Four Pools | Four Qualities Christopher Louis Neveu

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

MASTER OF ARCHITECTURE

Frank H. Weiner, Committee Chair

V. Hunter Pittman, Committee Member

David Dugas, Committee Member

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Thank you to my friends and family who haves supported and pushed me to persue my passions.

To Mom, Dad, and Zach, for your unwavering support throughout the years, and for fueling my desire to travel. I would not have been able to do so without your help and guidence.

To Sarah, who grounded me through the toughest parts of studio, travel, and my thesis.

To my studio-mates, who inspired me, taught me, and gave me lifelong friendships.

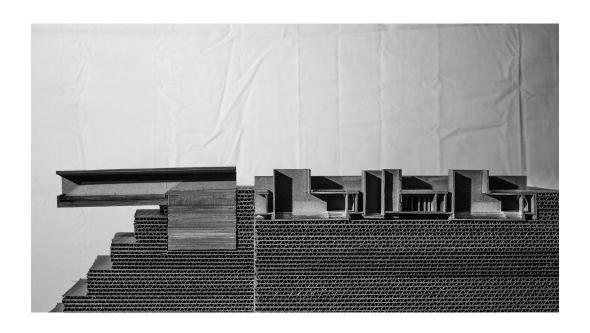
To my Fall 2016 Study Abroad classmates, thank you for the laughs, the memories, and the best soccer matches Riva San Vitale has ever seen.

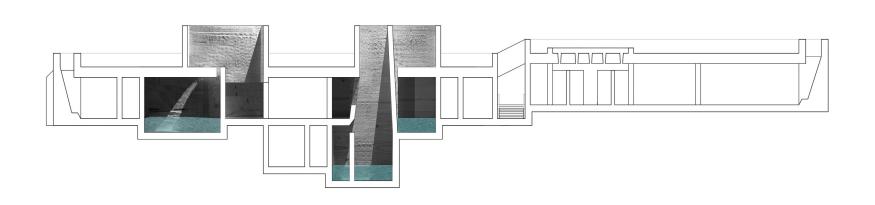
To Frank, Hunter, Dave, and all the faculty members who I have had the pleasure of talking with, thank you for your knowledge and guidence in the last three years. I cannot thank you enough for your patience, and for pushing my thesis forward; especially at the end.

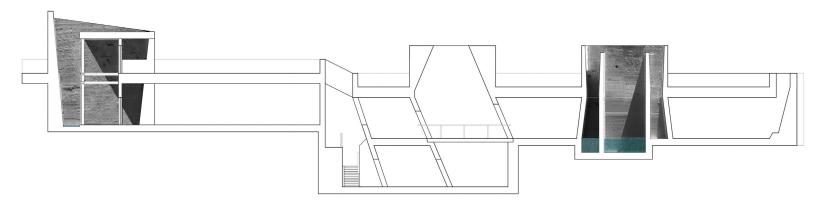
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Four Pools | Four Qualities

Christopher Louis Neveu

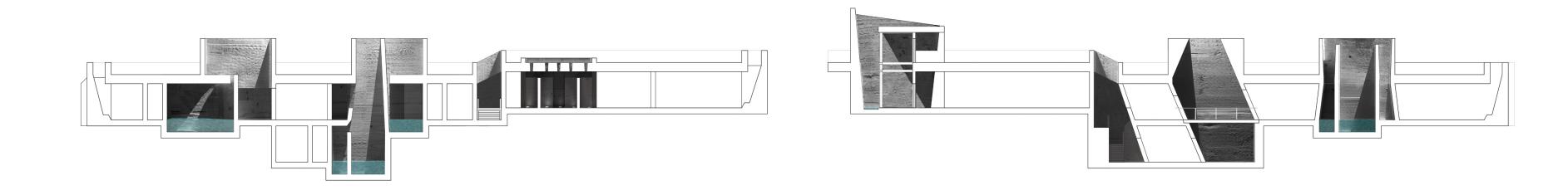
"Quality architecture to me is where a building manages to move me. What on earth is it that moves me? How can I get it into my own work? ...How do people design things with such a beautiful, natural presence, things that move me every single time??

Peter Zumthor, Atmospheres

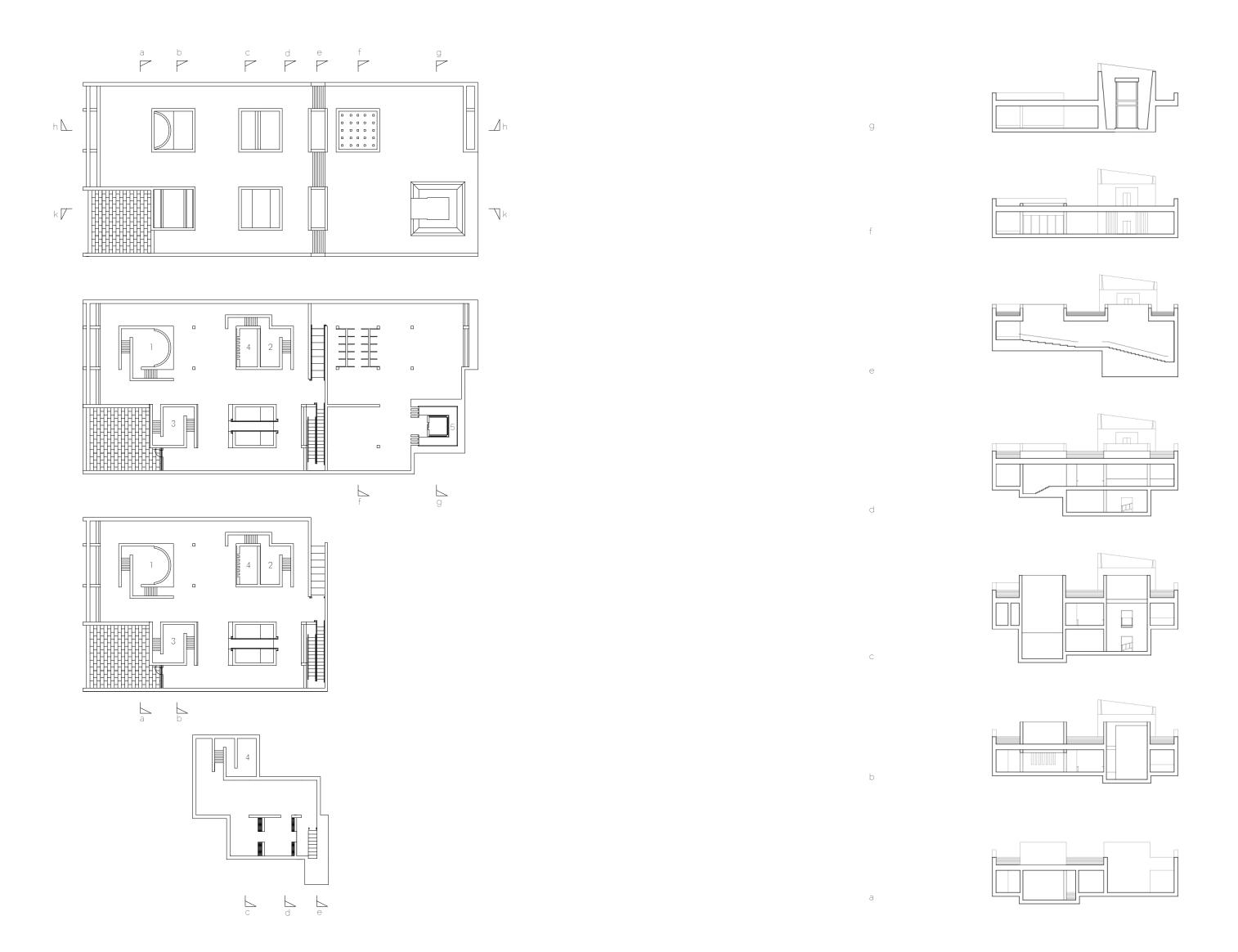
Keywords: quality, light, shadow, moment

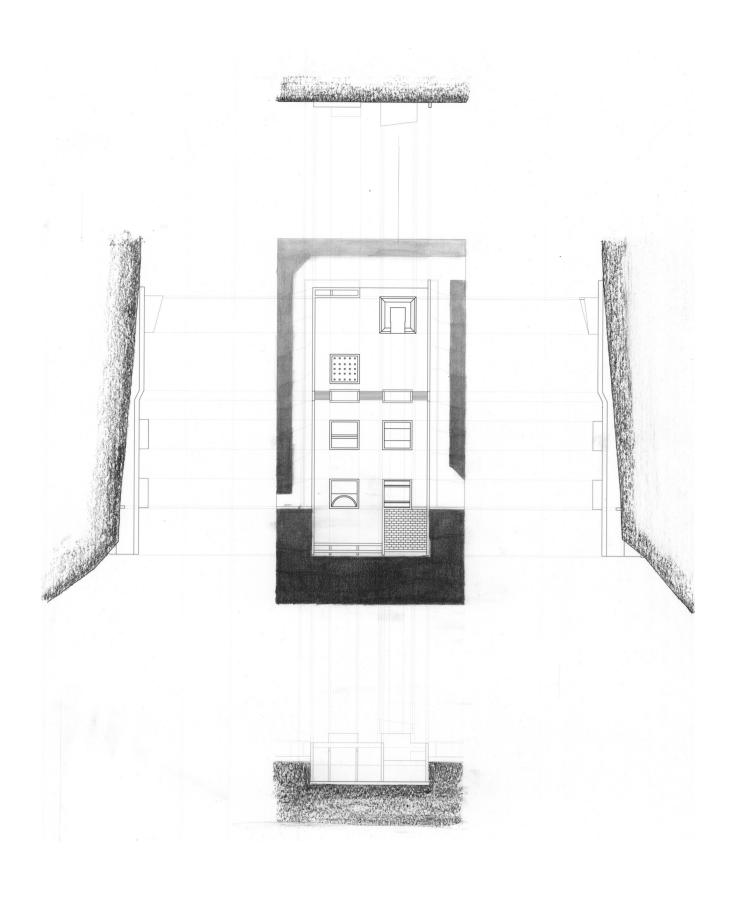
Abstract

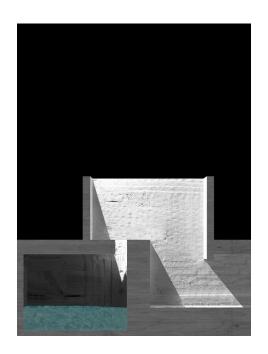
Programatically, this thesis takes the form of a bath house, carved into the side of the Palisades that run along the New River, near Eggleston, VA. Natural springs were formed within the cliffs, that run off into the New River below. The bath house becomes place for patrons to bathe in the mineral baths in a meditative setting. This thesis investigates qualities of light and shadow, and how these elements activate the interior surfaces of form. The architecture is formed by the introduction of light and shadow in ways that are meant to create moments of pause. The building consists of a series of separate pools that allow natural light to enter through various light wells. Architecture is decided in space by light and shadow. This decisiveness requires the existence of rooms. It is upon the interior surfaces that light and shadow become present. The light wells between the architecture of the form and the shallow pools of water.

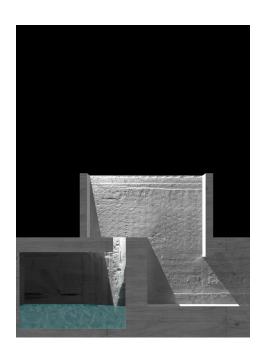


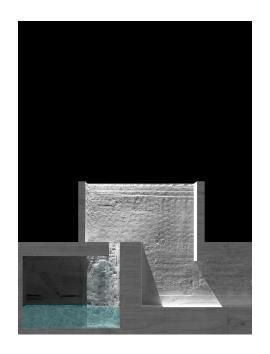
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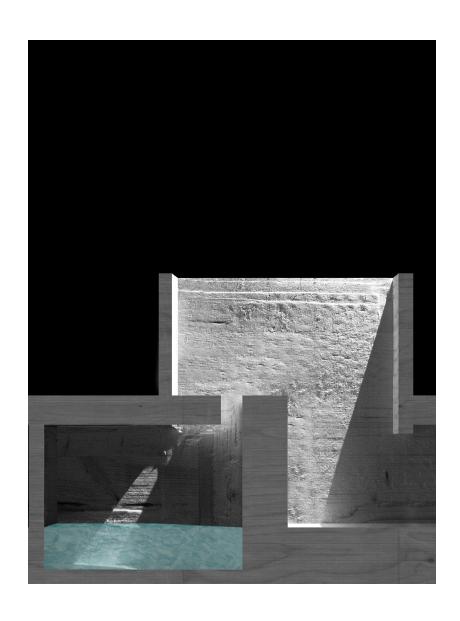


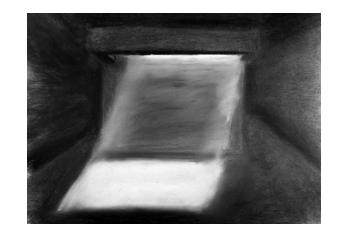




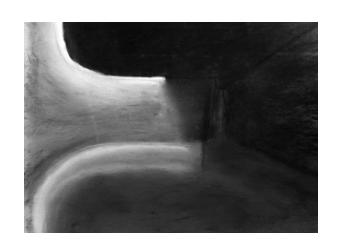


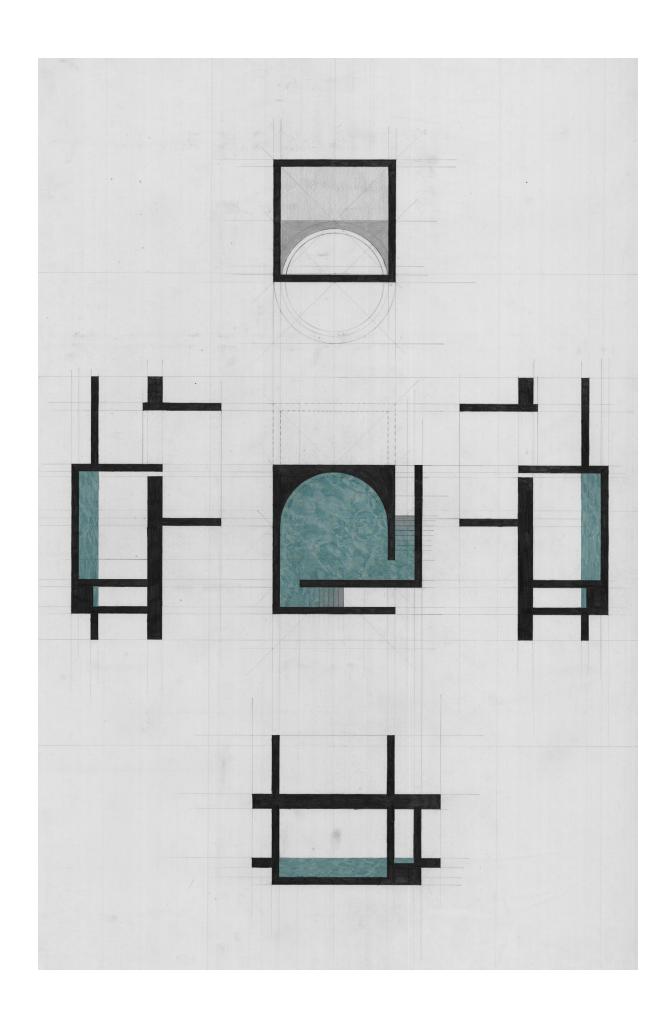


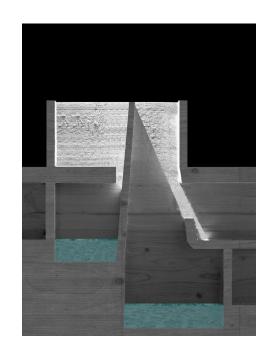


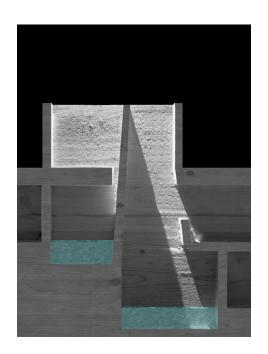


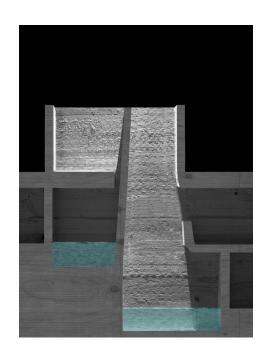


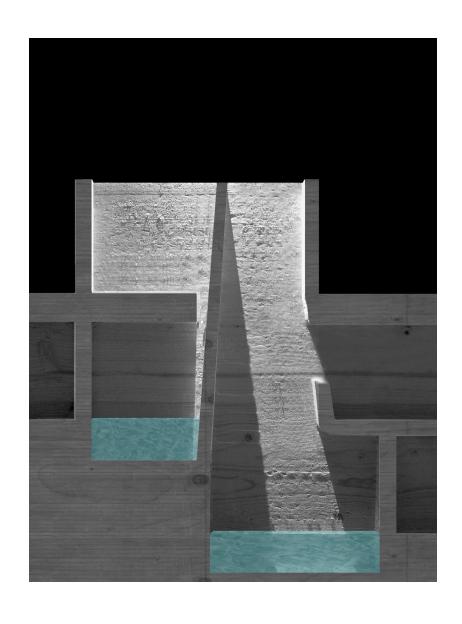


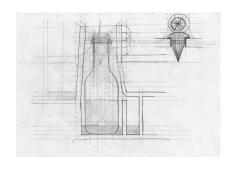


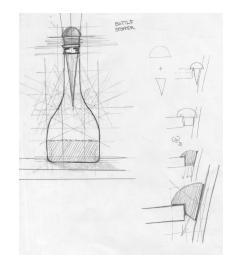


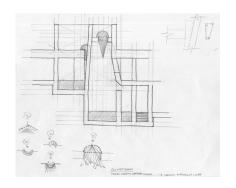


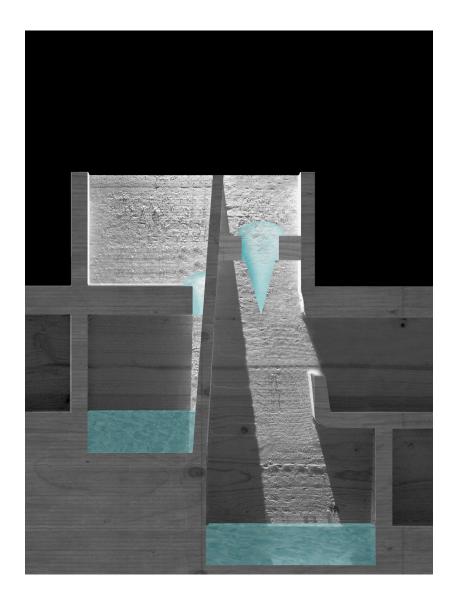








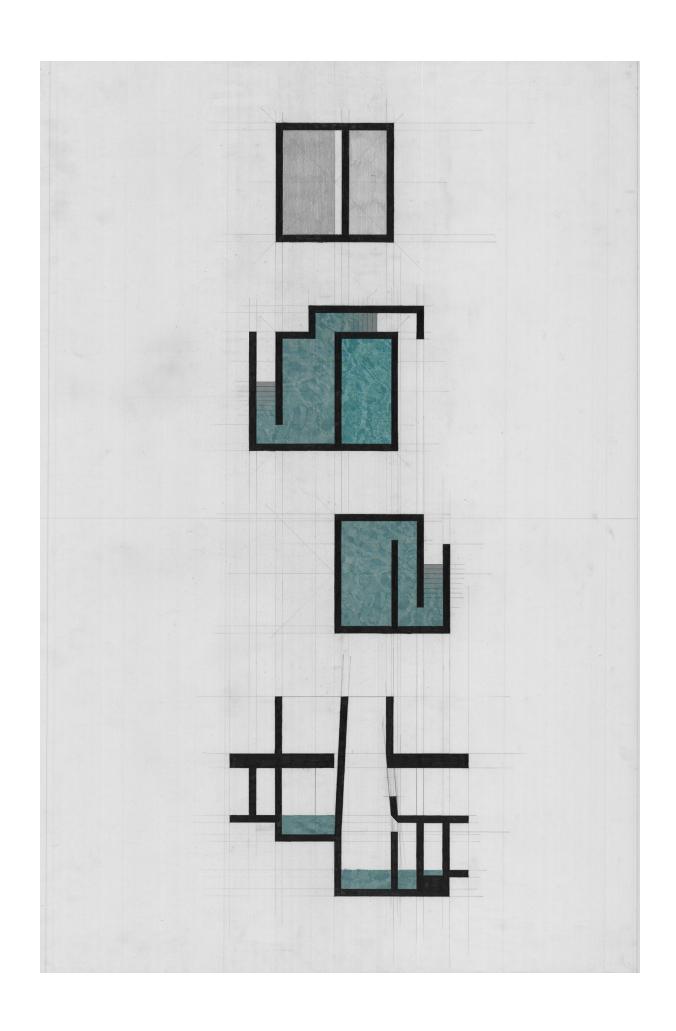


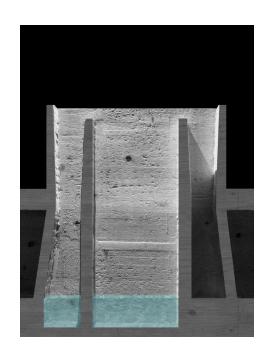


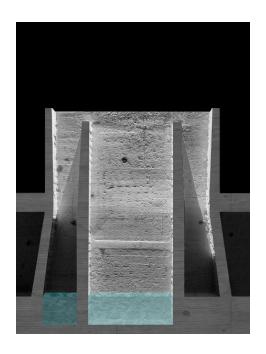
The light towers were designed to be open, however, the practical qualities of closure offer a poetic opportunity. The "Slice Tower" is used as an example for a proposition about closure; taking the form of a casted glazed prism. A glazed prism, analogous to the room itself, makes a relationship between the room and that which caps the room.

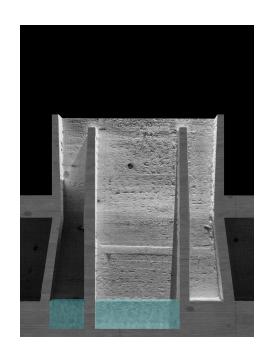


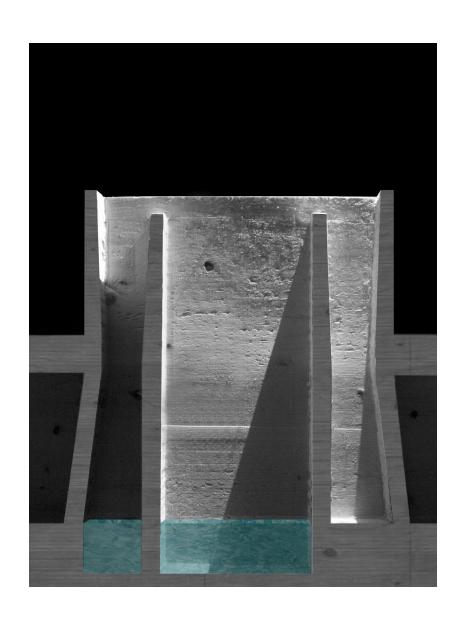


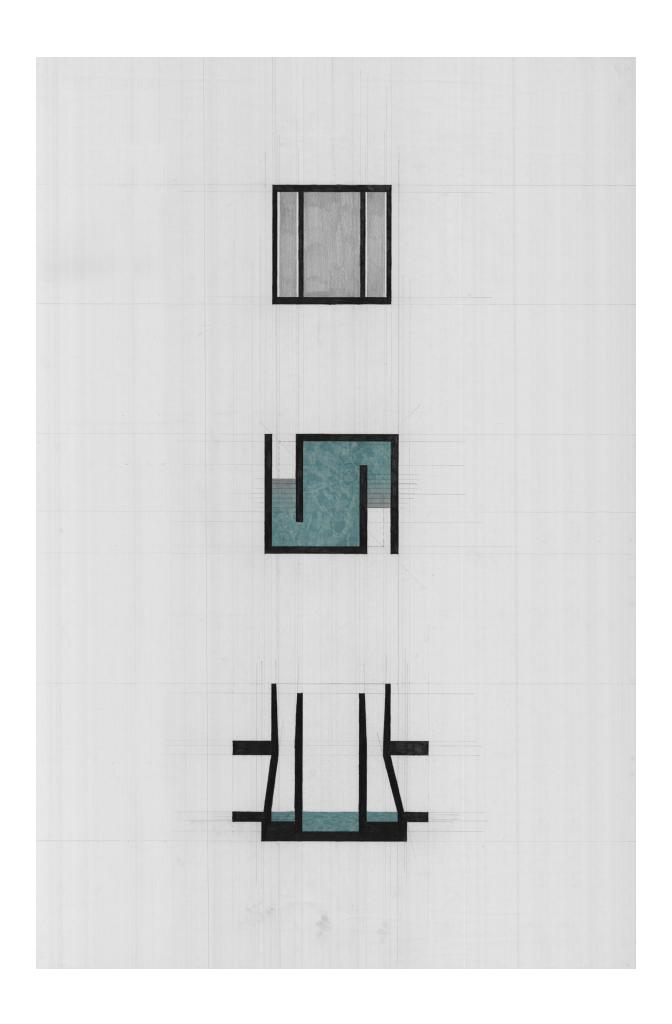


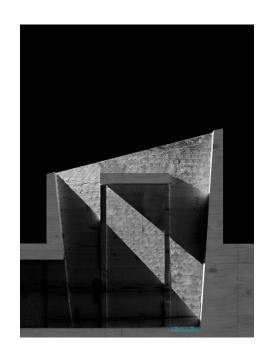








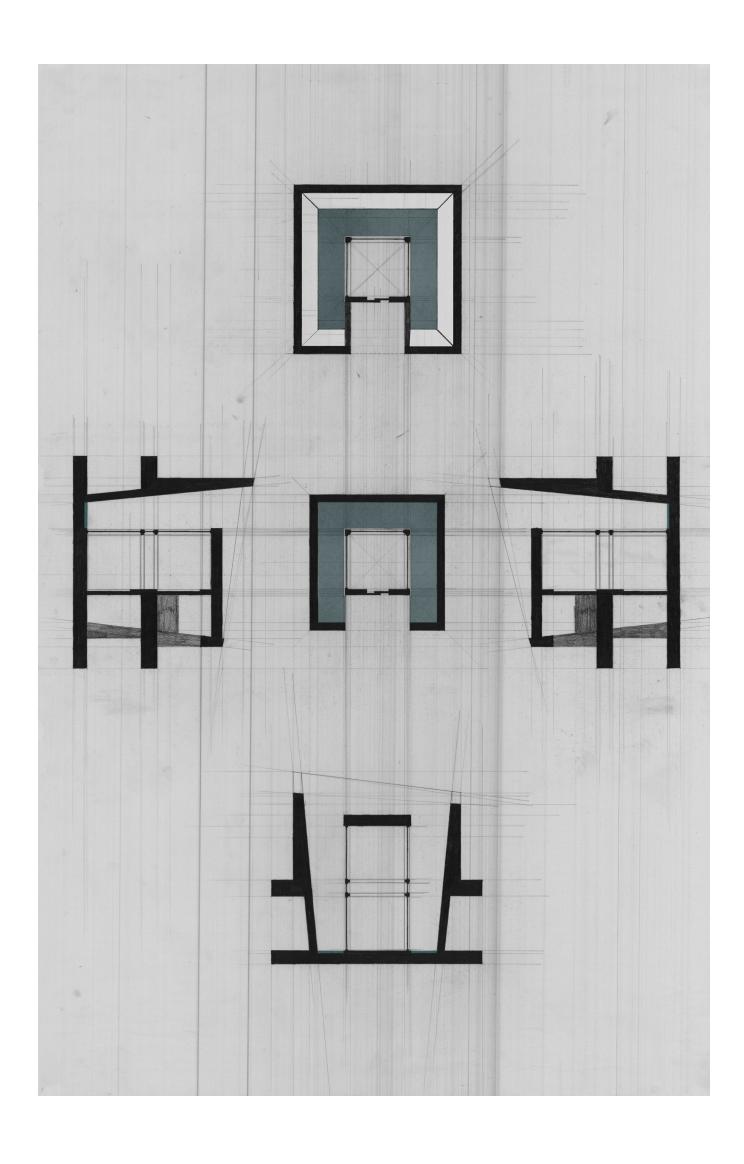


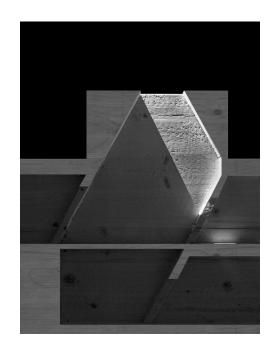


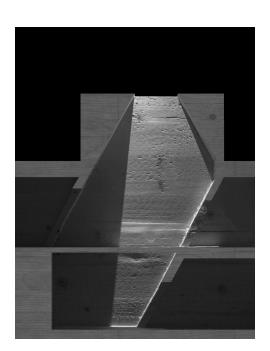


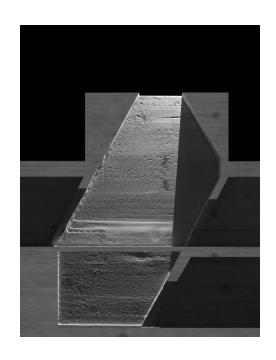


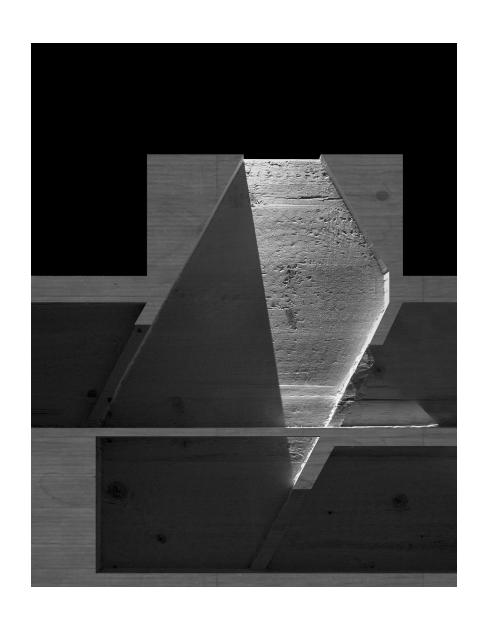




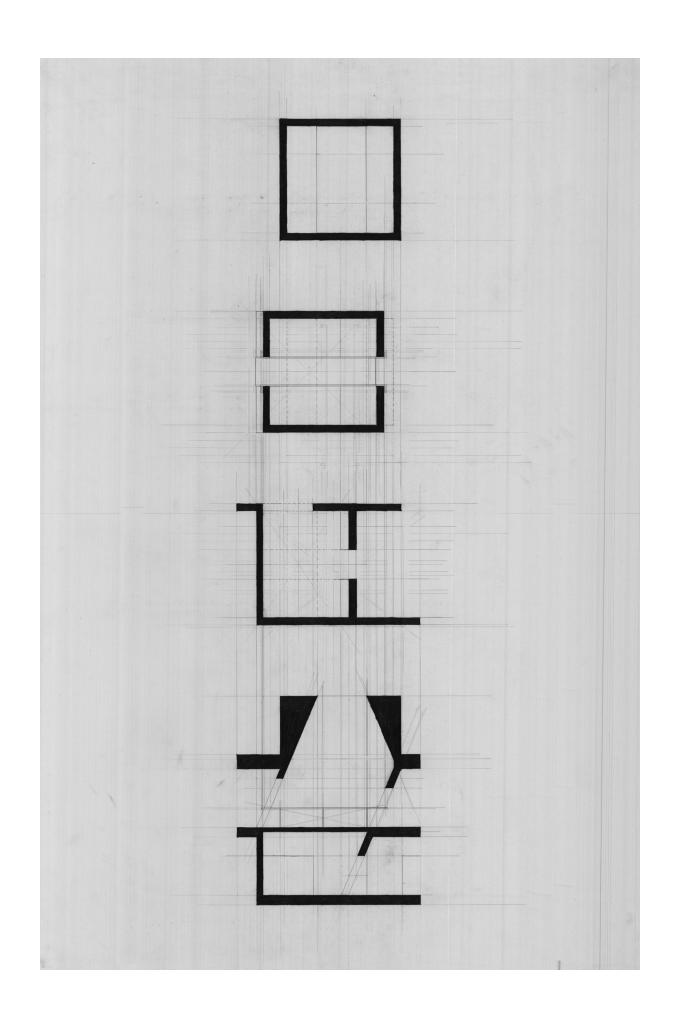


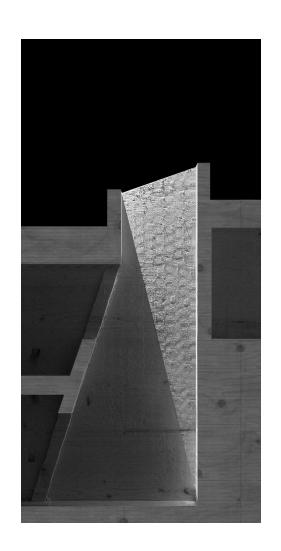


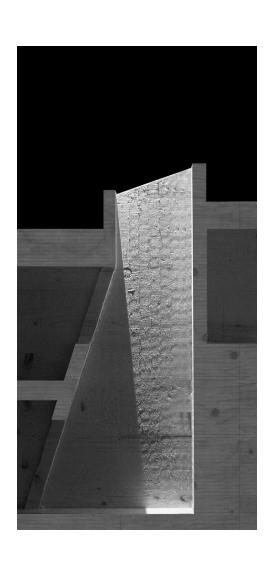


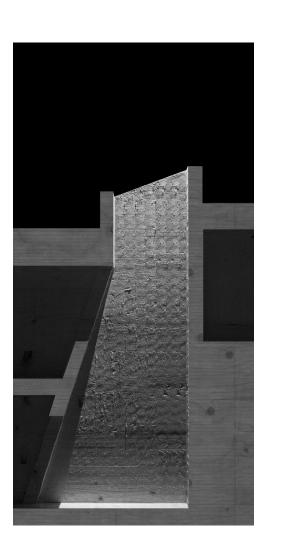


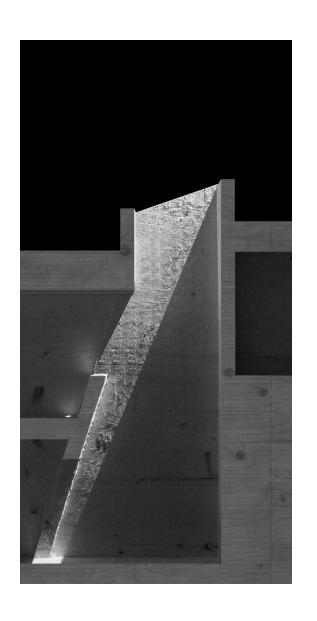




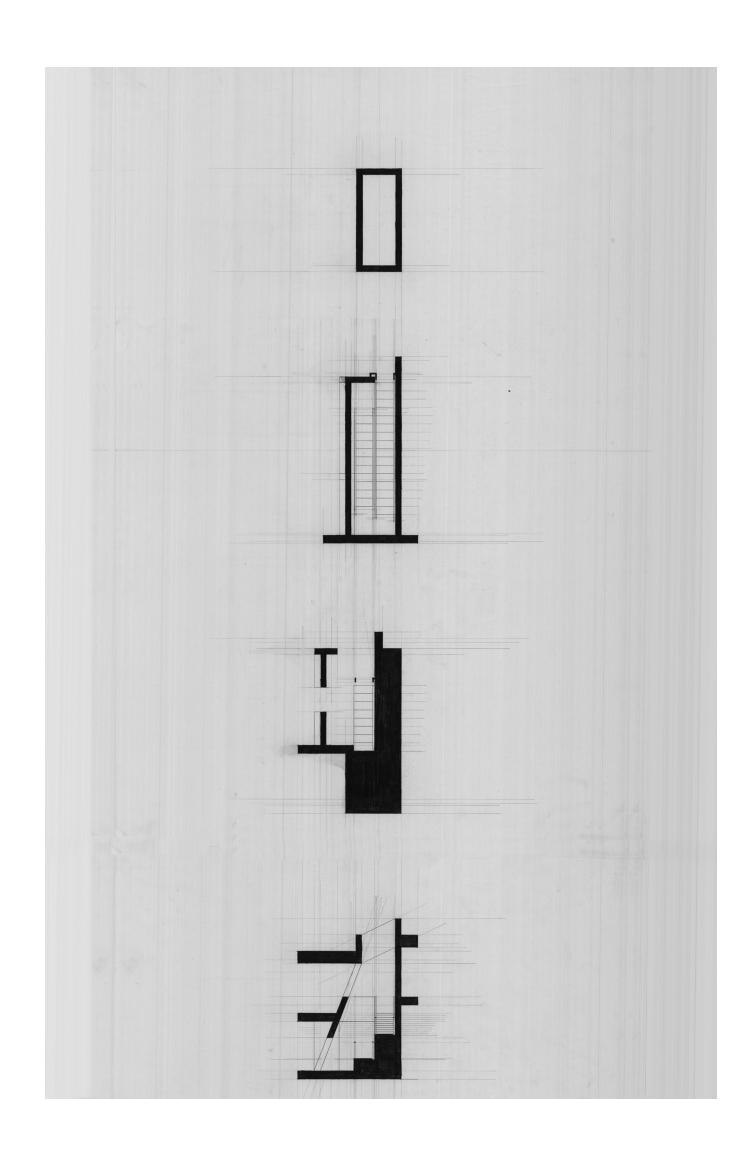


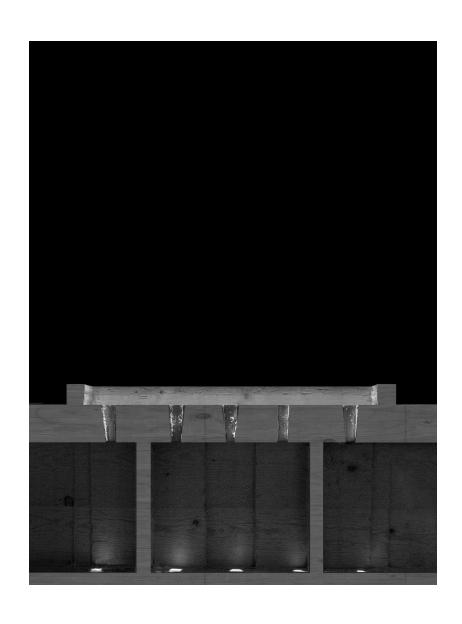




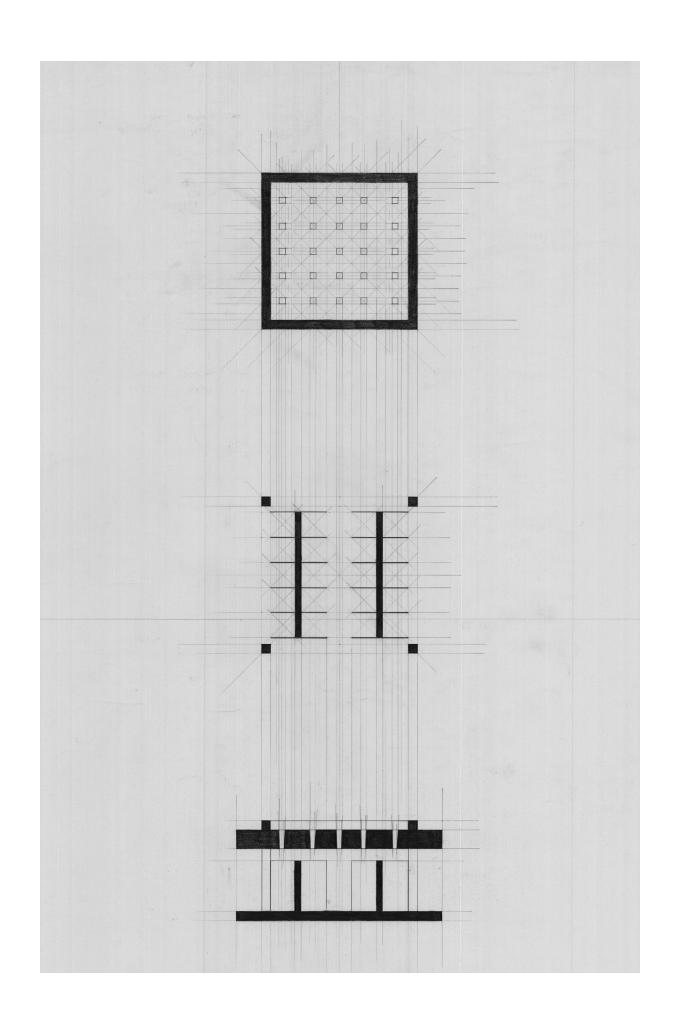




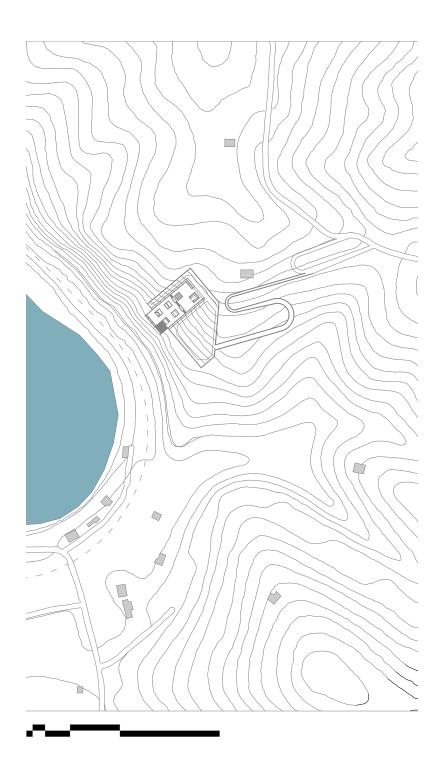


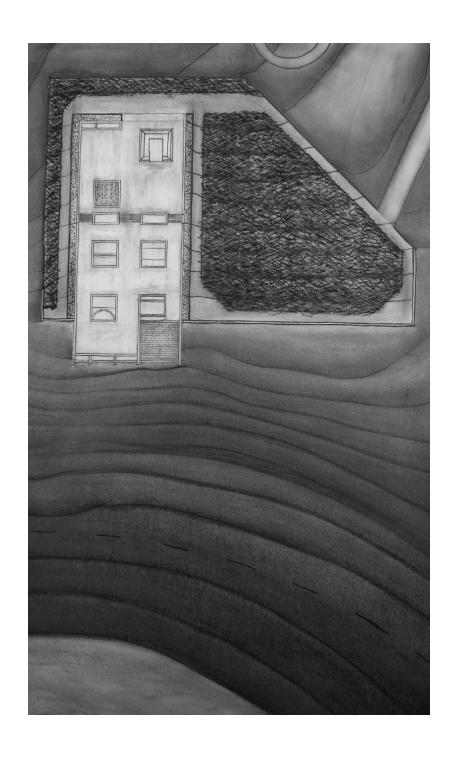














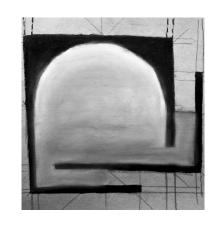


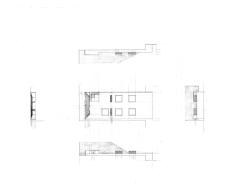




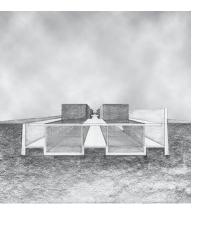


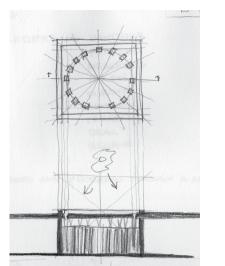




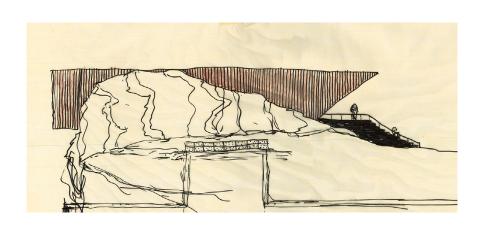






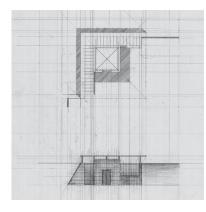


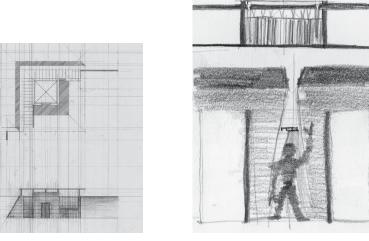




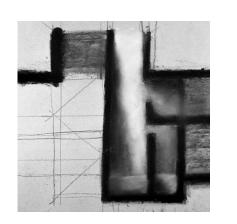








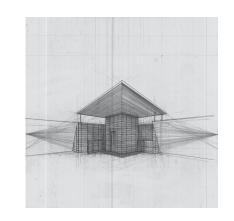


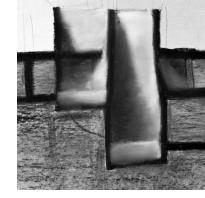


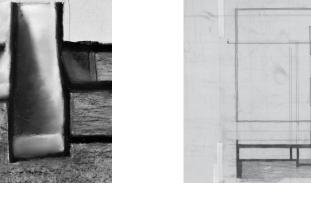


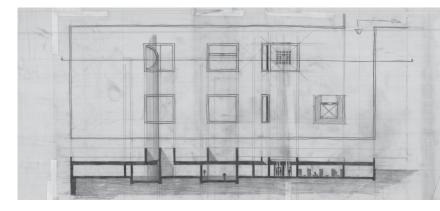


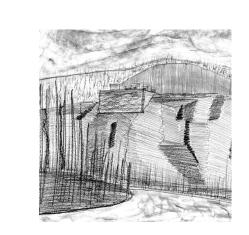






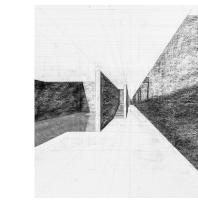


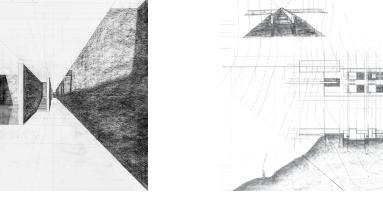








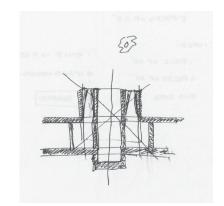




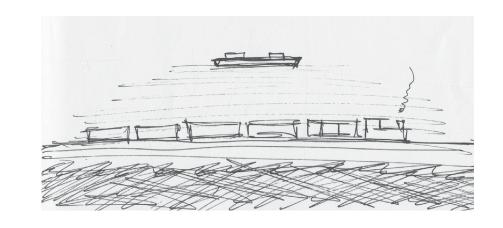


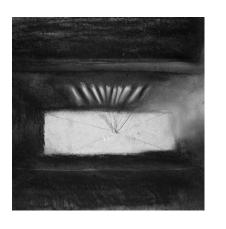














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                                   Long section study model photograph | 1:16 scale | cardboard, chipboard, acrylic
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                                   Long section collages highlighted pools | photographs of bas relief models collaged with line diagram in Rhino
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                                   Long section collage highlighting towers | photograph of bas relief models collaged with line diagram in Rhino
6
                                   Map diagram of various floors done in Rhino | section cuts labeled
                                   Short section diagrams done in Rhino | section cuts labeled
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                                   Elevation diagram | 1' = 1/32 scale | diagram done in Rhino | graphite
                                   Curve Tower 1 bas relief section model photograph | 1' = 1/2'' scale | wood: yellow pine Curve Tower 2 bas relief section model photograph | 1' = 1/2'' scale | wood: yellow pine Curve Tower 3 bas relief section model photograph | 1' = 1/2'' scale | wood: yellow pine Curve Tower 4 bas relief section model photograph | 1' = 1/2'' scale | wood: yellow pine
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                                   Slice Tower 1 bas relief section model photograph | 1' = \frac{1}{2}" scale | wood: yellow pine Slice Tower 2 bas relief section model photograph | 1' = \frac{1}{2}" scale | wood: yellow pine Slice Tower 3 bas relief section model photograph | 1' = \frac{1}{2}" scale | wood: yellow pine Slice Tower 4 bas relief section model photograph | 1' = \frac{1}{2}" scale | wood: yellow pine
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                                   Slice Tower 4 skylight study | 1' = \frac{1}{2}" scale | wood: yellow pine | color/texture in Photoshop
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