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Keywords: Updating art centers - Renewing spaces - Redesigning - Educational environment
- Sustainable design - Art development - Integrating technology.

Title Developing: Developing Interior Design at the Greek Nautical Club in Bahri Area,
Alexandria Governorate

Abstract:

The preservation of heritage buildings and sites is of paramount importance, as these buildings serve as a record of historical memory, containing cultural and historical values. Given the severe damage sustained by heritage sites in Egypt due to rain and other erosion factors, coupled with the abandonment of these buildings by locals as a result of the natural course of life and the lack of regular maintenance or restoration of heritage buildings and urban sites, the deterioration has increased over time. Therefore, it has become essential to focus on the development and restoration of these sites due to their architectural and urban elements, which reflect the way of life of the people who lived in these areas.

Research Problem:

The facade of the Greek Naval Club is rich with archaeological history, represented in the historic buildings, adding significant historical value to the area, which should be felt by those visiting the site.

Hence, the central idea of the development of this area is to create a cultural and tourism hub that enhances the urban space and offers a unique experience that connects people with the place. Upon studying the feasibility of developing this urban space, the following points of weakness and deterioration have been summarized:

1. The external facade is affected by wind and rain factors.
2. The club lacks many important internal spaces.
3. There are unused and underutilized areas within the club.
4. The deterioration of sewage and electrical services.
5. The loss of visual connection between visitors, the castle area, the beach, and the club due to the high surrounding wall.
6. The absence of architectural identity for the surrounding buildings and the use of materials and elements that cause visual distractions.
7. The overlap between vehicle and pedestrian paths, leading to a lack of safety perception.
8. The disregard of lighting considerations by architects when studying and designing the building.

العنوان :

تطوير التصميم الداخلي بالنادي البحري اليوناني بمنطقة بحري - محافظة الإسكندرية

خلاصة:

إن الحفاظ على المباني والمواقع التراثية له أهمية قصوى، حيث أن هذه المباني بمثابة سجل للذاكرة التاريخية، تحتوي على القيم الثقافية والتاريخية. نظراً للأضرار الجسيمة التي لحقت بالمواقع التراثية في مصر بسبب الأمطار وعوامل التعرية الأخرى، بالإضافة إلى هجر السكان المحليين لهذه المباني نتيجة مسار الحياة الطبيعي وعدم إجراء صيانة دورية أو ترميم للمباني التراثية والمواقع العمرانية، وقد زاد التدهور مع مرور الوقت. ولذلك أصبح من الضروري التركيز على تطوير وترميم هذه المواقع لما تحتويه من عناصر معمارية وعمرانية تعكس نمط حياة السكان الذين عاشوا في هذه المناطق.

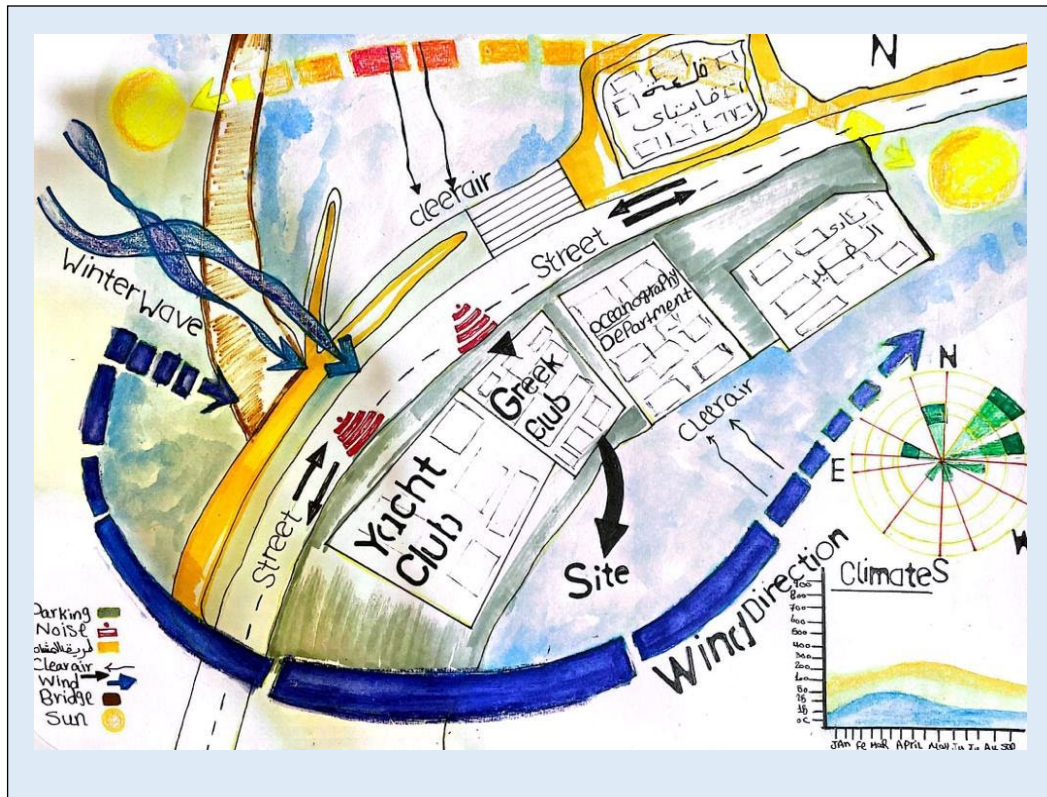


Figure (1):

Illustrates the climatic factors affecting the region and the club.

Research Objectives:

This study contributes to the protection and preservation of cultural heritage by connecting the community to its identity, thereby revitalizing the city's historical memory and identity, and stimulating its cultural economy for further development. The design concept focuses on achieving spatial and visual continuity between the elements of the area, as well as unifying the urban elements and different structures in the region. The concept is built on the foundation of transparency between the spaces and structures, both horizontally and vertically.

Expected Outcomes of the Research:

1. Open sightlines to connect spaces with movement paths by creating continuous staircases that link the spaces, replacing the vertical wall.
2. Treating the facades of the buildings overlooking the waterfront using the same materials and elements as the club, reinforcing the architectural identity of the site.
3. Separating vehicle movement paths from pedestrian paths by creating two distinct levels for each, and adding a safe pedestrian route from outside the Greek Naval Club area to its interior.
4. The main street network should not penetrate the block but serve the area only from the outside.
5. The internal street network should be designed to ensure safety and tranquility for the rest of the area.
6. Ensuring ease of access and availability of transportation.

7. Studying the surrounding traffic area to assess noise levels and their impact on user comfort.

Research Tools:

- Using case studies of similar projects to derive strategies for designing architectural solutions for recreational clubs.
- Gathering information from previous studies and references related to similar topics.
- Reviewing doctoral theses by experts in architectural engineering.
- Following innovative architects in the field of architectural engineering.

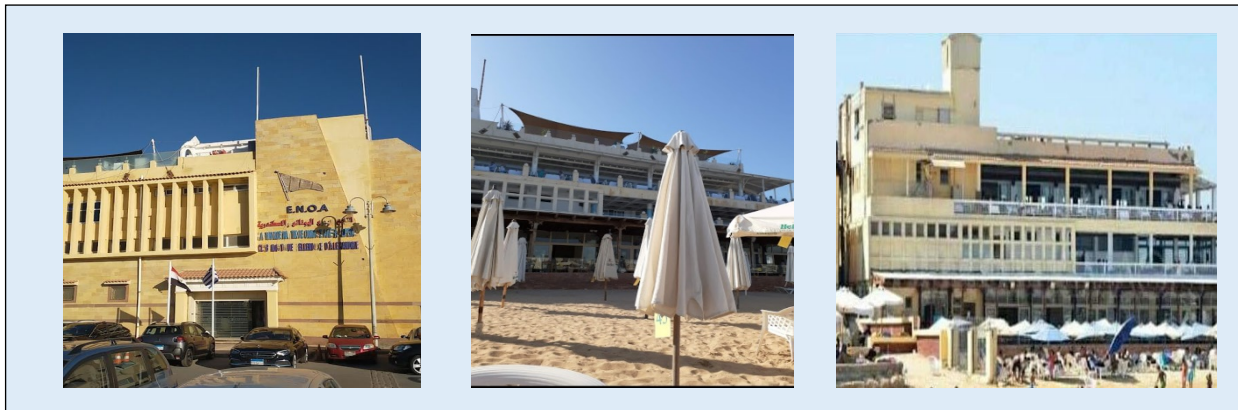


Figure (2):

Illustrates the exterior facade of the Greek Naval Club before development.

❧ Research Questions:

Many projects in Egypt, particularly in the design and development of interior architecture, have been criticized for superficial treatment of the characteristics and features of Egyptian heritage. Some designers use elements and vocabulary without a true depth that reflects identity and expresses the environment. The main questions that arise are:

1. What does the interior design of the spatial area in the old building consist of?
2. What is the role of architects in the development of historic buildings?
3. What is the role of interior designers in rehabilitating heritage buildings?
4. What is the role of modern materials in the development and rehabilitation process?

Introduction:

The rehabilitation of historic buildings involves human intervention aimed at managing a space for a specific purpose or repurposing it for another use. This process seeks to achieve higher historical and artistic returns while improving the country's economy. The elements of rehabilitation are determined through the structural study of the building.

In an era characterized by globalization, openness, and modernity, architectural investment serves as a key tool for connecting the past with the present and strengthening national identity. The historical and

cultural value of preserving buildings and archaeological sites has always taken precedence. Consequently, the focus of preservation efforts has shifted towards restoration and maintenance to present them as independent urban entities. This approach, however, imposes significant financial burdens.

The investment in heritage buildings and sites is not only aimed at increasing tourist attraction but also at involving local communities in their use to ensure their sustainability, making them part of the social fabric rather than being static monuments visited on special occasions. The adaptive reuse of heritage buildings not only contributes to their development and revitalization but also positively impacts the surrounding urban areas, extending its influence to nearby regions. Economically, adaptive reuse is one of the most cost-effective strategies compared to constructing new buildings, and it guarantees the establishment of a reliable economic base for the building's preservation and continued existence. This makes adaptive reuse a highly suitable method for fostering the growth of historic buildings.

Greek Naval Club in Alexandria:

- **The Oldest Water Sports Club in the World**
Established in 1909.
- **Nature of Activity:**
A recreational club, the first to specialize in water sports in the world. It is the first joint club between Egypt and Greece.
- **Project Location:**
Qaitbay Castle Street, Al-Anfoushi, Alexandria, Egypt.

The club is distinguished by its magnificent view of the Mediterranean Sea, Qaitbay Castle, the Eastern Harbor, and the yachts and boats docked there.

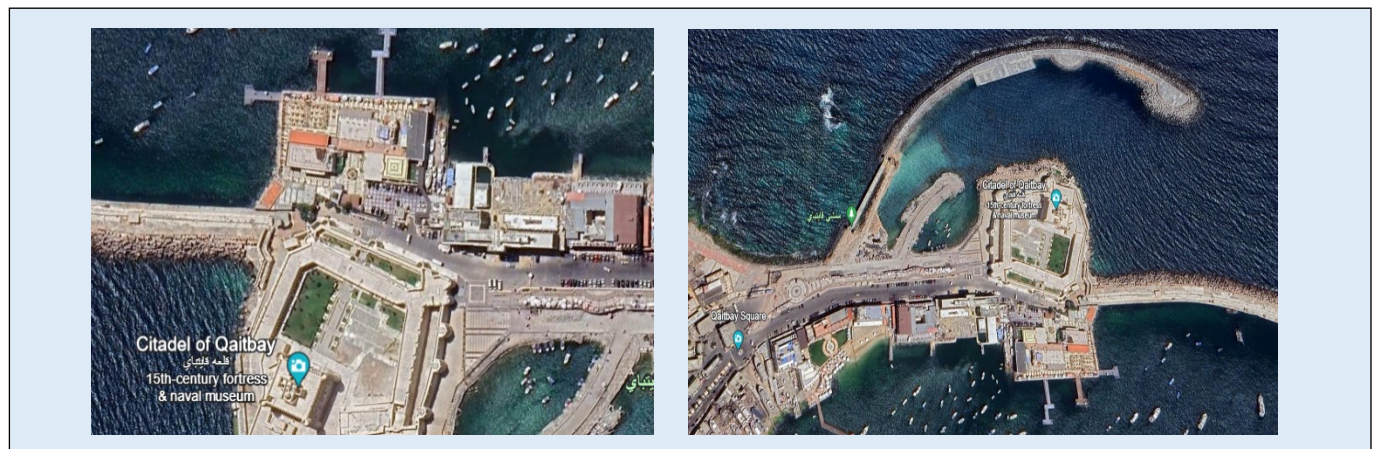


Figure (3):

Illustrates the location of the Greek Naval Club and its distinctive facade overlooking the sea.

Structural Analysis of the Building:

- **Load-Bearing Walls:**
The building consists of three floors and a rooftop.

Circulation Paths:

All circulation paths need redesigning to provide better movement opportunities and improve accessibility.

Nature of Surrounding Buildings:

Most of the surrounding buildings require rehabilitation, repurposing, and construction to make them compatible with the environment.

Protection and Development of the Area in Front of Qaitbay Castle:

The primary goal is to protect the castle from high waves and continuous erosion of the main rock on which the castle stands. Additionally, the development aims to enhance the area in front of the castle to attract, energize, and support tourism investments in the governorate



Figure (4):

Illustrates some of the areas surrounding the Greek Naval Club and the impact of weather and sea factors

Climate:

The area enjoys a Mediterranean climate, which is generally mild for most of the year. The weather is moderate, with a cool breeze and sunny conditions for much of the year.

Sound and Noise:

Noise primarily originates from the main street overlooking the castle and the public promenade.

Openings and Windows:

Most of the windows and openings overlook the seaside, providing views of the beach.



Figure (5):

Illustrates the restaurant of the Greek Naval Club and the sea-facing facade it overlooks.

Entrances:

There is an entrance from the main street.

There is a rear entrance from the sea side

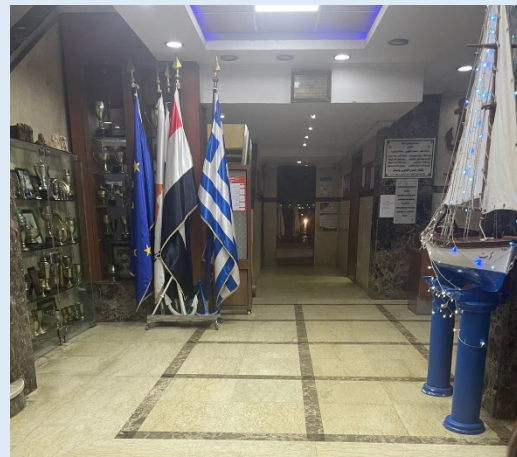


Figure (6):

Illustrates the impact of wind and rain on the exterior facade.

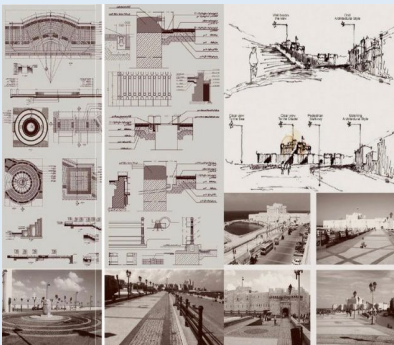


Figure (7):

Illustrates the circulation paths and the location of the Greek Naval Club.

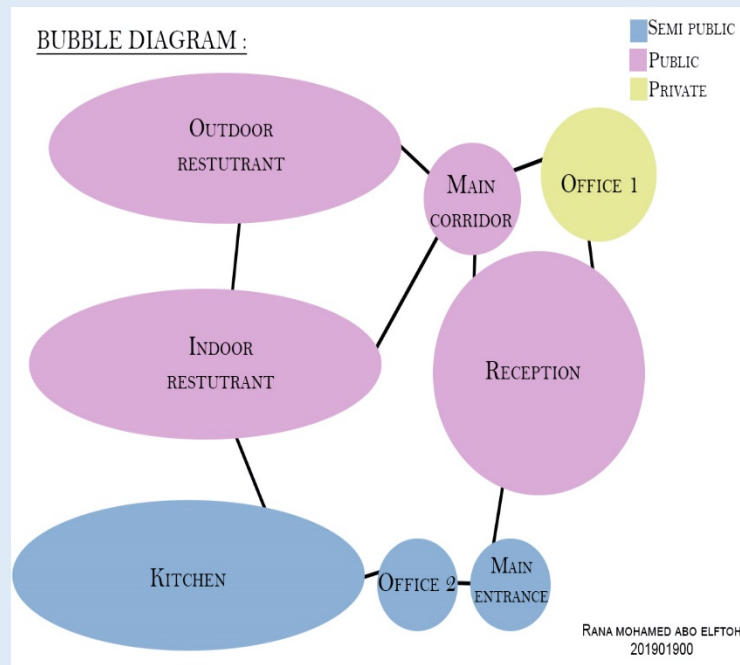


Figure (8):

Illustrates the internal spaces of the Greek Naval Club and their relationship to each other.

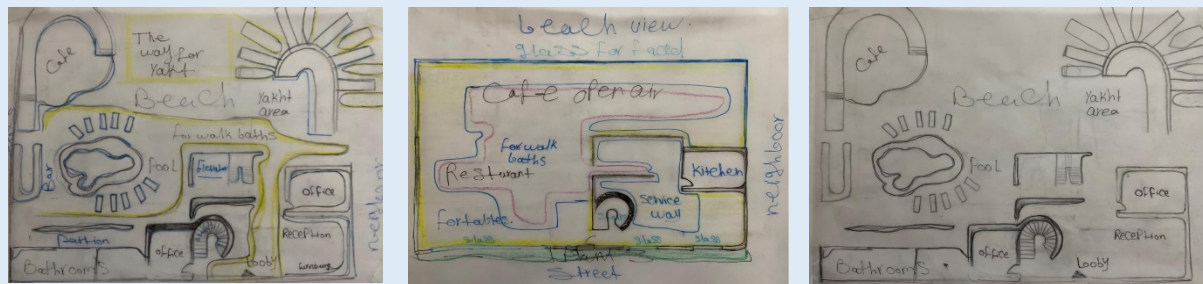


Figure (9):

Sketches illustrating the development plan for the Greek Naval Club.

Wind Movement:

The wind direction is southeast. Winds from the Mediterranean Sea blow across the area, providing a different climate throughout the year. Summers are relatively mild, while winters are cold and often feature a series of intense storms with cold winds and heavy rainfall. August is the hottest and most humid month, while April is the least humid. The average temperature in April is 27°C, while January is the coldest month, with an average temperature of 14°C. June is the driest month.

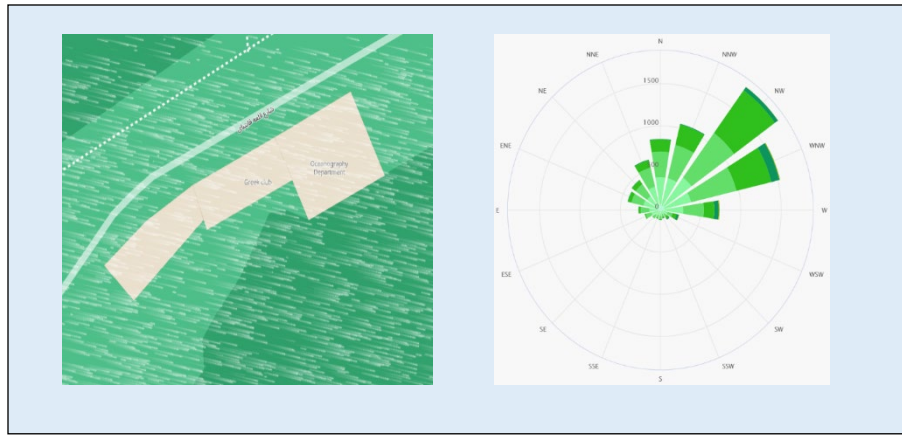


Figure (10):
Illustrates the direction of wind and rainfall.

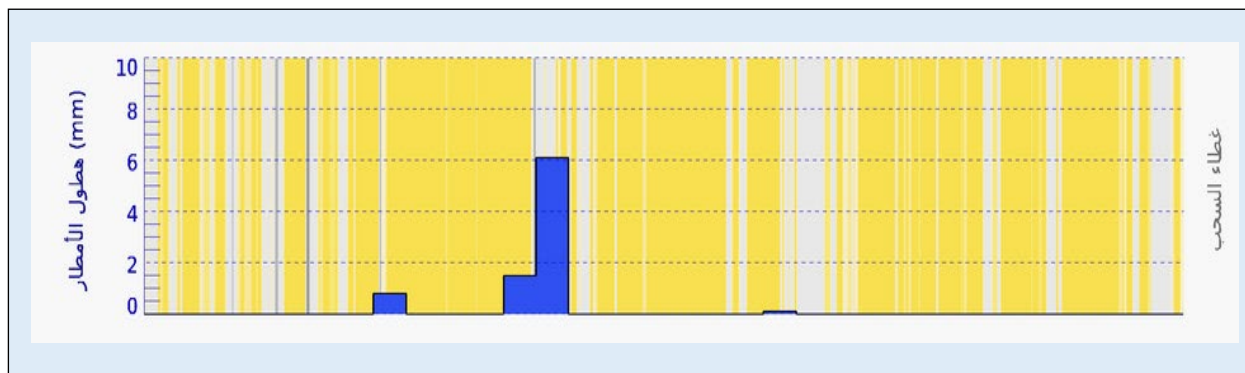


Figure (11):
Illustrates the rainfall rate.



Figure (12):
Illustrates the temperature levels at the Greek Naval Club.

History of the Building:

The Greek Naval Club, founded in 1909, is considered the oldest water sports club in the world. As hundreds of thousands of Greek expatriates arrived in Alexandria at the beginning of the 20th century, there was a growing need for a place where they could gather and engage in sports. This led to the idea of establishing the Greek Naval Club, which became a central hub for the Greek community, offering a venue for both social gatherings and sports activities. The club's establishment marked an important cultural milestone and symbolized the deep connections between Greece and Egypt during that era.



Figure (13):
Illustrates the floor plan of the Greek Naval Club.

Internal Spaces:

- **Ground Floor:**
 - Entrance
 - Reception
 - Reception Lounge
 - Offices
 - Swimming Pool

- Bar
- Outdoor Seating Areas
- Male and Female Restrooms
- Changing Rooms
- Café extending into the water
- Small Yacht Dock



Figure (14):

Illustrates the elevation of the Greek Naval Club after development.



Figure (15):

Illustrates the reception area of the Greek Naval Club after development.



Figure (16):

Illustrates the swimming pool area of the Greek Naval Club.



Figure (17) illustrates the waiting area in the reception.



Figure (18) illustrates the office of the club manager.



Figure (19) illustrates the pool area and seating arrangements in the club.



Figure (20) illustrates the gym of the Greek Maritime Club.



Figure (21) illustrates the restaurant of the club.

Color Palette Used:

The color palette features a variety of beige shades, including creamy beige and pastel beige, which is mixed with white. Beige is one of the most soothing colors, evoking a sense of comfort and tranquility.

Bright colors are incorporated into the décor by adding elements such as cushions, paintings, and small cabinets.

Brown, a lighter color, harmonizes beautifully and easily with beige, creating a warm and balanced aesthetic.

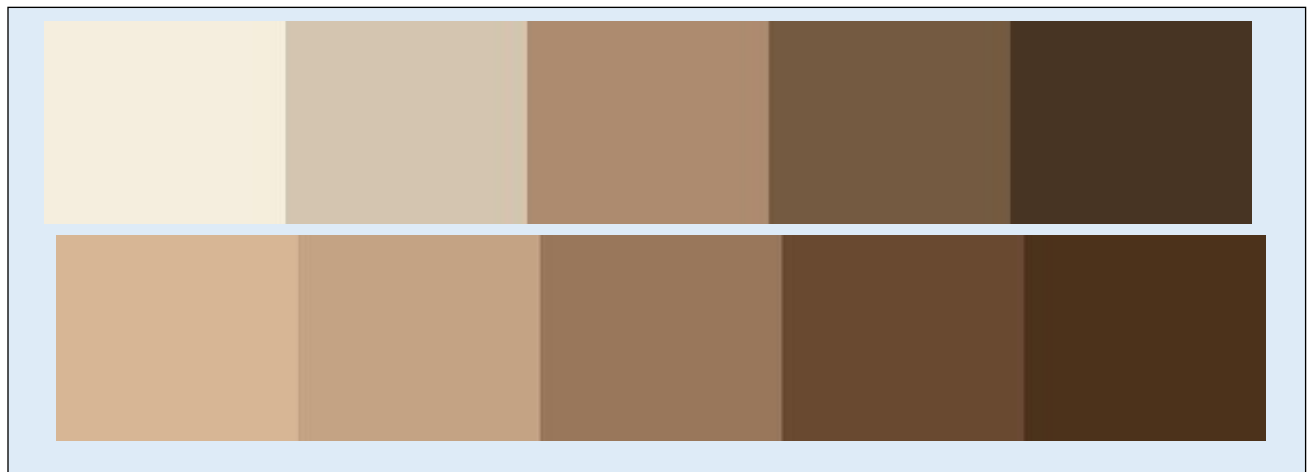


Figure (22) illustrates the color scheme used in the club.

Blue is the color of the sea, and its shades shine alongside white. Beige is one of the most soothing colors, evoking a sense of comfort and relaxation.

A combination of light blue with light brown (or cream or beige) is ideal for creating an attractive and peaceful décor. This blend brings a calm and serene atmosphere, perfectly suited for spaces near water or with a nautical theme.

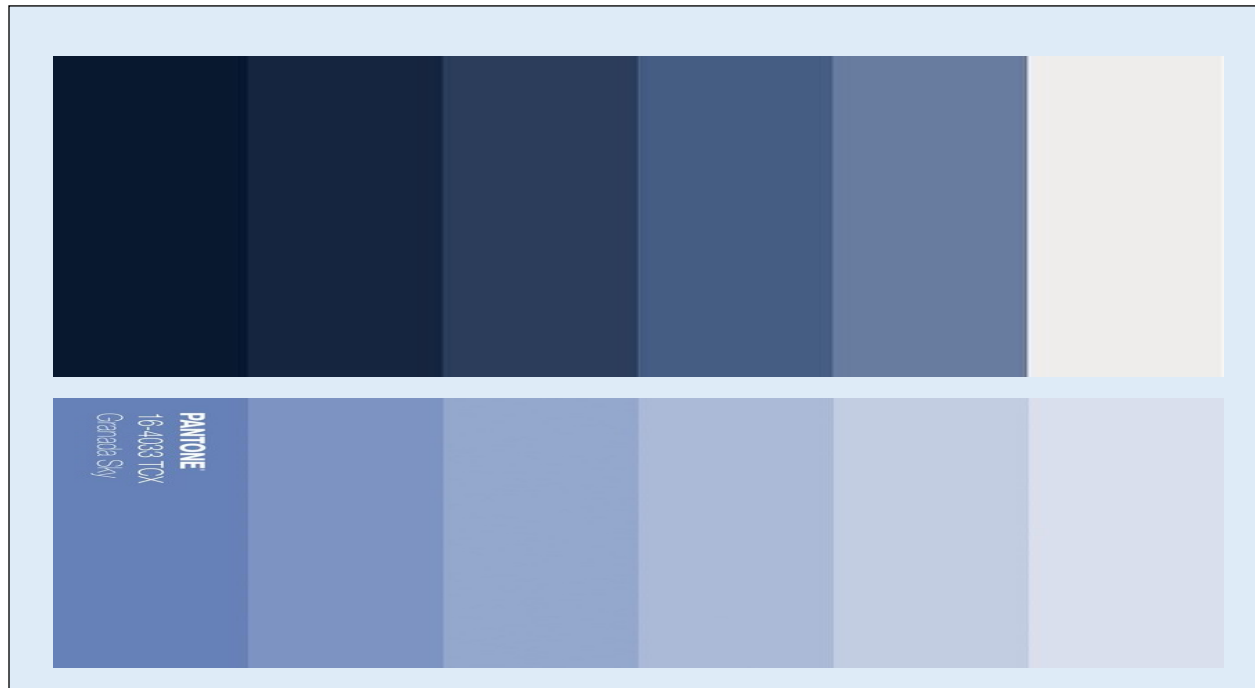


Figure (23) illustrates the color scheme used in the club..

Materials:

- **Wood:**
Wood is known for its beauty and authenticity, bringing warmth and comfort to any space. It can be used to create an atmosphere of nature and tradition, adding a timeless and inviting feel to the environment. Wood also imparts elegance and luxury, making it an ideal material for various design styles.
- **Black Plastic:**
Black plastic is distinguished by its elegance, sophistication, and luxury in architectural design. Using black in décor adds a touch of refinement and beauty, elevating the overall aesthetic of the space.
- **Marble:**
Marble is recognized for its unparalleled natural beauty and adds a sense of grandeur to the space. It creates a more expansive feel and is available in a wide range of colors and patterns, making it an ideal choice for both interior and exterior applications. Its timeless elegance and versatility make it a perfect material for creating luxurious and sophisticated environments.

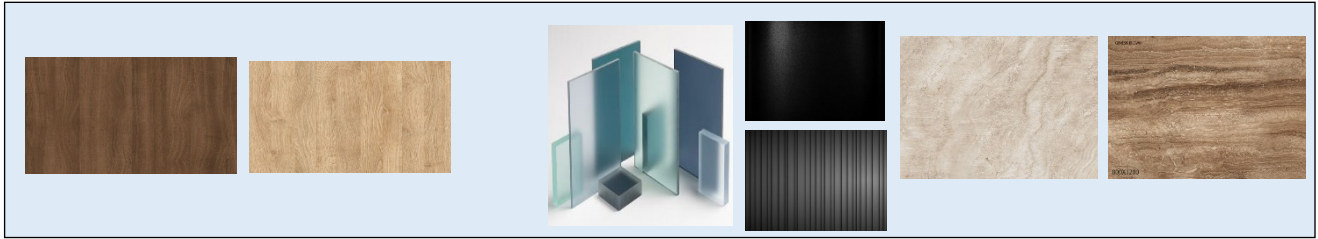


Figure (24) illustrates some of the materials used in the club.

Polyurethane Glossy Plastic Coating:

This coating is used for treating and finishing both metal and concrete surfaces, whether indoors or outdoors. It offers high durability and protection from ultraviolet (UV) rays. Additionally, it provides resistance to corrosion and good chemical resistance, making it an ideal choice for surfaces exposed to harsh conditions.



Figure (25) illustrates the material used in the painting.

Lighting:

LED Linear Lighting System:

The LED linear lighting system consists of light-emitting diodes (LEDs) grouped together in a long, narrow housing to form a light strip. Linear LED lighting is particularly useful for illuminating large commercial spaces, such as offices or retail areas, as it allows for the lighting of large areas with a single extended unit.

Thanks to its growing popularity, the design of linear lighting has evolved over the years. Gone are the days of the standard long light strip. Curved linear lighting can create mood and add touches of light that transform any room or outdoor space style.

Linear LED strip lighting can also be installed in a way that occupies less space while creating a unique and visually appealing effect.

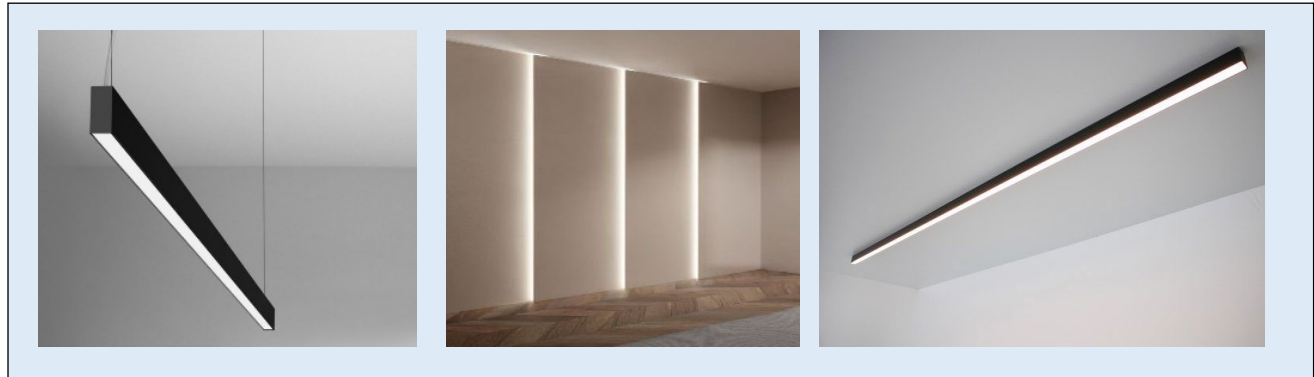


Figure (26) illustrates the lighting used in the Greek Maritime Club.

Architectural LED Lighting:

The versatility of architectural LED lighting design allows for the creation of concepts that transform the user experience within buildings, both indoors and outdoors. Architectural LED lighting offers numerous advantages compared to other types of lighting, including energy efficiency, long lifespan, and the ability to create dynamic lighting effects. It enhances architectural features and can highlight specific elements of a building's design, contributing to the aesthetic appeal and functionality of the space. Additionally, it provides flexibility in design, enabling the creation of lighting solutions that adapt to different architectural styles and environments.

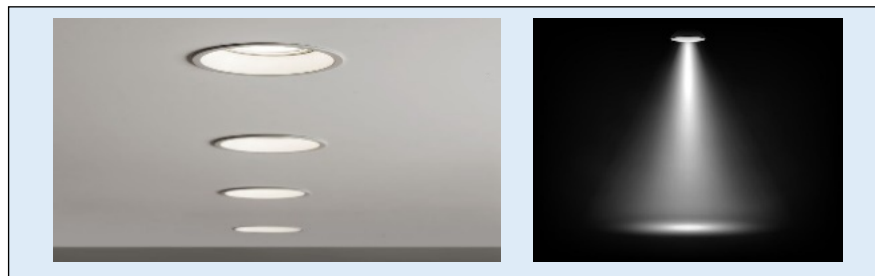


Figure (27) illustrates the lighting used in the club.

Some of the benefits of architectural LED lighting are:

Environmental Impact:

Architectural LED lighting is energy-efficient and significantly reduces the building's carbon footprint, with reductions of up to 70% in some cases.

Cost and Durability:

LED lighting lasts much longer than traditional lighting, reducing the frequency of replacements and making it a cost-effective investment over time.

Nature-like Lighting:

Architectural lighting is often designed to replicate natural light indoors. LED lighting achieves this more effectively than standard lighting, creating a more authentic and pleasant ambiance.

Variety of LED Lighting Forms:

Architectural LED lighting comes in various forms, offering a wide range of design possibilities. Modern LED lighting trends in architecture are strongly moving toward the "bold" direction.

Modern LED Chandeliers:

LED architectural chandeliers are far from the traditional, expensive ones. They are sleek, modern, and more sculptural, offering a minimalist industrial look. With their bold designs, these LED chandeliers make a strong design statement in spaces where they are not the primary light source.

Contemporary and Smart Lighting:

Smart lighting, driven by LED technology, leads the way in modern lighting trends. The ability to control lighting from a device gives users full control over light temperature, color, and dimming, which can be essential for facilitating various activities in a room.

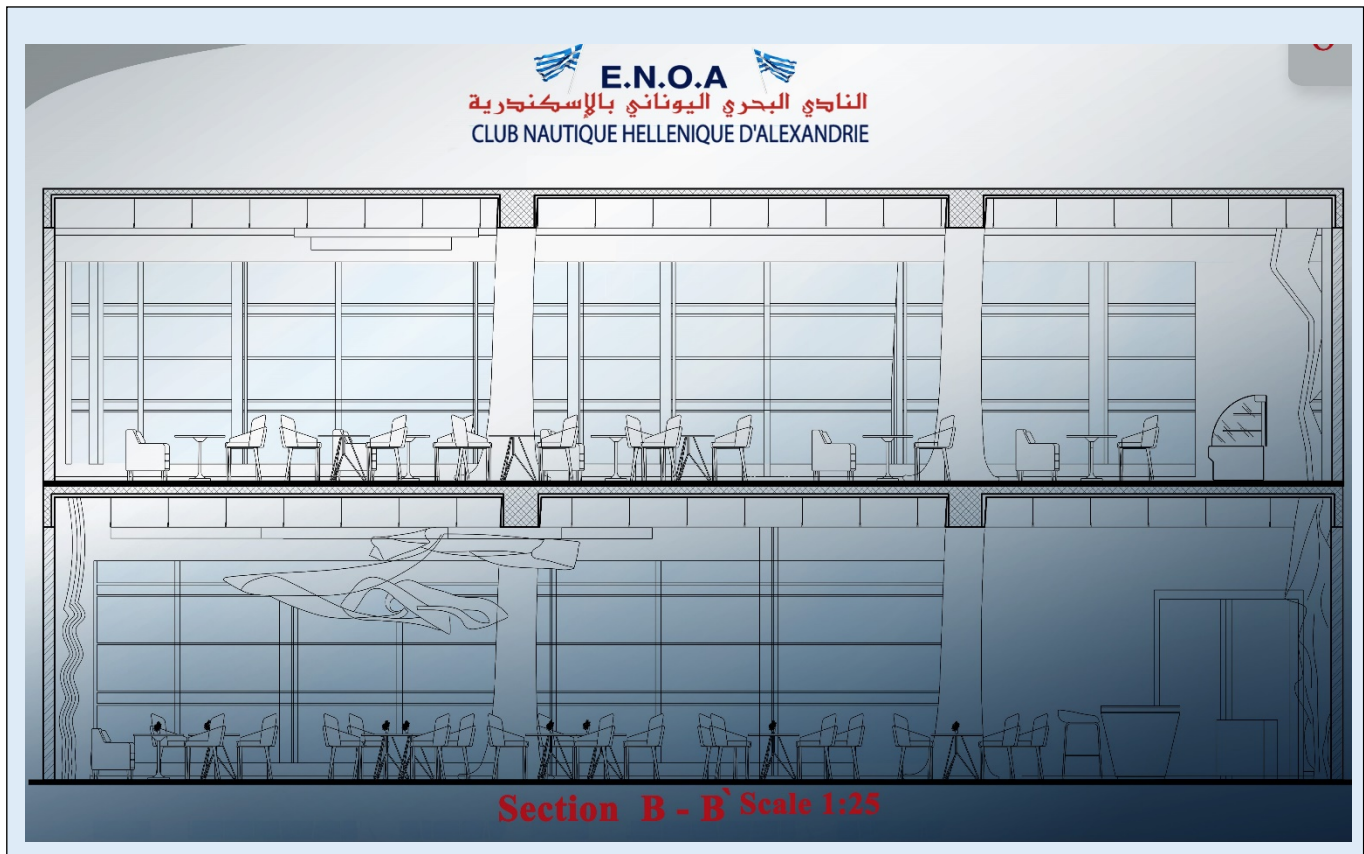


Figure (28) illustrates the vertical plan of the club.

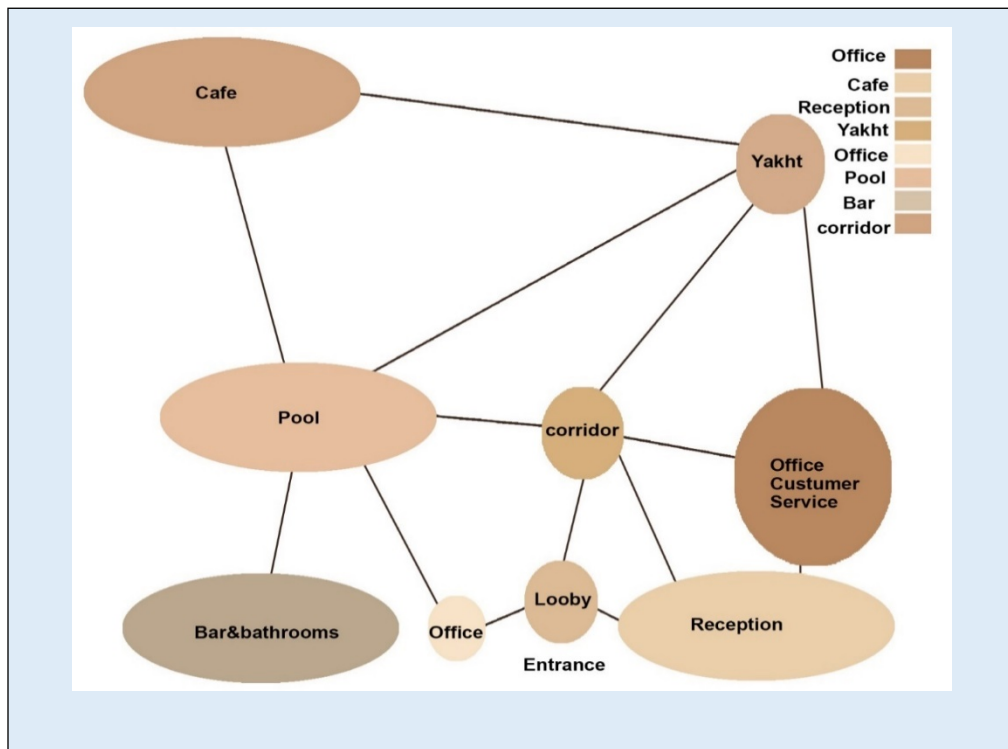


Figure (29) illustrates Bubble Diagram for the club.

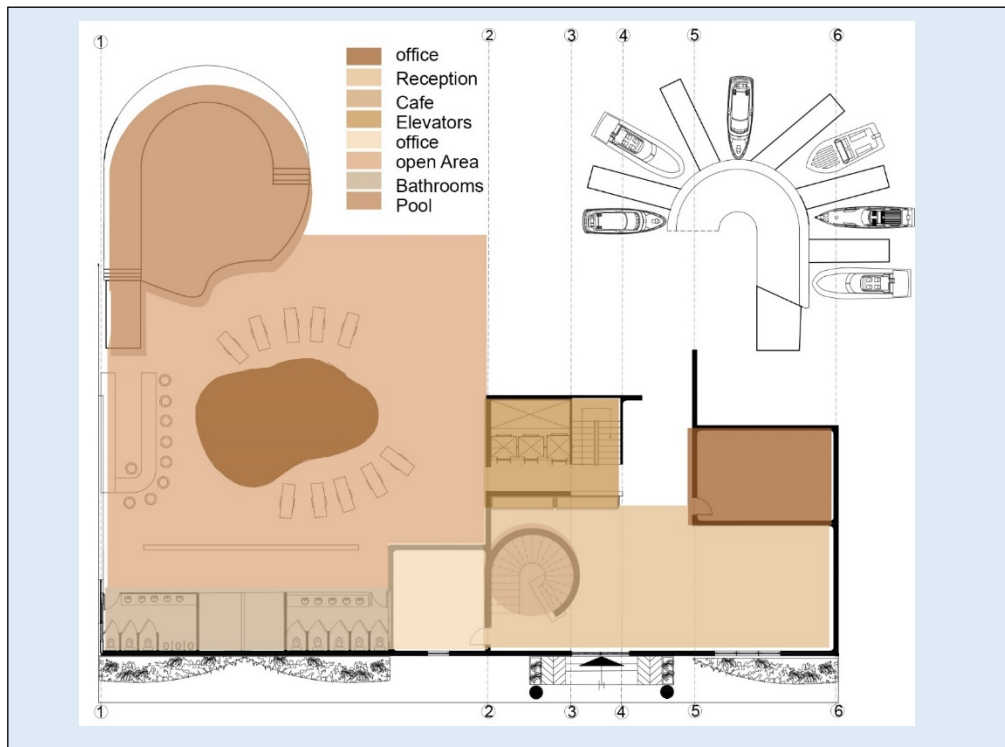


Figure (30) illustrates THE Zoning for the club.

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