

Exhibition panels: architecture workshop „gardens in the desert . bahariya oasis“, 03/2012

gardens in the desert · sounds of water

01



The concept „on the edge“ refers to the main characteristics of the oasis – the contrast of the green agricultural lands of water, palm groves and plantations and the eastern sand, heat and dryness of the surrounding desert. The settlement area of Bahariya Oasis starts at the topographical edge of the oasis depression and stretches into the desert. This edge defines also the contrast between the current and the past, between tradition and modernity – thus it shall become a place of intervention, interaction and communication between the Bahari people themselves and between locals and tourists.

Three scale areas of intervention were defined through the analysis that cross the edge and connect the settlement with the oasis gardens, representing viewpoint points with distinct characters and qualities:
A, the contrast between silence and movement,
B, the contrast between gardens within a house and houses within a garden,
C, the contrast between work and pleasure.

on the edge



gardens in the desert · balancing on the green edge

02



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on the edge



gardens in the desert · Bawiti contrasts path

03



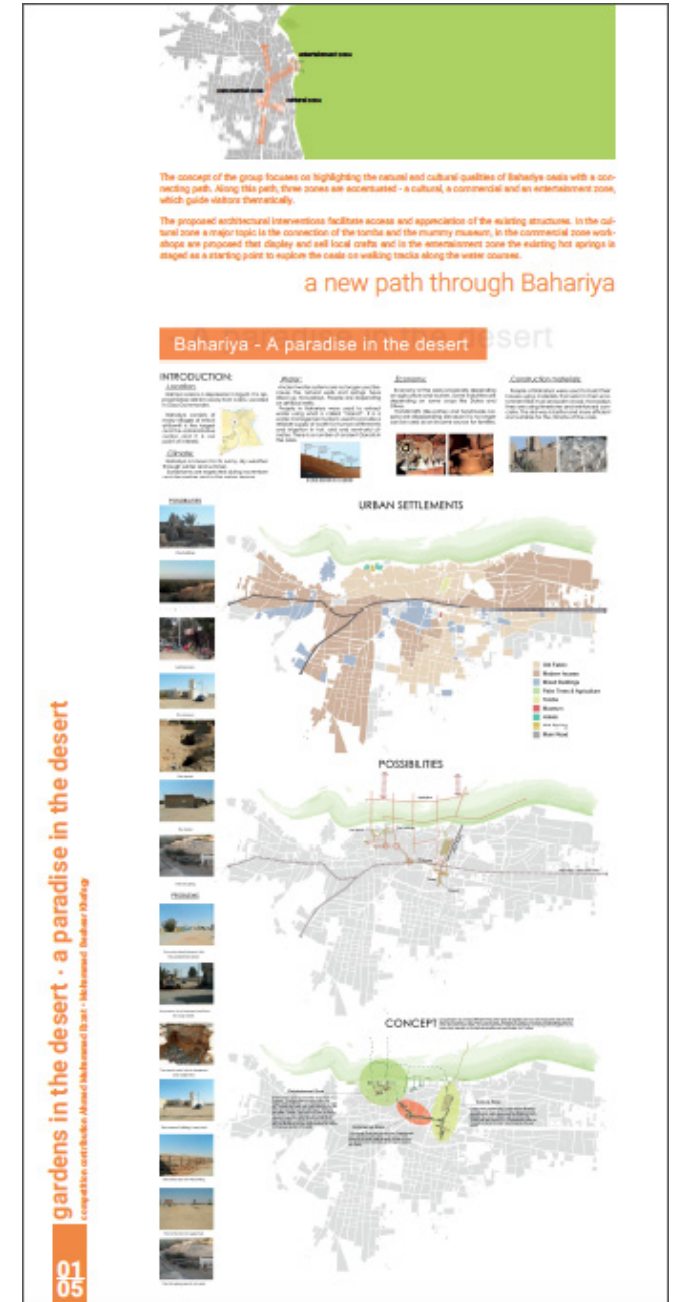
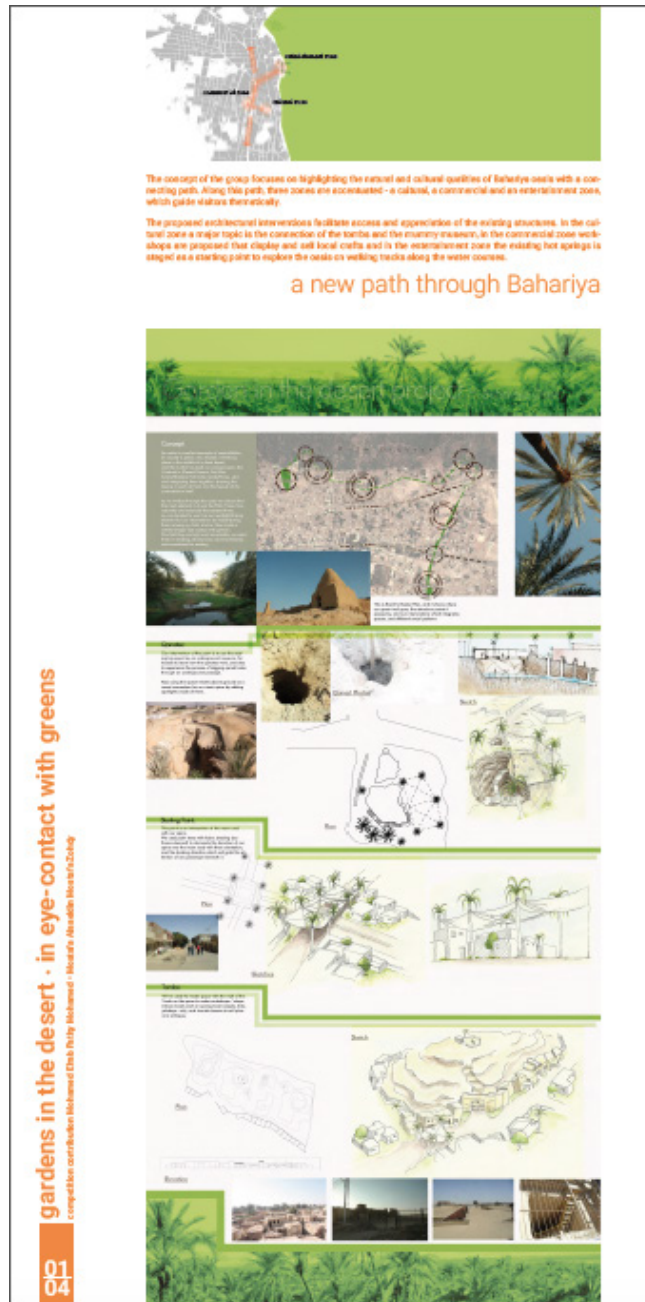
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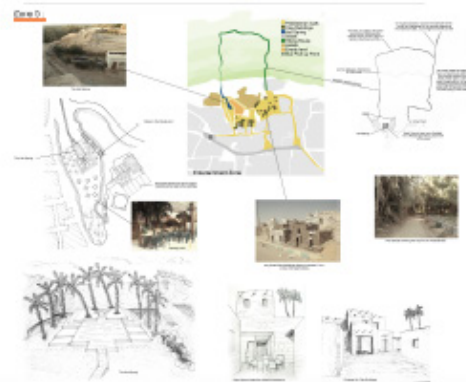


The concept of the group focuses on highlighting the natural and cultural qualities of Bahariya oasis with a connecting path. Along this path, three zones are accentuated - a cultural, a commercial and an entertainment zone, which guide visitors thematically.

The proposed architectural interventions facilitate access and appreciation of the existing structures. In the cultural zone a major topic is the connection of the tomb and the museum. In the commercial zone workshops are proposed that display and sell local crafts and in the entertainment zone the existing hot springs is staged as a starting point to explore the oasis on walking tracks along the water courses.

a new path through Bahariya

Bahariya - A paradise in the desert



The concept of team 2 imagines an invisible section line through the oasis landscape to call attention to the topography and the variety of impressions on the way from the desert to the palm groves. An almost straight path connects those found and outlined attractions for both, locals and tourists, and five points of intervention are defined to create characteristic situations:

- 1, the museum and oasis,
- 2, access and entry points,
- 3, the tomb hill,
- 4, sitting area,
- 5, the garden.

palming desert

Inspired by the materials found in the oasis and the building techniques traditionally used, all interventions are made from local resources, with the focal point on sun protection and ventilation to give comfort to the people on their walk along the path.

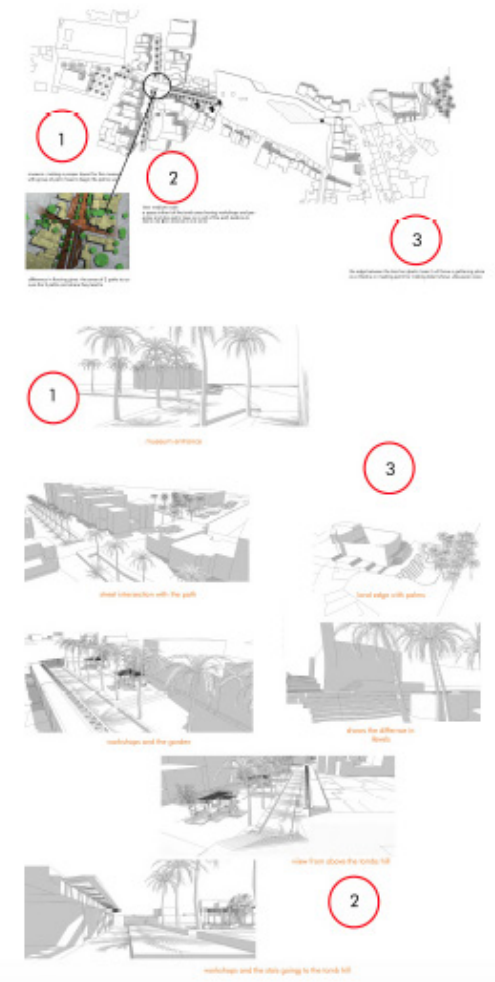


The concept of team 3 imagines an invisible section line through the oasis landscape to call attention to the topography and the variety of impressions on the way from the desert to the palm groves. An almost straight path connects those found and outlined attractions for both, locals and tourists, and five points of intervention are defined to create characteristic situations:

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revitalization of an old harbour · alexandria

october - november 2012

university cairo giza · alexandria university · btu cottbus



change by exchange

DAAD

btu

minet el bassal project · site · task



alexandria - site analysis (Figure 1)

alexandria - site analysis (Figure 2)

alexandria 1927 (Figure 3)

existing structures - old factory (Figure 4)

existing structures - canal (Figure 5)

case study area (Figure 6)

introduction

The workshop focuses on a formerly industrial area in the Medinet el Bassal in Alexandria with a highly relevant potential for development.

Due to its location close to the harbor and the city, the area is in a favorable position for development. It is surrounded by a number of urban industrial buildings, residential waste lands and an already mixed used fabric. The area offers a wide range of options and questions.

During the urban design workshop in Alexandria urban design projects elaborate on urban design concepts for the revitalization of the area.

first analysis about the morphological structure, the urban fabric and the historic and existing building typologies, the functions inside the area and the role of the area for the adjacent quarters and the whole inner city of Alexandria, about the situation of public spaces and the needs of the inhabitants and the employees of the area will be the ground to discuss useful and feasible urban development guidelines for the area.

Minet el Bassal district once was a famous Alexandrian industrial district. It was built around 1910 overlooking the only seaport in Egypt at that time. It consisted of headquarters of international trading companies, large store-houses, workers housing and the house of cotton an international marketing center for Egyptian cotton. Besides came from all over the world to this area, cotton was a major agricultural crop, totally for export under the British occupation in Egypt.

The district is supported by transportation network for people or goods. This network helped connecting the district with all vital spots of local production and marketing in Egypt.

Its mills, warehouses, and its canal, road and railway systems give to match this influence and the resulting demand.

By the early 1960s, the Egyptian government followed a new policy of liberalization. The immediate impact was a reduction in cotton cultivated area, production and manufacturing. Many of the cotton factory buildings in Minet el Bassal district are on their way to be demolished. It is essential to make awareness of the heritage value of Minet el Bassal district.

outline of the urban design workshop


the urban design workshop comprises

- Lectures and presentations from Egyptian and German teachers and professionals.
- Round table discussions with stakeholders and official planning institutions.
- Studio work in mixed working groups with a planning colloquium after the first week and presentation of the results at the end of the workshop.
- Definition of the most important problems, challenges and potentials of the area.
- Design of a further design guideline concept.
- Excursions, field analysis and exchange with inhabitants and employees.

list of figures

1. Aerial view of the Minet el Bassal area in Alexandria.
2. Aerial view of the Minet el Bassal area in Alexandria.
3. Aerial view of the Minet el Bassal area in Alexandria.
4. Aerial view of the Minet el Bassal area in Alexandria.
5. Aerial view of the Minet el Bassal area in Alexandria.
6. Aerial view of the Minet el Bassal area in Alexandria.

minet el bassal · rejuvenation



site analysis - strength

site analysis - weakness

proposed scheme

opportunities

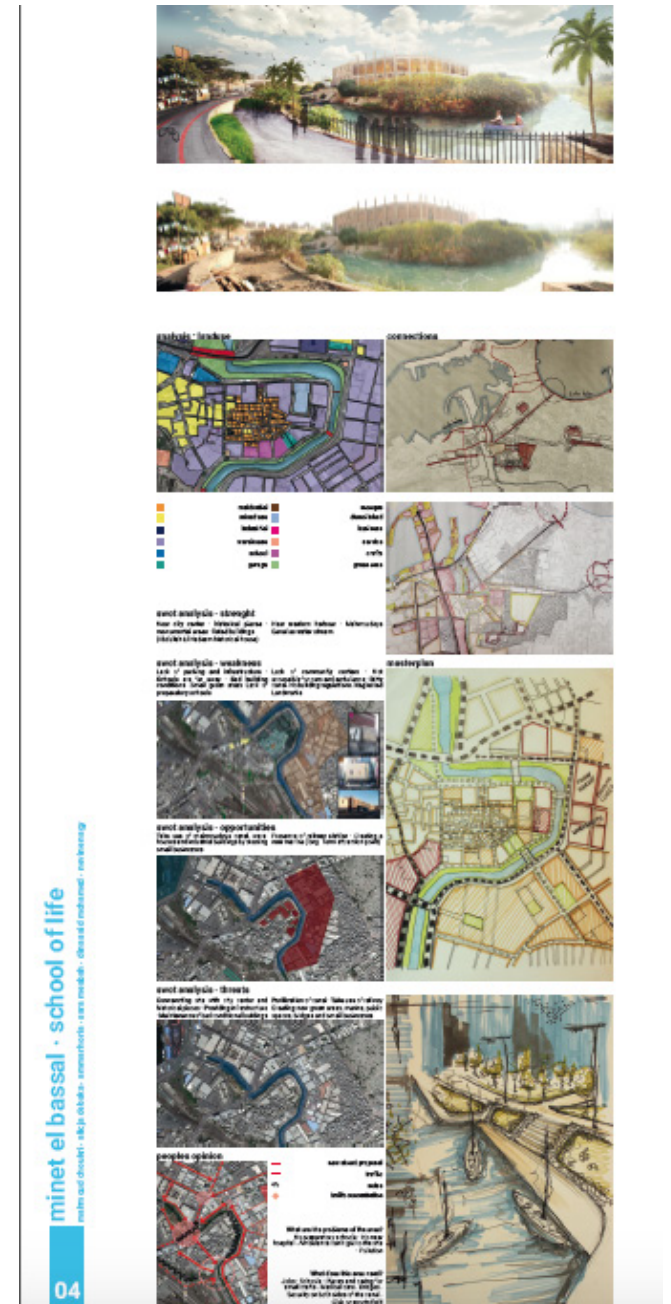
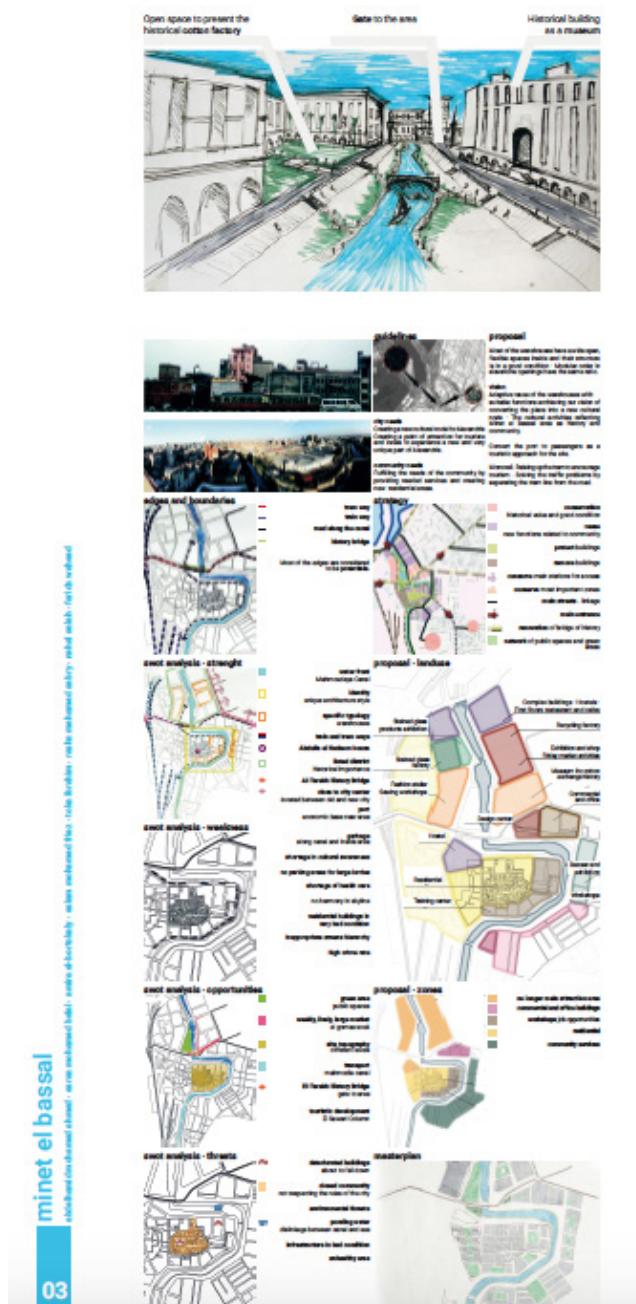
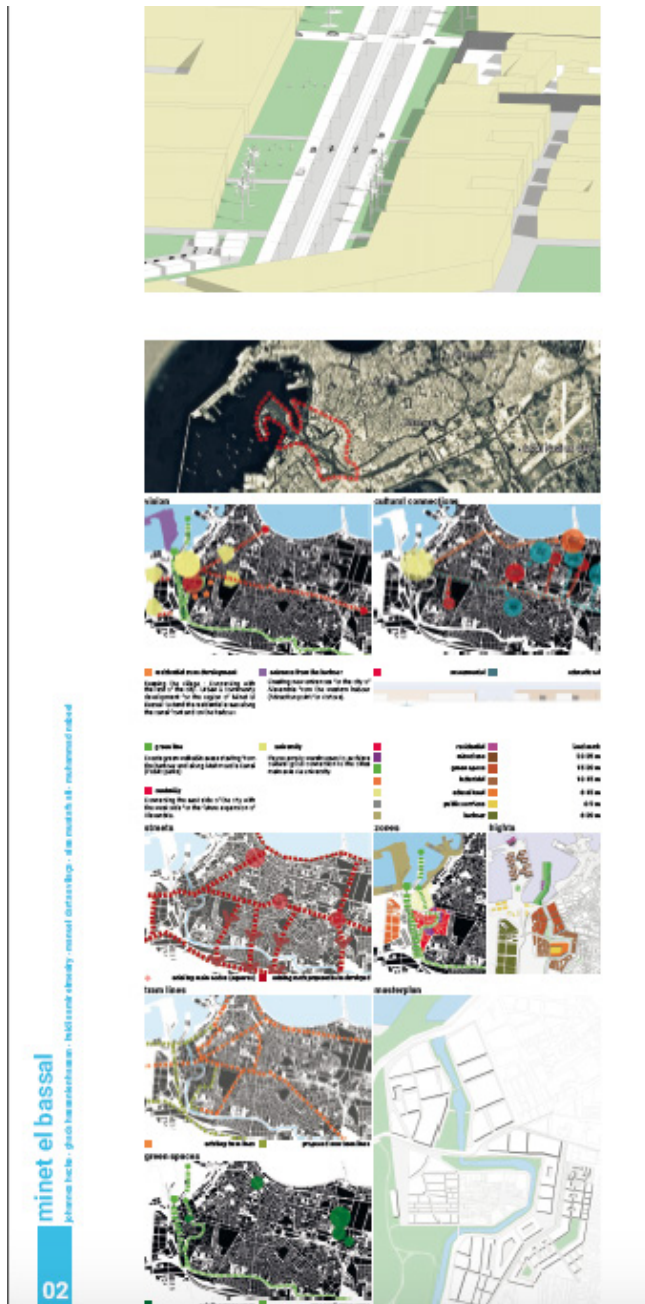
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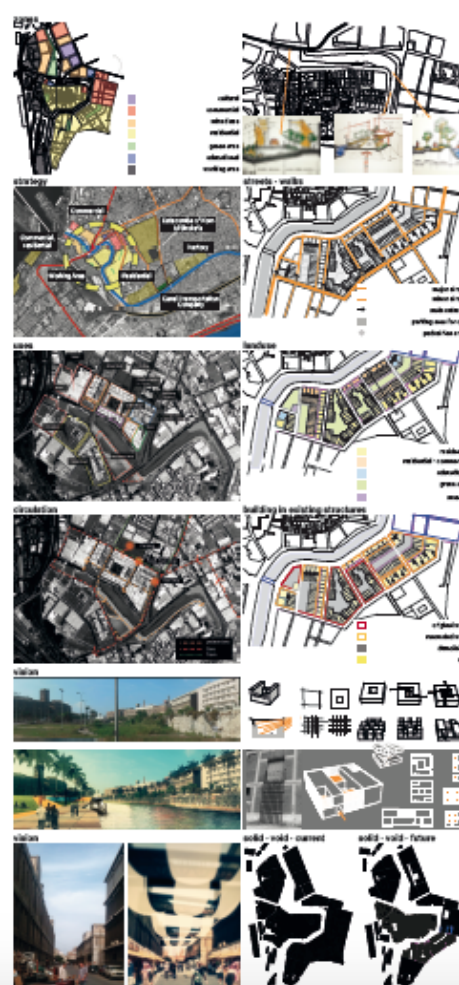
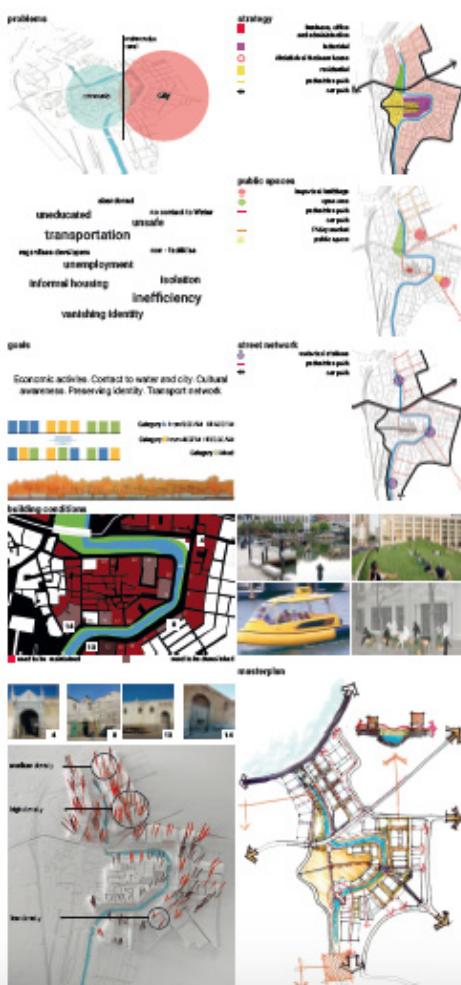
guidelines

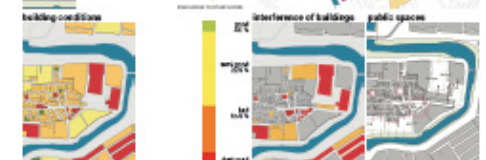
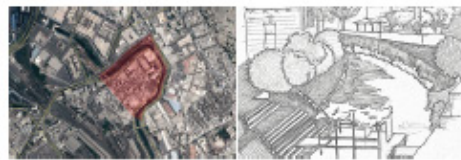
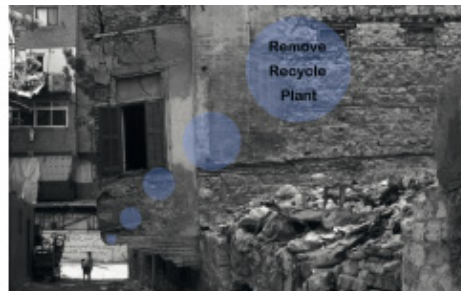
solid and void

guideline steps

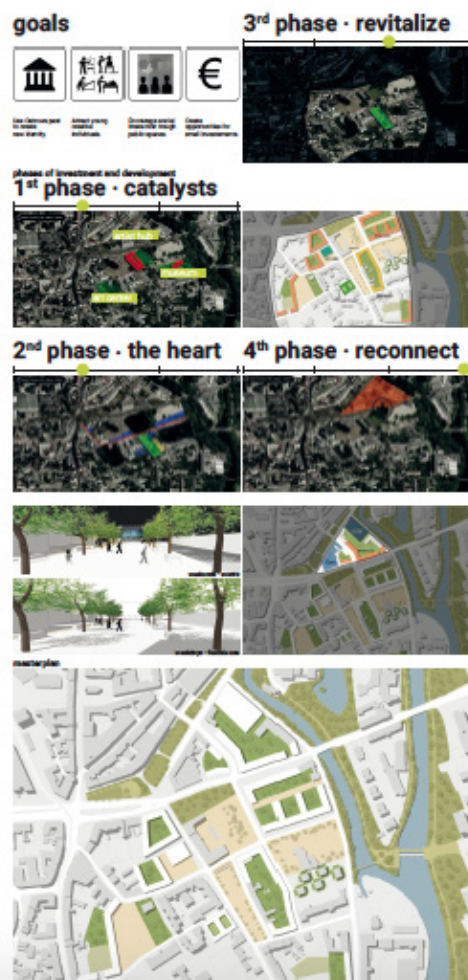
Exhibition panels urban design workshop „revitalization of an old harbour . alexandria“, 10 - 11/2012

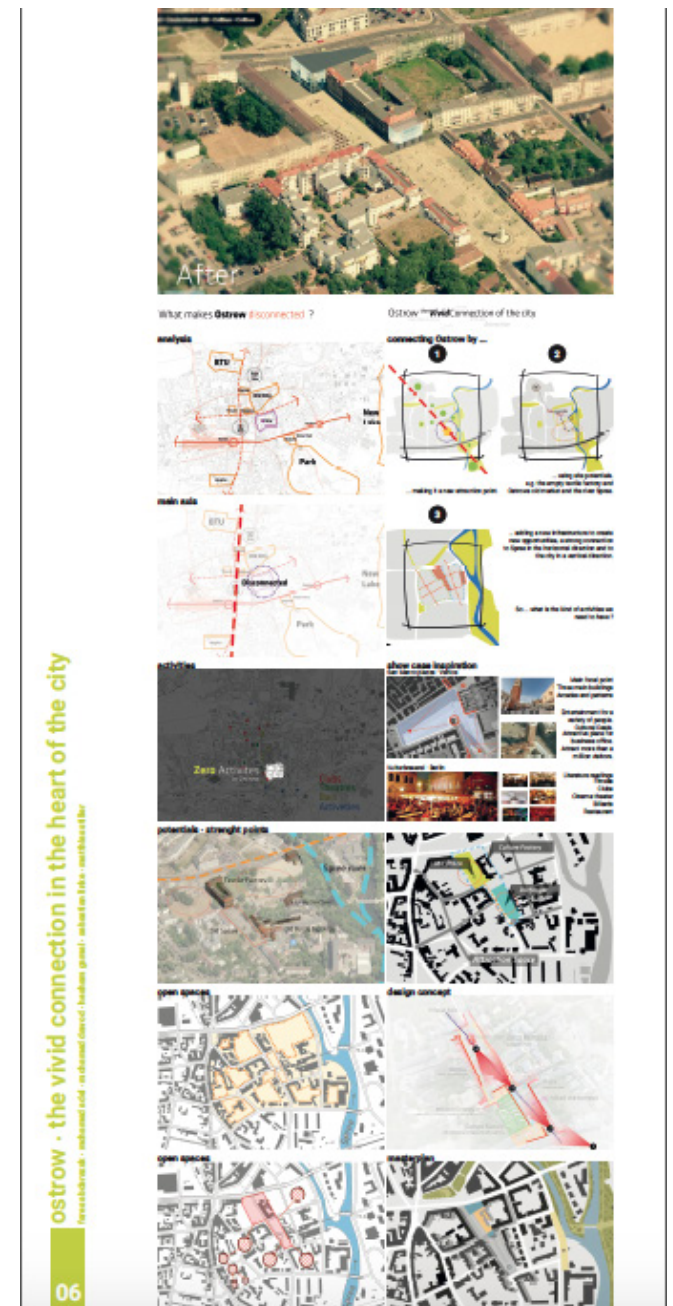


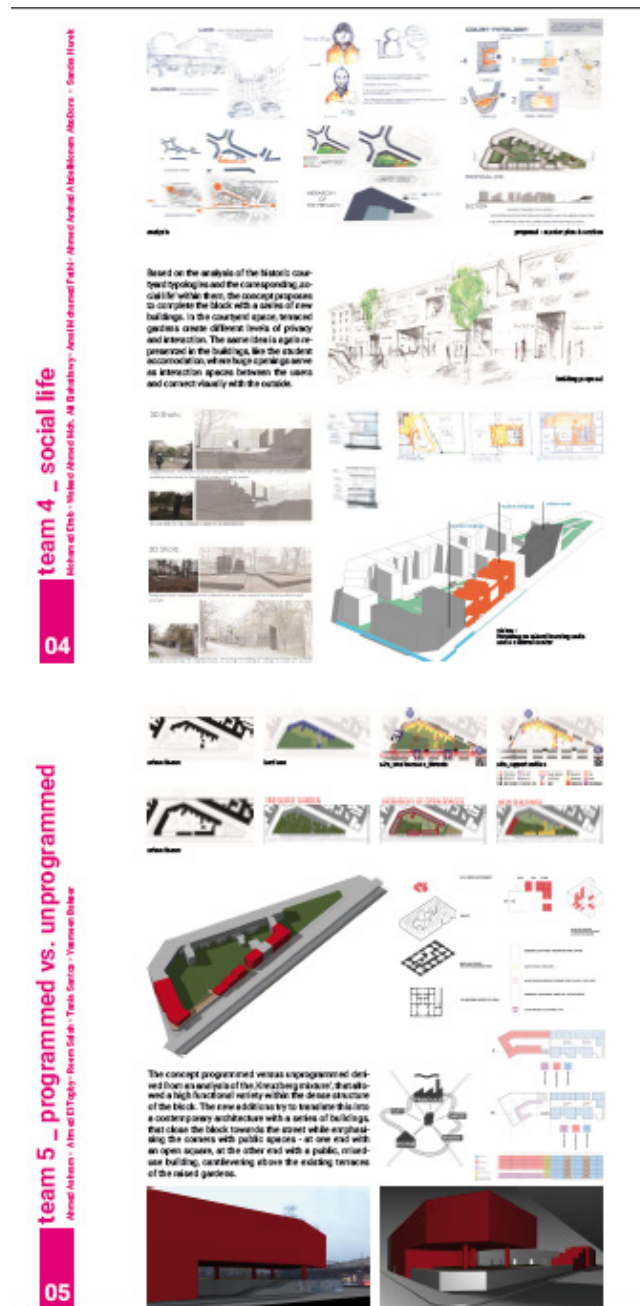












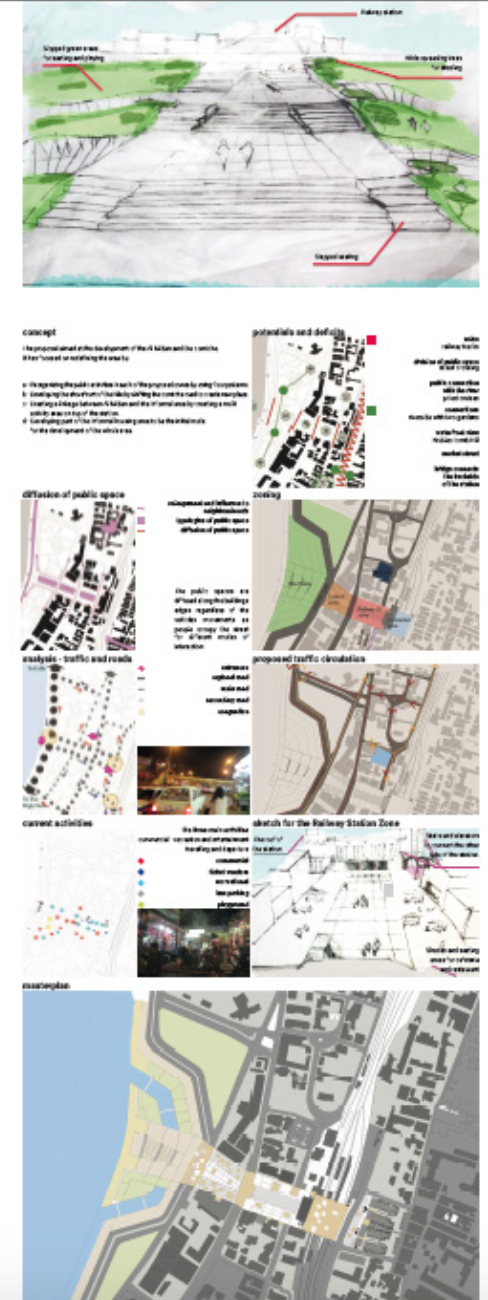




Figure 1: Port Said Historic Core (Source: Port Said Municipality, 2011)

Port Said is a coastal city located on the coast of the Mediterranean Sea, at the northern entrance of the Suez Canal. It was founded in 1859 and developed in inseparable connection with the construction of the canal.

The historical core of Port Said - as the European quarters (Al Farq) with its later extensions towards the Mediterranean (Al Chari) and the former village of Gemila, occupied by indigenous inhabitants as a closed entity (Al Arab). Despite structural differences, those quarters are very similar regarding the large presence of wooden constructions in a country that can hardly be said to produce any of the colonial architecture

is characterized by facades lined entirely with rows of balconies from timber, experienced wooden galleries, reaching up to five stories. The houses in the Arab neighbourhood utilize wooden facades with screen walls made from interlaced lathing, guarding the intimacy of their families.

In fact in both ways - either being influenced by colonial standards or Mamluk traditions or their interchange - the use of the second floor of wood along the facade as well as the presence of arcades along the main streets preserves a sense of unity to the city and represents a unique typology in the Egyptian context.

At present, many of those houses have been torn down and were replaced by standard high rise buildings, but the remaining ones give Port Said an undisturbed distinctive and special atmosphere.

As a result of a prolonged Civil Campaign for Protecting Port Said's Heritage, a national culture discourse has been reached in 2011 that prioritized around 500 buildings as listed heritage sites in the inner city. But nevertheless, most buildings are still threatened. Many of them are partly or completely out of use and in bad maintenance condition, suffering from terrible infestation and are often afflicted with complicated ownership and rental structures. Although listed as heritage sites, owners have recently managed to obtain demolition permits, which could mean the start of further destruction and the irreversible loss of buildings of historical value.

task:
The workshop team focused on a survey of 3 houses with a second floor of wood along the facade in both, the European and the Arab quarter of Port Said, to establish their history, origin and local adaptations and to develop future strategies for re-use, maintenance and adaptive re-use. In cooperation with the newly founded civil campaign group, the aim was also to raise public awareness for these buildings and launch a discussion to save them as local heritage. In detail the workshop workshop:

- **A: measurement survey of these houses**
 - plans, sections, elevations / catalogue of rooms, details
 - survey of damages and symptoms
- **B: suggestion of concept for re-use and design**
 - plans and long-term strategies to upgrade the neighbourhood, the urban block and the building itself
- **C: raising public awareness**
 - interviews and discussions with locals
 - invitation of stakeholders / public exhibition of results

Images of surveyed buildings (Figure 10, 11, 12)

House in Al Arab street, lattice-work structure (Figure 13)

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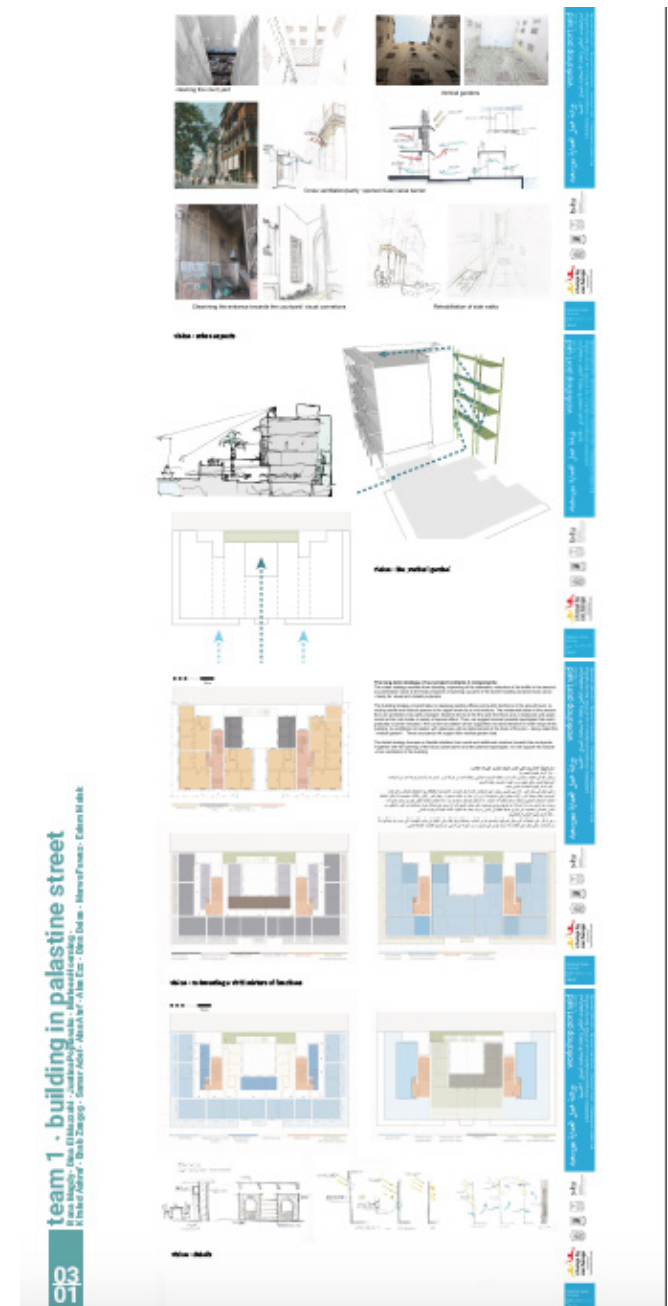
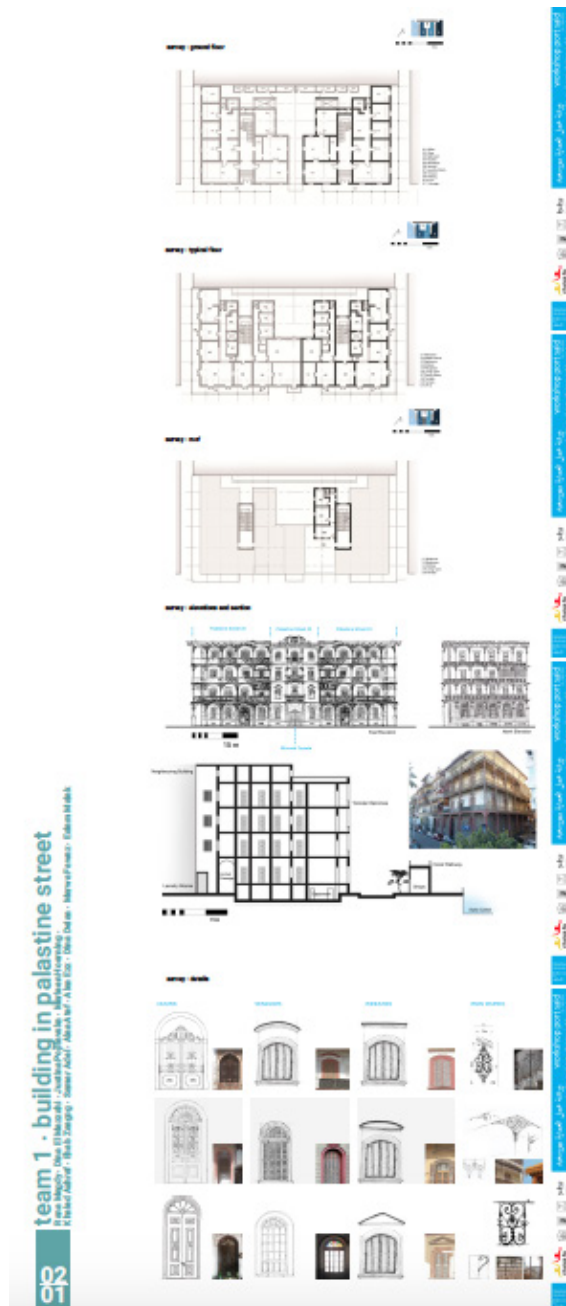
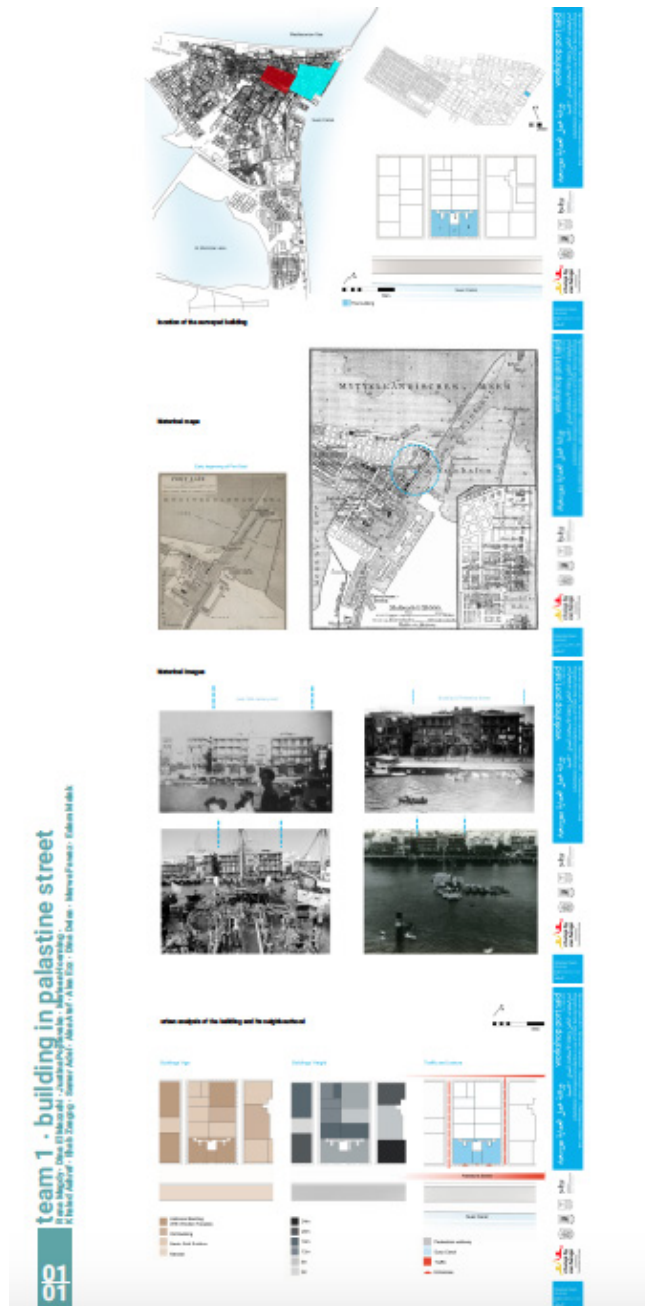
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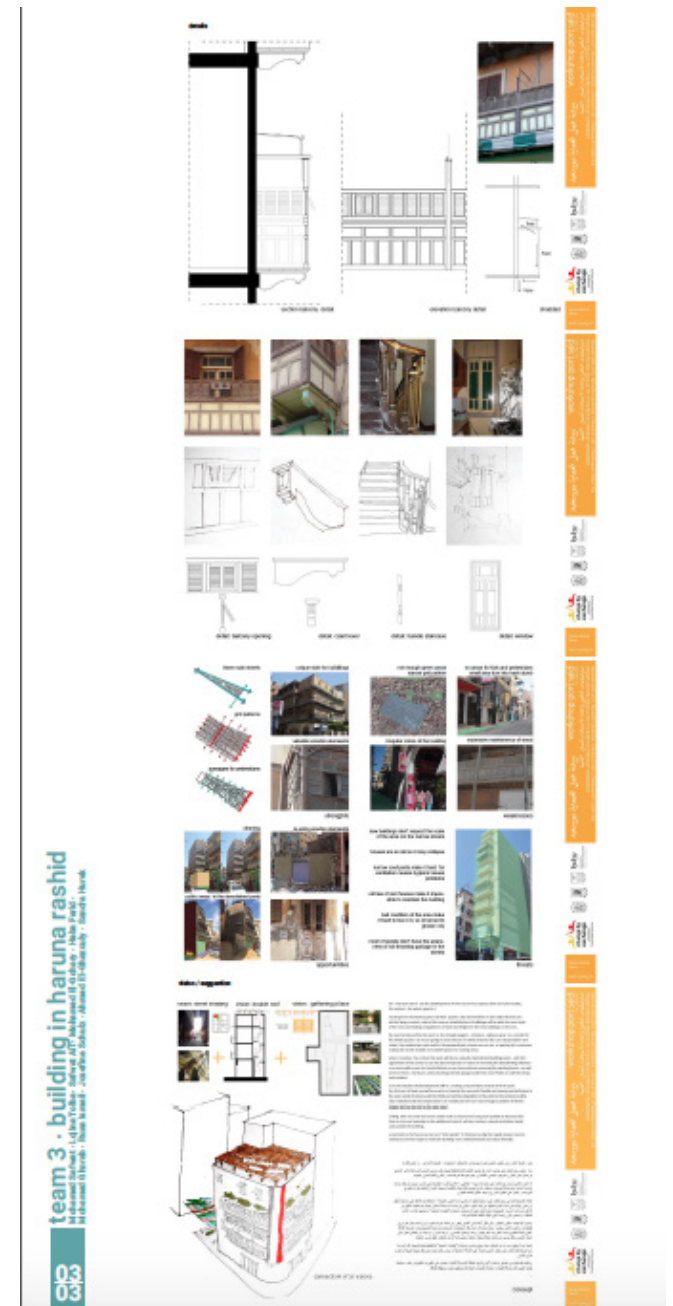
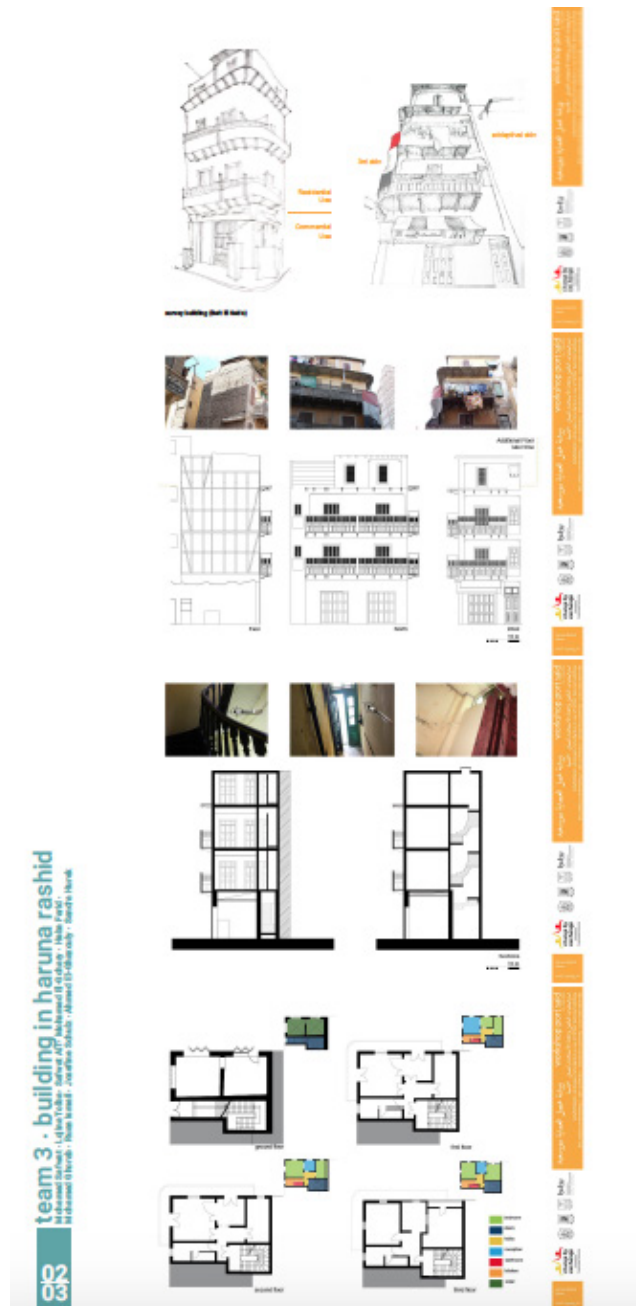


[illegible]

team 2 - building in al qush street

Id demand the Site - Hand Drawn - House Program - Above All if Easy - Accurate info - Mohamed Ali Sakr - Hassan Abdel Kader - Hatem Elmaghrabi - Mohamed Elsayed - Mostafa Elmaghrabi - Ahsan Elmaghrabi - Tarek Elmaghrabi

The image displays a series of architectural drawings for a building project. At the top, a title block reads "team 2 - building in al qesh street" and "office team: Alwan Studio - Mohamed El-Dakh - Hassan Abdel Khader - Hossam Elwan - Mohamed Elwan - Hossam Elwan - Hossam Elwan - Hossam Elwan - Hossam Elwan - Hossam Elwan". Below the title, there are several drawings: a site plan showing the building's location on a street grid; a series of elevations showing the building's facade from different angles; and a series of floor plans showing the internal layout of the building. The drawings are color-coded, with pink and yellow used to highlight specific areas. A legend at the bottom left indicates that pink represents "pink" and yellow represents "yellow".



Exhibition panels architecture workshops and urban design workshops - impressions 2012 - 2014

