ORQUIDEORAMA

Category: parks / plazas
Location: Medellin, Colombia
Surface: 3700 mts2
Project Year: 2006

*Winning proposal - International public competition
In partnership with Plan B y J. Paul Restrepo

dms 6°16'15.60"N / 75°33'50.82"W

elevation 1 472 m

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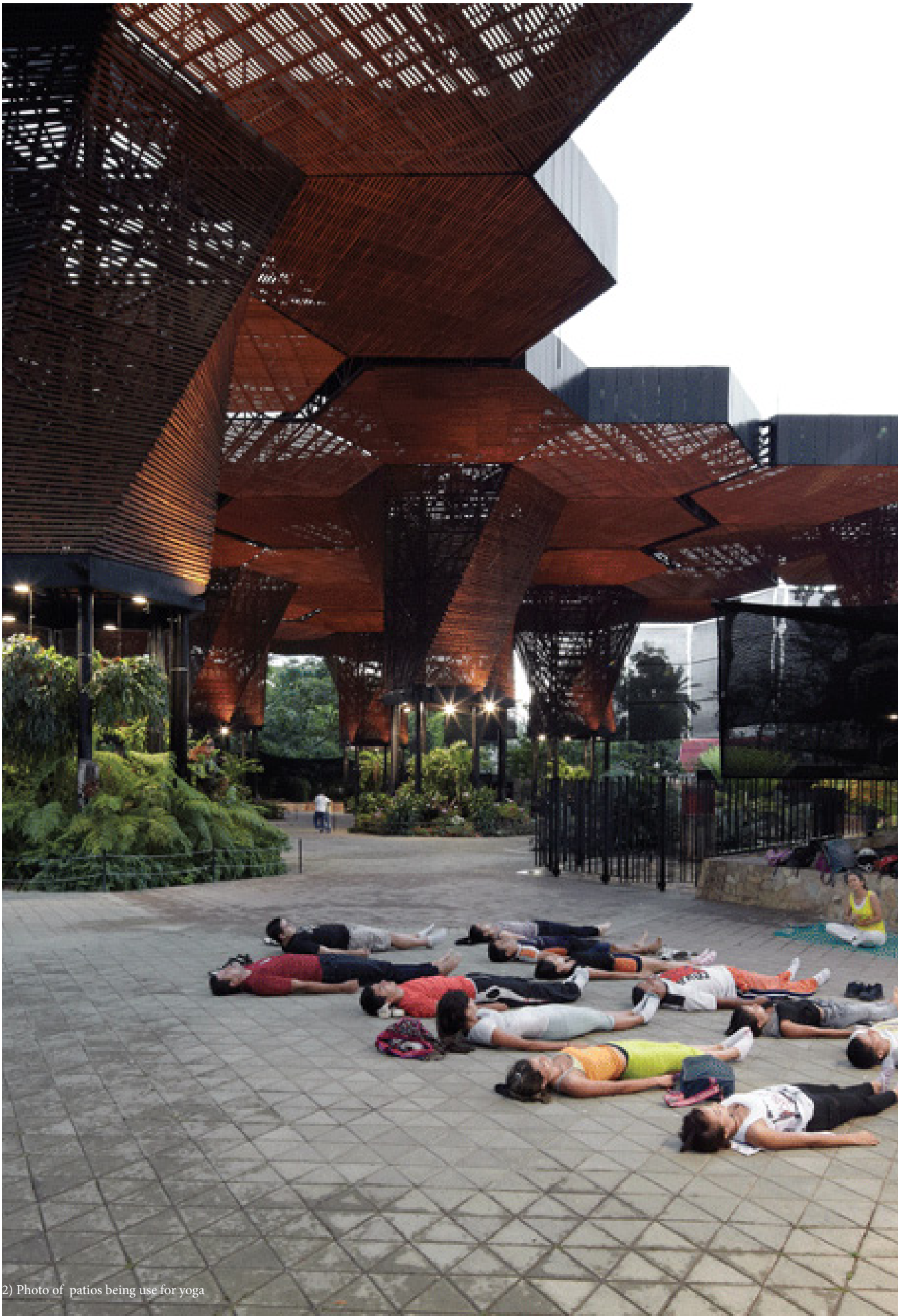
1) Panoramic view of the canopy, patios and circulation

The Orquideorama or Orchid House was built as an extension of the Medellin Botanic Garden, the design of the canopy aims to camouflage the artificial with the natural, as well as the interior with the exterior of the forest. The pavilion consist of a group of patios covered by ten enormous Flower- Trees steal structure with wooden bars that creates nature atmospheres by filtering the light, and letting the air pass trough. The arrangement of the Flower- Tree fallows a geometrical pattern that allows the construction from a single module that can be replicated.
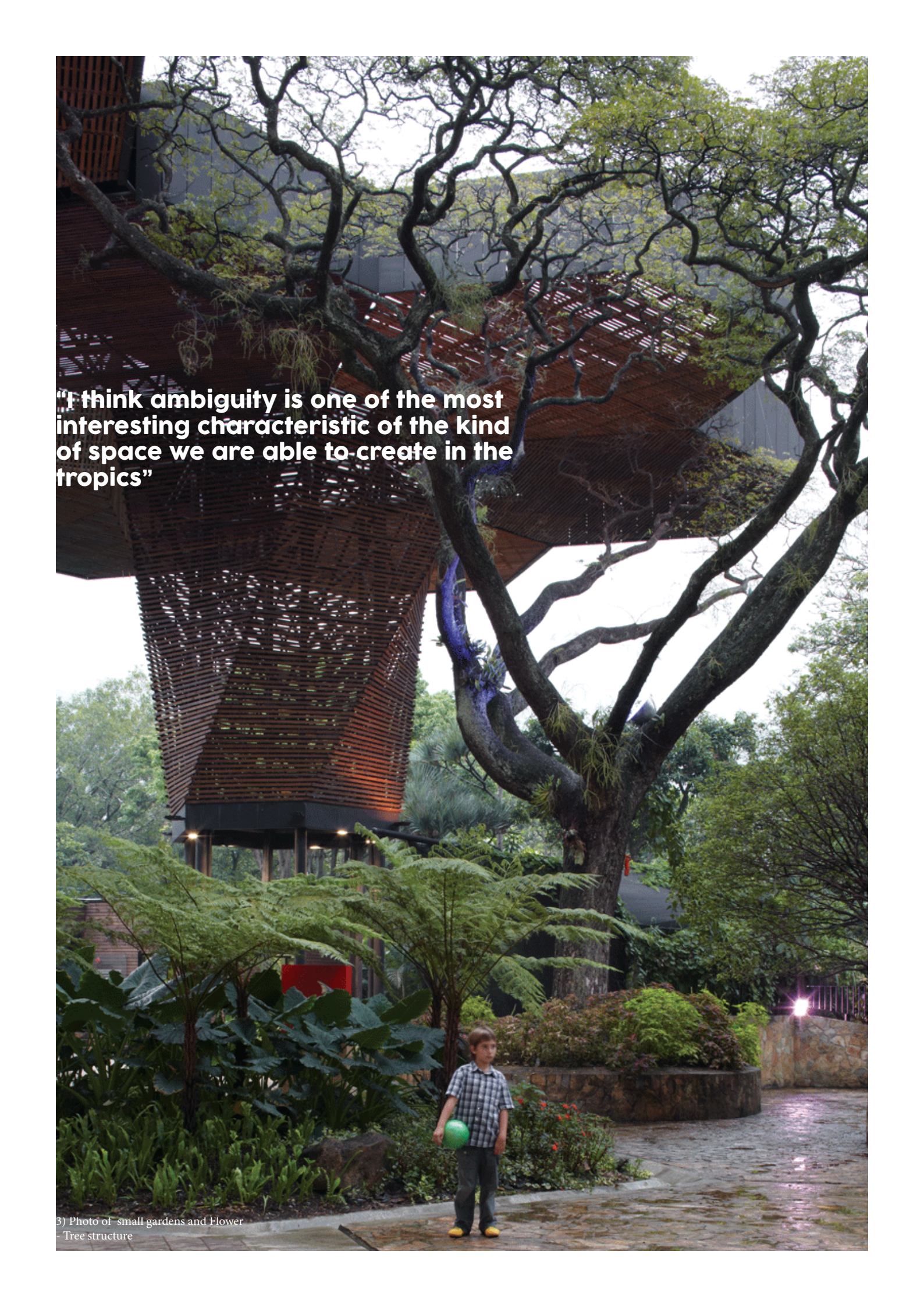
Each of the small patios works in an autonomous way, and have different uses according to their location for example: small temporary gardens, orchids and exotic tropical flowers or feeding bird facilities. Even though the patios are independent one from the other, they all have an ambiguous condition, as Camilo Restrepo mention when presenting this project in the conference Landscape as Urbanism in Medellin, "I think ambiguity is one of the most interesting characteristic of the kind of space we are able to create in the tropics." The Orchid House is using ambiguity as a design concept when taking the botanical garden to an urban condition
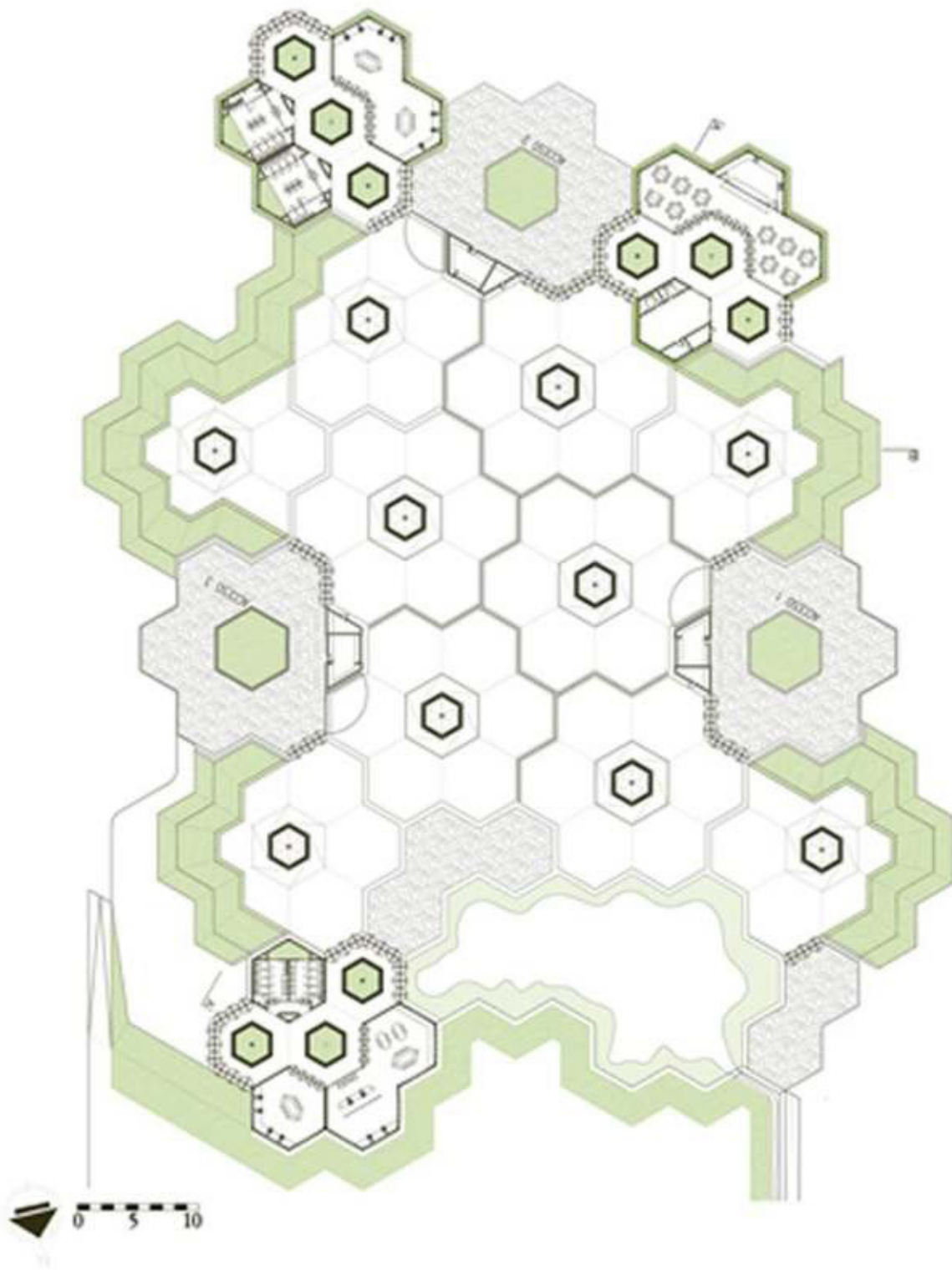
2) Photo of patios being use for yoga
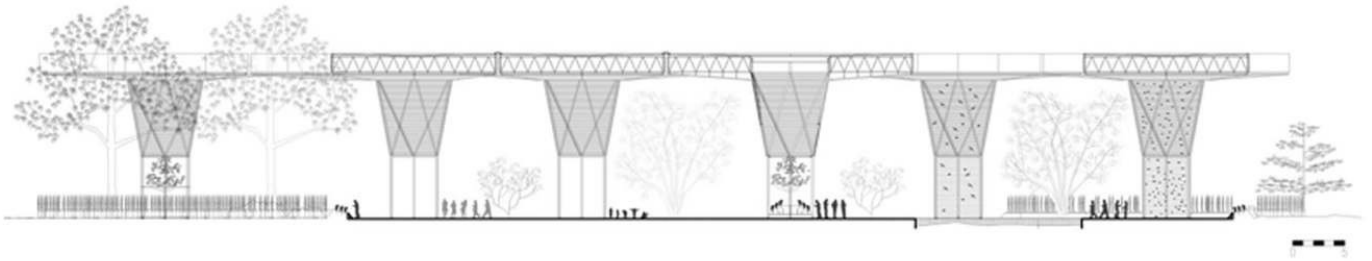
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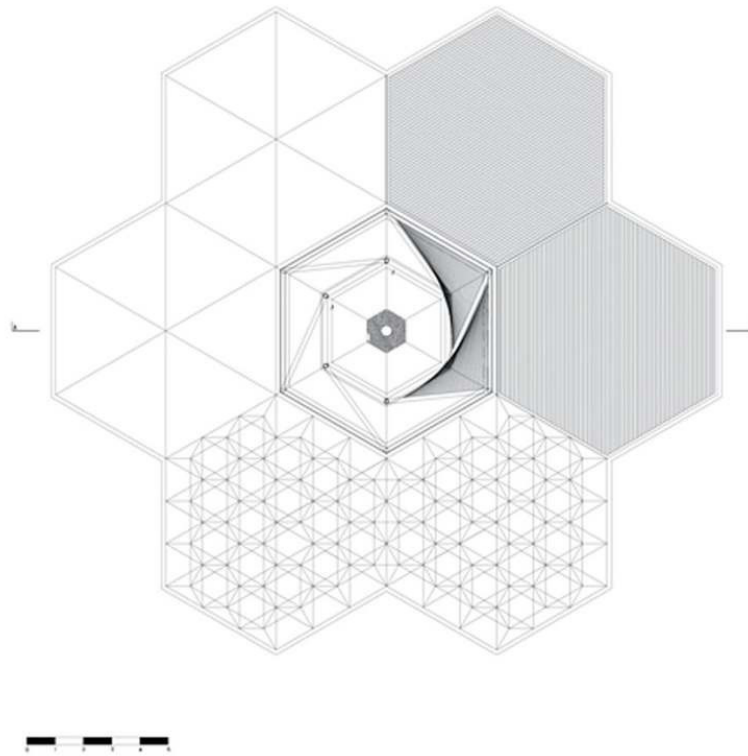
3) Photo of small gardens and Flower
- Tree structure

4) Plan view.

5) Section

6) Plan view, detail of Flower - Tree.