



The project is started with the background of the unique phenomenon of the urban village in China and aims to explore a possible way to renew them by reunderstanding this identity and using the method of micro-renewal.

The design improves the Nanting Neighbourhood through the cooperation between different groups and the renovation of the existing sites. And it results in transforming the unused floor of the indoor commercial street into a new space for the young people, and also readapting the original ferry station into an exhibition venue, interpreting the local history and culture. Planned Public projects are reclaiming the public nature of the ancestral temple.

The project is an experiment on using the methods of micro-renewal in dealing with the urban villages' problems and the design outcome proves its feasibility effectively.

keywords: urban villages, micro-renewal, identity reconstruction



INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Context

How can urban village coexist with the city?

1.2 Definition

"Urban Village" in China

1.3 Methods



RE-UNDERSTANDING THE PHENOMENON OF URBAN VILLAGES IN GUANGDONG

- 2.1 Identity Reconstruction
- 2.1.1 For the Developers: From a Cancer to a Place of Possibility
- 2.1.2 For the City: Isolated Isomers
- 2.1.3 For the Villager: a Continuation of the Past and a Protection
- 2.1.4 For the Tenant: an Inclusive Place With Opportunity
- 2.2 The Unique Value of Urban Villages in Contemporary Context
- 2.3 **The Current Situation of Renewing Urban Villages**



CASE STUDY

- 3.1 Activate by Events and Spatial Renovation:
 Cities, Grow In Difference: 2017 Bi-City Biennale Of Urbanism\Architecture (Shenzhen, China)
- 3.2 Create Vibrant Public Spaces: Sanyuanli Market (Beijing, China)
- 3.3 Community Interaction and the Potential of Public Spaces: Maruya Gardens (Kagoshima, Japan)
- 3.4 Community Building and and the Development of Local Industries: Ganby Four Street (Liverpool, england)



WHAT ABOUT THE OTHERS?

- 5.1 Conclusion
- 5.2 Further Steps

Bibliography Acknowledgements



RENEWING NANTING

- 4.1 The Nanting Neighbourhood
- 4.1.1 Spatial Analysis
- 4.1.2 Community Analysis
- 4.1.3 History and Culture
- 4.2 Visions and Goals
- 4.3 Penetrating and Intergrating the Community
- 4.2.1 Definition and Design Strategy
- 4.2.2 Elements
- 4.2.3 Fluxes
- 4.2.4 Activities
- 4.2.5 Structure Detailing
- 4.4 Storyboard

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 THE CONTEXT

How can urban village coexist with the city?

Since the reform and opening up in the last century, with the rapid development of China's economy, the radical urban expansion in the economically developed areas has annexed the surrounding suburbs, and a large number of unurbanized villages have been passively surrounded and **become "urban villages"**. Guangzhou is a large and economically developed city in the Pearl River Delta region. There are a large number of urban villages (272 in total, of which 138 are in the urban center), accounting for one-fifth of the more than 1,000 villages in the city. Its number is three to five times that of large and medium-sized cities such as Beijing, Wuhan, and Foshan. They covers an area of 534.63 square kilometers, and the current construction area is 388.7828 million square meters.

Due to China's unique property rights system in urban and rural areas, the emergence of urban villages has become a characteristic phenomenon in the process of urbanization. They are the "extra-territory" among the high-rise. Dense, ugly, outdated infrastructure, poor environmental sanitation, mixed personnel, disorderly governance, and frequent social conflicts have made them long be regarded as "cancerous" tumors" by government administrators. As a result, they usually take the approach of complete renovation so as to weave them into the urban blueprint. However, in recent years, with the growing social problems exposed by the large-scale construction, economic development, and the improvement of the social security system, the method of urban renewal has gradually scaled down to gradual transformation and partial transformation, and Guangzhou is one of them. The recent "three olds" renovation plan has made long-term planning for urban villages in Guangzhou.

These urban villages that have not been demolished will coexist with the city in the future, and how to deal with their relationship with the city has become a new design issue.

On the other hand, driven by "modernism" and "utilitarianism", formal "urban space" is becoming more and more insipid. The identity of the city are blurred by the disappearing historical streets, the homogeneoushigh-risebuildings, and the excessively unified billboard system. The intensification of the gap between the rich and the poor makes it difficult for society to find balance and harmony. Single-dimensional thinking of the past is not enough to deal with an uncertain future.

The "heterotopia" characteristics, chaotic stance, and unfinished state of urban villages have inspired residents, artists, and designers, and become a space for exploring new life and new ideas.

With its heterogeneity and complexity, considerable transformation potentials can be found. First of all, self-built houses in urban villages usually have problems of dangerous construction, disrepair and improper planning. Secondly, due to differences in systems, the village collective has a certain degree of autonomy, which is conducive to mobilizing villagers to participate in public affairs decision-making and realize bottom-up design and planning. Third, there is a lack of community building in between the various groups of people.

It is of great significance for the future development of urban villages to seek interaction and cooperation among various groups by exploring the needs of various groups, and to stimulate community vitality through spatial design.



1.2 DEFINITION

"URBAN VILLAGE" IN CHINA

While "urban village" in the Western context refers to a planned neighbourhood that features good urban planning and design, the term in the context of China describes the transforming villages that are left behind during the rapid urbanism—they are the "villages-in-the-city".

The property rights system made the transformation much harder than that of the other countries. The village lands are owned by indigenous villagers by law, while the rest of the land are state owned. So compared to the "slum" problem in the foreign context, the problem of urban village in China is accompanied by complex land property rights and villagers' interests, but the two have certain similarities in landscape, population and community characteristics.

In the reforming era, the increasing rent income of land and houses stimulated the villagers to frantically "planting building" on the homestead. The dense and anti-human buildings have become the main feature of the urban villages.

The urban village is a dualistic mixture of urban and rural. Its geographical location, management methods, and residents' lifestyles have been included in the urban category, but a urban discourse has not been established completely. This is mainly due to the fact that the village communities are still organized in a collective way, and also the long-term influence of the traditional culture.

1.3 METHODS AND GOALS

IDENTITY RECONSTRUCTION

The term "urban village" separates "village" from the "city", but it also shows the close inclusive relationship between them. Therefore, when sorting out the characteristics of urban village, it is seen as the object of various subjects, in order to define its identities from multiple perspectives.

First, as an object of developers, it has undergone a process from a cancer of urban development to a unique cultural and architectural community. Secondly, from the perspective of urban development, it has different features in the architecture, culture, economy and society aspects. Third, for villagers, it is a carrier of family or community connection, a cash cow and a snail shell to escape from society. Fourth, for the tenants, it is where they stay and meet different people, and an inclusive urban space.

After summarizing the unique value of urban villages in the aspect of urban living, history and culture, humanity and community in the context of the new era, visions of the future development will be proposed from the perspective of design.

MICRO-RENEWAL

The research in this part will start with the analysis of the current situation of transforming urban villages in Guangzhou including the complete regeneration and the recent small-scale renovation projects. The following case studies aim to explore different ways of renewing alike neighbourhood.

In the renovation design of Nanting Village in the University Town of Panyu District, two kinds of research methods are used to explore the potential and needs of the neighbourhood. The first one is the spatial analysis which includes the types of lots, services, and transportation, through which spaces with potential can be found. Then through the analysis of the characteristics, activities, and needs of different groups in the community, new ways of interaction will be suggested. And the interaction will be carried out through spatial transformation. The project aims at building a strong connection between the young people and the villagers and improving the quality of the living environment.

The project explores the application of micro-renewal theories and methods in the urban village community in a systematic design process and results in some possible solutions for the renewal of other urban villages in Guangzhou.

THESIS STRUCTURE

CONTEMPORARY VALUES IDENTITY RECONSTRUCTION - Not an object to be saved - For the developers: from a cancer to a place of possibility - Chaos is part of the city of the future - For the city: isolated isomers - For the villager: a continuation of the past and a protection - The possibility of building healthy communities - For the tenant: an inclusive place with opportunity **MICRO-RENEWAL** TRANFORMATION STATUS ANALYSIS - Modules - Small-scale transformation - Methods - Community building - Public participation - Features **CASE STUDY METHODS OF RENEWING**

- Activated by events and spatial renovation
- Create vibrant public spaces
- Community interaction and the potential of public spaces
- Community building and and the development of local industries

SITE ANALYSIS

- UABB in 2017 (Shenzhen, China)

- Sanyuanli Market (Beijing, China)

- Maruya Gardens (Kagoshima, Japan)

- Granby Four Streets, (Liverpool, England)

- Spatial analysis
- Community analysis
- History and culture

CHALLENGES AND POTENTIALS

- The connection between the university students and the village
- Targeted business development
- The new way of consumerism in the youth market
- The unique culture and traditions
- The lack of working skills among villagers

THE REGERMINATION OF NANTING

- The interaction and the cooperation between the university students and the villages
- The transforamtion of the indoor commerical streets
- Public events that activate the community and help the villages
- Displaying the culture and traditions

CHAPTER 2

RE-UNDERSTANDING THE PHENOMENON OF URBAN VILLAGES IN GUANGDONG

2.1.1 for the developers: from a cancer to a place of possibility

A CANCER That Should Be Controlled and Eradicated

At the very beginning of dealing with the urban villages, It is considered to be a huge and serious constructional and social problem that needs strict restriction. There are eight deadly sins: rampant pornography, prevalent gambling, rampant drug use, selling counterfeit goods, rampant gangs, theft and robbery, great fire hazard and the phenomenon of "Second Generation Ancestors".

But the laws and regulations that involves planning and housing management are not applicable to rural land, and the regulations on the scale and height of self-built houses in rural areas cannot be implemented in practice.

The demolition process was difficult: Liede Village began to implement the whole village demolition and reconstruction in 2008 and completed in 2010; Xian Village finally started in 2016 after multiple setbacks.



Figure 2.1 Demolishing urban villages



Figure 2.2 Banners about the disappointment and demands of the villagers

WASTED Lands with Huge Economic Benefits

The advantageous geographical location of the city center in the center of the city is considered to have great commercial value, and the development will bring huge economic benefits. Take Liede Village located in the central and southern part of Zhujiang New Town as an example. This place is located in the golden area of the planned central business district of Zhujiang New Town, and is an important part of the government's CBD construction. The commercial land has been basically developed. The original homestead of about 474 acres in Liede Village accounts for 4.9% of the land area of Zhujiang New City, which has become a big cake that makes the market jealous.

A TURN: Valuable Urban Space

In the course of many years of trying, the government gradually realized the difficulty and the great loss of complete transformation. On the other hand, the change of laws, the protection of property rights, and the improvement of the compensation system for demolition and relocation have made it more and more difficult for developers to nibble on expensive land plots. Some existing villages have started to use a more subtle way of transformation.

The transformation of Sanyuanli Village was originally carried out in a complete demolishing way and the plan was already approved by the government in 2010. However, in 2014, due to the protection of the cultural relics of the site, the method was changed into micro-renovation and focusd on the improvement of the quality of environment, and the preservation of the local culture and traditions.



Figure 2.3 Sanyuanli Village

1990s-2002 strict control

In accordance with the "Temporary Regulations on Planning Compilation and Examination and Approval of Central Villages in Guangzhou", the planning of urban villages was promoted on a large scale, but due to the backwardness of the system, the control effect was not strong.

2002-2006

Restructure into the city

Tried to take back the land owned by individuals by restructuring process. However, due to the lack of supporting policies on land, real estate and demolition compensation, the actual transformation is basically impossible to implement.

2006-2010

"One Village One Policy"

The renovation policy emphasizes the improvement of the environment, the construction of infrastructure, and the social security of the villagers.

2010-2015

Vigorous Promotion

In 2009, it was proposed to complete the renovation and transformation of the total of 138 urban villages within 10 years, of which 8 were to be demolished before the Asian Games at the end of 2010.

2010-2015

Long-term Planing

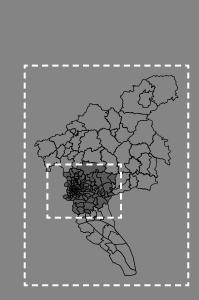
In 2015, Guangzhou proposed the method of "microtransformation" of the city. In 2021, the Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development requires strict control of large-scale demolition and large-scale construction and excessive real estate development in urban renewal, and encourages small-scale, gradual organic renewal and micro-renovation, and advocates classified and prudent disposal of existing buildings.

2.1 IDENTITY RECONSTRUCTION
2.1.2 for the city: isolated isomers

Urban-rural Dualism: The chaotic state of coexistence and staggering of state-owned land ownership and village collective land ownership in urban villages made the transformation unbelievably difficult.

The New Enclosure Movement: The eastward shift of the city center has made a large number of villages originally located on the outskirts of the city suddenly located in the city center.

Building around the village: Developers tend to requisition farmland that is cheaper and easier to develop, and deliberately avoid the high cost of land acquisition for village homesteads. Therefore, the residential areas of many villages are passively retained and left to develop independently.







2.1.2 for the city: isolated isomers

Architectural Identity: High-density Heterogeneous Blocks

With the increasing number of migrant workers, farmers began to build houses on their own land and rent them out at low prices. Some villagers obtained a considerable income in the early stage, which further intensified their self-construction activities. The way has produced serious alienation, completely ignoring tradition, rules and health, and has become disordered, crowded, anti-human, and alternative.

An urban village has no clear boundaries, but its density of buildings is easily recognizable on the map. These villages continues the morphological texture of the original one, and the spatial relationship between streets, residences, and public buildings has not changed.

From the perspective of street level, because they are self-built houses, each one is different. They do not have much decoration on the facade and some are affixed with popular country tiles. The ground floors at the border are usually rented out as shops. The design of these shops is simple, direct, wild and recognizable.

The space gradually tightens from the outside to the inside. Their edges are directly and completely open to the city, there is no solid partition wall, only an archway is erected at the entrance of the village to indicate the boundary - porosity is a daily state. The ground floor of the building facing the street mainly provides services for people outside the village. Sometimes this exterior grows inward, across the entire village. Going deeper into the inner alley, the shop disappears. What can be seen is the entrance of the stairs and the doors and windows of the residents on the first floor. The only pore space between the second floor and above is occupied by the anti-theft net and the hanging clothe. The streets here are dark, cold and damp even in the daytime.

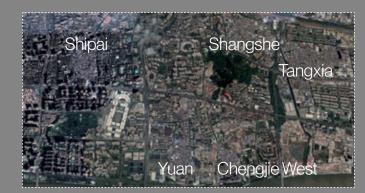


Figure 1.5 A satellite image of six urban villages in Tianhe District (July 2019)

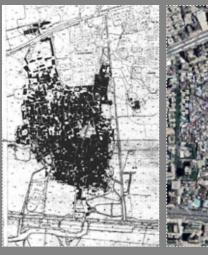


Figure 2.6-2.7 The morphology of Shipai Village in 1978 and in 2021 are basically identical





Figure 2.8-2.9 The popular street and the inner alley in Tangxia Village

The height of self-built houses ranges from four to ten stories, and several additions are related to the rapid growth of demand in the rental and loan market. The horizontal construction of these buildings squeezes the sky to the extreme. The phenomenon of "hand-shaking towers"" and "kissing buildings" can be seen everywhere, but with them comes a larger living space (or a larger rental space).

The interior is planned under the guidance of economic rational thinking and the principle of increasing tenants and rents, and results in compressing more living equipment into one room and small functional sharing space.

Due to the rural historical background, most of the villages retain some traditional buildings, mainly ancestral halls. The archway at the entrance of the village represents the identity and economic strength of the village. The urban landscape and the rural landscape are wedged and interlaced with each other, forming the dual identity of the urban village.

Compared with the surrounding urban space, the urban village in Guangzhou presents an image of a dense, compact and heterogeneous building community, which is independent and open, mixed and unified. A self-consistent architectural system is formed in the differentiated construction logic, and a chaotic but orderly growth path is formed in the process of uninterrupted adaptation and integration.



Figure 2.10 The interior of a room in Tangxia Village



Figure 2.11 The archway of Jingxi Village contrasts with the surrounding environment

2.1.2 for the city: isolated isomers

Political identity: a collective with some autonomy

Urban villages are not directly governed by local streets, but are managed by villagers' autonomous organizations called "village committees". The village collective is also an economic community, and its informality and autonomy create space for the informal economy to survive and develop. And the expansion of economic activity also allows informality to perpetuate.

Economic Identity:Collective Glory and Underground Hotbeds

There are two economic forms in urban villages, one is the collective economy dominated by the tertiary industry operated by the village collective enterprise group companies, and the other is the informal economy dominated by small business and start-up companies.

For outer cities, urban villages are gathering places for specific industries. In addition to daily services, each village has formed characteristic industries according to its own characteristics. While for internal residents, urban villages provide a full range of affordable living services, featuring with cheap, fast and convenient. All kinds of small needs of life can be met here. It can be said to be a paradise for bottom life.

The expansion of the economic boundaries of urban villages has broken through its natural boundaries, is closely connected with the city's vast market network, and has become a strong support for the vigorous development of the city's economy.



Figure 1.12 Fabric processing shop in Lek Kau



Figure 2.13 Logistics workers gathered at the street outside Shipai Village



Figure 2.14 "White-collar image shop" in Shipai

Cultural identity: Urban and rural combined cultural landscape

First of all, it is an isolated island of traditional agricultural civilization. Due to the preservation of cultural buildings and the existence of the social network of villagers, the worship of land and ancestors for thousands of years has continued in it.

Secondly, a characteristic urban cultural narrative was formed. As an urban phenomenon, Guangzhou's urban village has its bizarre landscape and changing history translated into various texts and images. Usually, these works have some reflections and emotions about the disappearance of urbanization and rural life, as well as doubts about the identity of urban villages. These works are rough, chaotic, and wild, forming a non-mainstream and somewhat provocative style as a whole, constantly impacting the aesthetics of mainstream culture. On the other hand, literary and artistic creations that express individual emotions have gradually become a collective imagination through mass communication, shaping the form of cultural community in urban villages.

Social identity: Spaces of social inclusion

Rental houses in urban villages provide cheap temporary residences for a large number of migrants, which to a certain extent makes up for the lack of affordable housing by the government. Countless young migrant workers, college students, entrepreneurs, writers, and artists have found homes in the center of the city.

This unique phenomenon that various groups are mixed in the city center makes Guangzhou known as an inclusive city in China.



Figure 1.15 Lantern Festival activities in Sanyuanli Village



Figure 2.16 the "Fantasy Lisa Hair Salon" album of the band Wutiaoren

2.1.3 for the villager: a continuation of the past and a protection

Family or Community Ties

Among the villagers in some urban villages, acquaintance communities connected by blood and geography still exist. Similar origins and occupations make the basic lifestyles, concepts and habits of the members similar to each other. This connection can be reflected in the continuous use of the ancestral hall, such as weekday entertainment activities, worship activities at weddings and funerals, and festival gatherings.

Cash Cow

Urban development allowed farmers to put an end to thousands of years of farming and see the way the land could directly generate money. The strong stimulus of economic interests makes them ignored traditional habits, and government regulations - the more houses, the more wealth. On the other hand, Villagers can also receive dividends from the village collective's enterprise group company. These incomes allow these villagers to secure a living with little or no social work, so they are also more prone to being out of touch with society.

Snail Shell

In the early days of reform and opening up, urban villages became buffer areas for villagers to adapt to rapid urbanization, and the villagers' community could overcome difficulties together. At the same time, their land and housing are important material guarantees. However, the rental industry has greatly reduced the living pressure of villagers, so most them have no motivation to improve themselves, and are at a disadvantage in the urban talent market. The elderly mostly stick to the status quo and pass the time through simple entertainment. Middle-aged and young people can only engage in labor production or small businesses. Living comfortably makes them disconnect from society and stay in their comfort zone.



Figure 1.17 Older villagers gather under trees



Figure 2.18 a restaurant run by a villager



Figure 2.19 This villager owns 10 buildings and earns a lot of rent

2.1.4 for the tenant: an inclusive place with opportunity

Temporary Settlement

A large number of people from rural areas and small towns, as well as young people with no stable income, regard urban villages as short-term stations, and will eventually leave here.

A Second Home

The tenants have different occupations (labourers, small business owners, university students, writers, artists, musicians, entrepreneurs, etc.), social class, education level and cultural background. Due to their common predicament, they will not exclude, blame and dislike each other - an urban village is a rough haven that accommodates those in difficulty. And there will always be some nostalgia left when they leave.

A Place with Opportunity

The location in the city center gives them better employment opportunities. Also, the fact that different people live together in a confined space provides opportunities for encounter. Getting to know new people may lead to a new job, a new cultural circle, and a better life.

Permanent Settlement

Establishing a close connection with the surrounding (marriage, family, parenting, business market), being satisfied with the current living situation, hopeless class jump, depression, and other reasons can make a tenant choose to live here for a long time. These people developed new identities and saw themselves as part of the urban village.



Figure 1.20 These two Musicians used to live in Shipai and Nanting Village



Figure 2.21 Families living in the urban village



2.2 THE UNIQUE VALUE OF URBAN VILLAGES IN CONTEMPORARY CONTEXT

Urban village is not an object that needs to be saved, but provides unique values for the city instead.

Supplement of urban functions: urban vilallges provide a large number of nearby housing and convenient living services for the growing immigrant population.

Informal spaces with economic vitality: Informal institutions enable bottom-up construction and create low-cost commercial space as well as a diverse environment for innovation.

Rich cultural identity: Traditional culture has been passed down through intergenerational changes and interacted with urban culture. At the same time, the urban village has generated a specific collective imagination, resulting in a new immigrant culture that is constantly being shaped in the process of development.

Unique space experience and potentials: The self-built house is one of the typical symbols of China's radical urbanization. Having escaped from urban planning, it has a certain wildness and is the embodiment of folk wisdom. However, these buildings may have simple functional definitions and poor design at the beginning of construction, which makes them have certain renovation potential, and these underutilized spaces need to be activated by design.

Diverse and Inclusive Community: The form of mixed living of different groups is conducive to building an inclusive community environment and promoting social harmony. The outsiders and the aborigines formed a unique symbiotic relationship.

Urban villages enrich the diversity of cities with their unique and active social ecosystems.

2.3 THE CURRENT STATUS OF RENEWING 2.3.1 methods and modes

There are three ways of transformation.

- 1. Comprehensive renovation: In the past, most of the renovation ideas were based on the overall demolition and reconstruction of urban villages.
- 2. Micro-renovation: It means that on the premise of maintaining the current construction pattern basically unchanged, the land is comprehensively renovated by changing functions, renovating and repairing, and improving public facilities.
- 3. Hybrid transformation: The transformation is carried out in a way that combines comprehensive transformation and micro transformation.

There are two types of organizational forms.

- 1. The method of public transfer financing to implement transformation, also known as "Liede Mode".
- 2. Self-renovation and agreement-based transfer financing to implement comprehensive transformation.

The transformation method depends on the situation of each village, and basically there are the following:

- 1. Drive transformation through municipal infrastructure construction.
- 2. Relocate the whole village.
- 3. Use revolving plots to start the reconstruction of urban villages, that is, build resettlement houses first, and then demolish them.
- 4. Rolling development and transformation, starting from part and gradually extending to the whole.
- 5. Refurbishing, including the construction of the public facilities, maintenance of the buildings, and improvement on the environment.



Figure 2.22 The complete rebuild of Liede Village



Figure 2.23 Some streets in the southern part of Shiipai Village have been renovated

2.3.2 projects of micro-renewal

Yu On Wai Village

The renovation project retains the original building of 63,400 square meters. The existing buildings are dredged, facade decoration, and illegal buildings are removed. All pipelines are underground, rain and sewage are separated, socialized property management is introduced, and fire escapes are opened. There is also the construction of the Revolutionary Memorial Hall to show the history of the village as the birthplace of the uprising.

Sanyuanli Village

The micro-renovation has been promoted in stages since 2019, following the five principles of "quality optimization, integrity, people-oriented, humanistic inheritance, and implementation-oriented", to upgrade and reconstruct important node spaces and build recreational routes to improve environmental quality and eliminate potential safety hazards.

Xiaozhou Village

It is one of the first 14 historical and cultural reserves in Guangzhou. The settlement of art studios and literary shops has made art a characteristic industry of the village. The renovation created a highly interconnected pedestrian network, with other extensive environmental improvement works (paving of roads, drainage, lighting, plazas, trees, plants) and architectual upgrades.

The existing micro-renovation cases mainly focus on the improvement of physical space, but lack the construction of the community. **Exploring the possible interaction** of different communities in the urban village space will be more conducive to empowering the existing space.



Figure 2.24 Renovation on the pedestrain in Xiaozhou Village

CHAPTER 3

CASE STUDY

3.1 ACTIVATE BY EVENTS AND SPATIAL RENOVATION

Cities, Grow In Difference: 2017 Bi-City Biennale Of Urbanism\Architecture

Curator: Hou Hanru, Liu Xiaodu, Meng Yan Location: Nantou Old Town, Shenzhen, China A heterogeneous symbiosis of a historic town and a contemporary urban village in Shenzhen.

Historical Research and in-depth Observation: Series forum, the "CGD lab" were held during the exhibition. The lab aimed to make the discussion of urban village transformation theories, experiment and practice by working through open research, discussion and exchange.

Nantou as the venue: Implanted the exhibition into Nantou and synchronizing with its organic regeneration and regarded urban villages as a starting point to seek a new mode of urban growth instead of a mere subject of renovation.

On-site Intervention: Renovation of the urban village houses, for example "the dreamer, the reformer" project helped some villagers renovate their houses and made them better living spaces. The exhibition was an experimental start of the regeneration project.

Public Art project: The "Art Making Cities" session explored the unorthodox city-making approaches and its effects on villages. A series of urban art interventions (site-specific artwork and actions) were conducted by the participants who had diverse social experiments with a strong emphasis on interaction and cooperation with local residents, creating an innovative, open and democratic urban system.

The exhibition aimed to inspire a more diversified, openminded understanding and imagination on urban living and evolutionary patterns, thus to critically think about the value of urban life. **Art and architecture in the venue helped reestablish opportunities** for Nantou Old Town. Figure 3.1 the exhibition venue

Figure 3.2 the "CGD lab" on 15th July











Figure 3.5
An urban village shooting project that are organised by a professional crew invited the all of the residents to perform in it

Figure 3.6
Residents making the handwriting billboards for the exhibition





3.2 CREATE VIBRANT PUBLIC SPACES Sanyuanli Market

Location: Chaoyang District, Beijing, China

Diverse Cultural Background

The place is located in the embassy area (Sanyuan East Bridge), where diverse cultures are blended. The market mainly sells western food raw materials, and there are many varieties, with good quality and appearance.

Art and Design Help Boost Local Appeal

The knowledge payment platform "Get" APP launched the new book "Xue Zhaofeng Lectures on Economics" here, and planned a theme exhibition "Vegetable Market Meets Economics".

COC CUBE, a well-known domestic trendy brand, designed the THE SANYUANLI SS20 series of clothing accessories with the vegetable market as its inspiration source, and transformed the interior scene of the vegetable market to create a fashionable and cool atmosphere, which was widely spread by the media.

The artist Qiu Zhijie held a calligraphy exhibition called "Calligraphy Fundamentalist".

Figure 3.7-3.8

"Vegetable Market Meets
Economics" exhibition



クロ シンカッレ (工工 レリ ブリ









Figure 3.9-3.10
"THE SANYUANLI"
graphic design



3.3 COMMUNITY INTERACTION AND THE POTENTIAL OF PUBLIC SPACES Maruya Gardens, Yamazaki Ryo

Location: Kagoshima, Japan

"Reason to Go to a Department Store" Triggered by the Clubs

The development of online shopping has made offline brick-and-mortar stores unattractive, so the project invites urban activity groups to settle in and provide equipment installation services. Interesting club activities attract people and even form a fan base.

A Department Store That Connects Customers, Societies, Customers, and the Town

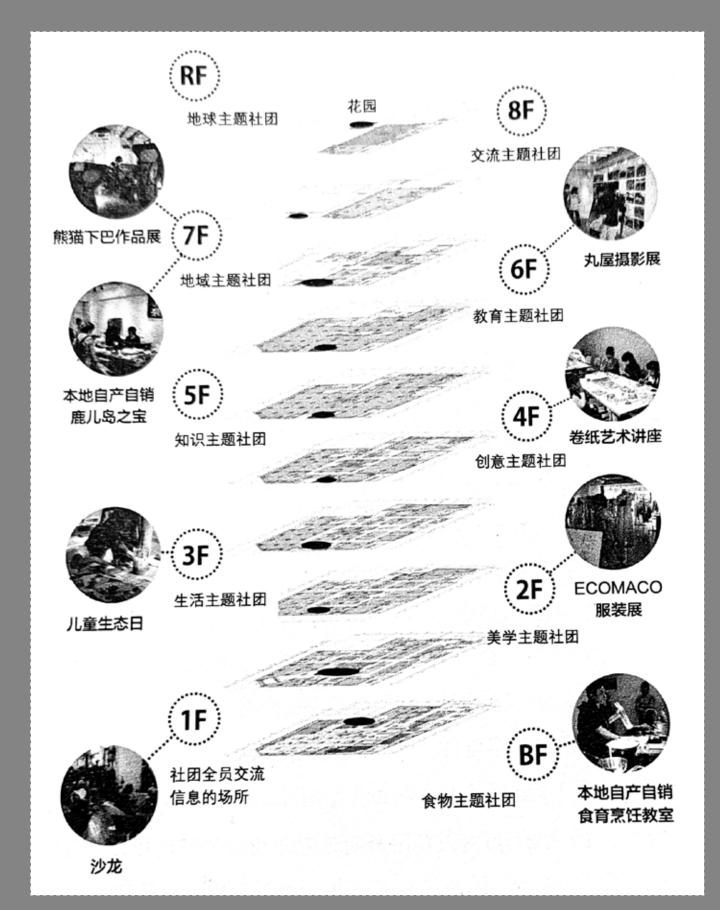
There are 10 gathering spaces named "Garden" on each floor. Various local societies and NPOs carry out activities here, such as art exhibitions, photography exhibitions, talk shows, local cooking classes, selling vegetables grown by school dropouts, pottery experiences, community theaters, grocery making, outdoor travel introductions Wait. The event implementers and customers are basically acquainted, so the space is a collection of various groups such as "store clerks", "citizen groups", "community acquaintances", and "acquaintances". The association cooperates with local groups, such as local college students, to help improve the decoration of the merchants. The association cooperates with merchants, such as building seminars to promote the sale of related books in bookstores, exchange meetings in coffee shops, etc.

The Public Nature of Private Enterprises

Enterprises undertake public affairs and give back to the local area by supporting the development of local enterprises. Figure 3.13 (left)
The various activities on each "Garden"

Figure 3.14 (upper right)
The facade of Maruya
Gardens

Figure 3.15 (lower right)
The activity going inside







3.4 COMMUNITY BUILDING AND AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF LOCAL INDUSTRIES **Granby Four Streets, Assemble Studio**

Location: Liverpool, England

Renovation of Houses

These houses are for low cost homeownership and affordable rent. The project works alongside other housing providers and developers bringing the remaining properties in the Four Streets neighbourhood back into use.

Support Local Businesses

The project aims at building a productive community and retail area. The monthly Street Market becomes the hub for supporting local retail, social and creative enterprises and community organisations.

Building jobs and training schemes

The project also deliver employment for local people, in an area where unemployment is a major concern, especially among young people.

renovation









Figure 3.18-3.19 The renovation of the unique houses and the market on the street

CHAPTER 4

RENEWING NANTING

Nanting Village is located on Xiaoguwei Island and is 2 kilometers away from the Street Office, adjacent to Guangdong University of Technology and Guangzhou Academy of Fine Arts in Guangzhou University Town. The village is one of the four reserved villages on the island after the construction of the universities. Now the village covers an area of about 2.16 square kilometers; the registered population is more than 3,100, and the floating population is nearly 1,000.

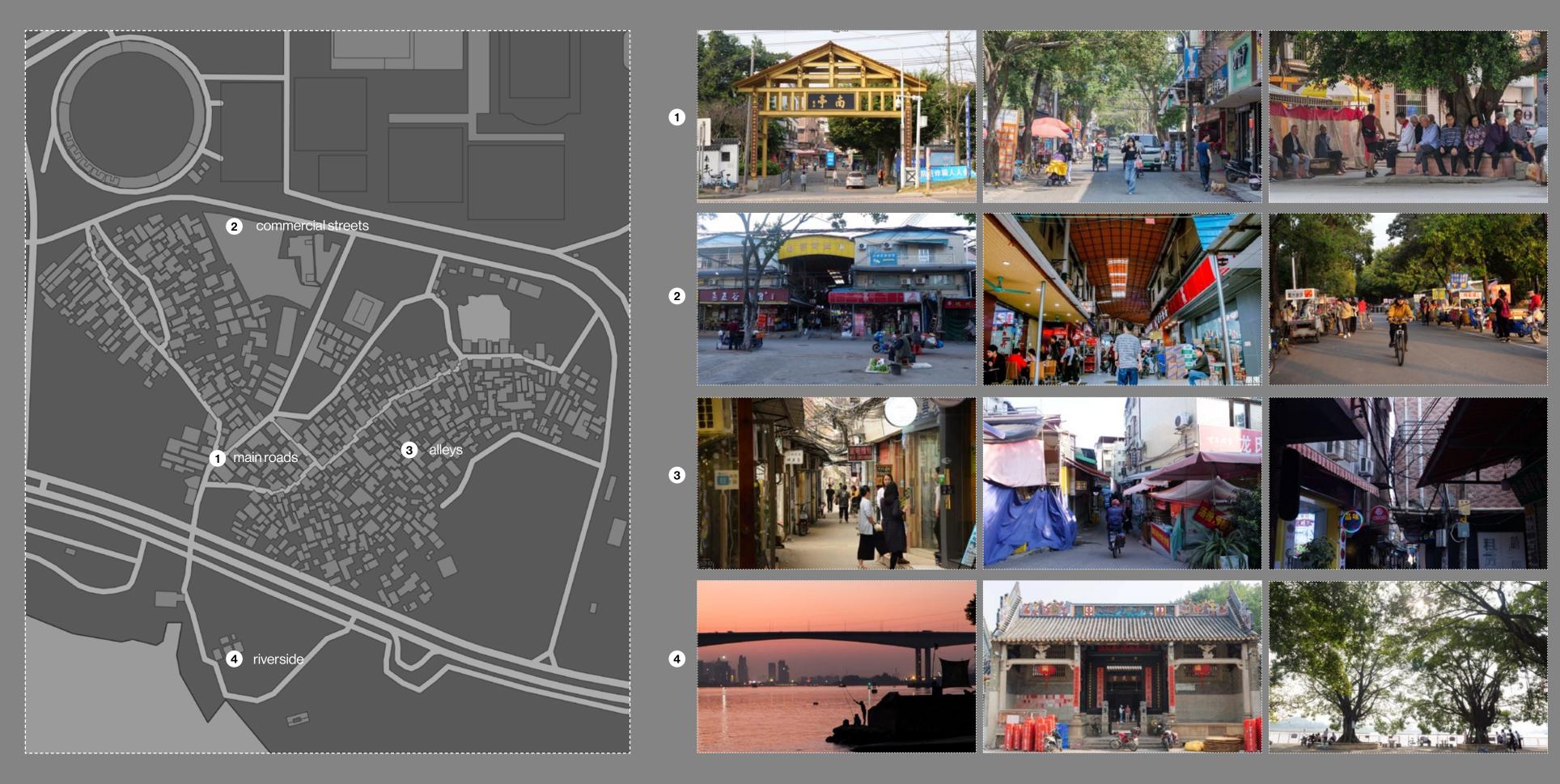








4. 1. 1 spatial analysis: highlights and access



4. 1. 1 spatial analysis: services



This village basically has everything we need to live.

Catering is the most prominent industry, followed by **house renting**, grocery supply, and **art-related supplying and services**. Rental housing (short-term housing with adequate furnishing and long-term housing that is often under worse conditions) meets the various needs of undergraduates, post-graduates, and migrant workers.

The study facilities here are **closely linked to nearby universities**. There are art ateliers, art training Institutions, and study rooms set up for those who are dreaming about getting into the universities nearby. **Studios or ateliers found by the students** can be found here.

Caring includes pharmacies, dentists, barbershops, nail salons, and massages.

There are two basketball courts, a few outdoor exercise facilities for leisure, and some entertainment spaces that aim at the youngsters, like bars, esports rooms, small karaoke rooms, and murder mystery game experience stores.

Almost everyone here owns an electric motorbike because of its flexibility in dealing with short-range transportation and the narrow alleys.

"Dense but hybrid, grassroots but lively" would be a reasonable way to describe this place. Because of its sense of "staying low", some students think it's like a vortex that keeps them sinking.



4. 1.2 community analysis

villagers: live as families, some adults are working outside of the island.

tenants are made up of students (from the two adjacent universities or studying for the entrance exam), vendors & shop owners.

their connection is **based on the lease relationship**, **but have few futher development**

STUDENTS

As for them, this village is the nearest commercial and residential place where they get food, buy necessities, have fun, rent houses, set up studios, etc.

Cheap prices and accessibility are the main attraction. But on the other side, they have the impression that the village is unsafe, dirty, chaotic, and outdated.

Some of them have done some artworks or designs about this place, aiming at the contemporary transformation of local tradition, storytelling of village lives, and space renovation.

WORERS

Because most of the shops here are opened by the hard-working outsiders, a large number of them are shop owners and the employees, engaged in catering, supply of necessaries, supply of painting materials, house sublease, etc.

Lower rents and high market demand make them choose to do business here.
But according to the management by the village commitee, the restaurants in the commercial street change every few years.

VILLAGERS

They tend to stay in the village with their family as Nanting is their homeland, even though they don't have any farmland to grow crops anymore, due to the the reform and opening-up policy in the 1990s and the construction of univercities in the 2000s. The big shift brought them a fortune but no better jobs because they are uneducated and unmotivated. Some of the young and middle-aged engaged in labor work outside of the village. Their overall income consists of rent, dividends, and short-term labor.

TOURISTS

villager

tenant

The beautiful riverside scenery here attracts tourists for camping, cycling and fishing in summer, and autumn. The Liangmingcheng Sculpture Garden on the southwest is one of the popular spots. Young people would expect events like ephemeral makets, festivals with themes, and so on.





4. 1.3 history and culture









A Historical Village

During the Xianchun period of the Southern Song Dynasty, there were two "Ting" on this island. The one located in the south was called Nanting, and the later generations built the village as the name of the village. Nanting has nearly 700 years of history. The Tomb of Liu Yin, King of the Southern Han Dynasty (the Tomb of Emperor Xiang), and the Tomb of Liu Gong (Tomb of Kang) are both located on this island.

Before the reforming era, The villagers were mainly engaged in agricultural production.

An Urban Village at the Present

During the "reform and opening up", villagers built a large number of buildings. Some of them were demolished when the university town was built, but a large amount of land remained. It is now a reserved village on the island.

The income of the collective economy mainly comes from the income from the contracting of village-owned land, and the rental income of the old village's idle land, village-owned shops and ferry boats (not anymore).

The Ancestral Temples

Nanting is dominated by the Guan family. There is a 360-year-old Guan's ancestral hall in the village, also known as Shengwu Hall. Shengwu Hall was built in the 16th year of Shunzhi (1659) and has undergone many renovations, the most recent one being in 1998. It became a municipal-level protected cultural relic unit in 2005. On the right of Shengwu Hall is the Huaguang Temple built in the 12th year of Emperor Qianlong's reign, and on the left is the Zhongsheng Hall with a history of more than 430 years.

The Ferry and Guan's Dragon Boat

There is a pier next to the ancestral hall. Ferries used to be one of the most important transportation for villagers to get in and out of the island. This place is densely shaded with trees, and the villagers usually like to gather here. The ferry is currently docked with dragon boats, and competitions will be held here on the Dragon Boat Festival.

4.2 VISIONS AND GOALS

WHAT TO EXPECT?

THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE EXISTING SPACE

- Improvement of the environment
- Help the development of the local buisness
- creativity and innovation bring vitality to the streets

THE VALUE OF LOCALITY

- Continuation and display of local history and culture
- Connection with the surroundings

A VIBRANT COMMUNITY

- The communication and cooperation between differen groups
- Better business operations for the shop owners
- The urbanisation of the villagers (getting jobs)

Young Students

- Their consumption level is relatively high
- Focus on the quality of experience, attracted by novelty and fashion
- Have the ability to design and produce, and have the desire to start a business

Villagers

- A certain level of autonomy
- The need to improve the living environment
- The need to enhance their own employability
- The need for cultural continuity

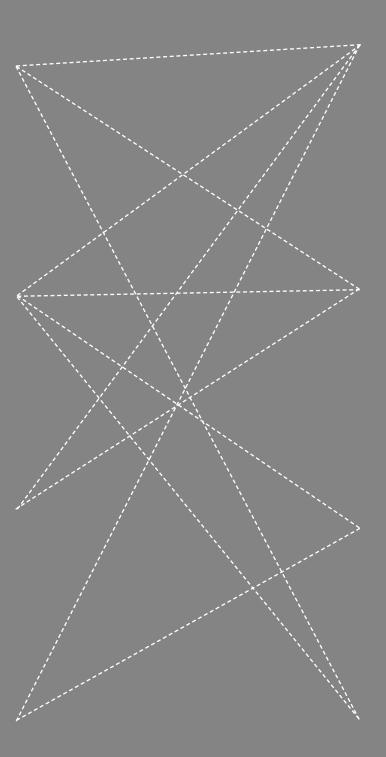
Shop owners

- They have strong working motivation
- The need to increase store competitiveness and attractiveness

Tourists

- Demand for a better cultural space experience
- Demand for better business services

HOW TO MAKE IT?



COMMUNICATION

- between different groups
- not just a visual juxtaposition, but create a inner connection

COOPERATION

- The collaboration of various subject during the construction process: the project should be coordination by the government, leaded by the village collective, and implemented by designers and developers.
- The cooperation between the shop owners and the young students during the operation

INTERPRETATION OF CULTURE

- the ferry history and the dragon boat culture
- the educational function of temple

PUBLIC PROJECTS

- job skill training
- cultural events

4.3 PENETRATING THE INTEGRATING THE COMMUNITY definition and design strategy







INDOOR COMMERCIAL STREET

REASONS

- a popular stop: it has much more visitors, compared to other spaces. And people tend to stay here longer
- a conversation can be create: it can be a communication space open for judgement between the university and the "outside", compared to the gallery "inside". The events would be an attraction for the tourists as well
- the existing structure of business can help lower the of setting up new stalls

HOW?

- Use the local design material and languages to emphasize the identity and the locality, but also creating a contemporary landscape
- create flexible space to meet different needs

young people | | shop owner | | tourist |

LET THE CREATIVITY ACTIVATE THE SPACE

- Provide space for students to display and sell the products or artworks they make, hold club events, and meet up
- Invite merchants targeting young consumer groups to settle in

1. Transform the upper floors into activity spaces

- Increase accessibility: create direct access from the ground floor
- Provide products and services for college students and young people
- Create an attractive, unique visual landscape that distinguishes and harmonizes from the chaos

2. Renovattion of the roof

- Keep the existing structure but change the covering material
- to recreate the atmosphere of the indoor streets
- to bring more light

THE FERRY STATION AND TEMPLE

REASONS

- an abandoned building: the historical ferry station no longer provide boats for traveling across the Pearl River because of the construction of the highway,
- **tradition**: the dragon boats are docked here, they would be used during the **Dragon Boat Festival**
- a cultural and community center: the nearby ancestral temple is a ritual space for the villagers (wedding and funeral), a community center for the retired old people (playing chess and cards), and an exhibition space for the students (projects organised by the art school)
- a scenery spot: fashion market and camps can be seen in the sculpture garden on the east from time to time, attracting many tourists, especially young people

HOW?

- provide related equipment made with local materials
- cooperation between schools and the village commitee

young people tourist villagers

A CULTURAL FOOTNOTE AND PUBLIC PROGRAMS

provide space for students to exhibit and sell products or artworks made by them

1. Transform the ferry station and the adjaccent pavilion into small exhibition halls

- a permanent exhibition about the ferry history, and the fishing history
- two better pavillions for leisure

2. The temple as a cultural and educational center

- for the general public: a cultural center for film-screening, performance, workshop, exhibition, etc
- for the villagers: a school for job skills training, a conference rooms for the collective affairs
- provide flexible funiture to meet different needs

4.3 PENETRATING THE INTEGRATING THE COMMUNITY the transformation of the indoor Commercial Street: the current problems and potentials

Poor Lighting

The streets have a gloomy atmosphere.

Space wiith Potential

The second floor space is idle, but the ground floor and the first floor are saturated.

Connection

They are disconnected from each other.

Accessibility

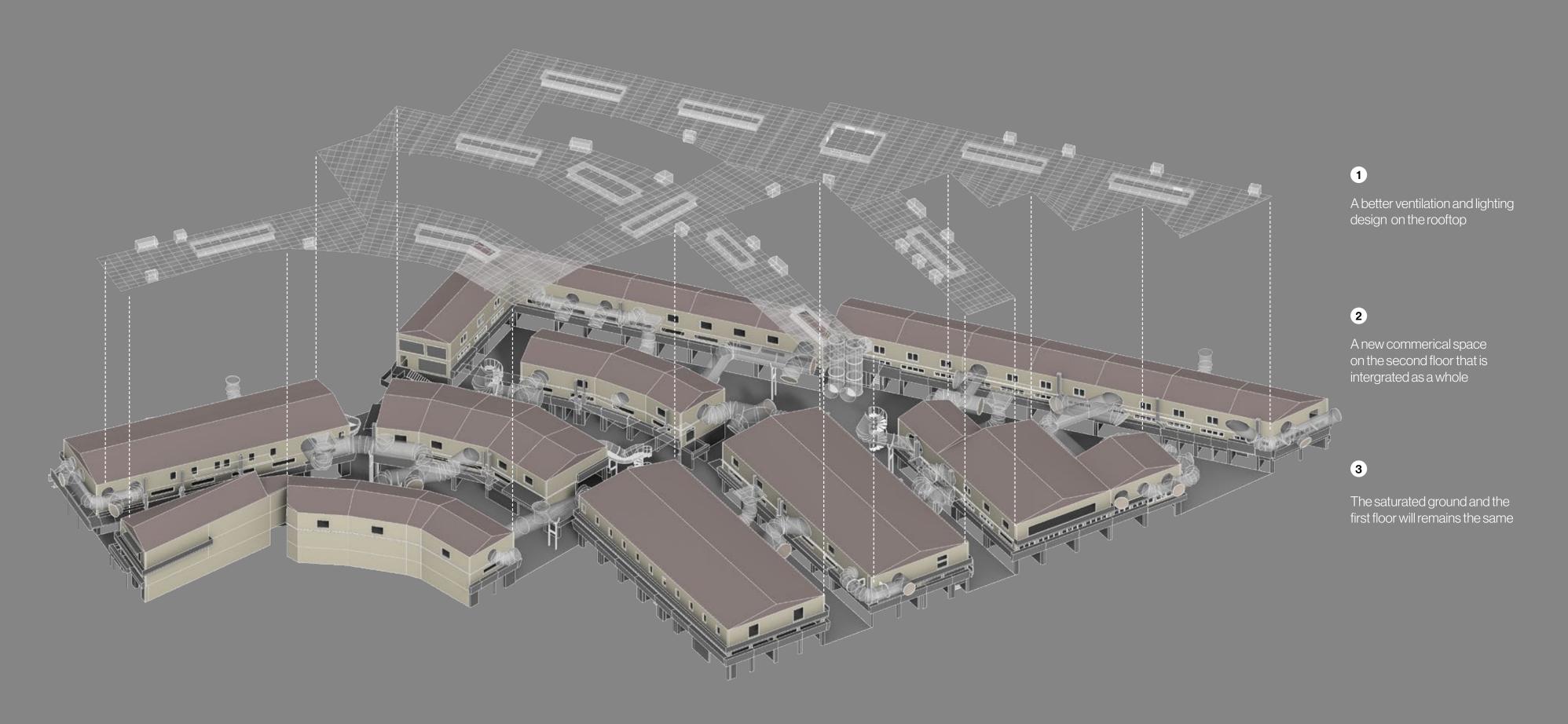
The upper floors can only be accessed by the staircase in each buildings, which are narrow and hidden.

The way of going in

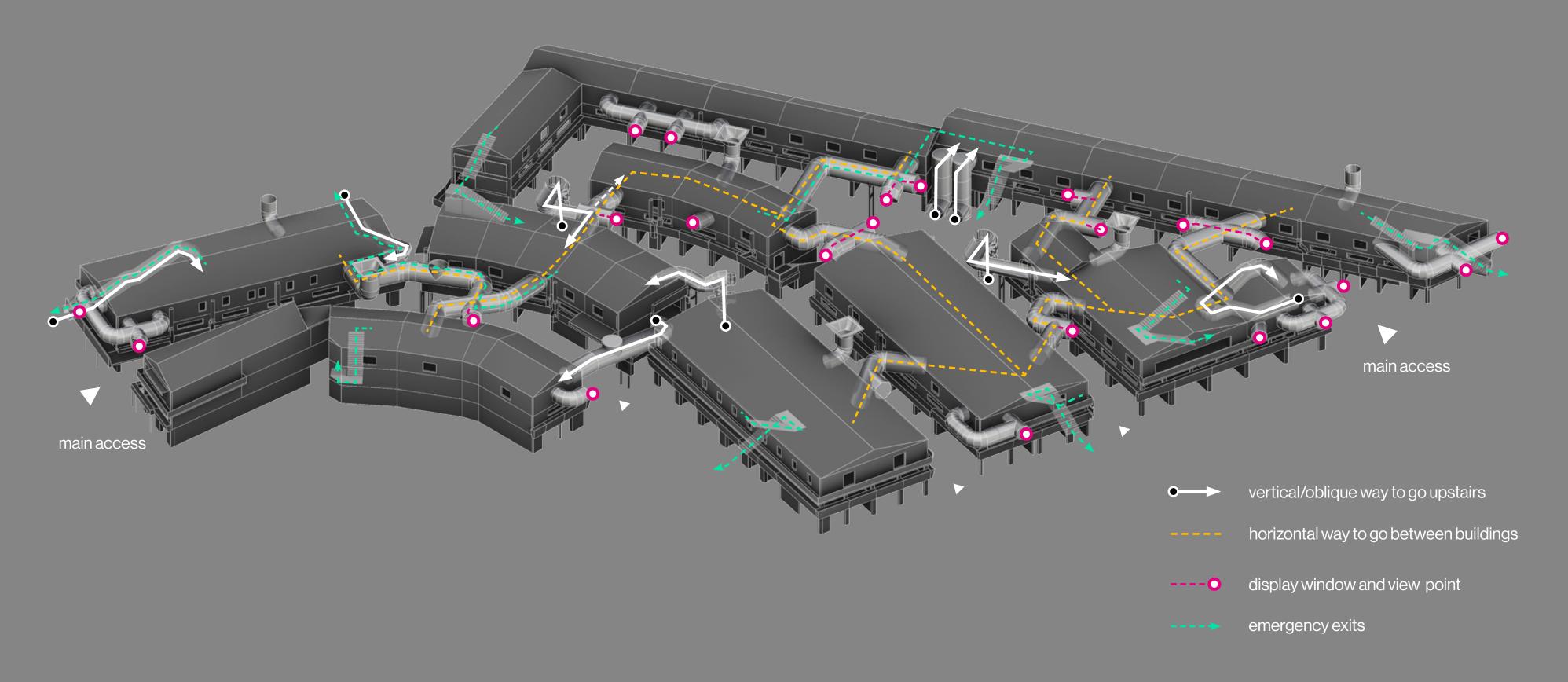
These ventilation ducts connect the groung and the top. The design takes its form as an inspiration, and create a connection system.



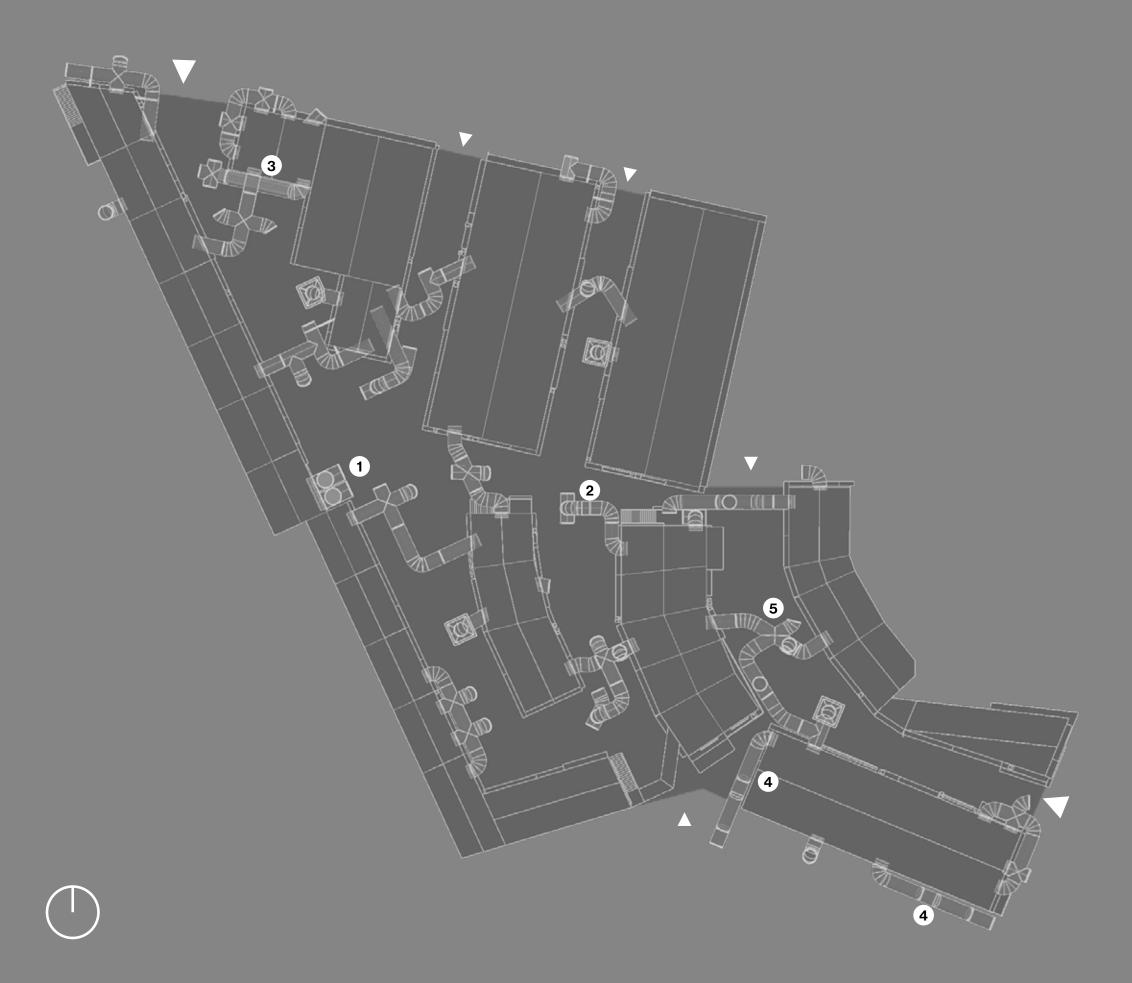
4.3 PENETRATING THE INTEGRATING THE COMMUNITY the transformation of the indoor Commercial Street: structure

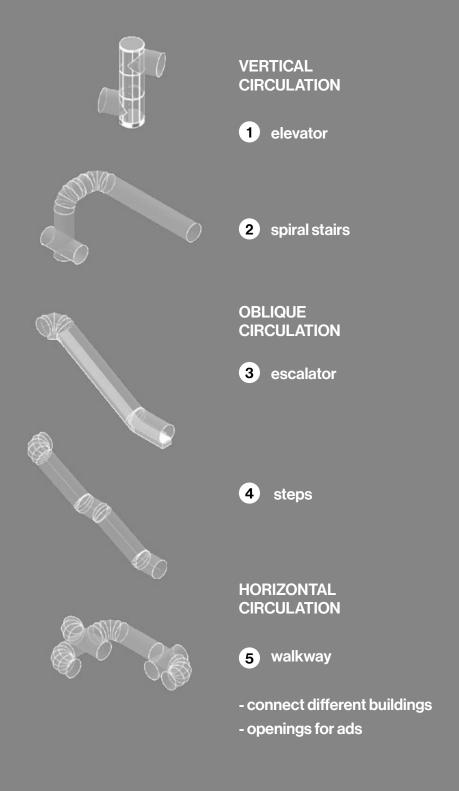


4.3 PENETRATING THE INTEGRATING THE COMMUNITY the transformation of the indoor Commercial Street: circulation



4.3 PENETRATING THE INTEGRATING THE COMMUNITY the transformation of the indoor Commercial Street: elements



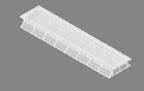






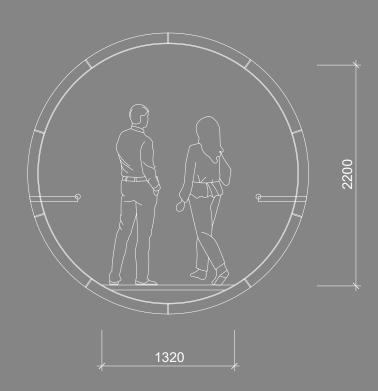
VENTILATION

- 6 duct
 -penetrate the ceilding,
 then adapt to the roof pat-
- 7 small ends
- for the ducts from the kitchen on the GF

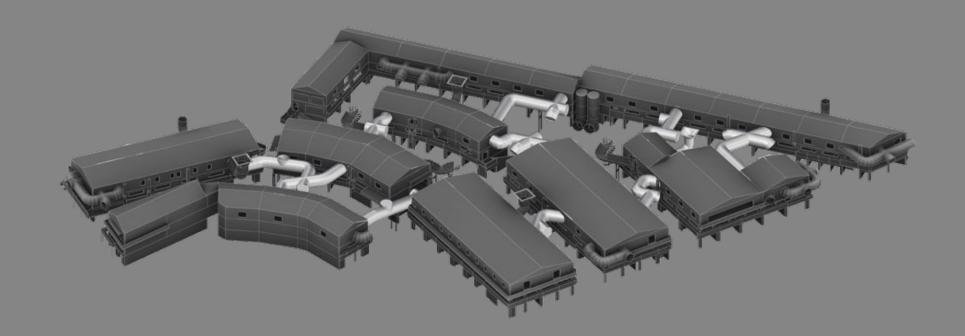


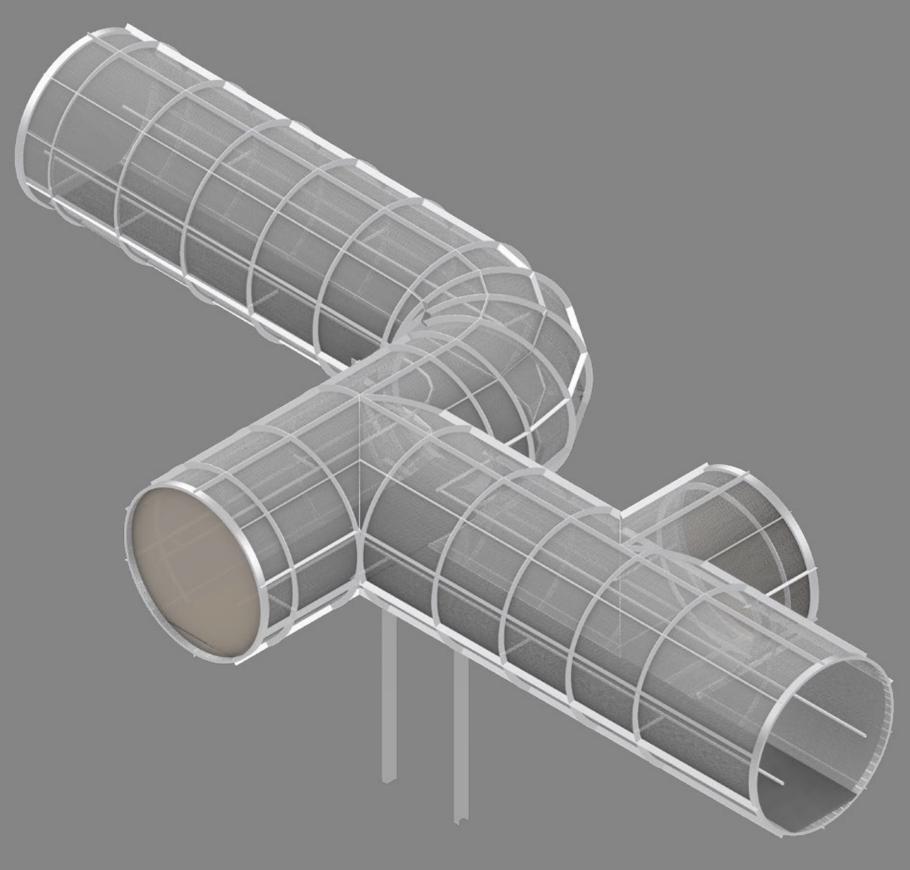
- 8 opening
- -fans installed
- -for the mass air interchange

horizontal connection

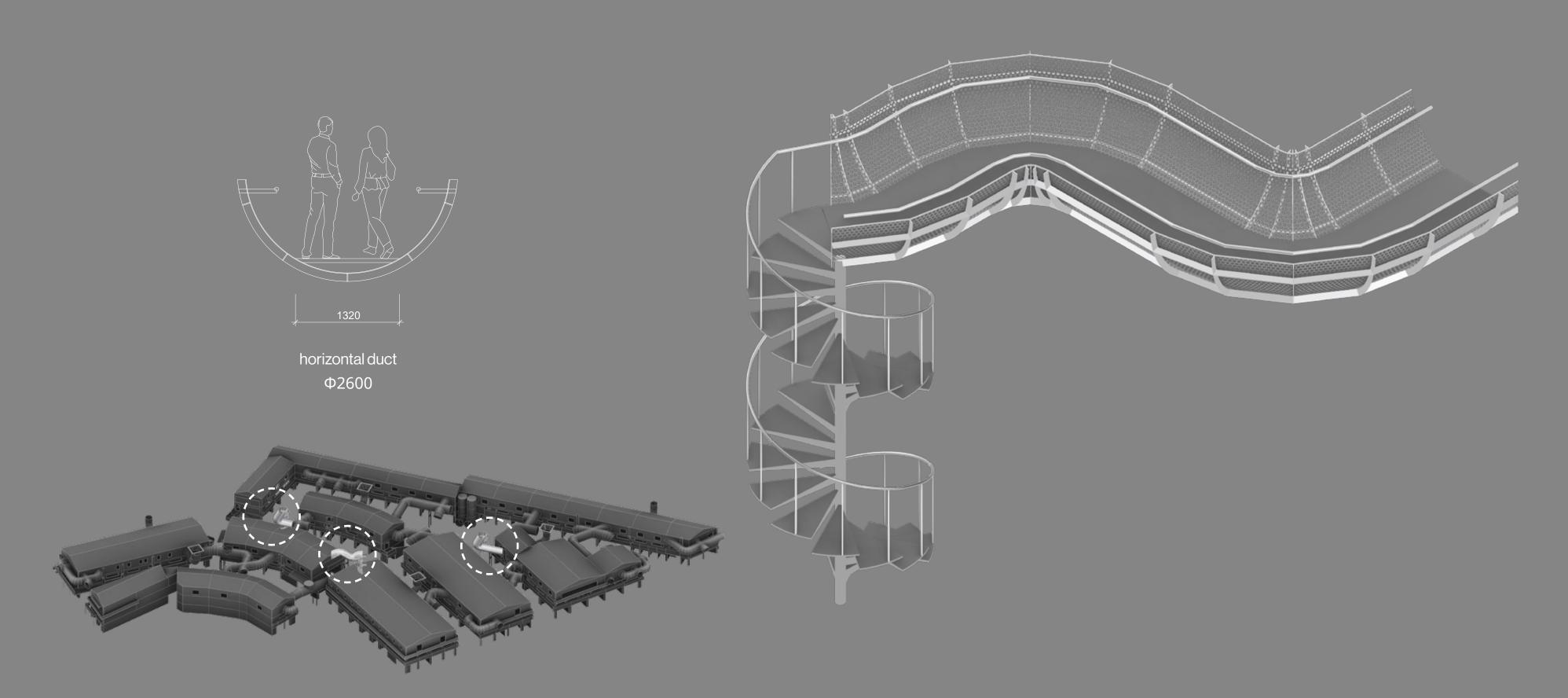


horizontal duct Φ2600

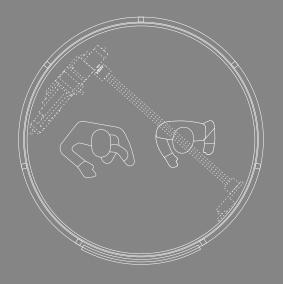




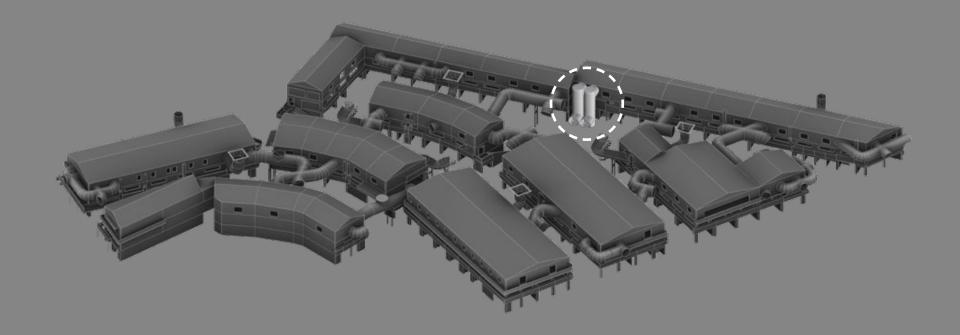
vertical+horizontal connection

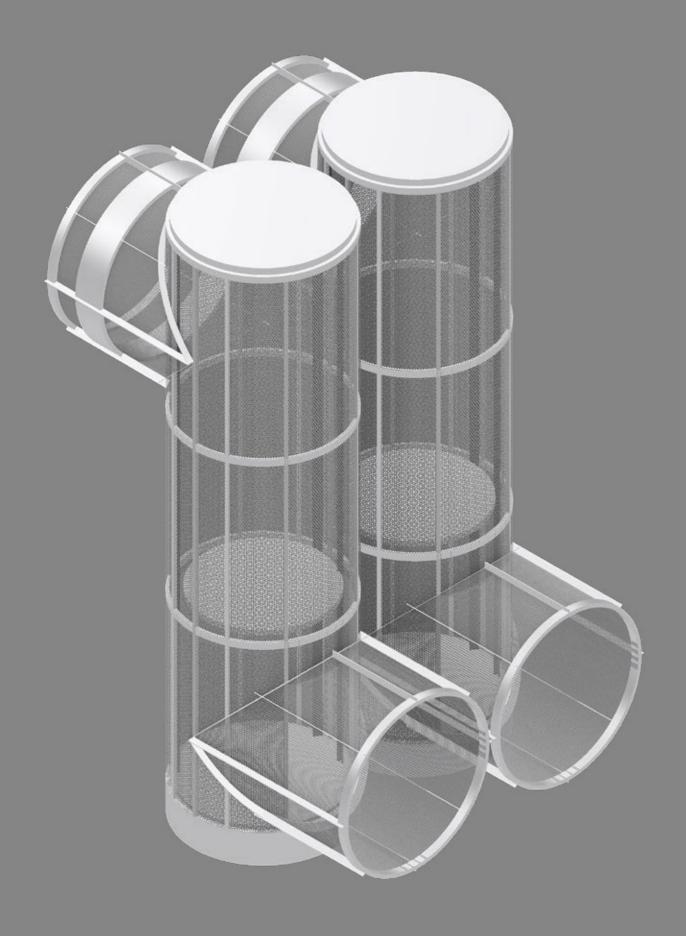


vertical connection

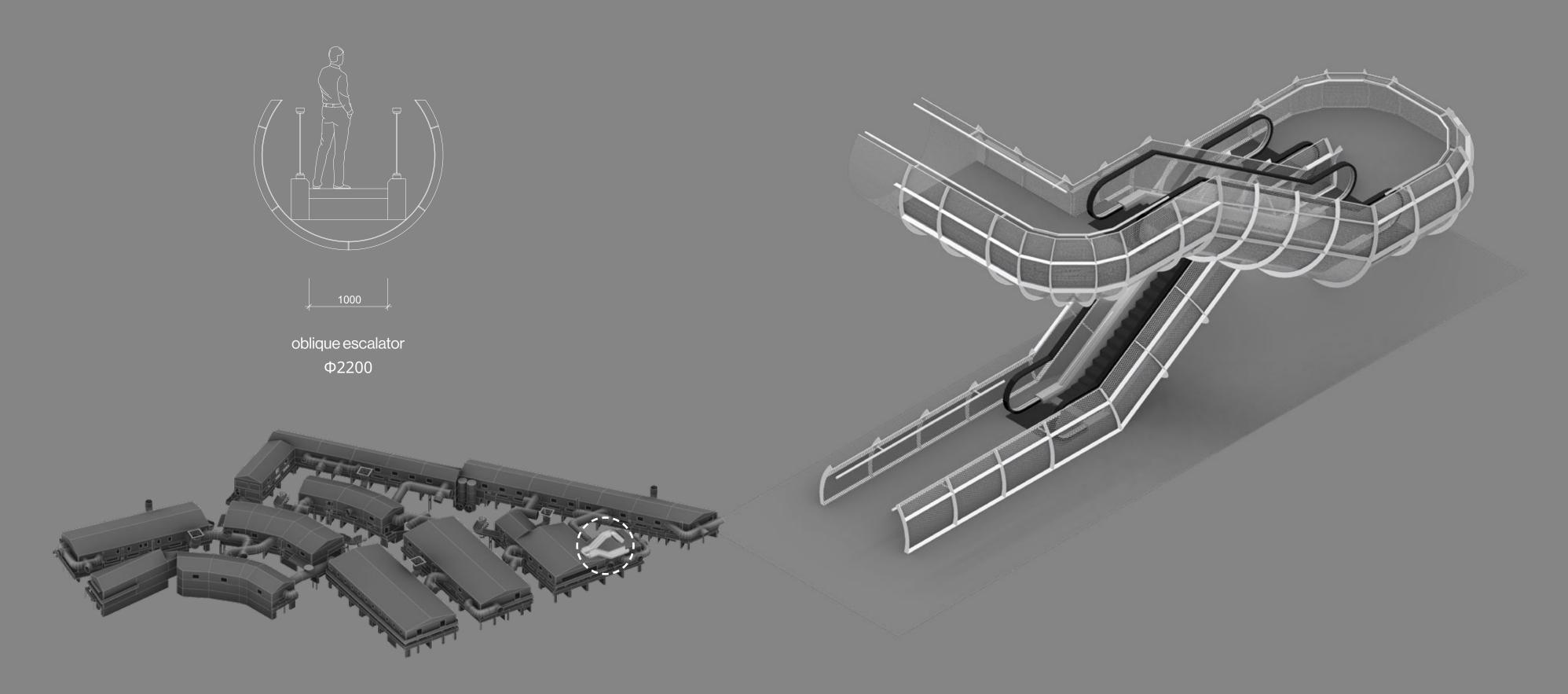


vertical elevator Φ2440

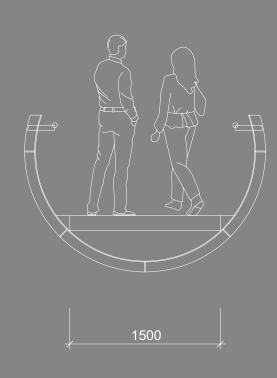




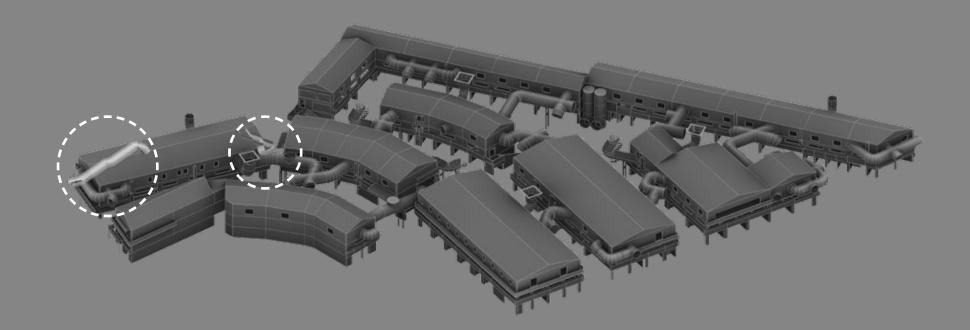
oblique connection

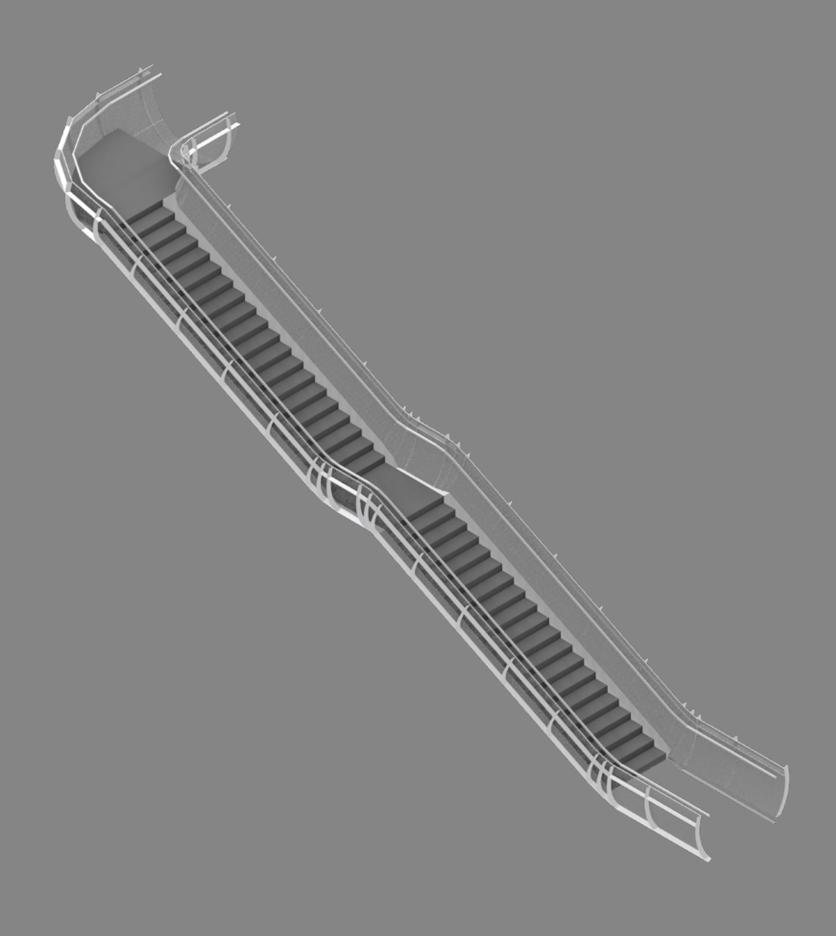


oblique connection

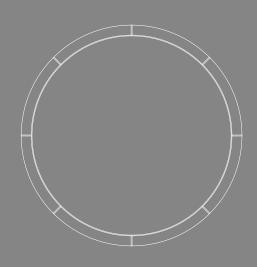


oblique staircase Φ2200

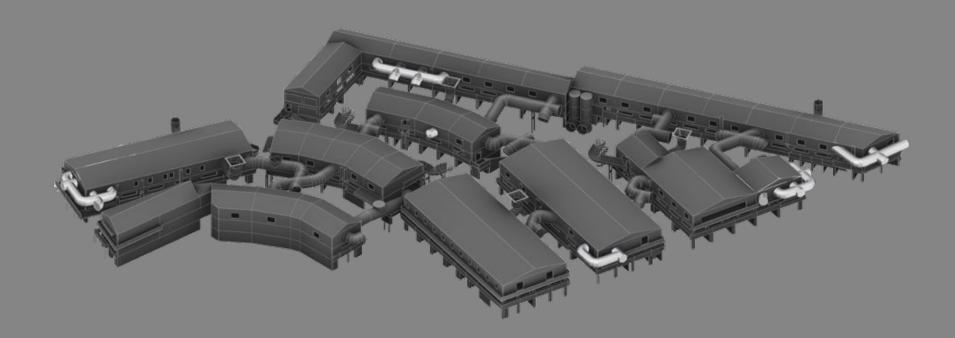


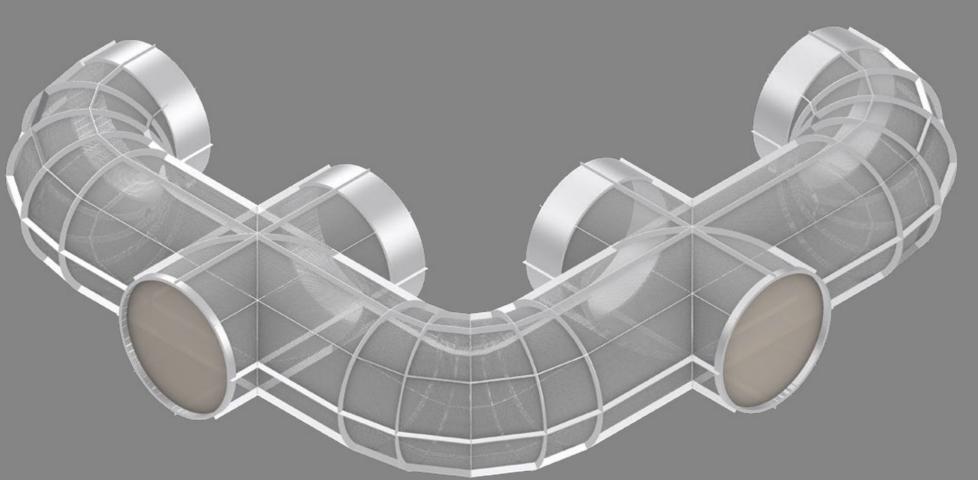


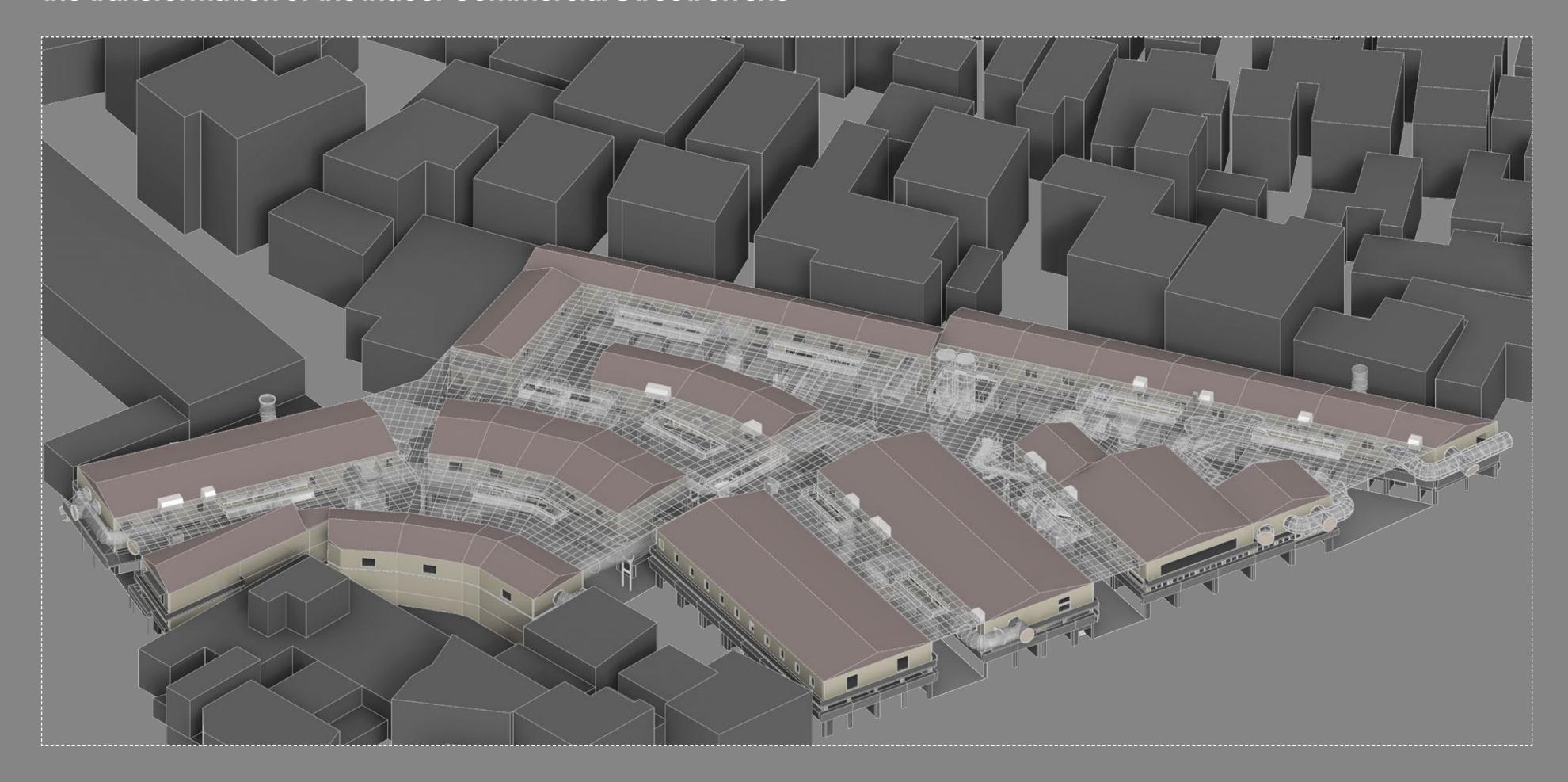
horizontal display ducts

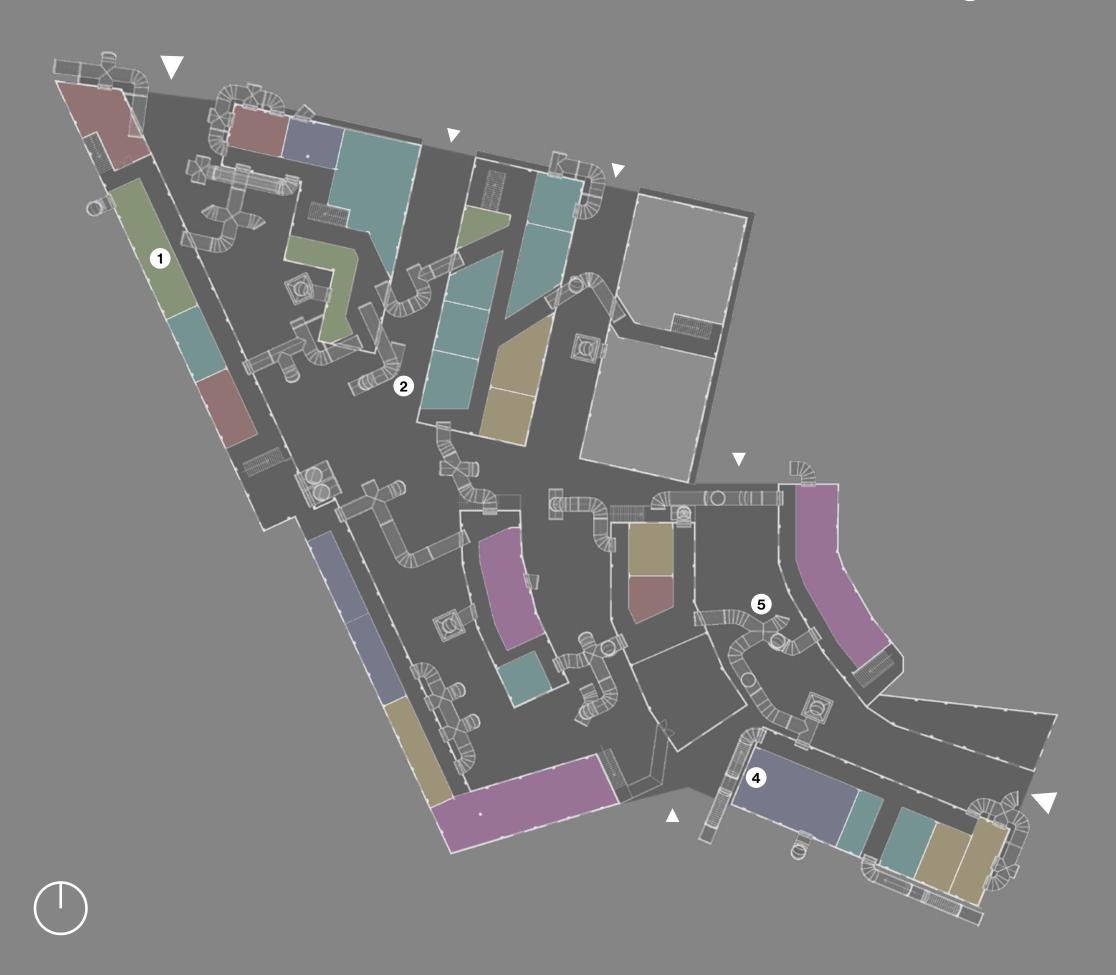


horizontal ducts Φ2000











Products

Designer Toys, fashion,...



Entertainment

book bar, party venue



Experience

drawing, tattoe, flower decoration, handcraft(ceramic craft/knitting), baking



Service

salon, nails, gym, pet caring



Music

instrument and school, livehouse/theater



Catering

bar, coffee



Events

market, exhititon, pop-up stores







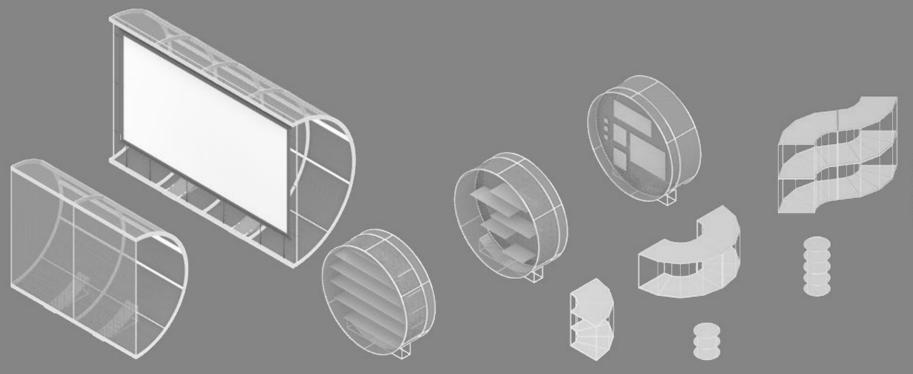
Furnitures are designed for the event area, as the tools for setting up temporary markets, exhibitions, and other activities

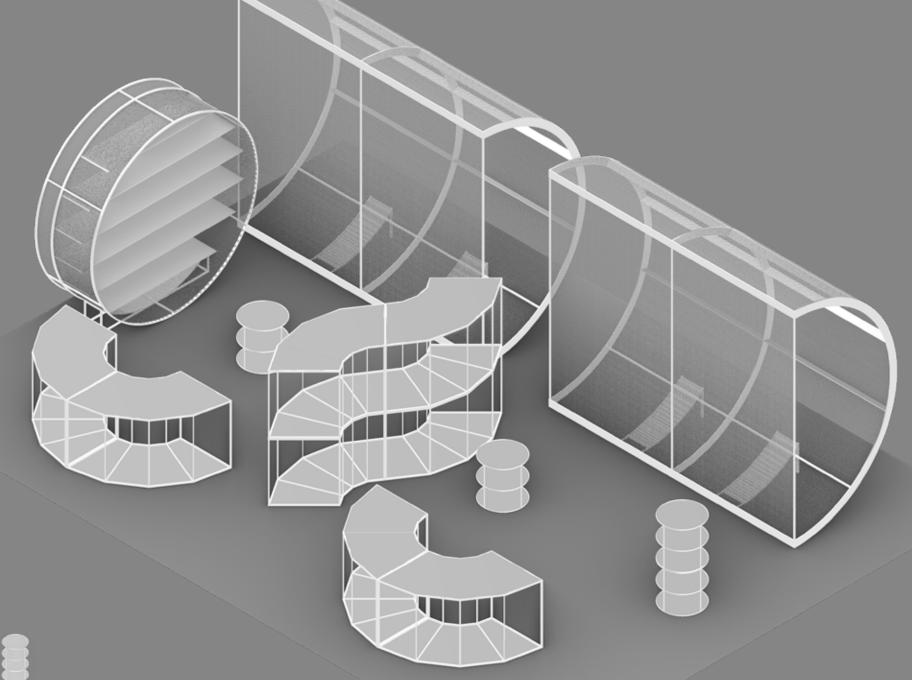


small display duct Φ2500



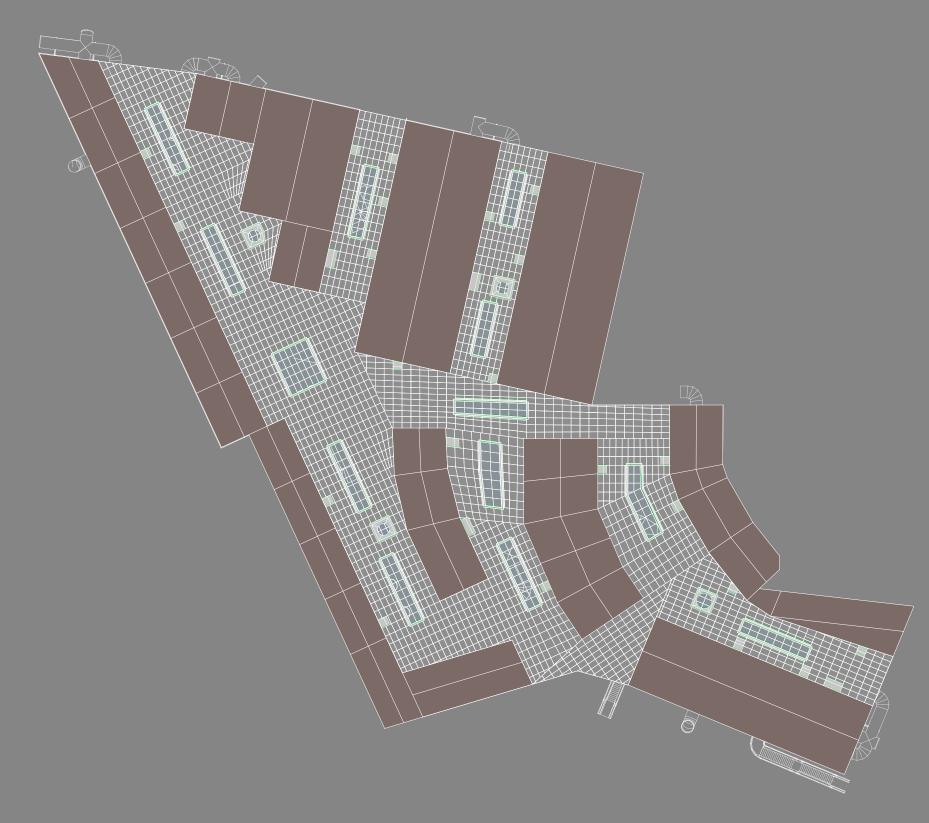
large display duct Φ3000





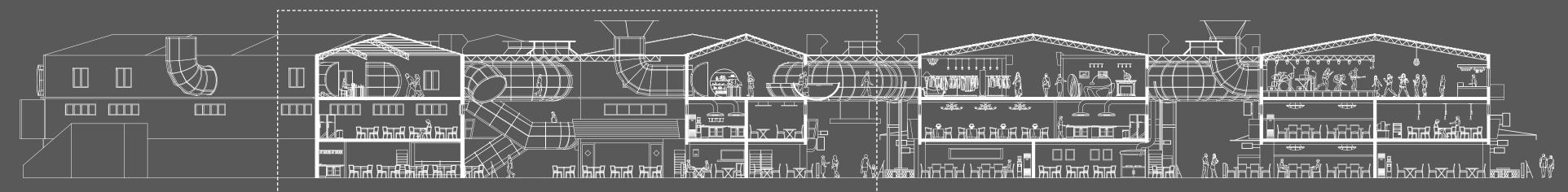


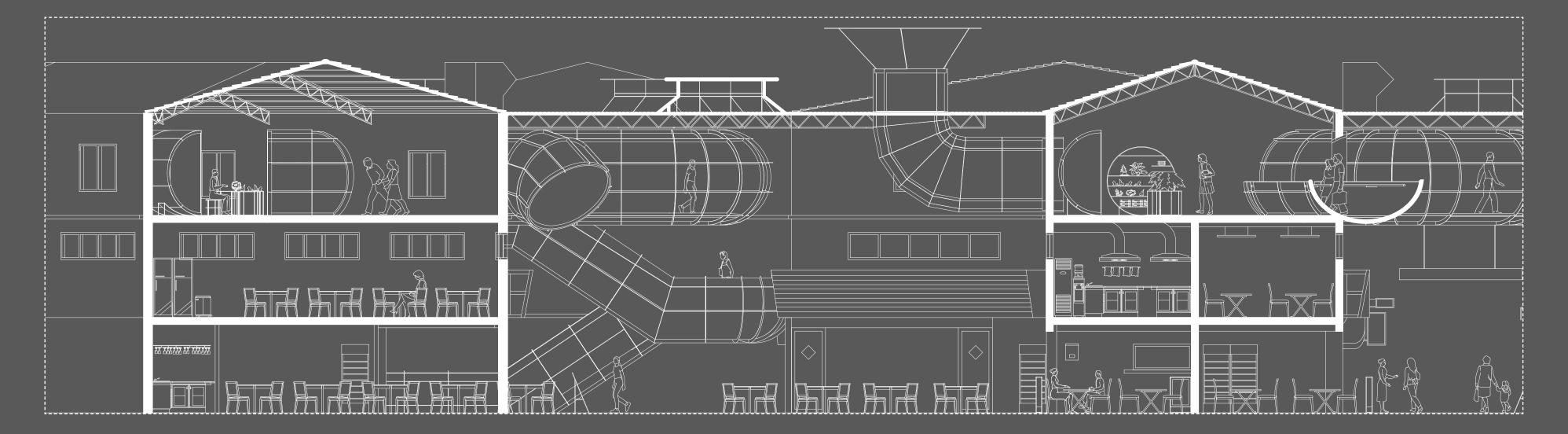


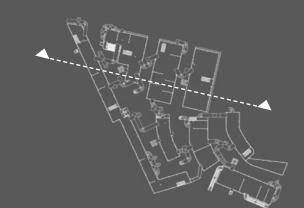




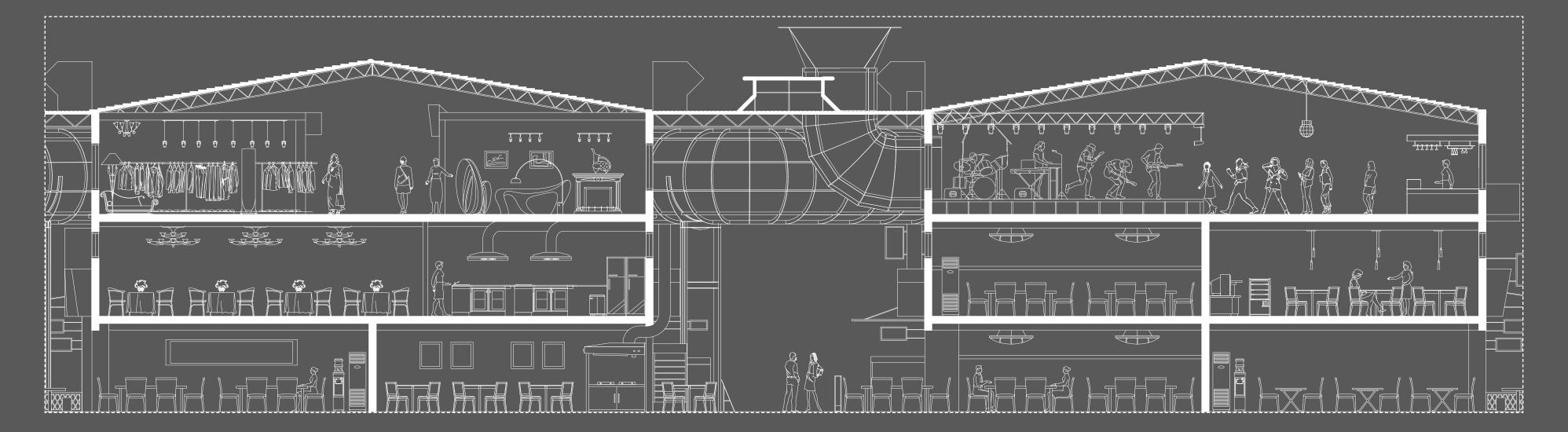




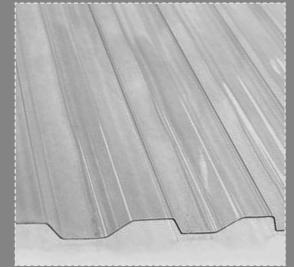




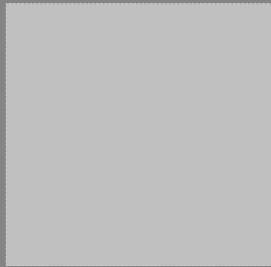




ROOF







semi-transparent plastic sheet



steel framework

DUCT AND FURNITURE

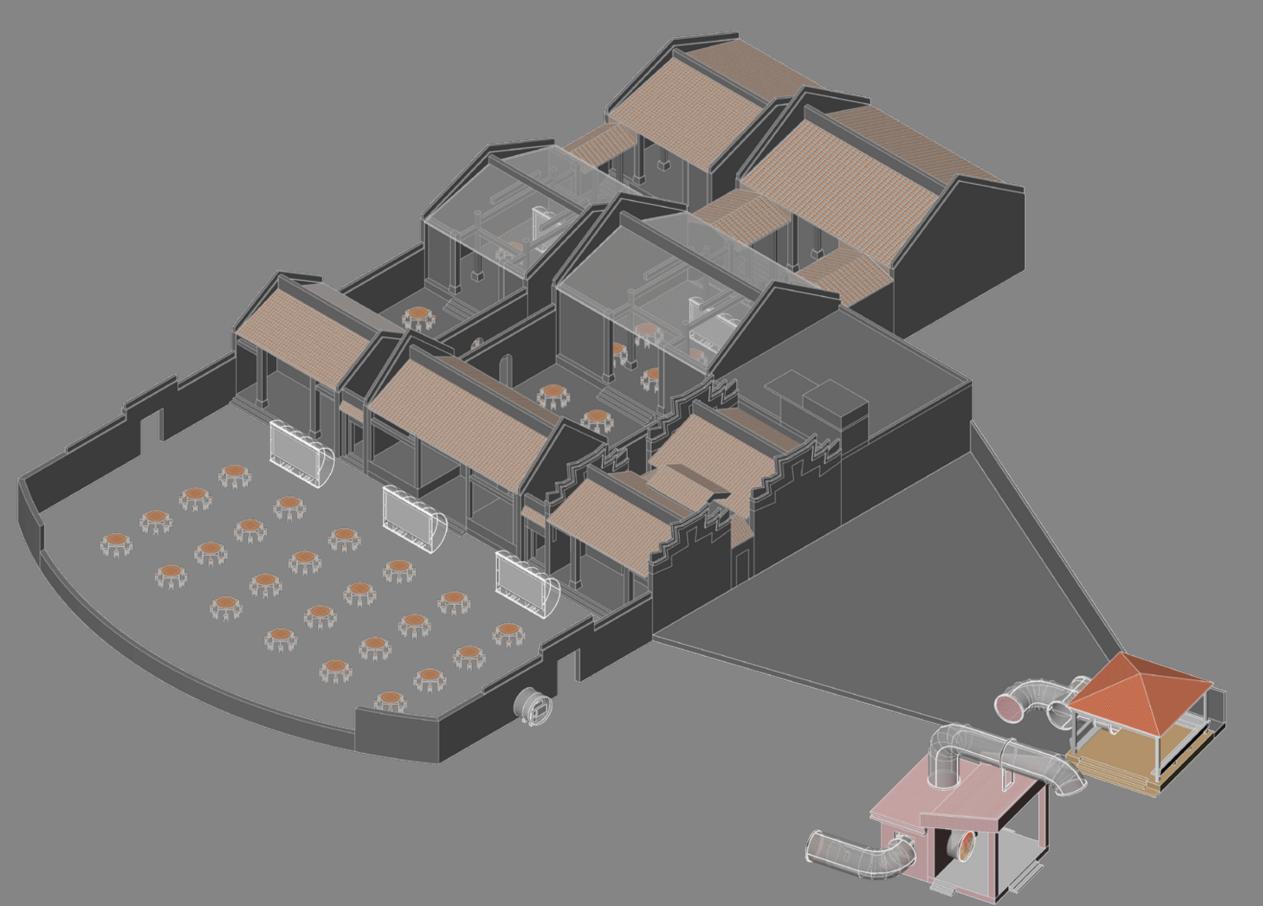






glass

4.3 PENETRATING THE INTEGRATING THE COMMUNITY the transformation of the Ferry Station and the Temple



Public Events





Cultural exhitition

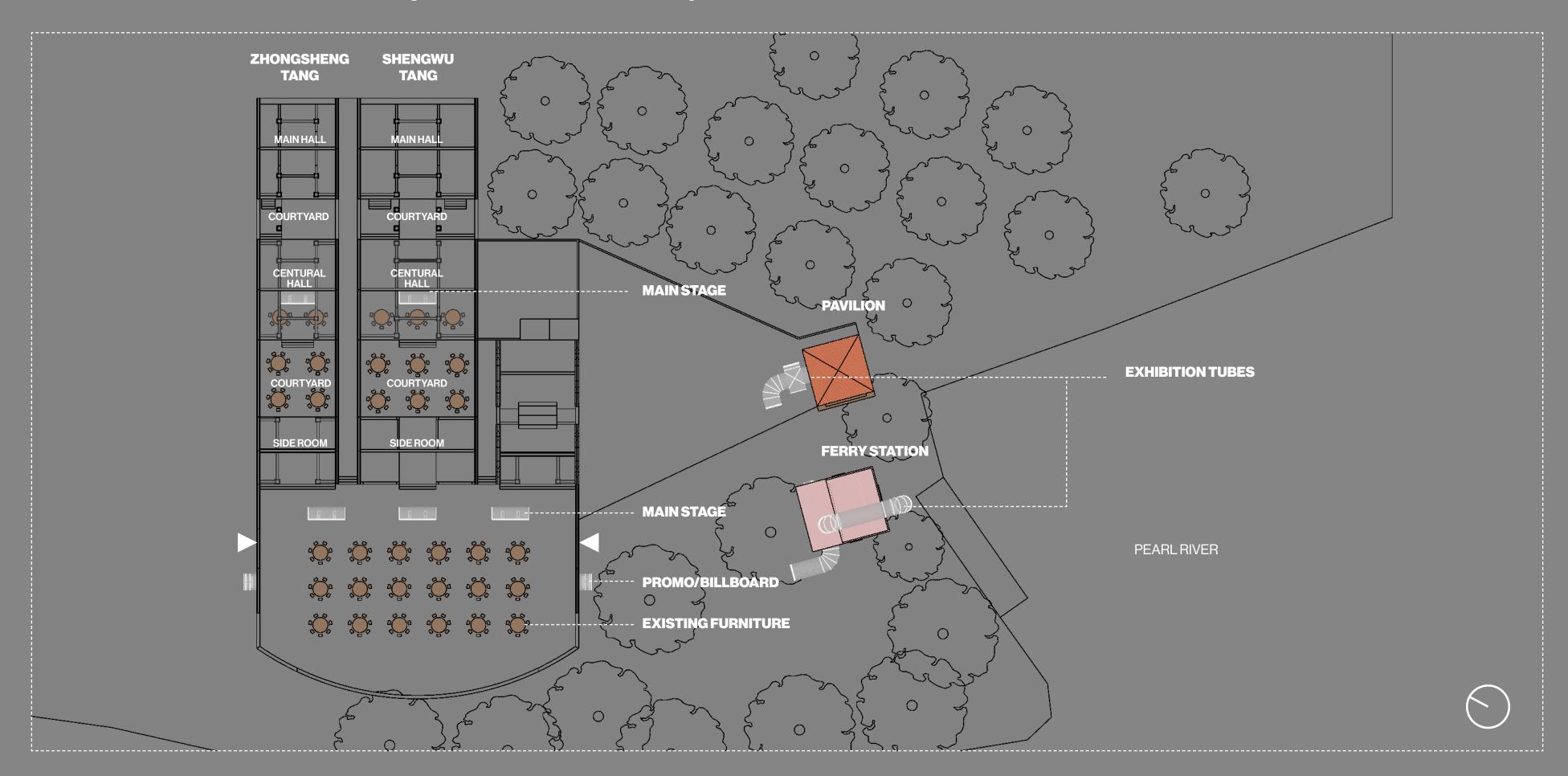




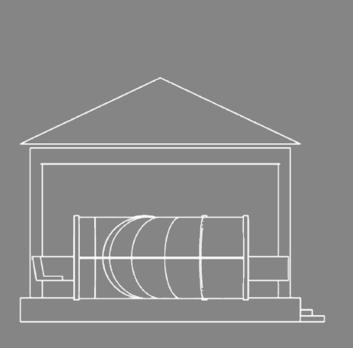


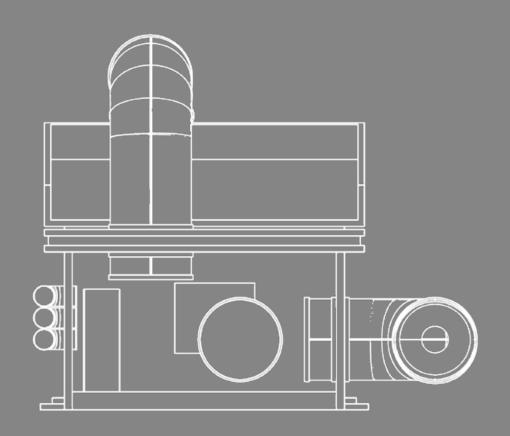


4.3 PENETRATING THE INTEGRATING THE COMMUNITY the transformation of the Ferry Station and the Temple

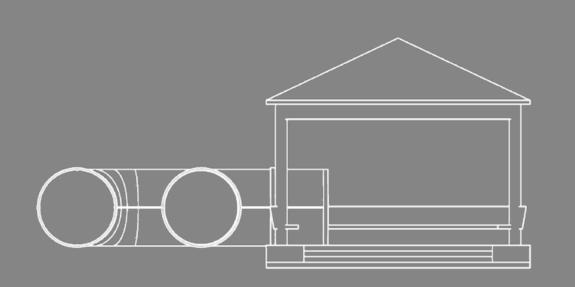


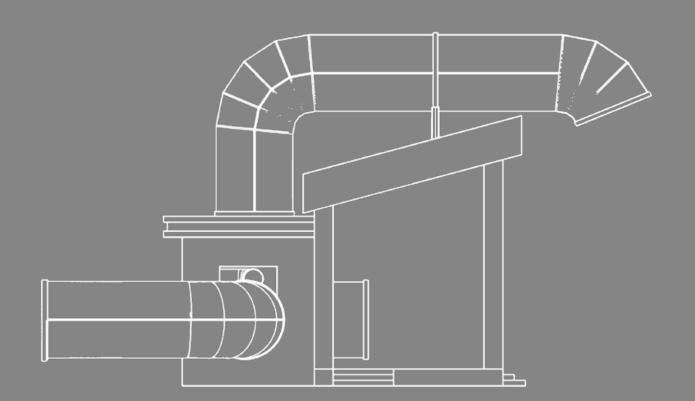
4.3 PENETRATING THE INTEGRATING THE COMMUNITY the transformation of the Ferry Station and the Temple





WEST ELEVATION





SOUTH ELEVATION







4.4 STORYBOARD



A group of college students are starting a business and they want to know what the public thinks of their products.

And they are planing to explore the newly open designer toy store there, along with their friends.



- They are organising a temporary market on the second floor of the commercial street
- The couple learns about the ongoing pop-up market from the display window and decides to find out what's there.



- The young entrepreneur introduces visitors to the concept of his product and are expecting their feedback.
- The two are drawn to the products and decide to buy some of them. They also express their opinion on them.



They are going to other shops on the second floor through the tube, and they feel that the inside of the tube is like

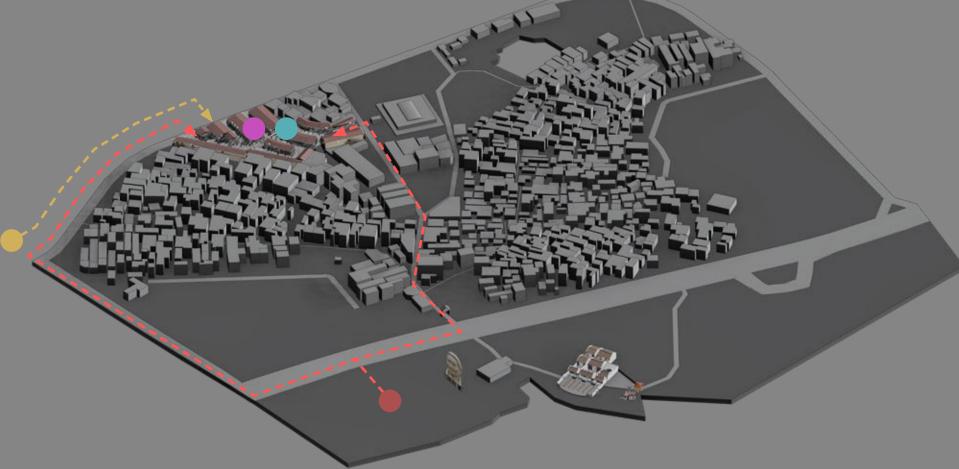
another time and space.



- The shop owners on the second floor mainly provide products and services for young people. The large number of university students and regular tourists allow them to run their business well.
- They reach these stylish and distinctive stores after school without having to travel far.
- The two explores the shops and decides to visit again in the future.



The young couple is spending their weekend at Liangmingcheng Sculpture Garden and they are interested in the shops on the second floor of the newly renovated commercial street.





- They run restaurants on the ground floor of a commercial street.
- The students come the find tasty food and have a good time with their friends.
- After the long visit, they chooseoto have dinner at a restaurant here before leaving.

4.4 STORYBOARD



The school band is planning a public performance in the ancestral temple, because they want to invite not only friends but also the residents and tourists.



- The two visitors come across this exhibition about the history of the ferry.
- Mr. Guan comes along and shares some stories about the village with them.



- The school bands are getting ready for the performance in the evening.
- The visitors decide to stay for the show when they see the posters and seats in the nearby ancestral temple.
- The residents here come to enjoy their leisure time at this evening.



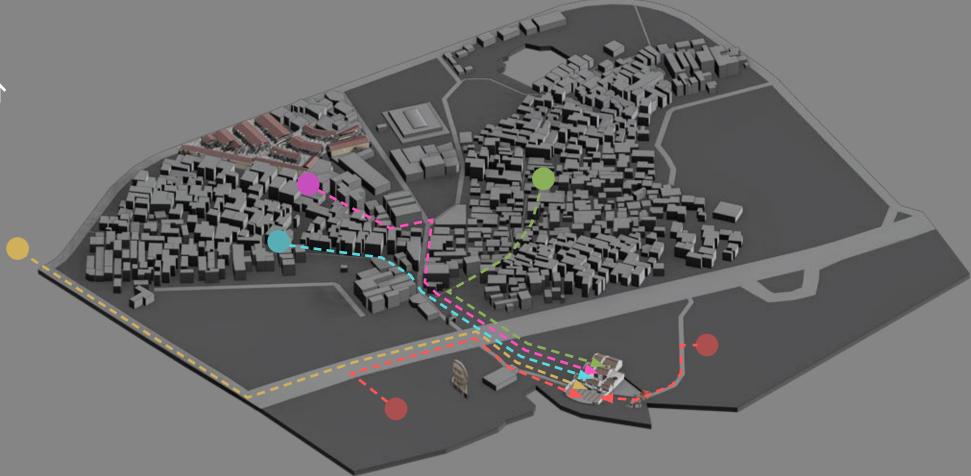
Mr. Guan is playing chess with his friend in the main hall of the Shengwu Tang, while his son is taking a job skills training course in the central hall.



The Guan family has lived here for a long time. Mr. and Mrs. Guan always spends their day with friends, and their son is looking for a new, better-paying job to raise his small child.



The young couple is spending their weekend at Liangmingcheng Sculpture Garden and they are wondering around.





- Some shopkeepers who live here is looking for leisure activities nearby
- during their breaks.

CHAPTER 5

WHAT ABOUT THE OTHERS?

5.1 CONCLUSION

The project is an experiment on using the methods of microrenewal in urban villages and the design outcome proves its feasibility effectively.

Micro-renewal should start with an in-depth analysis of the community that includes the variety of groups and their needs of them, resulting in the strategies of community building that are mainly about communication and cooperation. The visions can be realized by the small-scale renovation of the existing buildings, especially public construction. Together with spatial renewing and community building, urban villages in Guangzhou can find a path to developing themselves in the future.

5.2 FURTHUR STEPS

This project is merely an experiment on one specific village, so More design experiments should be done to test the feasibility of using the methods of micro-renewal. Each village has its own characteristics and problems, so the practical strategy should vary to solve different sorts of problems.

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