

THE FORMER PEOPLE'S CENTER AND LIBRARY OF TACLOBAN CITY AS THE CENTER FOR DISASTER EPIDEMIOLOGY OF EASTERN VISAYAS

BY: LA APOSTOL



The Philippines is vulnerable to natural hazards due to its unique geographical location. For several decades, millions of Filipinos have been affected by typhoons, earthquakes and volcanic eruptions that have resulted in flash floods, landslides, and tsunamis.

The country ranked third in the world with the highest risks as stated in the World Risk Report 2018 published by the United Nations University Institute of Environment and Human Security, posing a big threat.

Following this, the researcher proposed an architectural solution to help address this issue, improve climate adaptation measures and public health objectives of Tacloban City, and amplify community engagement among Taclobanons in combating the climate crisis. The researcher employed the adaptive reuse of The People's Center and Library.

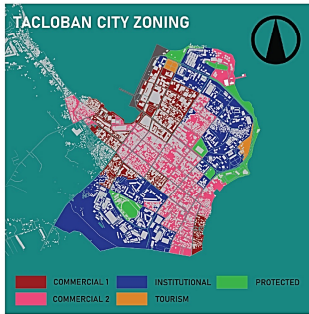


The People's Center and Library is located at the southern part of the Downtown District along Real Street. It is beside the historic Sto. Nino Shrine which was owned previously by Marcoses and taken by PCGG.



THE PEOPLE'S CENTER & LIBRARY

The ground floor of the building is a spacious social hall that can accommodate 2000 people. This part can be used for more than 100 families up until early 2014. The PCL can foster community gathering and unity.

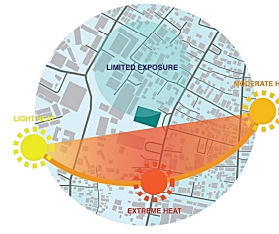


TACLOBAN CITY ZONING



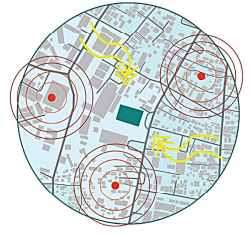
VEHICULAR ACCESS

The building is mostly accessed at Real Street where heavy traffic is recorded. Public Transportation such as the multi-cabs and vans pass through from 7 AM to 9 PM.



SOLAR EXPOSURE

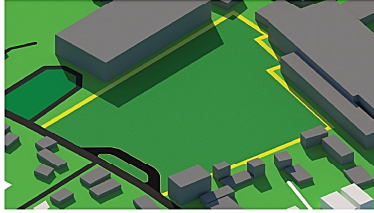
Extreme heat was recorded at the entrance and right side of the building. However, since there is a covered colonnade around the perimeter of the building, the interior is relatively cooler.



OLFACTORY & AUDITORY

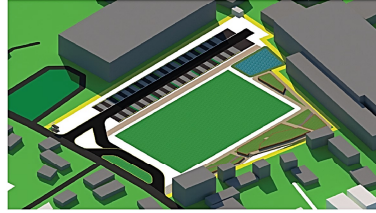
The only main sources of auditory and olfactory elements around the area are the Barangays 51, 54, and 35-A, and the Leyte Normal University. Other elements include the sound from vehicles.

SITE DEVELOPMENT



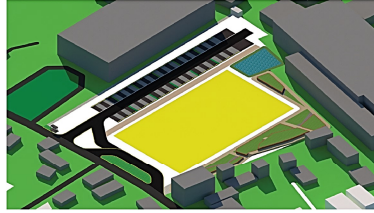
The project follows a 2.5 meter setback on all sides. The goal of the site plan is to locate controlled vehicular access points to monitor the in and out of vehicles within the site. The setbacks are very important since the surrounding buildings are establishments.

PARKING AND LANDSCAPE



The parking spaces were computed then added on the site. The climate corridor landscape was then added on the other side. This is also to promote an activity and pedestrian friendly environment. Landscape spaces were designed on the remaining areas.

EXISTING BUILDING FOOTPRINT



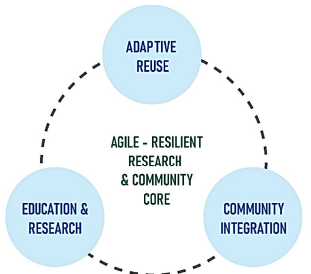
The site development was designed around the existing building footprint. The design promotes the harmonious relationship of users and landscape while also considering the vehicular needs and circulation. The existing drop-off was maintained in the design.

FINAL PROJECT

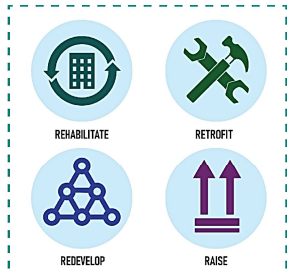


The researcher maximized the designs of the upper floors and situated open spaces that can be used by the research personnel. The massing of the new development embodies the concept of pedagogy and the general factor of agility by the WEF.

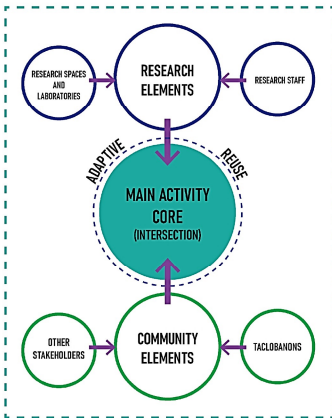
DESIGN APPROACH



FACTORS OF THE APPROACH

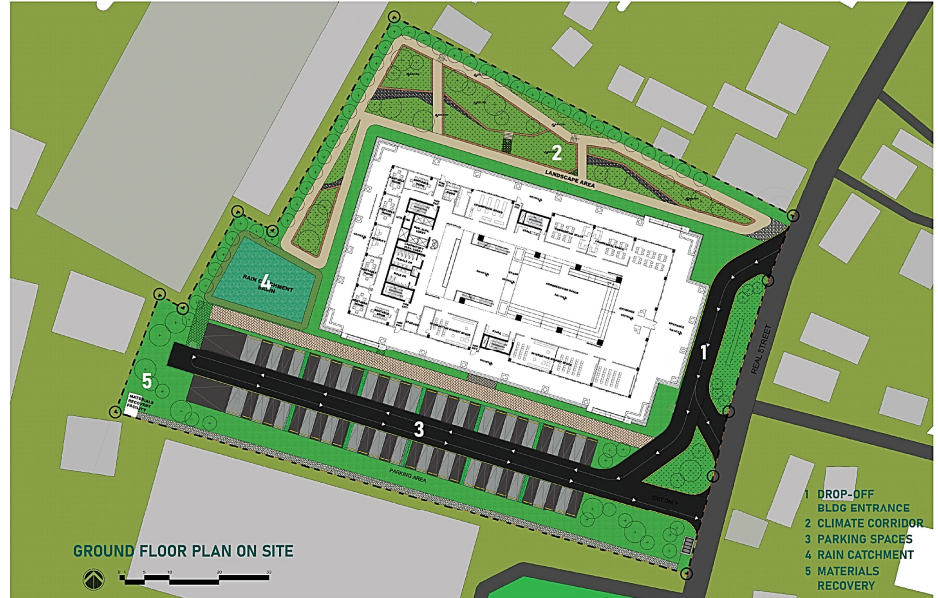
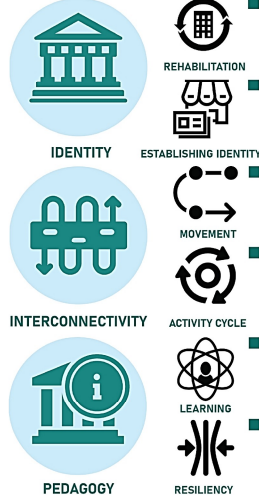


As stakeholders in the city, the communities must be engaged and involved in the plans for Climate Change Mitigation and Public Health Action. The reuse of The People's Center and Library can help bring people together and then involve them in planning strategies against the climate crisis. In the course of their involvement, the people can be simultaneously educated. Considering the three factors mentioned, the researcher framed a general design approach.

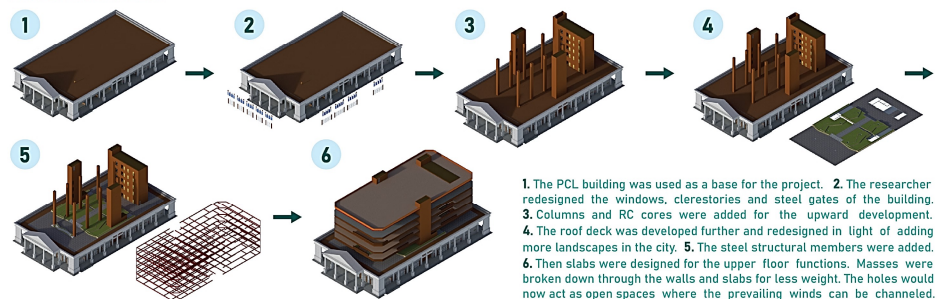


In this approach, the researcher highlights how the research elements and community elements intersect in a central core — being The People's Center and Library. More importantly, the adaptive reuse factor of the design significantly houses this intersection. The researcher notes that this intersection is significant to the overall project.

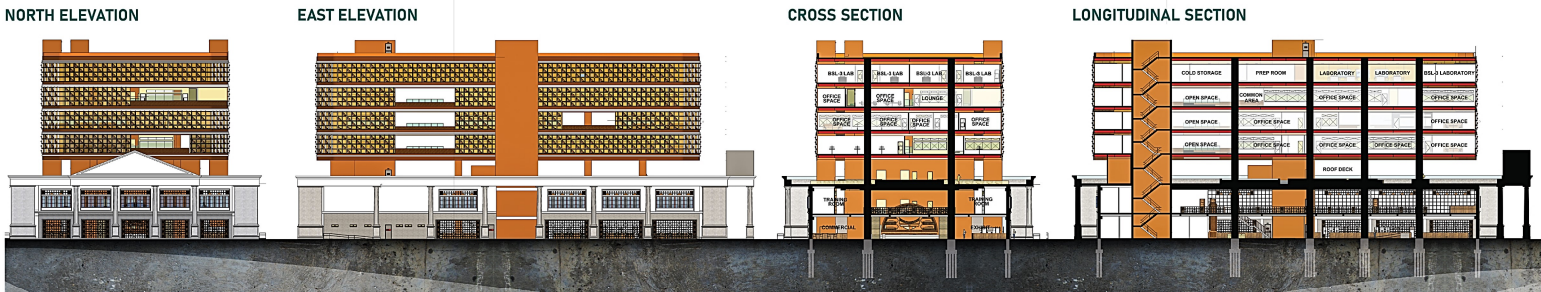
DESIGN CONCEPTS



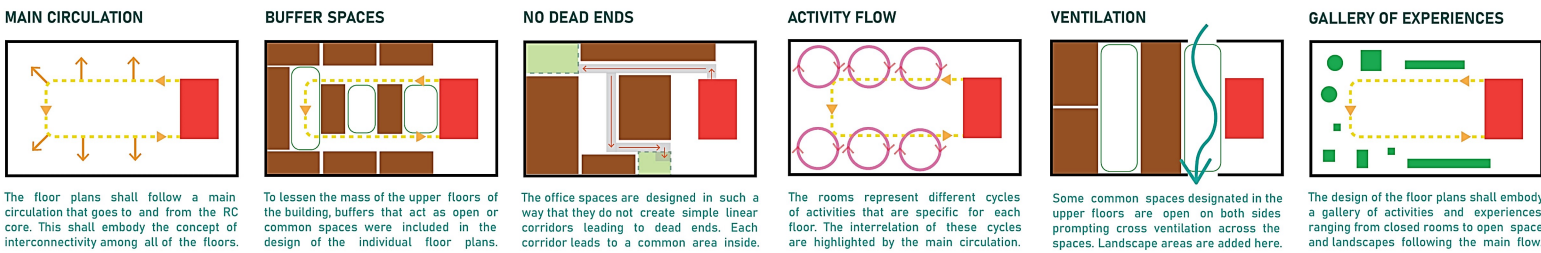
DESIGN DEVELOPMENT



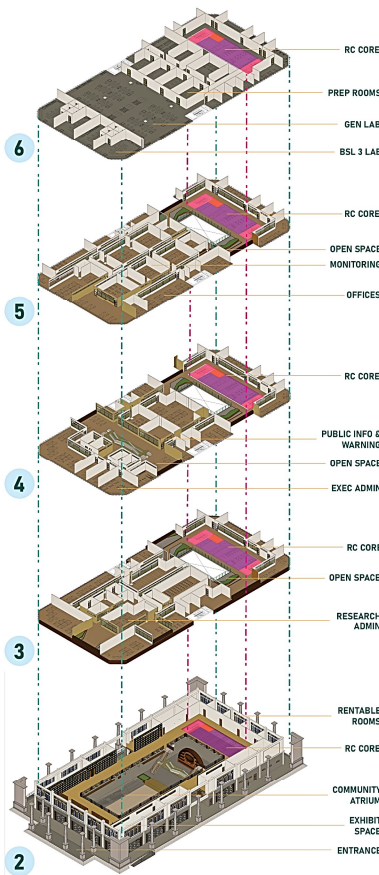
1. The PCL building was used as a base for the project. 2. The researcher redesigned the windows, clerestories and steel gates of the building. 3. Columns and RC cores were added for the upward development. 4. The roof deck was developed further and redesigned in light of adding more landscapes in the city. 5. The steel structural members were added. 6. Then slabs were designed for the upper floor functions. Masses were broken down through the walls and slabs for less weight. The holes would now act as open spaces where the prevailing winds can be channeled.



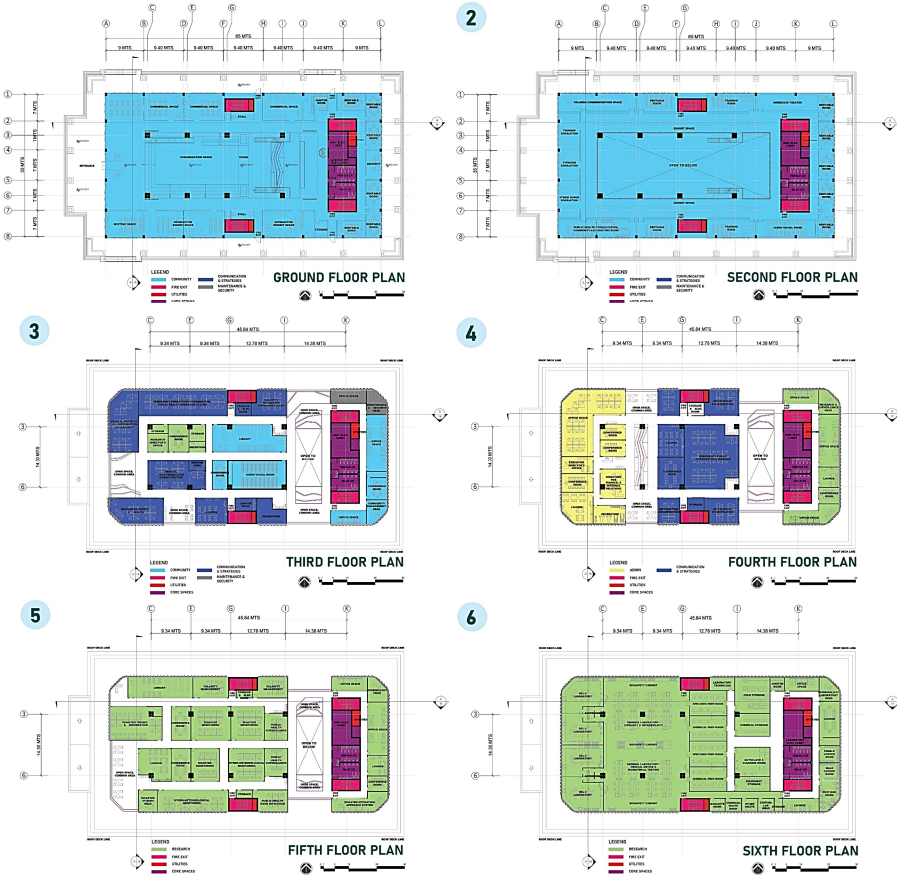
FLOOR PLAN CONCEPTS



3D MODEL OF FLOOR PLANS



FLOOR PLANS OF BOTH PCL AND UPPER DEVELOPMENT



PERSPECTIVES

