

# **Work Sample**

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**2023-2024**

**MINDI WARREN**

# Mindi Warren

I am a passionate and driven Bachelor of Architecture graduate seeking my first professional opportunity. Energetic and always eager to learn, I bring a creative and detail-oriented approach to design, with a strong ability to collaborate and adapt within a team setting. My work is guided by a deep interest in sustainable, community-driven architecture, and I thrive on exploring new ideas and innovative solutions.

I seek to design cultural and public spaces which engage the public with art, design and educational opportunities. My design approach focuses on the intersection of architecture, urban ecology, and material innovation, emphasizing sustainable strategies, adaptive reuse, and immersive spatial experiences. I enjoy working with locally sourced, low-impact materials to create environmentally responsive designs that engage both the built and natural environment. My projects often include publicly accessible research spaces, observation towers, and multifunctional community hubs, reinforcing my belief that architecture should connect people, place, and culture in meaningful ways.

## Education

### The University of Texas at Austin

Bachelor of Architecture  
Graduated Fall 2024

## Awards & Achievements

### Hidalgo, Mexico Presentation (2023)

- One of five projects selected to present in Mexico to the Nopalillo Community leaders.

### Design Excellence Nomination (2024)

- One of two projects selected from the studio to be nominated for UTSOA wide end of year award.

### Friends of Deep Eddy Presentation (2024)

- Projects were presented to the non-profit (FODE) in a roundtable of discussions about the future of the site.

## Skills

**AI Skills:** Chat GPT, Stable Diffusion, ComfyUI, Midjourney, Dali2

**Architectural Skills:** Revit, Rhino, Autocad, Enscape, Sketchup, Adobe Suite (Premiere Pro, Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign), Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Powerpoint, Excel, Outlook), physical model building, analog drawing/sketching.

**Intrests:** woodworking, welding, painting, pottery.

## Languages

American Sign Language | Intermediate Spanish

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## Experience

### Village at the Triangle- Valet, Package Delivery (Sept. 2022- Sept. 2024)

- Used communication and interpersonal skills to build rapport with different types of residents and their families
- Worked effectively as part of a multidisciplinary team in a fast-paced, dynamic, environment.
- Assisted residents with needs as necessary, including helping them in and out of vehicles, delivering groceries, fixing electronics, hanging photos, etc.

### Independent Contract- 3D Printed Proposal (Jan.- May 2021)

- Produced drawings and layouts of 3D printed houses for a speculative new Houston community
- Participated in design consultations with clients to discuss project visions and site constraints
- Attended site visits to better understand the project

### Potbelly- Team Member

(May. 2021- Dec. 2022)

- Provided friendly and attentive customer service, addressing inquiries and ensuring customer satisfaction
- Collaborated with team members to ensure smooth operations during peak hours and busy shifts.

### Fire it Up, Pottery & Arts Studio- Pottery Instructor (Feb. 2017- Aug. 2019)

- Led wheel-throwing and hand-building classes to groups and individuals of various demographics and skill level
- Provided individualized instruction and feedback to students to help them develop their pottery skills

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# WALLER CREEK COMMUNITY CENTER

*Austin TX Recreation Facility*

Comprehensive Studio | Spring 2023

Partners: Katie Stiers & Brayden Byrd

Location: Austin, Texas

**A new recreation and wellness center** is set to open in downtown Austin, serving as a hub for residents in the area and commuters from the train. The facility offers **multipurpose sports courts** for youth and adult sports leagues and practices, alongside **various fitness areas** for community use. Positioned prominently along I-35 and the light rail- as well as amidst downtown and near East Austin developments- the center **symbolizes Austin's commitment to health and vitality.**

The project explores the interplay between **activity and form, movement and stillness, as well as posture and relaxation.** Leveraging architectural fundamentals, the design integrates structural, mechanical, plumbing, and environmental control systems to **enhance user experience and well-being.**

COURT VISUALIZATION

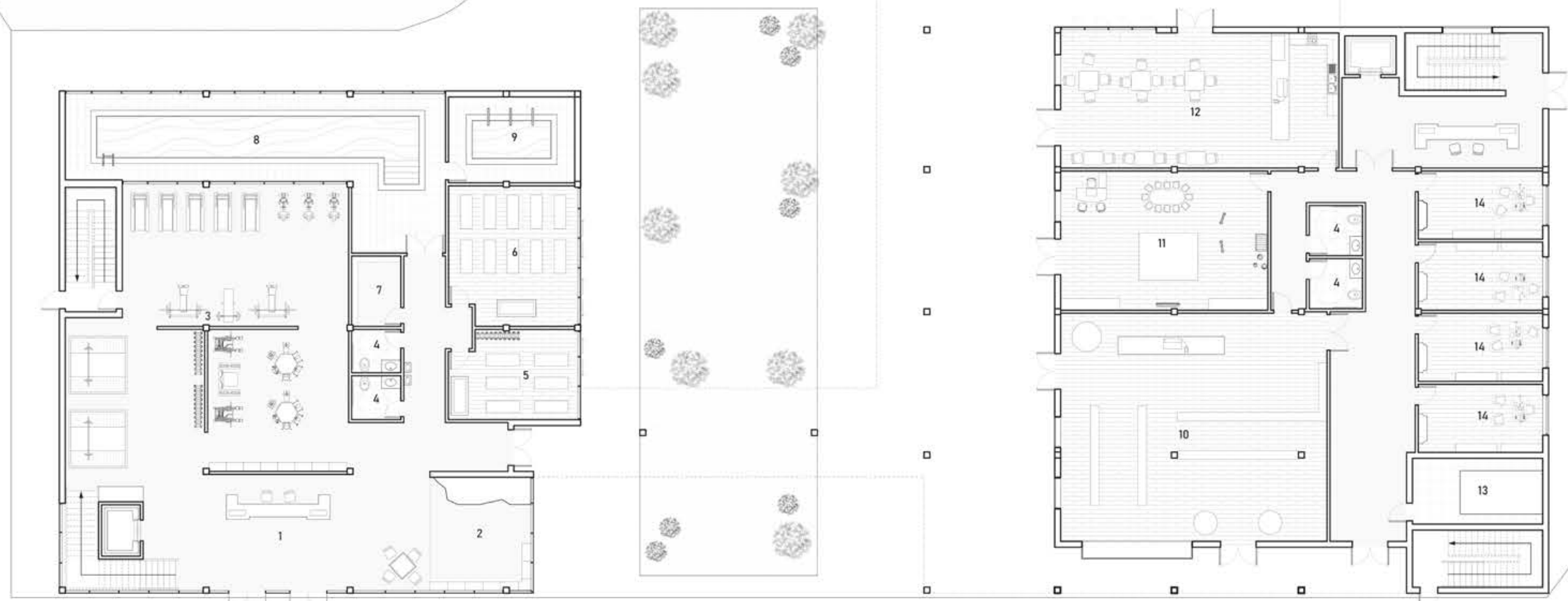




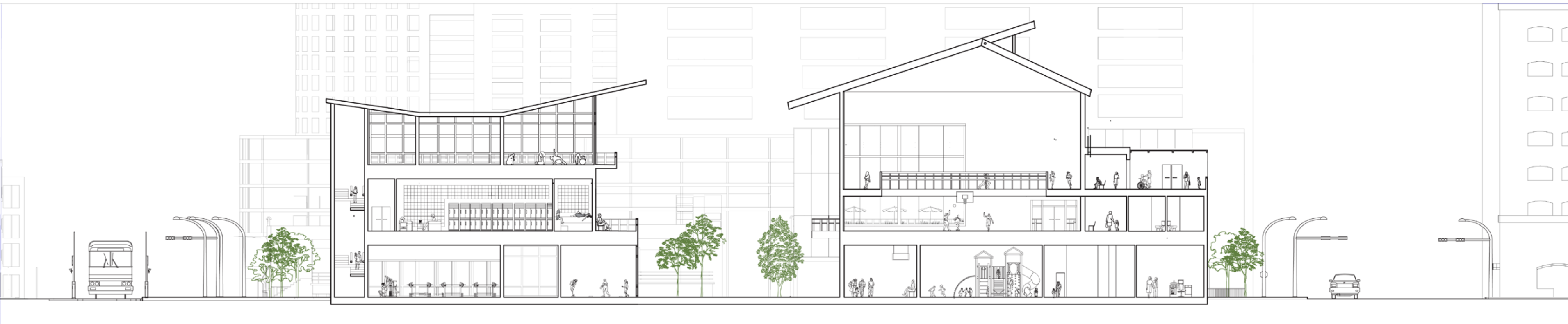


PHYSICAL MODEL (BACK)

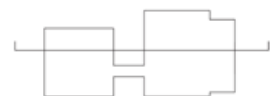
- 1- LOBBY
- 2- CLIMBING WALL
- 3- GYM
- 4- RESTROOM
- 5- CROSSFIT STUDIO
- 6- YOGA STUDIO
- 7- STORAGE
- 8- LAP POOL
- 9- HOT TUB
- 10- RETAIL
- 11- DAYCARE
- 12- CAFE
- 13- MECHANICAL
- 14- OFFICE



FIRST FLOOR PLAN



BUILDING SECTION





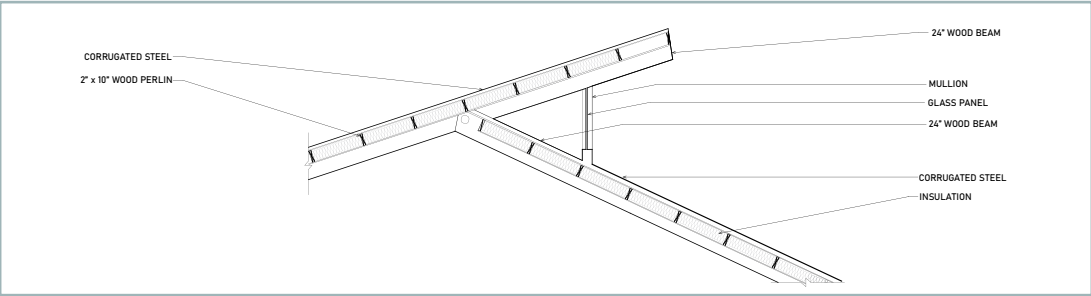
The **spacious central courtyard** nestled between the two buildings serves as a lively connection to the bustling activities along Waller Creek and acts as the **primary focal point for the site**. Designed to integrate indoor and outdoor areas, the courtyard provides a **versatile setting for various events**, from tranquil picnics to energetic yoga classes and concerts. Its **adaptability caters to the evolving needs of the community**.

One side of the courtyard seamlessly merges with the recreation facility, facilitated by **movable walls** that blur the boundaries between inside and outside, fostering a sense of **connectivity with nature**. On the other side, the courtyard extends to the retail section, featuring shops, a daycare, and a welcoming café, which helps to **contribute to the area's economic growth and attracts visitors to the center**.

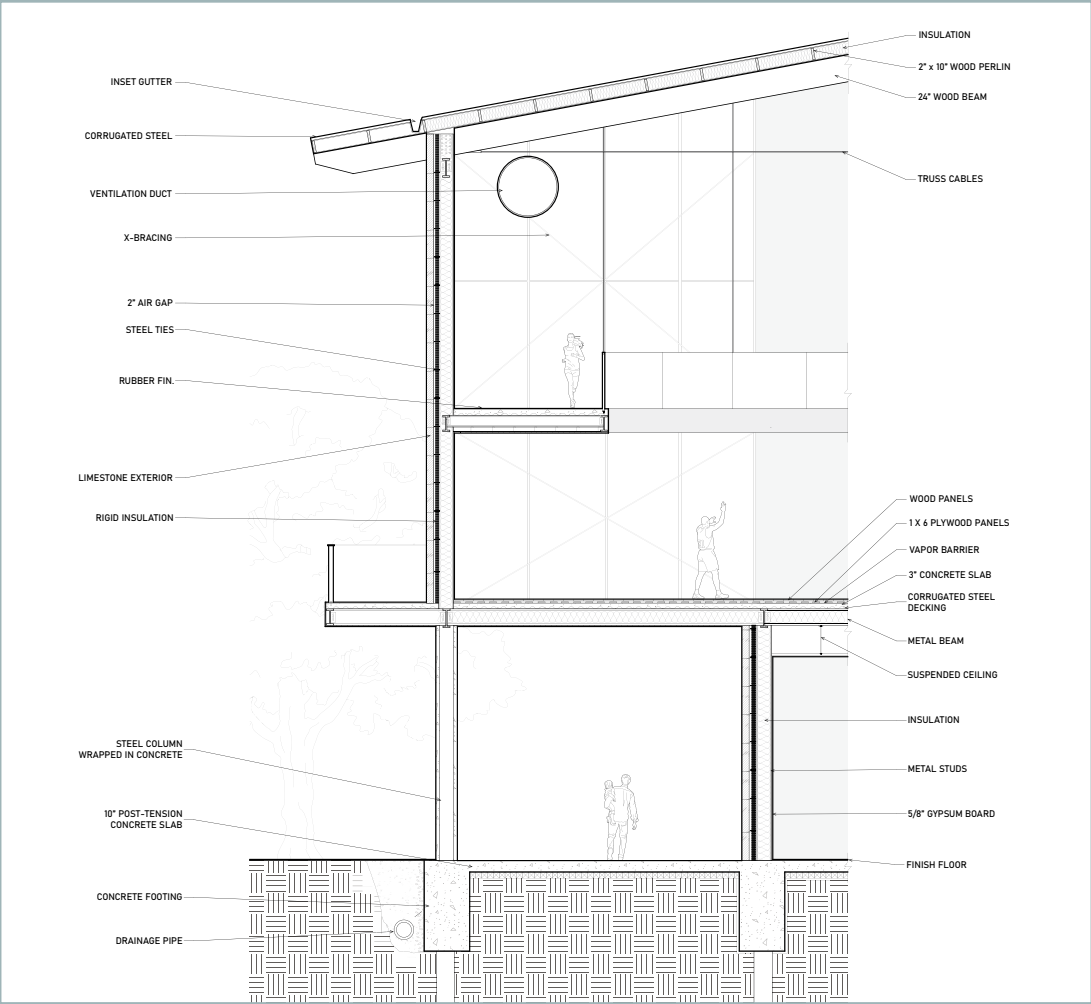
COURTYARD PLAN







ROOF DETAIL



WALL SECTION



PHYSICAL MODEL (FRONT)

# HIGHLAND RESEARCH STATION

## *Galapagos Reforestation Center*

Advanced Design | Summer 2023  
Location: San Cristobal, Galapagos  
Partner: Niki Ghendy

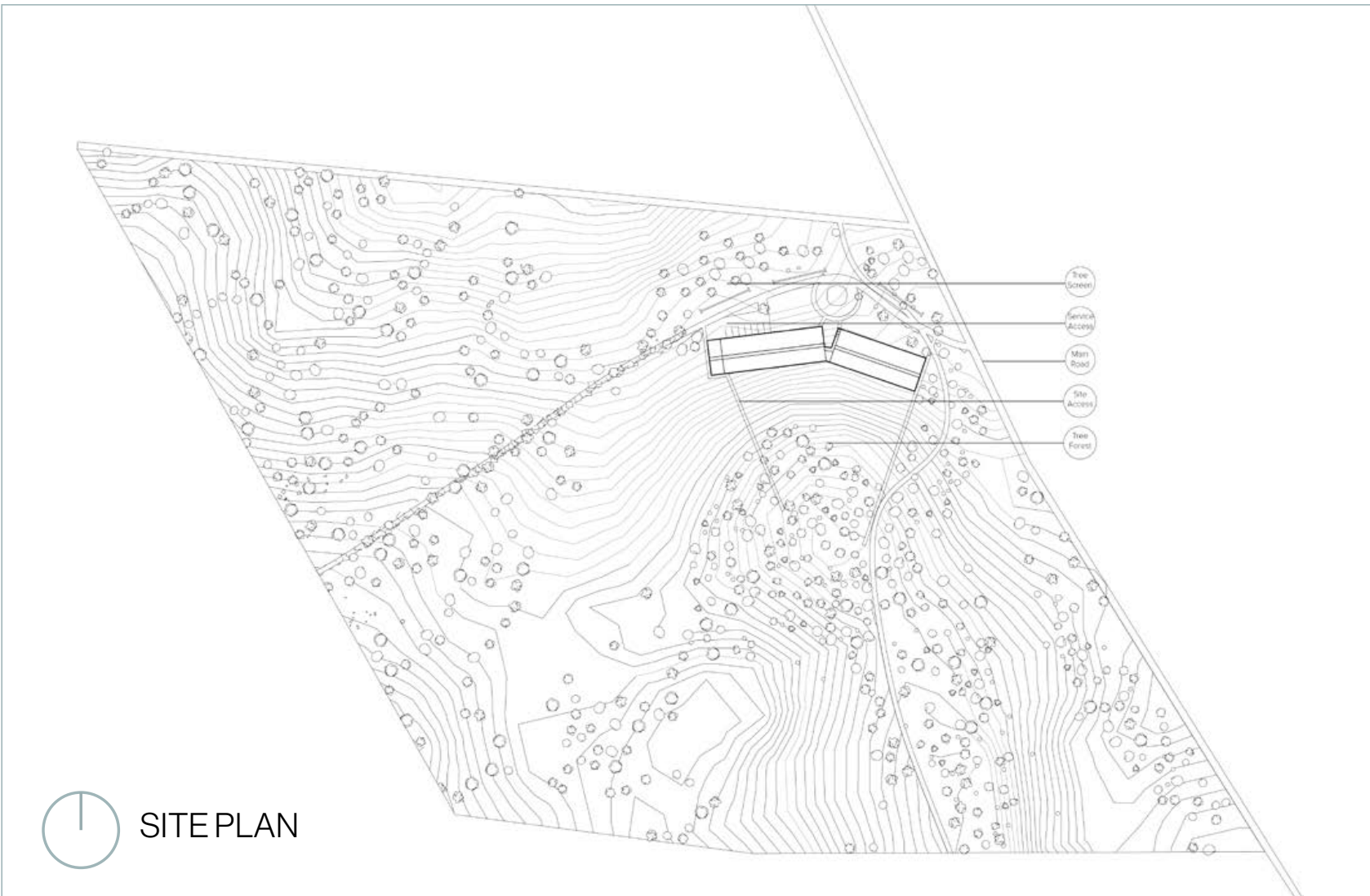
A crucial goal of USFQ's work focuses on sustainable construction in the Galápagos, exploring how endemic tree species can be cultivated and managed to support a **circular economy**. The proposed economy stems from a local micro-industry for lumber: sourced from both **sustainably farmed endemic trees and culled invasive timber**. The project aims to combat deforestation and the spread of invasive species, which threaten native flora and fauna.

The proposed research station, located in the highlands of San Cristóbal, will serve as a **testing ground for these sustainability efforts**. The station will address the ecological impact of past agricultural practices that have left the region overrun with invasive species. The project pioneers innovative sustainability practices by **fostering new labor pools and material industries**, setting a precedent for environmentally conscious construction on the islands.



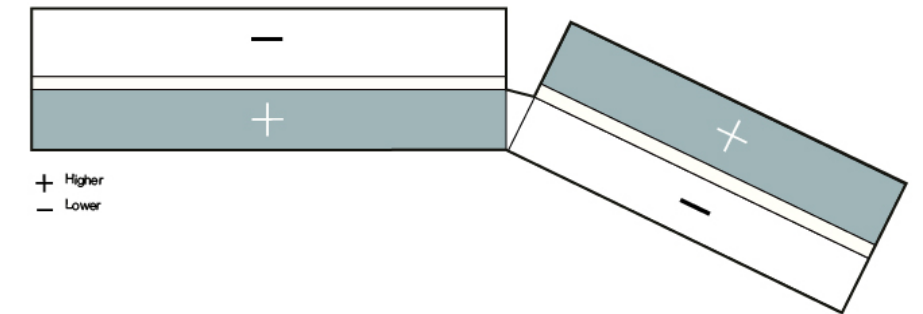
EXTERIOR RENDER



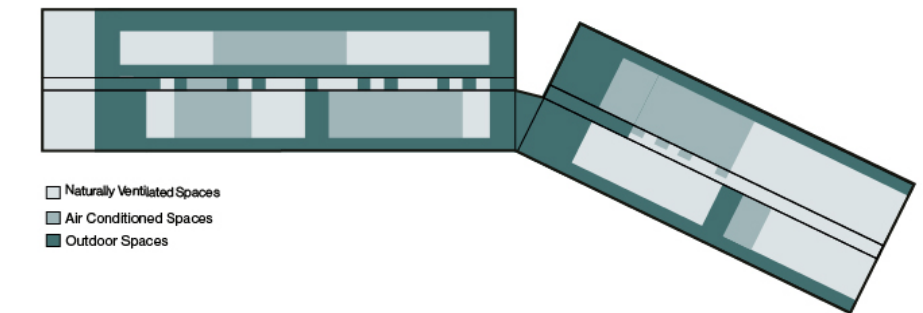


The facility embraces a **modular bay plan**, allowing for **programmatic flexibility**, future expansions, and adaptability in spatial use. Two timber-framed buildings house the majority of the station's functions, ensuring efficient and sustainable development. The research station supports social cohesion by **providing dormitory and apartment spaces** for students and faculty; creating an environmentally conscious living-learning community for **future island leaders**.

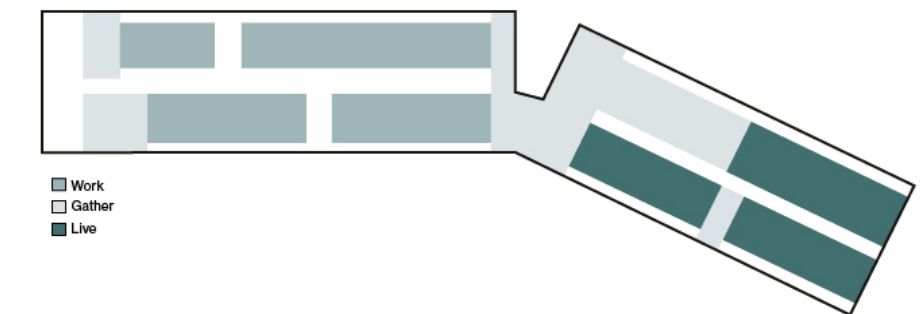
#### FLOOR HEIGHT

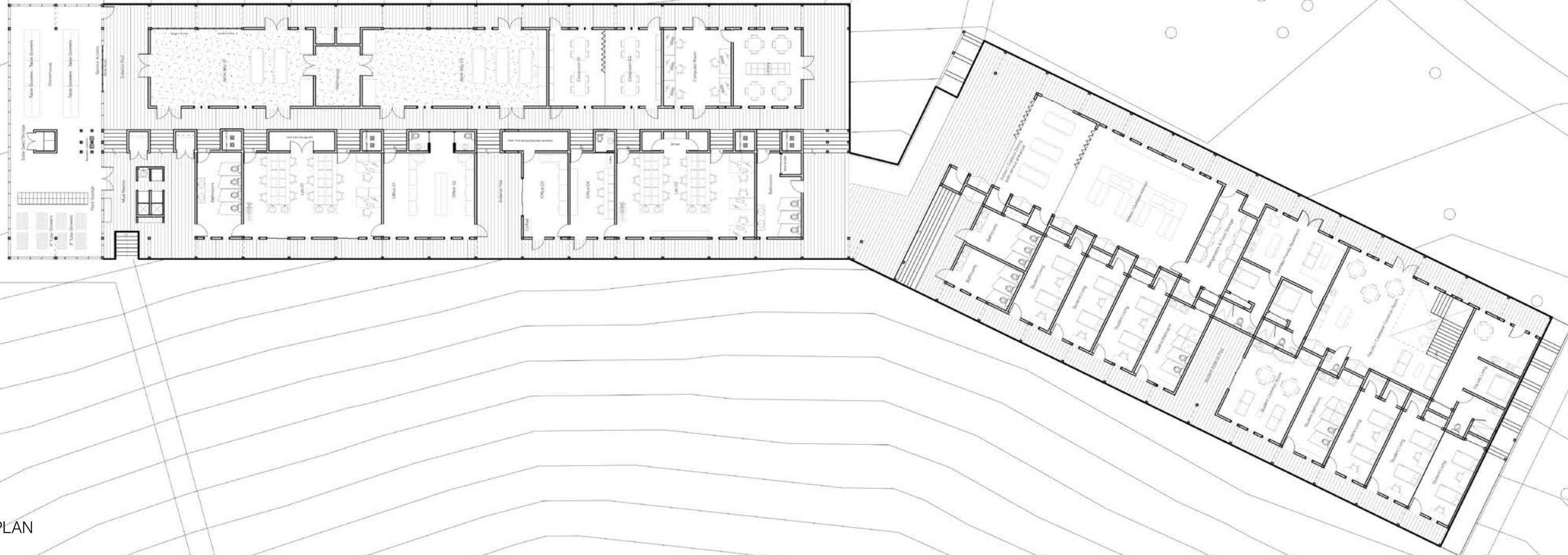


#### INDOOR/OUTDOOR



#### PROGRAM

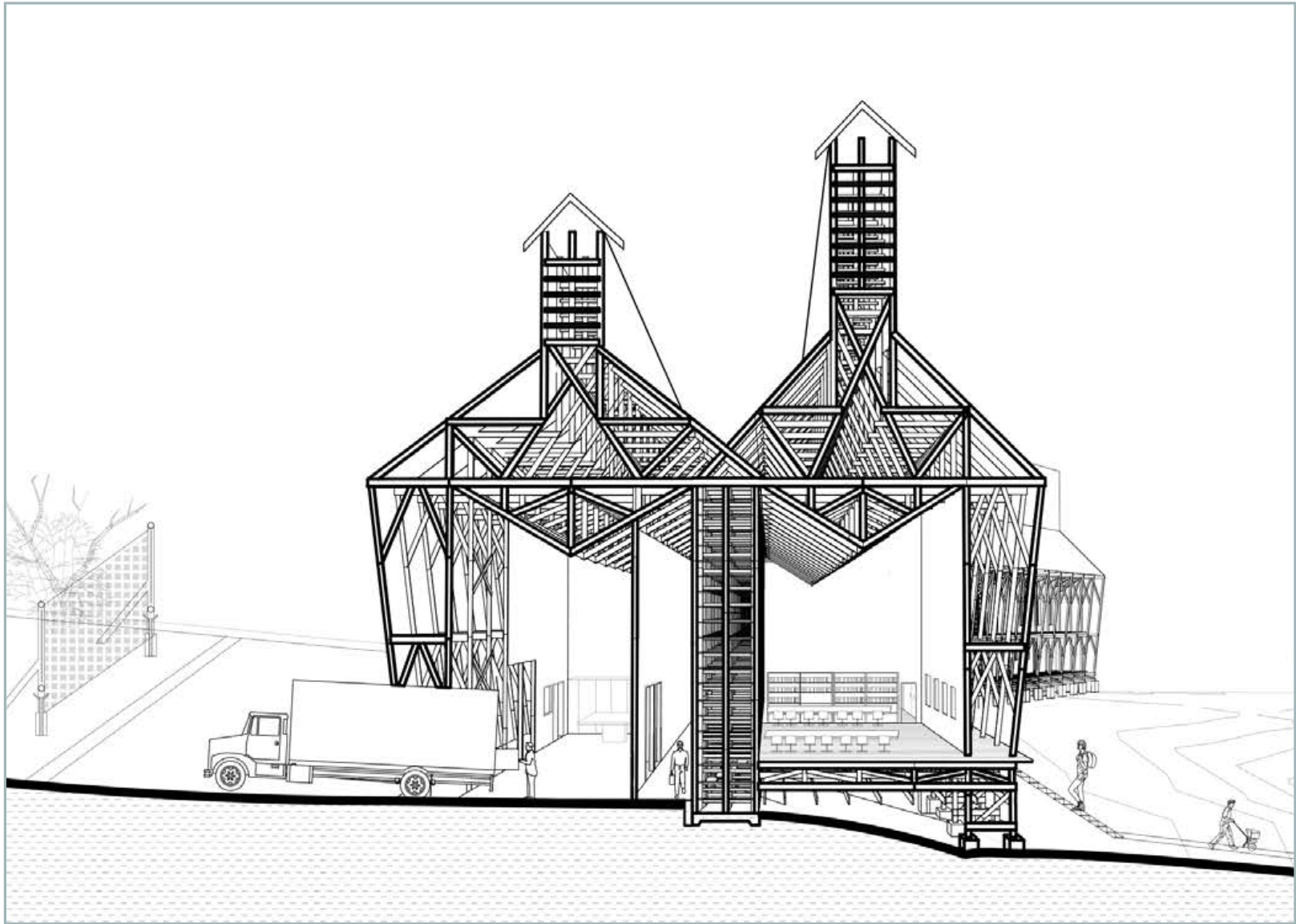








MODEL PHOTO



TRANSVERSE SECTION

# DEEP EDDY APIARY

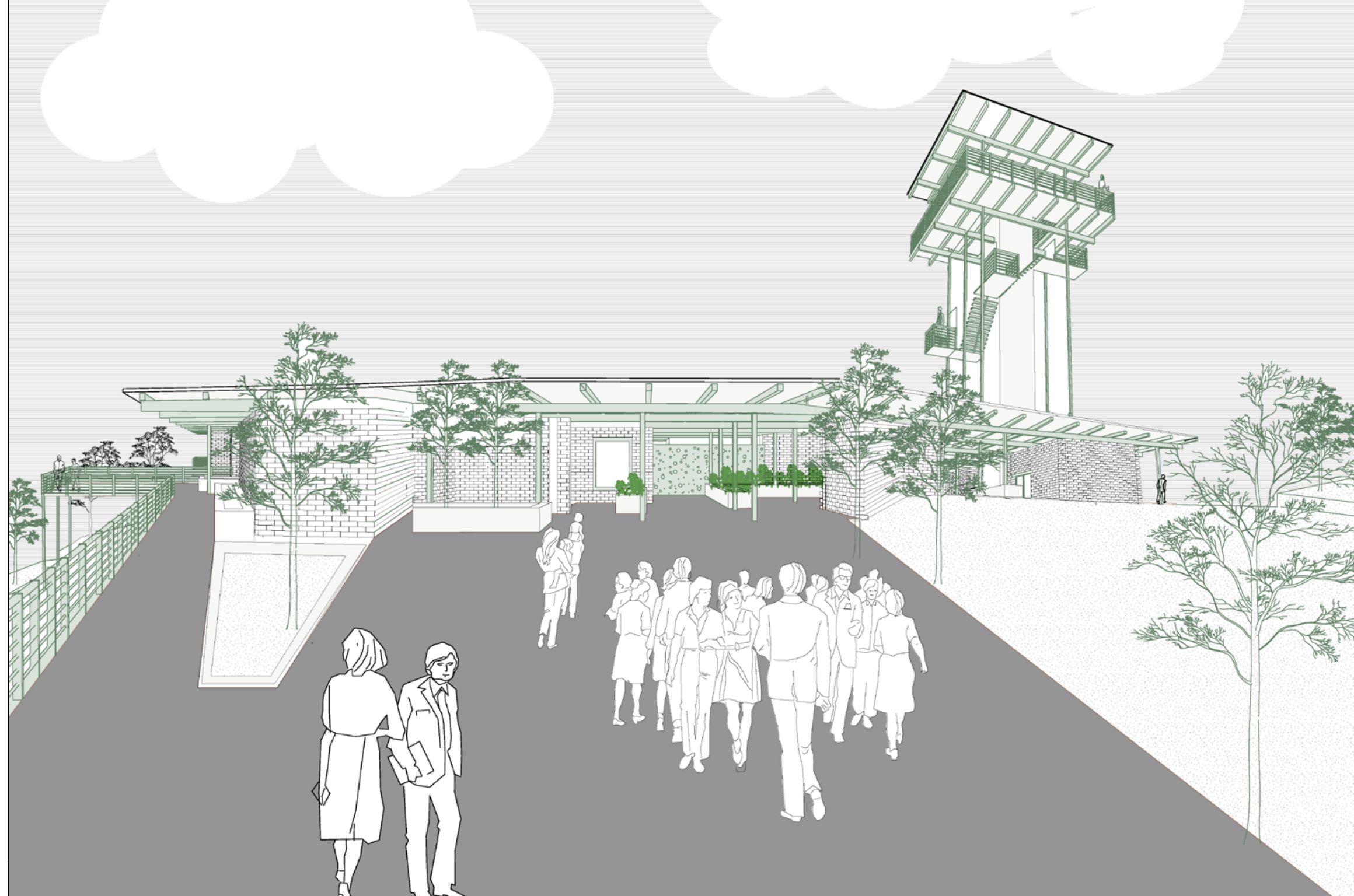
## *Austin Apiary & Urban Center*

Advanced Design | Summer 2023

Location: Austin, Texas, USA

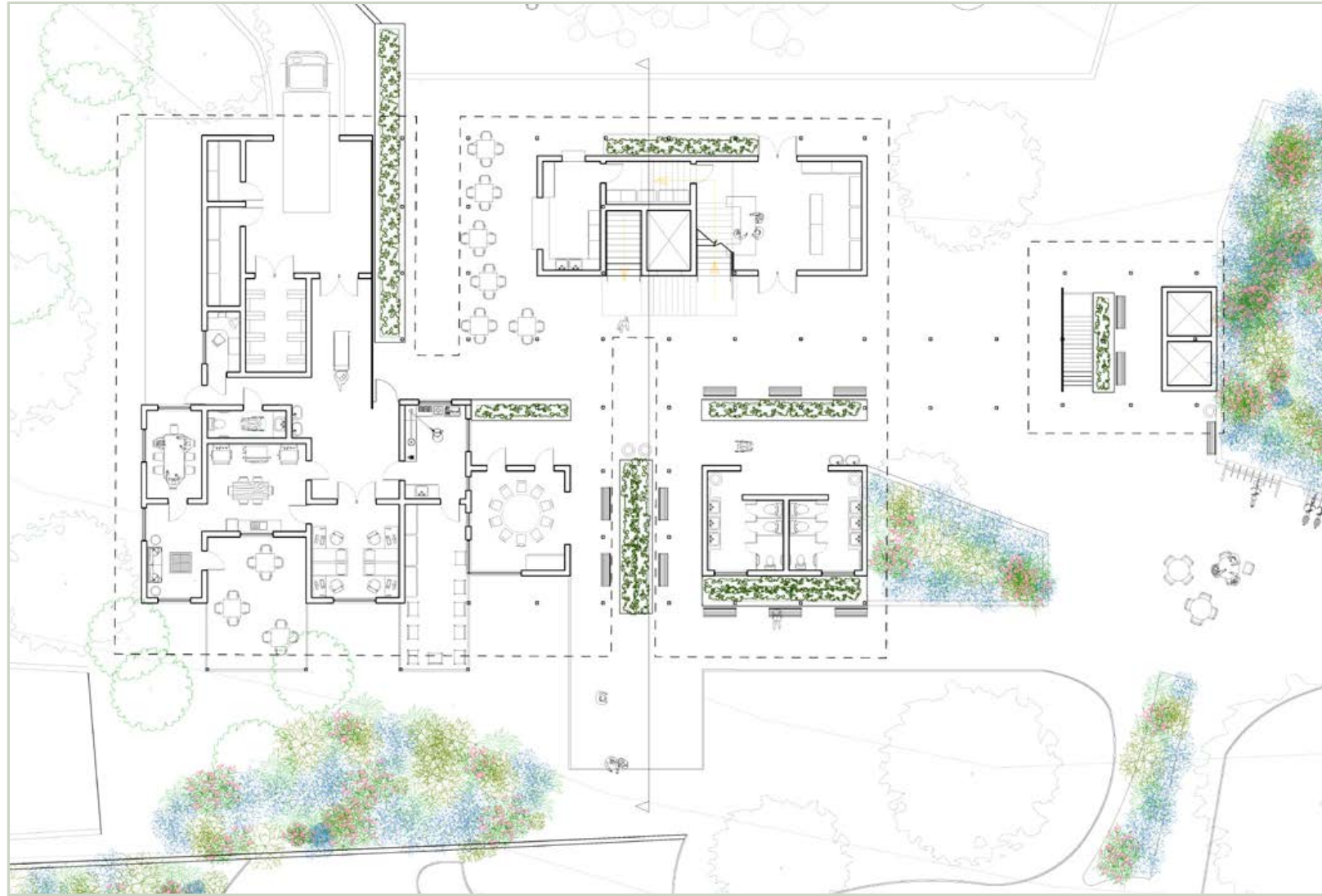
The Austin Apiary and Urban Center **reimagines the Eilers Neighborhood Park**, responding to the site's historical, urban, and ecological significance. Situated near Deep Eddy, Texas' first public swimming pool, the project builds on the **area's legacy as a community gathering space**, extending its role into environmental research, education, and public engagement.

The center houses **labs for research, observational hives, community gathering spaces, private offices, a café, and an observation tower**. This provides a dynamic setting where scientists, students, and visitors interact with urban ecology. The material palette prioritizes sustainability and efficiency, with limestone brick aiding in natural ventilation, **reducing the need for air conditioning**, while a corrugated metal roof and a simple steel structural frame ensure **cost-effective, durable construction**.

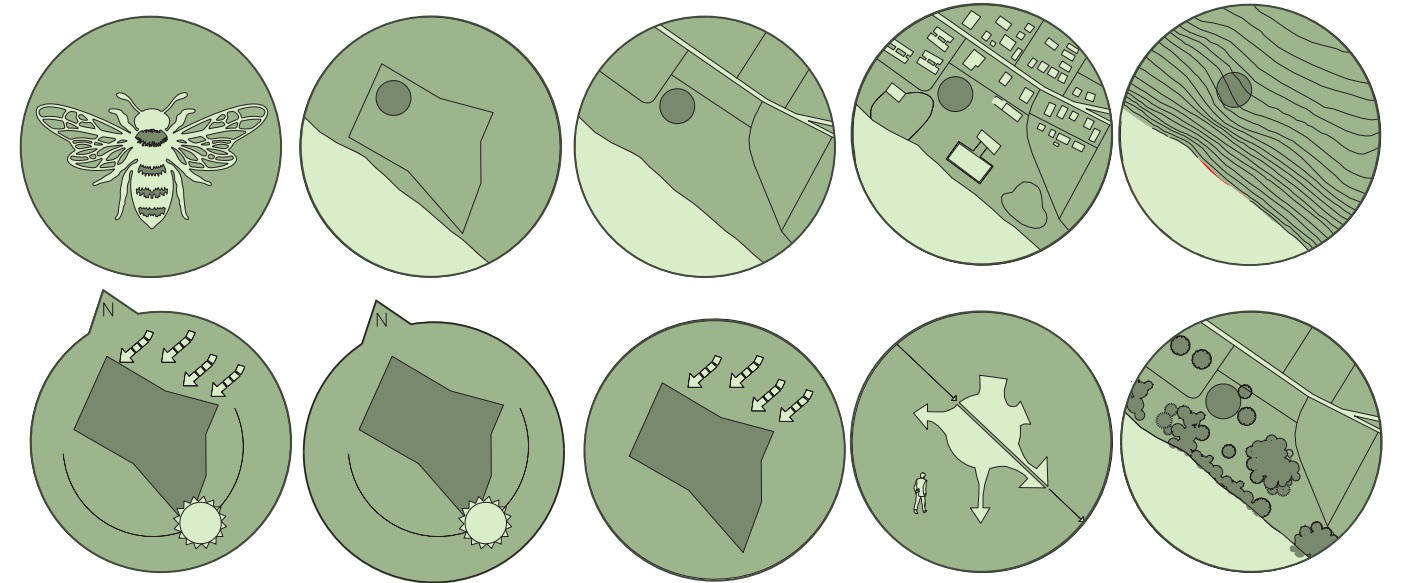


DISTORTED PERSPECTIVE



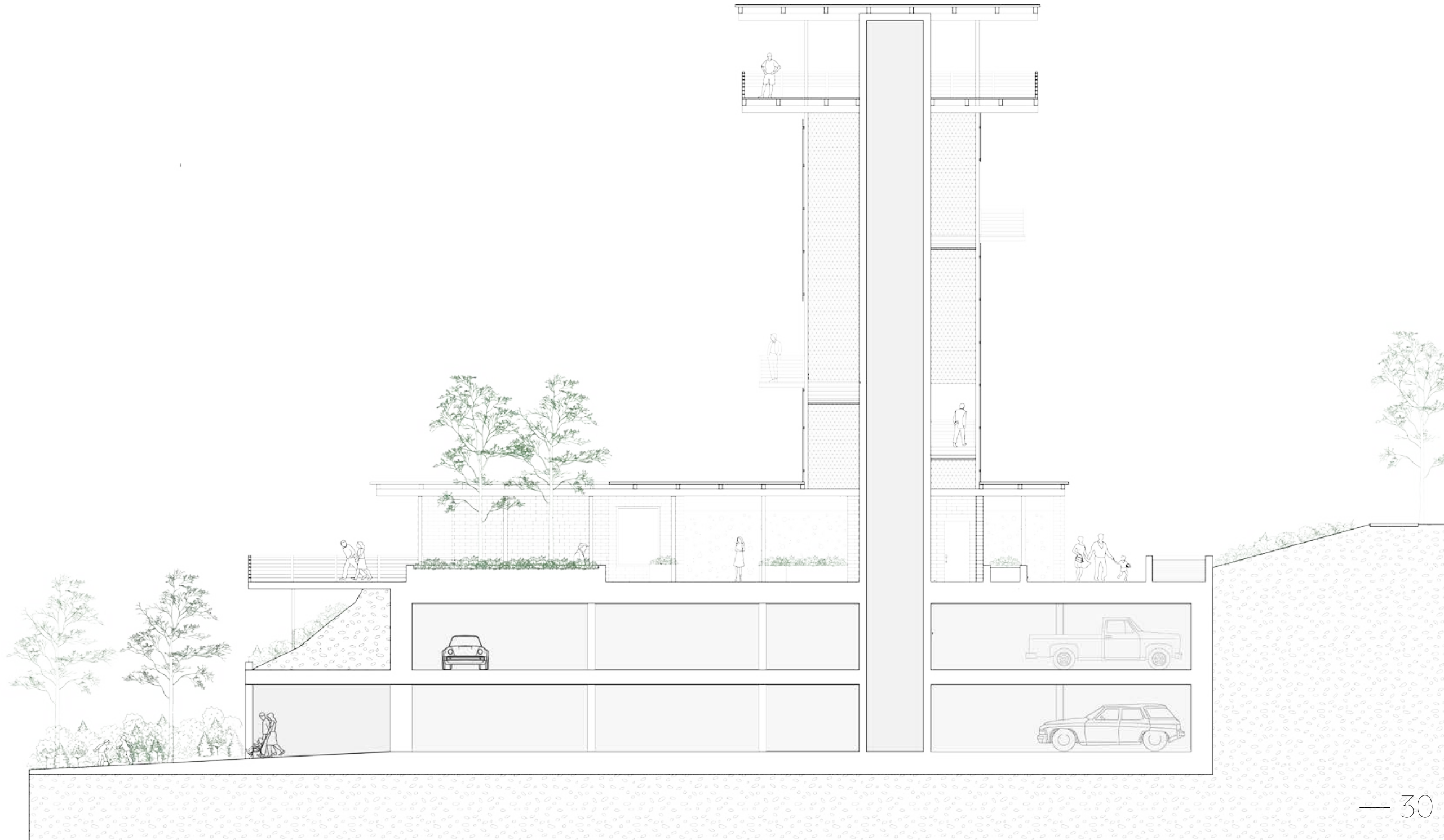


FLOORPLAN 



SITE STRATEGY DIAGRAMS

A defining feature of the design is the **observation tower**. The tower is composed of a steel structure rising from the limestone brick- **standing as both a landmark and an interactive experience**. Wrapped in perforated mesh, the tower allows visibility from within and below, turning the act of ascending into a **processional journey** through the landscape. Balconies at each rise provide moments of pause, offering sweeping views of the river and city and leading to a large observation deck. Additionally, the cantilevered **ground-level deck** helps to frame views of Town Lake's dense vegetation, reinforcing the center's relationship with the surrounding ecology.



BUILDING SECTION



# ITZTLI CALLI VISITOR'S CENTER

*Cerro de las Navajas Geopark*

Advanced Design | Fall 2023

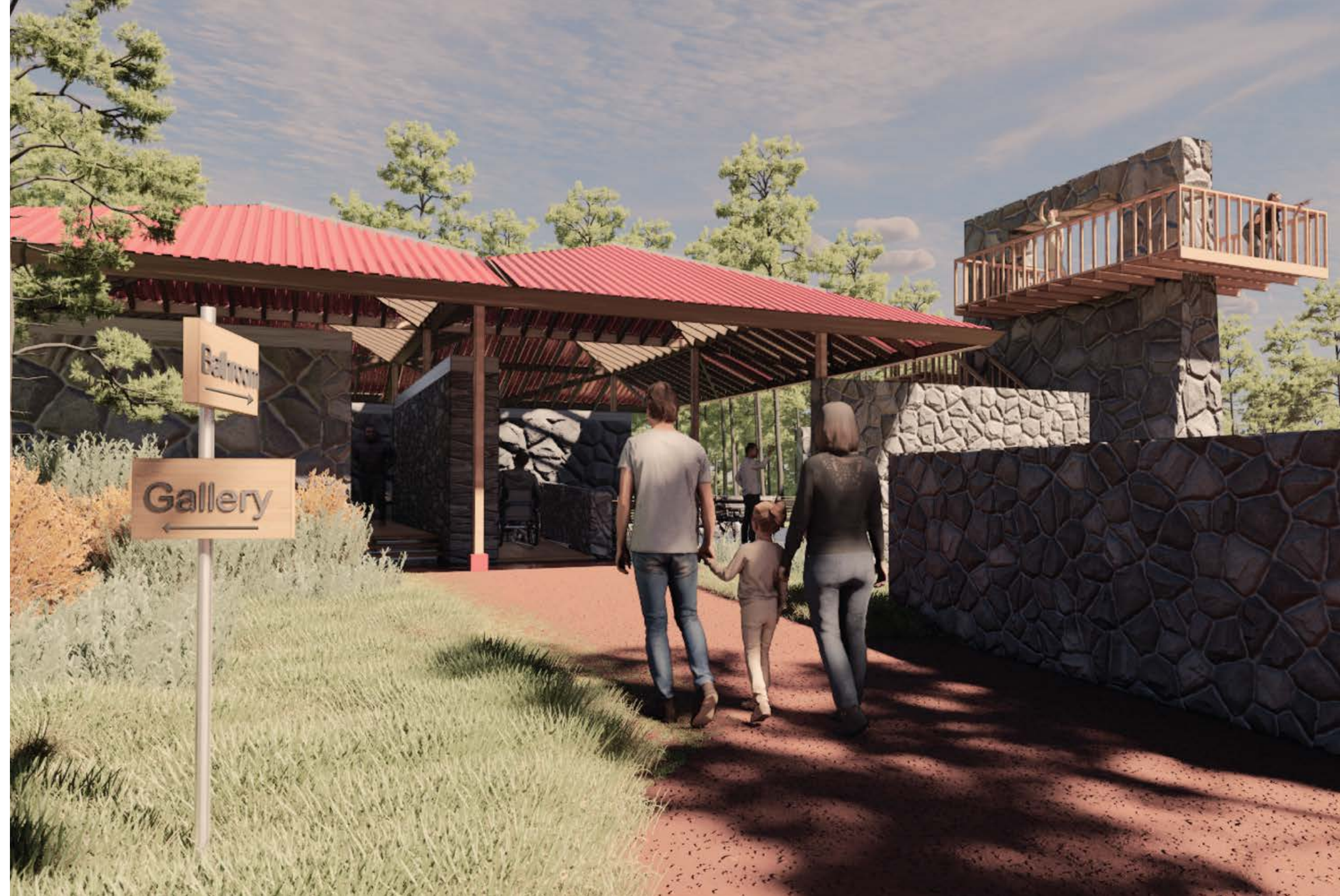
Partner: Claire Kelly

Location: Pachuca, Hidalgo Mexico.

**Selected for presentation with local Edjito**

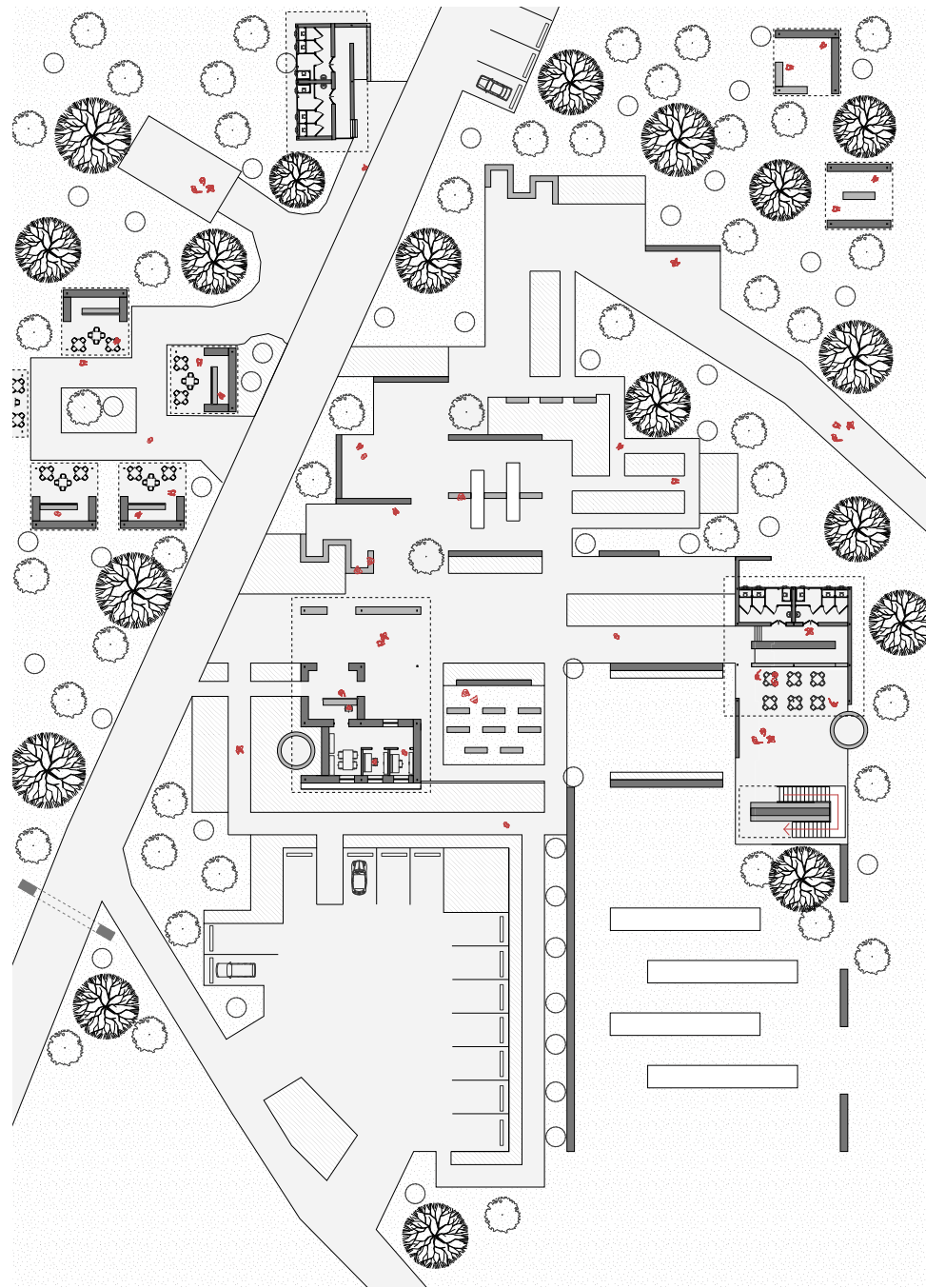
The Itztli Calli (**Obsidian House**) visitor center is located within the Comarca Minera UNESCO Global Geopark in Hidalgo, Mexico. The site holds immense geological, ecological, and cultural significance as it houses the **main source of obsidian used throughout Mesoamerican civilizations** in Central Mexico. As a protected area, the geopark serves as a platform for education, research, and tourism.

The project embraces sustainability by integrating **traditional construction methods** with minimal ecological impact, ensuring that the design respects local heritage while harmonizing with the natural landscape. By fostering **community involvement**, the project promotes a sustainable development model that acknowledges the region's rich history and unique environment- **establishing a new visual and physical connection to the site.**

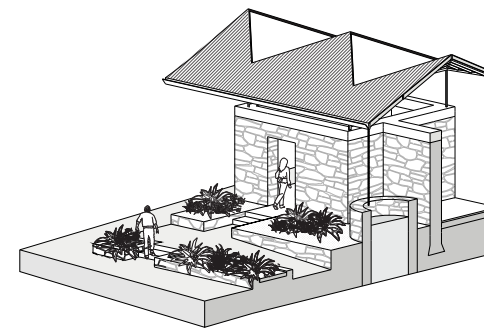


EXTERIOR RENDER

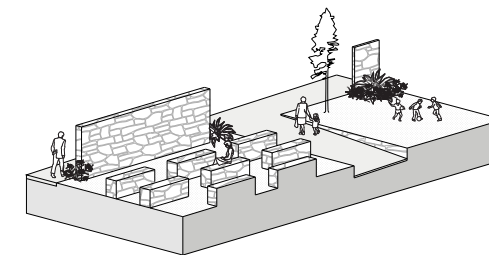




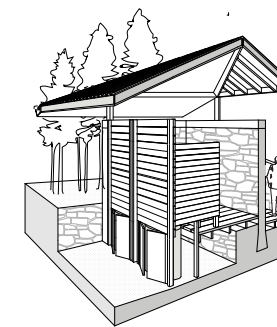
 FLOORPLAN



MAIN BUILDING



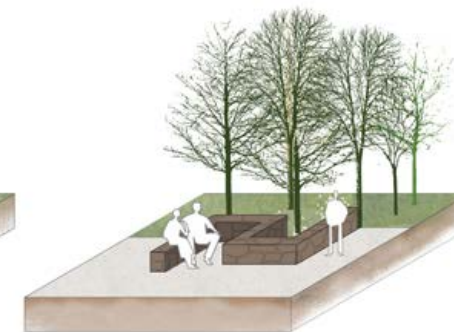
OUTDOOR CLASSROOM



COMPOST TOILETS



AGAVE FARM

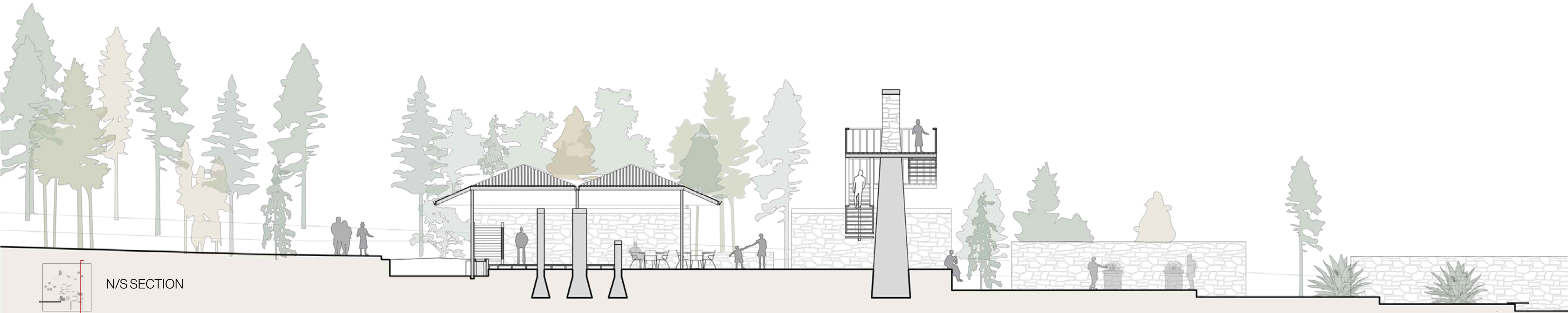


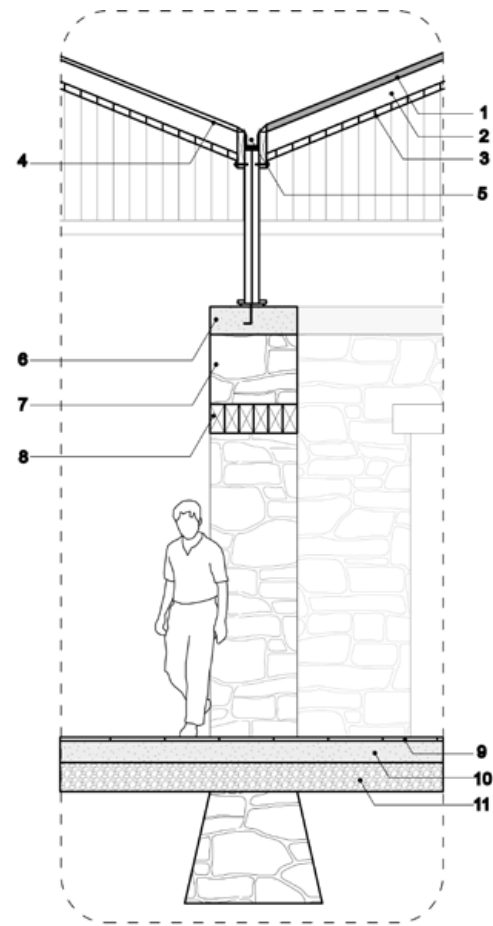
REST AREAS



GALLERY

Conceived as a “**living pavilion**,” the visitor center adapts to its context through passive design strategies that optimize natural light and ventilation, reducing energy consumption. **Rainwater harvesting systems** and **solar-reflective roofing** materials contribute to water and energy self-sufficiency, reinforcing the project’s commitment to environmental responsibility. By blending ecological awareness with cultural appreciation, the center **fosters a deeper understanding of the geopark’s significance**- establishing a stronger connection between visitors and the land.





## BUILDING STRUCTURE

1. CORRUGATED STEEL ROOF CLADDING (2')
2. LIGHTWEIGHT WOOD TRUSS
3. WOOD FINISH
4. POLYCARBONATE SHEET (1')
5. STEEL GUTTER
6. CONCRETE BOND BEAM (6")
7. STONE WALL (2')
8. WOOD LINTEL
9. CERAMIC TILE (2')
10. CONCRETE SLAB (8")
11. GRAVEL FILL (8")



GALLERY RENDER



# Thank You

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