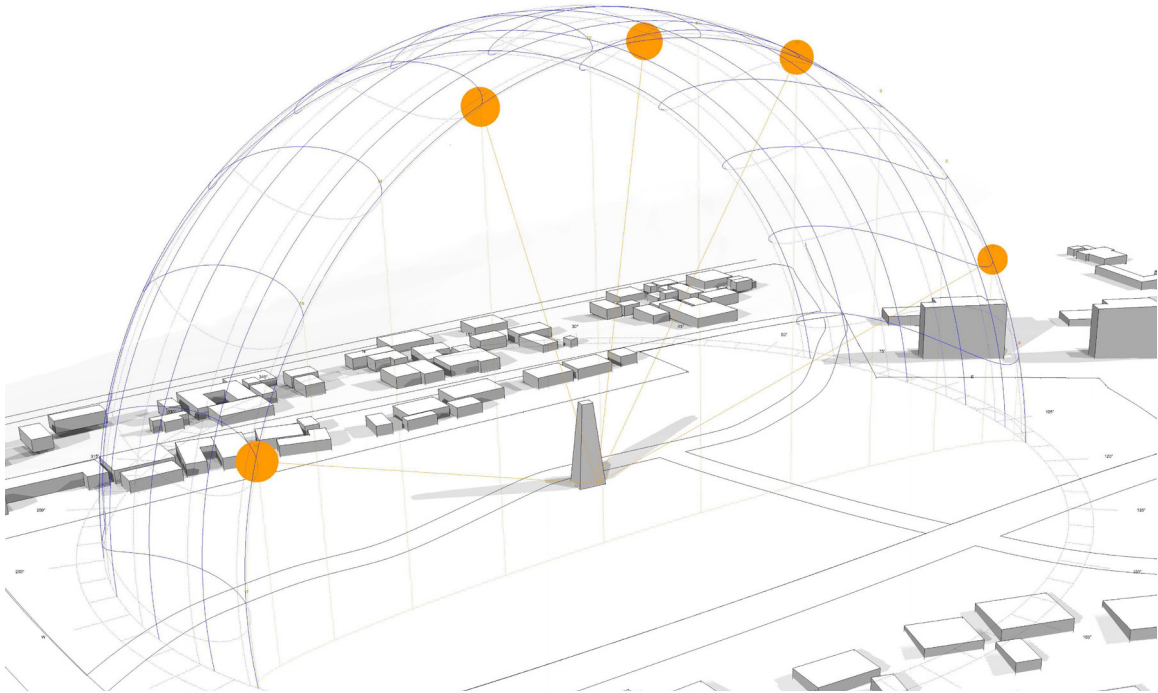


Wind

**CENTRAL HUB / SOLAR ANALYSIS**



**June**

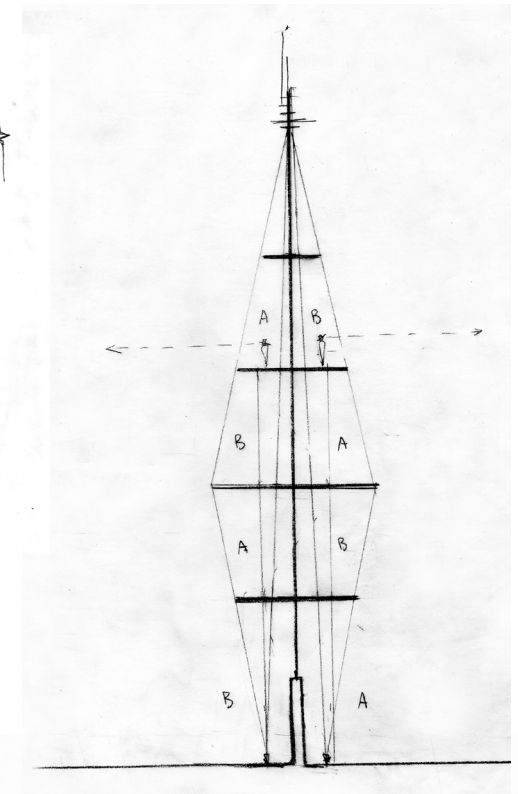
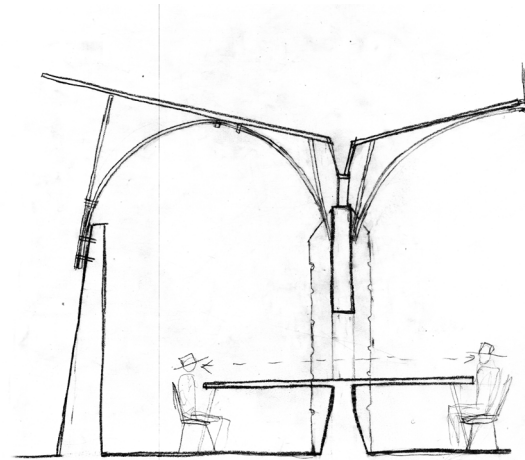
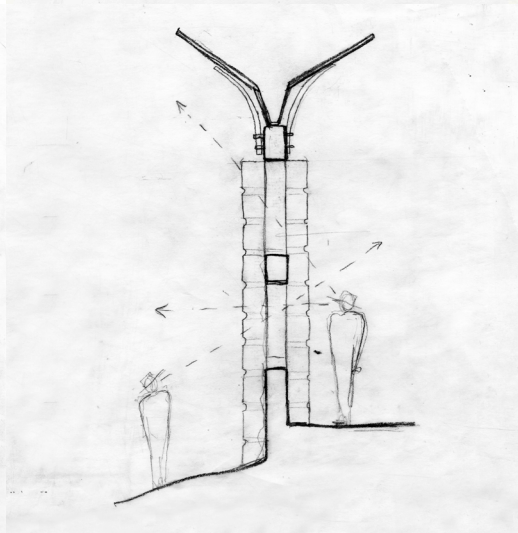
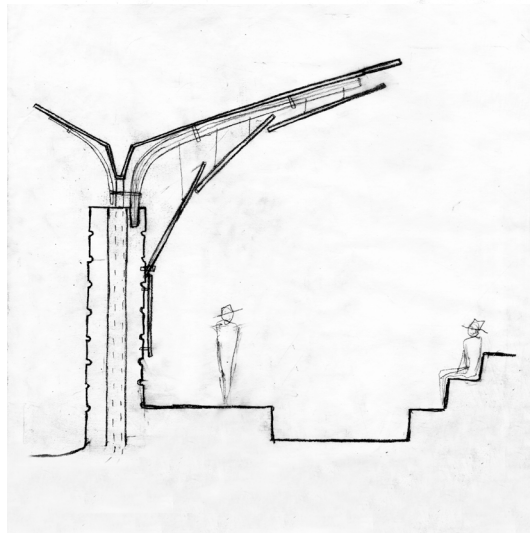
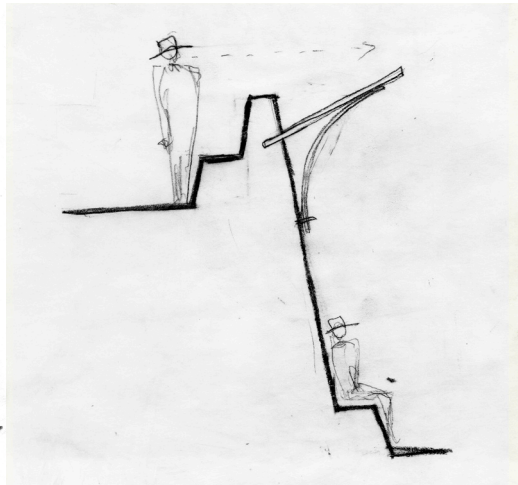
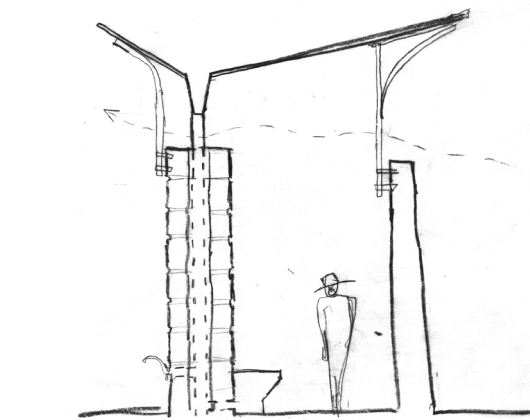


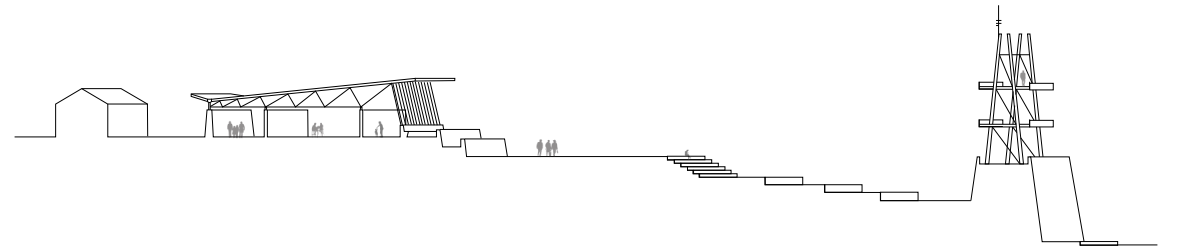
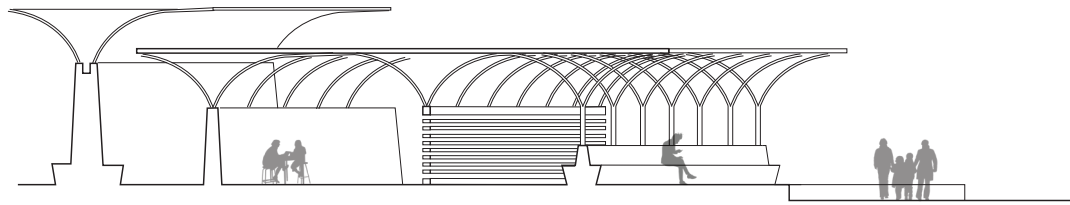
**December**

## WALL DEVELOPMENT

While a perimeter security wall is normal and recommended by local leaders, this generates an interesting conundrum for a project which is focused on community engagement and worldly connectedness. Hence, the wall has become a vehicle which embodies outward engagement, through responding to exterior neighborhood conditions and giving back to the adjacent community. Paired with varying roof conditions, the wall accomplishes this through designed moments of porosity, water collection and distribution, shade, performance space, inhabitation, protection and openness.















WALL / CENTRAL HUB



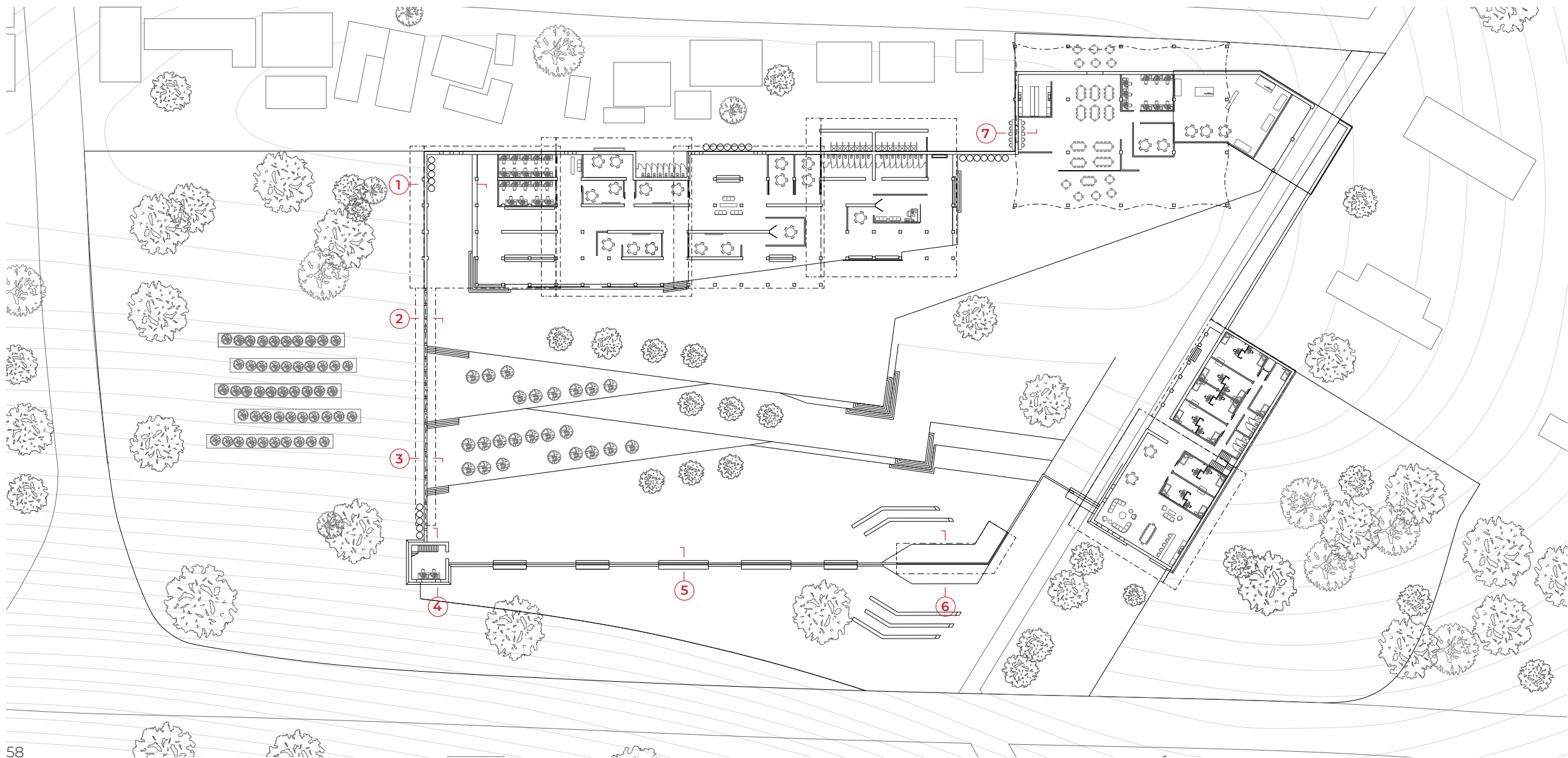


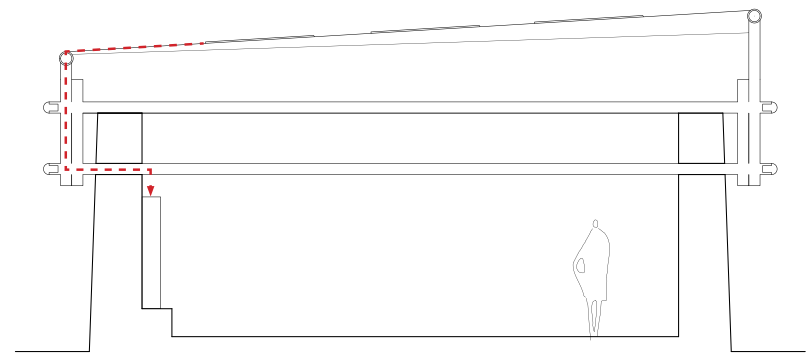
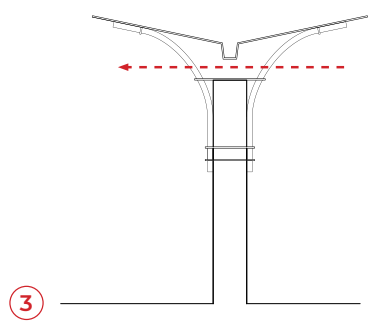
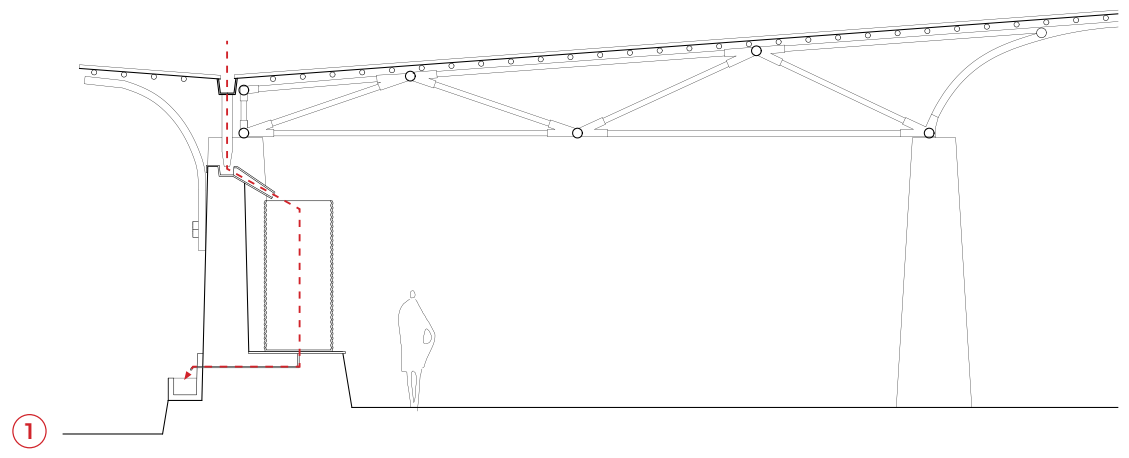
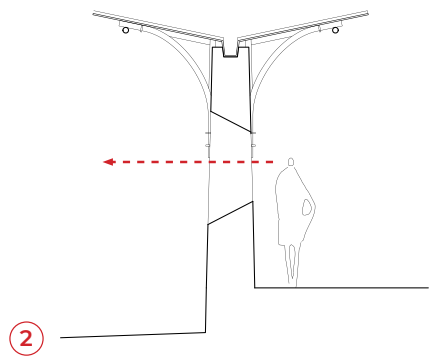


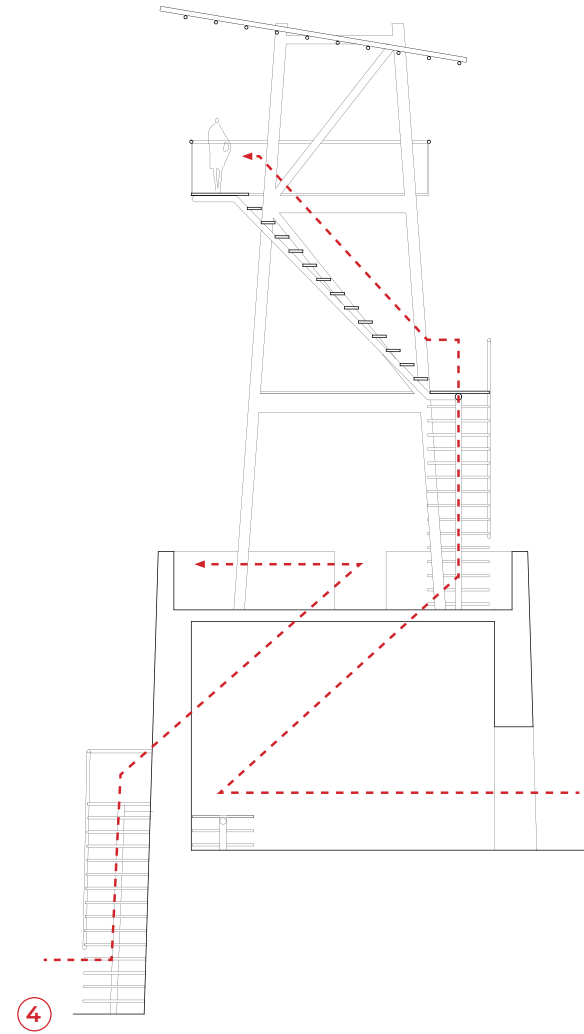
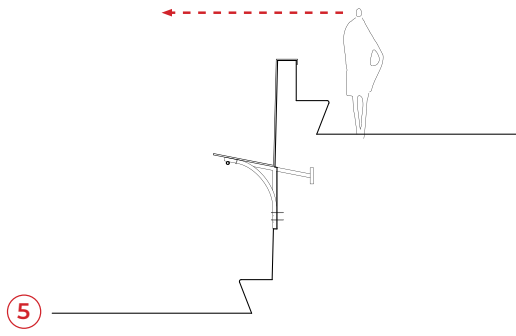




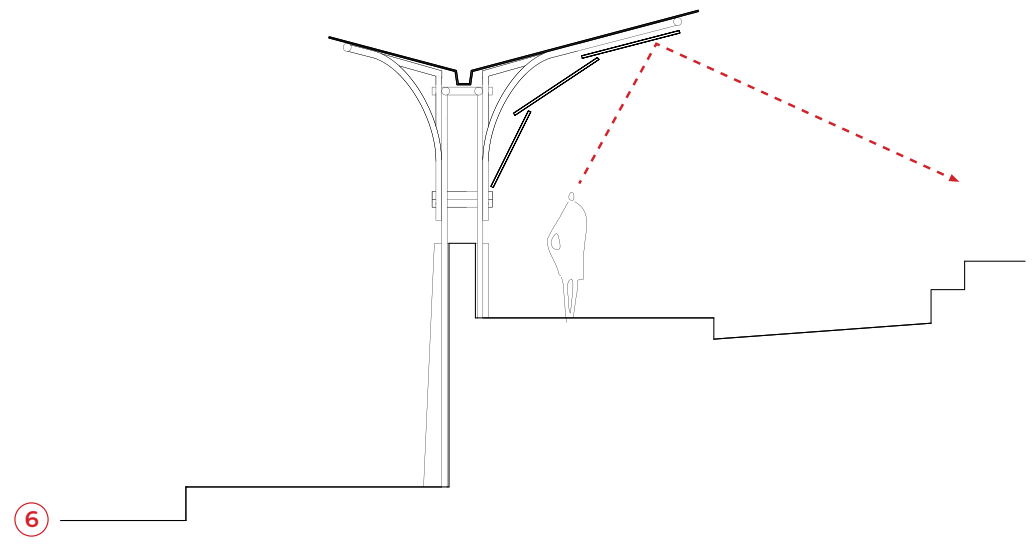
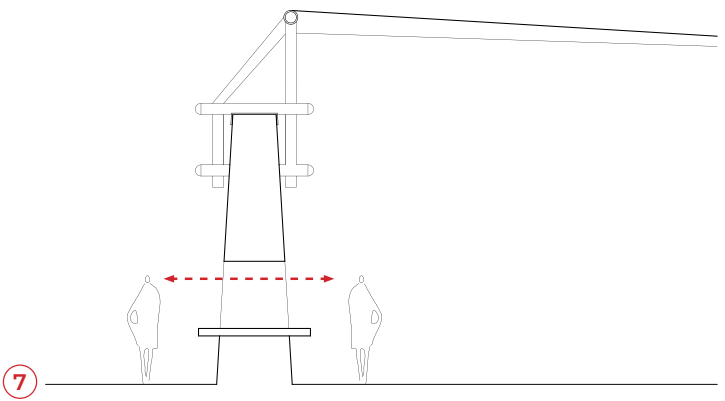


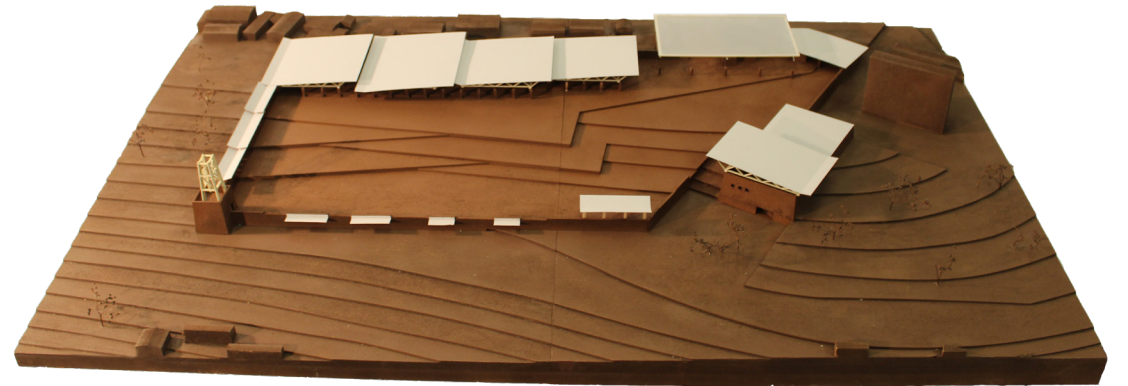
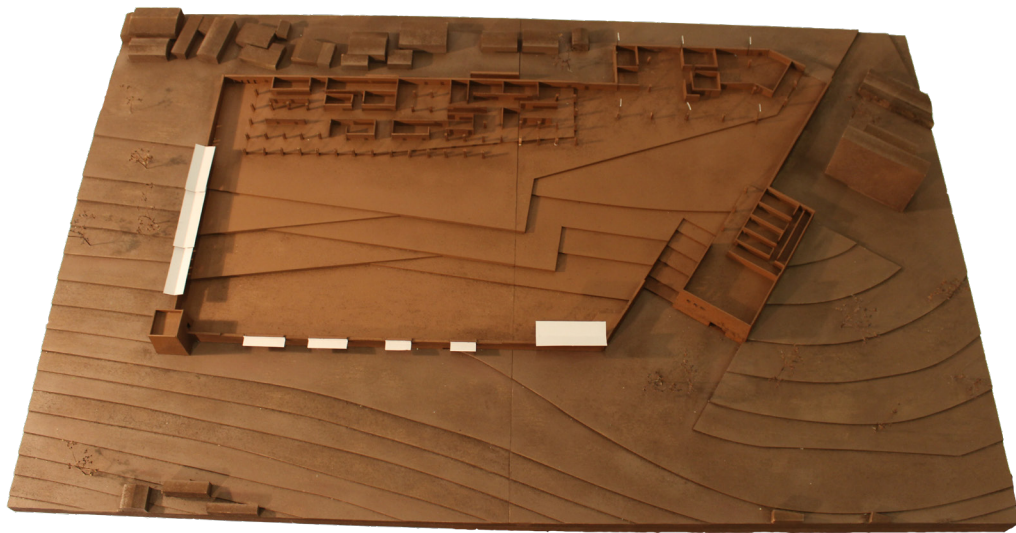




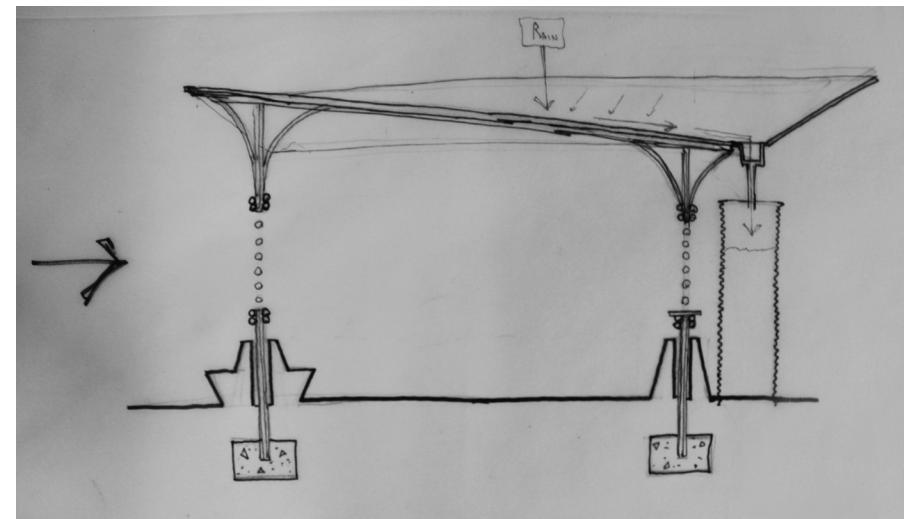
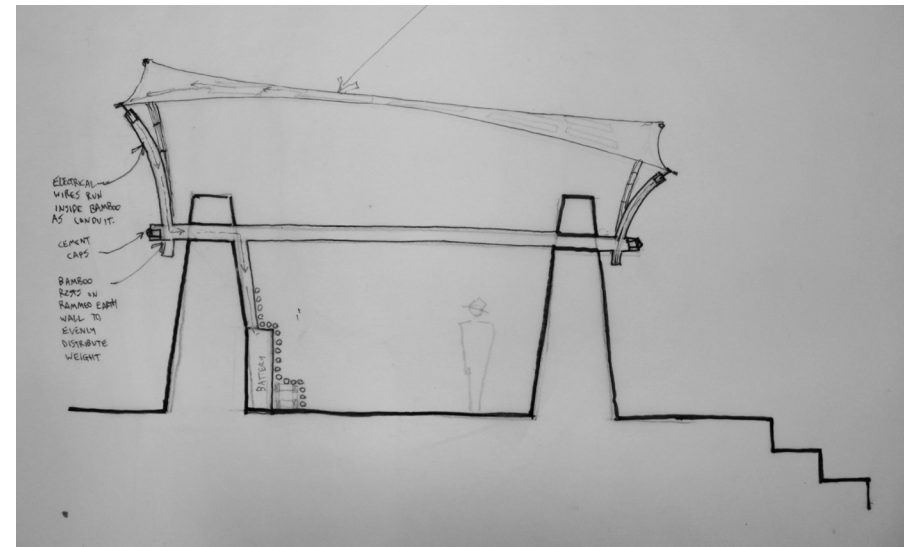
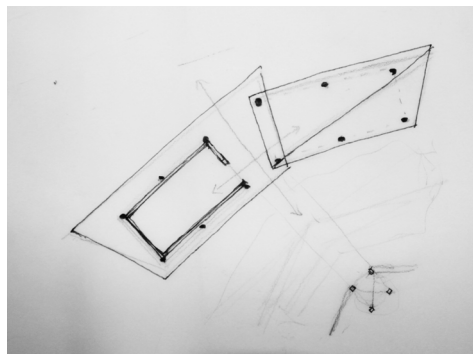
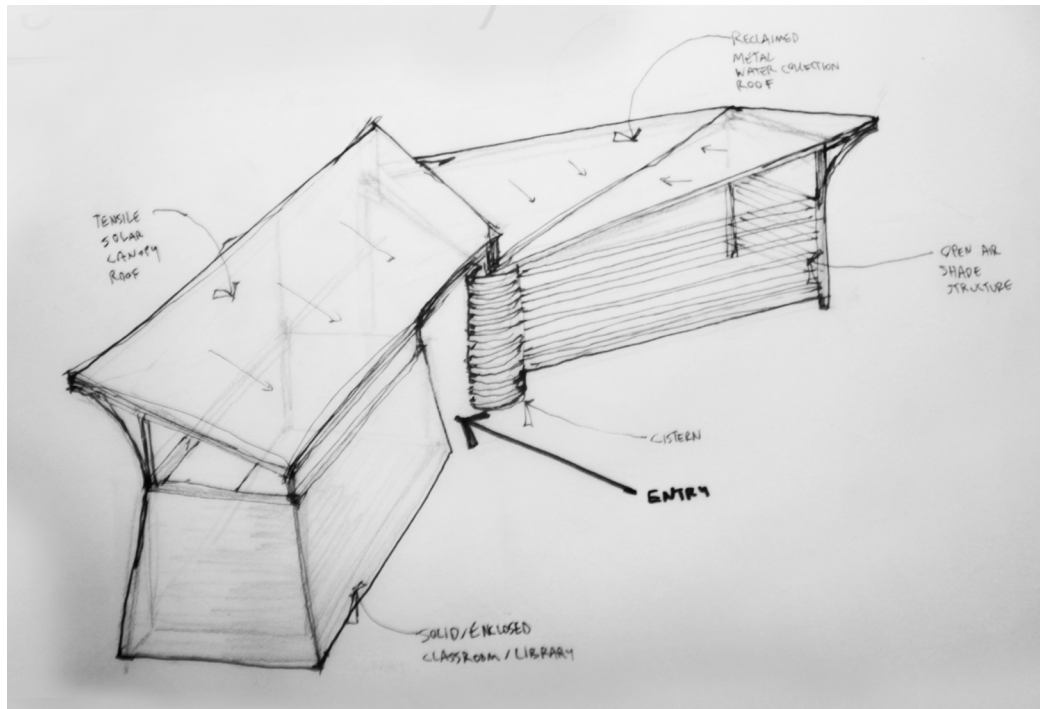




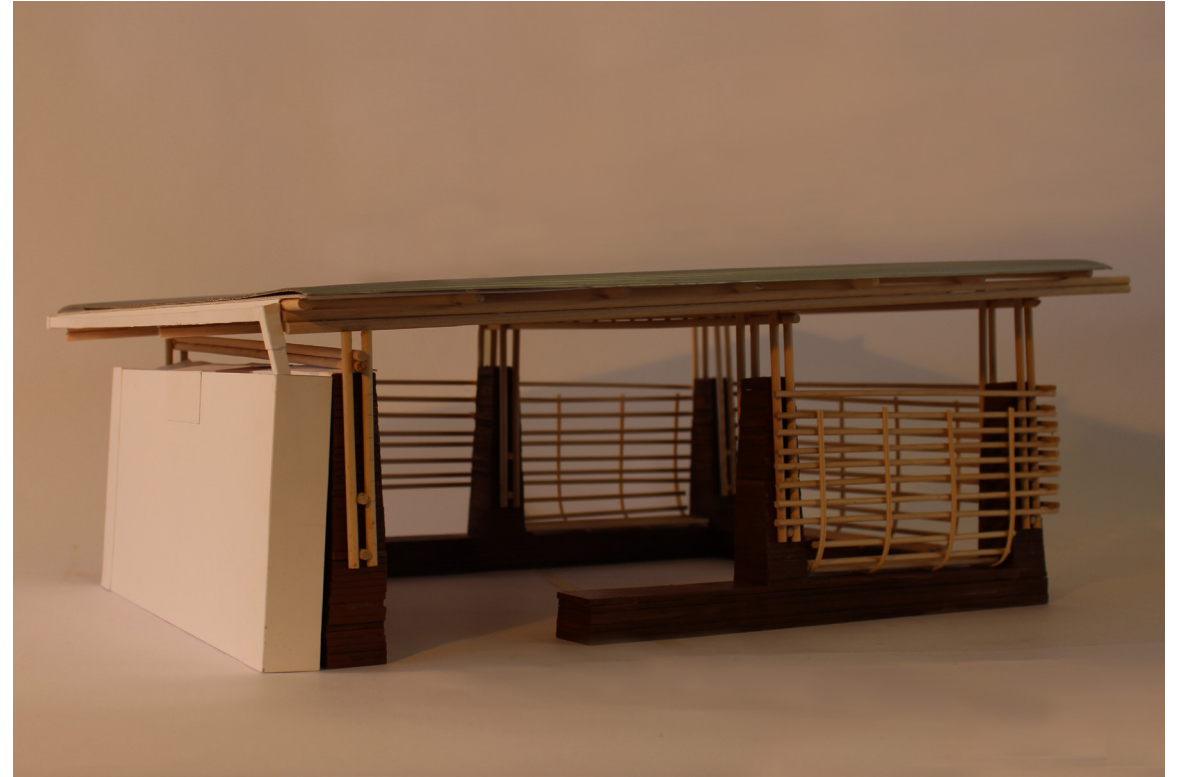




# SATELLITE SCHOOL(S)









**Minimal outside assistance-**

A self sustaining ecosystem of education which is controlled entirely by local community leaders who have access to a framework of educational programs and resources.

**Community Leaders-**

Elected members of the community who demonstrate superior knowledge and leadership skills, are well respected and who can act as point-people for the transmission of key educational and programmatic elements. Community leaders will be responsible for responding to separate communities needs and orchestrating transportation of materials from the central hub to satellite pods.

**Tools & resources-**

A framework of both tangible and intangible educational materials which are fit to accommodate a wide range of learning-levels, topics and presentation platforms. This framework will ensure all materials are of a high quality and provide a structural platform which instructors can expand upon.

**Tangible-**

1. Perceptible by touch. Clear and definite; real.
2. Material, artisan or pertaining to cultural tradition. Micro-scale.

**Intangible-**

1. Unable to be touched or grasped; not having physical presence.
2. Ethereal, interconnected, wire-less. Pertaining to networks. Macro-scale.

**Symbiosis-**

1. Interaction between two different organisms living in close physical association, typically to the advantage of both.
2. In architecture, symbiosis is achieved when its tangible and intangible elements are acting to mutually benefit one another or are existing in close harmony.

**Adaptable-**

Possessing the capacity to address and/or manipulate to accommodate fluctuating greater-community needs, in addition to programmatic needs for expansion and contraction of spaces.

**Architecture of Dignity-**

A design language which symbolizes the sense of pride it instills in the participants of the building process and the respective community for which it is intended. It strives to benefit those who is are effected by the finished structure(s) directly or indirectly. This language must pay homage to traditional beliefs and cultural symbology of the region in which it is situated and include a high level of community involvement/decision making

**Designed correctly/ empowerment-**

A system of construction details which are refined enough to accommodate the hands of an unskilled laborer, while responding directly to climatic conditions and maximizing the impact of locally sourced materials such as mud, wood and bamboo.



**Central Hub-**

A home base which relays information to all satellite pods and acts as a beacon around which the community may gather. The central hub will provide internet connectivity to download new course materials to mobile computers and a radio tower to broadcast classes. It will also contain classrooms, performance areas and a variety of agricultural interventions.

**Satellite Pod-**

A modular community center which acts as a station to relay information from the central hub to remote country-side communities which would not normally be able to easily access quality learning materials. The design of this pod must be highly adaptable and respond to a variety of conditions presented by the different communities such as fluctuating population and educational demographics, varying solar orientation, etc.

**Kit of Parts-**

A pool of design details, ideas and resources which can be selected from which provide are designed correctly, provide dignity or are in symbiosis.



TANGIBLE



Martin Rauch, Refined Earth, 2016



NLE- Floating School



Lima Primary School, Mass Design Group, 2015

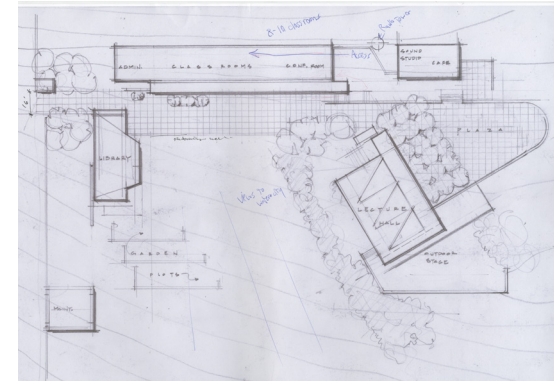


Nocenco Cafe Lowres, Vo Trong Nghia Architects, 2018, Image Trieu Chen

SYMBIOSIS



Lycee Schorge Secondary School, Kere Architects, 2016, Image Iwan Baan



Paturzo Design, 2014



Gheskio Cholera Treatment Center, Mass Design Group, 2015

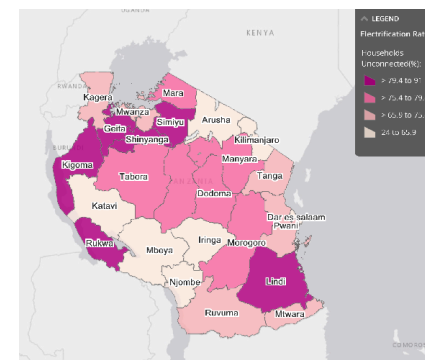
INTANGIBLE



[www.scientificamerican.com/article/pay-as-you-go-solar-energy](http://www.scientificamerican.com/article/pay-as-you-go-solar-energy)



[https://lostpedia.fandom.com/wiki/JACK\\_FM](https://lostpedia.fandom.com/wiki/JACK_FM)



<https://gfwm.maps.arcgis.com>  
Mapping Energy Access: Tanzania, 2016





## TANGIBLE



Gando Primary School, Kere Architects, 2009

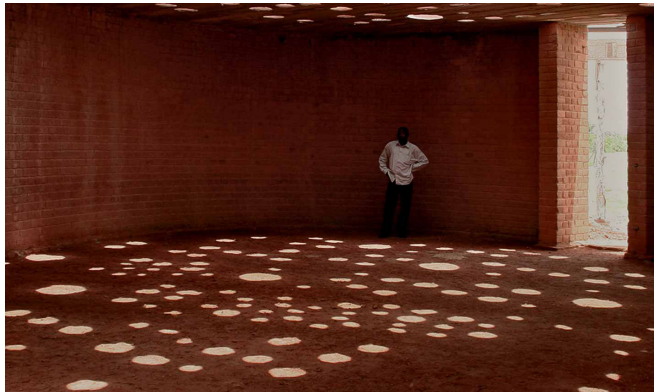


METI School, Anna Herringer, 2006, Image © Kurt Hoerbst



**WAYAIR**  
FUNDACJA U ŁEJERÓW

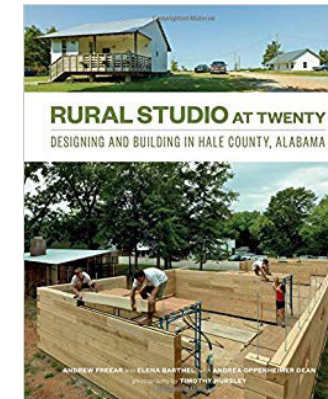
## SYMBIOSIS



Gando Library, Kere Architects, 2015



Mike Gernot, Building with Bamboo, 2012

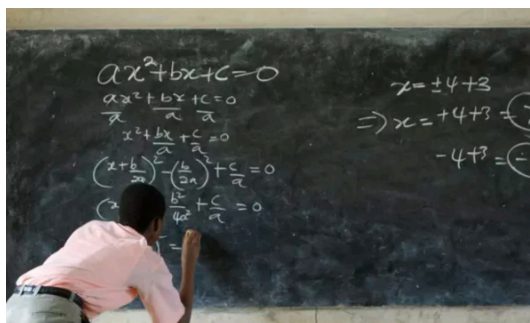


Rural Studio, At Twenty., 2014



Shigeru ban, Paper Tower, 2009

## INTANGIBLE



Muniratu Issifu, Ghana Country Director, The Varkey Foundation.  
[www.devex.com/news/5-ways-to-innovate-education-in-africa](http://www.devex.com/news/5-ways-to-innovate-education-in-africa)



OPEN LEARNING EXCHANGE

