PROPOSED MULTI-SPECIALIST HOSPITAL IN PORT HARCOURT, NIGERIA: TOWARDS INTEGRATING BIOPHILIC DESIGN FOR WELLBEING.

BY

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A DISSERTATION SUBMITTED TO THE SCHOOL OF POST GRADUATE STUDIES, IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AWARD OF DEGREE OF MASTERS OF SCIENCE (M.Sc.) IN ARCHITECTURE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE, COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, COVENANT UNIVERSITY OTA, OGUN STATE, NIGERIA

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NOVEMBER, 2020

DECLARATION

I, ASINOBI, Alma Amarachi (14CA017476), of the Department of Architecture, College of Science and Technology, Covenant University, Ota, Ogun state, hereby declare that the information contained in this dissertation work is the result of an honest academic research undertaken by me. I attest that the dissertation has not been presented wholly or partially Lfor the award of any degree elsewhere. All sources of data and scholarly dissertation information used in this dissertation are duly acknowledged.

Asinobi Alma Amarachi ……...

Signature & Date

CERTIFICATION

I certify that this dissertation titled "Proposed Multi-Specialist Hospital In Port Harcourt, Nigeria: Towards Integrating Biophilic Design For Wellbeing" is an original research work carried out by ASINOBI, Alma Amarachi (14CA017476), in the Department of Architecture, College of Science and Technology, Covenant University, Ota, Ogun state, Nigeria, under the supervision of Dr Isidore C. Ezema.

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ACCEPTANCE

This is to attest that this thesis was carried out by ASINOBI ALMA AMARACHI, has met the required standard for the award of the degree of Master of Science [M.Sc.] in Architecture and has been accepted by the School of Postgraduate Studies, Covenant University, Ota, Ogun state.

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Secretary, School of Postgraduate Studies Signature & date

Prof. A. H. Adebayo ...……

Dean, School of Postgraduate Studies Signature & date

DEDICATION

This design thesis is dedicated to the glory of God, the service of humanity, community of Architecture and the people of Port-Harcourt.

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ABSTRACT

In response to the evolution and modification of human needs and priorities, the built environment has evolved over time from simple unplanned dwellings to more complex organized ones, and it has now been made obvious that man's basic need for shelter involves more than just a roof over his head - it has become a foundation for his health and overall well-being, even more so in hospital environments and healthcare facilities. Therefore, the need for intentional design of healthcare facilities that can cater to the wellbeing needs of people, passively, while performing its mainstream healthcare functions has arisen, especially in Southern Nigeria where the black soot menace has plagued the air. One of the ways to achieving this is by integrating nature into the environment and this approach is Biophilic Design which uses nature in the space, nature of the space and natural analogues to improve wellbeing.

The aim of this research is to investigate the impact of biophilic design principles on human health and wellbeing with a view to applying same to the design of a multi-specialist hospital in Port-Harcourt, Rivers State, Nigeria. This study employed both quantitative and qualitative research methods which include a questionnaire-based survey in 4 selected hospitals in Nigeria and case studies of 6 selected hospitals to identify biophilic design strategies and the extent of their application, as well as users' perception of the impact on their wellbeing. Findings show that most hospitals in Nigeria are designed with minimal biophilic features and therefore only moderately impacts on the wellbeing of their users. This study has developed an architectural design of a multi-specialist hospital that employs biophilic design strategies to improve wellbeing of the users.

Key Words: Biophilic Design, Wellbeing, Multi-Specialist Hospital, Port-Harcourt