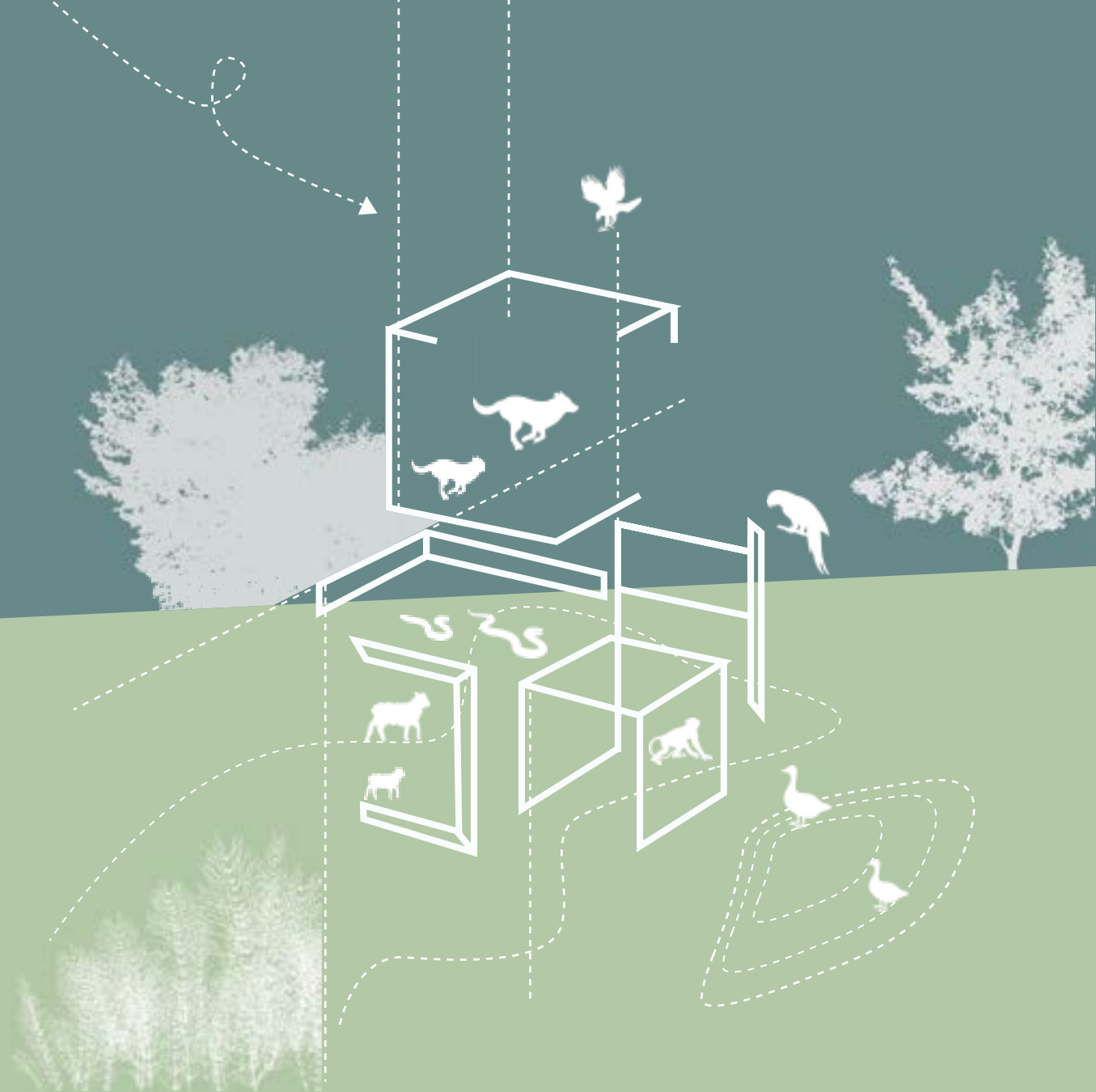




KHARKIV
SCHOOL of
ARCHITECTURE



Workshop

Cherkasy Zoo



Re-thinking of the future development of the Cherkasy zoo from different points of view of several teams and creating a concept for the development of public space.

The main accents and needs - a new entry group that meets modern architectural trends, and that is a part of the general concept of the zoo, contains the administration, cash desks and information points.

The goal of the project is also to establish interaction between animals and visitors, creating a comfortable and interesting space for a long stay at the zoo.

The workshop participants are faced with challenges, such as to determine the value of the zoo in the city, which can and should be about the animals, what kind of public space it should be and what is the future of the zoo.

Goal

Creating a concept for the public space and the space frame of the zoo with an emphasis on the entrance group.

The idea of developing the public space of the zoo and the entrance group as the main object's core.

Functional program of the zoo's public space.

The zoo's place in the park and in the city.

Transportation and transit movement structure.

Conceptual design solution for the entrance group.

Spatial solution of the public space frame.

Tasks



Fulco Treffers

Dutch architect and urban explorer, founder and former director of the Temporary Art Center (TAC) with a center in Eindhoven. In 2005 he founded the 12N Urban Matters studio, which works as a network organization.

Tutors



An architect has a responsibility. Designing is about ethics and politics. “Why do we need a zoo?”

METHODOLOGY OF ASKING QUESTIONS

Designing is about giving answers. But on what questions? It is not only the why-question that needs to be asked. Many other questions are very important to find out what is really going on, what is the case. You have to be curious, you need to have an open, wondering, searching attitude.

An interesting moment during this week was the moment that one group found out the zoo already had a dependence inside the city of Cherkasy. The director had not told about it. The students found out themselves, out of curiosity, which made their concept and focus (‘the city is the zoo’) more clear, relevant and feasible. To ask questions is a topic itself. Is the question open or closed? Should it be answered with yes or no? Does it inspire to think? Is there one ‘good’ answer, or more? Does a question lead to a good research? Or dialogue? And most of all: the answers of which questions will help you as a designer?

Many architects and urban planners ask the questions to themselves. And they give the answers as well. Involving people who are ‘end users’ (working, living, using) makes this process much more easy, but also much more diverse, unexpected and qualitative.

WORKSHOP AND RESULTS

Three groups, three results. And all results did present very good answers on why we need a zoo in Cherkasy. With good clear pictures, maps, 2d and 3d designs. The three scenarios combined give perfect insight in variety of possibilities. They also give insight from the point of dif-

ferent viewers: public, organisation and animal. Combine the interest of these three groups and you will have a good design.

Keywords I heard, during the presentations:
Public: experience, feel good, comfortable
Animal: healthy, happy, natural
Organisation: practical, efficient, caring

The architectural interventions were made on different scales. I liked the way the several architectural interventions changed the park gradually, from an old fashioned set of cages into a wild life experience. The possibility to change the park step by step has a big advantage for the investors and the visitors: it stays open all the time, and it make the public revisit. The connection with the park is clear, but the zoo also lies next to the industrial zone. Here are simple but good interventions possible that will help the zoo being part of the park experience, for example new transparent gate zone and a new location for the entrance from the park into the zoo.

To involve the city is a strategy really worth a try. This could make both the Zoo and Cherkassy grow in visitors. This zoo can be a focus point for the city, and connecting the city to the zoo, this can be a fruitful way to show quality of other parts of town as well, for example the river/lake or the city centre. This is about building identity. Some better infrastructure would be more than helpful.



Evert Verhagen

Dutch urbanist, whose specialization is the transformation of industrial zones and rehabilitation of abandoned industrial objects. Founder of Creative Cities Agency and Reuse BV, which is looking for new features for industrial areas and buildings.



WORKSHOP AND PARTISIPANTS

The idea to do a workshop with students is something I like very much. For every complex architectural project it should be a must. It offers the students a possibility to learn about a difficult project and it almost always brings a lot of new ideas on the table. But maybe more important then anything else it helps to discuss the issues that are at stake in a safe way. Safe because the students are usually not the ones who will be asked to make the definitive plan.

Many more things can be said in a workshop, more can be discussed, everybody who is involved can learn from it. There is usually a common language that develops during these discussions which helps a lot in the next stages of the project to understand each other. Seen in this perspective I think the workshop on Cherkassy Zoo was a great success.

Leadership is also the responsibility to make a decision and that is very often one of the most difficult things to do at such a young age without the knowledge and the wisdom of the more experienced older architects. Defining a vision and a strategy and sticking to it is almost always quite hard to do.

A workshop like this can be a wonderful way to achieve one or more of these tools. This also means we have to be aware of it and discuss this from the start. For me as a tutor this was also in the learning curve. I very much liked it to work with these students and discuss the issues at stake with them. I am sure that giving the presentation as I did also helped them to know me better and break the ice for them to talk with me about the issues they wanted to discuss.





Marjo van Schaik

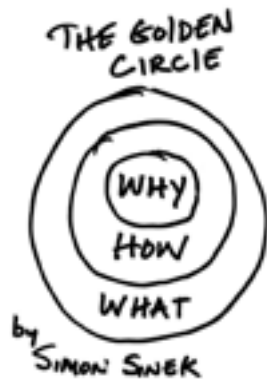
Project manager, strategic advisor, coordinator of cultural programs, consultant for many institutions in the Netherlands.



METHOD

Being a creative producer, cultural manager and researcher, my approach is based on the principle that any public project, building or event always should encompass economic, social and artistic/intrinsic values simultaneously. To get a good idea of these aspects and how they interact and influence I start to ask for the reason why. In this case the starting question was “Why is there a zoo in Cherkassy?”.

Without explicitly mentioning it, this approach is steered by the Golden circle method of Sinek: “It’s all about the ‘why’. The ‘why’ is fundamental belief and reason we exist and should be at the very heart of everything we do. The process starts with explaining why we do what we do before talking about what and how. It revolves around daring to think differently.” I encouraged the groups to think differently, to dare to dream and to postpone the reality check. First getting to the “why” before building fences or pulling them down.



When the students had gone to the full stretch of fantasy and dreams, the perceived facts were brought in: what did the client ask for, what issues need to be solved, how is the place experienced as it is now, how many people come in, what are the peak moments etc. What is written about the place, how is it esteemed, talked about, conceived. How does the zoo look like at the moment, how is it talked about, what are people doing in the zoo, do they like it, and why? Making use of the spatial model of urban planner Soja, gives a full picture of the place. Zooming in on the specific architectural questions and challenges must be postponed, until there is a full picture of how the place is perceived and experienced in practice. The next step is to connect the ‘why’ with the ‘reality check’. These two steps were explained with a simple drawing of a set of stairs to balance the ‘why’ with the ‘reality check’. This proved to be a very simple and helpful tool. The next fase was to start to work on designing concept and principles and concept. This being not my professional speciality, my role changed towards a more coaching role of the group and of individual members of the group. Checking whether they still were in line, challenged, inspired etc.

RESULTS

A strong approach is to think larger than de the zoo, to incorporate the city and the region, to bring about relevant changes with relatively small interventions, to be able to make changes gradually and to do so with respect to what is already there. Another couple of days work, bringing in the best of all groups, will offer a very good proposal.



Yevhenii Van

Director of the Cherkasy Zoo
Co-founder of the Animal Lovers Club at the Union of Conservation of Nature. He took part in the creation of an exhibition “Zooexotarium” in the city of Cherkasy and “Tropicpark” in Yevpatoria.



Yevhenii Kiosia

Senior Lecturer of the Department of Genetics and Cytology of Kharkiv National University named after V.N. Karazin, head of the group of young biologists of the Kharkiv Zoo.

Consultants

Area of the zoo is 4,37 ha.

There are more than three thousand animals in the zoo`s collection.

They represent 282 species. (according to the 2015 data).

SPECIALIZATION

- animals of the terrarium group
- animals of Ukrainian forest and forest-steppe zones

2016

The number of visitors is 94717 people
Excursions held - 228 (75 of them were free)
Lectures held - 10
Mass events - 3

2017

Number of visitors - 176270
Excursions held - 399 (103 of them were free)
Mass events - 4

70% of visitors are people in the age from 20 to 40. 30% of all visitors came from other cities

Number of visitors per hour - 500 people
Number of visitors per day - 5000 people

FEATURES OF THE ZOO. NEEDS AND PROBLEMS.

The zoo has a relatively small area that contains densely located objects. Almost all of the new buildings in recent years have a well thought-out intricate internal structure, but do not foresee the logical circulation of visitors among them, viewing spaces, movement structure and recreational areas.

The most acute problems of the space are the absence of static rest spaces, a rational structure of movement, which would give visitors the idea of where they are, the spatial framework and the integrity of the building in combination with the landscape. The zoo needs a well-established humane animal contact with visitors. A separate point is the lack of a single, understandable identity.

The administration sees the next step of the development of the zoo in the construction of a new entrance group with a recreational space around the lake, points of sale of souvenirs, fast food points, illumination of the zoo and the construction of a cafe. It is also possible to organize a public lecture auditorium and to introduce an educational and entertainment function on the site of old cages. The entrance group should have an administrative department, a winter garden and separate entrance and exit flows of visitors.

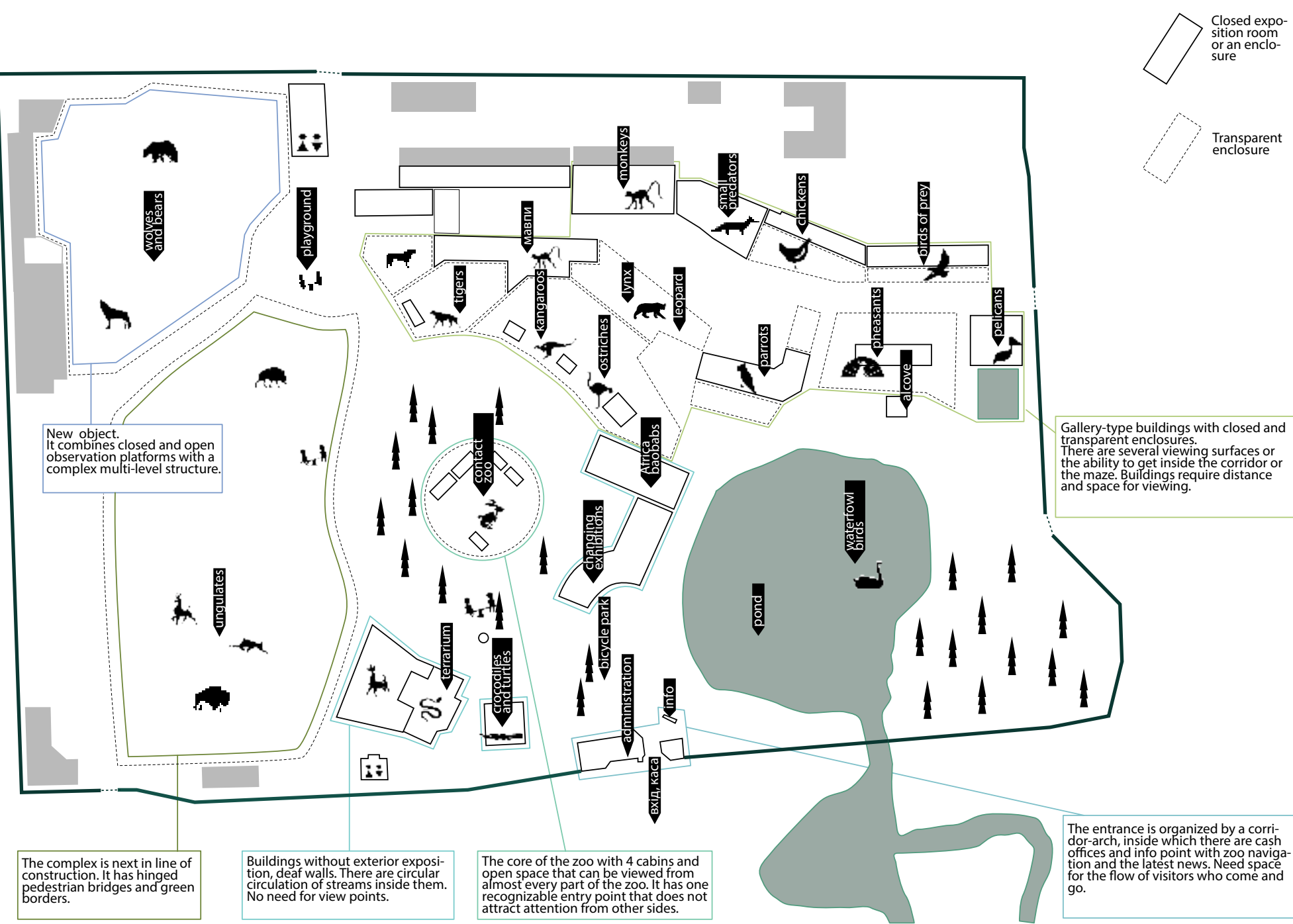
The zoo is located in a large park saturated with various landscape and green natural objects. This park is popular in the city for spending time with the family, for taking pictures, leisurely walks and nature watching. The boundaries of the park are separated from the motorways with the hills and create a cozy and comfortable environment. There are three paths

through the greenery and the central alley to the zoo, there is no navigation to the zoo in the park itself.

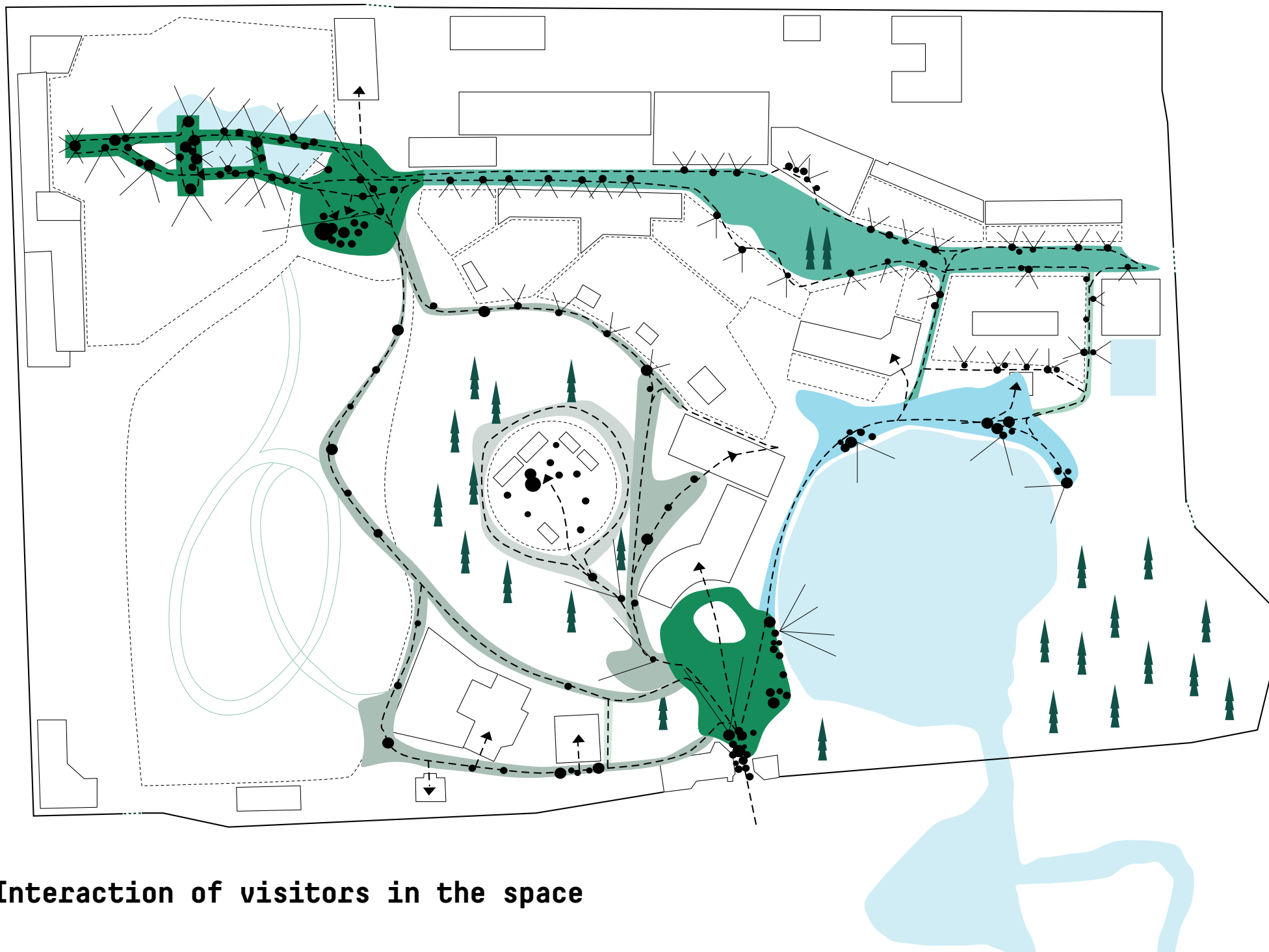
The zoo has a unique set of animals that attracts visitors both in the summer and in the winter. The average time in the zoo of 40-70 minutes, more time to spend is impossible because of the lack of entertainment features. The preferred time to spend there is from two hours.

Due to dense construction, a small area, a chaotic structure and an increase in visitors (in 2017), a large number of people are killing green plantations also animals are in permanent stress.

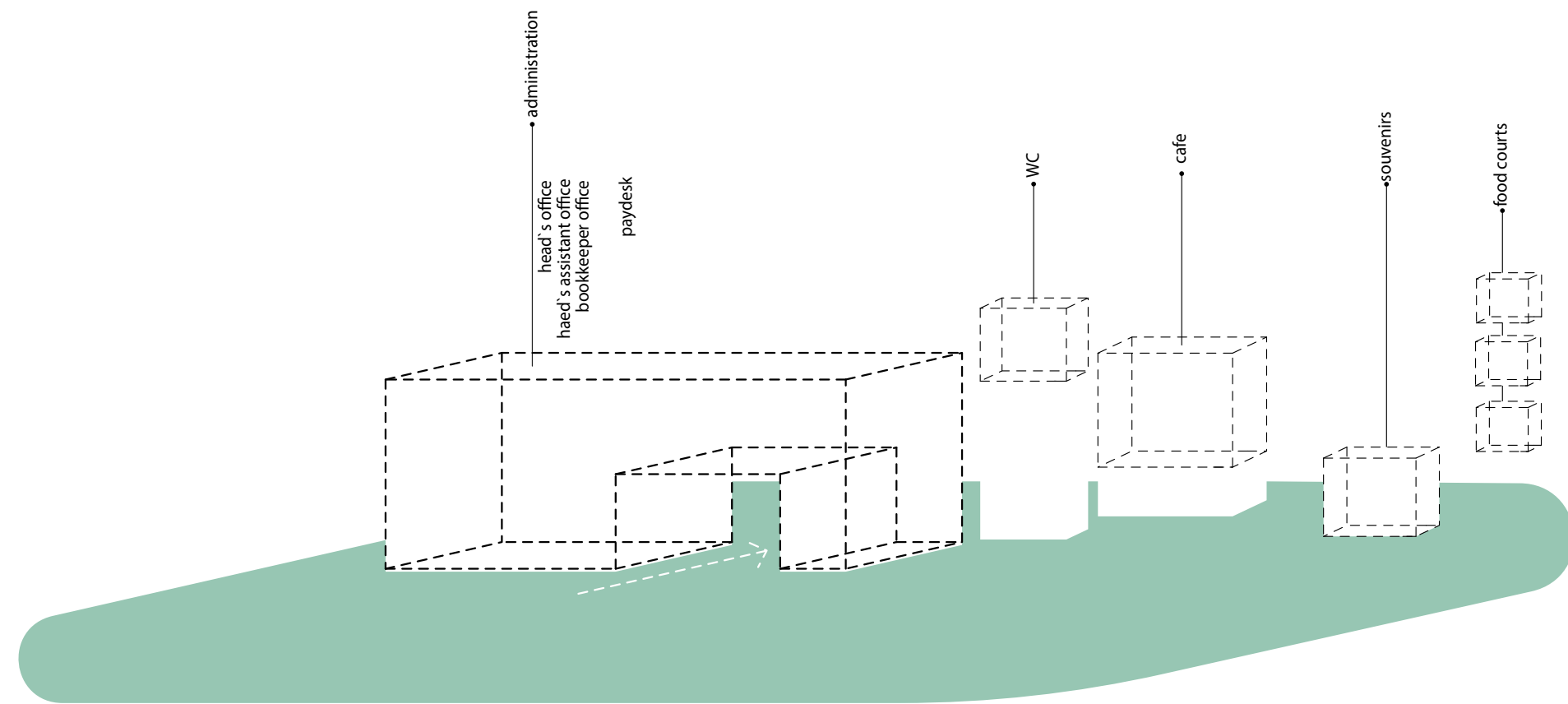
Context



Functional filling and spaces of the zoo



Interaction of visitors in the space



Task from the client

The zoo is located in the city park,
called Peremogy park.

It`s area is 23 ha.

It is a multifunctional cultural and rec-
reational park.

Environmental conservation status: the
park is a local significance monument of
landscape gardening. It is charged by the
Cherkasy Department of Parks.

It was founded in 1975 in honor of the
30th anniversary of the victory of the
USSR in the Second World War.

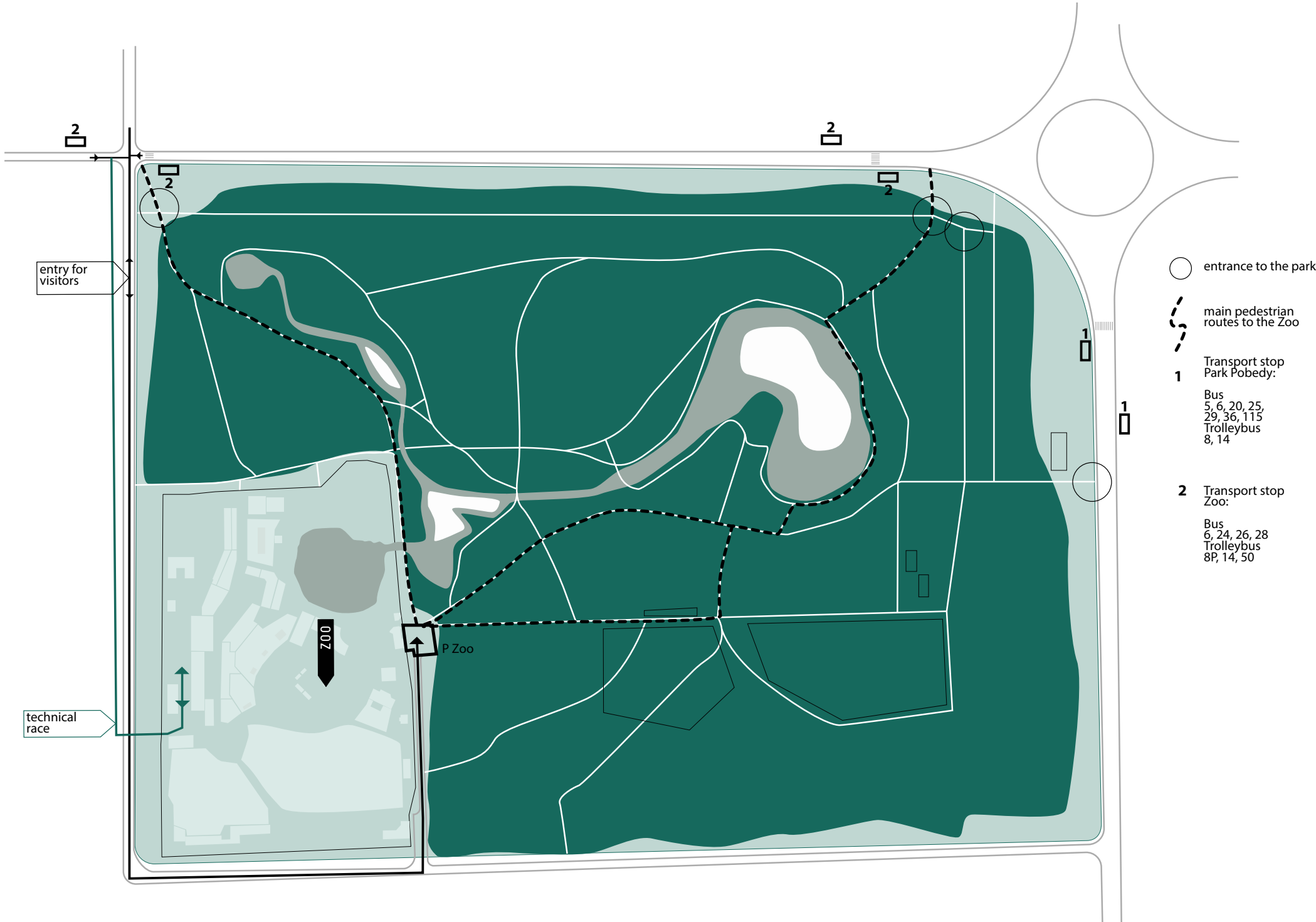
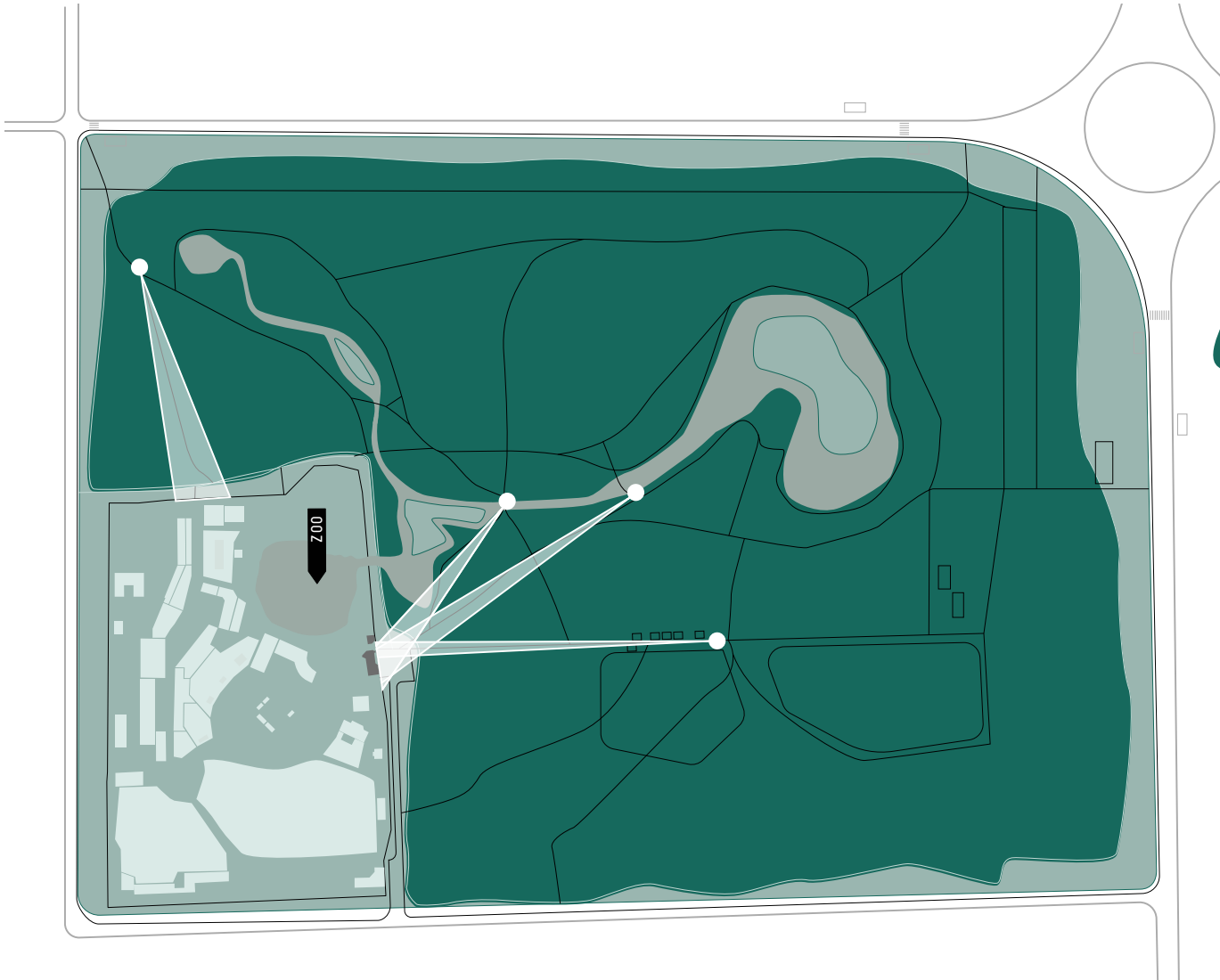
Multifunctionality of the park is mani-
fested in its constituent parts:

landscape - clear alley of specially
planted trees and bushes under constant
supervision;

memorial - on its territory there are
monuments to dead soldiers, pedestals with
a gun and a SU-7BKL airplane in honor of
the liberators of Cherkasy from the Nazi
occupiers;

entertaining - here are rides and Cher-
kassy Zoo, which contains animals, both
local and exotic fauna, as well as a sta-
tion of young naturalists (younnats).

The organization of the park was carried
out with the observance of traditions and
profound knowledge in the park art by
a group of Cherkasy specialists, head-
ed by the chief architect of the city VM
Kholkovsky and the chief architect of the
area O. S. Renkas, the architect of the
park I.Shcherbina and a group of prominent
dendrologists led by E. D. Smirnov.



The basis of the concept is the change in the levels of interaction between visitors of the zoo and animals. The project proposes to go deeper into communicating with animals than getting closer to them, touching or feeding. The proposal for " rapprochement" is the observation and organization of the space so that the visitor was able to "look at the world through the eyes of the animals", to feel the world in the same way as they do. This is a new idea for the representation of the Cherkassy Zoo, where all visitors will be able to be in different spaces from the point of animals in a wild environment. The offer covers old peripheral cages and abandoned zoo areas.

The entrance group has openings like a fox hole, they narrow and expand from different sides, simulating the transition from the "human" to the "animal" world; at the entrance to the zoo there is a recreation zone with seats shaped like bird nests. Part of the public space of the zoo, integrated into the Park of Victory, is a playground simulating a frog pond, for recreation and games.

The food and relaxation area are located near the lake and organize a public space around the building of cafes with places for sitting and observation.

The space inside the zoo, which allows visitors to feel the animal world, consists of: cages for monkeys, which completely change their concept - a person goes through cage-corridor, and monkeys are on the outside, above and from both

sides; rope-park, where visitors and the primates can feel naturally together; birds space with cable for "flight" between trees; the new snake observation space looks like a human scale grassland (vertical pillars about 2.5 meters high); the space of observation for cold-blooded animals simulates the conditions for the existence of these creatures - a cold space with a directed warm lighting. There is also a fun new space for observation of people: fenced public space, where you can look at other visitors.

According to the project of this group there are more playgrounds, a cafe, a souvenir shop and a picnic lawn. The main ways of movement are supplemented by auxiliary ones, which allow you to spend more time within the zoo.

Team members

Alina Yesaian - architect, Kharkiv

Maksym Klochenko - architect, Dnipro

Rodion Filatov - urbanist, engineer, Kyiv

Ustyna Antoniuk - architect, Lviv

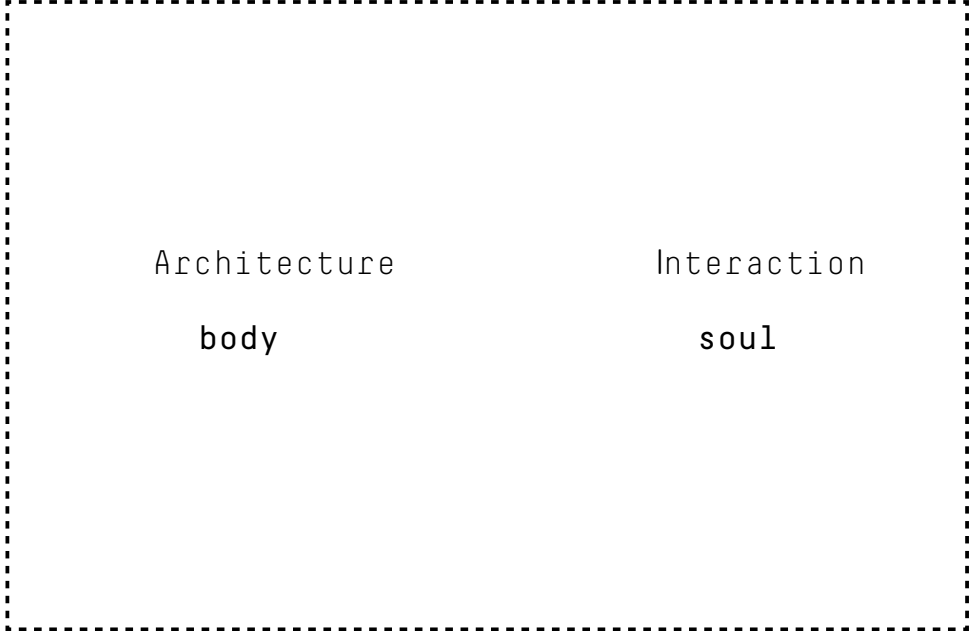
Yelyzaveta Pasichnyk - architect, Kyiv

Concept 1

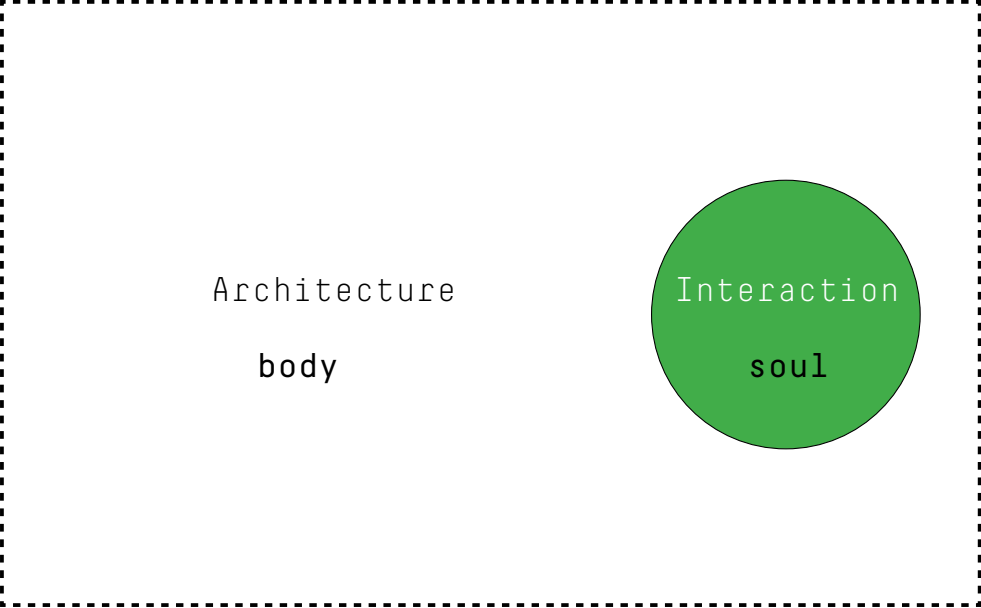
CHERKASY ZOO TODAY



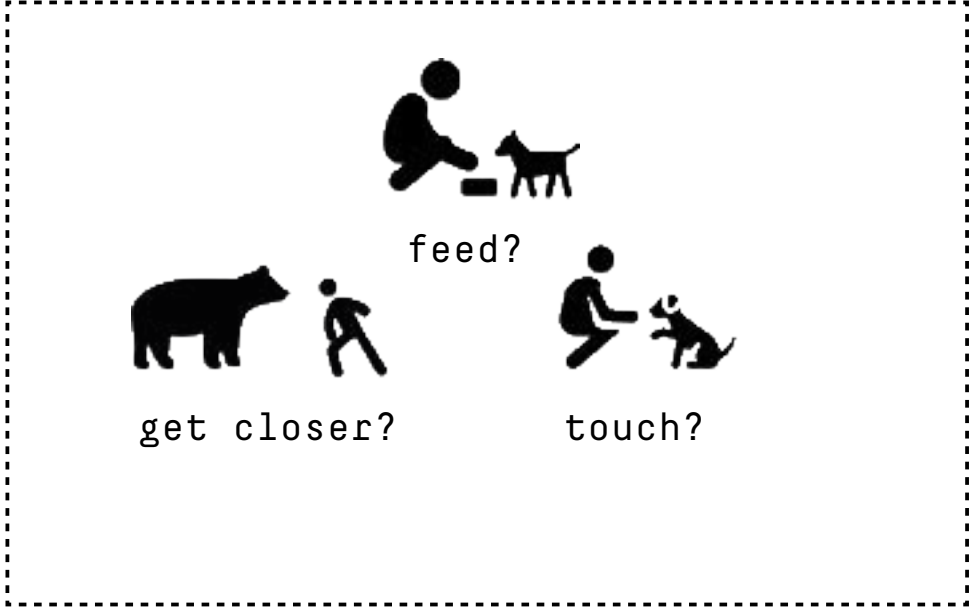
GOOD ZOO CONSISTS OF



GOOD ZOO CONSISTS OF



ZOO INTERACTION IS



CAN INTERACTION BE DEEPER?

zoo strategy

GET CLOSER TO ANIMALS BY OBSERVING
AND FEELING A WORLD LIKE THEY DO



design strategy

PLAY ANIMALS` LIFE SCENARIOS
IN DESIGNED SPACES



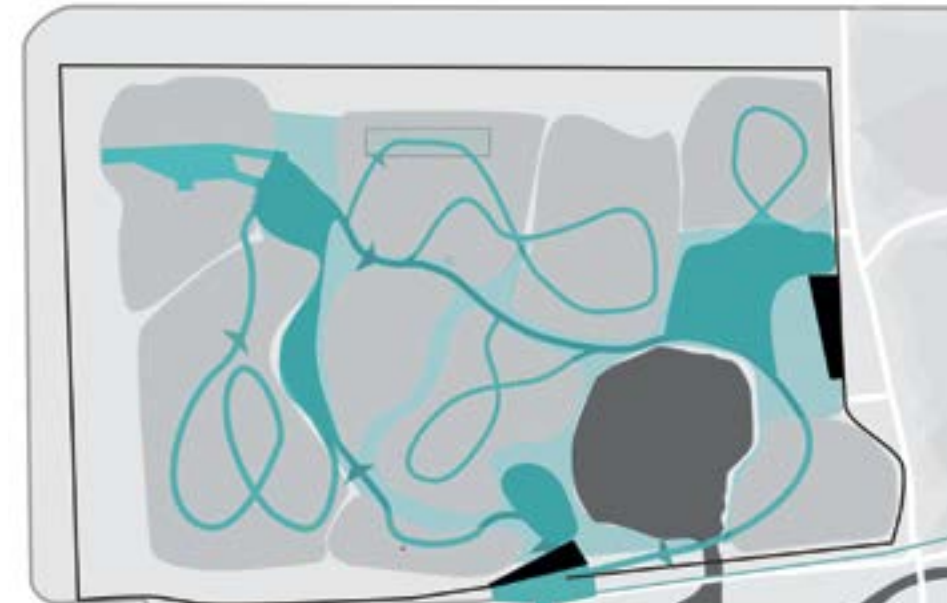
MASTERPLAN



ZONING PROPOSAL



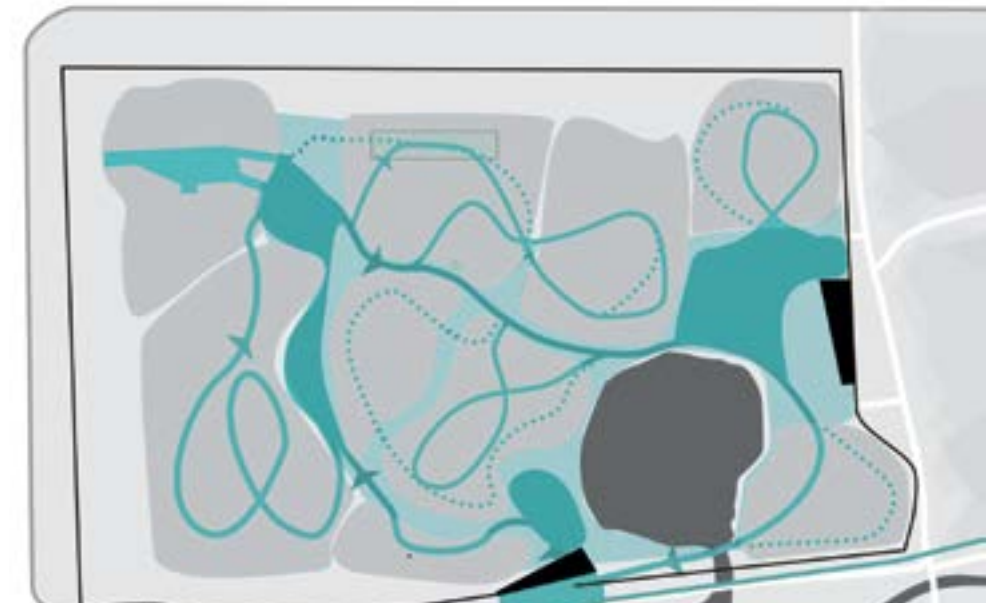
MAIN ROUTES PROPOSAL



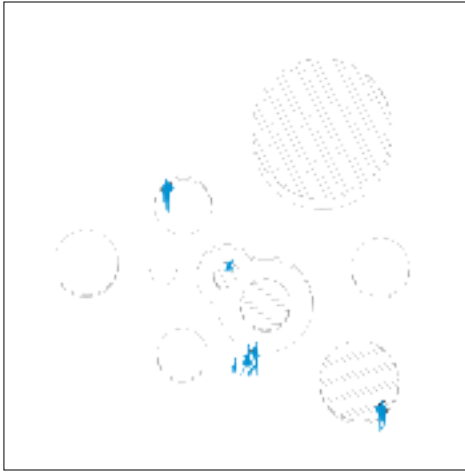
PUBLIC FUNCTIONS PROPOSAL



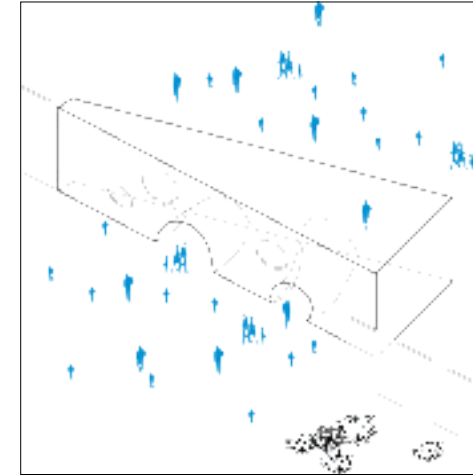
ADDITIONAL ROUTES PROPOSAL

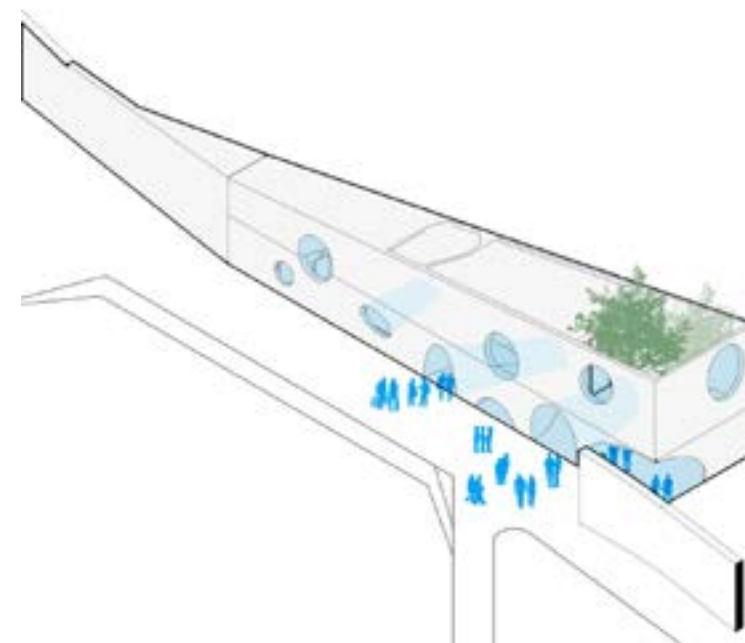
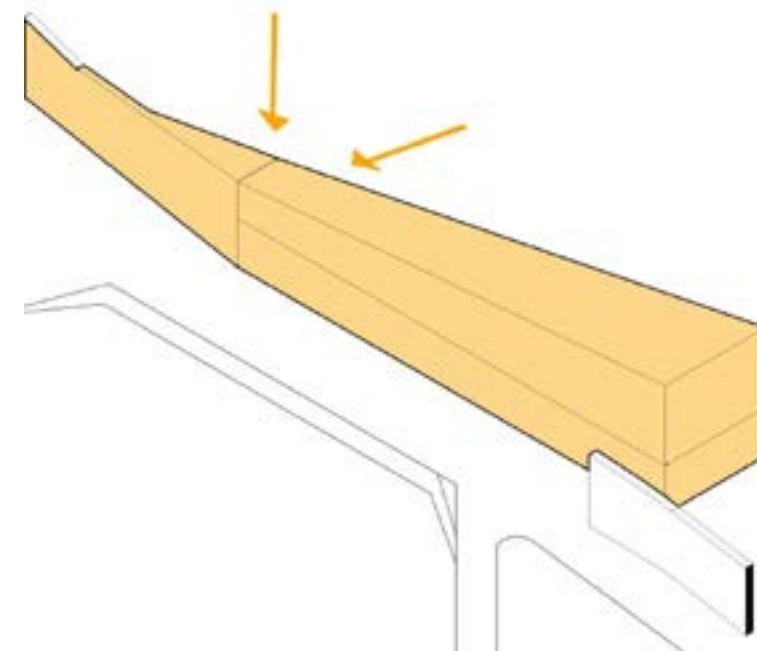
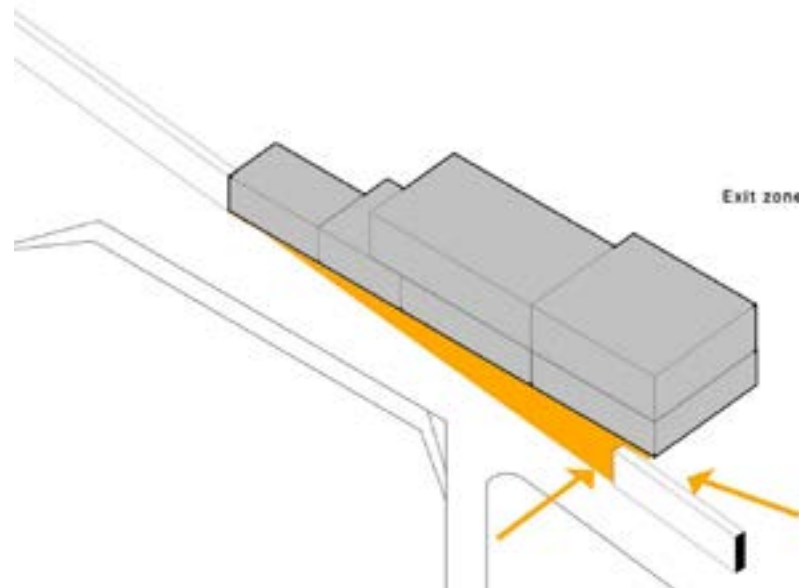
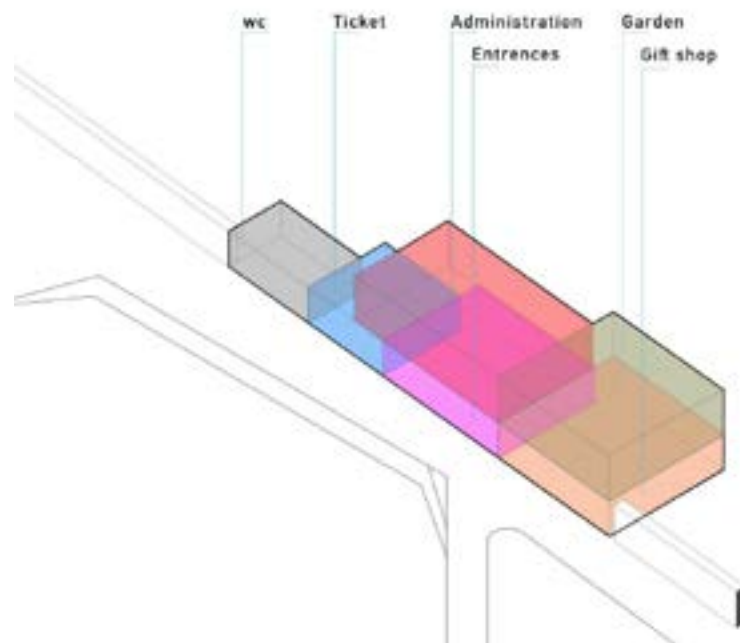
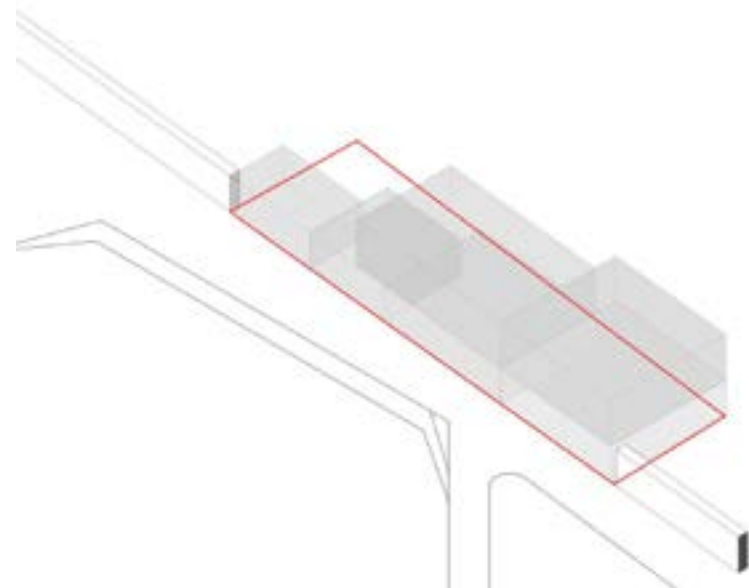


01 PUBLIC SPACE IN PARK



02 ZOO ENTRANCE





Administration

Winter garden

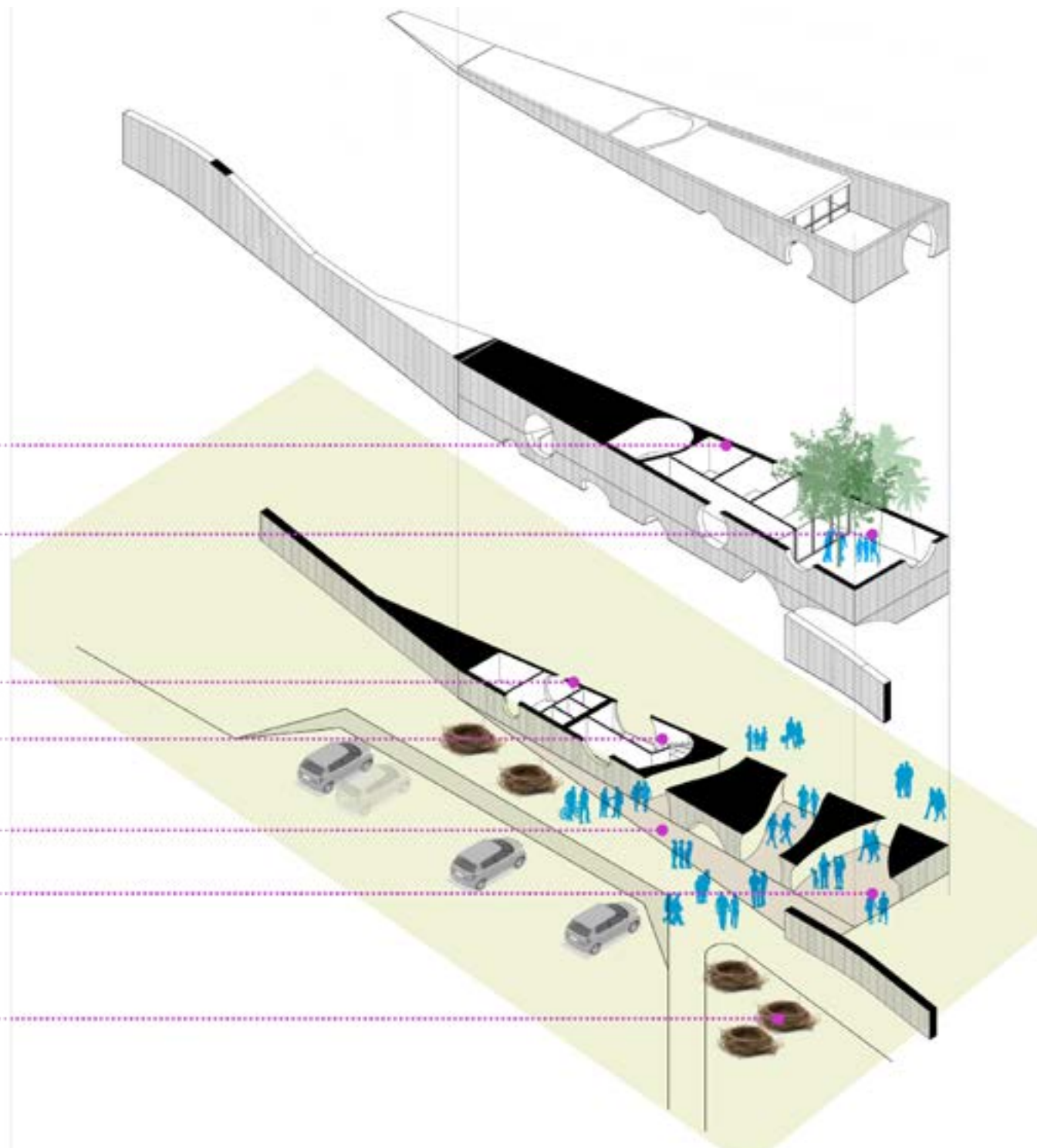
WC

Ticket office

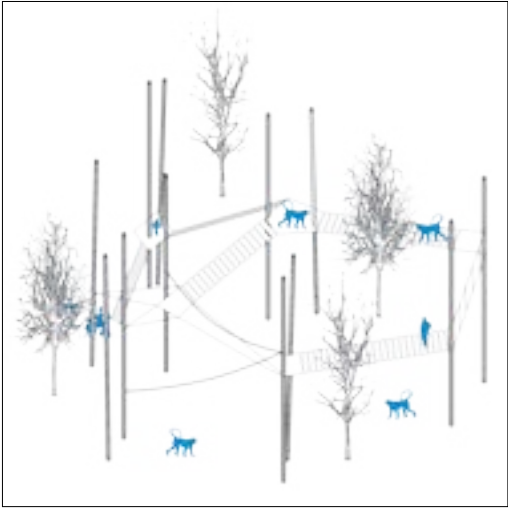
Entrance

Gift shop

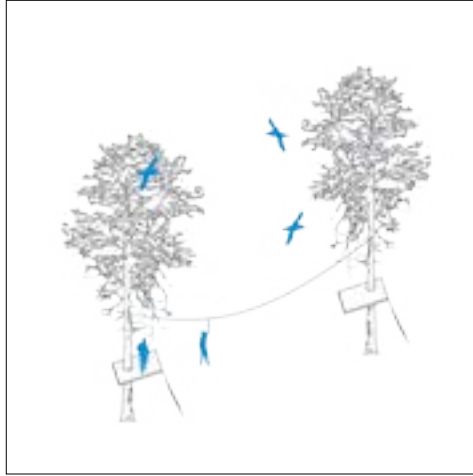
Benches



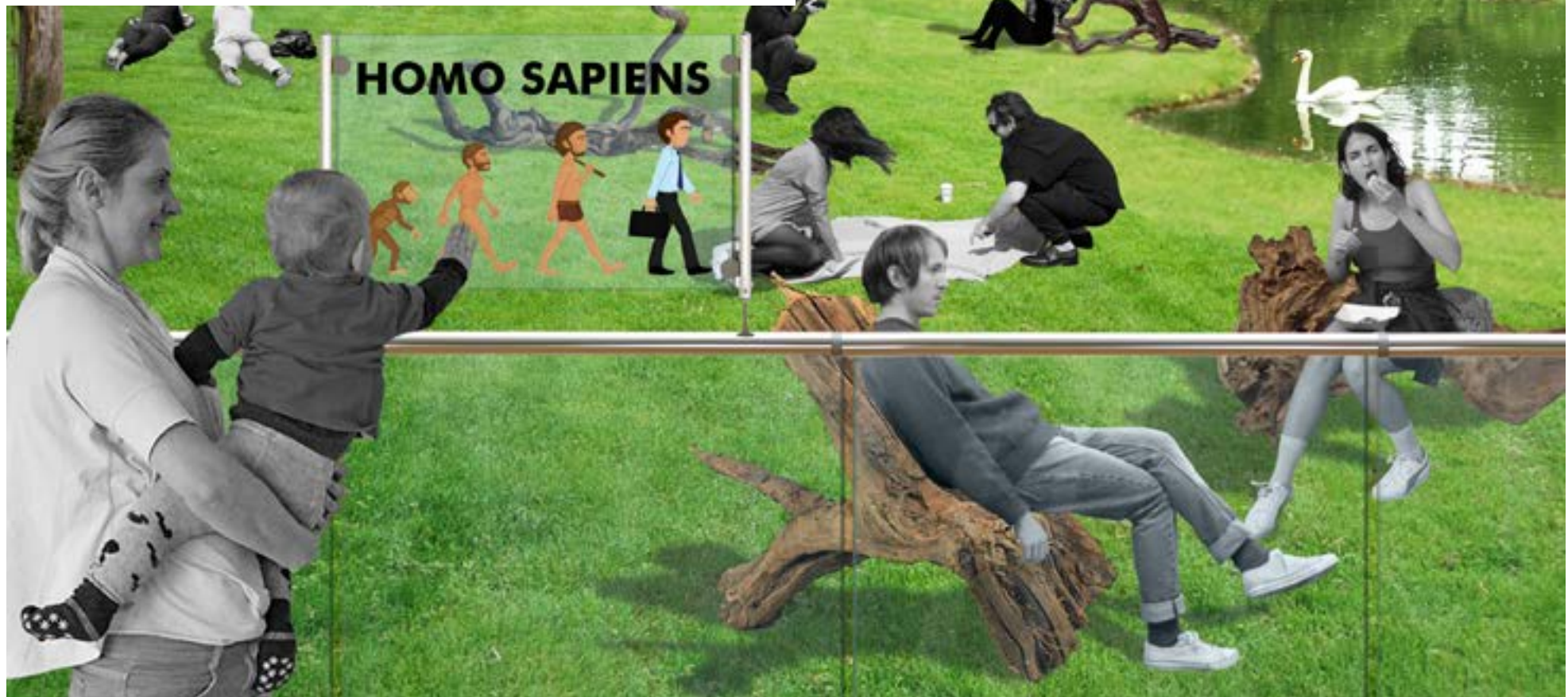
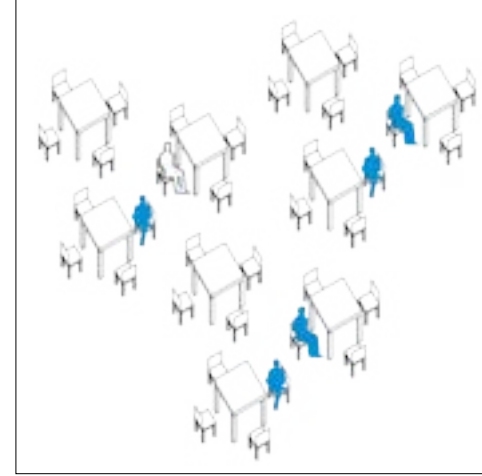
03 MONKEYS

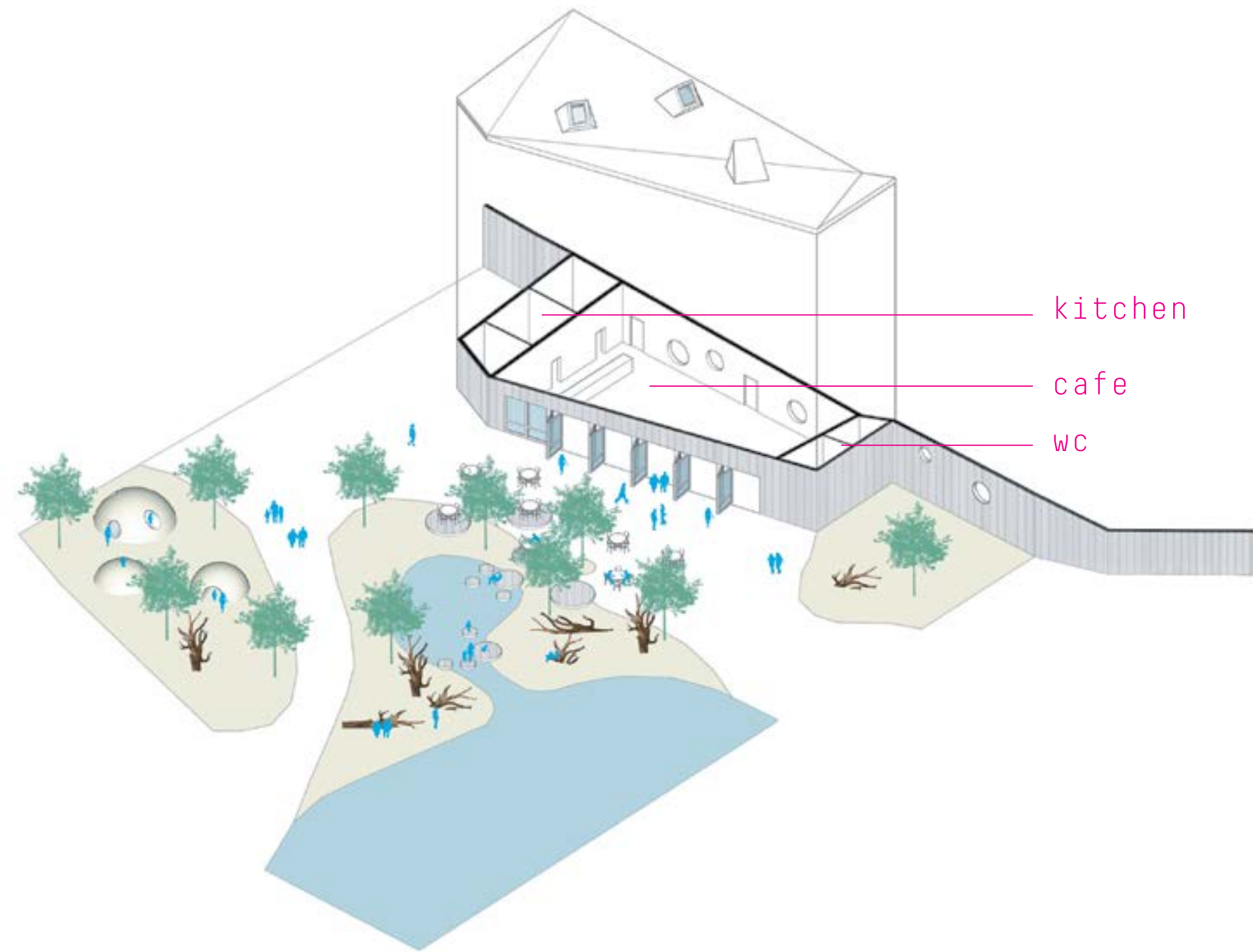


04 BIRDS

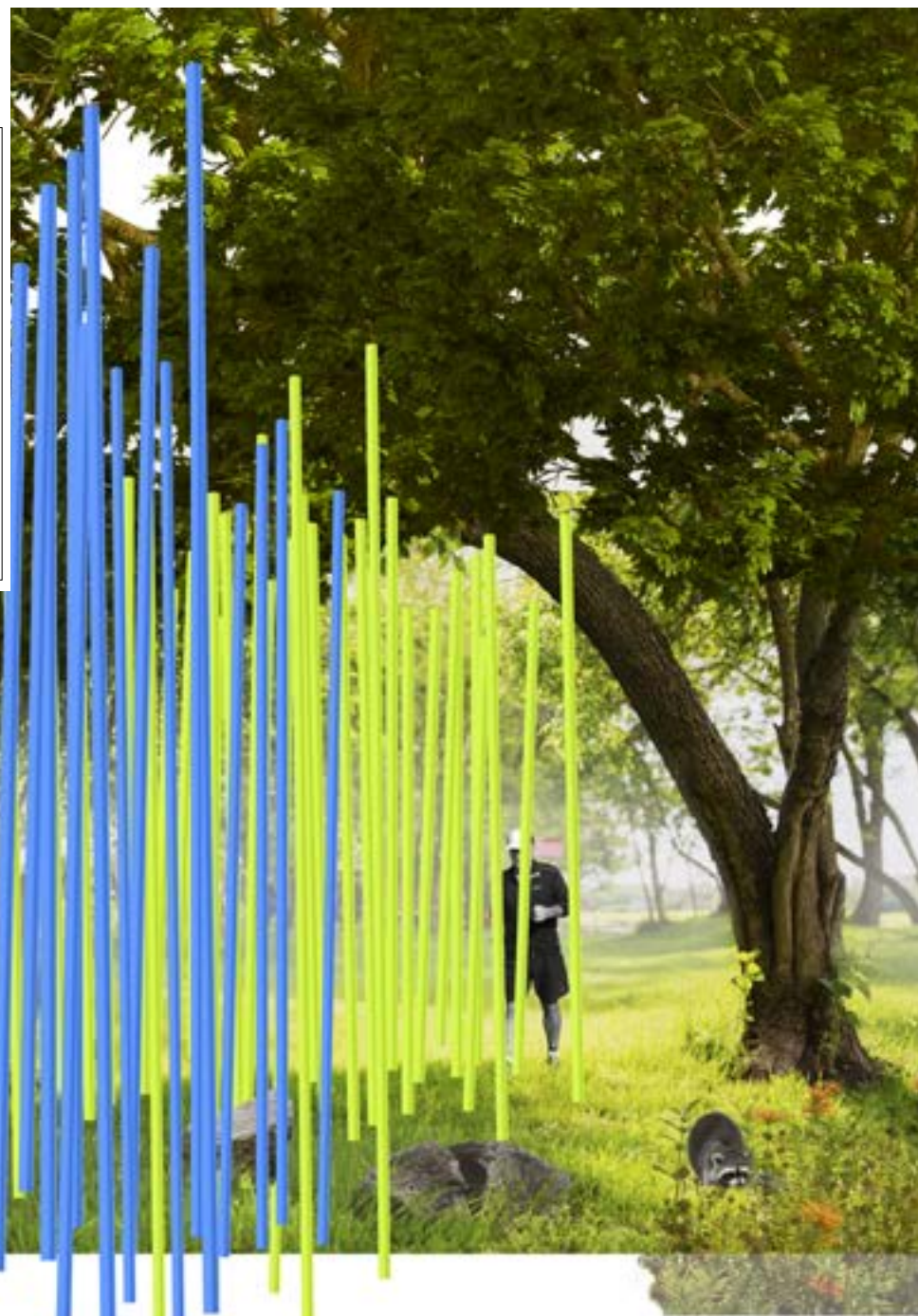
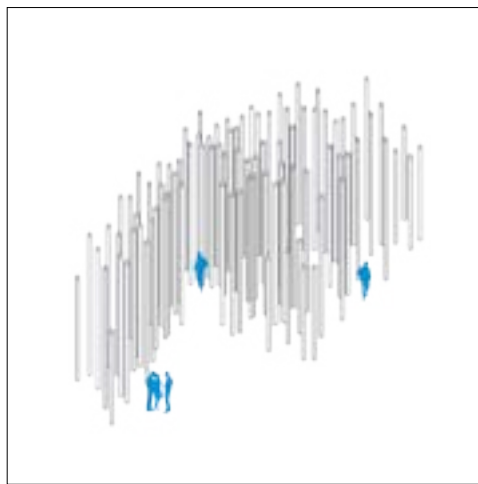


05 HUMANS

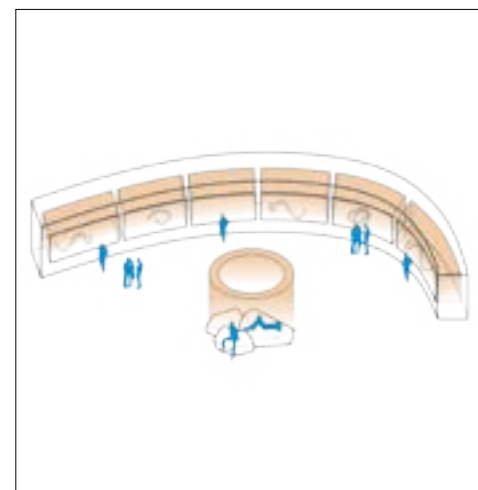




06 SNAKES



07 REPTILES





The Zoo

The transition from enclosures for individual animals to zones that represent the environment for life of several animals.

Creation of three public areas [incoming, recreational with foodcourts and recreational with playgrounds for children].

Changing the direction of route for viewing the exposure.

Extension of the route.

Creation of two types of routes: conservative [inclusive] and alternative [extreme].

The Park

Development of an open air lecture hall on the territory of the park as a zoo's spatial advertising.

Creation additional routes to the zoo through the park.

The basis of this group’s proposal was the education in the zoo: with the help of architectural forms and approaches - an amphitheatre, a rope park, a place to eat, public and contact spaces. They solve important educational components such as communication, entertainment, experience, interaction, observation.

The first decisive proposal is to change the location of the entrance. According to the new concept, it is better to place the entrance in the lower right corner of the zoo so that all the zoo’s alleyways are directed right to the new entrance. The entrance design is a simulation of a classic gate entrance. Instead, the former entrance place is replaced by transparent kiosks with the animals inside and the ticket sales place.

Next proposition for public space at the zoo is an outdoor amphitheatre. This is a place for some kind of educational lectures, or just relaxation and observation. Another new space is the grid and rope park for visitors, which has several levels and allows you to watch animals from above.

The design of the food zone is a small building, the facade of which is decorated with old cages from the zoo, which carries an educative aspect, explaining to the guests of the cafe, how animals feel in those cages.

Team members

Yegor Artyukh - architect, Kharkiv

Andrey Chudinow - architect, Kyiv

Borys Medvedev - architect, event designer, Odesa

Elisaveta Gertsman - architect, Dnipro

Concept 2

What is Cherkasy Zoo about?

Local ecosystem?

The point of the city?

Education?

Sustainability?

Earth - water - air?

Emphasis on...

education

Forms of education into spaces

communication amphitheater

fun rope park, observation net

experience food court of old cages

interaction public space contact area

observing rope park, observation net

What is zoo’s education about ?

communication experience

fun interaction

observing



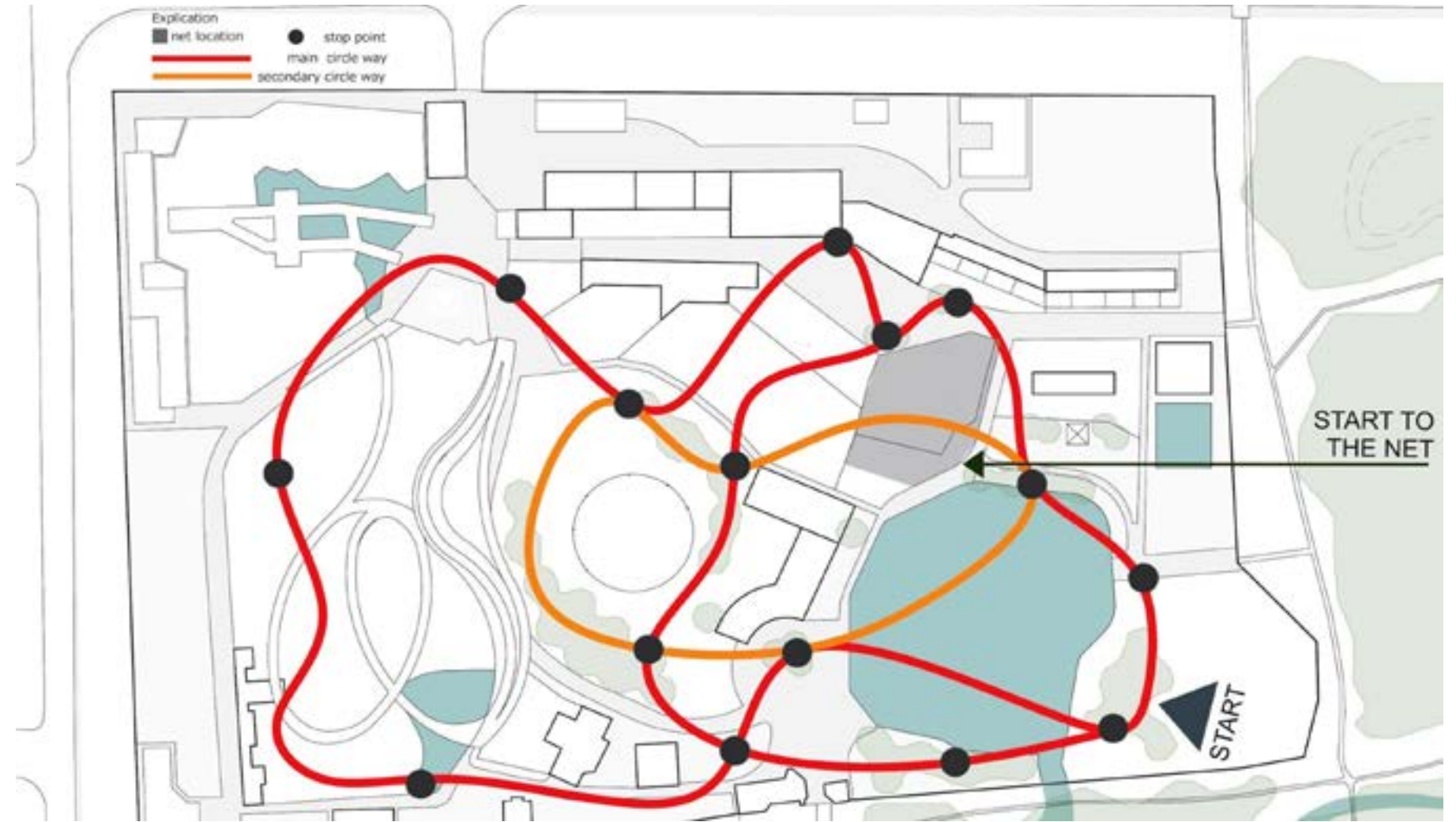
rope park



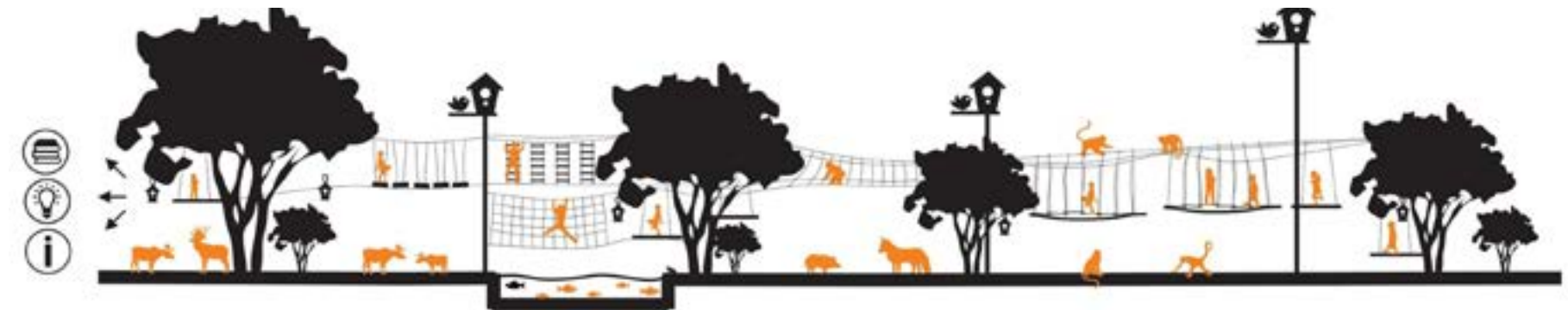
amphitheater



amphitheater

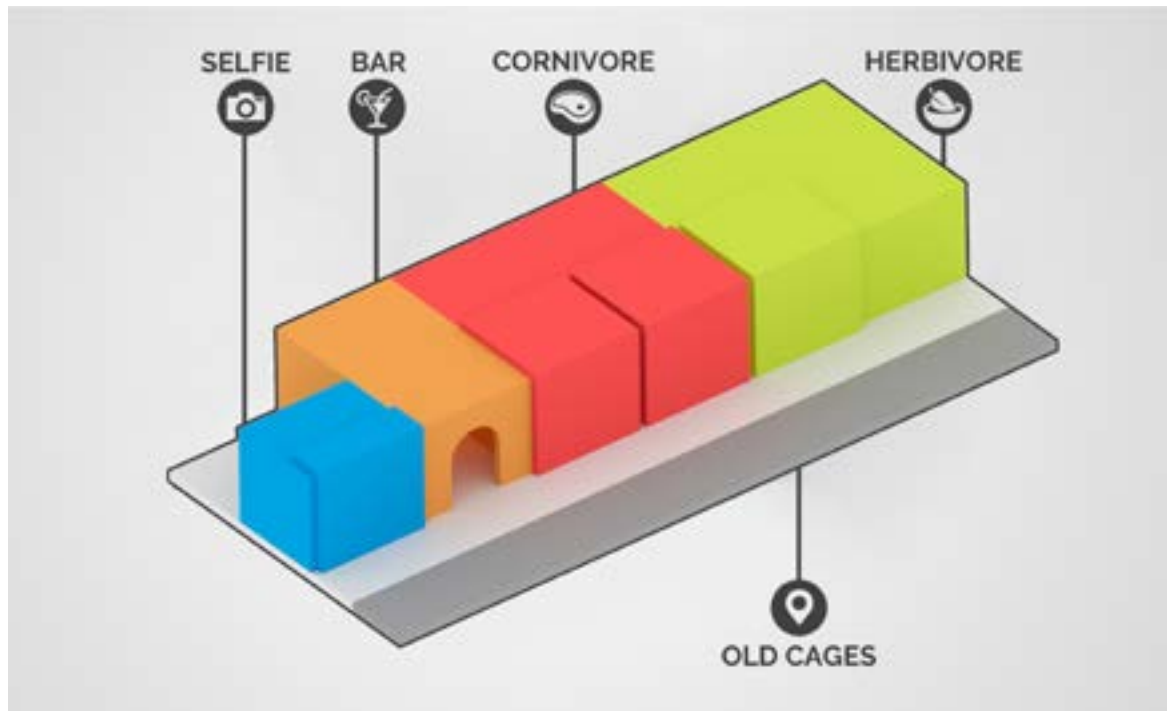


rope park route scheme



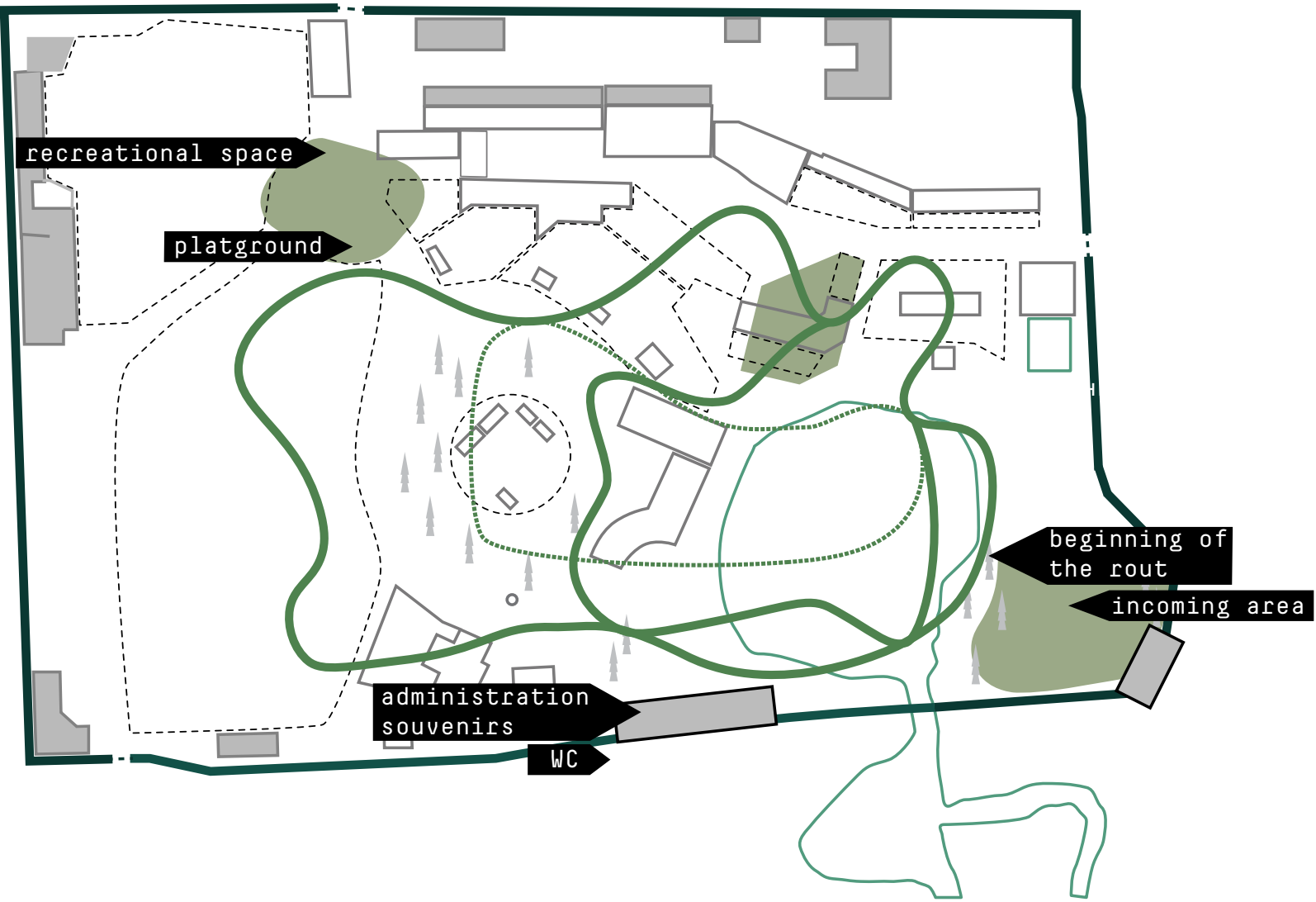


food court





entrance



The Zoo

Moving the incoming area, development of previously unoccupied parts of the zoo.

Development of the rope park system as an integration of the route into the animal world.

Creation of main and secondary routes to extend the time the visitors stay in the zoo.

The Park

Creation additional routes to the zoo through the park.

New parking for visitors.

The group proposes to consider the zoo on three scales: the scale of the zoo, the scale of the Victory Park, and the scale of the city of Cherkasy. Starting from the scale of the city, they propose to bring small zoos to different parts of the city in order to popularize it. In this way, elements with the zoo brand, banners, departures to the zoo or the playgrounds with a tactile zoo can be in schools, kindergartens, parks, promenades and even become part of buildings. This approach increases interest, affects the city's brand, encourages learning and engagement. This model makes the Park of Victory and the zoo itself more interconnected than now. Inside the park there are installations and visual landmarks that point to the location of the zoo and encourage new visitors.

For designing a zoo, the team chose a number of key positions: architecture for education, attraction of new people to new spaces, movements and flows, winter activities (winterests), spaces shared with animals. As a result, the number of main streams and routes increases significantly, new spaces are created, including a small penguin enclosure and space for events and lectures.

The increase amount of movement directions is created using three-dimensional tracks that entwine zoo and its buildings, giving lots of specific view points and passes. This concept is also used to increase levels of interaction with animals, so in some parts around the lake there are places for observation below the water level or at the crown level of trees. The central part of the zoo has an open lawn area with contact animals. The main "tool" for monitoring animals is the benches (their large number), located opposite the enclosures. In this way,

visitors have the opportunity to observe the natural behaviour of animals for some time.

In addition to the administrative function, the entrance part has a winter garden on the second floor, a public space to wait in front of the zoo (parking is transferred to the other part of the zoo) and the zoo's alley (with the imprints of the true animals' paws).

This group also developed a new logo for the zoo. It depicts a winding path that crosses two circles - these circles symbolize the equality of animals and people, and the path - their interaction and communication.

Team members

Ievgeniia Dulko - project manager, Mykolaiv

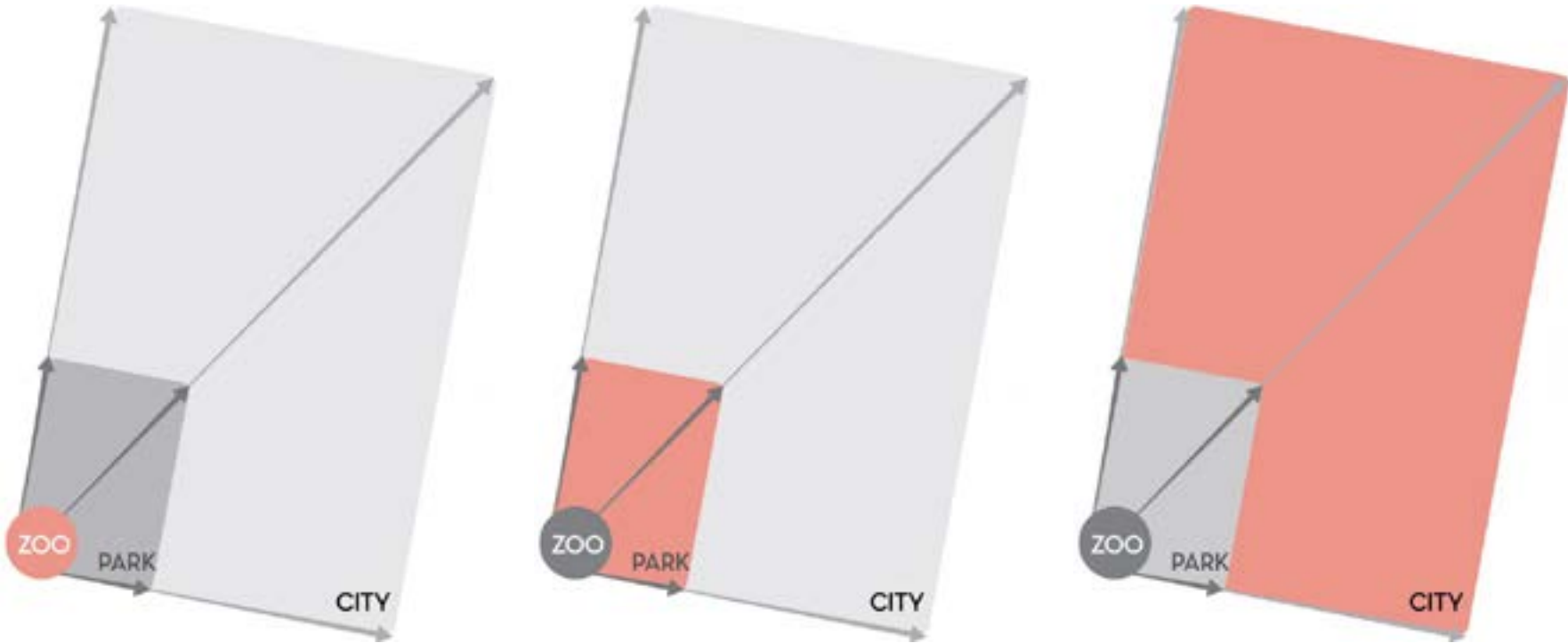
Ivan Skachko - architect, Kharkiv

Kateryna Rybenchuk -architect, Lviv

Svetlana Konoplyova - architect, Kyiv

Concept 3

WE WORK WITH THE ZOO IN 3 SCALES



CITY SCALE



“ We want to spread the ZOO in the city to create new connections of people and animals ”

CITY CAN BECOME A ZOO



CITY CAN BECOME A ZOO



WATERFRONT CAN BECOME A ZOO IN SUMMER



SCHOOLS CAN BECOME A ZOO



...AND IN WINTER

“ If the whole city is a zoo,
the Peremohy park and
the zoo should become
connected ”



● ATTRACTION POINTS

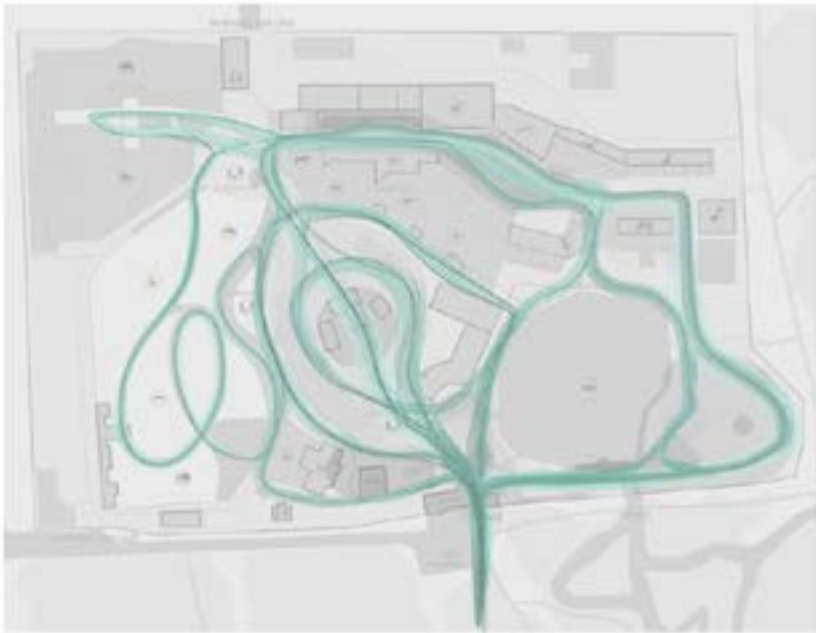
INSTALLATIONS, WHICH
INTEREST PEOPLE TO
COME TO THE ZOO



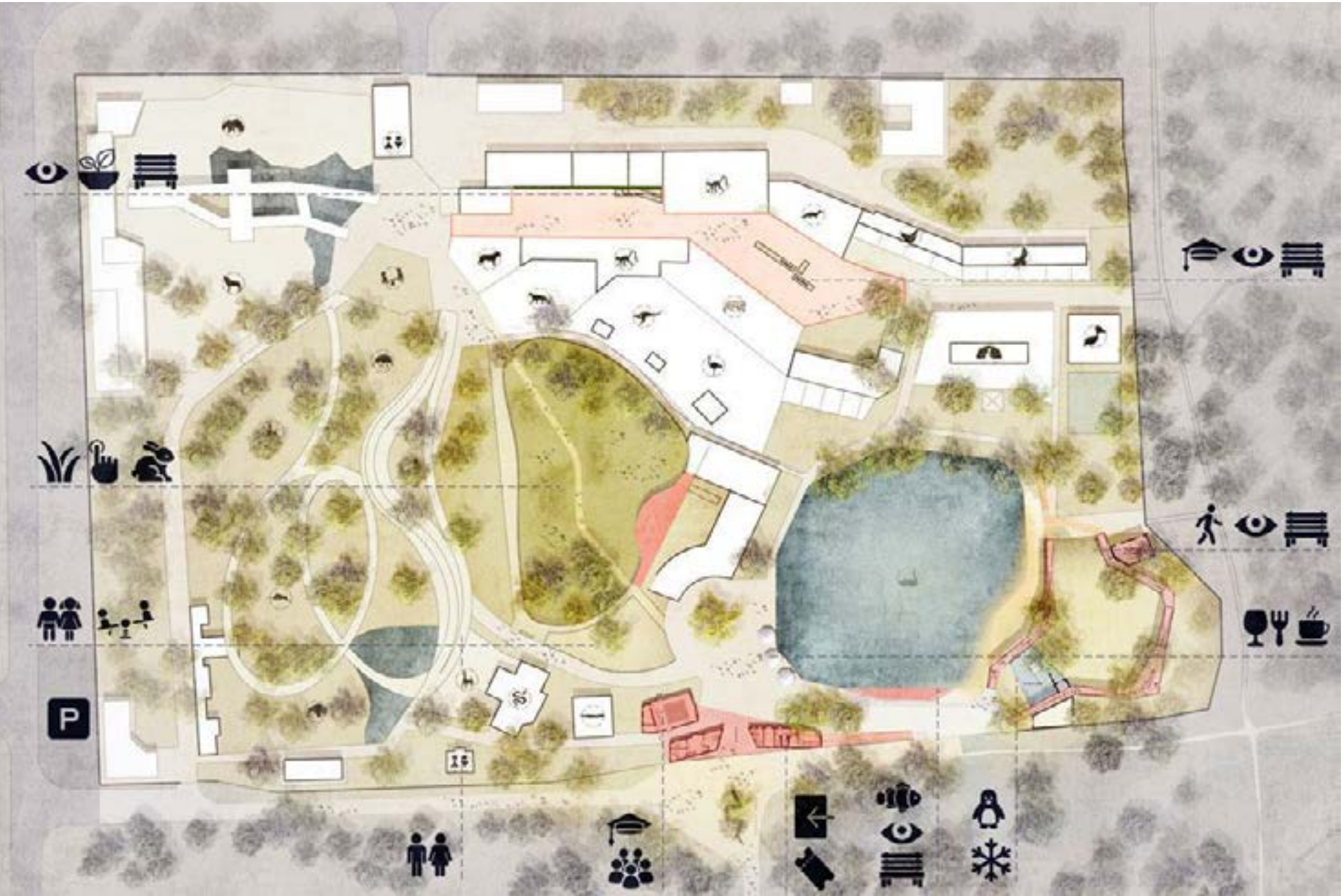
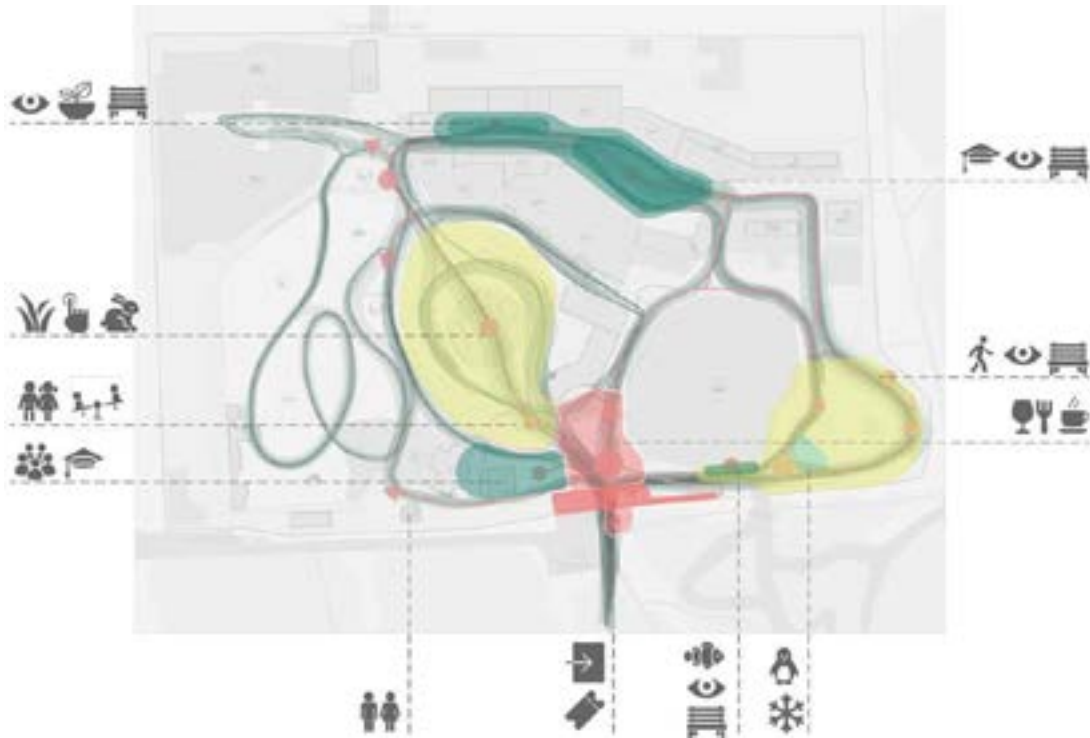
“ZOO is an environment
for people and animals
co-existing in balance”

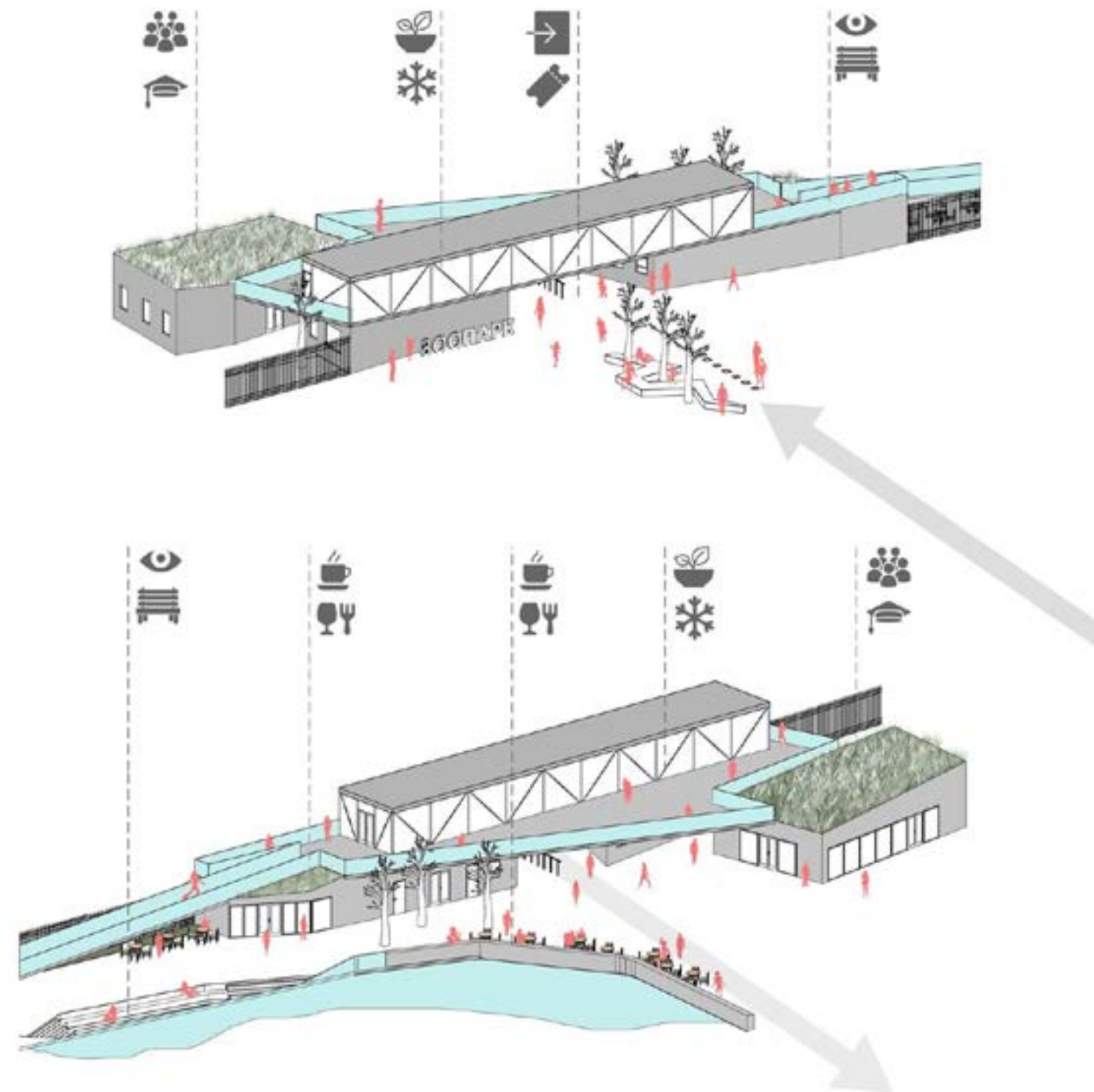
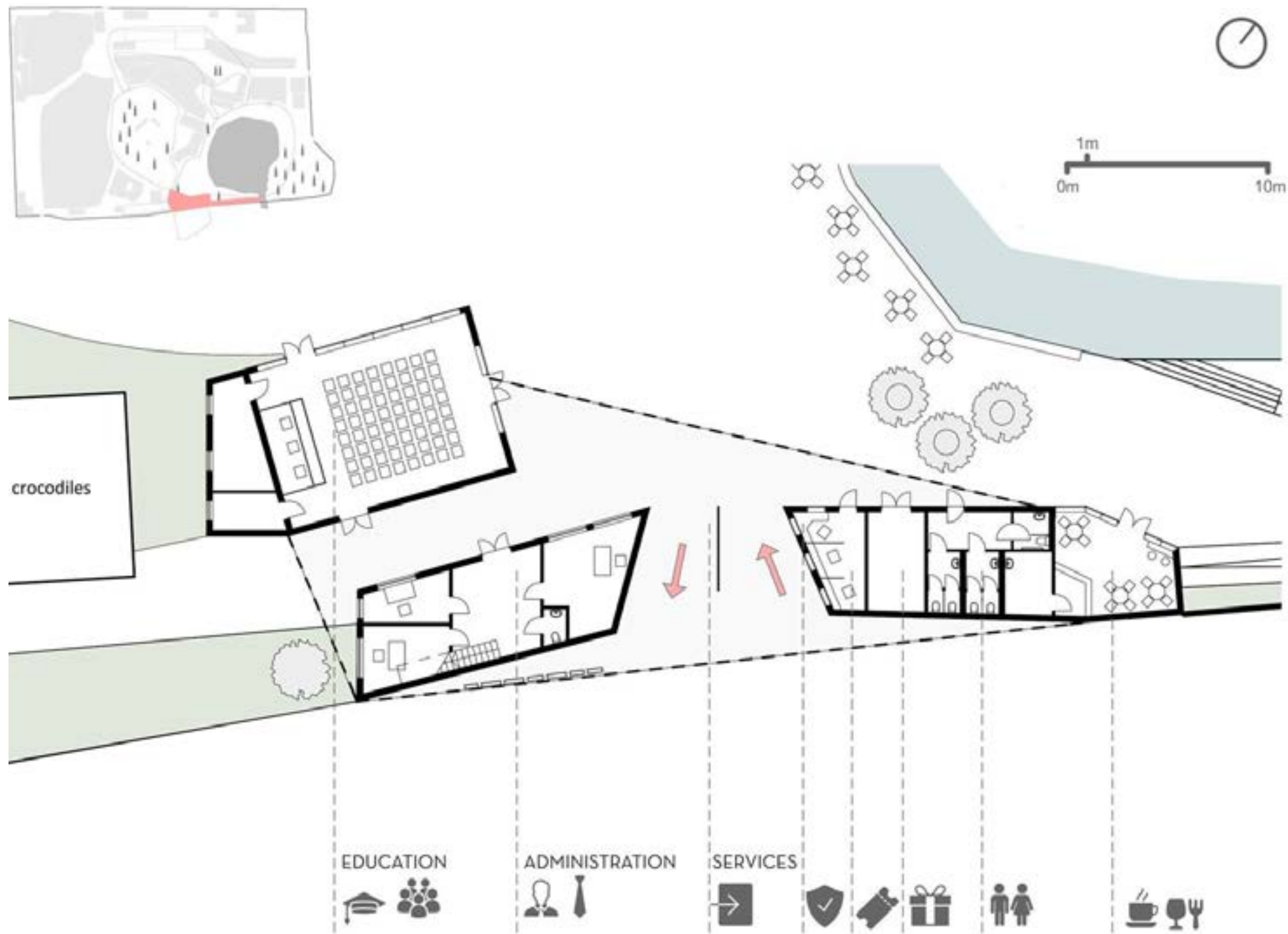


WE CREATE NEW WAYS
AND SCENARIOS OF
MOVEMENT



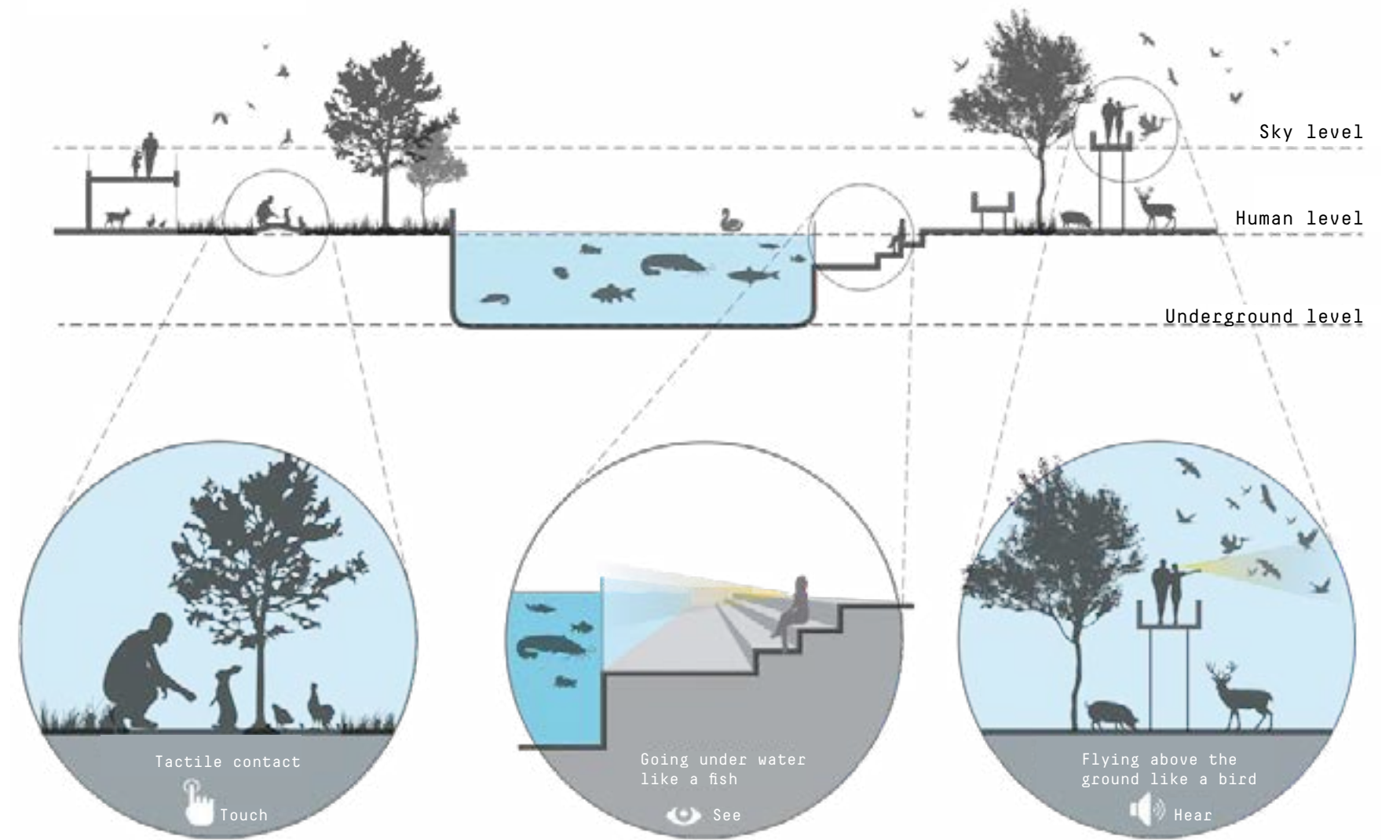
FUNCTIONAL ZONING
OF THE ZOO

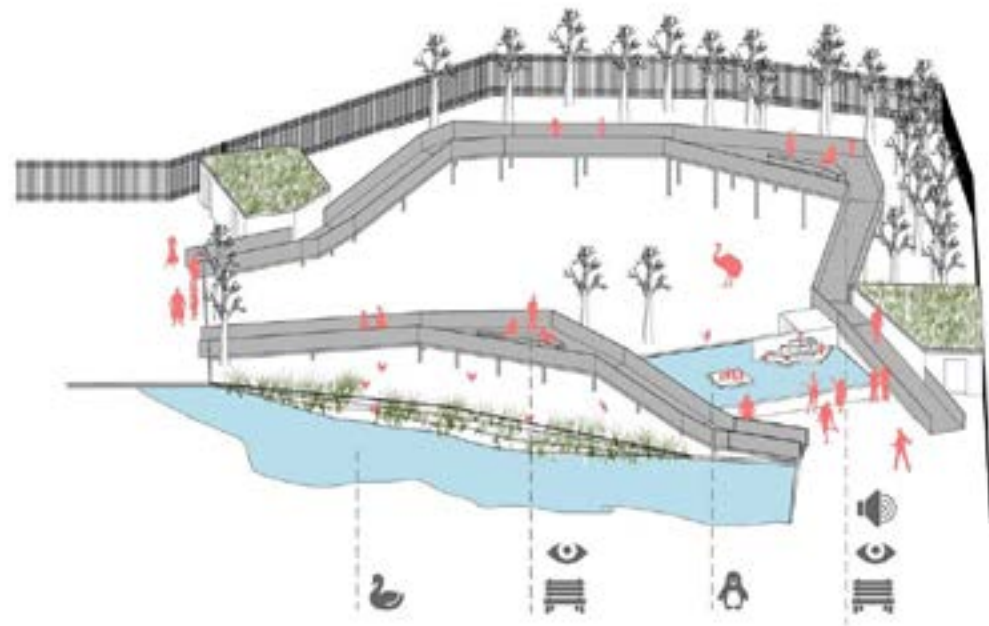


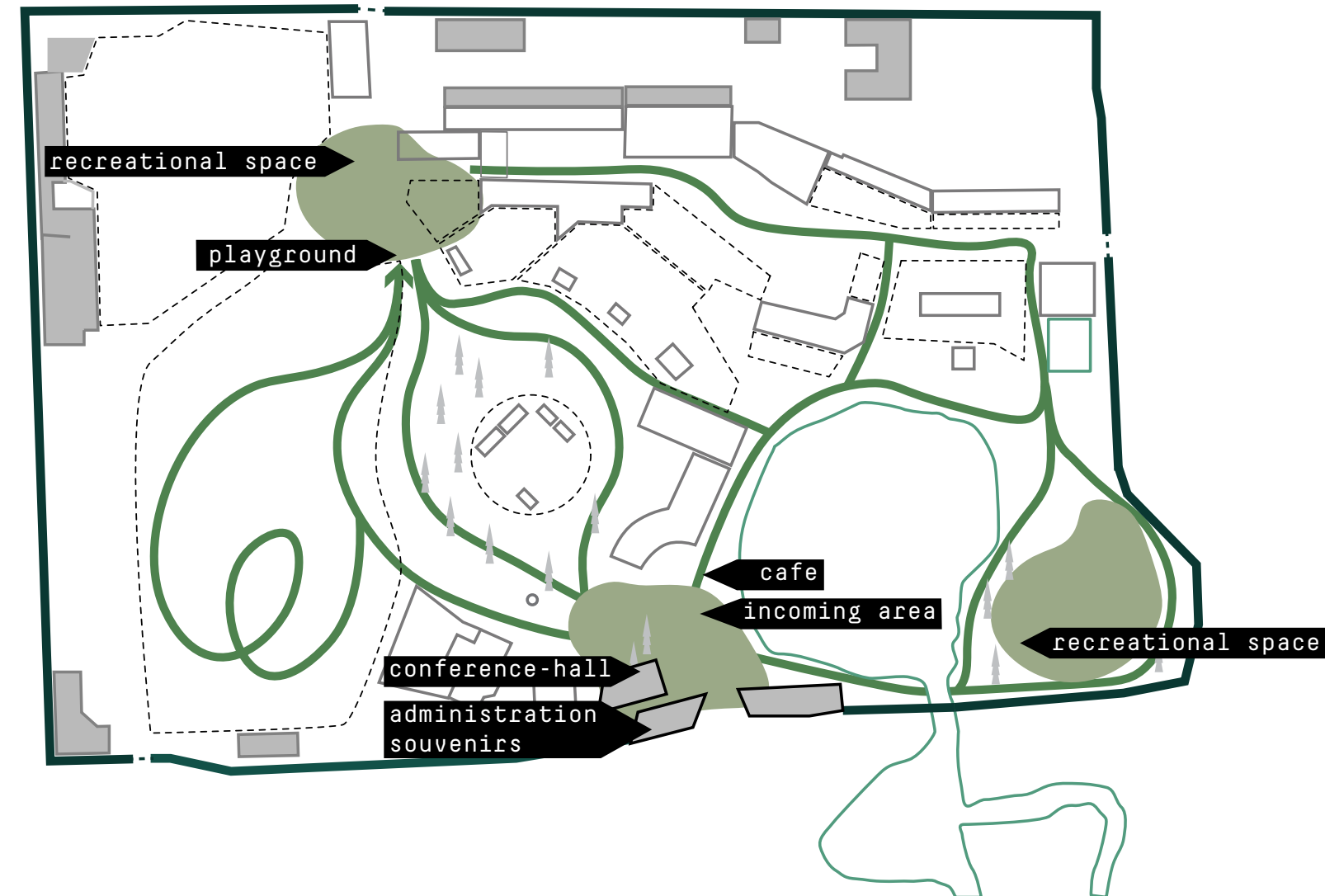




Levels of interaction







The Zoo

A new scenario of movement through the zoo.

Replacement of a new recreational area with the cafe in the part of the zoo that is not used.

Conversion of a old enclosures into public space.

Inclusion of a conference room in the premises of the entrance facilities.

The Park

Creation of installations that would encourage visitors of the park to visit the zoo too.

The City

Interventions of some "branches" of the zoo in the parks of the city.

EVENT ORGANIZER:
KHARKIV SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE

ХША

PREPARATION AND SUPPORT:
NGO URBAN REFORM



МІСЬКІ РЕФОРМИ

PARTNERS:
CHERKASSY ZOO, PROJECT 7

project 7

SUPPORT:
ROSHEN CORPORATION

ROSHEN

YOU CAN VIEW THE WORKSHOP'S MATERIALS BY FOLLOWING THE LINK
KHARKIV.SCHOOL/CHERKASYZOO/

DETAILED INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROGRESS OF THE WORKSHOP IS ON THE PAGE OF THE KHARKIV SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE
WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/KHARKIV.SCHOOL/

