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# A place to belong :[RE] Imagining shelter for young women in Hillbrow

**Leeuw, Thabiso**

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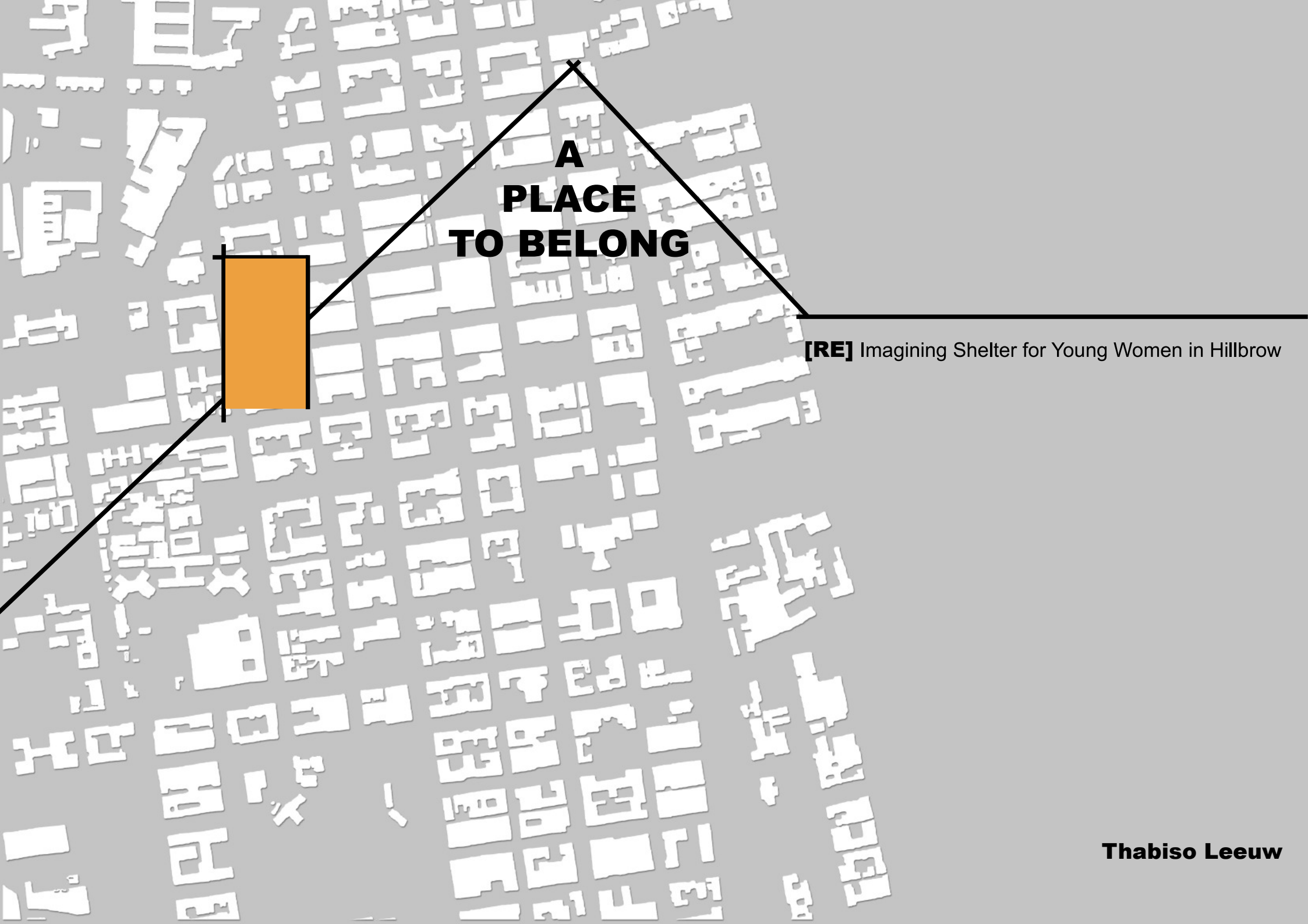


**[RE]** Imagining Shelter for Young Women in Hillbrow

**Thabiso Leeuw**



To my family thank you for your **love** and support.

# DECLARATION

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**THABISO LEEUW**

February 2014

This thesis is dedicated to my wonderful family, mom and dad thank you for teaching me to believe. Baks and Pholo I am eternally grateful for those trips you took with me to Wits and Hillbrow you're the best  siblings ever!

To every person who has encouraged me along, Thank you Mohammed my supervisor thank you for your patience and guidance may God continually bless you in all you do. Ariane and Althea you brought a breathe of fresh air to my project at the most vital points, thank you. To Randy thank you for helping me finish.

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



***Linear Market in Hillbrow, Johannesburg.***
***Image by Author, 2013***

# DOCUMENT STRUCTURE

**01** ESSAY

**02** DESIGN

# 01 ESSAY

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*Johannesburg skyline, image taken from a roof top in Hillbrow, Johannesburg.*
*Image by Author, 2013*

# ABSTRACT

Johannesburg is a melting pot of people from different walks of life who have come to the city on the pursuit of happiness. Hillbrow is a neighbourhood infamous for its criminal activities. It is the point of arrival for many of the people who travel to Johannesburg looking for work, making it a very hostile environment for the vulnerable. Human trafficking is a highly lucrative business in South Africa. The global market for human trafficking is at $42,5-billion (about R317-billion). In the Children's Act 38, Section 194 of 2005 one of clauses refers to the needs of young women affected by human trafficking, (Mahery, Jamieson, & Scott, 2011).

There is a clear need for a re-imagined approach to the typology of shelters provided through welfare structures. Young women need shelters in the inner city that are tailored for their specific needs especially the vast majority who are forced into the city through prostitution and human trafficking. This thesis deals with the design of a new typology that best addresses the needs of a shelter for young women in the city.




***The Street: Pretoria street in Hillbrow, Johannesburg shows different groups of people appropriating the street. Image by Author, 2013***

# INTRODUCTION

**T**he young woman is a vulnerable individual in society. She is vulnerable to many types of predation as she is physically inferior in most cases. It is important that she is offered good shelter by the city and also within the city. There are many shelters in Central Johannesburg most of these cater mainly to young boys and international refugees. Shelter is our most basic need; it is also the elementary design requirement for all buildings. South Africa is following international trends in terms of child care systems. In legislation there is a clear shift from institutional programmes such as the orphanage towards the more community based programmes that offer shelter and try to reconnect the young person with their family and the society. In the Children's Act 38, Section 194 of 2005 there is a clause that refers to the needs of young women affected by human trafficking, (Mahery, Jamieson, & Scott, 2011). These young women have been violated and are often times displaced especially those trying to escape that environment. Therefore there is a need for the type of shelter that will receive all young women in need of shelter in Johannesburg's inner city.

**What is Human Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation?**
**How does the City Shelter the Vulnerable?**
**How can the architect [re] imagine the design of shelter to care for victims of exploitation ?**

In this thesis  shelter for young women, in the inner city suburb of Hillbrow, Johannesburg, will be re-imagined. The aim is to create a shelter that shifts the focus from an institutional programme to a community based programme. The underlying theme of this paper deals with how young woman appropriate and experience city space. The thesis is presented in two parts that consist firstly of a theoretical essay and then secondly the development of a design that is created from principles formulated in the theoretical essay. The research conducted focuses on the concept of shelter as an idea and then also as a basic requirement in architectural design. Firstly the theoretical principles of shelter are unpacked through a literature review of the concept, then in an attempt to re-imagine shelter, an investigation of case studies reveals new insights into the design principles that can direct a new thought process when designing shelter for the young woman in the city.

The first part of the essay will look at the city as a shelter for many types of people, those seeking refuge from other countries or those who have come from rural areas seeking a better life. To better understand the appropriation of space within the city setting, the concept of shelter will be discussed, starting with a literature review to better understand this concept from its origins and also to its application in child care and in the city at large. A city is not a city without citizens, the child is a citizen therefore society cannot benefit from ignoring the relevance of this citizen. The second part of this paper then investigates the relationship between the city and its citizens. This investigation will lead to the unpacking of the issues that this citizen faces as they navigate the city.

The main social issue addressed within the parameters of this thesis is that of human trafficking, in Hillbrow a neighbourhood in the inner city of Johannesburg, South Africa. This issue directly informs the programme of the thesis design development as the project is a shelter for trafficked youth within Hillbrow. This then leads to the final part of the paper that deals with Architecture and Human Dignity. Here a few case studies will be discussed and the concept of In-Between space will be unpacked to determine the value of thresholds in designing for the vulnerable in the city.

*"…millions of children throughout the world are exploited for commercial sex. Bought and sold like chattel, trafficked within and across borders, thrown into such situations as forced marriage, prostitution and child pornography, many suffer profound and sometimes permanent damage. Normal physical and emotional development is compromised. Self-esteem and confidence are undermined." Carol Bellany, Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund, (UNICEF, 2001).*

# Human Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation

*In this first part two issues will be discussed these being Human trafficking and Sexual Exploitation. As mentioned in the introduction this essay aims to realise theoretical and conceptual principles that can be used in the design of a shelter that houses young women who have been trafficked in Hillbrow, Johannesburg. In the case of Trafficked women it is hard to separate a discussion on human trafficking from that of sexual exploitation as this is one of the leading reasons for trafficking women. By assessing research on human trafficking and sexual exploitation it will become clear how this social issue has affected the users of the proposed shelter and what their needs will be. By understanding the needs of the user this information then informs the programmatic order of the building directly. As humans we experience life through many different environments that make up our world. There are many connotations which we associate with different environments this makes it necessary to unpack the spatial typologies associated with the issues of Human Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation. In this way creating similar environments of hostility that are associated with trafficking can be avoided in the proposed shelter, and a new reimagined shelter that caters to the holistic needs of the user can be designed.*

# UNDERSTANDING THE ISSUE

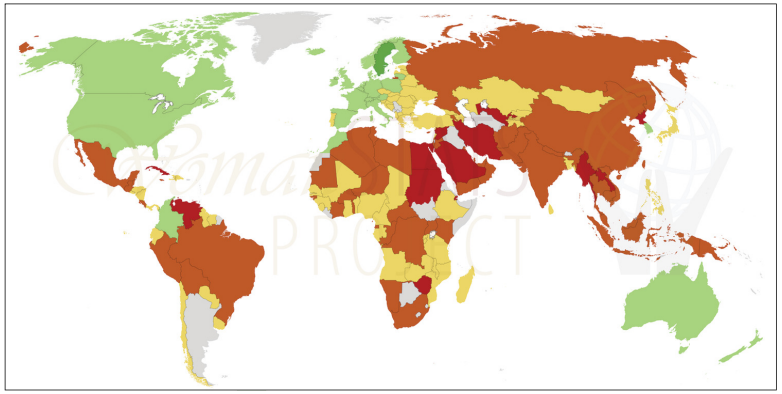
Human Trafficking is a global issue; young women are lured into syndicates that transport them within and even across international borders and are then forced to perform acts such as prostitution, pornography and labour against their will. Different countries, regions and organizations tackle this issue in different ways as is fit for the experiences of the victims they engage with, because of this the definition of Human trafficking may vary from country to country thus making it hard to have a common definition for the purpose of creating legislature and some sort of reference that can be used across disciplines (Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights, 2003). For the purpose of this paper the definition presented by the United Nations will be used. This definition is contained in Article 3 of the UN Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, Supplementing the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime (United Nations, 2000).

***a) Trafficking in persons shall mean the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation.***
***Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs;***

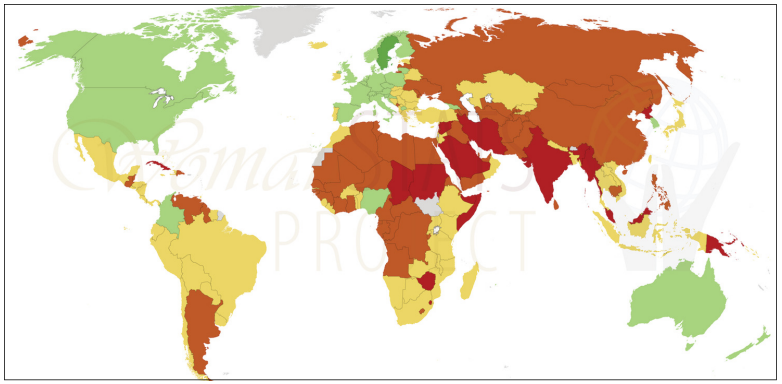
***b) The consent of a victim of trafficking in persons to the intended exploitation set forth in subparagraph (a) of this article shall be irrelevant where any of the means set forth in subparagraph (a) have been used.***

***c) The recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of a child for the purpose of exploitation shall be considered trafficking in persons even if this does not involve any of the means set forth in subparagraph (a) of this article.***

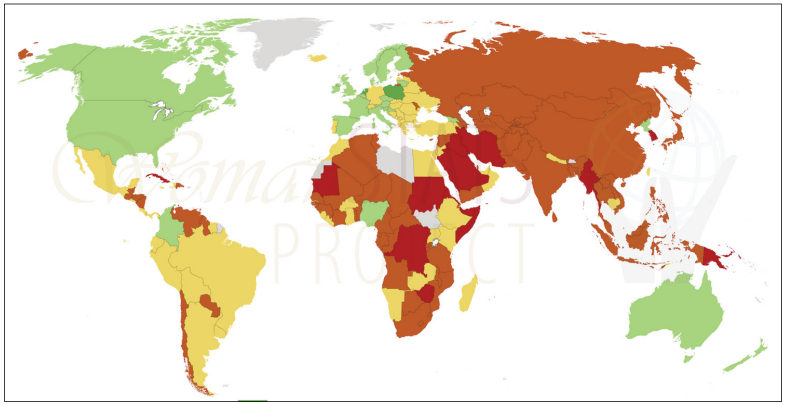
***d) Child shall mean any person under eighteen years of age.***



2007



2009



2011

figure1: A Global Issue: map of world trafficking changes over a 4 year period.
Images by Womenstats Projects, 2014

*The first wave of growth in international prostitution and related legislation extended from the 1840s to the First World War. The simultaneous growth of migratory prostitution and prostitution-related trafficking was caused by the industrial revolution and modern colonialism, which led to global growth in the demand for and supply of prostitution, (Lehti & Aromaa, 2006, p. 136).*

Human trafficking and sexual exploitation go hand in hand. It is hard to look at one without the other. A demand for prostitution in a certain place means that the supply of prostitutes will increase to meet that demand. For instance the Industrial Revolution led to a global growth in the demand and the therefore supply of prostitution. Migration is a phenomenon that occurred as a result of the industrial revolution. So men from all walks of life gathered in the cities to find work. This increase in men, from different backgrounds gave way to the increase for the demand of prostitutes also from varying backgrounds, and with this came the increase in human trafficking and sexual exploitation.

The most common causes of trafficking include economic and political instability in a country, chronic unemployment, widespread poverty and a break in the family unit. Through promises of a better life many young women are lured by traffickers to a paradise they never reach. Research does not truly reflect the magnitude of this problem as the very nature of the issue makes it concealed. However Corporations such as UNICEF have had some success in capturing data through NGO's in different parts of the world. Their research looks at development indicators which look at development aspects of a child. One of these development aspects is that of violence towards a child of which trafficking and sexual exploitation form a part of.

It is clear that where there is a demand for prostitution the supply will increase. Therefore in these places there will be a high volume of human trafficking and sexual exploitation. Johannesburg is an urban environment that many people migrate to for work. The suburb of Hillbrow is a point of entry for many people from different backgrounds this makes the suburb perfect for those making a business out of prostitution. The demand is high; to meet this demand supply is increased through human trafficking (lehti, aroma 2006: 133). As mentioned Human trafficking will not always result in prostitution. There are some cases where the individual may be turned into a house hold slave bought to maintain a household. In other cases the individual is then used in the pornography industry. These layers make it hard to identify where sexual exploitation occurs. Yet when dealing with this social issue it is always important to be able to pin point where the exploitation takes place. In South Africa it is high unemployment and a breakdown of the family unit that are the leading factors creating a ripe environment for traffickers that use South Africa as a source for trafficking. Many households are affected by the HIV/Aids endemic this causes the break down in the family unit. Many households are single parent lead or child lead statistics shows that 1.2 million children were living as orphans in South Africa.

# Tackling the Issue Through Research

It is clear that this global issue requires engagement from all levels of governing bodies. It needs engagement from the district level to the provincial to the national committees, and even across state lines to governing bodies from other countries. Civil society organizations, including NGO's , need to be drafted in as they work directly with communities affected by this issue.

The UN is a well-known intergovernmental organization, which spear heads a few programmes aimed at resolving the issue of abuse of children among other social issues. The UN Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children was adopted by the UN General Assembly in November 2000 this has been an important tool to facilitate cooperation between nations. The United States and 104 other countries have signed this protocol. Other similar programmes include the International Labour Organization (ILO) Convention 182, ratified by the United States in 1999, this deals with the issue of child labour as this is another leading factor in child trafficking. Another similar project is the Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on sale of Children, Prostitution and Child Pornography. The United States signed this protocol in July 2000 (Department of State: USA, 2002). For the purpose of this research paper there are three main questions that will be answered at a global and local level. The questions are:

**•Who is involved in trafficking (agents)?**

**•How do they do it (methods and procedures used to recruit and retain victims)?**

**•What is being done to combat this?**

As mentioned before human trafficking and sexual exploitation often involve a highly intricate system comprising of agents and procedures used to recruit and retain victims. These agents will be from here on referred to as traffickers. They are individuals who orchestrate the recruiting and retaining of victims. This group of people includes individuals who gain trust with a victim or the family of a victim promising the victim a better life. Reports in South Africa have linked taxi drivers, truck drivers, business women owning brothels and hotels, pimps and even

gangs. These are a few examples of local traffickers. Globally these traffickers rely on law enforcement and other people with authority in a community to gain the trust of families and then create environments that trap the victims.

*"Millions of children are being targeted by flesh traders, pimps, gangs, organized crime syndicates, and promoters of tourism worldwide for a lucrative sex tourism business. ... The growth of international prostitution is not only robbing its victims of innocence and any semblance of a normal life during or after prostitution but is also putting them at greater risk for exposure to crime, criminals, unfamiliar foreign countries and languages, and health problems, including the AIDS virus." (Flowers 1998, 176)*

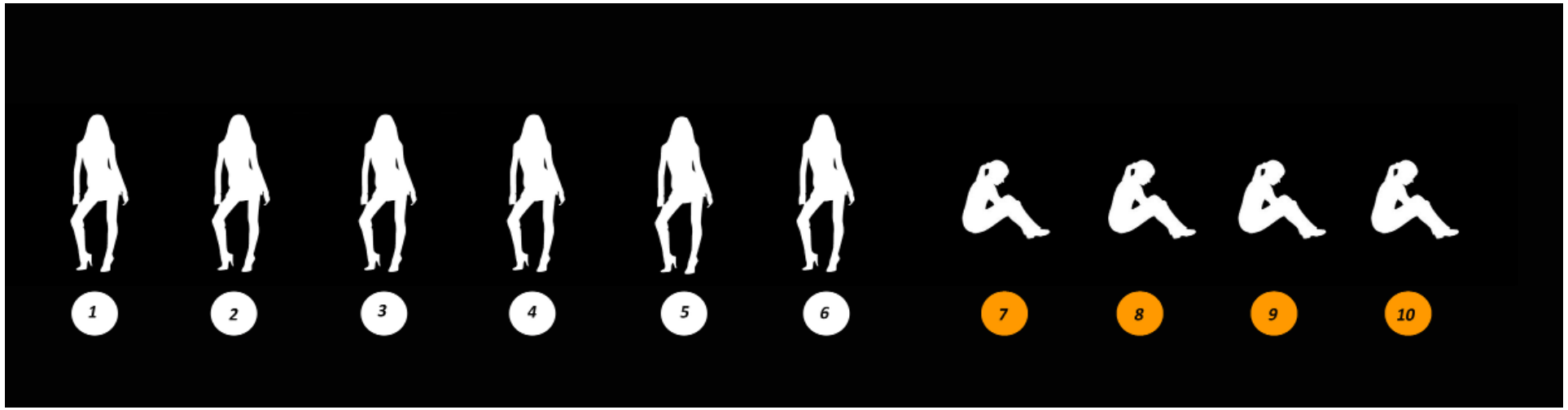



figure2: Underage prostitution in Hillbrow, **40% of prostitutes in Hillbrow are under the age of 18**. Image by Author

The agents use methods of deception to recruit and then retain young women. They force the women to live in a place where they cannot escape through physical barricades and also through violence. In most cases of trafficking the women are also from a different country so language may be a barrier and the fear of deportation.

The most commonly known places in Hillbrow are the street, parks and taxi's in terms of public spaces. Privately the exploitation can occur in hotels, private homes and other places of residence. In the design of the proposed shelter for women who have been sexually exploited it is important to map out the above mentioned places and find a suitable location that is accessible to young women escaping from these kinds of situations. There is a notorious route along the main roads between South Africa and Malawi. Here long distance truck drivers are the traffickers. They deceive young girls needing a lift to major cities such as Johannesburg, with promises such as marriage or educational opportunities. As soon as they arrive in the city the young victim then becomes the truckers' sex slave. At this point the victim is in a foreign place and may be isolated. In some cases the victim is then prostituted out by the trucker when he is out of town or by pimps who regulate well-orchestrated commercial sex rings that acquire the assistance of gang leaders to retain victims (ECPAT International, 2007).

The United States of America is required by law to submit an annual report on the status of severe forms of trafficking in persons worldwide as per the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000. In the trafficking in Persons report of June 2002 a report panel determines if certain countries are deemed origin, transit or destination countries then in accordance with the act countries are placed in one of three tiers. Tier 1 countries are those whose governments fully comply with the Acts minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking. If a countries government does not fully comply but it is seen to be making significant efforts to comply then it is categorized as a Tier 2 country. If the government does not comply and is not making significant efforts it is a Tier 3 country (Department of State: USA, 2002, p. 8)

As shown in figure 4 e3South Africa is a Tier 2 country in the report it is classified as a destination country for women mainly in the ages between 18 and 25 years. These ladies come from other parts of Africa, Eastern Europe, Asia and the former Soviet Union. South Africa also experiences trafficking internally (Department of State: USA, 2002). It is also well-known that South Africa is also a source and transit country for trafficking in children for sexual exploitation (ECPAT International, 2007).

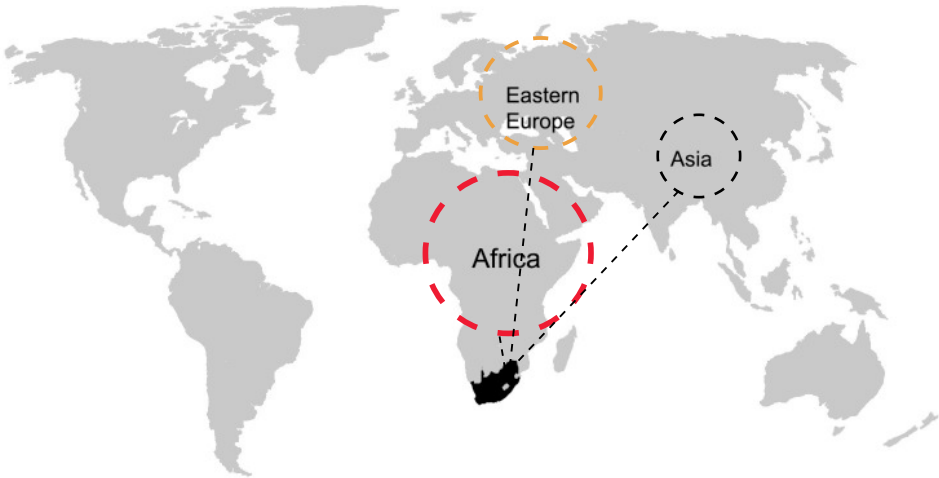



figure 3: Map view of South Africa showing trafficking Movement
Image by Author

| Tier One | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Austria | France | Macedonia | Spain |
| Belgium | Germany | The Netherlands | Switzerland |
| Canada | Hong Kong | Poland | United Kingdom |
| Colombia | Italy | Portugal | |
| Czech Republic | Lithuania | Republic of Korea | |
| **Tier Two** | | | |
| Albania | Estonia | Latvia | Slovenia |
| Angola | Ethiopia | Malaysia | **South Africa** |
| Bangladesh | Gabon | Mali | Sri Lanka |
| Benin | Georgia | Mexico | Tanzania |
| Brazil | Ghana | Moldova | Thailand |
| Bulgaria | Guatemala | Morocco | Togo |
| Burkina Faso | Haiti | Nepal | Uganda |
| Cameroon | Honduras | Nigeria | Ukraine |
| China | Hungary | Pakistan | Vietnam |
| Costa Rica | India | Philippines | Federal Republic of |
| Corte D'Ivoire | Israel | Romania | Yugoslavia |
| Dominican Republic | Japan | Senegal | |
| El Salvador | Kazakhstan | Sierra Leone | |
| Equatorial Guinea | Laos | Singapore | |
| **Tier Three** | | | |
| Afghanistan | Burma | Kyrgyz Republic | Sudan |
| Armenia | Cambodia | Lebanon | Tajikistan |
| Bahrain | Greece | Qatar | Turkey |
| Belarus | Indonesia | Russia | United Arab Emirates |
| Bosnia & Herzegovina | Iran | Saudi Arabia | |

figure 4: Image of countries in their Tiers,
(Department of State: USA, 2002)

# Strategies for Action

According to the Agenda for Action against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children intervention should include prevention, protection, recovery and reintegration (ECPAT International, 2007, p. 8). Prevention includes educating young women and communities that are vulnerable on the realities of Human Trafficking and sexual Exploitation. For example in South Africa before the world cup commenced different mediums were used to relay the message to the public on how traffickers operate. Protection includes providing care for victims of Human Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation. This care may include accommodation and health care. Recovery goes hand in hand with protection and so does reintegration. The aim is to offer the victim an opportunity to receive care that allows for growth and independence until the victim is ready to be reintegrated back into their community no longer being a victim.

> *"Most of the girls did not come back. Padre Giorgio knew that it was most unlikely that any girls would want to come back poor and with a sense of shame. He had hoped to get someone to open a type of halfway house to help girls return and to offer them work. But that would only identify them and expose them both to stigma and to the eyes of precisely those who had organized their departure, and who were not anxious for publicity." (UNICEF, 2001)*




figure 5: Diagramme showing strategies to combat Human Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation.
Image by Author

# Conclusion on Social Issue

Frameworks and legislature can only go so far in terms of combating this social issue. In some cases however more is necessary. Organizations such as UNICEF also recognize the importance of prevention, protection, recovery and reintegration as the most widely adopted methods that are used as a framework structure by organizations combating this social issue (UNICEF, 2001, p. 5). These four principals each have spatial connotations. Within the setting of the city certain spaces can offer protection and recovery to a victim. In fact there are many institutions designed for this fact. These are formal places of shelter, but there are also some informal forms of shelter that can give clues to a designer as to how to better design a place of refuge from young women who are victims of Human Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation.



*“Finding themselves naturally gifted beyond the other animals in not being obliged to walk with faces to the ground, but upright and gazing upon the splendour of the starry firmament, and also in being able to do with ease whatever they chose with their hands and fingers, they began in that first assembly to construct shelters. Some made them of green boughs, others dug caves on mountain sides, and some, in imitation of the nests of swallows and the way they built, made places of refuge out of mud and twigs.*” (Morgan, 1914)

# Sheltering the Vulnerable

*The basic needs of any human are food, water and shelter. Shelter is an element that goes back to the primitive human; it arises from the need to be protected from the elements and from predators. Architecture has come a long way from the primitive hut, but at its nature architecture is shelter. Man has learnt to manipulate materials to create more interesting more magnificent spaces, yet the basic requirements of these spaces will always be comfort and protection much like the primitive hut , (Laugier, 1755)*

*The city can be an intimidating place for someone who is vulnerable. Instinctually one will try to find shelter as it offers a degree of security. In this next section the idea of shelter will be analysed conceptually. The basic forms of sheltering will be discussed and then the occurrence of these in the city will be evaluated. The city in itself offers shelter to its citizens. Links will be established, in this section, between the environments associated with the issues of Human Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation and the ways in which the citizen appropriates the city. This will give insight as to how the users of the proposed shelter will associate certain spatial typologies in their relation to one another to their past experiences and recovery. It is also worthwhile at this stage to then compare the way homeless young men appropriate city space to the way homeless young women appropriate city space. This will allow for a well-tailored facility for the homeless young woman in the proposed shelter. The proposed shelter will be designed strategically to accommodate young women as there are much fewer shelter facilities for women in Hillbrow at present, but at the same time it will be an urban intervention that serves the community as a shelter in the city.*

# What is Shelter Conceptually

Thefollowing images illustrate the basic components of a physical shelter, these are structural components and spatial components. These images where collected from research conducted in Alexandra. Alexander is one of the oldest settlements in Johannesburg, with a population of around 170 000 (166 968 census 2001). The income and ethnic backgrounds of people in Alex vary greatly. It is one of Johannesburg's entrance points for many people coming from neighbouring countries. In recent years xenophobic attacks have been numerous in Alex because of the high volume of immigrants in the area. This is therefore a very similar configuration to that of Hillbrow making Alex a good case study to investigate how different people make space, (Unicef, 2008)

## The Structural Elements

The shelters chosen for this illustration are all of hawkers along Hofmeyer Street in the township of Alexander. The street is very busy with a lot of foot traffic making it good for business. The street is one of the elements of the city that gives many clues about appropriating space. It is also the most accessible attribute. It is public in nature belonging to everyone. Many of the shelters along Hofmeyer are make-shift in nature in other words they are temporary structures, but sturdy enough to offer shelter for some time to come.

The more temporary structures (see figure 6, 7 and 8), have a form of roofing supported by timber stilts. The materials for the stilts are all scraps from timber crates and fallen branches; these are salvaged from the retail outlets in the area. A tent like fabric is then placed on top as roofing offering waterproofing to protect from the elements.



figure 6: by Author

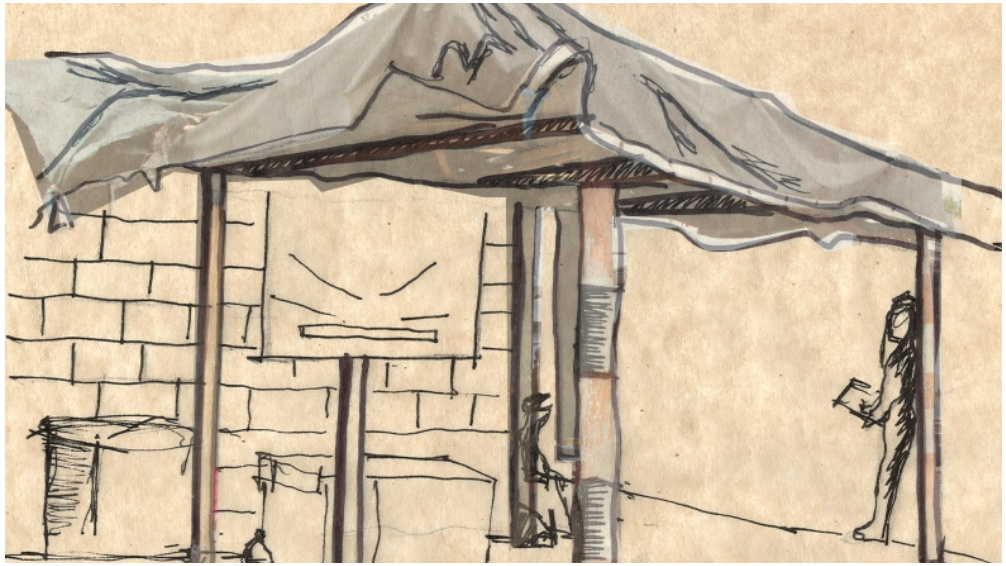


figure 7: by Author



figure 8: by Author

In figure 9, we see slightly less temporary structures that also consider the wall of the structure to create a partition or separation of space. In this case the wall element is a tent covering the envelope of the structure. This offers more privacy and division of spaces. Figures 10 and 11 show a more permanent structural form, elements such as threshold are more apparent with the stoep for instance, it elevates the customer above the street level separating the customer from the passer by.

Studying the temporary structures scattered across Hofmeyer Street in Alexandra was an interesting experience. This study revealed the connections between the very public street space and the also public and very accessible trading spaces. The foot traffic along this particular street is quite heavy so in many instances the thresholds are very necessary for the established shelters. The “stoep” and other definitions of space created create horizontal departures from the main public street creating levels of accessibility for the sheltered space.

As mentioned before shelter is a basic human need. It is also the simplest form of architectural space as the requirements are minimal. The above illustration shows how the hawker appropriates the street and creates shelter. The street is a public space that is ever changing so the above illustrations need to work within these street conditions in order to achieve shelter.

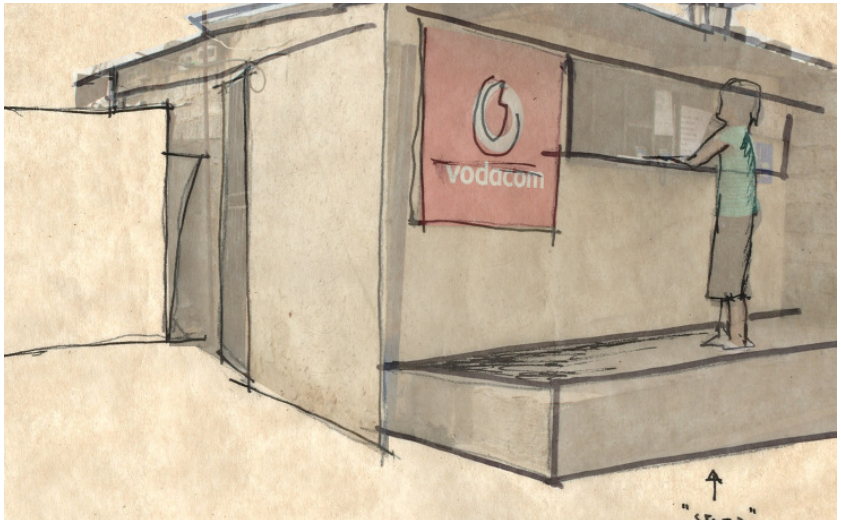



figure 9: by Author



figure 10: by Author

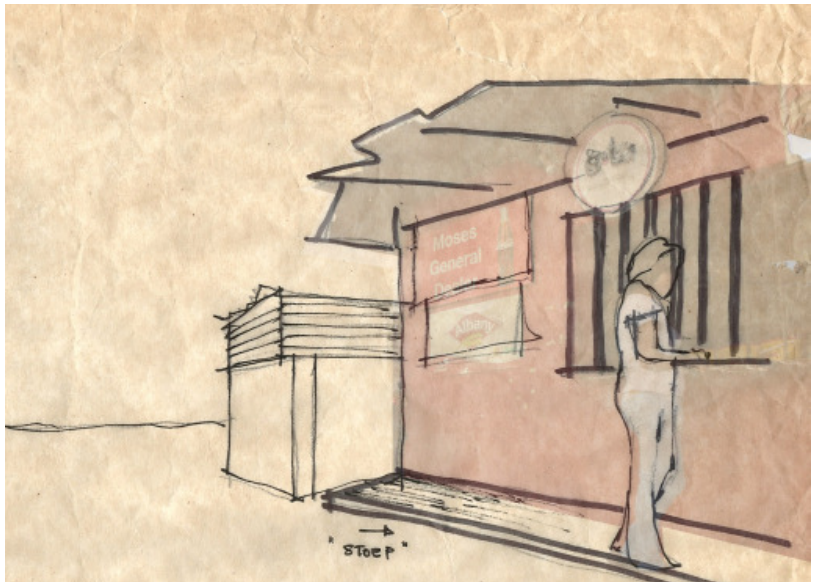



figure 11: by Author

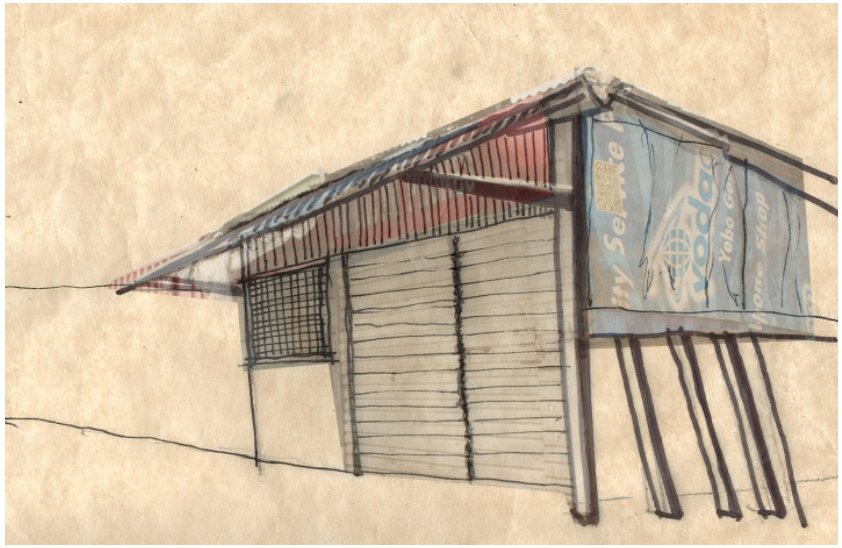


figure 12: by Author



***In-between: A collage of street children appropriating thresholds in the city.***
***Image by Author, 2013***

# The In-between

As mentioned before shelter is a basic human need. It is also the simplest form of architectural space as the requirements are minimal. The above illustration shows how the hawker appropriates the street and creates shelter. The street is a public space that is ever changing so the above illustrations need to work within these street conditions in order to achieve shelter.

> *"… Make of each window and each door a place,*
> *A bunch of places of each house and each city,*
> *Make also of each house a city and of each city a large house,*
> *Build the counter form of the mind for each and all man,*
> *Since they no longer do it themselves…" (Stauven & Ligtelijn, 2008, p. 291)*

This is an extract from the poem Between Here and There, Now and Later by Aldo Van Eyck. It appears in the book, Aldo Van Eyck Collected Articles and Other Writings. In these writings Van Eyck begins to unpack the notion of the in- between. The autonomy of the architectonic leads to a counter-form, that which is a counter to man's reality. We see here that Van Eyck is critiquing the Western Canon of architecture. He relays his thoughts that a new way of architecture is necessary. This notion of place making is an important strategy in the design of "A Place to Belong" (the design portion of this thesis). Van Eyck presents a clear distinction between architectural form and the form of life it shelters, (Stauven & Ligtelijn, 2008, pp. 274-343)

The In-between which was discussed earlier relates to place making rather than continuing the discourse of space. Within this discourse space is an abstract term that belongs in the realm of ideas; it only becomes a place when time and the user are taken into consideration; therefore making place the event or the occasion. This refers to the user doing something at a certain time. In the poem above the house is both house and city. House therefore defines the over-all composition the whole, and city refers to the units, the parts that make up the whole, (Stauven & Ligtelijn, 2008, pp. 291,293)

Within the house there is a city of life; human interactive events working together to form the house. The house is the metaphor that represents the space created for shelter. Activities that take place in the house are varied in function and timing. They could include anything from the preparation and consumption of food, to sleeping or lounging, bathing oneself, or playing, or cleaning or even entertaining others. These activities are also subjective as they represent the taste and appeal of the user. Understanding the activities that a user will

engage in gives volumetric clues to the design process. For instance a gathering will require a place that is large enough while an intimate connecting requires a place that is cozier more private.

In creating shelter the hierarchy of the places is an important part of the design for the creation of the overall picture. The parts work together to create a whole. The parts include the places that are travelled to and those that are travelled through. Activities occur in both these parts. The travelled to places represent the destination. Here a programmed activity takes place. This place is also defensible to some degree. The travelled through places represent the circulation or journey places. These connect the destination places they are less programmed and allow for unexpected interactions.

***End Street Park in Hillbrow, Johannesburg.***
***Image by Author, 2013***

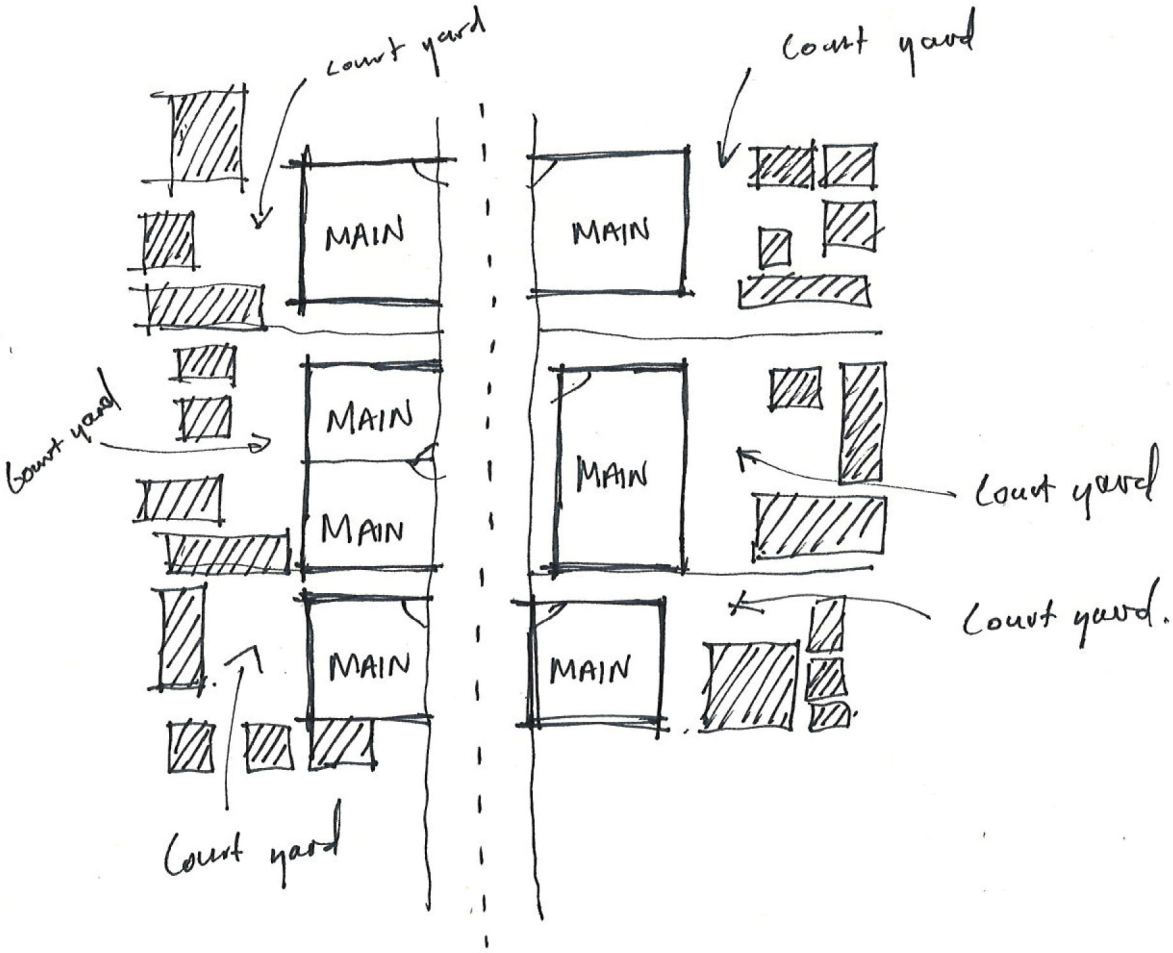


*"Life in Alexandra was exhilarating and precarious. Its atmosphere was alive, its spirit adventurous, its people resourceful. Although the township did boast some handsome buildings, it could fairly be described as a slum, living testimony to the neglect of the authorities. The roads were unpaved and dirty, and filled with hungry, undernourished children scampering around halfnaked. The air was thick with the smoke of coal fires in tin braziers and stoves. A single water tap served several houses. Pools of stinking, stagnant water full of maggots collected by the side of the road. Alexandra was known as the 'Dark City' for its complete absence of electricity. Walking home at night was perilous, for there were no lights, the silence pierced by yells, laughter and occasional gunfire" (Mandela, 1994, p. 88)*



*Children playing in court yard created by spatial arrangement of formal and informal housing in a back yard. Original image by Muhammed Muheisen/AP, 2013*

# The Court Yard




*Arrangement of formal and informal houses creating court yard spaces in a backyard. image by Author, 2013*

Another interesting space is the courtyard. Many of the homesteads are subdivided. There is a main house looking on to the street and then smaller rooms in the yard. The configuration of these back rooms creates the court yard space as shown on the image on the left. These courtyards are secure spaces that are shared by the all residence.

# The City as a Shelter

There are many reasons that bring youngsters to the city. Some come by choice and some are forced. Those who come by choice, come with the expectations that they are moving to a paradise, a place of freedom. Johannesburg is one of those cities that young people flock to looking for a new life. The idea is that the city has more to offer, youngsters come from rural places with little to no education believing that their gifts, talents and dreams will elevate them to a new life. This urban migration is not a new phenomenon it can be seen in many big cities and Johannesburg is one of them.

For many young women this idea of a paradise to run to often turns into a nightmare. Homeless young women finding refuge on the streets of Johannesburg are vulnerable and fall prey to predators; therefore there are many perils for a young woman on the street. Sexual exploitation is a prevalent occurrence for homeless young women, however there is not a lot of recorded data and statistics on the subject in South Africa. Sexual exploitation occurs in different ways a young person can be forced or can partake willingly. The commercial sexual exploitation of young women offers the homeless young girl an income when she participates willingly. These young women engage in pornography and prostitution voluntarily and are paid for their services, (Snell. 2003pg 508). However even when they are consenting there are dangers of violence and health risks such as contracting HIV/Aids and other sexually transmitted diseases. In the case that the young women finds herself needing assistance when she has fallen victim to predators she will seek shelter. There are two ways that the city offers shelter the first is through visible structures the second is through invisible networks.

The youth in the city are either there by choice or force as mentioned before. For a youth younger than 18 years there are a few options for shelter, either a home or Refugee Centre or the streets. Those who are more financially able may rent a room at an affordable hotel, but it is harder to get a permanent place. Most youths who come to Johannesburg with dreams of big city life find themselves sleeping in parks, under bridges and in any place that offers shelter.

*On April 3rd 2013 I met Thembi. Thembi is a transvestite sex worker aged 22. She has moved from Cape Town to Jozi with the dream of big city life. Thembi's story begins in a small town in the Eastern Cape. At a young age she was*

*molested by her mother's boyfriend. Thembi says since this event she has felt a strong desire for men. Through her high school life as early as 14 years she began trading sexual favours for money with the older boys. The idea of "exchange" came up several times in our conversation because this is how she sees herself as a commodity. At this stage in her life she is ready to leave sex work behind and start a new life, yet she feels trapped because to her sex work is part of her identity it is engraved in personality.*

*Thembi recently moved to Jozi and in the few weeks she has been here she has slept in Joubert Park with other girls and bathes at the public baths offered by the city. Upon meeting her she was adamant that all she wants is to make enough money in the next few days in order to buy a ticket to return to Cape Town, this is because for her it seems as though in Cape Town amenities such as healthcare and shelter were more readily available and accessible. Here in Jozi she is finding it hard to get around. Thembi says she prefers to be alone so she hasn't hooked up with a pimp, which might have afforded her protection in the form of food and shelter. She roam the streets of Hillbrow because amenities are more accessible here, however she doesn't like this area for business, because of the rough nature of most of the clients. She would much rather be in the affluent suburbs such as Sandton and Rosebank.*

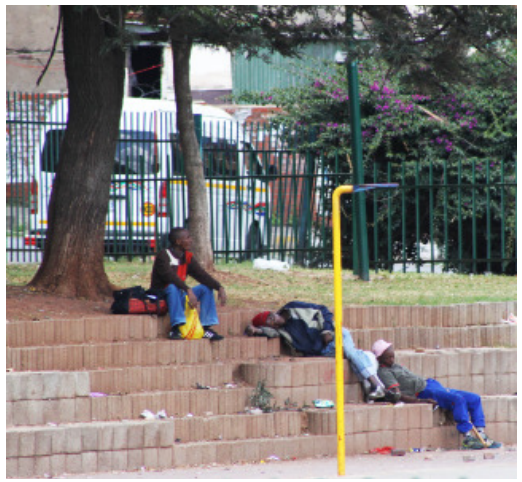
*By the end of our conversation Thembi admitted that she was living on the streets so, in order to help her, we embarked on a journey to find her a suitable shelter at a nearby organization. The organization is called POWA, People Apposing Women Abuse. It is in a lively neighbourhood in Jozi, called Berea. Because of the nature of the services rendered the building is quite secluded. By googling the name, asking locals and phoning constantly we were finally able to find an accurate address. As I waited in the reception area, the counselors interviewed Thembi in order to hear her full story so that they would be able to place her in a shelter. This led us to MES a neighbouring organization in Hillbrow that offers food, shelter and skills training to young ladies like Thembi. We drove there and I dropped Thembi off.*

The city can be a tough place for a youngster who doesn't yet understand the systems at play. For a youngster like Thembi the simple journey from POWA to MES for instance was a great struggle because she was not familiar with the places for help and the transport networks available.

Spending the afternoon at Berea park in the suburb of Berea, Johannesburg inner city, revealed interesting some systems the physical systems where presented by the park itself and the neighbouring residences and the church opposite the park. The social systems included, relationships among regular users of the park, this systems proved to be temporal in nature.

*1. Public stair around  netball courts*
*2. Sports facilities (soccer pitch)*
*3. Street children appropriating dark spaces to sleep.*
*Images by Author, 2013*

In the early morning it was mainly those on their way to church and school on route through the park. At around 10am a group of people began congregating along the stairs these were mainly men who are currently unemployed and seeking work, this is a place for them to stop and rest before continuing **(figure 1).** After school is out at around 3 pm children begin to crowd their park, they play soccer and netball under adult supervision **(figure 2).** As the sun begins to set the residence of the park begin to emerge they are the young men who live in the darker more concealed parts of the park, they have their card boxes and tent like structures that they use for shelter **(figure 3).**



***1***



***2***



***3***



***Berea Park in Hillbrow, Johannesburg.***
***Image by Author, 2013***

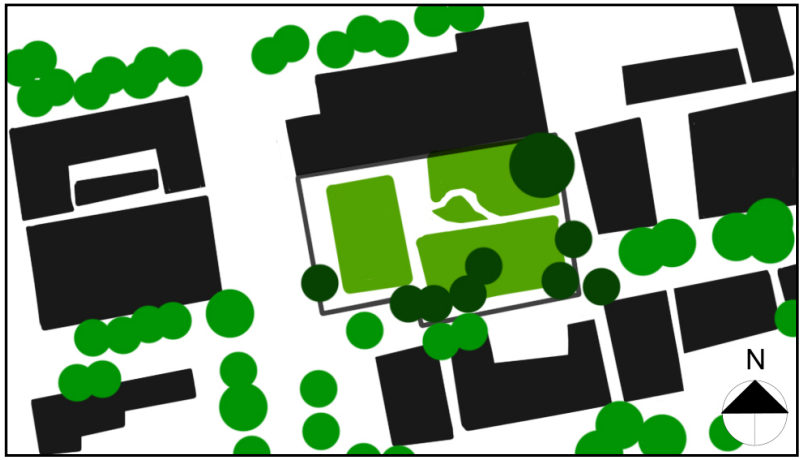
Many of the young women who find themselves homeless in the city end up sleeping in the parks. Berea Park has more young men squatting in the evenings and Joubert park more females. There are quite a few parks scattered across the study area. Each of these parks is different in nature, spending some time observing the parks has unpacked some strategies that can be explored in the making of the “A Place to Belong” young women’s shelter.

These parks are very important to many of the youngsters who find themselves homeless in the city. They are an access point into networks that would otherwise be invisible these networks include survival information or new social bonds and friendships.

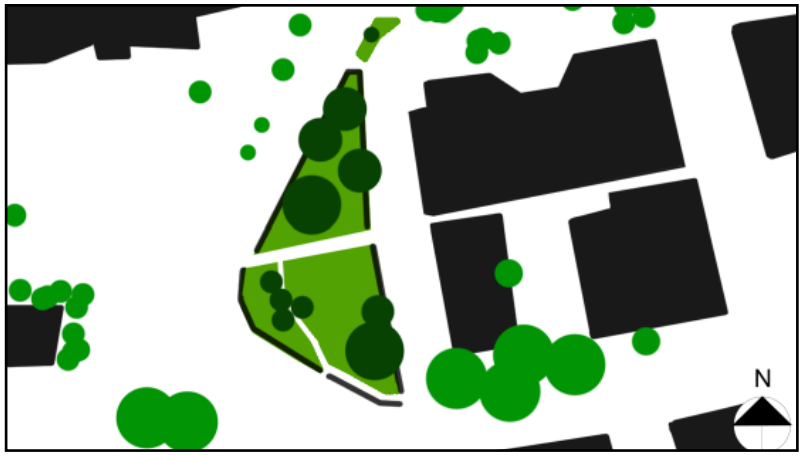
Accessibility is a big factor in the success of each park. Success refers to whether the park works well as a public space offering shelter and refuge. Another factor is the type of vegetation and the density of the existing vegetation. Where the vegetation is too dense there is less surveillance making it

***What if a park was designed for the homeless to seek refuge? This is an interesting way to unpack how youngsters both male and female appropriate parks. The following observations reveal which parks attract which people. This offers good insight into the type of characteristics that might attract young women to the shelter to be designed.***





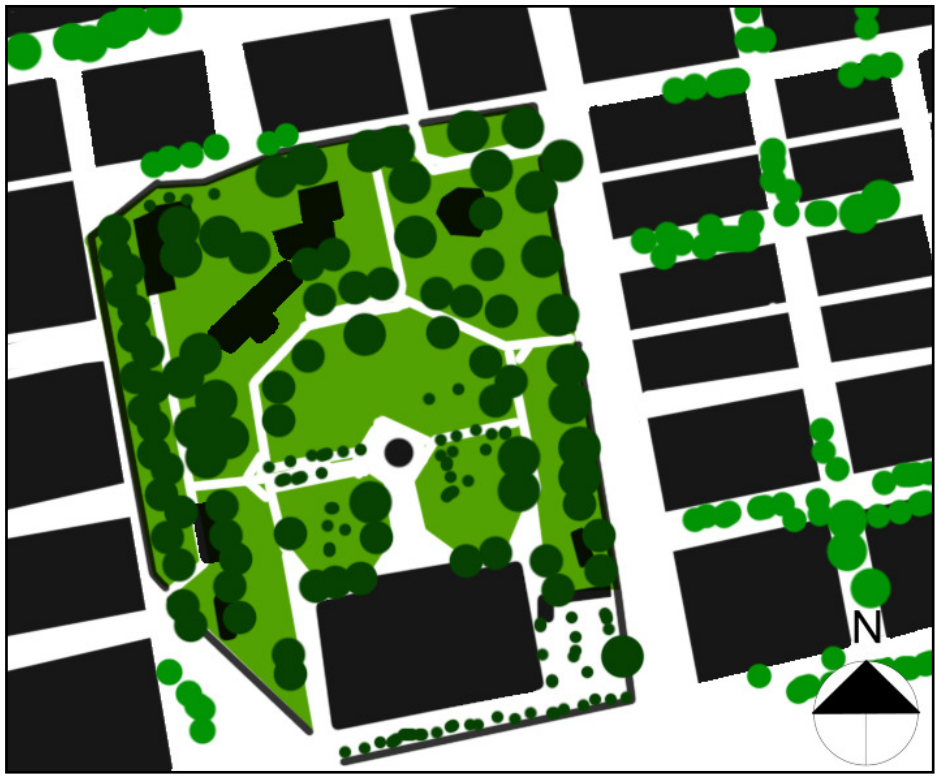

**1** This park has a fence around it. The fence is locked after 5pm. It is mainly used by school children. The trees are not very dense occurring mainly on the south of the site.



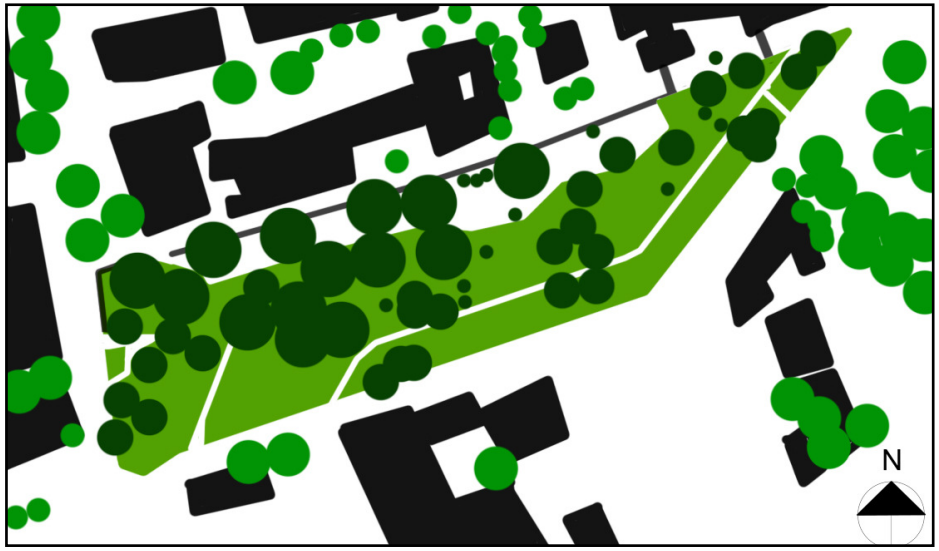

**2** This park is an island surrounded by busy roads. The buildings that are in the area are mainly office buildings. It is mostly active at lunch time when some of the workers in the area come out for air.



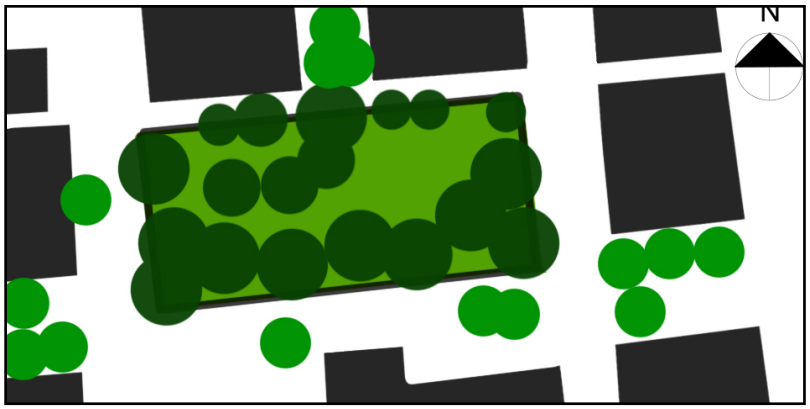

**3** This is Berea Park. It has quite a few young men taking refuge in the area at the far end where there is some dense vegetation. The park is quite accessible and has many people from different backgrounds using it.



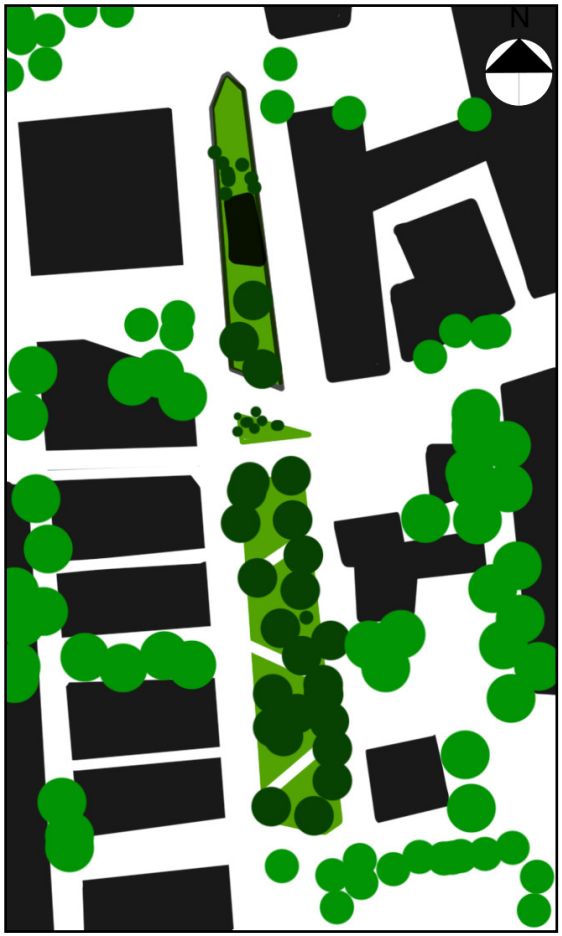

**4** Joubert Park is the biggest park in the study area. It is near to many other amenities and is a very active space. There is a lot of vegetation however it is not too dense and allows for surveillance. This park is used by many people those waiting to commute to other parts of the city,




**5** This park is also in Berea. It is on quite a high slope making it a good vantage point. This makes it ideal for anyone who is looking for refuge. The vegetation is also very dense and there are no fences.




**6** This is a newly developed park that was particularly designed for youngsters making use of the Ekhaya facilities. The surfaces are hard and it is filled with play equipment.




**7** This is a very narrow open space. It has some trees scattered across these are very tall so still allow for some surveillance. A lot of school children walk past this park so hawkers have also set shop here to take advantage of the foot traffic. The park is adjacent to a school and near one of the UJ campuses. It is accessible to all and always buzzing with activity.

# Girls vs Boys

It is evident that boys are more visible in the city than girls are. At first glance one would assume that there are no girls on the street, but they are there. As a part of growing up it is normal that girls spend more time indoors than boys do. This is due to security reasons and also the way girls are groomed to be women by society. Invisibility is therefore one of the survival techniques of the girl in the city. She will only be seen when she wants to be seen anything more will make her more vulnerable to attacks from those who see her as fair game.

“It is part of the Orthodoxy of child development that girls are abler than boys of the same age in verbal ability, while boys’ spatial ability is far greater than that of girls.” (Ward, 1979, p. 29)

Because the young girl withholds from succumbing to the cities whims, she inevitably seizes fewer opportunities that the city of has to offer. On the flip side of this coin however, is the fact that she will also not be as tempted by the dangers the city has to offer. Another way for the young girl on the street to avoid trouble would be to get protection. For the girl willing to use her body as a commodity there is the pimp. The pimp takes care of many girls at a time that work for him. These girls get clients from the streets bars and hotels and after receiving money they pay the pimp for accommodation food and protection. Then there are the bands of girls who opt for gang association. Many mixed gender gangs will take in the young girls offering protection physically emotionally and economically, almost imitating a family, but this too comes at a price as abuse of the female gang members both physically and sexually is common among these types of gangs, (Heinonen, 2011).

The experiences of the youngster on the street are so rich in content; each day is an adventure and a new discovery. These experiences of the city are also, in a way, more sensory in nature for the youngster in comparison to the adult. The mere fact that the youngster is less attached than the adult in terms of responsibility, time constraints and the general expectations set by society means that the experiences will differ. Paul Shepard a sociologist remarks that “space in juvenile life is structured differently than at later ages; it is much more critically defined. It is intensely concerned with paths and boundaries, with hiding places and other special places for particular things.” (Ward, 1979, p. 23)

“This capacity for vivid sensory experience, common place among children is an aspect of the world that the adult has lost” (Ward, 1979, p. 22)



Nowadays children generally appear to be less active outdoors, this is due to many conditions such as a general fear in parents for their children and also the age of technology we are in where the youngster prefers to rather play a game in front of the television that simulates an outdoor activity. Outdoor activity is however very important as it stimulates the youngsters mind as it encourages imagination and inventiveness, (Dudek, 2005, pp. 178,179)

# Beyond Shelter

*For this section a few books and journals have been reviewed to understand the underpinnings of leading theories in the care of young people. This will lead to an understanding of a new kind of care system that does not only provide the basic needs of a youngster but rather prepares the youngster to reintegrate with society and become the type of citizen they wish to be. This investigation mainly concerns those young people who find themselves alienated from society due to a cultural/societal issue such as Human Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation.*

# Theories on Alternative Shelter

Social Pedagogy as a theory may not be widely practiced. But elements of this theory are used all over the world when dealing with youngsters who find it hard to fit in due to their circumstances. To follow is an investigation of what this theory entails and how the proposed project of a shelter for young women can benefit from the principles that are contained in the theory. The Combined Holistic Approach is a theory that stems from social pedagogy here there is further investigation into environments such as the garden and how they affect a young person during the process of healing.

In a review of Social Pedagogy and Working with Children and young People, Chris Kyriacou writes that in essence social pedagogy entails professionals working with youngsters in a range of educational and care settings whereby the social pedagogue cares for the needs of the youngster by looking at the youngster from a whole person perspective. The main principles which he writes about are well-being and happiness, empowerment, relationships, and holistic learning. The writer also draws from the text that social pedagogy is about interpersonal communication promoting listening and hearing others in a democratic and equal relationship (Kyriacou, 2012, p. 102). The part of this review that is most worthwhile to this paper is the aspect of socializing the youngster into becoming a citizen. It is interesting how the writer picks up a possible flaw. If society itself is the problem then how does reintegrating the youngster help with the empowerment and healing of the youngster? Therefore it is also important to encourage the youngster to have "…an ethical stance that goes beyond social, political cultural…" (Kyriacou, 2012, p. 103) In the case of using social pedagogy to care for victims of Human Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation there may be a case of certain citizens that have a position of authority in the victim's life having opinions that are contrary to what is ethical. In this case it is then important to teach the victim of their rights so they can make a decision of the type of citizen they would like to be.

To review the next three books the method was to identify a definition for social pedagogy in each book, then list some of the principles that are associated with the theory within the parameters of the book. Finally conclusions are then drawn to relay how these principles would affect the thinking behind the design of a Shelter for young women affected by human traf-

ficking and sexual exploitation. The first book is titled Practical Social Pedagogy: Theories, Values and Tools for Working with Children and Young People written by Jan StorØ. In this book the definition is quoted as follows:

“Theory, methods and activity on the border between society and educational/ pedagogic/ care work in society, that is, work (especially among children and young people) that is done socially and/or culturally with a consciously preventative, educational, habilitating or rehabilitating aim, and partly also with a treatment aim. Defined in this way, social pedagogic services in schools, milieu therapy and organized cultural and leisure activities, for example, youth clubs, outreach services and so on, are all covered by the term social pedagogy.” (Storo, 2013, p. 12)

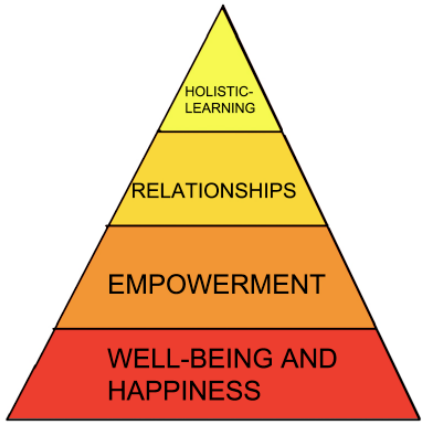



figure: Principles of Social Pedagogy
Image by Author

There are two main principles that can be identified in this book. The first is that integration is at the foundation of what social pedagogy is. The other is that it is vital for social pedagogy to understand the society and also the period that it operates in (Storo, 2013). This is relevant to the proposal of a shelter for woman affected by human trafficking and sexual exploitation as this is a social issue that is relatively new. This means at any given time before the principles of social pedagogy are implemented first there must be an investigation of the issues affecting young people at that specific time and in that specific community. This makes each social pedagogy project special. And the way the principles are implemented will be specific to each case making the project more effective.

The second and third books are similar in what has been drawn from them for this review. The second book is titled Popular Media, Critical Pedagogy, and Inner City Youth. In this book educators try to use popular culture as a critical pedagogy. In this the youngster represents themselves in a critical discussion on society. The use of popular culture is intended to allow the youngster to control their own cultural identity allowing them to have control of the language and style of the narrative (Leard & Lashua, 2006, p. 247). This autonomy allows the youngster to have some responsible for their empowerment. This is a reoccurring theme in many of the books on social

pedagogy. Another principle evident in this book is that of creating “free space”, this is an environment that promotes critical dialogue through questioning. The mediums suggested in this book to facilitate these free spaces include theatre and music stages, as popular can be employed in these environments (Leard & Lashua, 2006). This idea of free space directly affects the programming of the shelter for women affected by human trafficking and sexual exploitation as they will require free spaces that will relate to other programmes within the building. This free space will therefore be a very important aspect of the building design.

In the third and final book titled Student engagement and the Social Engagement of Pedagogy the idea of productive pedagogies is discussed, in these the student is encouraged again to participate and be in control of their own learning environment. Another principle is to be cognizant of cultural issues and differences. This is similar to the last two reviews. In this book the author uses the classroom as the free space where critical discussions occur. One of the students sites that if he seems too enthusiastic about school he will no longer fit in to his cultural surroundings as it is well known that all youngsters in his place of residence are anti-education. This shows why it is important to offer platforms such as this for youngsters where there is an opportunity to interrogate the situation and not just continue with what has become culturally acceptable.
All of these books therefore highlight that social pedagogy at its roots is about reintegrating a troubled youth back into society but giving the youngster the tools to take an ethical position and decide what kind of citizens they wish to be. The reoccurring principles include: an understanding of the society and periods it operates in, also the youngster is encouraged to create their own cultural identity a tool for this being the use of popular culture to identify oneself. Following this the next principle is to create “free space” where dialogue can take place that empowers the youngster and helps the youngster understand the part they play in society giving them autonomy in their own healing or education. The main principle is that Social Pedagogy is a Combined Holistic Approach that is concerned with well-being and happiness, holistic learning, empowerment and relationships, (as described by Gabriel Eichstellar and Sylvia Holthoff) of the youngster as a whole person (Kyriacou, 2012)

# From Institution to Home

South Africa is following international trends in terms of child care systems. In legislation there is a clear shift from institutional programmes such as the orphanage towards the more community based programmes that offer shelter and try to reconnect the child with their family and the society. A representative from the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) Mr. Kamau, who was present at the signing of the Children Act 38, commended South Africa on its legislations to protect children as they are in line with United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, (Unicef, 2008).

The implementation of the Act commenced on 1 April 2010. This saw many child care centres being shut down or remodeled due to non-compliance. This is due to the fact that many of the childcare facilities are make shift in nature, and therefore to not comply with the basic requirements for a public facility. These childcare facilities sprung up in many needy communities as the government welfare projects could not keep up with the needs of these communities. Poverty, HIV/Aids and violence are some of the causes of the breakdown of families in many communities across South Africa and other African countries. So in many cases an individual in a neighbourhood sees the needs of children in the area and opens a childcare facility. In the past these childcare centres were eligible for grants. This of course then also led to a lot of people who were more interested in making a living out of the centres rather than caring for children.

Part of the new Children's act 38 of 2005, as opposed to the Child Care Act (No 74 of 1983), States that childcare is no longer focused primarily on the facility based approach, where the child's material needs are the only focus but really the childcare centre must A child and youth care centre must also offer therapeutic and holistic programmes for the residential care of children that are being sheltered, (Mahery, Jamieson, & Scott, 2011).



*The main focus now is therefore on child care centres that adhere to the basic requirements which are the National Norms and Standards (NN&S) as per the Children's Act 38, Section 194. These are stipulated as follows:*

- *Residential care, therapeutic and developmental programmes;*
- *Permanency and individual development plans of children;*
- *Temporary safe care and after-care support;*
- *Protection from abuse and neglect;*
- *Assessment of children, family reunification and re-integration;*
- *Children's access to and provision of health care, schooling, education and early childhood development;*
- *Security measures for child and youth care centres; and*
- *Measures for the separation of children in secure care programmes from children in other programmes, (Mahery, Jamieson, & Scott, 2011).*

- *Measures for the separation of children in secure care programmes from children in other programmes, (Mahery, Jamieson, & Scott, 2011).*

***Outreach Foundation Edith Cavell Street, Hillbrow, Johannesburg. Image by Author, 2013***

Many young women arriving in Hillbrow are homeless with no idea of where they will find accommodation. The city offers so many opportunities for the youngsters hungry for adventure. Although the youth who most benefit and enjoy the city are those who have become well acquainted with the layered systems that structure the city spaces. These systems are both physical and social Colin Ward in The Child in the City describes physical systems as the networks of streets, houses, corner shops, pubs and parks. He then describes the social systems as networks of kin, friendship, work and neighbourly relationships, (Ward, 1979, p. 7).




***Outreach Foundation Edith Cavell Street, Hillbrow, Johannesburg. Image by Author, 2013***

# Case Study 1:
# Twighlight Children's Home
## (Local Example)

## BRIEF:

This is a home for boys that was established in 1983. The boys that are taken in are between the ages of 8 - 18 years. The shelter offers basic residential care, health care, sports facilities, counseling and study facilities. The aim is to give "street kids" a home, and a place where they can be taught how to reintegrate back into society, by providing care, development opportunities and support.

The Home partners up with other projects in Hillbrow such as "I Was Shot in Hillbrow", in this project the young men learn photography skills then with their mentors they venture out into the city to take photos of tourists and passers-by, if the individual wishes to purchase the photo they can  then do so by find it on a website that has been established. This initiative among many others allows the young men to slowly begin reintegrating with other citizens.

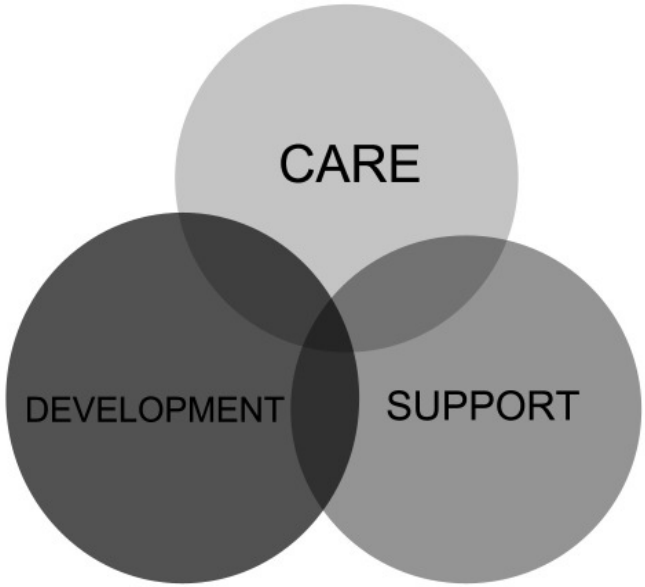
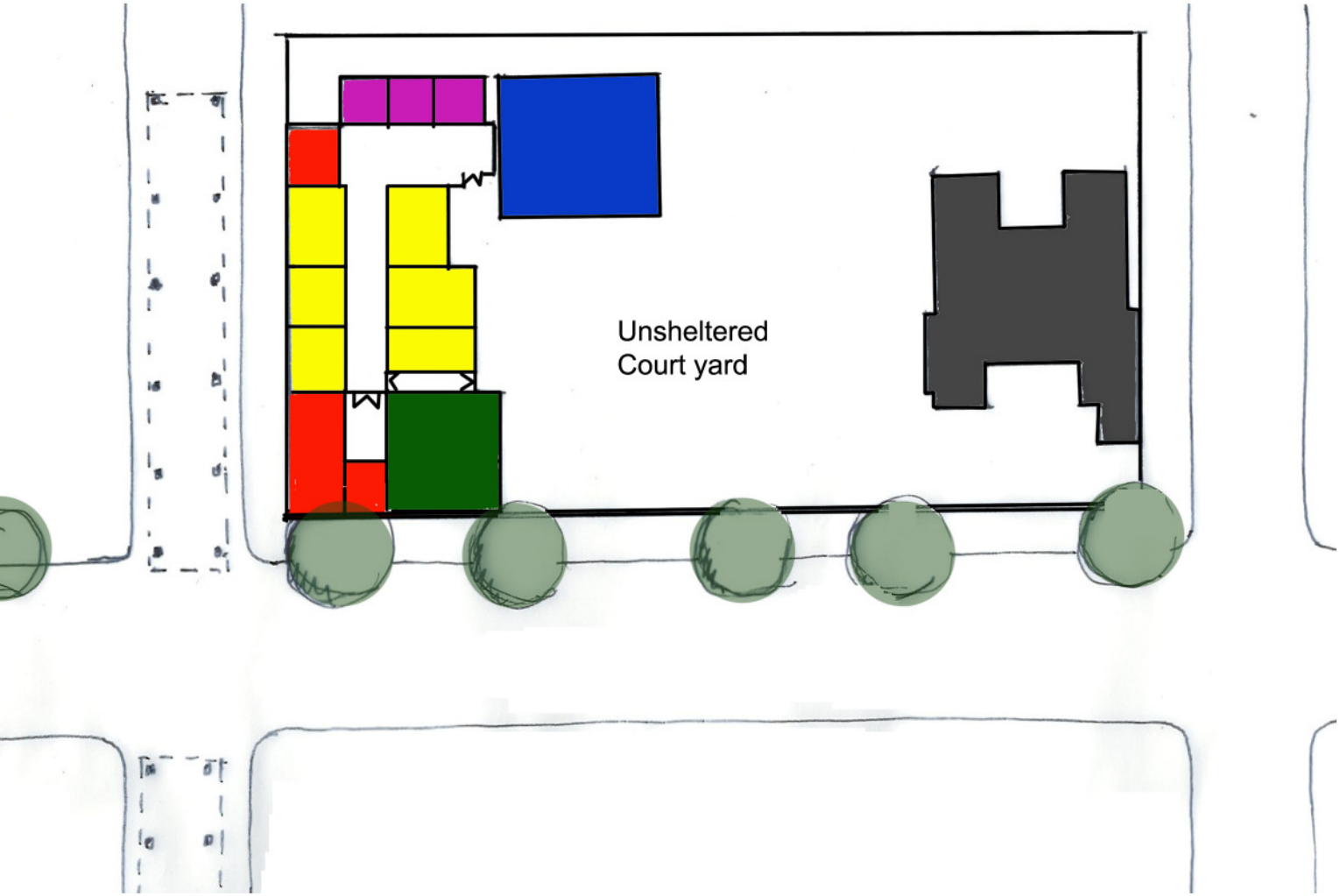


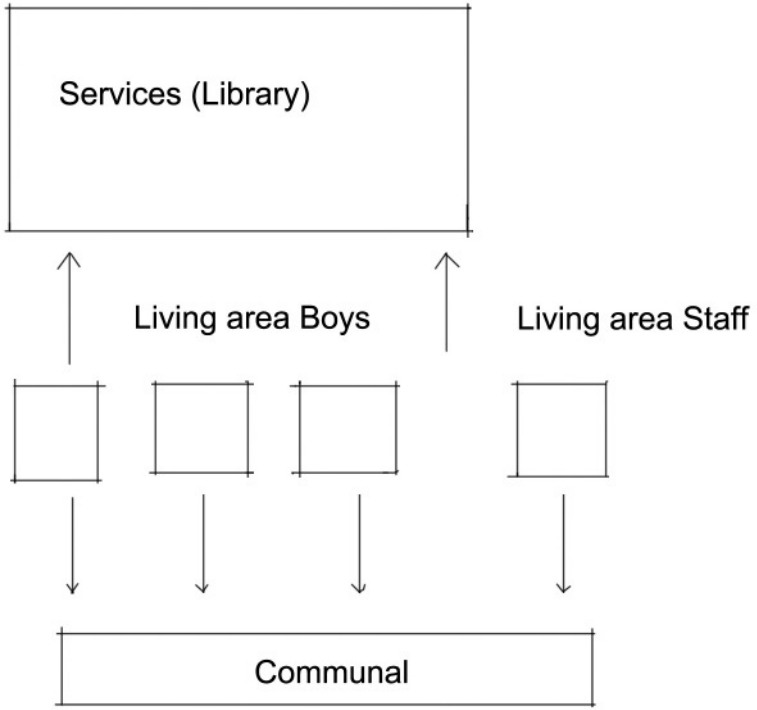
***Image of former "street kids" taking camera shots for the project.***
***Image by "I was Shot in Joburg", 2014***




Unsheltered
Court yard
Key:
Administration
Staff
Library
Recreation
Dormitories
N

# Programme

This building was formerly a Care Centre for the elderly; it was then retrofitted to house the shelter. The programme consists of living spaces for the young men that are traditional dormitories with bunk beds. Then there are single rooms for some of the staff members. The service areas include the administration offices and the library that has IT facilities to assist the young men with projects and homework assignments. The communal area includes indoor and outdoor spaces. There is a recreation room for activities such as performances and skills training. Outside there is a court yard that serves as a space for sporting events hosted by the home and also when there are no activities it is a parking area for the busses and other vehicles owned by the home. The living spaces are central to the scheme so the communal area and service areas can be reached from the living spaces.




***1. Library Facility***
***2. Recreation room***
***3. Dormitories***
***Image by Twighlight Children 2012***



***1***



***2***



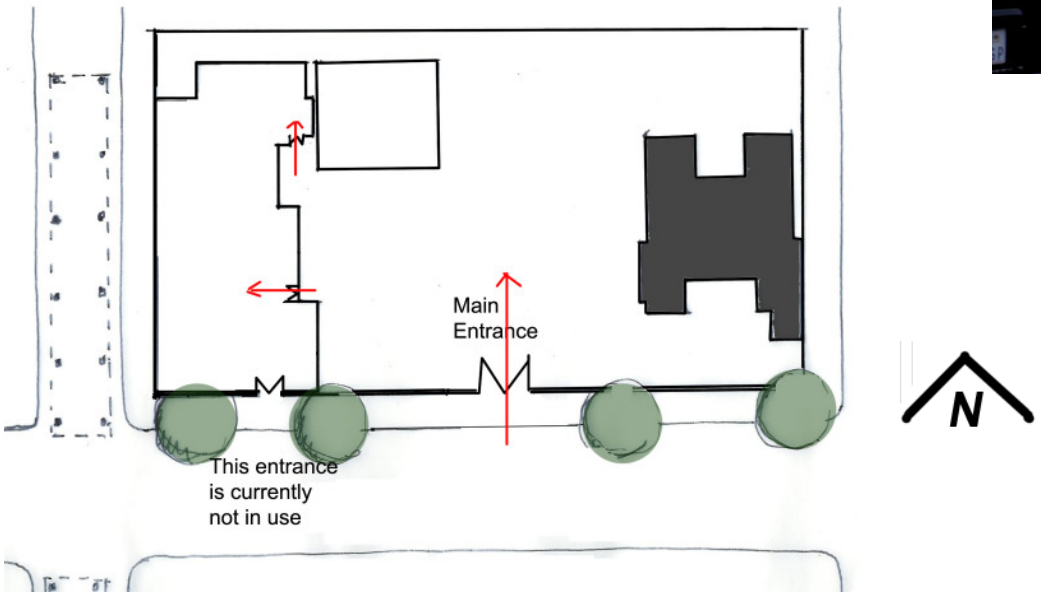
***3***

# Access

The entrance to the shelter is off Van Der Merwe Street in Hillbrow which is directly opposite the proposed site for the design development of this thesis. As is clear in the image the entrance is very secure and not easily penetrable. This is due to security risks. However this does also make it inaccessible to the young person it is designed to accommodate. The high wall on the image on the right that has the painting of the South African flag conceals the court yard mentioned before.



*Abive: Twighlight Children's Home,*
*View from Van Der Merwe street.*
*Image by Twighlight Children 2012*




***R**ight: Pottery and Bead work by young men from Twighlight and ladies from the community.*
*Image by Twighlight Children 2012*

# Reintergration

As mentioned before the home offers skills development programmes to assist the young men as they look forward to re-integrate into society. However not all the facilities are housed on site. An example of this is the “I Was Shot in Joburg” project; this project is housed in Arts on Main. The projects that are on site are for both the young men and the surround communities. Skills such as beading and pottery are taught. Adjacent to the home there is a street market on Quartz Street, this is one of the places to buy the artworks.






# Case Study 2:

## House of Families design by

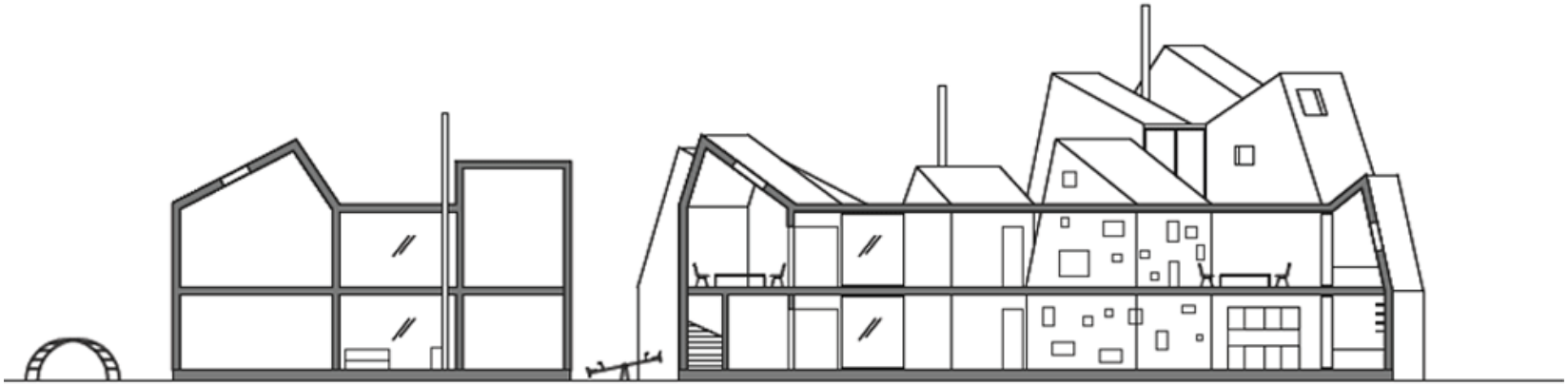
## Fantastic Norway. Greenland

### Brief:

This project is a shelter for young women with children. The main aim of the project is to provide shelter for these women and their children in an environment where they can become independent. This project offers shelter and skills training facilities.



SECTION BB



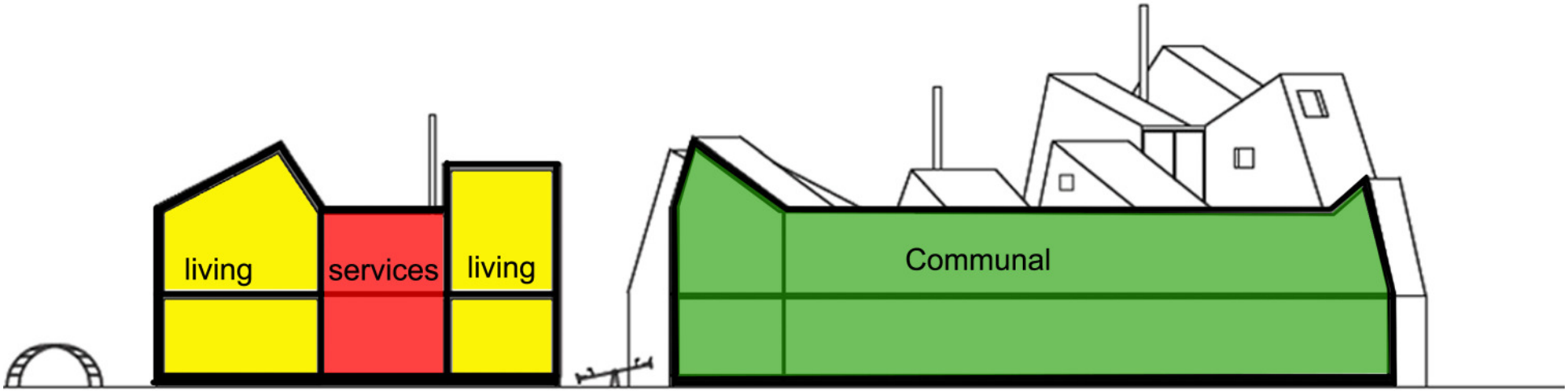
SECTION AA



*The surrounding space around the building masses is a secure play space for the children with views from the communal spaces onto the play spaces.*
*Image by Fantastic Norway*

# Programme

The massing of the shelter is arranged in small composite houses connected by communal spaces. The project is situated in a green site it is a quiet and safe location. The projects spaces encourage independence for the vulnerable woman and her child, while the communal spaces promote community encouraging dignity for the young families.




SECTION AA

Key:

- Communal Services
- Communal/ Recreation
- Vertical Circulation
- Bedrooms (Private spac





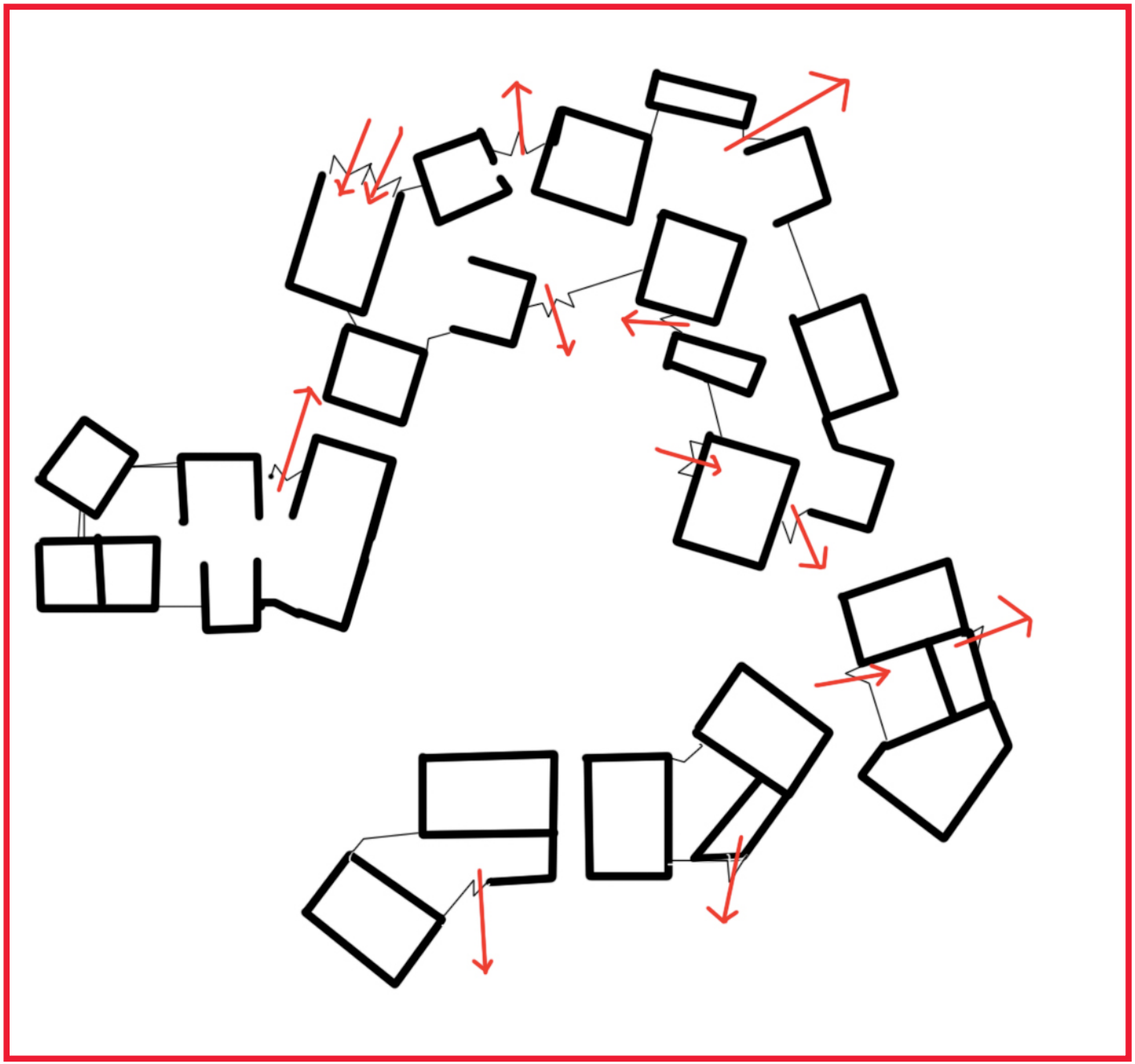

Key:

- Building massing
- Horizontal Circulation with Communal/ Shared spaces



***Plan of House of Fmilies***

***Image by Fantastic Norway***

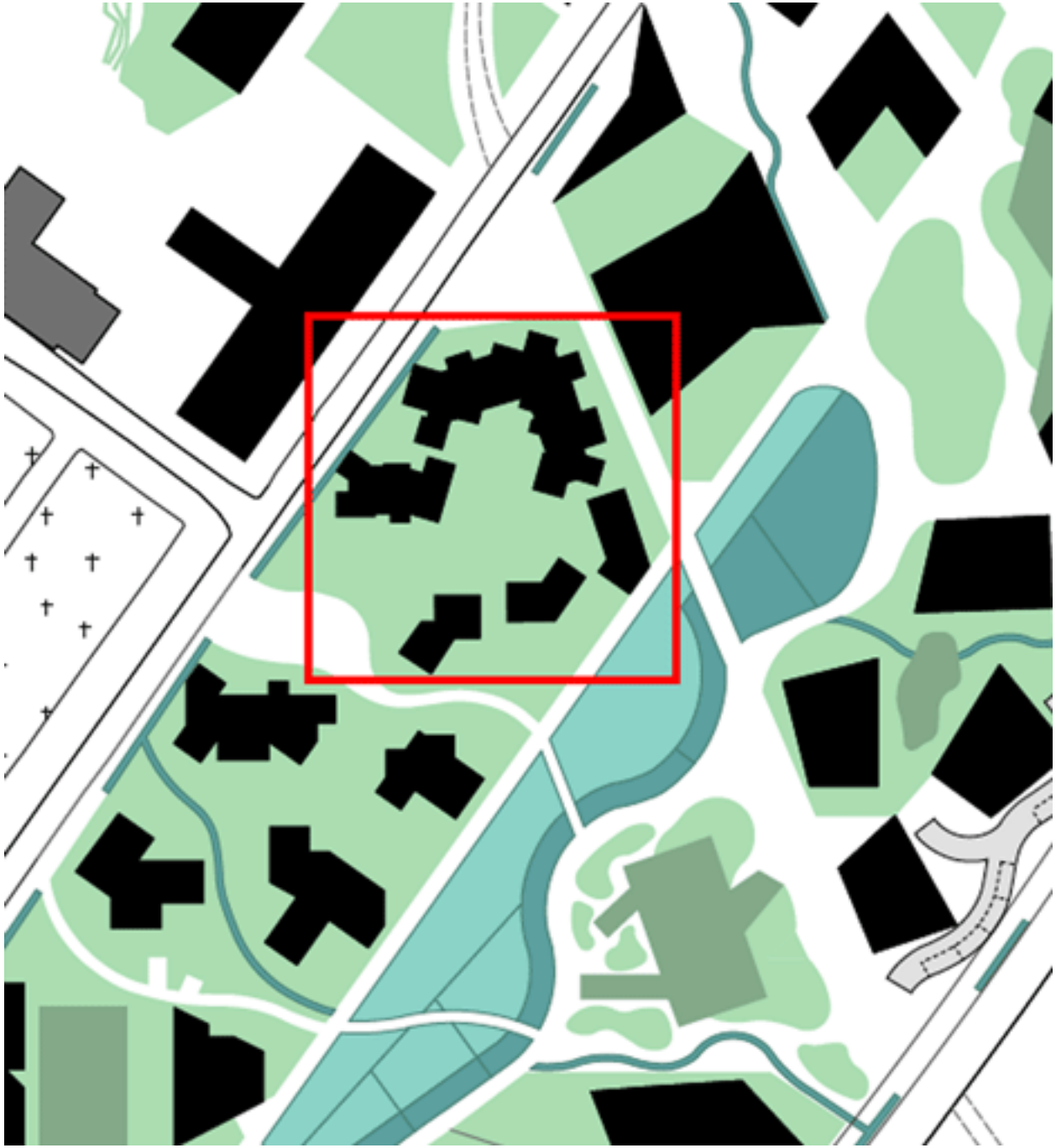


***Plan showing access points***
***These are mainly at communal spac-***
***es and at the fire escapes***
*Image by Author*

## Access

The figure ground reveals that this project is very removed from the street. The urban space is designed as a play area for the youngsters. The massing creates a shelter through the “U” form around the open space. Even though there is a vast open space for the youngsters to appropriate and enjoy it is evident that the design allows for clear lines of vision from the internal communal spaces to the play areas, meaning there is good surveillance of the play area.

The building mass is scattered making it permeable at many different points. However to ensure security the entrances are at communal points to ensure continual surveillance.



***Site Plan with figure ground showing grain that is not dense allowing for vast open spaces.***

***Image by Fantastic Norway***

# Designing a [RE] imagined Shelter

Part of the new Children's act 38 of 2005, as opposed to the Child Care Act (No 74 of 1983), States that childcare is no longer focused primarily on the facility based approach, where the child's material needs are the only focus but really the Childcare Centre must A Child and Youth Care Centre must also offer therapeutic and holistic programmes for the residential care of children that are being sheltered, (Mahery, Jamieson, & Scott, 2011).

Whether it be schools or parks there is a general or cultural climate when it comes to designing spaces for youngsters. The most important notion that is stressed by many practitioners and even legislation is that of health and safety. This is that the environments designed for youngsters need to be accessible and safe. The designer must also take into account that these environments must offer the youngster a place to develop and also an outlet. The types of development will include social, intellectual, physical and emotional development. In Children's Spaces, Judith and John Hicks express that "…play is a powerful medium for developing and expressing self-awareness, social learning, imagination, awareness of the world and physical skills." This shows the important task that any designer of a child's space has as they are helping shape the development of an individual, (Dudek, 2005, pp. 195-214).

Within the city parks are the spaces best designed for youngsters, however from a certain age youngsters become less and less interested in these controlled and safe environments. The reason for this is that they these spaces do not stimulate and engage the youngster, this leads to youngsters appropriating other spaces for relief and an outlet, this spaces include abandoned building, streets and other adventurous and dangerous spaces. Most spaces designed for youngsters reflect an adult's perception of childhood needs. Michael Laris works for Kompam; he is a manufacturer of contemporary play equipment. He has developed a research based method of observing and monitoring the way youngsters use play spaces that he has designed in order to gain better knowledge as to how to modify and transform these spaces to make them more appealing to the user (Dudek, 2005, p. 14). Laris writes that it is important to understand the concept of usability this refers to, "making something that has a specific function to be use by a unique group of people", (Dudek, 2005, p. 15). Laris makes another important remark that youngsters are the inventors of their own space while designers are the translators of these inventions.

This shows the importance of involving the youngster in the design. Another aspect to take into consideration is allowing the youngster the opportunity to take ownership of space. If the environment designed for the youngster is flexible and can be altered it offers the youngster the opportunity to take ownership or have a certain amount of control in the place they inhabit, (Dudek, 2005, p. 27).

Many of the popular contemporary public spaces are commercial in nature these are the shops, restaurants, stations, airports and so forth. In these types of spaces the norm is that youngsters are only really acceptable if they are supervised and properly controlled by an adult. This has resulted in youngsters being generally invisible within these public spaces. This then reveals the importance of those spaces that welcome the individuality of a youngster. As mentioned before it is the public parks, streets and sports centres that are really designed for the youngster here a group of children exploring and enjoying each other's company is more acceptable to society, the problem however is that this limits the youngster's exploration of the city, confining them to specific areas. What about the rest of the city? In terms of the city the youngster is an endangered species confined to the zoo-like cages of the public parks, and sports centres. Because of these public attitudes towards youngsters the divide between poor youngsters and able youngsters in the city is quite visible. It is a common assumption therefore that those youngsters huddling on the street are up to no good or are street kids. This attitude is therefore unhealthy and does not encourage the youngster to freely appropriate the street, (Dudek, 2005, pp. 178-194).

People are naturally territorial about their private space. But part of healing for women has to do with sharing.  So it is important to understand personal space and shared space when dealing with healing spaces. A young women getting off the streets and seeking refuge looks for a place to heal but she also looks for a place to find independence. Inclusive spaces are spaces created by a user, in this case the youngster in the city. It is important therefore to provide spaces that encourage independence and authorship for the youngster this gives the youngster a new sense of dignity, and in return the youngster will assist in creating new thresholds within the city that connect not just buildings but people. Space can be used to create an environment of encouragement. The connecting spaces are important as they allow the user to have control of activities that can take place in a space. This kind of authority can be used to restore human dignity (Sommer. 1969)

# Key Design Principles for the [Re] Imagined Shelter:

1. Spaces should be well protected without becoming enclosed.

2. Visibility through sight lines is important so that surveillance is always possible.

3. Connections between internal spaces and external spaces are important; these connections points become meeting places. This kind of interaction is necessary.

4. The circulation spaces that link other spaces are important; they need to be specifically designed for both circulation and interaction.

5. There should be a variety of spaces in terms of privacy; the level of privacy should be directly proportionate to the level of integration that is anticipated. For example where the young woman is ready to integrate with society the level of privacy will be permeable.

6. At the street level there should be visible entrances to encourage the public to interact with the building and those young women who are ready.

# CONCLUSION

The social issue of Human Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation is a global issue, Therefore in order to combat this issue there needs to be input across nations, organizations and communities. The key attributes to combating Human Trafficking and sexual exploitation include prevention, protection, recovery and reintegration. Creating spaces that facilitate these attributes is the responsibility of the architect. A shelter that aims to reinforce these attributes will have shared spaces that allow for recovery.

Many of the young women in Hillbrow and even the young men that are homeless prefer to sleep in the parks rather than approach an institutional facility such as a shelter. The attributes that make the parks more attractive include: autonomy; so being able to control the space that one has occupied, also accessibility; with the parks the young person can come and go as they please and will still be allowed access. This shows the importance of accessibility and designing spaces that a young person can mold into their own.

A new way of approaching the design of shelters is necessary because there is a tremendous spike in the increase of young women homeless on the streets of Johannesburg. These young women need more than a bed and food. As is presented in the Children's Act 38 of 2005:

> *A Child and youth Care Centre must also offer therapeutic and holistic programmes for the residential care of children that are being sheltered,* (Mahery, Jamieson, & Scott, 2011).

This particular Act also includes information on the reception of young women who have been involved in Human Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation as this is a growing issue in South Africa. The theoretical approach of Social Pedagogy lists some principles for the recovery an reintegration of a young person, these include the well-being and happiness, empowerment, relationships, and holistic learning of the young person. This approach not only rehabilitates the young person who is a victim of Human Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation but also the community in which they find themselves in as a victim.

# 01 DESIGN

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

A PLACE TO BELONG

# DESIGN BRIEF


## 01 CONTEXUAL ANALYSIS

**Urban Analysis** pp 078

**Site Analysis** pp 088

## 02 DESIGN DEVELOPMENT

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## 03 PROGRAMME pp 117

## 04 TECHNICAL REPORT

**Analysis** pp 121

**Precedent** pp 124

**concept development** pp 126


# FINAL DRAWINGS

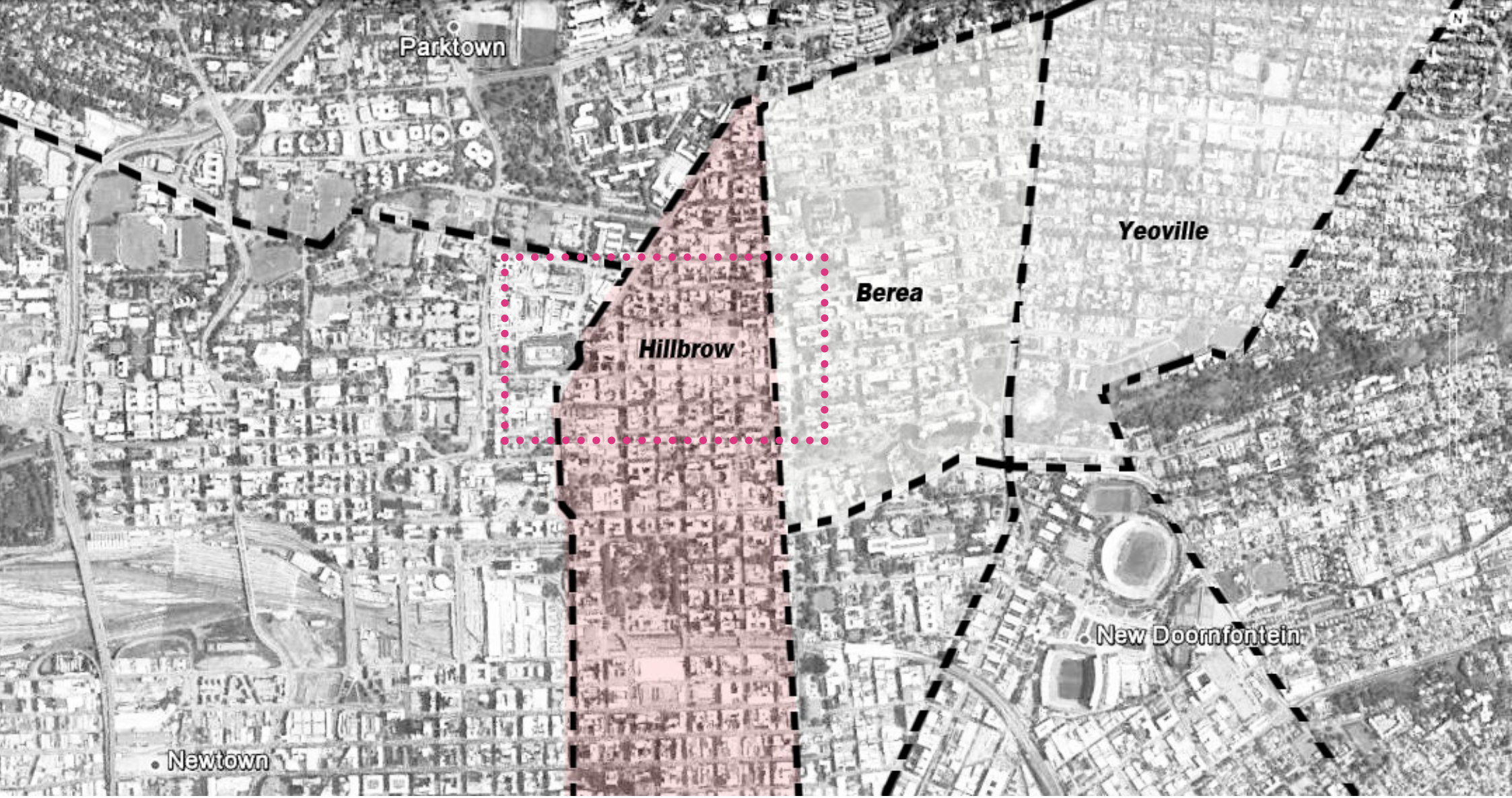


# 01. CONTEXTUAL ANALYSIS

## URBAN ANALYSIS

# CENTRAL JOHANNESBURG

The study area chosen for this analysis is at the heart of Hillbrow. Hillbrow is a Suburb in Central Johannesburg. It is a cultural melting pot that houses people from all over Africa; a place that offers refuge to those arriving in Johannesburg for the first time. The following is an analysis of the aspects that make Hillbrow the perfect point of entry into the city. These are aspects that also make Hillbrow a shelter for the city.


Parktown
Yeoville
Berea
Hillbrow
New Doornfontein
Newtown
N

1



4

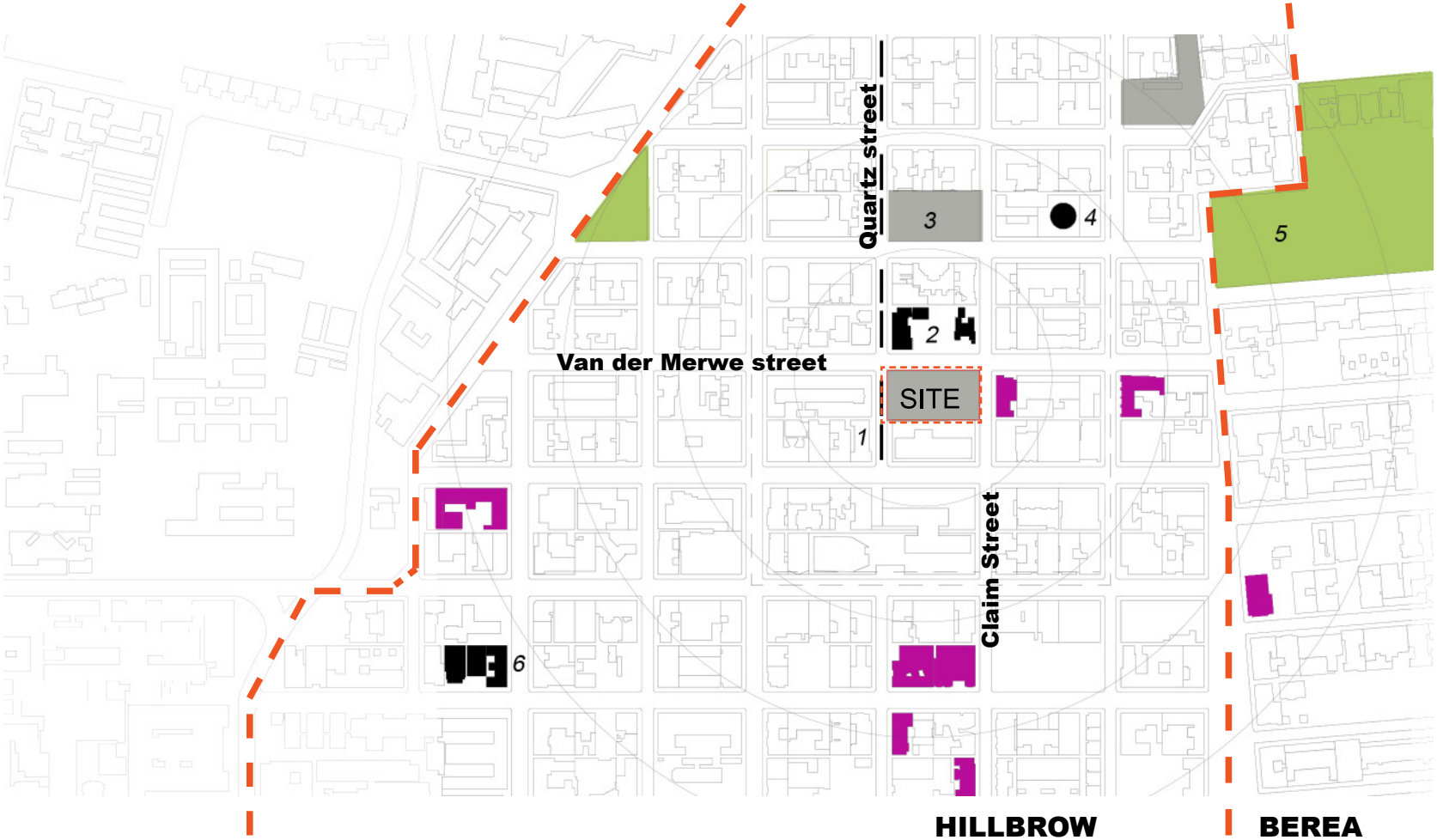


2



3






*1- Linear Market*

*2-Twilight Boys Shelter*

*3- Taxi Rank*

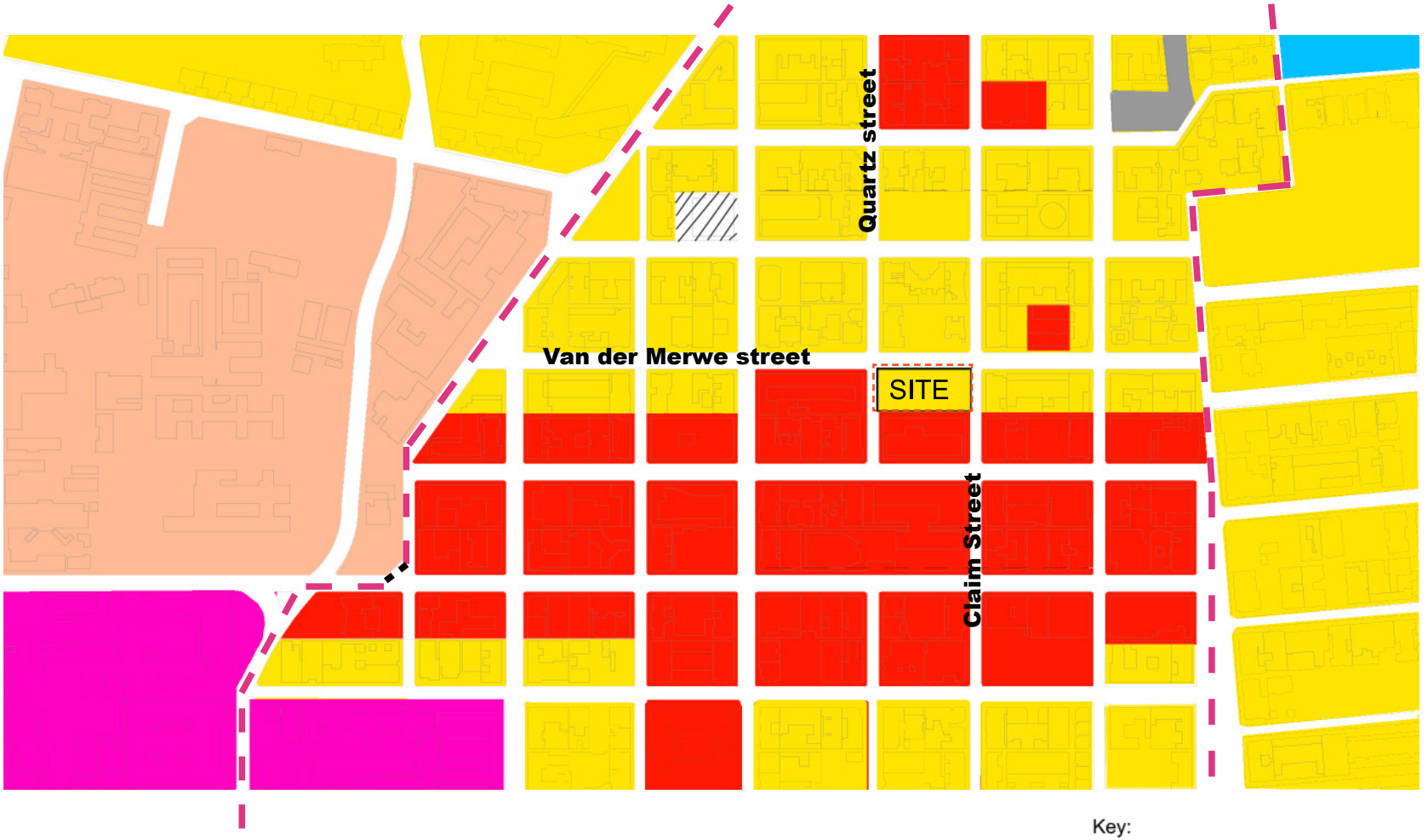
*4- Hilbrow Tower*

*5- Berea Park*

*6- Esselen Street Clinic*

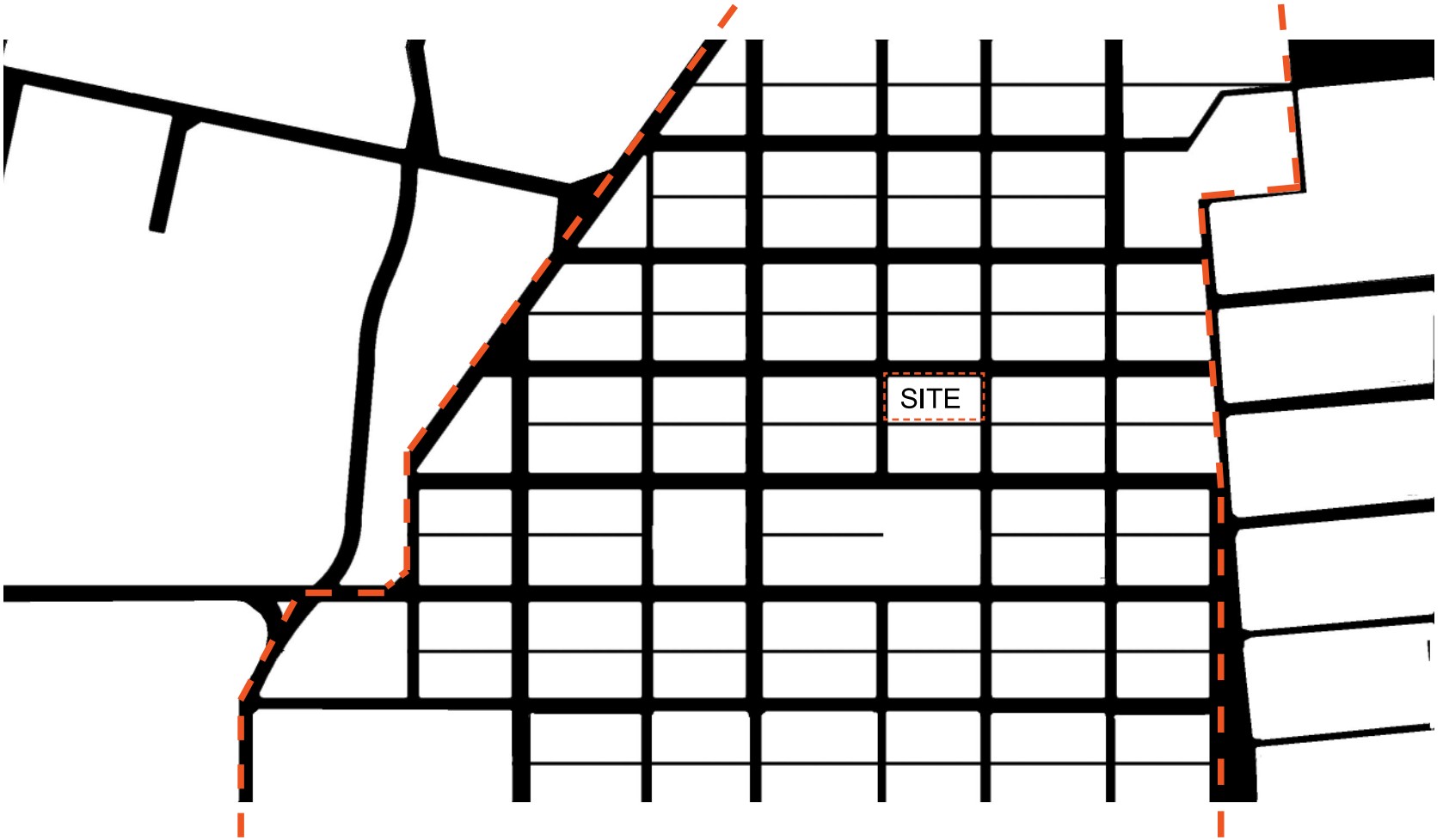
*7- Hotels*

N




**ZONING USE**

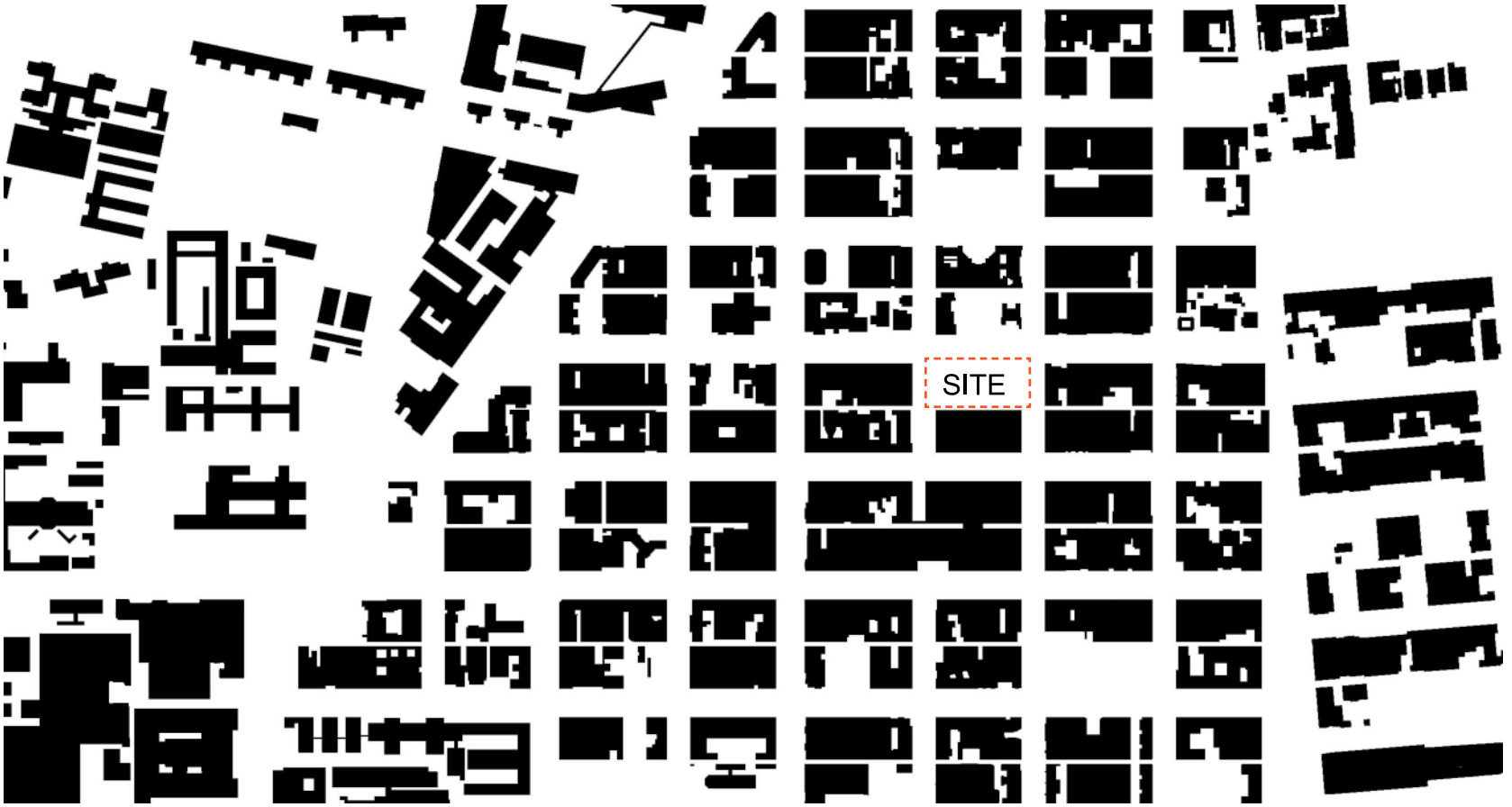
*The study area comprises mainly of residential blocks as per the zoning map above. A vast area is also purposed for retail. Many of the high-rise flats are residential at the top levels and are retail at street level.*




**MOVEMENT STRUCTURE**

*The movement links within Hillbrow run on an East-West axis and also on a North-South axis. Claim and Esselen create a boundary around the Hillbrow precinct. The roads form a grid that carves out the city blocks. There also exists narrow alley ways that divide the city block into two. many of these are closed off and inaccessible.*

N

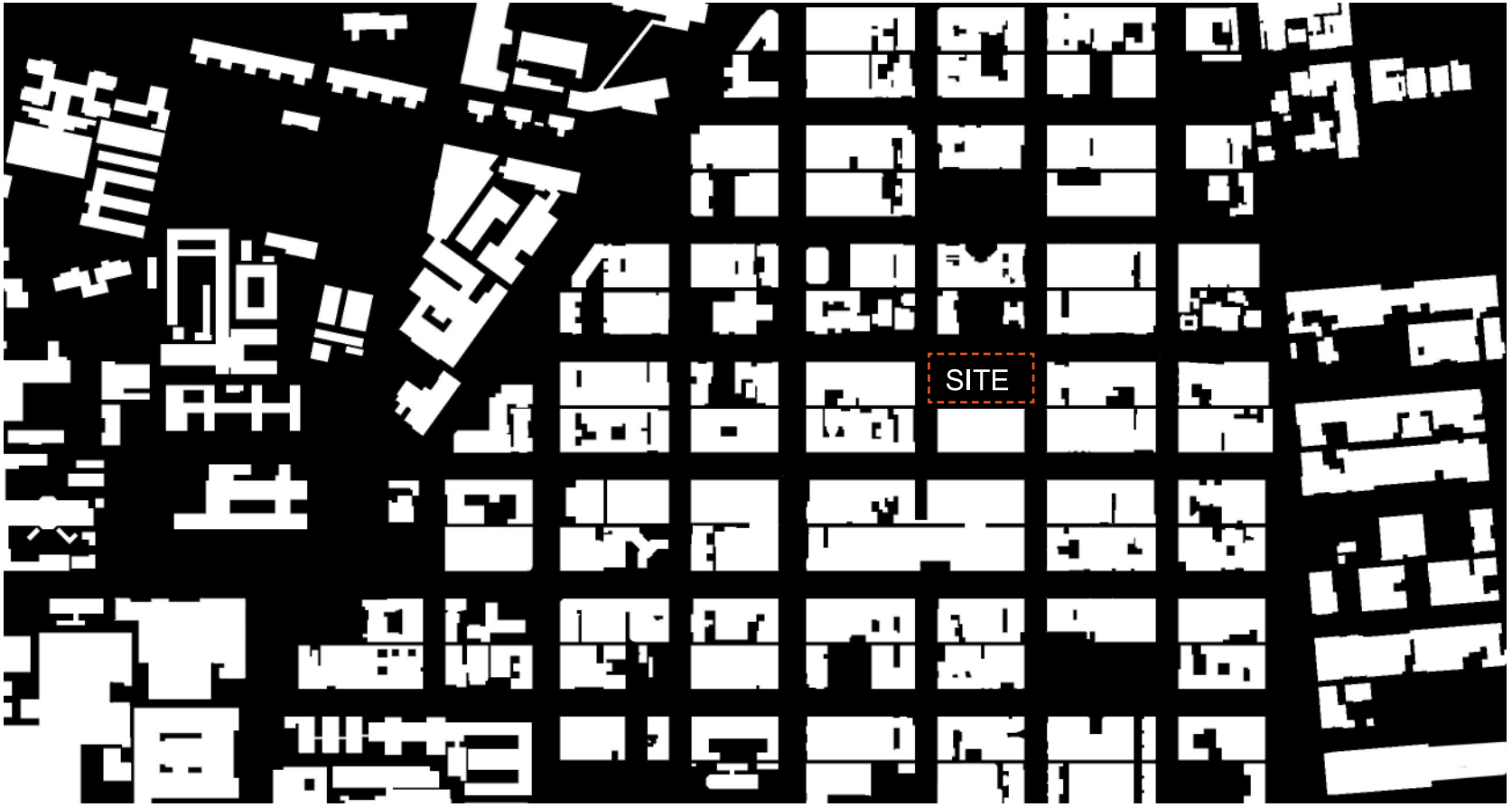



**GRAIN**

*The grain is fine in the suburbs surrounding Hillbrow. The building footprints in these suburbs may vary. In Hillbrow the grain is dense due to the formal grid created by the internal grid structure of the roads. The building footprints in Hillbrow are consistent across the study area with few variations.*



N




**OPEN SPACES**

*The open spaces are vast in the neighbouring suburbs. Within the study area the open spaces are mainly internal as the building footprints fill out half of the building block.*

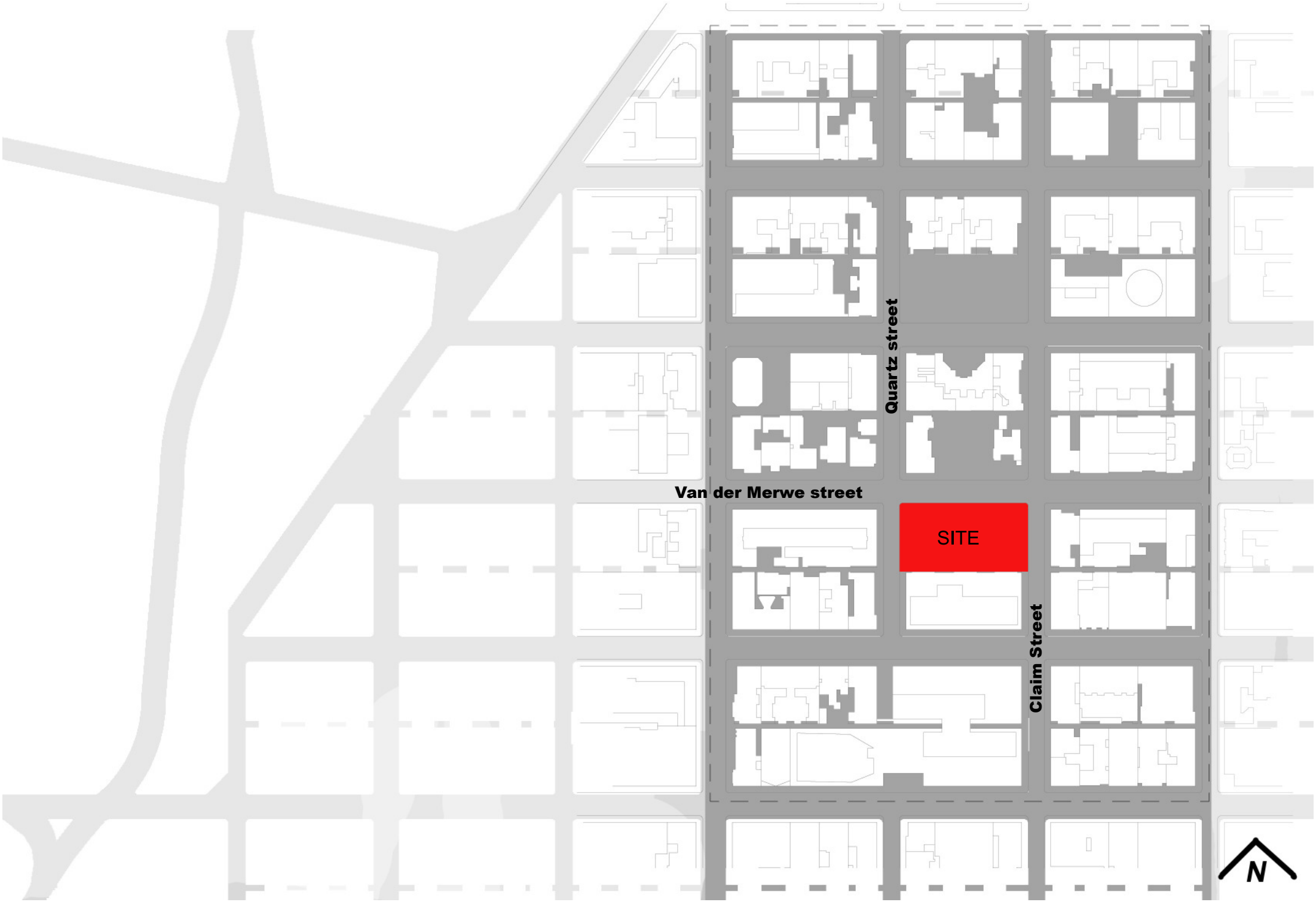
N

# 01. CONTEXTUAL ANALYSIS

## SITE ANALYSIS

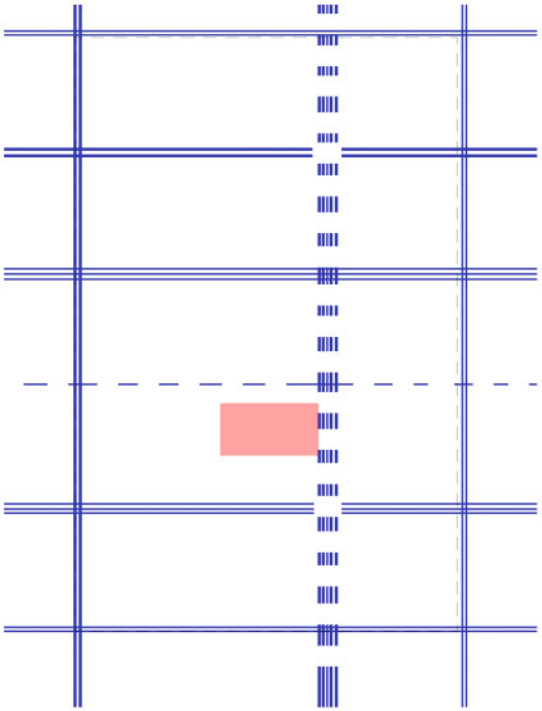
**ASPHALT**

*The surface area surrounding the buildings is mostly all asphalt. This is due to the fact that the material is low maintenance making it appealing for the city. This kind of hard surface gives the neighbourhood a very harsh terrain for someone seeking shelter.*


Quartz street
Van der Merwe street
SITE
Claim Street
N

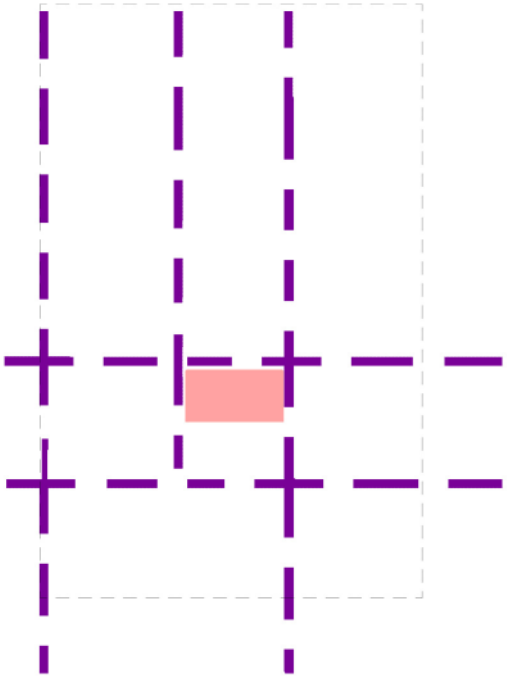
**VEHICULAR PATTERN**

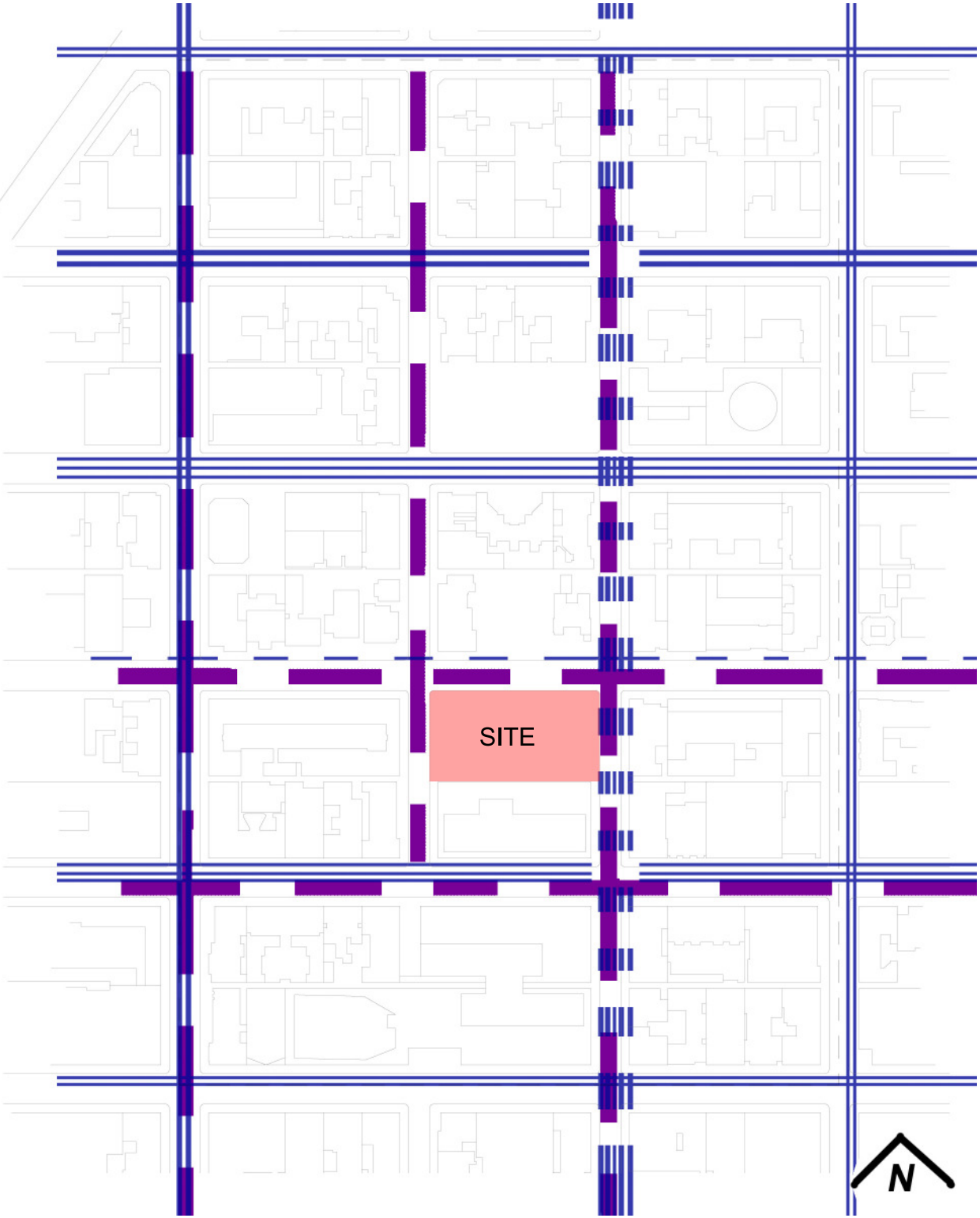
*The image on the right in blue shows the roads within the study area that have high vehicular impact. The heaviest impact occurs on the street that is adjacent to the right side of the site, Claim Street.*



**PEDESTRIAN PATTERN**

*In the image on the right in purple we see a high level of foot traffic throughout the study area. Quartz Street runs adjacent to the site on the left side. It is very high in foot traffic due to the Linear Market running down the street.*

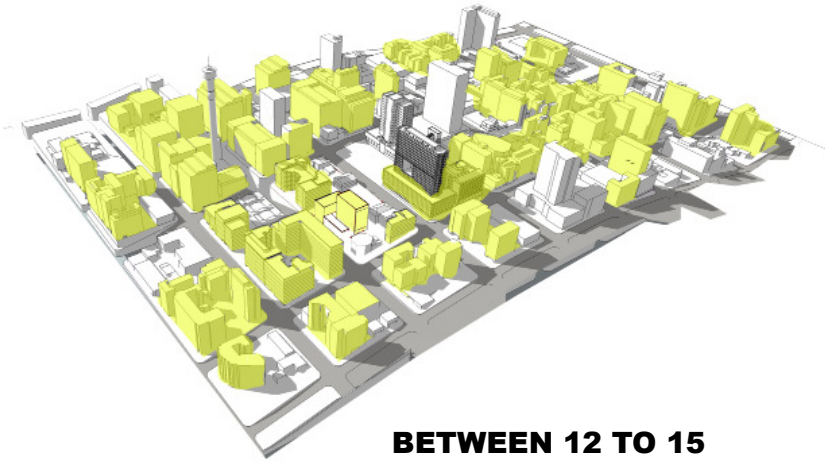



SITE
N






**FROM 12 + STOREYS**



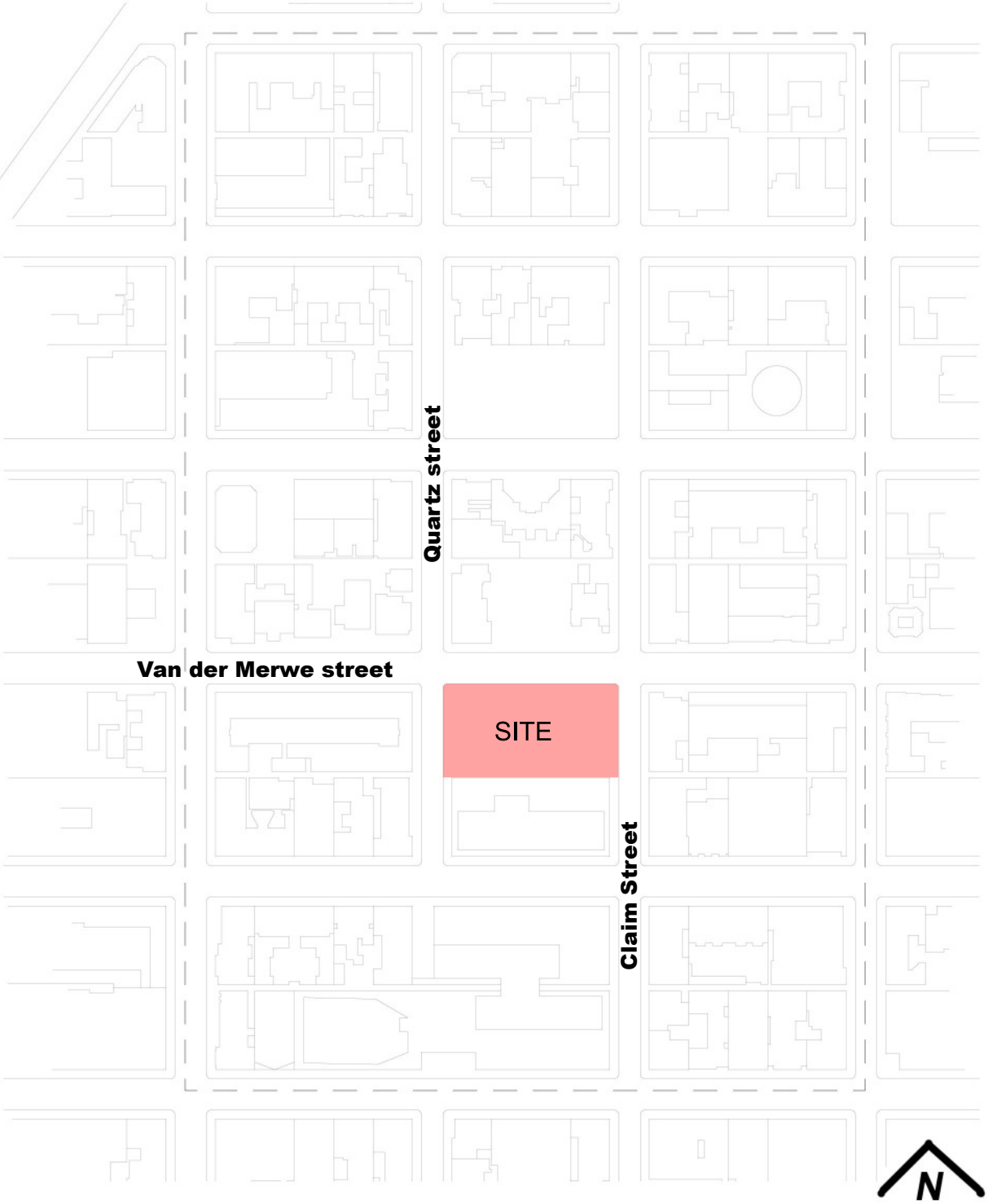
**BETWEEN 12 TO 15 STOREYS**

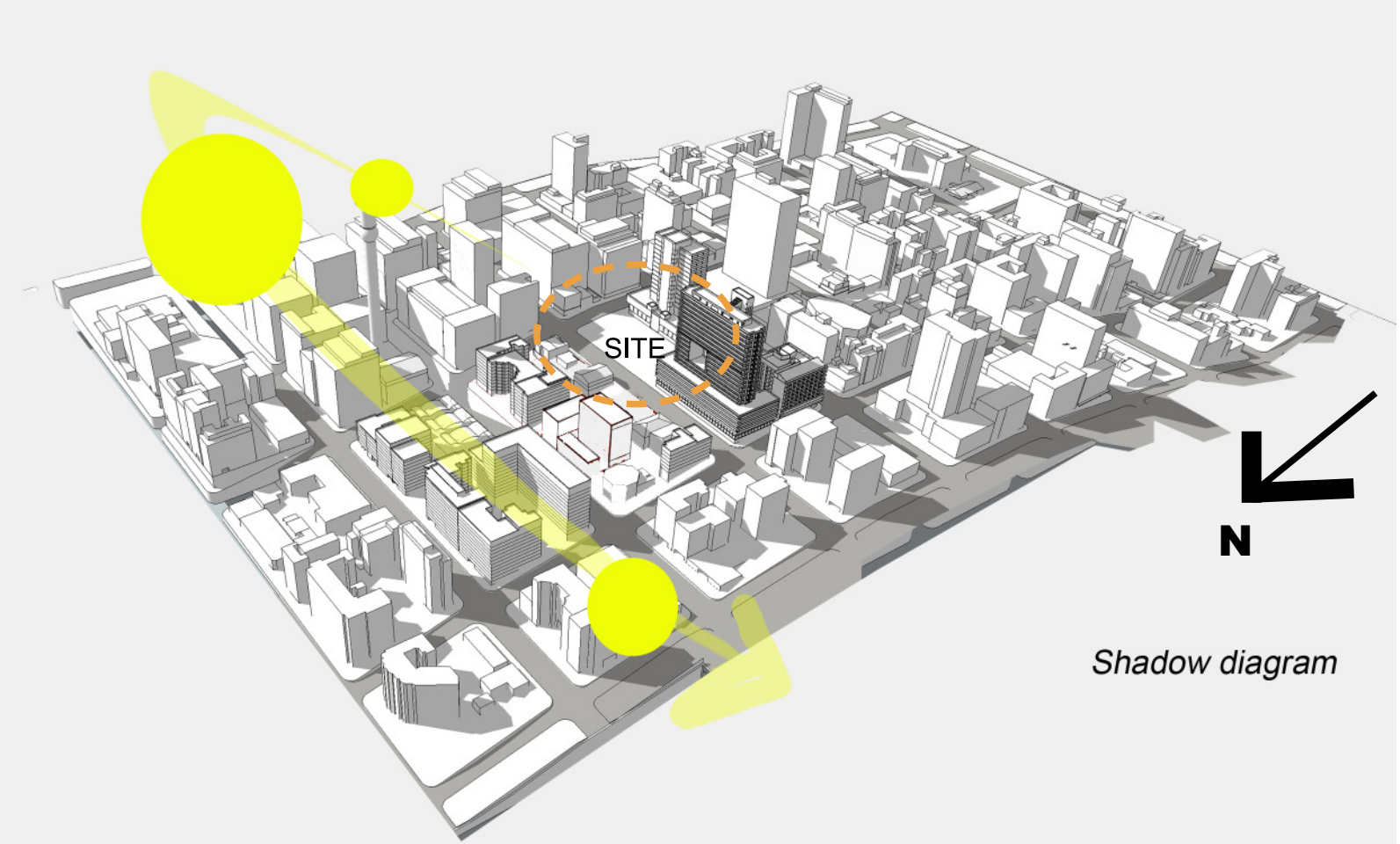


**BETWEEN 3 TO 8 STOREYS**

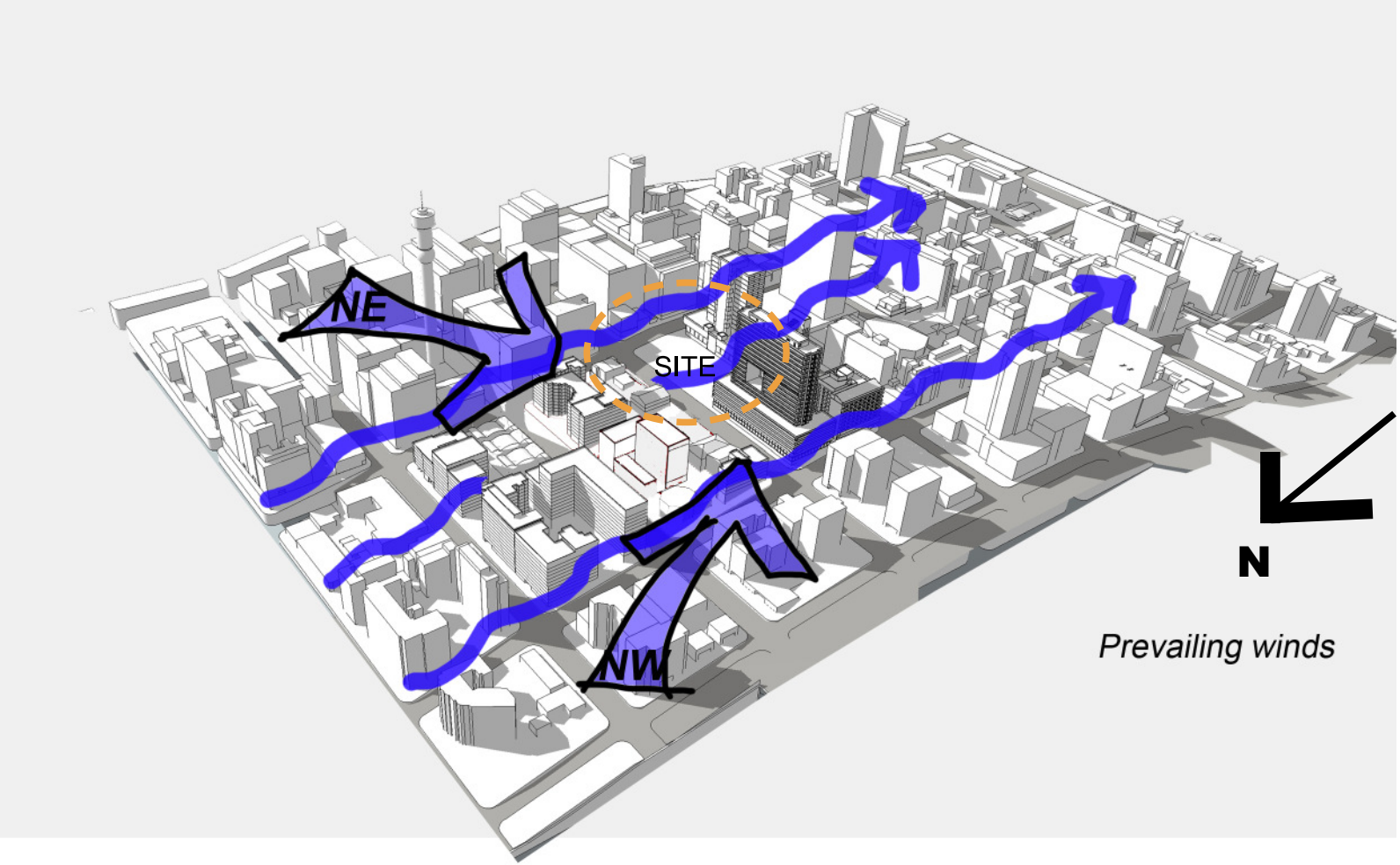
## BUILDING HEIGHTS

*Between the 1930's and 1960'6 there was a trend within the study area, to build high-rise buildings with flat concrete roofs. These roofs are mainly functional with services such as servant quarters, lift motors and drying yards for laundry. Some of the roofs however are used for recreational purposes such as tennis and squash courts (Davids. 1962)*


Quartz street
Van der Merwe street
SITE
Claim Street
N

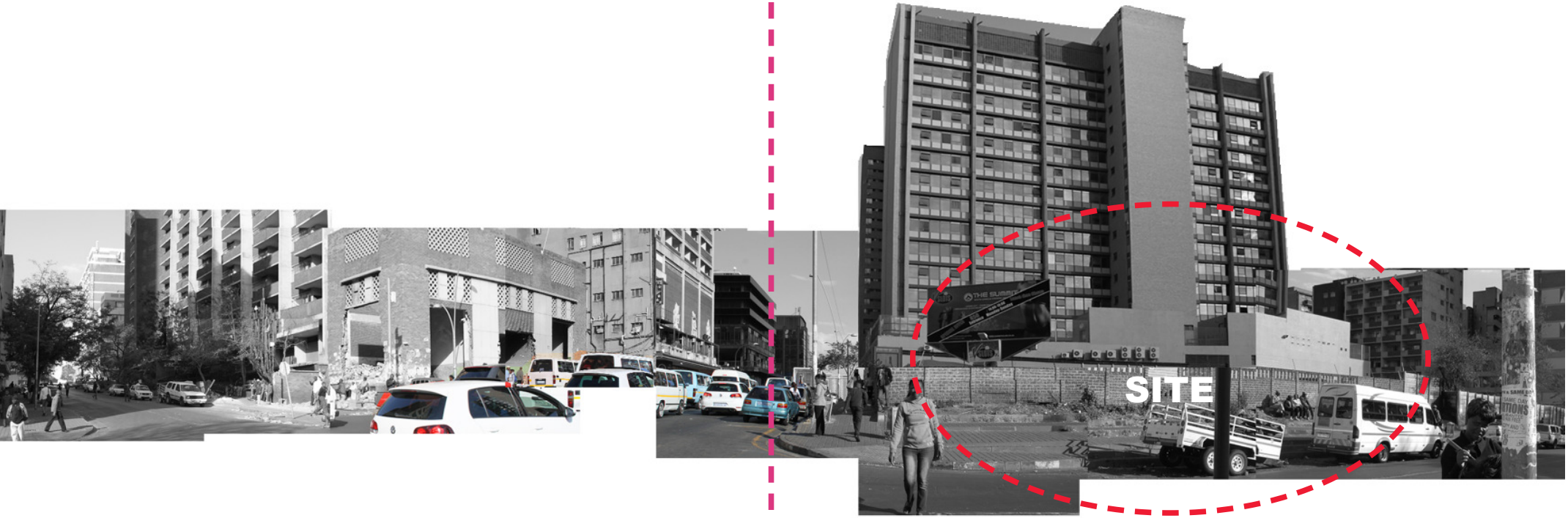



*The site is north facing which means it receives quite a bit of daylight. Also the buildings to the North of the site are low rise so maximum use of day lighting is attainable.*




*The prevailing summer wind is the North Easterly, and the North Westerly is the prevailing winter wind. Most of the rains are in summer; this means that the South side of the site is best for any outdoor spaces that require covering. The grid structure of the streets leads to the creation of wind tunnels across the site.*

## CLAIM STREET



QUARTZ STREET

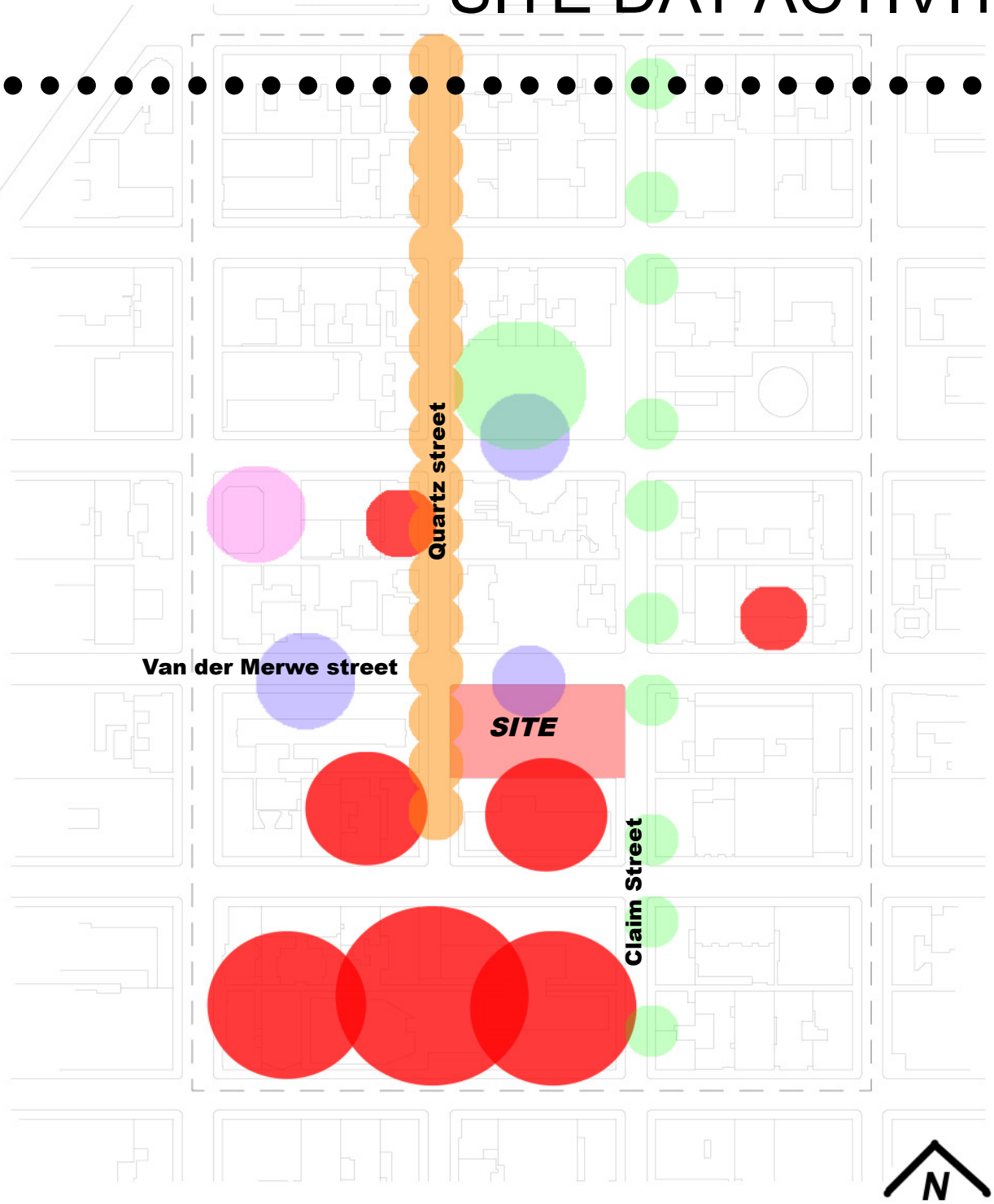


# SITE DAY ACTIVITY

**key:**

- Retail shops
- Informal car washes
- Taxi ranks and stops
- Church
- Linear Market

*The study area is very busy and full of life during the day time. The Linear market injects a lot of foot traffic in the locale of the site. There is also access to public transport in the form of BRT and taxis. This particular portion of Hillbrow is dominated by taxi movement and there are regular stops along intervals down the main roads (In this case the main road is Claim Street).*



***Images bellow from Hllbrow Johannesburg.***
***Images by Author, 2013***



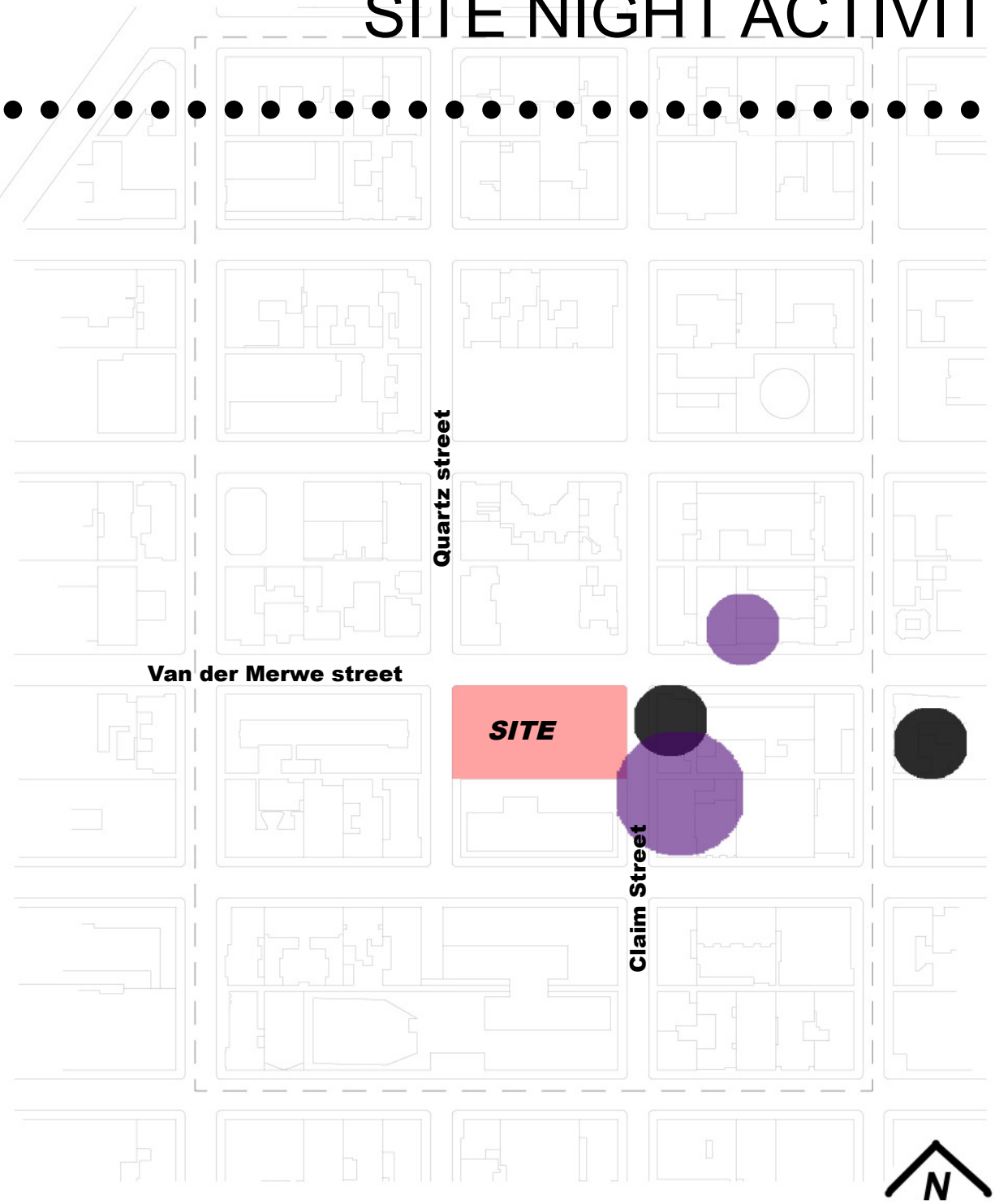


# SITE NIGHT ACTIVITY

**key:**

Tavern/club

Hotel

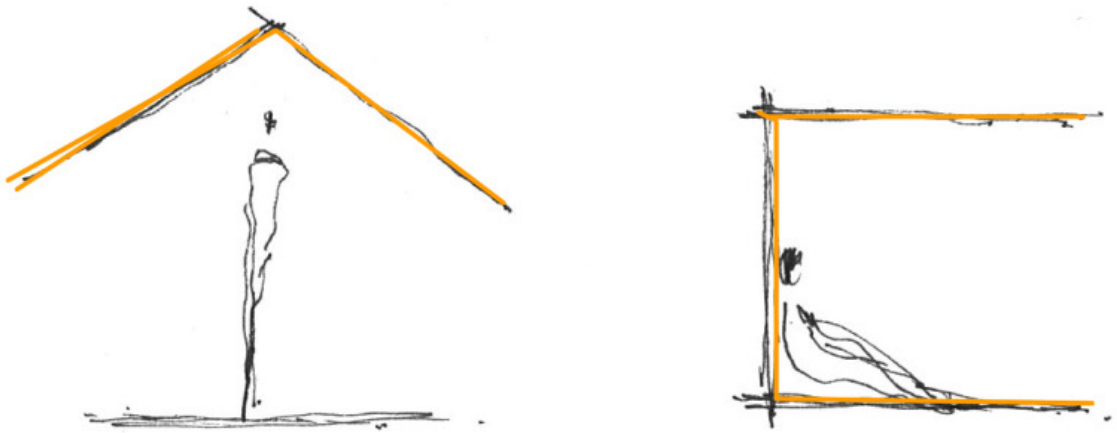



*The main activity on this site during the evenings happens in and around the taverns. The summit club is a high profile club that brings in many people from around Johannesburg to Hillbrow in the evening.*

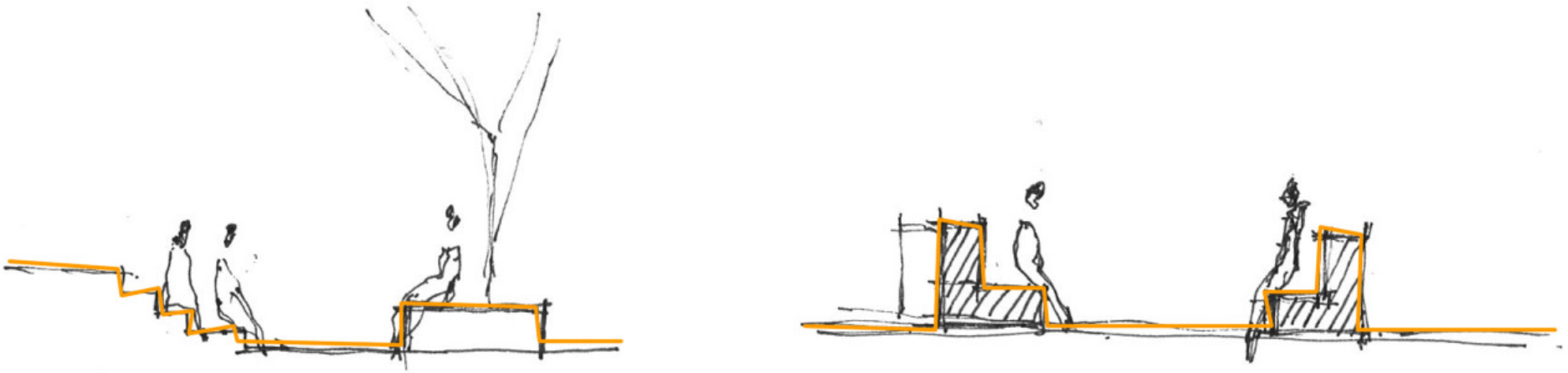



***Image on right from Claim Street, Johannesburg.***
***Images by VATHISWA RUSELO 2010***

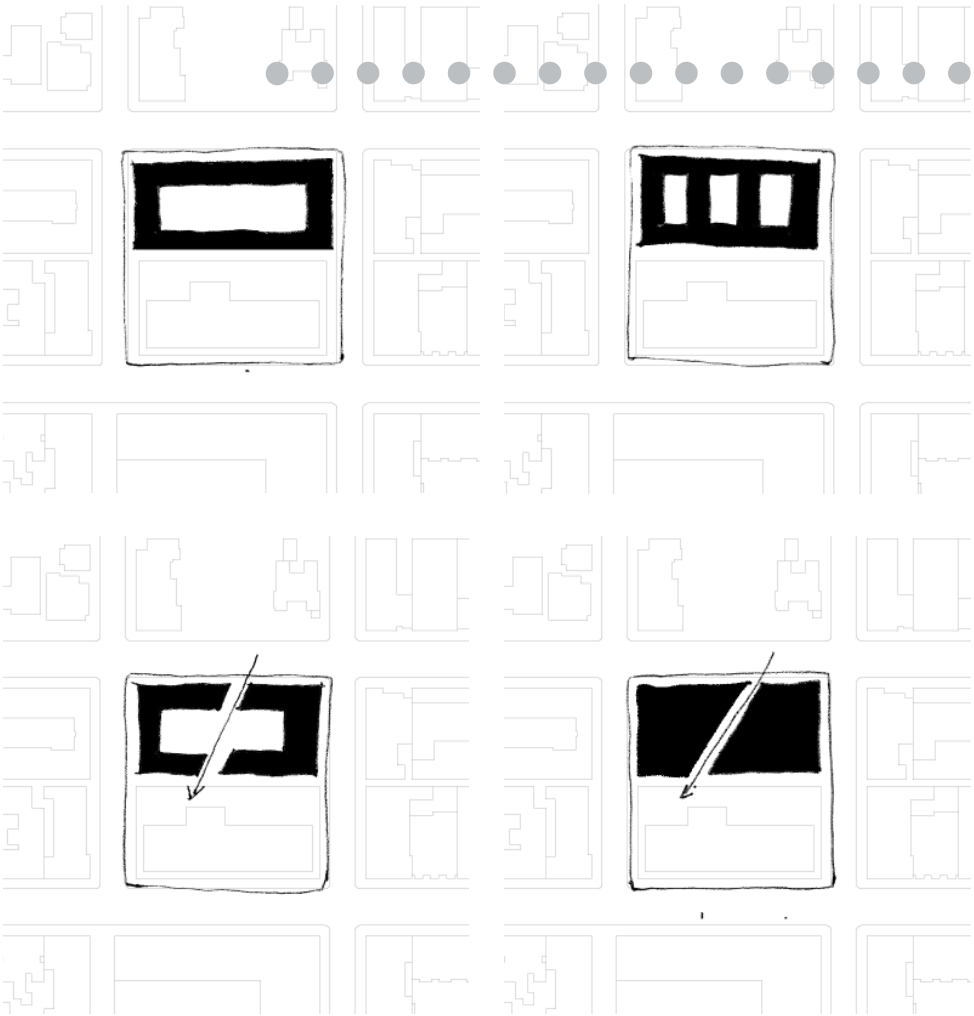
# 02. DESIGN DEVELOPMENT



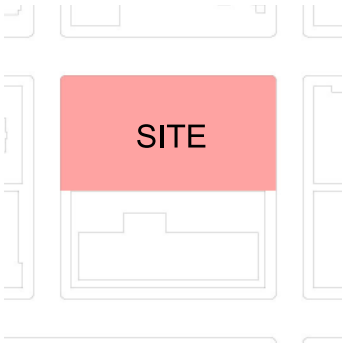
*COVERED SPACE*



SHARED SPACE

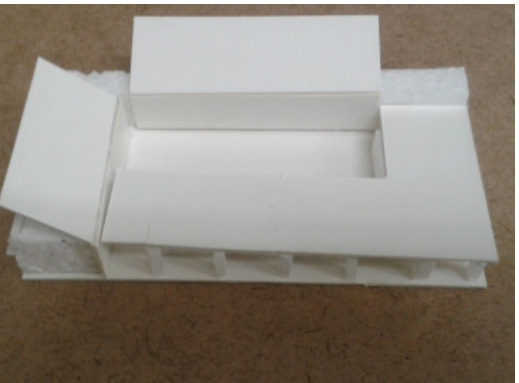


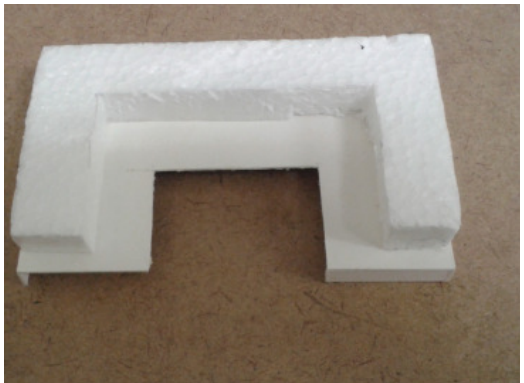
The chosen site takes up half of a building block. In this area many of the buildings take up the entire building block. This is the approach taken in these considerations. Access and openings of light begin to sculpt a form out of the massing created by the volume of the building block.













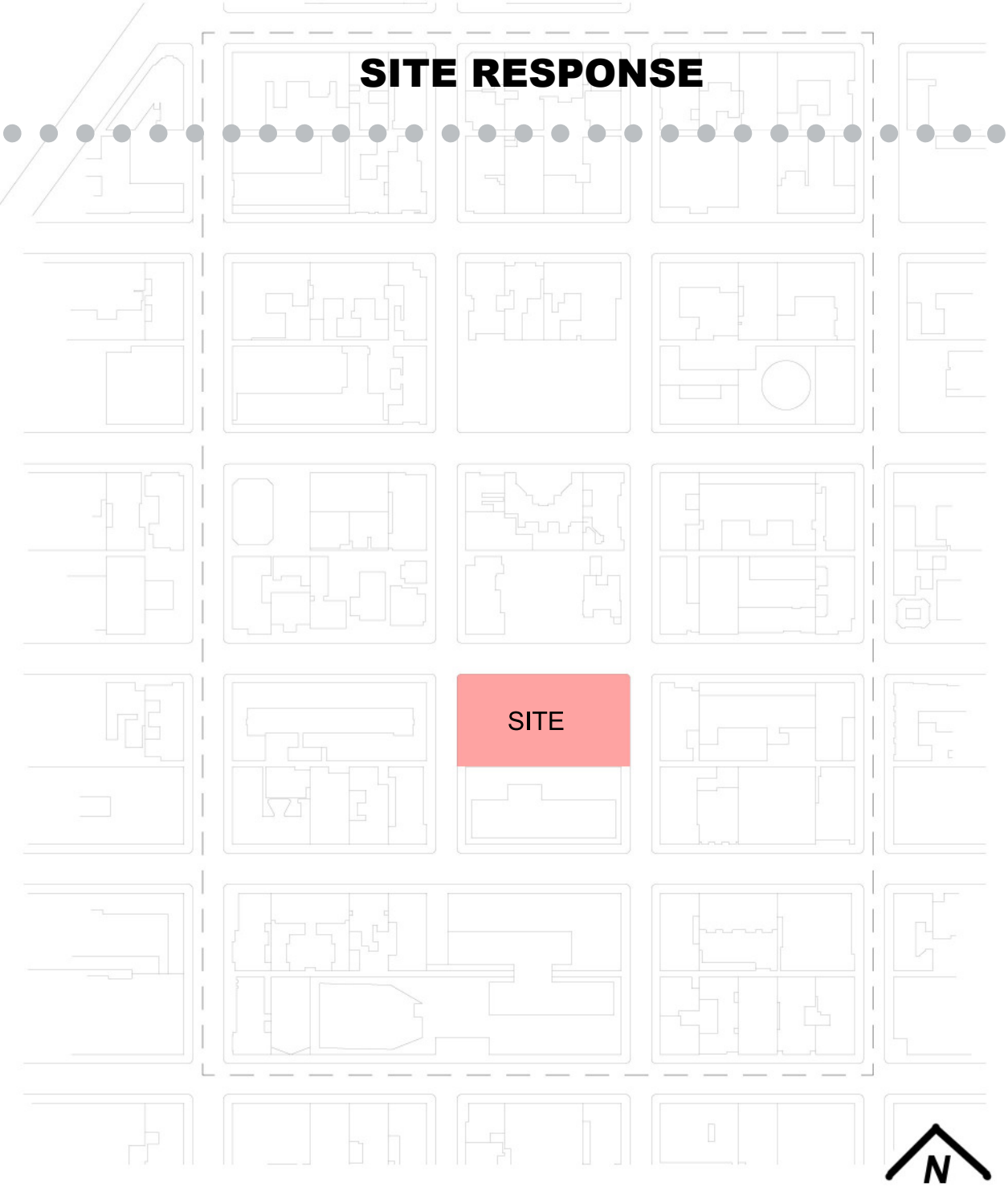


# SITE RESPONSE

The design consists of three main parts the public lobby and exhibition spaces adjacent to Van Der Merwe Street, the circulation and semi-public courtyard in the centre and the private consultation rooms and Day Care Centre at the back of the building which is the quieter end of the building.

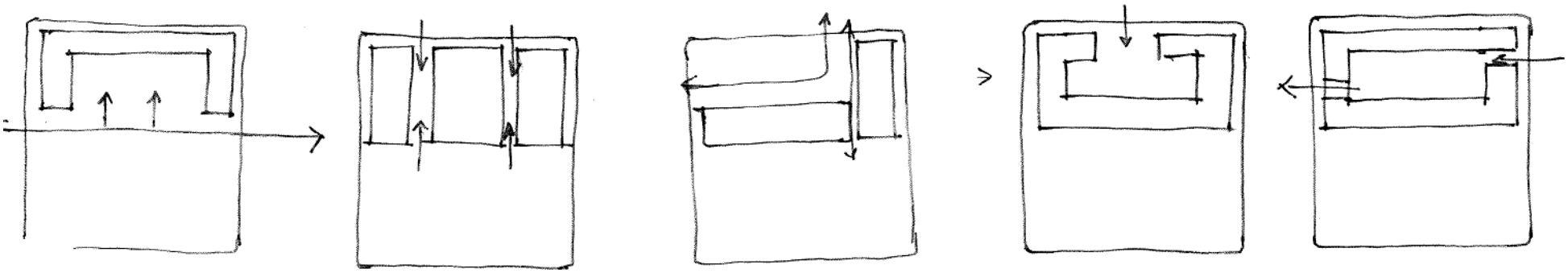
the lobby area is open plan making it very accessible and light. The portion in the middle creates an indoor outdoor courtyard space that also acts as an atrium that ventilates the building as a whole. These aspects are discussed further in the technical report.

The wall for the private part of the building is curved allowing it to be a soft edge that borders the Day Care Centre and opens up on to the semi-private courtyard in the centre of the project.



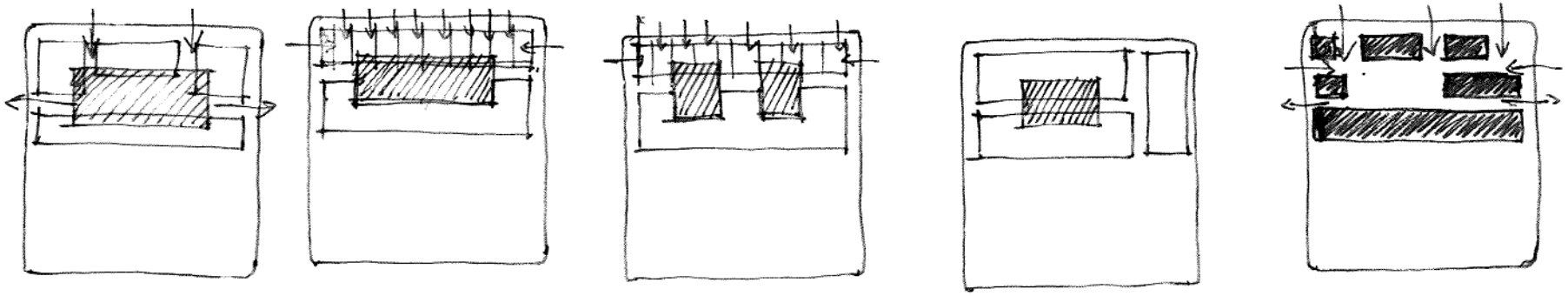
## PUBLIC ACCESS AND JOURNEY

This model encourages thouroufare through the site. In the first instance the thouroufare occurs at the more quite end of the site being the alley. with the shelter acting more as a stop before continuing further. The other variations of this model include internal streets through the building .

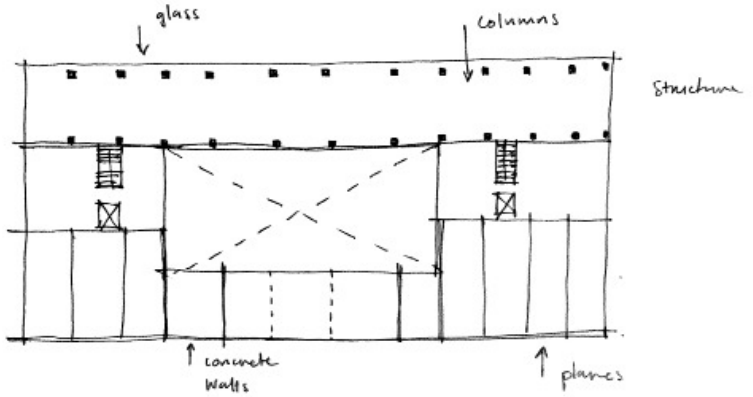


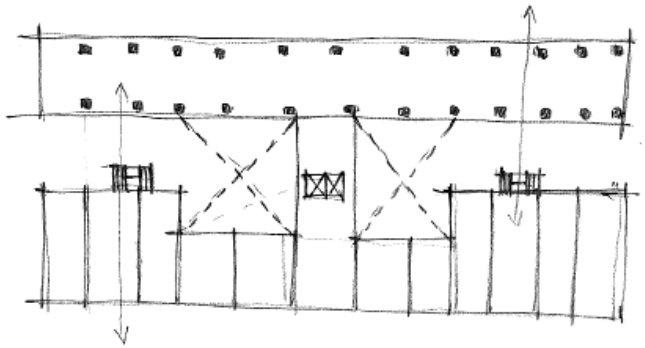
## PUBLIC ACCESS AND OPEN SPACE
## THE IN BETWEEN

In this model the building is the desitination. An internal public space becomes the meeting place at the end of a journey. This place also begins to link other aspects of the building to each other..



**Structure**



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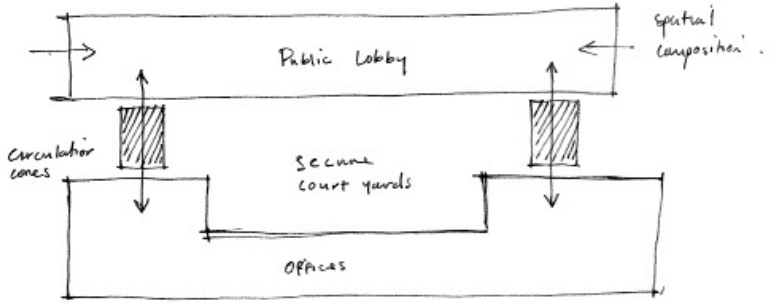
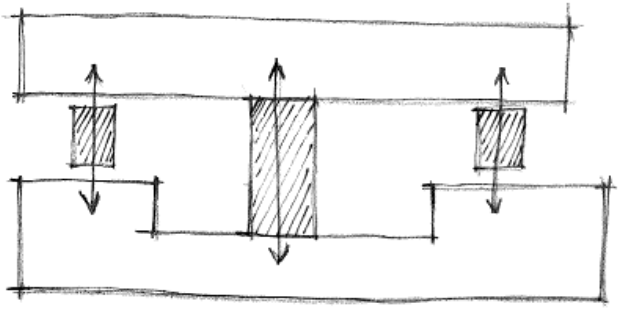
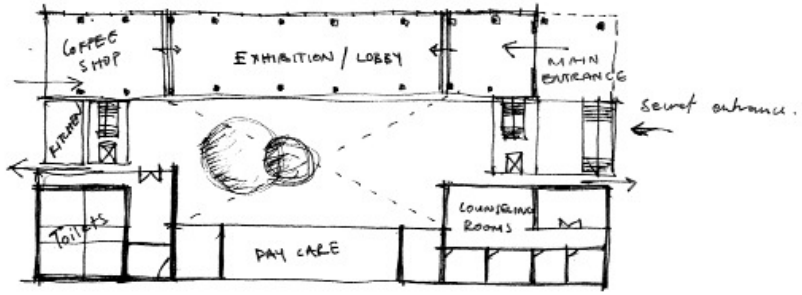
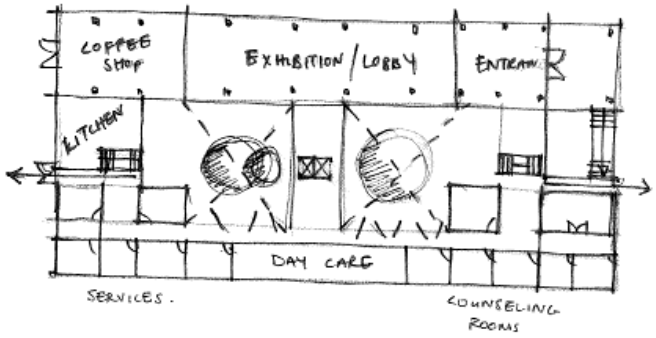


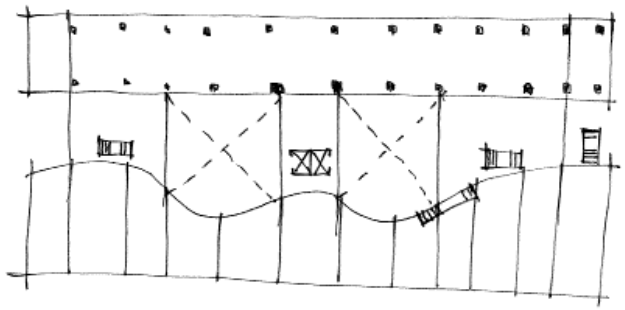



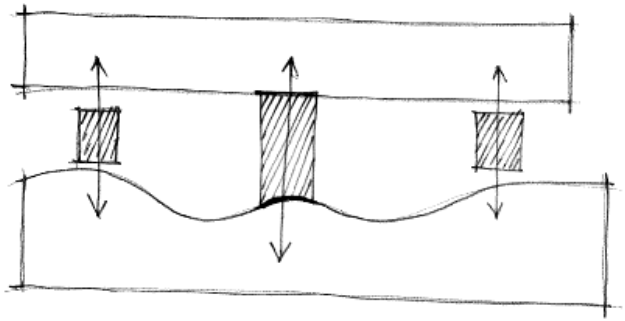
**Programme**

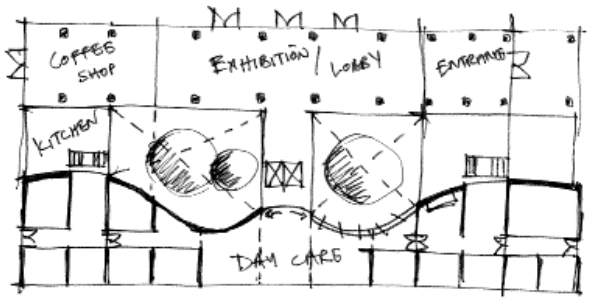


# CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT







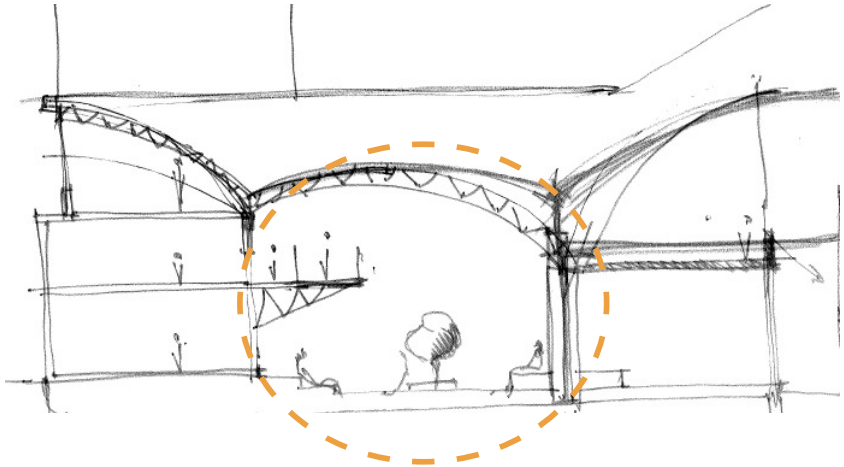


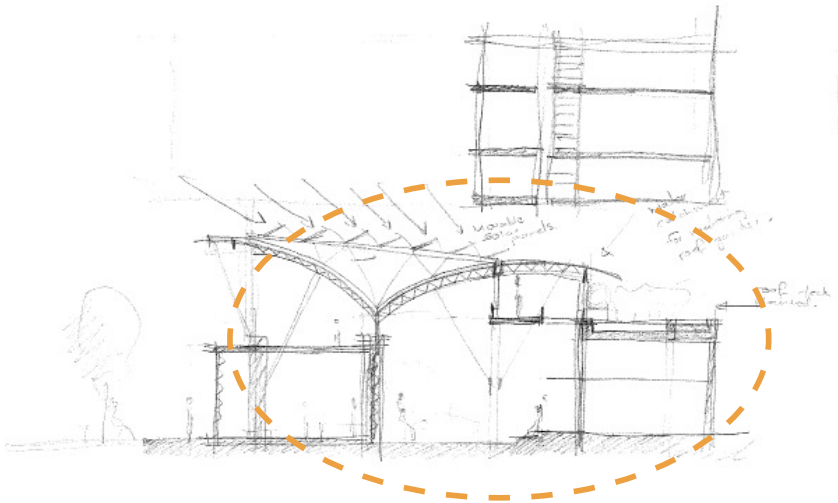


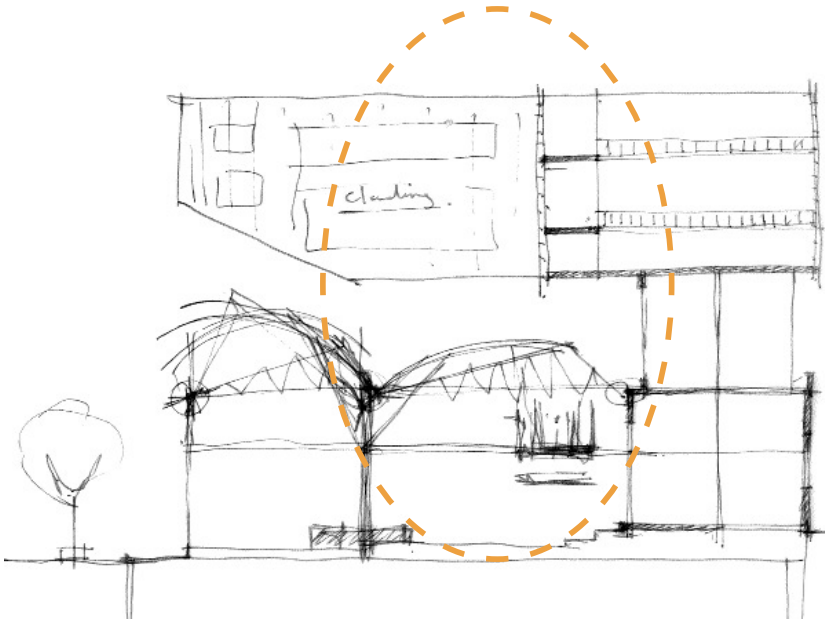
The design consists of three main parts the public lobby and exhibition spaces adjacent to Van Der Merwe street , the circulation and semi public courtyard in the centre and the private consulation rooms and Day Care Centre at the back of the building which is the more quiet end of the building.

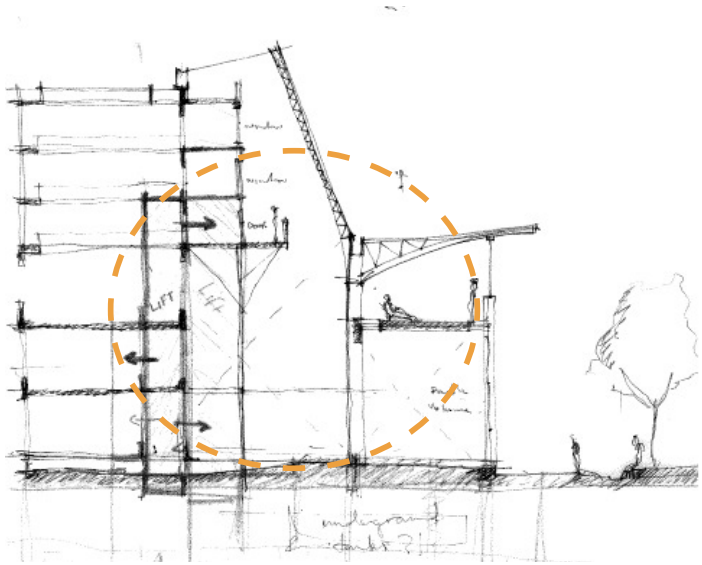
the lobby area is open plan making it very accesable and light. The portion in the middle creates an indoor outdoor courtyard space that also acts as an atrium that ventilates the builing as a whole. These aspects are discussed further in the technical report.

The wall for the private part of the building is curved allowing it to be a soft edge that borders the Day Care Centre and opens up on to the semi private courtyard in the centre of the project.






cladding

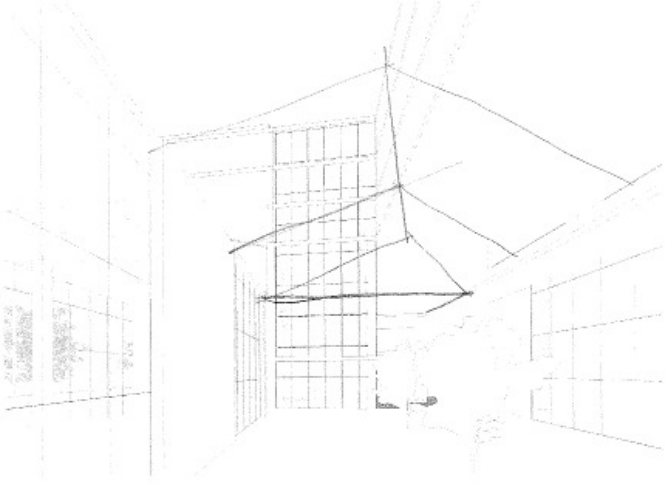

LIFT

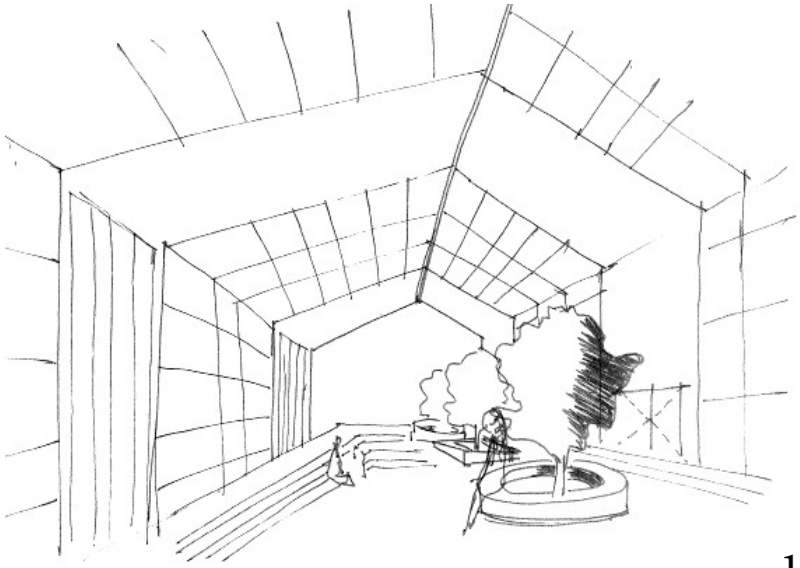
## The Atrium

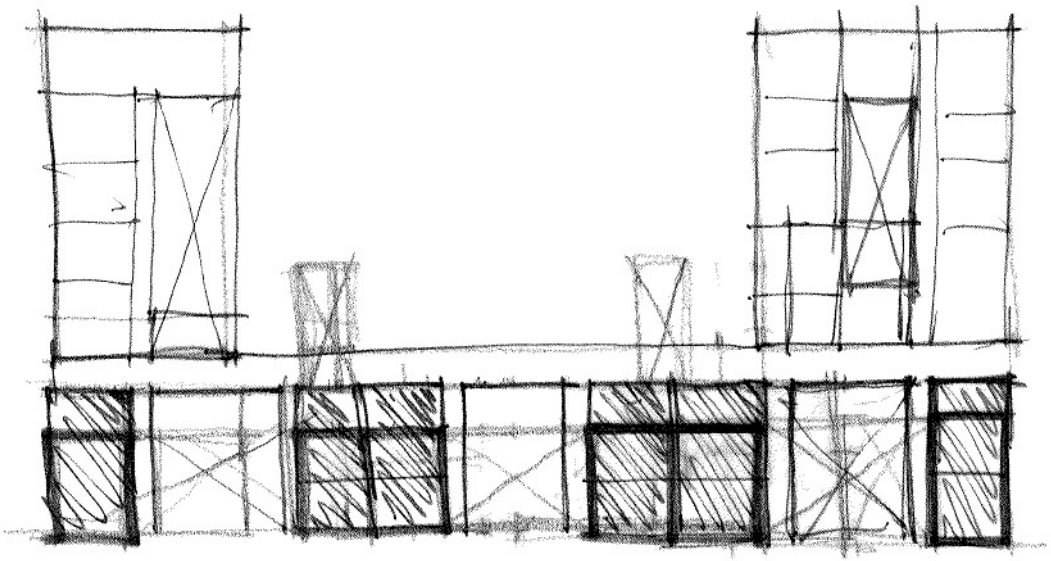
The court yard space is more than just an internal opening space on the public groun level. It becomes a feature in the desing that connects the entire building and embodies the concept of shelter.

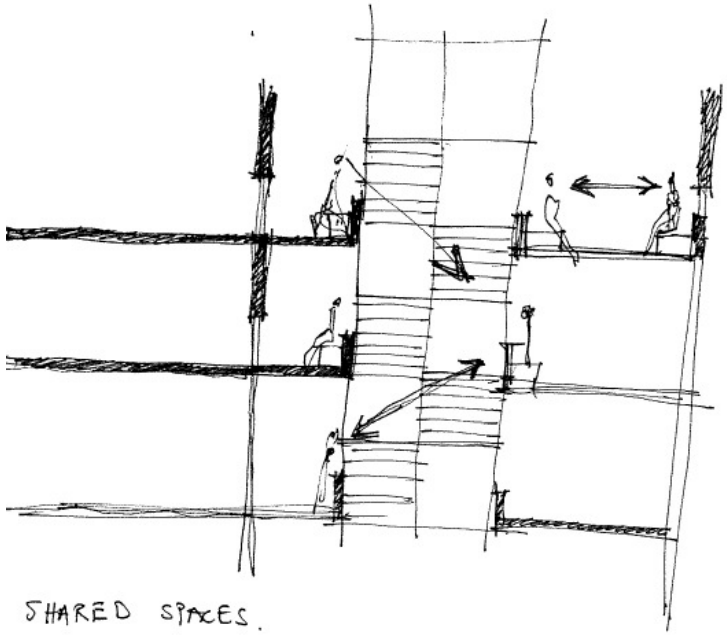
It is an atrium like space that is enclosed. The idea is that in summer a breathing facade will allow air to move raoidly in out of the building throughthis Atrium.

This place is the heart of the building the main activity that happens ajacent to this internal open space is the play area for kids.



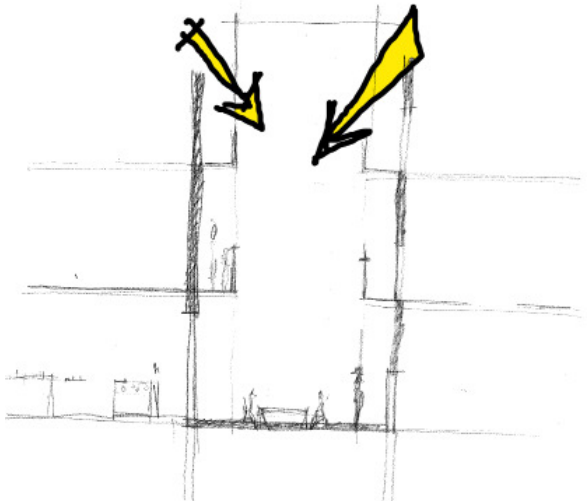


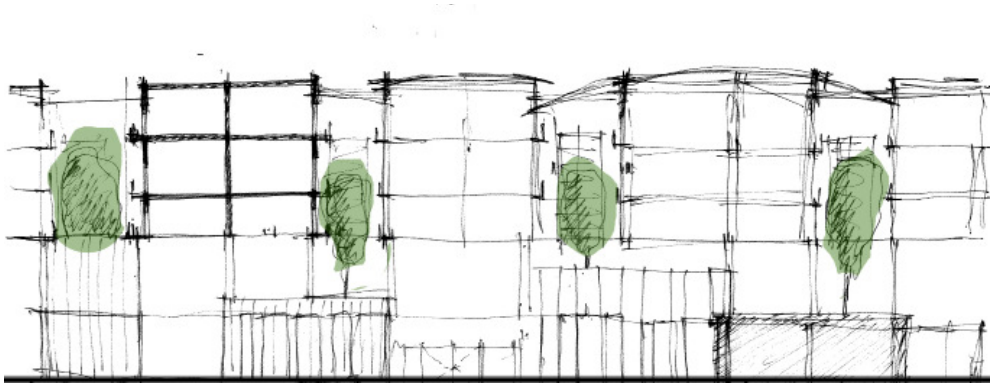


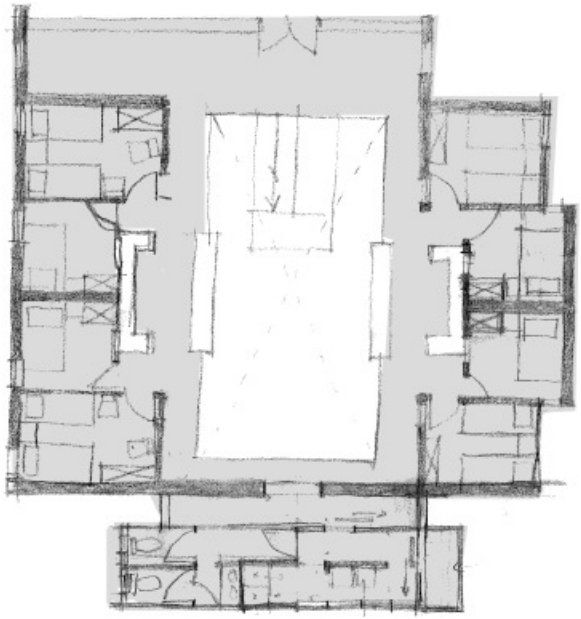



## Shared Space

The residential level offers shared spaces to the young women seeking refuge. The arrangement allows for the rooms to face one another creating a living space between the rooms. Here there is seating and enough space to sit comfortably and share. This space also alows for surveilance across the levels

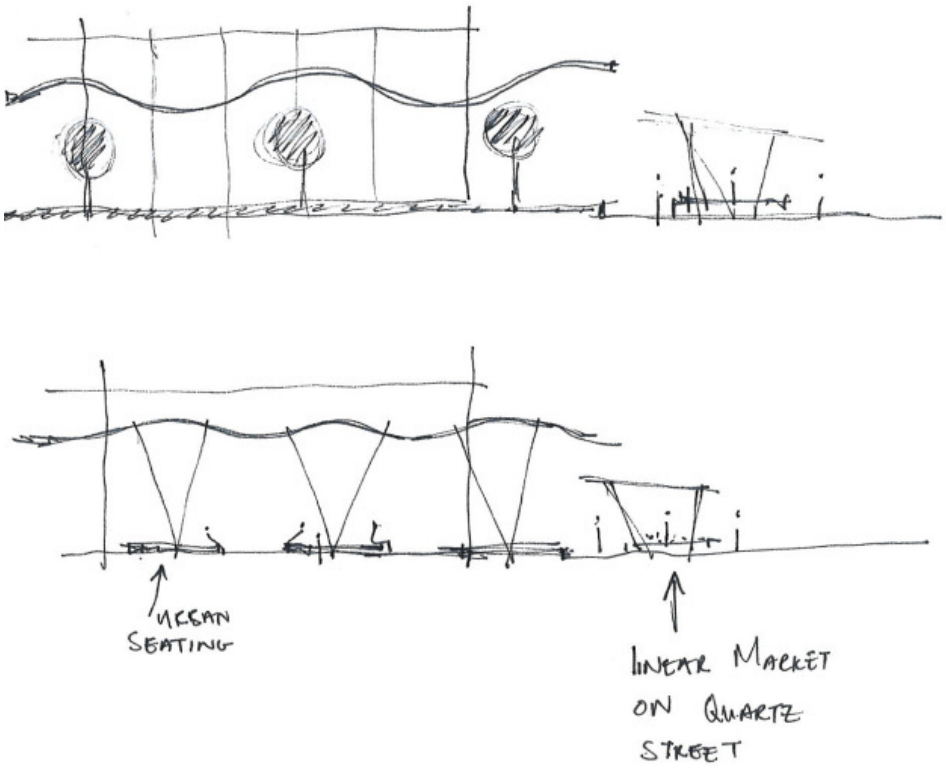


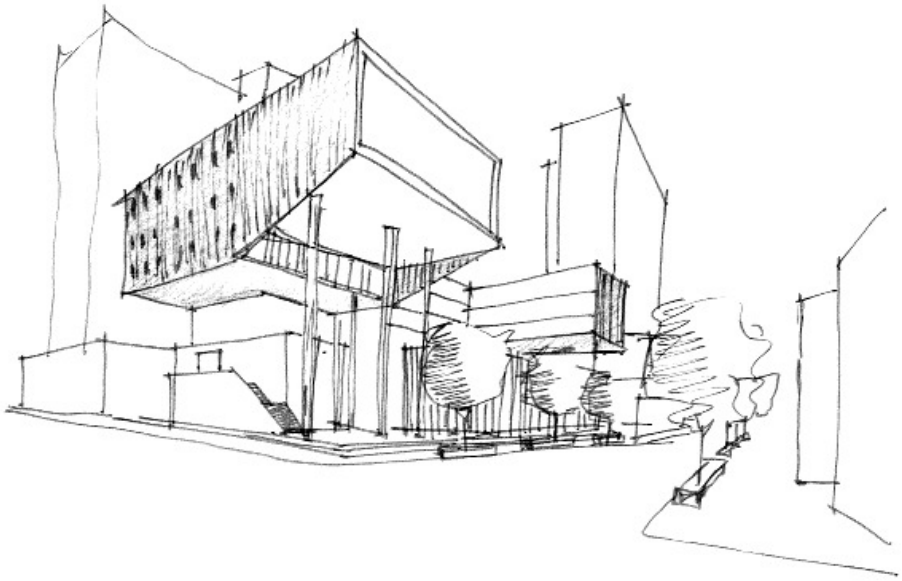


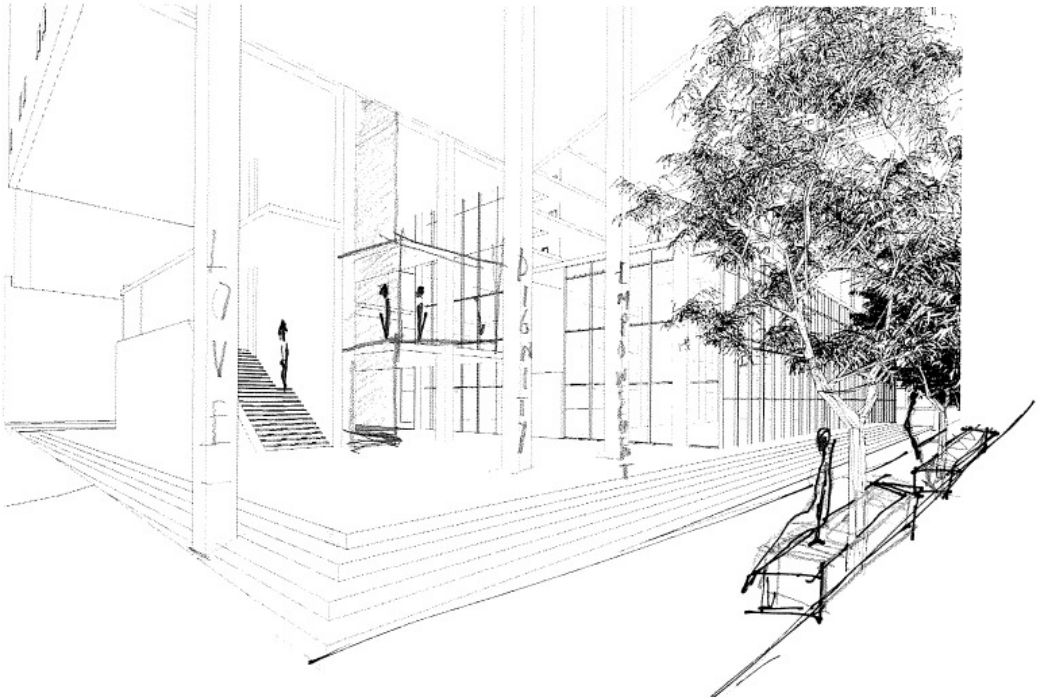


## Shared Space

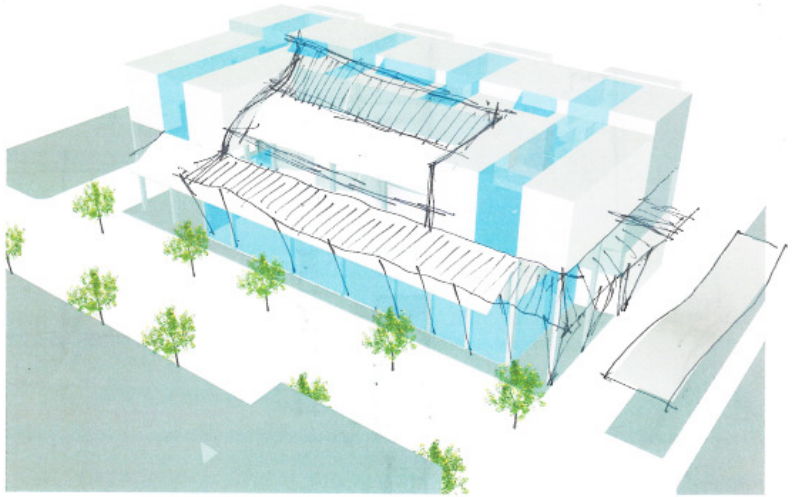
This place is created by allowing lightwells to penetrate the residential block. These wells also allow for cross ventilation. The spaces at the bottom of the wells become internal court yards. On this level there are recreation rooms adjacent to the court yards.


OCEAN
SEATING
LINEAR MARKET
ON QUARTZ
STREET





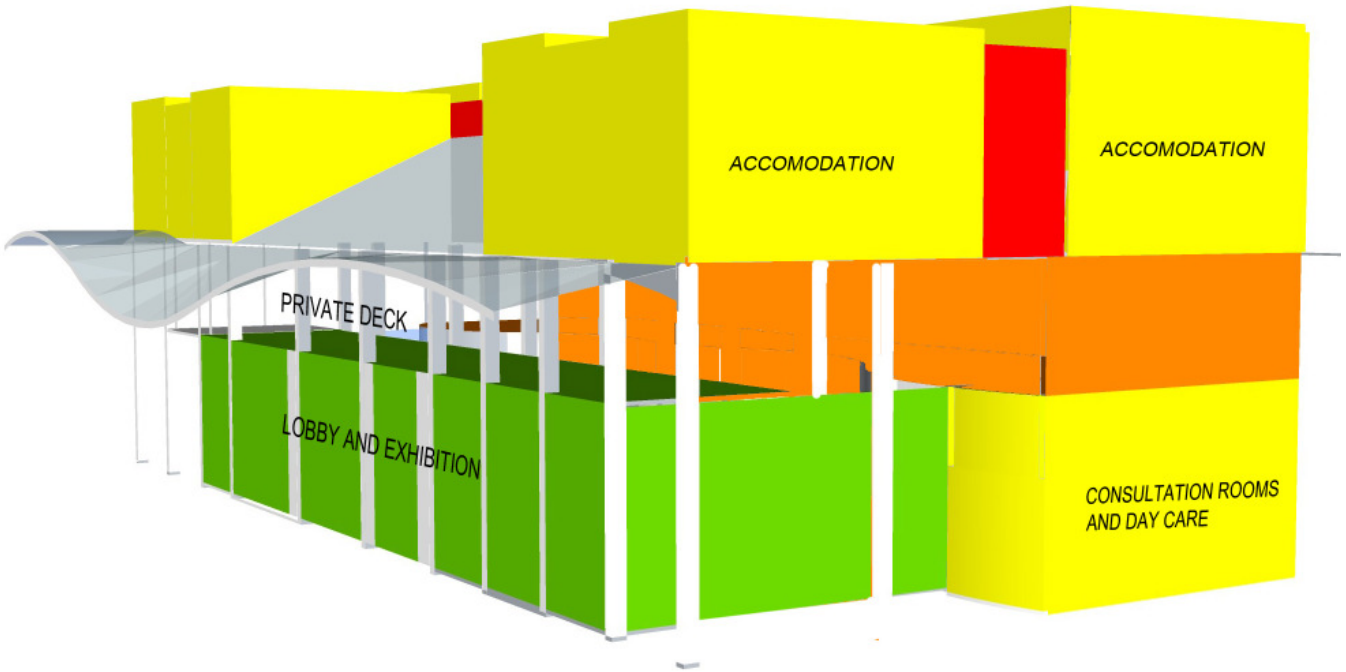




## Street Umbrella

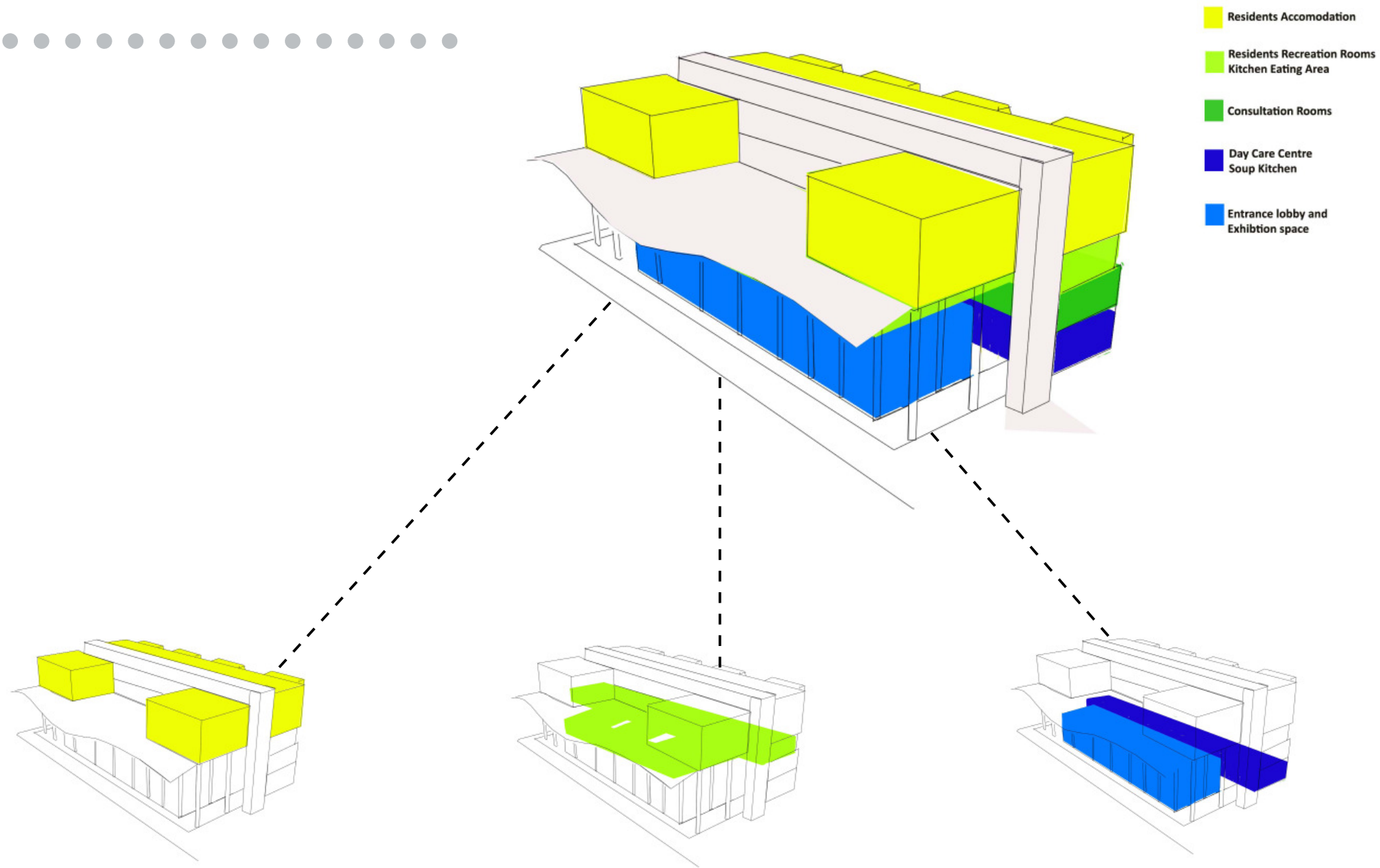
The street umbrella looks at urban principles of shelter. A city building does not only shelter those inside the building but also the pedestrian experiencing the edge of the building. There are many examples of light steel structures in the area such as the linear market adjacent to the building and the taxi rank within the study area that also respond to this urban fabric by creating shlter for the pedestrian. This building technology lends itself to the idea of an umbrella for the pedestrian.

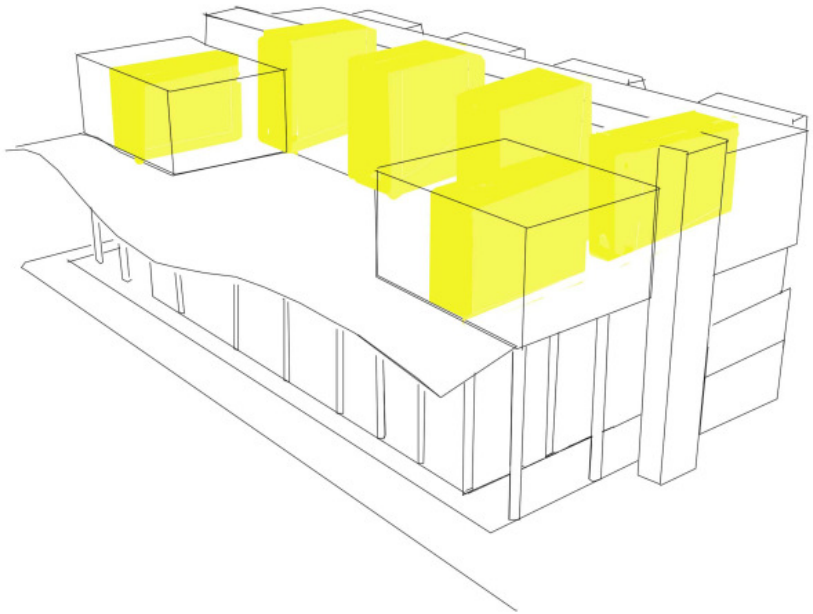
# 03. PROGRAMME



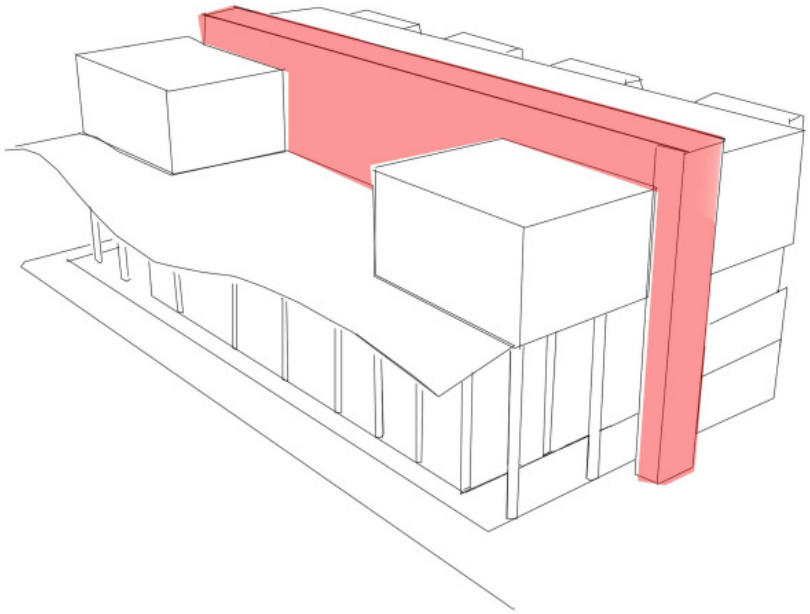

| | Brief |
|---|---|
| | 1. Accommodation |
| | 2. Roof gardens |
| | 3.Laundry rooms |
| | 4. Deck |
| | 5. Recreation rooms |
| | 6. Courtyards |
| | 7. Group therapy rooms |
| | 8. Day care centre |
| | 9. Consultation rooms |
| | 10. Social workers offices |
| | 11. Exhibition spaces |
| | 12. Cafe |
| | 13. Base parking |
| | |

The main attributes of this project include the relationships between Recreation, Shelter and Awareness. Through the placing of the residential/ accomodation blocks shared spaces are created.


Residents Accomodation
Residents Recreation Rooms
Kitchen Eating Area
Consultation Rooms
Day Care Centre
Soup Kitchen
Entrance lobby and
Exhibtion space

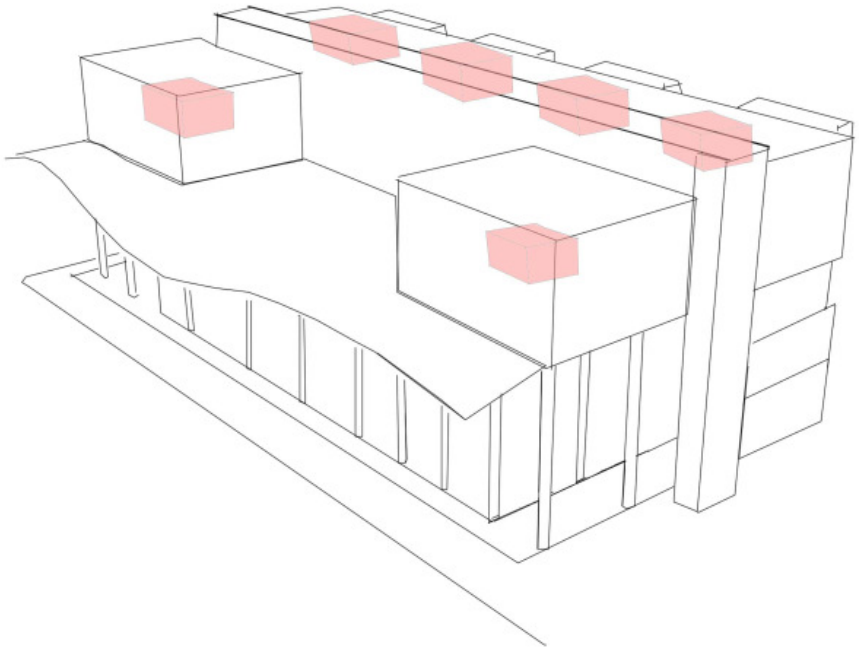


light wells



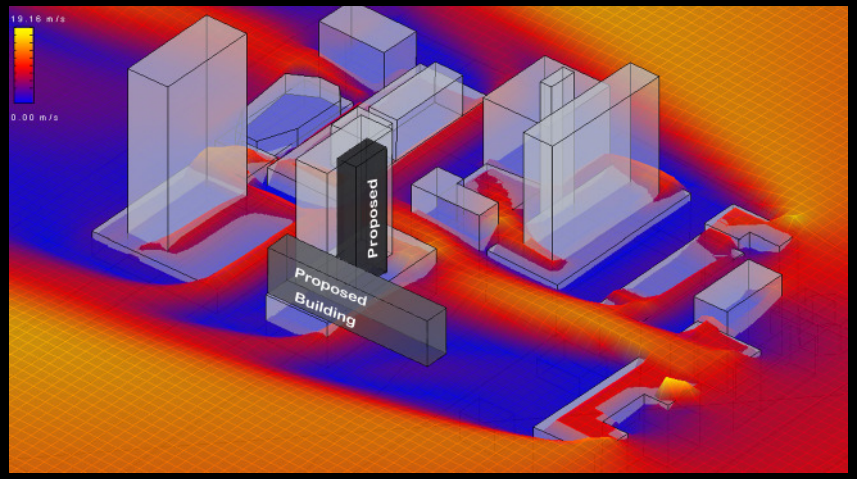
Main Circulation

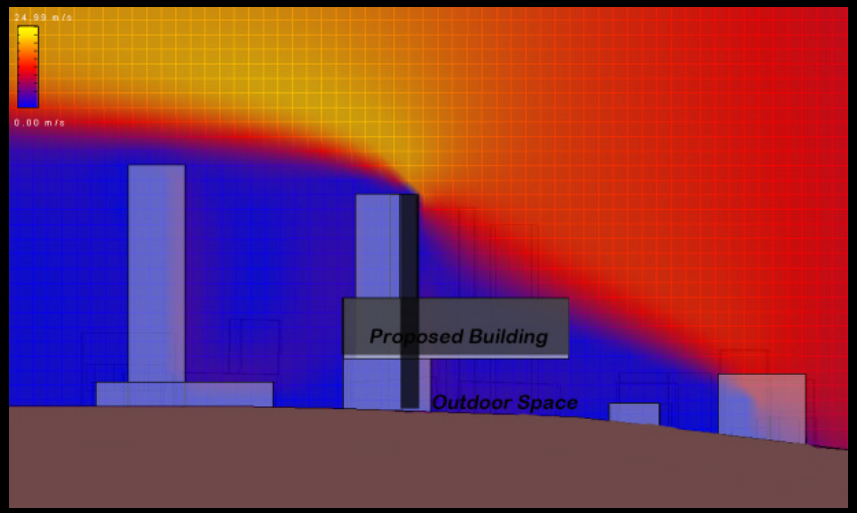
Private stairwell



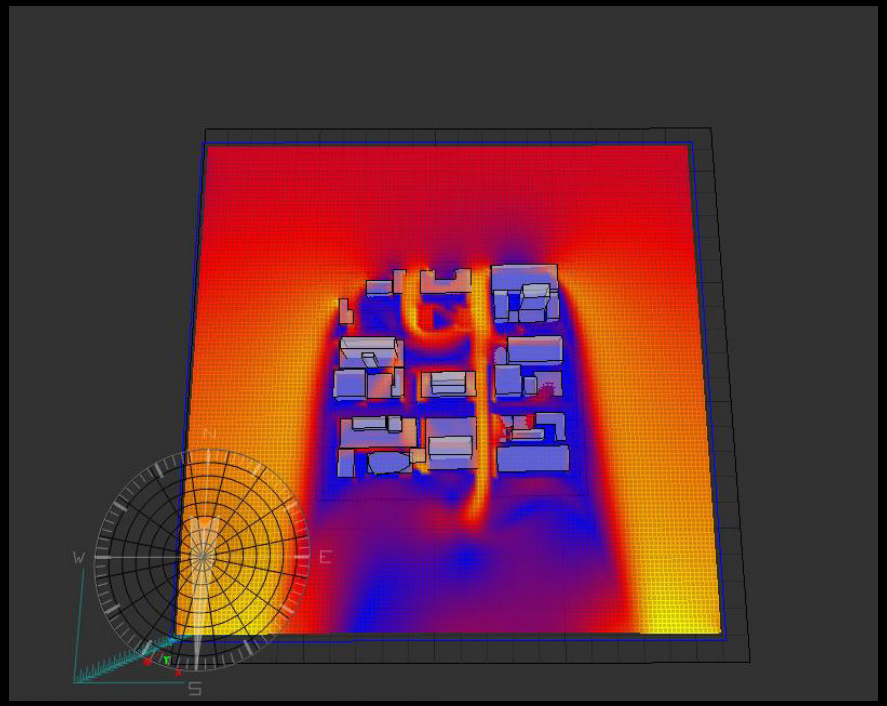
The main circulation is a long spine spanning across the building. This spine connects the residential/ accomodation blocks. Within each accomodation block there is a private stairwell. The private stairell, lightwells and rooms create a pod like structure in which the user has more control of their own space but still shares some facilities with their neighbour.

# TECHNICAL REPORT

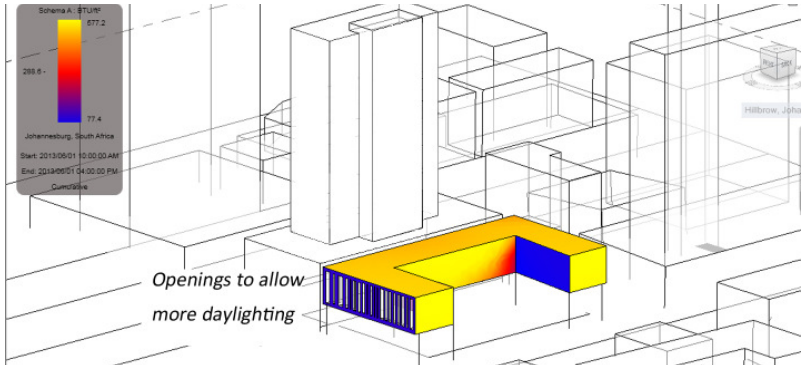



*The outdoor space beneath the building mass experiences low wind velocities. This is because of its positioning between all the built forms. A design of a roof outdoor space on the proposed building will prove to be tricky as the velocities pick up as you go higher. (see images above)*



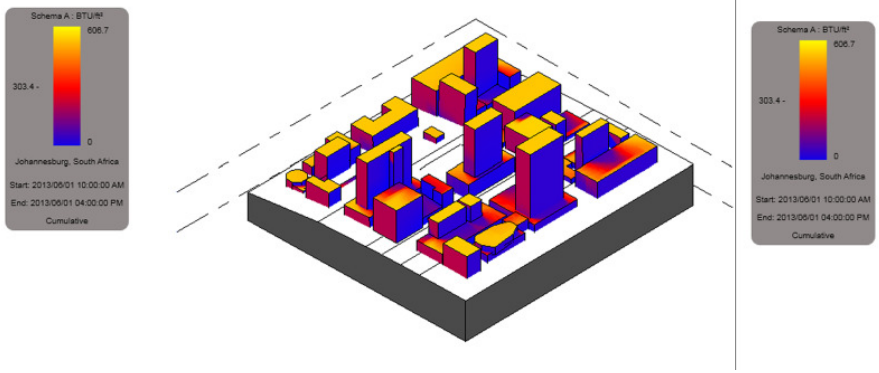
# ANALYSIS

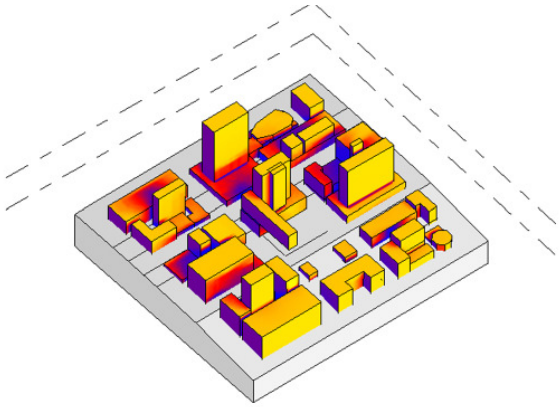


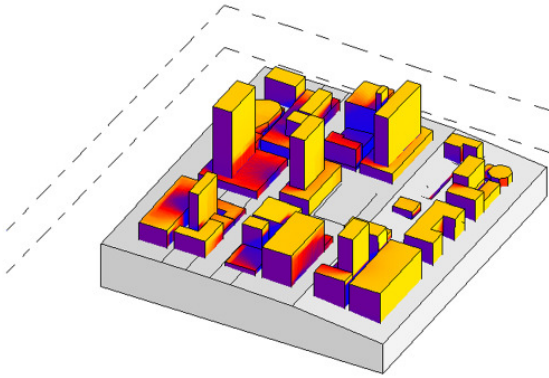

*The model on the left looks at which surfaces will need more treatment than the others. It's clear that the East facing façade will require treatment. I have suggested creating more openings on these facades to allow for more natural light.*

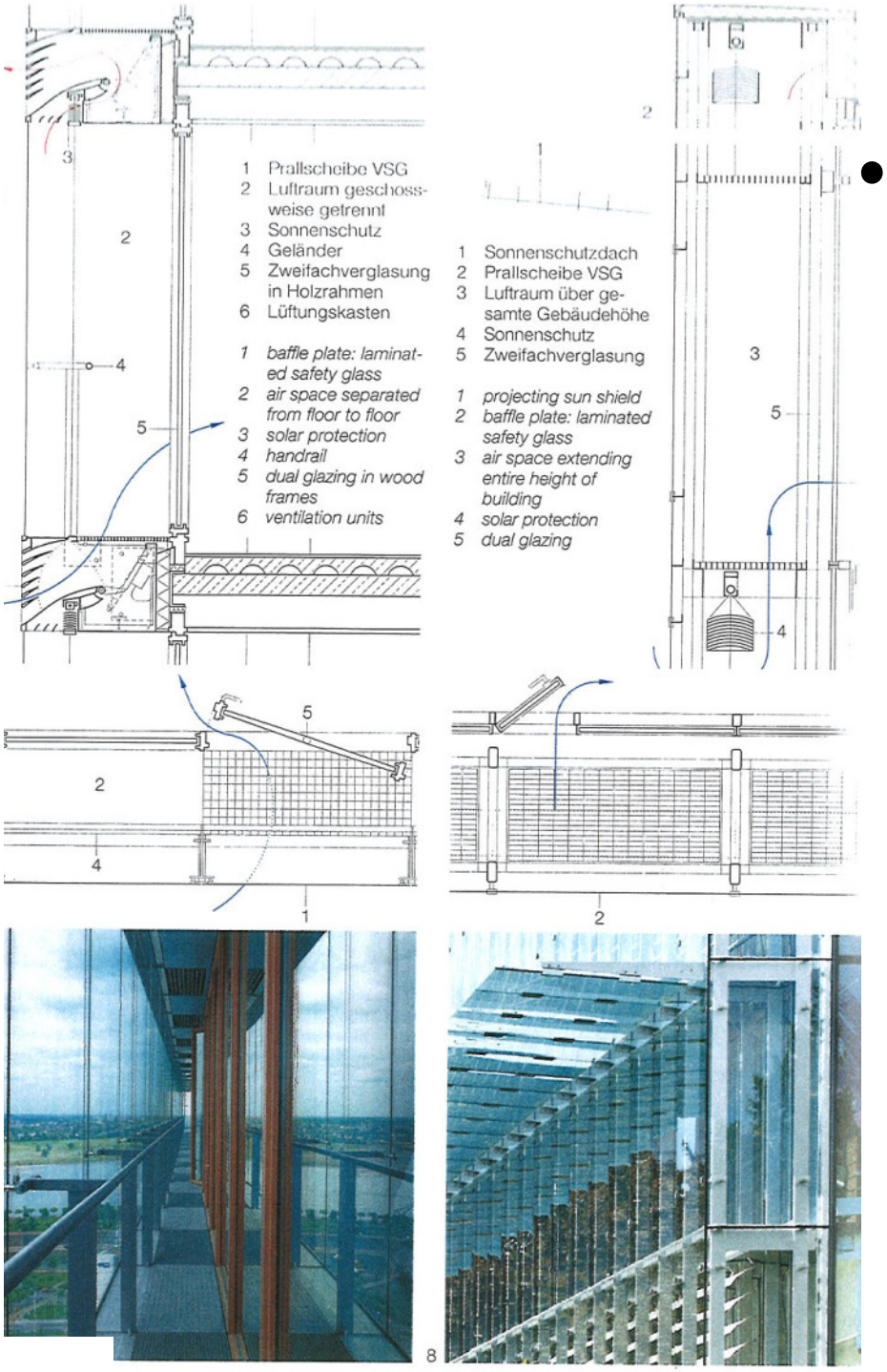
*The site is a North facing site with maximum day light on the North while the South is in the shade as seen in the analysis images .*

*The highest floors receive the most solar heat reaching levels of up to 606 BTU/FT2, at the level that the project sits; the levels are at 303 BTU/FT2. This analysis reveals that at the 1st floor and 2nd floor material that is high on heat transfer should be used.*



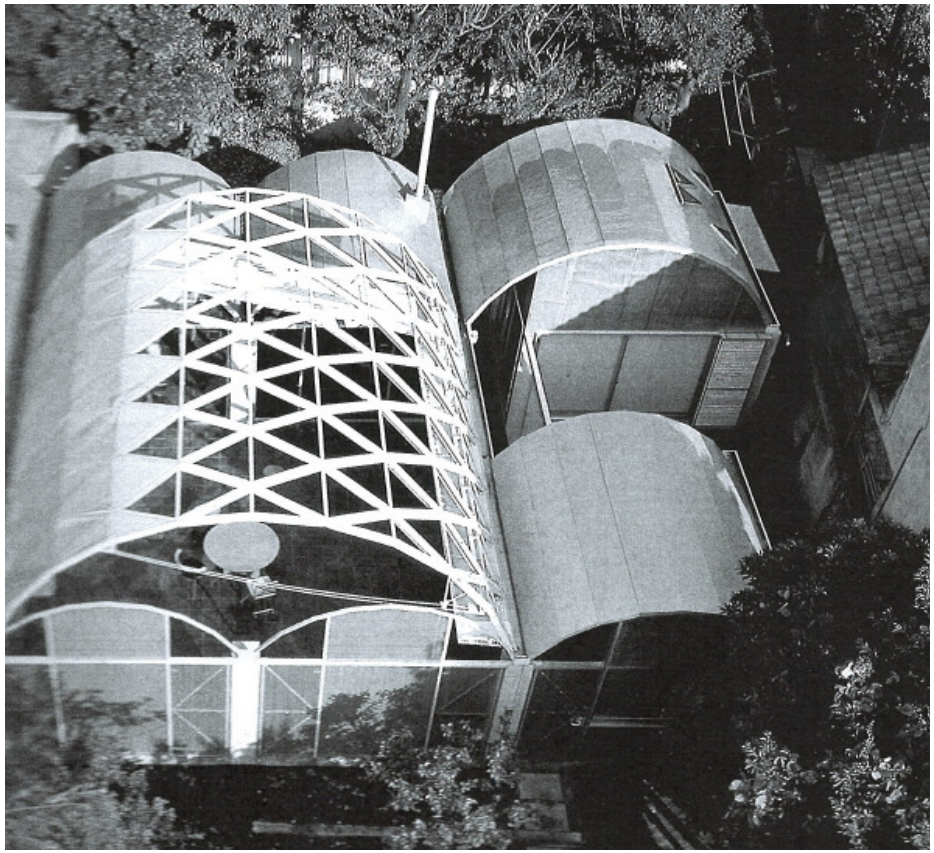







*On the left are examples of breathing facades from Facade Technology Toward Decentralized Natural Ventilation. - Detail magazine 2012 7/8 page 806*

# PRECEDENT STUDY

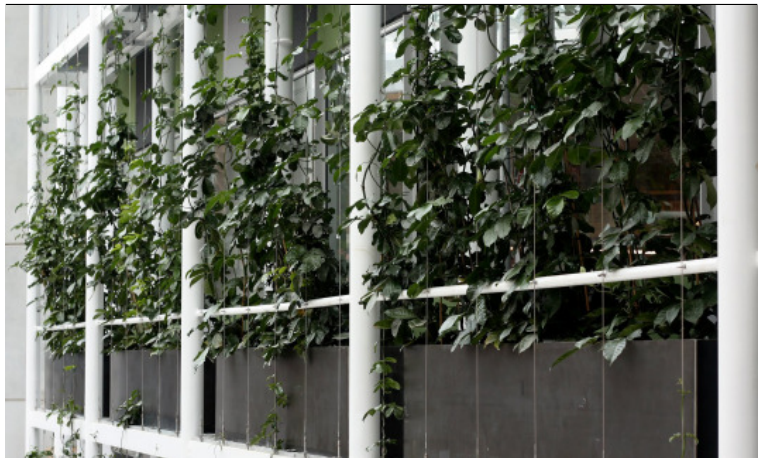




*In this second model we look at which surfaces will need more treatment than the others. It's clear that the East facing façade will require treatment. I have suggested creating more openings on these facades to allow for more natural light.*

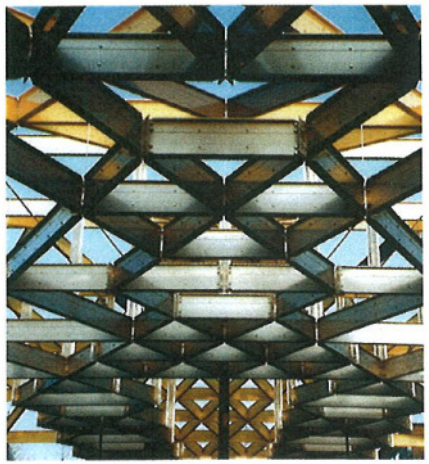


*These are vertical solar panels fitted onto a wall by cladding onto the facade.*



*Planters for a green wall*



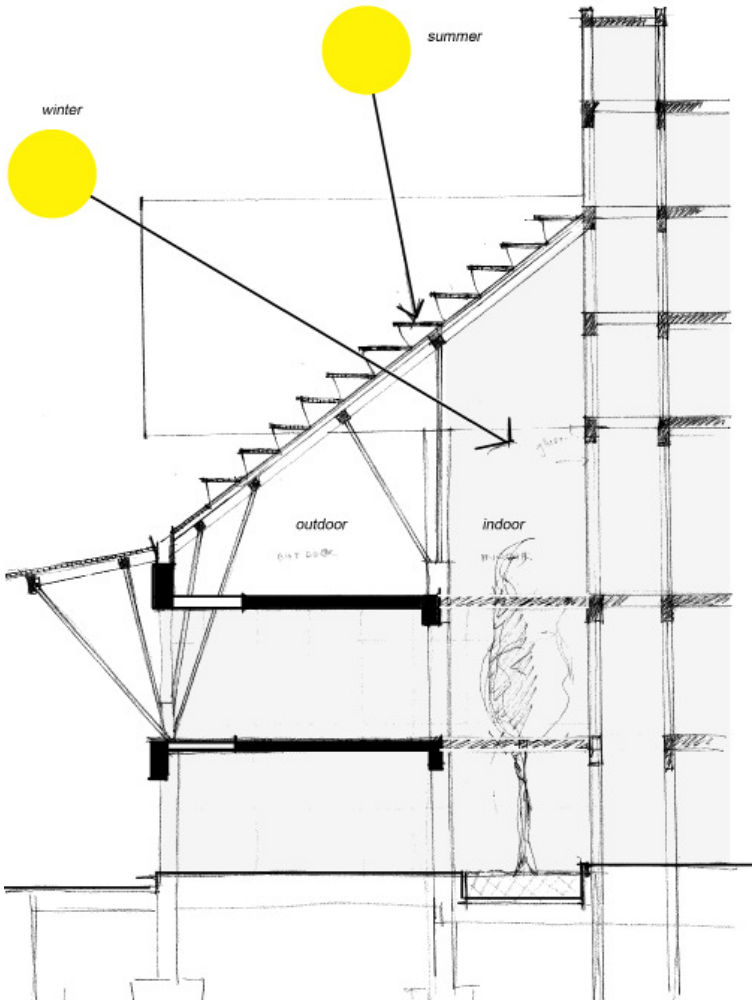


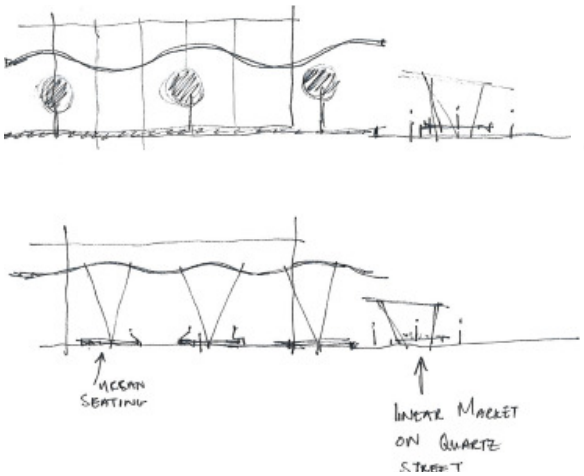
*This is a shell grid structure. the first case uses timber while the second uses steel.*

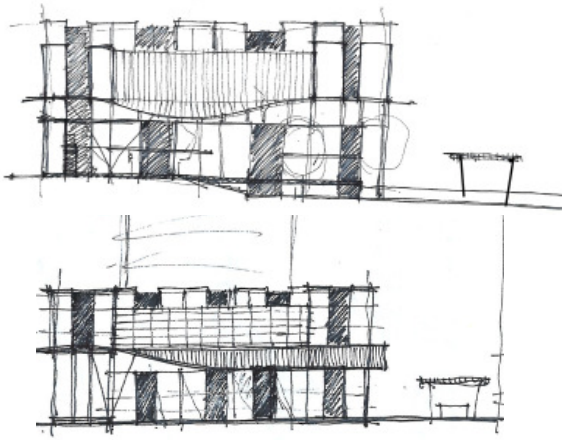
# CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT

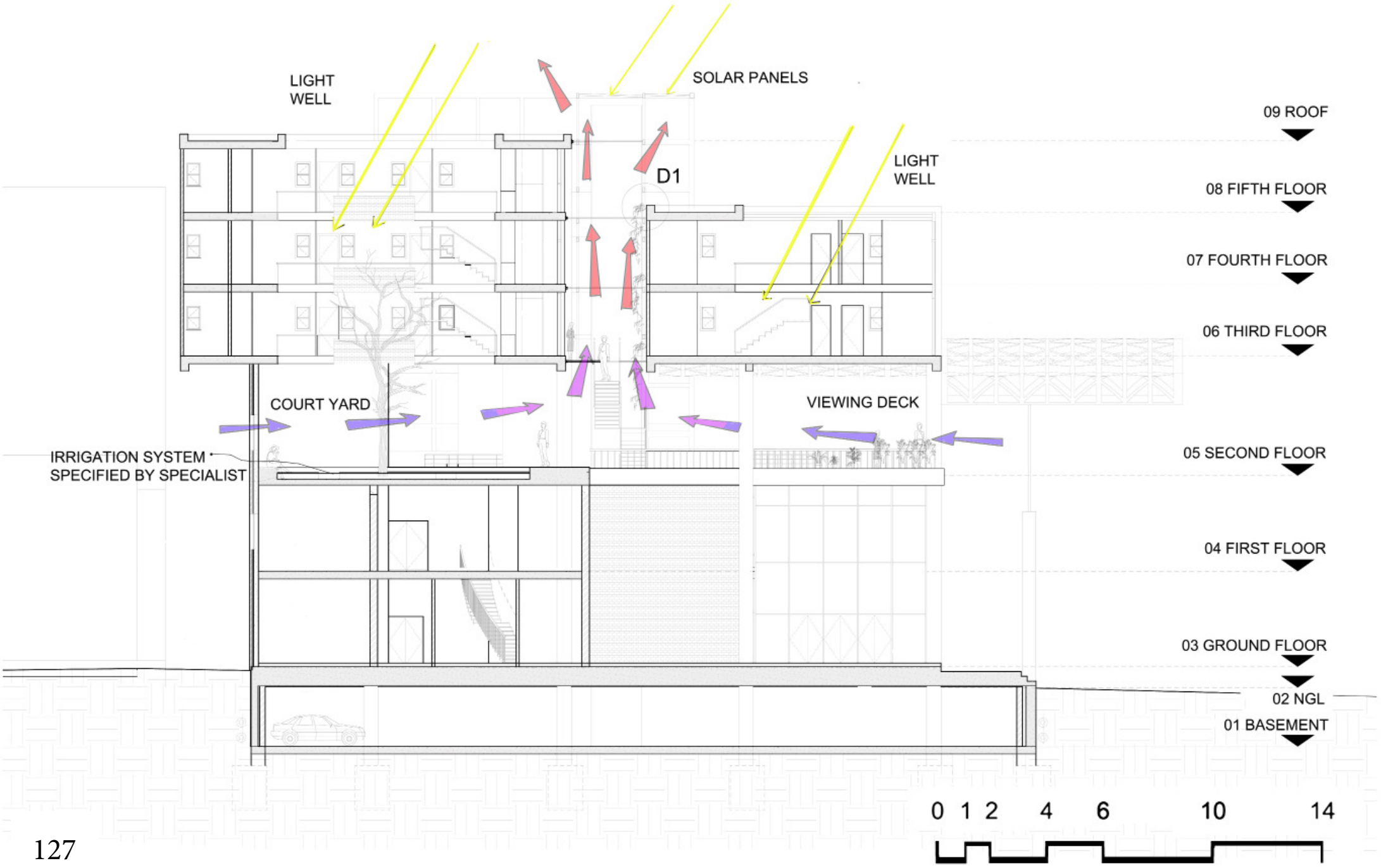
*Sustainable principles are incorporated for day lighting and ventilation. part of the North facade includes a breathing facade that allows for cross ventilation through the atrium. The facade also alows sunlight in during winter days and deflects the suns rays in summer.*

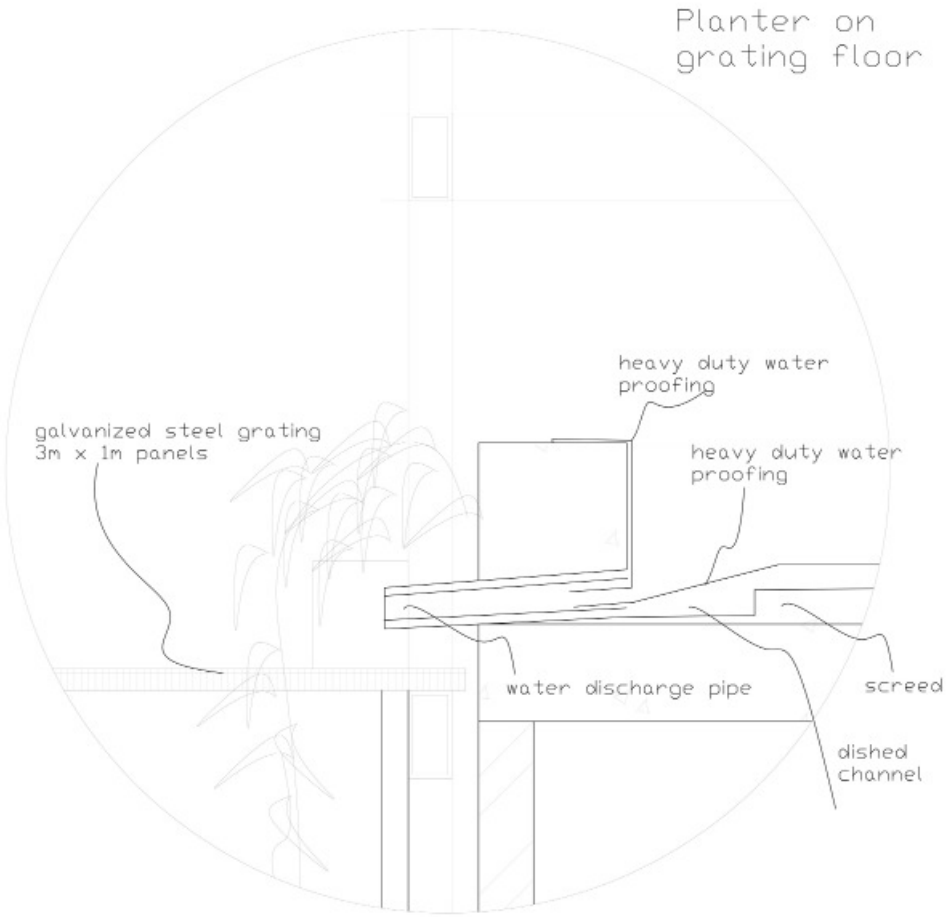
*Part of the North facade will include an Urban umbrella. This is a roof that offers covering for the padestrian. This undulating structure is made through the use of shell grid technology.*

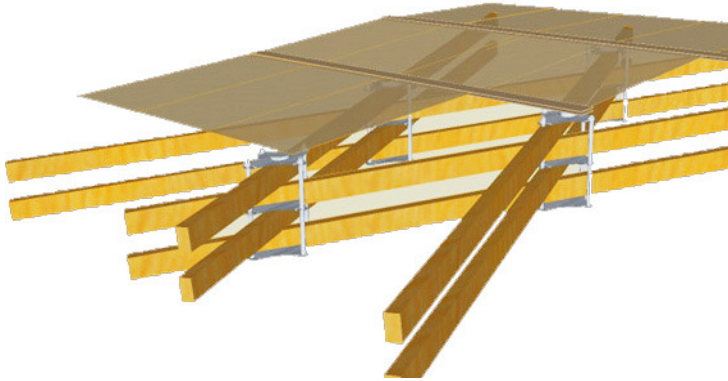


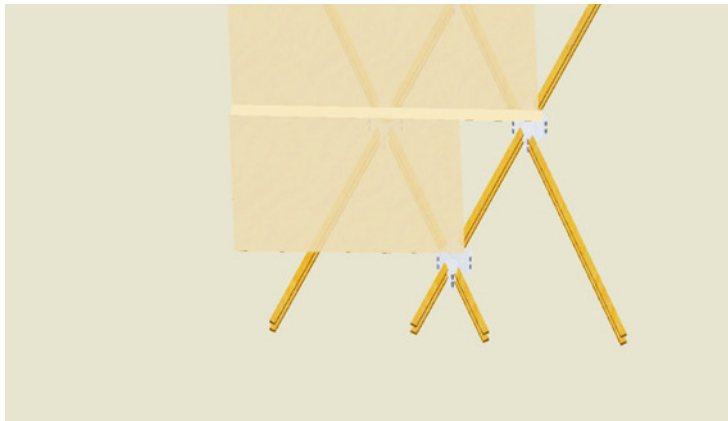

LIGHT
WELL
SOLAR PANELS
D1
LIGHT
WELL
09 ROOF
08 FIFTH FLOOR
07 FOURTH FLOOR
06 THIRD FLOOR
COURT YARD
VIEWING DECK
IRRIGATION SYSTEM
SPECIFIED BY SPECIALIST
05 SECOND FLOOR
04 FIRST FLOOR
03 GROUND FLOOR
02 NGL
01 BASEMENT
0 1 2 4 6 10 14



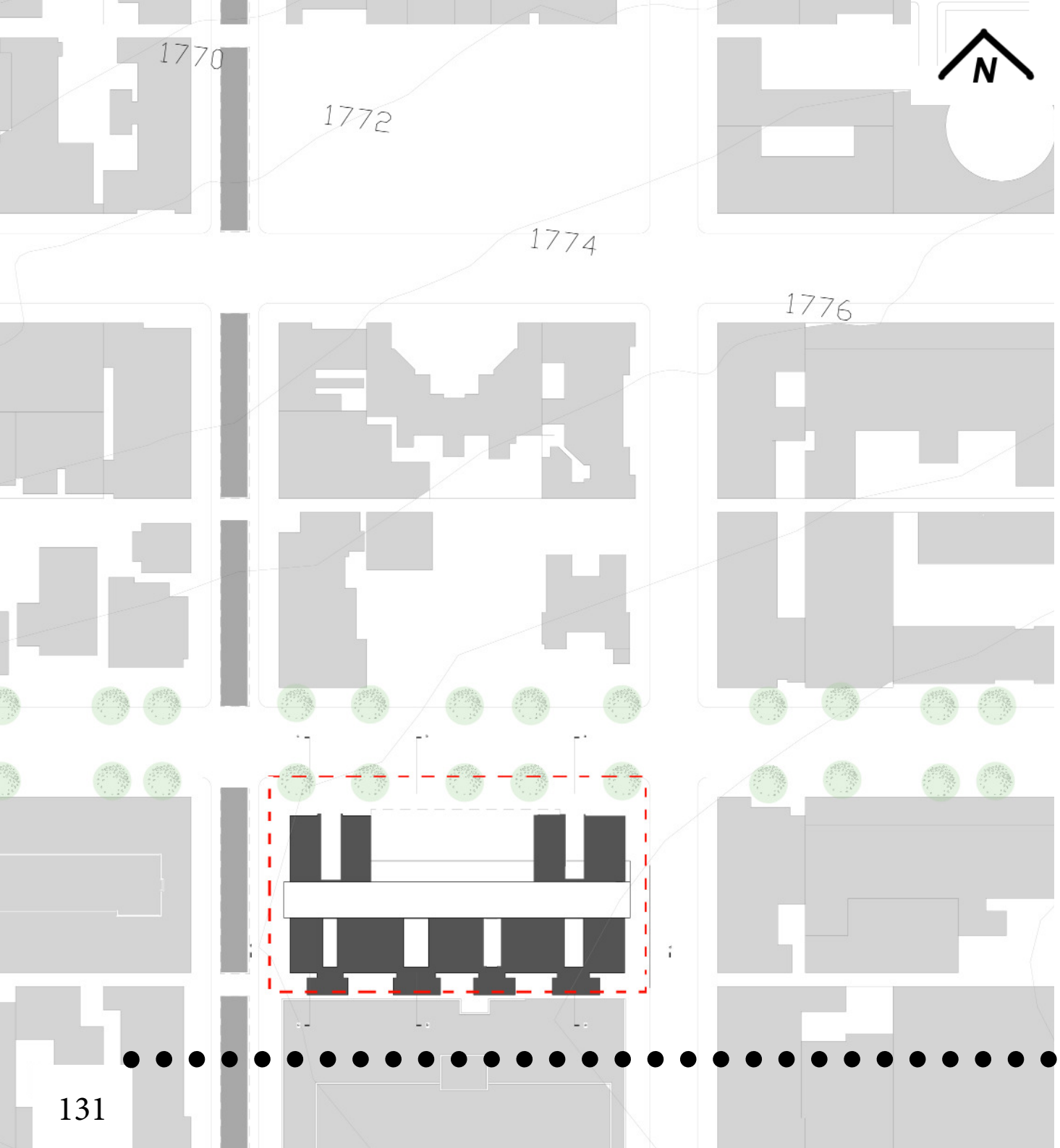





*Part of the North facade will include an Urban umbrella. This is a roof that offers covering for the padestrian. This undulating structure is made through the use of shell grid technology.*

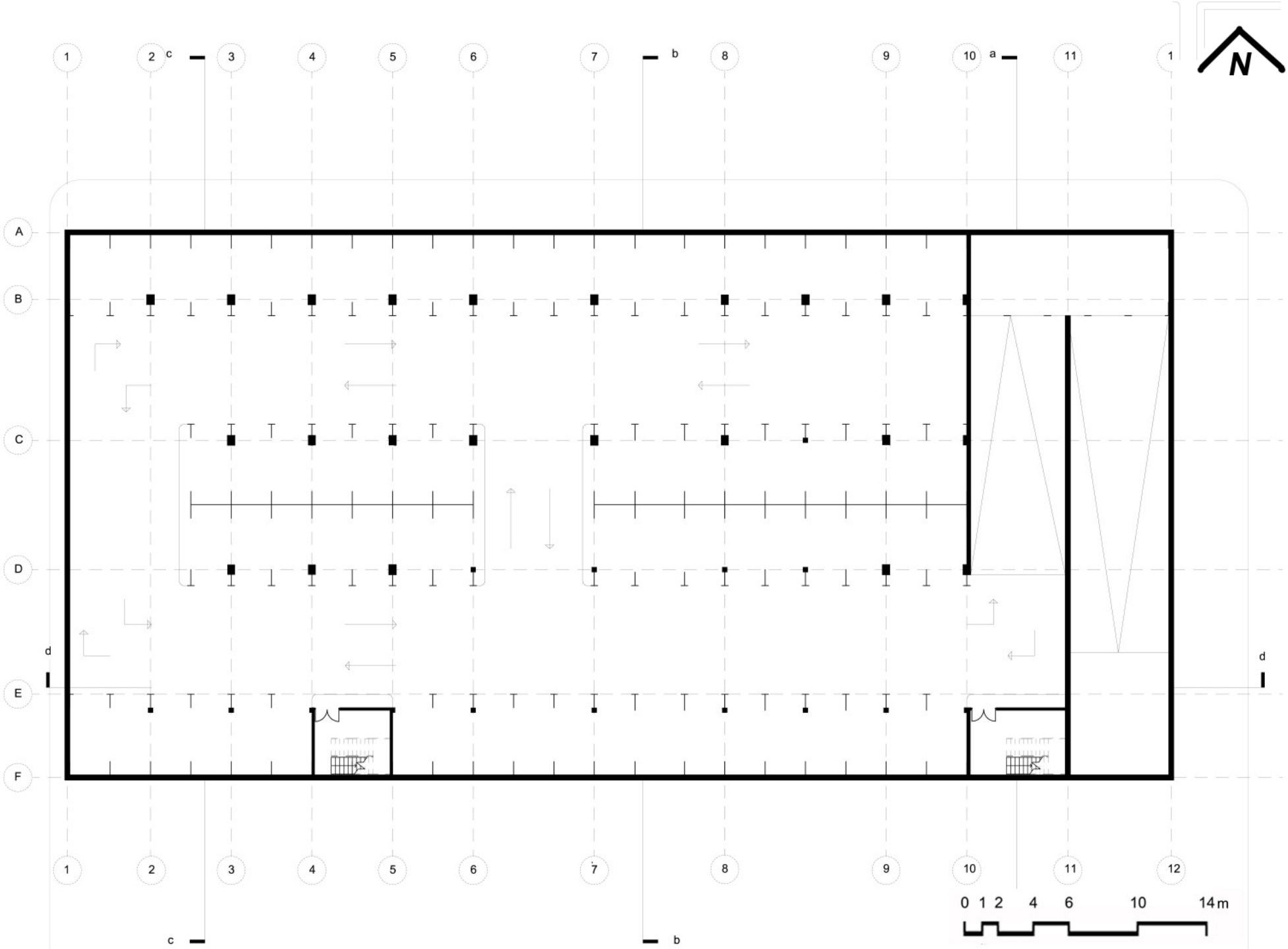


# 05. FINAL DRAWINGS

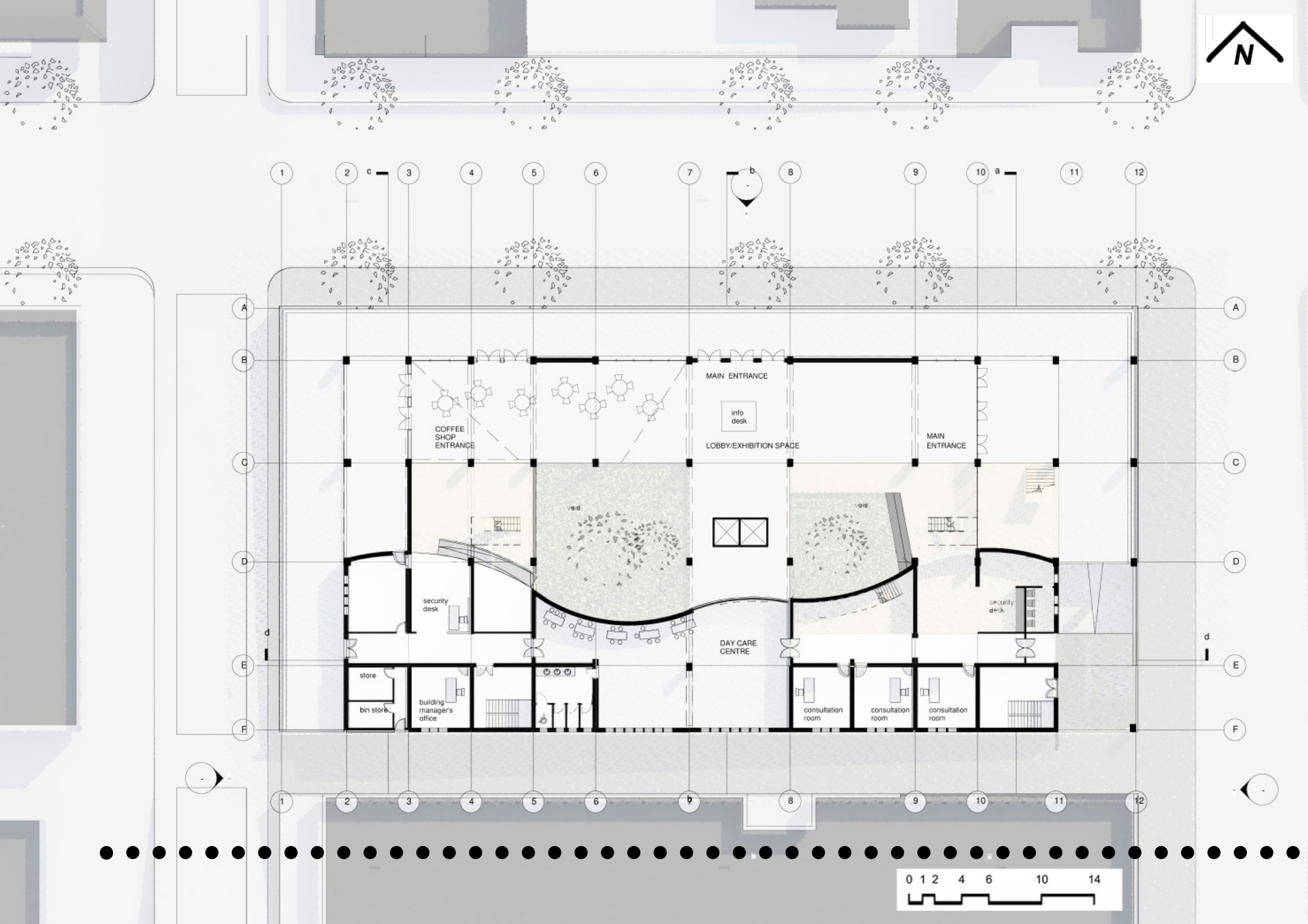


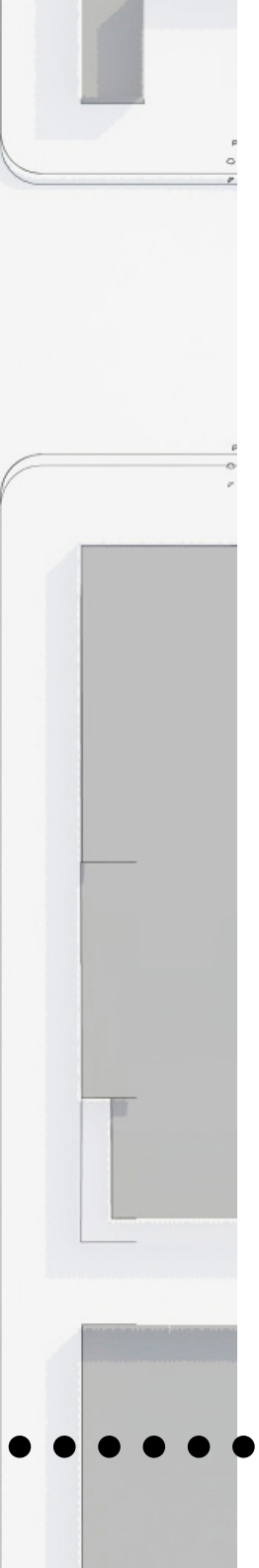



Site Plan

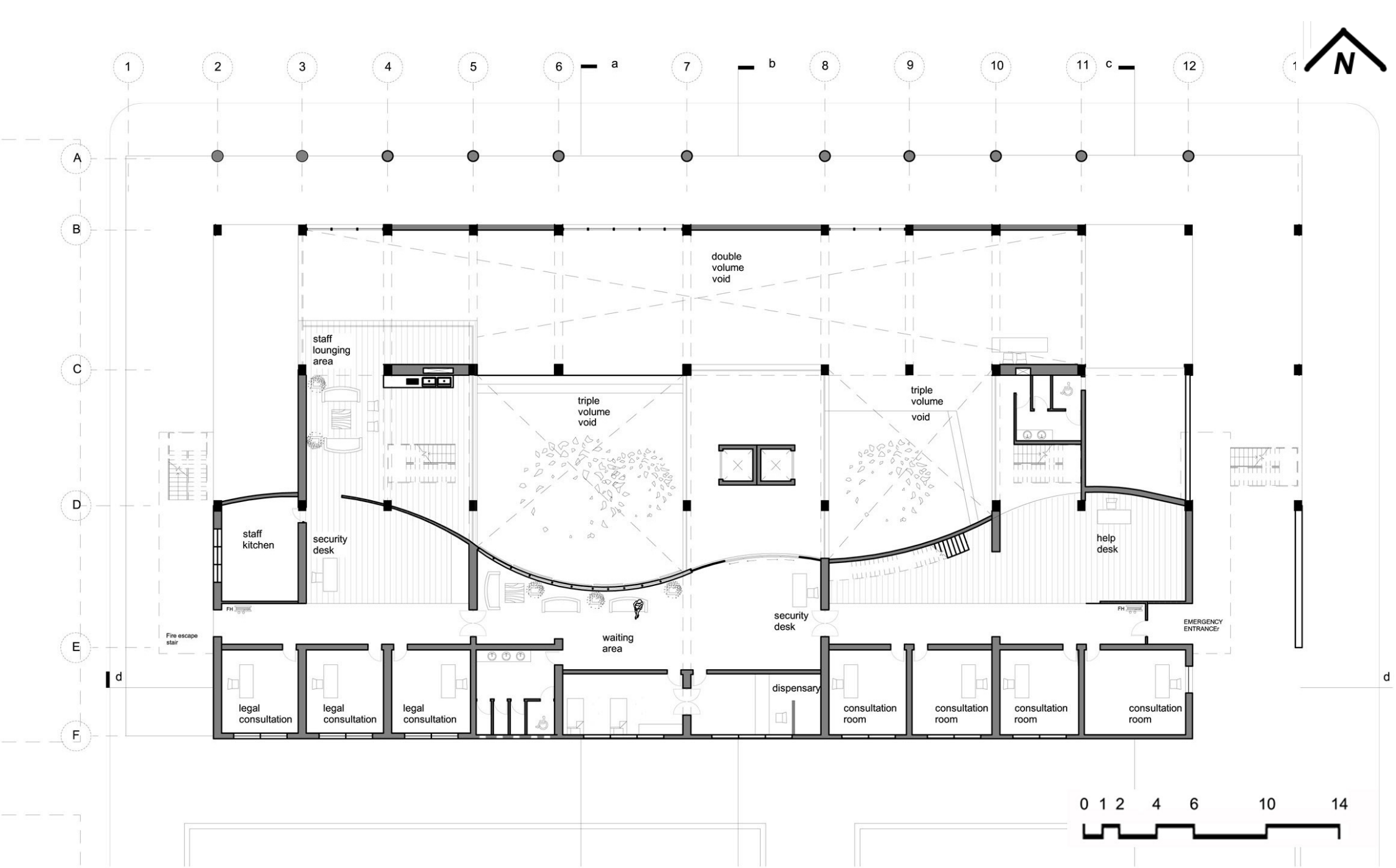



Basement Plan


N
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
A
B
C
D
E
F
a
b
c
d
MAIN ENTRANCE
info desk
COFFEE SHOP ENTRANCE
LOBBY/EXHIBITION SPACE
MAIN ENTRANCE
void
void
security desk
security desk
DAY CARE CENTRE
store
bin store
building manager's office
consultation room
consultation room
consultation room
0 1 2 4 6 10 14

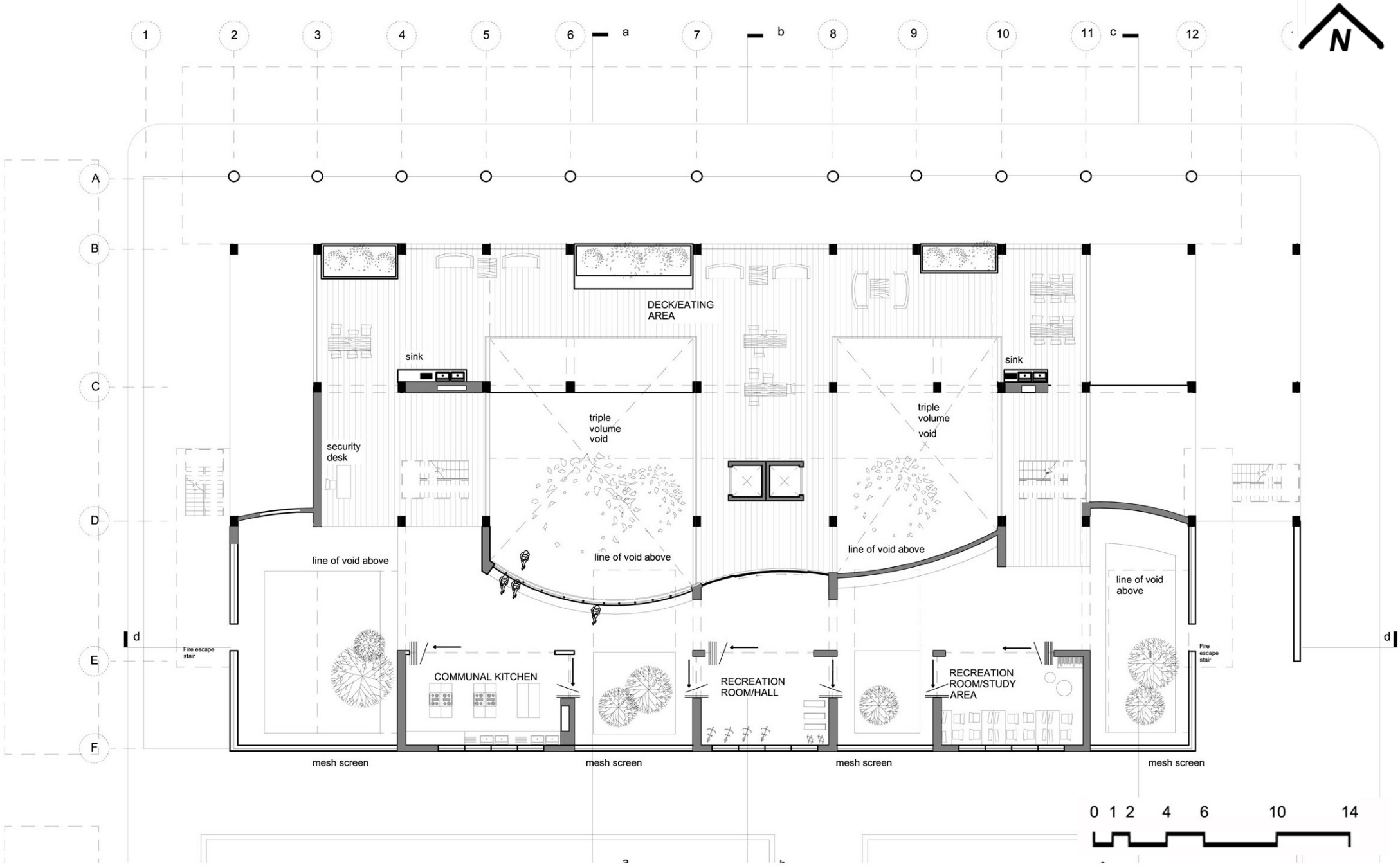


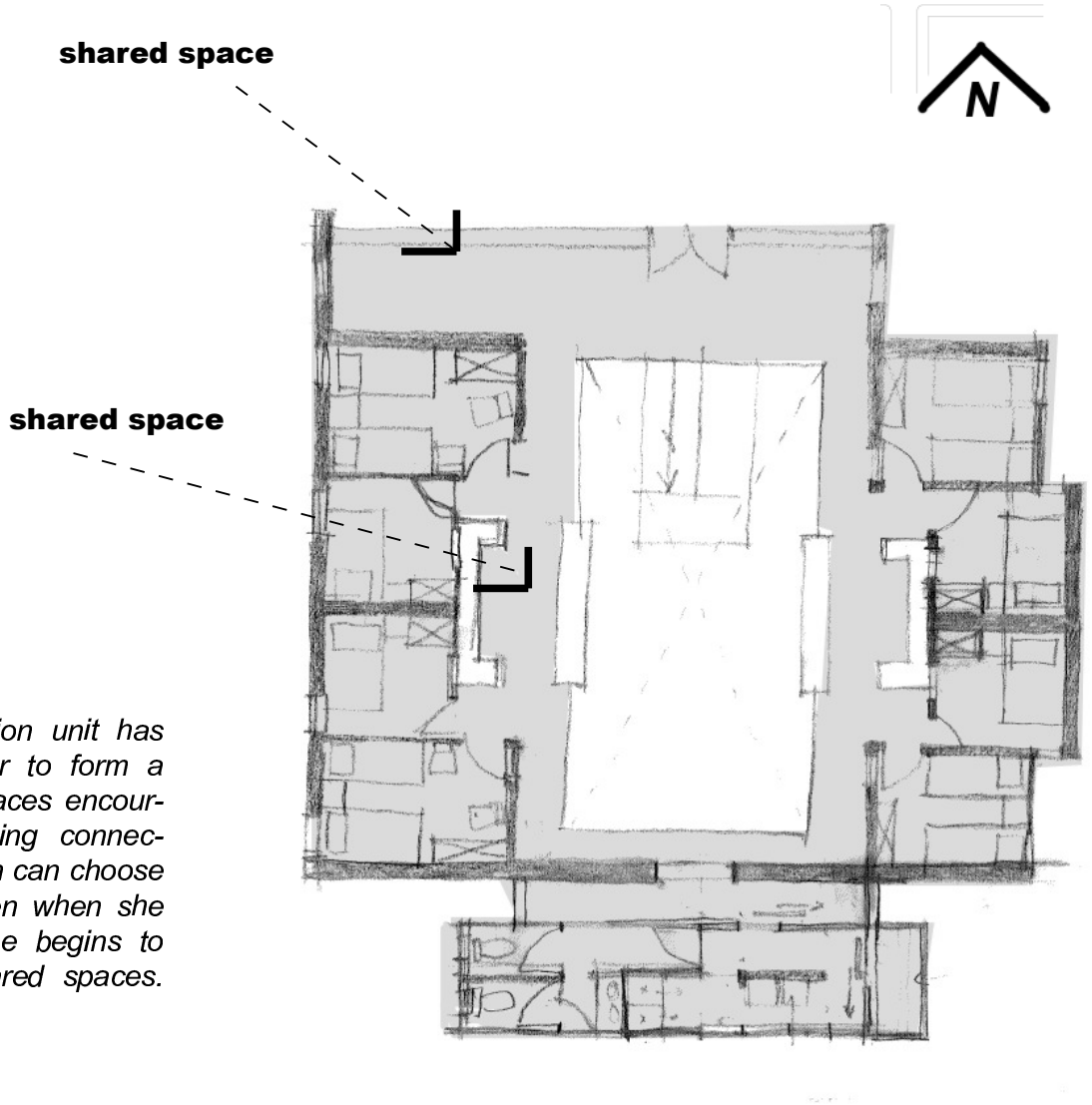
Ground Floor Plan



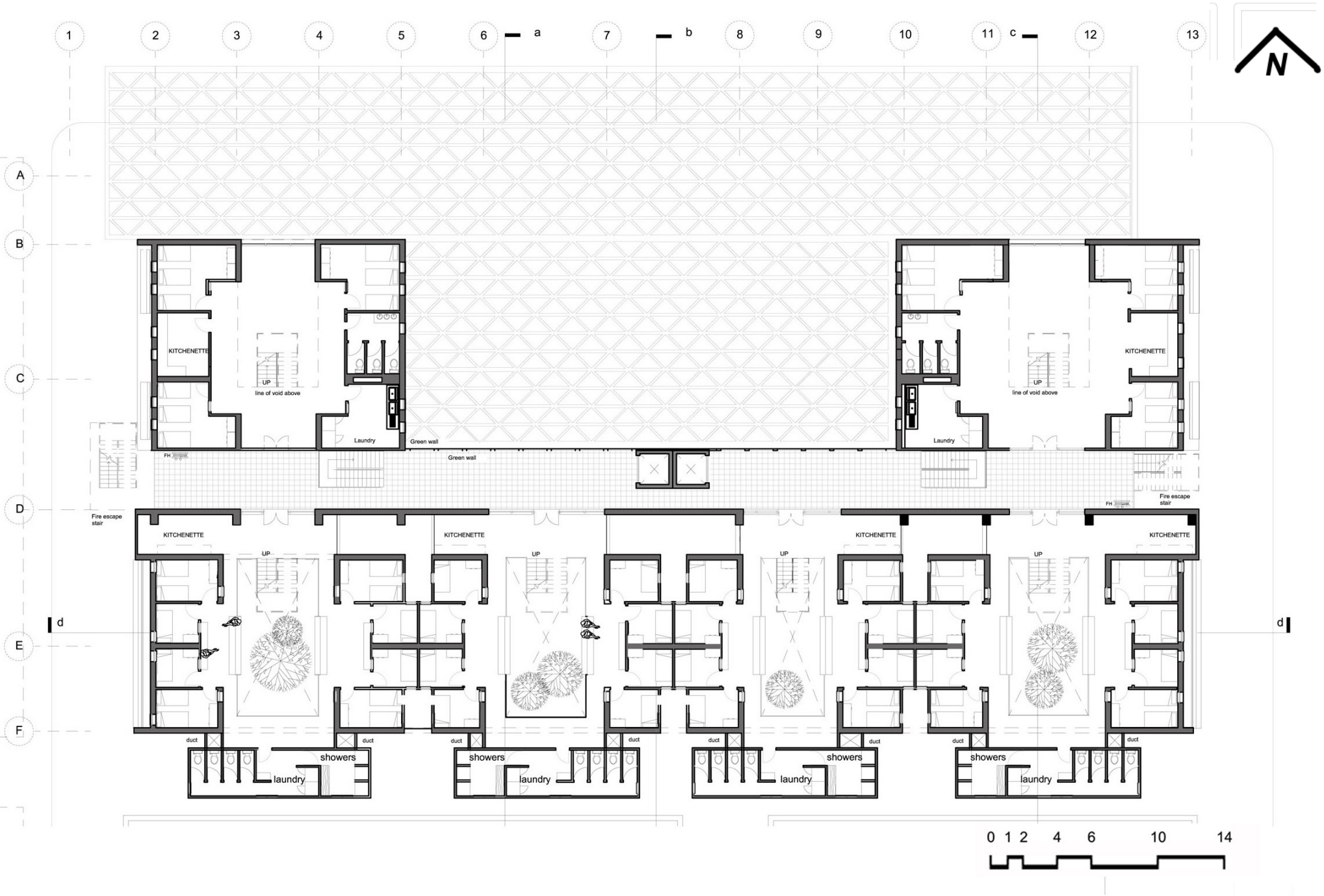


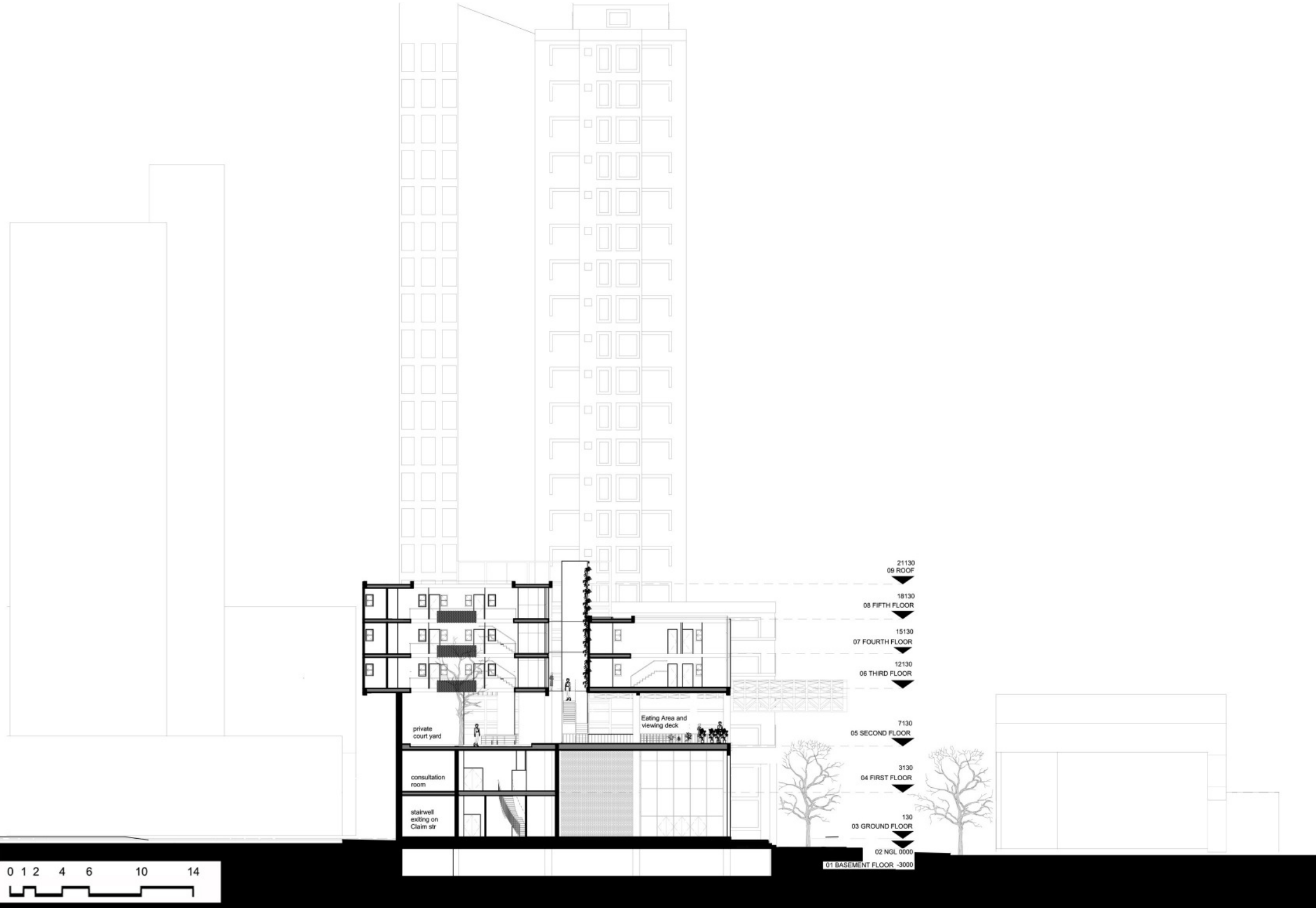

First Floor Plan

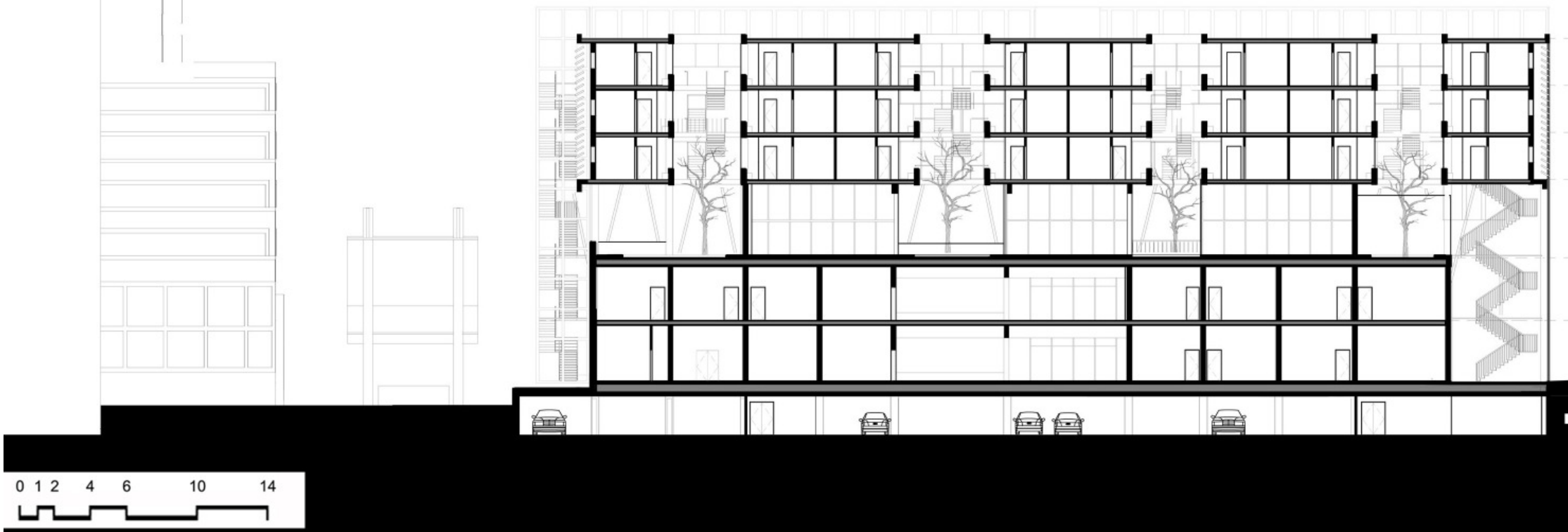

1
2
3
4
5
6
a
7
b
8
9
10
11
c
12
N
A
B
C
D
E
F
DECK/EATING AREA
sink
sink
triple volume void
triple volume void
security desk
line of void above
line of void above
line of void above
line of void above
d
d
Fire escape stair
Fire escape stair
COMMUNAL KITCHEN
RECREATION ROOM/HALL
RECREATION ROOM/STUDY AREA
mesh screen
mesh screen
mesh screen
mesh screen
0 1 2 4 6 10 14

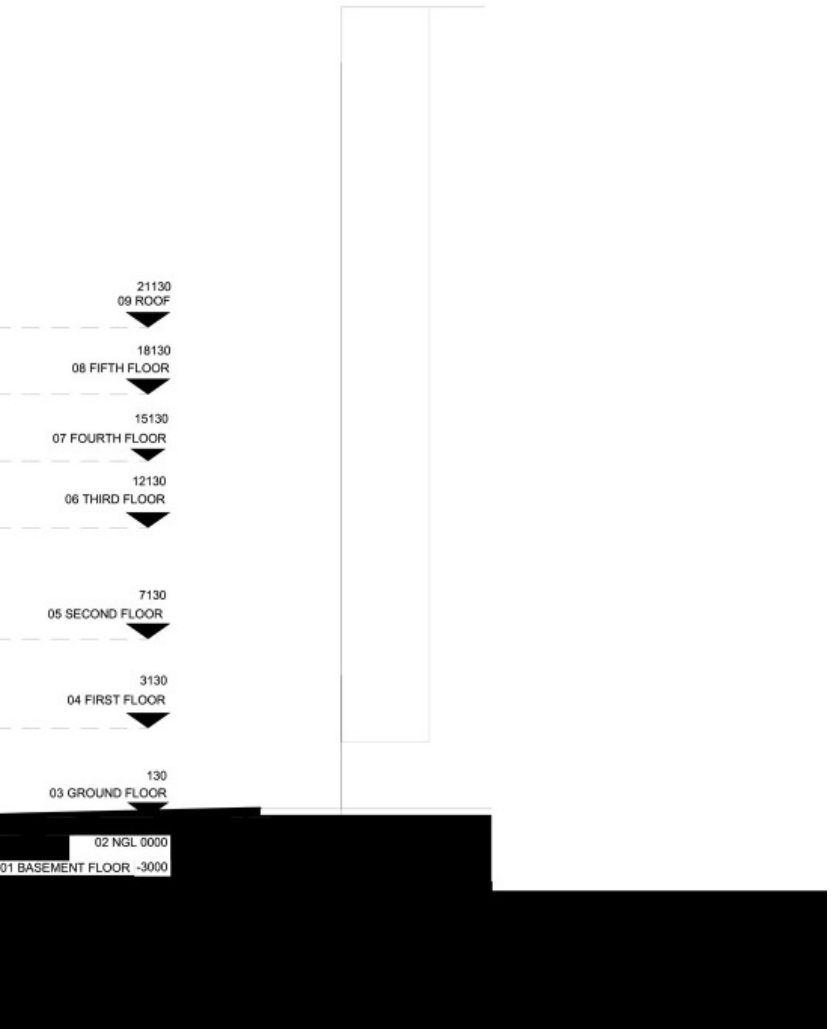



*The typical accomodation unit has rooms working together to form a communal unit. The spaces encourage sharing and forming connections. The young women can choose to stay in the room then when she is ready to engage she begins to spend time in the shared spaces.*

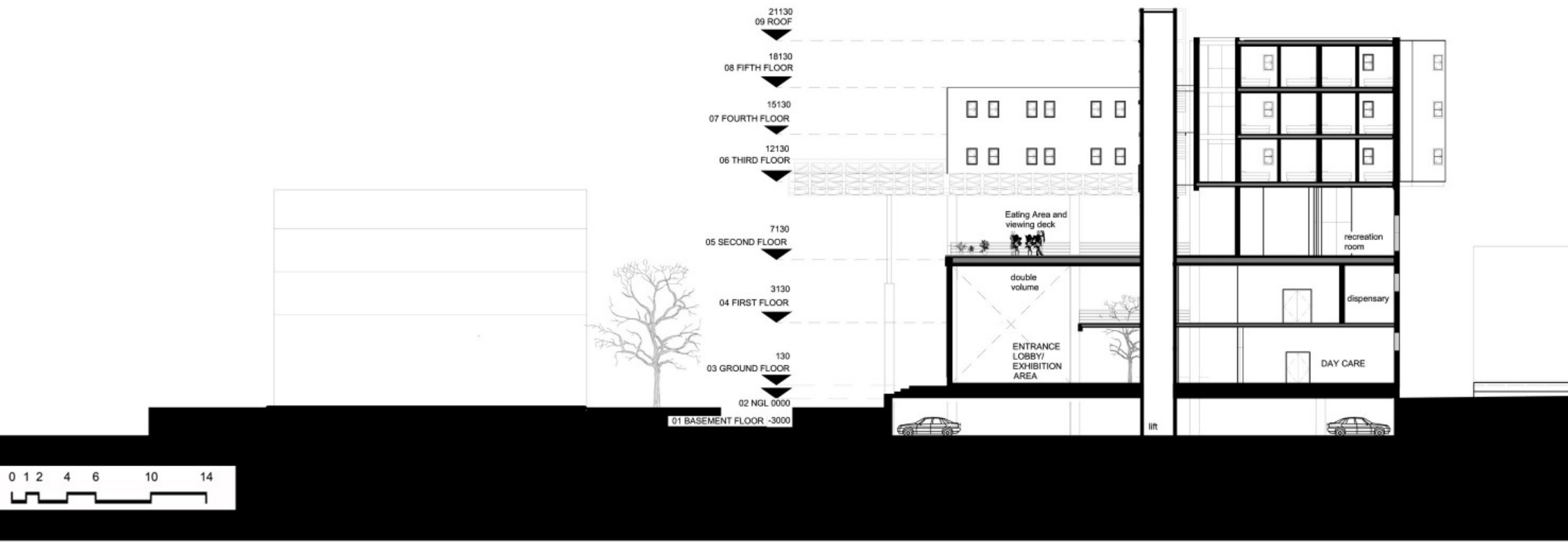

1
2
3
4
5
6
a
7
b
8
9
10
11
c
12
13
N
A
B
C
D
E
F
d
d
KITCHENETTE
UP
line of void above
Laundry
Green wall
Green wall
FH
KITCHENETTE
UP
line of void above
Laundry
KITCHENETTE
Fire escape stair
FH
Fire escape stair
KITCHENETTE
KITCHENETTE
KITCHENETTE
KITCHENETTE
UP
UP
UP
UP
duct
duct
duct
duct
duct
duct
duct
duct
showers
laundry
showers
laundry
showers
laundry
showers
laundry
0 1 2 4 6 10 14


21130
09 ROOF
18130
08 FIFTH FLOOR
15130
07 FOURTH FLOOR
12130
06 THIRD FLOOR
7130
05 SECOND FLOOR
3130
04 FIRST FLOOR
130
03 GROUND FLOOR
02 NGL 0000
01 BASEMENT FLOOR -3000
private
court yard
Eating Area and
viewing deck
consultation
room
stairwell
exiting on
Claim str
0 1 2 4 6 10 14

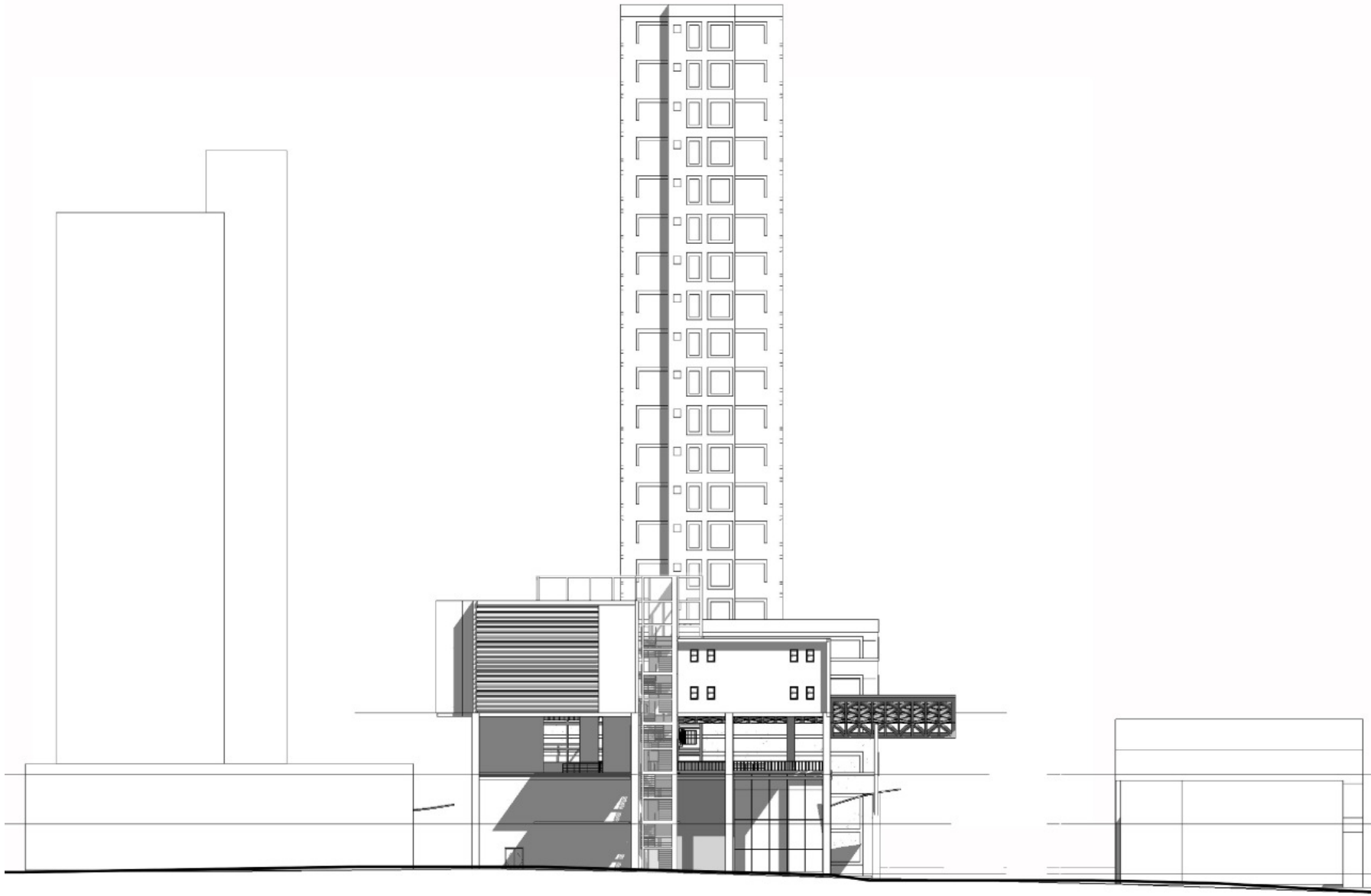

0 1 2 4 6 10 14

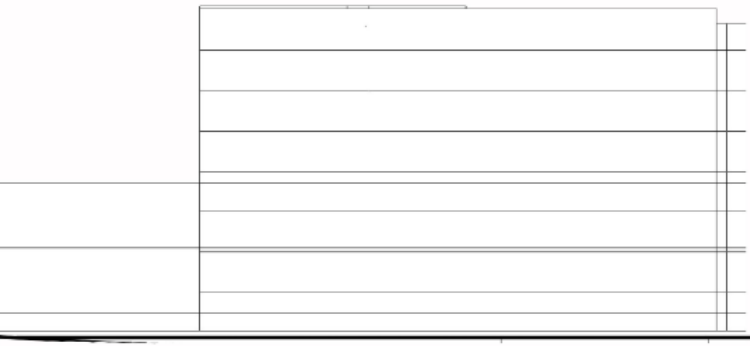



Section dd 142

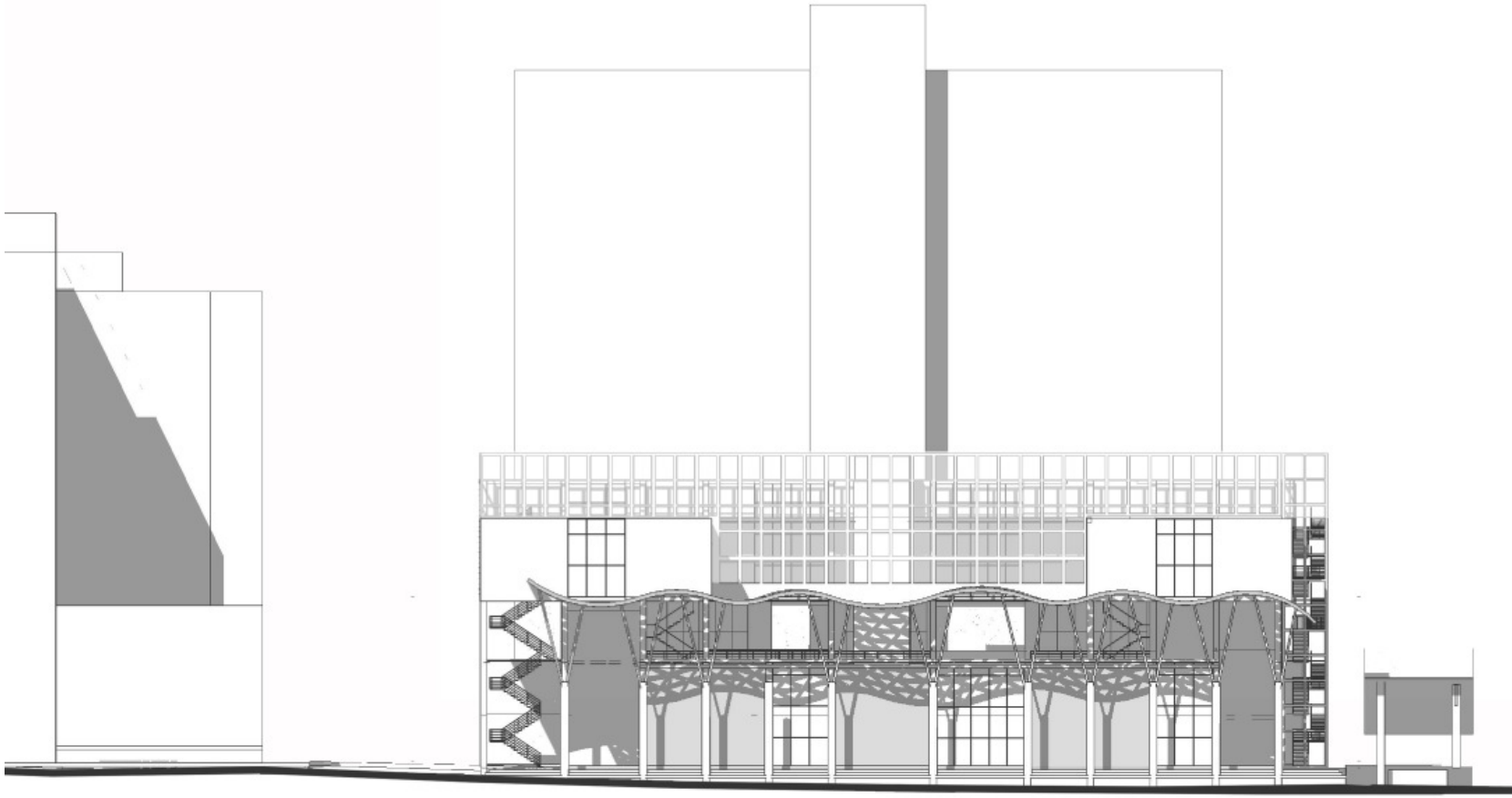

21130
09 ROOF
18130
08 FIFTH FLOOR
15130
07 FOURTH FLOOR
12130
06 THIRD FLOOR
7130
05 SECOND FLOOR
3130
04 FIRST FLOOR
130
03 GROUND FLOOR
02 NGL 0000
01 BASEMENT FLOOR -3000
Eating Area and viewing deck
recreation room
double volume
dispensary
ENTRANCE LOBBY/ EXHIBITION AREA
DAY CARE
lift
0 1 2 4 6 10 14

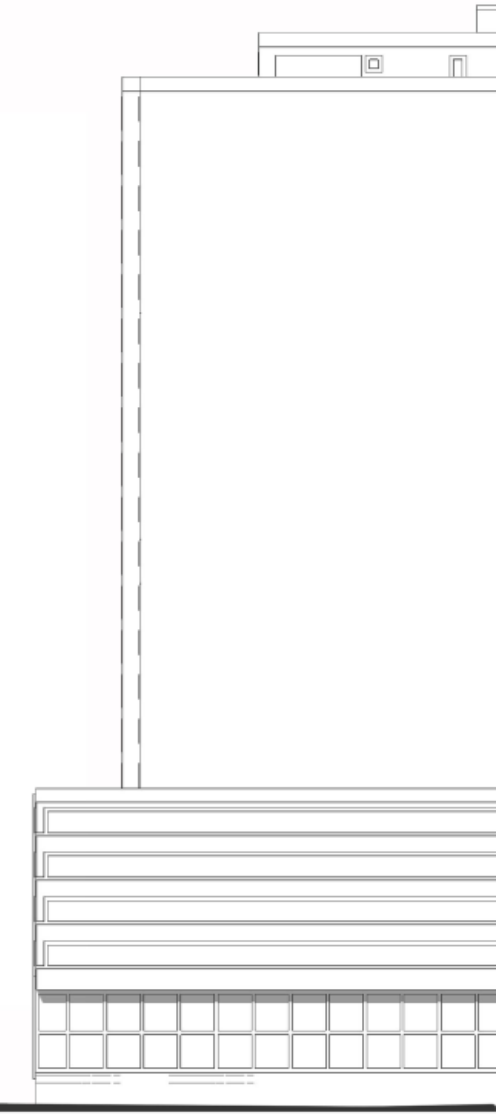
*SECTION BB*
*1:200*



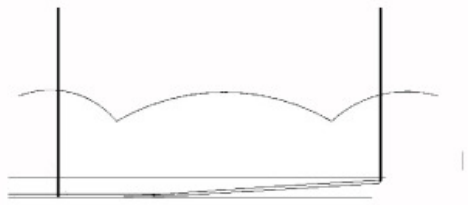


East Elevation

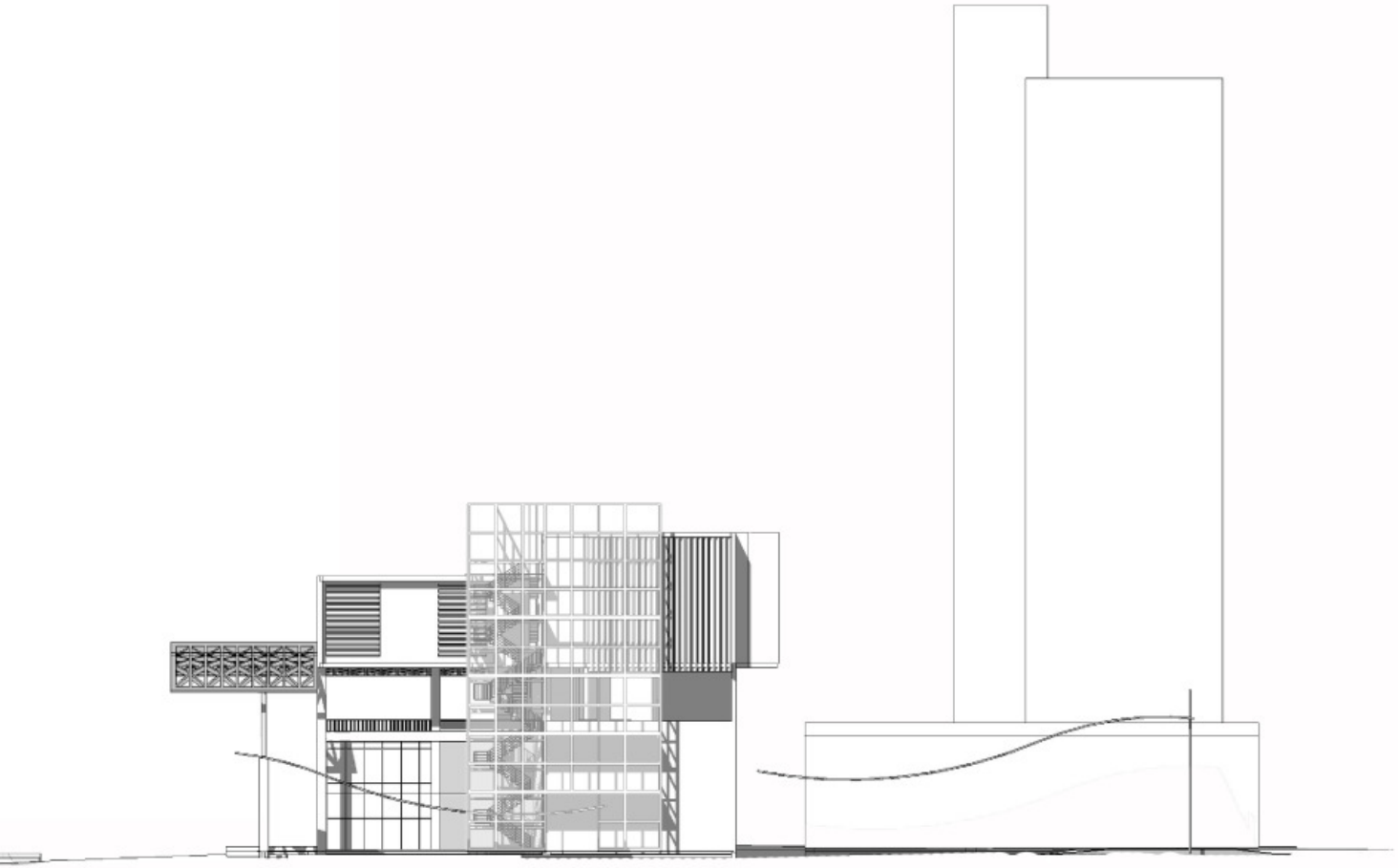




North Elevation

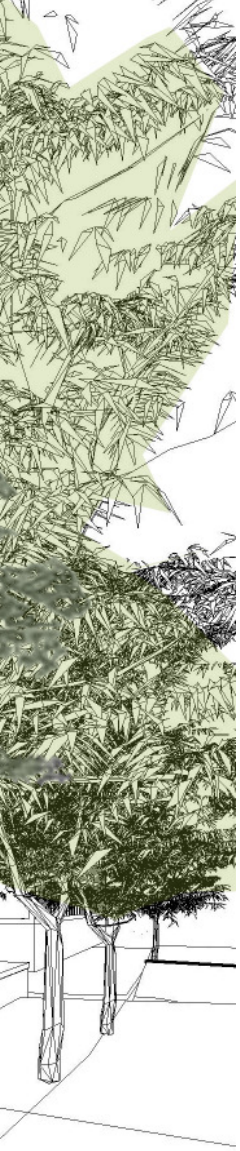




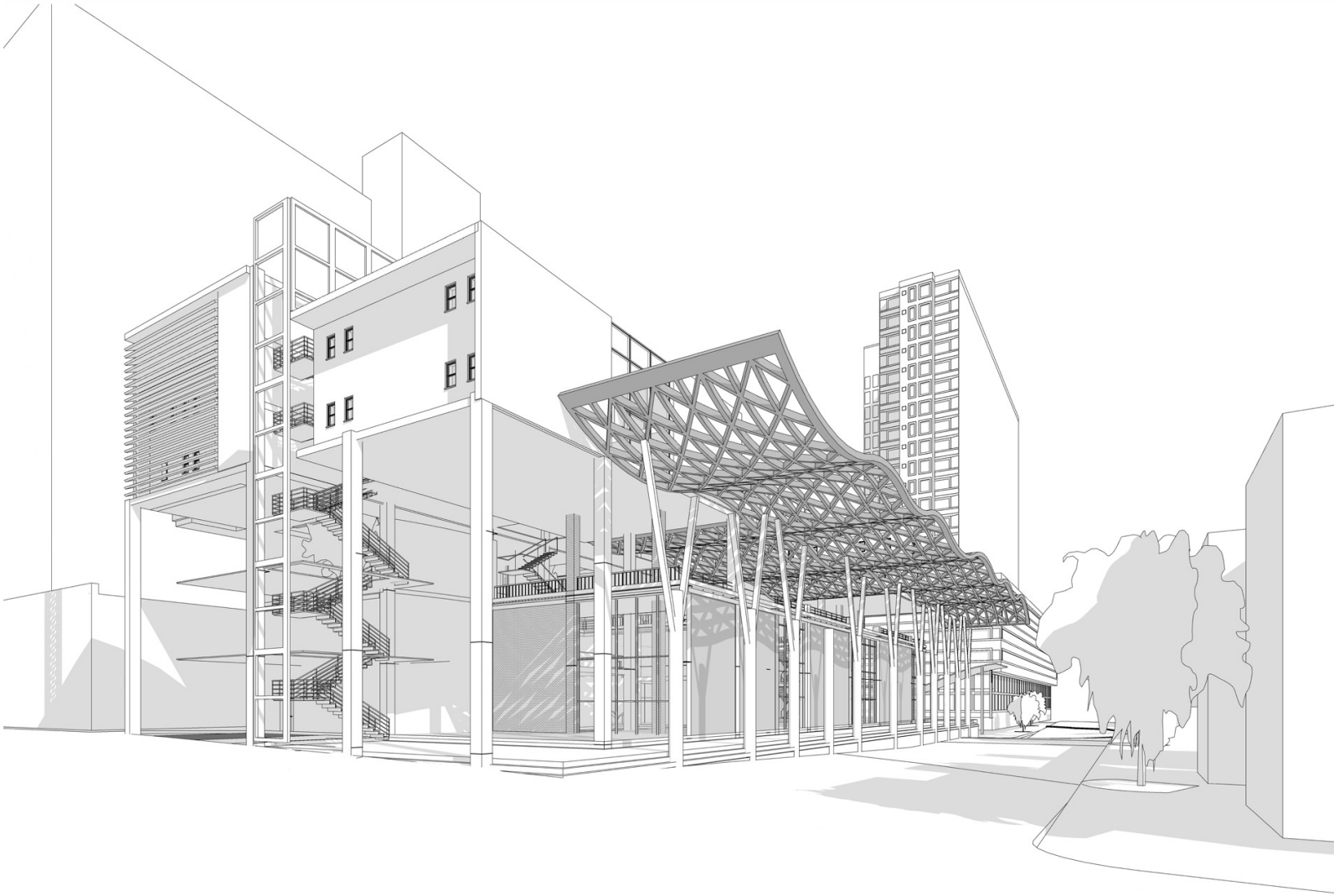


West Elevation

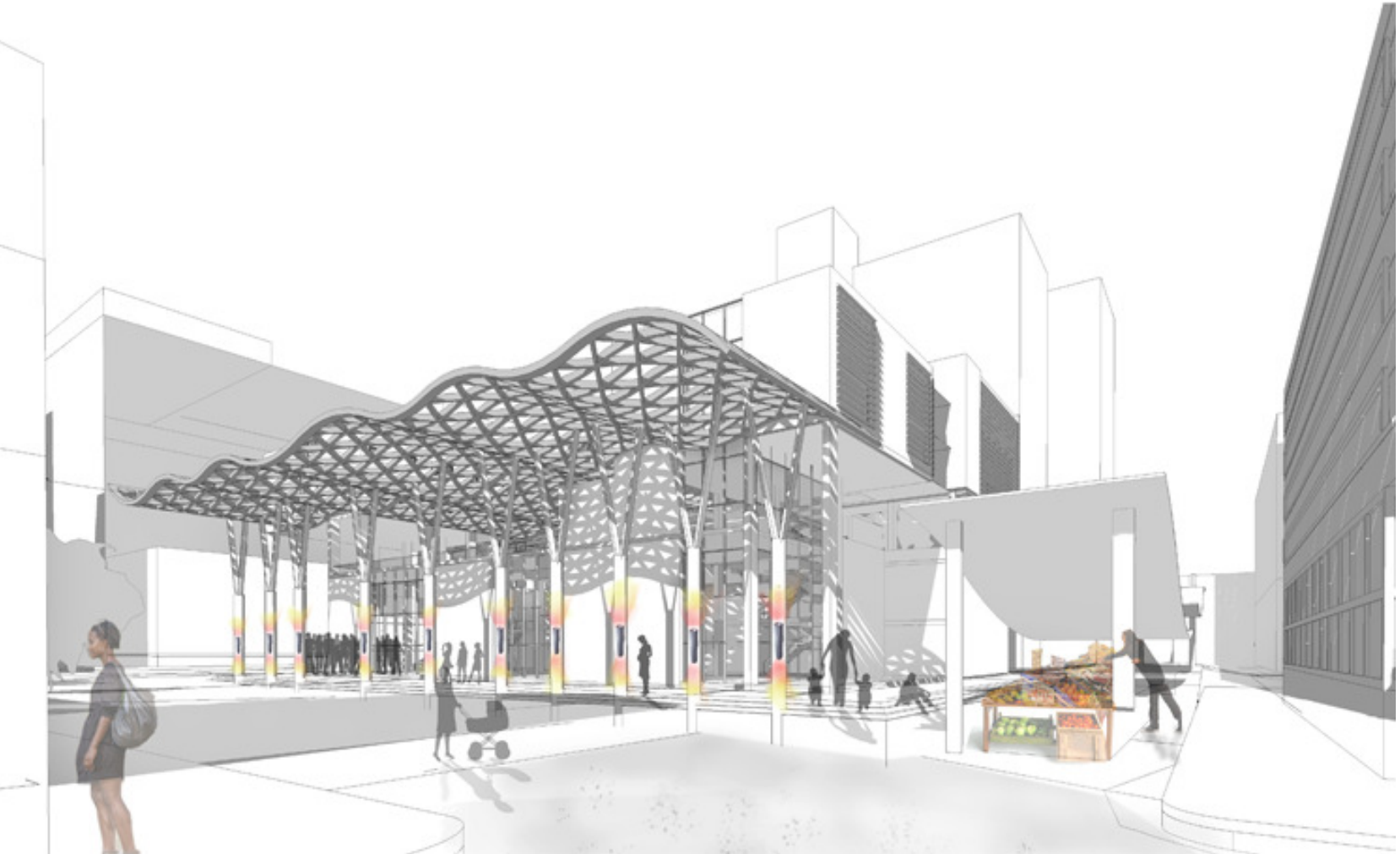




Perspectives



***Street view from Van Der Merwe street***
***Images by Author, 2013***



***Street view from Van Der Merwe street looking towards the linear market on Quartz street***
***Images by Author, 2013***





*Perspective showing viewing deck with the canopy extending towards the street*
*Images by Author, 2013*

*Street Perspective showing life around the main entrance*
*Images by Author, 2013*



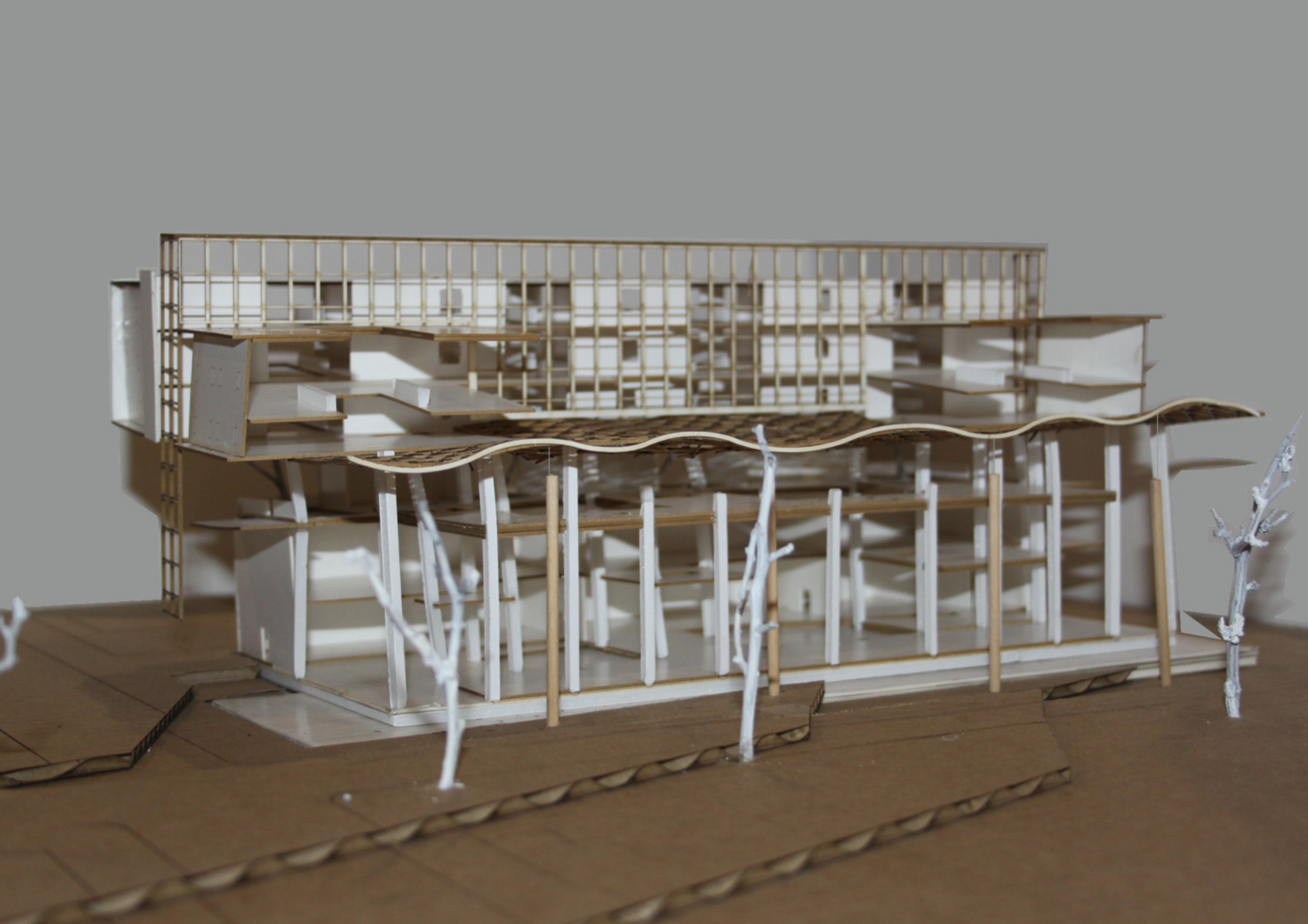


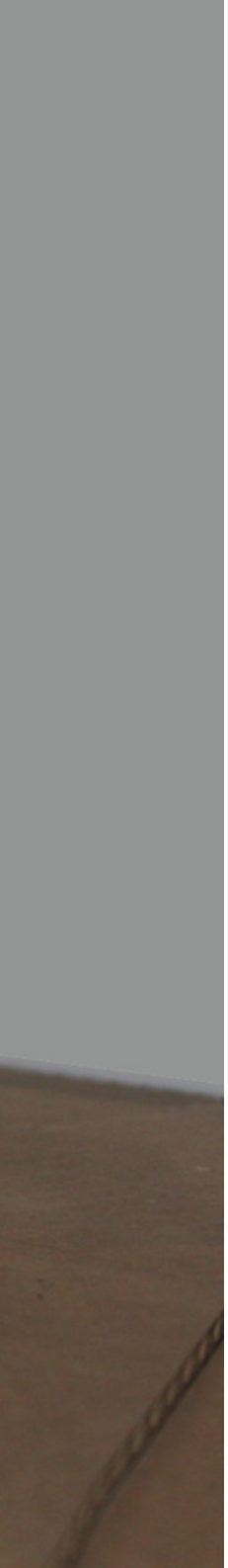
*Above: Interior perspective showing main circulation route on residential floor as a meeting space*



*Above: Perspective showing private circulation route on residential floor with seating*

*Left: Interior perspective showing main circulation route on residential floors with a green wall on the North facade*
*Images by Author, 2013*





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