

ATELIER HAMRA

SELECTED PROJECTS



AL MOALLAKA INTERMEDIATE PUBLIC SCHOOL FOR BOYS

date : 2019 / client : GIZ/MEHE / site area: approx 7000m2 / status : under construction



The campus of the Moallaka School is large and already offers a covered sport field that is used by the village community. A neglected public garden with large cypress trees has recently been added by the Municipality to the campus.

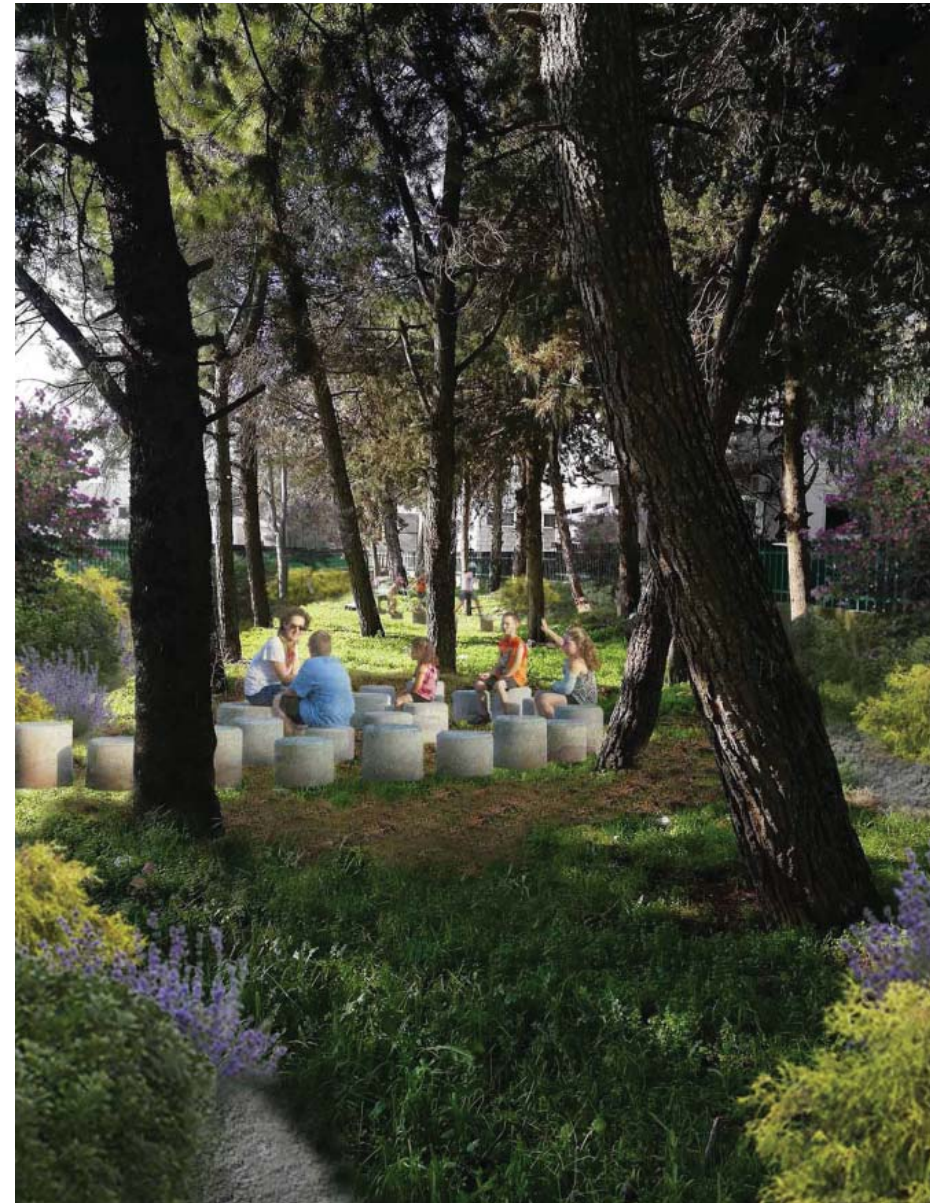
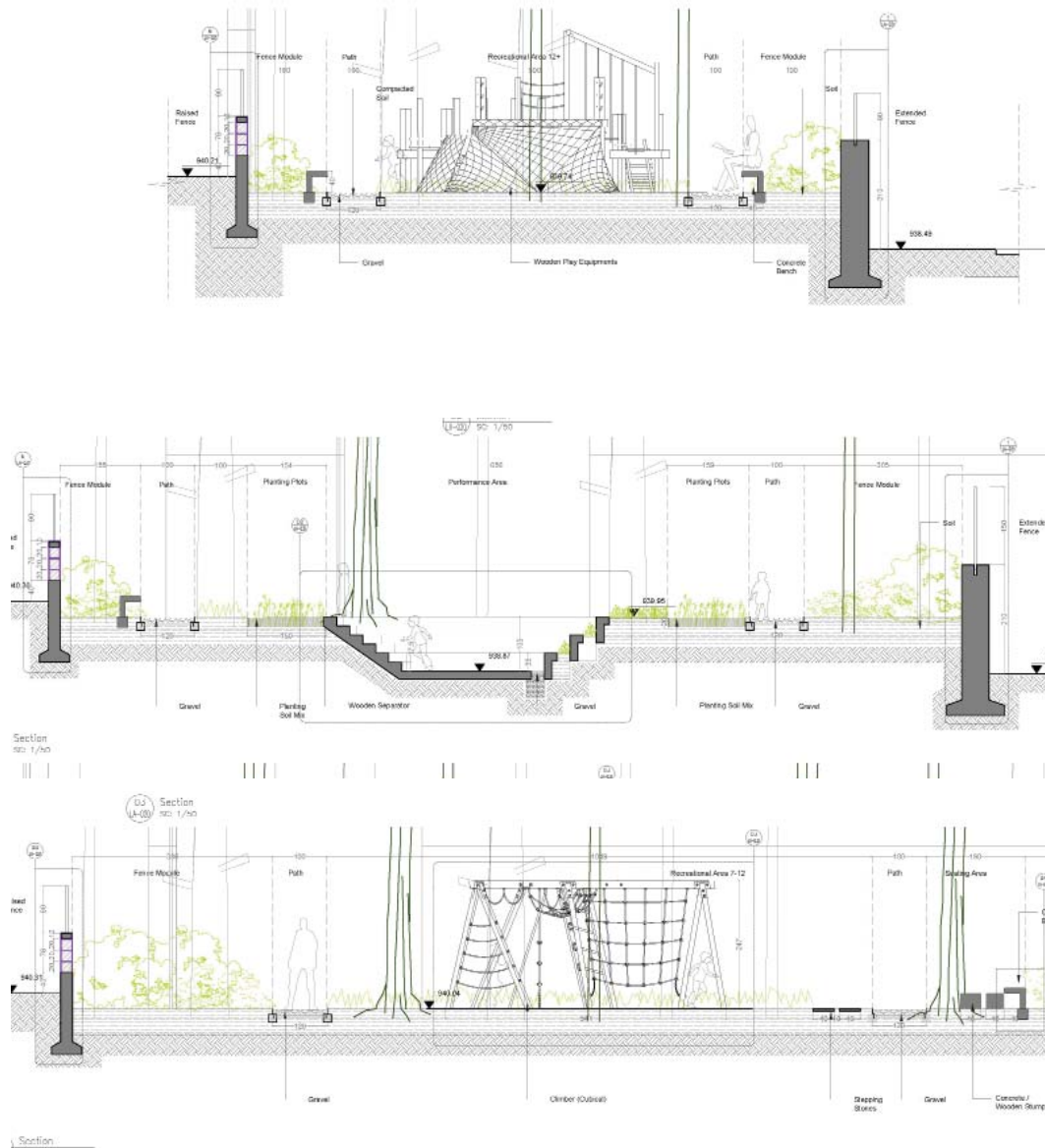
Our approach aimed at creating specific outdoor spaces for the school all while enhancing the role of the school vis-a-vis the community by allowing a separate public access for events tournaments happening in the covered terrain but also in the newly proposed large outdoor multi-purpose sport field.

In the newly claimed public garden, we implemented a natural playground including: amphitheater, wood play equipment, outdoor classrooms and seating areas. These elements are linked by a path meandering between the trees.



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The site slopes gently towards the sea. With the architect, we imagined a dry desert atmosphere with earthy colors and small built volumes. Tensile structures shade lounge seating areas within the private gardens. We developed our planting plan base on 3 main keywords: wind/sea/desert. Waves of giant reeds accompany the windy path to the sea. The sea view is framed from all locations on site. The planting was used to create 'moments' and sequences within the site. The entrance cacti garden sets the xeriscaping principles we followed. Very little flowers were used within the planting, but rather specimen plants with interesting foliage. Large blue Agave and Aloe-Vera line the coast. We chose to 'manifest' wind by using grasses and the salt cedar plant (tamarix) that gently moves with the breeze. The sea is visible from all over the site, loose white curtains and swaying plants convey the feeling of a day at the beach.

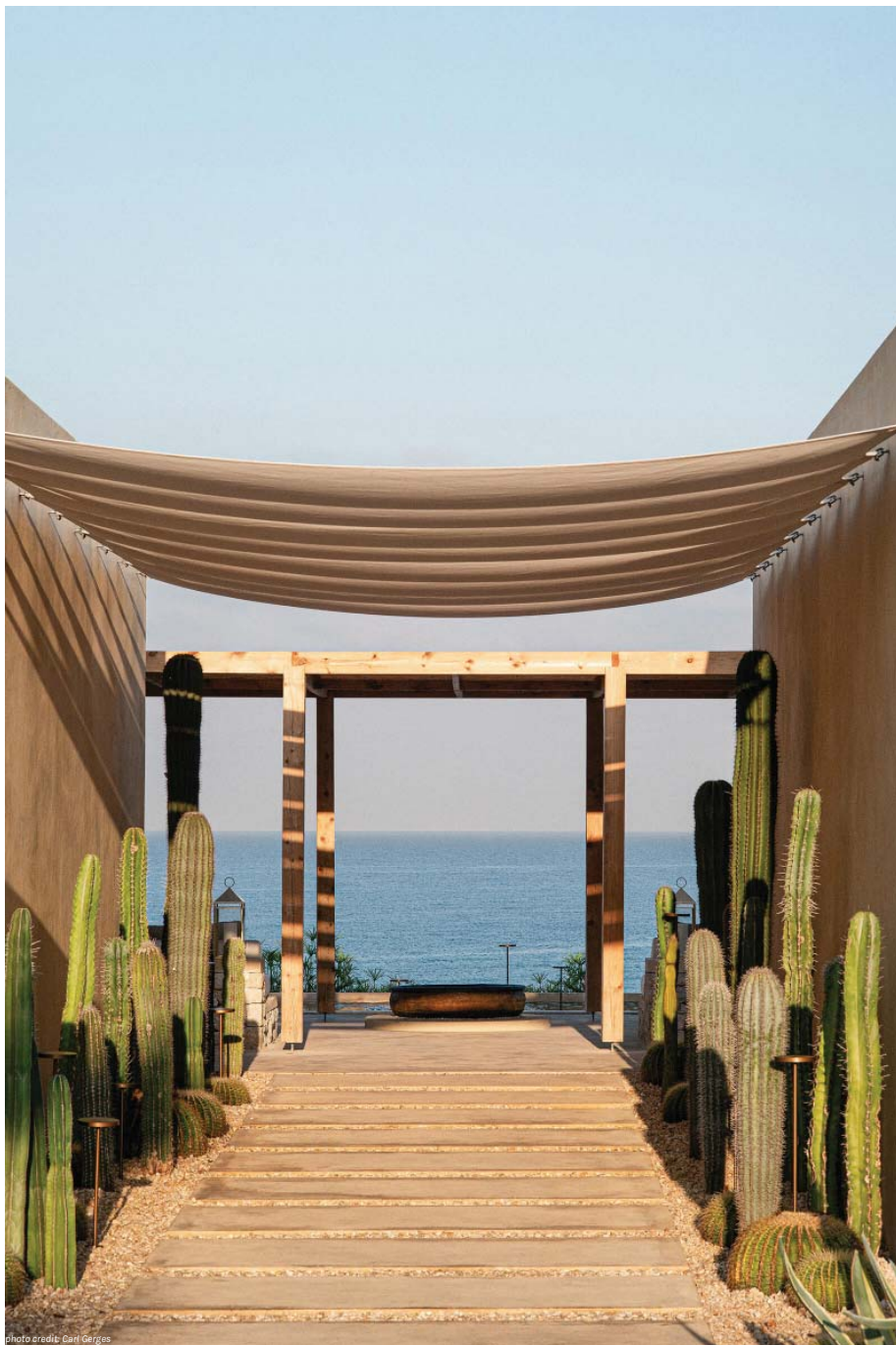


photo credit: Carl Gerges



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Capo, Batroun

Date 2022/ Client: Private / Area: 6800m² / Status: completed
In collaboration with: Carl Gerges



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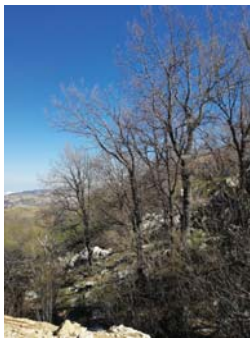
Atelier Hamra (#2626472-601) _ 84 Roma Street _ 1st Floor _ Wardieh _ Beirut _ tel: +961 1 361 013 _ Hamra _ Beirut _ Lebanon



Residence T, Faqra

Date 2020/ Client: Private / Area: 1500m2 / Status: under construction
In collaboration with: Ramzi Mezher,
Project Architect: Samir Hakim

Niched within the beautiful rock formations at Faqra, the site sits along a seasonal water course with high oak trees and lower multitrunked local trees. It was important for us to merge the project back into the larger context, the riparian ecosystem was extended into the garden. The planting theme is inspired by the existing flora: wild peonies, grasses, willow trees. The intention was to 'build the rock', all materials used for the hardscape were from the site. The garden has a rustic vocabulary with dry stone walls and built-in seating. An Alpine Garden, located at the entrance, allows the transition between the level of the site and the lower level of the entrance road.



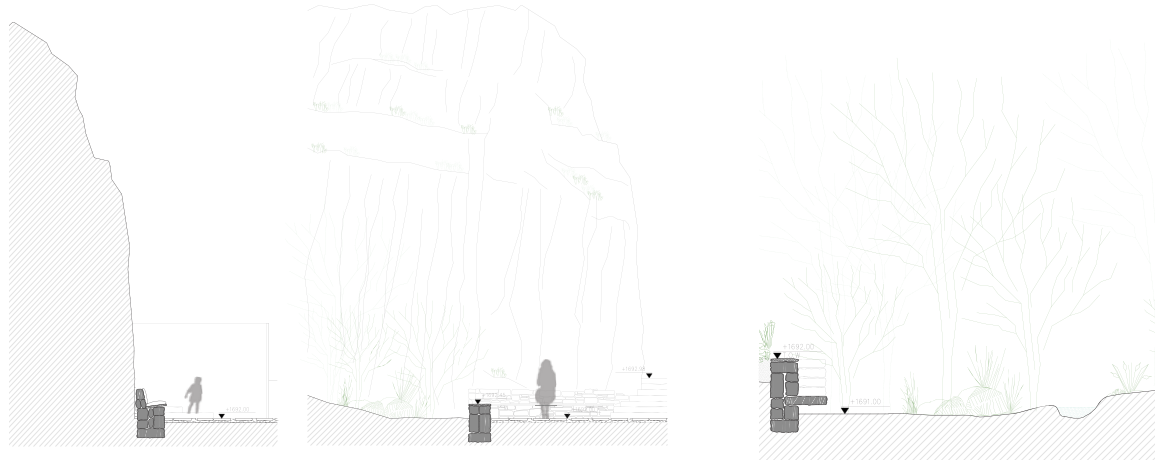
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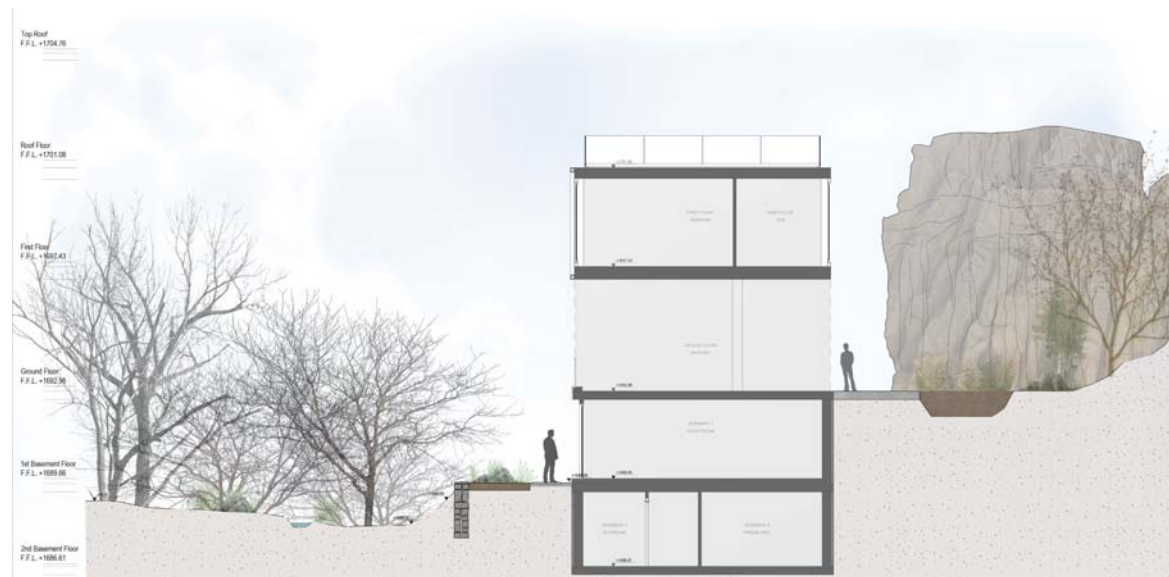
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The J Residence, Baabdat, Lebanon

Date 2015 to 2021/ Client: Private / Area: 2700m² / Status: completed
In collaboration with: Ramzi Mezher

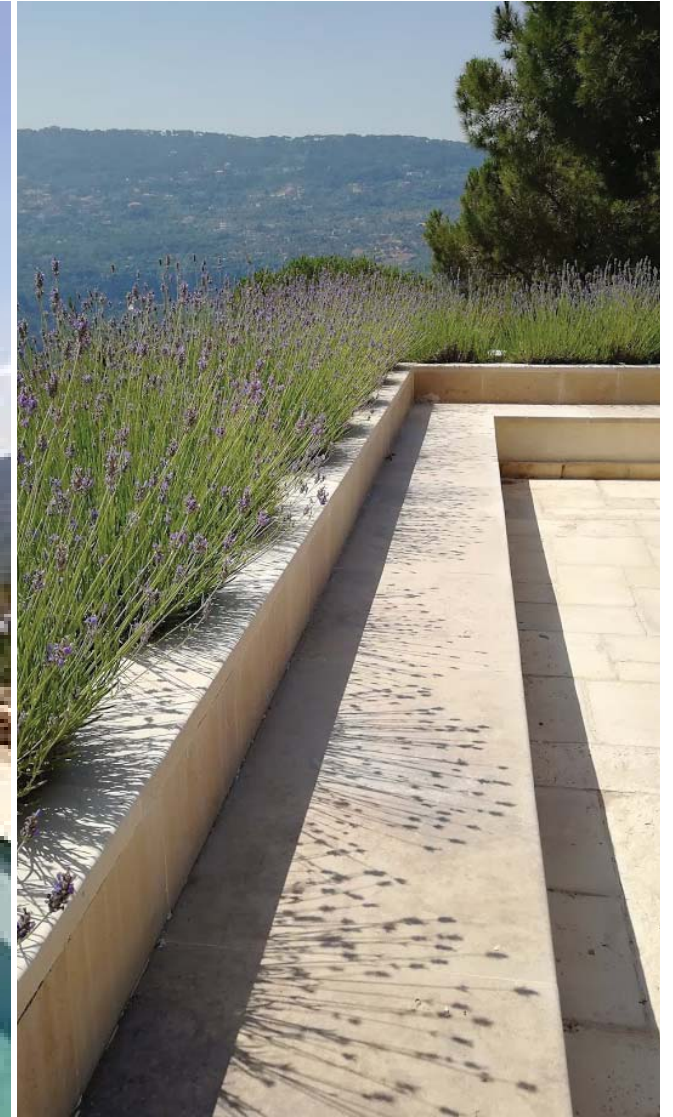
The J Residence is within a rich pine forest in Baabdat marked by its steep topography. The area is continuously being degraded by development. Our design aims at restoring the Mediterranean pine forest ecosystem with all its complex layers. The chosen native plants were organized according to understory pine forest plant communities. Parts of the site that were least damaged by construction were used as a reference habitat for our plant combination and propagation. The hardscape vocabulary used is based on rustic dry stone walls in order to blend within the natural surroundings. Our approach will anchor the architecture and make the house seem to have been there forever.



The J Residence, Baabdat, Lebanon

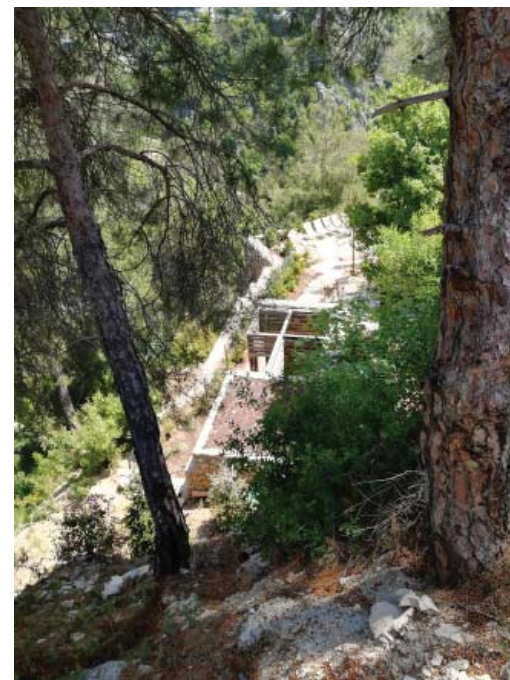
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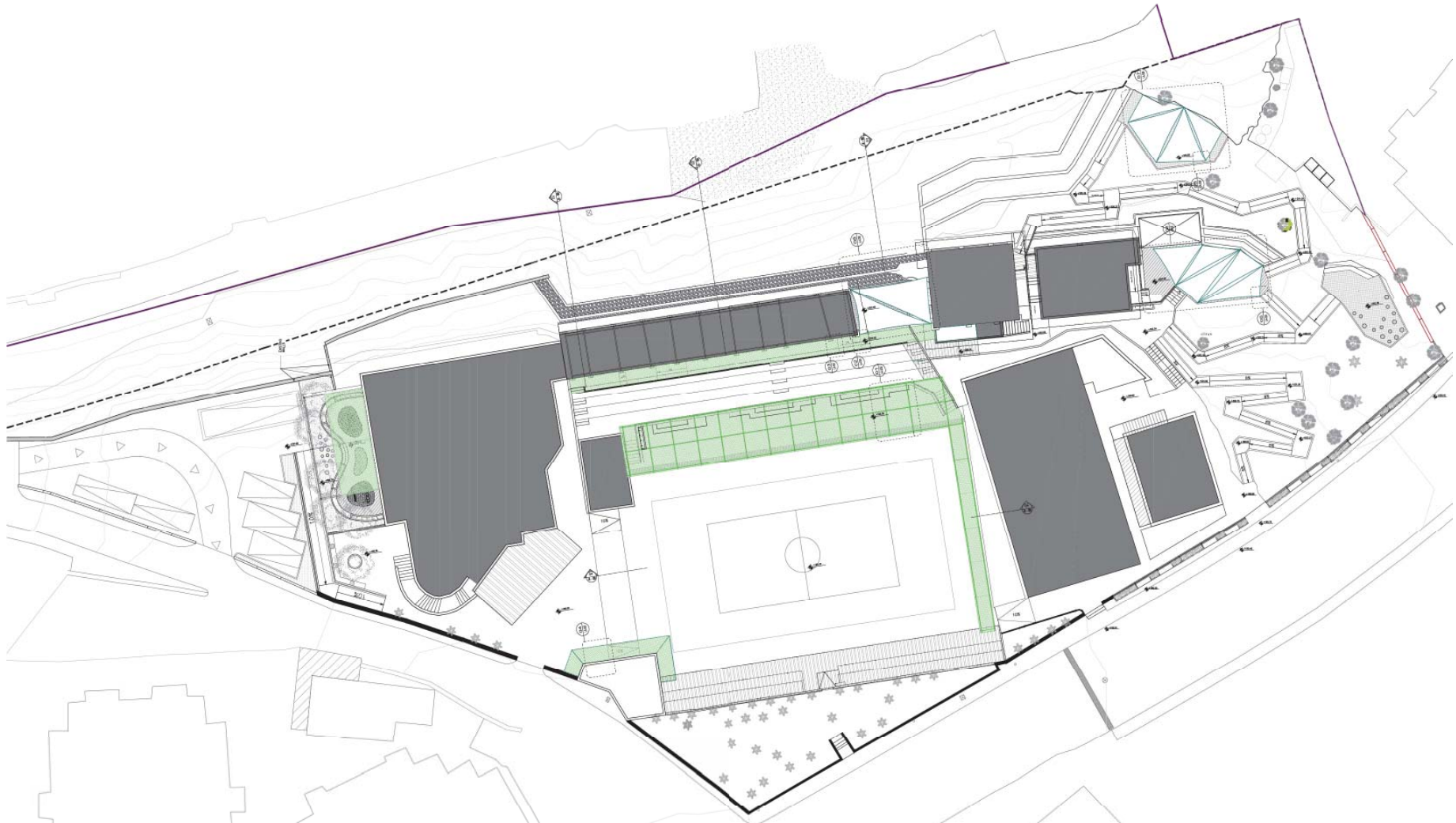
Zouk Mosbeh Public School is a project dear to our hearts. Although fragmented and chaotic, with internal fences, the site showed amazing potential. The main driving idea is to break down all fences, unify the space into a safe campus based on the importance of outdoor spaces as learning spaces. Breaking the concrete and introducing planting plots, shading structures, ramps, outdoor classrooms are as many tools we used to place the student at the heart of the design. The school was completed in september 2022 and is now open to the students again. We can't wait to see the students interact in the different spaces.

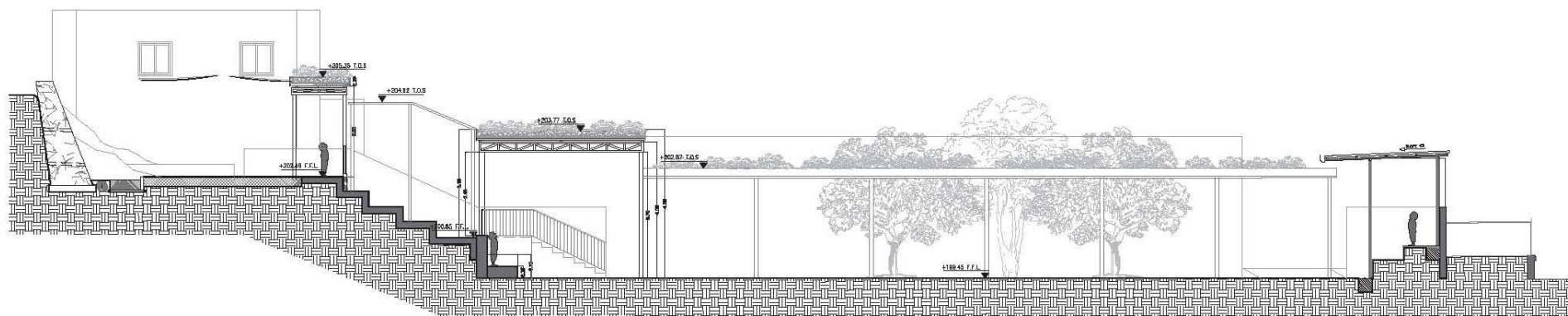




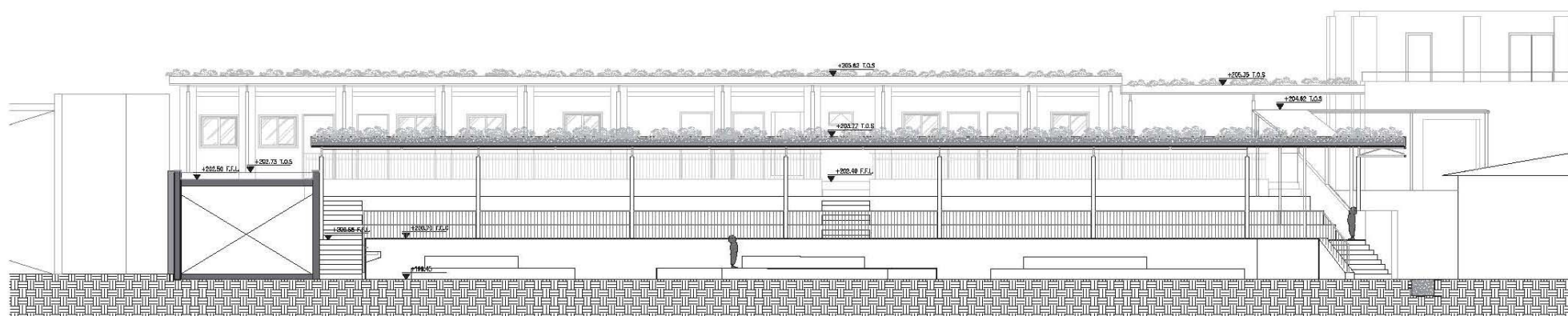


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03 section
LA-010 scale 1:100



04 section
LA-010 scale 1:100



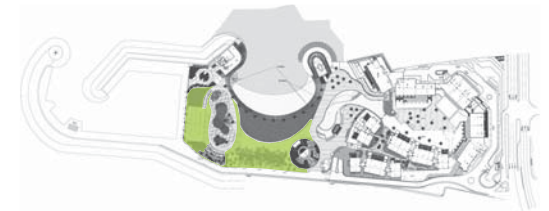
SUMMERLAND KEMPINSKI RESORT, BEIRUT, LEBANON

date : 2013 / client : KCC / area : 24 000m² / status : completed
Project architect: SKP

When approached to work on this controversial project, we hesitated. Motivated by the strong belief that the shore should be public and accessible to all, yet, the occasion to re-work the emblematic Summerland was an occasion not to be missed. The proposed masterplan ties all functions together and introduces a long walkway along the shore. The planted areas were intentionally colorful and densely planted. The design of the bungalows proposes getaways niched within the dense plantations. We centered our design around a large multifunctional lawn.

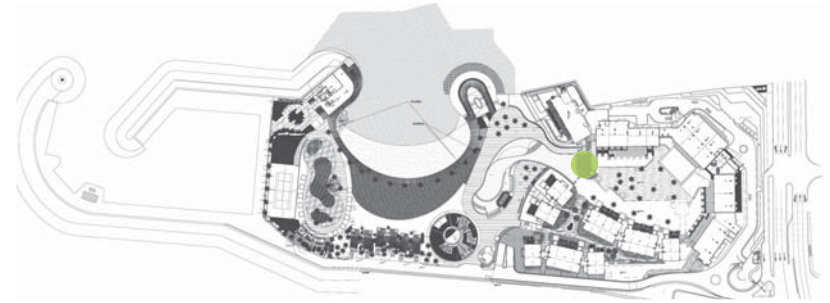






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The grotto is part of the pool yet it offers an enclosed space sheltered by the waterfall. The star lit dome is a feature that brings to mind the traditional oriental architecture and is in continuity with the general curved geometry of the pool. Two layout options are proposed, one offering more contact with the surrounding than the other. In both options the use of golden pool tiles links back to the language of the pool yet offers a precious atmosphere.

