

LIVING LEGACY

Rethinking architecture for contemporary transition into death

Supervisors:
Lisbeth Funck, Matthew Anderson

Binder 02
Jetmir Vishi

Diploma fall 2024

Abstract

This project deals with the creation of a comprehensive funeral home focused on a relatively new approach to funeral disposition called "Natural Organic Reduction," or, in simpler terms, human composting.

Using the inherent qualities of composting and the novelty of a new funeral disposition, this project will seek to question our society's existing options for dealing with the deceased and explore how architecture, spacemaking and ritualization could be used to redefine the contemporary farewell process. The intention is that by using the byproduct of NOR, which is soil, as an active component throughout the process of creating this funeral home, the bereaved can more closely connect the passing of their loved ones with the natural cycles of nature. In an attempt to meet their spiritual needs through spatial experience.

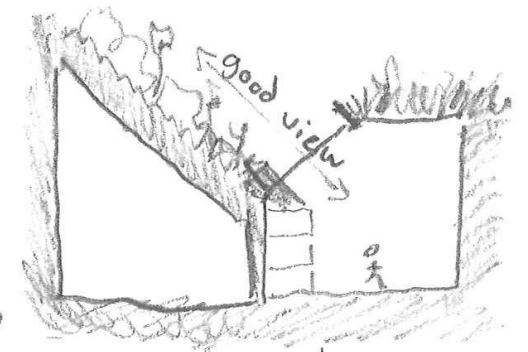
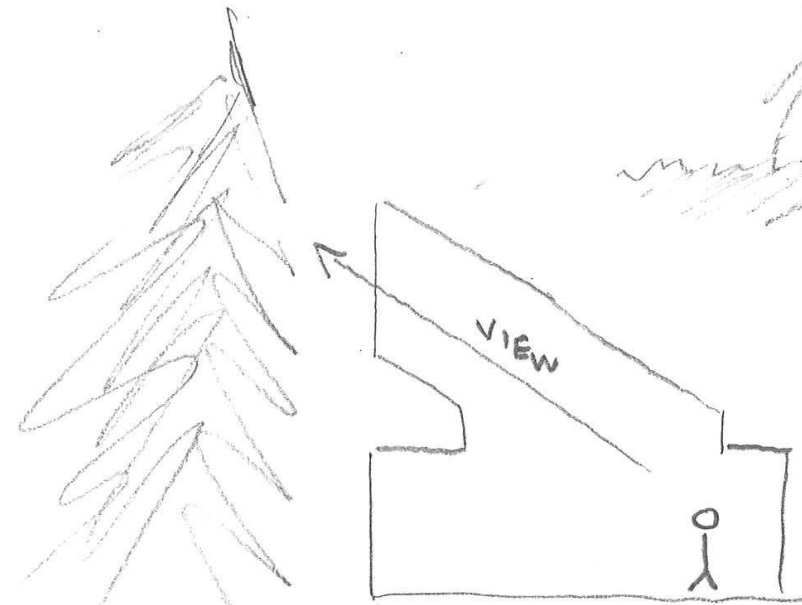
This process unfolds across four distinct visits, each designed to guide mourners through a journey of closure and commemoration. The first visit focuses on viewing and bidding farewell, followed by a celebration of life in the second. The third visit centers on a memorial experience intertwined with witnessing the cycles of nature, while the fourth visit involves the establishment of a living legacy.

Binder 2
January

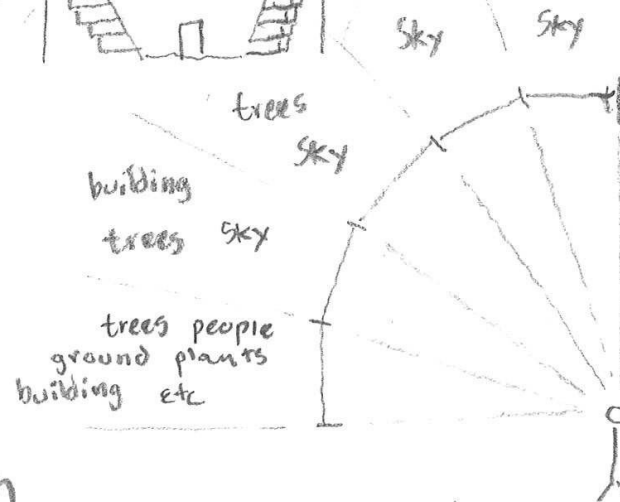
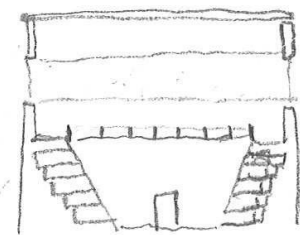
This binder will serve as a chronological showcase of my process, documenting each stage from the initial iteration to the subsequent ones.

The journey begins with the initial circulation study, where the entirety of the project is contained within one building. The primary focus during this phase was to determine the movement of the body throughout the plan in relation to both employees and the bereaved.

- Viewing room
- decomposition room - vessel
- curing
- mortuary



- unavailable windows that targets viewpoint so that employees has a view in the mourge



good lightning
good view?
materials
???

looking uphill a bustling garden



- a practical room
- employee only
- can be a sad space for employees over time

↳ should be lighted good
- private area

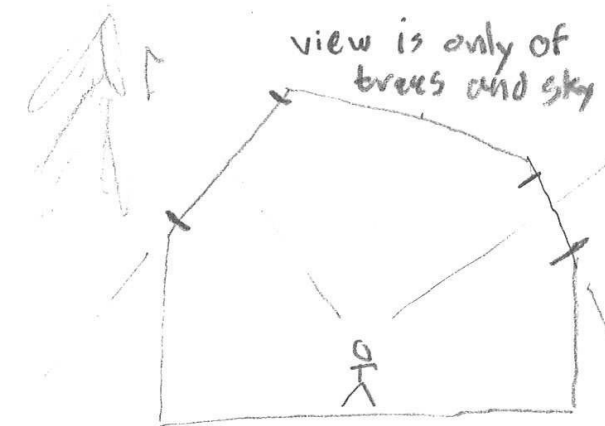
What makes a space happy

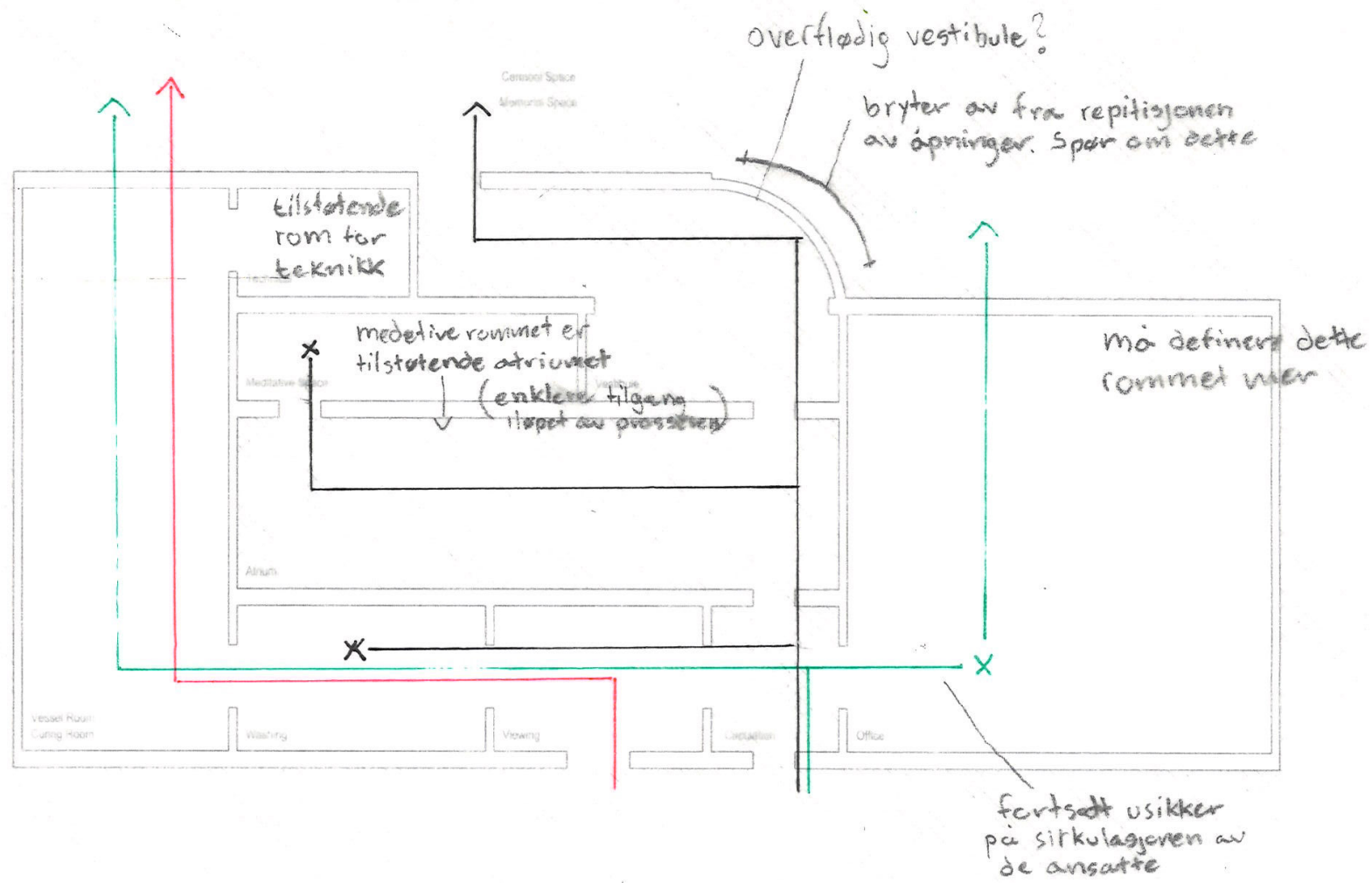
- ↳ - light
- natural materials
- view*

- Sanitary and clean

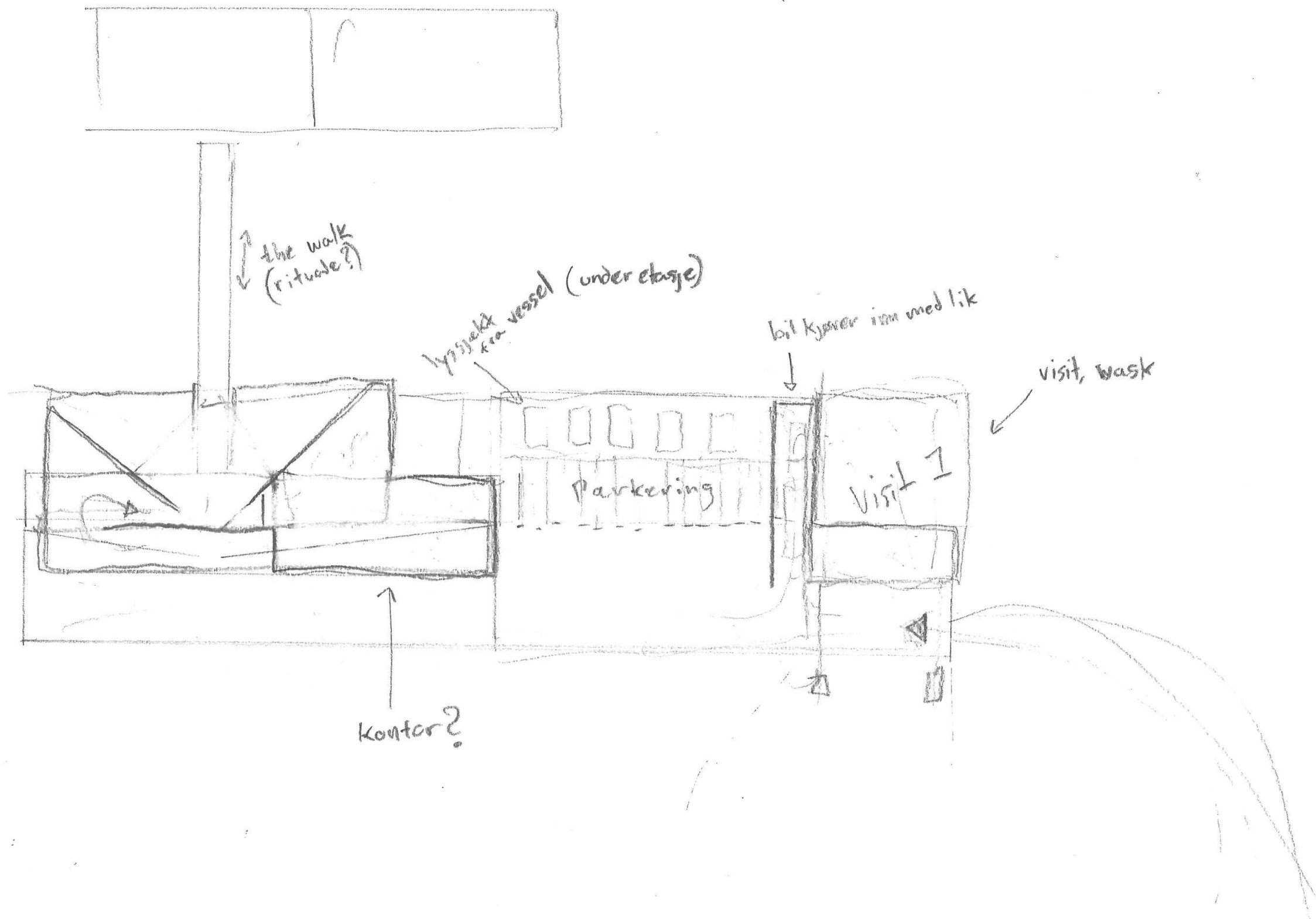
↳ can natural materials (wood, stone) be used in a mortuary (find out!!!)

- should be a big room





ANSATTE
 AVØDE
 FÆRØRENDE



the walk
(rituale?)

Lysstakt
fra vessel (under etasje)

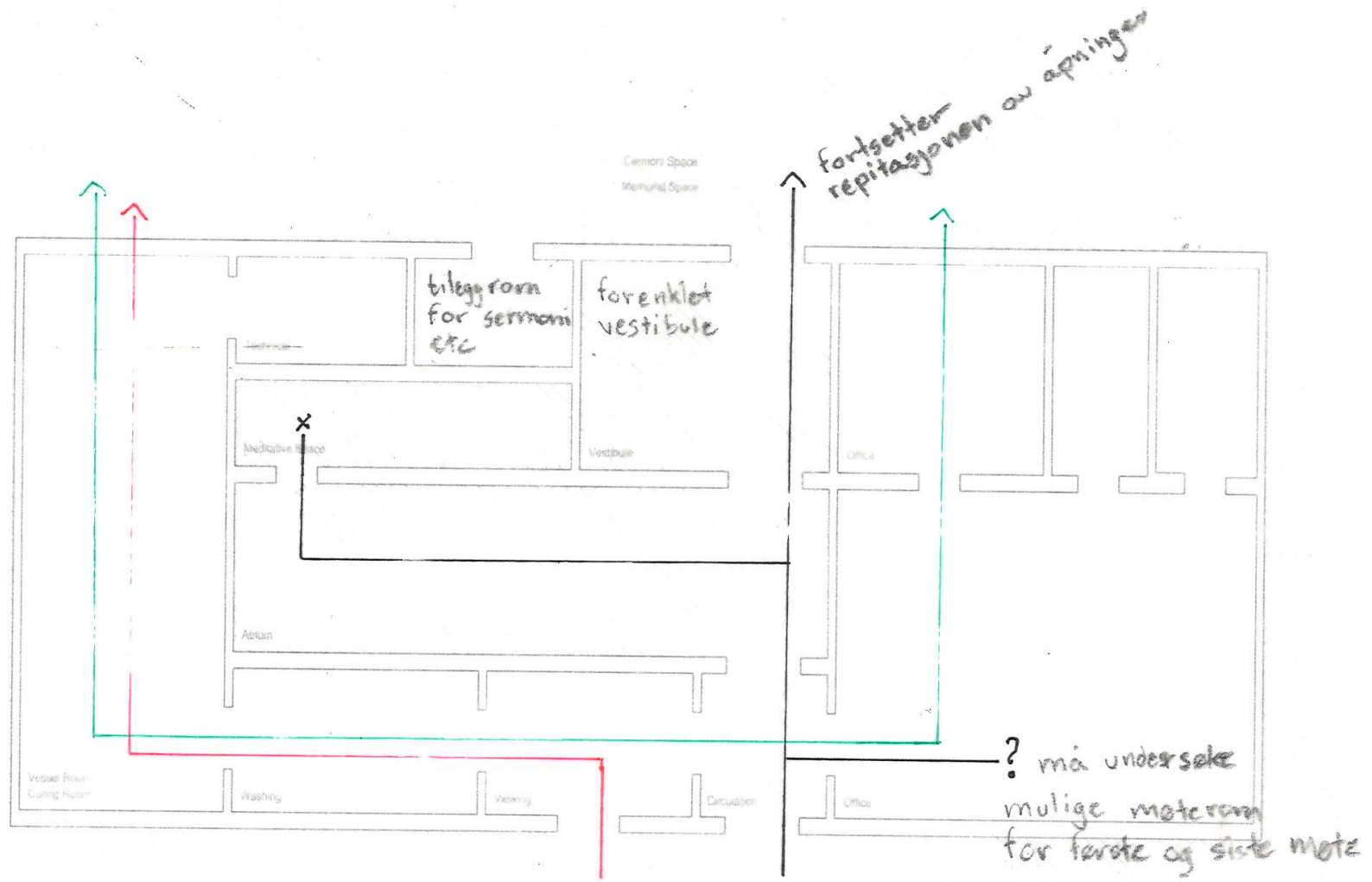
bil kjører inn med lik

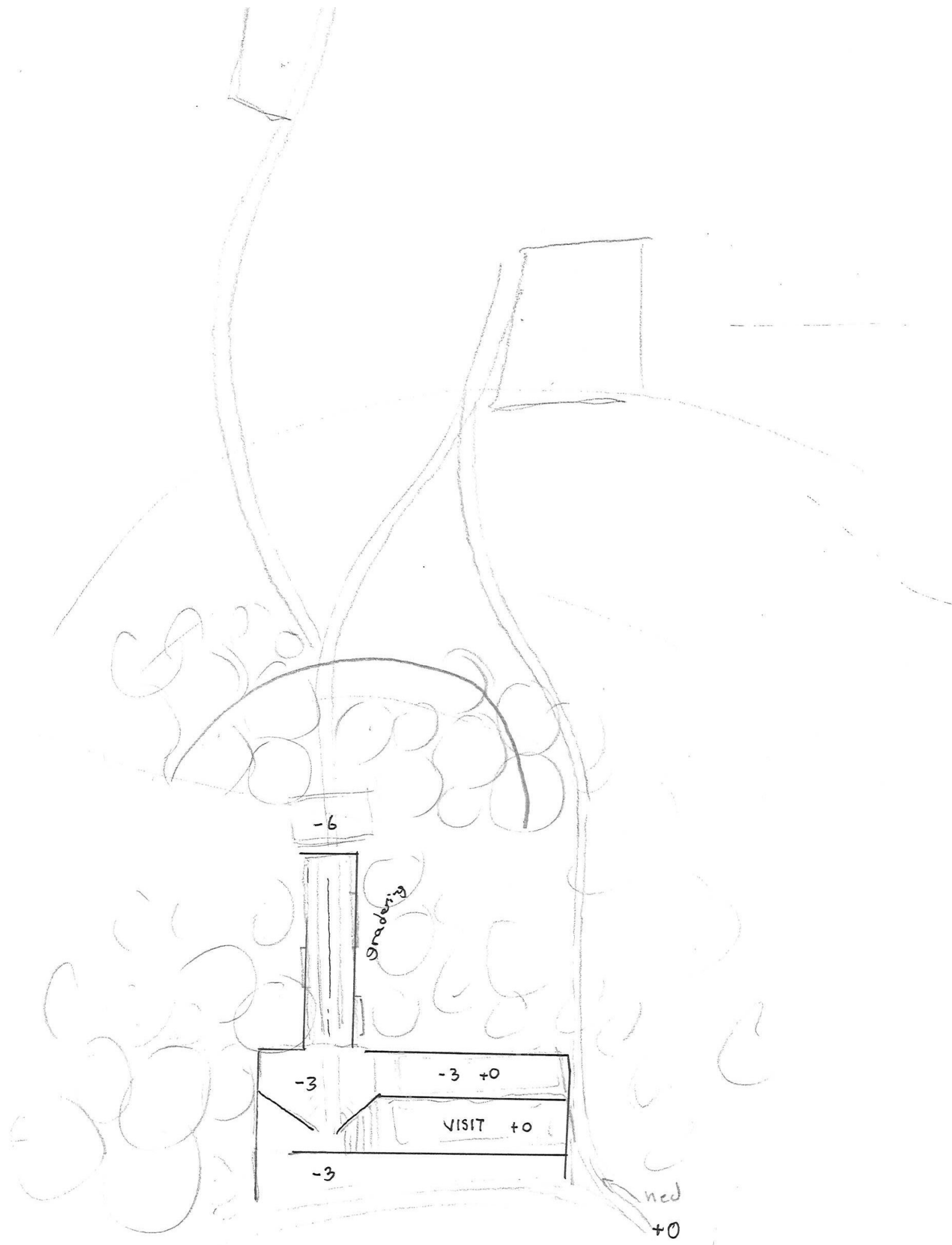
visit, wash

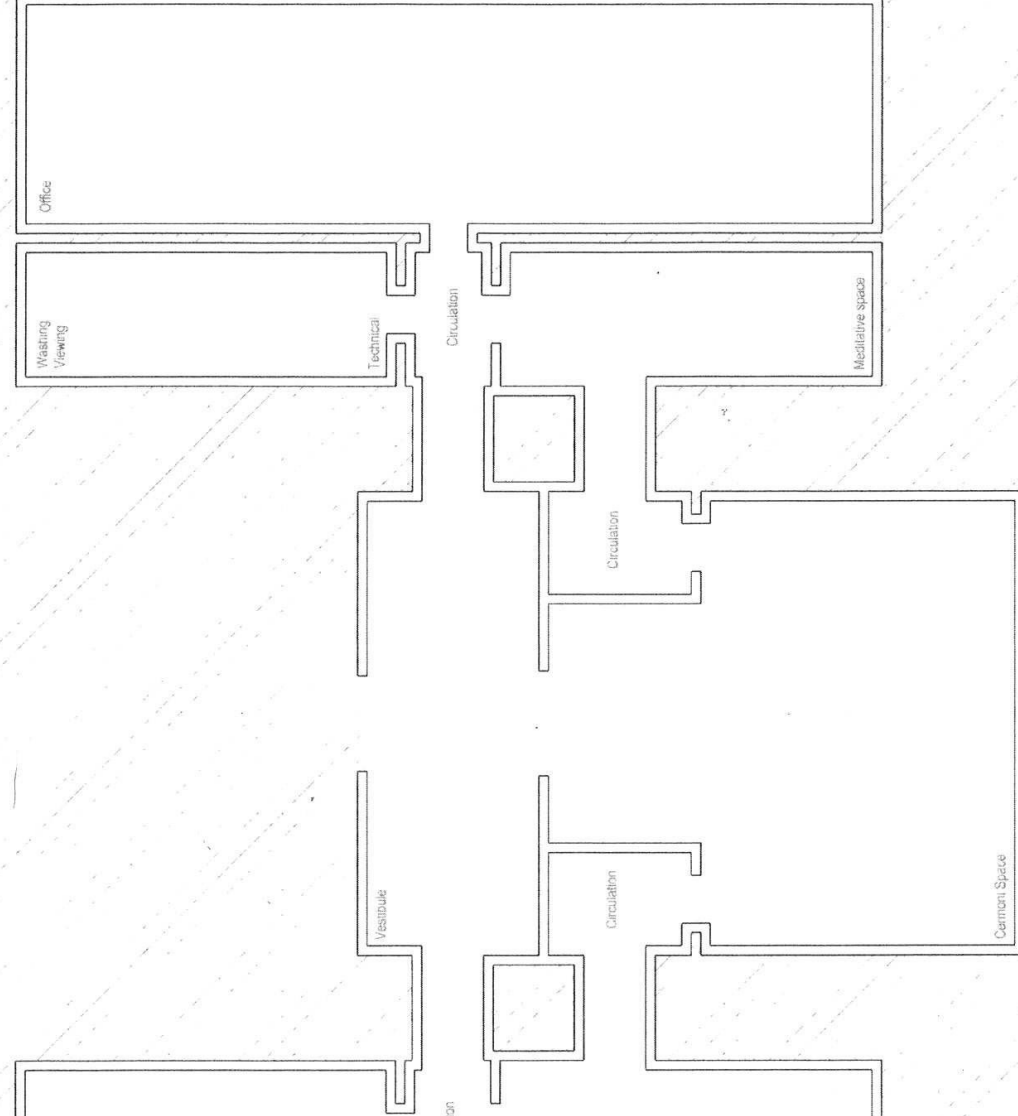
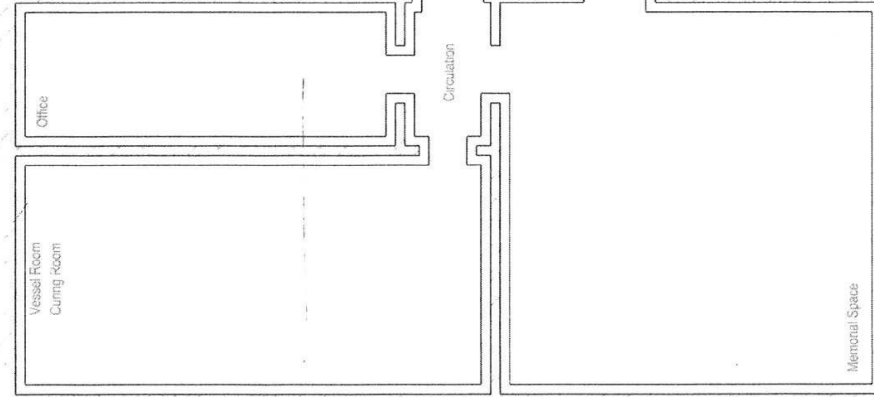
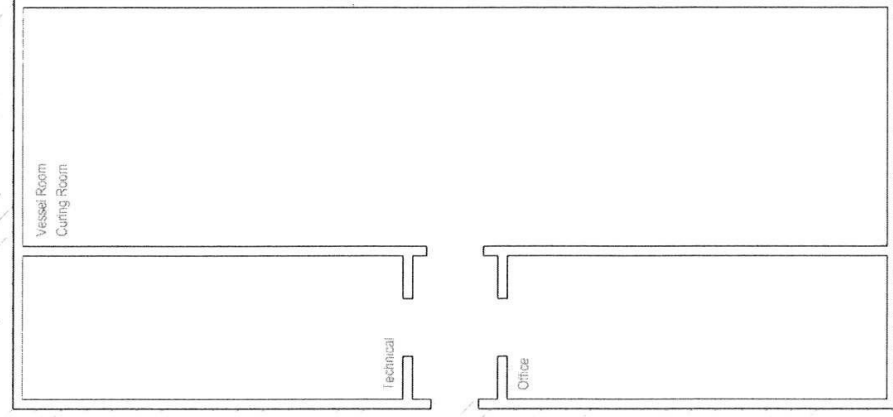
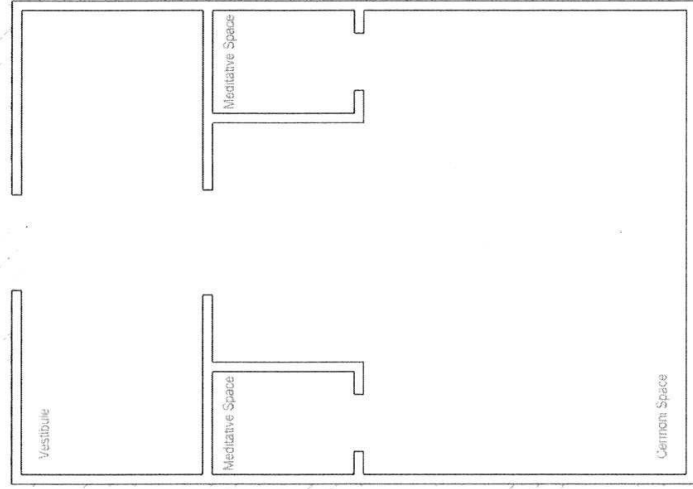
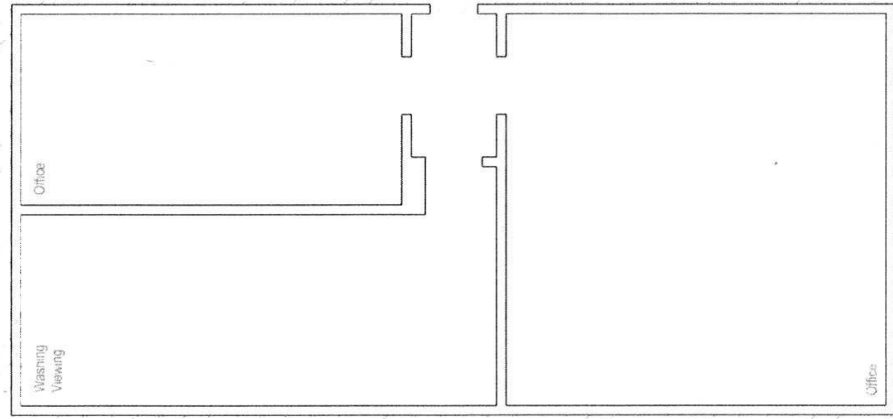
Parkerings

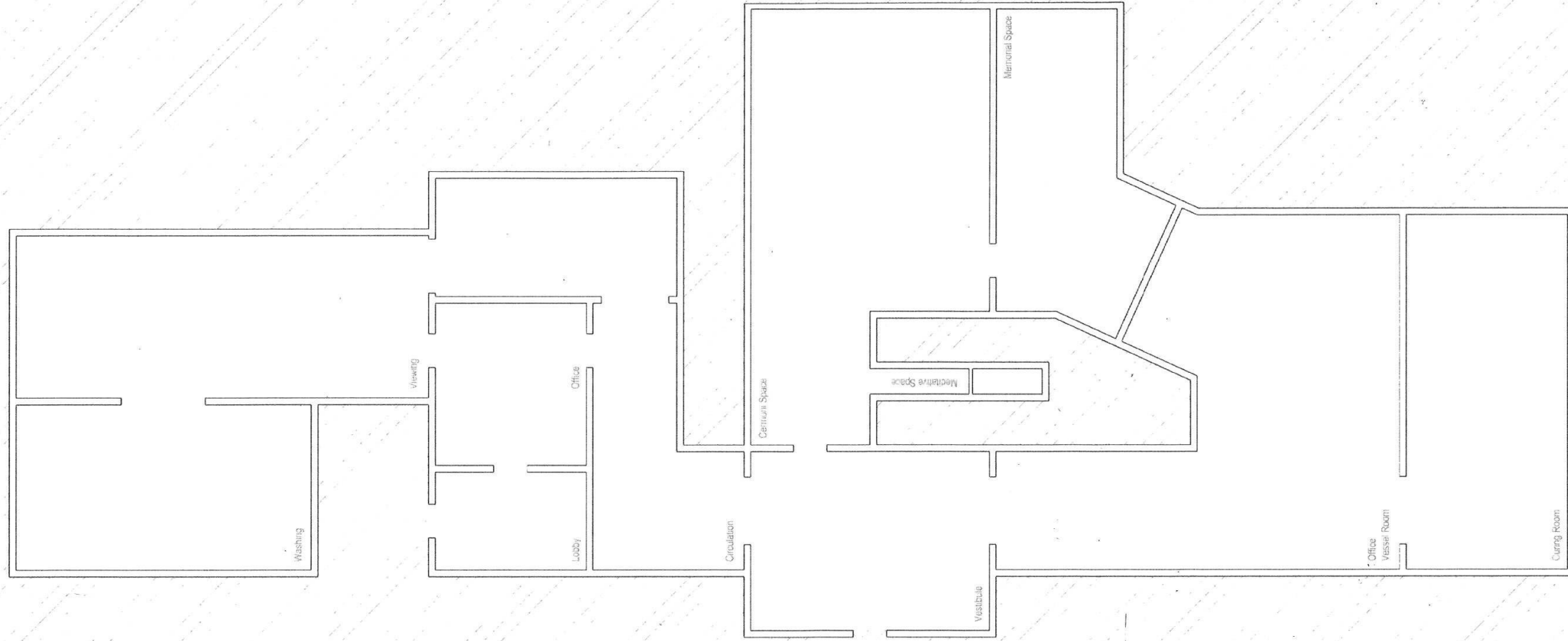
Visit 1

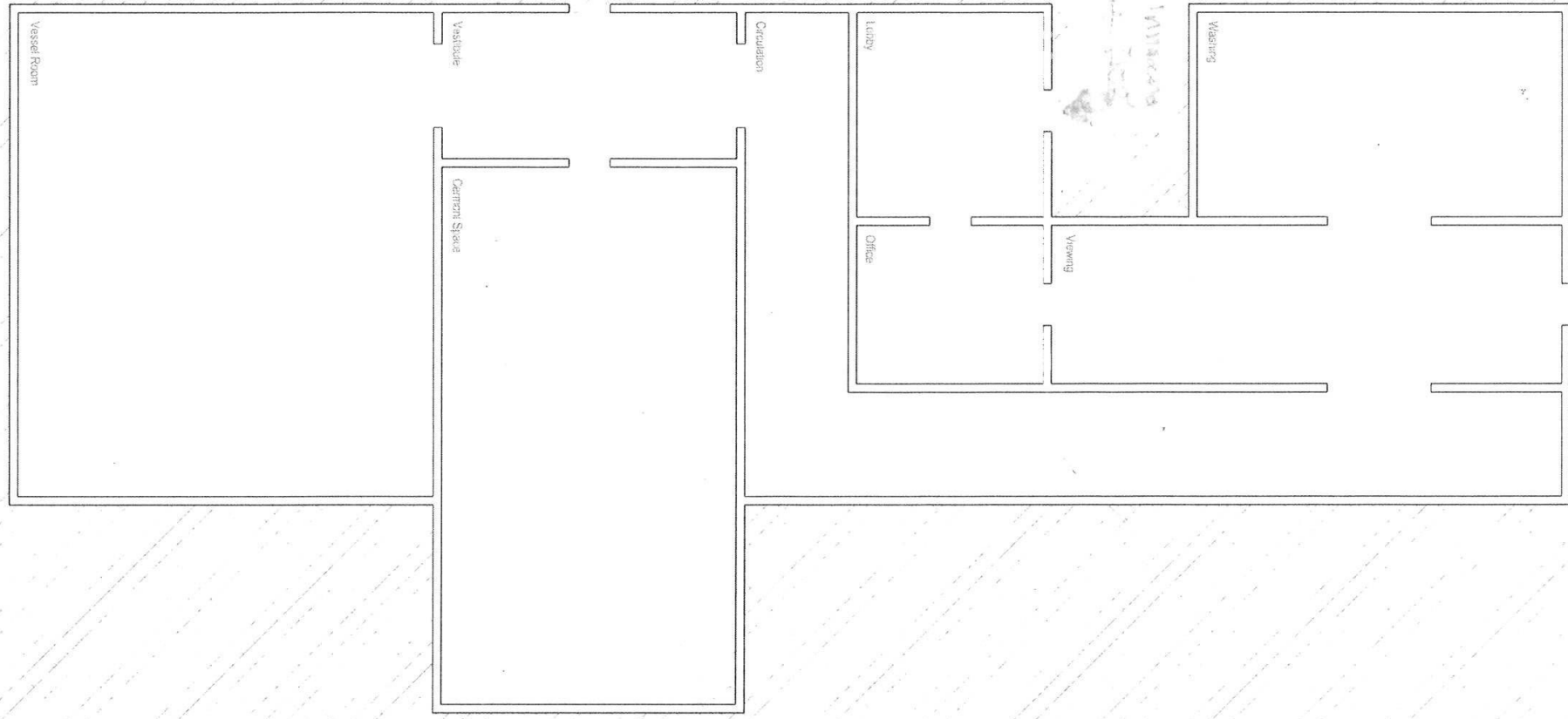
Kontor?





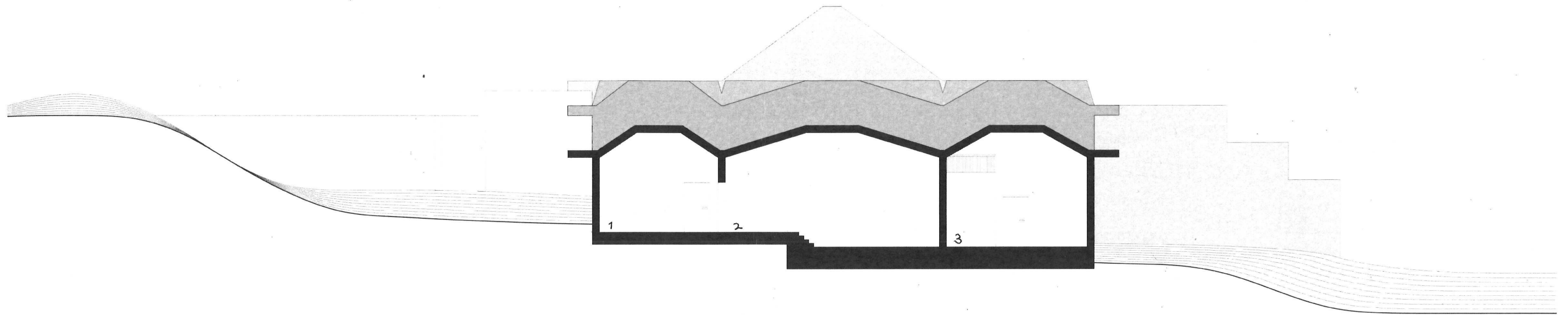




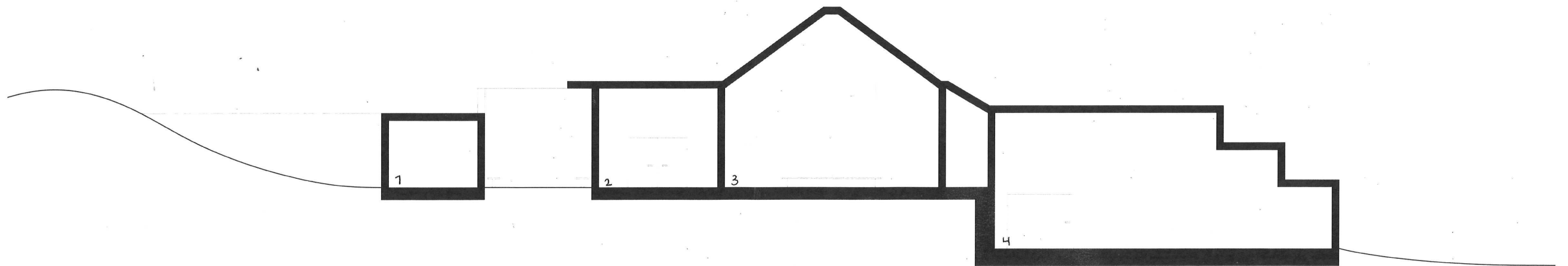




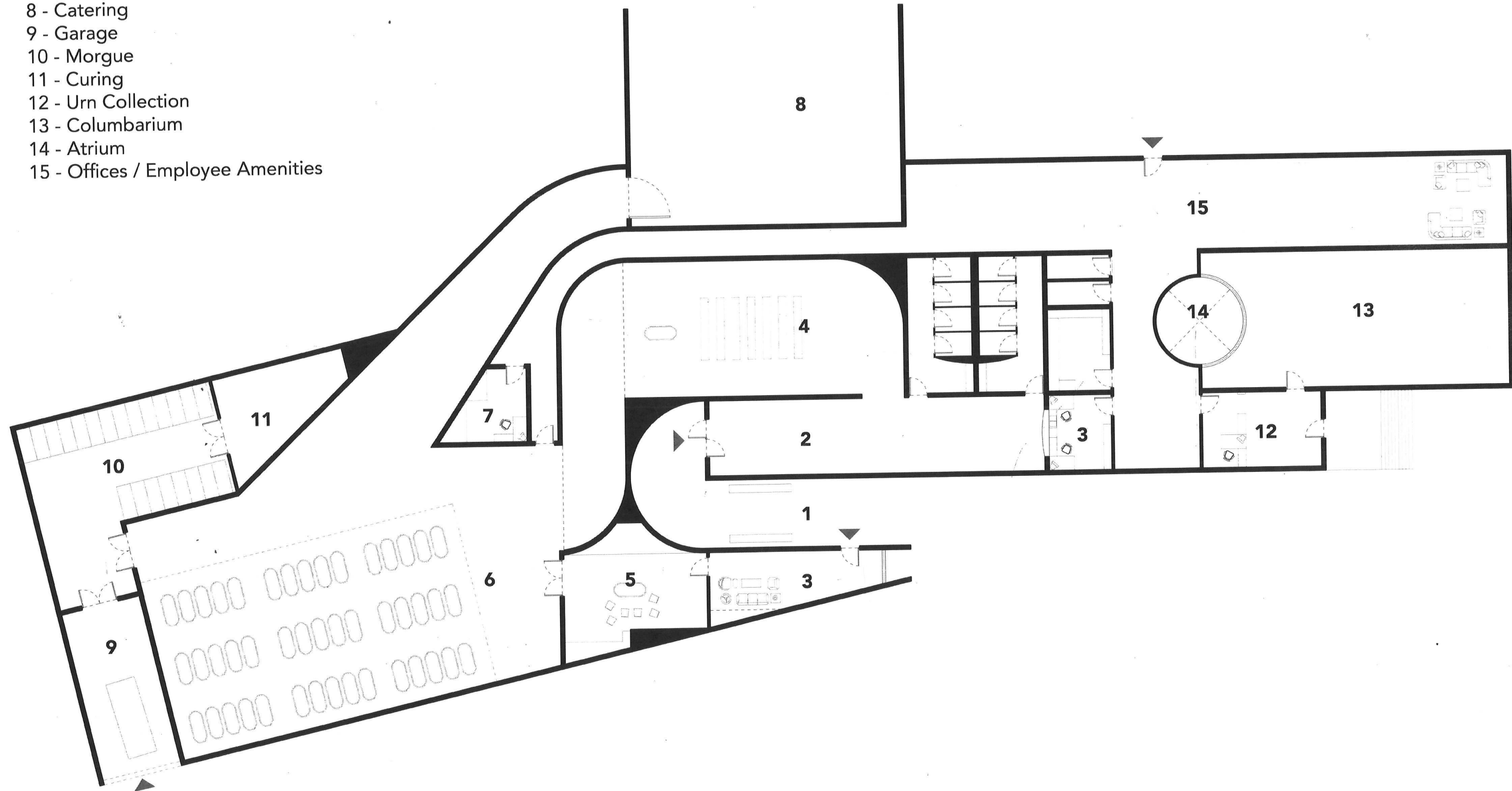
- 1 - Urn collection
- 2 - Columbarium
- 3 - Offices

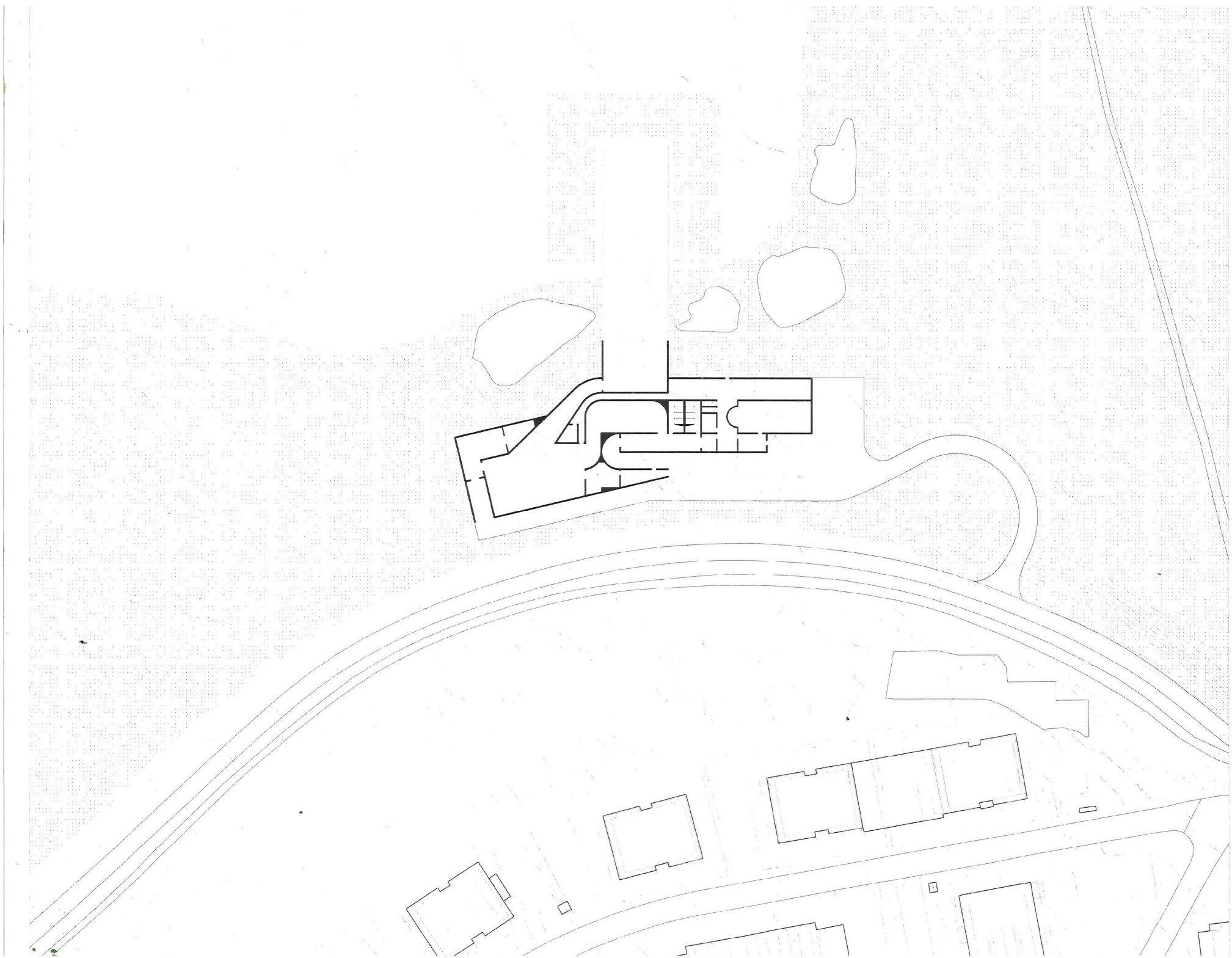


- 1 - Reception
- 2 - Waiting hall
- 3 - Chapel
- 4 - Memorial



- 1 - Public entrance
- 2 - Waiting Hall
- 3 - Reception
- 4 - Chapel
- 5 - Viewing
- 6 - Vessel room / Ceremony
- 7 - Control room
- 8 - Catering
- 9 - Garage
- 10 - Morgue
- 11 - Curing
- 12 - Urn Collection
- 13 - Columbarium
- 14 - Atrium
- 15 - Offices / Employee Amenities





January-February

The initial circulation study provided clarity on the system of movement within the space. However, it became evident that the architecture lacked a conceptual basis, merely serving to enclose the various programs I had arranged. Recognizing this limitation, further discussions and iterations ensued, prompting an exploration of architectural concepts rooted in the usage of soil. This shift in approach aimed to imbue the architecture with deeper meaning and resonance, aligning it more closely with the overarching themes of the project, such as natural organic reduction (NOR) and the cycles of life and death.

During this phase, I also engaged in experimentation with casting plaster in soil to observe the resulting texture. My objective was to replicate the texture of soil in the concrete components of my project.

MV



Maridalsvannet, Nordr Akre

1:2000



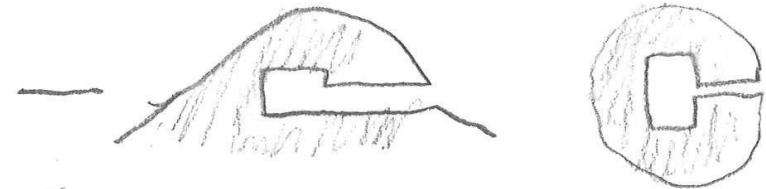




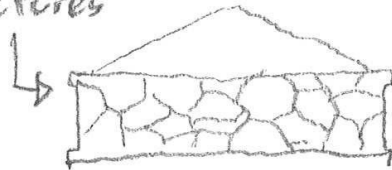




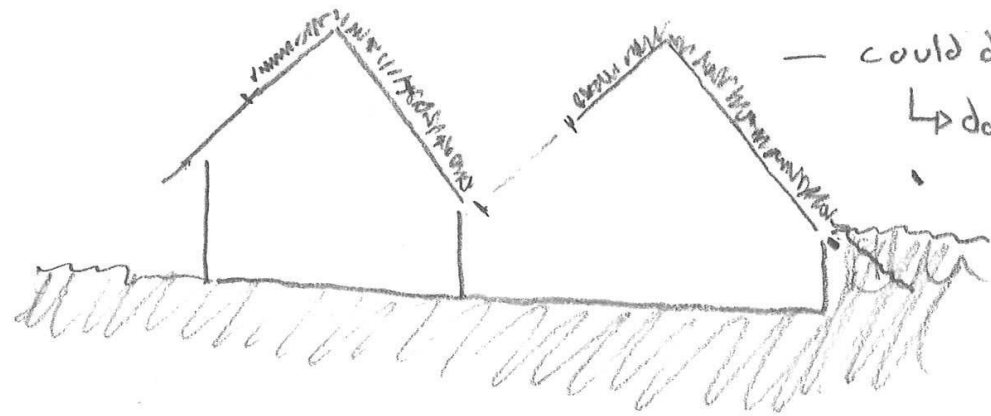
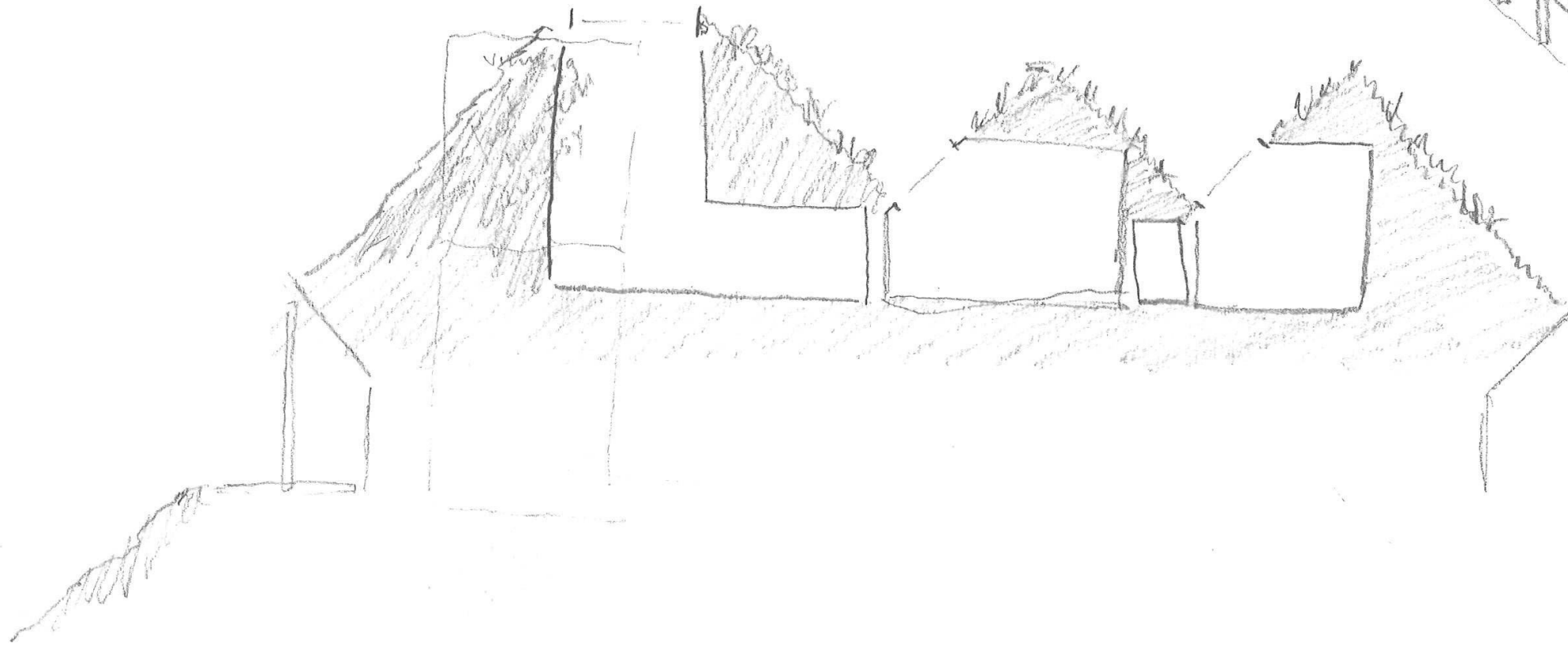
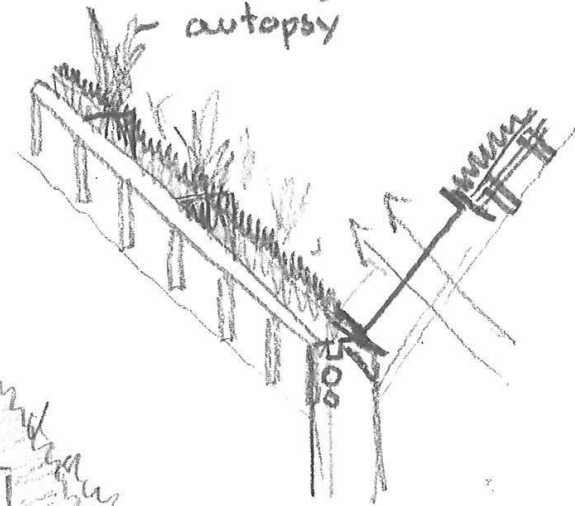
grawhauger (tumulus)



↳ tumulus turns into stone structures



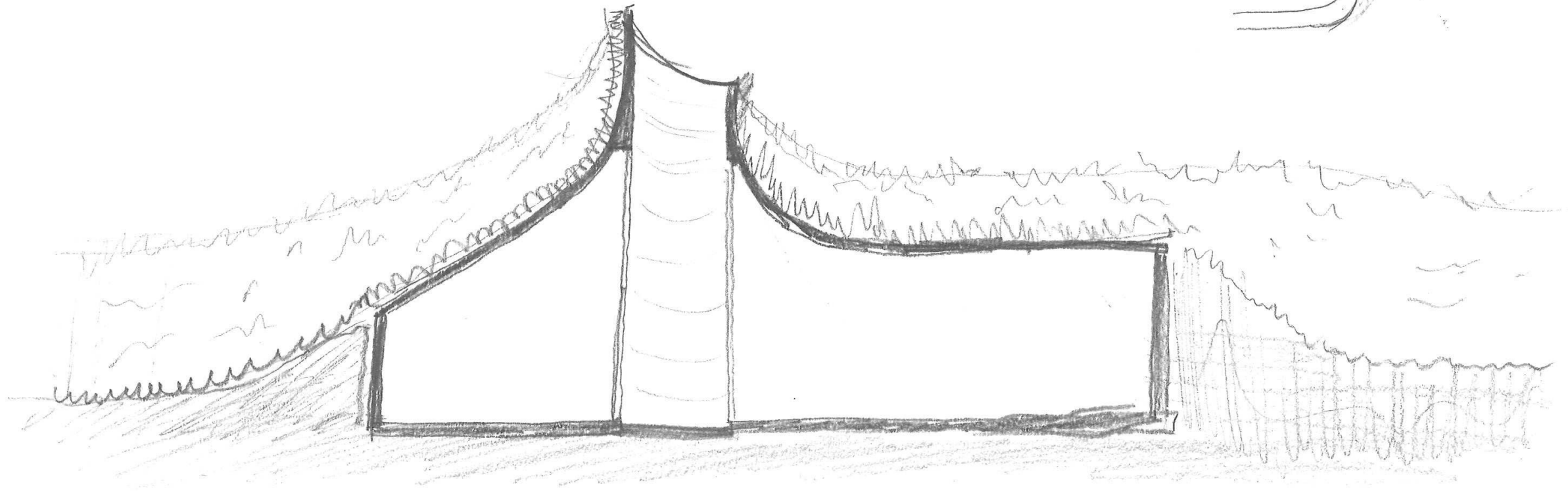
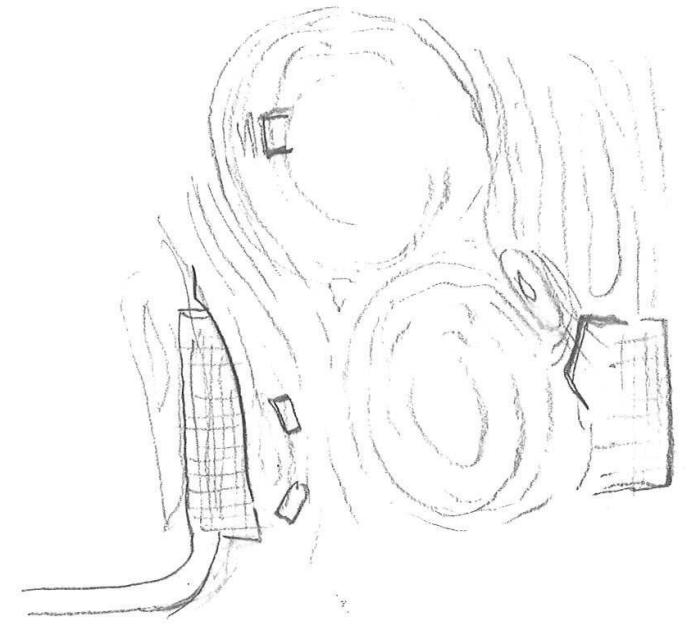
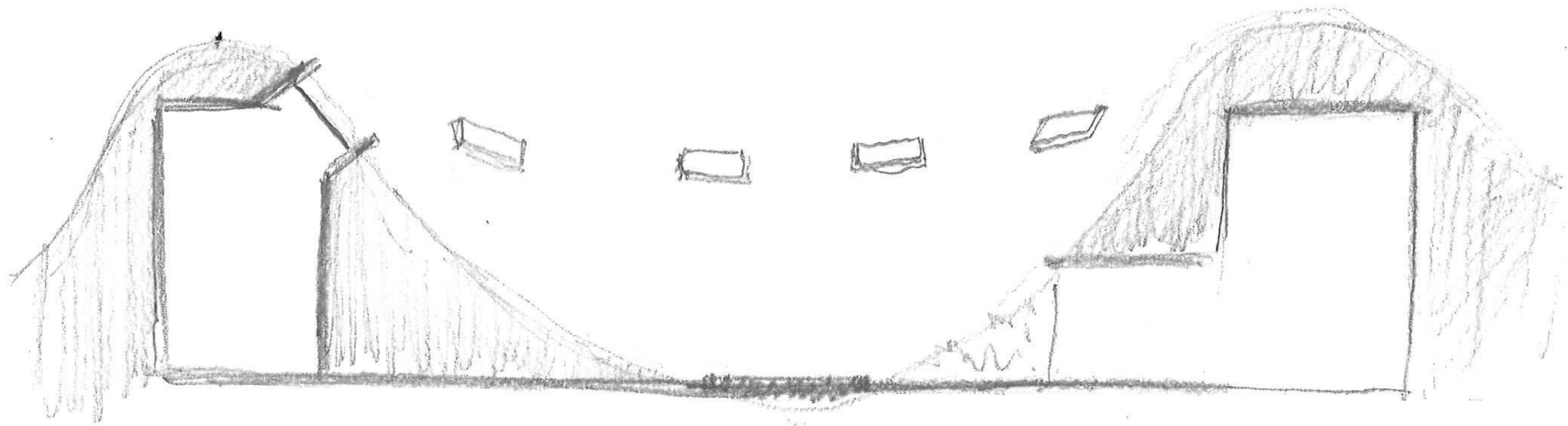
- mortuary
- viewing
- autopsy

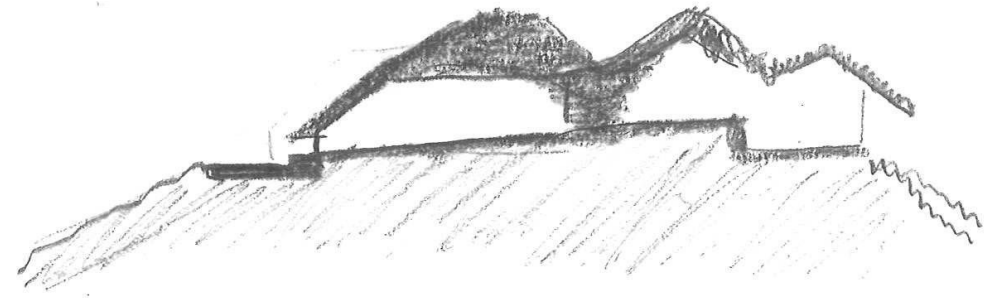
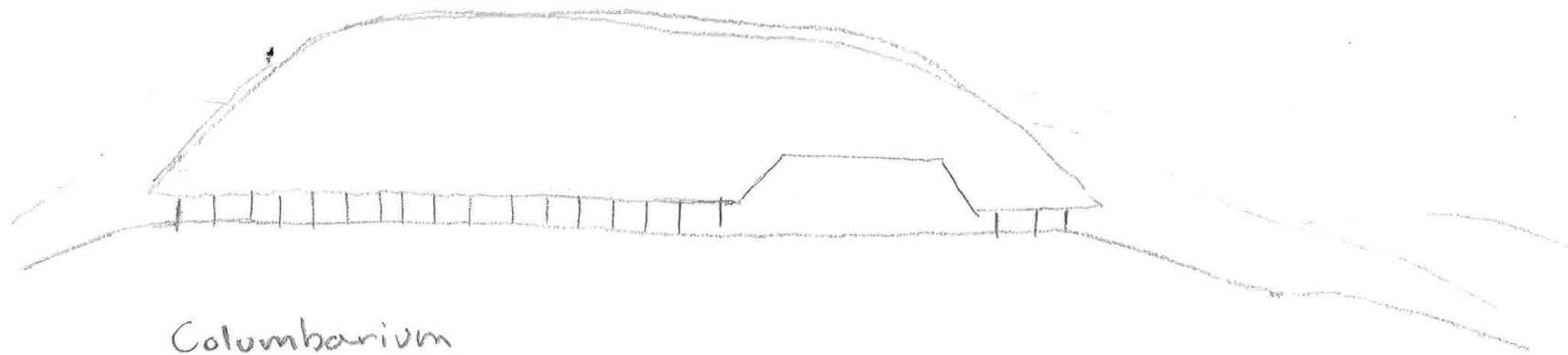


- could do it with grass roof

↳ downside would be less diverse plantlife

Irish garden





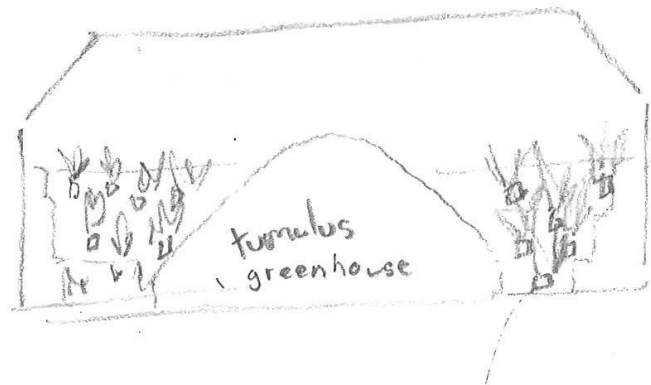
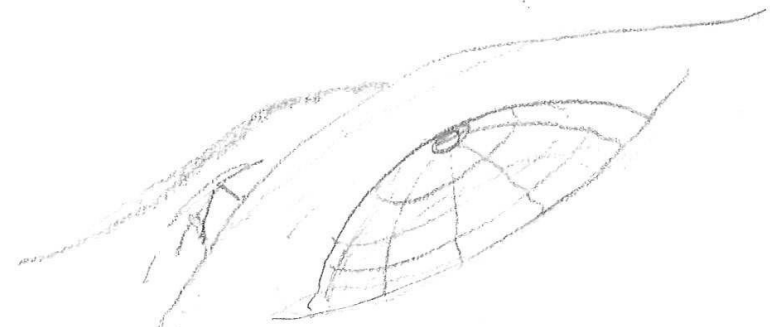
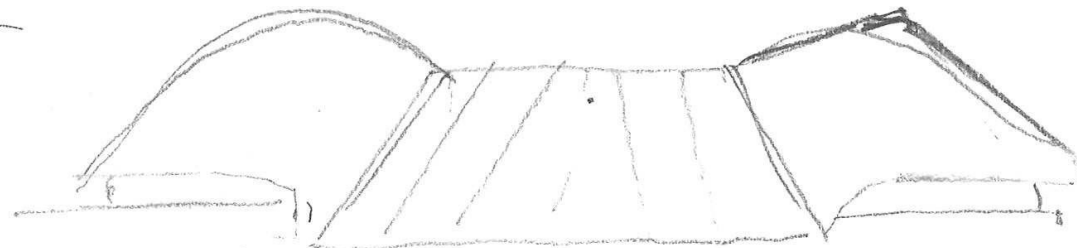
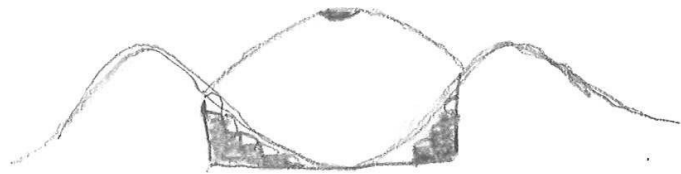
Columbarium

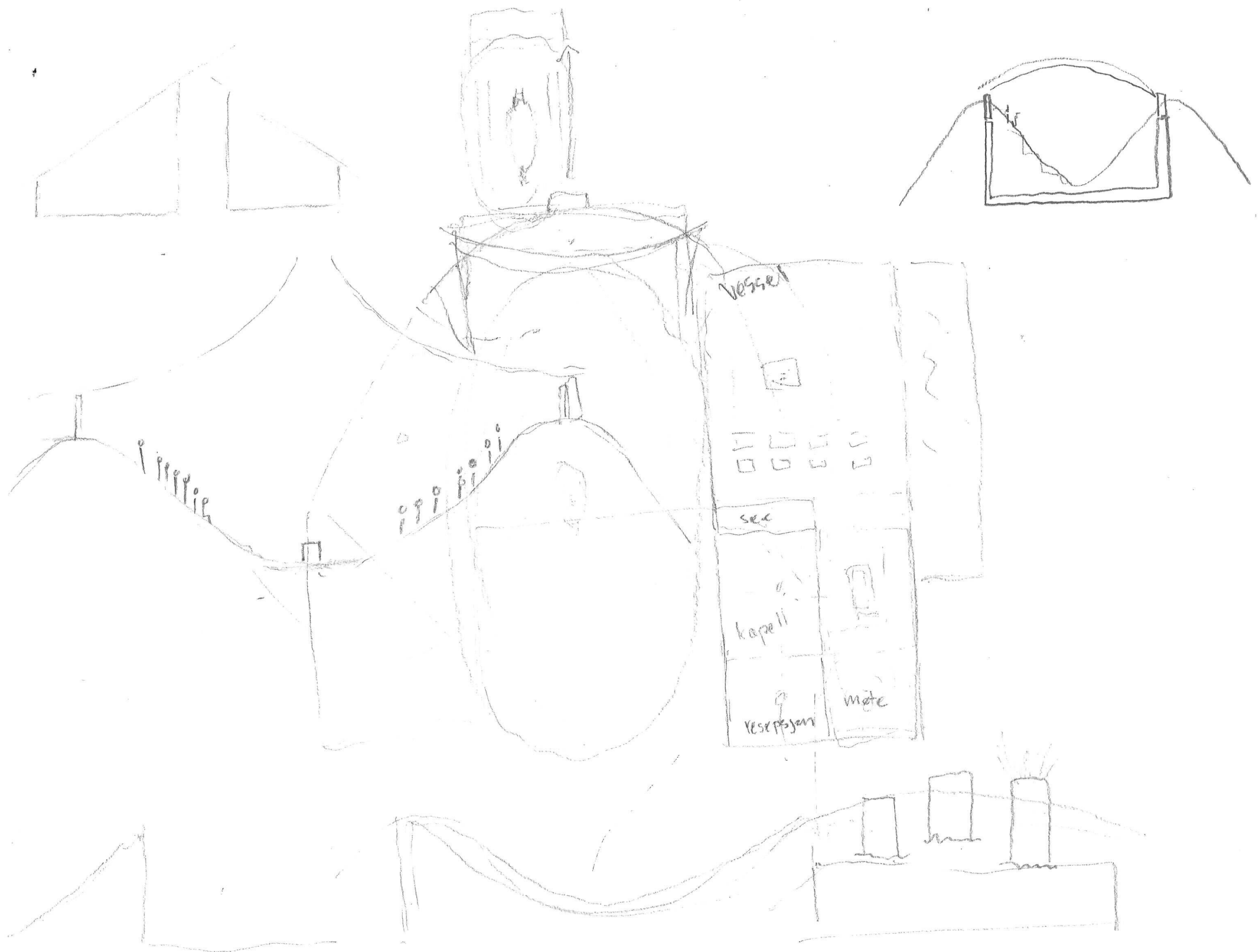
↳ space where loved ones could visit during decomposition process

→ Instead of being a place to visit an urn, it could be a vase, where a plant grows during the two month process

↓
standard greenhouse

↓
bring the garden into the structure





Sequence



- Deliver body
- autopsy - viewing
- mortuary

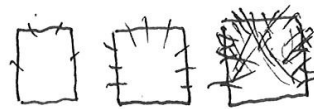
- ritual
- ceremony
- body in vessel

- decomposition (2min)
- columbarium
- ↳ flower garden

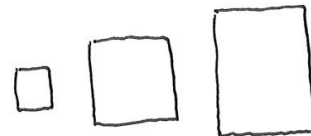
- ↳ take flower and urn home
- Donate soil (forest, replenish soil around project etc)
- take soil home (750l)

- body delivered
- autopsy
- viewing/washing
- mortuary

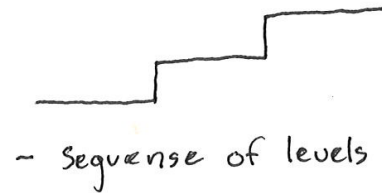
- gathering
- escorted to ceremony
- rituals and vessel placement
- memorial
- Lounging, reminiscing



- sequence of sound



- Sequens of space



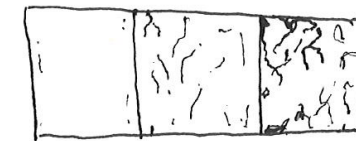
- Sequence of levels



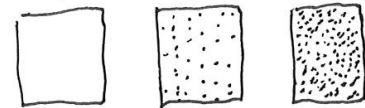
- Sequence of transparency



- Sequence of colour



- Sequence of deterioration/decay (refined to raw)



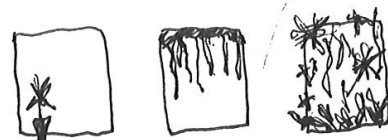
- Sequence of texture/tactility



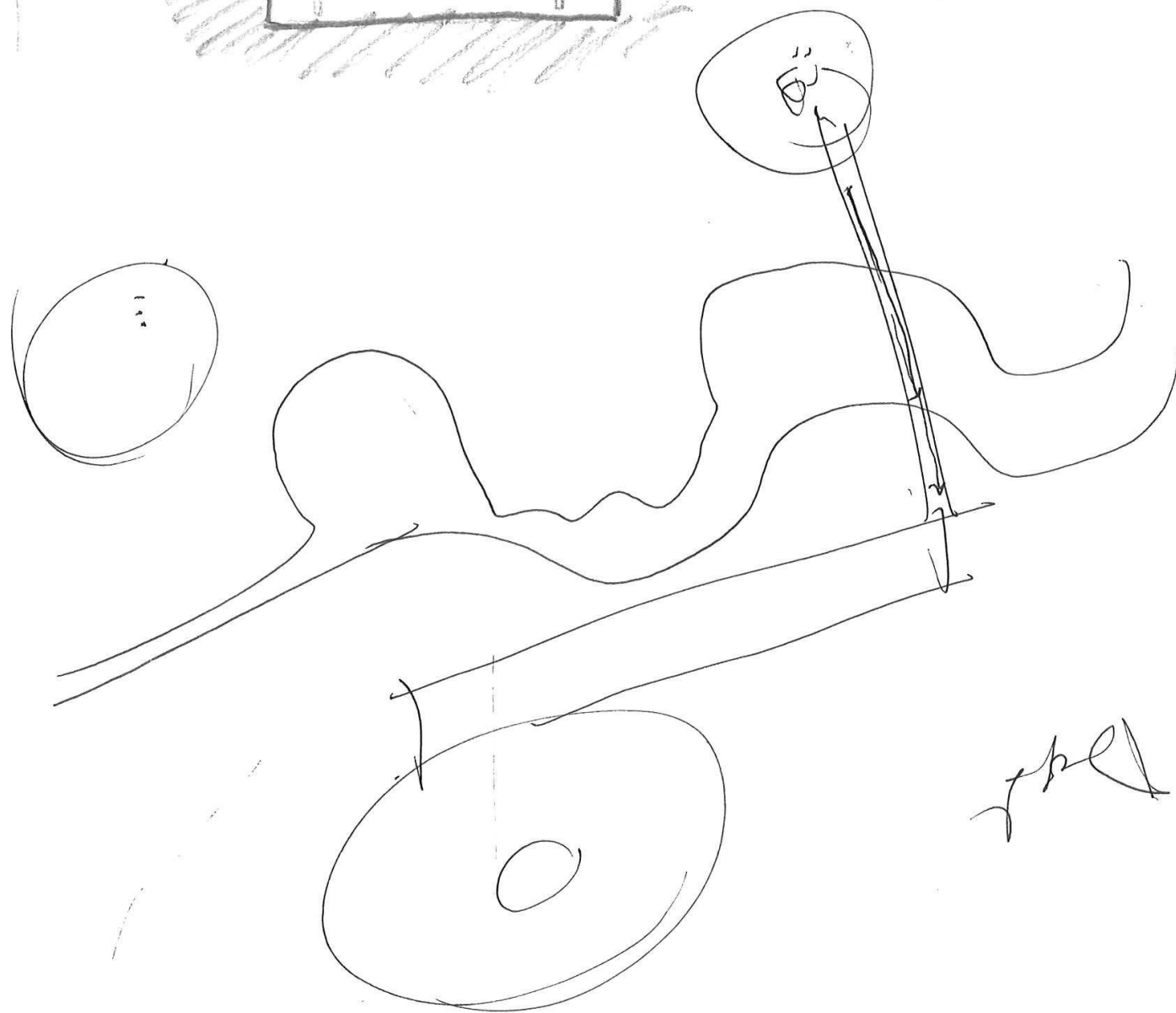
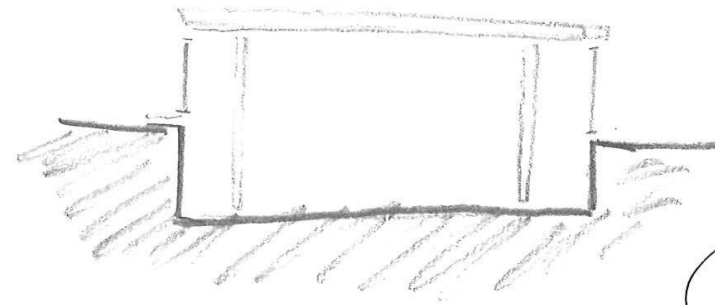
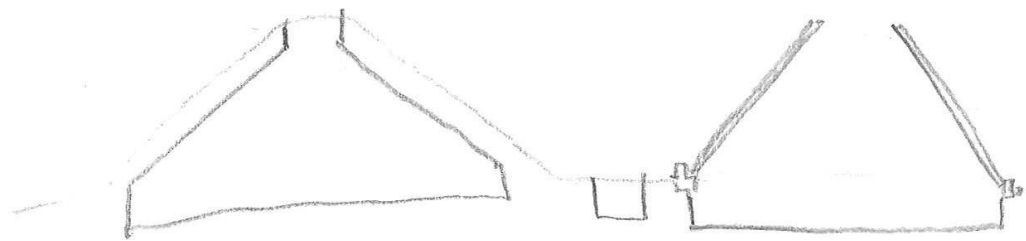
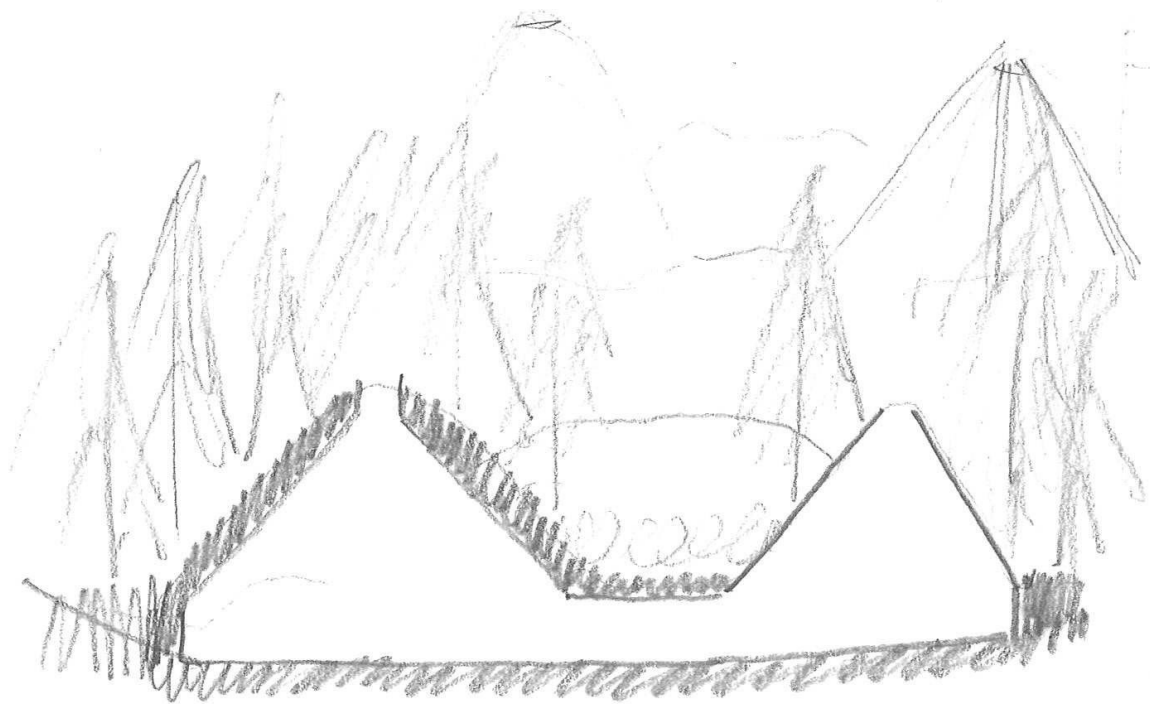
- sequence of circulation



- Sequens of light



- sequence of biophilic



73

74

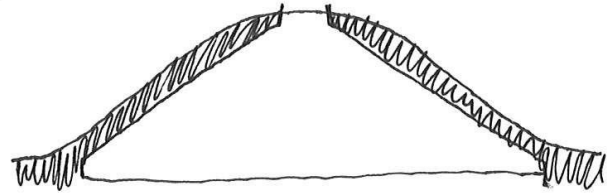
1 vessel - burial mound

2 ceremony - burial mound (negative space)

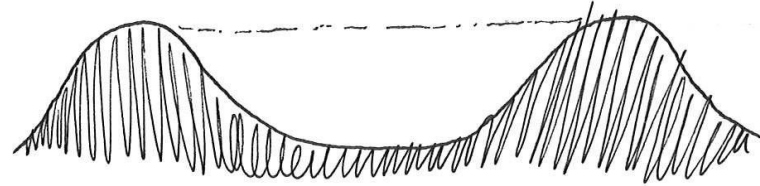
3 - viewing - Enclosed - private

4 - columbarium - open - public

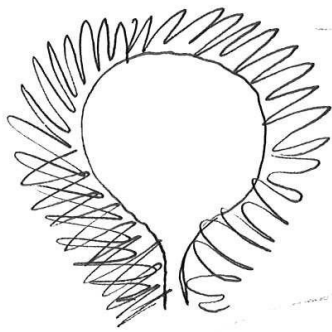
1 -



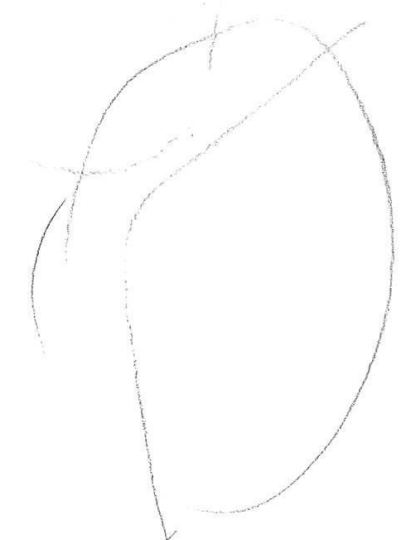
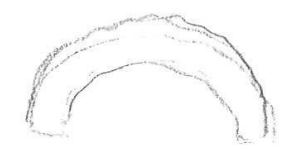
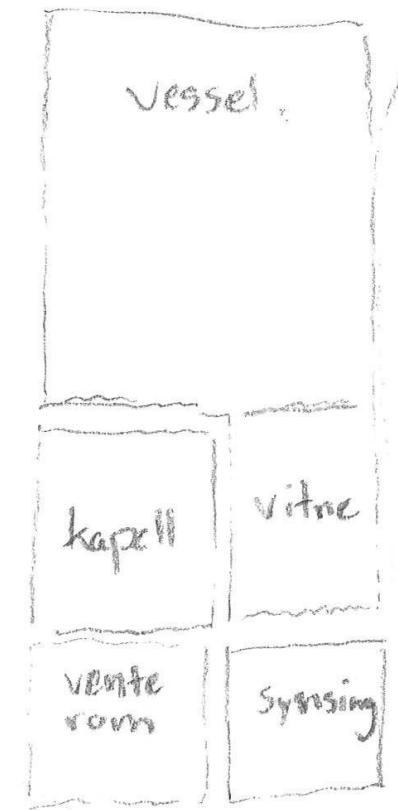
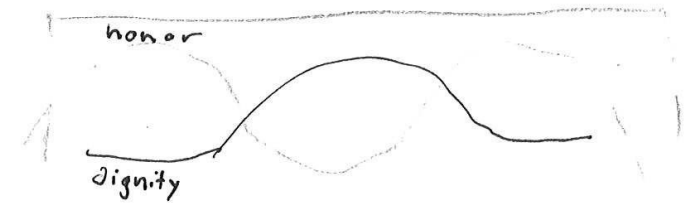
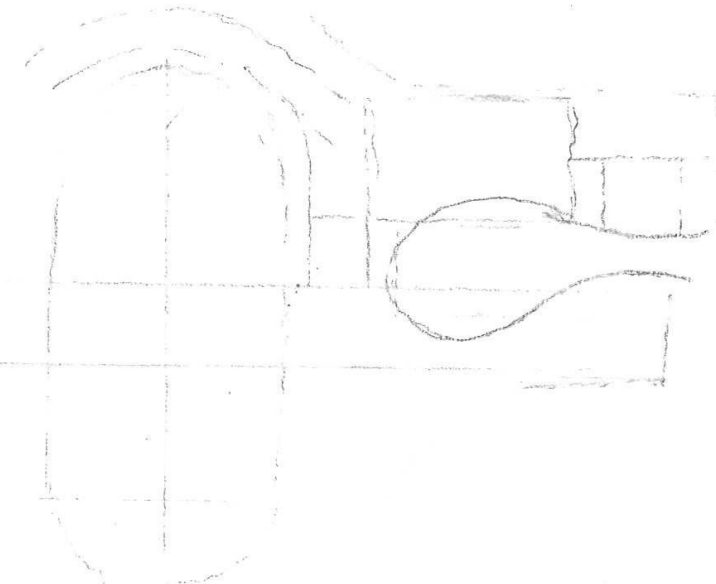
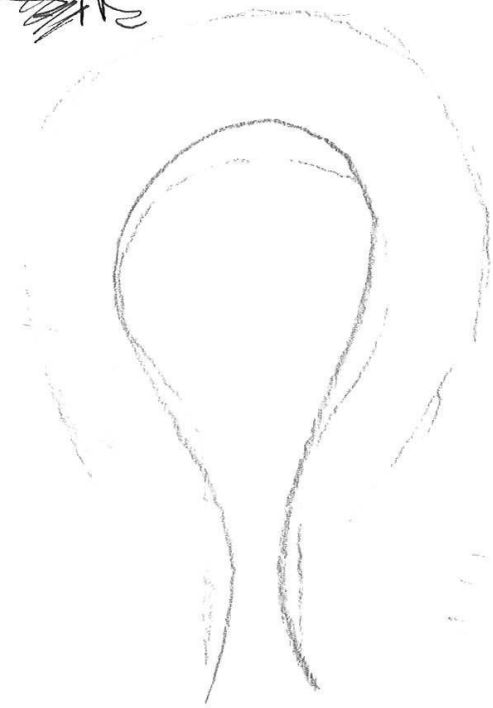
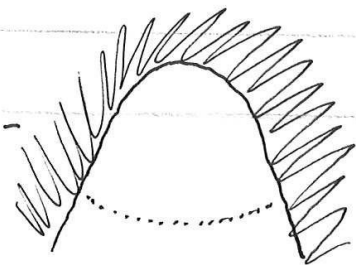
2 -

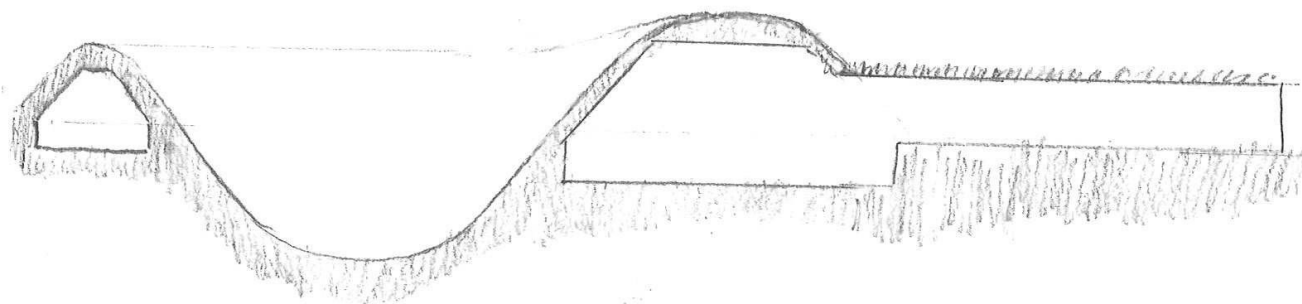
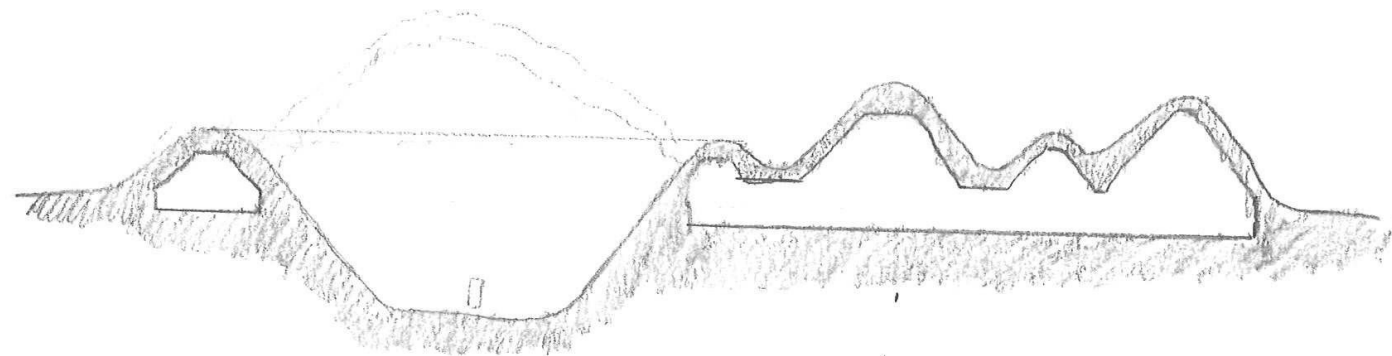
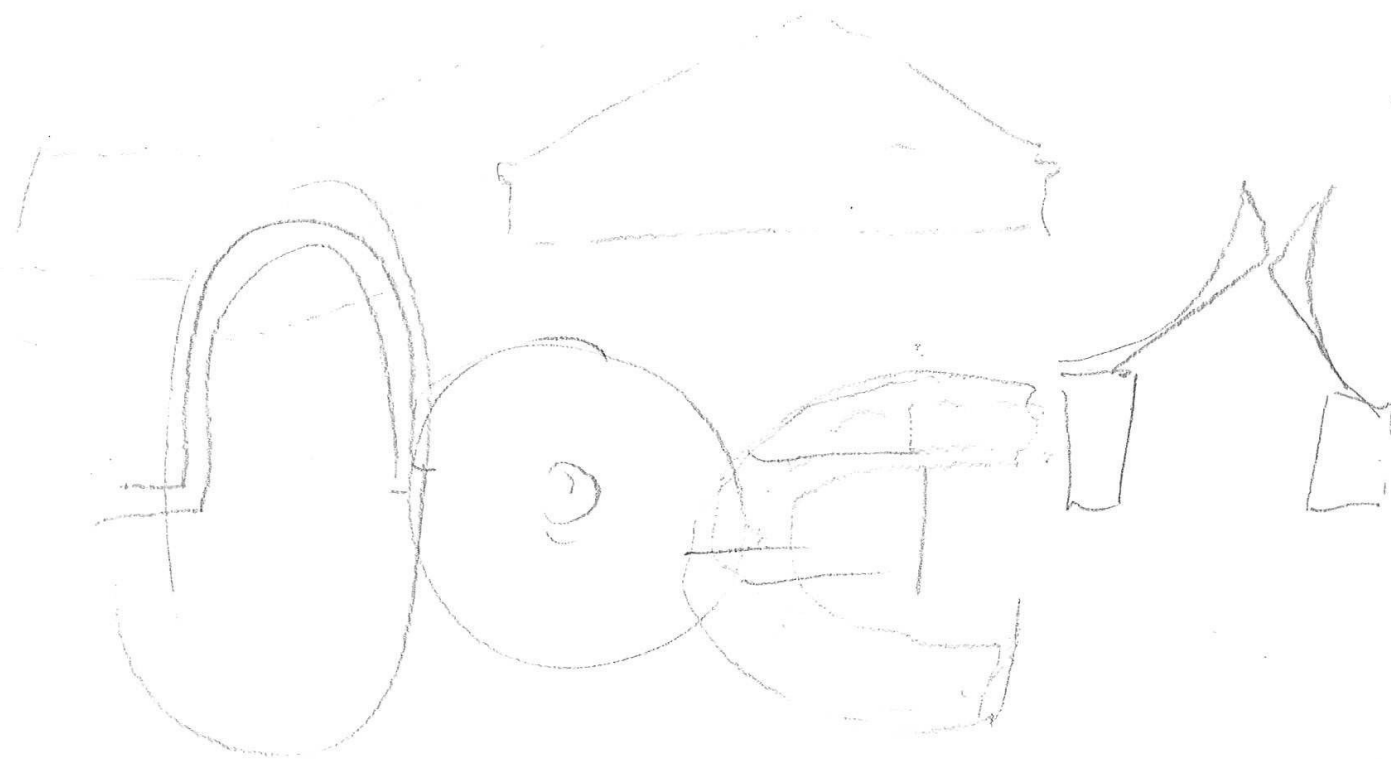
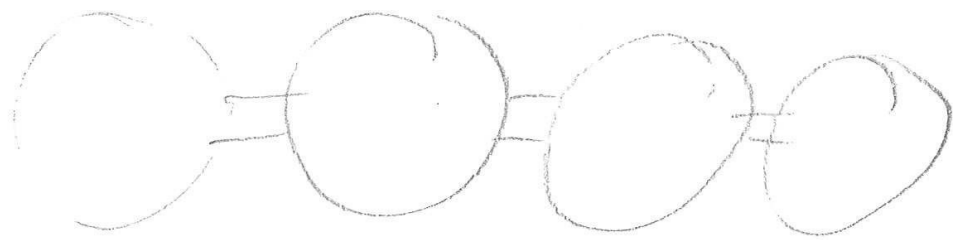
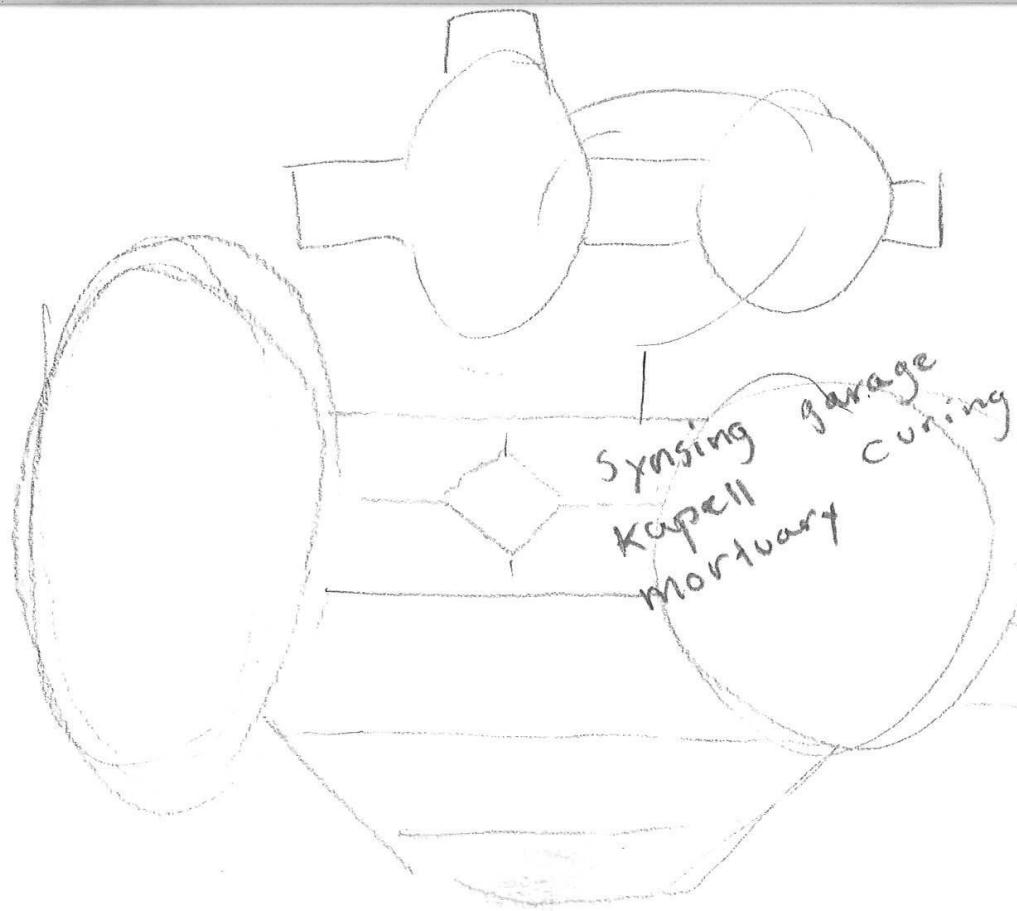


3 -



4 -





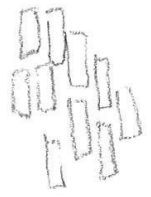
kiste mottok

↓
mouge

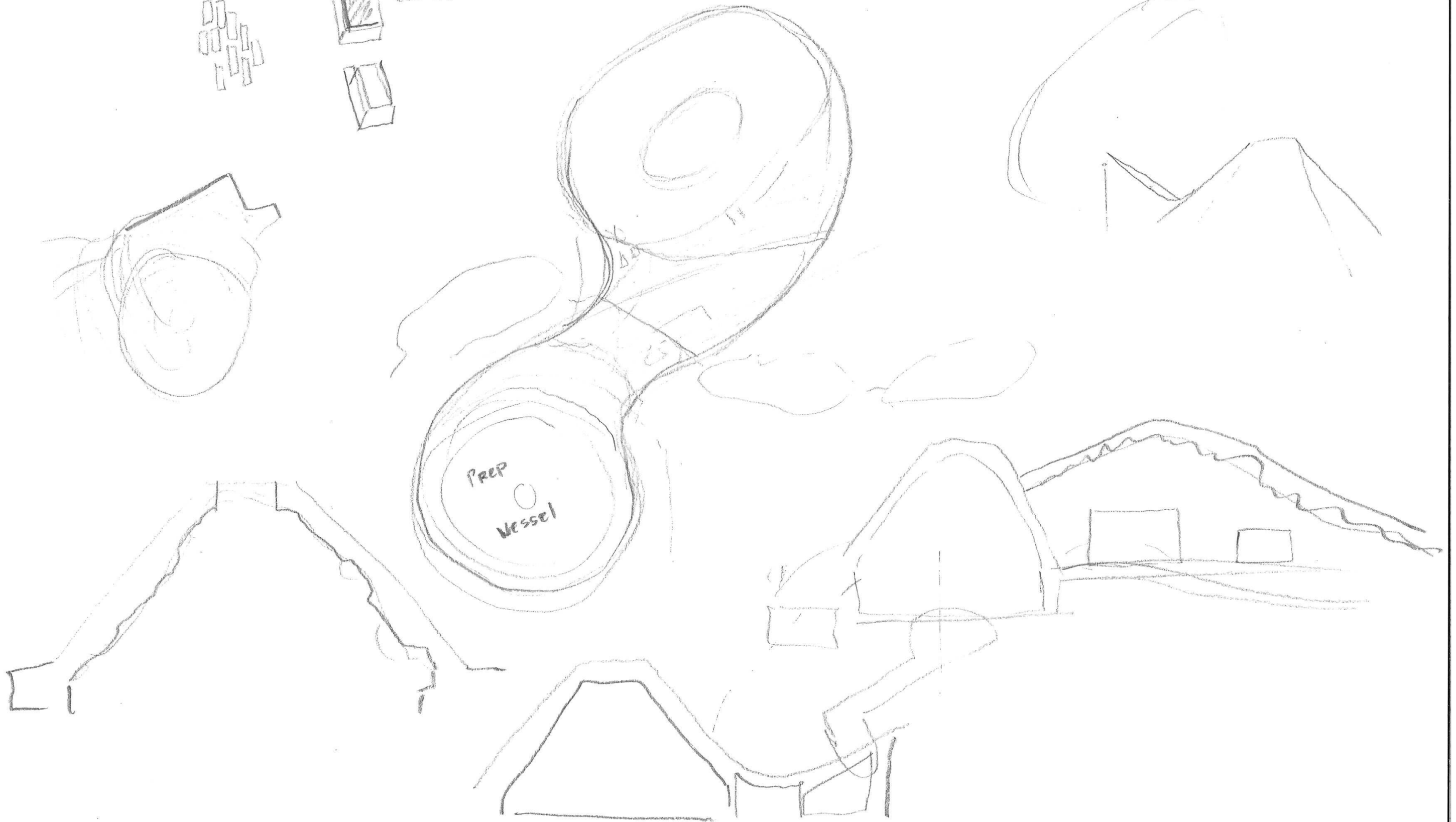
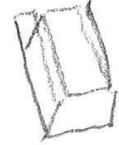
↓
syasing

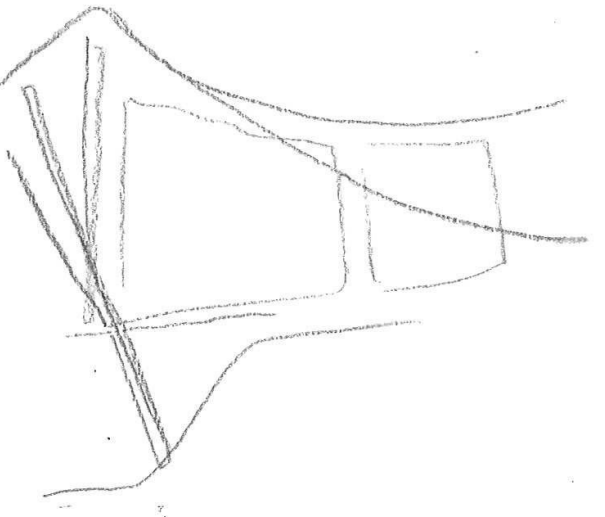
↓
vassal

↓
curing



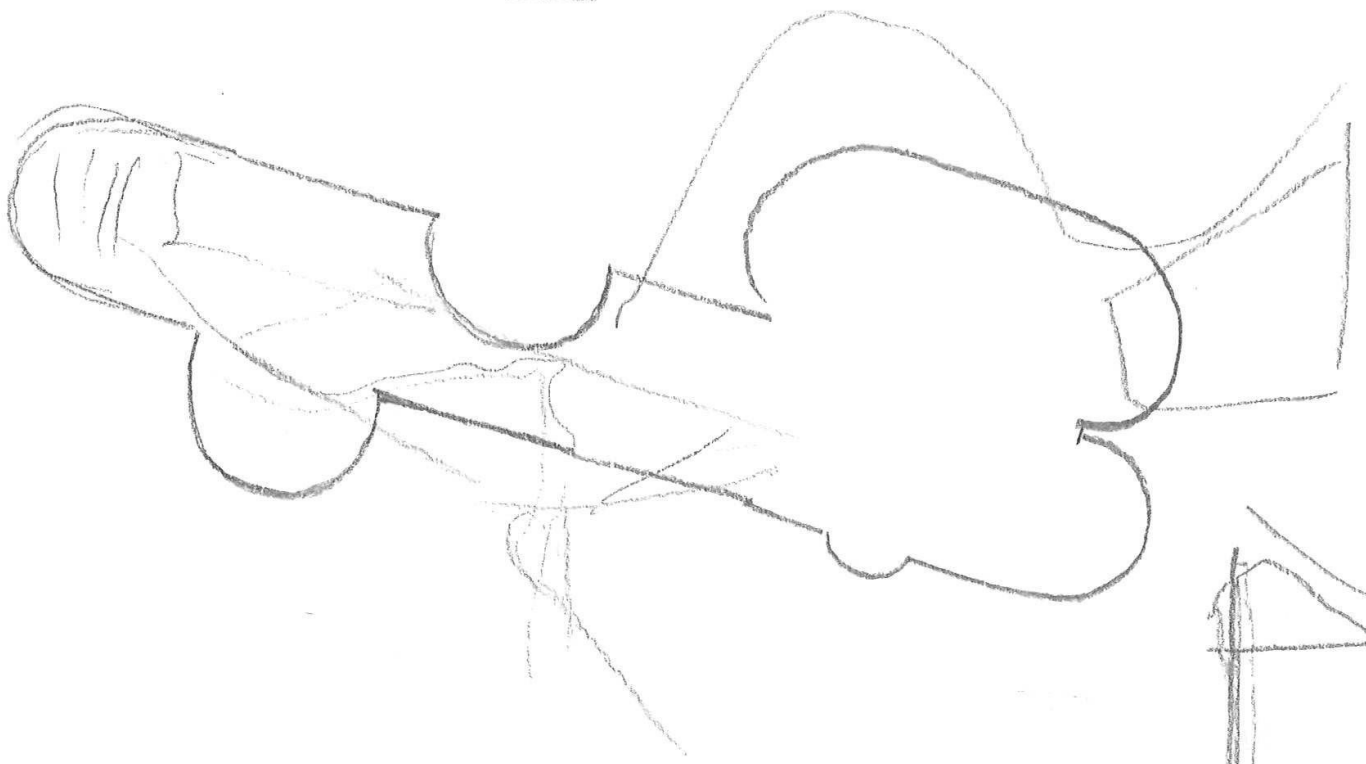
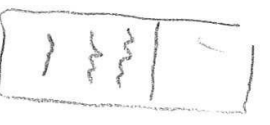
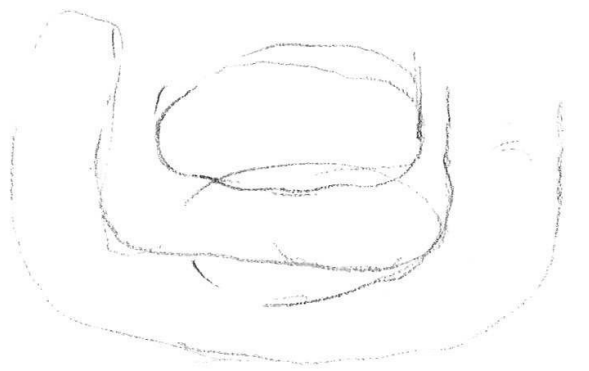
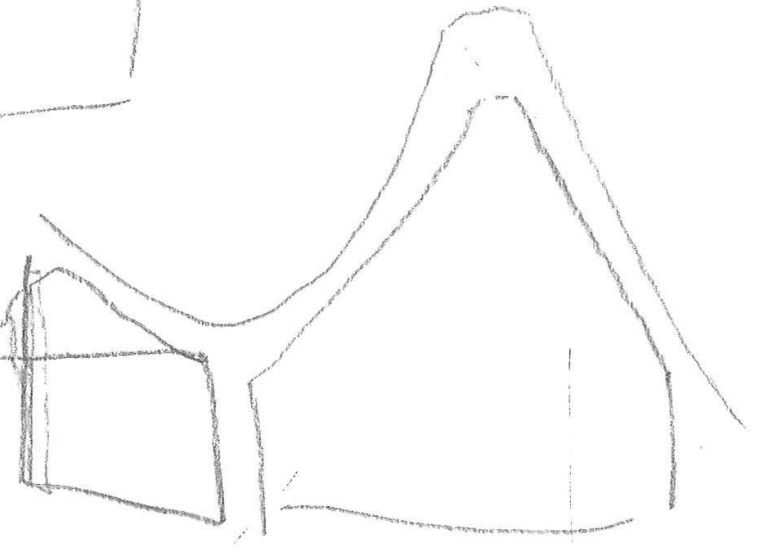
earth

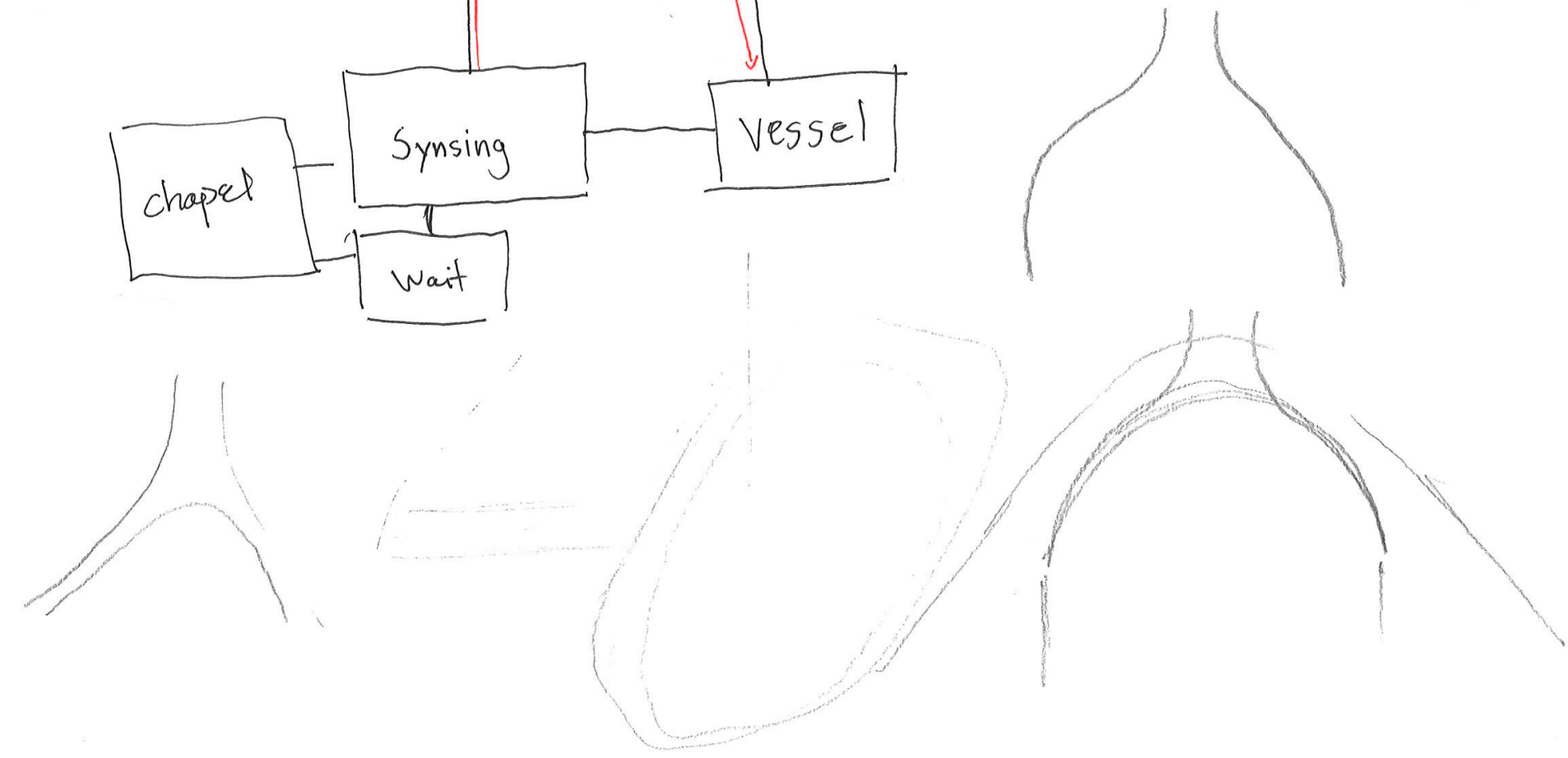
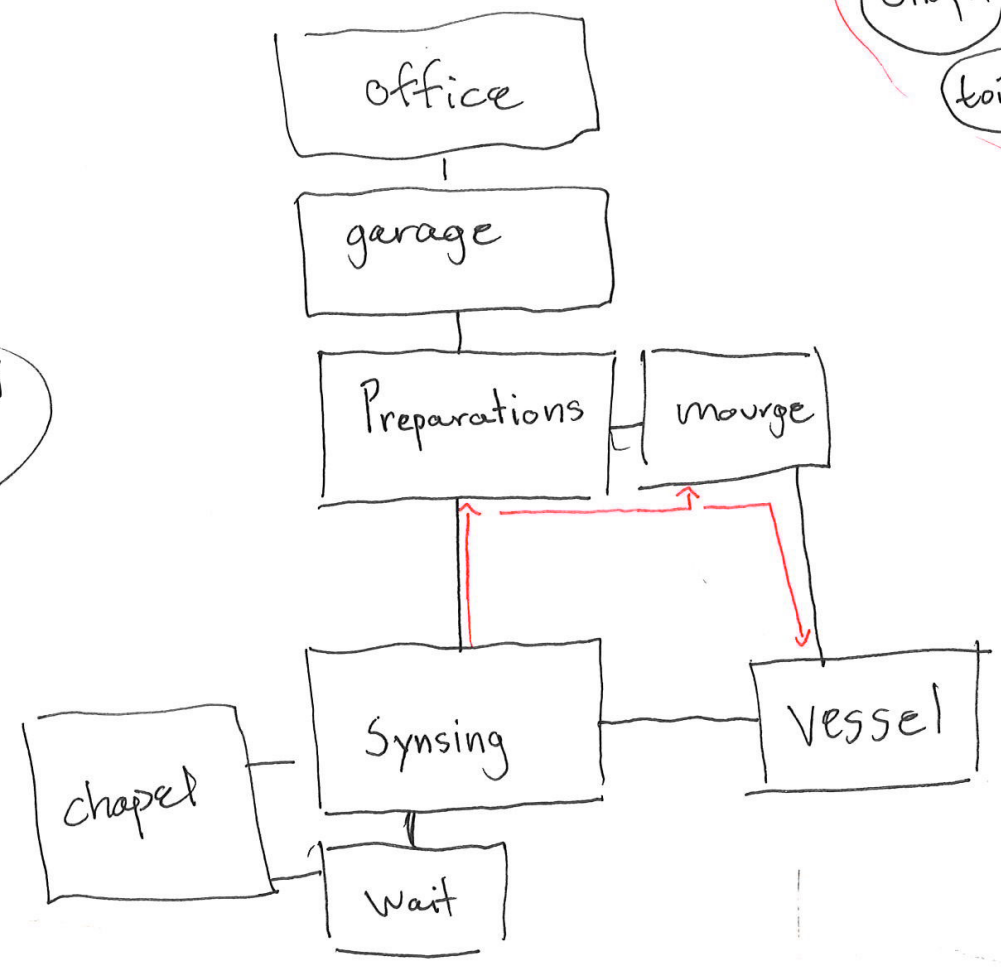
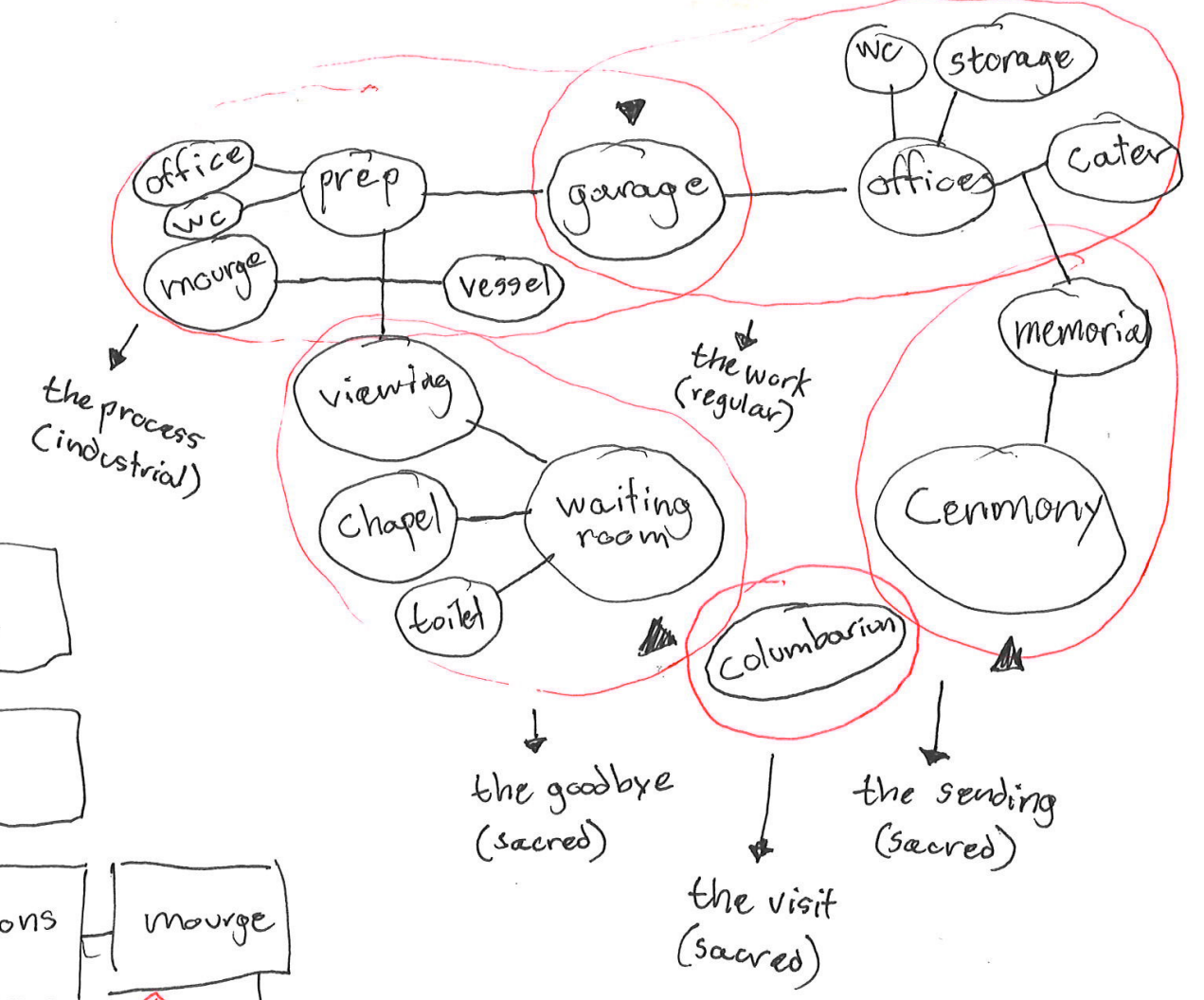
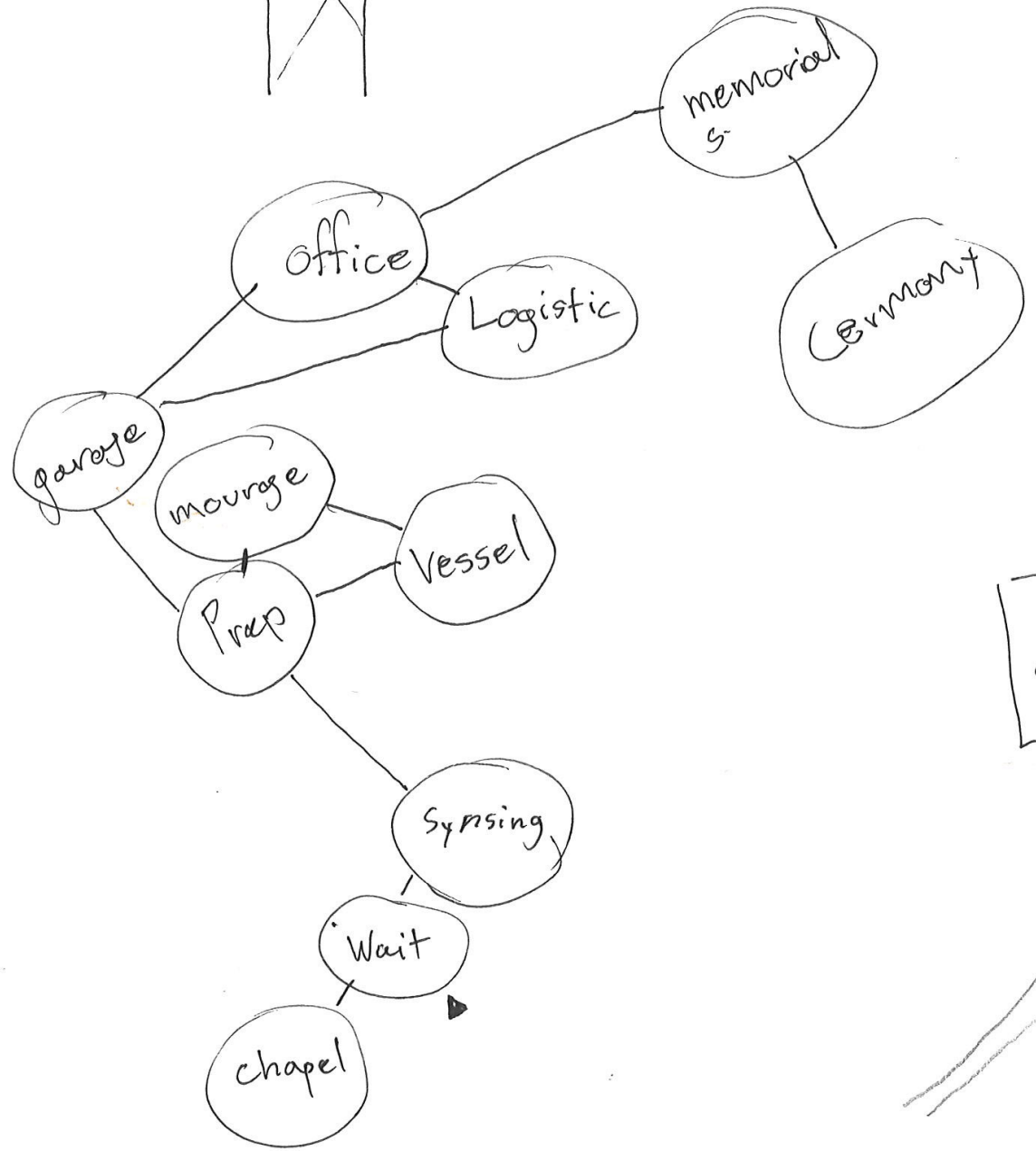
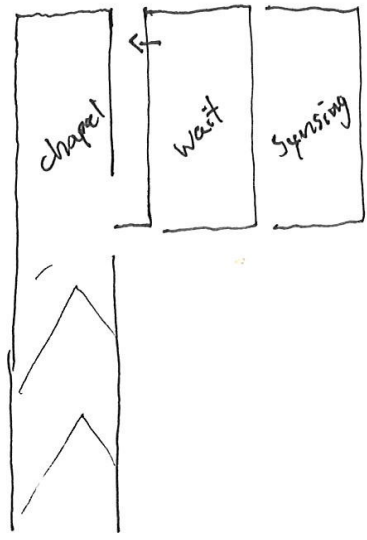




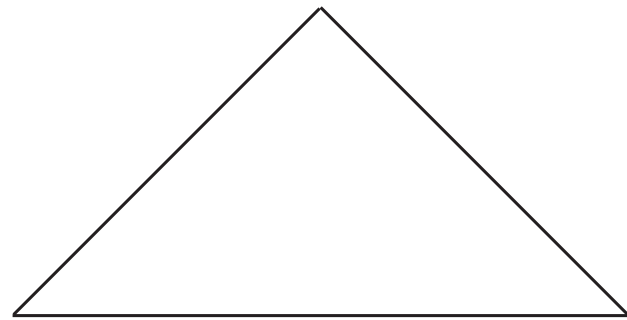
- 1. Synsing (ute kapell)
- 2. Ceremony (WAAK ventrom)
- 3. Columbarium

Jord
Access





Architectural concept



TUMULUS

Space for death



Tumulus - Ireland

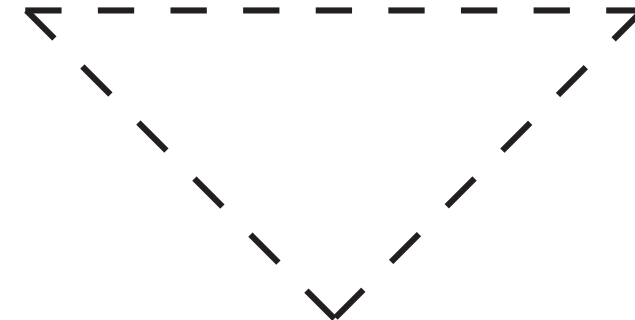


CONNECTION

Space for the inbetween



La Collina - Terunobu Fujimori



Negative space TUMULUS

Space for life



Irish Sky Garden - James Turrell

March

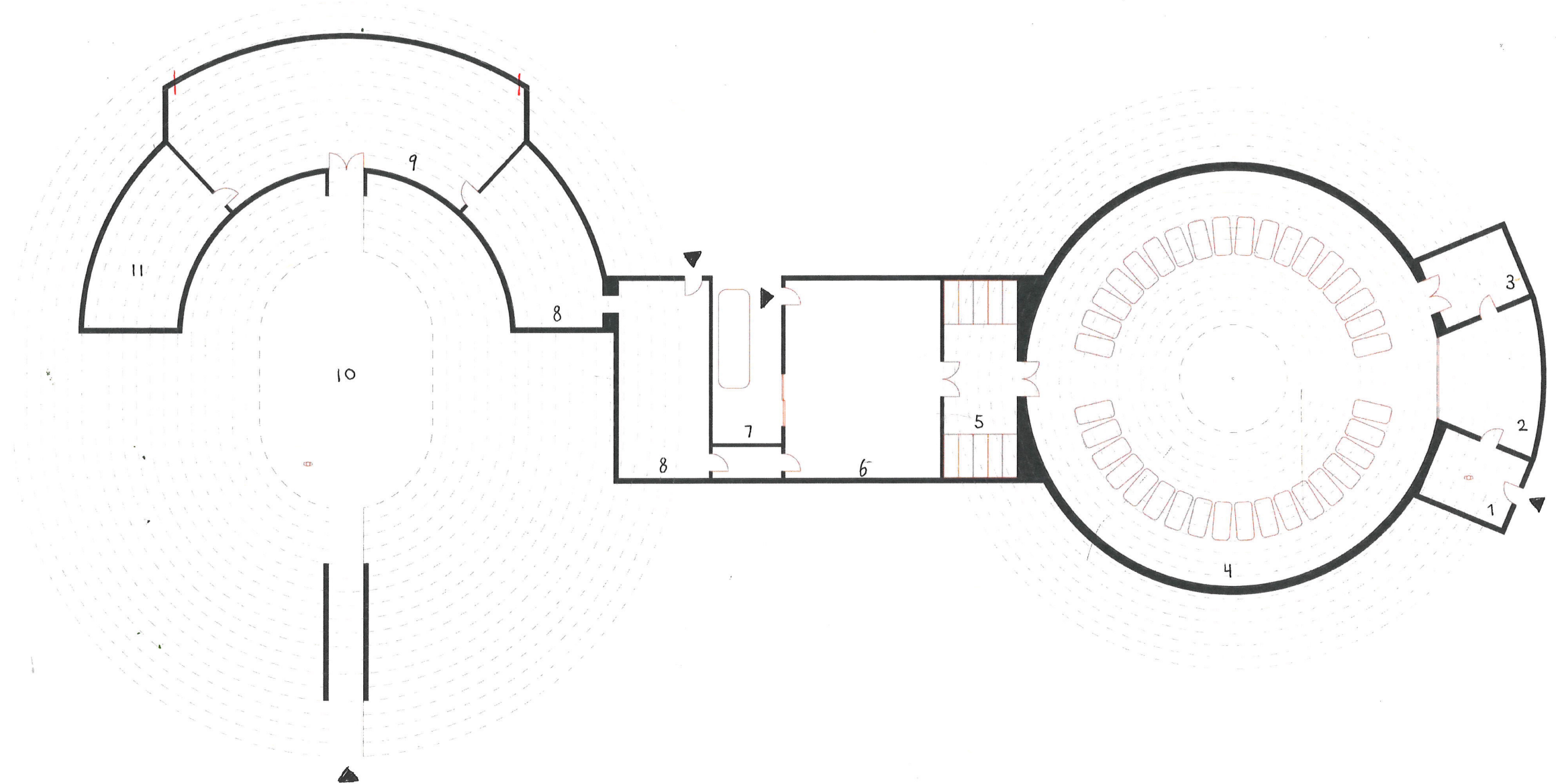
By this stage, I had solidified a coherent concept that I was eager to pursue. Drawing inspiration from the tumulus as a prominent design element, I aimed to establish a series of juxtapositions within the project. These included contrasts between above ground and below ground spaces. However, other juxtapositions such as the integration of forest and farmland biomes, and the turbulent relationship of urban and natural environments had not yet been developed and would come at the next stage of development.

This conceptual framework served as a guiding principle throughout the subsequent stages of design development, informing key decisions and shaping the overall character of the project.







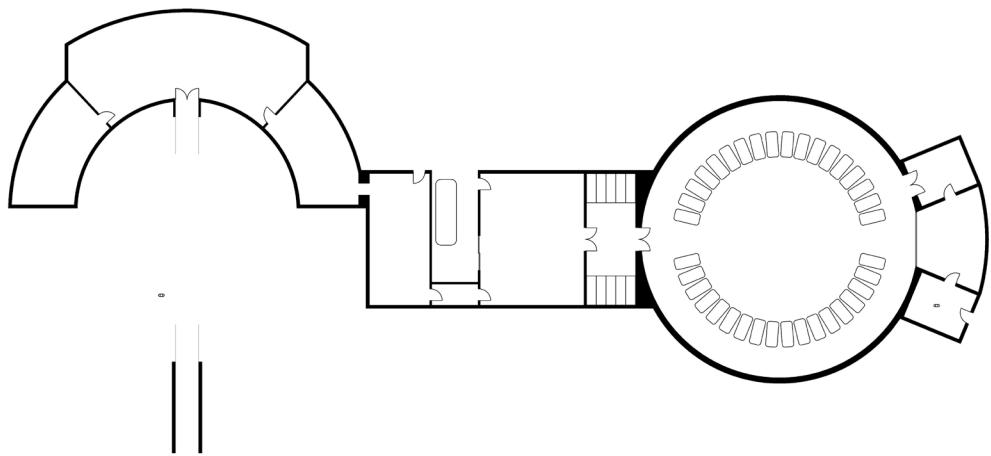


- 8 - Offices / employee amenities
- 9 - Memorial / Lounge
- 10 - Cermony
- 11 - Visitor amenities



1:200

- 1 - Waiting room
- 2 - Chapel
- 3 - Viewing
- 4 - Vessel room
- 5 - Morgue / Curing
- 6 - Autopsy - receival
- 7 - Garage



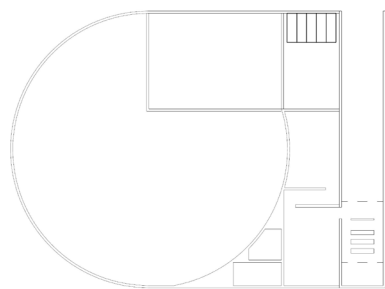
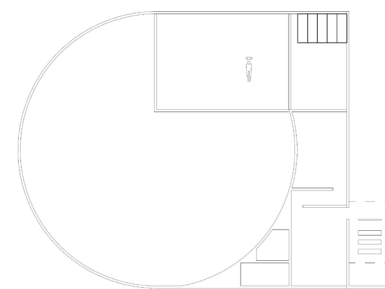
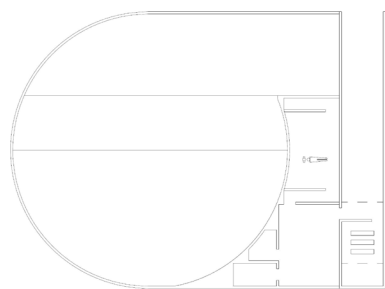
□□□□ □□□□

□□□□
□□□□

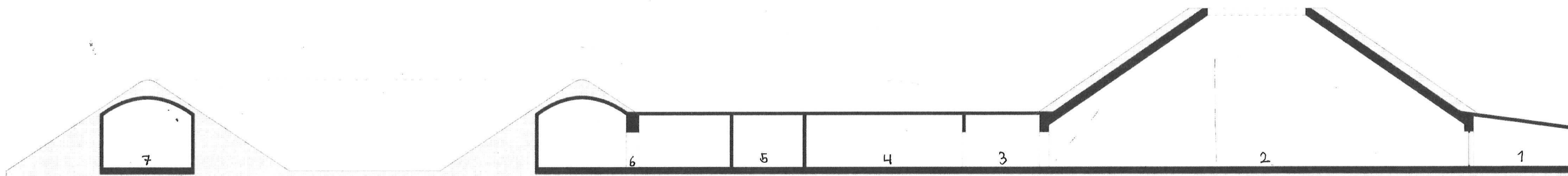
□□□□ □□□□

□□□□□□□□□□
□□□□ □□□□ □□□□□□□□□□
□□□□□□□□ □□□□ □□□□□□□□□□

□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□
□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□

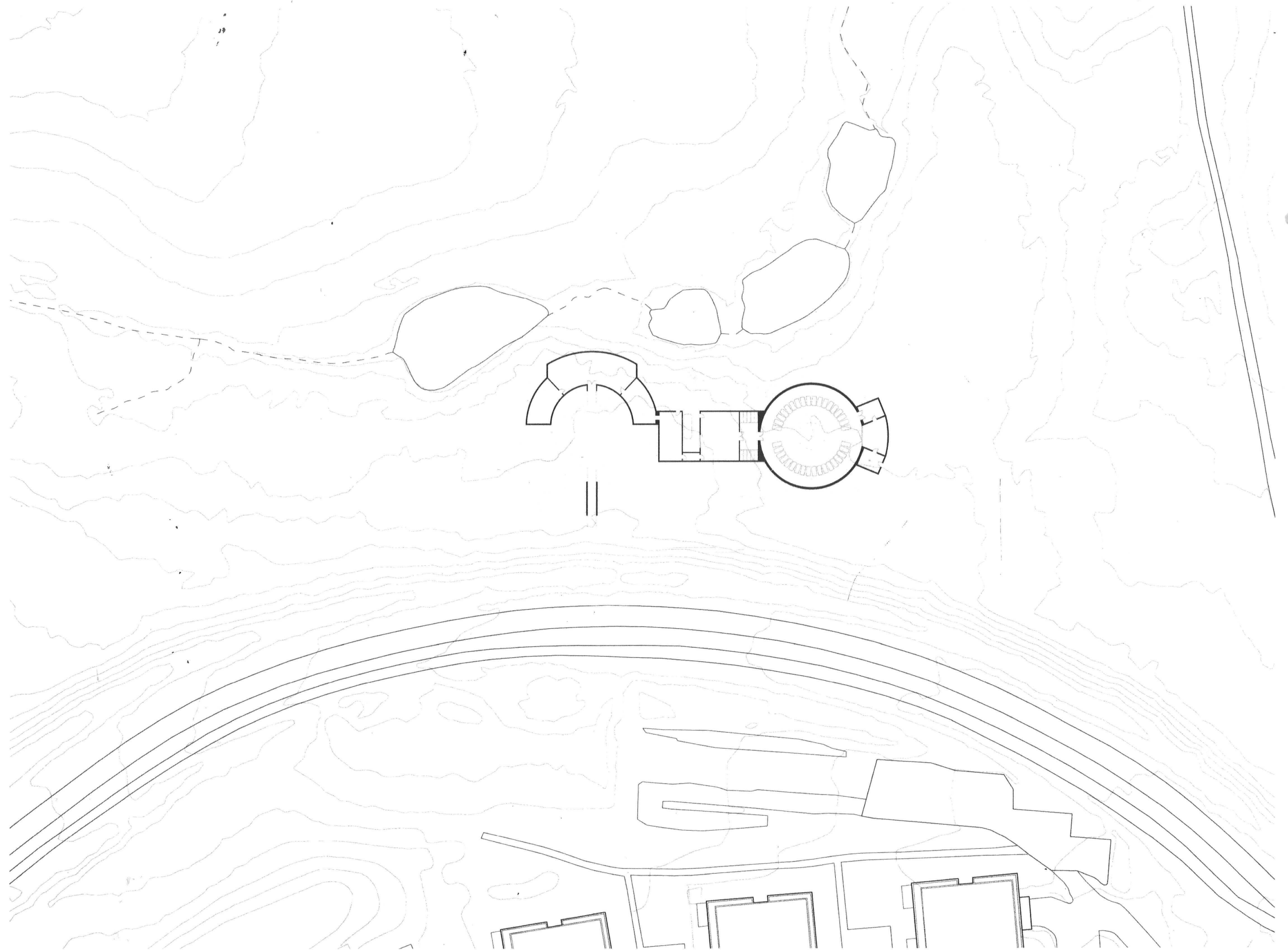


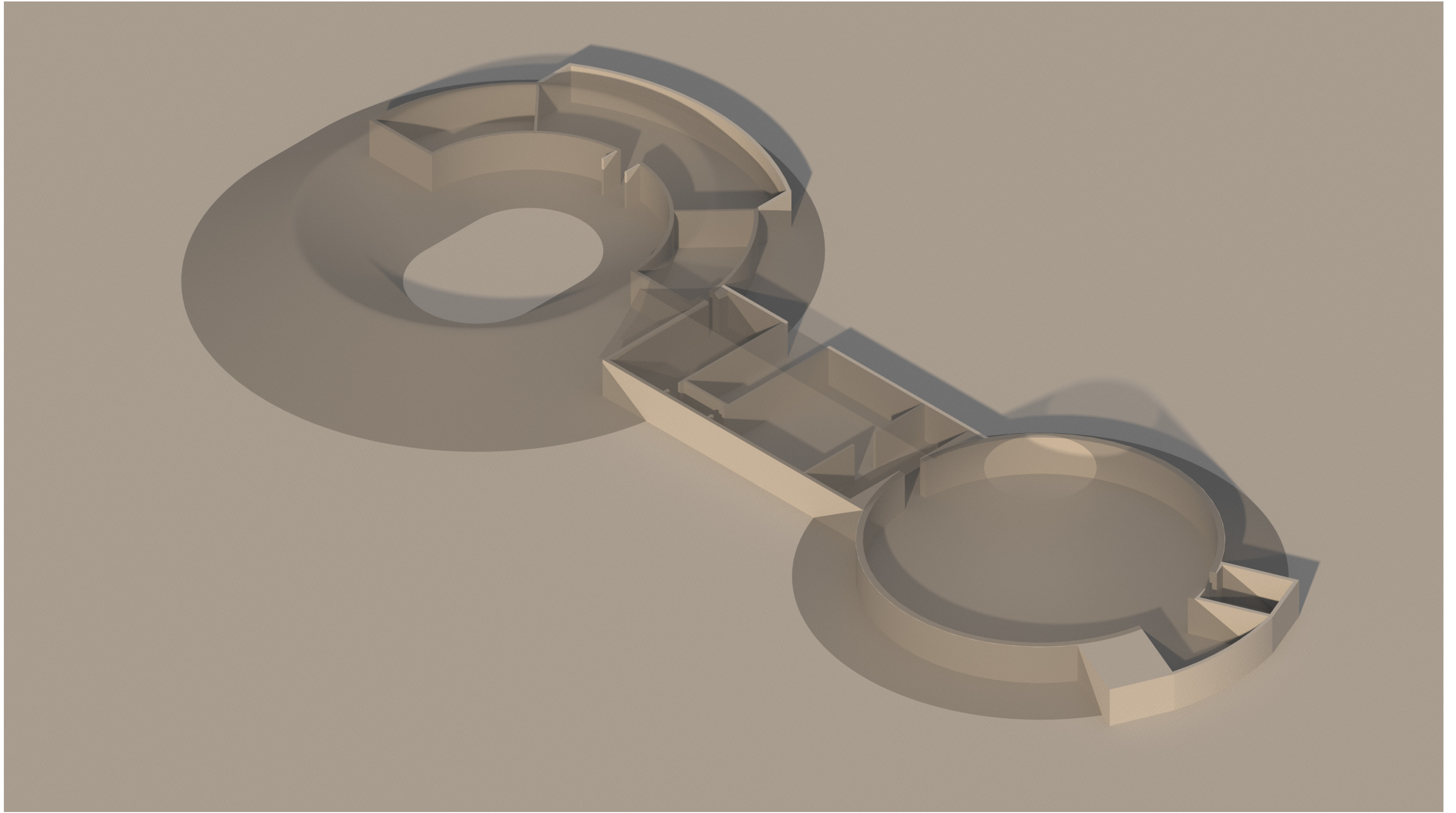
N
↑



- 1 Chapel
- 2 Vesselroom
- 3 Morgue
- 4 Autopsy
- 5 Garage
- 6 Offices
- 7 Visitor amenities

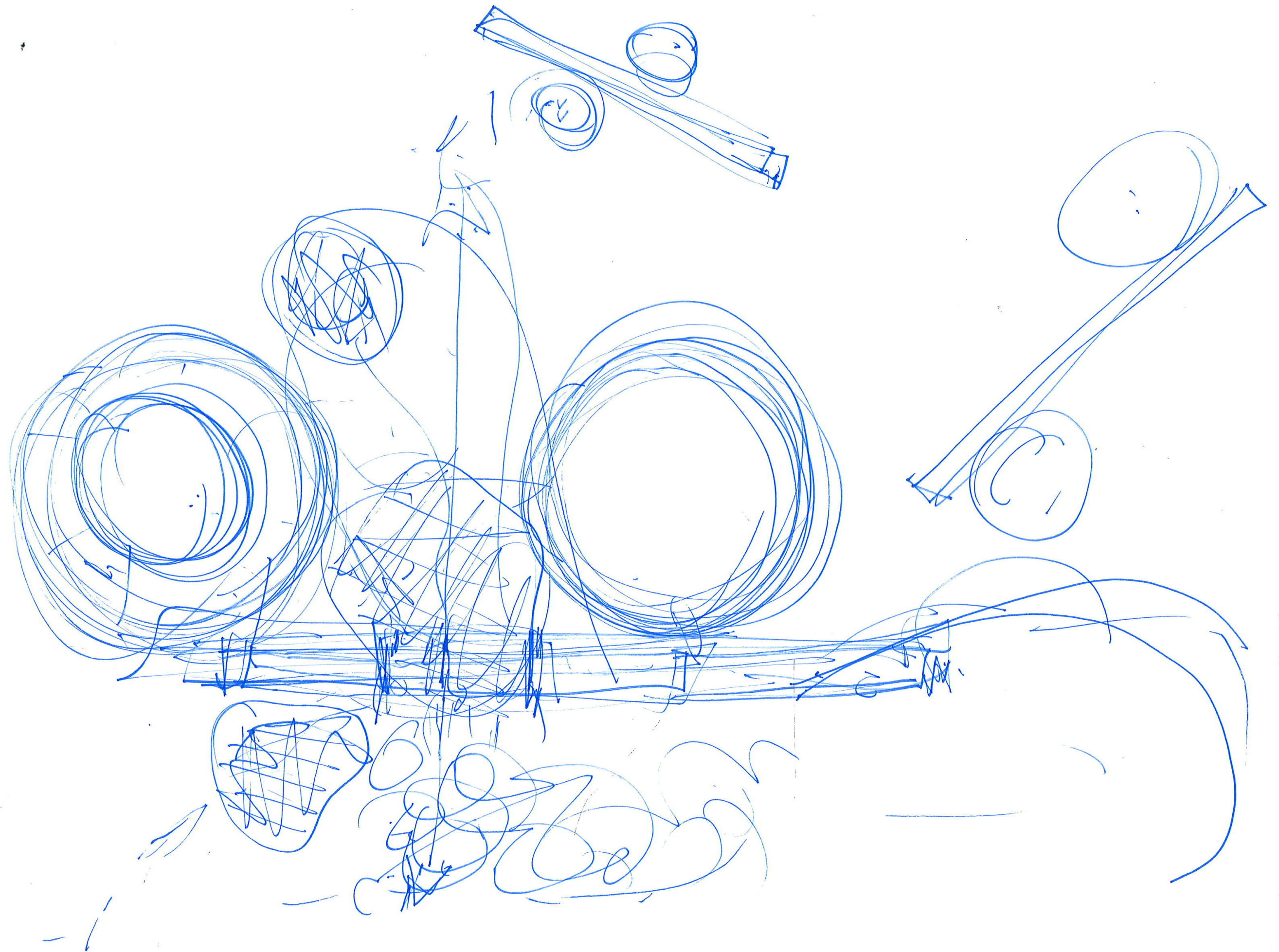
1:225

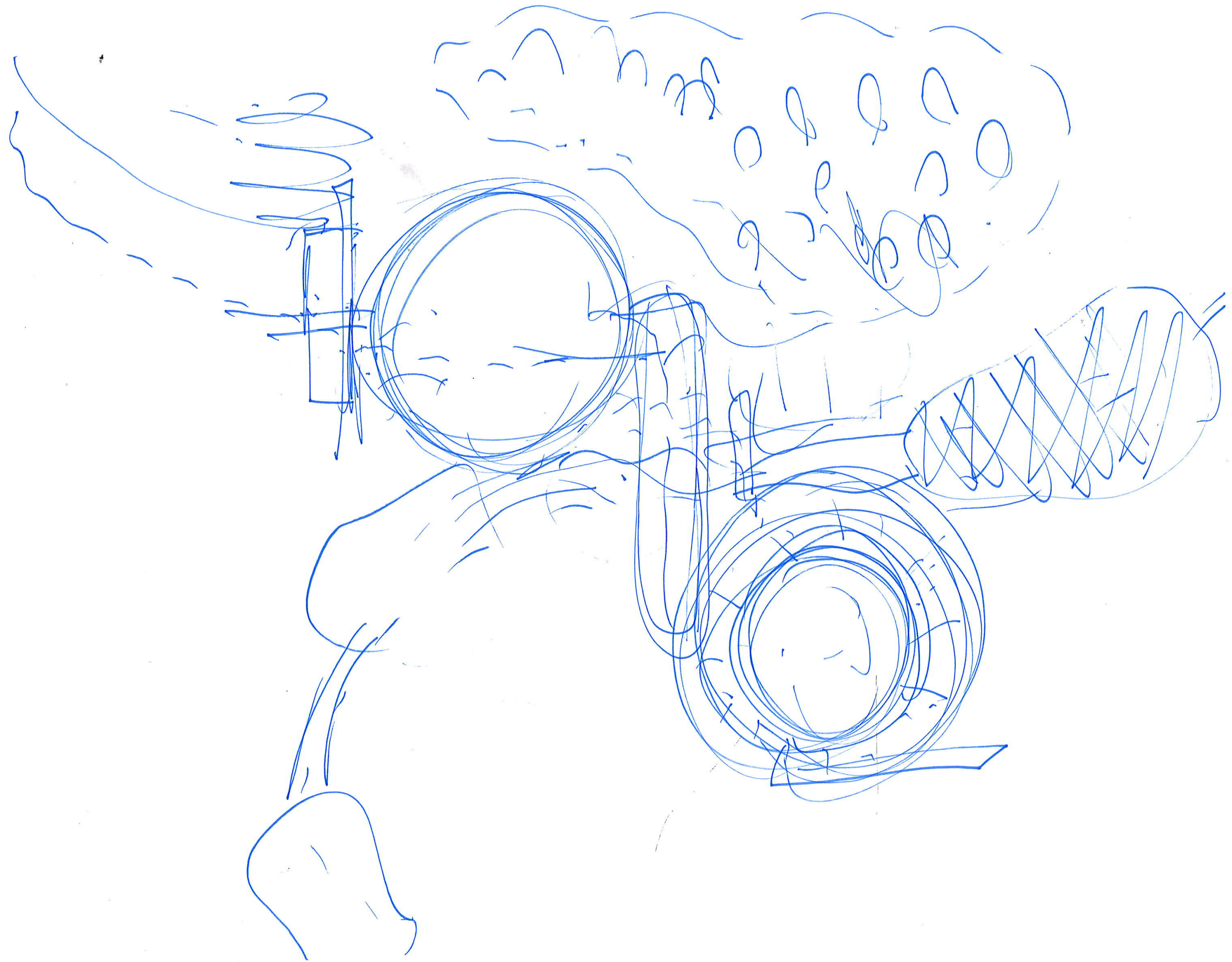


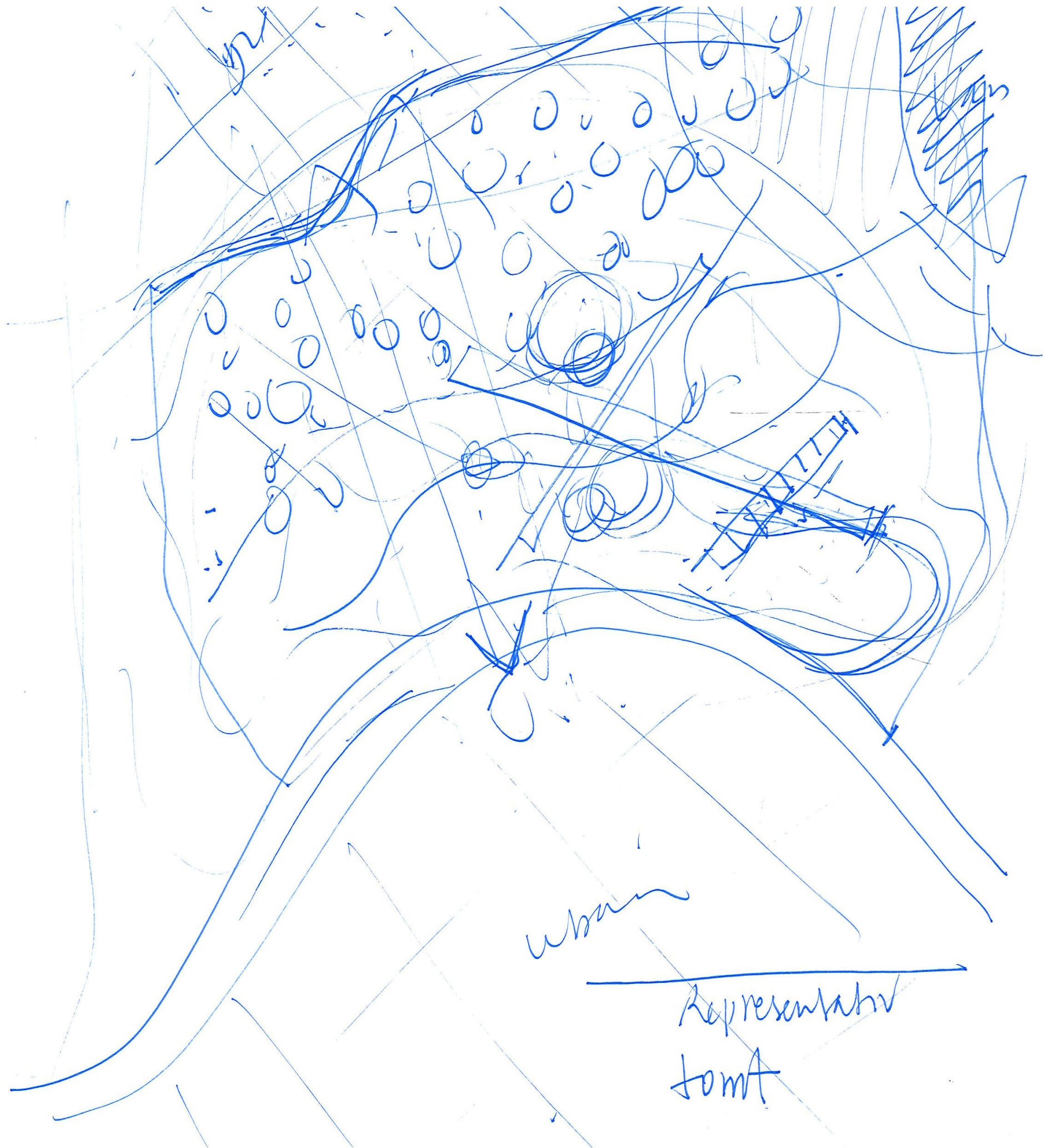


March-April

As the project progresses, the foundational elements of the tumulus and ceremony mound have been integrated into the design, serving as key anchors that inform the overall development of the project. However, at this stage, the current plans are predominantly situated within the forested area. In the next phase, the focus shifts towards finalizing the orientation and general placement of the major programs within the project.



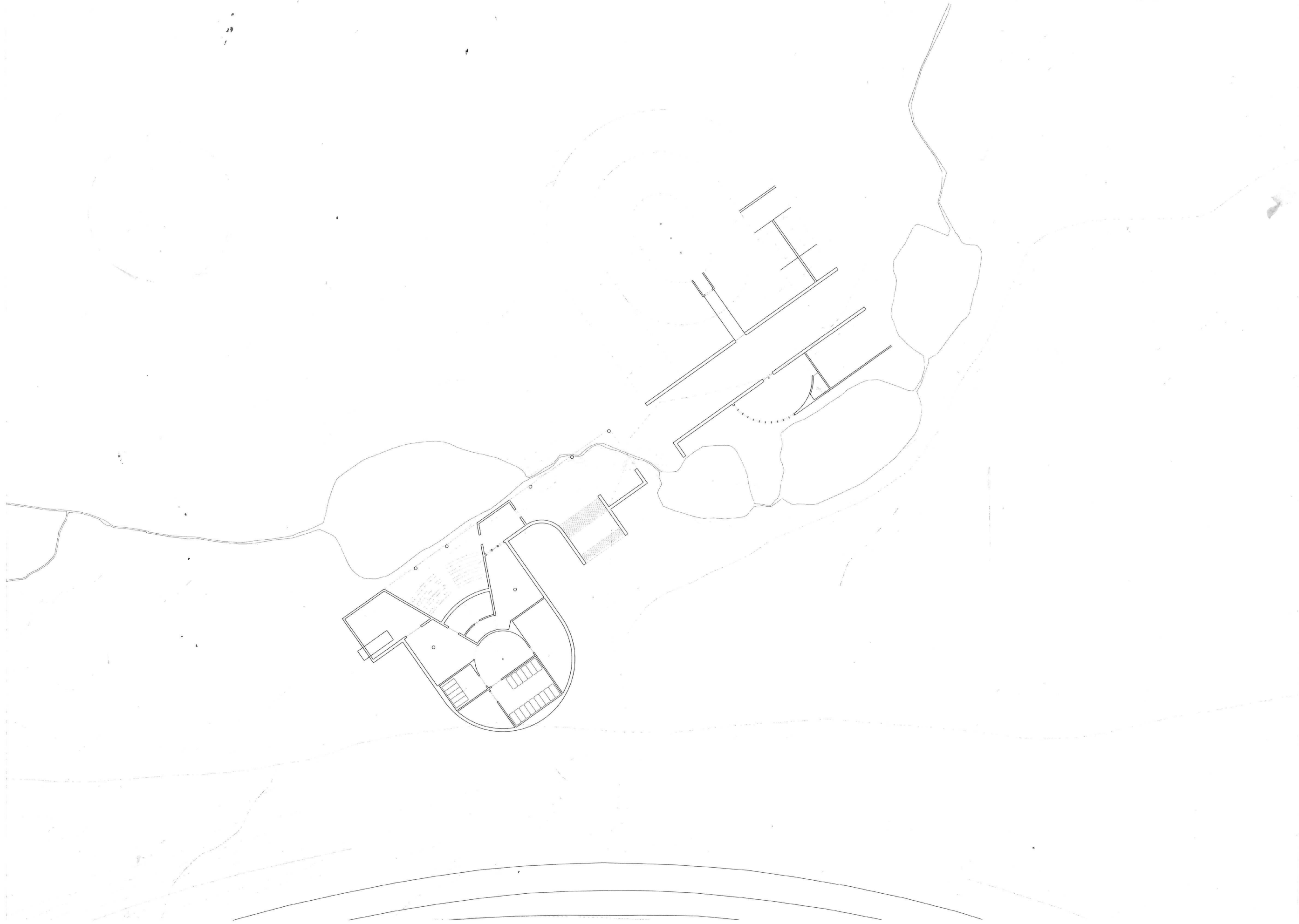


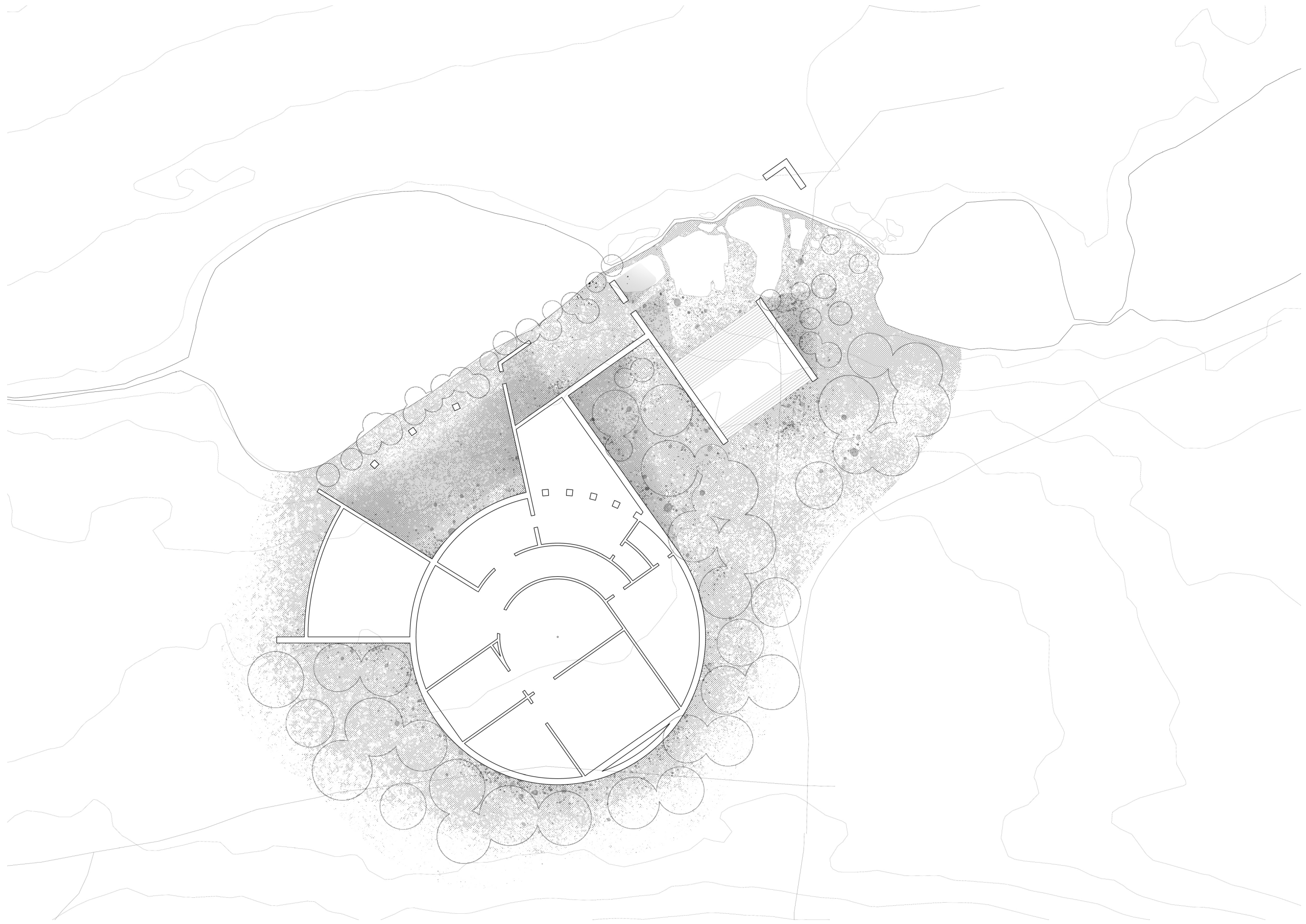


Urban

Repräsentativ

Jamt

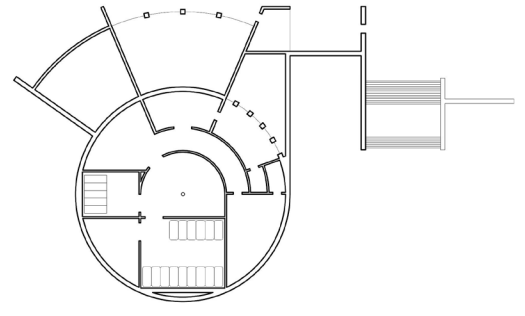
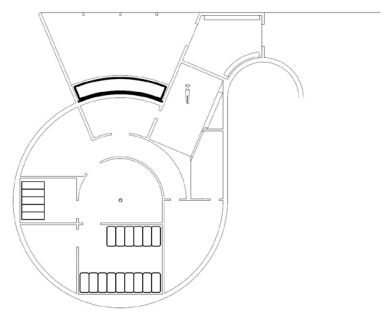
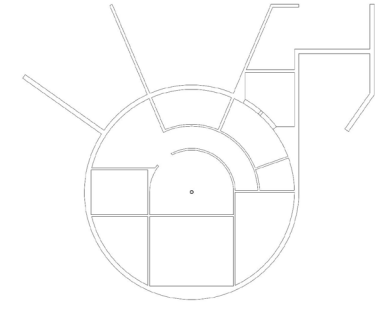
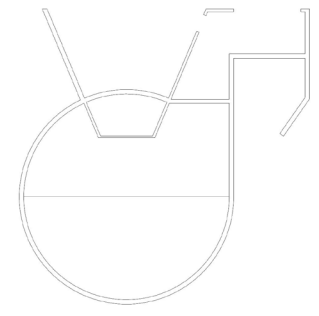
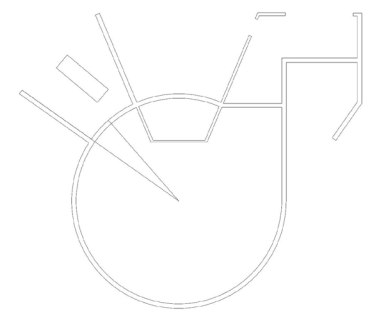
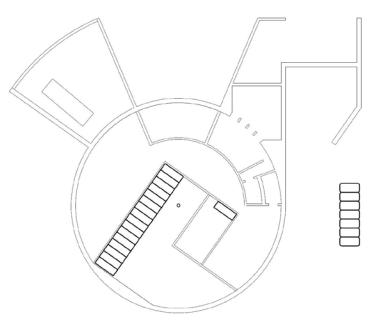
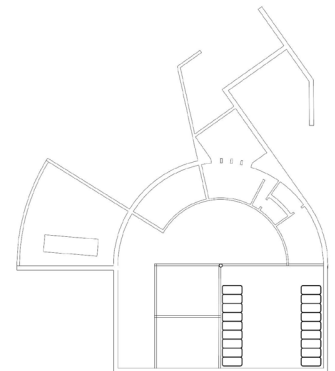
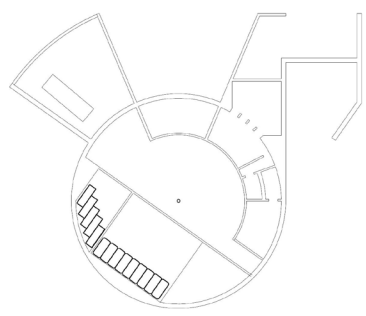
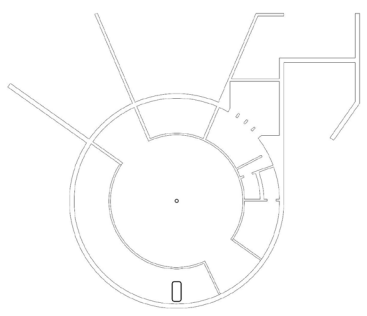
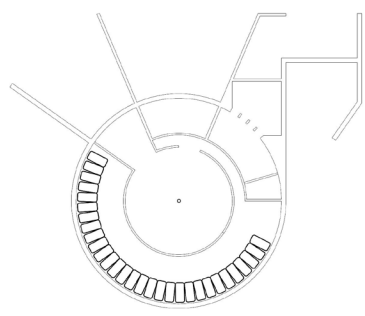
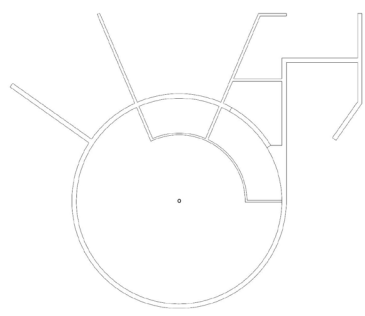
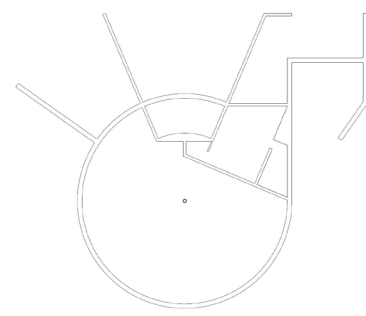


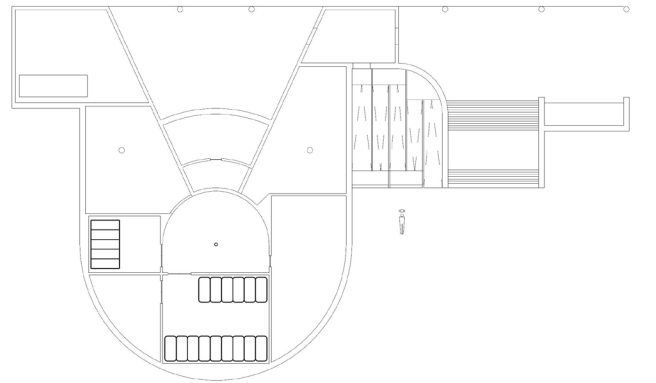
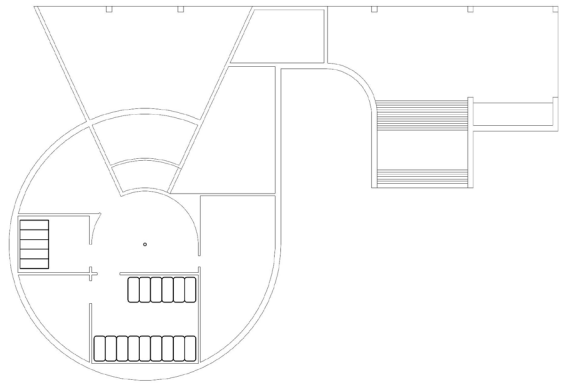
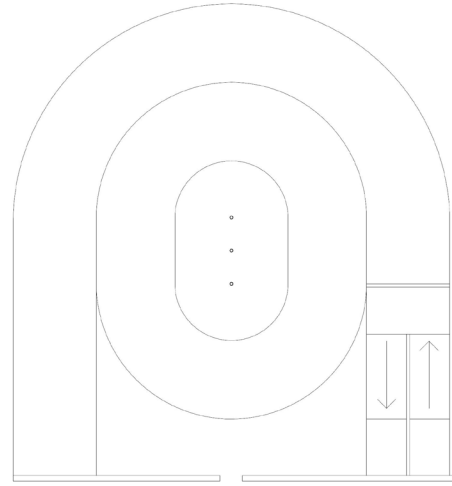
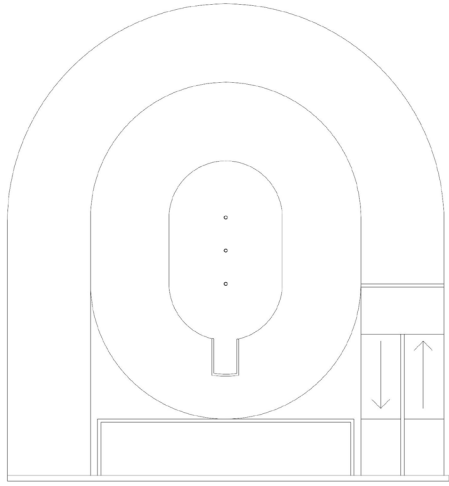
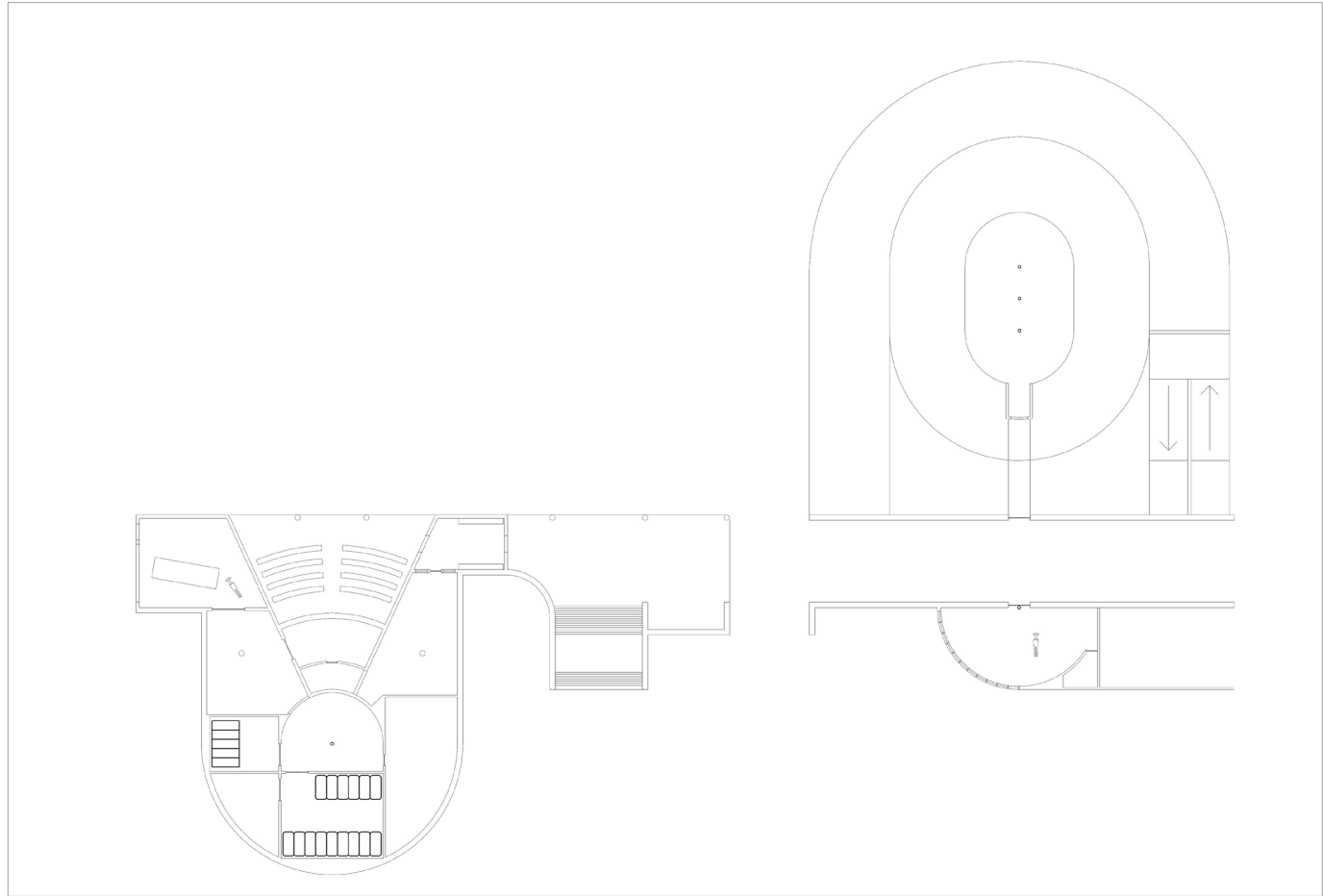


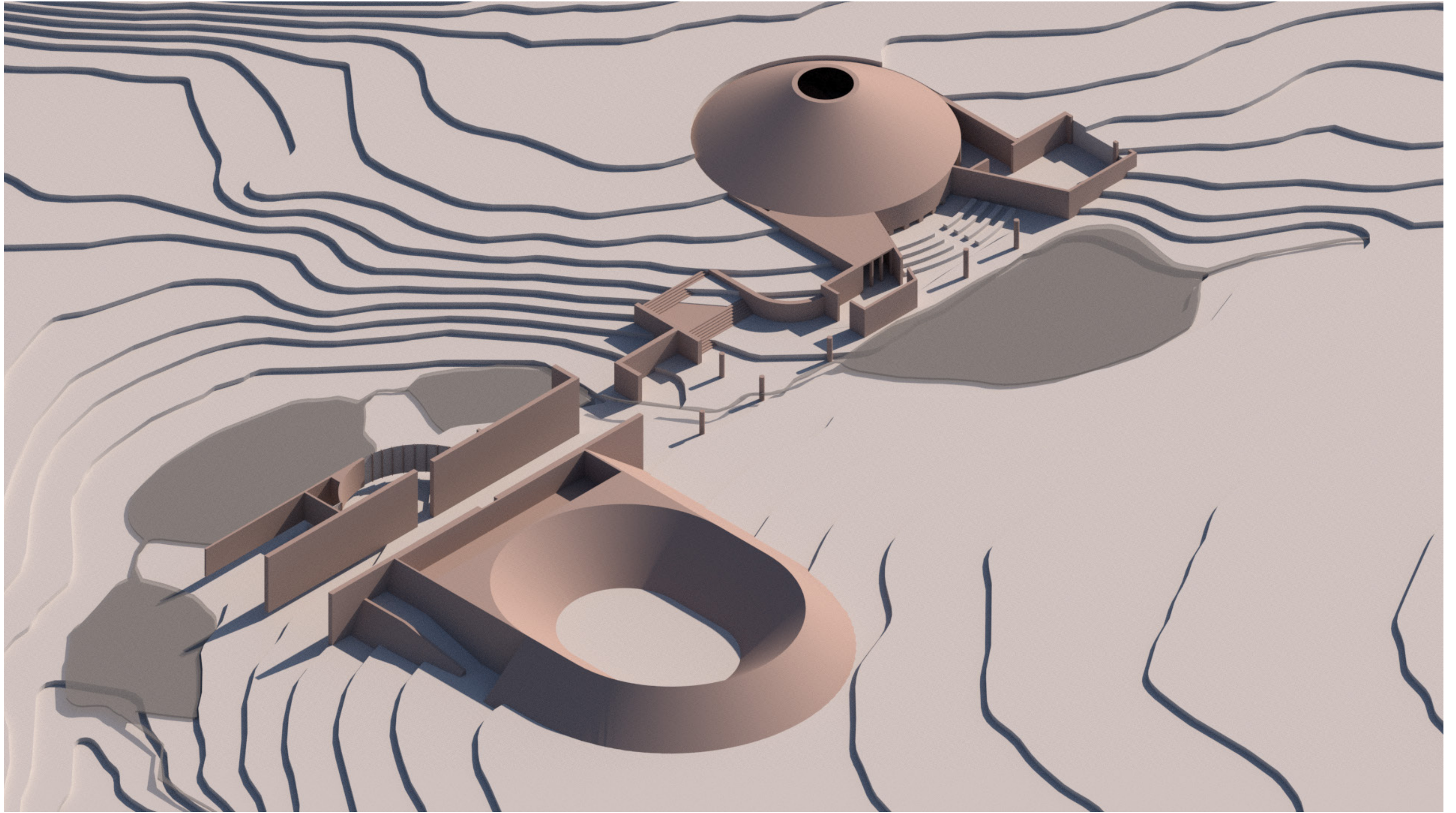
1

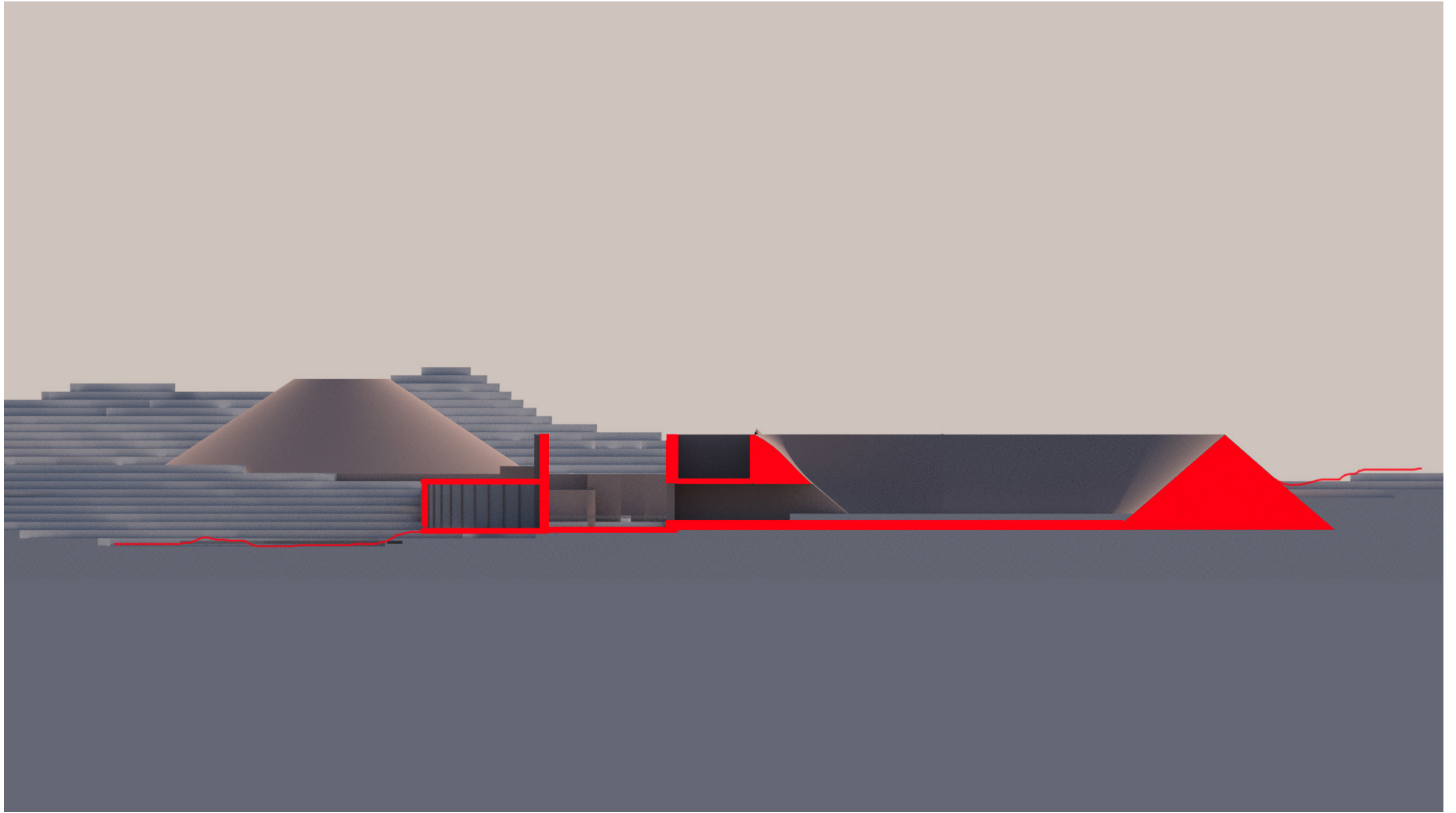
2

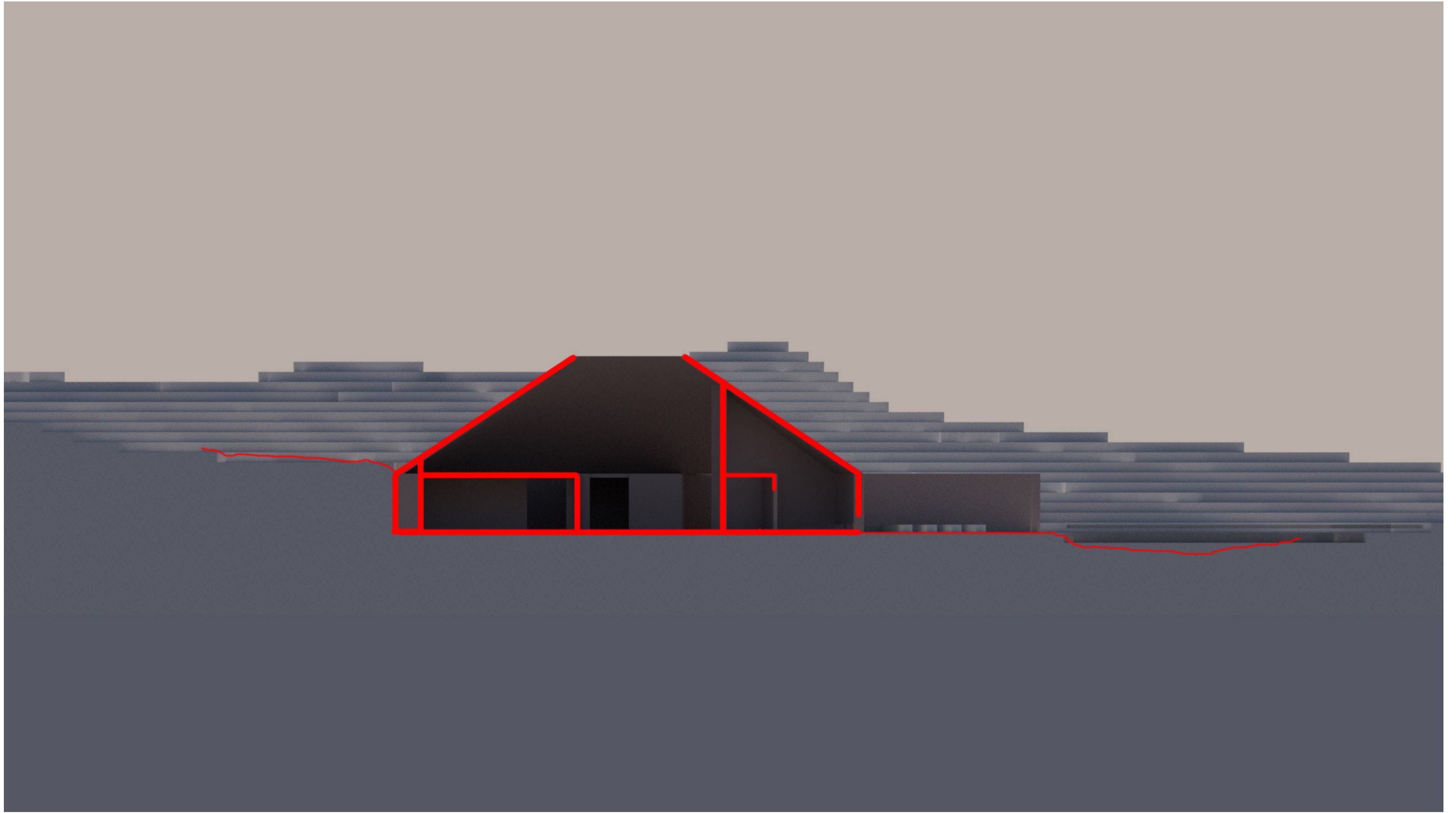
3





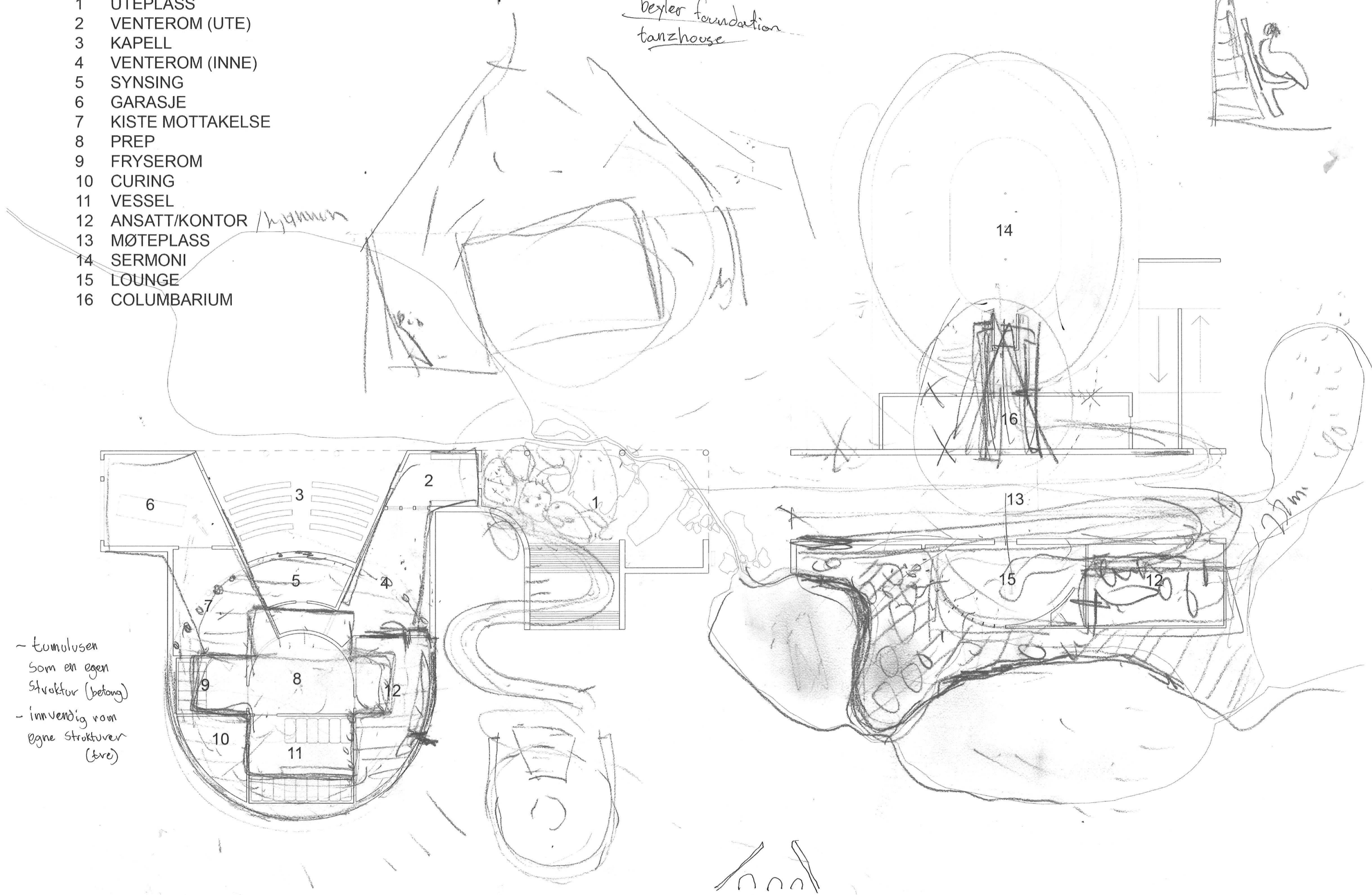




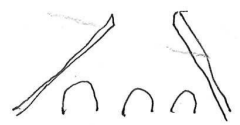


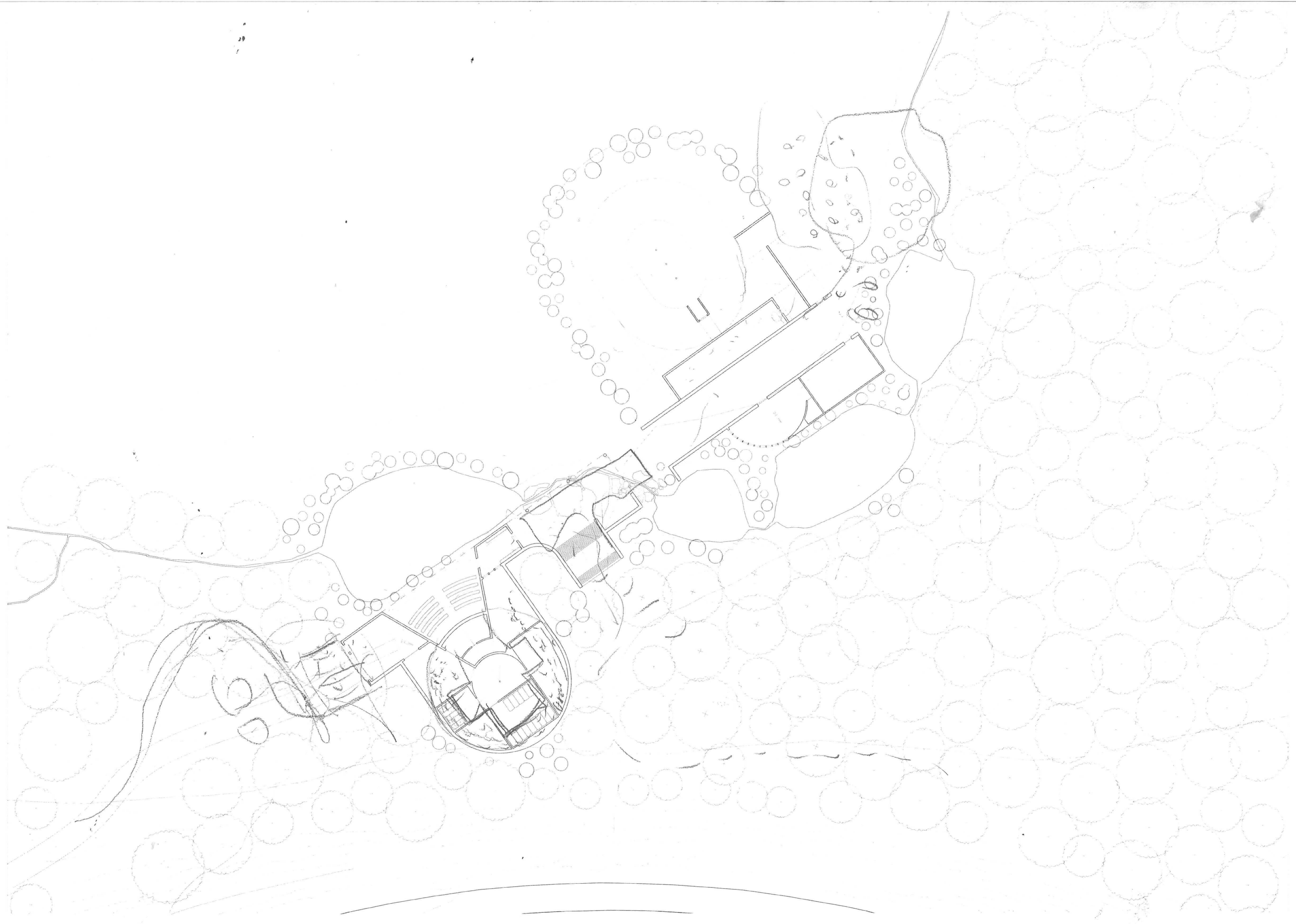
- 1 UTEPLASS
- 2 VENTEROM (UTE)
- 3 KAPELL
- 4 VENTEROM (INNE)
- 5 SYNSING
- 6 GARASJE
- 7 KISTE MOTTAKELSE
- 8 PREP
- 9 FRYSEROM
- 10 CURING
- 11 VESSEL
- 12 ANSATT/KONTOR
- 13 MØTEPlass
- 14 SERMONI
- 15 LOUNGE
- 16 COLUMBARIUM

*beyle foundation
tanzhouse*



*- kumulusen
som en egen
struktur (betong)*
*- innvendig rom
egne strukturer
(tre)*

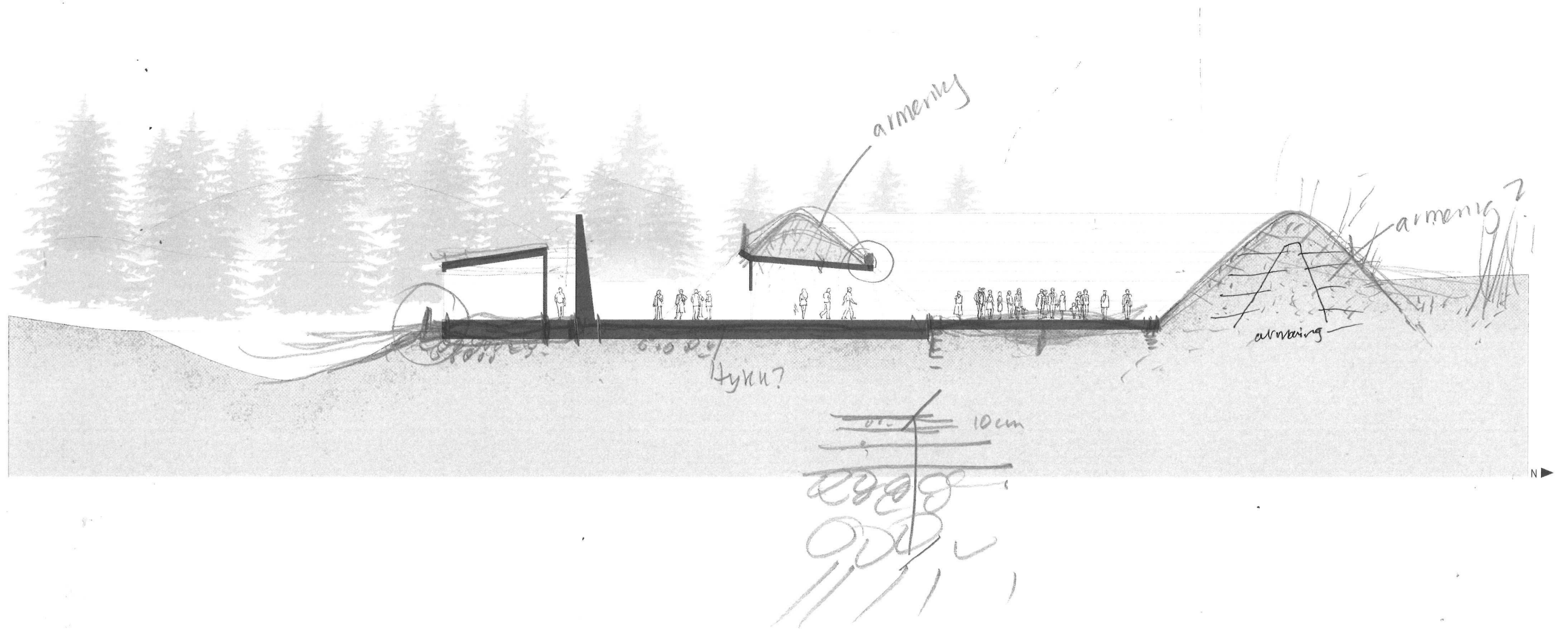
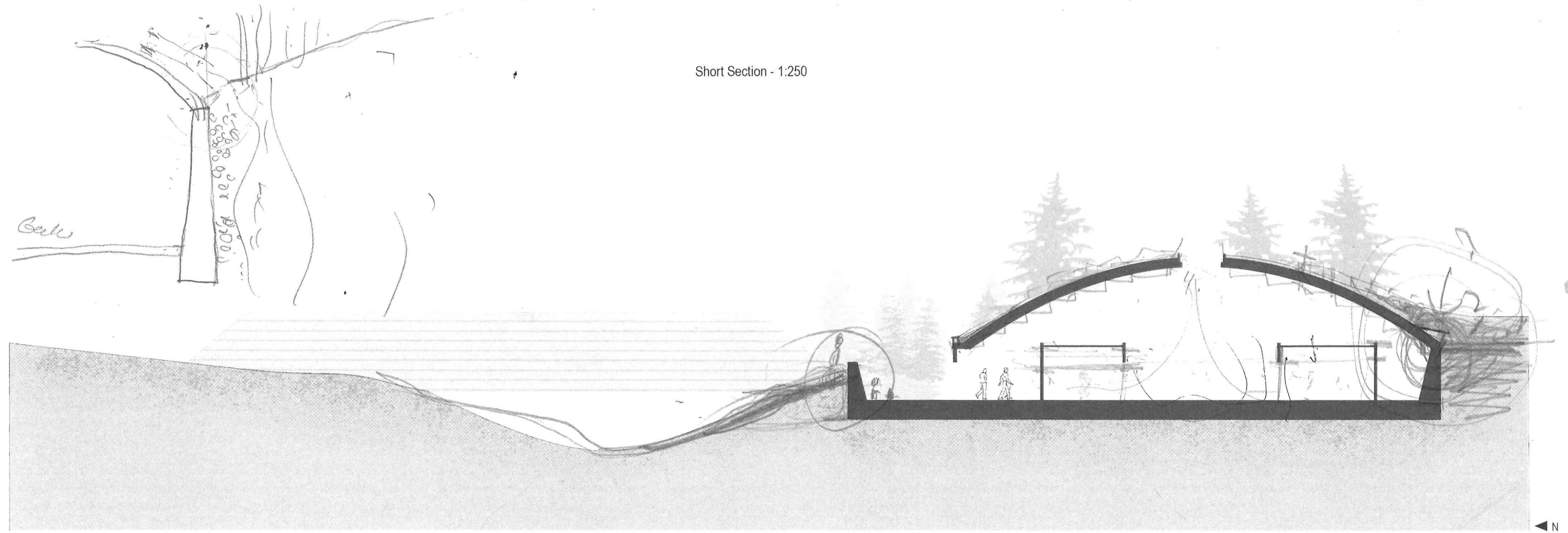




April-Mai

During this phase of the project, several key qualities of the program are beginning to take shape. This includes the division by the stream, the strategic placement of the tumulus and ceremony mound, and the establishment of a clear axis that connects all elements of the design. However, it became apparent that the initial plan was unnecessarily complicated and failed to fully prioritize accessibility for older adults and individuals with mobility impairments. Recognizing the importance of ensuring universal access to the facility, I shifted focus towards simplifying the layout and introducing design elements that would enhance accessibility without compromising the integrity of the overall concept.

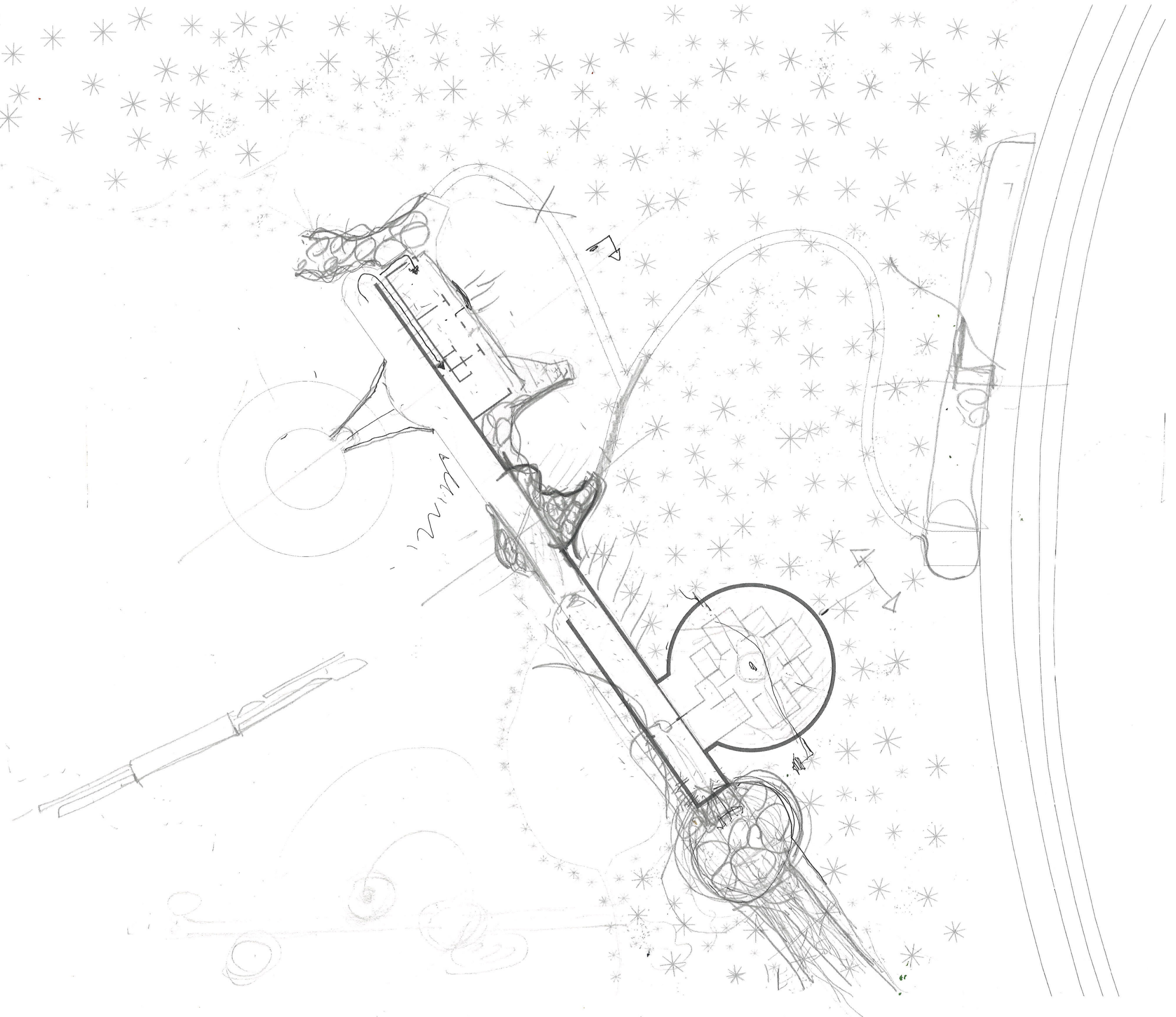
Short Section - 1:250



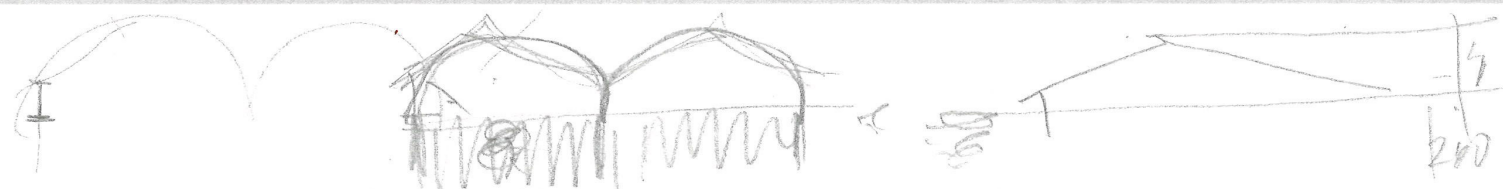
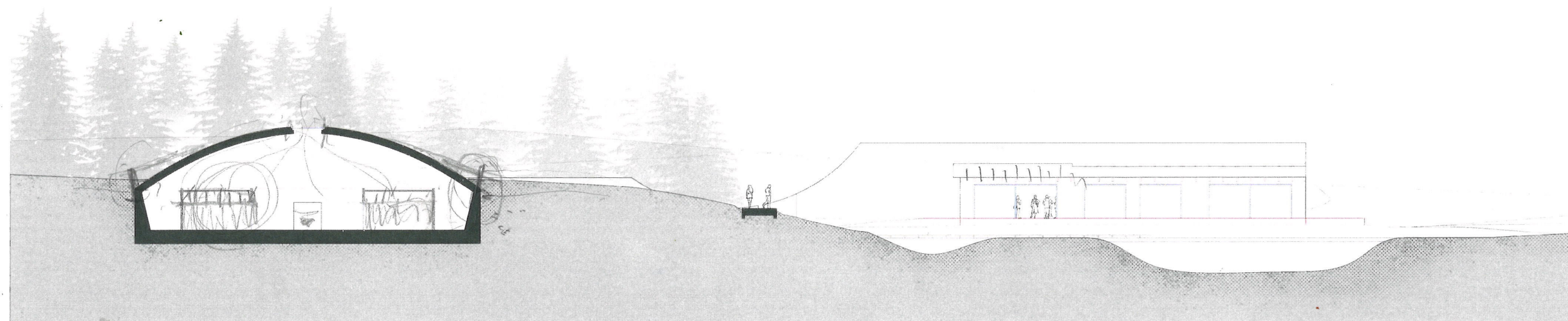
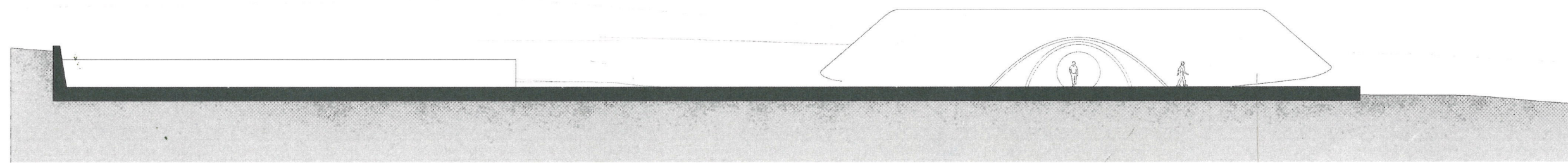
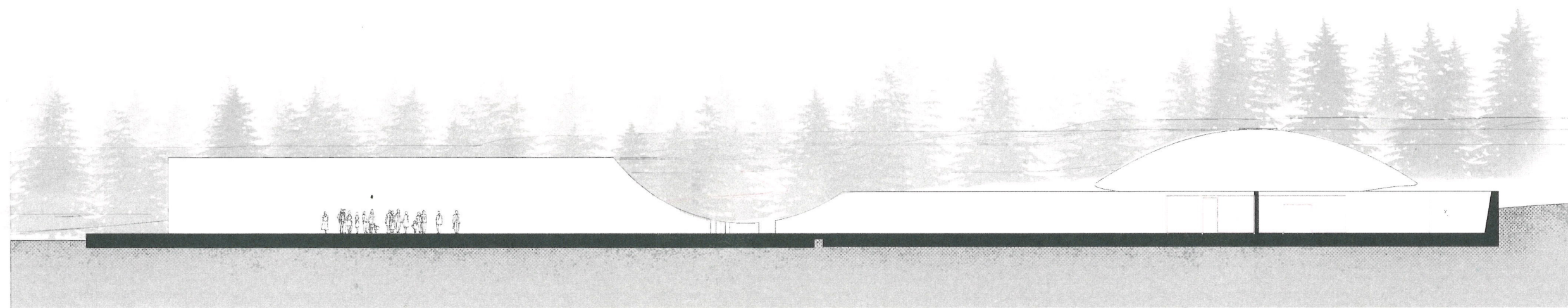
1/4/14

▲ N
Site Plan - 1:500

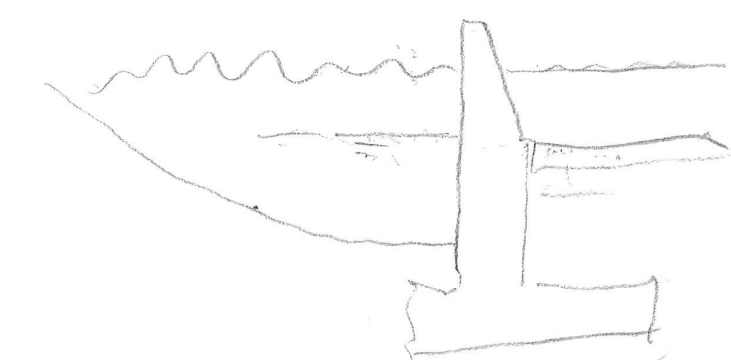
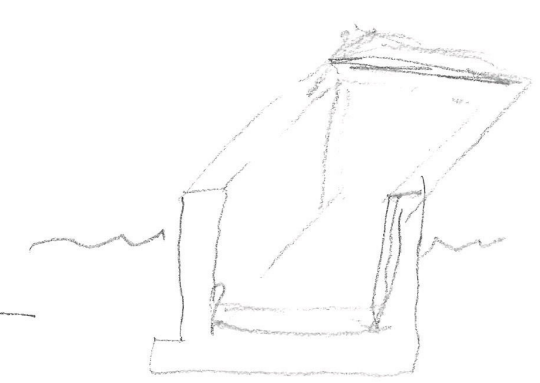
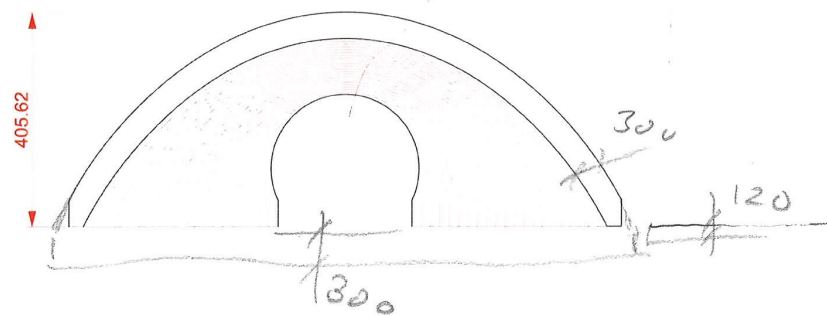
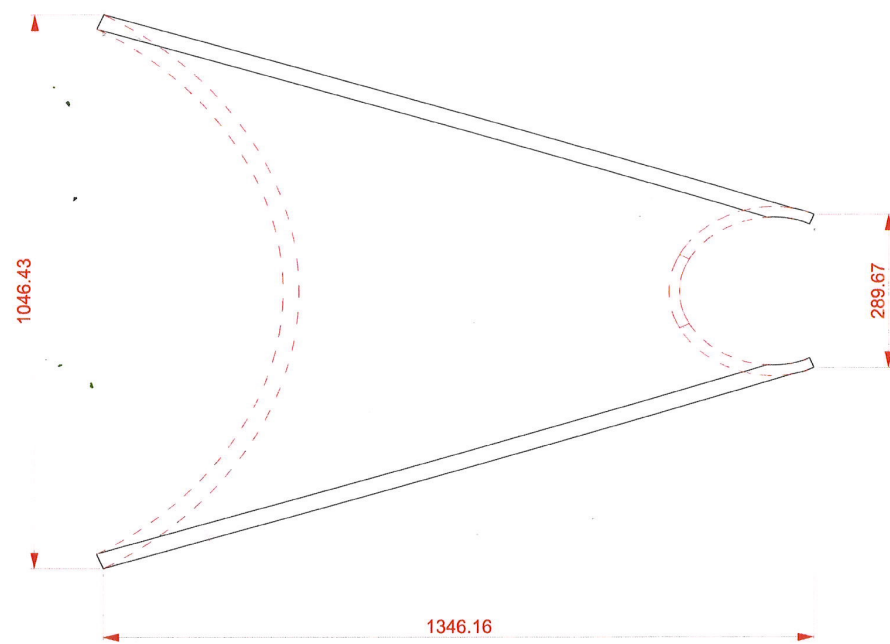
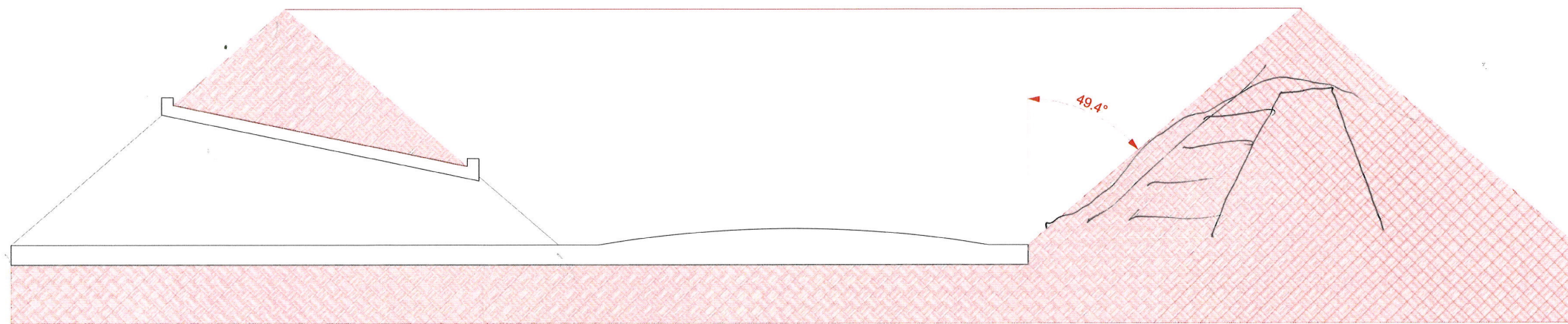
diagram
fountain



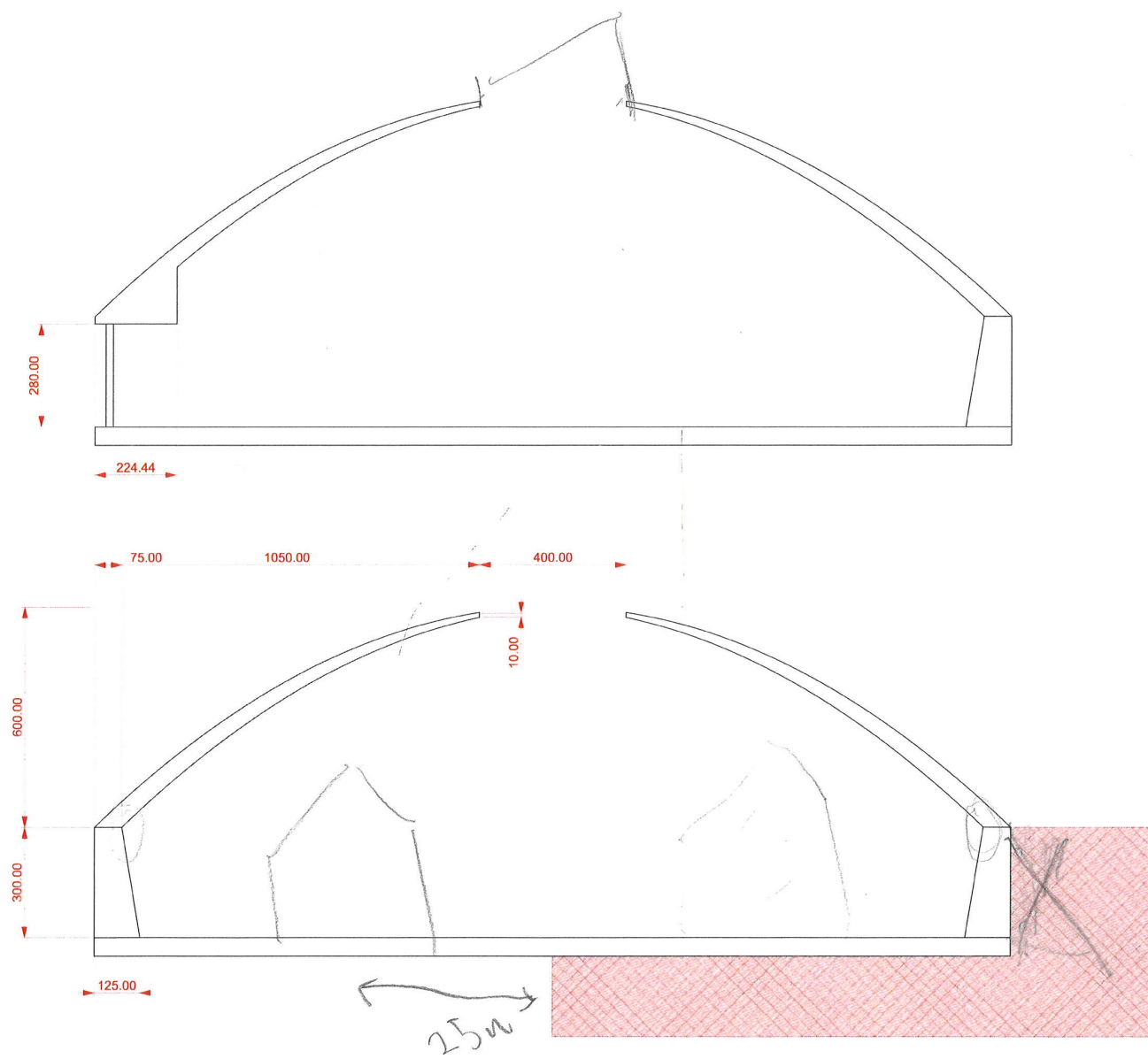
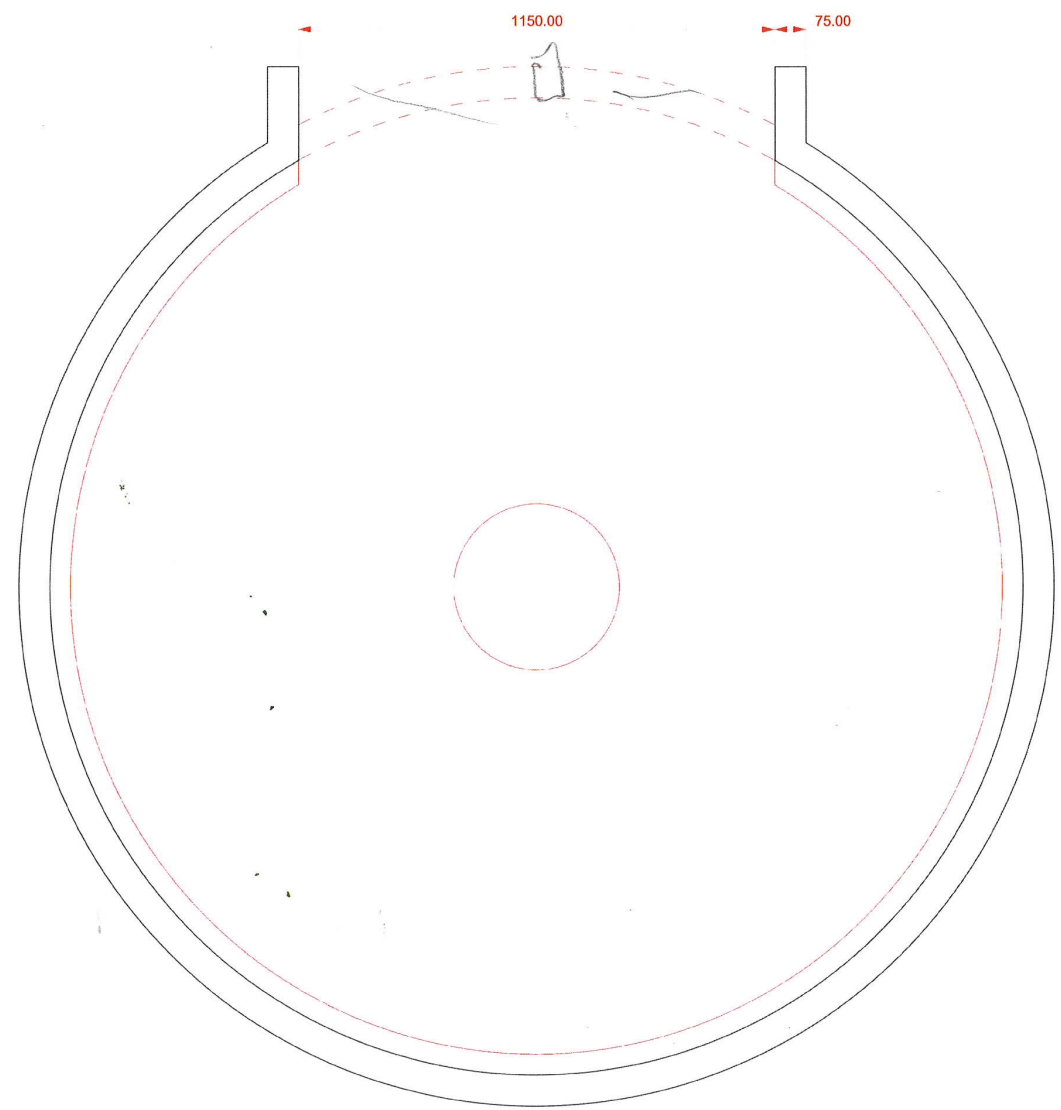
Long Section - 1:300

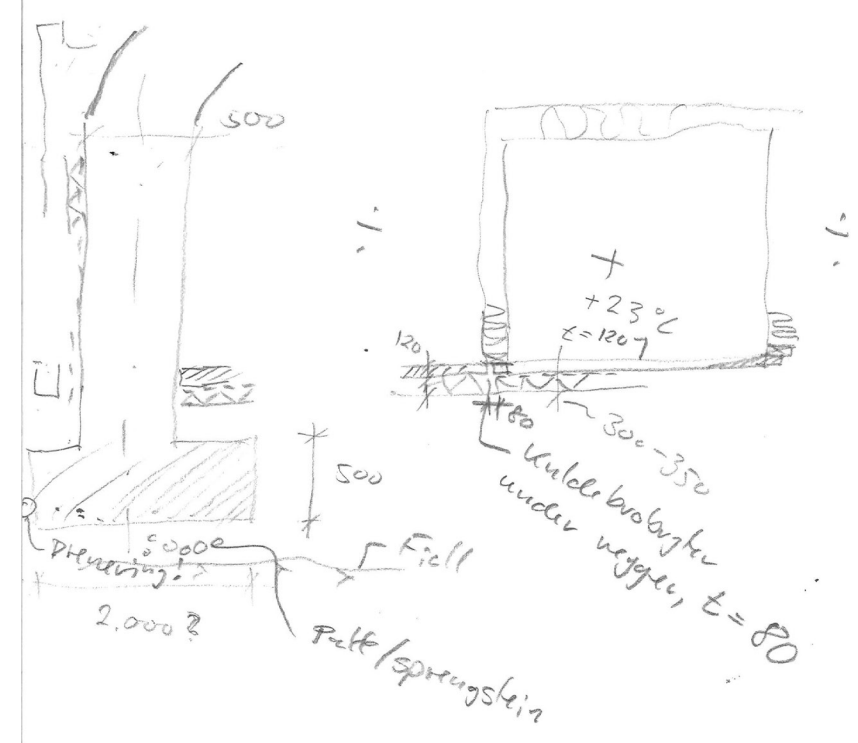
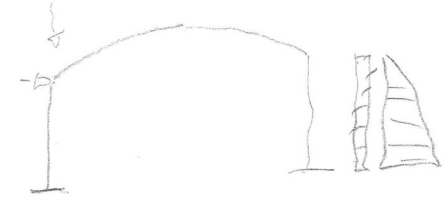
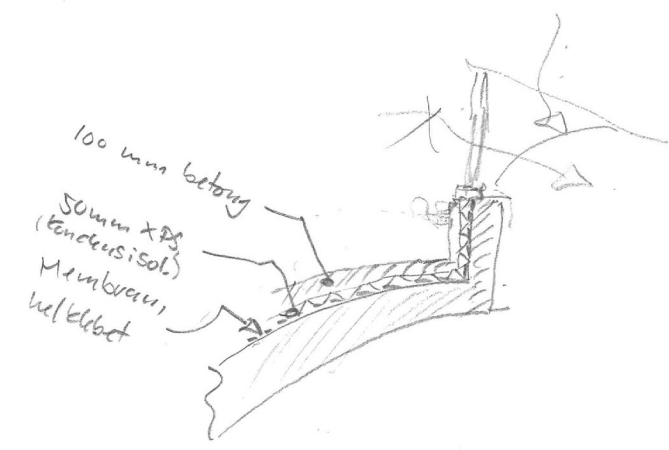
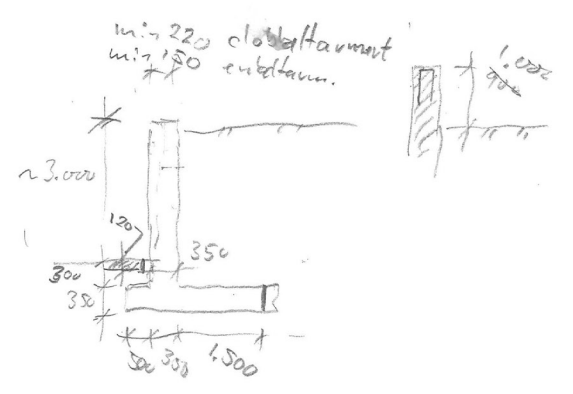


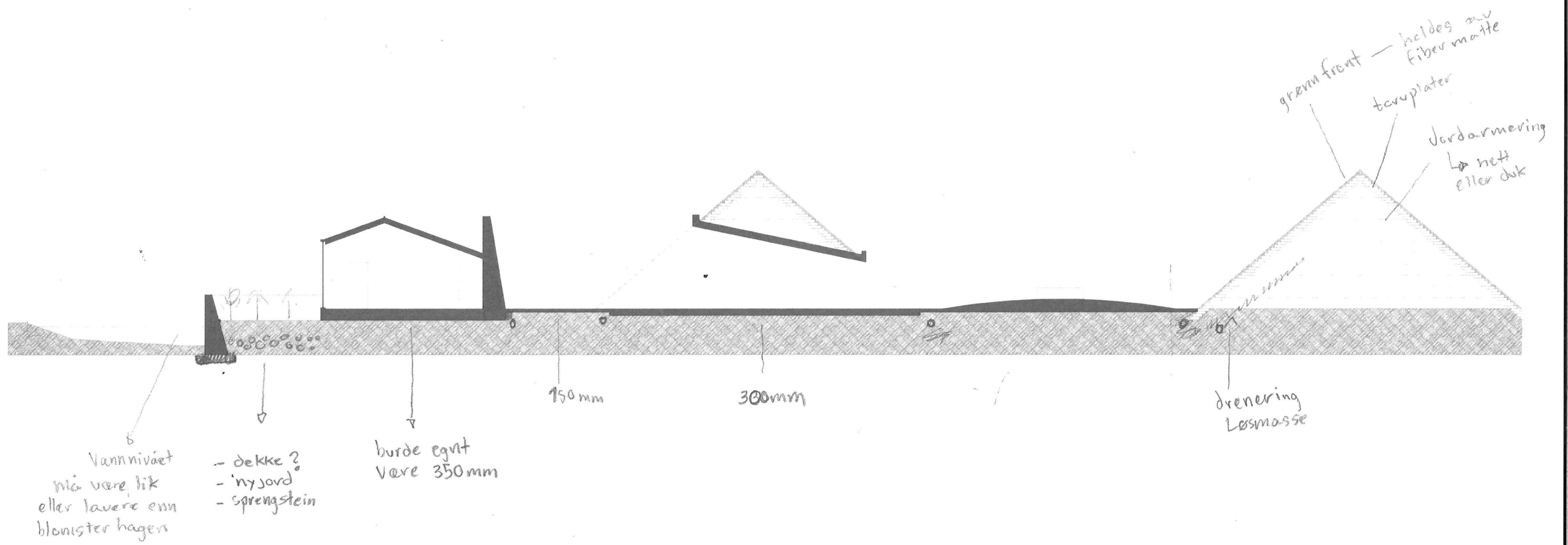
mål i cm

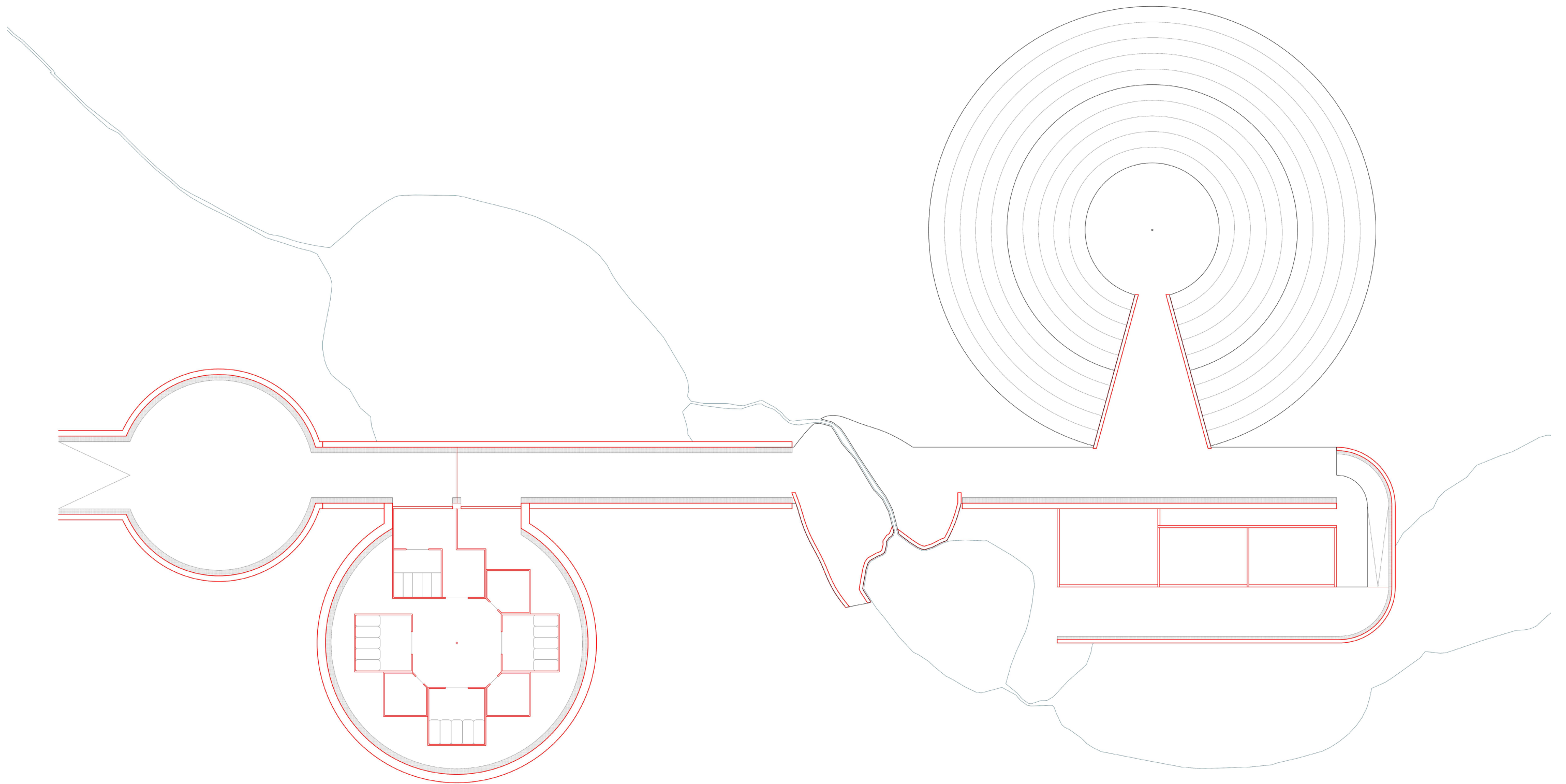


mät i cm

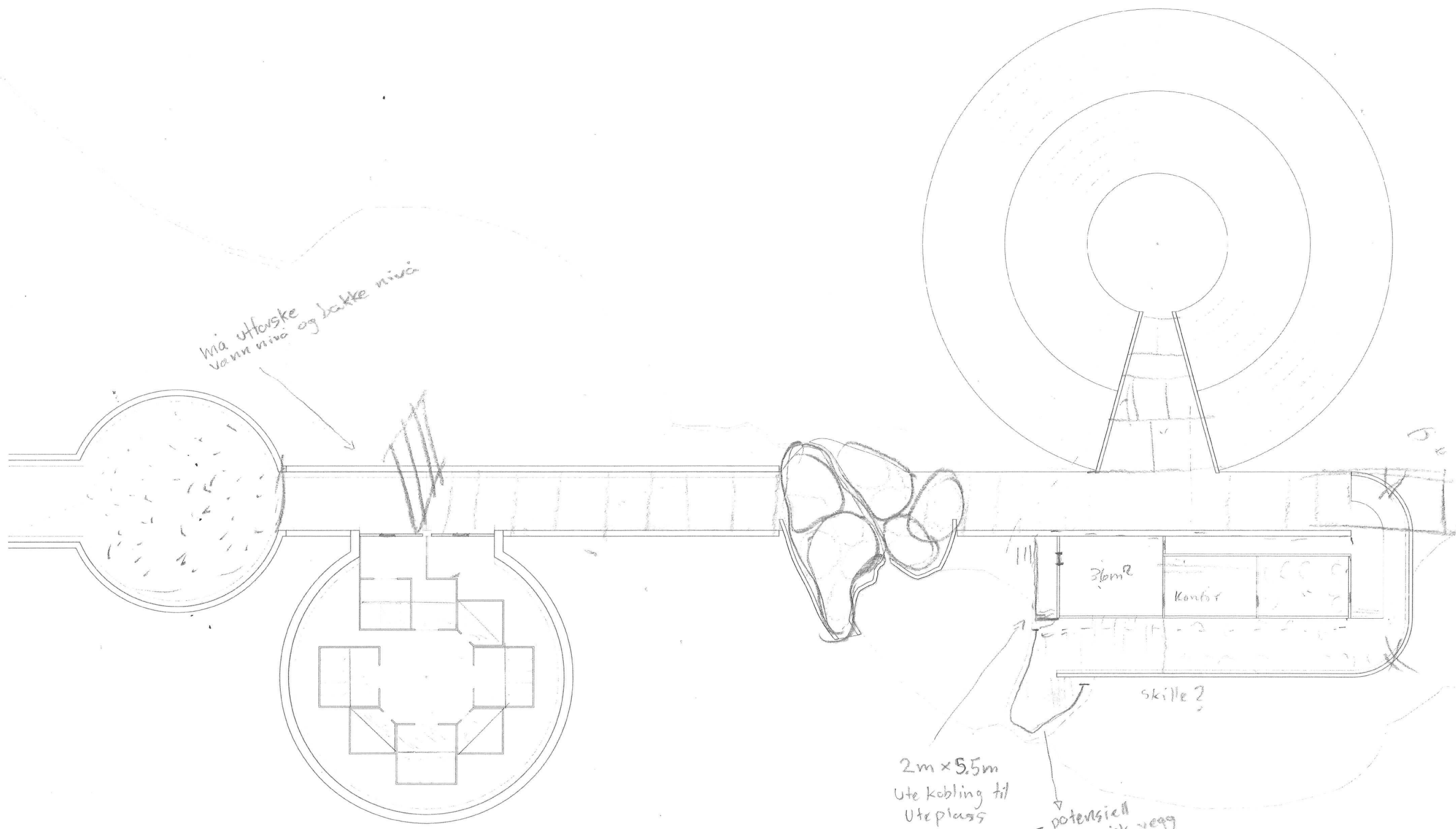








via utførte
vann nivå og bakke nivå

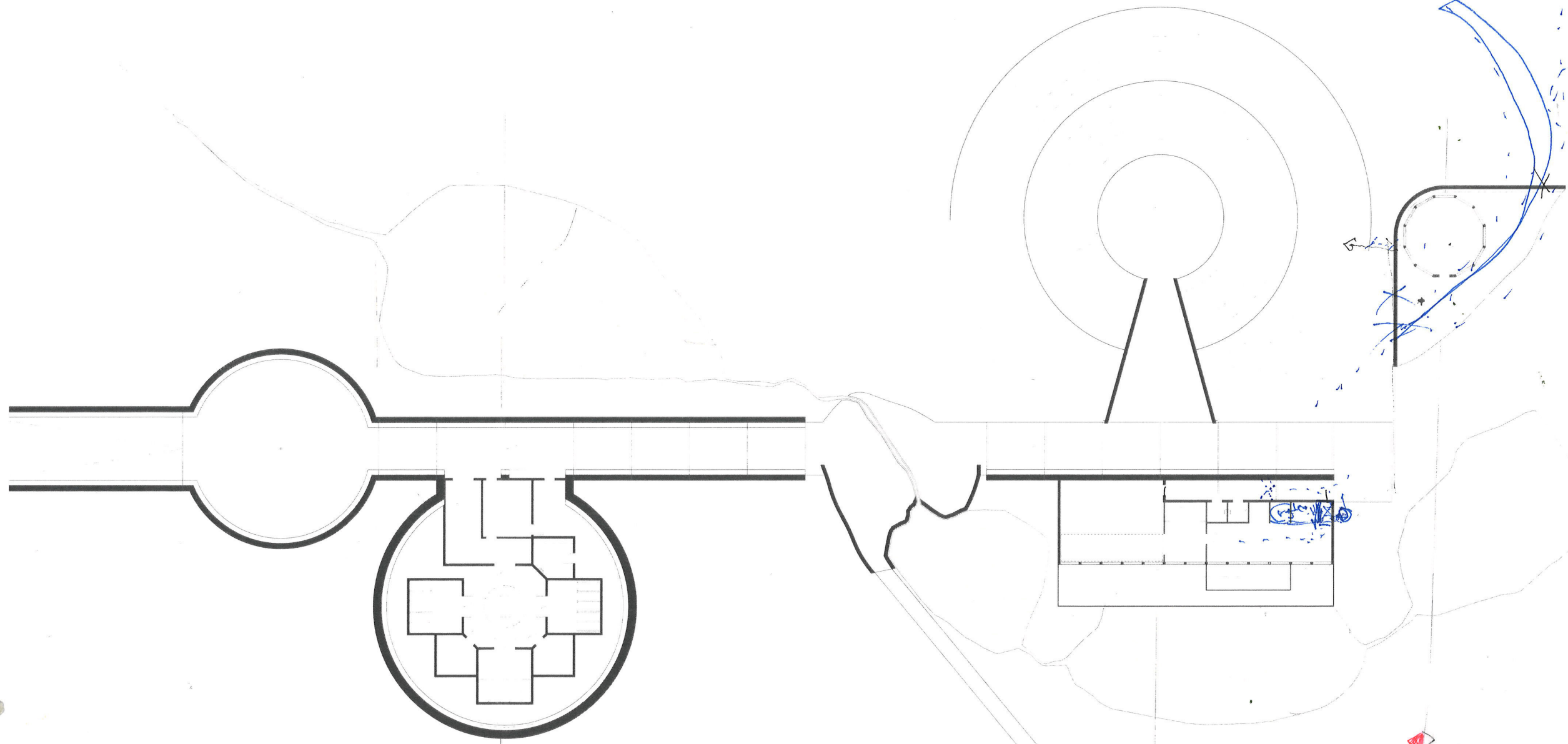


2m x 5.5m
Ute kobling til
Ute plass

- potensiell
organisk vegg



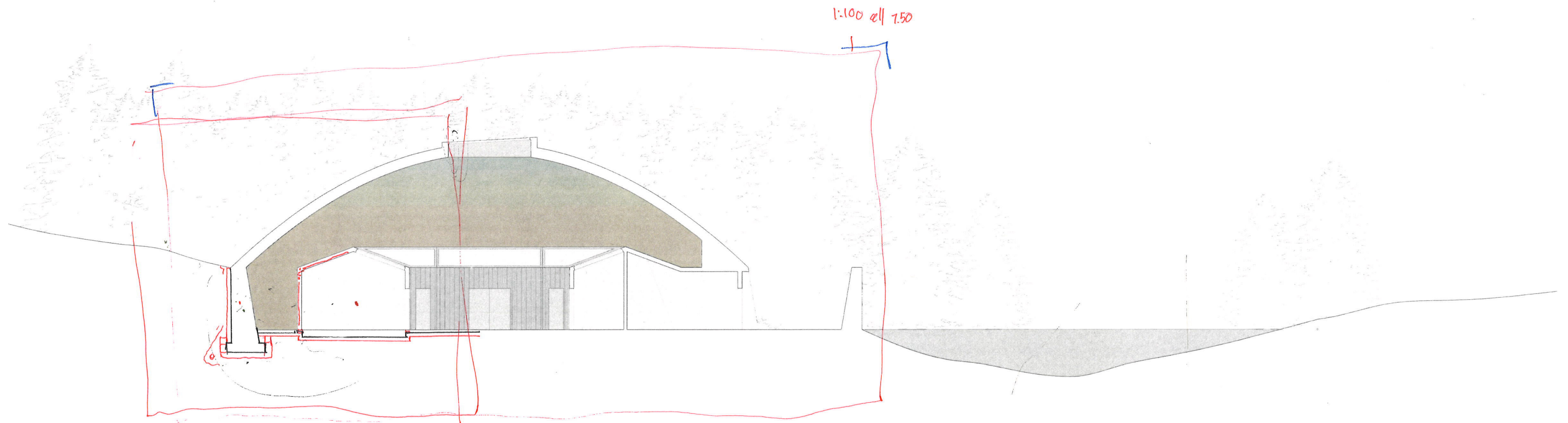
N
1:400



A

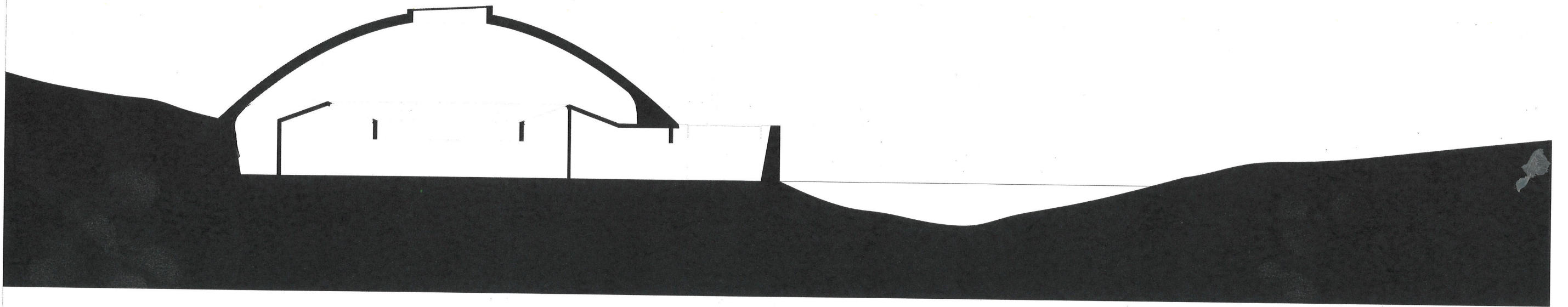
B

C

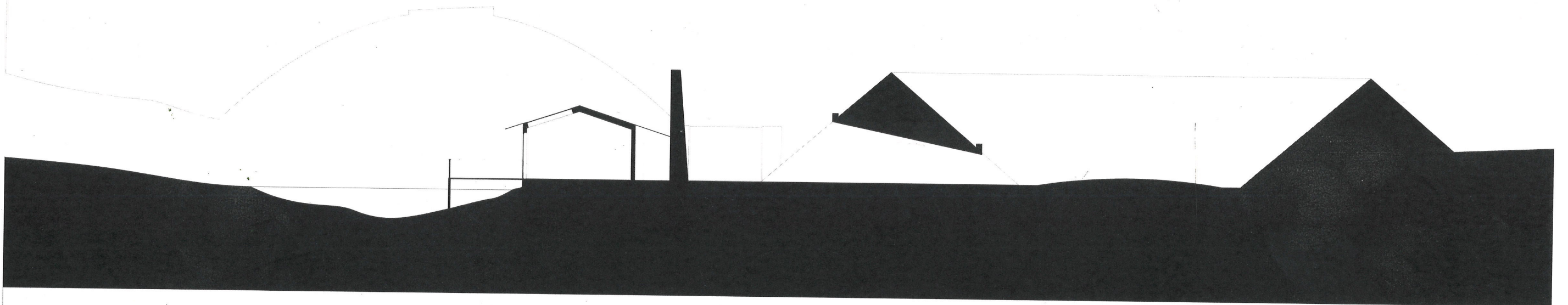


• vise hvordan den er bygget op
|
hvordan forholder den sig til narrativet?
bedre at holde det relativt vagt?

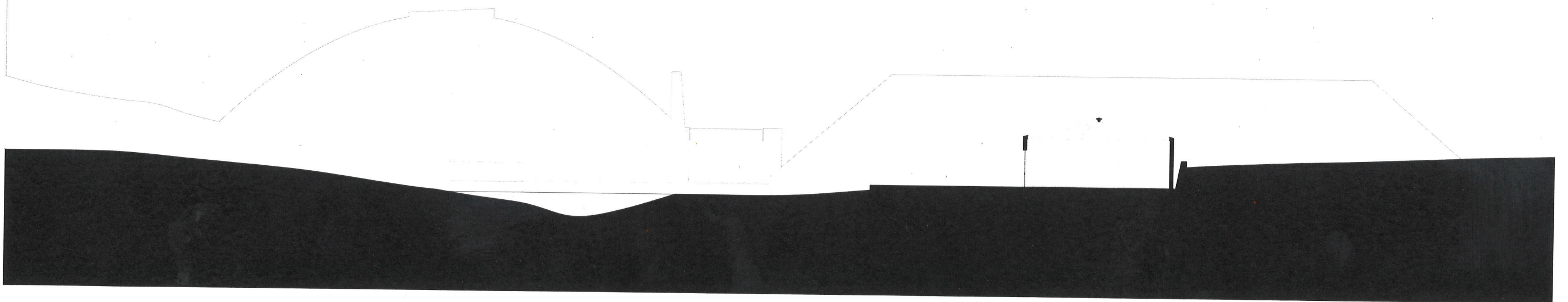
A

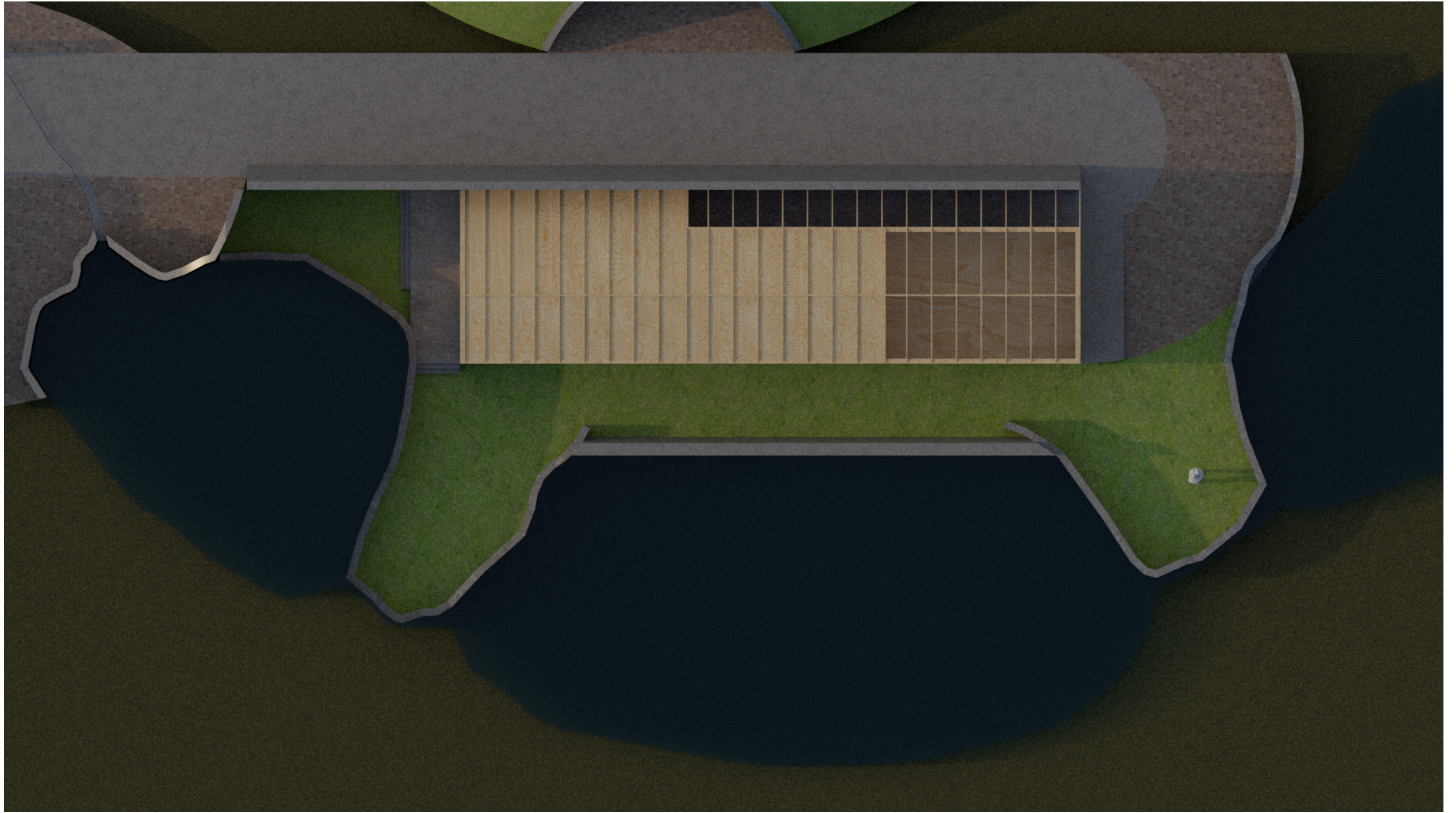


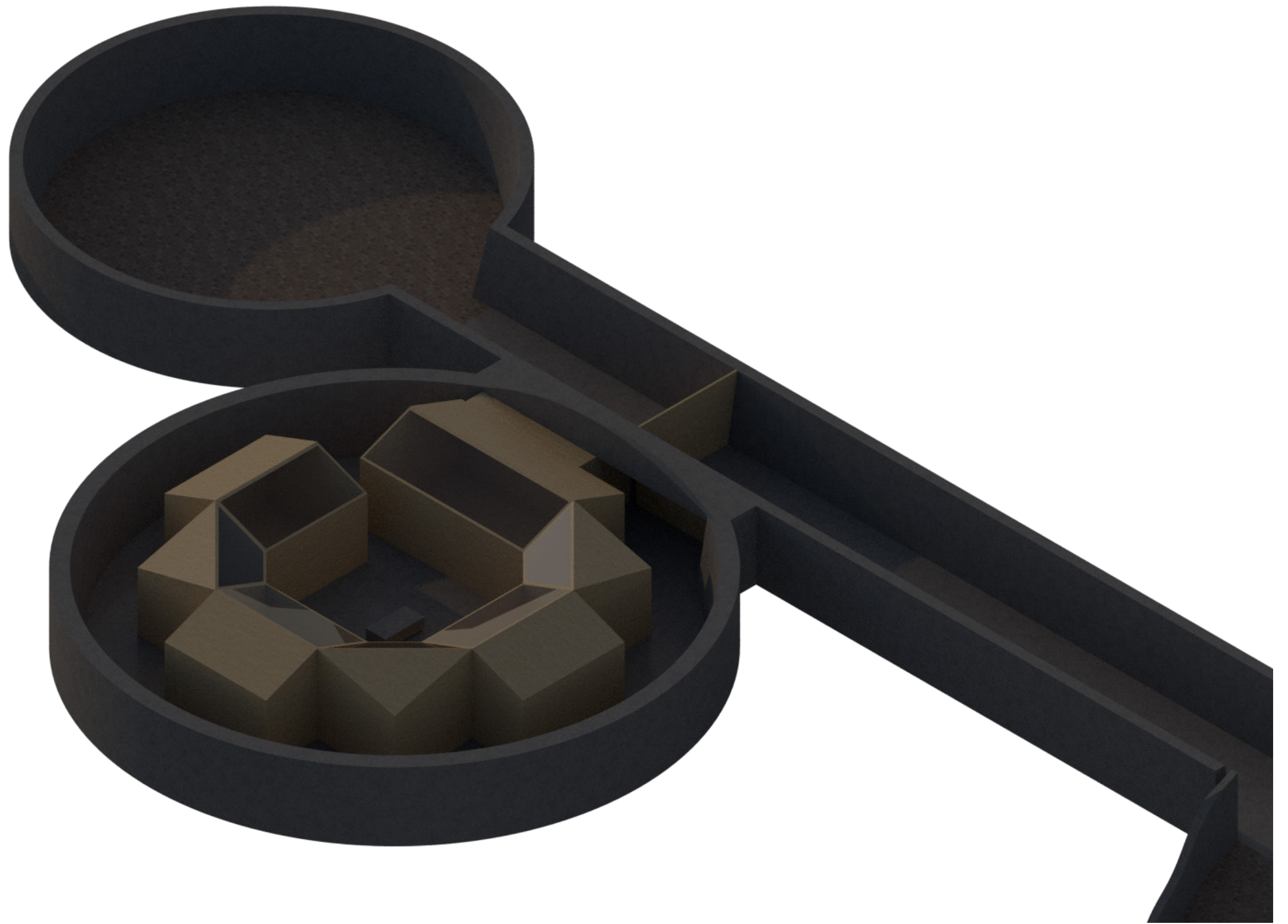
B



C









N
1:400

