



Main Gardens of Matrimandir

P O W E R

W E A L T H

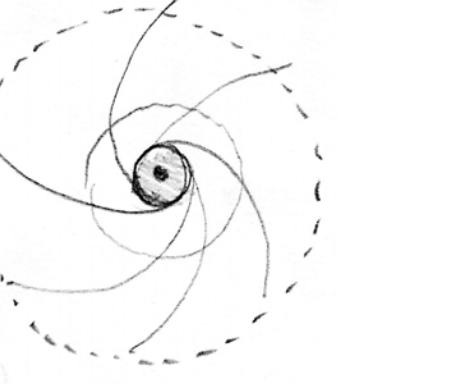
Power Garden

"It is not an individual strength depending on certain personal capacities, but the Divine Power using the individual as an instrument."

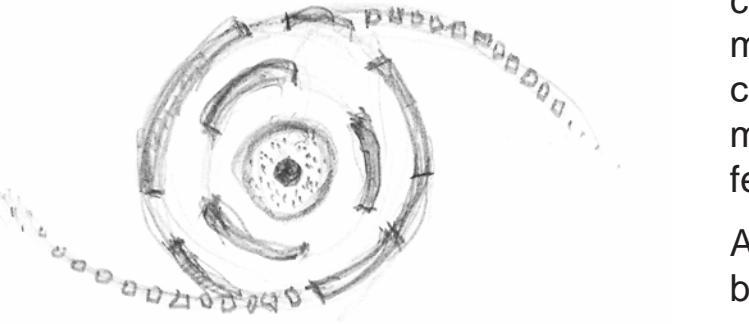
-Sri Aurobindo

"In the physical the Divine manifests as Beauty."

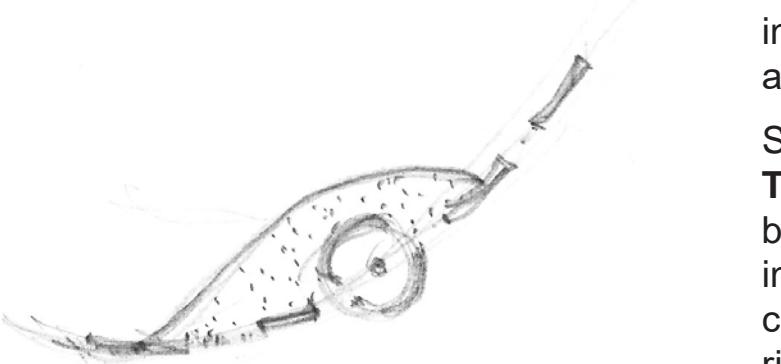
-The Mother



Auroville's galaxy concept



central core- spiralling and concentric



benches under tree shade

Concept

Power Garden celebrates **beauty in nature**. It assembles a simple palette of earth, rock and sand in a **concentric** geometry, one seen in the natural world as well as in Auroville's planning. It concentrates the source of power- the flower and its experience in the centre. Its presence in the garden is both exclusive and humble, attracting the visitor to the garden's innermost core. The placement of big pieces of rock surrounding the central flower creates a heightened sense of power where one can choose to meditate with Matrimandir in sight. Stretching across in arcs on a canvas of white and grey are other brightly coloured flowers that make one pause and be deeply appreciative of the divine manifestation of beauty.

Along the main pathway, short shrubs with white blooms shall be planted in **organic clusters**. This mass of diverse green and white will not take away from the converging experience of the central design as well as create an ecological balance by reducing lawn cover and water consumption, replenishing soil nutrition and attracting various insects, bees and butterflies.

Since this garden is unique with the presence of the **Banyan Tree**, the proposal takes into account the outer circle of plants being capable of surviving in the part shade. The design for seating arrangement under the shade is such that it continues the curve of existing seating which is outside the Power Garden's periphery. While some benches flow along this curve, one node has been established by encircling the banyan root. This can become an evocative spot for inner reflection.



planter curving down towards the centre



rock and central flower



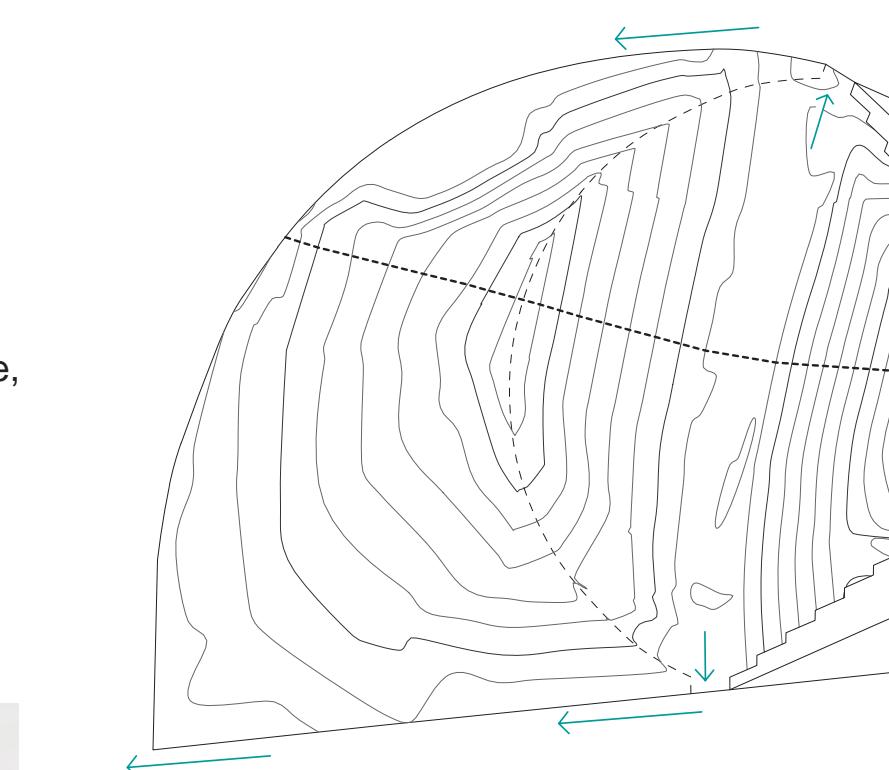
seating around banyan root



View towards Matrimandir



View towards Future Lake



Garden Features:

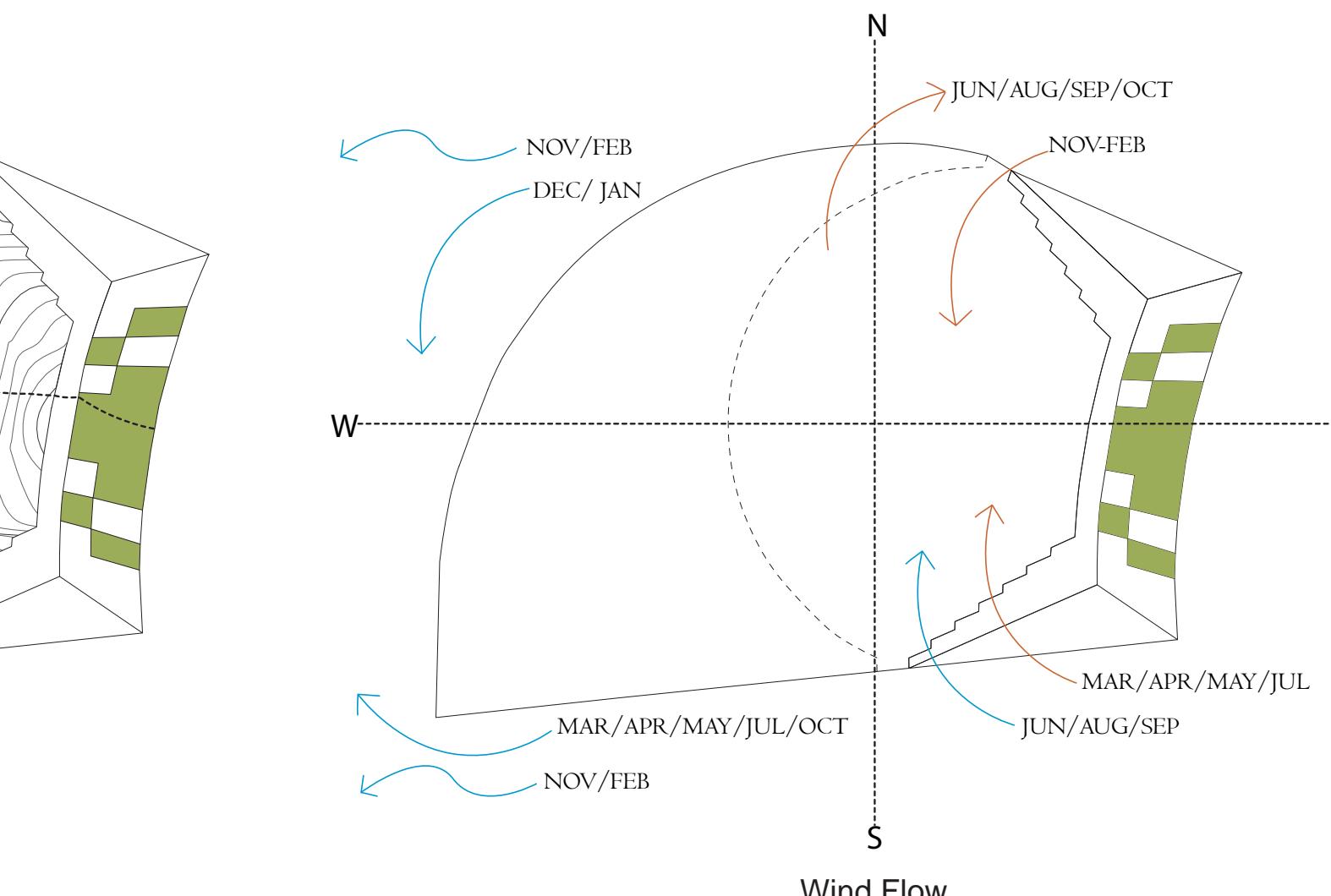
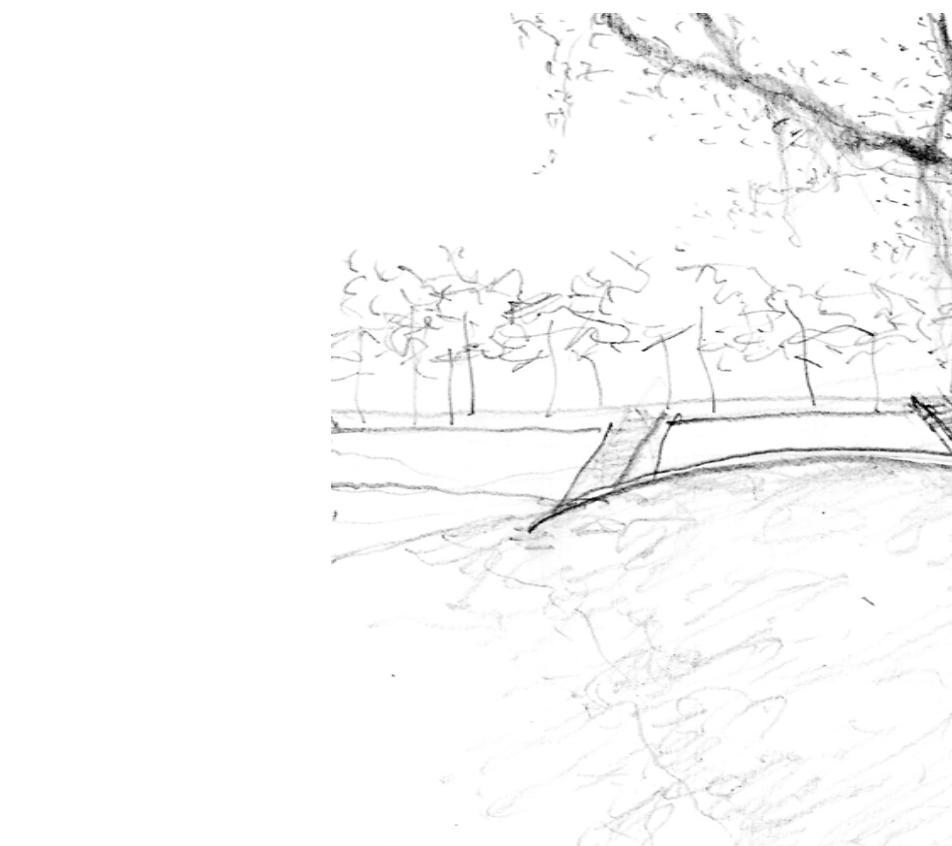
Available Area- 502 sq. m.
Backslope Area- 535 sq. m.

If entrance is from West Gate, this is one of the first two gardens seen by visitors

Existing- banyan tree

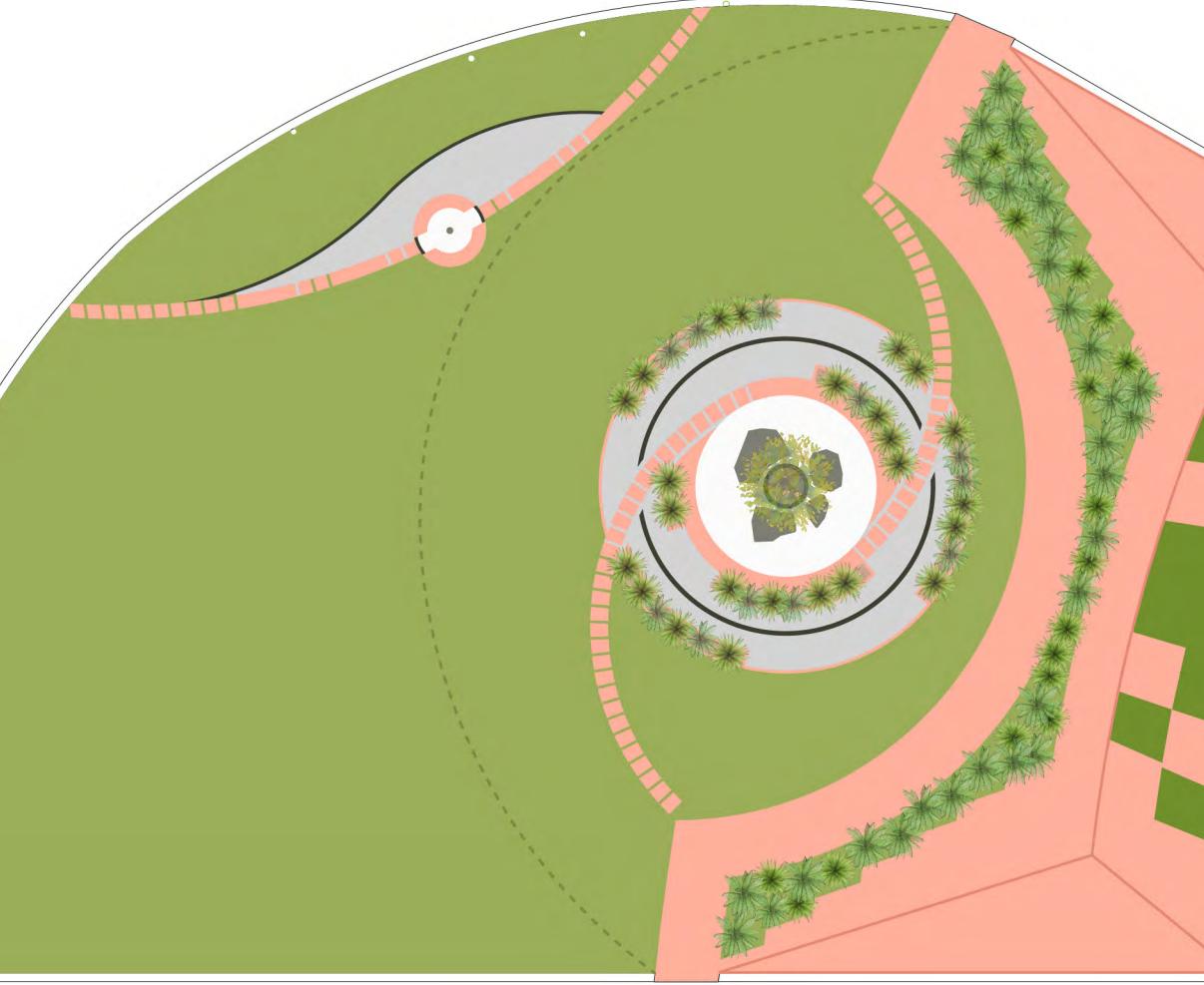
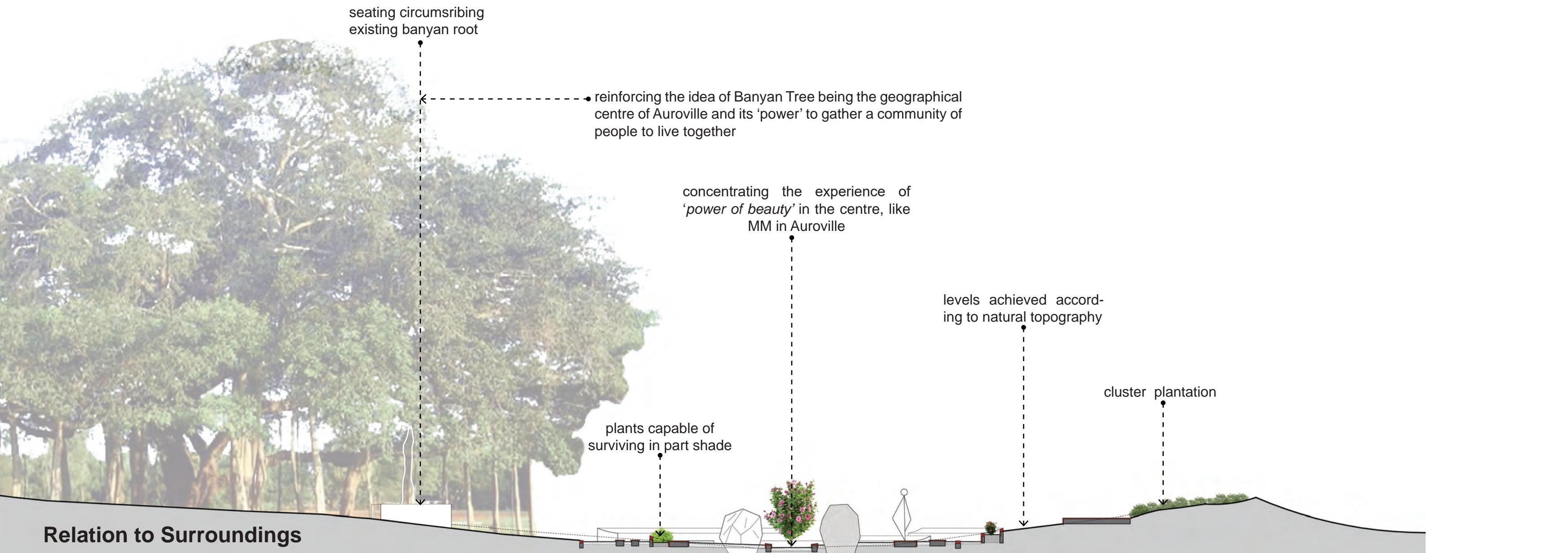


Landform and Drainage



Site Study

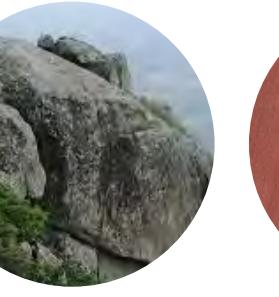
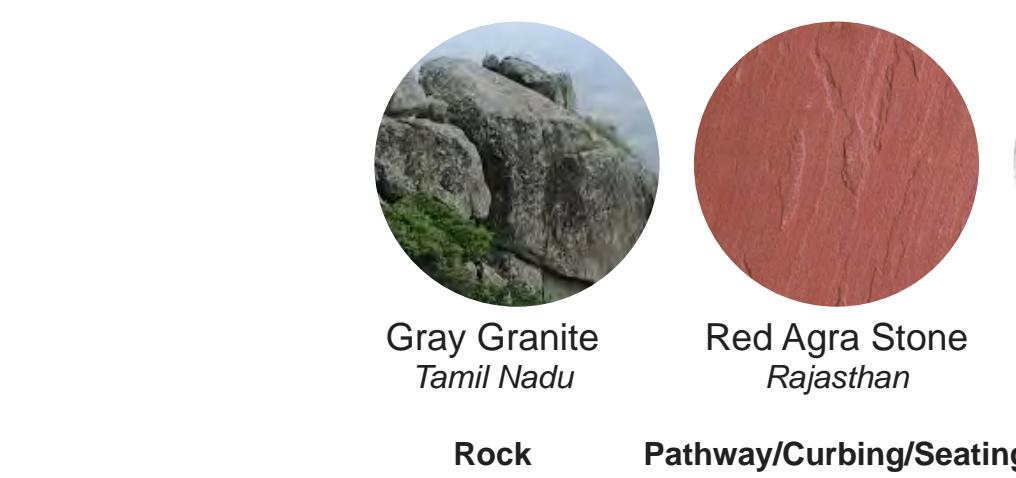
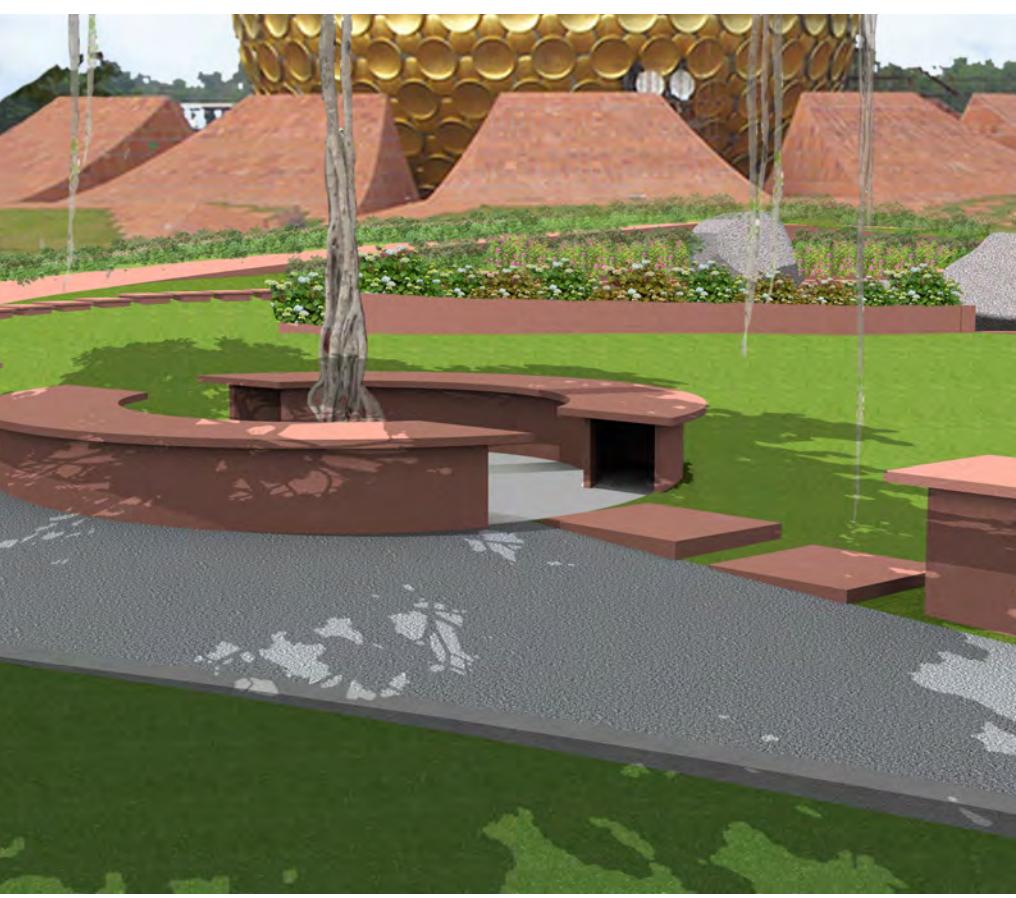
CENTRAL FLOWER	INNER CIRCLE	OUTER CIRCLE	CLUSTER PLANTATION
			
Rose-of-China <i>Hibiscus rosa-sinensis</i>	Daffodil <i>Narcissus</i>	Hibiscus Hawaiian <i>Hibiscus rosa-sinensis</i>	Wax Mallow <i>Malvaviscus arboreus</i>
Aesthetic Power	Power of Beauty	Power of Spiritual Beauty	Divine Help
			
Snapdragon <i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	Snapdragon <i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	Snapdragon <i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	Sea Holly <i>Acanthus ilicifolius</i>
Power of Integral Expression	Power of Manifold Expression	Power of Mental Expression	Power of Collective Aspiration
			The Guardian
Power of Spiritual Speech	Power of Aspiration	Power of Purity	Aspiration for Purity
			
Snake Plant <i>Sansevieria</i>	Sprenger's Asparagus <i>Asparagus aethiopicus</i>	Java Tea <i>Orthosiphon aristatus</i>	Peace Lily <i>Spathiphyllum</i>
Power of Spirituality	Spiritual Speech	Spiritual Intensity	Aspiration for Purity
Lily of the Valley <i>Convallaria majalis</i>	Peace Lily <i>Spathiphyllum</i>	Lily of the Valley <i>Convallaria majalis</i>	Power of Purity
Vinca <i>Kopsia fruiticosa</i>			Determination



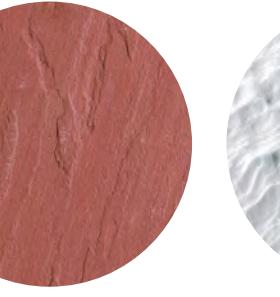
Plan at 1:250



Perspective View



Gray Granite
Tamil Nadu



Red Agra Stone
Rajasthan



White Sand/Grit
Tamil Nadu



Grey Grit
Tamil Nadu



Black Granite
Tamil Nadu

Rock

Pathway/Curbng/Seating

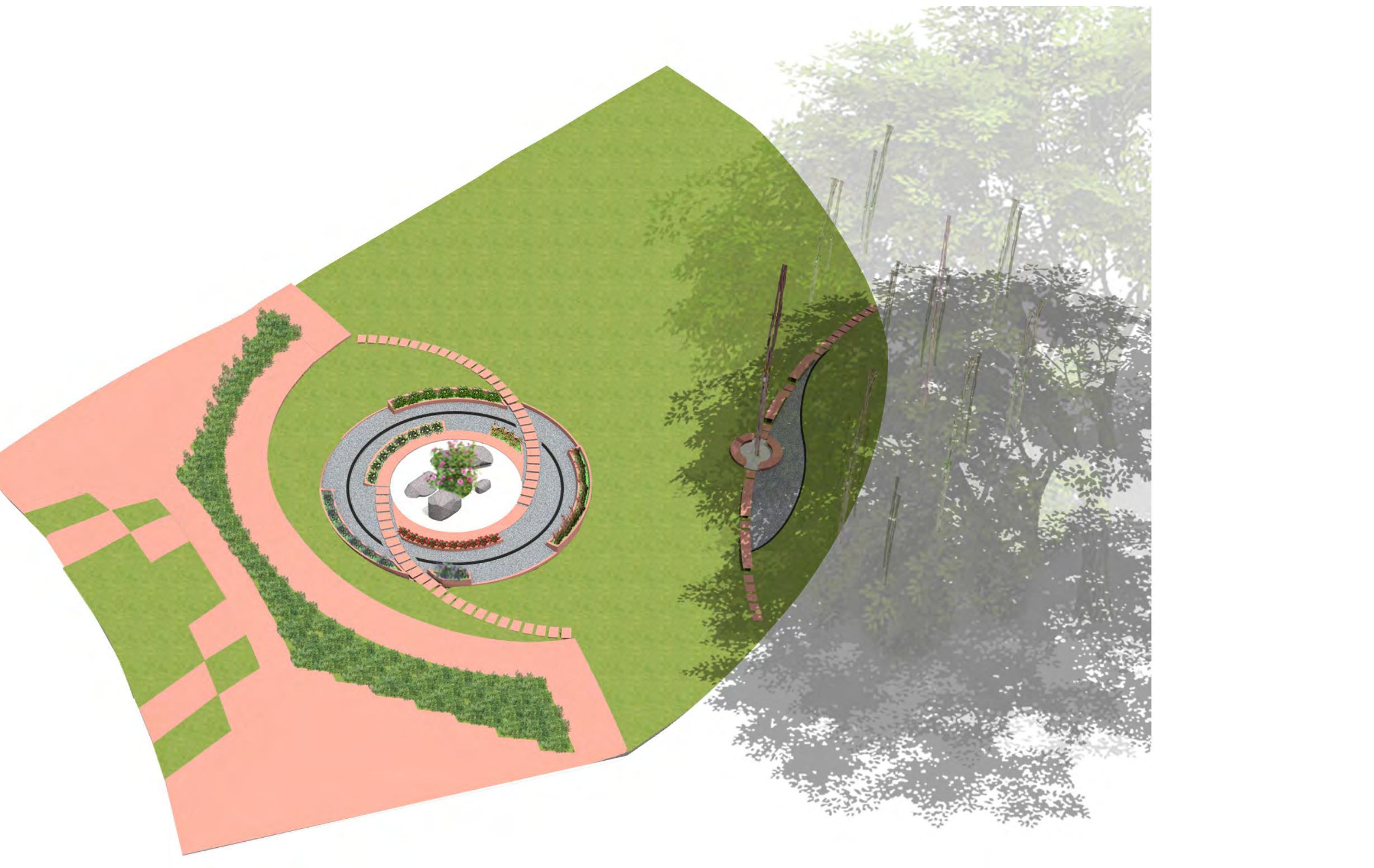
Central Core

Outer Circle Filling

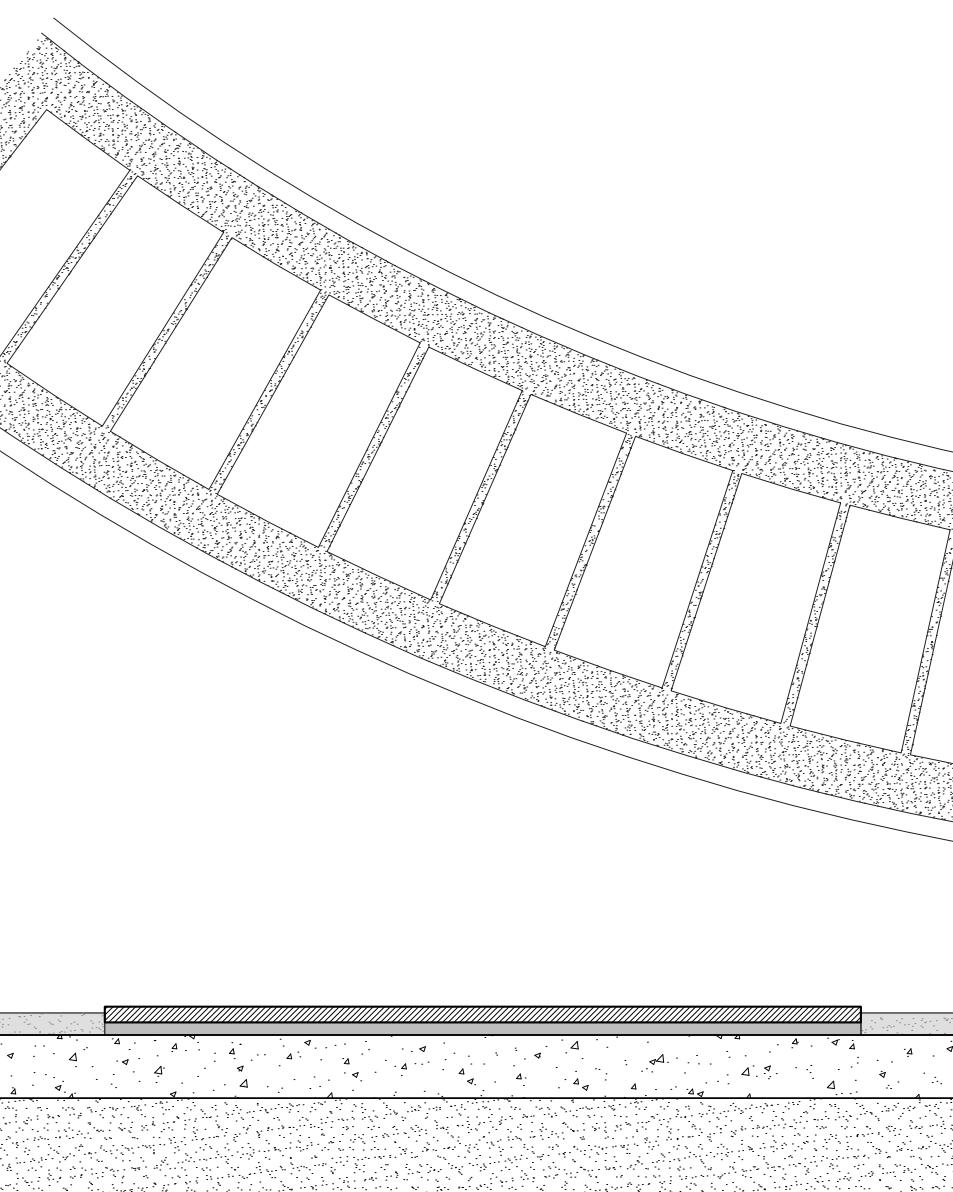
Curbng

Materials

Axonometric View



Pathway



Project Timeline

IMPLEMENTATION PHASE

Maximum Implementation Period: 6 months

August 2020

January 2021

6

- **Material Procurement-** Stone/ Rock/ PCC raw material/ Sand/ Plants

2

- **Marking/ Levelling/ Excavation**

1

- **Civil Work-** Pathway/ Curbing/ Seating

3

- **Sapling and Soil Preparation**

3

- **Maintenance of Plants**

6+

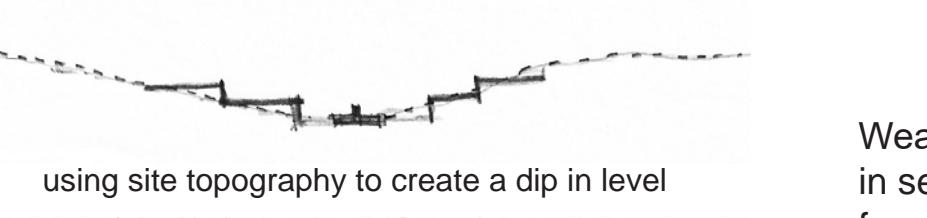
simultaneous

Wealth Garden

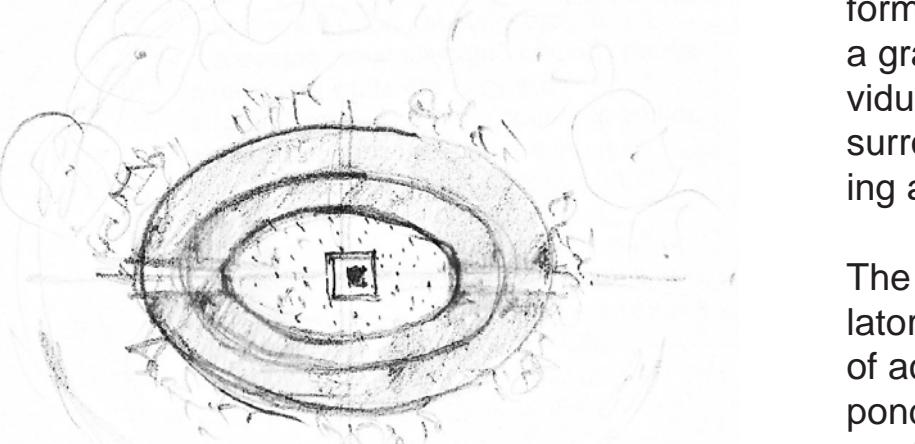
"Wealth is a force - I have already told you this once - a force of Nature; and it should be a means of circulation, a power in movement, as flowing water is a power in movement. It is something which can serve to produce, to organise."

"You are richer with the wealth you give than with the wealth you keep in your possession."

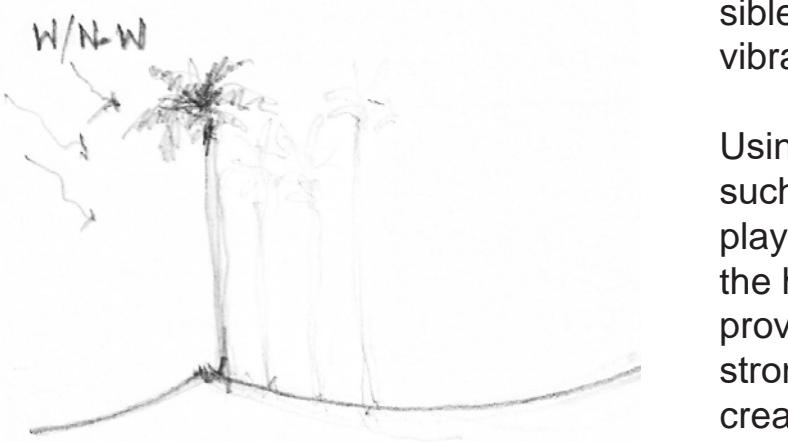
-The Mother



using site topography to create a dip in level



sand oval with surrounding water lilies



coconut trees breaking strong wind

Concept

Wealth, as explained by The Mother, attains its true value when offered in service of the Divine. The Wealth Garden uses one of the most basic forms in nature, the **ellipse**, to contain its **ultimate offering** in the centre - a granite cuboid in a shallow pond of clear water. It is symbolic of an individual offering their spiritual dimensions for the work of Existence. One is surrounded by a spread of beige sand dotted with a variety of cacti, creating an experience of the **oasis**.

The water lilies wrap around this ensemble of elements in the same circulatory form, signifying the need for wealth to be always in motion instead of accumulating in one place. The main pathway, which goes around the ponds is lined with multi-colored roses adding the richness of scent to the garden experience. Evoking the human quality of **giving** rather than possessing, the Wealth Garden generously makes its innermost core accessible. One can admire the blooms in the water closely and internalise its vibrations.

Using the existing garden topography, subtle levels have been introduced such that one steps down into the central oval bound by flowers. To add play in circulation, stepping stones are introduced in the ponds to reach the heart of the garden. The peripheral shrubs are lined with tall bushes to provide shady spots in the garden. The crest has coconut trees that break strong wind flows and add verticality in the scale of the garden. This also creates a visual play since the background is full of palms at a distance. The Wealth Garden introduce a large diversity in planation to underline the feeling of **abundance**, that which can be explored in various aspects along with the material- intellectual, emotional and spiritual.



lily ponds at two levels



ultimate offering- granite cube in water



edge detail



View towards Matrimandir



View towards Future Lake



Garden Features:

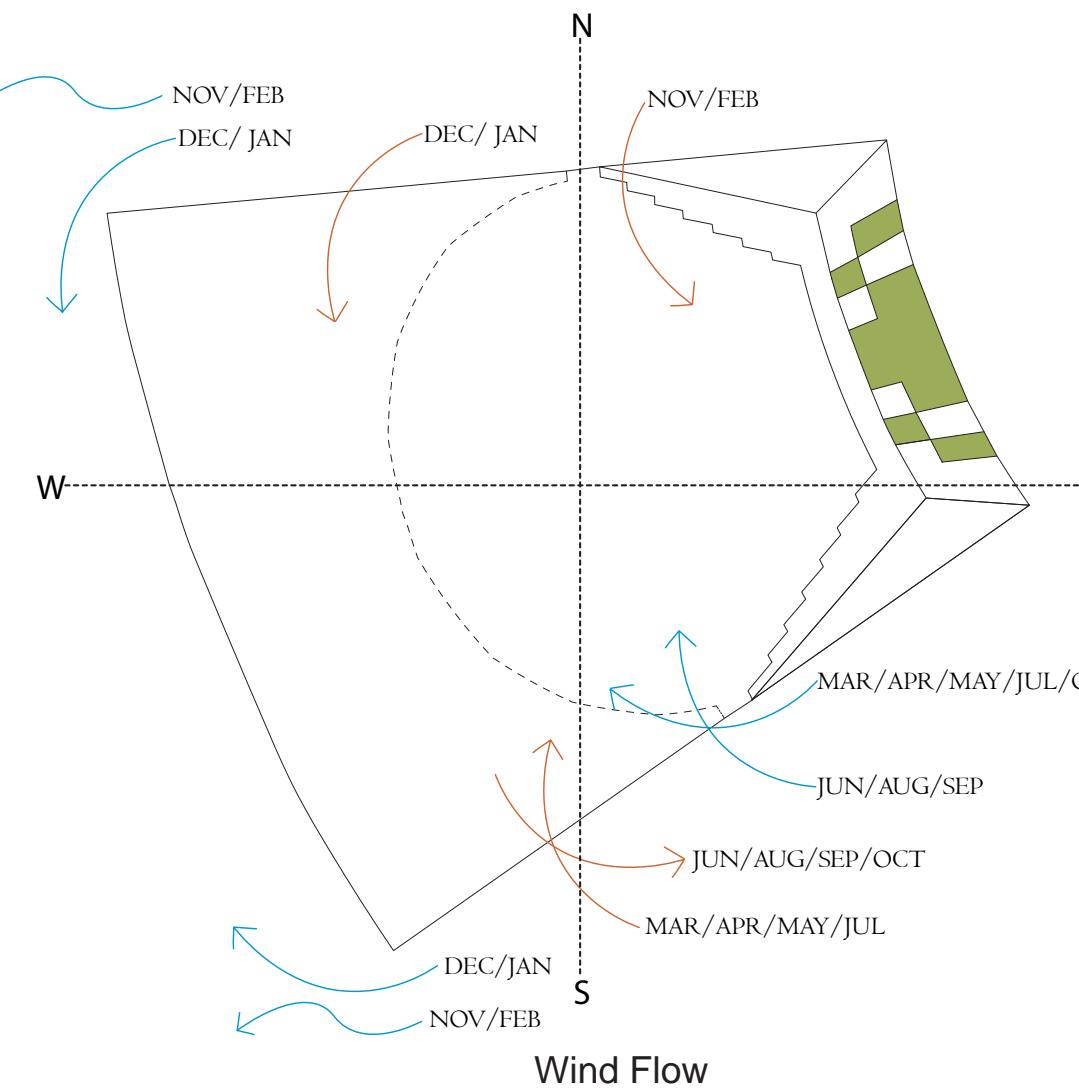
Available Area- 630 sq. m.
Backslope Area- 752 sq. m.

If entrance is from West Gate, this is one of the first two gardens seen by visitors

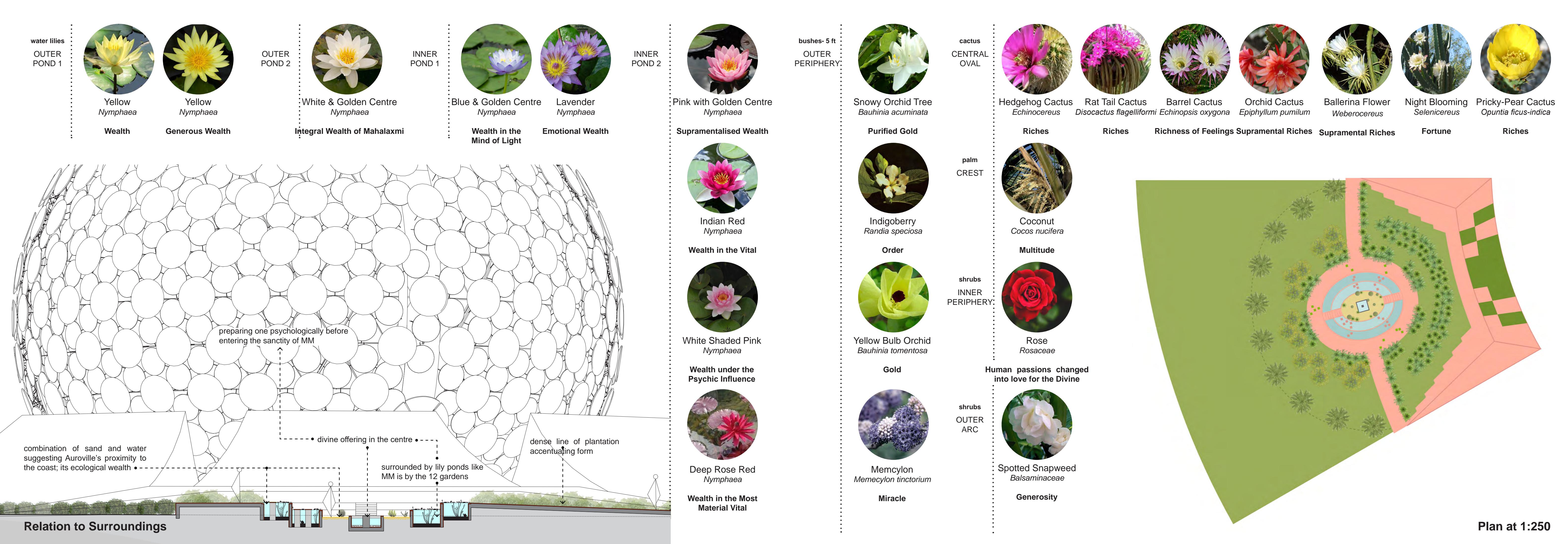
Existing- temporary lily pond



Landform and Drainage



Site Study





Perspective View



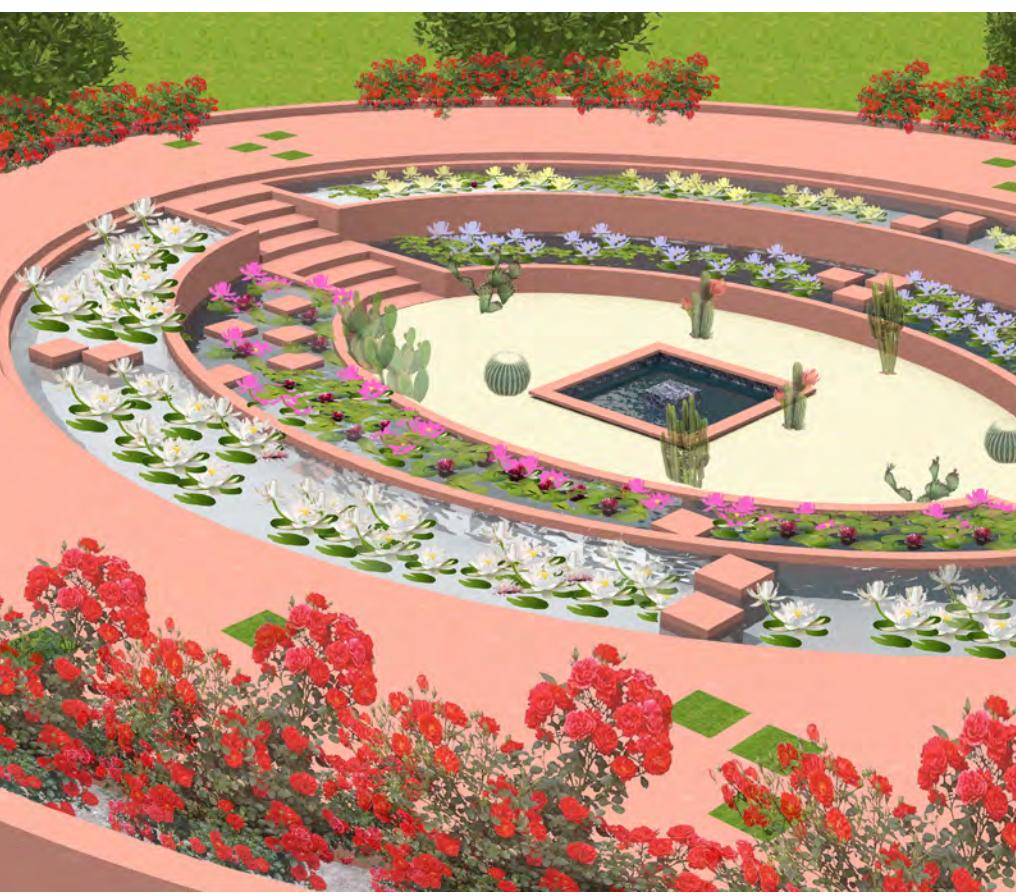
Red Agra Stone
Rajasthan

Pathway/Curbng



Sand
Tamil Nadu

Central Oval



Black Granite
Tamil Nadu

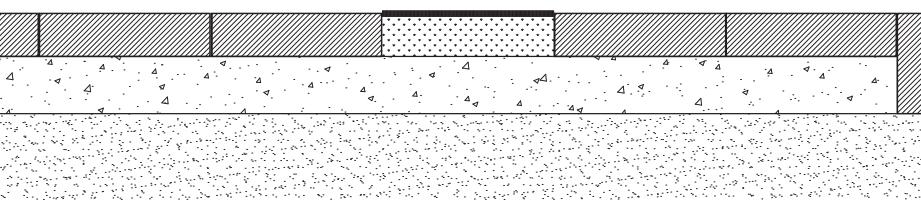
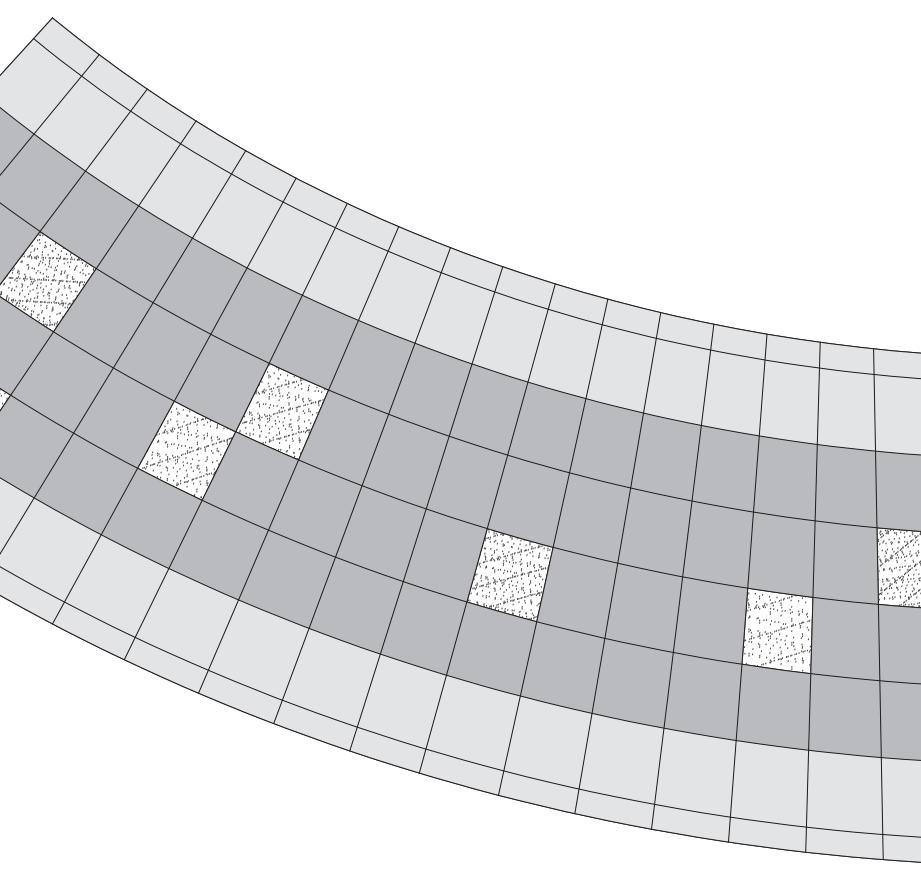
Cuboid

Materials

Axonometric View



Pathway



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3

simultaneous

- **Maintenance of Plants**

6+

Project Timeline



12.0071° N, 79.8106° E

Altitude: 50 metres
Landform: plateau
Distance from the coast: 4.5 km
Climate: sub-tropical
Av. Max. Temp: 37 degree celcius
Av. Min Temp: 20 degree celcius
Av. Humidity: 75%
Annual Rainfall: 1141 mm
Soil Type: red sandy loam
Water Holding Capacity: medium

Auroville's historical ecology consisted of dense forest covering its plateau. About 200 years ago, this was cleared leaving an expanse of baked red earth, scarred with gullies and ravines that had been carved out by the monsoon floods. Lack of vegetation had also led to rampant soil erosion. Efforts over the last fifty years have seen fruitful rejuvenation of the deteriorated ecosystem through aforestation by the community. We wish to contribute towards the same.

T H A N K Y O U