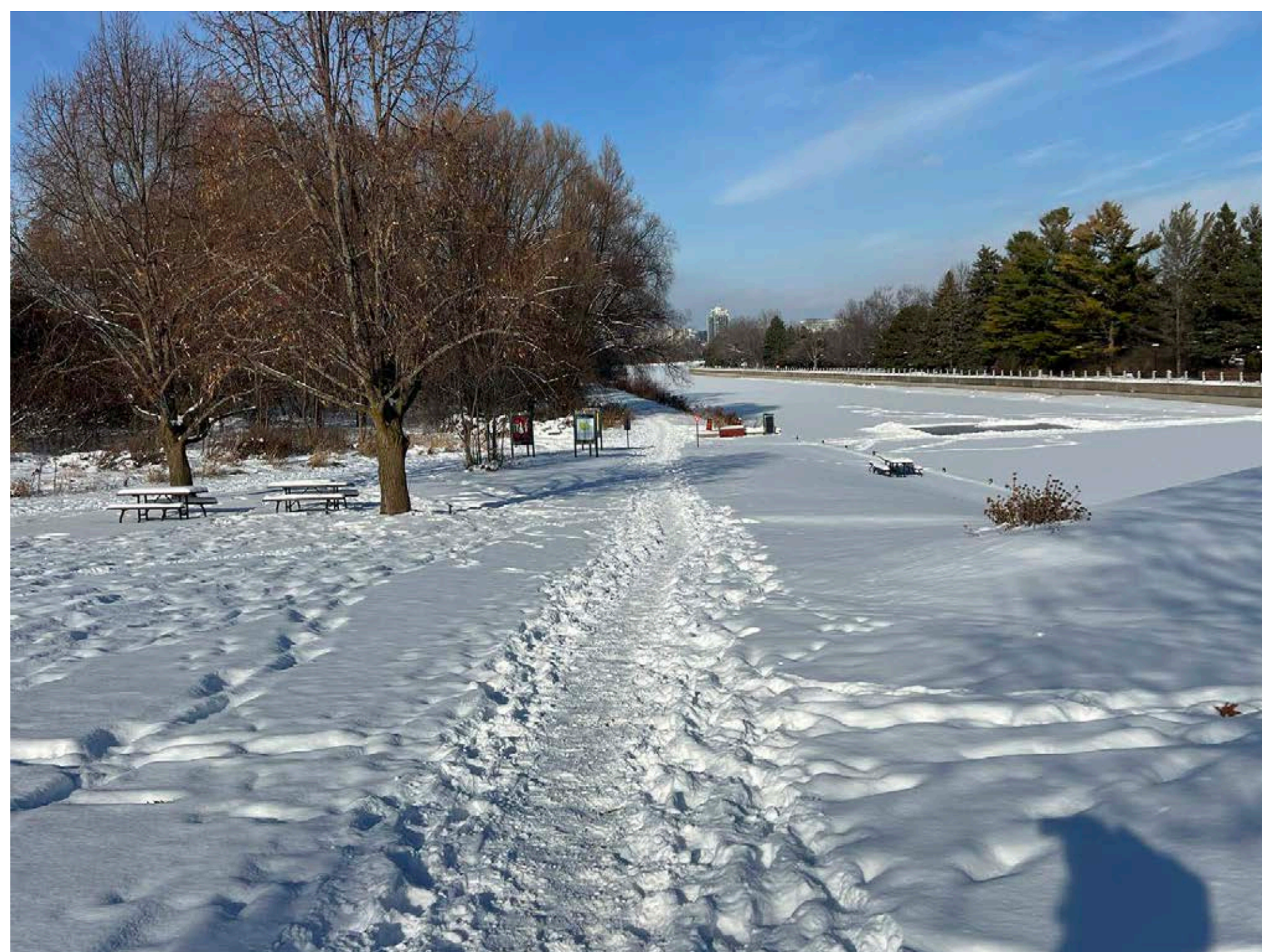
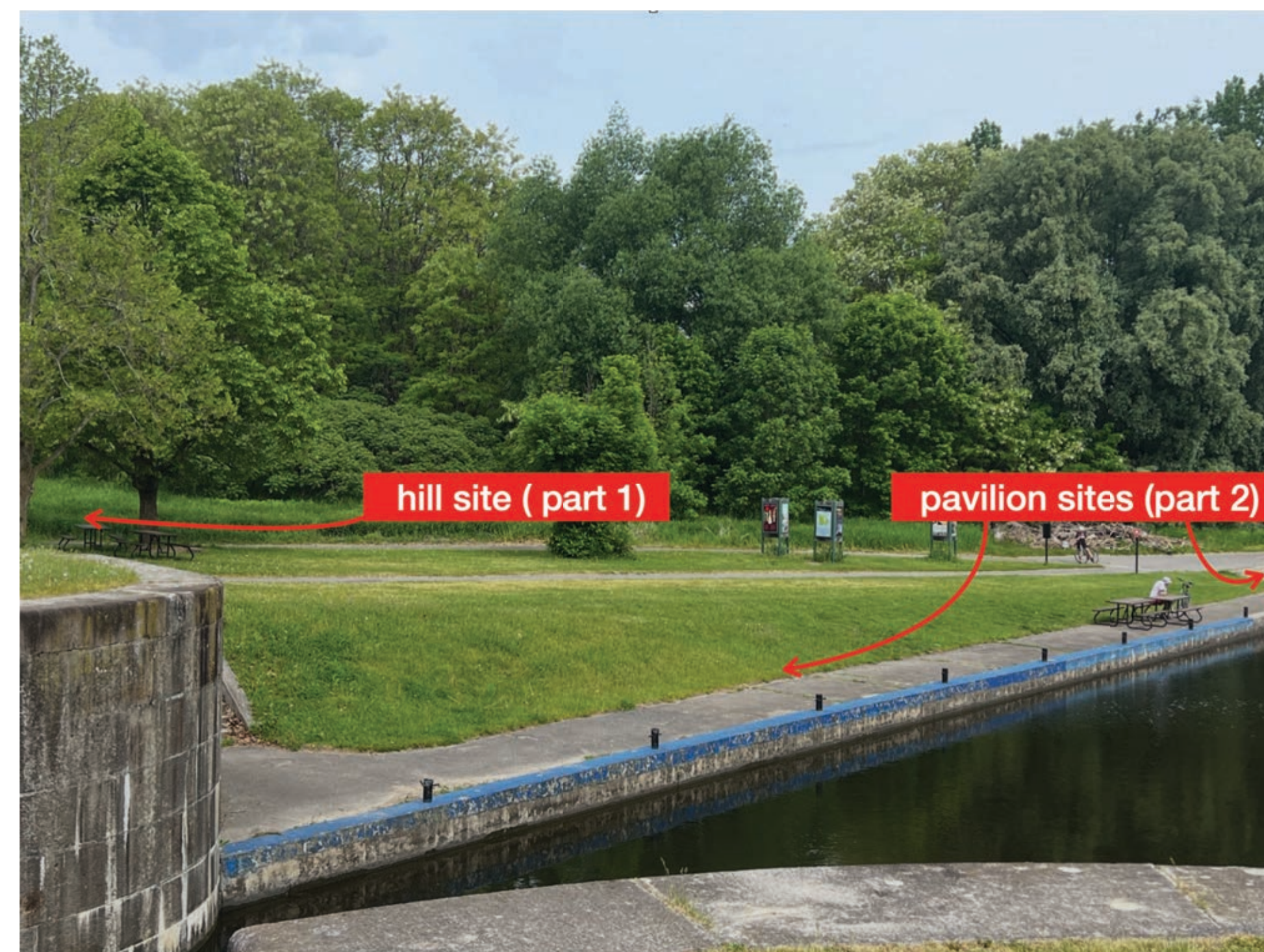
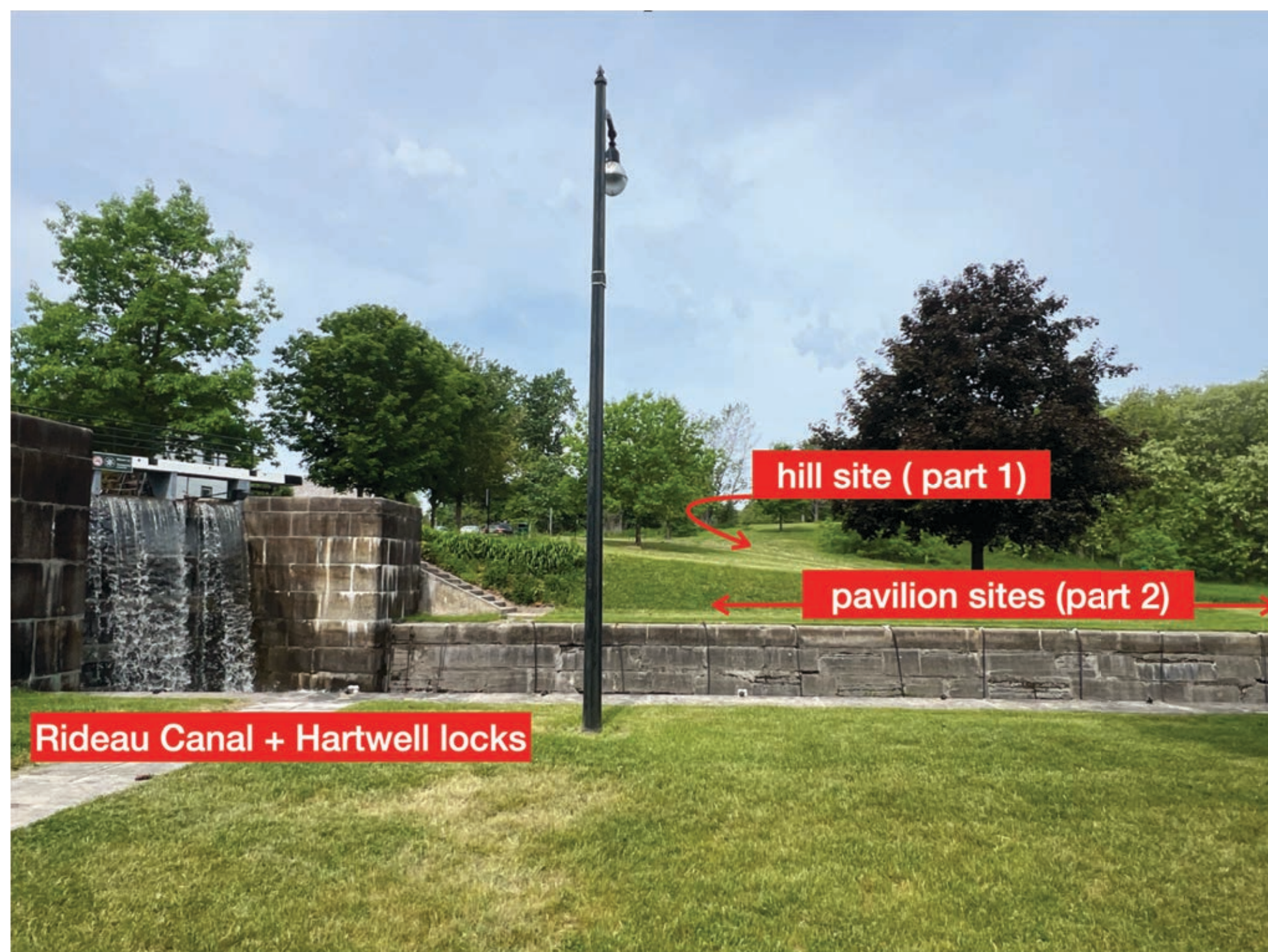


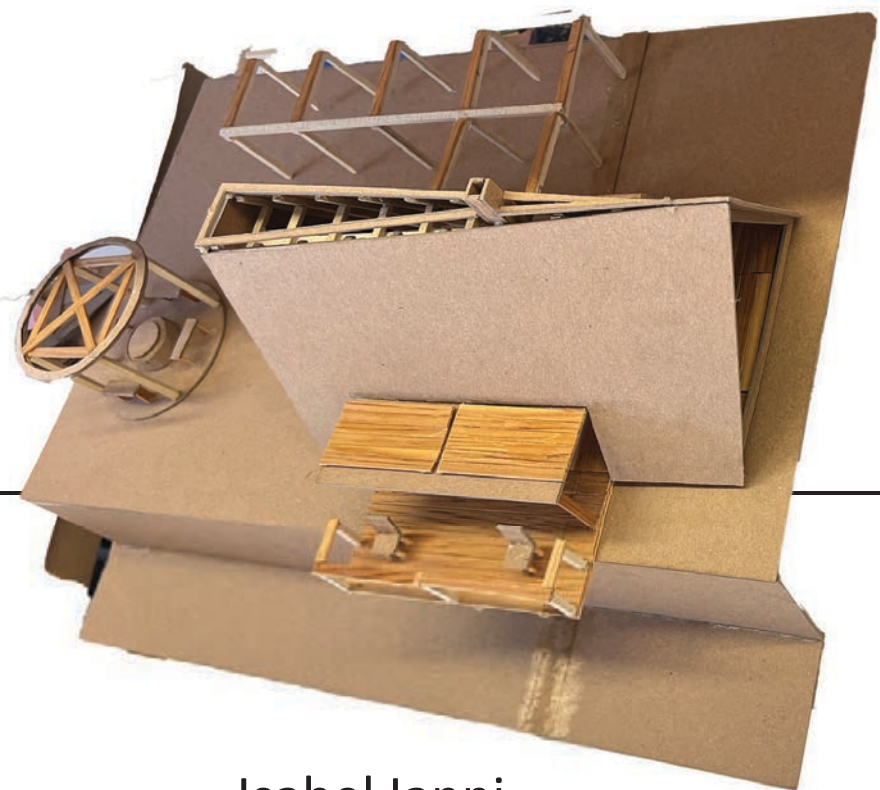
A team-taught First-Year undergraduate studio

Translations Along the Rideau Canal : photographs of site in summer and winter including view of Carleton University campus indicating the sites for the two-part project. The student panels that follow present site anayslys and design respones to both parts. Some panels present the work of several students by theme, while others show individual projects.

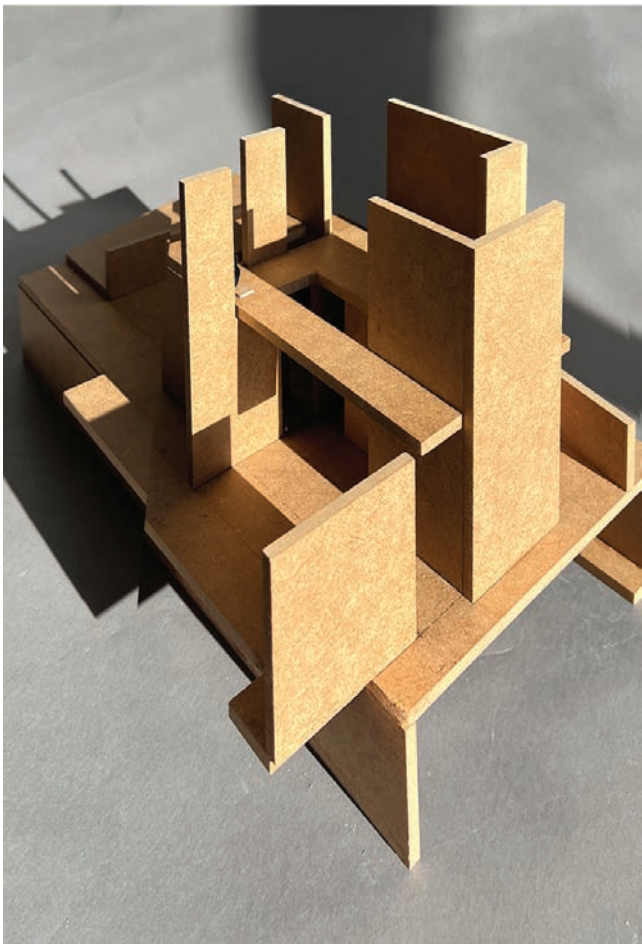
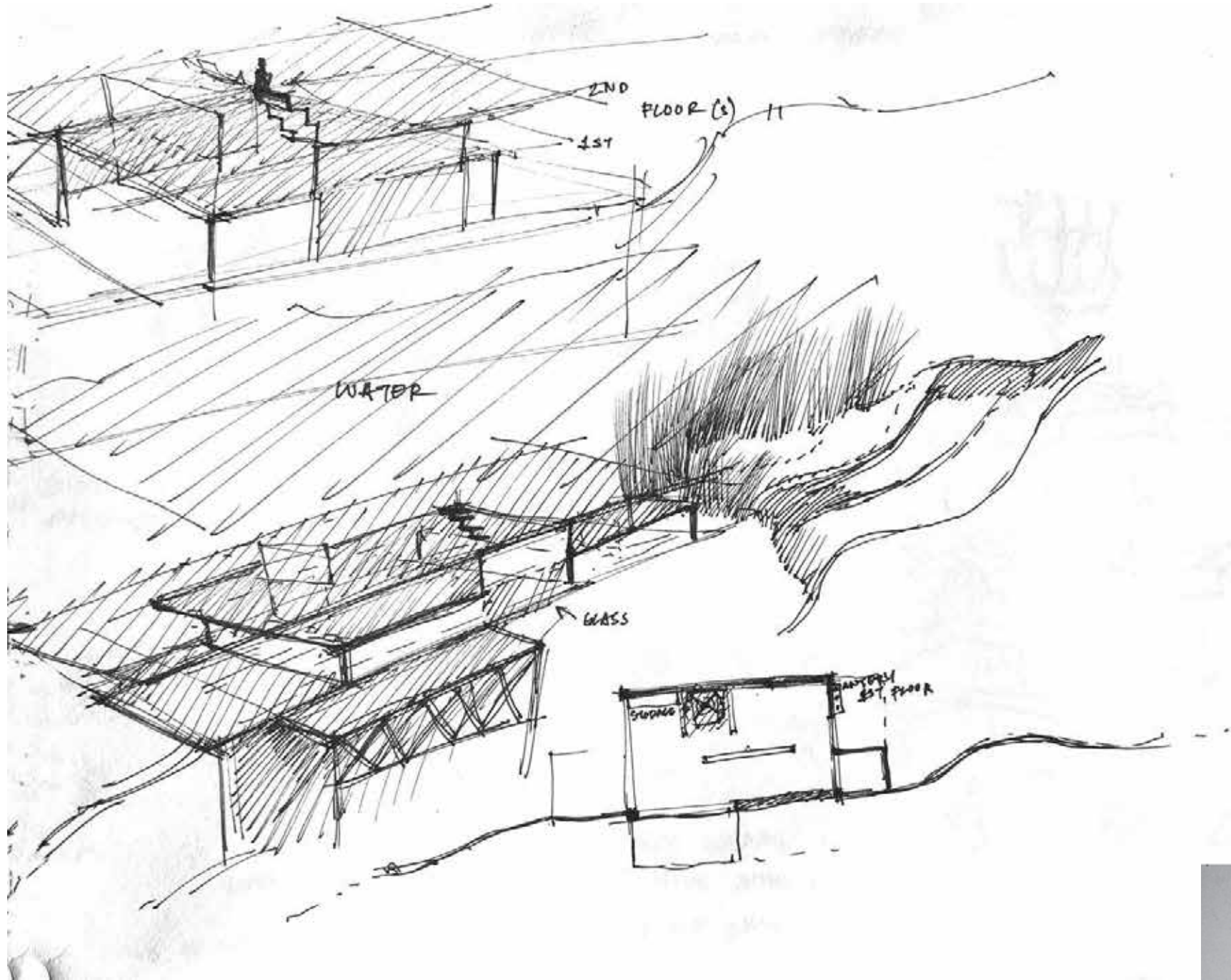


Photos by Janine Debanné, summer 2025 and winter 2026

FROM LAND TO WATER - A PAVLION/REFUGE TO MEET THE RIDEAU CANAL

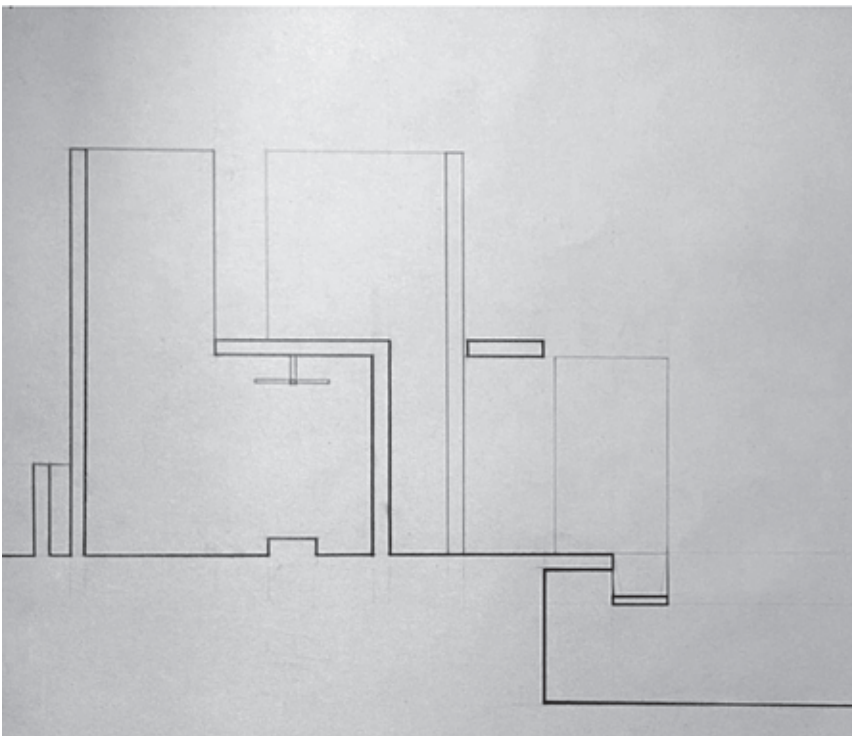


TRANSLATIONS BETWEEN MODEL AND DRAWING

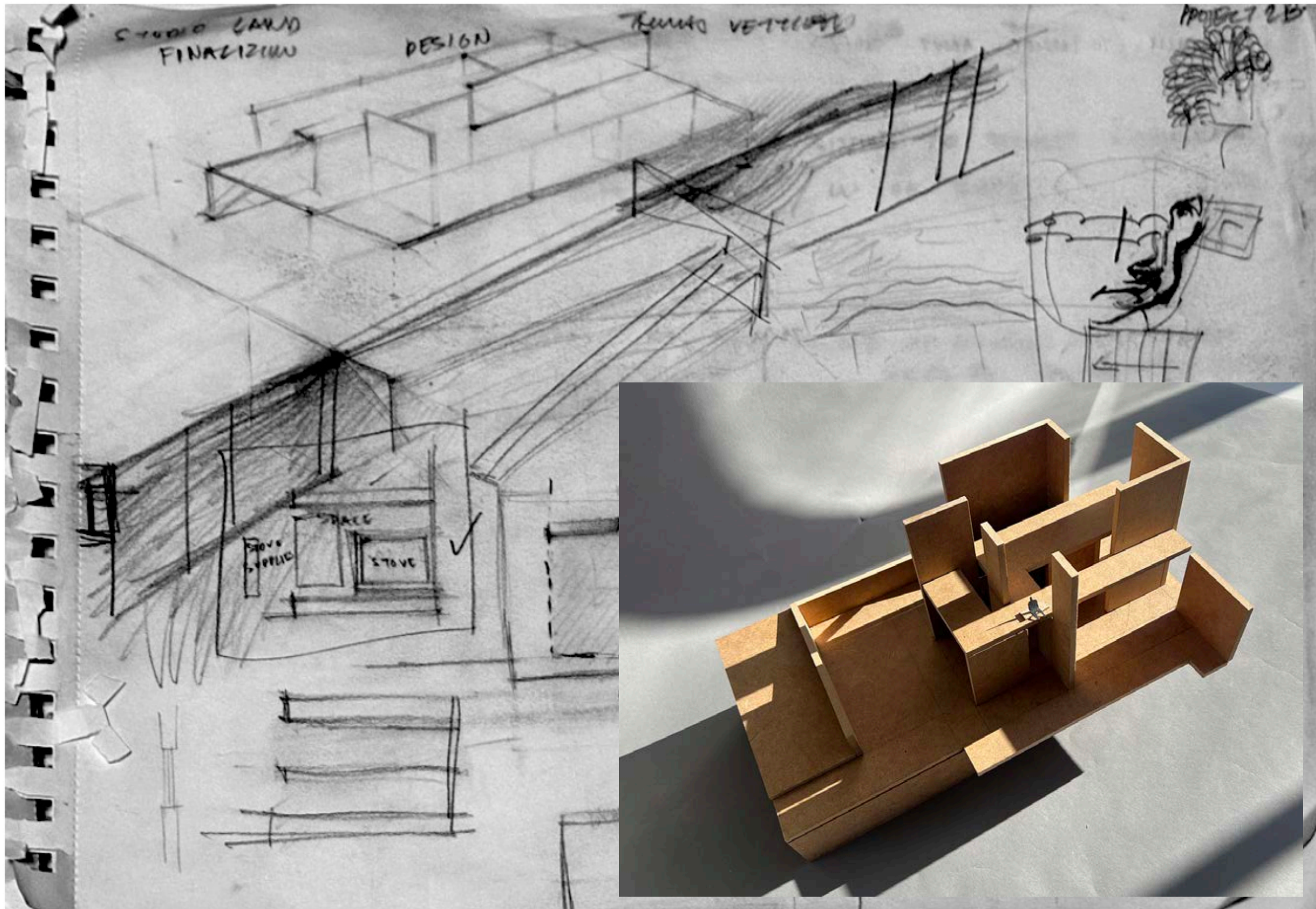


SKETCHBOOK PAGE (left) PAVILION MODEL (above)

The work of film director Yasujiro Ozu inspires this project. Ozu challenges the conventional fixed-point camera height by lowering it, inviting us to perceive architecture from the intimacy of the tatami. The design “stretches” the height of the pavilion, giving the impression of being seated on a tatami. The pavilion is also designed as a series of planes that come together to organize views and bodies in a sequence of spaces, allowing the user to become more sensitive to changes in light, just as Monet’s light studies. T. Vetticad

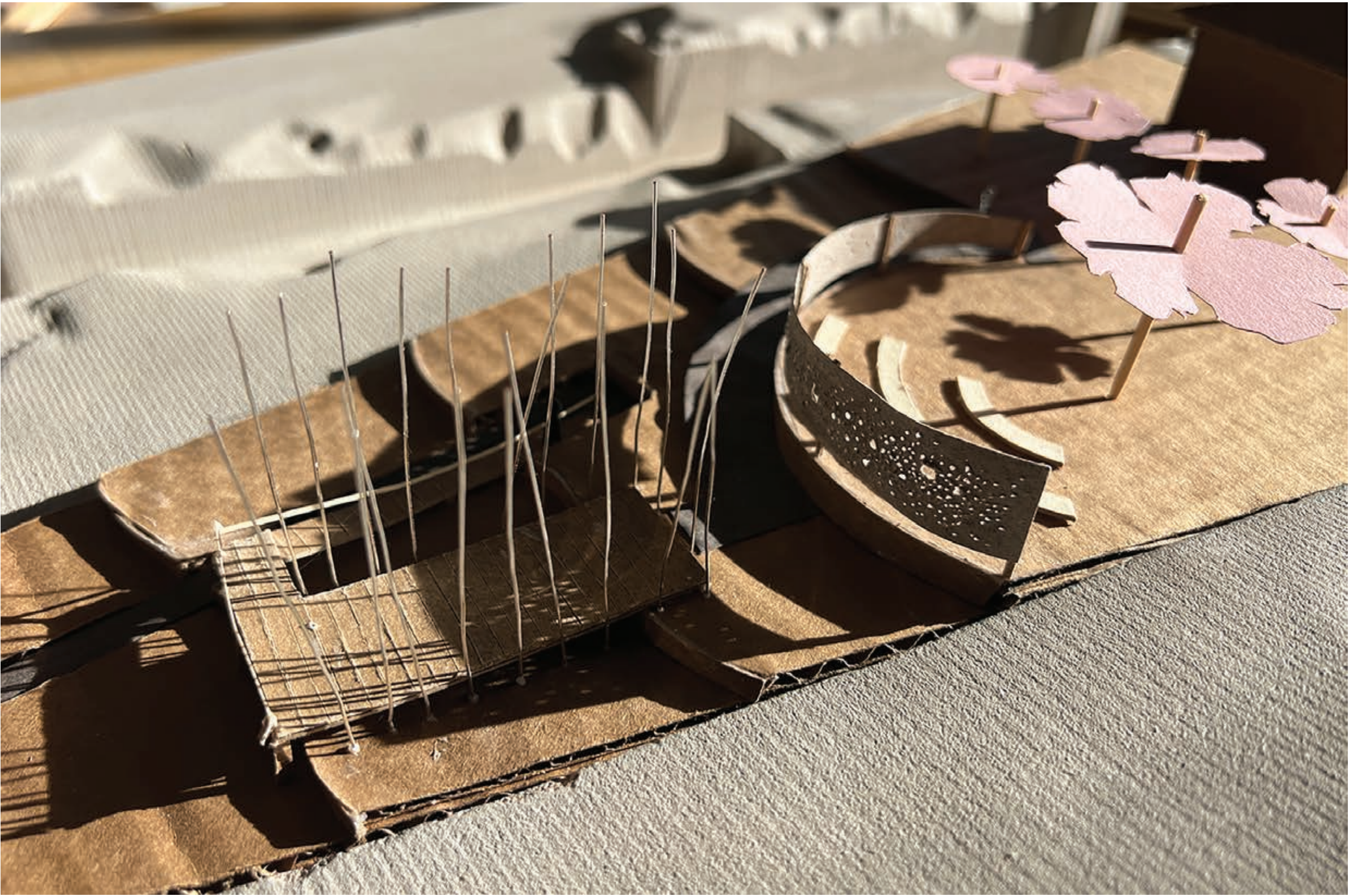


PAVILION SECTION THROUGH CANAL



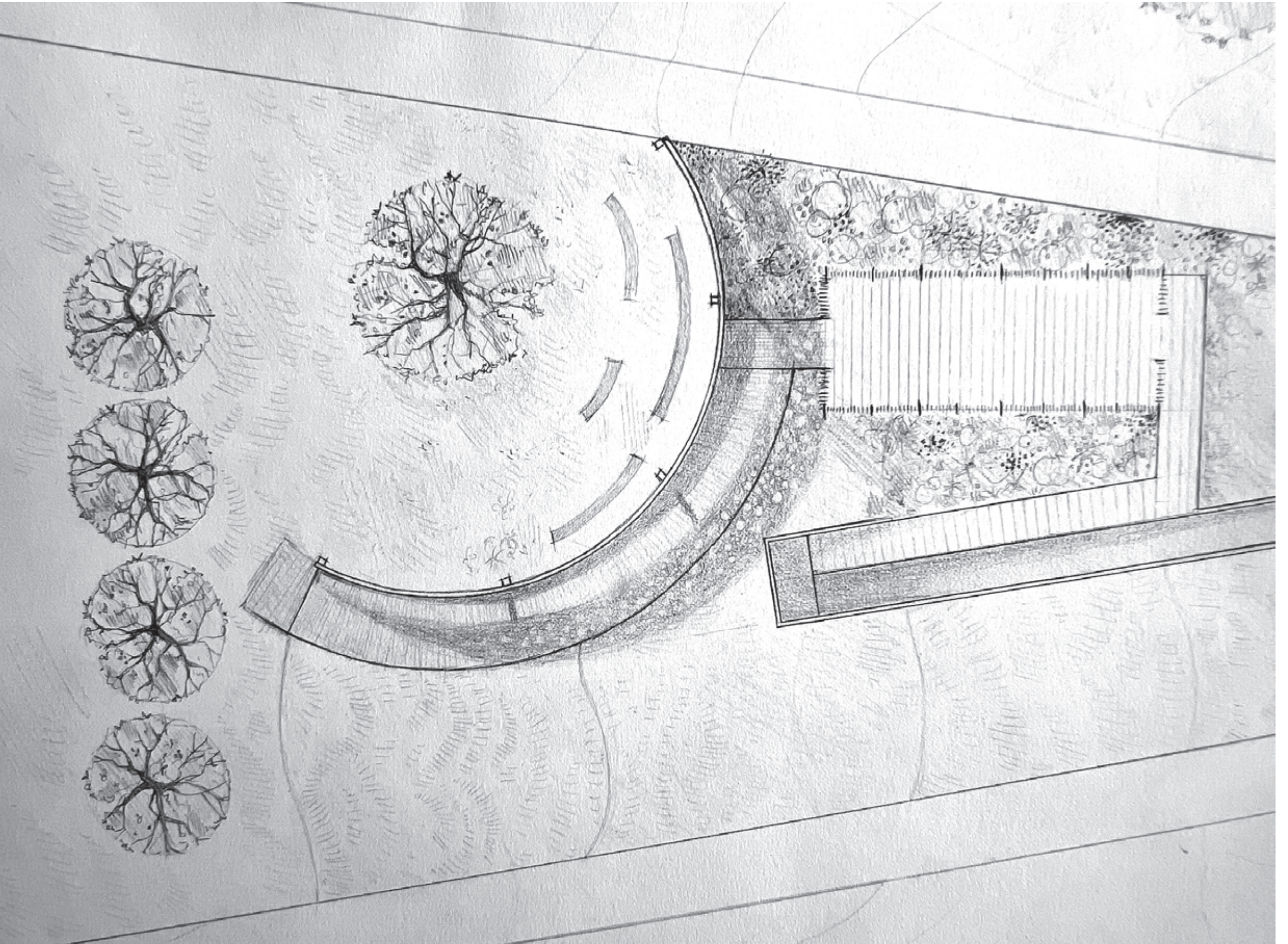
SKETCHBOOK PAGE

PAVILION MODEL



MODEL OF HILL PROJECT

The imagined perforated metal screen works as an enclosure and installation as it filters light and casts intricate shadows along the grass...In the drawing, the shadows and light are rendered with a similar value to the other textures, to highlight their importance in the project. I. Allen



PLAN DETAIL HILL PROJECT

CURRENT HISTORY



Figure 1.
Vignette of "Down Stream" entrance illustrating experience of proposed installations.

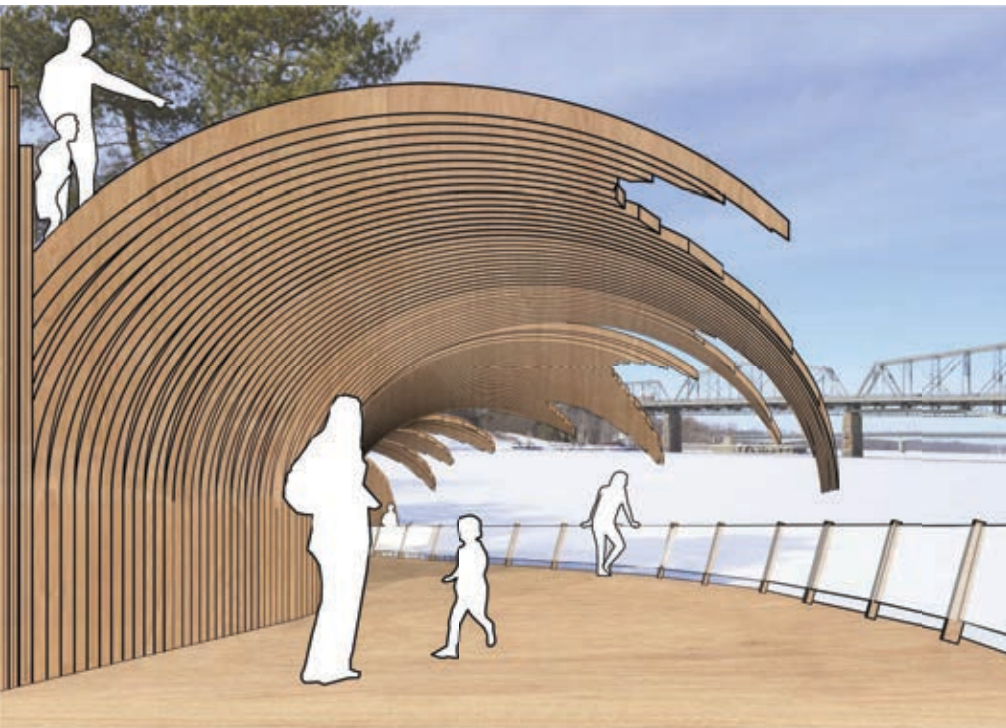


Figure 2.
Vignette showing experience and use of shoreline boardwalk.



Figure 3.
Vignette of "Fresh Net" entrance illustrating proposed installations and experience.

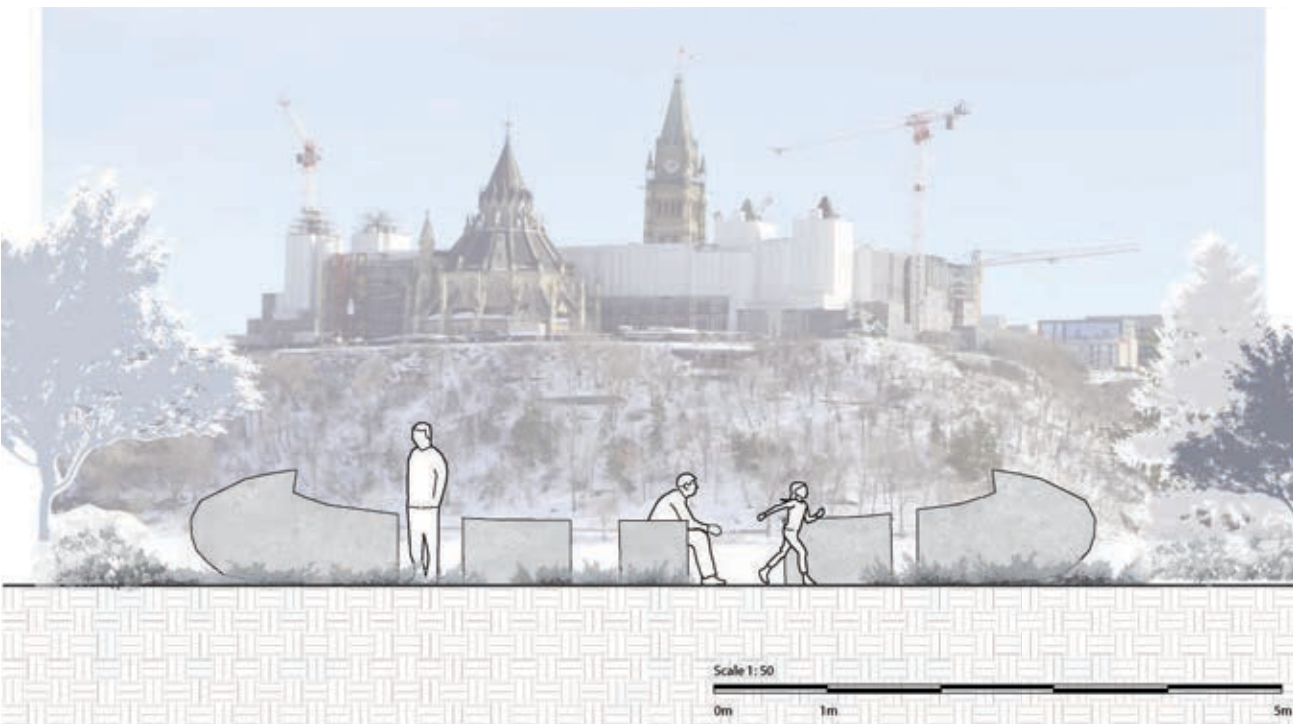


Figure 4. Canoe bench with Parliament Hill in background.

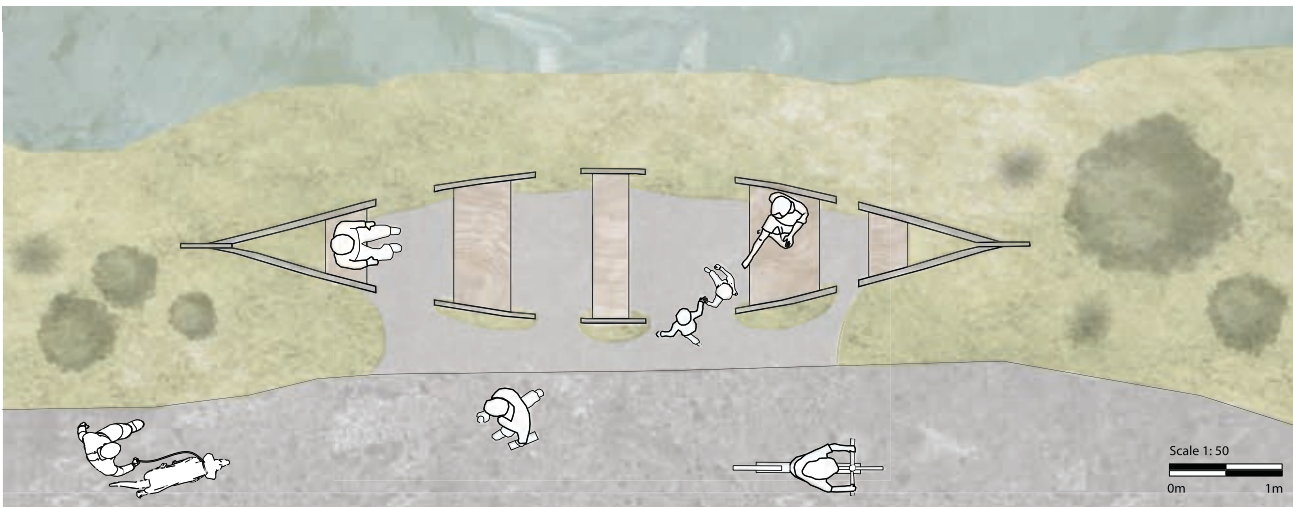


Figure 5. Canoe bench in plan.



Our proposal involves two entrances/exits: one at each end of the pedestrian walkway that extends between the Alexandra and Portage bridges. The first emulates an organic wave, allowing visitors to walk and interpret what water has provided, and where it has brought us. The structure features blue netting within the wooden frames to mimic the flow of water.

The second form evokes a covered bridge, with wooden slats to resemble a fish's body along the roof. The netting represents the water and its relation to the fish that live within it, while recalling pollution and fishing within the Ottawa River's history. Visitors are invited to interpret the structure from the perspective of a fish in the river, and to contemplate water's purpose without humans.

An additional installation in this portion is a birch bark canoe-inspired bench. A reference to a method of transport during the fur trade, the bench encourages socialization between visitors, while implementing resting spots to enjoy the shoreline and the view. This rest stop is complemented with the experience of sitting in a canoe while reflecting on history.

Finally, a boardwalk invites visitors to connect with the water and its inhabitants while tying the installations together. We want to minimize disruptions to the river by implementing green lights and various tree debris underneath the boardwalk to promote fish feeding cycles and habitats. This piece would be the most visually appealing from the Ottawa shoreline and Rideau Locks from where passers-by may discover the Gatineau shore from afar.

Figure 7 (right): Ottawa River and northern shore showing site.
Figure 8 (left): Ottawa River southern shore showing Parliament and Rideau Canal.

The Ottawa River and its shoreline have played a central role in the development of the Canadian capital. The Kichi Zibi's currents carry histories and memory.

We chose the locations for our installations strategically to invite pedestrians to reflect on history through a design that welcomes interpretation, while also offering views across the Ottawa River towards Ottawa and along the Gatineau shoreline.

Our design proposal, Current History, is a double entendre about the river's currents and how the river continually connects the inhabitants of this land to the past, while defining the story of the present.

While the collection of installations is abstract and open to interpretation, they reflect how the river has shaped the present.

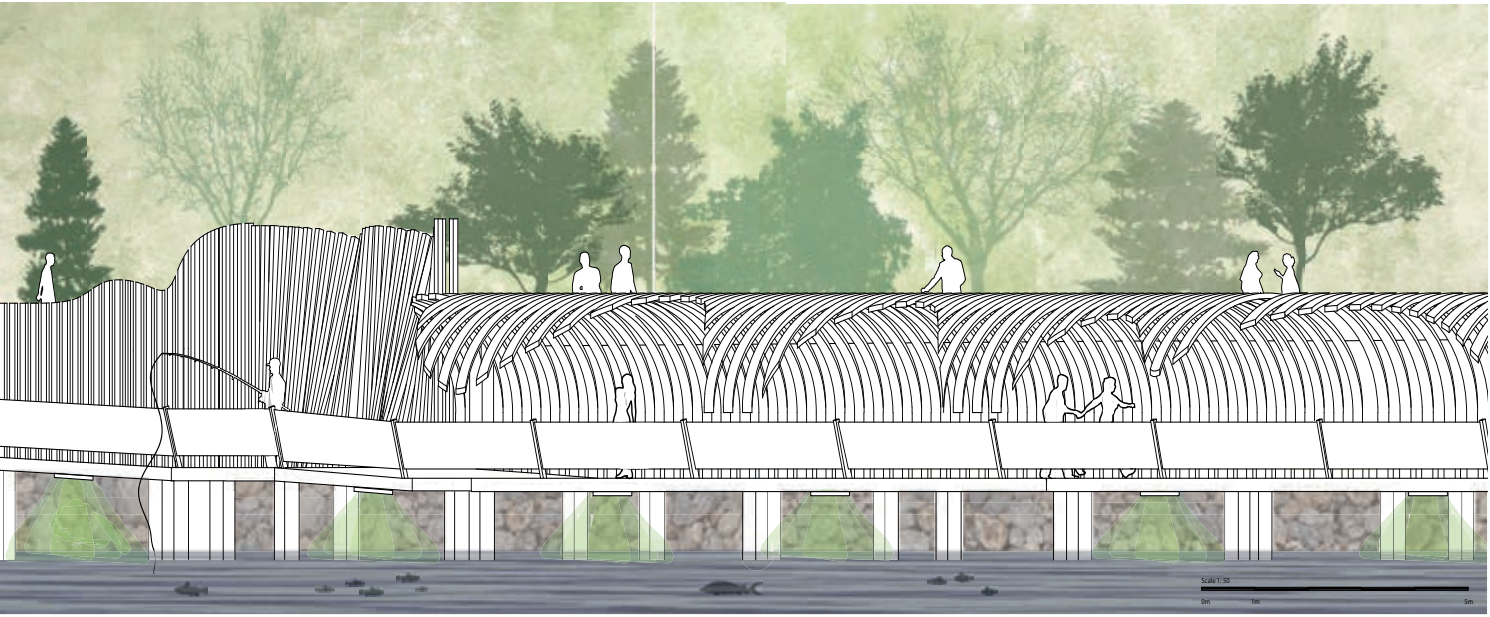


Figure 6. Axonometric view of proposed boardwalk featuring ecosystem-friendly dock construction.

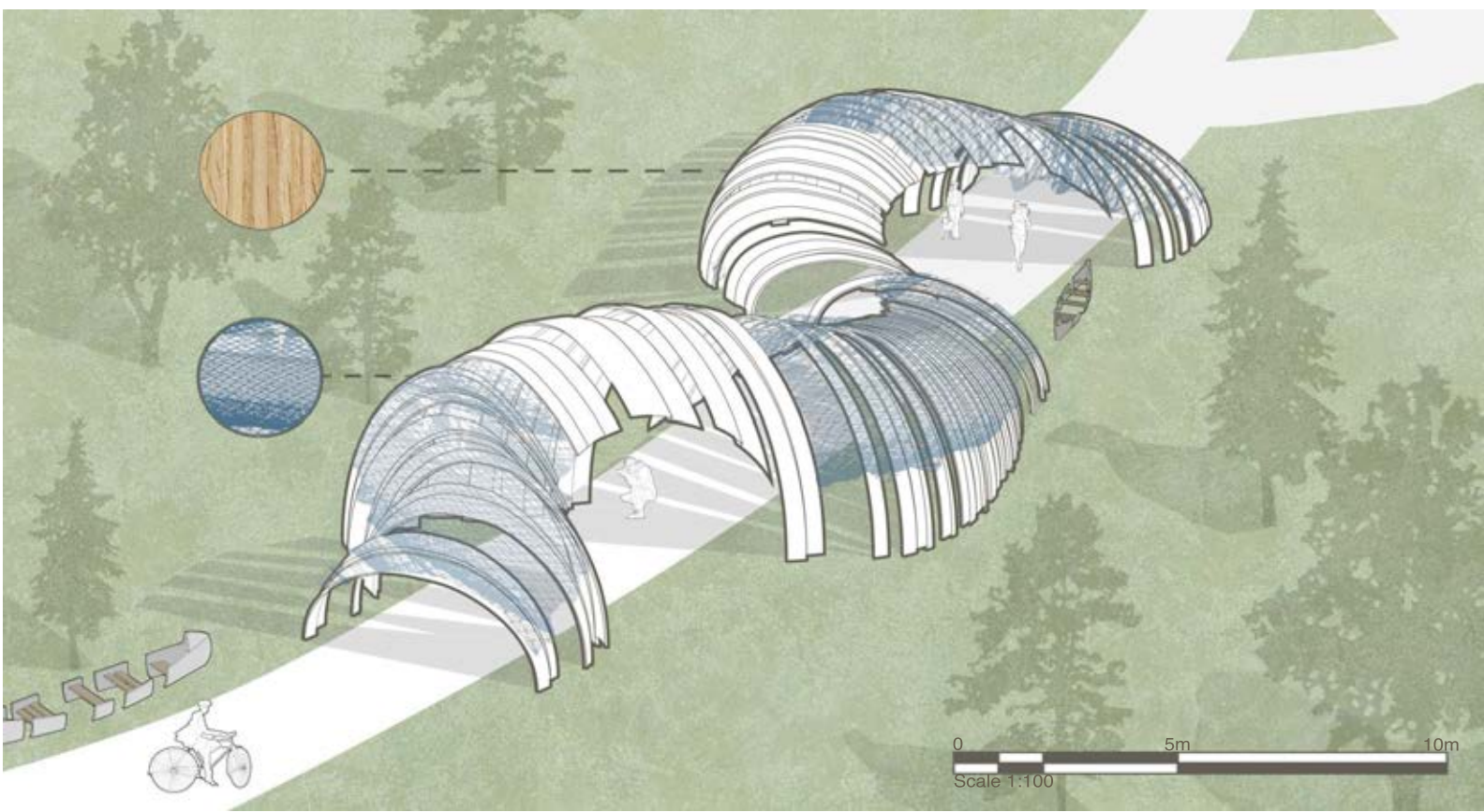
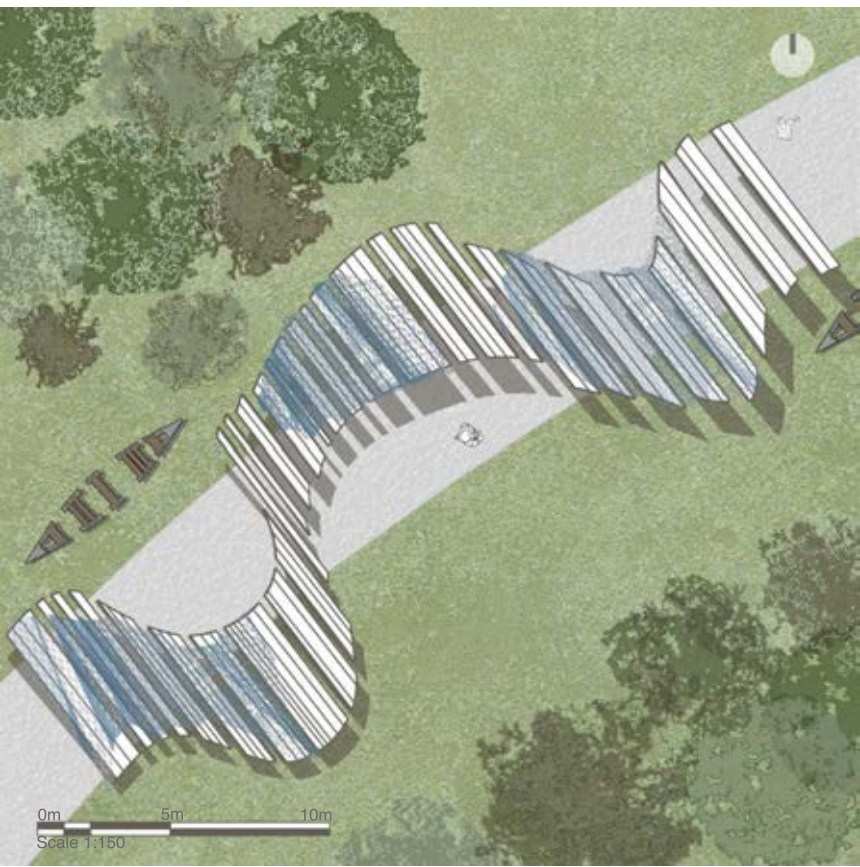


Figure 9 & 10. Plan, Axo, and material insight of "Down Stream" Installation along with proposed canoe bench.

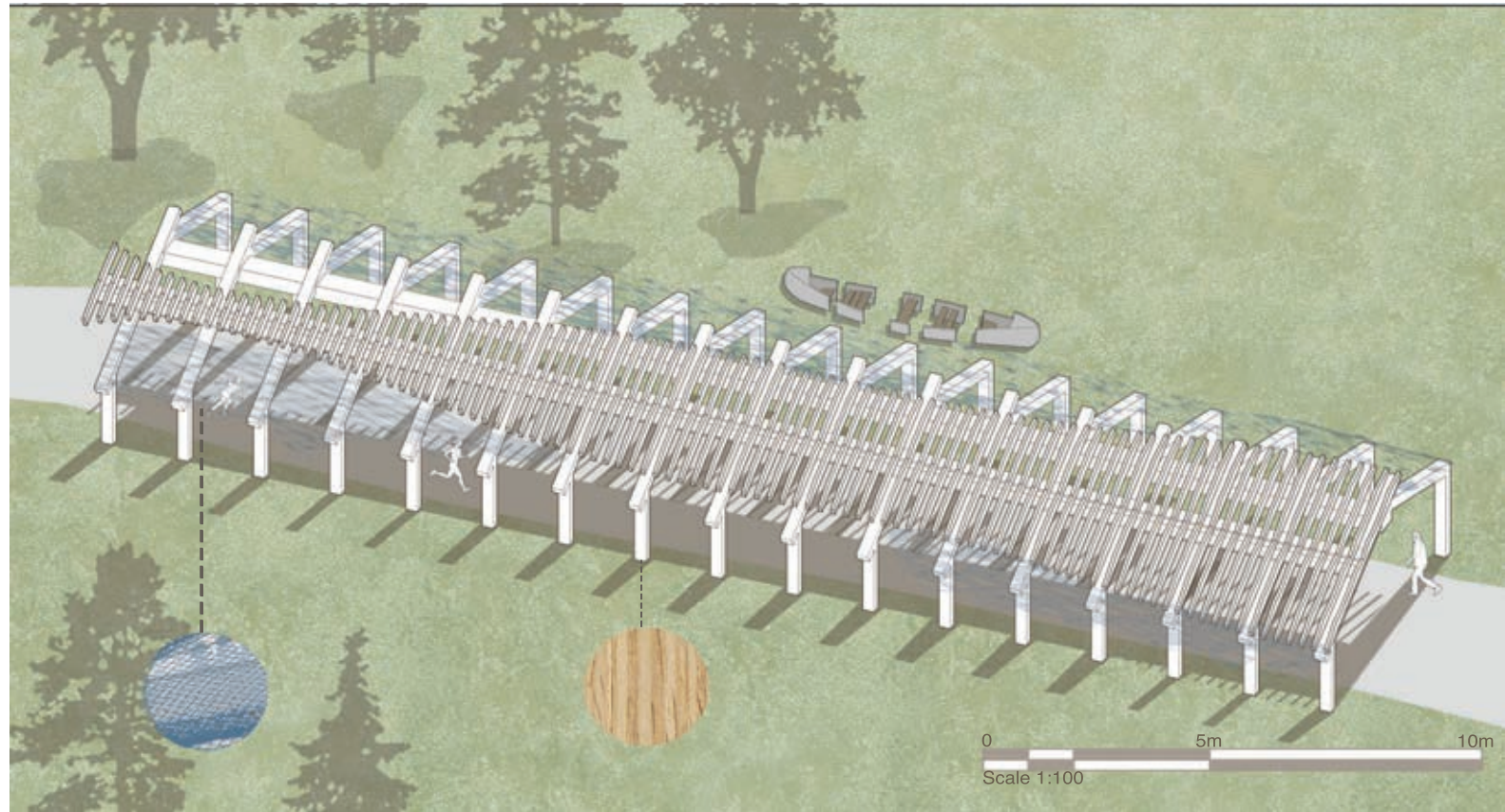
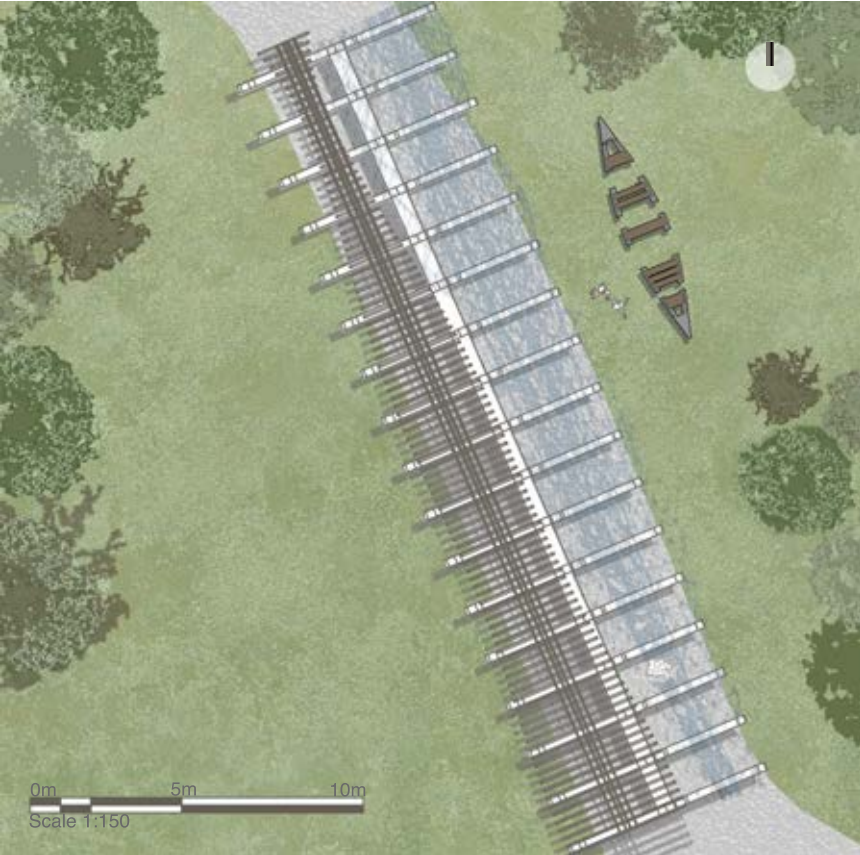


Figure 11 & 12. Conceptual plan and axonometric view of "Fish Net" installation showing canoe bench to upper right.

WOVEN PATHS

A Translation of Histories Along the Ottawa River's Northern Shore



"Woven Paths" activates the riverside site's historical strands with a multinodal path between the Alexandra and Portage bridges. An early conceptual model of grasses and milkweed pods from a visit to the site inspired us to hone in on the woven and entangled properties of the site's history, and honor that in our design. This site has always been an entanglement of commercial and industrial uses spanning different cultures. Since time immemorial, Indigenous peoples used the site as part of important portage routes and trade, leading to a sacred meeting place, Akikpautik (or Chaudière Falls). Then, the logging industry also operated along the river for many years, sending logs down the Ottawa River.

Woven Paths employs a “tangled” construction and material language to evoke the complexity of memory and to create enticing spaces for community gathering, pausing, storytelling, and connection along the River. Several walking paths have been added - interlaced and intersecting at three key points. The Woven Arts amphitheatre, the Woven Frame observation and swimming hole, and the Woven Storytelling education space.

The project salvages discarded wood to construct a series of installations along the water. In the 1800s and 1900s, the river was a main route for moving timber, and a lot of waste wood was left behind or lost in the water. Today, Ottawa companies like Logs End and Capital Timber Company now collect sunken logs and mill wood from fallen or removed city trees for sustainable reuse. The installations reduce waste and give new purpose to the wood that once floated down the river, linking the site's past with its present.

Woven Arts is meant as a gathering and performance arts space. The space is intended for public events such as concerts, plays, and films, with not only the seats that are installed in the hill facing the stage that can seat 30 people, but also additional seating space by the shore behind the stage, and the nearby docks. The seats and stage consist of a timber frame structure, representing the waste from many commercial industries that interacted with the Ottawa river.

Woven Perspective frames Parliament Hill through a sequence of three geometric shapes derived from its silhouette, arranged as a linear tunnel. The frames gradually decrease in size toward the center and expand outward again, forming a dynamic progression of space that moves from a welcoming entry to a tighter, immersive passage that largely frames Parliament. Surrounding paths weave around the installation and extend toward floating docks, reinforcing the layered relationship between history, industry, the river, and the capital.

Woven Storytelling is an education, storytelling, and gathering space inspired by the hand crafted birch bark canoes used along the ancient portage route. Each of the space's three structures had a purpose. One for education on the Indigenous knowledge of the site and the second is a seating area for rest and enjoying the water. Finally, the last structure acts as a teaching and storytelling circle to emphasise the significance of oral storytelling and community knowledge.



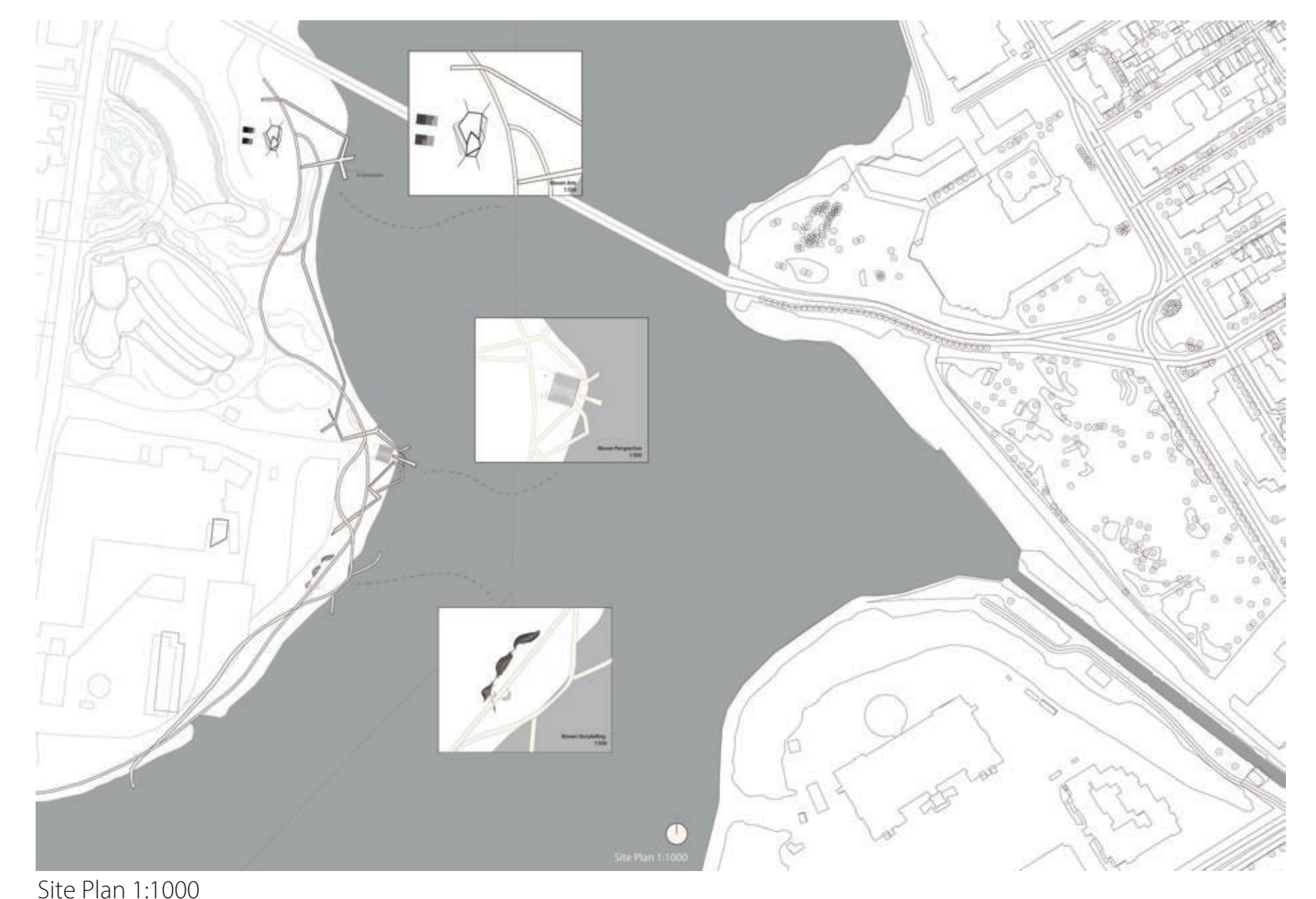
Woven Storytelling



Woven Perspective



Woven Arts

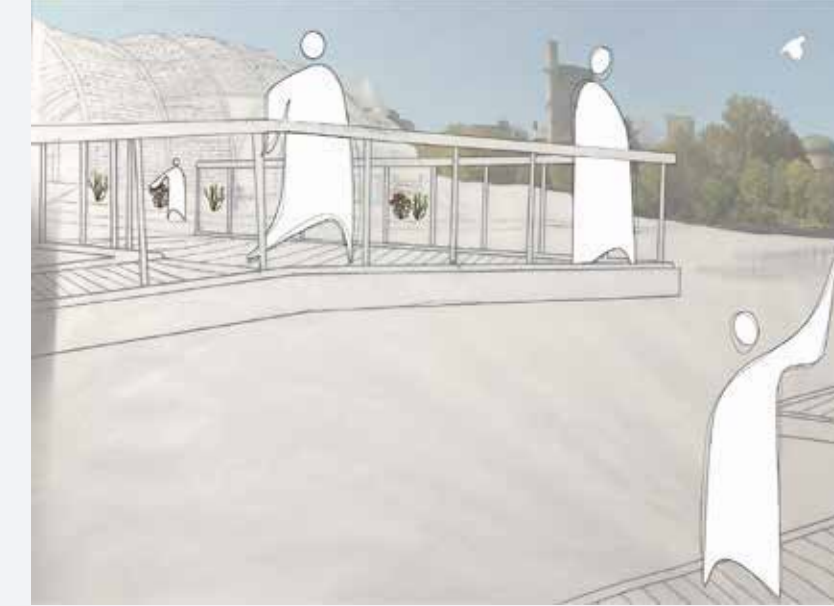
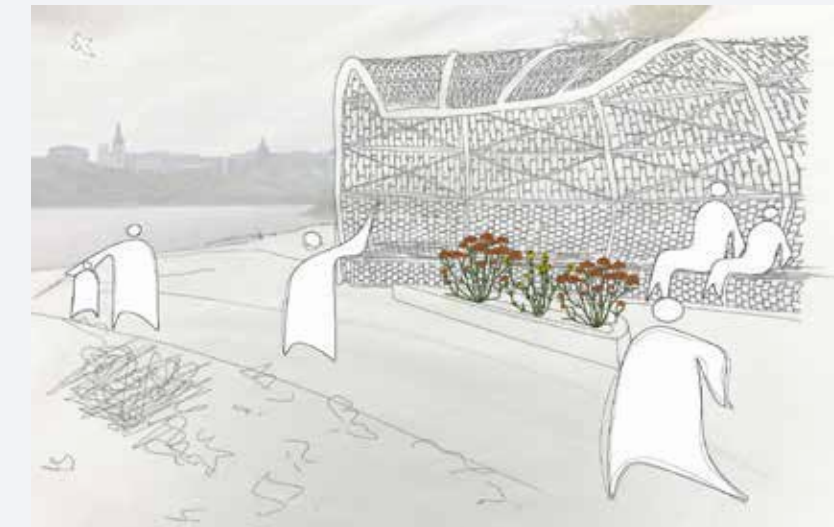


Emily Fraser, Annette DeGroot (2026)

The illustrations show a fish in three different representations: a realistic 3D model, a wireframe model, and a model with a curved path. The fish is green with red fins and a yellow eye. The wireframe model shows the internal structure of the fish. The curved path model shows the fish's movement trajectory.



Exiting the pavilion and crossing the pathway will lead you to the floating garden deck. The deck draws inspiration from the curvature of swift water grid fish traps, where its passageways lead to an enclosure for the fish. Going down the deck's ramps, you incarnate as a fish and are able to interact with the Ottawa river directly. The deck's wide platforms allow for gatherings and contemplative walks. The community can come together and attend workshops where they can help construct modular floating gardens that house native wetland plants such as Swamp Milkweed, Cardinal Flowers, that attract pollinators, and native wildlife both above and underwater. These modular gardens can be attached and detached from the deck where they'd then be floated off to different locations across the Ottawa river, giving back to the community while enriching its biodiversity. After exiting the deck there is another pathway moment, adjacent to Alexandria bridge, framing Kiwaki Point as a view of interest due to the ties that the Mohawk communities have with weaving.



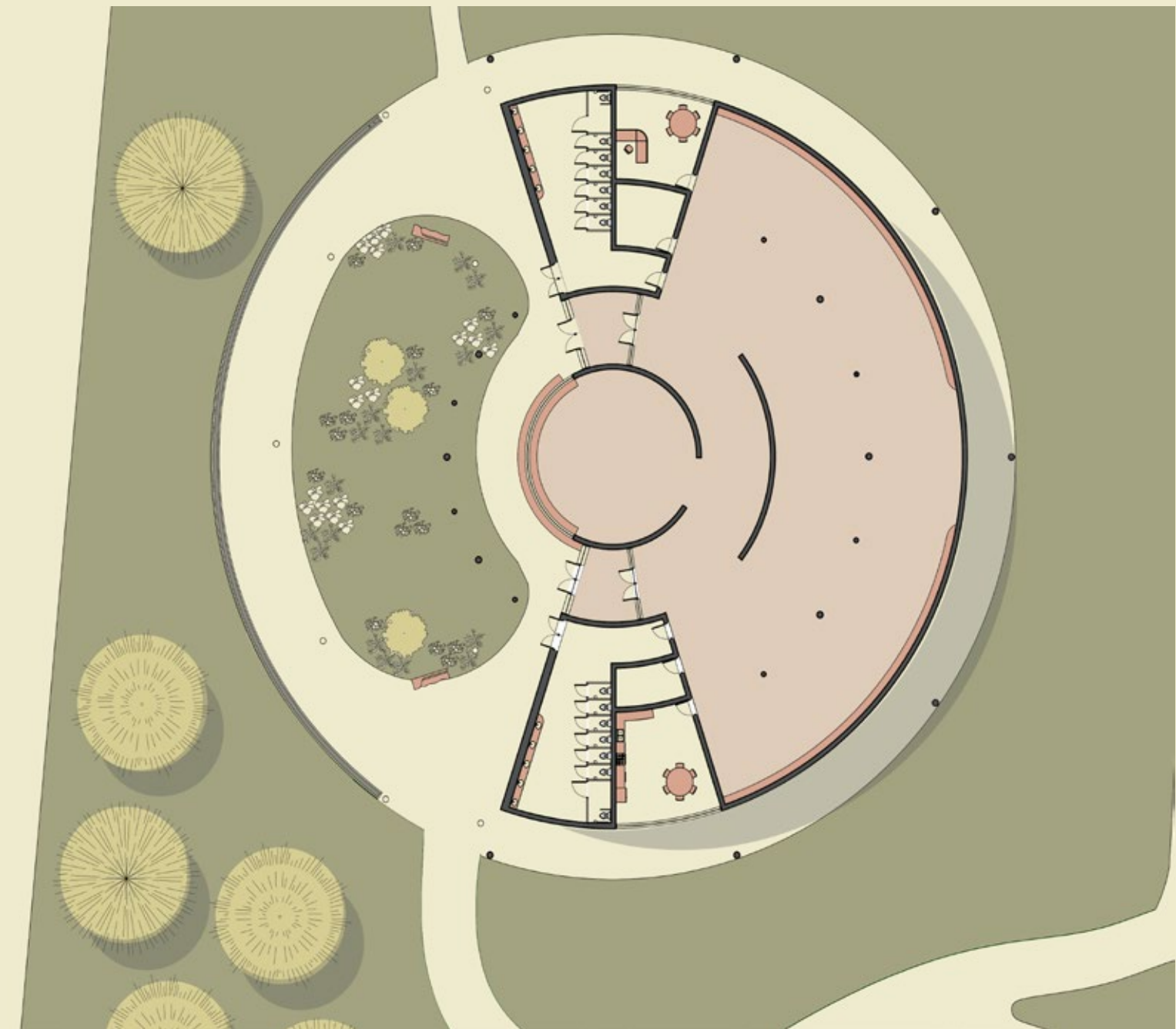
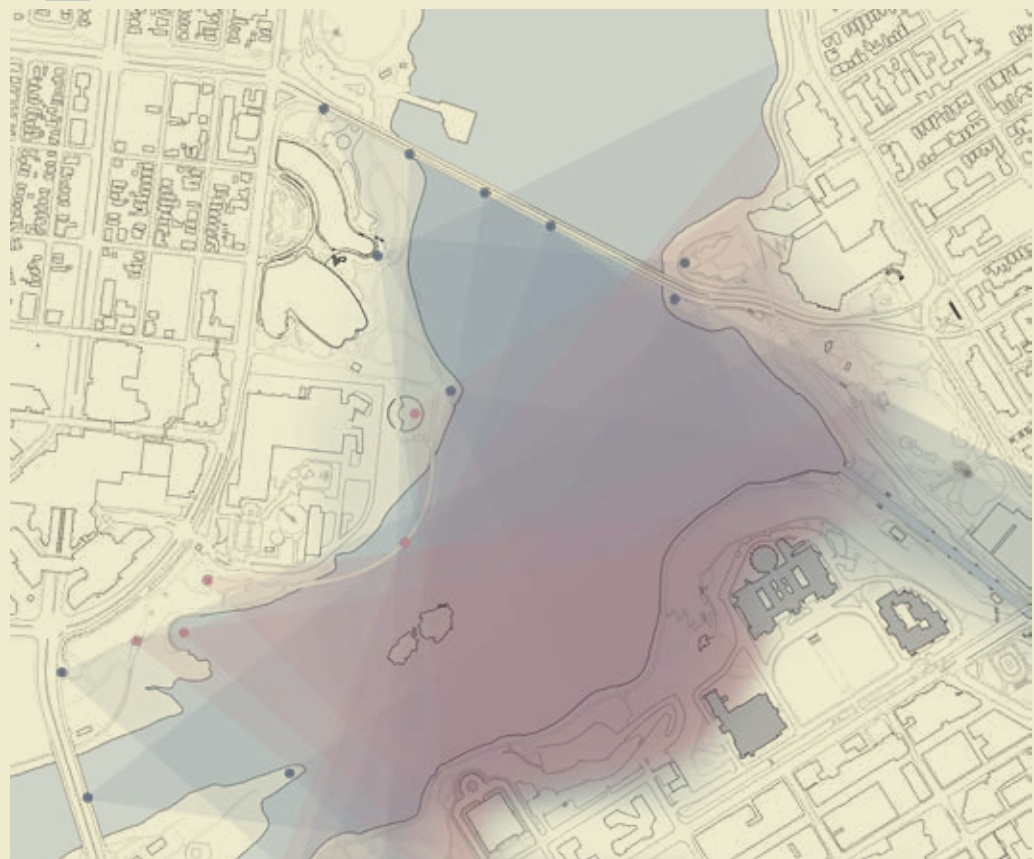
Alexander Snell, Kayla Kharooba, Mariana Aguilar Serrano (2026)

TESSOUAT PARK

The Tessouat Park project began with the desire to add a variety of year-round activities across the site. We suggest three intervention types: environmental, recreational, and educational. It is critical for the overall site to be universally accessible, while prioritizing the environmental and social impacts of the proposal.

Much of our proposal is filled with gardens and renaturalized areas. On the north end of the park, between the Ottawa River and the Canadian Museum of History, are the Education Gardens; visitors can learn about native plants through tactile placards. This experience encourages the exploration of nature across the park and the National Capital Region. The central section of the shoreline is renaturalized. The main pathway and bridge are replaced with a boardwalk projecting over the river, with illuminated panels of the 13 moons of the Algonquin calendar. Finally, similar to the Fletcher Wildlife Gardens, the southern green area of the site has numerous walking paths and a medicine wheel garden.

Along Voyagers Pathway is a combination of recreational elements and art pieces. Visitors can canoe a portion of the river, with canoe launches between the Portage and Alexandra Bridges. A series of windchimes audibly animate the site to combat noise pollution from the surrounding area. Wide steps are carved into the southern cove, leading to an accessible swimming area that prevents shoreline erosion.



The Grandfather's Pavilion:

At the heart of the proposal is the Grandfathers Pavillion, a community gathering and event space overlooking the river and the Ottawa skyline beyond. We incorporated the principles and values from across the park into the anatomy of this building. Further, the eastern glazed wall is engraved with images of the site's indigenous and colonial history, to layer the stories with the present.

The building's roof is supported by seven primary beams, each representing one of the Anishinaabe Seven Grandfather Teachings. Each beam and column assembly represents a teaching and is engraved with the corresponding animal. The carved detail creates a tangible reminder of the concepts explored on site, encouraging visitors to inhabit the principles even after leaving.



The Swimming Steps in Summer:



The Wind Chime Bridge in Fall:



The Grandfather's Pavilion in Winter:



The Grandfather's Pavilion in Spring:

Babel House

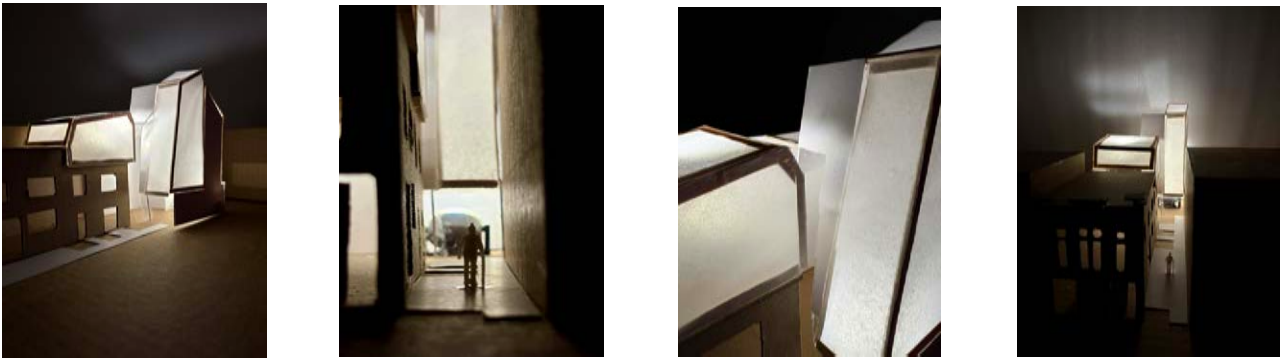
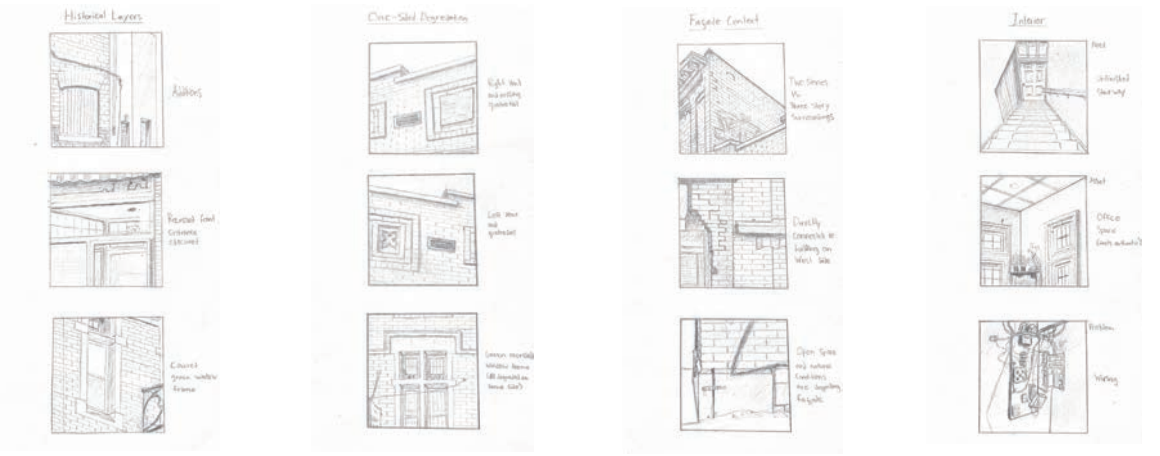
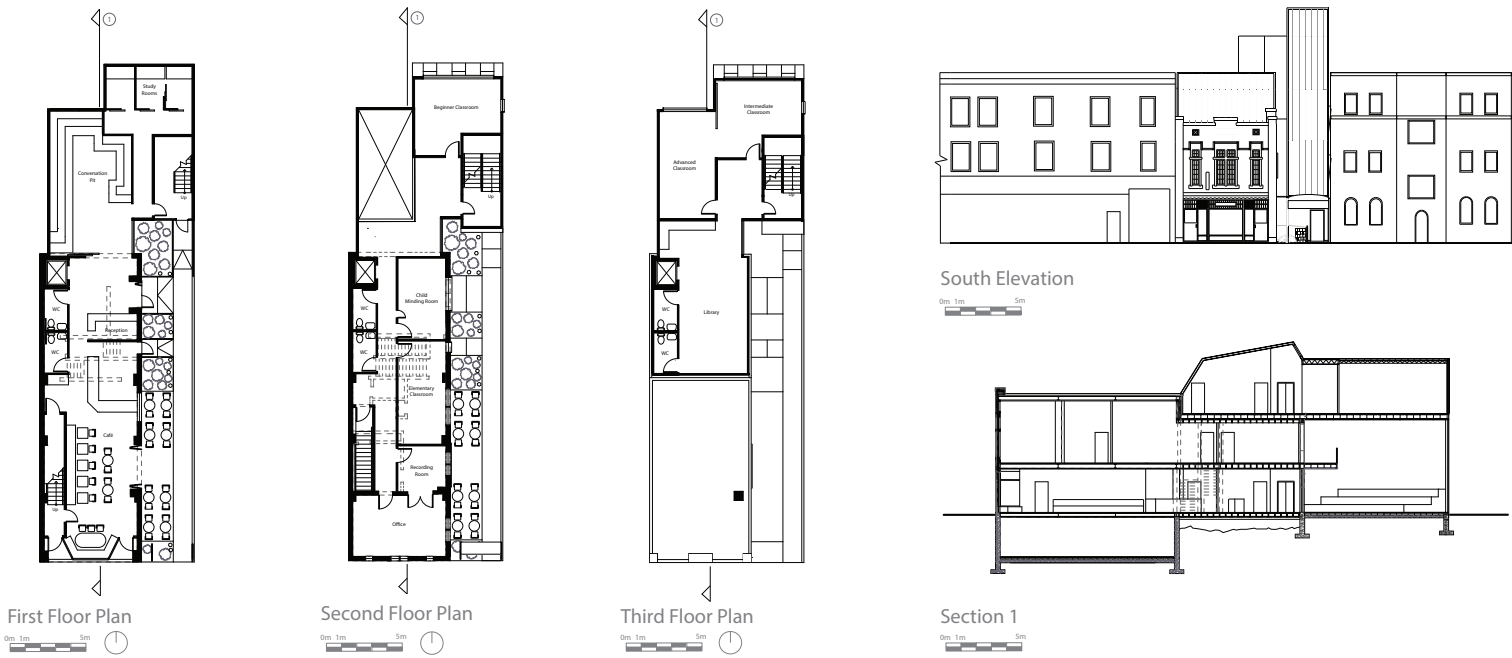
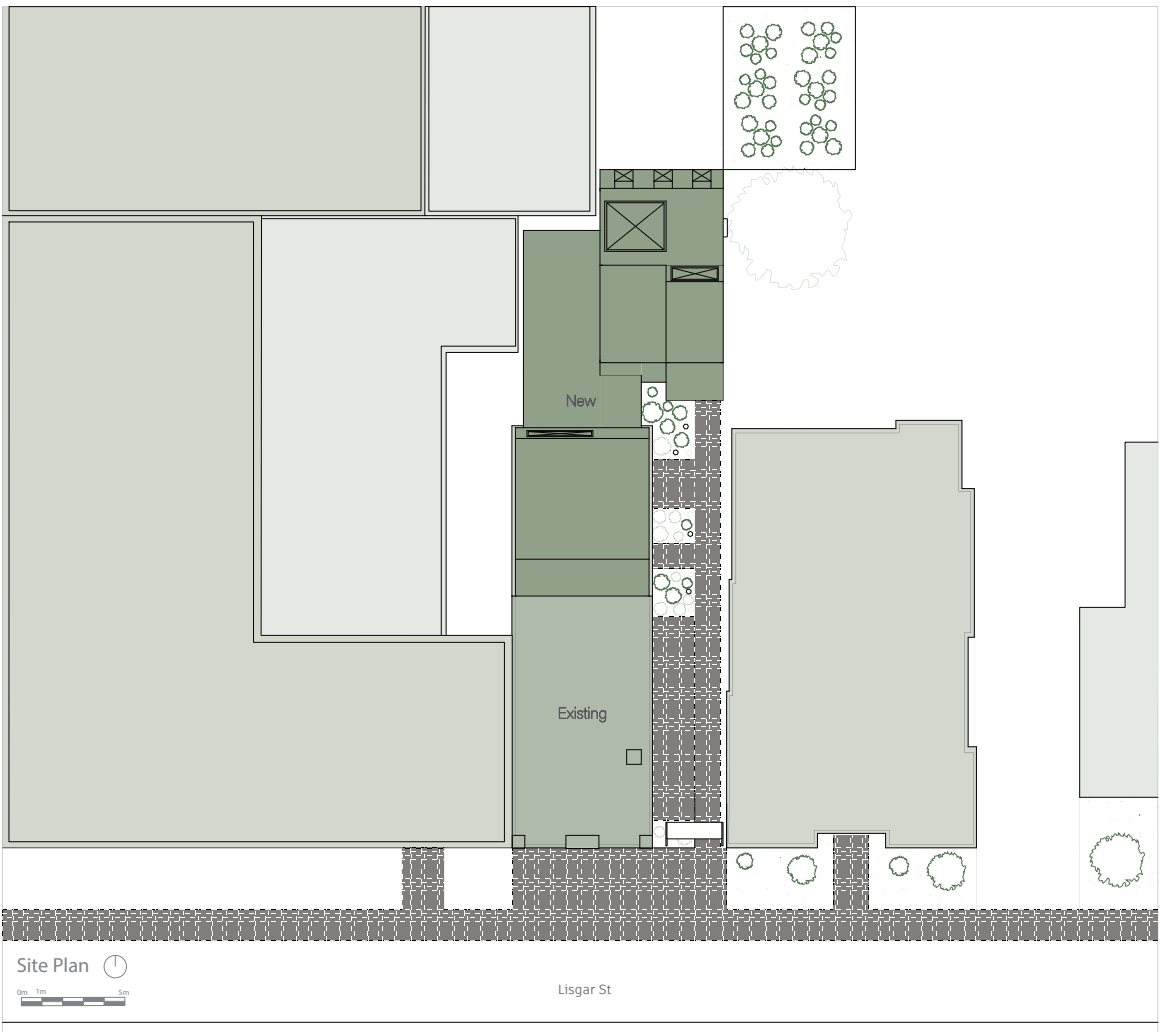
The Babel House proposes a language center seeking to accommodate the large population of ESL speakers in Centretown and the increasing population of newcomers in Ottawa. By providing English classes, discussion spaces, storytelling programs, and counseling resources, the centre aims to provide a welcoming environment that supports a diverse range of communities. This program is especially crucial in Centretown as the neighborhood harbours one of the highest populations of non-English speakers in Ottawa. The Babel House is an imagined rehabilitation and restoration of the existing Bible House located on 315 Lisgar St, Ottawa, in addition to an extension on the existing lot. Historically, when the Bible House was owned by the Ottawa Auxiliary Bible Society, they supplied thousands of Bibles to new Canadians in 111 different languages. A language centre continues this spirit of welcoming and diversity. In this way, the Bible House can be transformed from a place of shared sacred text in different languages, to a place of shared stories in different languages.



Bible House



Percentage of Non-English/French Speakers in Ottawa Neighbourhoods



Model Photographs - Extension created partly of polycarbonate, producing a welcoming, safe space among a dense urban environment



Sidewalk Perspective



Collage of Bible House and Intervention

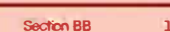
315 Lisgar Ave, Ottawa ON

Site Plan 1:100 

maintained areas additions and alterations

existing building maintained

plans & sections



EXTENDED -



We want to know what stories you have from living, working, and hanging out in **Centretown**.

Are you anyone with stories attached to certain **spaces** in the neighbourhood, both current and bygone? Please reach out to us, we'd love to learn about the lives and needs of Centretown residents!



WHO WE ARE.
We are a group of Carleton architecture students working on a potential architectural intervention in the Centretown neighborhood, and looking for community input!



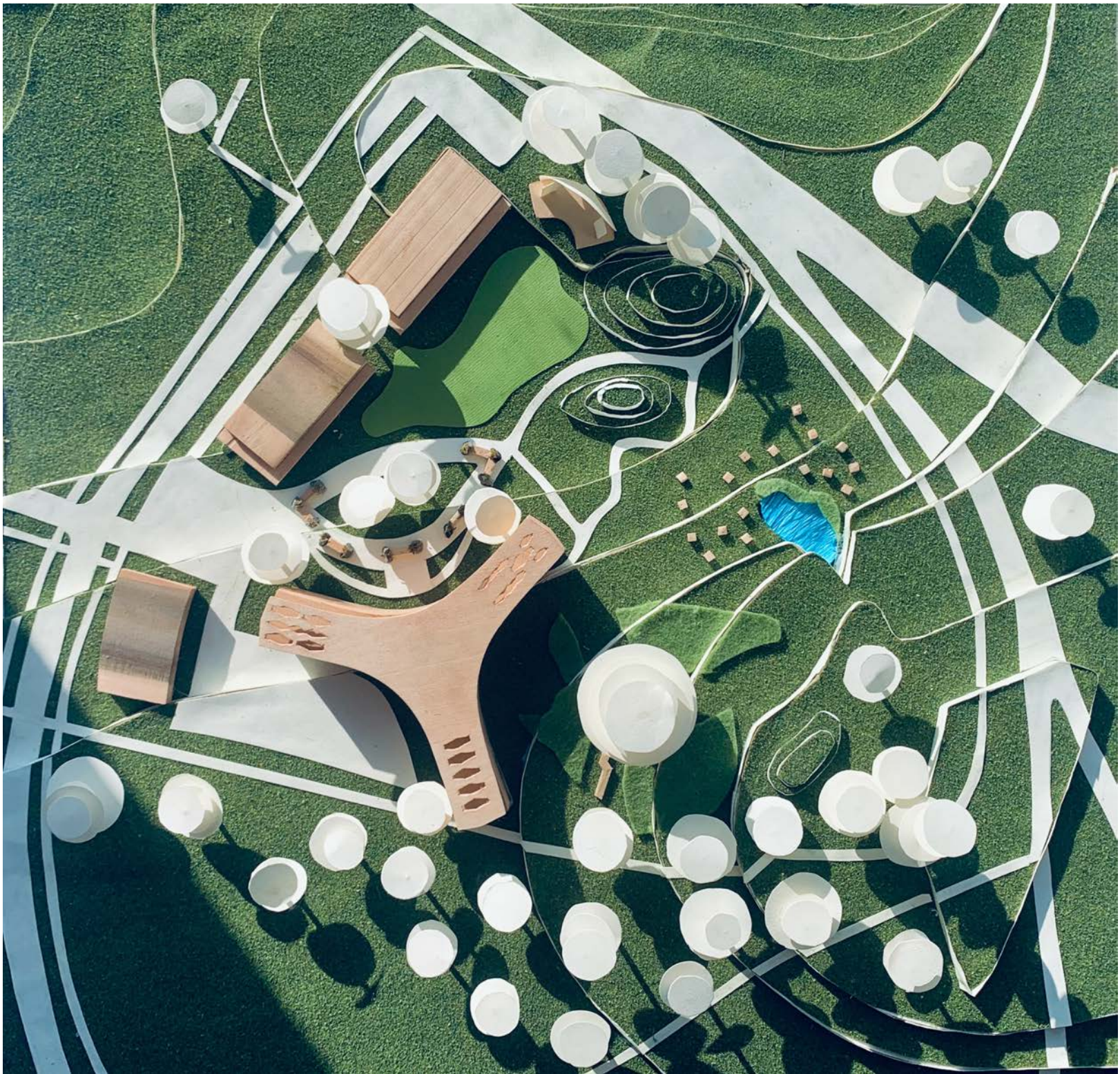
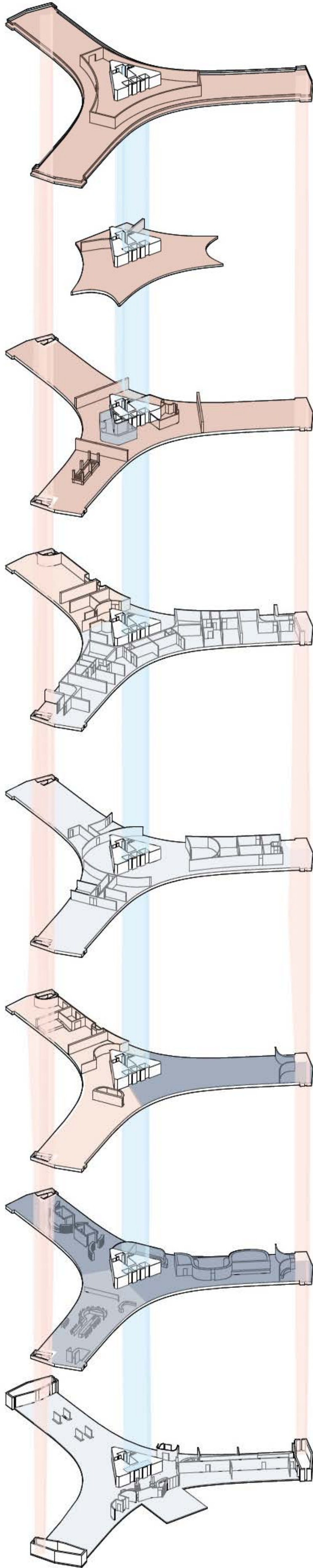
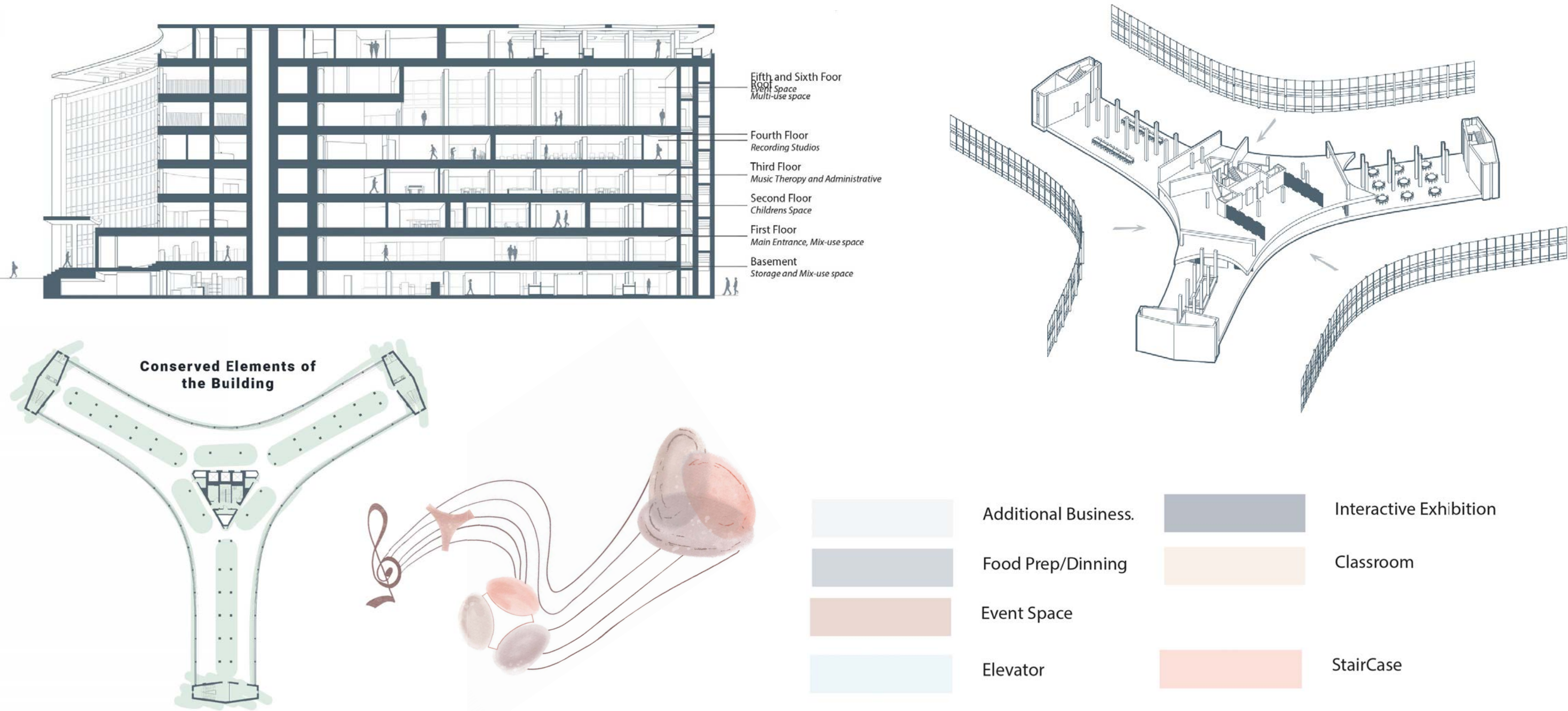
The Reading Room is a living archive of the past, current, and future community of Centretown. It is an exercise in **converting and translating** the rich and ongoing history of Centretown from a lived and spoken history into a tangible, documented form. The project strives to be as open as possible about the methods of documentation, ranging from visual and written material to auditory recordings. It is meant to be contributed entirely by the community and accepts any materials related to the neighbourhood or adjacent communities, including a collection on the religious history of the Bible House itself. The Reading Room addresses Centretown's gradual loss of free cultural spaces to spend time in, and the threat of losing its documented history as the neighbourhood rapidly changes and redevelops.





P O L Y P H O N Y

The Polyphony project reinterprets the former CBC headquarters—a site of national significance that once facilitated the exchange of information across Canada—as a new hub for the exchange of music and culture. By translating the building’s historic role in connecting Canadians through broadcasting into a contemporary space for musical learning, performance, and collaboration, the project carries an important national legacy into the present. Drawing from the site’s history and existing character, the design preserves its identity while creating inclusive spaces that foster creativity, education, and community engagement. Through sound, Polyphony continues the building’s tradition of connection, extending beyond its walls into the Confederation Heights neighbourhood and the broader public realm. By enhancing accessibility, protecting and activating green space into a sensory garden, and encouraging cultural participation, the project transforms a former communications landmark into a vibrant civic destination that celebrates Canada’s past while supporting its cultural future. Overall, the goal of the project is to move the space from a private, isolated institution to a public space that the whole community can utilize for generations to come.



Site Model



Rooftop Terrace: Garden & Lookout



1F: CBC & Music Library



This project aims to transform 875 Heron Rd. into a vibrant 21st century cultural hub by integrating modern technologies and contemporary building systems while maintaining important heritage characteristics. With the careful implementation of sustainable design strategies and preservation of significant historic elements our project seeks to create a dynamic and environmentally friendly space. The revitalization will provide the community of Confederation Heights with a wide range of artistic disciplines and learning opportunities for all demographics, helping to foster creativity and meaningful connection amongst the future Confederation Heights community.

