Water, Wisdom, and Light

Regeneration of the old town of Bushehr

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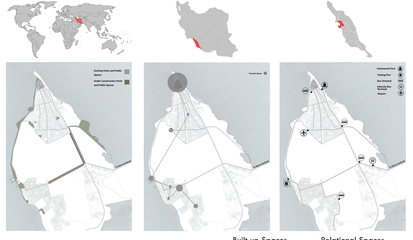
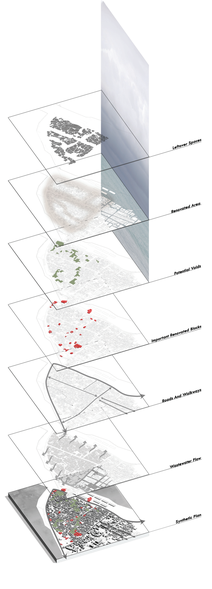
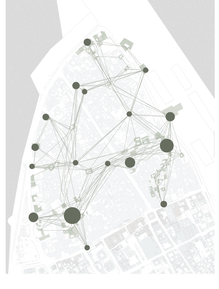


Built up Spaces | Relational Spaces



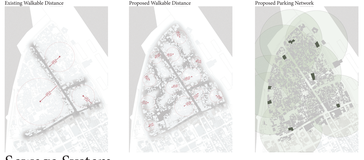
Network Axis and Points of the Town



Strategy

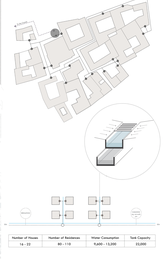
Due to the lack of proper facilities, safety, and inadequate accessibility, more people are moving out of their houses in the four quarters every year. Our proposal is an urban network based on the existing paths and important structures that connects the potential buildings and spots of the historic center to increase the urban quality. To do so, we have located the parking areas around the historic center to limit the cars to enter the old town.

Existing Walkable Distance | Proposed Walkable Distance | Proposed Parking Network



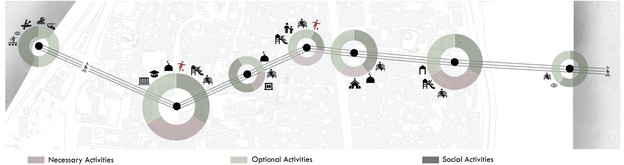
Sewage System

One of the most important issues in the old town is the lack of a sewage system. The canals in the alleys are the only system that drives the sewages of the houses to the sea without any refinement. The new strategy for the sewage system is to divide the town into 16-22 houses sub-quarters and use an on-site water treatment system called Taylex for each sub-quarter. Canals are divided into two levels, the one below takes the blackwater to the Taylex tanks and the upper level drives the greywater outside of the town.



Number of Houses	Number of Bedrooms	Water Consumption	Tank Capacity
16 - 22	80 - 110	9,600 - 13,200	25,000

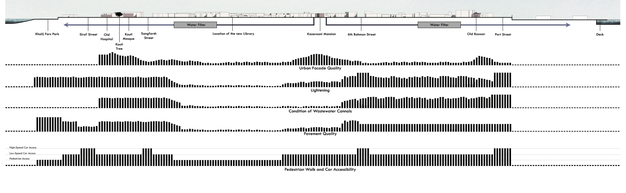
Sun Study of the Town



Necessary Activities
Compulsory activities that will take place throughout the year, under nearly all conditions.(E.g. going to work or school)

Optional Activities
These activities take place only when exterior conditions are favorable, and weather and place invite them. (E.g. Sunbathing, Sitting, Taking a walk.)

Social Activities
Activities that depend on the presence of others in public spaces. (E.g. Passive contacts, communal activities.)



Ziziphus spina-christi
Ziziphus spina-christi, known as the Christ's thorn jujube, is an evergreen or a plant native to northern and tropical Africa, Southern and Western Asia. It is native to the Levant, East Africa and some tropical countries. Fruit and leaves from the tree have been used in Ancient Egyptian food and medicine.

Tamarix
The genus Tamarix (tamarisk, salt cedar) is composed of about 50-60 species of flowering plants in the family Tamaricaceae, native to drier areas of Eurasia and Africa. They are evergreen or deciduous shrubs or trees growing to 1-10 m in height and forming dense thickets.

Suaeda aegyptiaca
Suaeda aegyptiaca is a species of plant in the family Amaranthaceae (formerly classified under the Chenopodiaceae) and salt-tolerant plant (halophyte) that is distributed primarily throughout North Africa and West Asia. It is particularly common in salt-affected regions of southern Iran.

Prosopis
Prosopis is a genus of flowering plants in the pea family, Fabaceae. It contains around 45 species of spiny trees and shrubs found in subtropical and tropical regions of the Americas, Africa, Western Asia, and South Asia. They often thrive in arid soil and are resistant to drought; on occasion developing extremely deep root systems. Their wood is usually hard, dense and dense bis.

Bougainvillea
Bougainvillea is a genus of thorny ornamental vines, bushes, or trees. The inflorescence consists of large colourful vegetative bracts which surround three simple waxy flowers. It is native to South America from Brazil west to Peru and south to southern Argentina. Different authors accept from four to 18 species in the genus.

Alyssa
Alyssa is a genus of about 60 species of flowering plants in the mustard family Brassicaceae, commonly known as the madwortsDate Palm. They are native to Asia and Europe. The simple species of madwort from the Americas, the circumboreal wild madwort, belongs to a different genus.

Date Palm
Phoenix dactylifera, commonly known as date or date palm, is a flowering plant species in the palm family, Arecaceae, cultivated for its edible sweet fruit. Although its exact place of origin is uncertain because of long cultivation, it probably originated from the Fertile Crescent region stretching between Egypt and Mesopotamia.

Bitter orange
Bitter orange, Seville orange, sour orange, bigarade orange, or marmalade orange is the citrus tree Citrus × aurantium and its fruit. It is native to southeast Asia and has been spread by humans to many parts of the world. It is probably a cross between the Pomelo, Citrus maxima, and the Mandarin orange, Citrus reticulata.

Lycium
Lycium is a genus of flowering plants in the nightshade family, Solanaceae. The genus has a disjoint distribution around the globe, with species occurring on most continents in temperate and subtropical regions. South America has the most species, followed by North America and southern Africa.

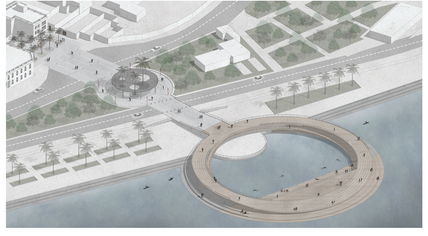
Adding Water Feature
Redesigning the Entrance
Designing the Landscape of Kuti Meydan
Playground
Libray
Playground
Sport Facilities
Desining the Meydan
Seasonal Market
Regenerataing the Old BAzaar
Playground
Pedestrian Bridge to the Sea
* Facade Renovation

Seq 1 - The Wooden Pier

An orbicular wooden pier was suggested as an extension to the coastline on the western entrance of the main axis of the project, derived from the existing circular lines of the surroundings.This will be one of the two points that we are trying to connect the urban corridor to the sea. Our proposal is adding the missing functions of the beach line of Bushehr by orbiting around the existing amphitheater, extending from the beach into the Persian Gulf.

The 360 degree viewpoint of the deck is facing both the sea and the inside of the circle which the swimming pool is located in the middle. Also, another level for the amphitheater would be combined to improve the experience of the performances taking place there.

Two internal ramps connect the top of the deck to the sea level, where a wooden sloping deck goes to the seawater pool from both inner sides of the circle . however, on the exterior side of the circle, the ramps are gradually moving inside the water giving a pleasant possibility to have a viewpoint of the sea while people can also interact with it. The bridge that connects the main urban corridor to the pier is passing on the top of the existing beach park to not interupt the activities and physical form of the linear park

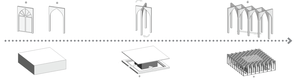


Seq 2 - Kouti Meydan

Kouti Meydan used to be the most important square of Bushehr, containing some of the oldest buildings of the city. Also, The old tree of Kouti Plaza is respected and considered as one of the most important symbols of the city for the people during decades. Moreover, the oldest mosque of the historical town, and architecture campus can be mentioned as the significant architectural elements of the place. The idea is to revive the values of an old Meydan such as promoting outdoor activities that cause equity, social cohesion, and community's stability. In order to achive the latter, a playground is added to the plaza like most of the other sequences to encourage children and families presence.
We tried to keep and emphasize on the centerality of the old tree as the mother nature's symbol that opens her arms to embrace the people around it. It will be the center of all social and optional activities promoted by establishing sight, increasing conversation and reducing noise pollution.
Currently the interaction of the people is missing in the Meydan which is its initial concept . The human relation of a broad range of people, such as art and architecture students or the people attending the mosque daily, regular users of Meydan and the buildings around it, is lost in leftover soulless spaces of the meydan. The main idea is to improve the safety and vivacity of the urban corridor and specially each sequence like Kouti plaza, as the focal points. We believe, making the meydans important again, can encourage social relationships irrespective of the social background of people of a Meydan.

Seq 3 - The Library

The library is proposed in this location as per the city land-use plan of Bushehr. Currently, the idea of designing the facade pattern is coming from two elements of Iranian architecture: Tagh (arch) and Shabestan.These spaces were usually used during summers and could be ventilated by Windcatchers. The first pixel is the combination of two perpendicular arches. This new element is moving through a line forming a pattern of perpendicular arches around the building. The new semi-open space would not only generate a filter against the direct sunlight but also will be able to create a proper ventilation system to overcome the high humidity of Bushehr.
The newly formulated space is reminiscent of the Shabestan around a school or a mosque that used to be a place for philosophers and their students to discuss topics in philosophy, Logic, kalam, etc.



Seq 4 - The Correlation Square

Bushehr as an important trading port in the south of Iran was a safe city for all kinds of people regardless of their races or their religions. The Existence of numerous holy places of different religions is a sign of this fact.

The 4th sequence is a good example of this equality, the communal mosque of the city on one side of the street and the Georgian church on the other side. The idea for designing this sequence is to trace back the equality that was exciting in Bushehr, a small town with 3 churches, one synagogue and two mosques for Sonni people. To sides of a Meydan, two holy places for two religions in an equilibrium. It is a sign of the correlation between the people of the town, despite their religion.

A playground is proposed on the other side of the street that contains the sports facilities. The football pitch that is appreciated a lot by the people of the old town is relocated in the 4th sequence. The playground was located on the Kouty Meydan and disconnected the two sides of the square and was a distraction on the most important meydan of the city.

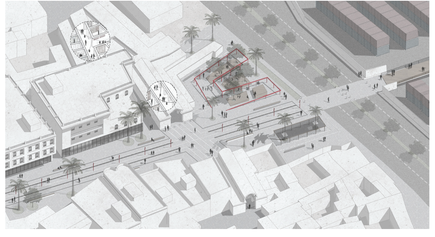
The new location of the football pitch gives this opportunity to it to work with the playground and improve the safety and social cohesion of the town by giving the same chance to all the people from any social level to use it.

Seq 5 - The Old Bazaar

Due to the urban changes in Bushehr, losing the importance of Bushehr as a trading port, and the wrong decisions of city planners, the old bazaar lost its cohesive role in the town. The new shopping centers spread in different parts of the city took the important role of the old Bazaar. Bazaar as the backbone of the urban structure and as an interface between various urban elements of the town was evacuated and ruined over time. The leftover of the ruins was a place for homing the homeless people of the old town.

The strategy over the bazaar is to improve the quality of the axis that bazaar is located on that and giving a new chance to revive the bazaar by moving the urban flow next to it. A playground is also added next to the bazaar to encourage people to use these two elements that can perfectly work with each other. The east-west axis of the bazaar is located on the main axis of the project and the north-south axis is located on the second axis of the bigger strategy that finishes with the part of the bazaar that is working now next to the wall street in the south of the old town.

The traces of the east-west axis that does not exist anymore is highlighted by a pavement light and to revive the activities that used to happen here, it will be used as the new seasonal market.

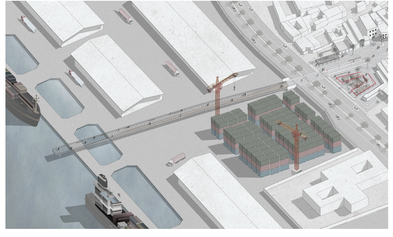


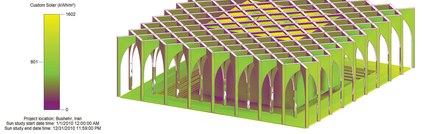
Seq 6 - The Port's Bridge

After the extension of the port on the east side of Bushehr, the old town was disconnected from the sea from one side. A solid long wall is the result of this division that moves from northeast to the southeast of the city. The wall obstructed the visual and physical connection to the port and the activities happening there. The observation bridge breaks the wall and moves on the top of the port and provides a viewpoint on the east side of the peninsula to see the activities inside the port and the vessels that are reminding the old and forgotten history of Bushehr as a trading port.

The height difference between the port and the town is 1.5 meters. The deck gradually goes up with a 6% slope and after 50 meters the deck is 4.5 meters higher than the port and it does not interrupt for the movements inside the port.

The deck also connects both sides of the project to the sea, with two different approaches. On the west side, the wooden deck works as an element that connects people to the sea physically; however, on the east side, this only happens visually.




Custom Solar (kWh/m²)
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801
0
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Sun study end date time: 12/31/2010 11:59:00 PM
Cumulative Insolation