**HAITIAN RECONSTRUCTION THRU EDUCATION**

**PLACE CONTEXT**

**HAITI**

Haiti is a Caribbean nation located in the western portion of the island of Hispaniola, which it shares with the Dominican Republic. It is the only permanently inhabited island divided by a country boundary. The island of Hispaniola is the second largest island in the Caribbean Basin, after Cuba. Haiti is the most densely populated Caribbean nation and is the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere. With a population of 10.5 million people, Haiti is the second most populous nation in the Caribbean after Cuba. It is a tropical island nation with diverse landscapes, including coastal plains, mountains, and forests. The capital city, Port-au-Prince, is located on the south coast of the island and is the largest city in Haiti. The country is known for its unique culture and history, including its role as the first independentBlack nation in the Americas. Regrettably, the January 12, 2010 earthquake devastated Haiti, killing 313,000 people, injuring 300,000, and making 1,000,000 homeless. According to the United Nations, the earthquake resulted in the death of over 200,000 people. The country continues to struggle with rebuilding efforts and recovery from the disaster.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION & PROGRAM**

**PETIT-GOÂVE**

Petit-Goâve is a coastal city, 47 miles (76 kilometers) west of Port-au-Prince, with a population of approximately 20,000 people. The town is one of the oldest cities of the country, and in 1822 it was named Goâve by the French. This city was hit by the earthquake. 4,577 houses destroyed, 14,000 houses damaged, 32 schools destroyed. 650 people killed, 4,000 severely injured. 100,000 people at risk. 3,000 doctors and nurses, 3,000 medical personnel from around the world have been working in this area. The government of Haiti has a very good record of helping the people who need it.

**PEOPLE**

The people who live in Petit-Goâve are hardworking, but the street safety and sanitation are lacking. Working man, in both rural and urban areas, men monopolize the job market. View of overcrowded tap-tap bus. View of Haitian woman and child preparing fish for the market. The government is trying to rebuild the city and make it safe for the people. The people are skilled and ready to work. They want to learn and work. They are waiting for the government to build schools and hospitals.

**INITIAL PATTERNS DESIGN DEVELOPMENT**

**PROPOSED SITE**

**PETIT-GOÂVE MAP**

**PROPOSED SITE**

**INITIAL PATTERNS DESIGN DEVELOPMENT**

The proposed project is a new type of school in Haiti, one that addresses the dire need for primary and secondary education in the island while also providing jobs and skills to the local community through its construction and ongoing maintenance. The school will be a model for other communities to follow, to be a school model that could be replicated in other towns, cities, and even countries.

**PROPOSED SITE**

**INITIAL PATTERNS DESIGN DEVELOPMENT**

The proposed school would consist of a central courtyard adjacent to it’s main administrative building and communal space that can be double as a town hall for the entire community. This space would not only serve as a space for local government meetings, but also as a space for community events and gatherings. The school would also serve as a model for other communities to follow, to be a school model that could be replicated in other towns, cities, and even countries.

**PATTERN LANGUAGE (RED INDICATES MAIN PATTERNS)**

**REGIONAL LEVEL**

**Distribution of Houses**

The distribution of houses is a critical issue in Haiti. The population is estimated to be around 7 million people, and the country is not able to provide for all of them. Therefore, the need for a better distribution of houses is a critical issue.

**URBAN LEVEL**

**Country Towns**

Housing for use is a family of which many are about three acres and other multi-family, and cottage houses are still common - a literal interpretation.

**LAKOU**

Lakous are small communities where people can teach and learn what they need without a rigid framework of course work to follow (see "Educational Communities").

**OTHER LEVELS**

**Built to Last**

Therefore; we must find a way to improve the concrete construction that is typical in Haiti. One way to do this is with confined masonry. Confined masonry construction is a method of construction that uses concrete blocks and steel reinforcement to improve the strength and durability of concrete building structures.

**Local Builders**

Because of the lack of skilled labor in Haiti, it is important to find ways to improve the quality of the concrete construction that is typical in the country. One way to do this is with confined masonry. Confined masonry construction is a method of construction that uses concrete blocks and steel reinforcement to improve the strength and durability of concrete building structures.

**Endnotes**


**References**