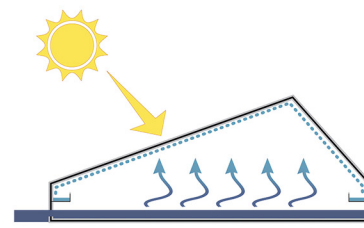


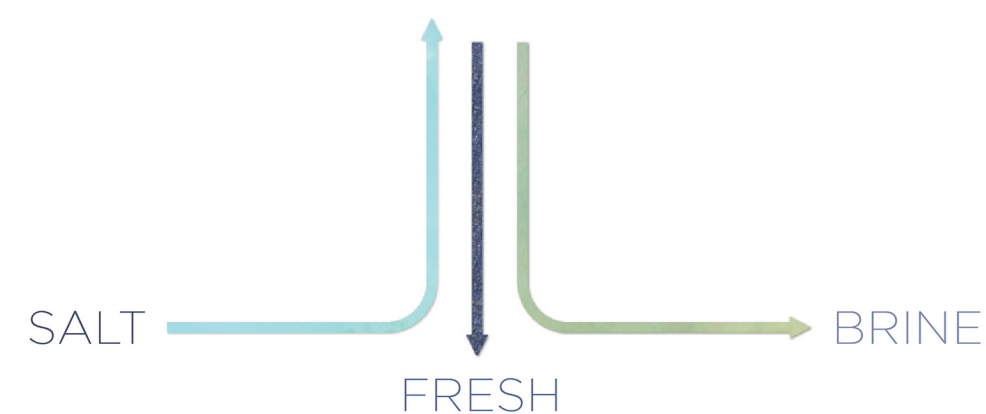
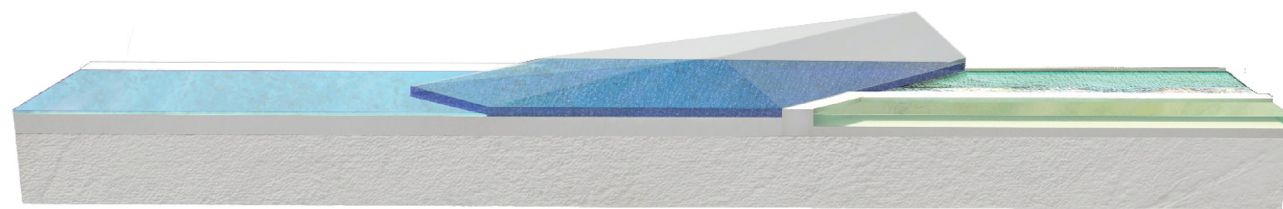
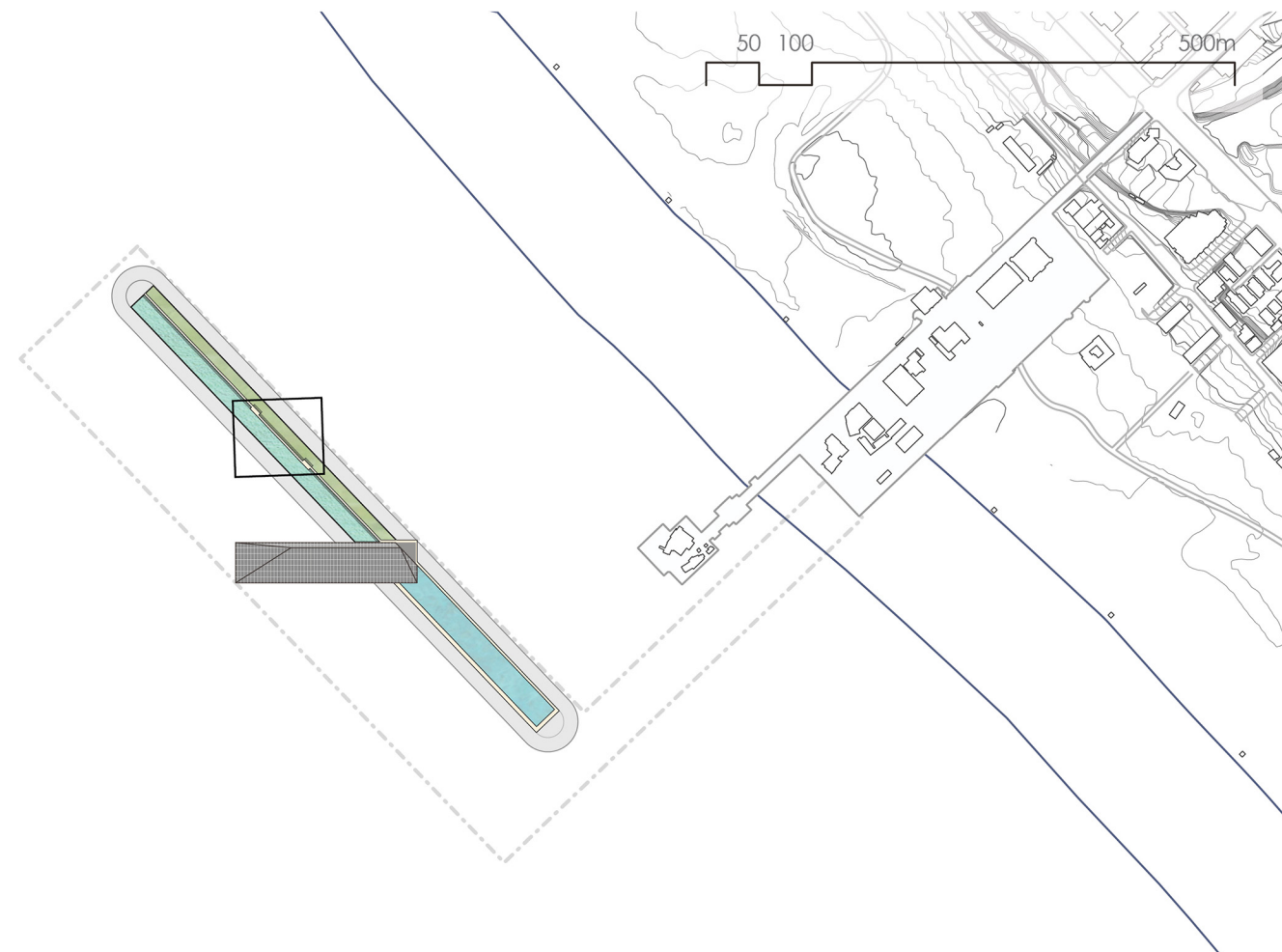
THE OCEAN STILL:

Lagrimas de Santa Monica

The twin springs that inspired Santa Monica's name were fabled to be the tears of a saint. At a time of growing thirst in California, The Ocean Still augments this sacred source of water by transforming seawater into freshwater, using only the energy of the sun.



A large, transparent enclosure -- a solar still perched on the old breakwater -- makes a surface for collecting the saint's pure tears once again. This simple, pre-modern technology concentrates sunlight, distills saltwater, and condenses freshwater on a glass shell. The entire breakwater structure, including the passive solar still and its complex of pools, celebrates water's many forms as well as the residue of desalination. The process provides generously, quenching the thirst of the 45,000 daily visitors to the Santa Monica Pier and The Ocean Still.



The sustainability of the project relies on fostering connection to all aspects of the desalination process: products and byproducts are celebrated, none are vilified nor ignored.

The Breakwater pool complex is open year-round, feeding ocean water into the still and slowly releasing the brine by-product back into the ocean. Height-specific, gravity-driven conduits guide seawater, distillate, and brine through the complex; separate by virtue of their salinity.

The slow reclamation of diluted brine back to the Pacific prevents dead zones associated with industrial desalination. The shallow slope of sand and gravel at the Mixing Beach creates a protected habitat for marine fauna, and an idyllic floating coast for California sunbathers.

