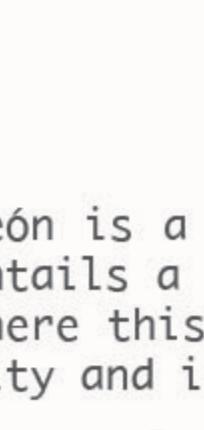


# GERIATRIC CENTER

Workshop: synthesis and evaluation  
Year and institute: 2016, Universidad Iberoamericana León  
Duration: 2 months  
Self-work

PROJECT INFORMATION

Develop a project to solve a social necessity.

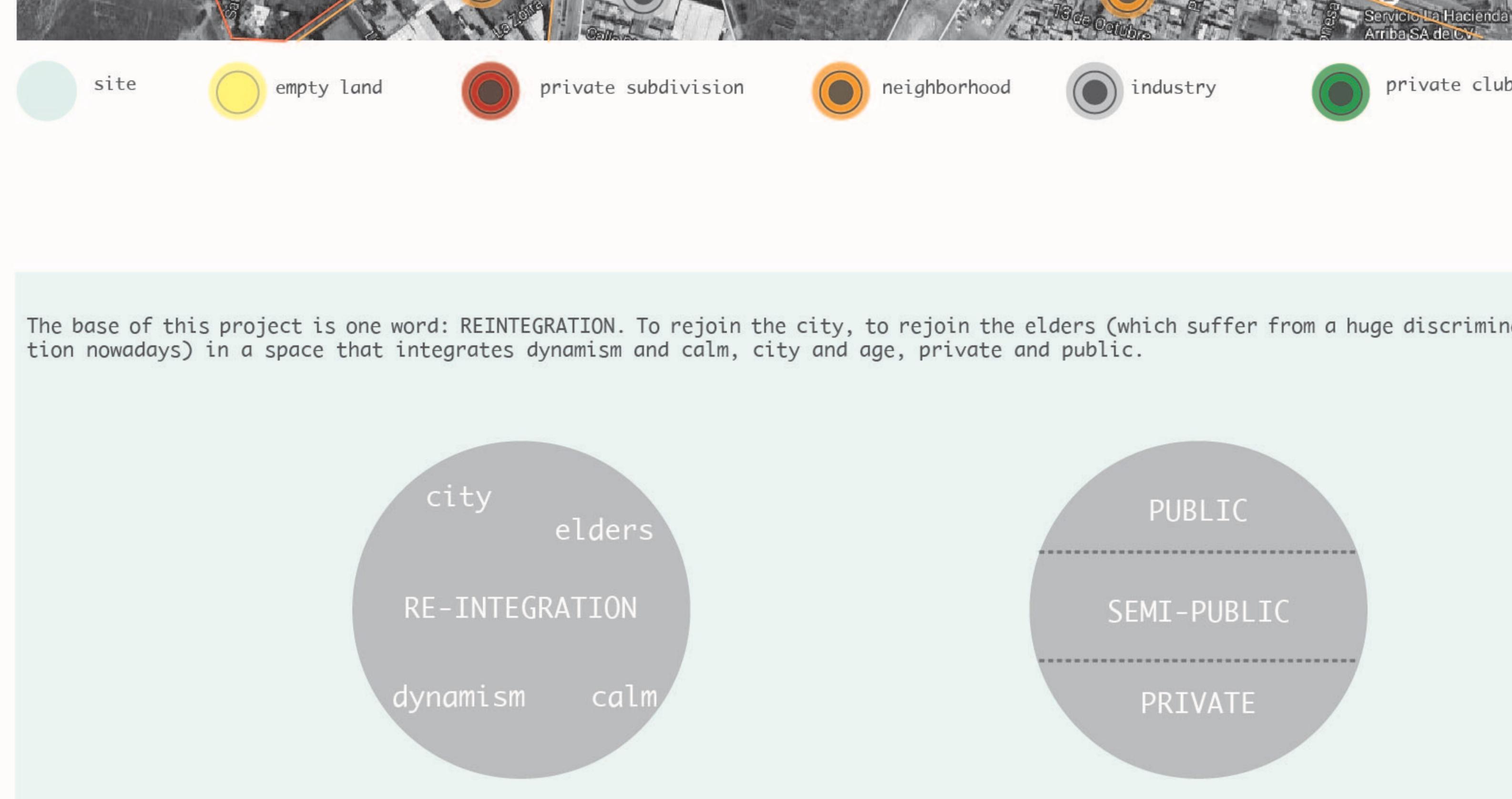


In Mexico, the population is getting older: by 2030, the number of old people will double. This phenomenon has important effects on the economy of the country, due to a decrease in the productive capacity. It implies an urgent need to implement public policies concerning health services and the development of programs and strategies to increase the coverage of social security. One of this strategies is the development of new geriatric centers to ensure assistance to elder population.

MAIN TASK

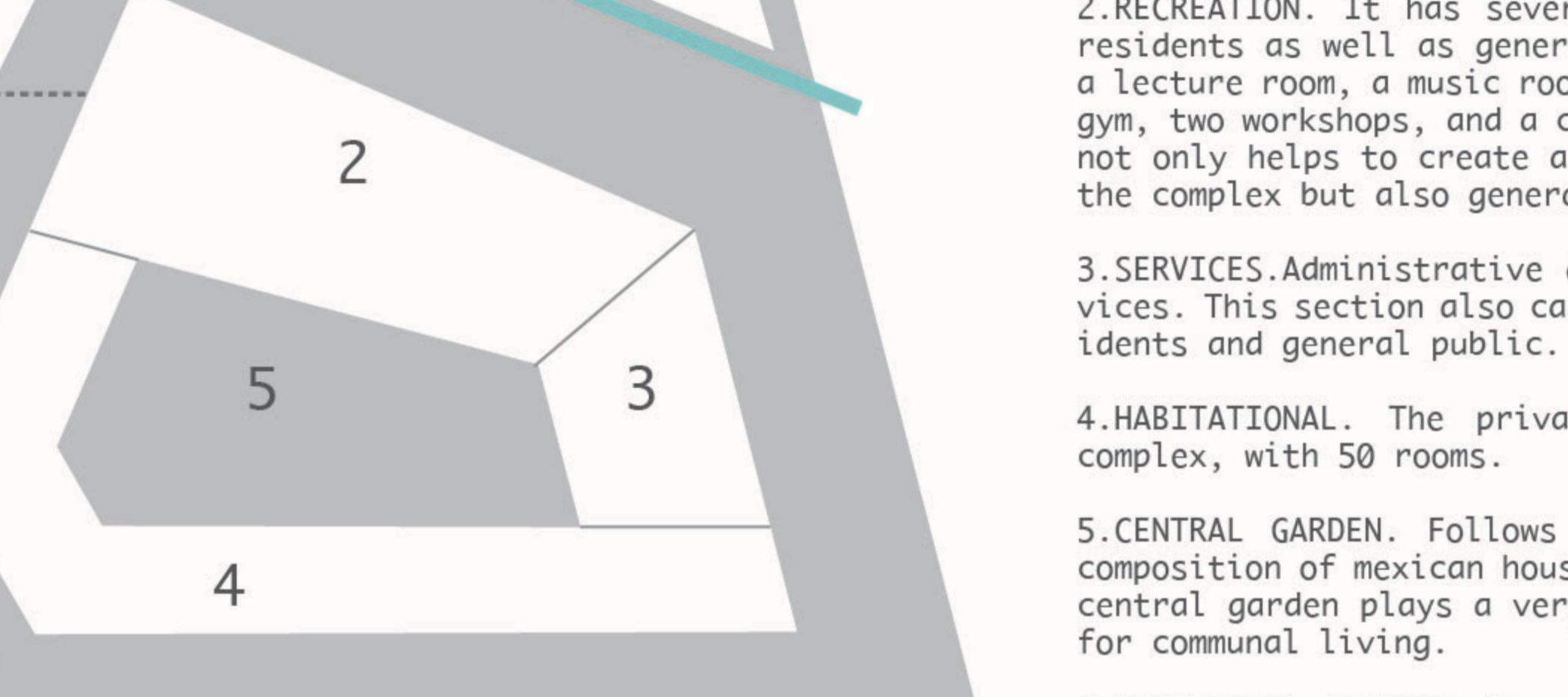
León is a city in the central part of Mexico. It is characterized by an urban planning directly linked to the market, which entails a city of walls: a huge prevalence of private places that fragment, impede articulation and encounter. I chose a place where this situation is very clear in order to exemplify that private projects don't necessary have to turn their back to the city and its inhabitants.

INTRODUCTION TO THE SITE



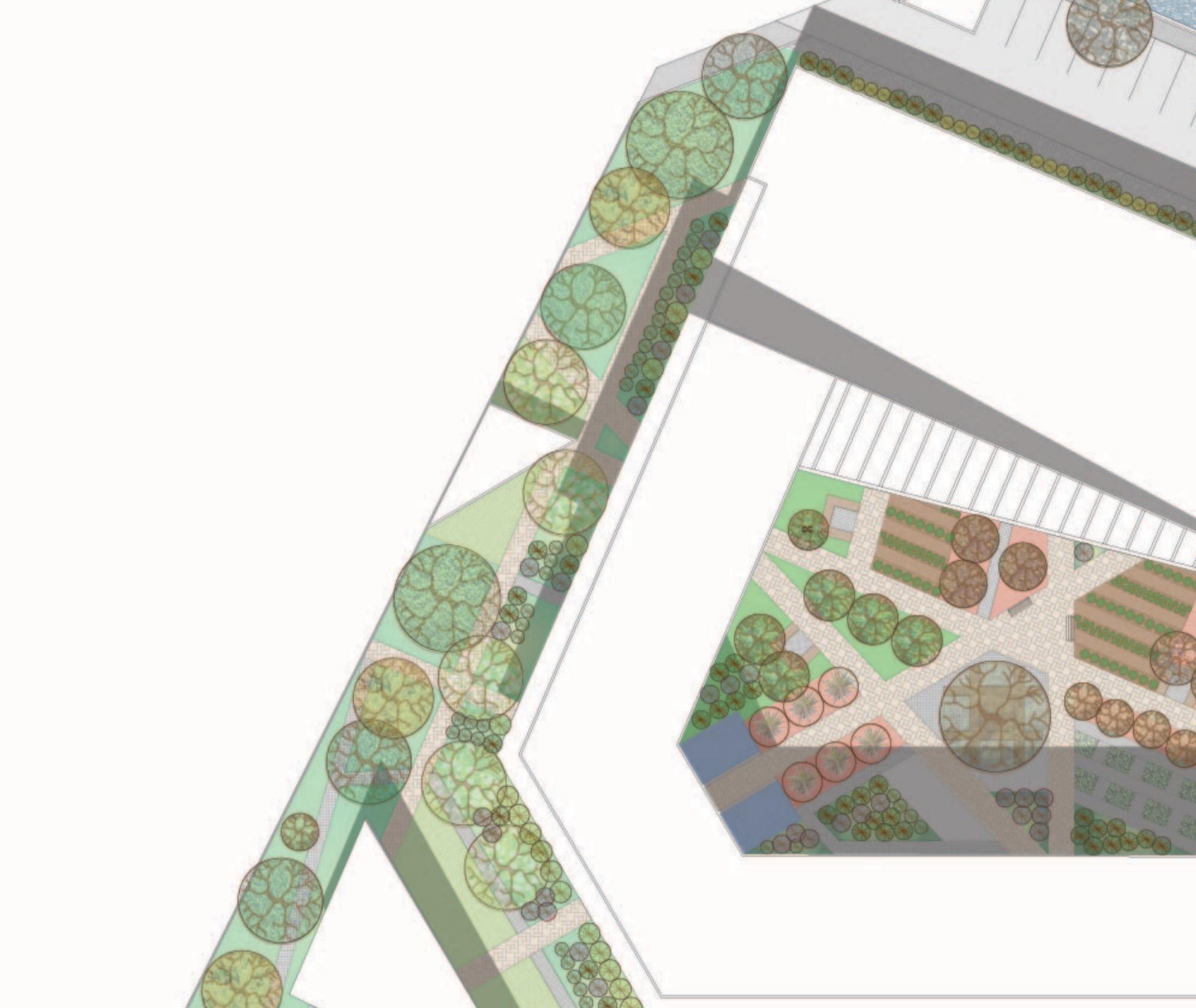
The base of this project is one word: REINTEGRATION. To rejoin the city, to rejoin the elders (which suffer from a huge discrimination nowadays) in a space that integrates dynamism and calm, city and age, private and public.

CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT



The project seeks for regionalism, a complete adaptation to the context. The program is developed in one sole body, to reinforce the idea of reintegration, together with safety.

PROPOSAL



1. PUBLIC SPACE. A totally opened space that seeks to respect the actual flows but creating a new space for encounter. It includes commercial uses to ensure the use of the space and equilibrium between green areas and coexisting spaces.

2. RECREATION. It has several programs for residents as well as general public, like: a lecture room, a music room, a cafeteria, a gym, two workshops, and a chapel. This part not only helps to create a social life for the complex but also generates exchange.

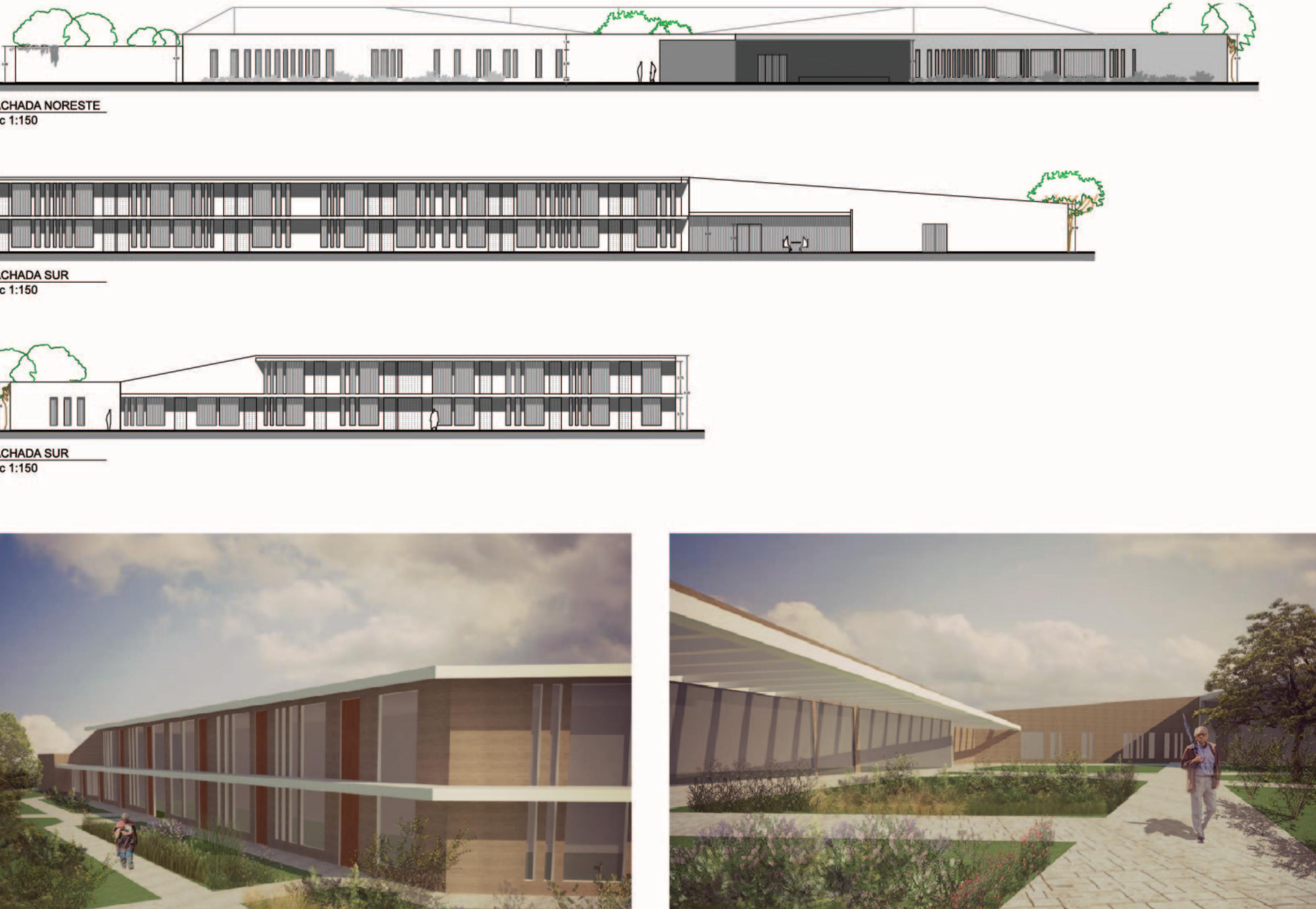
3. SERVICES. Administrative and medical services. This section also can be used by residents and general public.

4. HABITATIONAL. The private part of the complex, with 50 rooms.

5. CENTRAL GARDEN. Follows the traditional composition of mexican houses, in which the central garden plays a very important role for communal living.

6. PERIPHERAL GARDENS. Use of vegetation as visual, sound and smell barrier.

## GROUND LEVEL PLAN



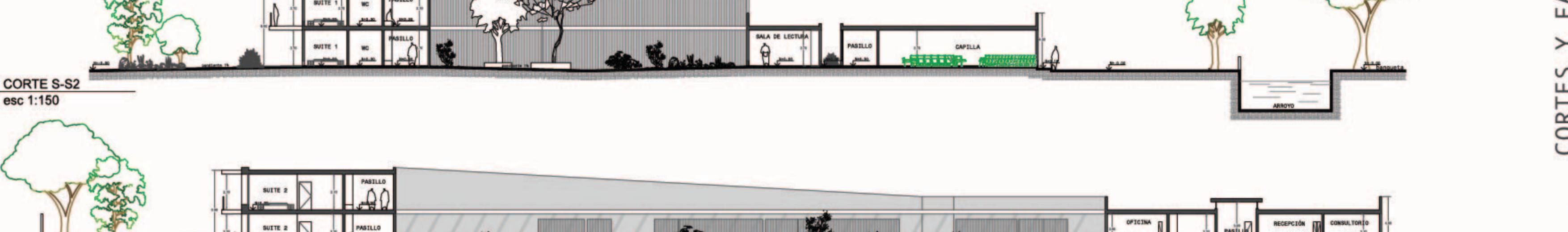
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# PROJECT OF A COMPLEX SET IN A HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Workshop: Architectonic systems II  
Year and institute: 2015, Universidad Iberoamericana León  
Duration: 4 months  
Collaboration with 2 team members

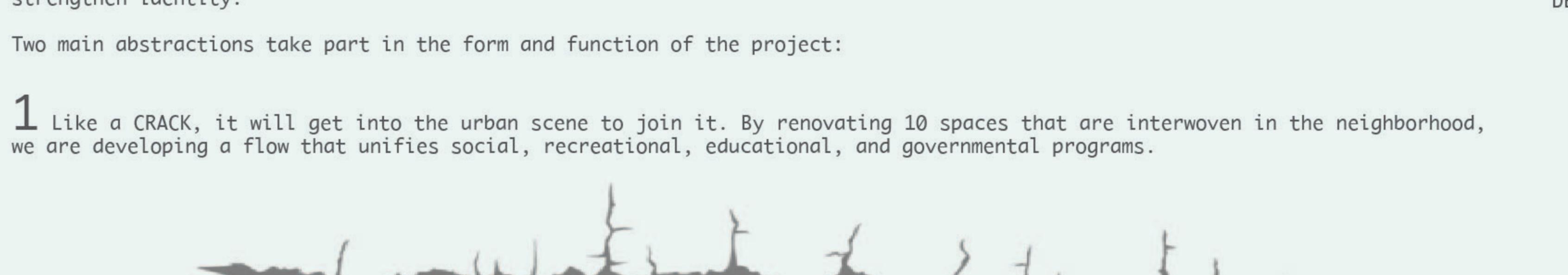
PROJECT INFORMATION

The main focus in this project is to work in a strong historical context of the city, in which tradition and modernity live together. This project needed a detailed social analysis and of space perception, in order to renovate without imposing and without deteriorating the historical value of the place.

MAIN TASK

"El Coecillo" is a traditional neighborhood and the oldest of the city. It is a place of cultural exchange, with a great economy mobilization, and with important social ties. However, nowadays is a very dilapidated place that has not had maintenance for many years. Also, it can be observed the transition of the different inhabitants that have created "patches" with a great number of styles and materials. This gives a chaos sensation and has degraded the historical heritage.

INTRODUCTION TO THE SITE

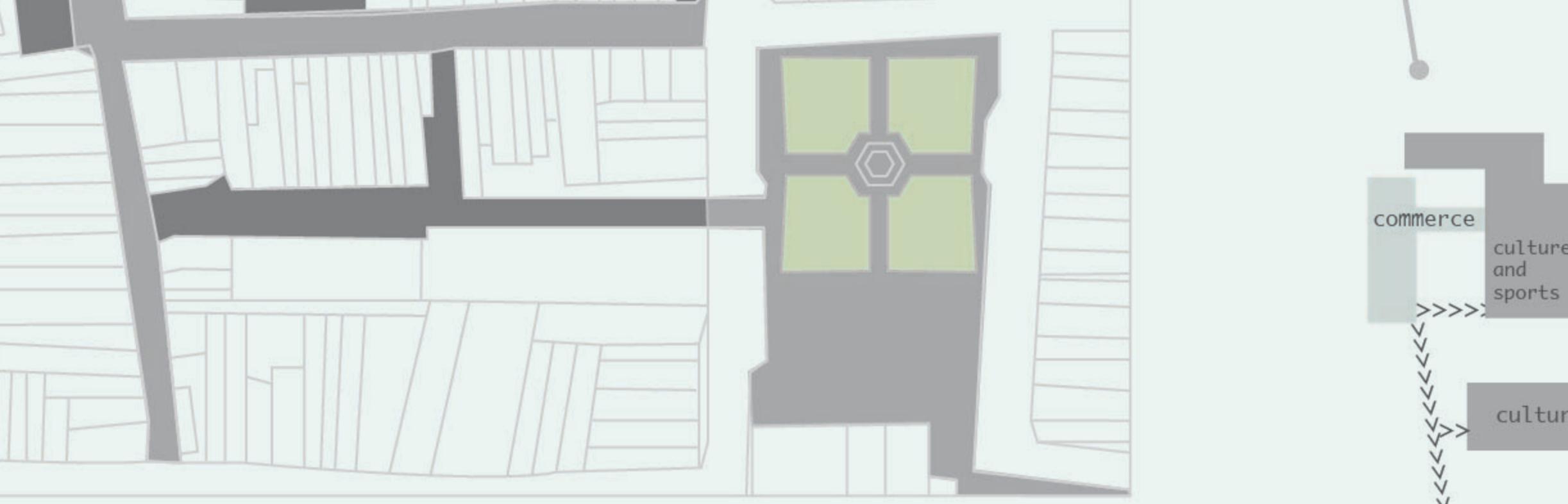


The emphasis is to absorb the environment to recreate it and reflect it. This will lead to an adoption of the culture and also to strengthen identity.

CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT

Two main abstractions take part in the form and function of the project:

- 1** Like a CRACK, it will get into the urban scene to join it. By renovating 10 spaces that are interwoven in the neighborhood, we are developing a flow that unifies social, recreational, educational, and governmental programs.



- 2** Informal commerce is a very special ingredient, as it is an important identity component that increases sound, aroma and color. "It is terrible that a city doesn't smell or stinks" (Jaime Lerner). In Mexico, this kind of commerce is widely recognised because for their "plastic roofs" which give momentary shadow to merchants and buyers, but still give an outdoor sensation.



By using a link of materiality, patterns, and elements of vernacular architecture, the project will adapt to the physical context, as well as to the cultural heritage of the place. The objective is to create encounter spaces, invigorate culture and sports, and to make flows that recognise the actual uses of the place and that propose new activities for younger generations.

PROPOSAL

