



WESTFORT WORK INCUBATOR

a historical leper colony in transition

G.J.Jansen 04-07-2017



INTRODUCING WESTFORT

1897 >

New Pretoria Leper Asylum

Nieuwe Leprozen Gesticht (Afrikaans)

100 patients



Pretoria
(Capital of the Transvaal)



Entrance Westfort 1901
source: digitallibrary.usc.edu

1897 >

New Pretoria Leper Asylum

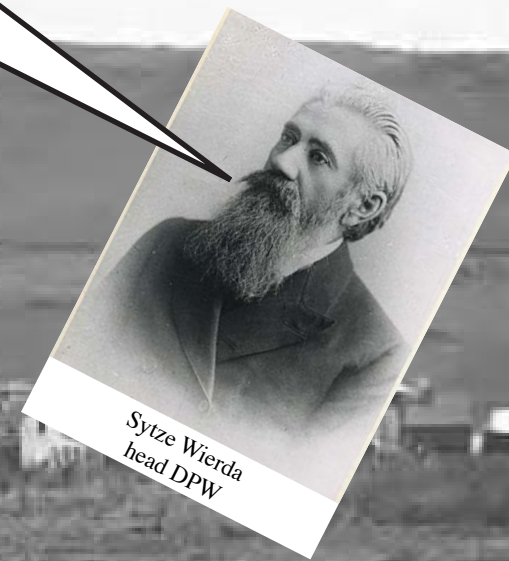
Nieuwe Leprozen Gesticht (Afrikaans)

100 patients



Pretoria
(Capital of the Transvaal)

...heid van geboue in 1896 aandag geniet. By die ontwerp van die geboue van die inrigting vir melaatses het die volgende riglyne vir die Hoof van Publieke Werke en sy personeel gegeld: „Dat zij op de mees humane wijze een aangenaam en aantrekkelijk verblijf moet zijn, voor ongelukkigen, die door eene ongeneeselijke besmettelijke kwaal levenslang aan dié plek gebonden zijn.”



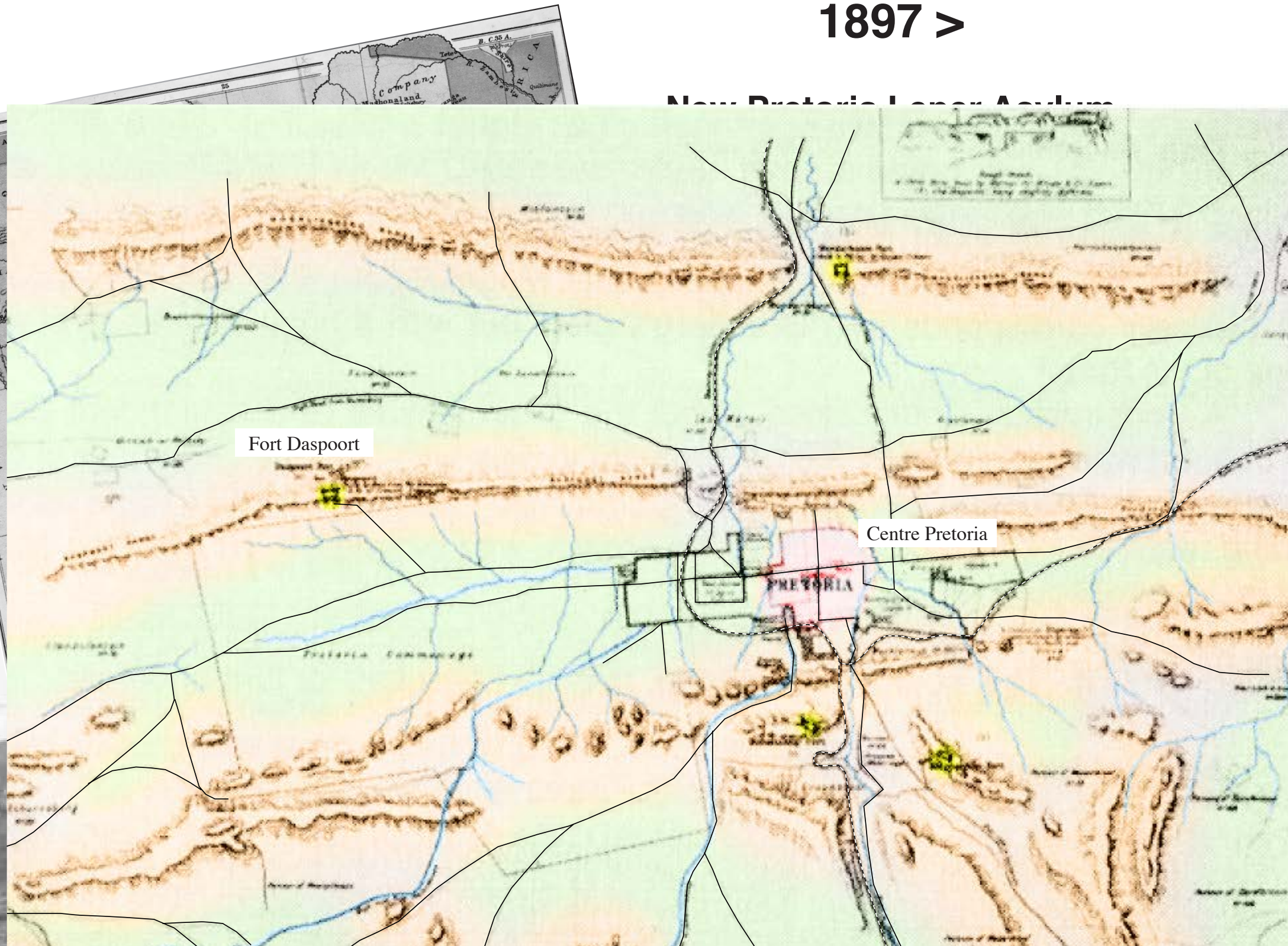
Sytze Wierda
head DPW



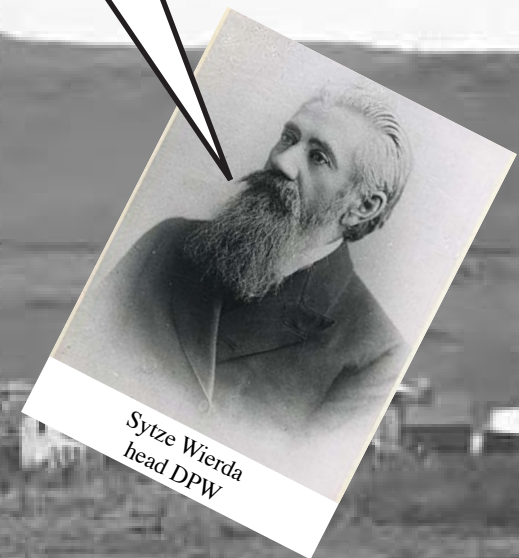
Entrance Westfort 1901
source: digitallibrary.usc.edu

1897 >

New Pretoria Leprosy Asylum



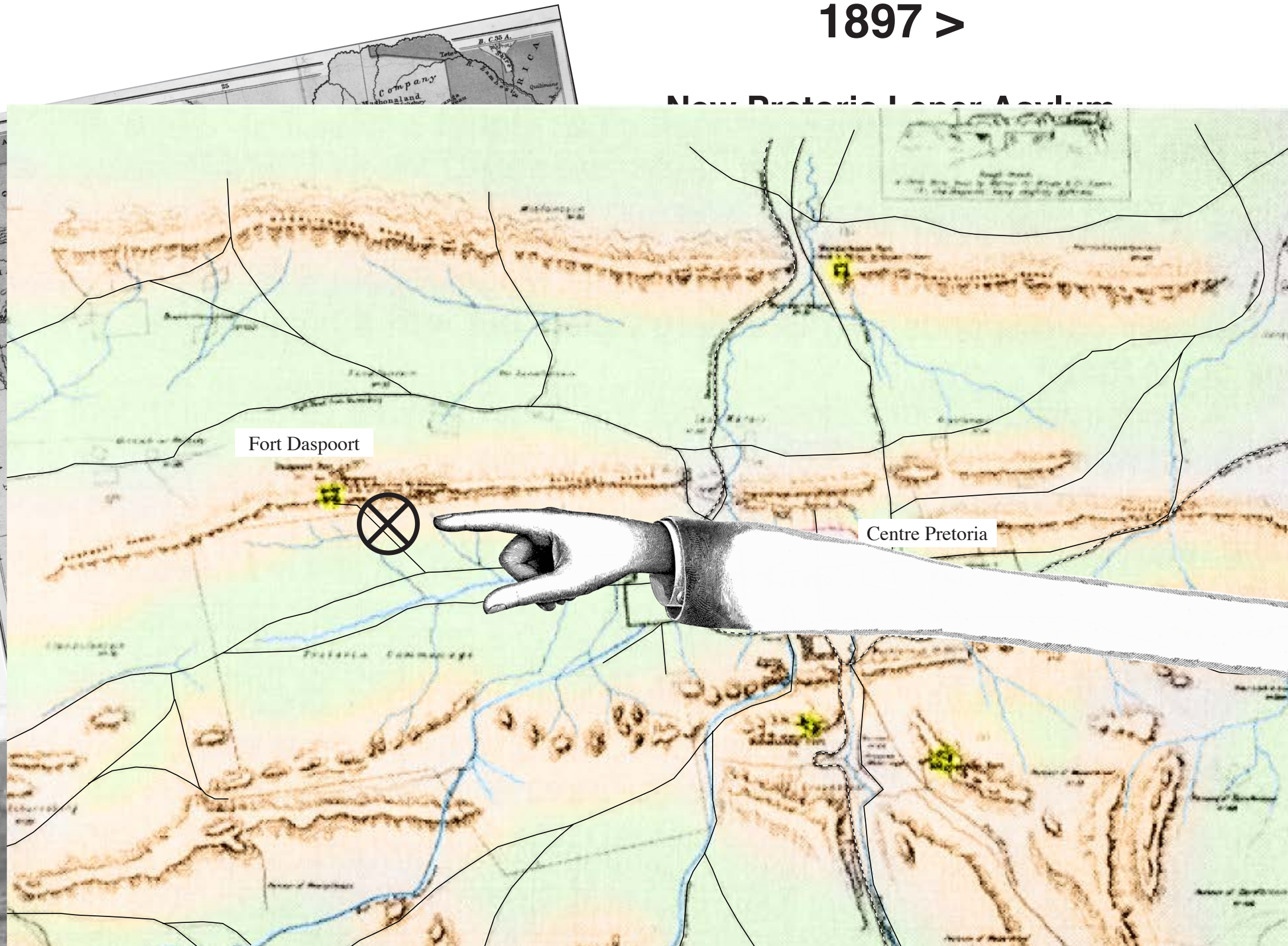
Waar zal ik het lepra gesticht bouwen?



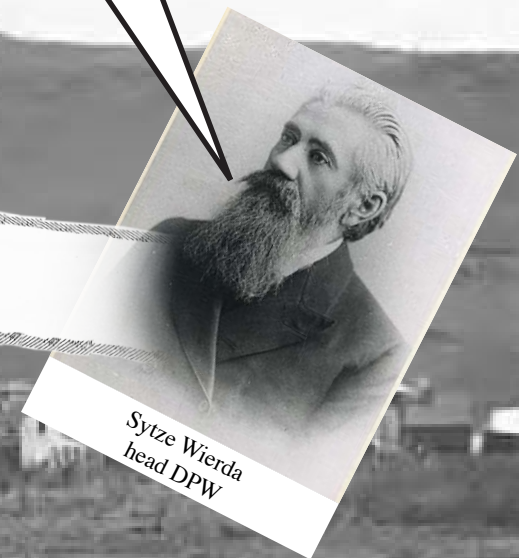
Entrance Westfort 1901
source: digitallibrary.usc.edu

1897 >

New Pretoria Local Authority



Hier! 10 km buiten de stad op de weg
naar Fort Daspoort.



Entrance Westfort 1901
source: digitallibrary.usc.edu

1897 >

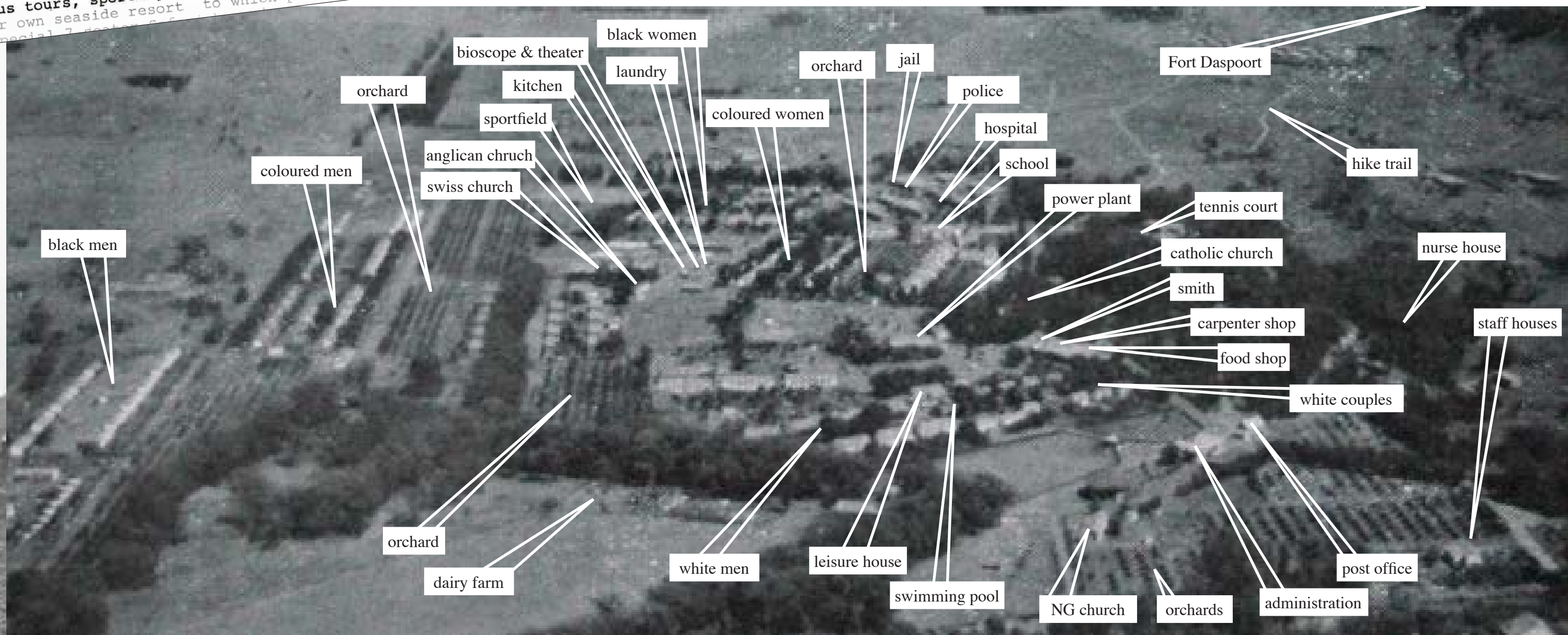
1927 >

Westfort Leper Institution

Wesfort Melaatse Instelling (Afrikaans)

peak: ± 2.000 leper patients

In the early 1900's the institution ran its own farm which functioned as an independant village complete with a shop, post office, police office, gaol, church and school. Eventually the institute had its own carpenter shop, smithy, book maker shop, laundry, dairy, orchards and produce farm. Some of these old buildings still exist but are badly in need of repair. Recreation facilities were provided in the form of a bioscope, concerts, bus tours, sporting facilities and library. They even had their own seaside resort to which patients were transported by special 7-deck motor bus.



Aerial Photo Westfort 1956
Source: National Archives of South Africa

1897 >

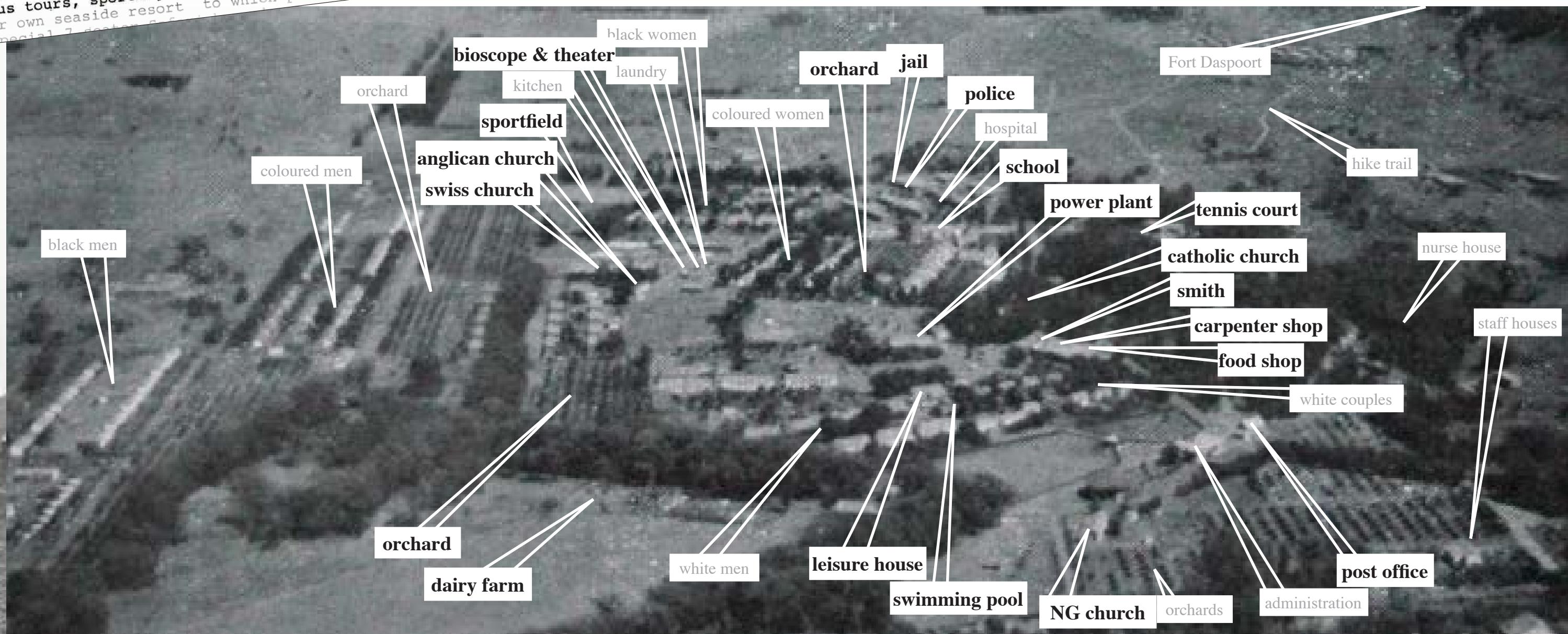
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Aerial Photo Westfort 1956
Source: National Archives of South Africa

1897 > 1927 >

1997 >

Closed & Abandoned

small group of patients & staff left



1897 > 1927 > 1997 >

2006 >

Informal Settlement

2015: ± 4.000 inhabitants

**Interdict against squatters
in former leper colony**

ZELDA VENTER

The unlawful occupiers of several houses at the historic leper colony at ...
houses on the premises. She said they gained entry to the property using a back road, and accordingly sidestepped the security measures in place at the main gate.



Extension of informal house in old patient wards.
Photo: Gerben Jansen

1897 > 1927 > 1997 > 2006 >

FUTURE ?

Function ?

Occupants?



Call to rezone West Fort

Make ex-asylum residential, say people in informal settlement

PATRICK HLAHLA
METRO REPORTER

THE WEST Fort Residents' Organisation has called for the rezoning of the

Matjui. He said the resident's organisation was surprised when the ANC bussed residents to Danville and Elandspoort to vote on election day, April 22.

"They only recognise us when it

ing a burden of this community" Mayoral spokeswoman Tina Mokoena said she was not aware of the memoranda sent by the residents' organisation.

"It might be that the memor

A blurred photograph of a street scene in Westfort. In the foreground, a red car is driving towards the left. In the background, a white bus is visible. Two people are standing on the sidewalk on the right side of the image. The background includes trees and buildings, all of which are blurred to create a sense of motion.

**IS IT IMPORTANT TO LET WESTFORT PLAY A
ROLE IN THE FUTURE?**

A blurred photograph of a street scene in Westfort. In the foreground, a red car is moving towards the left. In the background, a white bus is visible. Two people are walking on the right side of the street. The scene is slightly out of focus, emphasizing the text overlay.

**IS IT IMPORTANT TO LET WESTFORT PLAY A
ROLE IN THE FUTURE?**

YES

historical architectural value

Part of Canon Public Works ZAR (1887 -1902)



historic healthcare value

Only remaining leper colony in SA

Caught Lepers from Robben Island



design & contextual value

Picturesque “village” in beautiful landscape



community value

Unique Informal Community



historic architectural value

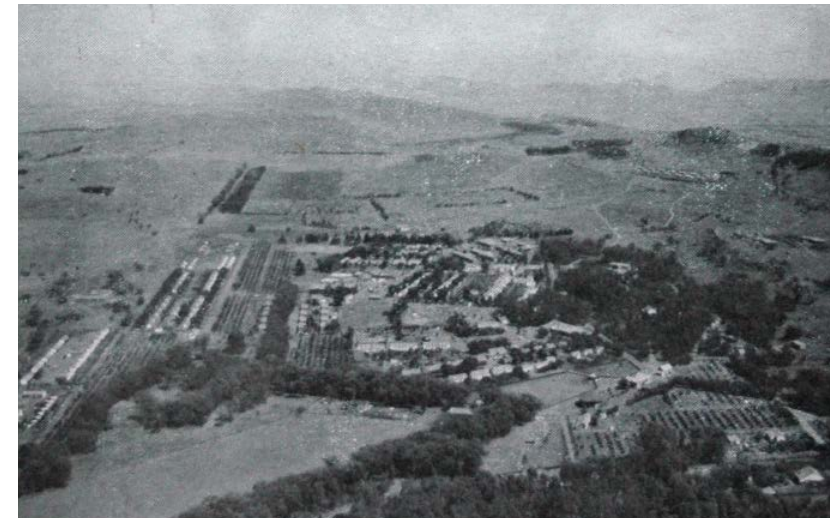
**Part of Canon Public
Works ZAR
(1887 -1902)**



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Housed Lepers from Robben Island



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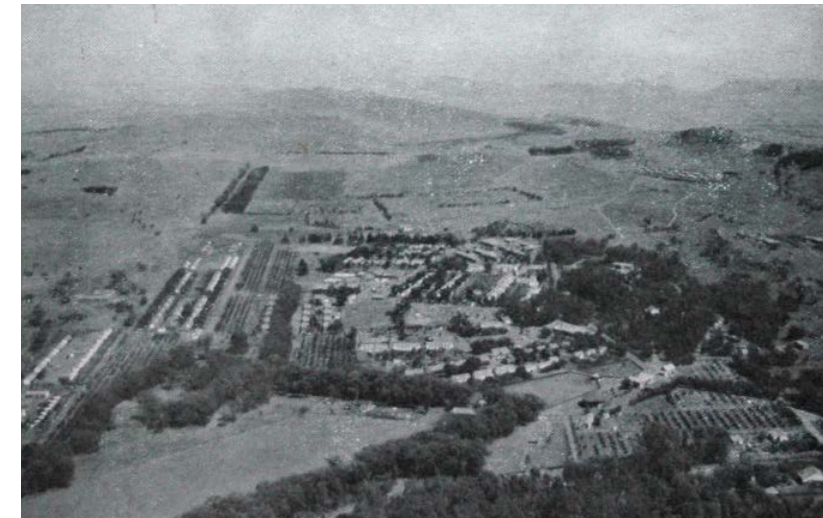
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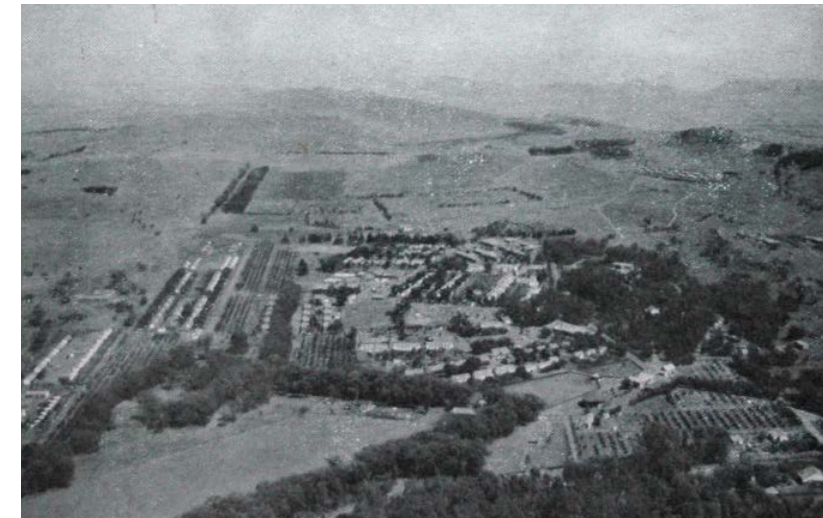
Part of Canon Public Works ZAR (1887 -1902)



historic healthcare value

Only remaining leprocy INTERNATIONAL colony in SA

Caught Lepers from Robben Island



design & contextual value

Picturesque “village” in beautiful landscape



community value

Unique Informal Community



SEPARATION



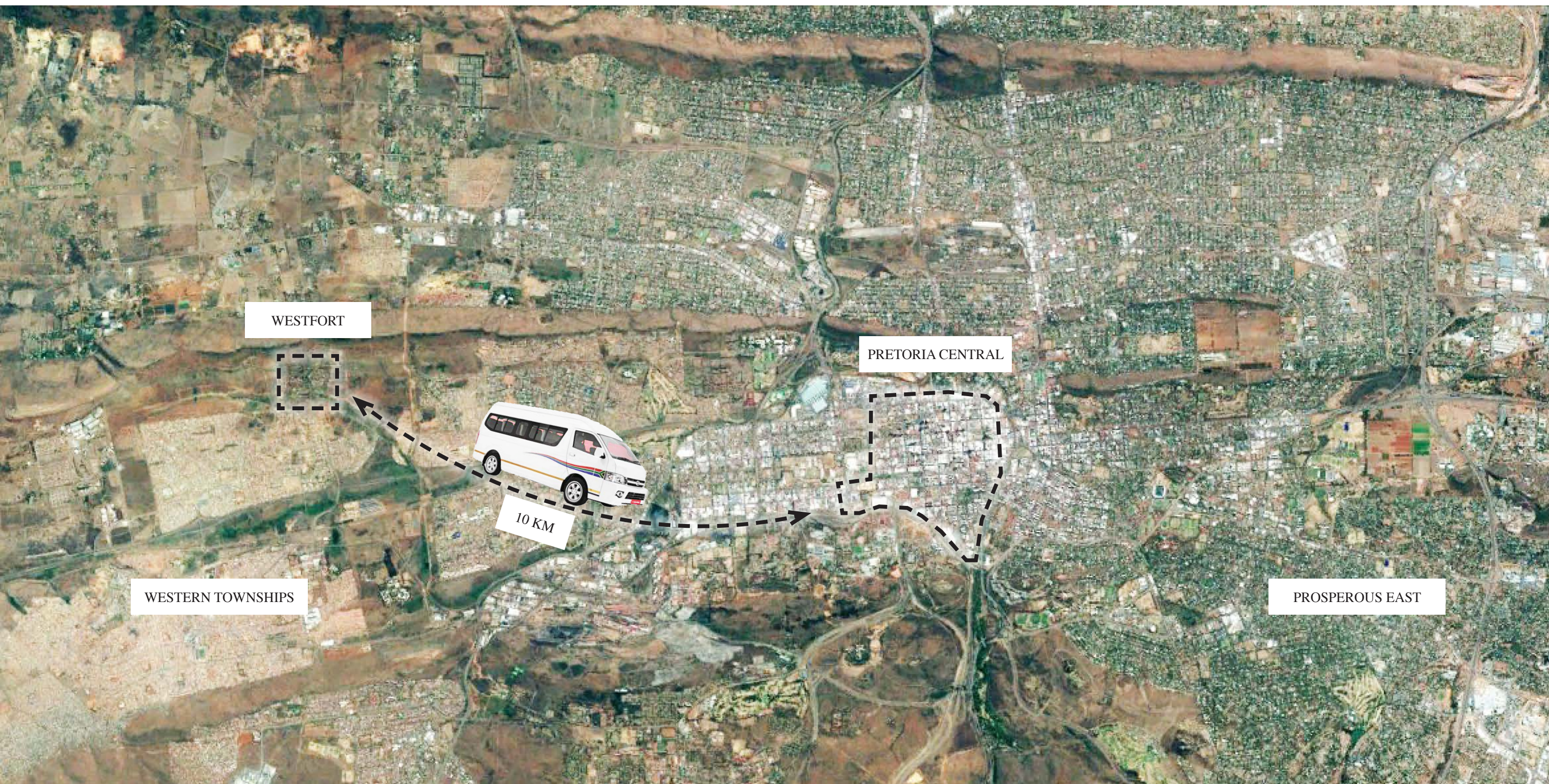
CONNECTION



Westfort as a centre for the area where **entrepreneurship** is promoted.

BEELD VAN WORKCENTRE MET
WERKENDE MENSEN

VISION



*“The **current population of Westfort** is made up of **mostly unemployed people of all ages**, majority **black** with a minority **white**, speaking a combination of **Sotho, Zulu, English and Afrikaans.**”*

B. Saccaggi & T. Delpont, J. of community arch. and heritage, Vol. 2 No. 1, February, 2015, 40–56



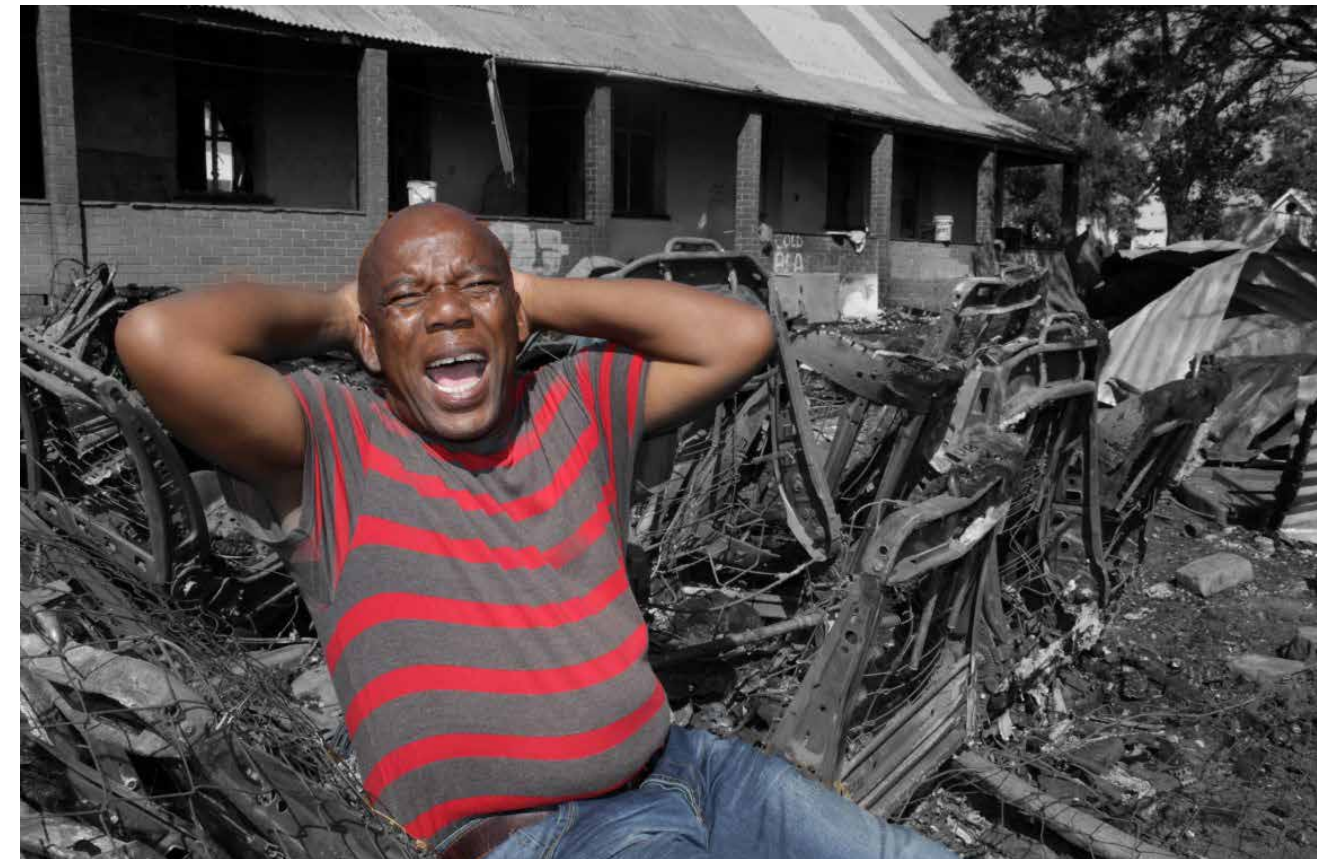
PROS

- diverse community
- initiatives for work and community come from people **themselves**
- heart for Westfort (social & heritage)

SCALE WESTFORT

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PROS

- diverse community
- initiatives for work and community come from community **themselves**
- heart for Westfort (social & heritage)

CONS

- poverty
- unemployment
- crime, drug abuse
- no *good* facilities
- no means proper maintenance

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NATIONAL SCALE

Junk status: Artisans can still thrive

May 23 2017 05:00 Lameez Omarjee



Johannesburg – The credit downgrade is not all doom and gloom, as it can present business opportunities for artisans, said economist Mike Schüssler.

Schüssler was speaking about the impact of the credit downgrade at the UJ Convocation Leadership seminar on Monday.

Ratings agencies **Standard & Poor's** and **Fitch** downgraded South Africa's sovereign credit rating to junk following a midnight Cabinet reshuffle at the end of March which saw former finance minister Pravin Gordhan being replaced by former home affairs minister Malusi Gigaba.

Among the reasons given by the ratings agencies for the downgrade was policy uncertainty.

Schüssler unpacked how this uncertainty has a bearing on business and consumer confidence.

Schüssler suggested that it is unlikely the prime rate, to be announced later this week, will come down. This means consumers will have to pay more to borrow. "There's a 70% chance there's no decline."

The higher cost of borrowing will impact decisions to take on loans for vehicles and houses, explained Schüssler. "Car sales have dropped... People aren't going to show days for houses anymore," he said.

READ: Junk status: Hard times ahead for consumers

If fewer houses are being built, it will impact business for architects and even surveyors in the industry. This filters down to furniture sales and other businesses in the sector. On the flipside, this could also present an

- no facilities
- no means proper maintenance



RELATED ARTICLES

- Jonas: Don't tamper with economic policies
- Manuel willing to advise any Ramaphosa-led government
- We're not leaving SA over junk status - GM
- Give black farmers title deeds - department
- How being downgraded has affected countries around the world
- Downgrade fallout could still get worse, economist warns



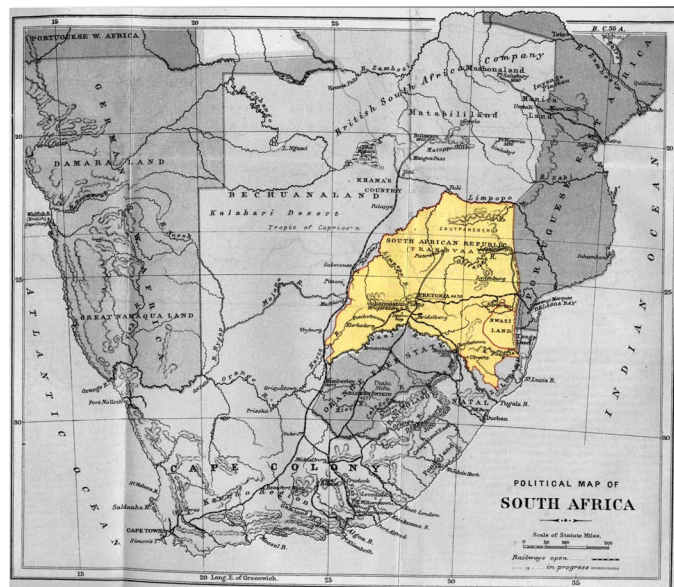
Zuid Afrikaansche Republiek / Transvaal (period 1881 -1902)



Paul Kruger
president



Sytze Wierda
head DPW



Zuid Afrikaansche Republiek



Raadsaal



Paleis van Justisie



Staatsdrukkery

British Occupation

Apartheid era

Union of South Africa

Republic of South Africa

Republic of South Africa (period 1994 - now)



Constitutional Court



Northern Cape Legislature

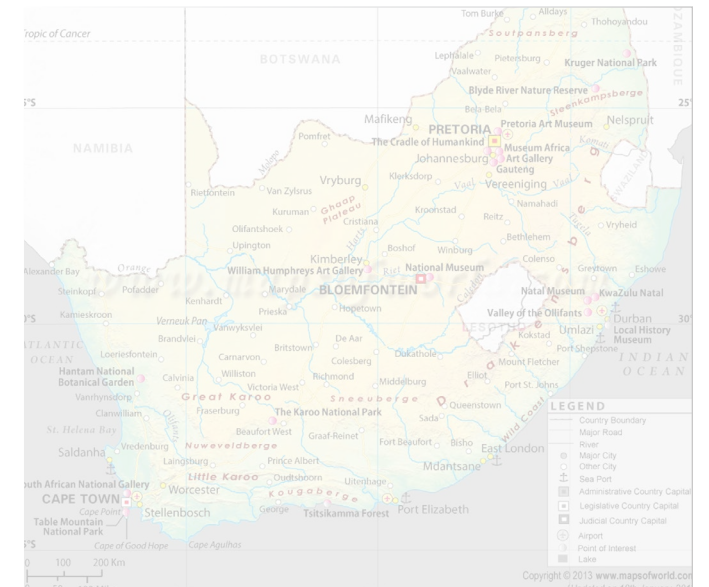


Red Location Museum



SA Architects

Nelson Mandela
president (1994-1999)



Republic of South Africa

Eendragt maakt magt

Unity empowers

!ke e: /xarra //ke

Unity through diversity

Zuid Afrikaansche Republiek / Transvaal (period 1881 -1902)



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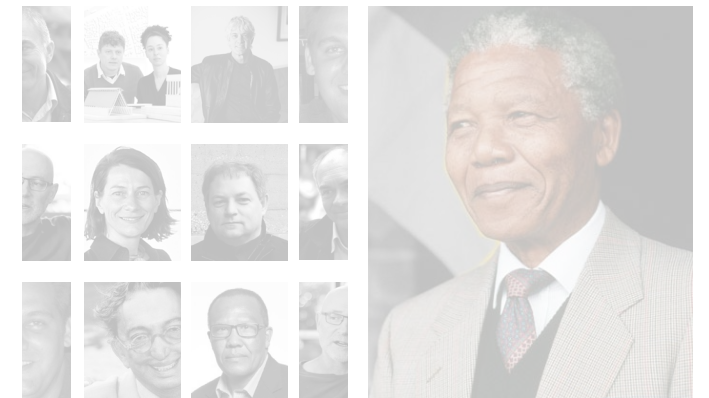
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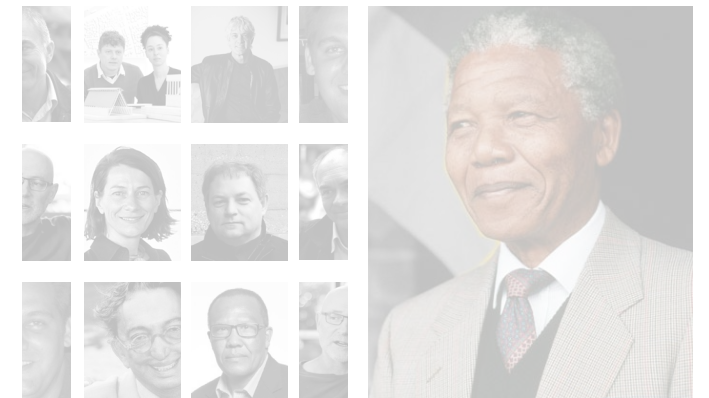
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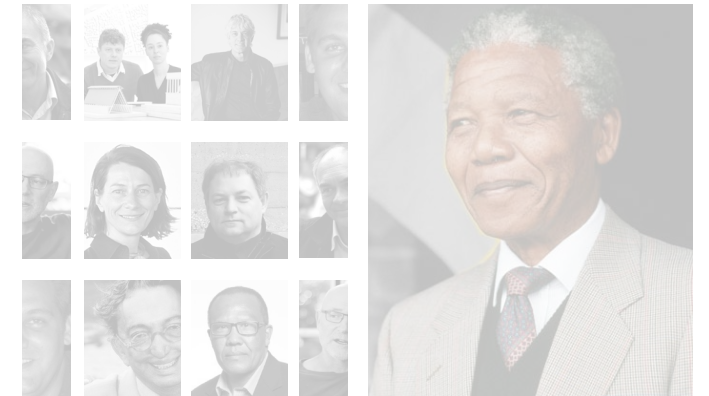
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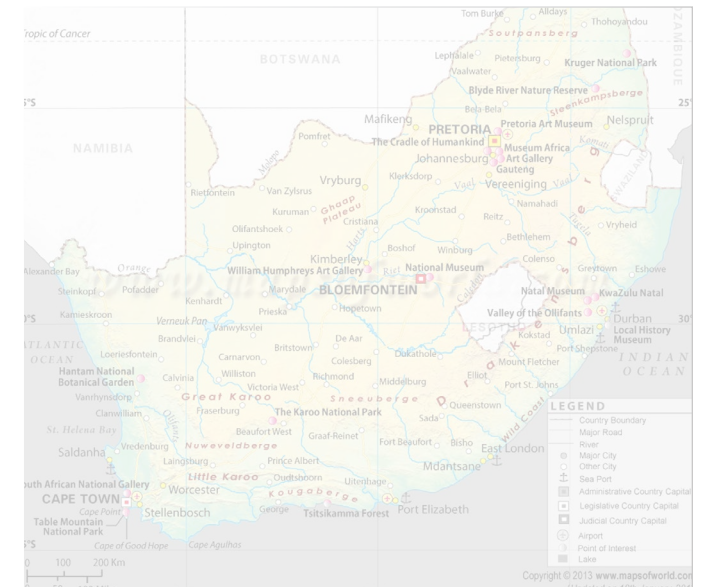


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Eendragt maakt magt

Unity empowers

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Unity through diversity

Nation Building

Zuid Afrikaansche Republiek / Transvaal (period 1881 -1902)



Eendragt maakt magt

Unity empowers

Republic of South Africa (period 1994 - now)

TENSION

British Occupation

Union of South Africa

Republic of South Africa



!ke e: /xarra //ke

Unity through diversity

Assignment to build a leper colony



“Dat zij op de **mees humane wijze** een **aangenaam** en **aantrekkelijk verblijf** moet zijn, voor ongelukkigen, die door eene ongeneeselijke besmettelijke kwaal **levenslang aan dié plek gebonden zijn**”

riglyne vir die Hoof van Publieke Werke en sy personeel

Building Westfort



1903

**IDEALS
19th C
HOSPITAL
ARCHITECTURE**

WESTFORT

**IDEALS
ZAR**

Building Westfort



1903

IDEALS
19th C
HOSPITAL
ARCHITECTURE

WESTFORT

IDEALS
ZAR

Building Westfort



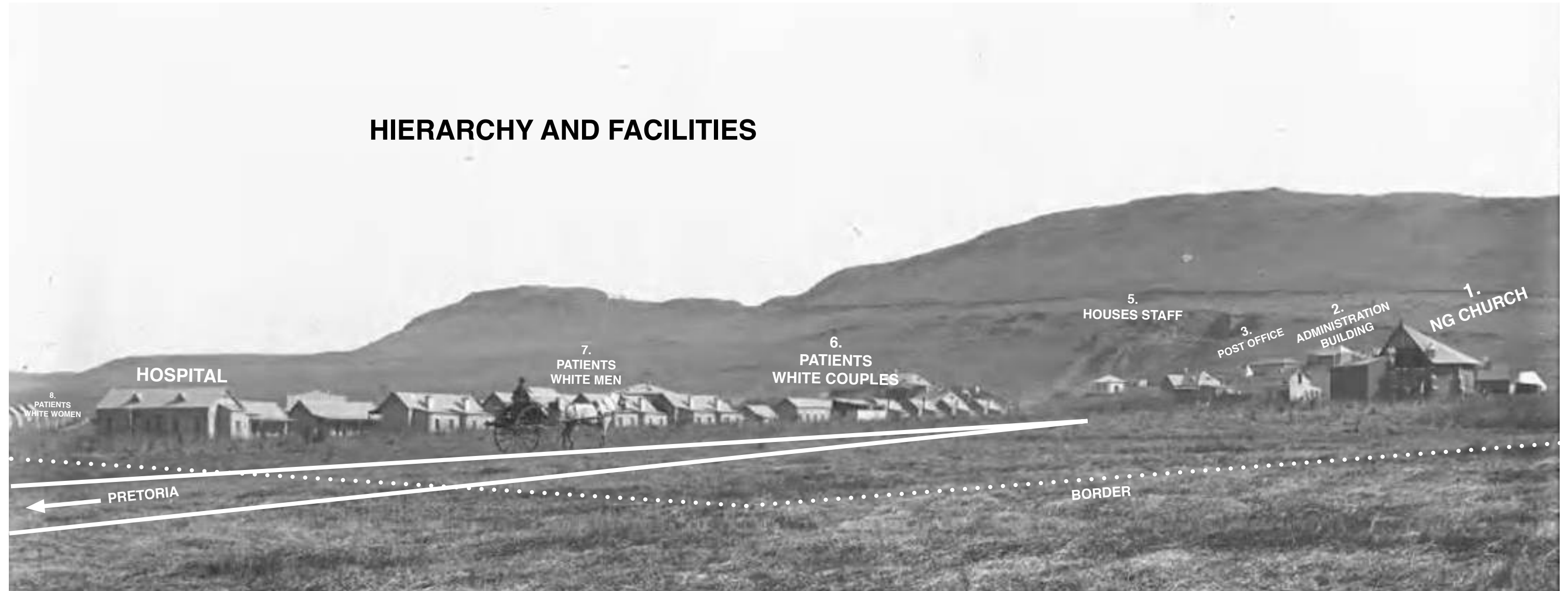
1903

IDEALS
19th C
HOSPITAL
ARCHITECTURE

WESTFORT

IDEALS
ZAR

HIERARCHY AND FACILITIES



1903

IDEALS
19th C
HOSPITAL
ARCHITECTURE

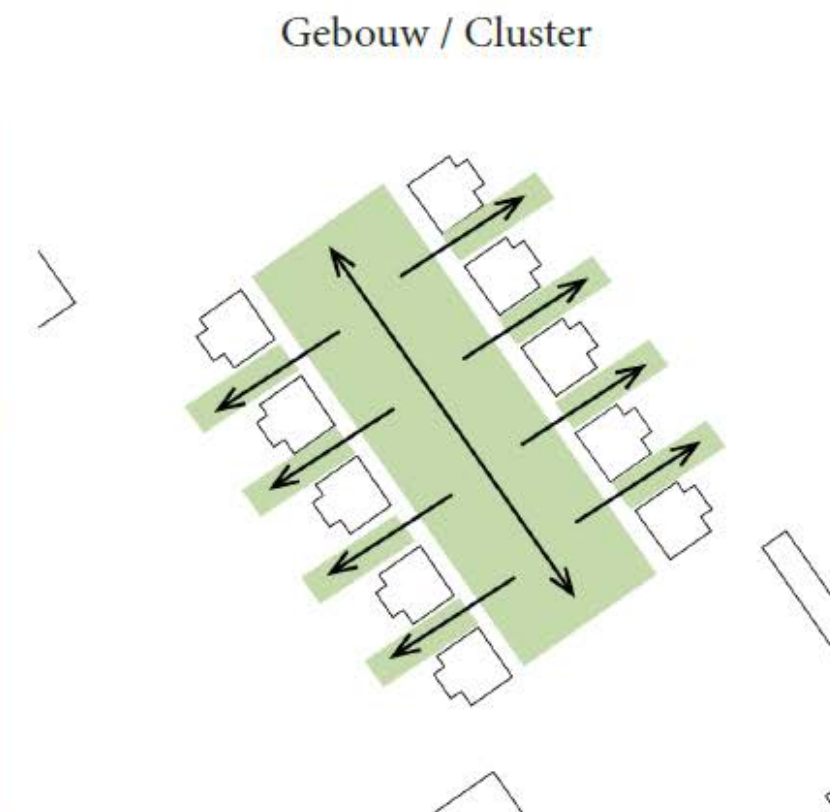
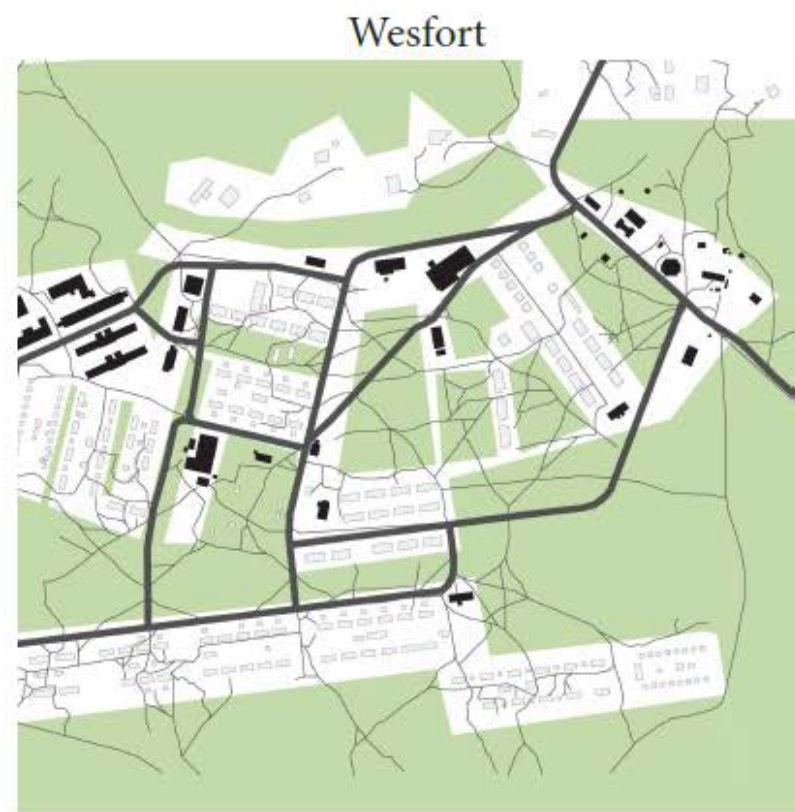
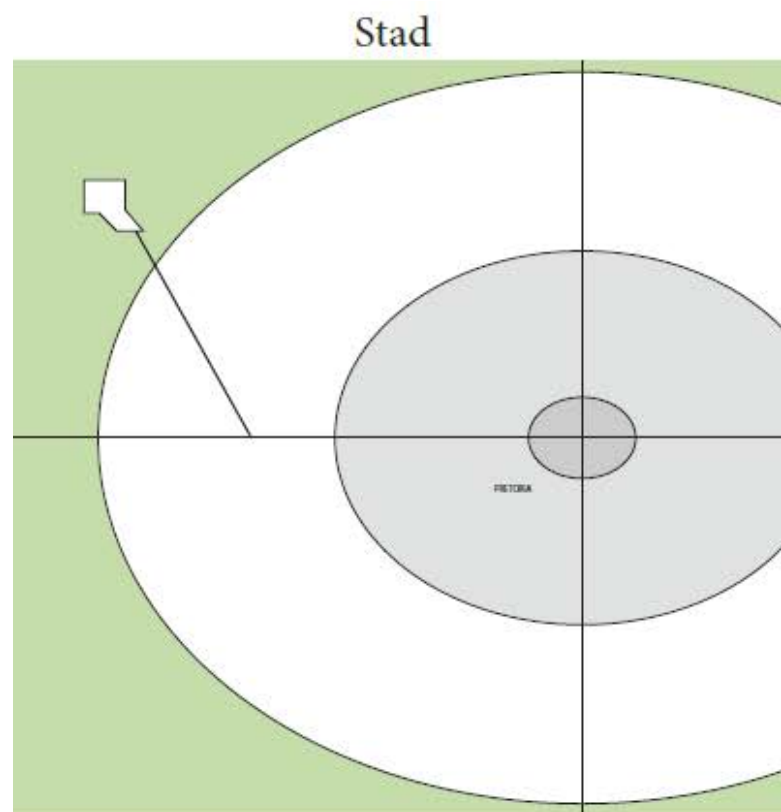
WESTFORT

IDEALS
ZAR

Characteristics Westfort

SEPARATION

on all levels



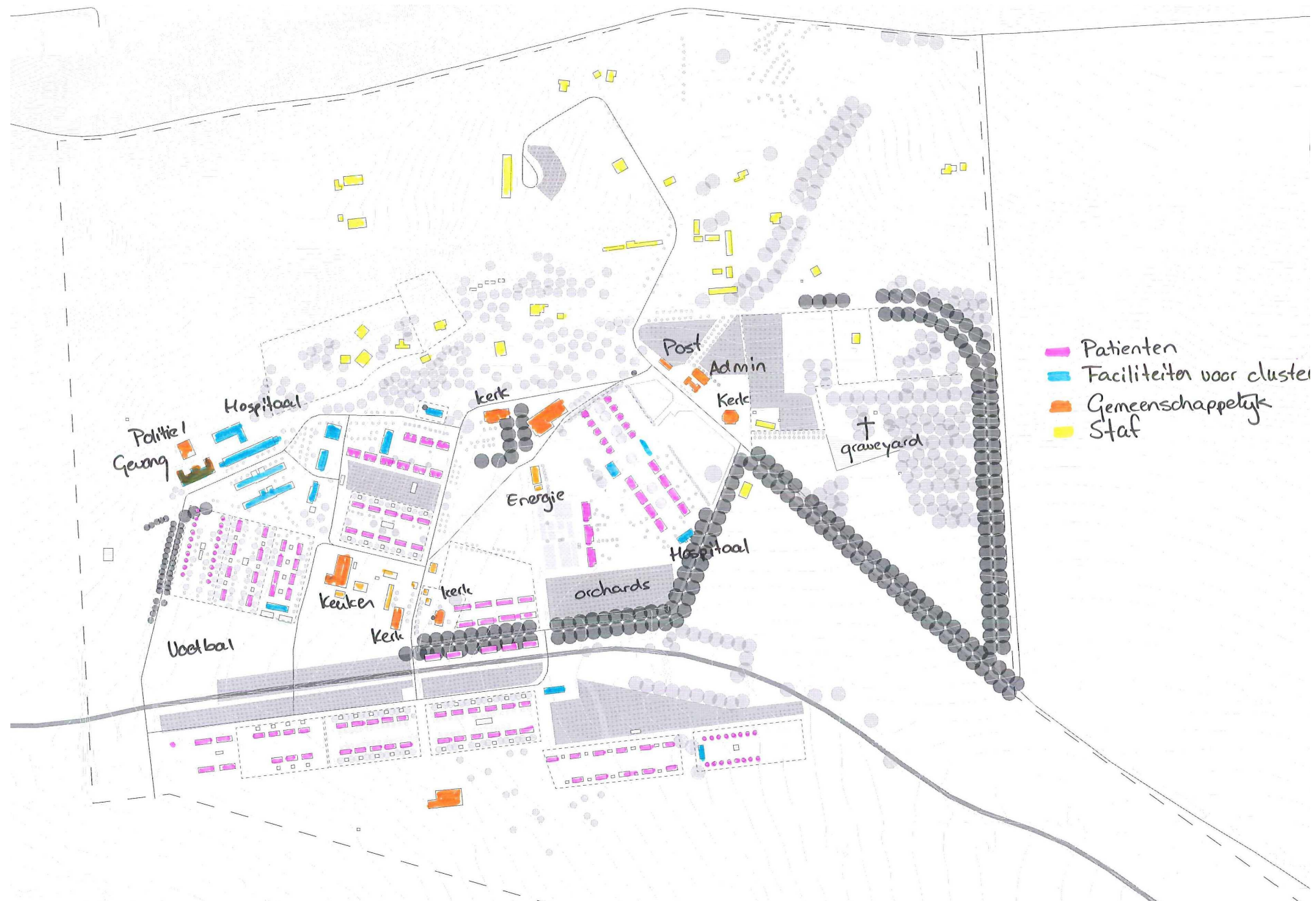
Characteristics Westfort

SET UP

Westfort as representation of
ideal ZAR community

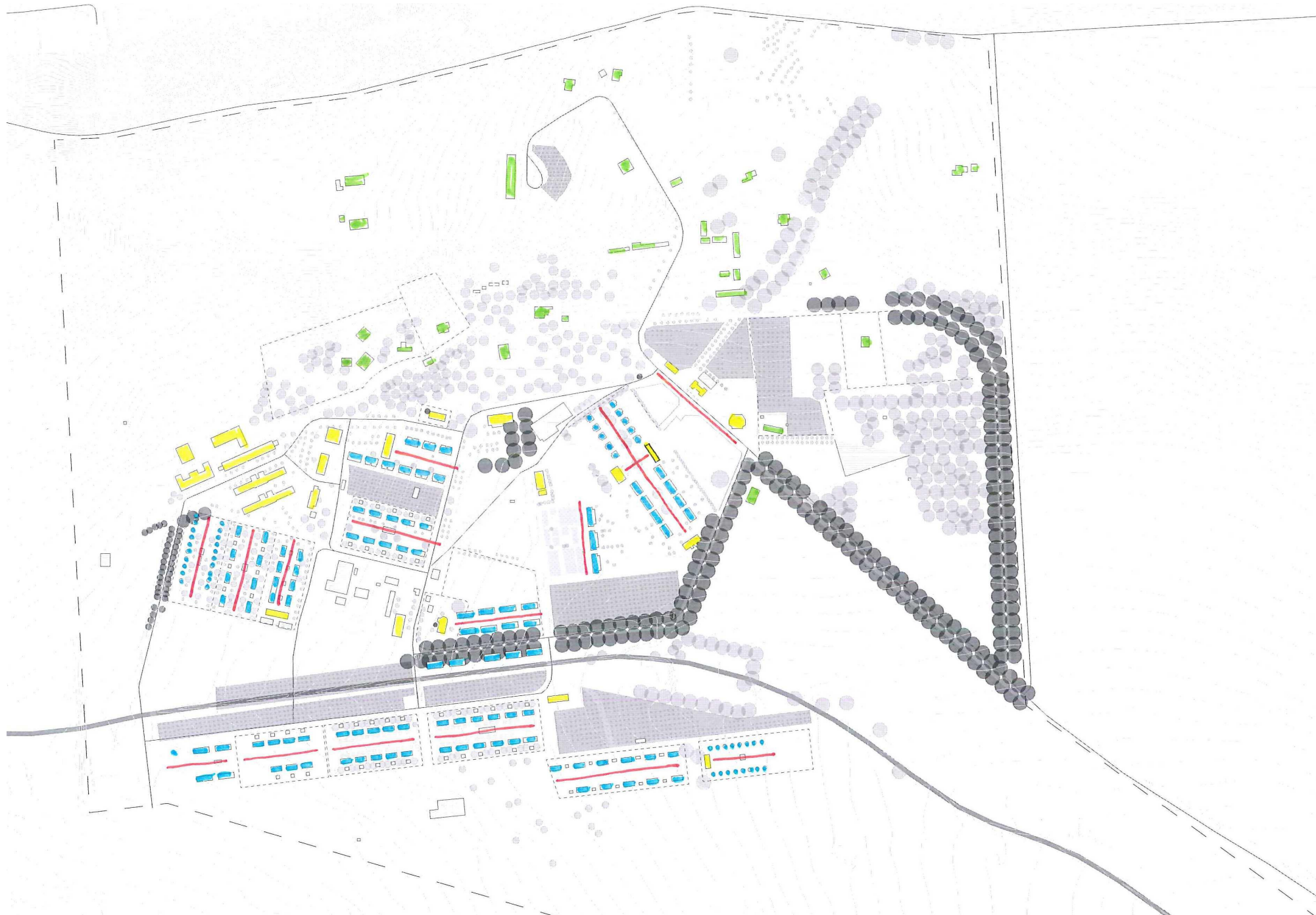


19th C hospital architecture



STRUCTURE

symmetrical clusters and free standing buildings



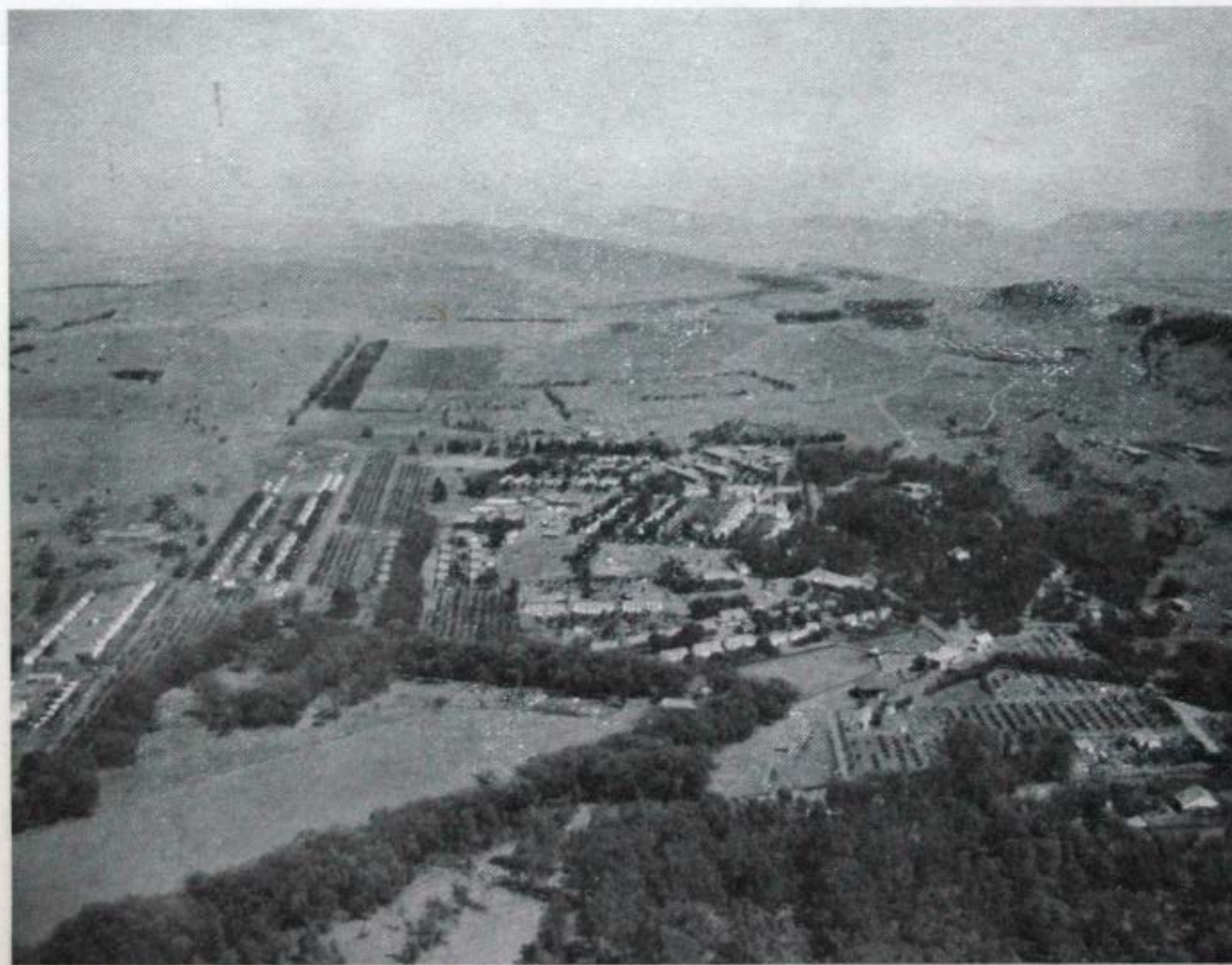
WESFORT AS MODEL SOCIETY

**IDEALS
19th C
HOSPITAL
ARCHITECTURE**

**IDEALS
1920s
HOSPITAL
ARCHITECTURE**

**IDEALS
1950s
HOSPITAL
ARCHITECTURE**

**IDEALS
FUTURE FUNCTION**



1956

**IDEALS
ZAR**

**IDEALS
UNION OF SA**

**IDEALS
APARTHEID
ERA**

**IDEALS
FUTURE SA**

WESTFORT = IN DECAY



2004

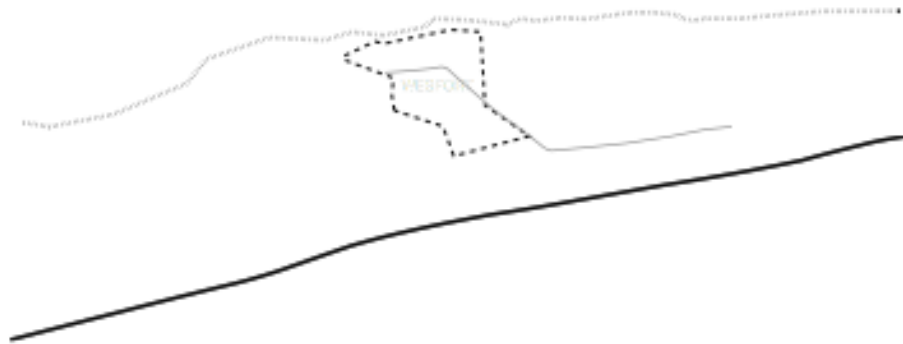


2016

- open space neglected
- borders fade away
- green disappears
- buildings are broken down

Westfort Nowadays

Pressure of surrounding developments



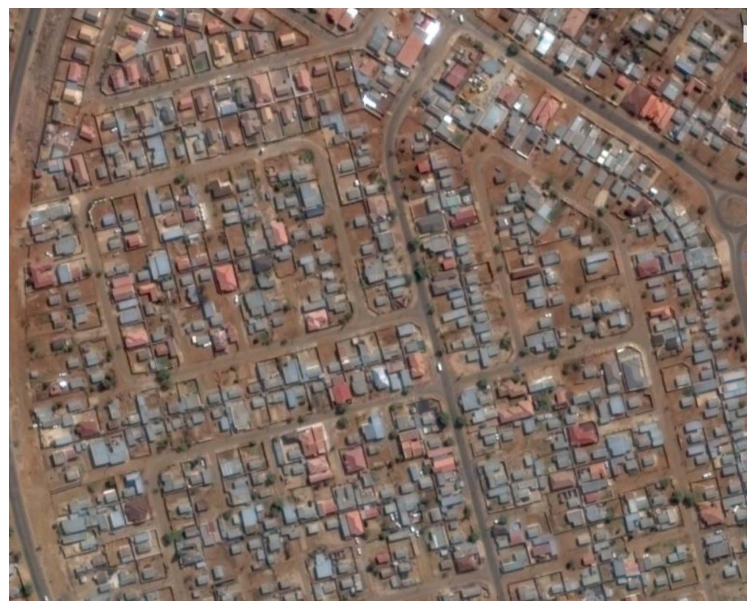
1890s



2016



future?

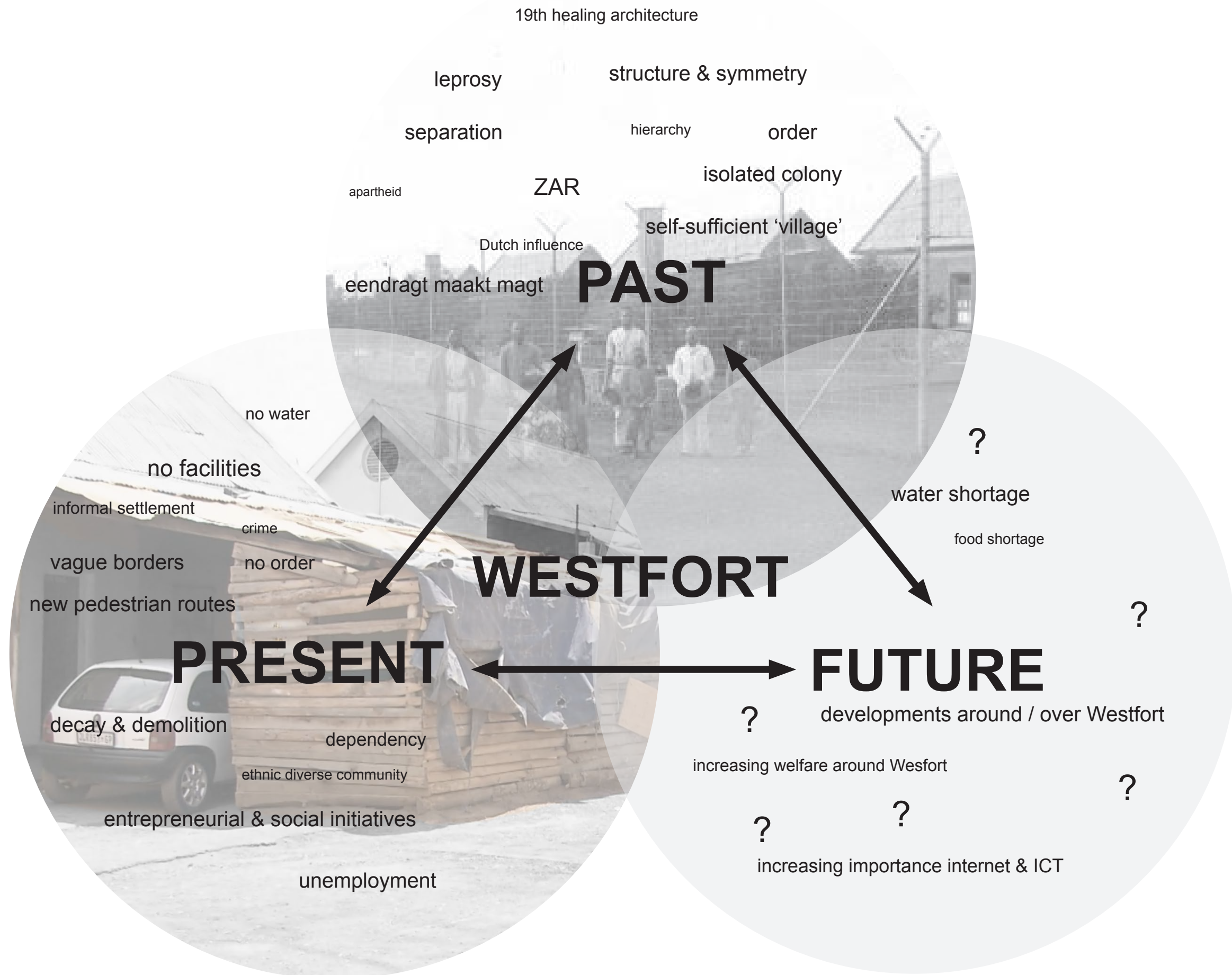


- monotone
- mainly low income housing
- not pedestrian friendly
- lack of public space
- lack of commercial space
- no public green space

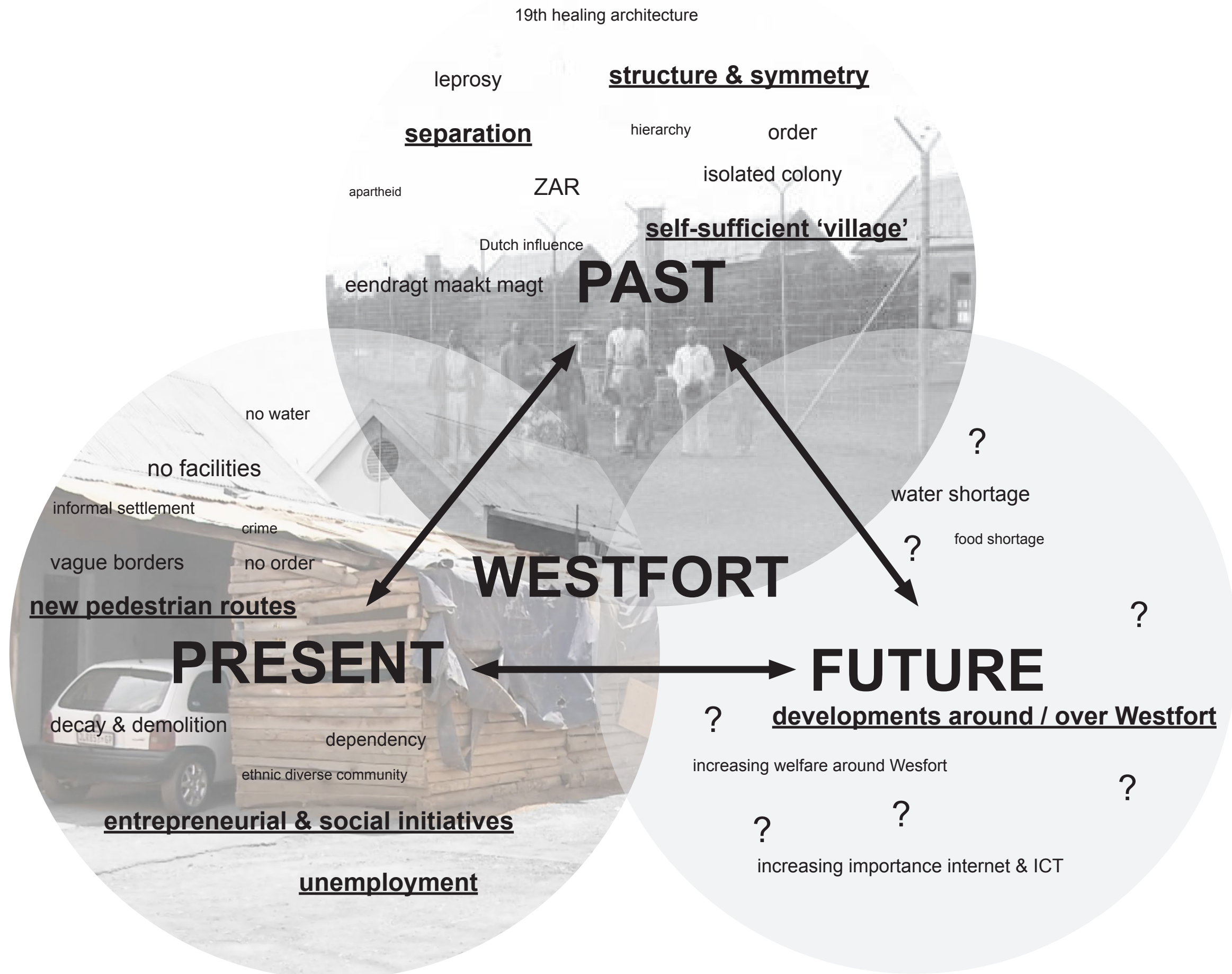


PROBLEM STATEMENT & DESIGN QUESTION

Issues Westfort



Issues Westfort





FUNCTION



DESIGN

WORK

Westfort and its surrounding area have a **high unemployment rate** and **do not offer good facilities promoting entrepreneurship and social projects.**



PUBLIC SPACE

Westfort and its surrounding area **lack** proper **public and green space** and a proper area where the **community can gather.**



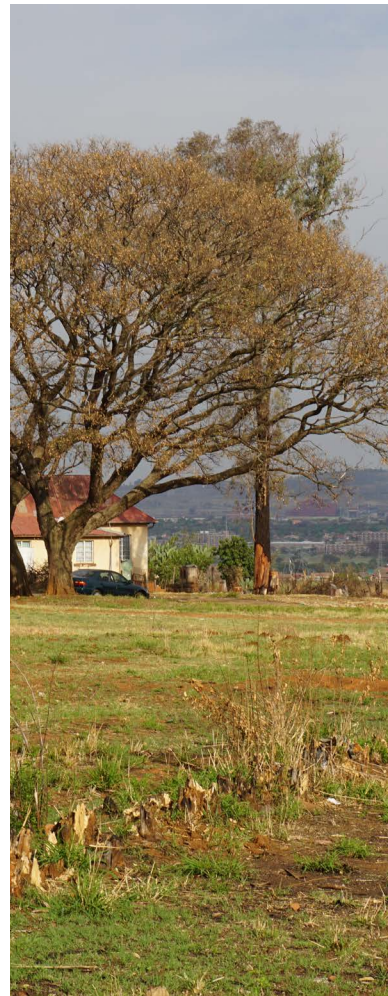
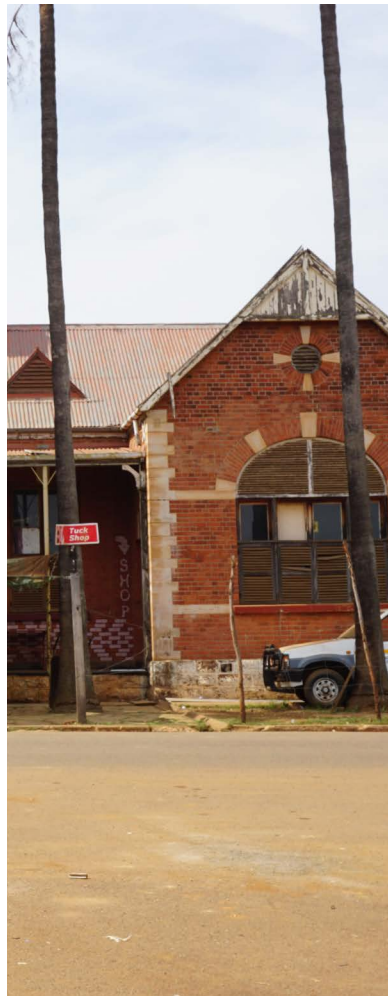
VISITORS

The **monumental and scenic values** of **Westfort**, the **ridge and fort Daspoortrand** **do not come close to its potential** and are by this currently not appealing for tourists and visitors.



TRANSITION

Characteristic for Westfort is the sequence of different areas.

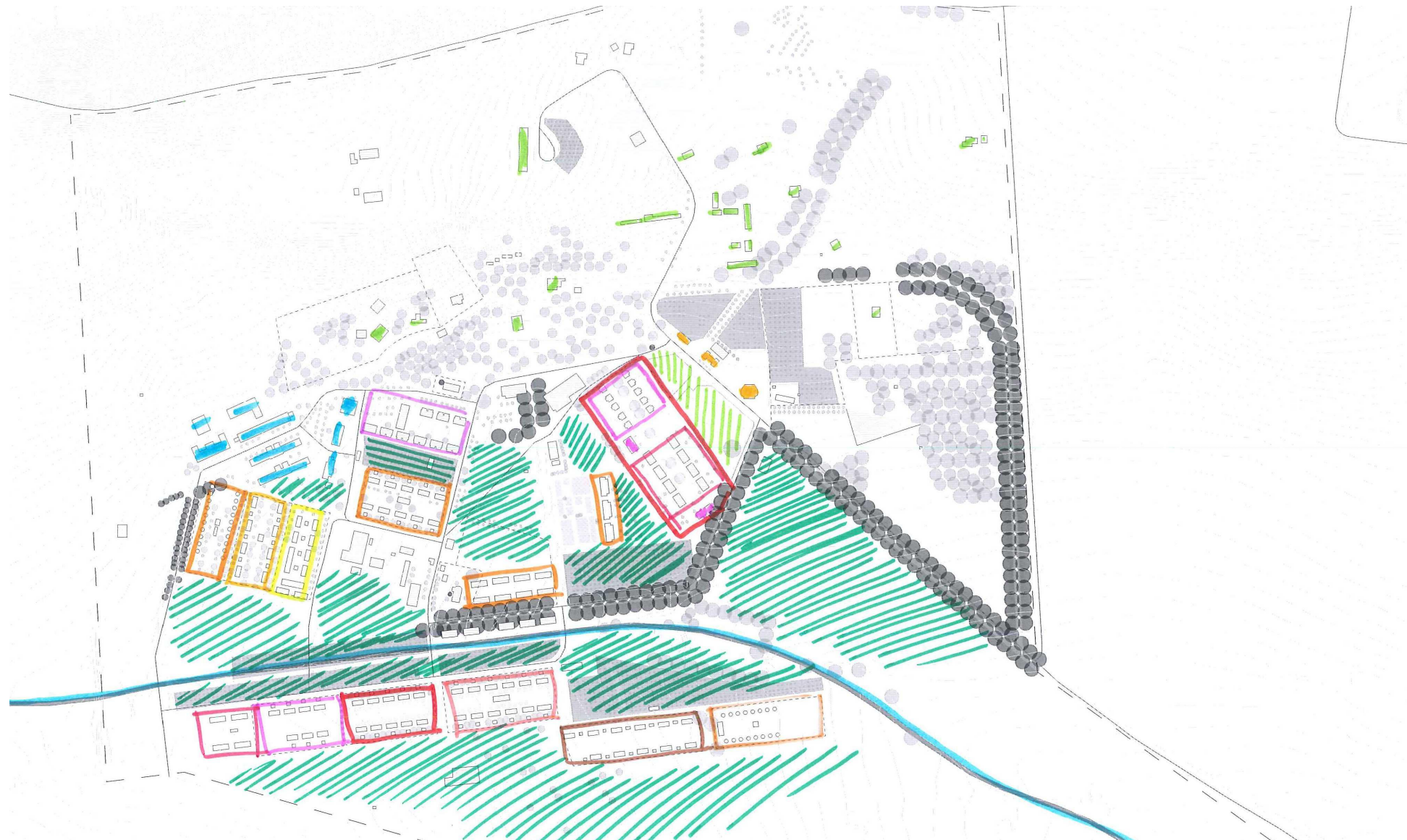


TRANSITION

Characteristic for Westfort is the sequence of different areas.



A result of separation.

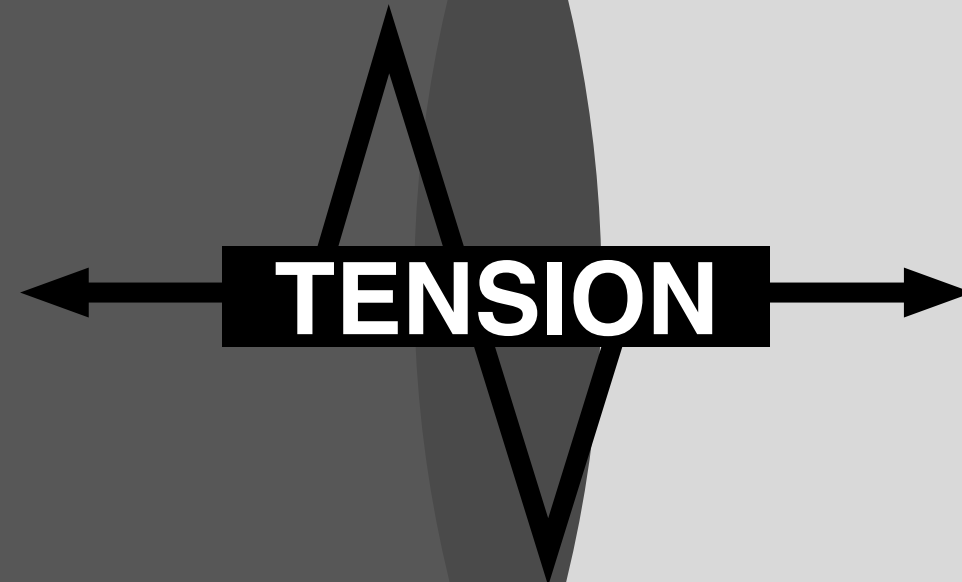


PAST SA

**CURRENT / FUTURE
SA**

SEPARATION

CONNECTION



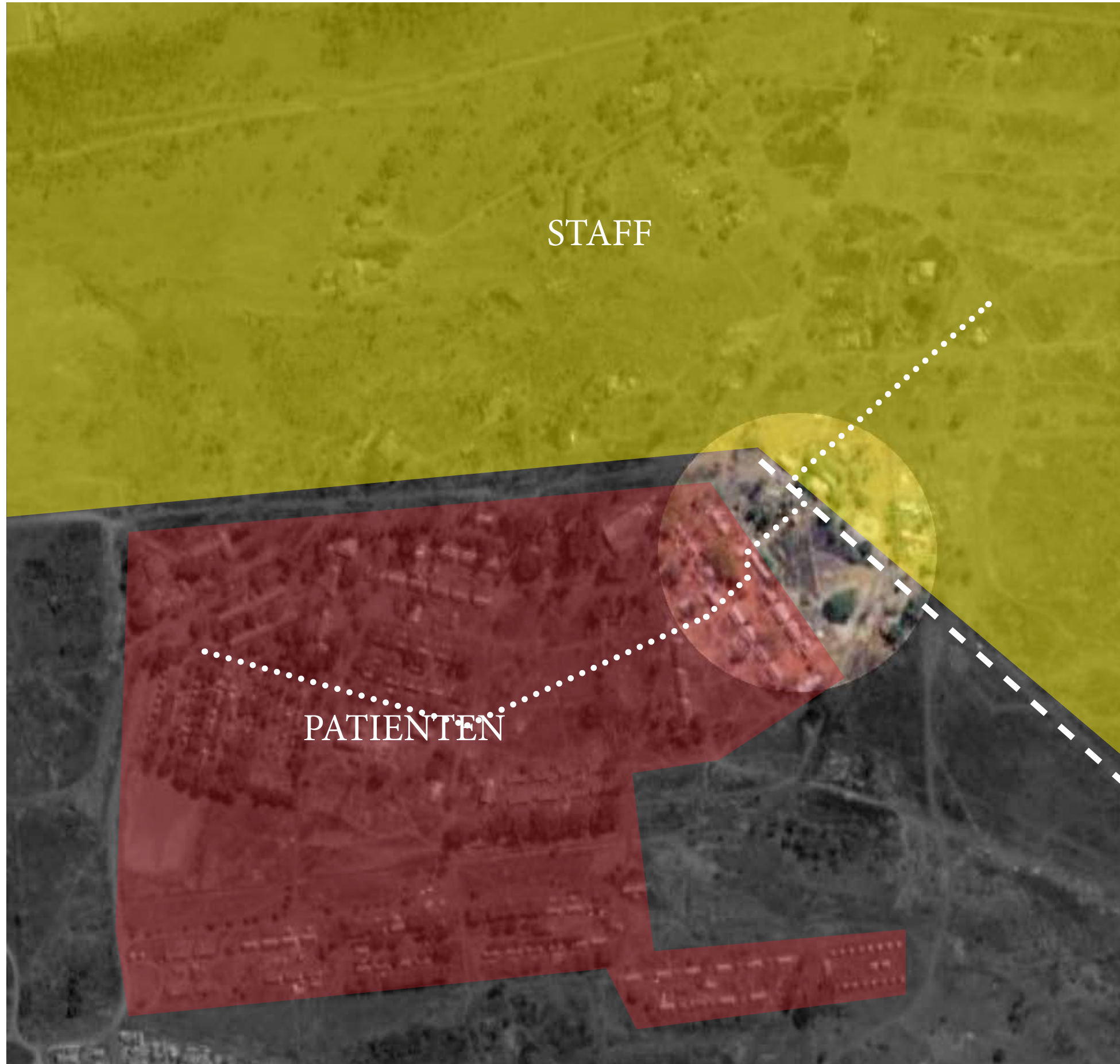
How can Wesfort get an public and open character in which the sequence of spaces is tangible?





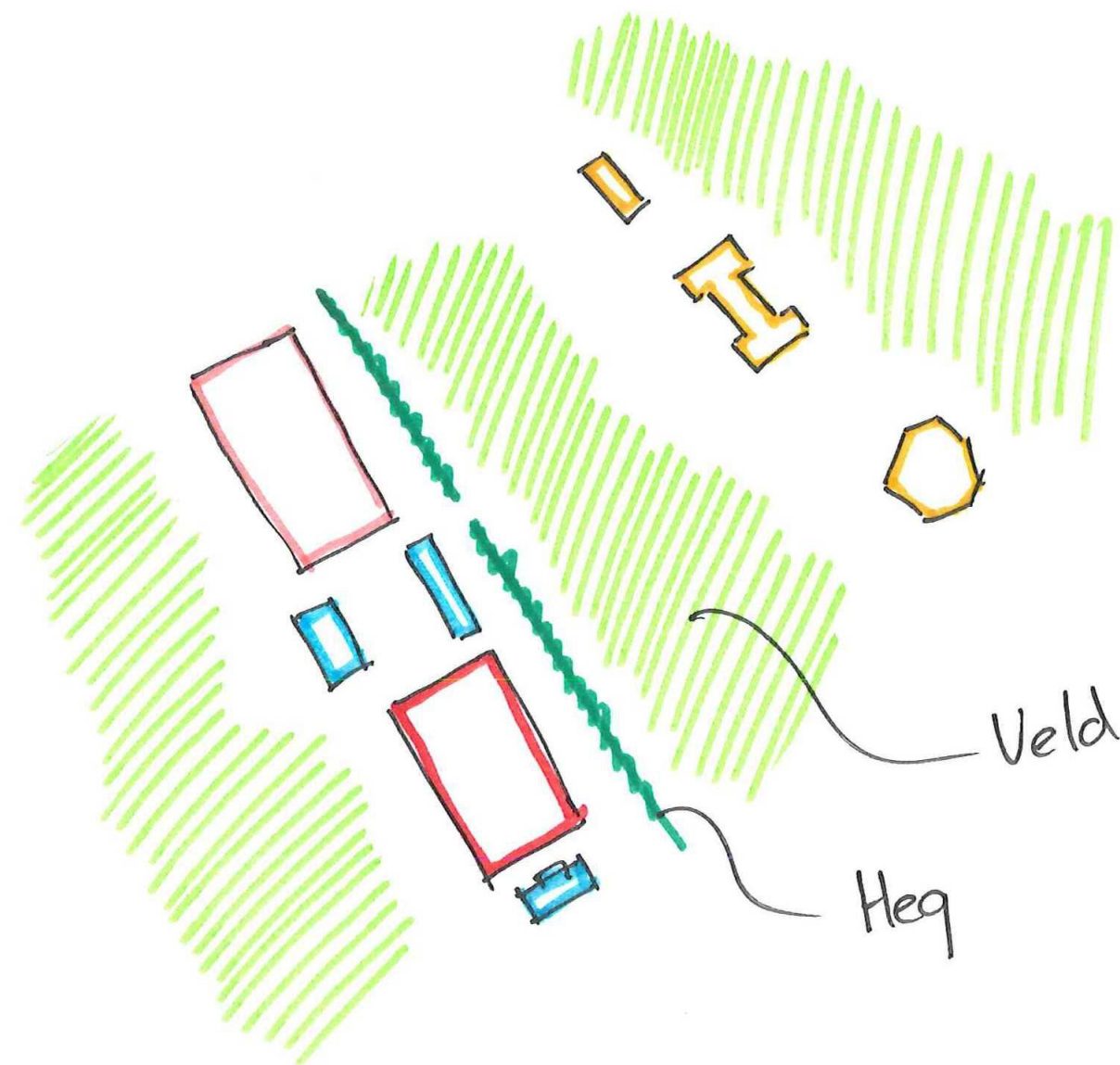
CONCEPT



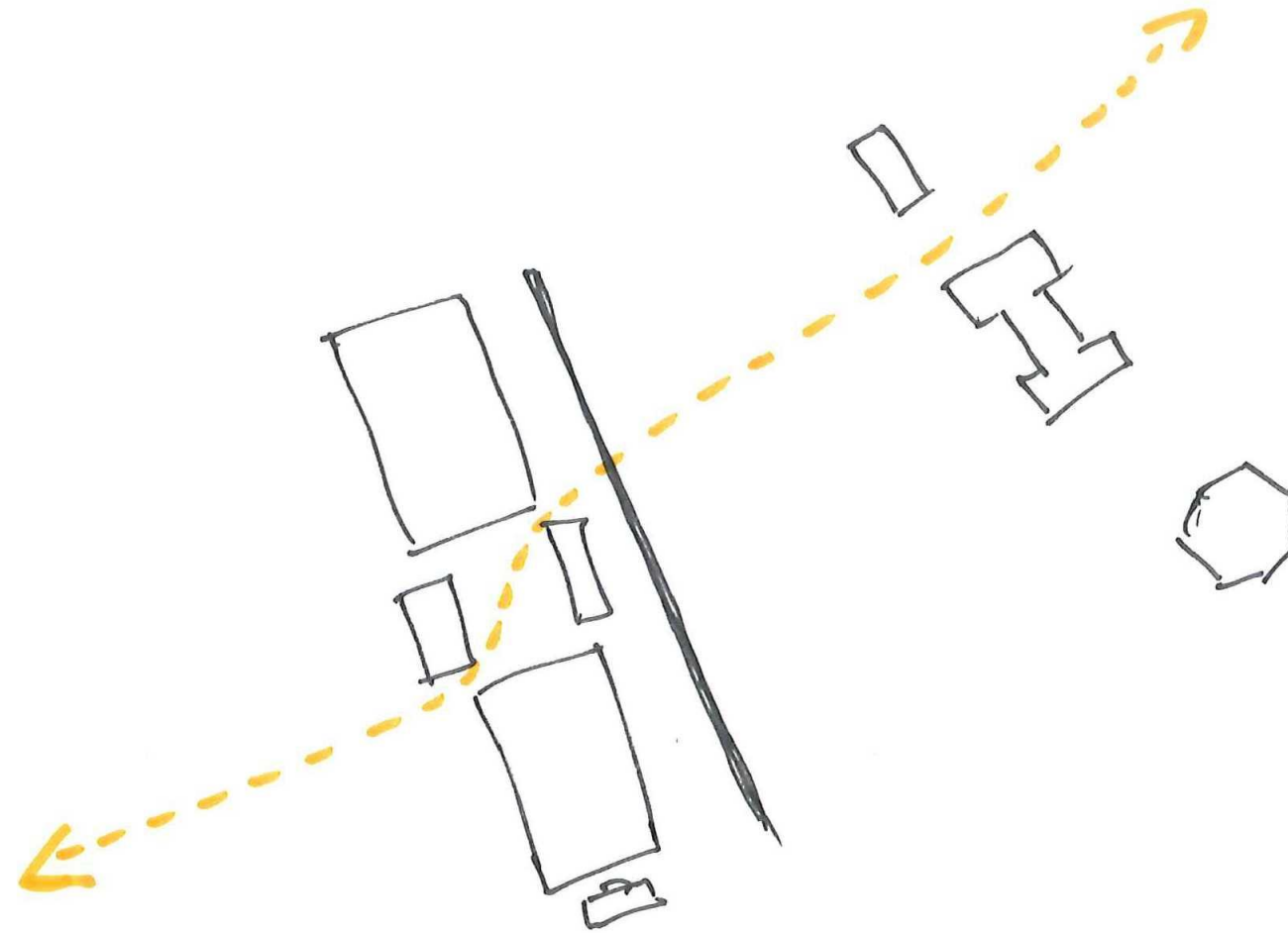




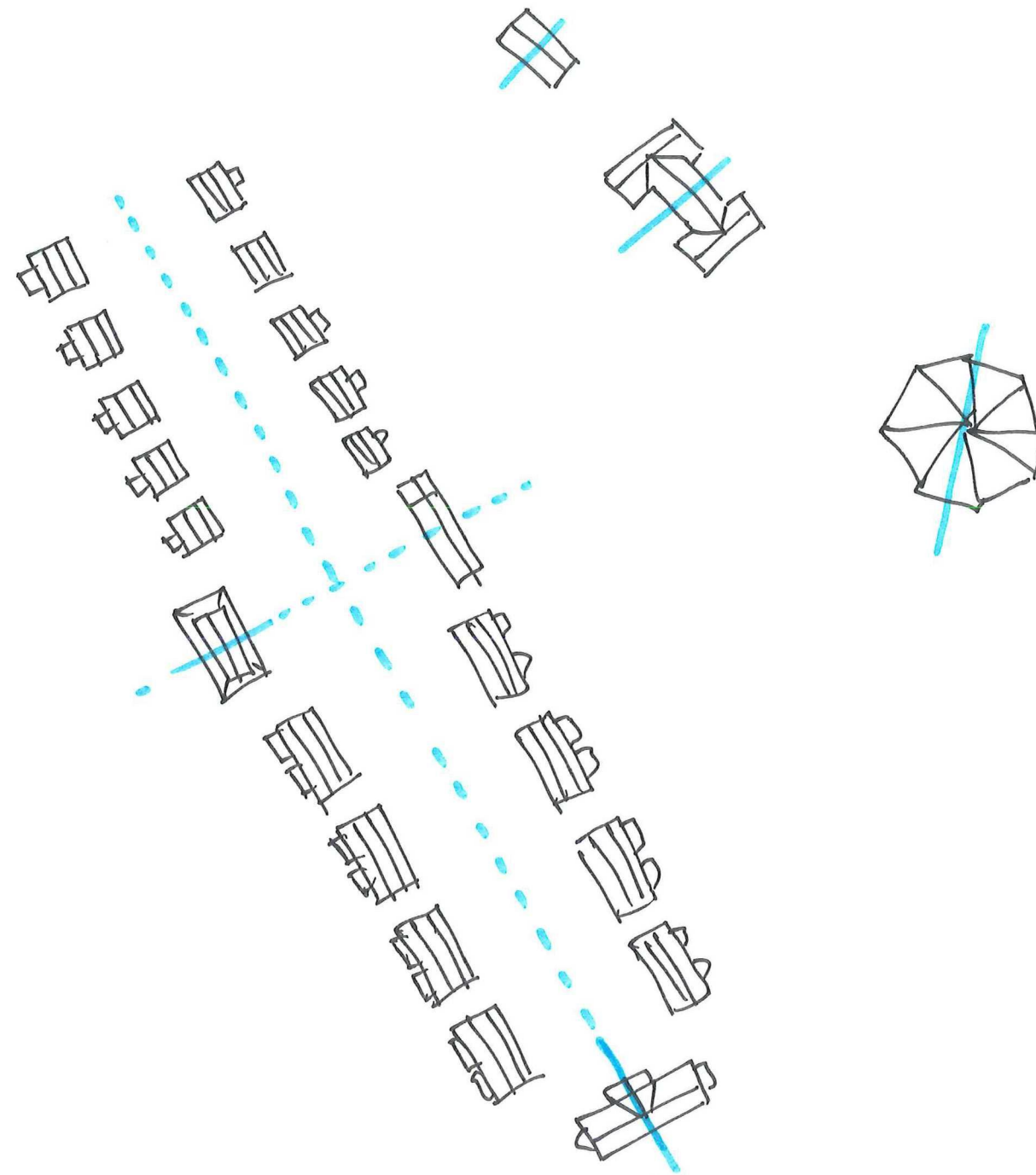
Separation



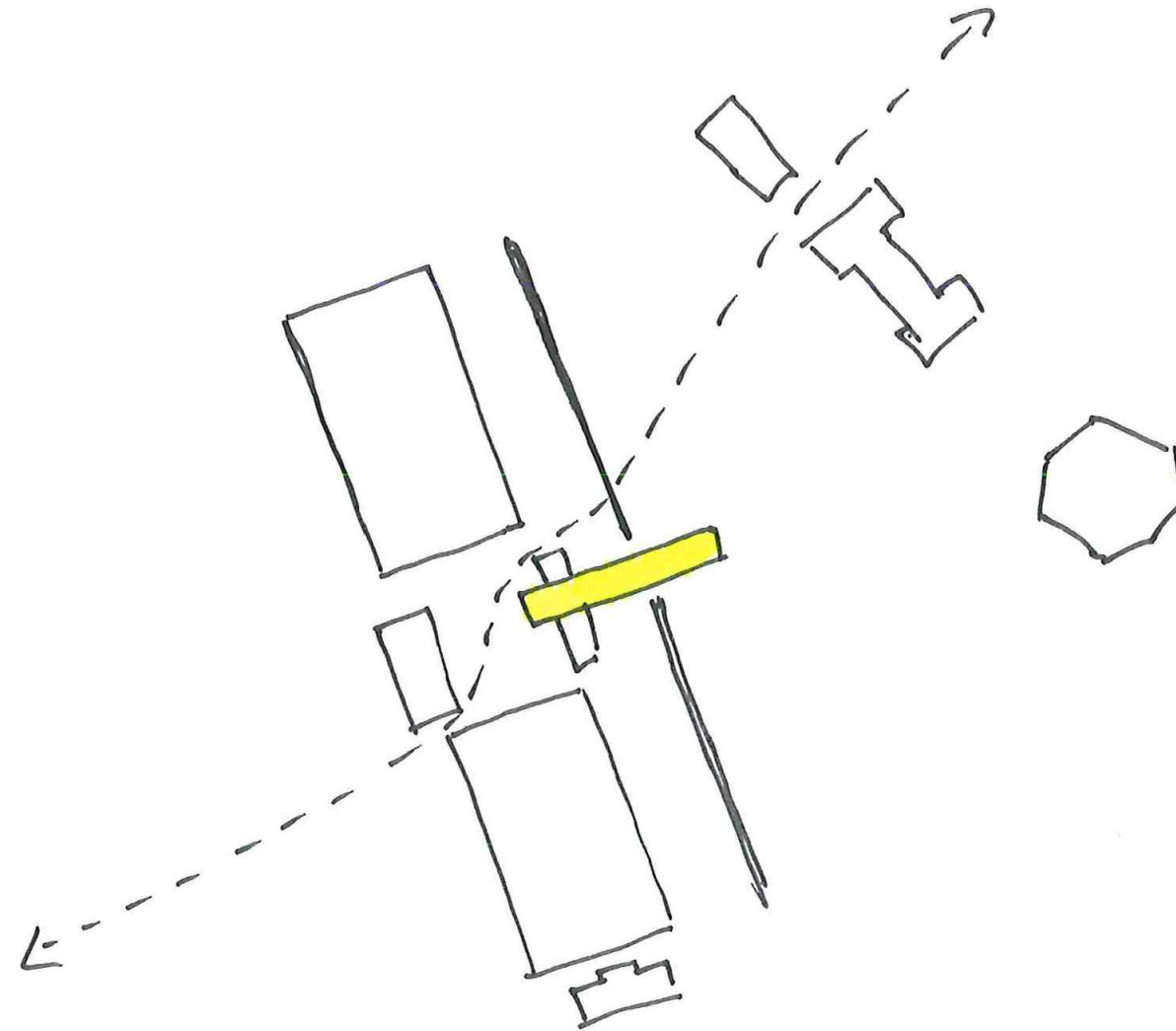
Pedestrian “Westfort” Route



Structure & Symmetry

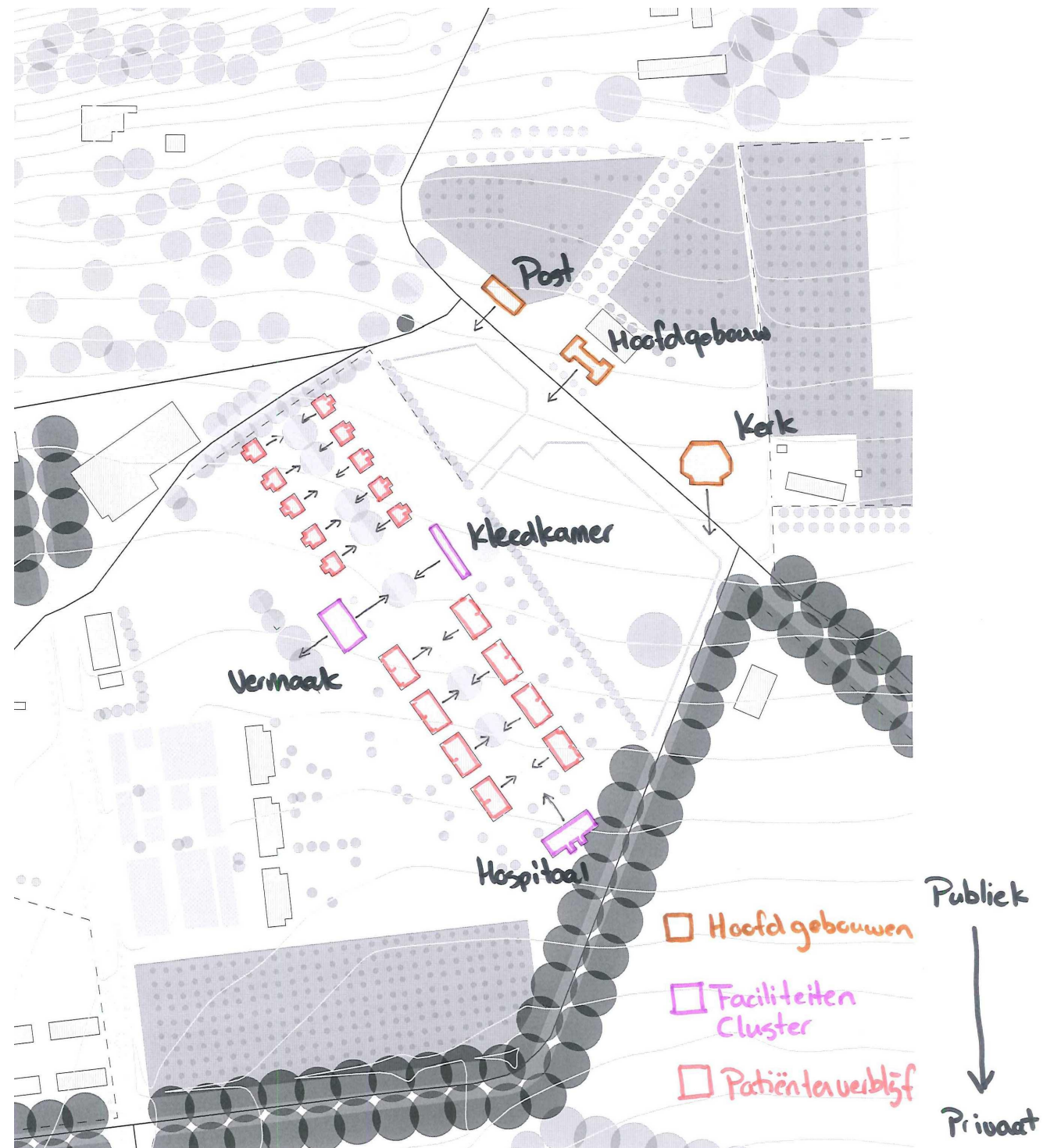


Connecting over Borders

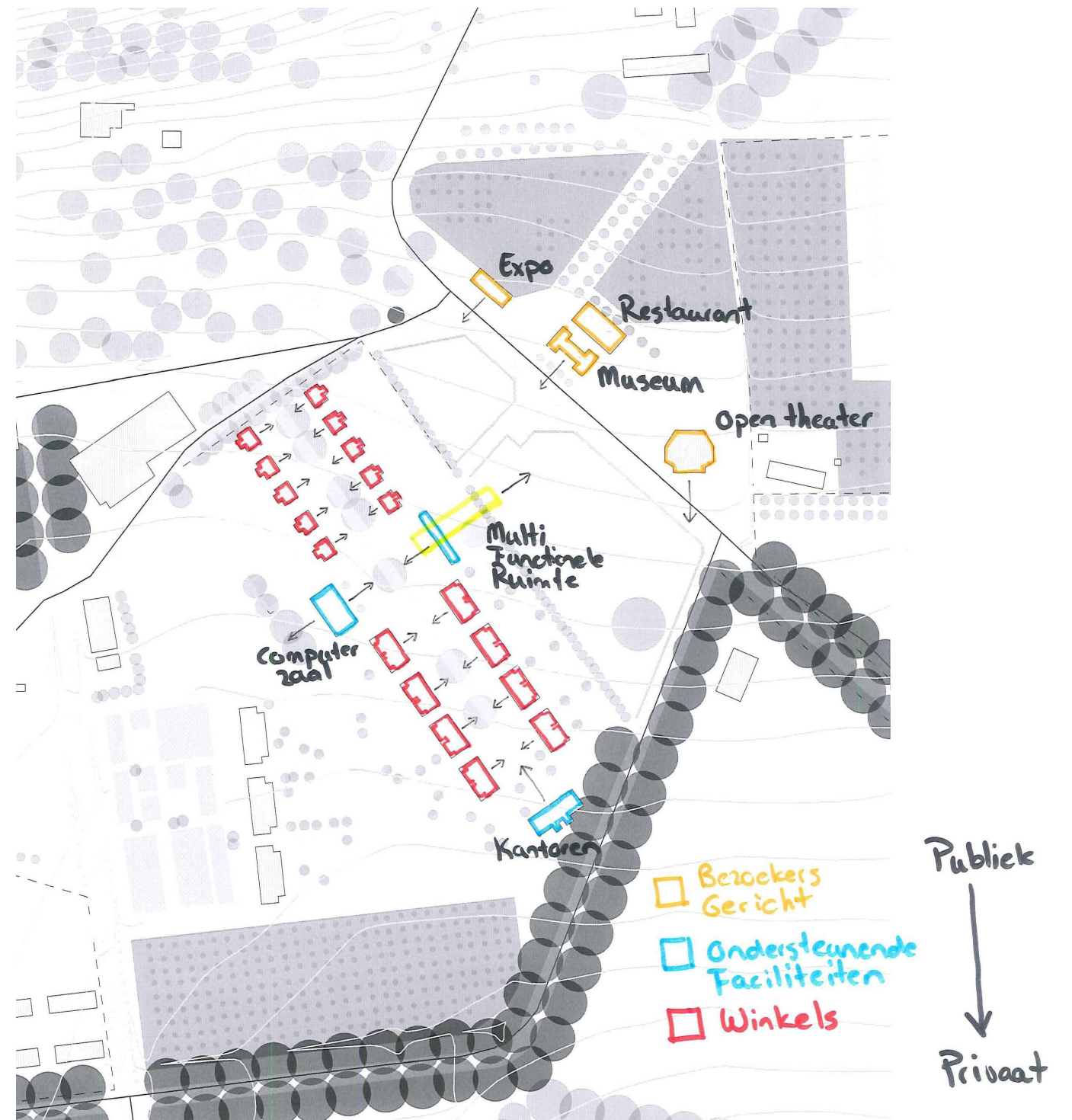




MASTERPLAN

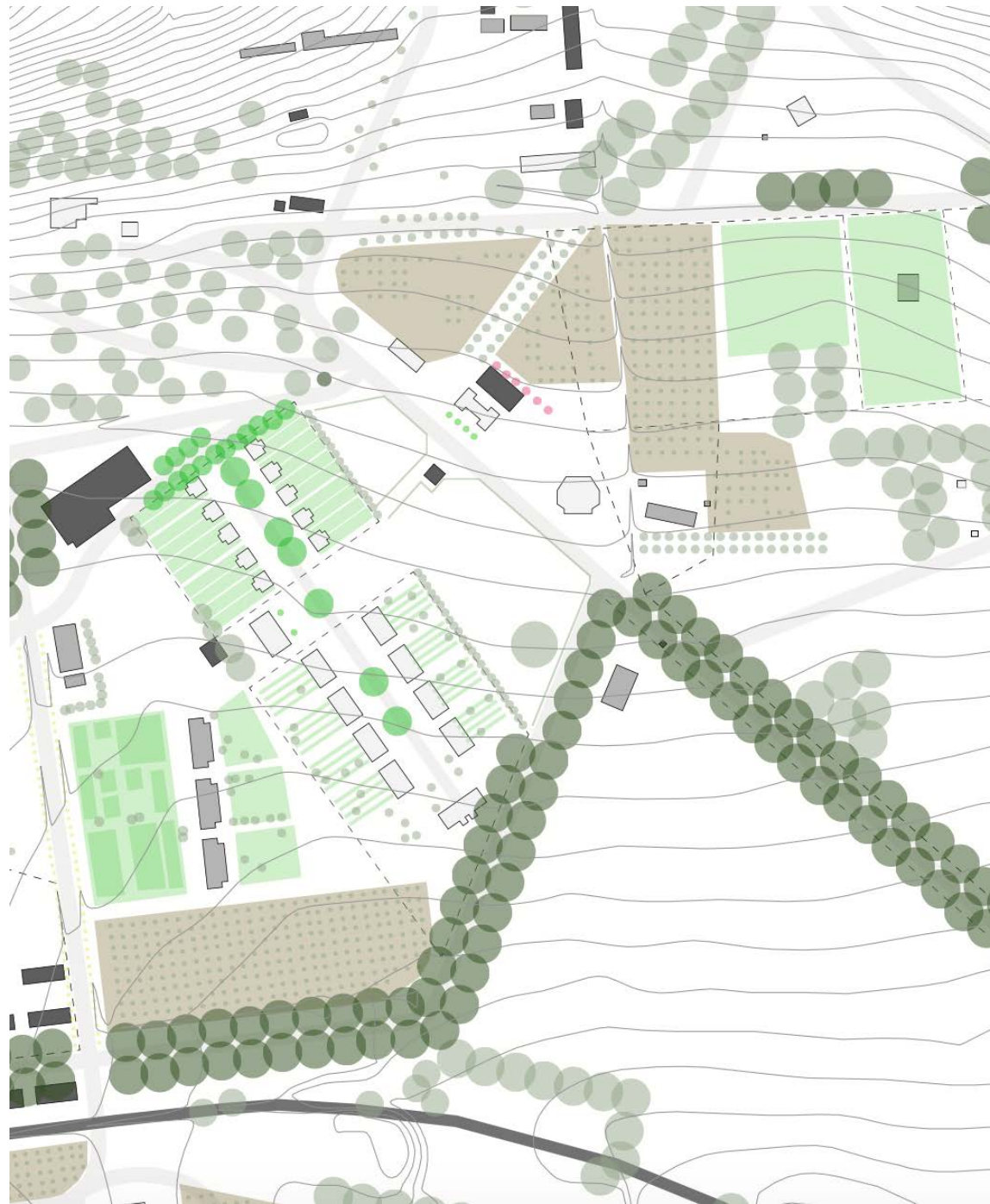


PLAN WIERDA



NEW PLAN

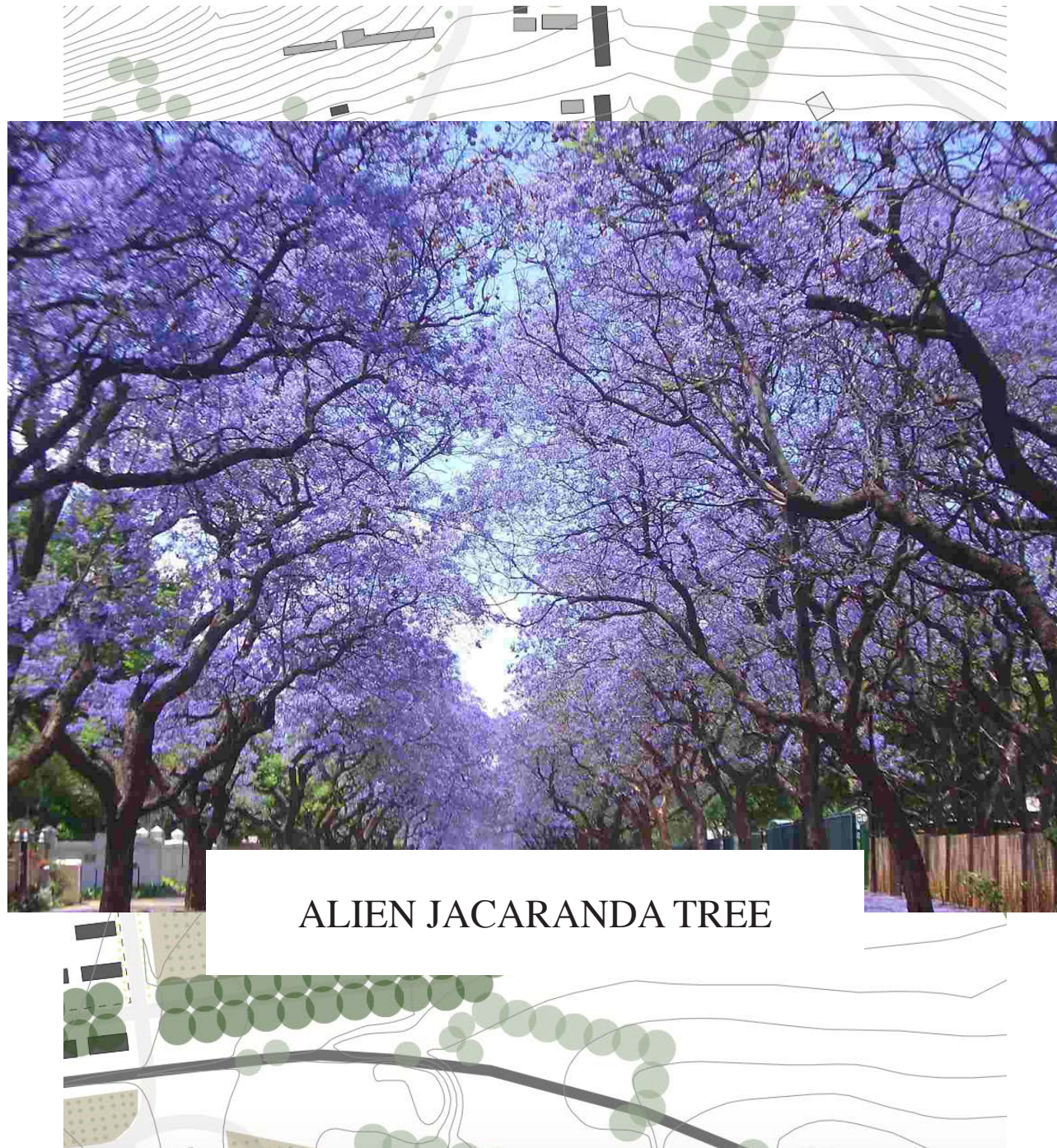




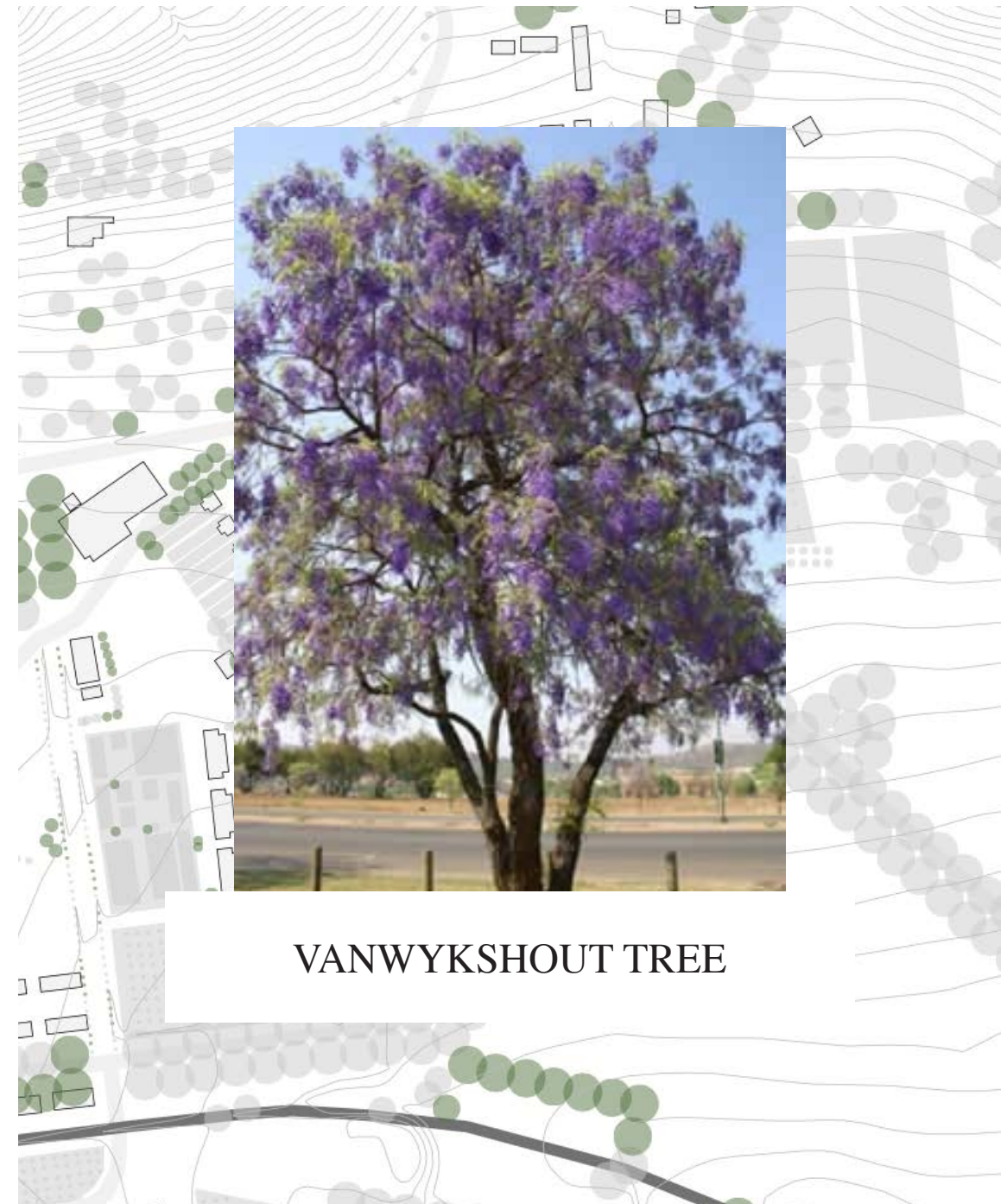
1956



2015



1956



2015

Interventions



Overview Masterplan



Transition through areas





A JOURNEY THROUGH WESTFORT

Westfort Works Entrance



pretoria

Dutch Reformed Church --> Open Theater



History Dutch Reformed Church



1896? - 1901 - 19..?

Klaas van Rijse jr. (DPW)



19..? - 2015 - 2016

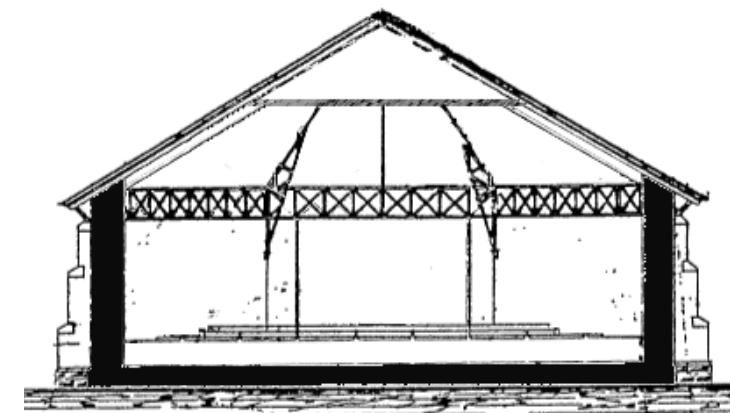
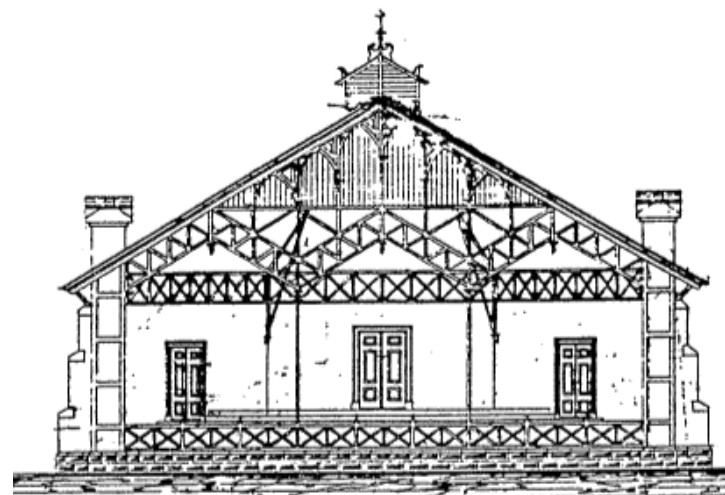
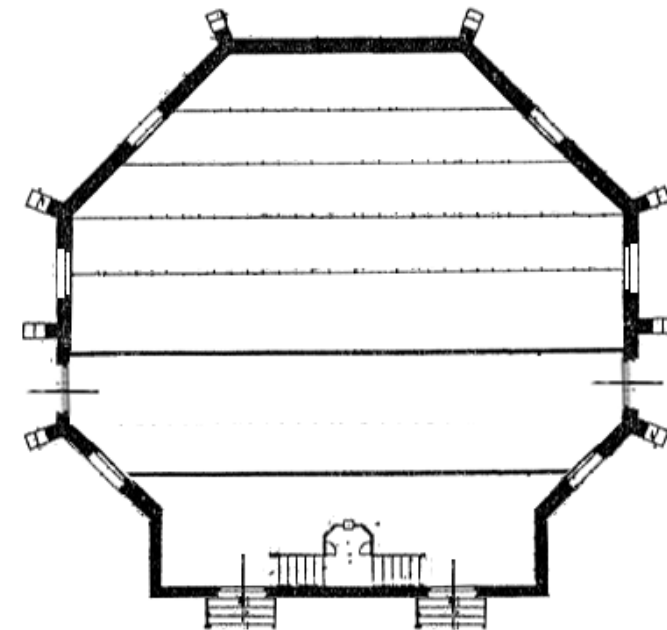
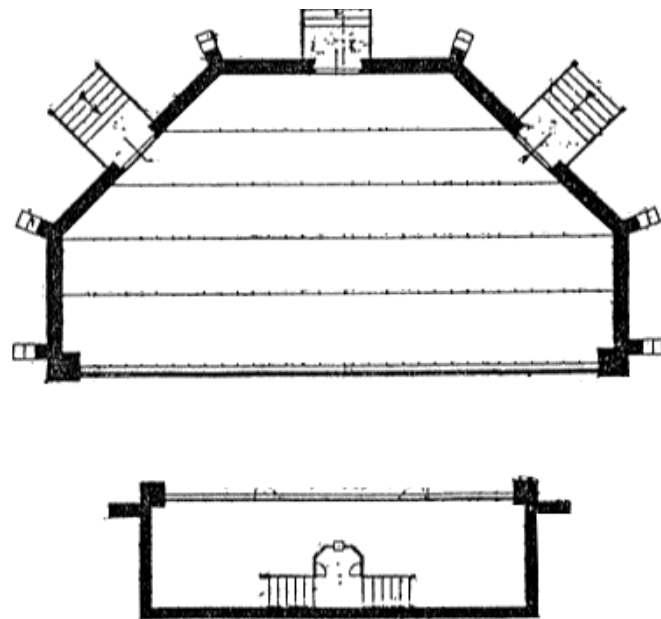
Unknown



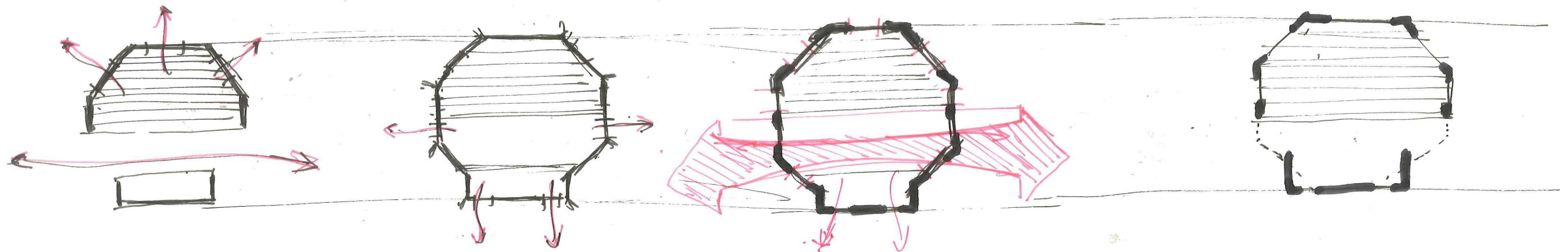
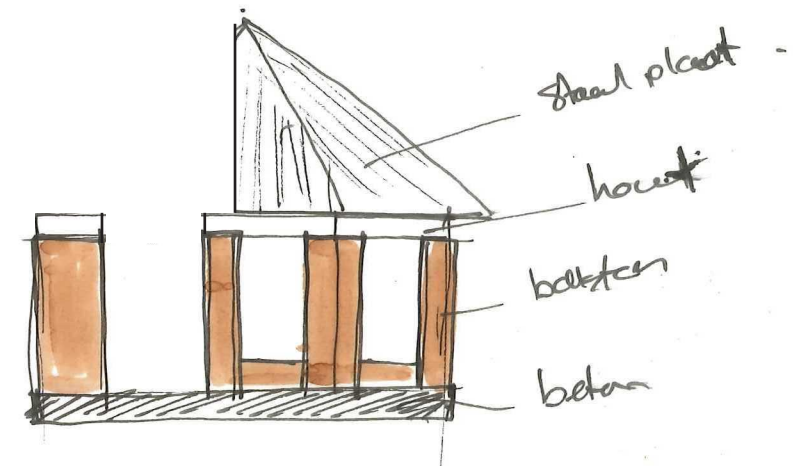
2016 - 20..?

Unsatisfied inhabitants Wesfort

Characteristics Dutch Reformed Church



Concept DR Church --> Open Theater



first "open church"



second "octagonal church"

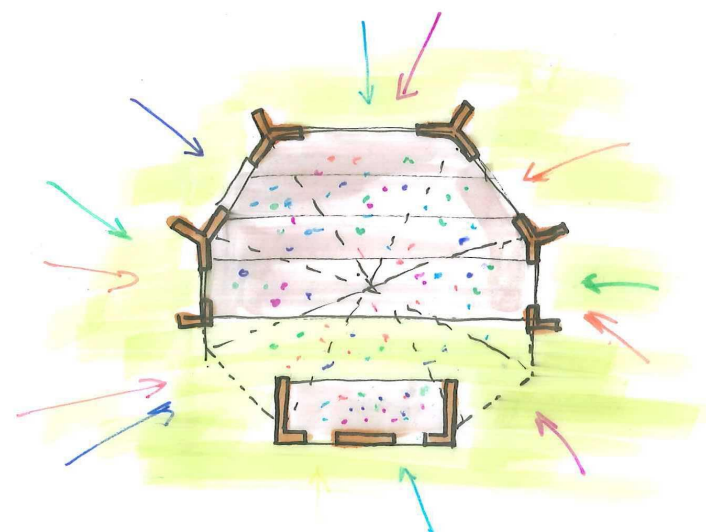
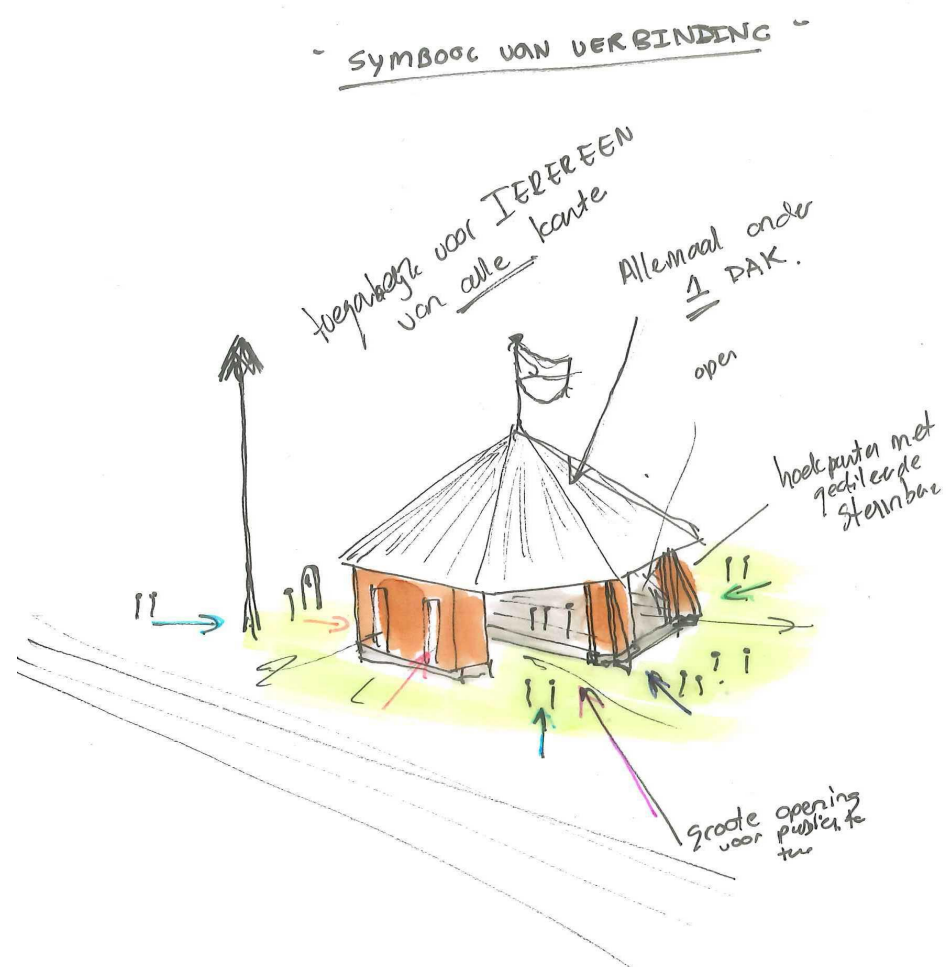


concept "open church theater"



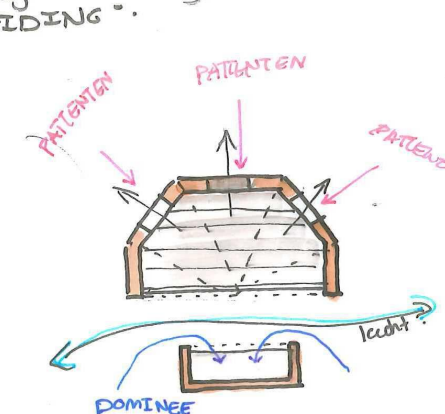
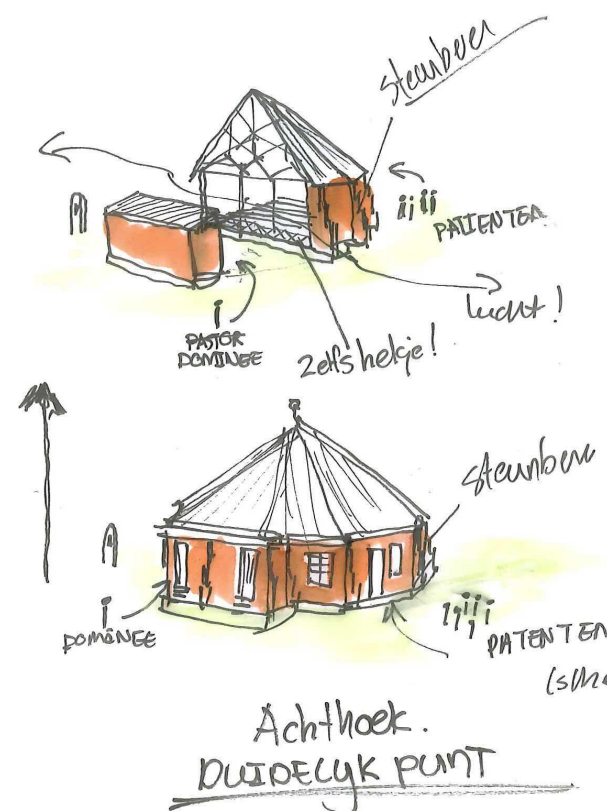
concept "open church theater"

Concept DR Church --> Open Theater



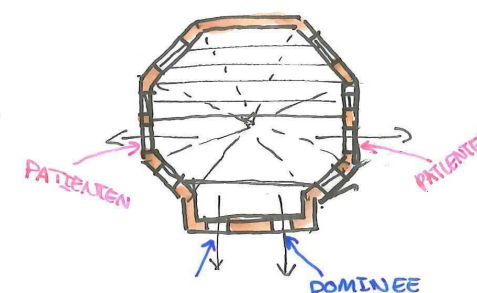
Unity through diversity
Alle mensen komen hier bij één.

PLEK VAN SUPER DUIDEELJKE scheiding
"SYMBOOL VAN SCHEIDING"

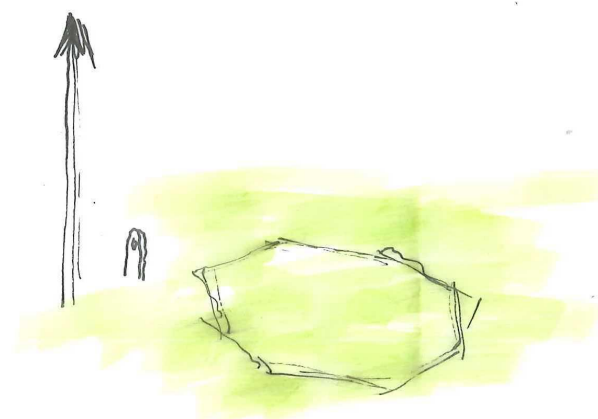


← Kek

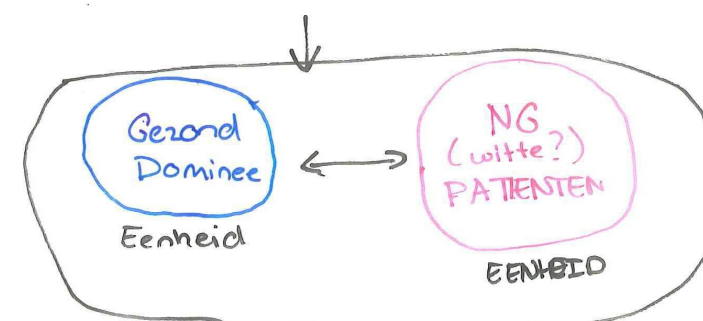
1897
open church



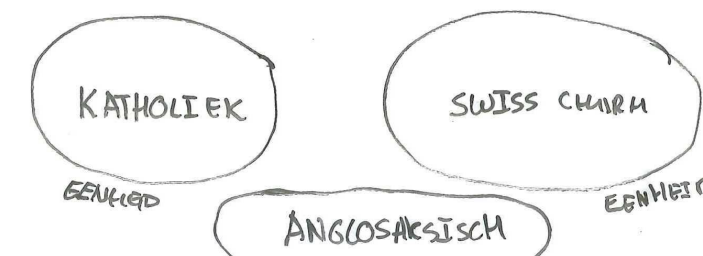
UNKNOWN
↓
2016
CLOSED OCTAGONAL
CHURCH



Unity through unity

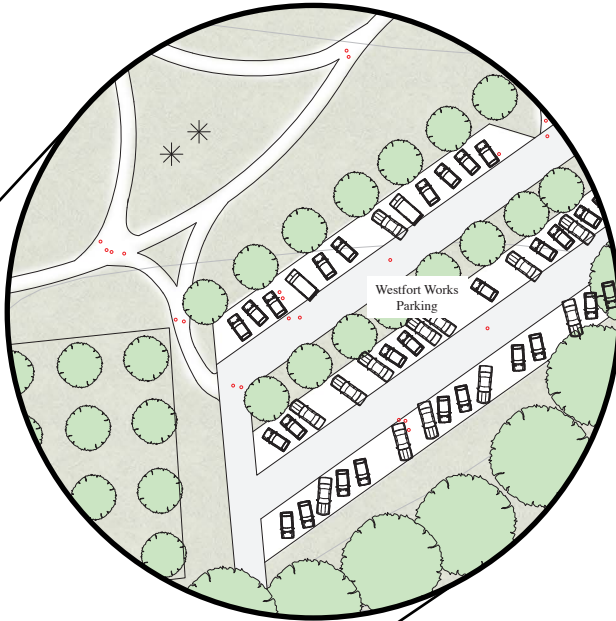


ZELFDE GELOOF
DOMINANT



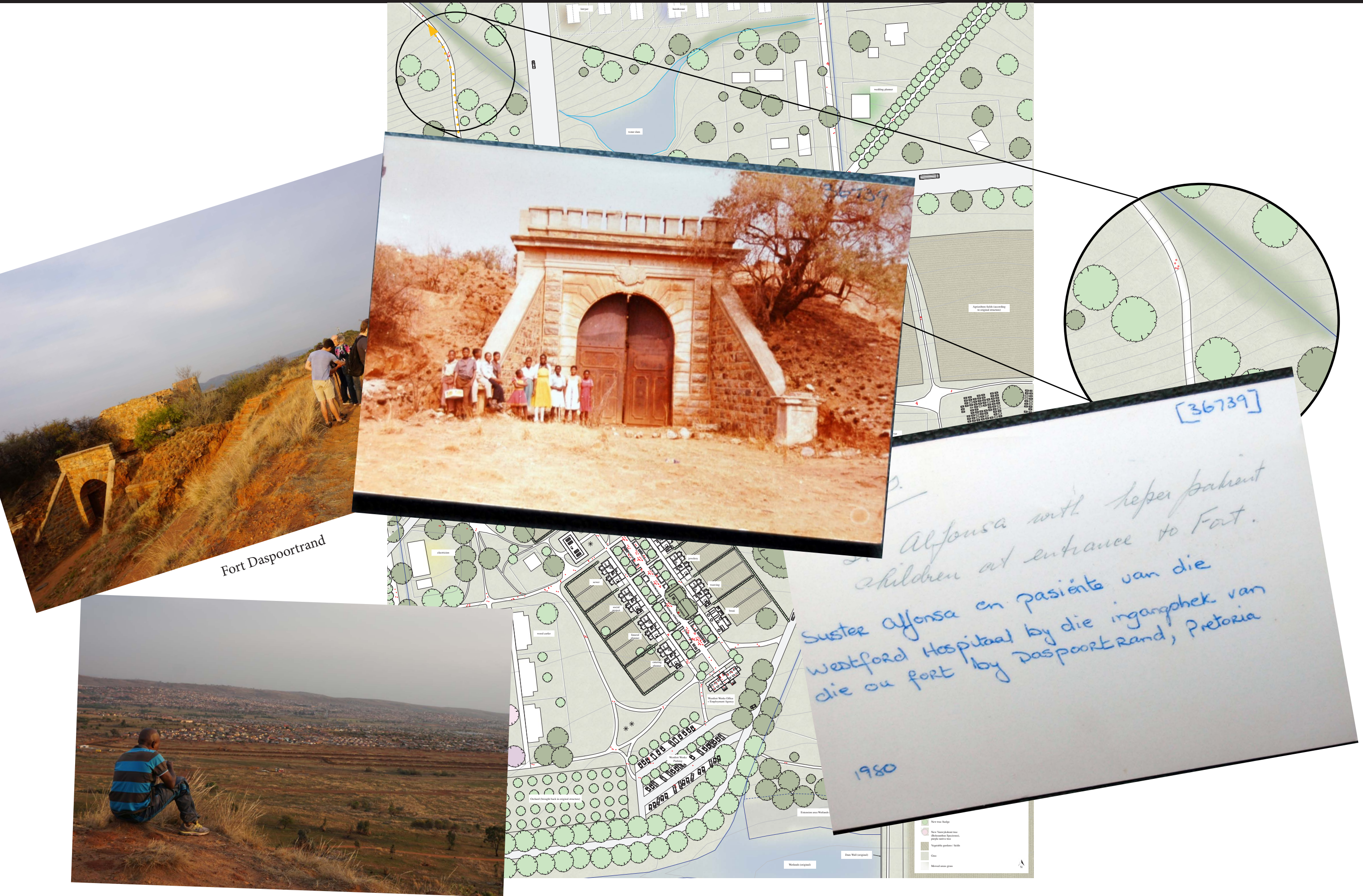


Westfort Works Parking



pretoria

Fort Daspoortrand Hiking Route



Hiking through historical graveyard



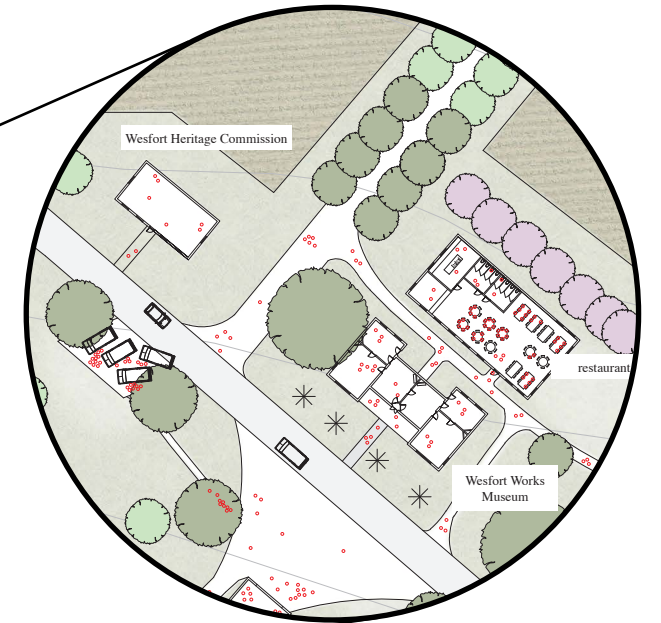
pretoria

Route to new suburbs





Westfort Works Workshop Room



pretoria



Characteristics Changing Building

ritmic and “closed”
facade with windows



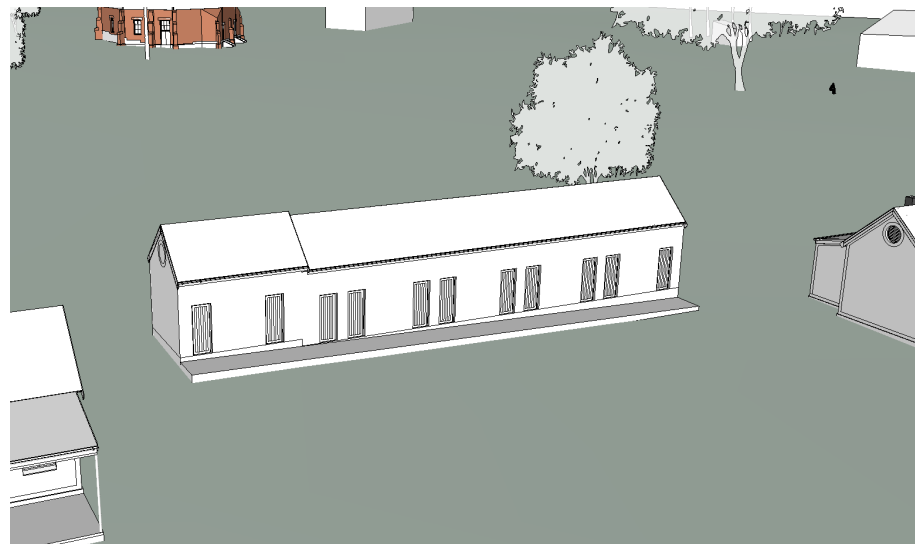
plain side facade with
bull eye air vent



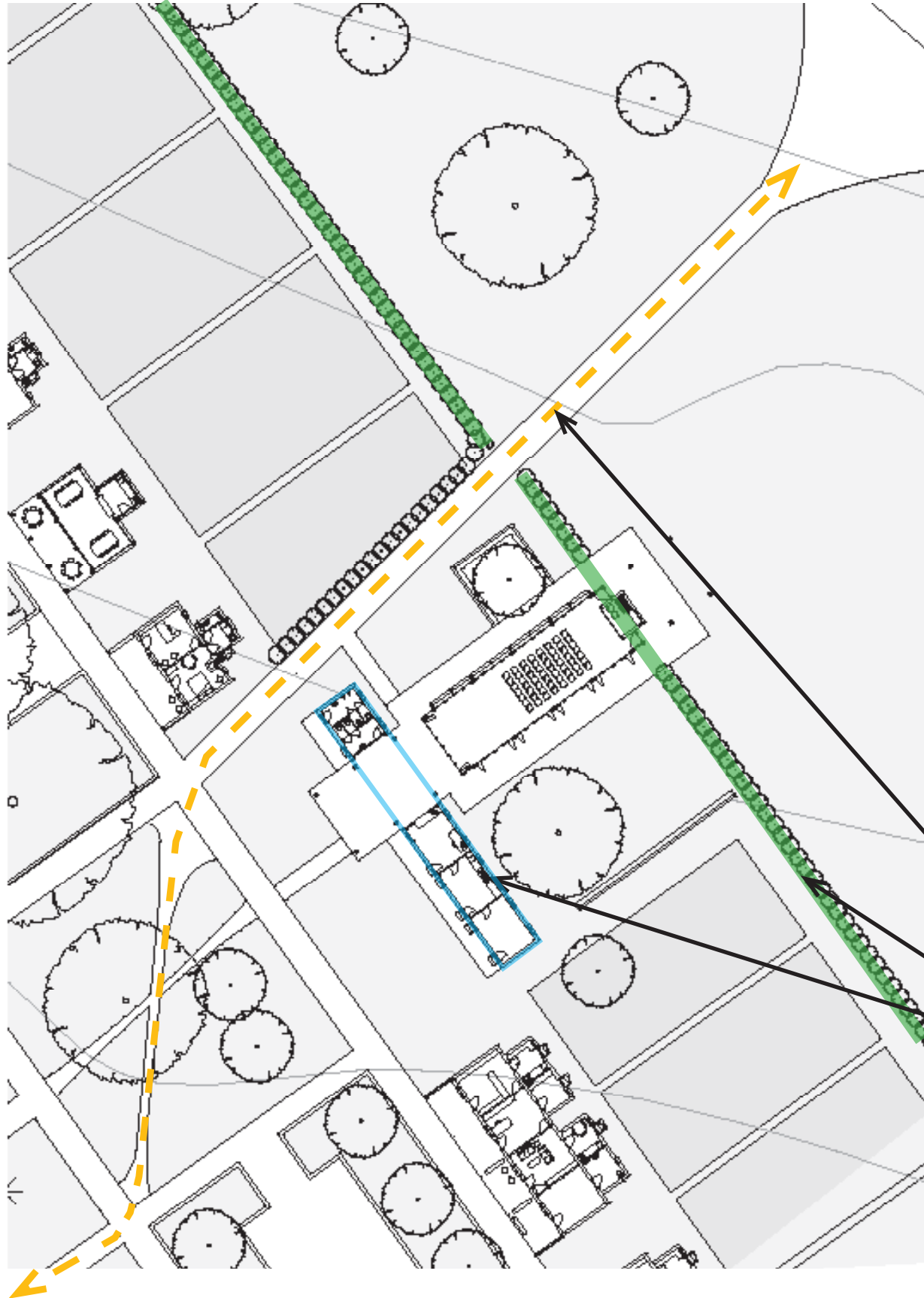
Characteristics Changing Building



History Changing Building

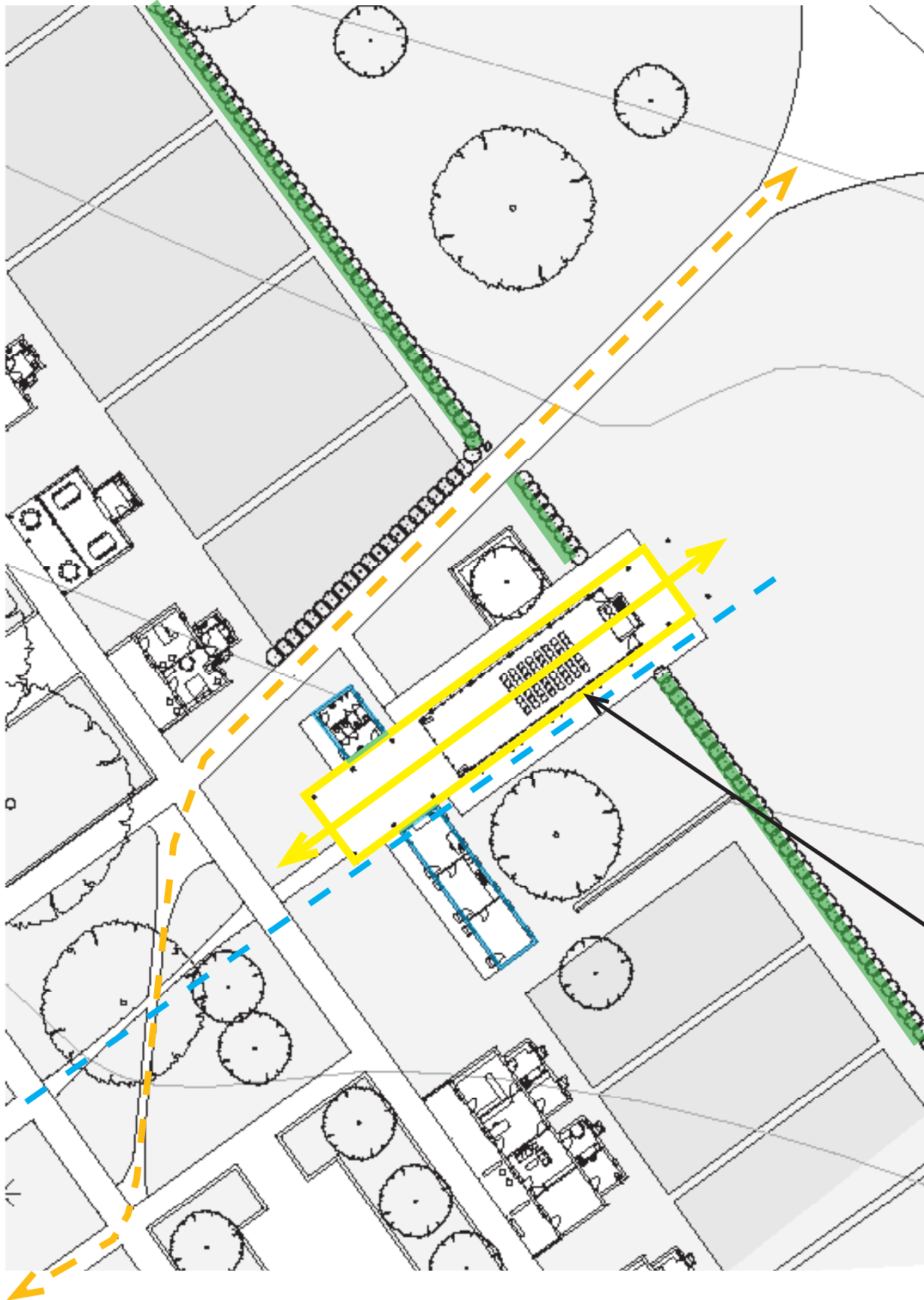


Concept Workshop Room



along informal route
connecting over “borders”

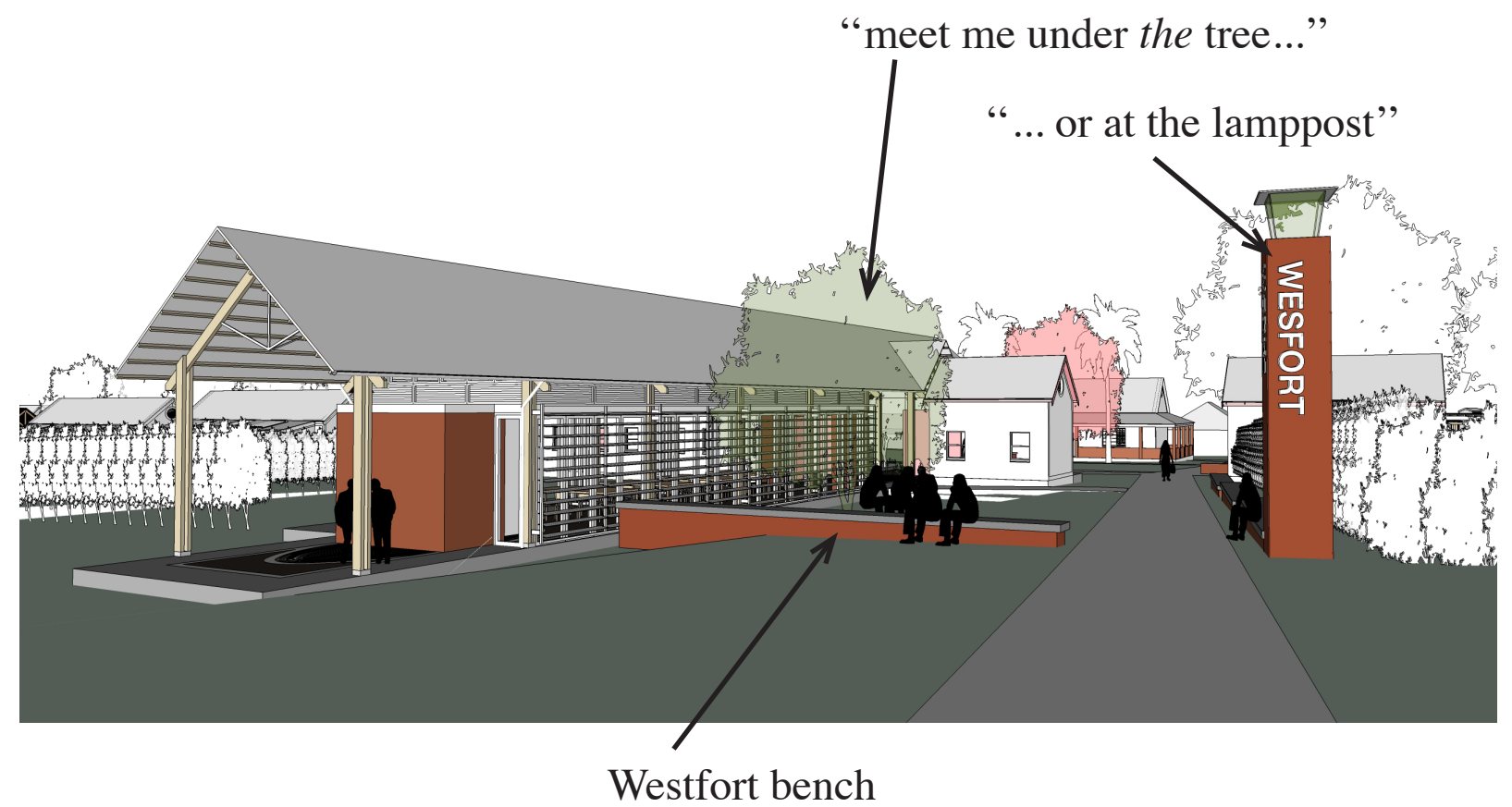
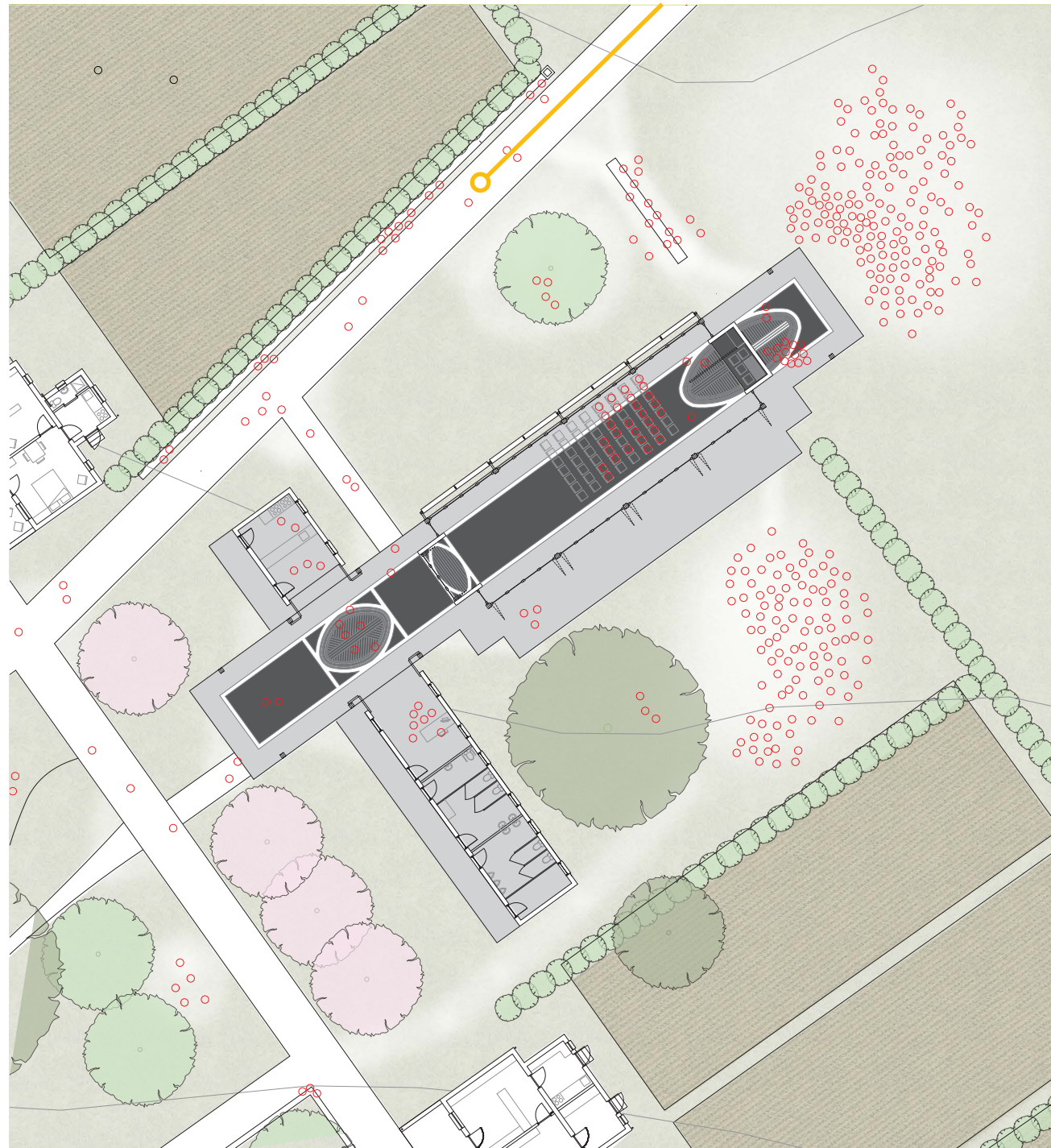
Concept Workshop Room



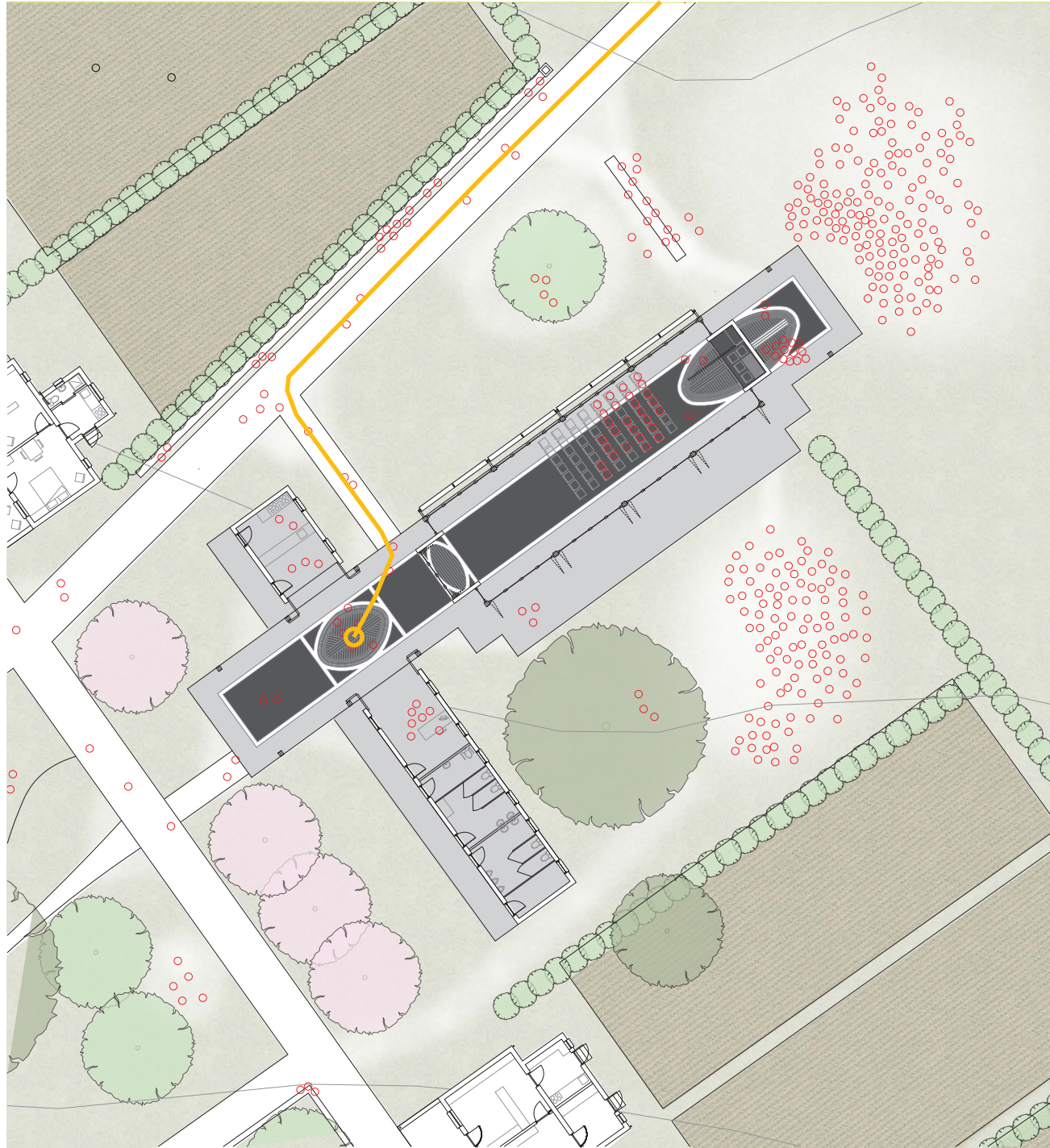
A-symmetric on struture cluster:

- not static, but dynamic gesture
- in original “gap”
- length changing room is maintained
- creates three distinct sides
- emphasizes Westfort Route

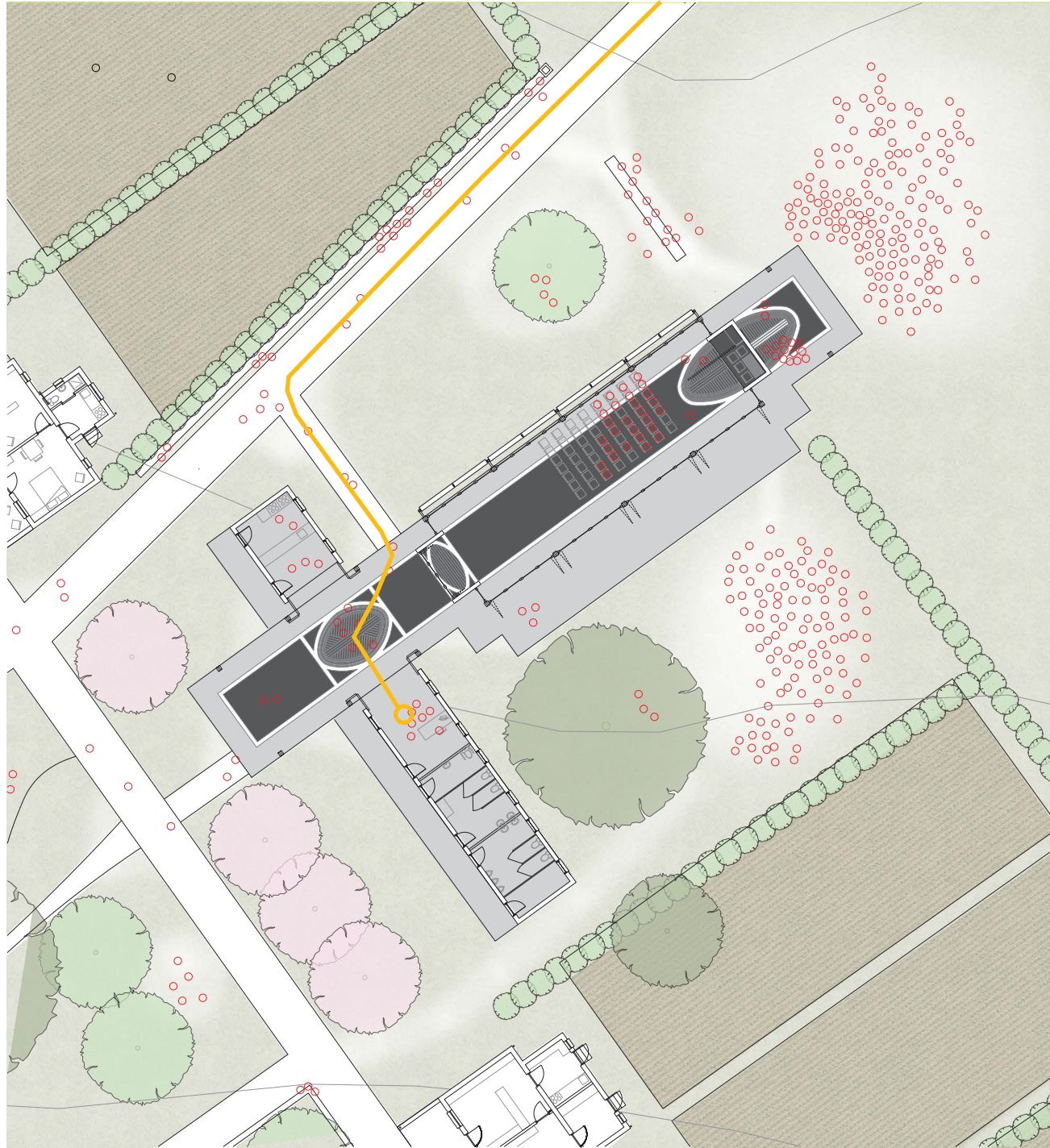
Meeting Place along Westfort Route



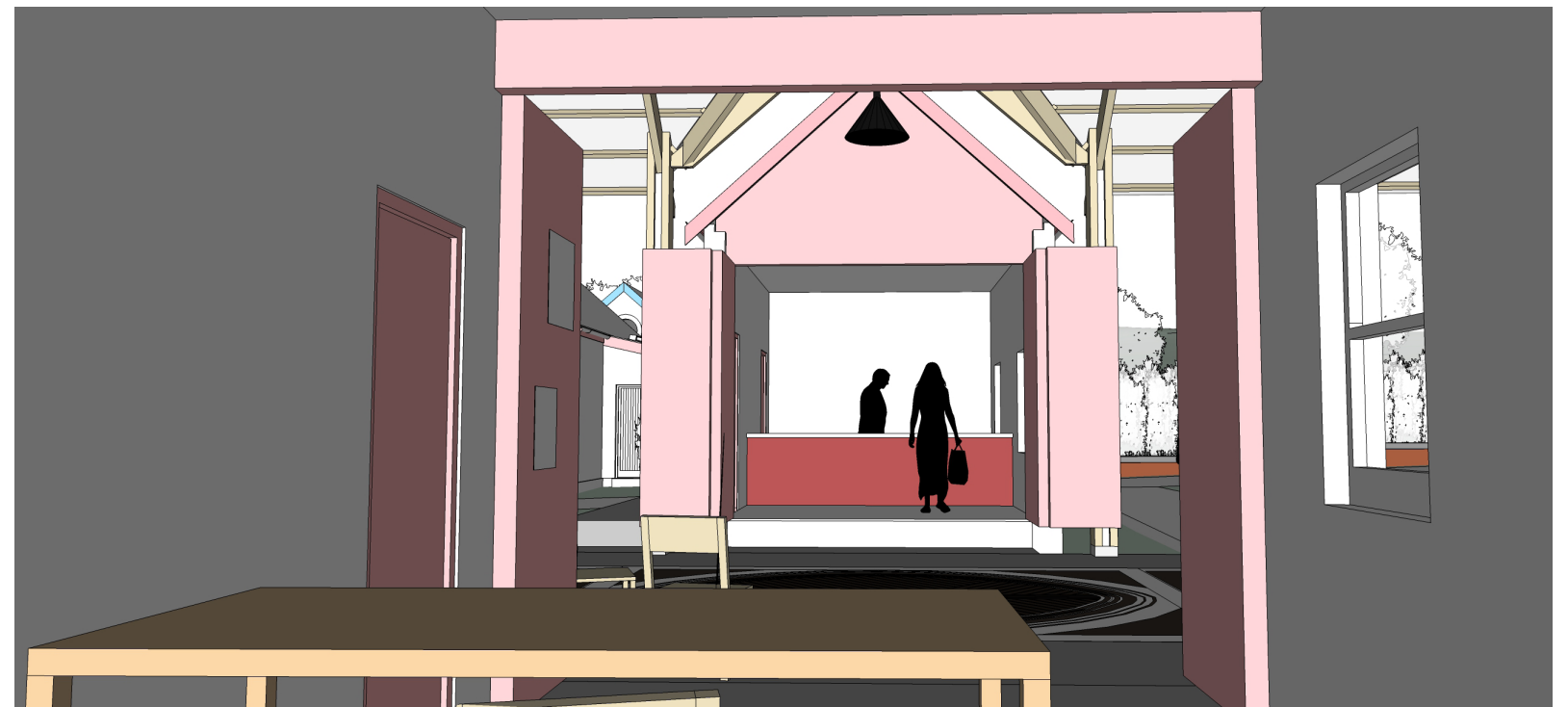
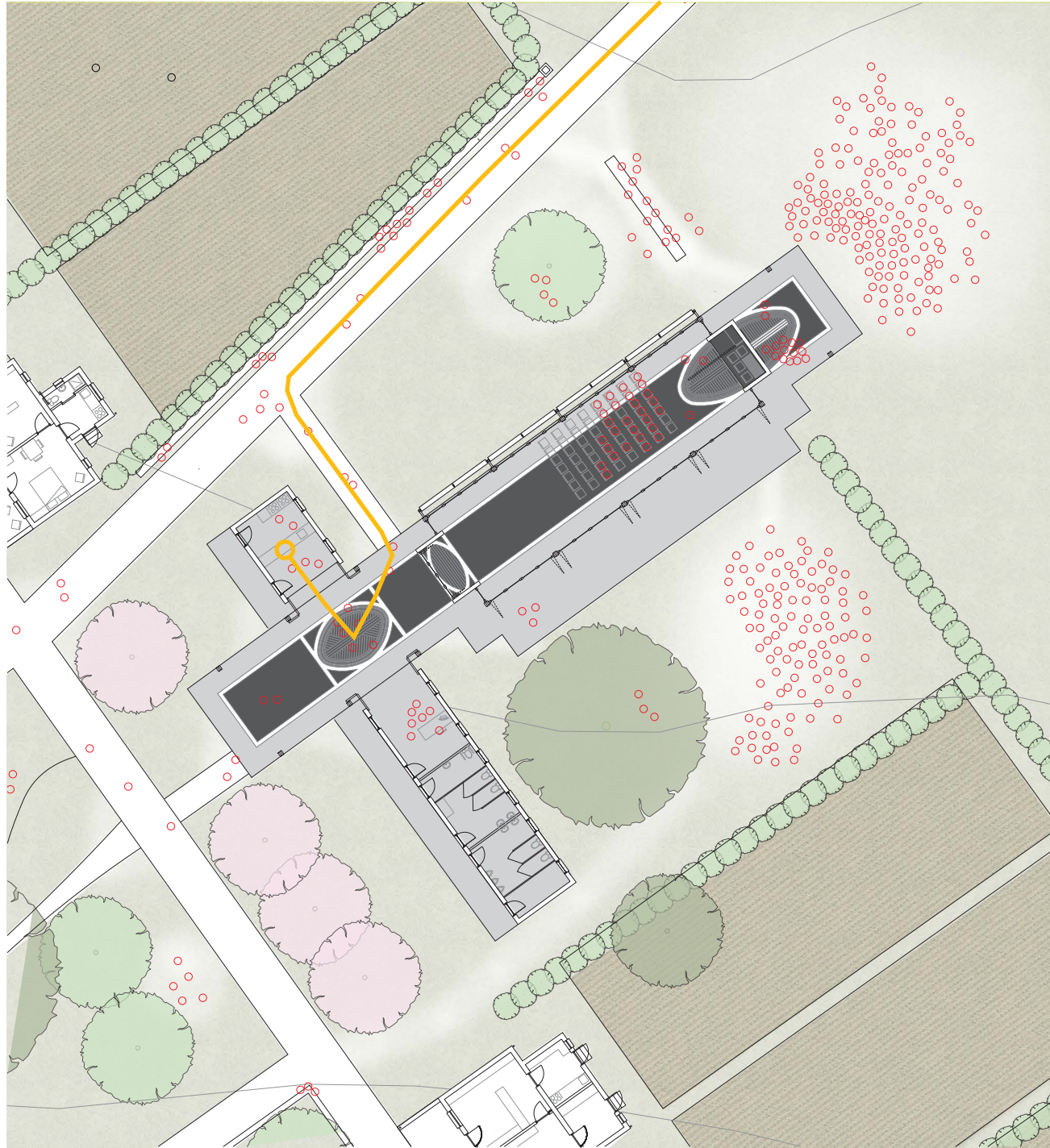
Junction In Workshop Room



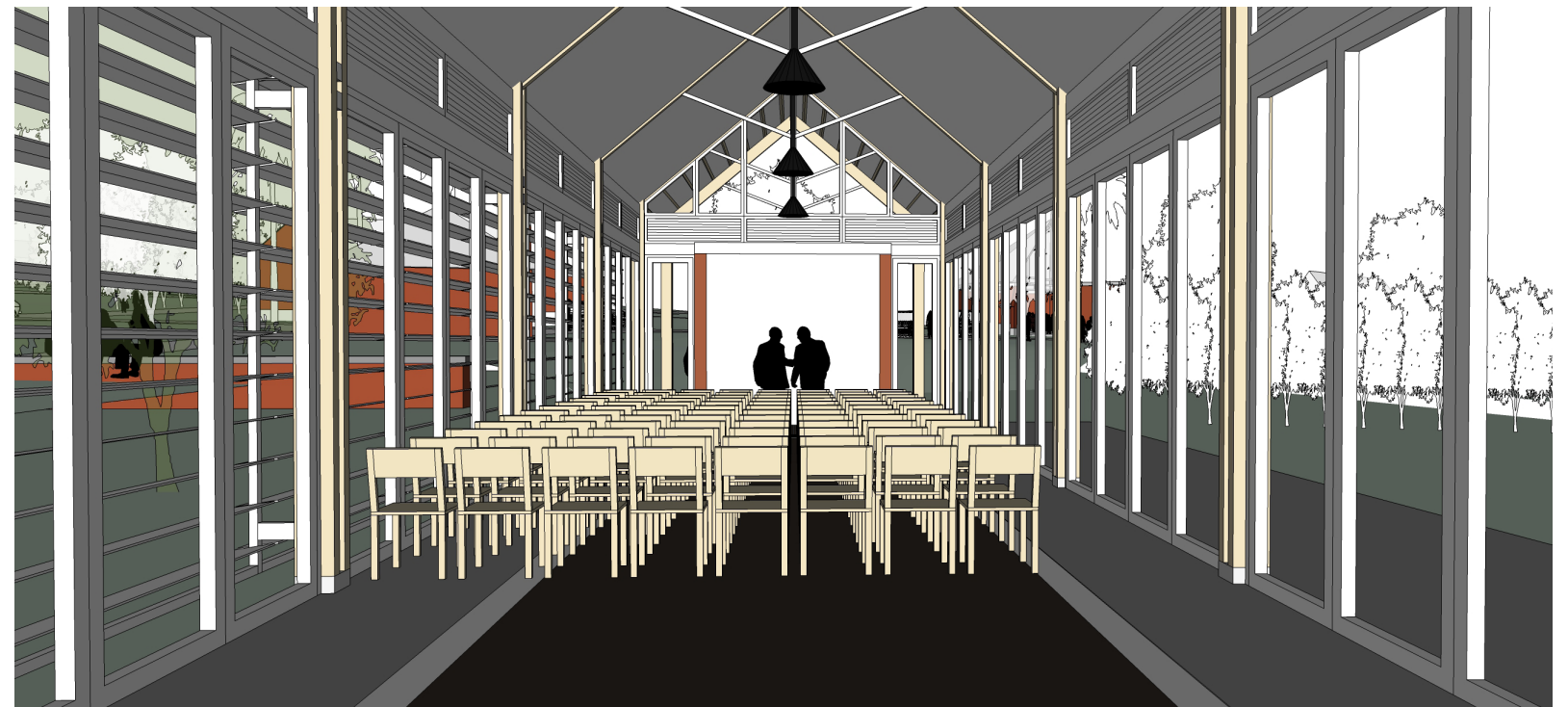
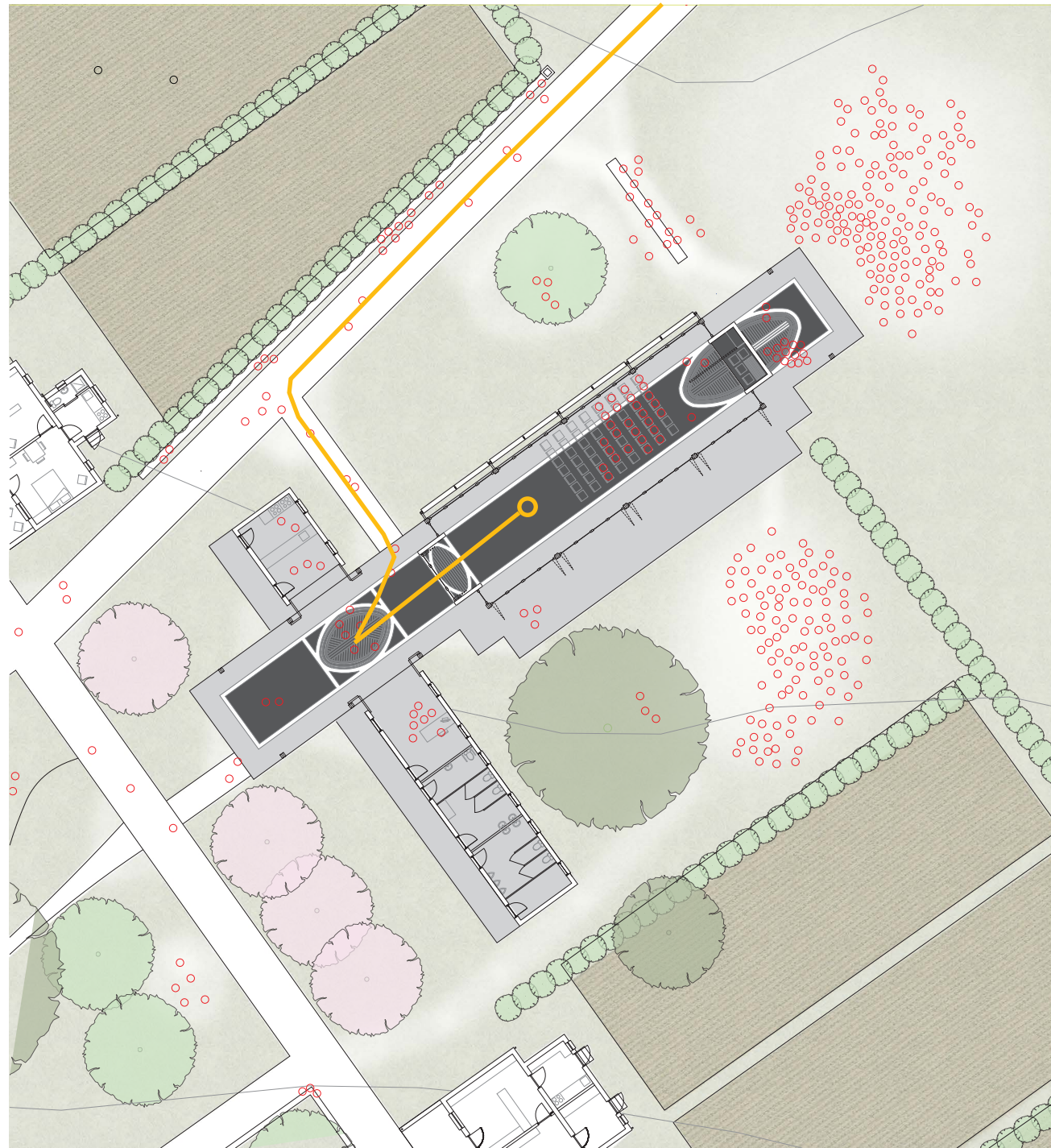
Westfort Works Info Centre



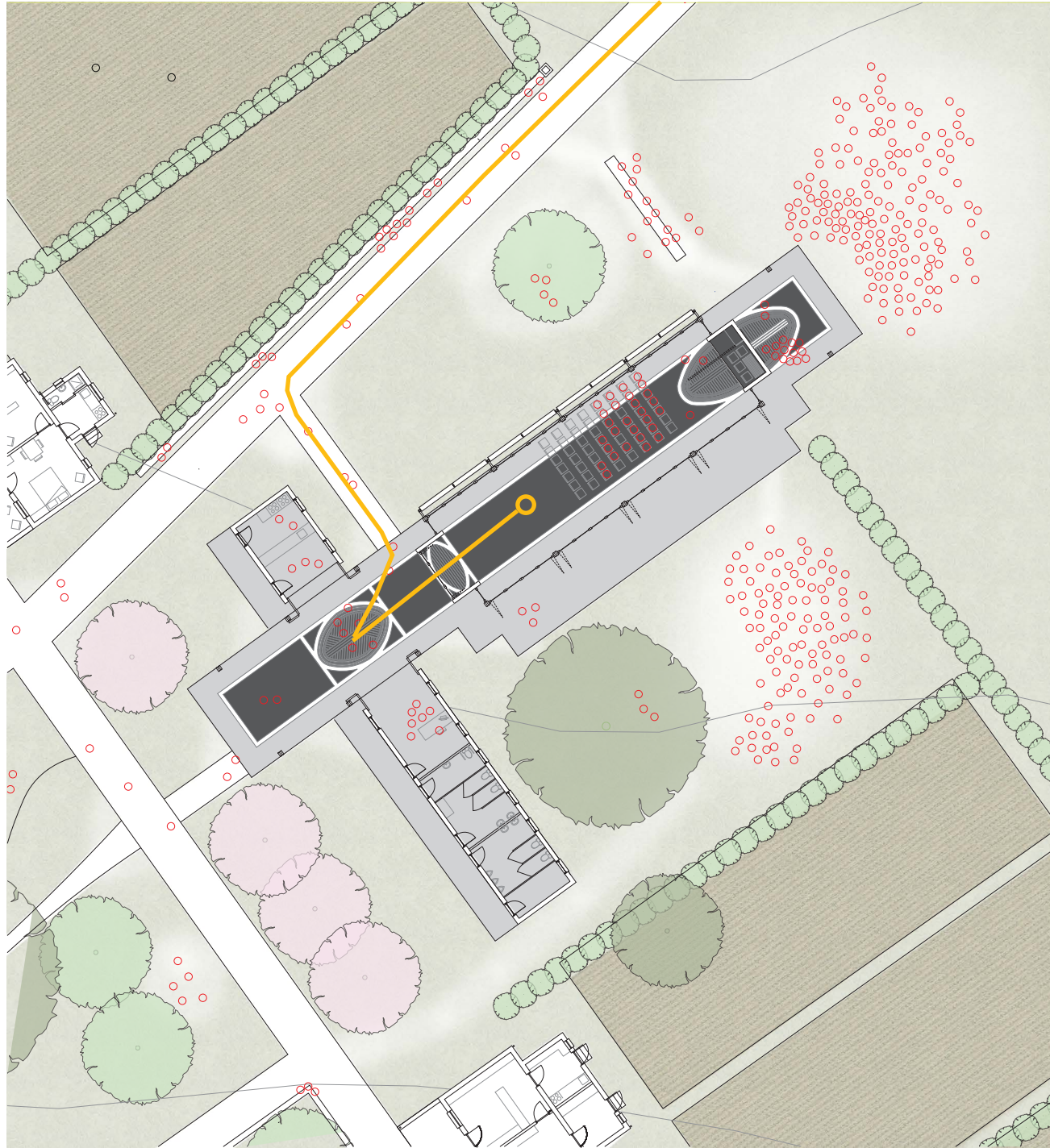
Westfort Works Kitchen



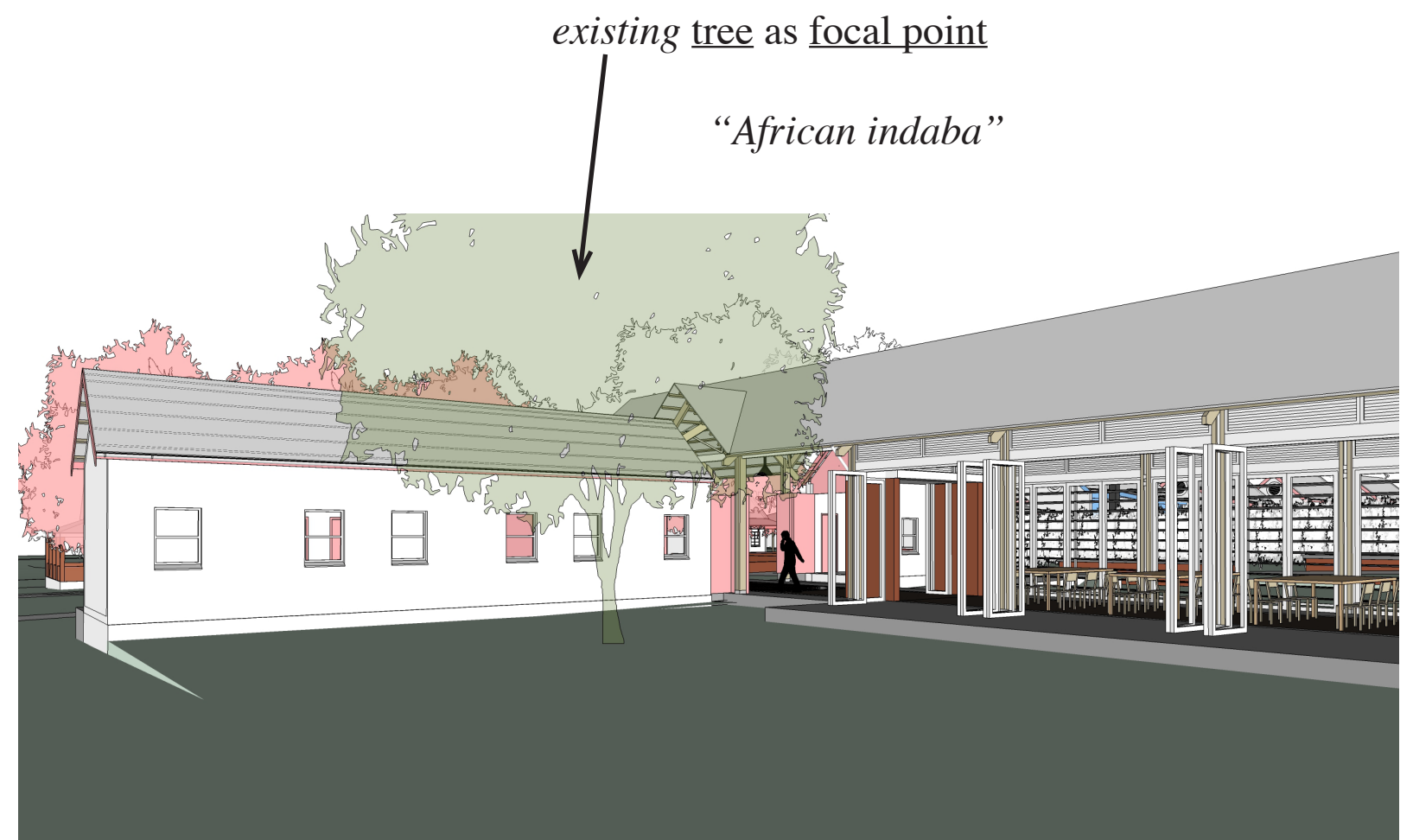
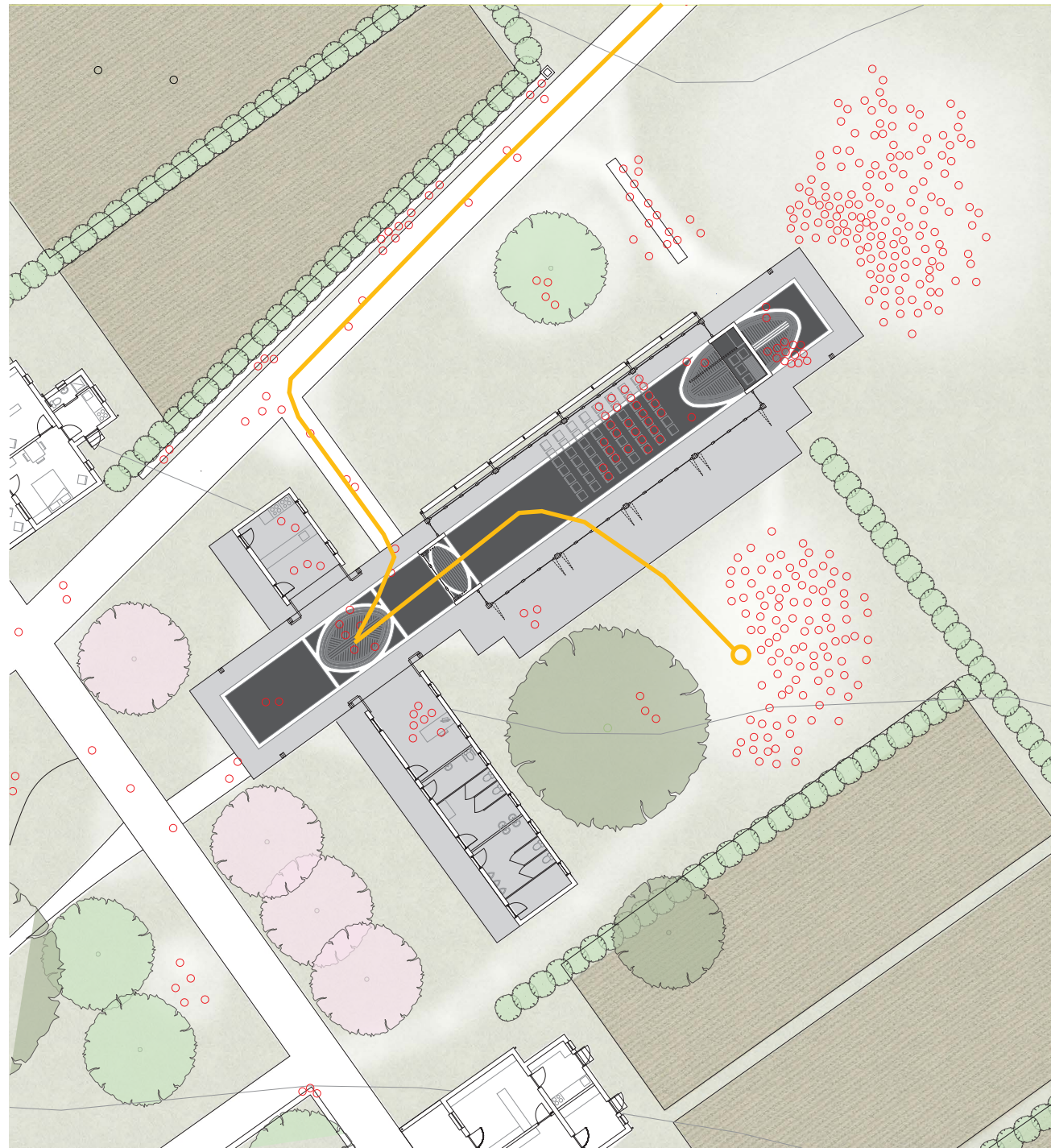
Westfort Works Workshop Room | Lecture Set Up



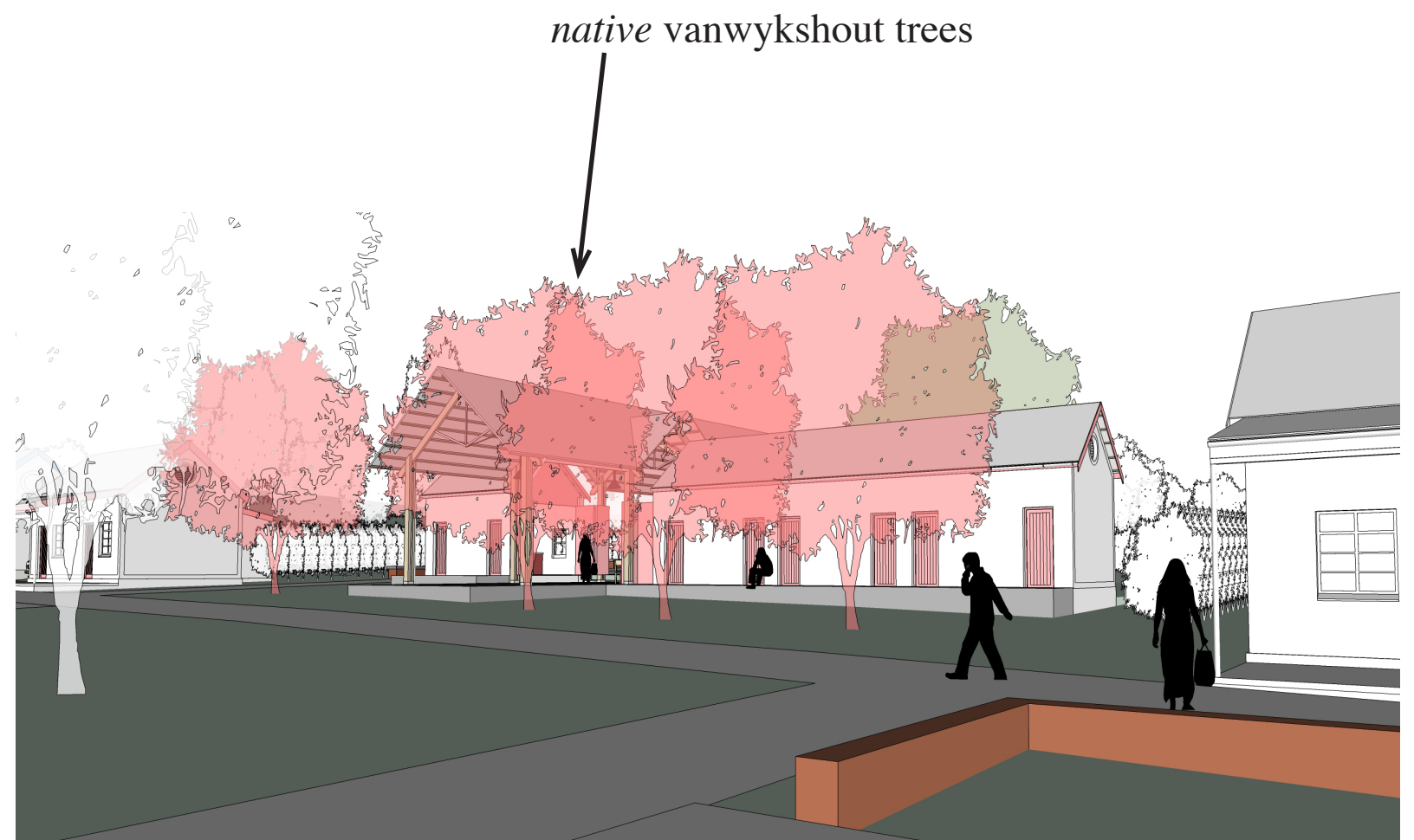
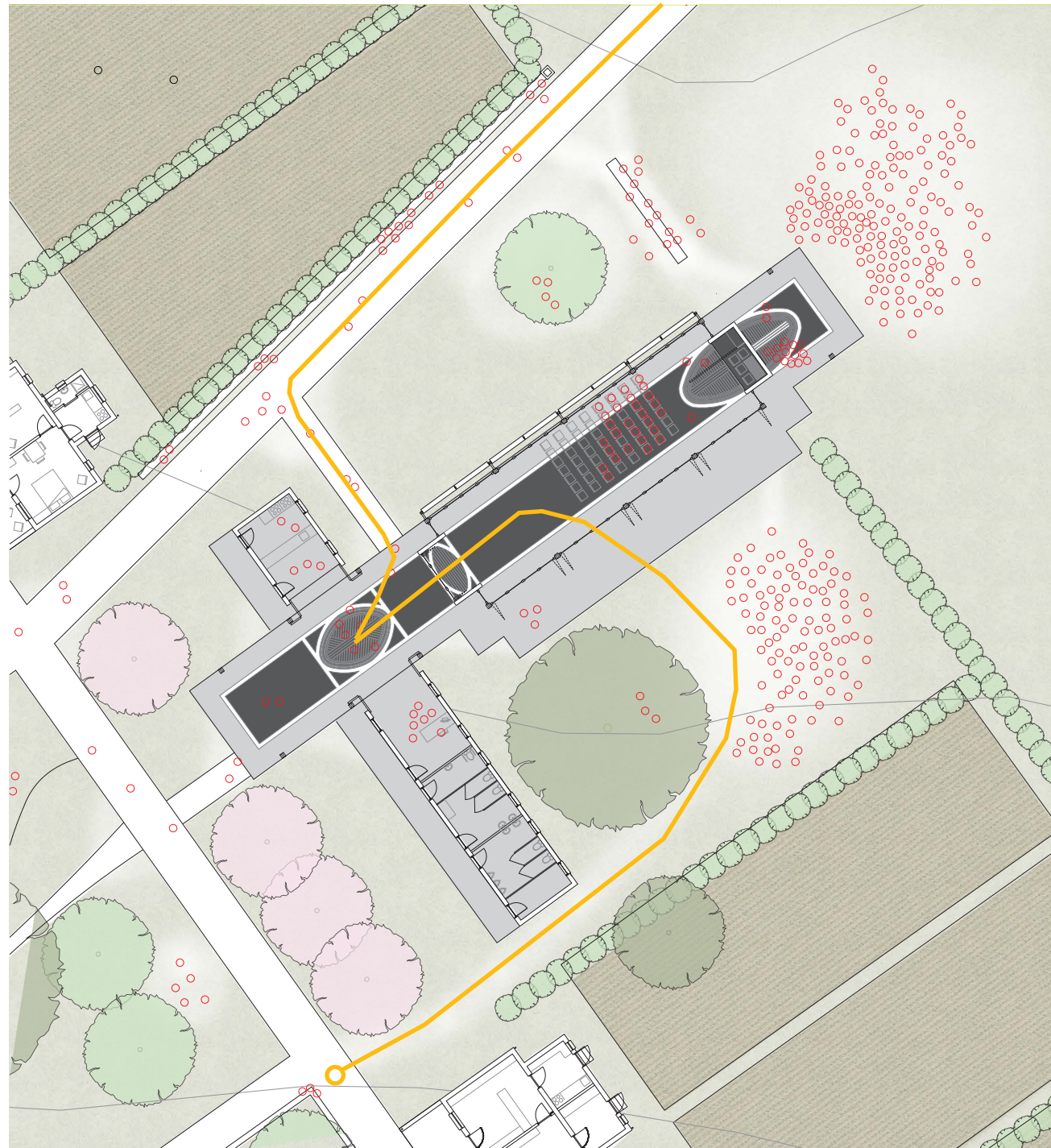
Westfort Works Workshop Room I Workshop Set Up

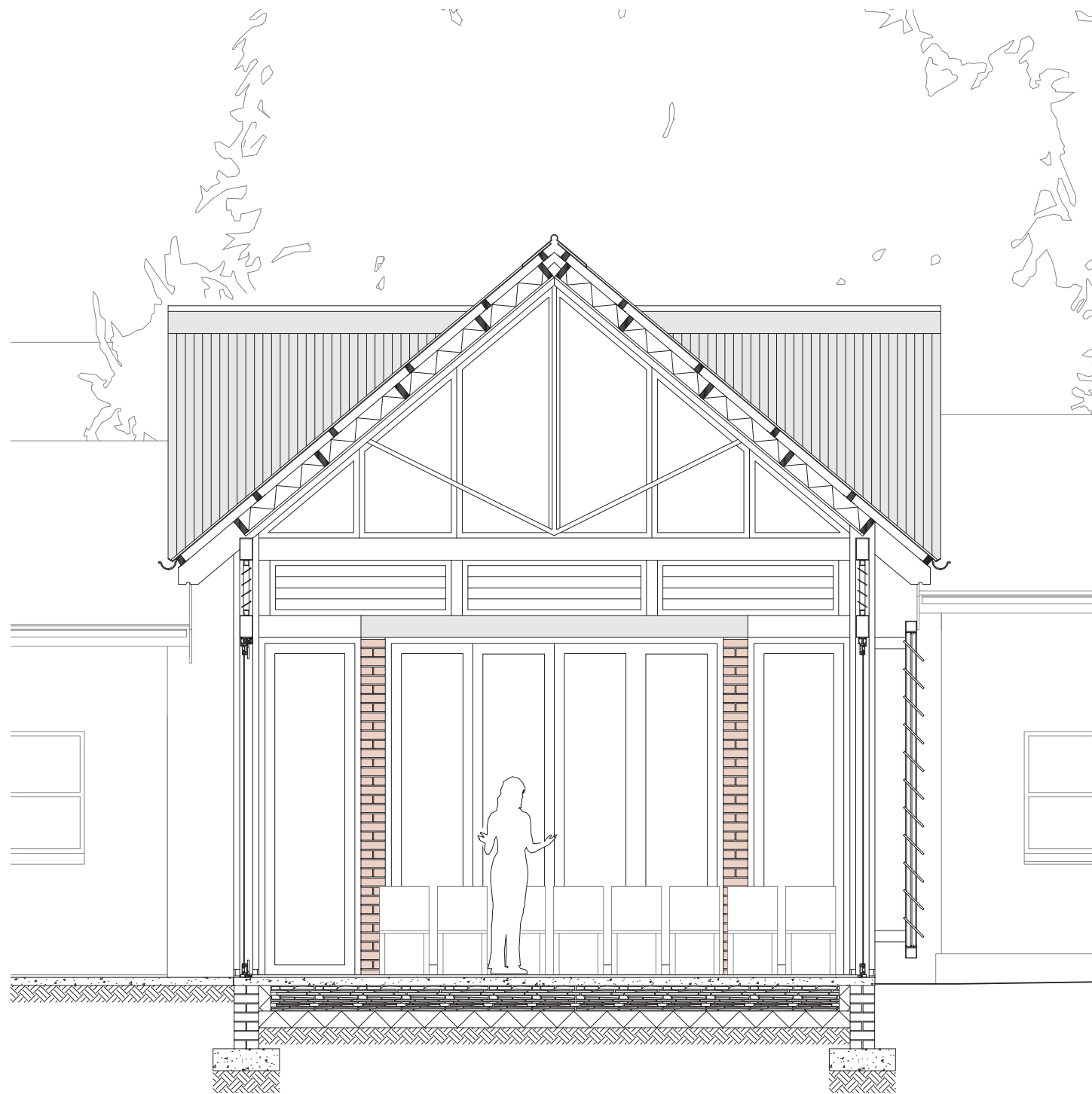


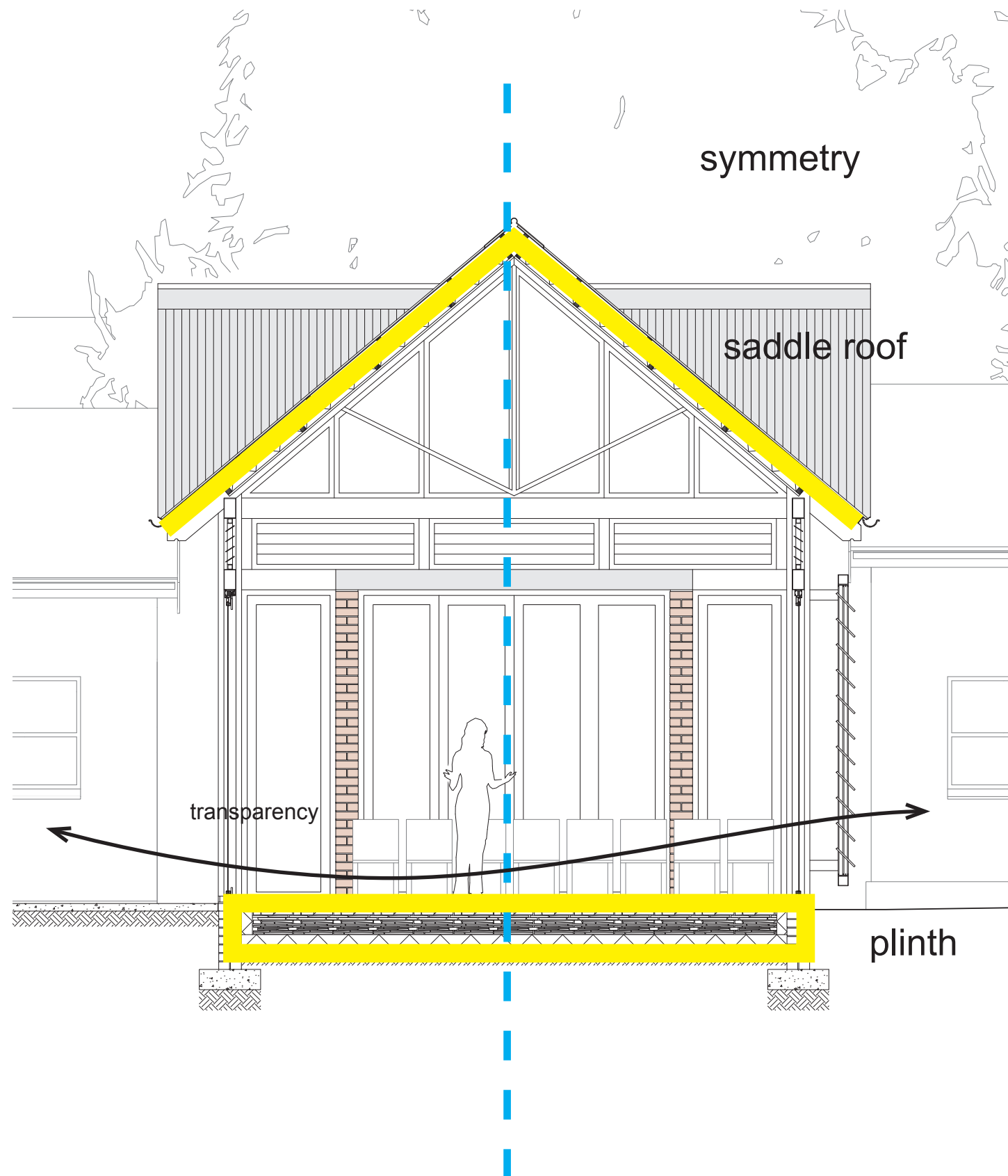
Westfort Works Outdoor Gather Space



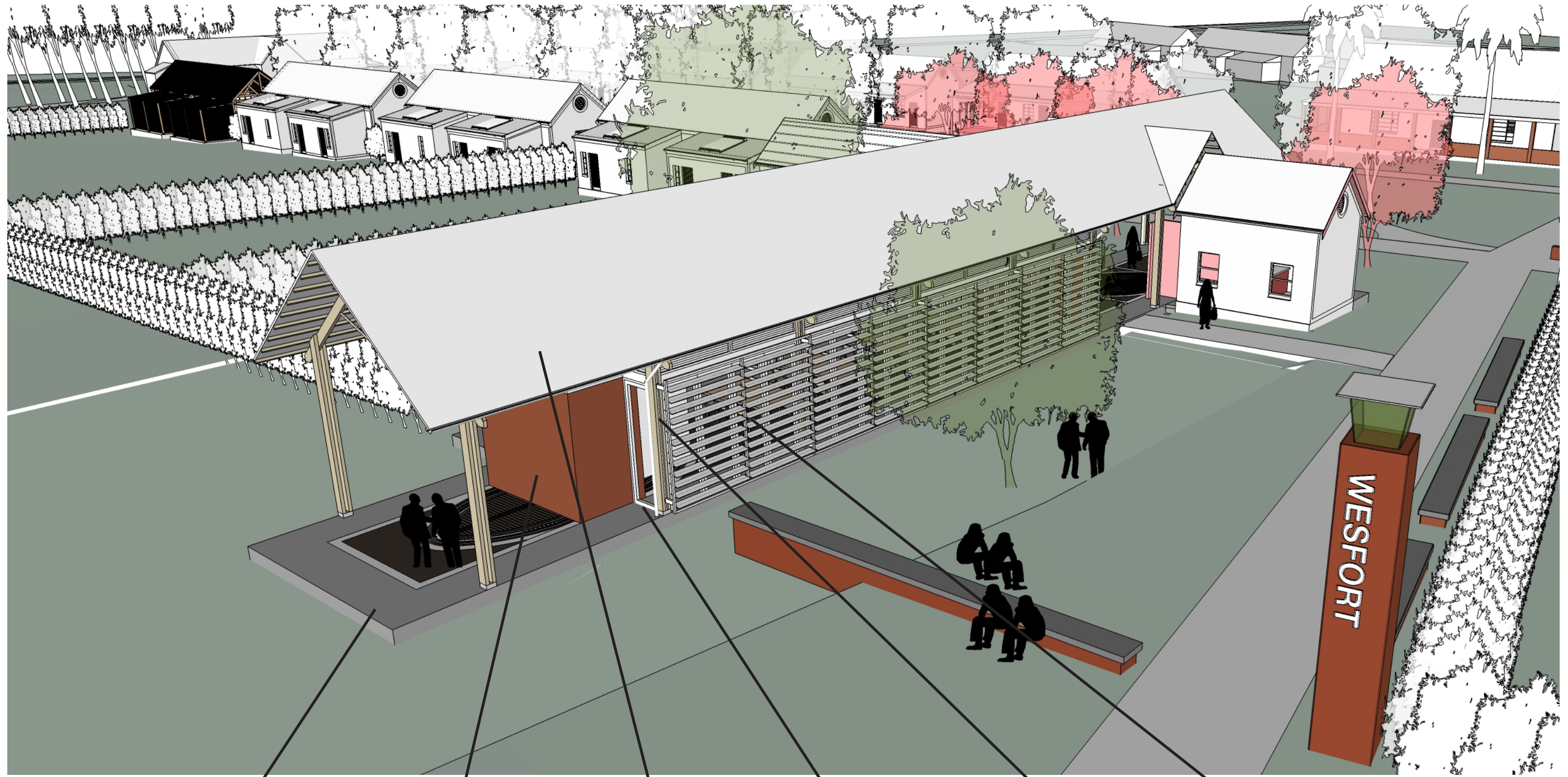
Cluster Side I Toilets







Workshop Room



concrete plinth

brick heads

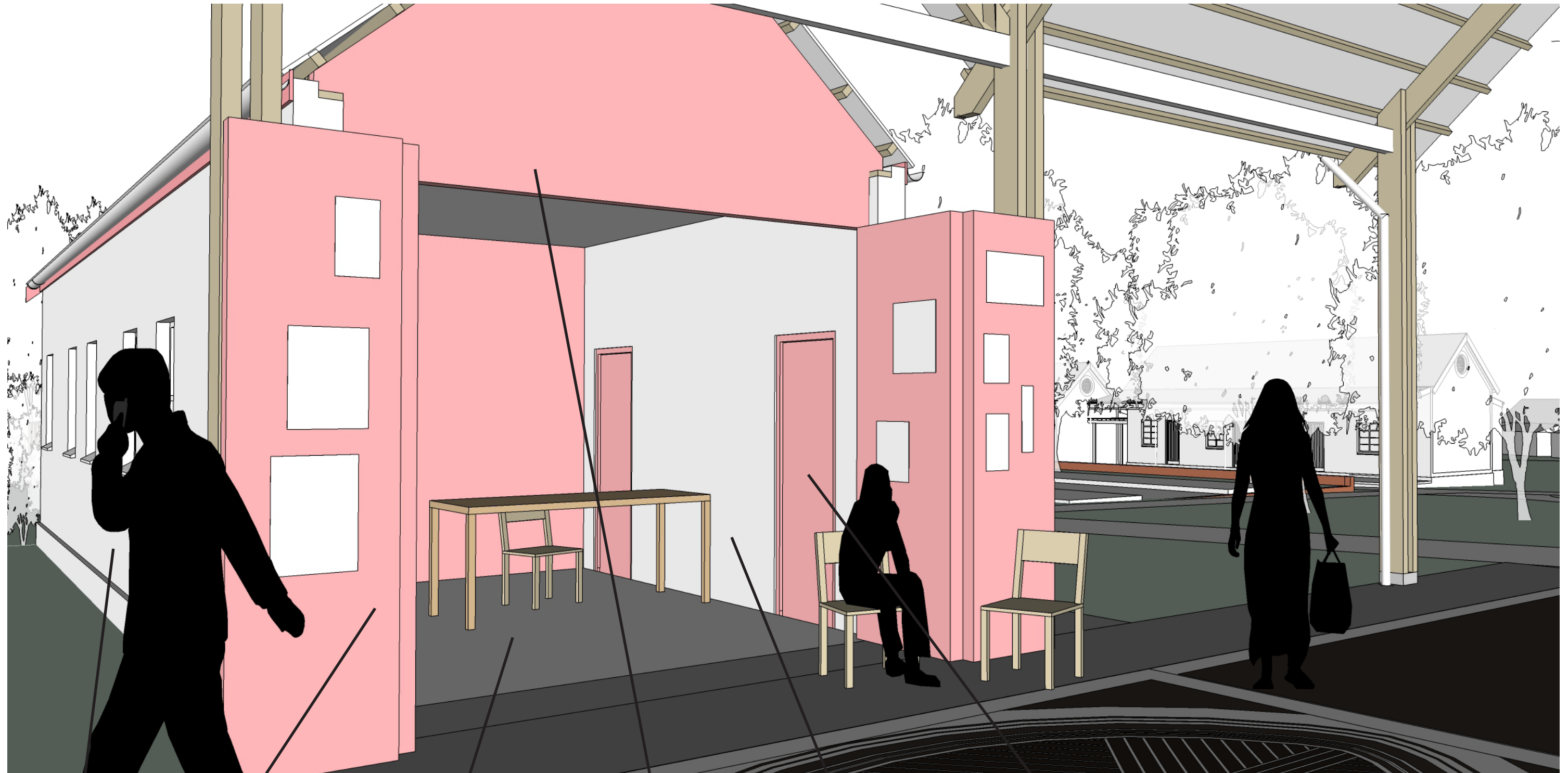
grey corrugated steel roof

steel window frames

composite wooden column

steel louvers

New Walls Changing Room



white plaster

red painted wooden doors

new concrete floor

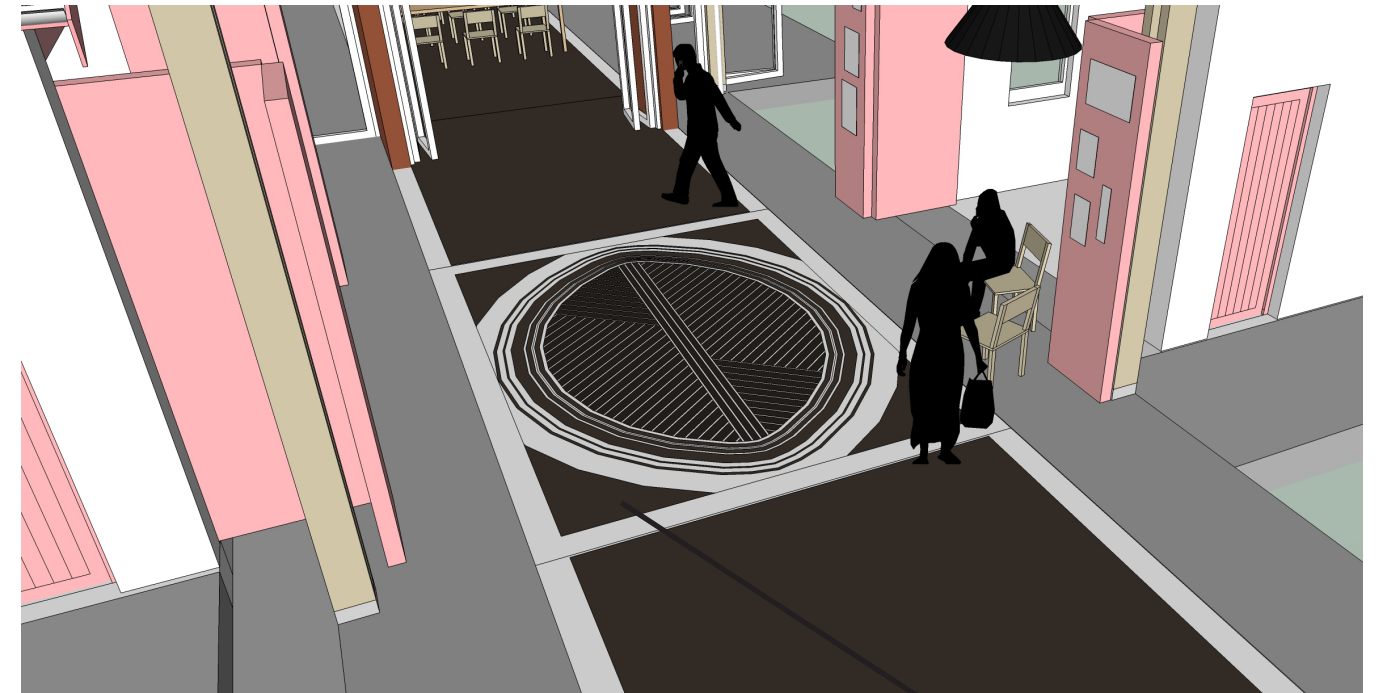
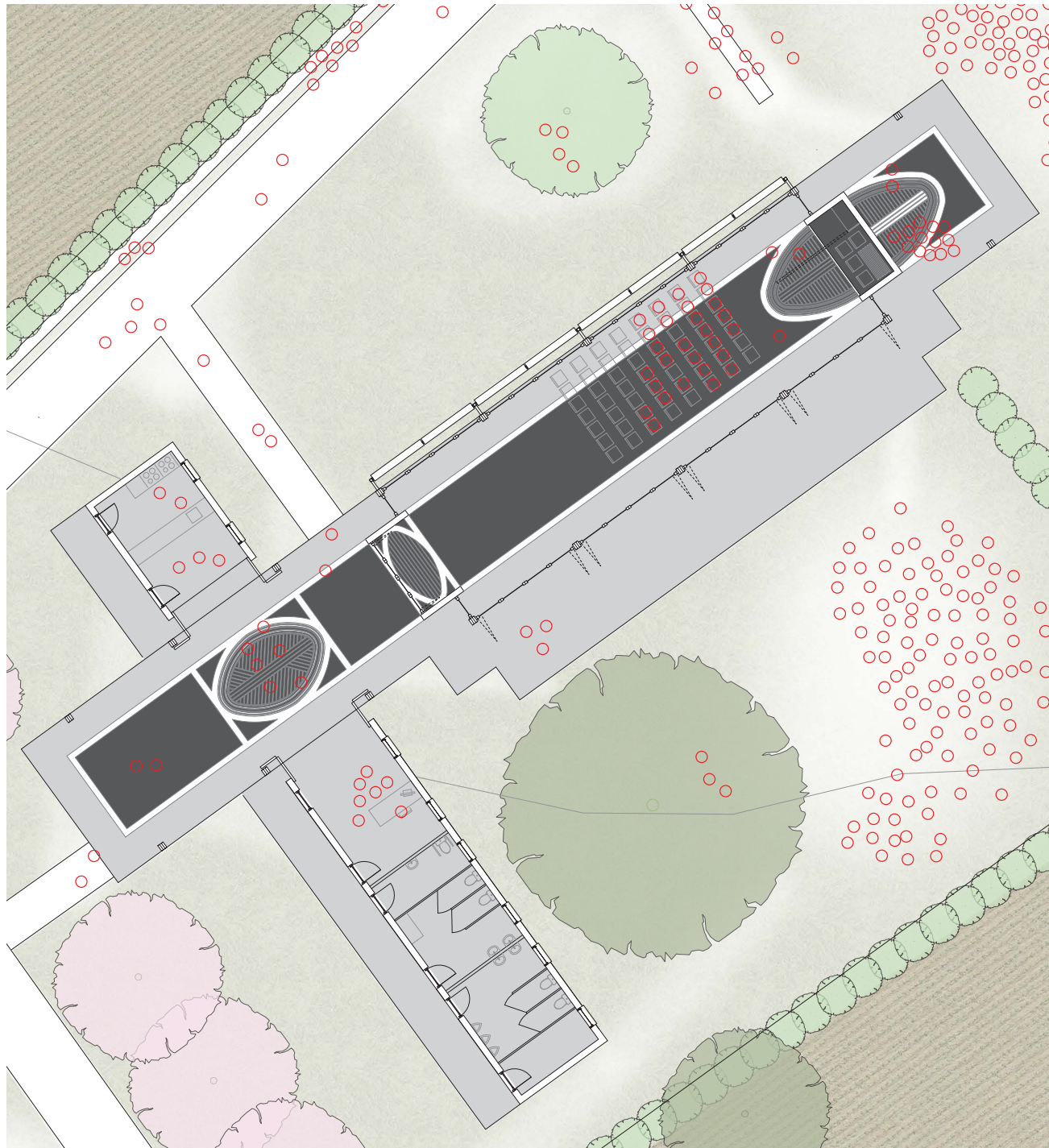
red painted wooden wall

white plaster

red painted wooden door

Floor Design

pattern designed by local artist, made by local craftsmen



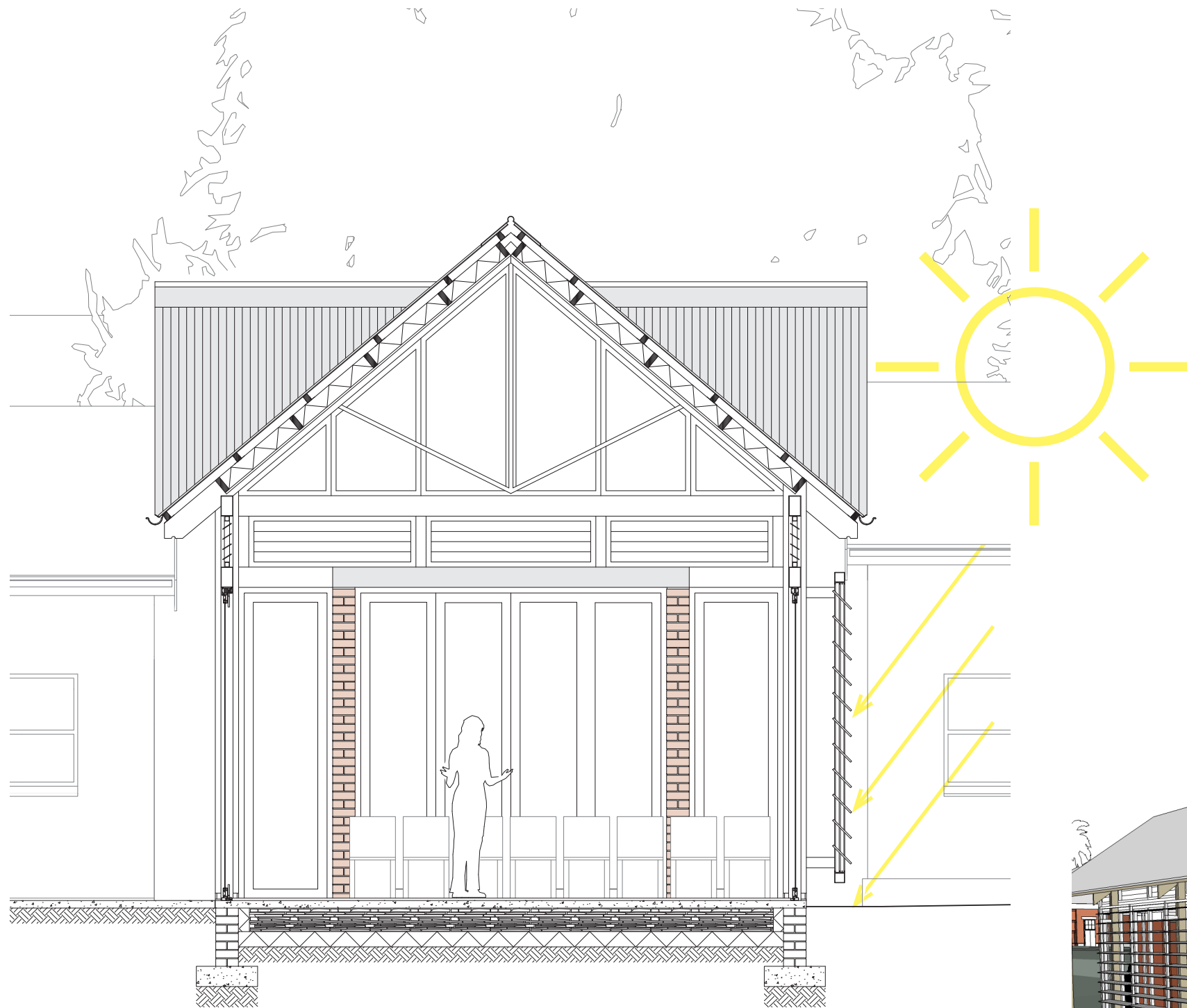
reused slate from floor chaning room



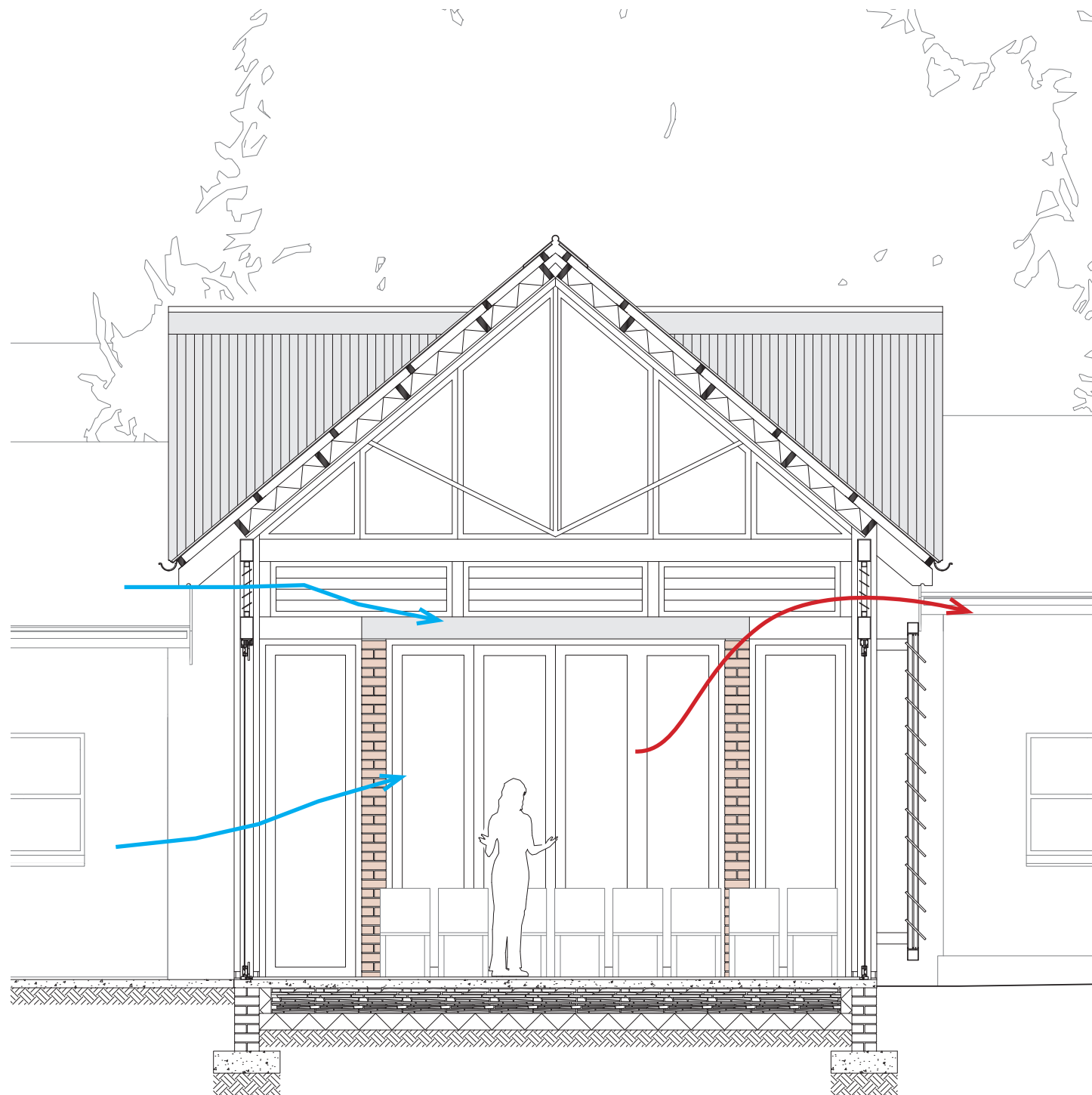
NATIVE / LOCAL DESIGN

ZAR DESIGN

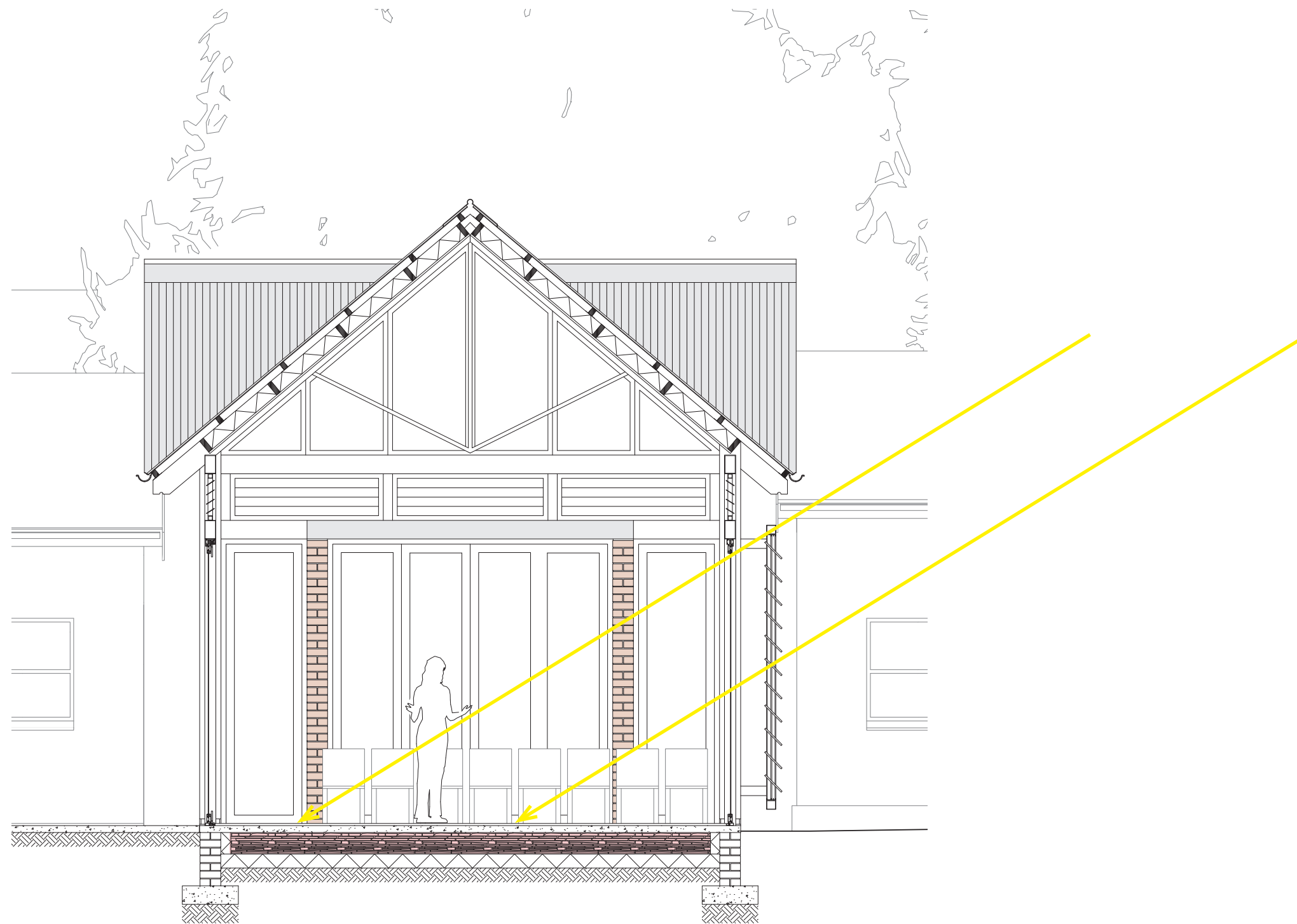
Sun Shade



Cooling



Heating

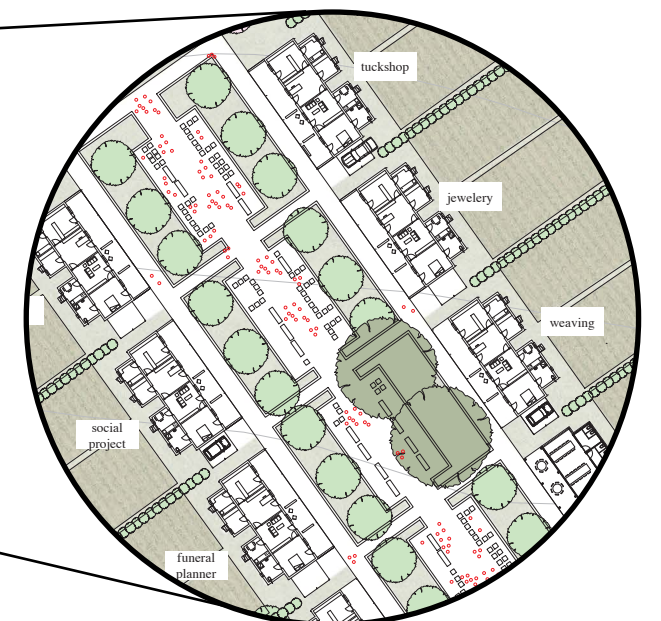
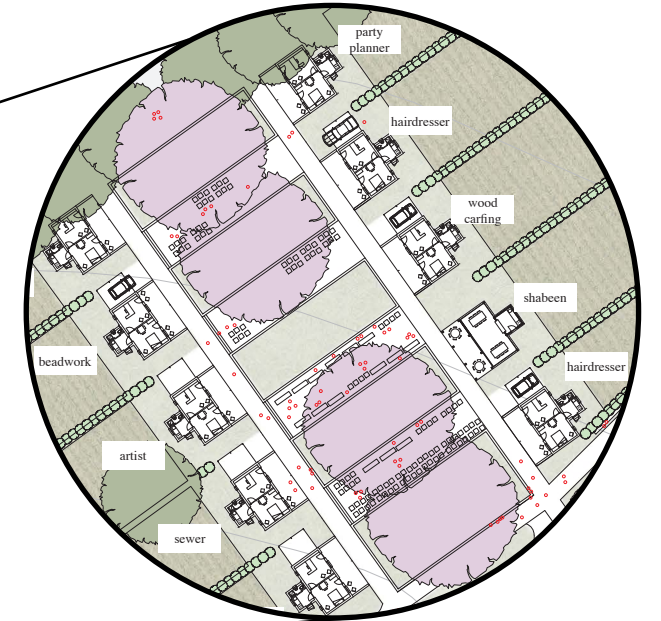


thermal rock floor (local slate)

230 mm

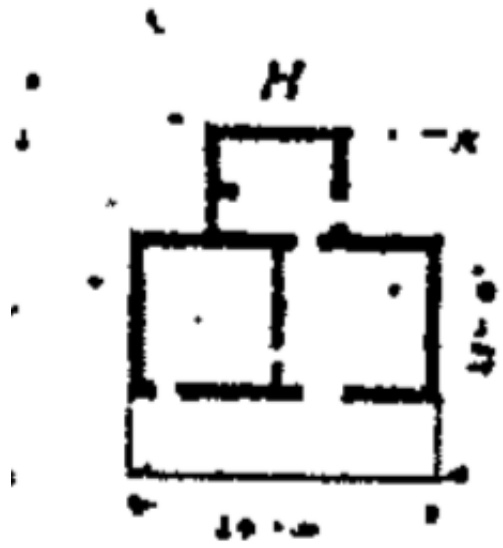
60 ton / 100 m²

Westfort Works Houses

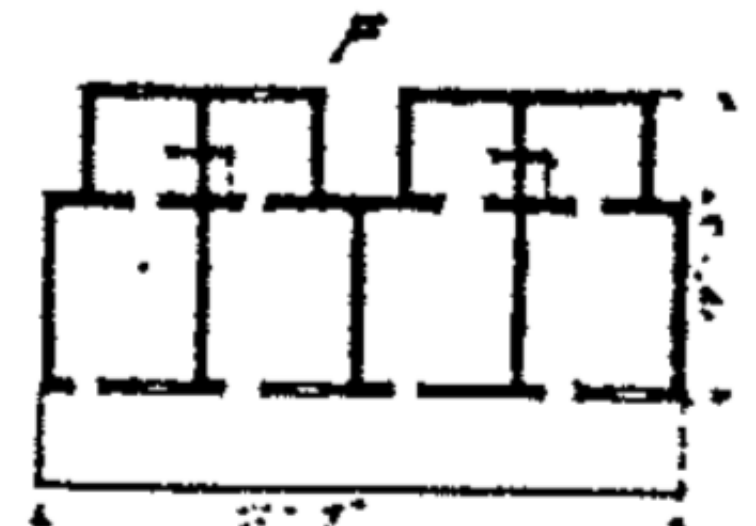




Characteristics Houses



houses for couples



houses for men



Concept Work Houses

HERITAGE



WORKING

LIVING

selling goods

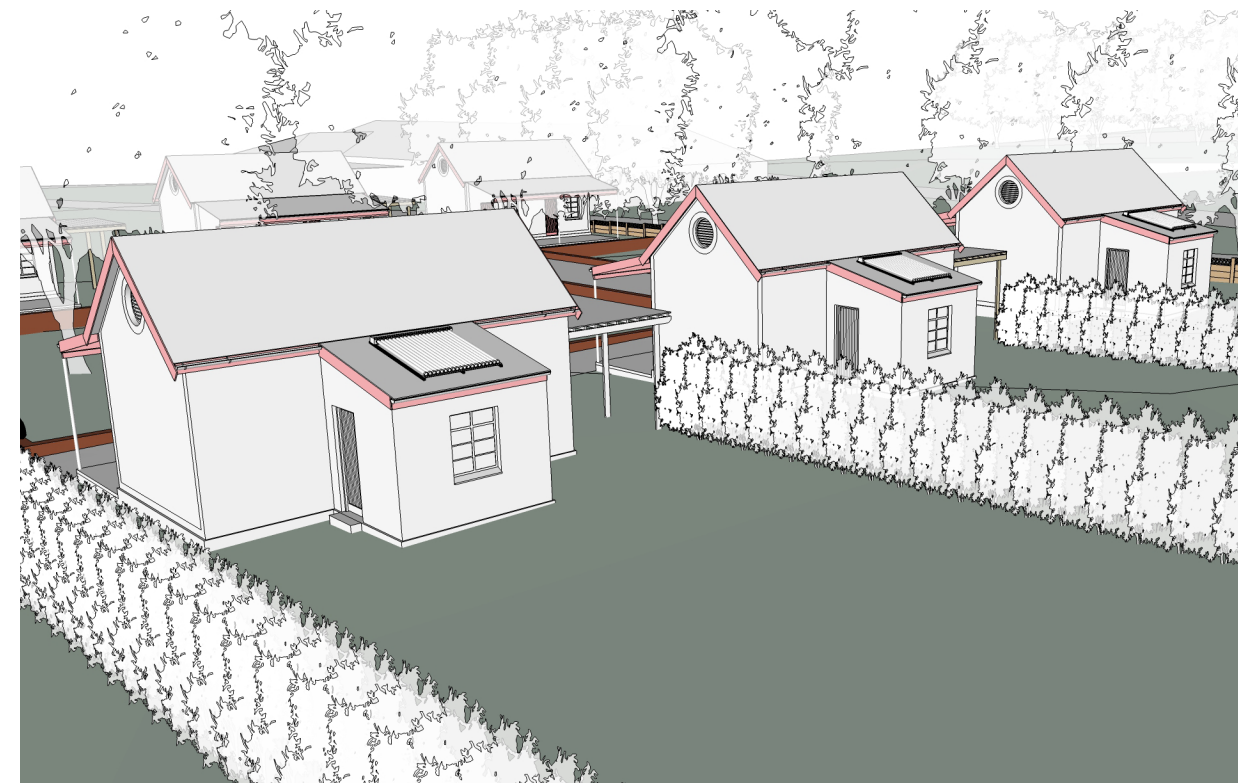
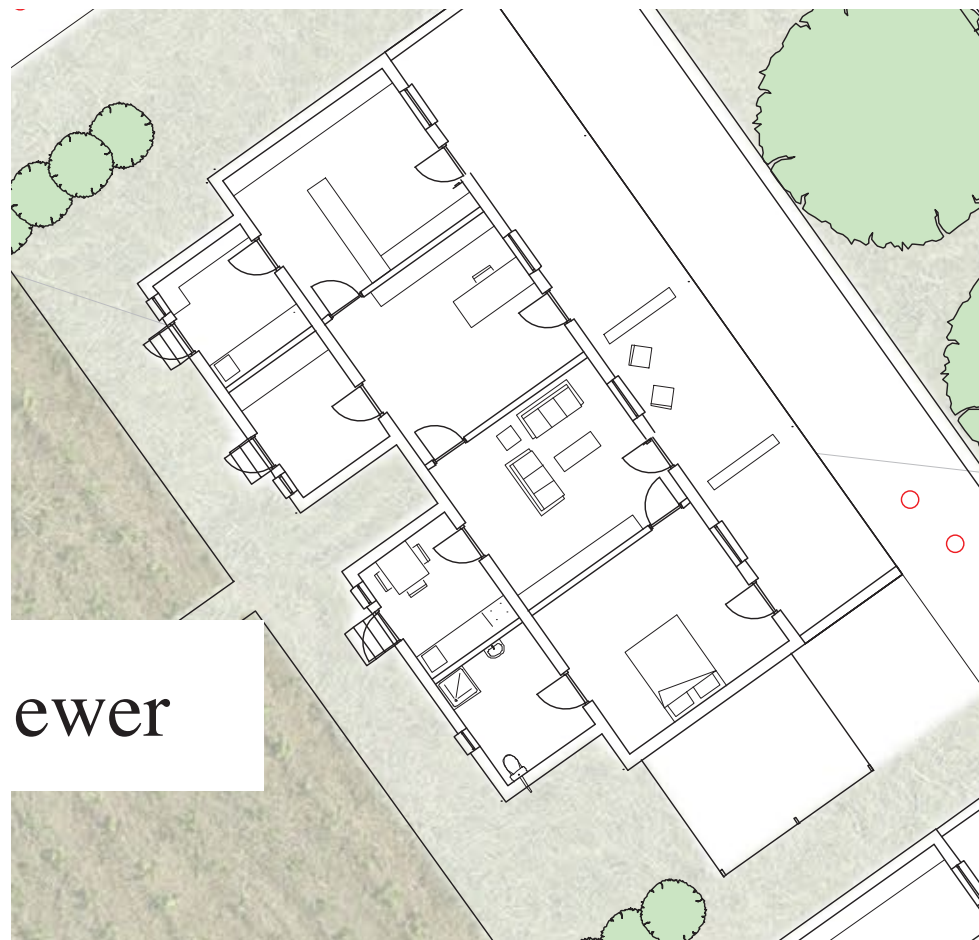
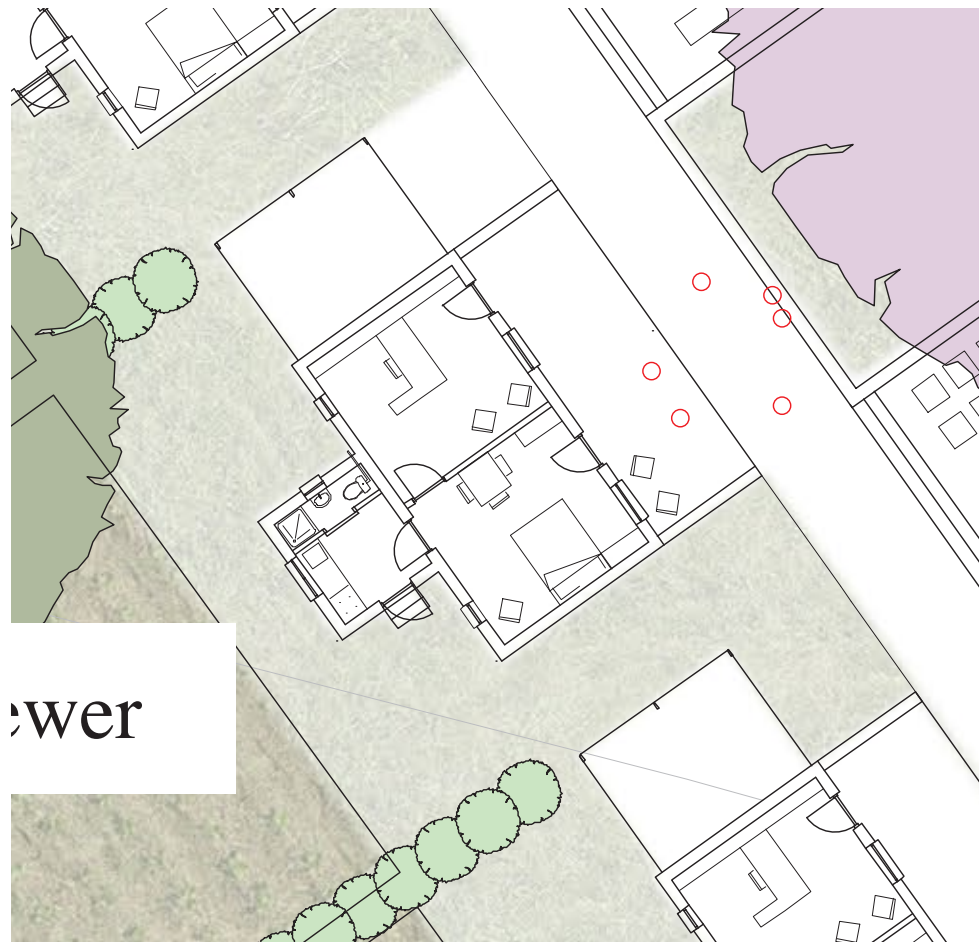


parking in shadow and
proximity house

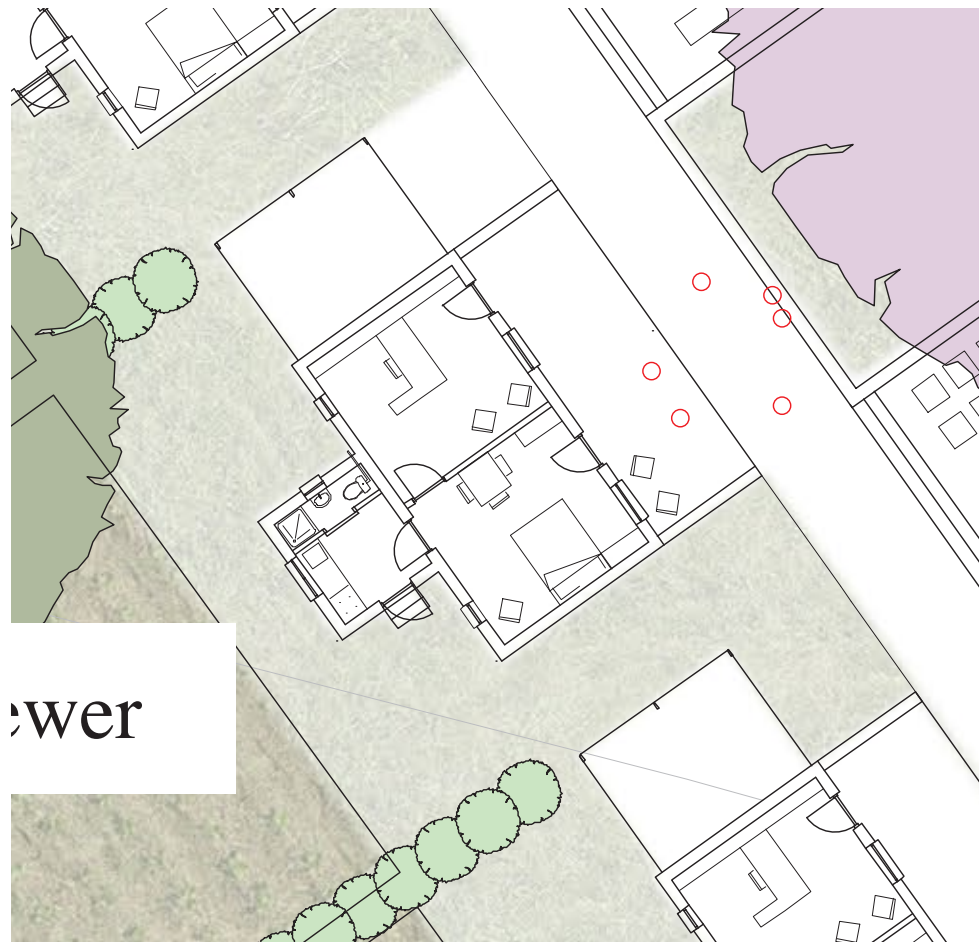
drying wash



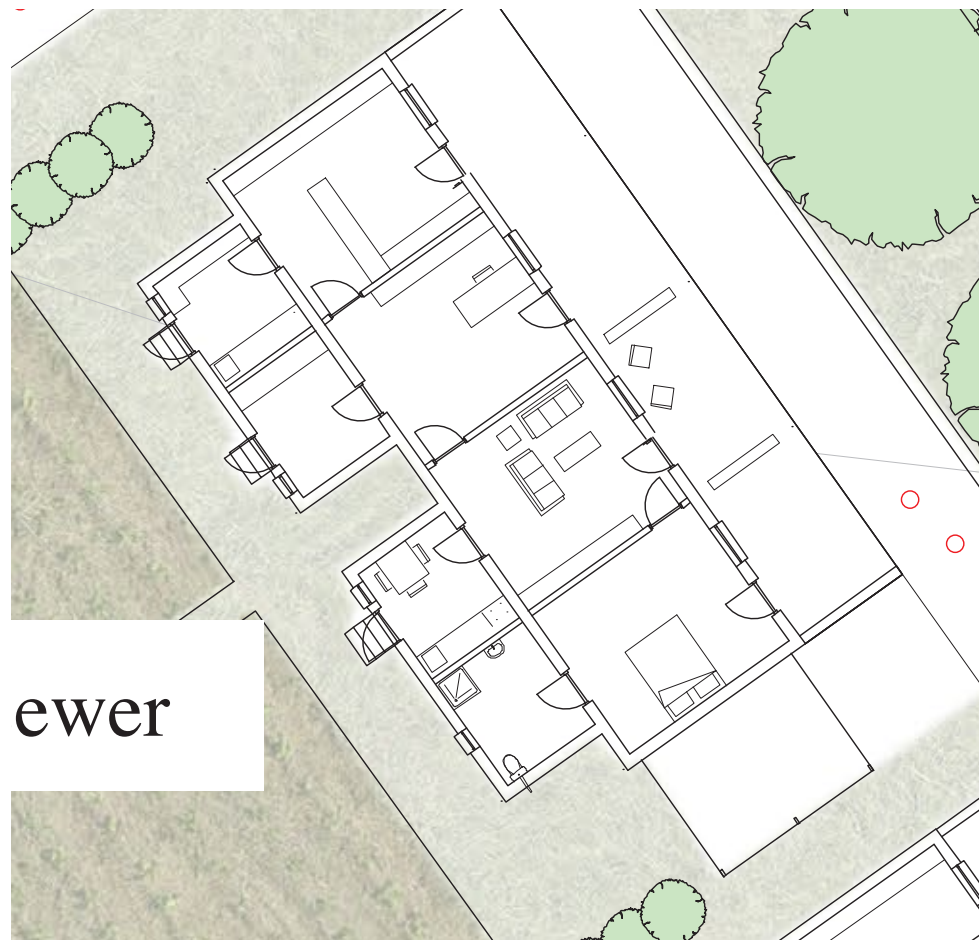
Design Work Houses



Design Work Houses

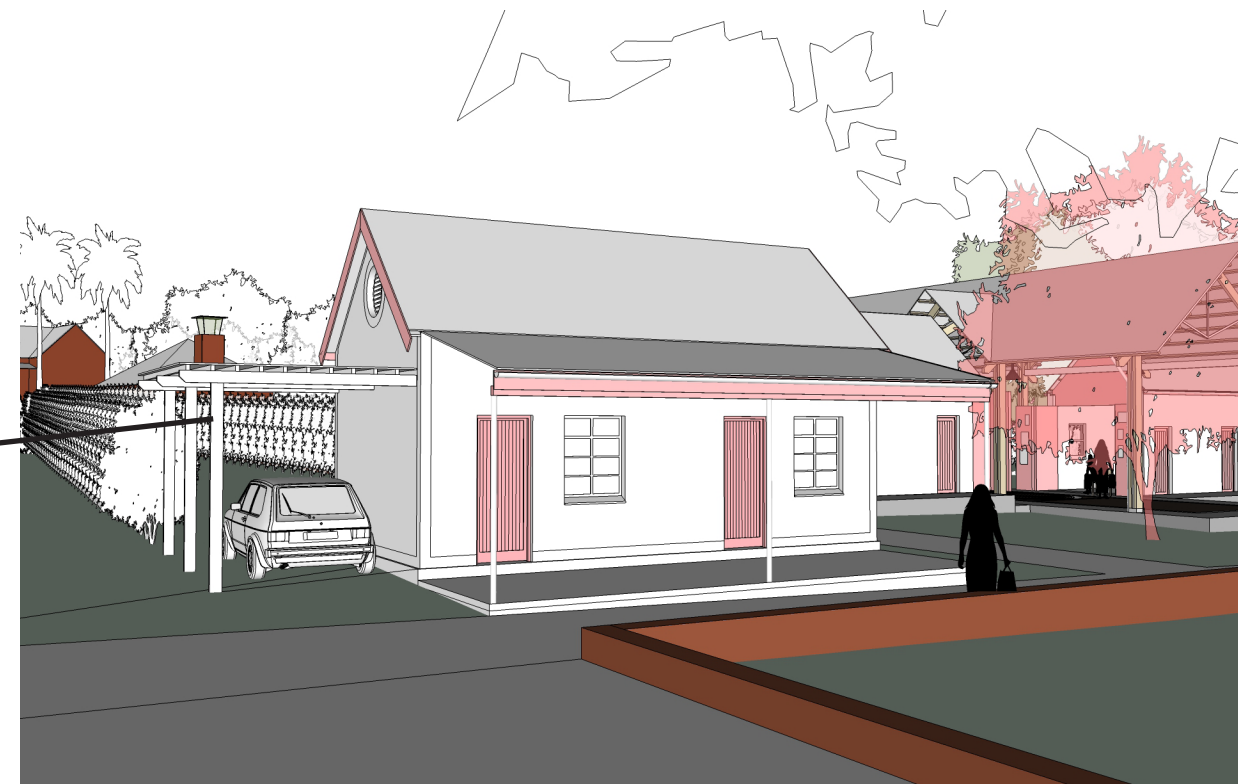


ewer

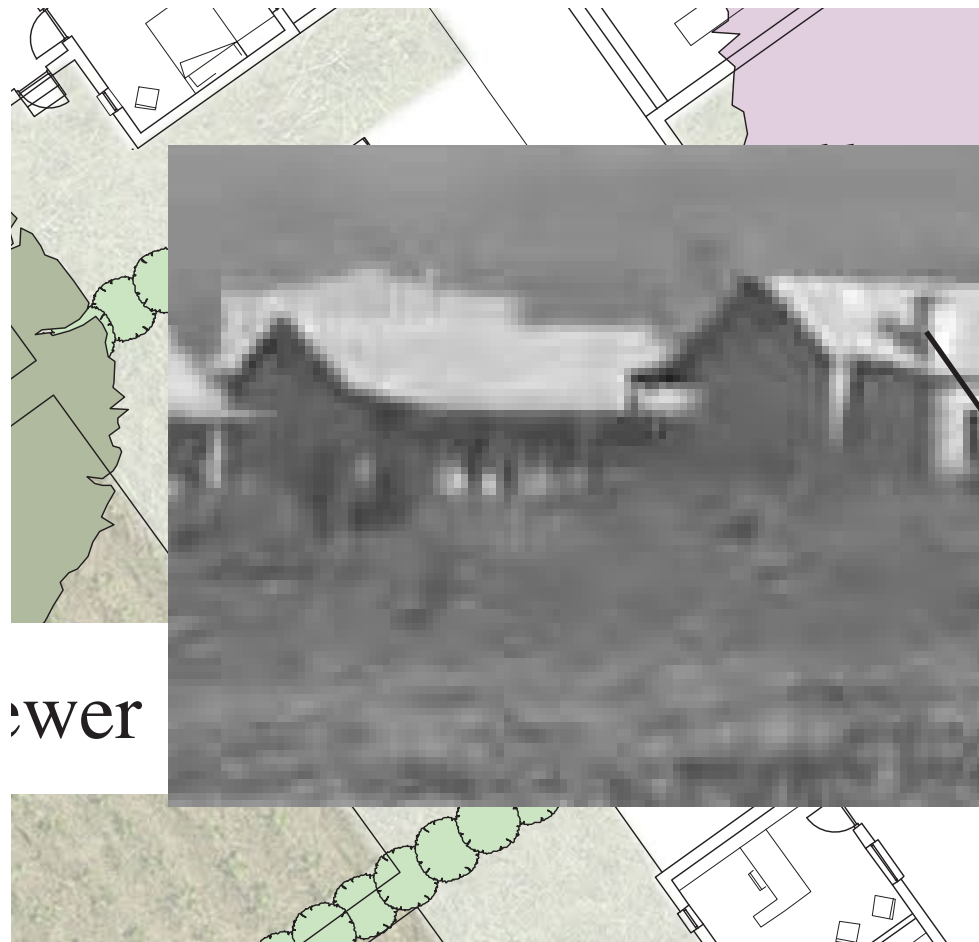


ewer

covered parking
light wooden construction with
translucent plastic corrugated plates

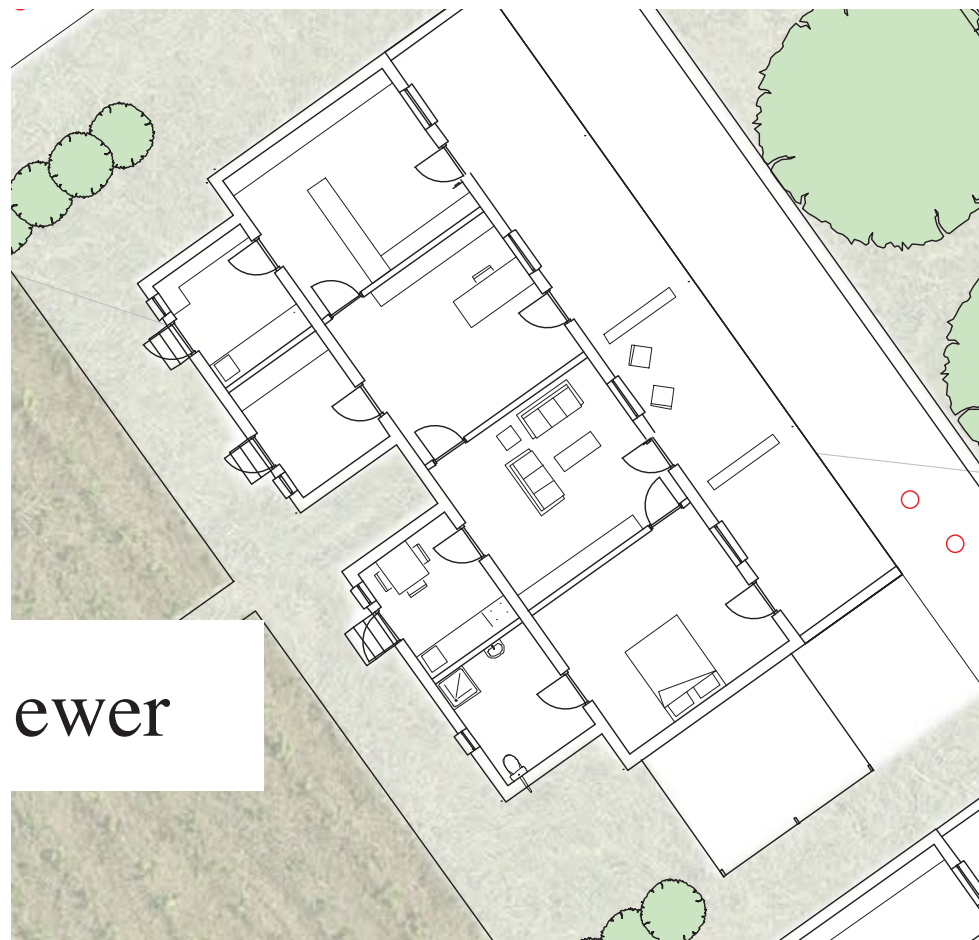


Design Work Houses



ewer

chimneys for fireplace | functional | ritme

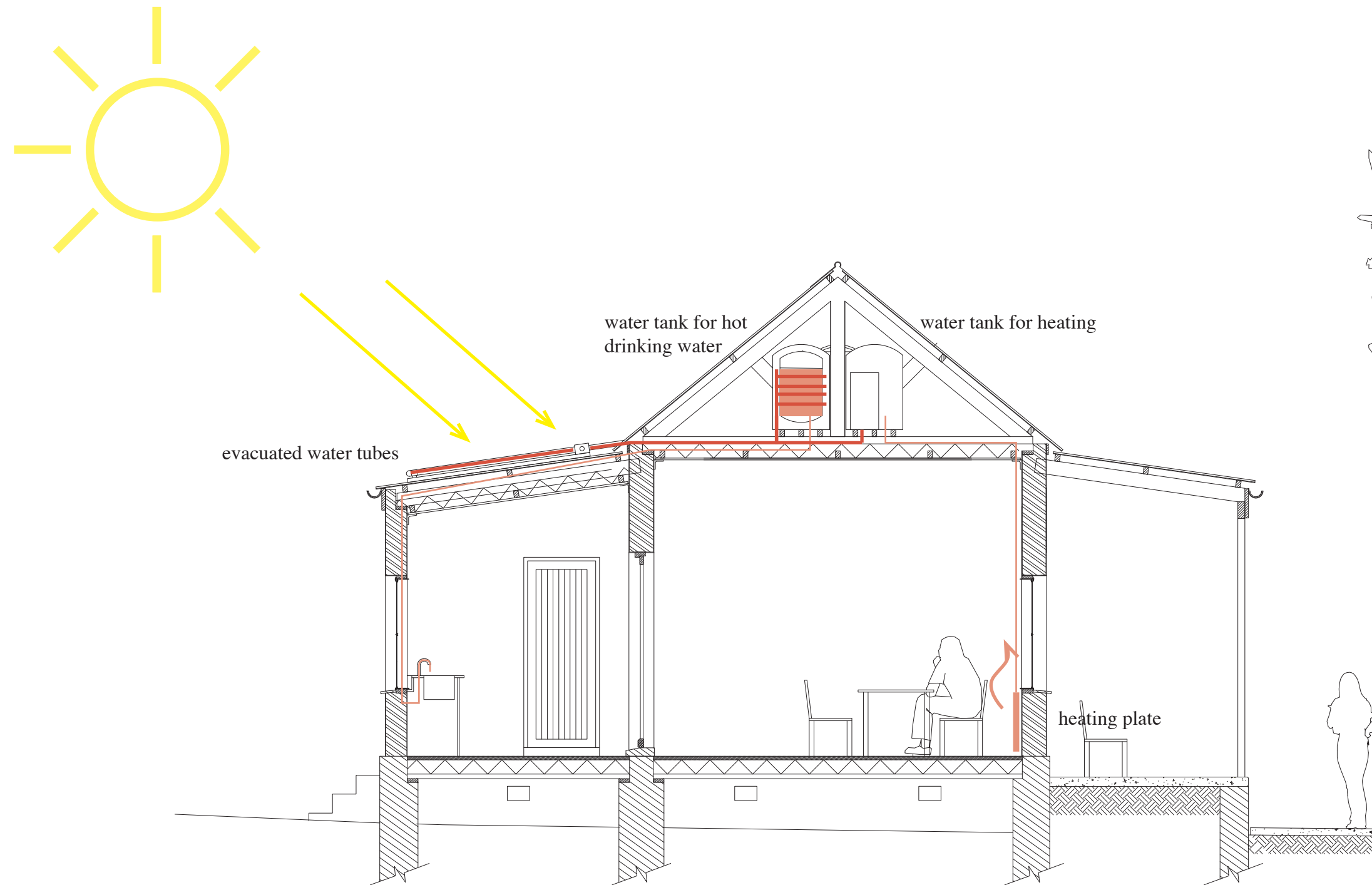


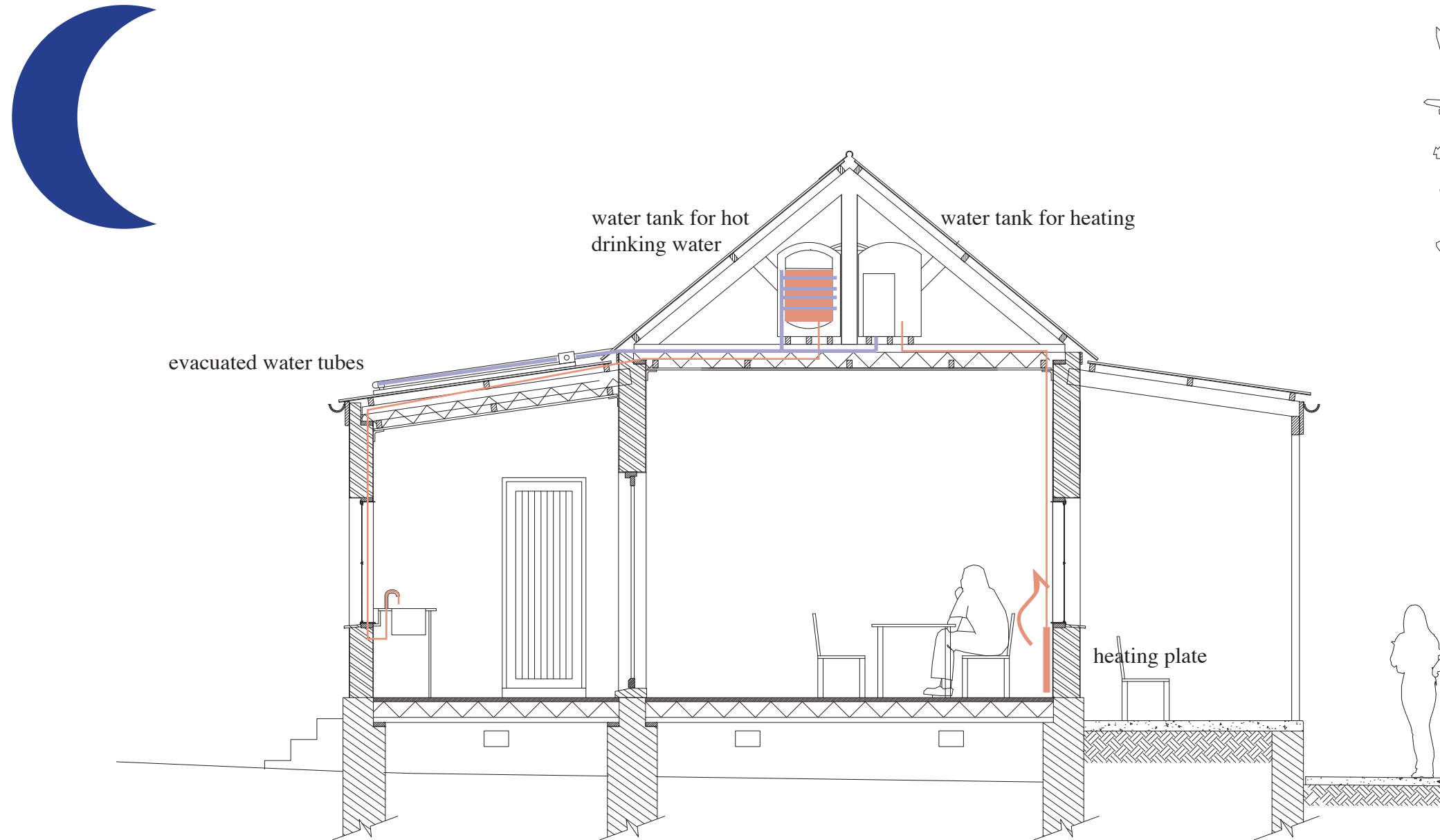
ewer

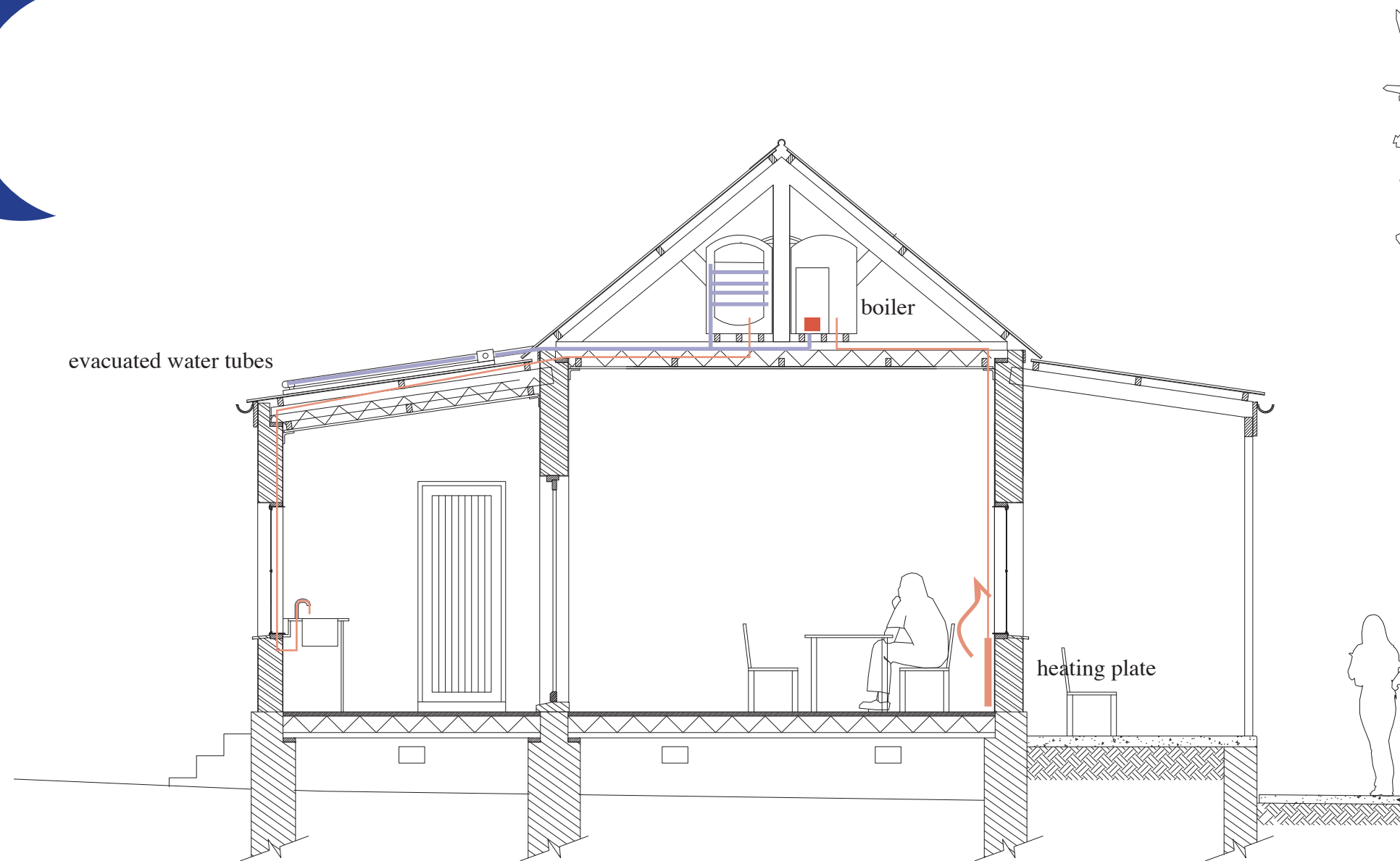
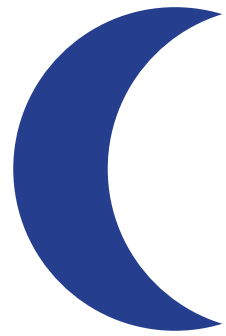
evacuated water tubes | functional | ritme



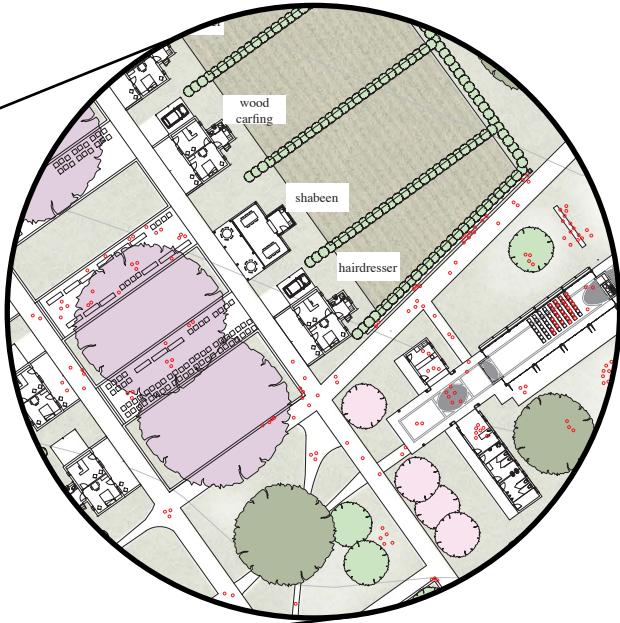
Design Work Houses







Westfort Lost Houses - Shebeen / Braai place



Front & Back Facade

- Layout changed through years
- Plain long roofs



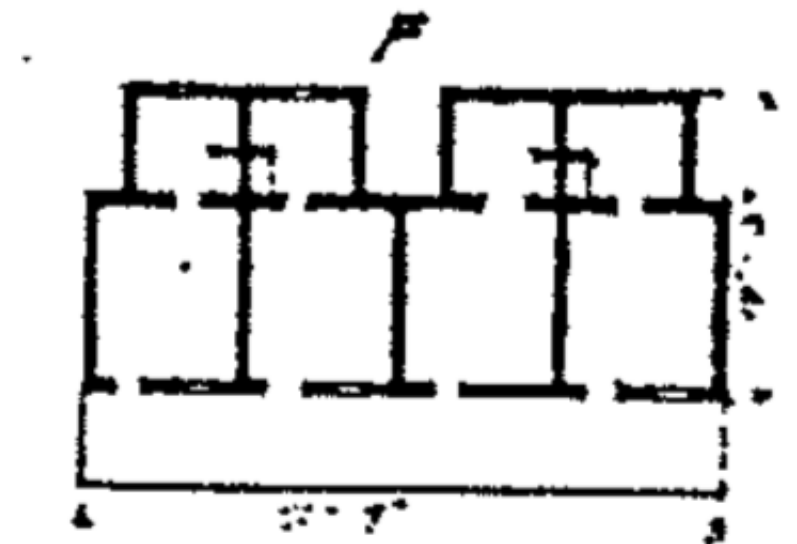
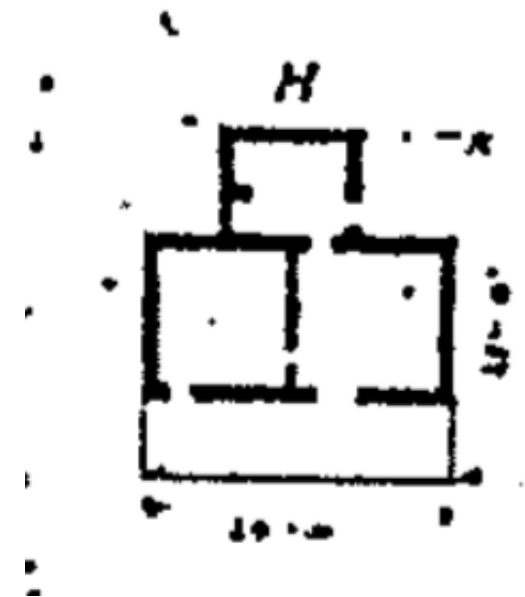
Side Facades

- Plain facade with bull eye window



Plan

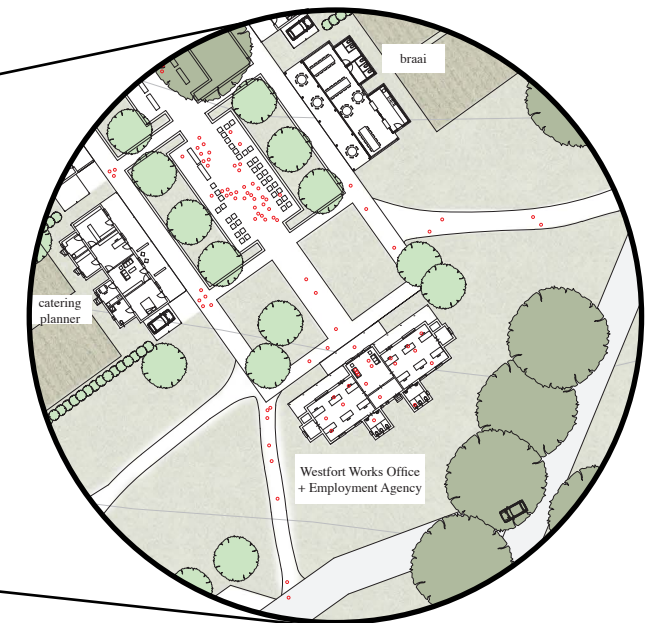
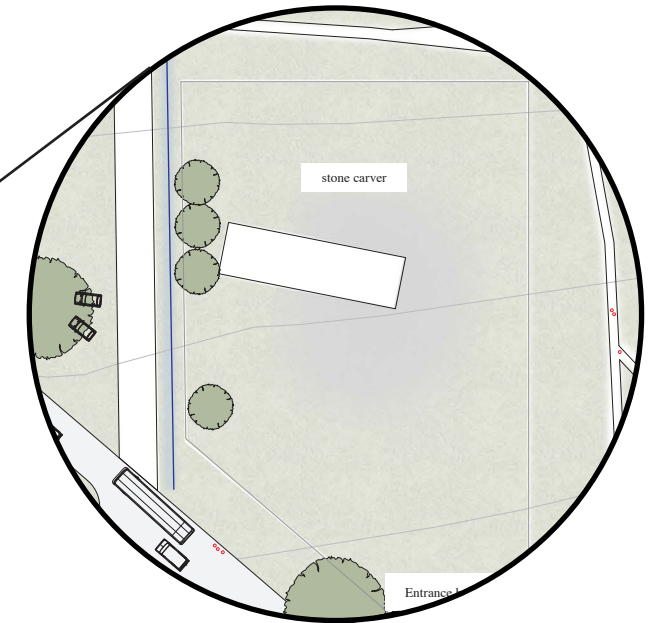
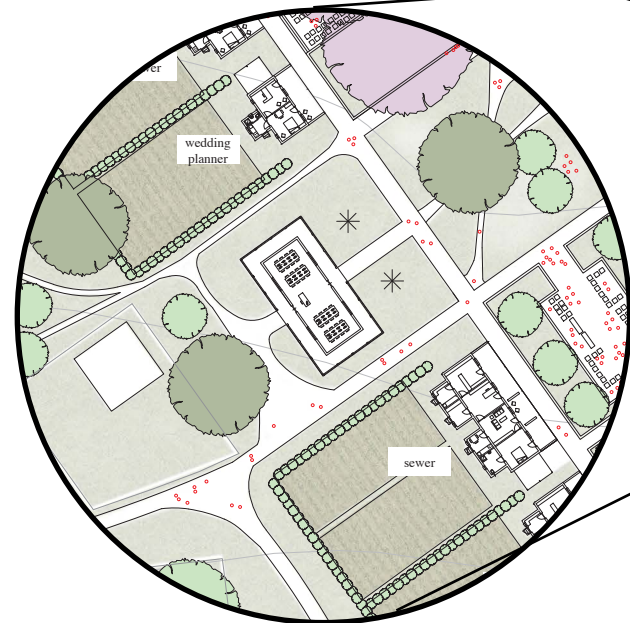
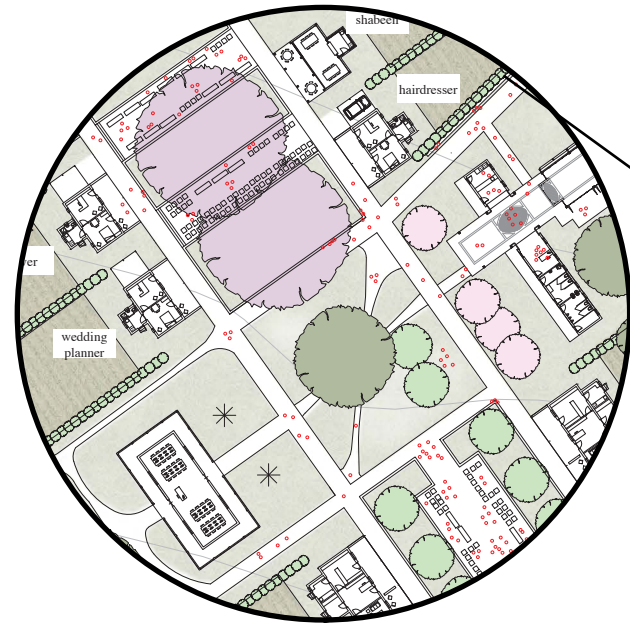
- “Stoep” (veranda)
- Equally sized rooms
- Washing room







Other Functions





FUTURE?

TUTORS GO TO PRETORIA TO DISCUS
WESTFORT WITH COMMUNITY

HOPEFULLY MY PLAN CAN GIVES AN POSI-
TIVE CONTRIBUTION