

Royal Botanic Gardens

YR11 VCD FOLIO



Jason Xu

The Problem

Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria has recently suffered a severe hailstorm at the Melbourne Gardens that has significantly damaged the Tecoma Pavilion and The Terrace cafe.

They would like you to redesign one of the sites into a new permanent food, beverage, and merchandise store.

As new additions to the historic site, Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria asks for the new projects to have a 19th Century or Modernism influence.



Aesthetic Movement: 1868 - 1900

The Aesthetic Movement, also known as Aestheticism, emerged in England in the 1860s and spread to Europe and North America by the late 19th century. It was a cultural and intellectual movement that emphasized beauty and aesthetic values over social or political themes, encapsulated by the phrase "art for art's sake".

In the 1890s, a magazine by the name "The House Beautiful" was published. The ideal of "The House Beautiful" sparked a revolution in building and interior decoration and led ultimately to a more widespread recognition of the necessity of beauty in everyday life. This idea would have a lasting impact not only on architecture but also on social theory and political thinking for years to come.



[13]

Key Features

1. Nature motifs were common in the movement. Elements from nature such as flowers, leaves, insects, birds (especially peacocks), and sunbursts were often incorporated into furniture, decor, and architectural details.
2. The movement drew inspiration from various cultures and historical periods, including Renaissance painting, ancient Greek sculpture, and East Asian art, particularly Japanese prints.
3. The wide variety of culture was reflected in the use of ebonized wood, gilt decorations, and blue and white porcelain as the main materials.

Key Values

1. The aesthetic movement prioritized beauty and aesthetic experience over utilitarian or moral functions.
2. The movement focused on craftsmanship, minor details and high-quality materials from all over the world.
3. The movement took inspiration from various historical styles and cultures, especially from the Japanese.
4. The movement rejected industrial mass production, avoiding geometric and abstract models and rather complex and maximalist designs.

Exterior

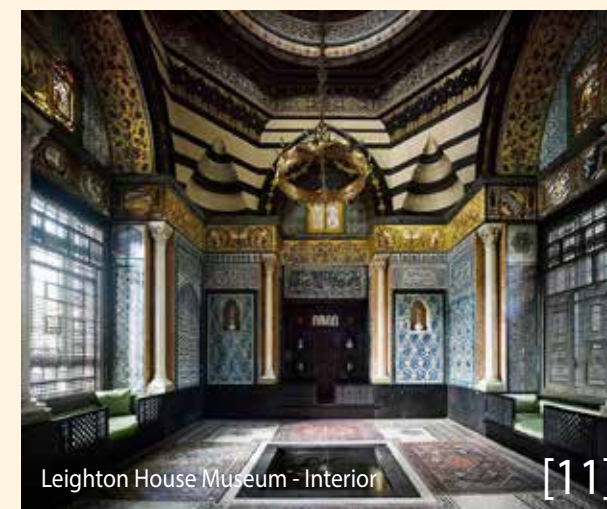
Aestheticism focuses primarily on interior design with decorative details and intricate patterns. The idea of having a rich interior almost always ignores the exterior of the building which is more important in the first part of this project.

Seen in 18 Stafford Terrace, the exterior of the building is rather plain, with some details mainly around the windows.

Furthermore, Leighton House Museum showcases its interior which reveals the intricate and careful details weaved into every wall.

To align with the theme of aestheticism and to preserve fine art for the interior, a more traditional and old style exterior would perfectly harmonise with the interior.

However, the exterior still needs to compliment the surrounding nature while preserving local flora, hence I took inspiration from the medieval era and the Japanese Minka architecture movement. This is because the Aestheticism movement originated from Europe and it also incorporates various elements from East Asia, hence the cross-over between Medieval and Japanese.



Application in Environments

Since the Aesthetic Movement emphasized beauty and sensory experience, it was able to be applied in various scenarios

1. Homes can incorporate Aesthetic Movement principles through the use of nature-inspired motifs, high-quality handcrafted furniture, and eclectic decor that draws from various cultural influences.
2. Museums, galleries, and public buildings can use Aesthetic design elements to create visually stunning and immersive environments. The use of coordinated color schemes and nature motifs can enhance the aesthetic appeal of these spaces.
3. Retail stores, restaurants, and hotels can adopt Aesthetic principles to create unique and attractive interiors that draw customers and enhance their experience.

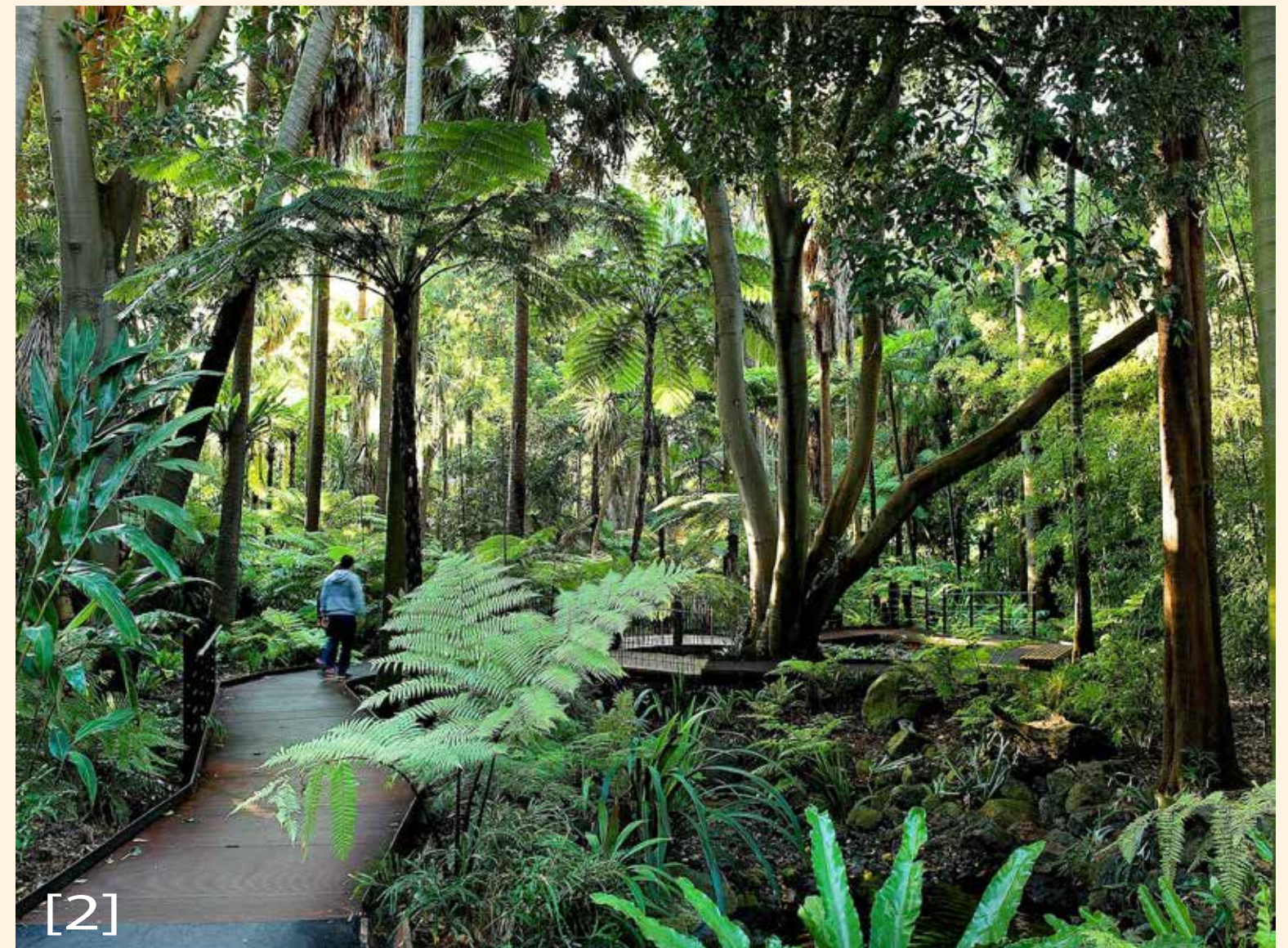


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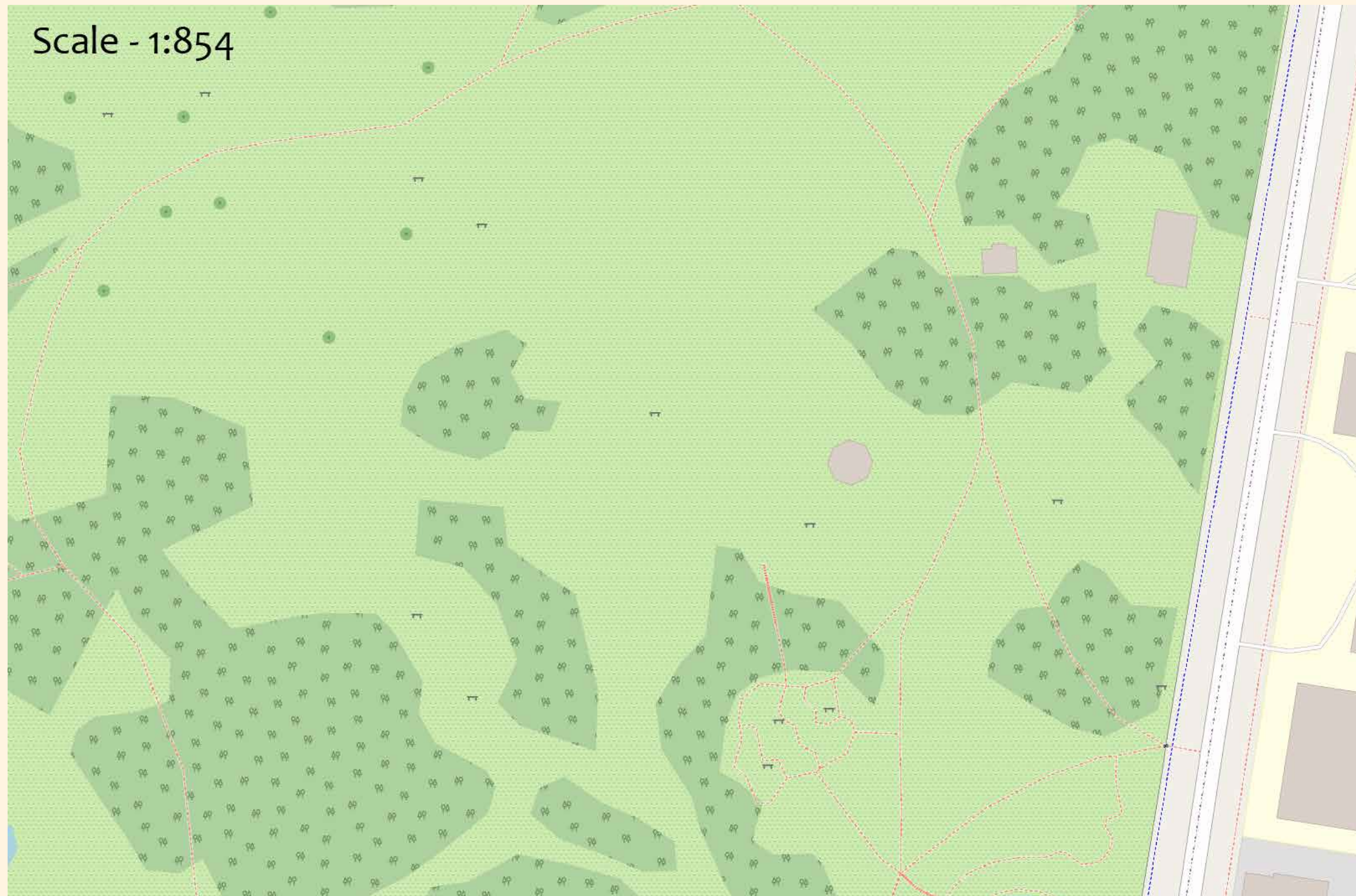
In the Botanic Gardens

The Aesthetic Movement's focus on nature and beauty makes it particularly well-suited for a botanic garden environment

1. Nature Motifs: The use of flowers, leaves, and other natural elements in design can seamlessly integrate with the botanical surroundings. Decorative elements such as ceramic tiles, garden furniture, and pathways can feature these motifs.
2. Eclectic Decor: Incorporating elements from different cultures, such as Japanese garden designs or Renaissance-inspired sculptures, can add an eclectic and visually rich layer to the garden.
3. Quality Craftsmanship: High-quality, handcrafted garden structures, benches, and decorative items can enhance the overall aesthetic and provide a sense of timeless beauty.
4. Sensory Experience: The garden can be designed to provide a multi-sensory experience, with visually pleasing arrangements, fragrant plants, and the use of water features to create a tranquil atmosphere.



The Sitemap



Location of Choice

I selected the Tecoma Pavillion because of a number of factors.

1. The Pavillion already adopts somewhat of the aesthetic movement, allowing for inspiration. It provides a simple framework of colors, patterns and shapes that I can use in the redesign.
2. It is surrounded by a lot of plants. I mentioned before nature motifs are quite common and with the trees and various plants scattered around the Terrace, it allows the design to fit better in place.



Design Brief

Overview

Established in 1846, the Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria is a historic public garden in Melbourne that displays the natural beauty and botanical diversity of the region. Due to recent hailstorms and the severe weather conditions, the Gardens seeks a new design for a café and merchandise store to be located within one of the two severely damaged areas: The Tecoma Pavilion or The Terrace Café. The project aims to create a facility that harmoniously blends with the gardens' natural beauty while serving the needs of visitors. The design will be showcased online and across various social media platforms, highlighting its visual appeal and functionality. The purpose is to depict and to promote.

Aesthetics

In line with the Gardens' rich history and the client's expectations, the design should embrace the aesthetic movement, popular during the gardens' construction.

Presentation Format

Dynasty Studios aims to present plans, elevations or perspective drawings for the requested building. This project offers an opportunity to create a unique space that enhances the visitor experience at the Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria, adhering to principles of beauty, functionality, and environmental responsibility.

Constraints

1. A 3-month design phase
2. A budget of approximately \$500,000
3. To be located within the Tecoma Pavilion
4. Maximum allowable building size of 20m x 20m.

The design must embody the client's eco-friendly, nature-centric, educational, and community-oriented values.

Additionally, the design should prioritize sustainability and natural materials, such as:

- Reclaimed wood
- Locally sourced stone
- Large glass panels
- Living walls
- Green roofing systems

The overall design should be clean and minimalist, incorporating organic shapes while maintaining the aestheticism vibe.

Audience

The primary audience for the proposed facility includes urban Melbourne residents with an Australian cultural background, with a particular focus on middle to upper-class adults. Specifically, the target demographic consists of women aged 35 to 45 who have a strong interest in art, gardening, nature, and environmental sustainability. This group is expected to appreciate the diverse flora of the gardens and as view the gardens as a place for leisure activities.

Key Considerations

- The facility should be profitable and contribute positively to the local economy.
- The design should ensure community engagement, accessibility, and inclusivity.
- It should reflect local heritage and the botanical significance of its setting.
- Sustainability is paramount, with a focus on minimal ecological impact and seamless integration with the surrounding gardens.
- Modern amenities should be incorporated without compromising the natural aesthetic that complements the botanical setting.



Liberty & Co. Store



Fagus Factory



Glass House

	Glass House	Fagus Factory	Liberty & Co. Store
Strengths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Transparency and natural light. - Modern aesthetic. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Historical significance. - Functional design. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Artistic and ornamental design. - Cultral value.
Weaknesses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Privacy concerns. - Temperature regulation issues. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lacks aesthetics - Limited adaptability. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Complex maintenance. - Inefficient space utilization.
Opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sustainable design technologies. - Unique marketing appeal. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cultural heritage tourism. - Adaptive reuse. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Adaptive reuse - Cultural heritage tourism
Theats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Structural vulnerability. - High maintenance costs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Preservation challenges. - Economic viability. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Modernization pressure. - Economic shifts.



Carriage Studio

Human-Centered Design

- The house features open-plan living areas for social interaction. It has large windows to allow natural light, enhancing comfort. Spaces are designed for easy accessibility and flow between indoor and outdoor areas.

Organic Design

- The design integrates natural materials like wood and stone. It uses large windows to incorporate natural light. The architecture harmonizes with the surrounding urban landscape.

Eco Design

- The space utilizes sustainable materials such as recycled steel and timber. Energy-efficient lighting and climate control systems are installed. Water conservation measures are in place to reduce environmental impact.

Gradient House

Human-Centered Design

- The studio has wide open spaces for easy movement. It includes comfortable seating areas for collaboration. Lighting and acoustics are optimized for a pleasant work environment.

Organic Design

- The house is positioned to blend with the natural slope of the land. It uses natural materials like stone and wood to integrate with the environment. The design maximizes views of the surrounding landscape.

Eco Design

- Sustainable materials, such as locally sourced timber and stone, are used throughout the house. The design incorporates passive solar principles to reduce energy consumption. Water-saving fixtures and systems are included to minimize environmental impact.

Contemporary Influence

Organic Design

Visuals

1. Forms Inspired by Nature
2. Fluid and Curvilinear Shapes
3. Integration with Environment
4. Use of Natural Materials

Values

1. Harmony with Nature
2. Sustainability
3. Human Well-being
4. Innovation through Nature

Eco Design

Visuals

1. Minimalist Aesthetics
2. Recycled and Sustainable Materials
3. Energy-efficient Features
4. Natural Light and Ventilation

Values

1. Environmental Responsibility
2. Resource Efficiency
3. Healthy Living Environments
4. Lifecycle Thinking

Common Traits

Visuals

- Integration with Nature
- Use of Natural and Sustainable Materials
- Emphasis on Natural Light

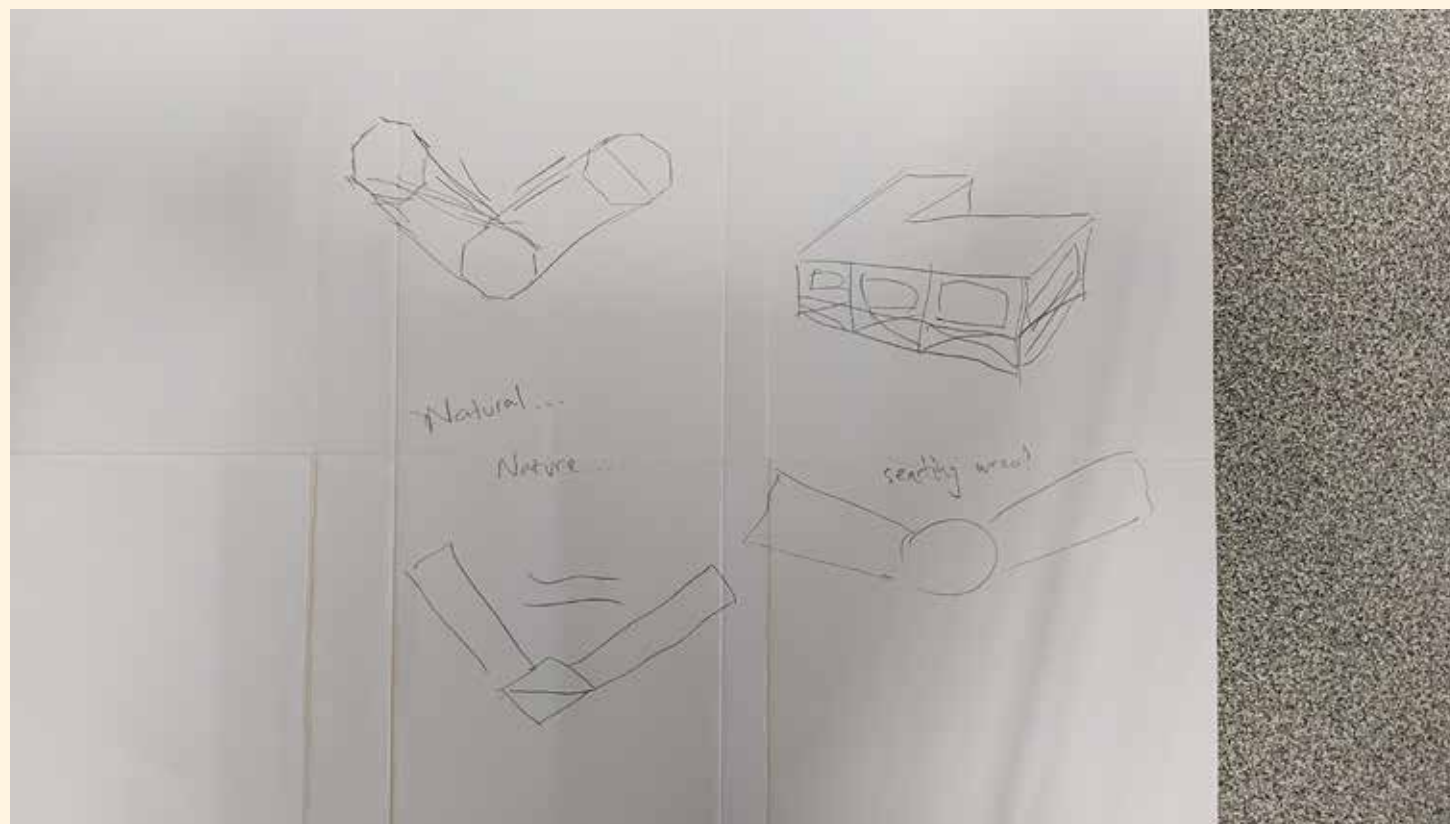
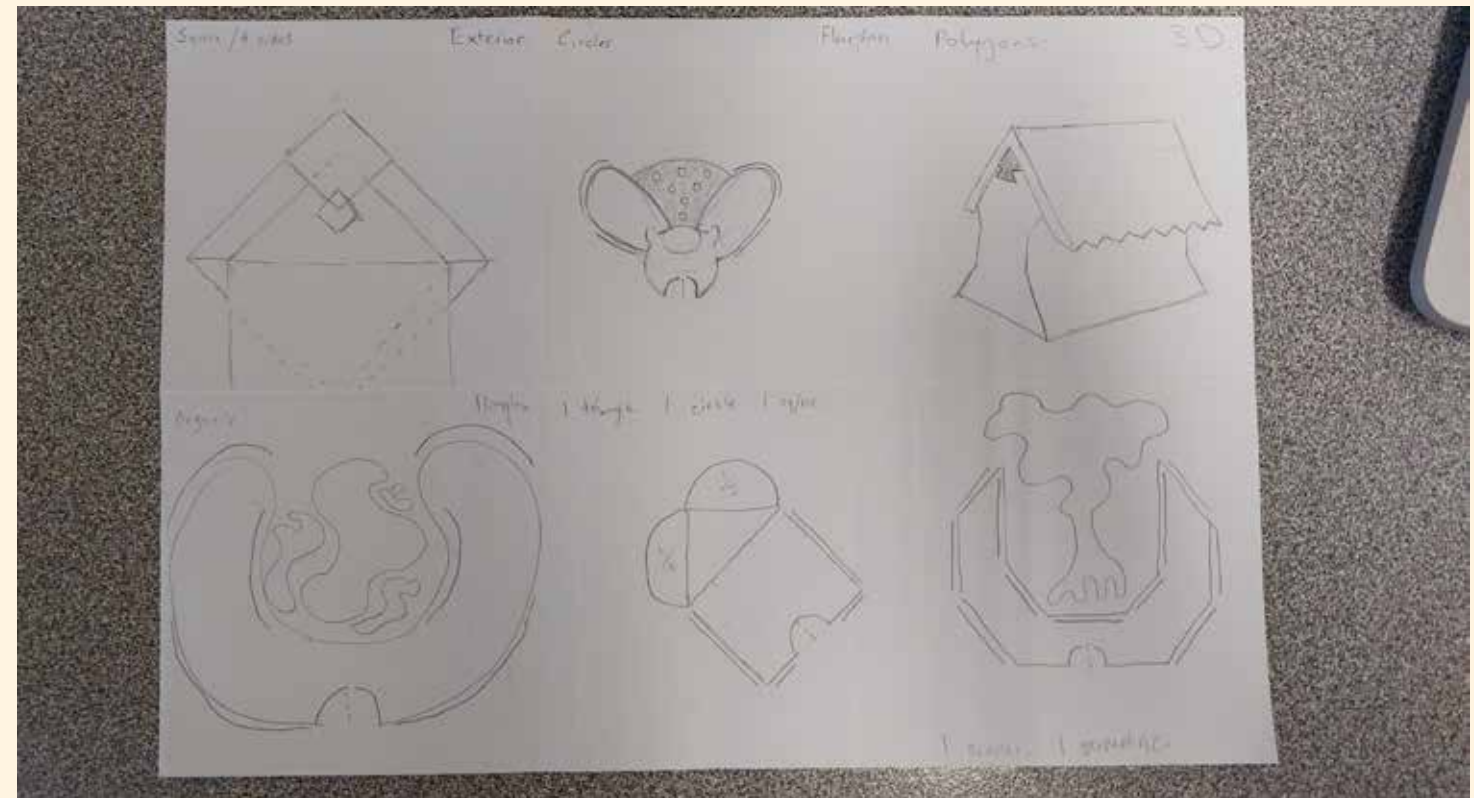
Values

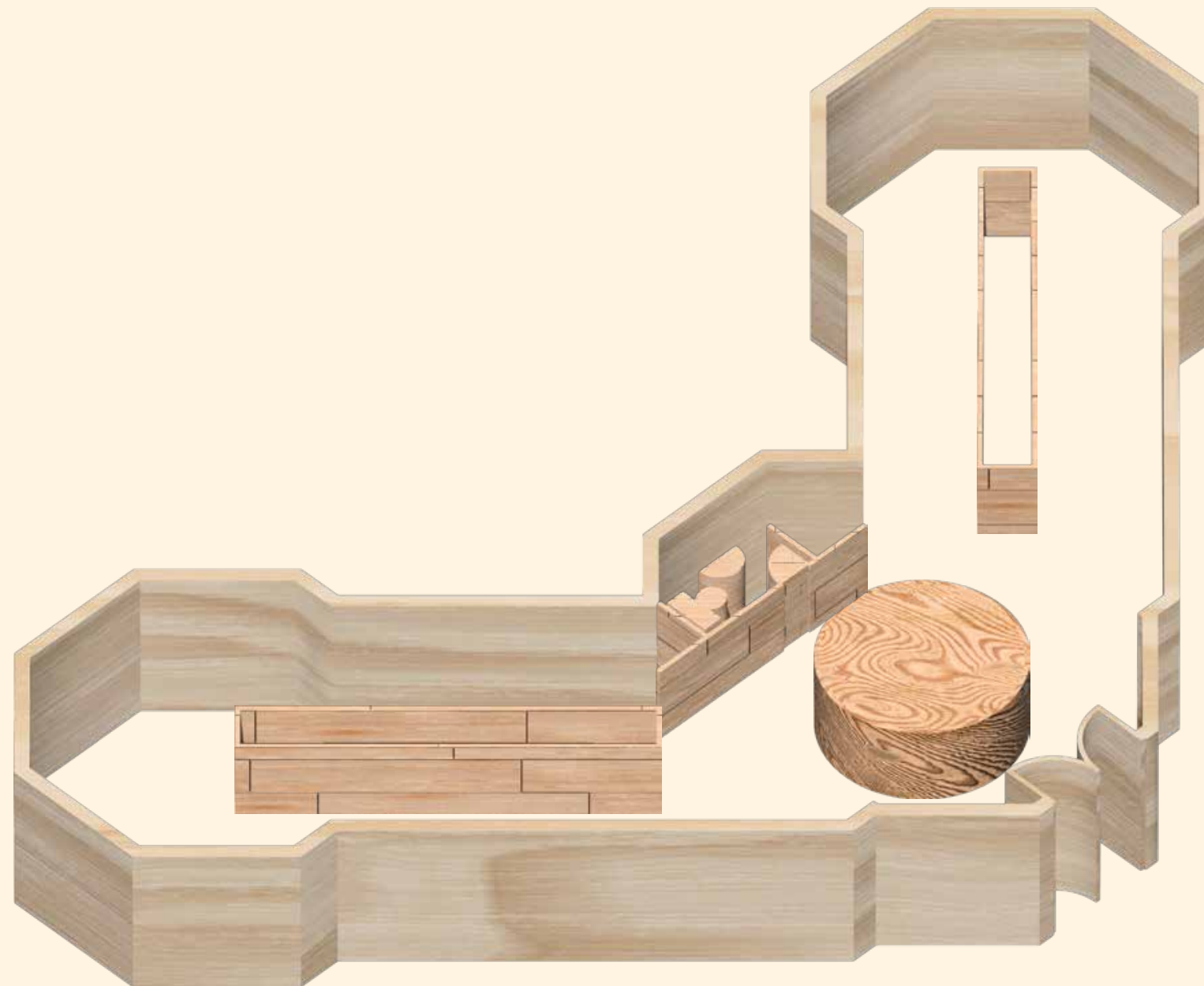
- Sustainability and Eco-friendliness
- Human-Centric Design
- Innovation and Efficiency

References

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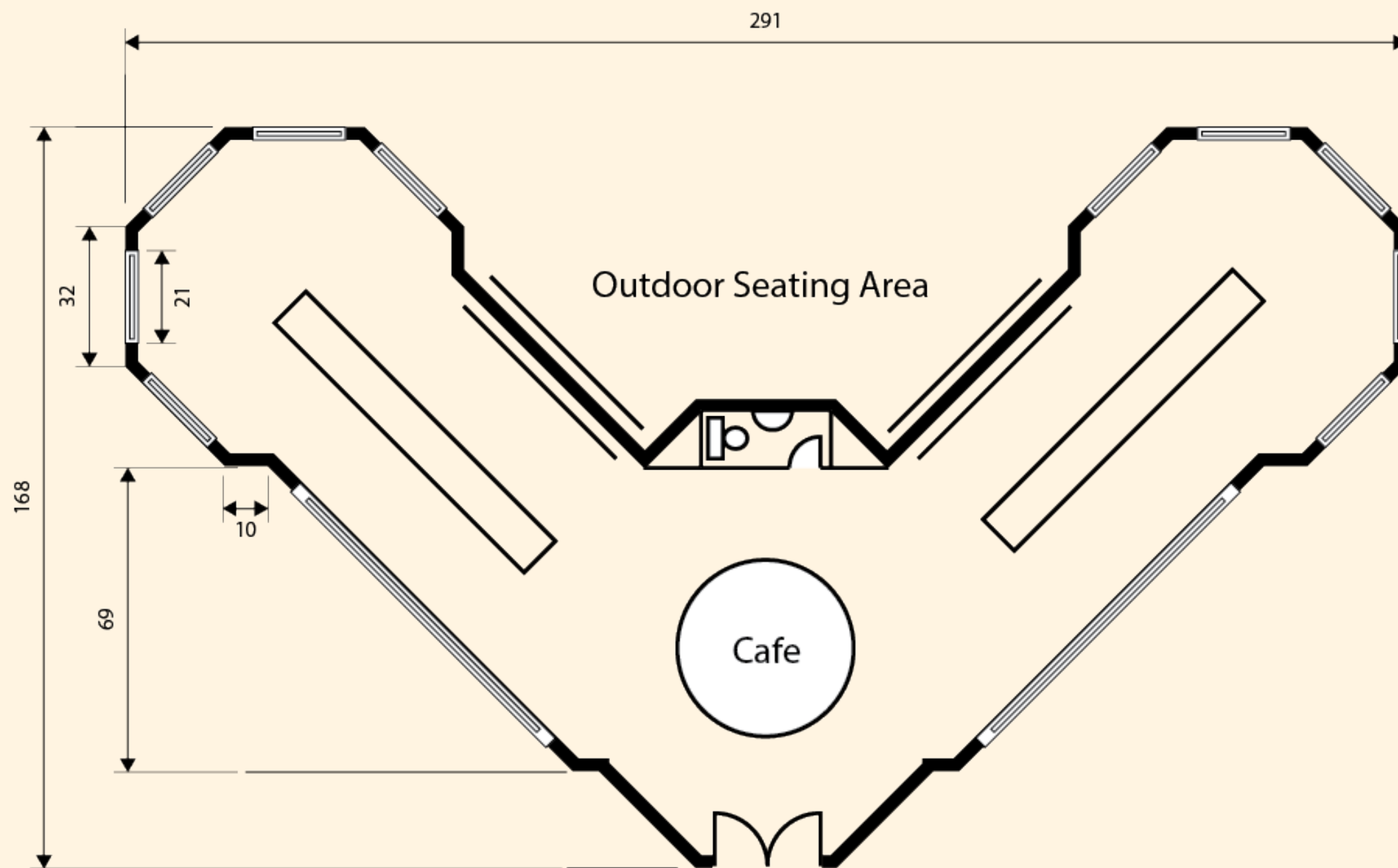
Ideas and Concepts





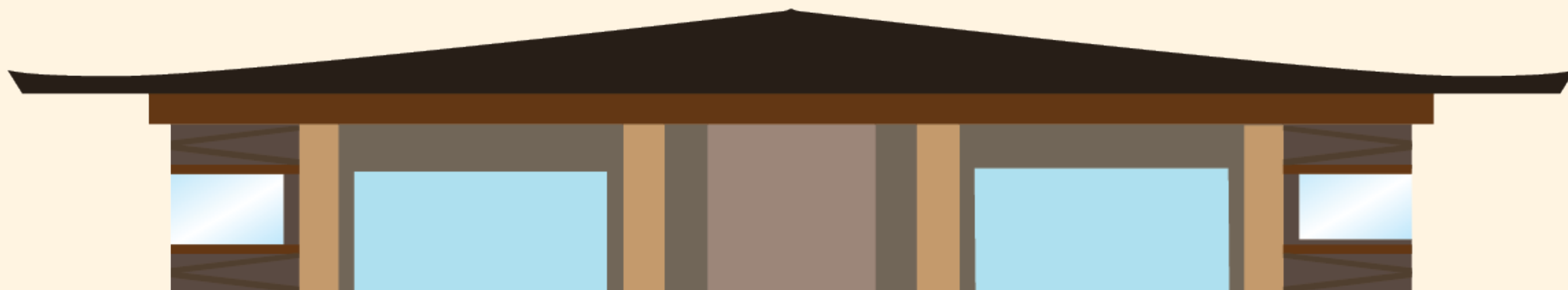
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Jason Xu - Royal Botanical Gardens - Gilded Tecoma - Planeometric

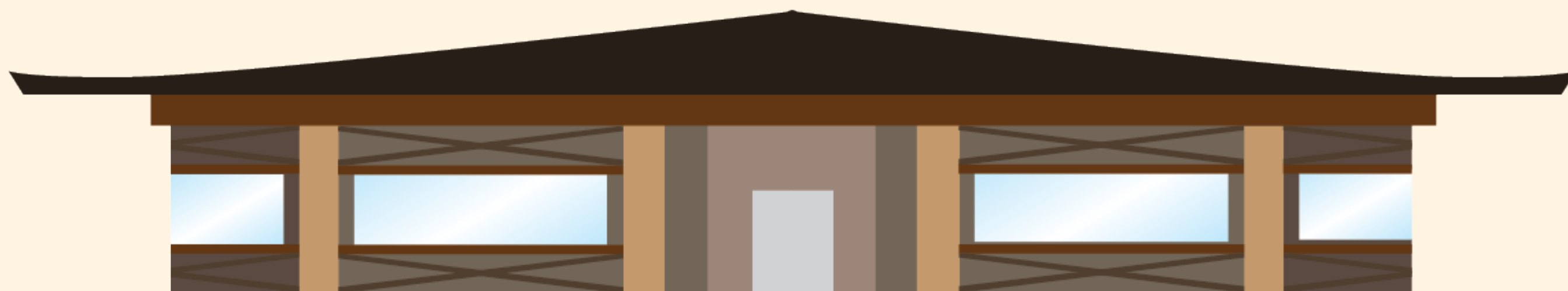


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Jason Xu - Royal Botanical Gardens - Gilded Tecoma - Floorplan



Back View

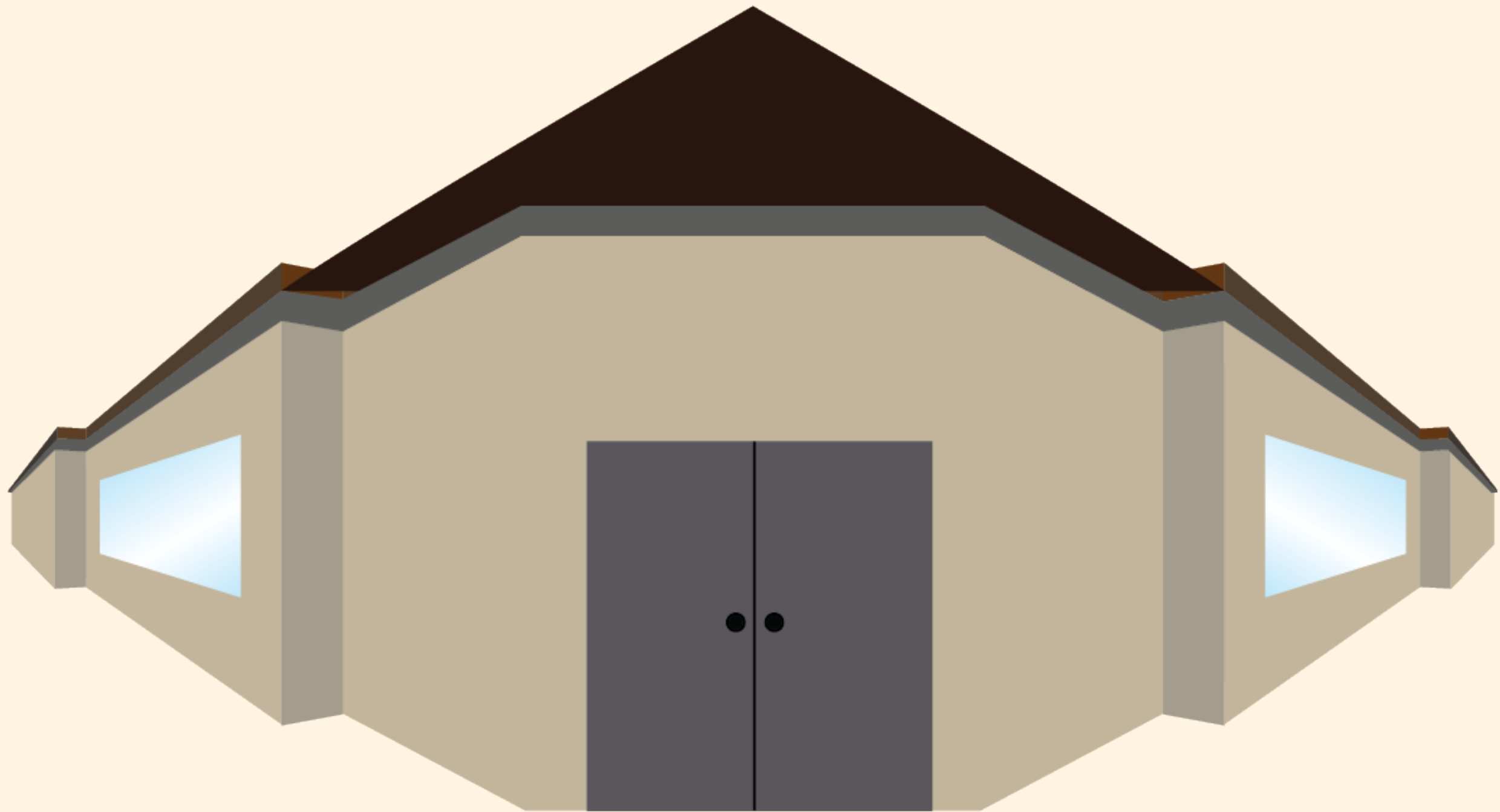


Front View



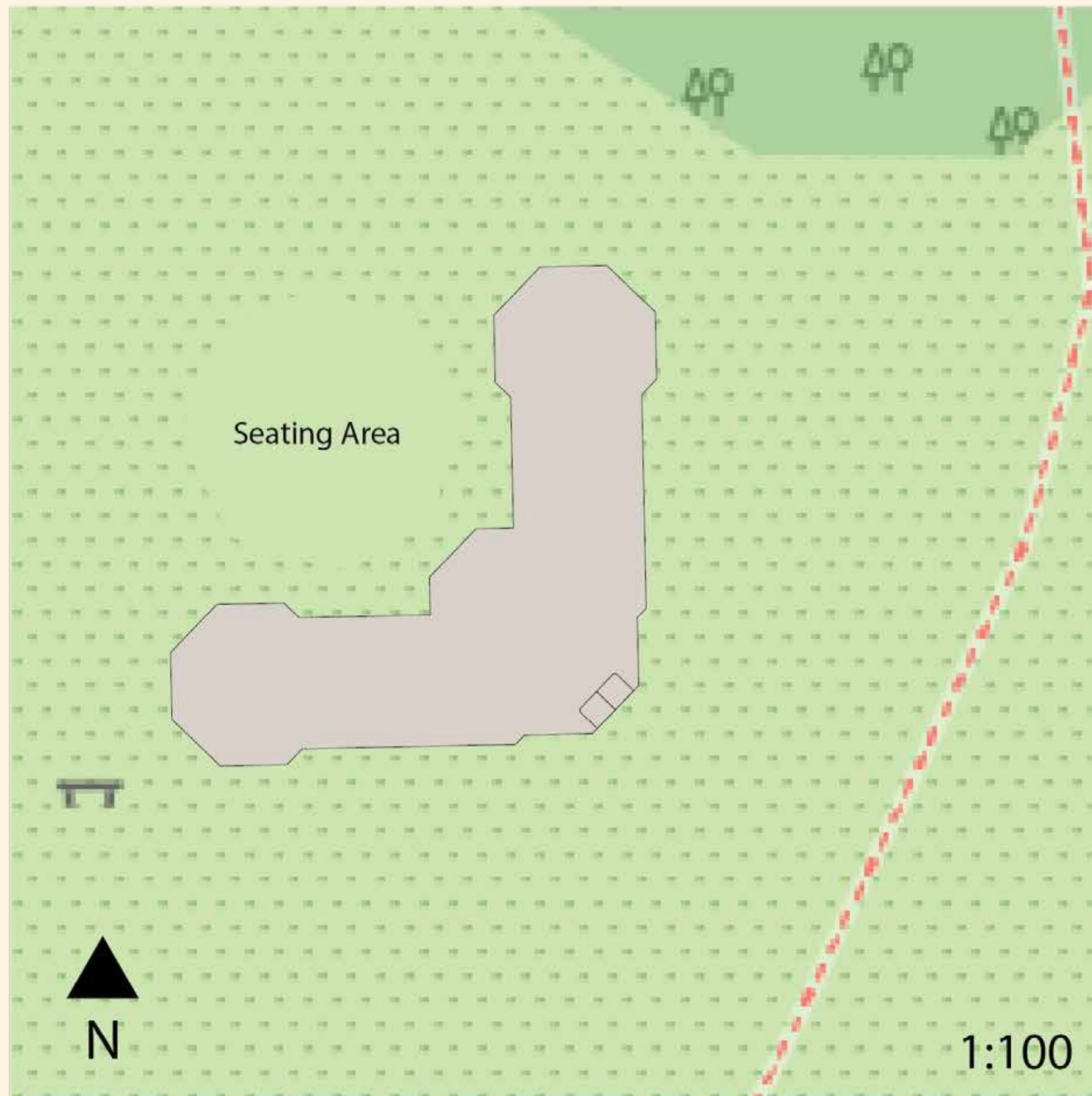
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Jason Xu - Royal Botanical Gardens - Gilded Tecoma - Elavations



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Jason Xu - Royal Botanical Gardens - Gilded Tecoma - Perspective



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