

Arch 574 **E2** Grad Studio
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Location: TBH 317 north

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THE **TOKYO** STUDIO

WELLNESS CENTER IN A VERTICAL URBAN PARK **AND** ART GALLERY AND CULTURAL CENTER IN A VERTICAL URBAN PARK (IN THE ERA OF PANDEMIC AND BEYOND)



| South site | North site |

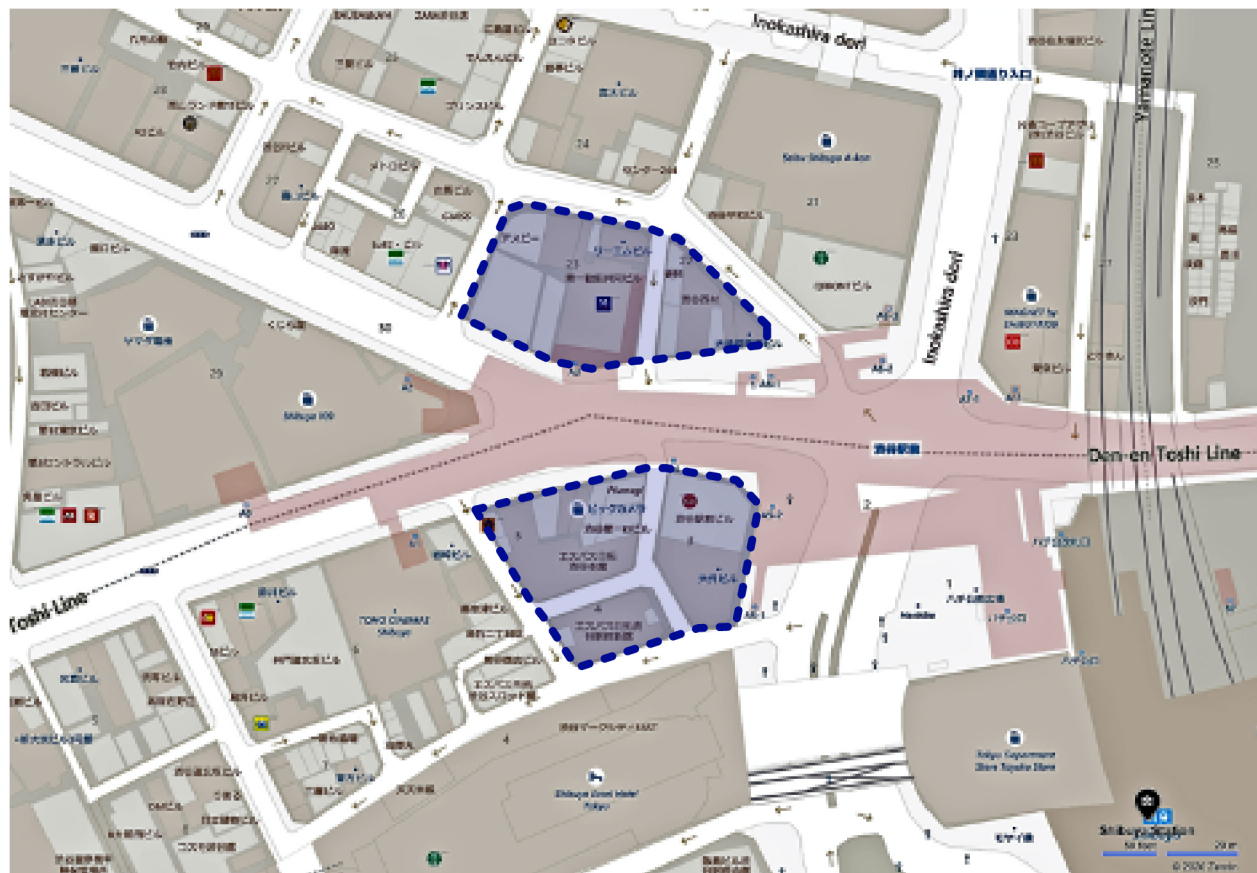
In the Tokyo Urban Studio, you will work on two sites across a main road next to the Station plaza in Shibuya, one of the busiest centers in this metropolis. In the first stage you, in teams of two, will do site analysis then in the second, develop an urban strategy addressing the major challenges of the 'related' sites in their urban context. After this stage, documented on small-scale diagrams and a 3D

model, each team will choose **ONE of the sites** with its own program then, in the third stage, design the designated architectural complex on it. Although, this work will need to take into consideration of the envisioned complex on the other site you completed in the first stage, modifications of the entire site strategy are possible even in this stage.

While Shibuya is developing fast with all new high-rise buildings, it lacks adequate greenery. The one and only small Miyashita Park (2011), designed by Atelier Bow Wow, has also fallen victim of the largescale development and replaced with a hotel recently. Considering these conditions, we in the Tokyo Studio, are proposing the construction of two Vertical Urban Parks each with an additional architectural component. Both architectural programs along with the uniquely configured green parks are to provide much needed refuge from the busy urban life around.

The Vertical Park on the **south** side of the road will work together with a **Wellness Center**. It features facilities for various therapies for regeneration of both mind and body, including yoga and meditation spaces, a small non-denominational chapel, Japanese bath (*osento*), Turkish bath (*hammam*), sauna, aroma bath, western bath with a swimming pool, water-exercise pools, a workout gym, and many others. The facility will work under the supervision of trainers and therapists, and even nurses and so, will include some limited medical facilities, too. A small library is also part of the program and so are a restaurant, cafés, and a limited number of commercial facilities which all will serve the purpose of the wellness center. However, this complex is neither a sports facility nor a medical clinic and, certainly not a Disneyland. The Park and most facilities are open to the general public, although the health center limits the number of admissions to avoid overcrowded places.

On the **north** side of the road the Vertical Park will team up with an **Art Gallery and Cultural Center** featuring permanent and temporary exhibition spaces, both indoor and outdoor (as an Art Park), and an auditorium. Supporting functions include, offices, meeting rooms, workshops, a small library, then a museum shop, two cafés, a buffet and storage, etc.



The Sites and their immediate vicinity (Map of measured sites is at the end of this document)