

RAIN BREEZE



The ground floor is defined by a continuous shallow water basin spanning the full interior footprint (7.m × 5m), receiving water directly from the rain chains above. The basin serves multiple roles simultaneously — it cools the surrounding air through natural evaporation, reflects light and movement to create a dynamic, ever-changing atmosphere, and provides a calm, meditative surface that connects visitors to the presence of water.

Raised stone platforms emerge from the water at varying heights, forming stepping islands where visitors can sit, walk, and rest directly above the basin — making the water not just visible but physically present in the human experience. Native aquatic plants and small trees are integrated into the basin through recessed stone planters, further supporting biodiversity and creating a micro-ecosystem at ground level

The exterior walls are formed by a suspended modular planter system — bio-receptive concrete boxes hung on vertical steel cables at varying heights and depths. Their porous surface retains moisture and supports living moss growth, gradually integrating the pavilion into the surrounding landscape while providing passive evaporative cooling and habitat for local biodiversity.

urban biodiversity

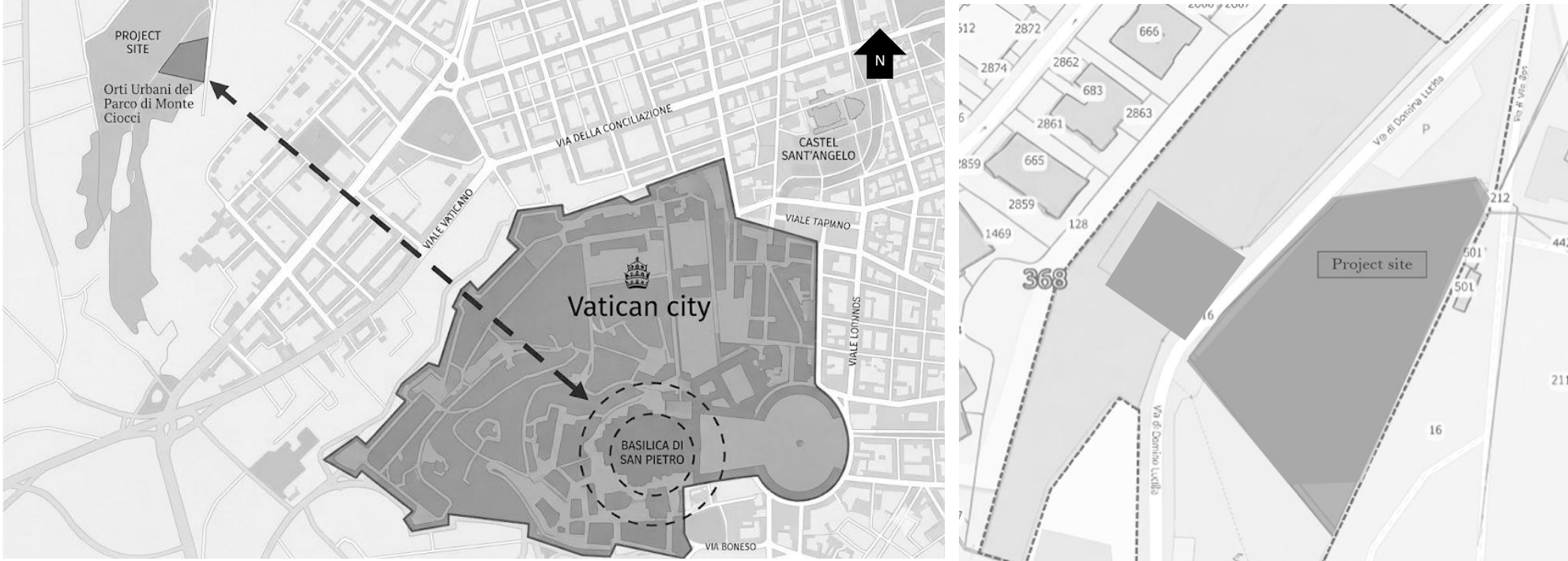
aesthetic

recreation

sustainability

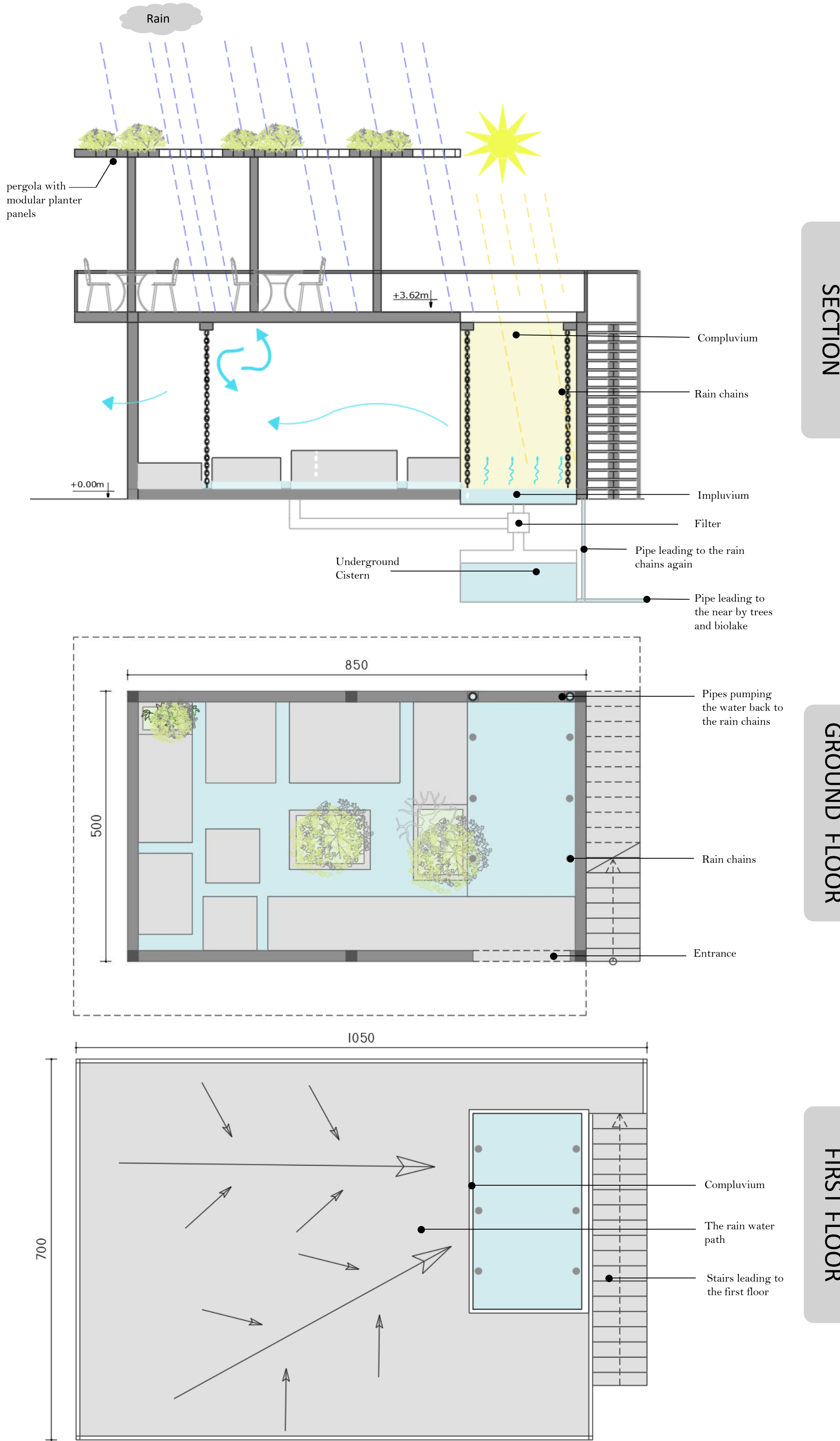


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What if a building could catch the rain instead of letting it run away? "Rain Breeze" is a pavilion designed for Monte Ciocchi Park, Rome sited within a green clearing bordered by the Orti Urbani del Parco di Monte Ciocchi, an active community garden tended by local residents. The site sits within a public green space already valued by the municipality for community use, facing the dome of St. Peter's across the city. Here, the challenge of water is immediate. The surrounding trees and cultivated garden plots endure Rome's long dry summers, while every winter and spring, rainfall runs off surfaces unused and wasted. "Rain Breeze" responds directly to this condition. the pavilion transforms rainfall into a visible, audible, and communal experience — water is collected, filtered, stored, and redistributed to the rain chains, the community garden, and biolake. Nothing is wasted. This is architecture that listens to its landscape and gives water back to the city that was built around it

The Water Cycle — From Storm to Storage to Return



Rainwater first meets the pavilion at its uppermost layer — the steel pergola fitted with modular planter panels. As rain falls across these panels, it waters the plants directly, triggering an immediate cooling effect through evapotranspiration and creating a lush, living atmosphere overhead. The remaining rainfall lands on the first floor surface, where gentle slopes guide every drop toward the compluvium — a calibrated central opening that acts as the primary collection point. At the heart of the pavilion lies the impluvium — a sunken stone basin set directly beneath the compluvium. This pairing consciously revives one of Rome's oldest architectural water systems, reinterpreted here as both a civic and sensory experience. Water enters through the compluvium and is channelled via perimeter gutters down through suspended rain chains, descending in clean vertical lines into the basin below — controlled, expressive, and without waste. Once collected, the basin water evaporates gently under the sun, cooling the surrounding air and creating a naturally temperate microclimate. Water then drains by gravity through underground pipes to a filtration system and into a storage cistern. From there, it is redistributed: recirculated back through the rain chains for visitors during dry weather; used to irrigate surrounding trees; and channelled toward the nearby biolake — completing a fully closed, zero-waste water cycle