Lacquer Cultural Art Center Instructor Susan Conger-Austin Student Chung Thuy Nguyen







Lacquer

1570s as "dye obtained from lac;" 1670s as "lacquer," from Fr. lacre name for a kind of sealing wax, from Port. lacre, unexplained variant of lacca "resinous substance," from Arabic lakk, from Pers. lak. The verb meaning "to cover or coat with laqueur" is from 1680s. Related: Lacquered

Stone inlaid with egg shell





Lacquer painting on calabash





Pumice lacquered stone







Stone inlaid with pearl shell



Stone with lacquer painting



Painting on eggshell inlaid stone









Prepare the board

Prepare a board of plywood (variety of sizes) -> polish the surface of the board.

First one layer of lacquer is applied to a board of plywood and wait for it to dry -> to flatten the surface

Next, thin cotton cloths soaked in clay are attached to both sides of the plywood -> After the cotton/clay mixture dries, the board will be smoothed and polished (The process is repeated five times)

Layers of black lacquer are then applied, and the board is left to dry and is then polished (Thus the final product appears as a piece of black board, very smooth and durable + It may warp slightly due to these changes, but it is quite easy to straighten it again, as it remains flexible)









Sketching + Prepare Eggshell

Prepare the drawing on tracing paper

Put a layer of chalk dust between the surface of the board and the sketching, and then use a hard pen to print the sketch drawing onto the surface of the board

Prepare the eggshells or pearl shells. Eggs from ducks have better structure than eggs from hen Use lacquer glue to attach many small pieces of egg shells to the surface of the wood board



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Pearl shell preparing process

Use tracing paper to redraw the pattern on the surface of the shell Meticulously saw the pattern out from the shell Flatten the shells one more time before attaching them to the board



The lacquer and its colors

Lacquer is a clear sap coming from any of six species of trees growing in Vietnam. Lacquer is harvested in the same way as rubber or resin, by making an incision and letting the sap flow

Fresh lacquer is whitish but turns brown when exposed to the air. Black lacquer stems from the chemical reaction of stirring lacquer with an iron rod over a period of several days

Lacquer will be mixed with various natural or artificial dyes to produce the colours the artists want

Several shades of red color are extracted from a naturally occurring red mineral or cinnabar whereas white color is produced from eggshell. Eggs from ducks have better structure than eggs from hen. The eggshells are cleaned and sometimes even burned to obtain a brownish tinge. The other bright colours come from artificial dyes.



Other Materials

Several other materials may be used to make lacquer-paintings, i.e. egg shells, sand, clay, gold leaf and silver leaf. Silver is used below the layers of colours to create an effect of immense luster, whereas gold leaf is often applied as the final layer







Applying Colors and Polishing

After eggshell or pearlshell is attached to the surface of the board, the surface is then made smooth. Clear lacquer is applied and left to dry, and the pattern is polished

Next, a basic layer of colour is applied to the board and left to dry. Then silver leaf is stuck to the lacquer and clear lacquer is applied to cover the leaves. Now new layers of coloured lacquer are applied with a brush, each with a different colour, and in between clear lacquer is applied Altogether, the artist may use up to ten layers of coloured and clear lacquer, and between each layer, the board is left to dry and afterwards smoothed and polished







Finishing

The most important part of the process takes place after the final layer has been applied. Then the artist rubs and polishes different parts of the painting until the preferred colours are obtained. Since different colours are located in different layers, the rubbing must be done with great care, using fine sandpaper and a mix of charcoal powder

The artist must remember in which layer is what colour. A specific colour nuance can be made by carefully rubbing the interface between two layers of colour.





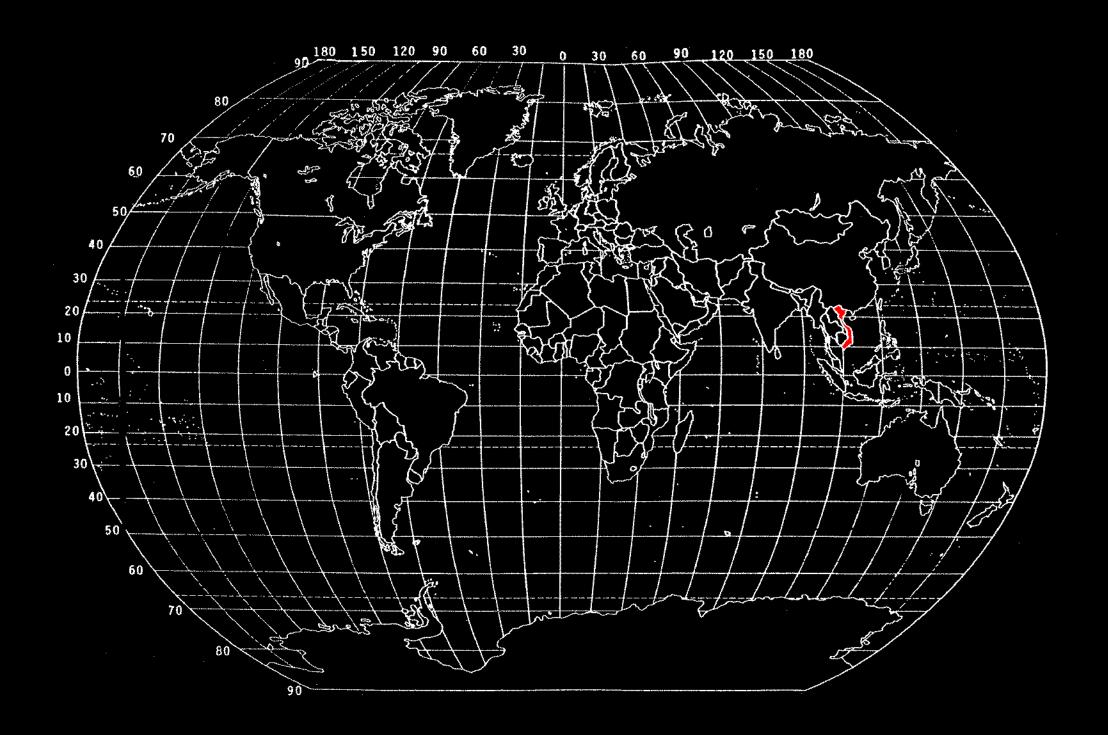
In early 18th century, the people in traditional lacquer trade migrated to Thu Dau Mot Town from the North, the Central and set up a village. After their life was rather stable, they made first lacquer paintings to commemorate Homeland. Those lacquer paintings were known and bought by the rich in the village. Since then there was more and more demand for this product and households gradually specialized in lacquer trade to set up the Lacquer Village. Up until now, in the lacquer village people from young to old are all craftsmen. Most of the families here have been lived by the traditional crafts for many generations. The technique how to make a fine lacquer painting descend from father to son, from old to young throug everyday practice.

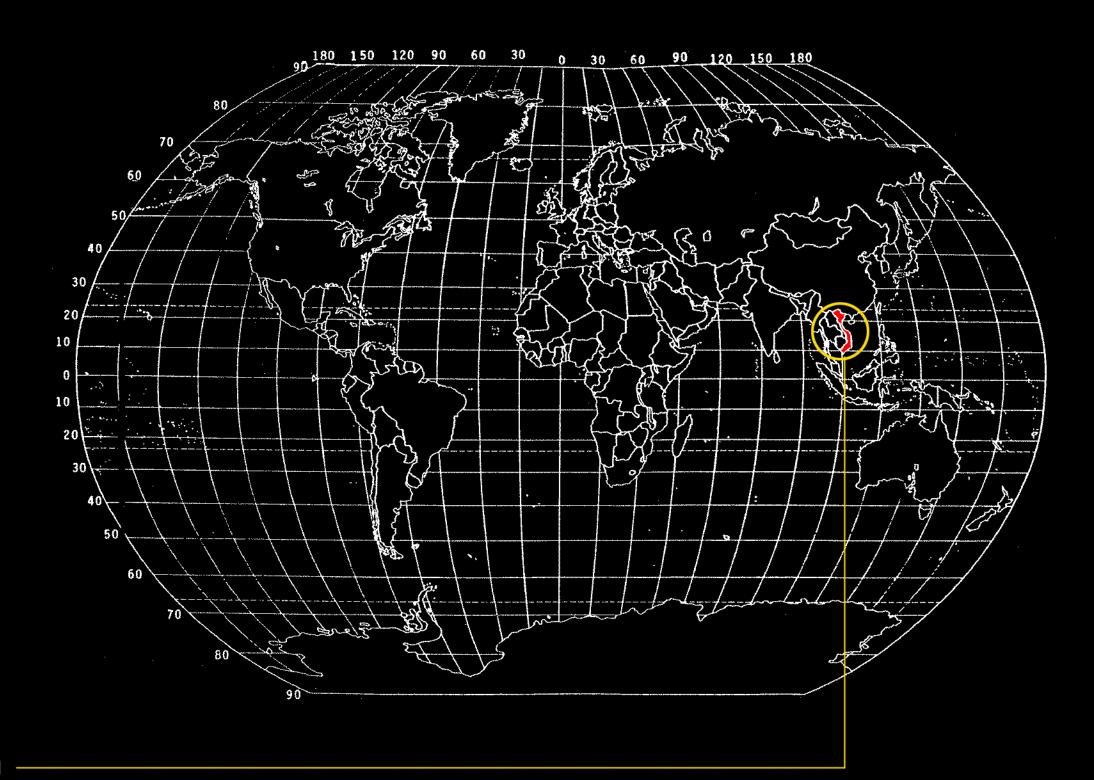
Nowadays, due to the fast development and the explosion of population of the old town, it is required to be expanded. The strategy for upgrading the city is planned. However, instead of expanding the old city, a new city, which will be built nearby, is proposed and is approved. To preserve and develop one of many oldest cultural characteristics of the old town, a traditional lacquer center is proposed to be built in the new city.

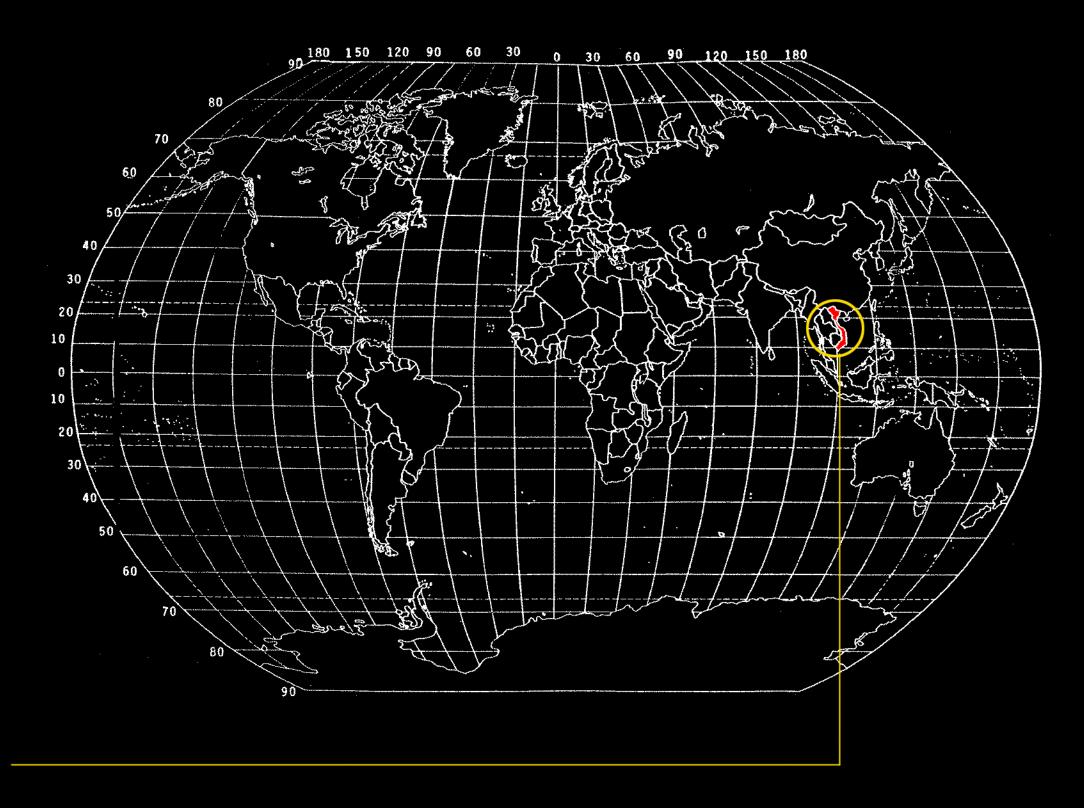
Lacquer Craftmen Life + Goals The goal of the project is not only raising the value of lacquer paintings but also improving the living standard of craftsmen. Currently, lacquer painting does not have a center market. After finishing a lacquer painting, a craftsman himself has to find a place to sell it and that place can be anywhere. The painting is not really treated as an art but like a very normal good. The project will create a place for people to practice lacquer painting, a place where children will be educated about the traditional art, a place where

will hold many competitions for professional craftsmen and for non-professional customers who interested in it. The building will also be the center

point to create a link from the new city to the old village. From here, a daily bus tour to the old village will be hold.







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- Area: 332,000 square km
- Population: 86 million people (2009)
- Capital City: Hanoi
- Largest City: Ho Chi Minh
- There are 54 ethnic minority groups throughout the country, but the Kinh are purveyors of the dominant culture



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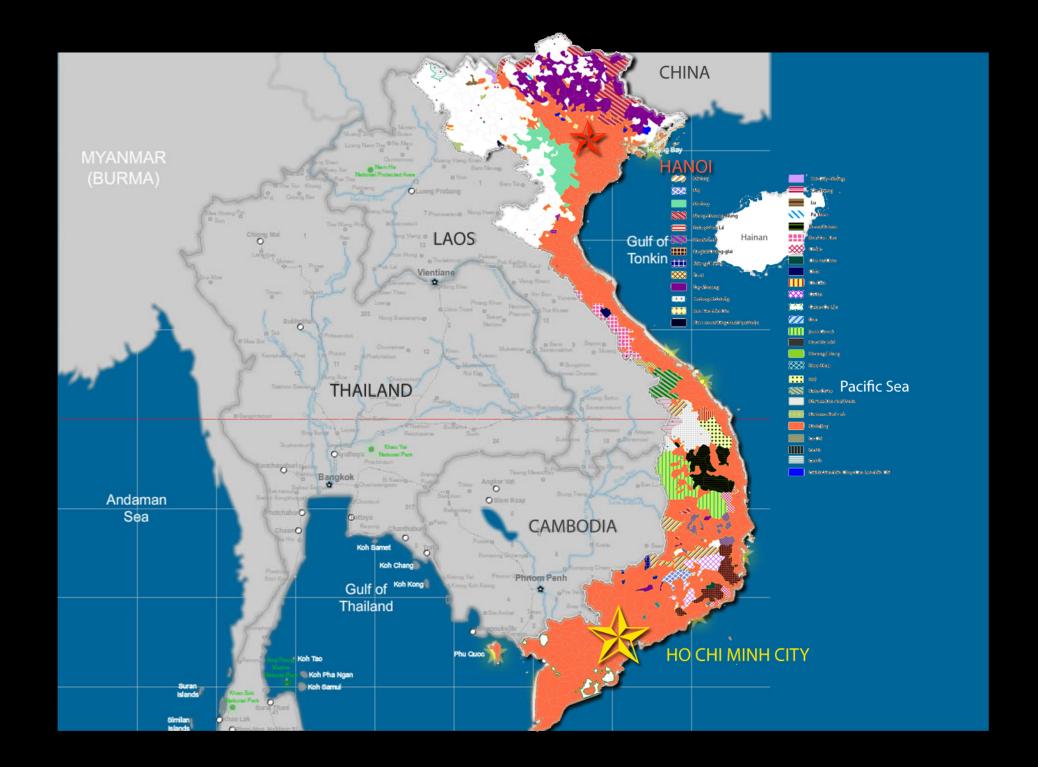
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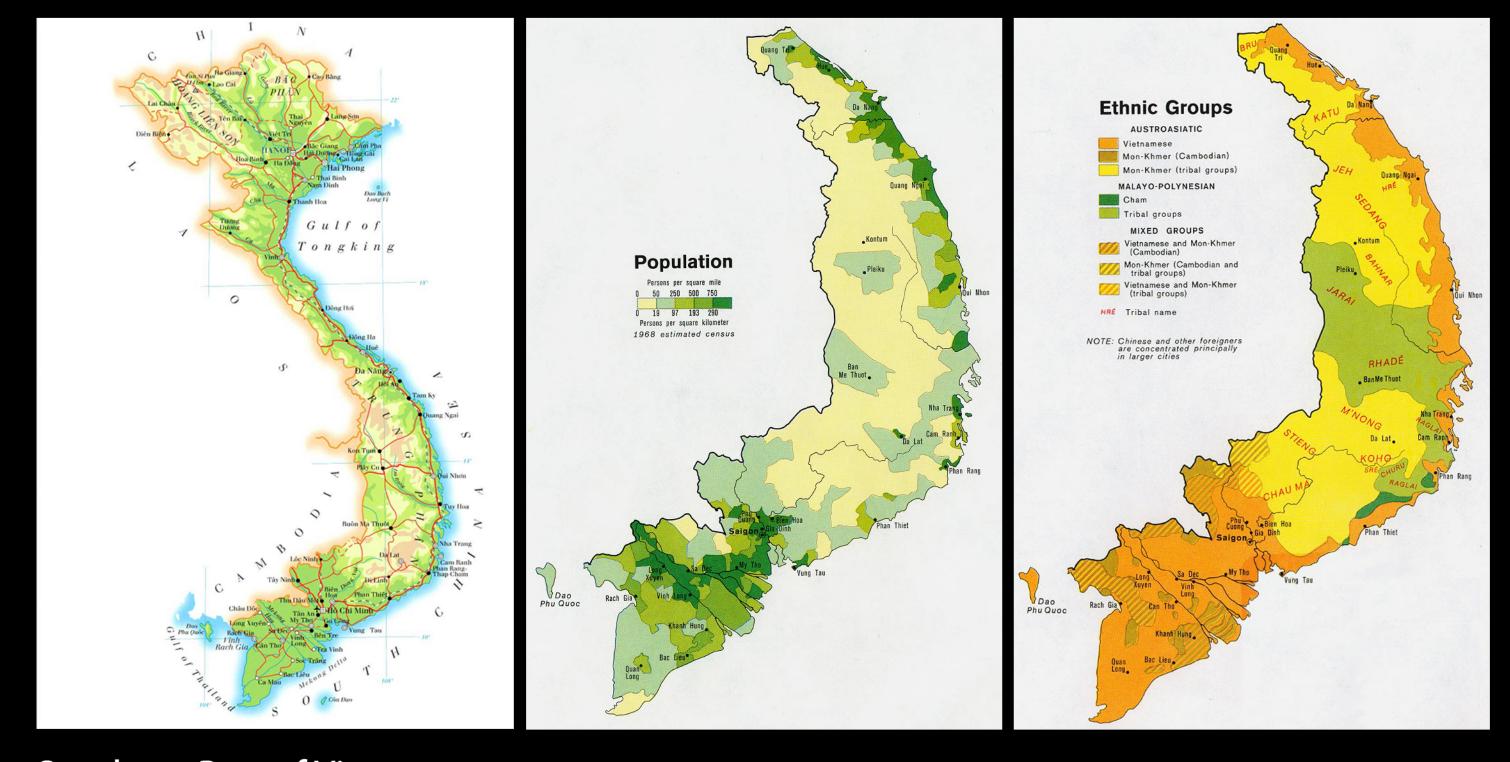
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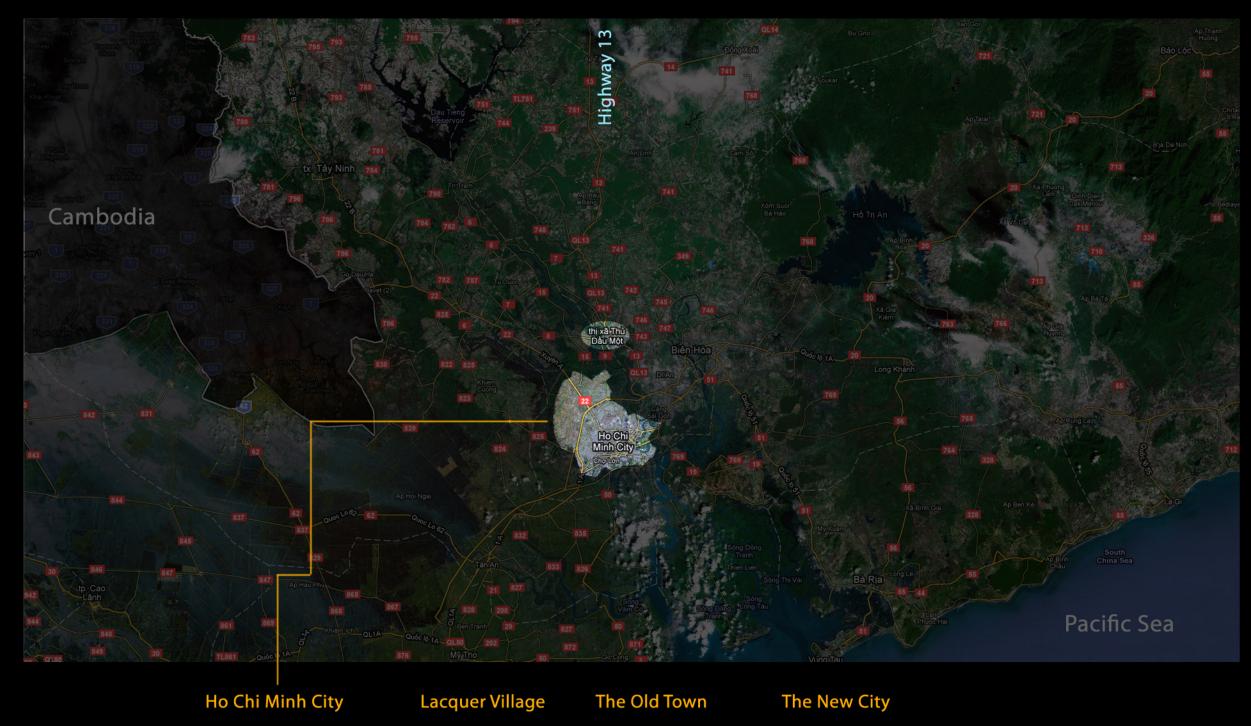


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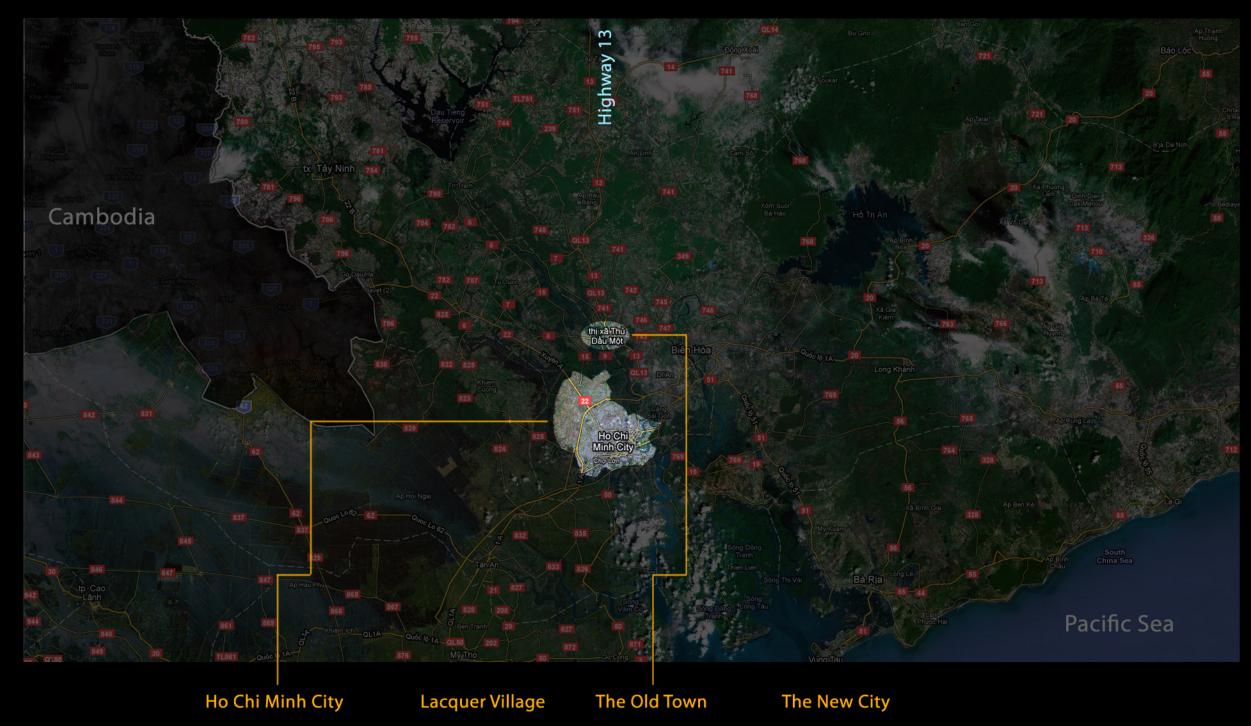
The old town (Thu Dau Mot): - Area of 88 km²

- Population 158,000 (2003)

- Located 30 km north of Ho Chi Minh City, on the left bank of the Saigon River.

Lacquer VIIIage (Tuong Binh Hiep): - Located 7km to the north of the old town

- National well-known for many centuries as the cradle of local lacquer industry.



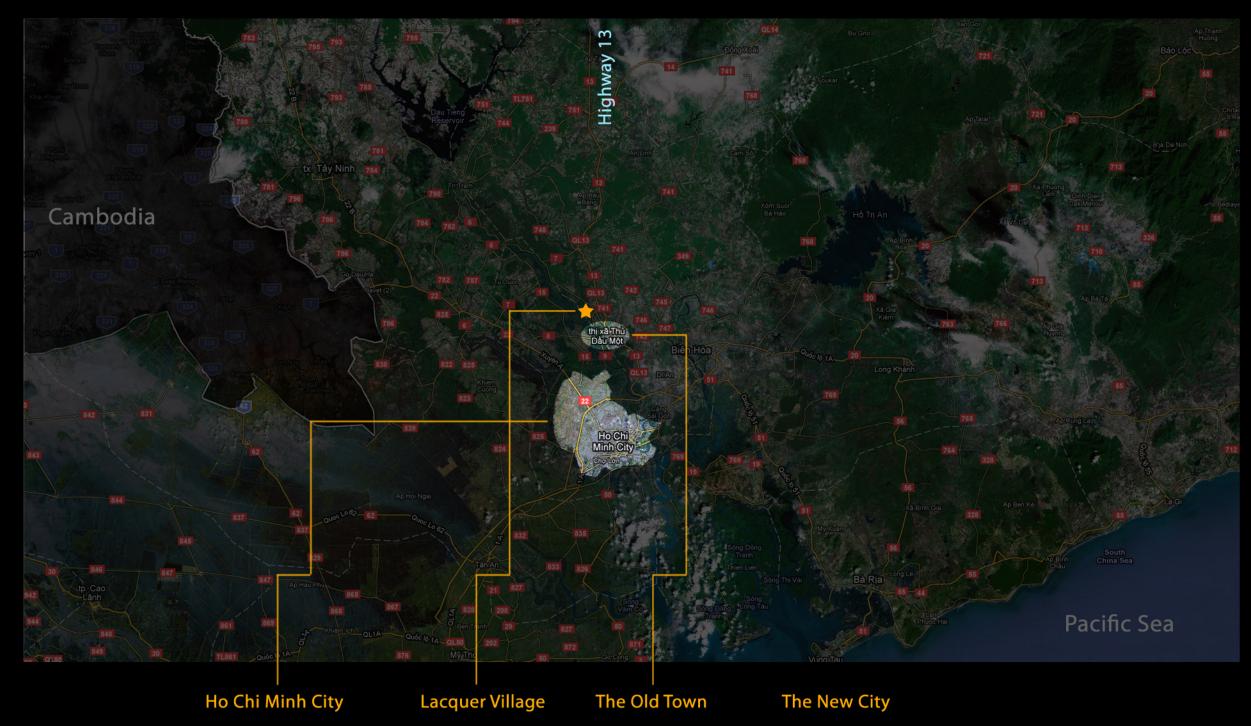
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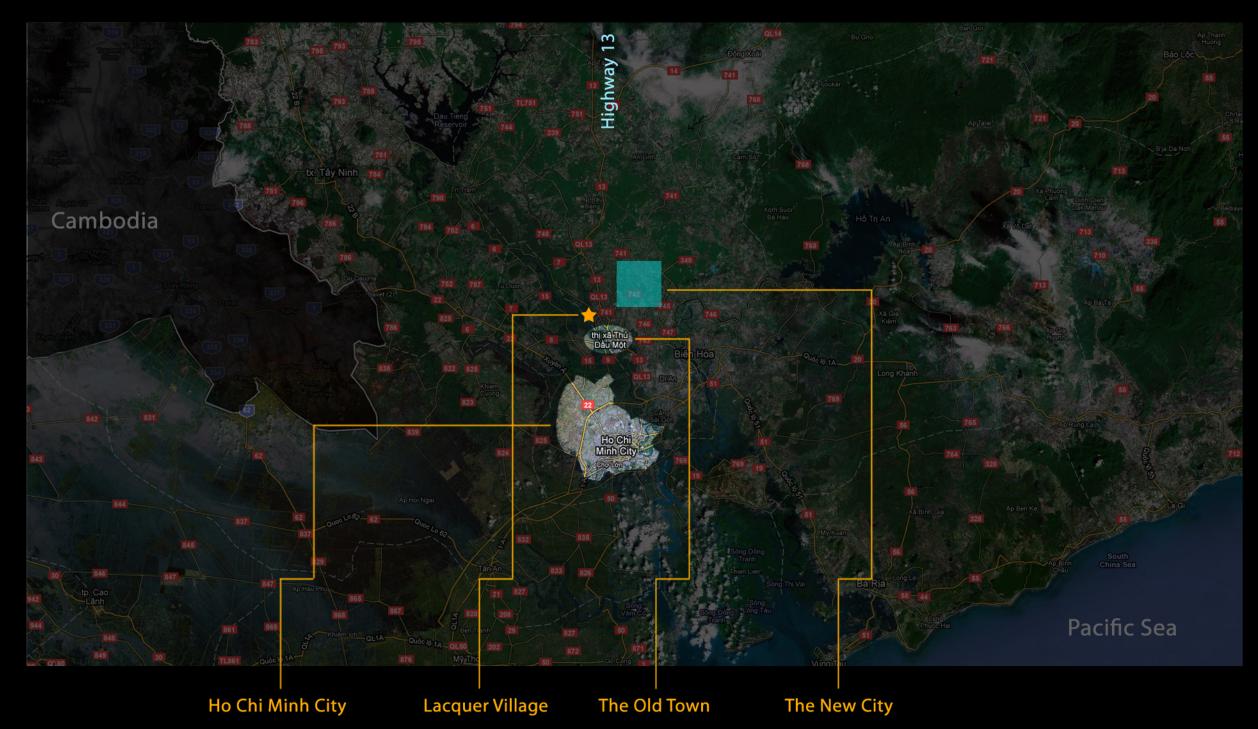
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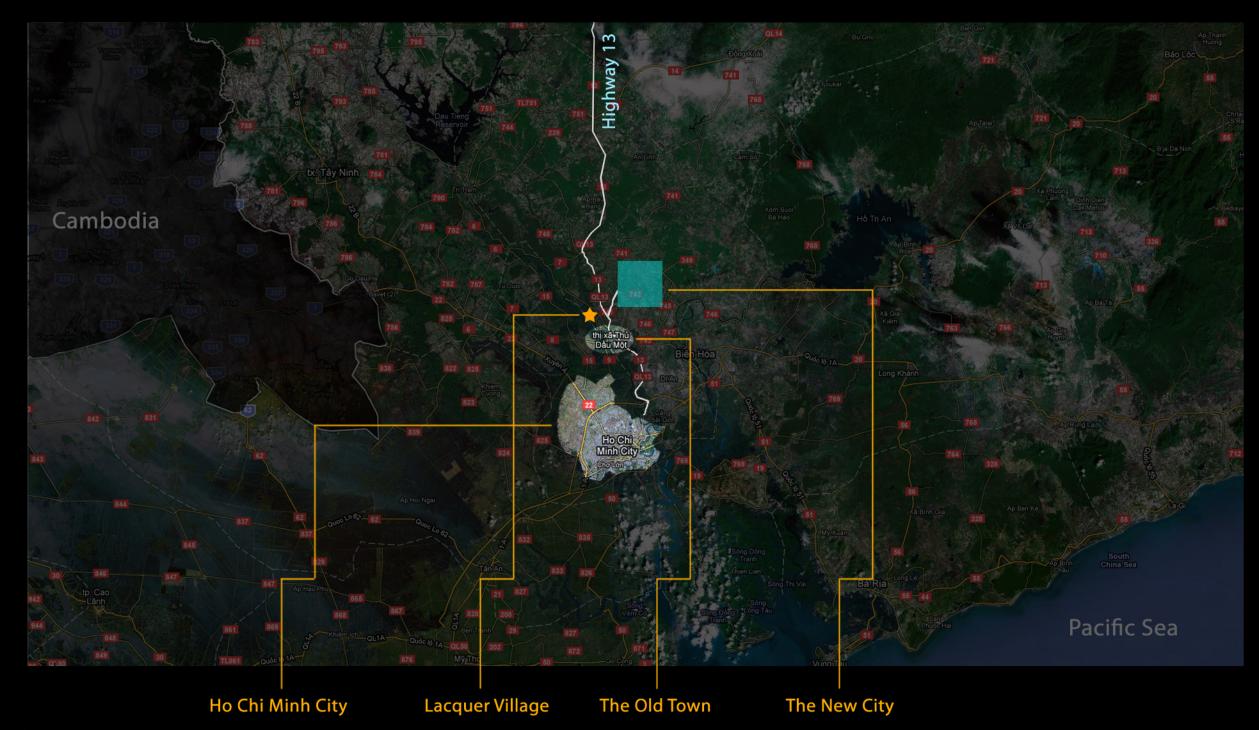
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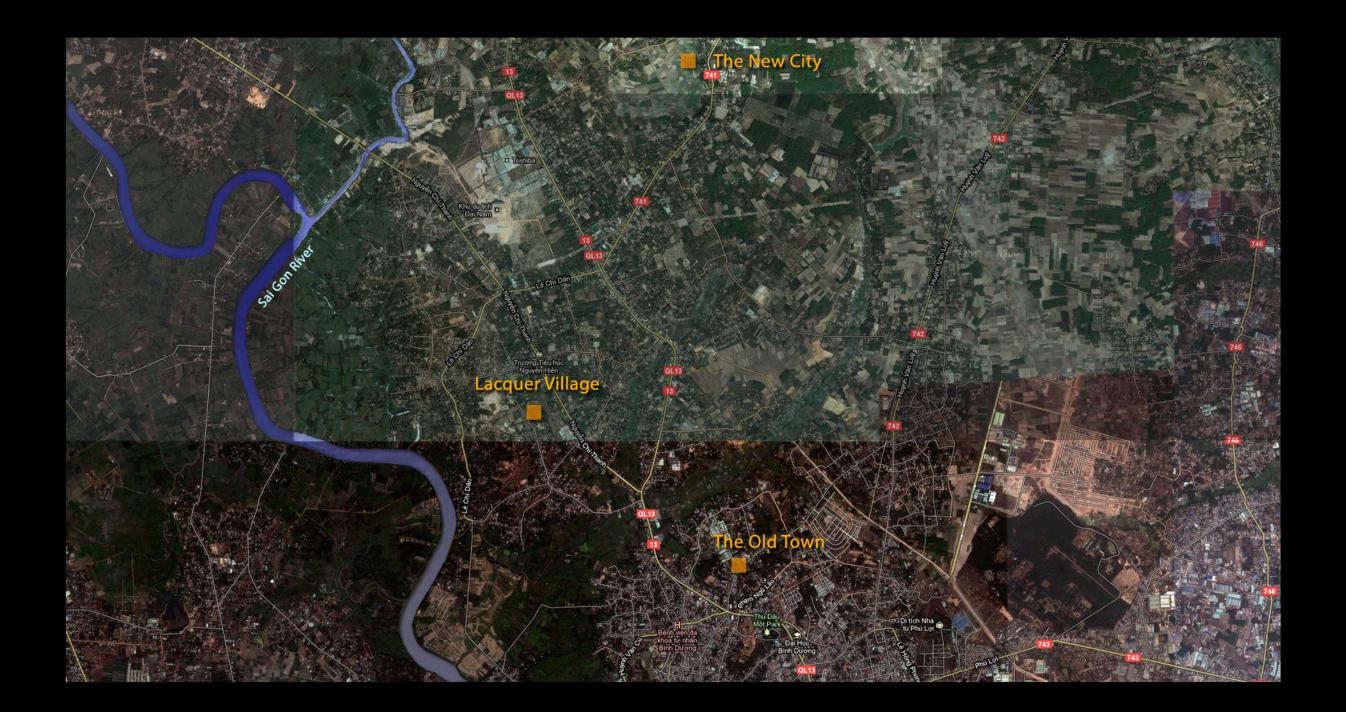
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 - The lacquer village connects to the central town by highway 13



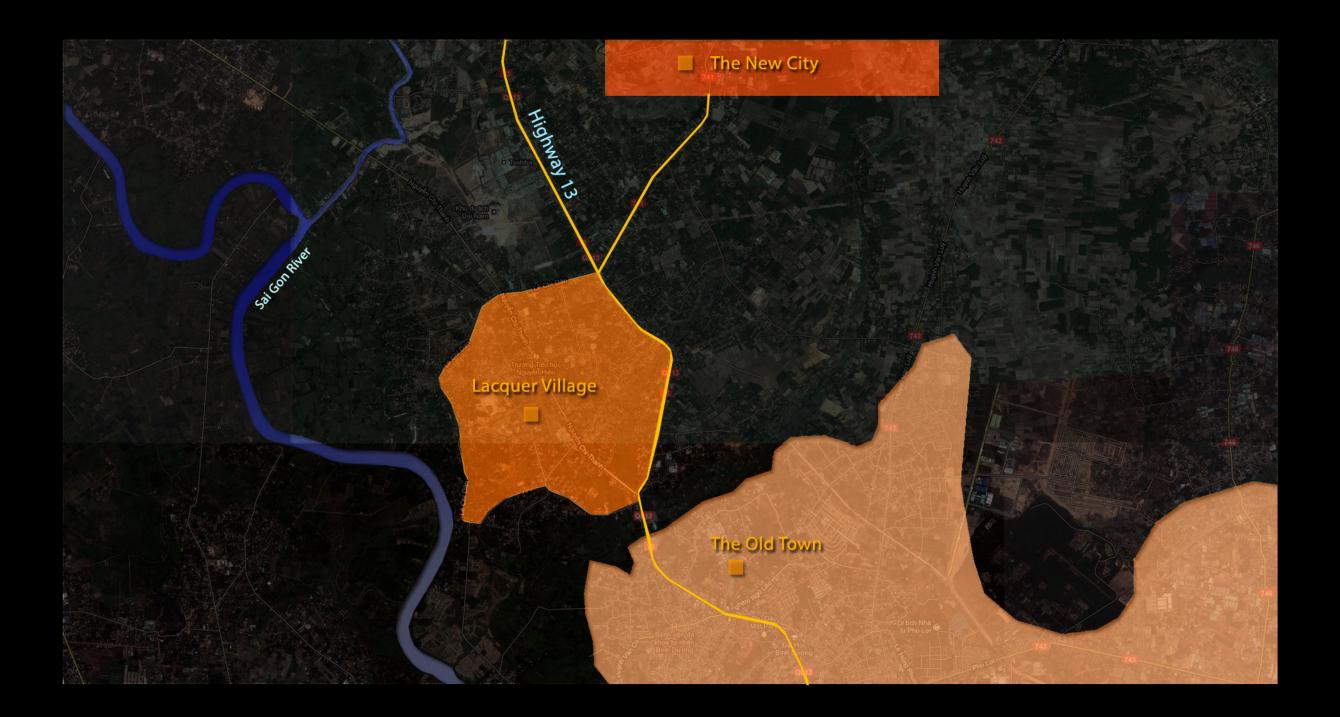
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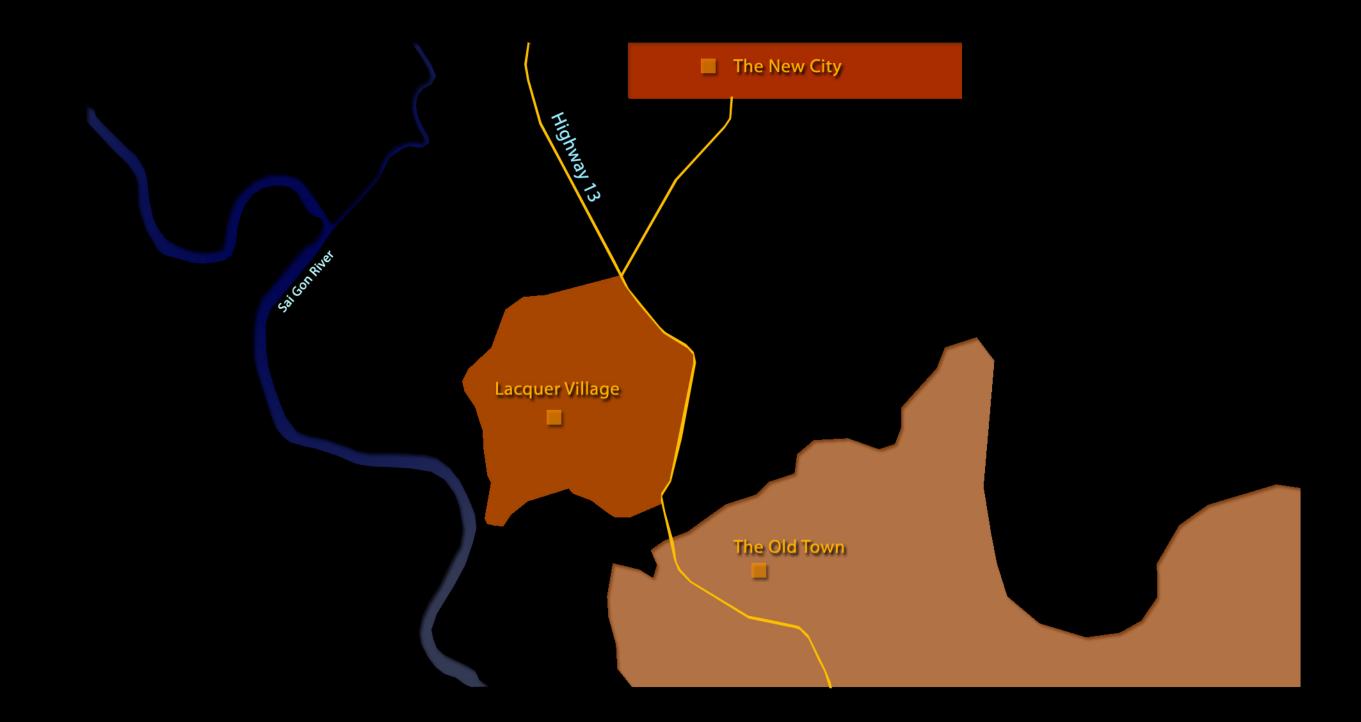
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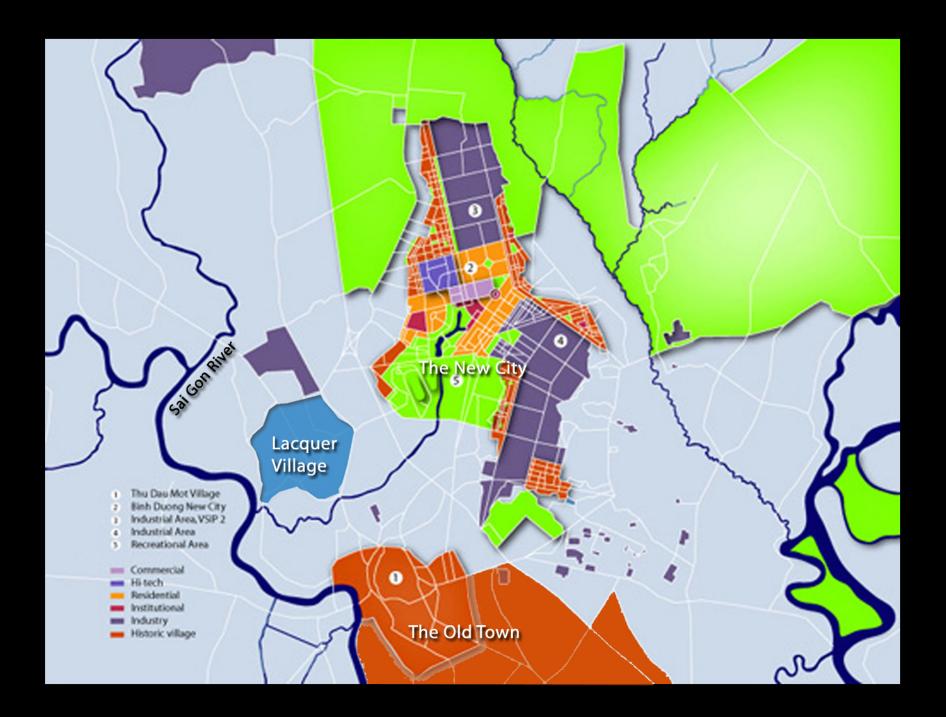
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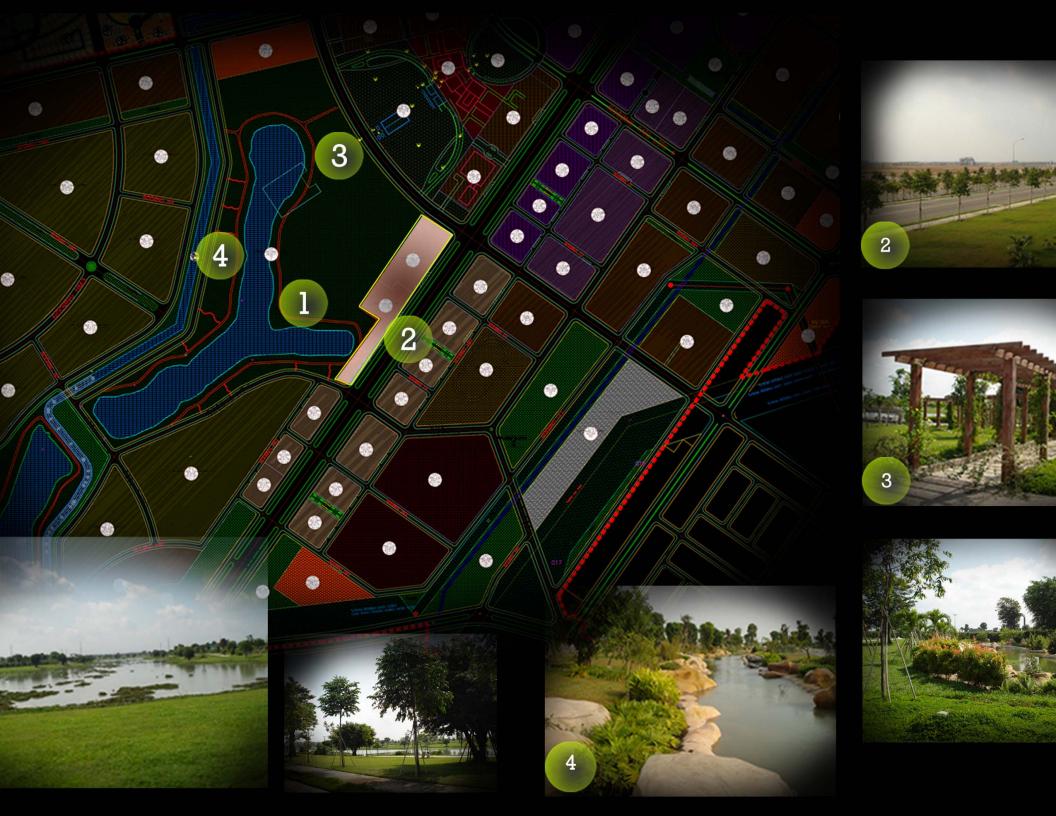
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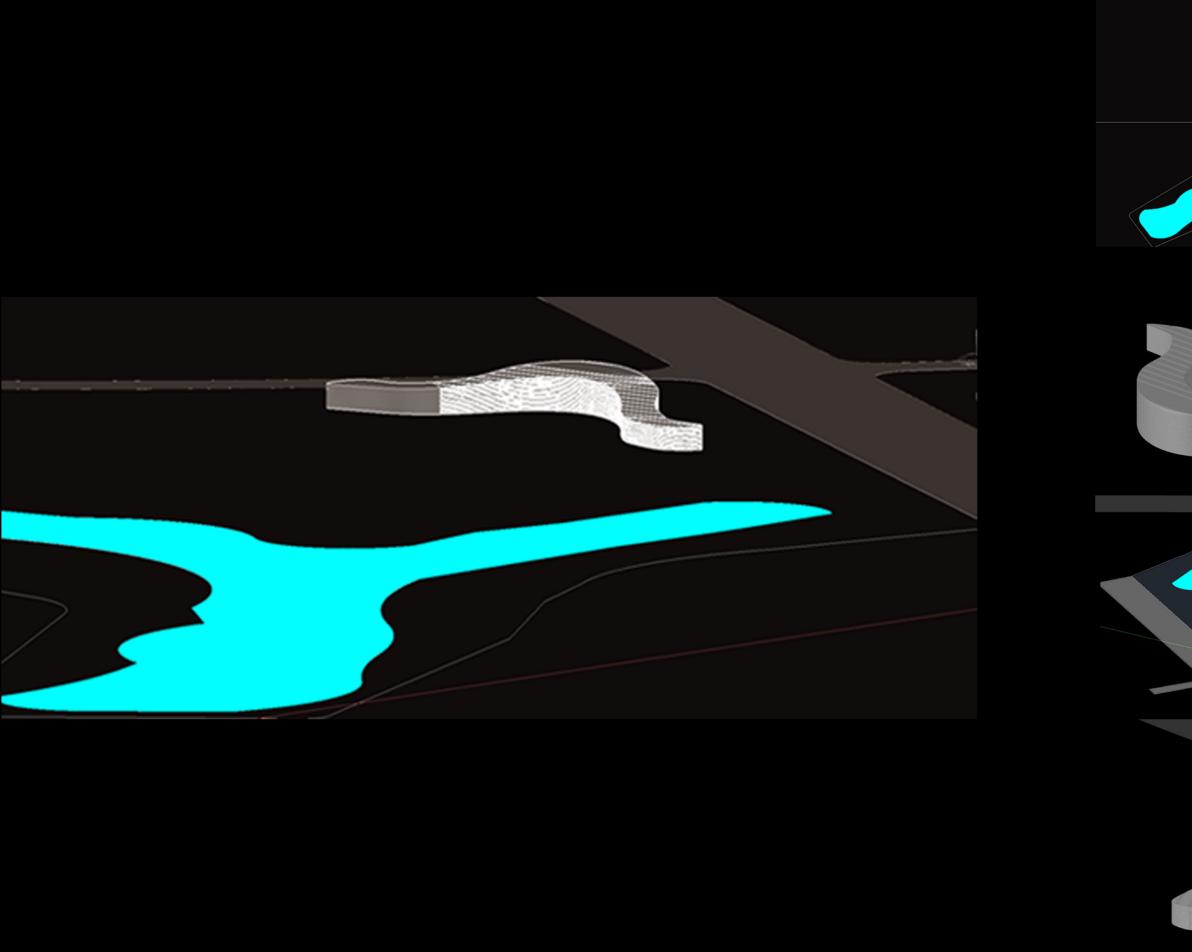


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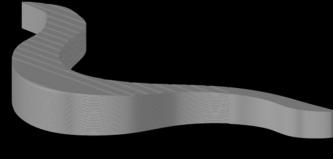
- Railroad line
- The Park
- Site
- Government buildings
- Housing Units
- Commercial

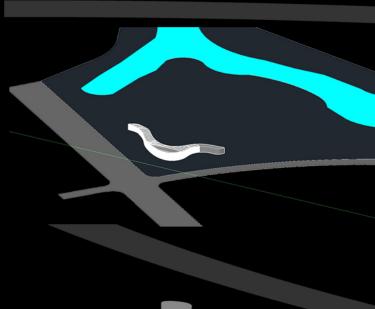
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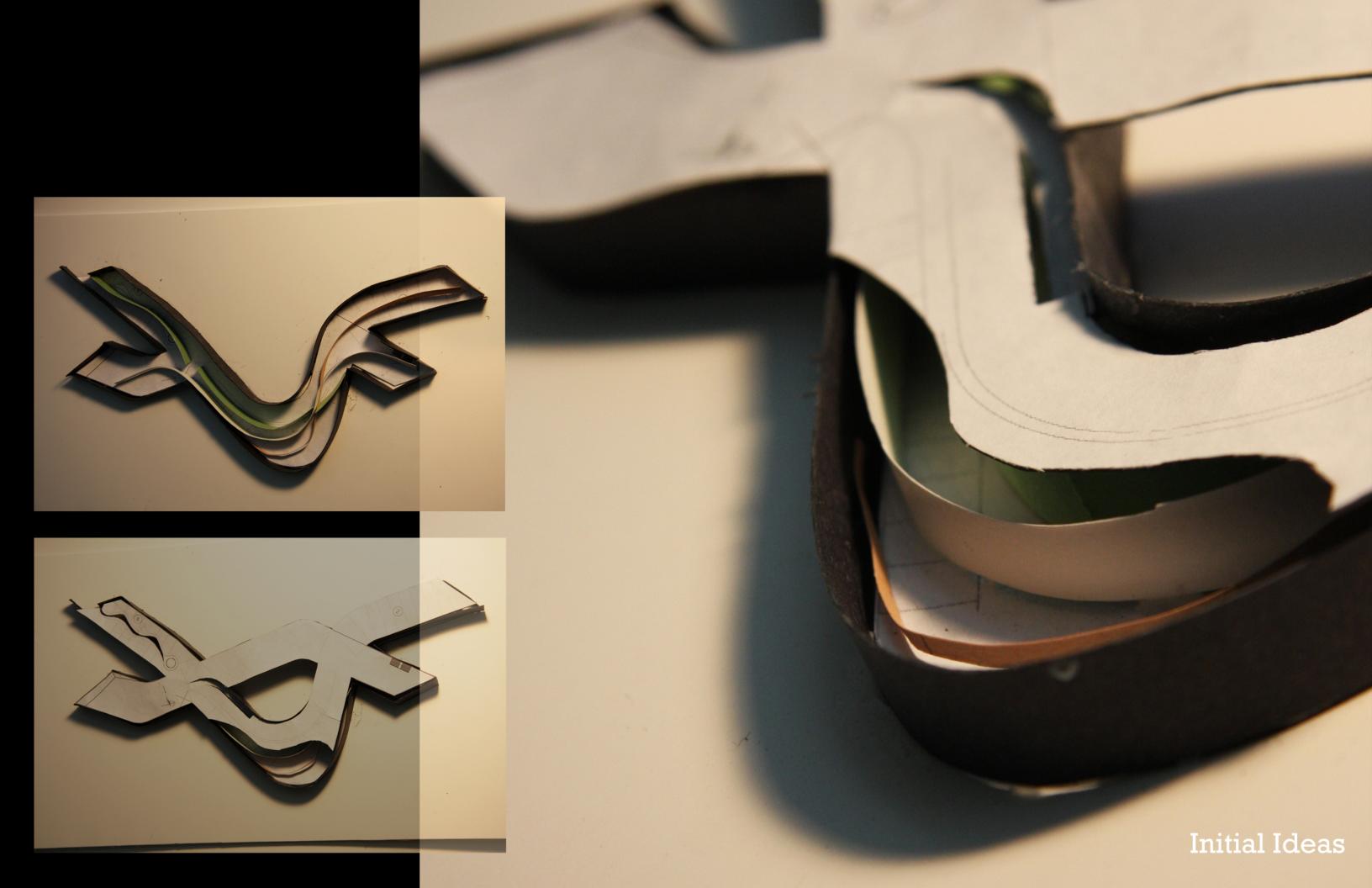














physical learning

Materials

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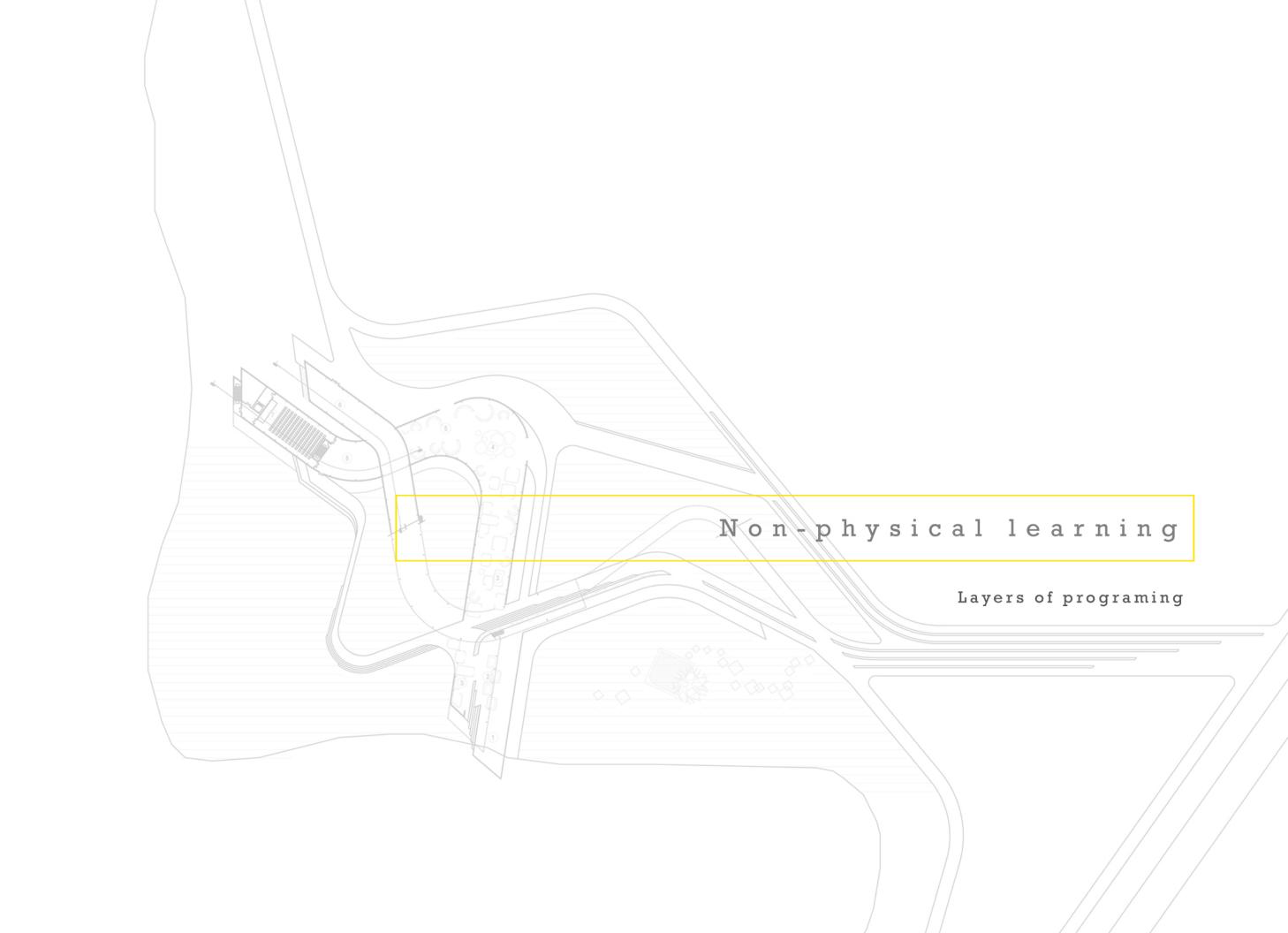
Practicing

Layer density

Natural ventilation

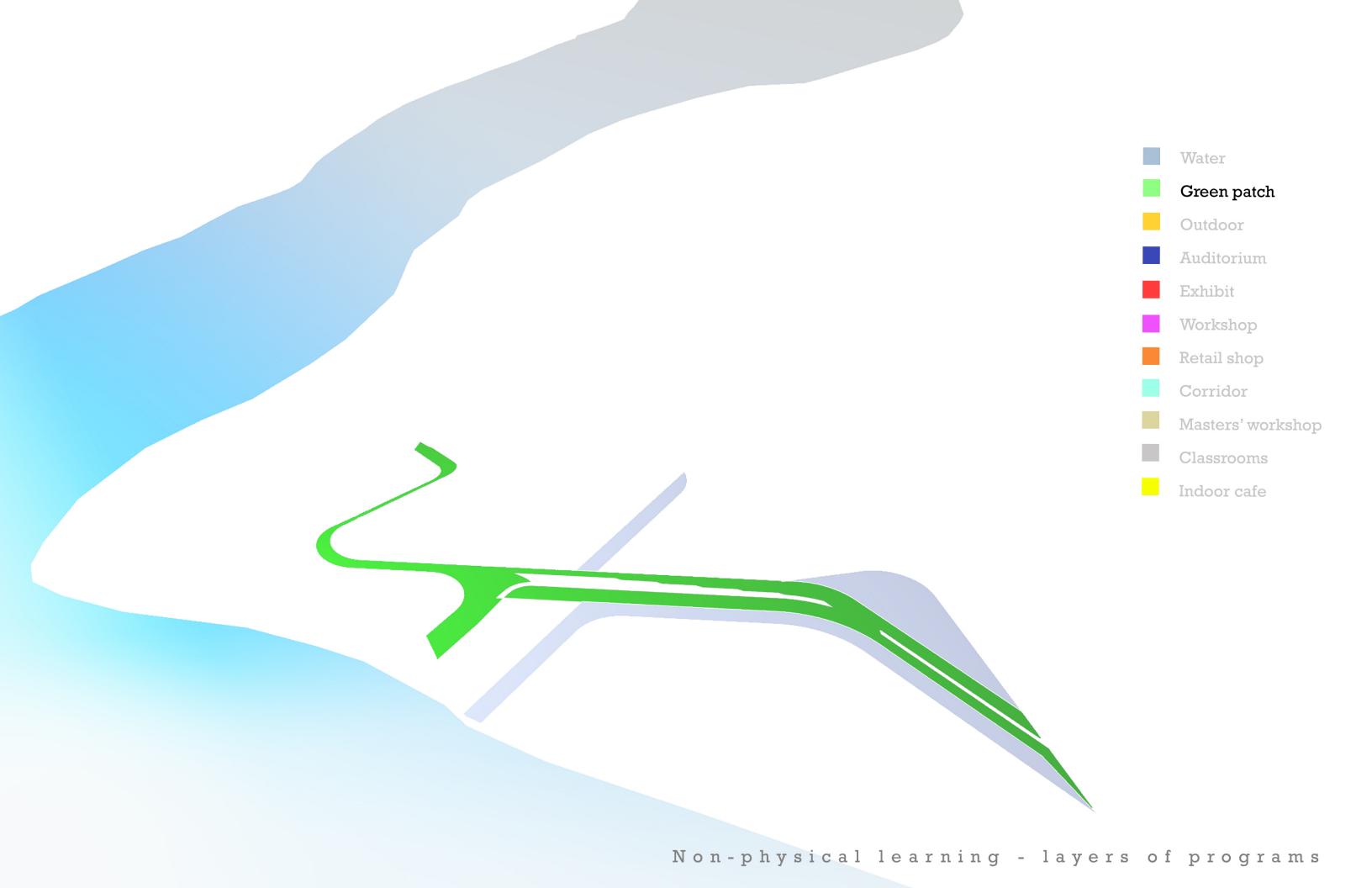
non-physical learning

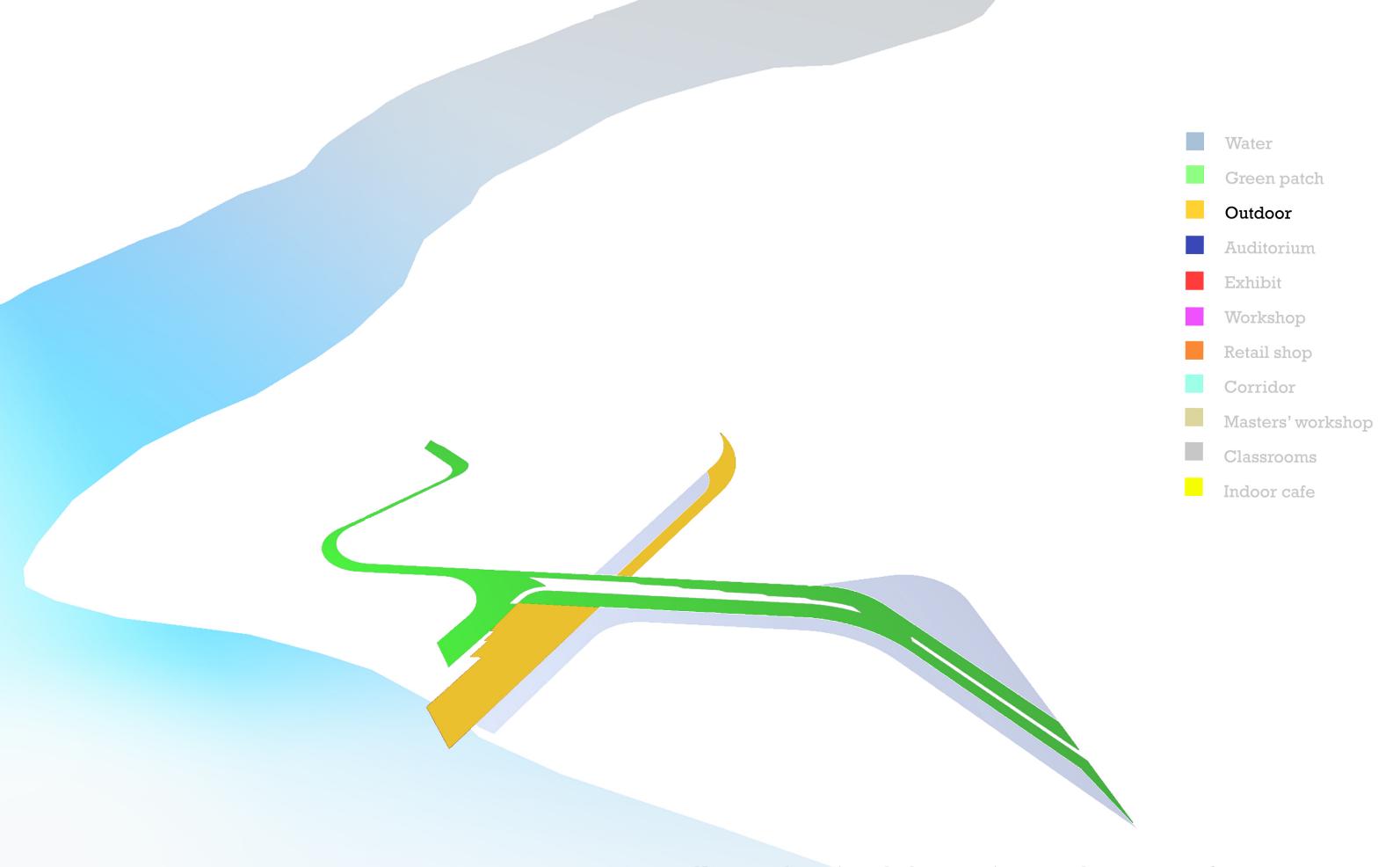
Layer programing



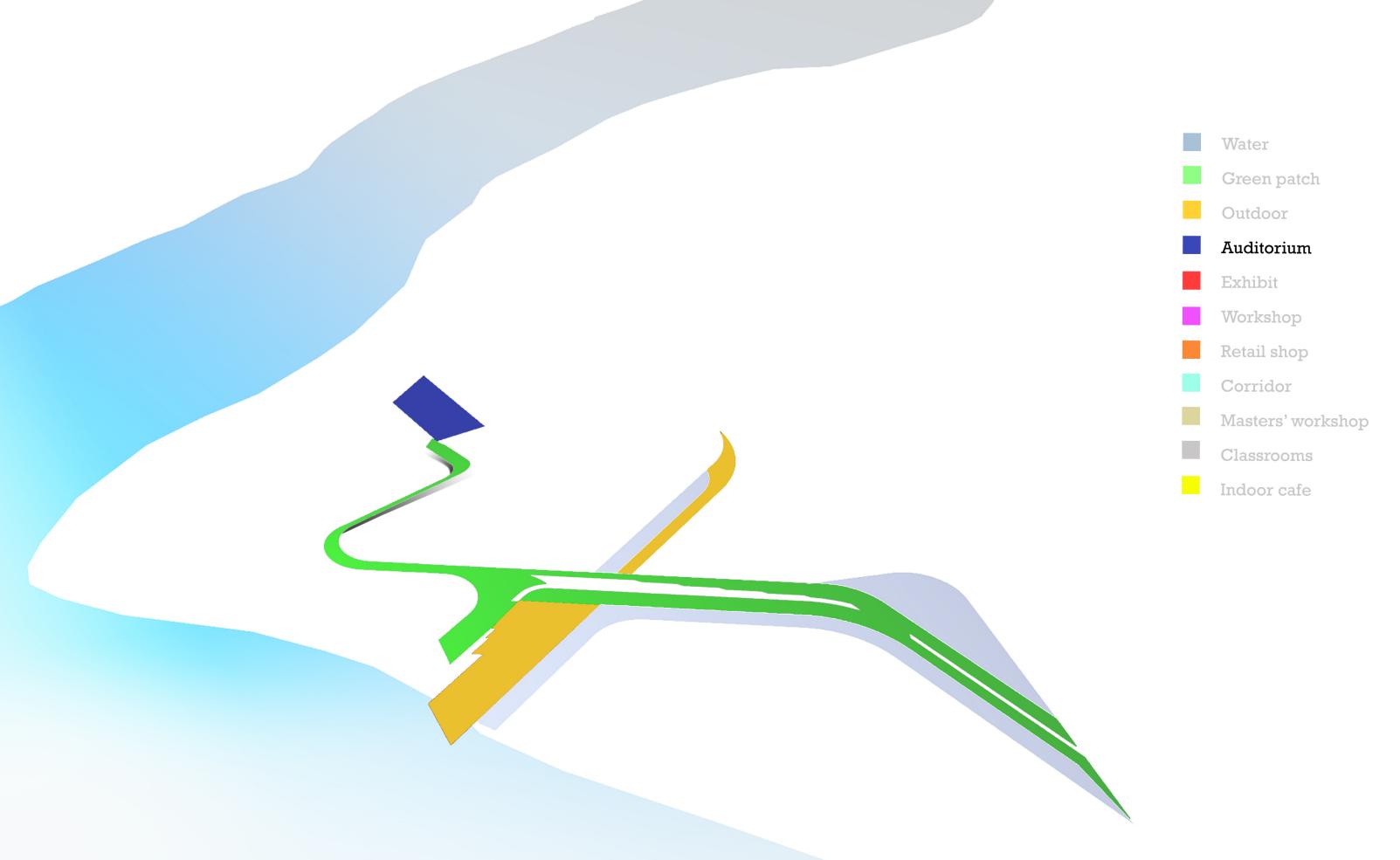




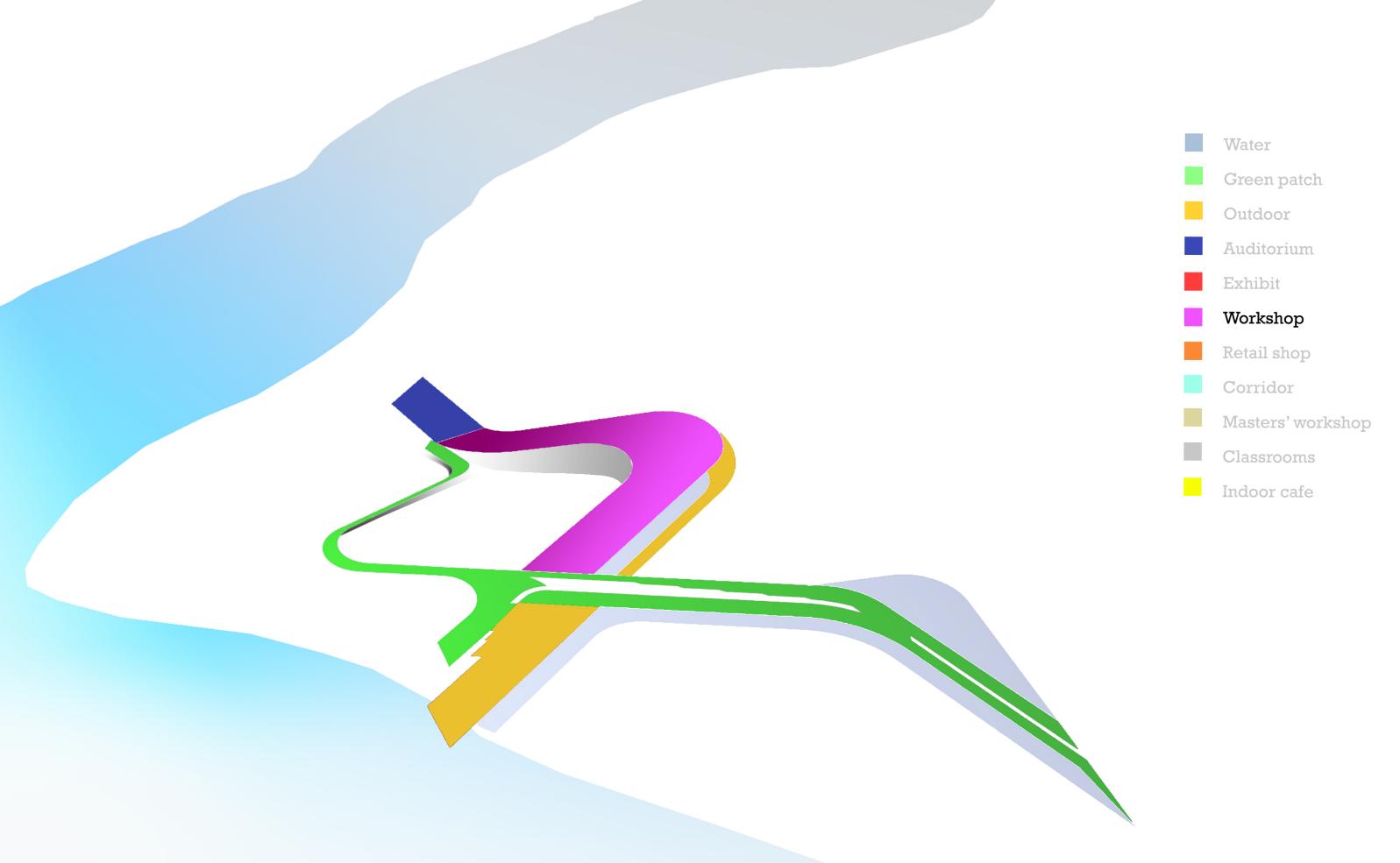




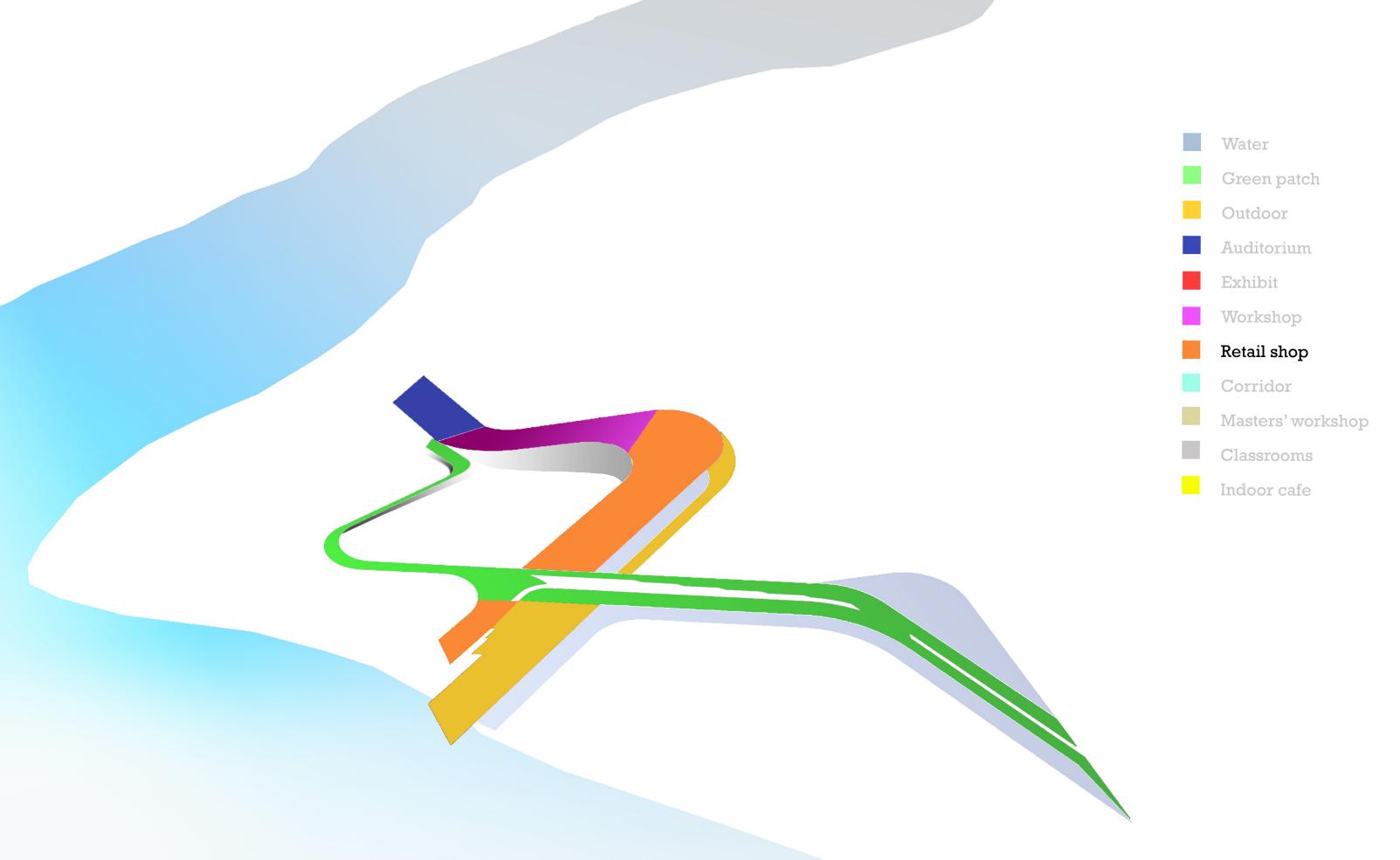
Non-physical learning - layers of programs



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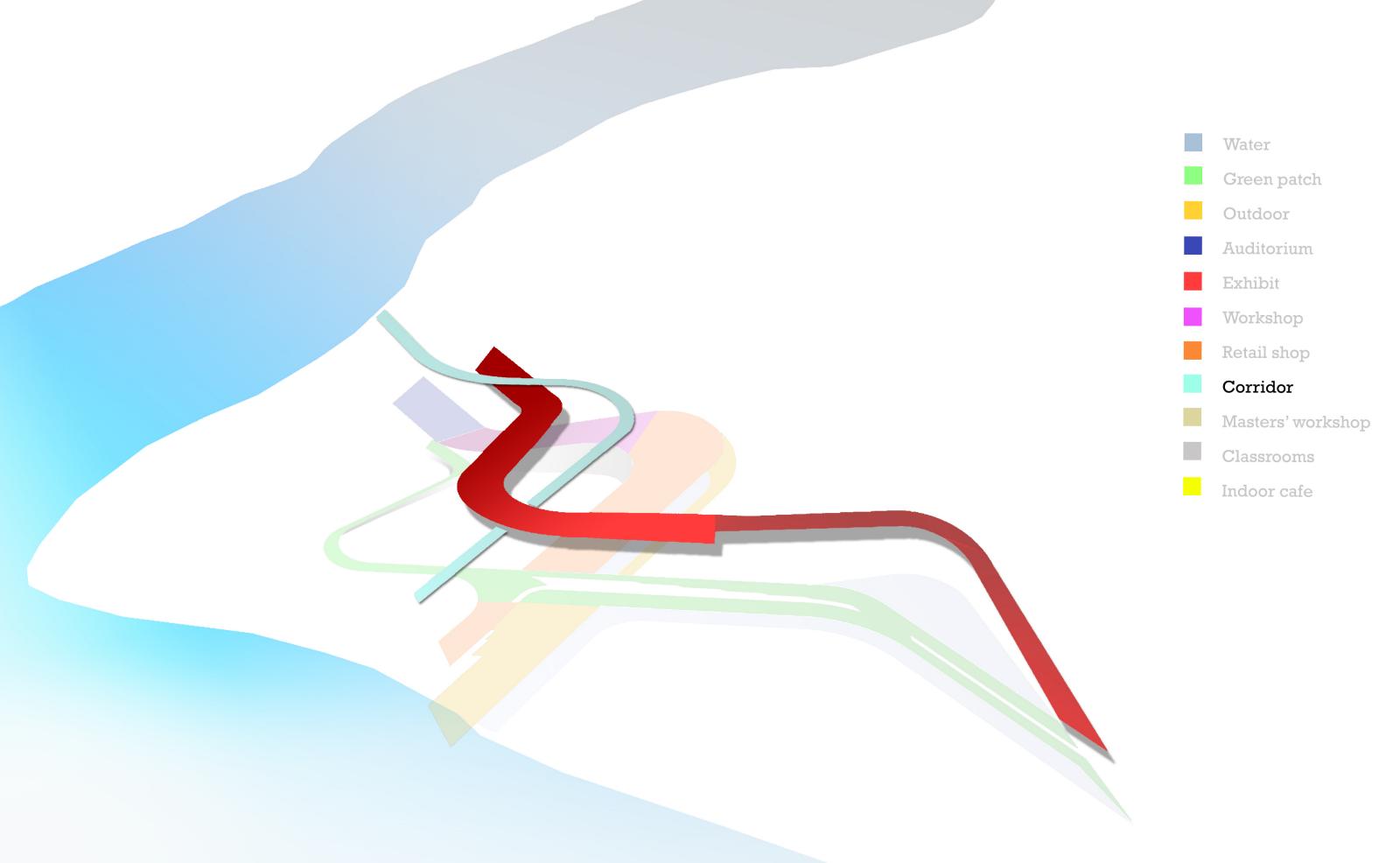
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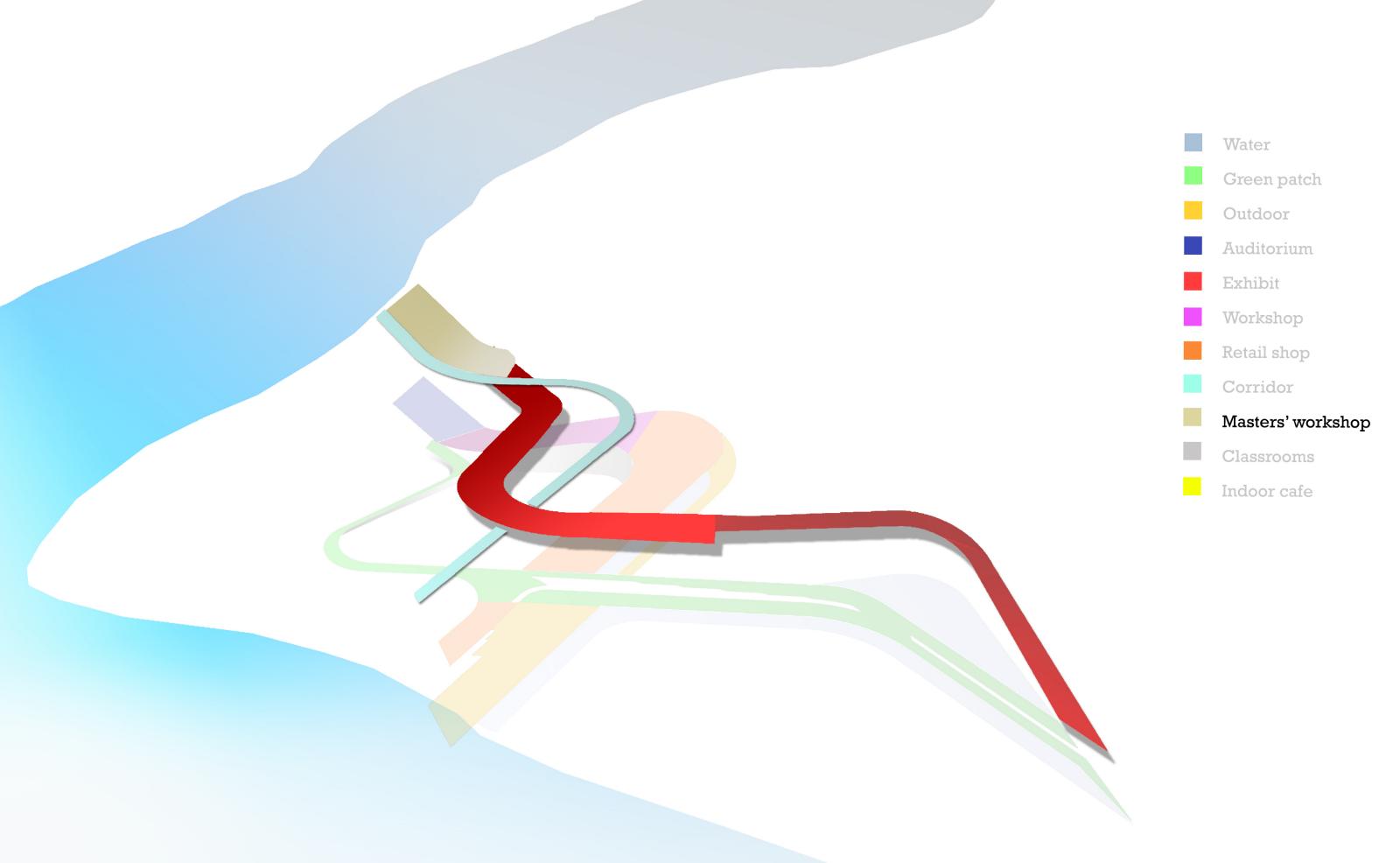
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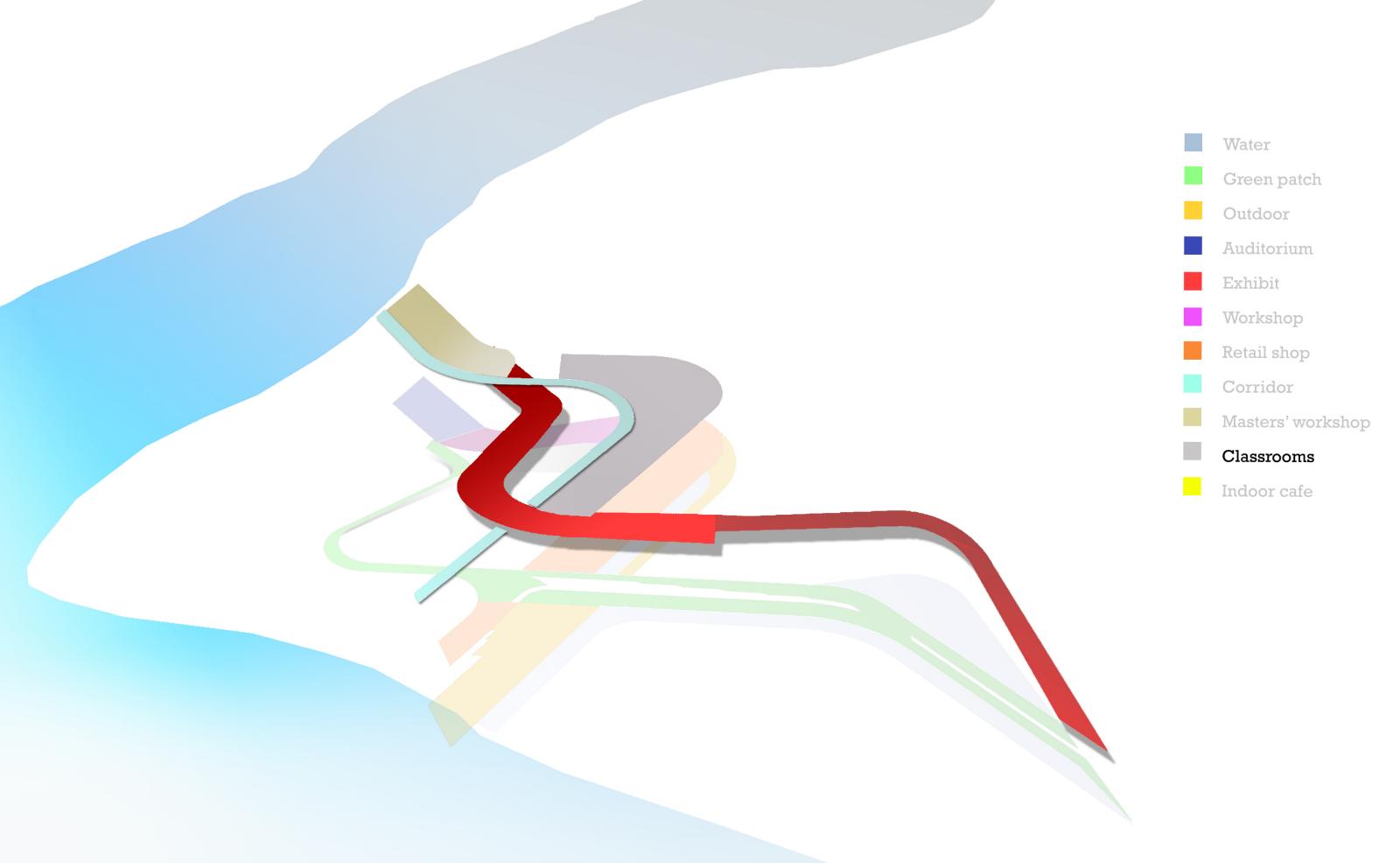
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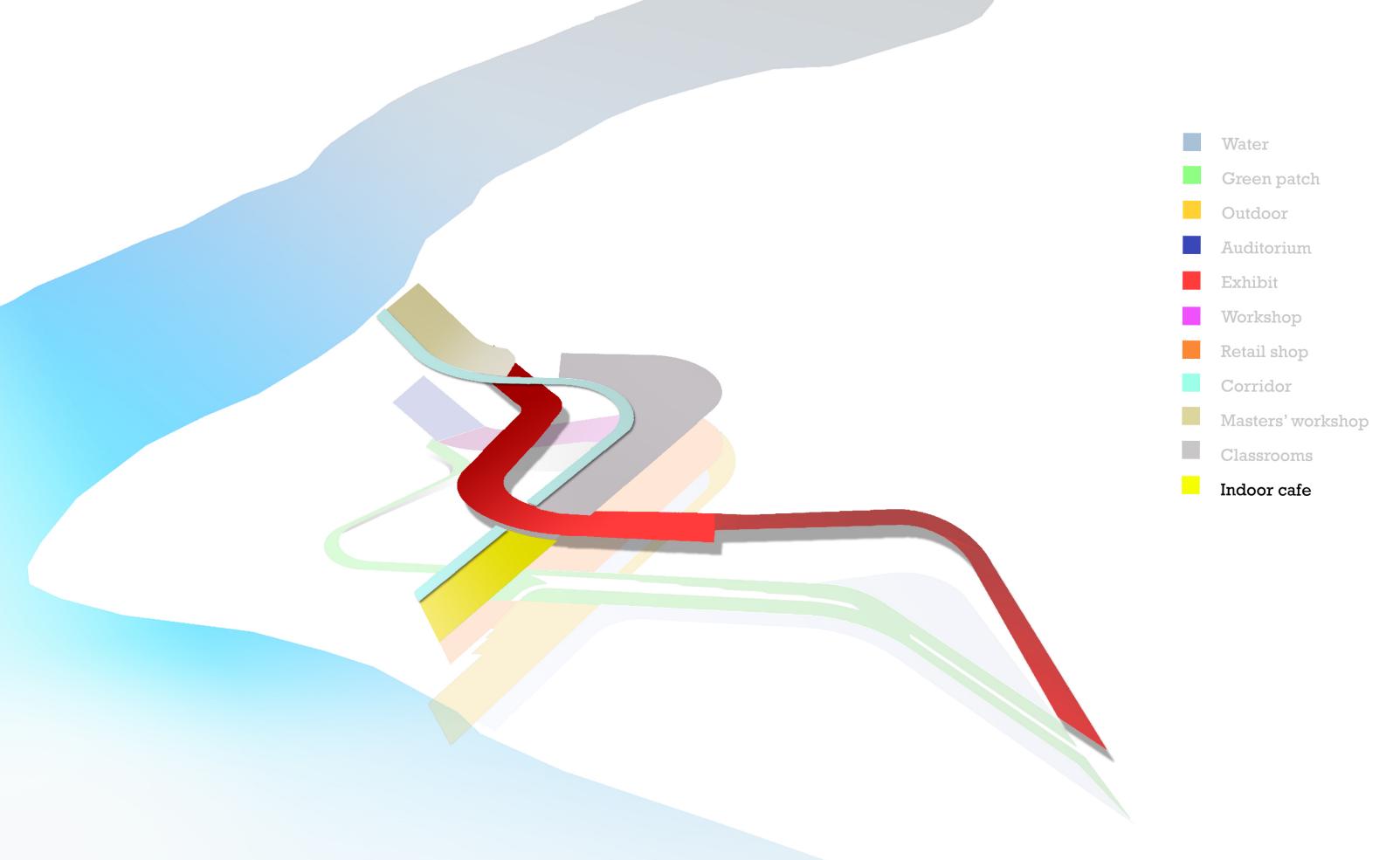


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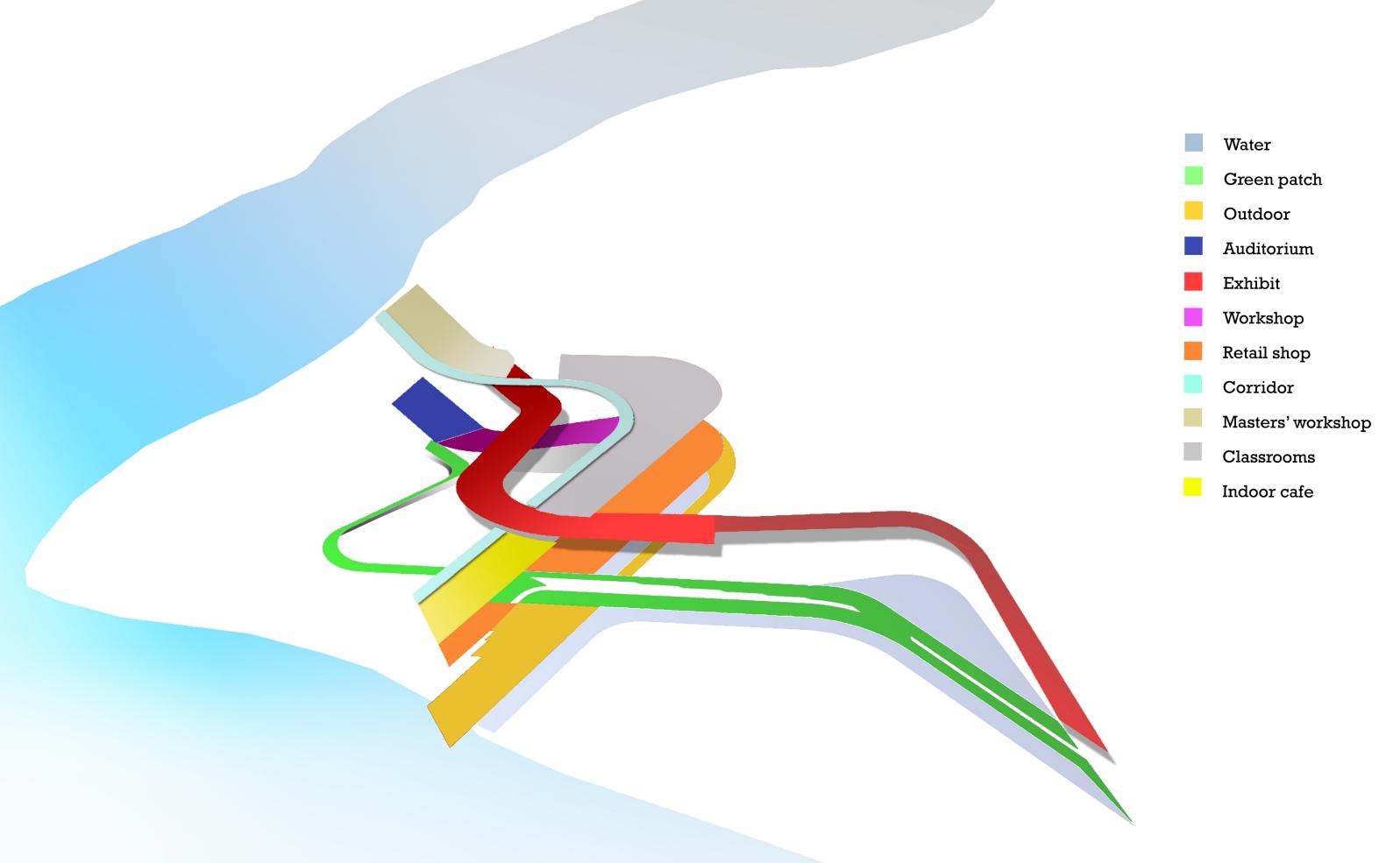


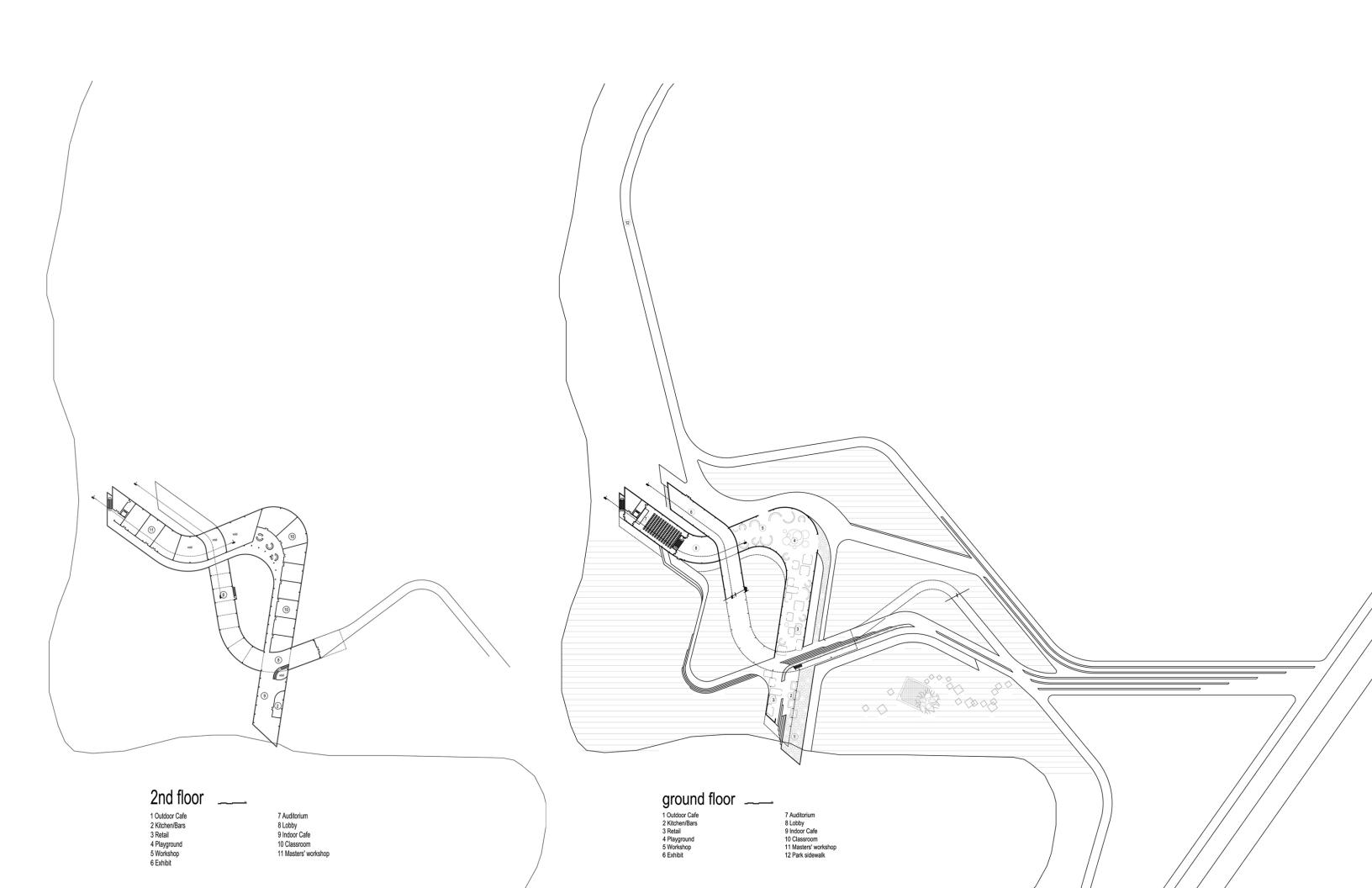
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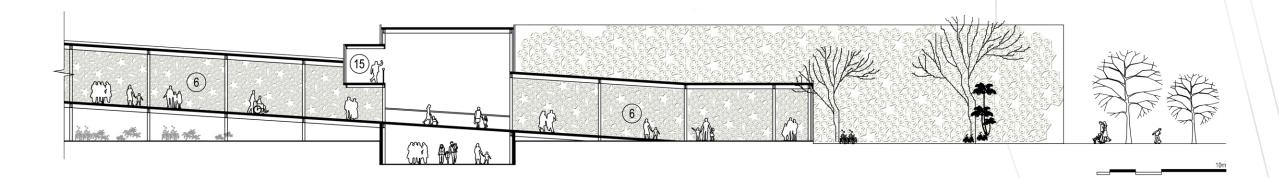




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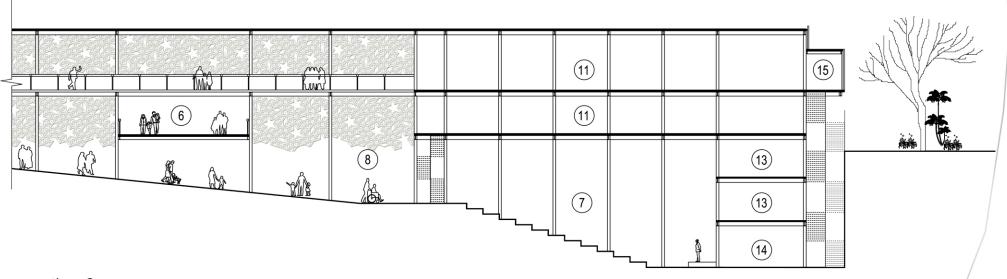






section 1

6 Exhibit 8 Lobby 15 Circulation



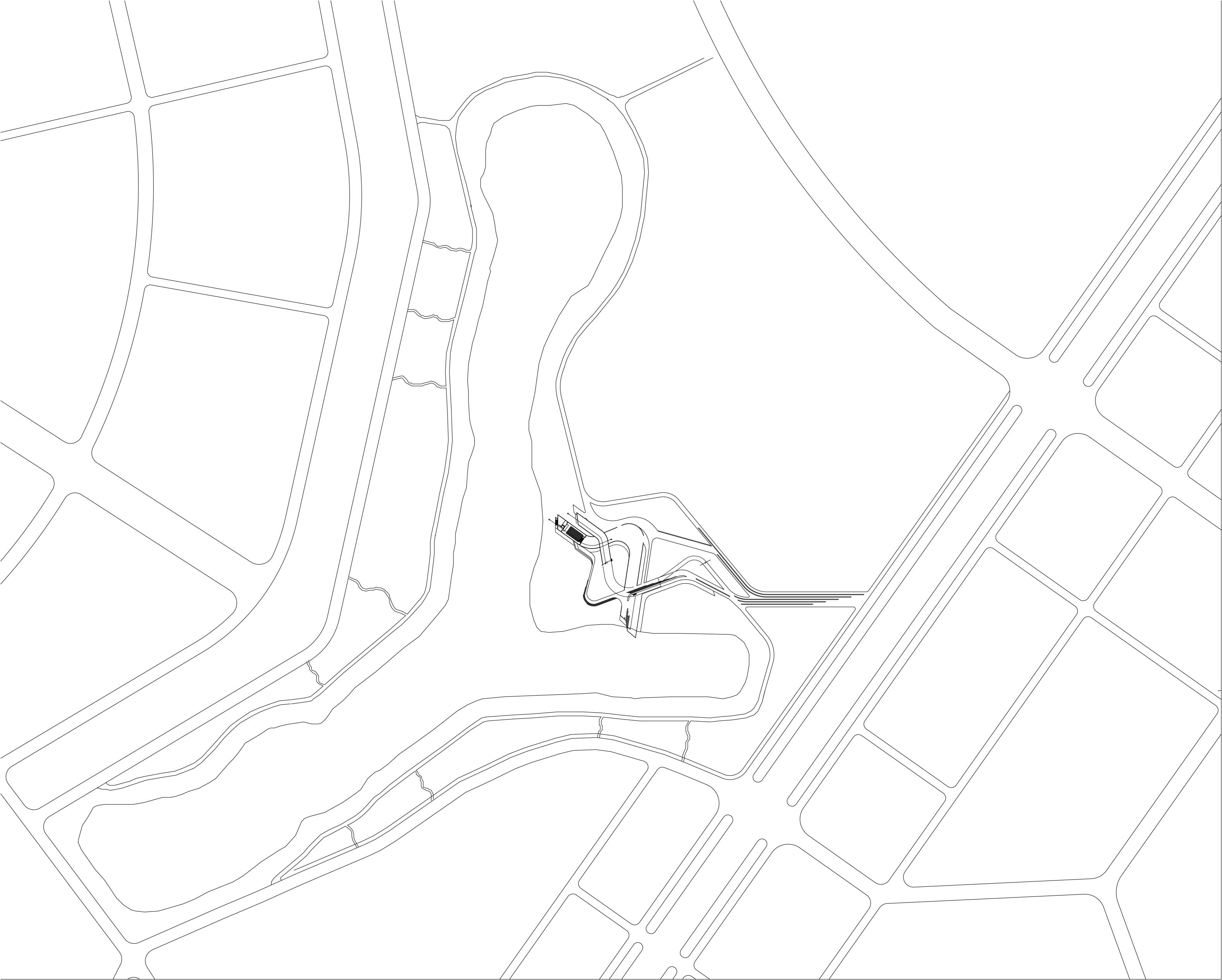
section 2

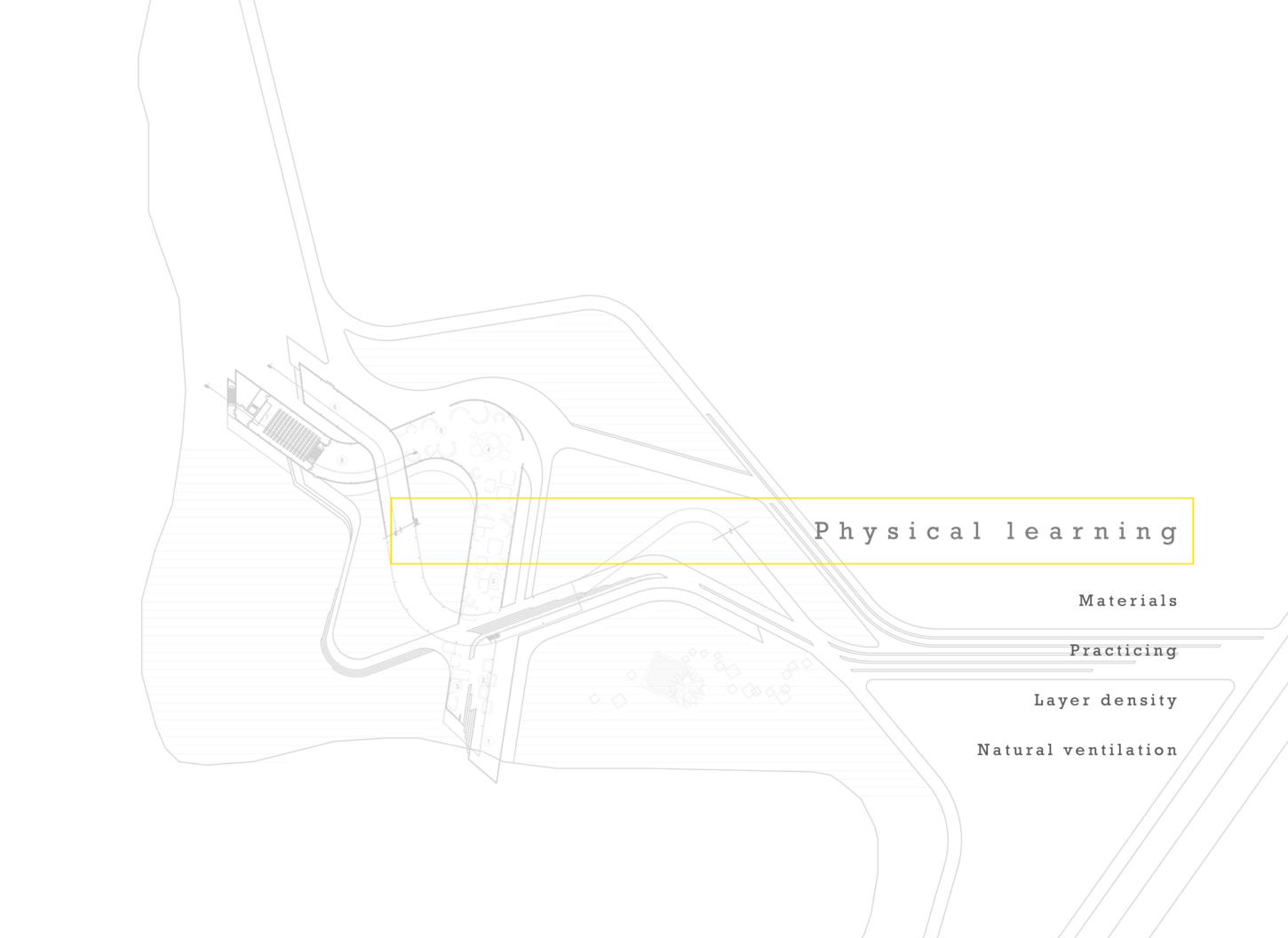
6 Exhibit 7 Auditorium

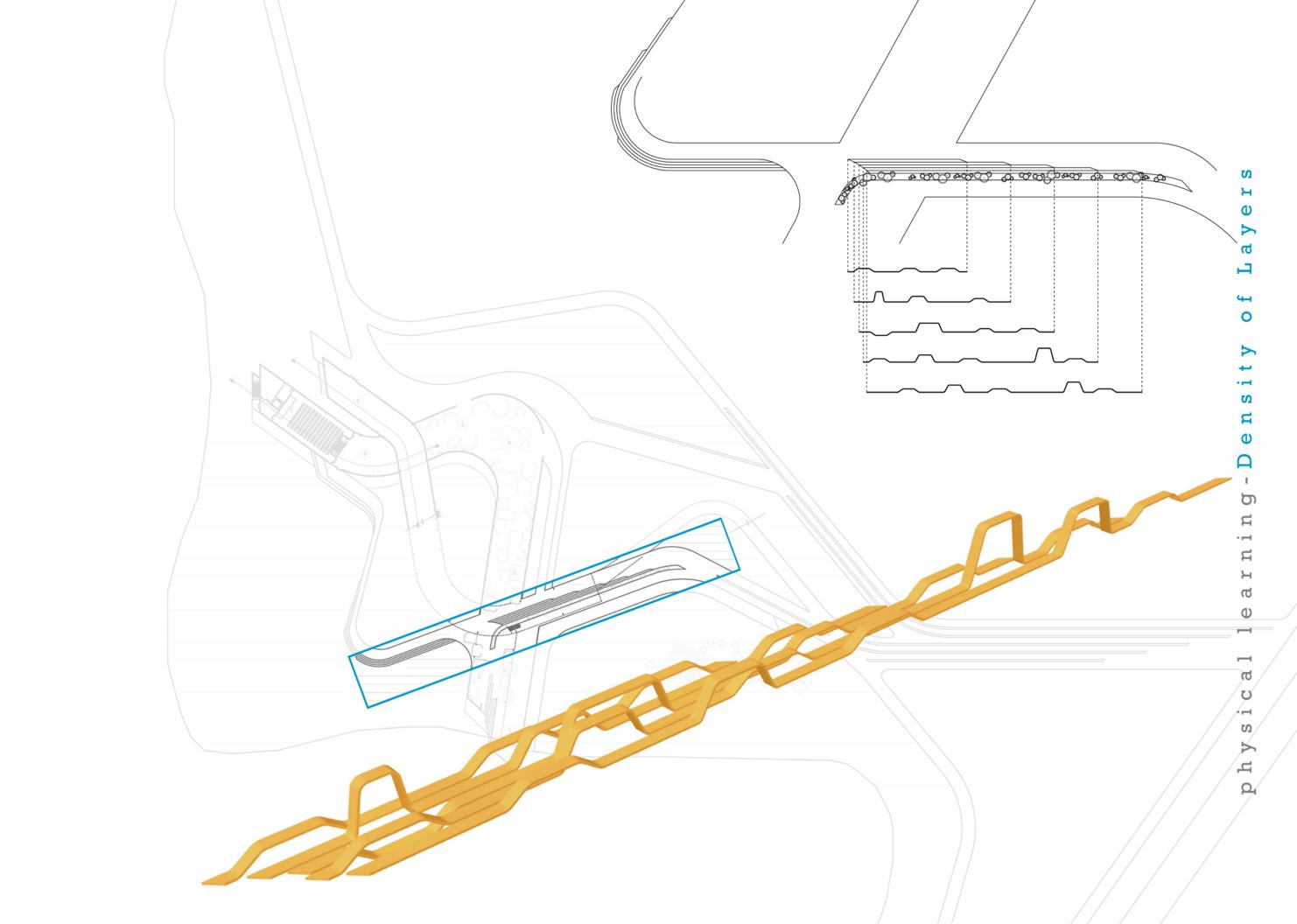
8 Lobby

11 Masters' workshop

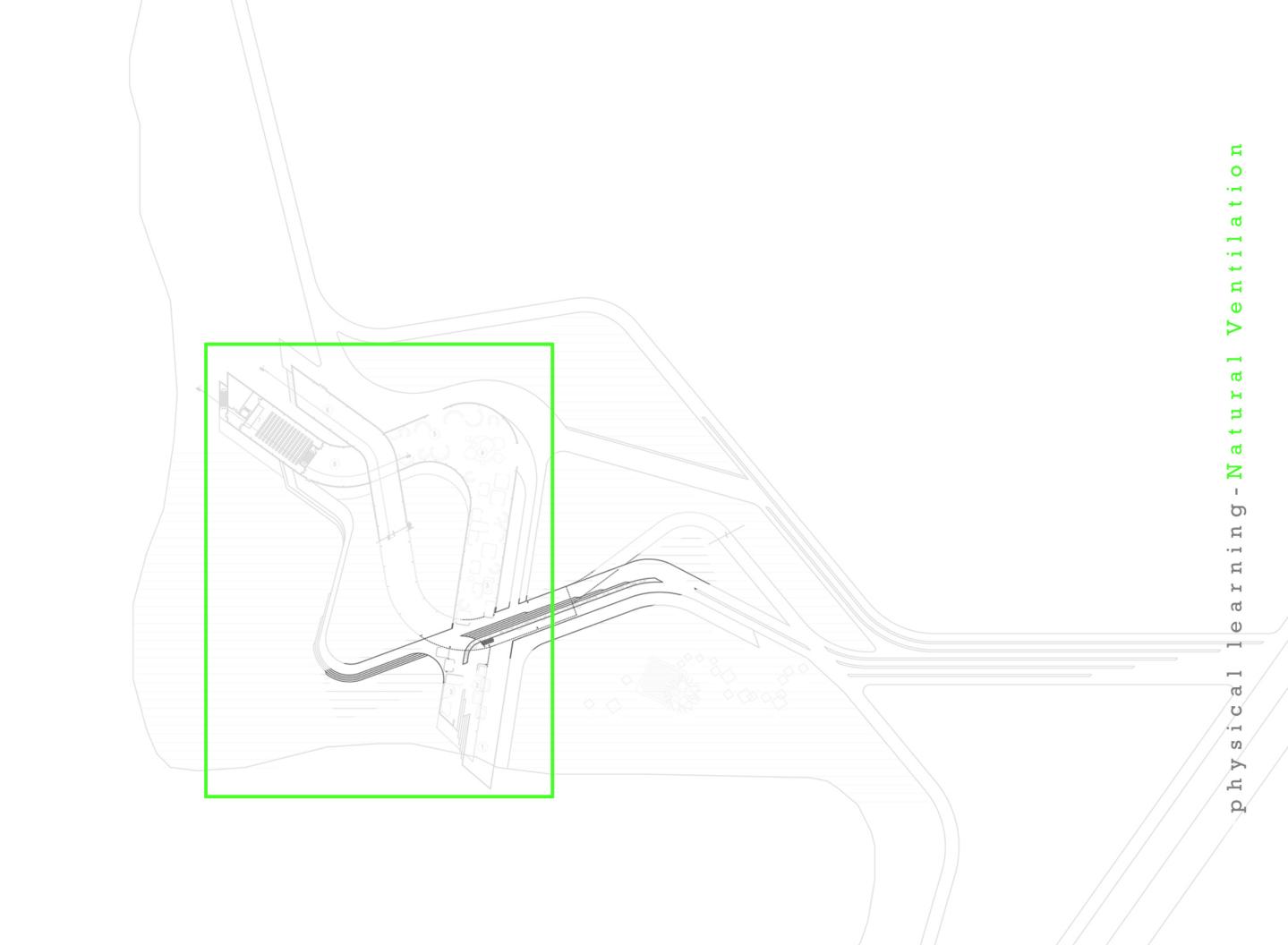
13 Storage 14 Lecturer's room 15 Circulation





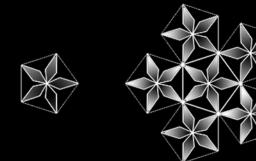


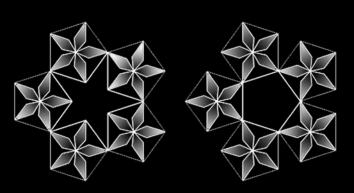
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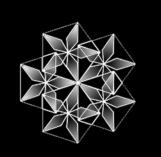


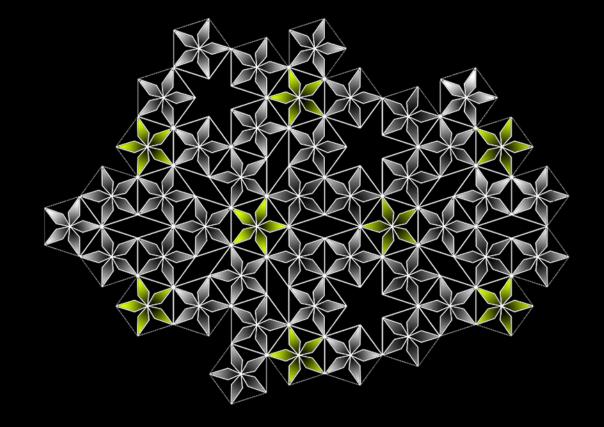


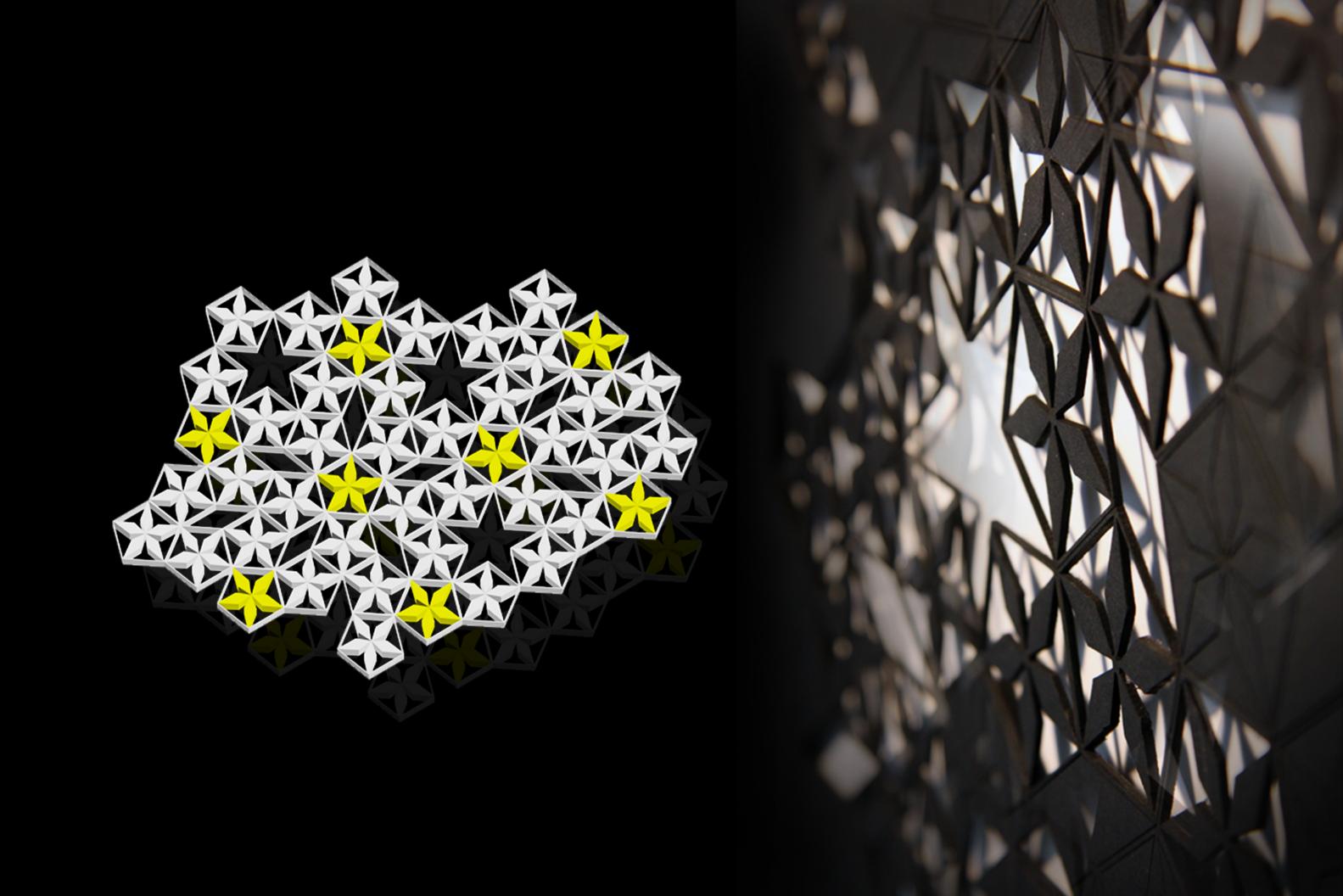
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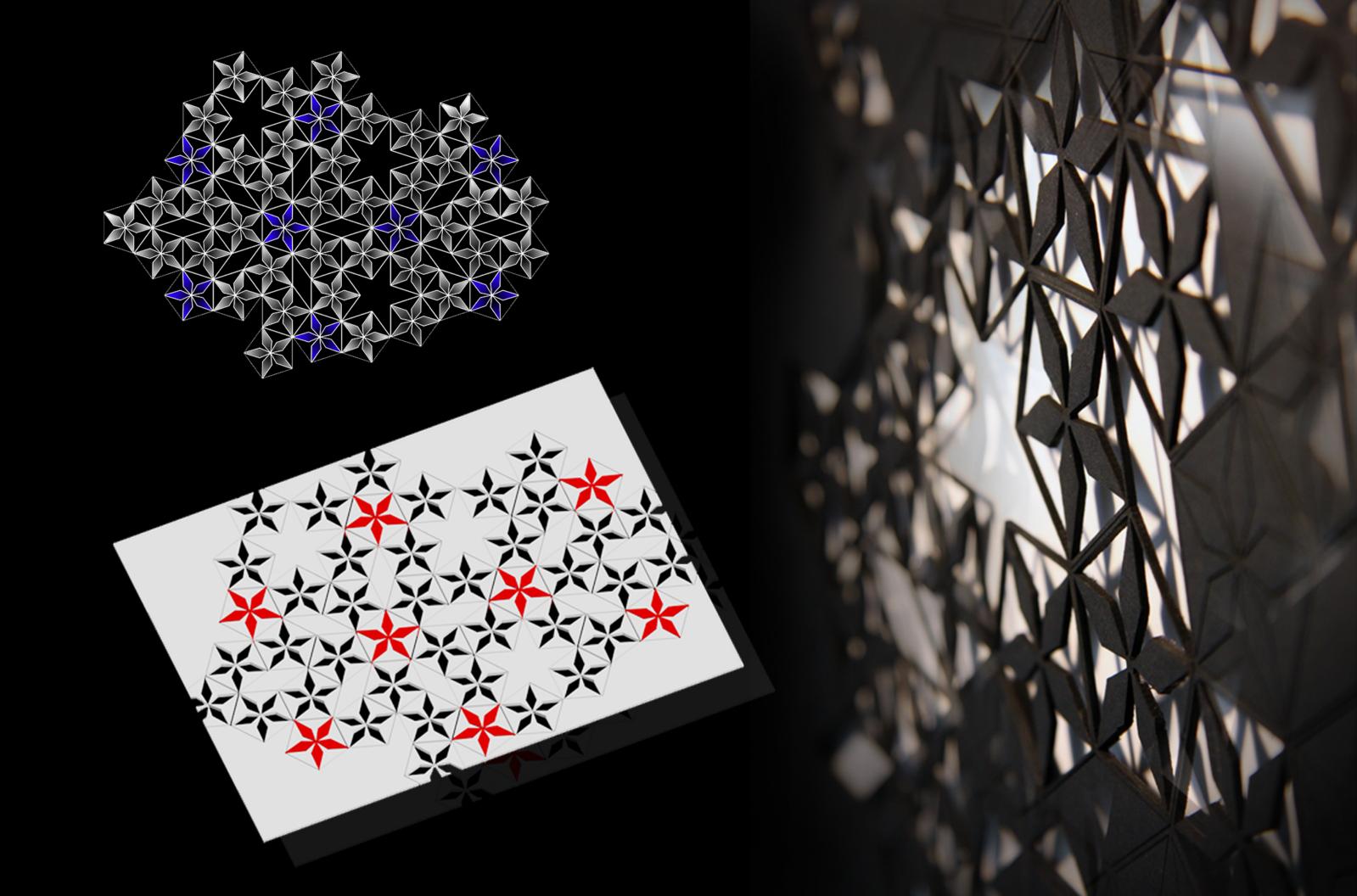














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Instructor Susan Conger-Austin

Student Chung Thuy Nguyen

