

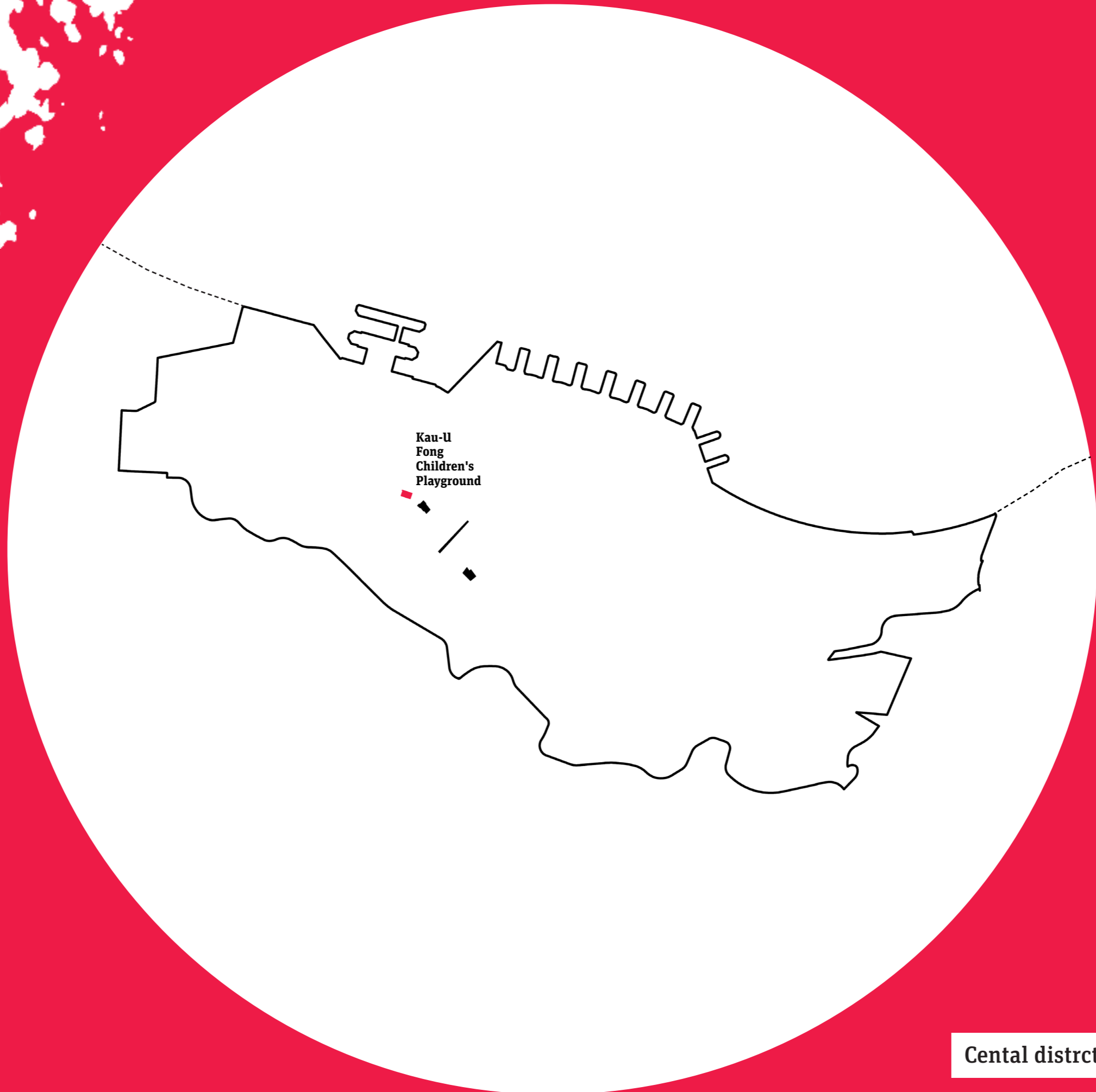


# Kau-U Fong Children's Playground

Site 02.



Hong Kong island



Kau-U  
Fong  
Children's  
Playground

Central district in Hong Kong island

# Description

## Kau-U Fong Children's Playground

### Site Condition

This children's playground is in between the districts of Central and Sheung Wan, situated along Kau U Fong, a dead-end street. The space is surrounded by several restaurants, some of them very popular, and a four-star hotel.

Close to the only access of Kau U Fong Children's Playground, there is the Central District Health Centre, an out-patient clinic that serves this popular residential area. The public space is fenced by a thick steel railing and is open from 7 am to 10 pm. Its flat surface of almost 600 sq m is easily accessible from the street and provides various types of facilities for kids and elderly people, including swings and slides as well as chess tables, benches, and a pebble walking pavement.

The static layout of this park, enclosed by walls, neither encourages flexible usage nor promotes a diverse and vibrant urban environment. Furthermore, at different times of the day, there is a disturbing smell coming from the exhausted pipes of the restaurants on the opposite side of the street.

### Activities

Similar to other public open spaces in the area, Kau U Fong is very quiet, and the data collected during the survey revealed a low level of attraction and density of use.

The main users of the park are senior citizens living in the neighbourhood and people who work in the restaurants, offices and construction sites nearby. We observed no difference in uses between weekdays and weekends. And comparing with the playground, the benches outside form a popular spot for sitting, eating a quick lunch, and smoking cigarettes (smoking is prohibited inside the playground).

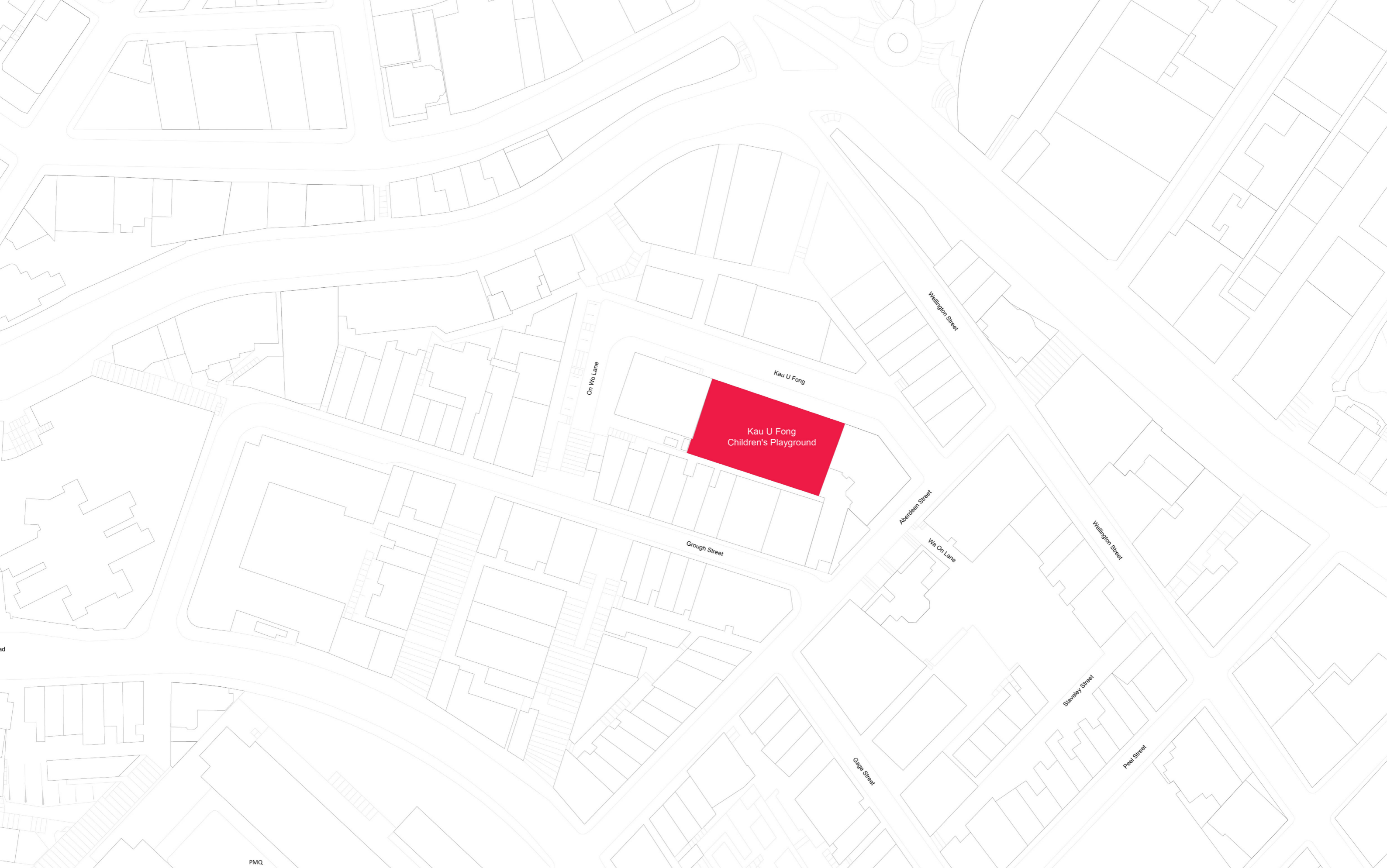
Despite its name, this children's playground is used more often by the aged. During our observation, we noticed only a few children using the swing or slide and mainly on weekdays,

*" we noticed only a few children using the swing or slide and mainly on weekdays, whereas senior citizens of the neighbourhood would spend time in the playground chatting and playing chess"*

whereas senior citizens of the neighbourhood would spend time in the playground chatting and playing chess, forming small groups to stay for two or three hours. Usually, the playground gets quiet at night with few visitors. One of the most popular facilities of Kau U Fong is the toilet, which is highly used at different times of the day; the workers may also take a shower or wash their boots there after a day of working.

This playground seems not very popular for Filipino domestic workers to gather, while our studies also revealed similar groups of users during weekdays and weekends.

Kau U Fong Children's Playground, like the other three sites of this competition, represents an opportunity to experiment with innovative interventions that could potentially change the aspect of this strategic area of the city.



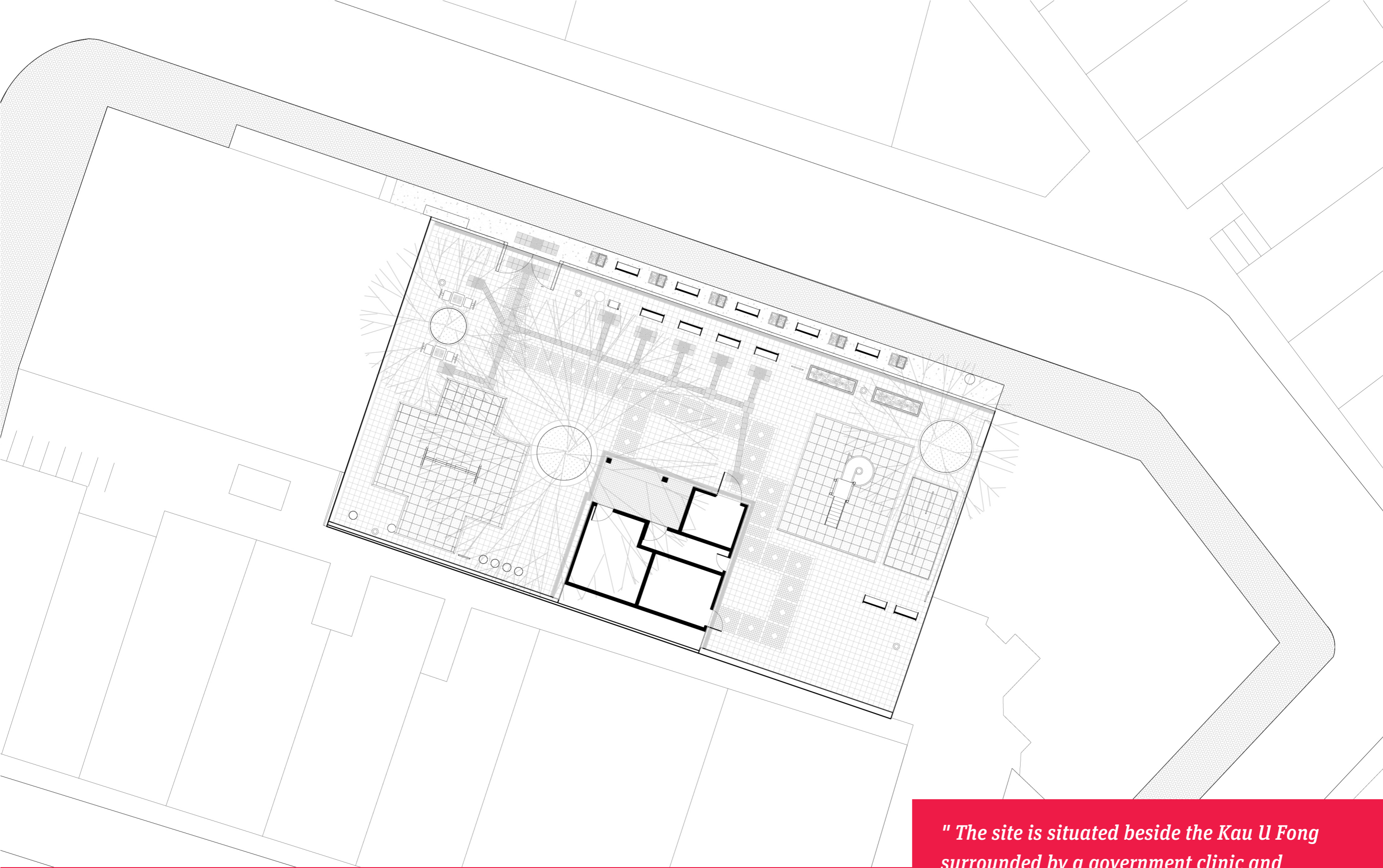
PMQ

Site plan of kau-U Fong children's playground



0m

20m



*" The site is situated beside the Kau U Fong surrounded by a government clinic and residential buildings."*

Plan of kau-U Fong children's playground



*" There are swings and slides for children as well as chess tables, benches, and pebble walking pavement for the elderlies. Public toilets are also provided."*

Isometric of kau-U Fong children's playground



01. Panorama of kau-U Fong children's playground



Lok Hing Lane Garden





School of Architecture  
THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

