the mangroveCONNECTor
mangrove visitor center & residential development

by

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Abstract

This thesis deals with a buffer between mangroves and urban development and at the same time, to connect the two.

The project aim is to explore a relationship between man and environment within a man-made mangrove habitat before being brought into the natural mangrove habitat. It also explores with the techniques of building next to the mangroves and bringing in mangroves into an urban development and how mangroves can benefit man.

The vehicle I have chosen is a Mangrove Visitor/Interpretive Centre and Residential Condominium style development, both managed by the National Parks Board. It is located south of the existing mangrove park with boardwalks. On the east is a river where the water channels will be channeled in from to instate the new mangrove habitat.

The buildings are designed as water collectors similar to leaves, with courtyards to aid with cooling through "stack effect". It deals with the analogy of how the mangrove system functions.

The main connector (path) through the development allows the user to experience the mangroves and witness how man and mangroves can co-exist. This connector serves to connect visitors to Pasir Ris Park, north of the mangroves to the MRT station south of my site.

The various views seen as one traverses through the connector, be it residential blocks, pond, water channels, exhibition rooms and a cultivation room will be an eye-opener for the visitors to the Pasir Ris Park who rarely get a glimpse of the dwindling ecosystem.

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