



# Recess Reimagined: The Intergenerational Campus

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**Recess Reimagined: The Intergenerational Campus**

A Thesis Submitted to the Department of Architecture  
Harvard University Graduate School of Design, by

**Angela Lopez-Videla**

In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of  
[Master of Architecture]

December 2023

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Angela Lopez-Videla



Dan D'Oca

DocuSigned by:  
  
636CCCEC593444A

Elizabeth Whittaker

# Recess Reimagined

The Intergenerational Campus





ANGELA LOPEZ-VIDELA | HARVARD GSD

# Los Angeles

RECESS REIMAGINED | THE INTERGENERATIONAL CAMPUS



# The Problems

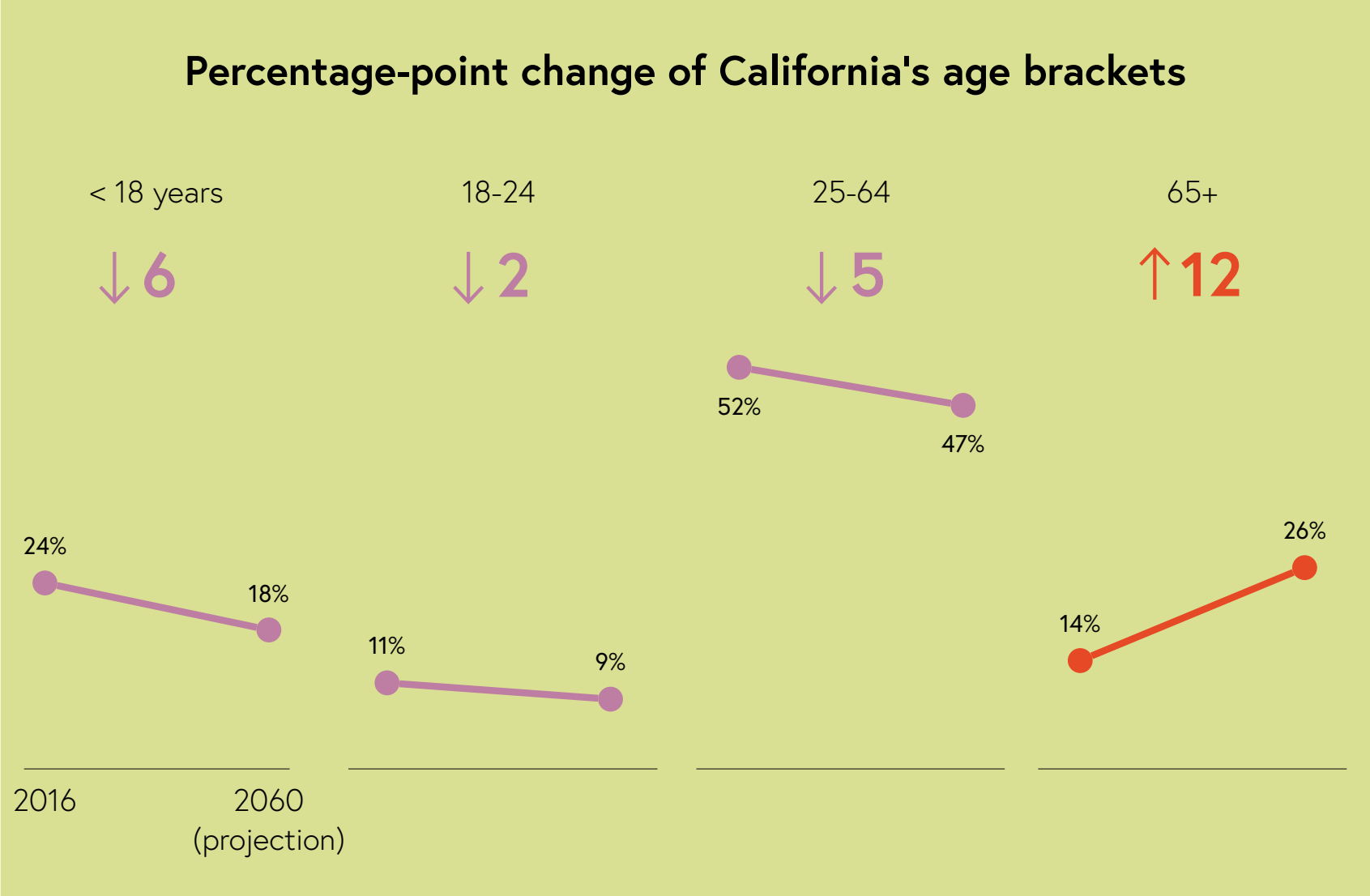
# Los Angeles Housing Crisis



Skid Row, June 2021



# Growing Aging Population



# Social Isolation

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**CDC** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
CDC 24/7: Saving Lives, Protecting People™

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## Alzheimer's Disease and Healthy Aging

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- For Caregivers, Family and Friends +
- For Public Health Professionals +
- Resource Center** -
- Podcasts and Videos
- Feature Articles** -
- Loneliness and Social Isolation Linked to Serious Health Conditions


### Loneliness and Social Isolation Linked to Serious Health Conditions

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Loneliness and social isolation in older adults are serious public health risks affecting a significant number of people in the United States and putting them at risk for dementia and other serious medical conditions.

A [report](#) from the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM) points out that more than one-third of adults aged 45 and older feel lonely, and nearly one-fourth of adults aged 65 and older are considered to be socially isolated.<sup>1</sup> Older adults are at increased risk for loneliness and social isolation because they are more likely to face factors such as living alone, the loss of family or friends, chronic illness, and hearing loss.

Loneliness is the feeling of being alone, regardless of the amount of social contact. Social isolation is a lack of social connections. Social isolation can lead to loneliness in some people, while others can feel lonely without being socially isolated.



Social isolation was associated with about a 50% increased risk of dementia and other serious medical conditions.

### Health Risks of Loneliness

Although it's hard to measure social isolation and loneliness precisely, there is strong evidence that many adults aged 50



# Social Isolation Among Seniors

"Of all seniors living alone and below the poverty line, one out of three sees neither friends nor neighbors for as much as two weeks at a time."

- *Heat Wave: A Social Autopsy of Disaster in Chicago* by sociologist Eric Klinenberg

# Possible Interventions



# Intergenerational Relationships



Up (2009)



Black-ish (2014)



Little Miss Sunshine (2006)



One Day at a Time (2017)

# Intergenerational Relationships



generations  
united®

Preschool children involved in intergenerational programs had **higher personal/ social developmental scores** (by 11 months) than preschool children involved in non-intergenerational programs.

Children in schools where older adults were a regular fixture (volunteers working 15 hours per week) had **improved reading scores** and **fewer behavioral problems** than their peers at other schools.



# LAUSD-Owned Land

"LAUSD owns an extraordinary amount of real estate. LA Unified's real estate portfolio—schools, administrative buildings, operations facilities, parking lots, and vacant lots— is vast and complex, owning 1,200 schools and centers, over 6,400 acres and 3,200 parcels of land, and 21,000 buildings."

- LAUSD Real Estate Report (2018)

# Related Precedents

# School, Housing, Public Space



Lighthouse Project

Maslow Development Inc.'s Lighthouse Project is a 15 acre mixed-use development in the urban core of Memphis that includes a K-12 school, mixed-income housing, health & wellness facilities, and workforce development opportunities.



# Housing on Vacant LAUSD-Owned Land



	Rio Vista Apartments	Sage Park Apartments	Selma Community Housing	Norwood Learning Village
<b>Neighborhood</b>	Glassell Park	Gardena	Hollywood	South Los Angeles
<b>Year Completed</b>	2011	2014	2016	2017
<b>Previous Land Use</b>	Parking lot	LAUSD joint-use facility	LAUSD parking	LAUSD parking
<b>Developer</b>	Abode Communities	Bridge Housing	Abode Communities	Thomas Safran & Associates
<b>Architects</b>	Abode Communities Gonzalez Goodale (EEC)	Steinberg Architects	Abode Communities	WHA Inc. (William Hezmalhalch Architects)
<b>Total Units</b>	50	90	66	29
<b>Gross Building Area</b>	57,057 sf	110,305 sf	80,158 sf	31,571 sf
<b>Buildings</b>	1 4 stories over 2	4 2-3 stories	1 5 stories over 1.5	6 2-3 stories over 1

# Senior Campus Housing



Vi at Palo Alto

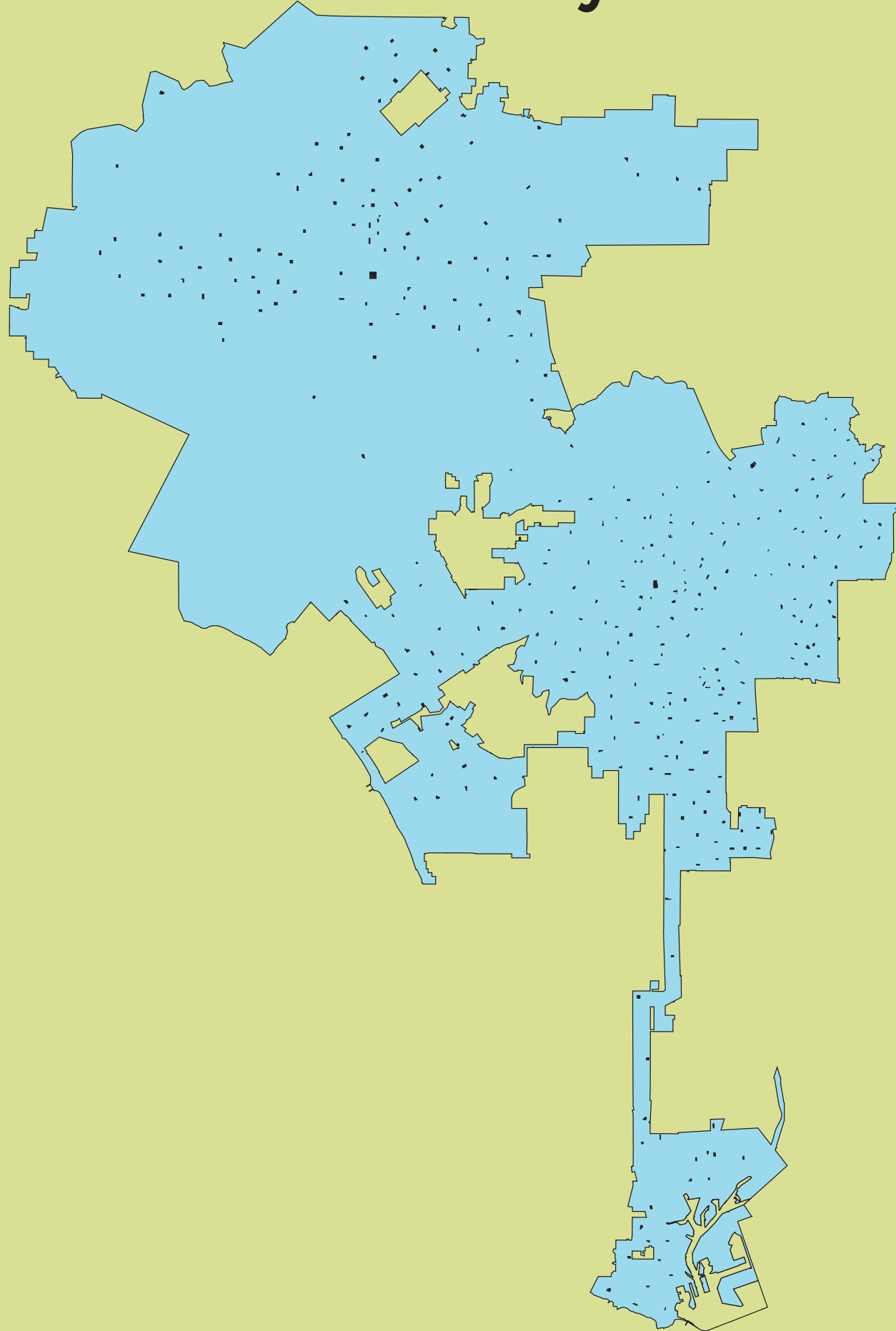
Vi at Palo Alto is a continuing-care retirement community on land leased from Stanford University.

Residents receive little to no benefits from campus amenities. Residents and students do not comingle as much as expected.

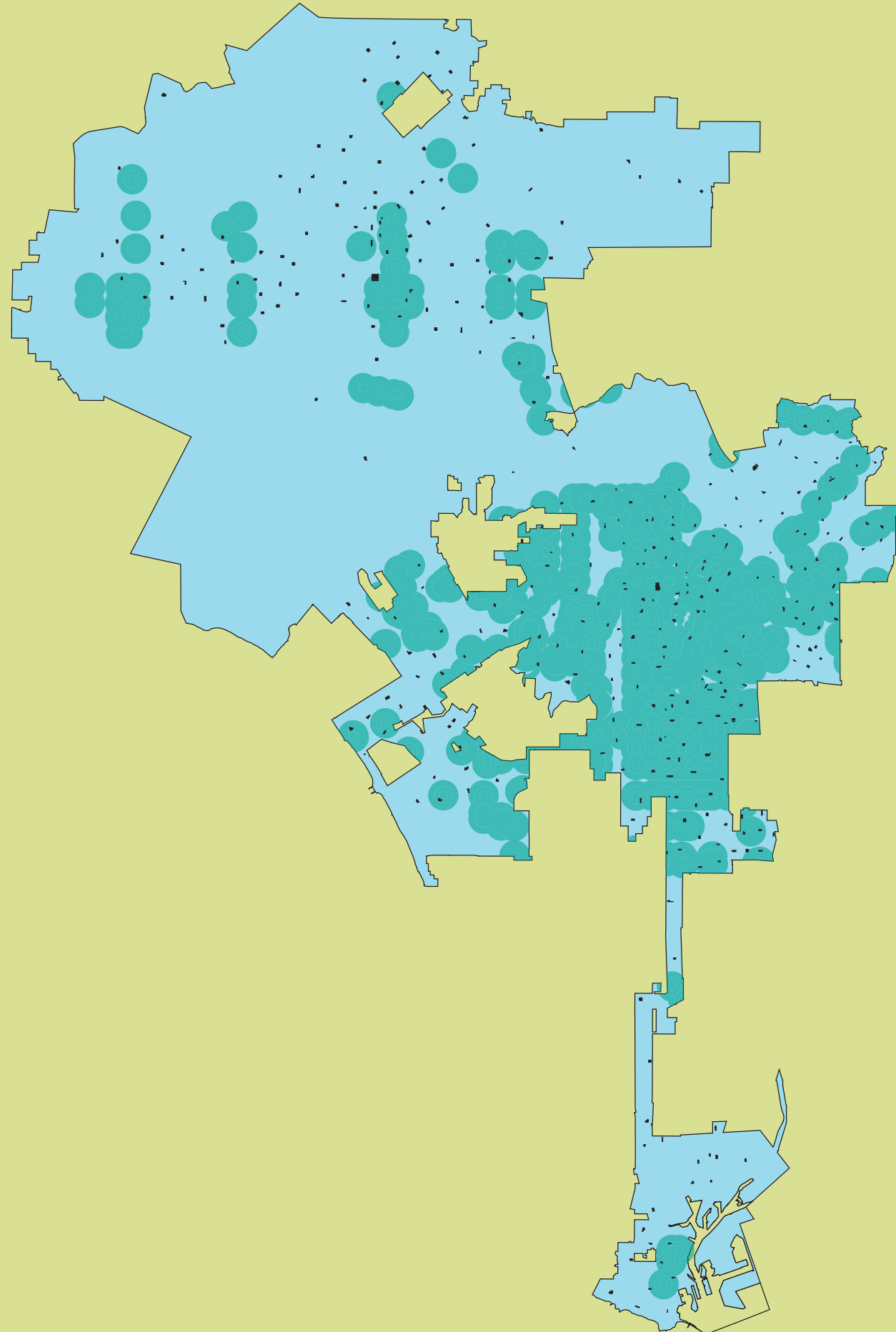
# Potential Sites



# LAUSD Elementary Schools

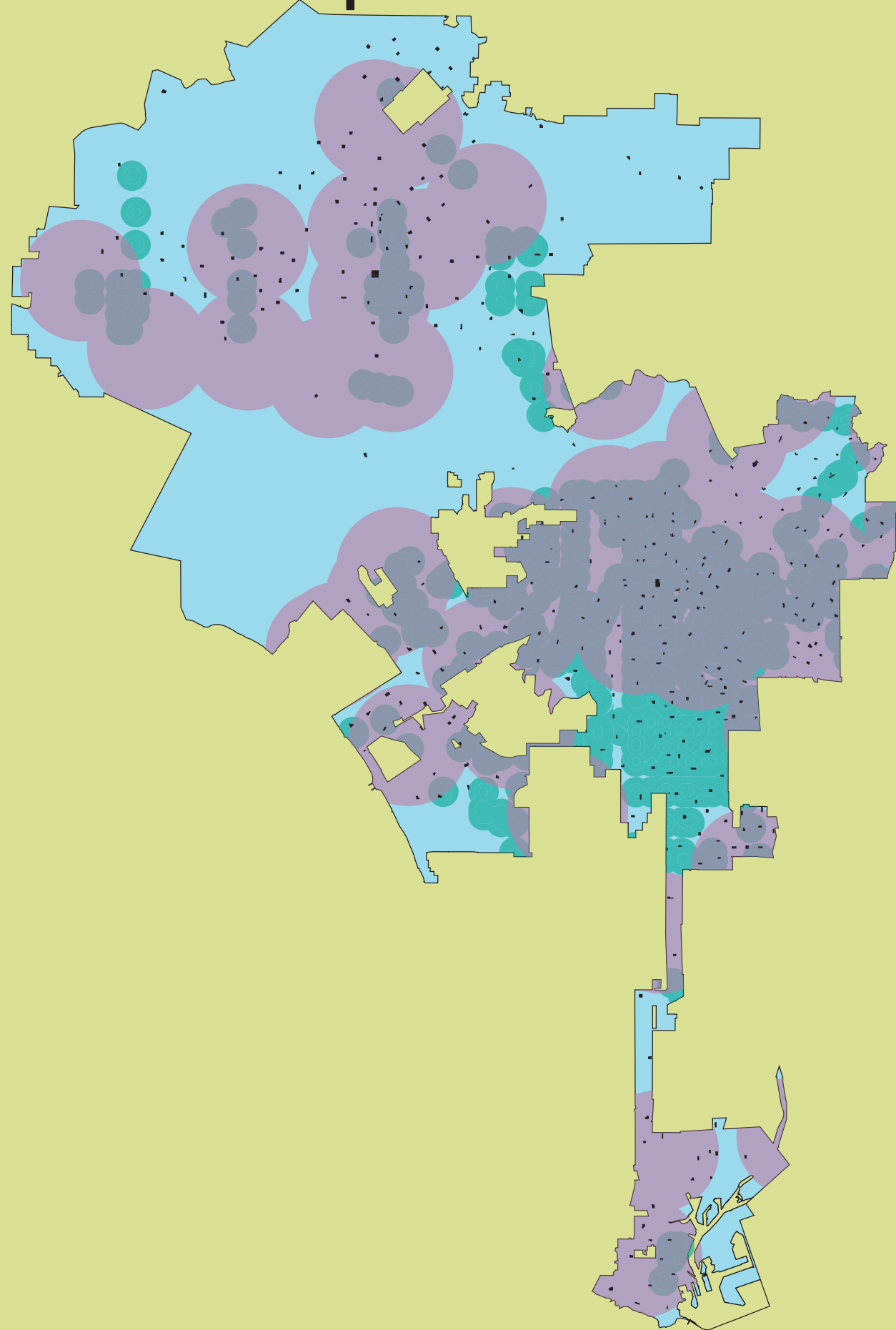


# Transit Oriented Communities



5 mi

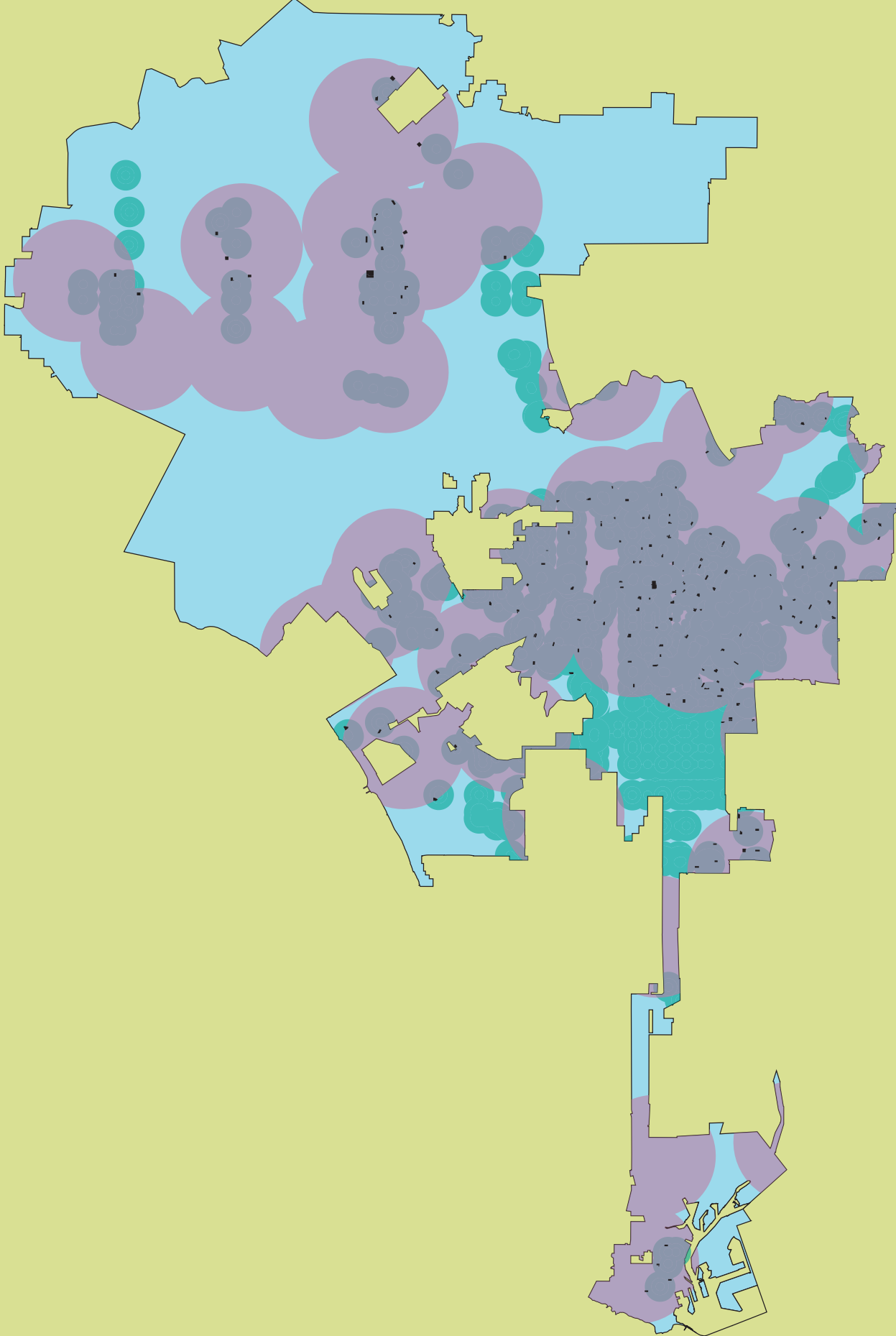
# Hospital Areas



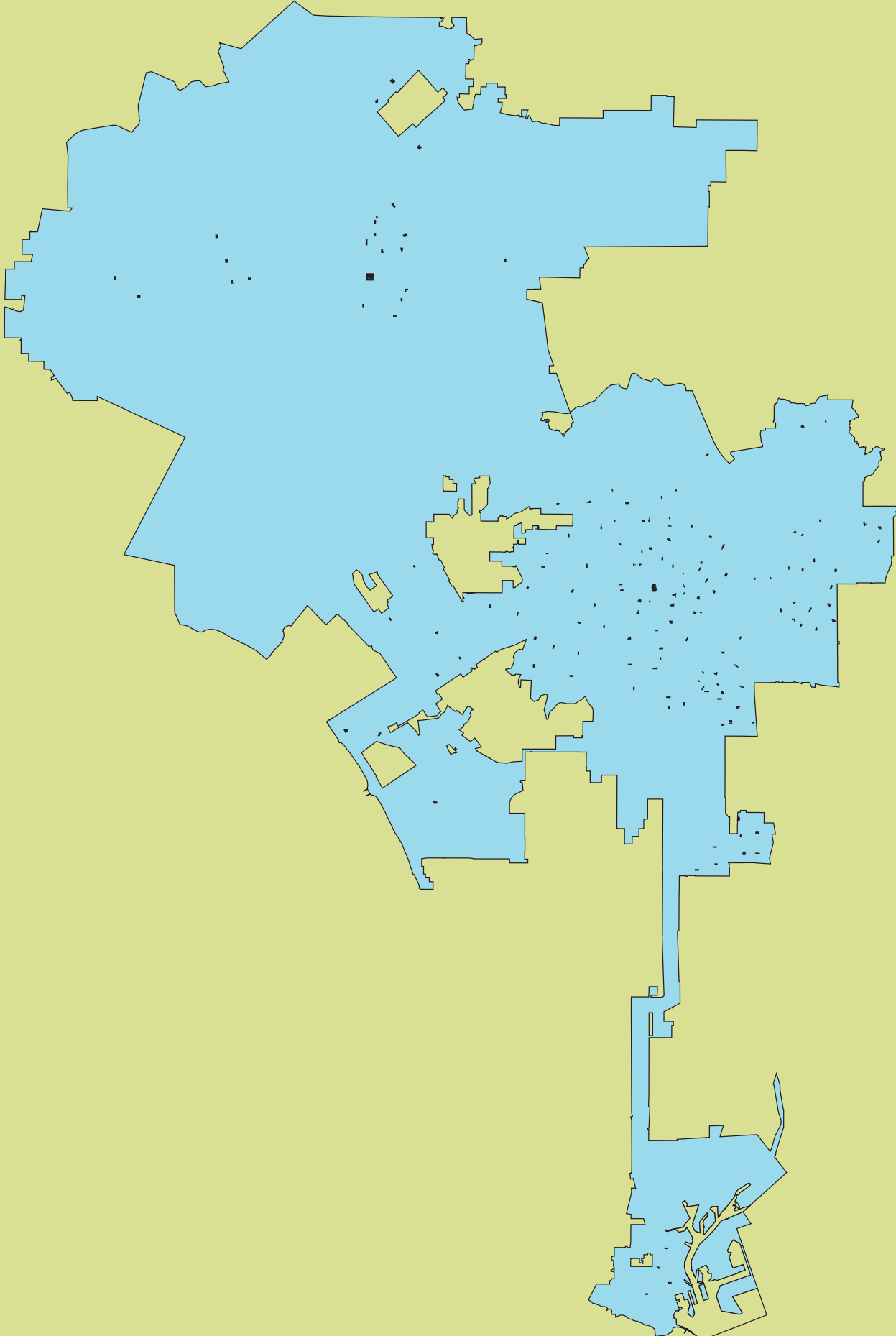
5 mi



# Schools of Interest



# Schools of Interest



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5 mi

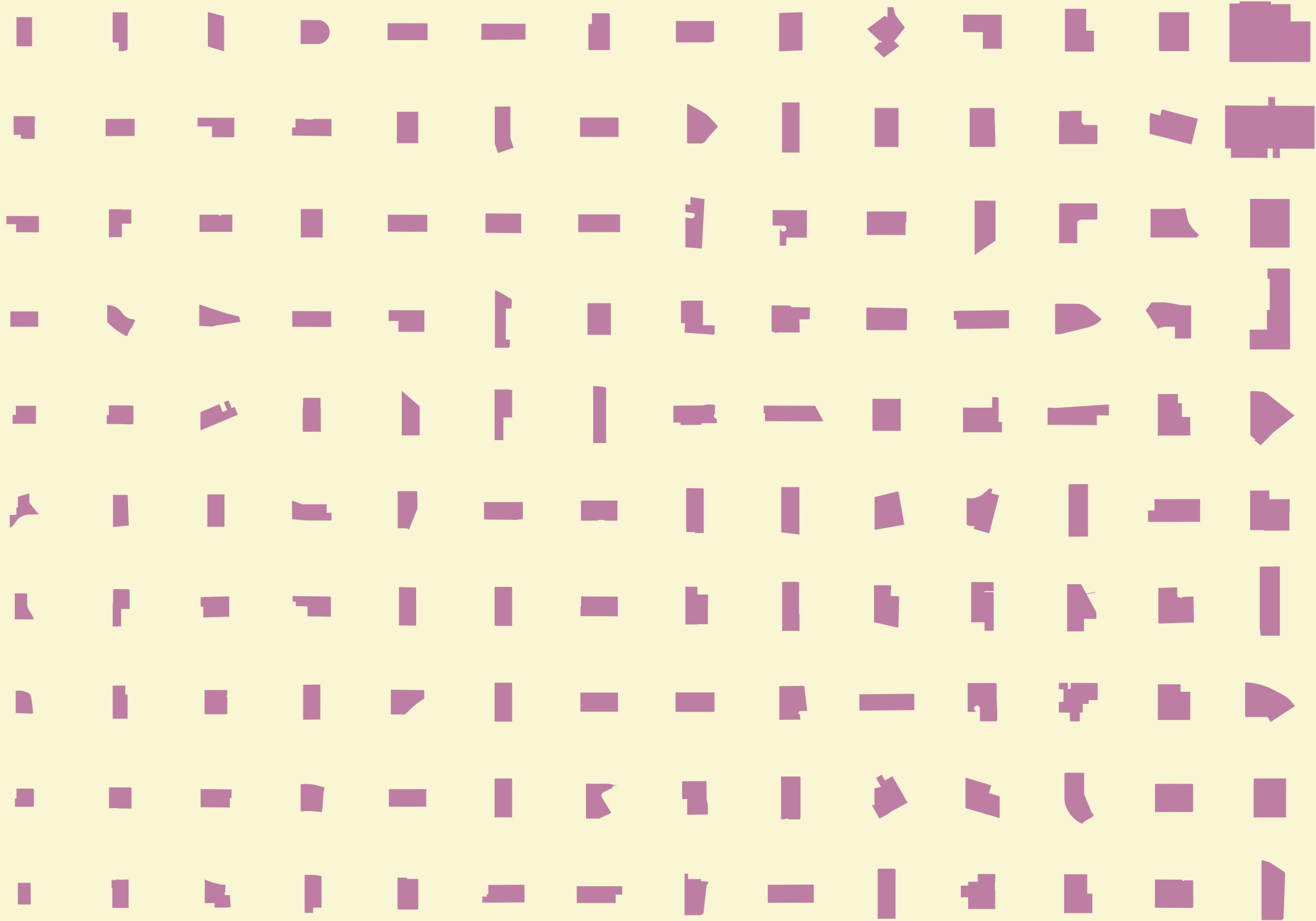
# Parcel Analysis



# Schools of Interest

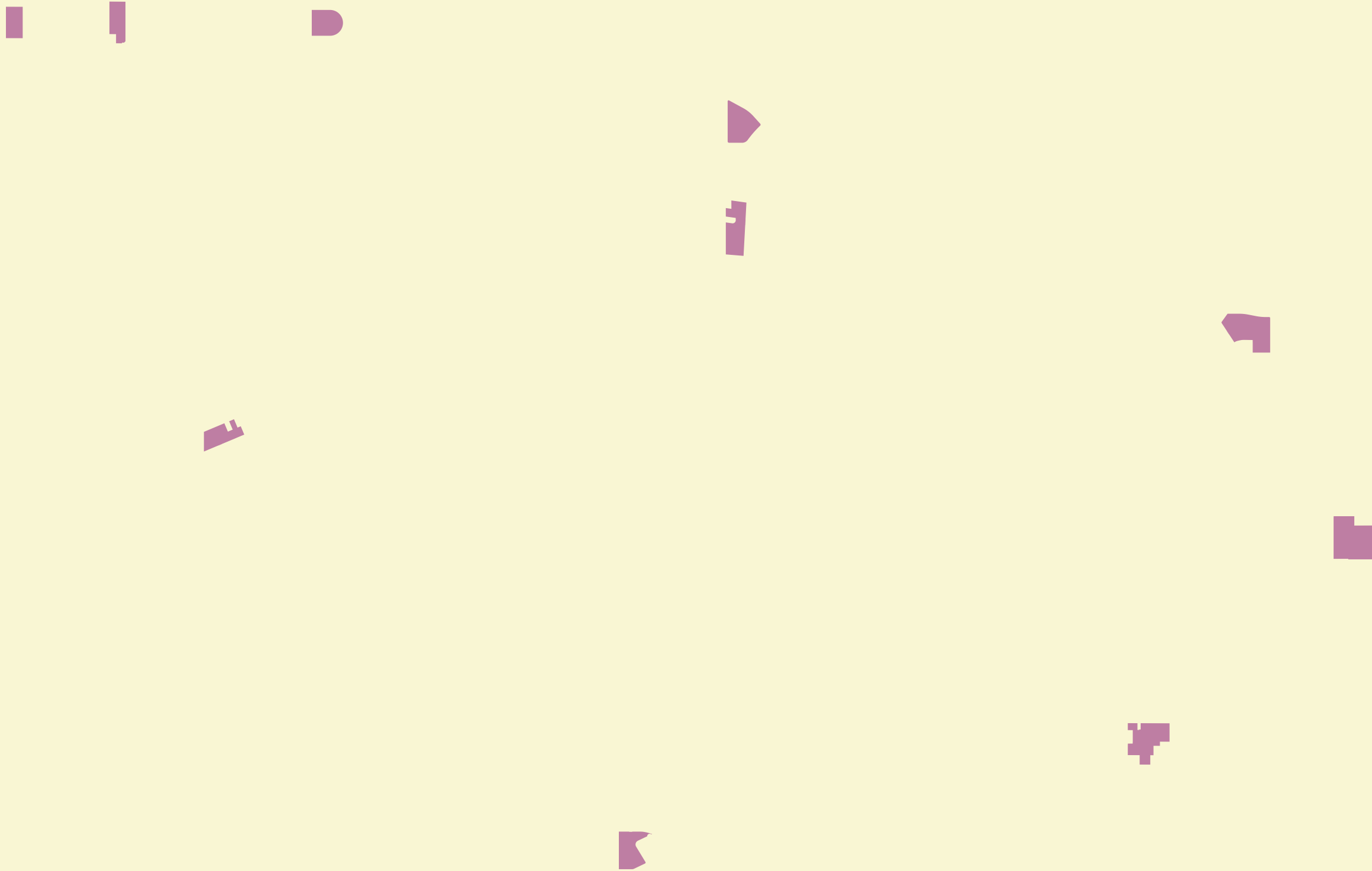
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0.25 mi

# 10 Randomly Selected Parcels



# 10 Randomly Selected Parcels



Holmes Ave  
108,058 SF  
90058



Aurora  
124,068 SF  
90011



Carthay ES of Env Studies Mag  
150,871 SF  
90048



Overland Ave  
193,403 SF  
90064



Nevin Ave  
192,222 SF  
90011



Evergreen Ave  
271,978 SF  
90033



Wilshire Park  
132,543 SF  
90005



24th St  
332,729 SF  
90018



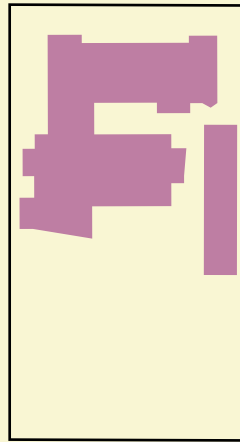
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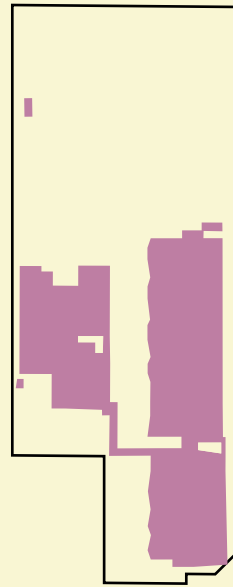
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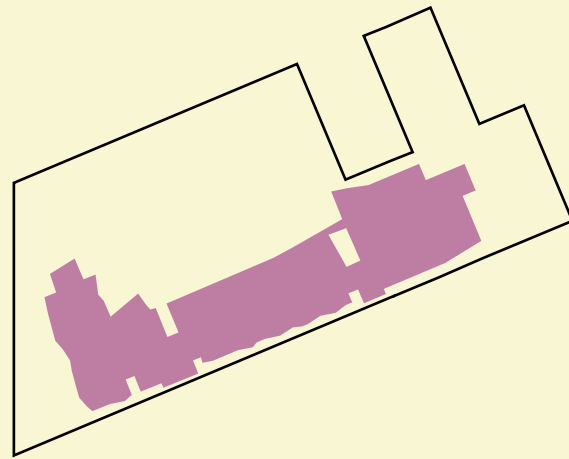
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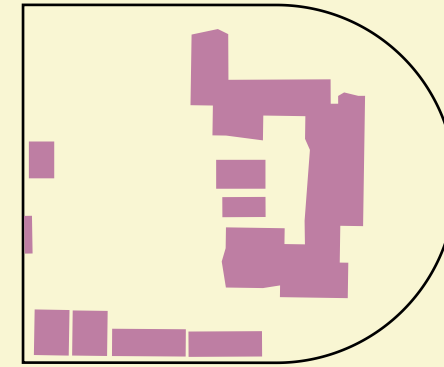
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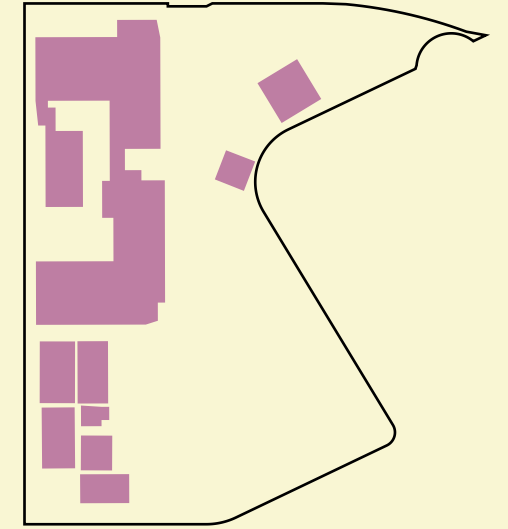
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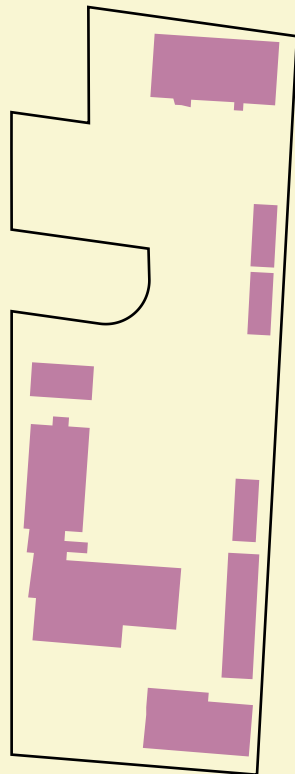
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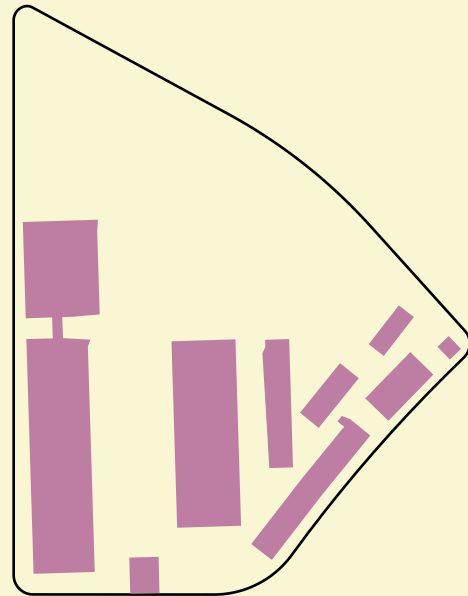
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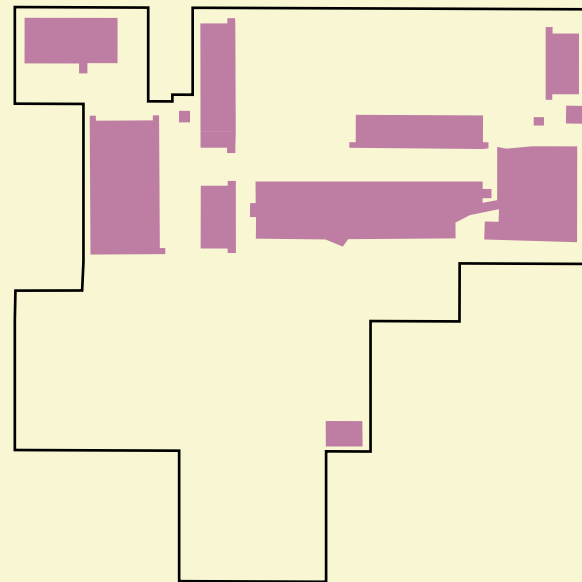
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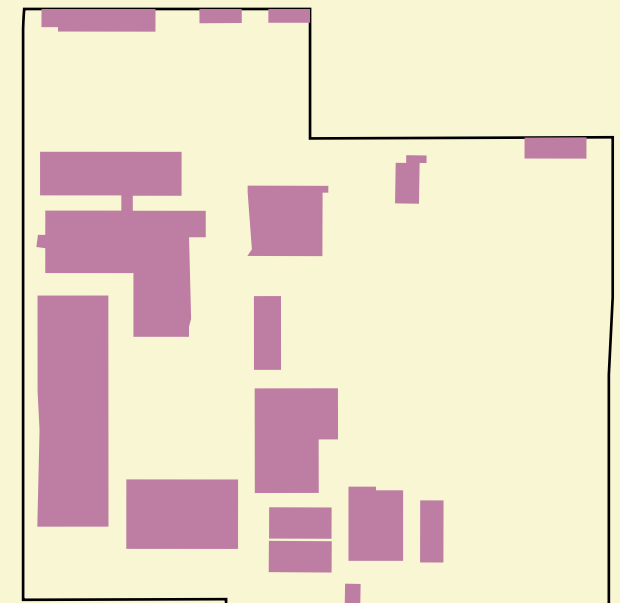
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Evergreen Ave  
271,978 SF  
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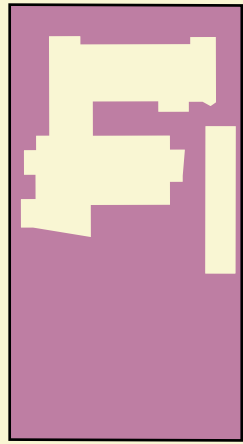
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250 ft

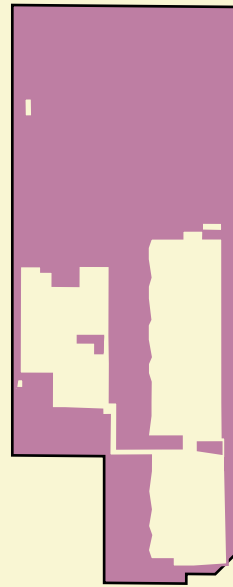
# LAUSD Elementary School Campus Space

On average, **under 30%** of the area on LAUSD elementary school campuses is **covered by buildings**.

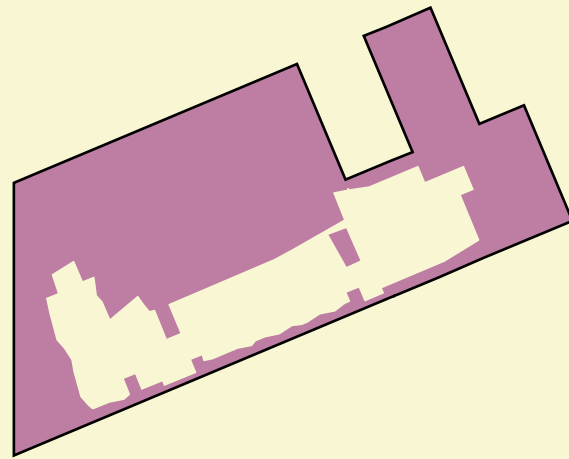
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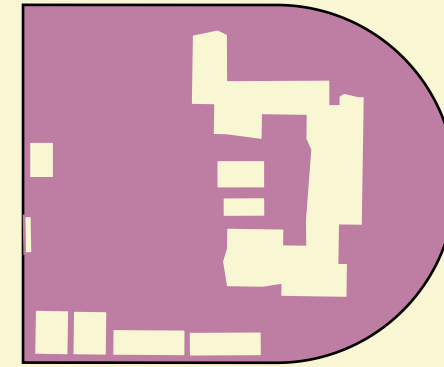
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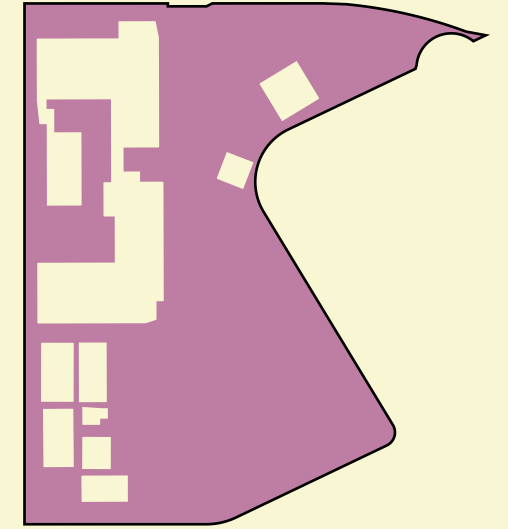
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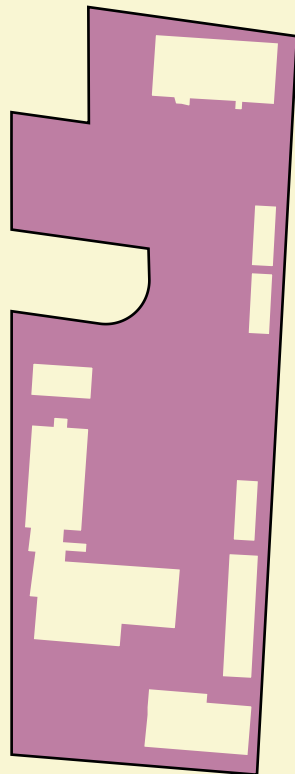
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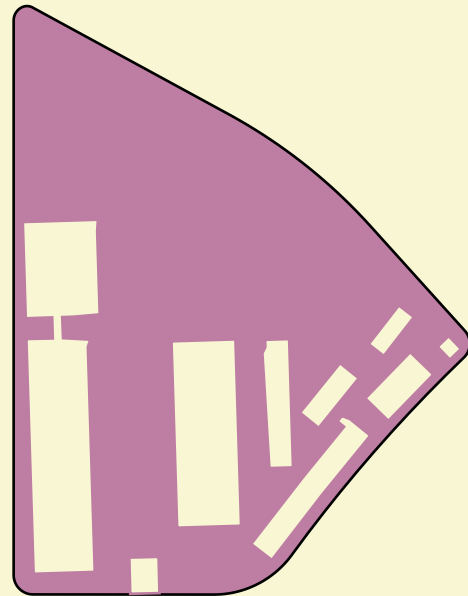
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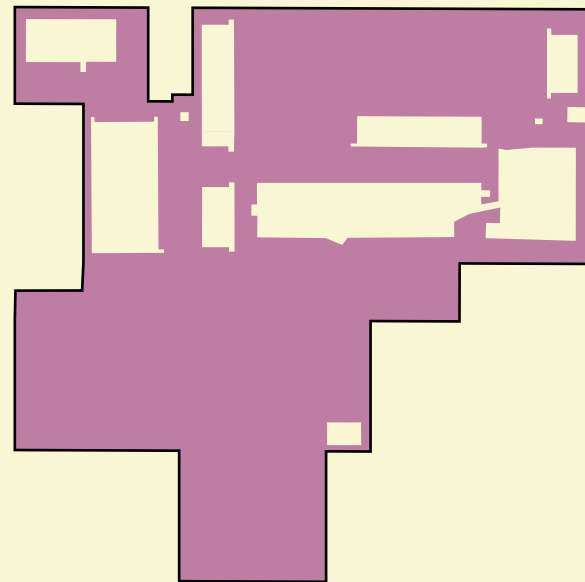
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Nevin Ave  
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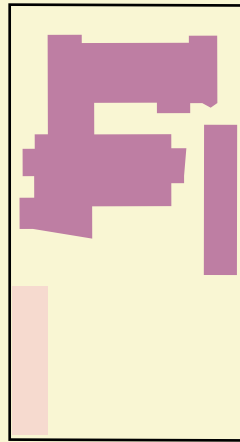


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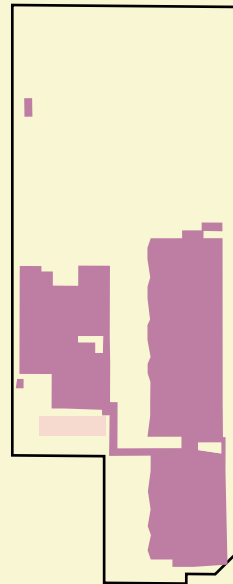
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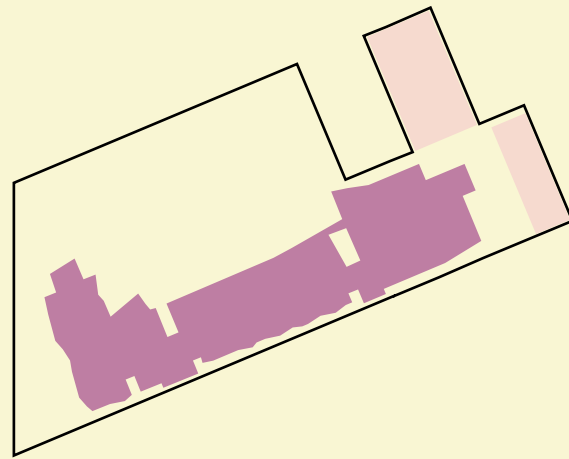
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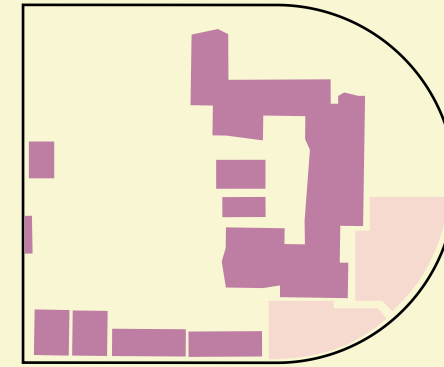
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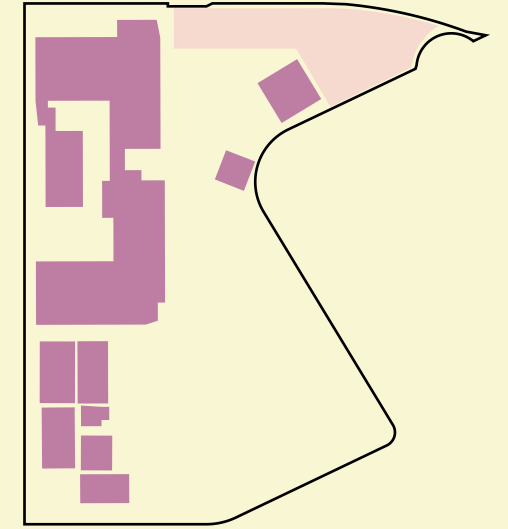
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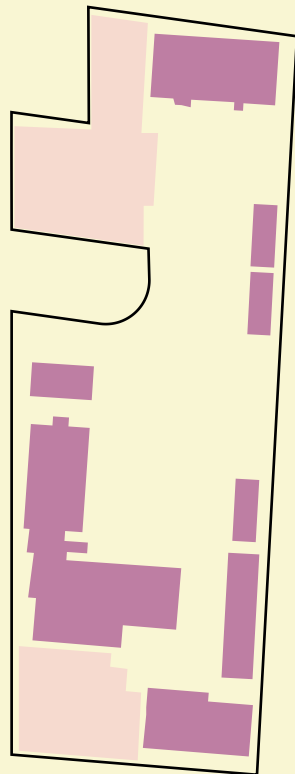
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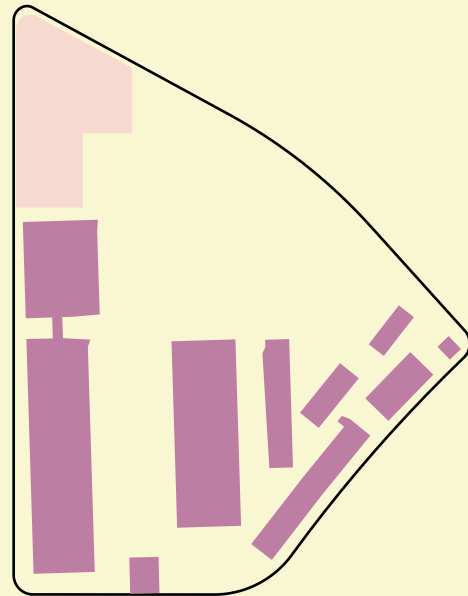
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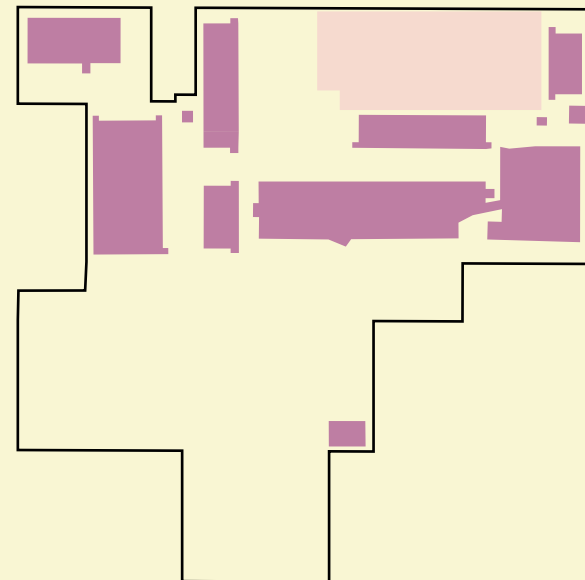
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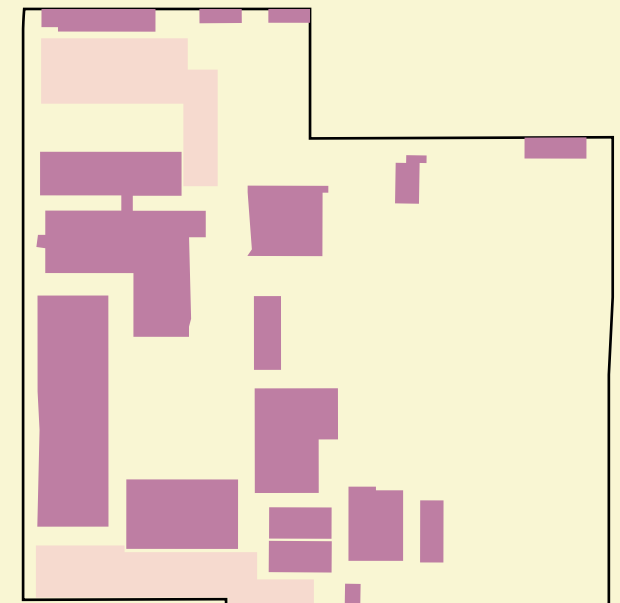
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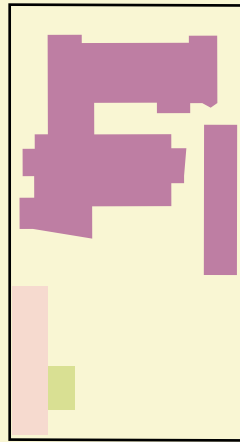
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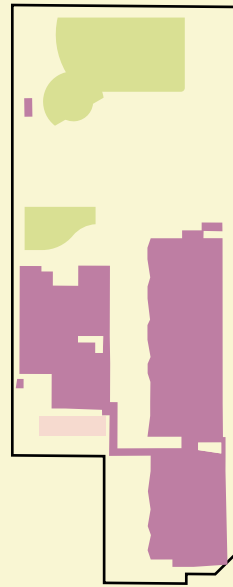
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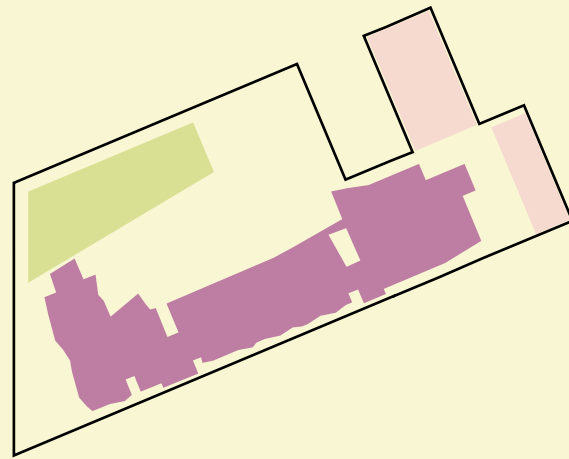
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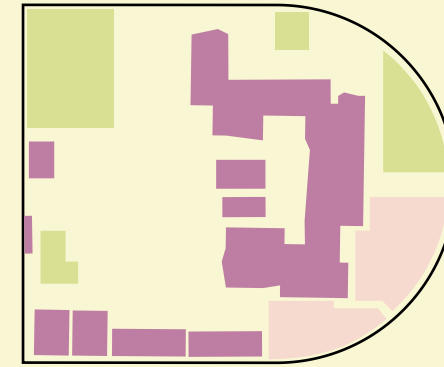
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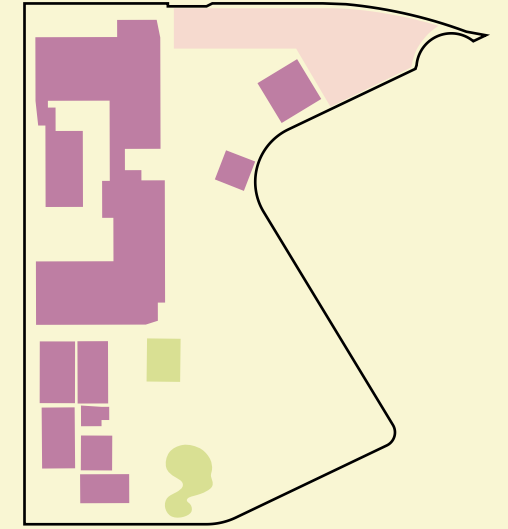
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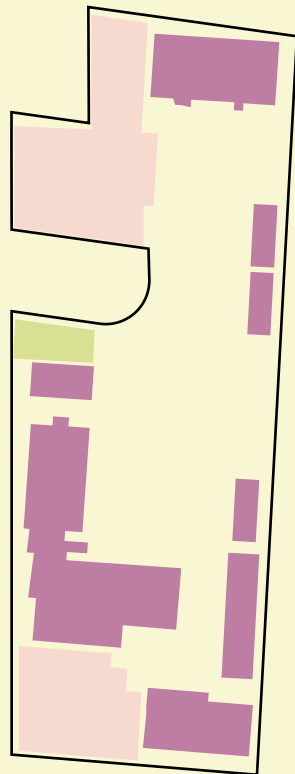
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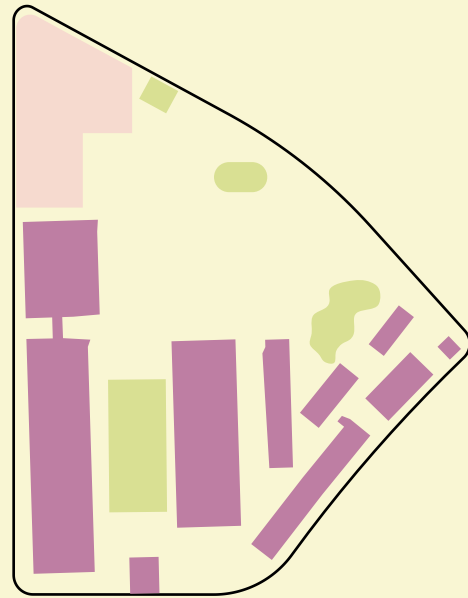
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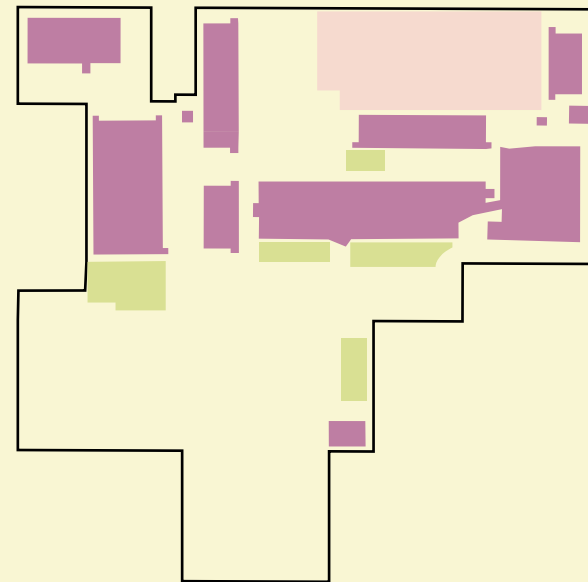
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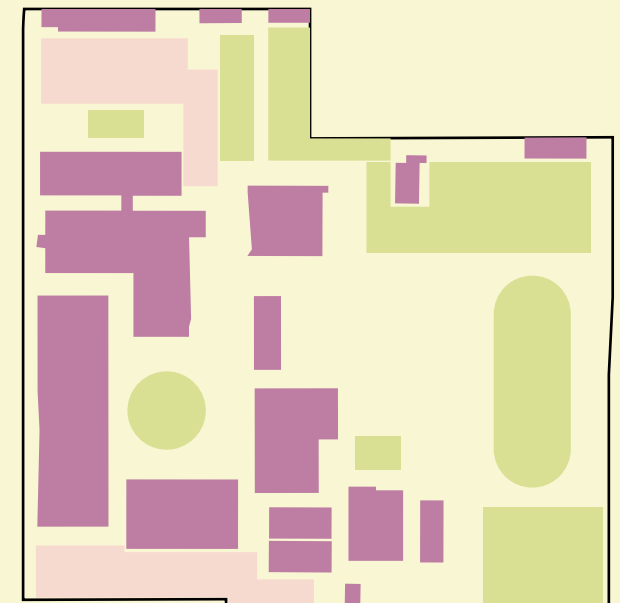
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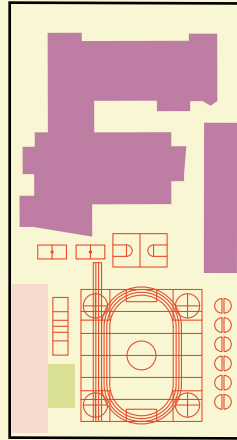
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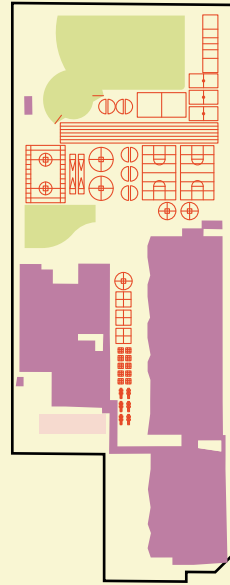
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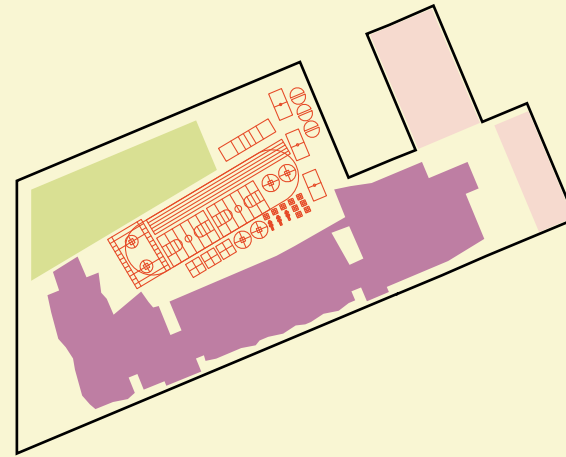
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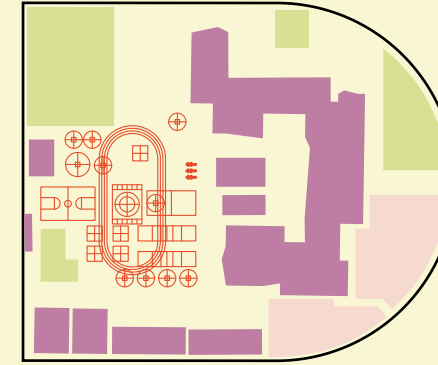
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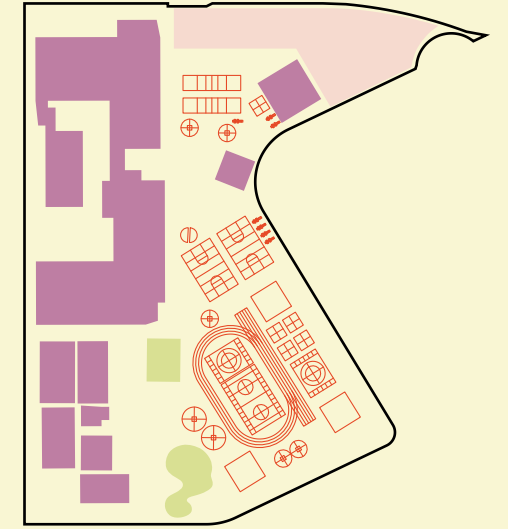
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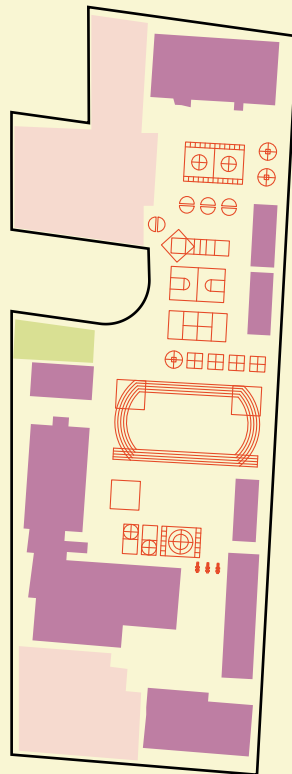
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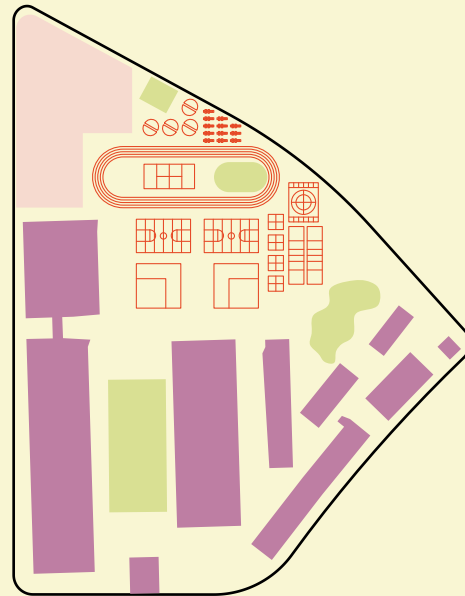
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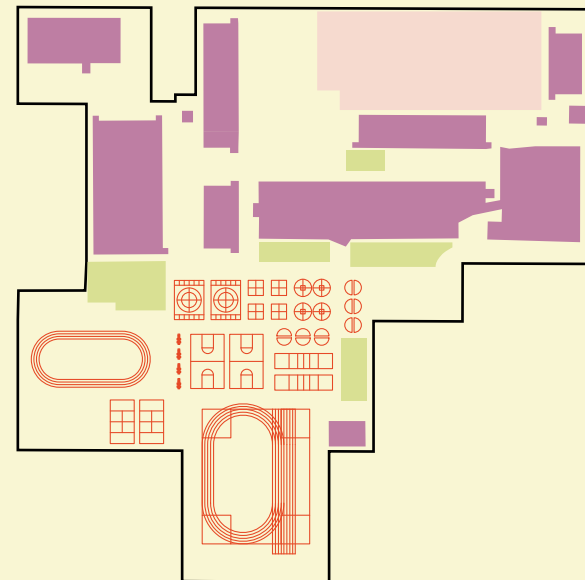
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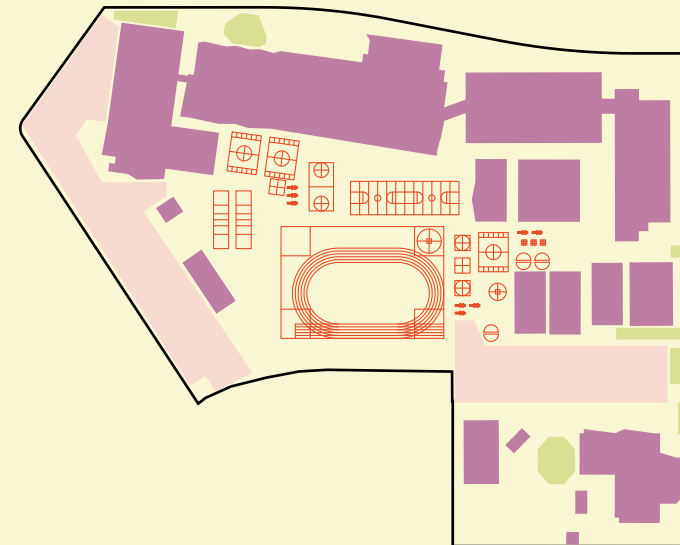
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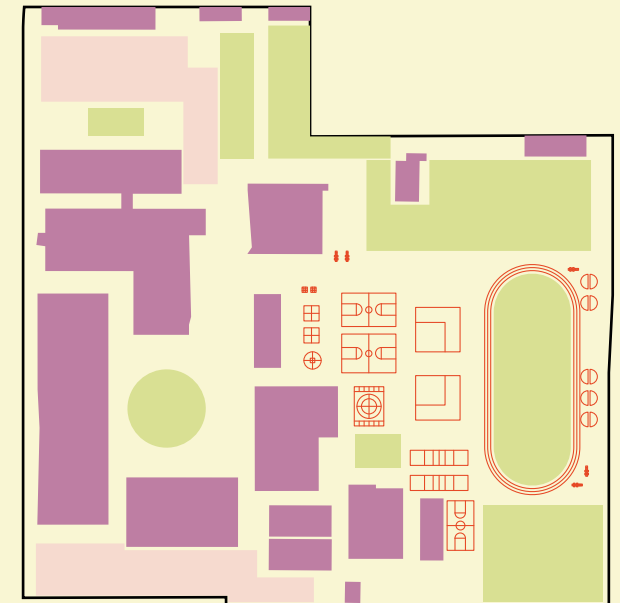
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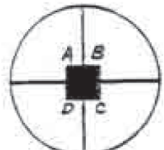
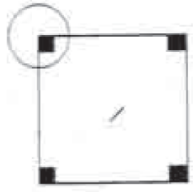
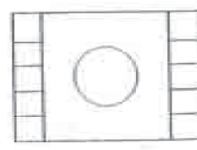
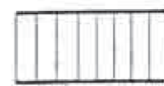

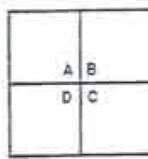
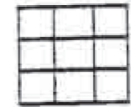
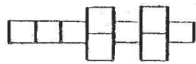
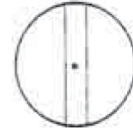
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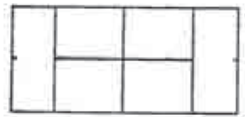
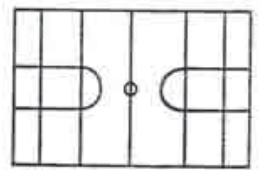
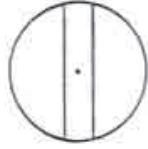
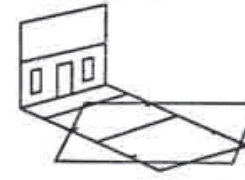
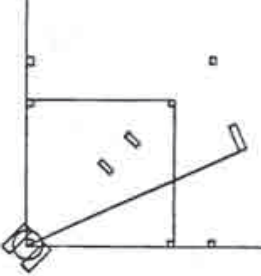
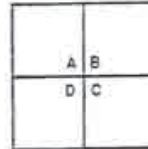
24th St  
332,729 SF  
90018

# LAUSD Playground Contents

## Activity by Area (K-2<sup>nd</sup>)

 <p><b>Primary Circle</b> (K-2<sup>nd</sup>)</p> <p>Bounce Ball Circle Throw Tunnel Ball</p>	 <p><b>Primary Diamond</b> (K-2<sup>nd</sup>)</p> <p>One Base Line Up Kickball Beginning Fistball</p>	 <p><b>Tag Game Court</b> (K-2<sup>nd</sup>)</p> <p>Uncle Sam Grab Bag Race Freeze Tag Center Tag Roll Dodgeball</p>
 <p><b>Ladder Court (K-2<sup>nd</sup>)</b></p> <p>Bean Bag Hop Hop Along and Jump Around Eleven Points Ladder Challenge</p>	 <p><b>Skills Game Court</b> (K-2<sup>nd</sup>)</p> <p>Leader Ball Exchange Dodgeball</p>	 <p><b>Four Square (K-2<sup>nd</sup>)</b></p> <p>Four Square Four Corners</p>
 <p><b>Square Hopscotch (K-2<sup>nd</sup>)</b></p> <p>Hit the Middle</p>	 <p><b>Hopscotch (K-2<sup>nd</sup>)</b></p> <p>Hopscotch</p>	 <p><b>Tetherball</b> (all)</p>

## Activities by Area (3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>)

 <p><b>Volleyball Court (3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>)</b></p> <p>Volleyball Prisoner's Ball</p>	 <p><b>Basketball Court (3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>)</b></p> <p>Basketball Horse</p>	 <p><b>Tetherball</b> (all)</p>
 <p><b>Handball Diamond (3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>)</b></p> <p>Diamond Handball One Bounce Handball One Bounce Team Handball</p>	 <p><b>Diamond (3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>)</b></p> <p>Kickball Fistball</p>	 <p><b>Four Square</b> Four Square</p>



# 10 Randomly Selected Parcels



Holmes Ave  
108,058 SF  
90058



Aurora  
124,068 SF  
90011



Wilshire Park  
132,543 SF  
90005



Carthay ES of Env Studies Mag  
150,871 SF  
90048



2nd St  
170,936 SF  
90033



Nevin Ave  
192,222 SF  
90011



Overland Ave  
193,403 SF  
90064



Hobart Blvd  
237,283 SF  
90006



Evergreen Ave  
271,978 SF  
90033



24th St  
332,729 SF  
90018



# My Proposal

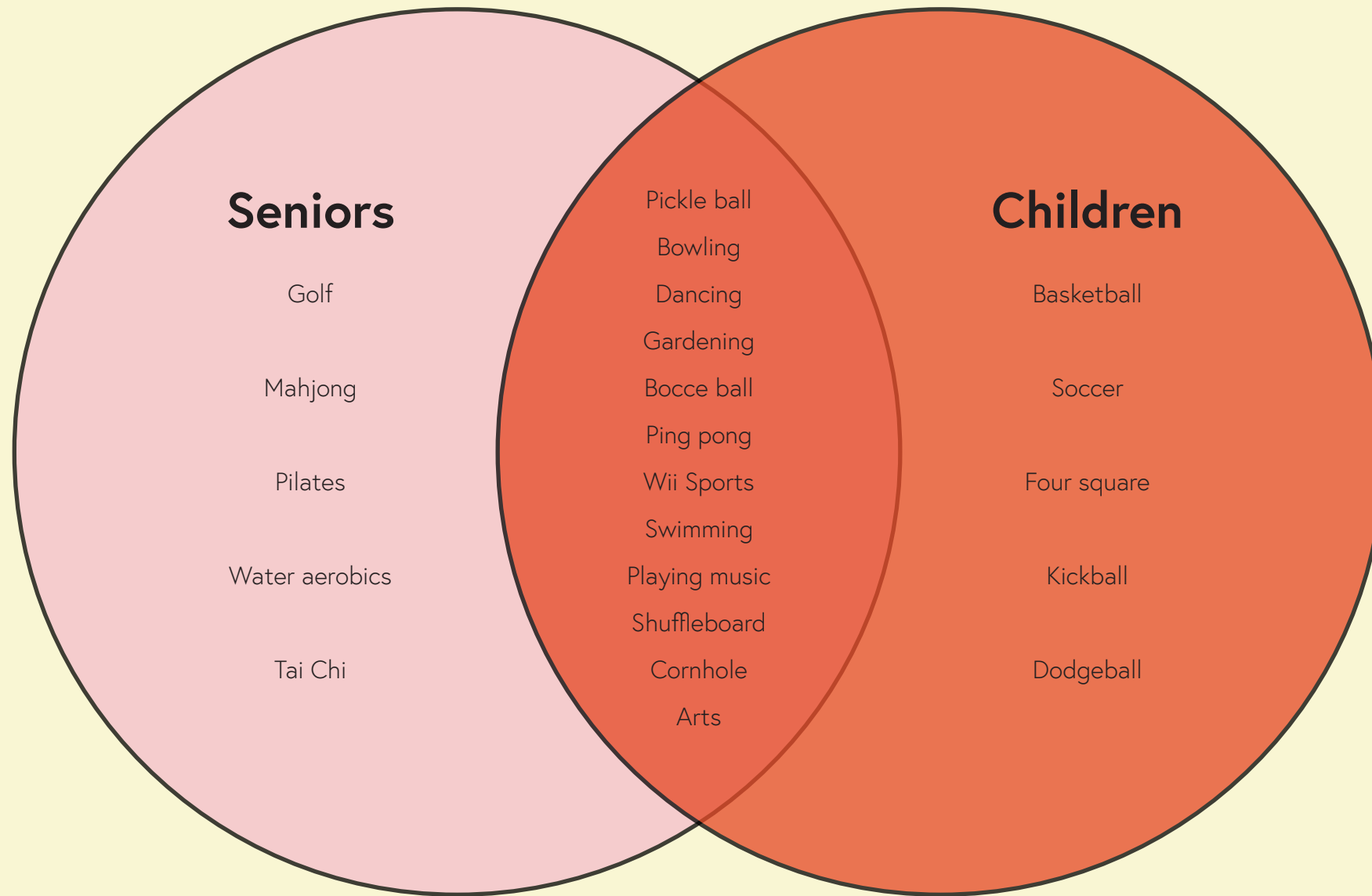
build senior housing on LAUSD-owned land using elementary school playgrounds

# Rooftop Playground, NYC, c. 1900

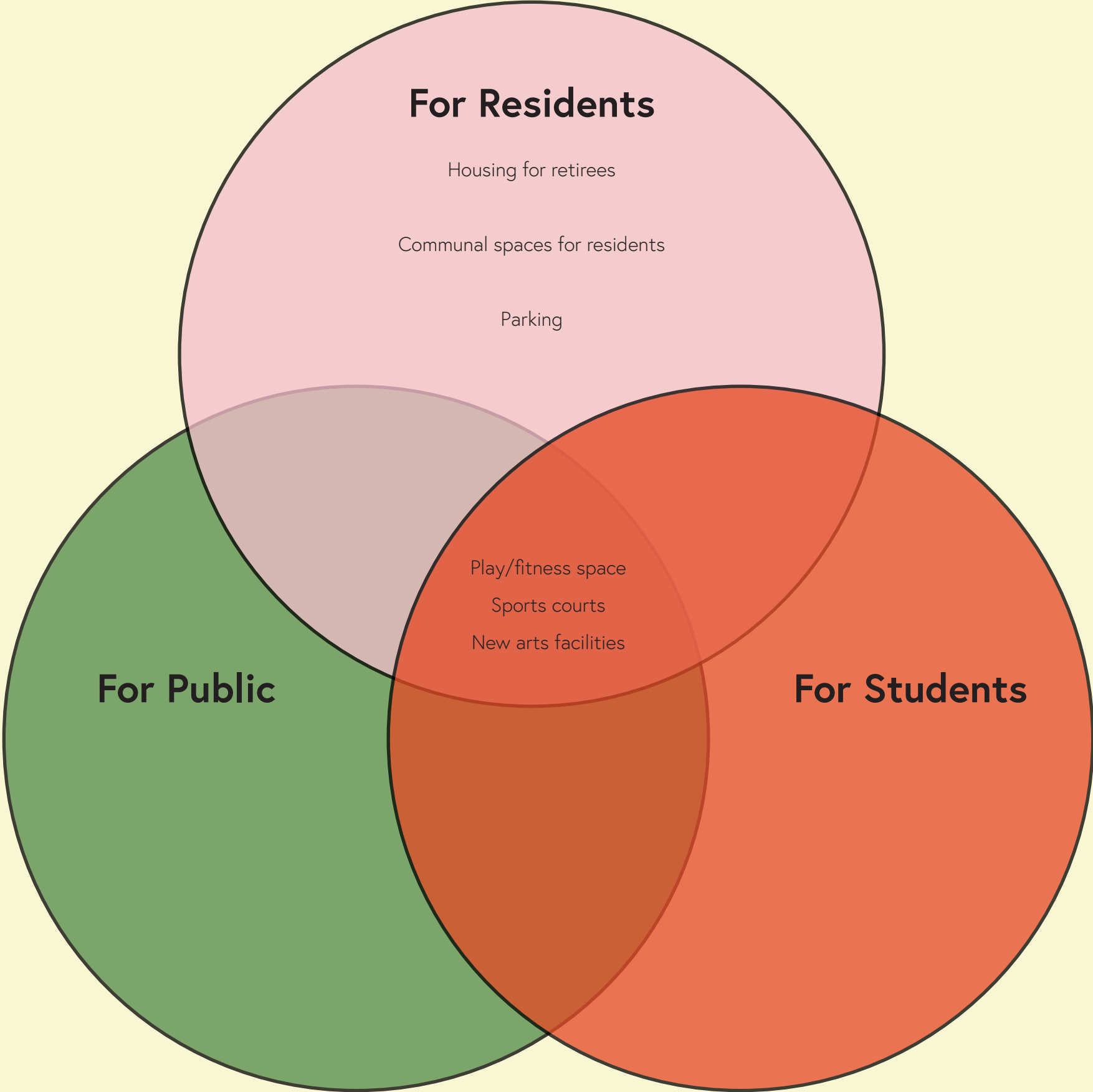




# Popular Play/Fitness Overlap



# Proposed Program

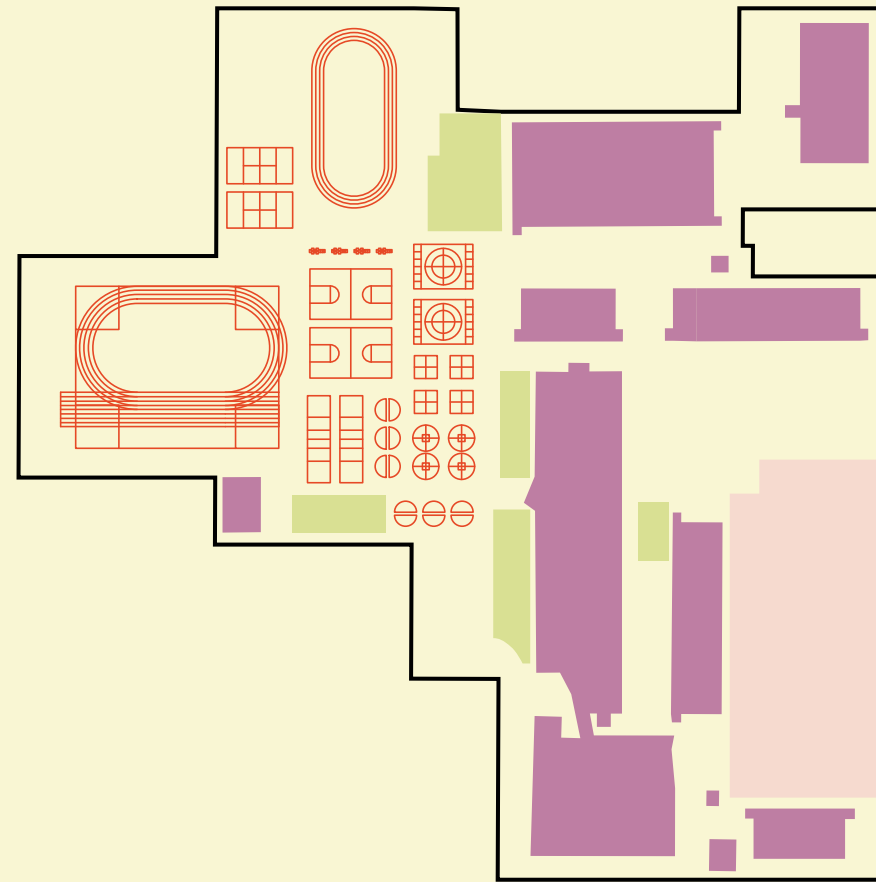


# Hobart Boulevard Elementary



# Hobart Boulevard Elementary

ANGELA LOPEZ-VIDELA | HARVARD GSD



RECESS REIMAGINED | THE INTERGENERATIONAL CAMPUS

100 ft



San Marino St.

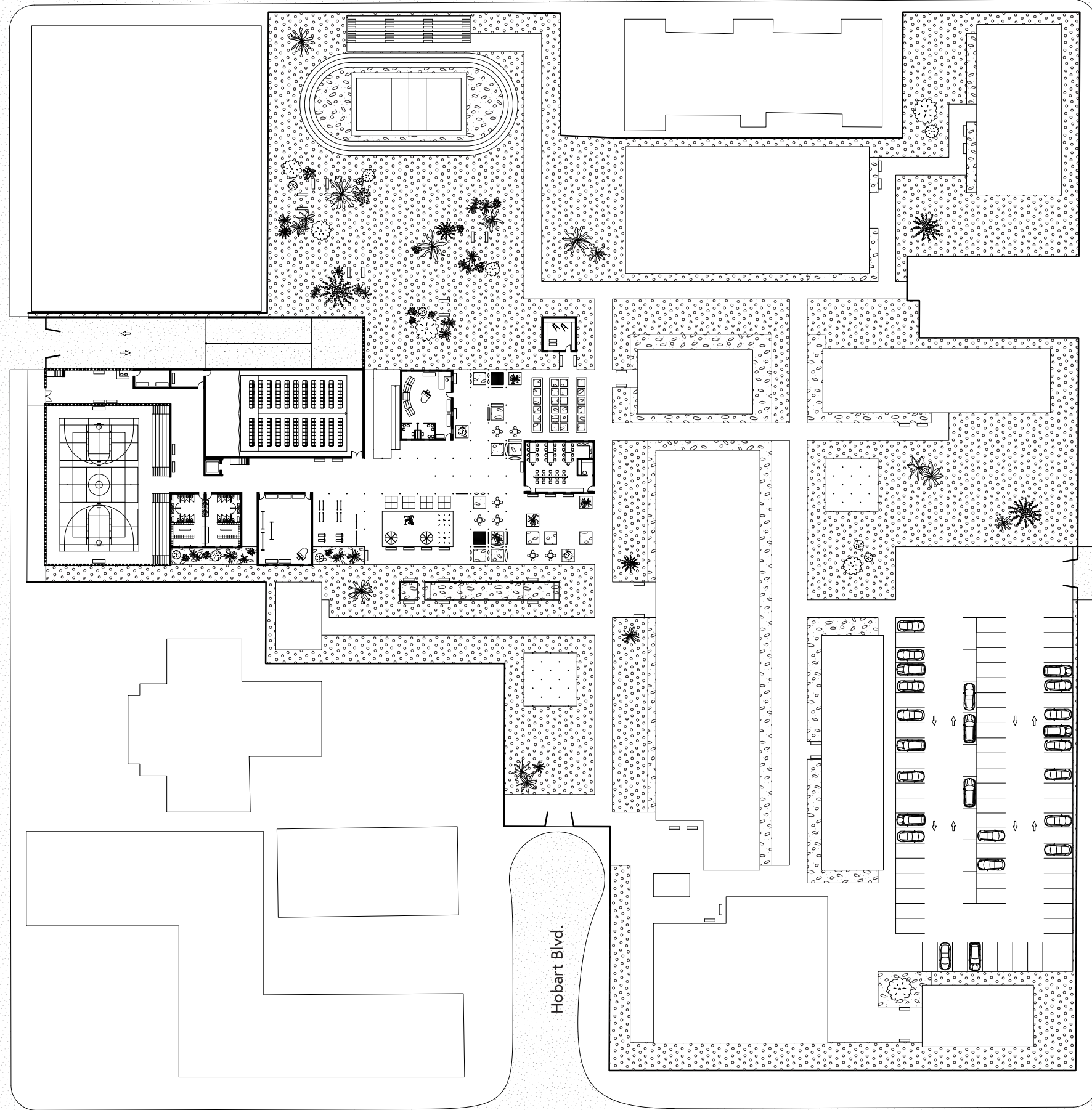
Serrano Ave.

Harvard Blvd.

Hobart Blvd.

W. Olympic Blvd.

Site Plan  
1/32"=1'

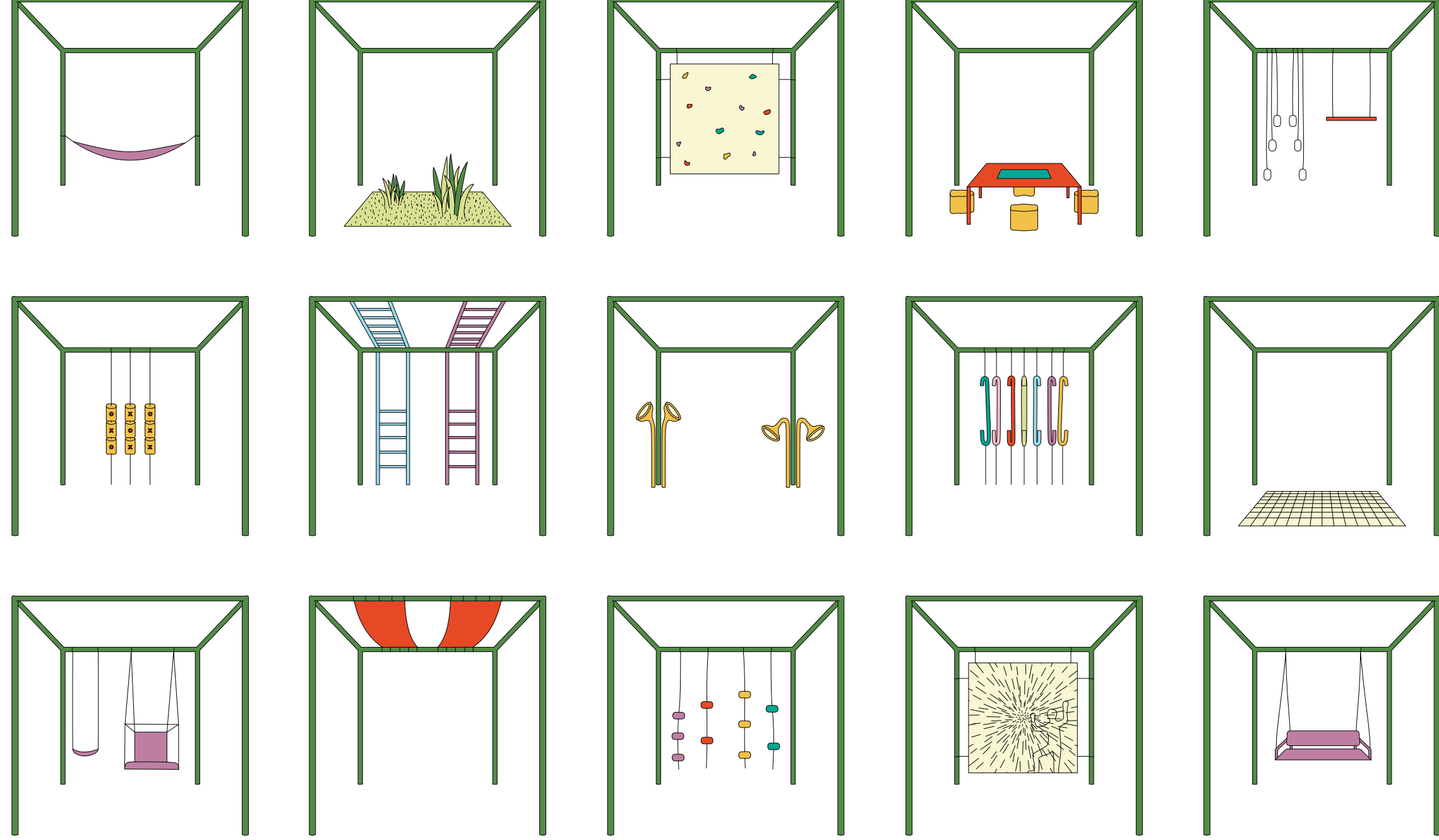




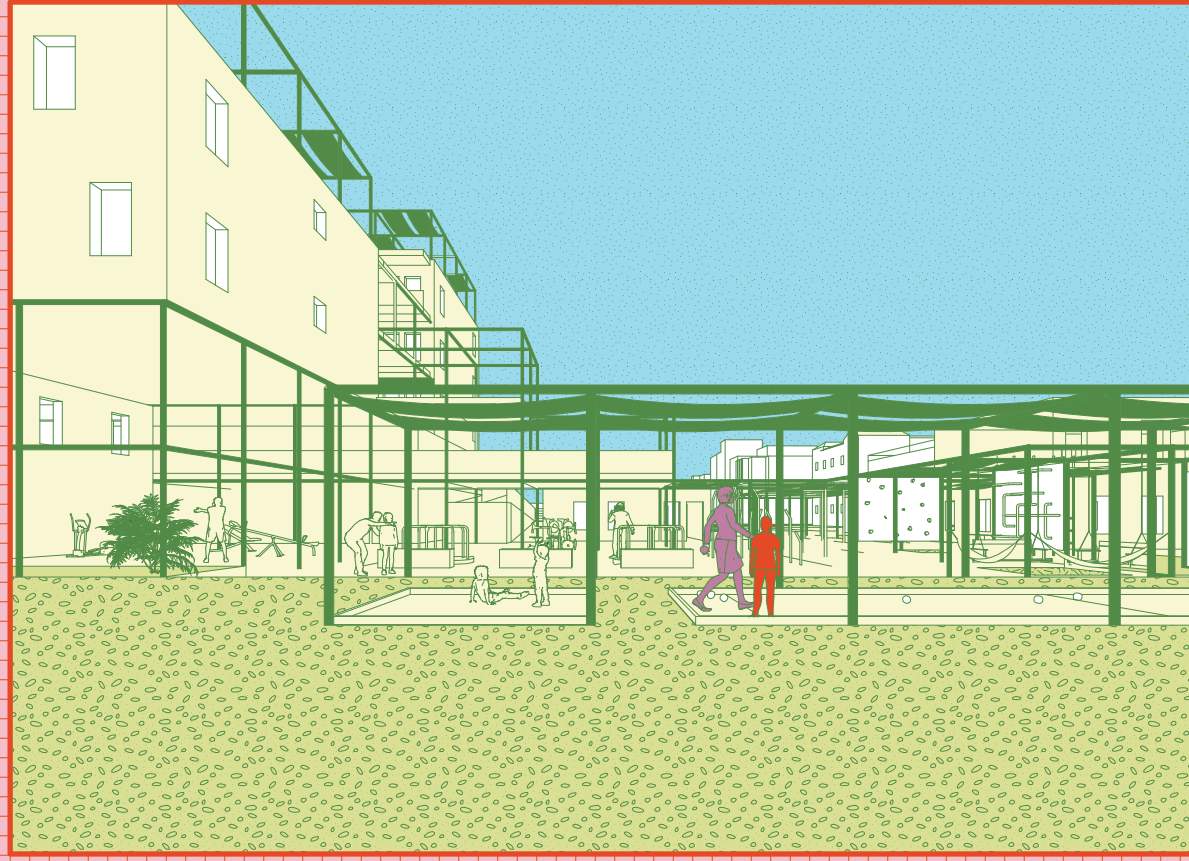
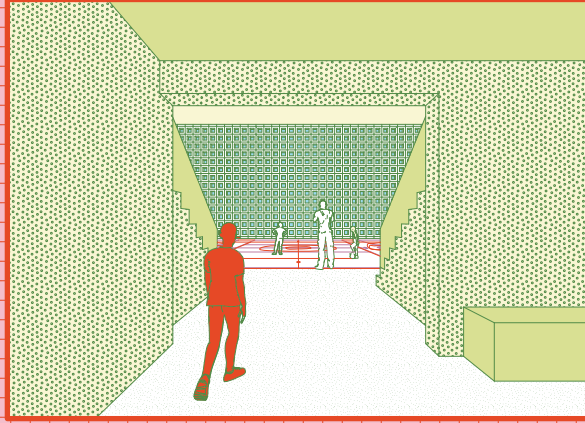
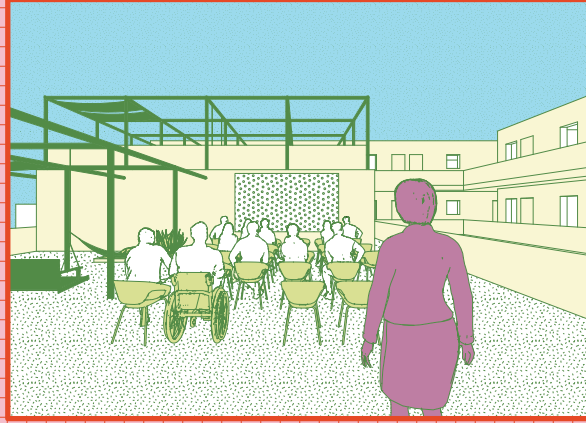
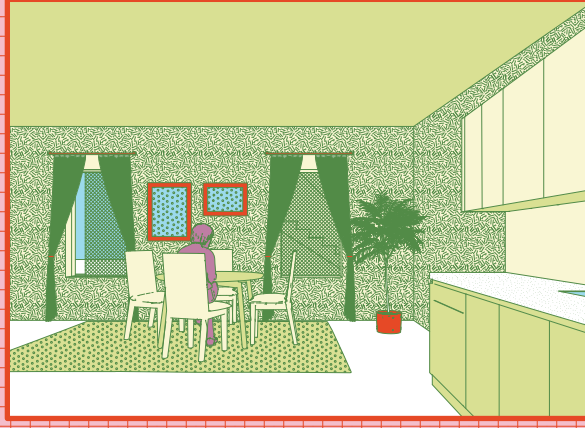
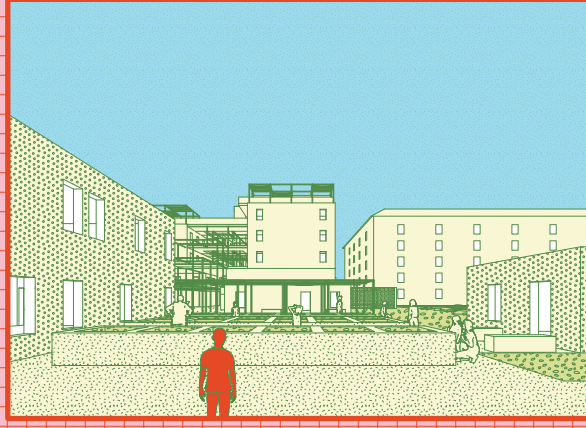






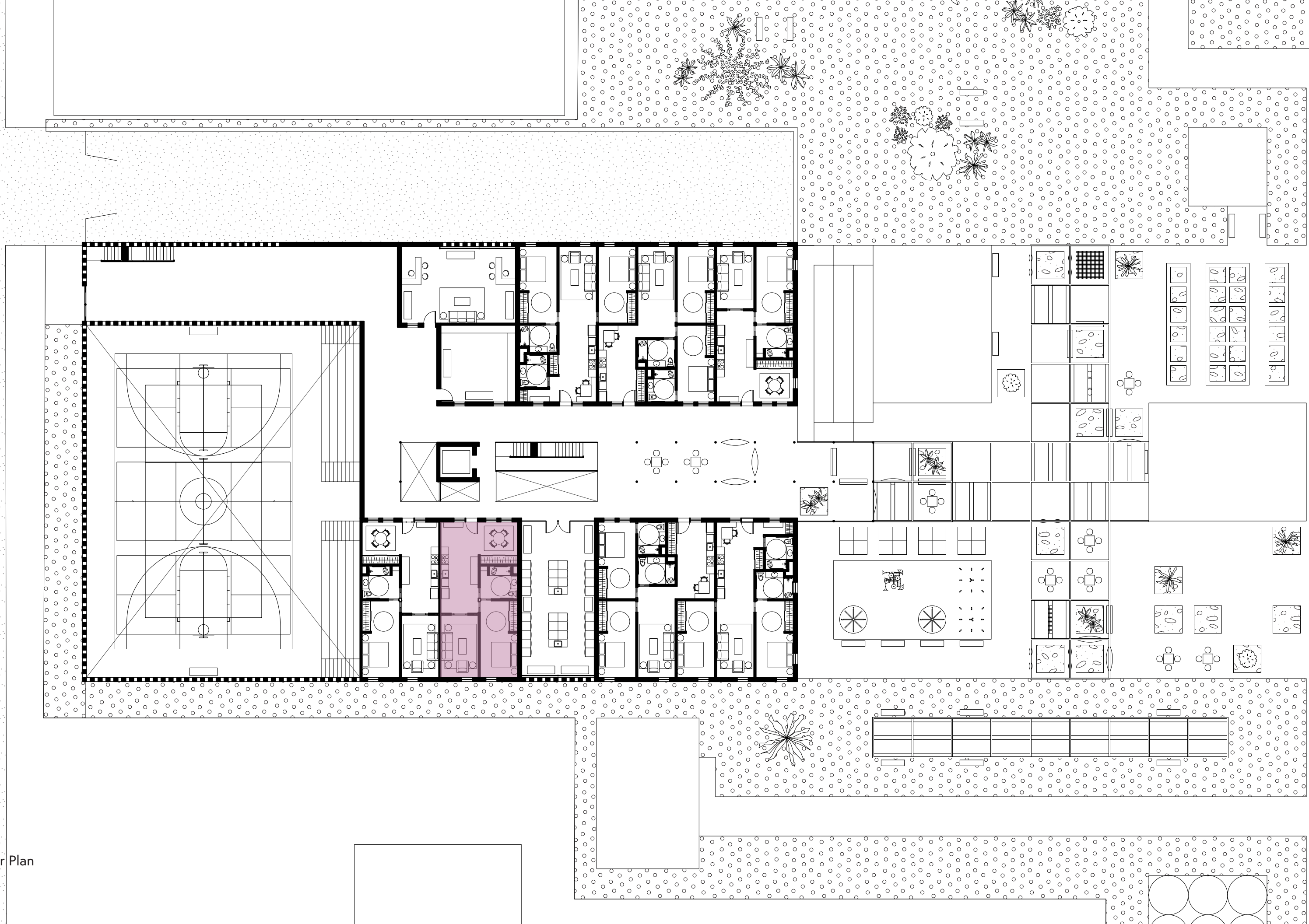


# Story Time

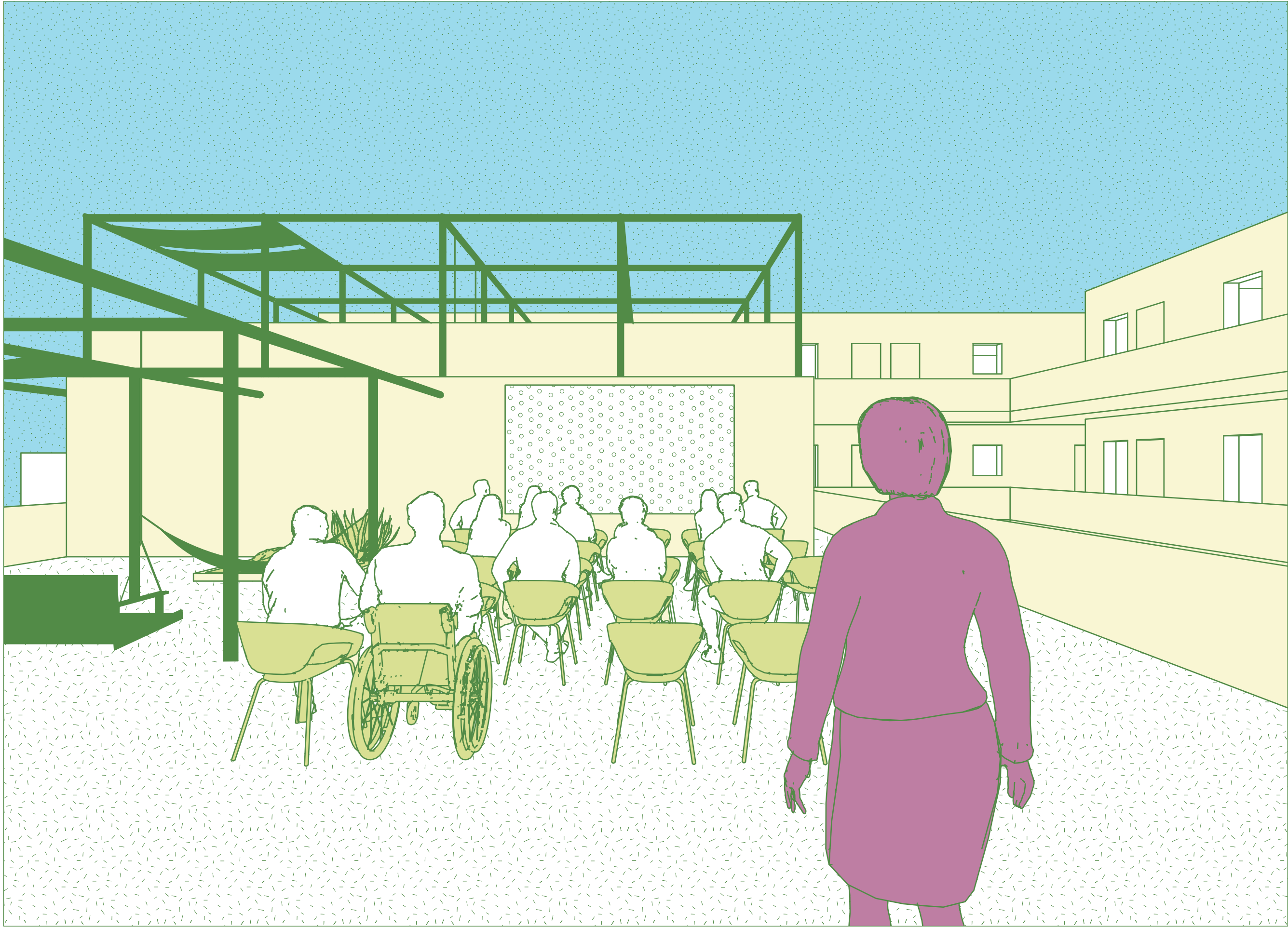




Serrano Ave.



Third Floor Plan  
3/64"=1'





RECESS REMAINED | THE INTERGENERATIONAL CAMPUS



Serrano Ave.

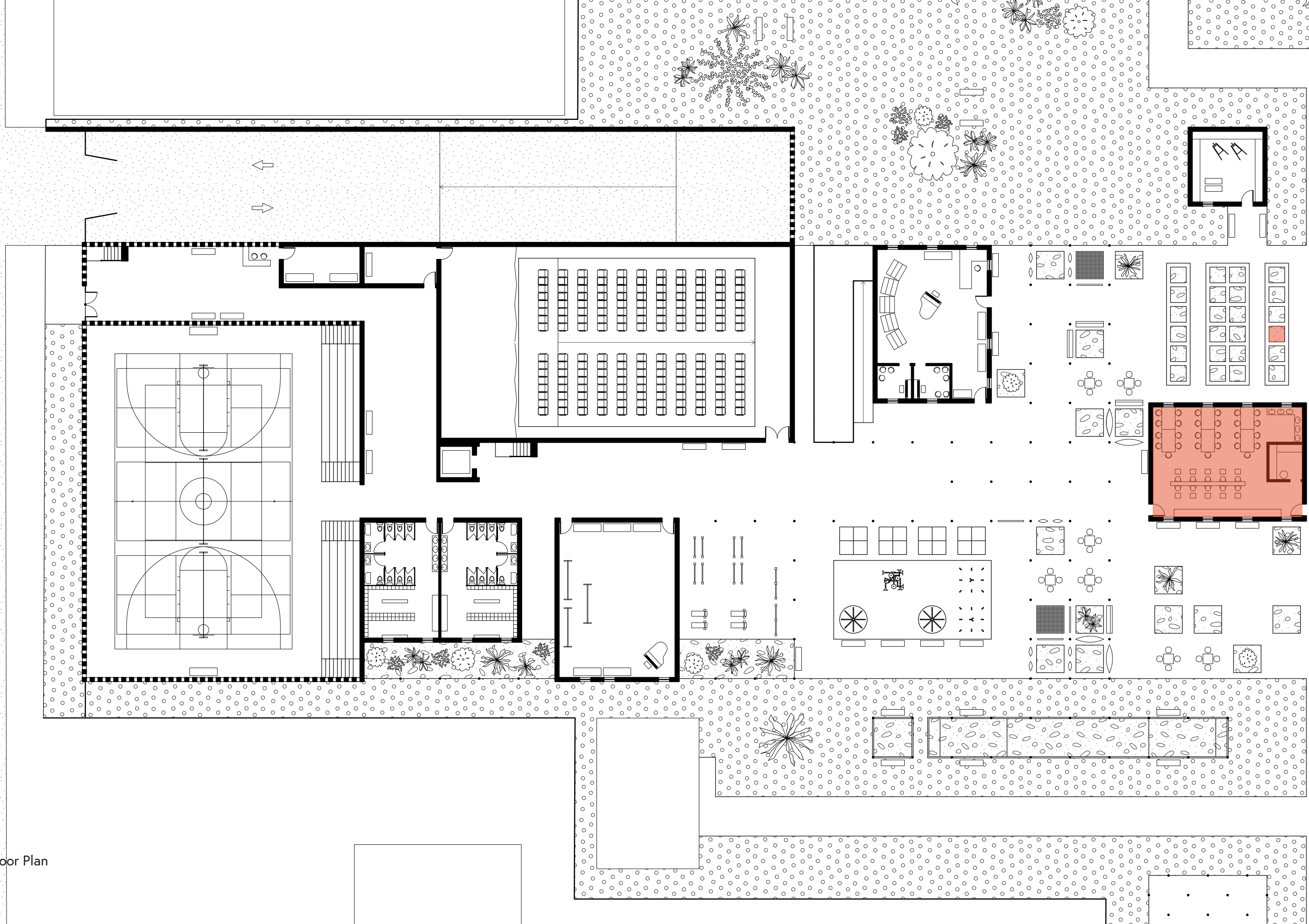


Fifth Floor Plan  
3/64"=1'



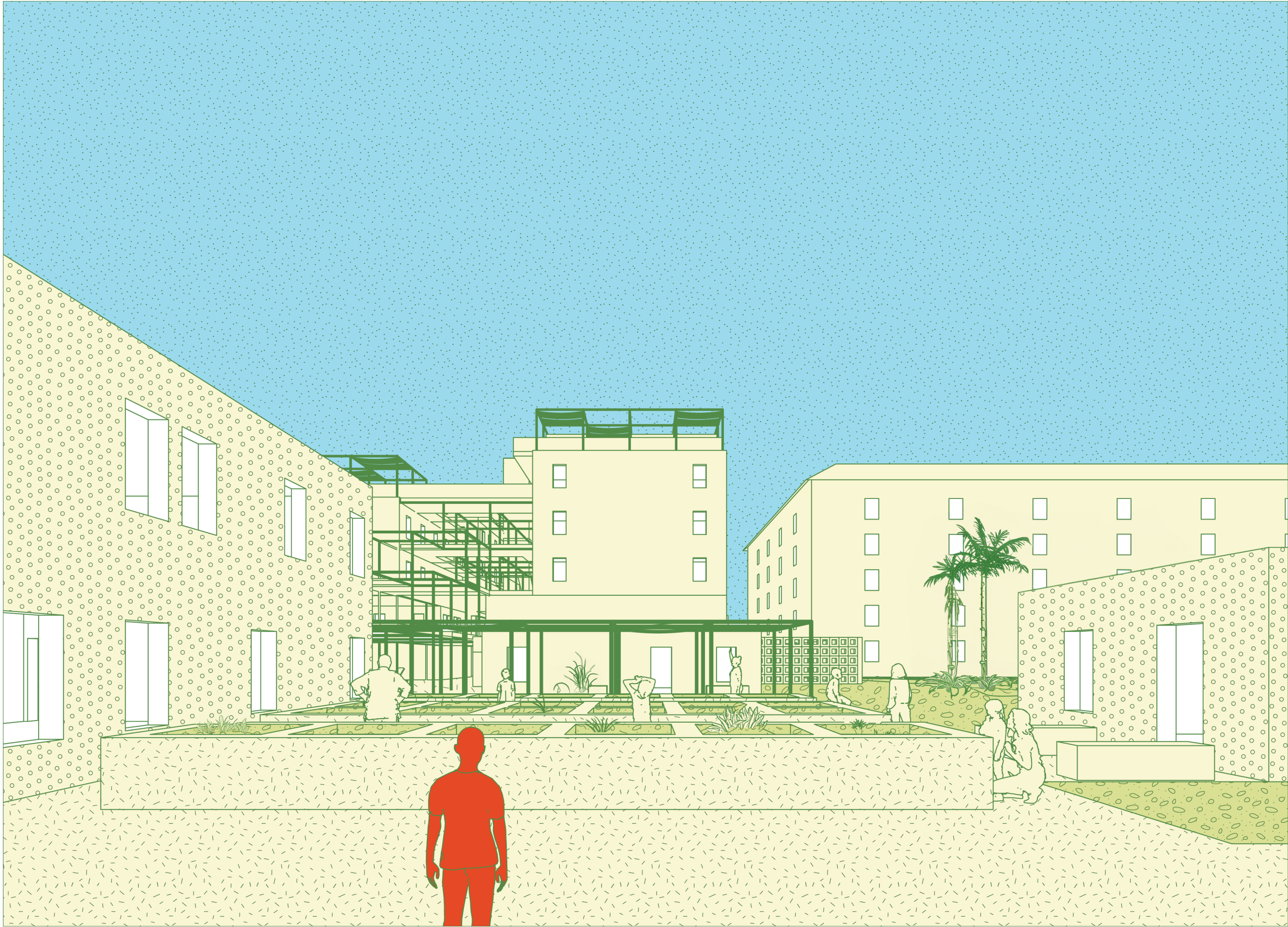


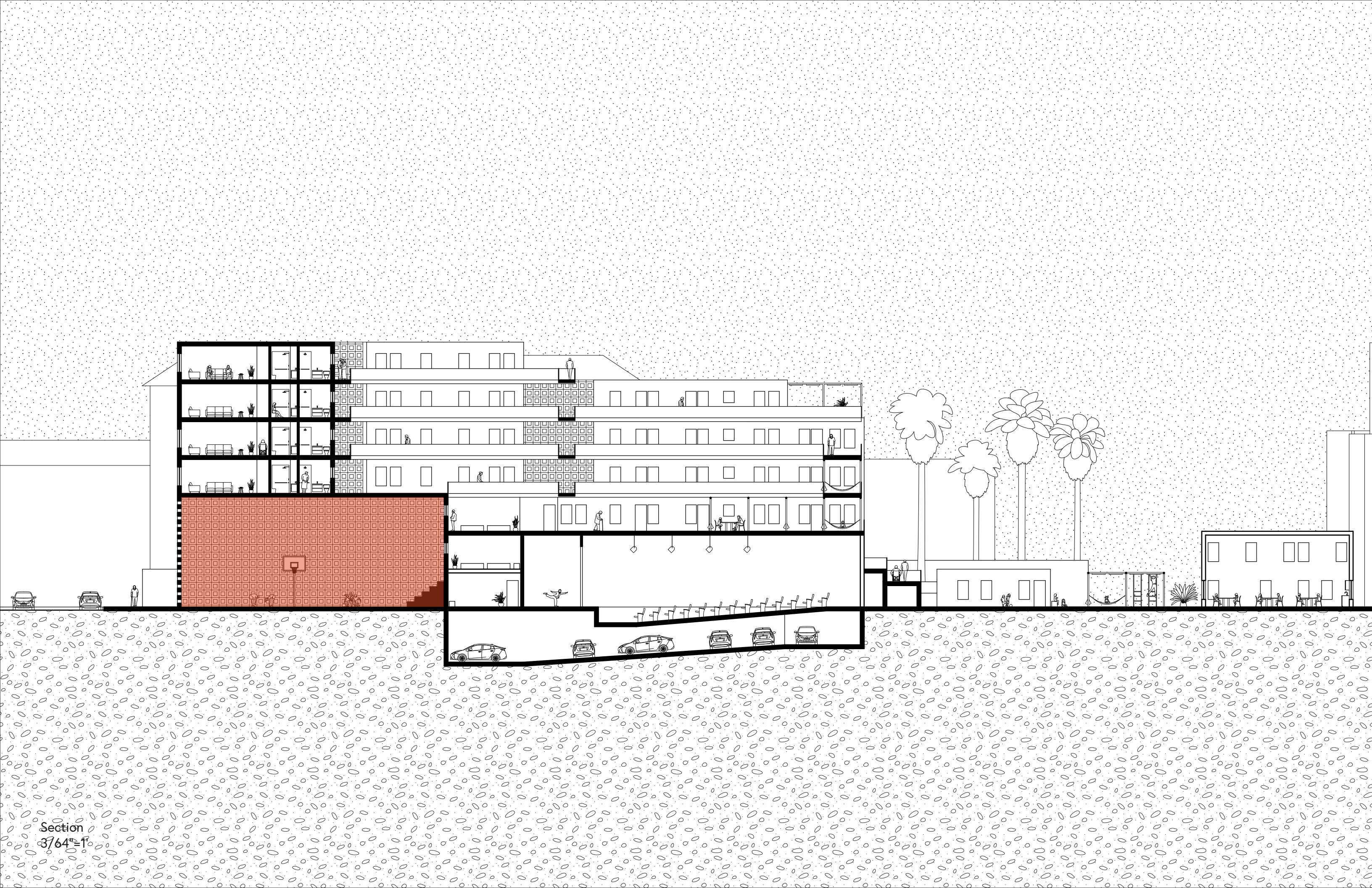
Serrano Ave.



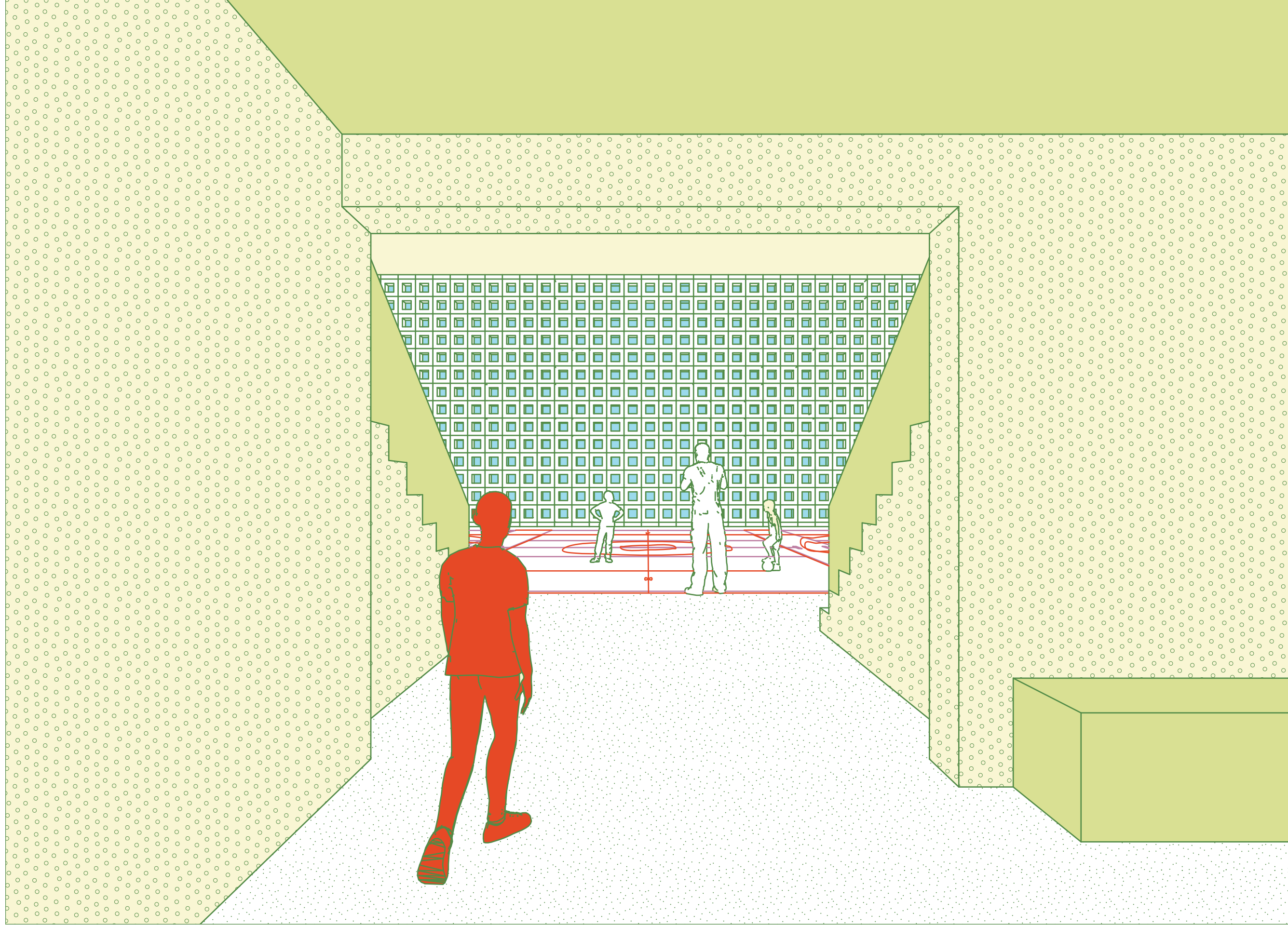
Ground Floor Plan  
3/64"=1'





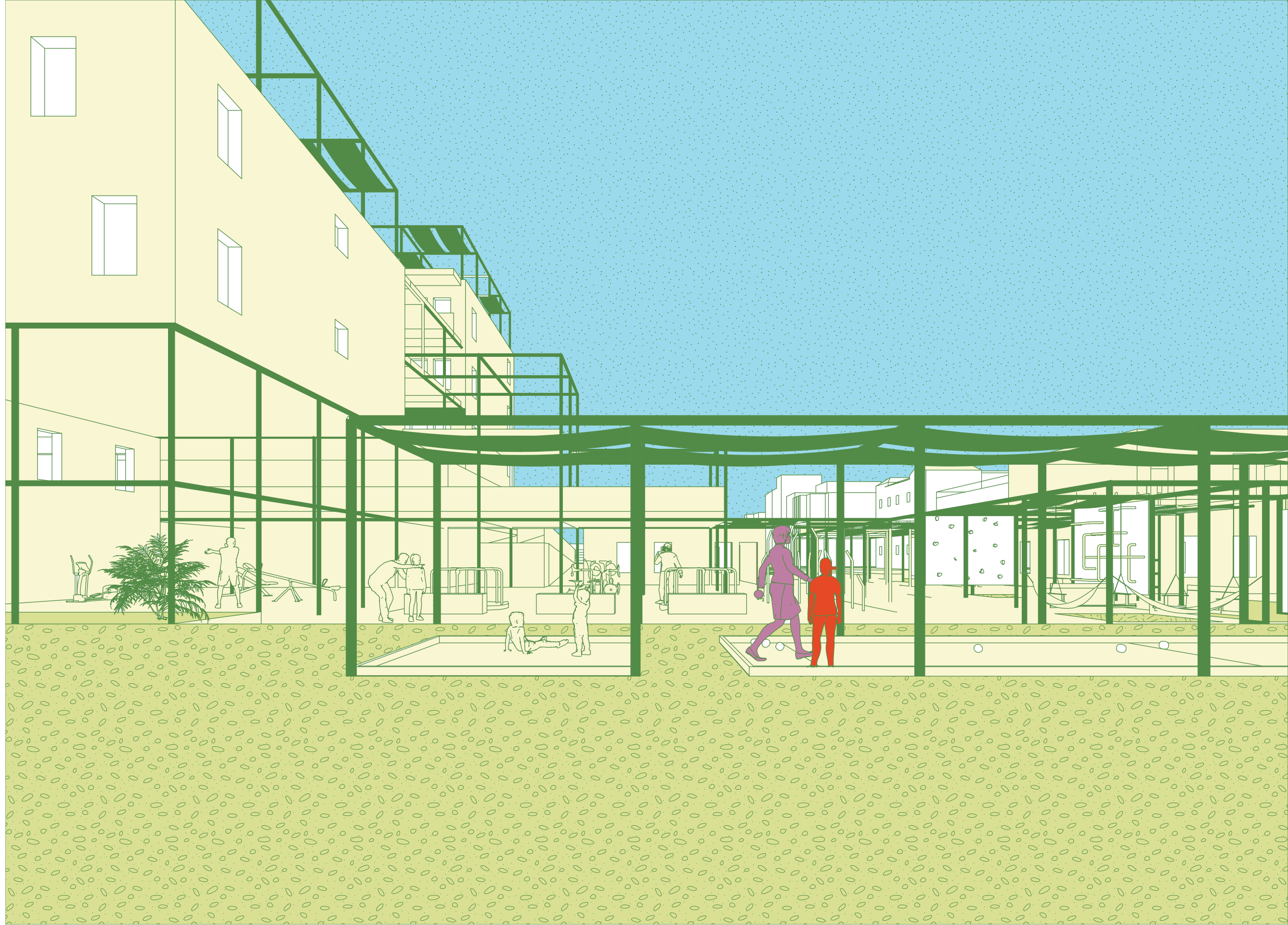


Section  
3/64 = 1"

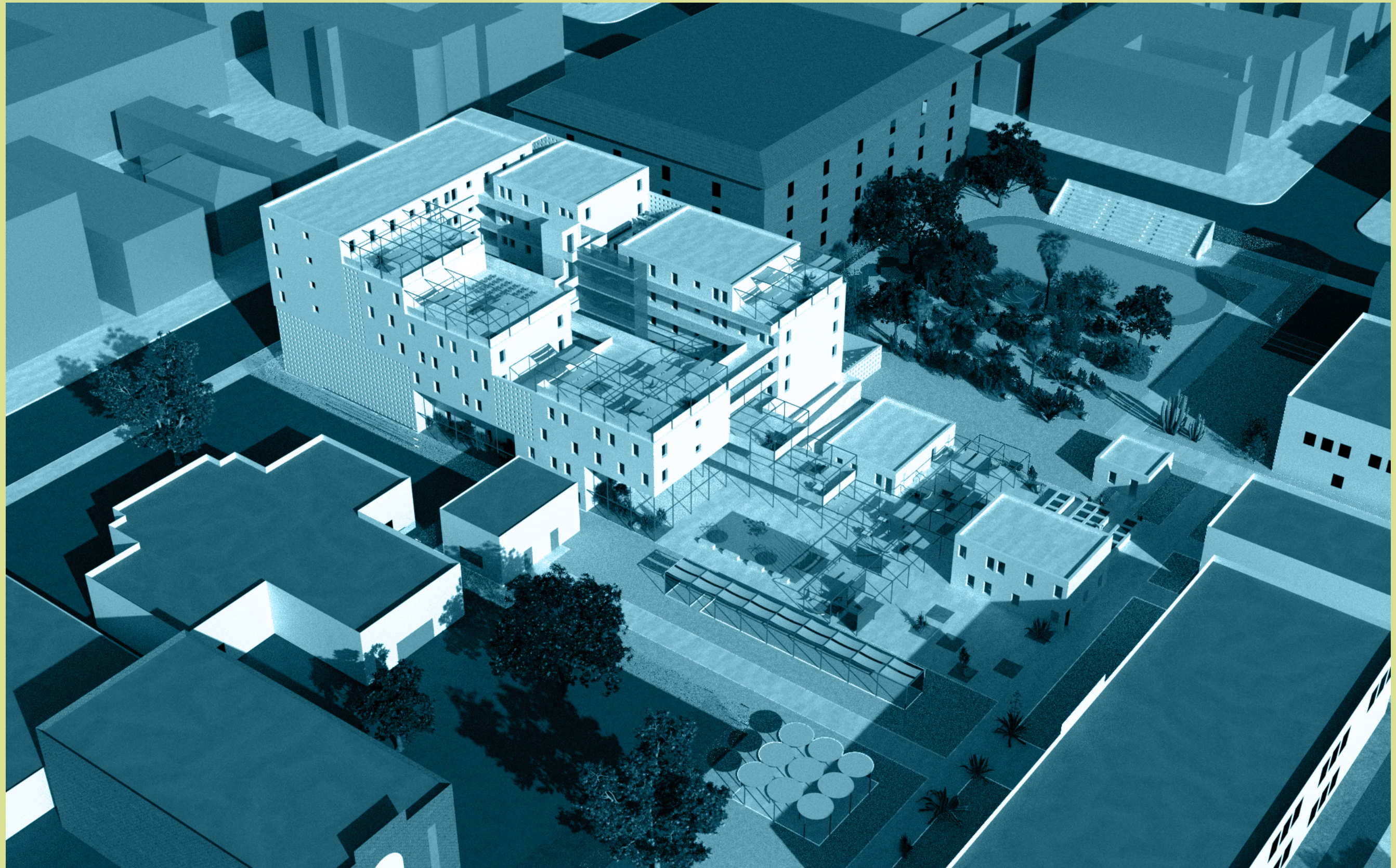














Thank you!

