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Beyond the Border: On the Contested Island

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Beyond the Border:
on the contested is-
land

Thesis Prep
Littoral / Shift
Prof. **Kamell**
Prof. **Stenson**
Ruxuan **Zheng**
Shengwei **Liu**

Every life is important and fragile, but what human being has done for centuries are destroying the **balance** between human and nature, threatening the future of every life on the Earth / Nowadays, **water** are going out of control, while **climate** are changing dramatically, international **boundaries** are thickening, and regional **human conflicts** are tensing. / New architectural form are needed in order to **restore** the wounded nature, **reconcile** the political contests, and **re-structur** the relation between human and non-human. / We are designing architecture as an **initiative** to solve those problems, starting from **one site** and **one marine creature**, then extending **ecologically**, **socially** and **culturally**.

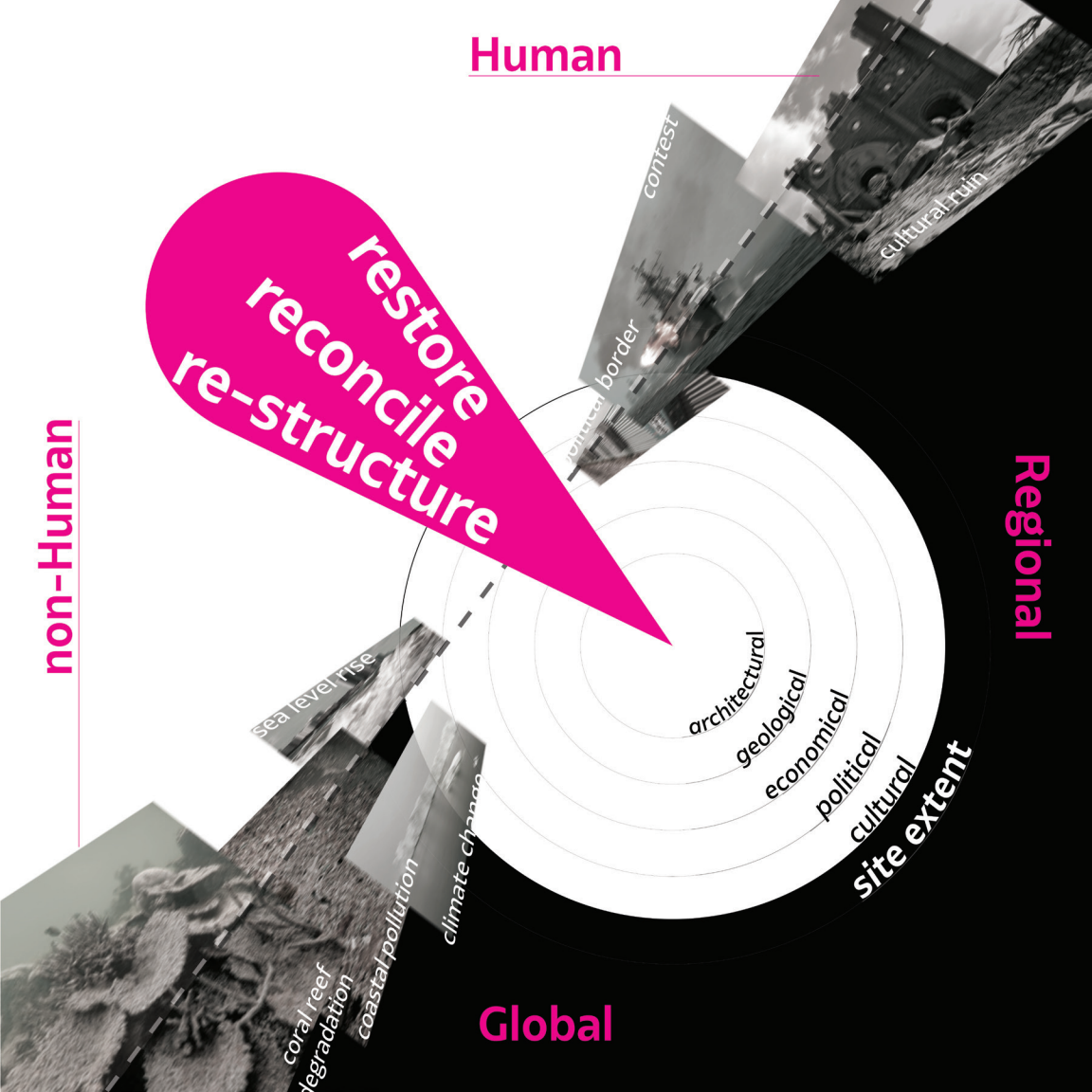
Human

non-Human

Regional

Global

restore
reconcile
re-structure



In ancient Rome, 'res communis omnium' was codified in law saying that the atmosphere, the running water, the ocean and the shore are **common heritage** of human being. Nowadays, we address ourselves in the era of Anthropocene, where environment are, according to Timothy Morton in Hyperobjects, 'things that are massively distributed in **time and space** relative to humans'. The relation between human society and the ecosystem has been shifted from a binary opposition, where one conquers another, to a more interconnected and entangled network, where one was involved in the other.

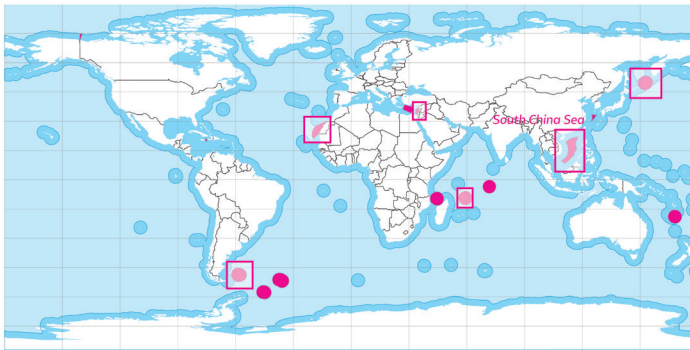
In order to solve the **Problems:**... we **Propose:**... with **Projects:**... that ask **Questions:**

we are facing various problems in **different scales** with water and land. Globally, one third of the world population and a half of the coral reef are threatened by the **sea level rising**. Coastal **conflicts** along the littoral have never ended, where 868 wars on water and water-related resources had been recorded since last 100 years. Water territory reminds **contesting** between nations even though UNCLOS has been carried out. Resource such as gas, fish, and mineral have been **captured** and **depleted** as soon as possible. Borders have been strengthened by deterrence of weapon and political power. Lands, both shore and island, are artificially filled in, fortified, and isolated, focusing on only the **short term** political and economical profit, rather than the **long term** ecological wellness. Ships are no longer transportation of goods and culture, but armies and fear.

We are designing a **adaptive system** that increase the resiliency of nature and human society. We are proposing a relation where people **cooperate** rather than conflict, **share** rather than separate. We are constructing a mode that resources will be treated in a balanced, reasonable, and effective way. We are introducing **emerging** technologies and materials. We are expecting our system to gradually 'grow', adapt to the **spatial** and **temporal** change.

We find the **South China Sea** would be a potential site. Differently from ground, which is **influx**, site possesses a **certainty**. It is defined as a cultural **product** and sets of **resources**. Isotable site is owned and owner has a set of rights. The program would potentially be a **prison**, a **free trade center**, a **research stations**, a **waste treatment factory**, a **cemetery**, a **museum**, a **co-living neighborhood**, an **educational center**, etc.

1. What are the **extent of the site**, regarding the geological, environmental, political, economical, and cultural context? **2.** How should the design reflect or response to the **local**, **regional**, and **international** culture? **3.** Who is the **client**? human or marine species? **4.** How is the **spatial order** for human and non-human interaction and separation? **5.** Architecture worked as a media / metaphor / monument? **6.** How to organize the architecture **form** related to the climate change and sea level rise in time. **6.** What are the **scales** of the projects?



religious

The international complications of the dispute stretch beyond the borders of the **Island of Cyprus** itself and involve the guarantor powers under the Zürich and London Agreement (Turkey, Greece, and the United Kingdom), the United Nations and the European Union, along with the United States.



natural resources + colonization

The **Falkland Islands** have asked the UK to clarify the meaning of an international commission judgement that would leave the islands surrounded by Argentina's territorial waters.

The decision, which is not yet final, follows a request by Argentina in 2009 to **expand its maritime territory** to include that of the islands, known as the Malvinas in Argentina.



natural resources

Israel's maritime border divided into sections for bidding (disputed territory with Lebanon includes 1-3). Both states claim ownership and the right to search for and harvest natural gas, oil or other **natural resources**.



colonization

The **Western Sahara** conflict is an ongoing conflict between the Polisario Front and the Kingdom of Morocco. The conflict originated from an insurgency by the Polisario Front against **Spanish colonial forces** from 1975 to 1976 and the subsequent Western Sahara War against Morocco between 1975 and 1991.



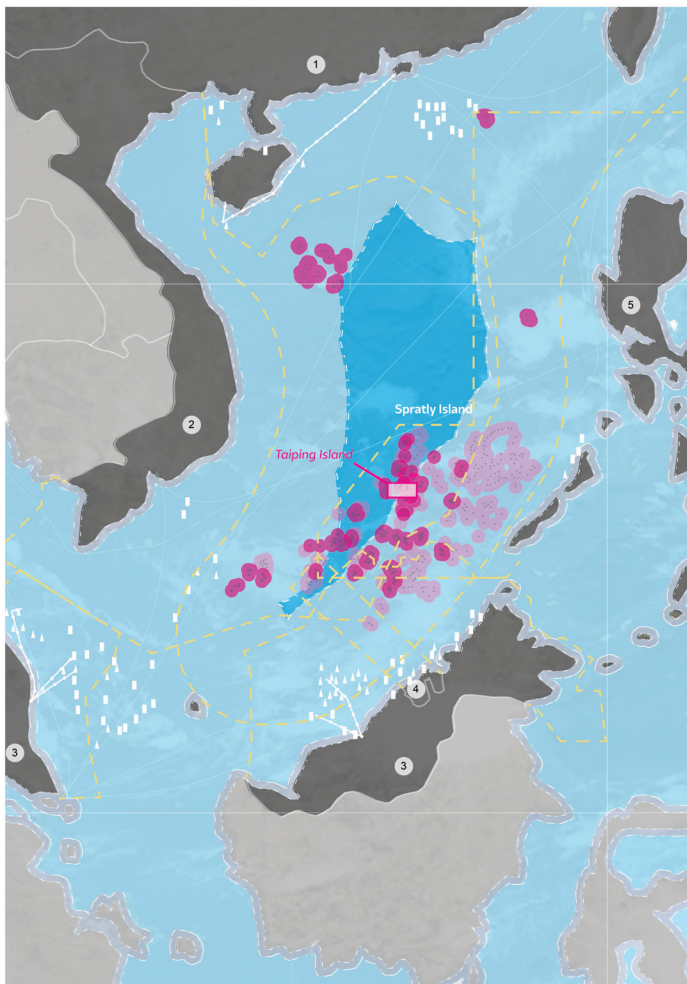
WWII

Called the **Kuril Island** by Russia and the Northern Territories by Japan, a string of volcanic islands are at the heart of a feud between the two countries that has prevented them signing a formal World War II peace treaty. Talks stalled for decades due to Japan's claim to the four strategic islands seized by the Soviet army in the final days of the war.



colonization

Called the **Clipperton Islands**, a tiny, uninhabited archipelago in the Indian Ocean which is disputed by the two Malagasy and France. The **International Morro Bay Convention** gives the authority to control 200 nautical miles of marine resources outside the territorial waters of a country, which allowed France to control a total of 1/30 of the Mozambique Channel.



- 1 China
- 2 Vietnam
- 3 Malaysia
- 4 Brunei
- 5 Philippine

- Countries w/ Conflict
- Other Countries
- Contested Claims
- 12NM Territory
- 200 NM EEZ

- Reef, Cay, Atoll
- Major Island
- Gas Field
- Oil Field
- Pipes



Transportation Junction

The South China Sea has become one of the main traffic routes between China and the outside world.

265-420



Only Official

"maritime trade prescription policy" "privatization" of maritime exchanges that we have described above was suddenly interrupted from the Chinese side. Foreign trade was subsequently only possible as part of the official tribute system.

1371



Marin Silk Road

Zhenghe's voyages (maritime road) helmed the famous treasure ships that explored Southeast Asia, South Asia, Middle East and East Africa.

1405-1433



Colonization

The Portuguese, the first Europeans came to the China Seas, driven by the quest to avoid the trade routes in Asia Minor controlled by the Mameluks of Egypt. They were followed by the Spaniards, the Dutch and only later also the British, French.

15th century



Free Trading

China opened somewhat to Portuguese trade; settlements were precarious until 1557, organised at Macau. The Chinese goods exported from Macau in the other direction, the Portuguese were bringing silver, pepper, ebony, and sandalwood.

1487-1513



Civilization

Golden Sand Temple on money island, Paracels.

1644



Chinese Sovereignty

Emperor Xuanzong erect stone tablets engravings with names of islands, as assertion of Chinese sovereignty.

1909



Regulization

Chinese Gov promulgates regulations on the organization of the office of the chief executive of the haianan district, which place islands under the jurisdiction of the Haianan District.

1948



UNCLOS

Out to 12 nautical miles from the baseline, the coastal state is free to set laws, regulate use, and use any.

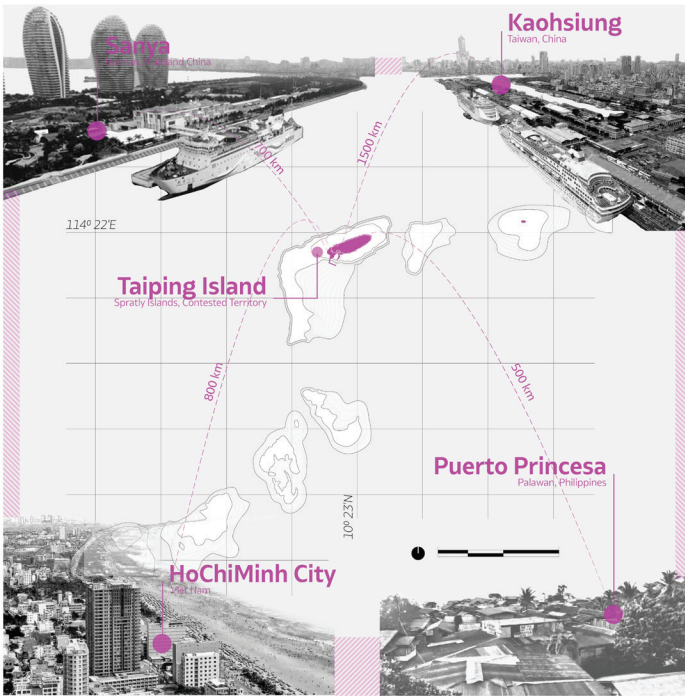
1994



Militarization

Chinese government occupied Iu Ata in 1946, but did not begin constructing its airstrip until 2005, and construction finished in 2008. China is the most recent Spratly claimant to build an airstrip, which it began very Cross Reef in late 2014 after it reclaimed the former low-lying feature.

1995 -



how will those countries contribute to the Taiping Island collaboratively?

(China, Vietnam, Malaysia, Brunei, Phillipine)

Politically

- agreement
- UN step in
- form a regional Cooperation Organization

Economically

- invest money on the island
- island as a port rather than fort
- tax-free island for trading

Resource

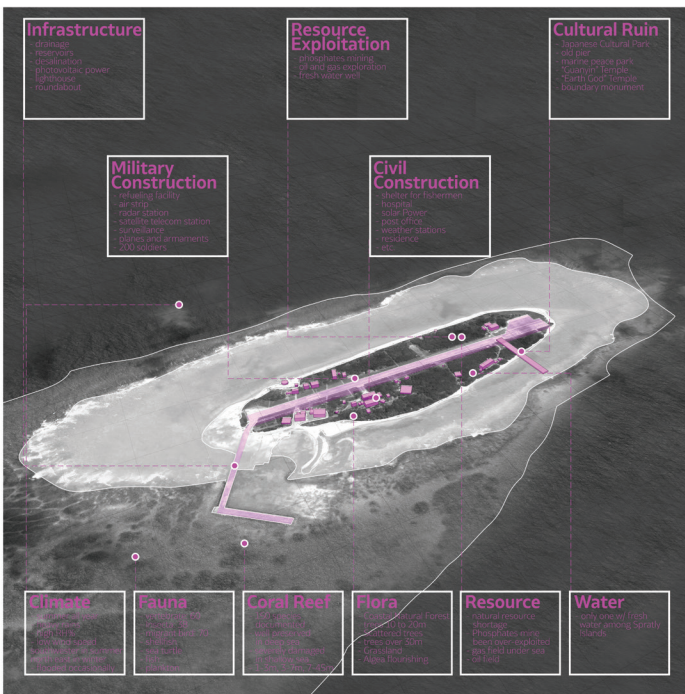
- agree to use clean energy
- avoid overexploit

Culturally

- encourage cultural communicate
- hold festival on the island

Educationally

- send scientist and oceanologist
- museum teach the marine history
- rise the public awarness of climate change and national conflict



Infrastructure

- drinking reservoirs
- communication
- photovoltaic power
- lightning
- roundabout

Resource Exploitation

- oil platform
- oil and gas exploration
- fresh water well

Cultural Ruin

- Japanese Cultural Park
- old pier
- Japanese pagoda park
- "Guanxin" Temple
- "Zhengde" Temple
- boundary monument

Military Construction

- refueling facility
- airfield
- radar station
- satellite telecom station
- surveillance
- police and a marines
- 200 soldiers

Civil Construction

- shelter for fishermen
- storage
- solar Power
- post office
- weather stations
- residence

Climate

- tropical monsoon
- 25°C
- 1000mm
- 1000hPa
- 1000hPa
- 1000hPa
- 1000hPa

Fauna

- 100 species
- 100 species
- 100 species
- 100 species
- 100 species
- 100 species
- 100 species

Coral Reef

- 100 species
- 100 species
- 100 species
- 100 species
- 100 species
- 100 species
- 100 species

Flora

- 100 species
- 100 species
- 100 species
- 100 species
- 100 species
- 100 species
- 100 species

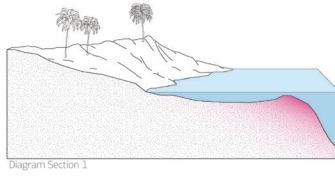
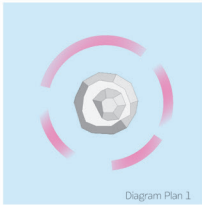
Resource

- natural resource
- shortage
- 100 species
- 100 species
- 100 species
- 100 species
- 100 species

Water

- only one ml fresh water among Spratly Islands



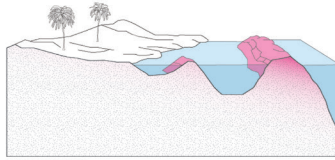
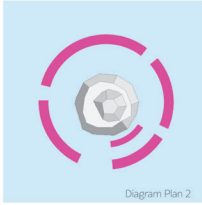


Coral reefs are generally divided into four main types:



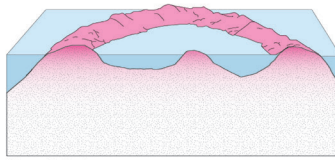
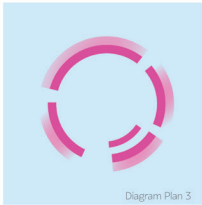
fringing reef

The most common type and develops adjacent and parallel to the shoreline;



barrier reef

An actively growing type that also occurs parallel to the coastline but relatively further away from the shore;



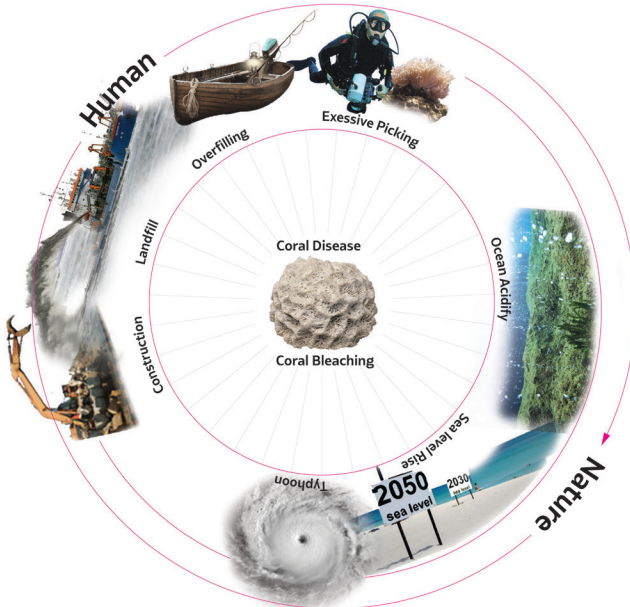
atoll

A ring of calcareous reefs that is often interspersed with low sandy isles and a relatively shallow, sheltered lagoon;



patch reef

Appears as small mounds or cup-shaped structures growing on hard substrates that are cast into the lagoons of barrier reefs or atolls (most of the coral reefs around Hainan Island and neighboring islands are fringing reefs and patch reefs)

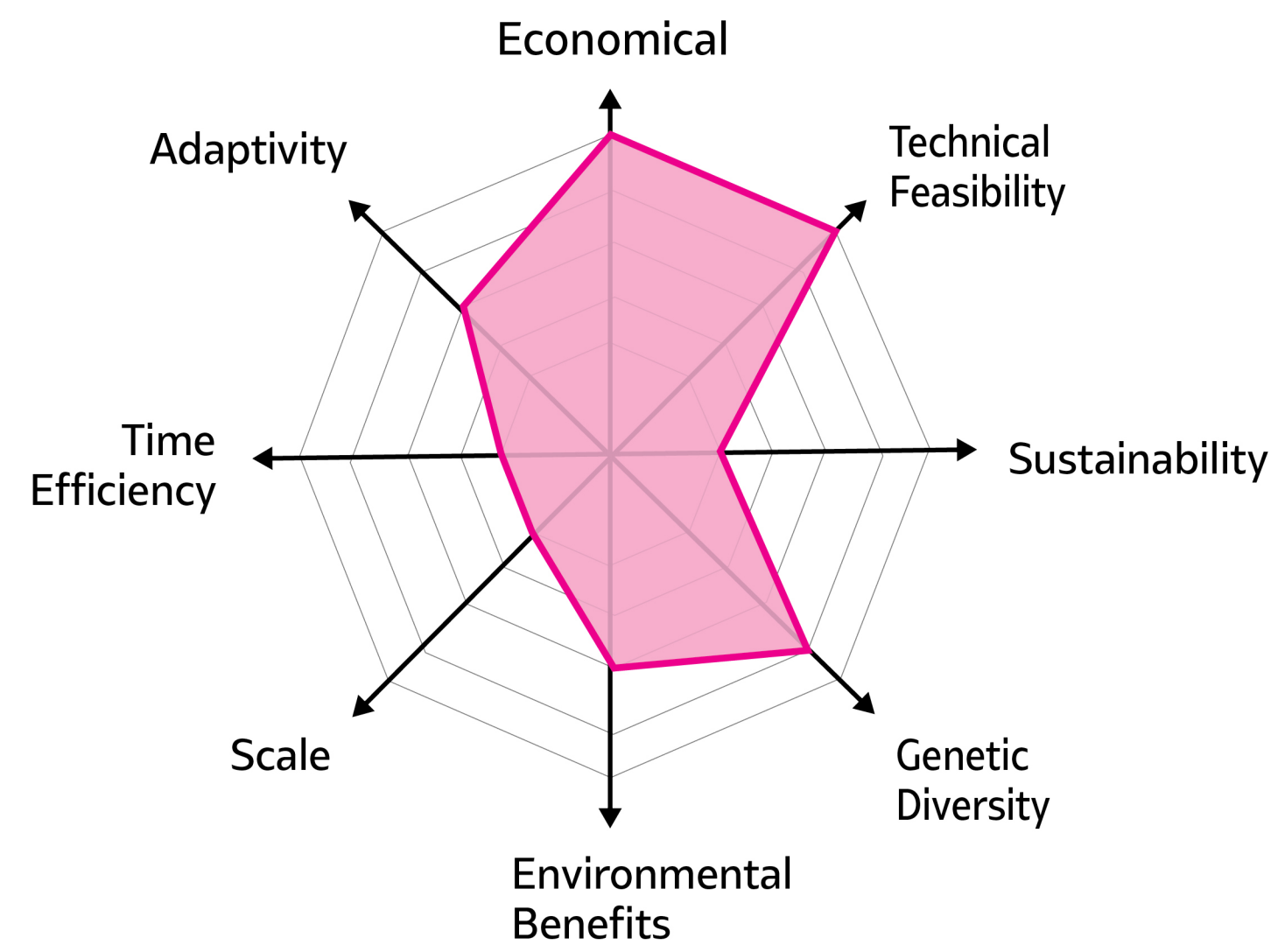


Direct Threats:

- land filling
- dredging
- coral and sand mining for construction

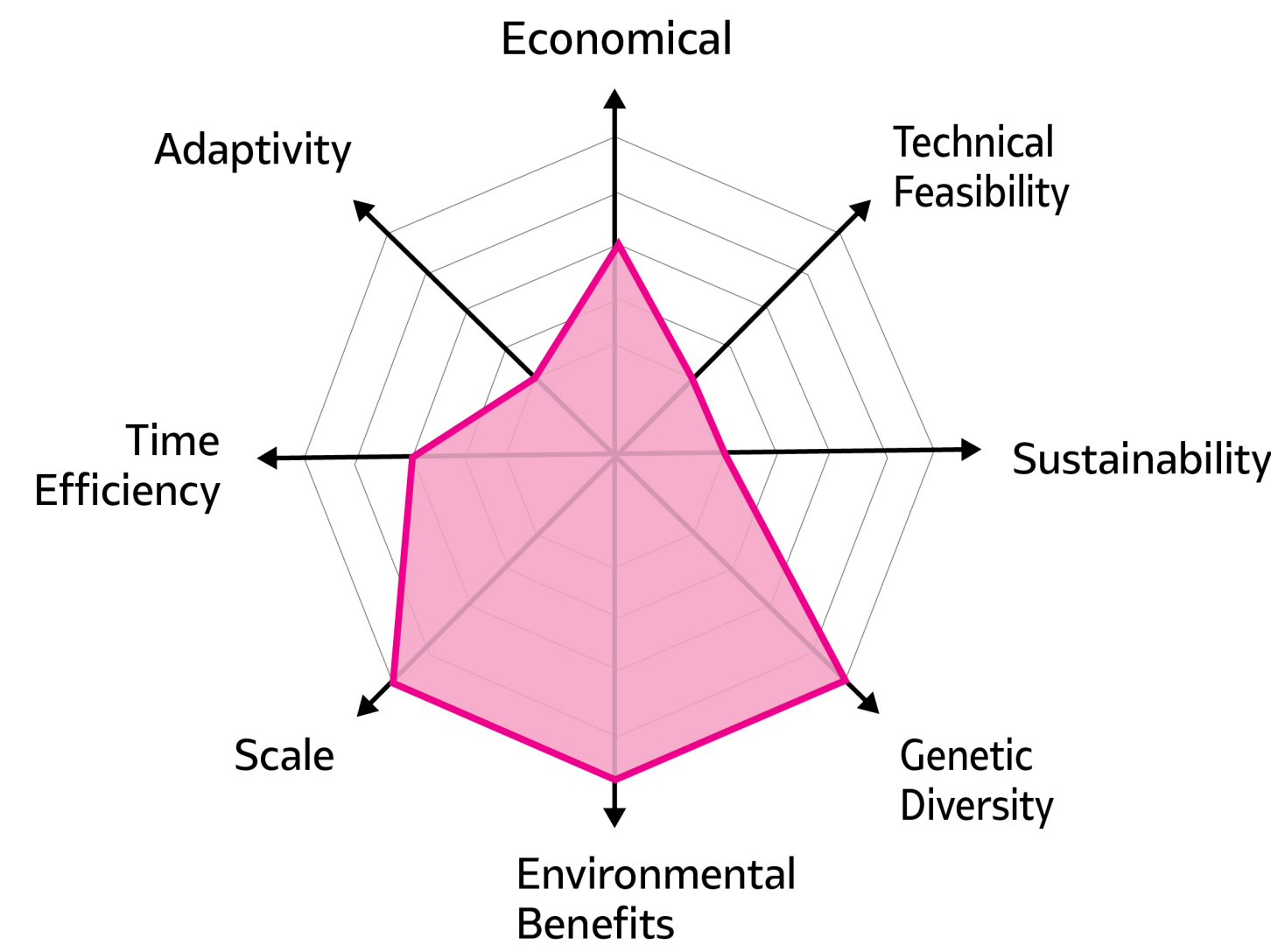
Indirect Threats:

- sea level rising
- ocean acidity
- typhoon



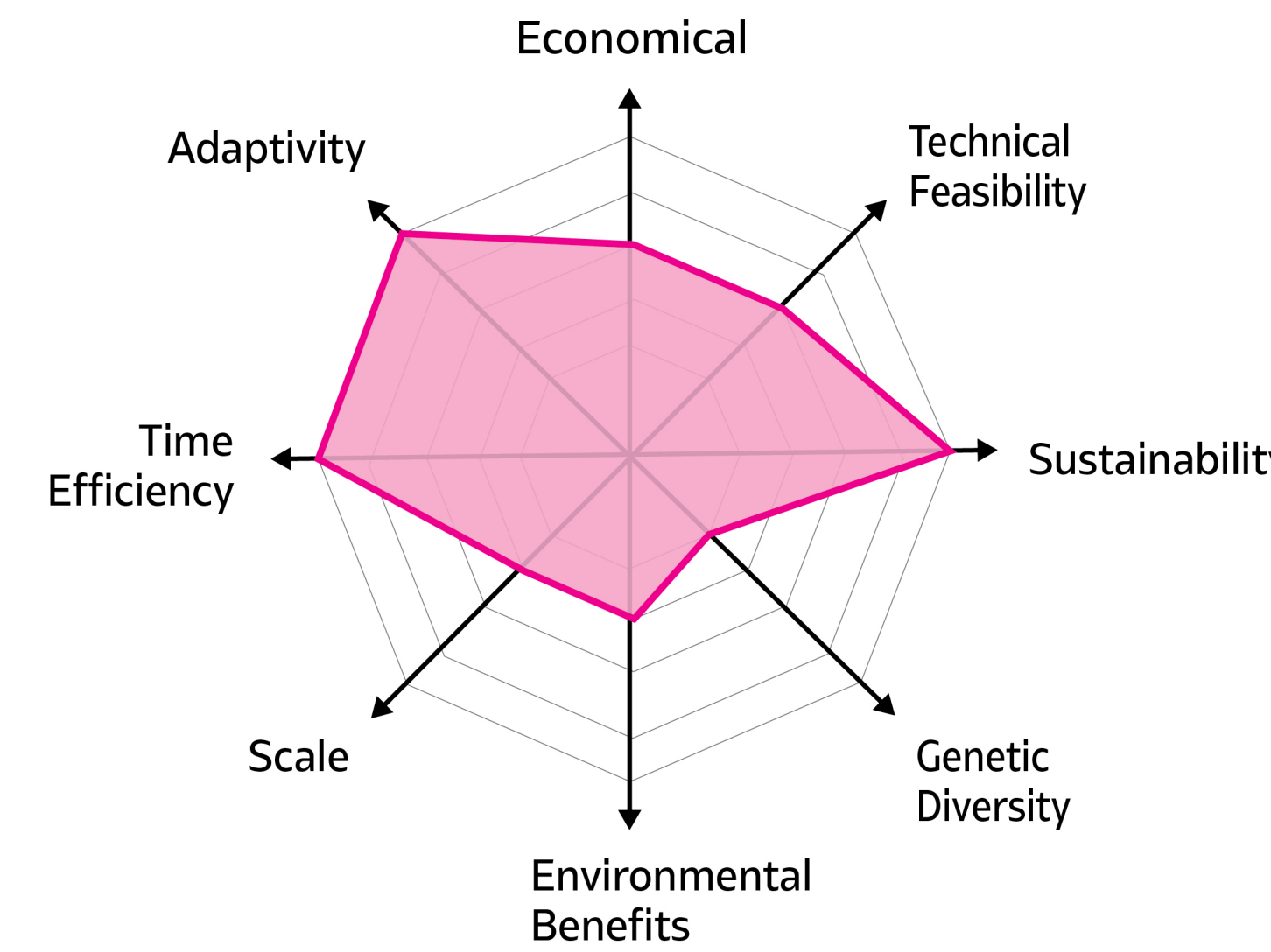
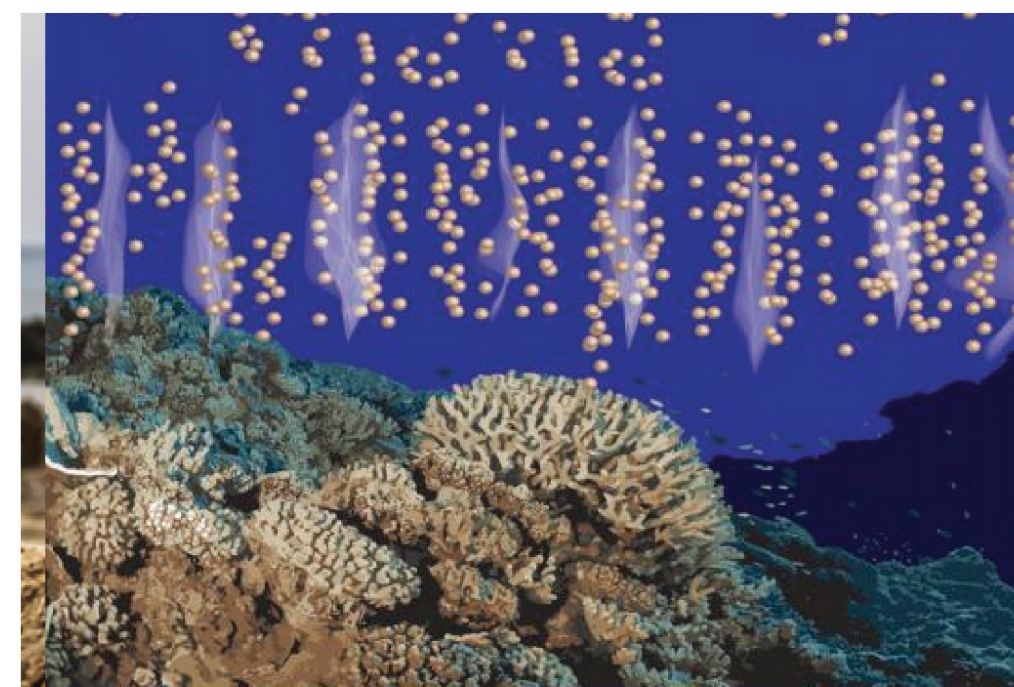
Active coral restoration

refers to projects whereby time, energy, and resources are devoted to directly increasing the coral reef health, abundance, or biodiversity. Together these three factors constitute what is referred to as the coral reef resilience.



Sexual reproduce methodology

Through artificial means to accelerate and assist the recovery of coral reef ecosystems, Breeding is carried out by gametes or larvae produced by sexual reproduction of corals, which develop into larvae or coral individuals and are then released or sub seeded for transplantation into coral reefs.



Asexual reproduce methodology

The cuttings of corals are bred into adults in the artificial environment or in the wild, and then the adult substrate is transplanted back to the coral reef to increase the number of corals.



Economical:

Affordable material for diving and build the livable artificial environment.

Technical feasibility:

Simple training can be operated; convenient recruitment of volunteers.

Sustainability:

Low mortality, live and reproduce for relatively long period.

Genetic diversity:

Larvae comes from various coral, provides high gene diversity.

Environmental benefit:

Provide shelter for marine creatures, benefit ocean.

Scale:

Could reproduce thousands to millions type of larvae at one time.

Time efficiency:

takes how long to fully grow up.

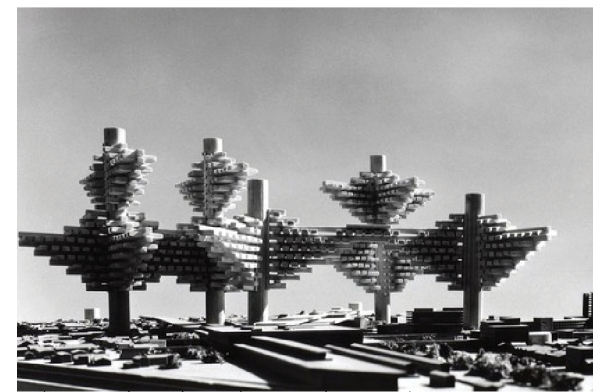
Adaptivity:

Can be raised in both natural and artificial environment.

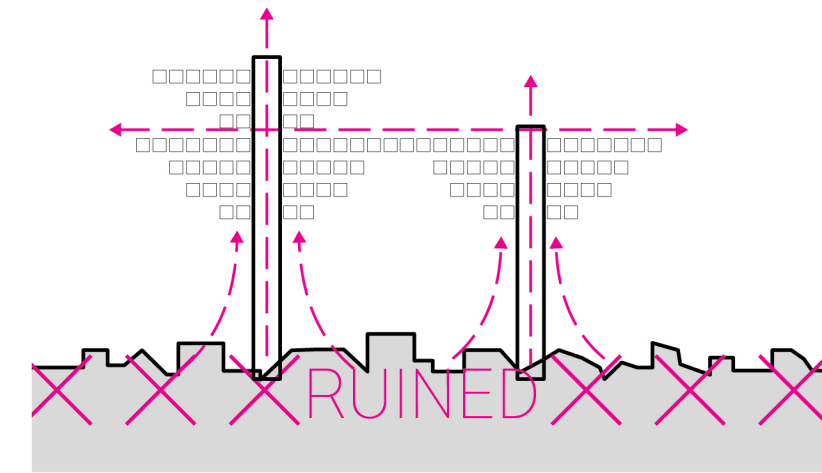
INTERNATIONAL: 5 countries, boundaries, global awareness;
CO-FOUNDED: a political reconciliation; **REEF**: habitat for ocean creatures; **RESTORATION**: previous culture, small ecology, effects the globe; **RESEARCH**: co-existing, human with non-human; **EDUCATION**: marine culture, awareness;
STATION: demilitarization, spatial form, architectural solution.

a station to restore reef
/to collect marine waste
/to rescue marine creature /to observe ocean creatures /to collect samples /to research /to invite public /to educate marine culture /to live /to dive /to hold lecture /to exhibit.

In the Air



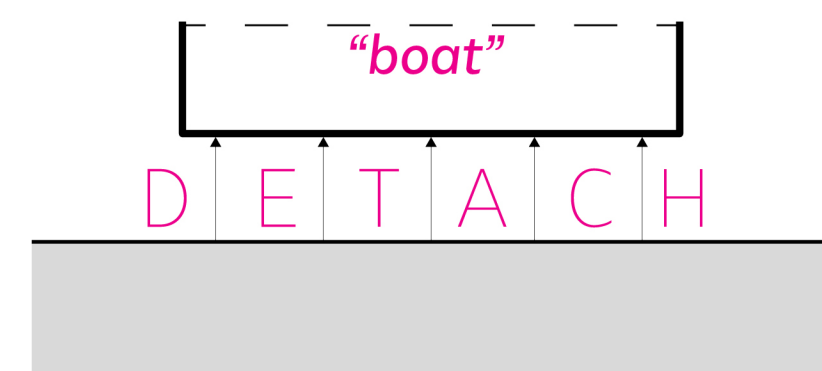
The City in the Air, Tokyo, Japan, Arata Isozaki



- re-settlement after war
- eracte above the ruined city
- tree shape
- vertical elements as circulation



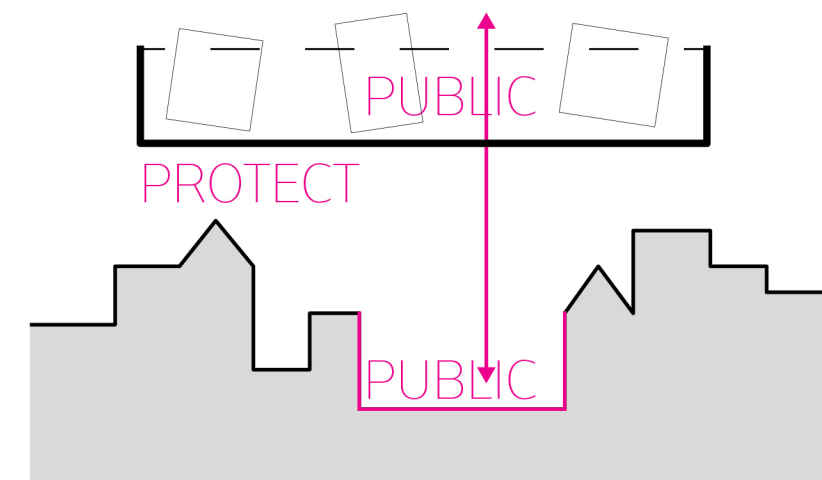
Villa Savoye, Le Corbusier



- lifted up from the clear site
- light weight
- as a "boat" metaphor
- vertical elements as structure



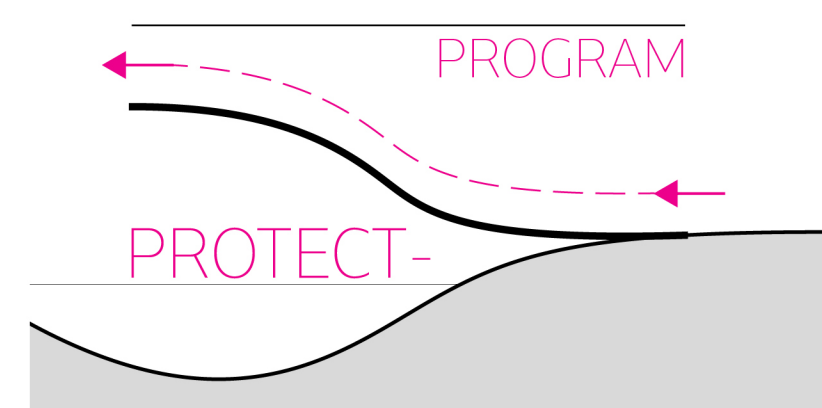
Sharp Center for Design, Alsop



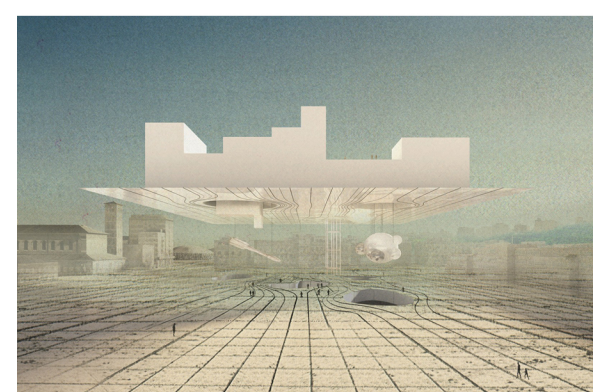
- lift up above the urban landscape
- protect the existing
- create open space below
- vertical elements as structure and circulation



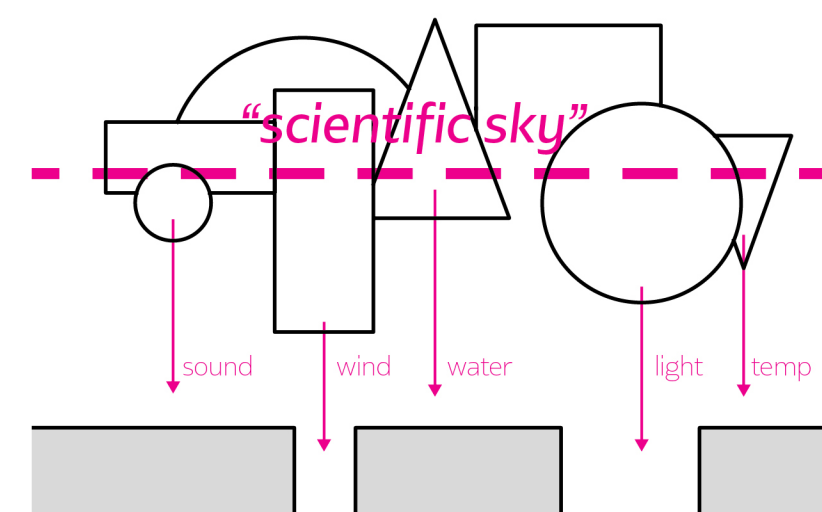
Wilde park, NL architects



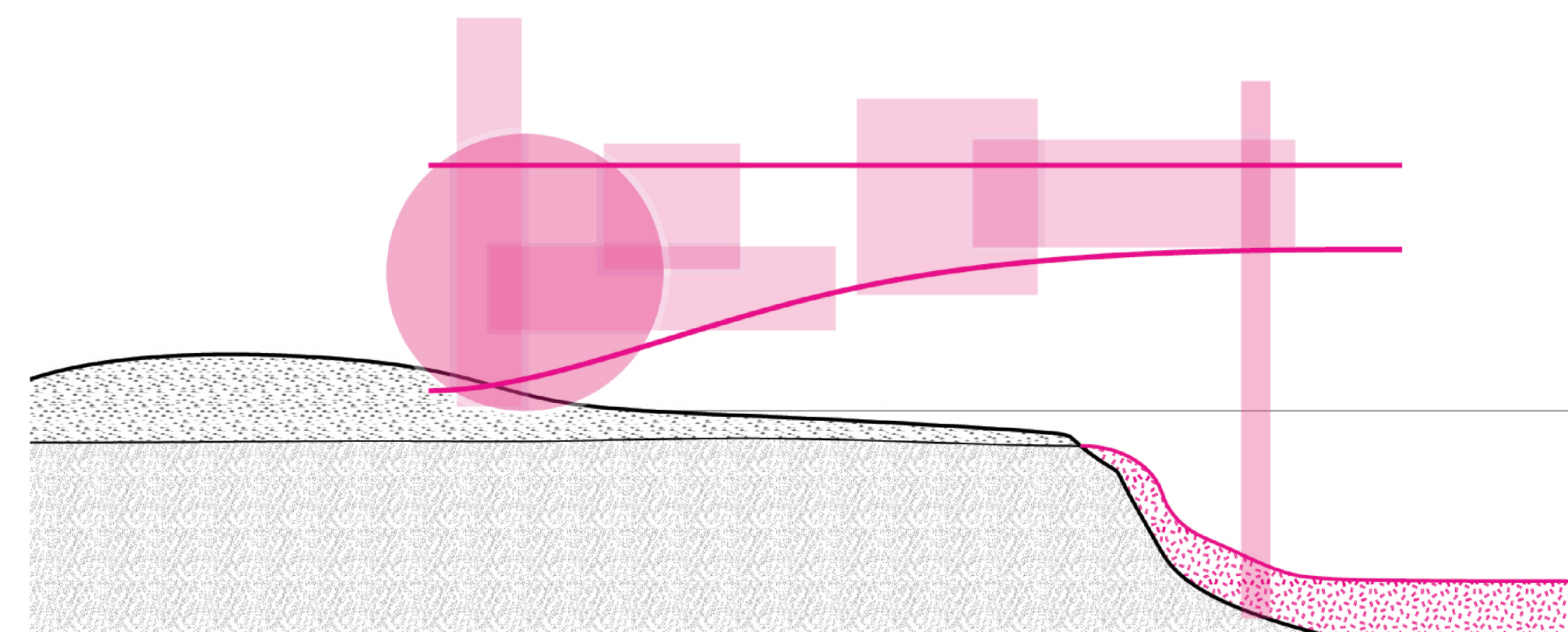
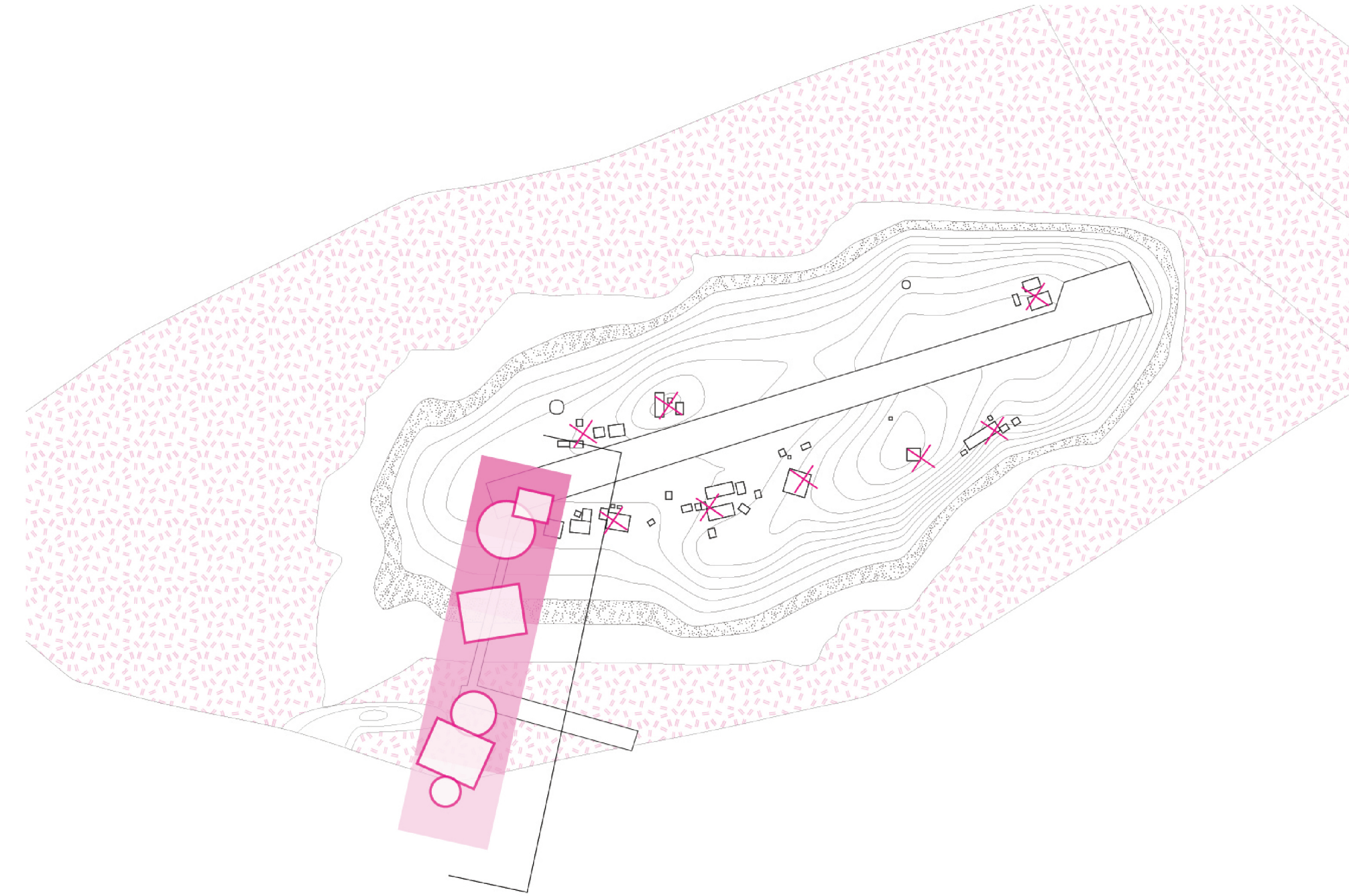
- flip the "house" type upside-down
- curve up from landscape
- become a shelter for underneath
- vertical elements as sturcture



Via Flaminia Rome, Wolfgang Tschapeller



- a "new sky" as artificial enviornment
- both physical and virtual space
- response to the exsiting landscape
- variety of climate



Clients:

long term:

- researchers: 30
- securities: 5
- officers: 5
- workers: 10
- coral reef: over 1000 sq m
- other species

short term:

- sailors: 25
- students: 100
- tour guides: 4
- tourists: 100 max.

Programs:

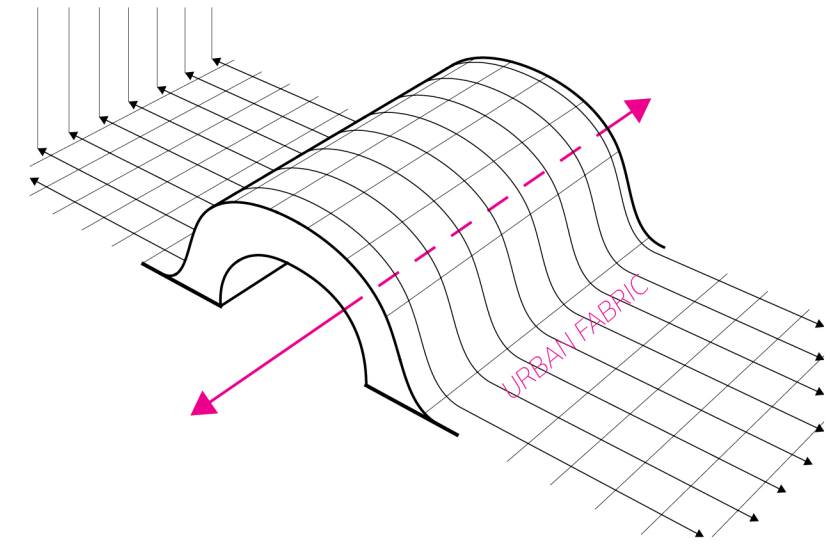
- observing platform
- research laboratory
- library
- sample archiving
- conference center
- exhibition space

- living space
- dinning space
- office
- park / gym
- other amenities
- port

Underground



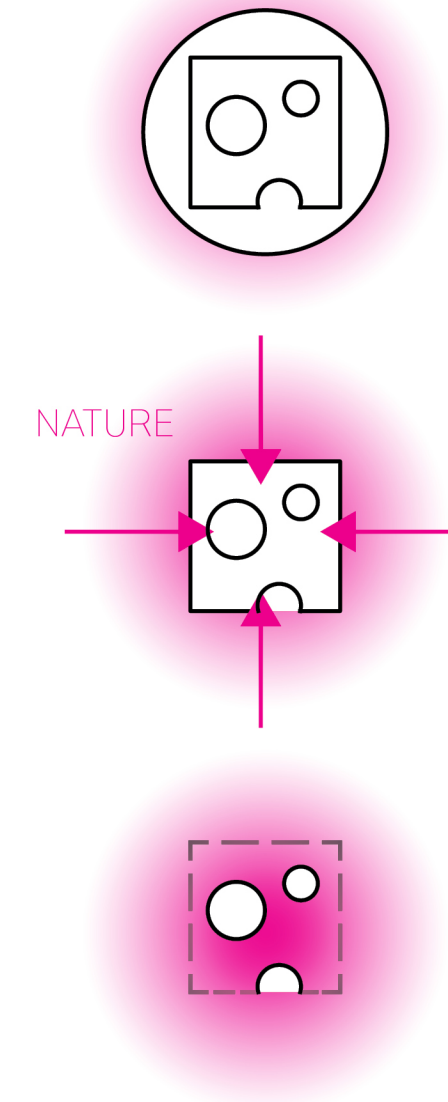
Fish Market, MVRDV



- a public program under the urban fabric
- connectivity along one axis
- reconcile two dissimilar programs



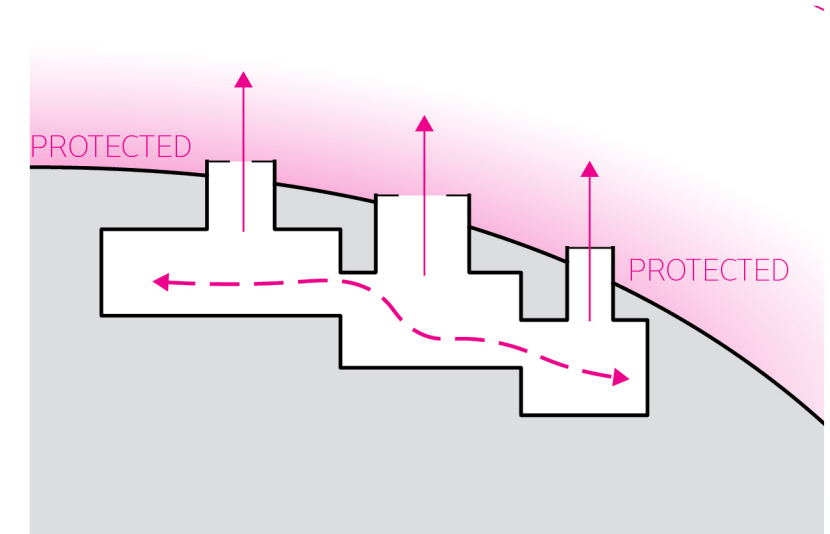
UCCA Dune Art Museum, OPEN Architects



- timeless-ness
- building buried by sand and plants along with time
- an underground shelter, "intimate to the body and soul"
- connected with light, heat, wind, view, water



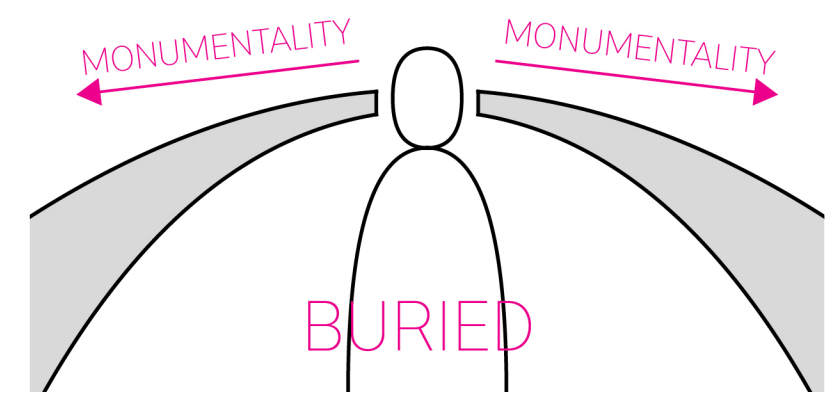
Chichu Art Museum, Tadao Ando



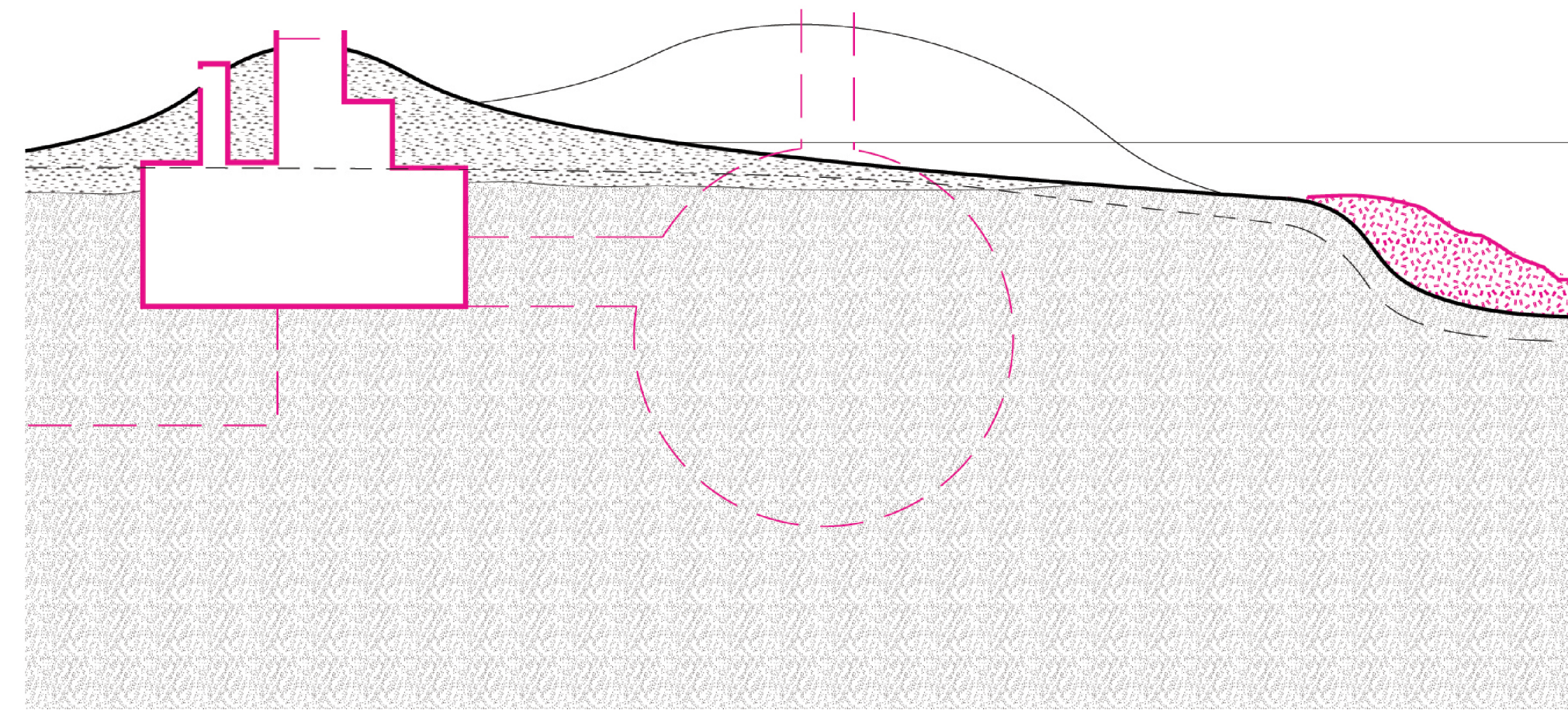
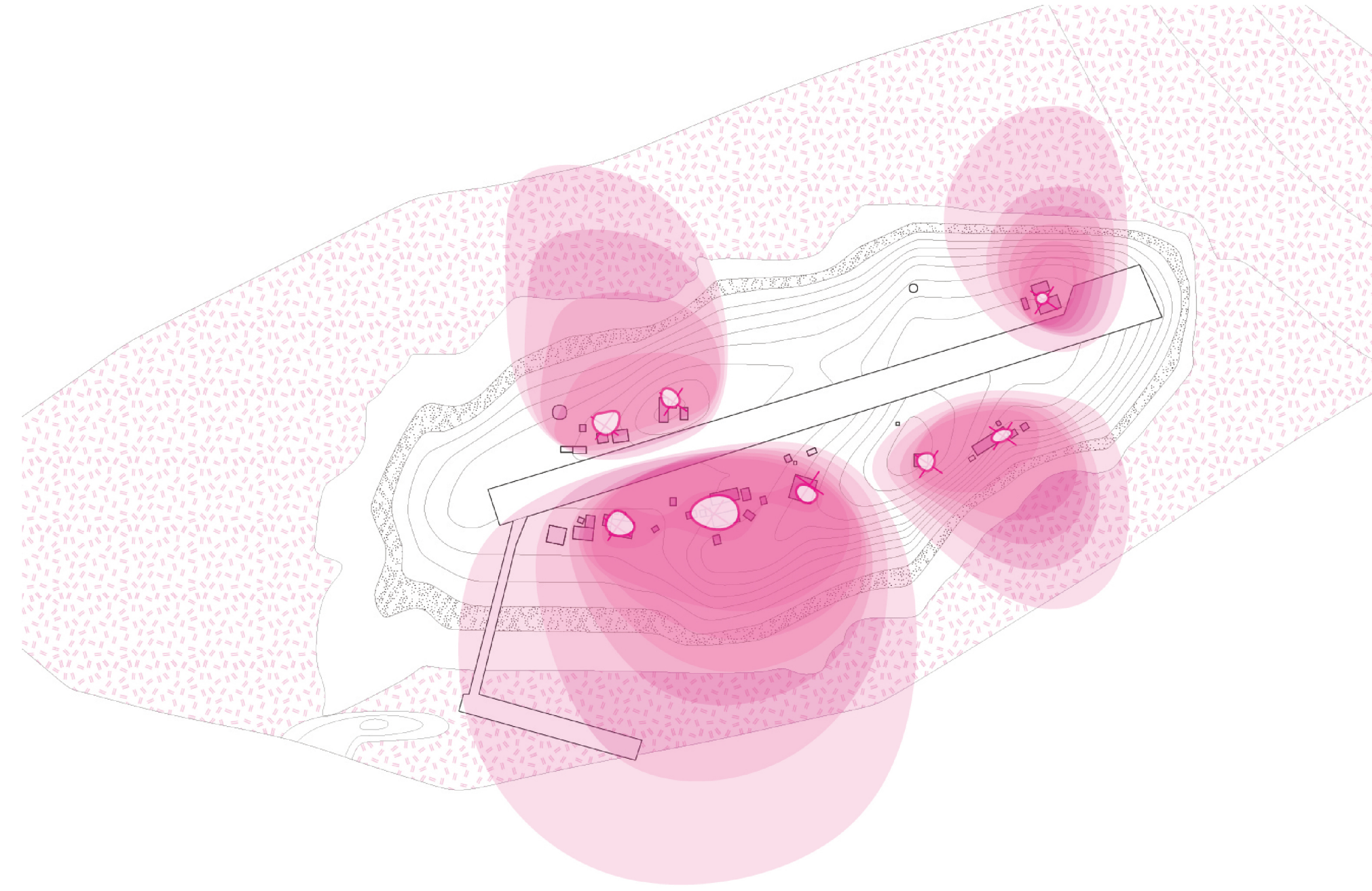
- underground
- preserve the nature of the island
- embed into the landscape
- visually connect to the sky and the landscape



Makomanai Takino Cemetery, Tadao Ando



- visible and invisibility
- siliency
- monumentality



Clients:

long term:

- researchers: 30
- securities: 5
- officers: 5
- museum workers: 20
- other workers: 20
- coral reef: over 1000 sq m
- other species

short term:

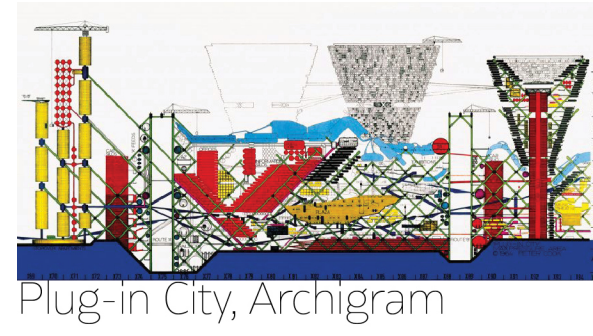
- sailors: 15
- students: 200
- tour guides: 16
- tourists: 200 max.

Programs:

- history museum
- marine culture museum
- monuments
- library
- sample archiving
- theater / lecture hall

- living space
- dinning space
- office
- park / gym
- other amenities
- port

Vertical



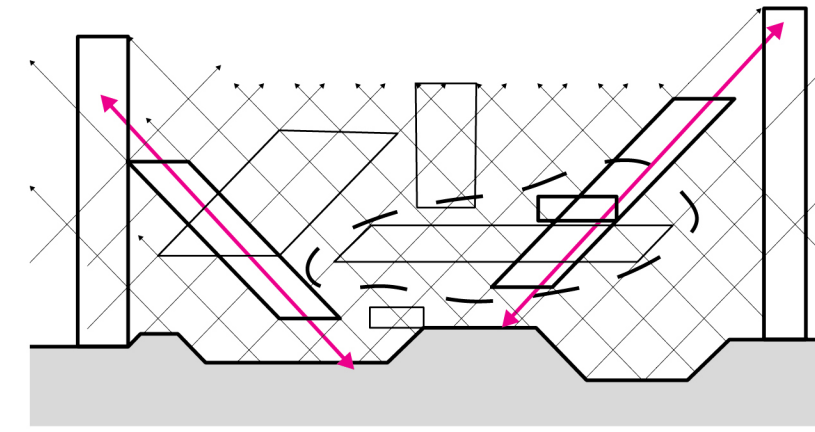
Plug-in City, Archigram



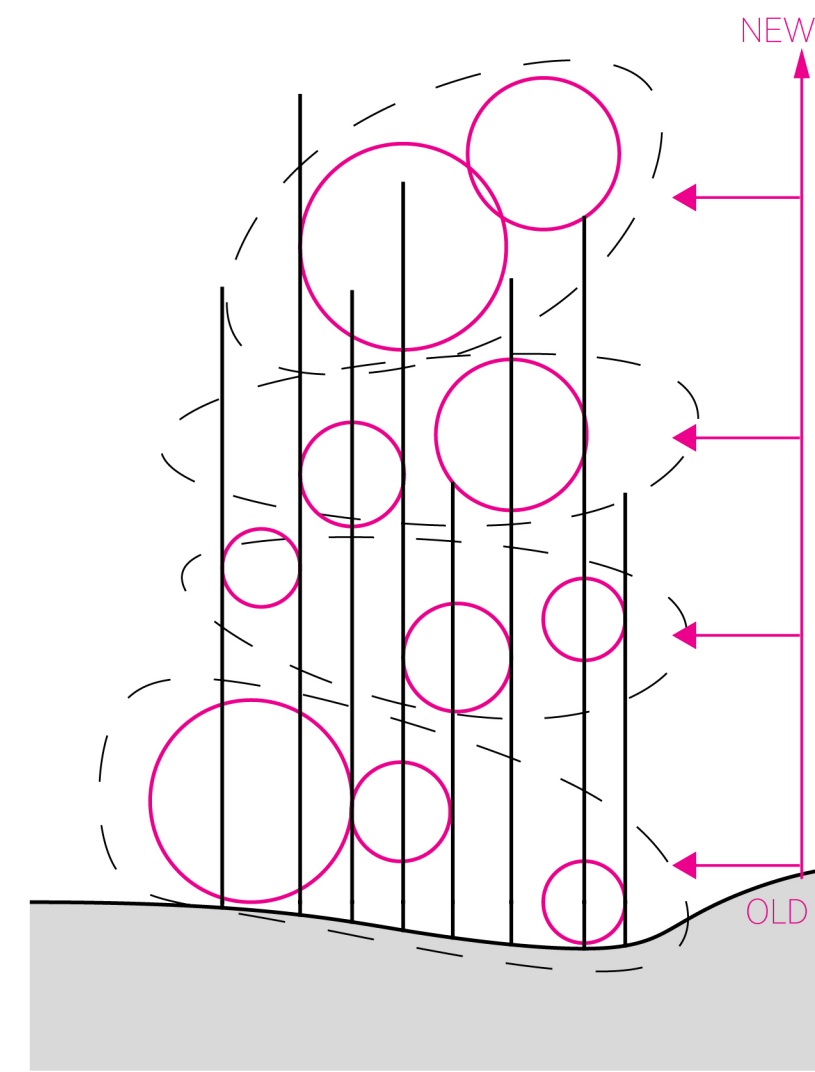
Seeds of Life, Mekano Studio



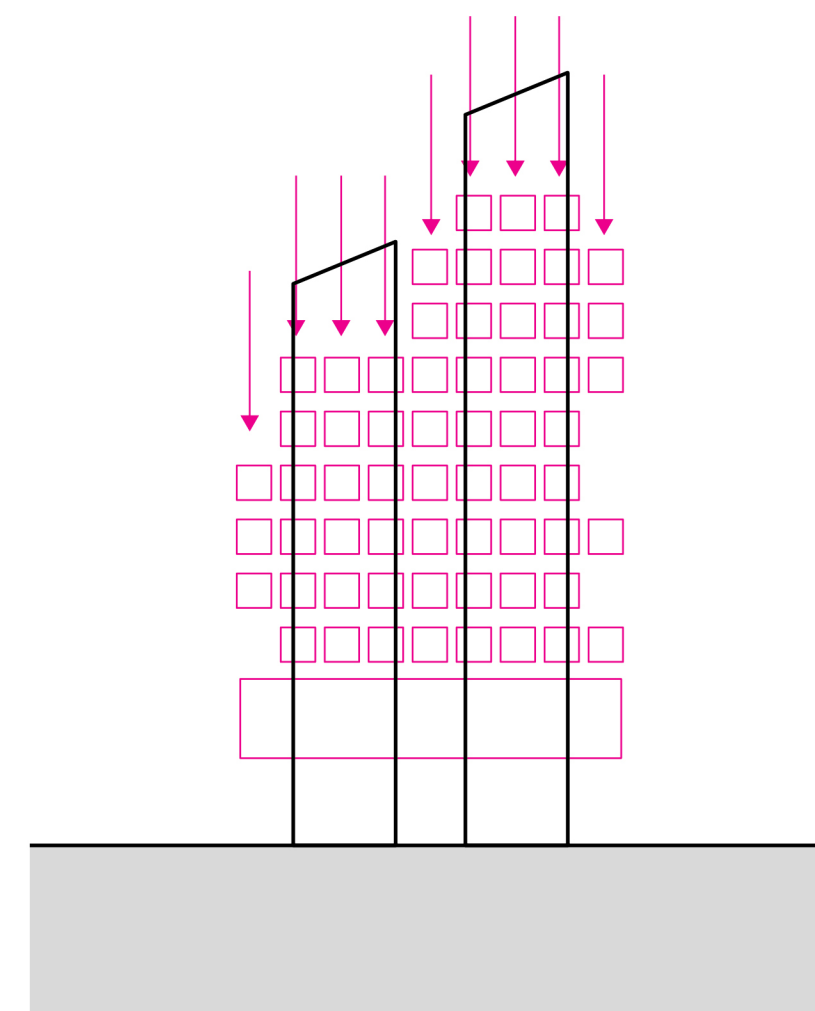
Nakagin Capsule Tower, Tokyo, Japan, KISHO KUROKAWA



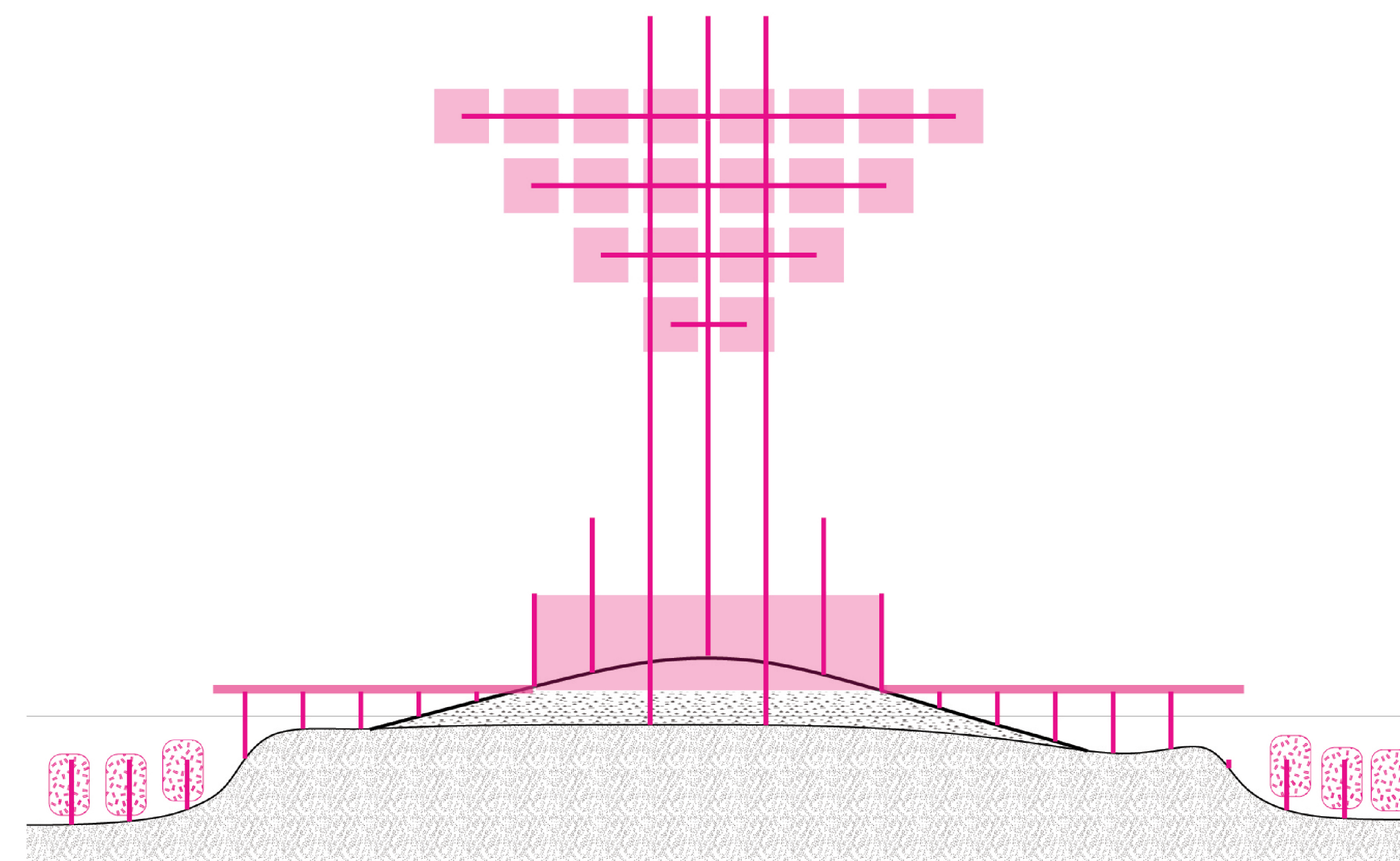
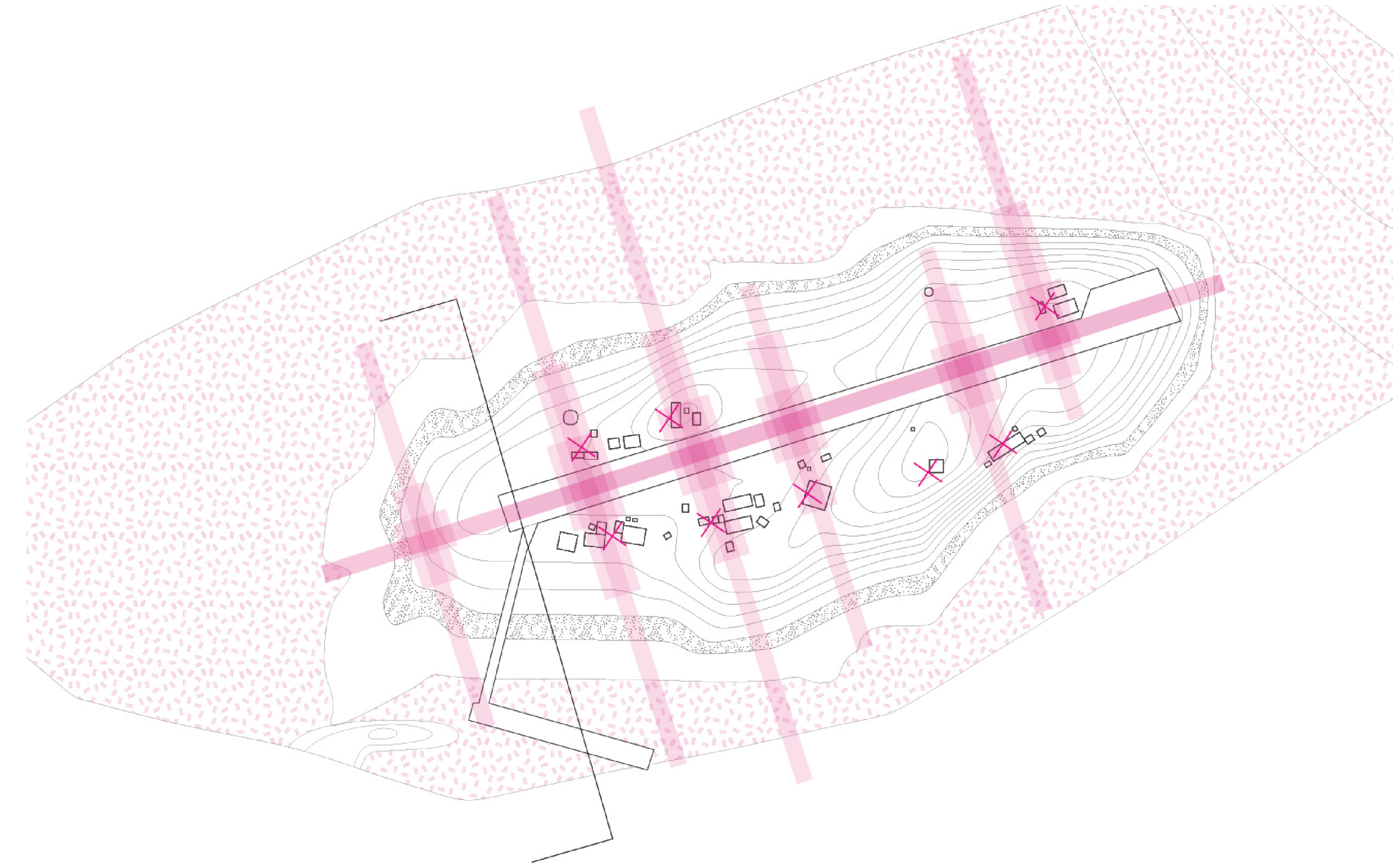
- light weight infrastructure
- modular technology,
- mobility through the environment,
- space capsules
- mass-consumer imagery



- modular
- build up vertically
- develop along with time
- human – plants – Animals
- design for both human and birds, and greens
- 'garbage city'
- homeless people settlement
- co-exist with waste
- reviving the environment



- central core
- modular
- metabolism
- transcultural collaborations
- post-war social transform
- mobility and flexibility



Clients:

long term:

- residences: 100
- researchers: 30
- securities: 10
- officers: 15
- workers: 15
- doctors: 2
- coral reef: over 1000 sq m
- other species

short term:

- sailors: 25
- students: 100
- tour guides: 4
- tourists: 100 max.

Programs:

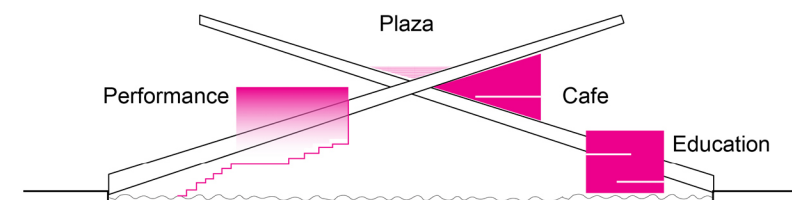
- living space
- hotel
- monuments
- library
- study room
- health center
- theater

- dinning space
- office
- park / gym
- other amenities
- port

Horizontal



11th Street Bridge Park, OMA



- The design of the bridge pulls the two ends of the bridge upward to form an X-shape, providing shelter for programs.
 - A literal intersection and a multi-layered amenity for both sides of the river.



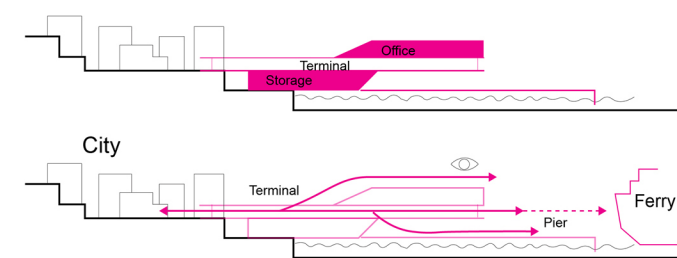
Xuhui Runway Park, Shanghai, China, Sasaki Isozaki



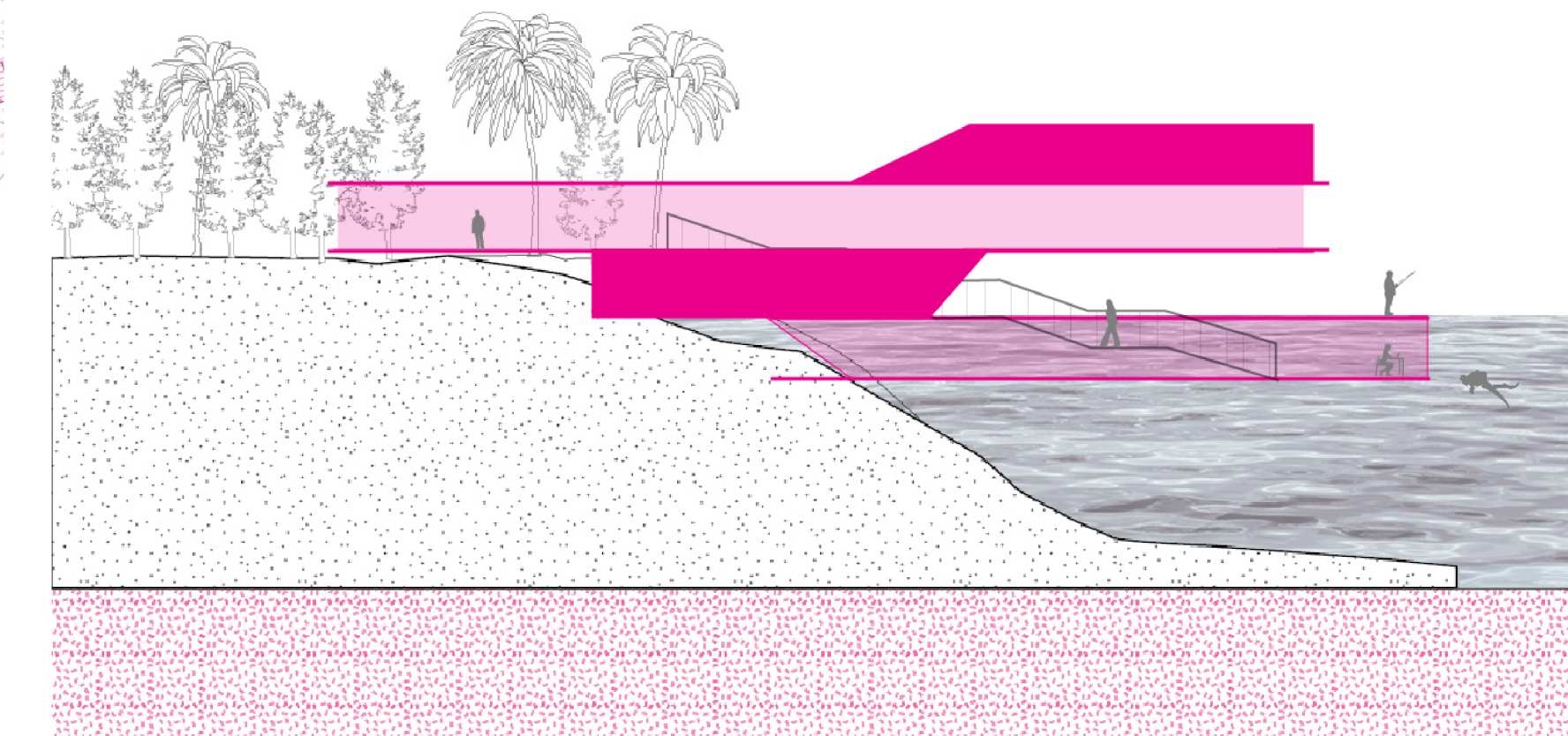
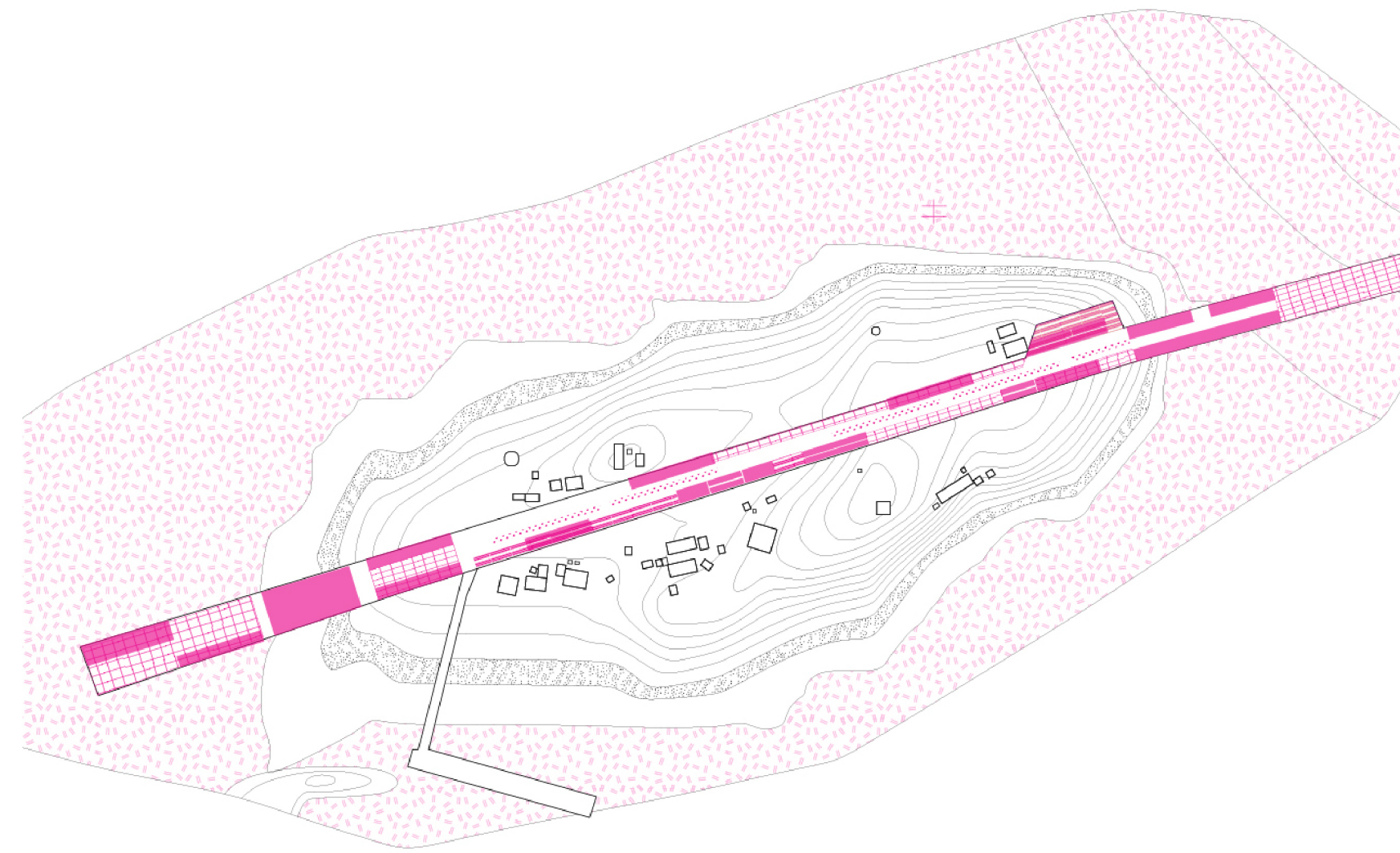
- Formerly a runway for Longhua Airport, the park's design scheme mimics the motion of a runway,
 - diverse linear spaces for vehicles, bicycles, and pedestrians by organizing the park and the street into one integrated runway system.







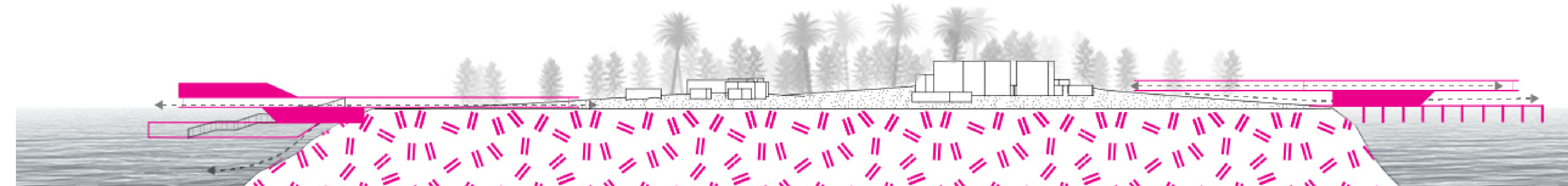
Yokohama Port, Japan, Farshid Moussavi Architects



- the terminal seamlessly emerges from the neighboring Yamashita and Akaranega Parks to make one uninterrupted, universally accessible urban parkscape.
 - Connecting the three levels are a series of gently sloping ramps, which the architects decided were more effective than stairs.



-  Public Gathering
-  Vegetation
-  Yard
-  Enclosure



Programs:

Underwater lab: for coral samples and documentation.

Museum: Cantilever to connect land and water, extend the view; see through the reef lab

Meeting room: for countries to hold national meetings

Form:

Extending and layering the old airstrip to create a dimensional horizontal space for different uses.

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