

The Aesthetic of Love

A project by Brandon Blissett

Thesis submitted to the faculty of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Architecture.

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ABSTRACT

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Brandon Blissett

Indigenous architecture is a loving response to the natural conditions surrounding one's inhabitation of architecture. It is designed and built by those who will inhabit it and is necessarily designed in coordination with both environmental considerations and practical (or use-oriented) considerations. The product of such a building shows the love present in it both as an independent architectural entity and as an inhabited structure. The late 20th century has seen a revival with regard to appreciating this aesthetic. The 'green' movement had hoped to open people's eyes to a certain aesthetic of conservation but unfortunately has lost sight of the ideological foundations of its existence. My proposal is to look back to these roots of architecture. Not to revert architecture to mere building, but to find the aesthetic through the love put into the creation of a purposeful structure intended for a specific set of criteria and inhabitants for an intentional duration in a specific spot. We must look intently at the indigenous builders for how to find the balance of sustainability, response to environment and the physical aesthetic.

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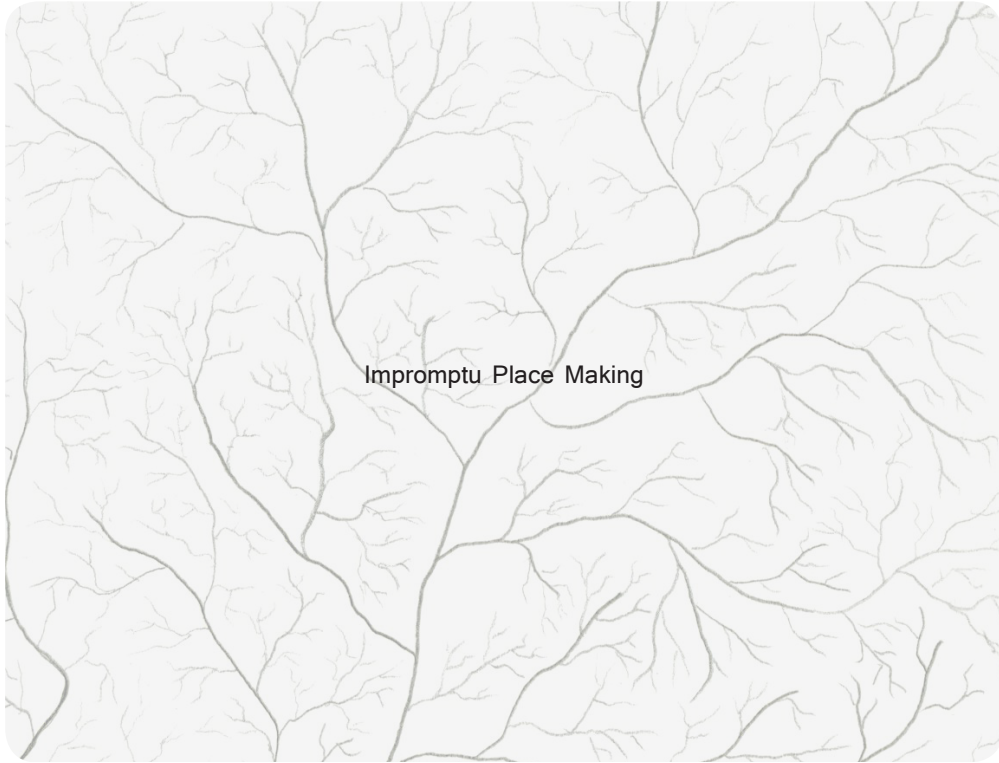
The following images represent a few structures that have outlived their purpose, but were made in such a fashion as to ignore this possibility.







The following writings are of specific hunting places I have occupied at various times in my life. They are precise representations of the criteria that went into the selection of each place as well as specific examples of successful hunts. Following each writing are images of different places I have made and occupied for distinctly different purposes. The images directly correlate to the writing they follow.



I prefer to hunt a particular spot no more than a few times during a season, and only when conditions are near perfect. Adverse circumstances led me to hunt a place other than the one I chose initially on this particular morning. A locked gate and a lost key sent me back to find another place just as the sun was coming up. I wasn't feeling too optimistic as I should already be in the woods, and instead, I was searching my mind for a place to hunt that would be worth my time. I chose to enter woods I had not hunted but a couple of times in the past. Where I ended up was actually in an area I had never hunted before. I somewhat hopelessly headed in the direction of what was a hardwood flat before a hurricane 2 years earlier killed roughly 70% of the timber. Upon arriving at the southeast corner of the 'hardwood flat' I discovered the extent to which the hurricanes damage had altered the habitat. Two major thoughts immediately occurred to me. One, there was much more food that would be accessible to deer in this area. As the acorn crop was abundant that year, the hardwoods left still had the ground littered with acorns, hickory nuts and chestnuts. Also, the underbrush that had taken over the area provided the deer with a significant amount of browse, much of which would become a major food source late in the winter. Second, ample bedding existed in a food rich area. Consequently, my knowledge of hunting would dictate I keep my pressure in that area to a minimum. In regard to these observations and the northwest wind that was blowing, I determined to quietly skirt the south side of the flat until I could find the beginnings of a suitable location to hunt.

The small amount of rain that had fallen the night before made quiet movement easy. I continued along, my mind and senses open to any sign of a suitable place to begin my vigil. As I approached the 2/3 point of my passage along the southern edge of the flat, I noticed a wall of 12 to 15 year old pines beginning atop a rise that creates the western border of the flat. Knowing that such terrain bordering my flat would likely serve as a path of movement for deer along the ridge line, I began to seek a path by which to enter the underbrush-filled

flat. When I located a spot that was less densely occupied with underbrush, I entered moving into the wind toward the pine ridge. Shortly after entering and negotiating the thick flora of the flat, I encountered a rather dry drainage that was on average, about 7 feet deep from the bank's edge to the bottom. I dropped into the drainage for ease of movement and to lessen my impact should anything be in the area. After following it northward toward the creek that borders the flat on the north, I exited the west side of the drainage where the flora seemed less dense, and moved westward until I encountered an open stretch of hardwoods that continued up to the pine ridge.

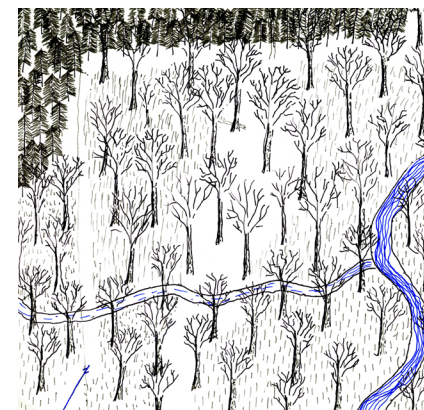
I was hunting with a .35 caliber brush rifle, and as always, wanted to treat it as though I had a bow. I wanted a place where any possible deer movement would be at most 60 yards from me. Now the scope of the environment I sought to place myself in had grown smaller. From an area, to a particular 40 acre flat, to a particular spot no more than 2 acres in size. The only consideration now outside of this 2 acre area was my wind which would be perceptible to a deer from a much greater distance. The likelihood of a deer travelling through the area where my wind was blowing during daytime hours was slim and as my boots and clothing have already left trace amounts of scent, it could no longer be of concern to me. I then focused on the specific area I wanted to locate myself. I moved westward to bring myself within 60 yards of the pine line.

My optimism had returned. It was nearly perfect, this opening at this location in this wind on this rare cold Mississippi morning in November, and only 15 minutes after the first visible light. Where minutes before I was moving slowly and quietly I now moved almost silently and at an incredibly slow pace with all of my senses open. I scanned the opening regularly to ensure that an animal, which would be moving more silently than me at my quietest, did not enter my field of view without my knowing it. I knew that I wanted to be closer than I was to the pine line and that I also did not wish to alert any animals to my presence. I was about 125 yards from the pine line and in an

opening whose width averaged about 40 yards. I moved toward the ridge stopping next to larger trees about every 10 yards and scanning for animal movement as well as the place I would sit for the next 5 hours. As I moved toward the line, I saw that the opening created by the still standing hardwoods widened in the last 40 yards approaching the pines. I veered toward the southern edge of the opening and continued toward the pines. As I slowly moved and observed I began to get a sense of an even smaller area in which I would soon be situated. Having approached this smaller area I began to look for the qualities of a location that would provide me with a good view of the edge of the pines while seated, as well as suitable cover so that my outline would not stand out to an animal that could possibly make its way as close as 10 to 15 yards from me. I recall spotting many places which satisfied some, but not all of these criteria. I trusted my stalking abilities and held out for an ideal spot. I finally spotted a place about 20 yards to my west-southwest where a small tree (probably 6 to 8 inches in diameter) had fallen and ran beside the trunk of a larger chestnut oak. The fallen tree ran roughly north to south along the western side of the oak. Just on the opposite side of the oak and fallen tree was a small amount of underbrush that stood no more than 2 1/2 feet above the forest floor. This would provide adequate cover to assist in breaking up my profile along with the oak that my back would be against. I slowly made my way toward the spot.

Upon arriving at it, I made sure that my anxiousness to be seated and still did not detract from my observation that was so critical to maintaining my stealth. After I scanned the woods thoroughly and cleared a bare spot in the leaves with my feet (so that I may shift without breaking a twig or shaking a low limb) I seated myself upon the fallen tree hoping its dryness relative to that of the damp earth would allow me to stay comfortable longer and I crossed my legs in my cleared patch of earth and leaned back so that my body blended in to that of the tree. My view was relatively unobstructed from a line that ran about 15 degrees south of west to a line that ran about 45

degrees north of west. The wind was hitting my face slightly on the right side and the sun was rising behind the clouds almost directly on the other side of the tree from my body. I patterned my breathing and quieted my mind for a long vigil.



A Place to Read: Much like the previous hunt, this place was for a single use and proved to be a good place. I narrowed my range of focus until I found the two trees that provided all of the required conditions for inhabitation. A rather simple, functional space whose aesthetic was found in the merging of materials and the afternoon I spent occupying it.





A Place to Observe: This was intended as a place to sit quietly and inconspicuously while providing an intended view both for the appreciation of the environment as well as for a 'scientific' look at the animals of the area. It, like the place to read and the impromptu hunt, was the result of searching through a given area and narrowing my focus until eventually finding the location best suited to my intended activities.









Before first hunting the place I am about to speak of I studied maps and aerial photographs to determine the makeup of the nearby land. Also, from having in the past stalked the creek roughly 1/2 mile east of this spot, I had experienced that the deer in the area had a tendency to travel the creek from west to east in the evenings. The first day I chose to hunt this place, the wind was out of the north and no other individuals had reported hunting the nearby grass/clover field. The aerial photographs along with my having previously hunted the edge of the cut over northwest of the grass field gave me the knowledge necessary to place myself in what I believed would be a very good spot.

A hunt the year before found me set up on the eastern edge of the previously mentioned cut over with a west-southwest wind. During that hunt I saw multiple doe traveling southward after emerging from the cut over into its bordering pines. As it was early in the season, I also knew that the hardwoods between the creek and the grass field had a number of white oaks whose acorns should not be completely depleted. My experience as a hunter told me that bucks will tend to stay in cover until near dark before moving into an open field. A place such as this would give them reason to be in the area prior to dark; cover and food in one. As a result, my strategy this first hunt was to set up along the creek, approaching from the east-northeast. I walked into the area from the path that enters the northeastern edge of the grass field, passed out of the southwestern corner of the grass field and proceeded to find a suitable vantage point among the various drainages, cypress bottoms and flats that made up this section of woods. About 150 yards to the southwest of the western edge of the grass field I could see a rise upon which 4 or 5 hardwoods almost perfectly sized for a climbing stand stood. It would be most accessible through a cypress bottom so I proceeded through said bottom to avoid leaving my scent on underbrush and making unnecessary noise. After reaching the opposite end of the bottom I saw that I would have to pass through a number of low growing rhododendron-like magnolias.

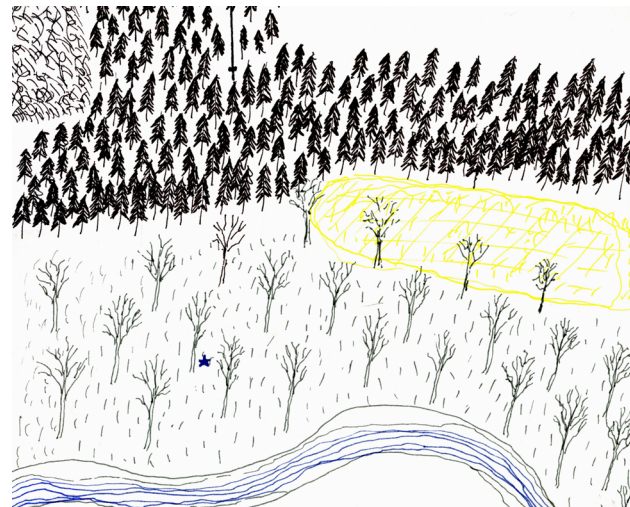
I would leave a little scent on these by passing through them so I got as close to the most promising looking tree before climbing out of the bottom and entering the bushes. I kept my hands in my pockets as I moved through the bushes because hands and feet leave stronger scent behind than most of the rest of the body.

When I reached the tree I confirmed that it was indeed suitable for my needs. It was the right size, didn't taper too much as it rose, and there were no low branches that would impede my climbing. I climbed the tree until I was just under its bottom-most branch and then positioned myself facing west northwest allowing myself a comfortable shot at anything traveling eastward along the creek, or entering the hardwoods from the pines to my north. Within 30 minutes of climbing the tree 3 doe entered the hardwoods from the pines at a point northwest of my position and proceeded eastward along the pine/hardwood line before entering the grass field. I was a little surprised at the minimal foraging they did for acorns prior to entering the grass field. I hoped that perhaps any bucks that would come along wouldn't be so anxious for the grass until closer to dark. The doe went out of my view as they entered the grass field. I returned my attention to the direction from which the doe had come. It was about 4:15. 30 to 45 minutes later I caught a glimpse of movement along the pines a little west of where the doe first appeared. Soon I saw another deer emerge behind the one that first caught my attention. I was soon able to see that both were bucks bordering on maturity. As I had hoped, the bucks entered deeper into the hardwoods before moving eastward on a path that would keep them south of the green field. As I was able to view them better, I noted that one appeared to be a fairly young 8 point and the other a 7 point whose body and antlers were both much larger. As the deer proceeded eastward while feeding on acorns they hit a slight clearing about 50 yards from the tree I inhabited. With one clean shot I ended the life of the 7 point and began what has become to me a spiritual and ritualistic act of field dressing the deer, extricating it from the woods, skinning it, and taking apart the meat for my future consumption.

The next time I hunted this place, about 7 weeks later, I returned to the spot to hunt it for a different reason. During this hunt, the wind was out of the northwest. It was the tail end of the breeding season in this region and neither I nor anyone else (except a couple of people who had hunted the grass field) had disrupted the spot since my previously described visit. My reasoning for returning to this spot was significantly different, but equally as effective. During the breeding season (a roughly 2 week time period) bucks will travel greater distances from their home turf in search of doe ready to be bred. During the earlier stages of the breeding season it is very common to see younger bucks chasing doe around, but as the number of does who are unbred dwindles, you will find the larger, more dominant bucks traveling steadily in an effort to find them. Later in the season the grass also becomes a larger part of the deer's diet because the winter has killed off much of the browse (underbrush that is edible to deer) and the acorn crop has been mostly consumed. Knowing that the green field would likely attract doe, and that the creek hardwoods were dense enough to provide ample cover for a traveling buck, I thought it a good place to position myself again. With the cut over being off to my north and not more than 200 yards away I assumed that the location may be prime for observing a large buck prior to nightfall. I have seen bucks in the past travel the downwind side of both bedding and feeding areas in the effort to smell any doe in heat that are occupying the areas. As the wind was blowing in such a fashion as to carry the wind from the green field through the hardwoods toward the creek, and to carry my own over the creek (limiting the areas where a deer could pick up my scent) I decided that the same tree I occupied 7 weeks earlier would be the perfect place to catch one of these traveling bucks.

I set up in the spot in the middle of the afternoon, and to my surprise saw no doe entering the grass field. As darkness approached and I thought my plan a failure, I heard the breaking of branches distinct to the larger animals of the woods.

Before seeing the deer I heard a repetition of short deep grunts (a common vocalization of a buck in rut). In a very short span of time the buck showed itself and was moving quickly eastward about 50 yards north of the creek. When the deer was within about 25 yards of my position even in the fading light his large size was unmistakable. Because of the pace at which it was moving, when it entered a small clear spot in the woods I made a high pitched whooping sound which caused it to stop and look in my direction. Again the shot was well placed and the buck was unconscious within 20 seconds. I repeated my ritual and concluded my season having successfully filled my freezer with two large deer from the same spot for very different reasons.





A Place of Shelter: This shelter was determined for a specific set of criteria in a specific location with the intention of use beyond the immediate. The majority of these criteria may be met at other similar locations on the property, but each would require some alteration to the place I built. It is a humble spot with the basics of survival serving as its motivating factors. It provided great views and my nights spent there were full of sound sleep.







A Place of Warmth: This place was intended to contain fire and provide warmth for its inhabitants throughout a cold night. Once those conditions were met in the conceptual design, it was actualized using more detail oriented techniques. The stones were stacked and removed and stacked again for a tight fit that would prevent the wind from disturbing the inhabited area. Its shape strongly resembles techniques used to catch unsuspecting fish by less technologically blessed meat gatherers of the past. An eddy in the currents.









I chose to write about this spot because it serves as a distinct changing point in my selection of places to hunt. The land is 240 acres just on the edge of the Mississippi delta farmlands. It consists of small, but steep hardwood hills, 3 ponds, 2 creeks, a cotton field, and an old field planted with long leaf pines. I first went to this property with my father when I was just old enough to carry a weapon. When my father would take me hunting he usually put me on a wooden ladder stand situated just south of the eastern most pond on the property putting me about 40 yards north of the southern creek. It serves as a minimally effective funnel as well as a creek crossing where the deer would use a draw to pass into the hilly hardwoods. It was more of a default position that allowed us two places close to one another, but with a hill between us. I later discovered that the predominant deer activity near this spot was actually a travel pattern on the opposite side of the creek. During this time, which only consisted of a few hunts a season for two seasons, we also hunted other spots near the southern corner of the cotton field and a knob on the southern side of the central pond. We observed the occasional doe and a couple of bucks, the largest of which survived our encounter by being more alert than us. We spent an hour scouring the ground for blood to ensure the shot had gone awry. The property was rented to a deer camp after this period of time so we didn't hunt it for another 7 years.

When I returned to hunt the land 7 years later I was still a relatively naive hunter having only killed 2 doe and 2 bucks, and of those 4, only one was a deep woods kill that resulted from my own scouting and placement. My first tendency was to return to some of the spots we hunted in the past, but after a number of hunts yielding not even one deer sighting I decided to start reading the land with new eyes. I began by walking the property and cataloguing all of the terrain features and access points I was previously not aware of. I began focusing my efforts along the creek south-southwest of where I had hunted years before. Throughout the course of the year I discovered a decent amount of deer movement

in this area and also took note of one funnel in particular. I didn't take a deer that year, but I did have some of my closest and most stealthy encounters with deer on the ground than I had ever had before. I also learned some of the things that would lead to both my closest encounter with a deer on the ground and my first buck kill on a place that I hunted alone.

As I had hunted with a bow my first year back at this property, I decided the next year to use my rifle some in order to increase my chances of cleanly taking a mature buck. Upon returning the next year I again saw deer crossing the gravel road mentioned earlier, and had read about, and understood, the theory behind hunting a funnel: Catching deer as they move through corridors formed by natural boundaries. The funnel I speak of is the narrowing of deer movement between the creek and the pond on the northwest end of the property. I didn't hunt it but a few times before mid-December and so when the rut arrived, I returned to my home from school and set about hunting the area with tenacity. I narrowed my place of focus to the funnel. I sat in a number of different places in this funnel, and saw a number of doe and a couple of smaller bucks passing through the area. I further discovered a number of rubs (scent posts that deer rub their antlers against), a couple of which were on trees about 6 inches in diameter. Based on deer sightings I had, I determined that the best time to hunt the spot was from daylight until just after noon. I also discovered that in the mornings, when the wind was coming out of the north or northwest that I could sit in a little depression under a small bush located next to the northwestern side of the creek. For some reason, however, I rarely saw the number of deer from that spot that I would see sitting 60 yards away near the pond. A cold front comes in from the northwest and just after the leading edge of the front you will get strong north to northwesterly winds but after a day or so of these strong northwest winds, the wind would turn and drift back out of the southeast. These days would find me up on the pond damn facing the creek from behind a hardwood tree that split in two just a foot above the

ground, providing me with excellent cover on the south side and an opening through which to view and/or shoot. The southeast drift would take my scent out over the pond leaving me almost invisible to a deer's sense of smell. My back remained fairly open in this spot, but it was toward the pond and as close as I was located to the ponds edge, I did not think it a concern.

The third or fourth time I hunted this spot, a young spike came passing through the funnel from west to east, but just before it passed between me and the creek, it turned uphill toward me. It slowly fed its way up the hill and had gotten so close that I was pressed up against the back of the tree as tight as I could be. As it began to emerge to my sight around the tree, a mere 5 feet from my location, it was so close that I saw the split second that its eye focused on me. It took two quick leaps westward along the dam and turned around to see what I was. For what seemed a long time, it stared me down and I did all I could not to move any part of my body, or even breathe too hard. In the end my patience wore down and I shifted my body. It sprung into the brush and I listened as it ran back in the direction it had come from. It was clear I would have to adjust my spot to avoid a similar encounter next time. It wouldn't do well to alert any more deer to my presence.

For the next hunt with a southeast wind I moved south-westward along the pond dam and sat on the southern side of an oak in a depression between two extensions at its trunk. I arranged some branches from nearby bushes in front of me to break up my shape. I felt a little more exposed in this location, but I now believed myself positioned in such a location that no deer should wander as close to me as the last had. I was also seated in such a way that it would take very little movement for me to observe the funnel or move my weapon in to place when the need arose. It was a comfortable position that would be perfect for a long vigil when next a southeast wind blew. I saw a few more deer the next two times I hunted this spot, only one of which was a buck. It was a mature animal but travelled an unexpected route moving across the creek to

my northeast before entering the funnel. I opted to wait for a closer shot another time. After that hunt I decided to wait until the weather was just right before returning. I was looking for a cold, hopefully overcast day, with a light southeast wind and I was determined to sit from daylight until 1:00. The next light southeast wind I got was coming on a day where the projected low was supposed to be 16 degrees (really cold for central Mississippi). Everything was looking perfect and I told my father the night before, "If I can just stay there long enough, I'll get a deer. You should come with me. I think its going to be a really good day." (I remember it well because he likes to retell the story when occasion warrants.) He opted not to join me and the next morning I was up an hour and a half before daylight and on my way to the property. I was extra clothed for the stay and had a number of food items wrapped in paper towels to help me stay still as long as was needed. I settled into my spot just as the first glow of daylight was becoming visible. A few hours passed. The worst of the cold was gone by now so I knew I would be able to stick it out for a long time. Another 2 hours passed before anything happened, and then I heard the steps of a deer coming from my west, just on the other side of a brush pile next to my position. About 30 seconds later a 200 pound 6 point walked from behind a tree at the edge of the brush 12 yards down the dam from my position. It stopped and put its head to the ground to eat and eventually turned its head away from me giving me time to quietly rest my weapon on my knee, take a deep breath, aim and fire. The buck ran about 30 yards downhill before losing consciousness.

I had never viewed this spot as worth hunting in the past. It was no more than 150 yards from a gravel road and habit kept me in other locations. I was also of the opinion at the time that the deeper you get into the woods, the better your chances of success. This spot taught me much about deer hunting and much about ideal locations for hunting from the ground. I have since used this knowledge and expanded on it to ensure that I provide my own meat for the year every year since then.



A Place for Meditation: Made from earth extracted 100 yards from the site and compacted into small building units, this place of meditation uses methods indigenous to other locations, giving it a limited period of endurance. It stands just above the height of a seated man, and looks out over a field that is planted in corn at the end of each winter oriented toward the sunrise. It was initially conceived as a method to 'poetically watch the grass grow'. The following images show the place as it was after being built, and the progression to what it is now. Before too much longer, it should be only a pile of dirt to be used by something or someone for a distinctly different purpose.





An Igloo in Blacksburg: This igloo was built by myself and five friends over the course of a day and night following the only heavy snow of the year. A tribute to the indigenous builders we showcased the aesthetic of the igloo by placing it in a location that would be unsuitable if function was the only criterion. The igloo was the direct result of quality work and the love put into it was made even more evident by the fact that two of the builders spent the following night sleeping in it. Further, it became an object of fascination for almost everyone who observed it. Over the course of its four day existence we observed people who had nothing to do with the construction enter it, photograph it and talk about it. The following images document its progression back into the earth.







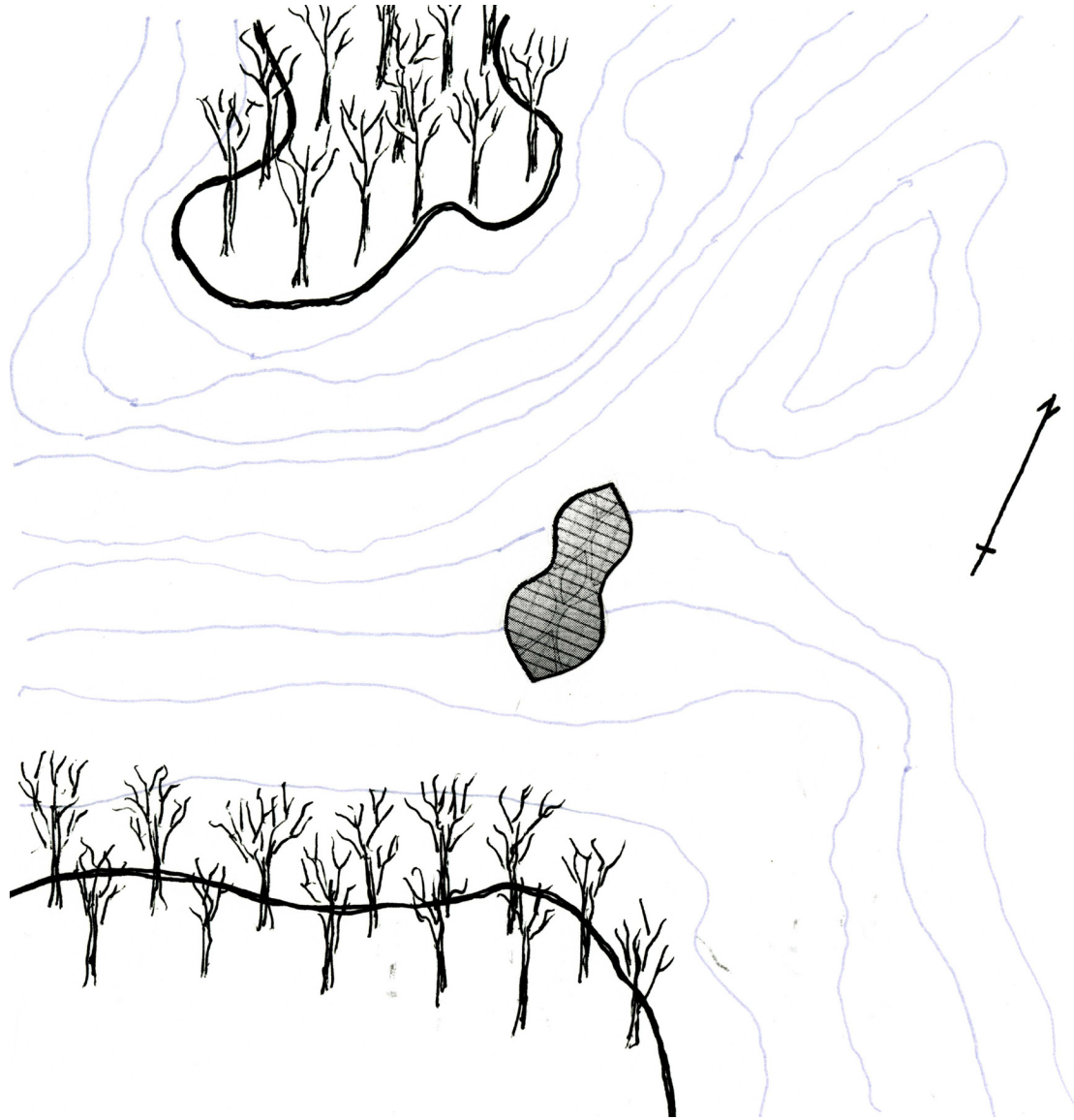
This building is a proposal for a means to make indigenous building methods architectural rather than merely functional. The major architectural elements are embodied in the building shape and the dialogue between materials. The curvature of the framing members is a mediation between the ideal methods of construction for each of the two major materials. The wood alone would dictate a gable-style shape while the ice walls would dictate use of the catenary curve. The building was also designed to fulfill the functional requirements of a meat gathering house for inhabitation by myself during a three and a half month period in which I would collect and prepare meat for the following year.



The site for the meat gathering house is on Jumping Caribou Lake in the municipality of Temagami, in Ontario, Canada from the middle of December until the end of March. The assembly can begin once the ice depth at the spot of assembly has reached 10 inches. The precise location upon the lake is determined based on ideal fishing contours along the bottom of the lake. Just between an island and the mainland near the south-east corner of the lake the bottom of the lake makes a deep, narrow valley just off a point that serves as a natural gathering, and traveling spot for fish. The building is to be situated directly over this spot which will also provide significant wind blockage and easy access to the nearby forest. Its longitudinal axis will be oriented north to south to minimize sun exposure. The lake regularly produces Lake Trout, Whitefish, Walleye, and Northern Pike. The nearby woods are home to deer, moose, bear, grouse, pheasant and rabbit.





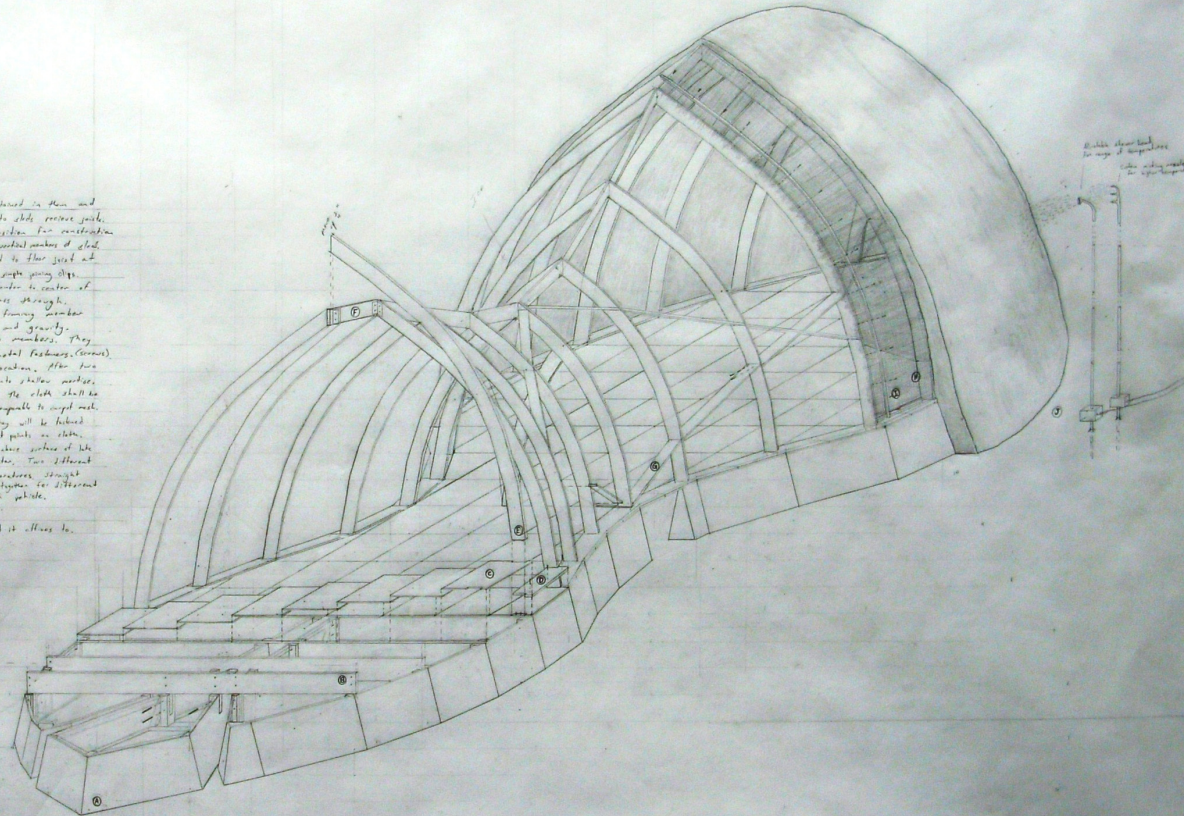




Blowing to site and Assembly on site

- ① Friction cones of 7 inch diameter members will be contained in them and transported to site in the site of assembly. They are inserted into slots in the joints.
- ② When slots are installed and arranged according to their final position for construction.
- ③ As is their joint may be dropped into place and pinned through central members of shell.
- ④ Flange joints (212) with the flange flange will be attached to floor joint at a corner and supported in the wall and shell joint in joints by using girth rings.
- ⑤ After plate holes in and through flange rings are placed from center to center of each framing member with pilot for framing members to pass through.
- ⑥ Framing members of the horizontal members will be in pairs, each framing member sits in slots and is secured in the floor joint by the dowels and gravity.
- ⑦ Each consists of separate from center to center of framing members. They are fastened by member-specific 100' members plates and metal fasteners (bolts).
- ⑧ Cross bracing will be pre-cut system and their installed location. After the central framing members are installed surrounding may be removed into a later section.
- ⑨ When some fabric will be attached to place on framing members. The slots shall be a rest with openings not to exceed 3/4". It shall be of strength capable to support such.
- ⑩ 2" x 2" strips apply to framing members on top of each each. They will be linked from below to top with wires that distribute tension when the pulling of joints in place.
- ⑪ Two 1/2" girth rings for framing walls. They will sit in a groove of 1/2" deep surface of the wall. The hole pump will absorb water from it below the top of the water. Two different water spraying devices will provide spray patterns for various temperatures. Straight and curved steel pipe segments can be either topped a second system for different framing heights on the walls. From the pump will come from outside.

For ease of assembly and make a better working in the floor joint it allows to. Member 1-11 and over on foundation plan.

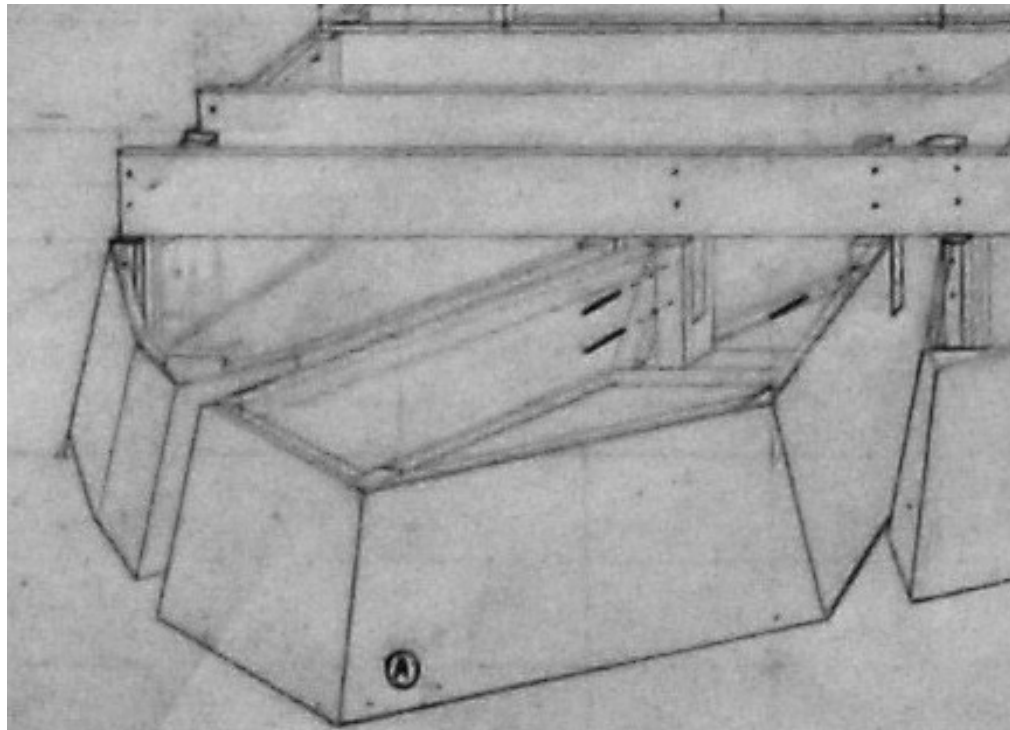


Writings transcribed from previous drawing:

The building is to be delivered to the site by a truck and then Assembled on site.

A. The foundation consists of seven boat style containers. Materials will be contained in them and transported like sleds to the site of assembly. Slots cut vertically into the sleds receive joists.

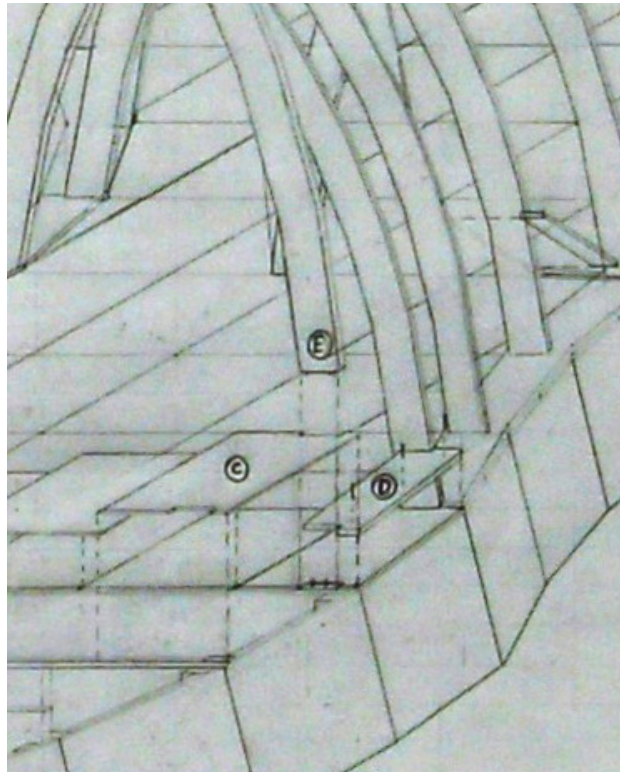
B. When the sleds are unloaded and arranged according to the precise location of the building, 2 x 10 floor joists are dropped into place and pinned through vertical members of sled.



C. 2' x 2' flooring panels are then attached to floor joists at each corner and supported on the ends that don't rest on joist by clips that join them to one another.

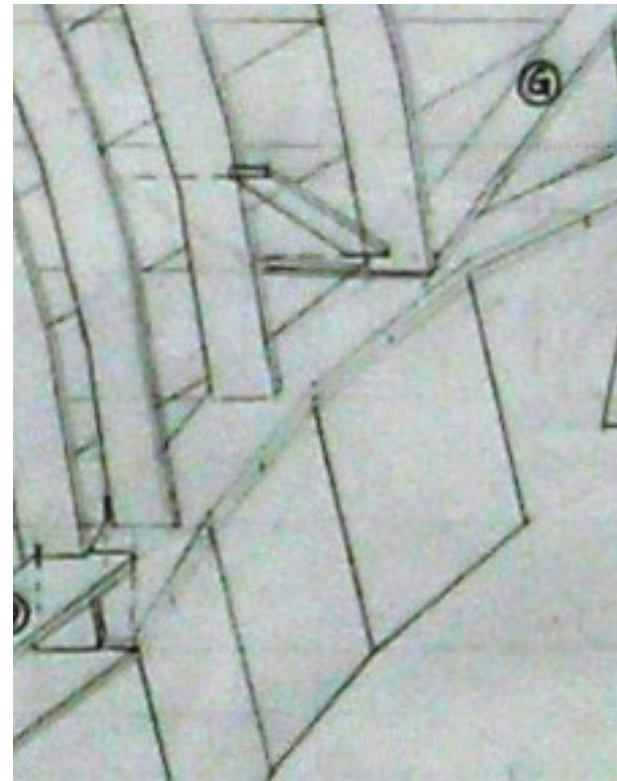
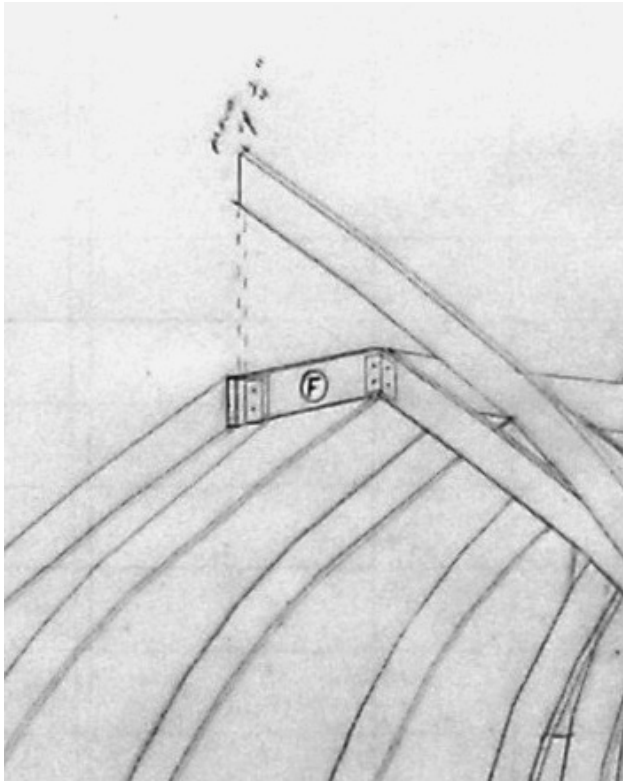
D. The custom cut pieces that make up the bottom plate fasten through the flooring to the floor joists. They are precut from center to center of each framing member with a cutout for structural members to pass through.

E. Framing members of glue laminated white ash sit in the cut out slots of the bottom plate and floor panels and are joined to the floor joist by two dowels and gravity.



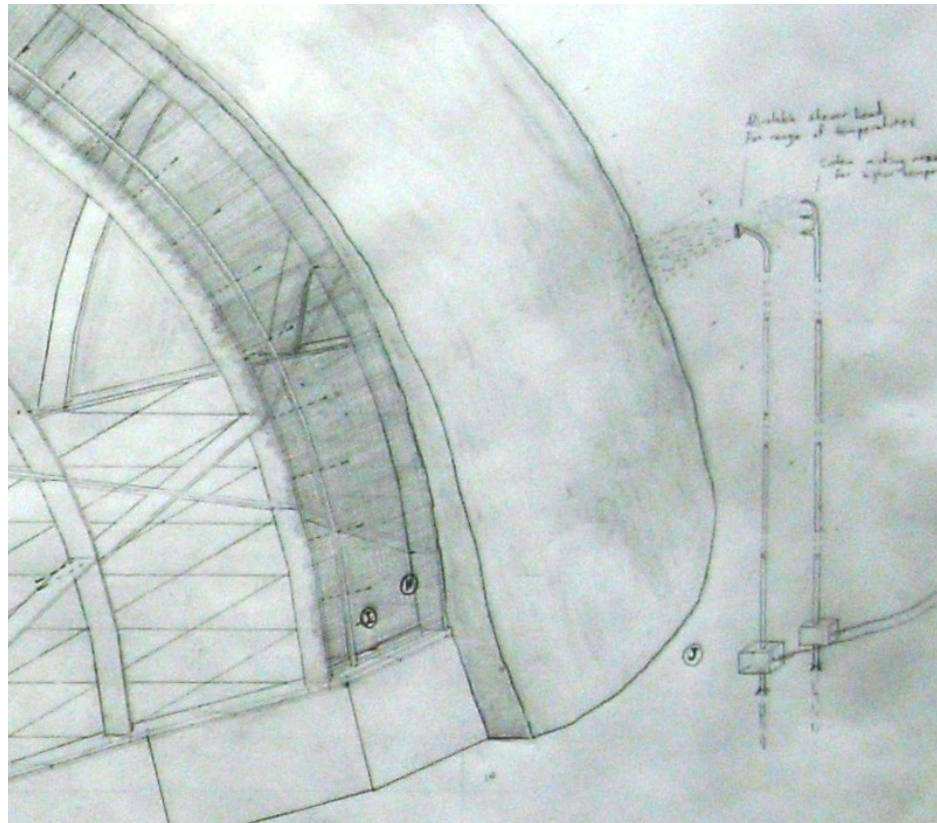
F. The crest of the building consists of custom precut segments from center to center of each framing member. They are fastened by member specific 90 degree mending plates screwed to both the crest and the framing member.

G. Cross bracing will be custom precut white ash members specific to the opening they are intended to occupy. After two of the vertical framing members are installed, the cross bracing may be fastened by screws into shallow mortises in the framing member.

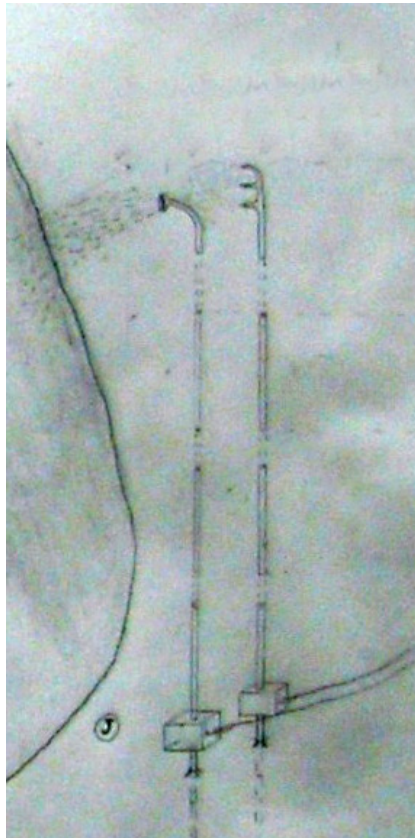


H. Custom sewn mesh fabric will be tacked into place on the outside edge of each framing member. The fabric will be a mesh with openings not to exceed 1/16". It shall be of a strength comparable to carpet backing.

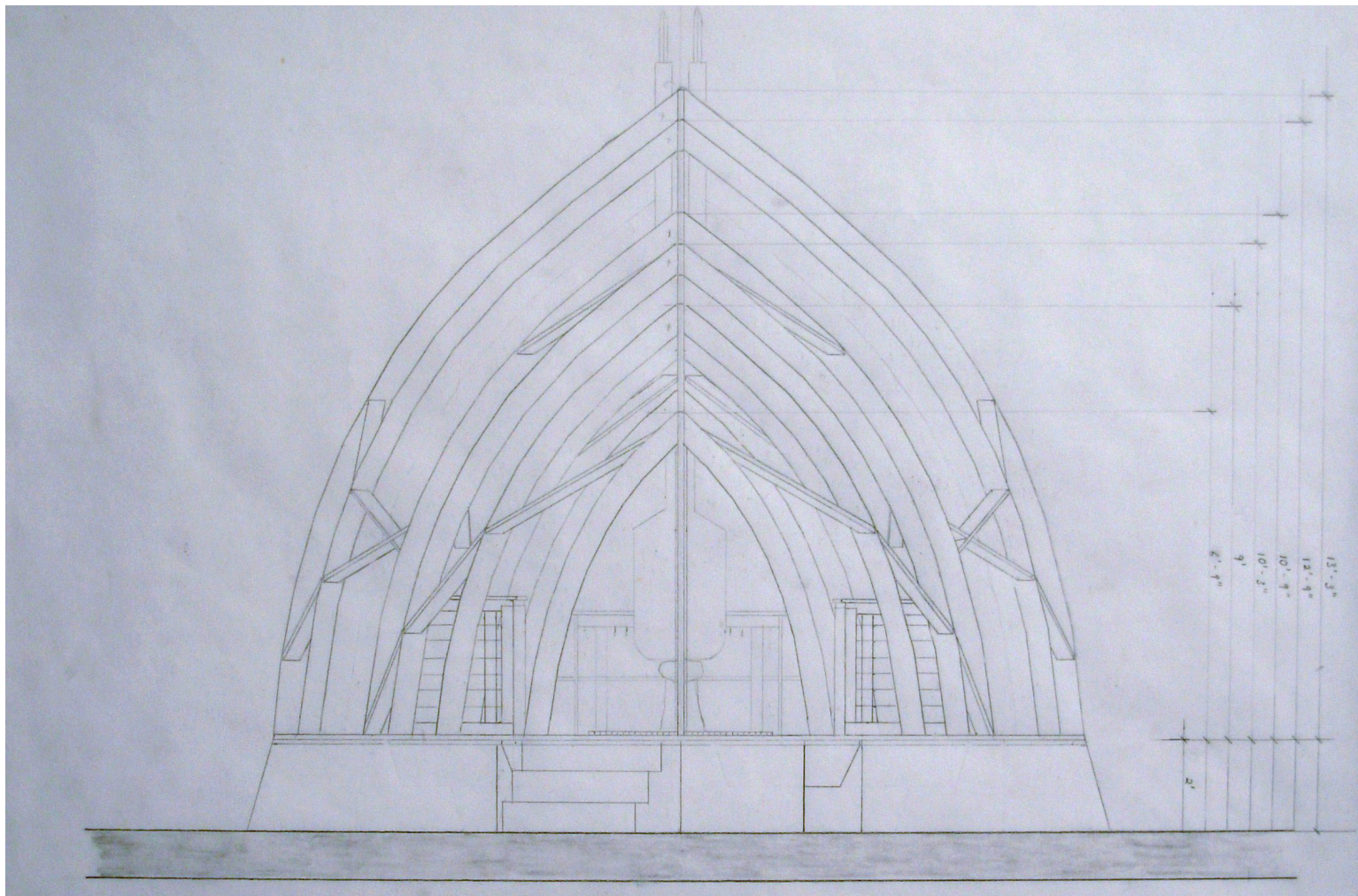
I. 2" x 1" strips then apply to the outside edge of the framing member over the tacked mesh to distribute the tension rather than pulling at points on the cloth. The strips will be fastened by screws spaced no more than 12" from one another.



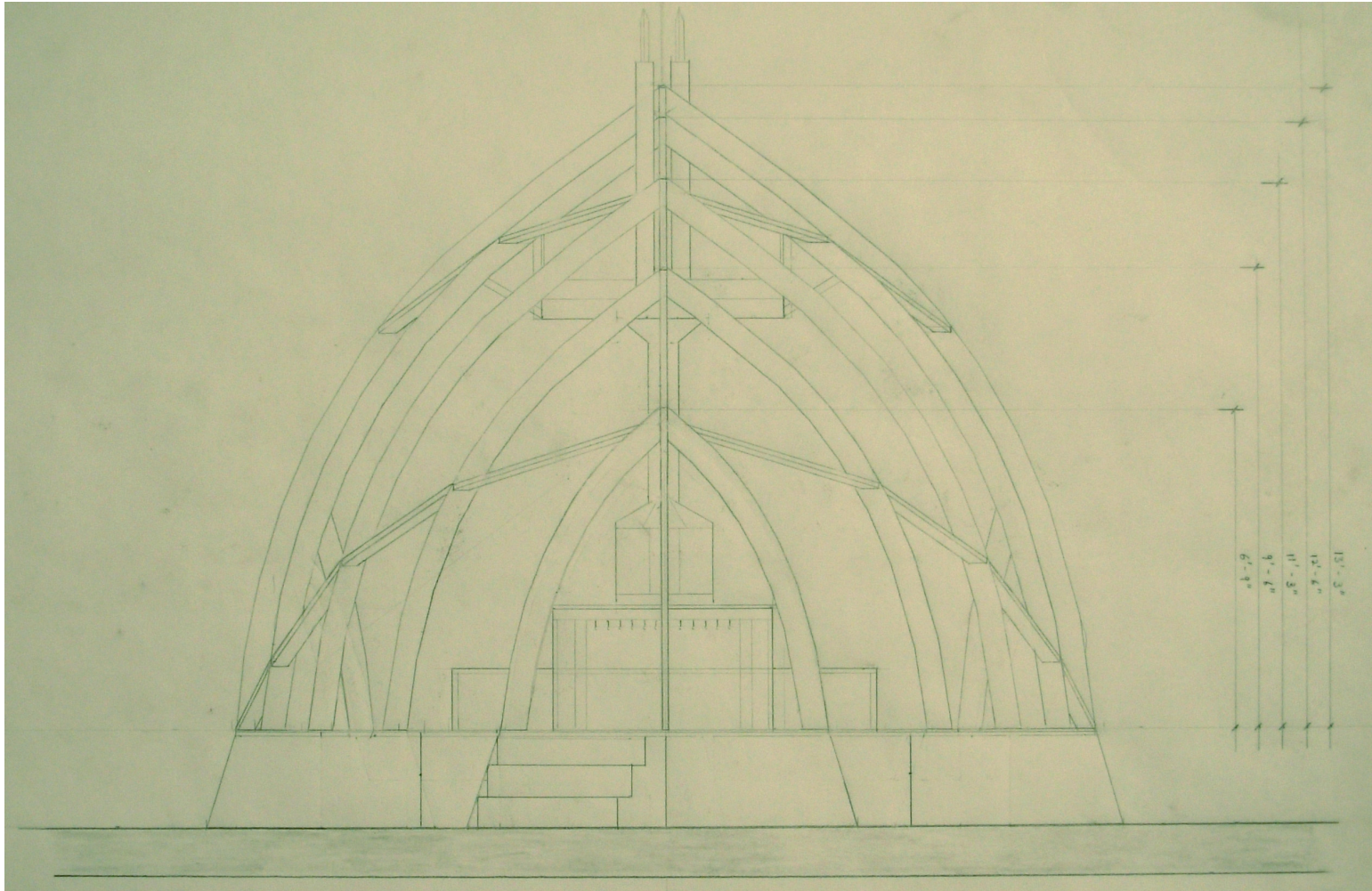
J. A water pump fastened to piping will be placed no less than 6" above the lake ice surface. The pipe running below the pump will extract water from a depth no greater than 2" below the bottom of the lake ice. Two different water spraying devices will provide spray patterns for various temperatures. Straight and curved steel pipe segments can be threaded together for different heights of the spray nozzle. The ice will be applied from the bottom up. The power for the pumps will come from the vehicle used to deliver the materials to the site.



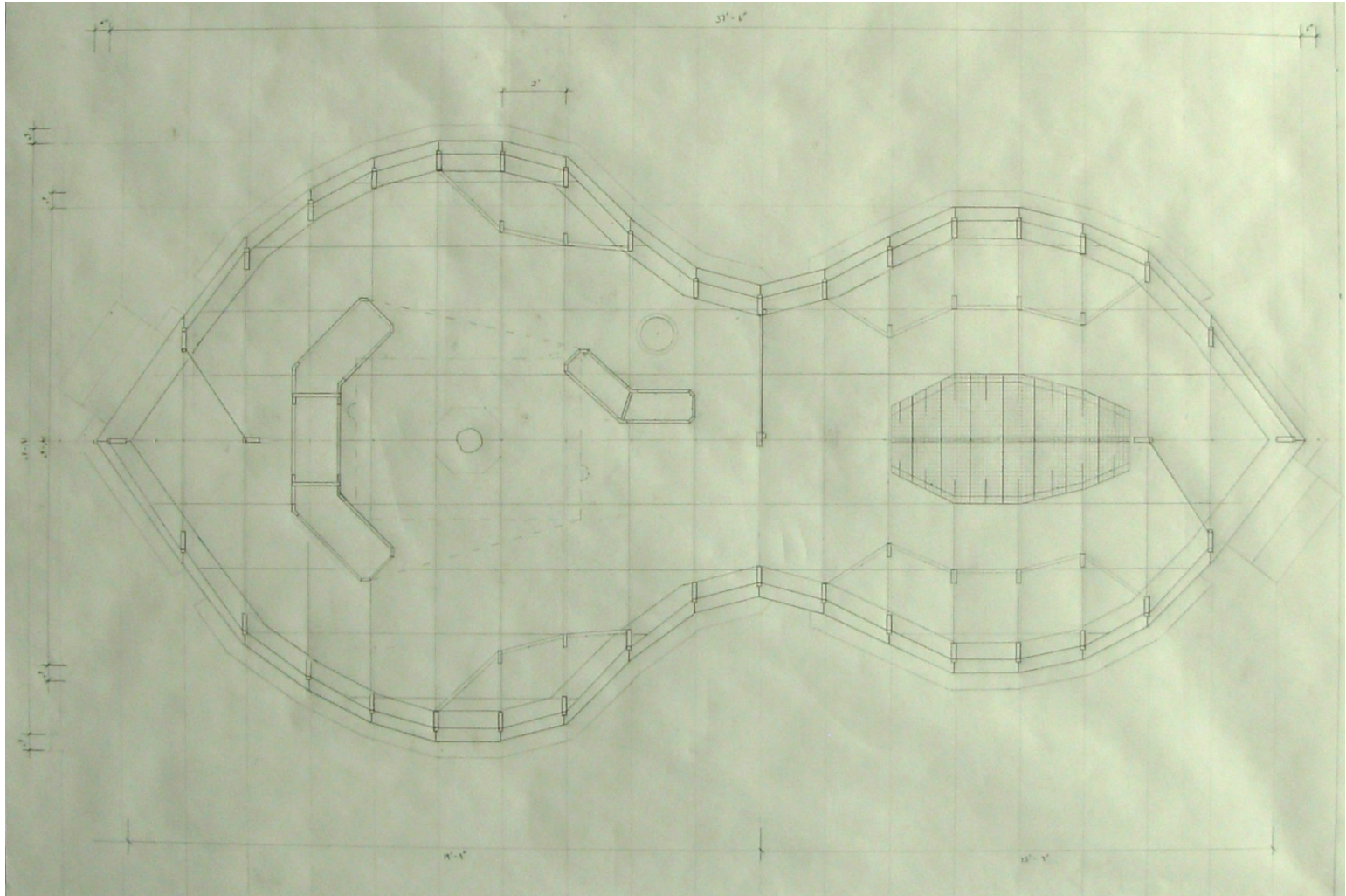




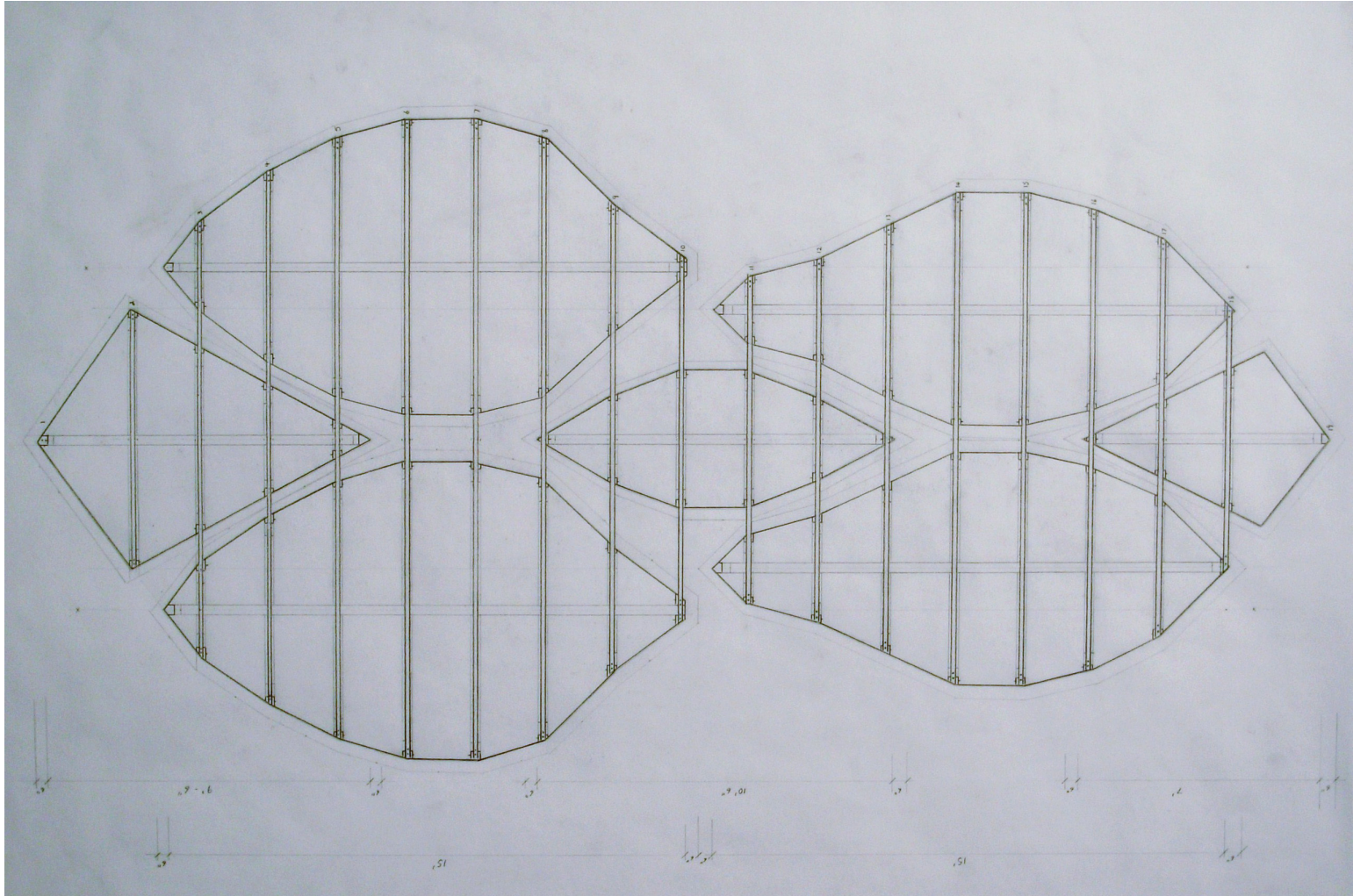
North Elevation



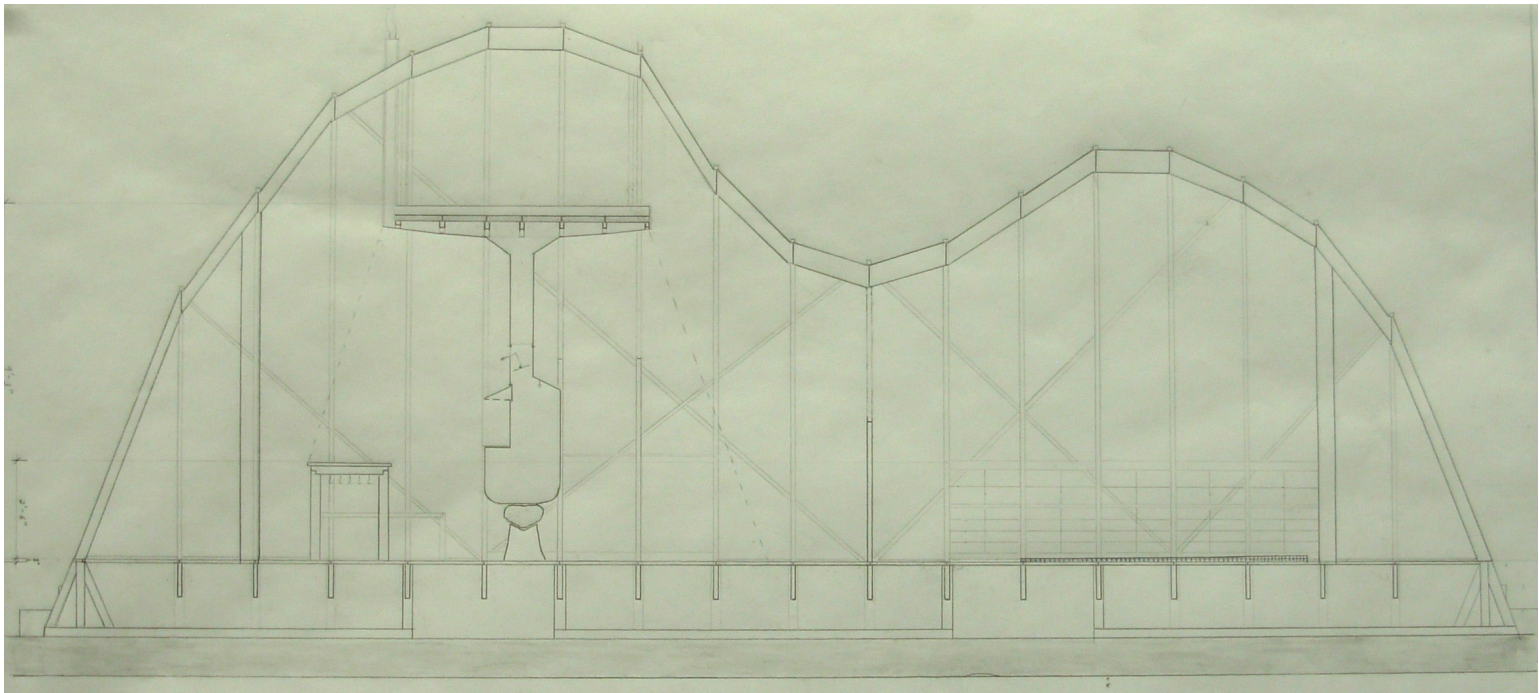
South Elevation



Floor Plan



Foundation Plan



Longitudinal Section









