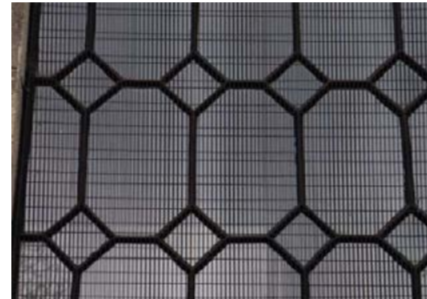# FABRICation

Site materiality > Winter planting

Pattern and texture

Overgrow vegetation is everywhere on site - the planting has been allowed to roam, weaving itself among the graves. With a few exceptions of planned planting along the new development works. In the oldest areas of the cemetery, aged trees in varying conditions twist and curve upwards, while on the floor, ivy grows and races up to the sky, clutching onto anything nearby.

The winter colour palette is muted and minimalist, with the exception of bright white planting and vivid red berries. Other seasons bring an array of colours through flora, nestled among flower beds and graves.
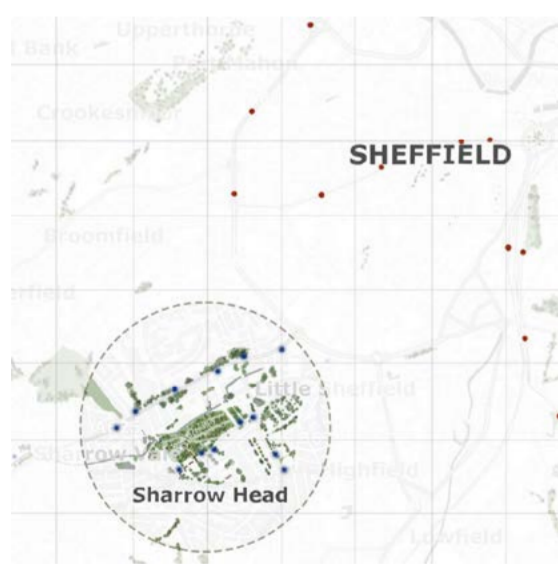
INTERIOR ARCHITECTURE + DESIGN

Samuel Worth Chapel

Exploring site and surrounding areas

INTERIOR ARC

Landscape

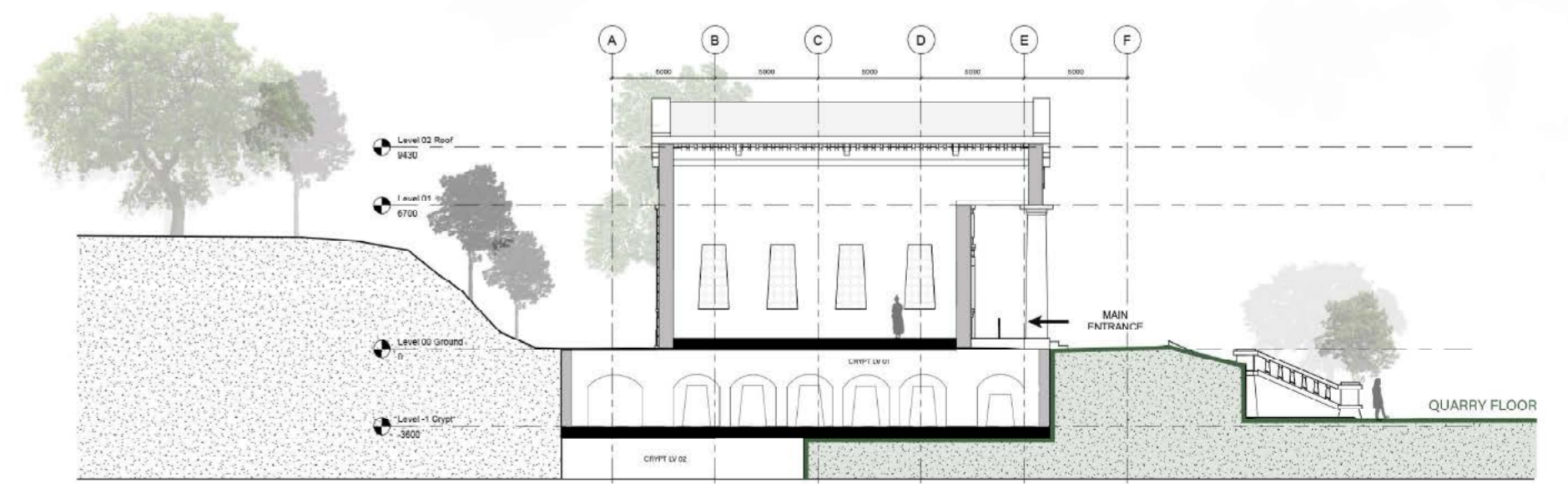*Exploring the existing terrain*

Sheffield Cemetery has six historical buildings and several monuments that are grade II listed. The site's main entrance is located on Cemetery Avenue, near the gatehouse that sits on Porter Brook River.

The site has several areas of footpath erosion from weather and visitors and the majority of the paths are accessible for wheelchair use after recent development. Near the cemetery there are rows of terraced housing and commercial shops/restaurants along Ecclesall Road - a popular street near the City Centre.

The map of Sheffield's blue dots pinpoints several transportation links to the site via bus. And the red dots highlight the main tram/train networks in the city centre. Near the site, there are on-street car parking spaces along the residential areas and a handful near shops, but not any large car parks that could facilitate considerable crowds.

Existing Terrain
1 : 100

Dimensions are indicative and need to be checked on-site

NOT TO SCALE

CRYPT INTERIOR

Design Brief:

Design a permanent eatery within/around Samuel Worth Chapel, exploring the site's rich history and fabrication. By linking the historical nature of the site through conceptual exploration and storytelling.
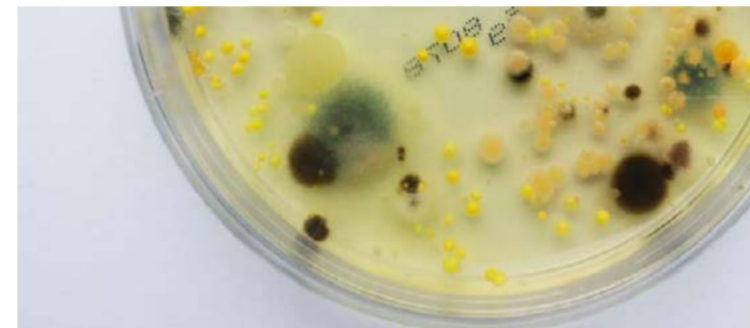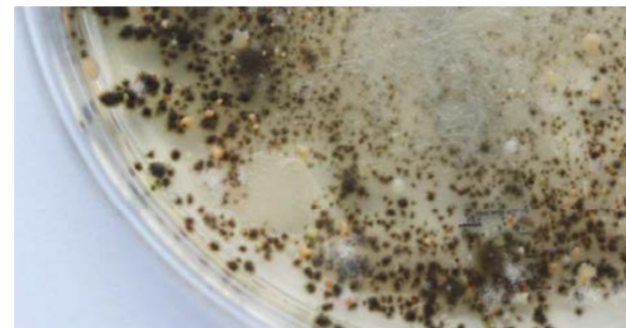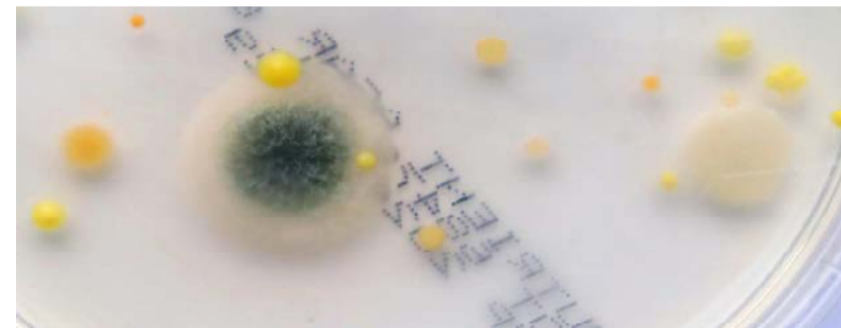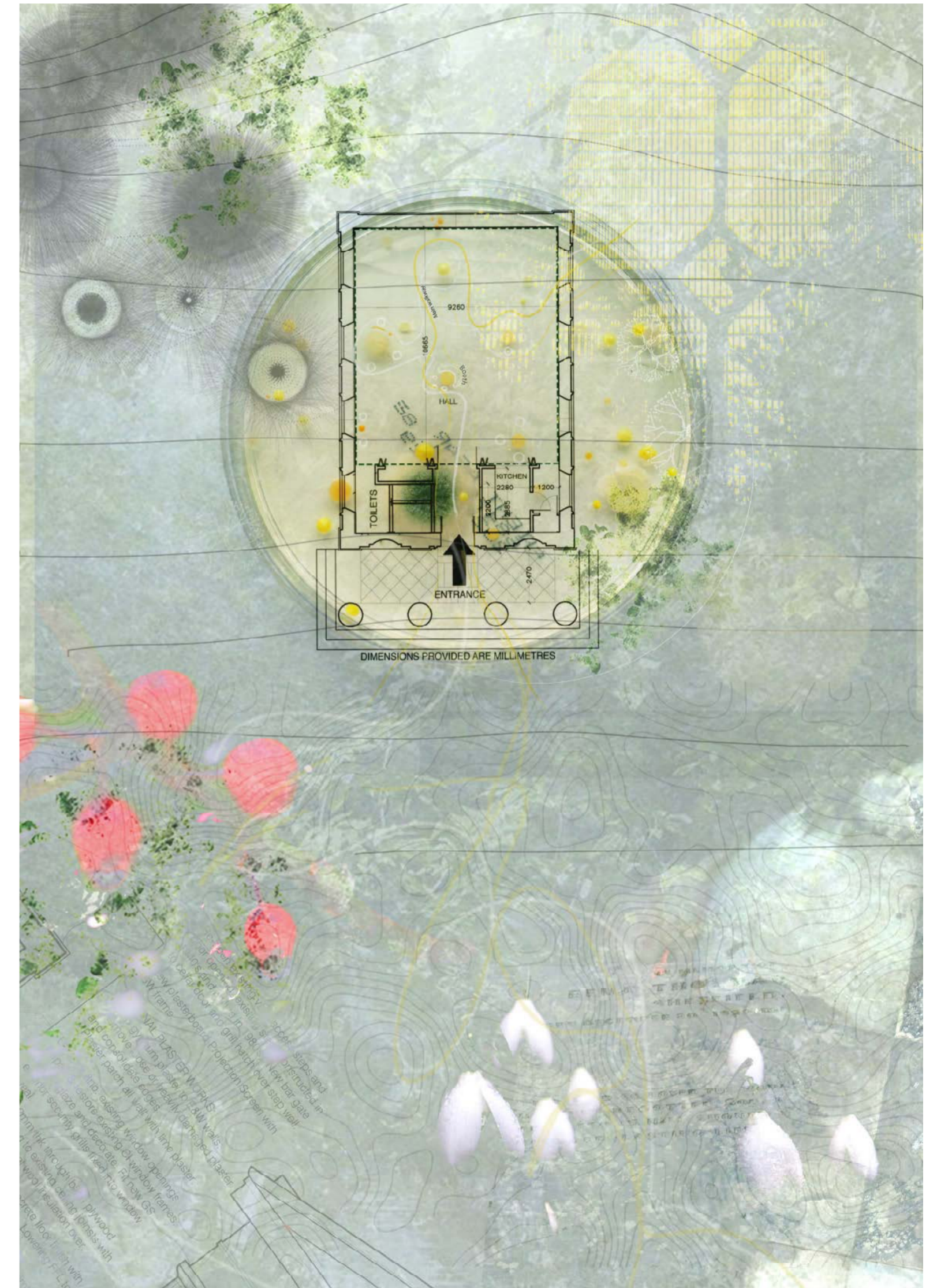
Sample 01

Sample 02

Sample 03

Bacteria Influence

Present day

Exploring site and surrounding areas

Samuel Worth Chapel, formally known as the non-conformist chapel has undergone several restorations in the past two decades. In recent years, it has been restored to its former glory, removing debris, restoring precious architecture, and connecting it to water/electricity. The building was often the target of vandalism and had to be bricked up with concrete to protect and preserve graves and interior structures.

With the aid of the Challenge Fund, the existing structures and site were improved, making it fit for public use again. With a £220,000 grant, Samuel Worth Chapel was restored to its former glory. Inside, graves have been removed, structural work has been completed, and a new design proposal was completed - supplying the building with two toilets and an intimate kitchen.

The building is accessible via several meandering paths from all sides of the cemetery and has wheelchair access with a ramp. The surrounding site is still slightly overgrown among the graves, but there are dedicated planting, walkways, and signage. That makes it easier to navigate the site and explore safely. The graveyard is now in a built-up area of Sheffield, local to shops, restaurants and homes. It is used regularly by cyclists, runners, and dog walkers and is a quiet area to explore near Ecclesall Road. It is undisturbed by vehicles, noise and sound pollution - making it a great nature reserve for fauna and flora.

Current use:

Since its development, Samuel Worth Chapel has now been used as a multifunctional event space that is hirable for use. It's used for weddings, parties, club nights, crafts, memorials, theatrical performances, and other community events. It has a maximum capacity of sixty people across one floor. Inside, the walls have been plastered and painted white, setting a muted backdrop for events. And the floor has been laden with natural-toned tiles that are heated.

Nature conservation:

As part of the site development, geological factors had to be taken into consideration. Bright outdoor lighting is not allowed to protect bats that use the site, and a number of habitats had to be created/accounted for. Surveys had to be done to decipher the type of wildlife that is on-site and the impact the work would have on nature. Flood assessments had to be conducted, to evaluate the potential flood risk, due to its close proximity to Porter Brook river.

Biodiversity changes have to be made gradually over a ten-year period, to not overly disturb existing habitats. And diseased and 'bad condition' trees were removed, with new mature trees planted in their place, with the exception of permanent tree removal. To make way for more green spaces and public areas.

FABRICation

Conceptual model

Design influence

As part of my project, I wanted to explore form and texture with a model to influence my conceptual design approach. I aimed to explore height and the possibility of creating a large-scale piece within the building that makes an impact, just like Egyptian pylons do.

Inspired by the existing arches in the crypt and the uneven terrain, I designed a plaster-cast model.
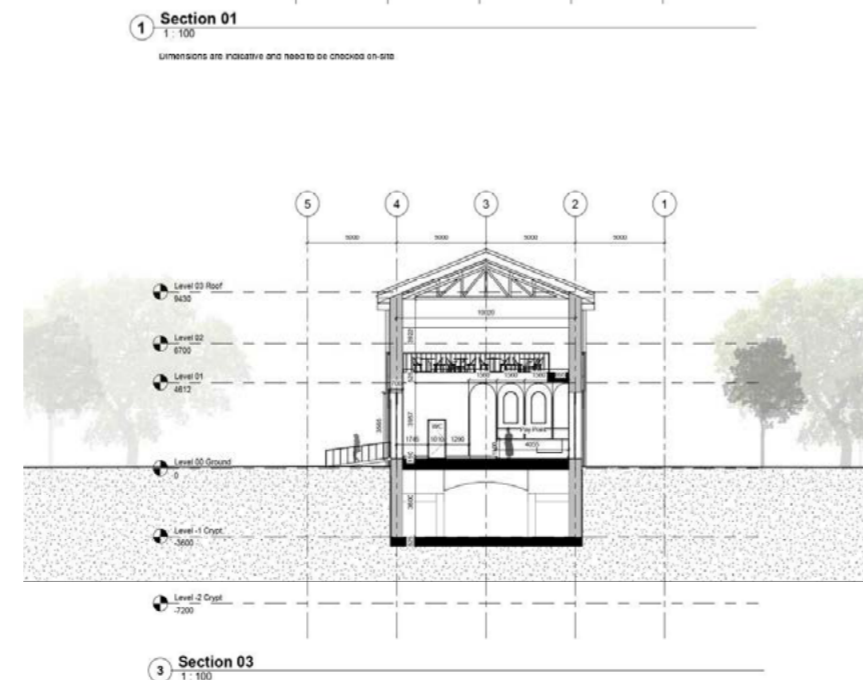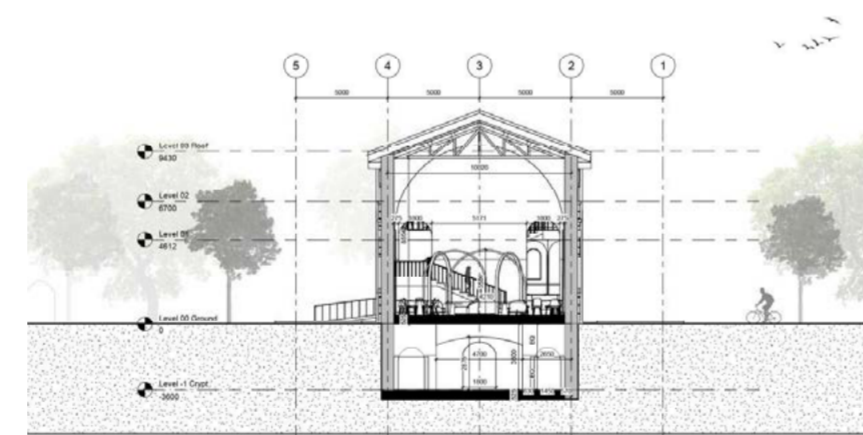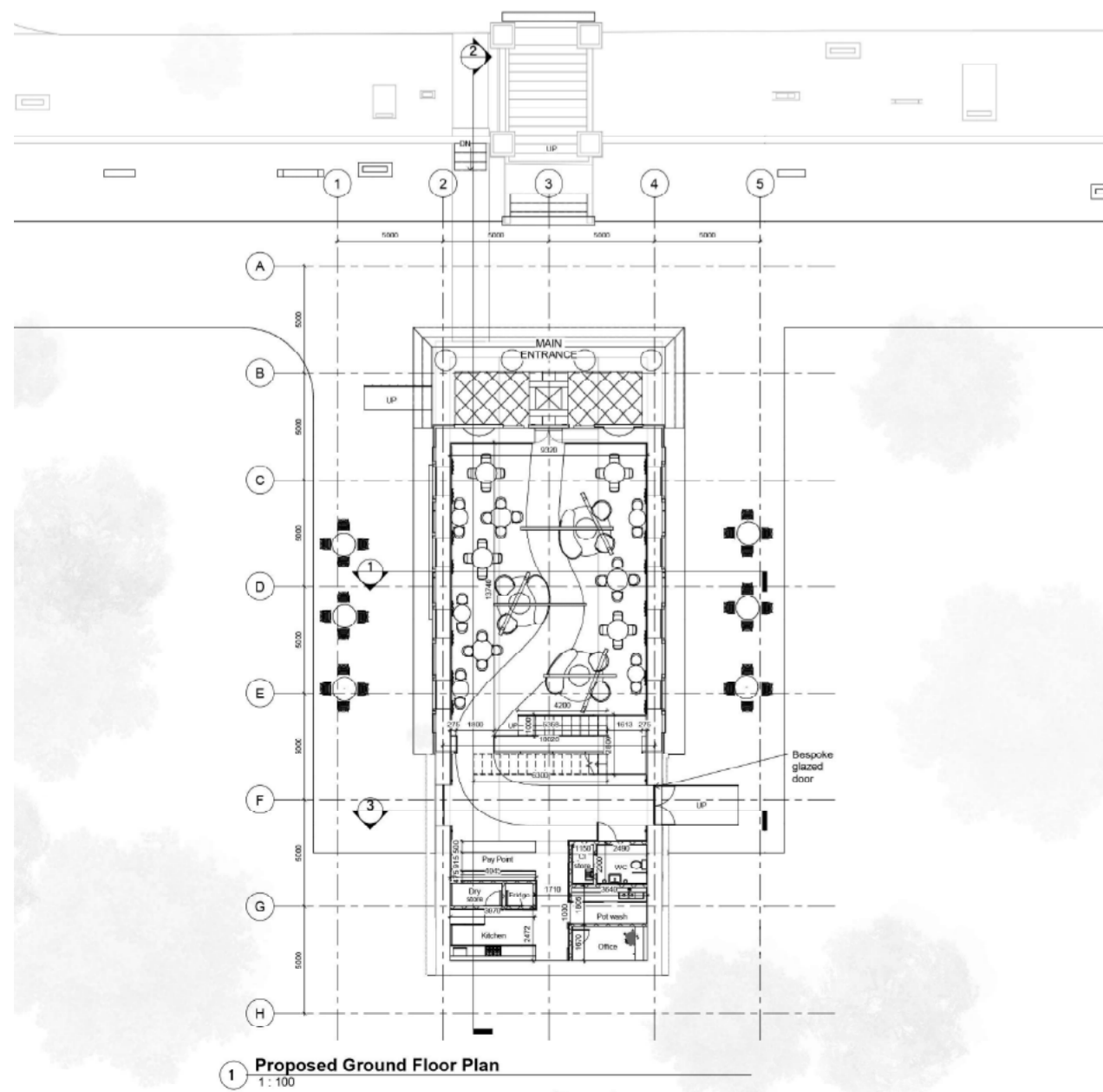
Delving into materiality and symbolism, I wanted to look at the pattern and transparency of snakeskin. Tessellation patterns are one of five patterns that naturally repeat in nature. The sophistication of this pattern involves the reassurance of a variety of hexagonal cells in a honeycomb or diamond-shaped. In snakes, it is typical to see hexagonal and diamond-shaped designs.

This pattern is efficient in not leaving loose space, with each part of the pattern slots together like a puzzle. The mathematics behind this design allows for maximum coverage - densely packing shapes together.
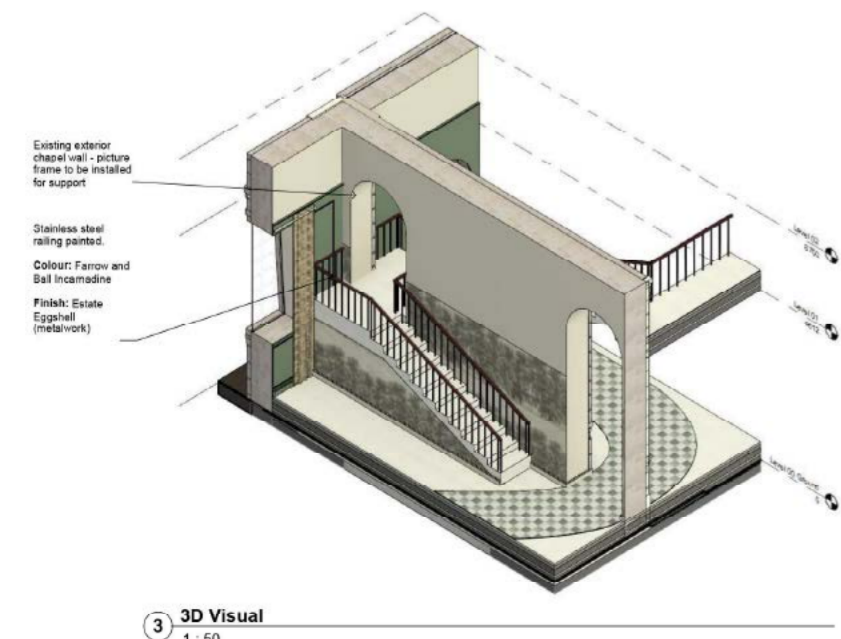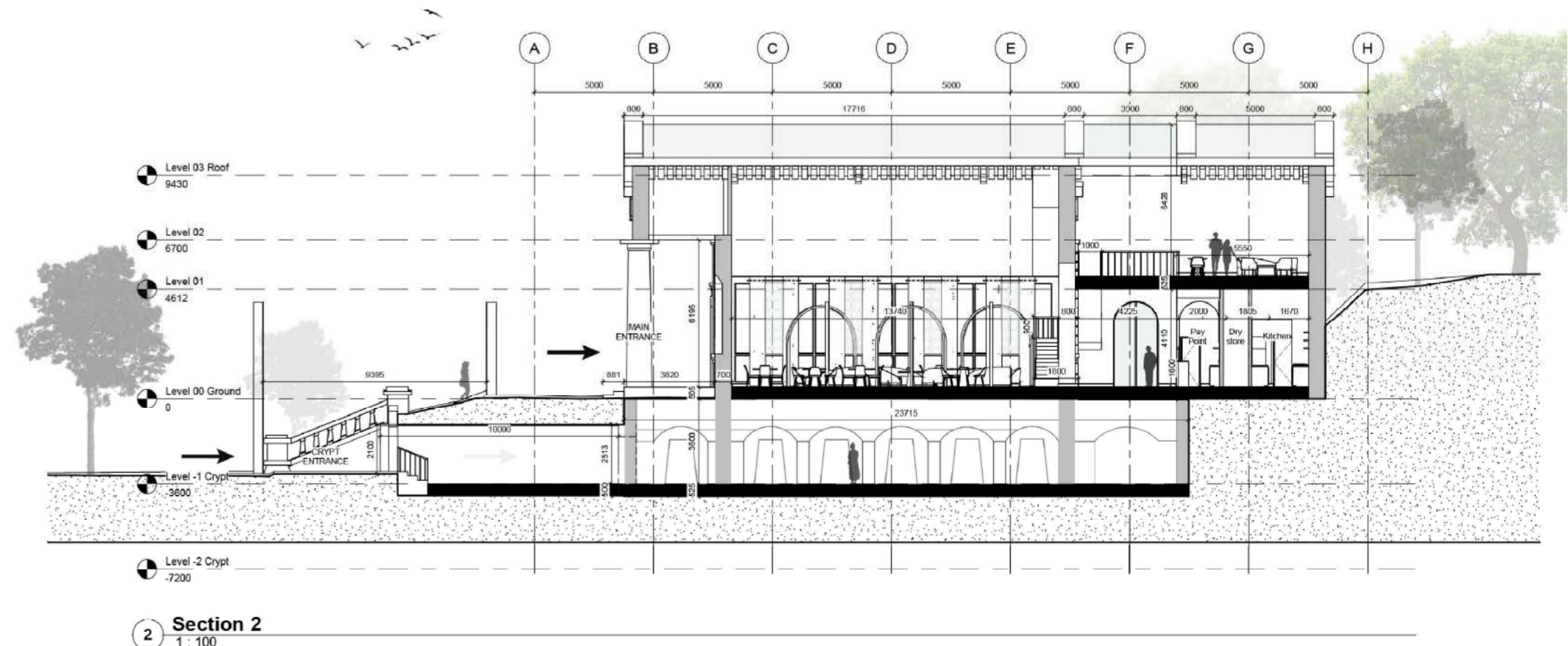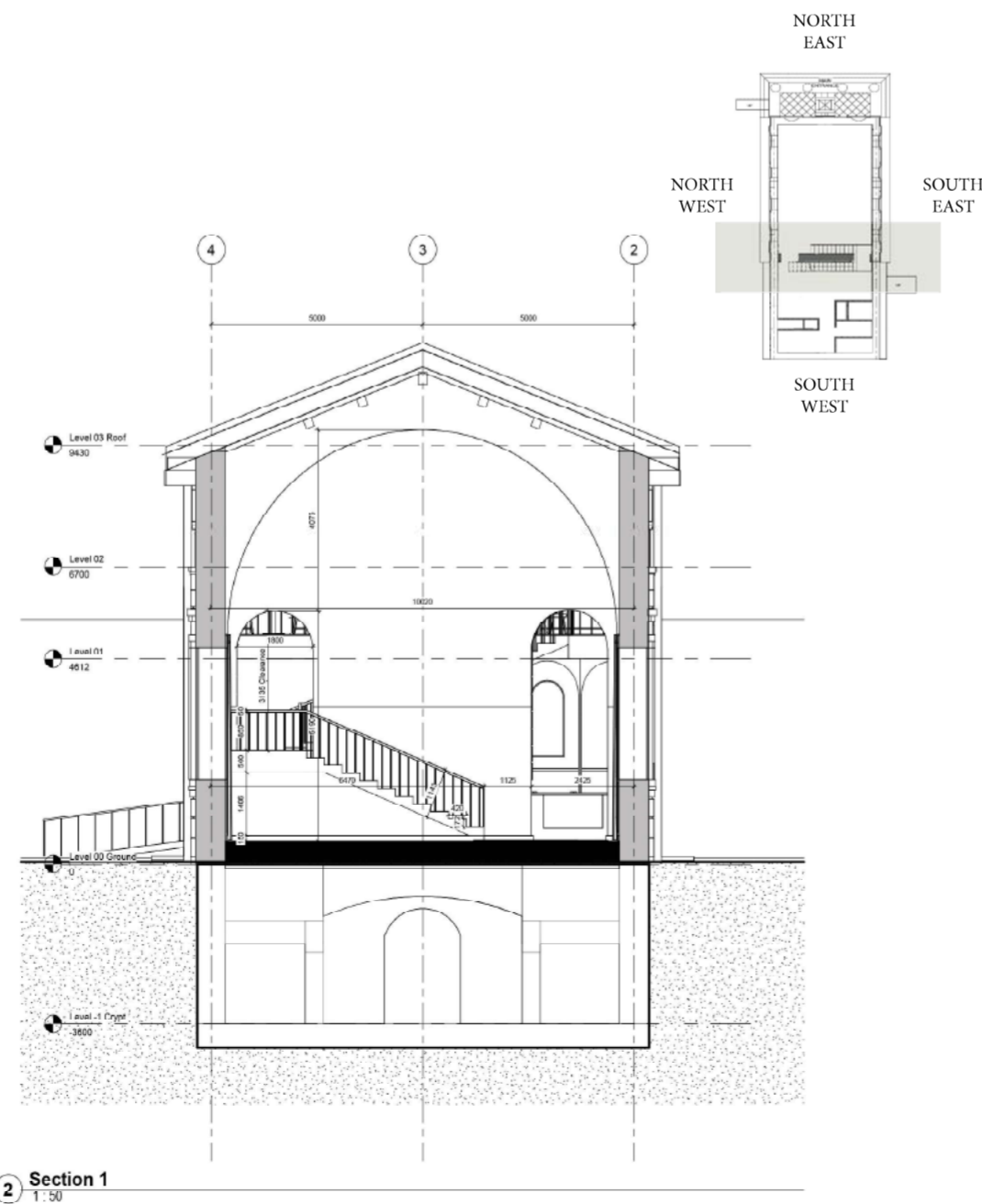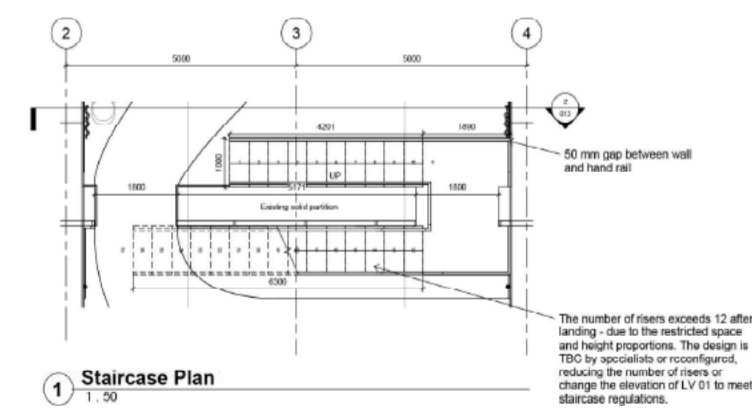

Section 01
1 : 100
Dimensions are indicative and need to be checked on-site

Section 03
1 : 100

Proposed Ground Floor Plan
1 : 100

FABRICation

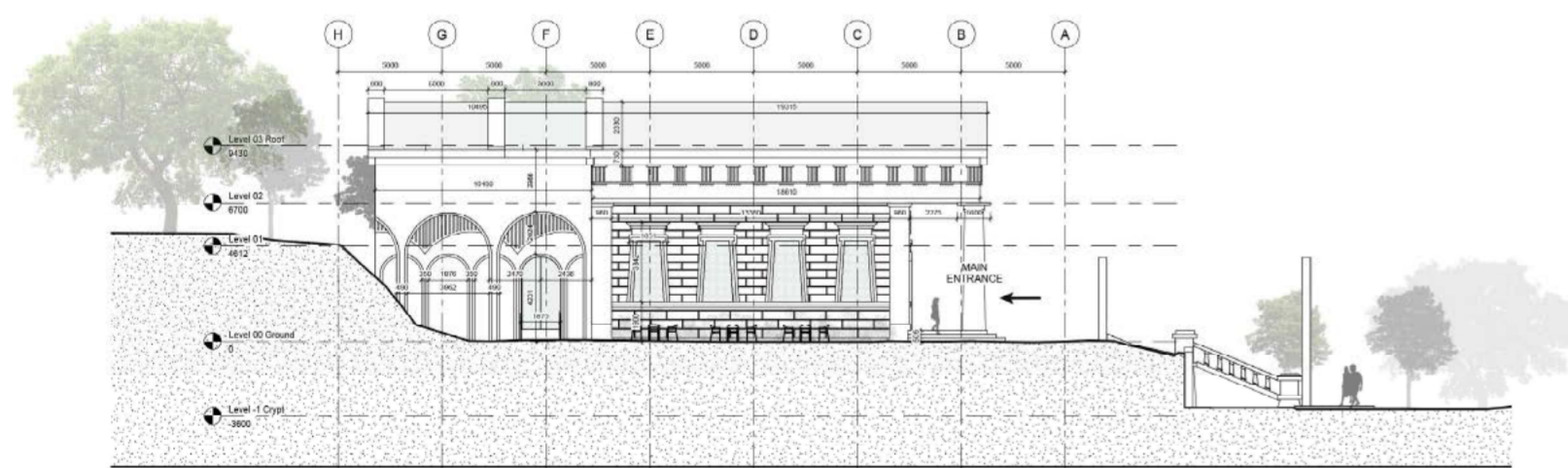INTERIOR ARCHITECTURE + DESIGN

Tectonics

Proposed staircase

① Staircase Plan
1 : 50

50 mm gap between wall and hand rail

The number of risers exceeds 12 after landing - due to the restricted space and height proportions. The design is TBC by specialists or reconfigured, reducing the number of risers or change the elevation of LV 01 to meet staircase regulations.

Existing exterior chapel wall - picture frame to be installed for support

Stainless steel railing painted.

Colour: Farrow and Ball Incarnadine

Finish: Estate Eggshell (Metalwork)

③ 3D Visual
1 : 50

NORTH
EAST

NORTH
WEST

SOUTH
EAST

SOUTH
WEST

Level 03 Roof
9430

Level 02
6700

Level 01
4612

Level 00 Ground

Level -1 Crypt
-3600

② Section 1
1 : 50

Level 03 Roof
9430

Level 02
6700

Level 01
4612

Level 00 Ground
0

Level -1 Crypt
-3600

Level -2 Crypt
-7200

MAIN ENTRANCE

CRYPT ENTRANCE

② Section 2
1 : 100
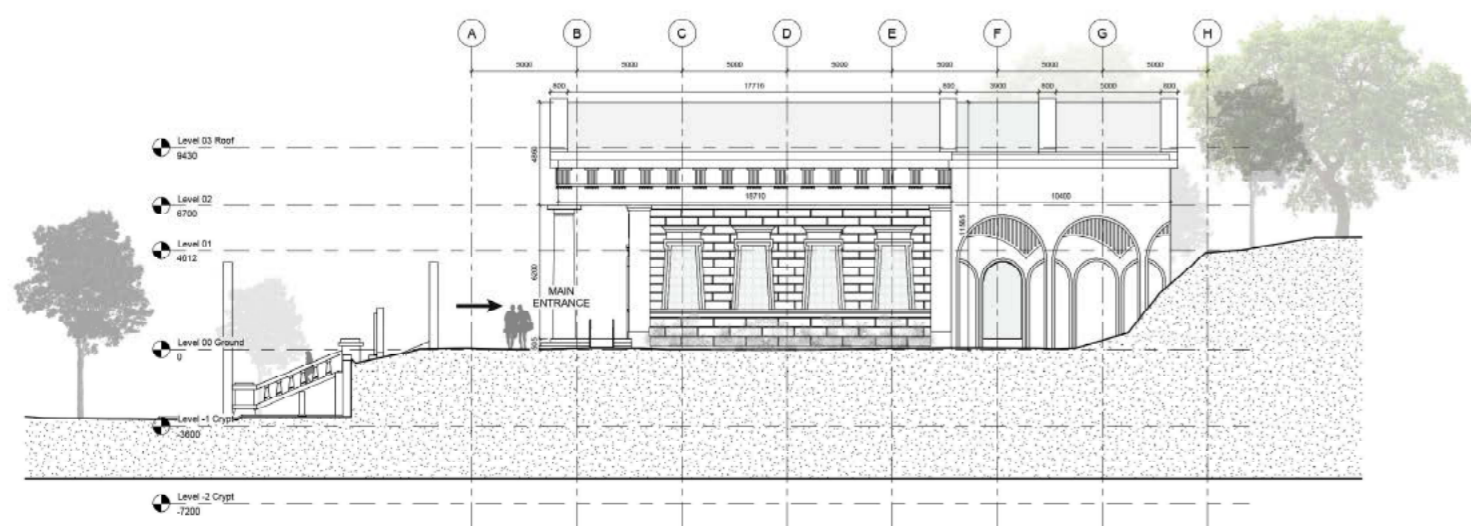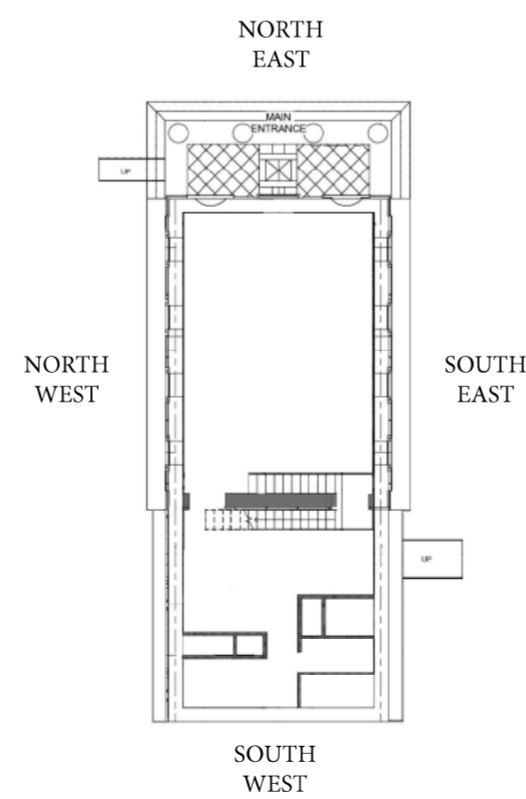
FABRICation

North East Elevation
1 : 100
Dimensions are indicative and need to be checked onsite

South West Elevation
1 : 100

NORTH
EAST

NORTH
WEST

SOUTH
EAST

SOUTH
WEST

MAIN ENTRANCE

As part of my design, I wanted to connect the living with the dead with an almost out-of-body experience. To link both worlds like a portal, I created a design proposal to open up the existing crypt under the chapel, which has been empty for some time.

Inside, I chose to create a sensory experience involving LED screens and projections that cast visuals that the user can interact with. Using the existing layout and design of the crypt, I opened individual crypts to allow the user to walk through each one, weaving through.

I hope to use it as a functional space for events, exhibitions and historical and ghost tours - which are already taking place at the cemetery.