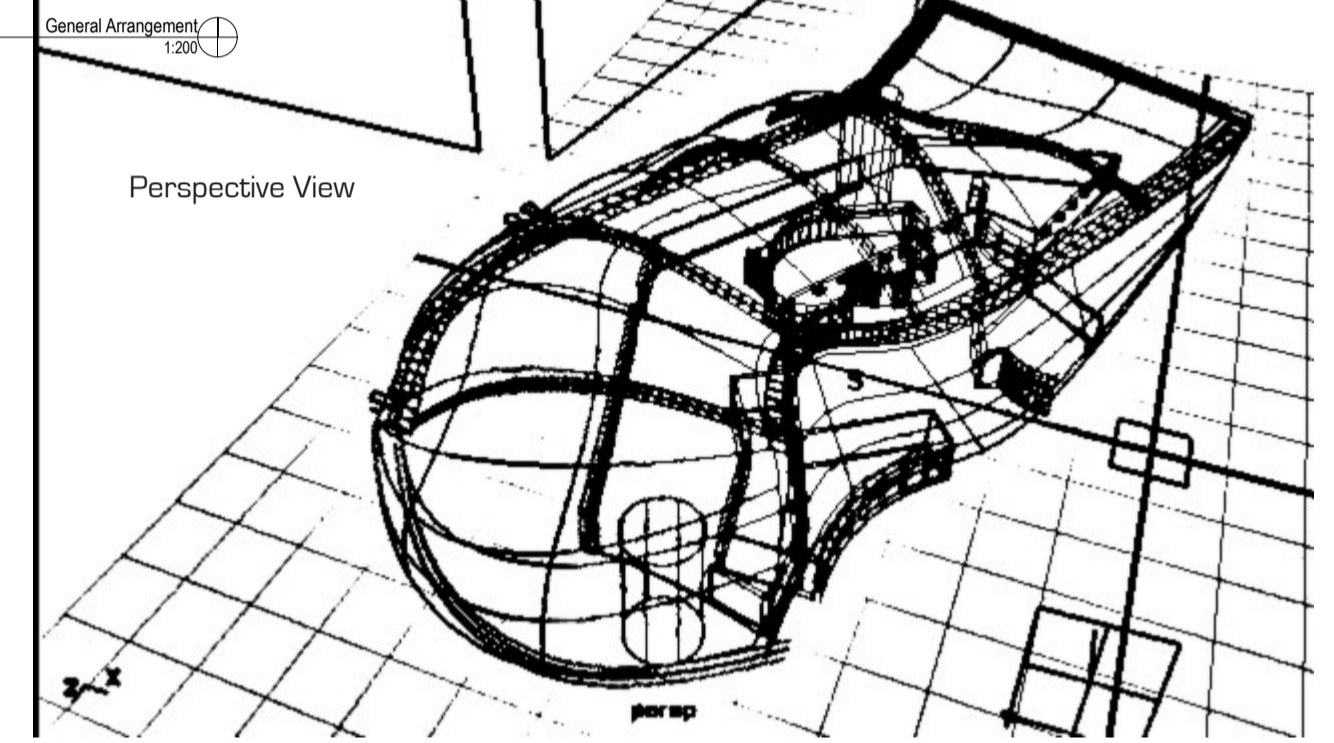
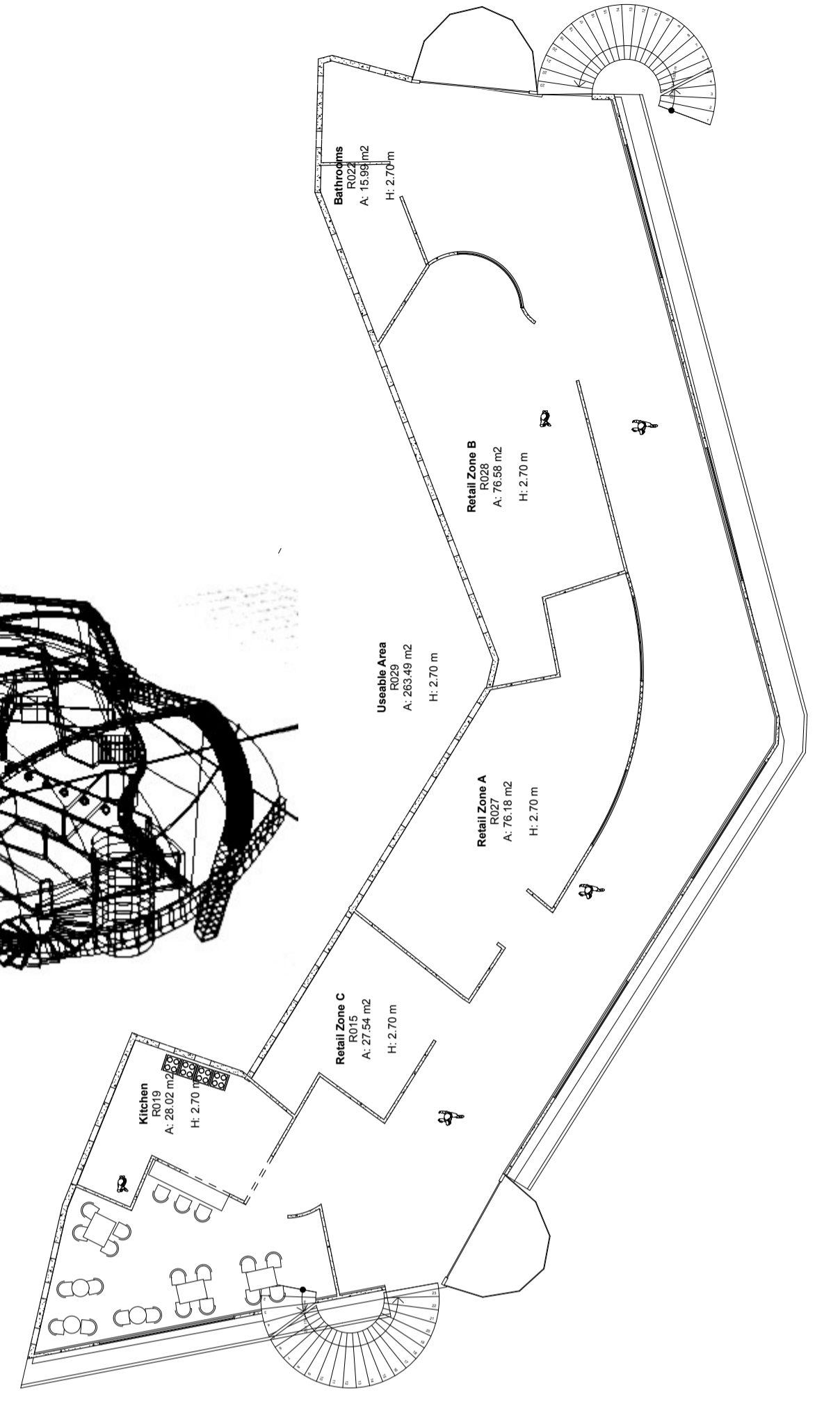


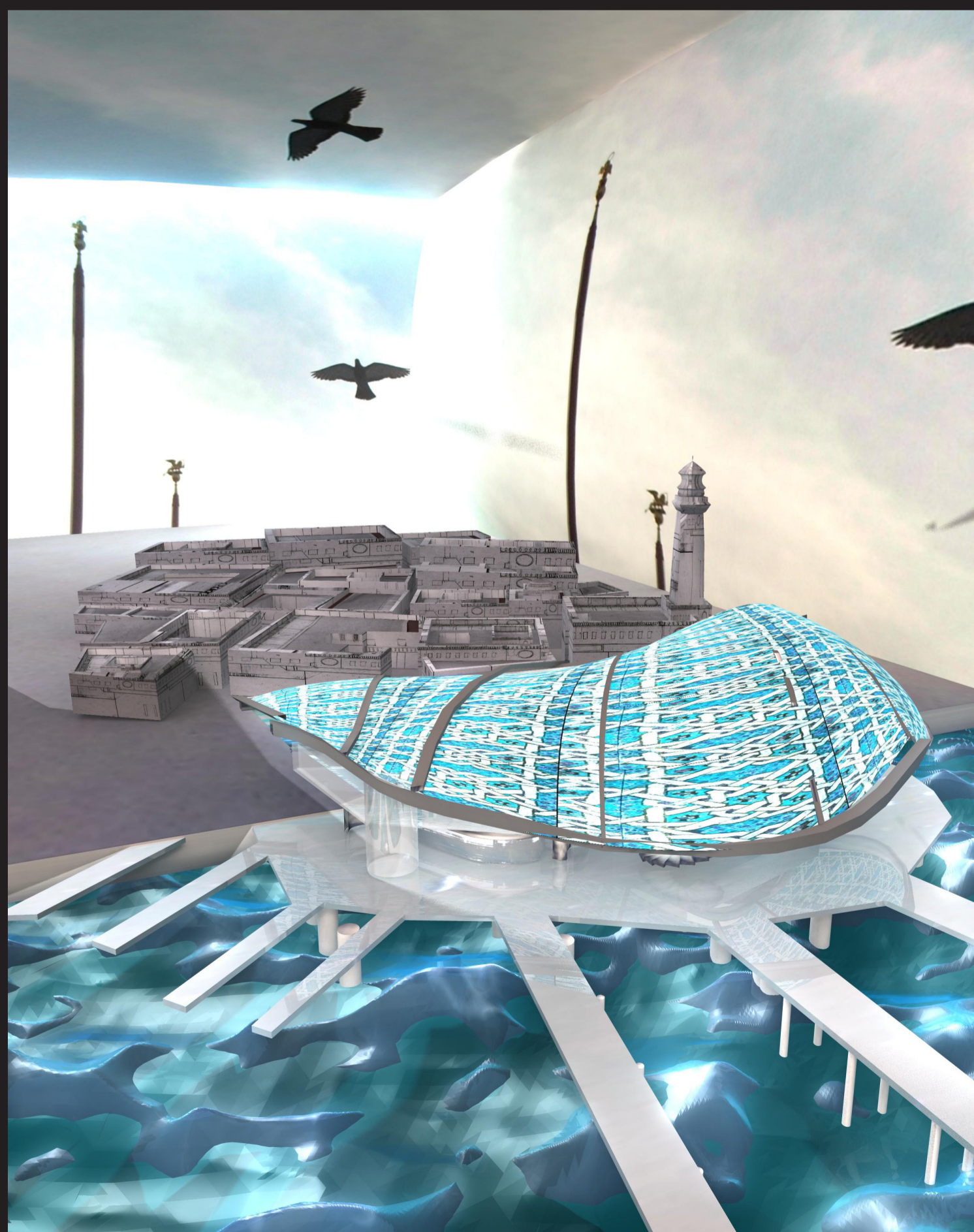
Perspective View



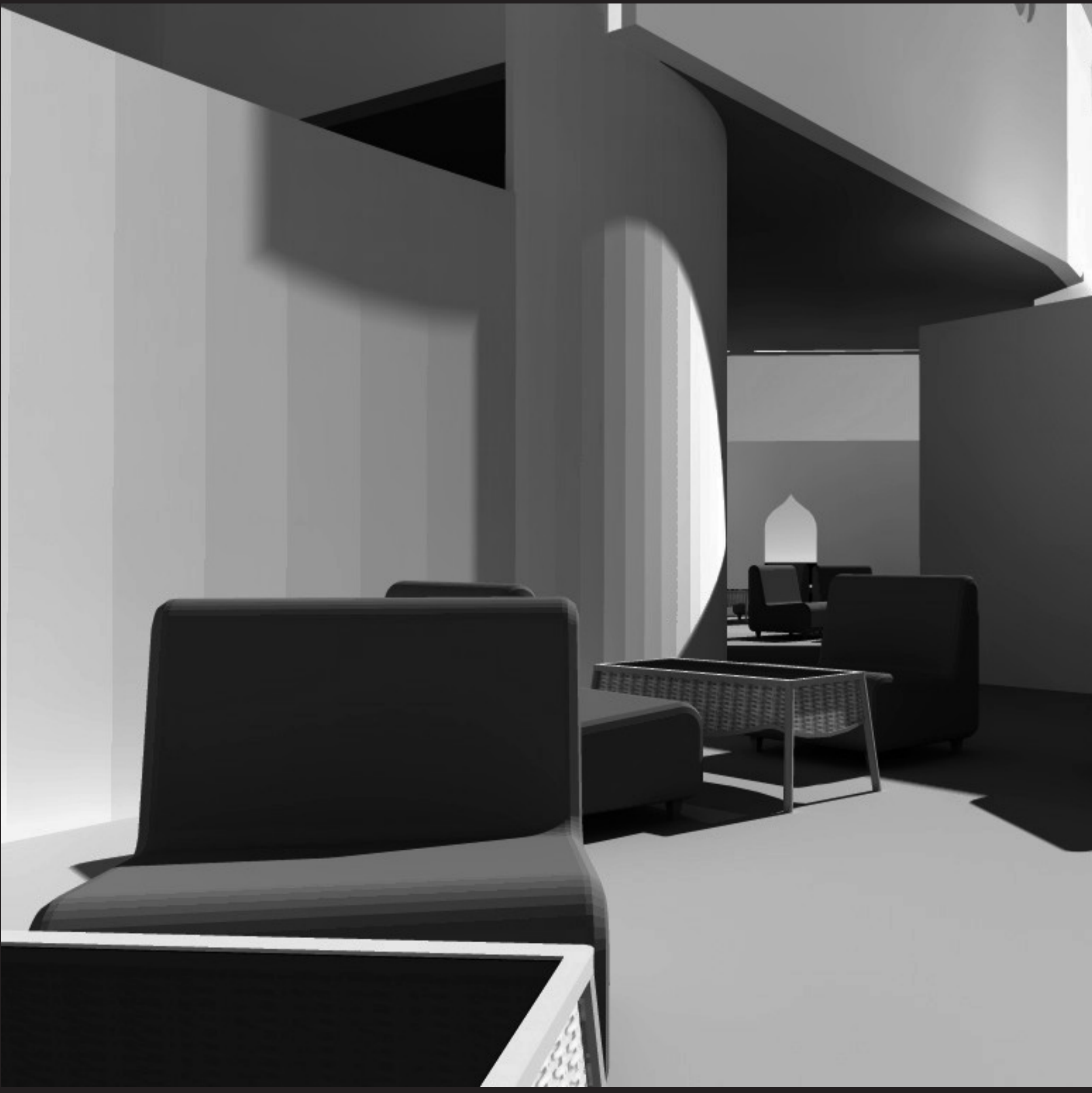
Perspective View



General Arrangement 1:100



Tunis Terminal



FIRST IMPRESSIONS OF TUNIS
The ferry terminal building will be the first structure seen by travelers to the port. As such I have designed a building which although creating an immediate impression of something new and exciting reflects the natural beauty of the sea and the rich culture and history of the country.

A LINK WITH THE PAST
The dramatic departure from the traditional building style of the region is tempered by drawing upon important design elements which provide a link with a rich tradition. This is seen predominately in the roof design and decoration and also internally for example, in the Islamic door shapes used in some areas.

THE ROOF ENCLOSURE
The roof design is of paramount importance and is the dominant feature defining the overall shape of the building. Its fluid form and colour scheme evokes the feeling of water and waves yet provides shelter from the elements. It resembles a North African tent and also reflects in its finishes the magnificent artwork found in carpet weaving of the region. The height of the roof enables natural climate control by keeping the lower levels cool and utilizing natural sea breezes to cool the atmosphere.

HOSPITABLE ENVIRONMENT
Many facilities are provided for in this building and coupled with its breathtaking views of the sea, the visitor is enticed to stay and enjoy it. There is a restaurant located to capitalize on the water view and sea breezes. Upstairs a shopping mall which can be accessed via elegant spiraling stairs or shafts of the art glass lifts. The lifts are glass cylinders and resemble beams of light. They are designed to capture water views and are on the external faces of the building.

Circulation
The upper floor provides an important circulation route bridging the northern and southern extremes of the building one may be enticed after leaving the restaurant lounge to access shops while still making progress towards the ferry stowing zone. Look carefully at the floor plans and you will see how these floors symbiotically link together. Transit and non transit operations.

DESIGN THEORY
It was my intent that the building would express three symbiotically related functions of architecture. They were: enclosure, spatial organization and the circulation within. In the same way that modern businesses achieves its efficiency with the use of a workforce of specialists, perhaps Architecture can be successful if these three functions were dealt with separately and specified accordingly.

Enclosure
Observing a buildings enclosure from an externally is often completely alien to experiencing its enclosure from within. This is because in effect a buildings exterior enclosure is the sum of multiple interior modules of enclosure. These interior modules are usually the strict result of spatial arrangement, in their basic form consisting of parallel planes of floors and ceiling divided by partitioning walls and structural members. However I felt to express more boldly the enclosure functionality of architecture, internal enclosures should be opened to the overall enclosure.

Spatial organisation
The ground floor is characterized by large and open curved spaces visitors feel private and enclosed while partially open to surrounding environments. The lower floor attempts to blend private & public while isolating dynamic & static spaces for the maximisation of functionality and comfort.

Designing the second floor took on a rather different approach, while as most buildings simply extrude there site plan over several floors to maximise the total floor area and meet building regulations and budgets. I had opted instead to maximise the visual and symbolic experience of spaces. The larger I designed the second floor the more the building would be experienced as a lid over a series of partitions. I wanted to design the upper floor as a structure that would not be too obstructive to views of the roof enclosure while adding a final metaphoric ingredient: expressing the circulation function of architecture.

Conclusion
The ferry terminal in its design, structure and facilities will attract visitors and evoke a sense of pride in the local residents of this beautiful place on earth.