

Contemporary Lifestyle Complex

Ramzi Bou Ghanem - Design X - Final Year Project - LAU Byblos

Master Plan

Scale 1/1000



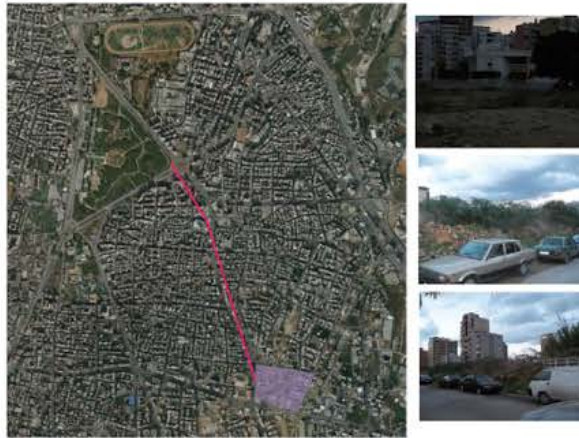
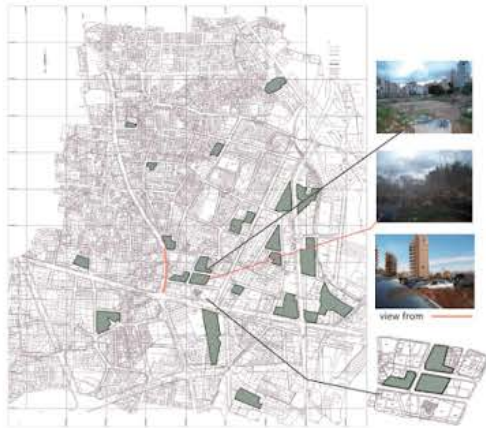
Existing Functions Demolishing New Grid

Residential Offices Church Municipality Warehouse

The Beirut Suburb seems to be caught somewhere between the urban and the rural. Being distinct and separate from the city, it is characterized as a suburb. Beirut's Suburbs are regarded as potentially alarming, unknowable and chaotic. A glance at the suburbs gives the impression that nothing is placed where it is supposed to be. The observer is immediately struck by the lack of planning, zoning, a center to the town, straight trees and standardized buildings. Apartment buildings of various sizes and indistinct style block the horizon.

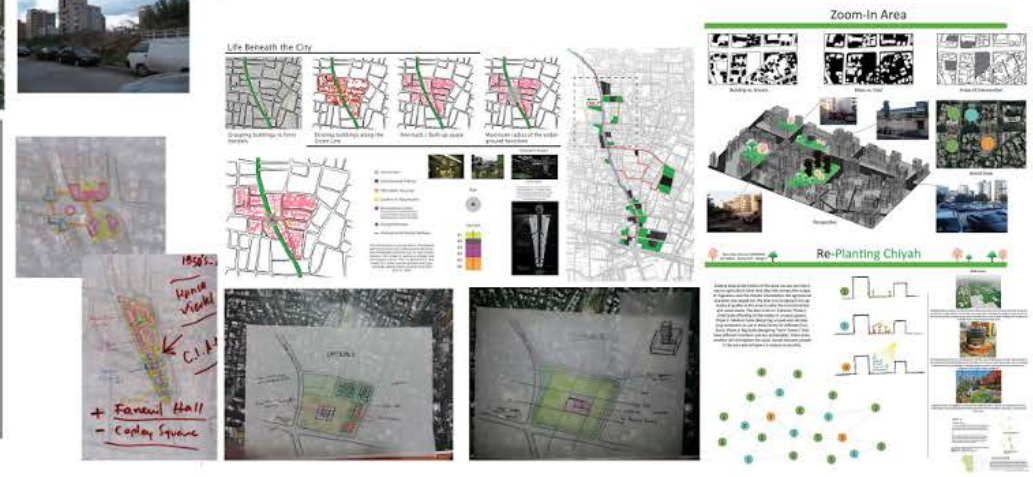
The consecutive surges in migration altered the sectarian makeup of the suburbs, transforming it into an area dominated by the Shi'i. Chiyah had a majority of Maronites compared to Shi'as until the latter flooded to the area in large numbers, while the Christian Maronites migrated abroad. The Green Line stretching from the Tayouneh roundabout to the Mar. Michael Intersection is a major boundary, dividing between East and West.

The Green Line, or as referred to as the Old Saïda Road, is still a major edge. It is a boundary dividing both areas; A psychological barrier which is justified and emphasized by physical elements like the presence of military barricades at every intersection of the Old Saïda Road, to the East



My Intervention Undesigned Buildings Existing Buildings

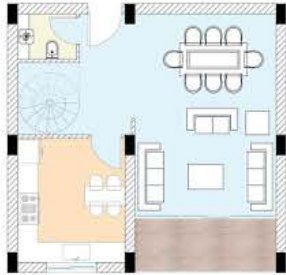
Process/Progress



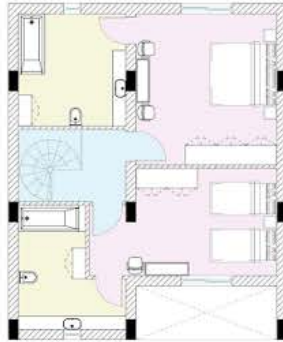
Contemporary Lifestyle Complex

Housing Types

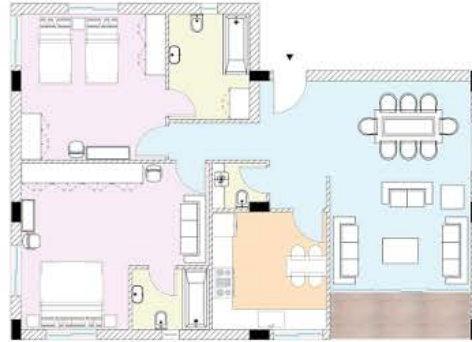
Type 1 118 m²
First Floor



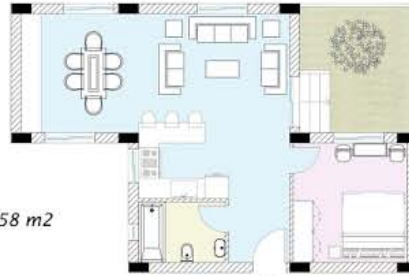
Second Floor



Type 2 108 m²



Scale 1/20



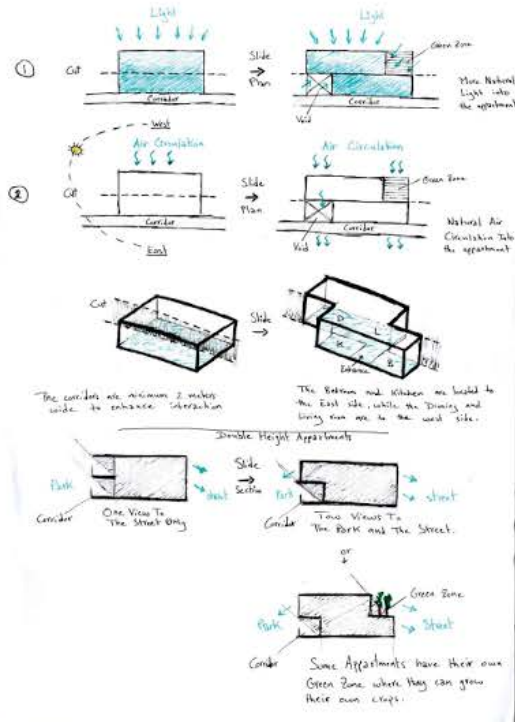
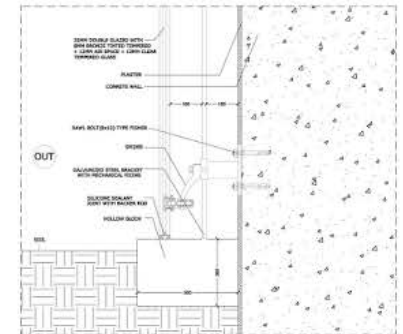
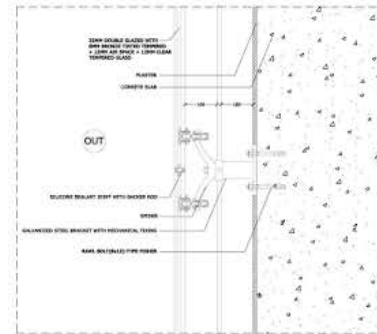
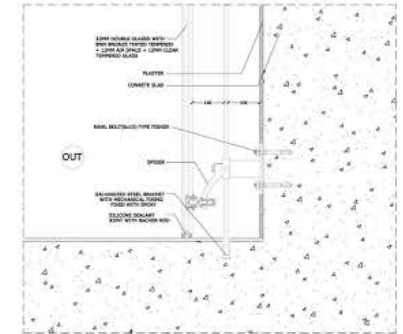
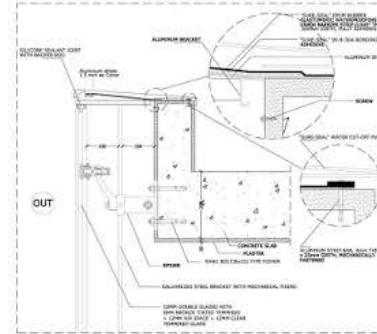
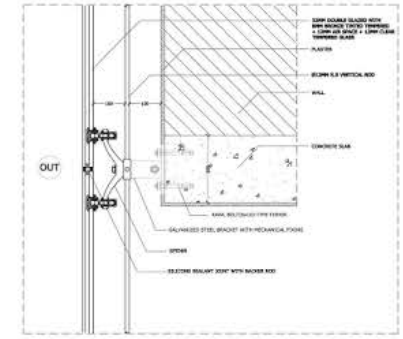
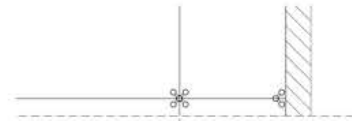
Type 3 58 m²

A city block is the smallest area that is surrounded by streets. City blocks are the space for buildings within the street pattern of a city, and form the basic unit of a city's urban fabric. Many pre-industrial cores of cities in Europe, Asia and the Middle-east tend to have irregularly shaped street patterns and urban blocks because they have grown by accretion over time rather than being planned from the outset, while cities based on grids have much more regular arrangements. City blocks are developed so that buildings are located along the perimeter of the block, with entrances facing the street, and semi-private courtyards in the rear of the buildings. This arrangement is intended to provide good social interaction among people. A superblock is much larger than a traditional city block, with greater setback for buildings, and is typically bounded by widely spaced, high-speed, arterial or circulating routes rather than by local streets. Superblocks are often found in suburbs, planned cities, or are the result of urban renewal of the mid-20th century. Our experiment with this project of low-cost residences was to provide the maximum amount of space, flexibility and quality to the residences, and to erase the tension that is there between East and West. A public library, a café, and a gym with roof gardens are introduced to the project to allow more interaction and keep the place breathing. 61 apartments of different types are built-in, where 27 are for bachelor pads (students and workers) and 34 (of which 30 are duplexes and 4 simplexes) are for families. The two types are separated in different buildings because they have different life styles. The buildings create semi private court yards that help in greening the area and containing allowing different functions to occur (children's park, basketball court, and outdoor sitting areas).

The apartments are designed according to the views, sunlight, and air circulation which help in making the project a low cost sustainable one. A 30 cm double wall depth shades out the summer sun while allowing the low angled winter sun to help heat the building.



Curtain Glass Detail

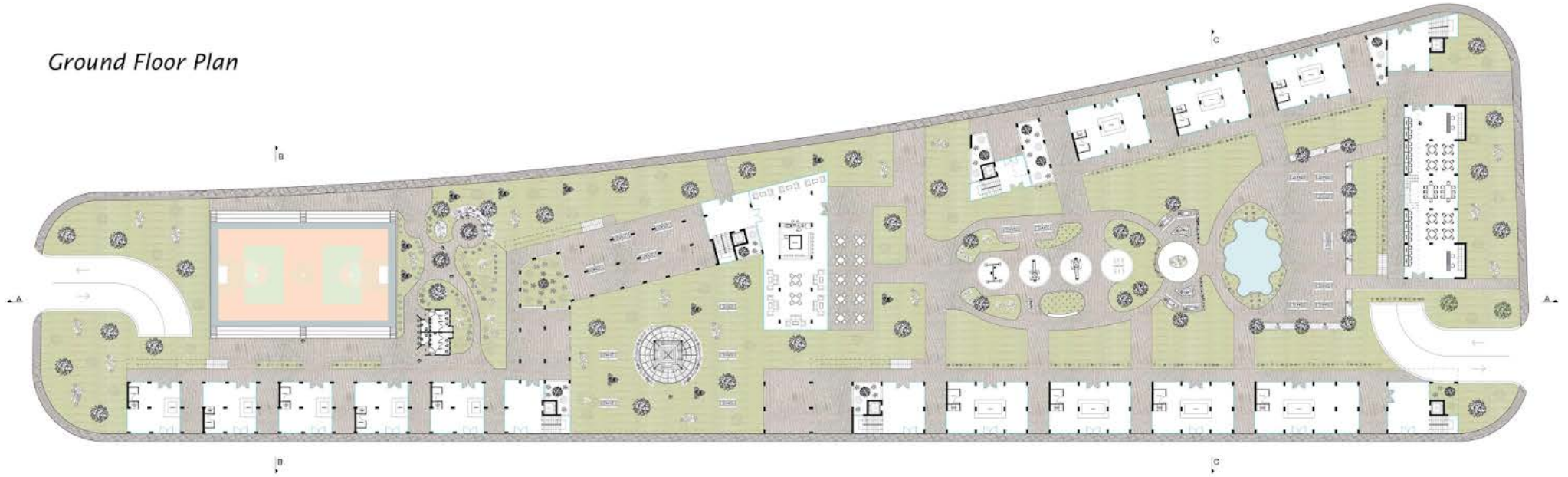


Contemporary Lifestyle Complex

Scale 1/200



Ground Floor Plan



East Elevation



Section AA



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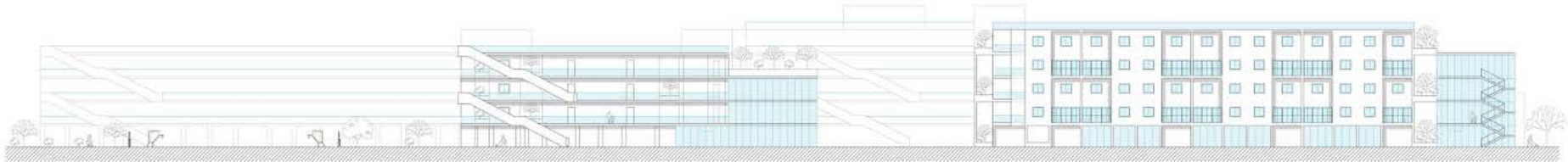
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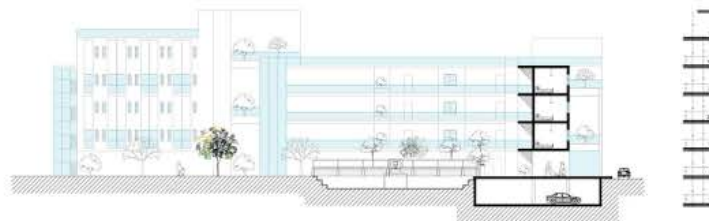
First Floor Plan



South Elevation



Section BB



Perspectives

