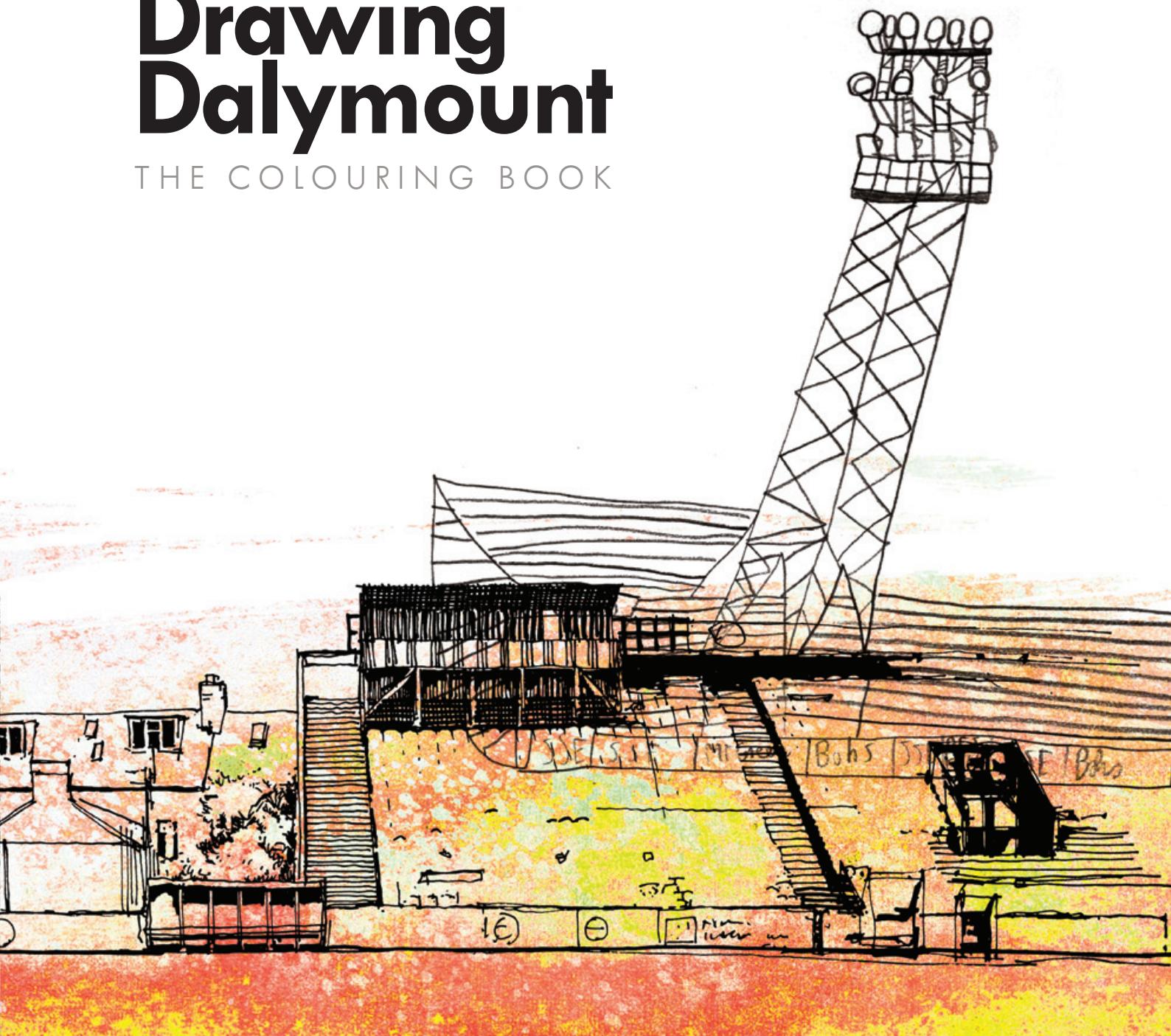


# Drawing Dalymount

THE COLOURING BOOK





**Map of Dalymount Park 1907**

Ordnance Survey of Dublin 1:1056 Sheet 18-26 (Revised 1907), published 1908

Reproduced from a map in Trinity College Library, Dublin, with the permission of the Board of Trinity College

# Drawing Dalymount

THE COLOURING BOOK

## Dalymount Park: Mapping a Unique Architectural Space

The urban village of Phibsborough in north Dublin is a mix of 1980's yellow brick shops and apartments to the east, a controversial 1960's brutalist shopping centre to the west, and 19<sup>th</sup> century red brick housing to the north and south. Tucked in behind that Victorian housing and imposing modern shopping centre is Dalymount Park football stadium, home for over 100 years to the Bohemian Football Club. Dalymount has little presence in the village and access points are through back lanes off the main roads. Passing through this busy urban village the only trace of its existence are the towers of the 1960's floodlights, which loom incongruously at key points. The drawings in this book take you into that space and introduce you to the magnetic character of this ageing stadium.

The drawings were made as part of Dalymount Park: Mapping a Unique Architectural Space, a project developed by Jackie Bourke and Dorothy Smith. Neither of us is an ardent football fan, and neither of us had much knowledge of Dalymount when we began the project. But we were drawn to this space with its haphazard mix of architectural structures and detail. We were intrigued by the desolate beauty of the physical space, and the

memories it holds. Dalymount Park has been the home of the Bohemian Football Club since 1901. Among the earliest structures on the site are the terracing to the east of the stadium and the turnstiles under the Jodi Stand, which are still in use. They were originally designed in the early 1930's by football stadium architect, Archibald Leitch. The stadium has always been in a constant state of flux. The adaptations and extensions as well as decay, demolition and wear and tear have created a complex and fascinating urban space.

Using photography, interviews and drawing we set out to map the architectural heritage and everyday experience of the stadium across time. We have developed both this playful colouring book of drawings and *Dalymount: Bigger Than The Game*, a projection of photography and text drawn from interviews with people who have rich associations with the space. Under Dublin City development plans, Dalymount will be demolished and a new municipal stadium built in its place. Through the project we sought to capture a moment in time as this landmark space sits poised on the threshold of transformation.

First built in the early 20th century, today Dalymount Park holds strong memories for

generations of Bohemians fans and team members. Those memories are rooted in specific places, and place names throughout the stadium evoke memory and history. The drawings in this book breathe new life into those place names, the architecture of the stadium and the many years of stories it has to tell.



Pitchside sign. Anne Gannon

## Drawing Dalymount: the Drawing Day

On a cold wet Saturday morning in November 2018 over 40 people gathered in Dalymount Park to draw the architecture of this unique space. The invitation was open to people of all ages and drawing experience and attracted those with long term committed arts practices, those who had not drawn in decades and children whose fluency put us all to shame. People with long, close and generational associations with the club mixed with those who had never previously entered the stadium.

This colouring book marks a particular time in the stadium's evolution from the perspective of a diverse group of people. The drawings explore the myriad structures within the stadium – from the referee's changing room to the Jackie Jameson and Members Bars, from the stark TV gantry to the terracing, from the Jodi and Des Kelly Carpets Stand to the floodlights, the most publicly visible part of the stadium and arguably the most iconic.

Opportunities to share the experience of drawing with other people are rare; drawing mainly takes place in the privacy of an artist's studio and the act of drawing in public is seldom seen. Drawing Dalymount provided an opportunity for people to get together and draw, tapping into a latent interest in drawing.

We were interested in exploring how the process of drawing can engage the drawer with a unique urban environment. Drawing requires complex hand eye co-ordination, quick decision making, filtering, mark making, image building, knowing when to finish. It involves spending time with the subject, close looking, noticing complexity, enjoying detail, exploring the unknown and engaging on a deeper level with the familiar. This exploration and attention is evident in these drawings, which engage us with the materiality, structure and architectural detail of Dalymount Park.

In addition, we can see that the stadium does not exist in isolation. Through the drawings Dalymount's intimate relationship to its urban setting is clear; the spire of St Peter's church silhouetted behind the Jodi Stand, St Peter's School abutting the pitch, the 1960's shopping centre looming large over the original 1930's terracing, the floodlights against the shopping centre tower, the rear of houses on Connaught Street visible behind the Connaught Street Stand and the old grain silo on the Royal Canal beyond. These structures and juxtapositions mark out years of construction, use, evolution, adaptation and change.

Spaces like Dalymount Park are important in a city; they are rich with architectural diversity, with socio-cultural history, and place attachment. They reflect the vibrancy of urban life and its people. Drawing Dalymount, the day itself and the colouring book, offer a creative means for people to engage with the city on their door step.

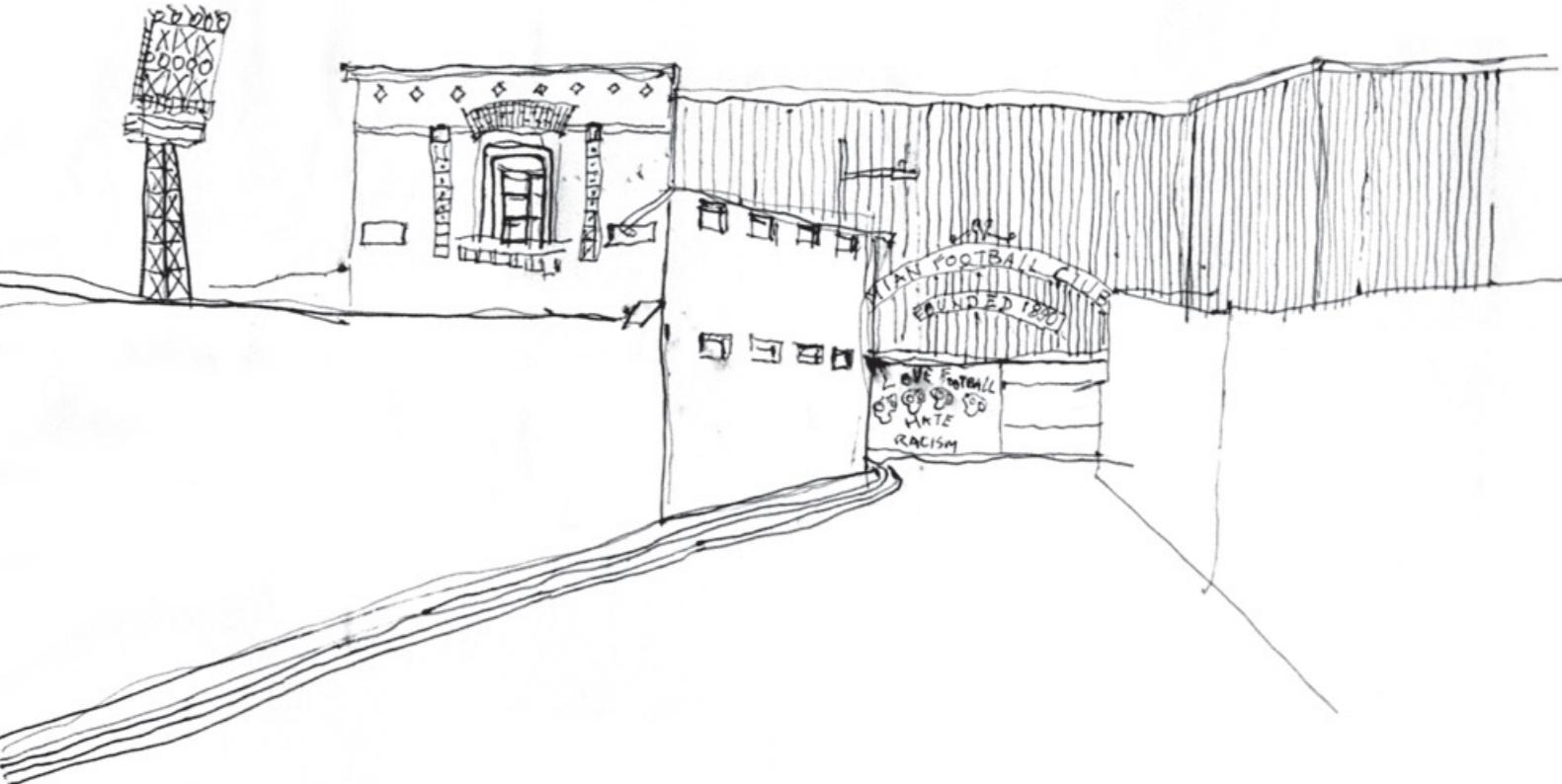
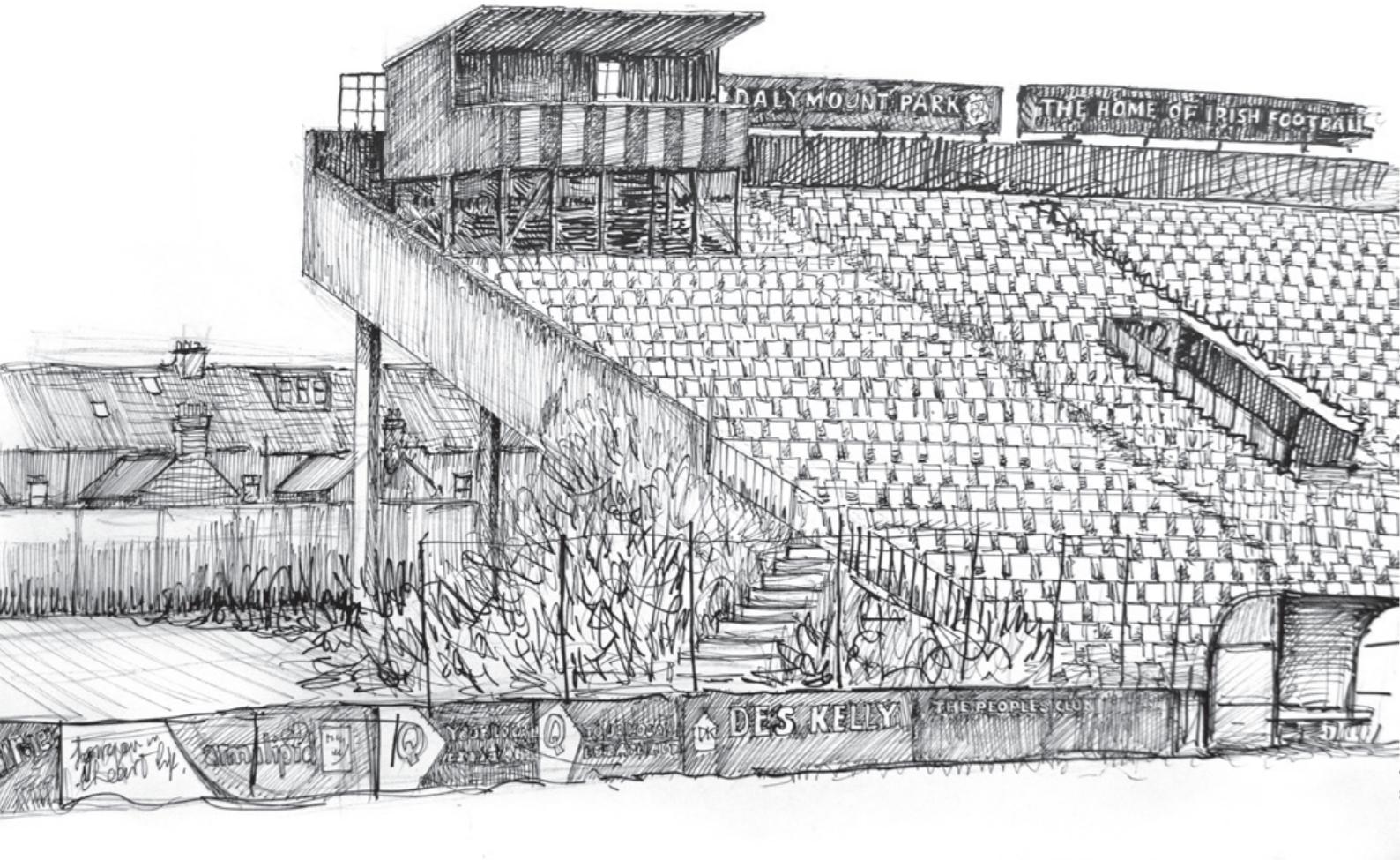
We hope you enjoy sharing, discovering and colouring-in.

**Jackie Bourke and Dorothy Smith**

April 2019



Terraces and floodlights. Vincent Lambe

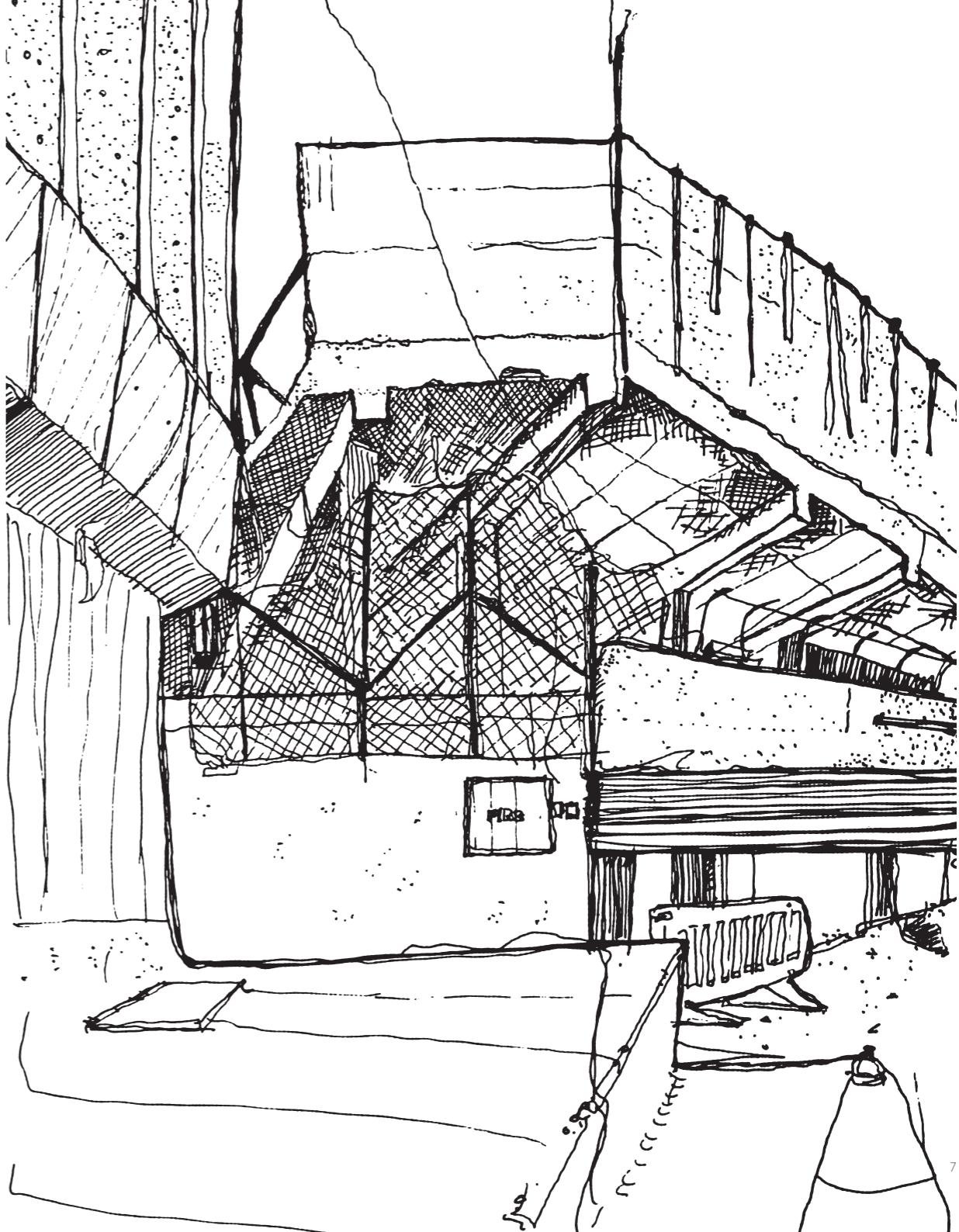


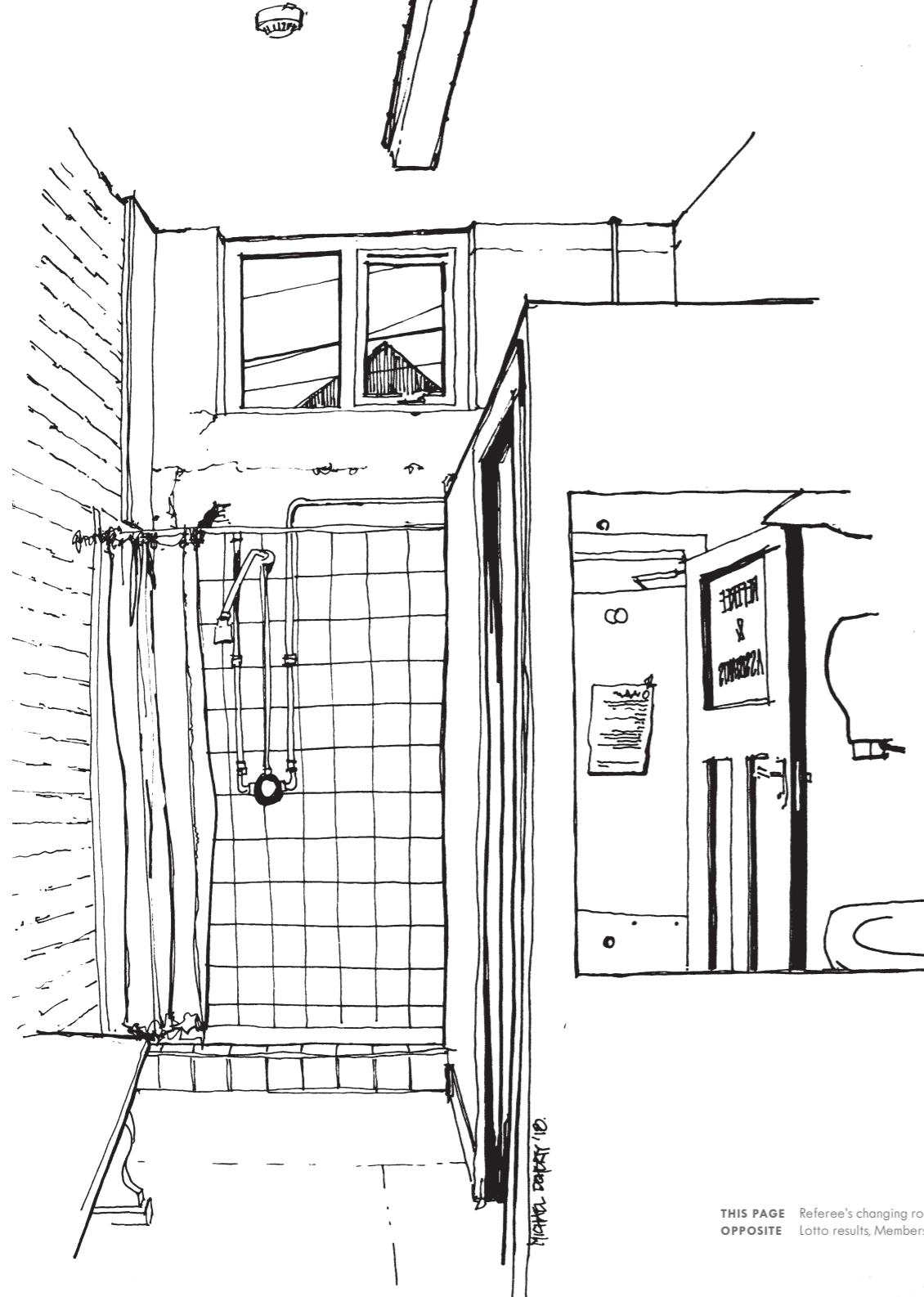
THIS PAGE Connaught Street Stand, home dugout and TV Gantry. Aidan Hickey  
OPPOSITE Main entrance, Dalymount Lane. Ciarán Cuffe



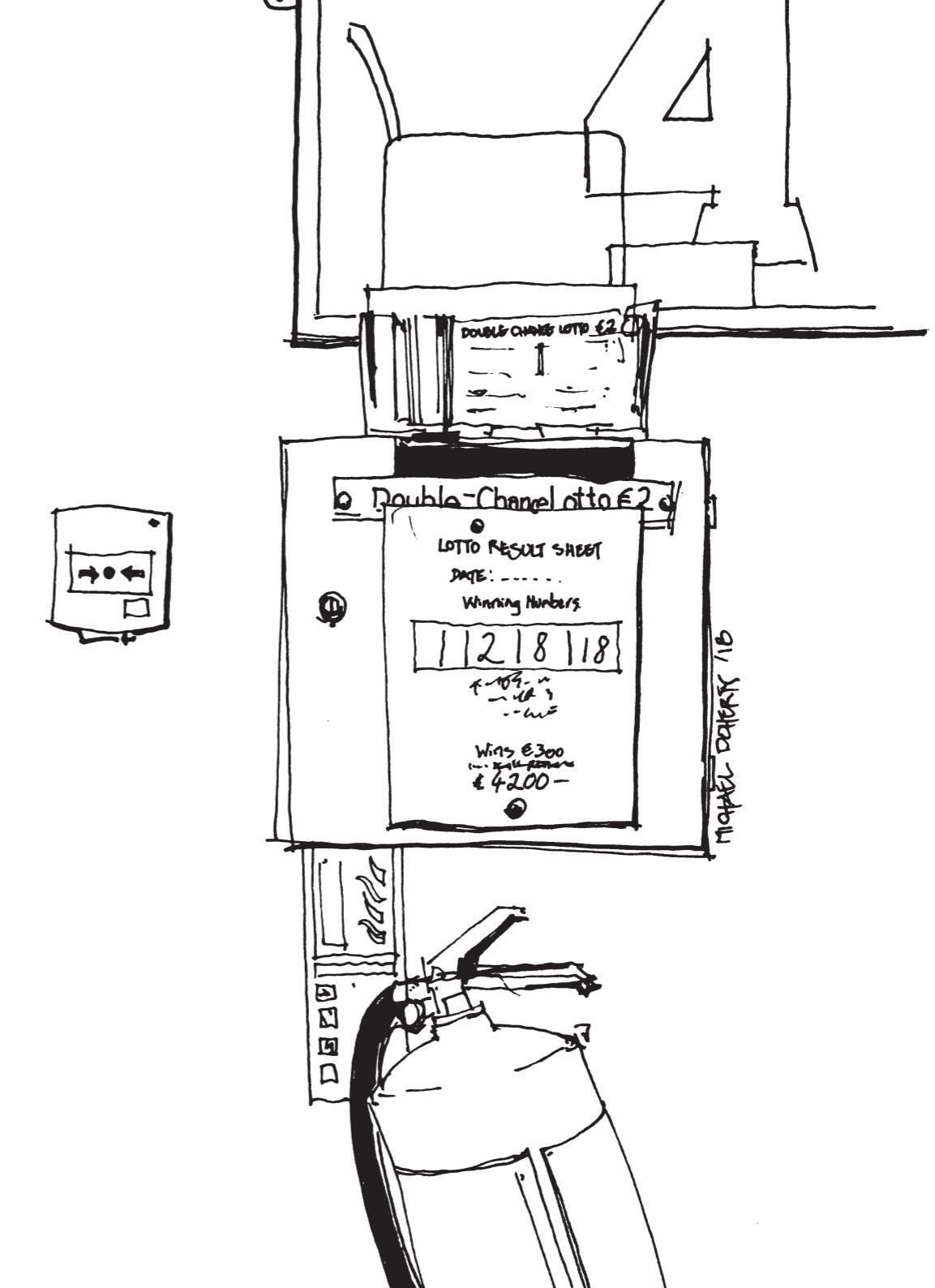
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Jackie Jameson Bar.  
Alan Mee

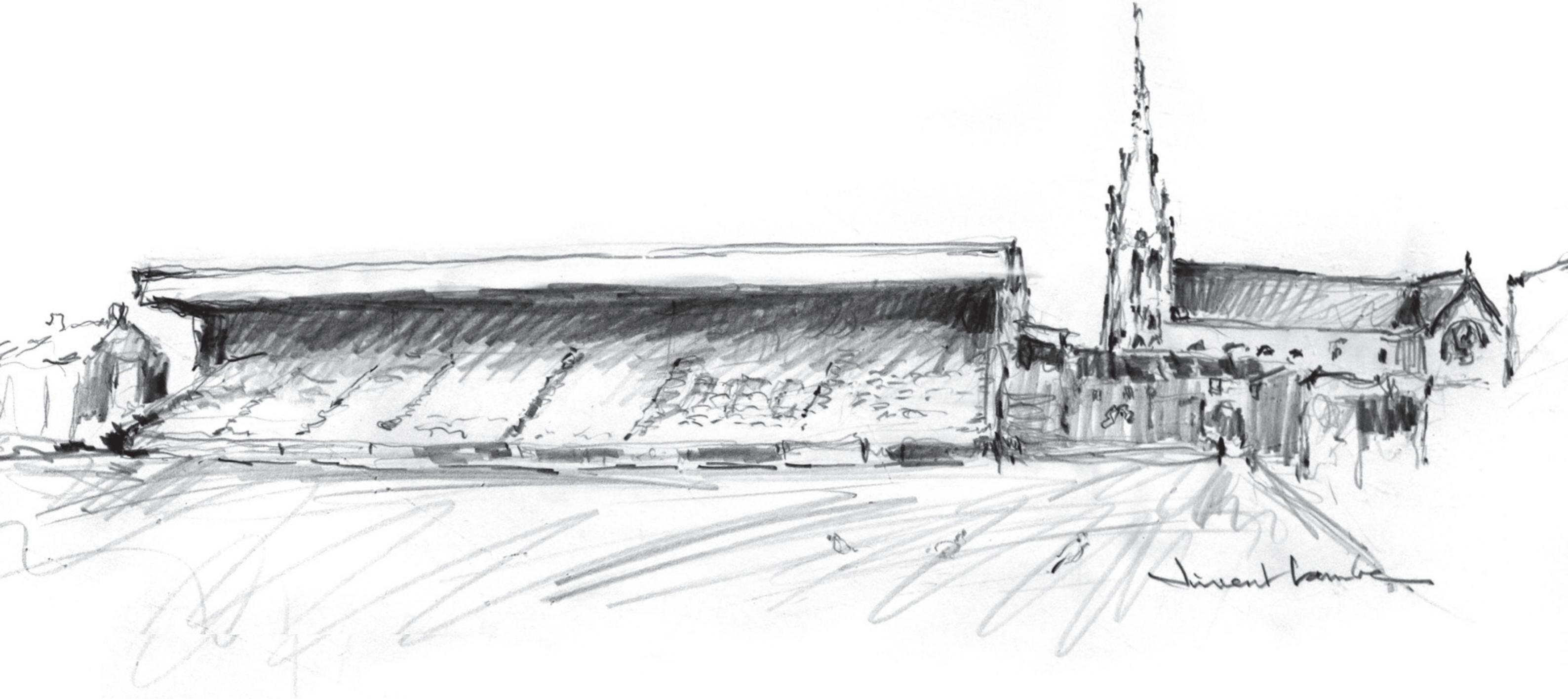
OPPOSITE  
Back of Connaught  
Street Stand from  
Connaught Street.  
Roisín Murphy

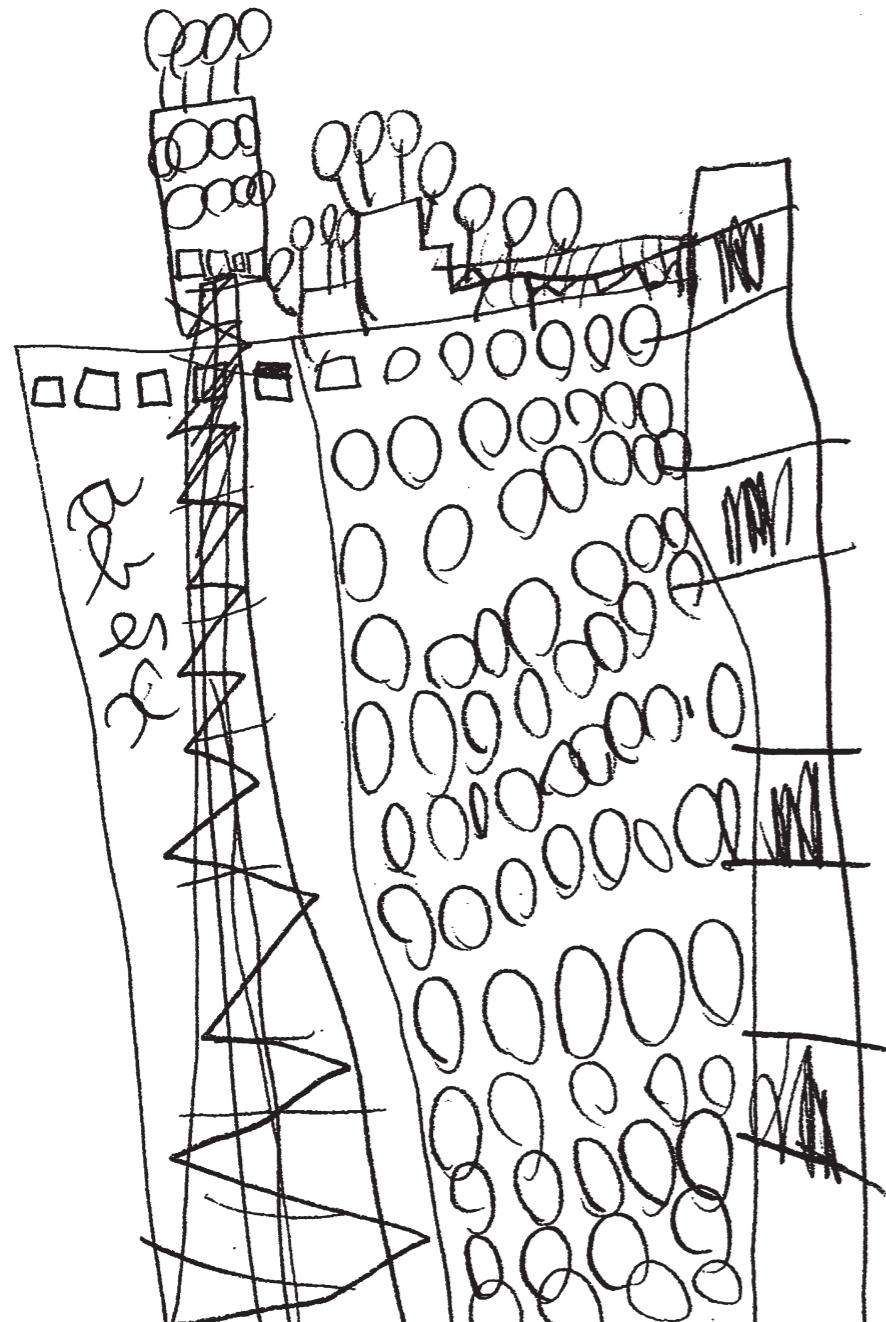




THIS PAGE Referee's changing room. Michael Doherty  
OPPOSITE Lotto results, Members Bar. Michael Doherty

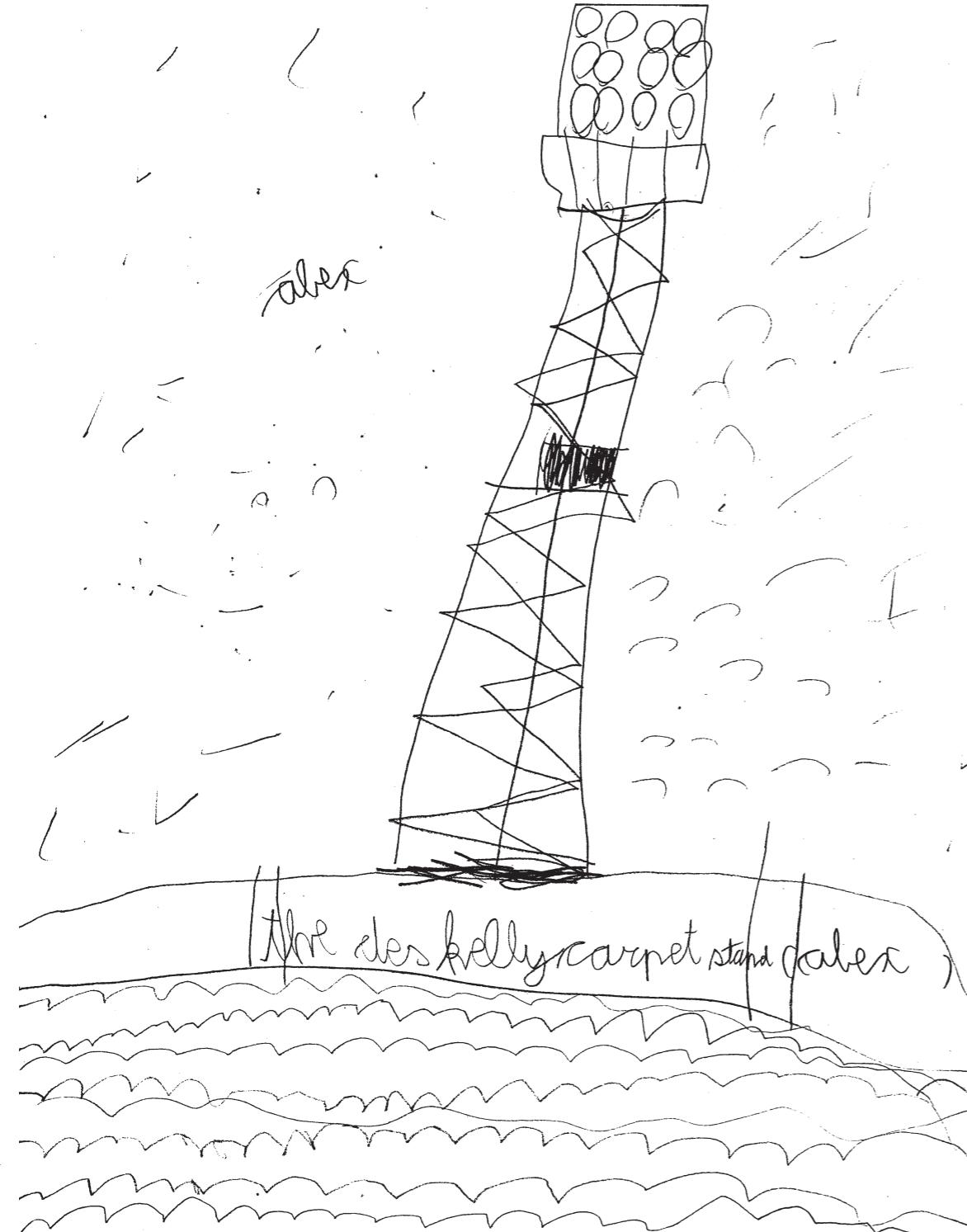




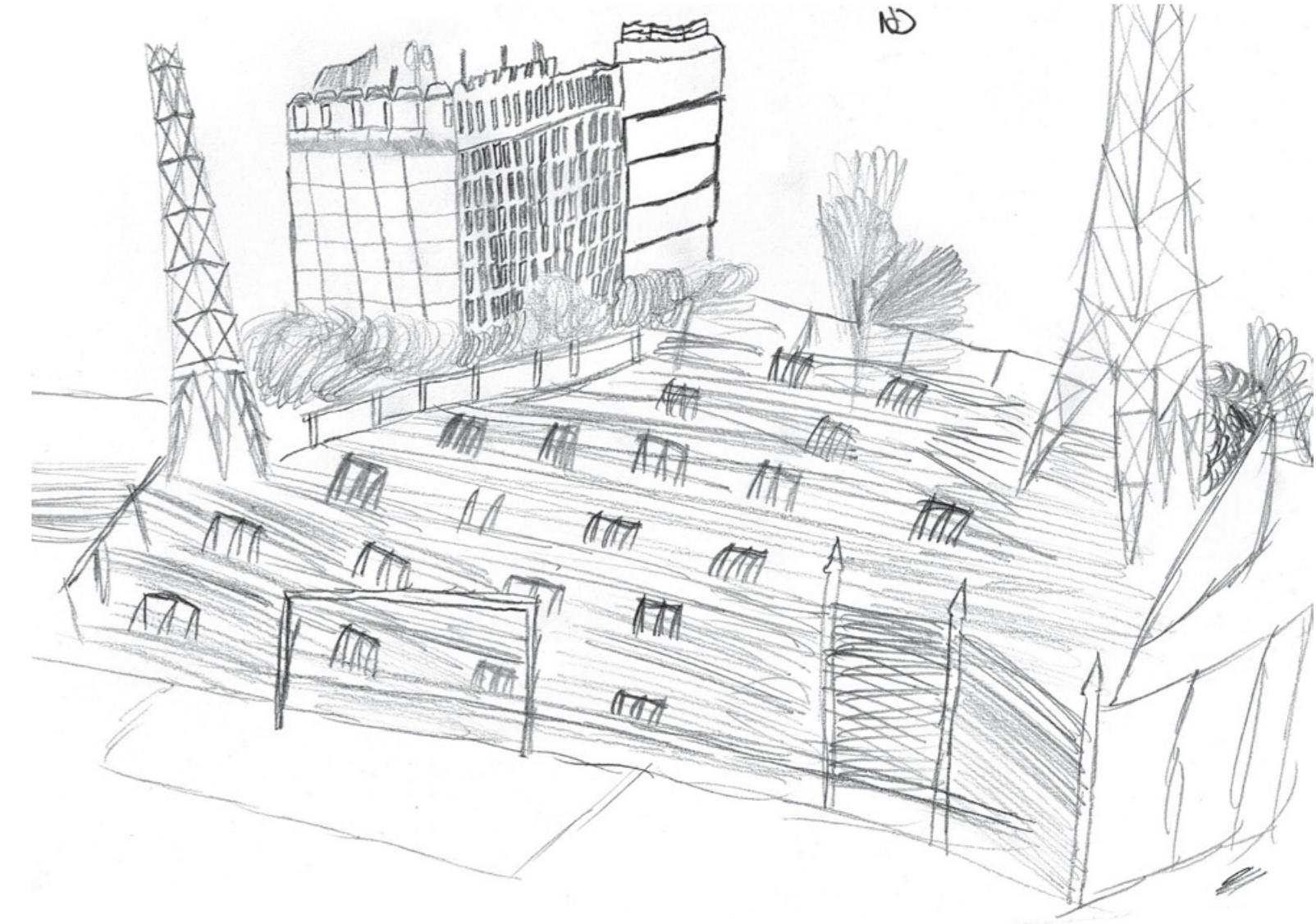


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Floodlights with shopping centre tower. Alex Delaney  
**OPPOSITE**  
End of Jodi Stand, St Peter's School and floodlights. Alex Delaney



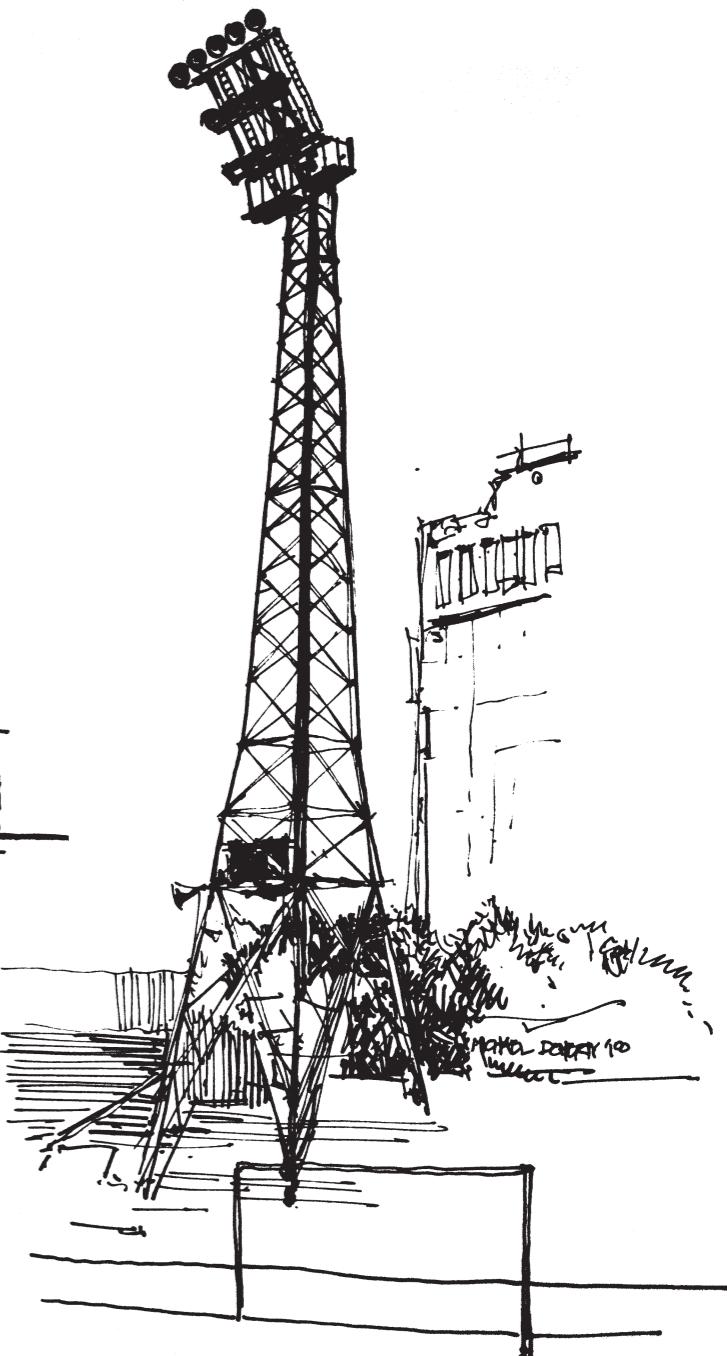
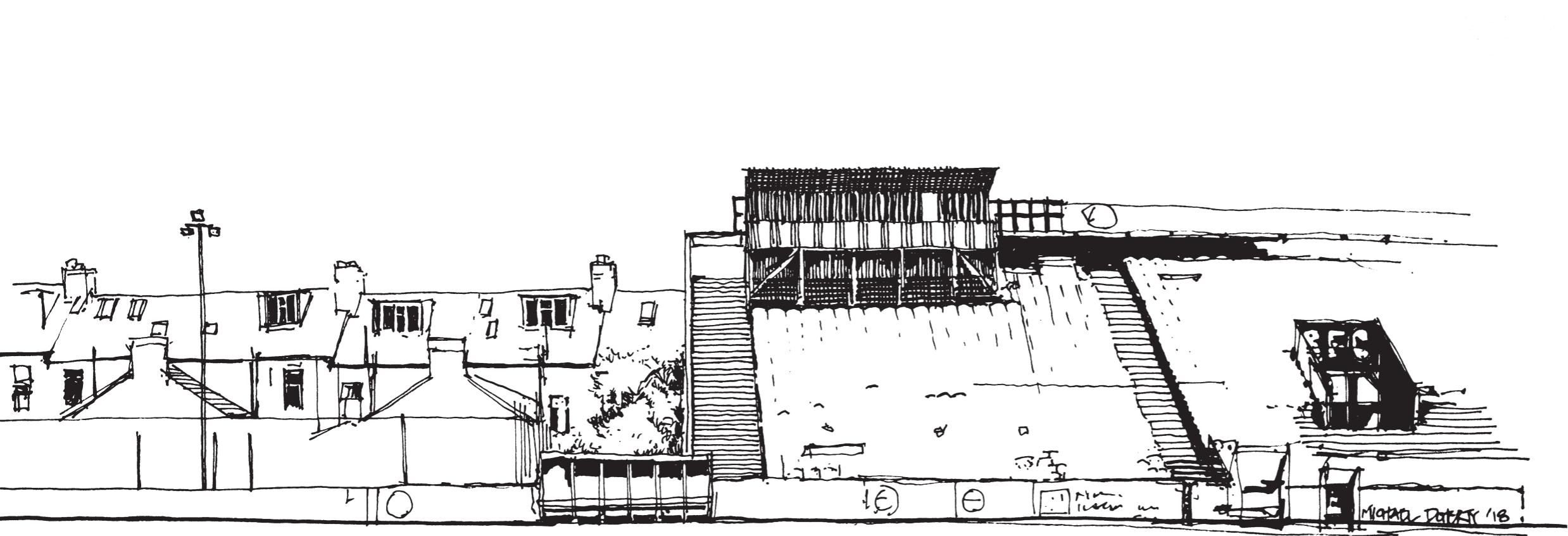


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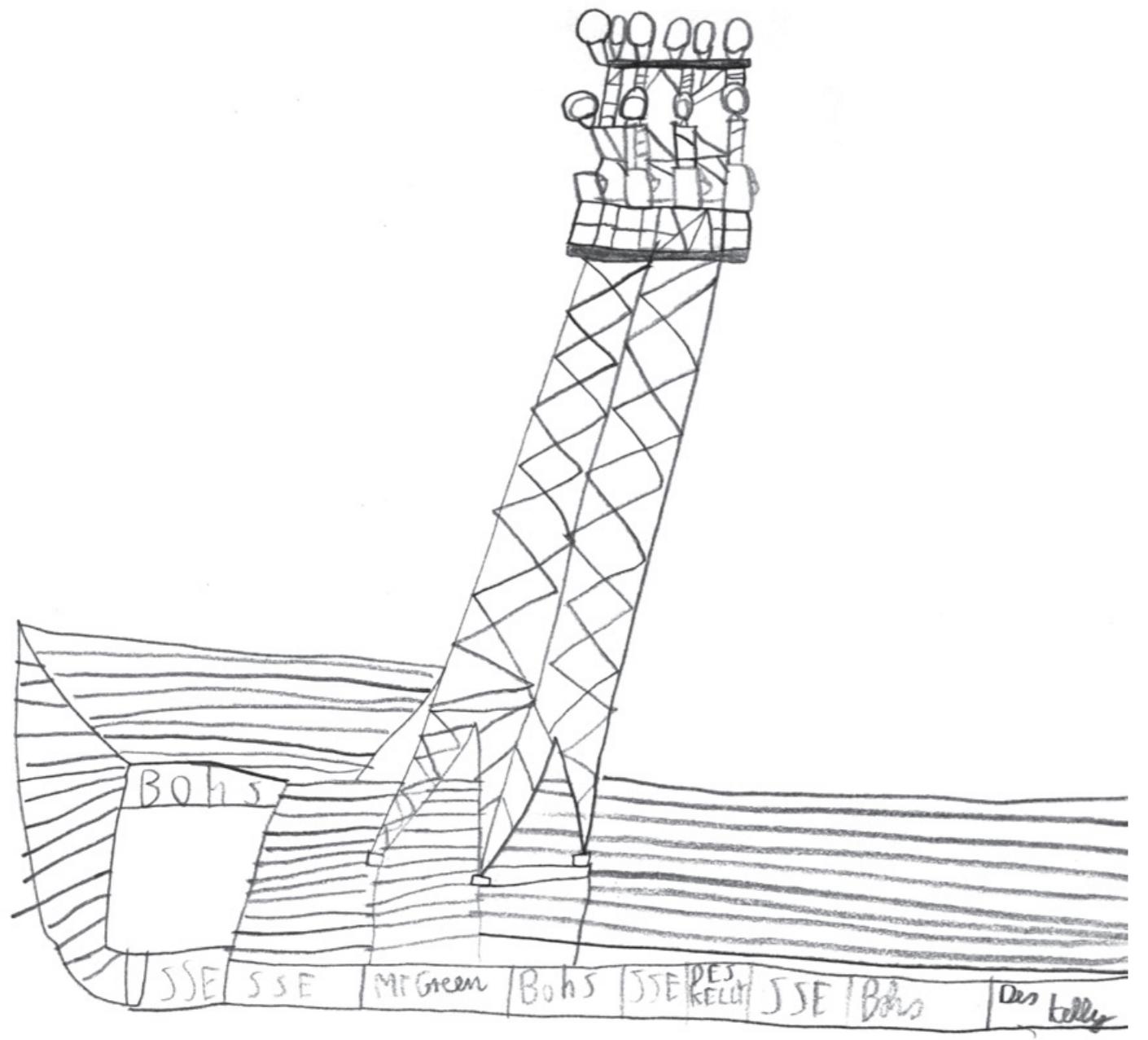


THIS PAGE Goals, floodlights, terracing and the shopping centre tower. Nathan Devine  
OPPOSITE The Des Kelly Carpets Stand with floodlights. Alex Delaney

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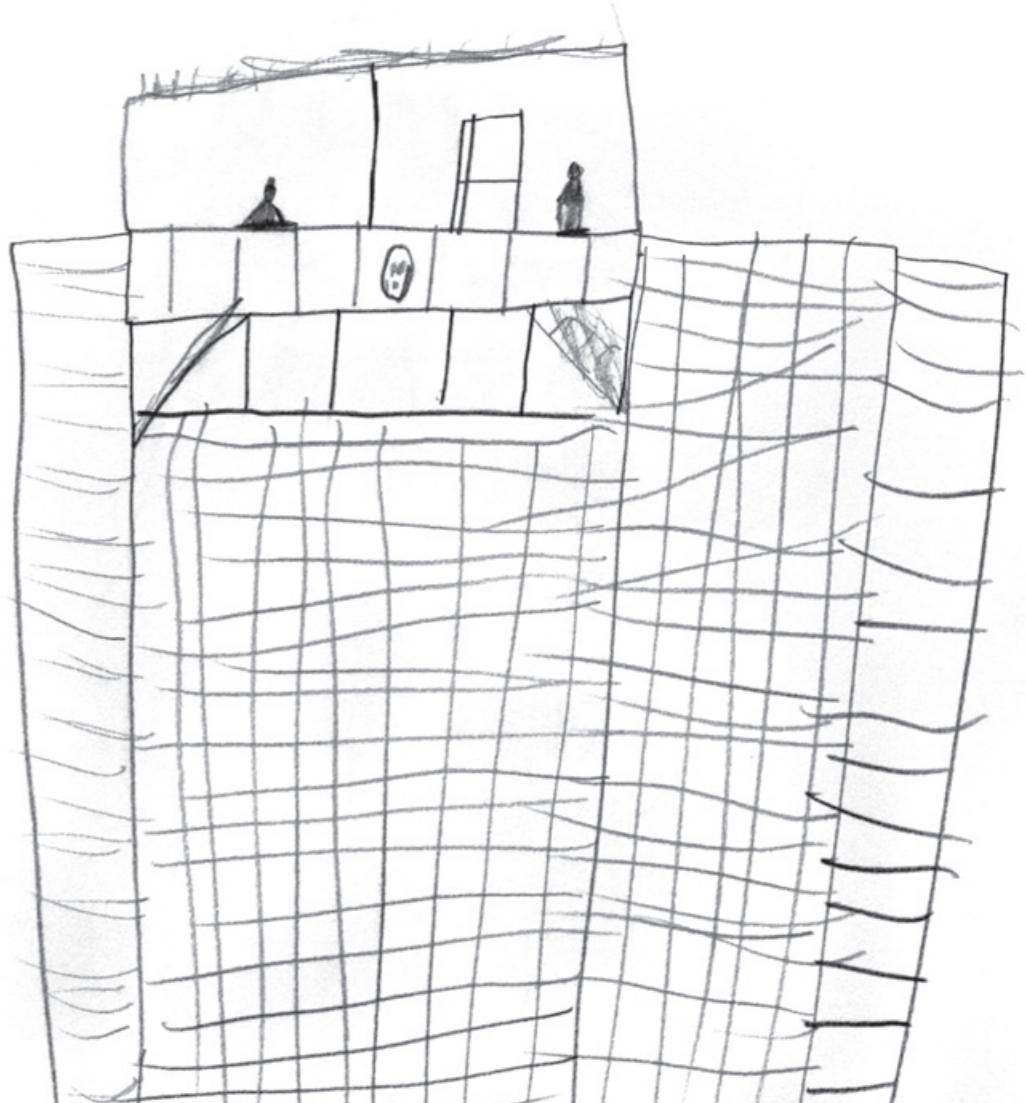
THIS PAGE Rear of houses in Connaught Street, home dugout, TV Gantry, Connaught Street Stand and vomitorium. Michael Doherty  
OPPOSITE Floodlights, terraces and shopping centre tower. Michael Doherty



James McGuinness

THIS PAGE Connaught Street entrance, floodlights and terraces. James McGuinness  
OPPOSITE 'Commentators Box' on Connaught Street Stand. James McGuinness

"Commentators Box"



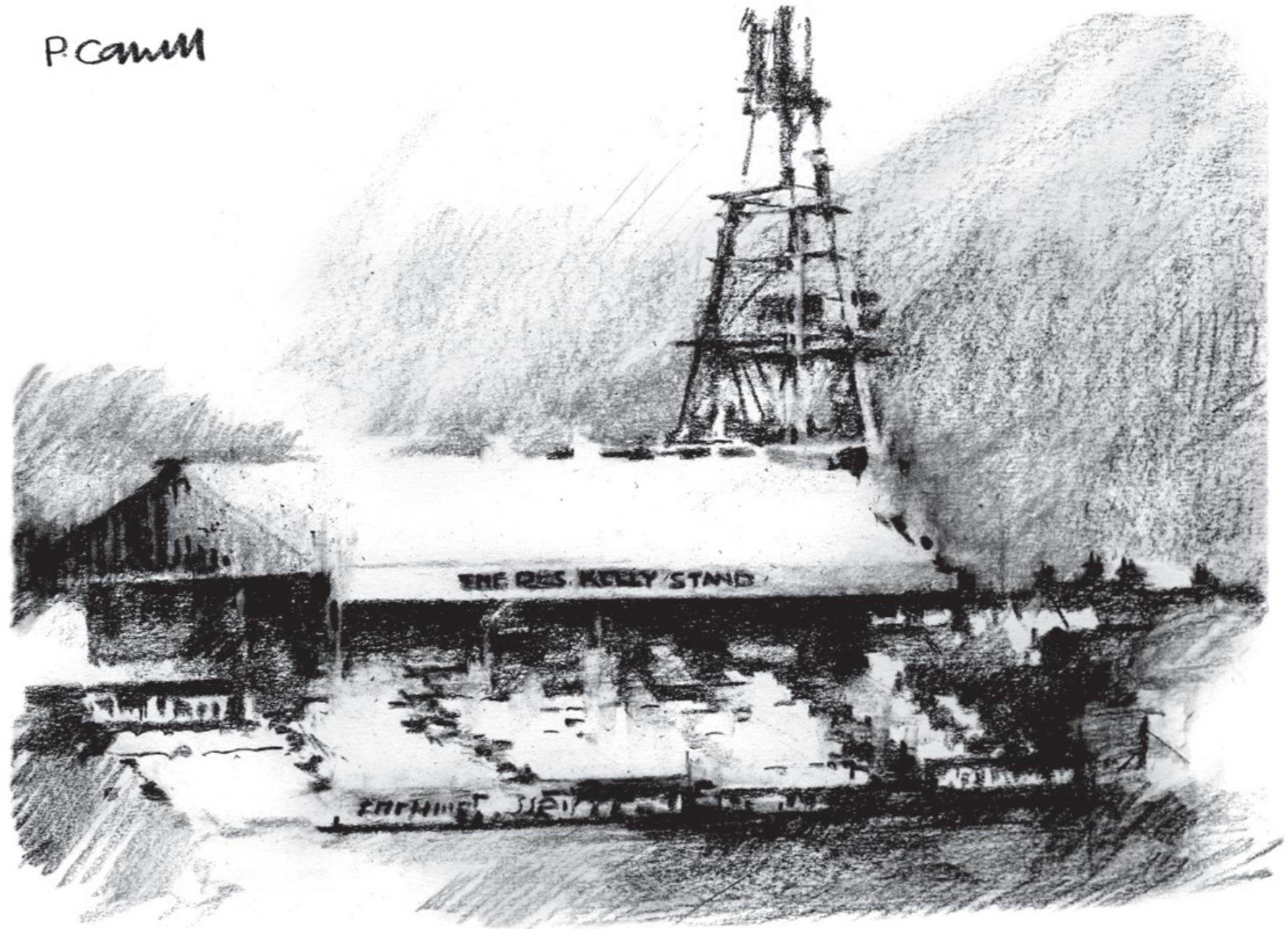
'THE BAR'

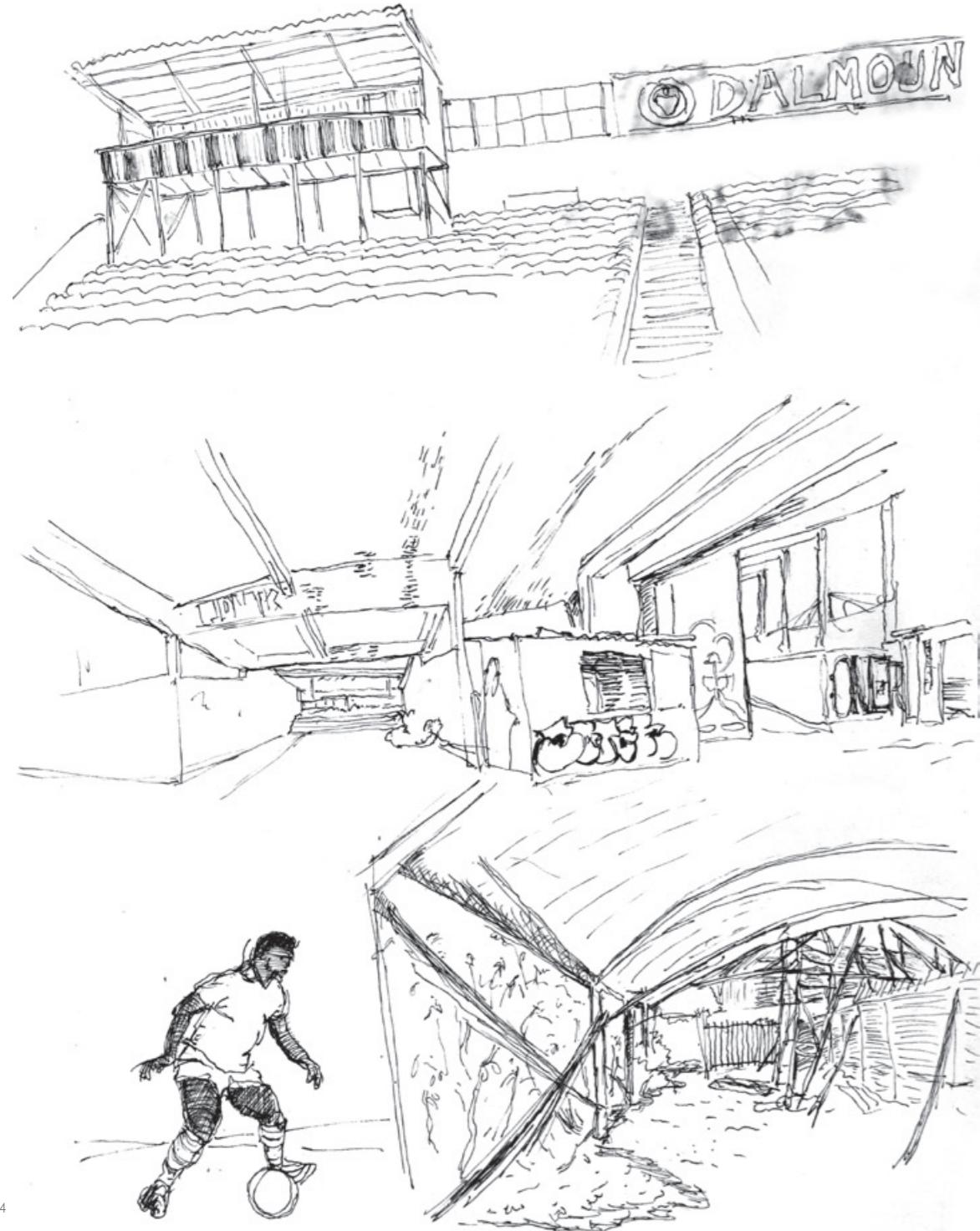


THIS PAGE 'The Bar', Members Bar with shutters down. Senan Geraghty

OPPOSITE Connaught Street Stand, Connaught Street entrance, floodlights and shopping centre tower. Senan Geraghty

P.Cahill



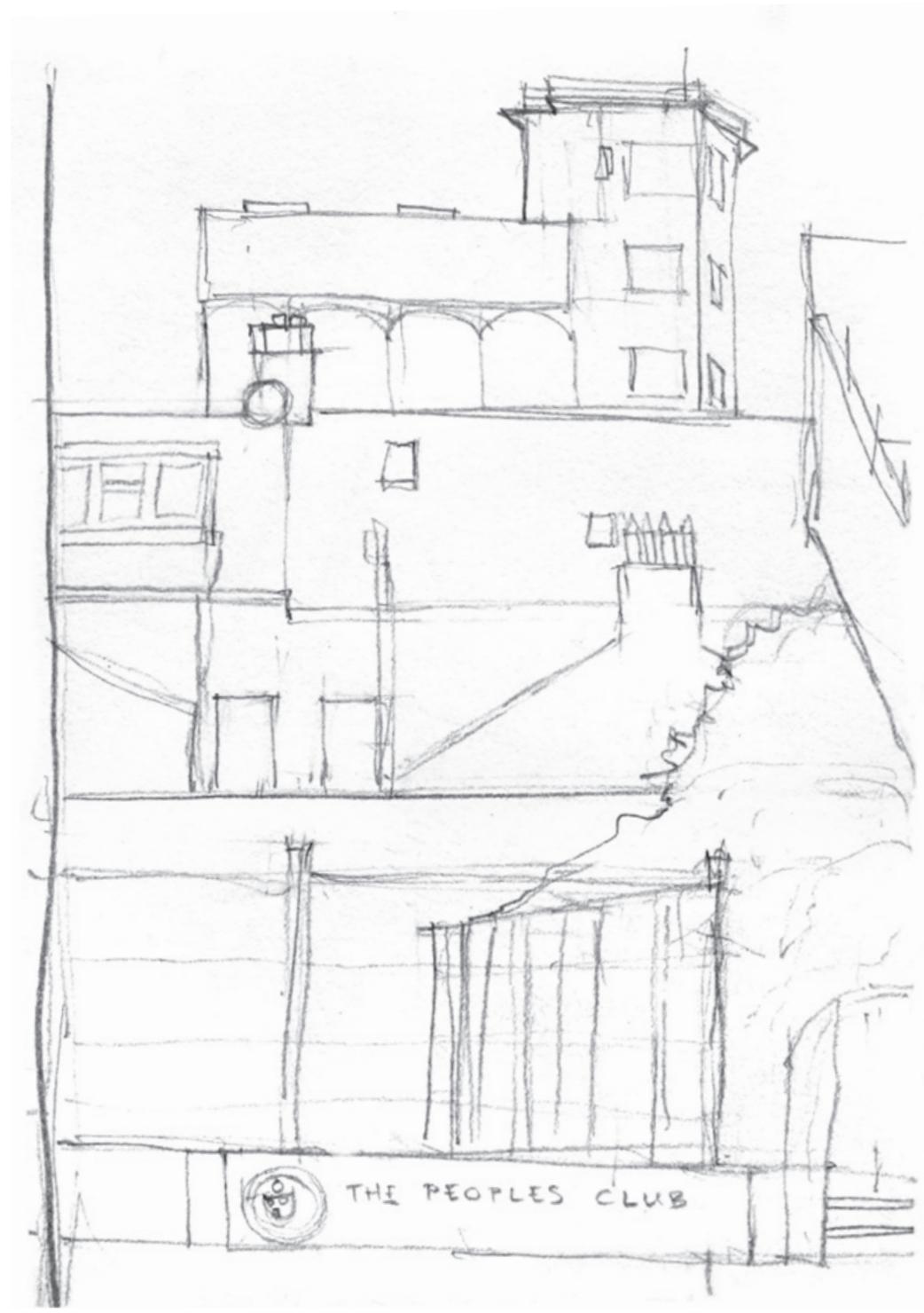


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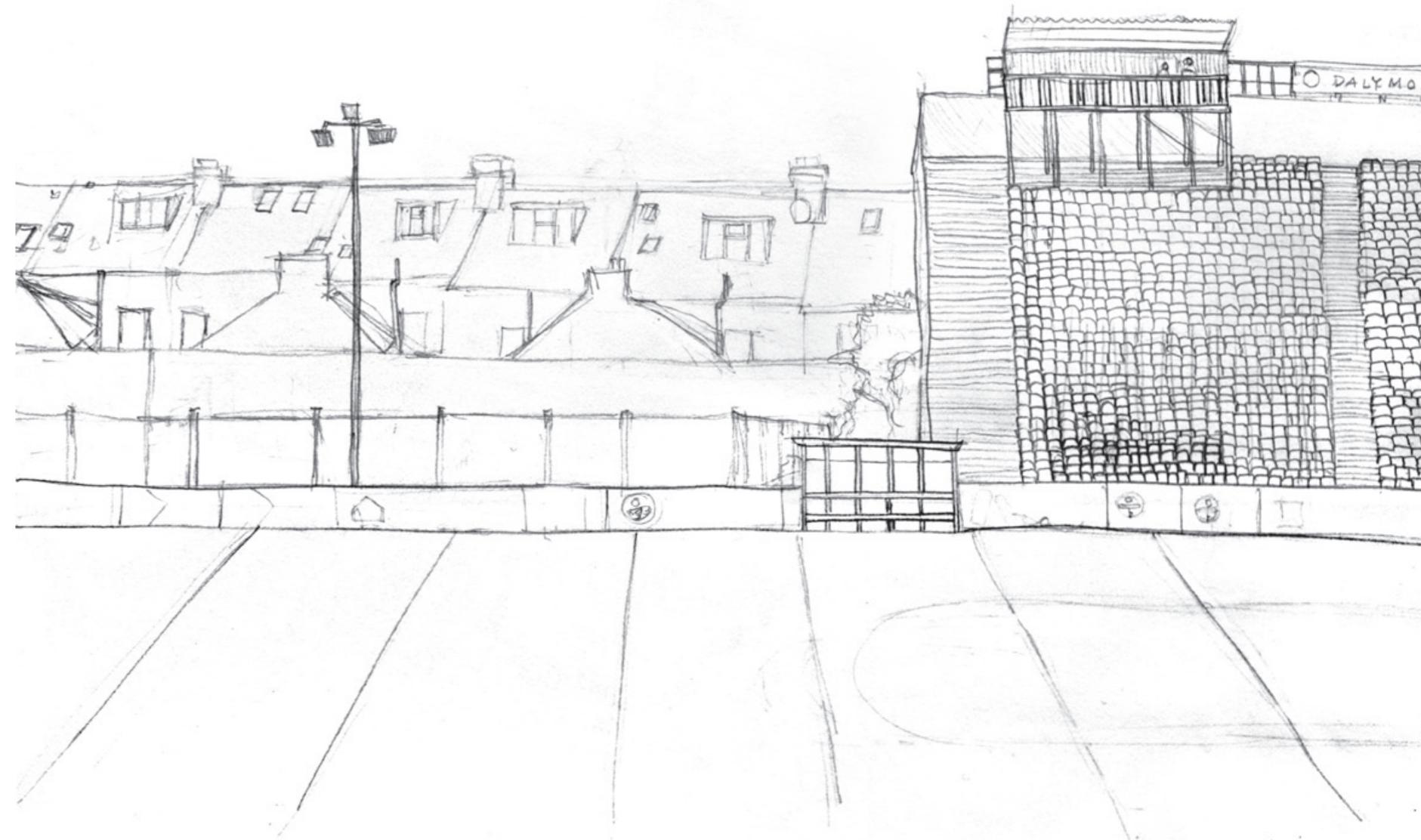


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OPPOSITE The pitch with the terraces, floodlights, shopping centre tower and Connaught Street entrance. Octavian Fitzherbert  
The TV Gantry, under the Connaught Street Stand and behind the Des Kelly Carpets Stand. Octavian Fitzherbert

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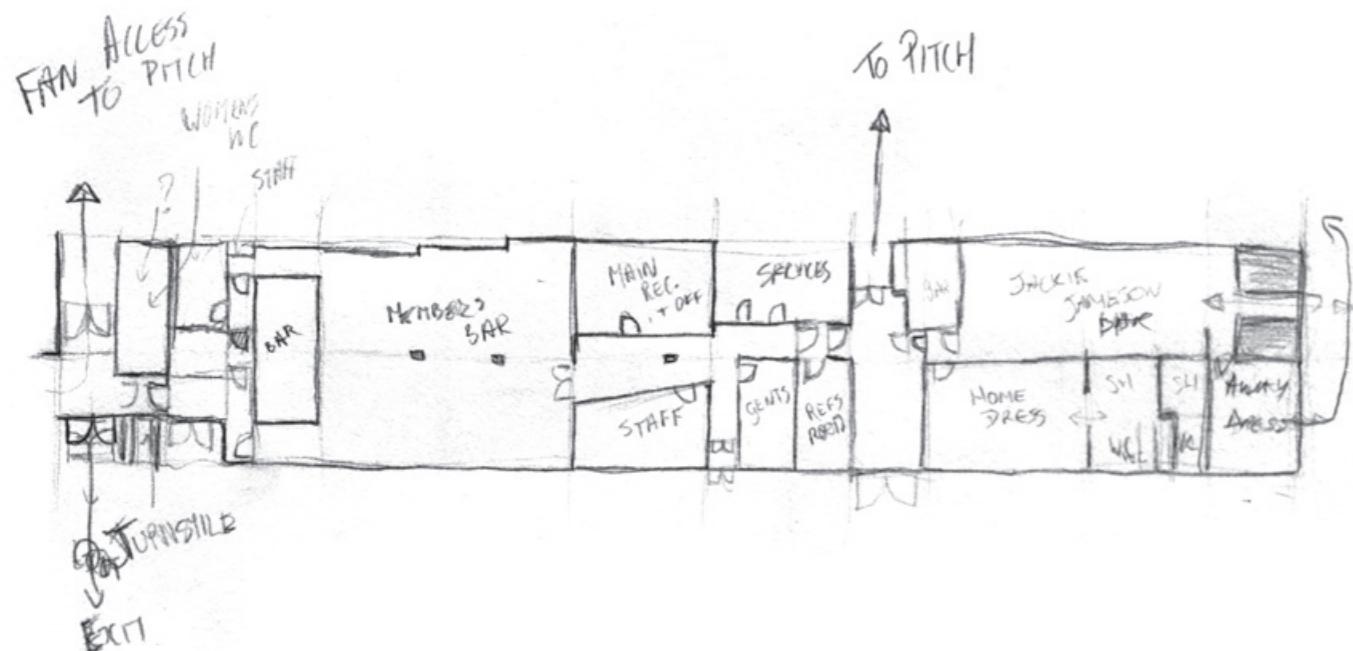
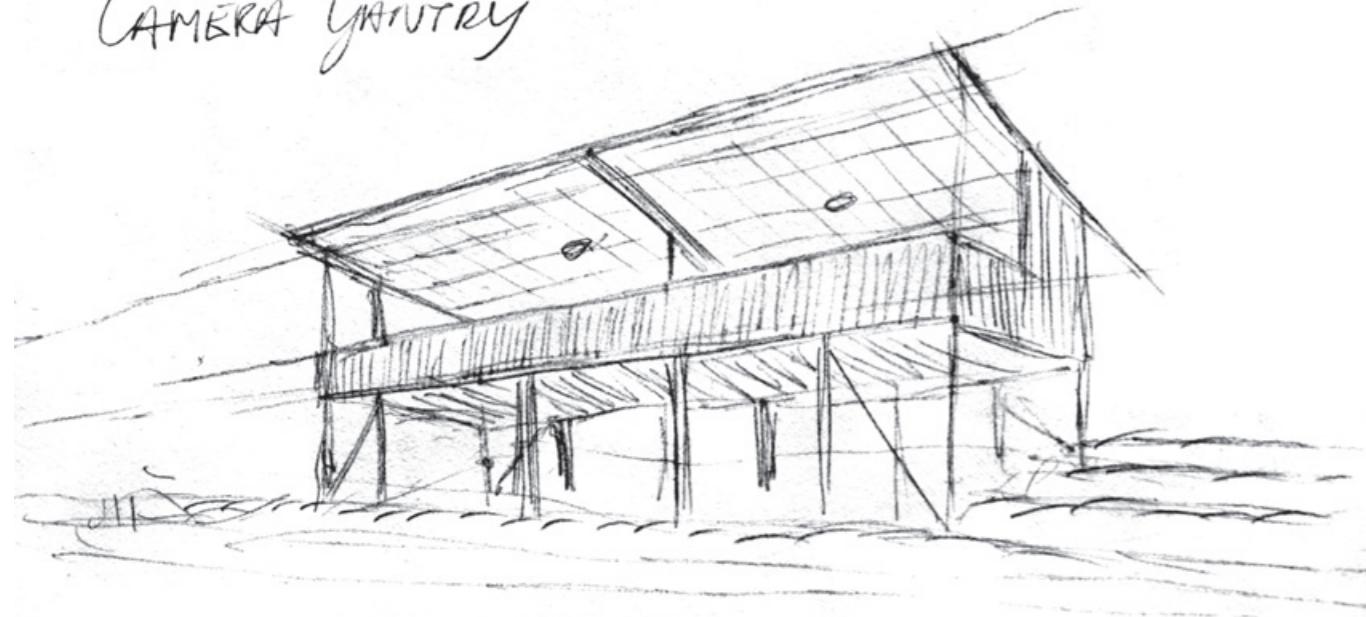
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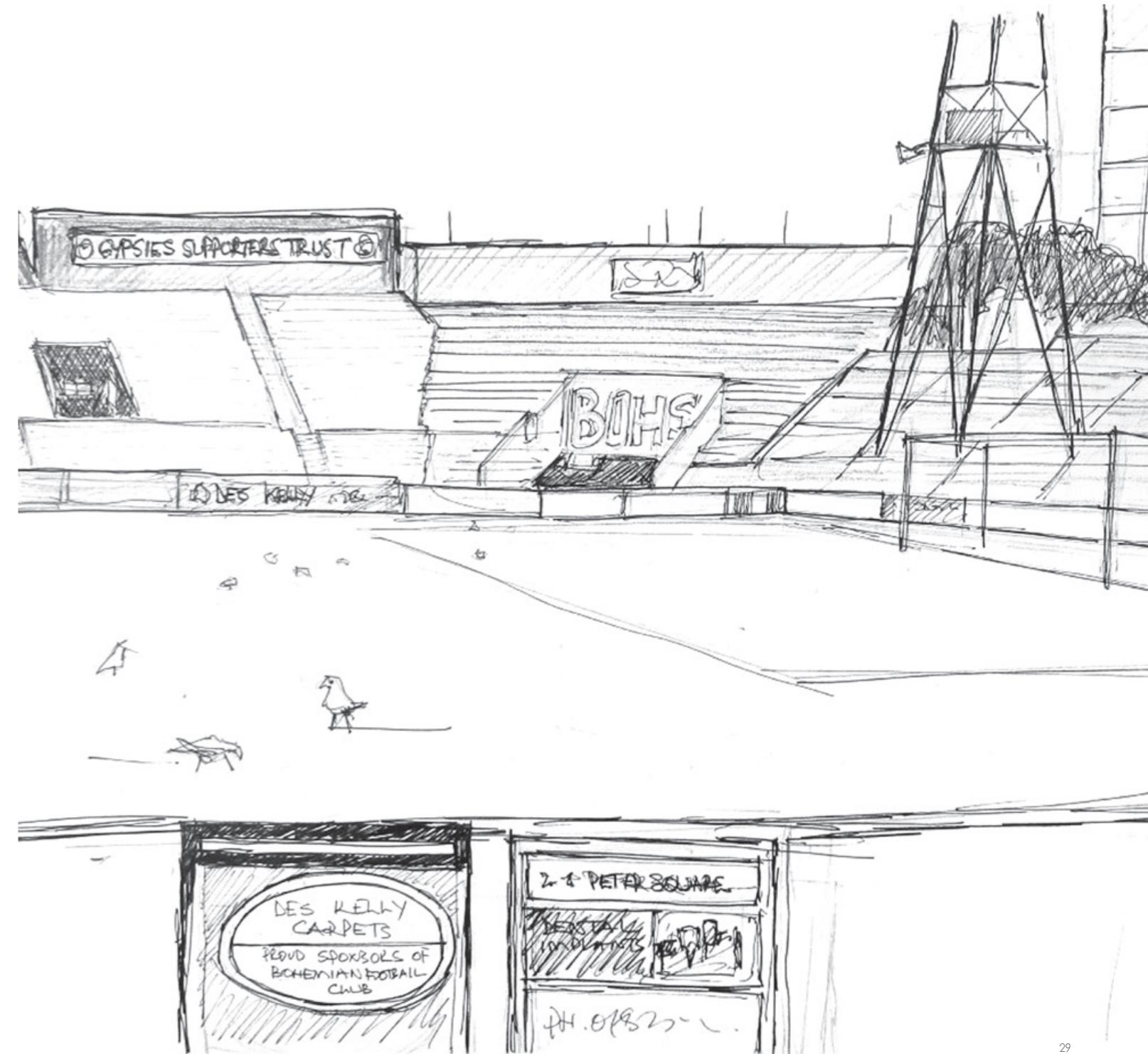
THIS PAGE Rear of houses in Connaught, home dugout, TV Gantry. Julianne Gee Ho  
OPPOSITE 'The Peoples' Club', Shandon Mills, rear of Connaught Street and pitch perimeter. Julianne Gee Ho

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# CAMERA GANTRY

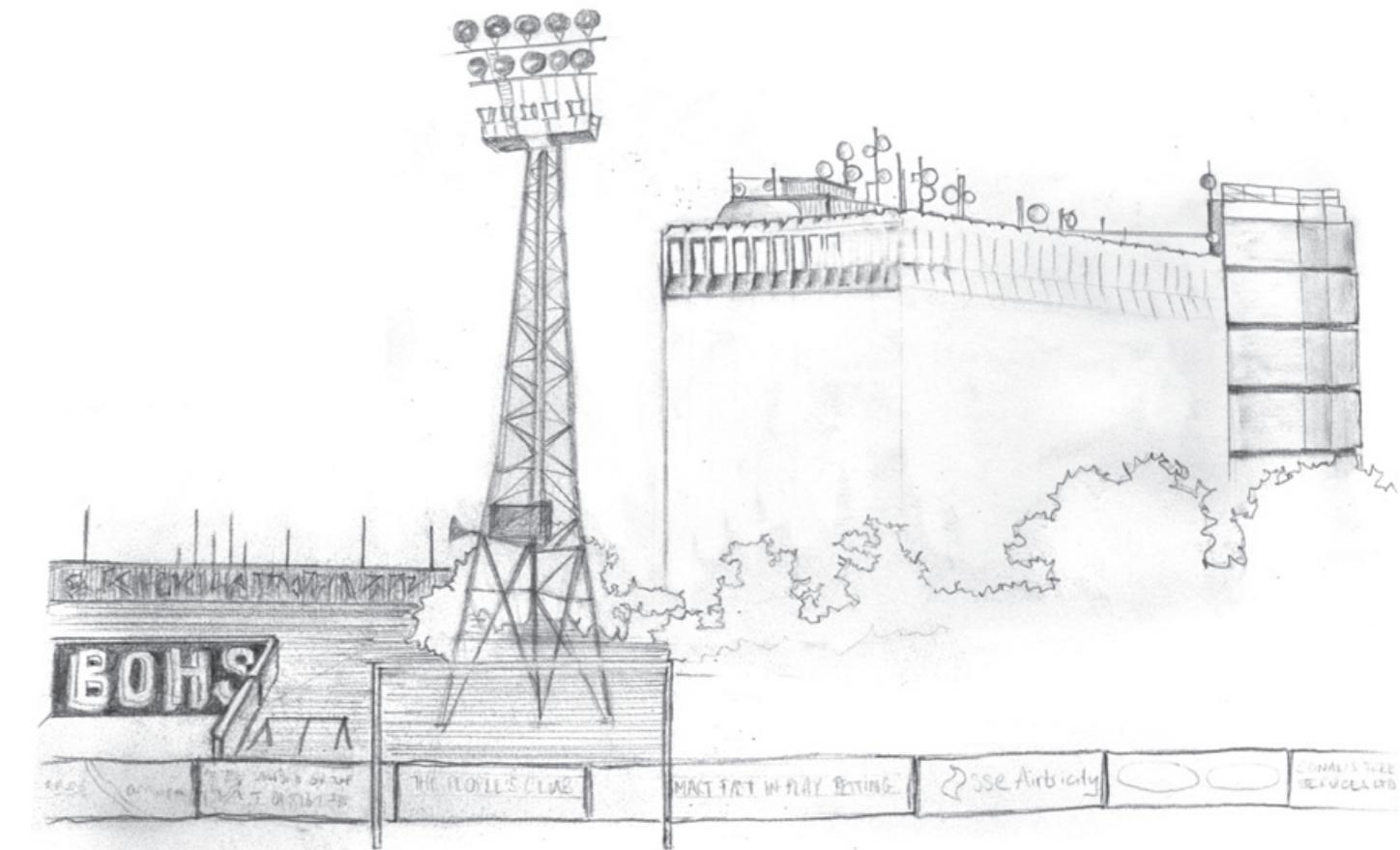


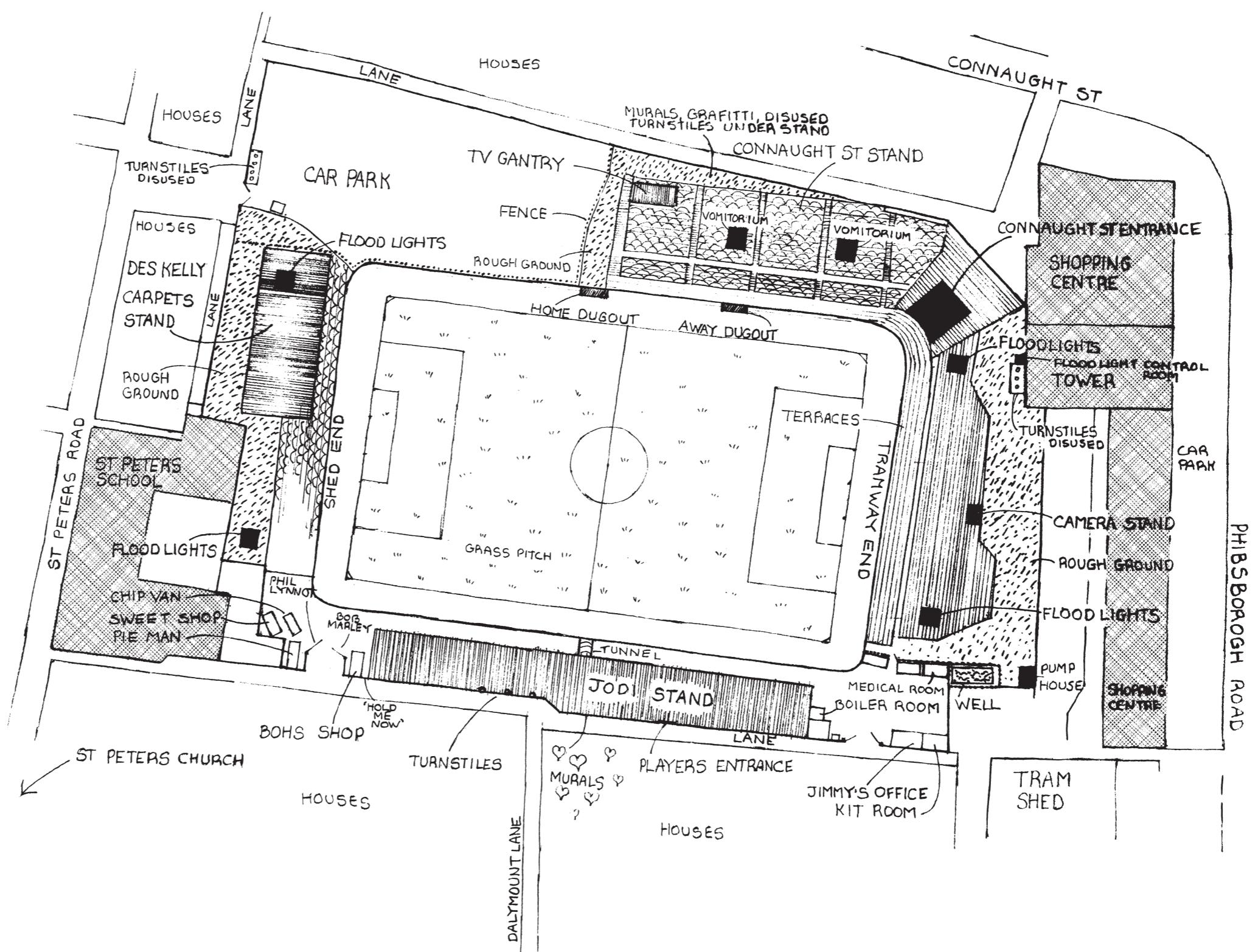
ABOVE 'Camera Gantry' on Connaught Street Stand. Peter Whelan  
BELOW Under the Jodi Stand. Peter Whelan  
OPPOSITE The pitch with seagulls, Connaught Street entrance. Patricia McGloughlin





THIS PAGE Terraces, floodlights and shopping center. Debbie Ging  
OPPOSITE St Peter's Church from the Des Kelly Carpet Stand. Rebecca Devine

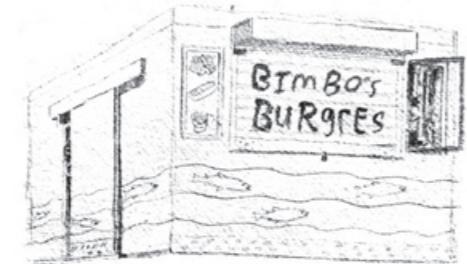




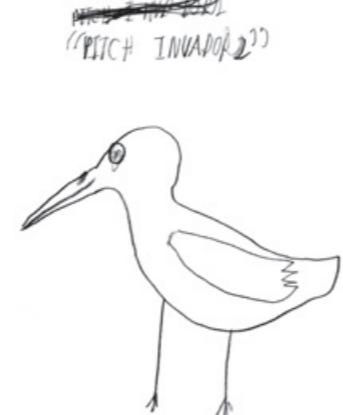
## Interesting Facts

A rich socio-cultural history is woven into the fabric of the built environment at Dalymount Park. Since 1901 it has been home to the Bohemian Football Club, first founded in 1890 by a group of doctors and civil servants. A stand out feature of Dalymount is the profound sense of attachment and belonging felt by fans of Bohemians.

Architecturally Dalymount is a captivating space. Some of the early built environment of the stadium was designed by Scottish engineer and self-described 'factory architect', Archibald Leitch. Leitch specialised in football stadium design in the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century. He was renowned for the carefully considered functionality of his work, lacking, however, in attention to aesthetic detail. He was much in demand and he designed for some of the UK's most famous clubs including Manchester United, Liverpool, Queens Park Rangers. In Dalymount, between 1927 and 1931 Leitch was commissioned to design terraces, changing rooms and entry points complete with intricate turnstiles. Many of those features are still in evidence, knitted into a range of enhancements and developments which occurred over time. The net result is an intriguing set of palimpsests scattered across the space.



'Bimbo's Burgres'. John O'Reilly



'Pitch Invader'. Senan Geraghty



Connaught Street entrance and floodlights. Caitríona Geraghty

In its heyday Dalymount attracted up to 40,000 fans and was 'the home of Irish football.' But today its impact nationally and locally has diminished and the stadium has gone into decline. It is now owned by Dublin City Council and will soon be demolished, to be replaced by a modern stadium, community facilities and a new urban public realm.

- Bohemians has been a members owned football club since its foundation in 1890
- The stadium was built in 1901 on a site some believe was known locally as Pisser Dignam's Field
- The Hut pub on the Phibsborough Road was named after the huts where players used to change in the early days
- In 1938 President Douglas Hyde was removed as Patron of the GAA for attending a soccer match at Dalymount
- Dalymount has a history of supporting a range of games. It once boasted tennis courts, a croquet pitch, snooker and darts competitions. The latter were held in the dressing room
- Over the years Dalymount has hosted carnivals and bands including Meatloaf, Status Quo, Bob Marley, Thin Lizzy and The Boomtown Rats
- In the 1950's and 1960's the Crackpots played the Ink-blots in annual fund-raising matches. These teams comprised well known entertainment personalities

- In 1957 almost 50,000 fans watched Ireland play England at Dalymount
- In the early 1960's the famous floodlights were installed to encourage more international games. At the official opening ceremony the lights were blessed by Father Vincent Allen
- In 1972 Pelé played with his club Santos FC against Bohemians at Dalymount. Santos won 3-2
- The players dressing room is the same room players such as Pelé used before and after matches
- In 1985 such a huge crowd showed up for the Ireland V Italy game that fans were put sitting on the edge of the pitch. Ireland lost 2-1
- Dalymount has its own well which is the water source for the pitch
- There are three bars under the Jodi Stand: The Jackie Jameson bar, The Members Bar and The Phoenix Bar. The latter hosted rehearsals for an award-winning performance of The Full Monty a couple of years ago

## Acknowledgements

We would like to thank all the people who came to Drawing Dalymount. Unfortunately it was not possible to reproduce all the drawings made that day in this book. By being there everyone contributed to the event and we hope gained from the experience of drawing together in this unique space. We would also like to thank all our interviewees for their time and fascinating stories. Finally, we are particularly grateful to Lynn O'Neill, Daniel Lambert and Jimmy O'Connor for their support and invaluable assistance throughout this project.

### Drawing Day participants

Michael Doherty, Peter Whelan, John O'Reilly, Julianne Gee Ho, John O'Flynn, Patrick Cahill, Rosaleen Fleming, Eleanor Holmes, Anne Gannon, Octavian Fitzherbert, Alice Bentley, Austin O'Carroll, Debbie Ging, Alan Mee, Jo Anthoni, Joan Kavanagh, Fiona Delaney, Alex Delaney, Vincent Lambe, Garvan Corr, Gavin Fahy, Shiela Ahern, Marian Fitzpatrick, Patrick McGloaglin, Senan Geraghty, Simon Geraghty, Catríona Geraghty, Caroline O'Dea, Conor McMahon, Ken McCue, Mary A Fitzgerald, Cecelia Moore, Rebecca Devine, Nathan Devine, Naoise Smith O'Carroll, Joe McGuiness, James McGuinness, Oliver Blake, Ciaran Cuffe, Aidan Hickey.

### Interviewees

Brian Trench, Colin O'Connor, Fiona Delaney, Lynn O'Neill, Lewis Kenny, Tina Robinson, Christy McElligott, Stephen Burke, Keith Buckley, James Conroy.

### Publication design

Niall McCormack

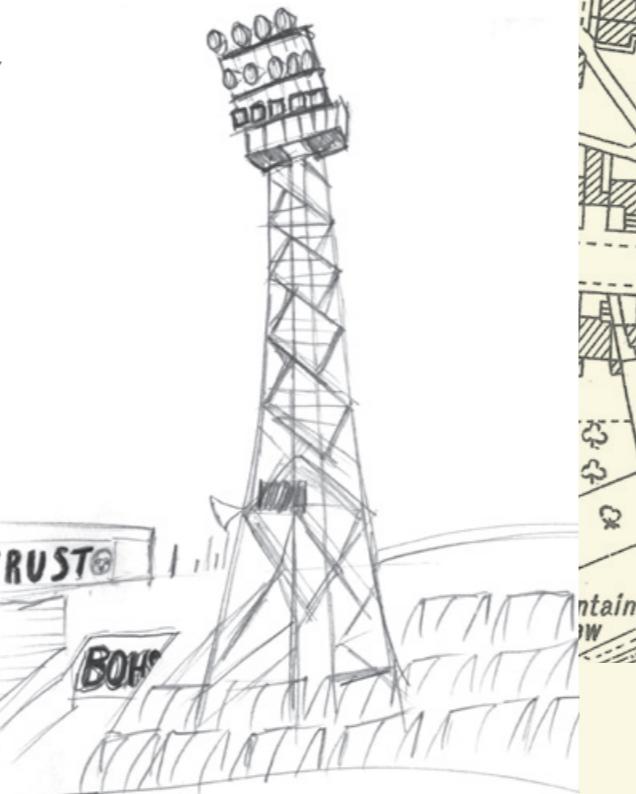
## Project Leaders

Jackie Bourke and Dorothy Smith have worked together on a number of creative mapping projects. Jackie is a researcher with an interest in the lived urban environment. Using creative methods her research focusses on the everyday experience of public space. She lectures in World Urbanisation in University College, Dublin. Dorothy is a visual artist whose work is primarily concerned with the built environment of public space. Her practice is rooted in studio based work with a keen interest in embracing contexts beyond those of the studio and gallery space. Her work includes public art projects, curation, exhibitions and community based work.



This project has been supported by the Arts Council through the Engaging With Architecture Scheme.

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Map of Dalymount Park 1936

Ordnance Survey of Dublin 1:1250 Sheet 18-07a (Revised 1936), published 1949

Reproduced from a map in Trinity College Library, Dublin, with the permission of the Board of Trinity College

### **Drawing Dalymount: The Colouring Book**

is an interactive means to encourage people to engage with the architecture of the city on their door step.

On the morning of Saturday November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018 over 40 people gathered to draw in Dalymount Park football stadium in Phibsborough, Dublin. This book comprises many of those drawings and marks a moment in the stadium's evolution from the perspective of a diverse group of people. The drawings were made as part of Dalymount Park: Mapping a Unique Architectural Space, a project developed by Jackie Bourke and Dorothy Smith.

