

Bridging the City - IMPRESSIONS

A huge military area that lays inaccessibly in the middle of the city. Completely detached!

It is unpleasant for people to walk around or even to approach it.

What a waste of land! On one side – residents; on the other side – even a larger military land. In the middle of Ankara, a land of 800 meters in length, fenced by impenetrable lines of security guards, armed military personnel, cameras, barb wires, and spikes.

After the military is moved out from these lands and they are left to the citizens of Ankara, it must be the architects' responsibility to reveal its hidden potential – integral part of the city, not a foreign body.

There is a big potential in this military land to become an in-between land in the middle of Ankara. We conceive this area as a connector.

A mediator, a transition area that bridges the cavity left behind by the military.

This is not just a bridge for people to transit over, but a bridge that embraces alternative uses.

This area, a new place of delight, will trigger a new collective memory for citizens of Ankara.

This is a new approach to planning and designing, the design sprouts from its own fabric, material of this land. This design will show people the great hidden potential of transforming the whole city.

Bridging the City - IMPRESSIONS

Collages represent the city using images of different kinds of pavement and ground. They represent the chaos and negative diversity in Ankara's architecture, urbanism, design and details.



ANALYSIS

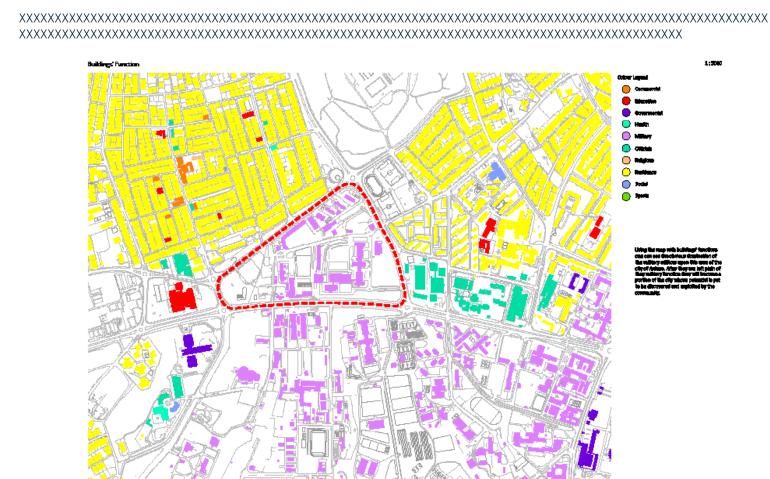




Bridging the City - ANALYSIS

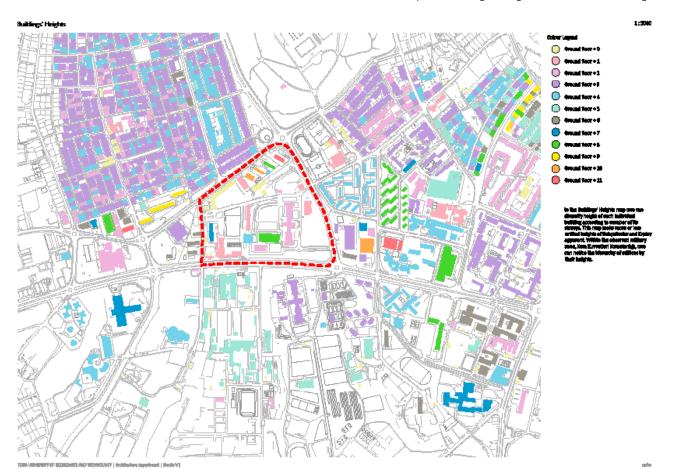
An old areal image of the Anıtkabir and part of the area in question. The image was acquired from the web-pages of the Kara Kuvvetleri Komutanlığı (left). A recent areal image of the Headquarters building and its belonging area. The image was acquired from the web-pages of the Kara Kuvvetleri Komutanlığı (right).

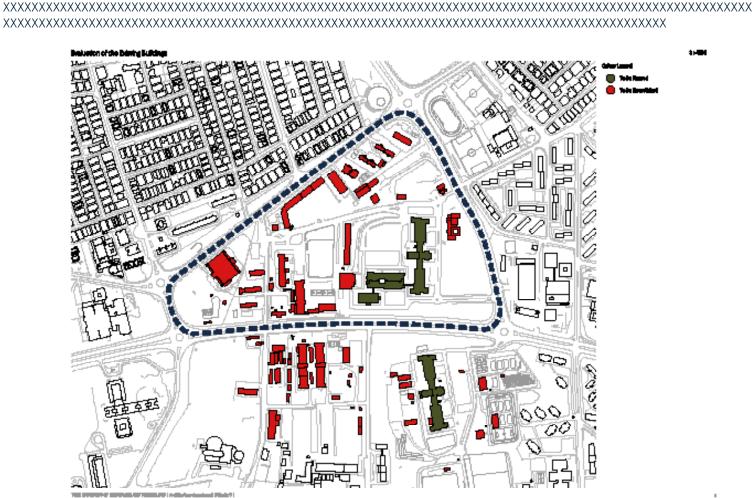




Bridging the City - ANALYSIS

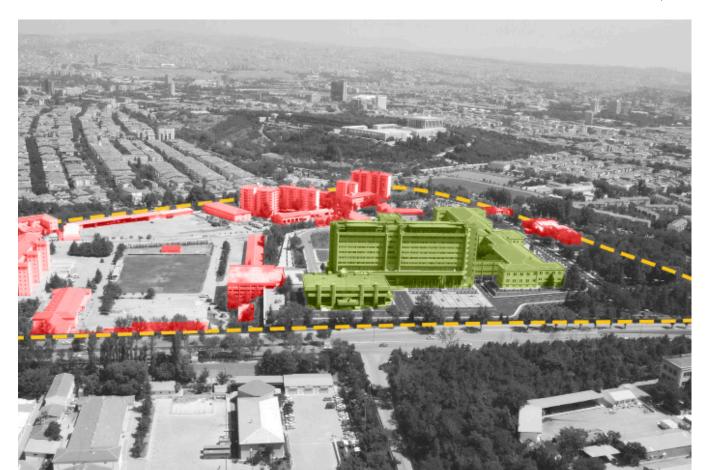
Map of buildings' functions in the surrounding areas (left). Map of buildings' heights in the surrounding areas (right).





Bridging the City - ANALYSIS

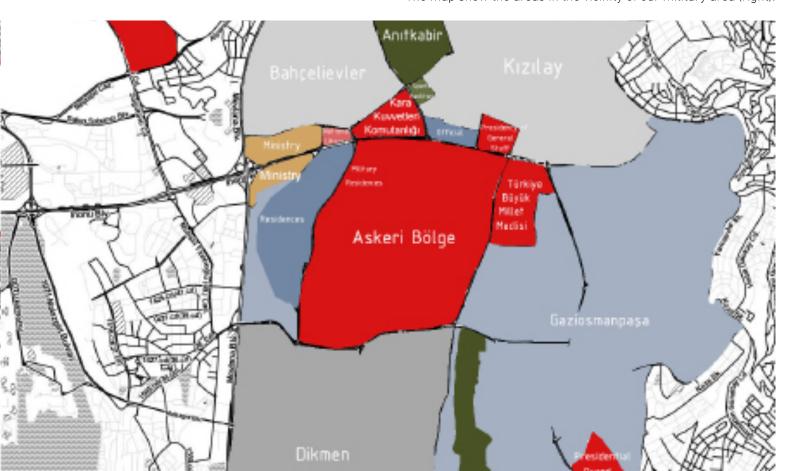
A Map (left) and an image (right) of the buildings that are meant to be preserved (shown in green colour), and buildings that are meant to be demolished (shown in red).





Bridging the City - ANALYSIS

The map shows all of the military areas in the city of Ankara (left). The map show the areas in the vicinity of our military area (right).



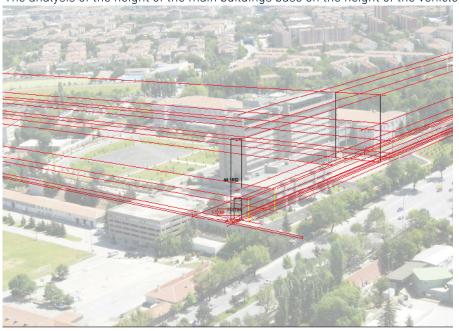




Bridging the City - ANALYSIS

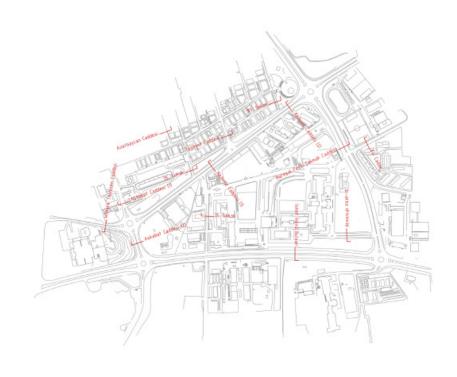
The collage shows access points that allow direct connection to the military academy area south of Kara Kuvvetleri Komutanlığı. It also shows the "stop points" that disallow direct connection to the military academy area (left).

The analysis of the height of the main buildings base on the height of the vehicle parked next to them (right).





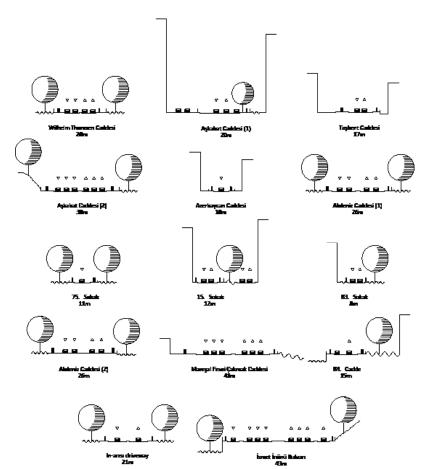




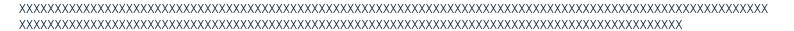
Bridging the City - ANALYSIS

The drawing shows positions of sections of the existing roads (left).

Sections of the existing streets (right).



IDEA





When military academy leaves the huge emptiness in the tissue of the city, it will at the same time make room for countless other activities. As we recognized its potential that is even greater then the potential of Kara Kuvvetleri Komutanlığı area, we realized that Kara Kuvvetleri leaves the urban void in-between important parts of the city, in-between Bahçelievler, Kızılay and the huge area of current military academy (left). As such, this in-between area has a chance to connect these part of the city. It can bridge the city, transfer people, goods, ideas, society, intelligence, economy...(right)



Bridging the City - IDEA

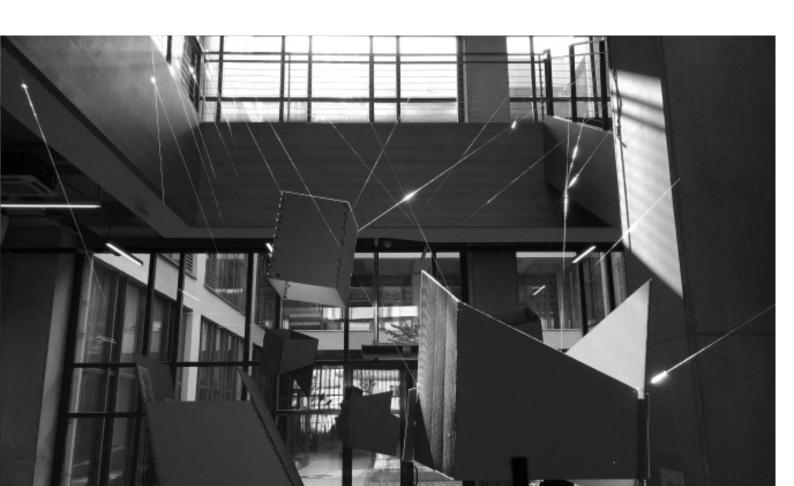
The collage turns the idea into an imagined vision of connecting Bahçelievler and Kızılay area south to Kara Kuvvetleri Komutanlığı.







Bridging the City - EXHIBITION





Bridging the City - EXHIBITION



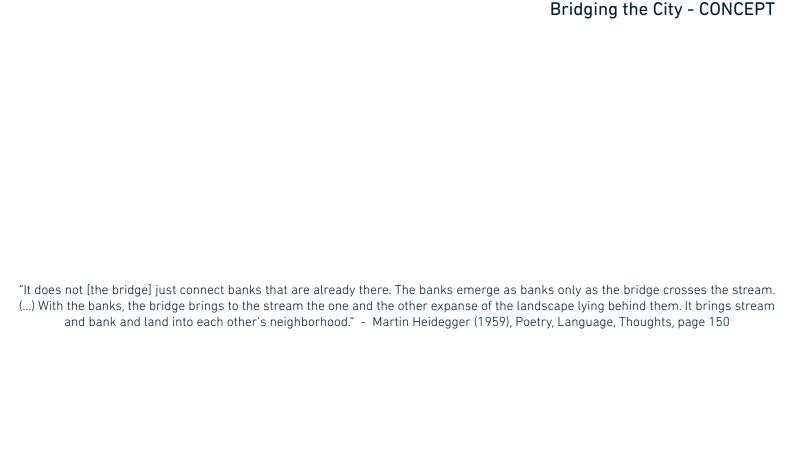




Bridging the City - EXHIBITION

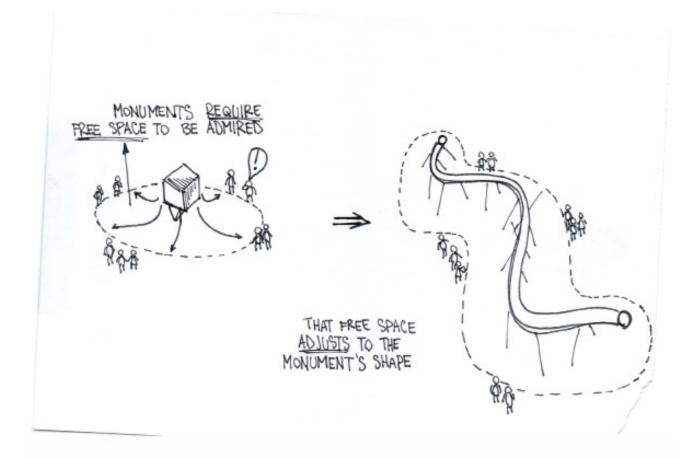


CONCEPT



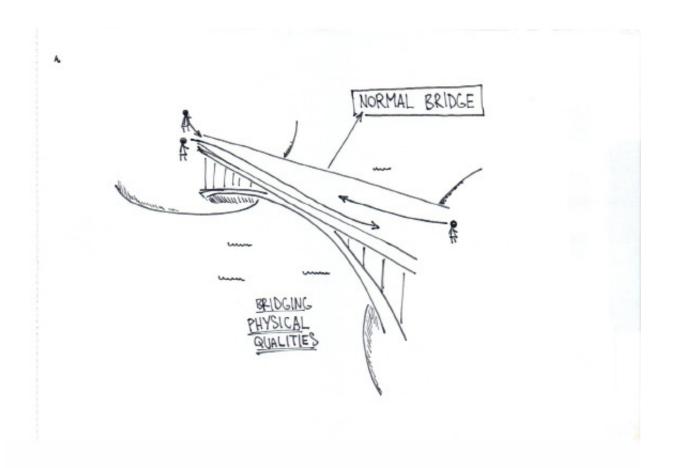
Bridging the City - CONCEPT

Thoughts in Sketches

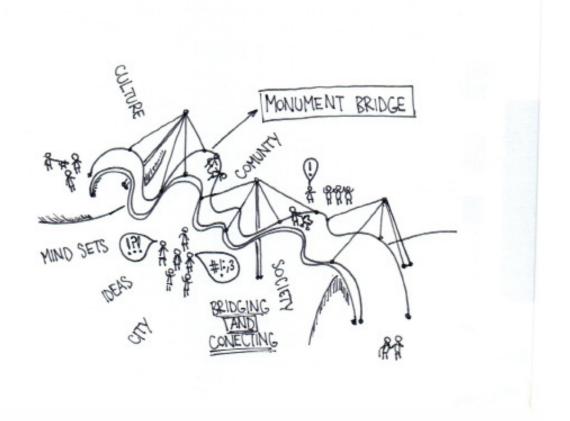


We asked ourselves what it takes to be a monument. Every monument requires a free space around it for it to be exhibited. But then when a monument changes in shape, its exhibition space reshape itself according to the monument it belongs to. For a monument of a very elongated shape this free exhibition space captures the form of a valley. Thus when a bridge is treated as a monument, its free space should capture the spirit of bridge's always present motion (left). Statue of Liberty stands tall on Liberty Island. By placing the statue on this islet people ensured that the view on the statues stays unobstructed for as long as it is surrounded by water (right).

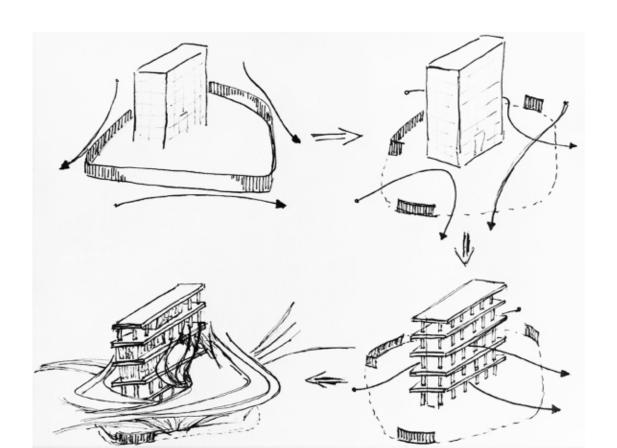




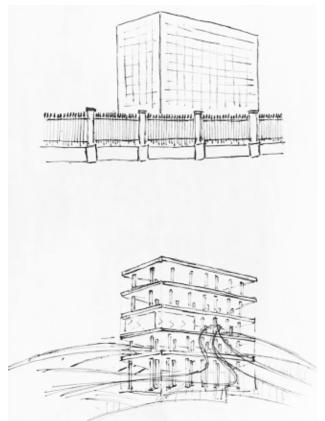
When normal bridge is observed, one can see the physical goods transfered over it, but no more than that in most cases. One can even argue on allegorical values that the bridge brings to its environment, but it usually stays on the level of allegory and metaphors (left). Why do we treat a Bridge as a Monument? Because when observing it that way while through the whole design process it becomes more then just a bridge. Simultaneously, this fact also allows the designer more freedom in his or her design. When seeing the bridge with this new pair of eyes, the designer's options are much broader and diverse (right).



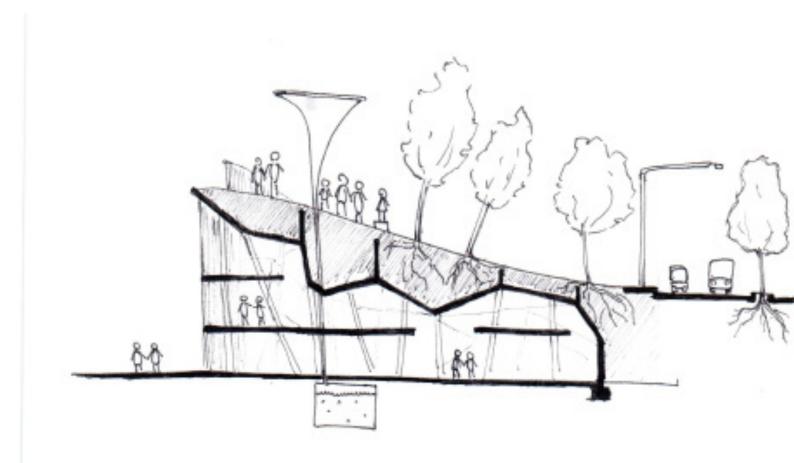




Another thing that we need to take into consideration is how to approach the existing buildings that we evaluated as worth of preservation. For the tallest building on the lot, the Headquarters building, we recognized the defensiveness its façades represented to the passers by. Since this is the only building presently visible from the street we recognize this building as the most affective towards the people. In order to attract people to it, we decided to strip it off of its façades in order to show its "naked honesty" (left). By removing its façades we relieved its inner secrets. The lower sketch show the structure that we envisioned as a solution to most of the problems we encountered. The structure that fluently connect different part of the area, that provides a shelter and new green surfaces at the same time. This structure would be at the same time a roof and the open ground (right).

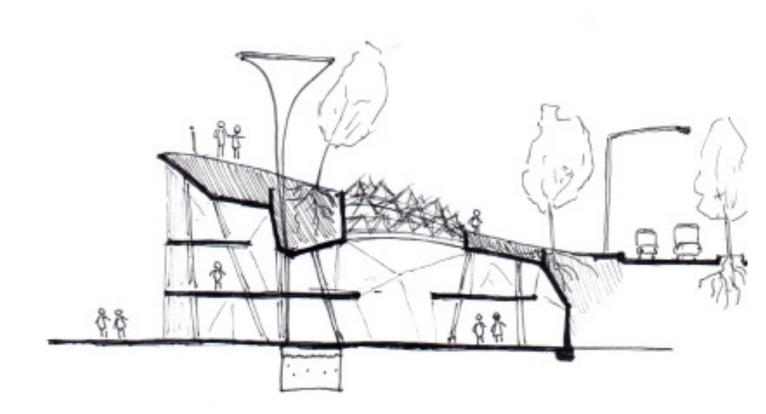




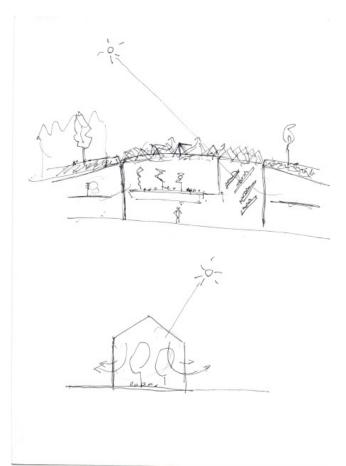


One of the problems we were dealing with were large differences in terrain elevation. Some of the solution we came to are shown in these sketches (left).

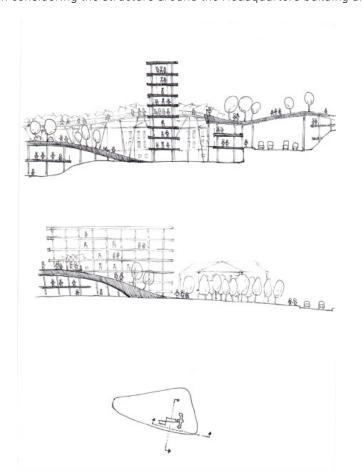
We also considered options of using glass roof instead of the soil in some places of the roof (right).



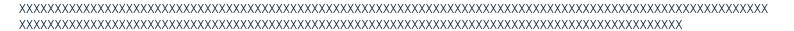


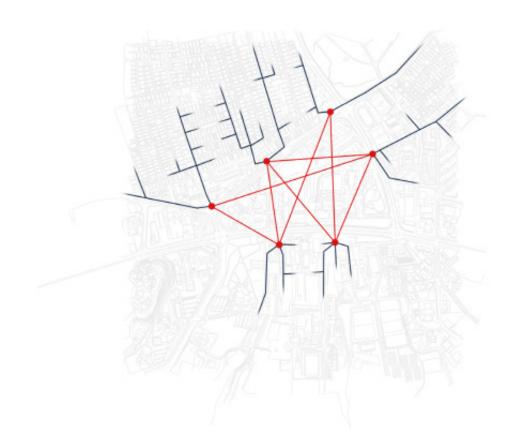


We especially discussed glass roof when we came to an idea of having an Urban Farming as one of the activities within the area (left). Sketch shows two section considering the structure around the Headquarters building and the Ismet İnönü boulevard (right).



Analytical designing





To produce any kind of design of this scale, first we explored some parameters that would determine the design. The main parameter were connections between points in space we decided must be connected in accordance to the idea of bridging the city (left). After drawing the capital connections, we drew some general direction lines for the bridges and pathways. These direction would position the pedestrian routes in the project. As we drew these routs, we found them good in connecting two points but neglecting each other and the environment they are in. So these routs were "unoptimized" (right).



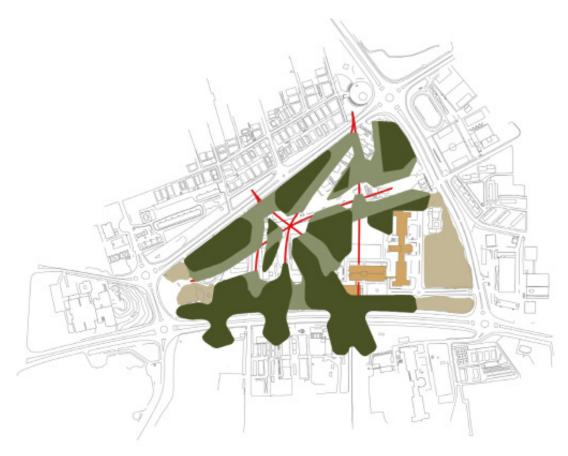




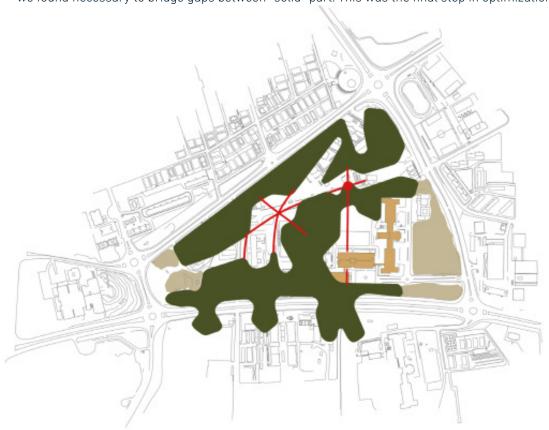
After some reckoning we found the way to put those route together in this project. We got rid off unnecessary parts that would produce conflict in adding extra cost that would not be justified only with the pure need to shorten one's walk for couple of meters. We optimized them (left). Having main routes in place, mainly the bridges we treat as monument, we were able to fit the "solid" parts in-between the bridges (right).







After analyzing what we did some more, we further optimized the routes. We gave the "solid" parts more importance in bearing sections of routes and by doing so, we enlarged their green surface and the usable volume inside (left). We left the section of the bridges we found necessary to bridge gaps between "solid" part. This was the final step in optimization of the project (right).

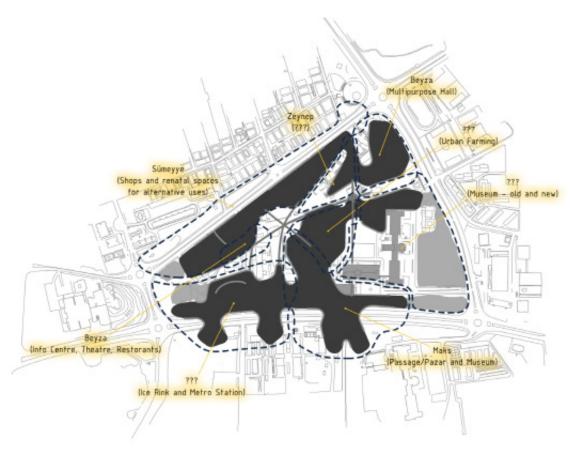




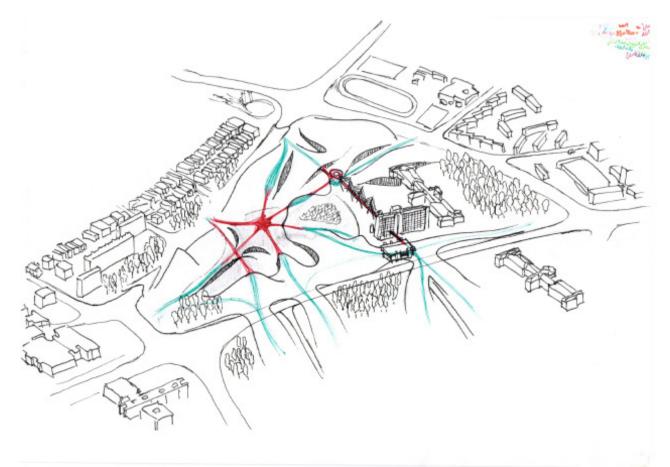


To determine which sides of "solid" parts have open façades and which critical parts touch the ground we drew this maps that shows the façades as yellow lines. The places where yellow lines are broken or non-existent are the points or areas where the roof of the structure blends with the natural ground level (left).

To make the design process more manageable we divided the work. (The division didn't lasted for long) (right).



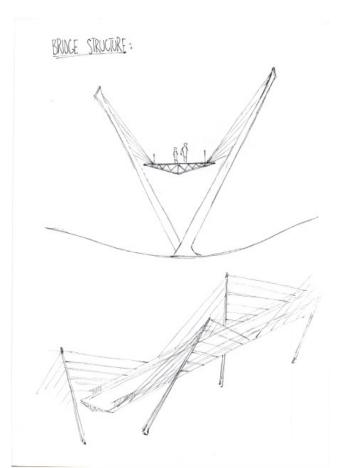




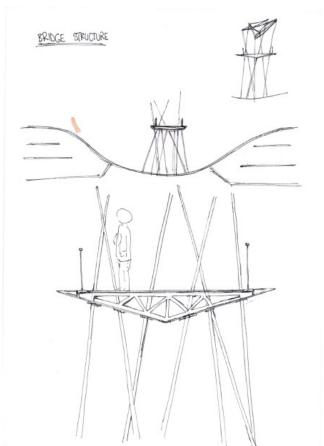
A visionary sketch that shows the relation of the structure of "solid parts", pathways and the bridges that arise from them. The quick pathways are shown in blue colour while the bridges that are extending the pathways are shown in red (left).

A sketch that shows an early concept of the bridge (right).





Exploring different structural solution for the bridges. This one was rejected as unsuitable for this project (left). Exploring different structural solution for the bridges. This one was rejected as unsuitable for this project. However the final solution has its roots in this one (right).





A sketch that shows what the eastern entrance into the area may look like (left).

A sketch that shows what the central part of the area may look like (right).

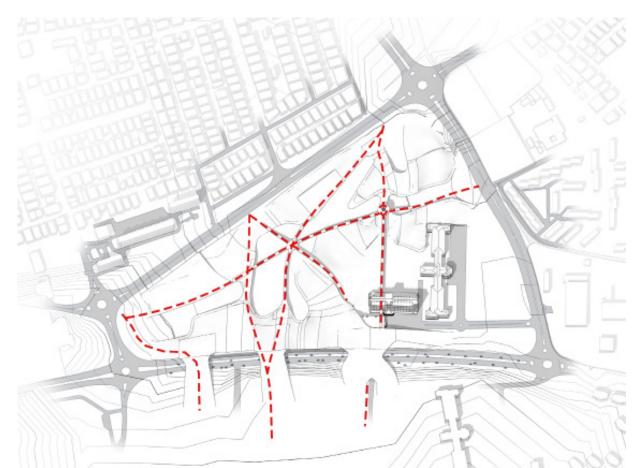


PROJECT



Comparison with Analysis





Quick Walk Routes that were one of the parameters that we based the project on. The dashed lines show the route people take when are in a hurry, commuting or are trans-passing without an intention of stopping by (left). Roaming Routes - these are some of the possible route one can take when coming there to explore the area, to relax or for his/her leisure time (right).



Gathering Places are those that we recognized in our design as open places where crowed can gather. These are the places that are most susceptible to gathering of large masses.







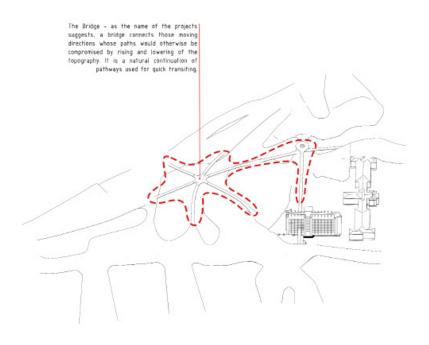
This plan shows the disposition of the activities within the project (left). This plan with attached images explains the activities further (right).



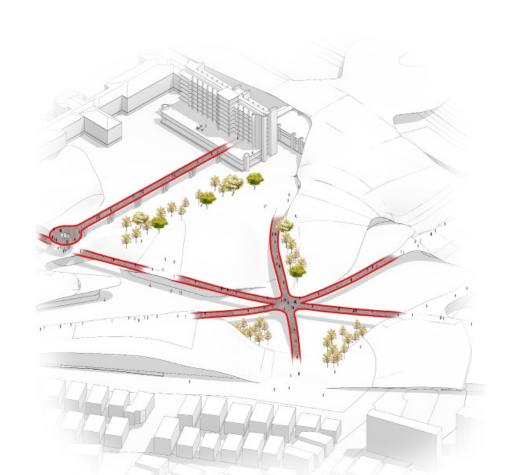
Exploring different structural solution for the bridges. This one was rejected as unsuitable for this project (left). Exploring different structural solution for the bridges. This one was rejected as unsuitable for this project. However the final solution has its roots in this one (right).

Diagrams of the individual parts

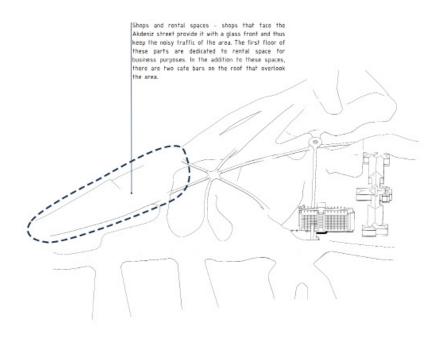




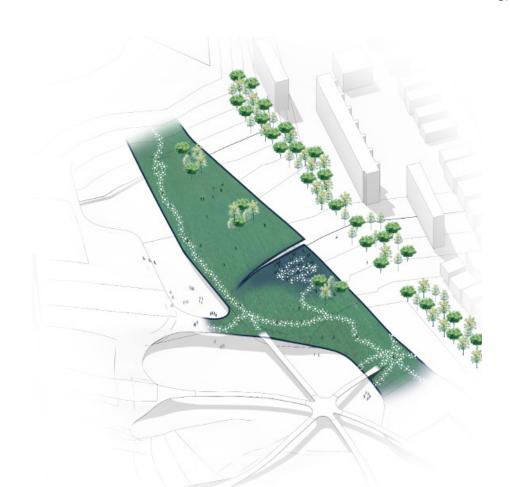
The Bridges.



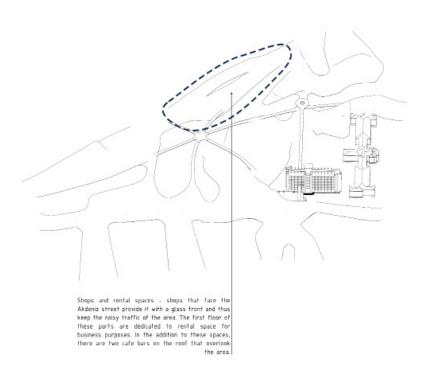




Shops and Rental Spaces.



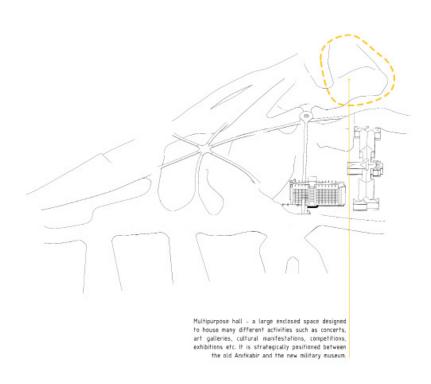




Shops and Rental Spaces.



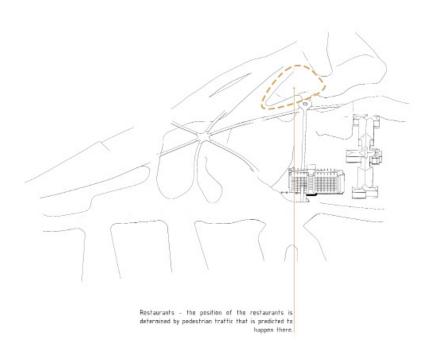




Multipurpose Hall.



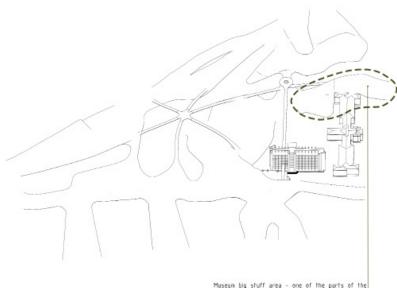




Group of Restaurants.





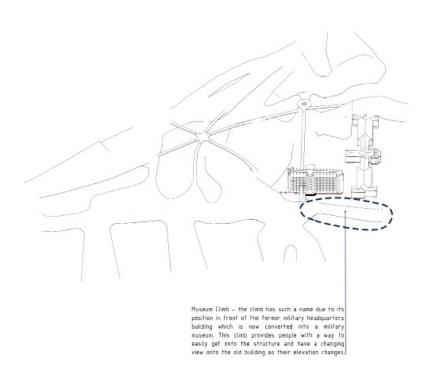


Museum big stuff area - one of the parts of the structure is dedicated to exhibiting heavy machinery and artillery that the existing buildings are not capable of housing. The part added to the existing building together with them functions as a museum of armed forces.

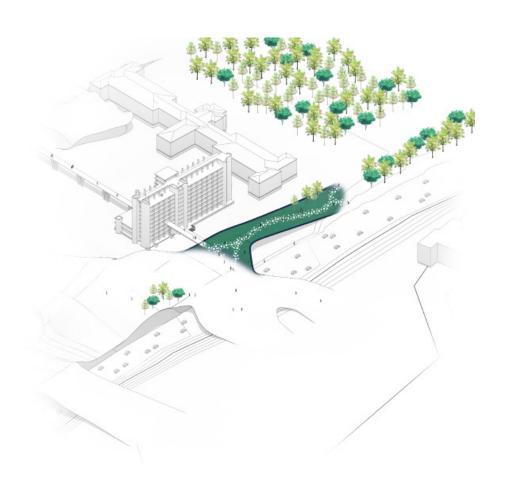
Museum Annex.



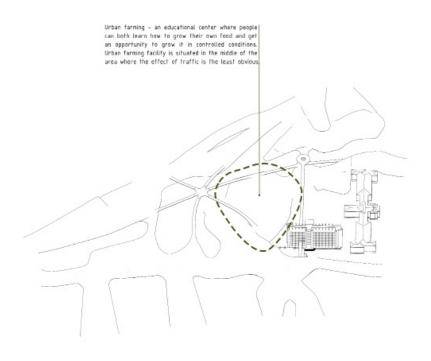




Museum Climb.



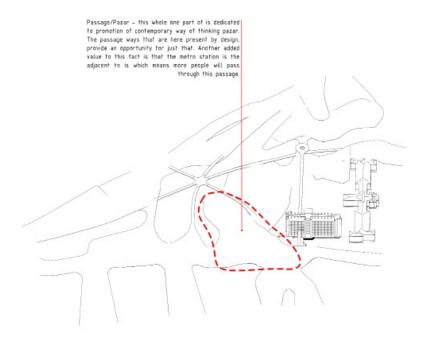




Urban Farming.



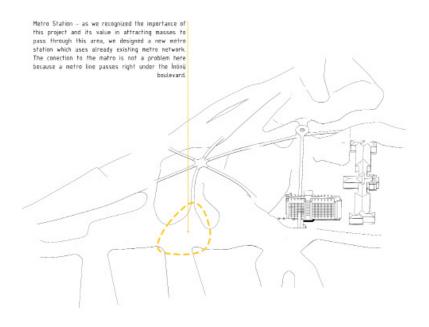




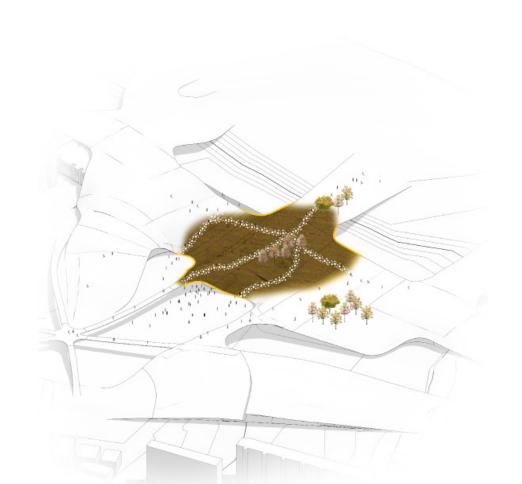
Passage/Pazar.



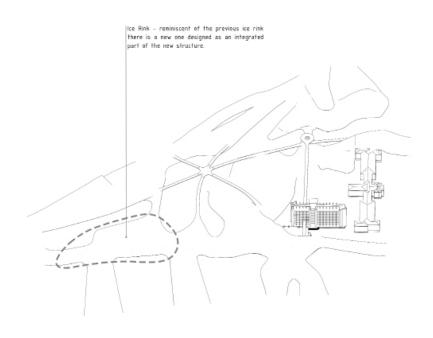




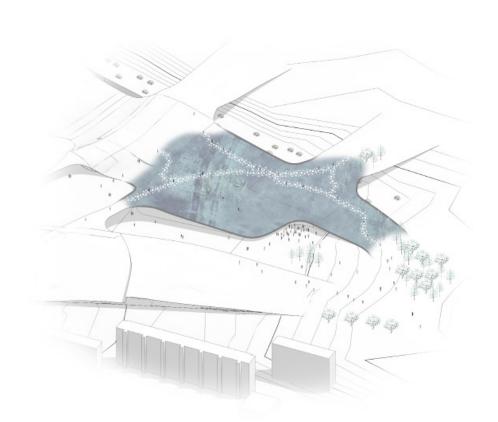
Metro Station.



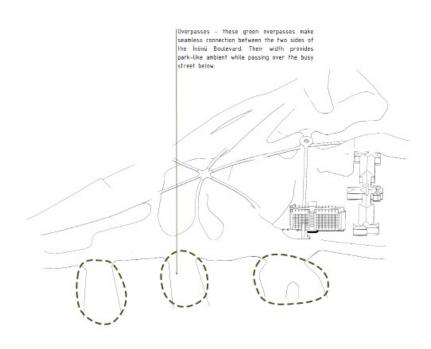




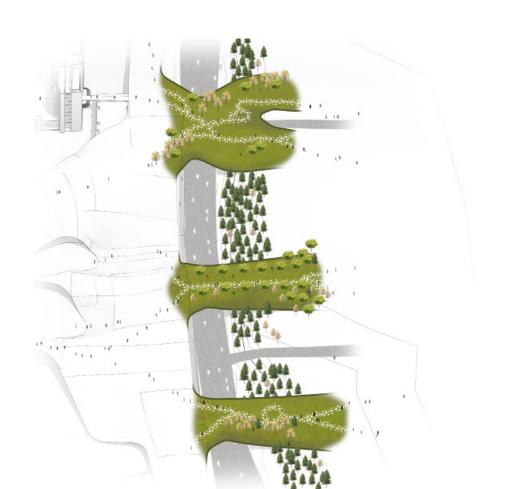
Ice Rink.







Overpasses.



Moments in the project





Main Square under the bridge and the group of restaurants in the middle of the image. To the left - Akdeniz shop, to the right - Urban Farming (left).

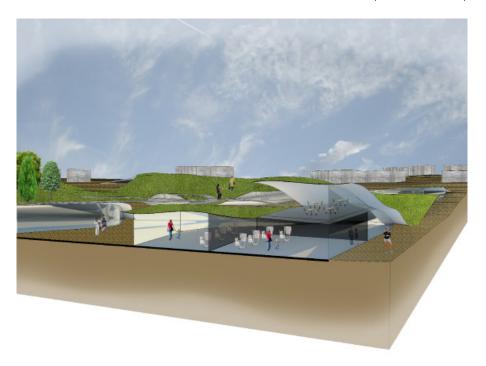
Under the Upper Bridge, open exhibition area of the museum (right).







Akdeniz Shops and Rental Spaces on the west side (left). Akdeniz Shops and Rental Spaces on the east side (right).



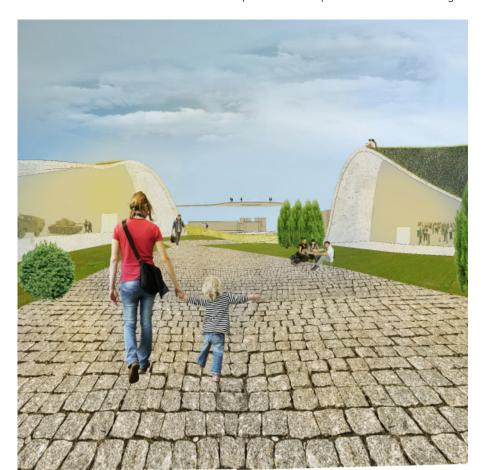




3D Section of the Multipurpose Hall (left). View through the slit in the roof of the Multipurpose Hall that opens the scene for the Anıtkabir (right).



Group of Restaurants and the Upper Bridge plaza (left). Scene a person can experience when entering the area from 84. Caddı (right).

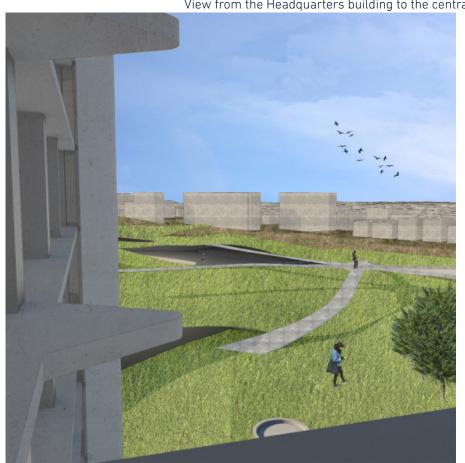






This view shows the climb in front of the museum from which people can enjoy the new "naked" appearance of the Headquarters building (left).

View from the Headquarters building to the central area of the project (right).







View form the Passage "solid" onto the Urban Farming" (left).

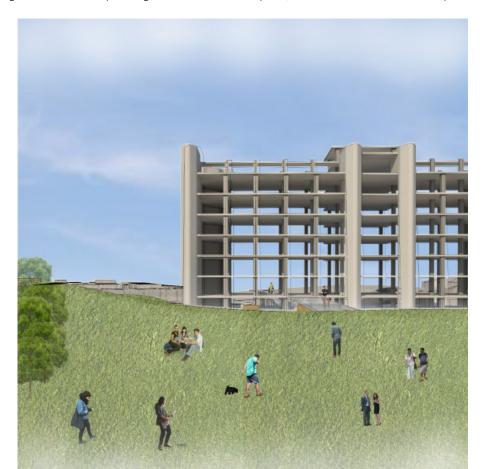
Reception square of the Ice Rink (right).







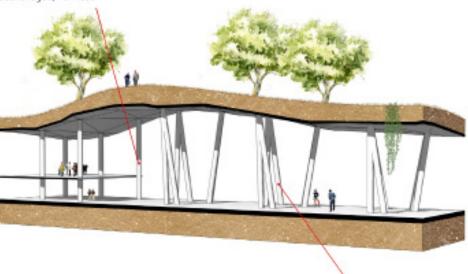
View onto the Ice Rink "solid" part from the central square (left). Coming from the south passing western most overpass, one can encounter a Headquarters museum building (right).



Structural System/Türkçe

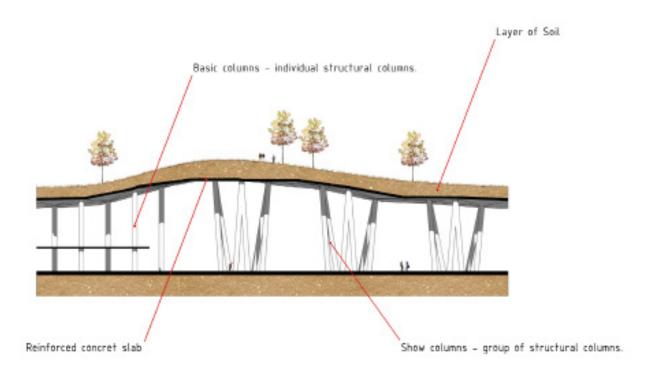
Group of Restaurants and the Upper Bridge plaza (left). Scene a person can experience when entering the area from 84. Caddı (right).

Basic columns - individual structural columns used in non-representative spaces. These are regular load-bearing columns 100cm in diameter. Spaces between 11 and 13 meters appart they can be found in secundary places such as sorage rooms, backstages, offices etc.



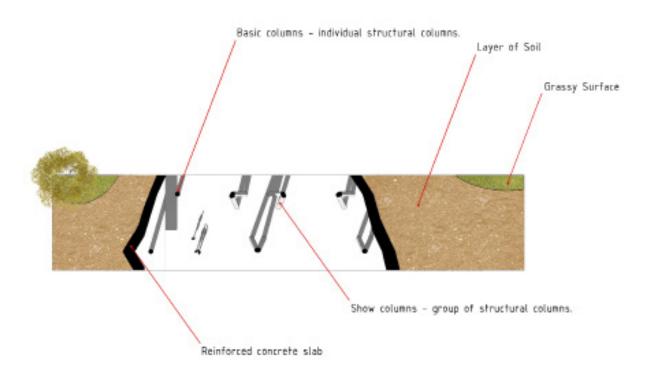
Show columns - group of structural columns used in representative spaces, as in entrences of major activity centers.



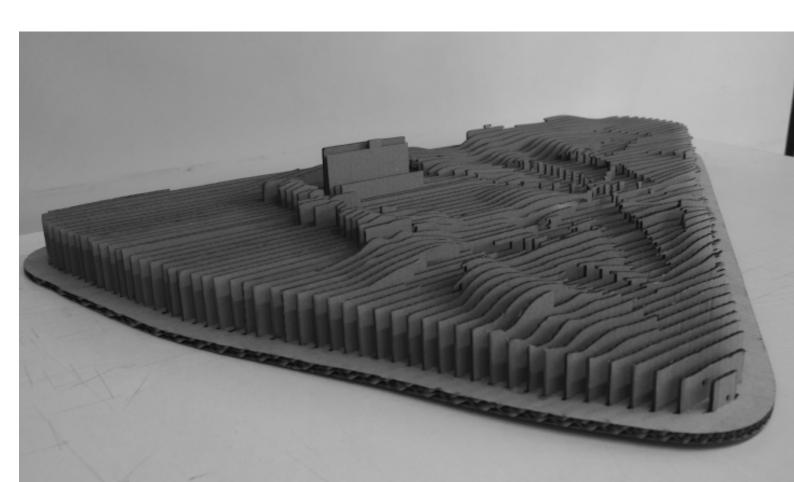


This view shows the climb in front of the museum from which people can enjoy the new "naked" appearance of the Headquarters building (left).

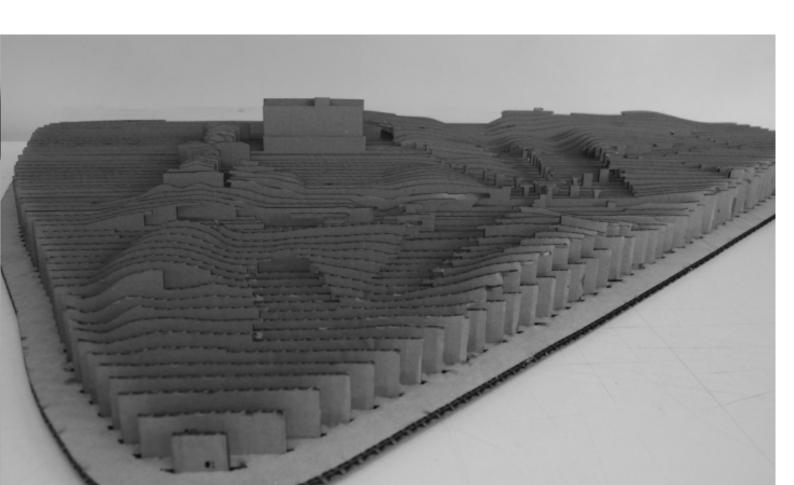
View from the Headquarters building to the central area of the project (right).







Bridging the City - PHYSICAL MODEL



Bridging the City - PHYSICAL MODEL

