

AN ARCHITECTURAL PROJECT FOR ITS ROLE TOWARDS AN **ACTIVE, PRODUCTIVE & ENJOYABLE SENIOR CITIZENSHIP**

THE PLAYHOUSE

A LIVE-WORK-PLAY SENIOR COMMUNITY HUB IN BULAKAN

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RATIONALE & DESIGN APPROACH.

Located in a 3-hectare site (200m by 150m) in Barangay Bagumbayan, Bulakan, Bulacan, the PlayHouse aims to be a productive haven for seniors, hoping to be a design solution to the problem:

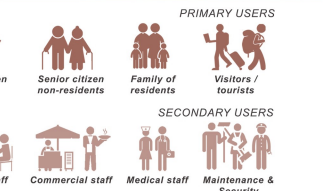
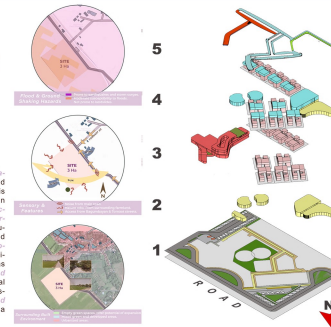
Considering the new role of Bulacan as the next aerotropolis and its effect on the elderly's quality of living, how can a playful and flexible senior-centered community hub enable them to achieve an active, productive and fulfilling retirement?

As every senior architecture in the country focuses on providing assisted living and nursing services to the elderly, this project aims to use a **more unconventional user-centric experiential approach** which shifts the focus from providing assisted living and nursing, to emphasizing the **need for active social and productive economic spaces for seniors**. Design of the project is approached using **more youthful and dynamic design solutions**. This project aims to remind the society of the **social and economic significance** that the senior population still have for their communities.

The PlayHouse is complete with **residential, commercial, healthcare and recreational** facilities to cater to most, if not all needs of its senior users. With this, it hopes to build a community that **respects and dignifies seniors**. Allowing them to have fun and memorable experiences through **activity-driven spaces**, the PlayHouse reimagines the concept of a playground – realizing a possibility of **designing a playground consciously meant for senior citizens**.



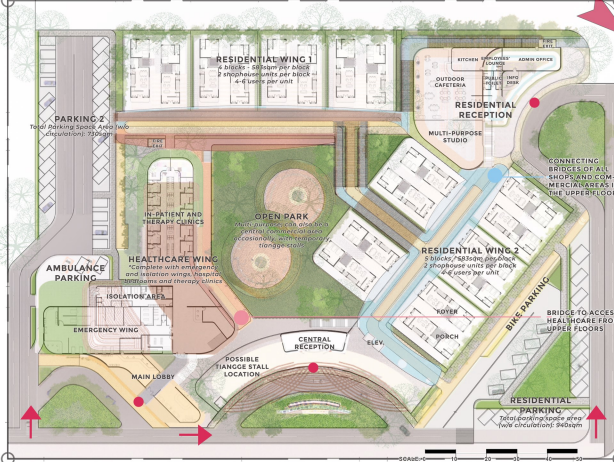
THE SITE. Located in Barangay Bagumbayan, Bulakan, along an unnamed road stemming out from Bagumbayan street, the site is surrounded by empty green spaces. It faces an underdeveloped residential area and can be accessed from the main downtown through Toroman street. It is only 1.5 km away from the Bulakan municipal hall. Underdeveloped areas around site despite being near downtown proves its potential for future expansion, especially for residential purposes. The abundance of green areas also surrounding the site creates a **serene and peaceful environment** which offers an ideal aging space. Immediate public means of transportation to access site are through **tricycles and jeepneys** only. Bus stations are 1.2 km away of a 15-minute walk to the site.



MASSING.

- (1) Placing of **circulation roads** to the 3-hectare site - for vehicles including parking spaces, bicycle paths and pedestrian.
- (2) Massing of **central spaces** - main entrance lobby, central lounge, and residential lobby.
- (3) Placing of **main healthcare building and residential units**. Zoning of site ensures ease of access to the health center and peaceful privacy of residential units.
- (4) **Commercial spaces** are located on top floors of shophouses, and on rooftop spaces, as well as in the central lounge.
- (5) All commercial spaces are connected through **bridges**.

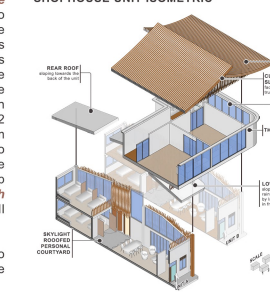
SITE DEVELOPMENT PLAN & DESIGN CONCEPTS



Located at the **Northeast side of the site**, beside the empty farmlands to maximize ventilation and minimize noise, residential units are designed as **inverted shophouses** - living quarters on the ground and second floors, while shared shop / commercial spaces are placed on the third floor. Each unit can accommodate up to 6 senior users, 2 bedrooms are provided, each room offers a bedspace for one caretaker to help with ease and convenience of the seniors. Since the units are too deep and clustered together, **courtyard with skylight roofing** is integrated, to still maximize daylighting.

A **pneumatic vacuum elevator** is also provided for each unit for access to the shops on the third floor.

SHOPHOUSE UNIT ISOMETRIC



RESIDENTIAL SHOPHOUSES.



PHYSICALLY DYNAMIC.

To address the **physical needs** of seniors – to have a **more active and dynamic lifestyle**, this project is designed with very dynamic circulation paths. Open interconnected spaces are integrated, where seniors can perform various activities and experience various views in.

Design Highlights:
Pedestrian and bike paths
Connecting Bridges
Wayfinding through colored bridges

EMOTIONALLY UPLIFTING.

Seniors often feel detached from the rest of society, so this project aims to provide **emotional assistance** to seniors, helping them **feel seen & socially significant**. Making them feel part of a community should help uplift their emotional health.

Design Highlights:
Therapy clinics & daycare center
Spaces that seniors can transform (central park, rooftop garden)

SOCIALLY INTERACTIVE.

Several social & communal areas are provided to help build a **sense of family & home**. Interconnecting all areas should also help with preventing the feeling of detachment from the rest of the community.

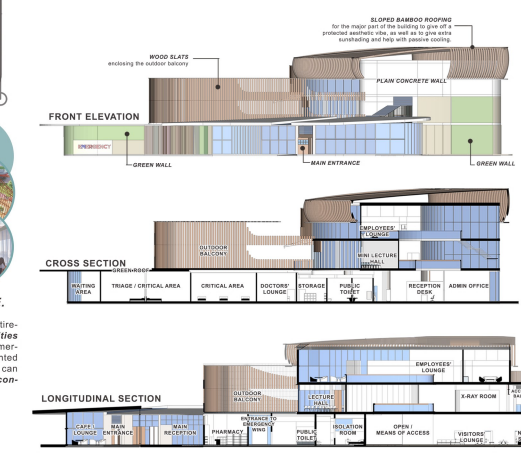
Design Highlights:
Central Lounge
Residential Outdoor Cafeteria
Multi-purpose studios
Open and outdoor areas (rooftop garden, green balconies, etc.)

ECONOMICALLY PRODUCTIVE.

To help seniors earn for a comfortable retirement, **immediate livelihood opportunities** are offered for seniors. Several possible commercial spaces are provided which can be rented by both seniors and local residents, which can also help **contribute to Bulakan's local economy**.

Design Highlights:
Shophouse
Rooftop lounge
Central commercial lounge

HEALTHCARE COMPLEX.



HEALTHCARE COMPLEX.

Located by the **main access road** to make it easily seen, the healthcare complex is complete with an **emergency wing, hospital bedrooms, therapy clinics, and an elderly & nursery daycare center**.

An **isolation facility** is also included and designed as a stand-alone facility, with its entrances and exits contained and can only be accessed by medical staff. It is designed to be built from **modular and recycled materials** to also offer **expansion opportunities** in times of need. **Green roofs and wall systems** are also integrated to help passively cool the entire building & be more environmentally sustainable.

ACTIVITY AREAS.

