

Matter, Making and the Six Bells Paradox

Mark Vas | Explore Lab 41

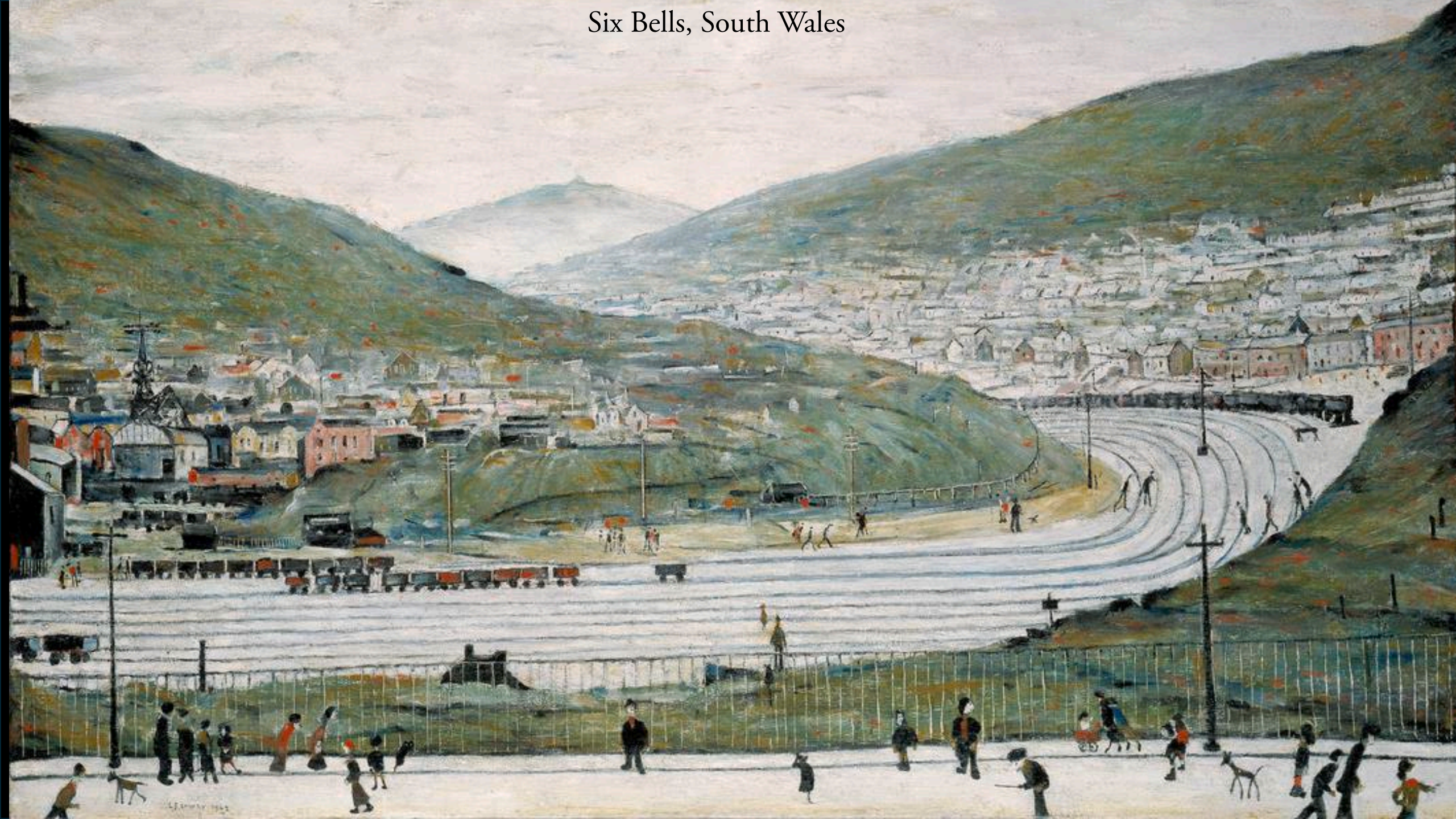


ACT I : Value Transformation

Matter assigned value



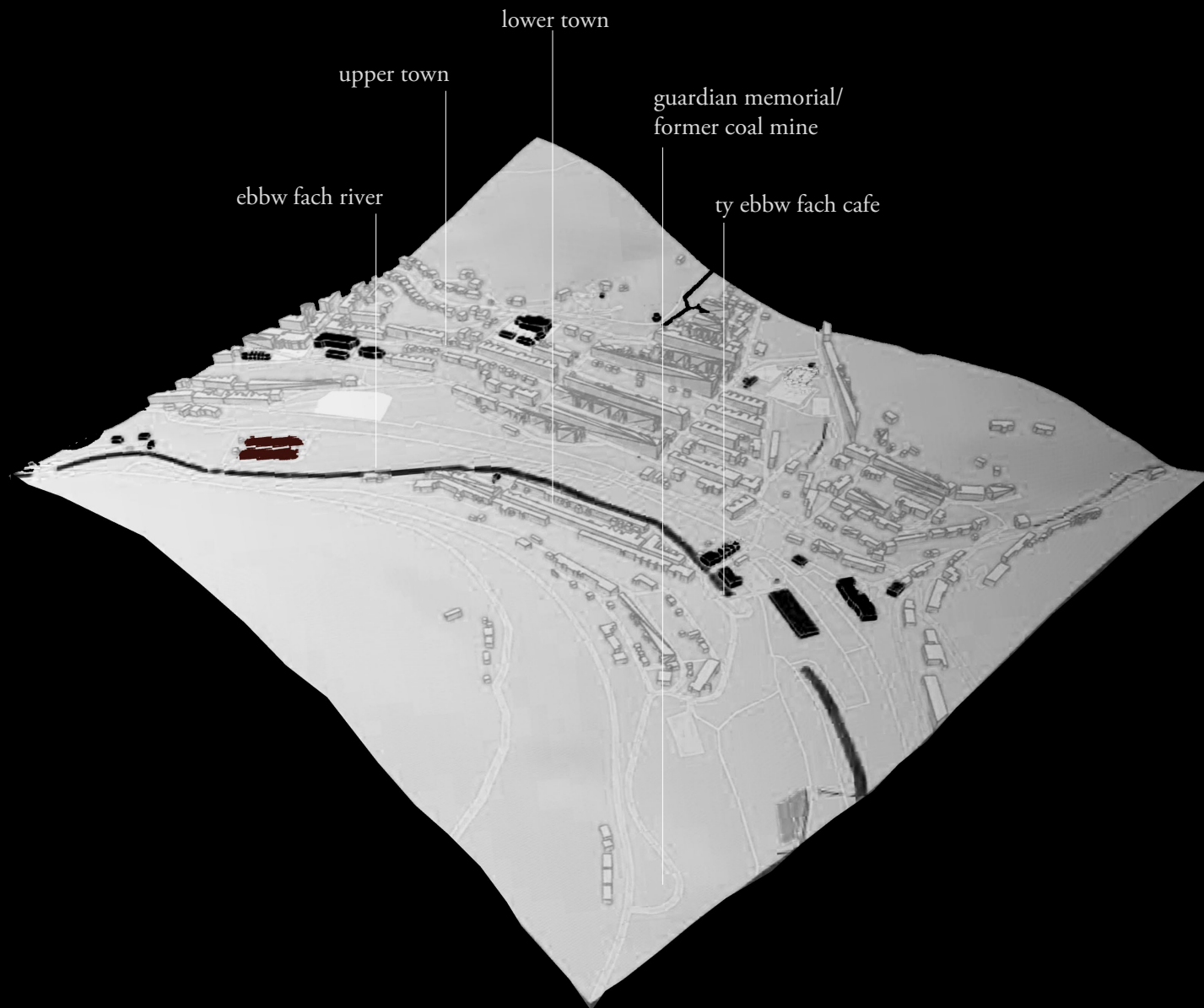
Six Bells, South Wales











lower town

upper town

guardian memorial/
former coal mine

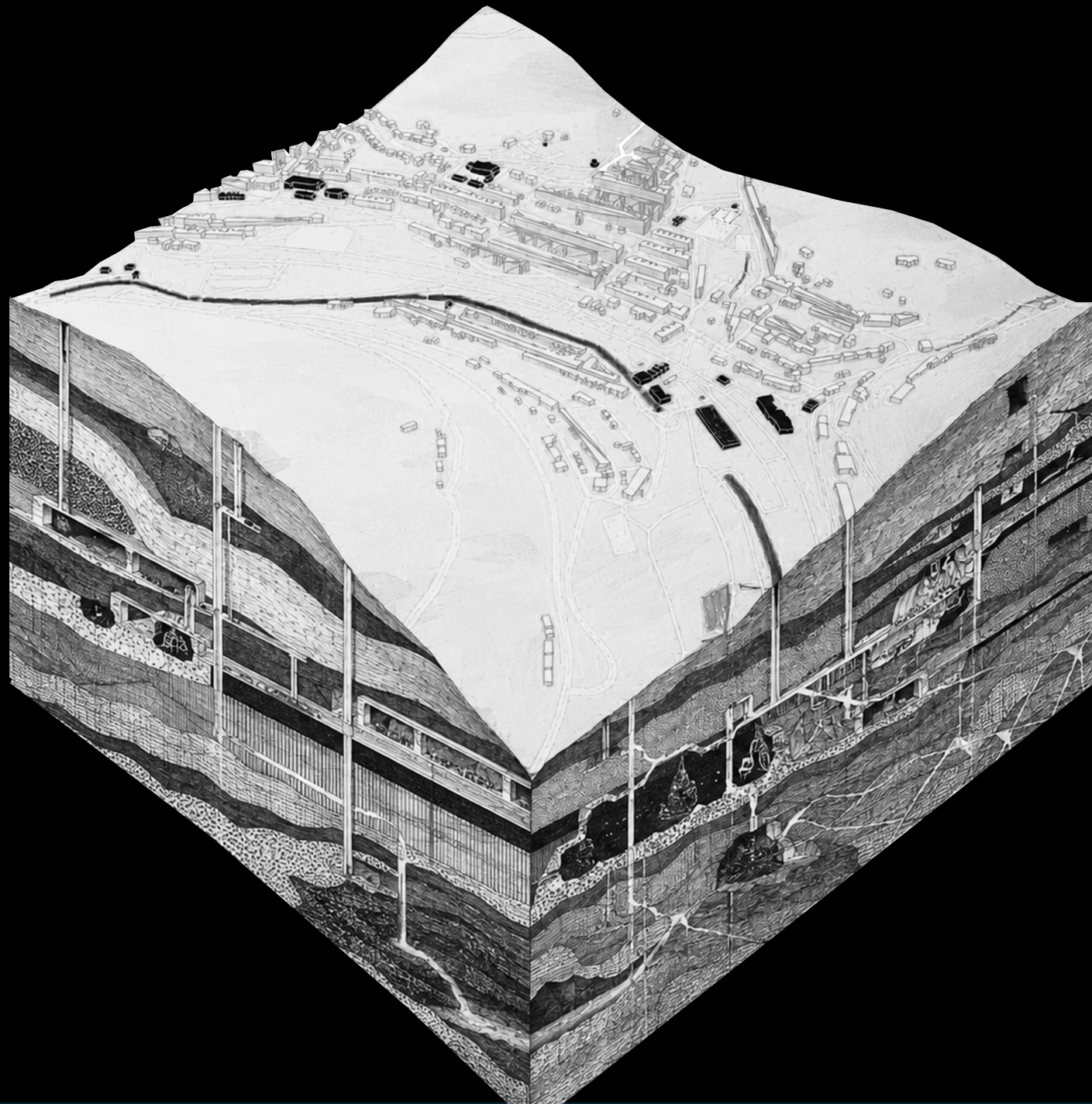
ebb w fach river

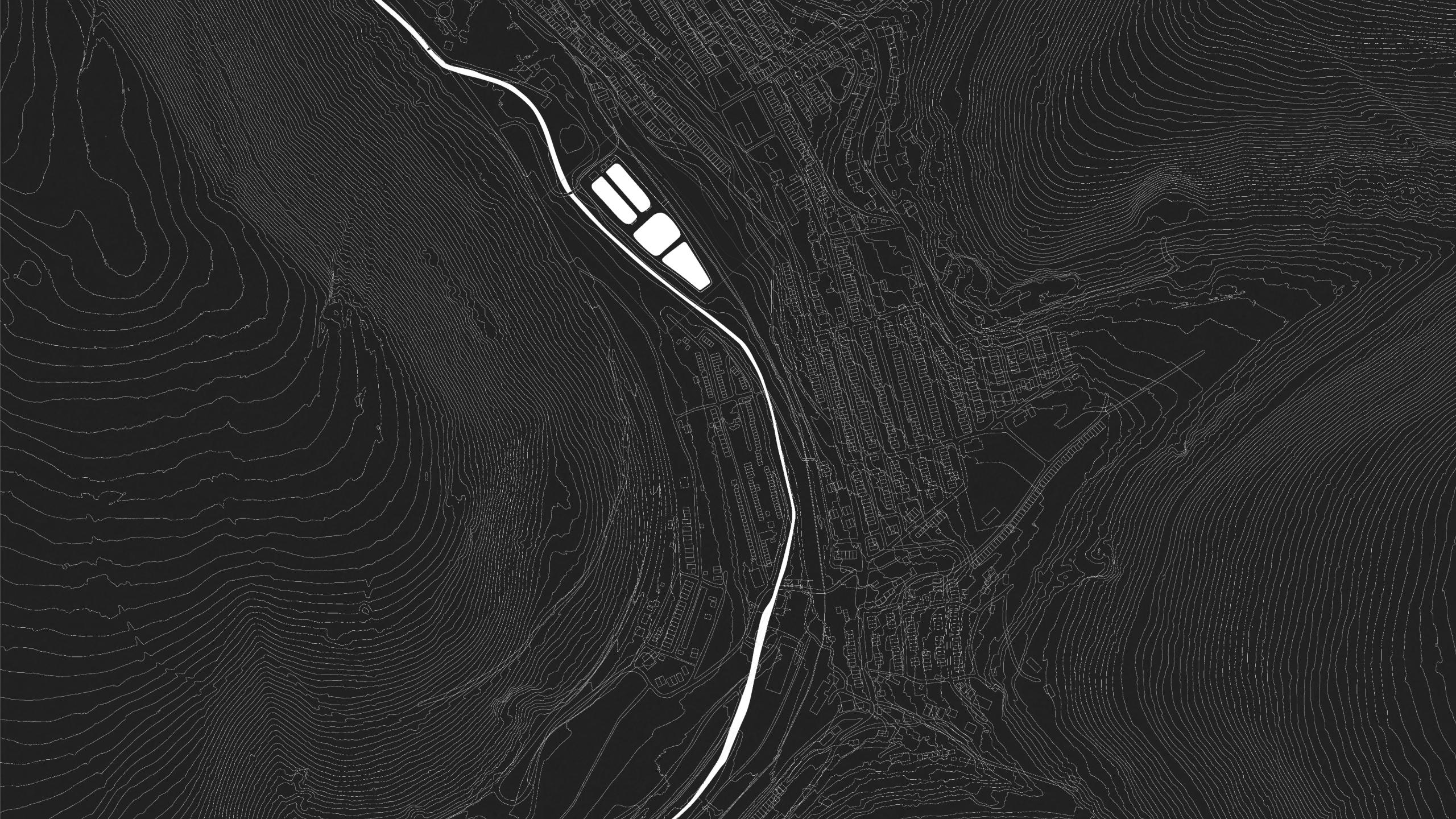
ty ebb w fach cafe

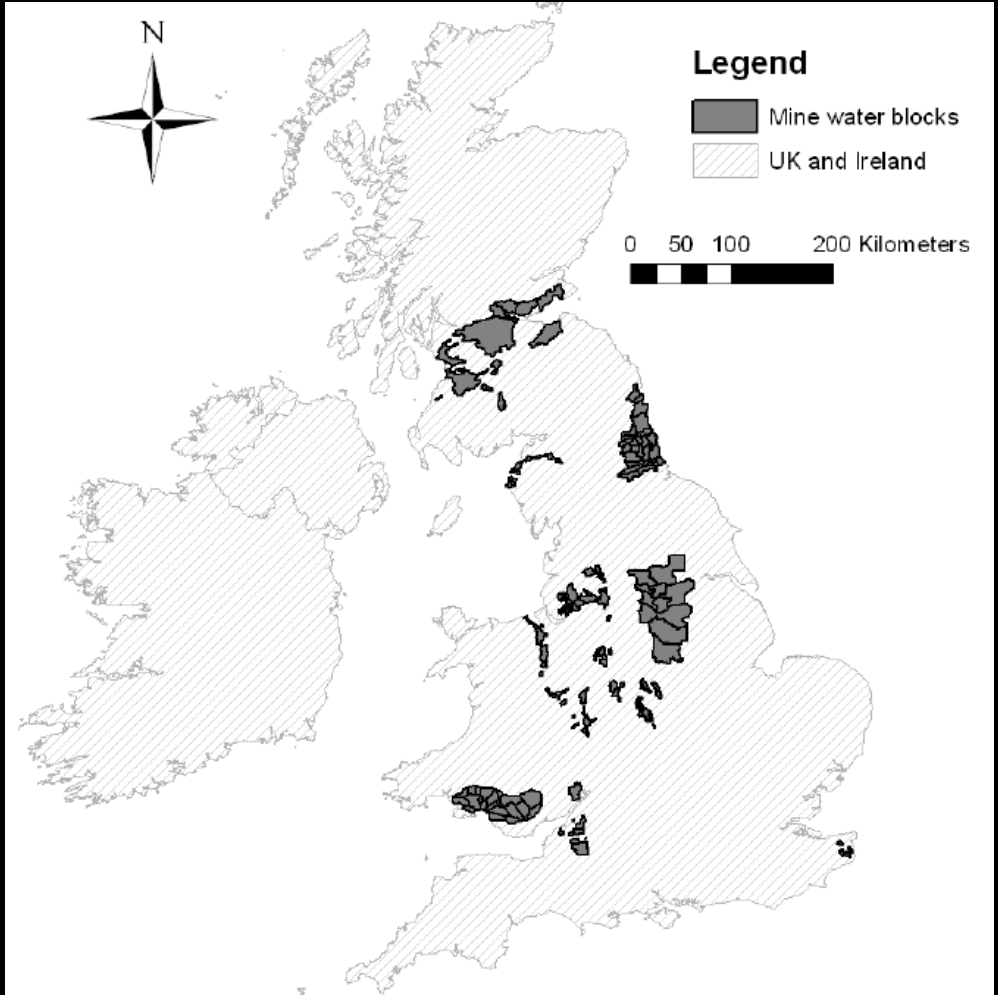


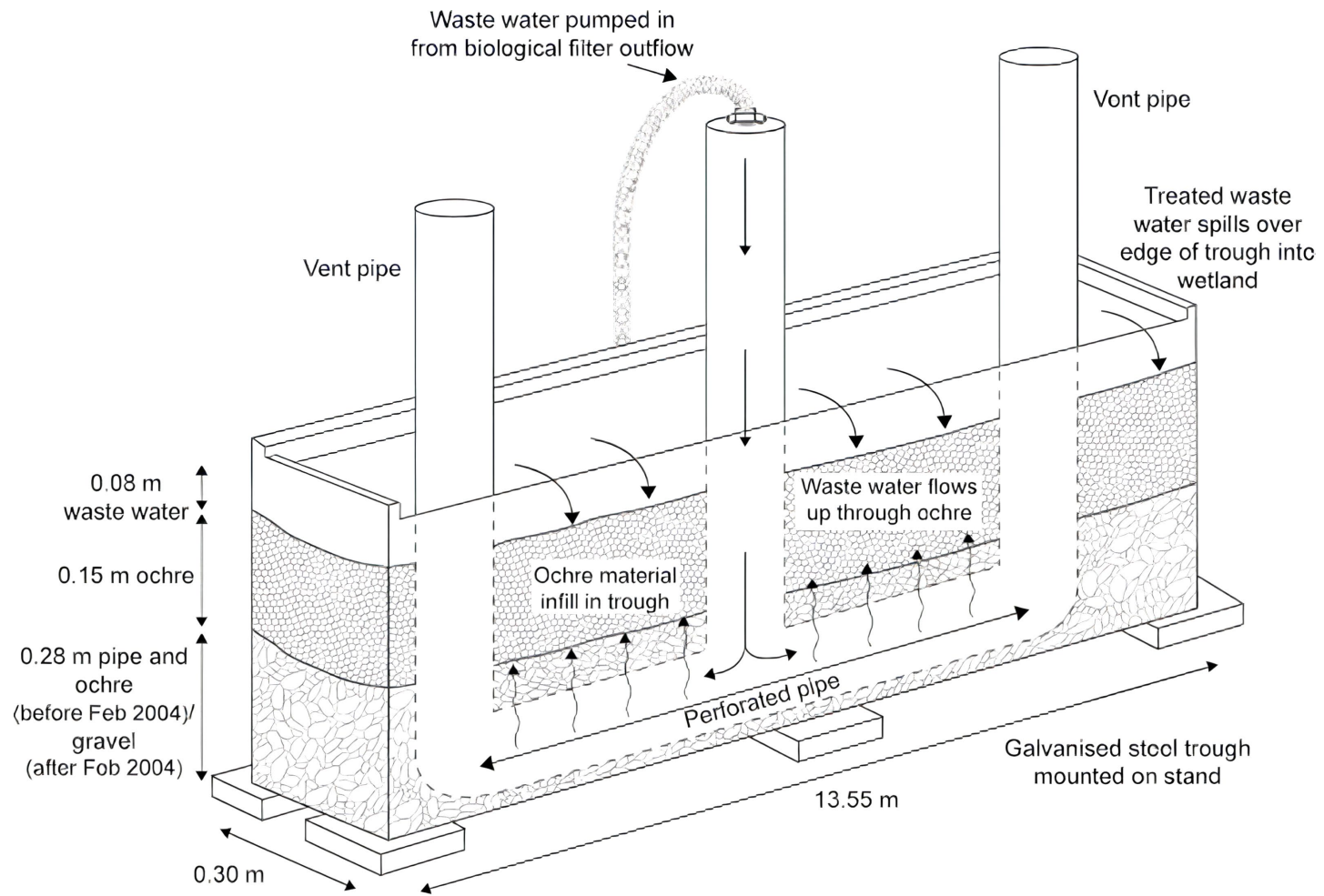
















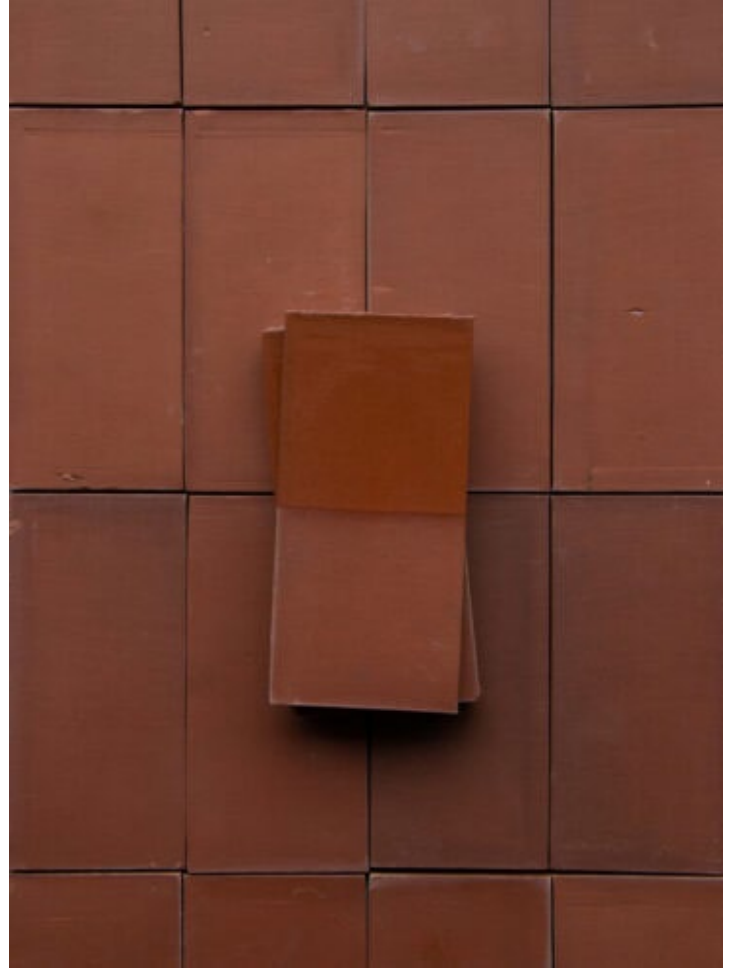
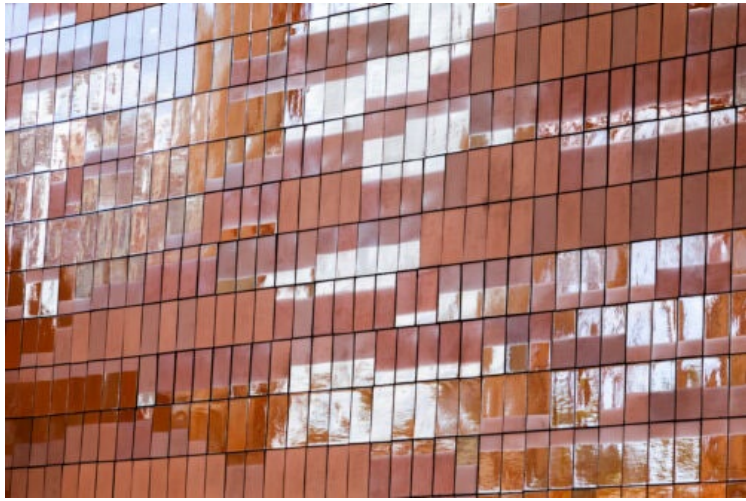










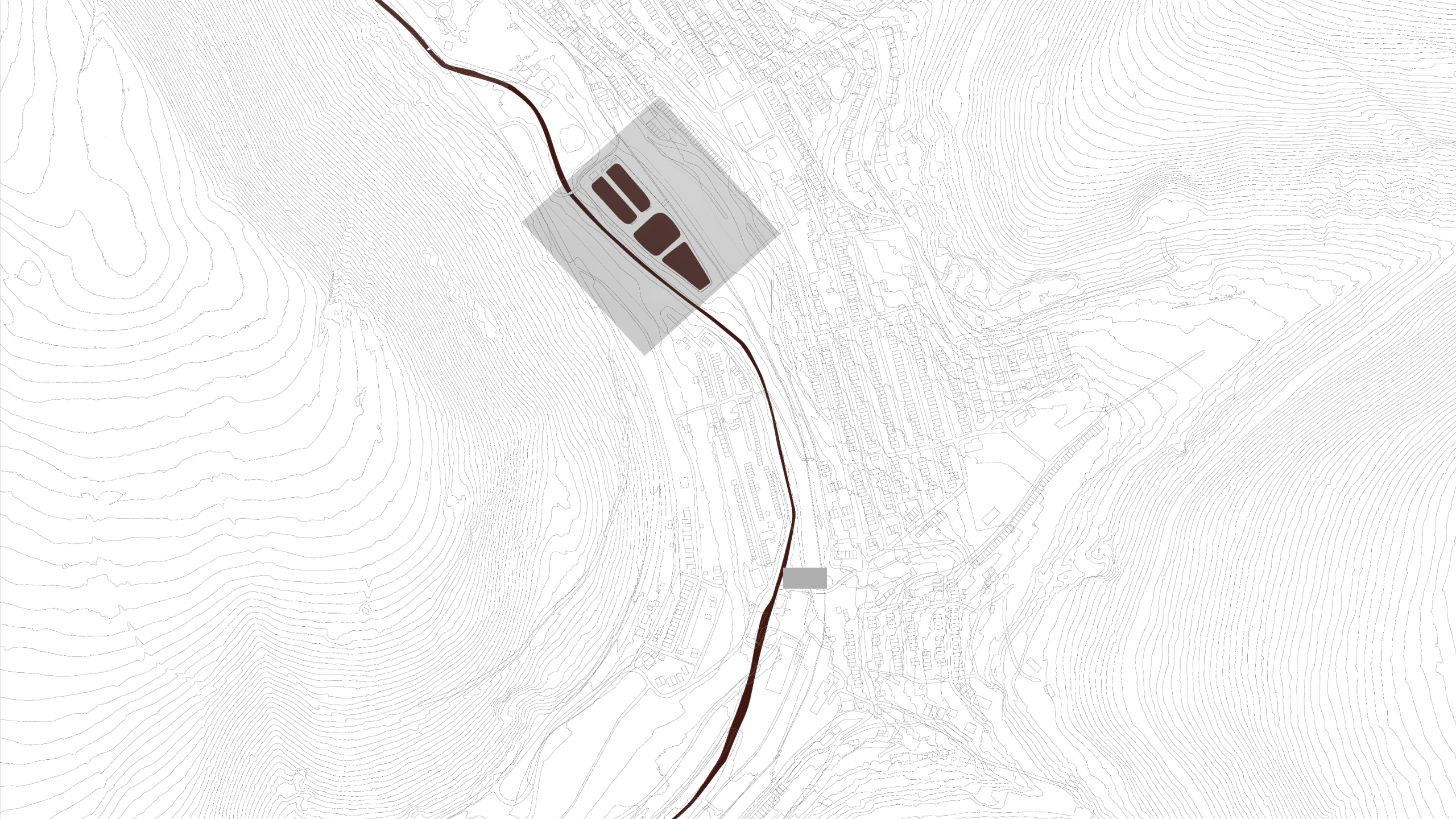


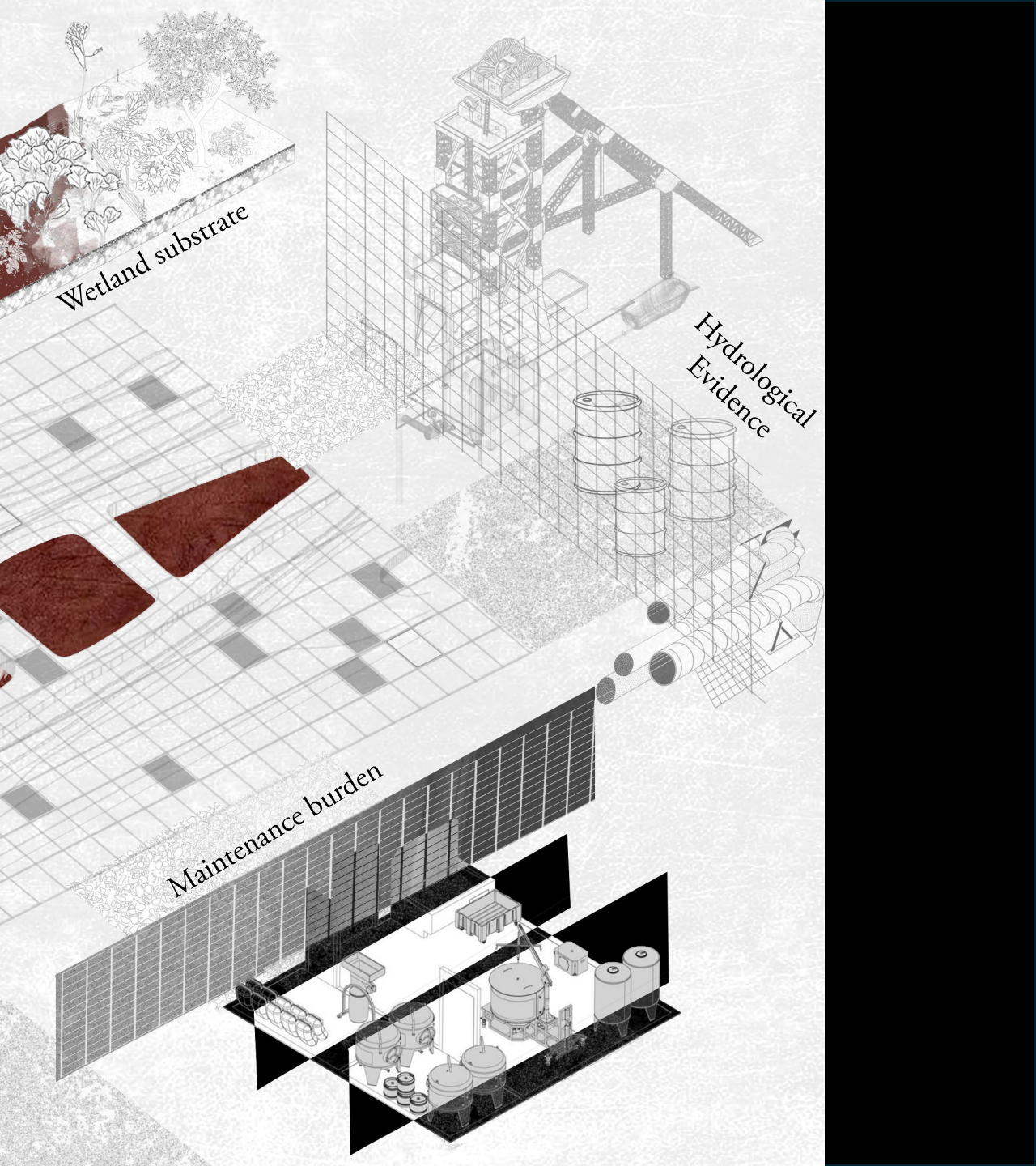


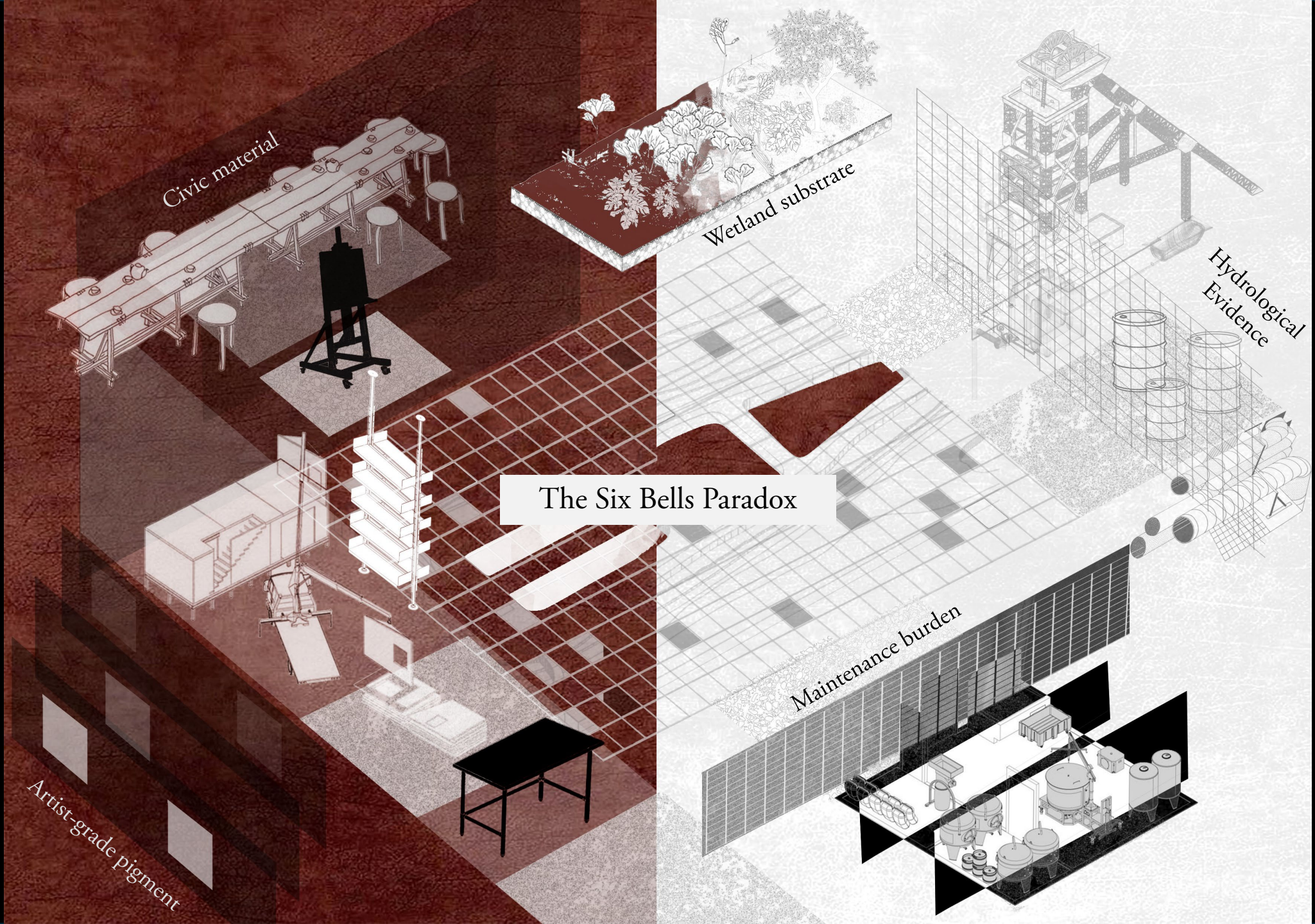












Civic material

Wetland substrate

Hydrological Evidence

The Six Bells Paradox

Maintenance burden

Artist-grade pigment

What role can architecture play in mediating
how matter is classified, valued and
transformed over time?

ACT II : Landscape Transformation

Matter in transition







raw sludge



washing



decanting



drying



grinding



grinding



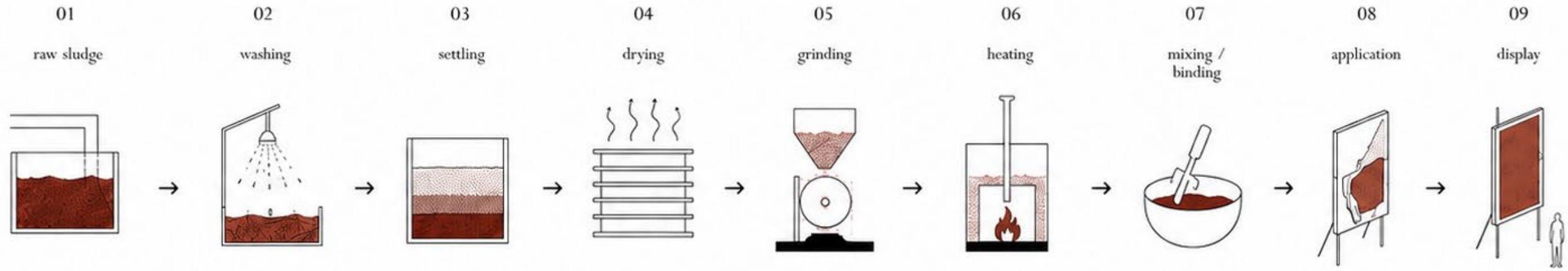
mixing/binding



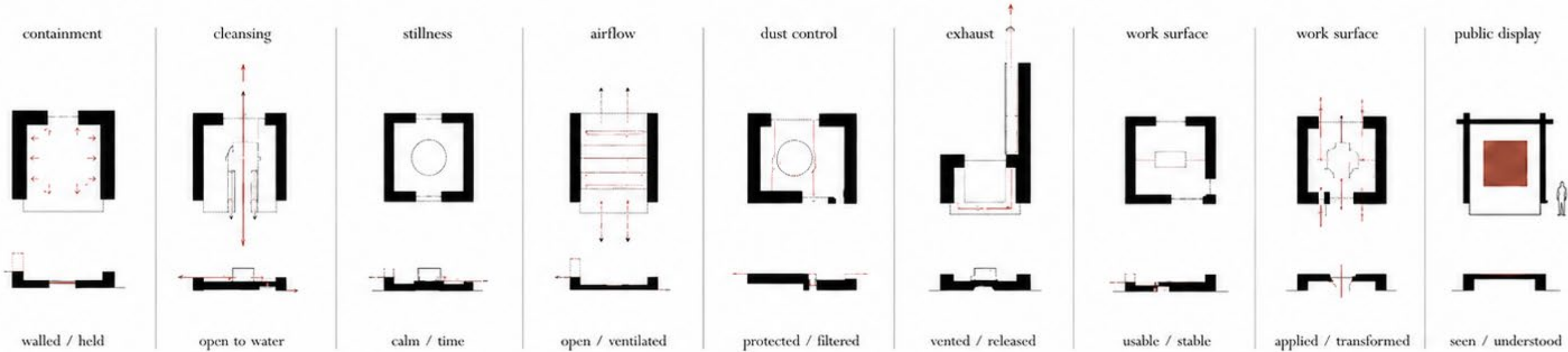
mixing/binding







02 spatial implications



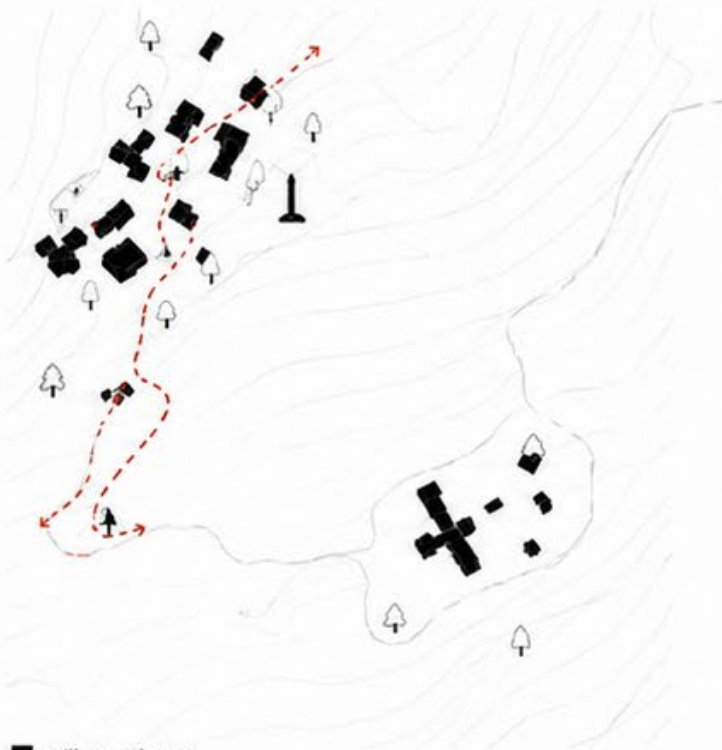
each state requires a condition.
architecture gives form to transformation.





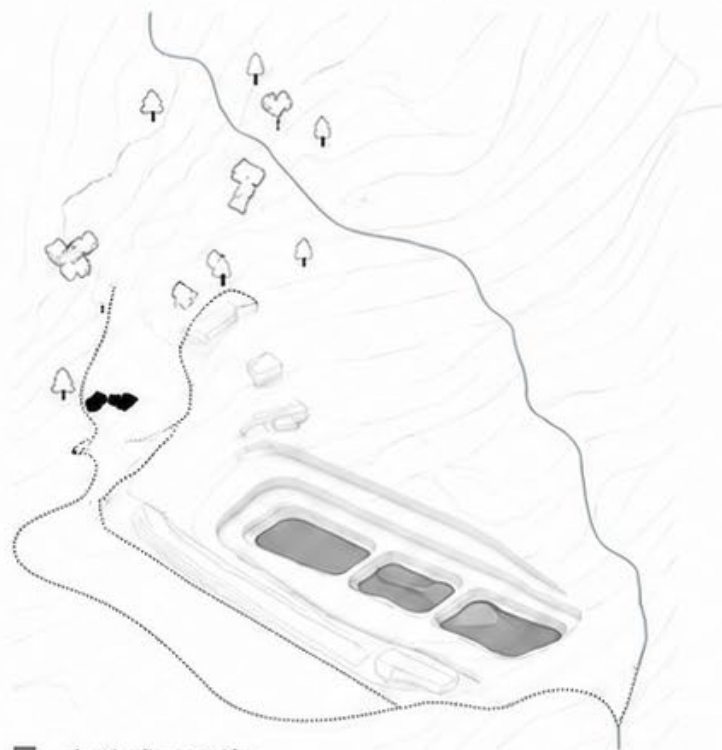


01 visible memory
publicly visible elements



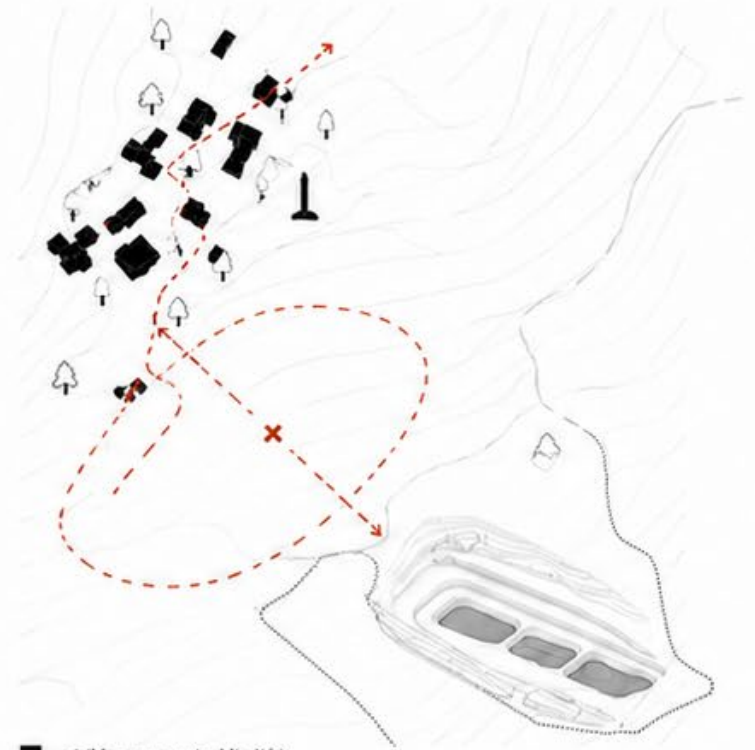
- village settlement
- 🌳 memorial / heritage
- - - public path

02 hidden afterlife
materially active elements



- ochre / sediment residue
- treatment infrastructure
- ⋯ operational boundary

03 the missing interface
two systems in proximity



- visible memory (public life)
- hidden afterlife (material process)
- ✗ absent civic-material interface

Hidden treatment plant



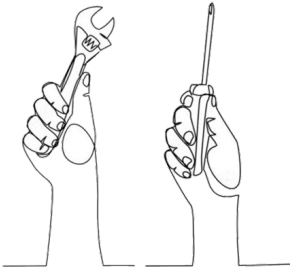
Threshold between community and process



Ochre sludge removed as waste



Collection, processing, cultural use



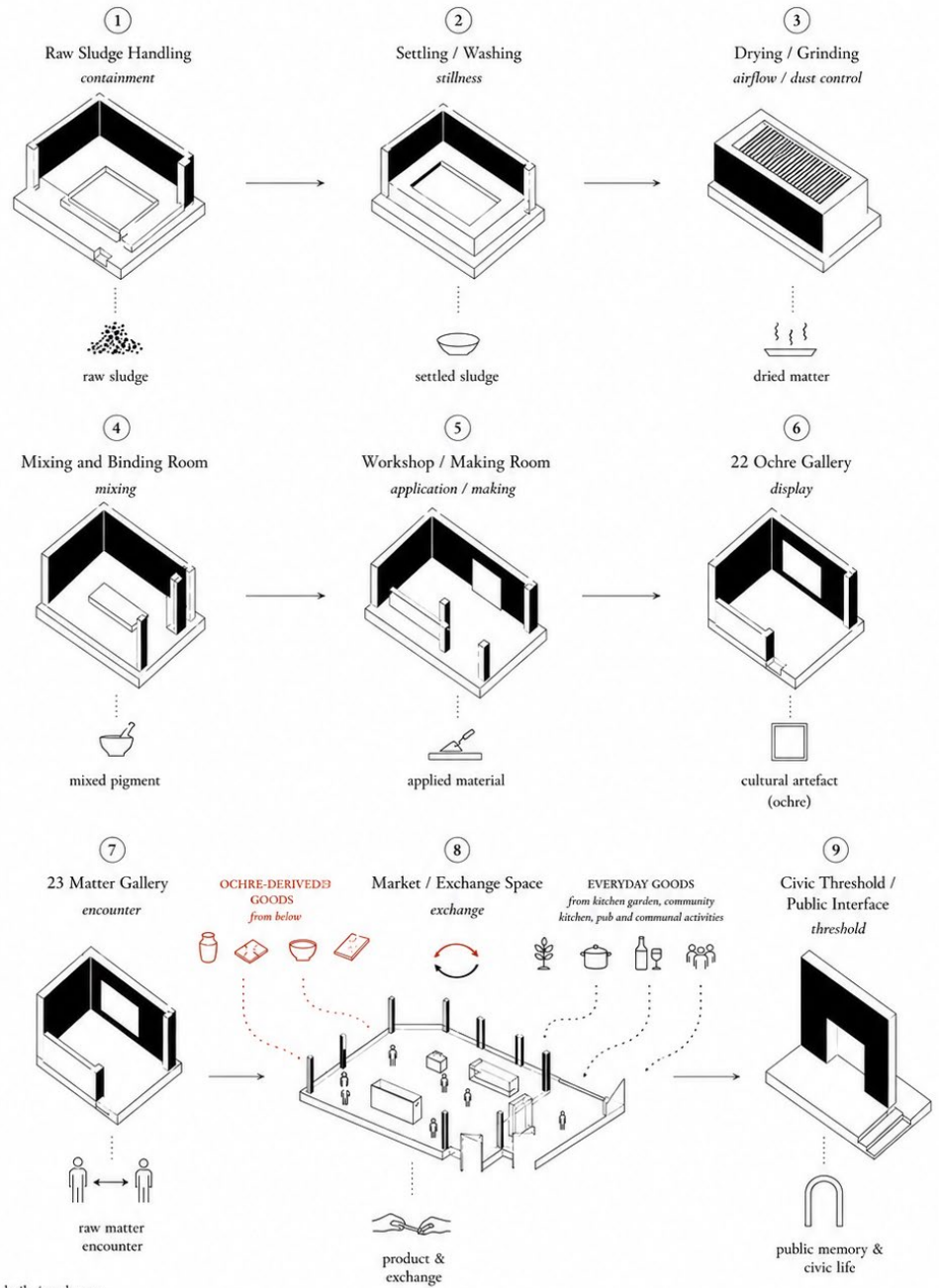
No productive civic anchor since 1988



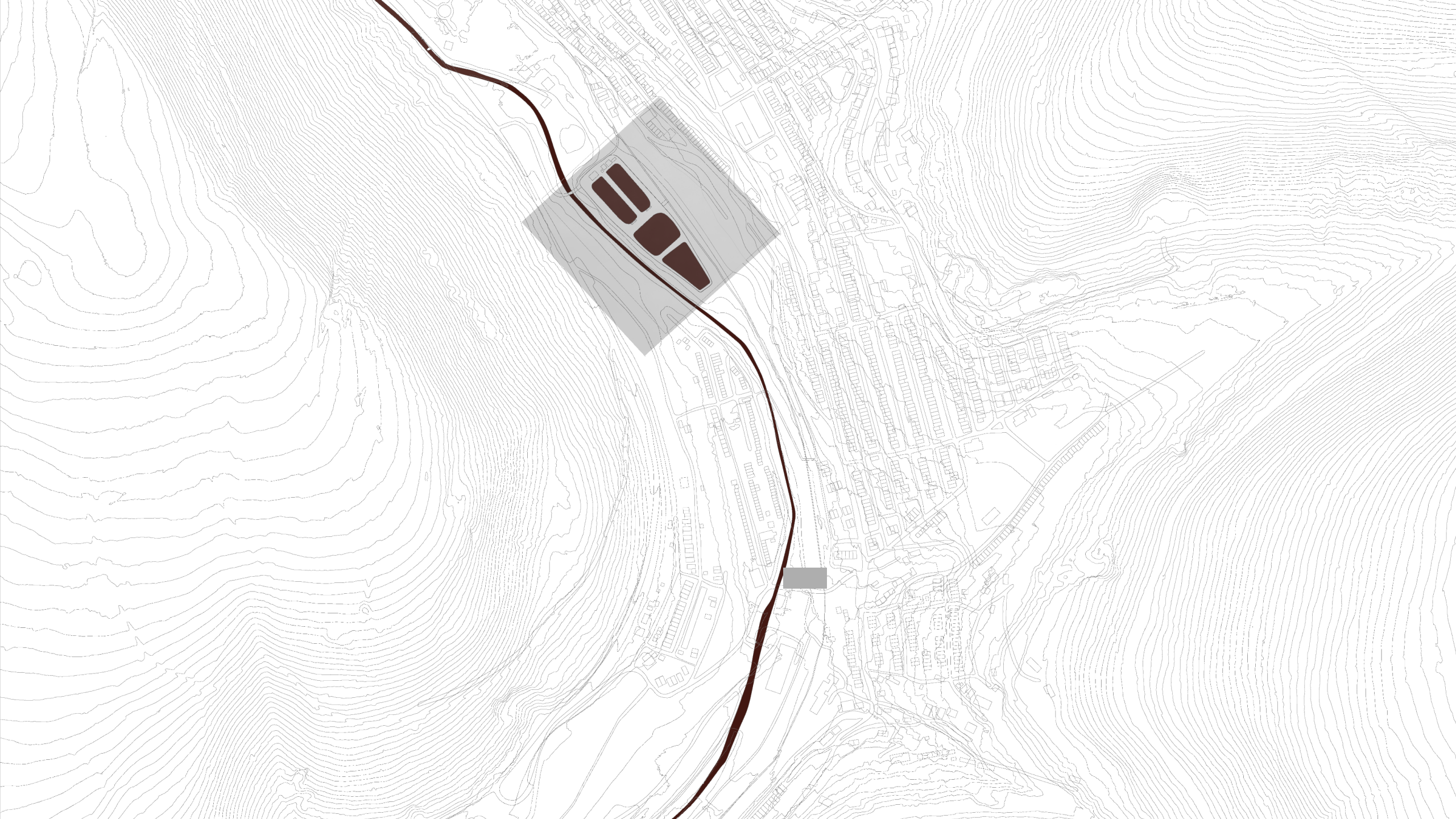
programme for local value-making

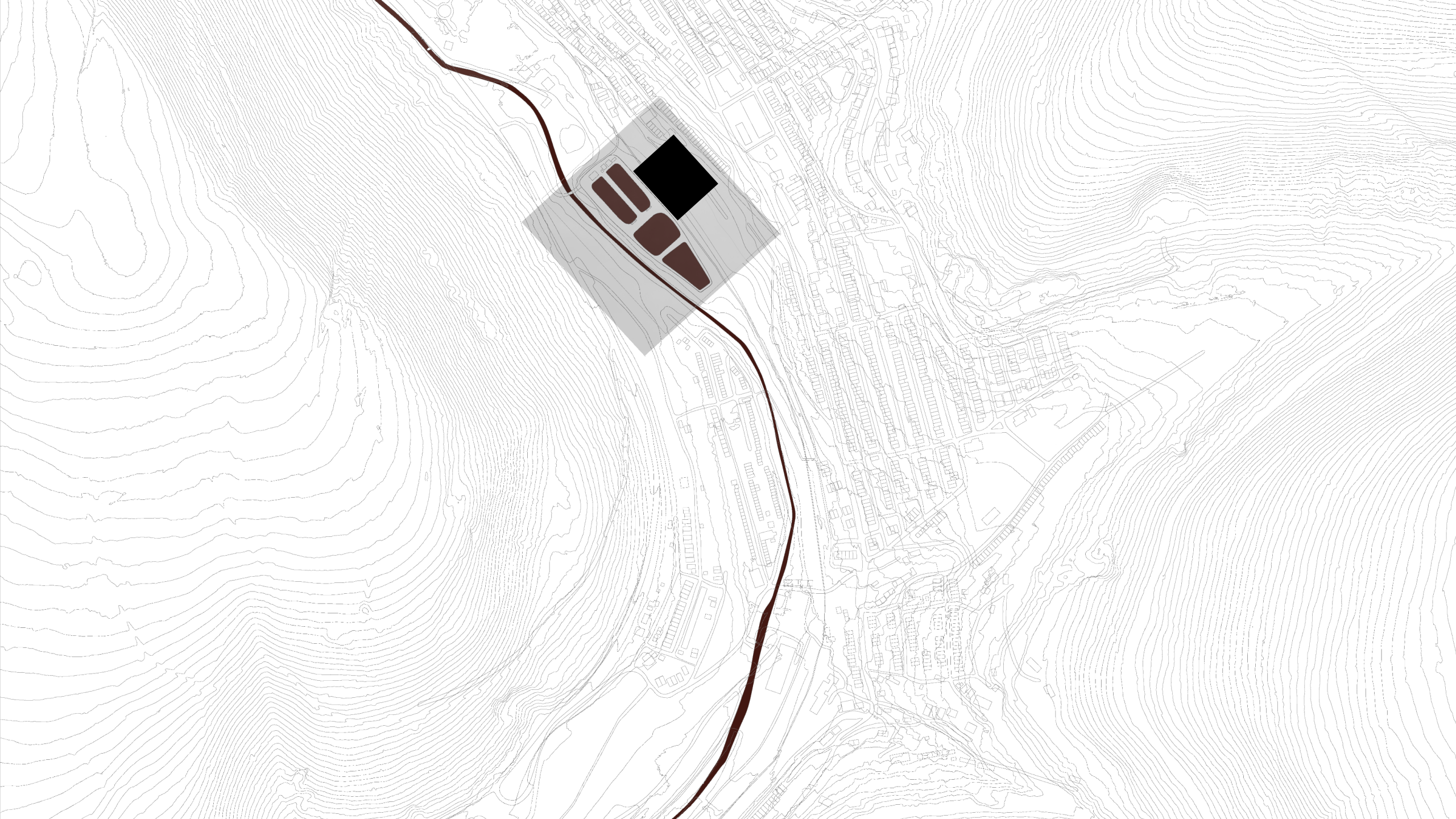


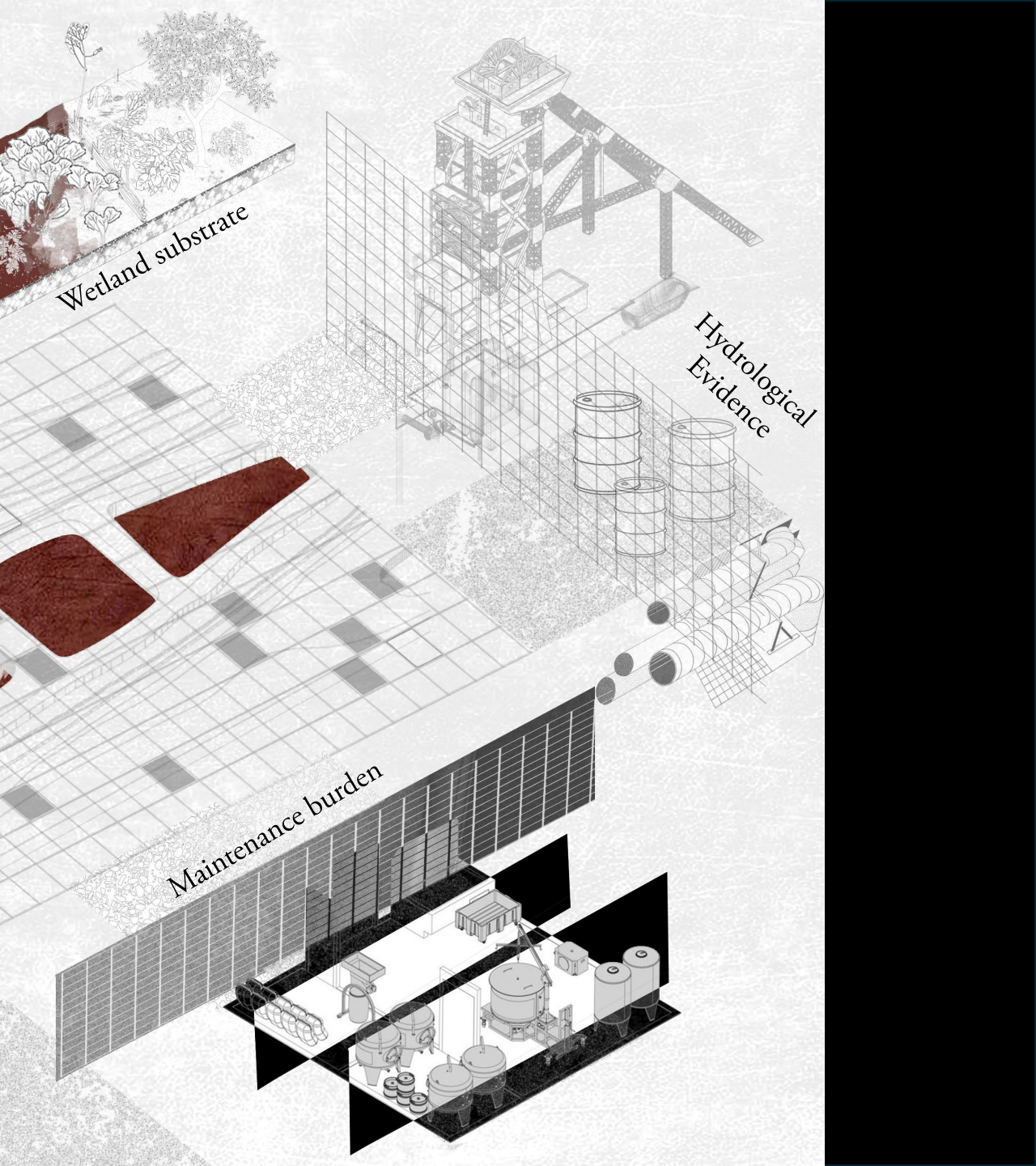
state → process → space



Ochre is processed below, interpreted through making and exhibition, and exchanged above as civic value.



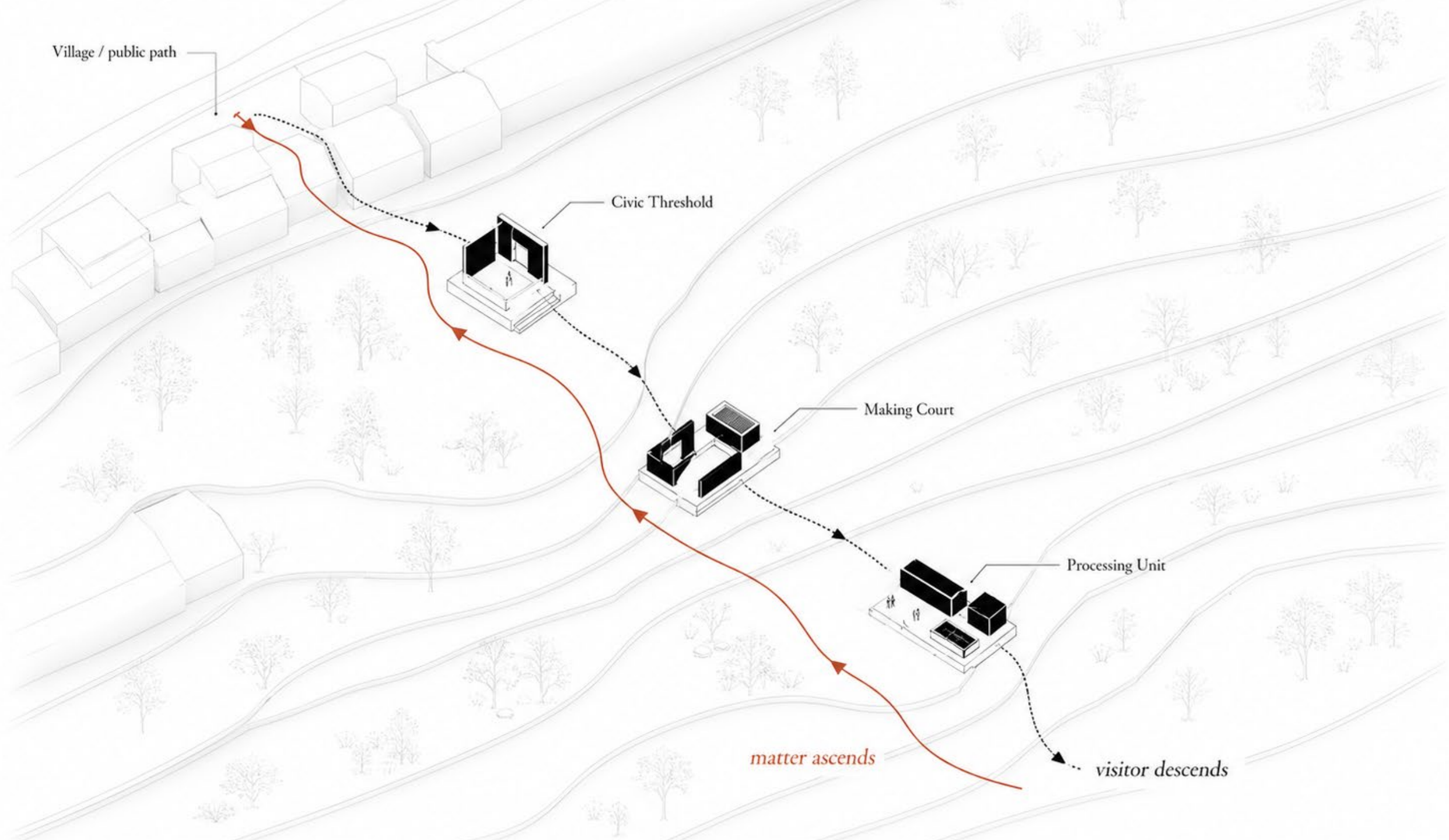




Matter changes value over time.
Ochre moves between different value systems.
Architecture gives those transformations spatial form.

These conditions begin suggesting new forms
of collective occupation

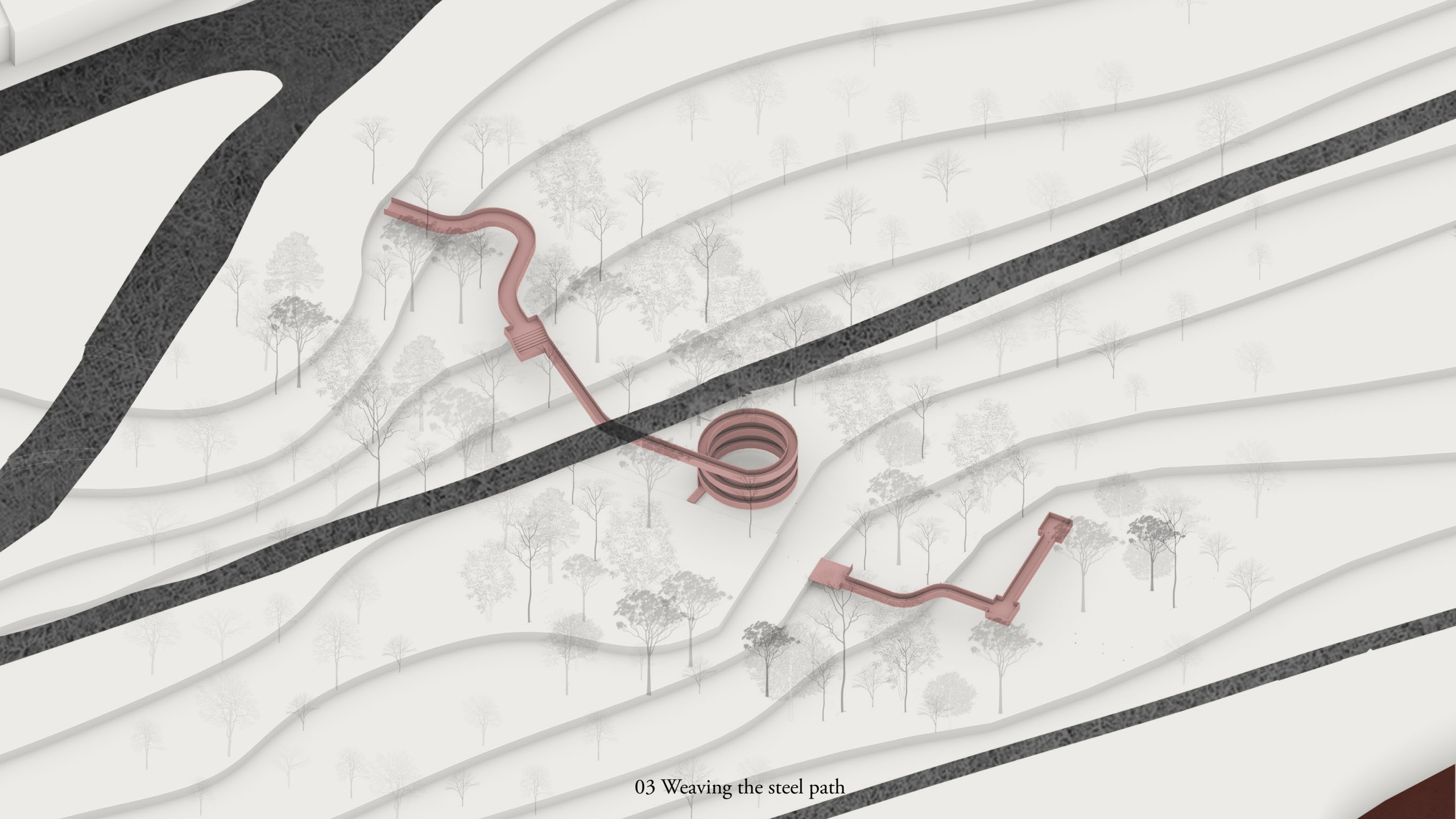
A different scale of value-making:
a civic-material landscape where matter can
be processed, witnessed, used and exchanged.

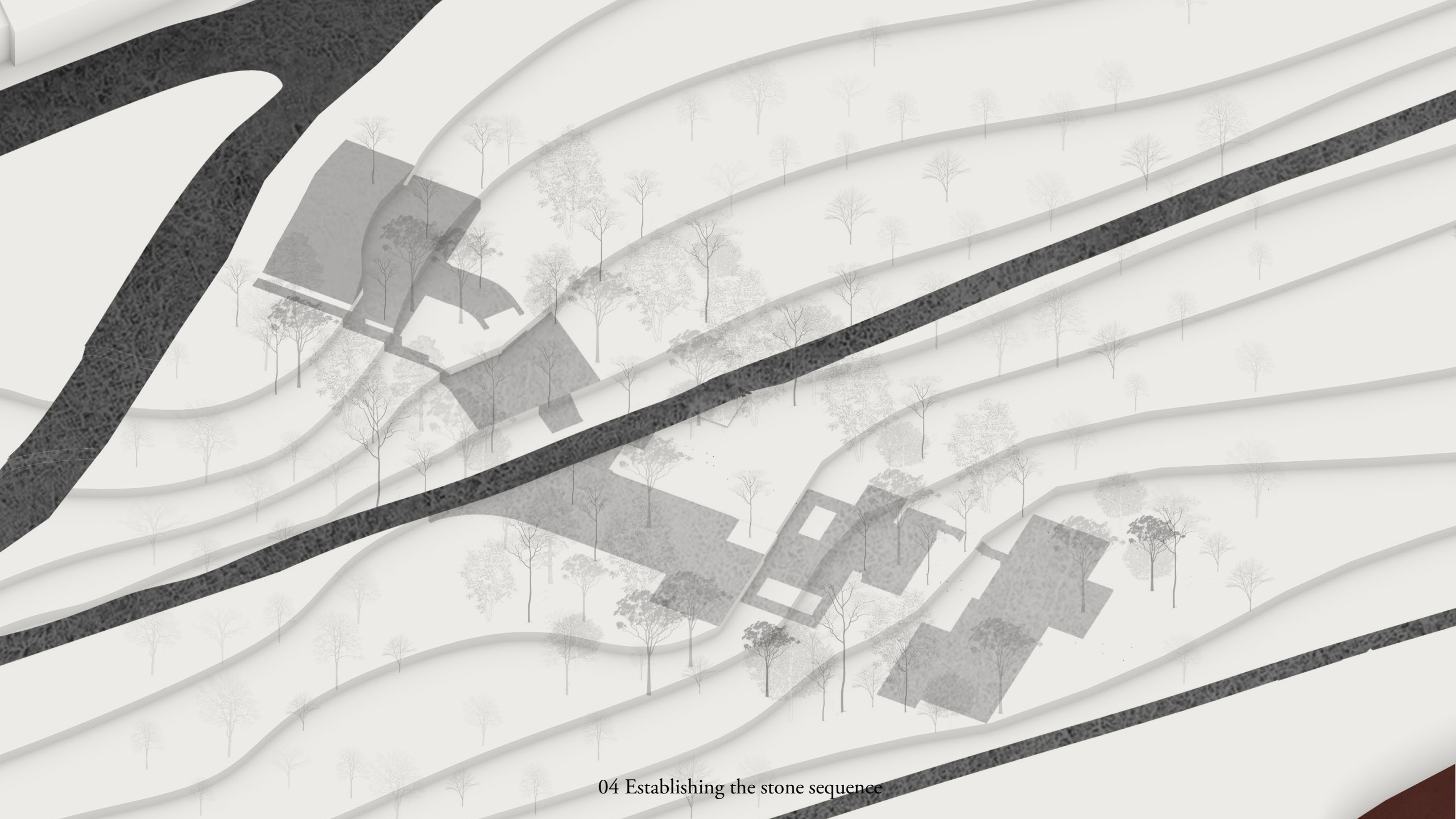


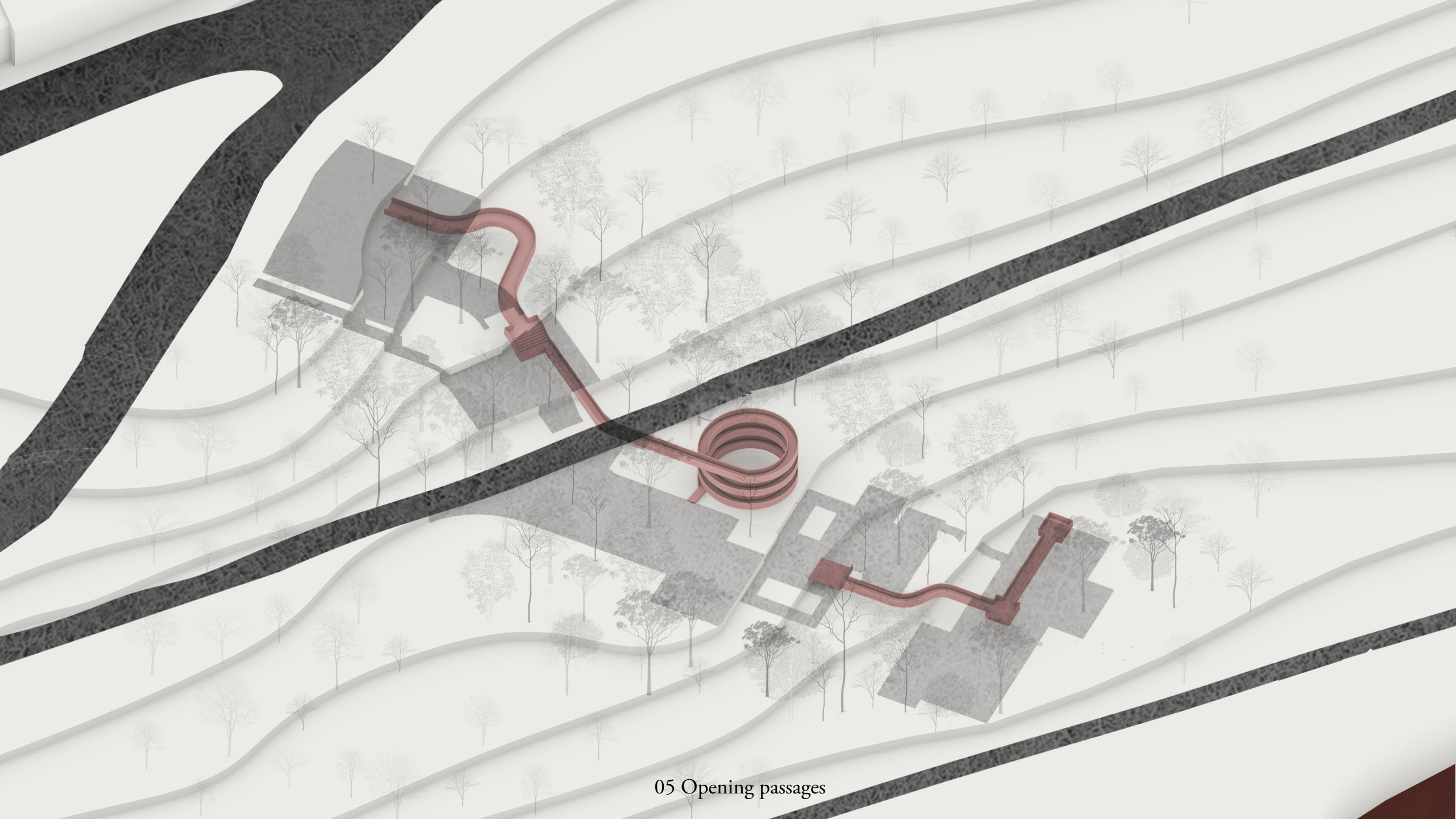


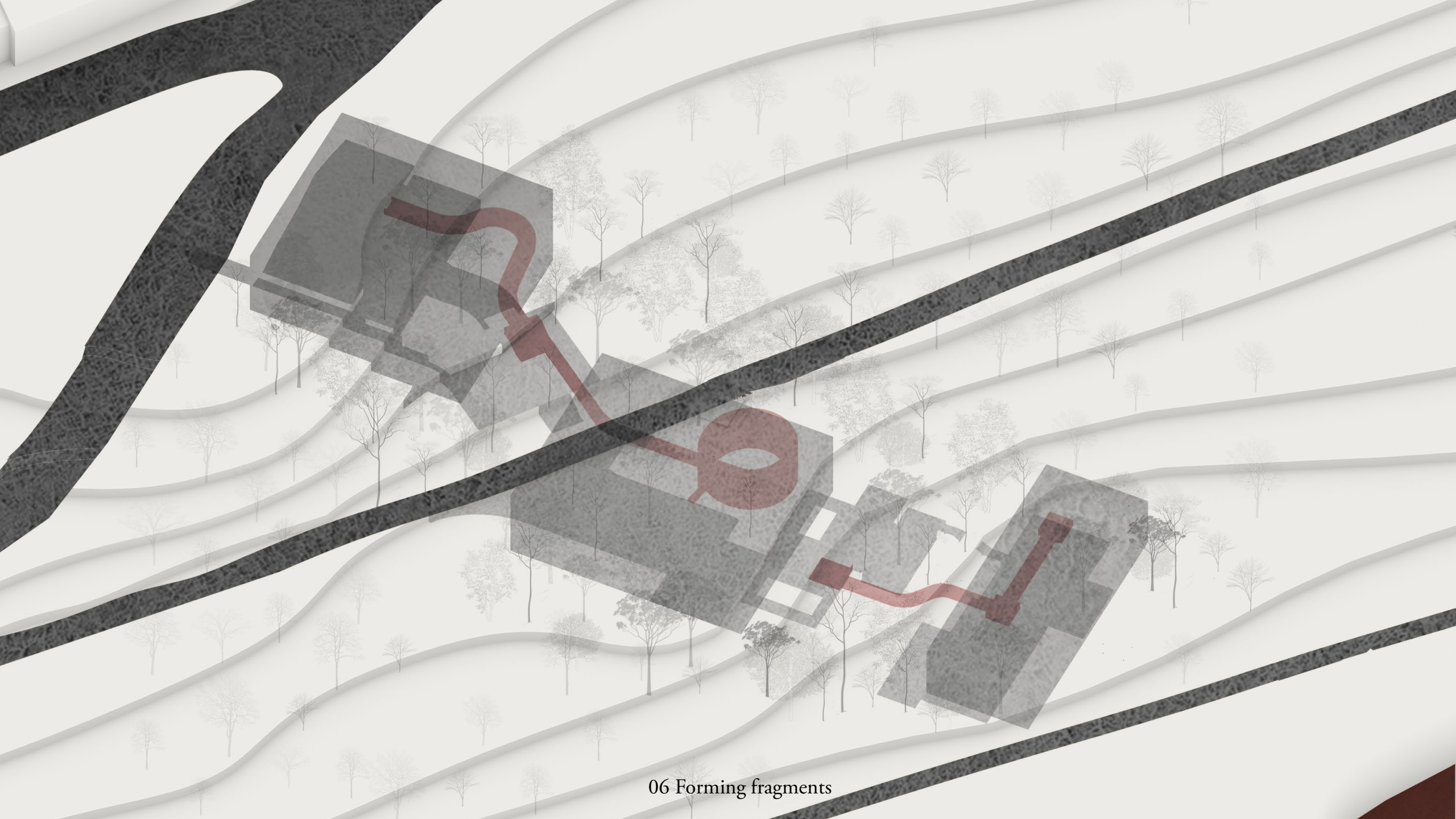
01 Reading the given



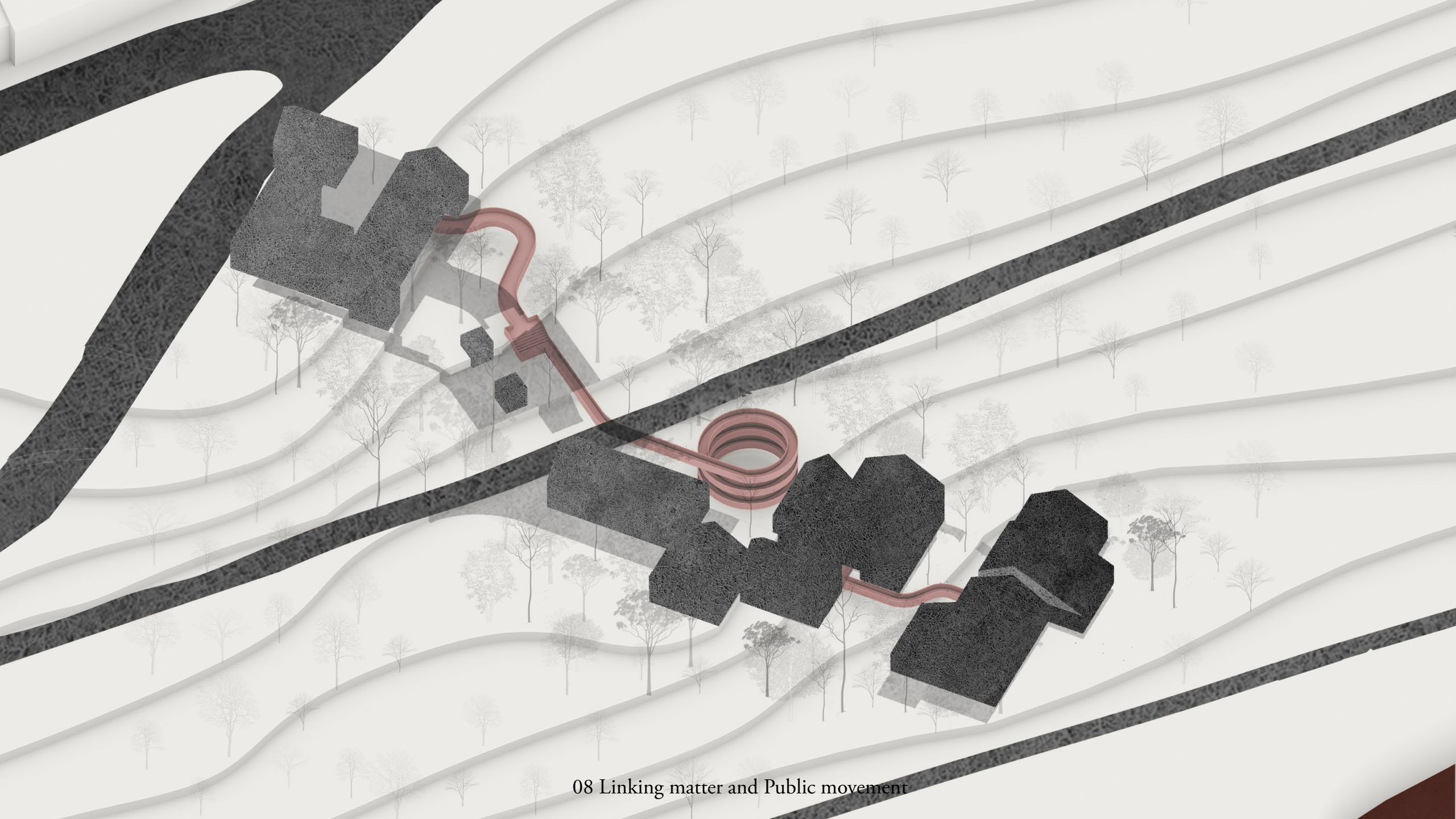






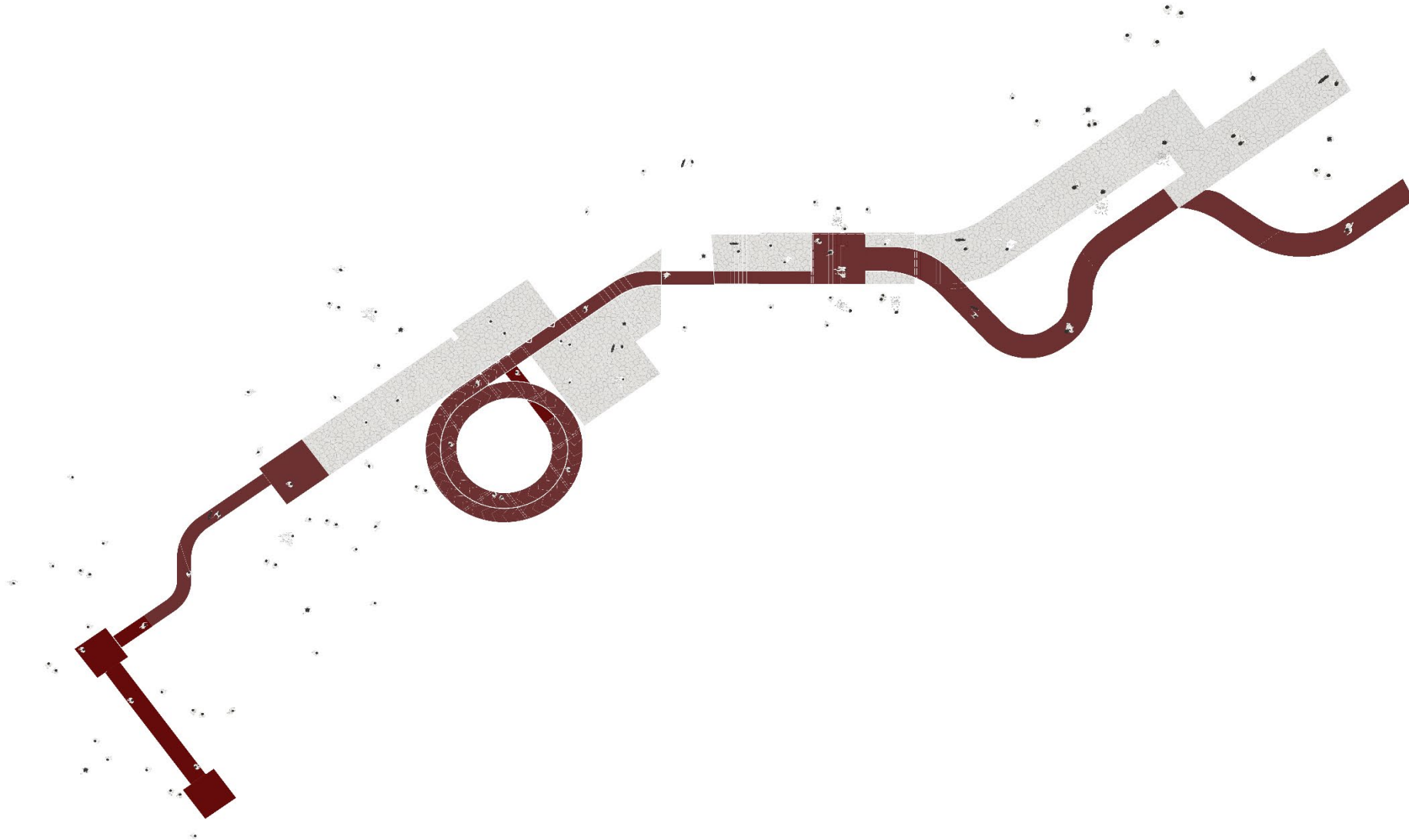




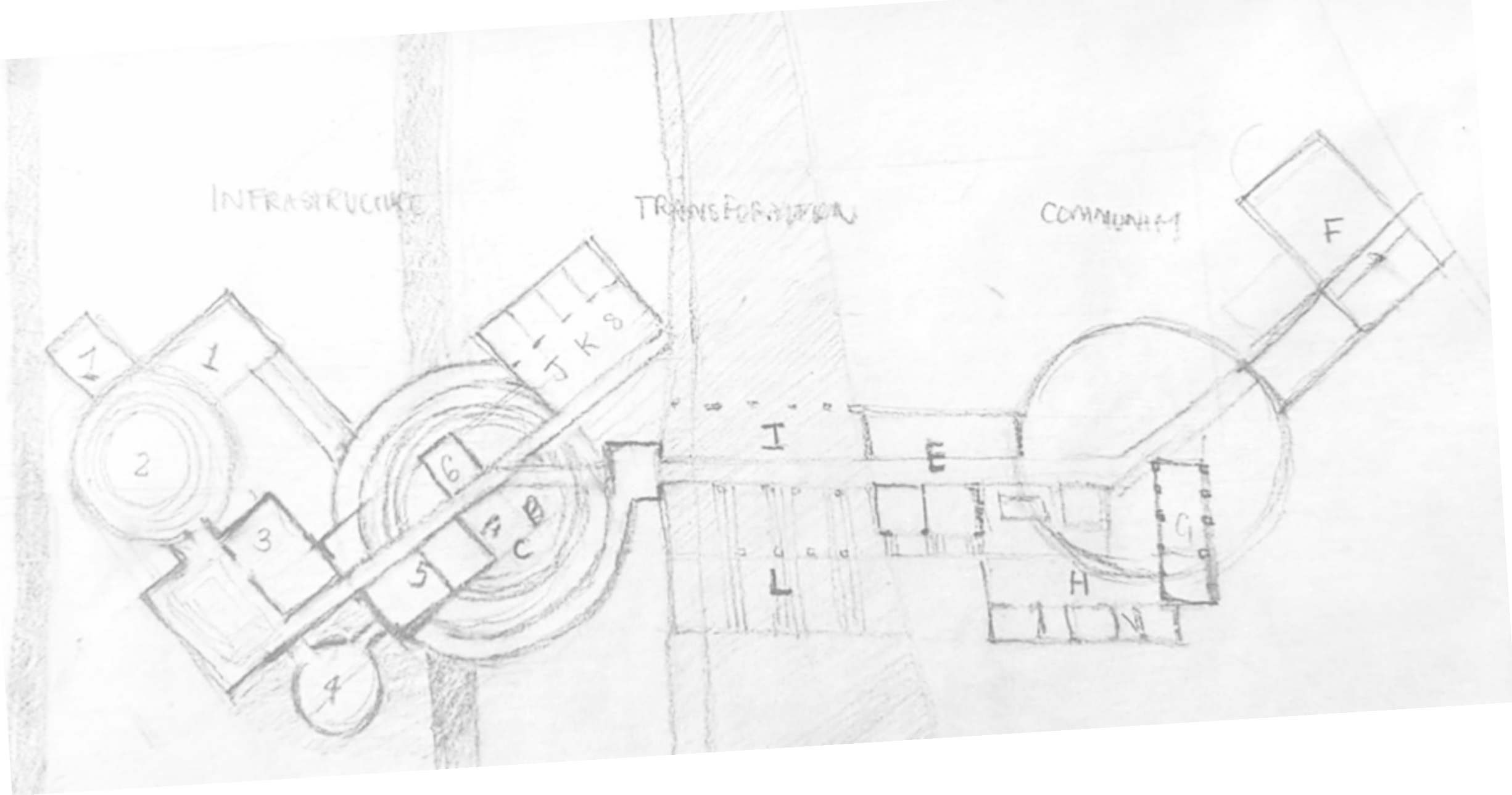




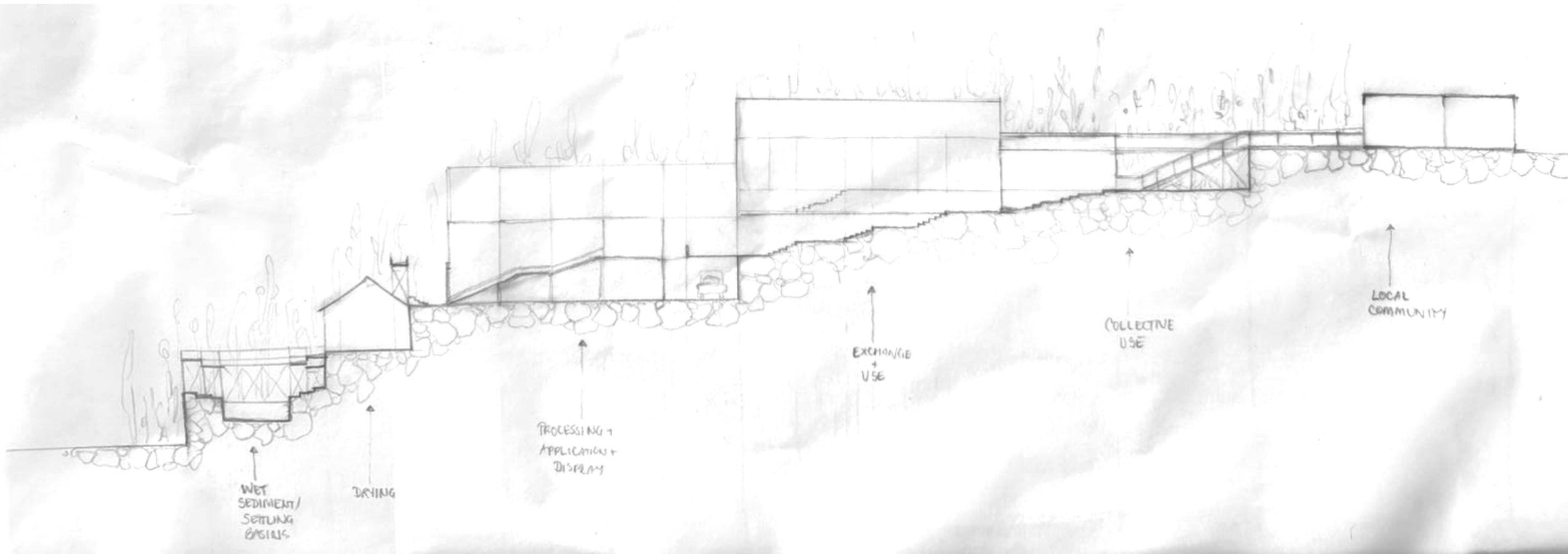
Environmental Responses



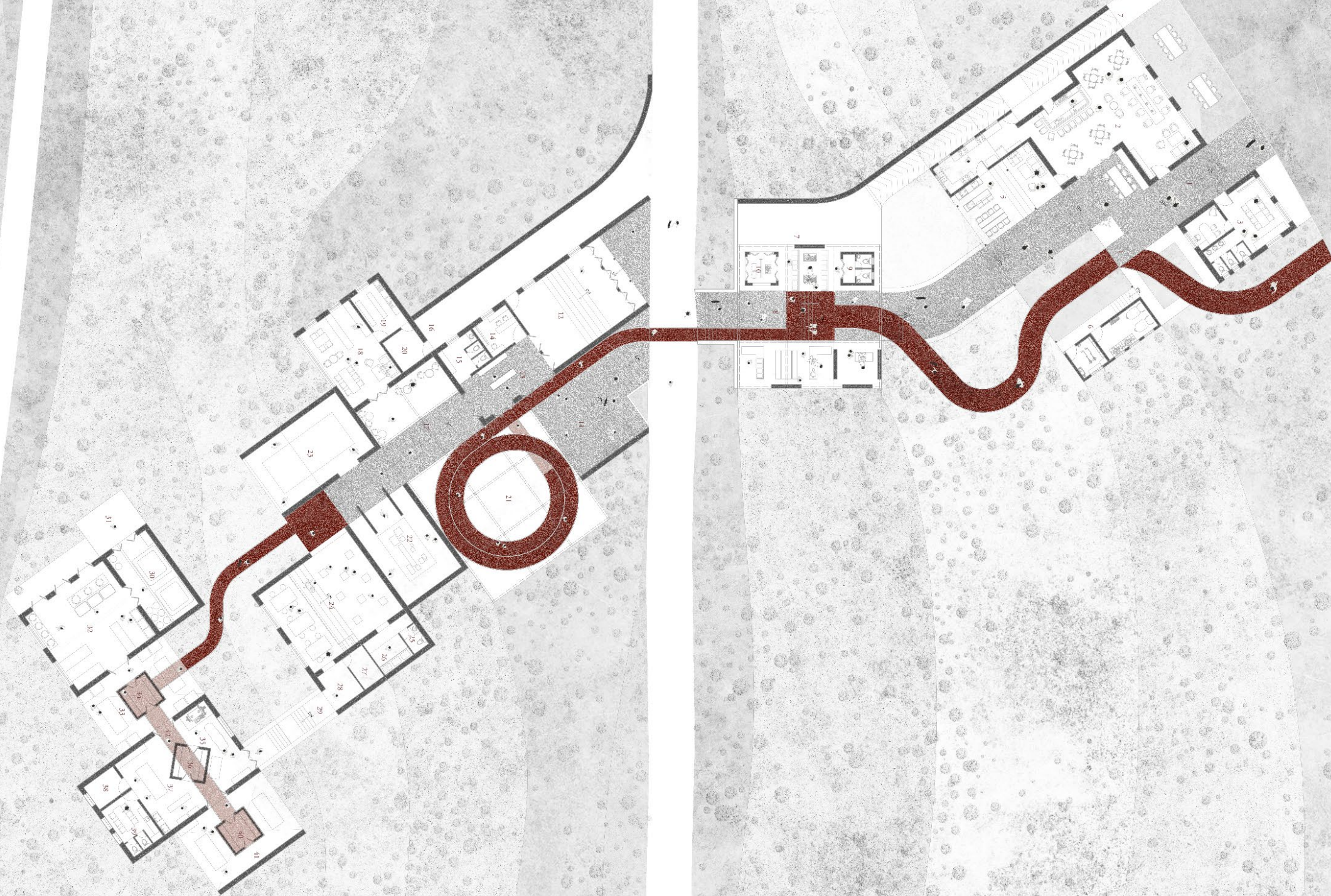
The Stone and Steel

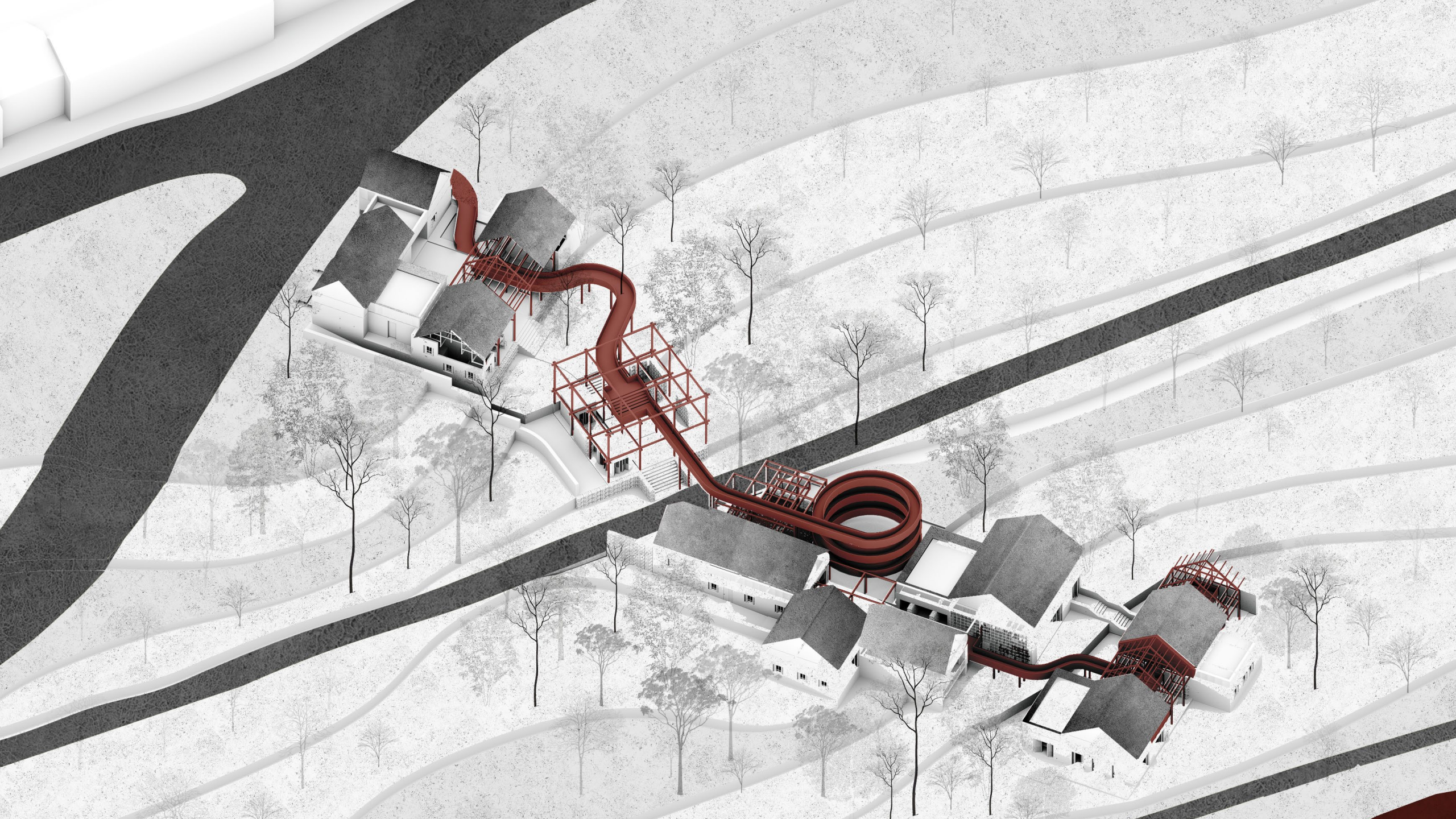


Initial sketches



Initial sketches

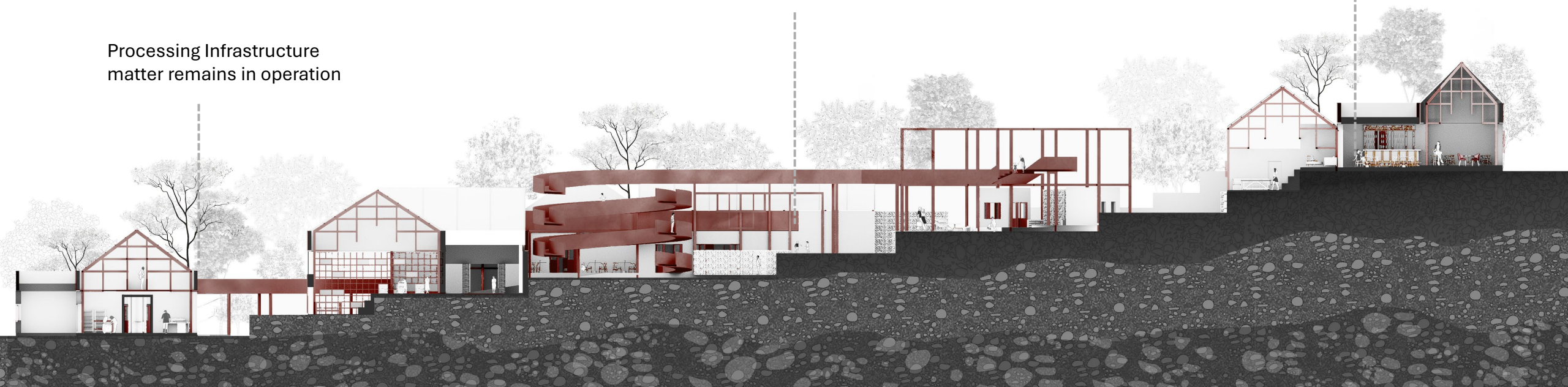


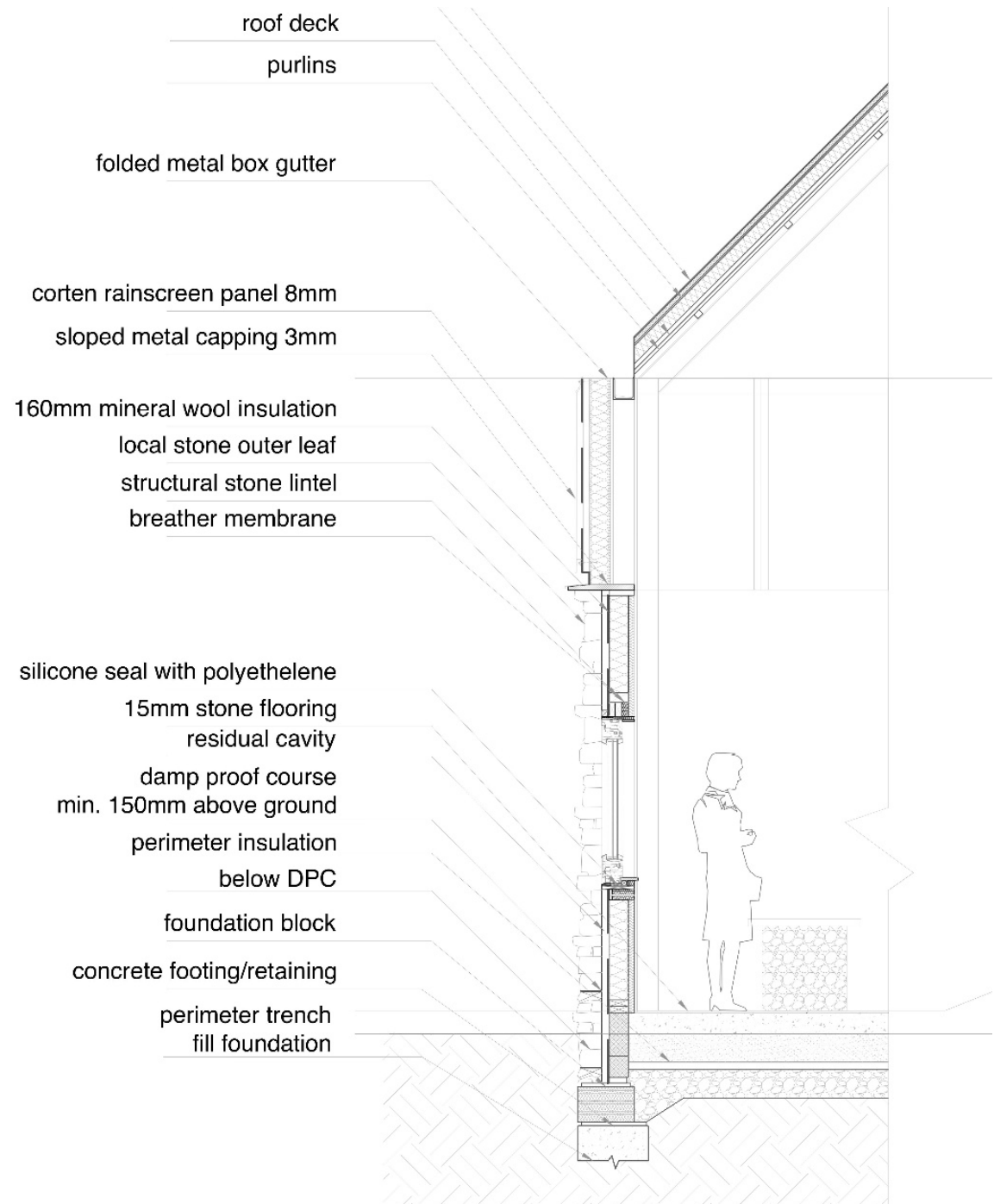


Processing Infrastructure
matter remains in operation

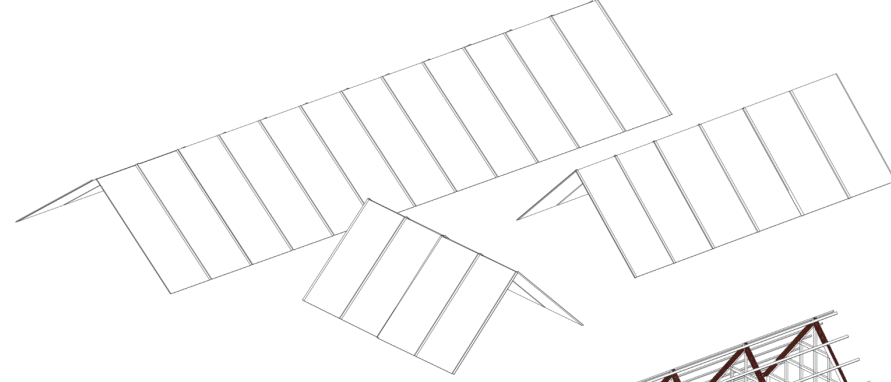
Making Court
matter becomes practice

Civic Threshold
matter enters public life

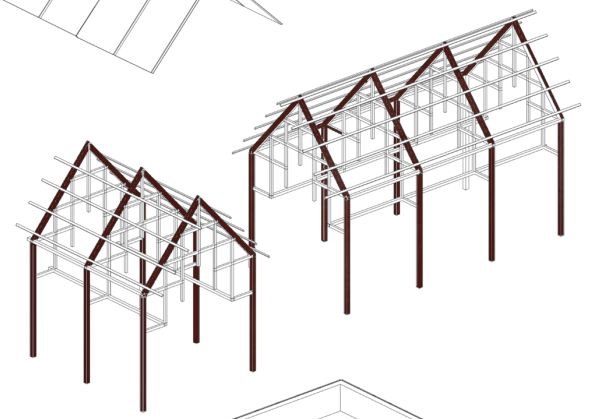




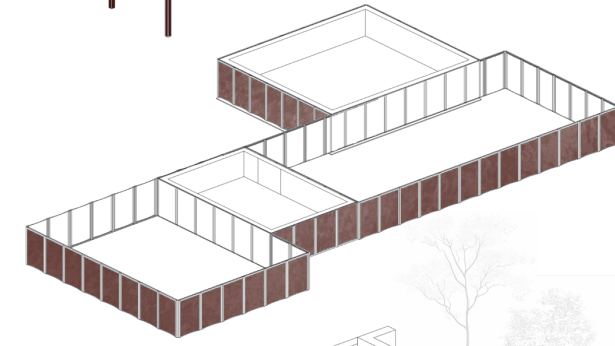
Assembly of the tectonic system



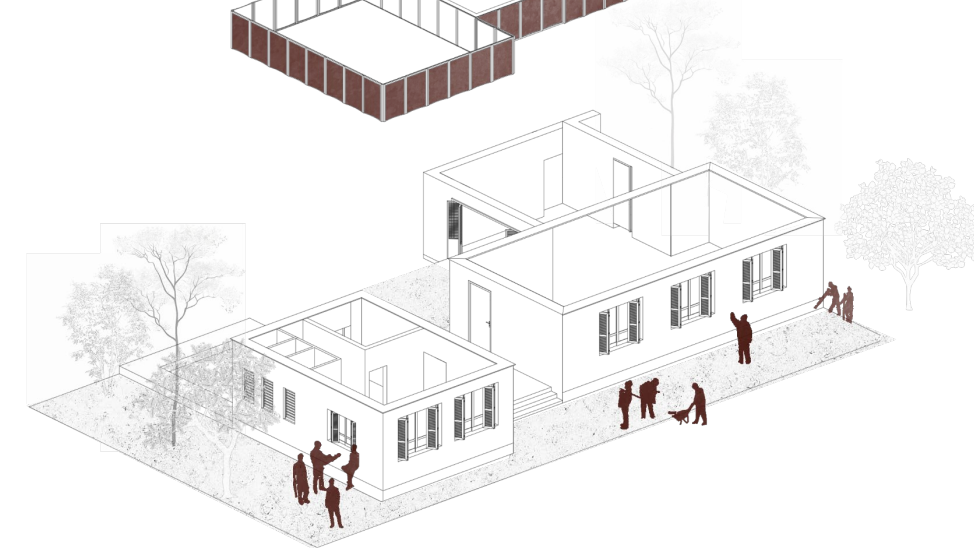
Lightweight roof



Reversible steel frames



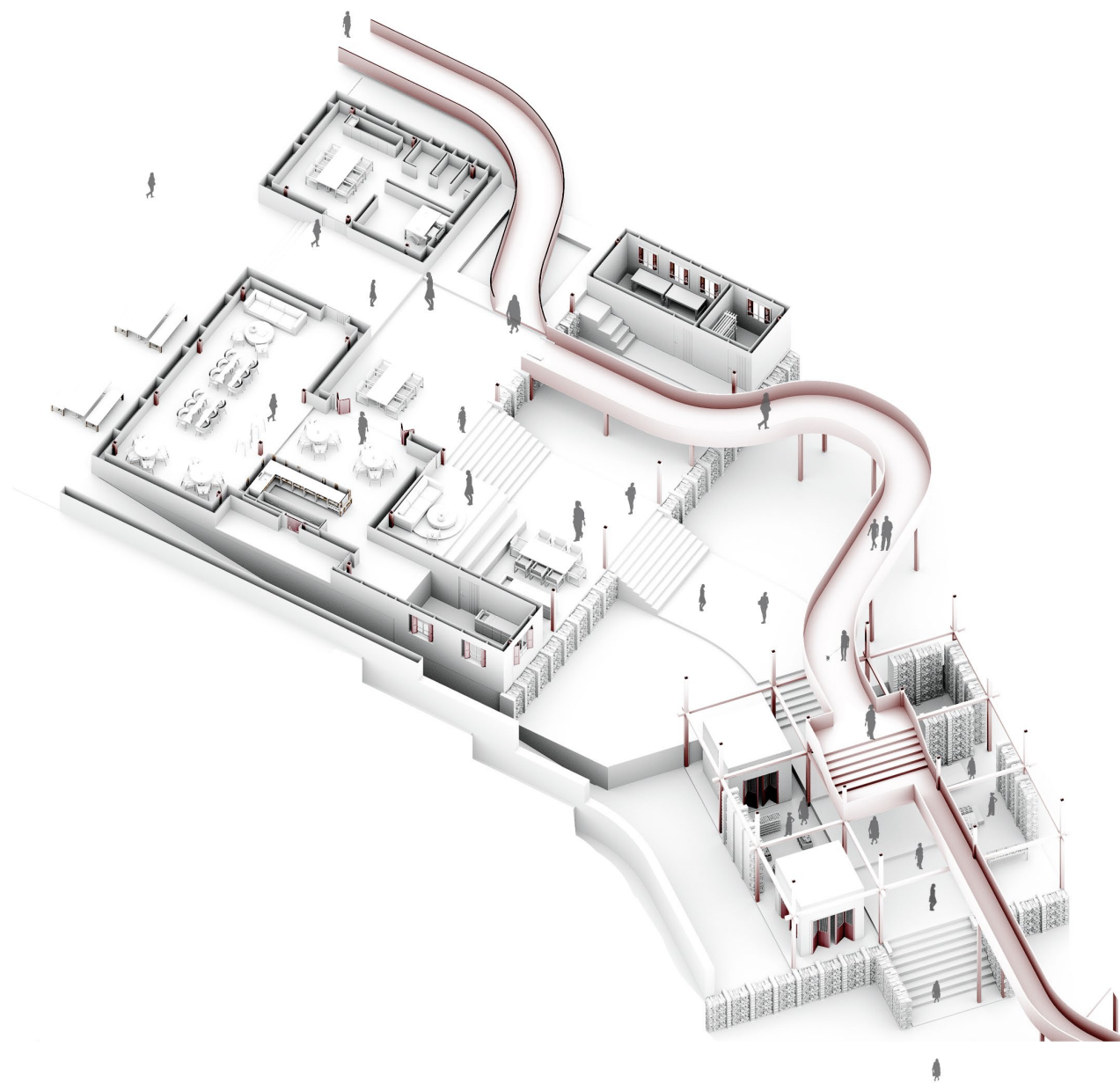
Corten rainscreens

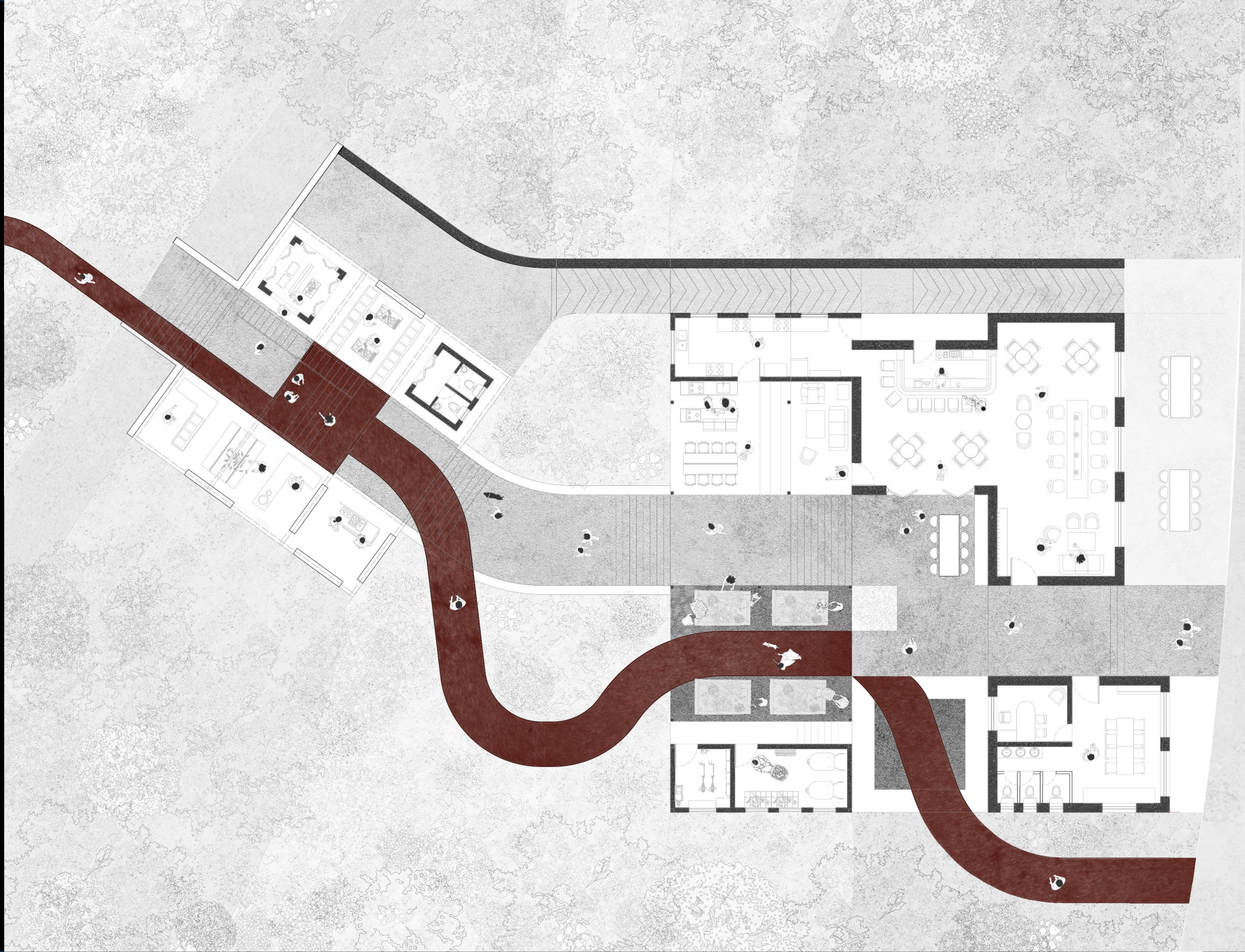


Stone enclosure

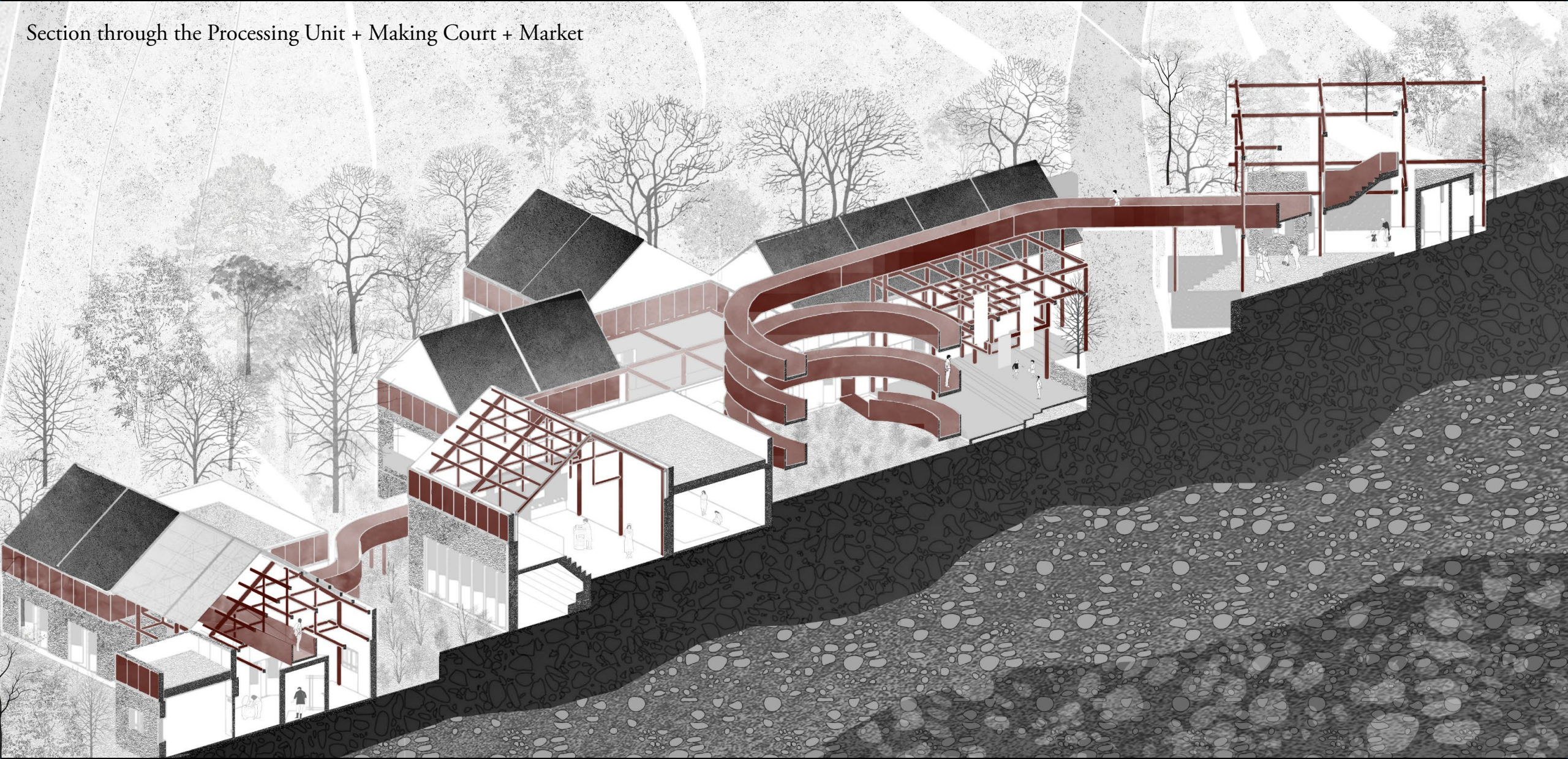
Grounded stone base

Civic Threshold

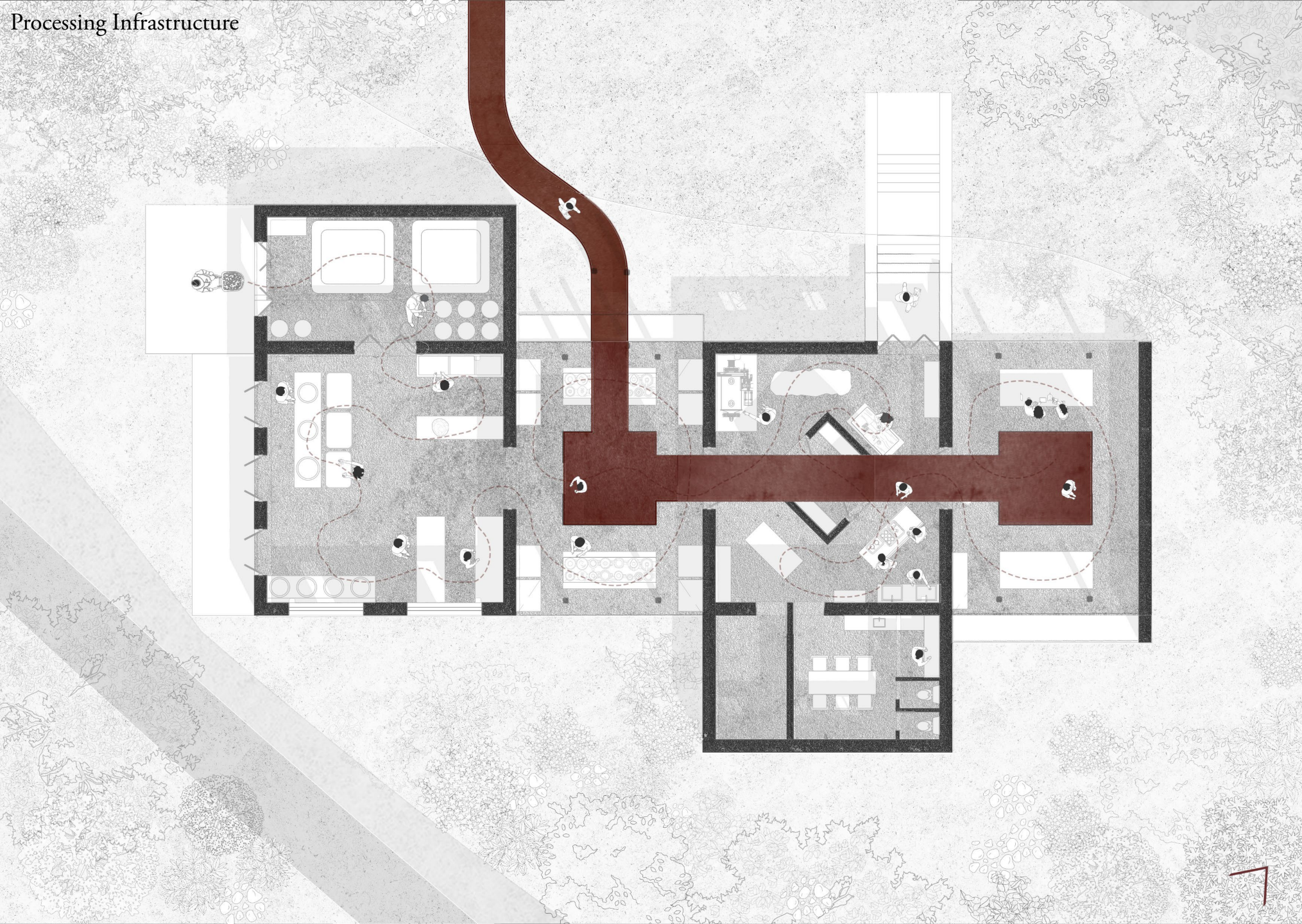




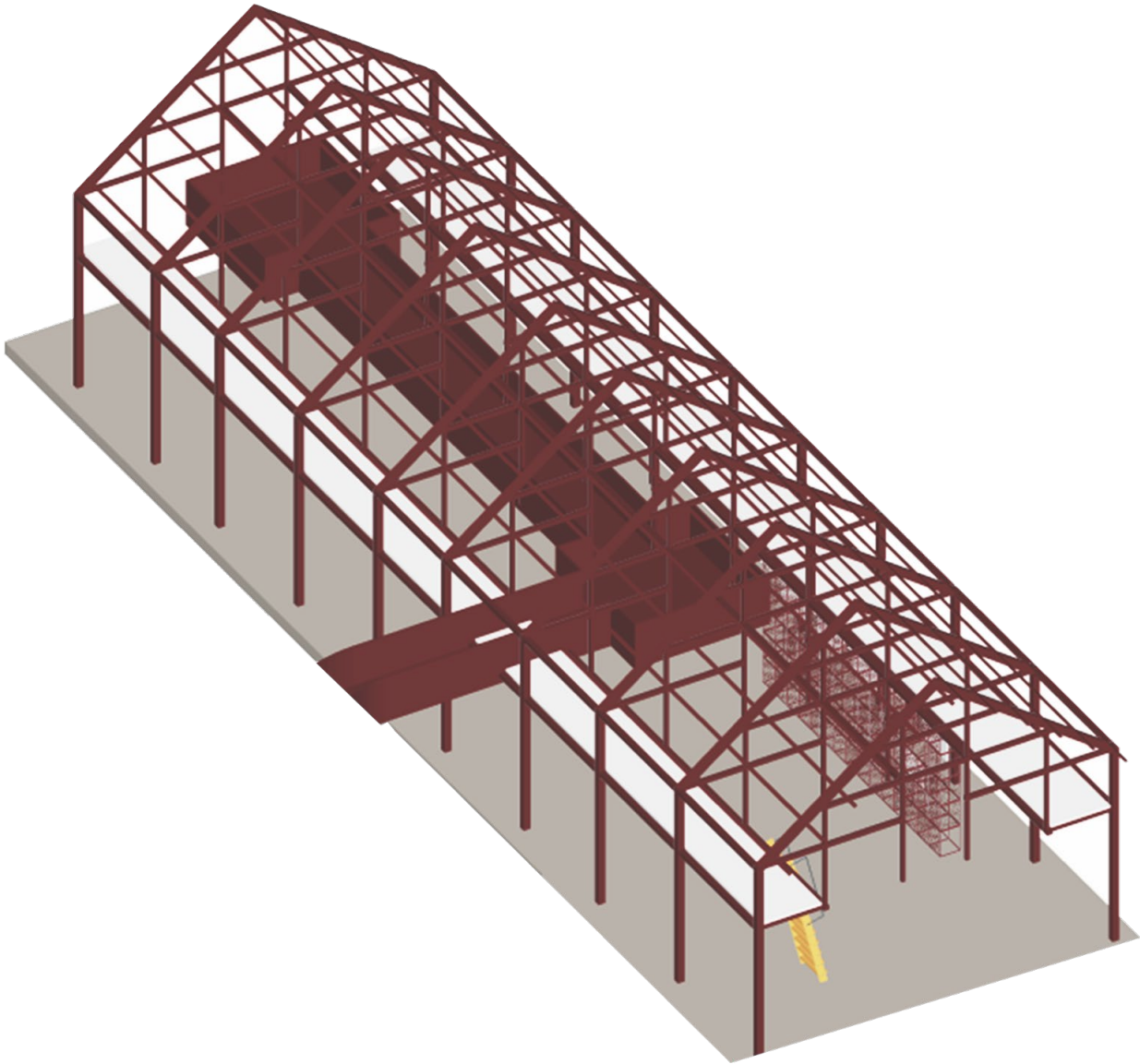
Section through the Processing Unit + Making Court + Market



Processing Infrastructure



One Frame, Three roles



Primary steel frame

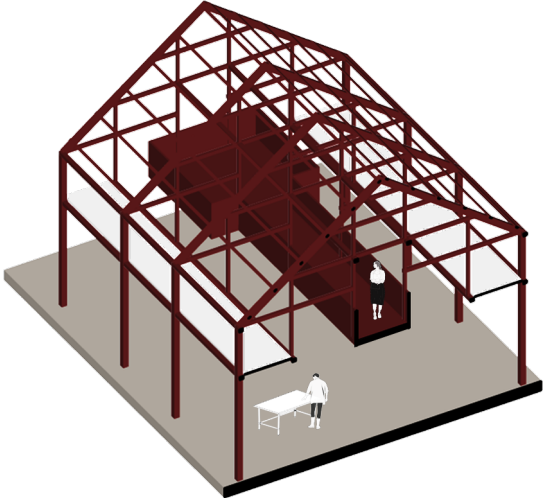
Upper gallery/walkway

Internal process route

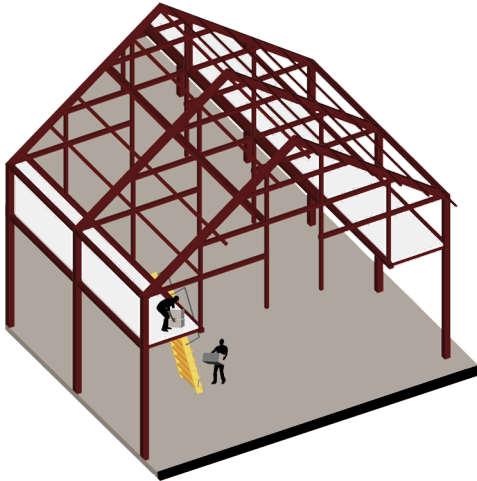
Service/circulation core

Adaptable interior insertions

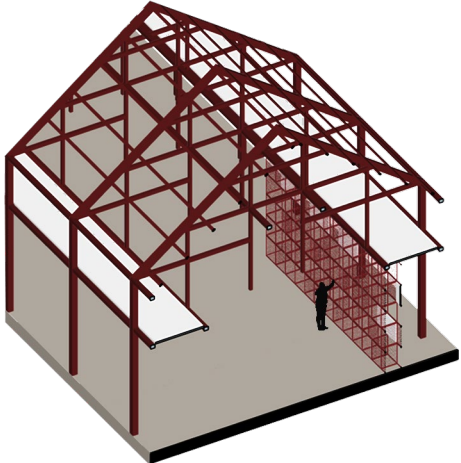
One Frame, Three roles



holds the gallery above

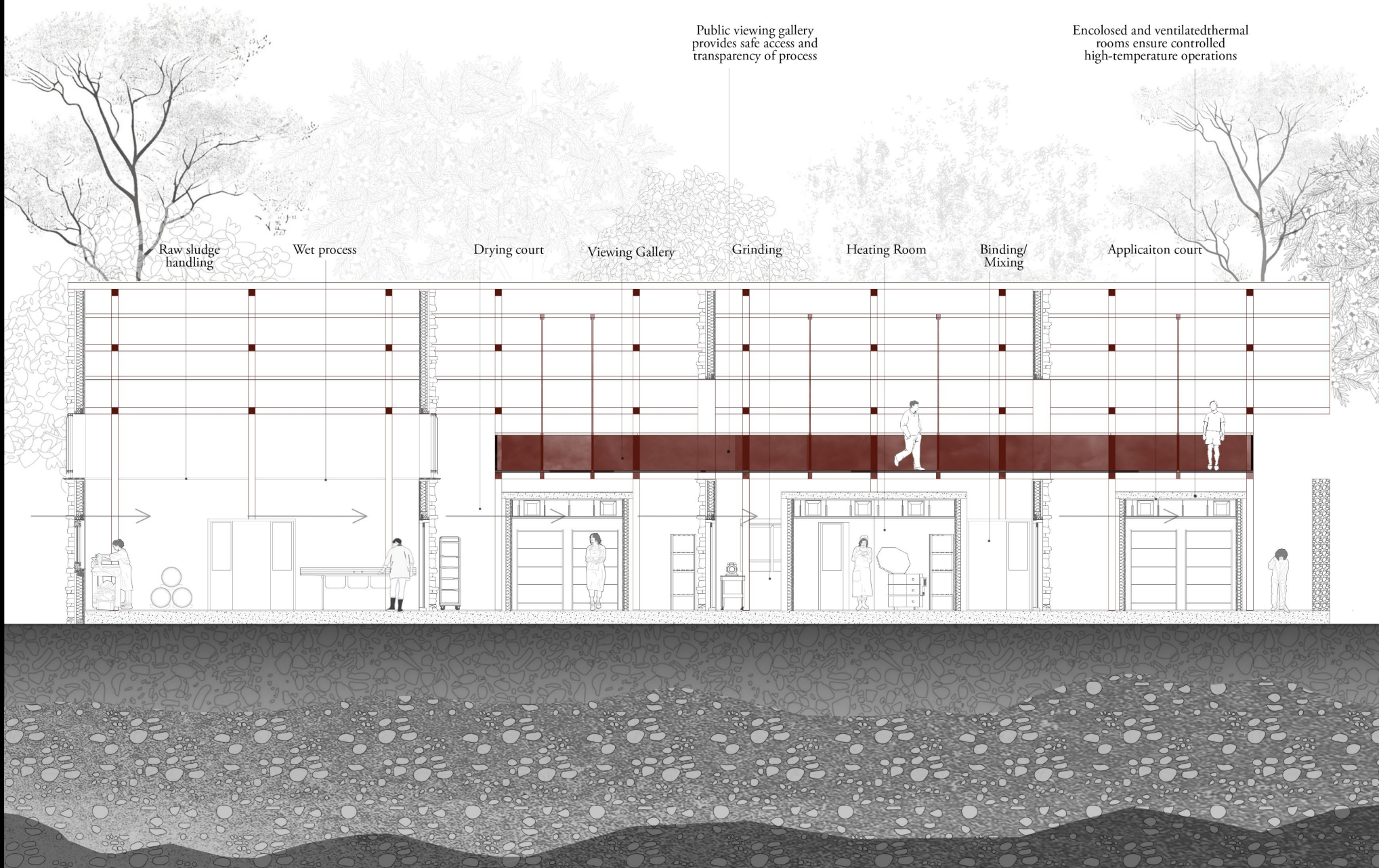


creates service/loft spaces



adaptable interior insertions/ display shelves

Section through the Processing Unit



Public viewing gallery provides safe access and transparency of process

Enclosed and ventilated thermal rooms ensure controlled high-temperature operations

Raw sludge handling

Wet process

Drying court

Viewing Gallery

Grinding

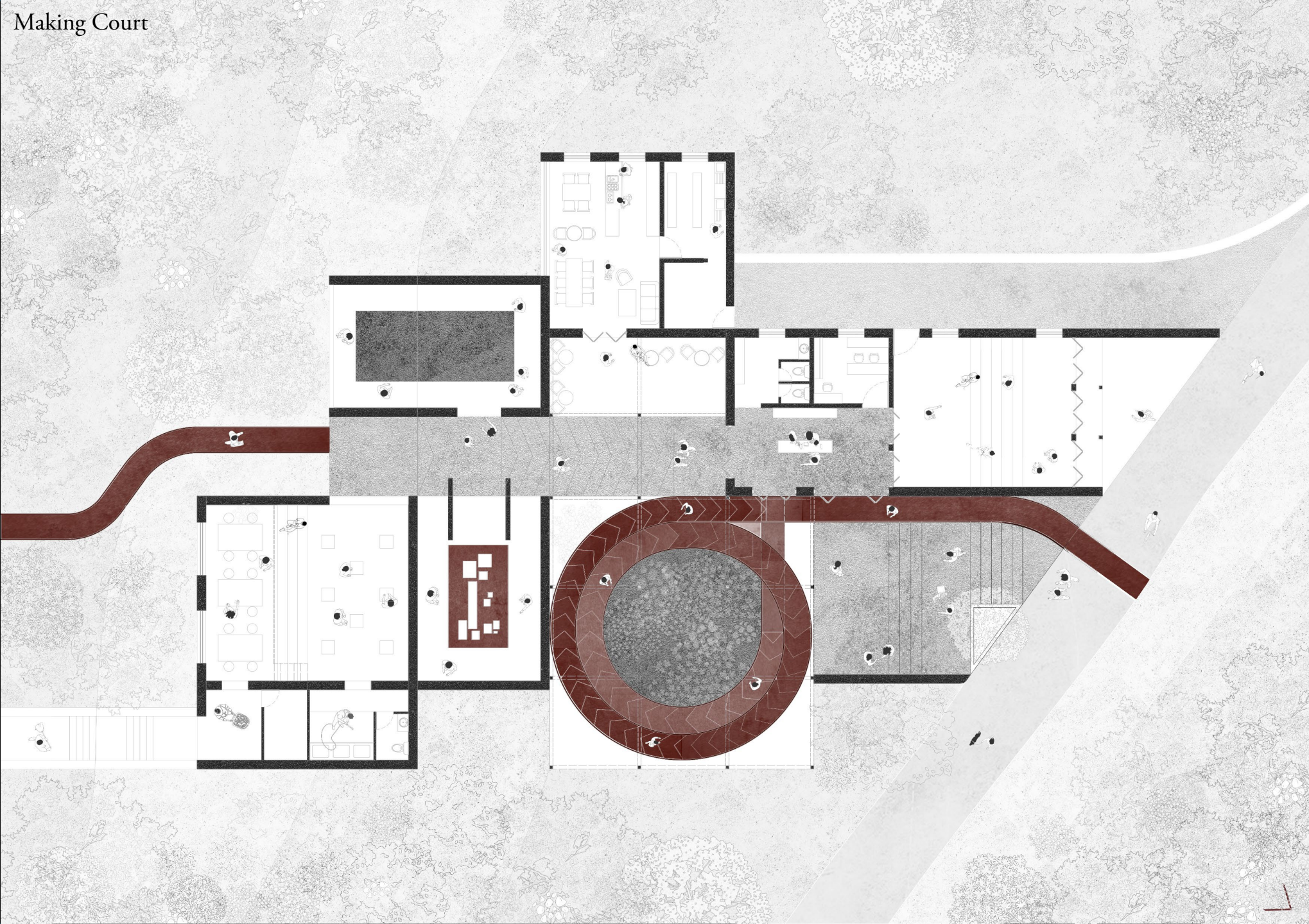
Heating Room

Binding/Mixing

Application court



Making Court

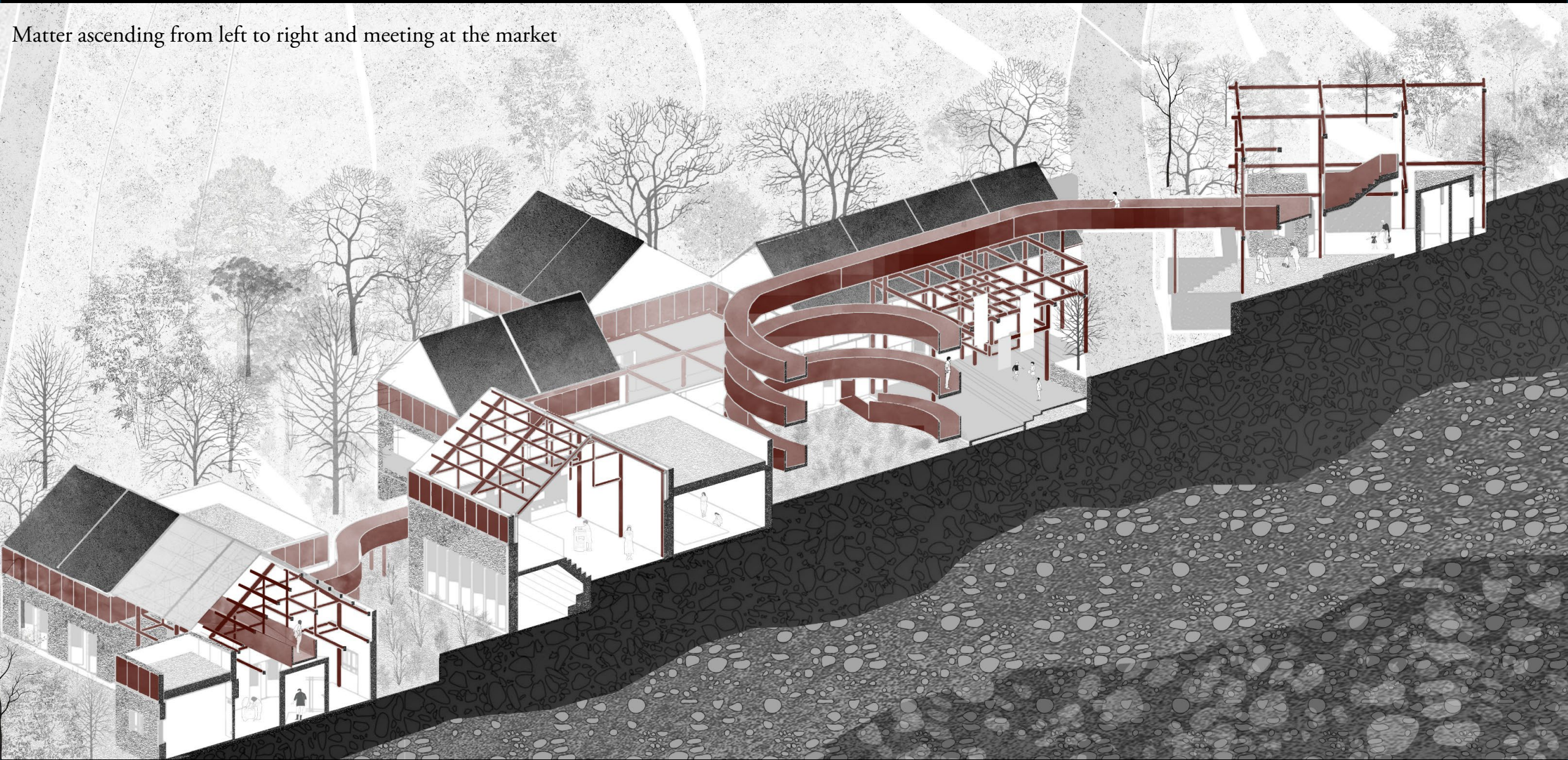


Matter Gallery and Workshop
environmental section





Matter ascending from left to right and meeting at the market

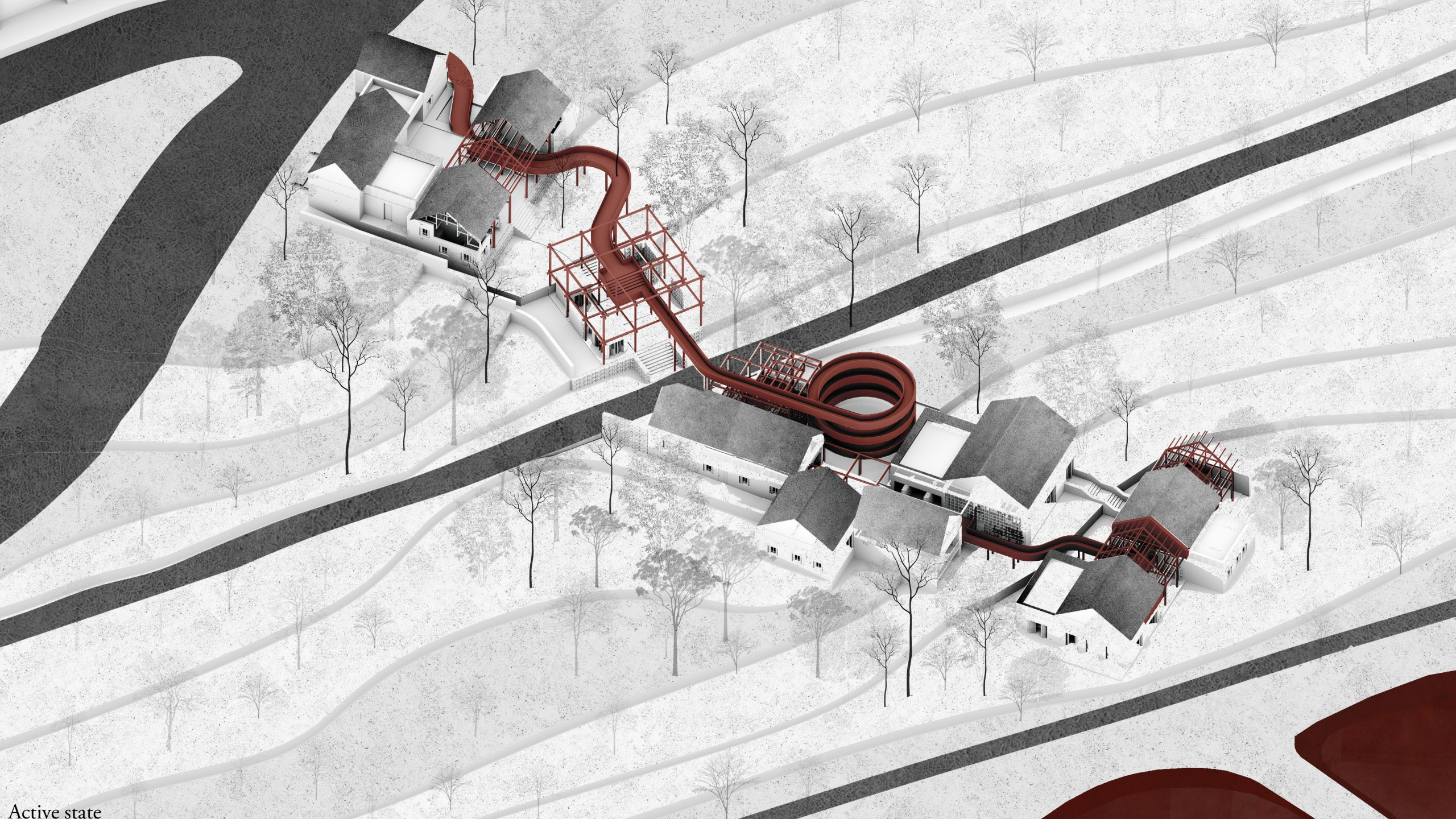




ACT IV : The Second Afterlife

Matter released





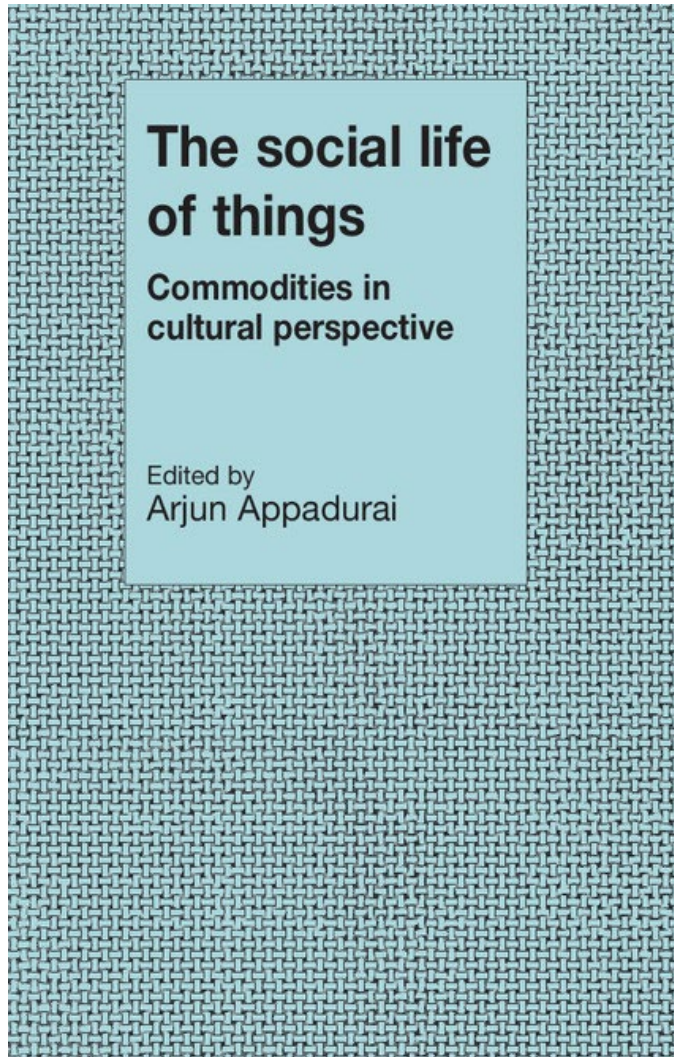
Active state



Transitional state



Released state

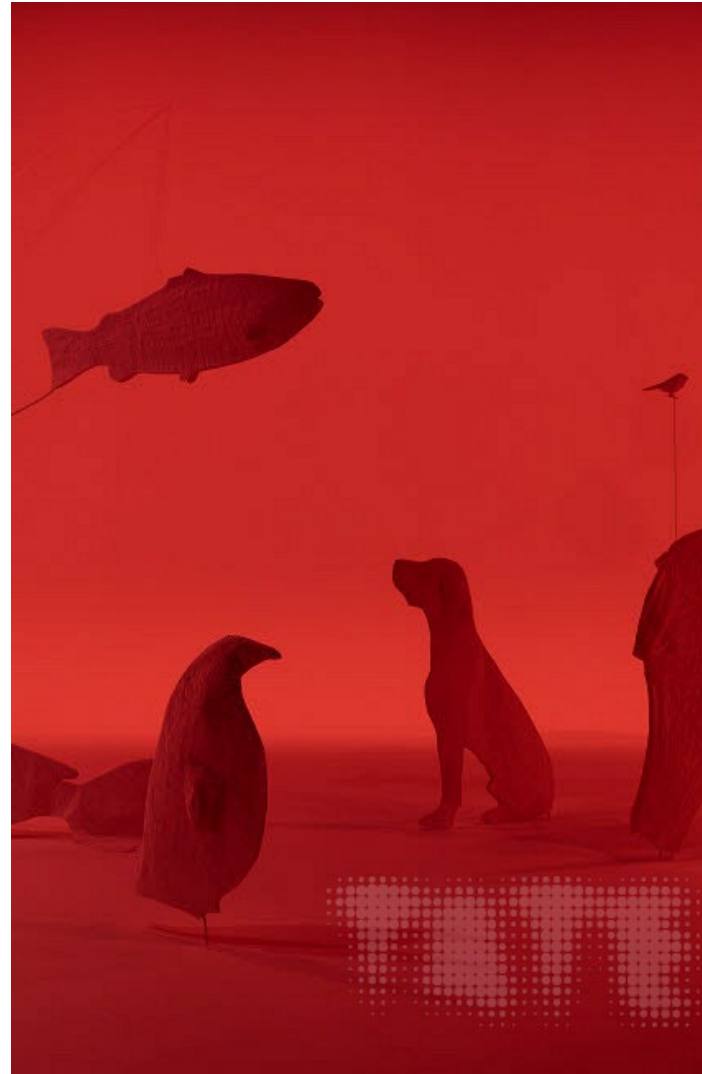


**The social life
of things**

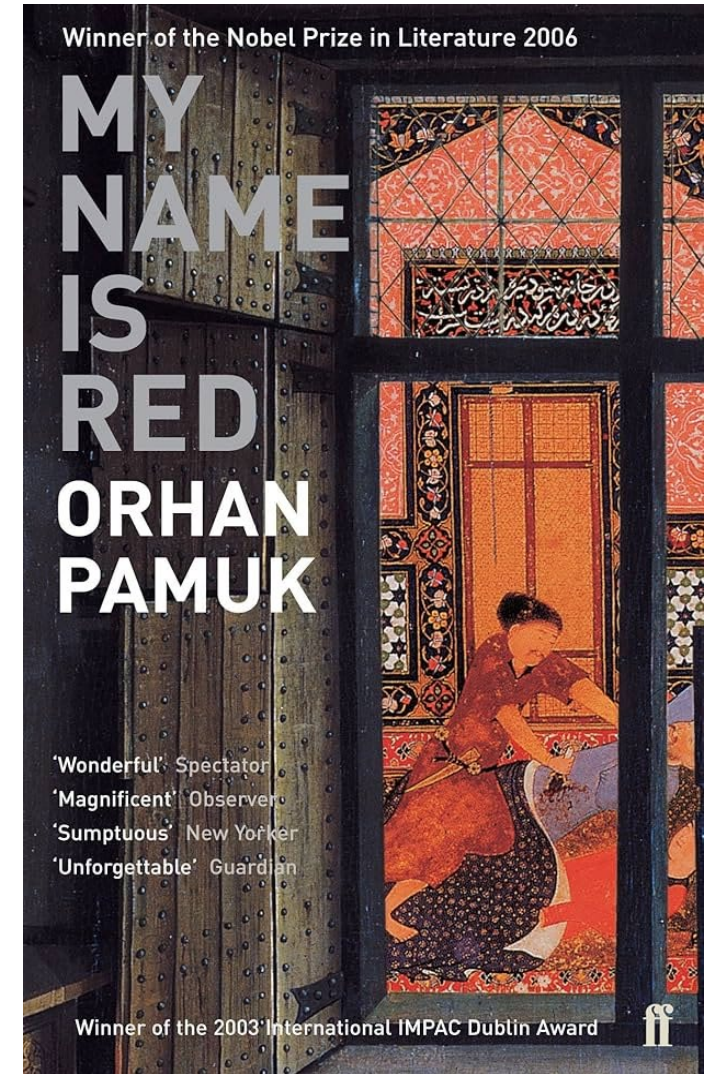
Commodities in
cultural perspective

Edited by
Arjun Appadurai

Social Construction of Reality
Berger, Luckman: Appadurai



Salmon: A Red Herring
Cooking Sections



Winner of the Nobel Prize in Literature 2006

**MY
NAME
IS
RED
ORHAN
PAMUK**

'Wonderful' Spectator
'Magnificent' Observer
'Sumptuous' New Yorker
'Unforgettable' Guardian

Winner of the 2003 International IMPAC Dublin Award



My Name is Red
Orhan Pamuk

