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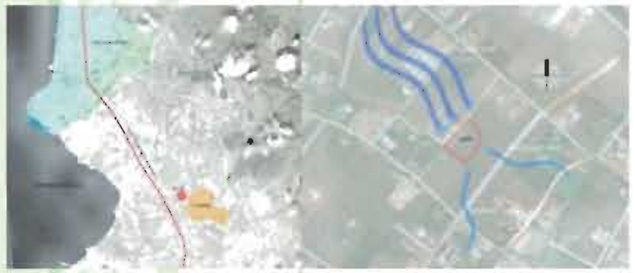
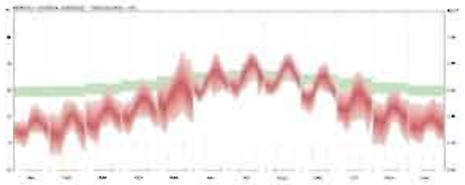
Radiometro elementary school, Thermi – Thessaloniki

The site is located in Thermi, a peripherical area in south - east of Thessaloniki, near the Macedonia Airport.

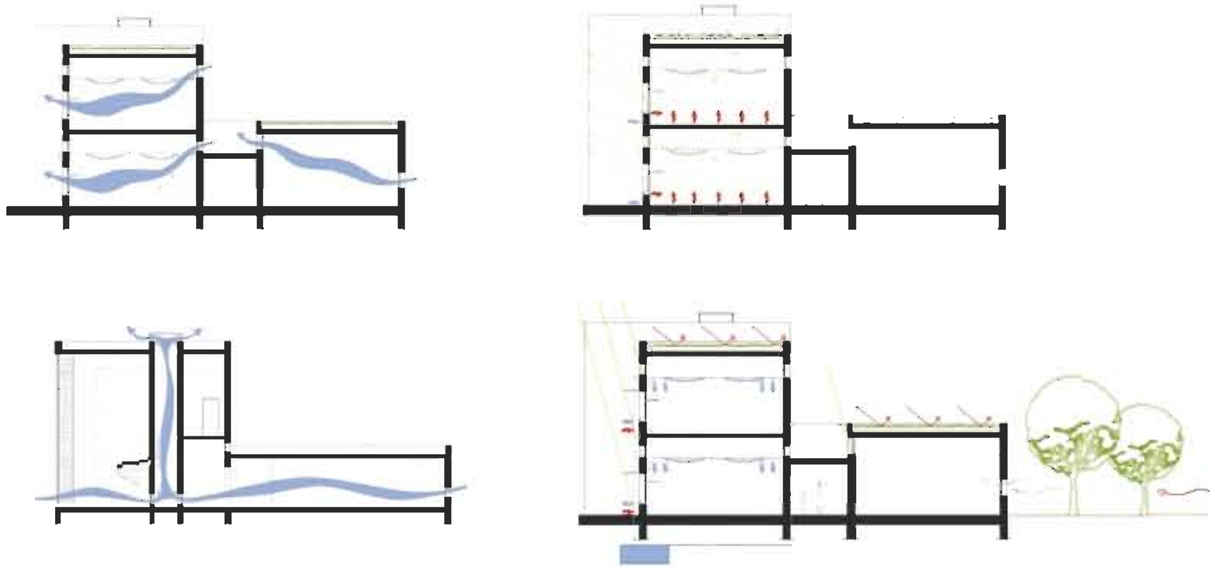


THERMI SUBURB

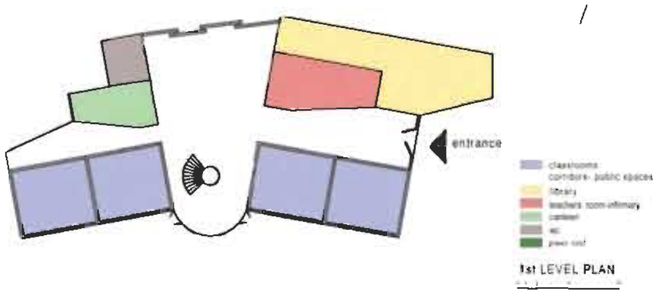


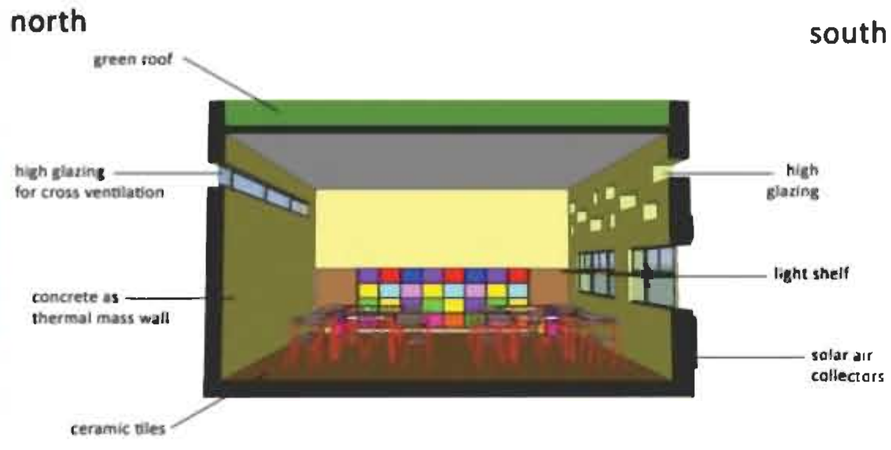
DIRECTIONS OF THE WINDS

The project aimed to meet the climatic character of the site with the functional needs of an elementary school: good ventilation, natural and adequate daylight, space flexibility and creative open air structures. The master plan started from few items taken from preexisting urban fabric: a housing unit along the North West side, a connection between two main roads and the new playground facing the southern side. These elements have been taken as guidelines for the orientation and the access of the school complex



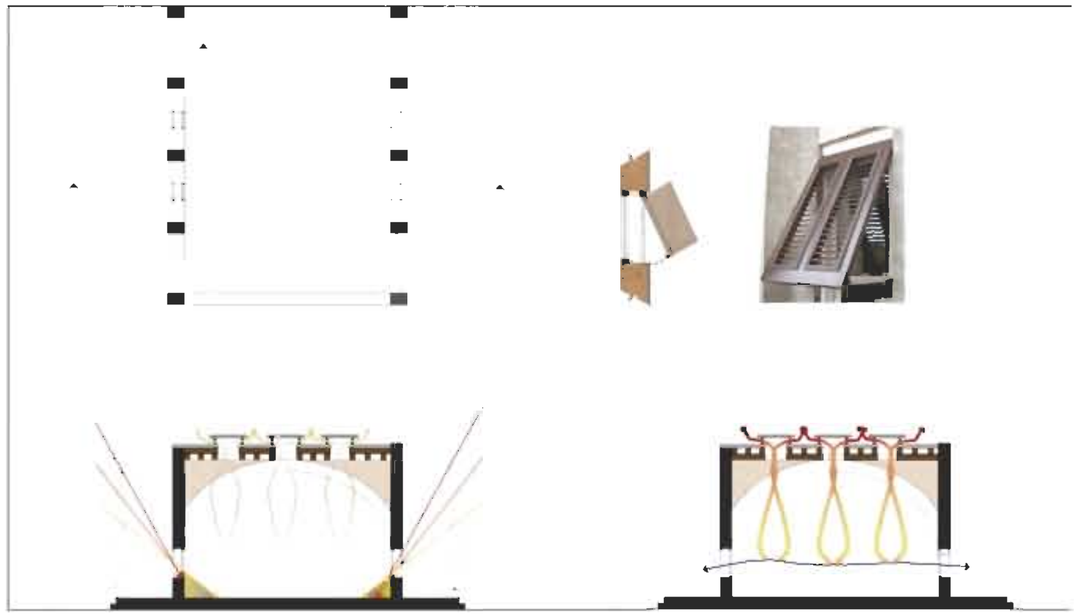
The programmatic needs have been respected in order to provide a passive system for internal comfort. The choice of the radiometer as a symbol of the school has an educational meaning: the revolution of the pinwheel when the sun hits the glazing sphere, makes the children understand the power generated by nature.

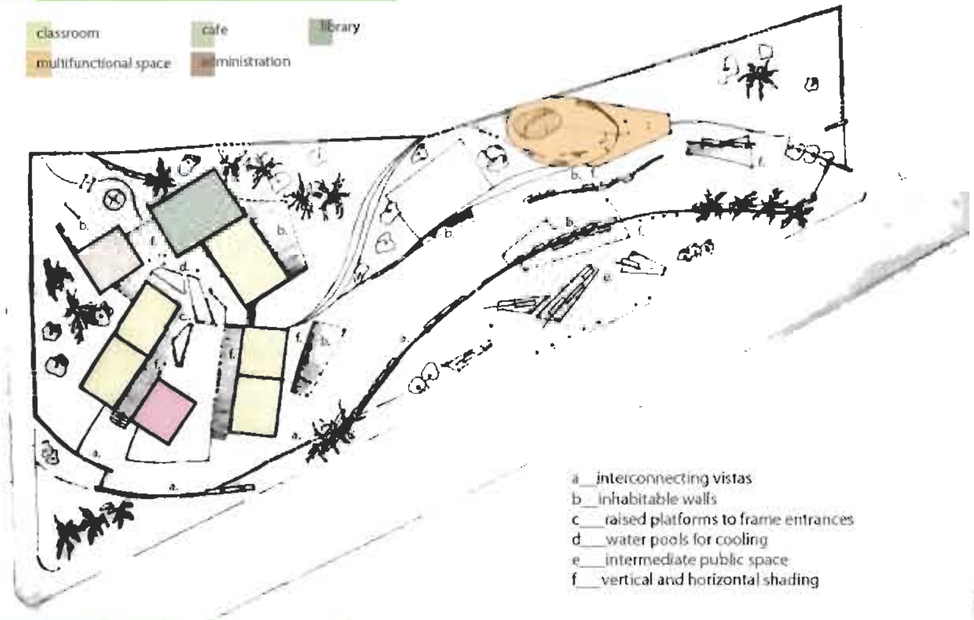




Elementary School - Jericho, Palestine Authority

The project's aim is to design a "Sustainable" primary school in Jericho, at the Jordan valley. The initial strategy was to design based on natural environment conditions such as harsh daylight and draught and low wind current.



The schools' design is adaptable and it can expand parallel to the city. It serves to the entire community; the public also uses its facilities after teaching hours for educational or social factions. Therefore enriching the community becoming a place where the users will appreciate and respect. The whole site was landscape with local plants and trees such as palm trees to create shadows and natural views to the site breaking the external space creating more intimate space.

In terms of construction, the socio-economical and cultural aspects form the basis of the built typology. There is a simple concrete post and beam construction, which is easily adapted. The walls are made by textured compressed earth wall with lime plaster increasing the walls thermal capacity. The internal space is developed by a series of arches that express a bioclimatic historical regional system in order to match new and old. There are covered skylights enhancing daylight conditions within that also assist to the buildings cooling strategy