

Chapter 8:  
Space outcomes



CLOSING

## 8.1 Conclusion

This project aimed to reacquaint humans and the natural world, specifically water. Water is our most important natural resource and is essential to human survival. But currently it is being abused and exploited all over the globe. The intent in this dissertation was to question current human interaction with water by understanding what our relationship to water was and locating an important point to intervene.

It was hypothesised that water infrastructure was the point where humans could have a direct relationship with this natural resource. This led to the investigation of historical water infrastructure and location of important elements that represented the past paradigm on site.

Regenerative theories were used as a starting point for this project, rather than the limited theories of sustainability which only correct the damage done by the past rather than extending possibilities for the future. The role that architectural design can play in enhancing our understanding of water was investigated by viewing the site as containing potential energy to create mutually beneficial exchanges between site, infrastructure and the user.

The site of Hartbeespoort Dam displayed the characteristics of a broken ecology that had been disconnected from humans. The existing crest gates formed an important infrastructural element on site and the arch representing a degenerative paradigm, as it stood for man's control over water. Through regenerative design emphasis was placed on the

existing vermiculture activities on site. This fostered the creation of other closed loop systems that related to the vermiculture practices.

By introducing secondary programs such as a restaurant space, retail space and ablution space that all fed off the initial system of vermiculture it was possible to create a new public interface to Hartbeespoort Dam's water infrastructure as a regenerative monument.

The new regenerative architecture has created a change in condition in the way that people perceive infrastructure and therefore their relationship to water. By shifting the users' perceptions of the existing Arch, a new paradigm where humans value their natural resources and take care of them was



Fig 8.1. New celebration of water (Author, September 2016).

established. By doing this it has reacquainted man and the natural world through new public spaces related in different ways to water.

This new architectural regenerative infrastructure allows for the restoration of the destroyed and scarred landscape. It encourages economic and cultural growth in the area by creating jobs and sustainability, as well as improving the quality of the water. This has a direct influence on the agricultural land that this dam was originally built to serve. It creates a foothold for ecological networks to reclaim the space as it did before. The building is a facilitator for natural closed loop systems to occur between the site, infrastructure and the user.

Considering the principles of regenerative design, the building created exchanges that restore the natural landscape by equalising or balancing the potential energies on site. This led to a new paradigmatic relationship between humans and the natural world.

Edward Burtynsky (2006) stated "There is an importance to have a certain reverence [for] what nature is, because we are connected to it and we are part of it, and if we destroy nature, we destroy ourselves. Maybe the new landscape of our time... is the landscape that we change" (Arch-assoc, 2006).



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# ADDENDUM



## 9.1 FINAL WORK

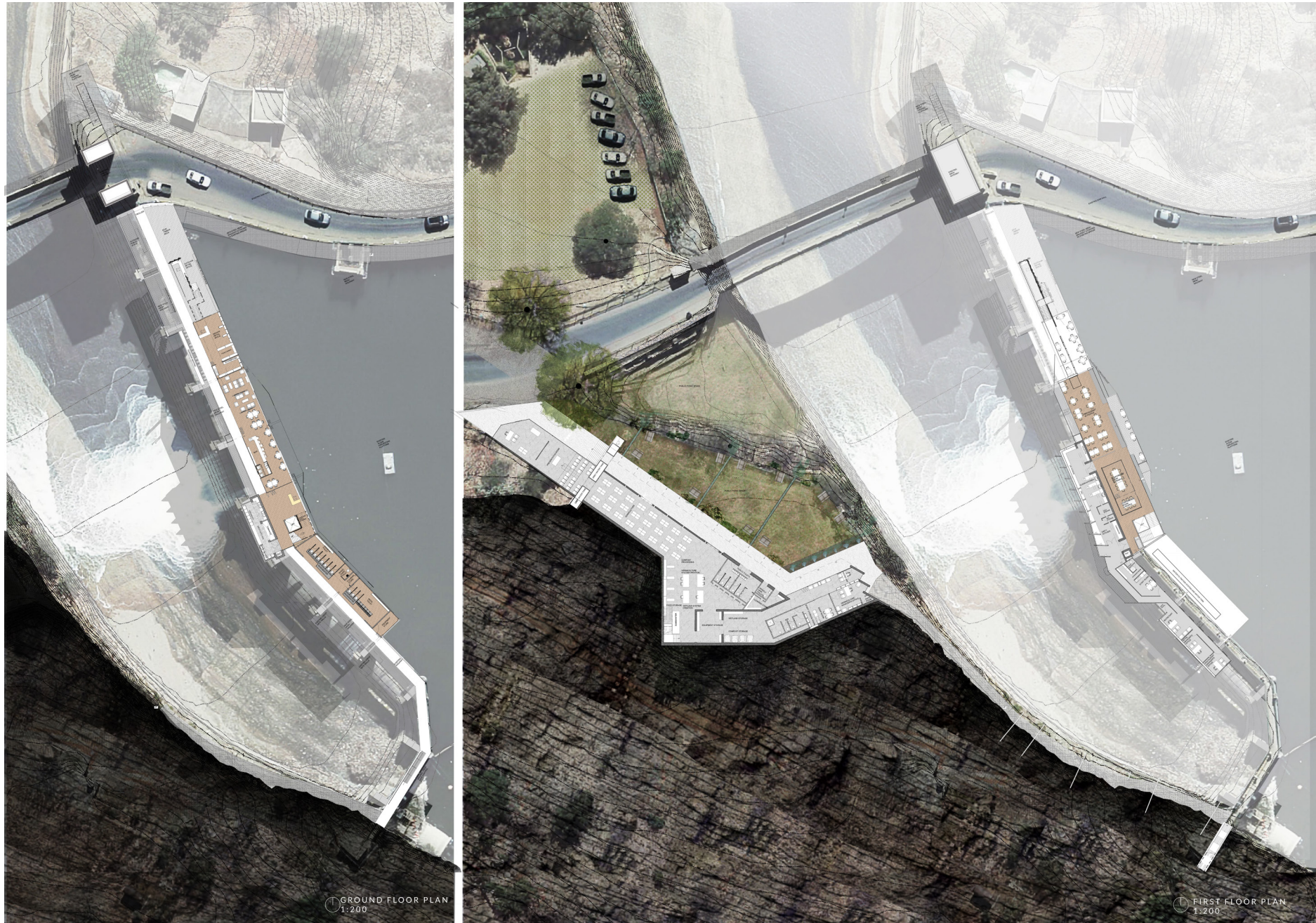


Fig 9.1. Final work (Author, November 2016).

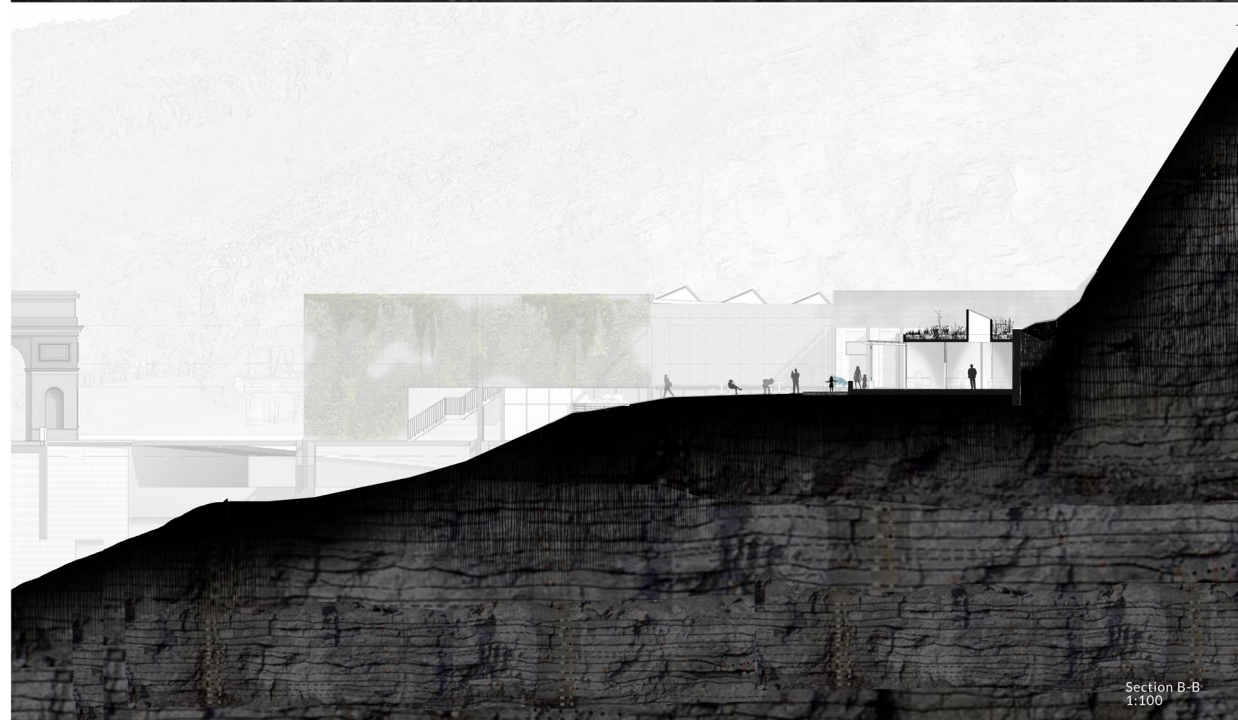
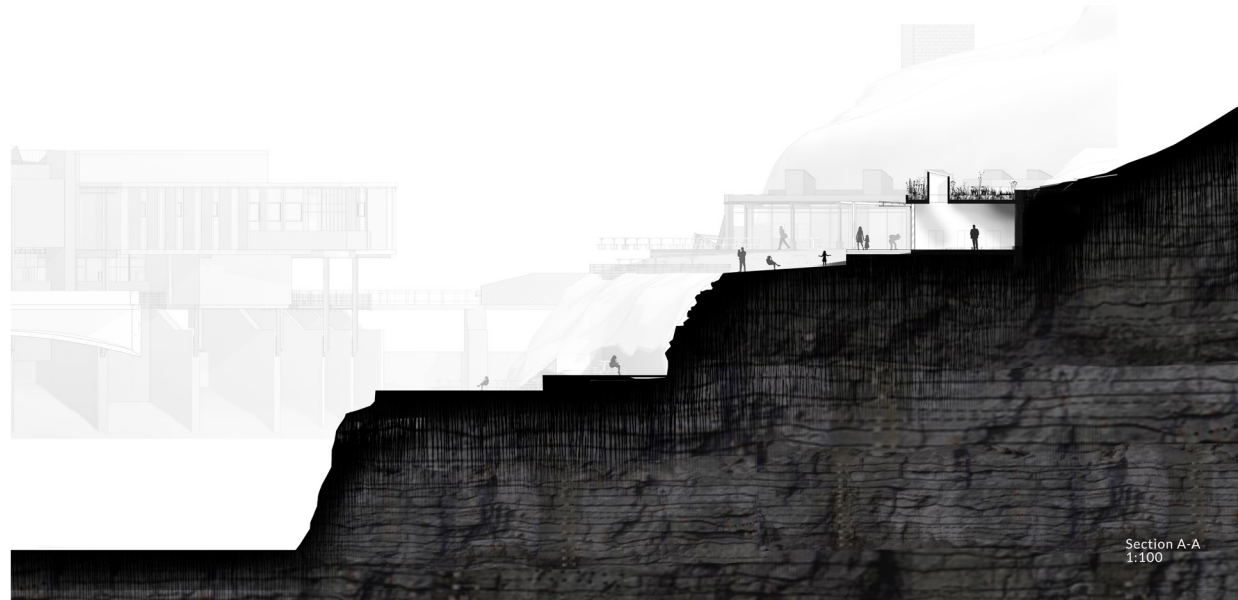
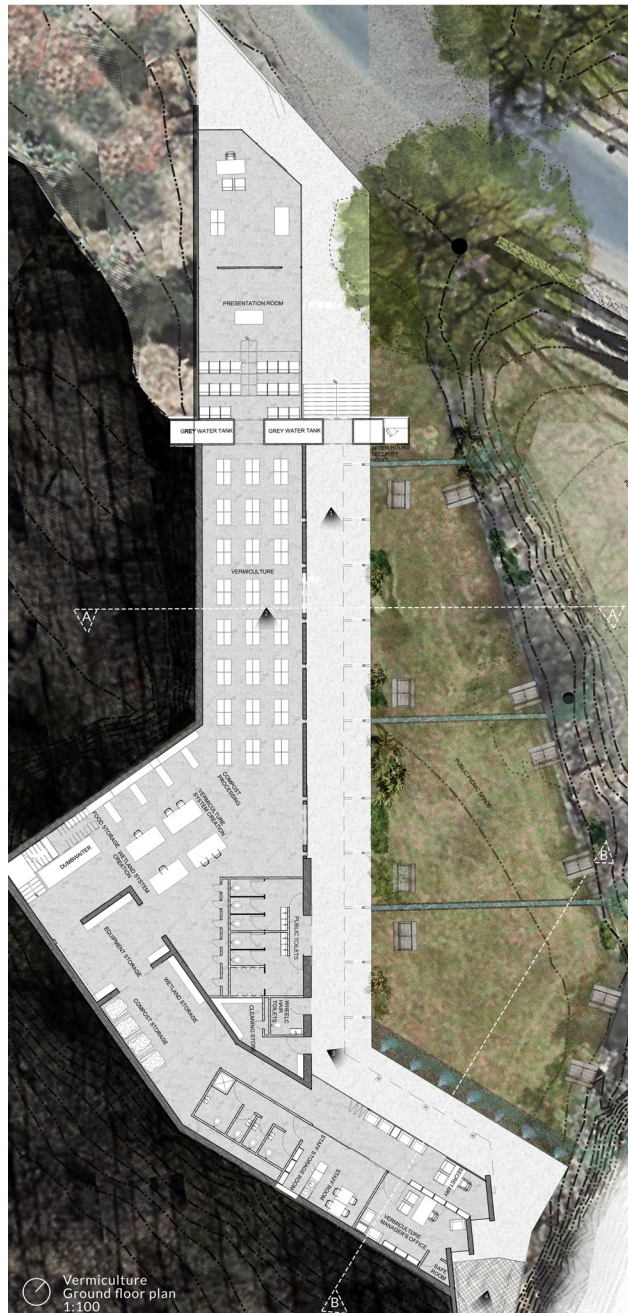


Fig 9.2. Final work (Author, November 2016).

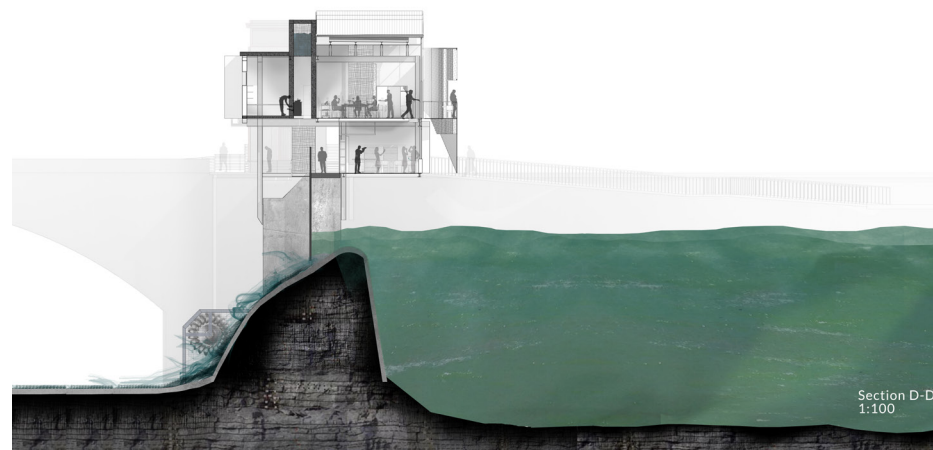
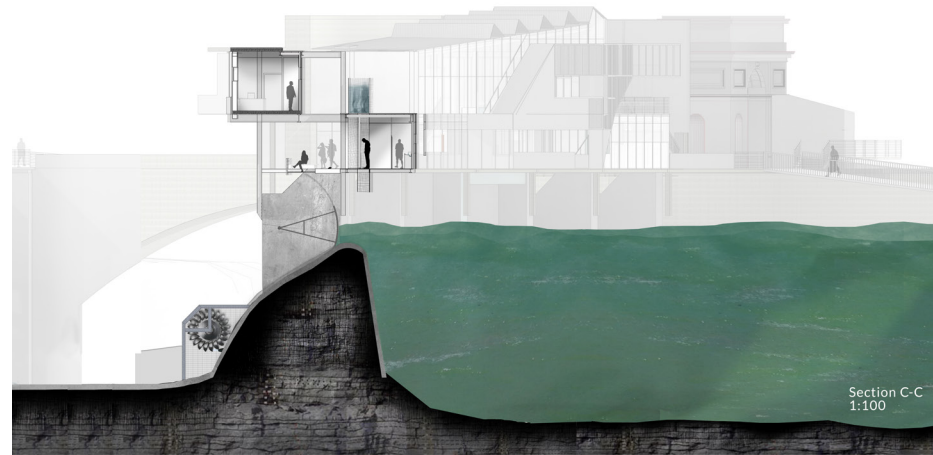
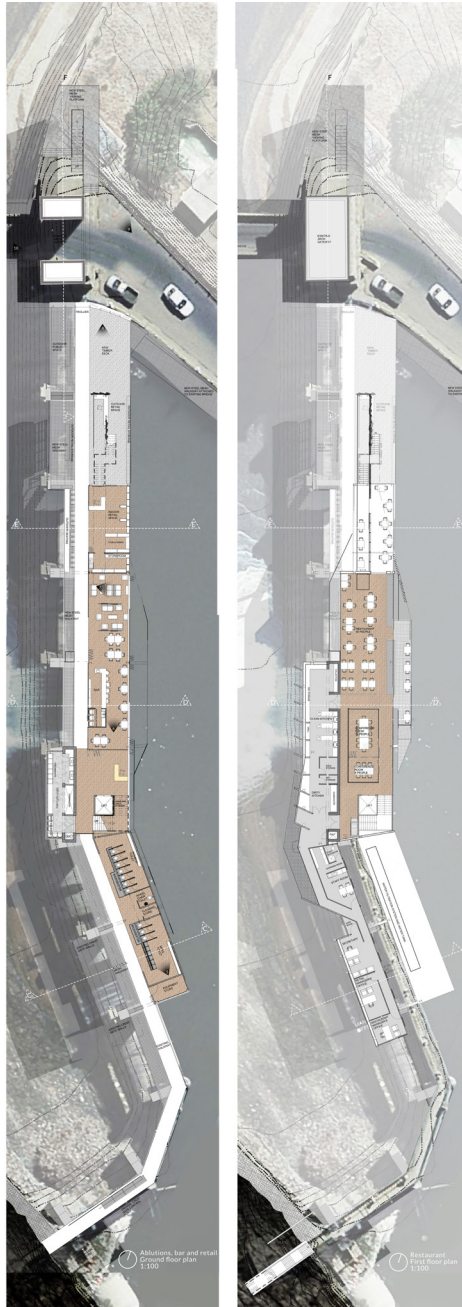


Fig 9.3. Final work (Author, November 2016).



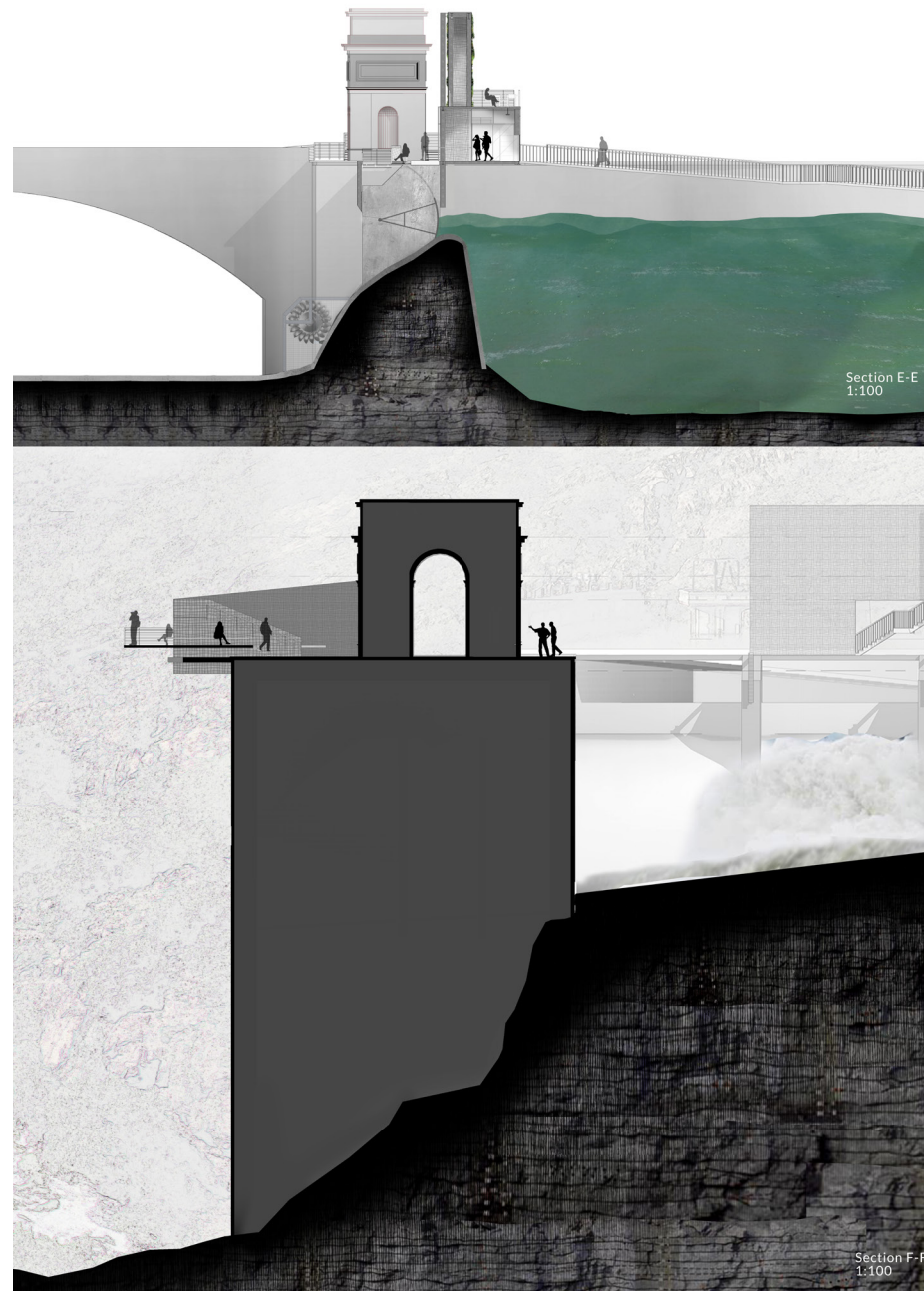


Fig 9.4. Final work (Author, November 2016).



Fig 9.5. Final work (Author, November 2016).

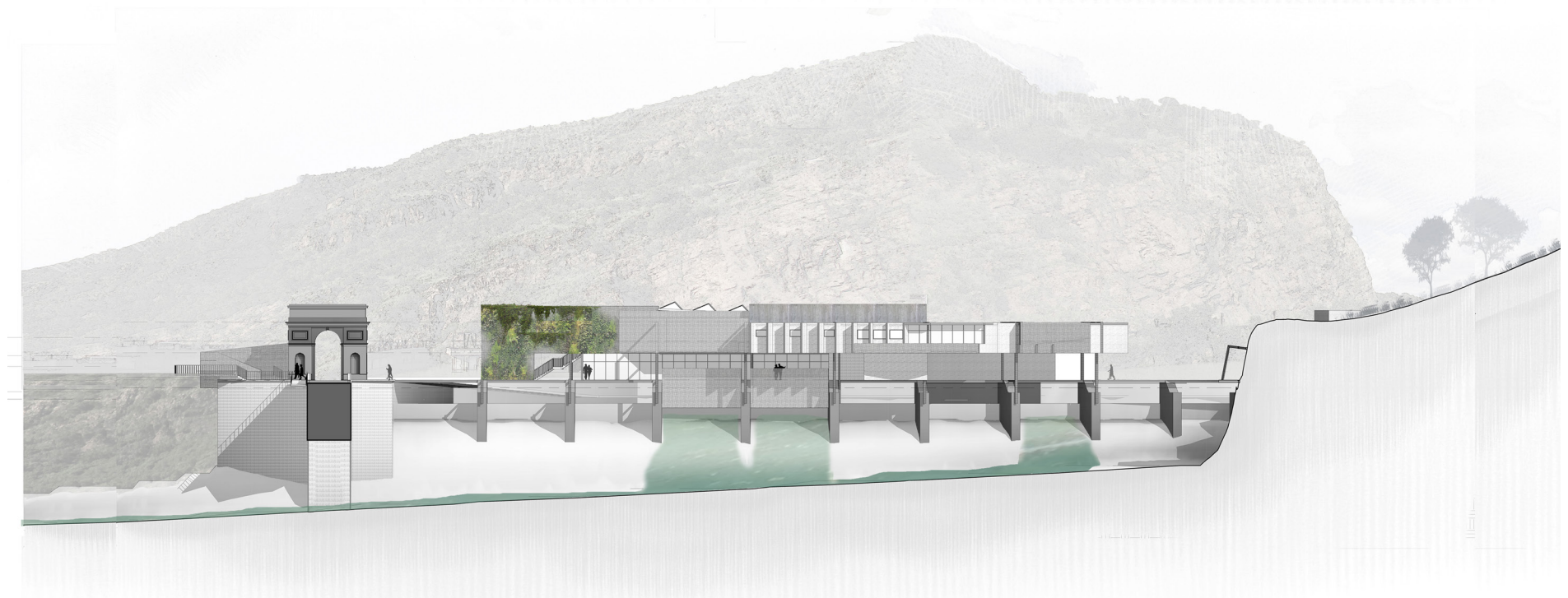


Fig 9.6. Final work (Author, November 2016).

WEST ELEVATION  
1:200

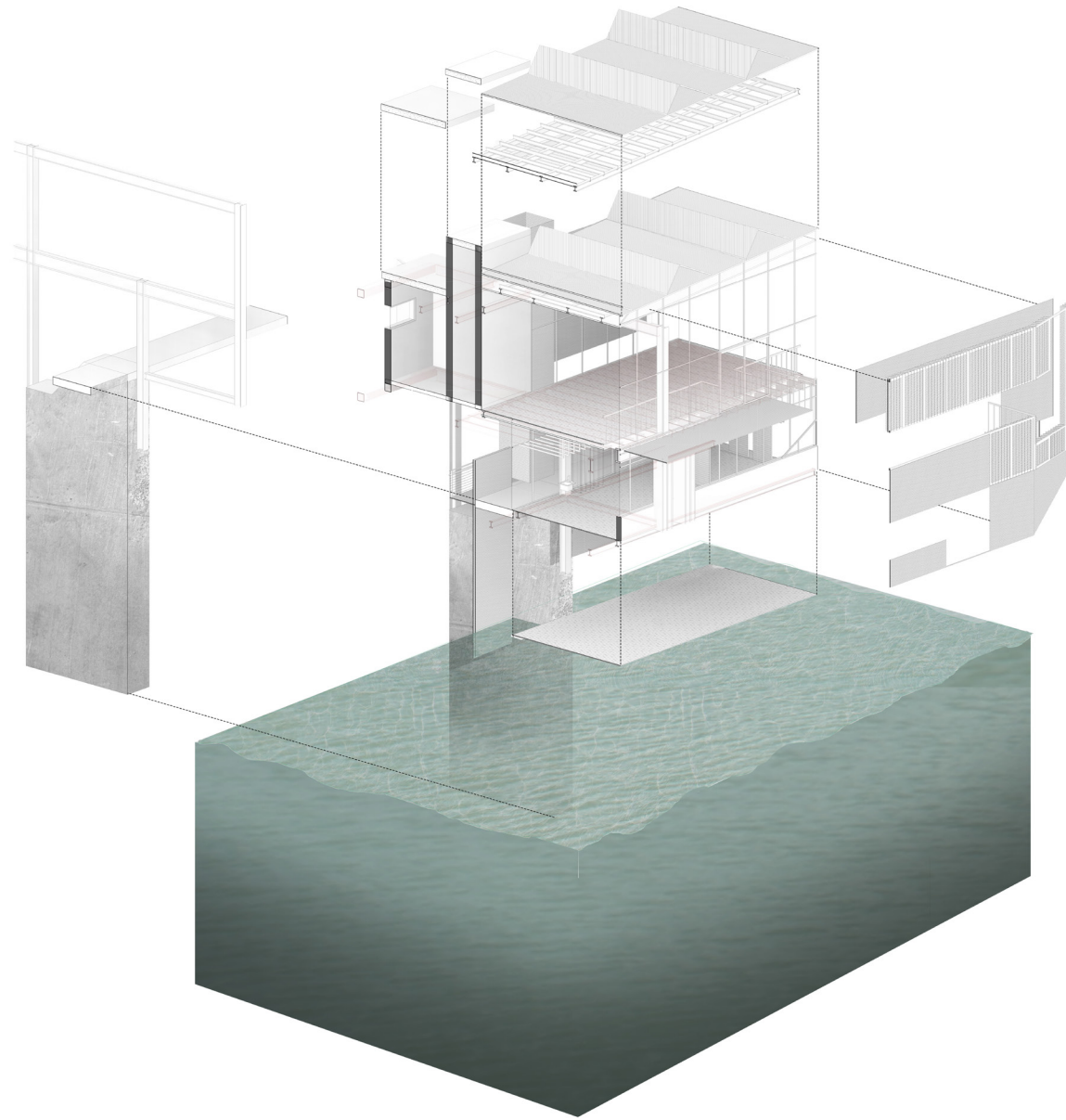


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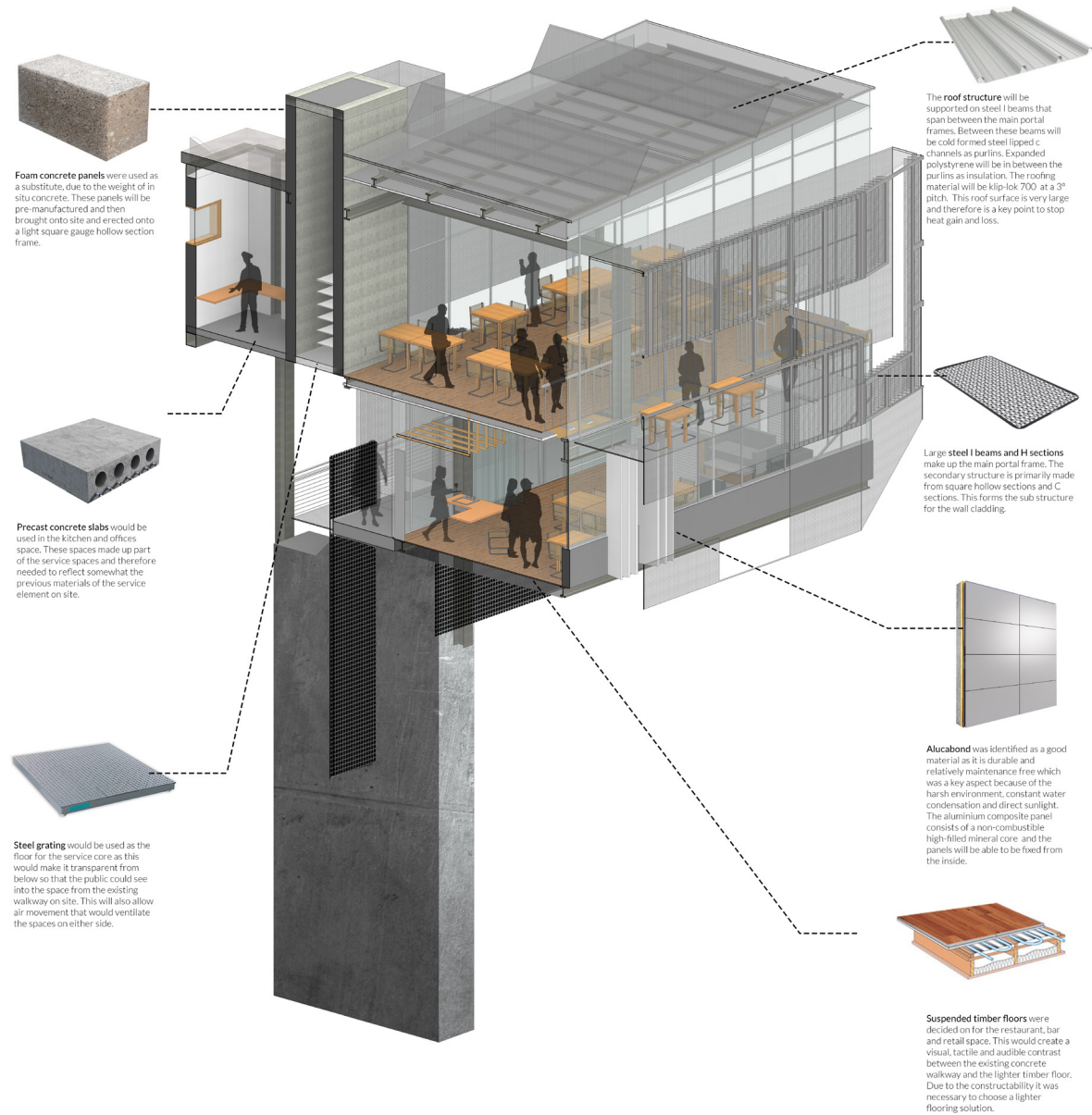


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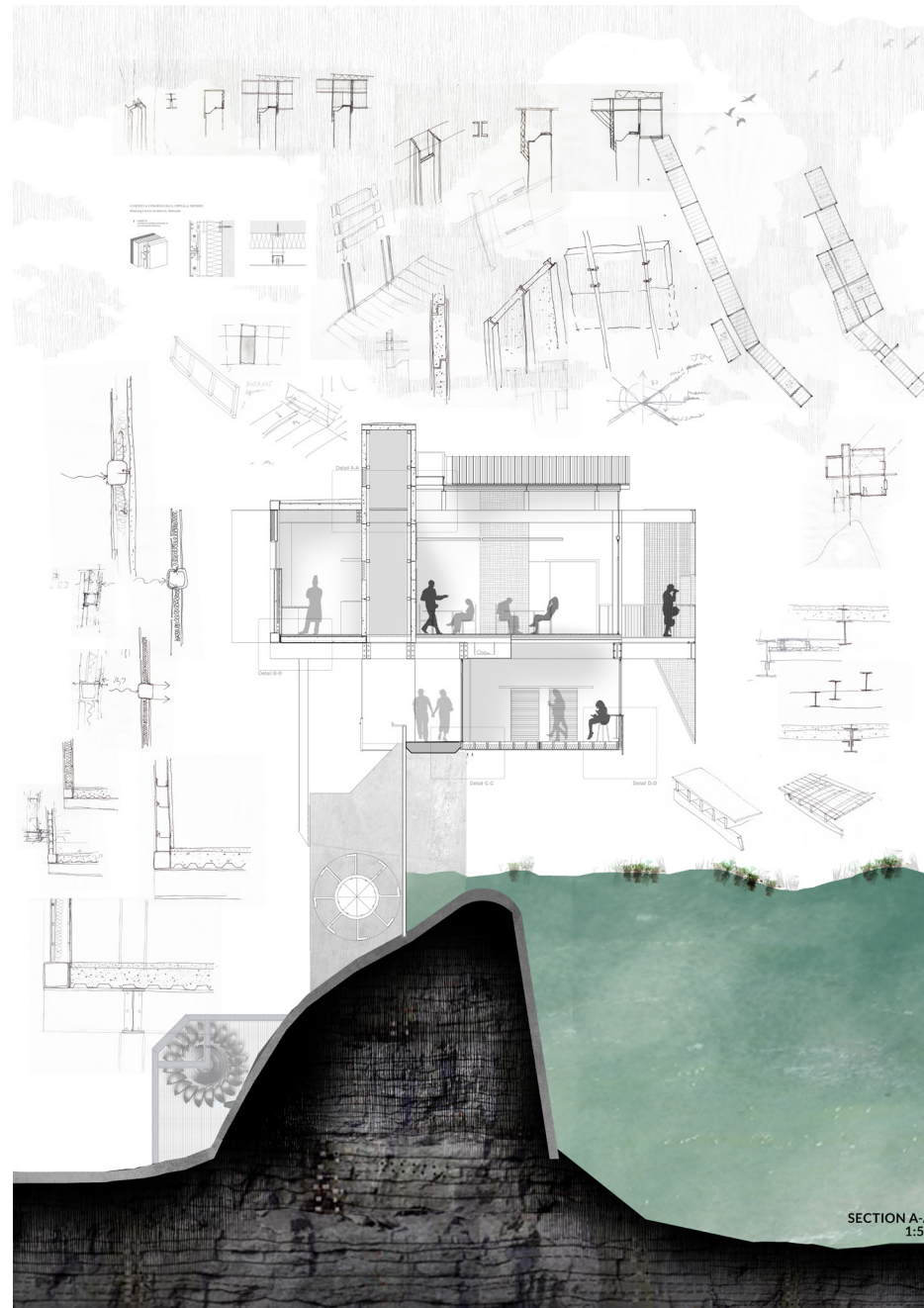


Fig 9.9. Final work (Author, November 2016).

## HAPTIC EXPERIENCE AND UNDERSTANDING

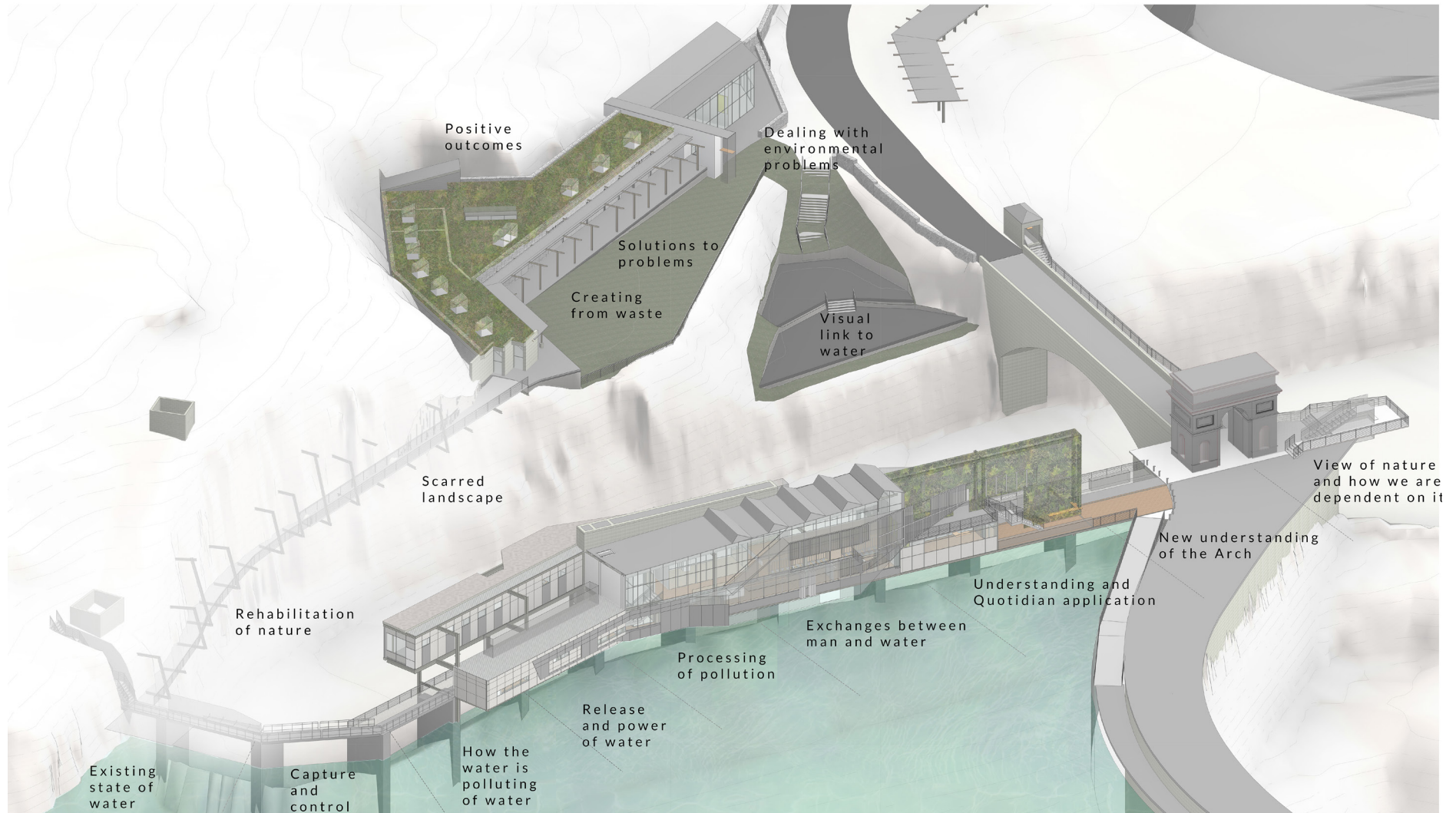


Fig 9.10. Final work (Author, November 2016).

## SERIES OF EXCHANGES



Fig 9.11. Final work (Author, November 2016).



SYSTEMS

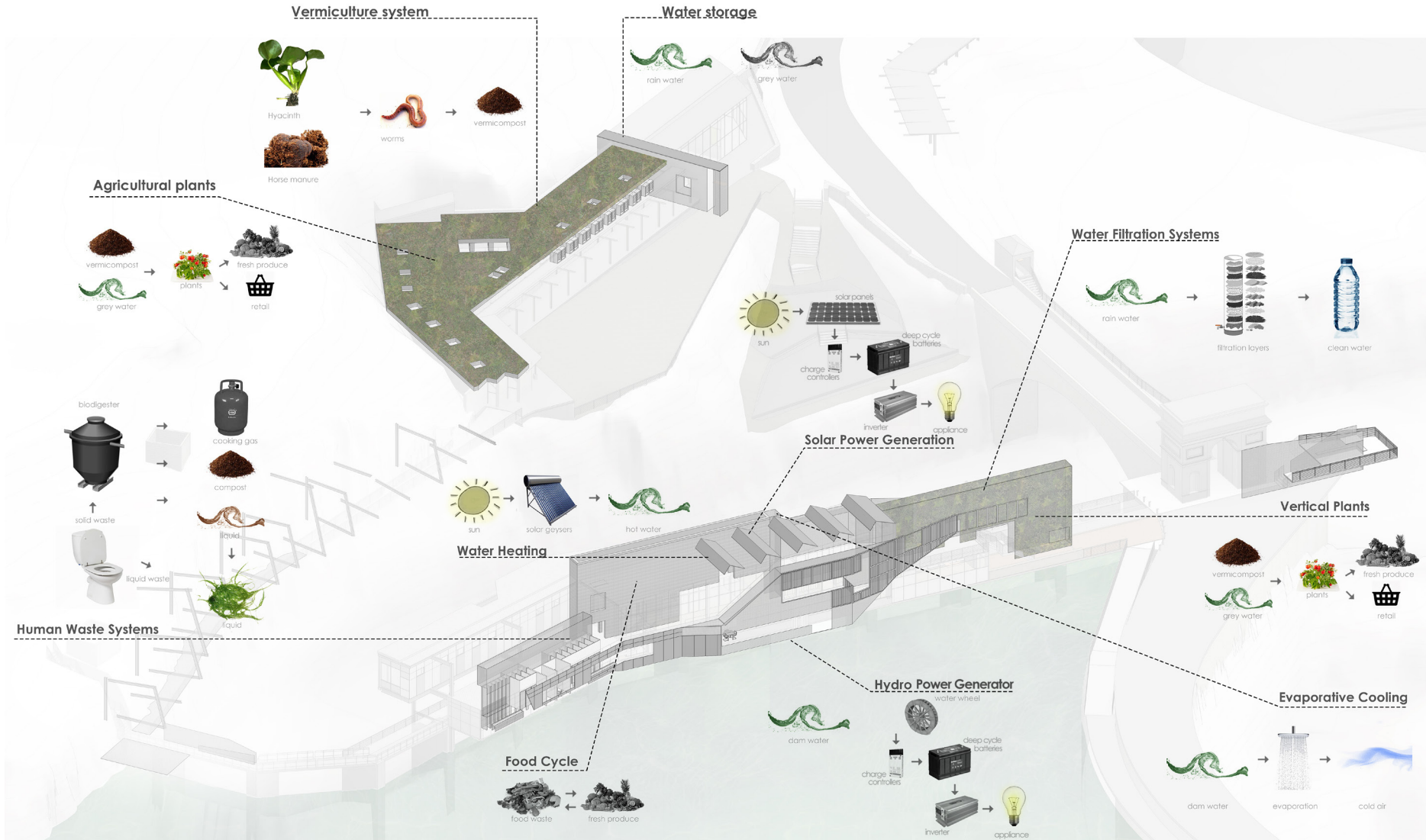


Fig 9.12. Final work (Author, November 2016).

9.2 FINAL MODEL

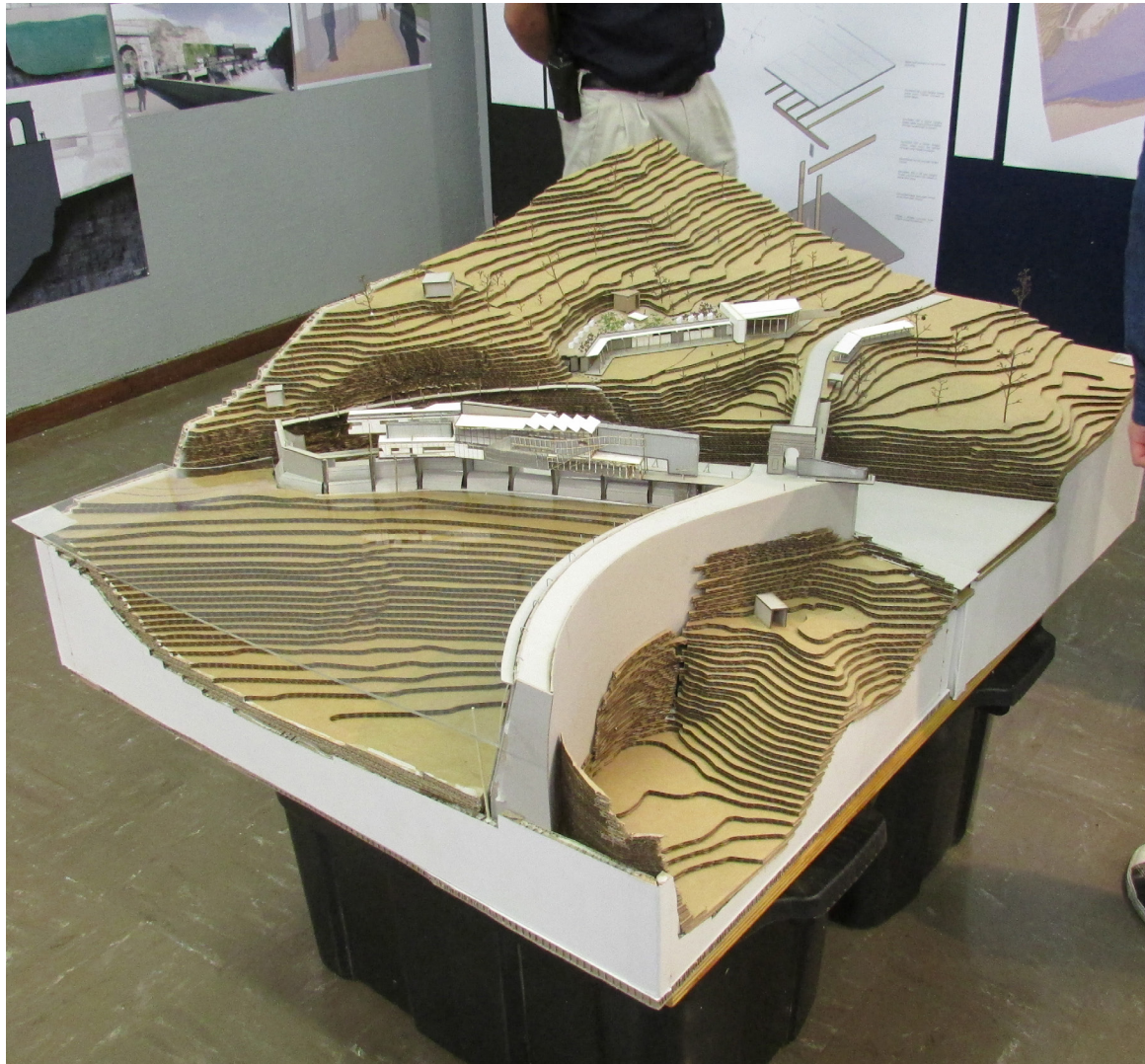


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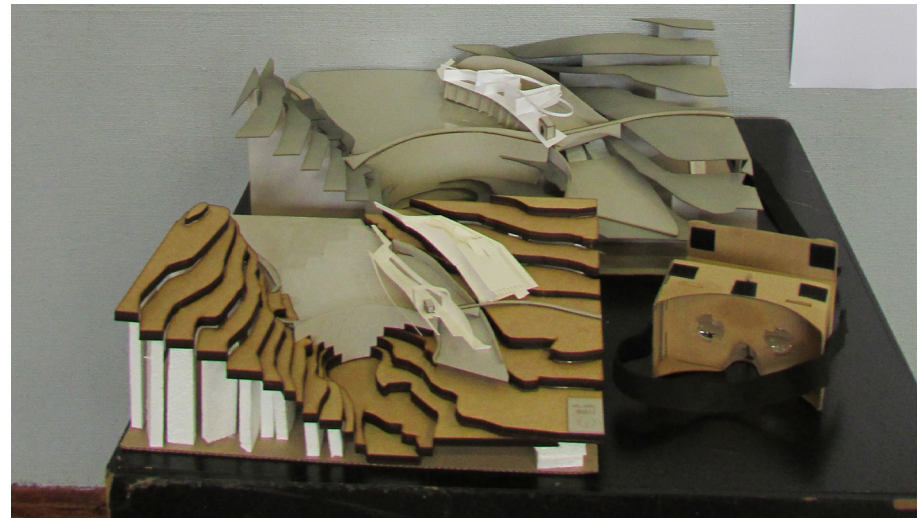
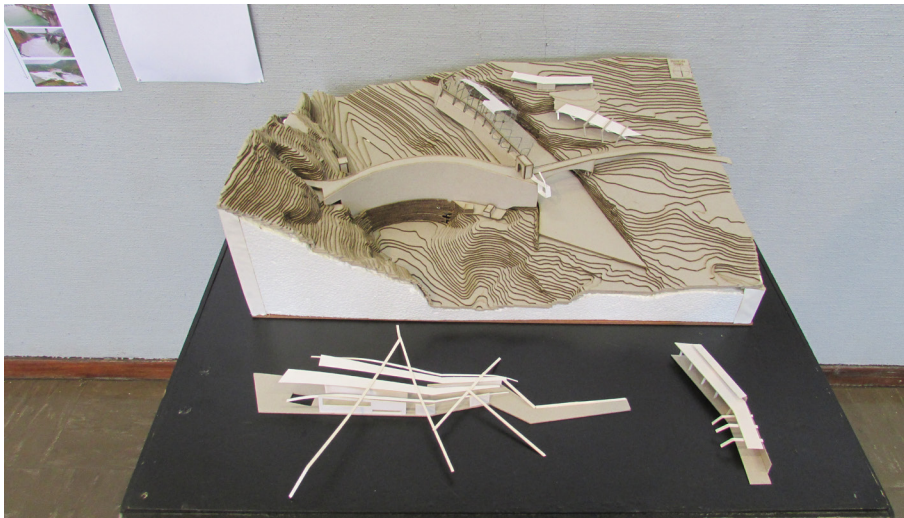
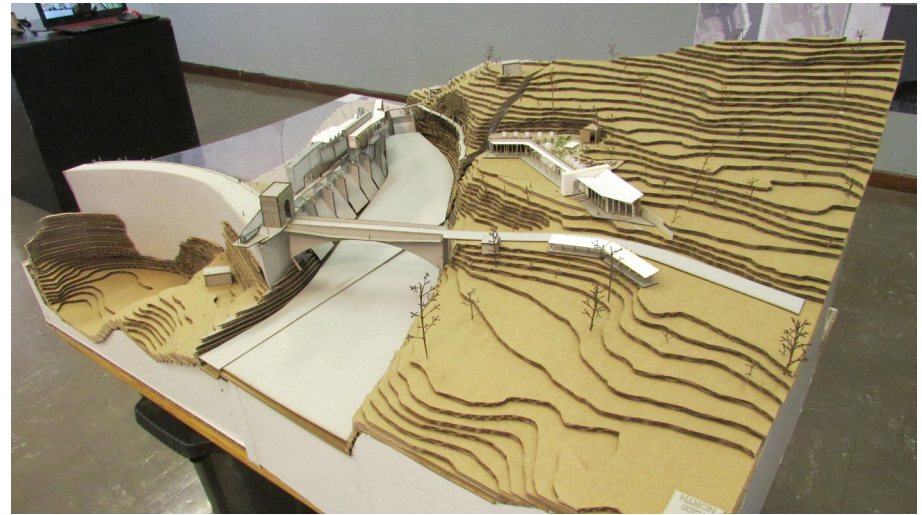
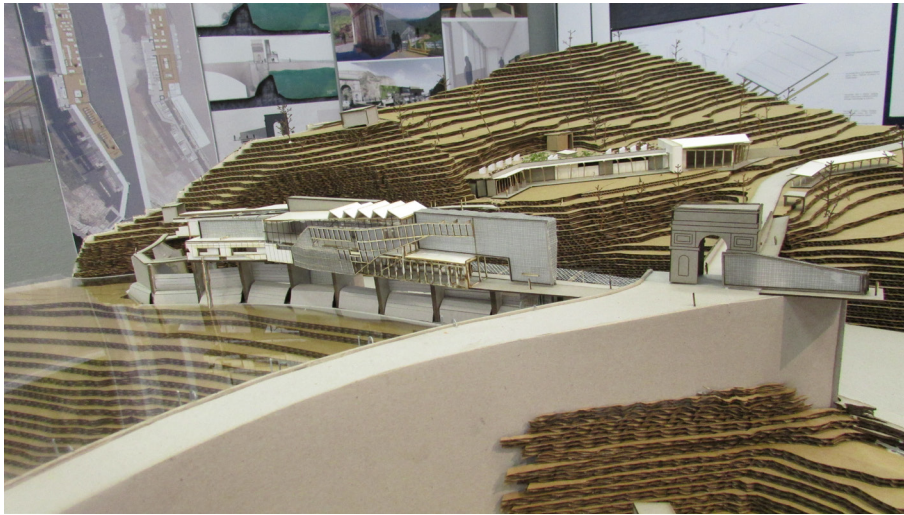


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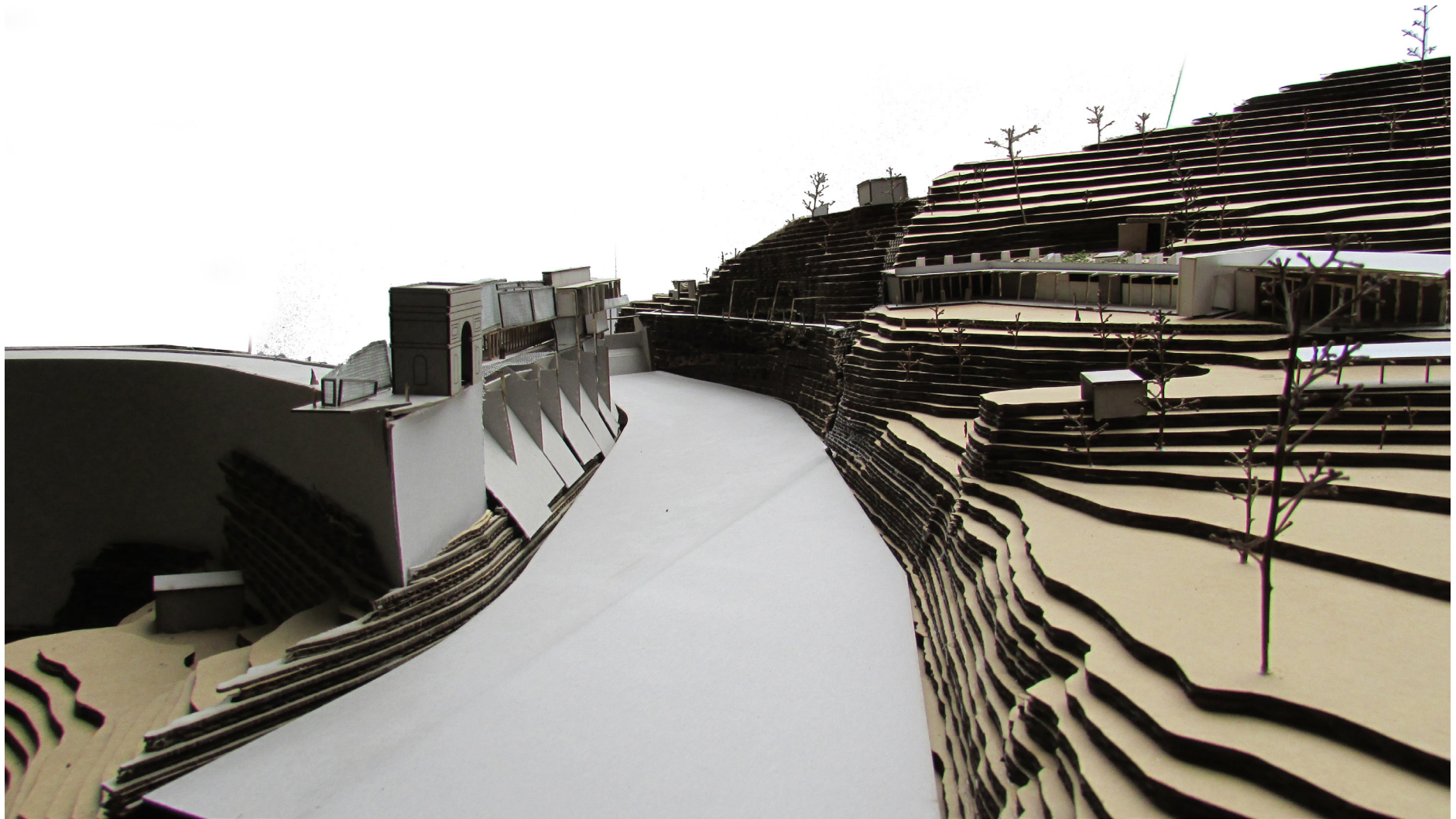


Fig 9.15. Final work (Author, November 2016).



Fig 9.16. Final work (Author, November 2016).

### 9.3 FINAL CRIT



Fig 9.17. Final crit (Author, November 2016).



Fig 9.18. Final crit (Author, November 2016).





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