

Arverne Library Expansion

Conceptual Design Presentation

NYC Percent for Art Program

Justin Valdes, Artist

My Rockaway

I've surfed the Rockaways for nearly 15 years and my relationship to that community runs deep. I've surfed in the cold of winter and all through the summers. After Sandy, I volunteered doing food and clothing distribution and gutting damaged homes. I was born in Queens and I love all of NYC but my heart is in Rockaway.

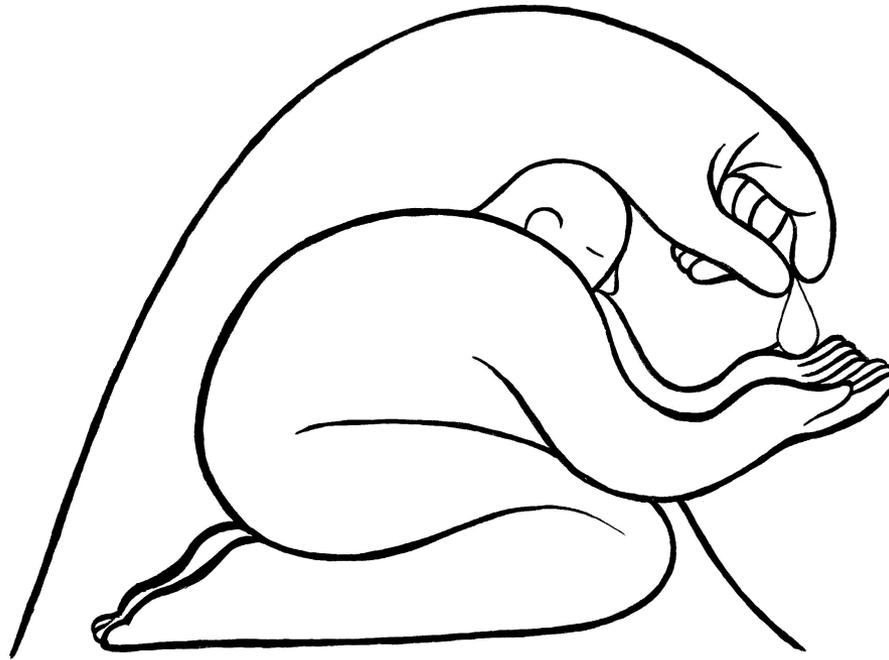


Previous Artwork

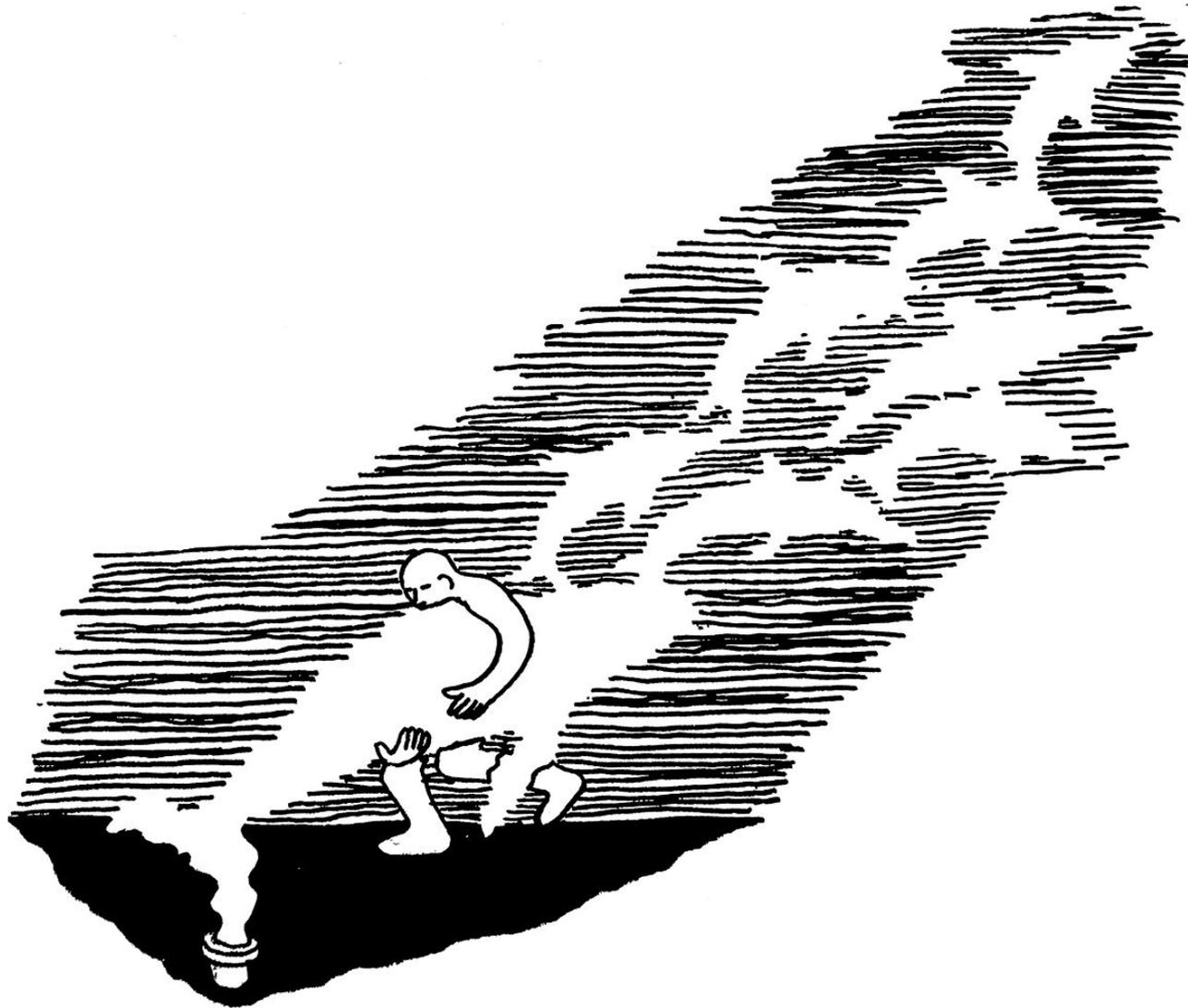
Justin Valdes





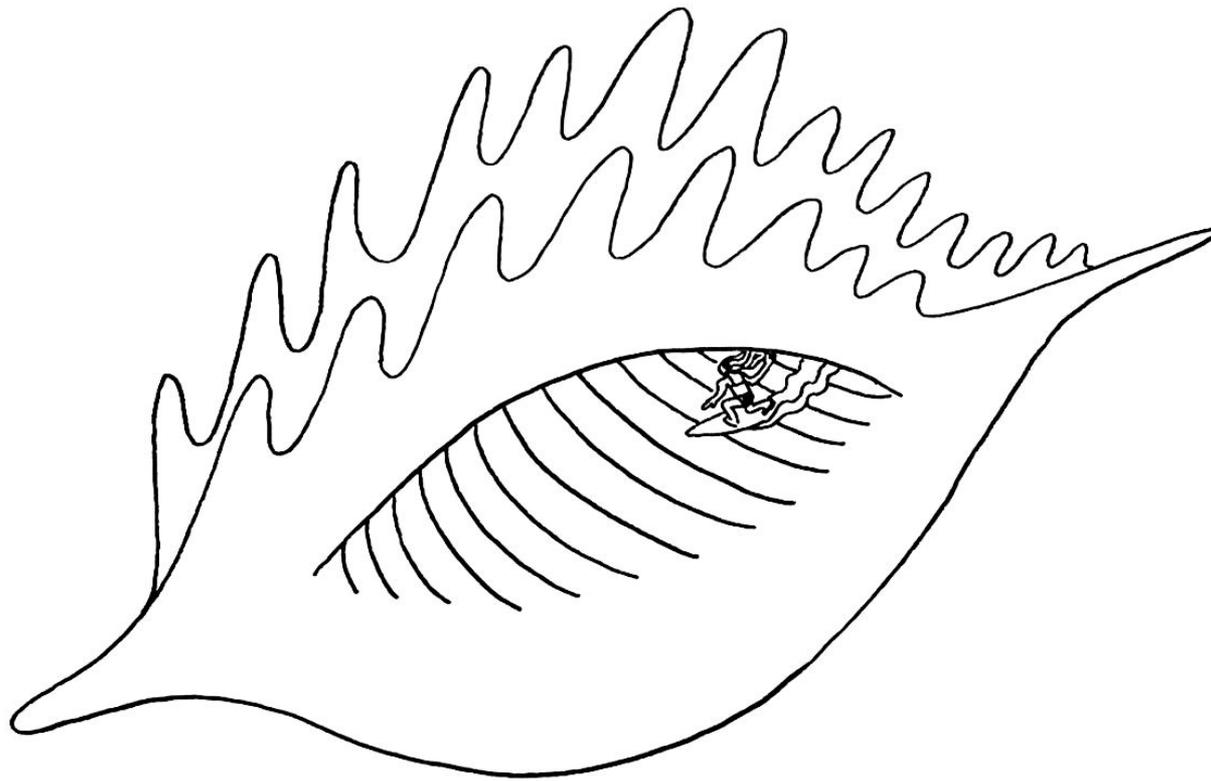


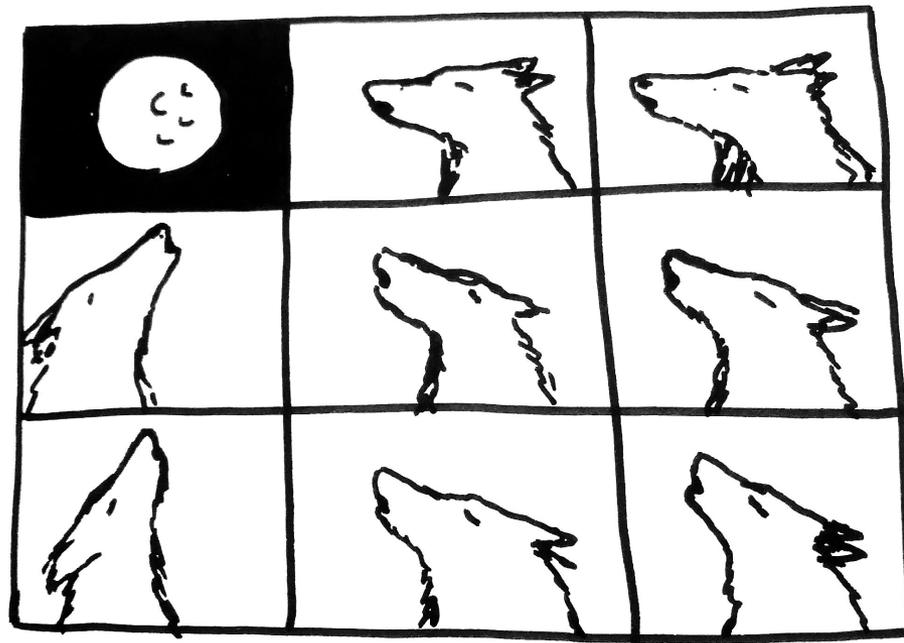




ROCKAWAY TERN-STYLE







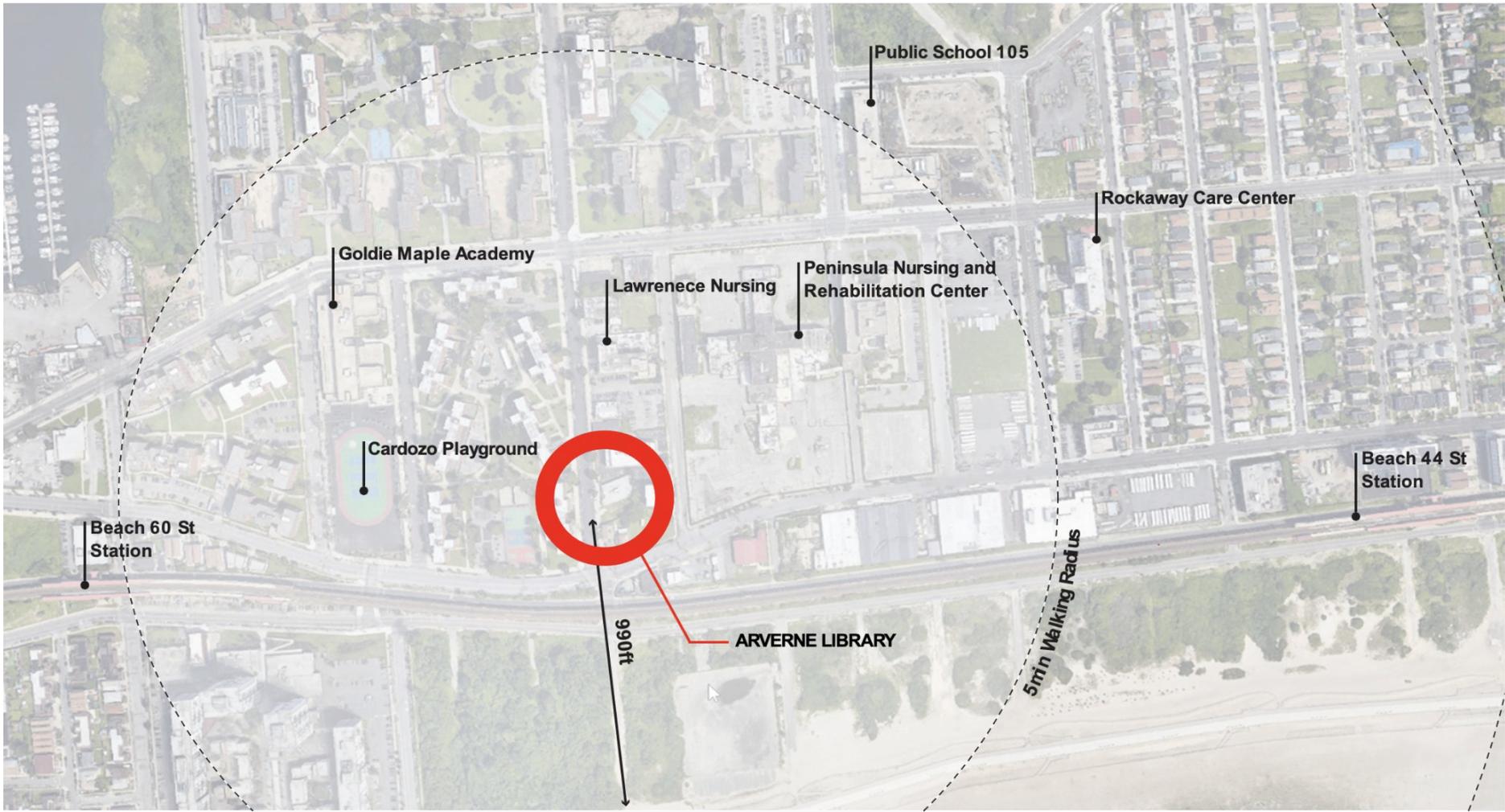
HOWLING AT THE ZOOM



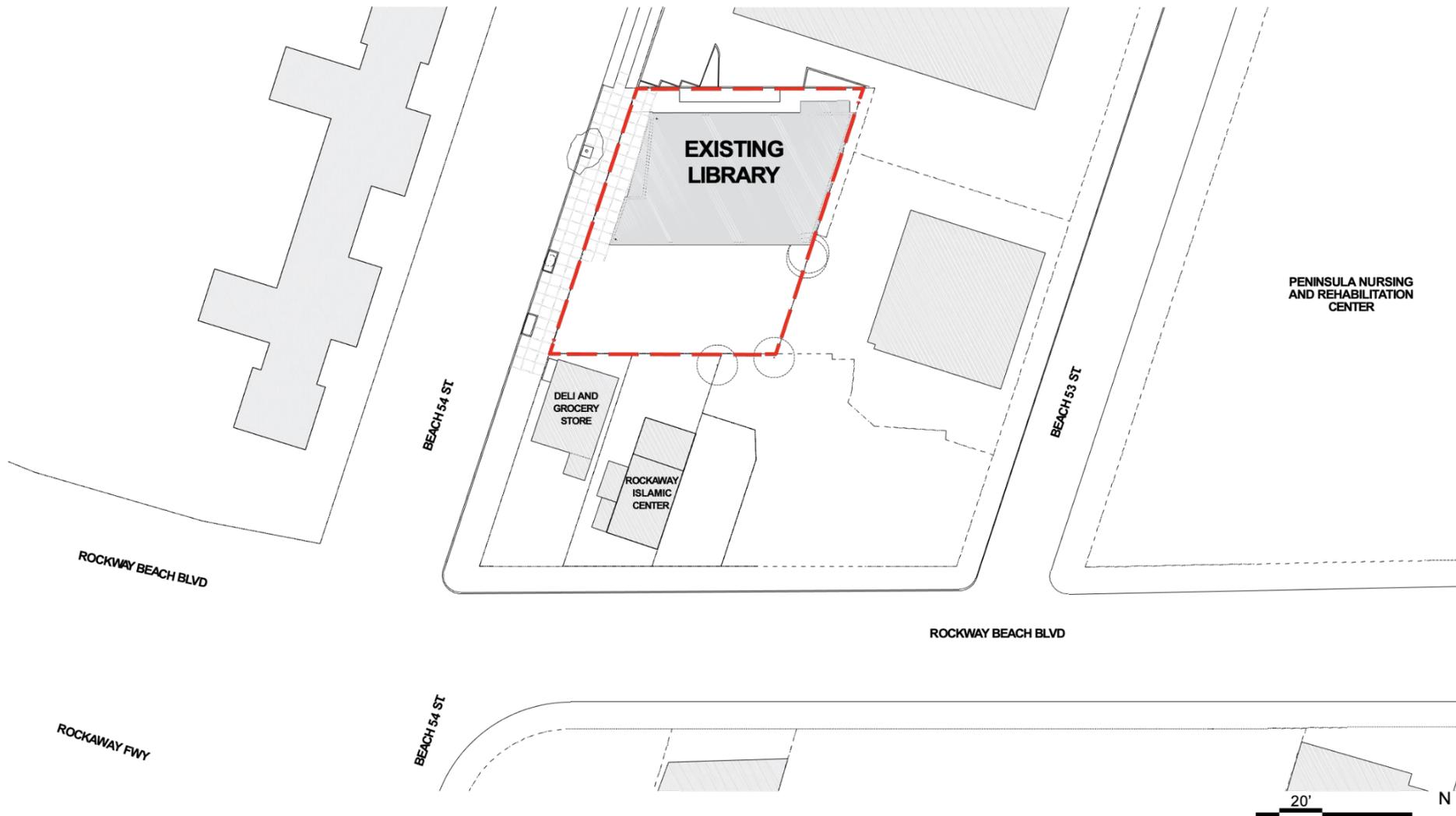
Project Site

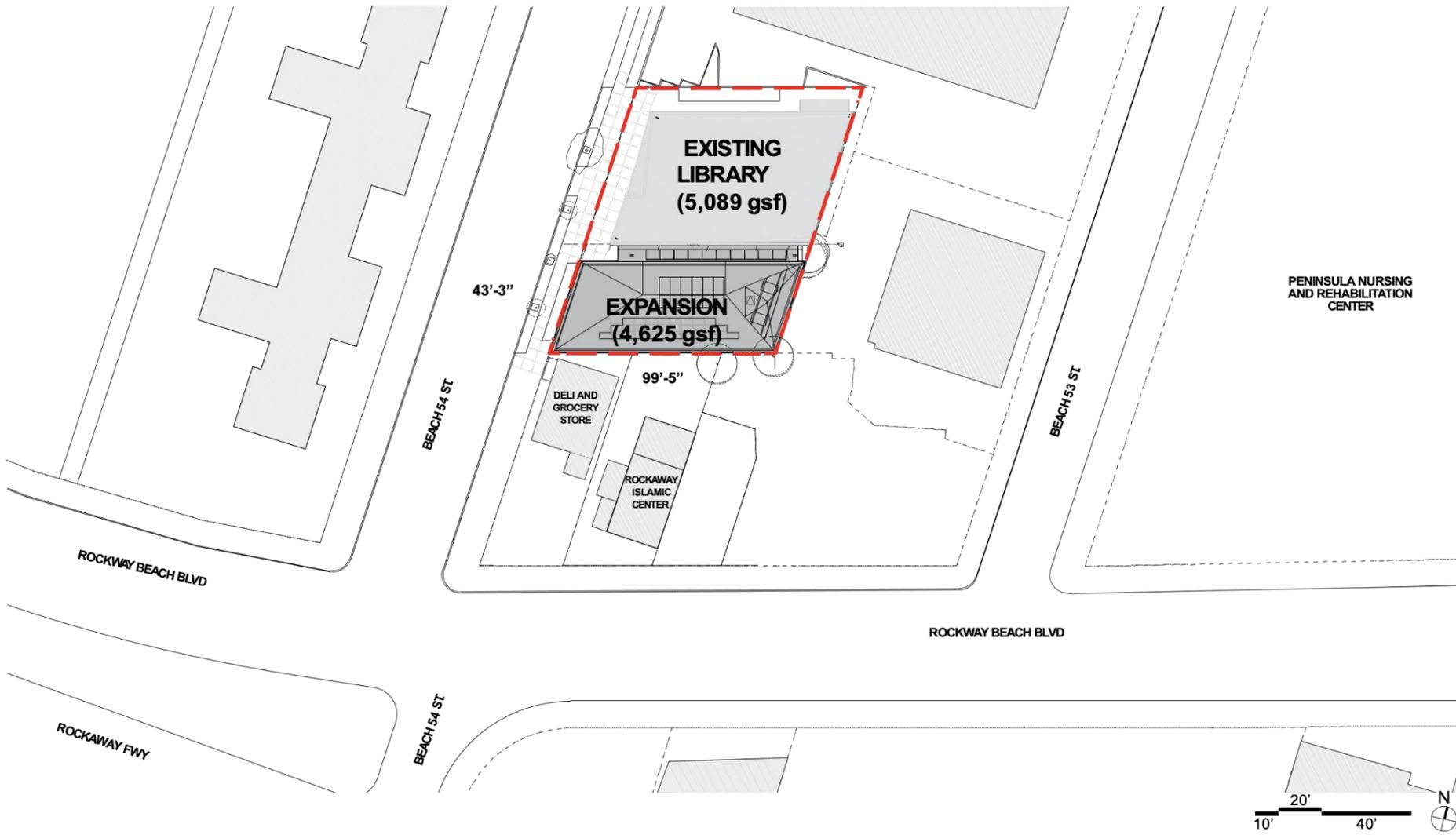
Arverne Library Expansion













1 existing library looking west





1 existing library looking south

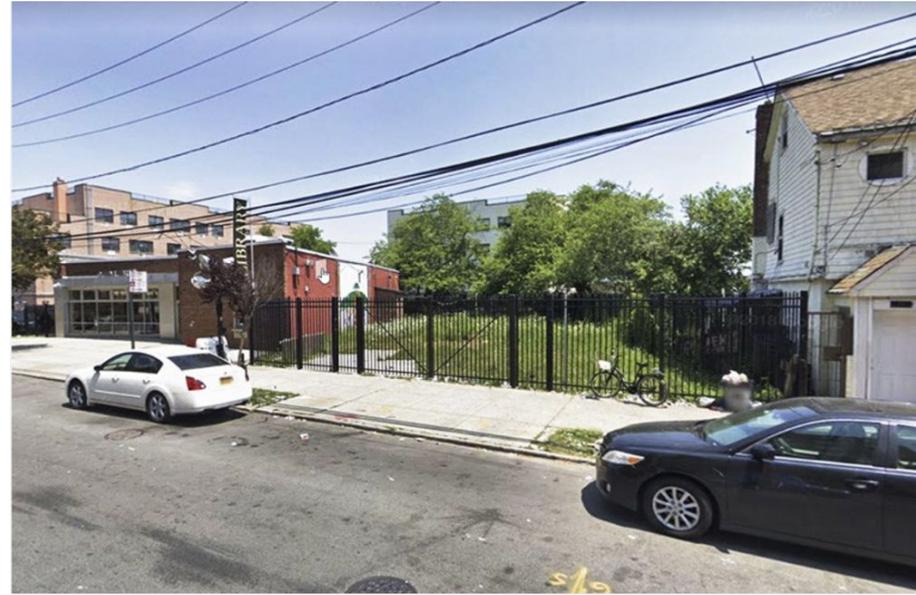


2 existing lot looking east





1 existing library looking south



2 existing lot looking east

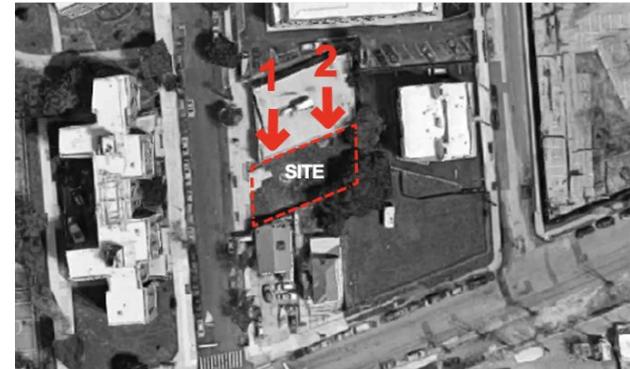




1 existing se lot corner looking south



2 existing sw lot corner looking south

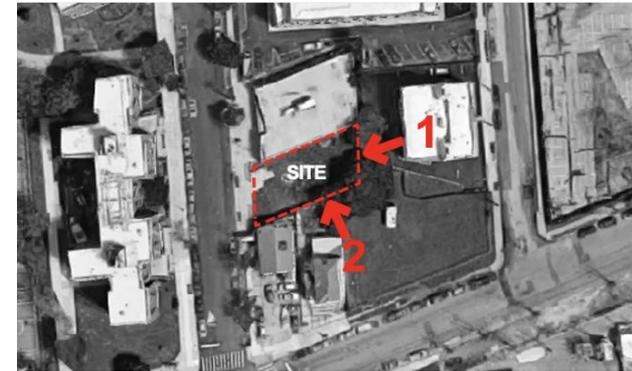


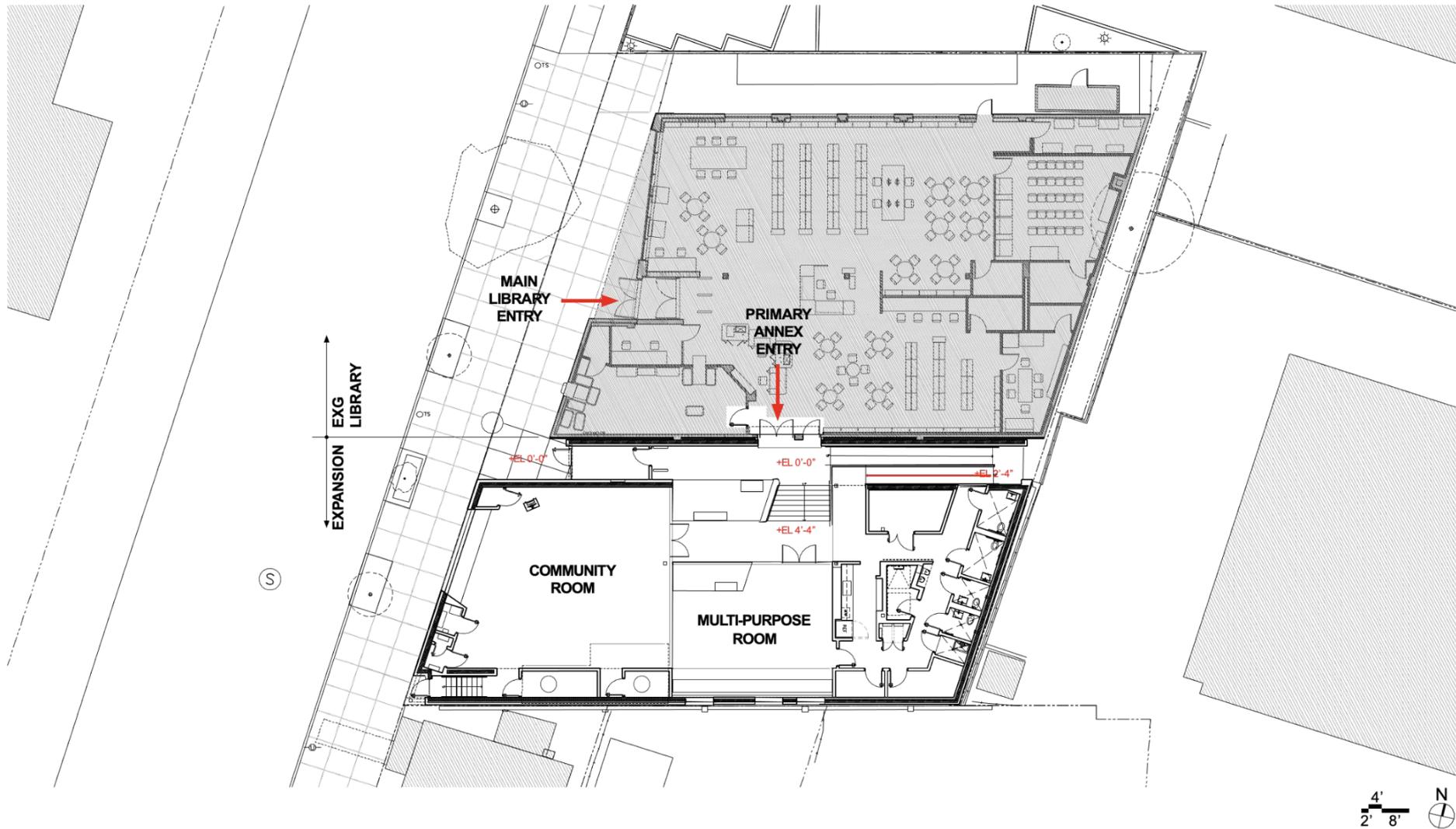


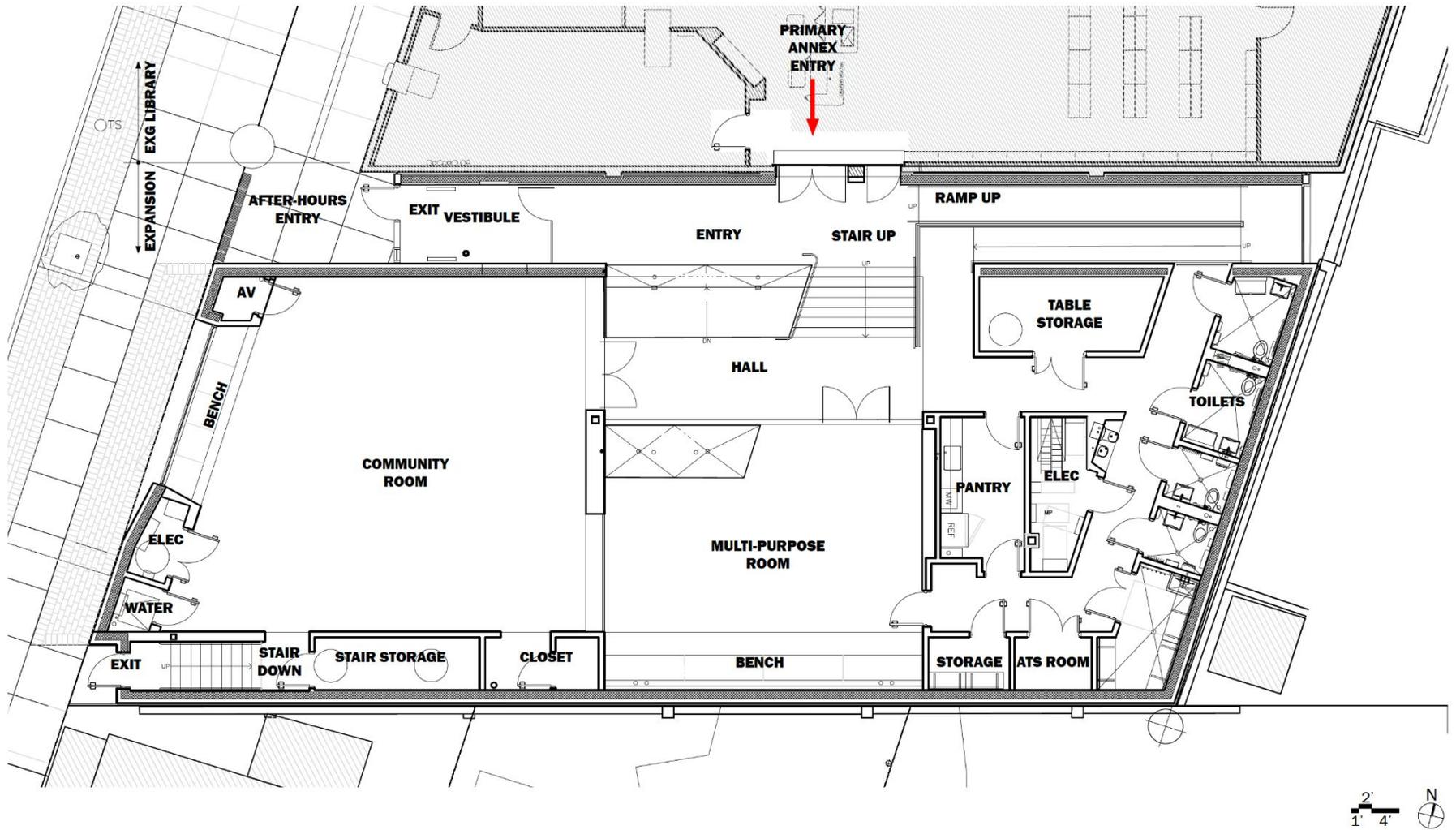
1 existing lot looking west



2 existing lot looking north







The Feeling Is Mutual

Artwork Proposal

Conceptual Design by Justin Valdes

The Feeling Is Mutual

Background

I've surfed the Rockaways for nearly 15 years and my relationship to that community runs deep. I've surfed in the cold of winter and all through the summers. After Sandy, I volunteered doing food and clothing distribution and gutting damaged homes. I was born in Queens and I love all of NYC but my heart is in Rockaway.

My work in the past several years has been guided by the principle that it should be accessible to a wide audience. The drawings communicate daily observations that speak to environmental concerns, tech habits, pets, surfing, and larger thoughts about life. Humor is often a part of these drawings. My goal is that they have a universal quality that can reach across age, ethnicity, and class.

In light of the pandemic, the turmoil around the death of George Floyd, and the severe hardships that are facing our community due to the pandemic, my work naturally moved with the times. The themes of community, mutual aid, and protest are common in my work. Activism and mutual aid work are a big part of my life outside of my art practice.

The work I plan to install in the library will reflect the spirit of community and mutual aid and the joy that comes with it. Helping each other, standing up for what's right, reshaping the world into a better one is the theme that will guide this work.

The Feeling Is Mutual

Project Description

The work will also be whimsical and create intimate moments for all ages and backgrounds to enjoy. The positioning of the work will aim at fostering discovery in the space, it will be subtle in the main space and louder in areas not immediately visible. The work itself will consist of distraction dots on the glass walls which are required for safety, art etched into the large glass window on the east end of the community gallery, and the four bathrooms.

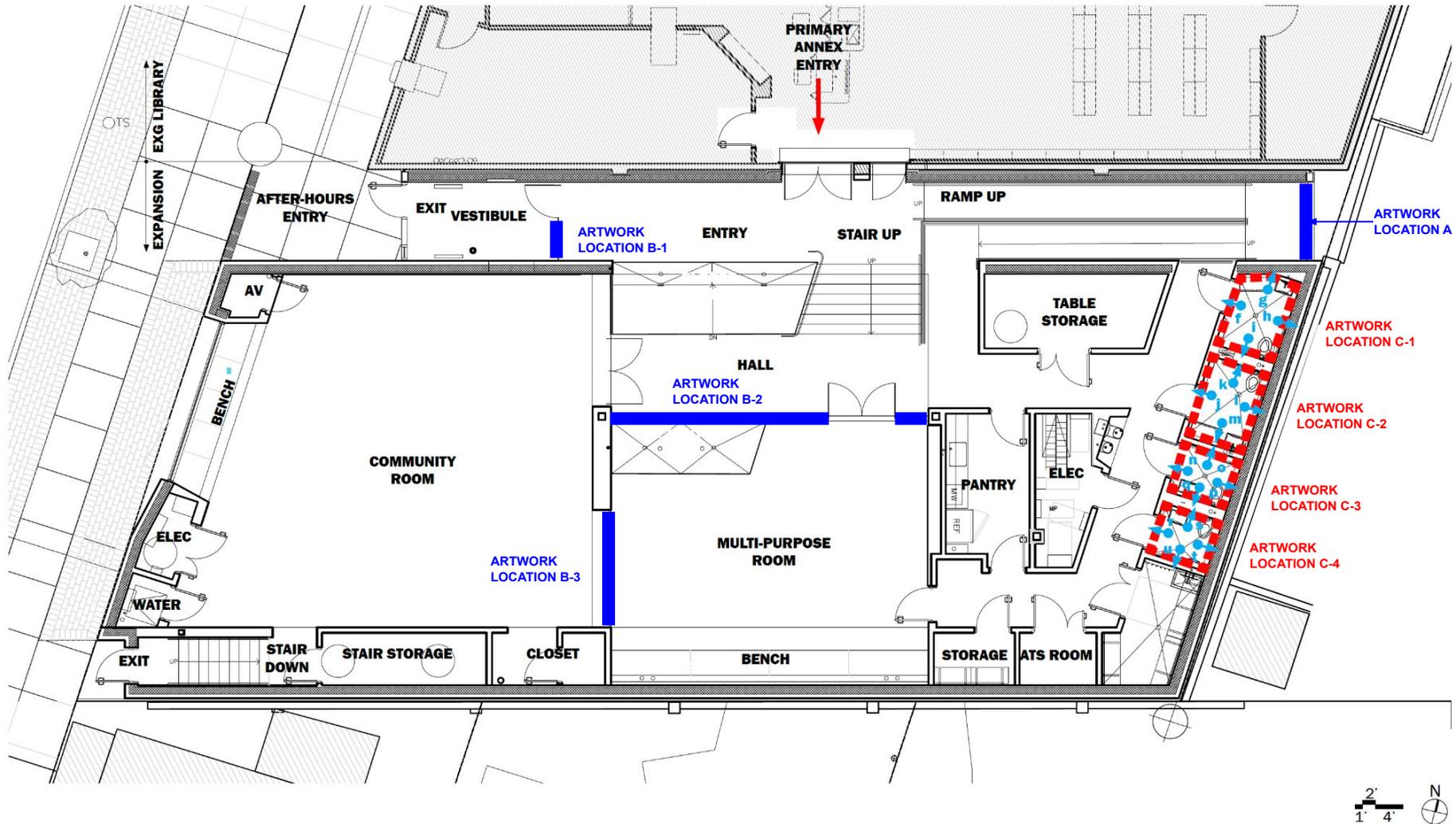
- **The distraction dots** will be sequenced drawings, essentially the frames of an animation. They will be very simple line drawings spaced closely together so that as you walk beside the glass divider you will see the drawing morph. The artwork in the three locations will deal with themes around the idea of infinite compassion.
- **The large window** (6' x 7') at the end of the community gallery will be an etched version of a drawing that represents mutual aid and food distribution. The figures in the drawing will be represented by the local fauna found in Rockaway.
- **Each bathroom** will be tiled with colored tile and single panel tile drawings that reflect the overarching theme of mutual aid and some will refer to the ocean and the local wild and sealife. Specifically each room will have colors that will represent the locale, from the dawn sky to the setting sun and Jamaica bay to the Atlantic ocean. When the library is redone in 40-50 years, the tiles will continue to exist. People can keep them even if the wing is gutted. Individual tiles will survive as they have from other periods of ceramic tile.

The Feeling Is Mutual

Artwork proposal Goals

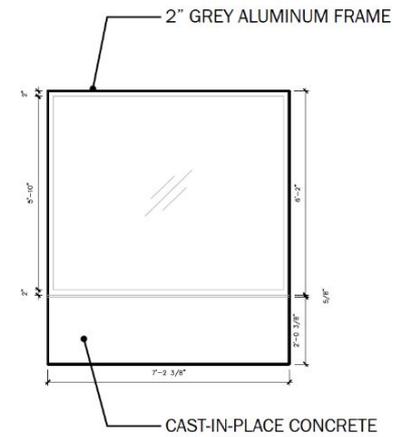
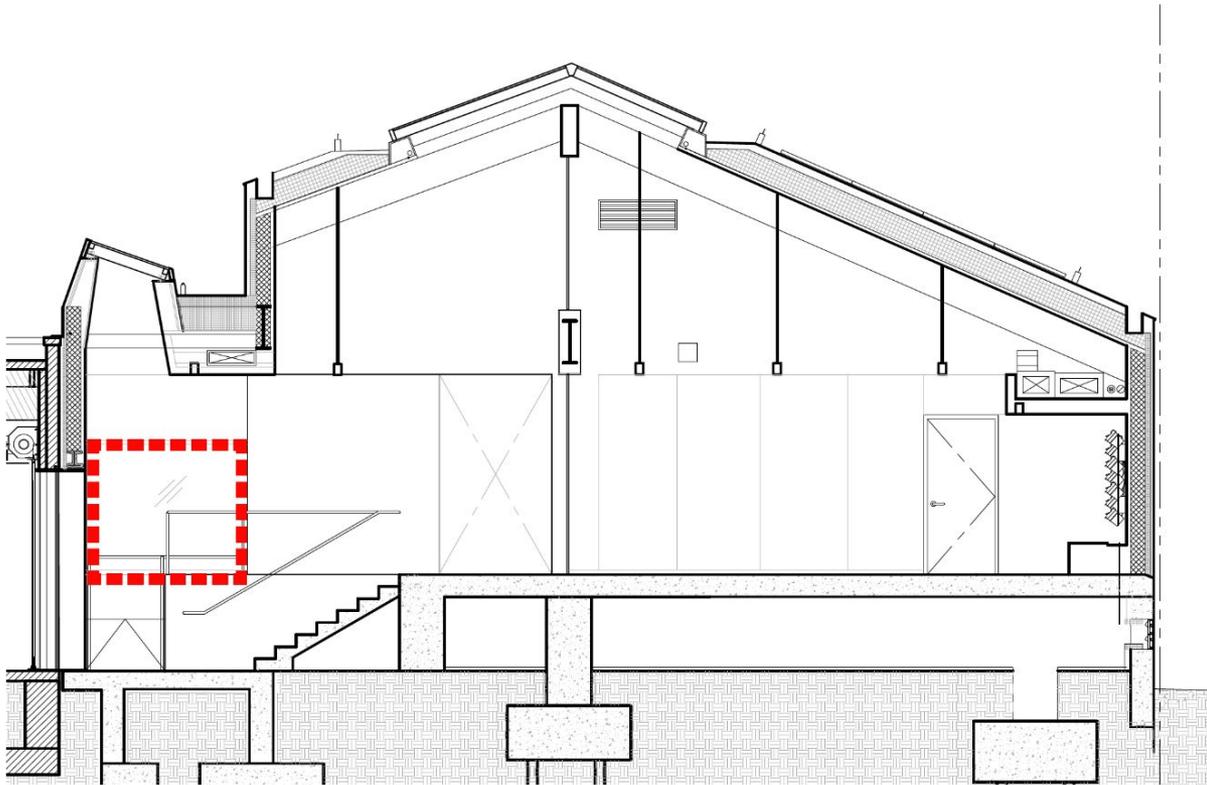
1. Reflect the spirit of community and mutual aid and the joy that comes with it. Helping each other, standing up for what's right, reshaping the world into a better one is the theme that will guide this work.
2. Reflects the life of the community and its concerns but is also whimsical and creates many intimate moments for all ages and backgrounds to enjoy. And the timelessness of the concepts should be resonate into the future.
3. History: NY was once New Amsterdam. Similarly, Rockaway and the Netherlands are defined by their relationship to the ocean and rising sea levels.
4. Tile, ceramic, the bathroom evokes the direct relationship to the ocean.
5. Longevity: When the library is redone in 40-50 years, the tiles will continue to exist. People can keep them even if the wing is gutted. Individual tiles will survive as they have from other periods of ceramic tile.





PROPOSED ARTWORK LOCATIONS

- | | | | |
|----|--------------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| 1. | Entry ramp window | Transparent Film | (A) |
| 2. | Distraction dots | Transparent Film | (B-1, B-2, B-3) |
| 3. | Bathrooms | Custom Tile | (C-1, C-2, C-3, C-4) |



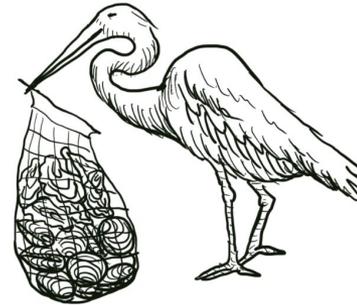
ELEVATION a

Local Fauna - Mutual Aid
Drawing for large window

Oyster catcher

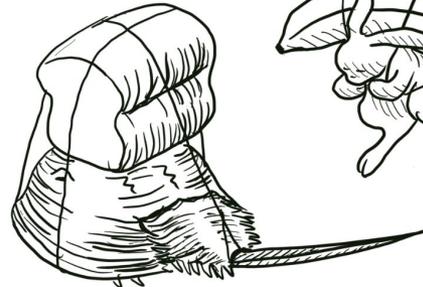


Peregrine falcon



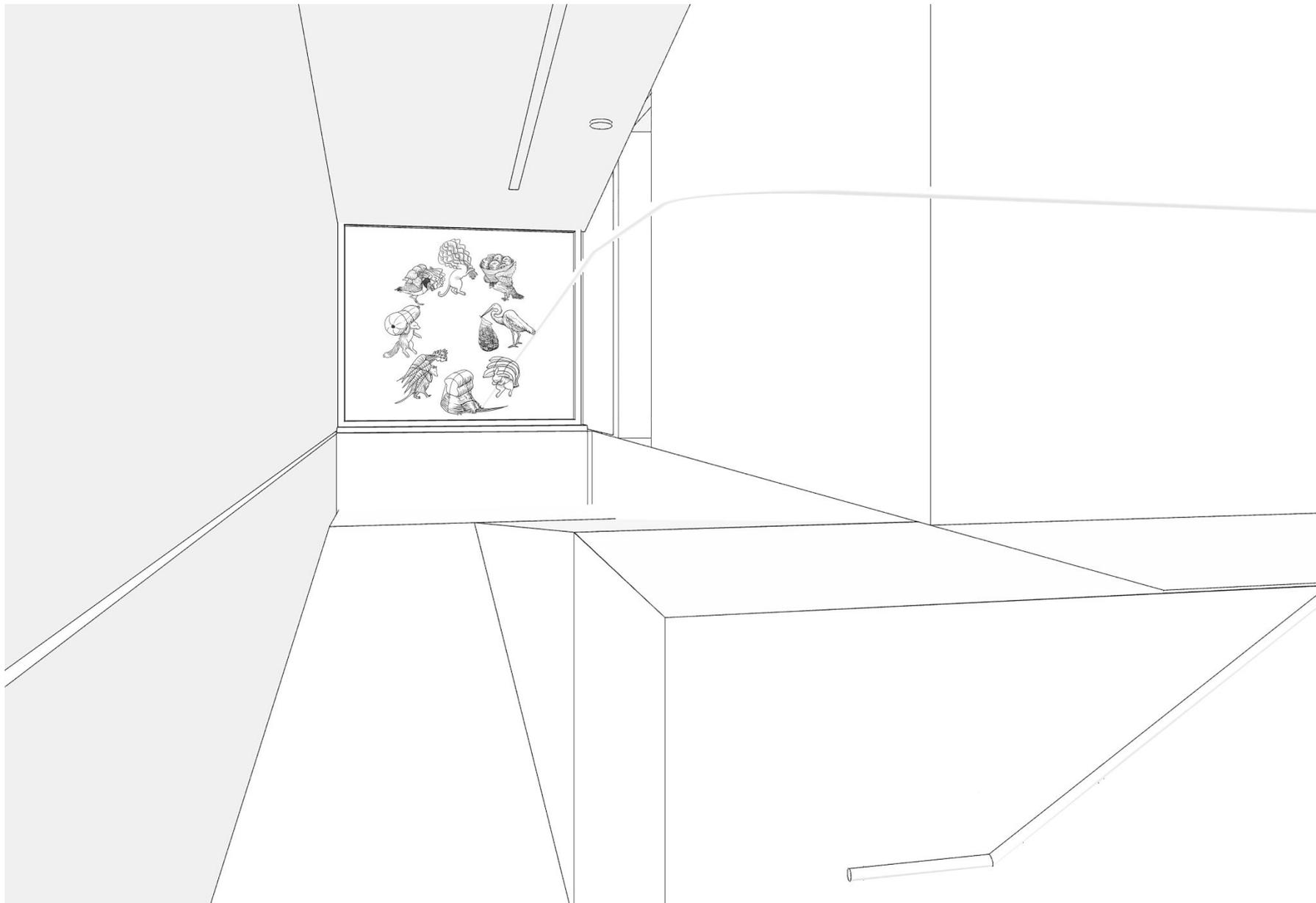
Egret

Possum



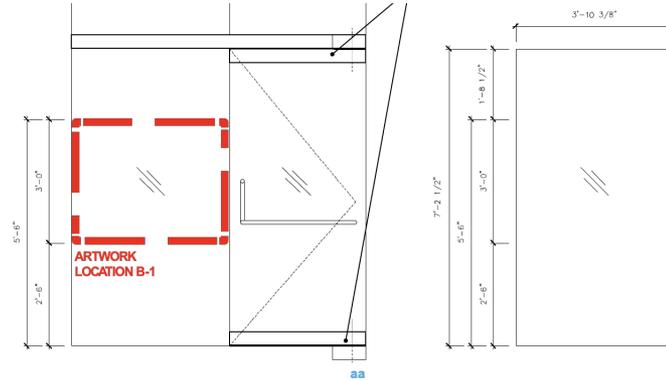
Horseshoe crab



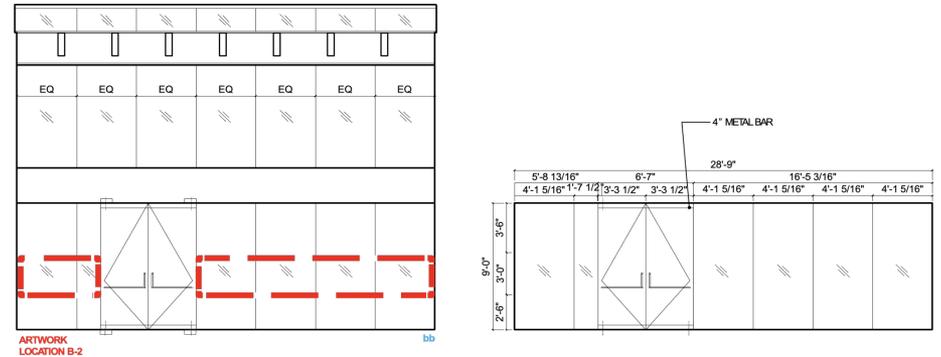


Location B
Glass Partition locations:

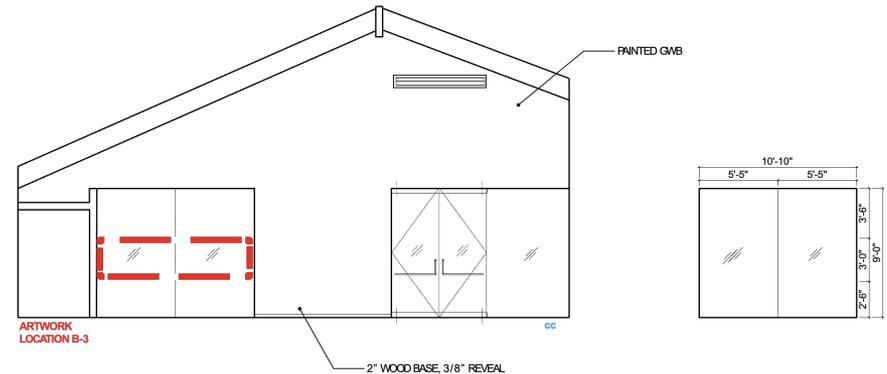
Infinite Eye
 Entry B-1



Infinity Birds
 Infinity Shell
 Multi purpose Room B-2

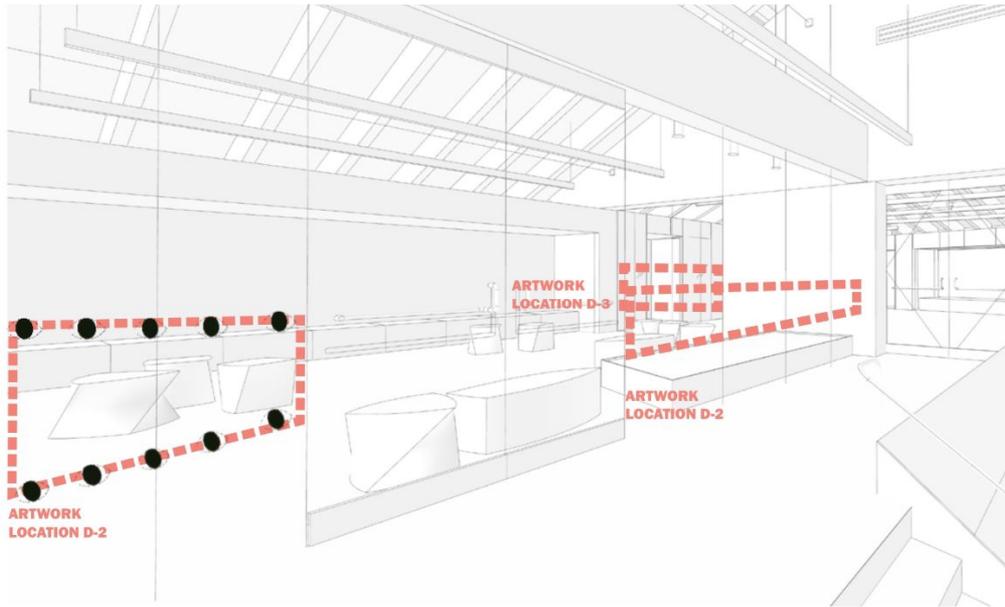


Infinity Dog
 Community Room B-3

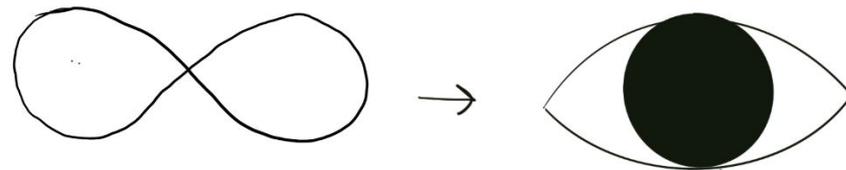


Location B: Glass Partitions

Drawing sequence studies

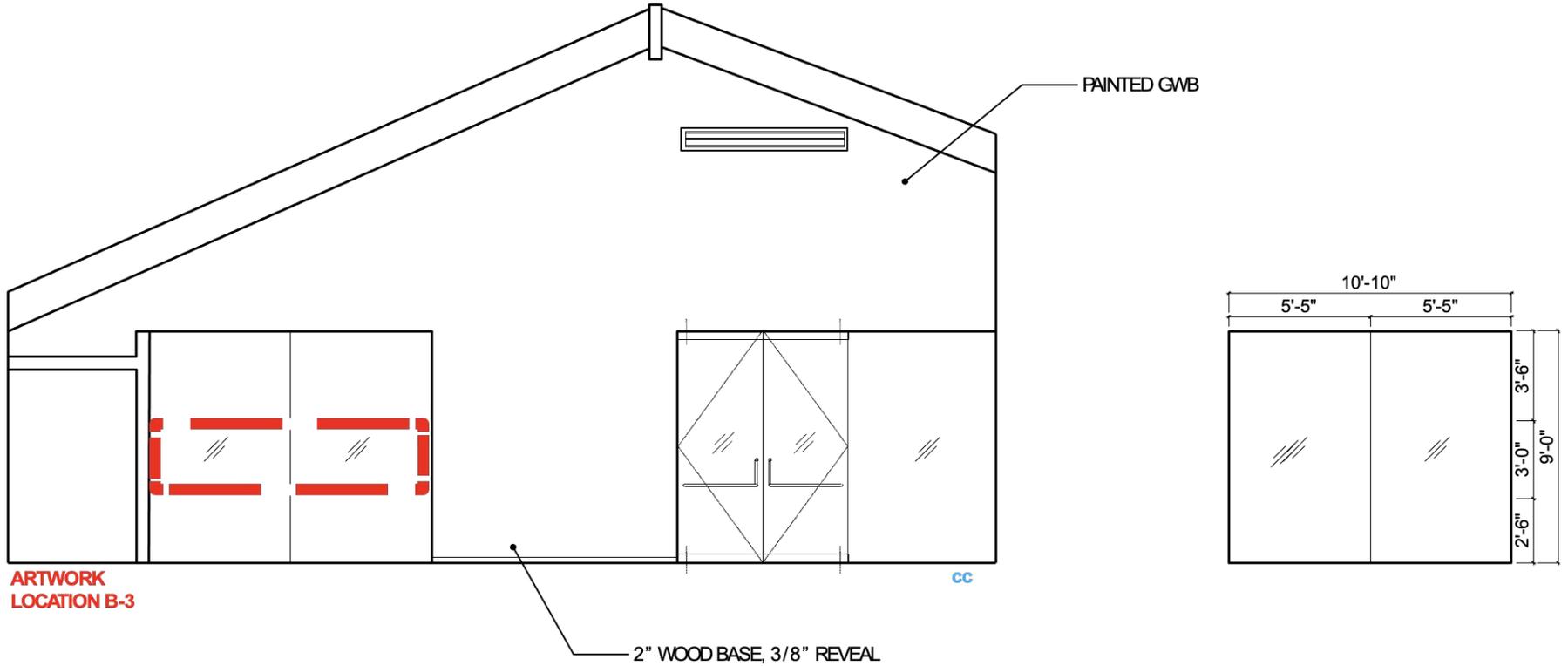


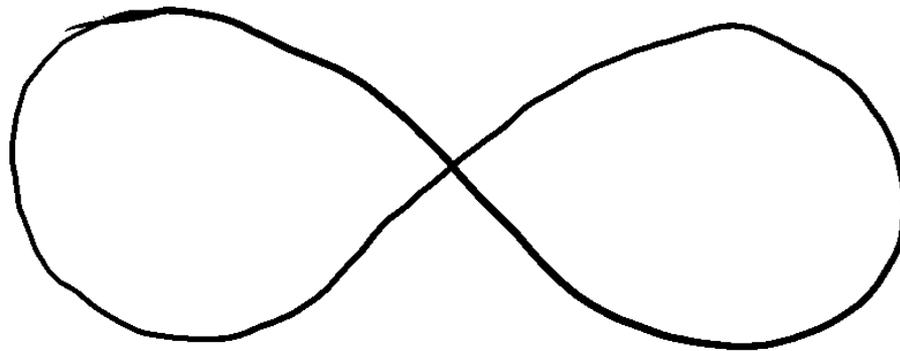
CLOCK WISE SEQUENCE
 SELF CONTAINED WITHIN
 EACH LOCATION
 6"-7" WIDTH OR HEIGHT TO ECHO TILES

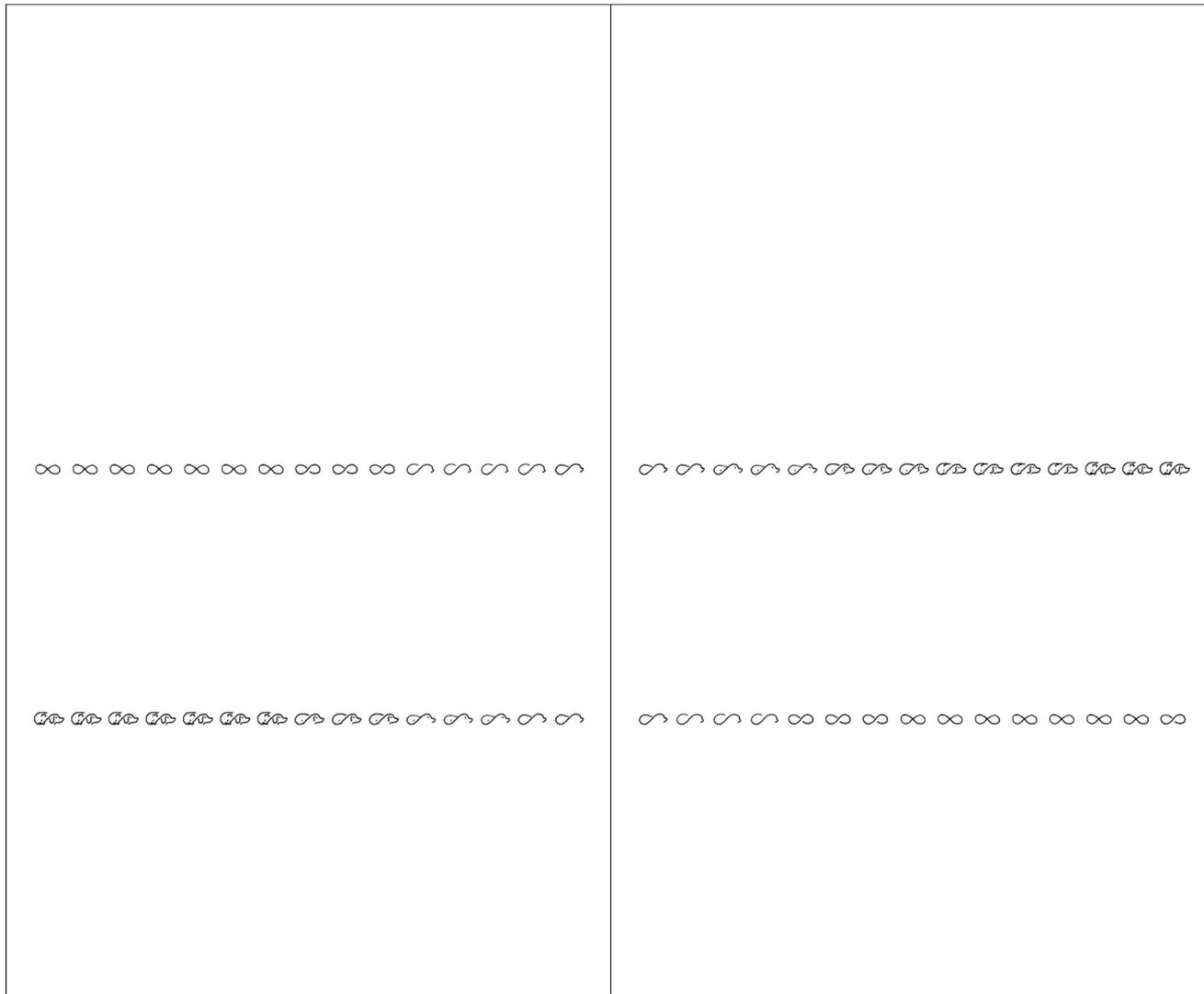


THEME: INFINITE COMPASSION

Location B-3
Glass Partition locations:

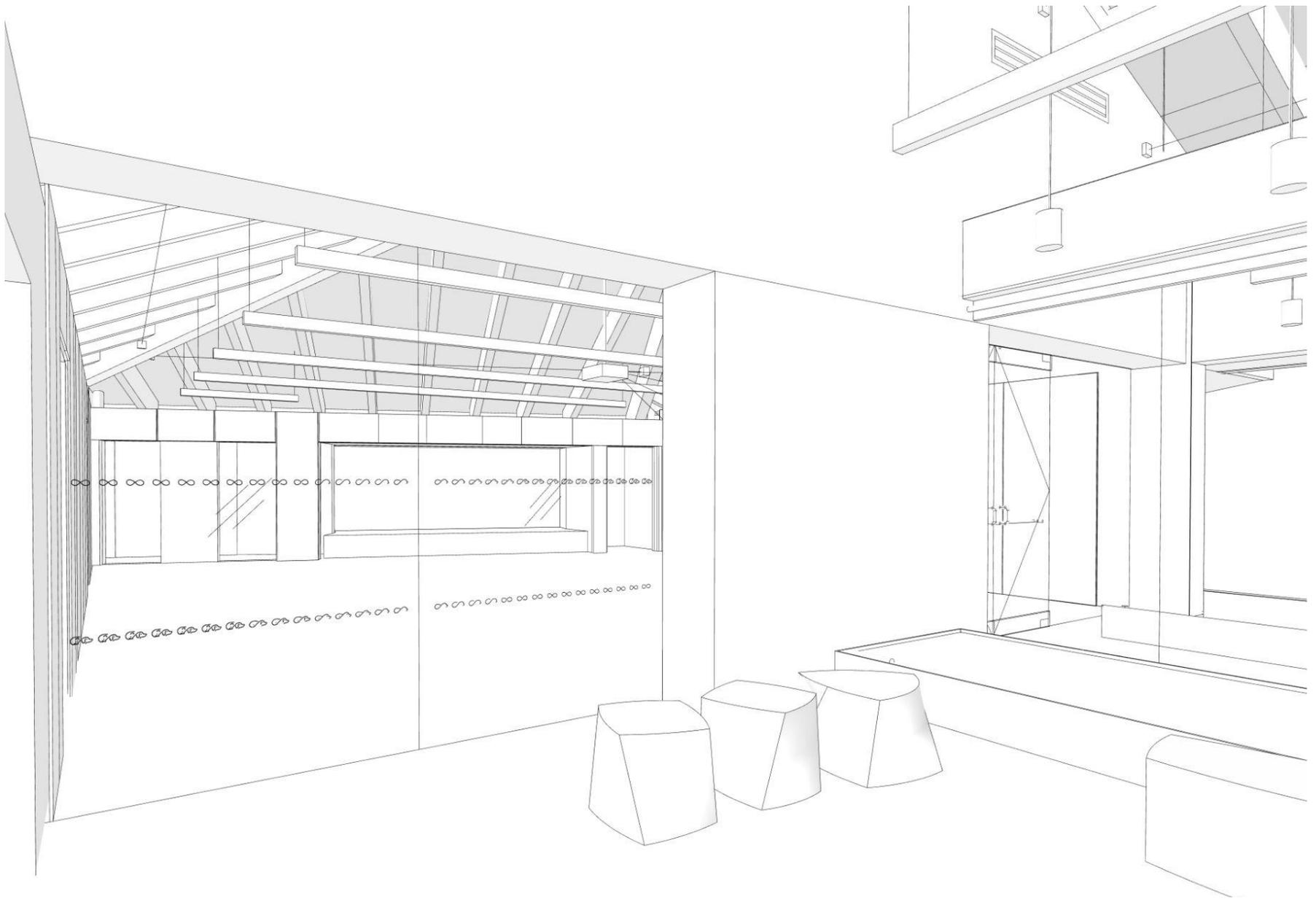


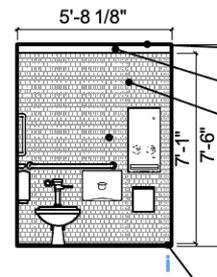
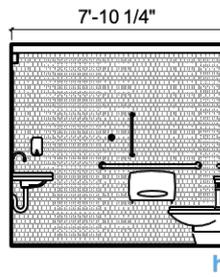
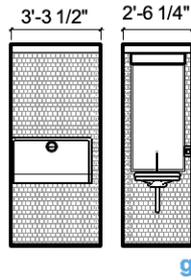
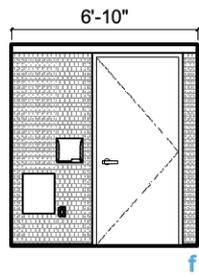




9'

10' - 10"

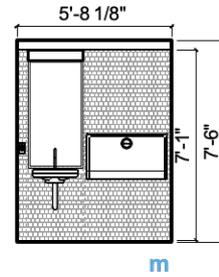
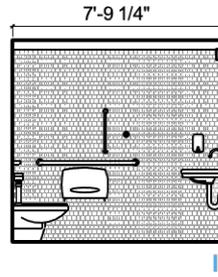
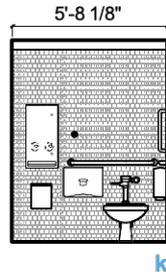
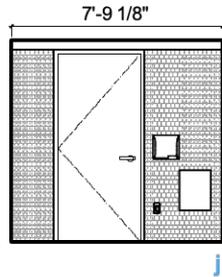




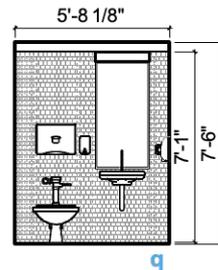
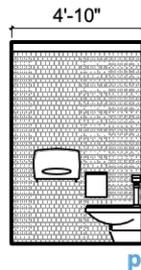
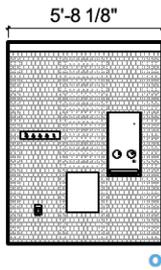
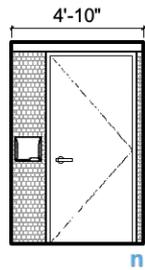
PAINTED GWB CEILING
 CONCRETE EXPOSED TOP
 2 x 2 BATHROOM TILE WALL

**ARTWORK
 LOCATION C-1**

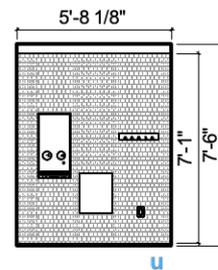
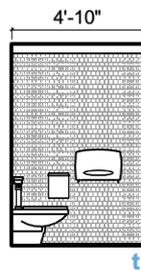
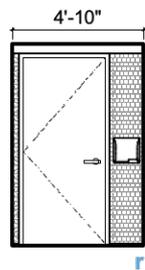
2 x 2 UNGLAZED CERAMIC TILE COVE



**ARTWORK
 LOCATION C-2**



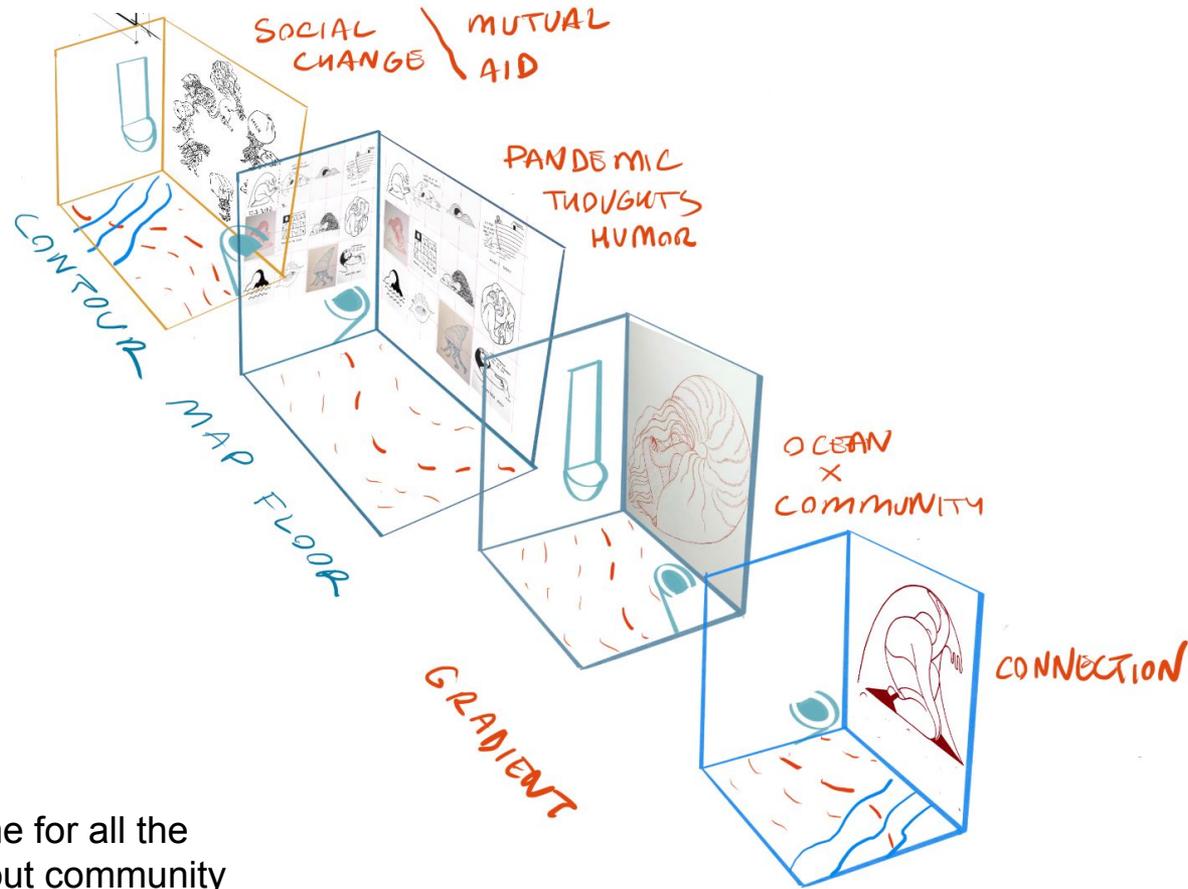
**ARTWORK
 LOCATION C-3**



**ARTWORK
 LOCATION C-4**

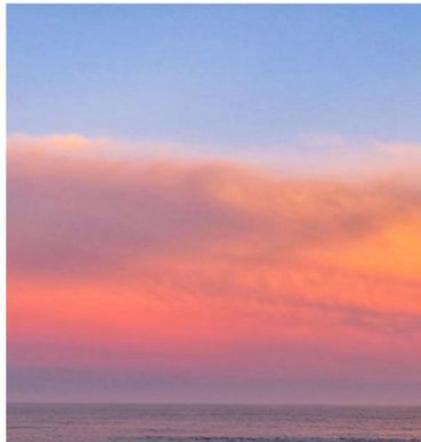
Location C: Bathrooms

Rough concept sketches / inspiration

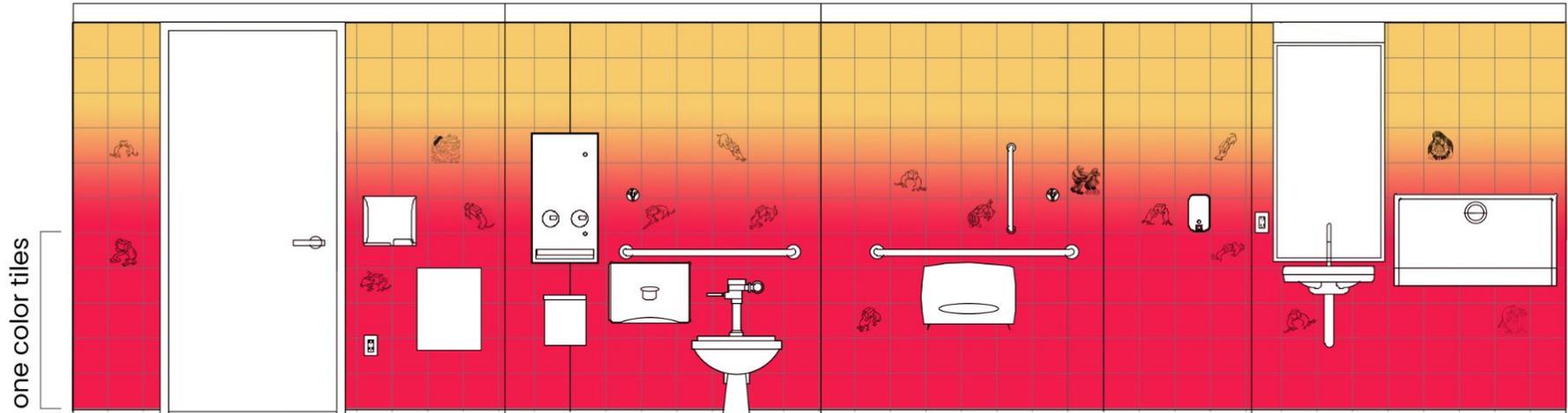


The overarching theme for all the bathrooms will be about community and mutual aid.

Location C: Bathrooms
Rough concept sketches / inspiration



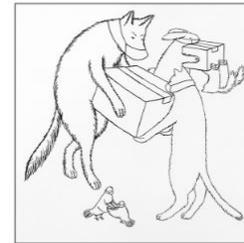
Sunset Bathroom C-2



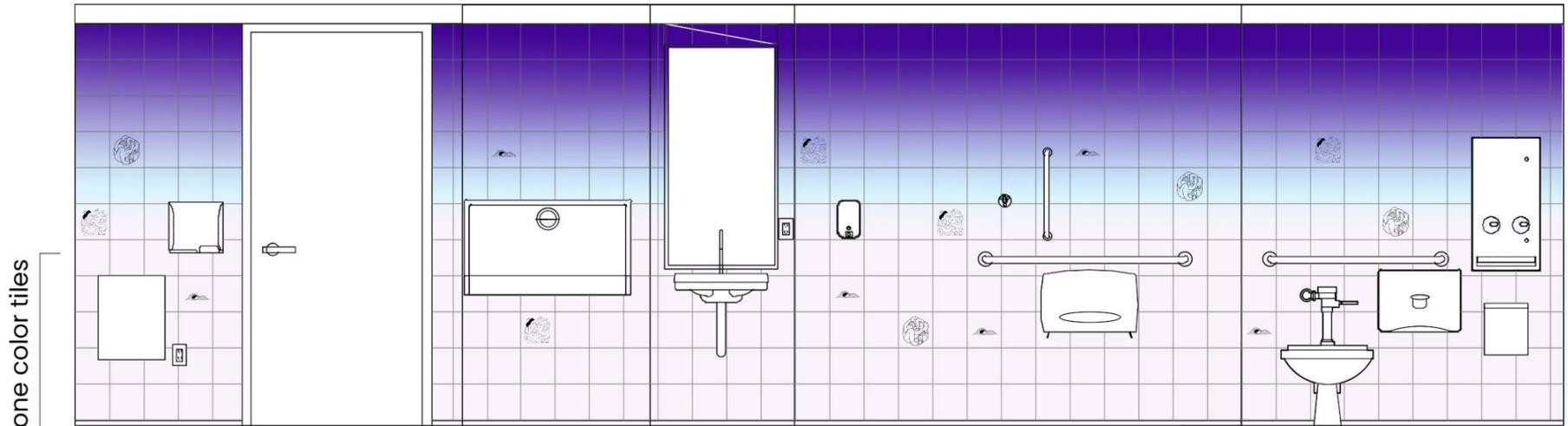
one color tiles

6x6" tiles

The theme for this bathroom will be mutual aid, specifically food distribution and cooperation within our community.

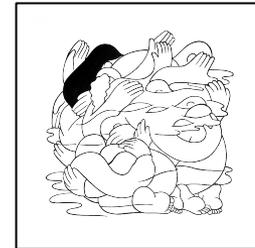
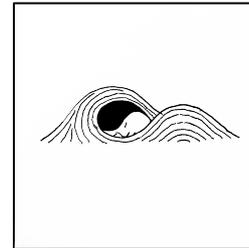
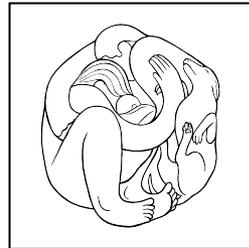


Pre-Dawn Bathroom C-1

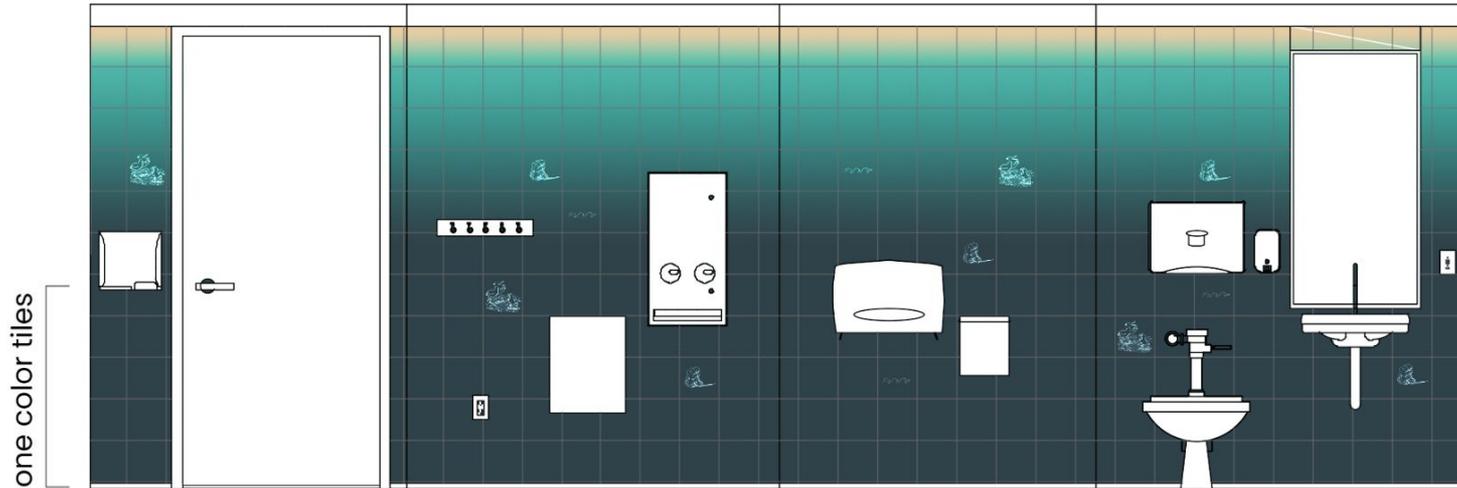


6" x 6" tiles

Theme will be the emotional support between our immediate community of family and friends and animals.

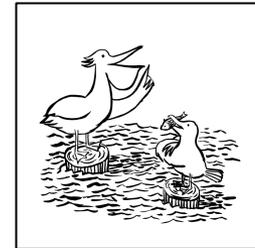
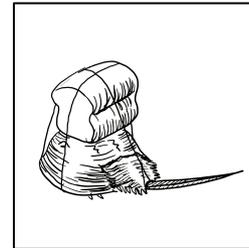
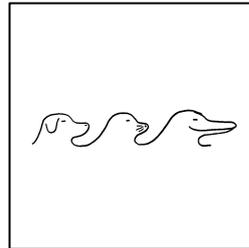


Jamaica Bay Bathroom C-3

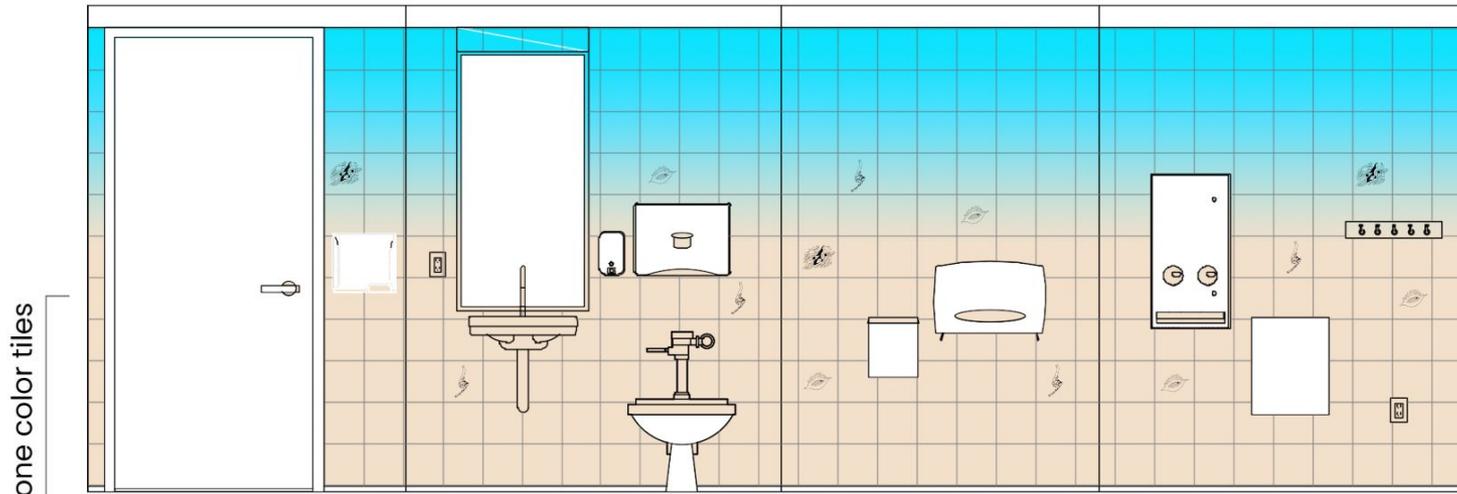


6" x 6" tiles

Theme will be about the community of animals and activities in the bay. These drawings will employ whimsy and humor.



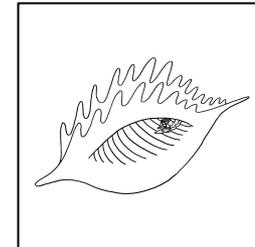
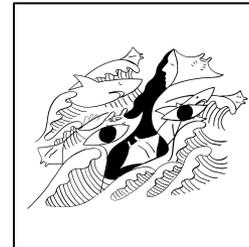
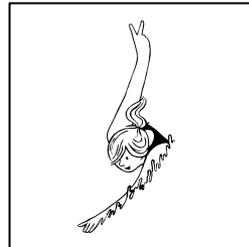
Atlantic Ocean Bathroom C-4



one color tiles

6" x 6" tiles

Theme will reflect the ocean and creatures and beach activities (surfing). Also will draw upon whimsy and humor.



Materials and Maintenance



The art on the glass will be printed onto transparent film and laminated into the glass. The application of art on the glass window and glass dividing walls will be consistent with best practices for that type of process to ensure longevity.

The tiles in the bathrooms will be printed 6x6. The tile will be glazed in a way that is consistent with best practices for bathroom and kitchen tile. All digital files and the contact information of the ceramic tile printer will be shared upon completion for the continued maintenance of the work. Extra colored tiles will be provided as well.

