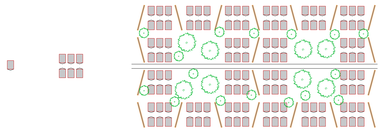
GHEYTARIEH PARK, TEHRAN
PLANNING FOR A DISASTER

The city of Tehran sits on top of several major seismic fault lines, making it susceptible to large scale earthquakes in the region. The high-density neighborhoods of Chizar and Gheytarieh in the northern part of the city, and the state of their relatively old and fragile buildings lead to the area being at risk of major destruction in the event of an earthquake and high numbers of displaced families in need of shelter. The Gheytarieh Park presents itself as a potential site able to host emergency and temporary shelters for earthquake survivors. The project consists of the preparation of the park for post-disaster scenarios where it will need to provide adequate shelter and access to essential services such as sanitation, health facilities and communal areas. The organization and layout of emergency shelters, the design and construction of service buildings, and the reimagination of the park as a whole are all done while considering the fact that the park needs to be functional both in everyday usage and in the case of an earthquake. Certain existing buildings will have new programs after an eventual earthquake, such as the cultural center being used as a temporary health facility; while newly designed buildings will be flexible enough to provide services for both pre-disaster and post-disaster scenarios, such as buildings dedicated to disaster management, cafeteria/canteen and sanitary services. The new park not only conserves and improves its function as an important everyday attraction within the neighborhood, but also allows it to evolve into a vital point of communal life in the unfortunate event of a deadly earthquake.

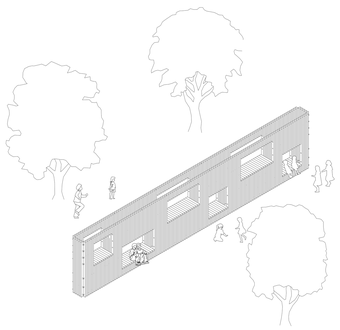
Gheytarieh Park - Pre-disaster Plan - 1:500

Gheytarieh Park - Post-disaster Plan - 1:500

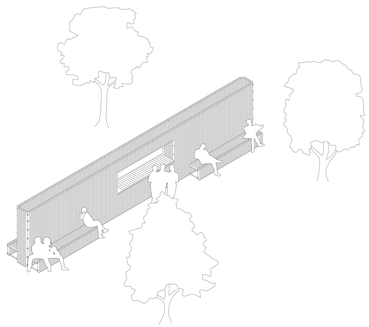
Gheytarieh Park - Section - 1:500



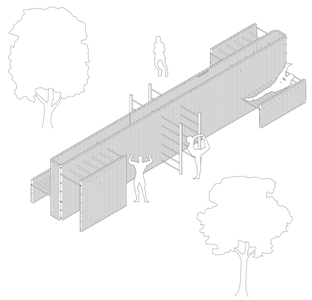
Evolution of a single family tent to a cluster



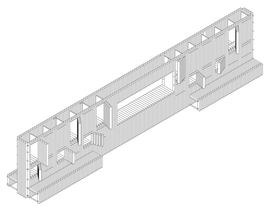
Inhabited wall serving as playground for children



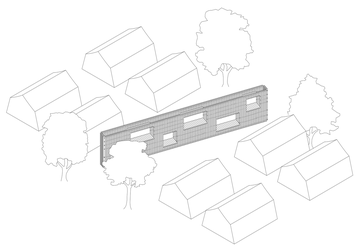
Inhabited wall serving as benches and tables



Inhabited wall serving as sports equipments



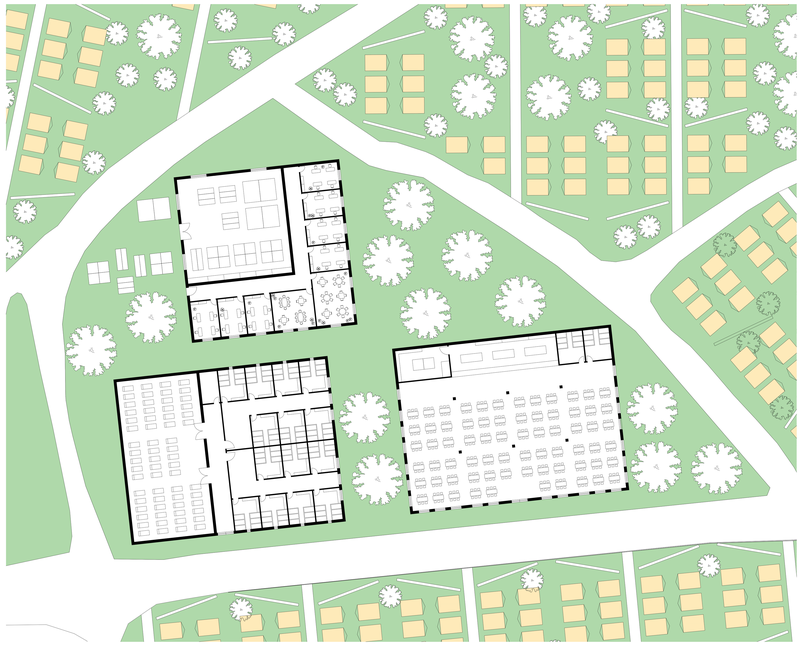
Inhabited wall serving as lockers and storage space in post-disaster scenarios



Inhabited wall serving creating screens of privacy between clusters of tents

Service Buildings - Pre-disaster Plan - 1:200

Service Buildings - North-Western Elevation - 1:200



Service Buildings - Post-disaster Plan - 1:200

Service Buildings - South-Western Elevation - 1:200