GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Low impact development
Sustainable design - local materials
Preservation of existing vegetation
Avoid wildlife barriers
Connectivity
Connect villa and provide interaction between the two
Connect villa to town and surrounding area
Connect villa to landscape
Embracing History and Culture
Preservation of Historical character
Re-use of original materials
Create a sense of place
Holistic healthy lifestyle
Enhance physical and social health
Create connection and respect for the environment
Create a sense of belonging that evokes the continued need for a healthier way of life

PROJECT STATEMENT

The land surrounding Casa Margherita will be designed to embrace and enhance the relaxation and restoration atmosphere of the villa. It will work to promote the ideals of harmony and balance as seen symbolically through the iconic linden tree. It will work to incorporate the history and culture of the region thereby enhancing and preserving its sense of place. All of this will be achieved through a low-impact development and sustainable design.

PROGRAMMING

Objective
Experience
Recreation
Use and reuse of local materials
To create a space that not only helps the local economy but also helps to preserve the botanical diversity of the site.
Preserve native plantings
To create an area where the plantings not only provide the purpose of being aesthetically pleasing but also serve a purpose as a foodsource.
To create a clear path for easy access linking both villas together.
To ensure access allowing guests can enjoy and enjoy from surroundings of the espacio and nature.

Increase accessibility by vehicles
To create attention to the site and providing areas of easy accessibility for guests to enter.

Provide areas on easy access to areas that promote physical health
To create a path system as well as access to the surrounding path systems to provide areas for guests to enjoy exercising their physical health.

Sustainable energy
To provide sustainable positions of creating energy to follow the ratio of the site.

Creating on-site area
To use local materials and incorporate the spaces into the existing landscape.

Providing spaces for the expenditure of horses in the premises
To provide an area for the future ownership of horses for guests to enjoy and enjoy an additional activity.

Use of appropriate plantings
To create areas of plantings that reflect the history and sense of place but also are located appropriately.

MASTER PLAN

The image in the top left corner represents the first concept that was created for the site. The alternative plan created was chosen for the project because it was a more simple stronger design. The linear forms in the bottom left corner were used to help define the architecture into the landscape and create more intimate spaces in the landscape. As the forms progressed up the hill they become more natural and fractal in the landscape.
CASA MARGHARITA
Italy Studio Summer 2016
Celeste Valle

PERSPECTIVES

A. The perspective above shows the secondary drop off site of the Casa. This allows for some people to drop off guests and luggage near the lobby but it also allows for easier access for maintenance vehicles. All the utilities of the building are located along the building that falls under the pool deck so easy access to these is desirable. The call-out images show a loose representation of what the center planting area is envisioned to look like and the other call-out shows a picture of the symbolic linden tree of Casa Margherita.

B. The perspective above illustrates the pool area. The pool reflects the geometric forms that can be found throughout the entire area below the retaining wall. Also displayed within the perspective is how the landscape is carried out over the pool deck incorporating the deck into the landscape. The image on the left shows the vision of the pool and how the hot tub spa would be incorporated into the pool. The image on the right shows how the stairs would look with the turf extending out onto the deck area.

C. The perspective above shows how the area above the retaining wall would look. The users of the site would come up the stairs hidden in the wall to find that the trees and landscape open up above to reveal an open green space with a pond at the opposite end. The left image demonstrates what the hidden pathway that can be found along the edge of the open green space would look like as you walk through the wooded area. The image on the right demonstrates visually the contrast between the vastness of the green open space against the dense forested background.

D. The above perspective shows what the pond area would look like with its rocky interwoven edges that would wrap around to the back area of the pond where the change in elevation occurs. The image on the left demonstrates how the back wall of the pond contains a grotto element that can only be reached by row boat across the pond. The right image shows what the edge of the pond looks like and how the niche step down to meet the water level.

E. The perspective above illustrates the outdoor eating and activity area located just East of the building. The space provides large areas for gatherings but with the placement of plantings it also provides more intimate spaces as well. The image on the left shows the vision of how the pergola would look planted with vines growing on it. The right image shows how the retaining wall would look with the stairs built into them. This retaining wall would stay as the existing stone and the stairs would also be constructed of the existing stone.

F. The perspective above demonstrates how the terraces gradually step down the landscape creating the main entrance area. As they reach the bottom there is one set of stairs along a retaining wall that leads to the parking lot. The terracing with the plantings not only provides a practical and aesthetic view for the landscape but it also helps to hide the view of the cars. The image on the left shows the inspiration for the terraces found at Villa Farnese. The image on the right illustrates what the retaining wall with the stairs at the base of the parking lot would look like.
The sections in the top right corner demonstrate how the design works with the land and how the change in elevation occurs with them. The section on the left demonstrates a cross section of the formal entry to the courtyard all the way from the parking lot. It shows how the terraces step down and interact with the loop that is used by the cars. The section on the right demonstrates the pond and how it is cut into the hill side as the topography gradually gets steeper the farther back the pond reaches. The smaller construction document shows demonstrates the idea of misters being placed in the wall as you walked up the stairs and into the open green space where the pond is found. The misters would help to create a mysterious feeling and cooling effect as you walked through them into the hidden area beyond. The larger construction document demonstrates how the pond would be constructed so that the elevation met with the proposed design and how the grotto would be built into the back wall.