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**Girls Orphanage and Home For abandoned babies**  
at Rishikesh, Uttarakhand

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### Purpose/ Mission: -

To provide holistic services for the well being of women, their children, and orphaned, abandoned & impoverished children. We will identify needs and design and implement programs to help women and children (especially orphaned/abandoned children) become socially and financially self-reliant. This orphanage will be one of the main pillars of the program. It will provide nurturing, love, care, and essential values and ethics to young abandoned or orphanaged girls.

### Location: -

The proposed location of the orphanage is in the Lap of Mother Nature, under the shadow of the Great Himalayas, in the abode of Ganga Maiya, at Rishikesh, The Sacred Land charged with positive energy through centuries of 'Tapasiya' by Rishis, Munis, yogis and Gurus.

### The Site: -

The site in Veerpur, near Rishikesh, is marvelous for many reasons, the most important being the fact that even a four storeyed building made here will not rise above the ground level and both its top floor and ground floor will touch the mother earth. This is due to the shear drop available at site between the general ground level above and the riverbed level below.

Occupants of the building can see the panoramic view of hills during day and listen to the sweet music of "Ganga Jal" at night.

### Design Criteria (Physical Features): -

A site of this nature requires special Treatment in the following respect: -

1. Being on the river basin, care has to be taken that the plinth of the building starts above the highest flood level recorded in the last 50 years.
2. Being on the riverbed water table is high and foundation of the building has to be carefully designed to withstand the subsoil behavior.
3. The vertical drop of the riverbank is not a solid rock and hence it poses a risk of landslides during rainy Season. Proper care has been taken to prevent landslides by providing a suitable, but inexpensive structural solution of terracing the elevation.
4. There is no Sewage Disposal System available at site- A Septic Tank with proper Treatment System shall be designed to treat the waste before releasing the affluent for gardening and agriculture. Holy Ganga cannot be polluted with sewage waste.

### Design concept: -

Envisioned as a child in the lap of Maa Ganga , the building ( representing the child) rests peacefully in the terracing ( representing the loving and caring Maa Ganga ) to create a natural earthen habitat conducive for the growth and development of young minds. Utmost care has been taken to keep the children and other inhabitants closest to nature and mother earth.

## Requirements: -

The institute's functional requirements have been clearly defined into five categories

- a) Administration.
- b) Residential. (For children, babies and staff)
- c) Academics (A senior wing, junior wing and a Tot Lot for small children).
- d) Activities. (Music, dance, Art & Craft, Yoga-Meditation, Kitchen, dining and laundry)
- e) Recreational

## Physical Representation of the Concept: -

The site has an elevation of 40 ft from the riverbed, which provides numerous aesthetical advantages yet it also poses a risk of landslides during rainy season. Therefore, the natural and age old practice of terracing as practiced in the Himalayas and other hilly regions has been implemented to create a gradual slope in tiers of 10 ft each.

The functional requirements of the institute have been distributed over the tiers with each tier being designated for one function (e.g. residential, academic or recreational.) The tiers are connected to each other through lush green central parks and wide ramps of handicapped-accessible slopes ensuring complete accessibility to every part of the institute for everyone. Each tier is independent with basic services like toilets and drinking water facilities. The physical independence of functional requirements facilitates the architectural and structural freedom to design each block as per its spatial requirements, thereby optimizing the basic cost of construction.

## Tier I- Administrative Block

The upper ground level with its direct access from a connecting road is designated for administrative activities. Lawns and landscaping are proposed along the building block to curtail the noise and pollution of vehicular traffic.

The administrative block houses the offices of the director, principle, accounts and general administration along with a reception and orientation hall for visitors.

The reception area will also act as a security desk with every visitor being required to register at the reception before entering the institute. The parents of local children who come to study at the institute will also be entertained in the administrative block. A similar system of registration has to be adopted for resident children who wish to travel out to a near by town or market.

An orientation hall is proposed to provide a multi-utility space for holding meetings, exhibitions, lectures, medical camps etc.

The lawns on the level ground shall be utilized for Sports activities, where children from nearby schools and towns can also be welcomed for holding sports tournaments and training sessions.

## Tier II- Residential

The residential area has been designed like row houses on a residential street. The idea is to create a feeling of home (a personal space to be shared with your loved ones), to create a sense of belonging, attachment and ownership of their physical space. Each room has individual entry from a covered pathway serviced by the open to sky residential street. The children can decorate their homes with planters, paint and earthenware and give individual identity to their residences. Each home has a backyard where children can grow plants and vegetables of their choice.

The residential area has two independent wings connected by a central park. The central park at this level has recreational facilities like swings, sandpits etc. for small children. One wing is proposed for senior children while the other wing is proposed for small babies, junior children and staff. A total of 48 residential rooms are proposed. The size of each room is 3.6mtr x 6.0mtr. Each room can accommodate 6-8 children sleeping on two-tier bunk beds with individual storage cabinets. Common toilet and bath facilities are provided for the residential area. Attached toilet/bath can be provided for faculty rooms and rooms for small babies. The number of rooms for staff, faculty and children can be decided in the upcoming stage.

## Tier III- Academic

The academic tier has been designed to facilitate efficient disbursement of education and maintain discipline. The area has a central park with a junior wing and a senior wing on each side. The central open space can be used for holding outdoor classes in good weather. The building has a wide corridor connecting classrooms on both sides. Each wing is independent with separate toilet and drinking water facilities. 30 students can be comfortably accommodated in each room of size 6mtr. X 9 mtr. A total of 24 classrooms have been proposed.

## Tier IV- Cultural Activity

The cultural activity level has been designed to provide larger room sizes for various activities like music dance, art/craft etc. The activity level has two wings connected with a central park. The central park at this level can also be used for holding daily Satsang and meditation classes for the residents. The building is designed with all rooms connected via a single corridor facing the banks of Maa Ganga. The corridor terminates into a large hall at each end.

One wing houses the academic facilities like science labs, computer labs and a large library / study center while the other wing houses training facilities like art/craft, music/dance, yoga/meditation and services like kitchen/dining hall, laundry etc. Eight No.s rooms of 9mtr x 12mtr are proposed along with two large halls of size 15mtr.x 27 mtrs.

## Tier V- Recreation

The final tier, which connects the campus to the feet of Maa Ganga, is reserved for activities of spiritual enlightenment. Yoga, meditation and spiritual training shall be imparted to the young souls on the banks of Maa Ganga.

ACCESS ROAD

ADMINISTRATION  
LEVEL

RESIDENTIAL  
LEVEL

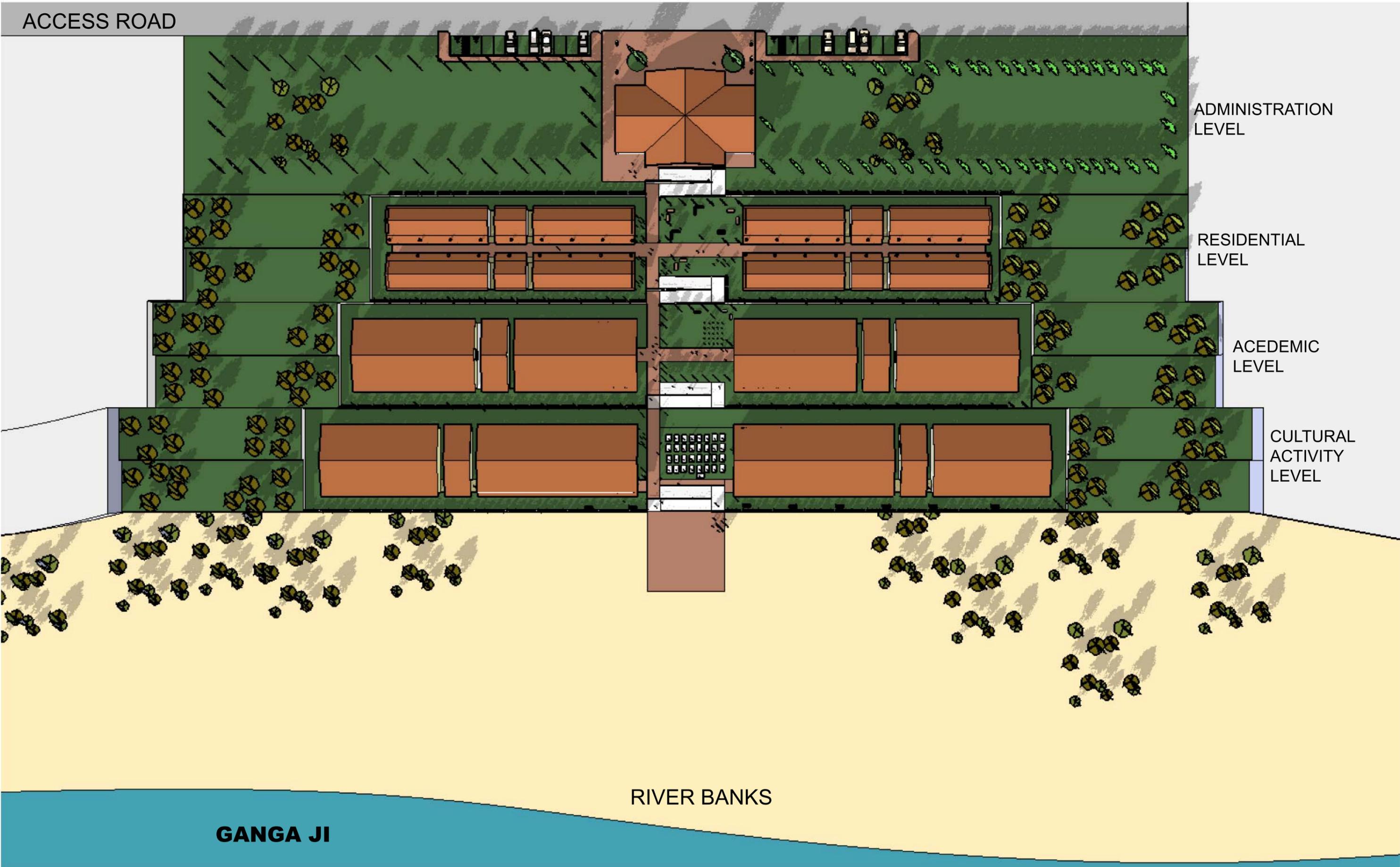
ACEDMIC  
LEVEL

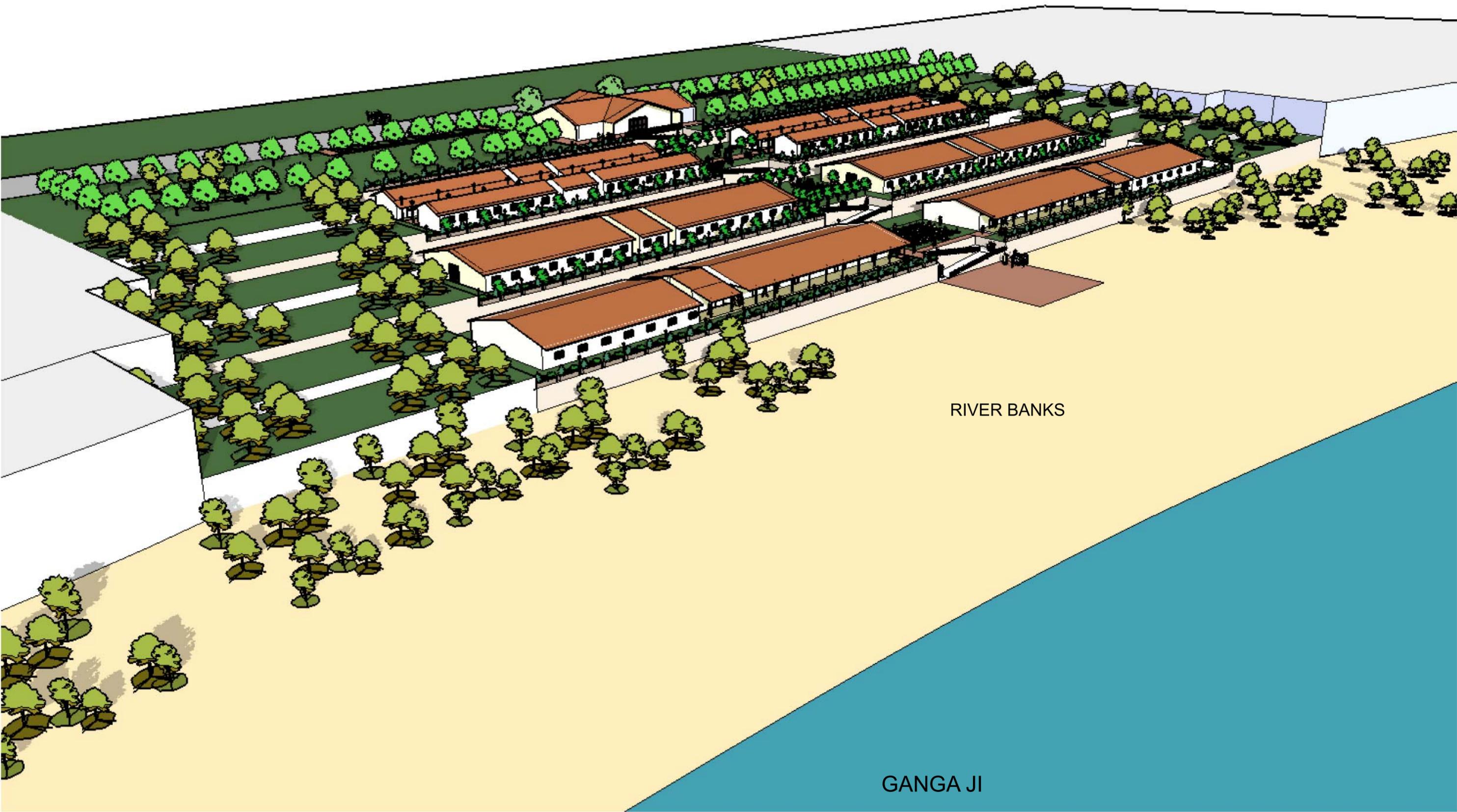
CULTURAL  
ACTIVITY  
LEVEL

RIVER BANKS

GANGA JI

# PLAN VIEW





RIVER BANKS

GANGA JI

**SIDE VIEW**



**BIRDS EYE VIEW**



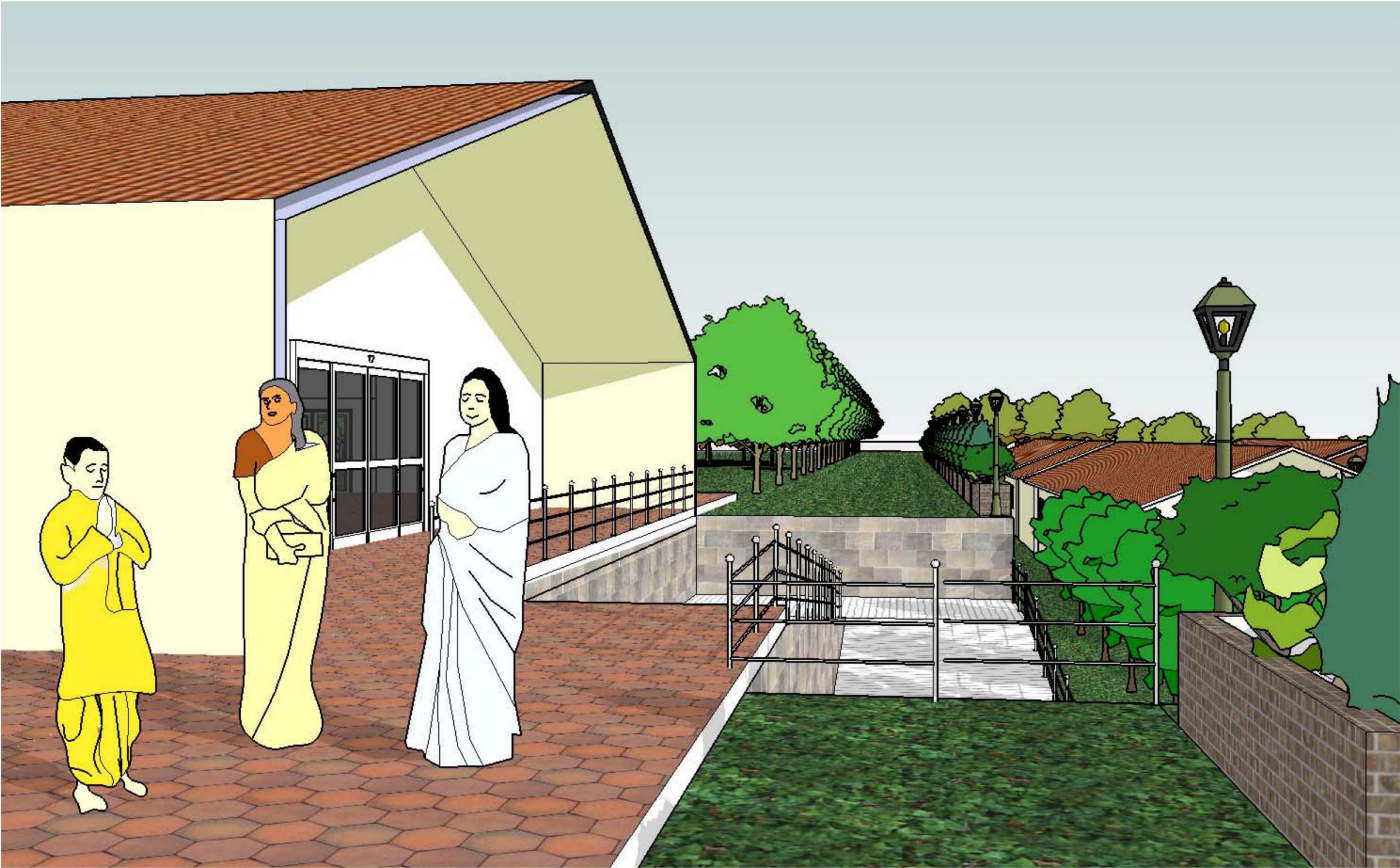
**BIRDS EYE VIEW**



**VIEW FROM ENTRY SIDE**



**ADMINISTRATIVE BLOCK** (ENTRY TO THE INSTITUTE)



**ADMIN. BLOCK ( VIEW OF RAMP CONNECTING TO THE CAMPUS)**



**RESIDENTIAL LEVEL (CENTRAL PARK)**



**RESIDENTIAL LEVEL (PLAY AREA)**



**RESIDENTIAL STREET**



**RESIDENTIAL STREET**



**ACADEMIC LEVEL**



**ACADEMIC LEVEL (CENTRAL PARK)**



**OUTSIDE VIEW FROM A ROOM**



## CULTURAL ACTIVITY LEVEL



**CULTURAL ACTIVITY LEVEL (CENTRAL PARK)**



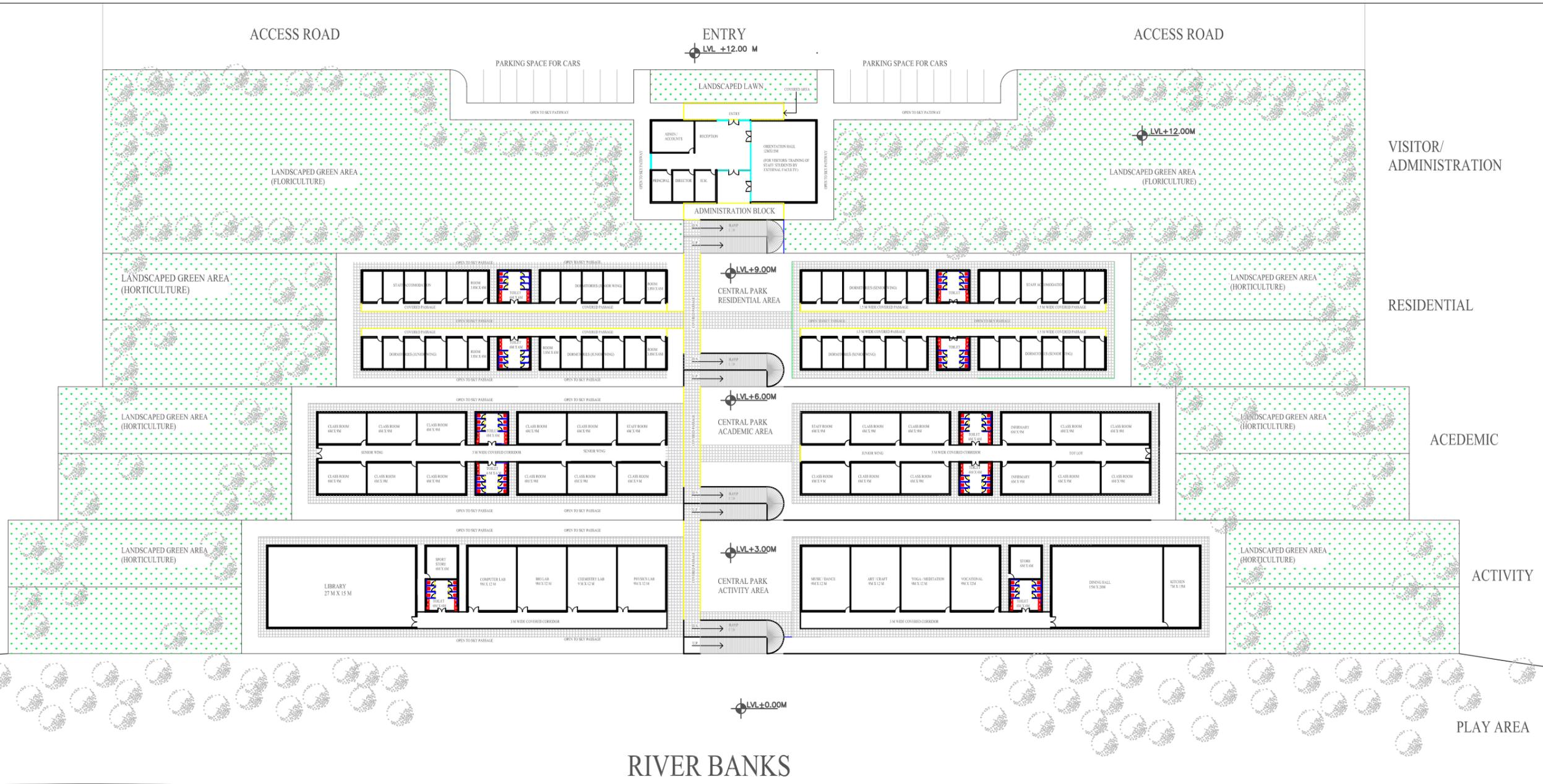
**CULTURAL ACTIVITY LEVEL** (VIEW OF MAA GANGA FROM COVERED PASSAGE)



**CULTURAL ACTIVITY LEVEL (VIEW FROM COVERED PASSAGE )**



**VIEW FROM GANGA JI**



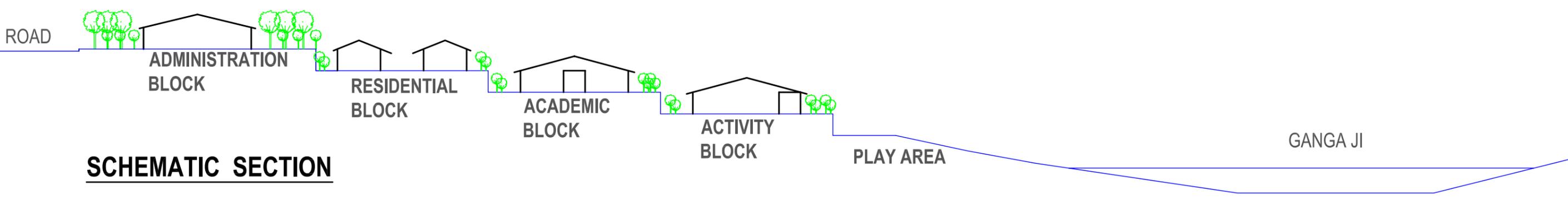
VISITOR/  
ADMINISTRATION

RESIDENTIAL

ACADEMIC

ACTIVITY

**SCHEMATIC PLAN**



**SCHEMATIC SECTION**

ACCESS ROAD

ACCESS ROAD

ENTRY

LVL +12.00 M

PARKING SPACE FOR CARS

PARKING SPACE FOR CARS

LANDSCAPED LAWN

ADMINISTRATION BLOCK

LVL+9.00M

CENTRAL PARK RESIDENTIAL AREA

CENTRAL PARK ACADEMIC AREA

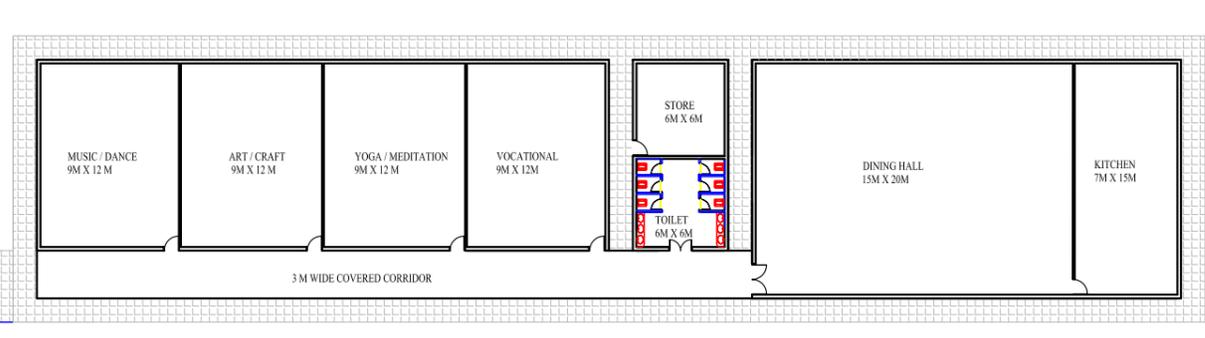
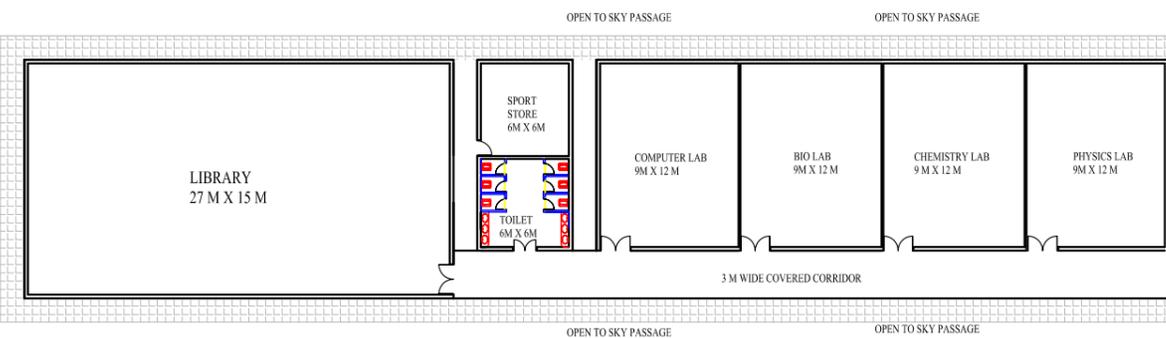
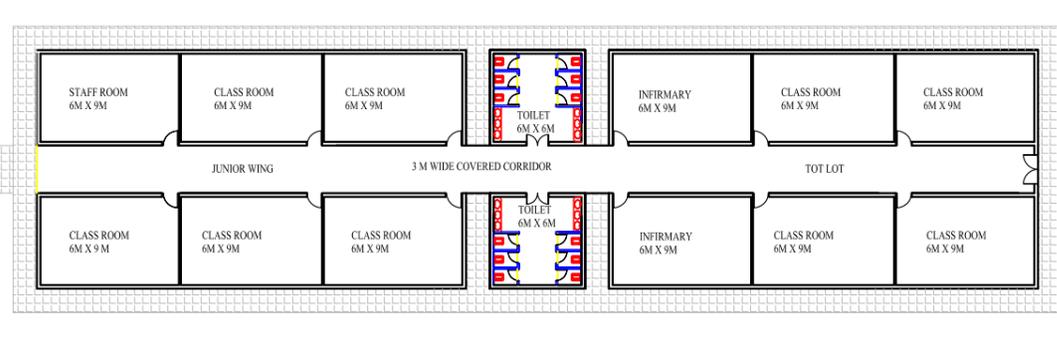
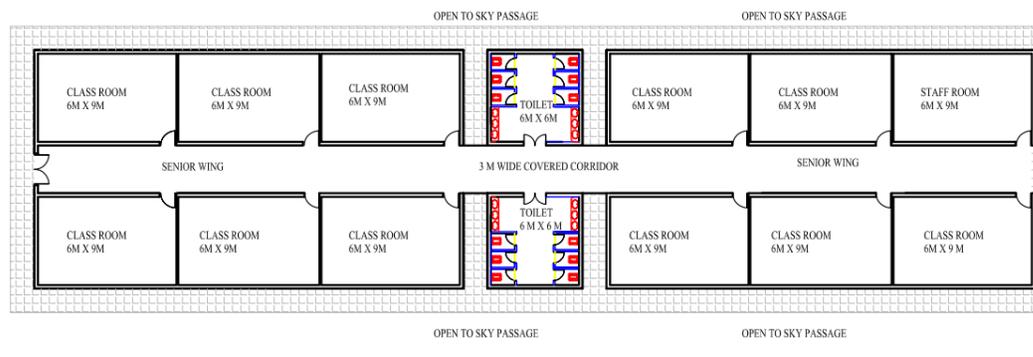
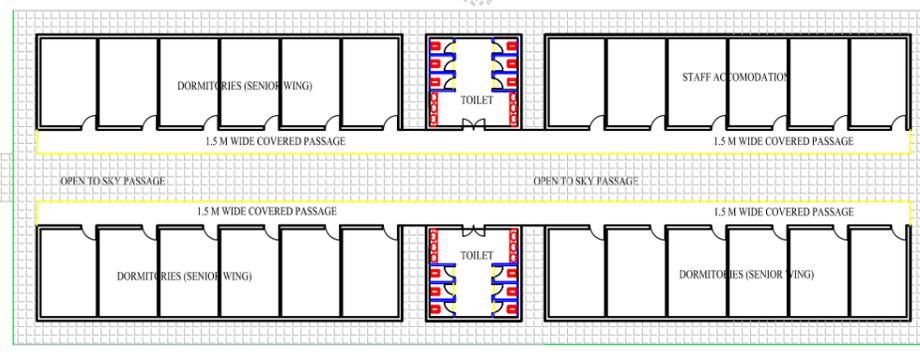
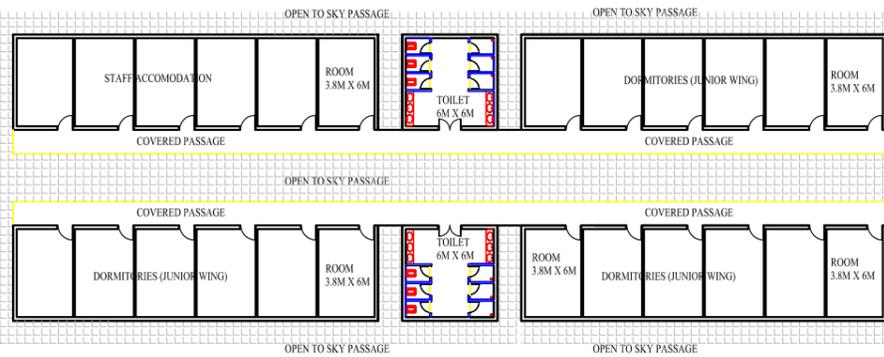
CENTRAL PARK ACTIVITY AREA

PLAY AREA

LVL+0.00M

LANDSCAPED GREEN AREA (FLORICULTURE)

LANDSCAPED GREEN AREA (FLORICULTURE)



LAYOUT PLAN