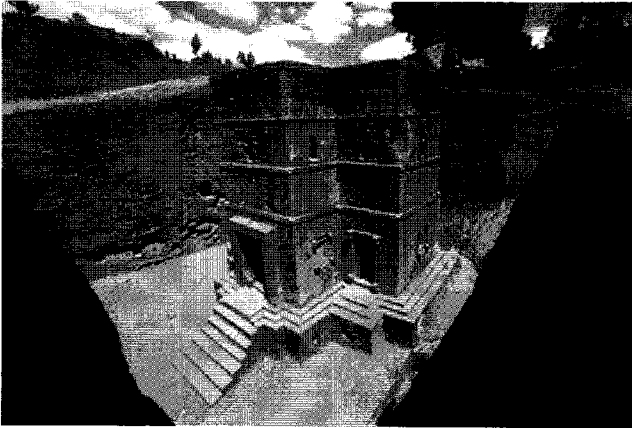


## Rock-Hewn Churches, Lalibela, Ethiopia



The rock-hewn churches of Lalibela are exceptionally fine examples of a long-established Ethiopian building tradition. Monolithic churches are to be found all over the north and the center of the country. Some of the oldest of such churches are to be found in Tigray, where some are believed to date from around the 6th or 7th centuries. King Lalibela is believed to have commissioned these structures with the purpose of creating a holy and symbolic place which considerably influenced Ethiopian religious beliefs.

The 11 medieval monolithic cave churches of this 13th-century 'New Jerusalem' are situated in a mountainous region in the heart of Ethiopia near a traditional village with circular-shaped dwellings. Lalibela is a high place of Ethiopian Christianity, still today a place of pilgrimage and devotion.

Lalibela is a small town at an altitude of almost 2,800 m in the Ethiopian highlands. It is surrounded by a rocky, dry area. Here in the 13th century devout Christians began hewing out the red volcanic rock to create 13 churches. Four of them were finished as completely free-standing structures, attached to their mother rock only at their bases. The remaining nine range from semi-detached to ones whose facades are the only features that have been 'liberated' from the rock.



The Jerusalem theme is important. The rock churches, although connected to one another by maze-like tunnels, are physically separated by a small river which the Ethiopians named the Jordan. Churches on one side of the Jordan represent the earthly Jerusalem; whereas those on the other side represent the heavenly Jerusalem, the city of jewels and golden sidewalks alluded to in the Bible.

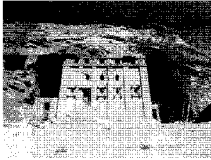


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It was King Lalibela who commissioned the structures, but scholars disagree as to his motivation. According to a legendary account, King Lalibela was born in Roha. His name means 'the bee recognizes its sovereignty'. God ordered him to build 10 monolithic churches, and gave him detailed instructions as to their construction and even their colors. When his brother Harbay abdicated, the time had come for Lalibela to fulfill this command. Construction work began and is said to have been carried out with remarkable speed, which is scarcely surprising, for, according to legend, angels joined the laborers by day and at night did double the amount of work which the men had done during the hours of daylight.



Like more episodes in the long history of this country, there are many legends about this king. One is that Lalibela was poisoned by his brother and fell into a three-day coma in which he was taken to Heaven and given a vision of rock-hewn cities. Another legend says that he went into exile to Jerusalem and vowed that when he returned he would create a New Jerusalem. Others attribute the building of the churches to Templars from Europe.



The names of the churches evoke hints of Hebrew, a language related to the Ham-Semitic dialect still used in Ethiopian church liturgies: Beta Medhane Alem (House of the Savior of the World), Beta Qedus Mikael (House of St Michael) and Beta Amanuel (House of Emmanuel) are all reminiscent of the Hebrew *beth* (house). In one of the churches there is a pillar covered with cotton. A monk had a dream in which he saw Christ kissing it; according to the monks, the past, the present and the future are carved into it. The churches are connected to each other by small passages and tunnels.

<http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/18>



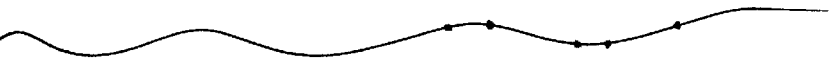
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Name: HITOMI  
Date: 08/10/201  
ST: 16:01  
ED: 17:27

AU NO  
PI NO  
S1

2012  
8821



A: Down  
B: Manmade  
C: Structure

S2

·  
cold

·  
A lot going on

·  
busy S4

·  
hard

·  
solid

·  
strong

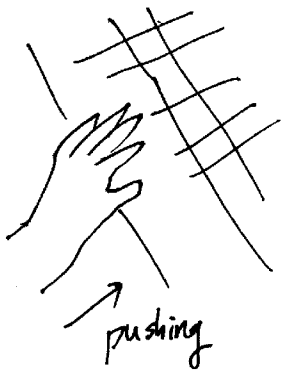
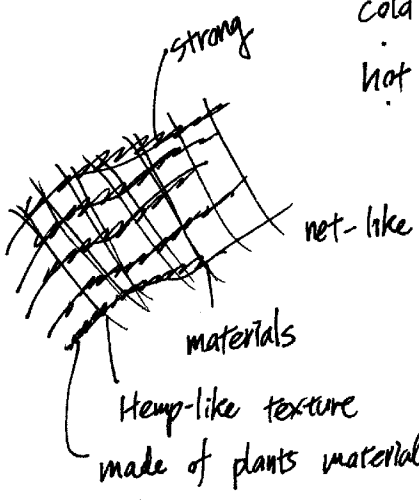
·  
energetic

·  
painful S4

BI-LO  
BREAK  
chest pain

52

cold  
hot



people working

brown

beige

white

gray

S2

yellow

tan

salty

sea / water smells

bitter

rough

non-smooth

woods

grassy (dried)

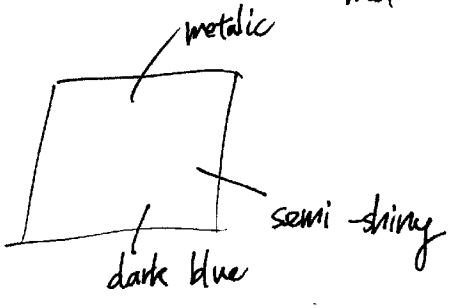
dry

warm

sweat

sharp

metallic



S2

strong

tense

people talking loud

people instructing

bells

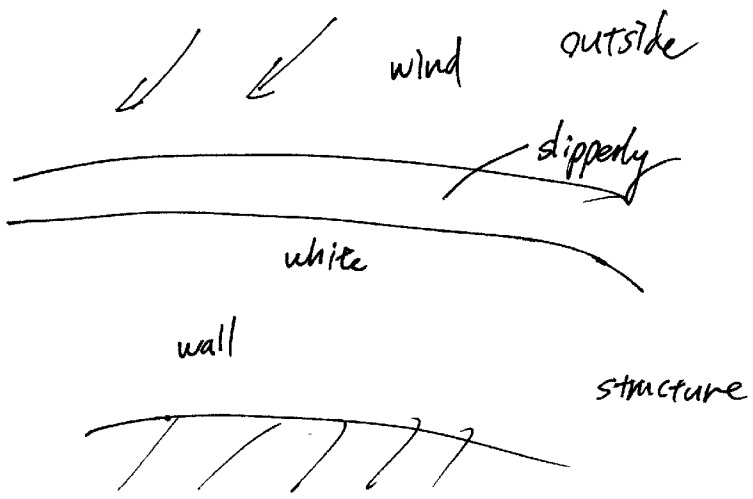
horns

wind

pulling

horizontal

curved



S2

wind blowing

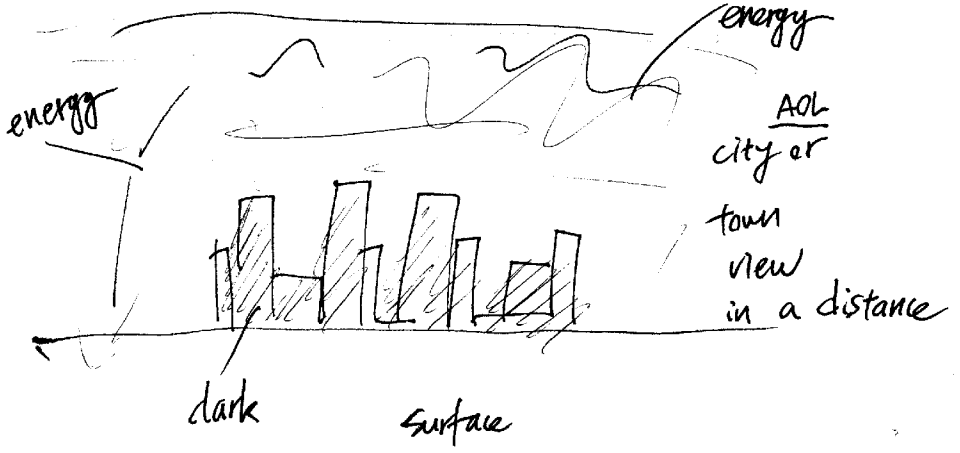
fast

rapid

immediate

quick

rapidly moving



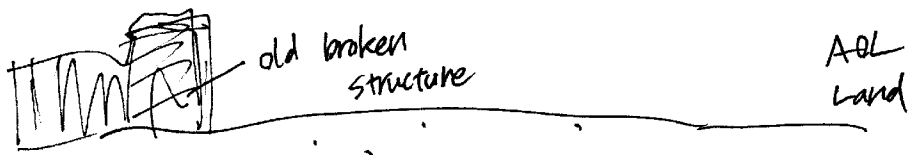
threatening SA

high

powerful

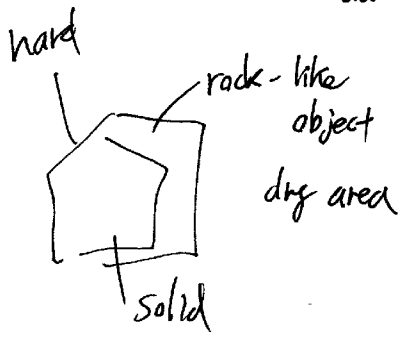
intense SA

S2  
:  
soon  
too much



dry land  
barren land  
beige - dry - sandy ground

energetic  
barren  
forgotten  
damaged





S2

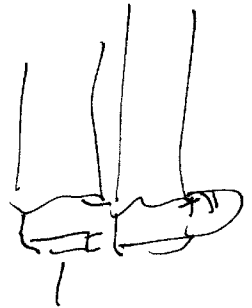
7

sounds: people walking on dry, land,  
small stones

:

sounds: people carrying some  
objects.

sounds: rubber, leather walking shoes AEL



tough, resistant  
walking shoes

:

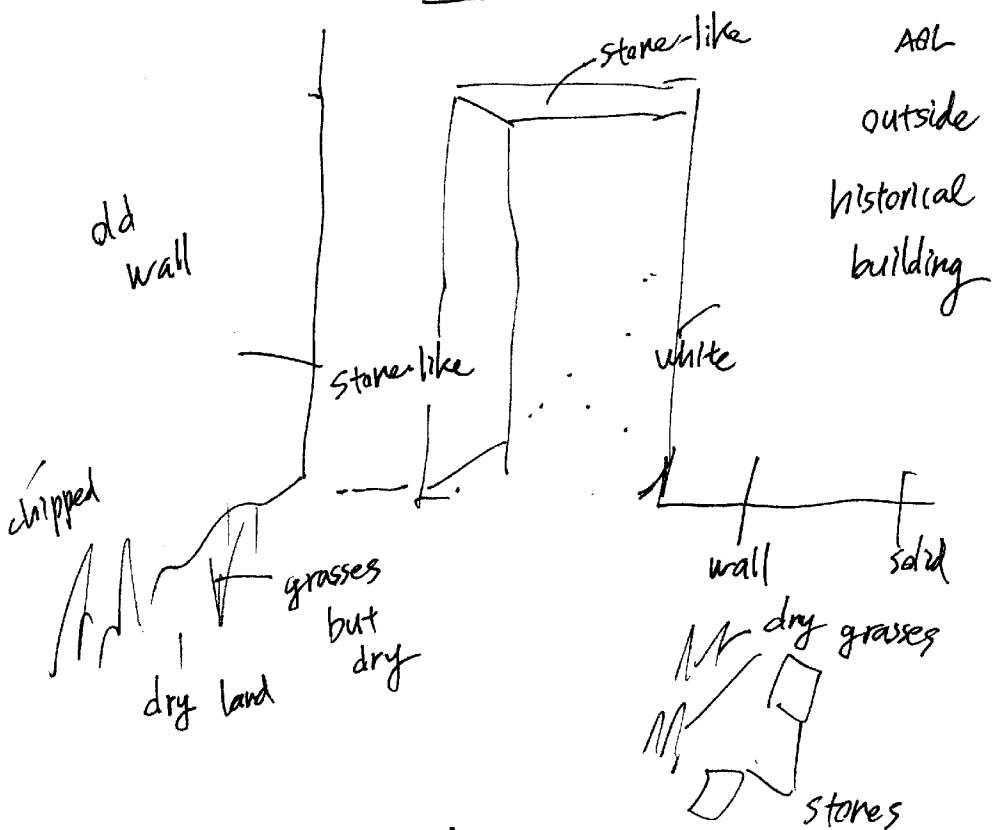
military sq

:

sounds: people running

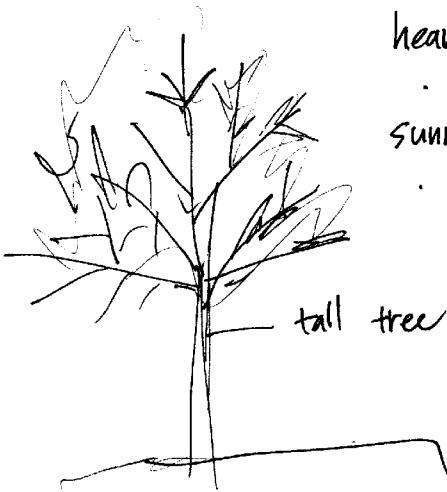
:

dry



AOL  
 outside  
 historical  
 building

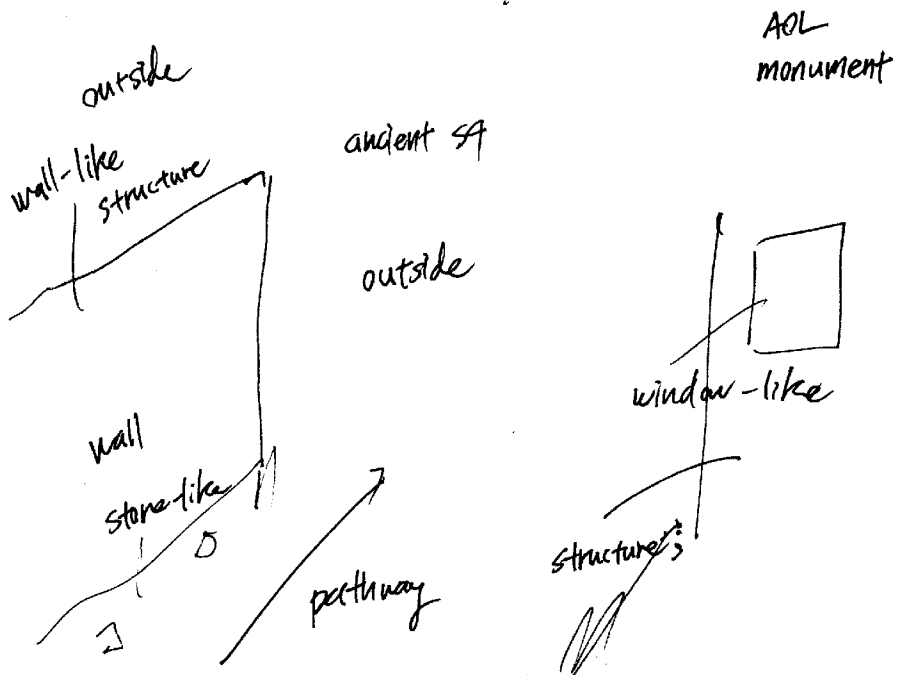
heavy  
 sunny



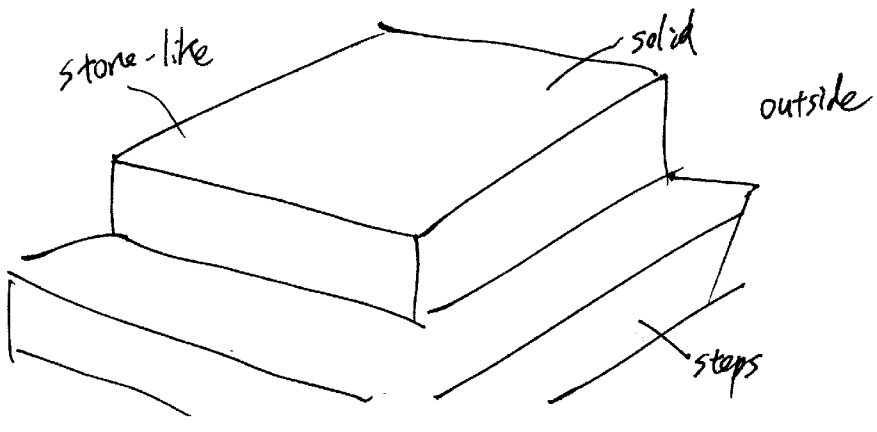
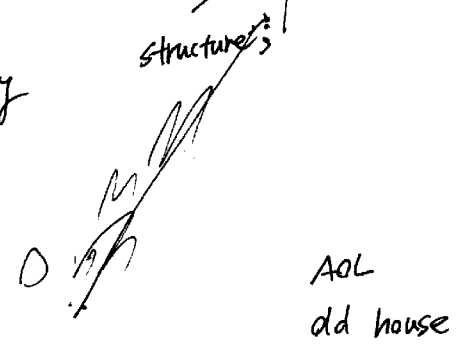
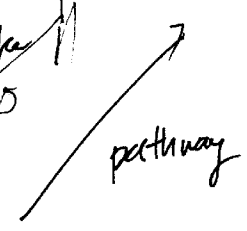
sky

← looking up.  
 →

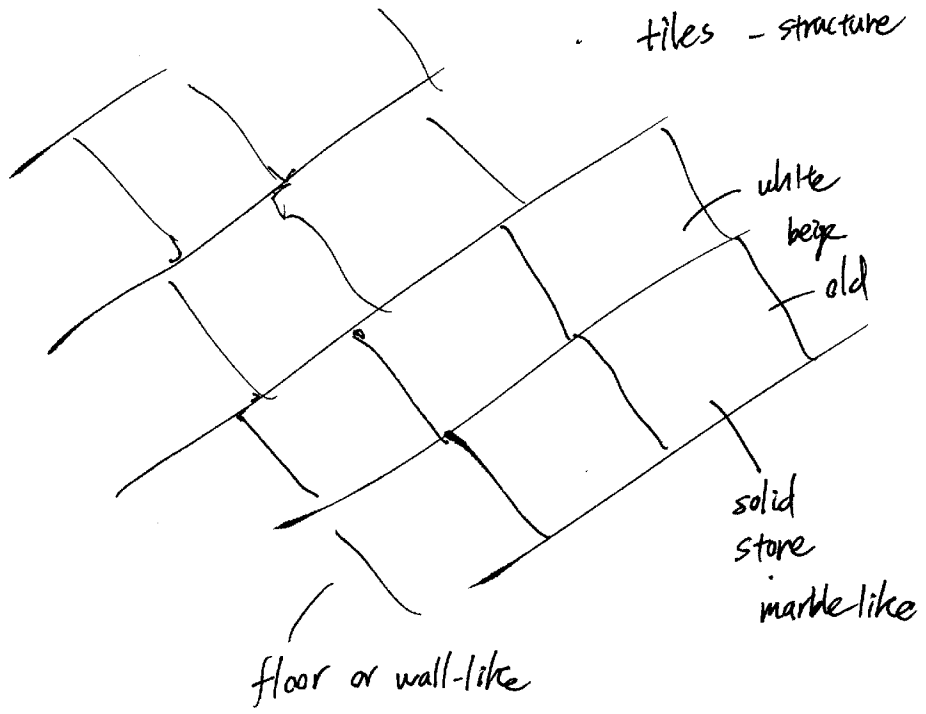
top of  
 structure



AOL monument



tiles - structure



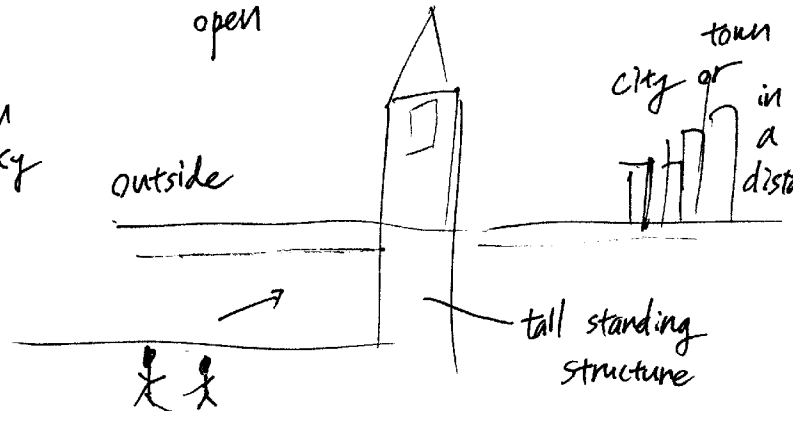
wide  
large  
open

open sky

outside

AOL

town  
city or in a distance

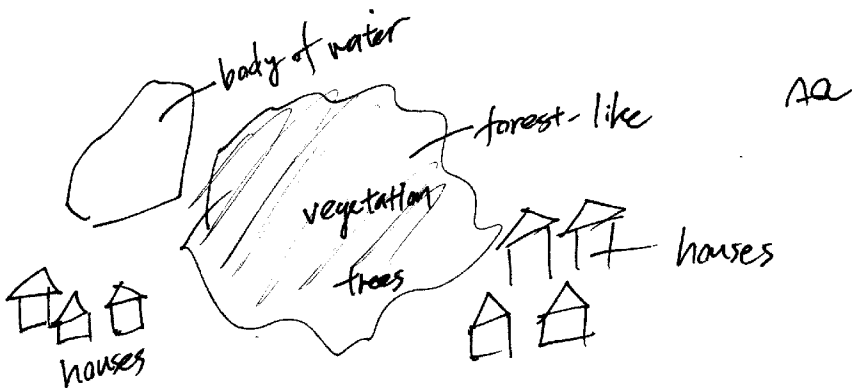
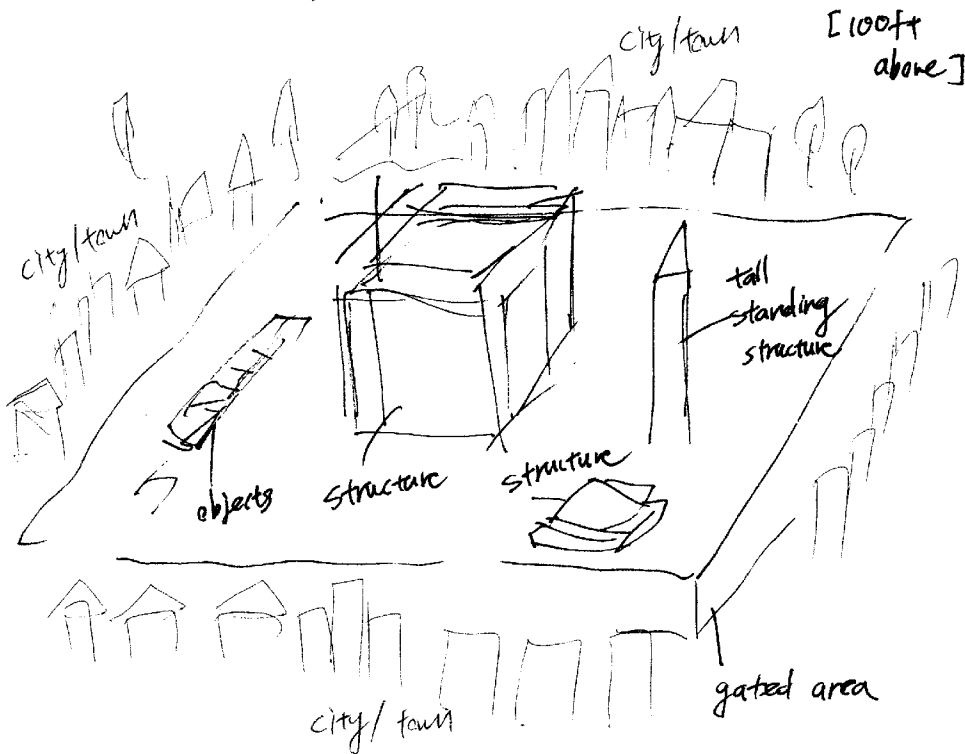


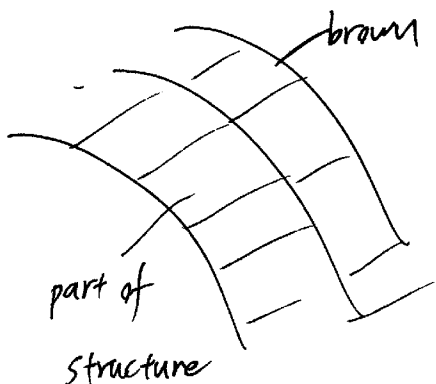
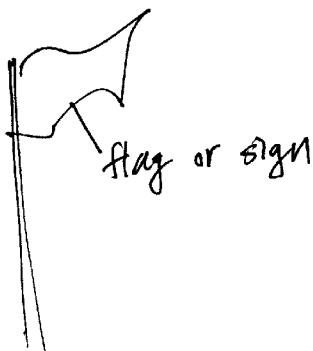
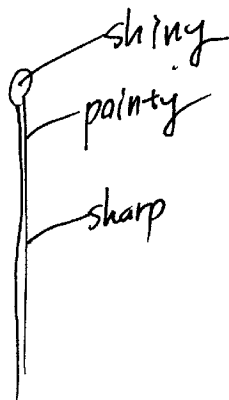
tall standing structure

S3

above view  
looking down

sky





S4

S2

D

AD

ED

T

I

AOL/AOLS

old

dusty

bumpy

windy

sunny

large

extensive

giant

horizontal

vertical

curved

tall

wide

beautiful

gigantic

S4

S2

D

AD

ED

T

I

AOL/AOLS

magnificent

amazing

enlarged

breath-taking

worth-watching

sight-seeing

nice

great

joyful

sacred

meditative

restful

emptiness

proud

unknown



S2

D

AD

SA

ED

T

I

AOL/AOLS

sentimental

lots happened

mystery

glad

trees

towns

cities

rocks

lands

vegetation

river

lake

mountains

precious

materials

renovated

architectural

designed

S4

S2	D	AD	ED	T	I	<del>AA</del> /AAS
					touristic	
					historical	
					suffered	
					conveyed	
					authoritative	
					inspirational	
					commanding	
					important	
					historically significant	
					embracing	
					unity	
					resolved	
					passed	
					investigated	
					organized	

a. historical

monuments

buildings

stones

writings

signs

precious items

gold

silver

old towns

pictures

books

meanings

of deep knowledge<sup>c.</sup>

b. historical

important

significant

noted

noble

b. historical  
wonderful  
meaningful  
accomplished  
struggled  
organized  
achieved

c. historical  
inspiration  
dedication  
remembrance  
memories  
values  
historical meanings  
presentation  
exhibition  
ceremonies  
rituals  
recordings  
tourism  
sightseeing  
honor  
respect

S2

D

AD  
superb  
superior

ED

tired  
painful

T

I

AOL/AOLS

BI-LO  
BREAK  
shoulder  
pains

conceptual  
notable

Physical  
BREAK  
cold  
sneezing

decorative  
pretty  
struggles  
celebrated  
honored

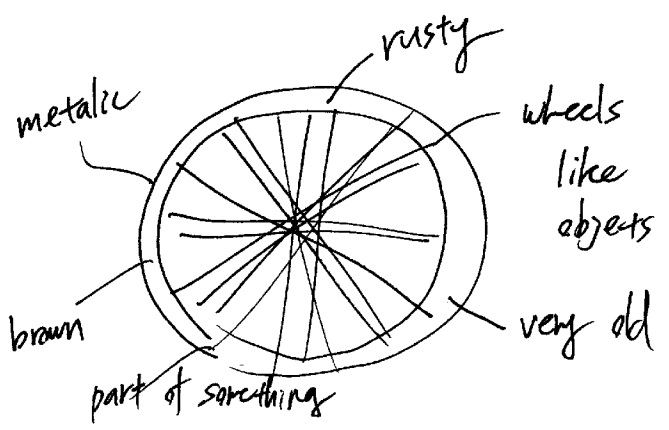
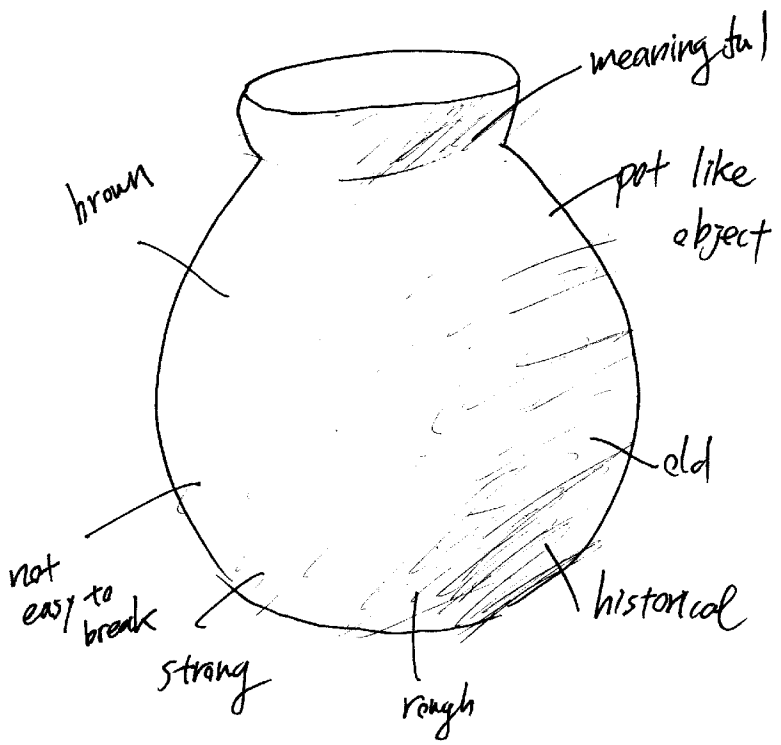
56

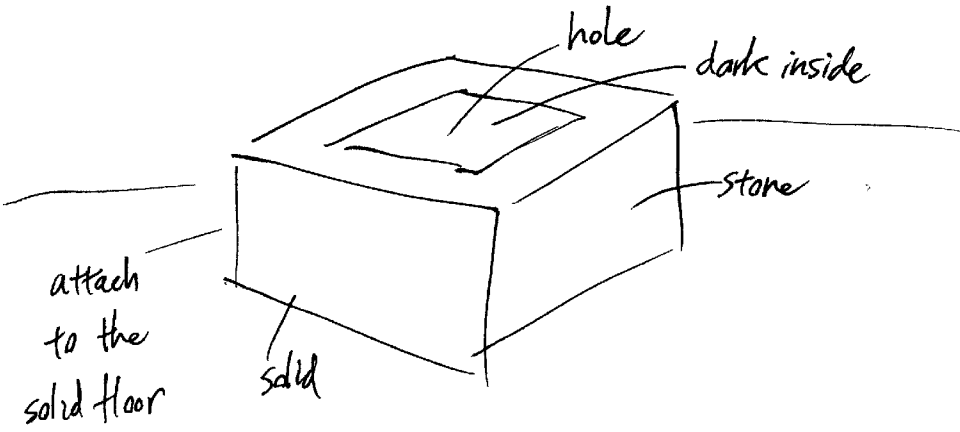
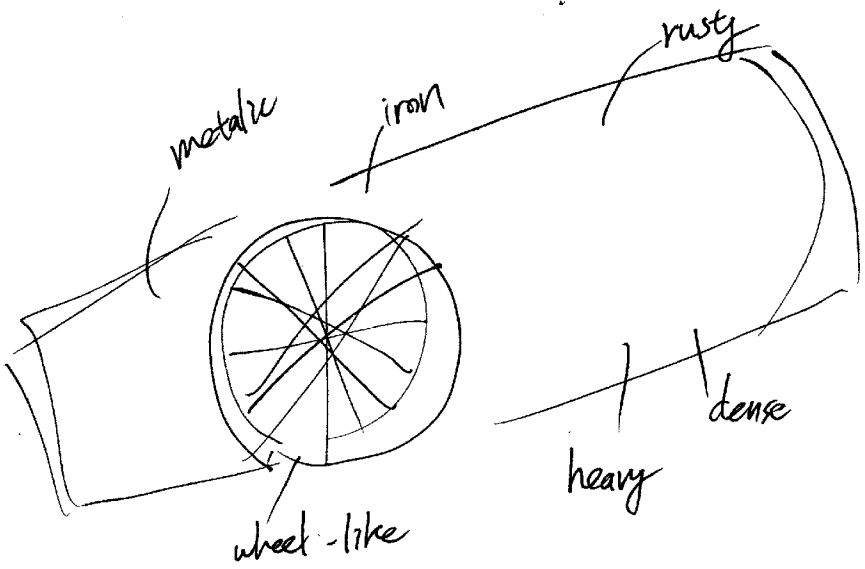
SZ	D	AD	ED	T	I	ACL/AOLS
.	.	.	.	.	.	.
.	.	.	.	.	.	.

historical  
powerful  
authoritarian

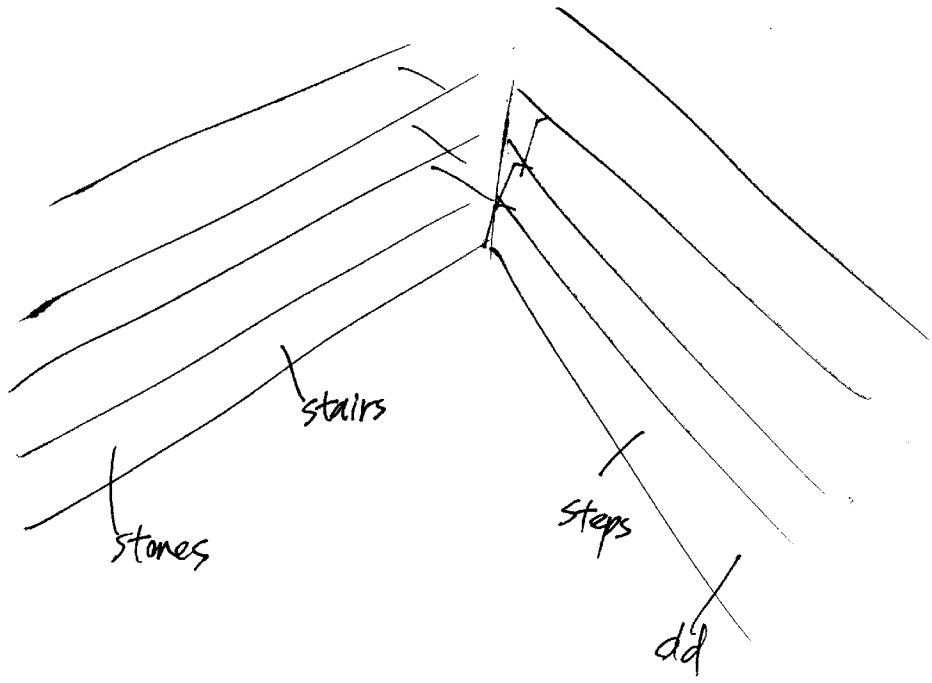
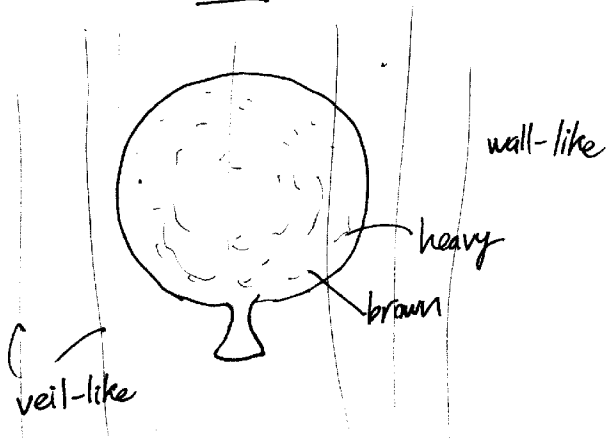
singing  
:  
music  
.  
bells  
.  
large  
.  
big

BREAK  
Bathroom





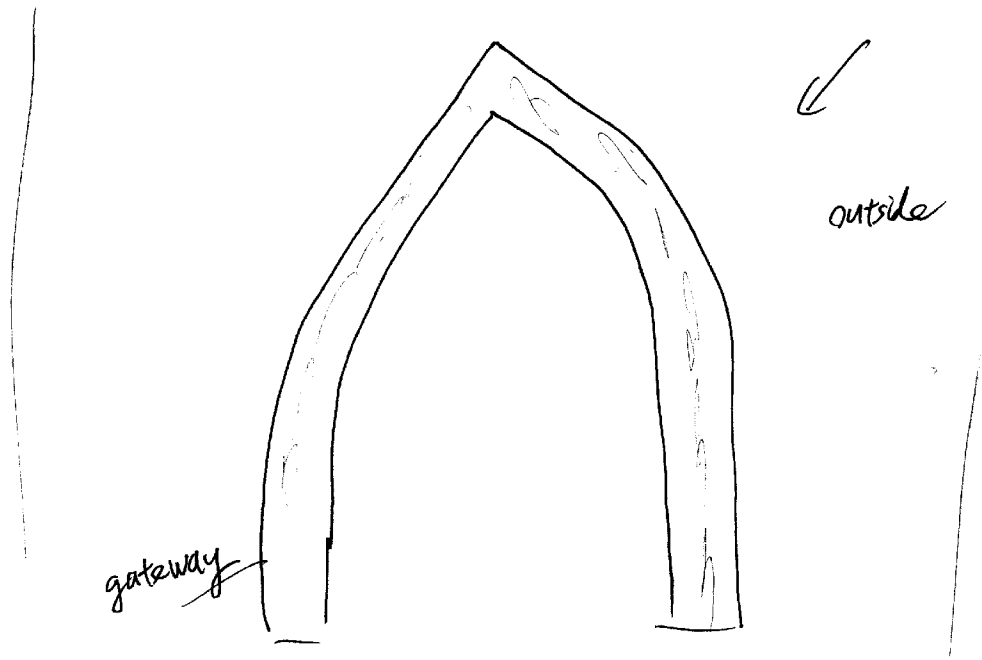
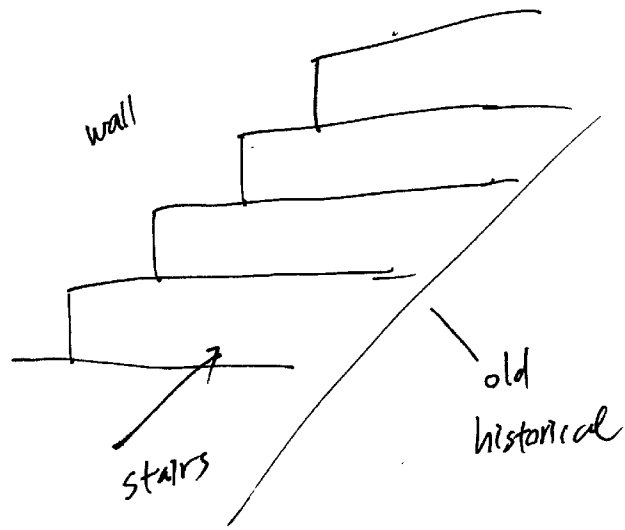




56

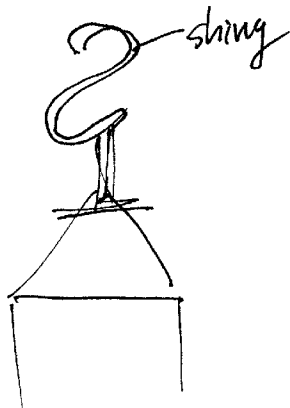
inside  
structure

20c



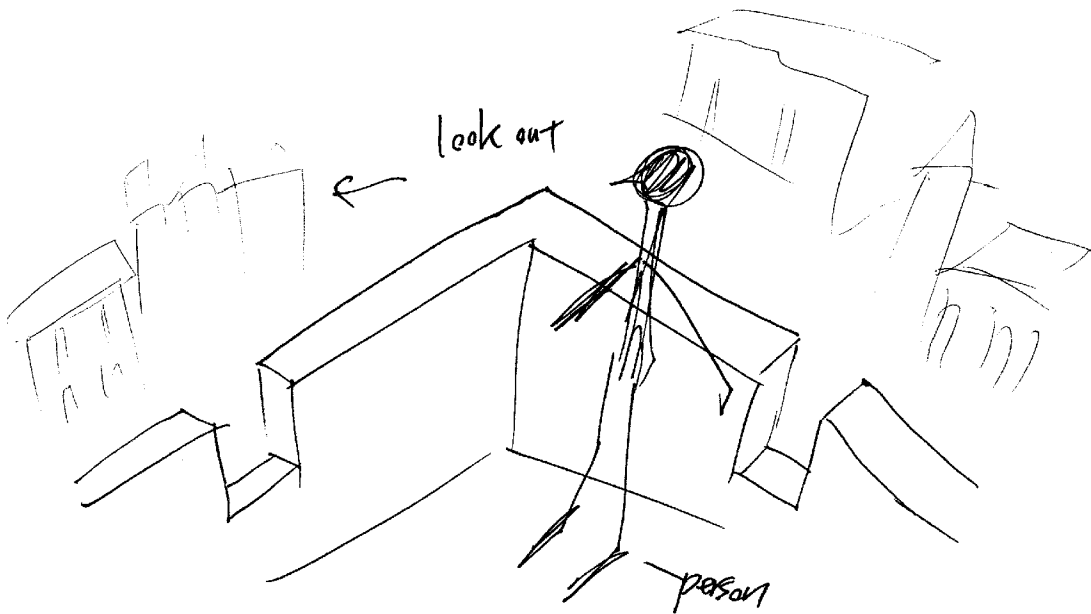
sb

200



S-shaped  
object  
on top of  
structure

decorative sq



look out

person

86

20E

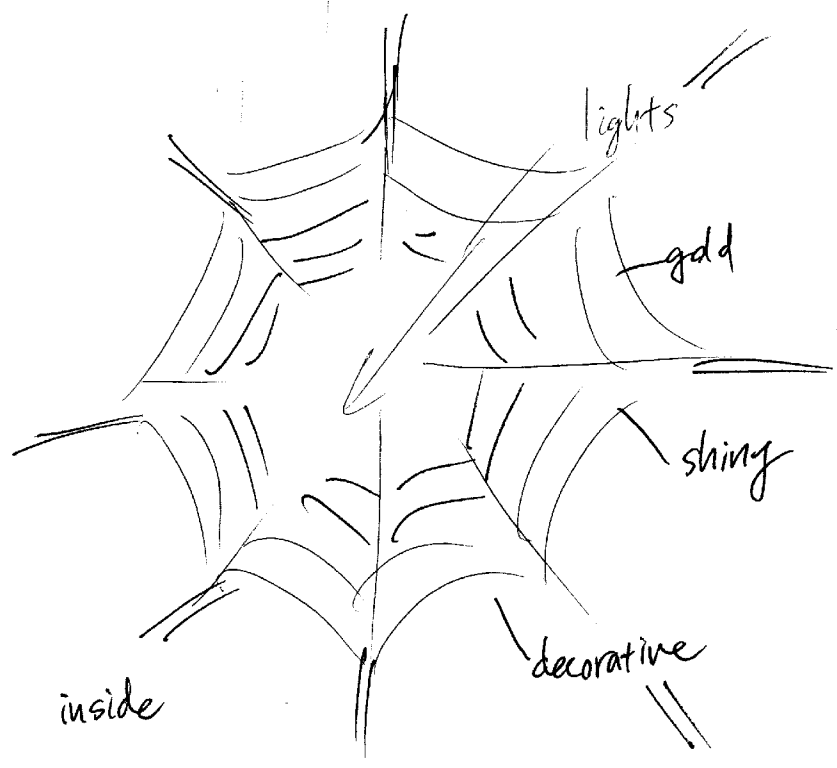
tall buildings

↙ looking down

busy street



lots of cars



lights

gold

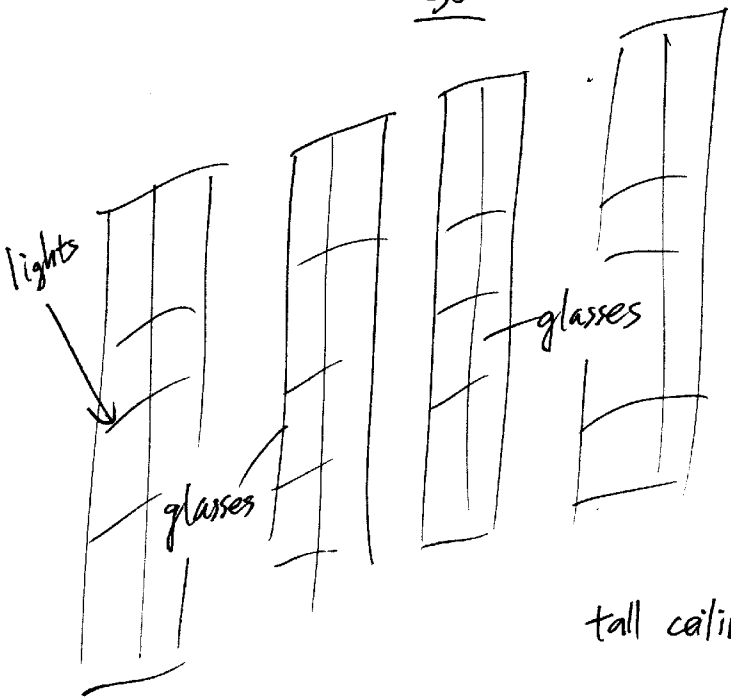
shiny

decorative

inside

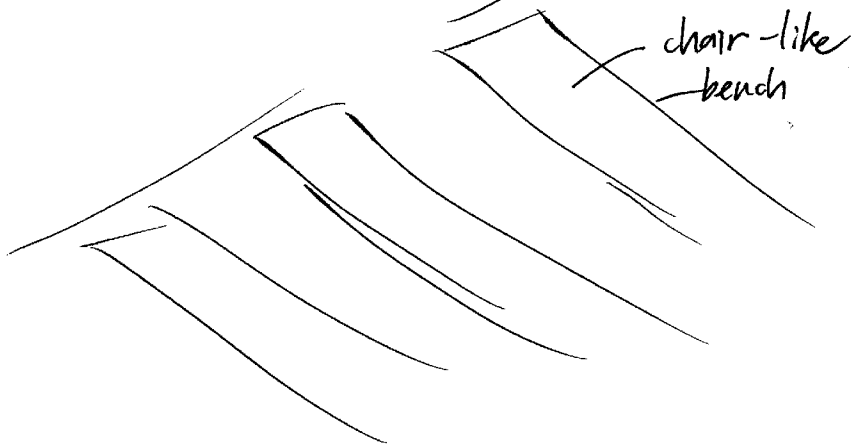
56

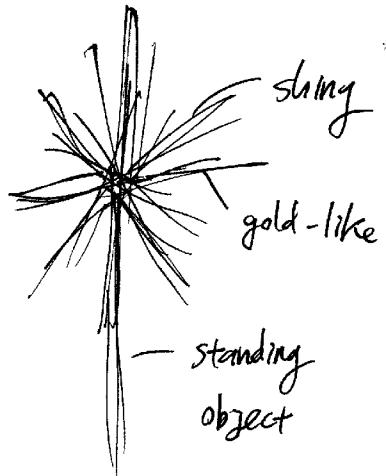
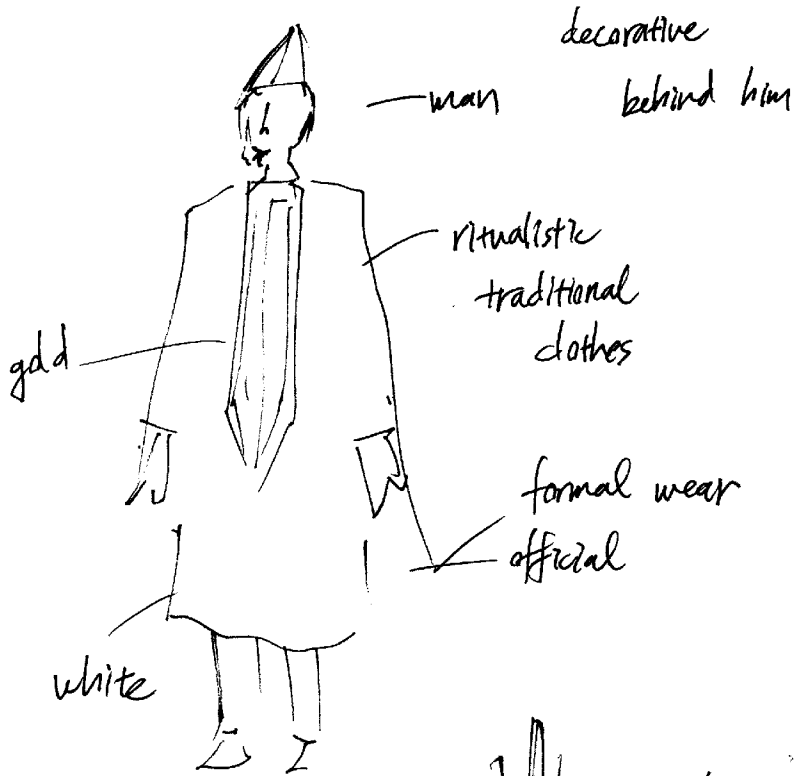
~~20F~~  
~~20F~~  
20F



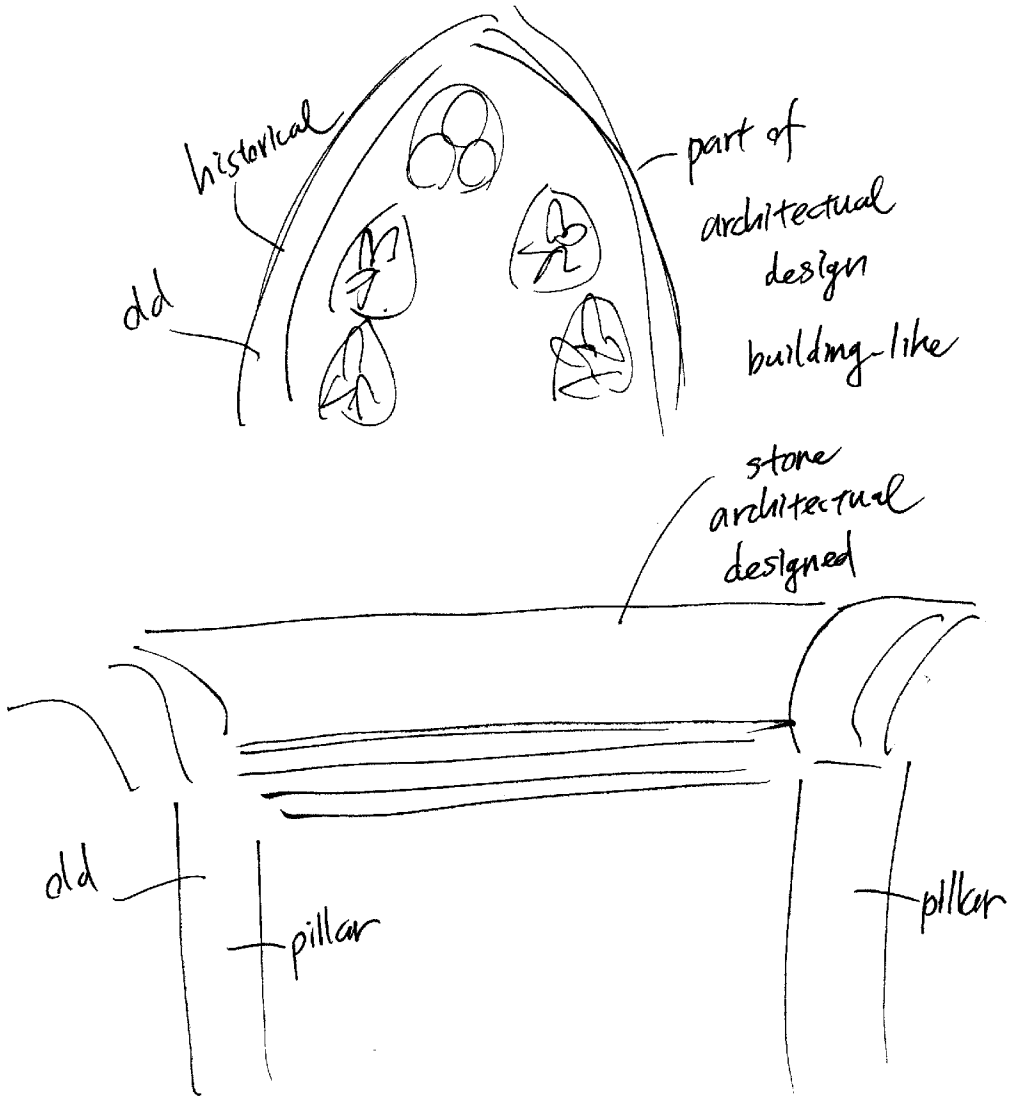
tall ceiling

inside the structure

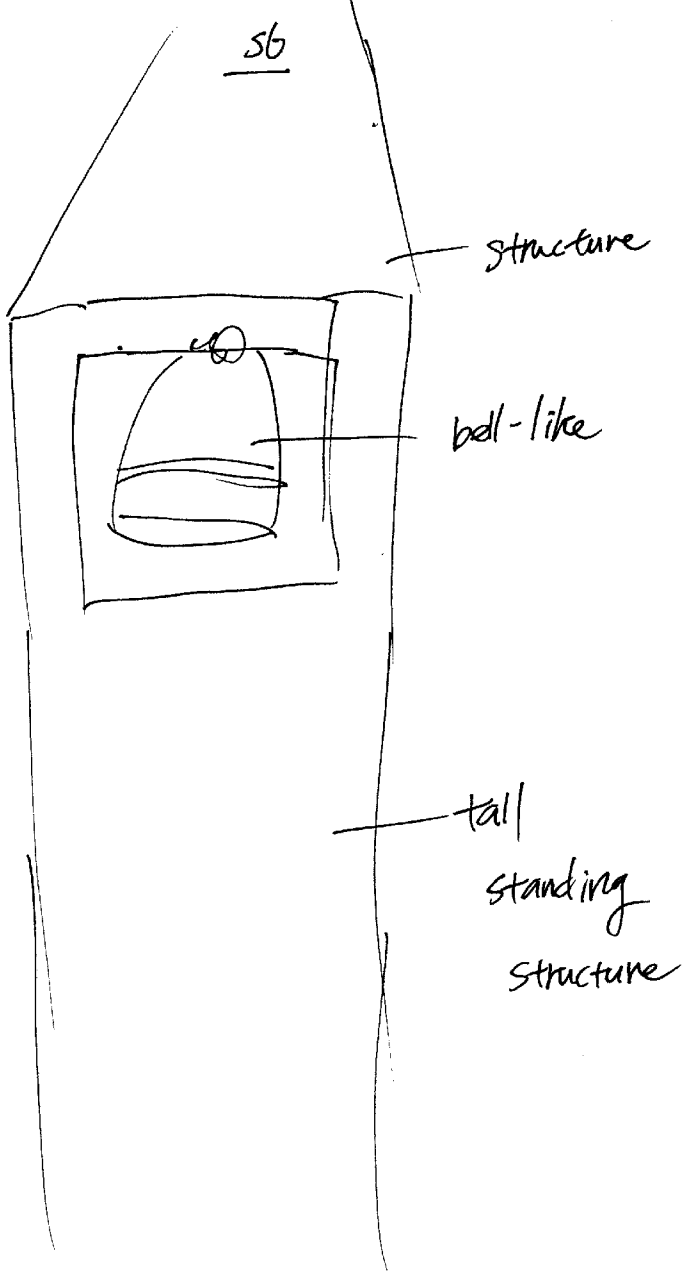




Flowers . decorative



sb



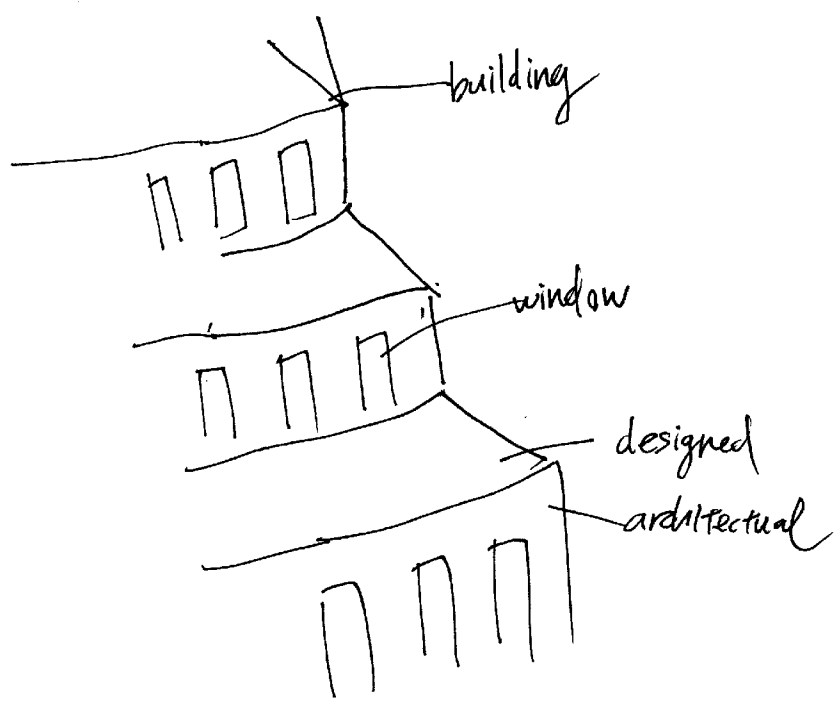
structure

bell-like

tall  
standing  
structure

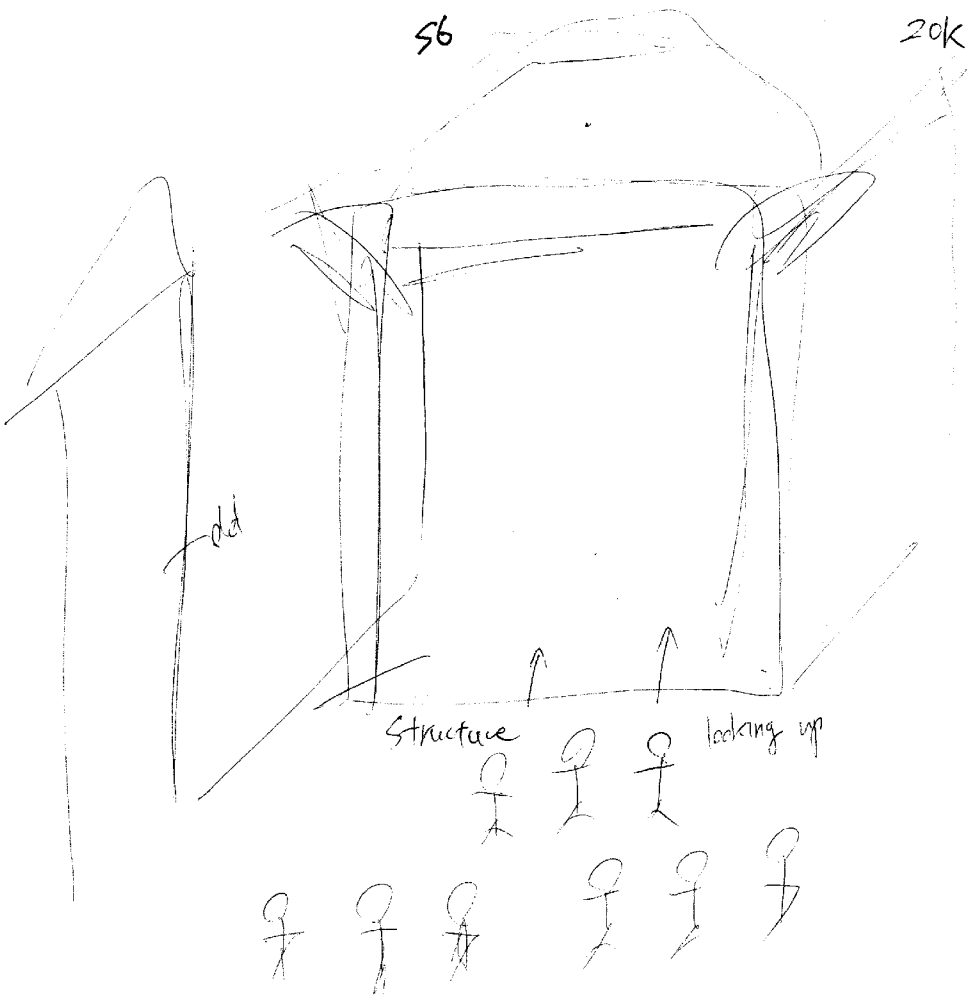


SA



56

20k



full of people

END 17:27

## S6 Summary

The principal intangibles are historical, memorial and touristic.

I selected the intangible of historical, and I produced 38 additional pieces of data during 55 processes.

My general sense of the target at this stage is a

historical manmade structure <sup>(surrounded by)</sup> in a city. The structure  
<sup>was</sup> is made after much changes and sufferings.  
<sub>in a large open space,</sub>

## S6 Session Summary

My perception of the target site is, that is (B) manmade (C) structure.

The principle elements of the gestalt contain the following colors, white, blue, beige and gold.

The primary textures are stony, rough and smooth.

The principal energetic data are strong, powerful and moving.

The principal sounds are people walking, white noises and talking. (music) <sup>possibly</sup>

The principal smells are stones, soil and city-smells.

The principal tastes are stony, salty, metallic.

The principal temperatures are warm, sunny and cool.

The principal dimensional data are tall, vertical and horizontal.

The principal aesthetics are magnificent, breath-taking and wonderful.

The principal emotional data are proud, unknown and sentimental.

The principal tangibles are buildings, trees and people.