

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH CENTRE AT CHITTAGONG

SUBMITTED BY:
Nazia Nawrin Hossain
ID: 09108017

Seminar II

Submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements
For the degree of Bachelor of Architecture
Department of Architecture
BRAC University

Fall 2013

TABLE OF CONTENT

- ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
- ABSTRACT
- LIST OF FIGURE , MAP, TABLE, PHOTOGRAPHS
- CHAPTER 01: GENERAL INTRODUCTION
 - 1.1: BACKGROUND OF THE PROJECT
 - 1.2: PROJECT INTRODUCTION
 - 1.3: AIMS AND OBJECTIVE OF THE PROJECT
- CHAPTER 02: LITERATURE REVIEW
- CHAPTER 03: CASE STUDIES
 - 3.1: CASE STUDY 01:EURALILLE YOUTH CENTRE
 - 3.2: CASE STUDY 02: GEHUA YOUTH AND CULTURAL CENTER
 - 3.3: CASE STUDY 03:FOREST ROAD YOUTH CENTRE
 - 3.4: SHEIKH HASINA NATIONAL YOUTH CENTRE
- CHAPTER 04: SITE APPRAISAL
 - 4.1: HISTORICAL AND SOCIAL BACKGROUND OF THE SITE
 - 4.2: SWOT ANALYSIS
 - 4.3: SITE AND SURROUNDING PLANS, POPULATION GATHERING AND ACTIVITIES, TOPOGRAPHY, ROAD NETWORK
- CHAPTER 05: PROGRAMME DEVELOPMENT
 - 5.1: RATIONAL OF THE PROGRAMME WITH REQUIRED AREA
 - 5.2: FUNCTIONAL FACILITIES
- CHAPTER 06: CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT
- CHAPTER 07: DESIGN
- CONCLUSION
- BIBLIOGRAPHY

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

It is my great pleasure to complete this paper solely about the 'urban youths', their behavior, their desires and wants and a possible solution for a place dedicated for them. This paper has been written from the help of variety of articles and personal experiences. In this paper, the articles of numerous authors published at different times about their views on the urban youths and their activities are used for getting a complete picture of the present situation of urban youths. The need for an urban space for the growing youths of the society has been established in the paper. Moreover, few people are interviewed of this age group to understand their perspective. I am especially grateful to S.M. AbrarAowsaf, Ziad Al Reza, and NamreenAlam. Their help to understand urban youth's wishes and aspirations have been important for the completion of this paper. I am also thankful to the different authors whose articles have been used for establishing and proving my point in this paper.

PROJECT BRIEF:

PROJECT PROPOSAL:International Youth Centre at Chittagong

PROJECT CLIENT:Ministry of Cultural Affairs

SITE:Polo Ground, CRB area, Chittagong

ABSTRACT

Youth in a country is the most viable and potential human resource not only in population structure but also in social structure.They should be given the appropriate space and opportunity to exercise their talents and knowledge for the movement of society in a positive progress and anurban public space that have every possible facility for the growth of the urban youth in every sector of life starting from art and creativity, sports and athletics, technology and entertainment to loving the Mother Nature. This paper will go through the extensive study of what the youth wants and demands from the present society and how they are growing up in the present world. The sole purpose of the paper is to establish the fact that every youth needs a space for themselves where they will be guided in the right path. Moreover, urban youths need it the most since they are the most vulnerable and susceptible to theworlds every treacherous events and ideas and hence need the place where they can do everything to accomplish their goals and success with a positive competitive mind. Therefore, the paper will analyze the youths mind and culture and propose the required program for the dedicated urban space that will help the youths to devote their time and energy at a positive sector.

LIST OF FIGURE, MAP, TABLE

- FIG.01: Sheikh Hasina National youth centre
- FIG.02:Euralille Youth Centre at night
- FIG.03: Euralille Youth Centre concept diagrams
- FIG.04: Euralille Youth Centre concept diagrams
- FIG.05: Euralille Youth Centre trifold form arranged around a central garden
- FIG.06: Euralille Youth Centre communal space of youth hostel overlooking the courtyard garden
- FIG.07: Euralille Youth Centre ground floor plan
- FIG.08: Euralille Youth Centre 1st floor plan
- FIG.09:Gehua Youth and Cultural Center
- FIG.10: Gehua Youth and Cultural Center
- FIG.11: Gehua Youth and Cultural Center ground floor plan
- FIG.12: Gehua Youth and Cultural Center top view
- FIG.13: Forest Road Youth Centre
- FIG.14:Forest Road Youth Centre ground floor plan
- FIG.15: Forest Road Youth Centre 1st floor plan
- MAP 01: SITE LOCATION IN RESPECT TO CHITTAGONG CITY
- MAP 02: SITE LOCATION
- FIG 16: Empower youths
- FIG 17: Strengthen youths
- FIG 18: Inspire youths

CHAPTER 01: GENERAL INTRODUCTION

The journey of human lives is interesting and intriguing yet full of surprises and challenges, every time when they have a change of age and moves on to the next level of growth. Youths are considered as one of the most carefree and high spirited individuals, and this phase is considered as one of the most important since it is this time when they are shaped as the human beings they will become in the future. It is the time when people make mistakes, go astray, defy others and spend endless hours in thinking about future. Every individual youth develops their beliefs and wisdoms, their thought about life and how they see themselves in the upcoming years. Great Greek philosopher Aristotle once said about the development of youths,

“Young people are in a condition like permanent intoxication, because youth is sweet and they are growing.”

-----Aristotle (384 BC - 322 BC)

1.1: BACKGROUND OF THE PROJECT

Over the years as development proceeded and world moved forward, rapid urbanization and growing of metropolitan cities shaped the society and the population within it. As time passed daily life changed and human life has become a balance of work and basic lifestyle. The daily hustle of life squeezes out the fun times that a human needs. For youths it is more of a routine curved and molded for them where there is no chance of escape. As many anthropologists like to say that rapid urbanization has lost the essence of peaceful yet blissful human lives. A more materialistic life has proceeded on the earth's surface in the name of fast pace modern life. Yet, it is important for the society to understand the need of the human race and more specifically the youths, what they want and what should be given to them since it is this phase that is the most sensitive and easily susceptible to the surroundings issues.

Considering the urban youths, who are exposed to all sorts of things, it is important for them to understand what they should do. As architects we play a vital role in the social development due to the spaces we design. It is important for us to address every age group and their interests more critically putting ourselves at their place. Urban youths are an important aspect of society and they can be the ultimate future if given the exact guidance, support and love. With the options of nourishing their brains and nurturing their bodies through a range of activities for relaxation or learning they will definitely someday prove their abilities for the society.

“I have always had this view about the modern education system we pay attention to brain development, but the development of warm heartedness we take for granted”

-----*Dalai Lama*

As Dalai Lama speaks, he tried to say how youths of this generation lack behind in terms of emotional and growth of inner being. Today the world is too busy to calculate the education system in how many books you read and how good your scores are. Seldom do people acknowledge the fact that a complete human being is the one who has both a heart and a brain. And thus, our young generation remains partially developed with a brain full of memorized knowledge without a heart to deliver them in the betterment of human race and our community. The need of an urban open space is felt and it should be addressed immediately for fulfilling the void the youths are feeling at present because of the lack of a proper space for themselves where they can be themselves without the fear of getting in trouble and answering to anyone.

1.2: PROJECT INTRODUCTION

Every community and society needs open space for their refreshment and well-being. Open space provides recreational areas for residents and helps to enhance the beauty and environmental quality of neighborhoods. But with this broad range of recreational sites comes an equally broad range of environmental issues. According to ‘Collective culture and urban public space’ by Ash Amin (2006), urbanists have long held the view that the physical and social dynamics of public space play a central role in the formation of publics and public culture. A city's streets, parks, squares, and other shared spaces have been seen as symbols of collective well-being and possibility, expressions of achievement and aspiration by urban leaders and visionaries, sites of public encounter and formation of civic culture, and significant spaces of political deliberation and agonistic struggle. There is a growing concern about socialization in high-density communities. Relationships between residents are likely to become more estranged with many people in modern cities experiencing a feeling of isolation and loneliness, lack of social ties, and hostility to community. Experience has shown that there is a need to pay particular attention to planning and design aspects affecting the interests of certain user groups which have tended to be neglected in the past. As Md. Anwar Hossain (M. Phil. Associate Professor, Dept. of Social Work, University of Rajshahi) said in his paperwork Youth Problems, Their Development and Empowerment in Bangladesh, that youth in a country is the most viable and potential human resource not only in population structure but also in social structure. Without proper and integrated bio-social development of the youth a nation cannot achieve her

human goals intended. We expect the younger population to invest their energy and brainpower on the positive sectors so that life is worth a living. There is undisputed evidence that physical activity is positively related to the short term control of childhood obesity, elevated blood pressure, and blood lipid level. Therefore, engaging the youths in healthy and productive activities will definitely improve the situation. The positive effects of physical activities last for lifetime. The physical activities lead to building up of healthy relationship between peers and adults and helps in building a competitive mind.



Though the younger generation is experiencing different issues related to socio economic, cultural and educational fields that have affected their health both physically and mentally, it is the responsibility of the society to understand the problem and find a solution to it. Given the right choice to the youths they will definitely make the best out of it. It is the matter of the older population to set the opportunities for the younger generation and get them engaged in a variety of activities that will shape them. Starting from a variety of athletic ventures to art and creativity and even modern technology, in every field youths can prove their aptitude and intelligence if given the opening and guidance. Let it be for entertainment or for knowledge, any sort of productive activity leads to a healthy growth of the soul. The lack of proper places that holds these facilities together has somehow created a hole in the upbringing of the youths. If they are engaged in a variety of events they will sure utilize their time and energy more productively rather than wasting them on something not even worth a while.

Children's participation in organized extracurricular activities has been associated with positive short and long-term outcomes, such as academic achievement and prosocial behaviors, and with reduced negative outcomes, such as dropping out of school and emotional and behavioral disorders. Many boys and girls find organized sports to be a safe and healthy alternative to risky

behaviors during the afterschool hours, the peak times for youth violence and victimization, when many children and youth are unsupervised. Therefore it is important to find a way to dictate these youths in a guided path that will help them release their energy in their desired way but with a positive impact. This can be done if we can dedicate some space for the youths where they will be able to invest their strength. A place where a wide range of athletic activities occur or activities that generate their creative curiosity should be dedicated for them. Skating, surfing, cycling, bowling and even indoor rock climbing can be introduced to give the youths that extra push. Keeping their culture and their fast pace modern life in consideration a space should be made for them. Indoor club lounge, dance floors and party space can be added for giving them that place they desire the time they want to celebrate with friends. We should expose their growing mind to the beauty of nature and environment may be through introducing gardening or planting for young population. Space dedicated for landscaping can be utilized for their benefit. This not only will give the next generation a better knowledge for practicing plant growth but also encourage them on loving every living creature on planet earth. Moreover exposure to art and creativity is an important issue since these days nurturing creative minds are rare. Studios for practicing art and other creative fields should be introduced. Museums housing their own works can be introduced to boost up their morale. It is very hard to find a young mind who dedicates his life in the name of innovation. So it is our sole responsibility to let them practice any form of art and creation and help them reach their goal. Computer gaming and multiplexes will give an added element to the center for their recreation in a modern way. Food court and lounges can be an attraction for the youths since they will be able to celebrate at any time they want. Hence, the necessity of an urban space that is catered for this generation, so that they can have their healthy growth of body and soul needs to be designed.

1.3: AIMS AND OBJECTIVE OF THE PROJECT

The sole purpose of this project is to be a breathing and breeding arena of urban youths who can channelize their extremely eager passion and energy on the variety of fruitful activities that this place is going to offer them. This place would be an amalgamation of fun and productive events for the urban youth to enjoy their time and nourish their growing mind. It should be the place where they will learn to respect the Mother Nature and the beauty of the environment; they will grasp the ever entertaining essence of creativity and art, and grab and feel the raging adrenaline rush of various sports and athletics with a positive competitive mind.

The project also determines to help build a healthy relationship among the various groups in the society. This space can be the ultimate zone for all the youths of the city where they will come and feel relaxed. Youths from all over the place will come under the same roof for a cause or reason or for pure entertainment. This place can be a zone for progressive protests and rebels by the youths. As we have seen in the past years, a number of issues rose up at different time and were solved purposefully, all because of the initiative of the younger population of our country. The 1952 Language movement is one of the major examples of all time where the youths of our nation raised their voice for fighting for our mother language. The Shahbagh protest for the trying of the 1971 war criminals is a remarkable example of recent times that has shown the powerful impact that the youths can bring about in the society. Therefore it is important for us to dedicate the space for themselves that will help them create a movement and express their views with an open mind.

The sole purpose of the project is to become the ultimate area for the urban youths from all over the earth to come around and interact, share their ideas and views, how they can learn about one another and the way they want to invest their energy in whatever things they like doing. The space should be designed in a way that will attract the urban youths automatically rather than forcing them to do something. The activities and events included in the center for their relaxation and mind empowerment should be magnetic and catchy enough to make them come at that place by themselves.

CHAPTER 02: LITERATURE REVIEW

Since youths are one of the important population groups in terms of building up the society and moving the world forward, they should be given the enough facilities to do so. Although youths at different parts of the world are brought up differently according to culture and the social norms that are present at individual places, the basic idea of youths is always same irrespective of their community and surroundings. The way every individual youth is brought up should have the same social values and wisdoms given to them by their peers. Let it be the western developed world or the eastern developing countries, youths collectively at every place are important to advance the world in a positive way.

According to National Youth Policy of Bangladesh, the age group between 18-35 years are called 'Youth' in Bangladesh. They are the most energetic and productive segment of the total population in Bangladesh. Therefore, the national development mostly depends on their working spirit and initiatives. In Pittman's research he defined youth as the ongoing growth process in which all youth are engaged in attempting to meet their basic personal and social needs to be safe, feel cared for, be valued, be useful, and be spiritually grounded, and to build skills and competencies that allow them to function and contribute in their daily lives. As the definition implies, it is a process or journey that automatically involves all of the people around a youth—family and community. A young person will not be able to build essential skills and competencies and be able to feel safe; cared for, valued, useful, and spiritually grounded unless their family and community provide them with the supports and opportunities they need along the way. Hence, youth development is also a process in which family and community must and should actively participate to build up the future generation. And to accompany this vital process we also need to give them the space they need and crave for themselves. It should be the ultimate zone for the youths to express their views, go free and wild with different events and understand the meaning of togetherness in the society.

The general notion of people in our society about the western world is very different and sort of negative since we assume that they live a very fast paced modern life that is absolutely out of our cultural norm. The difference in the social values and communal ethics are somewhat opposite since we consider that their family attachments are not at all similar to ours. Seldom do we consider that we are all human beings at the end of the day and every individual has his own ideas, choices, decisions and thoughts about life. Let it be youths or small children or even elderly people, every individual has their own considerate beliefs and we cannot change them

but only assist and make them understand on what they do does not harm, disrespect or trouble the other.

Moreover, as the time progressed different studies have been carried out to understand the behavior and traits of the urban youths. According to 'Teenagers and Public Space' by Penny Travlou, over the last twenty years there has been a developing research interest in young people and their relationship with the urban environment. Various researchers from different countries and academic backgrounds as Kevin Lynch (1977), Colin Ward (1977) and Roger Hart (1979) were pioneering in their approach of observing the experiences of young people in the city. Most studies have focused on young people's perceptions and experiences of their local environment and their participatory role in planning and decision making of environmental projects. As studies progressed to find about the likes and dislikes of the youths, it has been thoroughly studied to understand the reason behind the increased arrogance and agitation of modern youth generation. Since the mid-nineties, researchers have shifted their interest towards more radical studies questioning governmental policies and strategies which lead to the exclusion of young people from public space through the criminalization of certain activities (i.e. skateboarding, graffiti) and policing of their movement (i.e. juvenile curfews). It is important for us to understand the causes behind these issues and how they could be solved in order to divert the growing mind of the youths from the destructive approach they often have.

Considering the western culture they have a very different world than ours. Their cultural and family values are more broad minded considering that they have very different ethical principles. For them family means just themselves as opposite to our social system where family means the entire bunch of people who is related to you by blood at any point of life. According to an author Stephenson Billings in his article 'America Would Thrive Again if America's Youths weren't so Lazy and arrogant', he said that young people should have taken up the mantle of responsibility, righteousness and professionalism long ago. But they failed. They failed beyond the worst panicked expectations. There is no such thing as a work ethic in this country today. Drugs and sloth, socialistic rebellion and sexual experimentation are epidemic from coast to teeming coast. We have indulged the youth generation's irresponsibility to such an incredible extent that we must now wonder if they are completely, irrevocably incompetent. A recent report from the New York Times found that young people could not name a moral quandary they had faced in their lives if asked. In fact, they are truly oblivious of the idea of morality and sacred sacrifice altogether. From pre-schoolers to 30-year olds, the children are far too consumed by consumer culture. They spend their hours on Facebook or wandering the streets like zombies

with their earphones plugged in to block out any hint of reality. They're on their cellphones continuously, jamming the frequencies with their nonsensical selfish chatter. Somehow they imagine themselves to be great citizens while turning a blind eye to the immense moral decline of the countries.

Despite the appearance of stability, culture is a dynamic, historical process. As time evolved, youths have developed their form of culture and tradition called the youth culture. Youth culture refers to those processes and symbolic systems that young people share that are, to some degree, distinctive from those of their parents and the other adults in their community. Most scholars would agree that the conditions necessary for the mass youth cultures recognizable today appeared after the formation of modern nation-states and the century. In the early 1960s' youth rebellion, youth culture became a normalized routinization of the aftermath human life course. In the industrializing nations of the nineteenth century the feature of life changed in many developed nations, and the youth cultures in those countries often set the terms for emulation by other nations.

Although youths often experience the hard times and many go astray there are people who have proved their importance and capability in the modern world. The younger generation is the driving force of the society, economy and culture. In a recently published report at 'The New York Times' on July 24 2012, by 2030 60% of the world's population or 4.9 billion people are expected to live in urban areas. It is argued that urbanism is fundamentally changing the condition of humanity and our relationship to the earth. The environmental impact of urban areas is putting a huge strain on our Earth's resources and creating additional issues for the inhabitants of these areas such as loss of biodiversity and urban heat island effect. At this time young people across the globe are creating urban spaces where creativity, environmental and social action join together, inspiring local inhabitants, encouraging municipalities and empowering businesses to adapt greener practices. Hence, there are situations when given the right guidance and choice youths will prove to be the ultimate nation builders.

According to Md. Anwar Hossain M. Phil., he said in his article Youth Problems, Their Development and Empowerment in Bangladesh that demographically, Bangladesh is a predominantly young country. So, youth aspirations and demands are important in demand side of governance. With the institutions' inability to deliver, youth are losing interest in democratic participation. In a recent report published by the 'The daily Star' on November 17 2011 under the headline 'Youth in Bangladesh Democracy', although 59 percent feel close to a political

party, 94 percent are not member of any. While 77 percent voted in the last election, 89 percent didn't participate in any protest or demonstration in life. Majority of them also did not participate in solving community problems (69 percent) and attended any political meeting (85 percent). Therefore, youths of our country are ignorant and less aware of the situation of the country. Though we blame the modern technologies and the development of fast pace life, the root cause of every problem lies under the society and its less bothered attitude towards the youth. If we thought about them and gave them their required space and opportunity the present generation would not have experienced this unworthy situation today.

Majority of the youths today spend their time in computer gaming and internet surfing. The introduction of x-box and PlayStation has changed their thoughts about life. There are less practice of culture and art and creativity. So should we blame the technology for this? Of course not since the use of any device lies in the hand of the user and whoever else is guiding them. Youths are lost in their own world of earphones and modern music and fast beat. Meaning of the music is less important. Running around in posh cars and loud music is a fashion trend of rich urban youths. And this is the picture of our very own cities in Bangladesh. Thus, it is important that these youths divert themselves from these materialistic goodies and find the happiness in more tangible productive work. The burning energy of youths and their eager passion for doing something in the world must be channelized in the more useful methods by telling them about the development of the country and how they can play a part in society and community development.

A major issue that hinders the growth of youths is the economic condition of the families in which they belong. Since Bangladesh is a country of low GDP and per capita income is one of the lowest compared to the other countries in the world, the financial condition of most of the people is poor and most lie below the poverty line. Hence, children growing in these families lack proper education and is deprived of all the extra activities the city has to offer. The youths of these families are brought up to get a job as soon as they turn twelve let it be a girl or a boy, they all are sent off to work. These youths does not get to enjoy their age or learn the fun of life since for them the harsh reality is to earn their daily bread and shelter rather than getting an art class or a game of football in the lush green field. The rich youths of the society spend endless money on the gaming devices and the modern equipment and technologies. For the youths of upper class the life is more laid back since the worry of earning money is not at their shoulder.

The center will be the place where youths from all over the world will come down and understand our culture and heritage. Students of our community and society and students from other places will be merged together at one unified space. They will come together for training workshops, seminars and conferences. They will have their own flexible time of having fun and relaxation and entertainment together. This in return helps in a combination of culture and principles of different ethnic groups and an amalgamation of all the nations' heritage. Moreover, for the local youths this will be a training ground for the ones who are educated but yet unemployed and hence needs an extra quality to get a living. This center can therefore have a range of programs that will help in gaining a better living situation.

Since culture also plays an important role in every country therefore, the way the youths spend their time to some extent is culturally influenced. Considering the youths of developed world they are more into partying and drinking and indulging in other issues that are considered as taboo in our society. Their leisure time is less spent with families and more with friends going out at different places and experiencing the world. On the contrary youths of our less developed societies are yet to fully indulge themselves at worldly goods since most of us live under the supervision of our parents. Generally our whereabouts are noticed and questioned if any suspicious thing occurs. For us we are still bound to cultural values and ethics like visiting family during weekends, going to village home every once in a while, inviting friends over at home, and meeting up relatives at every festival and occasion. For us our friends and family should be together to celebrate every happy occasion. Although there are cases where the youths do various other activities and have fun at their own meaning, but it is still up to a limit that they dare cross. Considering the development of the world our country has experienced the wrath of modern world and many western influence and culture are infiltrating our societal values. However, we should accept the good ones and abandon the ones that can corrupt our mind and soul. There is no harm in partying and spending time with friends but this should be done at a more controlled amount and not done frequently since the energy required for this can be used at more fruitful purposes.

CHAPTER 03: CASE STUDIES

Before starting the project and outlining a program, it is important for us to go through a few real life projects related to our functions and basic concept. Hence, in this chapter we will go through a few projects that are not yet fully built but have won the competitions and is under construction phase.

CASE STUDY 01: SHEIKH HASINA NATIONAL YOUTH CENTRE

Project Overview:

Site: Savar, Dhaka

Project Area: 8.0 acres

Over the years the youths of our country needed a dedicated space that would help them to channel their burning energy on a very positive sector. The government hence built the youth center in Savar to help the youths of our country to learn a variety of skills and qualities to become more self-dependent and get a better living.

Programs:

- training
- study and research
- documentary and publication
- diploma on youth activities
- national youth exchange program
- curriculum development
- partnership program
- seminar/workshop
- sports or cultural program
- capacity building training
- excellence of youth work
- youth conference



FIG:01 Sheikh Hasina National youth centre

The programs involved in this center are open for any person from any district of the country. The exchange programs also helps in a better understanding of one another among the youths. There is a central library for the gain of knowledge by the residing students in the student hostels and a central gymnasium and cafeteria also gives them an added entertainment facility.

CASE STUDY 01: Euralille Youth Centre

Project Overview:

Site: Euralille, France

Project Area: 6000 sqm

Architects: JDS Architects

Over the past twenty years Lille has become a European hub; a destination for business and congress, a great place to study and live and also a tourist destination. It is a city with a turbulent history of conquest and re-conquest, a heritage as an important medieval city and later the industrial capital. It is this history, the unique and striking presence of remnants of ramparts of the citadel, which the project seeks to mention. The Euralille Youth Centre is a 6,000 sqm project that includes a youth hostel, offices and a kindergarden.

Our project emerges from the idea of creating an urban catalyst, accommodating three distinct programs on a triangular site. By placing a program in each point of the triangle we offer maximum privacy while allowing them a closeness and continuity of space, organized around a garden, like a cloister of calm in the center of the city. The lifting of the mass of the program at the corners illuminates and activates the adjacent public spaces and creates continuity from outside to inside the building.



FIG.02: Euralille Youth Centre at night

CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT

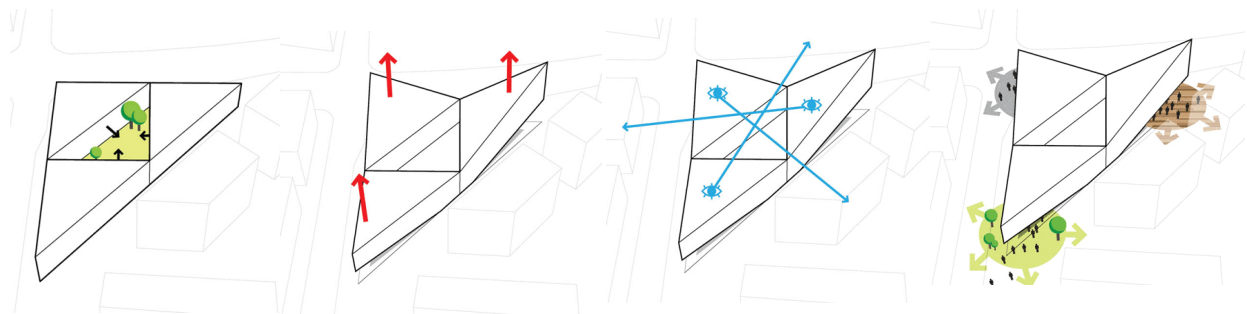


FIG.03: Euralille Youth Centre concept diagrams

The lifting of the mass of the program at the corners illuminates and activates the adjacent public spaces and creates continuity from outside to inside of the building.

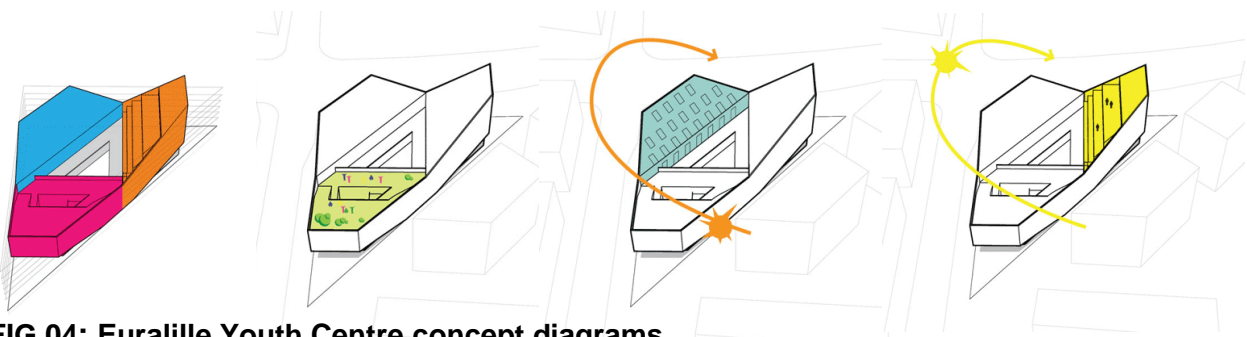


FIG.04: Euralille Youth Centre concept diagrams

According to the sun direction and connectivity to the city the following functions were arranged accordingly at the three corners.



FIG.05: Euralille Youth Centre trifold form arranged around a central garden



FIG.06: Euralille Youth Centre communal hostel space

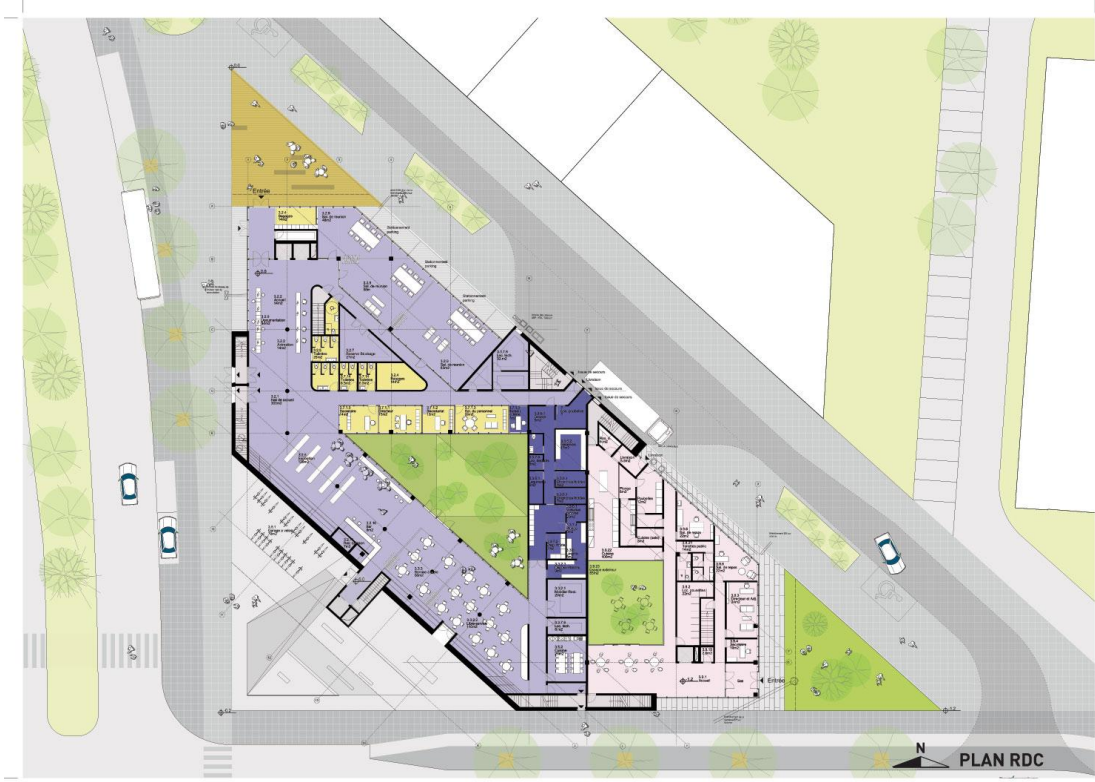


FIG.07: Euralille Youth Centre ground floor plan



FIG.08: Euralille Youth Centre 1st floor plan

CASE STUDY 02: Gehua Youth and Cultural Center

Project Overview:

Site: Qinhuangdao, Beidaihe, China

Project Area: 2700 sqm

Architects: Open Architecture

This pioneer youth and cultural center is located in Beidaihe, a seaside town with exceptional historical and cultural significance. The whole building is surrounded by nature, protected from the noises and chaos of the city. The 2,700 sqm building has various functional requirements: theater, gallery, activity spaces, DIY space, café, book bar, multi-media hall, master studio, VIP room and so on. With the aim of maximizing both the preservation of nature on site and the diversity of spatial qualities, OPEN designed a building which is completely fused with nature. Free flowing indoor spaces fully connect to the outdoor landscape. The same space can assume different functions for different occasions. The central courtyard is not only part of the landscape throughout the year but it is also an extension to the theatre for hosting a much larger crowd watching performances. The roof is covered with green and a variety of suitable outdoor activities, so 100% of the land is effectively used an important aspect of the camp's operation.



FIG.09: Gehua Youth and Cultural Center



FIG.10: Gehua Youth and Cultural Center

Although the theatre is relatively small with about 120 seats, it is designed and equipped to be able to host high quality professional performances. When both sets of folding doors behind the stage are fully opened, the courtyard suddenly becomes a part of the theatre, creating a delightful surprise that transforms the small theatre into a large performing arena. The performers act and dance inside and outside, taking in the natural elements outside as part of the performance. The spectators will enjoy a totally different kind of theater experience both

novel and unexpected. In another occasion, the courtyard raised along the slope can be an ideal auditorium for both performances and open-air cinema. The building is funded by Beijing Gehua Cultural Development Group, and will be the base for the Little Angle Action Fund under the China Youth Foundation for their Camp Experience and Training Center. It also serves as a cultural center for Beidaihe's local communities.



FIG.11: Gehua Youth and Cultural Center ground floor plan



FIG.12: Gehua Youth and Cultural Center top view

CASE STUDY 03: Forest Road Youth Centre

Project Overview:

Site: London, UK

Project Area: 3000 sqm

Architects:Matthew Lloyd Architects



FIG.13: Forest Road Youth Centre

A new youth center in Dalston, Hackney, which forms the centerpiece of youth services provision in the area has been designed by Matthew Lloyd Architects. The new building gives the center a fresh identity, instantly recognizable within the cityscape, but sitting comfortably within its surroundings. Extensive glazing is used on the ground floor maintaining an open and active relationship between the street and main common area within the building. In contrast to this sense of transparency, the main double height hall, which sits over the common area, is treated as a strong sculptural element clad in terracotta tiles using four different colors in an abstract pattern. At points the cladding reveals small windows which allow light to penetrate from inside the studio space when it is in use.

Internally, a sense of openness is achieved by the use of an uncomplicated plan arrangement and generous circulation areas at the heart of the building. A simple palette of materials, bold colours and oversized graphics are used throughout. Exposed galvanized services, concrete

soffits and a resin floor give the building a robust and semi-industrial feel. The center is organized around two external courtyards, one paved and one landscaped, which provide enclosed and protected break-out spaces relating back to the different functions within the building. The ground floor comprises a large 'chill out' space with a kitchen, along with a 'Surf Zone' for internet use, which is complemented by a 'Tech Hub' for more structured IT activities, including music editing. On the upper levels, a main hall accommodates a wide range of sports, dance, and recreation and includes a full-height climbing wall; there are also rooms for one-to-one sessions, offices for Hackney Youth Services, and a space for smaller group activities connected to an external roof terrace. The center also provides a base for the Youth Parliament and Youth Volunteering programs.

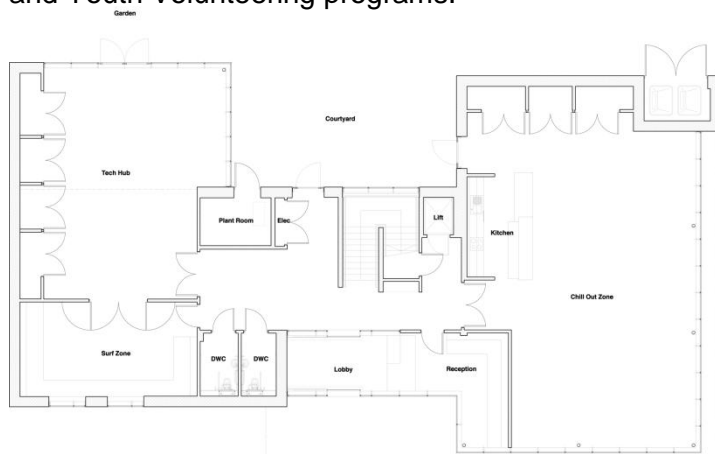


FIG.14: Forest Road Youth Centre ground floor plan

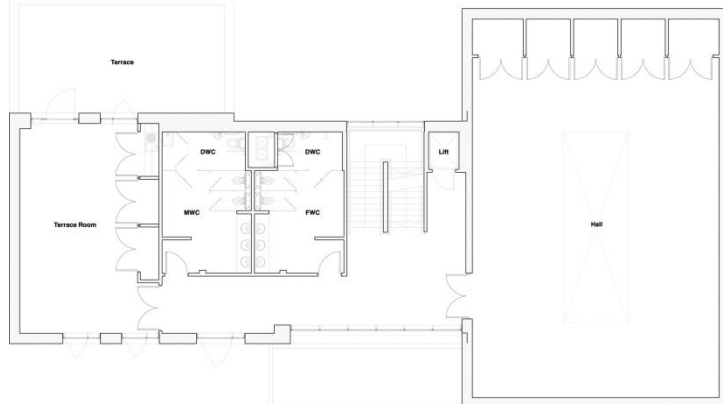


FIG.15: Forest Road Youth Centre 1st floor plan

The above three case studies have their own different purpose. The case study of Eurallile youth center is studied to understand the concept development required for any urban youth space. Forest Road youth center and Gehua youth center are studied to understand the program development and the plan solving of a youth center. All these case studies have the common basic functions and they are studied thoroughly to understand how any urban youth

center works and the activities that are commonly introduced in these centers. All the case studies have different main functions and hence each of them has different essence given to the youths to experience. The case studies are studied to understand the requirement of the centres and develop the functions.

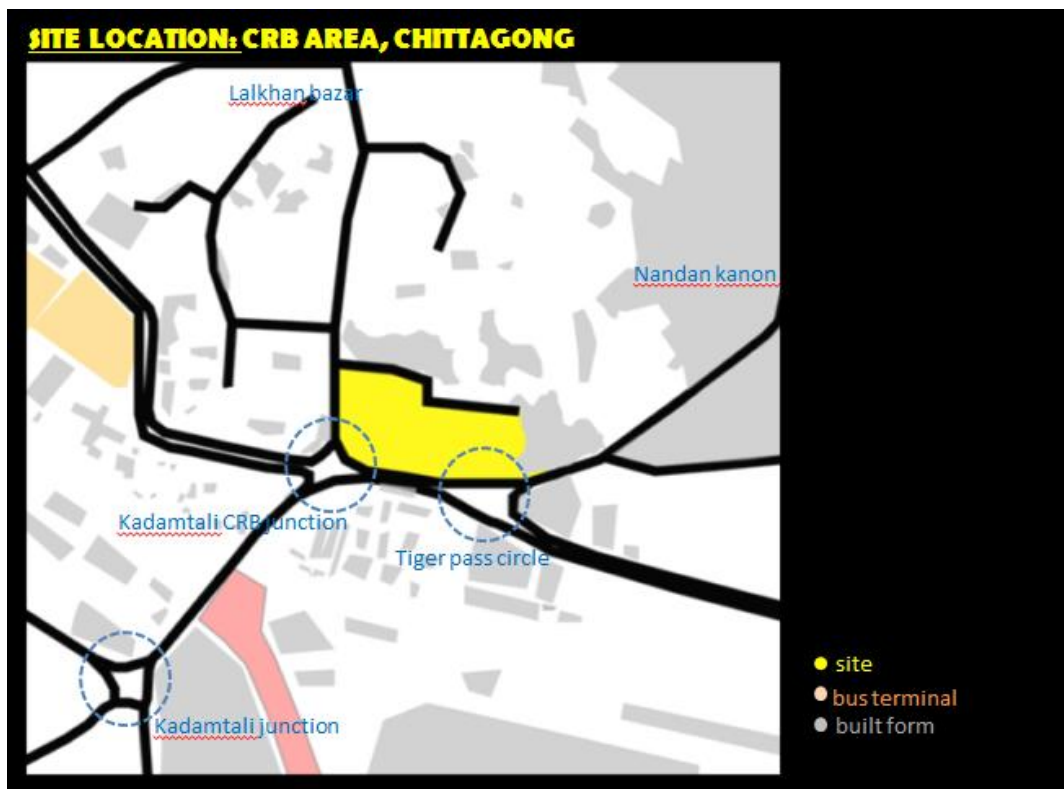
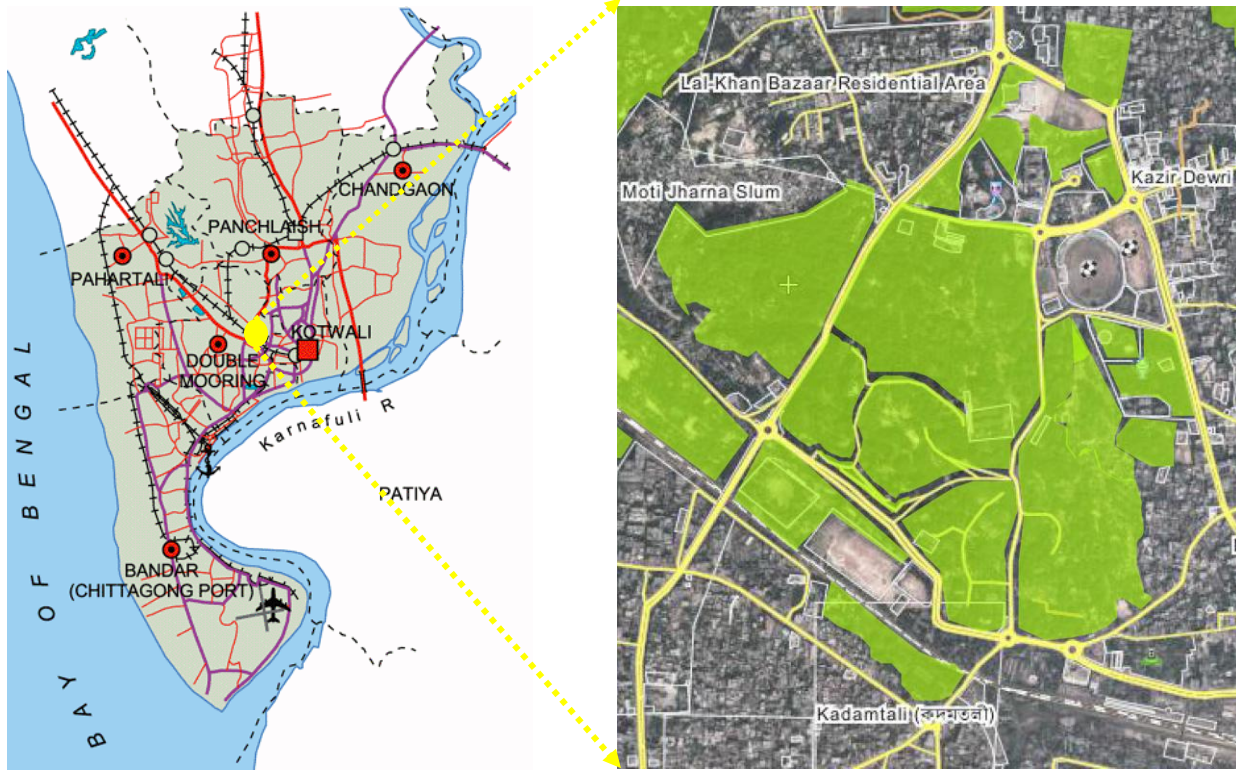
CHAPTER 04: SITE APPRAISAL

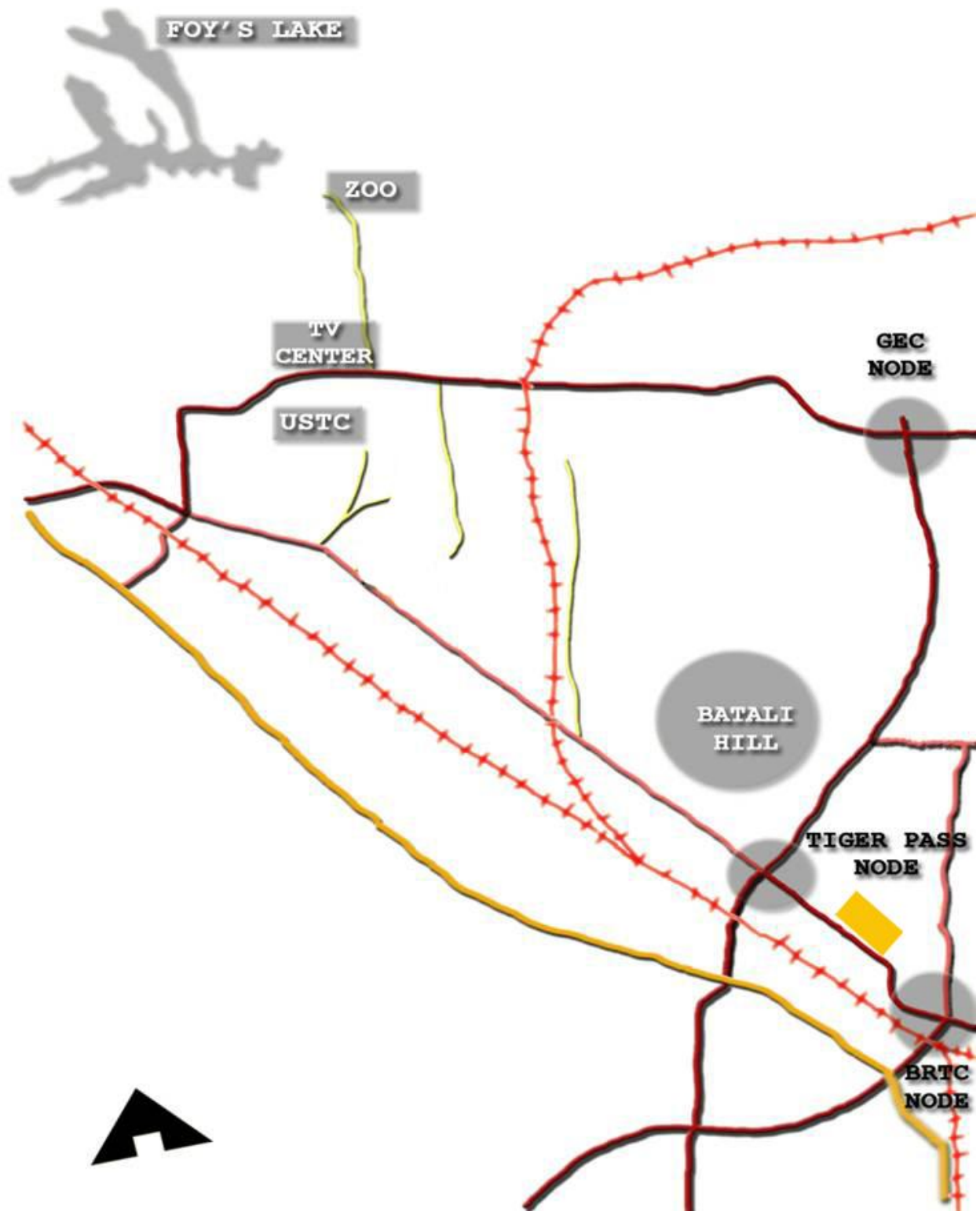
The site is chosen in the biggest port city of the country, Chittagong, which is relatively less crowded compared to our capital city and hence, makes more of a potential space where we can create the ultimate area for the youths where they can nurture and nourish their growing minds. Specifically the site is in the CRB area or otherwise known as the Station road area right beside the Chittagong M.A Aziz stadium and Nandan Kanon residential area.

4.1: HISTORICAL AND SOCIAL BACKGROUND OF THE SITE

Chittagong has an area of 209.66 sq. km. and a population of 32,02,710 people are called the commercial capital of Bangladesh. The CRB area or more well known as the railway area has been one of the oldest established areas of the port city. The construction of the Assam Bengal Railway to Chittagong facilitated further development of economic growth in the city around this area. However, revolutionaries and opposition movements grew during this time. Many people in Chittagong supported Khilafat and Non-Cooperation movements. Assam Bengal Railway started construction of a railway track on the eastern side of Bengal in 1891. A 150 kilometers (93 mi) track between Chittagong and Comilla was opened to traffic in 1895. The Comilla-Akhaura-Kalaura-Badarpur section was opened in 1896-1898 and finally extended to Lumding in 1903. Due to the development of the railway in the city a large proportion of the land were dedicated for the railway facilities in the hilly region of Chittagong. Railway officer's residences, school, hospital and Railway officer's mess are the structures that were built over the period. Eventually, the area is being illegally taken up by settlers around the area creating slums all over the place. At present the area is an amalgamation of many unwanted colonizers and the railway facilities along with the road side illicit mobile vendors. Due to governments negligence the hills are often cut down from the sides for the establishment of these settlements.

MAP 01: SITE LOCATION IN RESPECT TO CHITTAGONG CITY





MAP 02: SITE LOCATION

4.2: SWOT ANALYSIS:

STRENGTHS:

- Abundant green space around the site
- Creates an ambience of peacefulness and relation to nature by the people
- Direct access and connection to the primary road

WEAKNESS:

- Irregular settlements of people around the hilly area
- Mobile vendors unnecessarily crowding the paved pedestrian pathways
- Cutting of hills due to illegal settlements

OPPORTUNITY:

- Since ample green is available it proves to be a very good source for relaxation
- Direct access to road creates connection to the entire city hence more people can come here for getting the facilities
- Situated at the central hub of the city hence an open public space at this place will give the citizens a better place to relax

THREATS:

- Increased cutting of hills leading to environmental degradation
- Ecosystem is harmed causing the entire system to collapse often leading to loss of lives
- Encroachment of land leads to wastage of precious space for nothing rather than creating an unified continuous open space



SITE IMAGES



SITE IMAGES

CHAPTER 05: PROGRAMME DEVELOPMENT

The International youth center is going to be the ultimate hub for the students of the world therefore, the facilities and activities provided should be for both the local and foreign youths from all over the world. Hence, keeping this idea at hand the following program has been deduced:

PROGRAMS IN THE YOUTH CENTRE:

- **TRAINING FOR LOCAL YOUTHS:**

Training the youths on different fields to make them self-sufficient and help them earn a living e.g. training them on fishing, poultry framing, handicrafts etc.

- **RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT WORK:**

Research carried out by the youths on different youth related issues and how they can be addressed. These works can be published or made into documentary films for encouraging the youths who were involved in the research work.

- **SEMINAR/ WORKSHOP/YOUTH CONFERENCE:**

Seminar on different youth related issues, international conferences and workshops on different subjects creating a space for exchange of views and visions for youths from all over the world and our country. Also it will help our youths learn about new technologies and ideas shared by the individuals from other countries at the meetings.

- **SPORT AND CULTURAL PROGRAM:**

Competitive sports and cultural programs to build up a sense of healthy competition is important. Youths from all over the world can display their culture to one another and this will also give a floor to our culture to be explored by the international youths.

- **EXCHANGE OF KNOWLEDGE AND IDEAS THROUGH REGULAR INTERACTION:**

Living together under the same roof, our local Bangladeshi youths and the international youths from different countries will get the chance to interact in a more intimate level giving them the opportunity to know about each other's culture, history, heritage and

lifestyle. They can gather around and talk about different topics and have fun along the way making the exchange of ideas and views at a more friendly level.

- **ENGAGING THEMSELVES IN DIFFERENT ENTERTAINMENT FACILITIES TOGETHER:**

Getting together at a variety of indoor or outdoor sports or sitting together to watch a movie is also an important part for letting the youths to know each other.

- **ENGAGING IN DIFFERENT SOCIAL WORKS TOGETHER:**

Youths of different countries can participate together in activities like teaching the deprived children of our society or take initiatives together to give the less fortunate ones a better living condition through numerous ways. In this way the idea of teamwork and leadership qualities will be introduced for the youths.

According to the programs introduced in the center the following functions are proposed:

FUNCTIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

General facilities:

- Lobby and reception area
- Administration block: a) General office
 - b) Office for the in charge of the institution
 - c) Small conference room for the use of office staff meetings
- Cafeteria
- Library with modern amenities e.g. digital media for research
- Multipurpose hall room for seminars and workshops
- Auditorium for cultural functions or large conferences
- Media center
- Youth hostel or dormitory for youths from all over the world

- Gymnasium

Entertainment facilities:

- Indoor athletic activities: a) Bowling ball arena
b) Snooker/Billiards and poker room
- Lounge and coffee area
- Open public space and plaza

Educational Facilities:

- Classroom types: a) Vocational training rooms for the local youths
b) Art and sculpture studio
c) Music and dance learning rooms
d) General classrooms

Table 01: SPECIFIC AREA FOR THE ALLOCATED FUNCTIONS

| FUNCTIONS | AREA(sft) |
|---|------------------|
| Lobby and reception area | 1000 |
| Administration block: a) General office | 500 |
| b) Office for the in charge of the institution | 250 |
| c) Small conference room for the use of office staff meetings | 250 |
| | |
| Restaurant: a) Kitchen | 500 |
| b) Dining area | 2000 |
| Library with modern amenities e.g. digital media for research | 2500 |
| Multipurpose hall room for seminars and workshops | 5000 |
| Auditorium for cultural functions or large conferences | 10,000 |
| Media center | 2000 |
| | |
| Youth hostel or dormitory for youths from all over the world: | |
| a)Dorm room(10 single bunk per room) | 15000 |
| b)Common room | 1500 |
| c)Dining area with kitchen | 2500 |
| d)Dorm tutors room | 500 |
| Total area for youth hostel | 19,500 |
| | |
| Gymnasium | 3000 |
| Indoor athletic activities: a) Bowling ball arena | 5000 |
| b) Snooker/Billiards and poker room | 2000 |
| Lounge and coffee area | 3000 |

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| Open public space and plaza | 3,00,000 |
| | |
| Classroom types: a) Vocational training rooms for the local youths | 800 |
| b) Art and sculpture studio | 1000 |
| c) Music and dance learning rooms | 1000 |
| d) General classrooms | 700 |
| Total area: | 3,60,000 |

CHAPTER 06: CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT

The main idea of this project is to develop a space for the youths where they will understand their true potentials and utilize them in a useful way. Every youth has their individual talents and creativity. The only need is to recognize them and convert them into a more important and fruitful idea. The youths of our country are deprived from the modern amenities hence most of them do not know about their true talents. In this center the experts will guide the youths in their right paths and help them discover about themselves. Hence the concept has been developed:

- **EMPOWER YOUTHS**:Introducing educational and training facilities for the youths who are deprived from these facilities and the ones who are suffering from unemployment.
- **INSPIRE YOUTHS**:Understand their true potential through skills in art, sports, music, theatre for development of healthy mind and soul for our culture and heritage.
- **SUPPORT YOUTHS**:Strengthen their potentials through education and entertainment at the same time.



FIG 16: EMPOWER YOUTHS



FIG 17: STRENGTHEN YOUTHS



FIG 18: STRENGTHEN YOUTHS

FORM DEVELOPMENT:



FIG19: To develop a valley like section

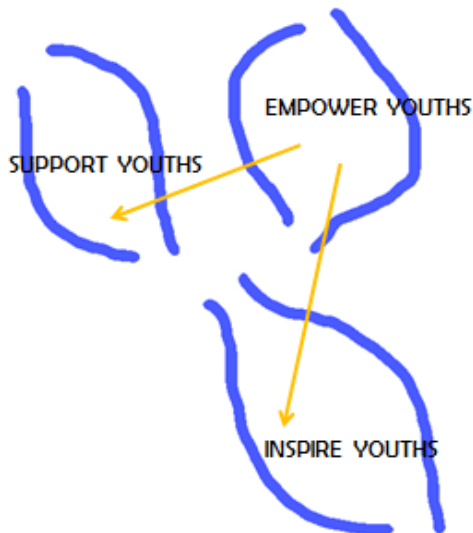


FIG 20: Three individual blocks having the three functions

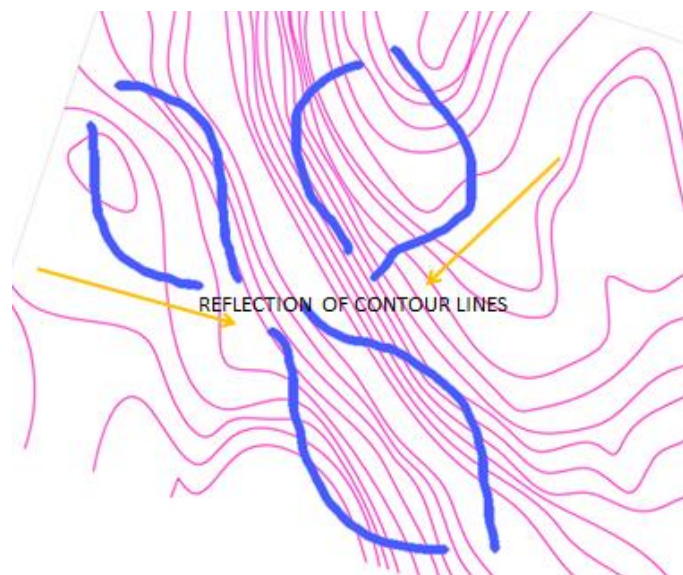


FIG 21: form reflection from contour lines

The main idea is to create a valley like effect in the area since the ancient history of the city tells us that many valleys existed in the past that had been removed over the years for building the city. Hence to revive the old nature and environment the idea has been developed in such a way that the form has a staggering terrace like effect that gradually grows upwards for this effect.

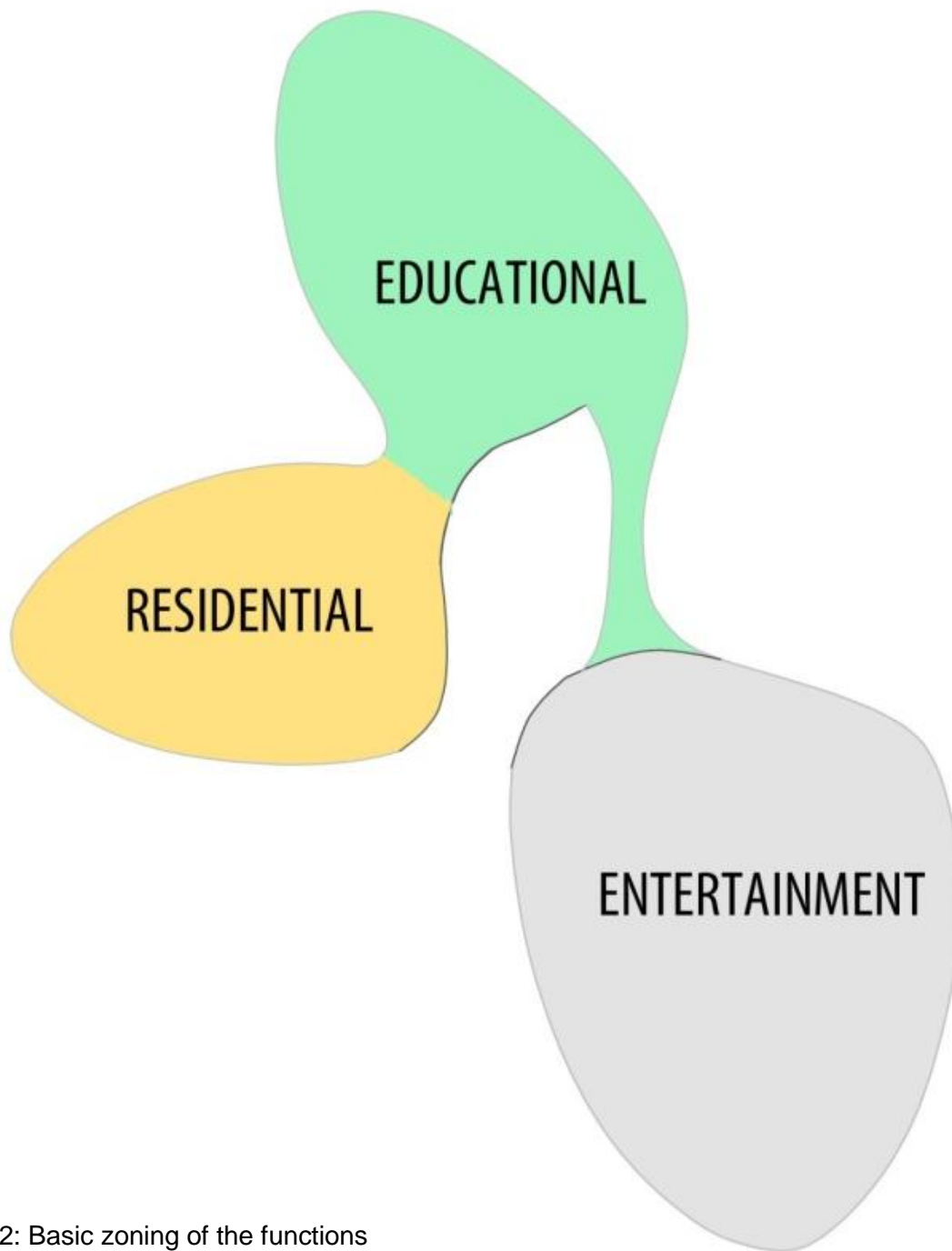


FIG 22: Basic zoning of the functions

The three distinctive zones of the form has been derived from the concept. The educational block has all the classrooms, media centre and the studios for the students. This is where the youths are trained for their future. The residential block has the dorm facilities for the students where they can stay as long as they are receiving the training or is here for workshops and seminars. The entertainment block is actually made for public use as well as for the students.

The block has performing arts theatre and indoor sporting facilities for the youths as well as the city dwellers. This is the ultimate get together hub for all the youths where they can show their talent and get the necessary motivation from the people of the city performing their talents that they have recognized in here and learnt to polish their skills they have achieved in their desired goals.

CHAPTER 07: DESIGN



FIG 23: International Youth Centre, Chittagong

The main idea was to make the form merge with the receding landscape in the background. The busy city should have an open space specially for their growing youths that will give them a breath of relief and also for all the city dwellers regardless their age and gender. As we can see the immense public plaza surrounding the form is the focal point of the entire project since it caters everyone from the city. starting from the mobile vendors to the slum children or growing youth and the adults it s a place for everyone.



FIG 24: International Youth Centre, Chittagong

The sections below show how the form merges with the surrounding landscape and the cityscape of tall buildings.

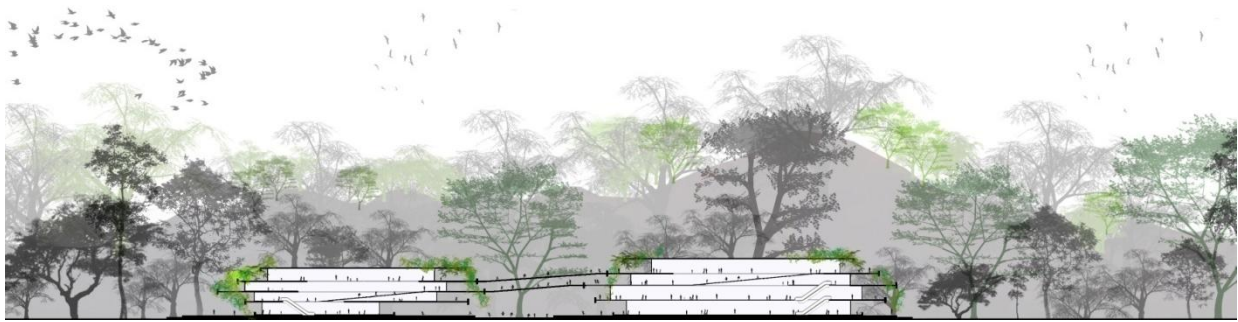


FIG 25: Section AA



FIG 26: Section BB

Interior rendered images:

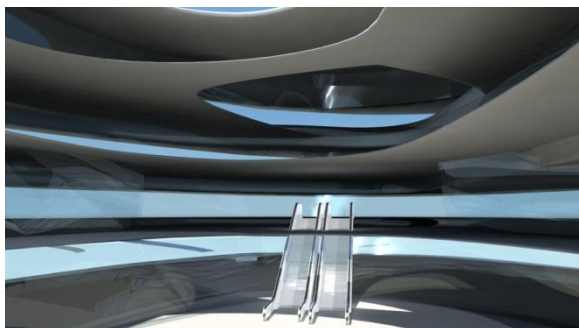


FIG 27: Interior of the educational block

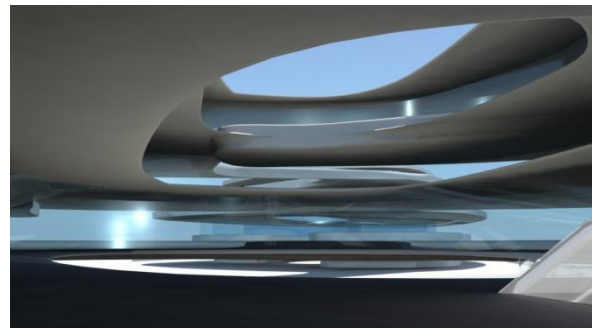


FIG 28: Interior of the educational block

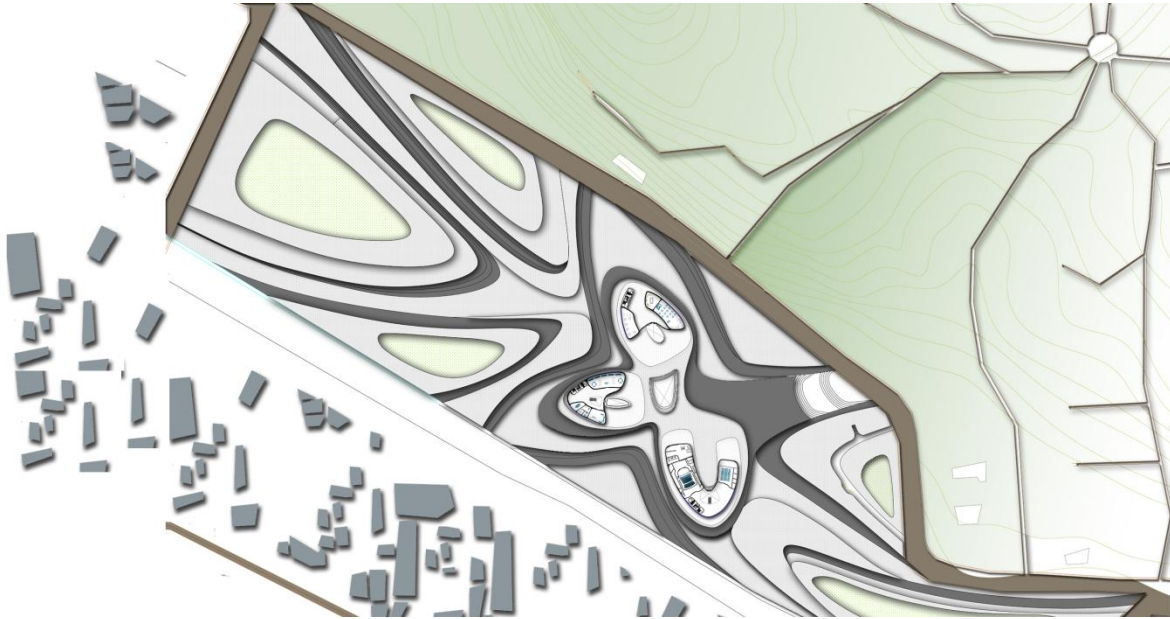


FIG 29: Ground floor plan



FIG 30: Exterior rendered image

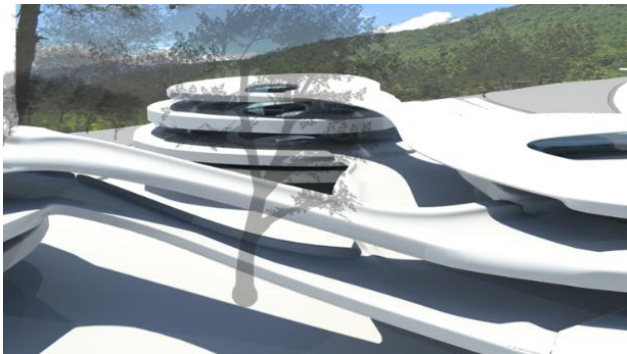


FIG 31: Exterior rendered image

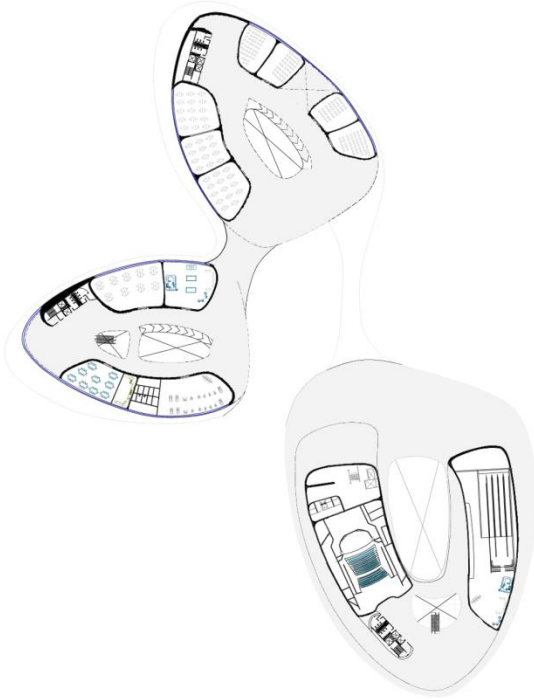


FIG 32: 1st floor plan

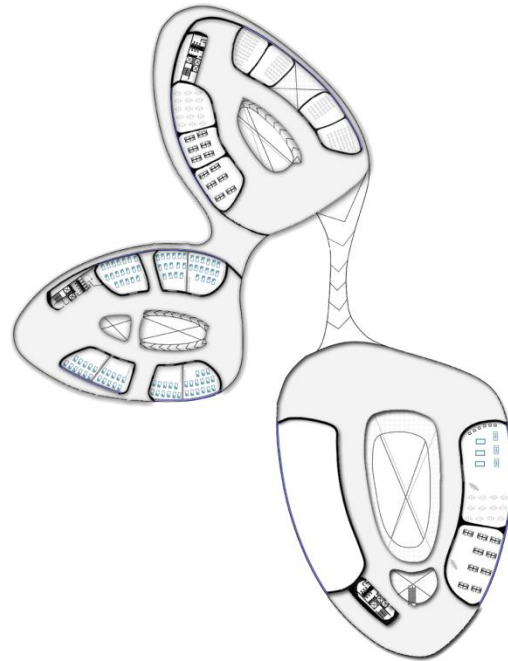


FIG 33: 2nd floor plan

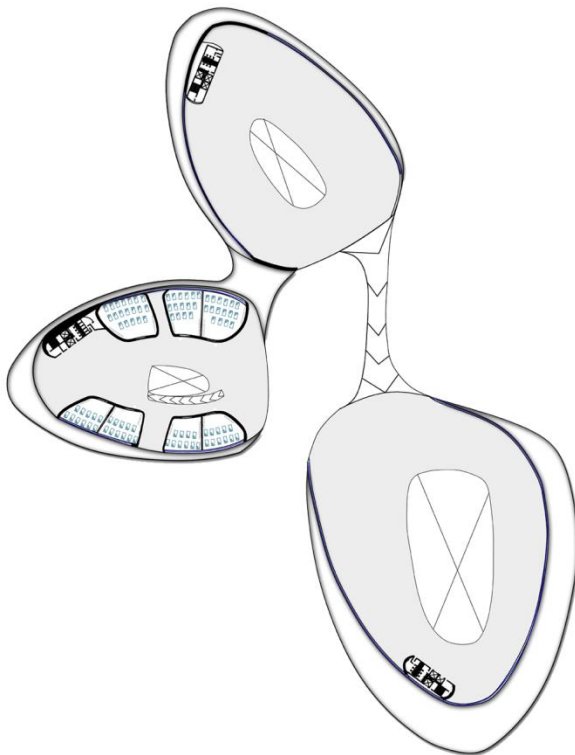


FIG 34: 3rd floor plan

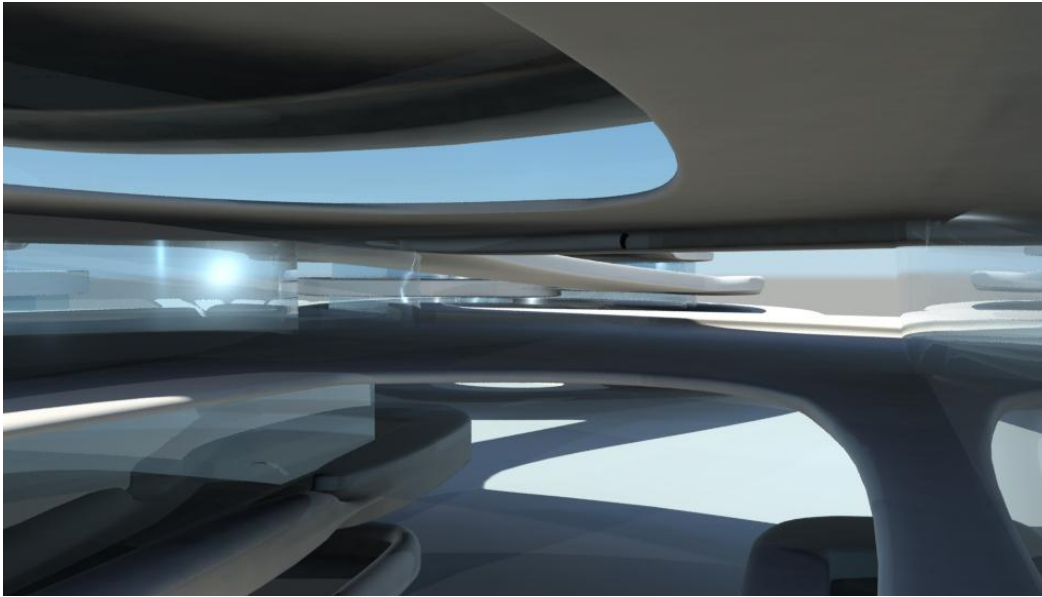


FIG 35: Interior rendered image

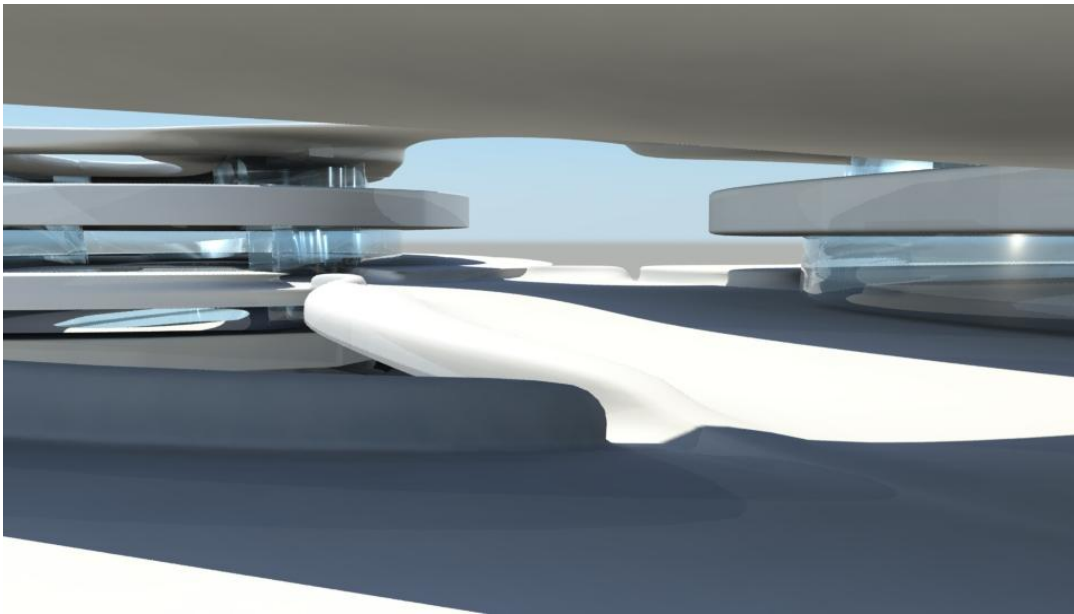


FIG 36: Interior rendered image

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

- <http://Youth%20in%20Bangladesh%20democracy.html> accessed on 04.06.2013
- [http://Urban outdoors - resilient cities, resilient youth _ International Young Naturefriends.html](http://Urban%20outdoors%20-%20resilient%20cities,%20resilient%20youth%20_%20International%20Young%20Naturefriends.html) accessed on 04.06.2013
- [http://Urban life and use of Public Space in Dhaka _ Farida Nilufar - Academia.edu.html](http://Urban%20life%20and%20use%20of%20Public%20Space%20in%20Dhaka%20_%20Farida%20Nilufar%20-%20Academia.edu.html) accessed on 04.06.2013
- [http://public space Collective culture and urban public space.html](http://public%20space%20Collective%20culture%20and%20urban%20public%20space.html) accessed on 15.06.2013
- [http://Project for Public Spaces _ What Makes a Successful Place.html](http://Project%20for%20Public%20Spaces%20_%20What%20Makes%20a%20Successful%20Place.html) accessed on 15.06.2013
- [http://Lil_Euralille Youth Centre By JDS Architects - Dezeen.html](http://Lil_Euralille%20Youth%20Centre%20By%20JDS%20Architects%20-%20Dezeen.html) accessed on 15.06.2013
- [http://Gehua Youth and Cultural Center _ Open Architecture _ ArchDaily.html](http://Gehua%20Youth%20and%20Cultural%20Center%20_%20Open%20Architecture%20_%20ArchDaily.html) accessed on 24.06.2013
- [http://Forest Road Youth Centre _ Matthew Lloyd Architects _ ArchDaily.html](http://Forest%20Road%20Youth%20Centre%20_%20Matthew%20Lloyd%20Architects%20_%20ArchDaily.html) accessed on 24.06.2013
- [http://Euralille Youth Centre _ JDS Architects _ ArchDaily.html](http://Euralille%20Youth%20Centre%20_%20JDS%20Architects%20_%20ArchDaily.html) accessed on 24.06.2013
- [http://America Would Thrive Again if America's Youths Weren't so Lazy and Arrogant ChristWire.html](http://America%20Would%20Thrive%20Again%20if%20America's%20Youths%20Weren't%20so%20Lazy%20and%20Arrogant%20ChristWire.html) accessed on 06.07.2013
- [http://About Youth in Developing Countries _ Youth and Media.html](http://About%20Youth%20in%20Developing%20Countries%20_%20Youth%20and%20Media.html) accessed on 06.07.2013
- [http://670 Words Essay on Role of Youth in Society.html](http://670%20Words%20Essay%20on%20Role%20of%20Youth%20in%20Society.html) accessed on 08.07.2013
- Ruthanne KurthSchai, The roles of youth in society: A reconceptualization
- Richard Stiles, A guideline for making space
- Penny Travlou, Teenager and Public Space
- Lee-Anne Ragan, Program Planning and Evaluation In Urban Youth Centres
- Samuel F. Dennis, Jr., Claiming Open Space: Youth Identity and the Challenge of Meaningful Participation
- Md. Anwar Hossain M. Phil., Youth Problems, Their Development and Empowerment in Bangladesh
- Time Saver Standards For Building Types, Joseph De Chiara and John Callender, 3rd Edition

