

2<sup>nd</sup> prize, Topic 1 Open Category

## Point in Time

**Shubin+Tan Landscape Architecture**, in collaboration with:

|             |                   |
|-------------|-------------------|
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### **Participants' Write Up:**

"Point in Time" draws on the historical, geographical and social heritage of Changi to provide climate, cultural and ecological resiliency for Changi Point.

The concept of connectivity through time and space alludes to Changi Point being at the intersection of a rich cultural past, a peaceful present and a future full of potential. The proposal is a series of three interconnected narratives and trails: one for the past, one for the present and one for the future. The pre-development swamp and mangrove habitats are restored, the colonial military settlement buildings are proposed as an active-ageing estate, a native coastal plant wellness centre promotes individual wellness while a team-building campus promotes community engagement.

Along the coast, a series of coastal protection measures are proposed to address climate change while complementing recreational activities such as sustainable seafood foraging in tidal pools and swimming in an ocean pool. The narrative comes full circle as the restored swamp and mangrove are designed as habitats for fireflies to inhabit Changi's Fairy Point and for the mythical tigers to roam Changi once more.

The proposal is for international visitors looking for a taste of Changi's robust culture, as well as for residents ready to rediscover tropical life in Singapore.

### **Jury Citation:**

The jury singled out this scheme for its distinctive and detailed ideas that included strong place-making and programmatic proposals. Most notable were its efforts to relate visitors to the past, present and future of the site, as well as improve access to the coast. While the jury praised the boldness of the ideas, there were some reservations on the appropriateness of the tiger conservatory and colonial museum.



# POINT IN TIME



*"The females [tigers] were said to swim over from Johor, making a stop at Pulau Ubin (possibly attracted by the wild pigs and deer) before completing their journey to Singapore. They would arrive at Fairy Point and give birth in the neighbourhood."*

(2016, Cornelius-Takahama)

## The Project Journey

At the far-flung eastern reaches of Singapore, Changi Point lies at the intersection of a rich cultural past, a present peaceful environment, and a future full of potential. Our proposal is a curated journey that begins with the colourful natural and colonial military history of yesterday. Visitors next meander through a present-day active retirement village grown from the roots of British colonial settlement. Then on to a wellness centre to experience the healing properties of native coastal plants or out to the water's edge to forage sustainably for seafood. Finally, the journey steps into tomorrow's vision of a City in Nature where Fairy Point comes to life with fireflies, and the mythical Malayan Tiger makes a return to its historical homeland. All this charming exploration is welcome to both Airport visitors looking for a taste of Changi's robust culture along with residents eager to rediscover the wonders of tropical life here in Singapore.

## Project Summary

The proposal draws upon the historical, geographical and social heritage of Changi to provide climate, cultural and ecological resiliency to the future of Changi Point.

### PRE-1927

#### RAINFORESTS & KAMPUNGS

Before development, Changi was a lush forest and mangrove swamp with wild animals and kampung villages. People relied on the mangroves and sea for survival. Around the turn of the century, Changi was even known as a hunt of tigers.

### 1927-1942

#### ARTILLERY BASE

In the 1920s, the area was converted into a defense fortress. Clearing of the forest and mangrove began. By the mid-1930s, the military facilities at Changi were ready. The year 1941 marked the completion of Changi as a self-contained base.

### 1942-1945

#### JAPANESE OCCUPATION

During World War II, the Japanese occupied Singapore. Changi became a gigantic prison camp. By late February 1942, over 50,000 Allied prisoners of war (POWs) had to march to Changi and stayed for the duration of the war.

### 1946-1971

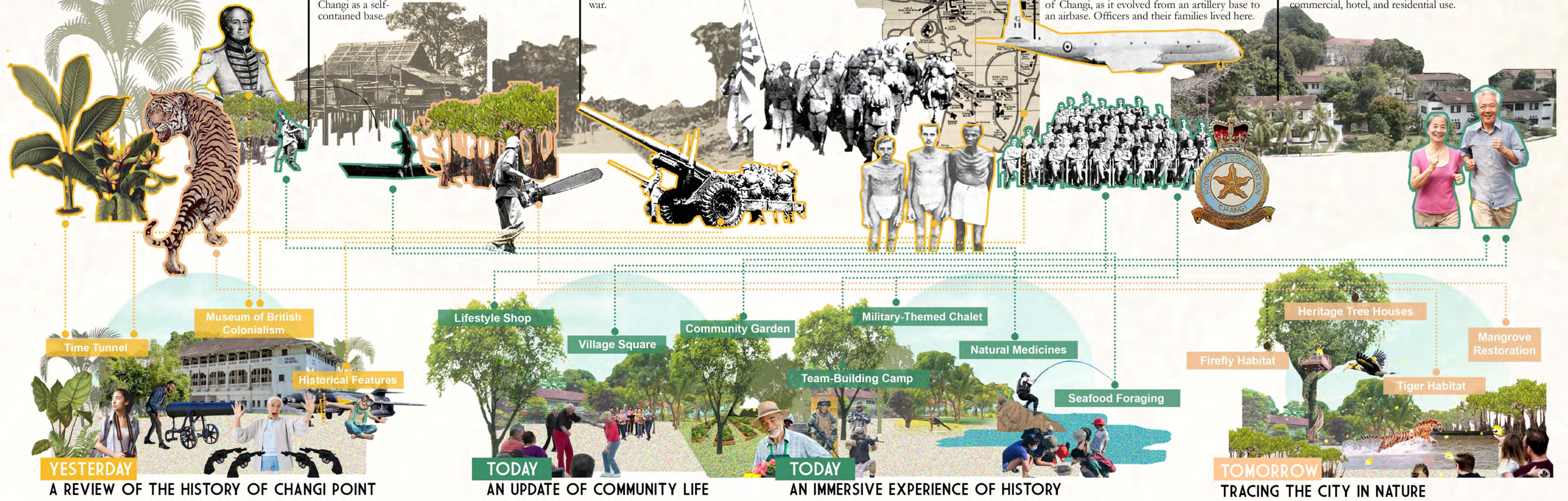
#### ROYAL AIR FORCE

After the war, British forces controlled Changi once again. The Royal Air Force (RAF) capitalized on the airstrip built during the war. The change permanently transformed the face of Changi, as it evolved from an artillery base to an airbase. Officers and their families lived here.

### 1971-TODAY

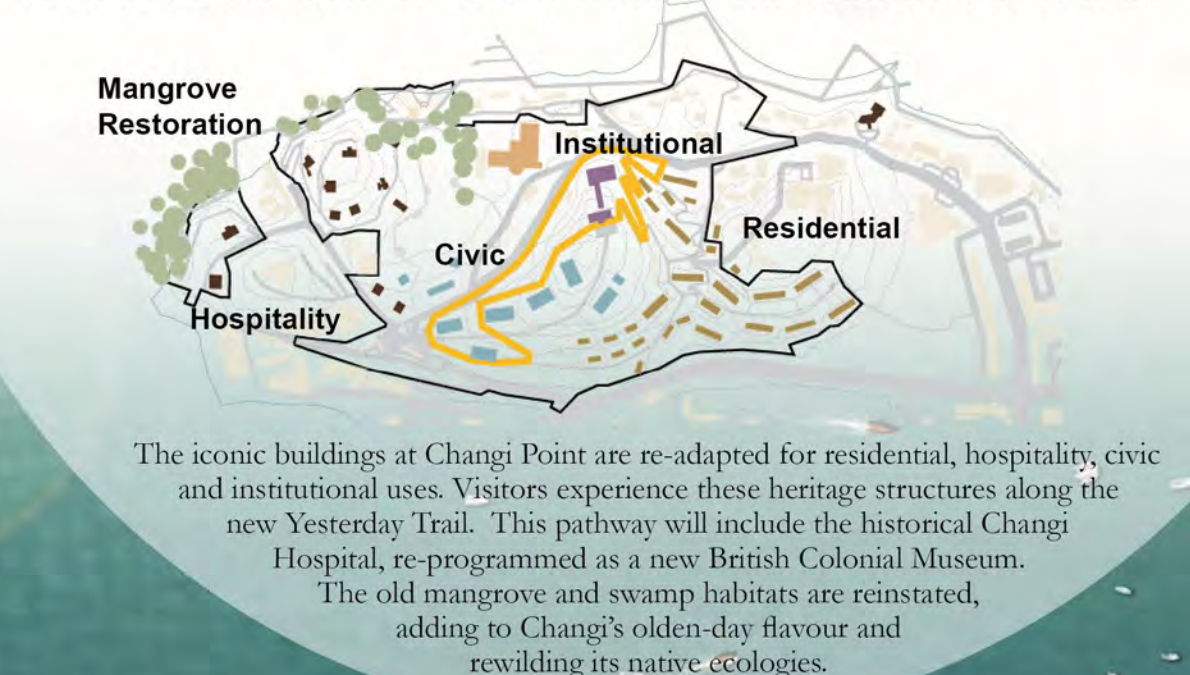
#### RESORT & RESIDENTIAL

The RAF Airbase was handed over to the Singapore Armed Forces (SAF) in 1971 after the withdrawal of the British military. The history of colonial Changi finally came to an end. Most buildings in Changi Point are presently for commercial, hotel, and residential use.



## CONNECT TO YESTERDAY

### ADAPTIVE RE-USE OF BUILDINGS & RE-WILDING THE LAND



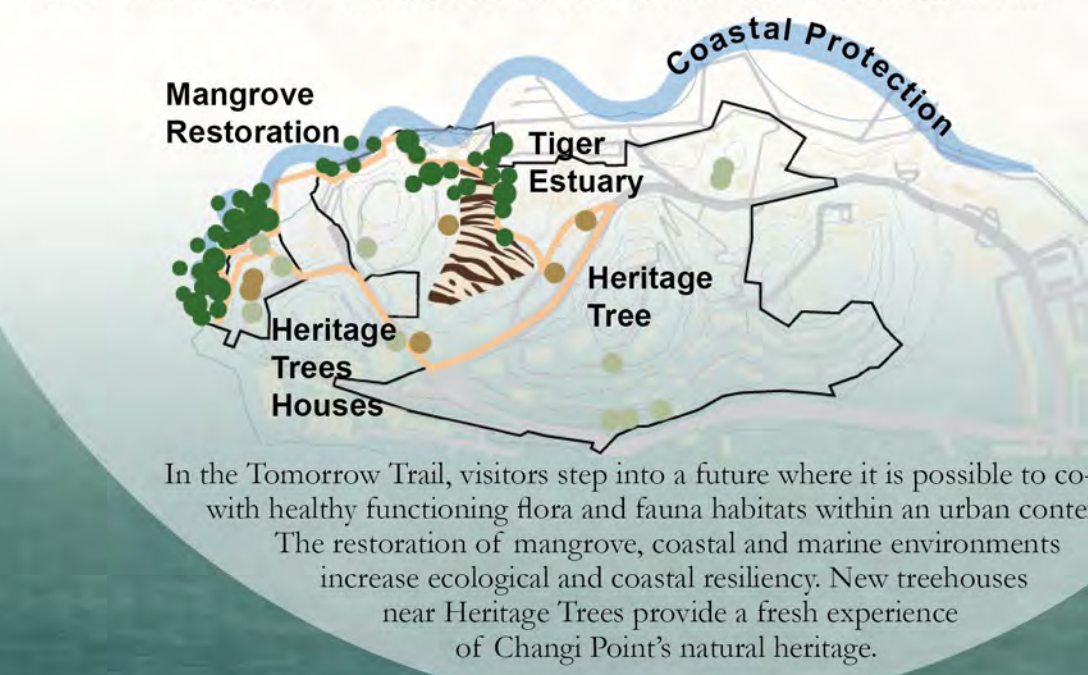
## CONNECT TO TODAY

### ENGAGING VISITORS & LOCAL COMMUNITIES



## CONNECT TO TOMORROW

### COASTAL PROTECTION & HABITAT REGENERATION



## CONNECT TO THE POINT



Three interactive walking trails are proposed with the themes of "Yesterday", "Today", and "Tomorrow", offering different experiences with each visit. By leveraging on the URA plans for land reclamation, a new coastal promenade and boardwalk stitch together the eastern and western ends of Changi Point with a string of coastal typologies and programmes.

## CONNECT TO THE VILLAGE



Visitors may arrive at Changi Point from three directions: Changi Village (from the east), Sealand Road (from the centre road) or the new Hub Plaza at Cranwell Road (from the west). Connectivity between Changi Point and Changi Village is made more convenient through seamless pathway networks. Netheravon Road is closed to vehicles at the western end to prioritize pedestrian and cyclist circulation (via the Round Island Route). Cars are re-routed to the main loop along Sealand Road.

## CONNECT TO THE AIRPORT



Fifteen minutes by car from Changi Airport and 10 minutes by bus from the future Loyang MRT Station, Changi Point offers a layover destination for international travellers looking for a more authentic Singapore experience. For locals, it will continue to provide a refreshing respite from the city life.

## CONNECTIVITY

- 1 The Hub Plaza
- 2 Coastal Trail Boardwalk & Promenade
- 3 Sealand Road Drop-off
- 4 Pedestrian Path to Changi Village

## YESTERDAY

- 5 Time Tunnel
- 6 RAF HQ
- 7 Museum of British Colonialism

## TODAY

- 8 Lifestyle Shops
- 9 Village Square
- 10 Community & Healthcare Centre
- 11 Rest Pavilions
- 12 Gardening Plots
- 13 Medicinal Garden
- 14 Natural Wellness Centre & Spa
- 15 Military-Themed Chalets
- 16 Team-Building Camp

## TOMORROW

- 17 Tiger Conservation Centre
- 18 Tiger Estuary (Habitat Sanctuary)
- 19 Cub-Themed Playground
- 20 Heritage Tree Hotels
- 21 Fireflies at Fairy Point
- 22 Beach at Changi Beach Club
- 23 Floating Docks & Coral Habitat
- 24 Public Beach
- 25 Ocean Pool & Sunrise Deck
- 26 Tidal Pools
- 27 Fishing Point
- 28 Existing Seagrass Area



# POINT IN TIME

The **military history-themed chalets** and adjacent outdoor **team-building camp** offer visitors the experience to grow in the service values of duty, respect, integrity, and personal courage.

The old barracks are re-programmed as an **active ageing neighbourhood**. An estimated 94 units provide seniors with a home and communal facilities such as a healthcare centre and community gardens along Pavon Road. Visitors are welcomed into the community to appreciate the charming black and white bungalows set amongst the lush greenery.

Visitors walk through the **Time Tunnel** to learn about the primary chronological milestones of Changi Point in the tropical forest setting. Along this trail are artefacts such as artillery batteries representing the establishment of the RE Kitchener Barracks and life-sized motifs depicting the Japanese Occupation. At 36 Hendon Road, historic aircraft are on display to showcase the presence of the **Royal Air Force** up till 1971. The former Changi Hospital will house the **Museum of British Colonialism**, providing an in-depth exploration of how colonialism in Singapore has transformed the nation's landscape.

## HERITAGE TRAIL HIGHLIGHTS

Three walking trails are proposed with the themes of **"Yesterday"**, **"Today"**, and **"Tomorrow"**, offering different experiences with each visit. Together, the trails form a 3.8km loop through Changi Point.

Visitors leave the city and enter Changi Point at the **Hub Plaza** at Cranwell Road. This central plaza reduces vehicular traffic within Changi Point by offering bus stops, passenger drop-off, car parking and bicycle rentals at one location. With a sheltered information point, all three pedestrian trails of "yesterday", "today", and "tomorrow" start and end at the Hub.

Food security, culture and environmental awareness are featured in crafted tidal pools along the crescent beach between the new headlands. The management of these rocky aquatic habitats will be for the sustainable foraging of seafood, such as shellfish and molluscs, by rotating sectors open to the public.

Singapore's first ocean pool is proposed on the new headland, providing a singular swimming experience. The exercise deck will be the northern-most point in Changi, affording views of sunrise.

The **Heritage Tree Houses** along the trail are living features from the past enjoyed as a hospitality experience. These structures are private hotel accommodations built around the large trees to provide a novel nature interaction with a view.

At Fairy Point, real fairies (*Pteroptix* species) appear at night after the established **firefly habitat** is grown. This intertidal environment will extend the coastline outwards. Mangrove trees and associated flora will act as host and display trees for the fireflies.

Species recovery programme for fireflies by introducing host and display trees

Boardwalk for spotting wildlife

Mangrove extended by filling seawards

**COASTAL PROTECTION: RESTORE**  
Mangroves thrive and reduce erosion when muddy and rocky substrates are filled along the sea edge.

**COASTAL PROTECTION: TOP UP**  
The rough surfaces of the breakwaters act as sheltered rocky habitat for marine life and this is coupled with beach nourishment.

**COASTAL PROTECTION: ADAPT**  
Floodable and living mangrove swamps respond to changing water levels.

**COASTAL PROTECTION: CREATE**  
Floating docks provide areas close to the water's surface for corals to grow.

**COASTAL PROTECTION: LIFT**  
Beach nourishment is coupled with a new raised promenade.

**COASTAL PROTECTION: FORTIFY**  
Headlands protect sandy beaches and provide a rocky habitat for marine life such as oysters.

**COASTAL PROTECTION: RE-CREATE**  
Rocky tidal pools provide access to the water while providing hard structures for shore protection.

**COASTAL PROTECTION: RAISE**  
The existing boardwalk and rip rap wall are sufficiently high to protect against sea-level rise.

**COASTAL PROTECTION: PRESERVE**  
The existing seagrass meadow is preserved and protects against erosion.

