

# Hauntology of loss

დაკარგვის ჰანტოლოგია

the ghosts of Tbilisi

თბილისის აჩრდილები

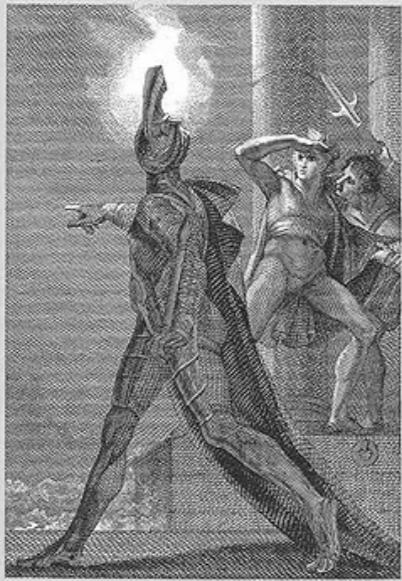
# **chapter I / research**

haunted memory and material mourning



JACQUES DERRIDA

# Specters of Marx



The State of the Debt,  
the Work of Mourning,  
& the New International

Translated from the French by Peggy Kamuf

Introduction by Bernd Magnus & Stephen Cullenberg

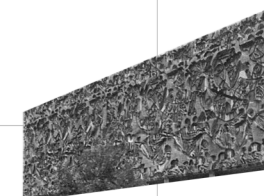
“To exorcise not the ghost but this ideology of the ghost . . . not to chase it away, but to grant it its place, to learn to live with it.”

— Spectres of Marx, p.xviii (Introduction)

“1. Elimination of the threat of crimes against the state, and terrorism and violation of the principles of state security; provision of the effective exercise of the legislative norms of Georgia and strengthening of national security in accordance with modern practices; 2. Provision of preventive measures against the principles of communist totalitarian and national socialist (Nazi) ideologies; **3. Removal of the symbols and names of cult buildings, memorials, monuments, bas-reliefs, inscriptions, streets, squares, villages and settlements of the communist totalitarian regime, as well as the prohibition of the propaganda instruments and other means of communist totalitarian and national socialist (Nazi) ideologies.(...)**”



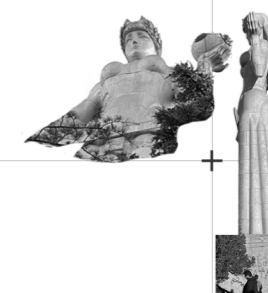
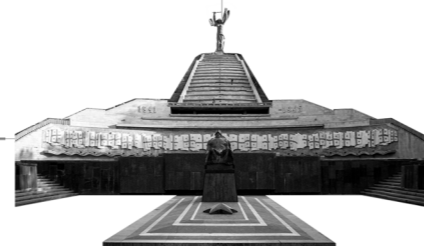
buildings



bas reliefs



mosaics



monuments

former archeology museum



former industrial-pedagogical technical college



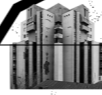
former managing computing centre of the united board of the energy system of transcaucasia



ministry of transportation / bank of georgia



tbilisi city hall



institute of physiology / ministry of education, science and youth

mosaic in an underground air shaft



bas relief in the technical university metro station

televideo state committee and studio / georgian public broadcaster



former technical library

editorial office of 'zaria Vostoka' newspaper / private offices and shops



central post and telegraph / radisson telegraph hotel

plaques commemorating victims of soviet persecutions



institute of marx, engels and lenin / baltimore hotel

sulphur bath





St. George Church  
ენაგეთის წმ.  
გიორგის სახელობის  
მონასტერი

Map data ©2025 Terms 2 km

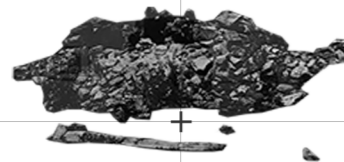
Google My Maps

Keyboard shortcuts

# mourning inventory

prayers at the ruins of a st george church

R1



funeral

R2



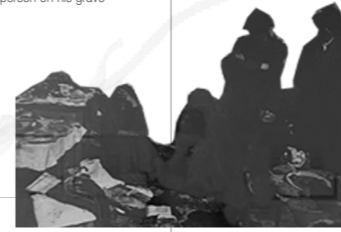
ceremony of mourning of a deceased man

R3



spreading the clothes of a newly deceased person on his grave

R4



women mourning a deceased man in his house

R5



men in mourning clothes

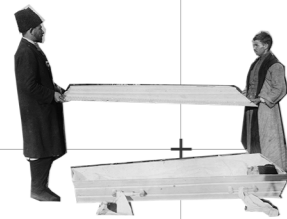
R6



ritual

body in traditional clothing

O1



kelaptari / wax candle

O2



gravestone with side tables

O3



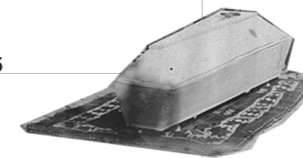
offerings of wine and tangerines

O4



coffin with a body

O5



lyra and a rooster / ritual of separating the soul from the body

O6



object

gravestone

P1



collection of gravestones

P2



cemetery during lamproba

P3



wake - outside

P4



interior of sameba cathedral

P5



sameba cathedral

P6



place

fire of the annual lamproba celebration

T1



feast day of the virgin mary / blessing of the graves

T2



banquet for the soul of a person who passed away a year earlier

T3



comunion meal 40th day after death

T4



3 day guarding of the deceased

T5



leading the souls out of the house during the annual lipanali celebration

T6



time

# THE TOTAL NUMBER OF VICTIMS OF THE SOVIET OCCUPATION IN GEORGIA

according to the documented evidence

approximately 80 000 shot

400 000 deported

majority of the deported persons were retired and shot

approximately 400 000 killed

in the WW II

information found in the Soviet Occupation Museum in Tbilisi

210 000 KGB files missing

that is 80% of all KGB files which recorded the Soviet repressions, which were destroyed or exported to Moscow

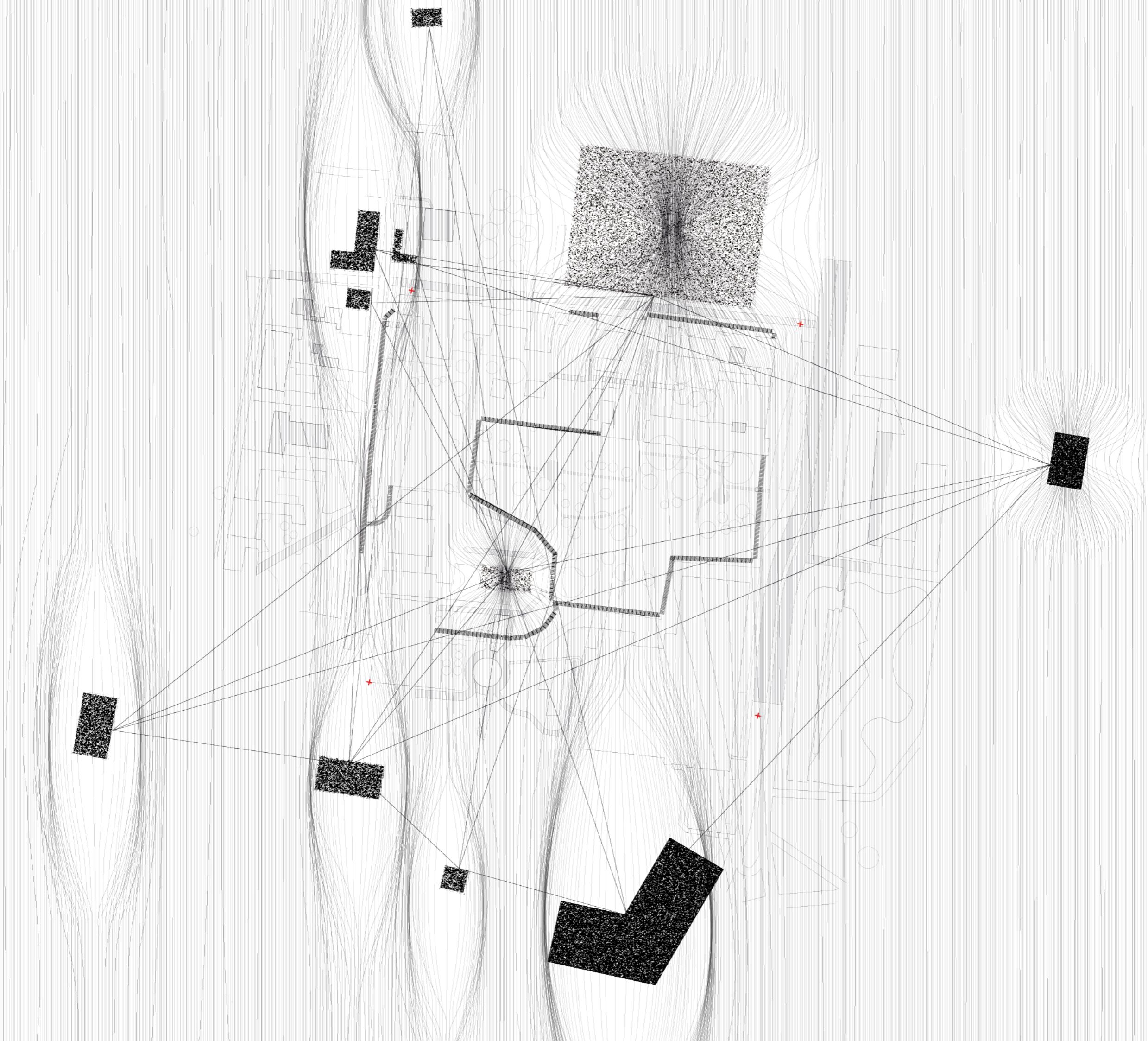
information from the Institute for Development of Freedom of Information

Mourning is not just about remembering

it is about negotiating with absence, with the traces of

what was

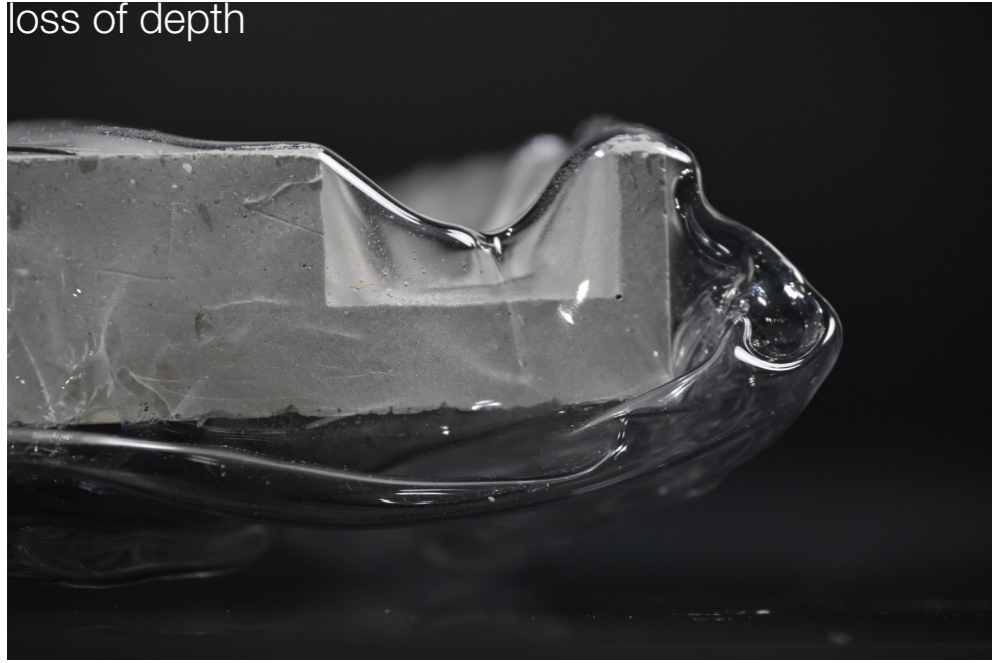
and what could have been



# **chapter II / concept**

stacking absences

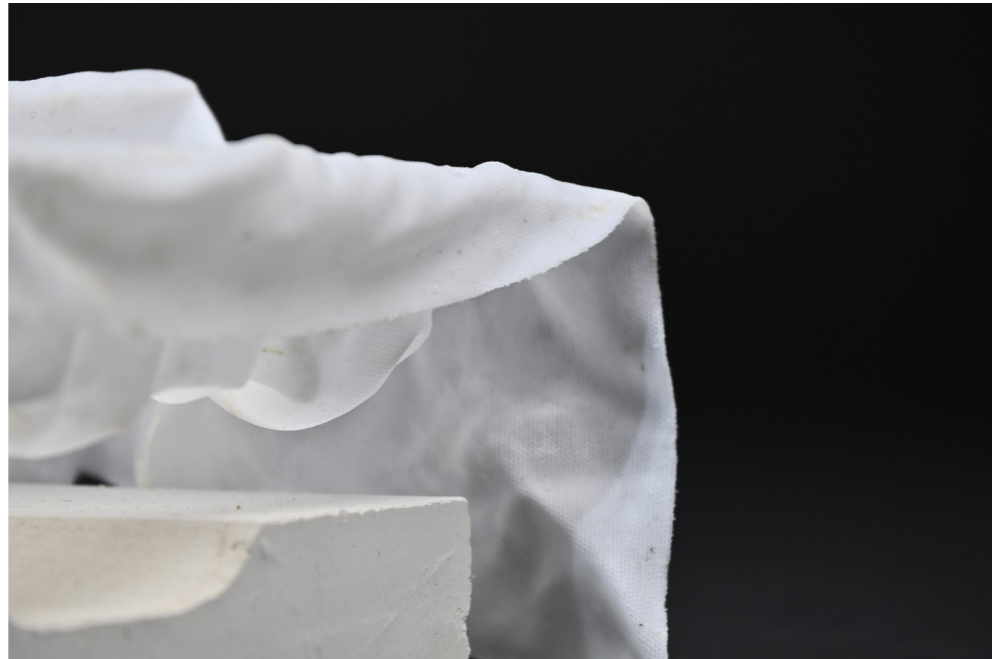
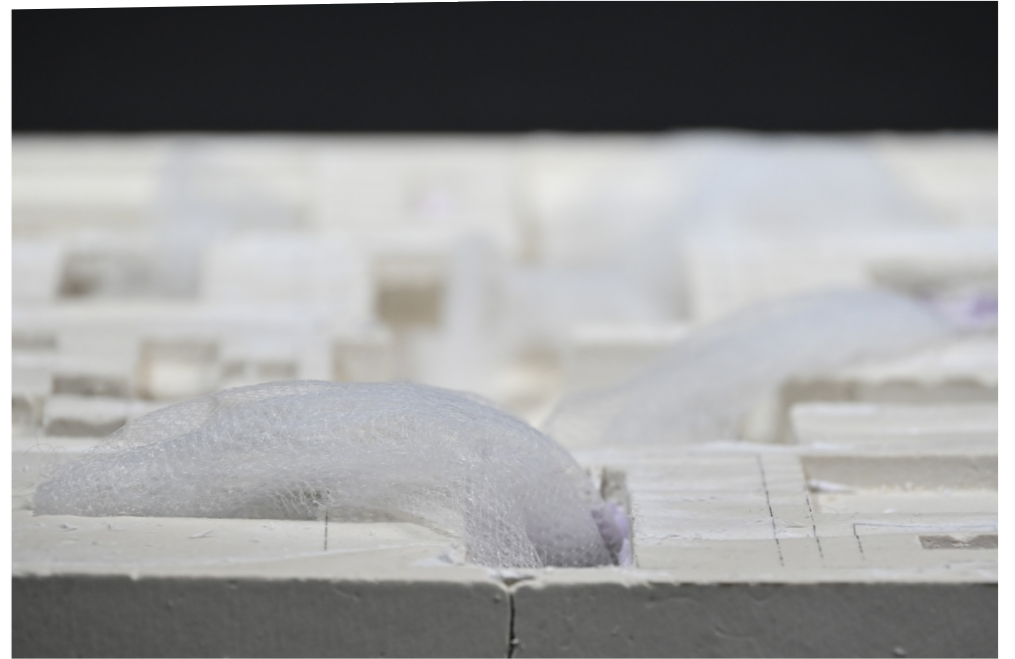
loss of depth



loss of presence



loss of meaning

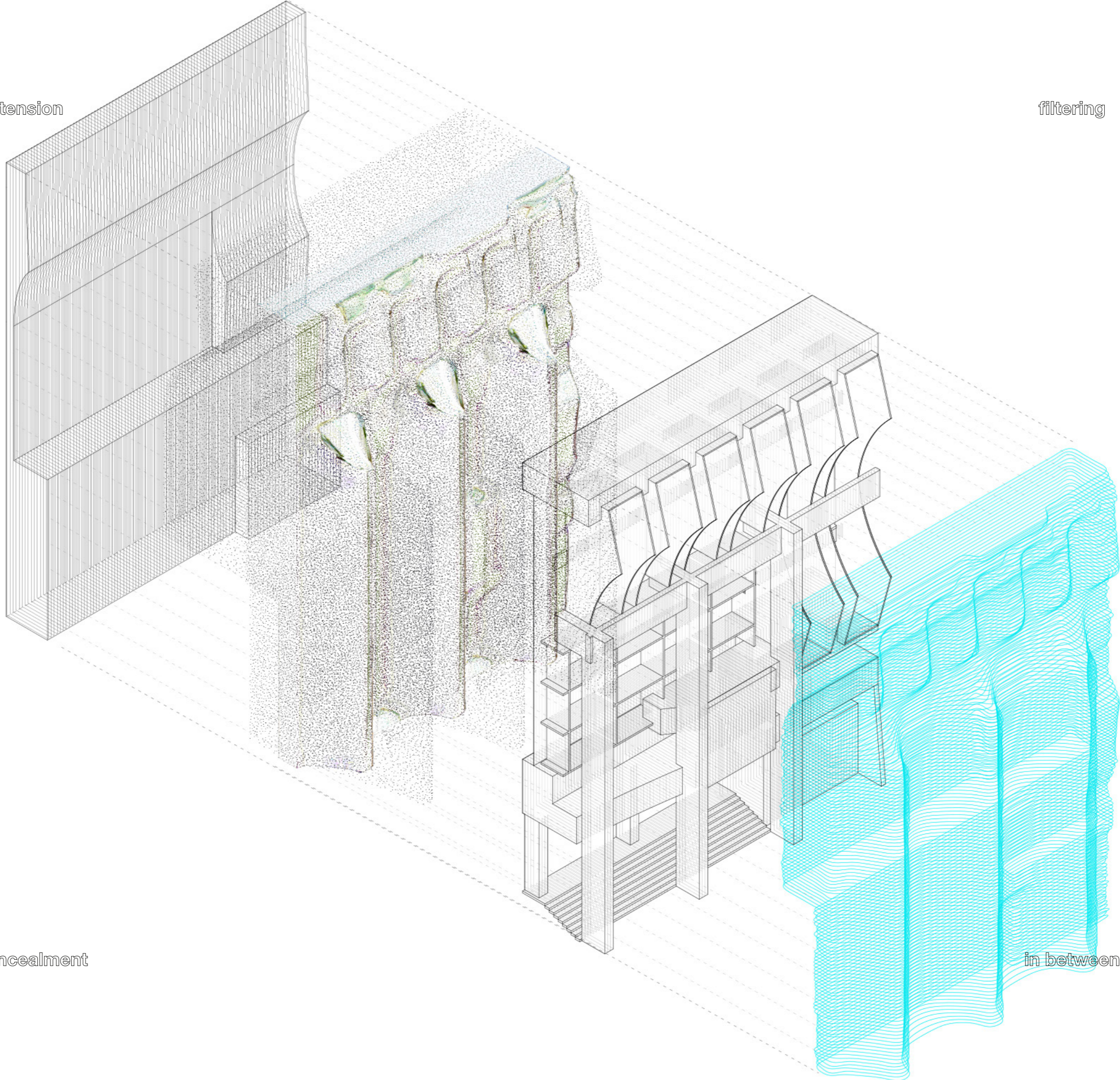


tension

filtering

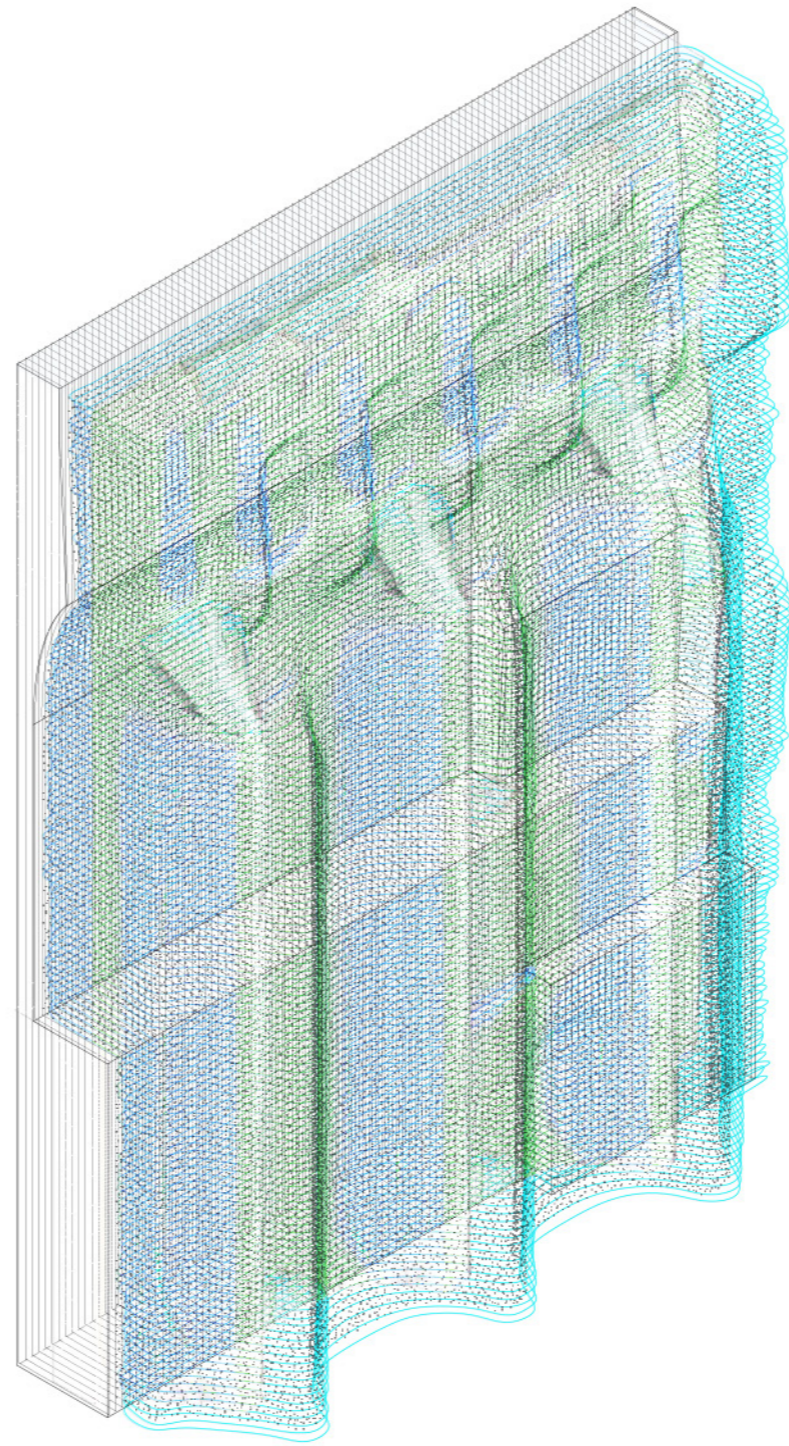
concealment

in between



tension

filtering

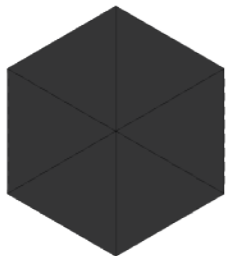


concealment

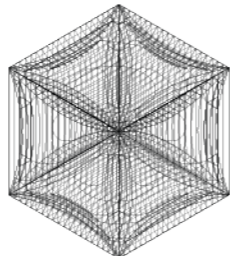
in between

**macro & micro scale deposition**

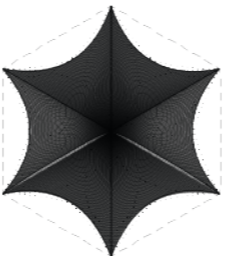
MACRO



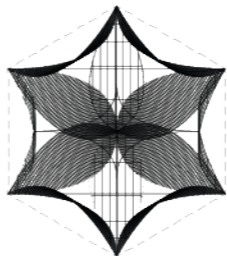
monolith



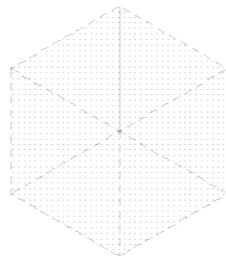
large fragments



small fragments



rubble



dust

MICRO

ARRIVAL



OFFERING



HOLDING

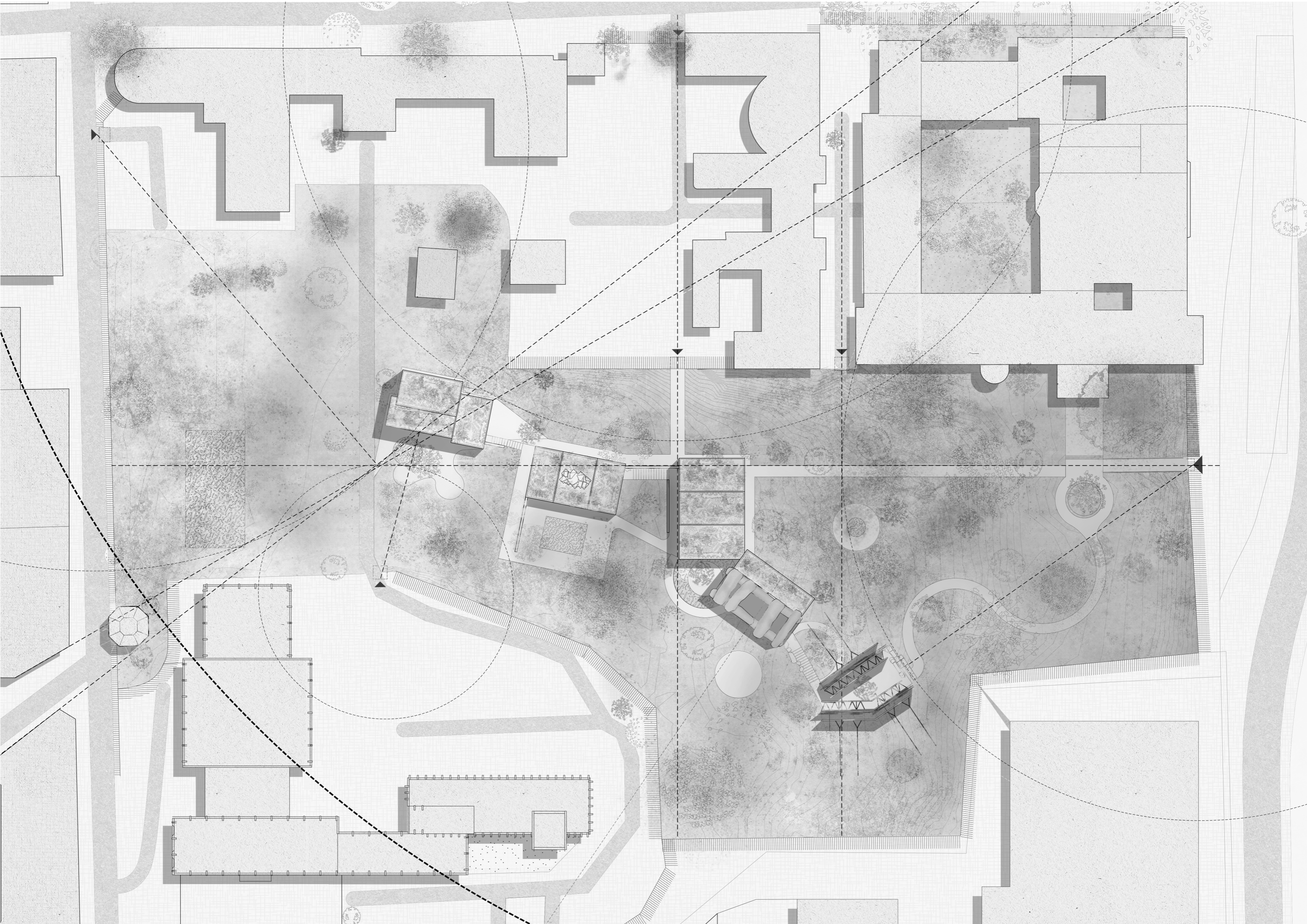


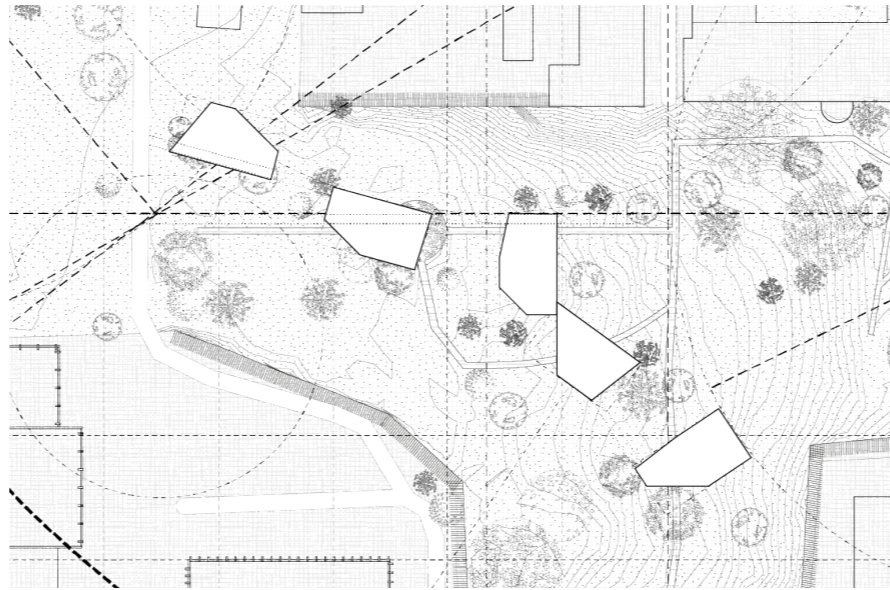
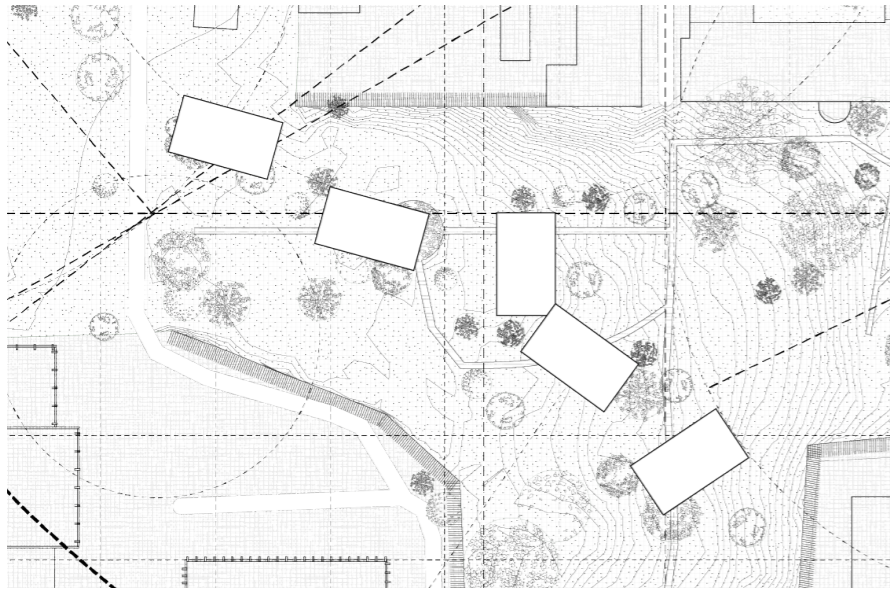
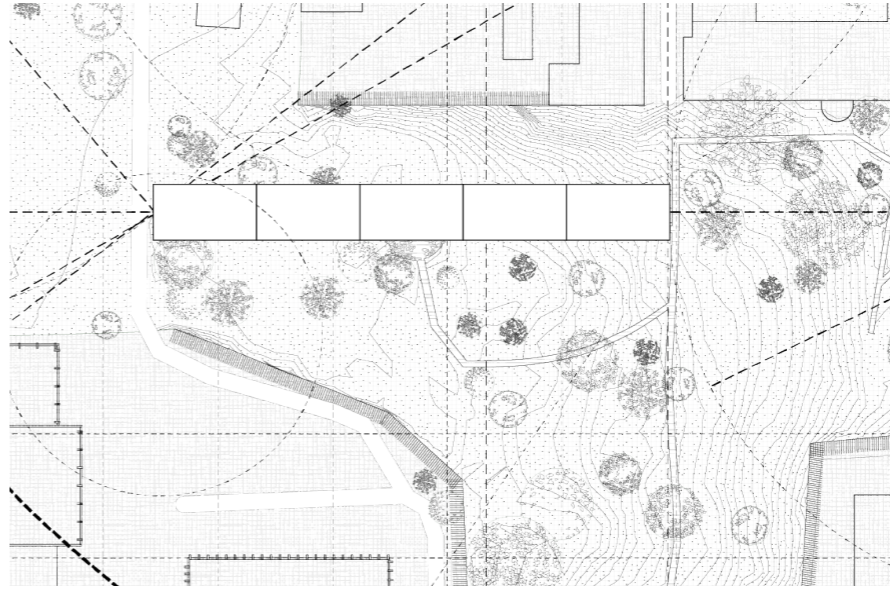
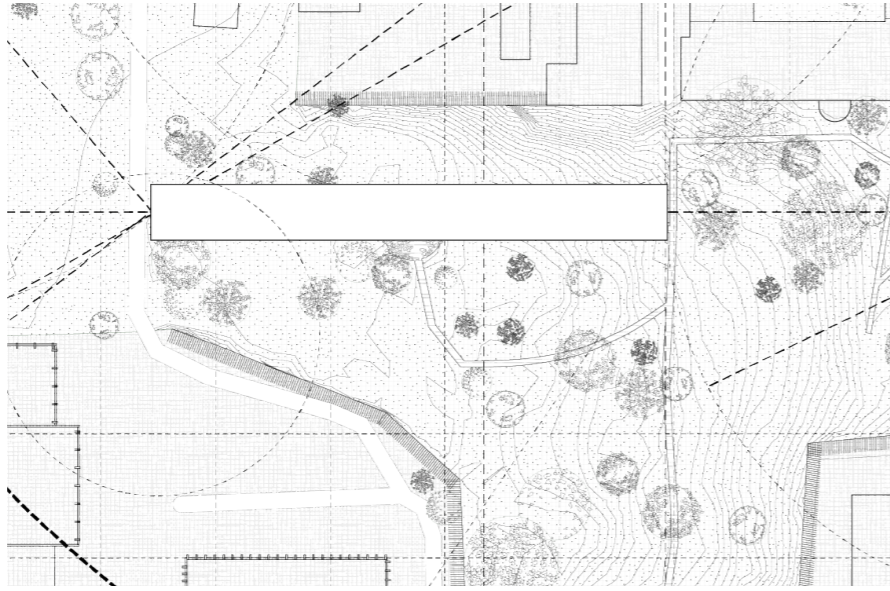
UNMAKING



EXIT

**recognisable to ambiguous  
heavy and present to dust  
ideological to neutralised**

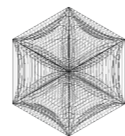






monolith

ARRIVAL



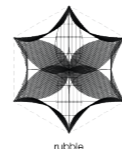
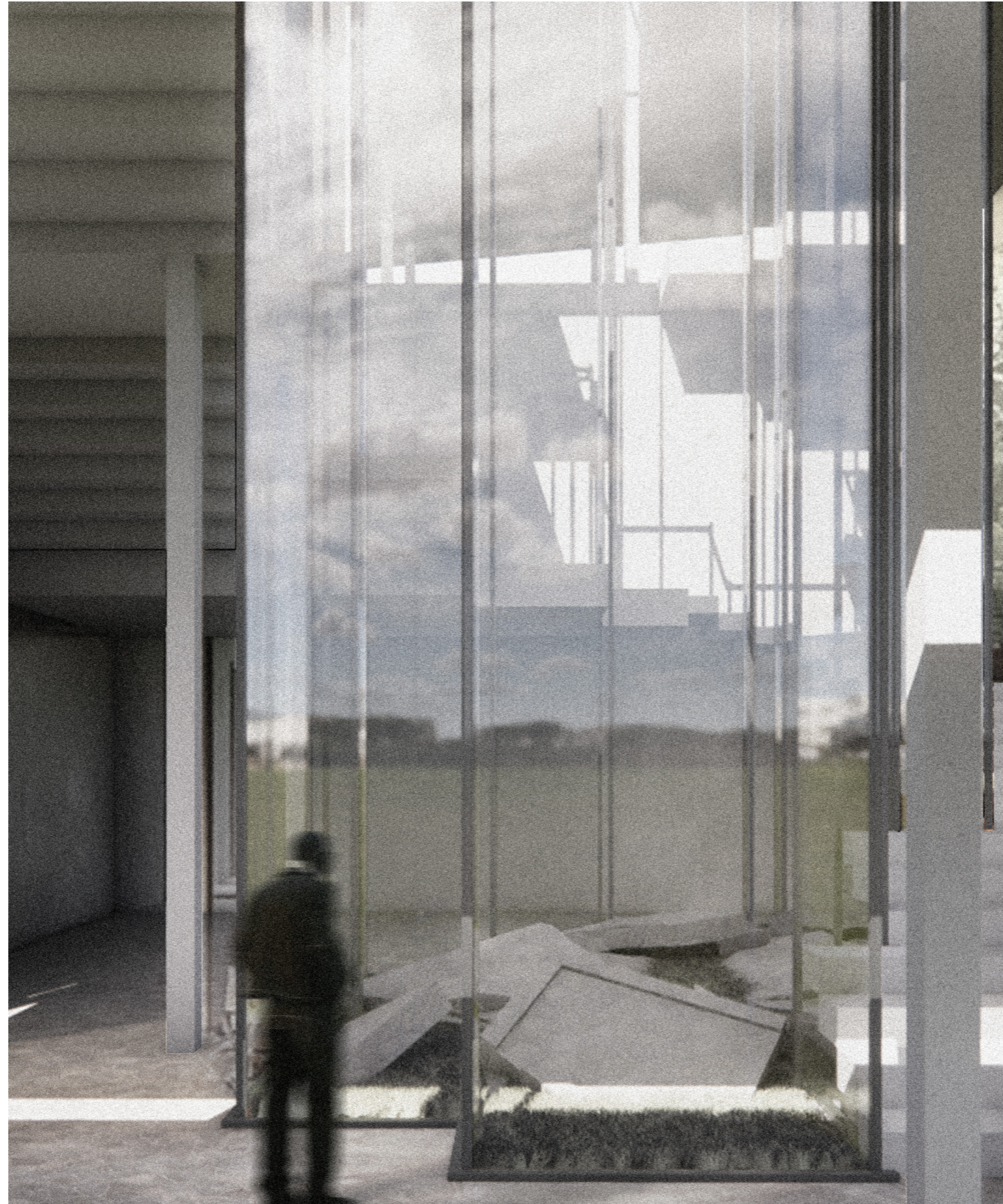
large fragments

OFFERING



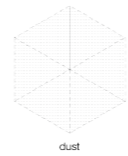
small fragments

HOLDING



rubie

UNMAKING



dust

EXIT



mouth

ARRIVAL



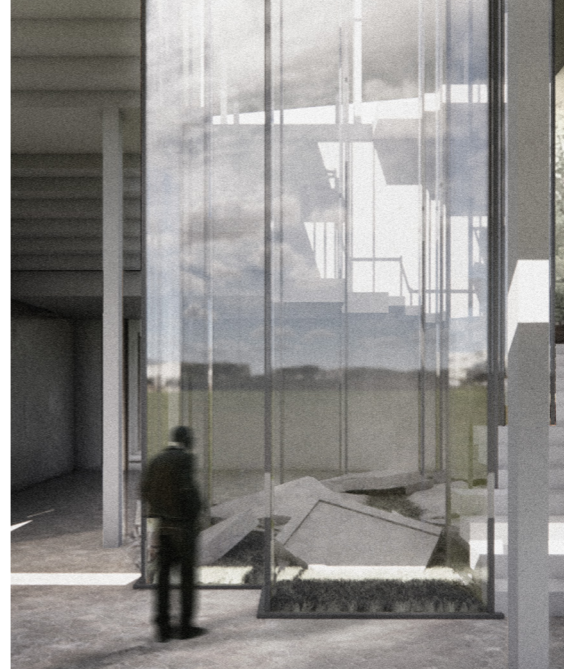
large fragments

OFFERING



small fragments

HOLDING



void

UNMAKING



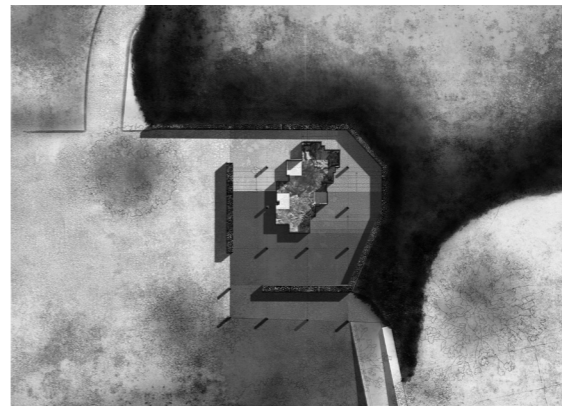
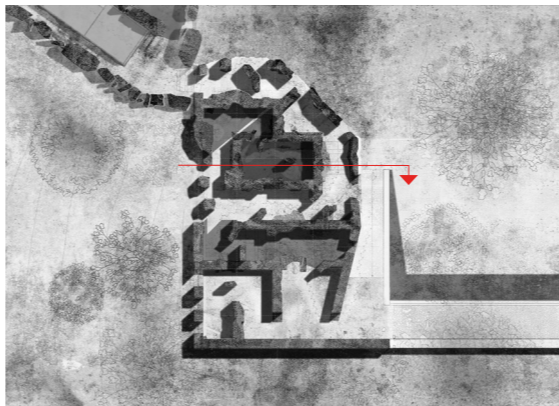
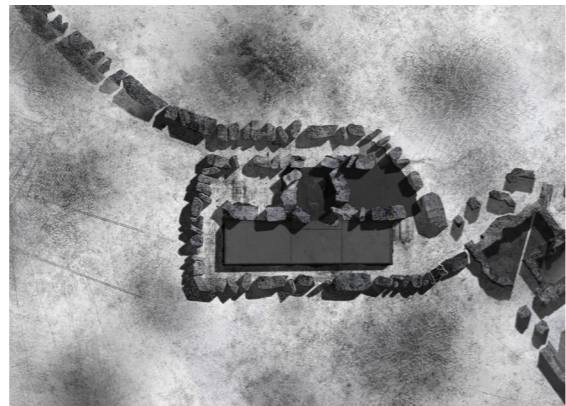
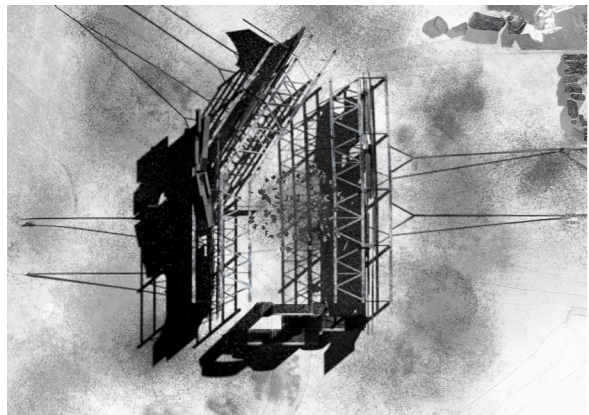
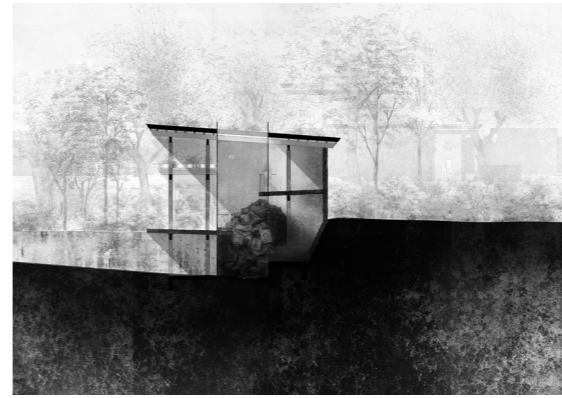
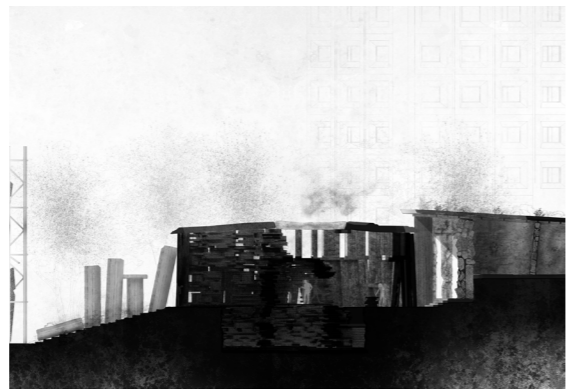
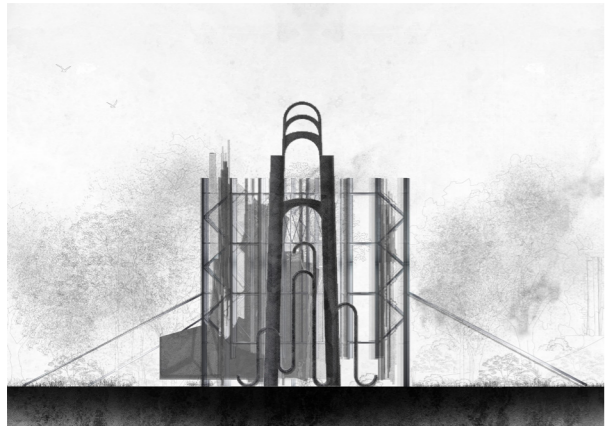
exit

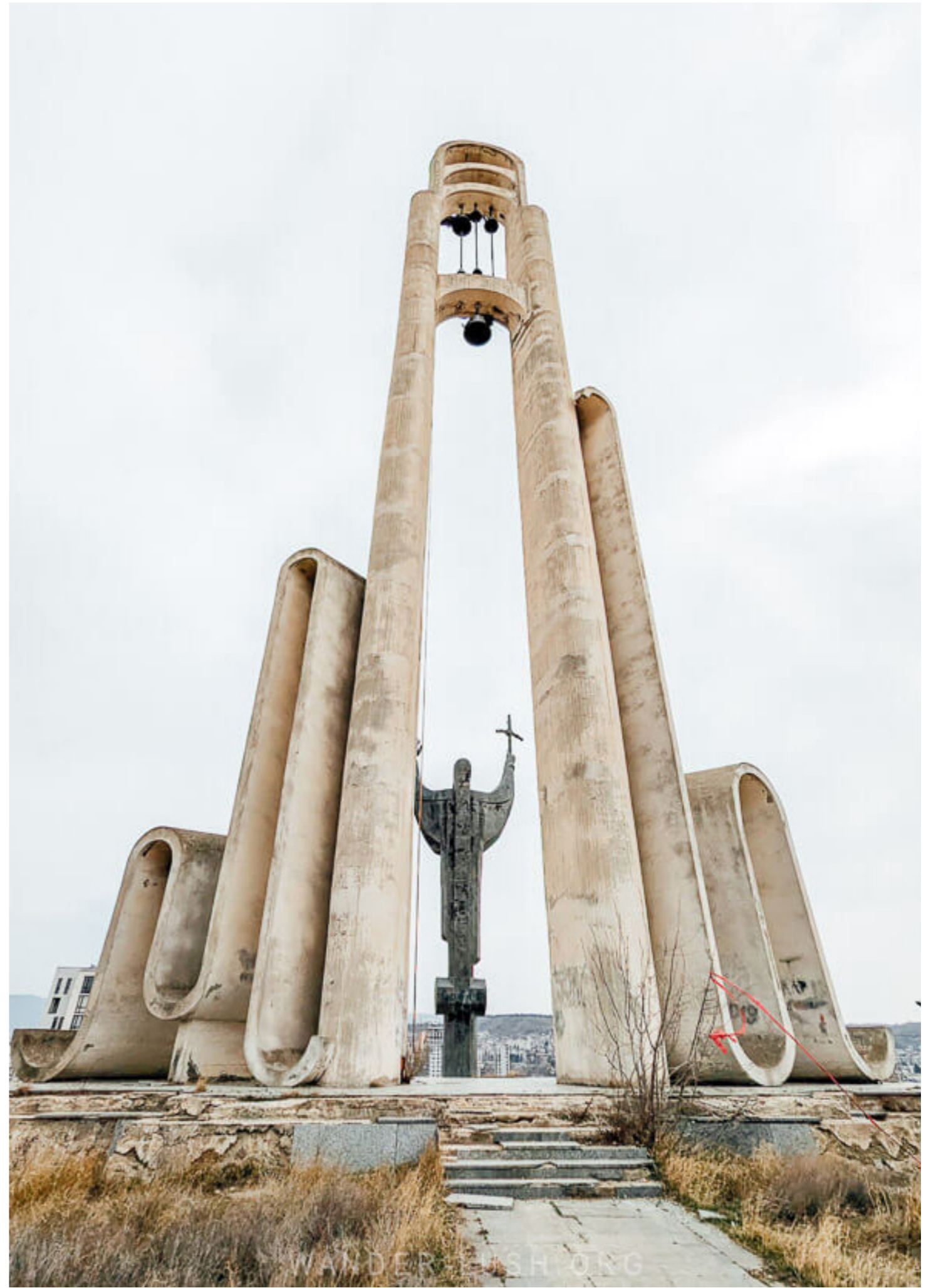
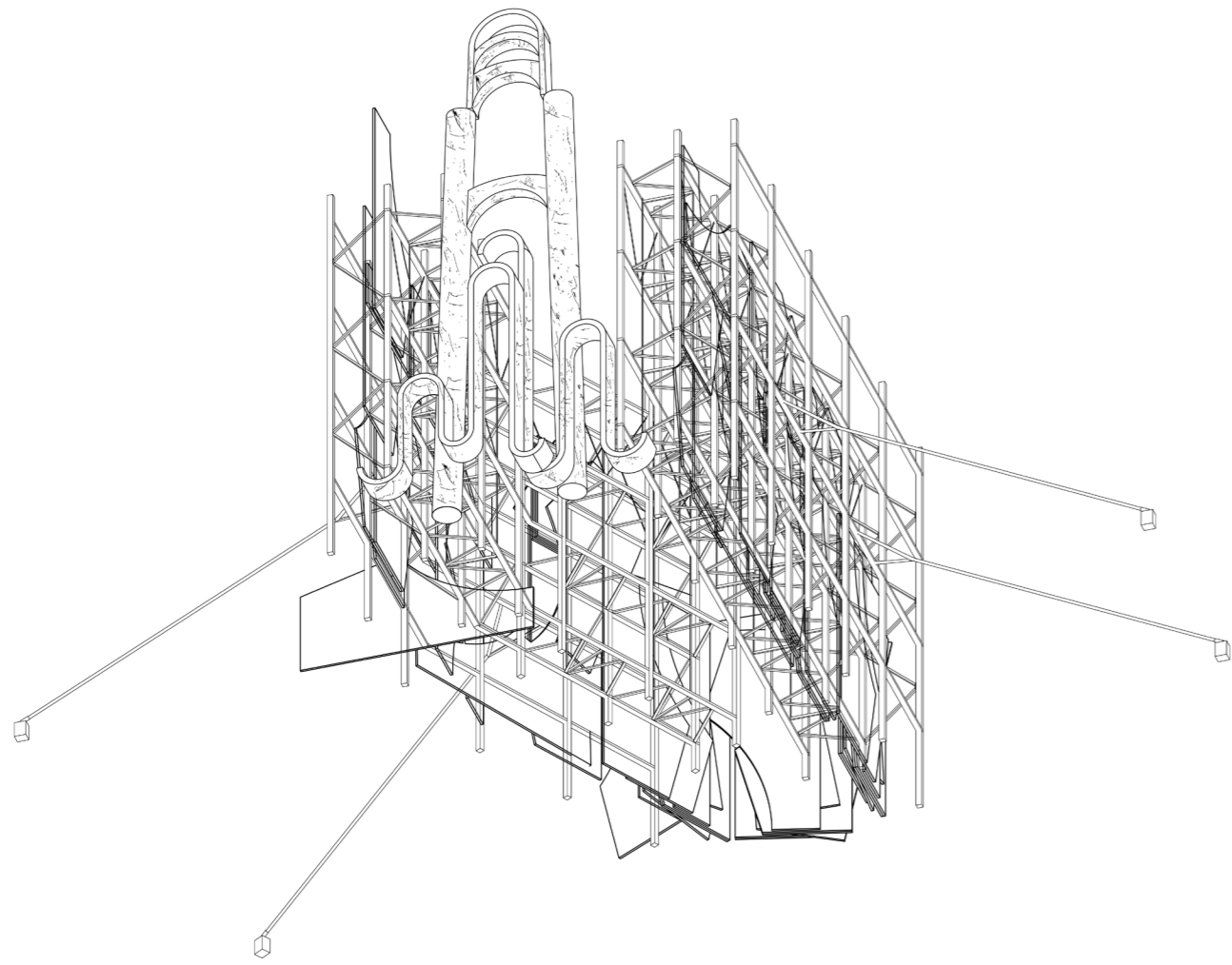
EXIT



# **chapter III / architecture**

tectonic liturgy















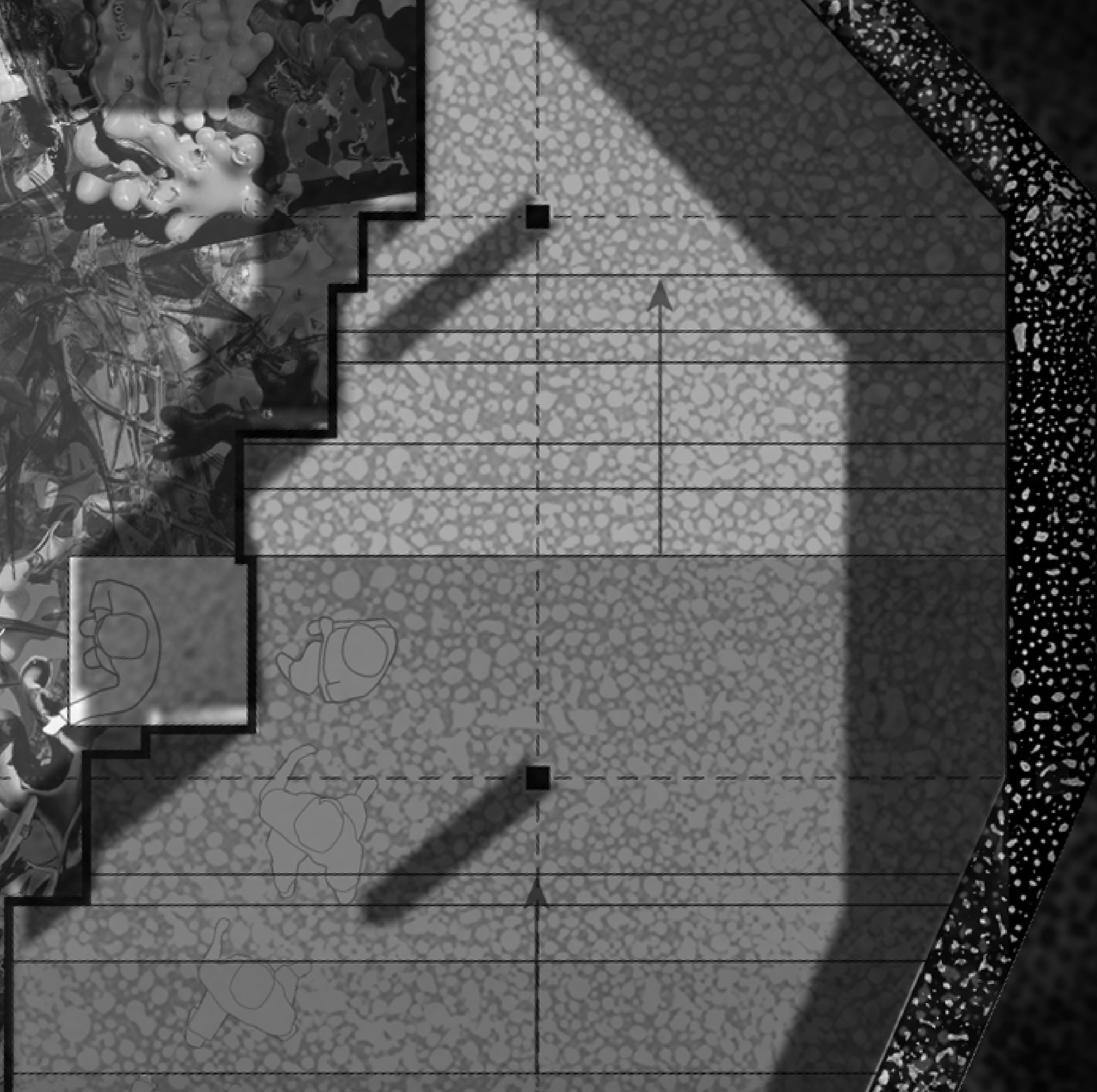
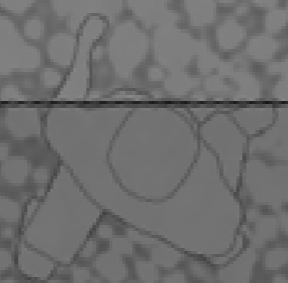
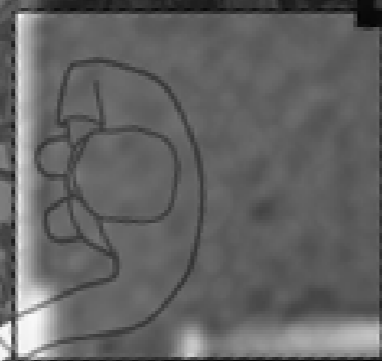
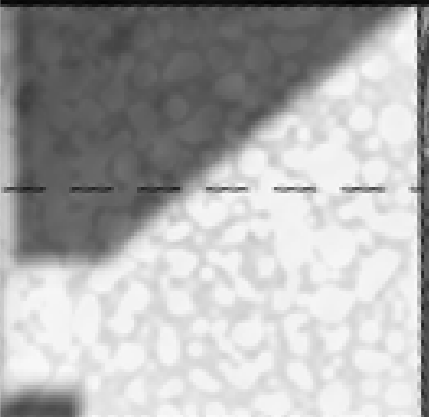




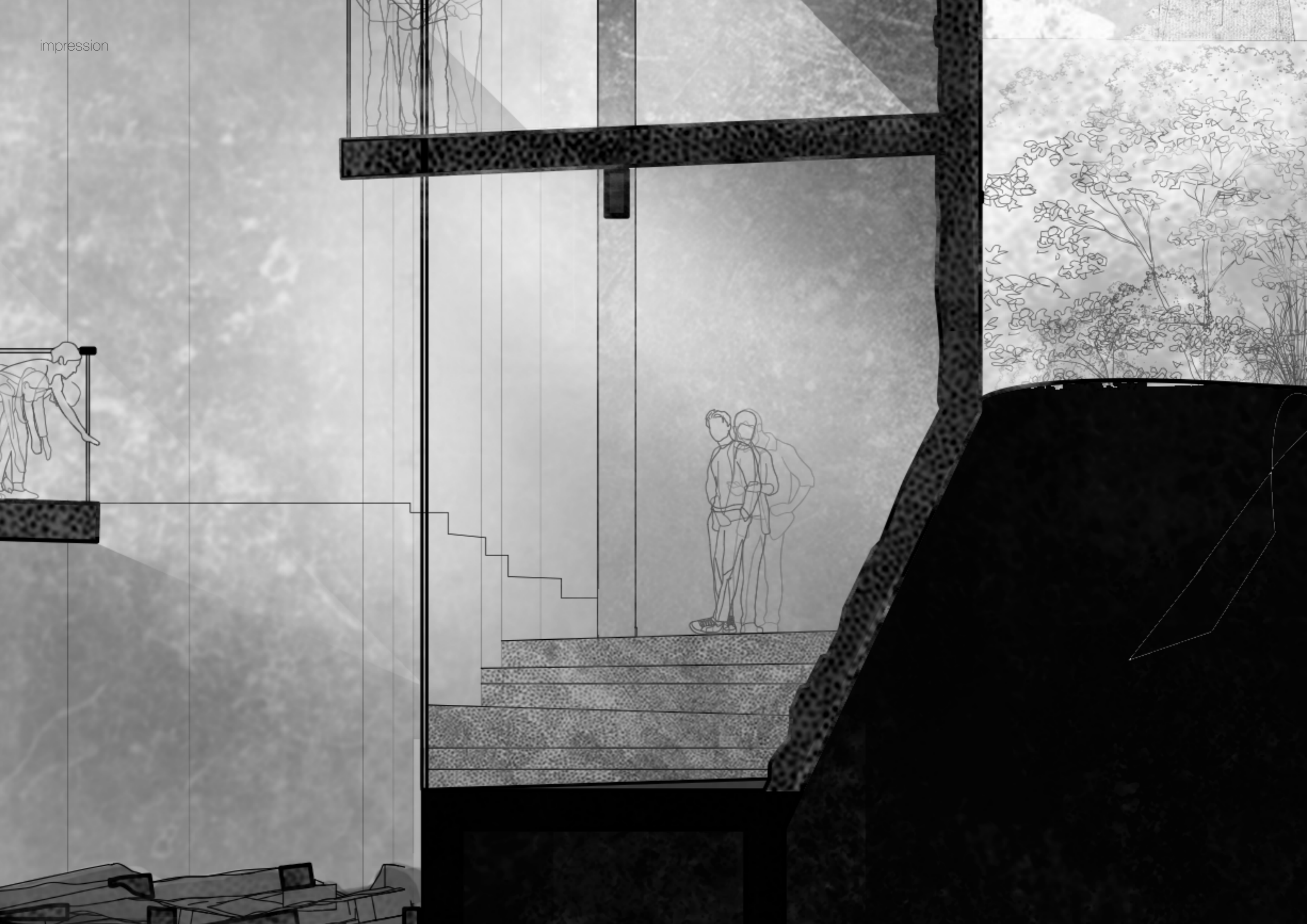








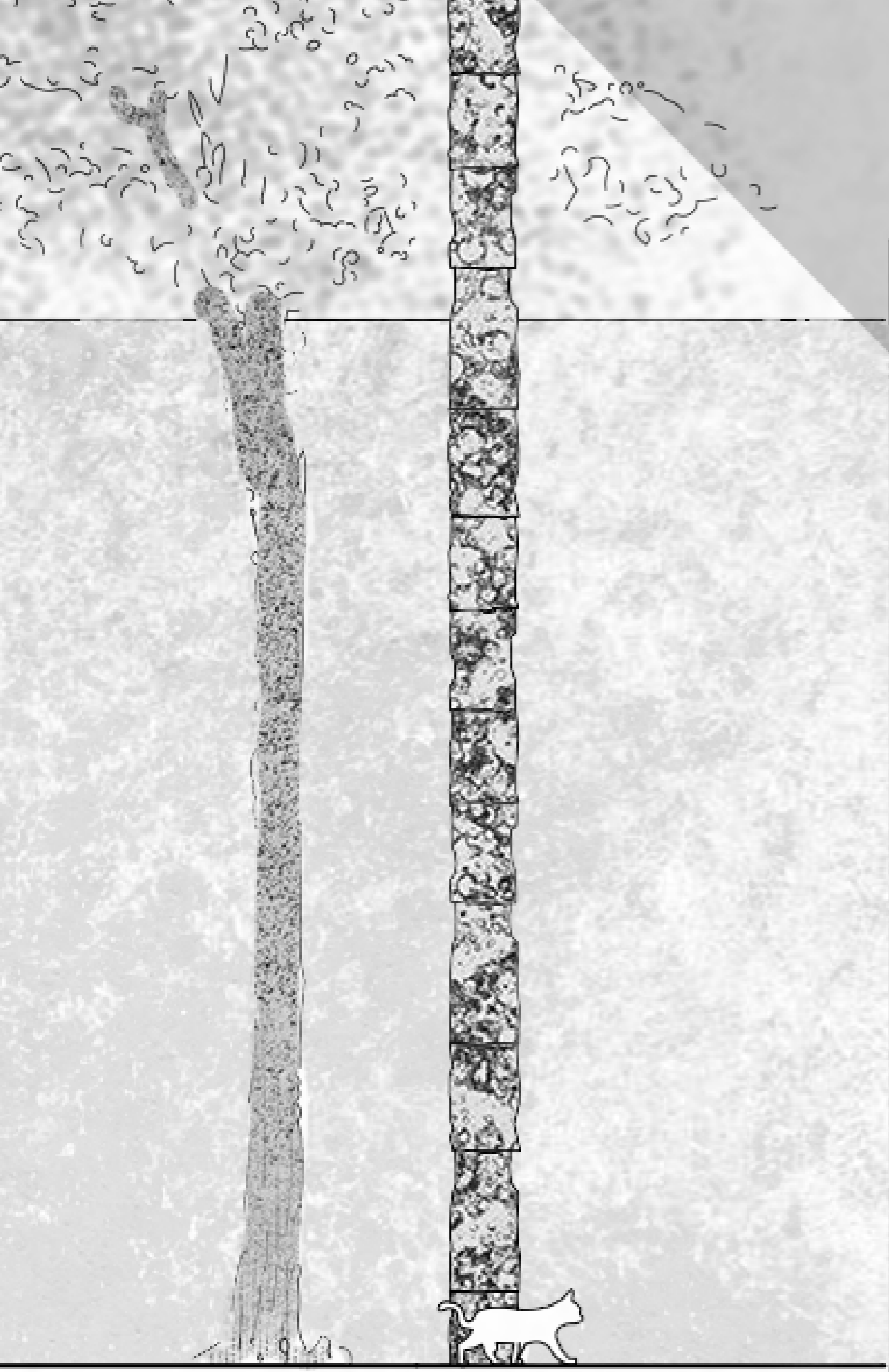
impression

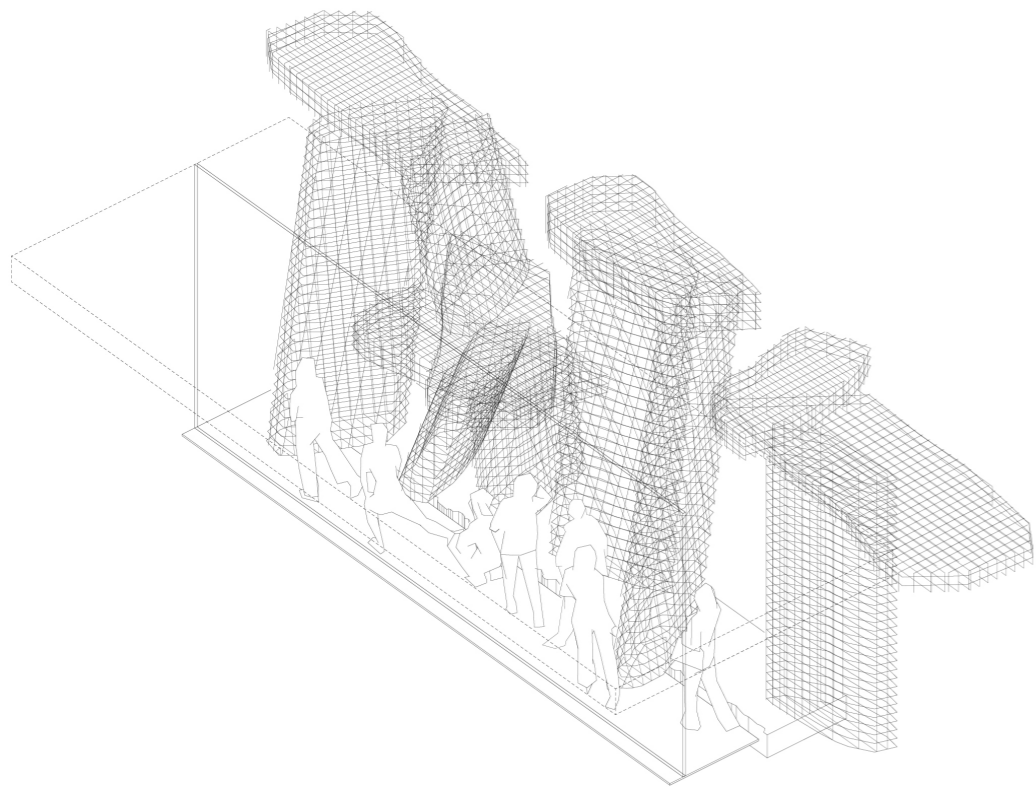








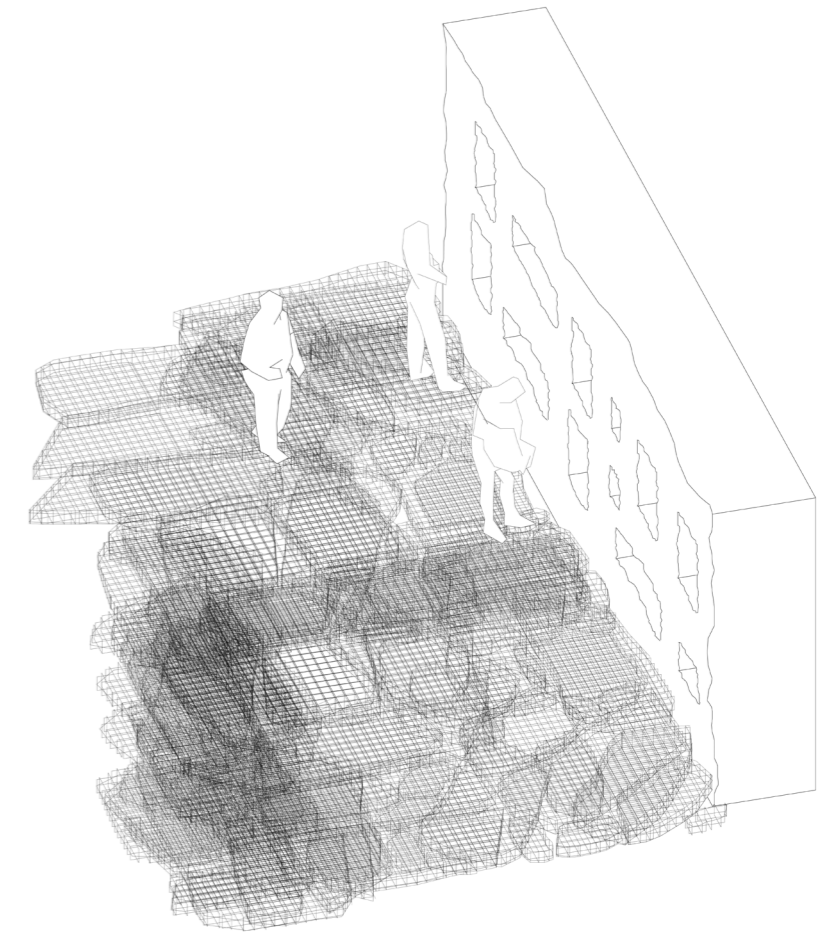




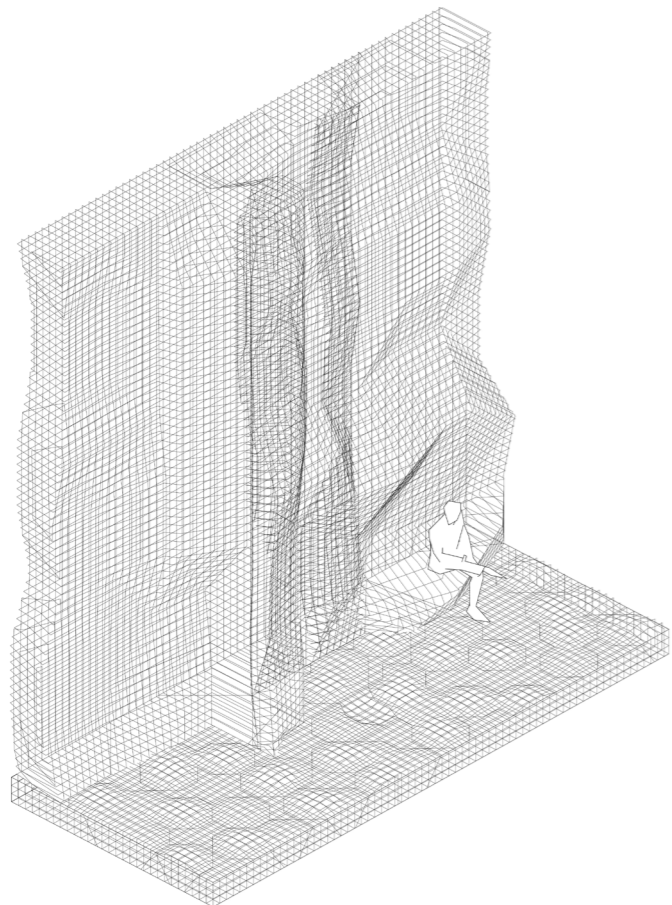
corridor



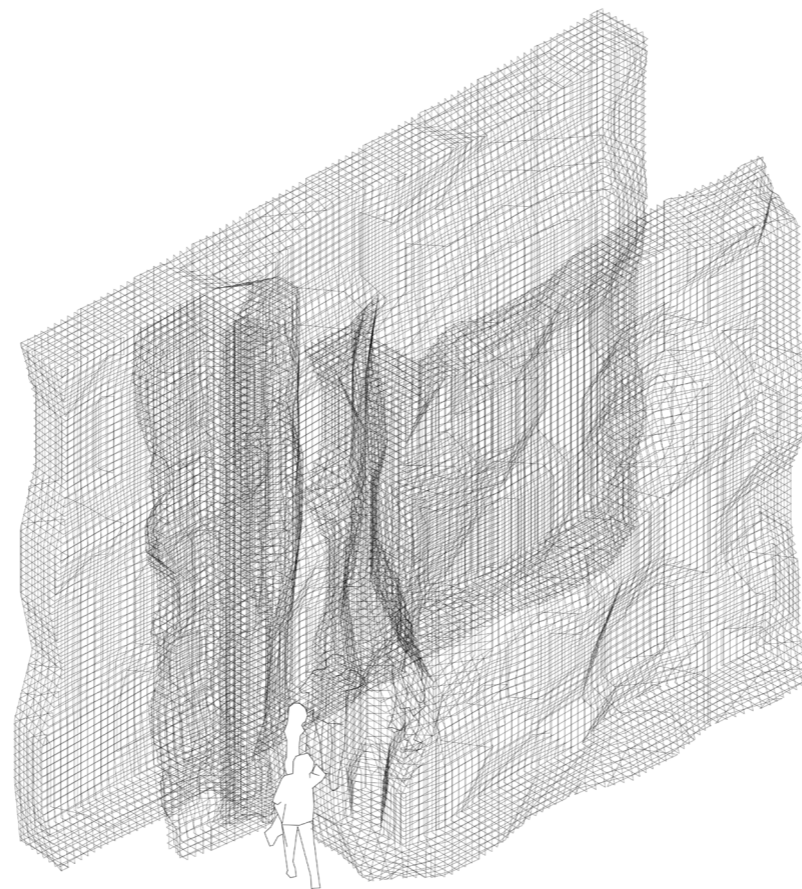
3D scanning



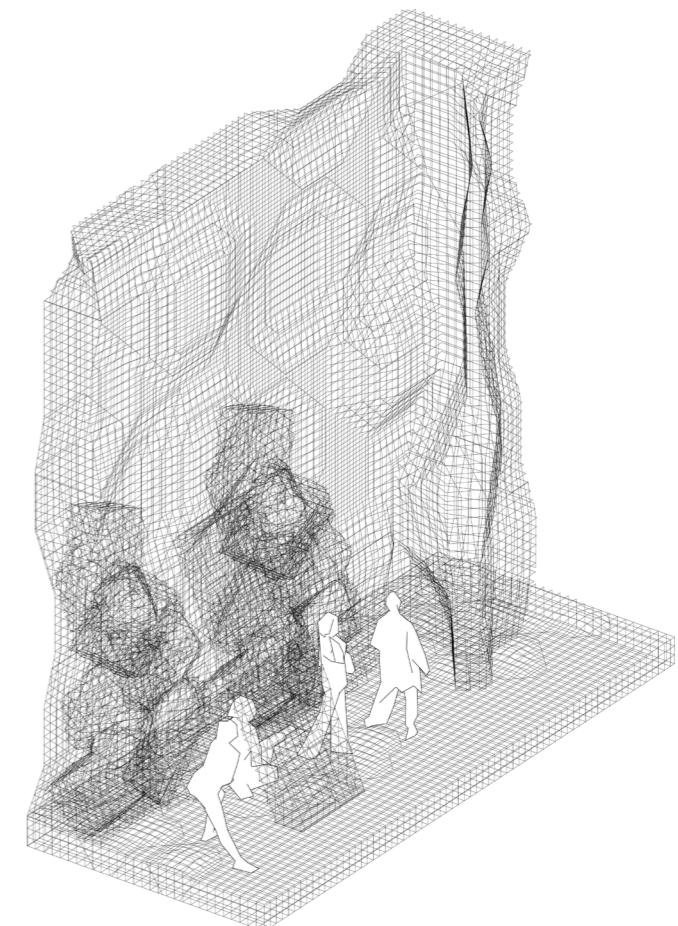
burial grounds



slowing down

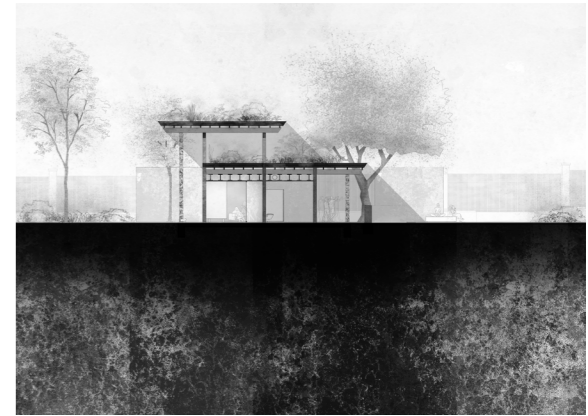
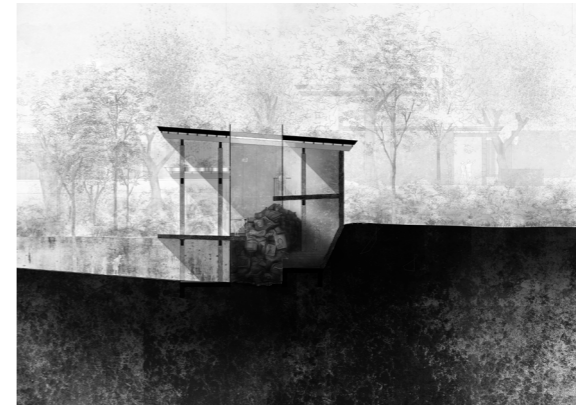
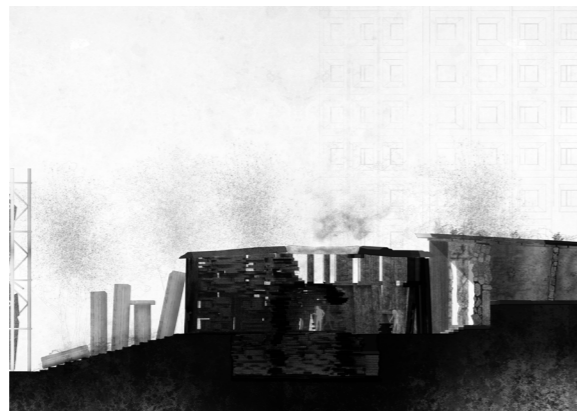
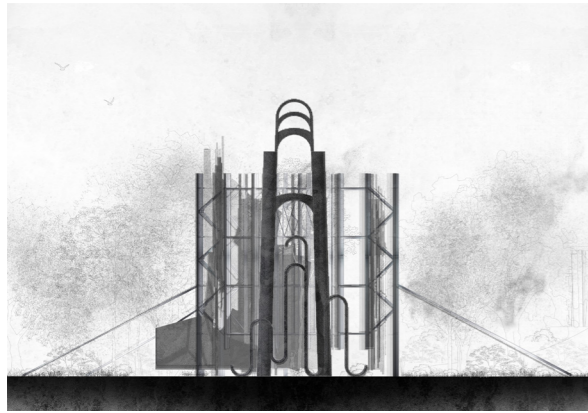


compressing

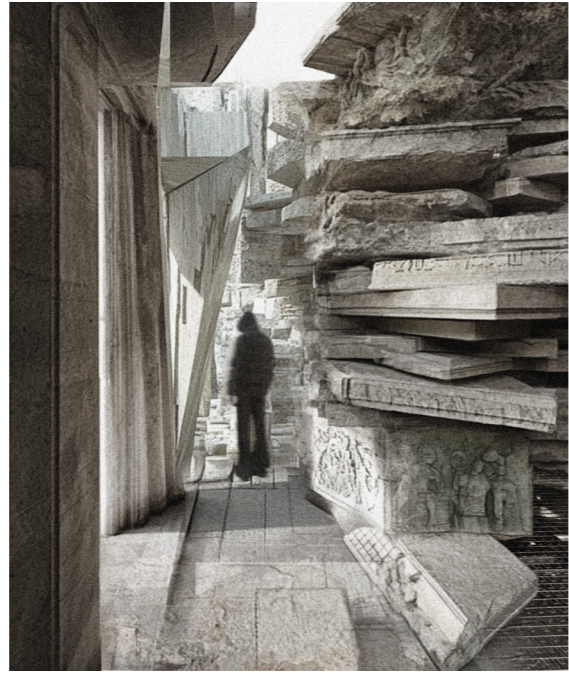


hiding

liturgy of deposition



confrontation



accumulation



integration



impression



dissolution

