



# THE UNDERROOT PASSAGE

This project began with the study of the Vanavisuithikul family house, a 100-year-old canal-side residence with strong historical and architectural value. Early phases explored ways to preserve its form while addressing the disconnection between the canal and the urban fabric. Through conceptual development, the idea of “lifting” the surrounding commercial buildings emerged, resulting in a large, curved roof structure that unifies the site and creates a sheltered public space below.

In its final phase, the project proposes a new public space that reactivates a 400-meter-long canal walkway, which currently lacks access points, shade, or pedestrian engagement. By elevating the building and extending pathways from existing alleyways, the design bridges the road and canal, creating continuous circulation. Inspired by natural forms, a system of tree- and vine-like columns supports the structure above. These elements grow organically from the rhythm of the building façade, offering both structural function and symbolic meaning—representing time, memory, and resilience.

The result is a shaded, inviting environment that reinterprets the past without erasing it, transforming an overlooked site into a dynamic civic space that connects history with contemporary urban life.