



# Portfolio

*| Academic and Professional | 2019-2024 |  
lujja Maharjan*

# Luja Maharjan

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617-852-4662  
lujamaharjan80@gmail.com

I am a creative and passionate architecture student with a profound interest in art and design. With over a year of professional experience, I have independently worked on and managed numerous architecture projects of varying scales, consistently delivering high-quality results that meet client specifications.

Architecture provides an incredible opportunity for global change and social engagement, and I am eager to learn and gain more experience in this field. Currently, I am pursuing a Master of Architecture degree at the University of Idaho, with an expected graduation date of May 2025. I am dedicated to integrating innovative design solutions into all my work.

## Education

**Master in Architecture | 2023- Present|**  
University of Idaho, Moscow, Idaho |Gpa: 4.00 |

**Bachelor's in Architecture | 2015- 2021|**  
Pokhara University  
Nepal Engineering College, Bhaktapur, Nepal  
| Gpa: 3.78 |

**High School| 2013-2015|**  
G.E.M.S Institute of Higher Education, Nepal

## Awards:

- Dean's list recognition for outstanding undergraduate meritorious achievement.  
| Pokhara University |
- Asian Paints college competition  
| 1st Runner |
- Asian Paints national design competition  
| Honorable Mention |

## Skill:

- |            |                            |
|------------|----------------------------|
| + Acad     | + Adobe Photoshop          |
| + Sketchup | + Adobe Indesign           |
| + Rhino    | + Adobe Illustrator        |
| + Revit    | + Ms Office                |
| + Lumion   | + HEED Analysis            |
| + Enscape  | + Cove Analysis            |
| + Vray     | + Teamwork & communication |

## Language:

English, Nepali, Newari and Hindi

## Work Experience

**Graduate Teaching Assistant| 2023- Present|**  
**Department of Architecture, University of Idaho, Moscow, Idaho**

- Teaching assistant for natural lighting ( ARCH 570), Environment Building System ( ARCH 464), Architecture design studio I and II, Introduction to build environment , Introduction to architectural design and Media in architecture.
- Critiqued and guided students with drafting, modeling and sketching projects.
- Assisted Professor on grading student assignments, notebooks, reports and quizzes.

**Junior Architect|2021- 2023|**  
**ARC architects and engineers pvt.ltd, Kupondole, Lalitpur**

- Worked on projects of different scale such as housing, apartments, interiors and landscape from planning phase to finalization.
- Demonstrated conceptual presentations on different projects.
- Worked on construction and detail drawings, both municipal and working.
- Produced drawings, 3D visualizations and animations using various softwares.

**Model making for Red Panda Conservation, Taplejung, Nepal| 2020|**  
**Sustainable Mountain Architects (SMA), Chakupat, Nepal**

- Worked with a team on two different scaled models for red panda conservation center located in Taplejung, Nepal.
- Assisted site crew and trainee architect.

**Intern Architect|2019|**  
**ARC architects and engineers pvt.ltd, Kupondole, Lalitpur**

- Worked under senior architect on architectural and structural drawings, interior design, planning and landscape projects.

## Volunteer

**Volunteer for Bungamati Municipal Camp, Bungamati, Nepal | 2019|**  
**UN- Habitat and Lumanti, Nepal**

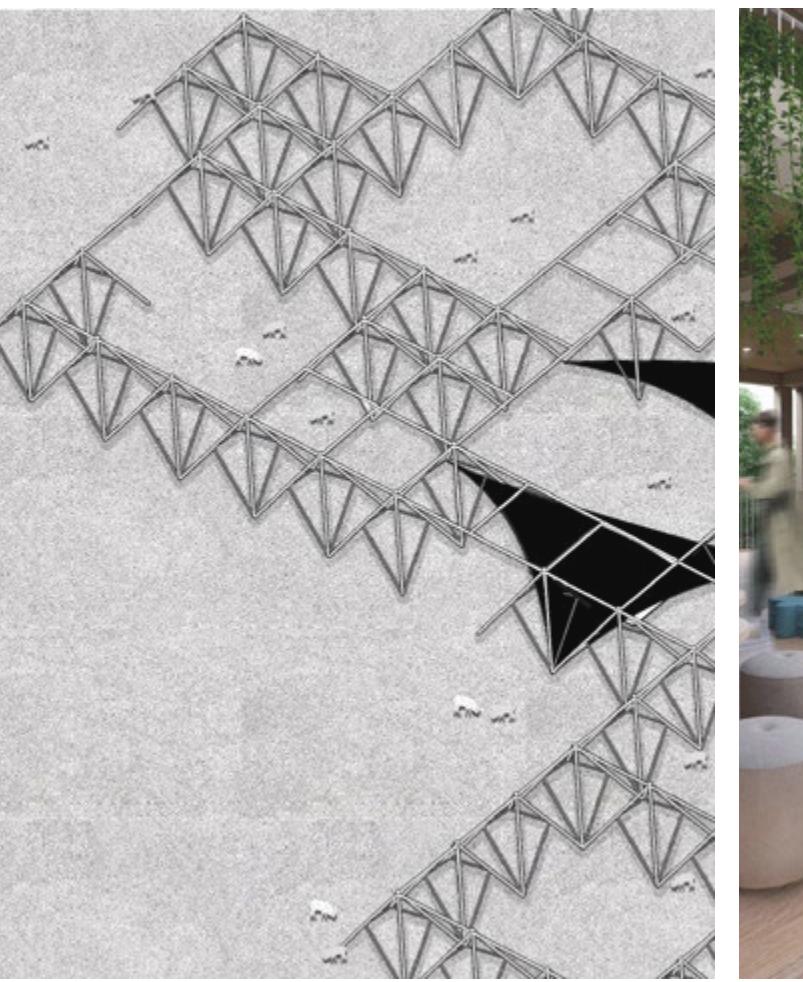
- Worked under experts to plan and re-design homes destroyed by the 2015 Gurkha earthquake.
- Preparation of Municipal drawing set.
- Active communication and consultation with the locals of Bungamati.

## Reference

Ar. Niluja Singh  
Landscape Architect, Populous  
952-393-5495  
Niluja.singh@populous.com

Emeritus Professor Bruce Haglund  
University of Idaho  
208-885-5710  
bhaglund@uidaho.edu

Madalyn Asker  
University of Idaho  
masker@uidaho.edu



01.  
World within world | Academic | 024 |



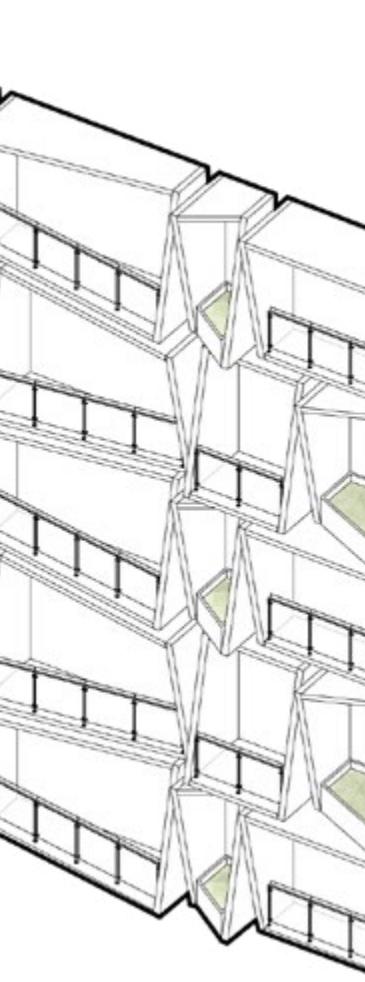
02.  
Between Spaces | Academic | 023 |



03.  
Settlement study | academic | 020



04.  
Madhuban Homes | Professional | 021 |



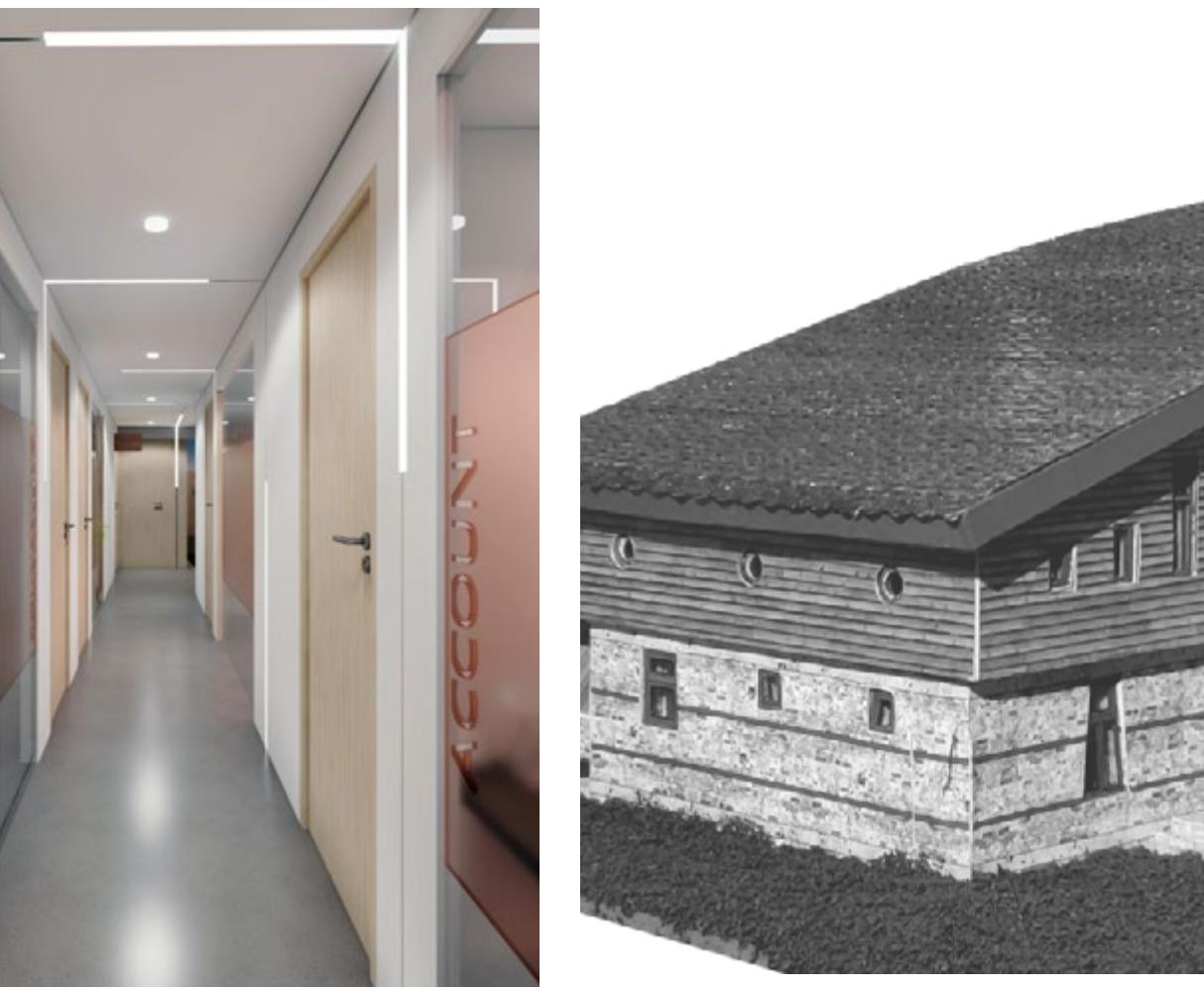
05.  
Twisted Apartment | Professional | 023 |



06.  
Apartment | Professional | 022 |



07.  
IVF Interior | Professional | 021 |



08.  
Model Making | Professional | 019 |

# 01.

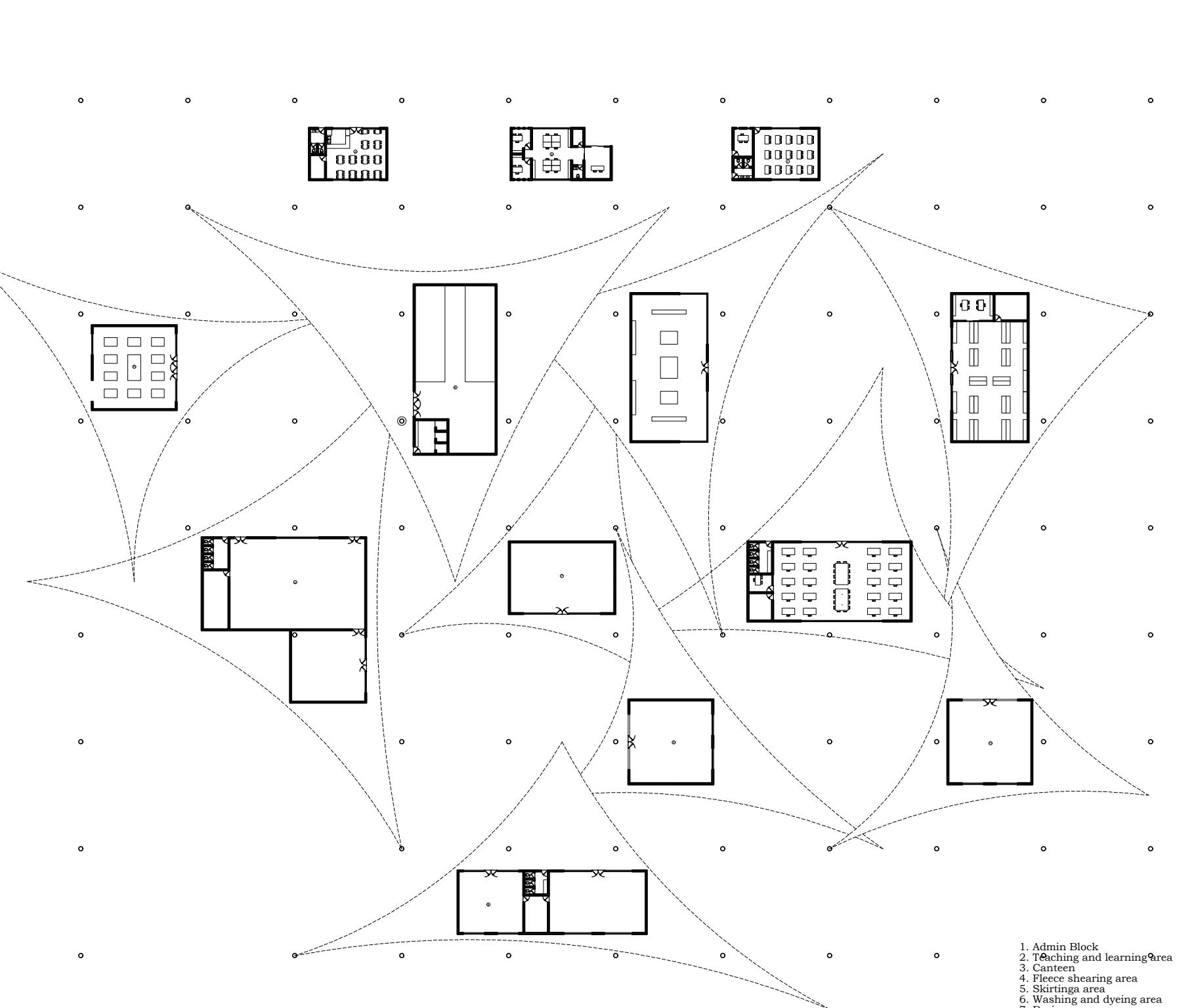
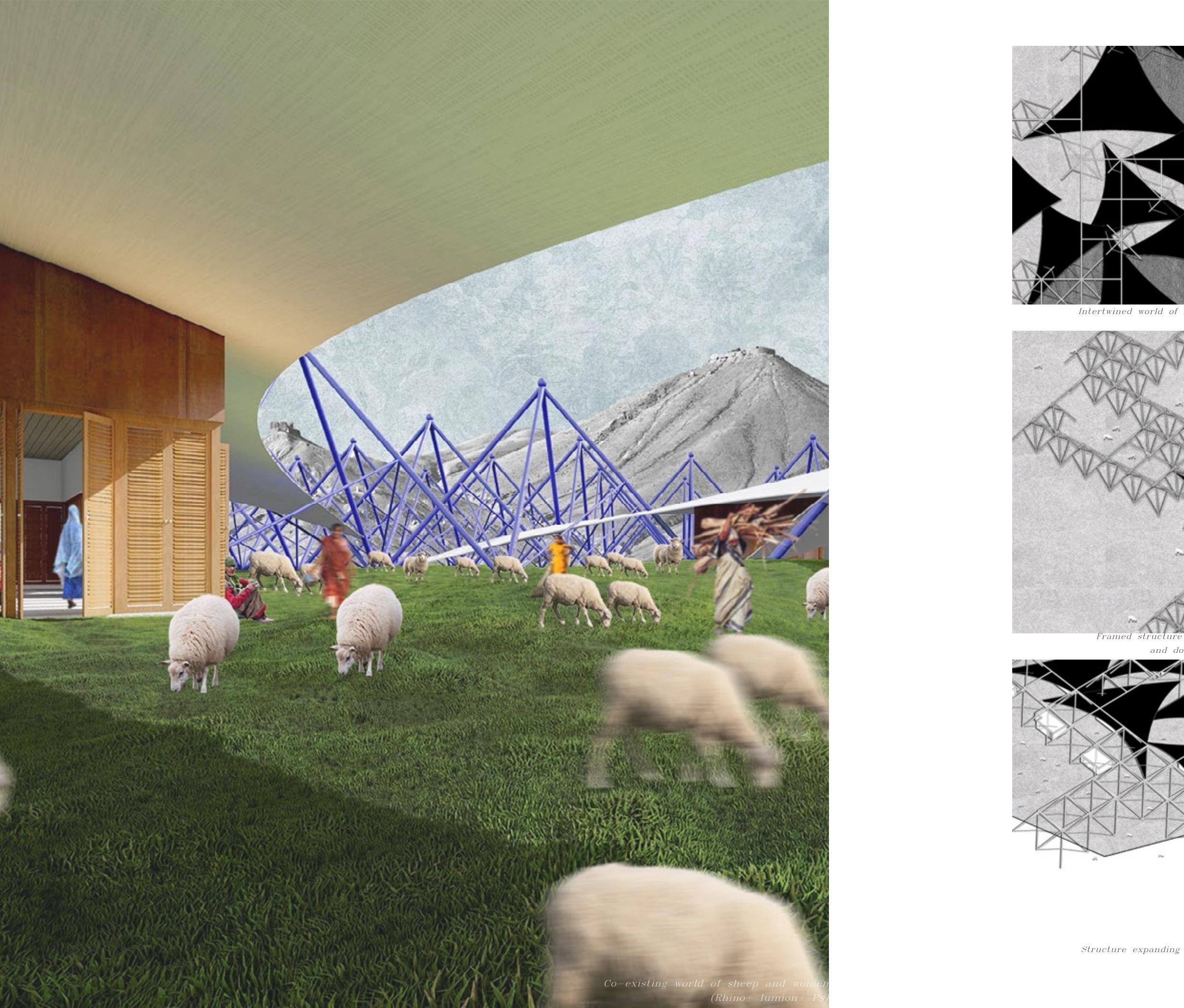
## World within world

| Academic | 2024 |

PROJECT TYPE: ACADEMIC PROJECT  
PROJECT LOCATION: MUSTANG, NEPAL  
PROJECT YEAR: 2024  
SUPERVISOR: LORI SMITHEY

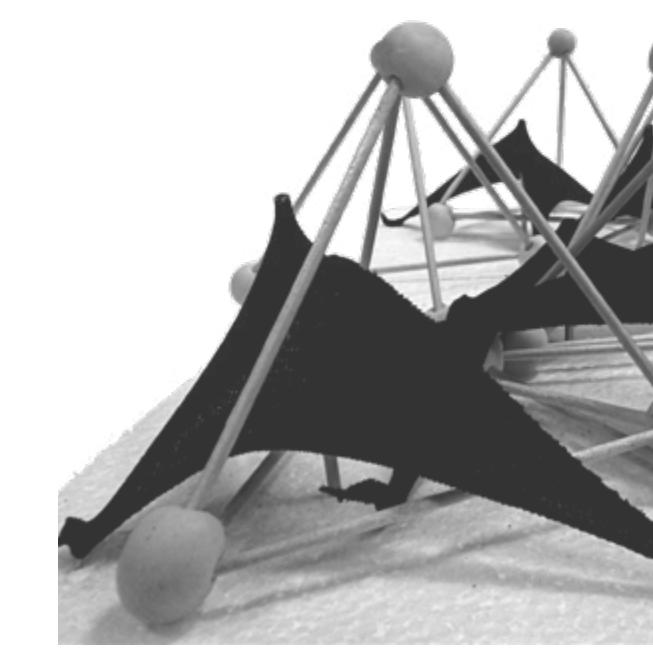
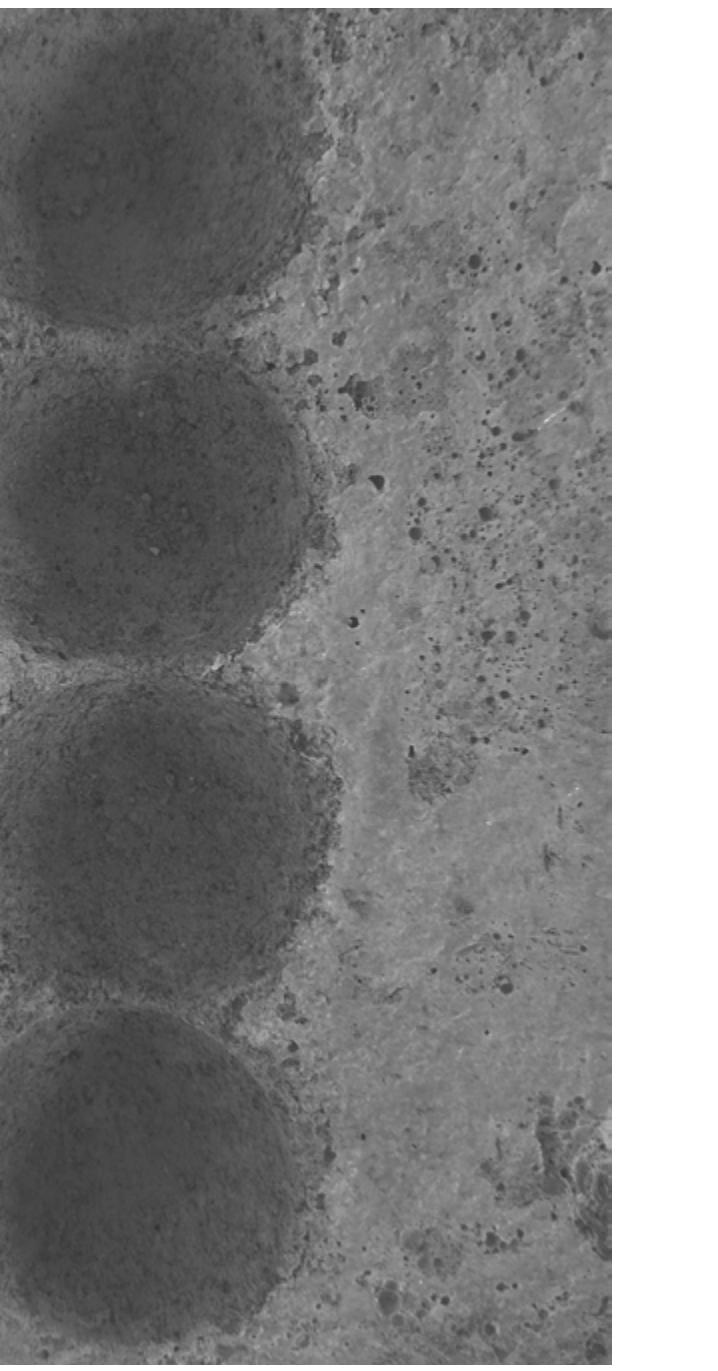
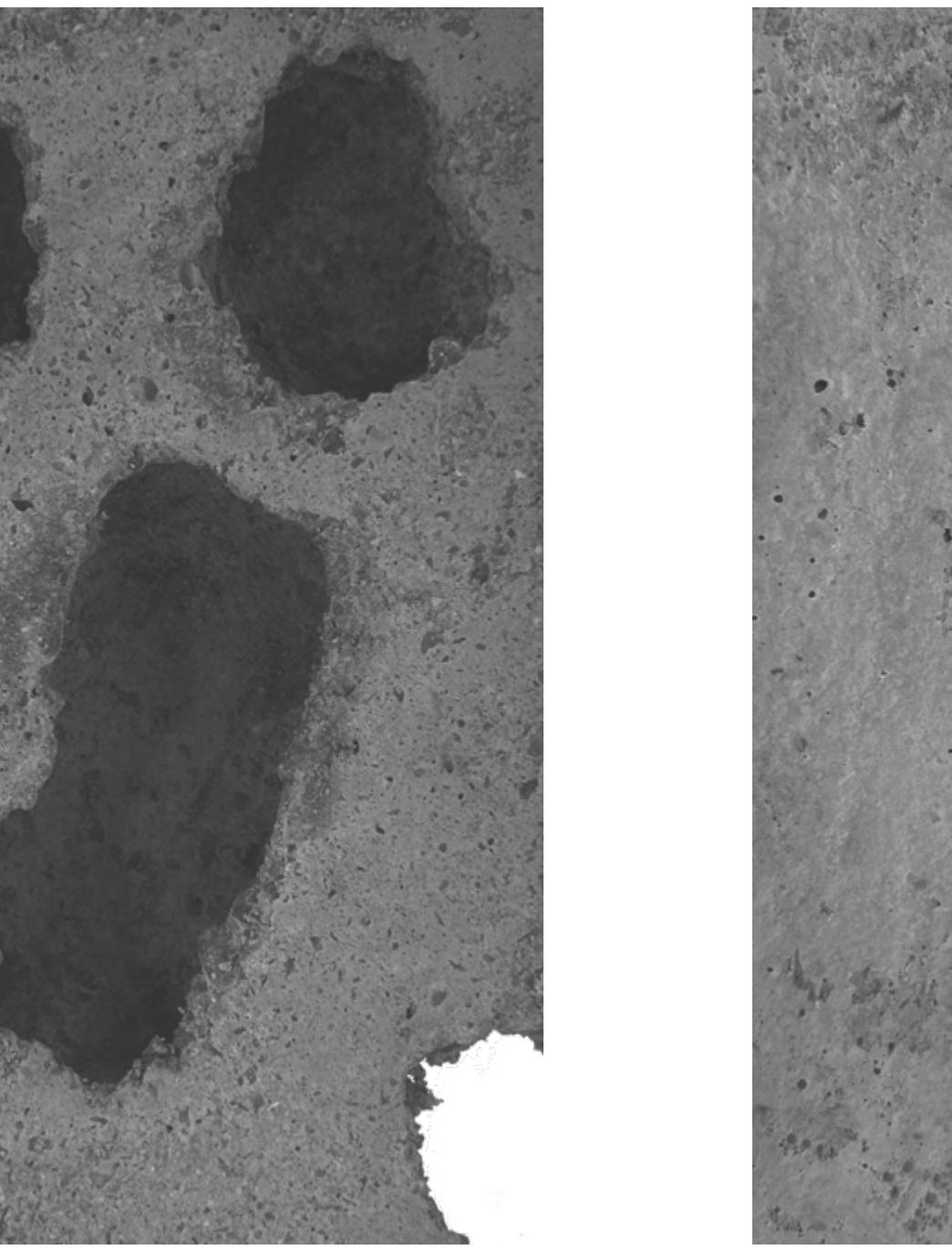
"World within world" is a studio project based on the reading of Donna Haraway "Staying with the trouble". Haraway, states that the world we currently reside is a mess and finding a simple solution will not address the change. Social injustice, social crisis exists within a society and instead looking for a solution Donna encourages us to confront and work with the trouble and complexity. She encourages us to see ourselves as a part of intricate webs of relationships and to work within these complex systems. Her text also emphasizes the concept of co-existence and symbiotic relationship between human and earth other. Her concept on inclusion of other being gives a broader view of justice that includes the rights and well-being of non-human species. Based on her reading the project is developed not to solve the injustice that is going on in a society or between the two co-existence being. Instead the project is designed to create a different world where species collaboration and coexistence are equally celebrated.

*note: The project includes narratives.*

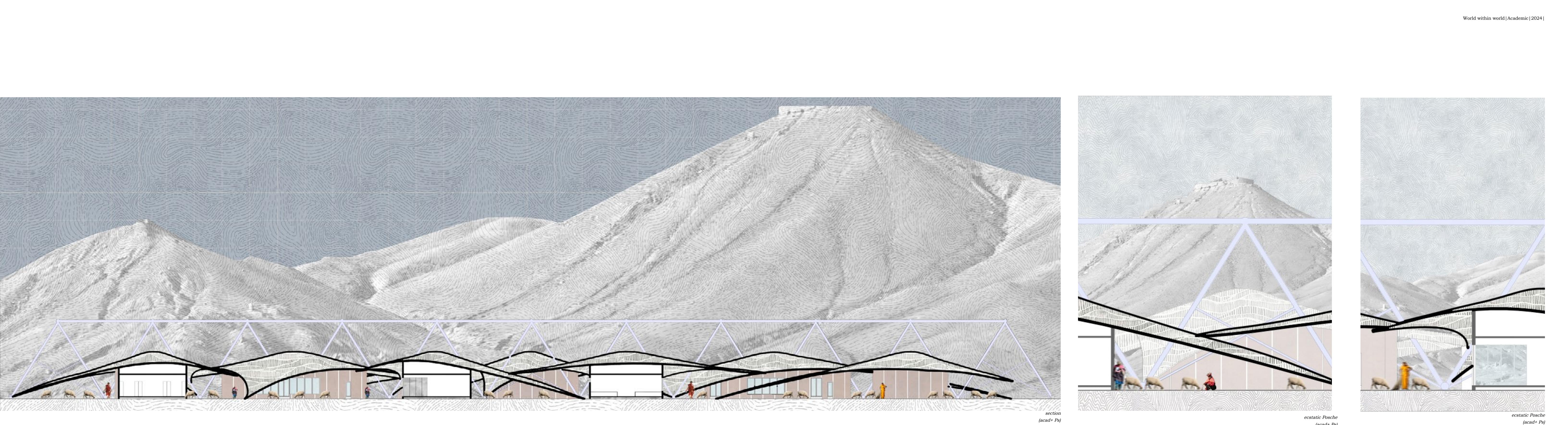


In this designed sanctuary sheep, the non- human creature is the heroic character with its imposed, large scaled space- framed structure scattered over the land. These structure expresses the power, strength and dominance these non- human creatures hold over the world of human.

Within this significant structure of sheep, the non- human creature is the heroic character with its imposed, large scaled space- framed structure scattered over the land. These structure expresses the power, strength and dominance these non- human creatures hold over the world of human.

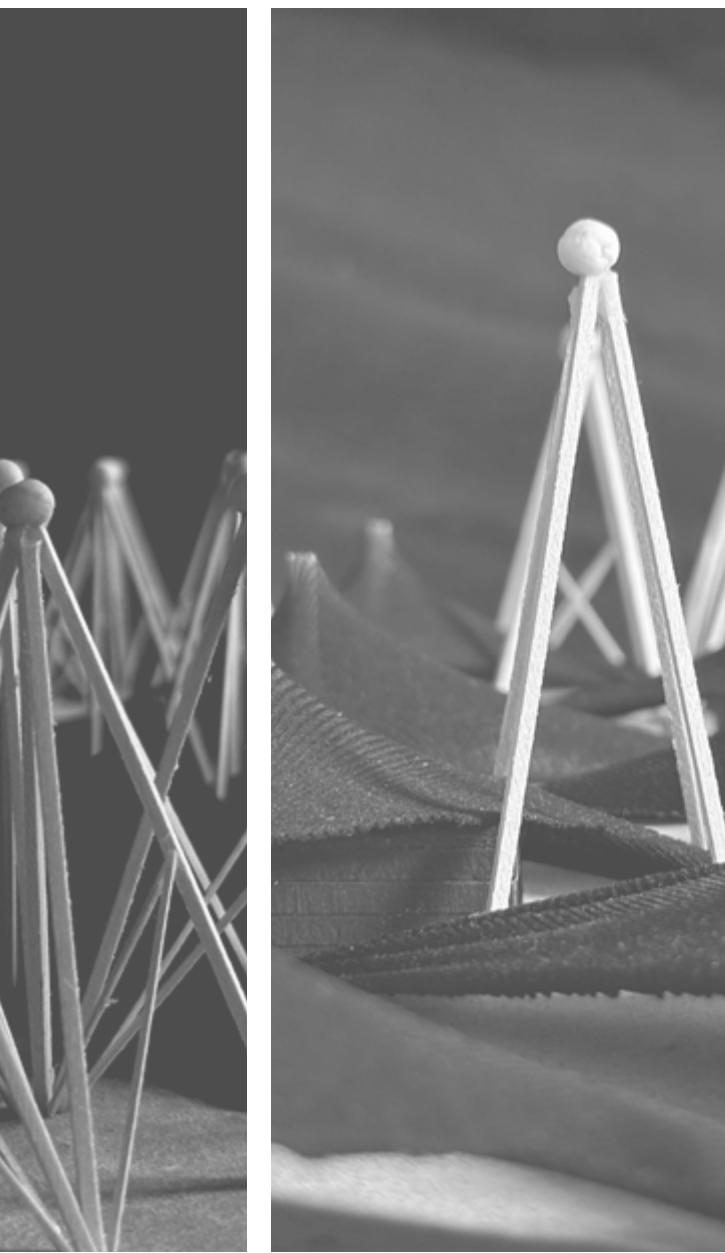
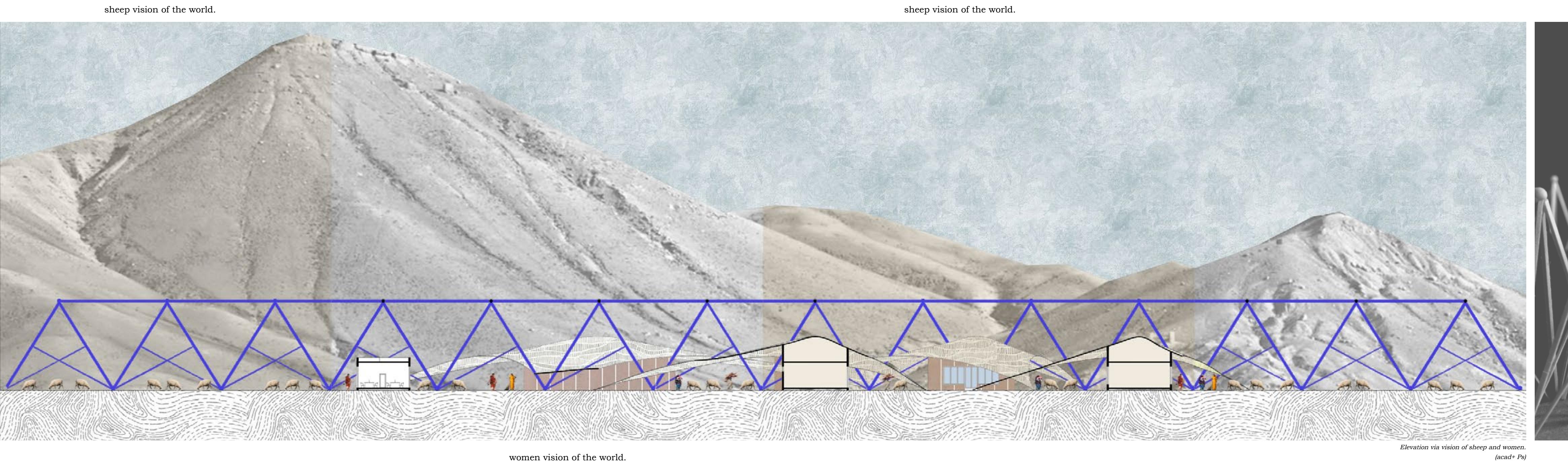


*Experimental Model Form within form*

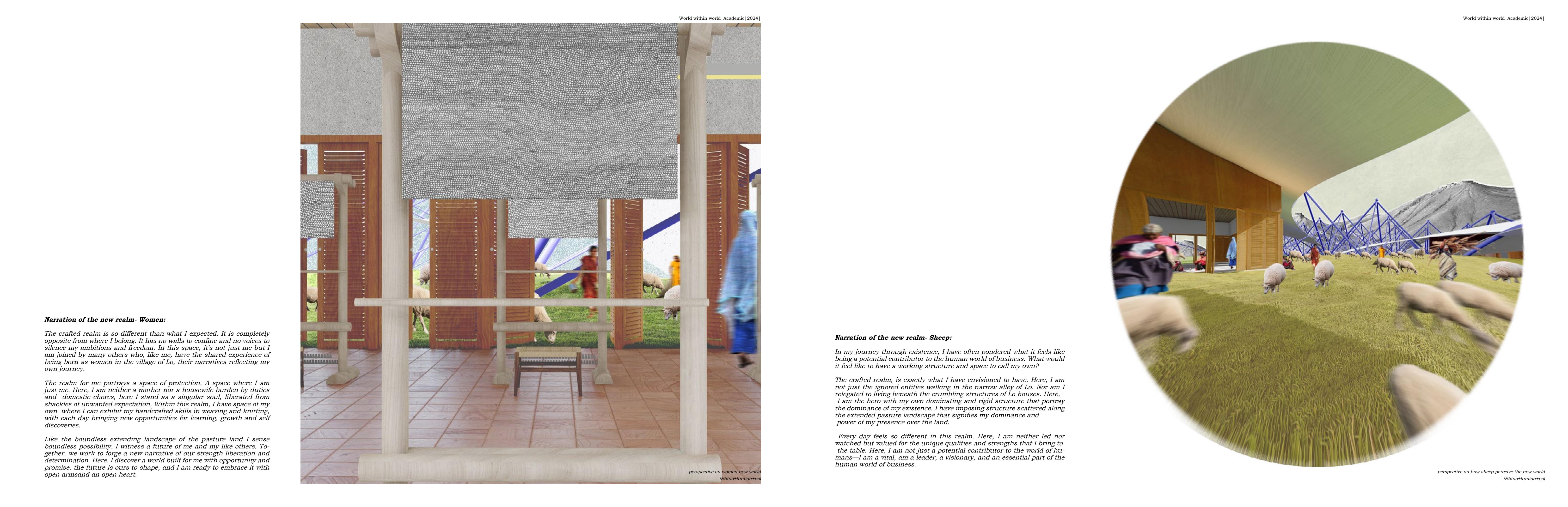


The tensioned fabric structure above each workshop, indicates the underlying tension and shared struggle felt among the women and the sheep of Lo, striving to set free from the norms and embrace a new path forward. This taut tension serves as a transitional zone, where both the neglected entities of Lo come together

to work towards a new narrative of liberation, independence, and empowerment. Within the fabricated environment, the sheep remain grounded, rooted to the earth, while the women seek refuge beneath the stretched fabric.



The monumental steel-spaced frame structures, massive in scale, scattered over the land. This structure provides refuge and a semi-enclosed space for the sheep, who were once confined to the crumble structures of Lo-Manthang. This enforced framework extends far beyond its limited boundaries, embodying the freedom from confined world that victims have been advocating for through generations. The deliberate enlargement of these steel structure's serves to depict the superiority of the sheep in the designed realm



#### **Narration of the new realm- Women:**

The crafted realm is so different than what I expected. It is completely opposite from where I belong. It has no walls to confine and no voices to silence my ambitions and freedom. In this space, it's not just me but I am joined by many others who, like me, have the shared experience of being born as women in the village of Lo, their narratives reflecting my own journey.

The realm for me portrays a space of protection. A space where I am just me. Here, I am neither a mother nor a housewife burdened by duties and domestic chores, here I stand as a singular soul, liberated from shackles of unwanted expectation. Within this realm, I have space of my own where I can exhibit my handcrafted skills in weaving and knitting, with each day bringing new opportunities for learning, growth and self discoveries.

Like the boundless extending landscape of the pasture land I sense boundless possibility, I witness a future of me and my like others. Together, we work to forge a new narrative of our strength, liberation and determination. Here, I discover a world built for me with opportunity and promise. The future is ours to shape, and I am ready to embrace it with open arms and an open heart.

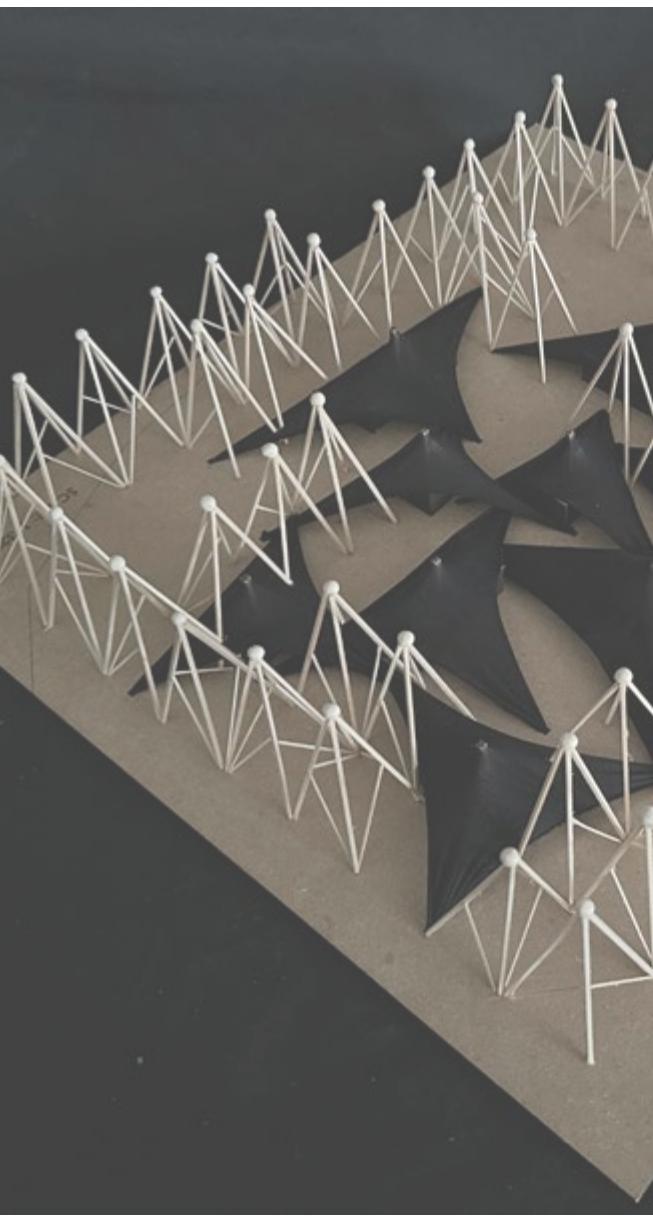
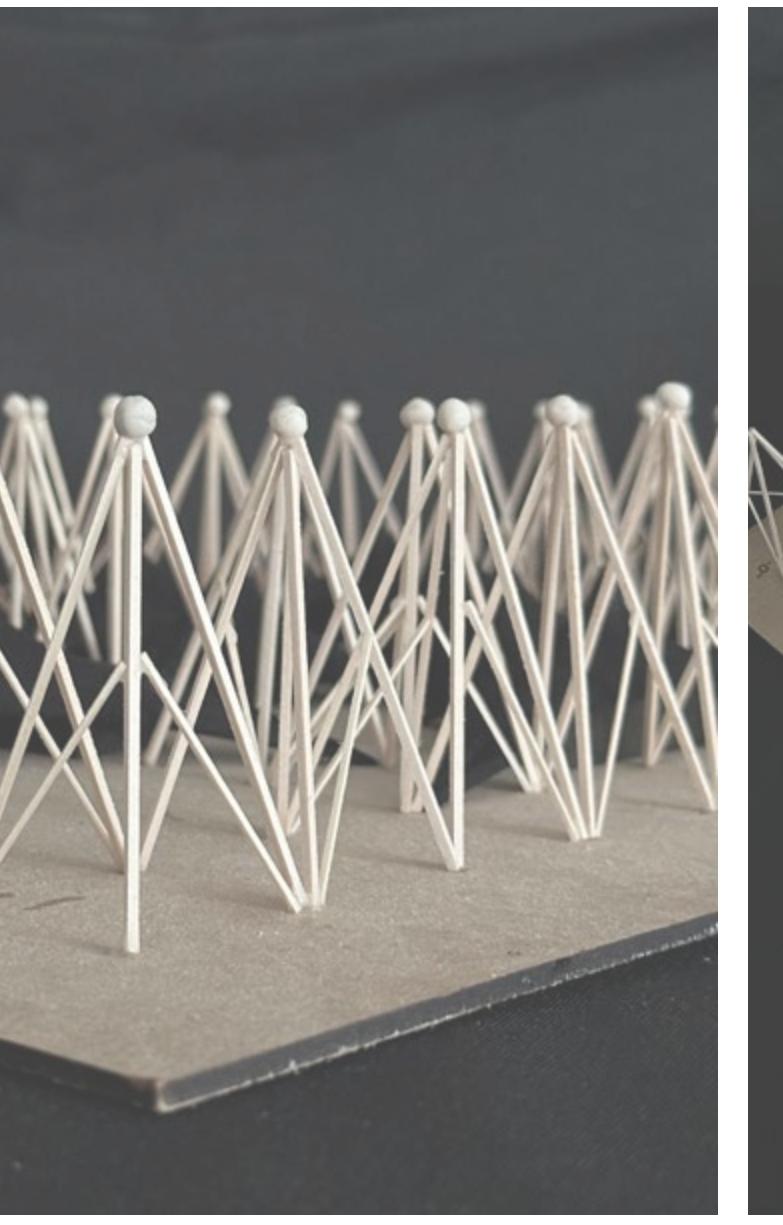
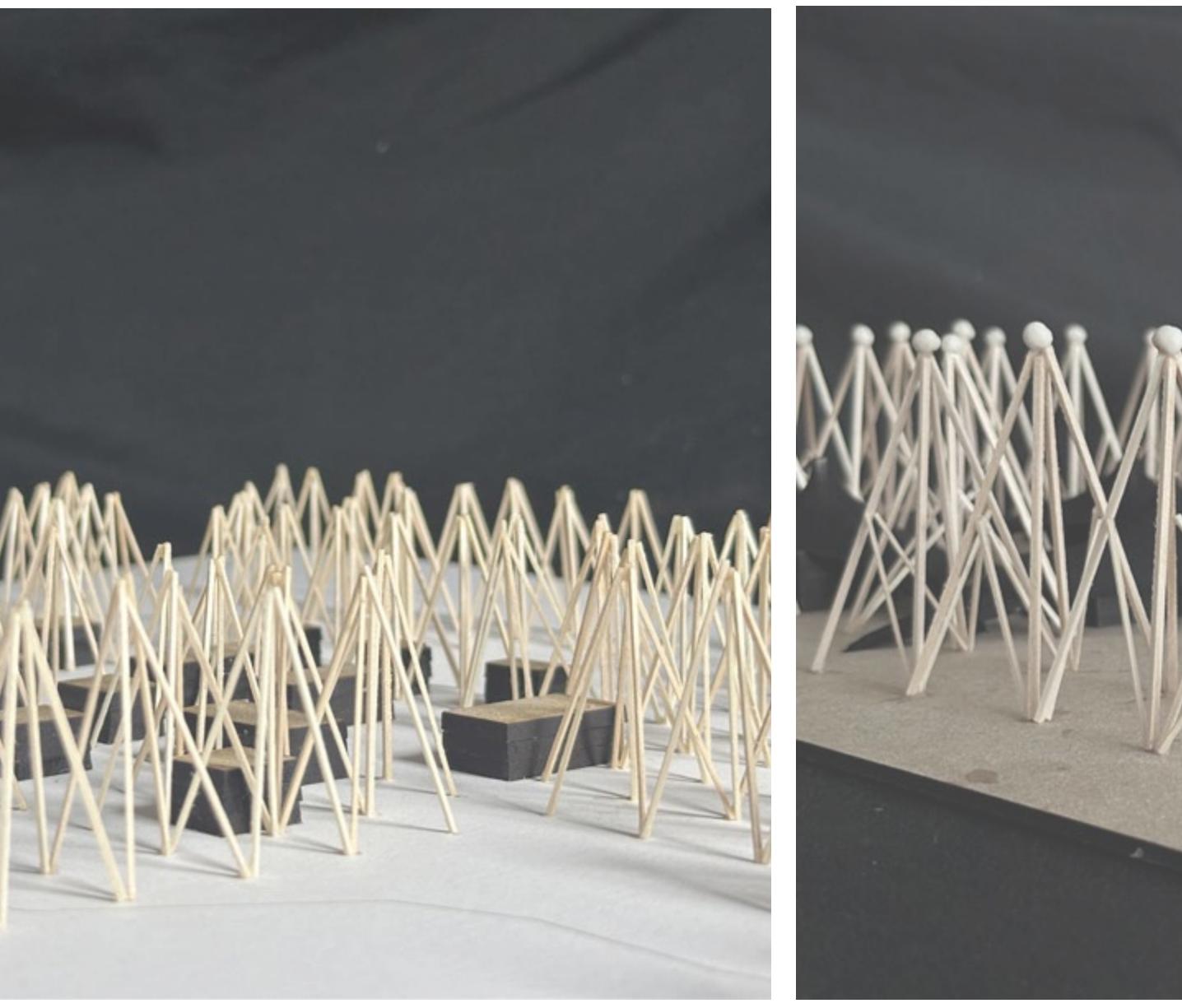
#### **Narration of the new realm- Sheep:**

In my journey through existence, I have often pondered what it feels like being a potential contributor to the human world of business. What would it feel like to have a working structure and space to call my own?

The crafted realm, is exactly what I have envisioned to have. Here, I am not just the ignored entities walking in the narrow alley of Lo. Nor am I relegated to living beneath the crumbling structures of Lo houses. Here, I am the hero with my own dominating and rigid structure that portray the dominance of my existence. I have imposing structures scattered along the extended pasture landscape that signifies my dominance and power of my presence over the land.

Every day feels so different in this realm. Here, I am neither led nor

watched but valued for the unique qualities and strengths that I bring to the table. Here, I am not just a potential contributor to the world of humans—I am a vital, am a leader, a visionary, and an essential part of the human world of business.



# 02.

## Between Spaces

A social housing  
|Academic|2023|

PROJECT TYPE: SOCIAL HOUSING  
PROJECT LOCATION: TROY ROAD, MOSCOW, IDAHO  
PROJECT YEAR: 2023  
SUPERVISOR: LUKE IVER

"BETWEEN SPACES" is an affordable and equitable housing project designed for all age group people coming from low-income and different cultural background. The project is aligned to one of the noisiest Troy Highway, and is designed as a mixed used building. The housing serves for various community group of people from a working young profession to a family of four.

The communication between communities and individuals is often difficult to observe in the present time. This project aims to address this issue by ensuring that the lack of interaction is effectively maintained. The design not only considers but emphasizes the engagement and communication between people, focusing on how this continuity can be observed across all age groups.

The project beside designing also focuses on technical integration and designed following top 10 AIA building codes.



### Site Analysis



1. Sunpath



2. landuse



3. Vegetation



4. circulation

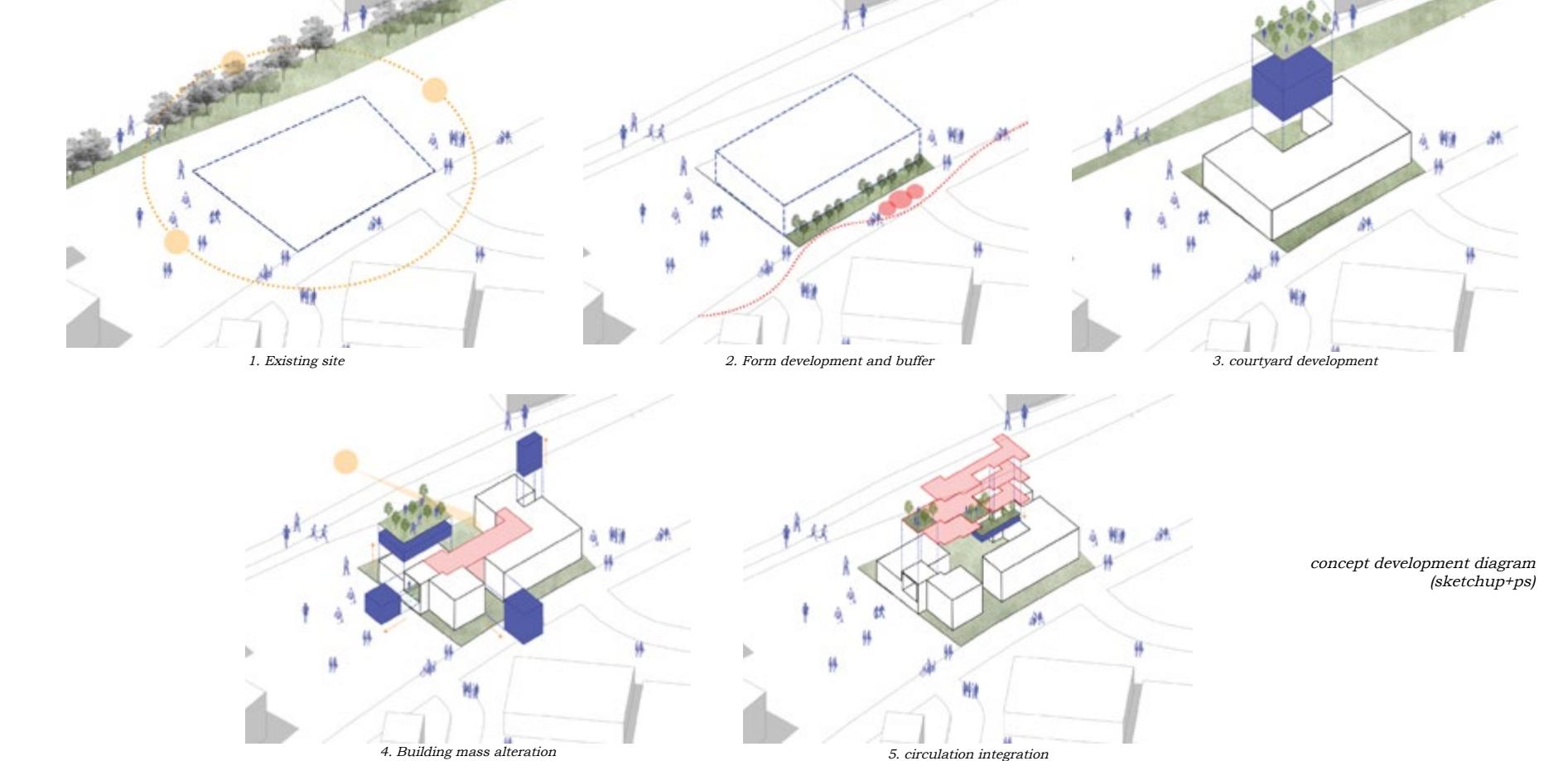


5. Noise



6. View and vista

site analysis diagram  
(acad+ ps)







central courtyard area



(sketchup+lumion+ps)

The second-floor corridor corner in the social housing project was transformed into a children's play area and a communal space to encourage social interaction among different age groups. Both areas feature double-height ceilings, enhancing the sense of space and allowing views and interactions between floors.

The communal space is flexible, serving as a community gathering spot, gallery, or casual area. The children's area, located roadside without barriers, encourages interaction with older residents passing by. Large openings ensure maximum natural light in both spaces.

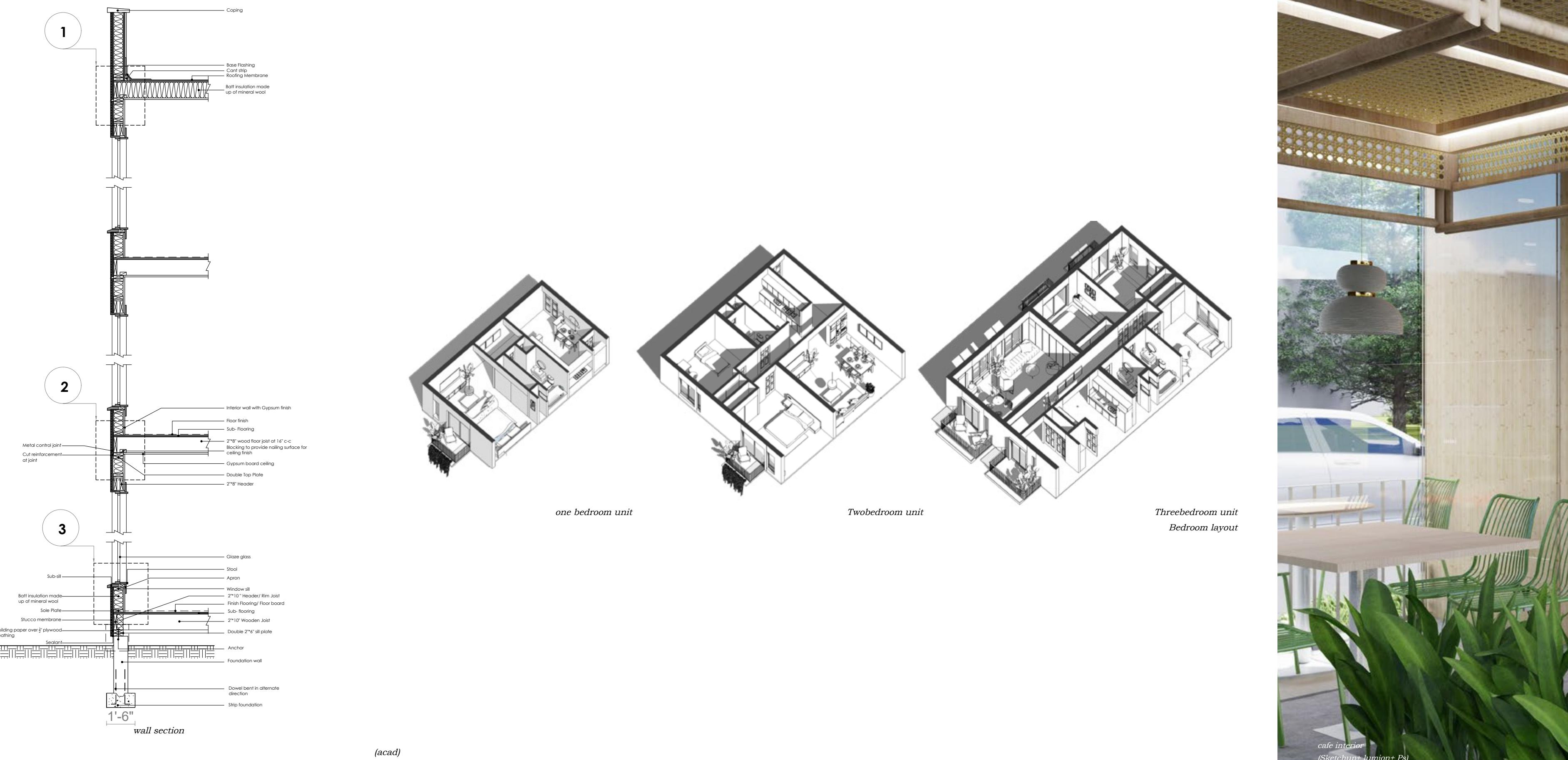


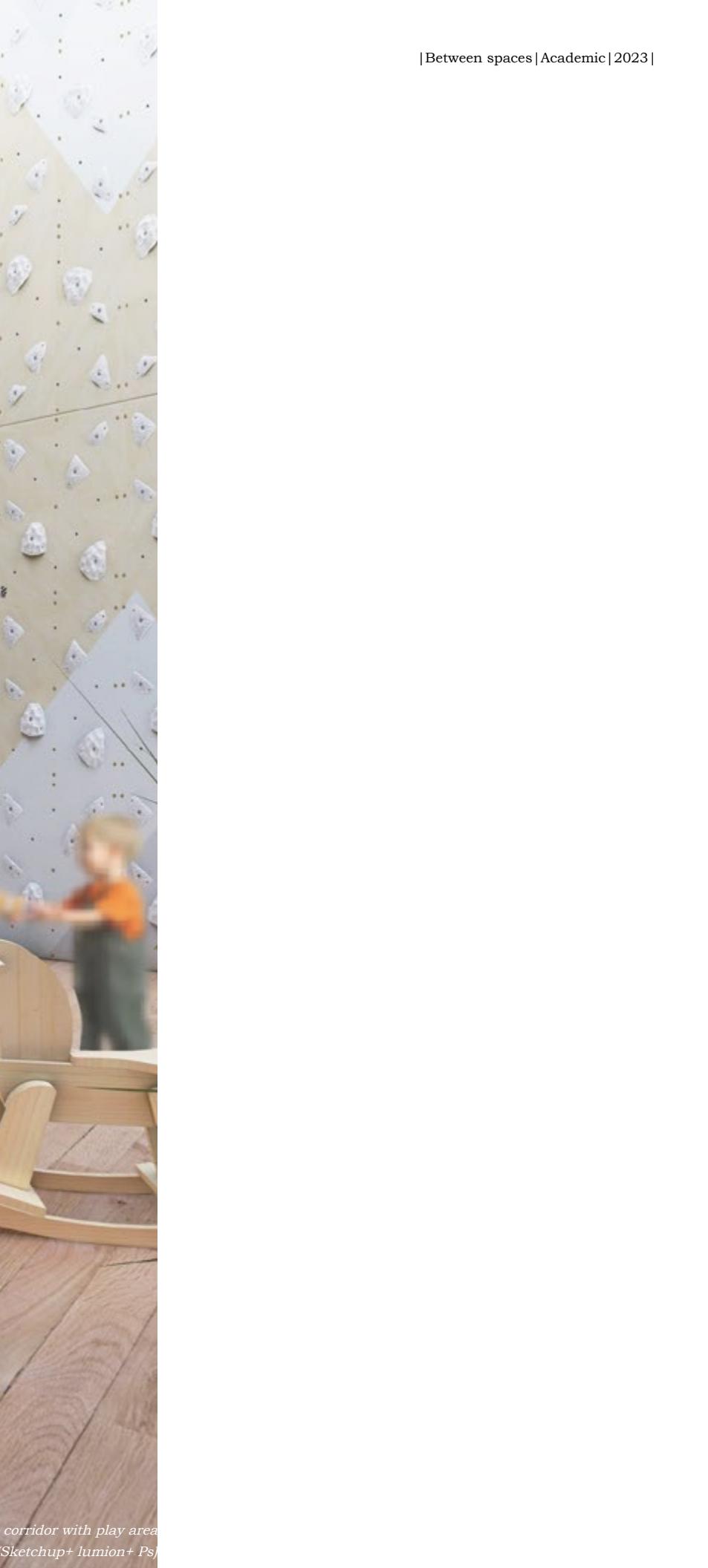
north elevation



south elevation

(acad+ps)



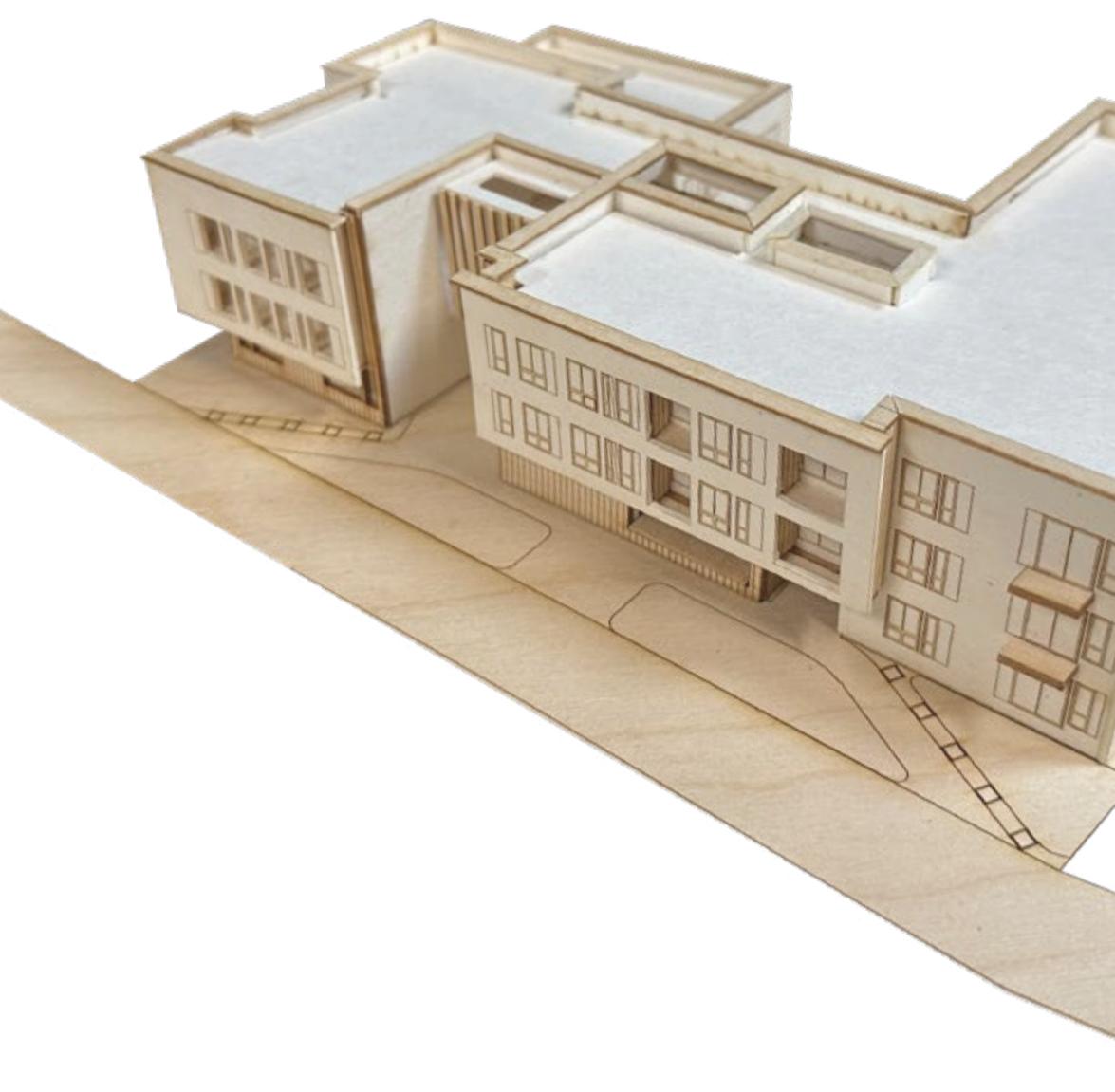


corridor with play area  
(Sketchup+ lumion+ Ps)

corridor with play area  
(Sketchup+ lumion+ Ps)



*Sectional Model*



*Model*

# 03.

## Settlement study

| Academic | 2020 |

PROJECT TYPE: SETTLEMENT STUDY  
 PROJECT LOCATION: PHIDIM, NEPAL  
 PROJECT YEAR: 2020

## TEAM WORK

The settlement study focused on exploring, studying and analyzing the entire settlement of Phidim, a village located in the Panchthar District of Nepal. A total of 40 students participated in the project, documenting, communicating and interviewing local people, and collecting data. Each group of 5 students was assigned further with a specific cluster. Later each individual cluster was joined to form the entire settlement plan of Phidim valley. The project involved studying the lives of the people- their religion, occupation and ethnicity, the vernacular architecture, materials used, condition of houses and creating hypothetical scenarios to address the changes the settlement was experiencing.

Further, based on our research and analysis, we proposed architectural solutions to improve the residents' quality of life. Our group suggested developing an agricultural hub for the people of Phidim, leveraging the fertile land and its potential for agriculture.

## Involvement:

- Interviewing local and collecting data
- Measured drawings of vernacular homes of Phidim which were in degrading conditions.
- Developing settlement plan
- studying the vernacular homes, technology and materials

## Ethnic Group:

Brahmin, Chhetri, Newar, Rai, Limbu, Magar, Tamang, Occupational, Gurung

## Condition of Houses:

Good, Moderate, Poor

## Occupation:

Army, Daily-wage, Farm/employment, Trade/Business, Service, Agriculture, Others

## Migration:

Temporary, Permanent

## Religion:

Hindu, Buddhist, Kirat, Others

## Architectural Style:

Vernacular, Hybrid, Modern

## Building use:

Residential, Institutional, Commercial, Public Space, Non-governmental Service Building, Non-governmental Organization, Animal Shed, Demolished, Not Present

## Waste Management:

Municipal, Self-disposal

## Age of Building:

Under Construction, 0-5, 5-15, 15-30, 30-50, 50 Above

## Study of individual group Cluster:

Army, Daily-wage, Farm/employment, Trade/Business, Service, Agriculture, Others

## Study of individual group Cluster:

Good, Moderate, Poor

## Condition of Houses:

Good, Moderate, Poor

## Occupation:

Army, Daily-wage, Farm/employment, Trade/Business, Service, Agriculture, Others

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## Age of Building:

Under Construction, 0-5, 5-15, 15-30, 30-50, 50 Above

## Study of individual group Cluster:

Good, Moderate, Poor

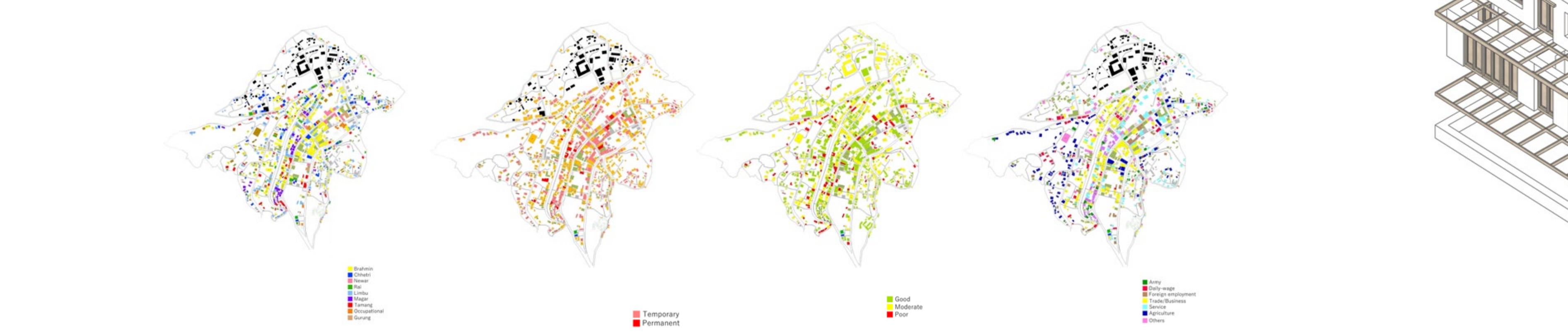
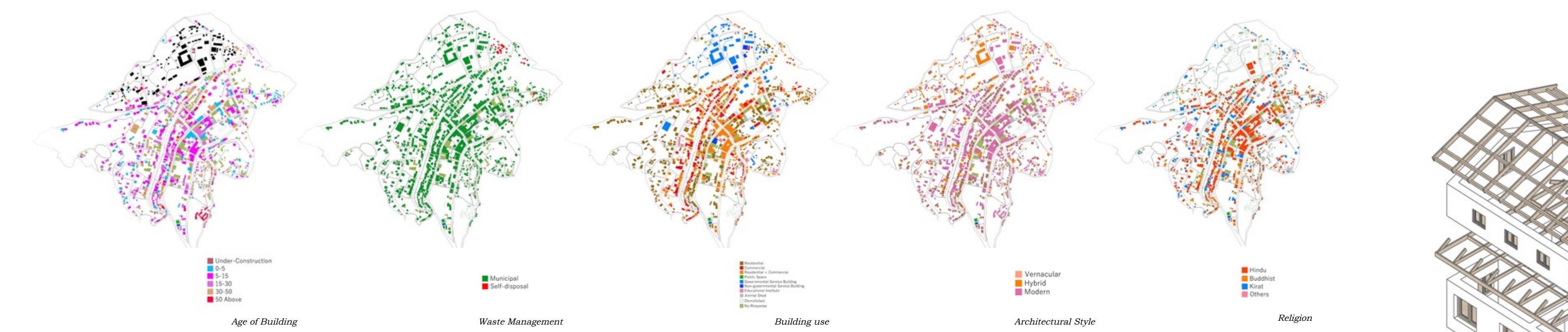
## Condition of Houses:

Good, Moderate, Poor

## Occupation:

Army, Daily-wage, Farm/employment, Trade/Business, Service, Agriculture, Others

## Religion:&lt;/



*Study of combined cluster*



*Image of documented house*

# 04.

## Madhuban Homes

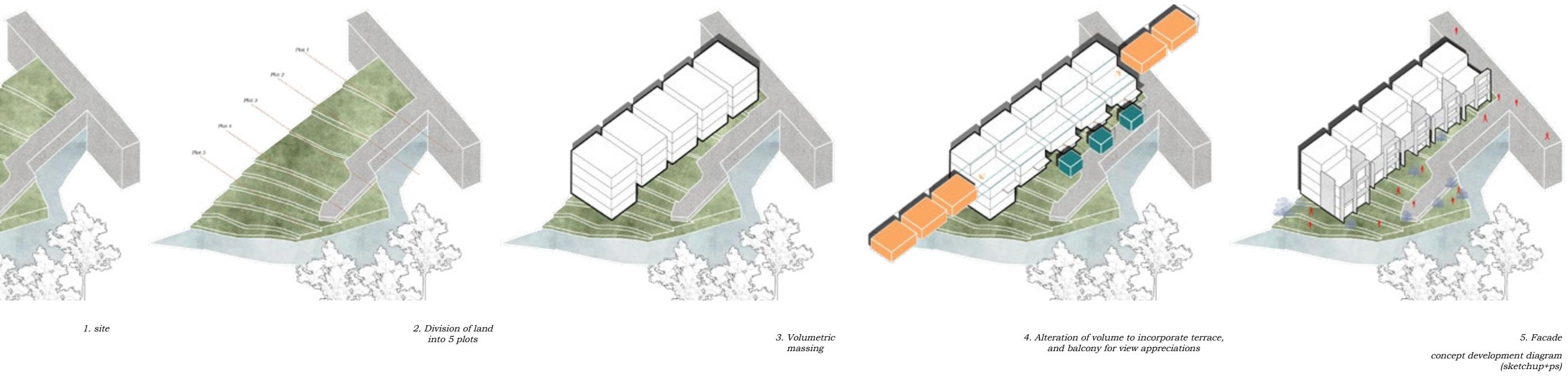
|Professional| 2021|

PROJECT TYPE: LIVE PROJECT  
 PROJECT LOCATION: BUDANILKANTHA, KATHMANDU  
 PROJECT YEAR: 2021  
 CLIENT NAME: NEXT PROPERTIES PVT.LTD  
 FIRM: ARC ARCHITECTS AND ENGINEERS PVT.LTD  
 STATUS: COMPLETED

*(Individual work)*

"MADHUBAN HOMES" is a minimally designed 5 unit housing project located in Budanilkantha along a contour slope. The housing project was conceptualized as a minimal housing unit designed with use of clean white material with no excessive decoration and volumetric projections. All the units have functional planning and are planned as per vastu.

INVOLVEMENT:  
 -conceptual planning, designing to finalization  
 - 3d visualization and renders  
 -municipal drawing set  
 - structural and working drawings  
 - interior design  
 -cutout for broucher design  
 -Landscape design



1. site  
 2. Division of land into 5 plots  
 3. Volumetric massing

4. Alteration of volume to incorporate terrace, and balcony for view appreciations

5. Facade  
 concept development diagram (sketchup+ps)

The planning of each plot was meticulously designed to meet client requirements and adhere to Vastu principles for residences. The concept emphasized simplicity and cleanliness, avoiding excessive volume projections in favor of small, slender ones for an elegant, lighter look.

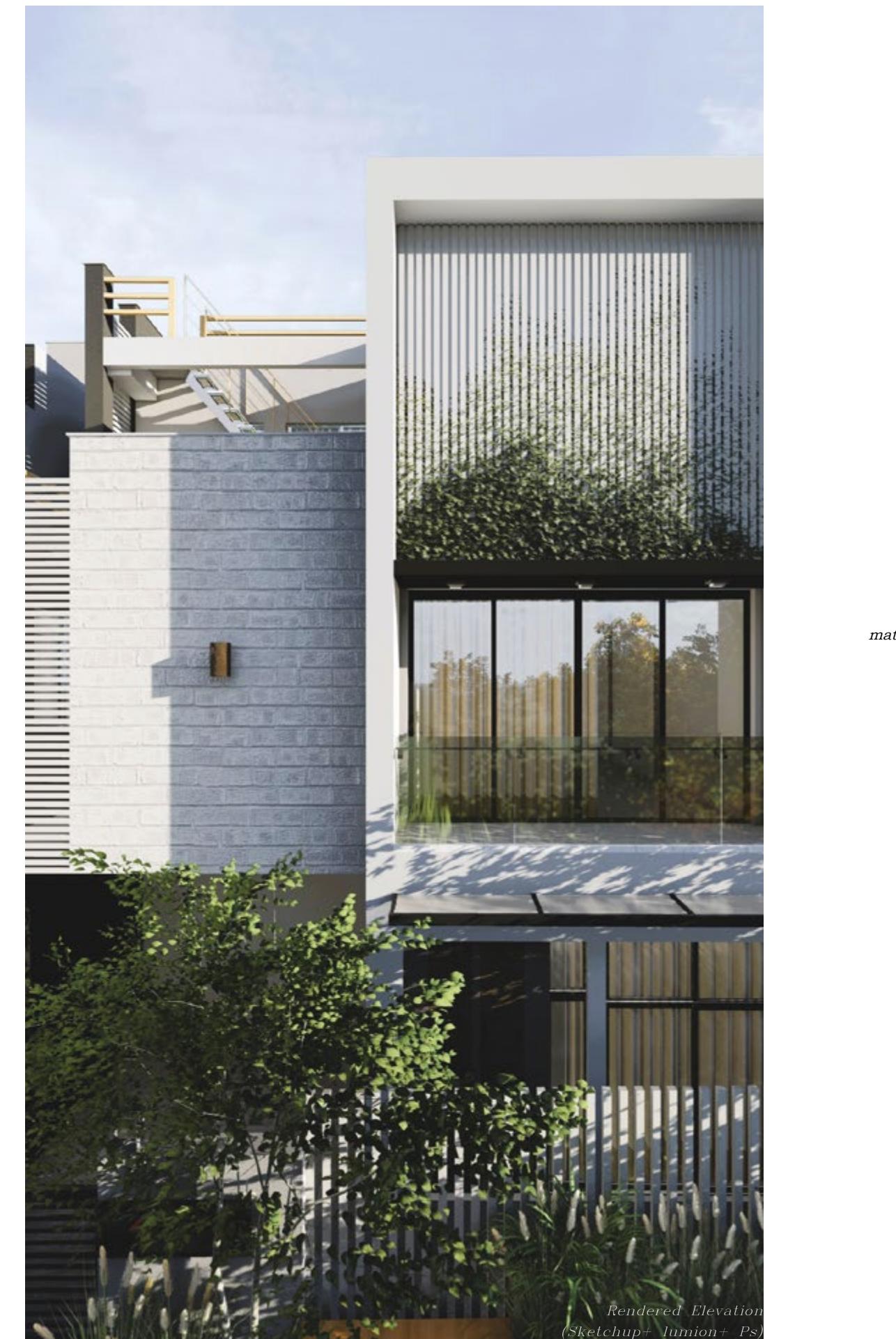
The design balanced horizontal and vertical elements, preventing the units from appearing overly tall or bulky. Materials were kept simple, with concrete structures finished in white paint and featuring exposed white-painted brick facades. To break the monotony, select areas were painted dark grey. Vastu principles ensured that all rooms received natural ventilation and lighting.

Human well-being and approaches are taken to maximize human connection to nature. The design incorporates natural plants as well as the site view and vista are appreciated. Balcony and terrace are designed to connect people to the site natural views and vista.

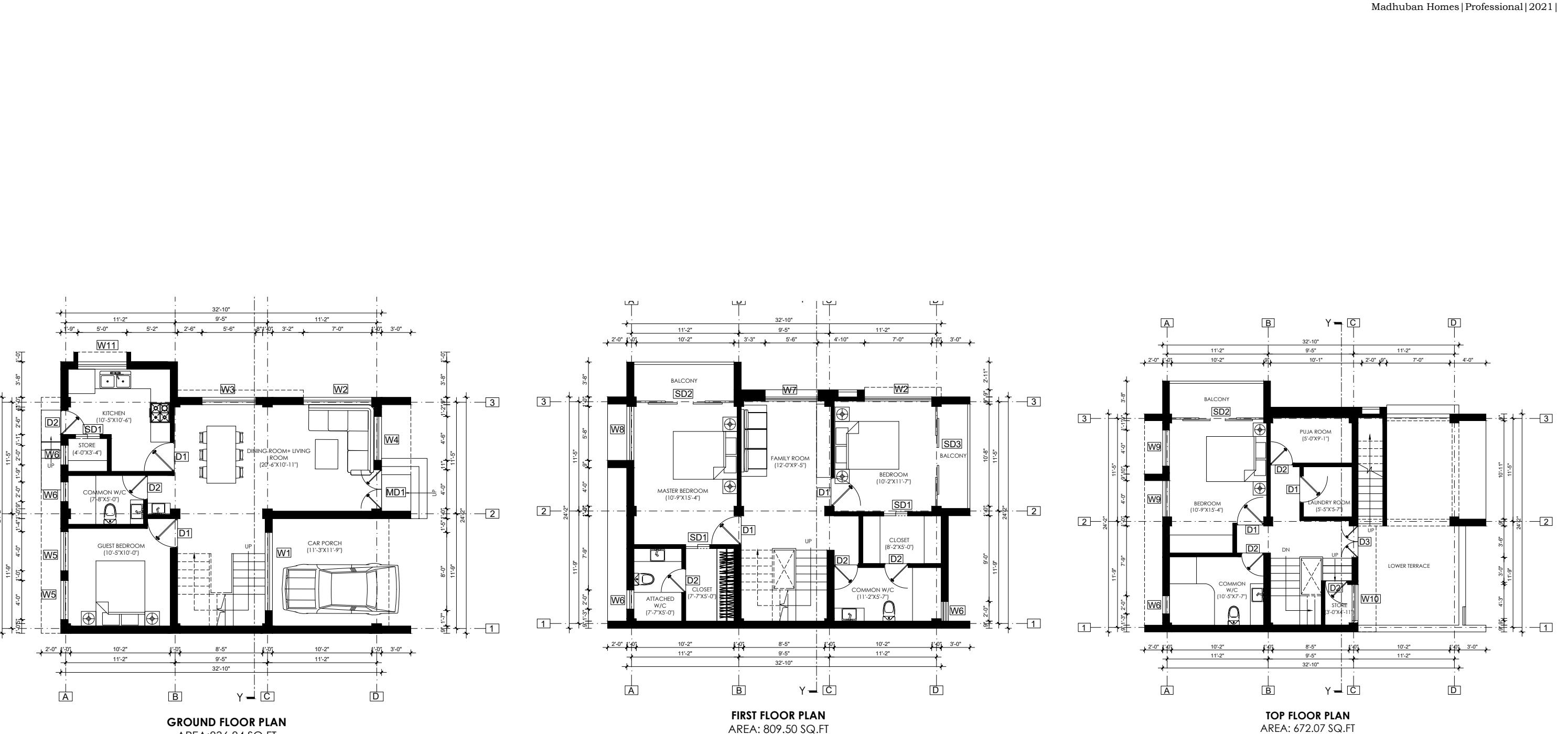


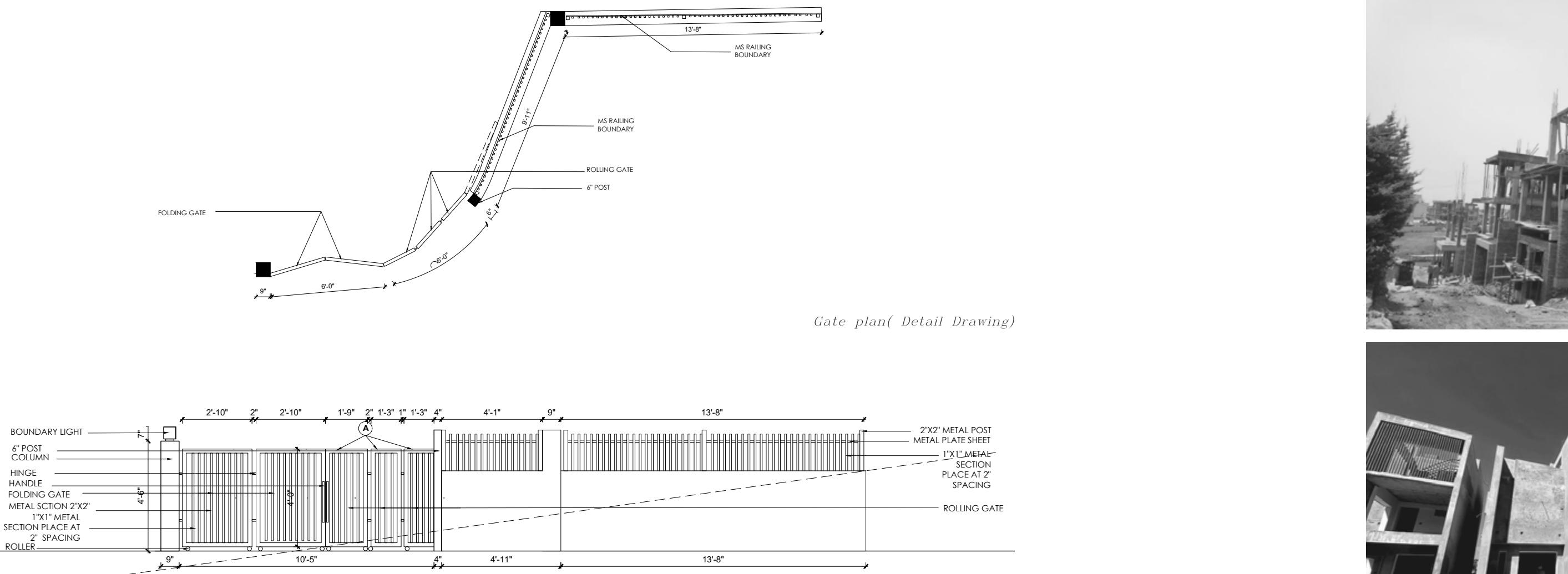
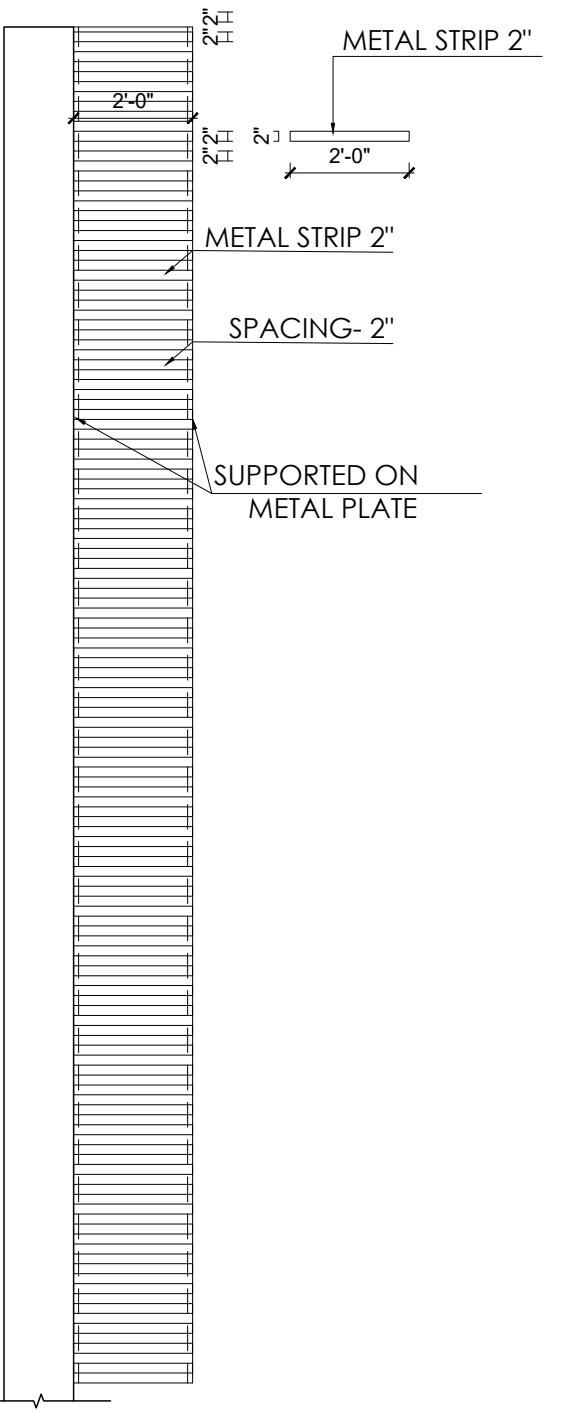
3d

Sketchup + lumion



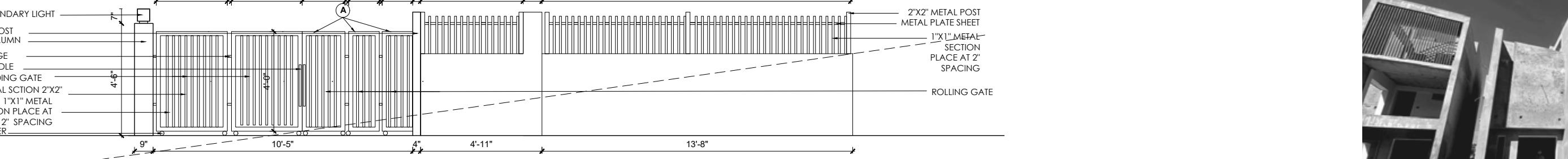
*material palette for exterior*





### HORIZONTAL METAL STRIPS DETAILS OF B

*Facade detail drawing*



*Madhuban home  
(2022-2024)*



# 05.

## Twisted Apartment

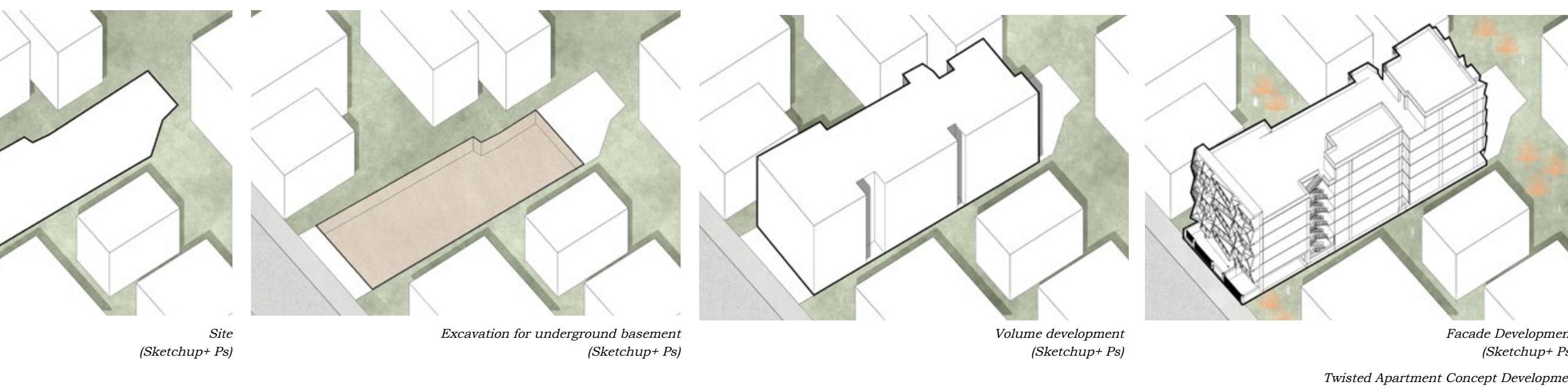
| Professional | 2023 |

PROJECT TYPE: LIVE PROJECT  
 PROJECT LOCATION: SANEP, NEPAL  
 PROJECT YEAR: 2023  
 CLIENT NAME: MR.SHAKYA  
 FIRM: ARC ARCHITECTS AND ENGINEERS PVT.LTD  
 STATUS: APPROVED DESIGN

"TWISTED APARTMENT" is a residential 4 and half storey apartment designed in a narrow site opened to the north and south. Lower floor being occupied by commercial space the remaining floor were occupied by various unit type and the top floor being used by the building owner as his private apartment

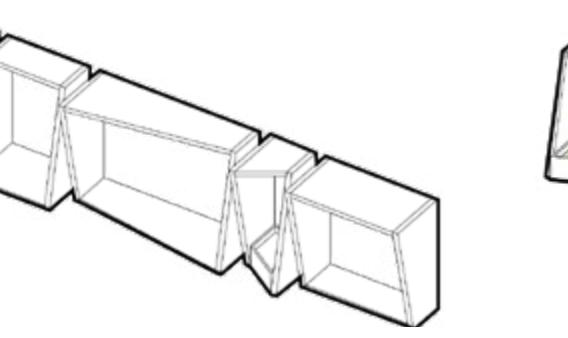
INVOLVEMENT:  
 -conceptual planning and designing  
 -space planning  
 - 3d and renders

(note: slight changes in the planning and 3d was handled by other staff  
 team: Ar. Skanda Rimal and Intern: Krishna)

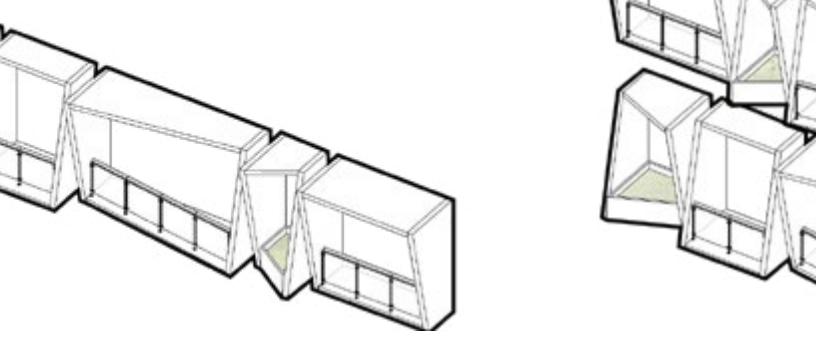


The site, constrained by properties on the east and west, posed challenges in ensuring natural light and ventilation for the apartment units. To address this, the design was meticulously planned so that each unit received ample natural light and ventilation.

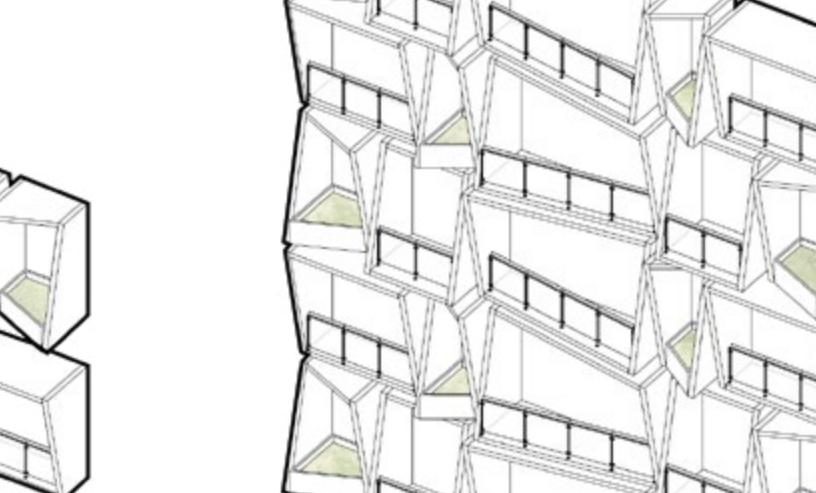
Facade experimentation was limited to the north and south sides, with various designs tested to add dynamism and distinction to the building. Ultimately, a geometric balcony structure was chosen for its visually striking yet straightforward repetitive pattern.



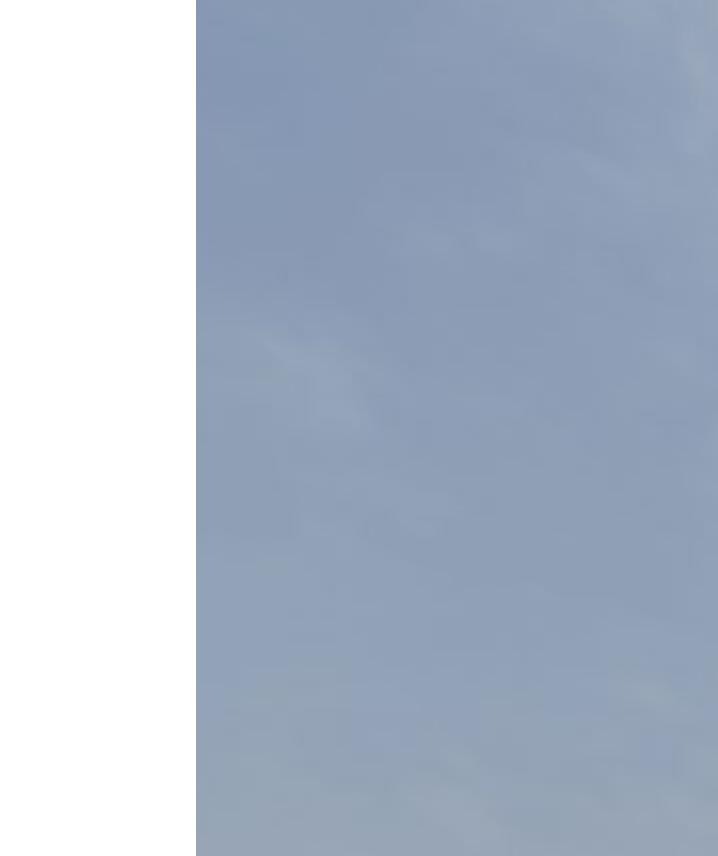
*Facade Form I*



*Balcony and green space development*



*Flipping of form and repetition*



*Repetition of form*

*Facade concept development*



*First- Third Floor plan  
area: 3859.11 Sq.ft*



*Twisted Apartment option 2  
(Sketchup+ Lumion)*

# 06.

## Lazimpat Apartment

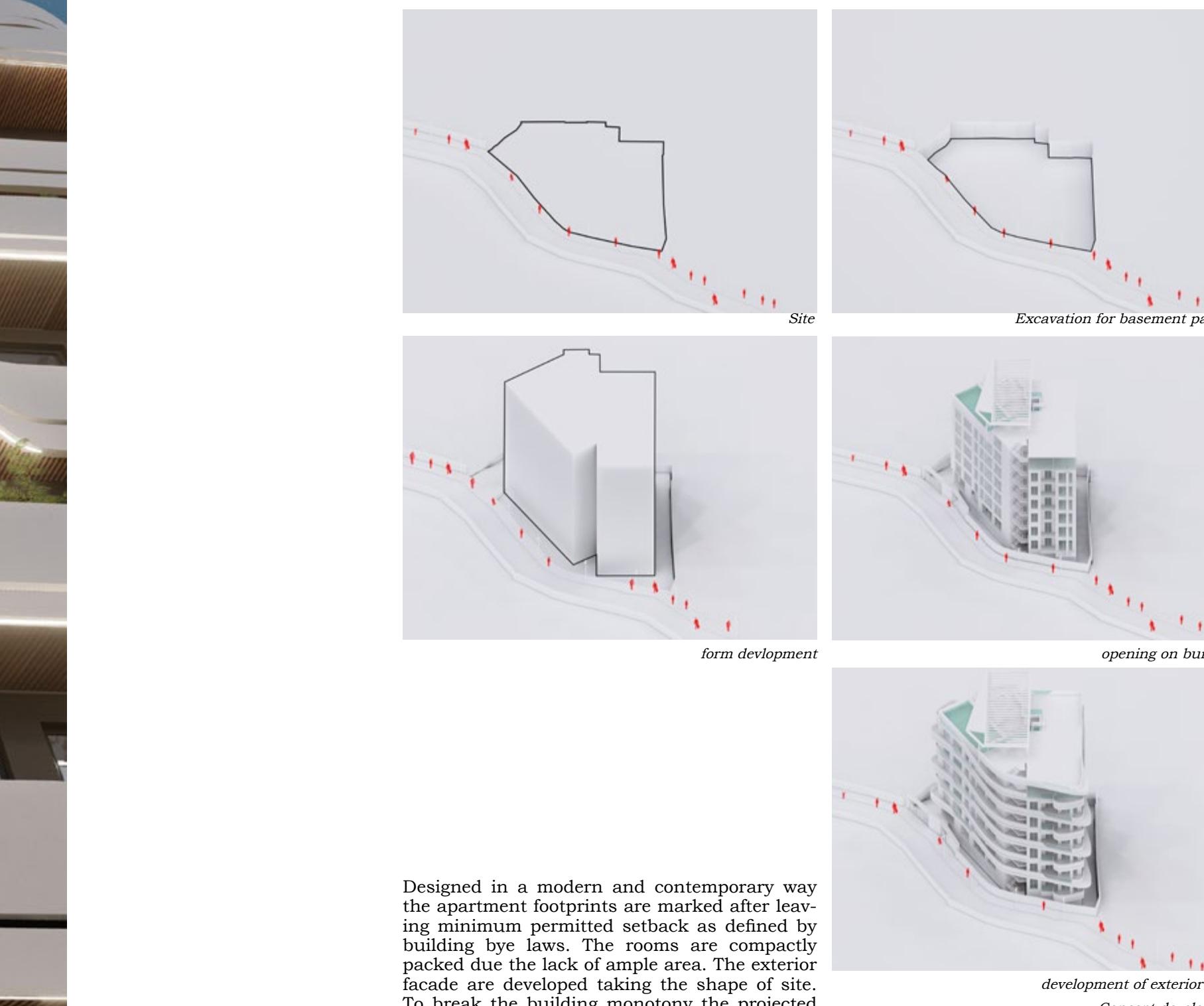
| Professional | 2022 |

PROJECT TYPE: APARTMENT  
 PROJECT LOCATION: LAZIMPAT, KATHMANDU  
 PROJECT YEAR: 2022  
 STATUS: CONCEPTUAL

"LAZIMPAT APARTMENT" is a 17 unit apartment designed in the downtown of Kathmandu valley with a contemporary design to blend along with the urban city skyline and context.

### INVOLVEMENT:

- panning and designing
- 3D visualization and designs



Designed in a modern and contemporary way the apartment footprints are marked after leaving minimum permitted setback as defined by building bye laws. The rooms are compactly packed due the lack of ample area. The exterior facade are developed taking the shape of site. To break the building monotony the projected form are arranged in alternative manner adding dynamic to the building.



# 07.

## IVF Interior

| Professional | 2021 |

PROJECT TYPE: INTERIOR  
PROJECT LOCATION: CHAKUPAT, NEPAL  
PROJECT YEAR: 2021  
STATUS: COMPLETE

The project involve designing a invitro fertilization clinic (IVF) .

### INVOLVEMENT:

- panning and designing
- 3D visualization and designs
- Furniture designs
- Site supervision
- Material selection
- Detail and construction drawings



IVF

corridor interior

(Sketchup+ lumion)



Color Palette

IVF clinic represented as hope for parents. The idea behind designing the clinic was to portray a space of safety. Rigid space were completely avoided during the design process instead curve form were preferred as it represented softness and safety. The curve form were observed in wall designs, ceiling design as well as in furniture design. Light grey colour scheme along with pale wooden texture has been used that avoided the

space from looking sterile. Further more white tiles and ceiling was used in the process.

The lightning fixture used were simple strip lights and recessed light that illuminate the space. Wall profile lights arranged in a pattern was used in the corridor area that illuminated the dark corridor with no natural lights.



Plan



IVF interior  
(Sketchup+ lumion)



IVF Section  
(acad+ ps)



IVF clinic- underconstruction  
(2022)



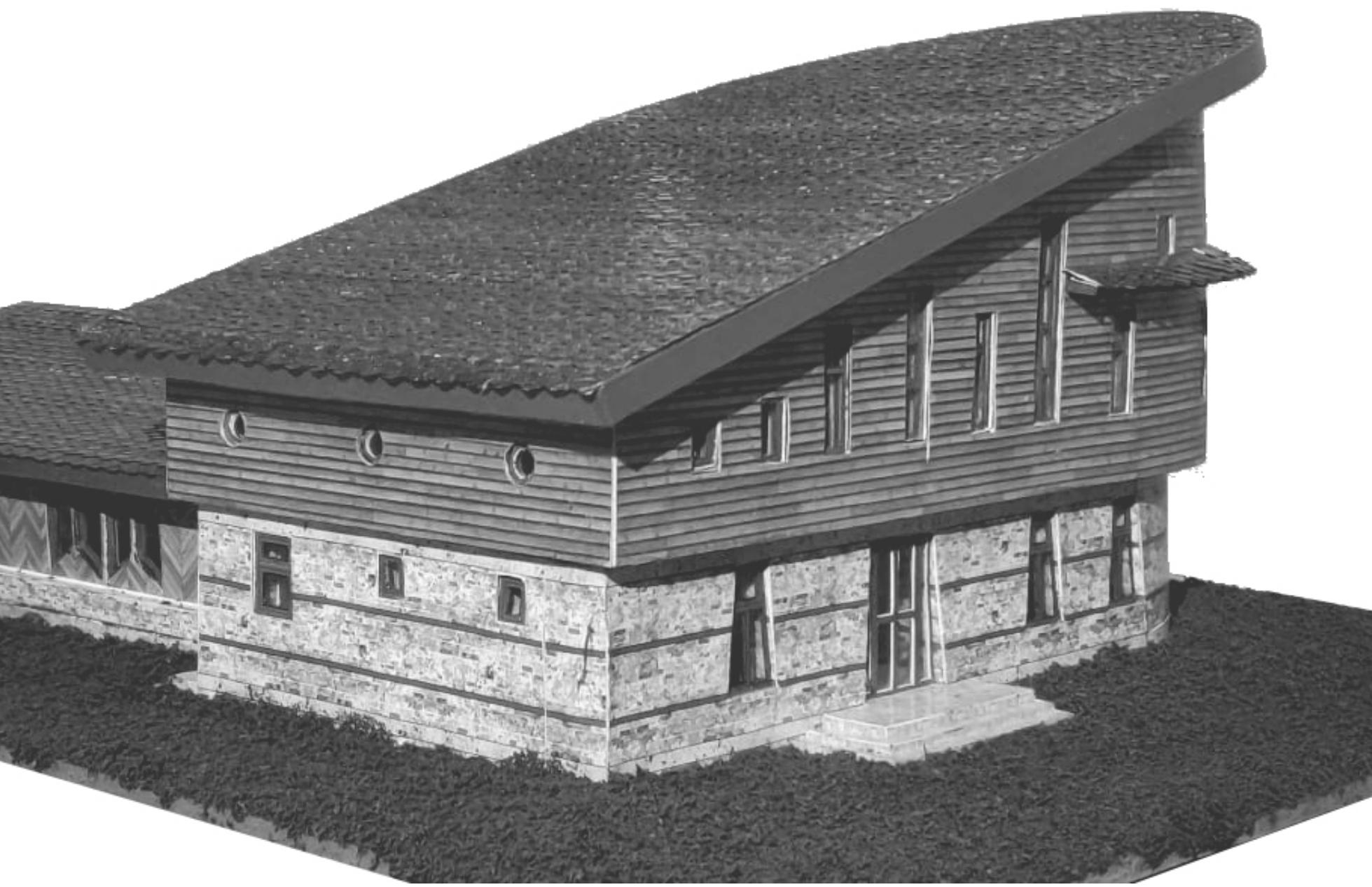
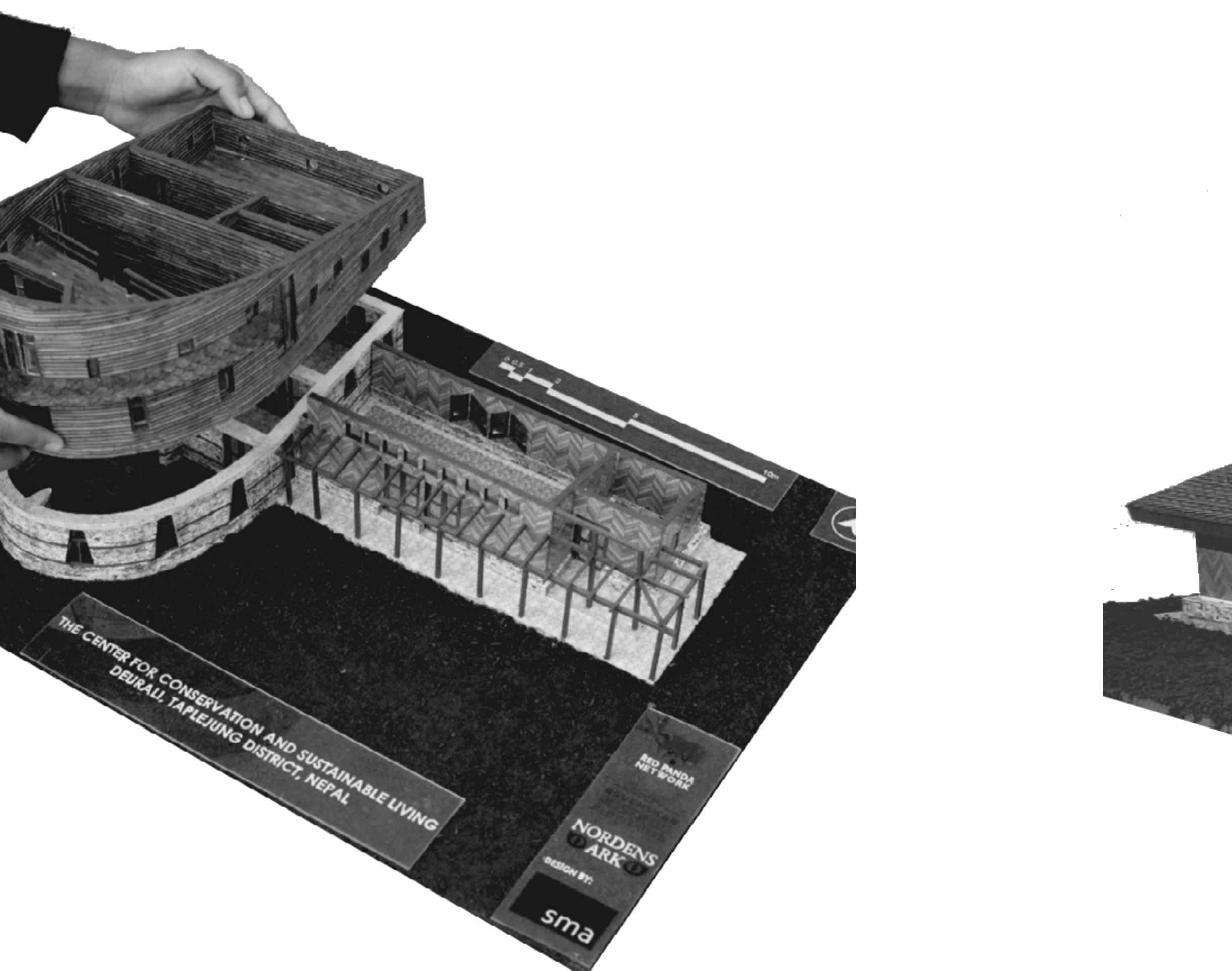
# 08.

## Model

|Professional| 2019|

PROJECT TYPE: LIVE PROJECT  
PROJECT LOCATION: TAPLEJUNG, NEPAL  
PROJECT YEAR: 2019  
FIRM: SUSTAINABLE MOUNTAIN ARCHITECTURE( SMA)

INVOLVEMENT:  
- Detail model making with Team of 4





Sample work: 2019-2024  
Thank you for viewing my Portfolio!

## **Contact Information:**

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