

INSPIRELI AWARDS 2021

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SRI LANKA

“Architecture as a live educational tool”

SOFTWOOD RESEARCH CENTRE



Project Justification

Even though softwood has become a trend in the construction industry, especially cross laminated timber, the familiarity and popularity of the idea lacks in the Sri Lankan context due to many reasons such as unfamiliarity of the building, lack of high skilled labor, and the level of detailing compared to other available material. The project focus is on research on softwood and its innovation and its promotion to the society.

Design Approach

The design consists of a five-stage program for research and promotion of the softwood material. While Haputale being the main research center, it will extend into four other subsidiaries of promotion centers into different areas in Sri Lanka. The main connection strength within the designs lies through the railway. The pilot project for the promotional center is commenced from Nugegoda.

Precedent Studies

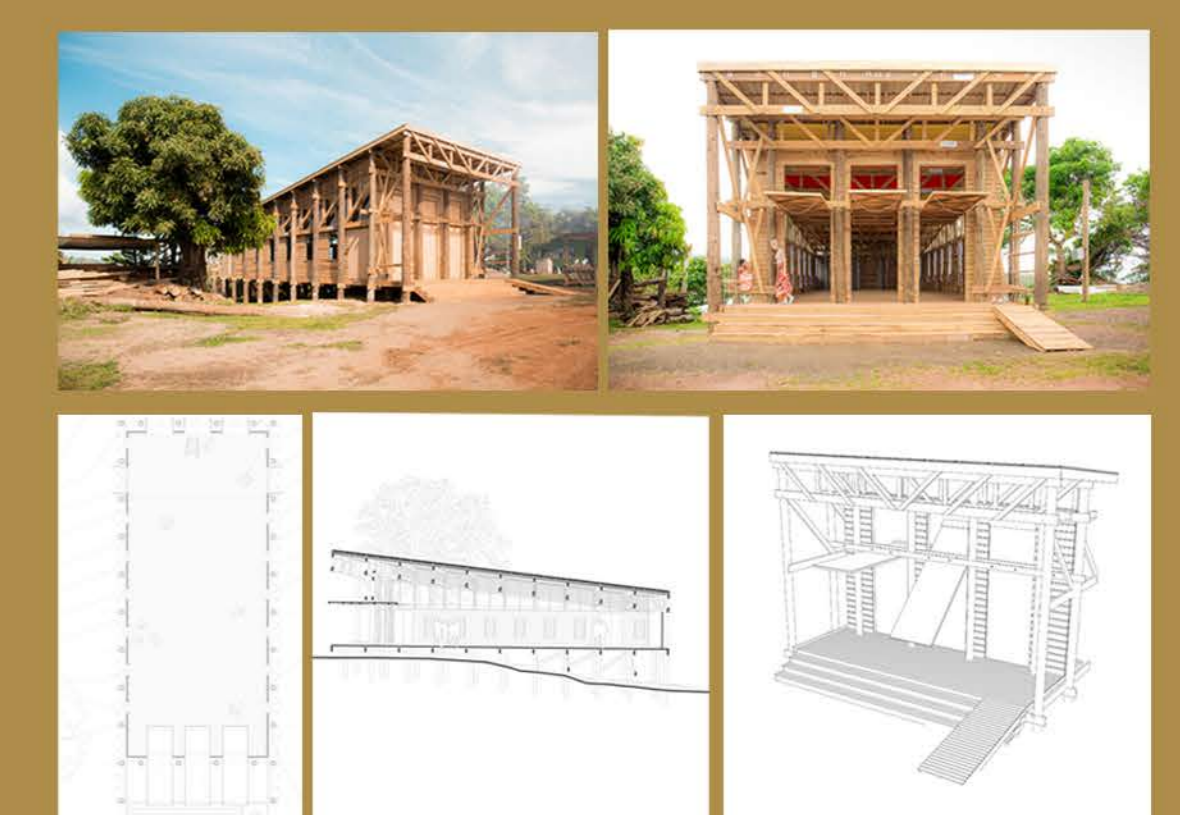
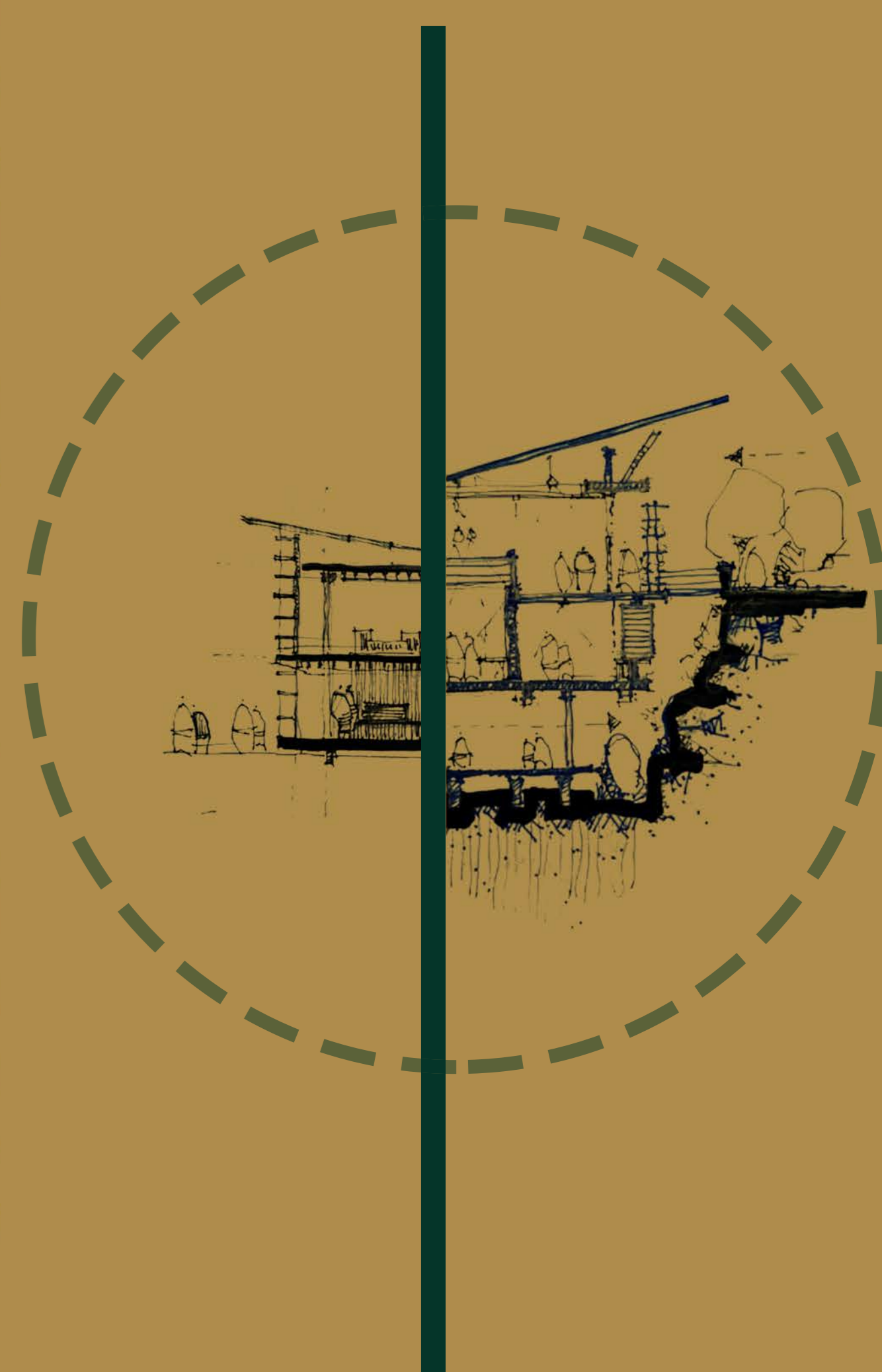


Naidi Community Hall, Fiji | Caukin Studio Architects

This is community hall done in Fiji using locally available material, softwood. Design is made so that everyone in the village can participate in the construction, so from that knowledge they will be able to build replicas in the future. Building is oriented toward the best view, which is the village centre.

Stadhaus, 24 Murray Grove | Waugh Thistleton Architects

The building is a nine-storey residential building, made with entirely softwood. It owns the title for the world tallest wooden residential building. The building is constructed from precast laminated softwood. It is the first building of this height to be built not only walls and slabs, but also stairs, and elevator cores, entirely in wood.



Objectives

Familiarizing softwood for people

Exposure by showing the capability of softwood through the building itself.

Making a platform for local craftsmen to share their knowledge from the design to construction process and also through its lifespan.

