

Tatiana Bilbao S.C.
est. 2004

Tatiana Bilbao
Mexico City, Mexico | Basel, Switzerland

CULIACÁN BOTANICAL GARDEN

Category: parks / plaza

Location: Culiacán Rosales, Sin., Mexico

Surface: 109,250 sqm

Project Year: 2015

*photo credits to Iwan Baan



dms 24°49'25.8"N / 107°23'05.9"W

elevation 51.76 m / 169.8 ft

"Like the garden encompassing it, the project is a work in progress, open-ended, firm in its intention yet flexible in the details"



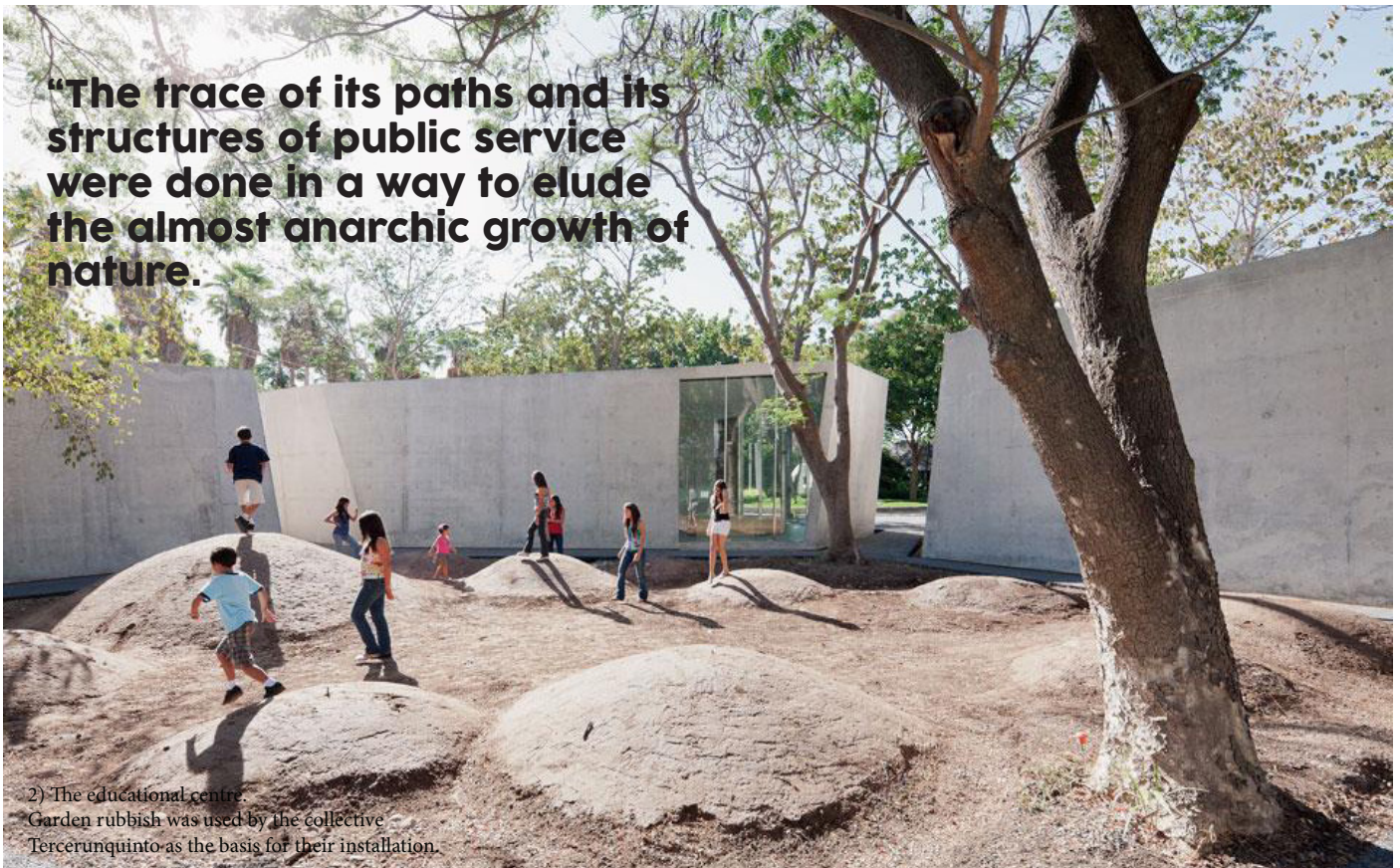
1) Open Auditorium

Culiacan Culiacan is located in the northwest of Mexico, 80km from the Pacific Ocean, with a population of more than one million. The Botanical Garden of Culiacán was founded in 1986 by Carlos Murillo. Besides plant collection, the garden is designed as a public space to allow the people to enjoy different activities, sports, picnics or simply enjoying the landscape, free of charge.

The office of Tatiana Bilbao developed the masterplan which integrates the existing landscape and botanical collection, with the new art installation, and spaces for new public programs to emerge. The concept was generated from the Huanacxle tree's pattern. The trace of circulation and public building footprints was then eluded from the almost anarchic growth of nature, and adapted to what existed and what is needed. Six main areas have

been developed to host in total 16 small pavilions that allows different programs to perform. The designers call them: Southern Access, Open Auditorium, Cultural Services, Greenhouse, Educational Services, Curatorial, and Northern Access. Educational Facilities compound is formed of three separate buildings: an educational room for kids and teachers for workshops; a 100-seat auditorium for different kind of screening or lectures and a service build-

“The trace of its paths and its structures of public service were done in a way to elude the almost anarchic growth of nature.”



2) The educational centre.
Garden rubbish was used by the collective Tercerunquinto as the basis for their installation.

ing. Open-air Auditorium could host 70 people and will screen a seven-minute-video tour introduction. This space is only shaded partially by the surrounding trees.

The two main objectives for the designers were to enhance the botanical experience with its educative programs, and to embrace art into people's everyday activity. The strategy is to understand the place and blend it to the existing garden, foster the spontaneous activities in the garden. The design utilize the local materials, hand labour and techniques, sprouting communication and reinforce social and urban tissue. The minimum footprint of the design lessen the impact on the ground and immerse the garden experi-

ence. The design foster dialog with the improvised design of the garden and supports its spontaneity activated visitors. After the transformation, the garden has become the most visited site in the city and one of the most important reference point of the city



3) Art installation.



4) Art installation



5) Sofia Taboas, Elevated platform with extraterrestrial layout



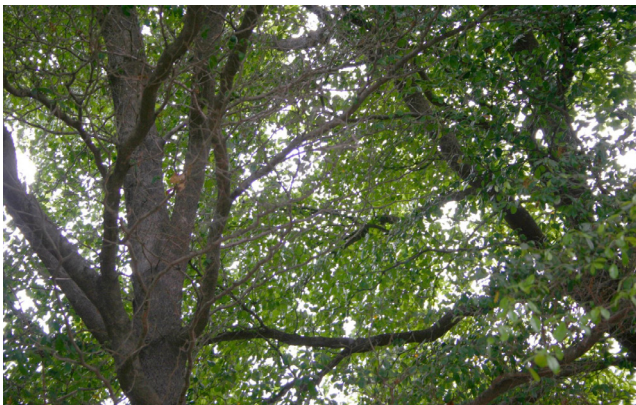
6) Masterplan



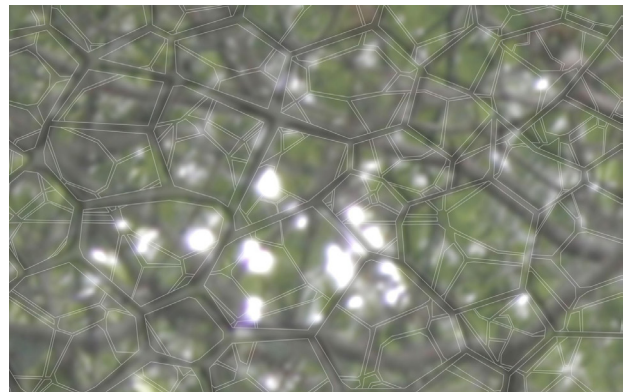
7) Historical condition overly with circulation pattern



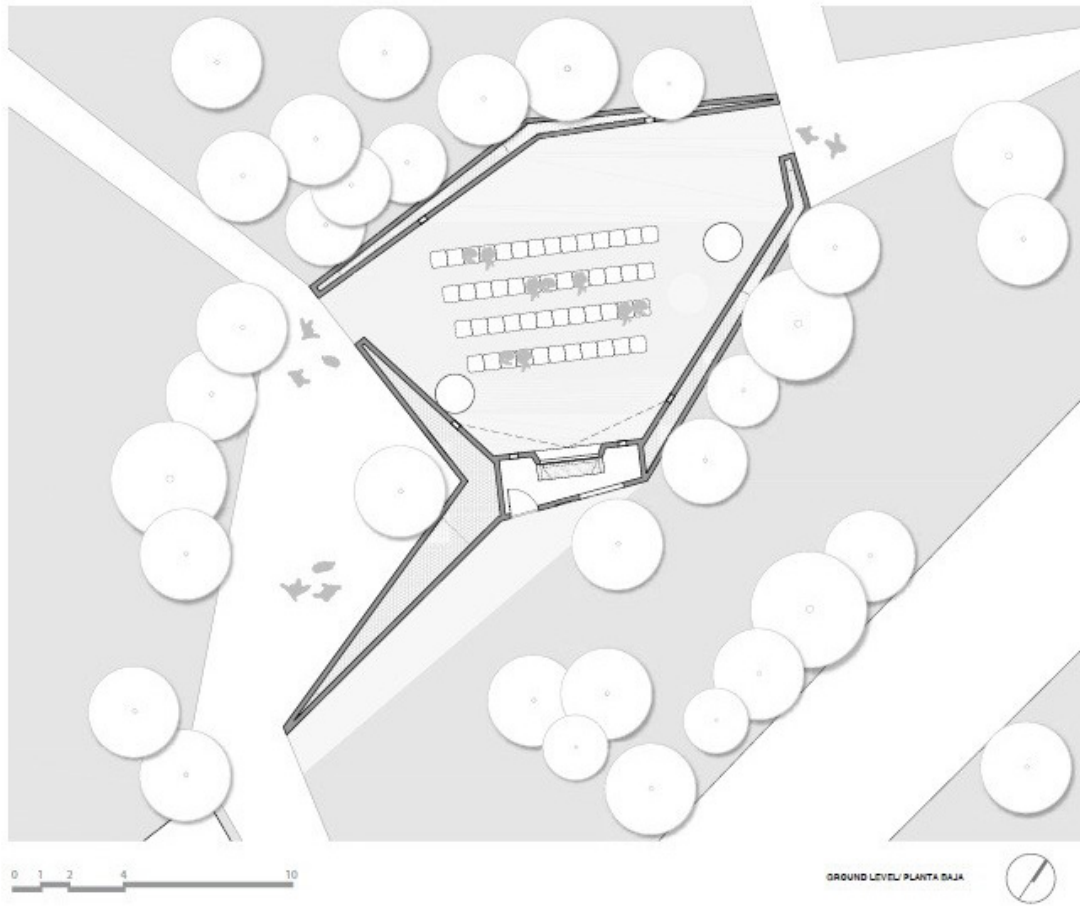
8) Circulation and major pavillions



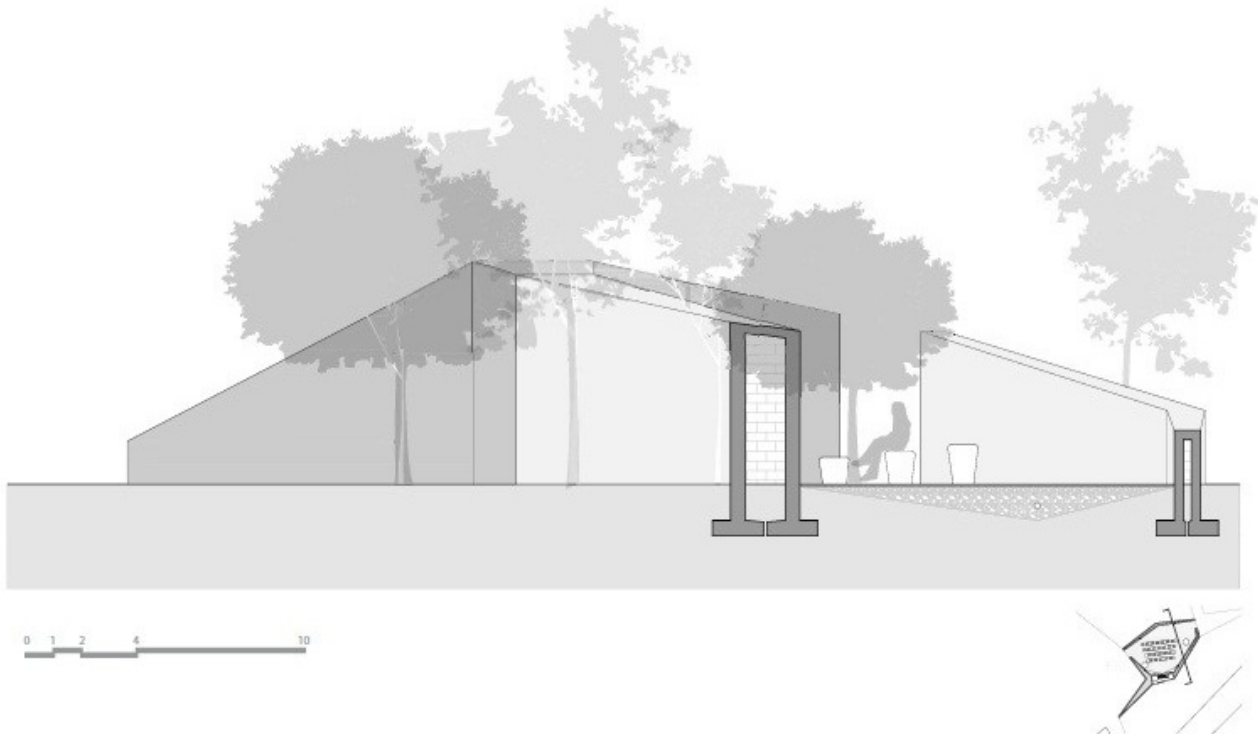
9) Photo of a tree



10) Concept diagram



11) Plan of the open auditorium



13) Section of the open auditorium