

# Portfolio | Michael Weir

Mackintosh School of Architecture  
Part 1 Architectural Assistant



# CONTENTS PAGE

## ***1.0 My Personal CV***

Your are able to view my CV on my website. However, I have also attached it here within my portfolio incase you decide to download or print this document as a copy.

*Pg.3*

## ***2.0 Cover Letter for Disney***

I also attached my cover letter within the online application for Disney. However, similar to my CV, I have also included it within this document for the reason as stated above.

*Pg.4*

## ***3.0 Reference/Recommendation***

I have also attached a reference from my current project manager which I work alongside daily.

*Pg.5*

## ***4.0 University Micro-Portfolio***

Here I have compiled a document with a selective sample from some of my work from Stage 3. Showing the progression from the beginning of a project up to the completion and some of the steps in between

*Pg.6 - 13*

## ***5.0 Earlier University Work***

I have included a section within my portfolio which displays examples of work from Stage 1 and Stage 2. This is to show you progression over the years and the dedication I have for my career.

*Pg.14 - 15*

## ***6.0 Industry Portfolio Sampler***

Whilst working within the industry my skills and capabilities have continued to improve as they did within Universtity. I have combined some of the work which I have executed over the past 6 months

*Pg.16 - 23*

## ***7.0 Graphic Design, Branding and Illustrations***

Within the past year I have been working as a Freelance Artist. Designing menus and logos for local businesses located around Northern Ireland. And more recently have joined a local Web Company.

*Pg.24 - 29*

## ***8.0 Photography***

My passion for photography manifested through my passion for movies. Understanding the importance of setting a scene, whether be through lighting etc are elements that I have allowed to inspire and influence my designs also, as human interaction within a space is essential.

*Pg.30 - 31*



Since a young age I always felt fascinated with a desire to be imaginative, creating what I would describe as 'inventions' such as making a go kart with pram wheels and a ramp made from wood and nails at the bottom of my granddad and granny's garden. It was once I turned the age of 14 that I discovered that this passion for structural designs and developments could then be a career prospect. You see, on a day to day basis we pass, use and even destroy significant structures which we look upon as nothing but materials, failing to recognise the powerful artistry which has been produced.

@MwArch  
 www.MW-Architecture.co.uk  
 LinkedIn

Email: Info@MW-Architecture.com

Based in Coleraine, Northern Ireland & Glasgow, Scotland

## EDUCATION

- Glasgow School of Art, Glasgow** : **2017-2020** Mackintosh School of Architecture (Bachelor)
- Glasgow School of Art, Glasgow** : **2022-2024** Mackintosh School of Architecture (Masters)

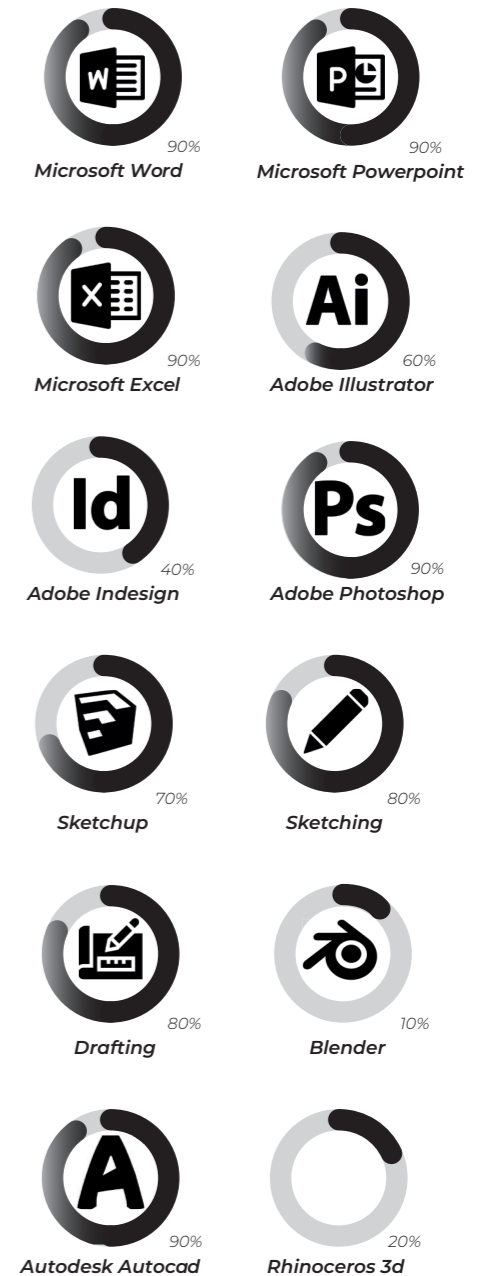
## EXPERIENCE

- Inter:ACT Project, Glasgow School of Art** : **January-February 2020**  
*\*Having been in charge of a group of two engineers and a quantity surveyor, this project was a simulation where I learnt how to convey a design to a team and the importance of understanding others roles within the industry.*
- Whiteline Demolition Ltd, Northern Ireland** : **2021**  
*\*Having the experience of working on a construction site allows me to look at architecture from another point of view. I am now more conscious of the process which a building goes through due to either my time labouring or working within the demolition bussines.*
- Margery & Bjourson Gallery, Portrush** : **Current**
- G M Design Associates, Coleraine** : **2021 to Current**  
*\*By joining GM Design in September I have had the pleasure of working on numerous projects of different scales and stages. Allowing me to gain experience and knowledge within the industry.*
- The Conficius Brand, Coleraine** : **2022 to Current**  
*\*Confisius is a brand new Web Design Company which I have been lucky to have the opporunity of being their permanent freelance artist. Whether it be graphic design or branding, I have assisted the brand on numerous projects and continue to do so in order to gain more experience.*

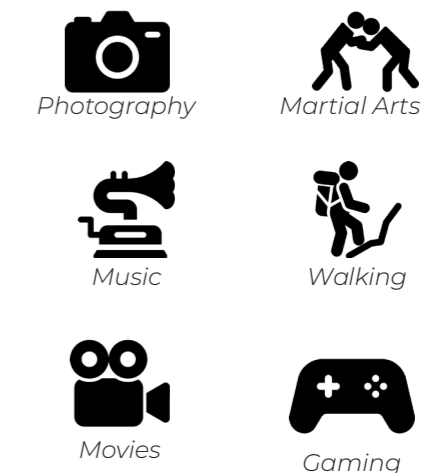
## SKILLS & ATTRIBUTES

I would begin initially with **passion**. My passion for architecture is what drives me to learn and aim to be the best I can be within the industry. It pushes me to be **hard-working** and constantly set myself new objectives in order to be always improving in all areas. Whether it be sports, university projects or jobs which I have worked, I have a lot experience when it comes to **teamwork**. I understand the importance of everyone participating is satisfied with the outcome which also requires **good communication skills**. **Problem solving** is also a key attribute to have. Being able to recognise a problem and sort it shows not only **initiative** but also an understanding that you will sometimes make mistakes. **Visualisation** is also a skill very important when portraying a concept or even just an idea in relation to a project, I've found that being able to do this and communicate in this manner can really improve the output and understanding.

## SOFTWARE CAPABILITIES



## INTERESTS & HOBBIES





To:

**Disney**

@MwArch

www.MW-Architecture.co.uk

LinkedIn

✉ Email: [Info@MW-Architecture.com](mailto:Info@MW-Architecture.com)

📍 Based in Coleraine, Northern Ireland & Glasgow, Scotland

☎ Contact Number: 07784518238

## COVER LETTER

To shortly introduce myself, my name is Michael Weir and I grew up in Coleraine, Northern Ireland. I have recently completed a Bachelors as part of the Mackintosh School of Architecture where I attended the Glasgow School of Art in Scotland. I feel studying architecture has enhanced my appreciation of life's simplicities and the way I look at my surroundings.

Currently I am working at an architecture firm in Northern Ireland as a Part 1 Architectural Assistant, before going back to university later this year to continue my studies towards my masters. Working in the industry has taught me a great deal about architecture in the real world. I have worked on numerous projects of various scales all over the UK and Ireland. From working on landscape and structure architecture, to surveying, detailing, interior and graphic design to project management. I have gained a vast amount of experience recently and intend to continue my learning. In my spare time I am also a freelance artist for a local Web Design company assisting in both graphic design and branding. I am also currently in the middle of setting up two of my own businesses and learning animation on blender and illustrations using drafting techniques and procreate.

Architecture itself has opened many areas of interest. Whether it be learning about the history of architecture (and understanding how we can learn from past designs to positively inform future ones), the principles of buildings (and the significance of the materials we use as they each have individual impacts), architectural technologies (to create innovate and sustainable designs) or even cinematography (and the importance of embedding the architecture within the fabrics of the storyline). I also have a large interest for philosophy. Specifically ontology and phenomenology. When combined merges the nature of existence and being - and translates into an experience to be had whenever an interaction between an individual and structure take place, which I find is something of importance in itself, especially for Disney.

One of your company's biggest attributes that I admire the most is your passion to see the world through a child's eyes. As children before we learn the difference between right and wrong and what society wishes to embed within us, this is when we are most creative. We should all continue throughout our adolescent lives to remember that feeling and understand that it is pure emotion in it's truest form in which we experience as children. Children dont care about the brand of the fabrics they wear, nor their destination and what the future holds. They dont care about anything except the moment they are in right now. We could learn alot from kids if we just pay attention. We need to understand that happiness is simplistic and not complicated.

Disney gives this opportunity back to adults. Whether it be through your movies or within your theme parks. It reminds us of how amazing life truly is and makes us forget all of our struggles we experience and how anything is possible. And that is something I would love to be apart of.

I firmly believe that my capabilities and skills alongside my work ethic would be extremely useful within your company. I feel my unique dexterity and motivation would compliment your values. I have attached my CV and Portfolio for your review and consideration. If you require any addition information please do not hesitate to contact me, whether it be for this position or any other available role, big or small. Thank you for reviewing my application and I look forward to hearing back from you.

Best regards,  
Michael Weir

### 3.0

## REFERENCE/RECOMMENDATION

A letter of recommendation from Jeremy Wills

Dear Sir/Madam

My name is Jeremy Wills, a practicing landscape architect and project manager with over 20 years of experience within the industry.

I am writing to recommend Michael Weir who I have had the pleasure of working alongside for the past 6 months apart of GM Design Associates as a Part 1 Architectural Assistant.

Michael has been a highly valued member within my design team among numerous projects. Proving his capabilities of work ethic and innovation for design in everything he does. No task is ever too big or too small, he will always give maximum effort no matter the assignment.

Michael is very eager to learn within the office and has proved this time and time again. He has made the effort to work alongside all departments within our office including architecture, landscape architecture and the planning department. He has always used every learning experience as an opportunity to excel and broaden his skill set with a professional attitude throughout. More recently I have been mentoring Michael on project management skills. The firm has recently recognised Michael's enthusiasm for such tasks, that he has been presented with his own projects at a smaller scale which he will both be designing and managing throughout the process from concept to construction. (extensions)

Therefore, I am confident in saying that Michael would be a great asset of your team and a valued member of your company as he is ours.

I would highly recommend Michael Weir, should you have any other further questions regarding Michael, please contact me at [JeremyJohnWills@Gmail.com](mailto:JeremyJohnWills@Gmail.com)

Many Thanks,  
Jeremy Wills

## 4.0

# UNIVERSITY MICRO-PORTFOLIO

Sample of work from my Stage 3 of Architecture at GSA

The project was located in a village in Scotland called Balloch. Placed in a remote area touching on the extraordinary sights of Loch Lomond and furthermore surrounded by an endless stretch of breathtaking landscape of forestry and mountains. Making the village a monumental transition between man-made and nature. Something that i would later aim to develop a harmony between.

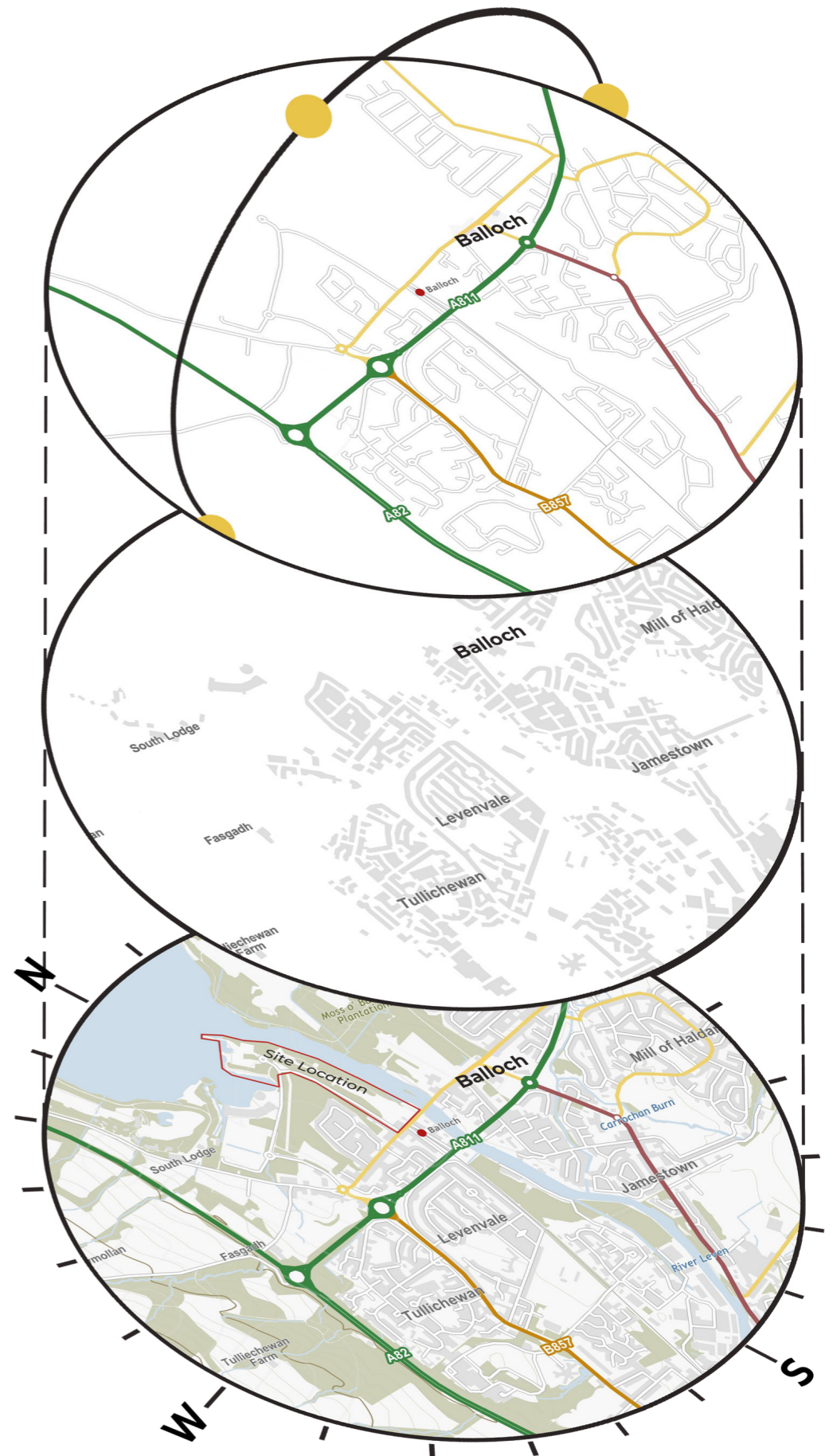
The brief requirements were to design both a residential area and music hall as part of the 'Sistema' charity. An organisation that aims to help deprived children and young adults to find an escape within music and what better place to be in.

At the same time we were asked to have a consideration for the environment as climate change has become a fundamental problem, and an issue we must be conscious of.

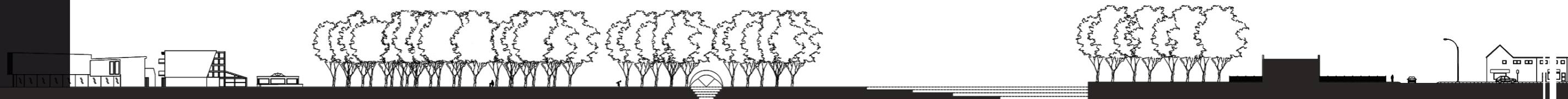
Transportation  
Infrastructure

Living  
Infrastructure

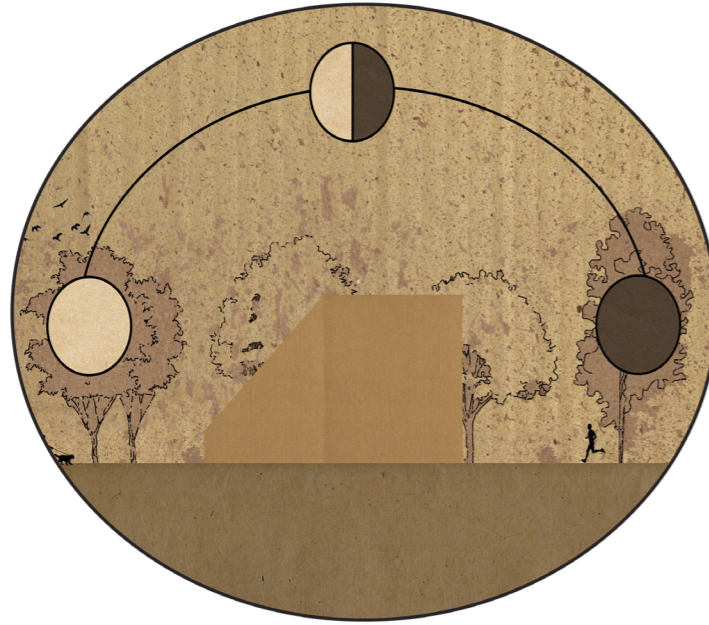
Site  
Proposal



Site Analysis Diagram

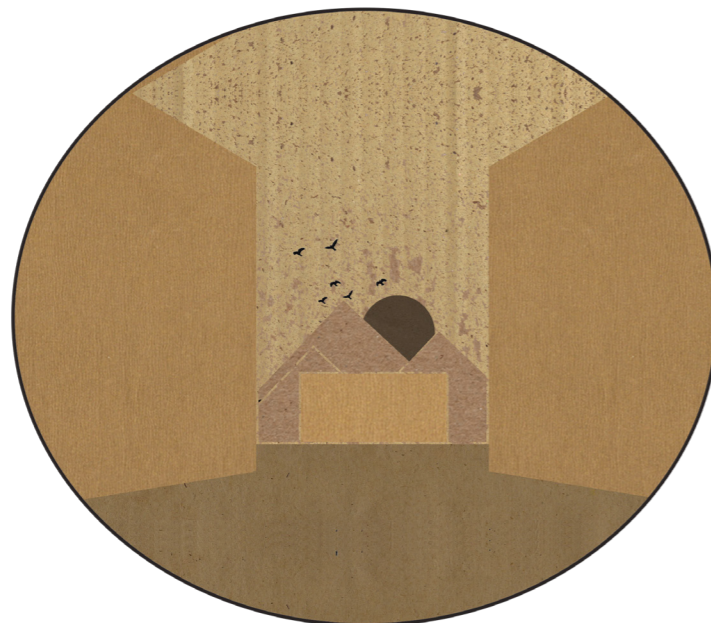


Collages

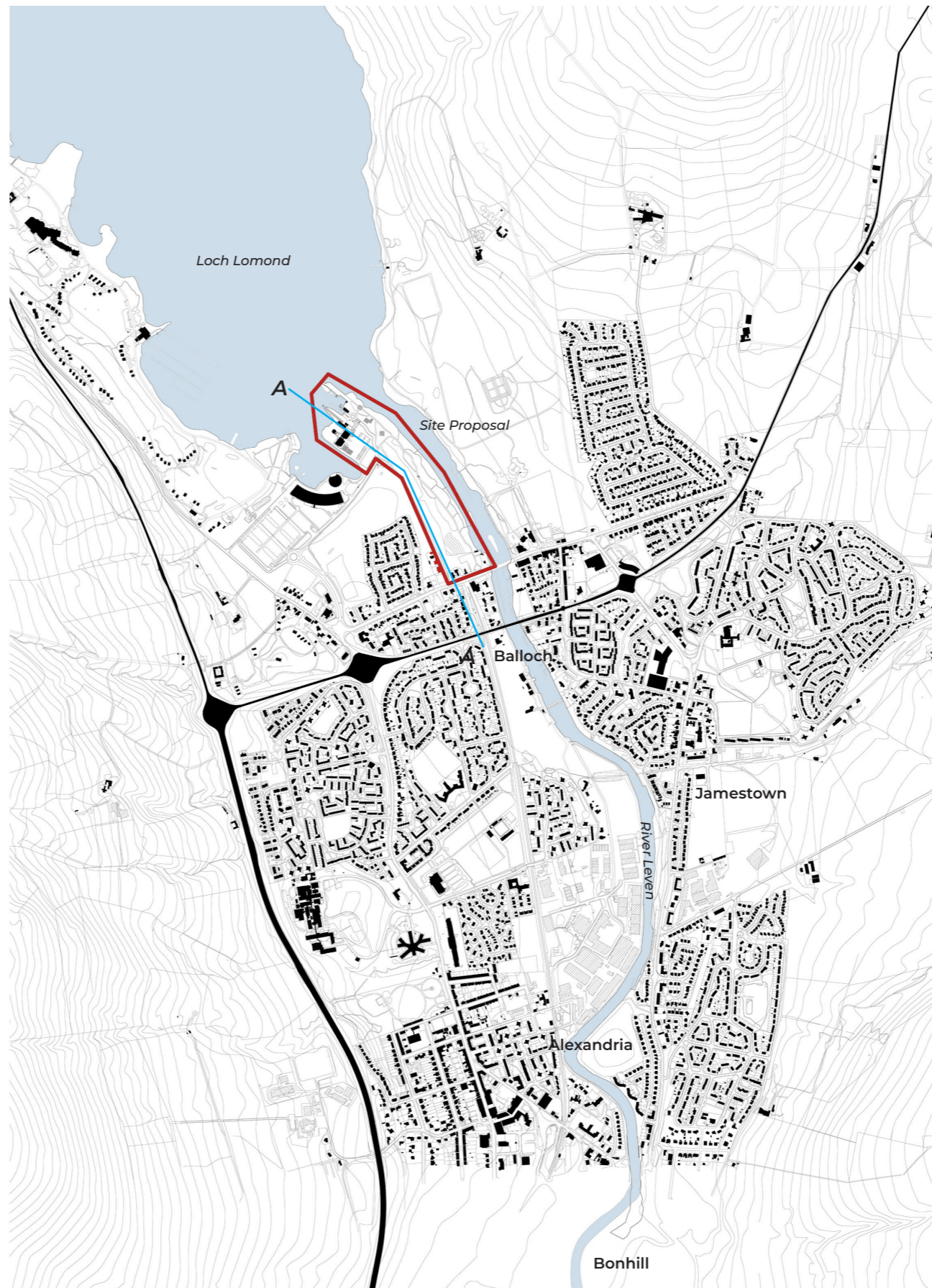


The first collage represents the direction of the design.

Next we have a view where my aim with the design was to create a window that compliments the landscape by framing it.

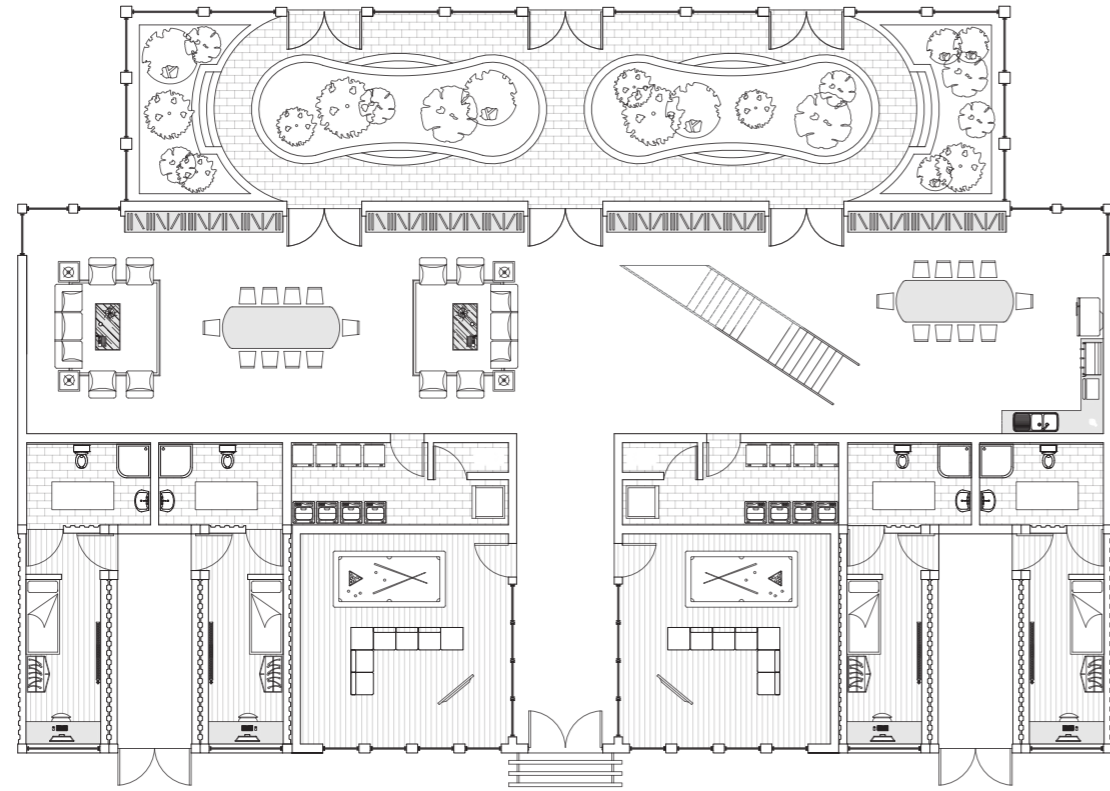


And the final collage speaks for the intentions of the final outcome.

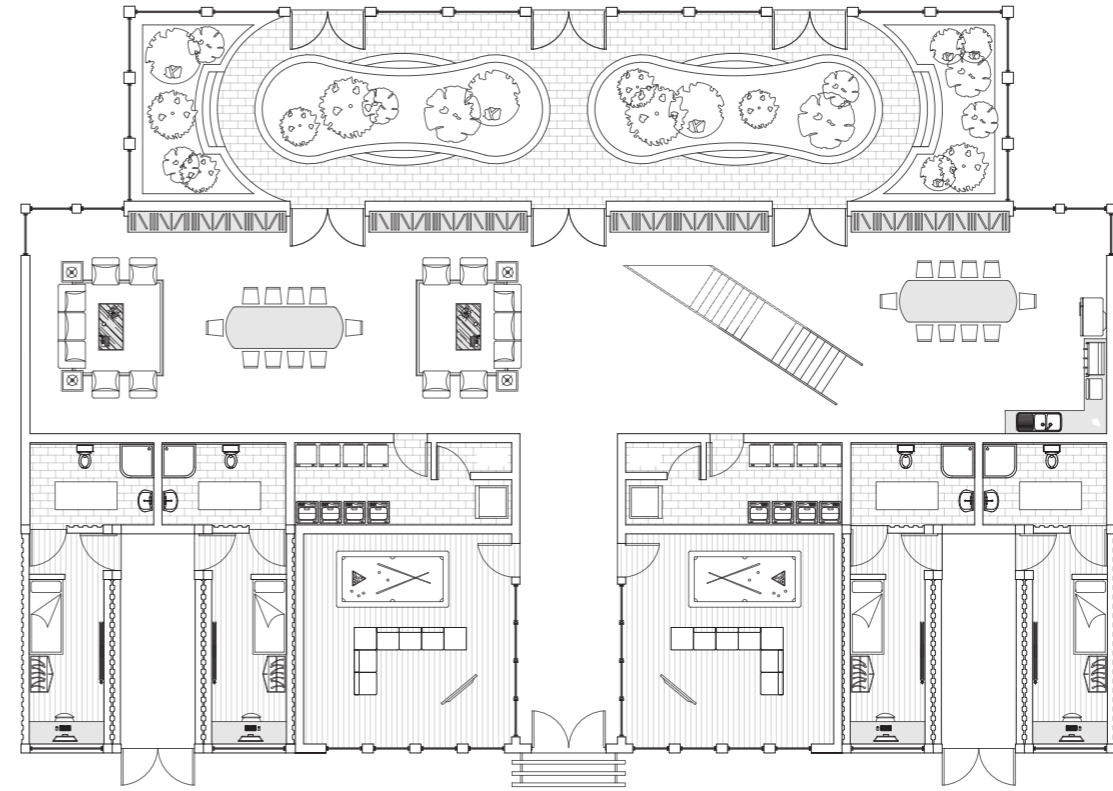


Site Plan - Balloch, Scotland

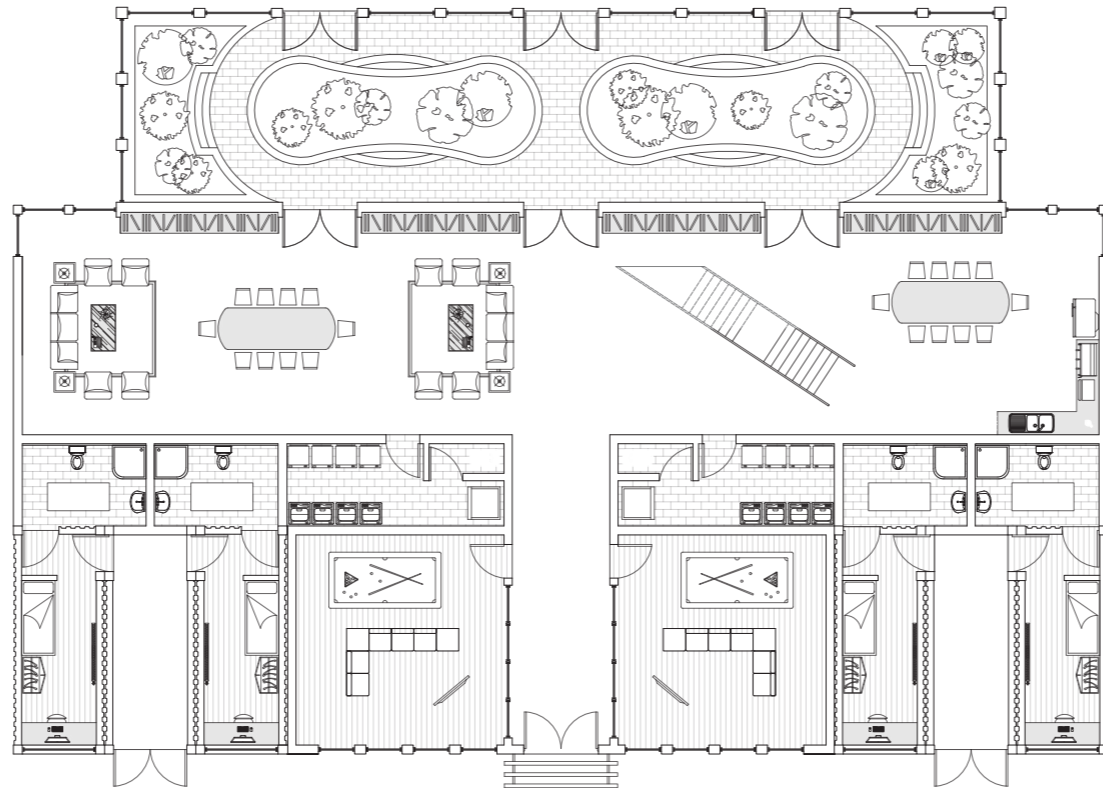




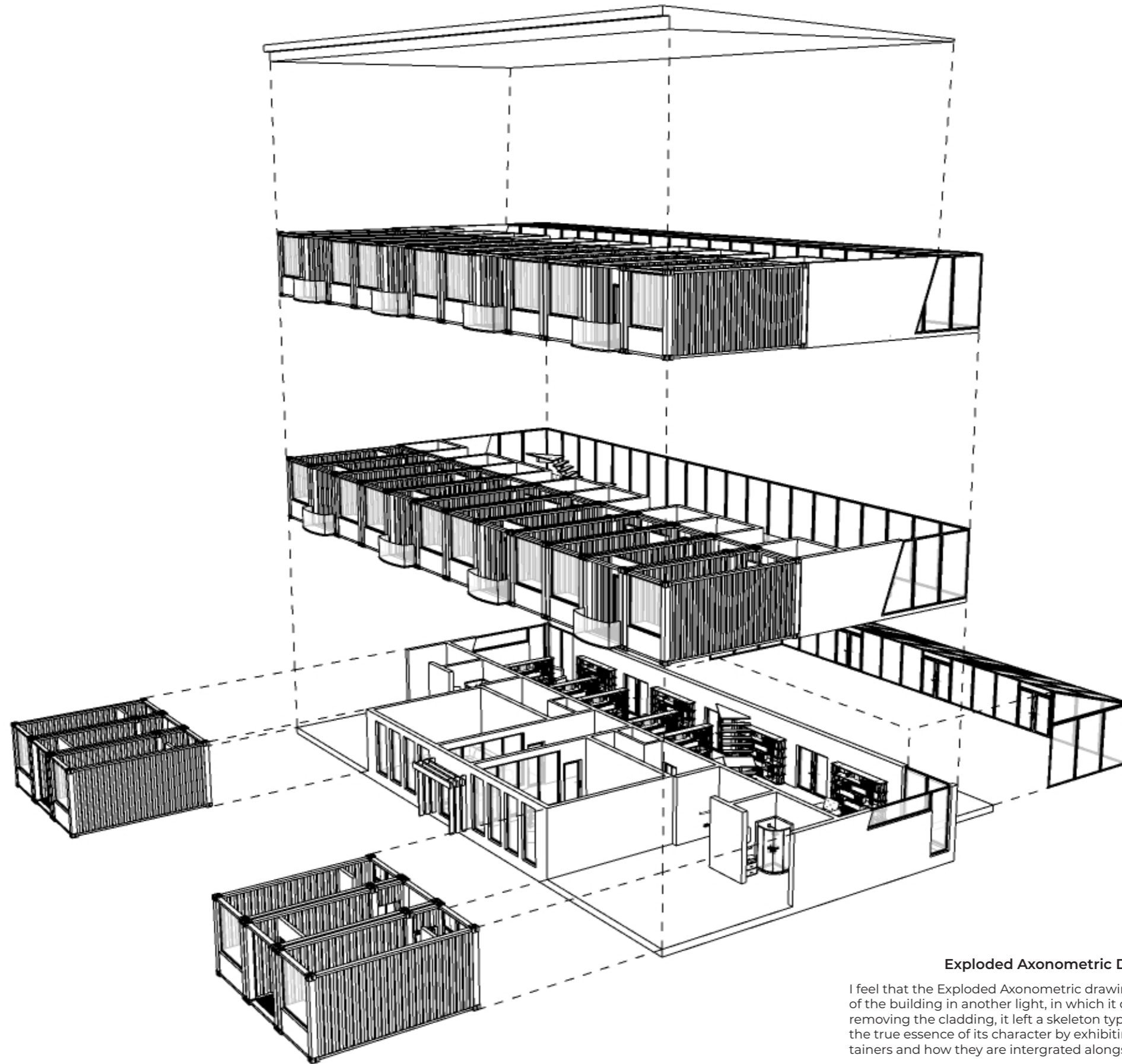
Ground Floor Plans



First Floor Plans

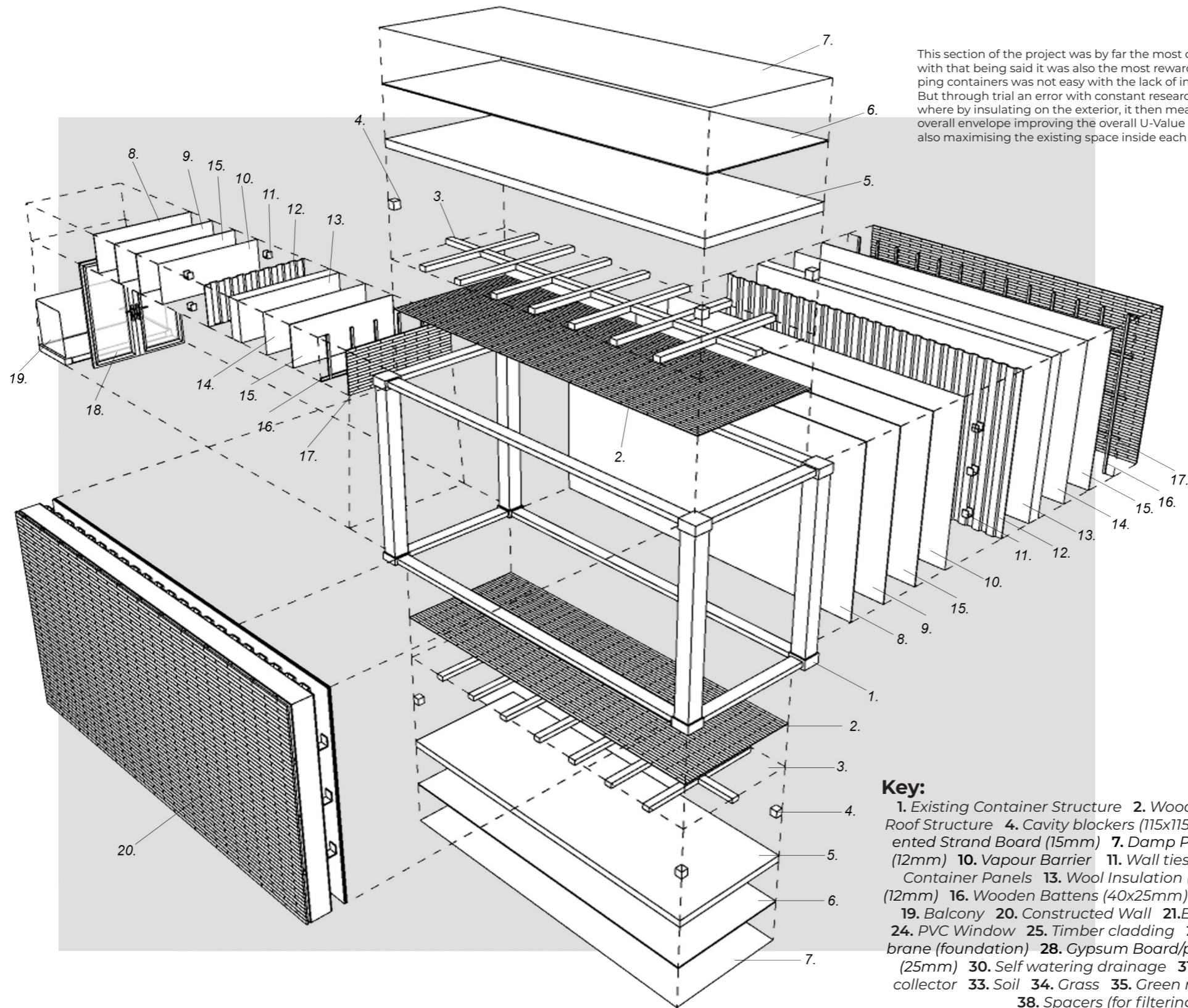


Second Floor Plans



#### Exploded Axonometric Diagram

I feel that the Exploded Axonometric drawing shows the design of the building in another light, in which it can be interpreted. By removing the cladding, it left a skeleton type structure, showing off the true essence of its character by exhibiting the form of the containers and how they are intergrated alongside the rest of the build.

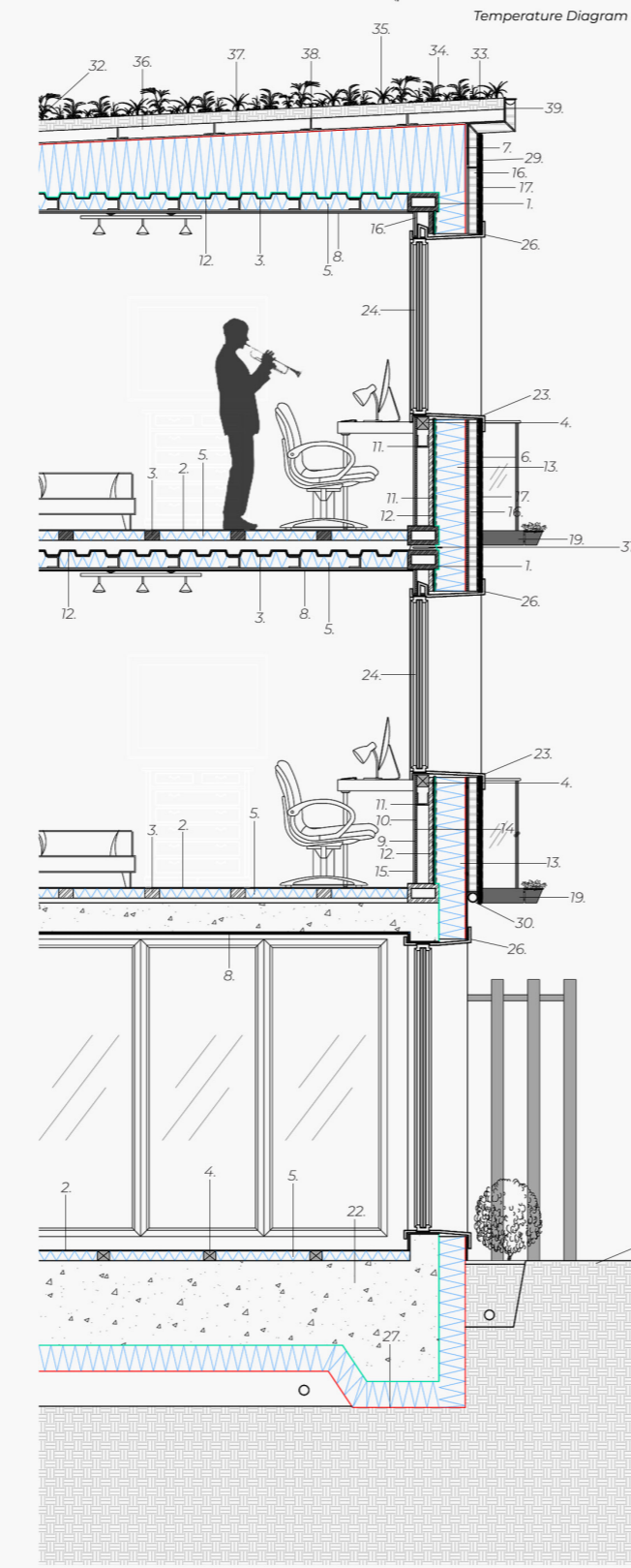
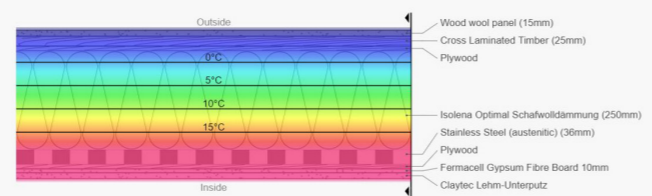


This section of the project was by far the most challenging. However, with that being said it was also the most rewarding. Detailing shipping containers was not easy with the lack of information online. But through trial and error with constant research, I found a method where by insulating on the exterior, it then meant I could create an overall envelope improving the overall U-Value of the design, whilst also maximising the existing space inside each container for living.

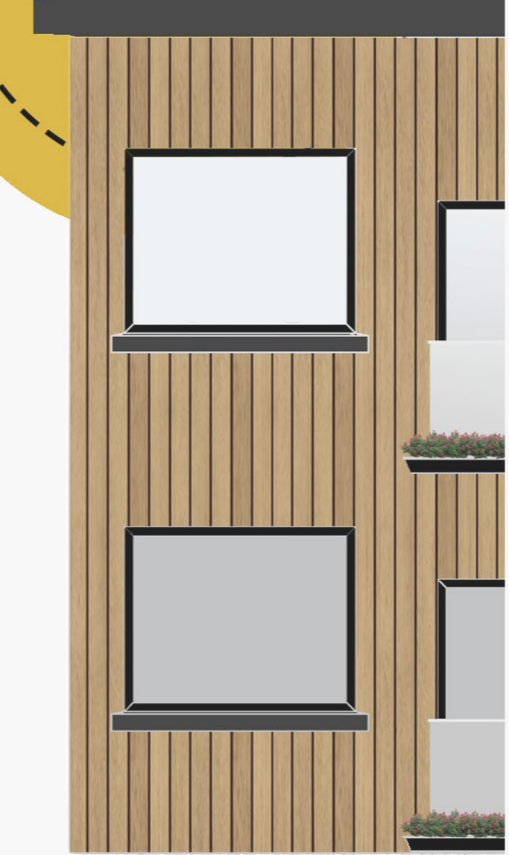
**Key:**

- 1. Existing Container Structure
- 2. Wooden Flooring (7mm)
- 3. Existing Container Floor/Roof Structure
- 4. Cavity blockers (115x115x115mm)
- 5. Floor/Roof Insulation (135mm)
- 6. Oriented Strand Board (15mm)
- 7. Damp Proof Membrane
- 8. Skim Coat
- 9. Gypsem Board (12mm)
- 10. Vapour Barrier
- 11. Wall ties/Brackets (100mm apart)
- 12. Existing Corrugated Container Panels
- 13. Wool Insulation (250mm)
- 14. Breather Membrane
- 15. Plywood (12mm)
- 16. Wooden Battens (40x25mm)
- 17. Wooden Cladding (440x50x20mm)
- 18. Doors
- 19. Balcony
- 20. Constructed Wall
- 21. Earth Soil
- 22. Timbercrete
- 23. Steel window sill
- 24. PVC Window
- 25. Timber cladding
- 26. Steel window lentil
- 27. Waterproofing membrane (foundation)
- 28. Gypsum Board/plasterboard (10mm)
- 29. Cross laminated timber
- 30. Self watering drainage
- 31. Shipping container connector
- 32. Roof water collector
- 33. Soil
- 34. Grass
- 35. Green roof
- 36. Water collecting system
- 37. Filter plate
- 38. Spacers (for filtering system)
- 39. Welded steel drip

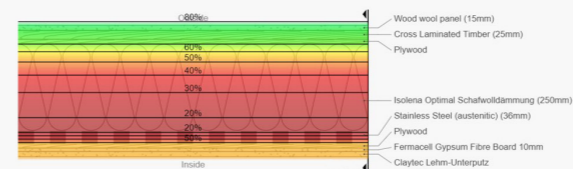
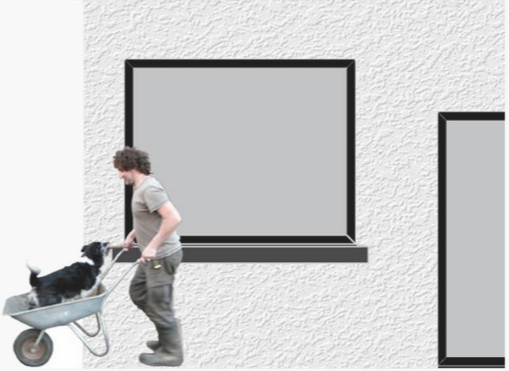
U-value: 0,138 W/m²K	Condensate: 0 kg/m²	sd-value: 1507 m	Thickness: 37,5 cm	temp. amplitude damping (1/TAV): >1
V Bestand: U ≤ 0,24*	moisture content of wood: +0,0 %	Interior surface: 19,2°C (53%)	Weight: 363 kg/m²	phase shift: 12 h
tribution to the greenhouse effect:	Drying time: -	Drying reserve: 110 g/m²a		Heat storage capacity: 195 kJ/m²K
cellent	insufficient	excellent	insufficient	excellent



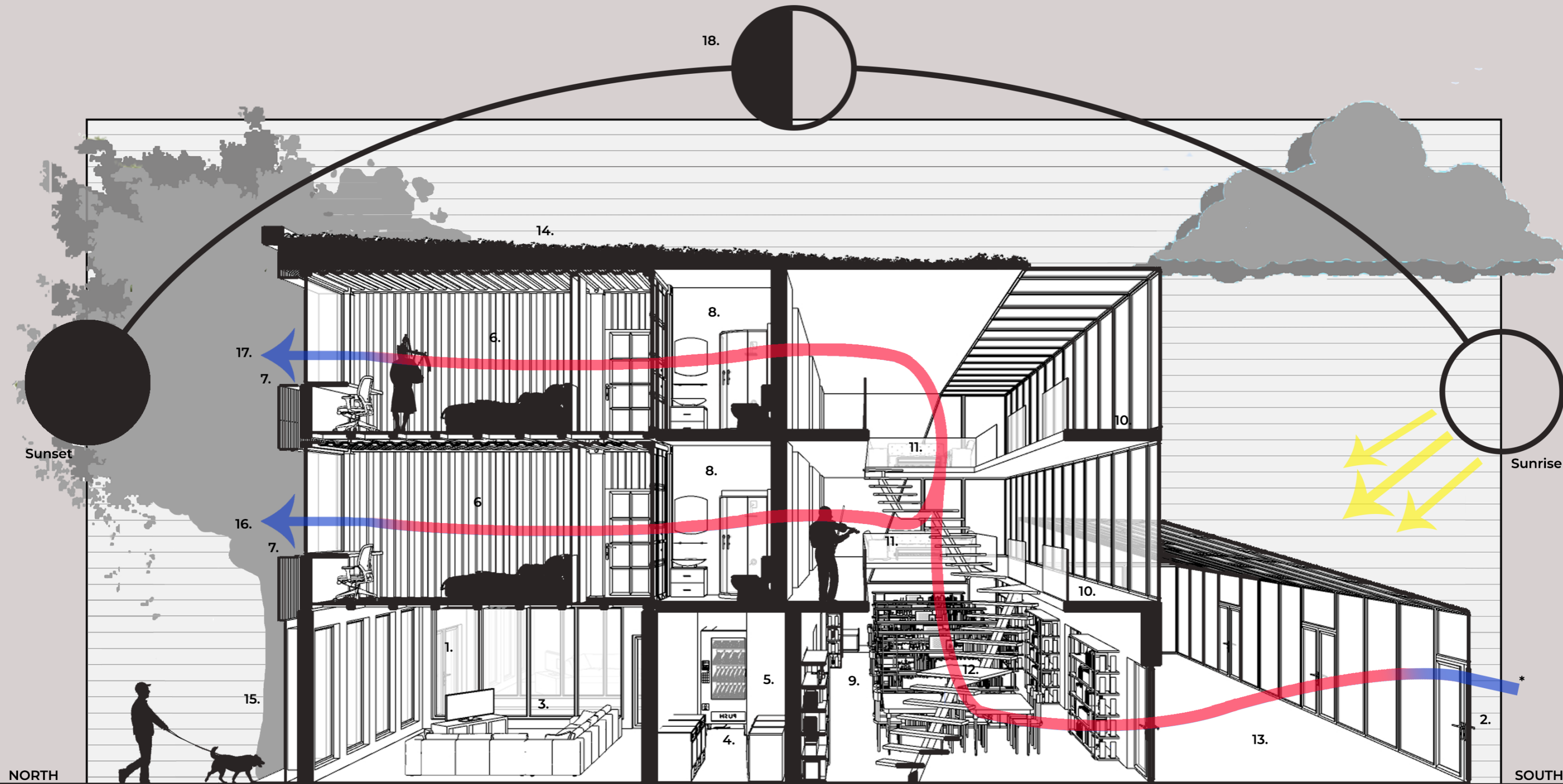
Detailed Section



Front Elevation Render



Humidity Diagram



\* - These arrows which travel through the building represent how the building manages to heat itself. The blue areas of the arrow serve as the cold outside air. Whereas the red sections speak for warm air. As you can see the cold air from the exterior enters towards the rear of the building from the greenhouse where the air is naturally heated, and then enters the shared free space (9.). The heat then rises towards floor 1 and 2 heating the bedrooms. This diagram also explains how natural ventilation within the design functions to maintain a continuous flow of fresh cool air.

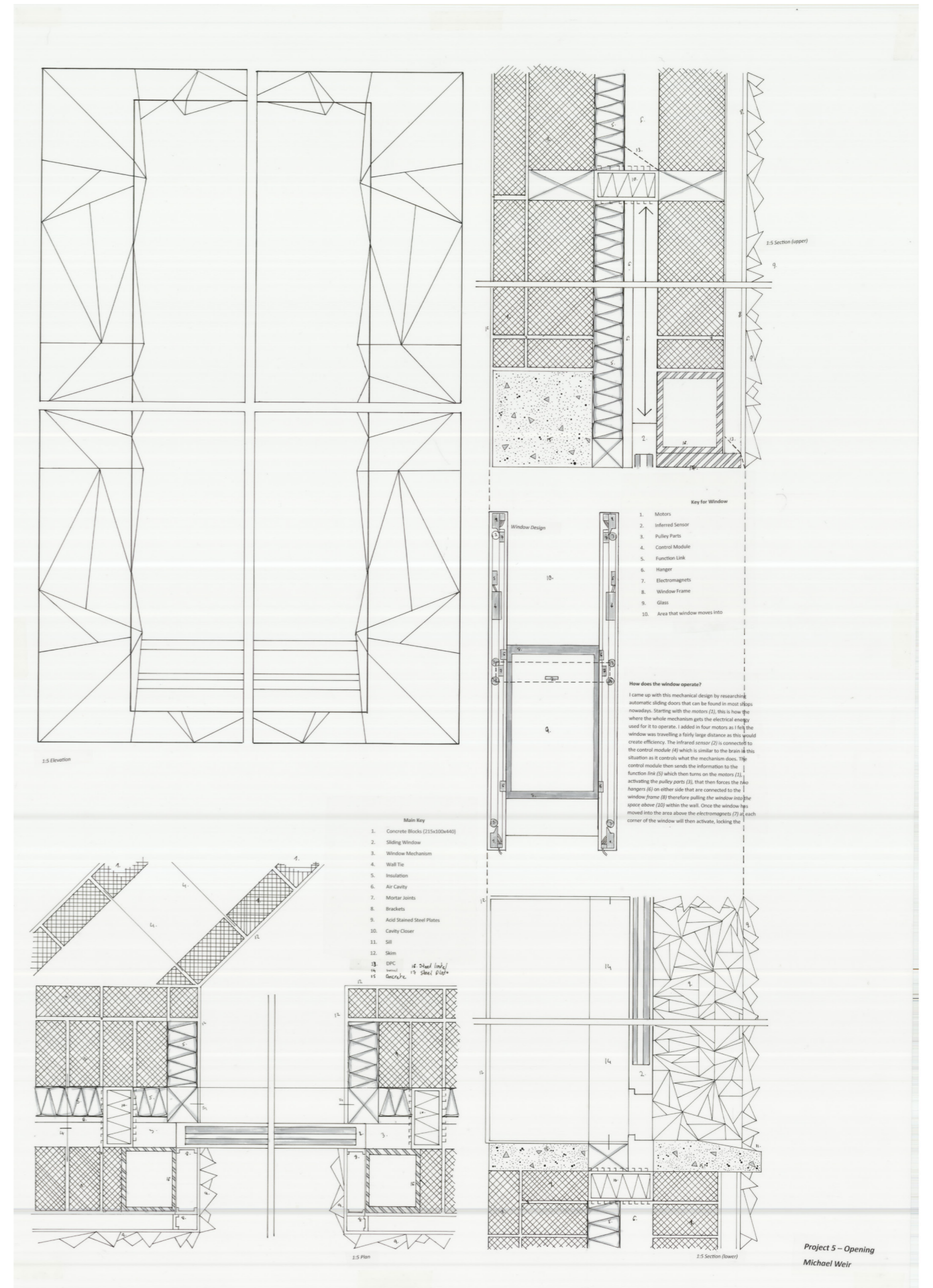
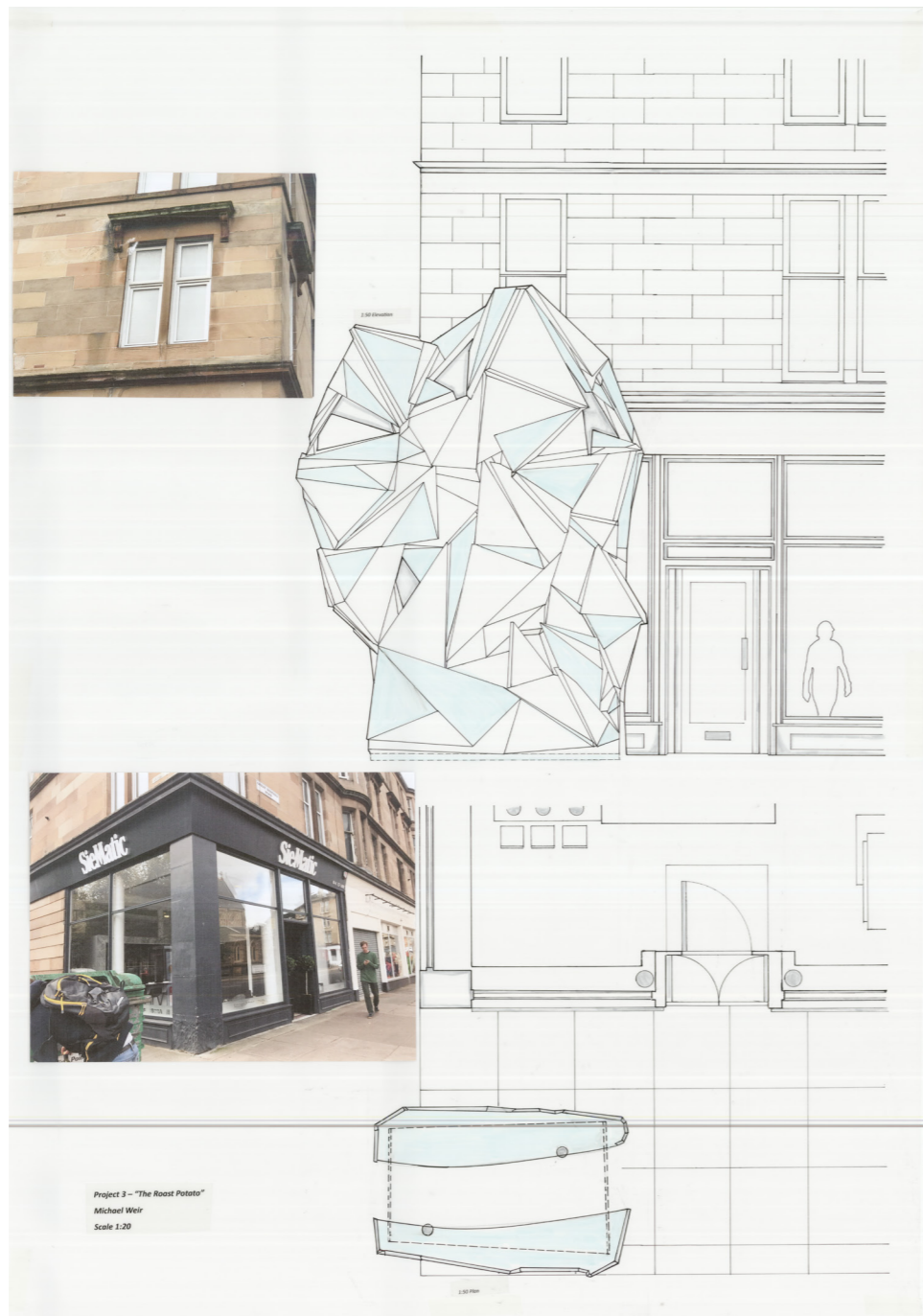
## Perspective Section

- Key:**
- 1. Front entrance
  - 2. Back entrance
  - 3. Shared living area
  - 4. Laundry room
  - 5. Boiler room
  - 6. Bedroom
  - 7. Balcony
  - 8. Bath room
  - 9. Shared free space (currently library)
  - 10. Landing Area
  - 11. Seating area on the landing
  - 12. Stairway
  - 13. Green house
  - 14. Green roof
  - 15. Ground floor
  - 16. First floor
  - 17. Second floor
  - 18. Light path

## 5.0

# EARLIER UNIVERSITY WORK

I have included some work from my Stage 1 and 2 at GSA to show my progression over the years and also my skills at drafting



Projects 2 and 5 - Stage 1

PROJECT 4  
A CONVIVIAL LIBRARY  
STAGE 2  
MICHAEL WEIR



Project 4 - Stage 2

## 6.0

# INDUSTRY PORTFOLIO SAMPLER

Sample of work from my time in industry

This section of my portfolio is a random collection of drawings and visualisations from my time in industry. Showing my capabilities within both technical drawings, 3D modeling, rendering and conceptual design.



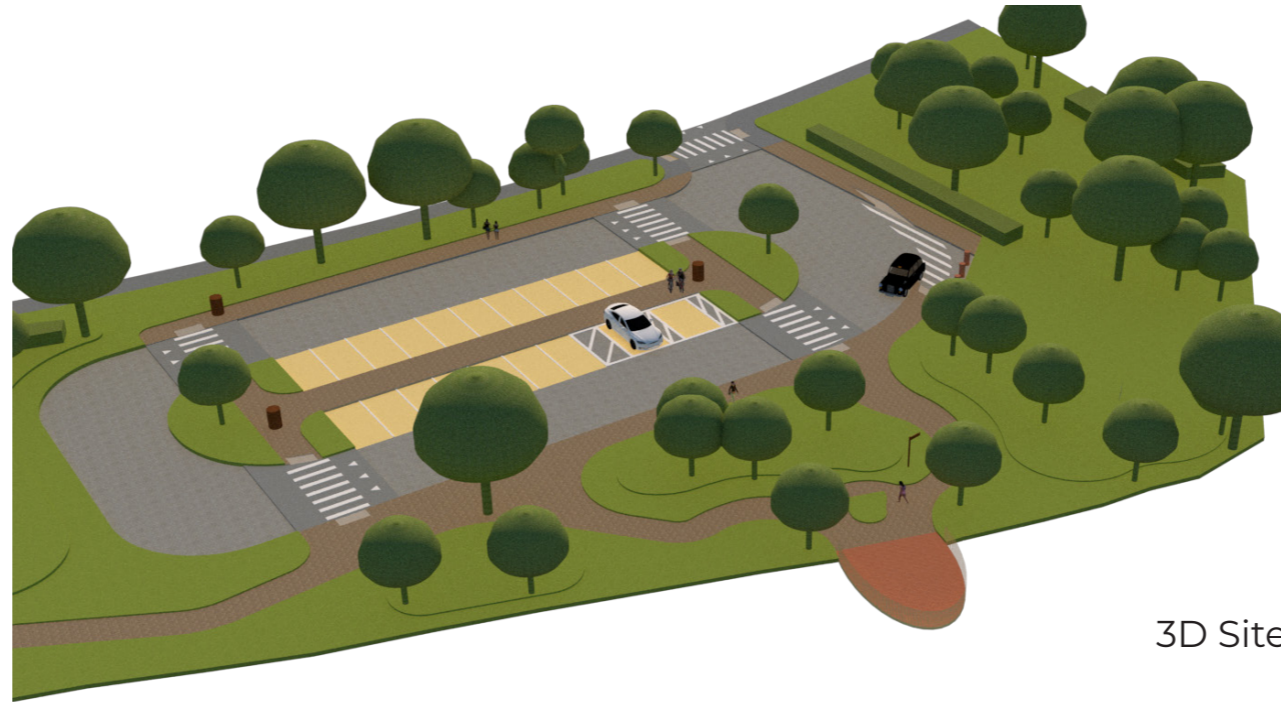




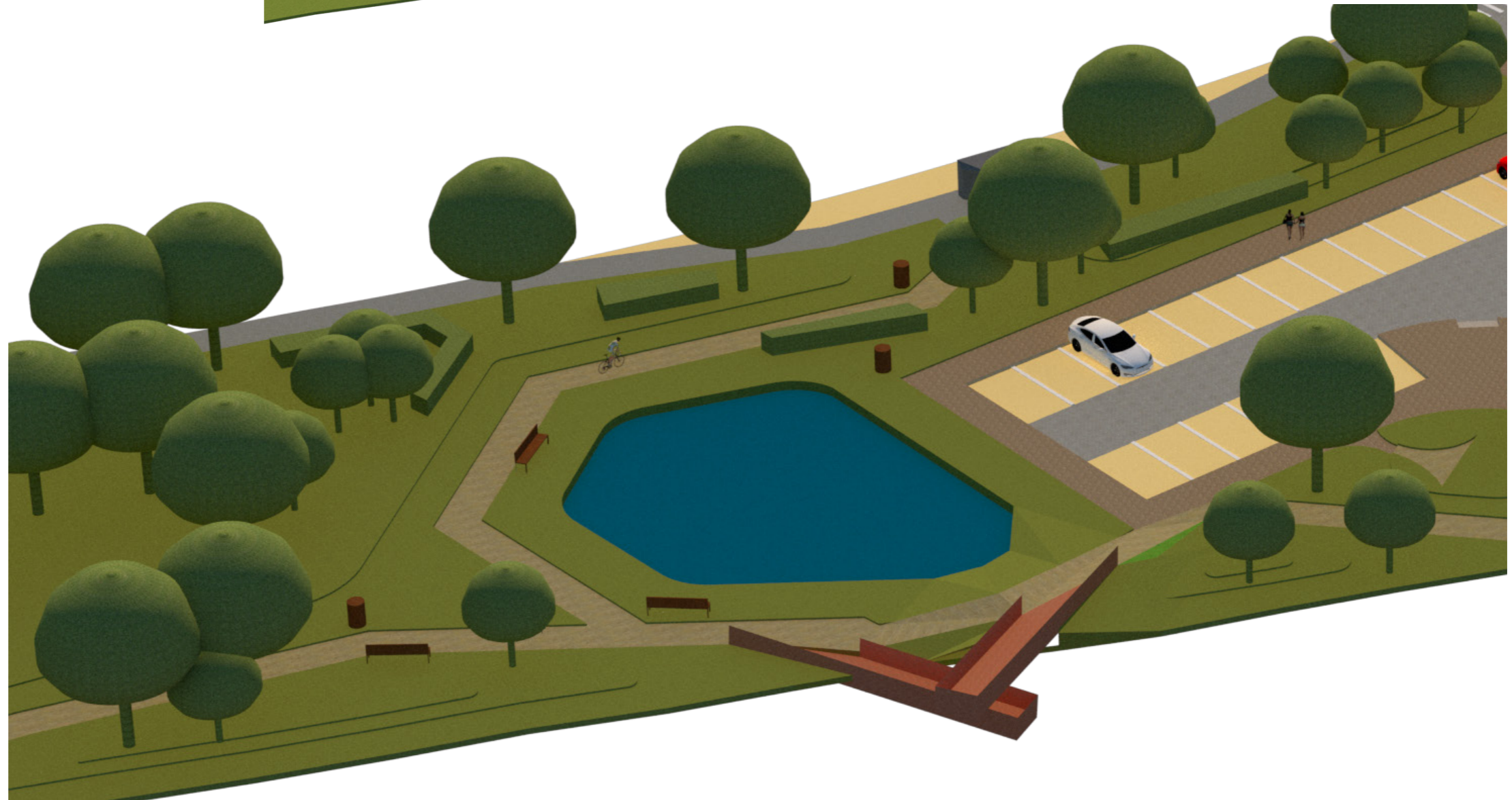
3D Model Visualisation

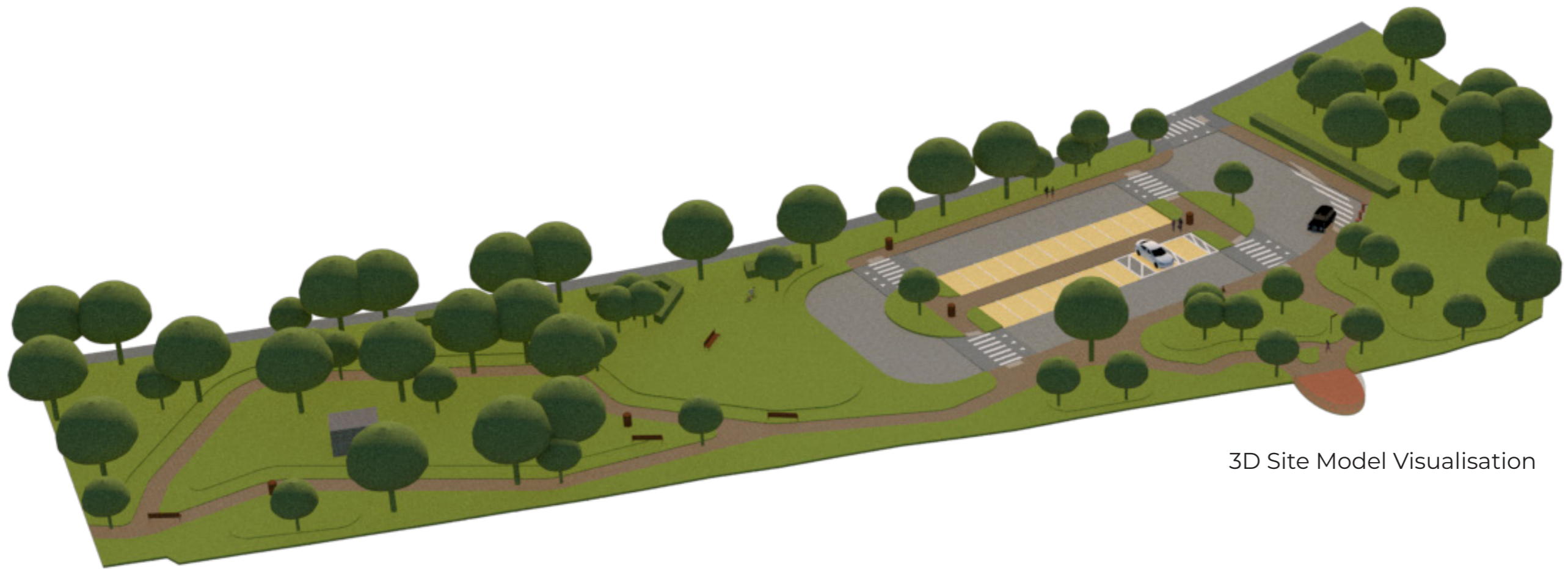
3D Model Visualisation





3D Site Model Visualisations





3D Site Model Visualisation



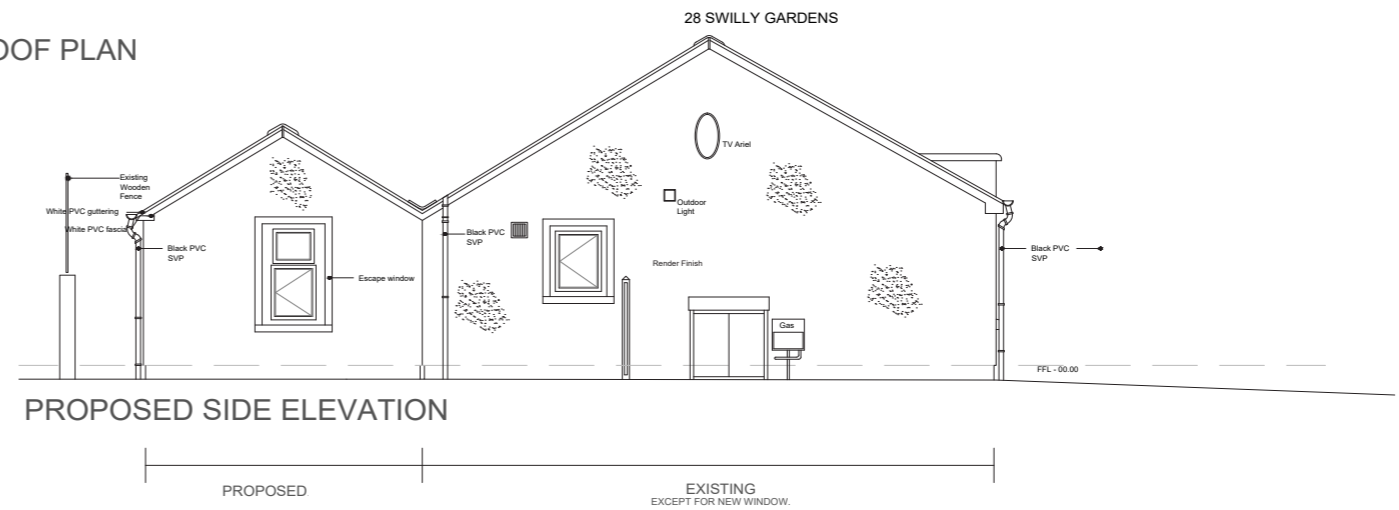
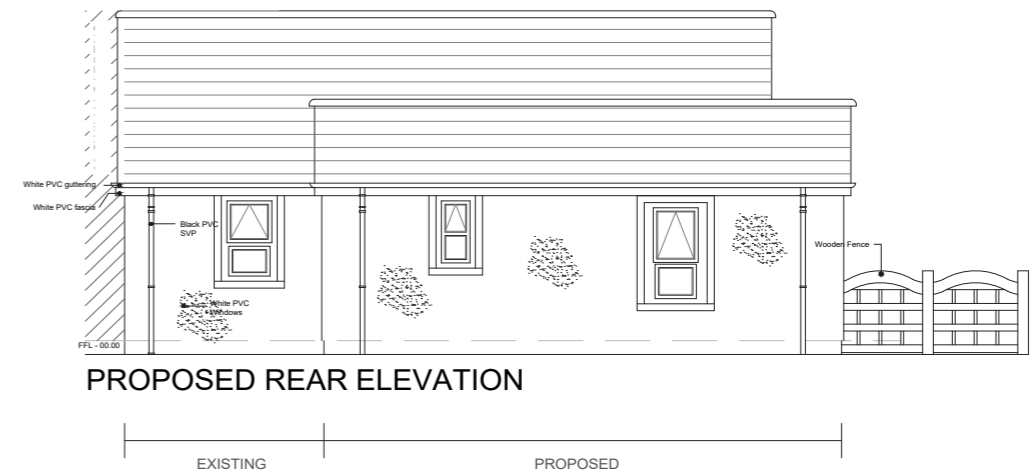
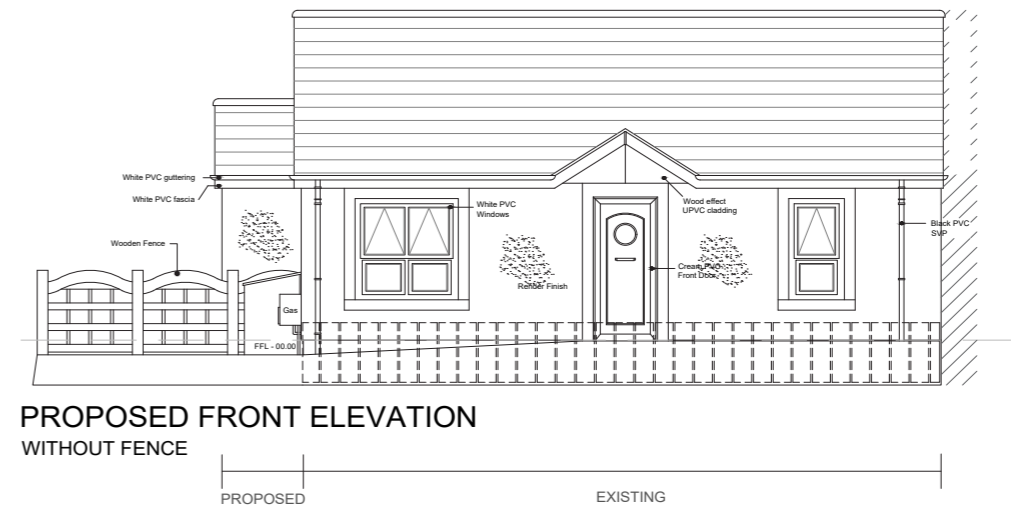
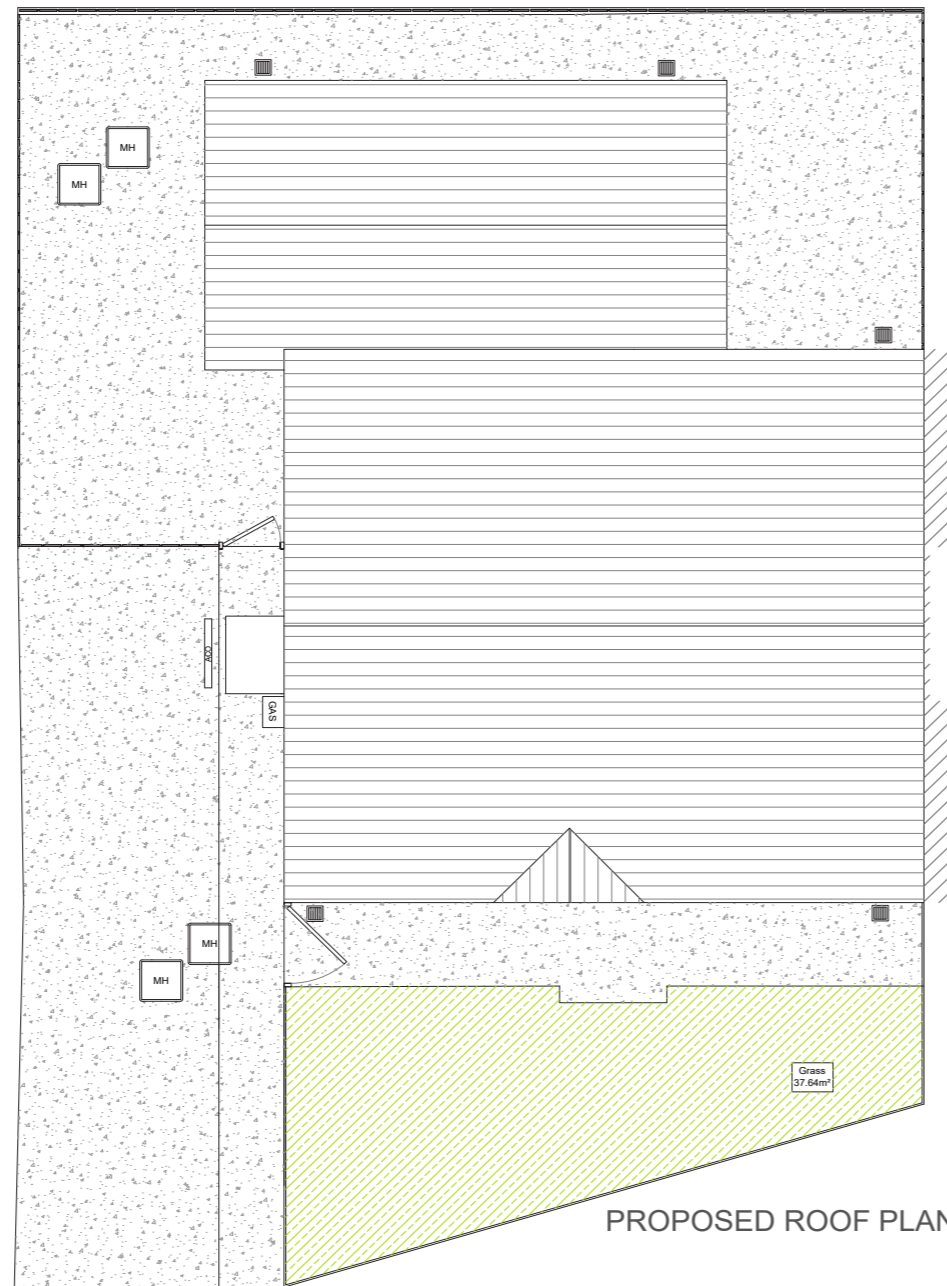
Realistic Conceptual Collage Render

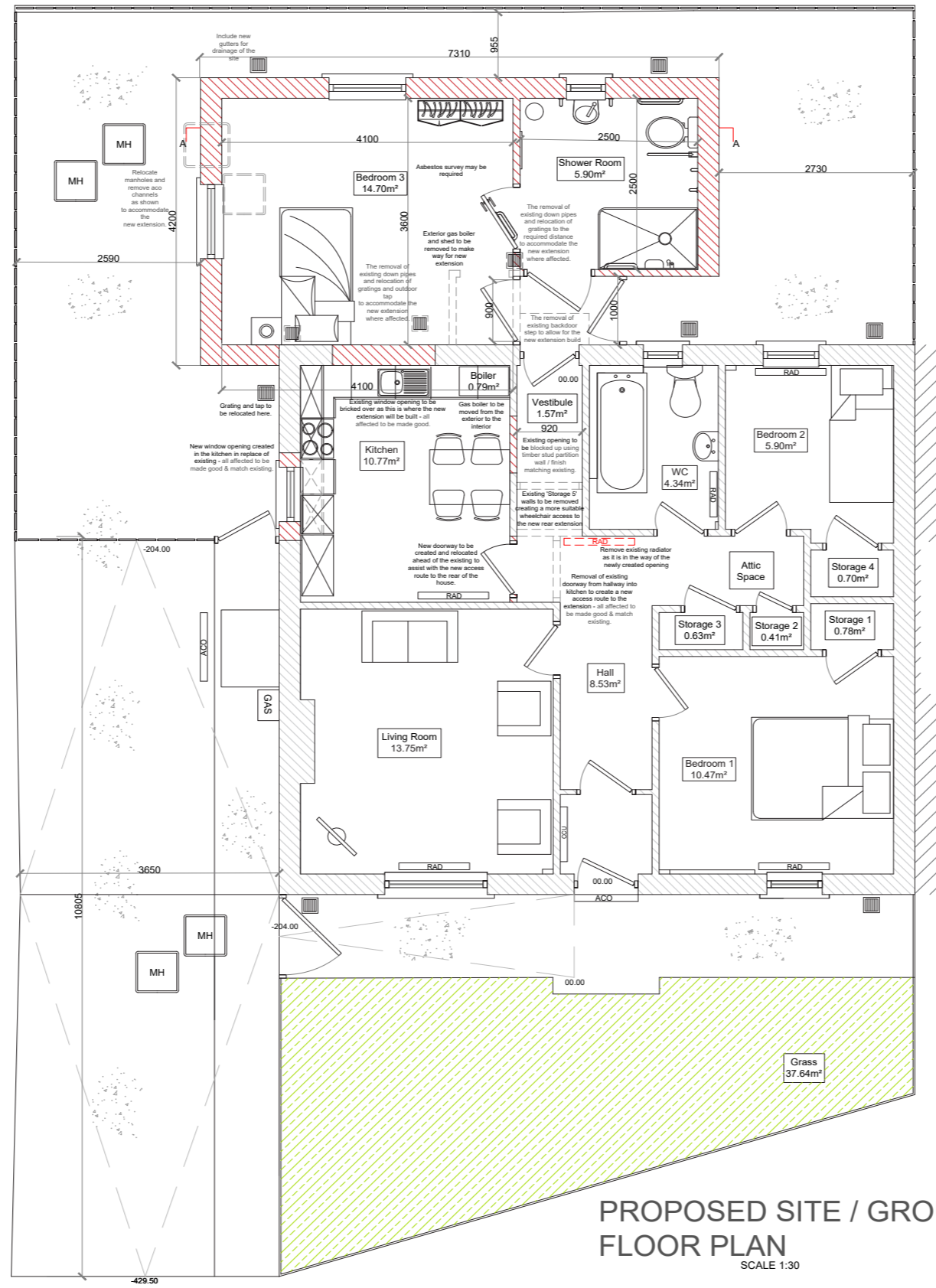


Here I designed and built a 3D model of a viewpoint. After rendering the model in vray I then took it into photoshop where i underlayed a background image and overlaid people. This allowed the client to picture the experience of the concept.



The following two pages are an example of some of the surveys which I have been carrying out. This shows my ability for more technical drawings as well as the 3d modeling and visuals on the pages previous.





PROPOSED SITE / GROUND FLOOR PLAN  
SCALE 1:30

7.0

## GRAPHIC DESIGN, BRANDING & ILLUSTRATIONS

Sample of work whilst working as a freelance artist

Here is a collection of work I have done as a freelance artist. From menus to posters to character design, I have included a variety of work.







Bar Menu

Established in 1898, The Anchor is one of the oldest pubs in the area. In recent years it has become one of the most popular venues in Northern Ireland due, in no small measure, to the friendliness of the staff and quality of the offering. But, don't take our word for it, try it for yourself!

Dessert Main Course Starter

- Soup of The Day** ..... £3.90  
homemade soup of the day served with baked roll and butter
- Seafood Chowder** ..... £6.00  
traditional seafood chowder, sea salt cracker, wheaten bread and butter
- Cheesy Mushrooms** ..... £3.90  
fresh breaded mushrooms with cheese filling
- Honey Chipolatas** ..... £3.90  
Honey glazed chipolatas with wholegrain mustard
- Nice'n'Spicy Wings** ..... £3.90  
Spicy chicken wings with blue cheese dip

- Breakfast Brunch** ..... £7.00  
includes bacon, sausage, egg, tomato, baked beans potato and soda bread
- Roast Gammon** ..... £9.90  
served with a double fried egg, pineapple, and sweetcorn relish
- Anchor Burger** ..... £7.50  
6"z beef burger, melted Emmental cheese, gem, beef tomato and red onion. Relish ketchup
- Anchor Lasagne** ..... £7.50  
homemade lasagne served along with a side of coleslaw
- Rump Steak** ..... £9.95  
grilled 8oz rump steak, corn on cob, grilled tomato, pepper sauce £9.95
- Chicken Goujons** ..... £7.50  
served along with garden salad, slaw and choice of dip
- The Anchor Pie** ..... £7.90  
Anchors signature pie of the day made in house by our talented chefs
- Seafood Chowder** ..... £12.00  
traditional seafood chowder, sea salt cracker, wheaten bread and butter
- Battered Scampi** ..... £12.00  
served along with peas, tartar sauce, salad
- Plaice Goujonettes** ..... £9.90  
crispy fish goujons served with wasabi
- Smoked Haddock** ..... £11.00  
baked Smoked haddock, potato, and herb velouté
- Mussels** ..... £11.00  
served with either thai red curry/white wine cream/Cider and bacon or champagne, spring onion and mint

- Chocolate Brownie** ..... £4.50  
homemade chocoately brownies with your choice of ice cream
- Sticky Toffee Pudding** ..... £4.50  
mouth watering homemade stick toffee pudding with your choice of ice cream
- Anchor Sundae** ..... £4.50  
\*\*NOT just for Sundays\*\*
- Cheesecake of the day** ..... £4.50  
homemade cheesecake of the day with your choice of ice cream or fresh cream. ask our staff to find out what today's is.
- Pavlova** ..... £4.50  
homemade pavlova with your choice of ice cream or fresh cream
- Kids ice cream** ..... £4.50  
?? scoops of delicious ice cream.

our selection of desserts are all made in house by our talented chefs for only £4.50 each served with your choice of ice cream or fresh cream

Side Orders

all side orders are only £3.50 each

- Traditional homemade chips 3ways**  
Salt/Garlic/Chilli
- Skinny Fries**      **Irish champ**
- Creamy Mashed potato**      **Beer battered onion rings**
- Vegetable platter**      **Boiled basmati rice**
- Mixed seasonal salad**      **Greek salad**

Sauces & Dips

all sauces including pepper, mushroom, bushmills and curry are £1.50. All other dips are 75p

- Pepper Sauce**      **Mushroom Sauce**
- Curry**      **Bushmills Sauce**
- Garlic Mayo**      **BBQ Sauce**
- Chilli Sauce**

\*\*We openly use all the main allergens in our kitchen. If you are sensitive to anything you must inform your server\*\*

The project aspires to transform into an ecologically diverse, tree-lined avenue with re-imagined public spaces and improved transportation links. This new green infrastructure project will be known defined as

The key aspects of the street are as follows:

- REDUCTION OF VEHICULAR DOMINANCE** - Increased public space.
- PUBLIC REALM** - Improved public realm and footpath accessibility.
- SAFETY** - Improved safety, sight-lines and reduction of vehicle speeds.
- CONNECTIVITY** - Improved local connections and transport links.
- ACTIVE FRONTAGE** - Ground level activation, retail and commerce delivered as part of the masterplan.
- PLANTING OF TREES** - Planting of 160+ Boulevard trees.
- EXISTING TREES & GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE** - Incorporating existing trees into the design to improve the public realm, connecting to local parks and green initiatives.
- CYCLE LANE** - Separated cycle lanes along
- IMPROVED JUNCTIONS** - To improve safety between pedestrians, vehicles and cyclists.
- NIGHT-TIME ECONOMY** - New Feature & Column lighting to increase safety.
- FURNITURE** - 25+ benches to encourage seating and resting.
- BIODIVERSITY** - The planting areas will be a mix of species with a natural appearance, wildlife attracting species, seasonal change, colours and flowering plants.
- SuDS (SUSTAINABLE URBAN DRAINAGE SYSTEMS)** - Integrated SuDS and increased biodiversity.



The project aspires to transform into an ecologically diverse, tree-lined avenue with re-imagined public spaces and improved transportation links. The key aspects of the boulevard include:

- REDUCTION OF VEHICLE DOMINANCE**  
Increased public space by widening of footpaths.
- PUBLIC REALM**  
Improved public realm and footpath accessibility.
- SAFETY**  
Improved safety, sight-lines and reduction of vehicle speeds.
- CONNECTIVITY**  
Improved local connections and transport links.
- ACTIVE FRONTAGE**  
Ground level activation, retail and commerce.
- PLANTING OF TREES**  
Planting of 160+ Boulevard trees.
- CYCLE LANE**  
Separated cycle lanes along
- IMPROVED JUNCTIONS**  
To improve safety between pedestrians, vehicles and cyclists.
- LIGHTING**  
New Column and Feature Lighting to footpaths and carriageway.
- FURNITURE**  
25+ benches to encourage seating and resting.
- EXISTING TREES & GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE**  
Incorporating existing trees into the design to improve the public realm, connecting to local Brent council parks and green initiatives.
- BIODIVERSITY**  
Planting areas will be a natural mix of species, wildlife attracting species, seasonal change, colours and flowering plants.
- SuDS (SUSTAINABLE URBAN DRAINAGE SYSTEMS)**  
New Integrated SuDS and rain gardens to reduce localised flooding and increase biodiversity.
- PROJECT DUE TO START ON SITE:**  
is currently at the detailed design phase, following the initial concept design and consultation phase.

IMPROVED PUBLIC REALM SPACES

ACCESSIBLE BUS STOPS

IMPROVED JUNCTIONS AND CROSSINGS

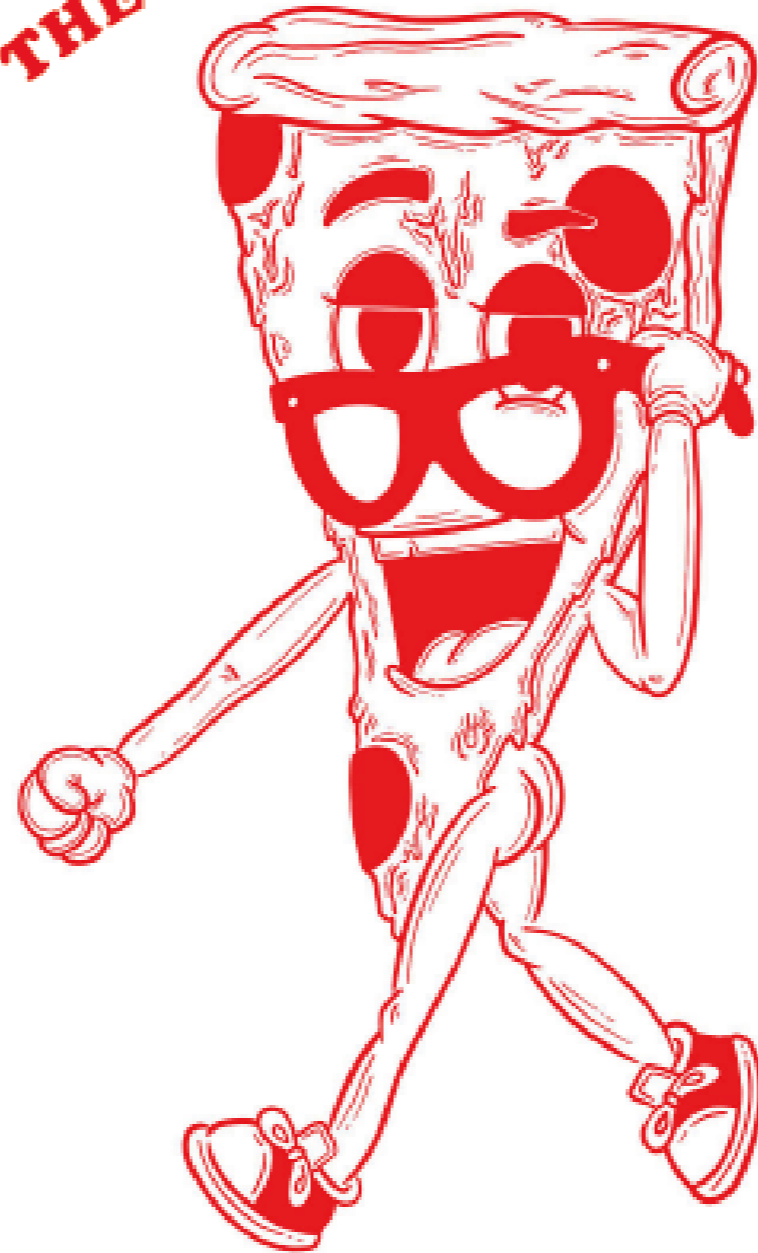
Areas of the posters have been covered with white boxes for client confidentiality



Examples of branding I have done for an up and coming coffee brand.

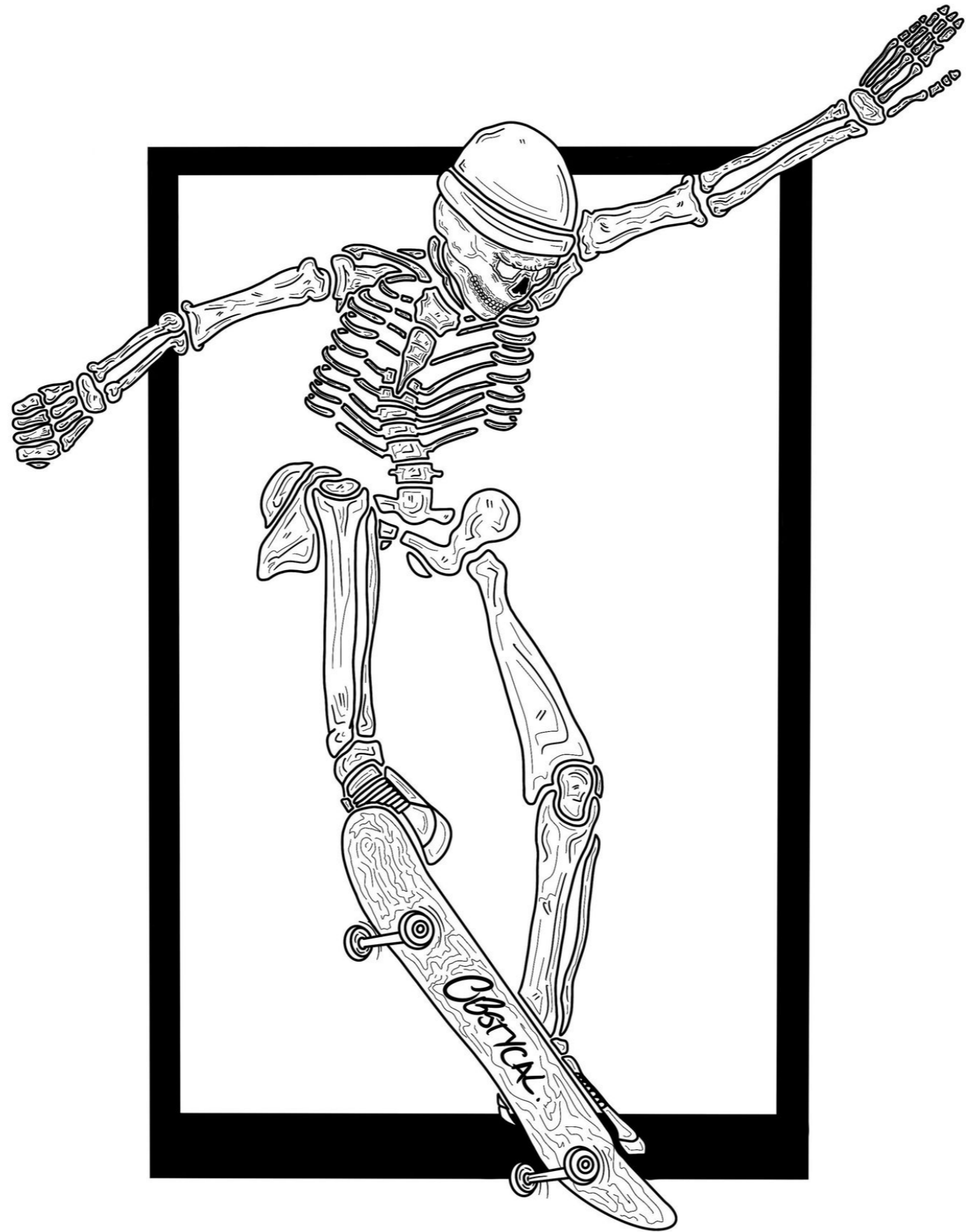


**· THE BIRDBRAINED BRAND ·**



**NO.1 I'D EAT THAT PIZZA ASS**  
**- THE PIZZA BOHY COLLECTION -**

Character Illustration



8.0

## PHOTOGRAPHY

In my spare time I enjoy being out in the open and hiking all over Ireland. Here is a small sample of some moments which I have captured





