

Mass

Newcastle University

Late 2014

Brief

The brief required the design of a historical material interpretation centre which would be constructed on a site located within the Newcastle-upon-Tyne's historic castle garth. Opposing the castle keep and in close proximity to the ancient city wall the site carries with it a significant historic past. The centre will provide the facility to store and exhibit historical artefacts and relics relating to the nearby area. In addition to this a public learning centre will be provided consisting of a library and research space.

The site in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, forms part of a historic trail, leading from the Black Gate, under the railway bridge passing the Newcastle Castle, along the remains of the historic city wall and down a set of stone steps to reach the Quayside below. It is at the top of a steep bank and provides views towards the River Tyne. The site is sloping towards the river and is positioned at the junction of two railway bridges. The site is sandwiched in between Newcastle Castle to the North-East, The Vermont (a hotel) to the North, Moot Hall (council building) to the East, and the Bridge Hotel (Public house) to the West - this means that the only appealing view is South-East, towards the river. The site is sloped sufficiently enough to allow for two entrance/exit levels, the higher being on the northern side and the lower on the southern side.

Precedents

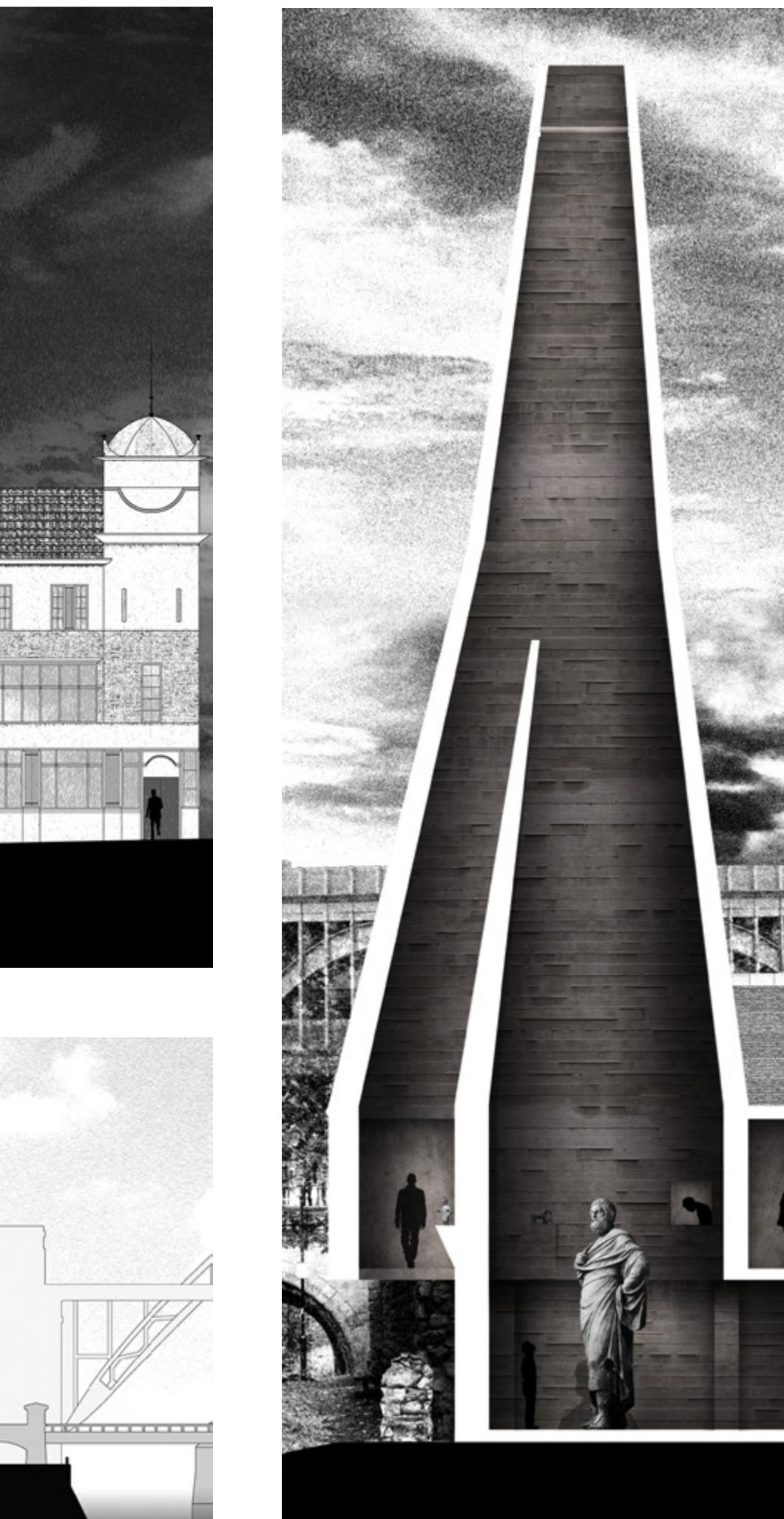
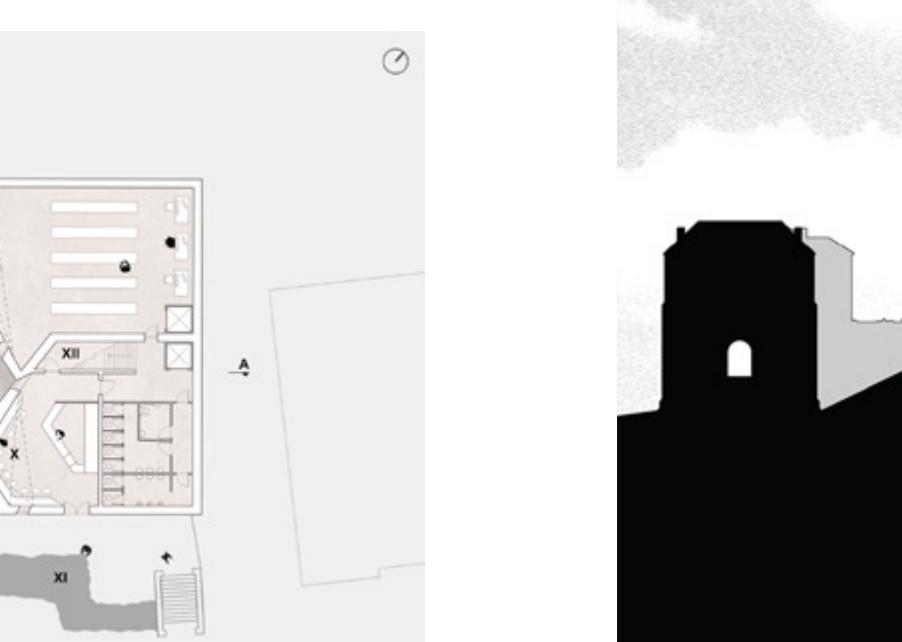
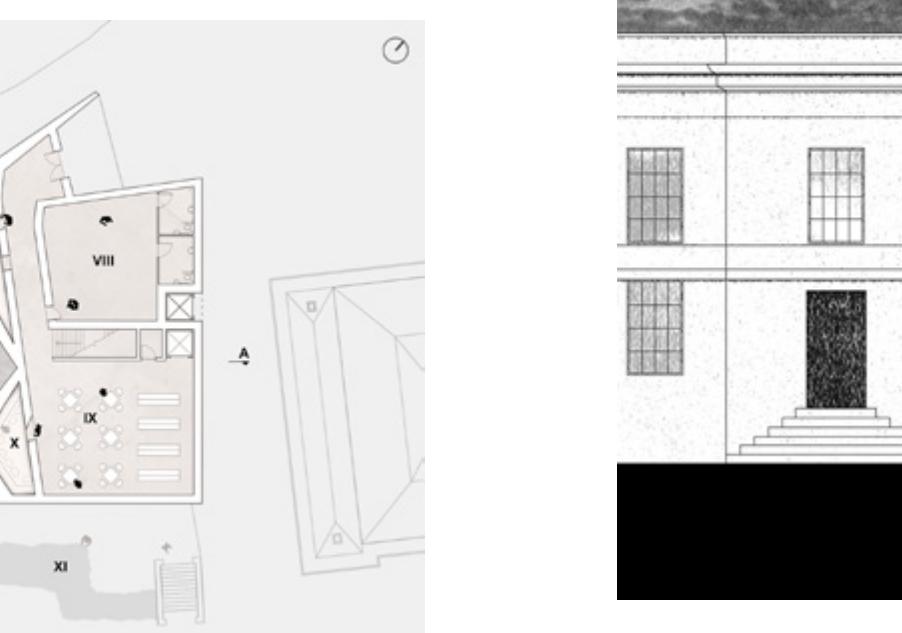
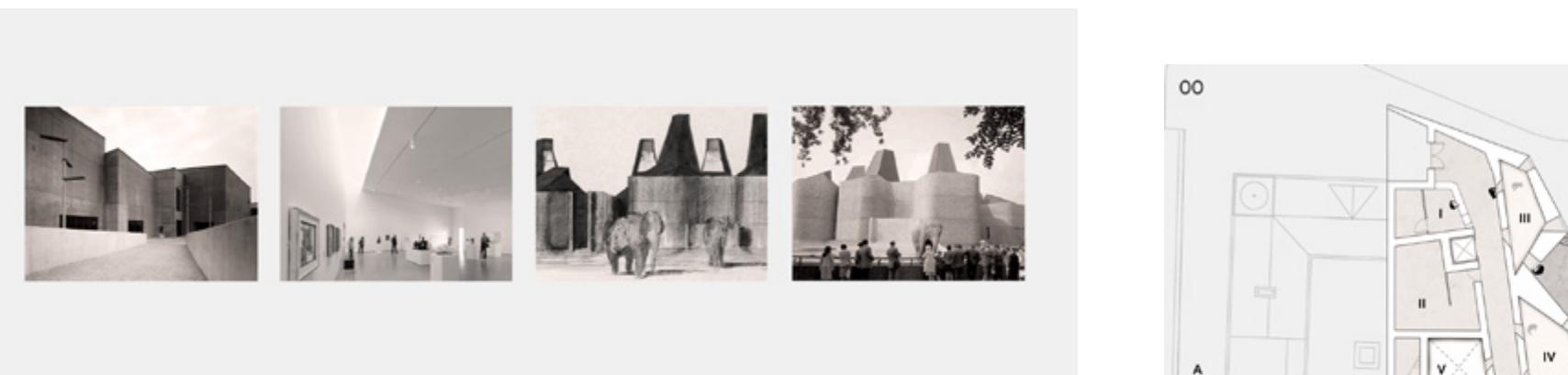
The Hepworth Wakefield by David Chipperfield Architects and the Casson Pavilion by Sir Hugh Casson helped to inform the design, their use of material aesthetic, manipulation of light, and sculptural form gave great influence onto my own architectural aspirations for this project.

Fracture

Derived from an experimental cast piece with fragmented glass aggregate; the cured cast piece was cracked exposing the fragments. This created a distinct void in between two solids with numerous points of interest. This formed the concept of having an inwards looking building from which artefacts can be viewed externally.

Illuminate

Utilising natural light funnelled down into exhibition spaces, monumental pieces are dramatically lit from above. The height of the light tunnels converse with the context of the castle, this informs an impressive structure that becomes part of the wider urban landscape.



Memory

Newcastle University

Early 2015

Brief

The brief required the design of an architectural centre and model making archive that would be constructed on a site located in Durham beside the River Wear, on the opposing bank to the iconic brutalist structure Dunelm House. The banks are linked at upper level by Ove Arup's Kingsgate Bridge - the two structures are integral to the design proposal. The centre will provide facilities to store, exhibit and manufacture cast architectural models. In addition to this, the centre would provide spaces to hold debates and presentations regarding the past, present and future of architectural planning schemes in the local county area.

The site in Durham, is situated on a bank of the River Wear, it forms part of a route connecting two iconic pieces of architecture in the region. Leading down from Durham Cathedral and through cobbled residential backstreets, you will find the site, the route then leads across Kingsgate Bridge and terminates at Dunelm House. The site is on a heavily steeped bank and provides views along and across the River towards Dunelm House.

Fracture

The design echoes the formal qualities of Dunelm House across the river. This is partnered with tiering, influenced by the natural decline of the landscape.

Preserve

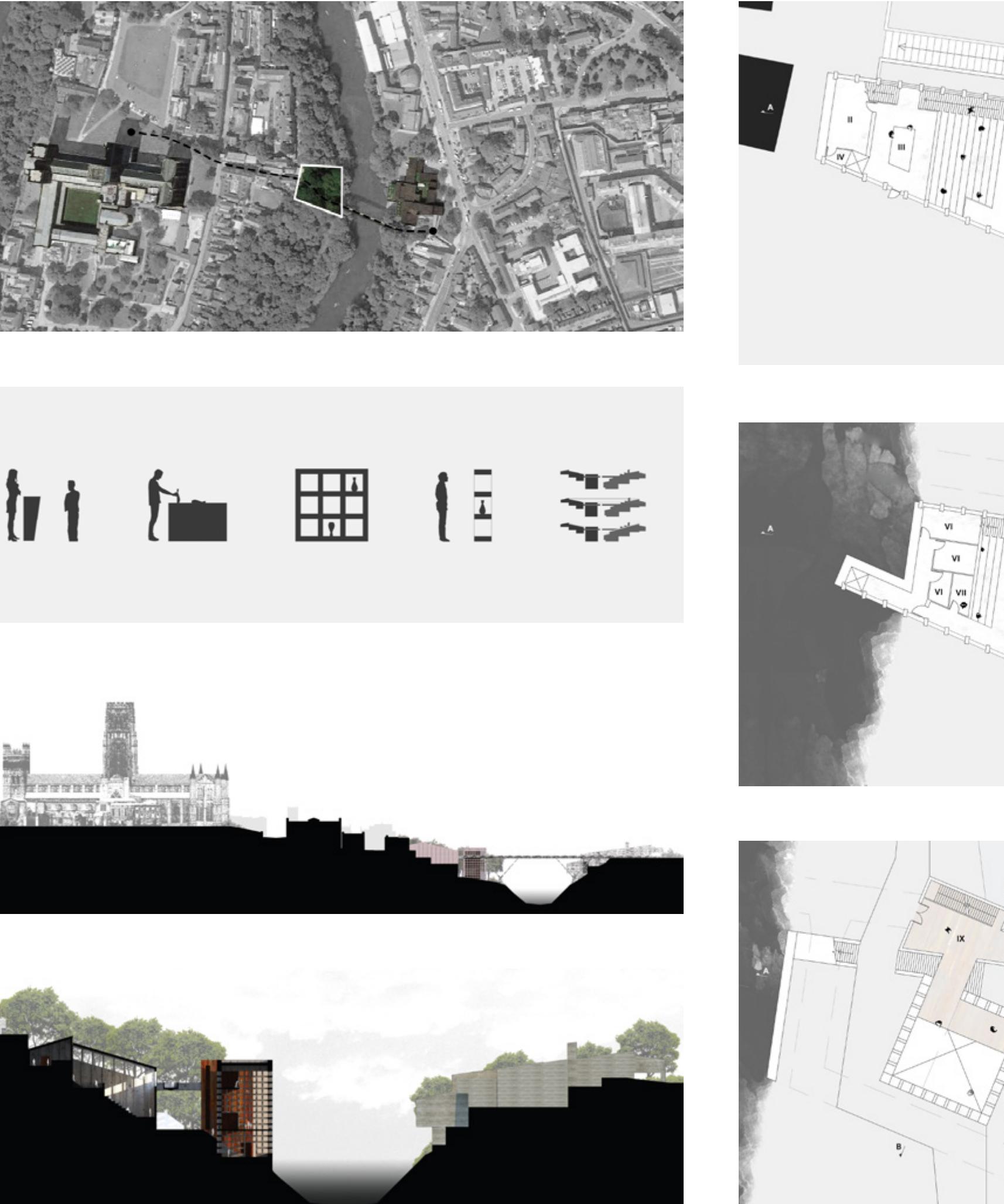
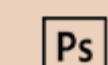
The idea of preservation is accommodated by providing an urban room and a space for debating. These areas give opportunity for the general public to engage in the history and also participate creatively in the design of a future Durham.

Study

In hope of preserving brutalist ideologies, a model making space provides the amenities to study the craft of the casting process. The opportunity to learn is also expressed in the archival model space where objects are stored and exhibited.

Store

The model manufacturing workshop integrates the facility to store cast architectural models within its wall structure. Each model is unique and therefore is allocated a distinct viewing space within the façade. Collections can be manoeuvred into storage positions adjacent to the bridge, to allow a rotational external exhibit.



Civic Centred

Newcastle University

Early 2014

Brief

The brief required the design of a new civic centre building that would help to reconnect the community of Tynemouth. The structure would be constructed on a site adjacent to Tynemouth Longsands, within a redundant 1920s outdoor salt-water swimming pool.

Within the building, the brief required a debating chamber, a crèche, a cafe and an additional purpose of your choice, for this I proposed an integrated library.

Interaction

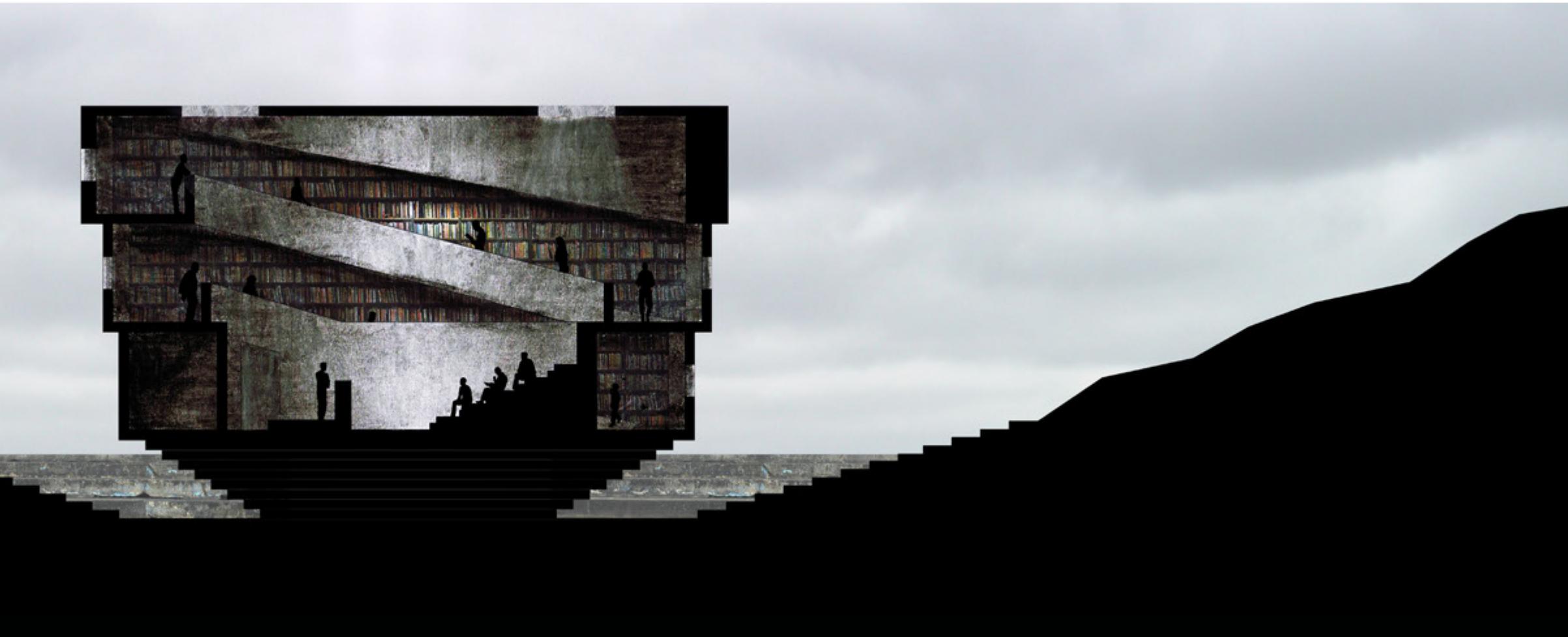
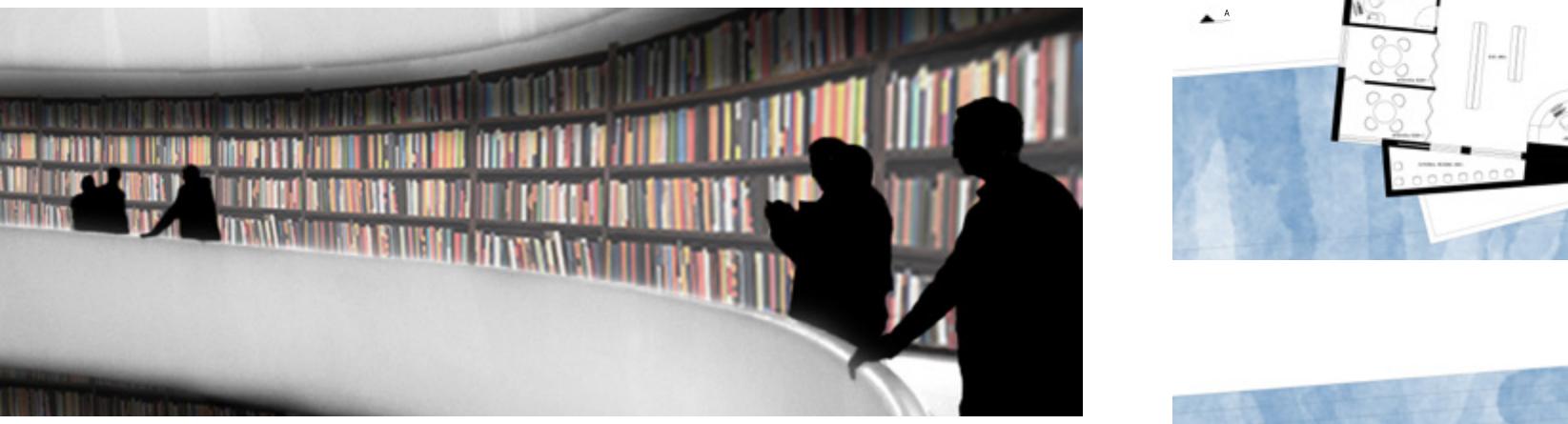
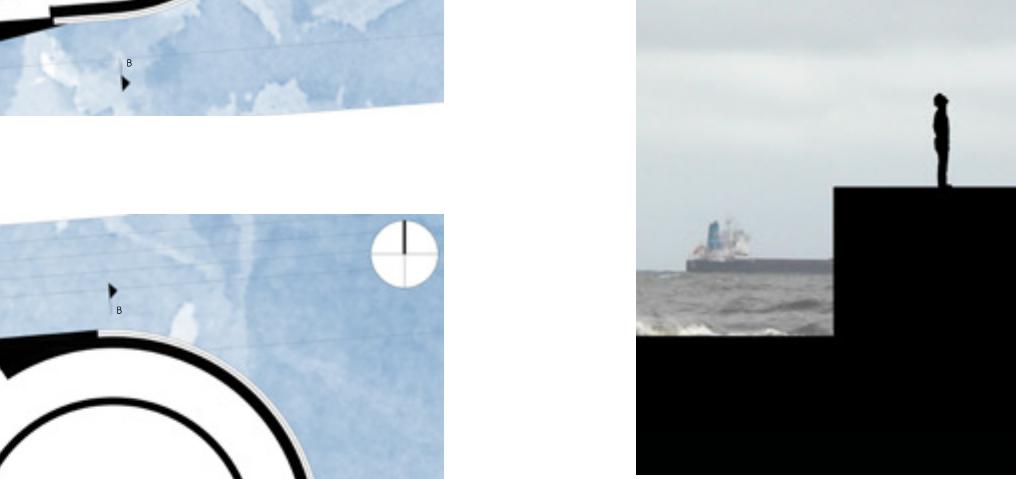
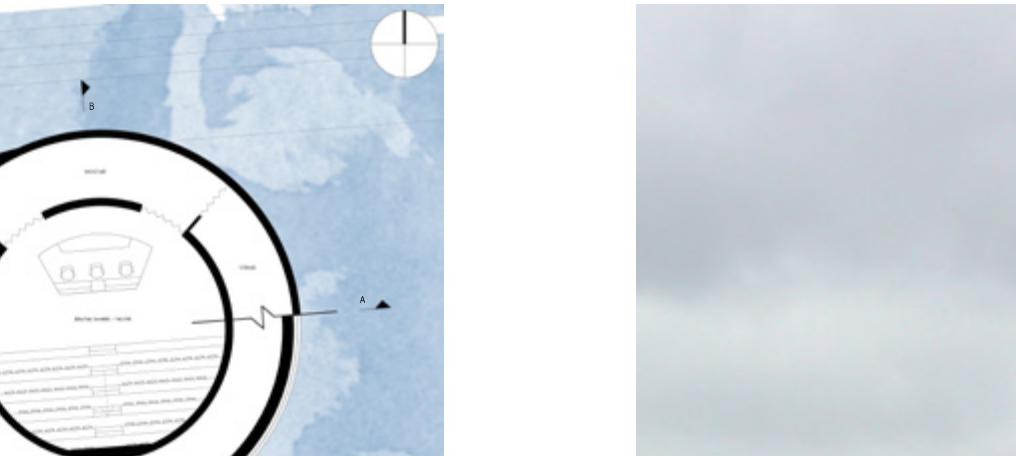
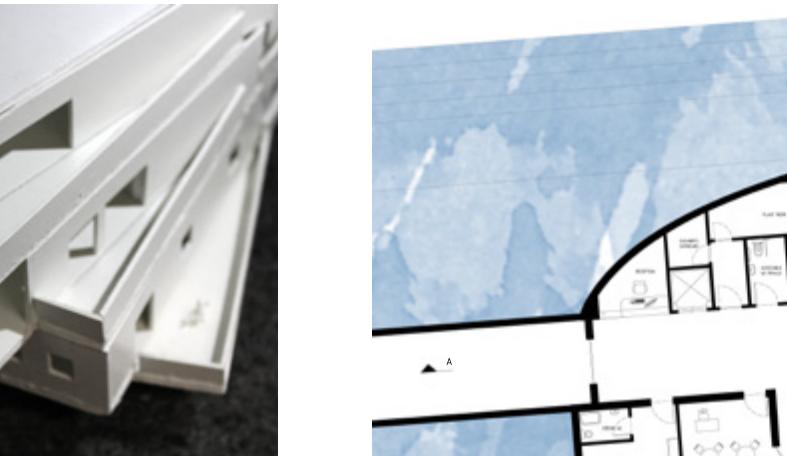
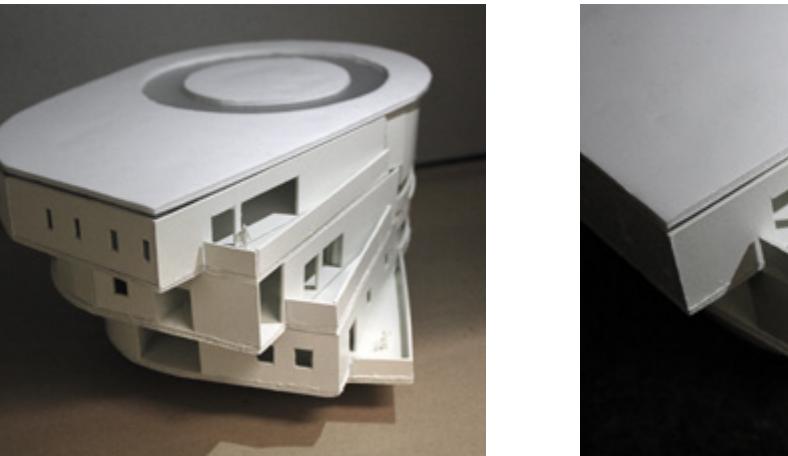
The internal access of the building is a ramp that spirals around the main debating chamber, this allows constant views and opportunities for interaction and involvement. The debating chamber offers multi functionality and can be utilised as a stage for theatre performances, the ramped structure allows for additional capacity for a stand-in informal audience.

Storage

Around the outer perimeter of the ramp is the provision to store library books within the building structure.

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NIMR: Houses

RM_A

Late 2018

Brief

The National Institute for Medical Research occupied the site in Barnet, London, since the nineteen-thirties. The site was purchased and had planning permission granted for a redevelopment that provides 462 new homes. The consented scheme included a row of 12 detached houses. The design of these units was rejected by the developer and I was appointed to redesign the dwellings.

The site in Barnet, London, provides scenic views north towards Totteridge Valley. The site is steeply sloping and overlooked by southern blocks of accommodation. The design is limited by the approved scheme and to merit planning permission must be of a similar footprint and material palette.

Process

To obtain the desired design a volume was formed according to the floor plan area required (presumption of three storeys). To maximise the views across the valley the form was initially compressed and elongated. The design was then staggered to bridge the gap between lower and upper ground floor levels. The form was then separated to accommodate a central glazed area to harmonise the design with nature.

Four Bedroom Unit

The volumes of the four bedroom house are solid, two storey blocks, separated by a visually lighter link marking the entrance and the main circulation. This makes for a legible block; the point of access clear from the approach into the glazed slot between. The entrance side is more closed, reflecting the uses within; the principle habitable spaces face out across the private terraces and generous garden to the landscape beyond, reflected in the more generous windows on that side. Material palette is kept simple; two bricks interconnect to wrap up the garage and highlight the entrance. The timber is kept to a minimum; a highlight on the entrance side.

Five Bedroom Unit

The volumes of the five bedroom house are solid, two storey blocks with a garage projects out. The blocks are separated by a visually lighter link marking the entrance and the main circulation area. The two living volumes are simple forms, connected at the centre by the point of entrance and the main circulation. The use of a visually lighter glazed connection articulates this idea clearly. The primary aspect is visible through the larger scale openings maximising views out to the landscape beyond.

