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MA Interior Design Thesis

can you read this
presentation without
reaching for your phone...?

Around the world, people spend,
on average, 44% of their waking
hours looking at screens

Source: Data Reportal

It was found that teens from lower-income households* spend an average of 9hrs 19mins every day on their screens

Source: Common Sense Media

* Tower Hamlets has the highest poverty rates in all of London and the least amount of elderly people in the UK

Excessive screen time – particularly that linked to social media – can contribute to feelings of loneliness, anxiety, depression, and low self-esteem.

In Buddhism, “busyness is seen as a form of laziness” – it’s a failure to withhold your attention from whatever random email, task or webpage lays claim to it.

But doing nothing isn't always
as easy as it sounds... Especially for the
people of Tower Hamlets.

site analysis

Yeoman Court

Tynne Court
Temporarily closed

Planner Catering Bromley
Temporarily closed

Video Kit Hire
Aberfeldy Village
Temporarily closed

DNA DL90 by
Abigail Fallis

A12

A12

A12

A12

A12

Gillender St

Gillender St

Gillender St

Gillender S

Tweed Walk

Tweed Walk

Teviot St

Teviot

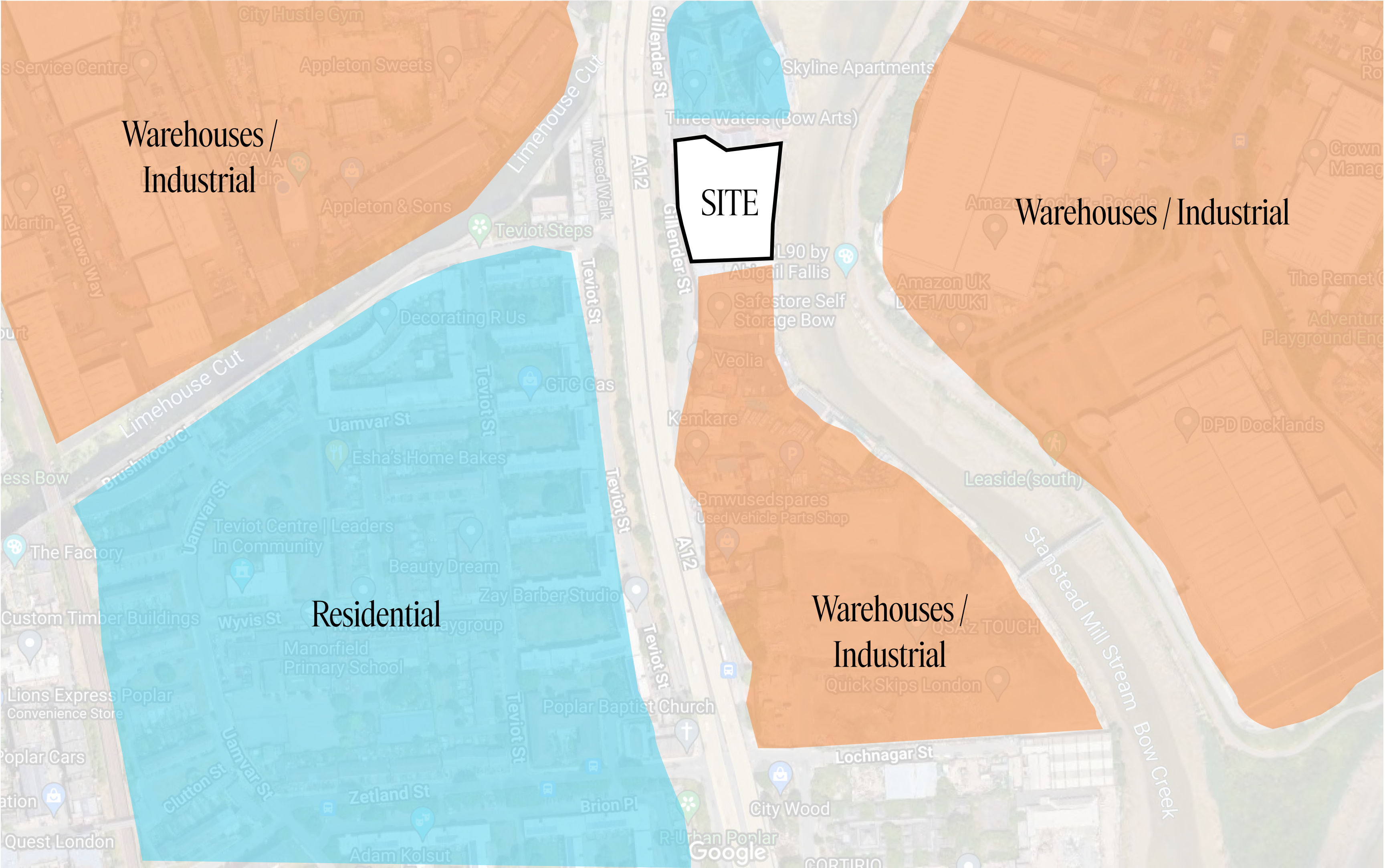
SITE

RIVER LEA

Site Surroundings

The area surrounding the site is comprised of high density housing and warehouses/light industrial space.

Despite there being a large amount of people living locally, there is little space for them to socialise or relax outside of their homes.



Disparity of Space



VS



Site Gross Internal Area
=
15,579 m²

Average floorspace per person in Tower Hamlets
=
24.2 m²
(0.16% of the size of the building)

Tower Hamlets - Local issues and needs

Surrounded by high density housing with little outdoor space

Lack of third spaces

Highest poverty rates in all of London

Highest child poverty rates in the UK

A young population & the least amount of elderly people in the UK

Low rates of home ownership + high rates of social housing

The highest rates of heart disease in London

Lack of access to the River Lea or and green space

observations

Existing semi-Permanent Structures



PORTALS:
Existing low cost interventions create separate spaces

Existing structural columns



COLUMNS:
The many columns throughout the 1930s building make a grid structure

Collage exploration using existing site

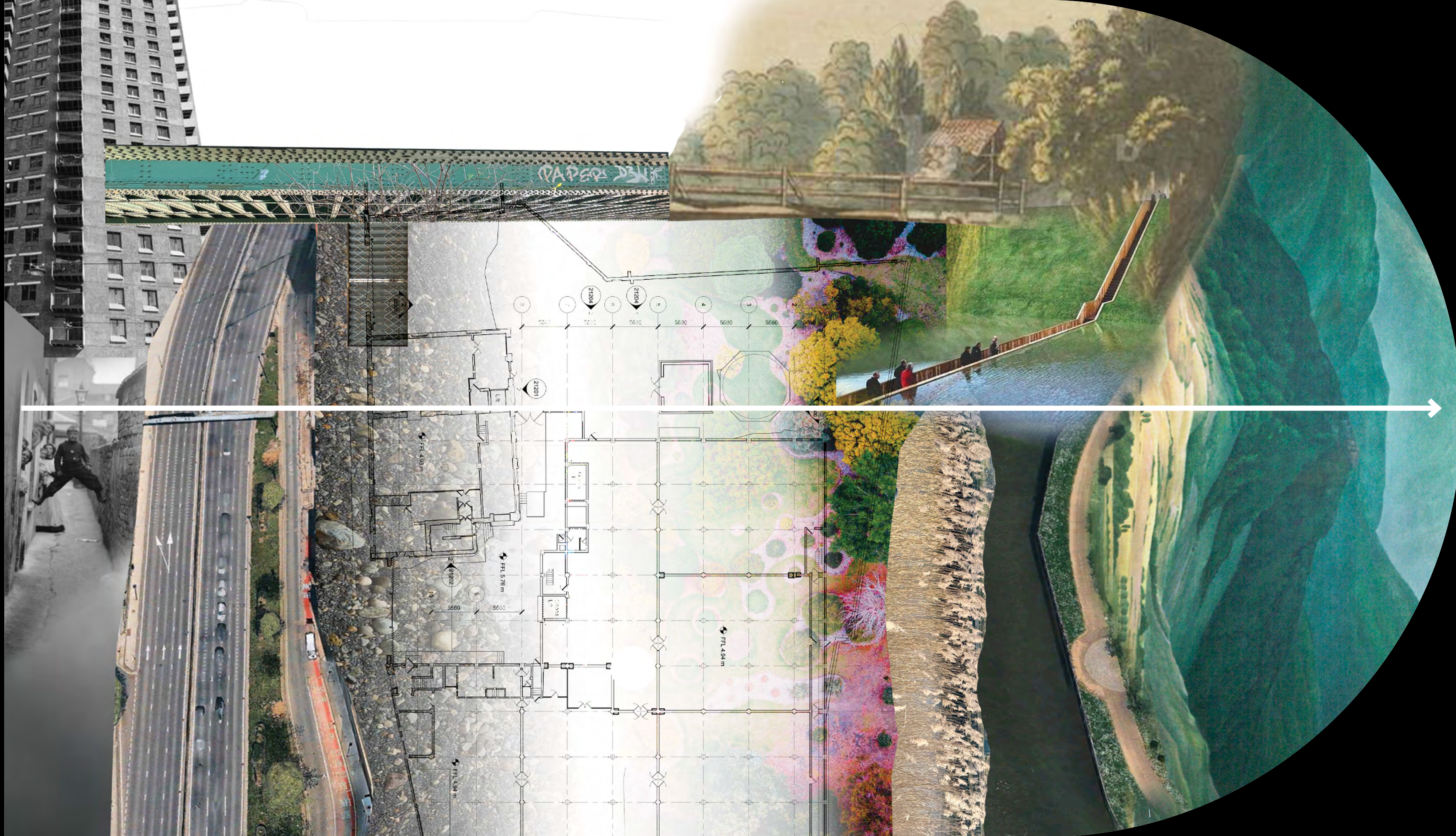


could these elements be used in my program?



Using the site as a conduit from road to river

road



river

Compression Artefact

This piece explores how different materials within the site interact with one another and can be moved or repositioned to create new spaces.

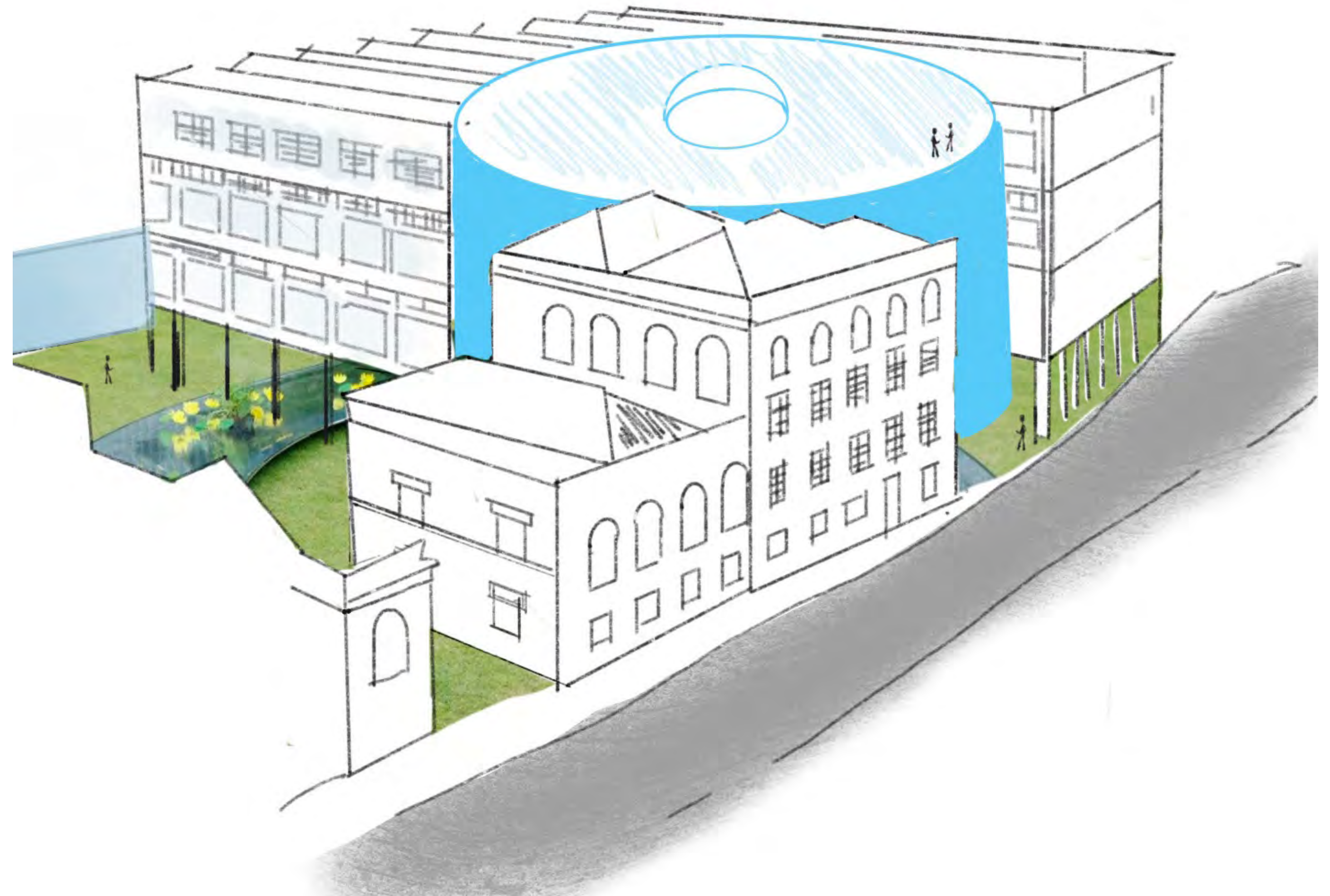


Term 2 – Exploratory Work

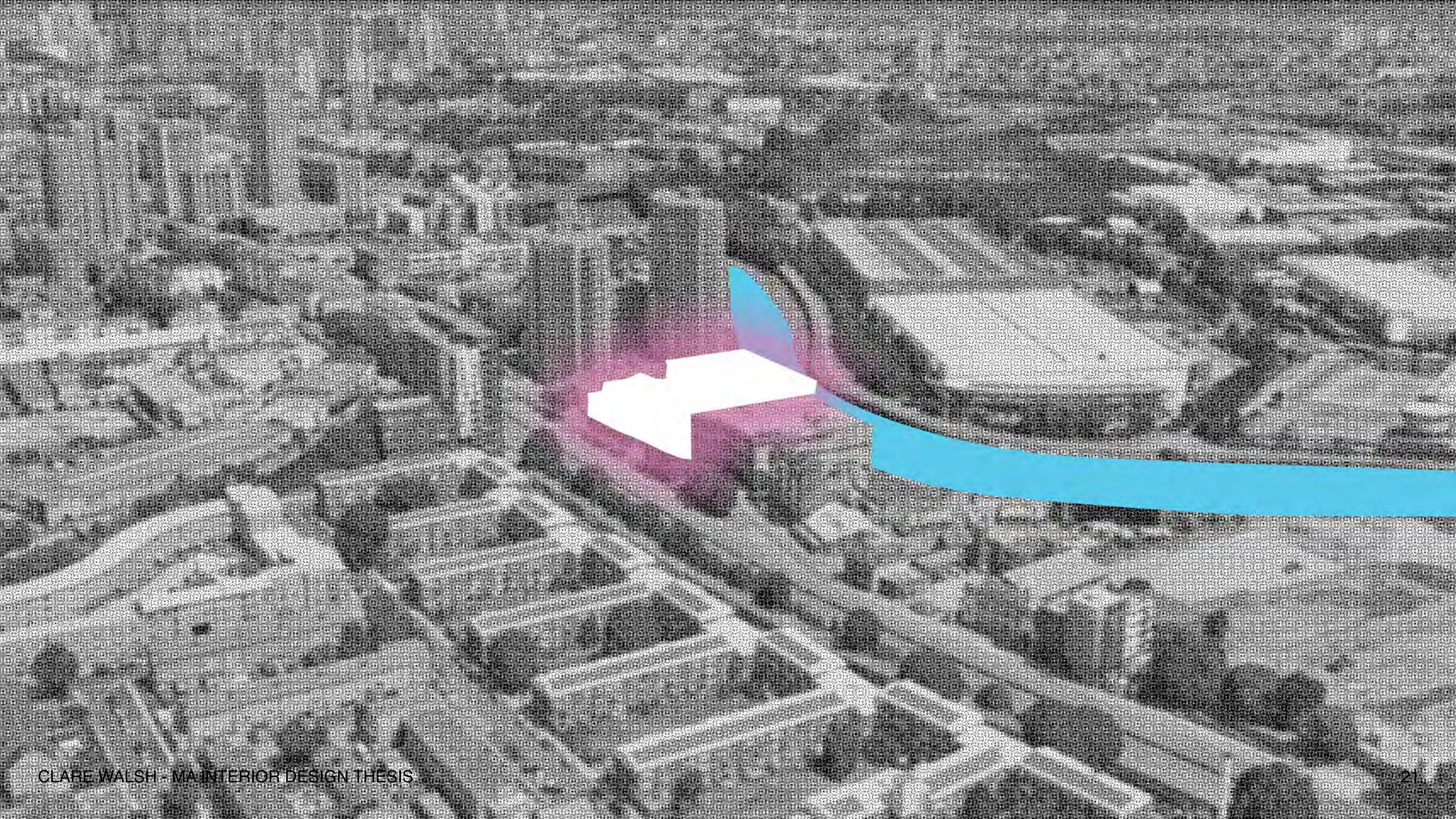
During term 2, I explored the idea of creating a totem structure to connect the Victorian and 1930s buildings, which would become a void space within which the user would be invited to do nothing.

After some consideration, I realised that the act of ‘doing nothing’ is usually accessed more as a by-product of a situation, rather than by intention.

This led me to reconsider the layout of the space, and to create a series of spaces throughout the building that feel familiar to the user, but also are the ideal environments to do very little.



so, are you ready?





to do nothing?

nothing space

leave the outside world behind

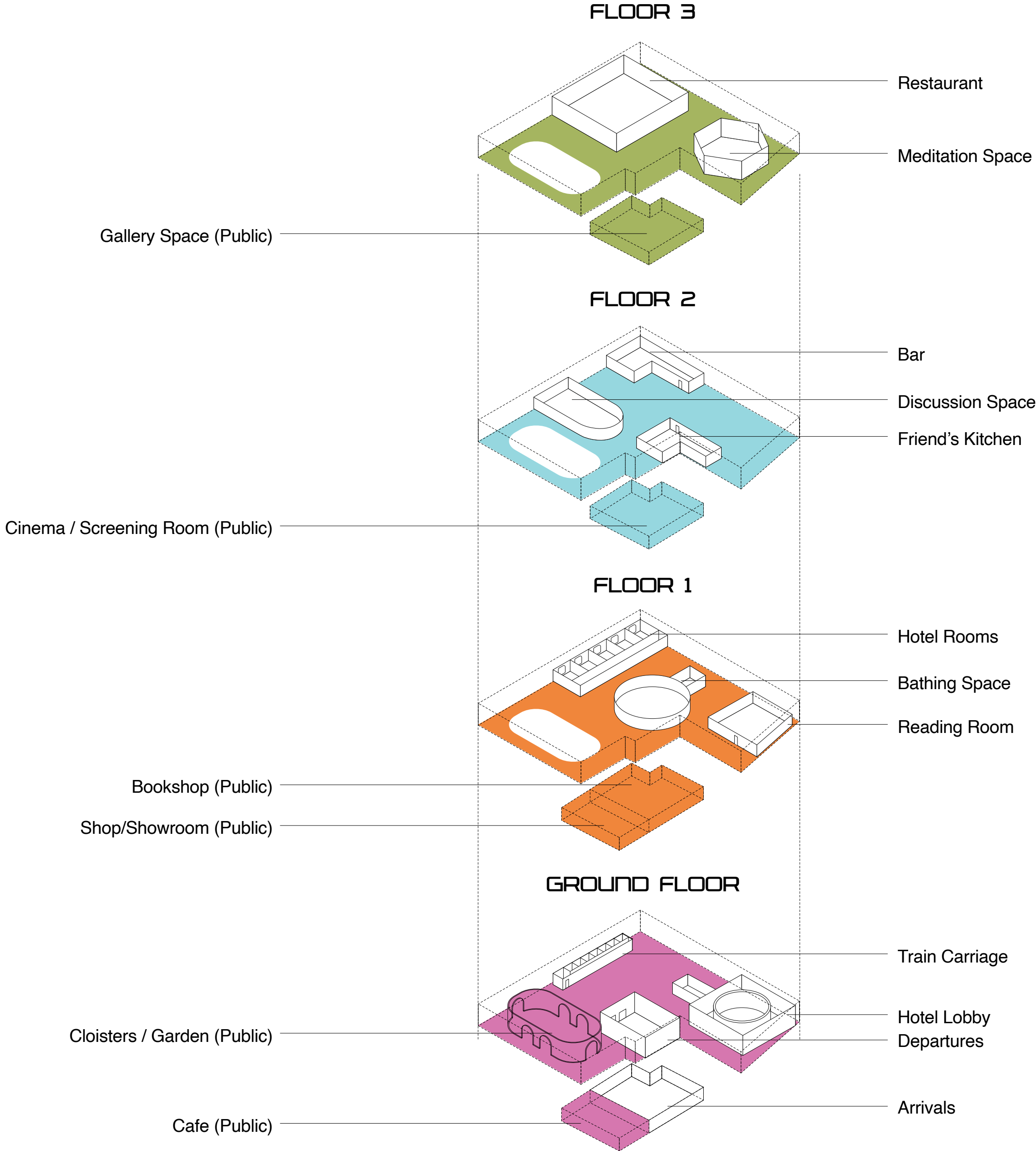
nothing space is a series of
temporary spaces that invite the user
on a journey of doing nothing
(productive)



These spaces lend themselves to
thinking and relaxing

Spaces to do Nothing

The site will be transformed into a series of temporary spaces, the aim of each is to provide an environment that facilitates a way to switch off from everyday life and do 'nothing'.

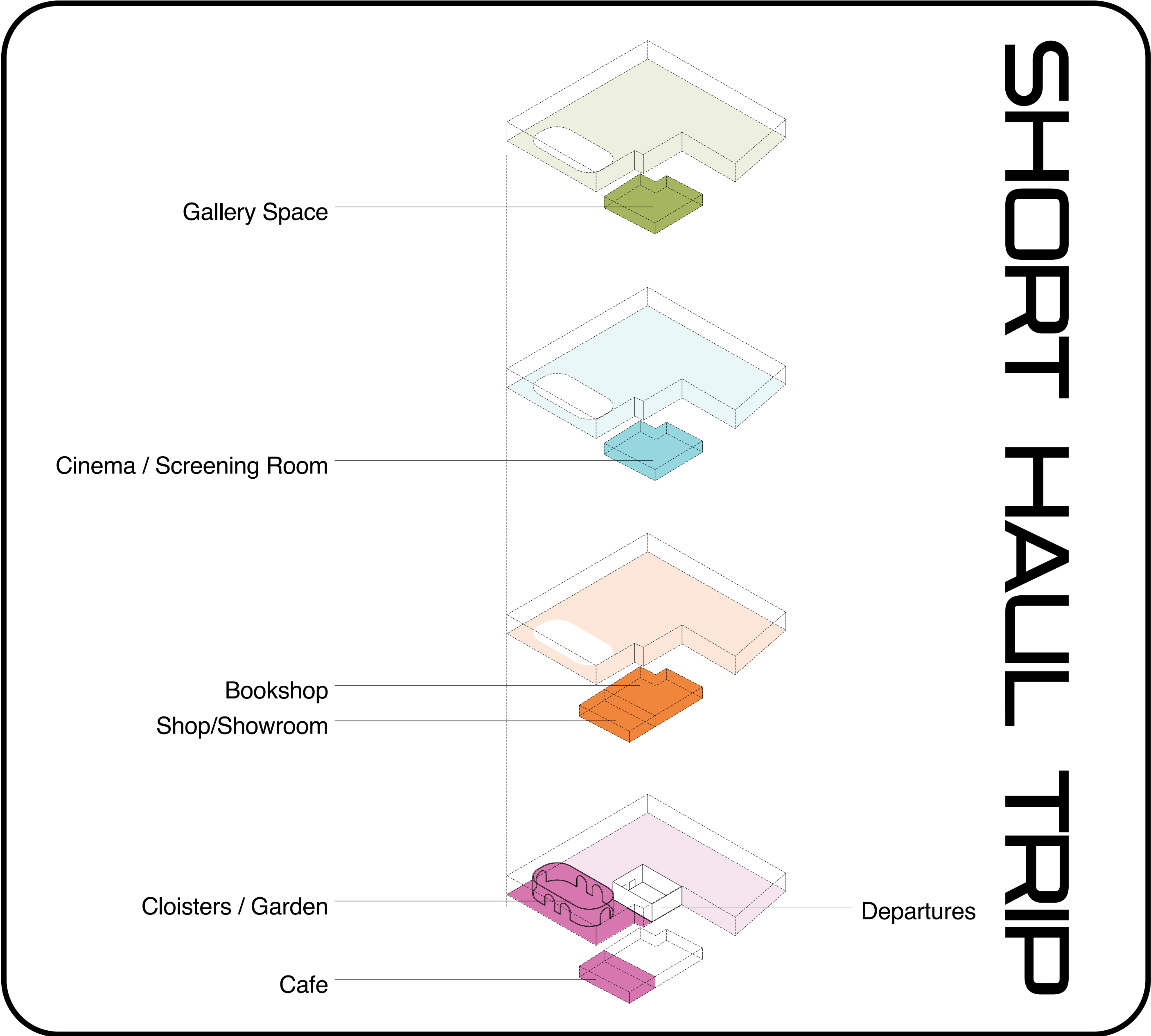


Short Haul or Long Haul?

Upon entering the building (via the departures lounge), the user will be invited to pick one of two potential journeys - short haul or long haul.

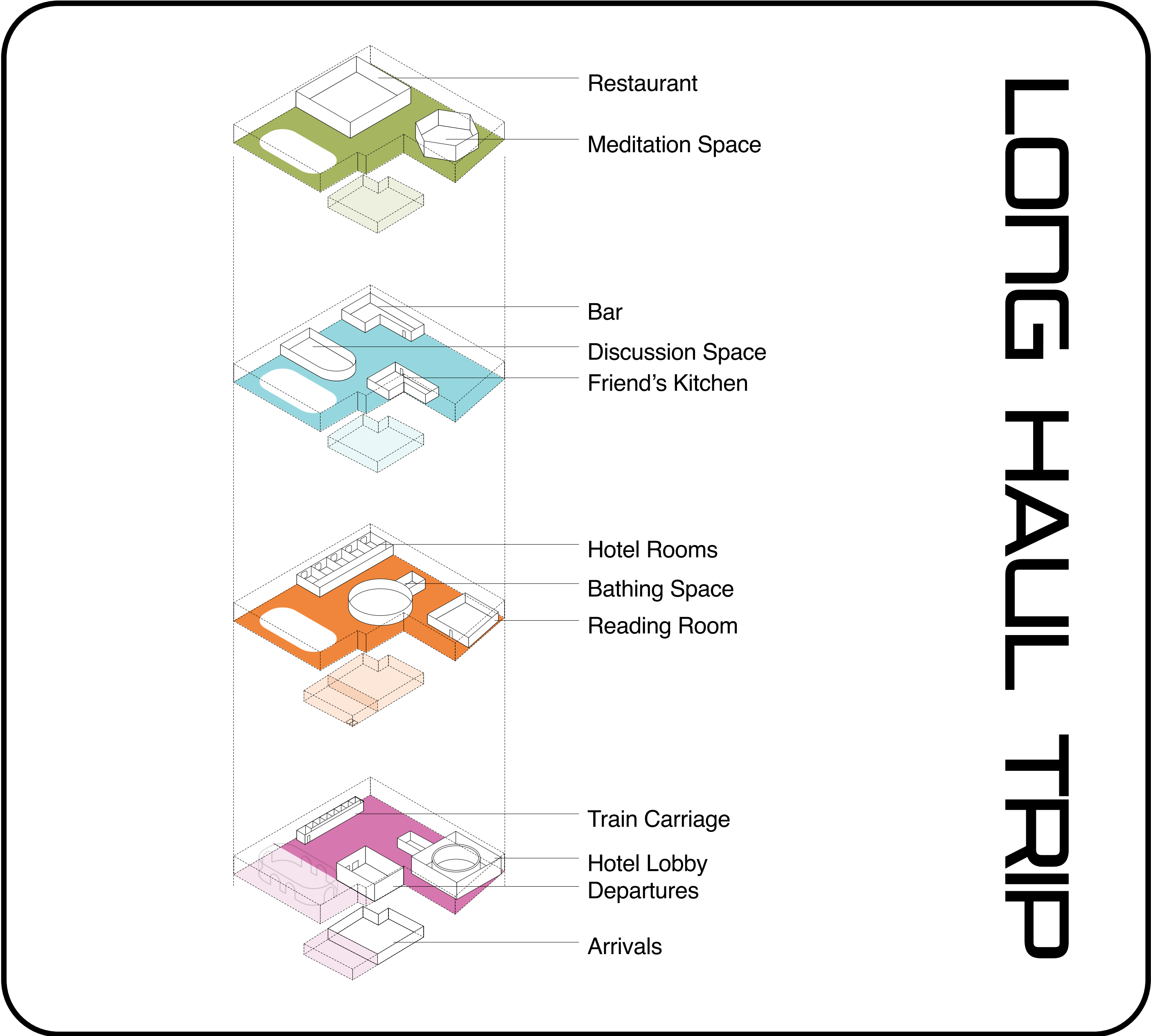
Short haul is the public, permanent section of Nothing Space - set within the Victorian building. The trip encompasses a cafe, garden, bookshop, showroom, cinema and gallery space.

Visitors can use these facilities in any order they prefer, perfect for a short break from reality.



Long Haul Experience

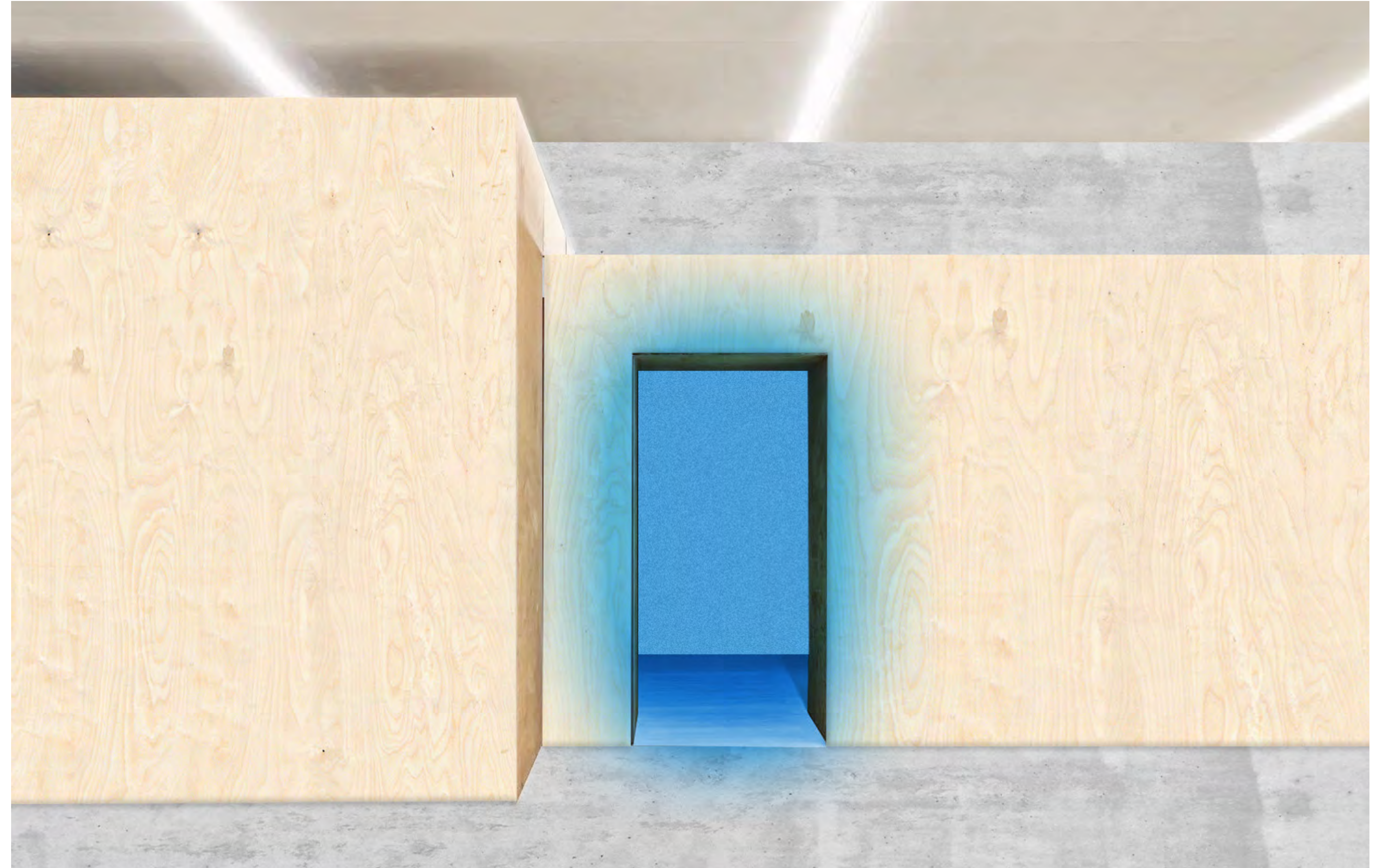
Long haul is the full experience of doing nothing. The user is guided through a series of temporary spaces across the four original floors of the 1930s building.



Temporary spaces

Taking inspiration from the low cost interventions already within the Victorian building, a series of temporary 'rooms with a room' - akin to film sets, will be constructed to mimic the environments that encourage people to do very little. These include a train carriage, a hotel lobby, a hotel room, the shower, a meditation room, and so on.

This also gives the user time away from screens (phones will be checked in at arrival) and allows them time to think (or not).



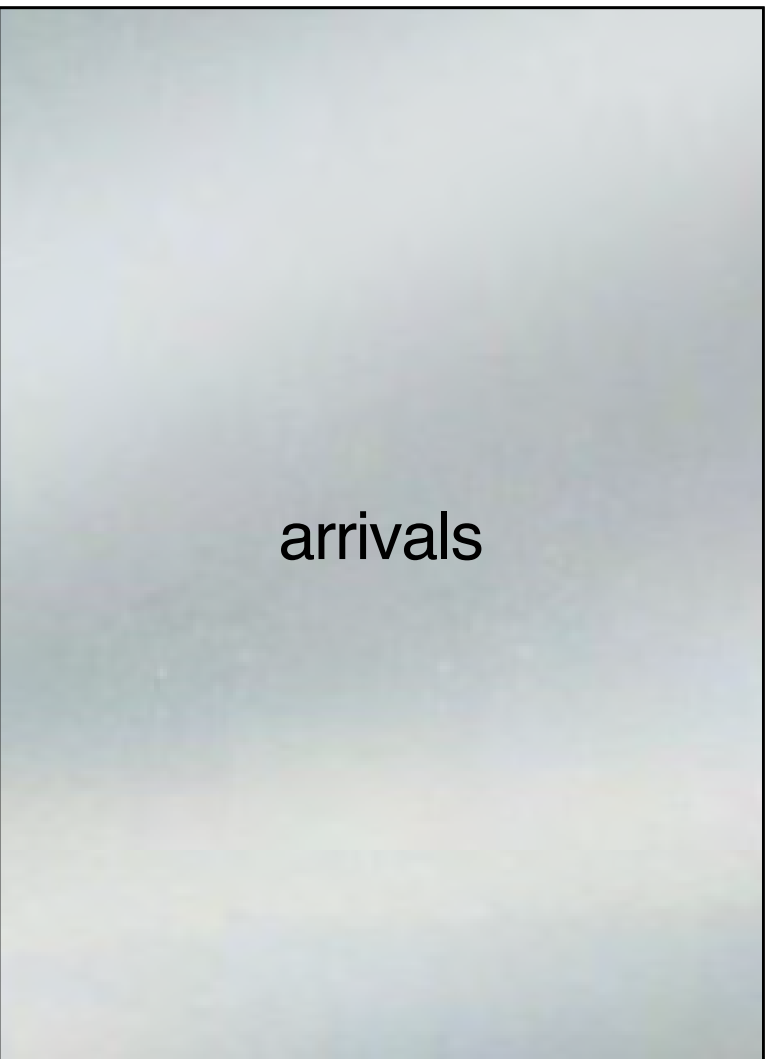
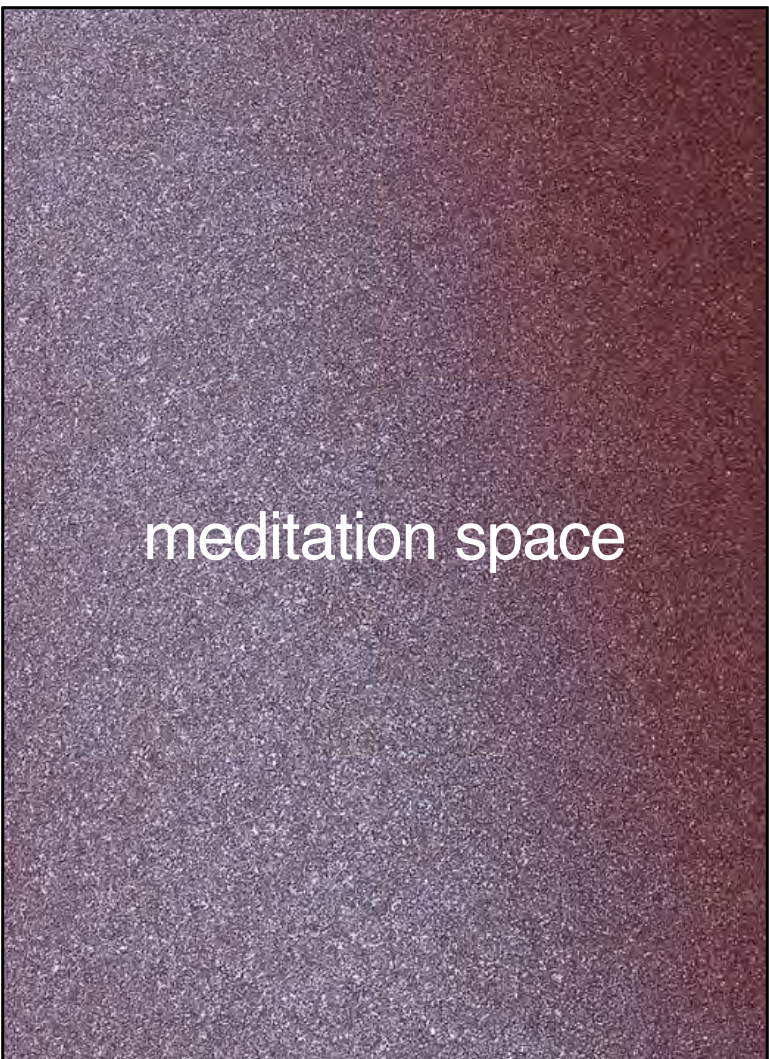
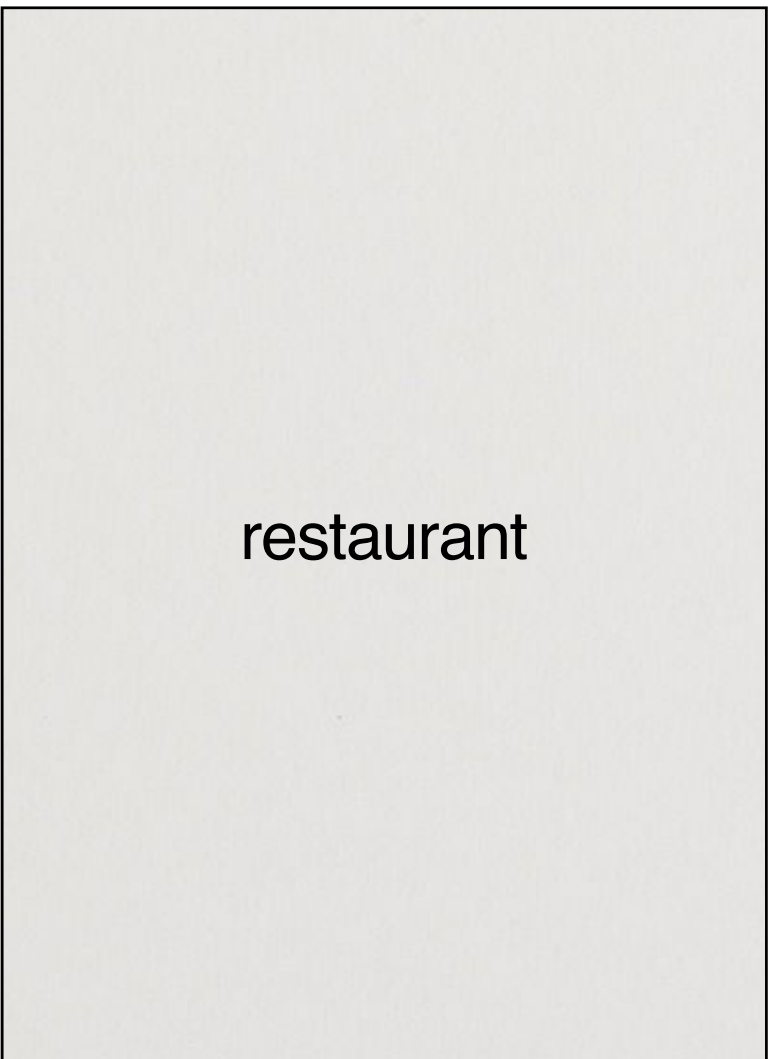
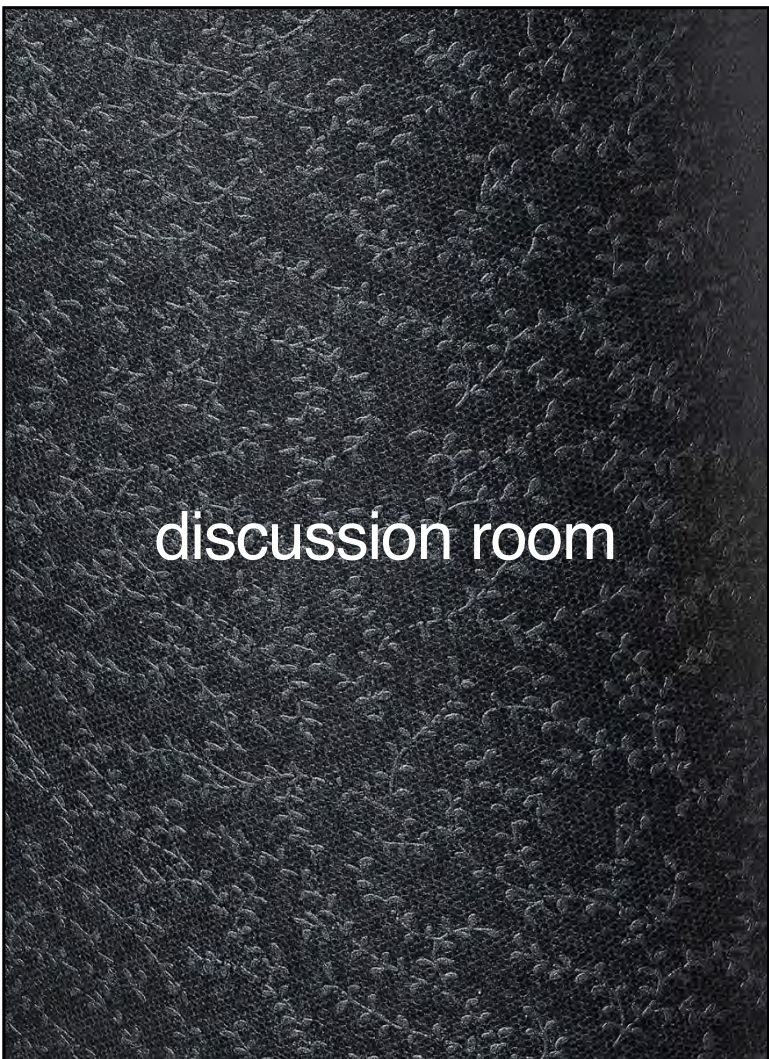
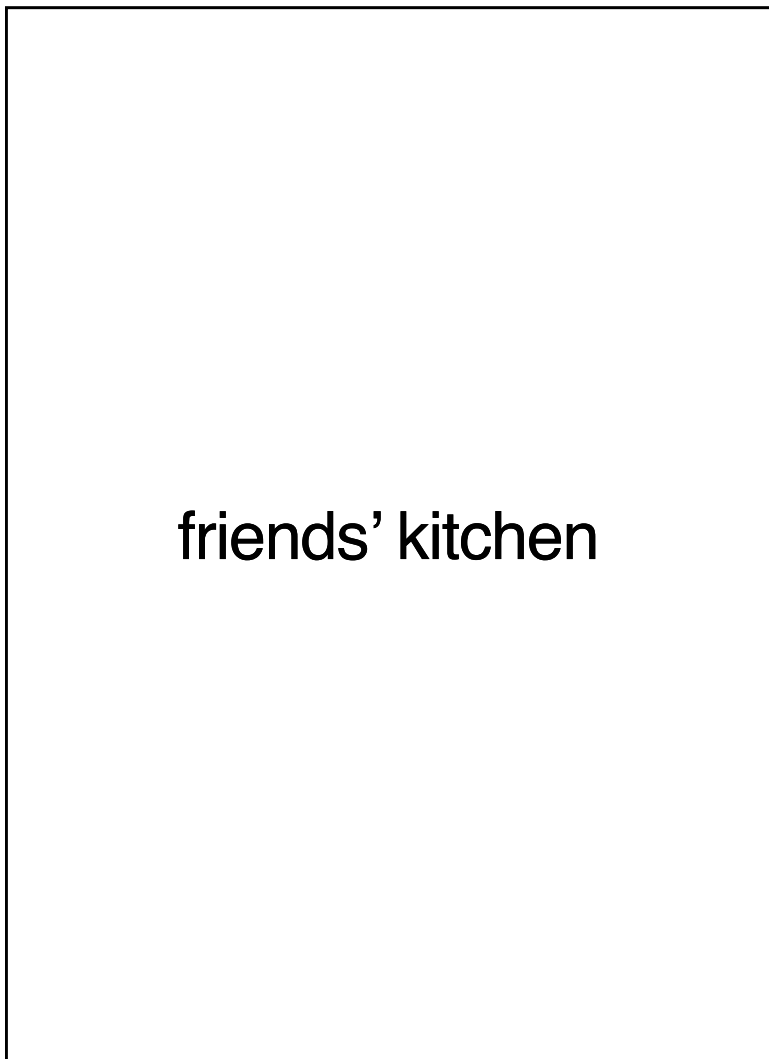
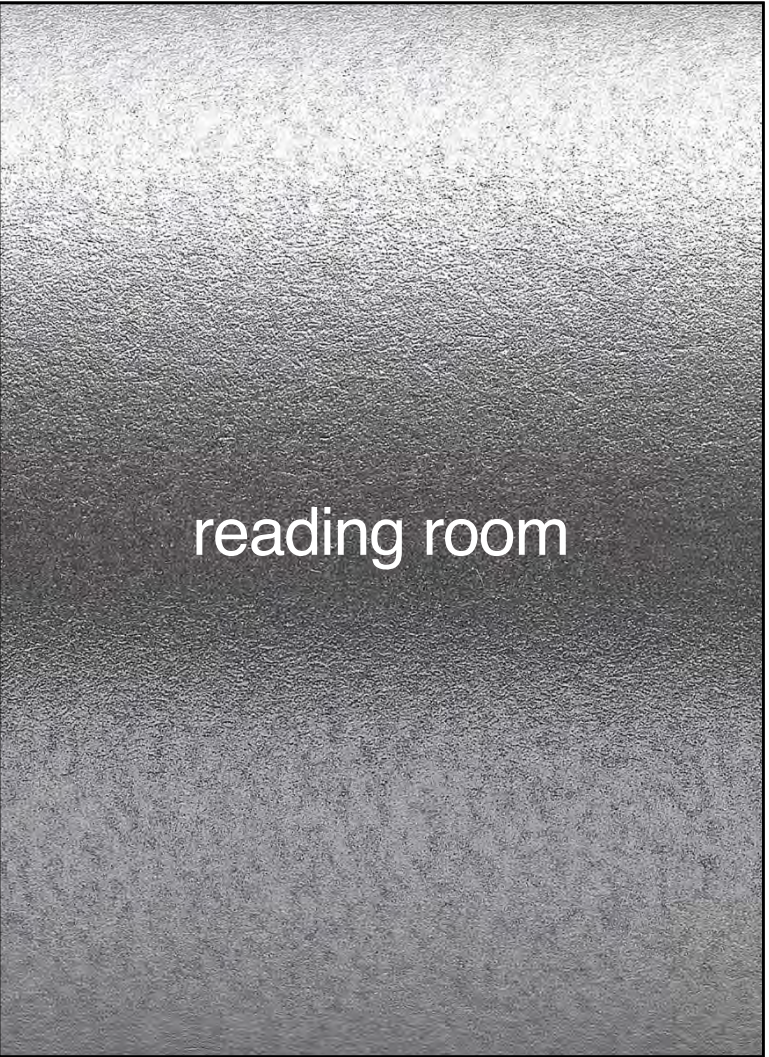
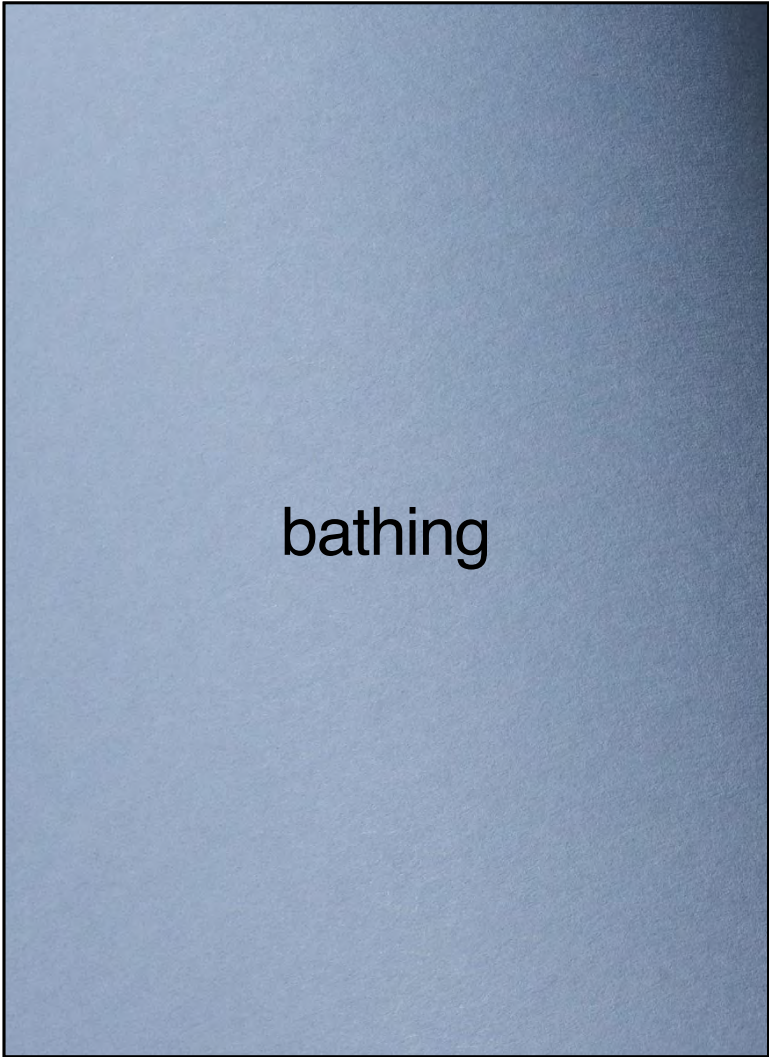
Example of temporary room structure within the 1930s building. From the outside, these look like a film set - the user is invited to enter by an open door, offering a trip into another world.

Inside the temporary space (model)

Each room will have a very different interior, and this is reflected within the material choices of my model. I have selected a different colour and texture of paper for each room. These papers represent the feeling and aesthetic that will be experienced in each room.



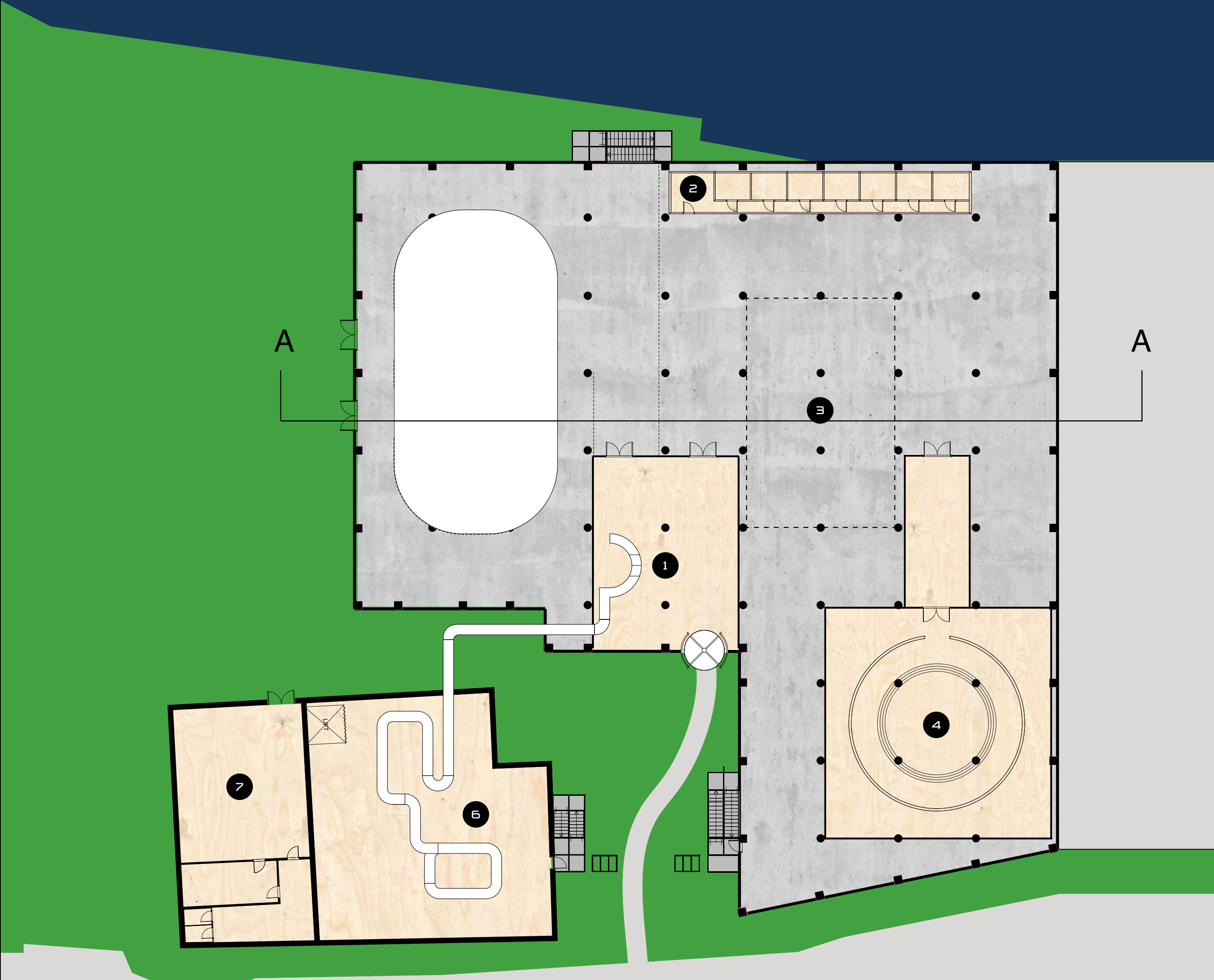
Inside the temporary space (model)



Floor 0

- 1. Departures lounge
- 2. Train Carriage
- 3. Temporary Exhibition Space
- 4. Hotel Lobby
- 5. Cloisters / Garden Area (Public Space)
- 6. Arrivals
- 7. Cafe (Public Space)

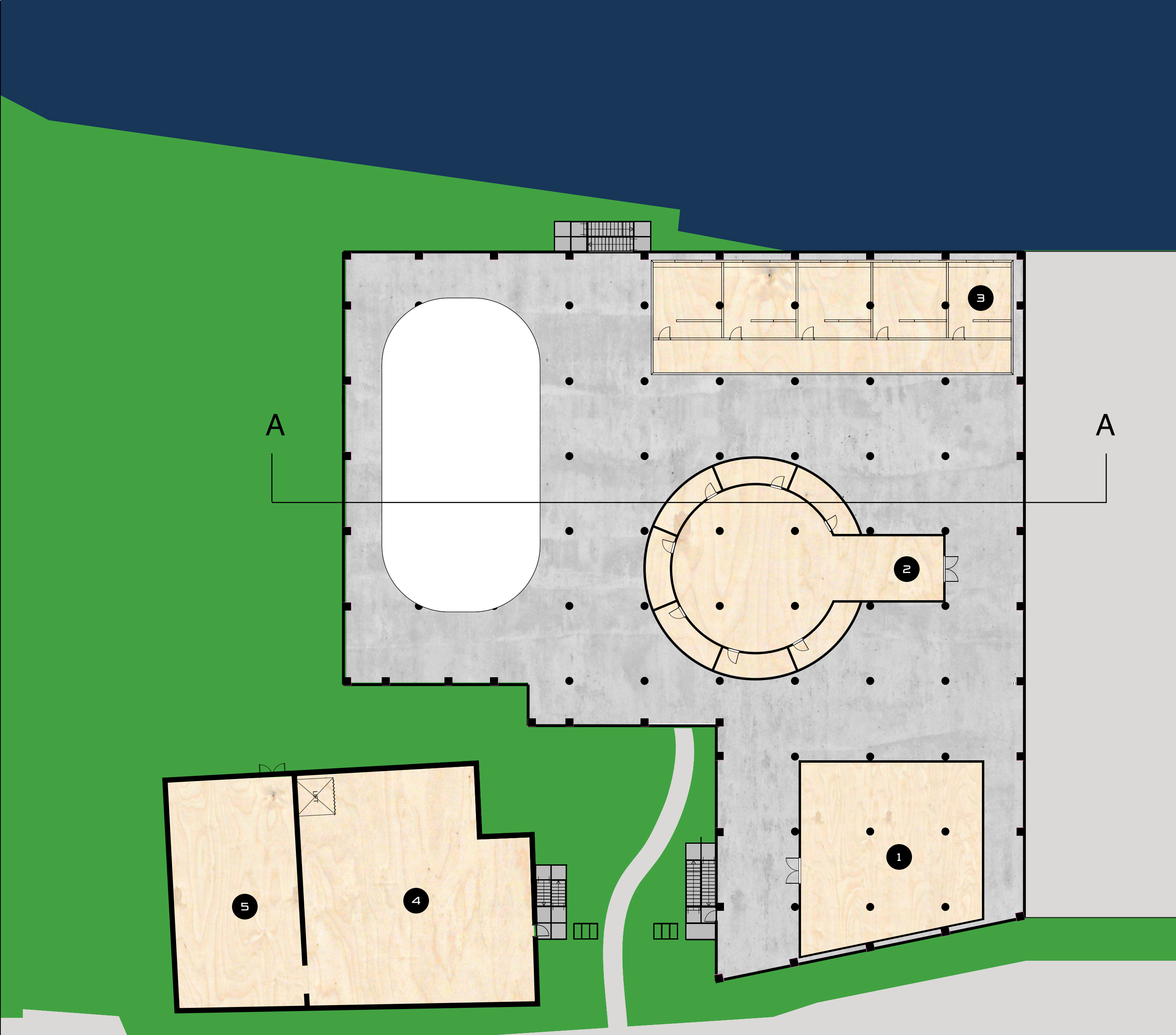
+
Temporary Staircase (Scaffolding)
at front and rear of building



Floor 1

- 1. Reading Room
- 2. Showers
- 3. Hotel Rooms
- 4. Shop / Showroom (Public Space)
- 5. Bookshop (Public Space)

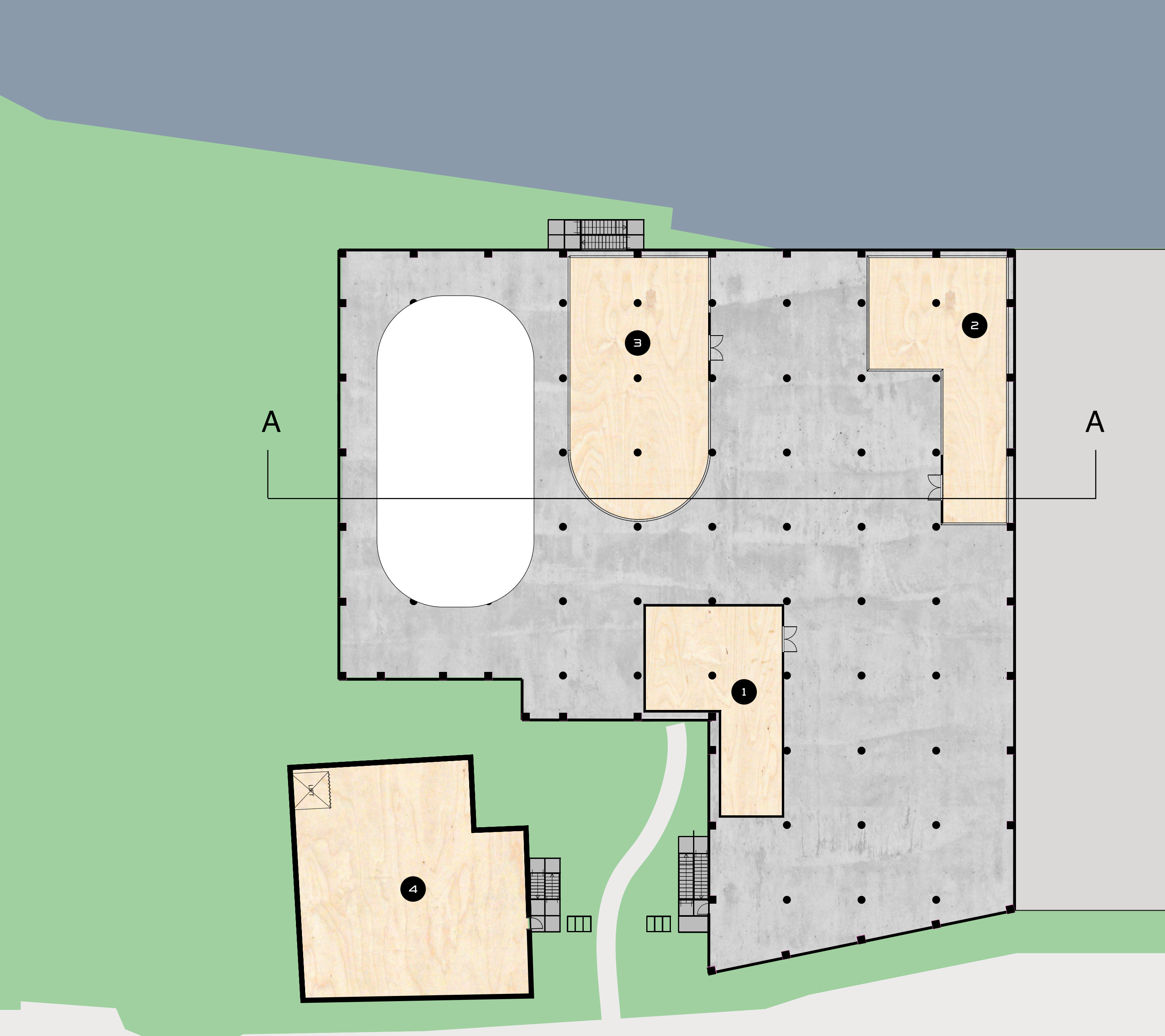
+
Temporary Staircase (Scaffolding)
at front and rear of building



Floor 2

- 1. Friend's Kitchen
- 2. Italian Bar
- 3. Discussion Area
- 4. Cinema / Screening Room (Public Space)

+
Temporary Staircase (Scaffolding)
at front and rear of building

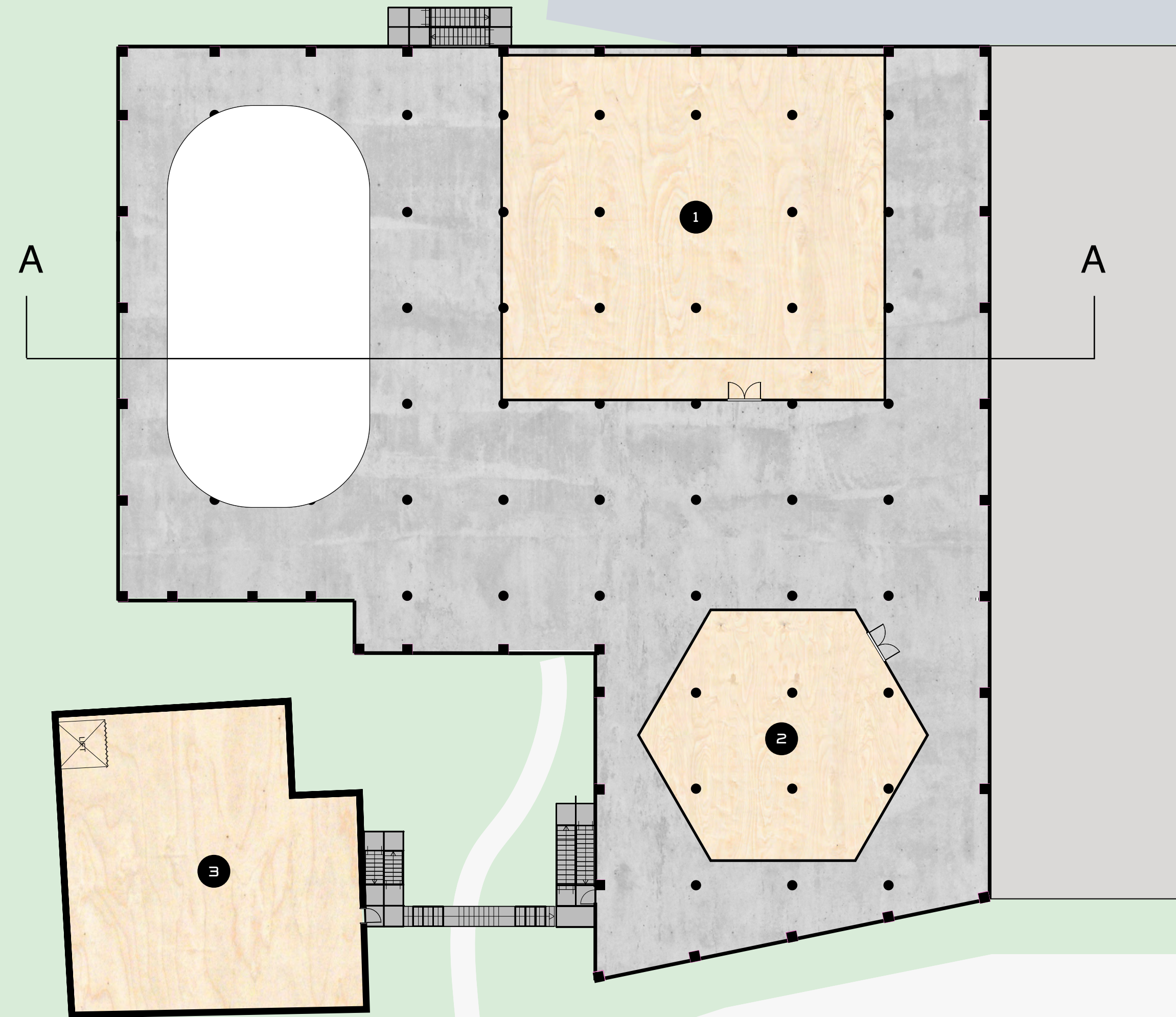


Floor 3

1. Restaurant
2. Meditation Space
3. Gallery Space

+
Temporary Staircase (Scaffolding)
at front and rear of building

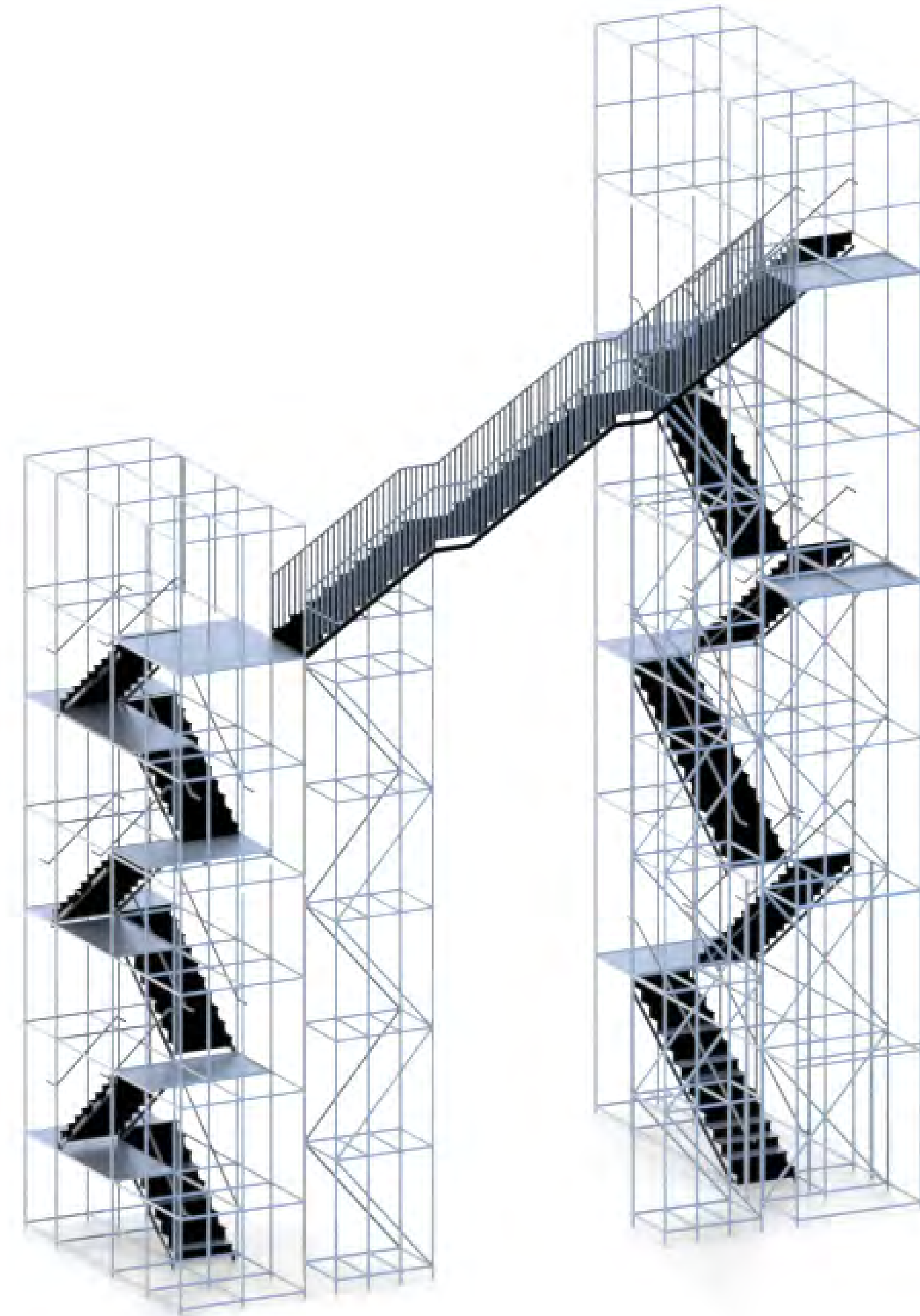
+
Bridge connecting 1930s and Victorian buildings



Circulation

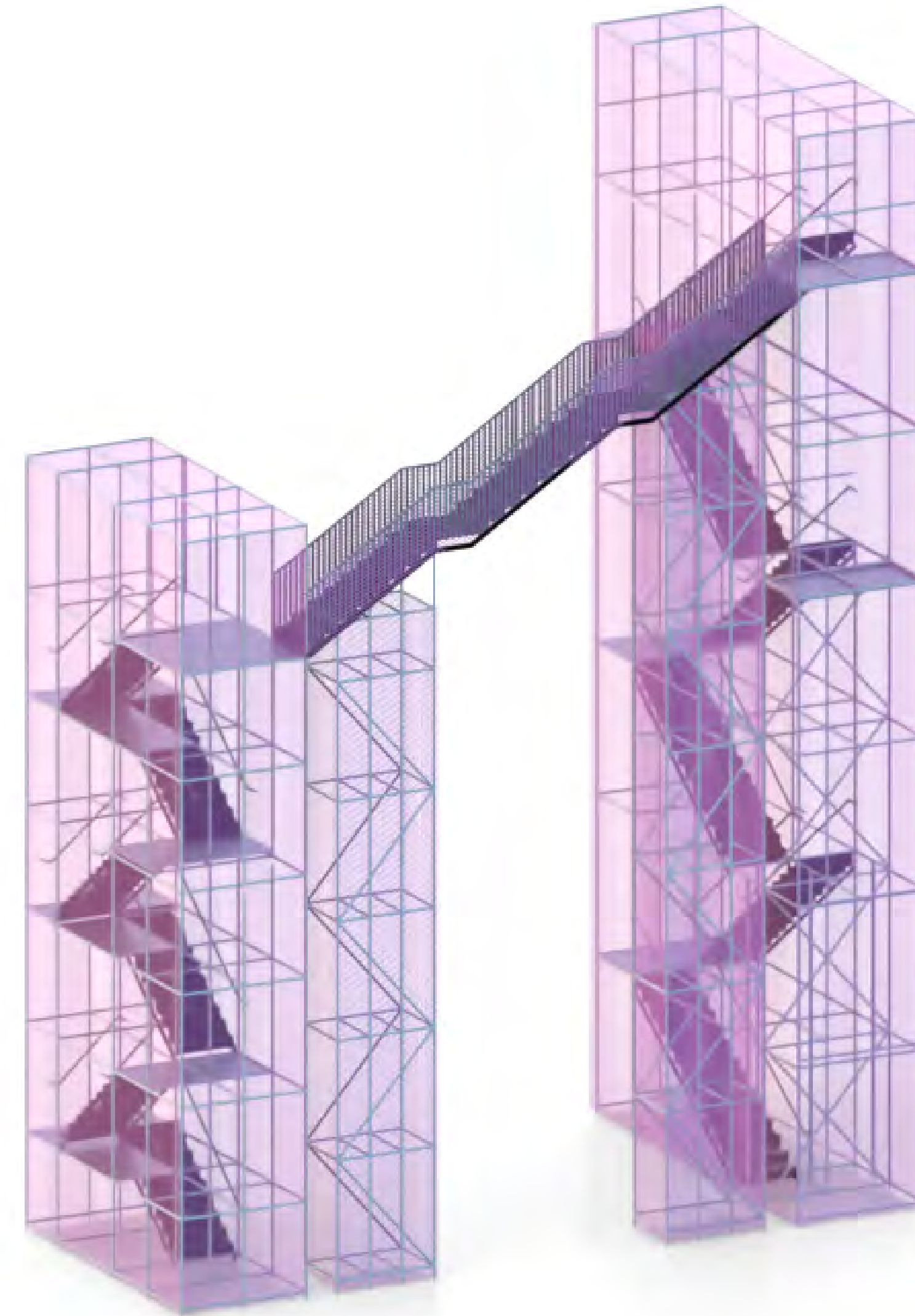
Access to all floors is via two temporary staircases situated on the exterior of the building. These are erected from standard scaffolding, and can be dismantled as and when needed.

The staircase at the rear is extended to include bathroom facilities.



Scaffolding Covering

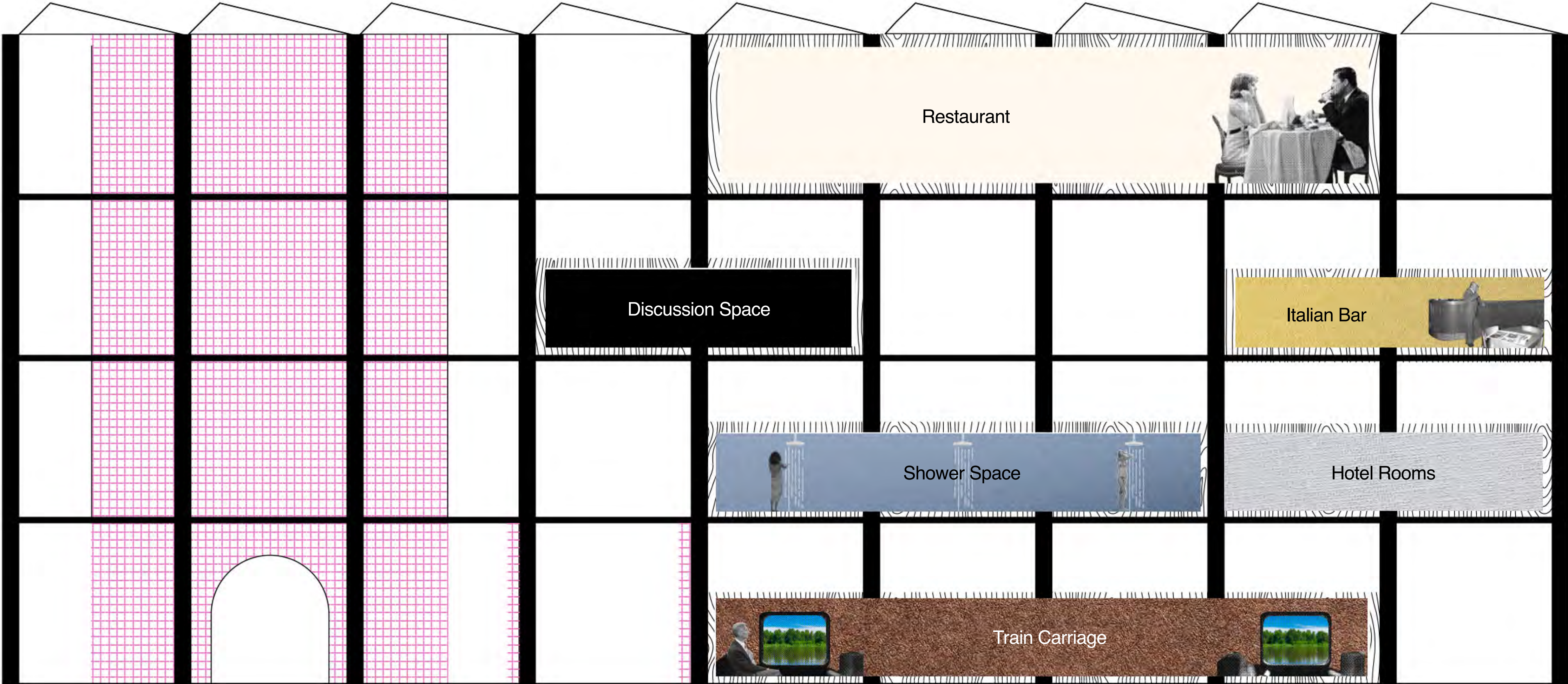
Standard mesh will be used to cover the scaffolding. This will be used to add colour and interest to the exterior of the building, which will otherwise be left unchanged.



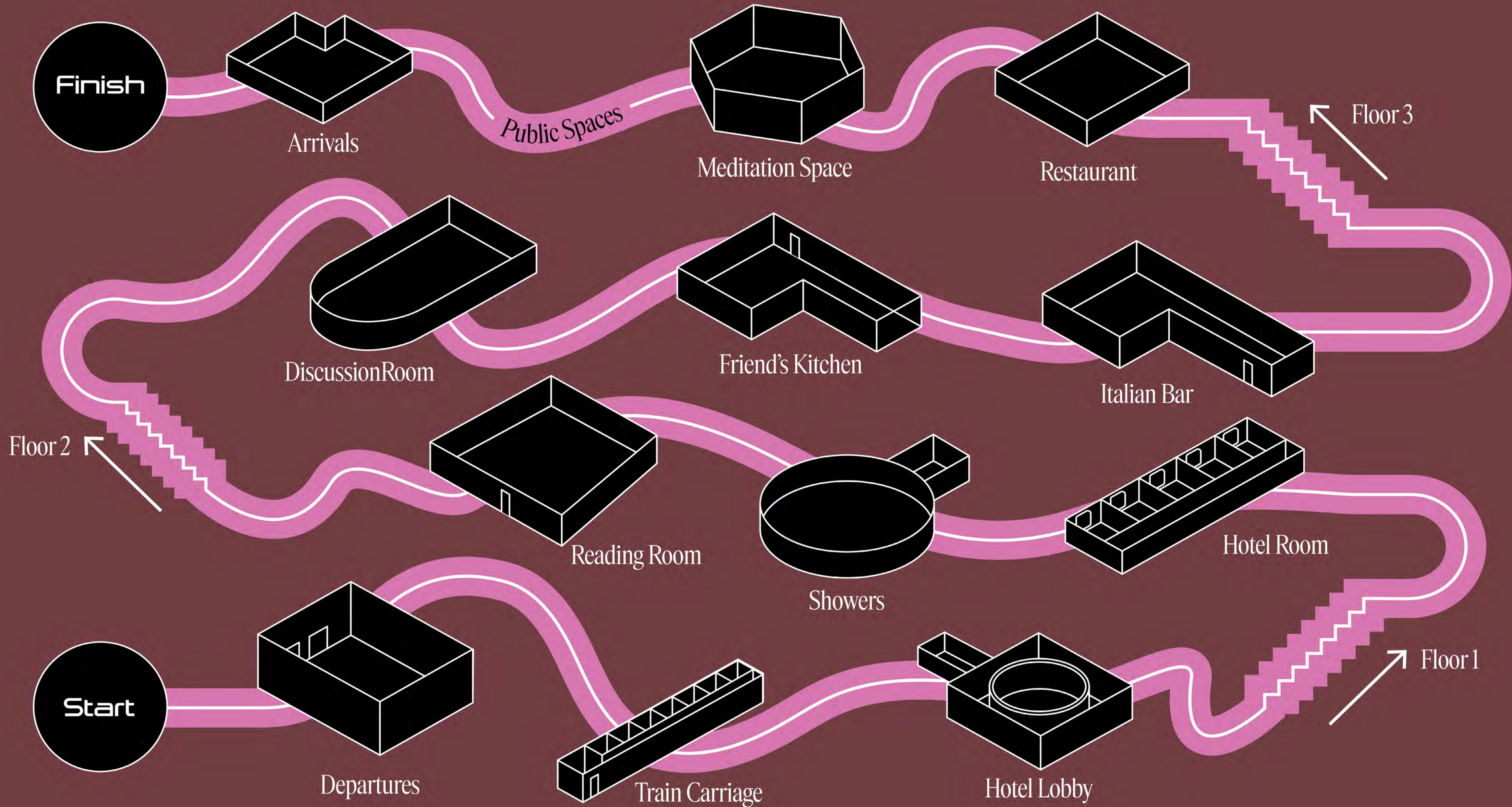
Front Elevation



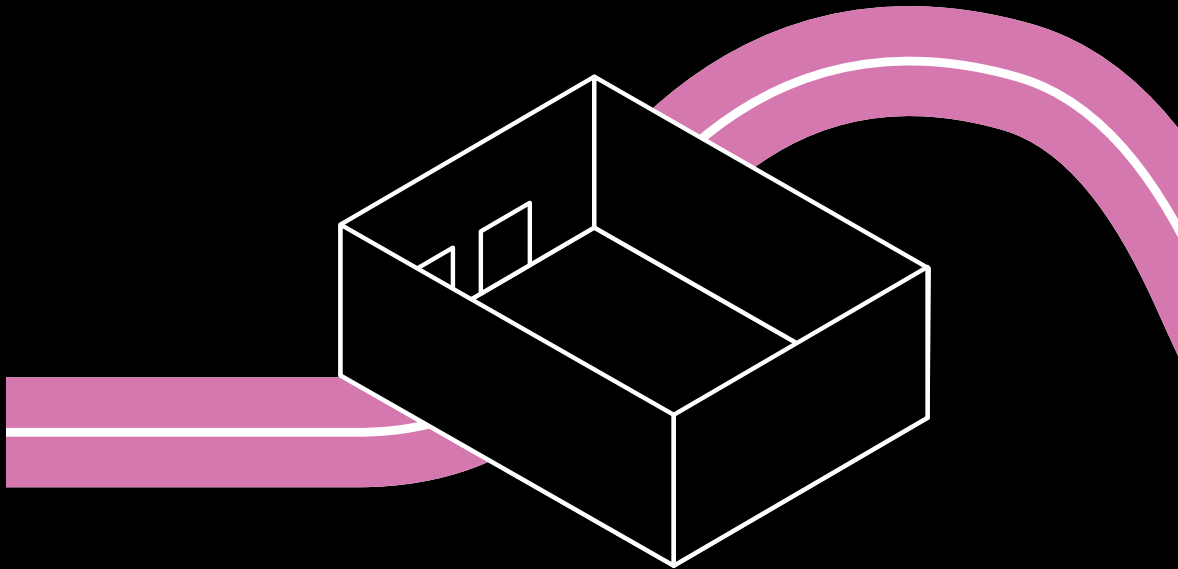
Section A-A



the journey

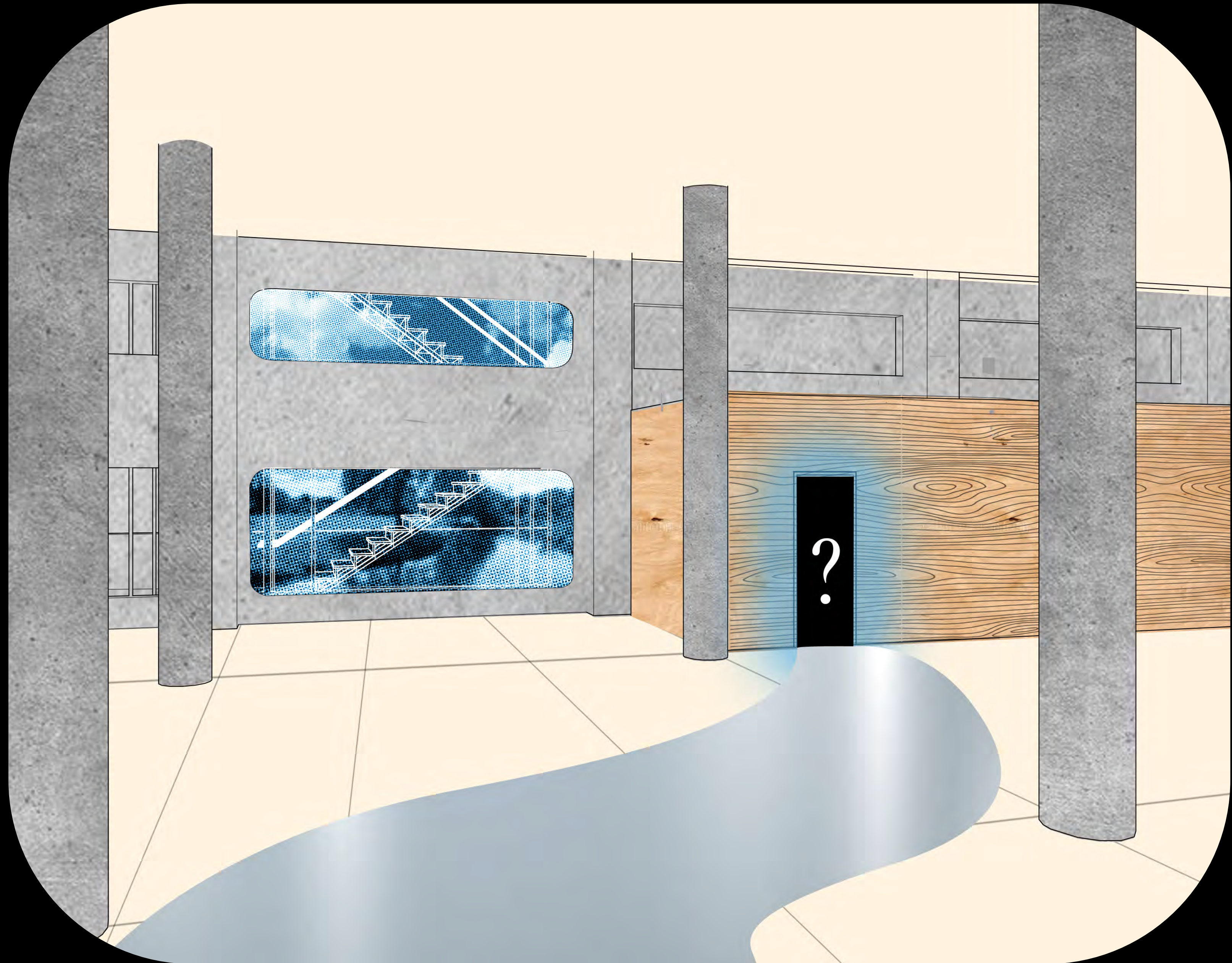
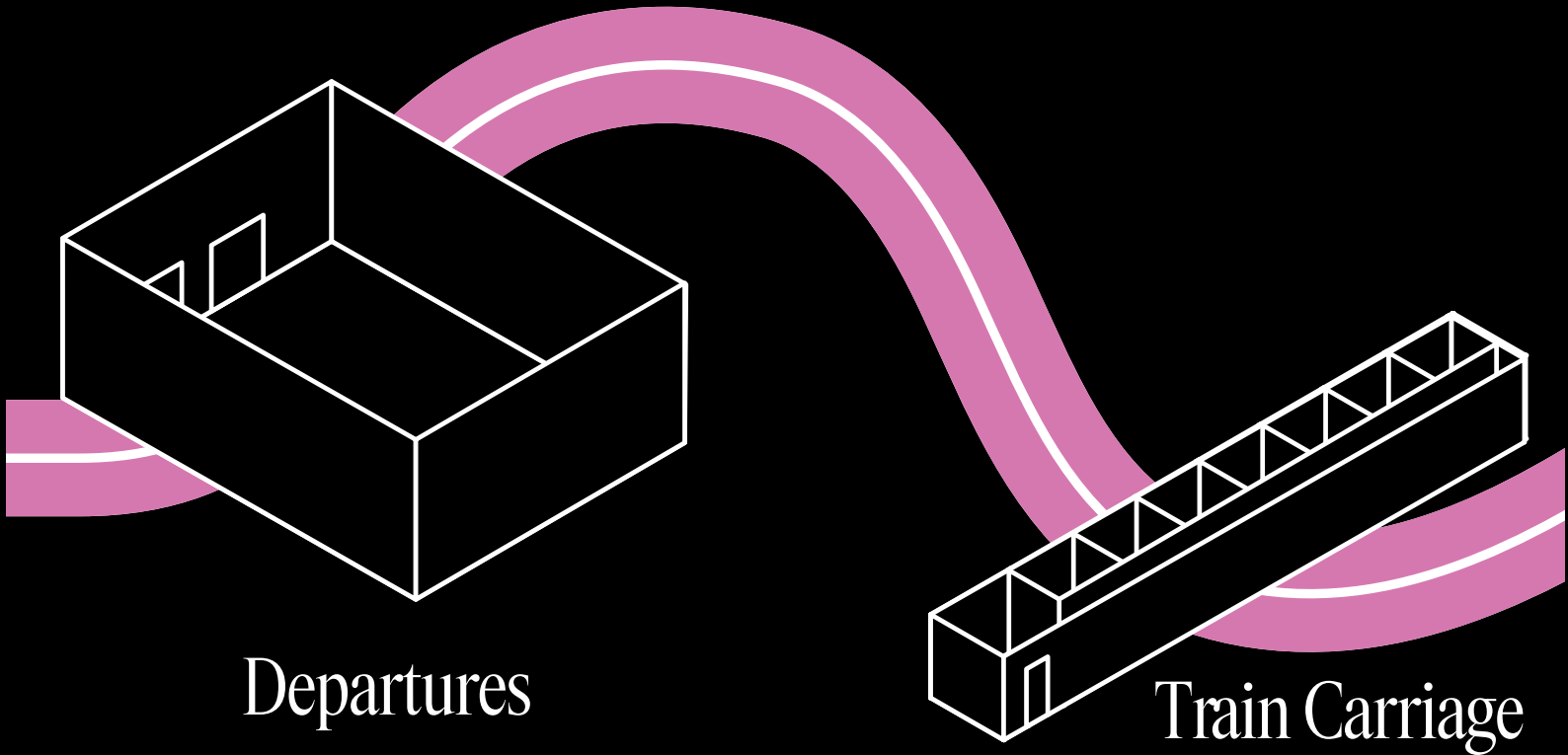


Departures

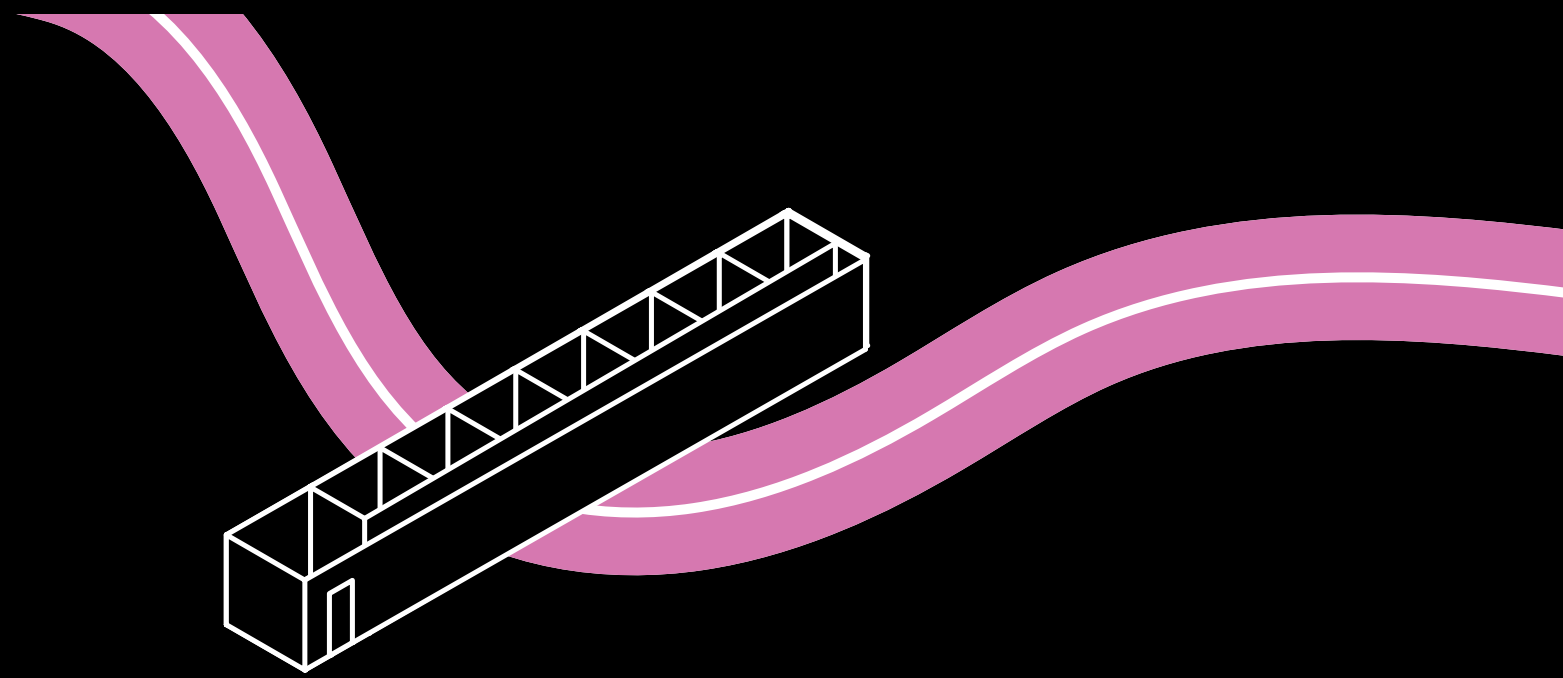


DEPARTURES ✈			
STINATION	TIME	GATE	STATUS
ONACO	14:30	A1	DELAYED
OM	14:45	D3	CANCELLED
ONDON	15:00	C2	ON TIME
ADRID	15:30	A4	CANCELLED
EW-YORK	16:00	E2	ON TIME
OSCOW	16:15	B1	DELAYED
ENICE	16:25	C6	DELAYED

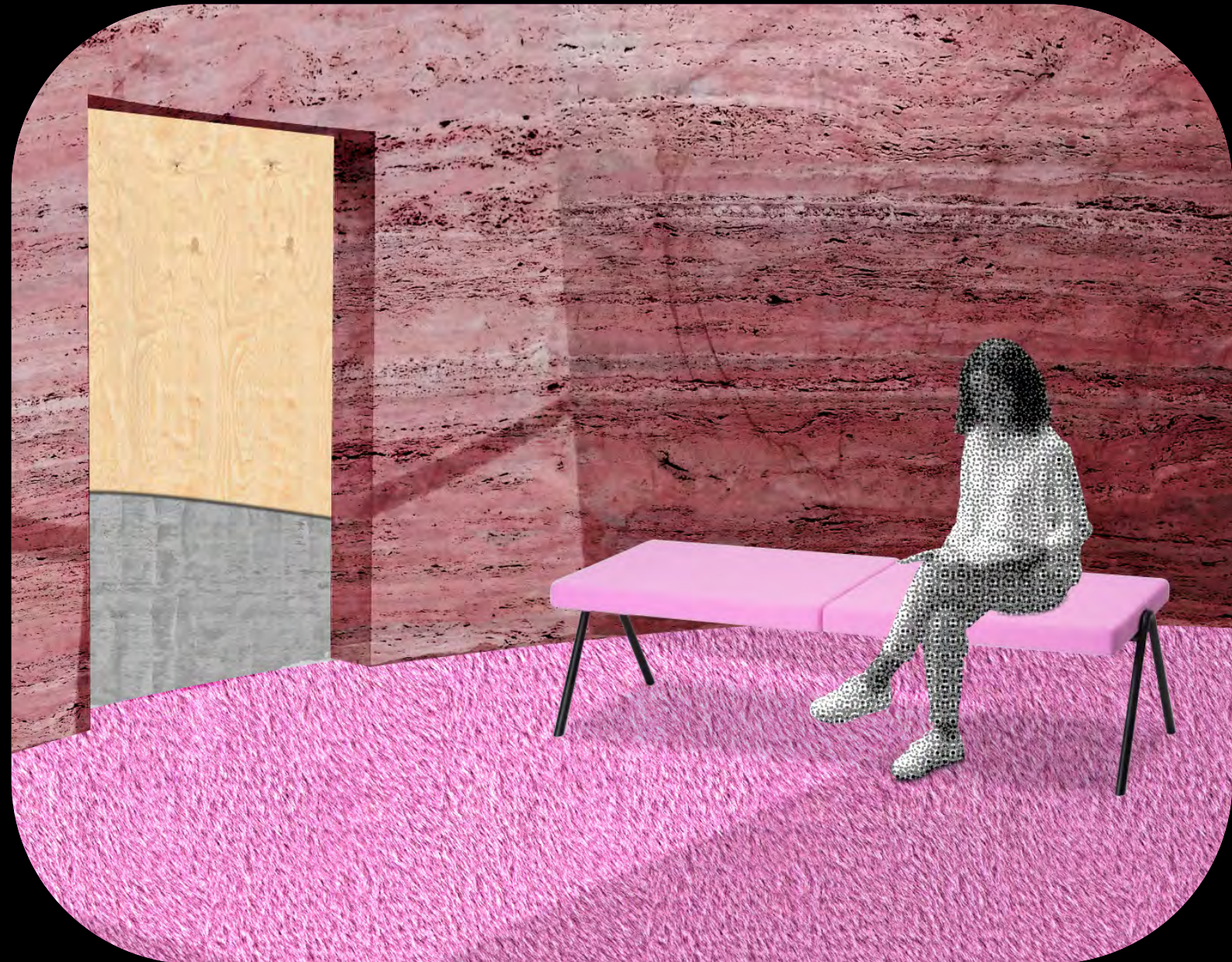
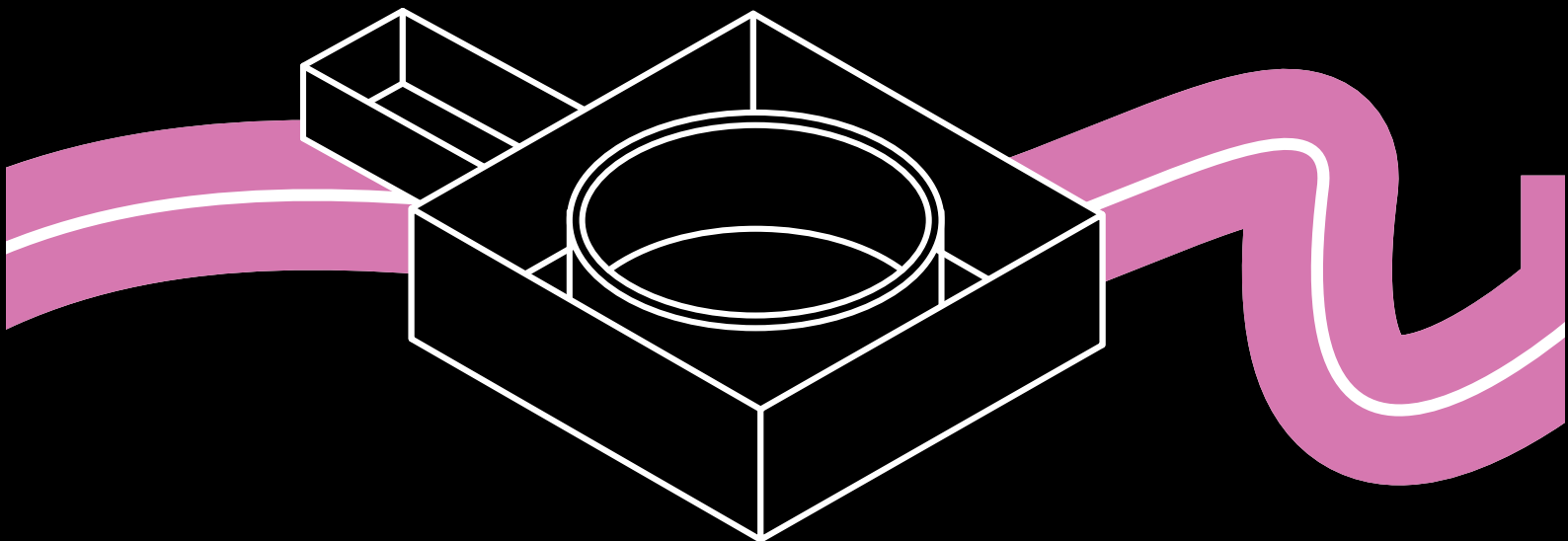
Ground Floor Interior



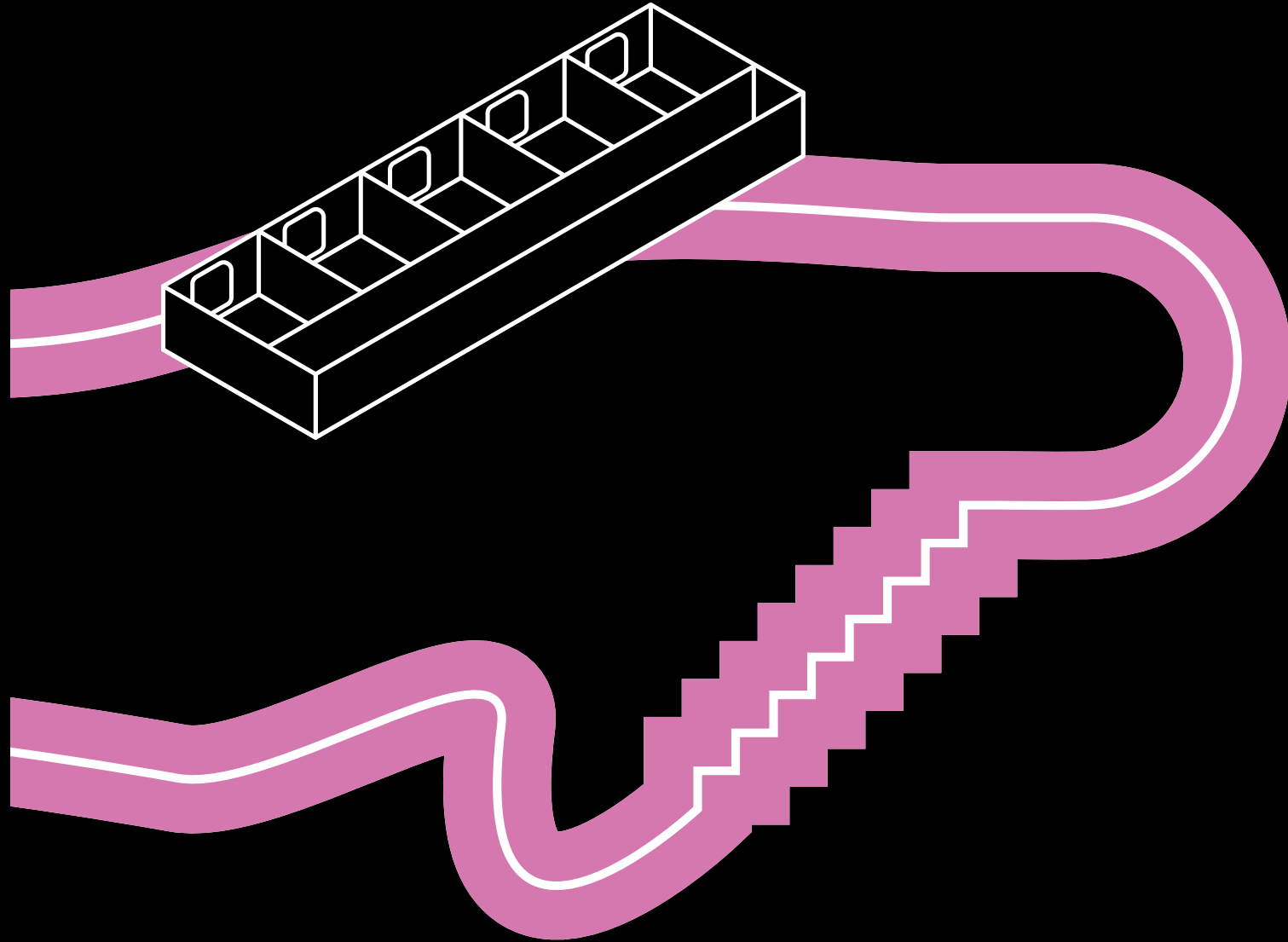
Train Carriage



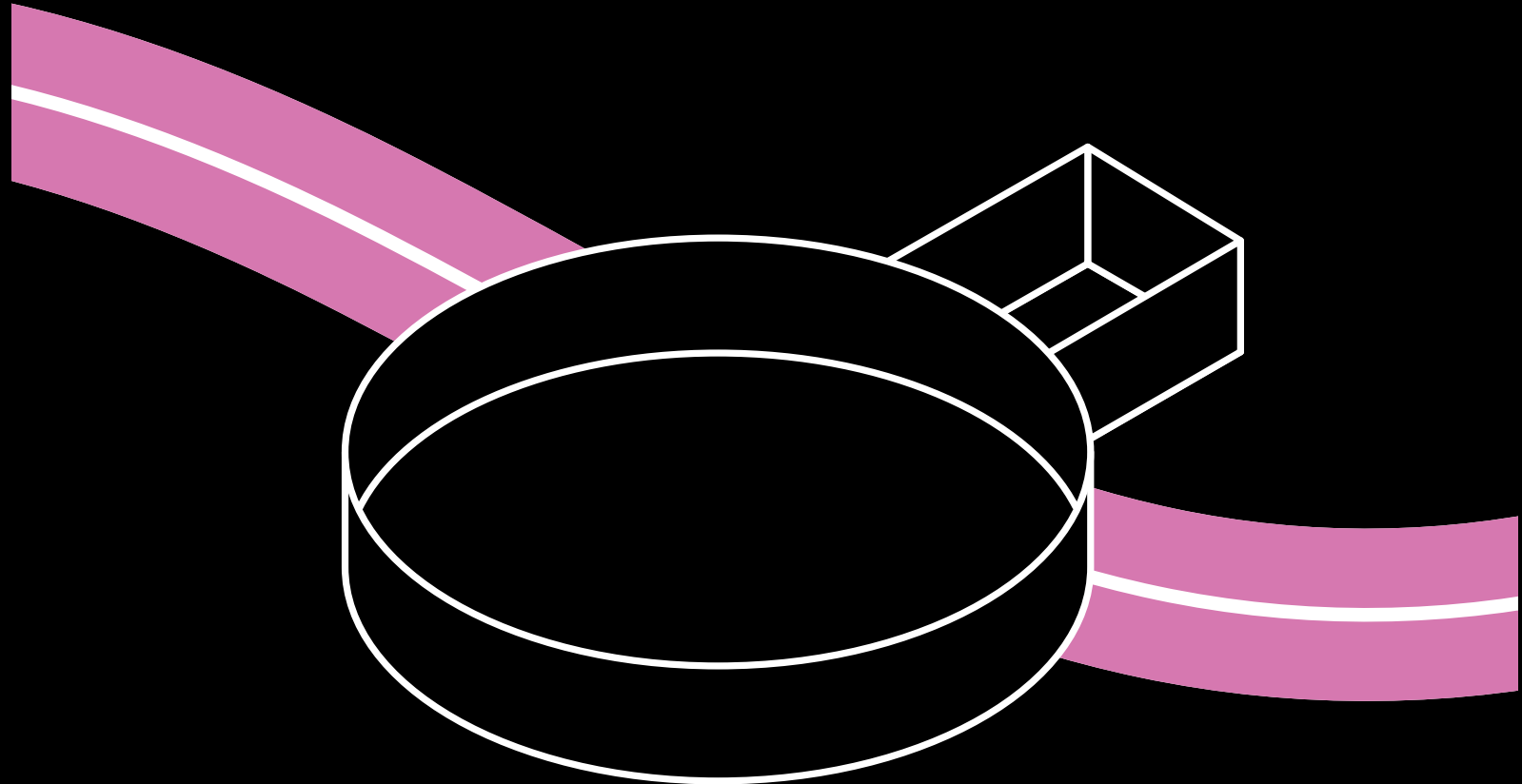
Hotel Lobby



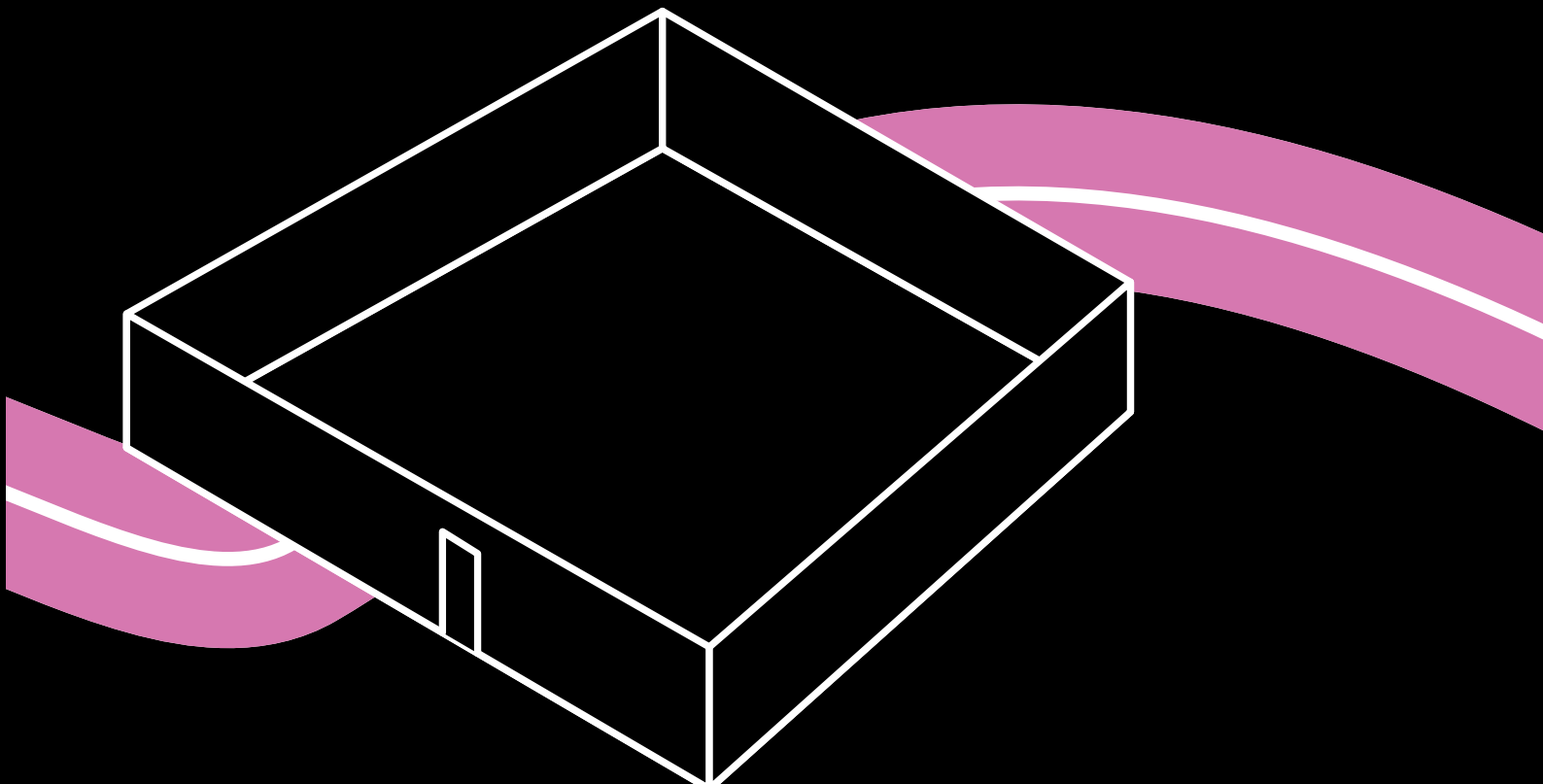
Hotel Room Corridor



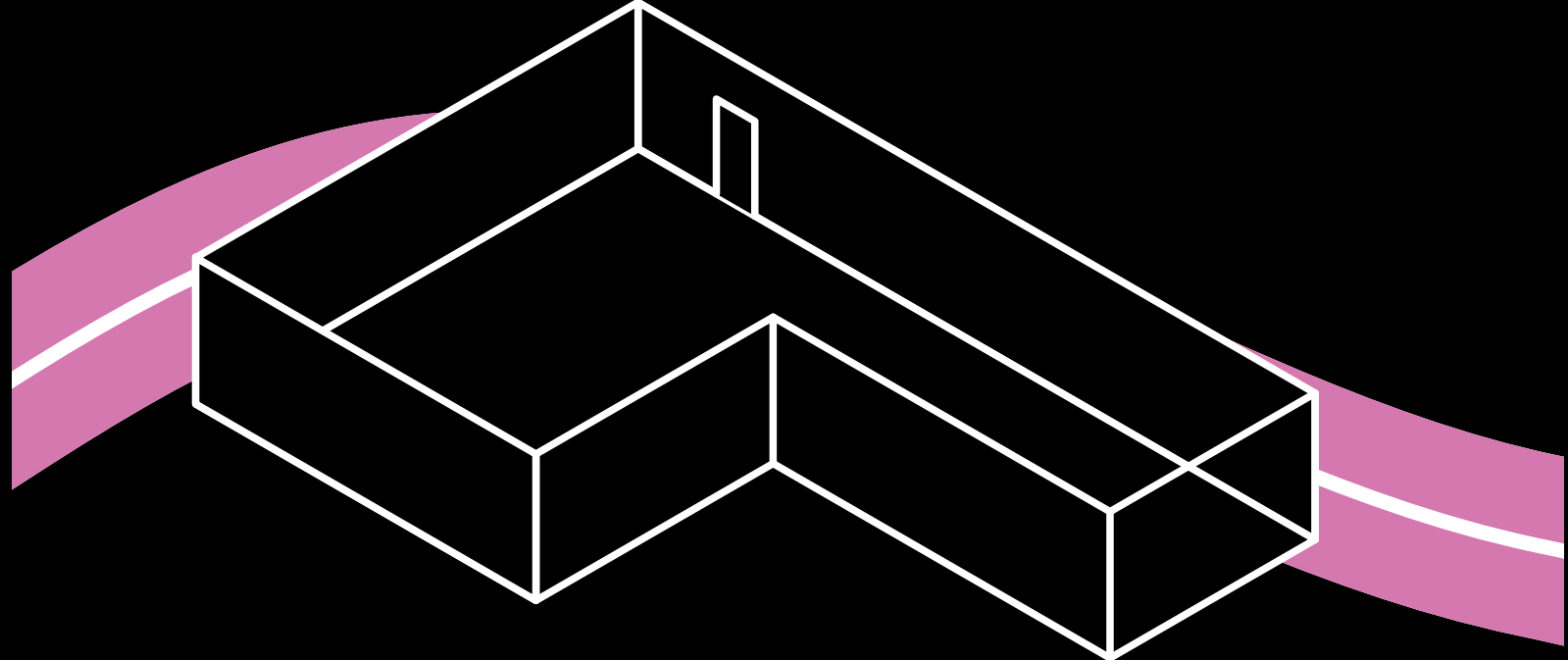
Showers



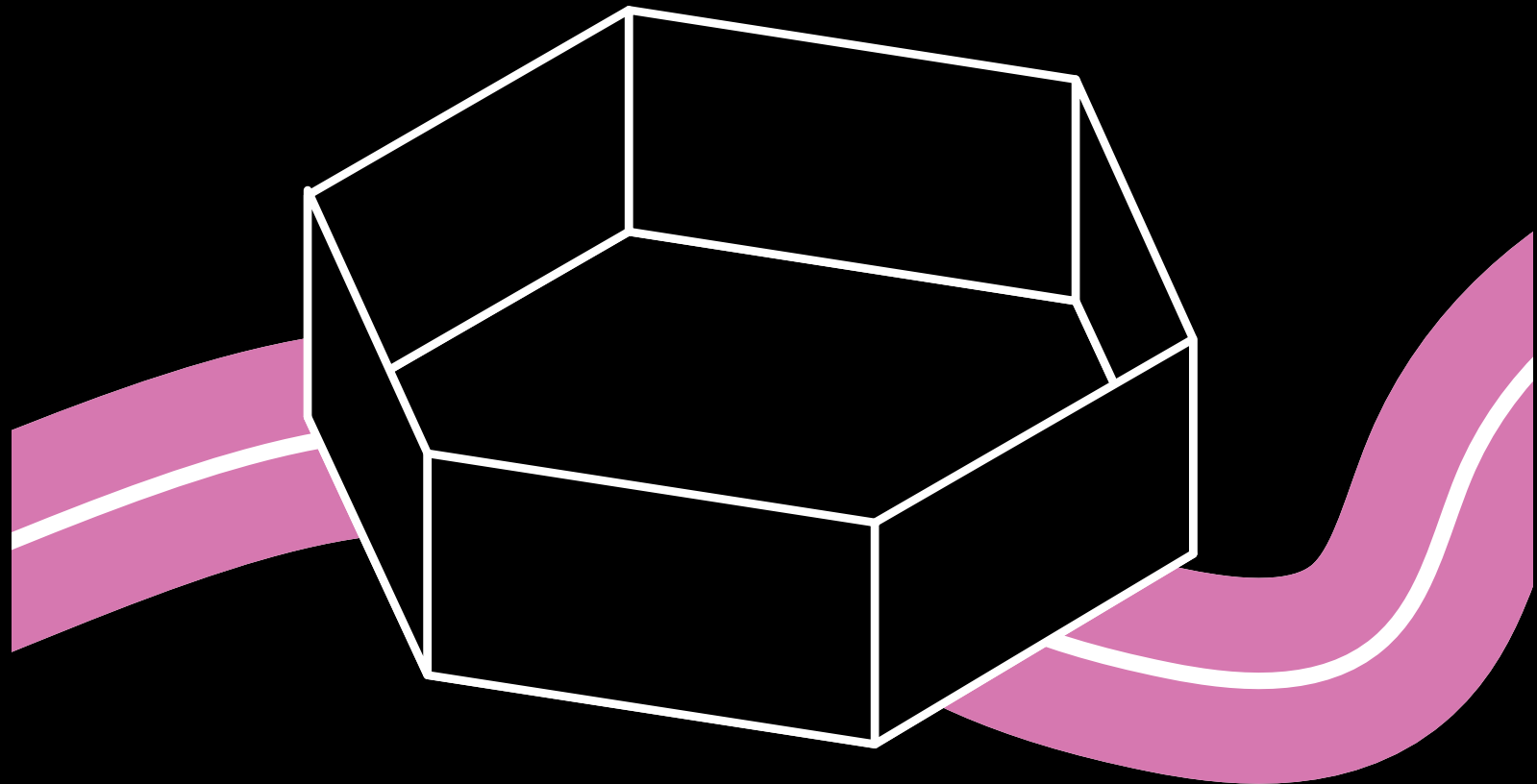
Reading Room



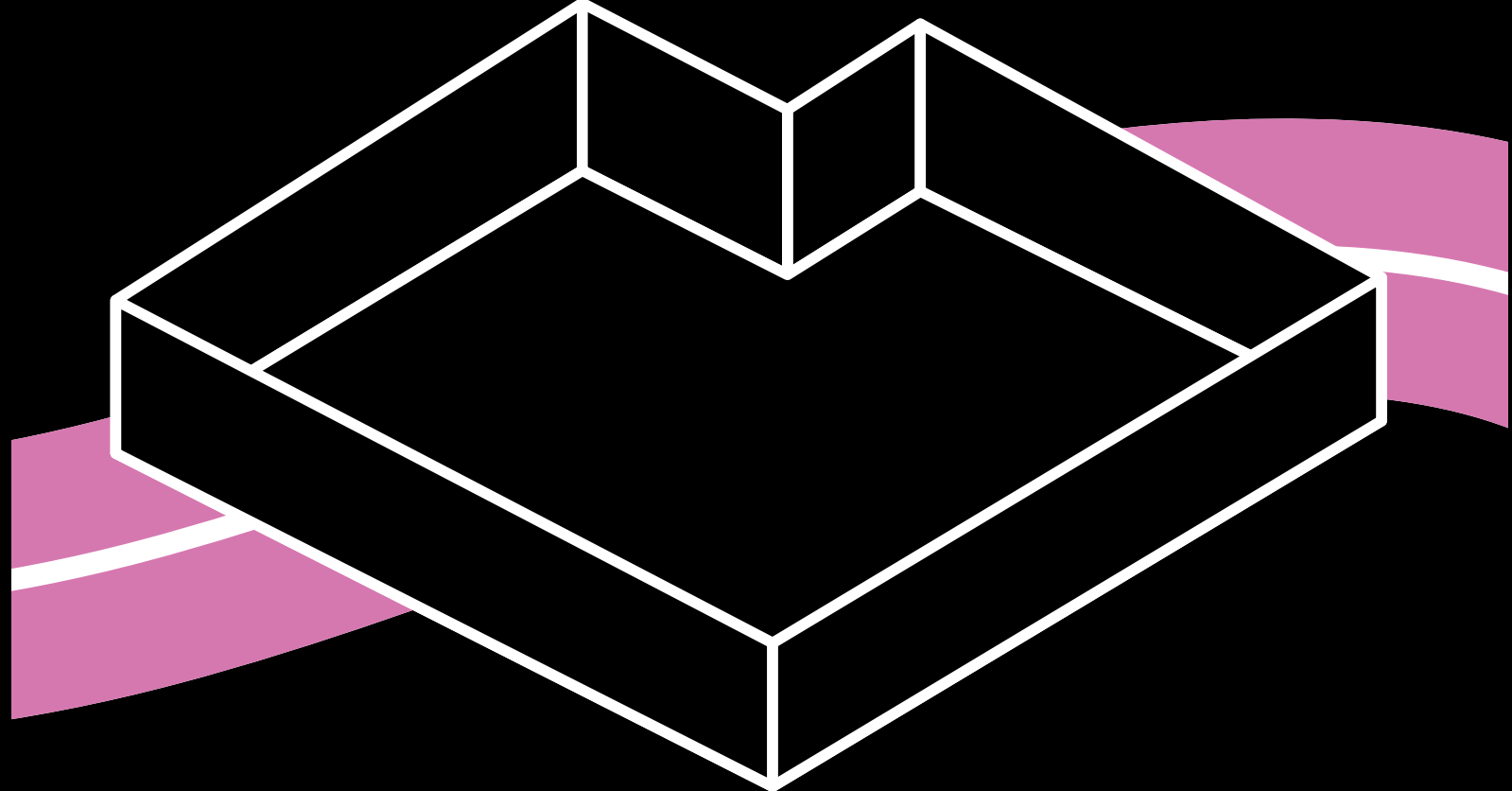
Friend's Kitchen



Meditation Space



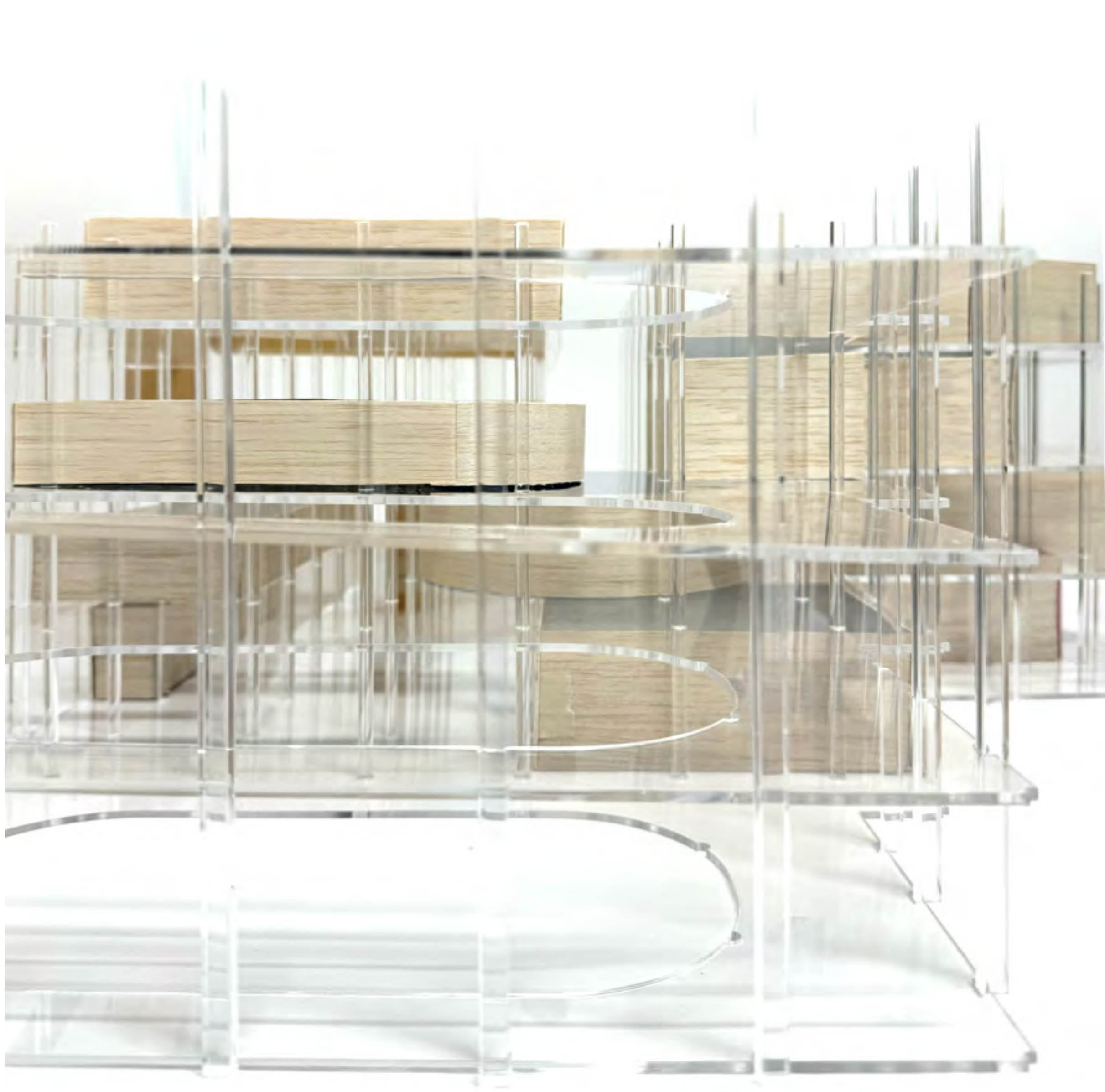
Arrivals

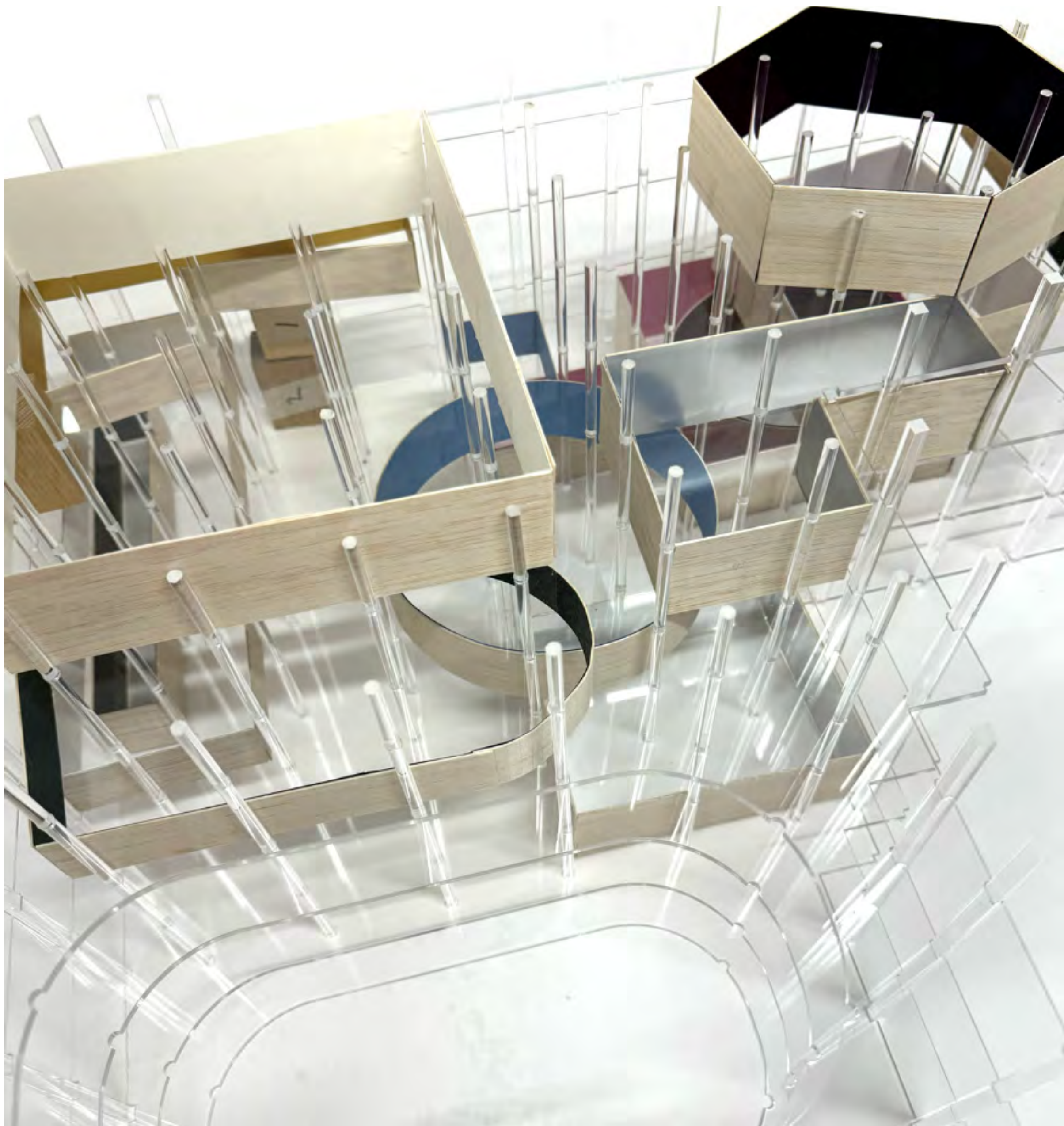


model











Thank you