

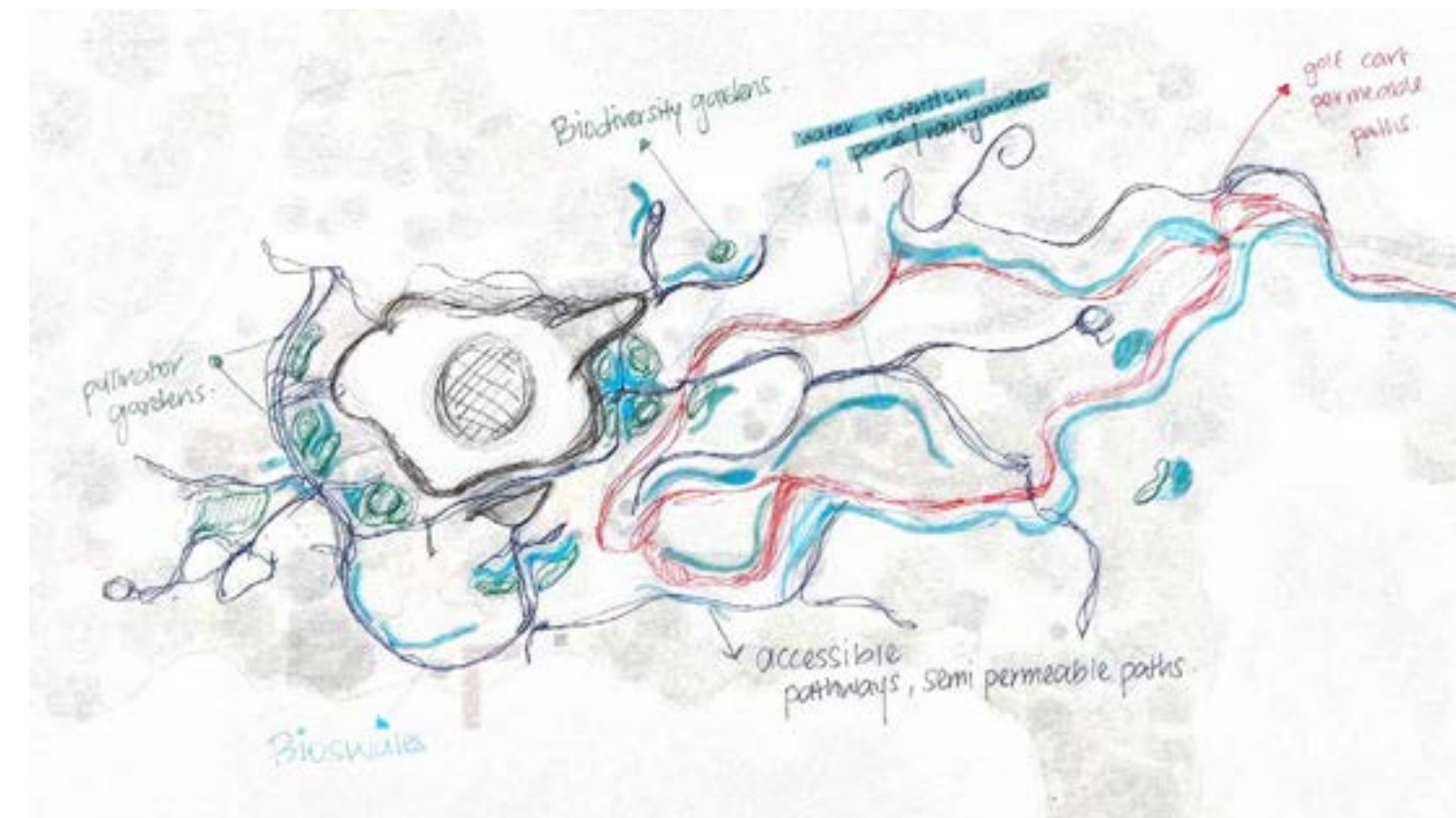
Sowing Seeds

matriarchies of past, present & future

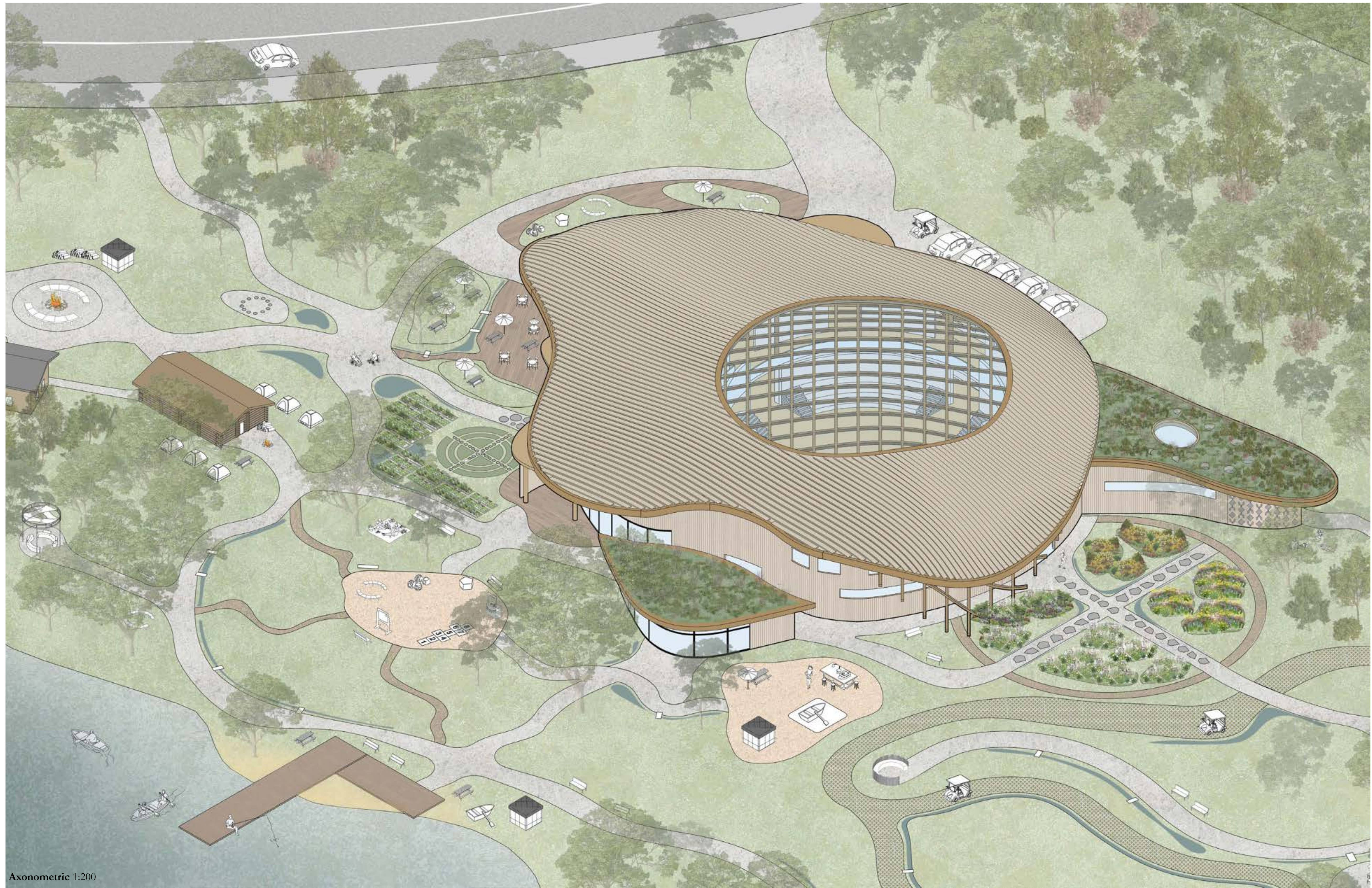
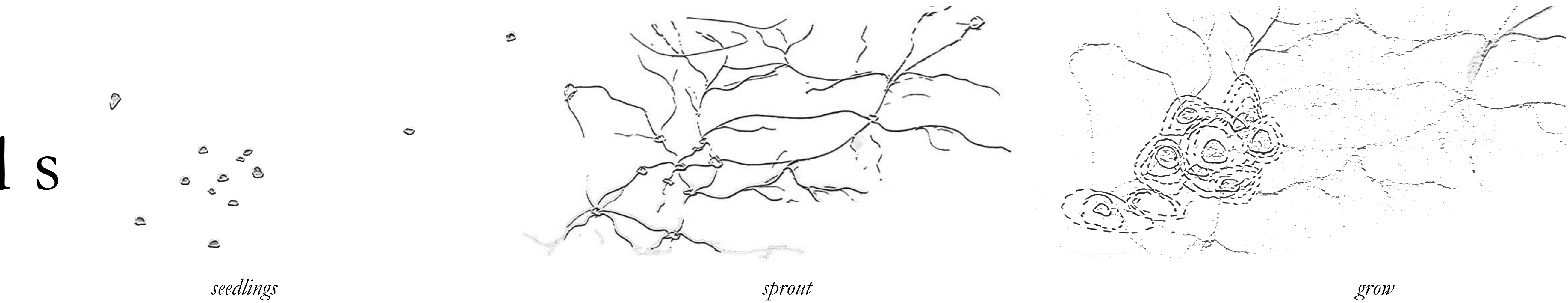
“We acknowledge that the School of Architecture, where our research takes place, is located on the traditional territory of the Neutral, Anishinaabeg and Haudenosaunee peoples. We also acknowledge that the site in Prospect Park is situated on Lenapeboking, the ancestral lands of the Lenape peoples, which settlers call New York City. We acknowledge the systemic and ongoing violence of settler colonialism, and the genocidal violence that resulted in both forced relocation and in physical and psychological trauma perpetrated across generations.”

All knowledge we possess comes from our mothers—the matriarchs who, through stories and traditions, cultivate wisdom and connection. The land in Prospect Park is not only a place but a living entity, echoing generations of Lenape knowledge. To honor this, we approach our design from a matriarchal perspective: to return the land to our mothers, to cultivate a space that both protects and embodies the Lenape stories, like **seeds sowed, sprouting, and growing anew**. Situated on dispossessed Lenape territory, this centre represents a seed planted today, destined to sprout, and grow for generations.

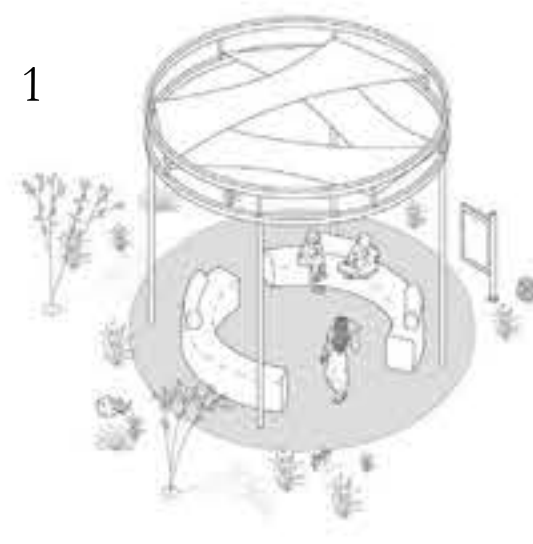
Our design process recognizes that for the Lenape people, the land is an animate creature with whom they have a profound relationship that goes beyond ownership. Rooted in a tradition where individualism fades in favor of **collective caretaking**, we aim to create a space that serves as a bridge between human, natural, and spiritual realms. At the heart of this design is the metaphor of the seed, which reflects our commitment to a **living, evolving structure**. Rather than enforcing a linear design, we adopt a **cyclical model of knowledge**: the land itself, undisturbed and adaptive, serves as the **foundation for a storytelling journey**.



Our material choices, organic and tactile, is informed by sustainable practices, such as **bioswales, pollinator gardens and permeable paths**. Each building element relates to the concept of the seed with accessible outdoor spaces that encourage natural growth around human interaction, reinforcing the **natural cycles of death, regrowth, and renewal**. In developing this site, we are engaging in the rebirth of the land’s history by respecting the Lenape matriarchal traditions, and allowing land to return to its rightful caretakers.

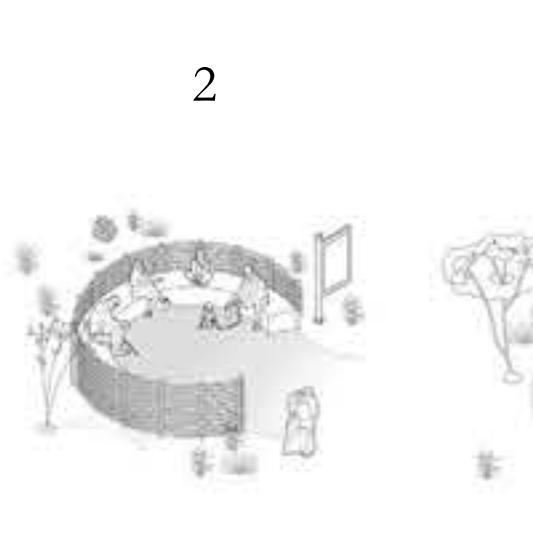


1



Sacred Belt of Brotherhood

2



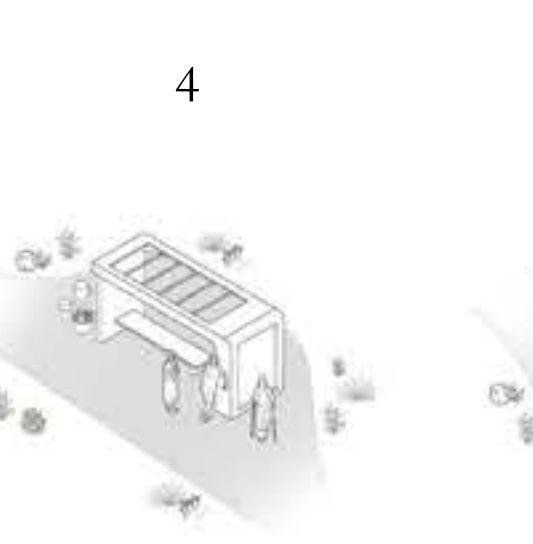
Indian Culture Belt

3



Good Medicine Belt

4



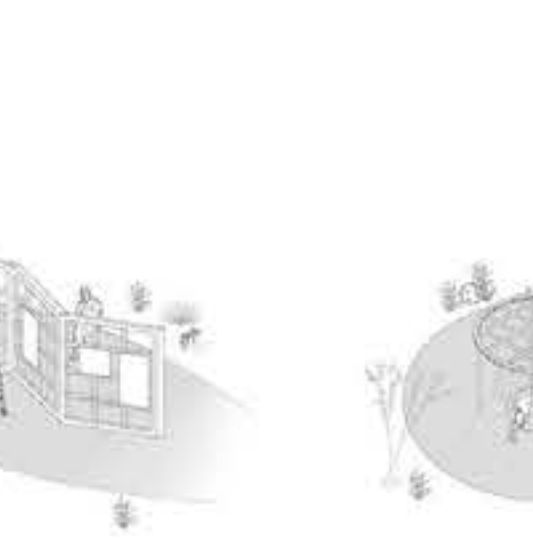
Belt of Indian Religion

5



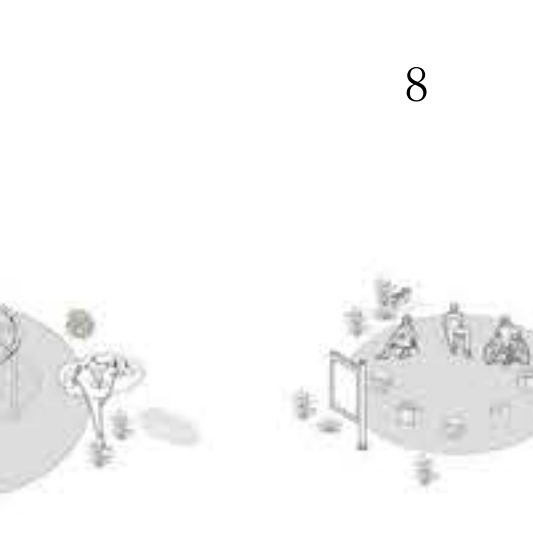
Great Belt of Kindness

6



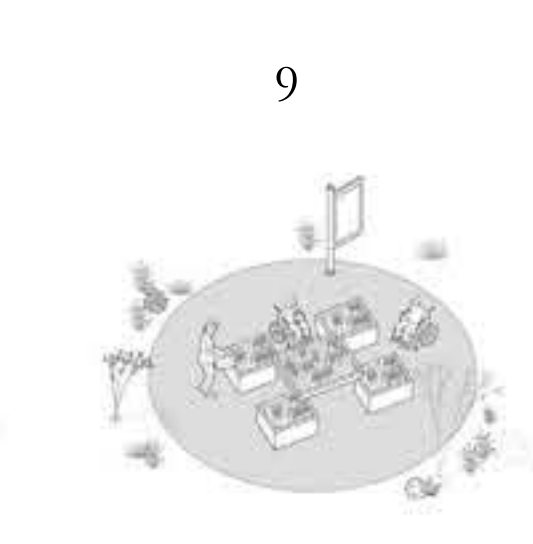
Belt of Art & Sculpture

7



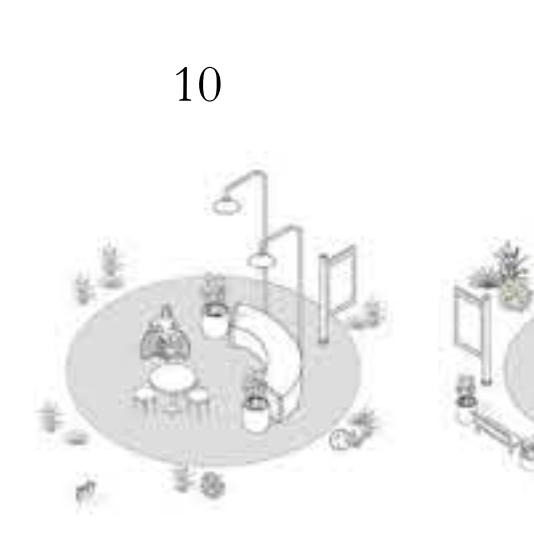
Belt of Harmony

8



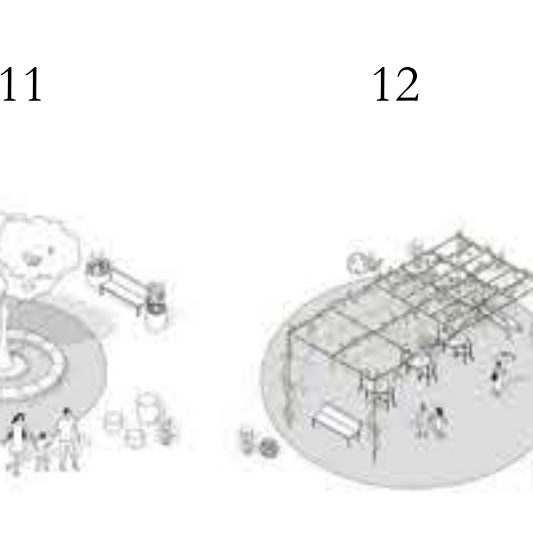
Belt of the Unami Nations

9



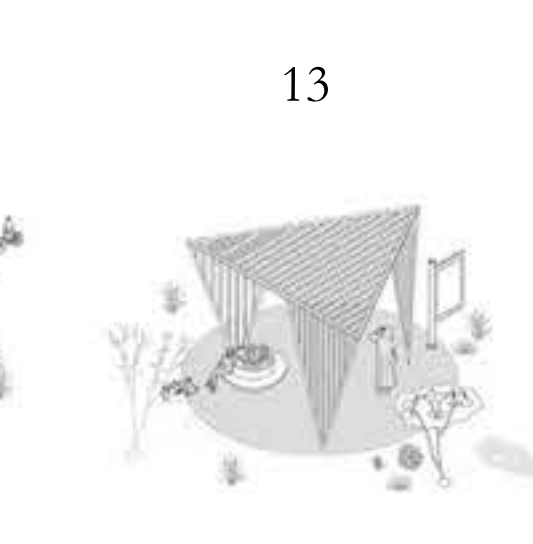
Belt of Food & Sustenance

10



Belt of the Grand Council

11



Belt of Good Deeds

12



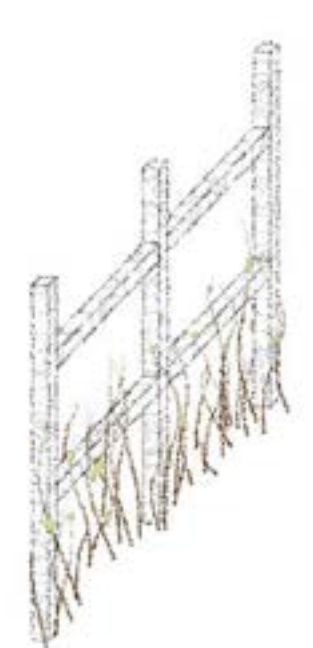
Belt of Lunaape Ceremony

13

Belt of Light & Understanding



Site Plan 1:200



nushëmaken
Living Willow Fence



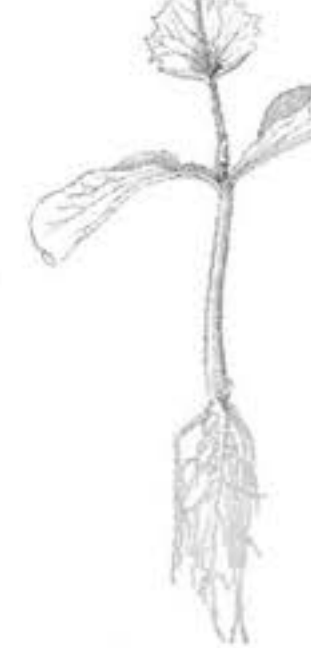
xas'kenem
corn



këskünthäk
Squash



malax'kenseet
Beans



ntebim
Strawberry



lenii kwshatay
Native Tobacco



xkenikpiakök
Slippery Elm



tinchalakw
Dogwood



alpaniäk
Cattail



neesowan'ta'ek
Goldenrod



wee'nax'ken
Sassafras

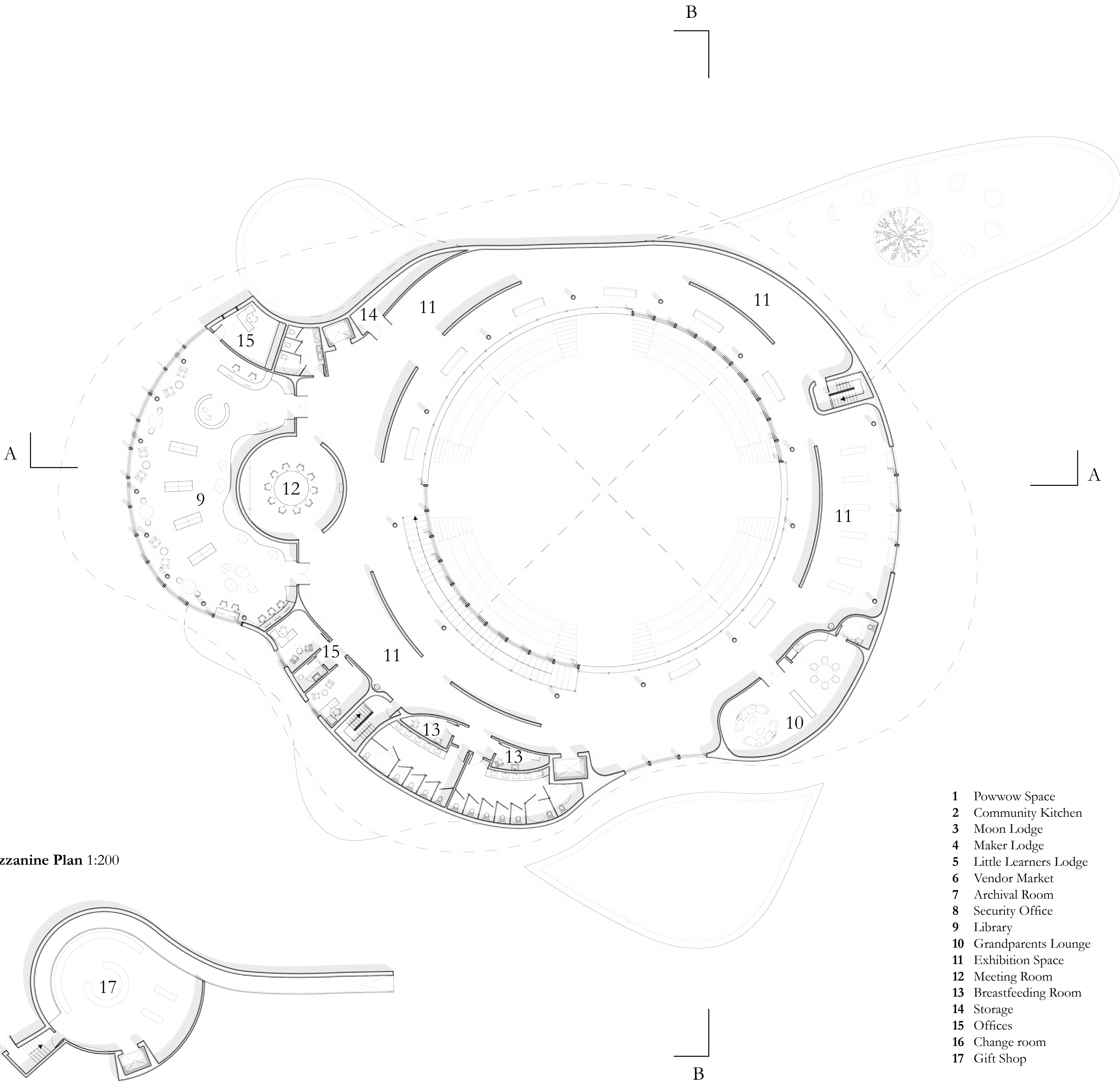


pëpsökewës
Red Cedar

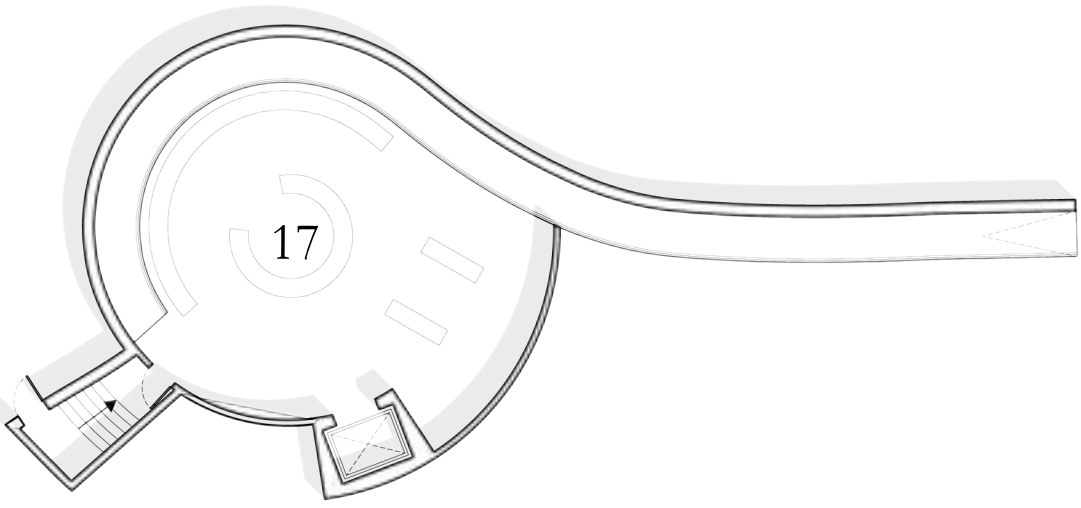
Ground Floor Plan 1:200



Second Floor Plan 1:200



Mezzanine Plan 1:200

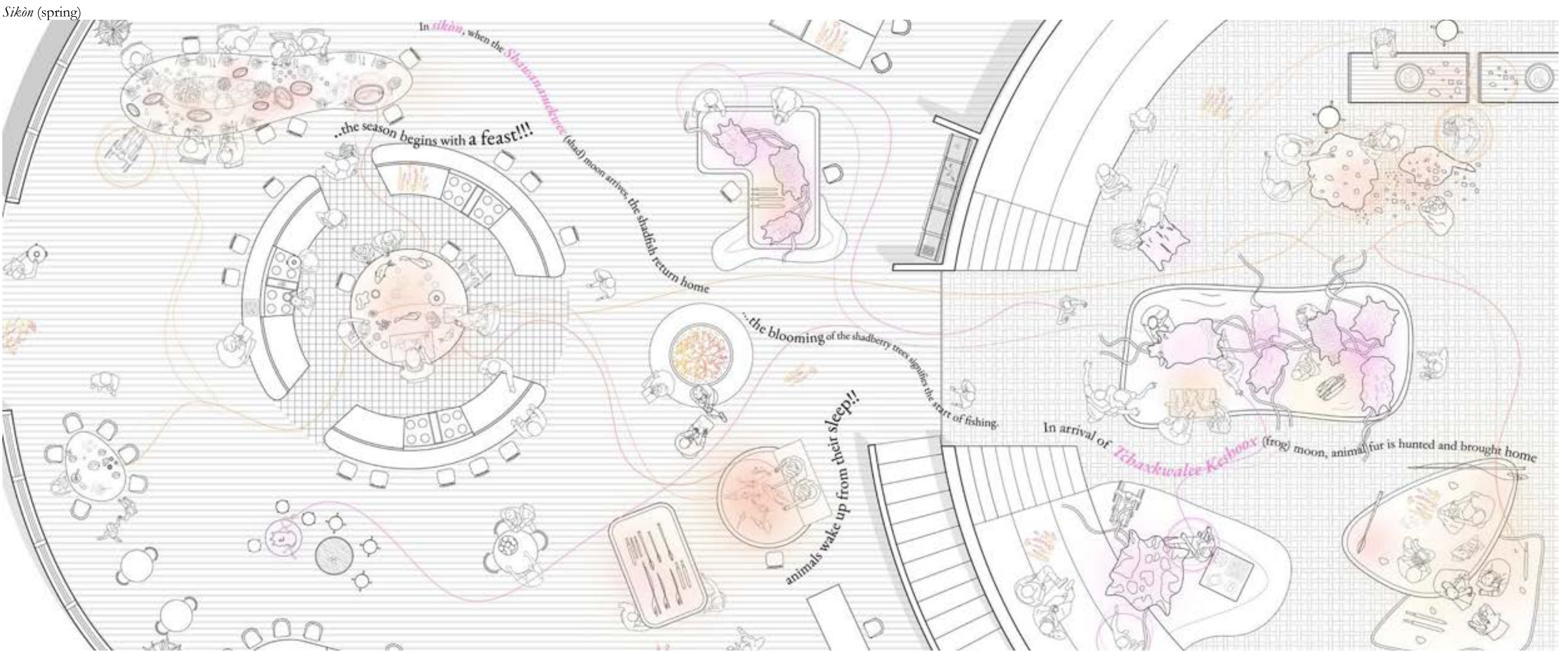
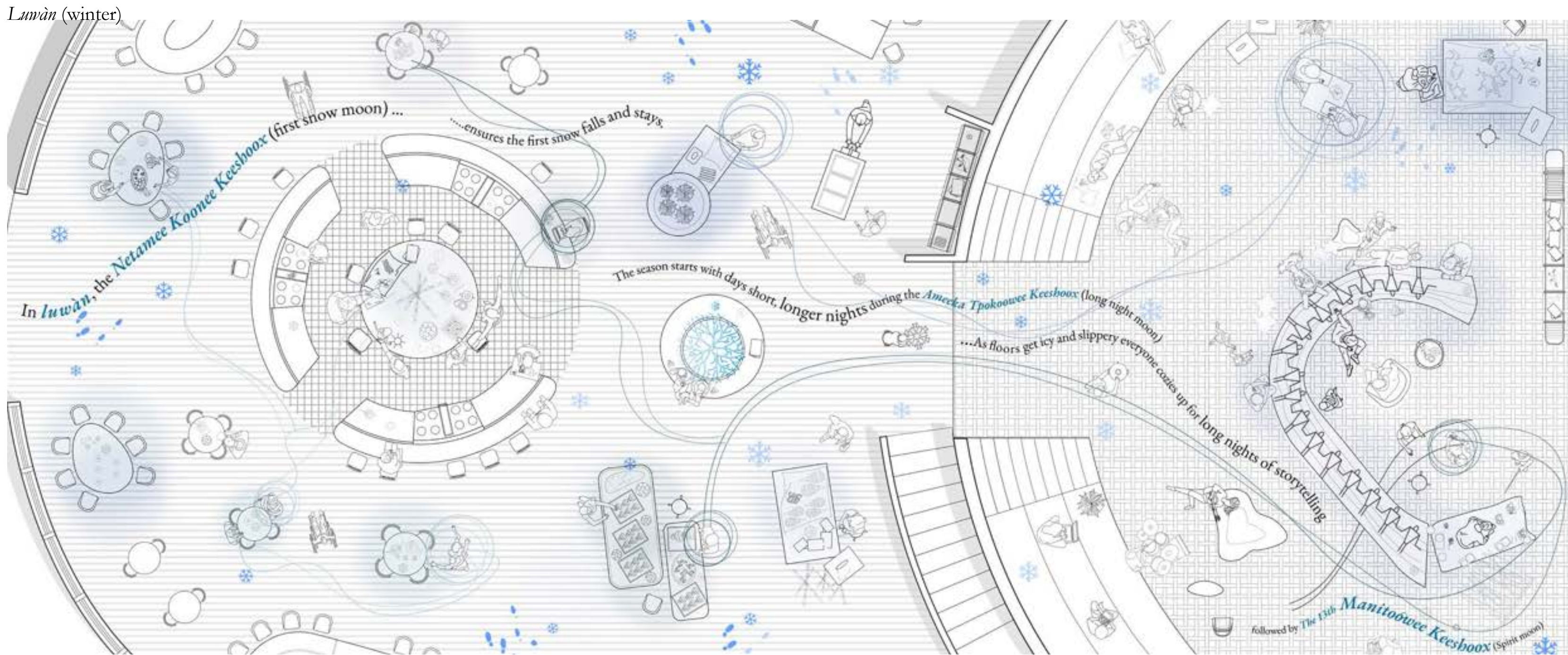


- 1 Powwow Space
- 2 Community Kitchen
- 3 Moon Lodge
- 4 Maker Lodge
- 5 Little Learners Lodge
- 6 Vendor Market
- 7 Archival Room
- 8 Security Office
- 9 Library
- 10 Grandparents Lounge
- 11 Exhibition Space
- 12 Meeting Room
- 13 Breastfeeding Room
- 14 Storage
- 15 Offices
- 16 Change room
- 17 Gift Shop

East-West Site Section 1:1000

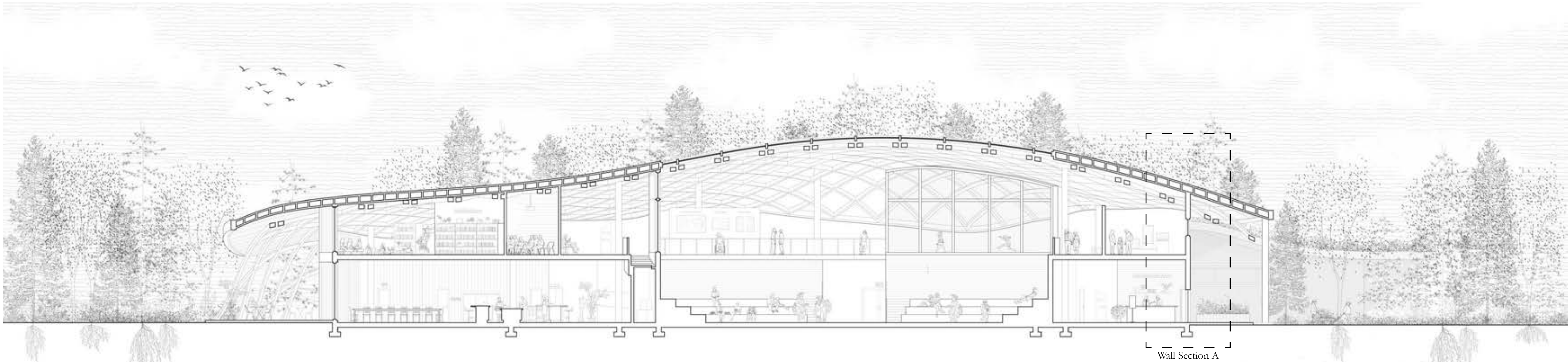


- Summer Solstice 9am, 12pm, 3pm
- Spring Equinox 9am, 12pm, 3pm
- Autumn Equinox 9am, 12pm, 3pm
- Winter Solstice 9am, 12pm, 3pm

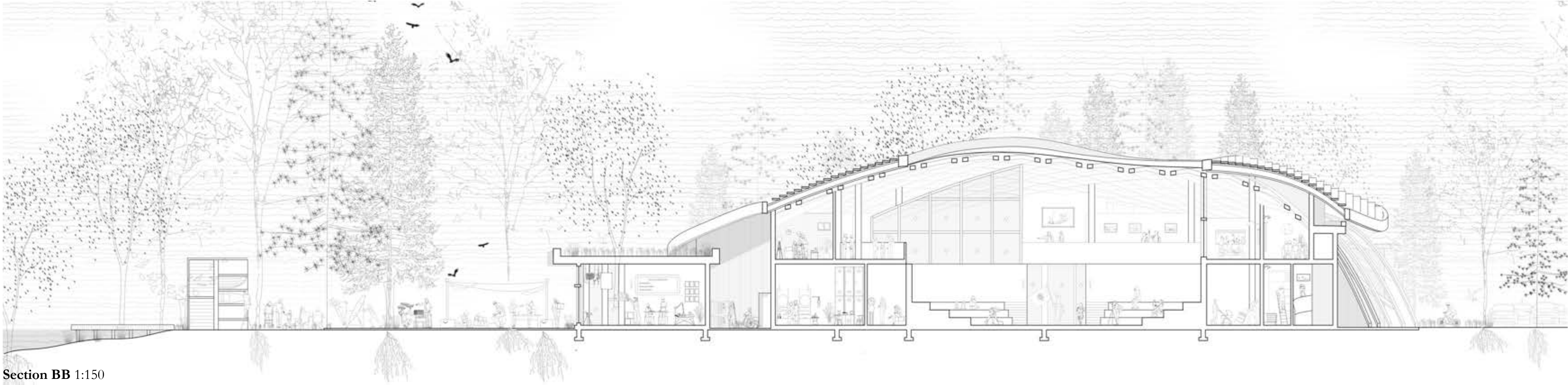




Approaching from the East



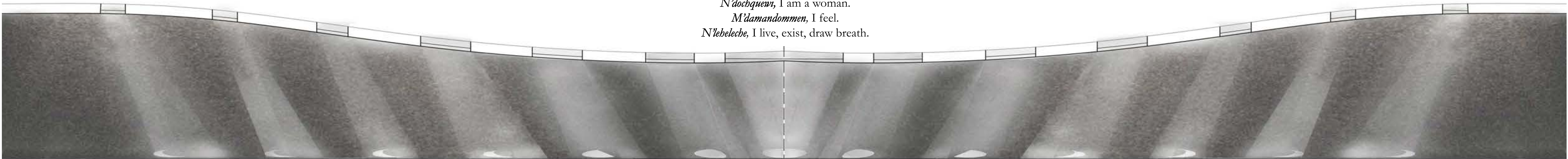
Section AA 1:150



Section BB 1:150



Wall Section A 1:20



N'dochqueni, I am a woman.
M'damandommen, I feel.
N'lebeleche, I live, exist, draw breath.

Paxeebila Hitakwee Keeshoox *Mexataawee Keeshoox* *Shawanamekwee Keeshoox* *Ehakeehaawee Keeshoox* *W'taabeemowee Keeshoox* *Amowee Keeshoox* *Xwaskwaamwee Keeshoox* *Alaawee Keeshoox* *Panweehilee Woonipakwee Keeshoox* *Netamee Koonee Keeshoox* *Ameeka T'pokoowee Keeshoox* *Manitoowee Keeshoox*
Cracking Tree Moon Deep Snow Moon Shad Moon Planting Moon Strawberry Moon Bee Moon Corn Moon Hunting Moon Falling Leaf Moon First Snow Moon Long Night Moon Spirit Moon

