

**NIAN LI**

+61 427994570  
nianlistudio@gmail.com

**Portfolio 2026**  
Studio Work & Practice



[www.nianli.studio](http://www.nianli.studio)

Nian Li

T +61 427994570

E nianlistudio@gmail.com

W nianli.studio

Graduate of Architecture with professional experience in Australia across residential and commercial projects, including alterations and additions and commercial fit-out projects. Proficient in Revit, Rhino(Grasshopper), SketchUp and Enscape, with experience across concept design, design development, DA/CC documentation, and consultant coordination. Familiar with relevant NSW planning controls, SEPP, the Apartment Design Guide (ADG), the NCC, and Australian Standards, with an interest in using emerging digital tools to support design development, representation, and collaboration.

EDUCATION

|                        |                          |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Master of Architecture | BEng (Hons) Architecture |
| University of Sydney   | RIBA Part 1 validated.   |
| Jul 2023 - Jun 2025    | University of Nottingham |
|                        | Sep 2019 - Jun 2023      |

EXPERIENCE

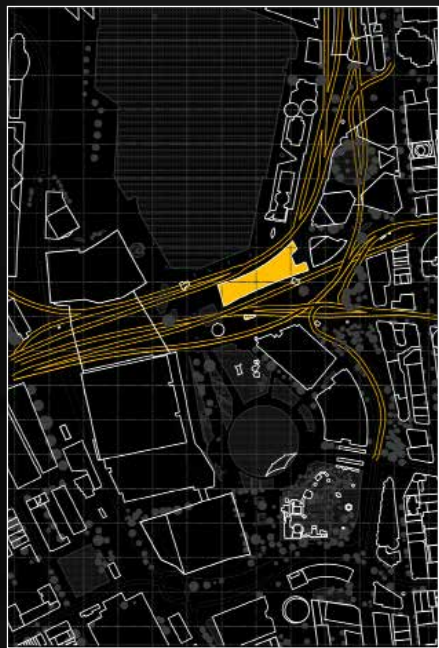
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Graduate of Architecture @ JRZ Group (Sydney)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 07/2025 – 09/2026                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Contributed to the design development of commercial adaptive reuse projects, converting existing warehouses into automotive dealership and retail uses, including the preparation of DA and CC drawing packages submitted to council / PCA. – DD, DA & CC.                                                                                |
| Contributed to single dwelling and duplex design projects, independently completing conceptual design, design development, and DA/CC drawing packages, with high proficiency in Revit, and additional experience in interior architecture. – SD, DD, DA & CC.                                                                             |
| Applied local legislation, including SEPP 2008/2021, NCC (BCA), and relevant Australian Standards to architectural documentation, and coordinated with structural engineers, hydraulic consultants, and heritage consultants to incorporate their requirements into drawing packages submitted to council / PCA. – FS, DD & Coordination. |
| Student of Architecture @ F.O.G. Architecture (Shanghai)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 12/2024 – 03/2025                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Developed the interior design of the American Vintage retail boutique in Anaya, China, including spatial planning, display areas and complex interior elements using Revit and Rhino. – SD & DD.                                                                                                                                          |
| Prepared graphic and written content for the ArchDaily publication (English & Mandarin) of the Lemaire Taikoo Li store in Chengdu, including project narrative, drawings and imagery. – Publication.                                                                                                                                      |

SKILLS & WORKFLOW

|                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 3D Modeling & Documentation                                                                                                       | Graphic & Rendering                                                                                                    |
| Revit, Rhinocero & Grasshopper.<br>- Highly proficient,<br>- applied across design development, documentation, and visualisation. | Vray, Twinmotion, Enscape, Photoshop, Indesign, Illustrator, Primere.                                                  |
| Archicad<br>– Working knowledge<br>– Familiar with BIM workflows, documentation structure, and model-based coordination.          | Others<br><br>Point Cloud Site Surveying<br>Photography + Video Editting,<br>White Card Holder,<br>Robotic Arm (KUKA). |

CONTENT

|                        |          |                                                                                     |
|------------------------|----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ACADEMIC & COMPETITION | 01       | PUMPHOUSE                                                                           |
|                        | 02       | PUNK GALLERY                                                                        |
|                        | 03       | LIGHTBOX                                                                            |
|                        | 04       | DARKROOM                                                                            |
| PRACTICE               | I - VII. | ARCHITECTURAL DRAWING<br>Alteration & Addition, DA/CC<br>Construction Documentation |



## 01 The Pumphouse

Never too late to drink

Feb - May, 2024

Nian Li & Yunlin Xie  
Studio 8 Adaptation, MARC5010, U Syd

92/100 Final Presentation  
95/100 Portfolio Submission



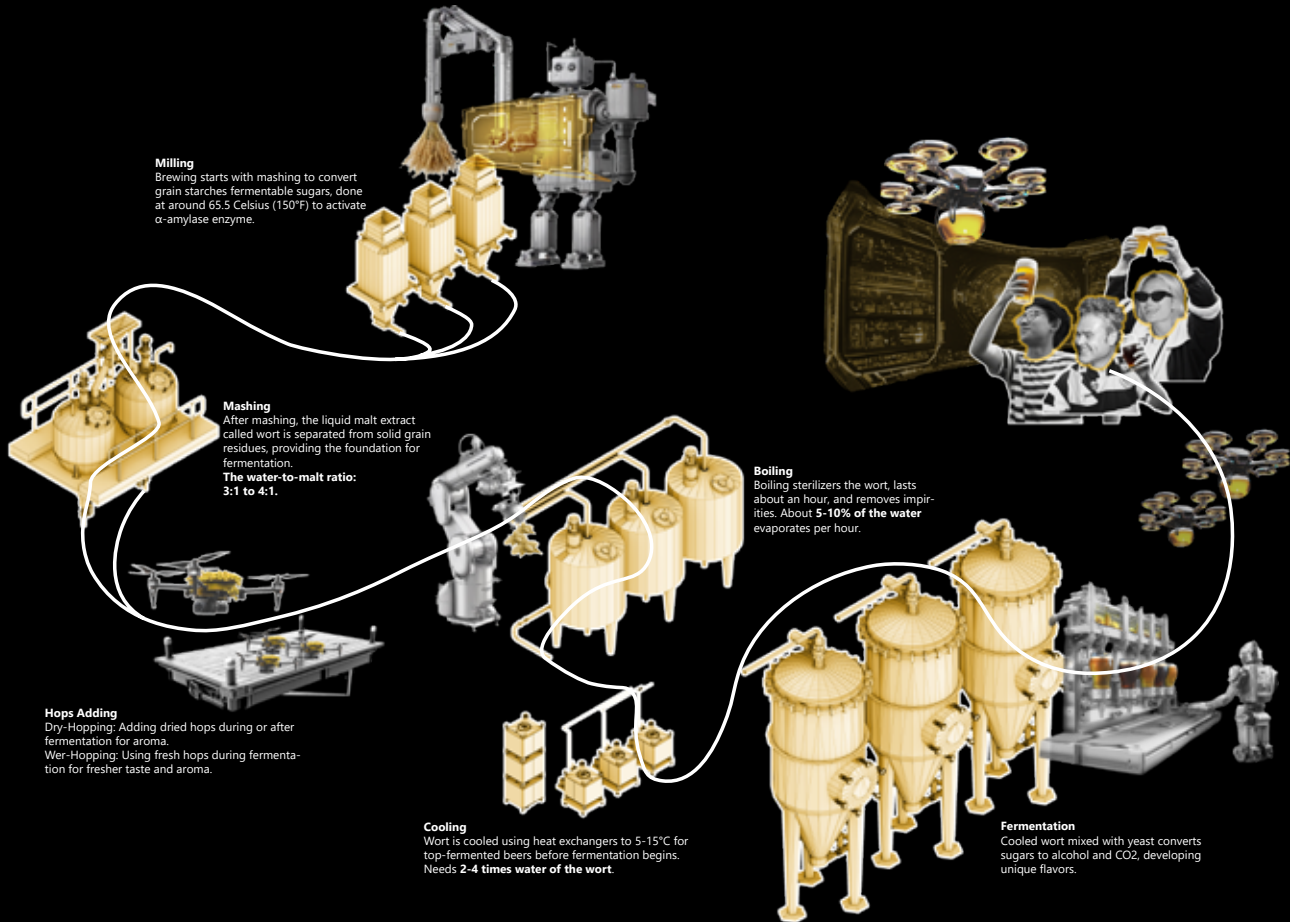
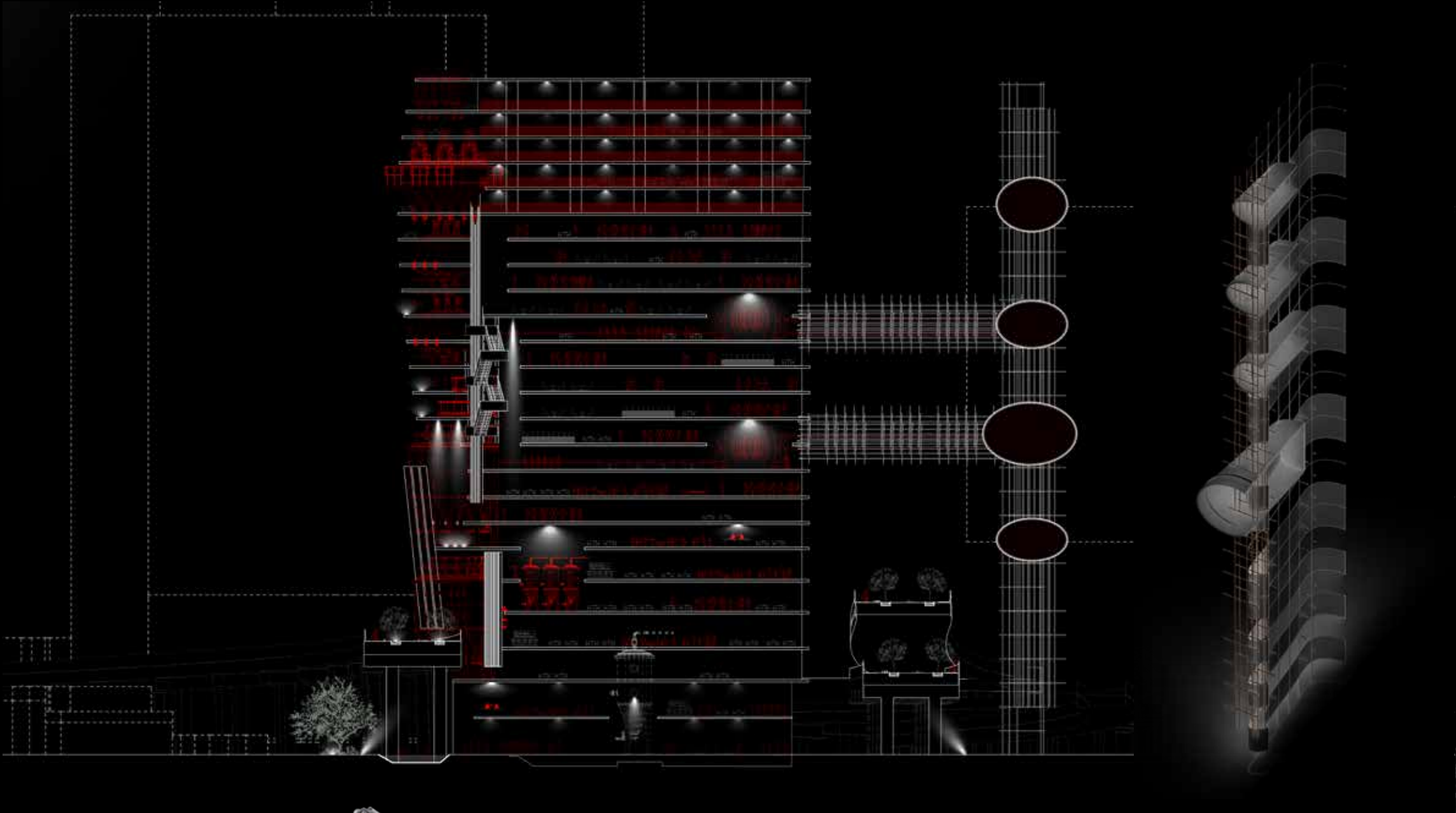


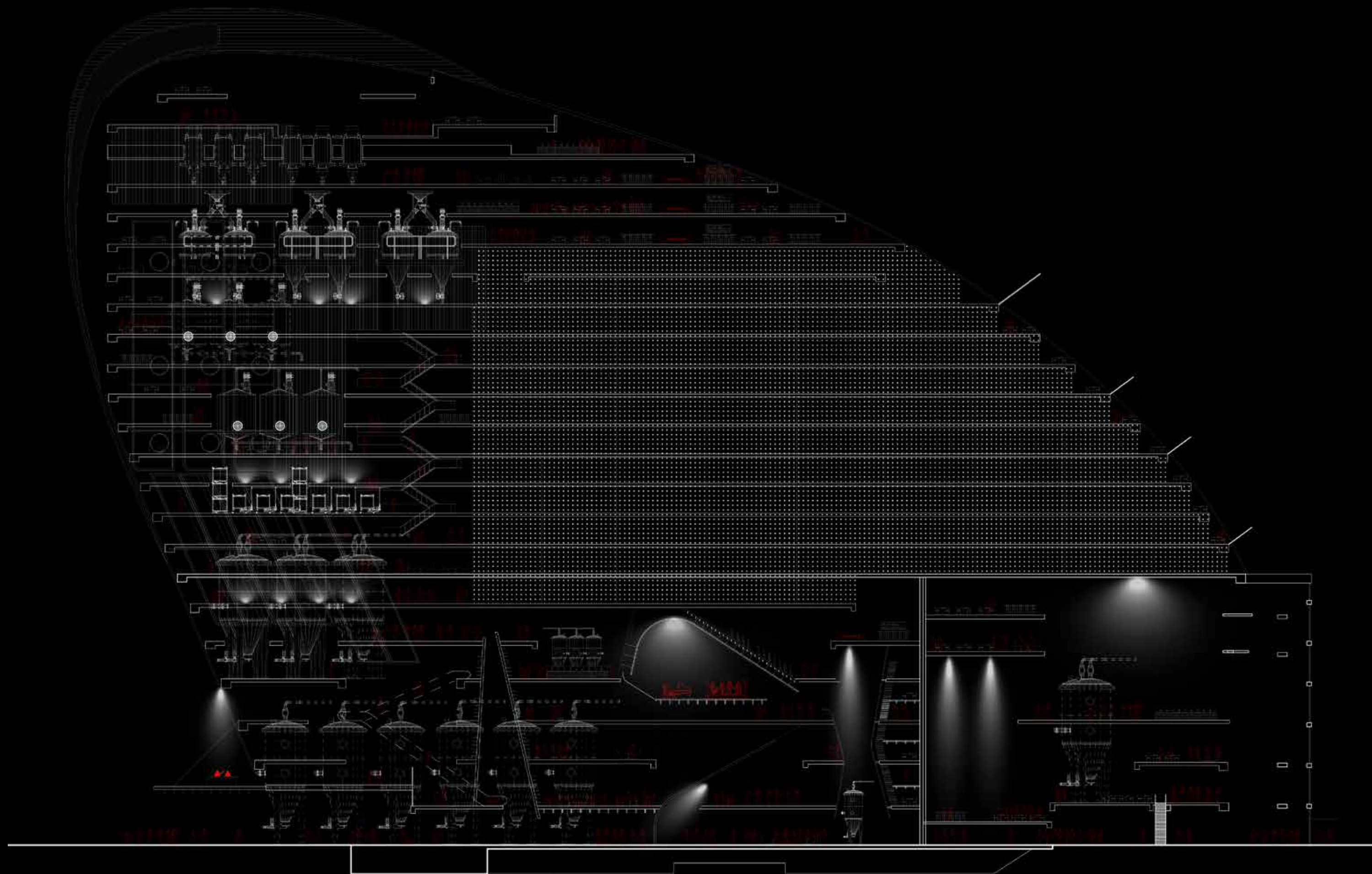
photos during presentation, physical model.

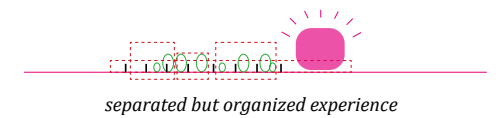
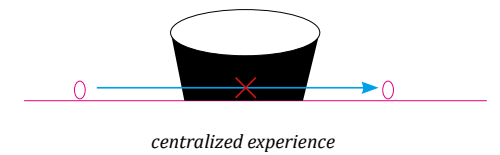
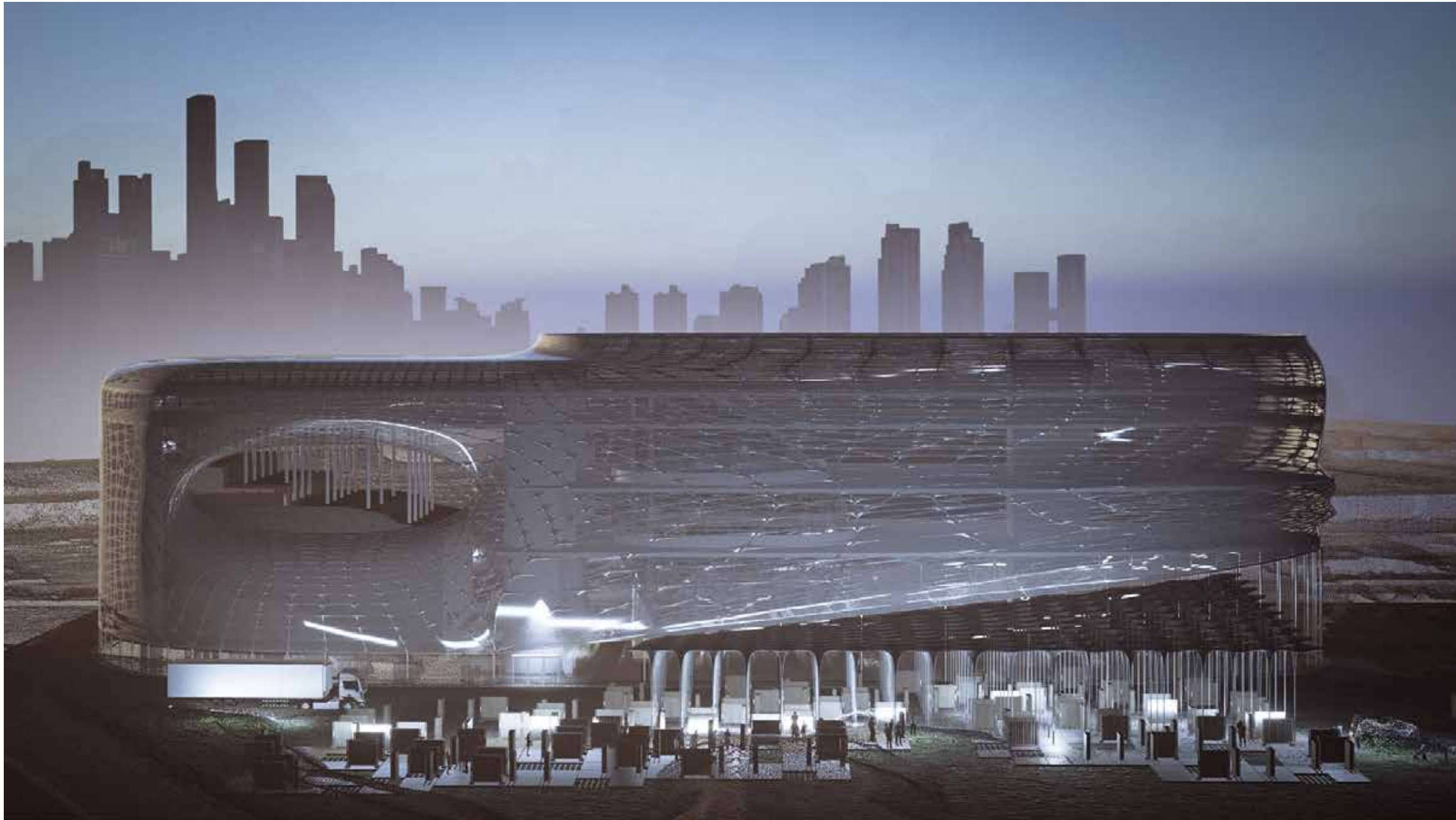
Our design retains the variety of activities and the **iconic pub culture** integral to Sydney's social fabric. The Pumphouse reinvents the existing W Hotel as a multifunctional **pub and brewery**, embedding Australian hospitality within a futuristic urban context. The integration of interactive brewing processes and large tanks visible from the facade creates an engaging, educational experience for visitors. We address the overwhelming carbon footprint of **electronic signage** by incorporating digital screens repurposed from the site into our design. These screens facilitate community engagement and entertainment, such as sports viewing and digital arts, while minimizing new resource consumption.

Our design retains the variety of activities and the **iconic pub culture** integral to Sydney's social fabric. The Pumphouse reinvents the existing W Hotel as a multifunctional **pub and brewery**, embedding Australian hospitality within a futuristic urban context. The integration of interactive brewing processes and large tanks visible from the facade creates an engaging, educational experience for visitors. We address the overwhelming carbon footprint of **electronic signage** by incorporating digital screens repurposed from the site into our design. These screens facilitate community engagement and entertainment, such as sports viewing and digital arts, while minimizing new resource consumption. The Pumphouse consciously shifts away from activities that perpetuate global commerce and excessive resource use. By focusing on local production and consumption, the brewery reduces its environmental impact and fosters a self-sustaining community. This aligns with our broader vision of a **localized, resilient economy** that prioritizes sustainability.

The Pumphouse consciously shifts away from activities that perpetuate global commerce and excessive resource use. By focusing on local production and consumption, the brewery reduces its environmental impact and fosters a self-sustaining community. This aligns with our broader vision of a **localized, resilient economy** that prioritizes sustainability.



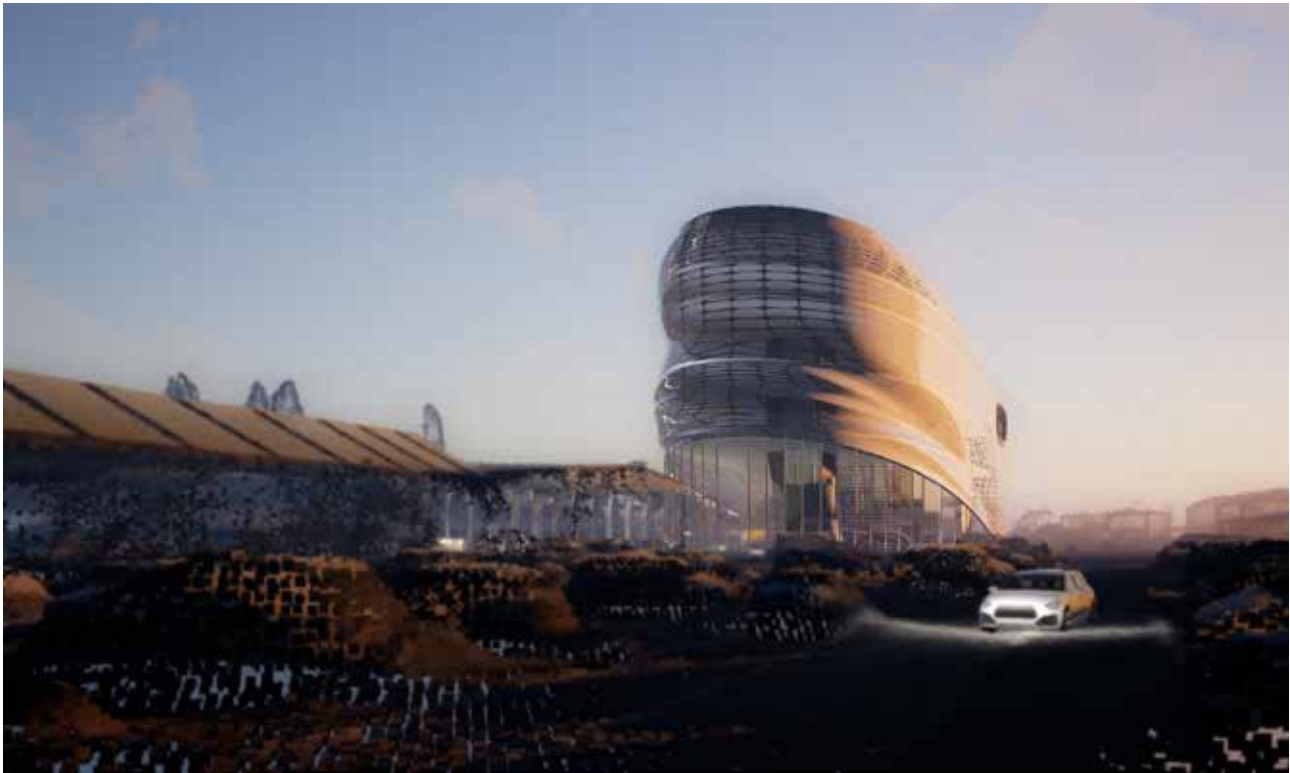




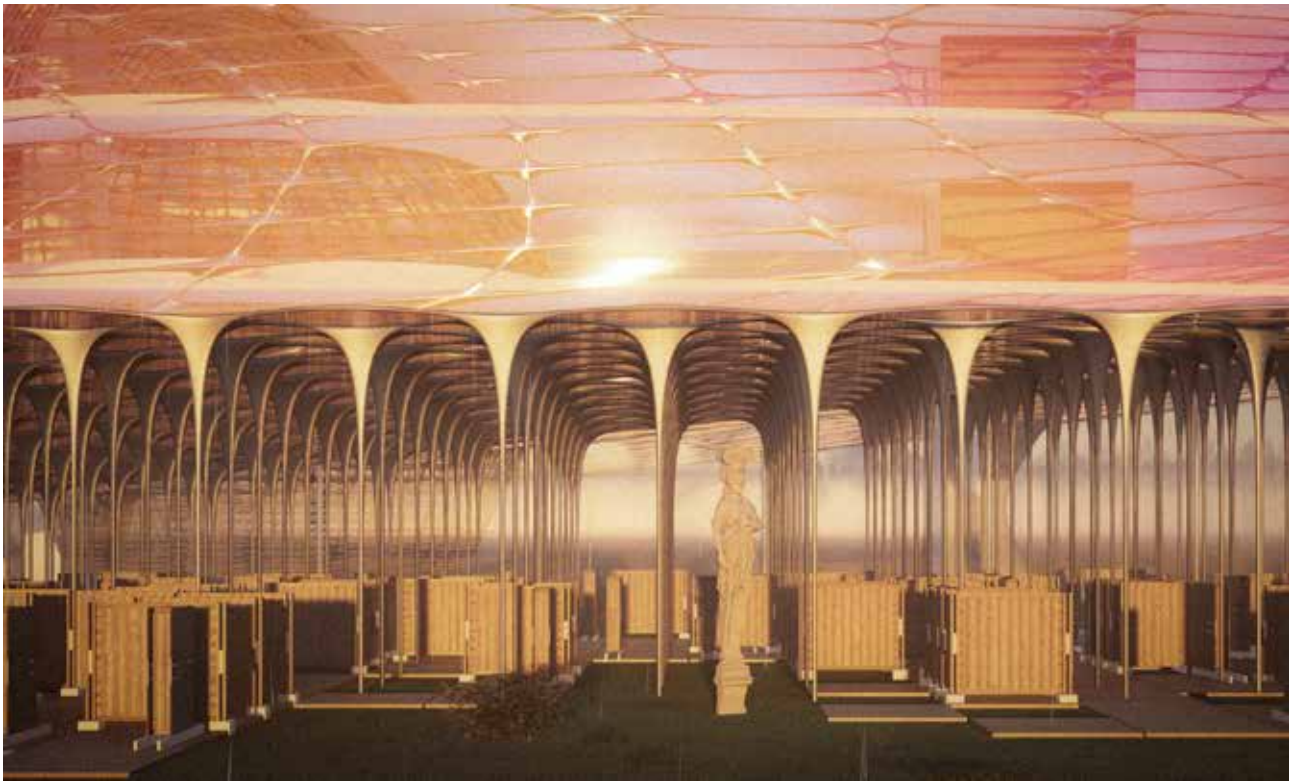
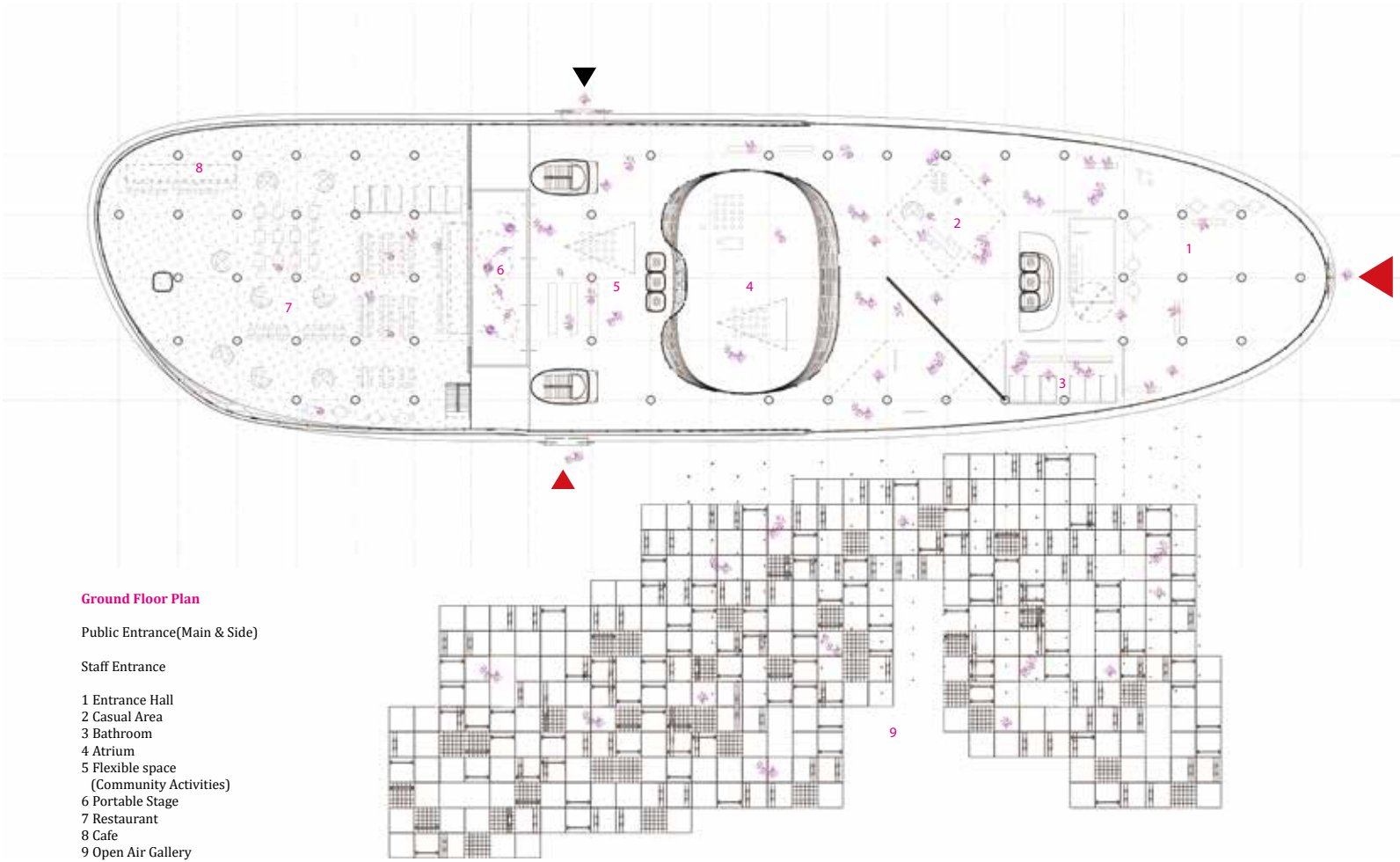
## 02 Punk Gallery

**A new method to rehabilitat public space**  
 MARC5020 Architecture Studio 2 Archipunk  
 Sep 2024 - Nov 2024

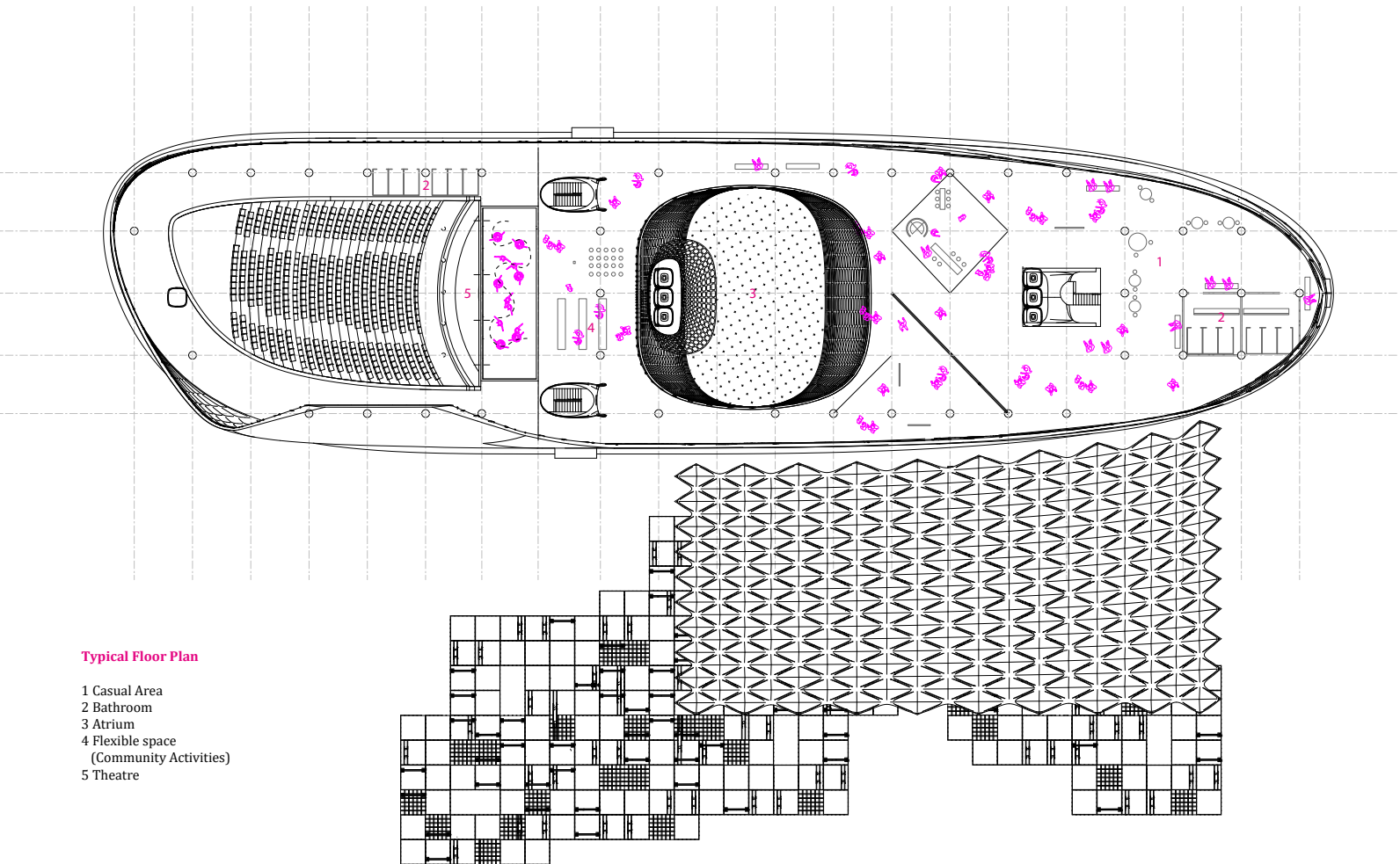
Punk Gallery was the second project developed for my Master's studio, Archipunk, a parametric design studio focused on Grasshopper scripting and Rhino point-cloud workflows. Set in Hobart, the project explores the adaptive reuse of a local site through computational design methods. The proposal combines a soft, floating volume generated through SubD modelling with a matrix-like open gallery, creating a flexible public space.

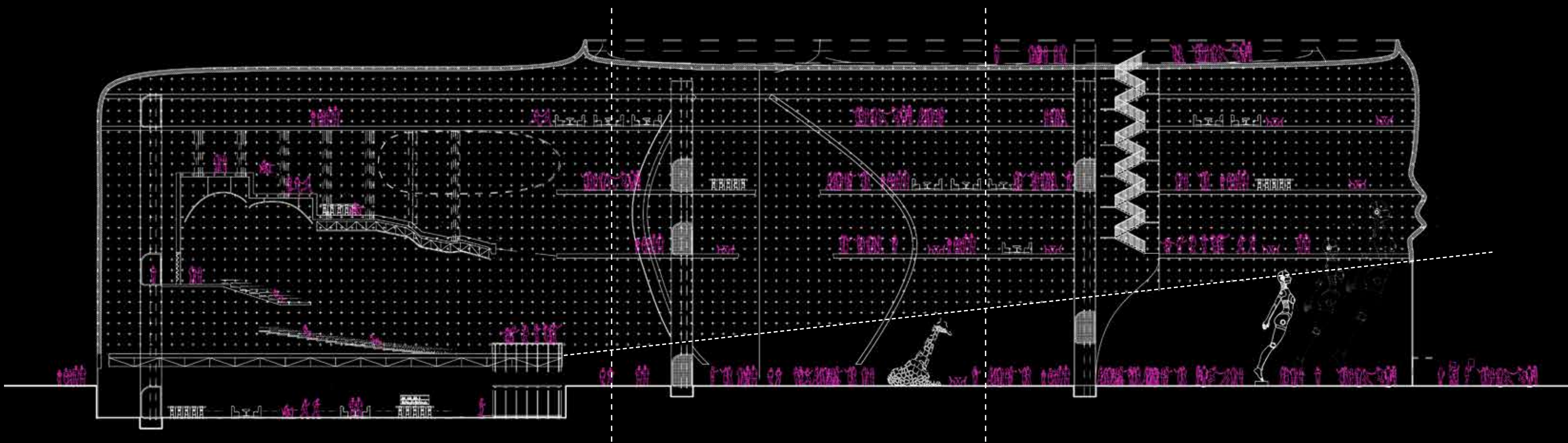


- Street View (generated with point cloud site context) -



- Open Air Gallery-



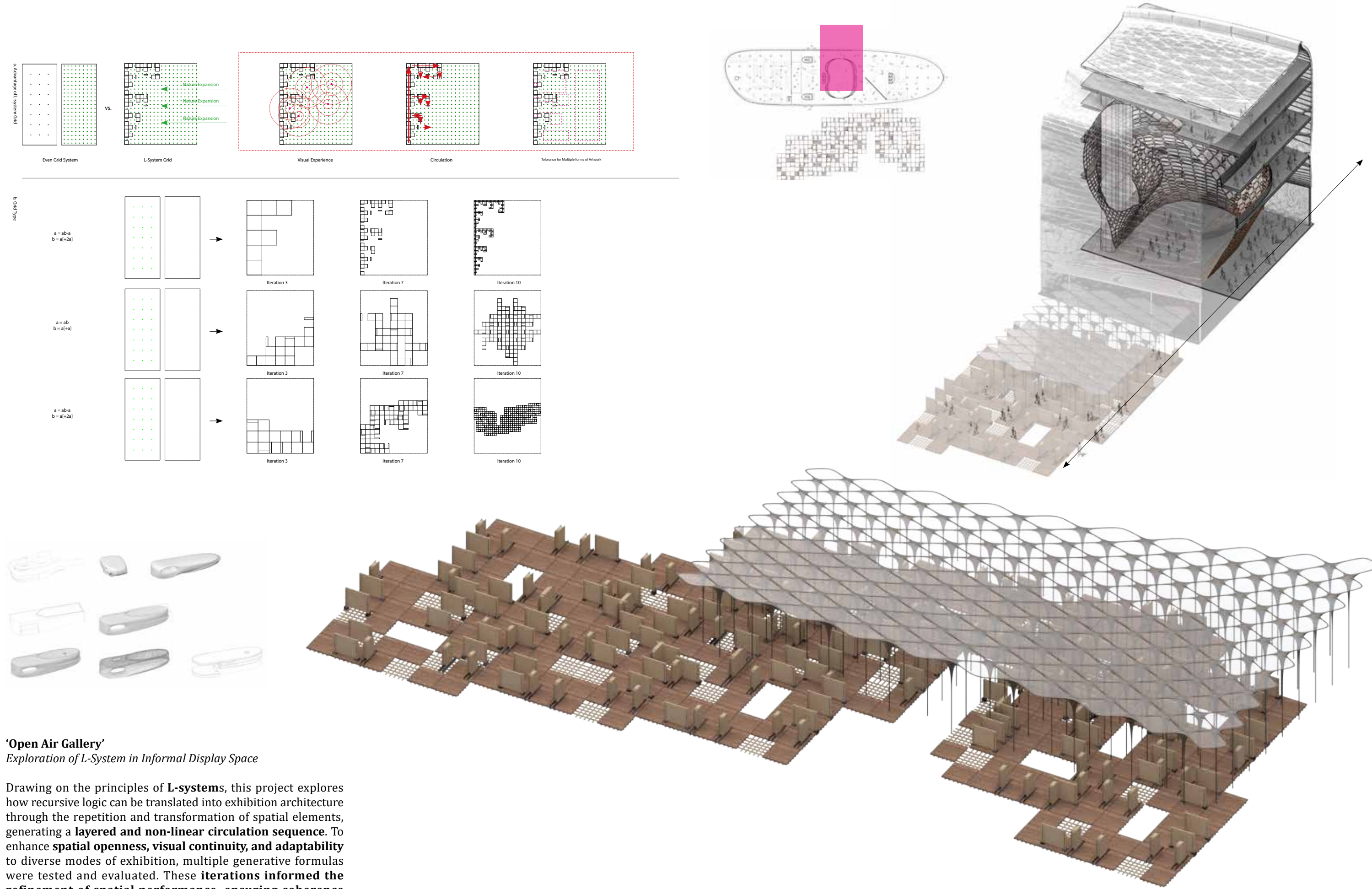


A  
Theatre

B  
Atrium

C  
Exhibition Hall

- HOW L-SYSTEM WORKS -

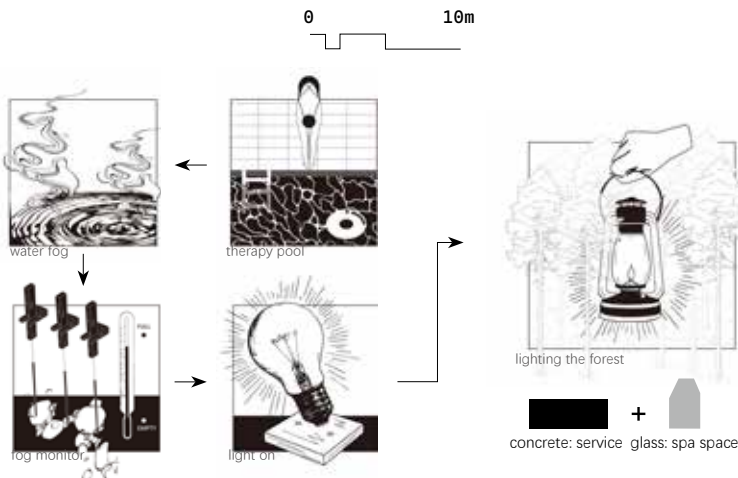


**'Open Air Gallery'**  
*Exploration of L-System in Informal Display Space*

Drawing on the principles of **L-systems**, this project explores how recursive logic can be translated into exhibition architecture through the repetition and transformation of spatial elements, generating a **layered and non-linear circulation sequence**. To enhance **spatial openness, visual continuity, and adaptability** to diverse modes of exhibition, multiple generative formulas were tested and evaluated. These **iterations informed the refinement of spatial performance, ensuring coherence between circulation, visual experience, and curatorial flexibility**.



Proposed Context Plan - Location and Surroundings



The Concept of The Light Box - Lighting the SPA Space

### 03 Lightbox

*Vez River Spa Competition*

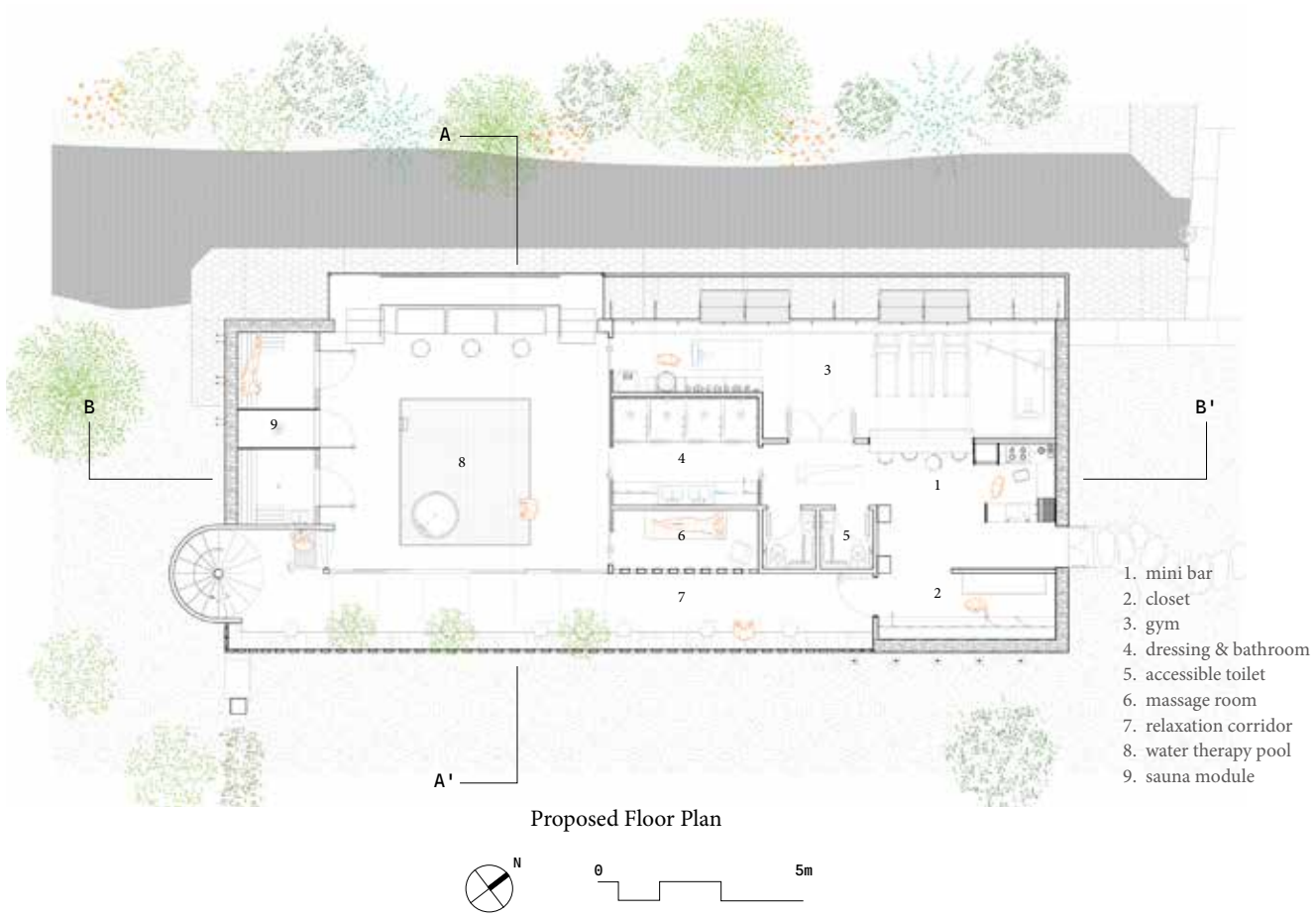
May - June, 2025

International Competition

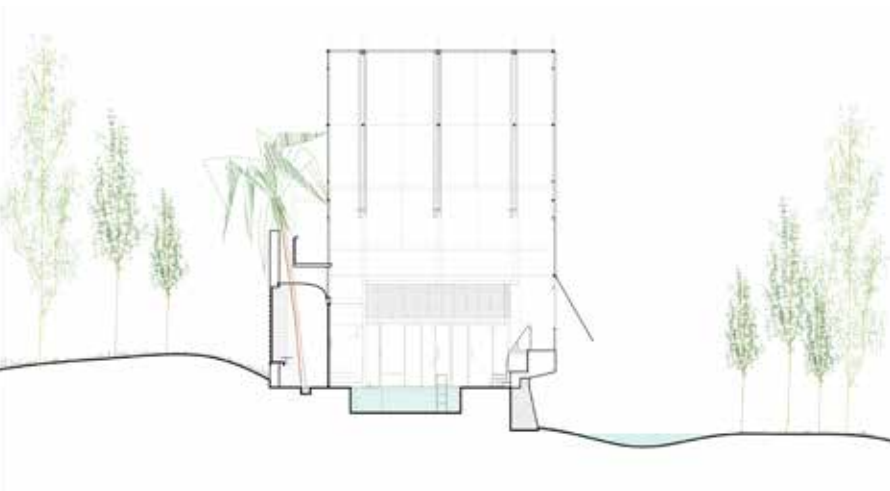
Nian Li & Jinwei Zhang

This **boutique SPA** is situated on the bank of the Vez River in northern Portugal. Embraced by forest and water, the site offers a serene natural setting—an ideal place to disconnect from daily stress and reconnect with the senses. The design seeks to create an immersive and tranquil retreat that responds to its environment.

*At the heart of the project is the idea of **The Light Box**: a transparent glass volume housing the main thermal pool and water therapy spaces, intersecting with monolithic concrete forms. The contrast between light and mass, softness and solidity, defines the spatial character. Steam rising from the thermal water diffuses light within the glass box, creating a glowing, lantern-like presence in the woods. The lighting system is responsive—its intensity modulated by humidity levels inside the space. The more steam, the brighter the light—turning the SPA into a living object that pulses gently like a breathing light in the forest, echoing the rhythm of human presence and retreat.*



- Water Therapy Pool -



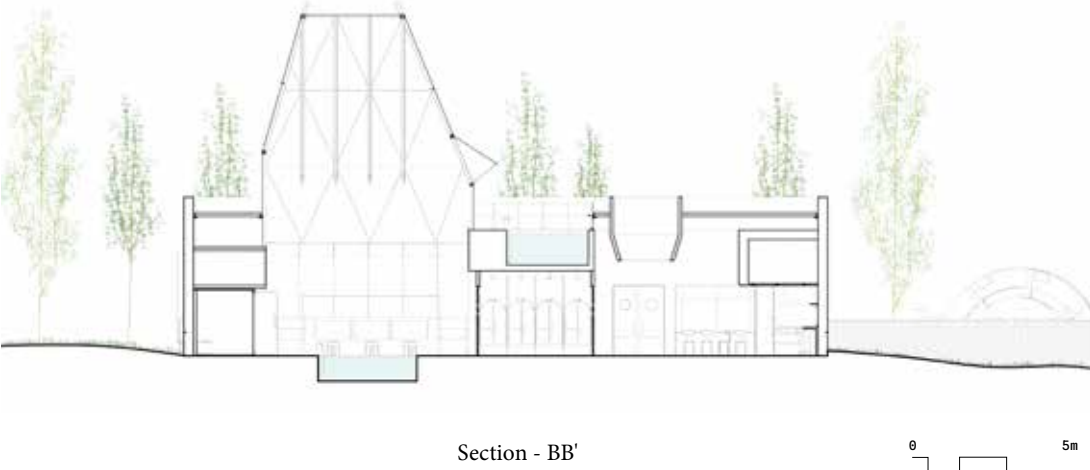
Section - AA'



- Gym -

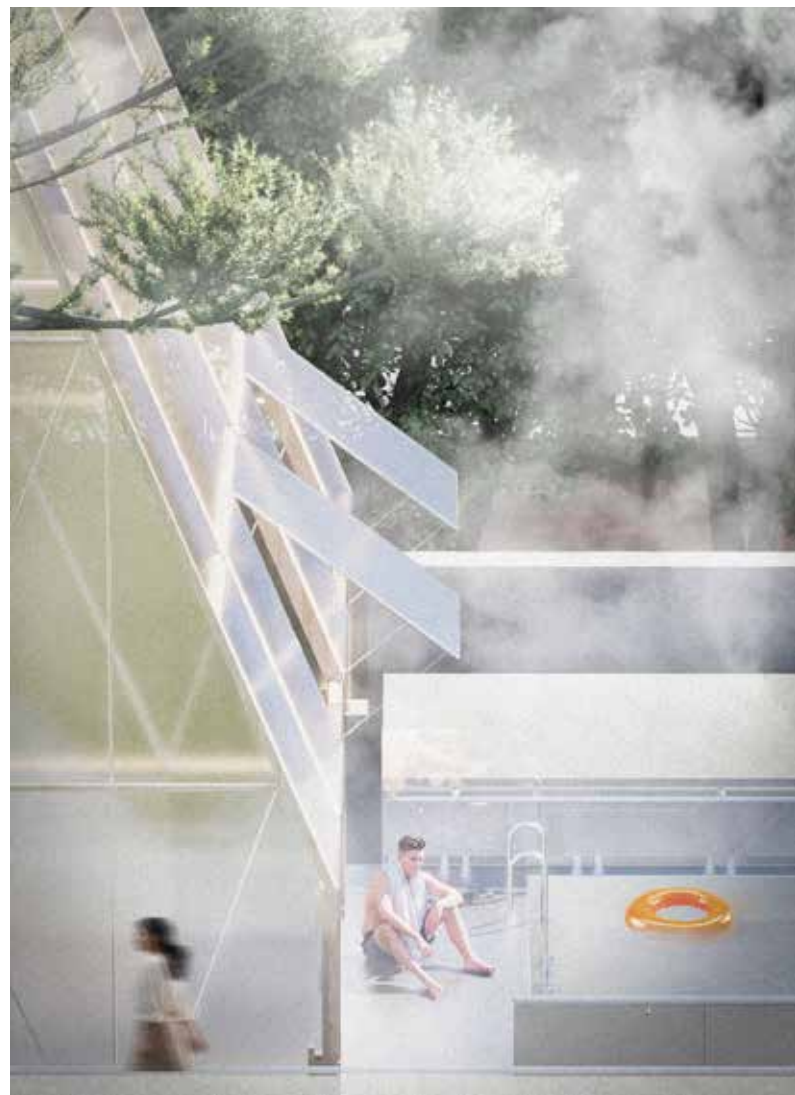


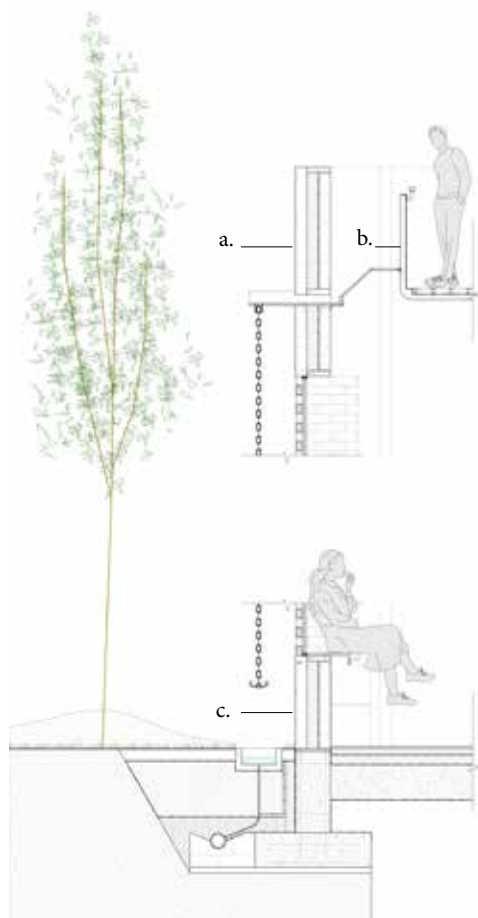
- Relaxation Corridor -



Section - BB'

0 5m



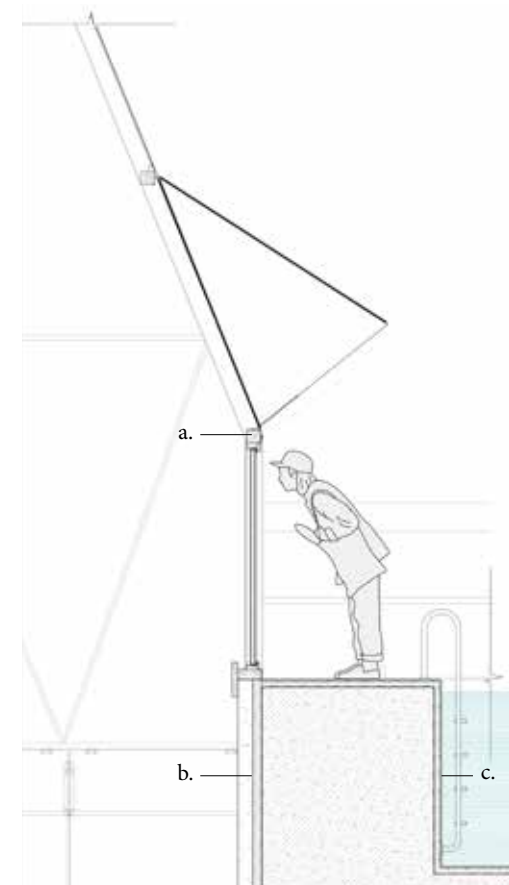


- a.
- |                     |            |
|---------------------|------------|
| concrete panel      | 100 × 1800 |
| foam insulation     | 95 × 1000  |
| waterproof membrane | 5 × 1000   |
| concrete panel      | 100 × 1000 |
| concrete brick      | 80 × 200   |

- b.
- |                     |          |
|---------------------|----------|
| concrete U-shell    | 45 × 800 |
| waterproof membrane | 5 × 800  |
| aluminium panel     | 5 × 350  |
| metal "I" beam      | 50 × 45  |

- c.
- |                     |            |
|---------------------|------------|
| drainage pool       | Ø 300 mm   |
| fine sand           | 100 mm     |
| waterproof membrane | 5 × 1000   |
| fine gravel         | 480 mm     |
| concrete foundation | 300 × 1000 |

Wall, Foundation & Drainage Detailed



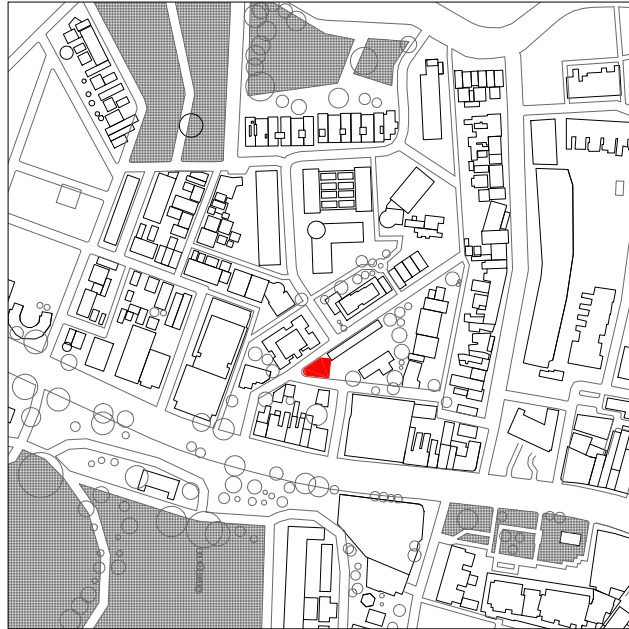
- a.
- |                       |             |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| polycarbonate panel   | 1500 × 1150 |
| steel window friction | 24 × 50 kg  |
| LVL beam              | 90 × 60     |
| double glaze window   | 1400 × 2300 |
| galvanized steel      | 40 × 60     |

- b.
- |                     |           |
|---------------------|-----------|
| concrete panel      | 80 × 1500 |
| foam insulation     | 50 × 1300 |
| waterproof membrane | 5 × 1300  |
| wood footnode       | 50 × 100  |

- c.
- |                     |             |
|---------------------|-------------|
| terrazzo tile       | 100 × 100   |
| fine sand           | 30 mm       |
| waterproof membrane | 5 × 1000    |
| reinforced concrete | 8000 × 1500 |

Flooring, Glass Openings Detailed

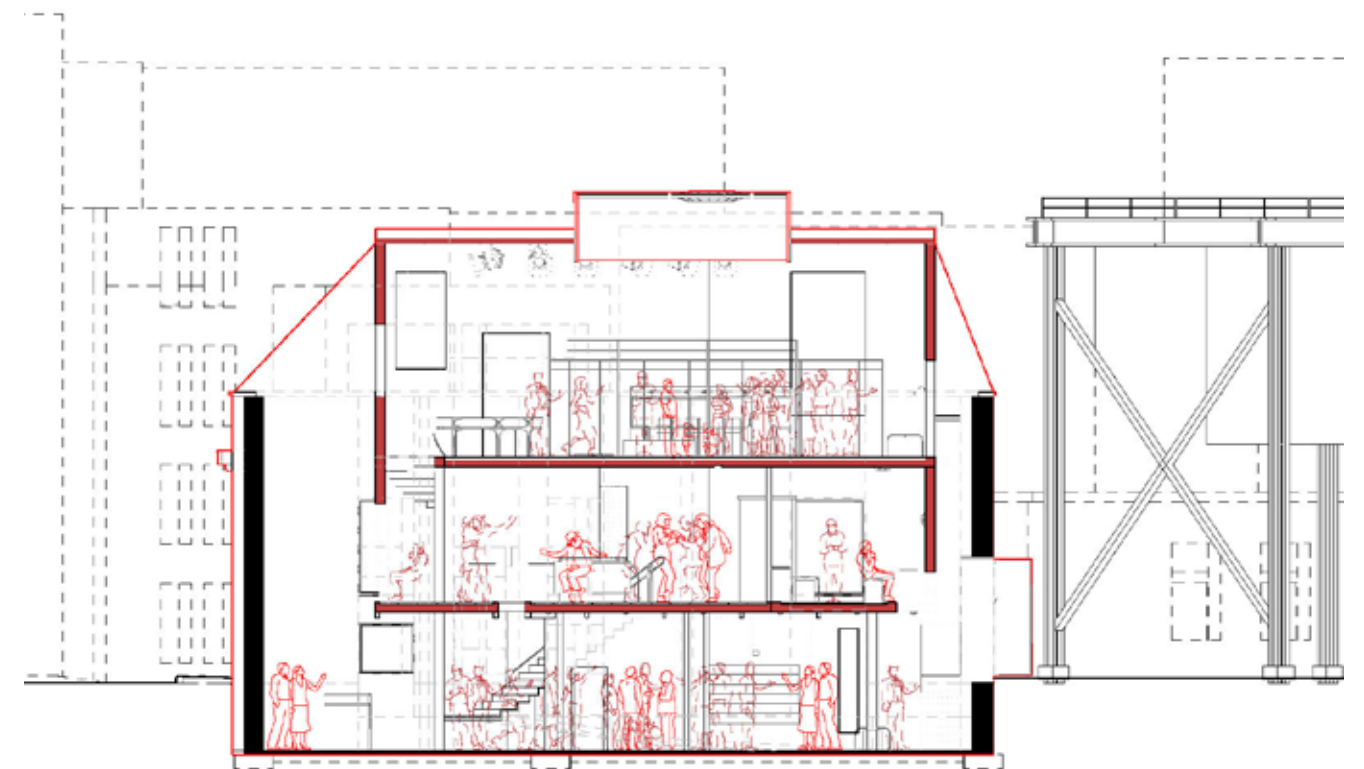
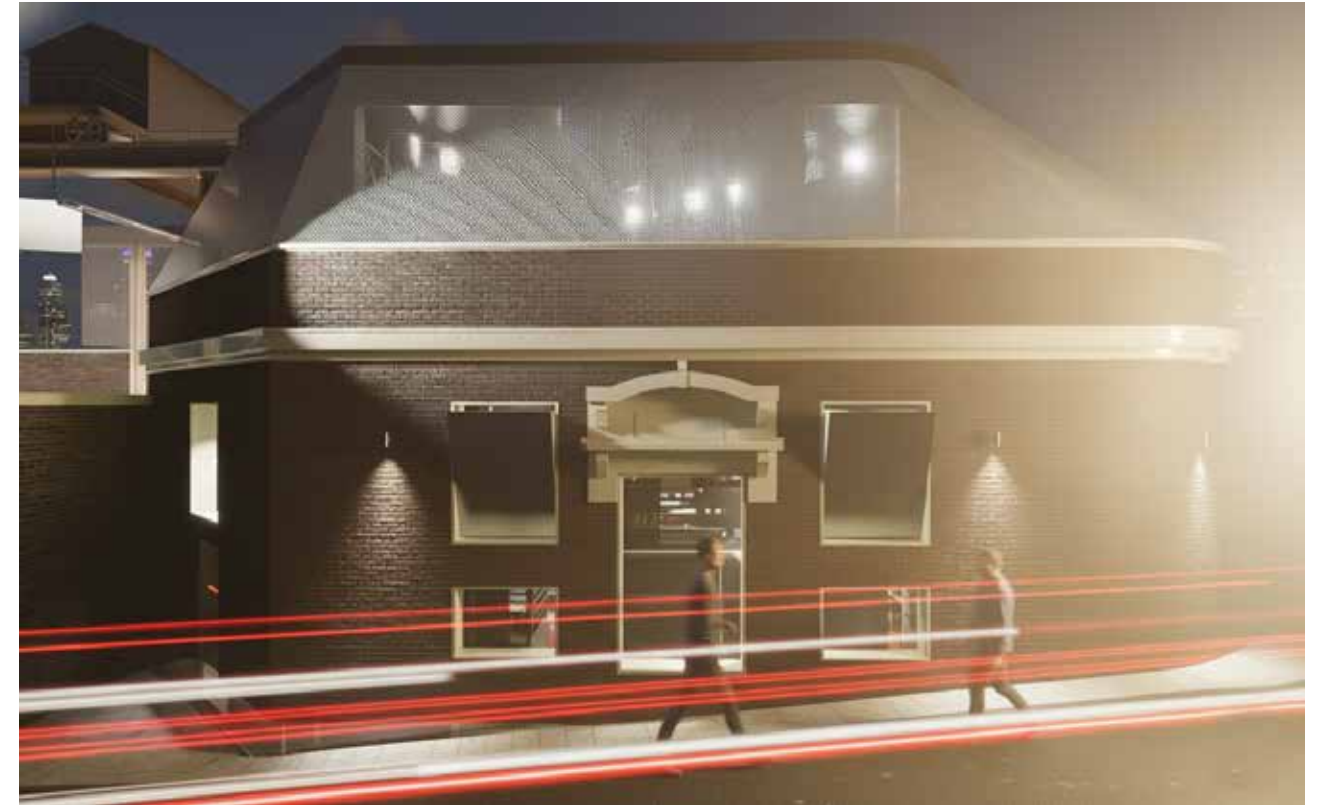


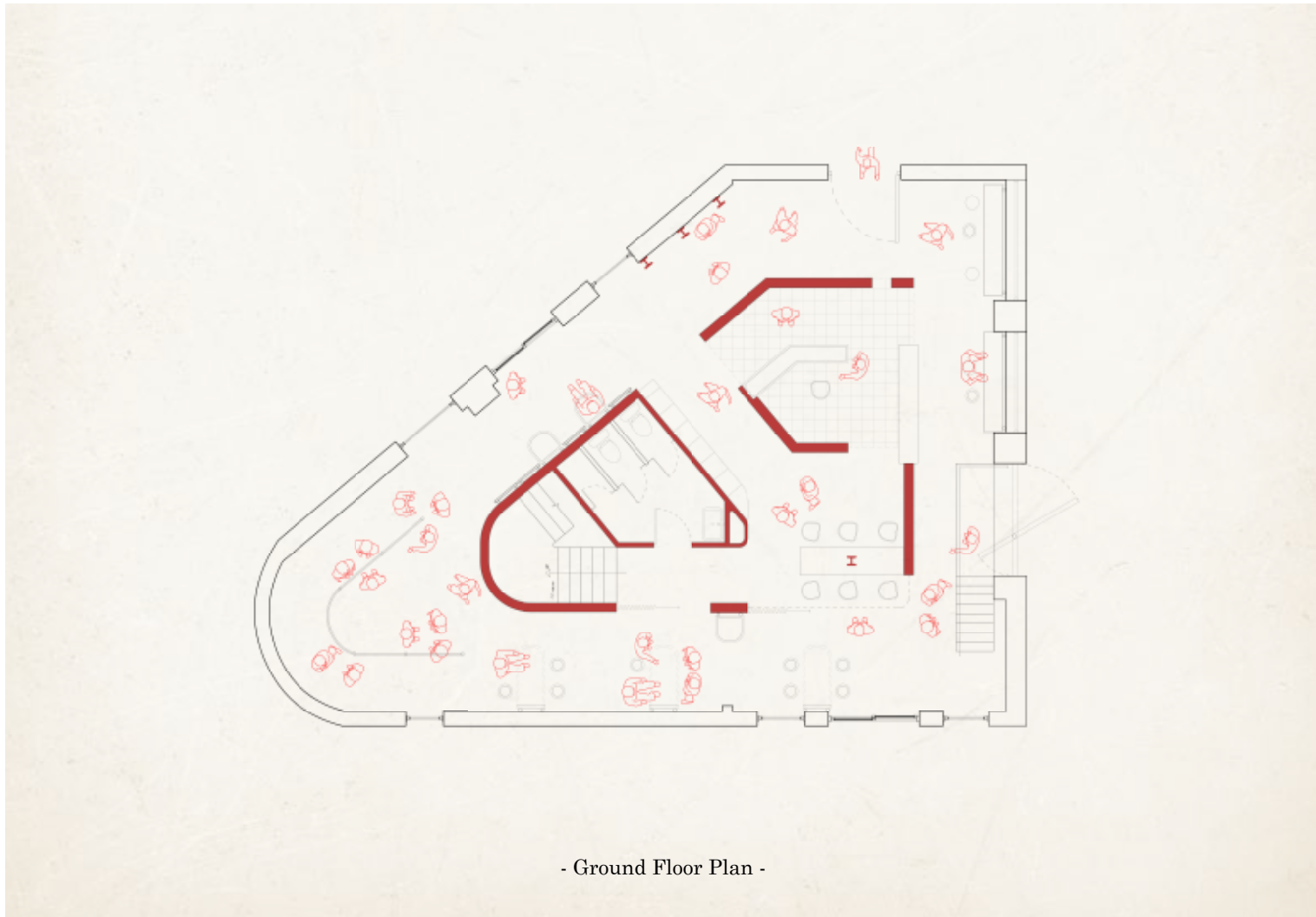


## 04 Darkroom

*Adaptive Reuse Proposal*  
**Substation No. 342, Paddington**  
 Thesis Studio MARC6000, Switchbox

The term "darkroom" is used not only in its literal sense but also as a metaphor for the fundamental principles of photography—such as capturing light, framing composition, and mediating reality through various chemical or spatial methods. The building itself functions like an enhanced darkroom, with architectural elements that reflect photographic techniques.

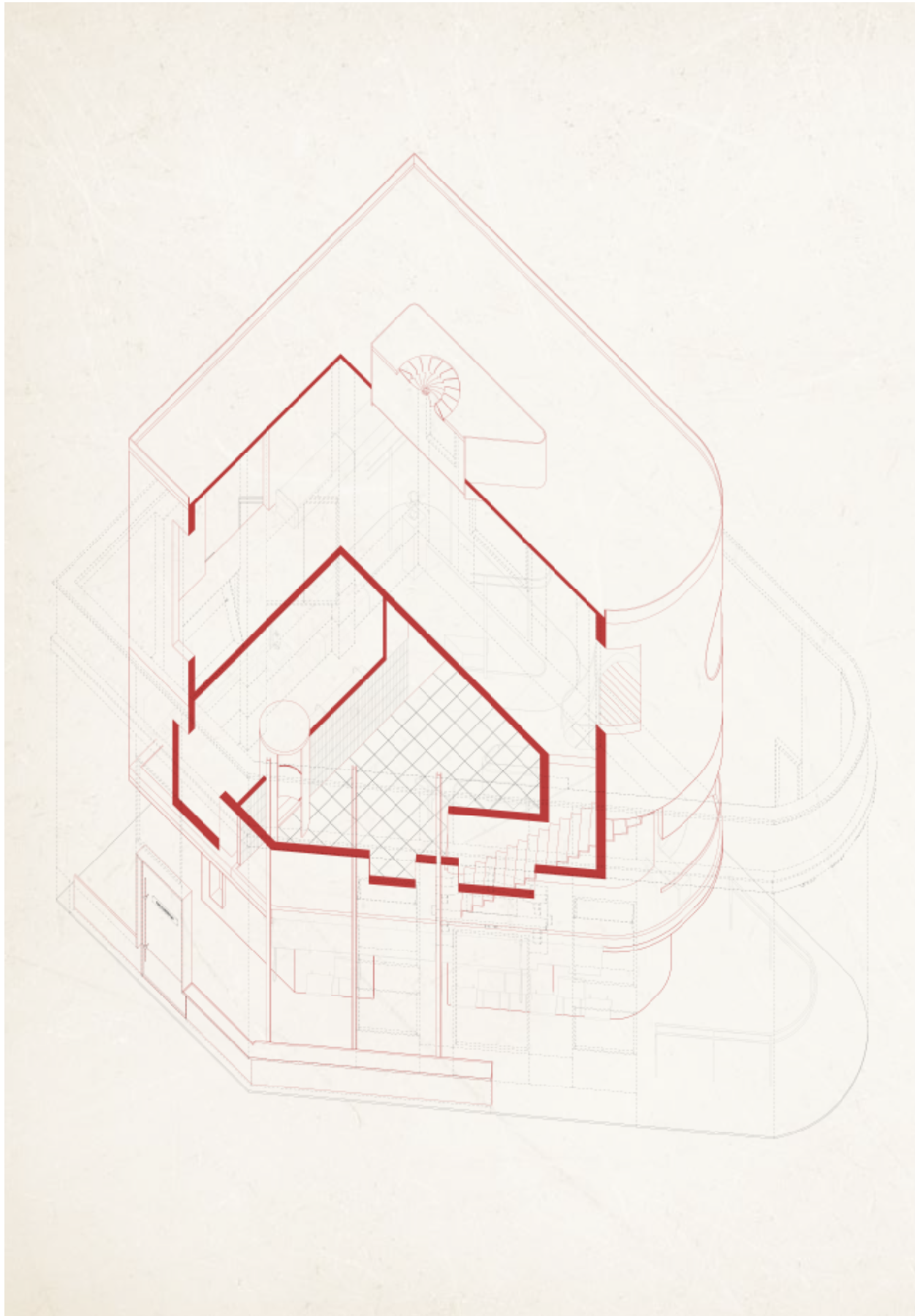




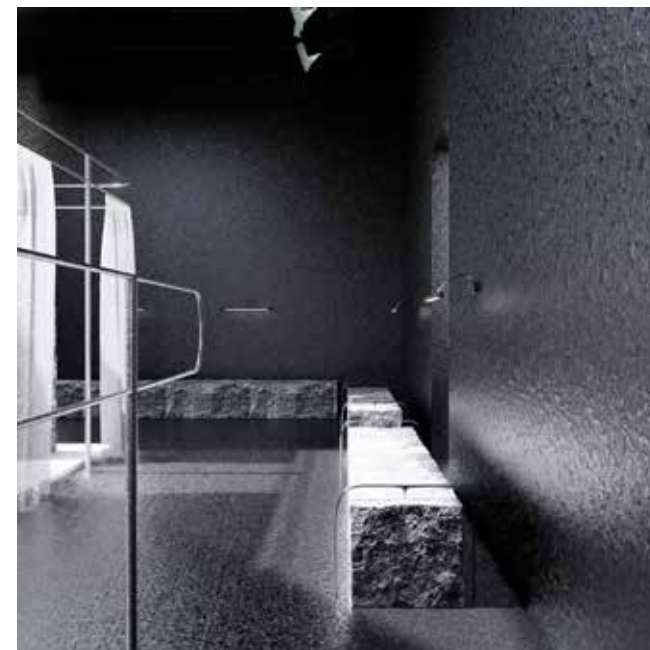
- Ground Floor Plan -



- First Floor Plan -



- Axonometric -



# PRACTICE

## ARCHITECTURAL DRAWING

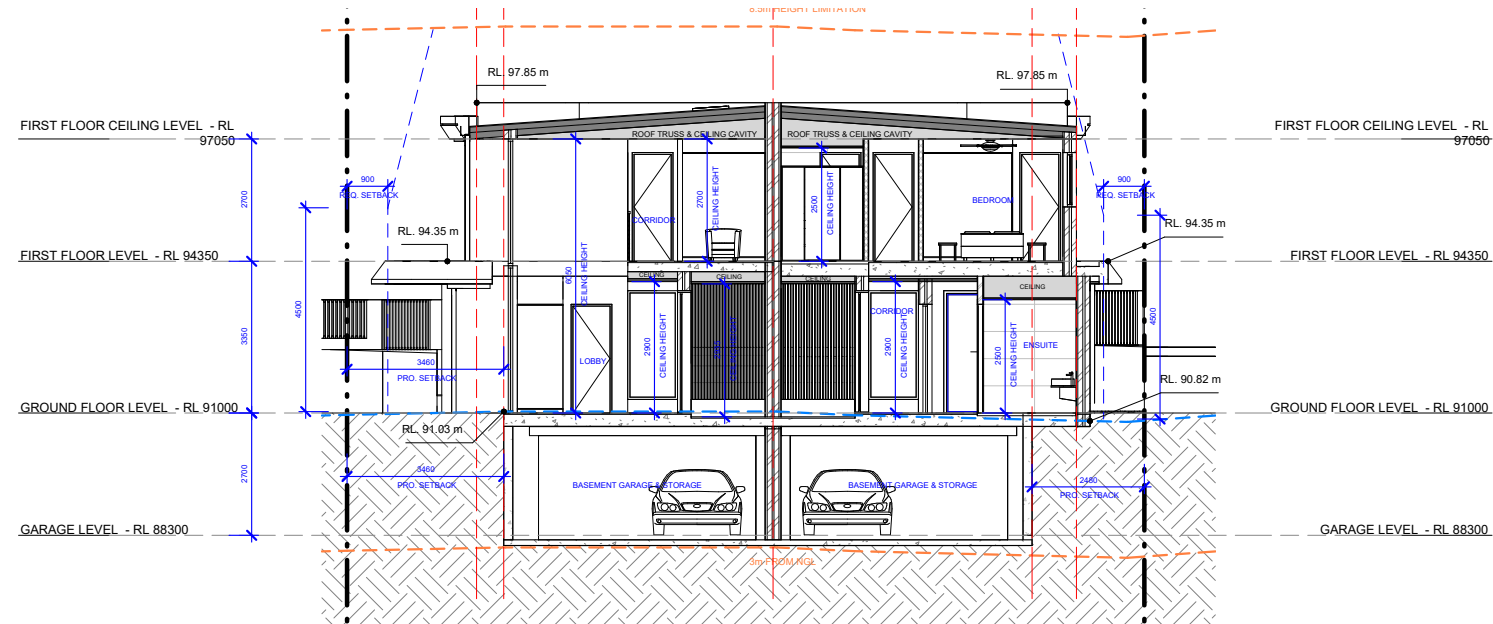
Practice @ JRZ Group

Director: Jeffrey Lu, Jerry Wang, Randy Liang.

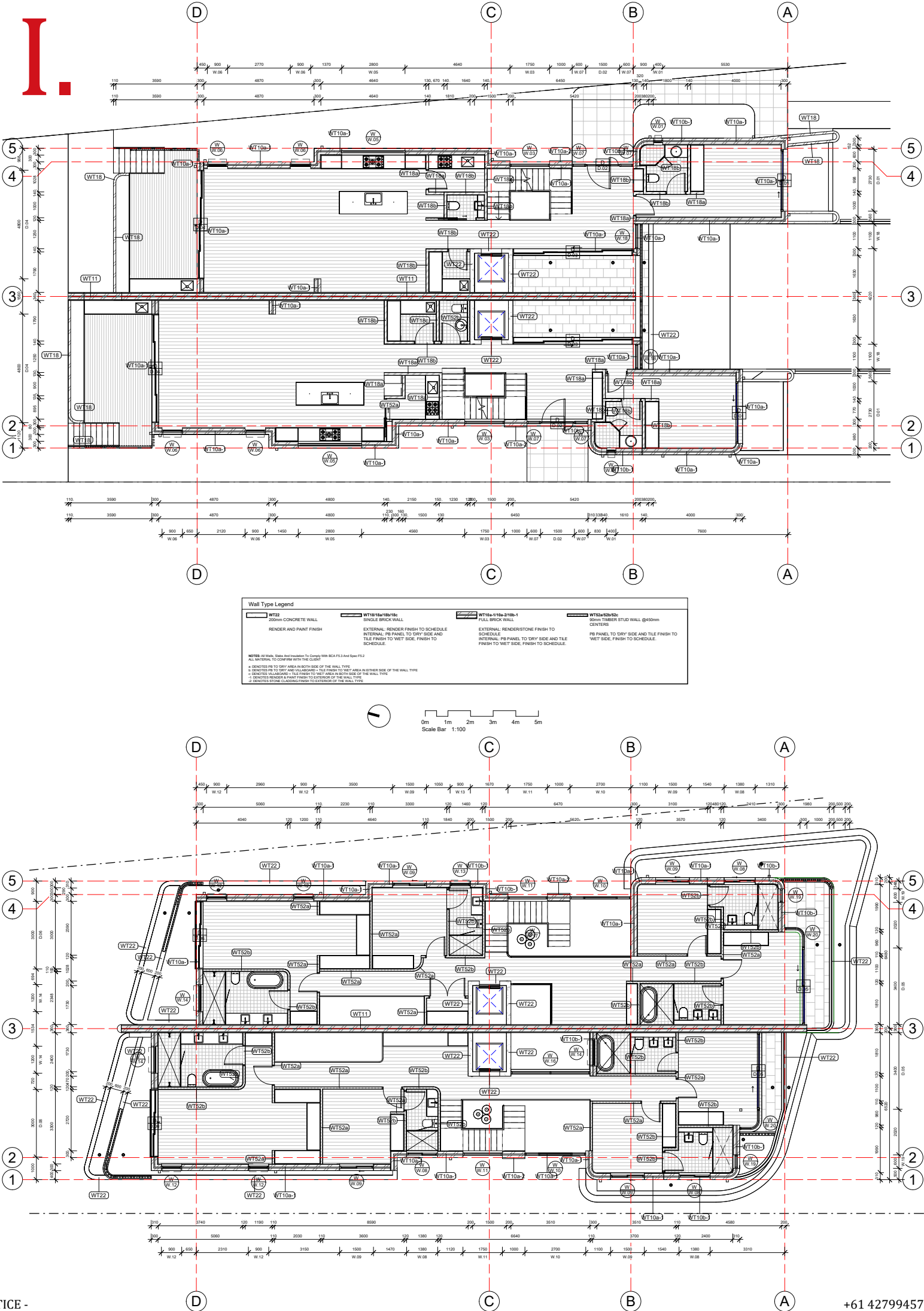
Oct, 2025 - now

This collection presents three distinct residential typologies, marking a transition from academic exploration to professional execution. Moving beyond theoretical studio work, these projects **prioritize efficiency, market alignment, and technical precision.**

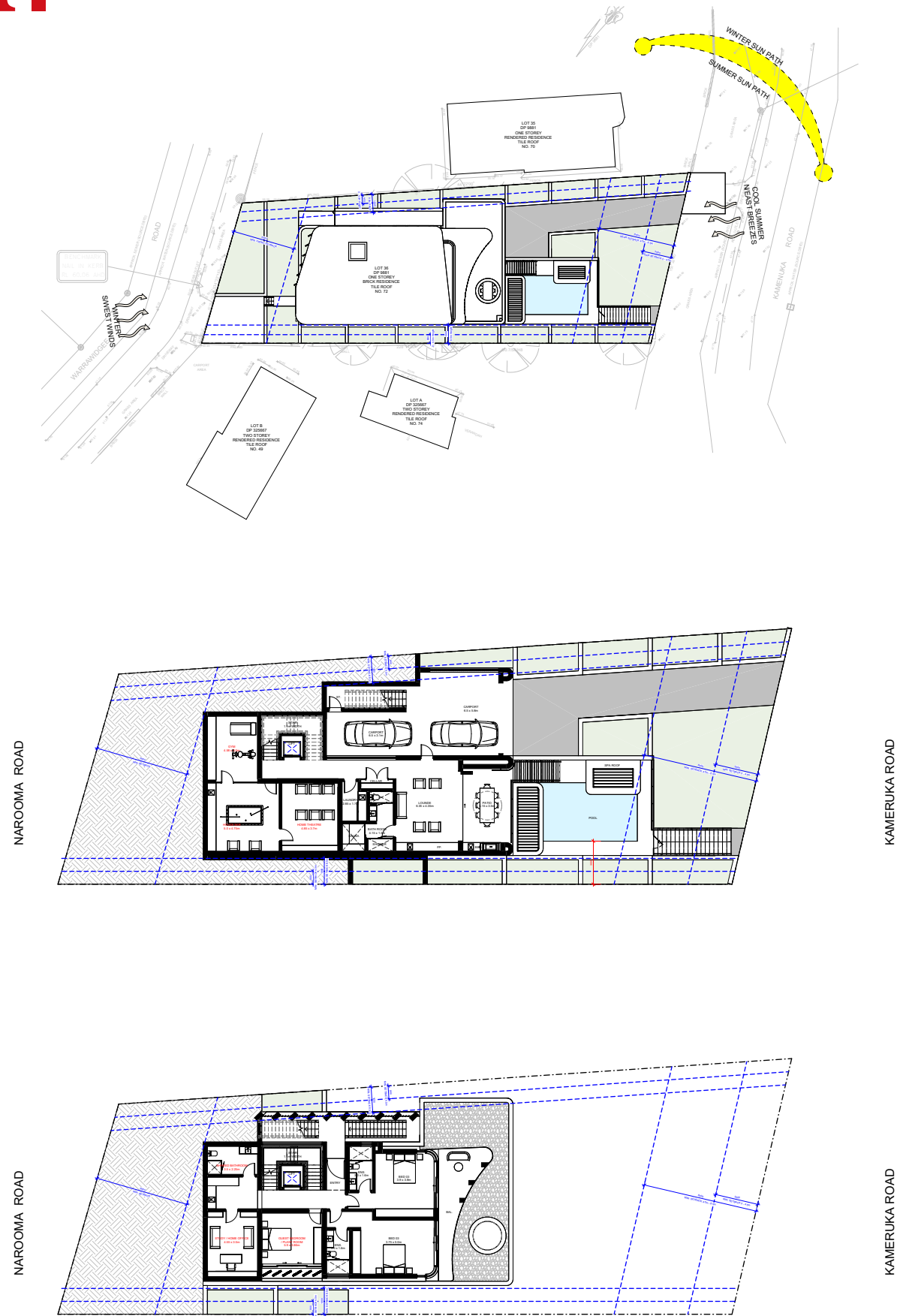
The core of this practice lies in a comprehensive mastery of the **SEPP framework** and **NCC regulations**. By streamlining documentation and leveraging a **Revit-to-Enscape/ D5 workflow**, I focus on generating rapid design options that balance aesthetic quality with strict buildability. For me, these scenarios represent the foundation of independent practice—a continuous process of mastering residential fundamentals and translating complex codes into lived spaces.

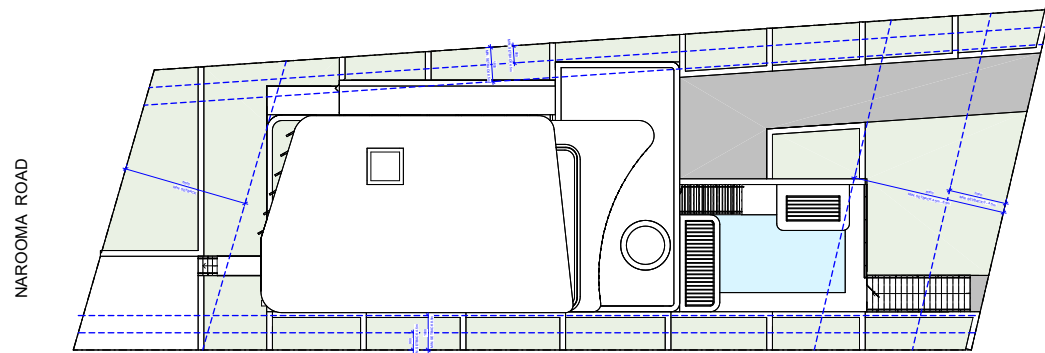
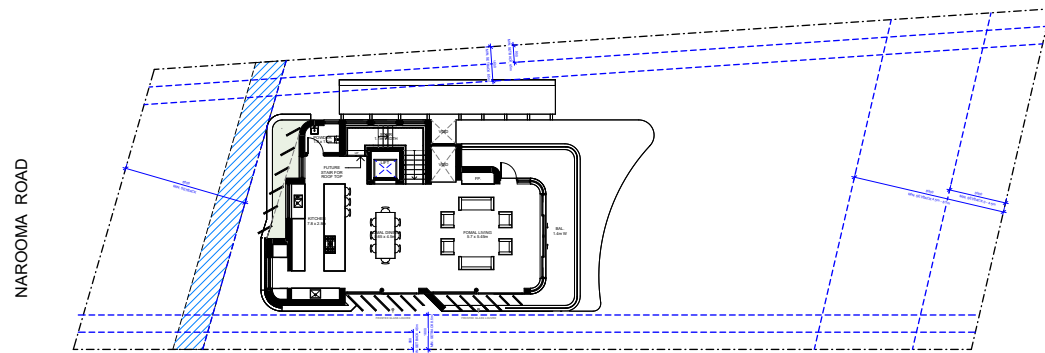
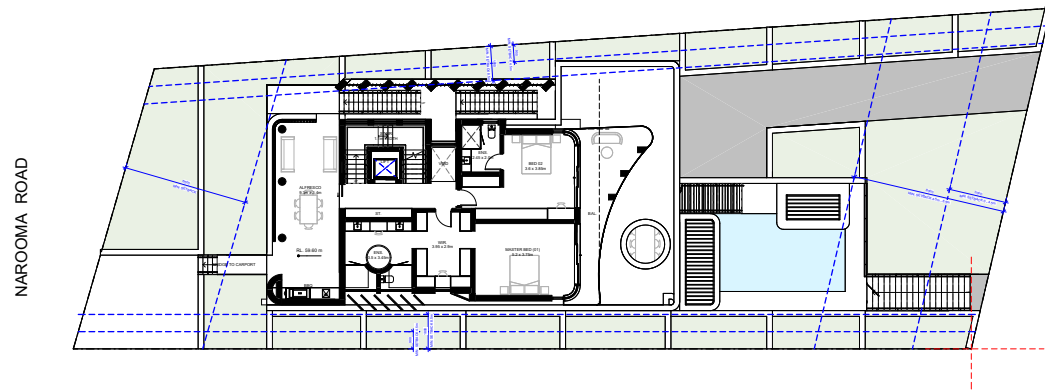


Located in Eastwood, this duplex project features asymmetrical layouts for each unit to accommodate specific site constraints and front facade requirements. Having been involved in both the facade design and construction documentation, I gained a thorough understanding of SEPP 2008 regulations as the project now progresses into the interior design stage.

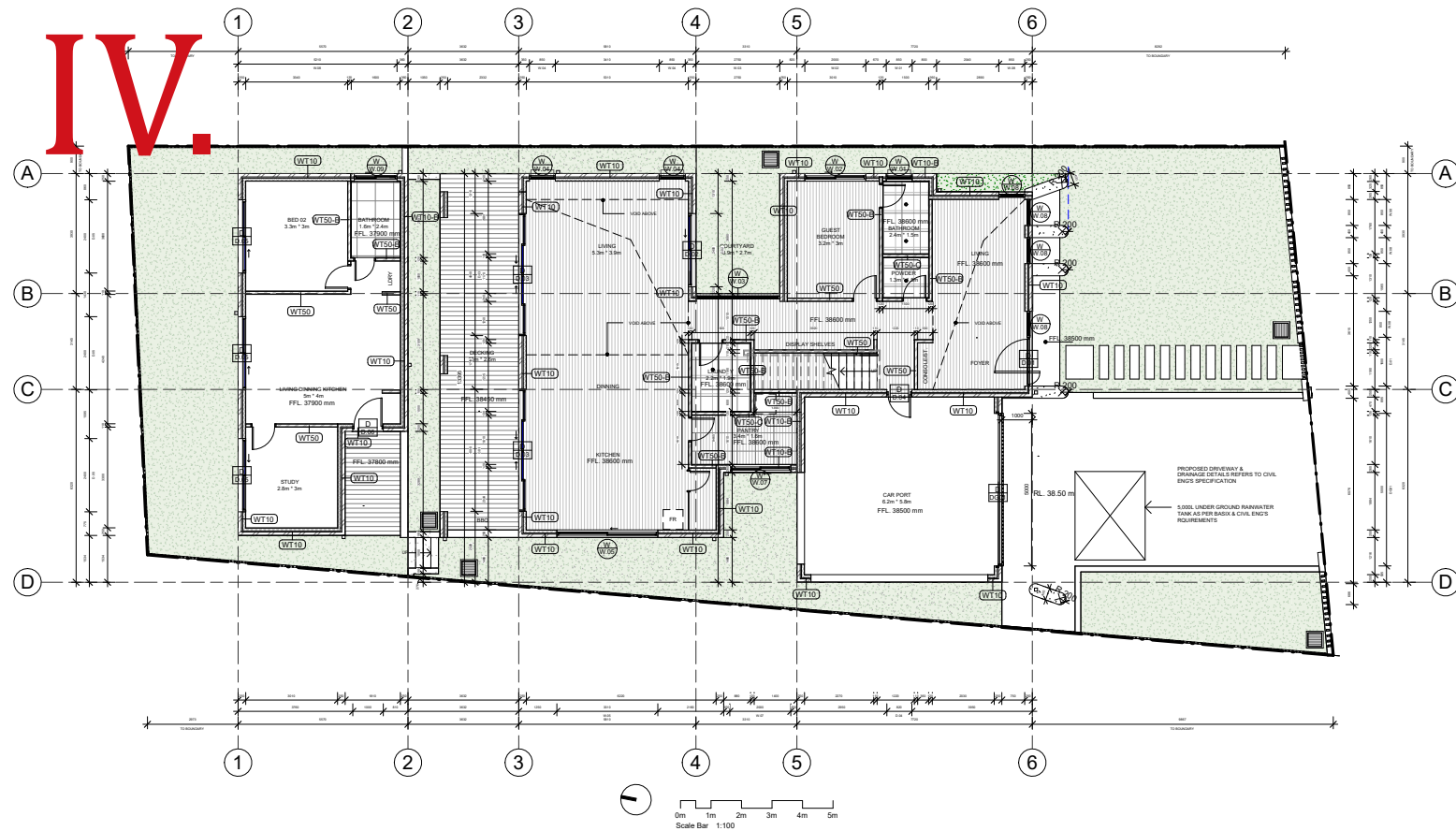




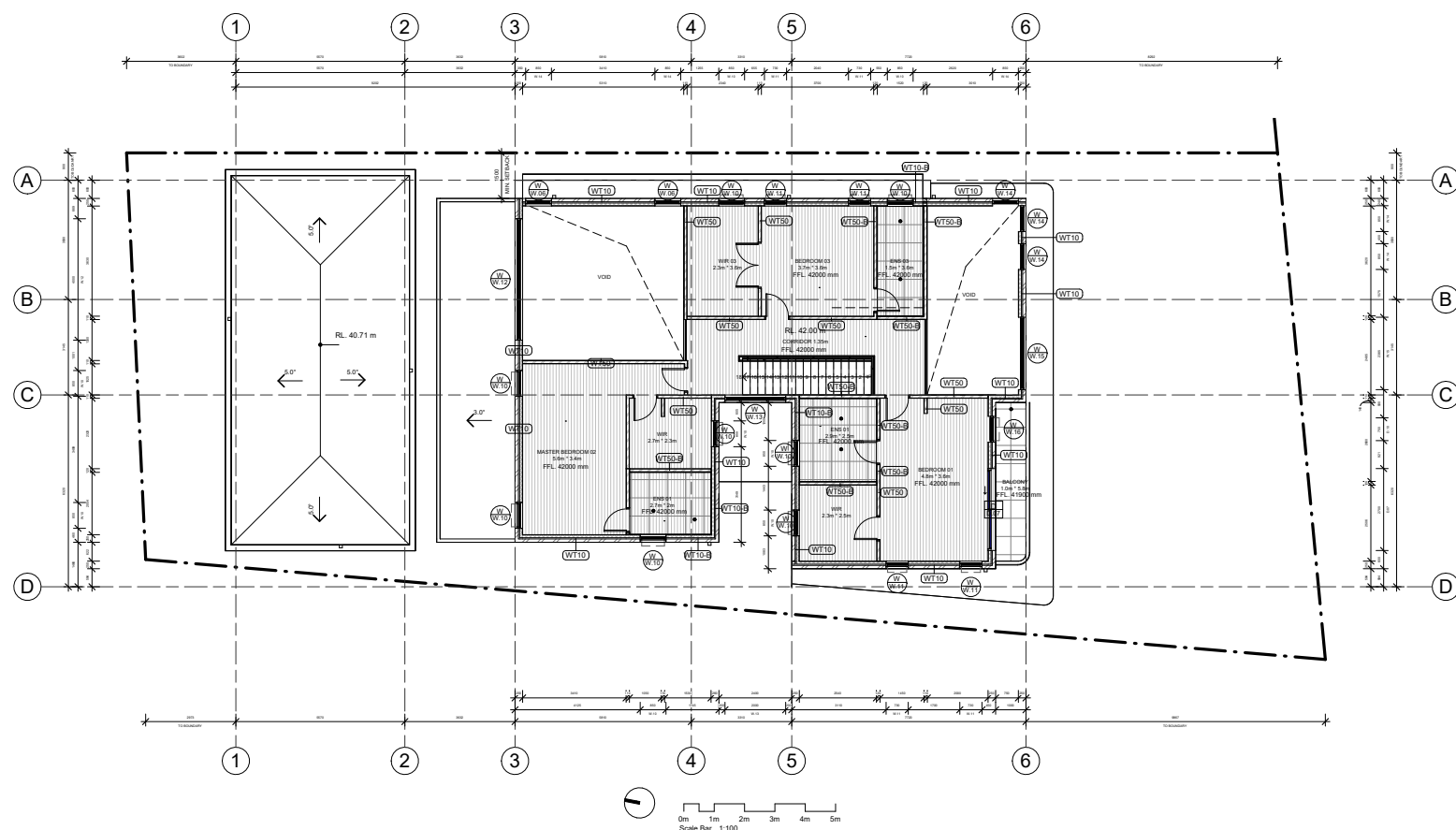




# IV.



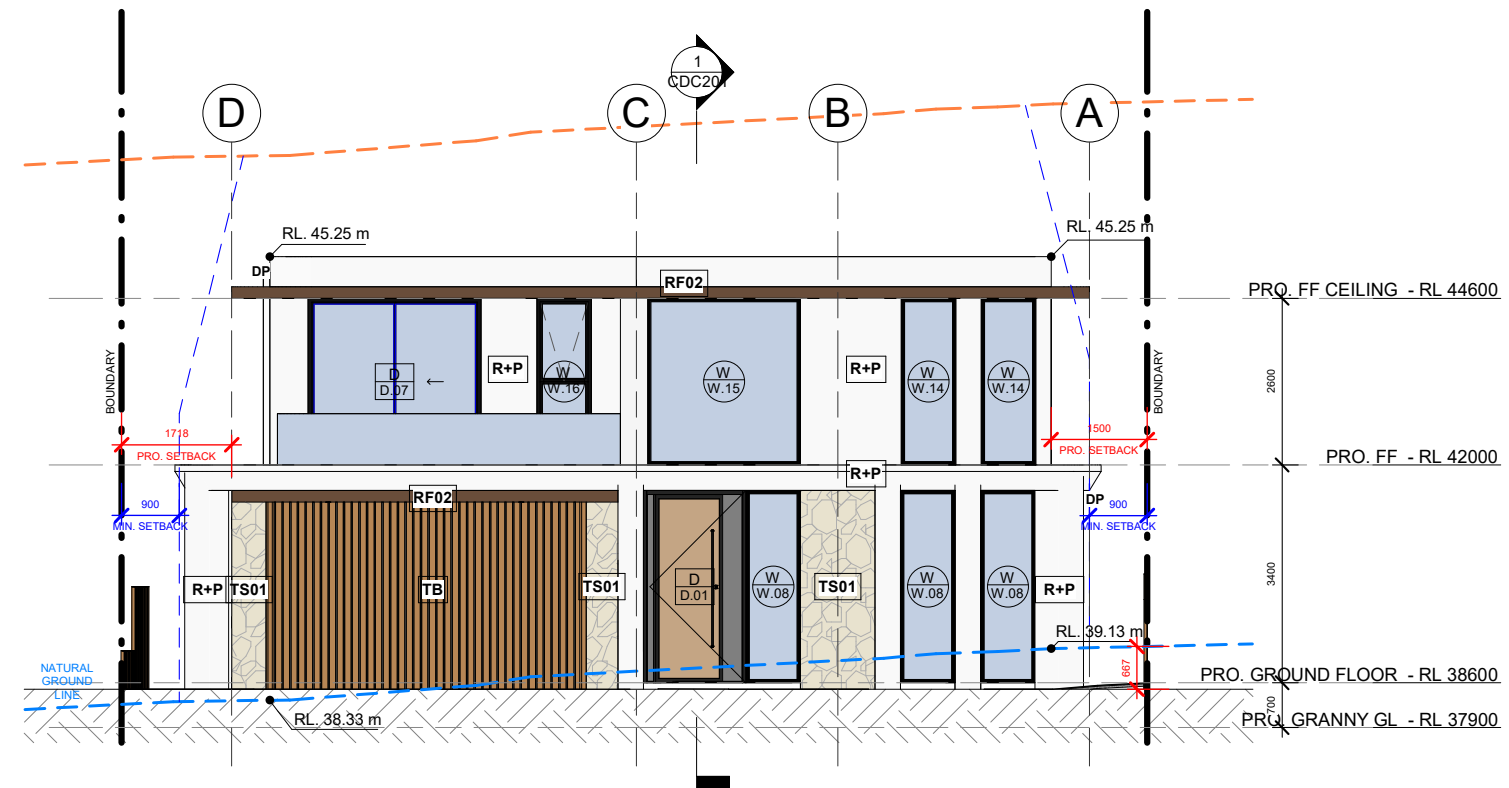
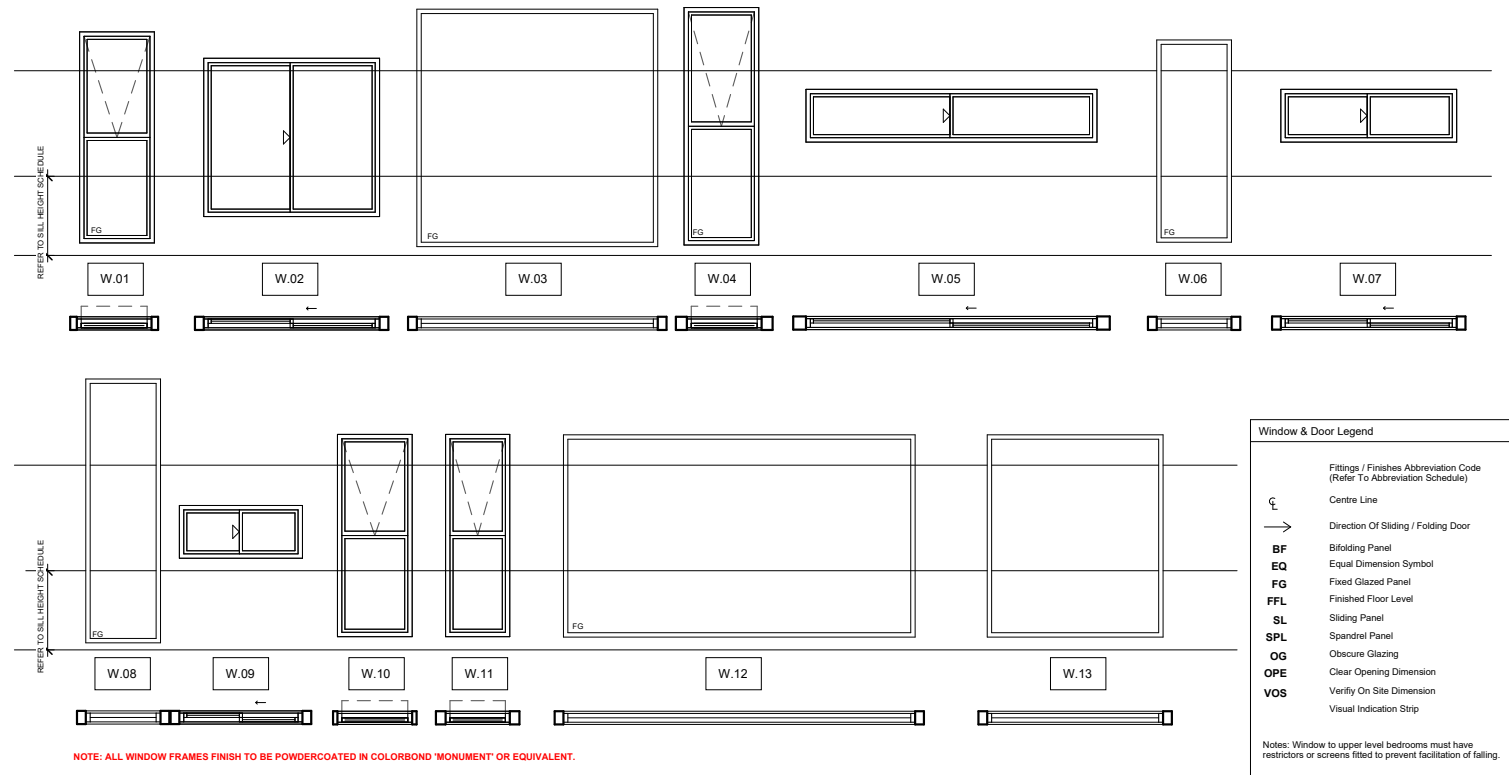
Wall Setout Plan - Ground Floor

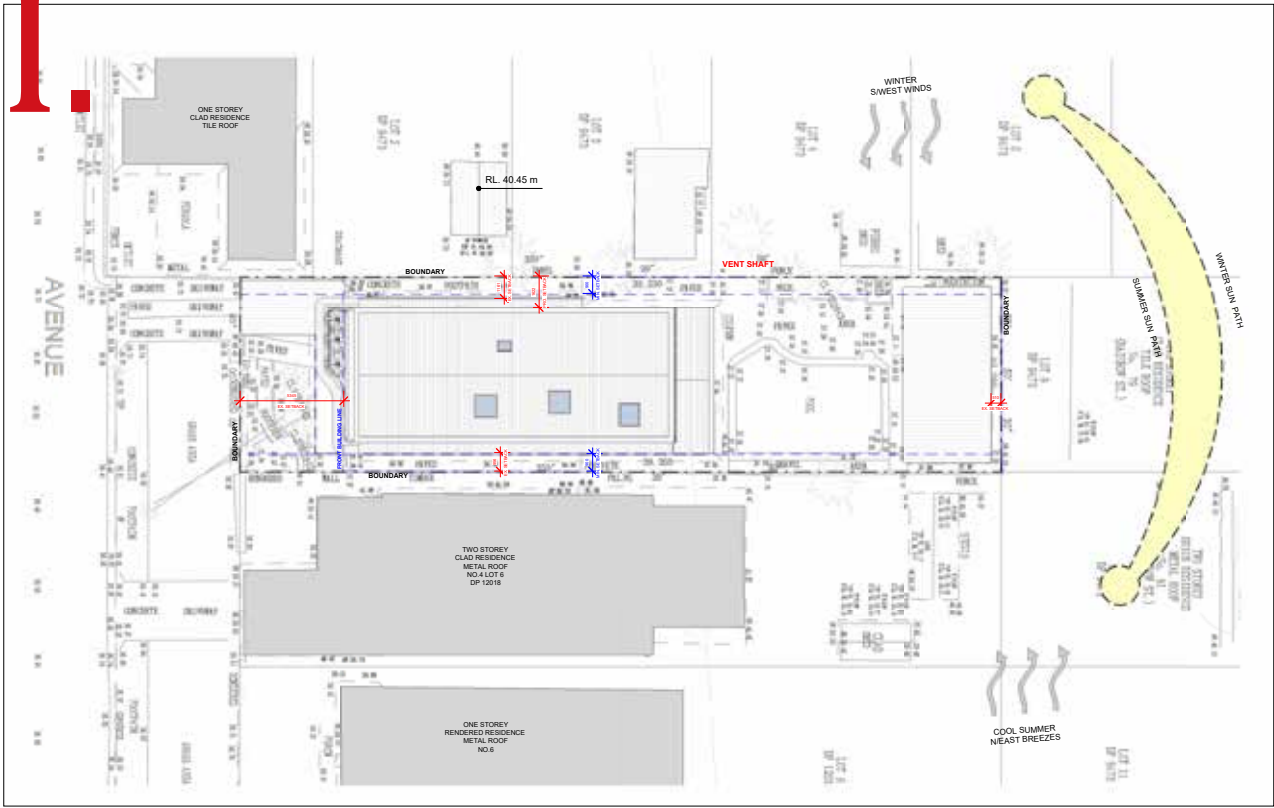


Wall Setout Plan - First Floor

Located in Ermington, this project is a commercial residential development designed for a wide-frontage site. The layout features a formal entry foyer and dual living areas on the ground floor, with four bedrooms upstairs—designed with its own private ensuite for maximum privacy. I used this project as a technical exercise to master Revit and ensure full compliance with SEPP 2021 requirements. My focus was on the transition from design to construction, specifically resolving the coordination of multiple bathrooms and services to produce a high-quality set of construction drawings.

| Window Schedule |         |                          |       |        |             |                    |                                                          |                   |                      |       |
|-----------------|---------|--------------------------|-------|--------|-------------|--------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|-------|
| Type Mark       | Area    | Orientation              | Width | Height | Sill Height | Window Style       | Glazing                                                  | Lock + Restrictor | Window Insect Screen | Count |
| W.01            | 2.04 m² | EAST                     | 850   | 2400   | 300         | UPPER AWNING+FIXED | CLEAR GLAZING, REFER TO BASIX REPORT FOR GLAZING DETAILS | YES               | Yes                  | 1     |
| W.02            | 3.6 m²  | EAST                     | 2000  | 1800   | 900         | SLIDING            | CLEAR GLAZING, REFER TO BASIX REPORT FOR GLAZING DETAILS | YES               | Yes                  | 1     |
| W.03            | 7.4 m²  | EAST                     | 2740  | 2700   | 0           | FIXED              | CLEAR GLAZING, REFER TO BASIX REPORT FOR GLAZING DETAILS | NO                | No                   | 1     |
| W.04            | 2.3 m²  | EAST                     | 850   | 2700   | 0           | UPPER AWNING+FIXED | CLEAR GLAZING, REFER TO BASIX REPORT FOR GLAZING DETAILS | YES               | Yes                  | 2     |
| W.05            | 1.99 m² | WEST                     | 3310  | 600    | 900         | SLIDING            | CLEAR GLAZING, REFER TO BASIX REPORT FOR GLAZING DETAILS | YES               | Yes                  | 1     |
| W.06            | 1.96 m² | SOUTH, EAST              | 850   | 2300   | 300         | FIXED              | CLEAR GLAZING, REFER TO BASIX REPORT FOR GLAZING DETAILS | NO                | No                   | 2     |
| W.07            | 1.2 m²  | WEST                     | 2000  | 600    | 900         | SLIDING            | CLEAR GLAZING, REFER TO BASIX REPORT FOR GLAZING DETAILS | YES               | Yes                  | 1     |
| W.08            | 2.55 m² | SOUTH, EAST              | 850   | 3000   | 0           | FIXED              | CLEAR GLAZING, REFER TO BASIX REPORT FOR GLAZING DETAILS | NO                | No                   | 4     |
| W.09            | 0.84 m² | EAST                     | 1400  | 600    | 1500        | SLIDING            | CLEAR GLAZING, REFER TO BASIX REPORT FOR GLAZING DETAILS | YES               | Yes                  | 1     |
| W.10            | 1.96 m² | NORTH, SOUTH, EAST, WEST | 850   | 2300   | 300,0       | UPPER AWNING+FIXED | CLEAR GLAZING, REFER TO BASIX REPORT FOR GLAZING DETAILS | YES               | Yes                  | 8     |
| W.11            | 1.68 m² | EAST, WEST               | 730   | 2300   | 300         | UPPER AWNING+FIXED | CLEAR GLAZING, REFER TO BASIX REPORT FOR GLAZING DETAILS | YES               | Yes                  | 4     |
| W.12            | 9.2 m²  | NORTH                    | 4000  | 2300   | 300         | FIXED              | CLEAR GLAZING, REFER TO BASIX REPORT FOR GLAZING DETAILS | NO                | No                   | 1     |
| W.13            | 4.6 m²  | WEST                     | 2000  | 2300   | 300         | FIXED              | CLEAR GLAZING, REFER TO BASIX REPORT FOR GLAZING DETAILS | NO                | No                   | 1     |
| W.14            | 2.21 m² | SOUTH, EAST              | 850   | 2600   | 0           | FIXED              | CLEAR GLAZING, REFER TO BASIX REPORT FOR GLAZING DETAILS | NO                | No                   | 3     |
| W.15            | 6.2 m²  | SOUTH                    | 2385  | 2600   | 0           | FIXED              | CLEAR GLAZING, REFER TO BASIX REPORT FOR GLAZING DETAILS | NO                | No                   | 1     |
| W.16            | 2.21 m² | SOUTH                    | 850   | 2600   | 0           | UPPER AWNING+FIXED | CLEAR GLAZING, REFER TO BASIX REPORT FOR GLAZING DETAILS | YES               | Yes                  | 1     |

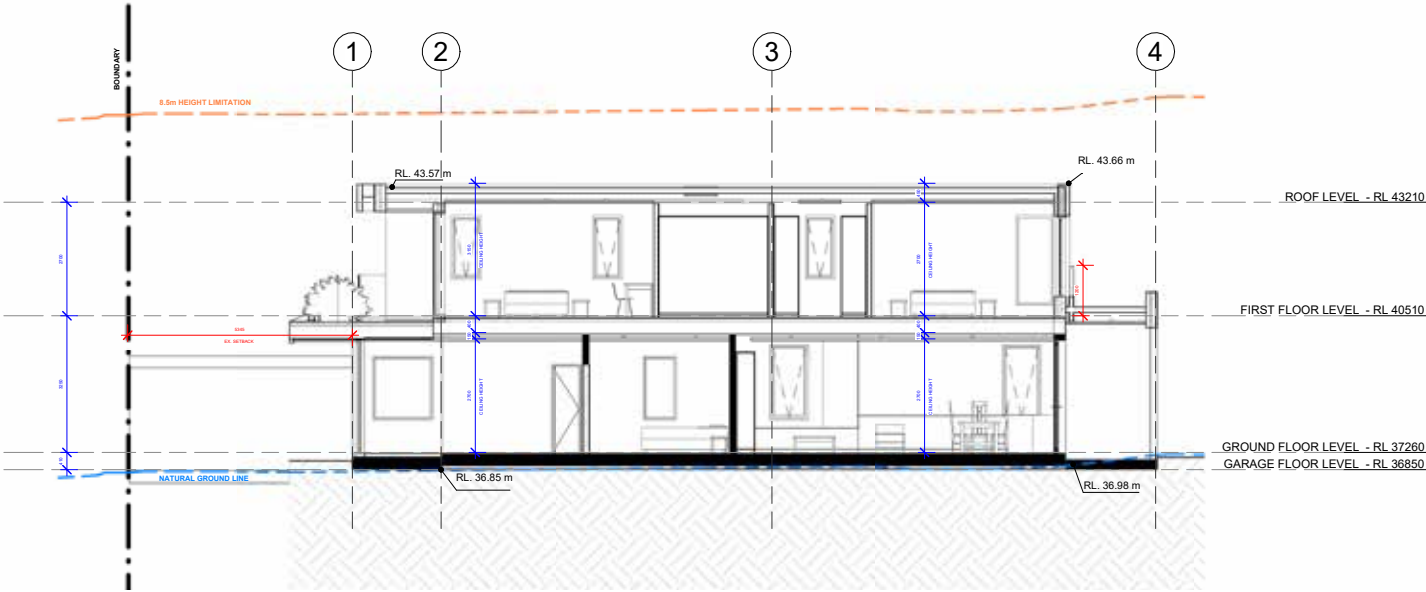
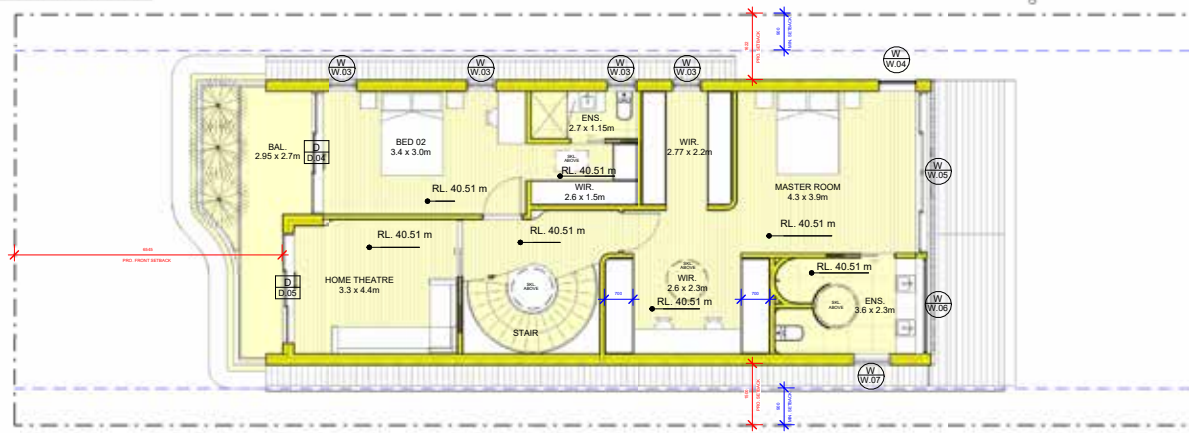
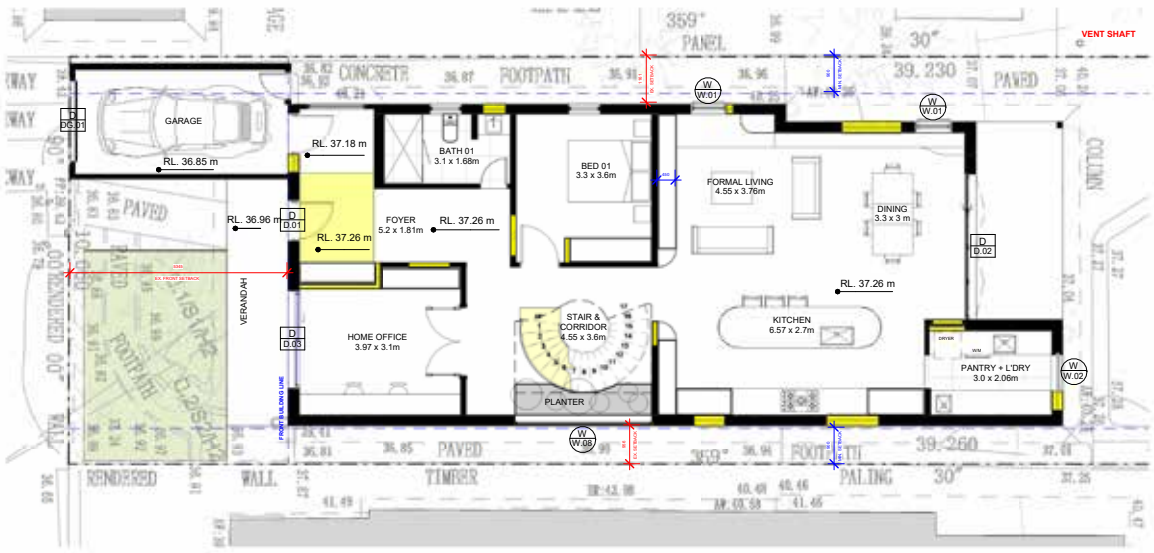




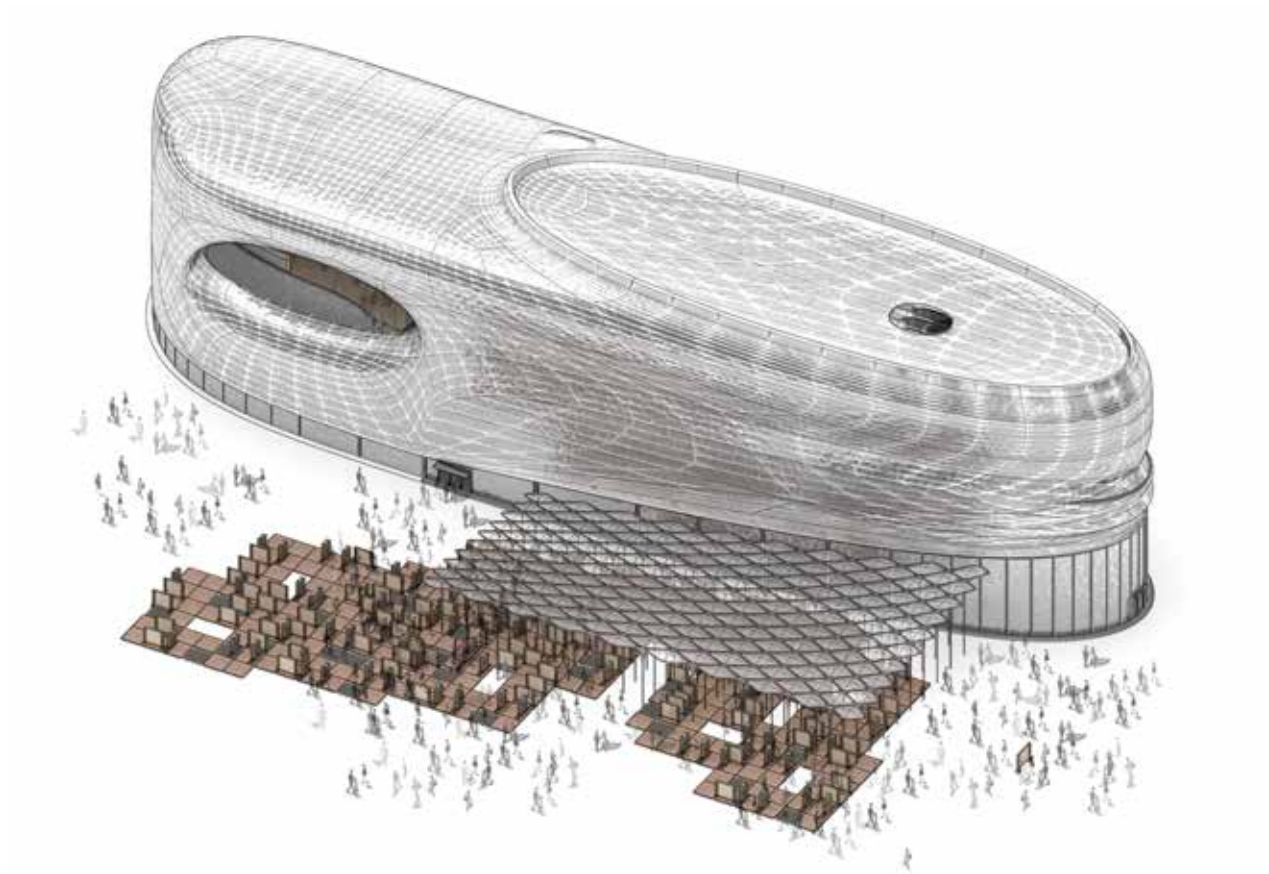
Located in Kingsford, this project involves a second-story addition to an existing townhouse, adding two bedrooms and a cinema room. The scope also includes the remediation and renovation of an existing backyard shed affected by asbestos.



The scheme was driven by the goal of retaining the original roof to save on costs, with this rendering quickly developed to communicate that specific intent. The facade employs a simple language of low-cost materials and a white palette to meet the client's budget and aesthetic needs, with this rendering quickly produced to reflect the cost-driven brief.



I used this project as a technical exercise in structural integration and Revit documentation. My focus was on resolving the junctions between the new and existing fabric, while ensuring the construction sets strictly addressed hazardous material safety and SEPP 2021 compliance.



*Thank you, hope you enjoy my work.  
To see more of my projects, please visit:  
[nianli.studio](http://nianli.studio)*

*Nian Li  
T +61 427994570  
E [nianlistudio@gmail.com](mailto:nianlistudio@gmail.com)*