

Please provide a 250-word text explaining the selection criteria used to choose the five projects representing the school in the Ribas Piera Award. Detail the aspects evaluated, such as conceptual quality, innovation, thematic relevance, technical resolution, or any other criteria considered in the selection process with a single image, characteristic of the academic process, to accompany the text

Ideally, both humans and the ecosystem must benefit from the landscape. However, circumstances like natural calamities and human ignorance affect once beneficial landscapes into nullscapes, devoid of benefit and lacking their original virtues. The selected projects tackle the struggle of taking back what the community needs in life and in living within their chosen environments. The projects formulated methodologies and frameworks that utilize intelligence and knowledge from nature in both indigenous and modern ways through cultural designs and nature-based solutions. The first resolved issues with a cemetery that is easily inundated and does not drain off, creating health and access issues for its community. It formulated a design framework that engaged the community for holistic design integration, which integrates nature-based solutions into the cemetery landscape. The second aimed to rectify the usual design of subdivisions that are increasingly influencing the land-use change of both agricultural and natural areas in the Philippines. By developing a design framework that guides participatory planning for the improvement of subdivisions for multifunctional green infrastructure, solutions were identified and formulated to remedy the blight of underplanned modern urban housing. The last was aimed at improving a landscape that was important to the culture and livelihood of an indigenous people (IP). Their landscape was greatly affected because of a volcanic eruption. Since the eruption, the IP has been sustained by tourism and support from the government. The thesis was determined to restore their previous practices and culture through community-indigenous knowledge integration with ecotourism and immersive activity planning.



Proposed public cemetery in Bulakan, Bulacan, Philippines designed to accommodate and treat floodwaters (Author, 2025

“Cemeteries are just as vulnerable to disasters as other community infrastructure.”

(Lovekamp et al., 2016)

The public cemetery in Bulakan, Bulacan, Philippines, inundated by floodwaters on October 23, 2024 (Author, 2024).

Country/City	Philippines, Malolos
University / School	Bulacan State University
Academic year	2024 - 2025
Title of the project	SUSTAINING LIFE IN DEATHSCAPES: Integrating Nature-based Solutions for Flood-Risk Management in Libingang Bayan (Public Cemetery) of Bulakan, Bulacan
Authors	Sophia Alicia G. Rejuso

TECHNICAL DOSSIER

Title of the project	**SUSTAINING LIFE IN DEATHSCAPES:** Integrating Nature-based Solutions for Flood-Risk Management in Libingang Bayan (Public Cemetery) of Bulakan, Bulacan
Authors	Sophia Alicia G. Rejuso
Title of the course	Bachelor of Landscape Architecture
Academic year	2024 - 2025
Teaching Staff	L. Arch., En. P. Angelo Paulo Mogul, MTLA
Department / Section / Program of belonging	College of Architecture and Fine Arts - Landscape Architecture Program
University / School	Bulacan State University

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Written statement, short description of the project in English, no more than 250 words

Active Urban Cemeteries (AUCs) are increasingly becoming flood-susceptible due to rapid urbanization and mismanaged stormwater systems. One such example is the Libingang Bayan of Bulakan, Bulacan, located in Barangay Bambang, which faces significant land use changes due to the construction of the New Manila International Airport (NMIA). These cemeteries, now considered Flood-Susceptible Cemeteries (FSCs), are struggling to maintain functionality and deliver essential ecosystem services amidst environmental stressors. Despite this growing issue, limited interventions in the Philippines have addressed the viability of cemeteries located in flood-prone areas.

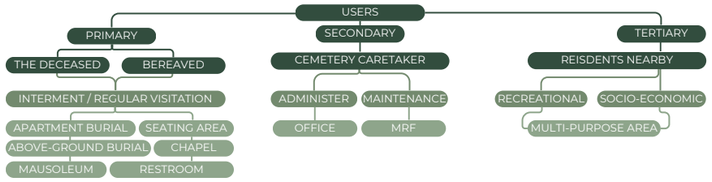
This thesis aims to enhance the usability of AUCs during flooding events while contributing to urban stormwater management, sustainability, and resiliency while also maintaining the existing culture in Filipino Public Cemetery. The research employed a combination of literature review, archival research, stakeholder and government official interviews, cemetery visitor surveys, professional outreach, Geographical Information System (GIS) procedures, and site observations. These methods provided essential insights and design guidelines that informed a flood-adaptive cemetery proposal.

The resulting design integrates Libingang Bayan into the potential green infrastructure network of Bulakan, enhancing ecosystem services—provisioning, regulating, cultural, and supporting. This study contributes a context-sensitive design approach for reimagining cemeteries as multifunctional, resilient spaces within urban landscapes increasingly shaped by climate change and development pressures.

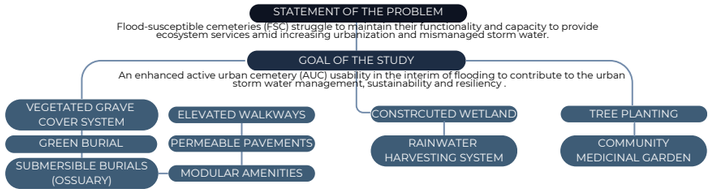
DESIGN FOUNDATIONS

The proposed development enhances active urban cemeteries by integrating flood management, sustainability, and resilience Through design strategies based on the four ecosystem services. User-space diagrams from surveys and interviews informed spatial planning, guiding the intervention program and ensuring alignment with study goals. A compliance diagram validated adherence to HLURB standards.

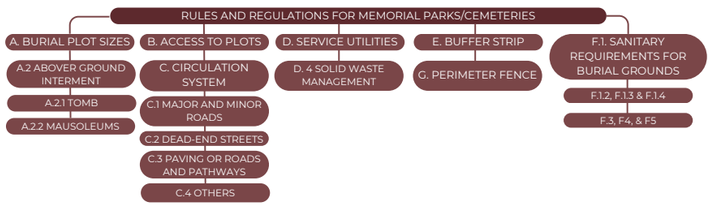
USER-SPACE DIAGRAM



DESIGN INTERVENTION DIAGRAM



DESIGN COMPLIANCE DIAGRAM



ECOSYSTEM SERVICES TABLE

The proposed cemetery was able to provide the following ESs:

SUPPORTING · PROVISIONING · REGULATING · CULTURAL

Cemetery Feature	Applicable ESs			
Parking				
Elevated drainage walkway				
Vertical garden (medicinal plants)				
Green roof (apartment burials and niches)				
Candle holder				
Flower holder				
Above ground burial				
Apartment burial				
Submersible burials with subsurface flow wetland				
Green burial				
Restroom				
Chapel				
MRF (Materials Recovery Facility)				
Office with rainwater harvesting system				
Sculpture (with 3-chamber water filter tank)				
Surface flow constructed wetland				

HAZARD ASSESSMENT

The flood hazard map, alongside the contour and stormwater runoff patterns, plays a key role in planning. Together, they inform a resilient cemetery design that adapts effectively to flooding and extreme rainfall.



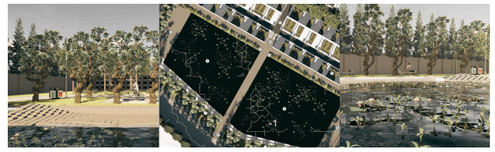
DESIGN TRANSLATIONS

DEATH IS INEVITABLE— BUT SO IS URBANIZATION.

This philosophy embraces the coexistence of mortality and modern growth, proposing spaces that respect remembrance while adapting to the evolving needs of urban life.

(N) CONSTRUCTED WETLAND

The submersible burial system forms part of a larger stormwater strategy with sculptural filtration tanks and surface flow wetlands. Runoff is guided by elevated walkways into a sculptural pre-filter, then through planted wetlands for rhizofiltration and phytoremediation. After a second filtration stage, water reaches the burial zone to infiltrate or discharge to the patubig. A nearby access path is proposed as a bioswale or rain garden to capture excess runoff and boost filtration.





(M) SUBMERSIBLE BURIALS

The submersible burial design introduces compact ossuary units (300×300×450 mm) within stormwater-managed zones, equipped with subsurface drainage to capture seepage. Some include candle holders for offerings, while others double as unmarked seating for quiet reflection. This space-efficient approach blends tradition, utility, and landscape design—enhancing both function and visitor experience.



(G) GREEN BURIALS

Remaining green spaces support biourn burials, where biodegradable urns grow memorial trees marked with discreet plates. These living tributes enhance biodiversity, offer shade, and create peaceful, reflective spaces.



(J) APARTMENT BURIALS

The proposed redevelopment adopts a decongestion strategy—modeled after Guiguinto's Libingan Bayan—through respectful exhumation and reorganization into standardized, apartment-style burials, backed by site visits and municipal consultation.
This vertical, modular, and sustainable system features:

I. Cassette-type green roofs for thermal insulation, ecological function, and future vertical expansion.

II. Biophilic design with vertical medicinal gardens, creating a reflective, nature-connected space.

III. Scratch-resistant acrylic candle holders for dignified rituals and easy wax removal—refined over a week of design development.

IV. Removable acrylic flower tubes in concrete pedestals for drainage, addressing public health and maintenance in a tropical climate.









(K) ABOVE-GROUND BURIALS

Above-ground burials are retained and expanded, with modular green roofs allowing families to plant guided vegetation as living tributes. These roofs may extend adjacent medicinal gardens, with vacant niches temporarily used for herb cultivation. Each niche includes a candle holder to support meaningful visitor rituals.



(I) MAUSOLEUMS

Mausoleums meeting the 4.00 × 5.00 m minimum with proper setbacks are retained. Elevated walkways and ramps improve flood resilience and accessibility while preserving the site's layout.





LEGEND

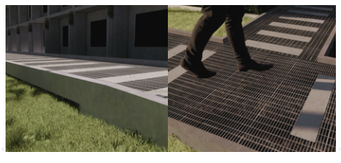
1. OFFICE
2. MRF
3. CHAPEL
4. RESTROOM

RECURRING LEGEND

- (A) ENTRANCE / EXIT
- (B) PARKING
- (C) LAY-BY
- (D) HAMMERHEAD TURNAROUND
- (E) ELEVATED WALKWAY
- (F) ONE-WAY ROAD
- (G) TWO-WAY ROAD
- (H) ELEVATED WALKWAY
- (I) MAUSOLEUMS
- (J) ABOVE-GROUND BURIALS
- (K) APARTMENT BURIALS
- (L) GREEN BURIALS
- (M) SUBMERSIBLE BURIALS
- (N) CONSTRUCTED WETLAND

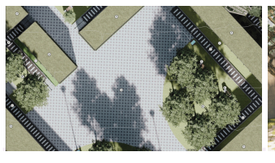
(H) ELEVATED WALKWAY

With limited space, a low-impact development (LID) approach was adopted. Elevated walkways with trench drains filter runoff through pebbles before reaching the main line. Grated covers block debris, while green and pebble pavers enhance infiltration and groundwater recharge.



(D) HAMMERHEAD TURNAROUND

Existing roads are retained with enhanced access between sections. A new one-way road with a hammerhead turnaround meets cul-de-sac requirements while reducing impervious surface compared to a standard circular design.



(2) MATERIALS RECOVERY FACILITY

Site-wide litter bins manage peak Undas waste, routed through the MRF for segregation and sustainable disposal.



(1) OFFICE W/ RAINWATER HARVESTING SYSTEM

Located at the cemetery's entrance, the new open-air caretaker's office features wind blocks, site-facing windows, a green roof, and rainwater harvesting. Beyond function, it delivers ecosystem services—proving that essential infrastructure can also be sustainable and regenerative.



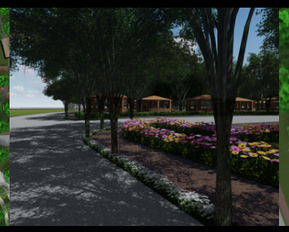
Terrazza Martha's Subdivision

GREEN-HABITATION

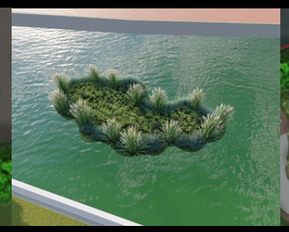
"The single biggest threat to our planet is the destruction of habitat and along the way loss of precious wildlife. We need to reach a balance where people, habitat, and wildlife can co-exist-if we don't,everyone loses...one day."

Steve Irwin


Integrated Constructed Wetland


Vegetated Swales

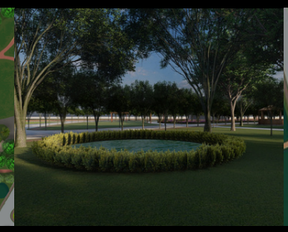

Rain Gardens


Floating Island


Sky Garden


Street Buffers


Nature Park


Sedimentation Basin


Gardens

Country/City : Philippines

University / School : Bulacan State University

Academic year : 2024 - 2025

Title of the project : Greenhabitation: Formulation of Framework with the Integration of Green Infrastructure to Mitigate Negative Impacts of the Conversion of Farmlands Into Subdivisions

Authors : Gellie Eunice R. Feloteo & Redd Zonia A. Natividad

TECHNICAL DOSSIER

Title of the project	Greenhabitation: Formulation of Framework with the Integration of Green Infrastructure to Mitigate Negative Impacts of the Conversion of Farmlands Into Subdivisions
Authors	Gellie Eunice R. Feloteo & Redd Zonia A. Natividad
Title of the course	Bachelor of Landscape Architecture
Academic year	2024 - 2025
Teaching Staff	L. Arch., En. P. Angelo Paulo Mogul, MTLA
Department / Section / Program of belonging	College of Architecture and Fine Arts - Landscape Architecture Program
University / School	Bulacan State University

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Written statement, short description of the project in English, no more than 250 words

The increasing conversion of farmlands into residential subdivisions, particularly in rapidly urbanizing provinces like Bulacan, Philippines, poses severe environmental, economic, and social challenges. This study investigates the improper enforcement of land conversion regulations and its negative impacts on food security, biodiversity, stormwater management, and community resilience. Using the Terrazza Martha Subdivision in Malolos, Bulacan as the case study site—an active site currently undergoing development—the research explores how green infrastructure (GI) can serve as a sustainable nature-based planning solution to mitigate these adverse effects. Through a qualitative research approach incorporating literature reviews, GIS-based mapping, site observations, stakeholder interviews, and policy analysis, the study formulates a comprehensive framework for the responsible transformation of farmland into subdivisions. Key components of the framework include conservation of natural habitats, sustainable stormwater systems, community-based education, and land-use policy reforms. The study emphasizes that with proper enforcement, participatory planning, and the application of multifunctional green infrastructure, it is possible to balance the demands of urban growth with ecological integrity, economic stability, and cultural preservation. The resulting framework aims to guide future developments across the Philippines or similar areas in achieving resilient, inclusive, and environmentally sustainable urban landscapes.

Sustainable Farmland Conversion Framework Applied in a Case Study Site

Case Study Site Terrazza Martha Mabolo, Malolos, Bulacan

↓

Site consideration through CLUP Checklist

↓

Cosidered data for the chosen site through checklist site observation and data analysis:

- Privately owned Land
- Potential for urban and rural environments to coexists.
- Capacity to foster connectivity between various green spaces.
- The developed area were just 30% of the overall site extent, therefore hold great promise as potential spaces in which preservation, conservation, and sustainable development initiatives may be accomplished.
- Economic factor

Conduct integration of G.I through Design Phases:

Conduct Phase 1 → Conduct Phase 2 → Conduct Phase 3

↓

Proceed to FCD's

↓

A proper conversion of farmland into subdivision to mitigate negative effect of the conversion

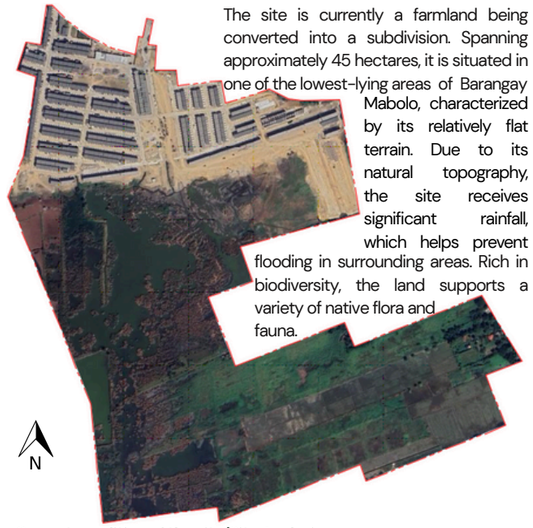
Landscape Architects Activity/*Output*: *Gather informations through discussions based on CLUP vol. II checklist and perform a site analysis and inventory.*

Landscape Architects *Output:* *Integrate the four-step design process with the integration of Green Infrastructures*

Landscape Architects Activity/*Output:* *Gather early feedback on development proposal and establish management plans for conservation lands.*

People Involved in the Process

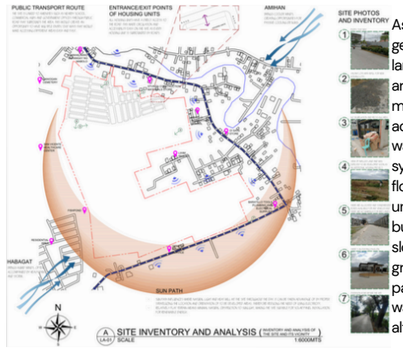
- Farmers
- Government Officials
- Community inside the subdivision



The site is currently a farmland being converted into a subdivision. Spanning approximately 45 hectares, it is situated in one of the lowest-lying areas of Barangay Mabolo, characterized by its relatively flat terrain. Due to its natural topography, the site receives significant rainfall, which helps prevent flooding in surrounding areas. Rich in biodiversity, the land supports a variety of native flora and fauna.

Current condition of the site/Site Analysis:





As the site is generally flat, a landscape architectural design might require an advanced storm water management system to prevent flooding on unwanted places but the minor slopings would be a great channel pathway for the water to avoid altering water flow.

1. Entry Way to the Subdivision
2. Existing Housing Units
3. Proposed Housing Units
   - Shared Garden Area/Community Garden
4. Basketball Court/multipurpose Area
5. Nature Based Playground
6. Community Garden
7. Nature Park
   - Fruit Bearing Trees Area
   - Edible Plants Area
   - Palm Trees Area
   - Topical Trees And Plants Area
   - Coastal Trees And Plants Area
   - Retention Garden
8. Integrated Constructed Wetland
   - Elevated Walkway
   - Planting
   - Free Water Surface Constructed Wetland
   - Observation Deck
9. Water Catchment
10. Sensory Garden/church
11. Infilled Area
12. Adults Area
13. Retail Area
14. vents Area
15. Health Care Area And Day Care Area
16. Club House/pool Area And Gym Area
17. Sky Garden



GREENHABITATION: INTRICATE NETWORK OF INTERCONNECTED HABITATS

In Greenhabitation, design begins with life. Every species—humans, birds, insects, and native plants—shapes the landscape through its needs.

The subdivision becomes an intricate network of interconnected habitats, where homes, gardens, swales, and green corridors support diverse life forms. If a species needs shade, food, water, or safety, then the environment is designed to give it just that.

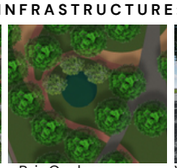
Here, the act of dwelling is mutual—those who live here shape it, and in return, it is shaped for them. It is not just a neighborhood, but a co-created ecosystem where people and nature thrive together.

Built-Up Types for Areas and Elements According to Artmann et al.

Areas and Elements	Built-Up Types
Highly sealed commercial areas	• Green roofs • Small gardens • Greenwalls • Green courtyards
Residential areas	• Sky gardens
Streetscape	• Street trees
Public Urban/ Urban parks	• Edible green walls • Fruit bearing trees • Green spaces with recreational functions and public access • Public urban greening • Garden communities
Open spaces	• Green roofs • Small gardens • Greenwalls • Green courtyards
Transport areas	• Sky gardens
Landscape elements	• Street trees
Vacant lots	• Edible green walls • Fruit bearing trees • Green spaces with recreational functions and public access • Public urban greening • Garden communities
Green spaces	• Nature conservation • Recreational uses

BLUE & GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE:

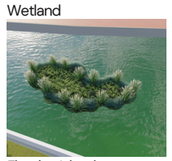

Integrated Constructed Wetland


Rain Gardens


Vegetated Swales


Green Roofs/Vertical Garden


Sky Garden


Floating Island

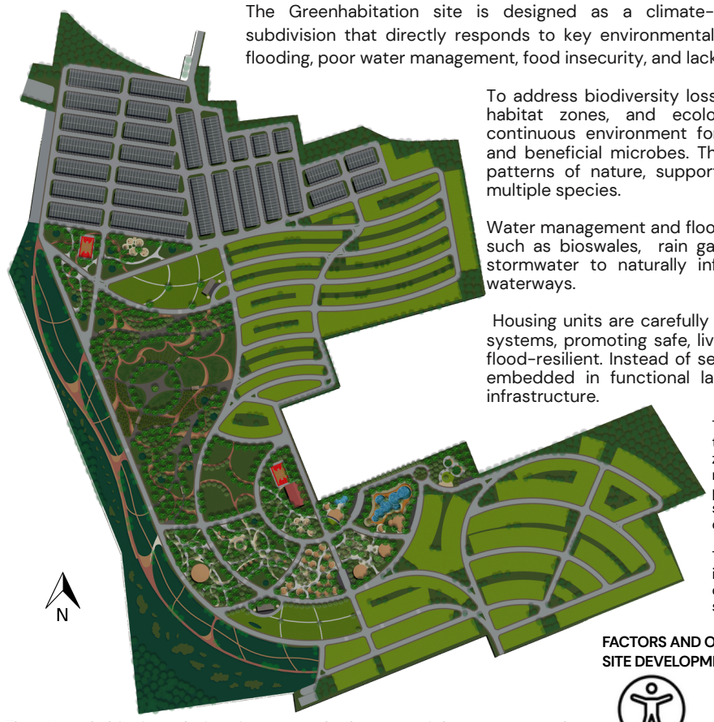

Street Buffers


Gardens


Nature Park


Sedimentation Basin

The Greenhabitation site is designed as a climate-responsive and biodiversity-supportive subdivision that directly responds to key environmental and social challenges: biodiversity loss, flooding, poor water management, food insecurity, and lack of sustainable income for residents.



To address biodiversity loss, the layout integrates native vegetation, habitat zones, and ecological corridors, creating a safe and continuous environment for local species—including birds, insects, and beneficial microbes. The curvilinear design reflects the organic patterns of nature, supporting the movement and coexistence of multiple species.

Water management and flood control are addressed through systems such as bioswales, rain gardens, and permeable surfaces, allowing stormwater to naturally infiltrate and be filtered before reaching waterways.

Housing units are carefully positioned in relation to these ecological systems, promoting safe, livable spaces that are cooler, shaded, and flood-resilient. Instead of separating humans from nature, homes are embedded in functional landscapes—with direct access to green infrastructure.

To ensure food security and economic support, the site includes edible gardens, medicinal plant zones, and community farming areas, where residents can grow, harvest, and even sell produce. This turns plants into tools not just for survival, but for income generation and community resilience.

Together, the design transforms the subdivision into a self-sustaining ecosystem that enhances quality of life while regenerating the natural systems that support it.

The Greenhabitation design integrates both green infrastructure and community-focused amenities to create a holistic, sustainable subdivision. Key ecological features include an Integrated Constructed Wetland and a Sedimentation Basin for natural water treatment and runoff control, supported by Rain Gardens, Vegetated Swales, Floating Islands, and Street Buffers to reduce flooding, filter stormwater, and support biodiversity. These are complemented by Sky Gardens, various Gardens, and a central Nature Park that provide cooling, enhance aesthetics, and offer daily interaction with nature—addressing site-specific challenges such as poor drainage, limited open space, and ecological fragmentation.

In addition to its environmental layer, the design incorporates essential community amenities: a Sensory Garden and Church that offer spaces for healing and spiritual well-being; a Commercial Area and Retail Strip that boost local livelihood and reduce the need to travel far for daily needs; a Daycare and Health Care Area that ensures accessible basic services; and a series of recreational zones including a Playground, Adults' Fitness Area, and Outdoor Basketball Court that promote wellness and social interaction across age groups.

All of these were made possible by the Greenhabitation Framework—a four-phase planning and design approach that begins with understanding community and policy needs, identifying ecological opportunities through mapping, integrating green solutions into the subdivision layout, and aligning everything with long-term policy and monitoring strategies. The framework ensured that every component—whether ecological or built—responds to actual site conditions, community behavior, and sustainability priorities.

By applying the framework, the subdivision becomes more than just a place to live—it becomes a resilient, inclusive, and self-sustaining environment where water is managed naturally, biodiversity is restored, and people's physical, emotional, and economic needs are supported. While tailored to this case, the framework is flexible, allowing other developments to integrate additional green infrastructure elements—such as green roofs or permeable pavements—based on their own context and challenges.

FACTORS AND OBJECTIVES THAT INFLUENCED THE PROPOSED SITE DEVELOPMENT PLAN




Sensory Garden & Church


Commercial Area

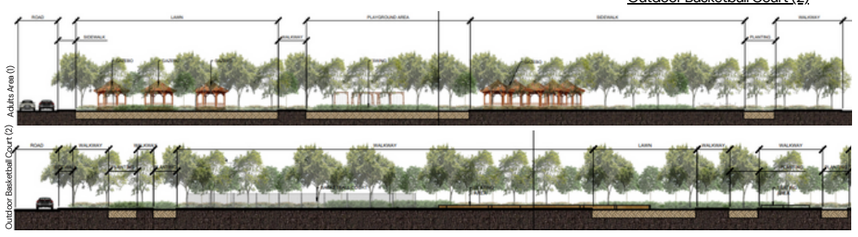

Daycare & Health Care Area


Playground Area


Adults Area (1)


Outdoor Basketball Court (2)


Retail Area





From the Ashes

LANDSCAPE REGENERATION WITH THE AETA COMMUNITY — REVIVING CULTURE, ECOLOGY, AND ECONOMY THROUGH INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE AND DESIGN

Country/City	Malolos City of Bulacan, Philippines
University / School	Bulacan State University
Academic year	A.Y. 2024-2025
Title of the project	From the Ashes: Landscape Regeneration with the Aeta Community — Reviving Culture, Ecology, and Economy through Indigenous Knowledge and Design
Authors	Denise Julianne S. Corado

TECHNICAL DOSSIER

Title of the project	From the Ashes: Landscape Regeneration with the Aeta Community — Reviving Culture, Ecology, and Economy through Indigenous Knowledge and Design
Authors	Denise Julianne S. Corado
Title of the course	Bachelor of Landscape Architecture
Academic year	2024-2025
Teaching Staff	L. Arch., En. P. Angelo Paulo Mogul, MTLA
Department / Section / Program of belonging	College of Architecture and Fine Arts - Landscape Architecture Program
University / School	Bulacan State University

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Written statement, short description of the project in English, no more than 250 words

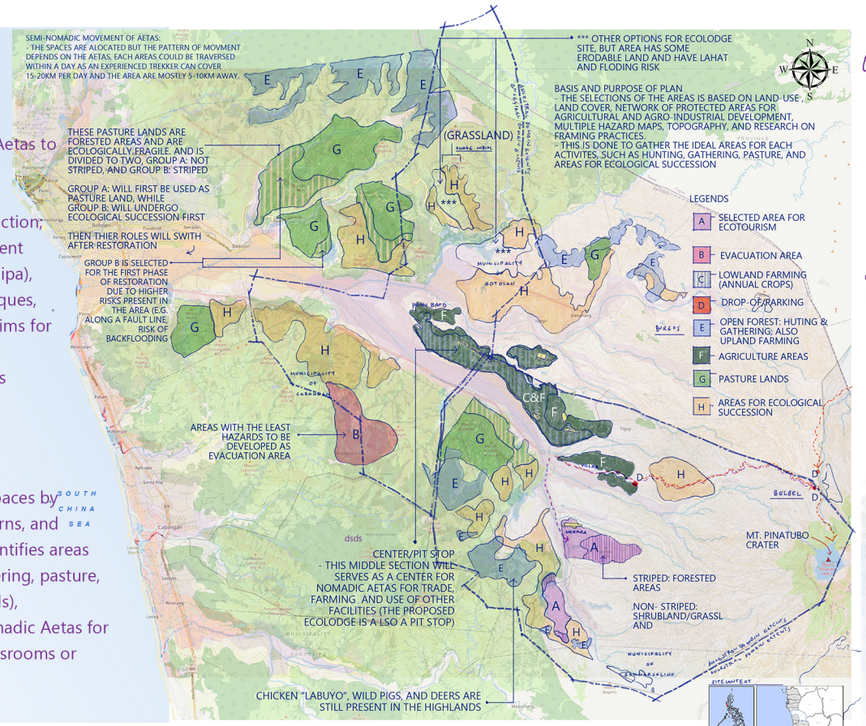
The 1991 Mount Pinatubo eruption, 2nd largest eruption of the 20th century, have displaced countless of Aetas, an indigenous community living on its slope. It disrupted their traditional subsistence patterns and rituals as the regions' ecological balance was gravely damaged (Gaillard, 2006). Conforming to an unfamiliar environment, they were exploited because of their illiteracy, limited knowledge, and resources. Once deeply tied to their lands, the Aetas now face threat to cultural continuity and their very survival. Using the strategies found in the literature review as well as insights from the Aetas, a landscape development plan is formulated. The literature reveals that indigenous peoples (IPs) possess valuable environmental management practices from their long-standing relationship with nature (Boiral et.al, 2020). Places managed by IPs exhibit biodiversity levels comparable to protected areas (Schuster et al., 2019). So, by giving them opportunity to collaborate and apply their past cultural practices to new opportunities of growth, the Aetas can achieve cultural integrity and economic resilience whilst achieving ecological balance. Ecotourism is found to have potential to integrate these practices while fostering socio-political empowerment (Nuckel, 2019). While to provide support that ensures meaningful participation and equitable solutions, the access to resources, capacity building opportunities, and respect have become crucial parts of the development (Anchorage Declaration, 2009; Figueroa, 2011; Fraser, 1998). The project includes a cultural calendar that reinforces the Aetas seasonal practices, an activity map that allocates areas for these activities and for environmental restoration. And an ecotourism plan that fosters cultural exchange and economic opportunities.

Autogenesis – Reviving Culture Through Culture

The design harnesses the inherent power of the Aetas to renew and sustain itself by utilizing their own knowledge, culture, and traditions. Akin to Mt. Pinatubo, a new life could be formed from destruction; Aetas' can regenerate their culture and environment from within. It uses local materials, (e.g. lahar & nipa), traditional building methods with modern techniques, and reviving lost indigenous cycles. The project aims for a more sustainable and resilient community that promotes biodiversity and cultural exchange at its center.

Activity Map

(right) The Activity Map allocates and optimize spaces by integrating sustainable land use, traditional patterns, and cultural preservation & ectourism practices. It identifies areas that are most ideal for agriculture, hunting, gathering, pasture, ecological succession (on ecologically fragile lands), development/ecotourism site, and points for nomadic Aetas for trade, farm, and use facilities such as centers, classrooms or libraries; supporting the Aetas' nomadic lifestyle.



UNESCO Thematic Indicators for Culture

To ensure that the design is both functional and effective in preserving culture, sustainable, and supports the ecology and economy of the community, it uses the findings of the UNESCO Thematic Indicators for Culture in the 2030 Agenda as guide in designing.

DOMAIN	ELEMENTS' INDICATORS OF EFFECTIVE DESIGN
Environment and Resilience	Sustainable Management of Heritage: Minimizes environmental impact by integrating the ecolodge to an existing route, minimizing terraforming, and using the same facilities for ecolodge and community. The design also limits to 8-16 visitors at a time to avoid exceeding environmental and cultural thresholds. And to enhance resiliency it is ensured that it is situated in a safer area, while reinforced concrete and hardwood is combined to traditional lightweight materials.
Environment and Resilience	Cultural Facilities: Providing diverse spaces such as Bahay Salinlahi, a visitor center, and Bahay Uling, for arts and educational training, to serve educational, cultural, and social functions.
Environment and Resilience	Open Space for Culture: Flexible open spaces dedicated for various cultural practices such as festivals, traditional farming, food preparation, and community meals, that are in line with the Aeta's semi-nomadic lifestyle, while using local materials and traditional building methods.
Prosperity and Livelihood	Cultural Employment and Business: The inclusion of traditional farming, weaving, and indigenous food preparation creates direct economic opportunities, which stimulates local employment and local business.
Prosperity and Livelihood	Trade in Cultural Goods and Services: The ecolodge could potentially be used as a platform to market and export traditional crafts and local produce in the future.
Prosperity and Livelihood	Farming and Agriculture: The agricultural areas such as patal areas, upland rice paddies, orchards (banana, mango, citrus, and coconut), root crops and vegetables, align with the Aeta's traditional farming practices, and generates produce for community consumption, trade, and directly provide for the ecolodge.
Knowledge and Skills	Cultural Knowledge: The integration of local knowledge in planning is transmits cultural values and skills. Visitors can learn about the Aetas' culture and traditions in Bahay Salinlahi, while Bahay Uling is a training center that ensures the continuity of cultural practices such as traditional weaving and charcoal production.
Knowledge and Skills	Cultural and Artistic Education: The design promotes creative education and artistic expression through spaces like the Bahay Gitaha, which is dedicated to social gatherings, games, and festivals.
Knowledge and Skills	Skills Transfer: The design incorporates opportunities for knowledge transfer, where visitors can actively engage in agricultural activities, learn crafts, and participate in day-to-day lifestyle of the Aetas.

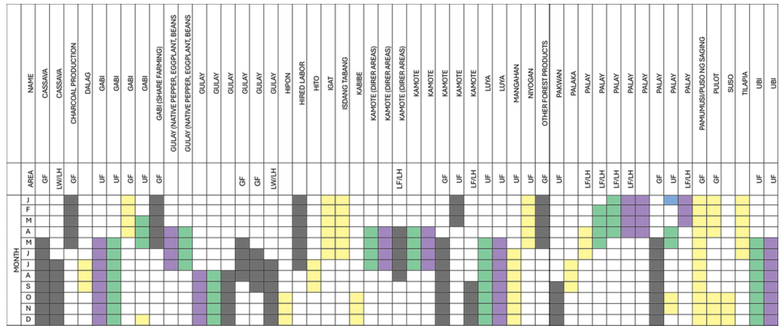
*The site supports 8 families, with a capacity of 32 to 48 people, using traditional rain-fed agriculture supported by drip irrigation sourced from the river and wetland systems. But it could be further expanded depending on the land cultivated for sustenance.

Ecotourism Site



The bow and arrow are significant parts of the culture and lifestyle of Aetas. They are known to be skilled hunters and are highly skilled with crafting bows and arrows. The form of the design captures the bow and arrow in two moments of movement: one in its resting or nocked state, and the other in its drawn tension, poised to release. The created for m is oriented with the natural topography, the path follows it naturally, and the rest of the layout is drawn upon the form but is not conforming. Instead, it ensures that the needs of the zones (topography, vegetation, etc.) are met.

Cultural Calendar

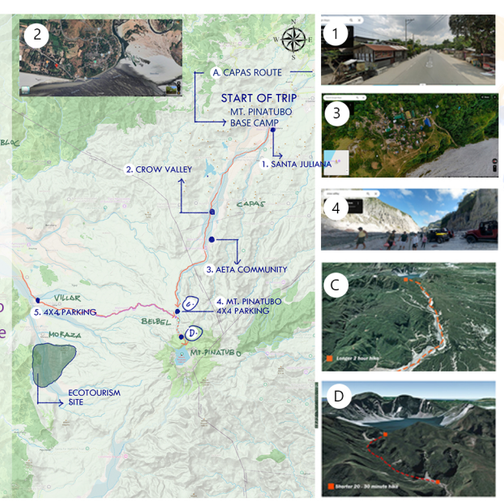


LEGENDS
- blue: land preparation
- green: planting
- yellow: harvesting/hunting/foraging
- purple: trade/enterprise/selling
- blank/gray: not specified

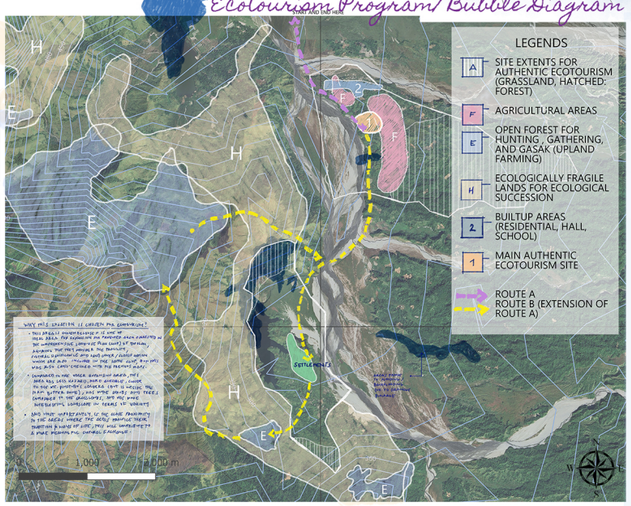
The calendar aligns the ecotourism experience to the Aetas seasonal practices, more than that, it reconnects the community to their roots and reinforces their self-sustaining capabilities; by planning ideal months for land preperation, planting, harvesting, hunting, foraging and trade. It fosters sustainable livelihoods and environmental stewardship practices inspiring cultural preservation. The data is from from various interviews reflecting cyclical worldview, thus the variations in timing.

Ecotourism Integration

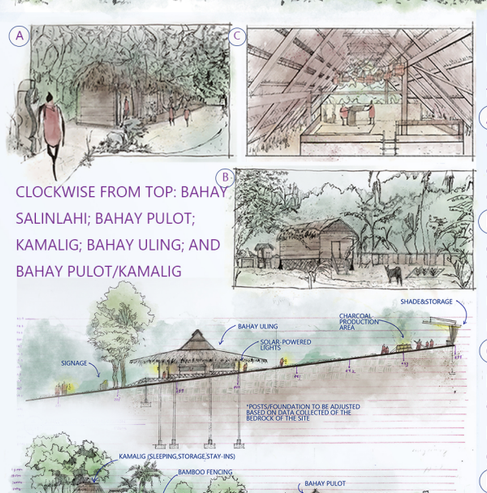
The ecotourism site is connected to an existing vehicular circulation & trekking route of Mt. Pinatubo. It is one of the ideal expansion areas identified (Comprehensive Land Use Plan of Botolan) and was cross-checked with hazard and land use maps, confirming it as less hazardous, more accessible, and closer to Mt. Pinatubo but is outside the buffer zone. It has greater landscape diversity and around areas for Aetas traditional practices enabling deeper cultural exchange. Starting at the Base Camp in Santa Juliana to register then a 4x4 vehicle ride along Crow Valley. Where they will be dropped of to a parking and begin to trek to the crater of Mt. Pinatubo. After completing the trek, they return to the parking area and are then driven to a different drop-off point where they trek to reach the ecotourism site.



Ecotourism Program/Bubble Diagram



The visitors will arrive at Moraza Hill beside the Santo Tomas Rover, to an Aeta community that will host cultural exchanges such as traditional farming, food gathering and preparation, indigenous arts, showcasing the Aetas' traditional living. Visitors may also opt for a deeper immersion into the Aeta way of living through mountain-to-mountain movement, foraging, and hunting practices.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: BAHAY SALINLAHI; BAHAY PULOT; KAMALIG; BAHAY ULING; AND BAHAY PULOT/KAMALIG

Each zone serves a purpose rooted in both tradition and function:

(A.) Bahay Salinlahi: a visitor center for orientation, community interaction, and education.

(B.) 8 Kamalig: scattered dwellings for Aetas that serve as stay-ins, which promote natural clustering and daily interaction.

(C.) Bahay Pulot: central food preparation and dining area, also near orchards for honey production and processing of goods.

(D.) Bahay Gitaha: a space for social gatherings, games, and festivals.

(E.) Bahay Uling: educational space with training, art, and charcoal production areas.

(F.) Constructed Wetland: filters rainwater runoff for irrigation use.

(G - J.) Agricultural Zones: upland rice paddies, patal areas, orchards, and root crop fields designed for rotational planting and food security. These are in lands suitable for each plant. (see Cultural Calendar for reference)