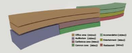
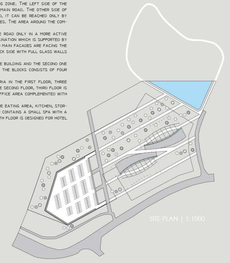
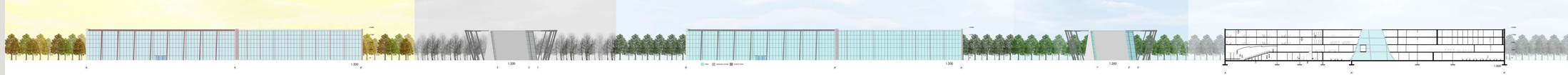
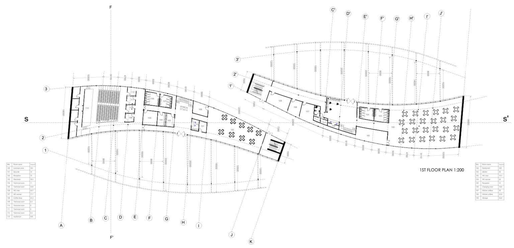
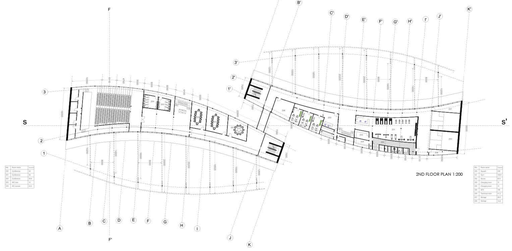
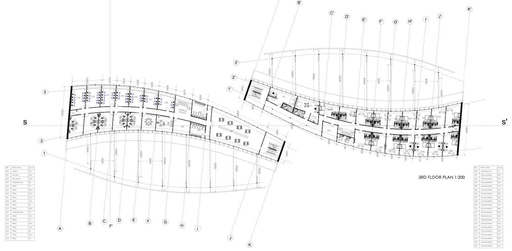
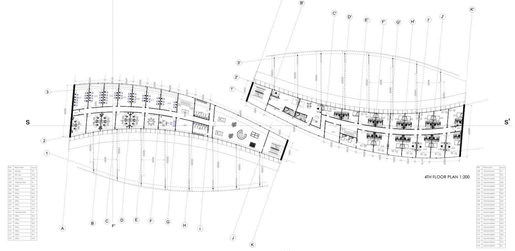
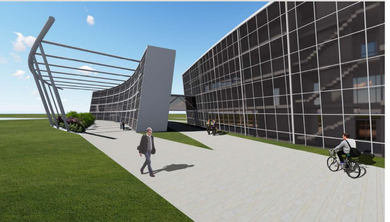
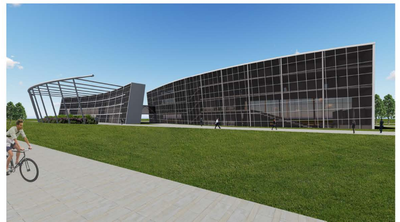
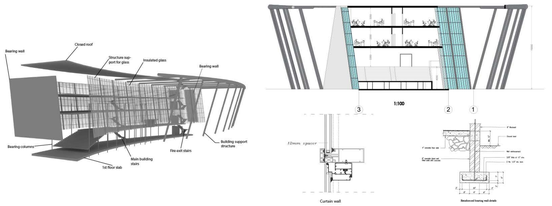
GATEWAY TO BIRSTONAS

HICHAM HAZIM

GATEWAY TO BIRSTONAS IS A PROJECT DESIGNED FOR THE BALNEOLOGICAL RESORT AND SPA TOWN BIRSTONAS. THE AIM OF THE PROJECT WAS TO DESIGN A MULTI-FUNCTIONAL PUBLIC BUILDING COMPLEX WITH A HOTEL, OFFICE AND RESTAURANT FACILITIES.
THE SITE IS AN OPEN FIELD NEXT TO THREE LAKES. IT PLACES THE FOREST FROM THE NORTH SIDE, THE ROAD FROM THE SOUTH AND THE CITY FROM THE EAST. THE MAIN IDEA WAS TO DESIGN AN OPEN SHAPE THAT COULD CONNECT WITH NATURAL SURROUNDINGS THEREFORE GETTING THE VIEWS AND FEELING OF NATURE.
THE SITE IS DIVIDED INTO TWO PARTS: GREEN ZONE AND PARKING ZONE. THE LEFT SIDE OF THE SITE IS DESIGNED FOR PARKING TO WHICH YOU ENTER FROM THE MAIN ROAD. THE OTHER SIDE OF THE SITE IS DESIGNED FOR PEDESTRIANS AND BICYCLES. IT CAN BE REACHED ONLY BY WALKING ROADS WHICH CAN BE USED BY PEDESTRIANS AND BICYCLES. THE AREA AROUND THE COMPLEX IS SURROUNDED BY TREES AND PLACES FOR PEOPLE TO SIT.
THE COMPLEX IS MADE TO FOLLOW THE MAIN AXE WHICH IS THE ROAD ONLY IN A MORE ACTIVE LINE. THE BUILDING IS NOT STRAIGHT BUT OBLIQUE WITH AN INCLINATION WHICH IS SUPPORTED BY A STRUCTURE THAT IS SYMMETRIC TO THE INCLINATION. THE TWO MAIN FACADES ARE FACING THE ROAD FROM THE FRONT AND THE LAKE AND FOREST FROM THE BACK SIDE WITH FULL GLASS WALLS SUPPORTED BY METAL STRUCTURES.
THE COMPLEX CONTAINS TWO BLOCKS: THE FIRST ONE IS IT OFFICE BUILDING AND THE SECOND ONE IS A HOTEL MEANT FOR EMPLOYEES' ACCOMMODATION. EACH OF THE BLOCKS CONSISTS OF FOUR FLOORS.
THE OFFICE BUILDING CONTAINS A COMMON AREA WITH CAFETERIA IN THE FIRST FLOOR, THREE CONFERENCES ROOMS AND AN AUDITORIUM FOR 250 PEOPLE IN THE SECOND FLOOR, THIRD FLOOR IS FOR OFFICE AREA WITH A LIBRARY, FOURTH FLOOR IS ALSO AN OFFICE AREA COMPLEMENTED WITH A GYM AND SPA.
THE FIRST FLOOR OF THE HOTEL IS THE RESTAURANT AREA WHERE EATING AREA, KITCHEN, STORAGE ROOMS, CHANGING ROOMS ARE LOCATED. THE SECOND FLOOR CONTAINS A SMALL SPA WITH A GYM AND TWO SQUASH ROOMS AND A SAUNA AND THIRD AND FOURTH FLOOR IS DESIGNED FOR HOTEL ROOMS.