



# Home Away from Home: Senior Immigrants' Culinary Nostalgia

## Citation

Chi, Zinan. 2023. Home Away from Home: Senior Immigrants' Culinary Nostalgia. Master's thesis, Harvard Graduate School of Design.

## Permanent link

<https://nrs.harvard.edu/URN-3:HUL.INSTREPOS:37377695>

## Terms of Use

This article was downloaded from Harvard University's DASH repository, and is made available under the terms and conditions applicable to Other Posted Material, as set forth at <http://nrs.harvard.edu/urn-3:HUL.InstRepos:dash.current.terms-of-use#LAA>

## Share Your Story

The Harvard community has made this article openly available.  
Please share how this access benefits you. [Submit a story](#).

[Accessibility](#)

Home Away From Home

A Thesis Submitted to the Department of Architecture  
Harvard University Graduate School of Design, by

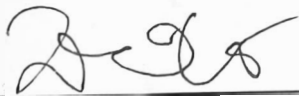
Zinan Chi

In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of  
[Master of Architecture]

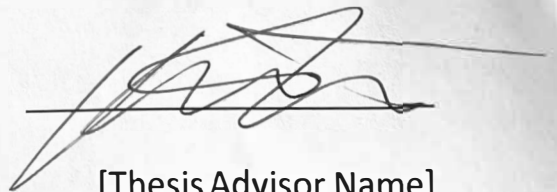
12/20/2023

(Month and Year Thesis Submitted)

**"The author hereby grants Harvard University permission to reproduce and distribute copies of this thesis, in whole or in part, for educational purposes."**



[Student Name]



[Thesis Advisor Name]



experience

imaginary

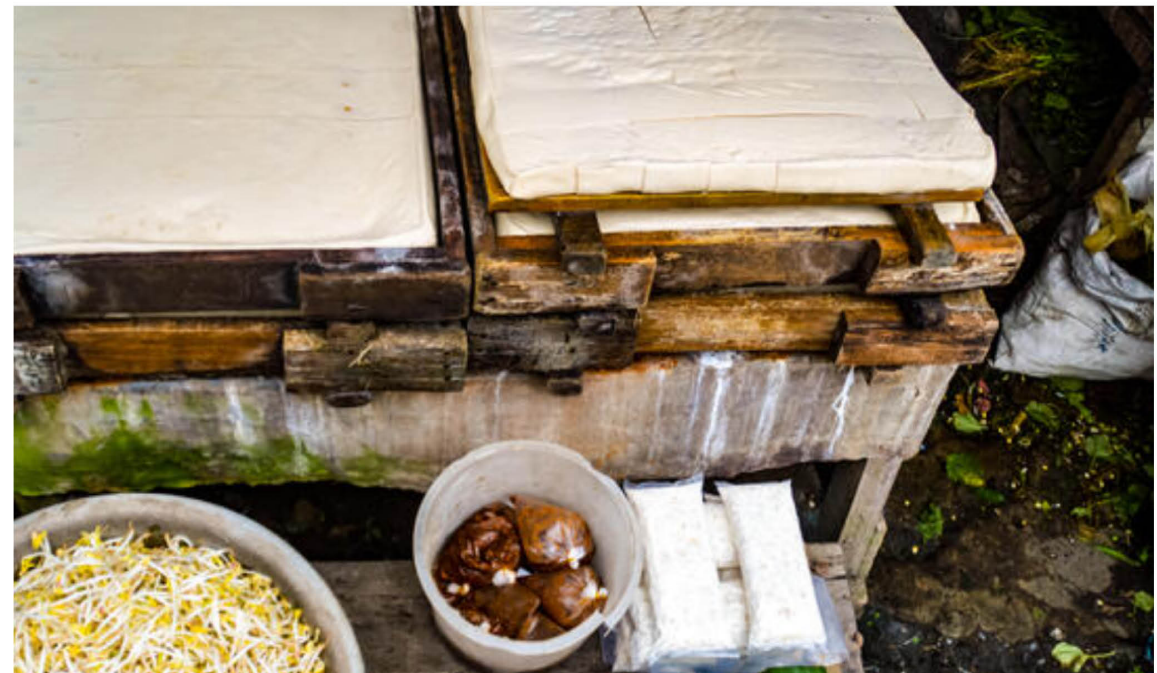
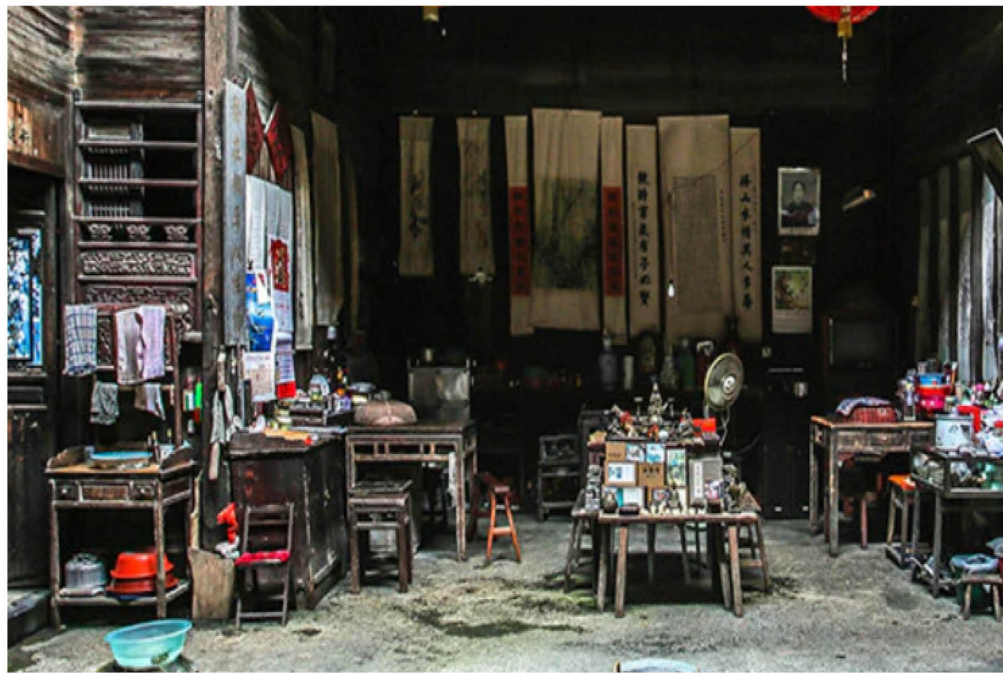




scene

object





house

food



MIT Stata Center, Boston, US



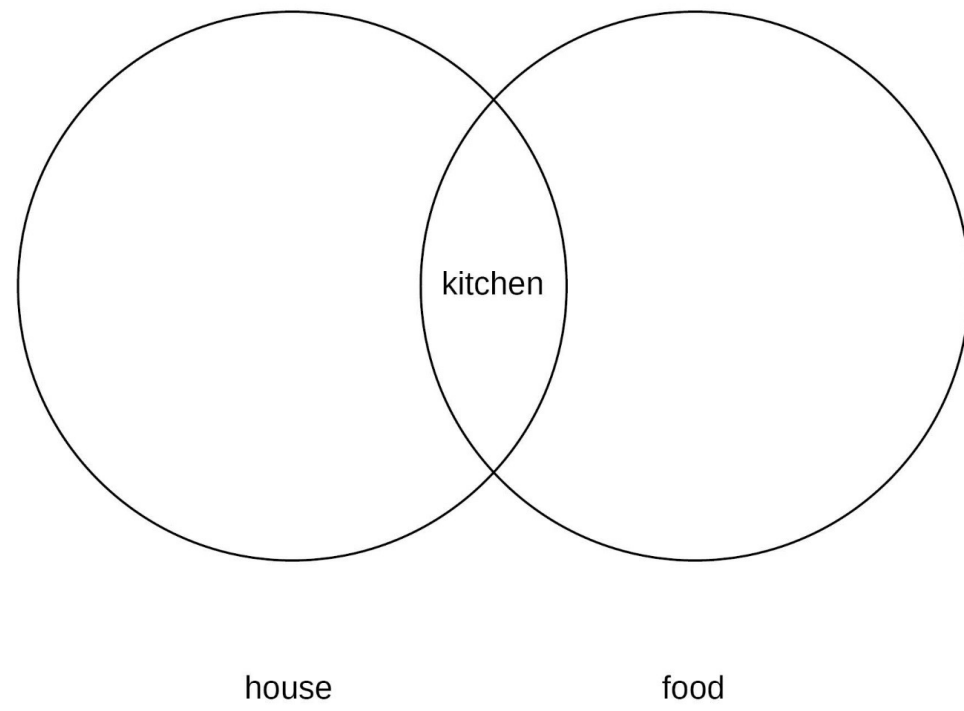
Zhan Garden, Nanjing, China

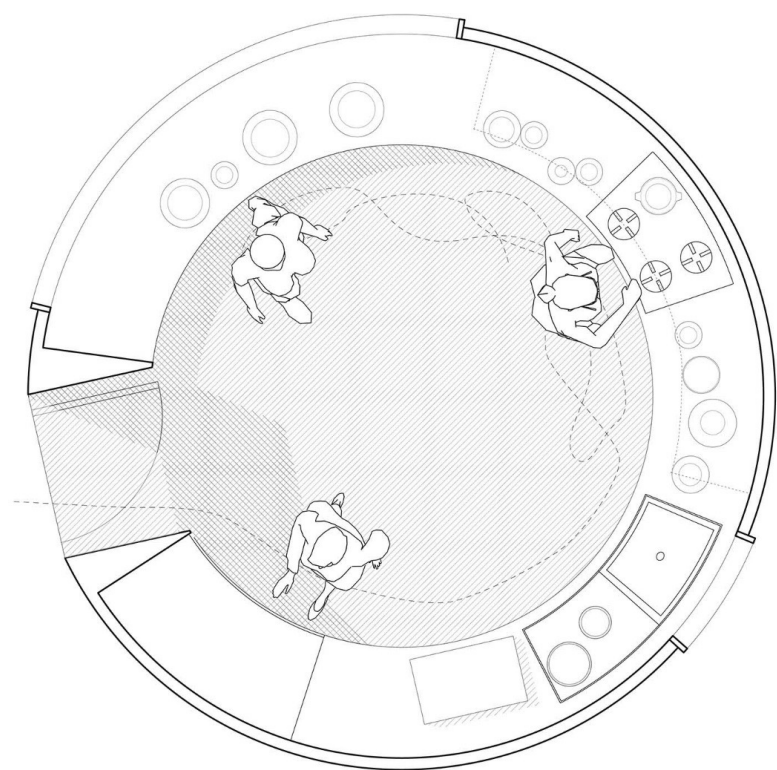


## ***Home Away from Home***

is the recognition of a physical location's change, and the reconstruction of a sense of home to capture past experiences and resonate collective memories.







kitchen for chinese food



standard kitchen in the US

-- 2019

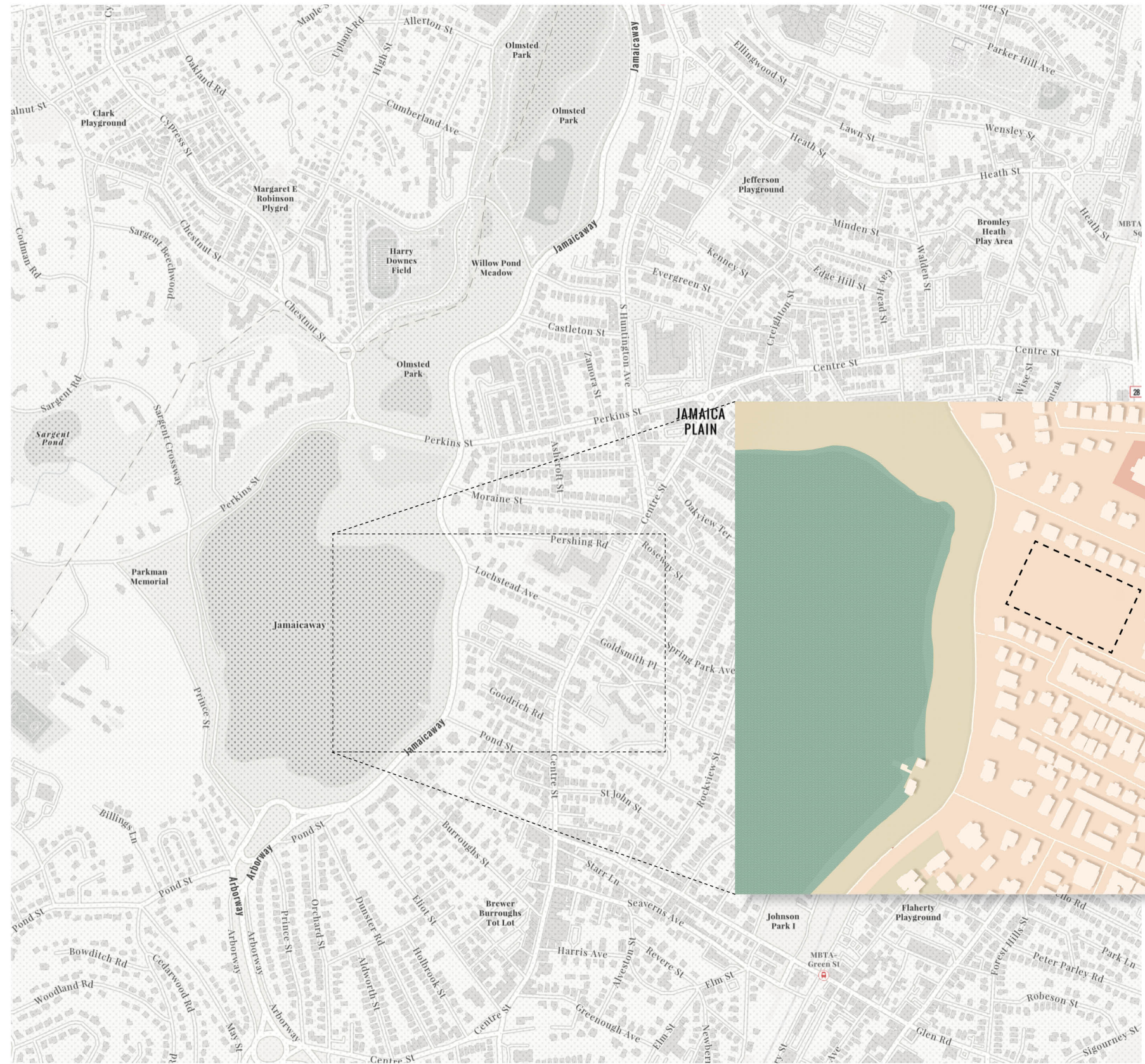
**13.7%** of US population  
**44** millions

--2060

**A quarter** of US older population  
**will be foreign-born immigrants**

senior      immigrant







## ***Home Away from Home***

uses regional food as the cultural catalysis to connect the senior immigrants in ethnic groups and provide a community for them to share, teach, learn and embrace cultural diversities.

## ***Home Away from Home***

————— ● top floor, regional cuisine  
kitchen and dining.

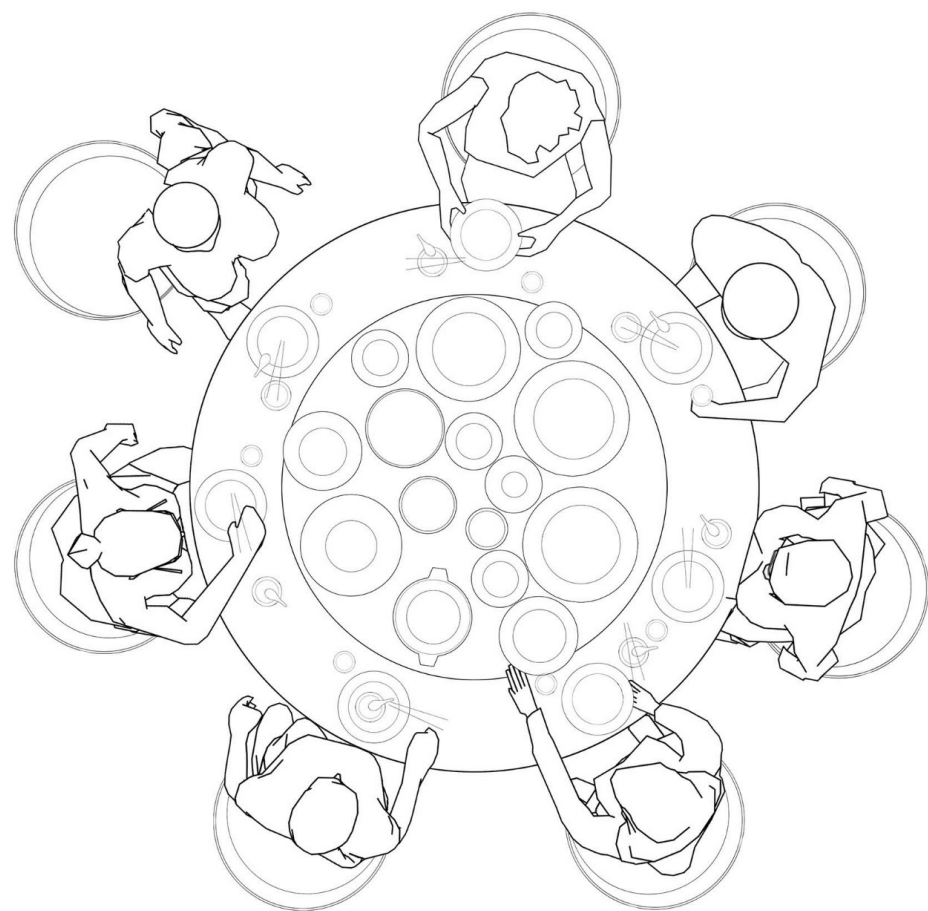
————— ● living units

————— ● apartment units

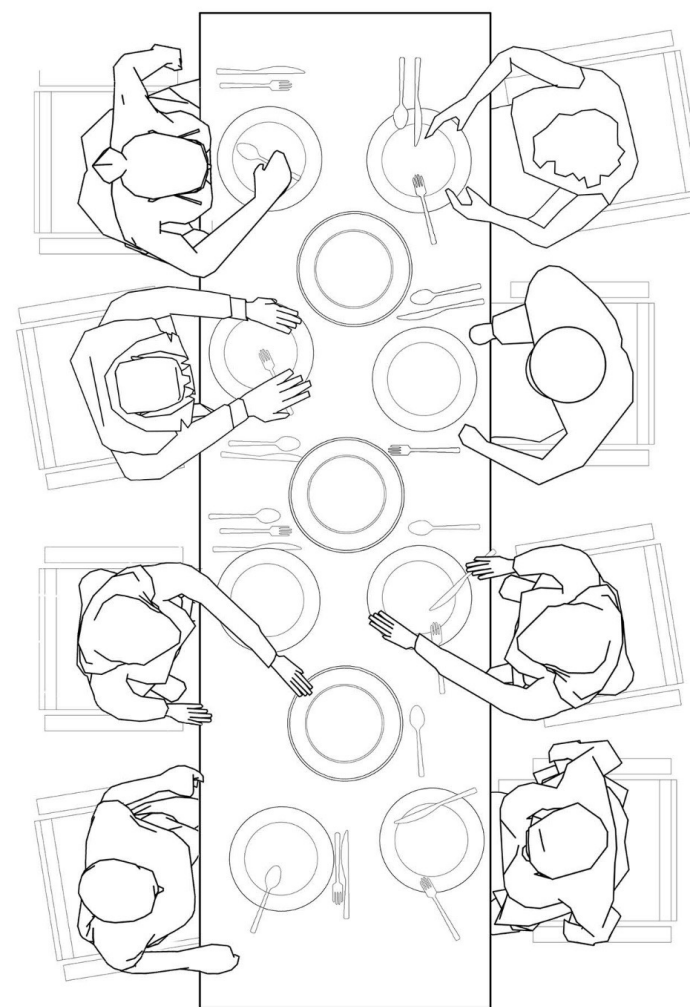
————— ● cluster cooking and kids' daycare

————— ● playground and small-unit farming

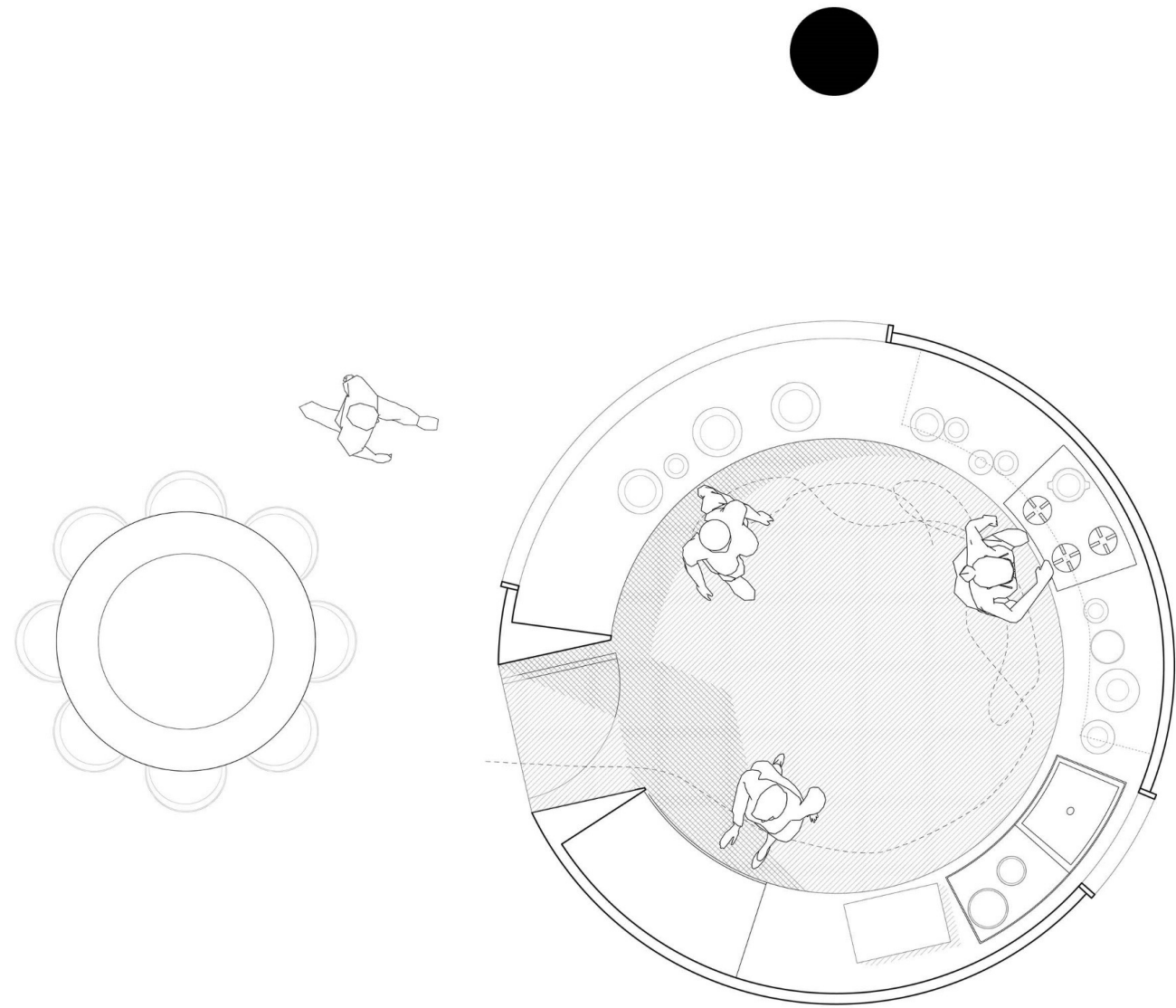




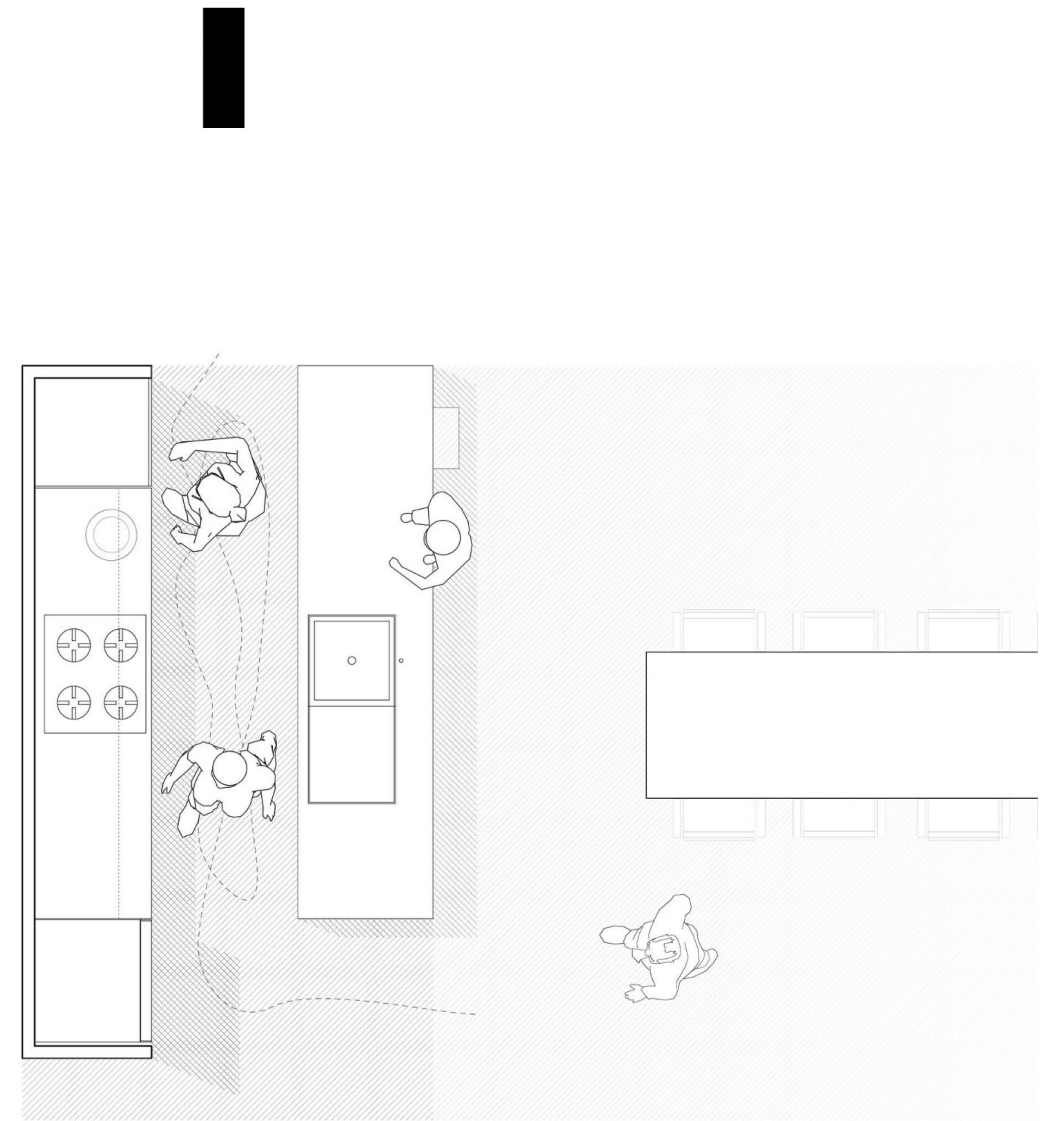
the "lazy susan"



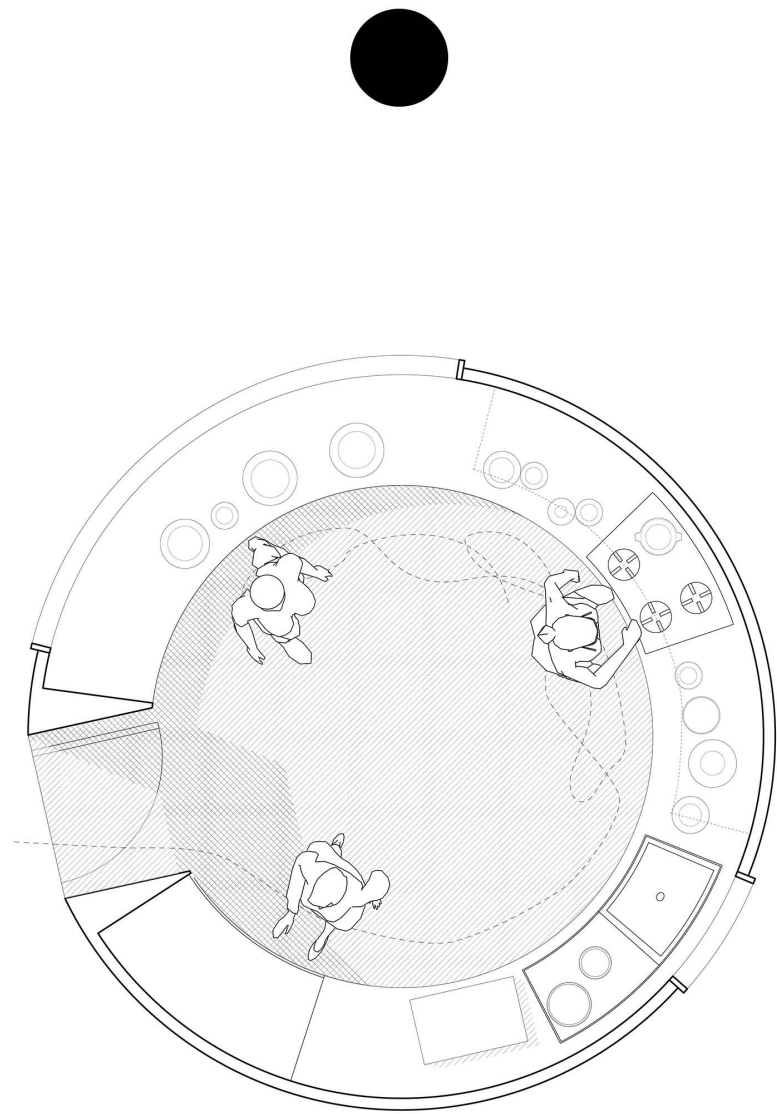
long table



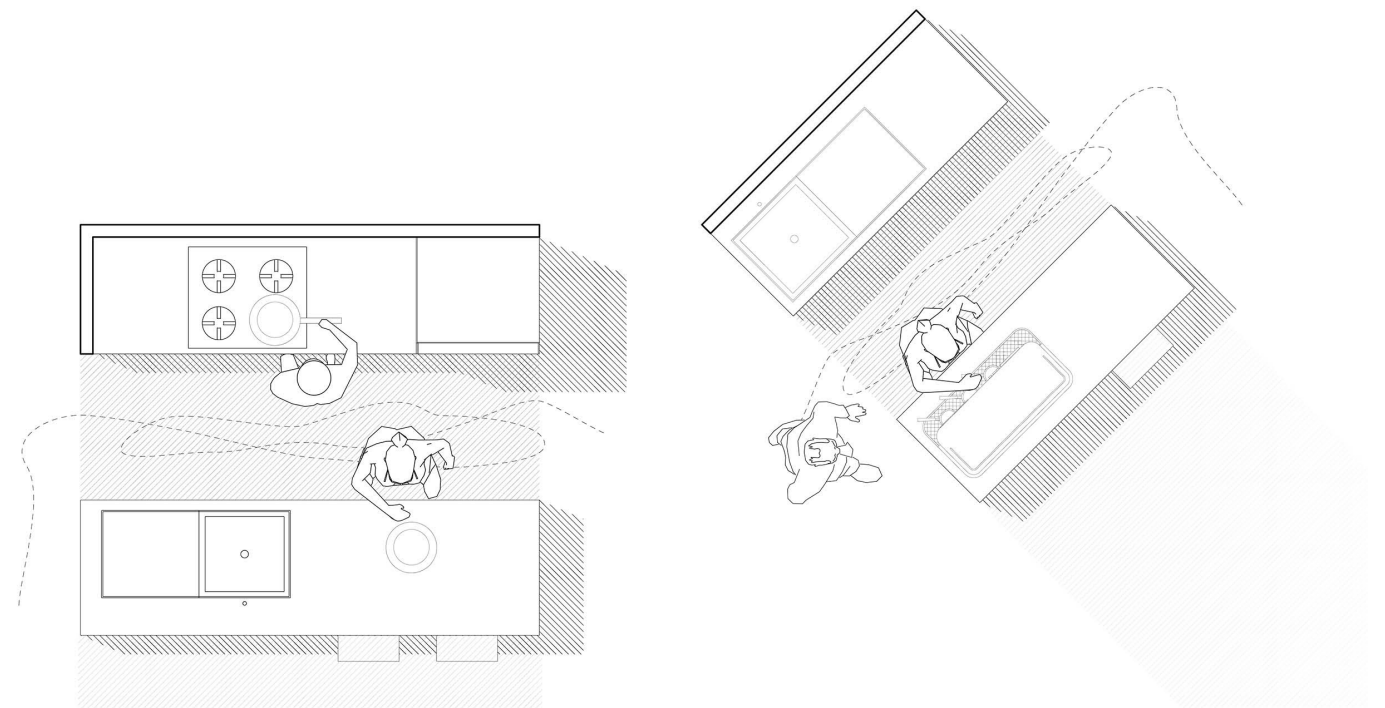
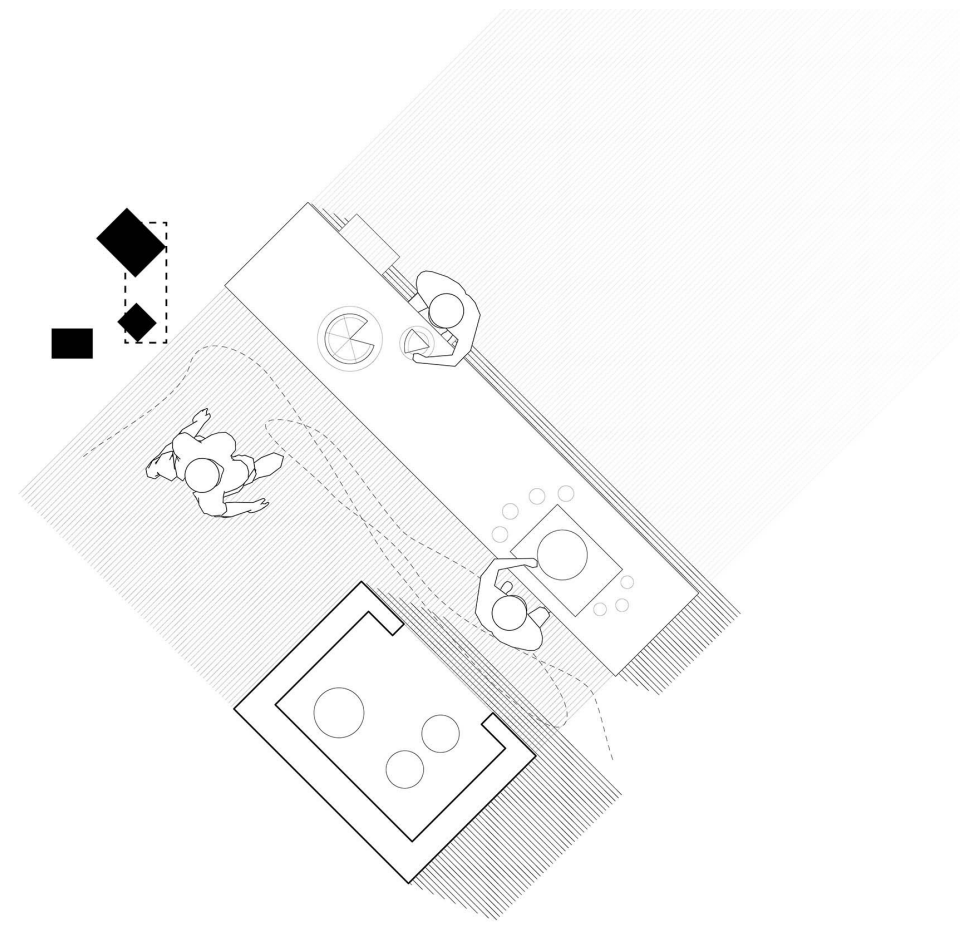
kitchen and dining table



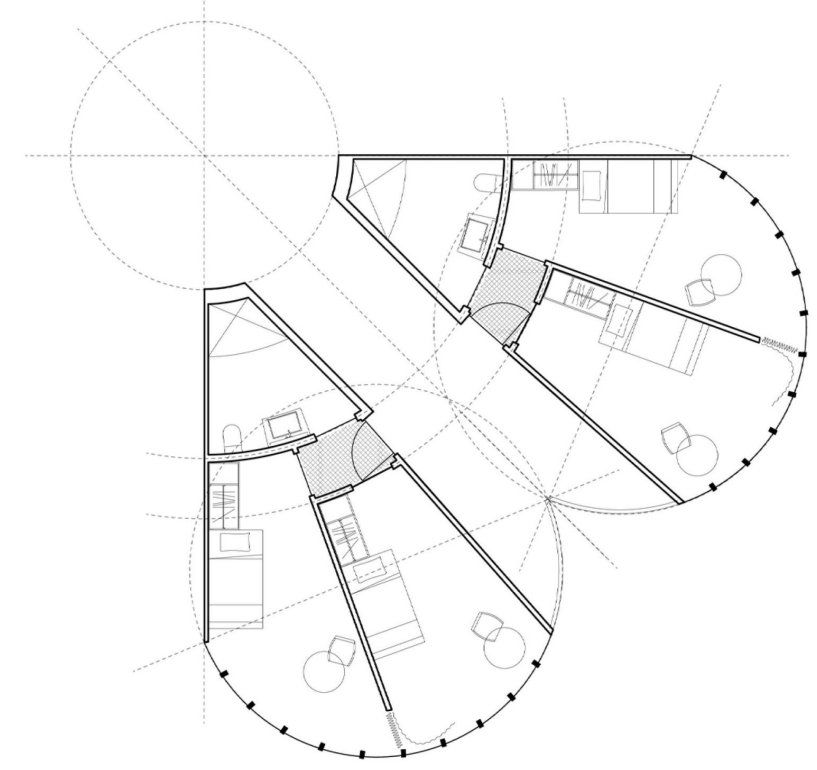
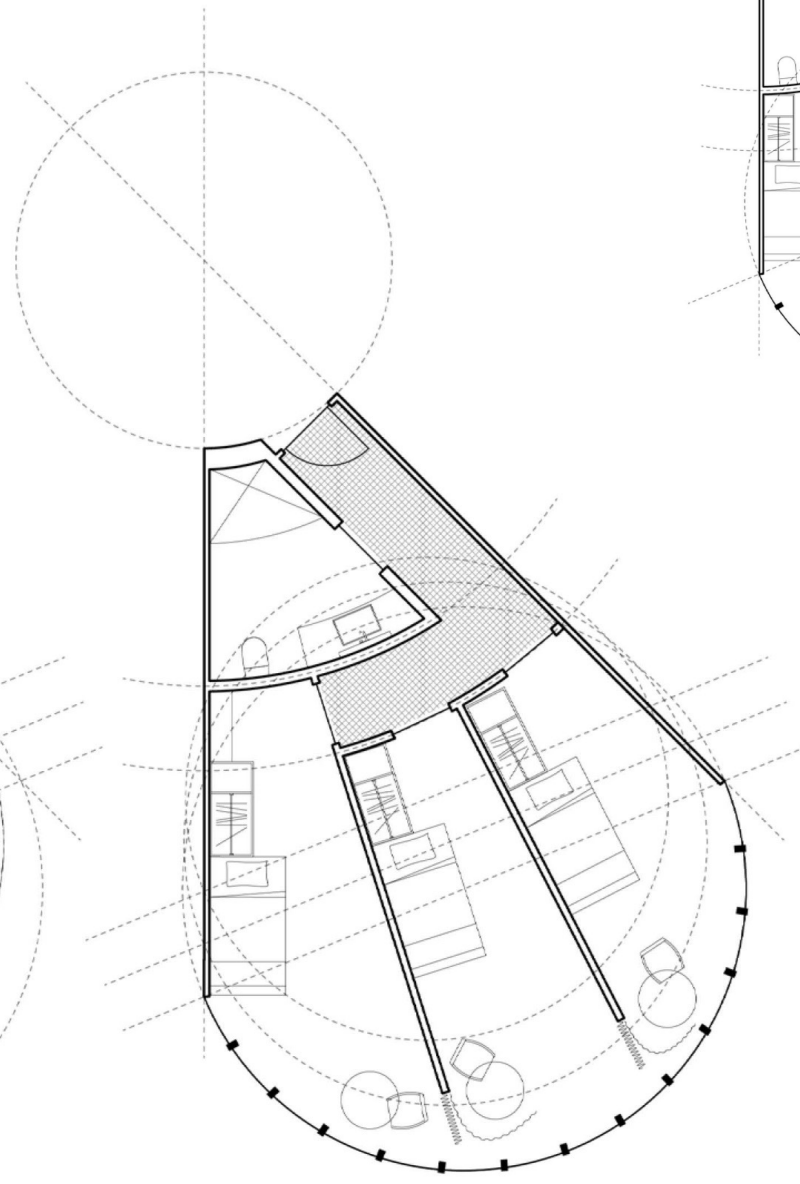
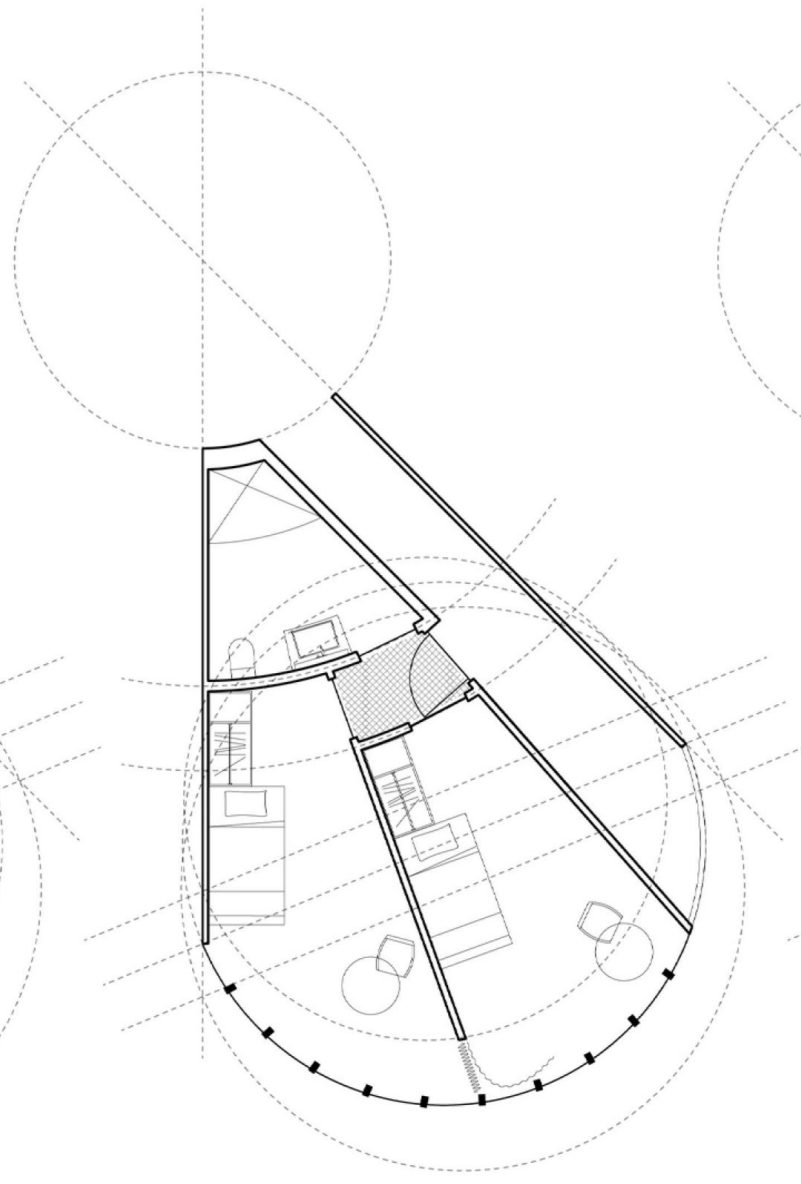
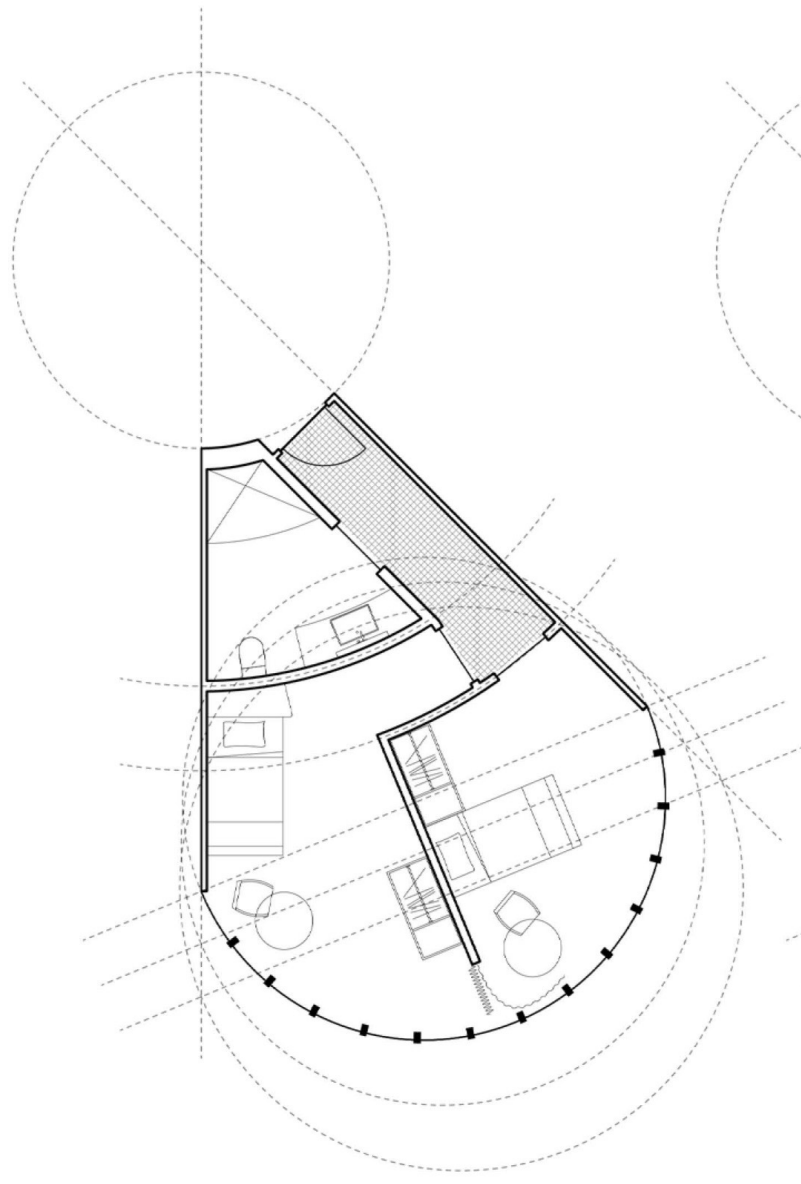
standard kitchen and dining table in the US



kitchen for chinese food



kitchen for western food



Round Units





Round Unit Interior

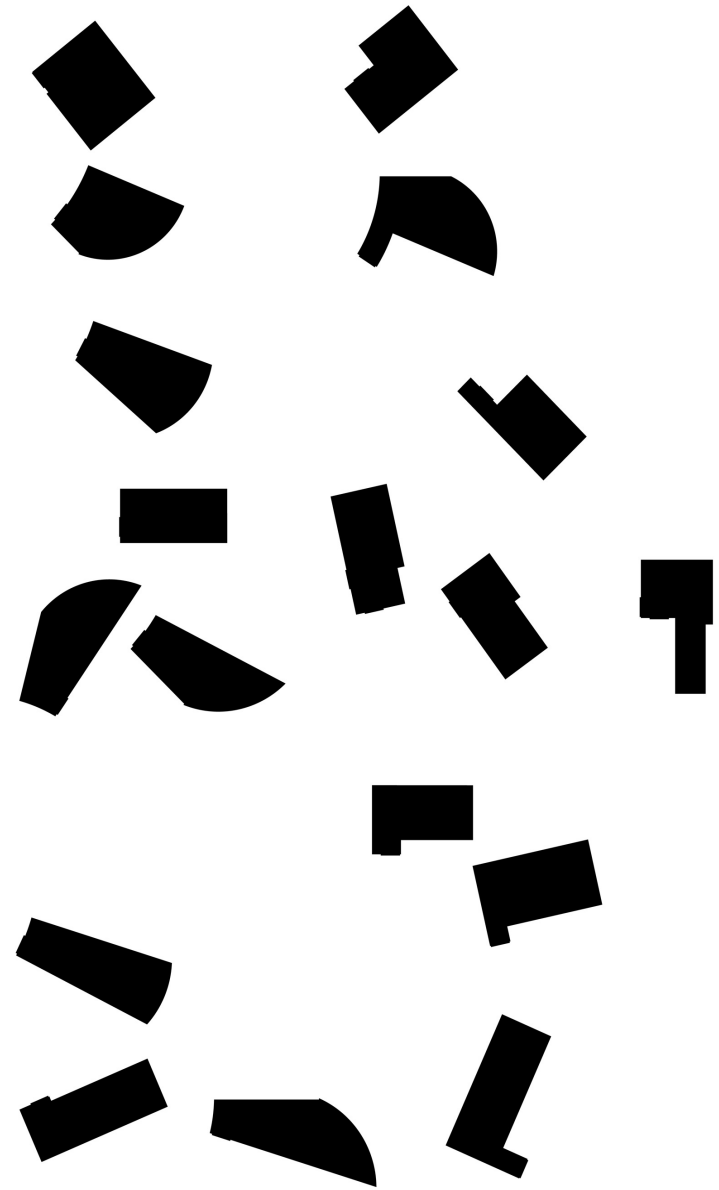
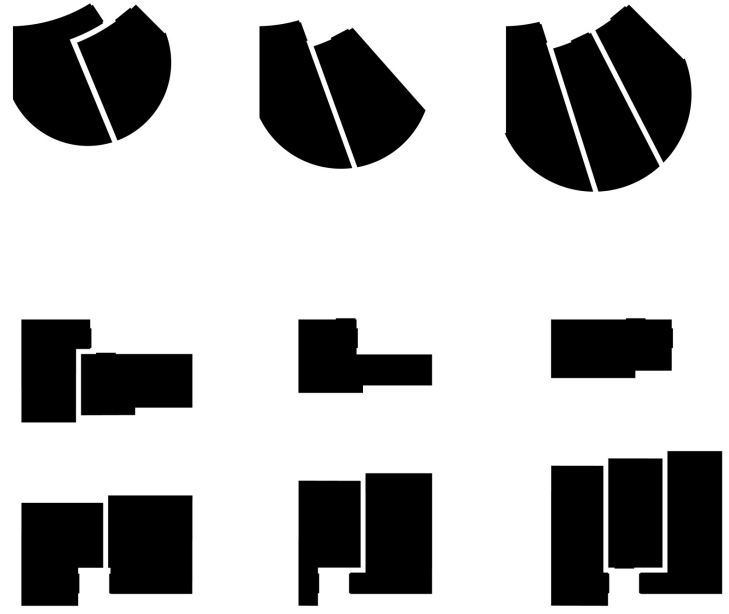


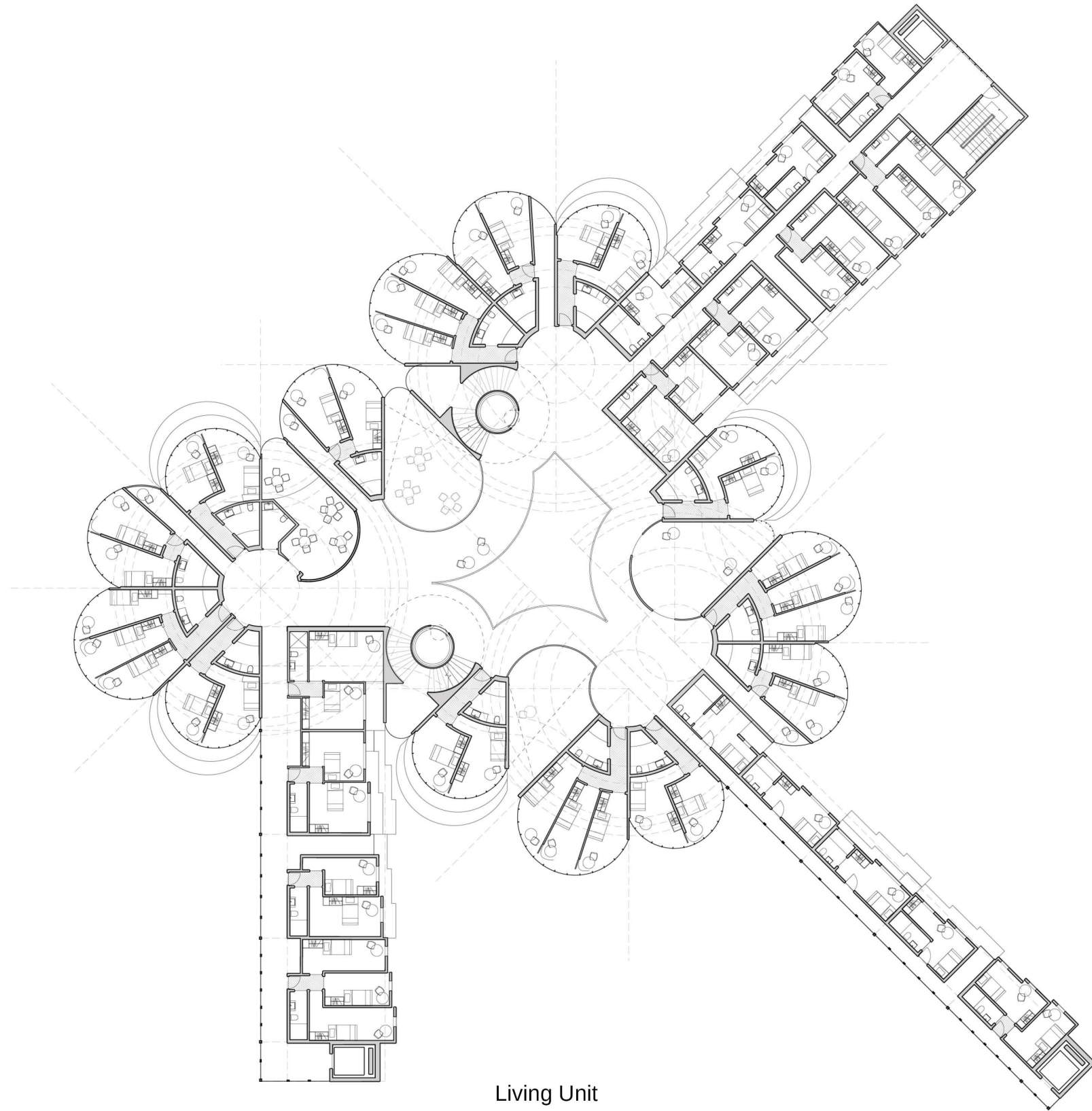
Rect Units



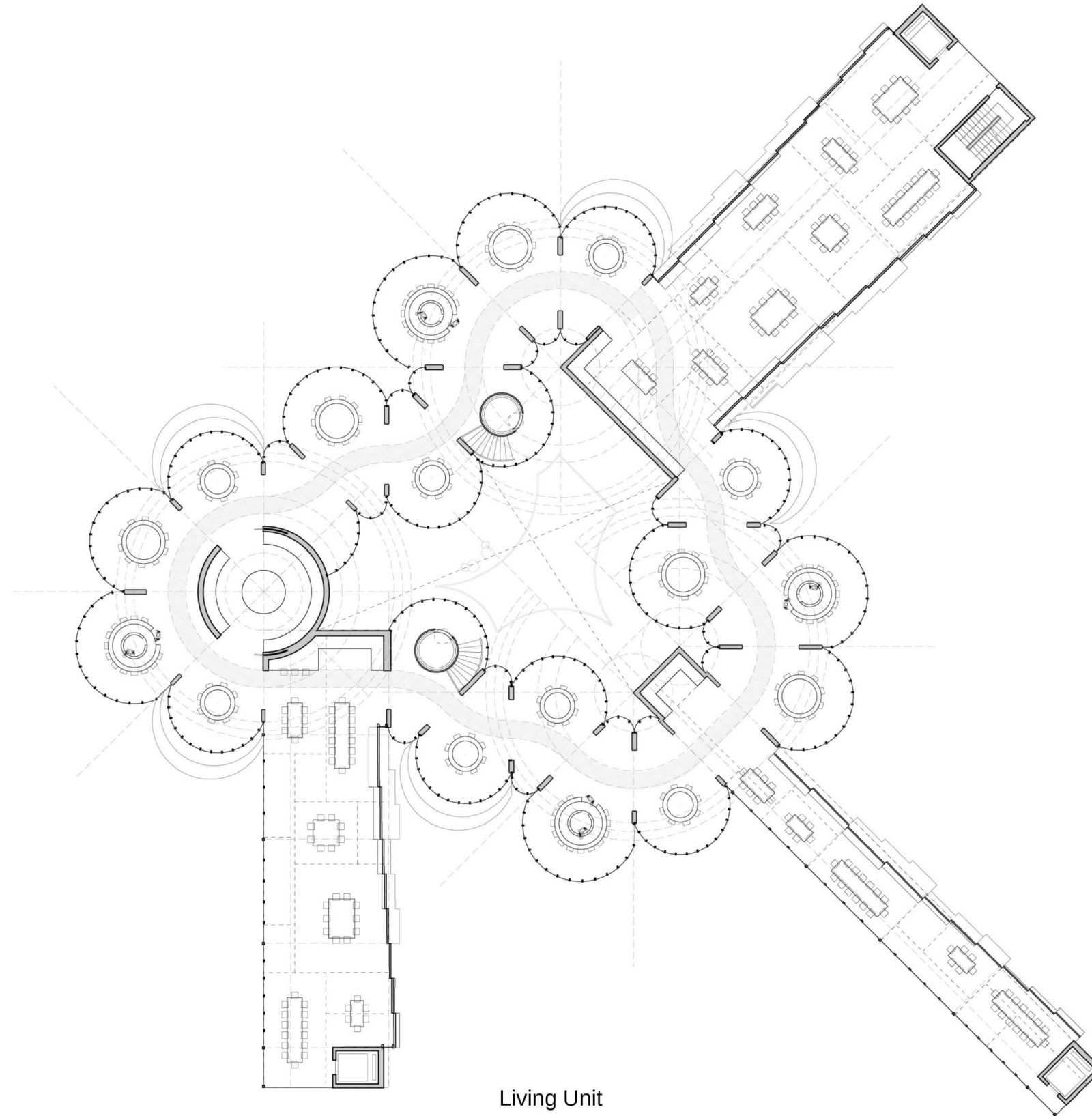
Rect Unit Interior







Living Unit



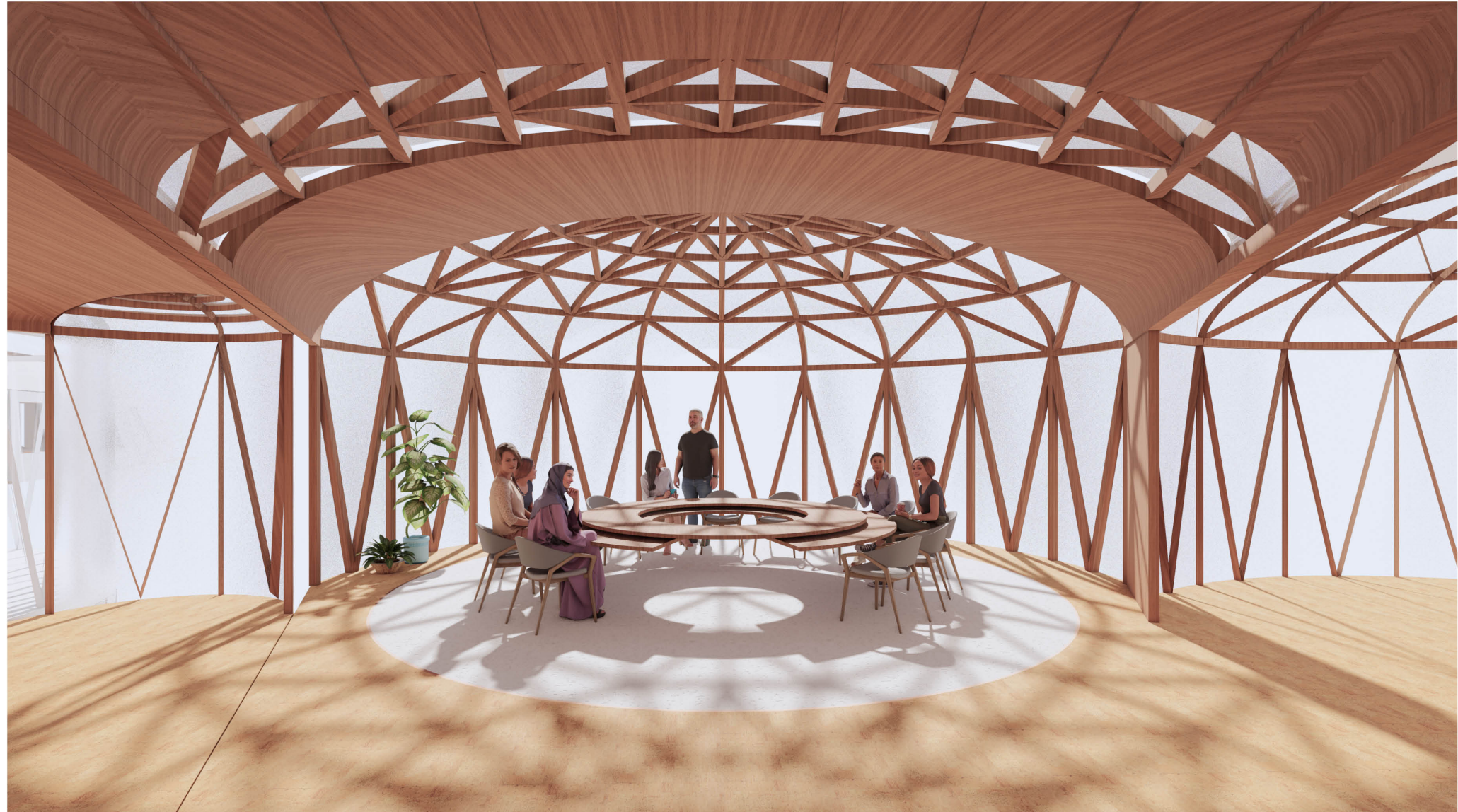
Living Unit



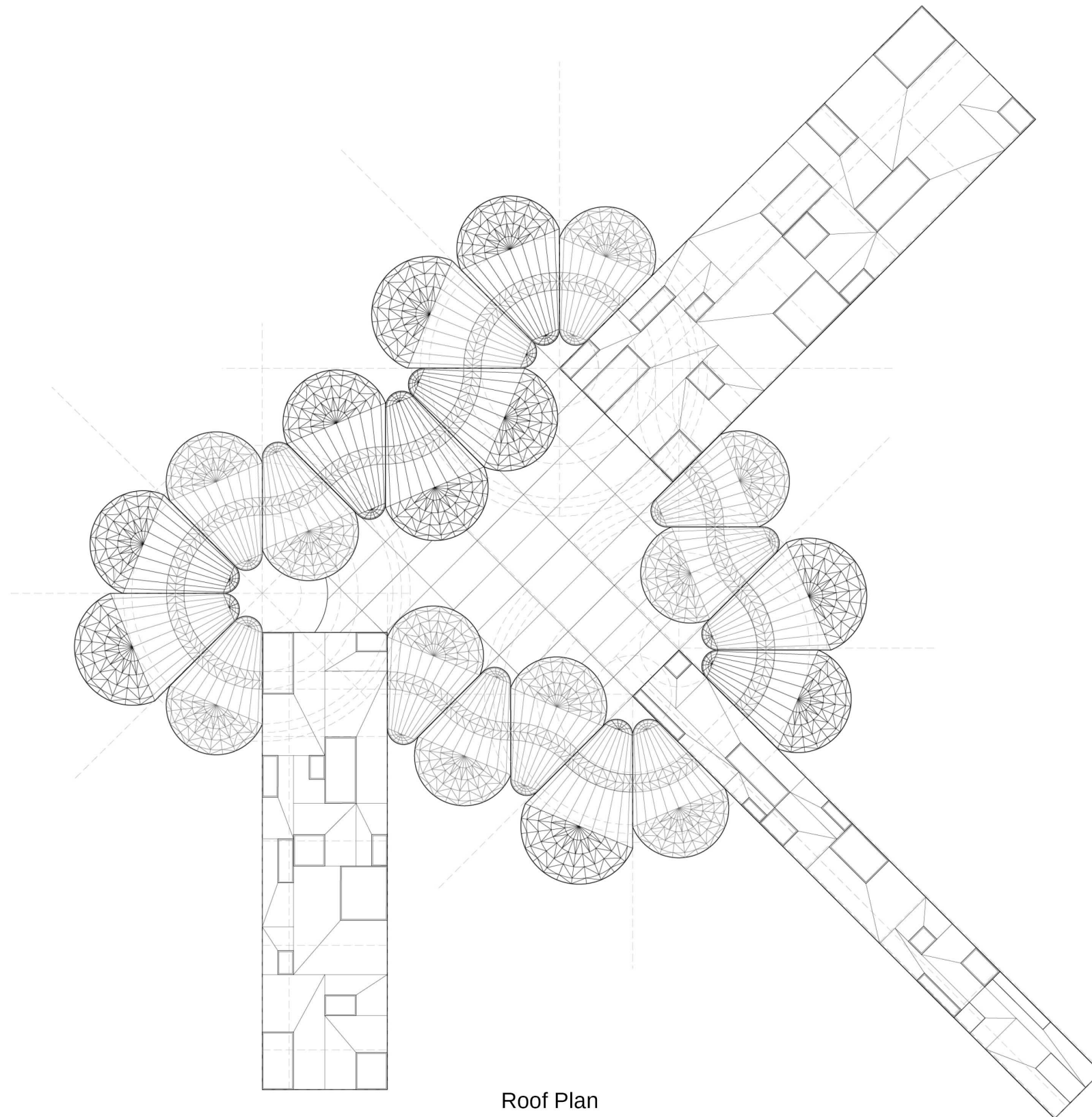


Rect Dining Interior



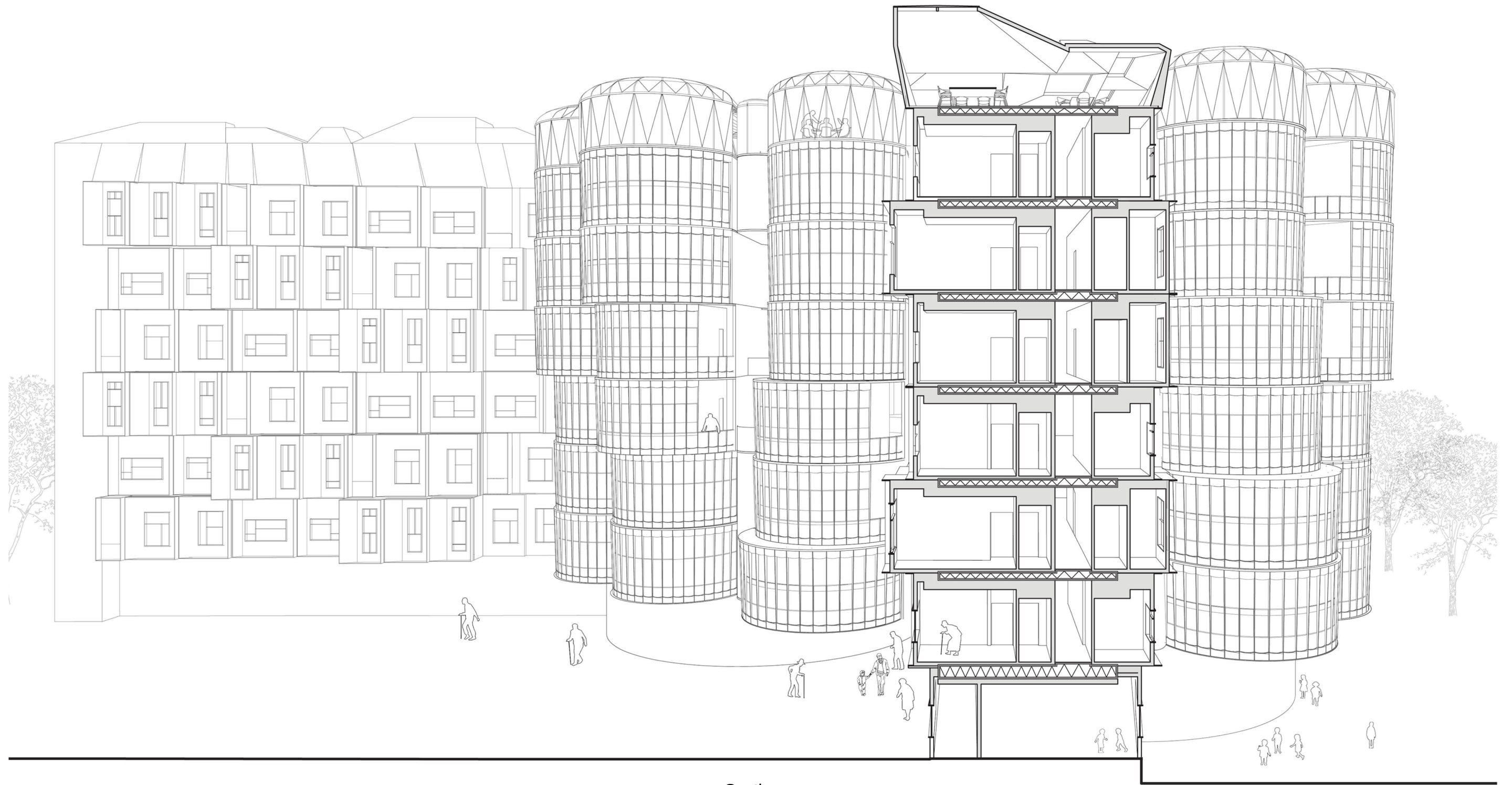


Round Dining Interior



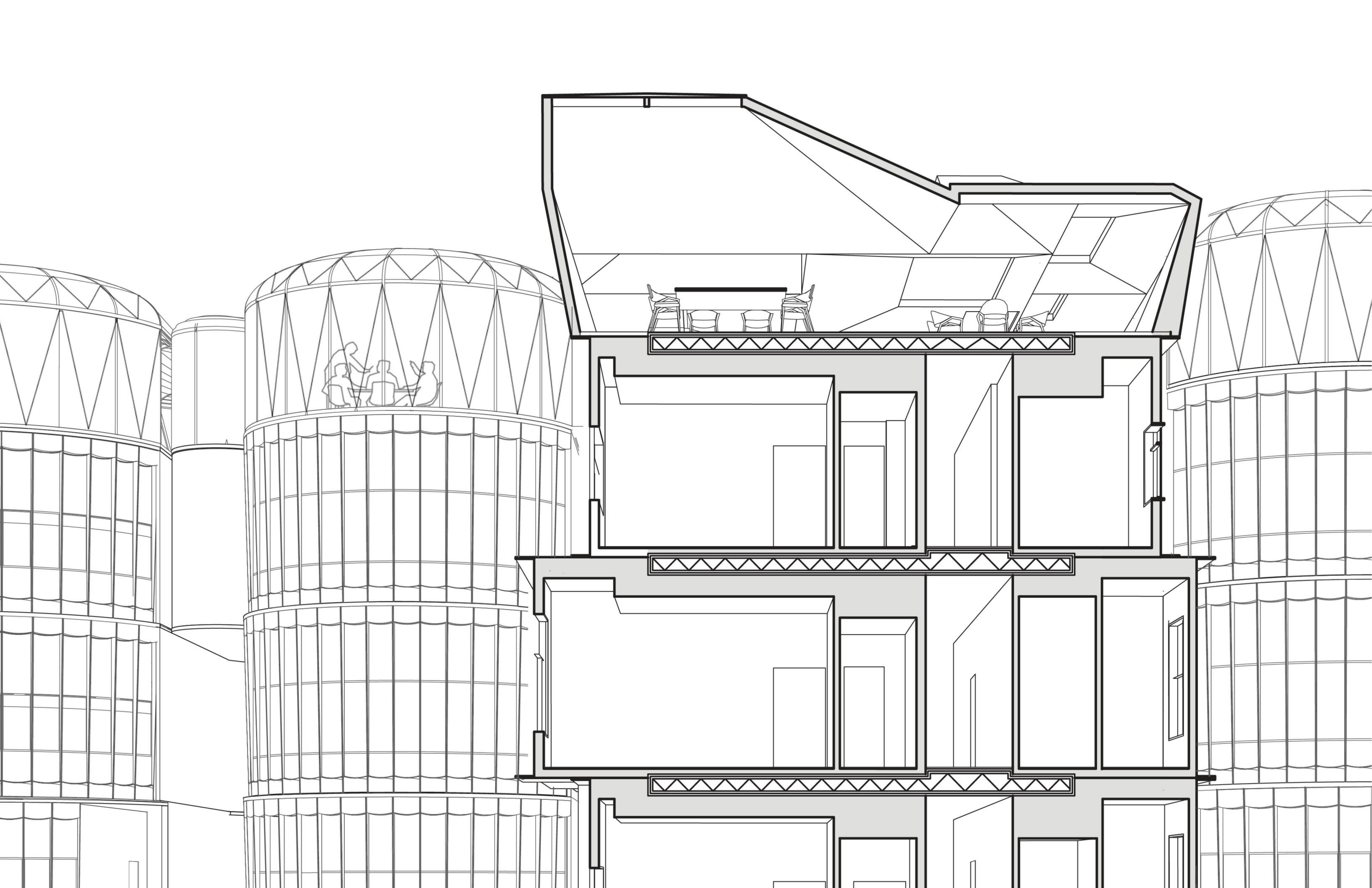
Roof Plan

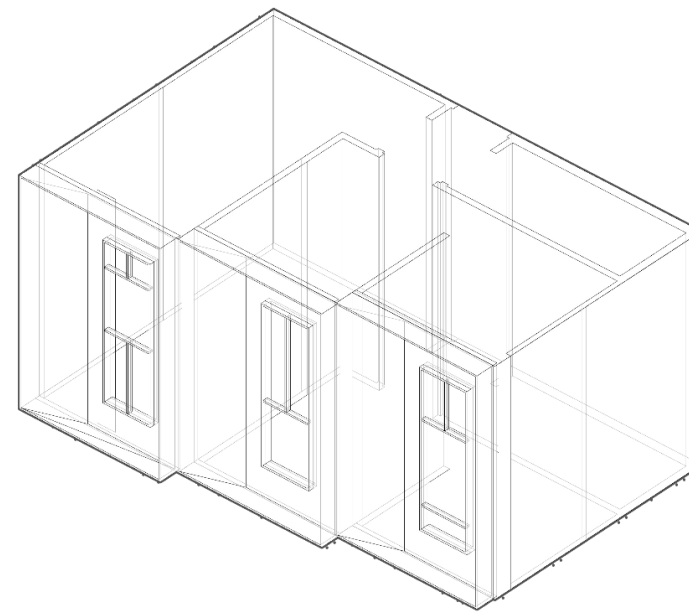
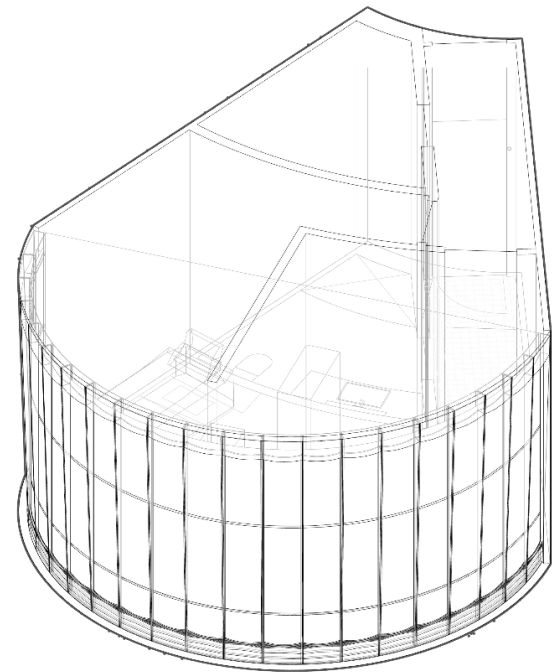




Section













Yard -- playground and local farming



## ***Home Away from Home***

Thank you for coming and listening.

Special thanks to thesis advisor Scott Cohen

Special thanks to Zinan's parents

Special thanks to friends who helped over the past week