

LOCATION

ECDC CREMATORIUM
AT MEPAL

CLIENT

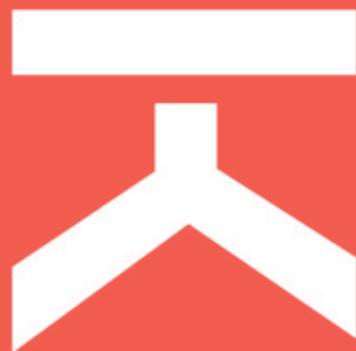
East Cambridgeshire
District Council

PROJECT NUMBER

19052

DOCUMENT NUMBER

01 - May 2020



BENCHMARK

A R C H I T E C T S



CONCEPT DESIGN
East Cambridgeshire District Council Crematorium
for
ECDC

BENCHMARK
ARCHITECTS

CONCEPT DESIGN

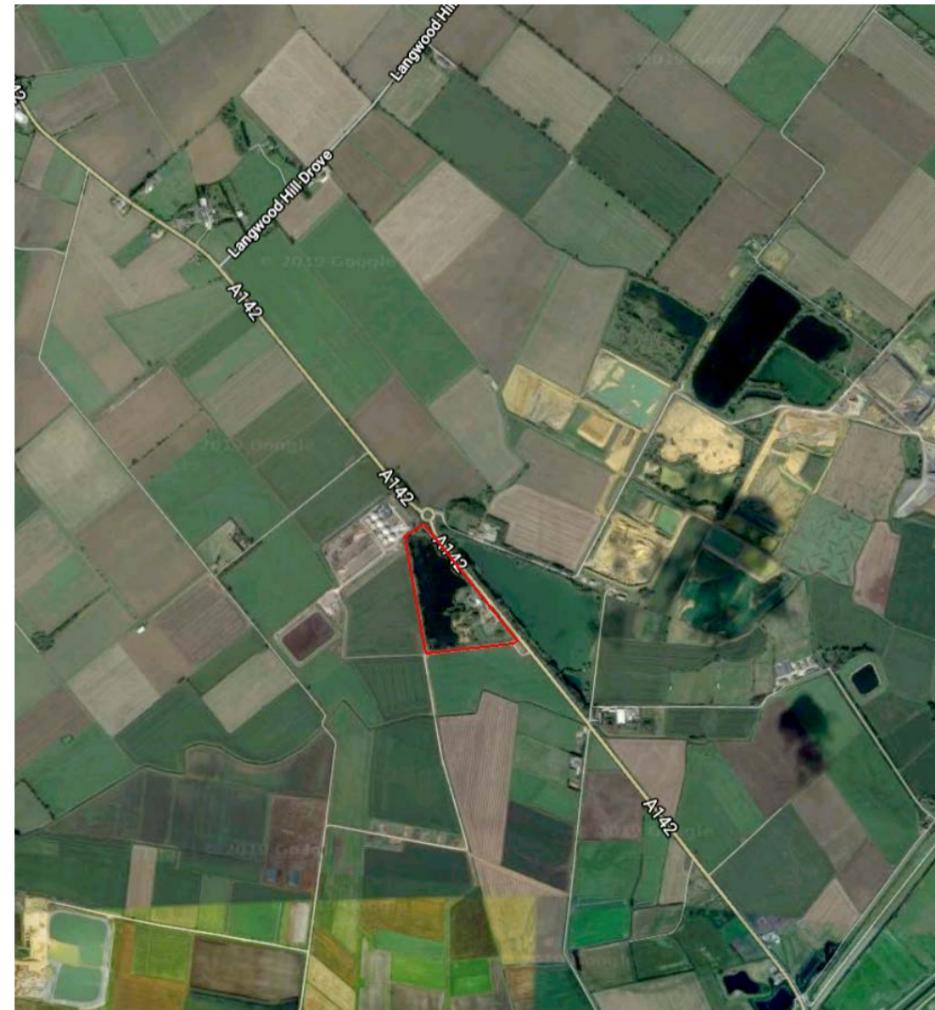


INTRODUCTION

This document has been prepared on behalf of East Cambridgeshire District Council by Benchmark Architects to illustrate the concept design for a new crematorium for ECDC at Mepal.

The document presents the proposed site, design process and initial proposals including:

- existing site plan and photographs
- site analysis diagrams showing constraints, opportunities, access and parking arrangements
- proposed site plan
- concept flow diagram
- precedent studies



Site Location Plan



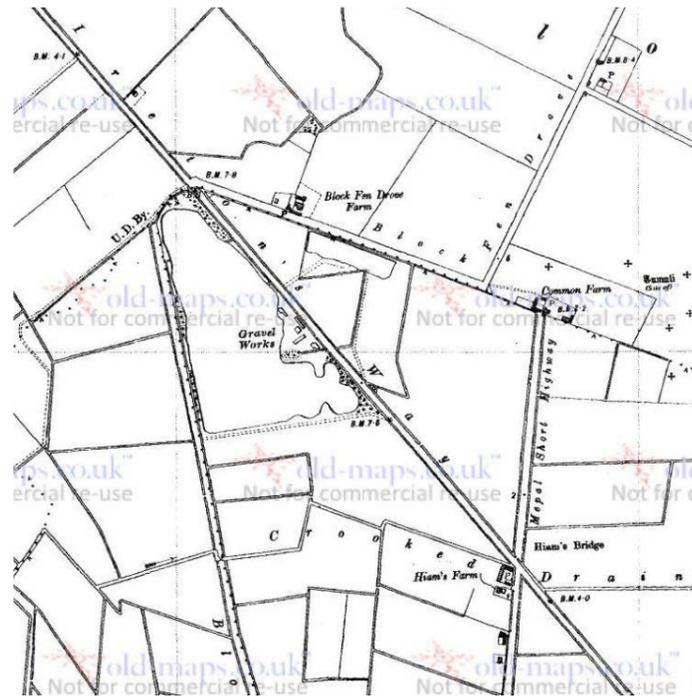
Close up

SITE HISTORY

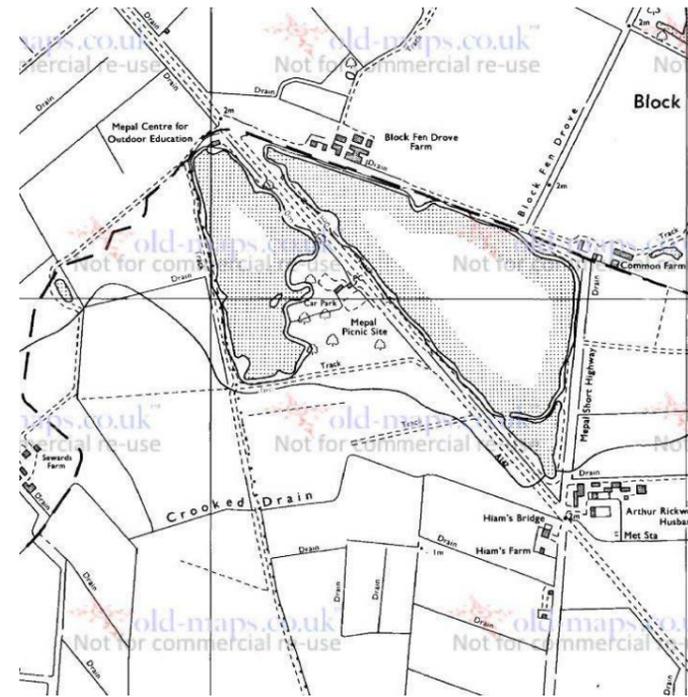
Below are historic map illustrations of the site over the last century. In 1927 the site was open countryside and fields only. By 1952 the site was being excavated as a quarry. In 1979 the quarry had become a lake and a picnic and outdoor education site established and continued into 1981 and beyond. The site is currently a disused 30-acre Outdoor Pursuits Centre.



Map 1927



Map 1952



Map 1979



Map 1981

SITE PHOTOGRAPHS

The site is characterised by wide open countryside views, a lake and mature planting.



View to the north west across the site
from the A142



View to the south east across the site
from the A142

SITE PHOTOGRAPHS

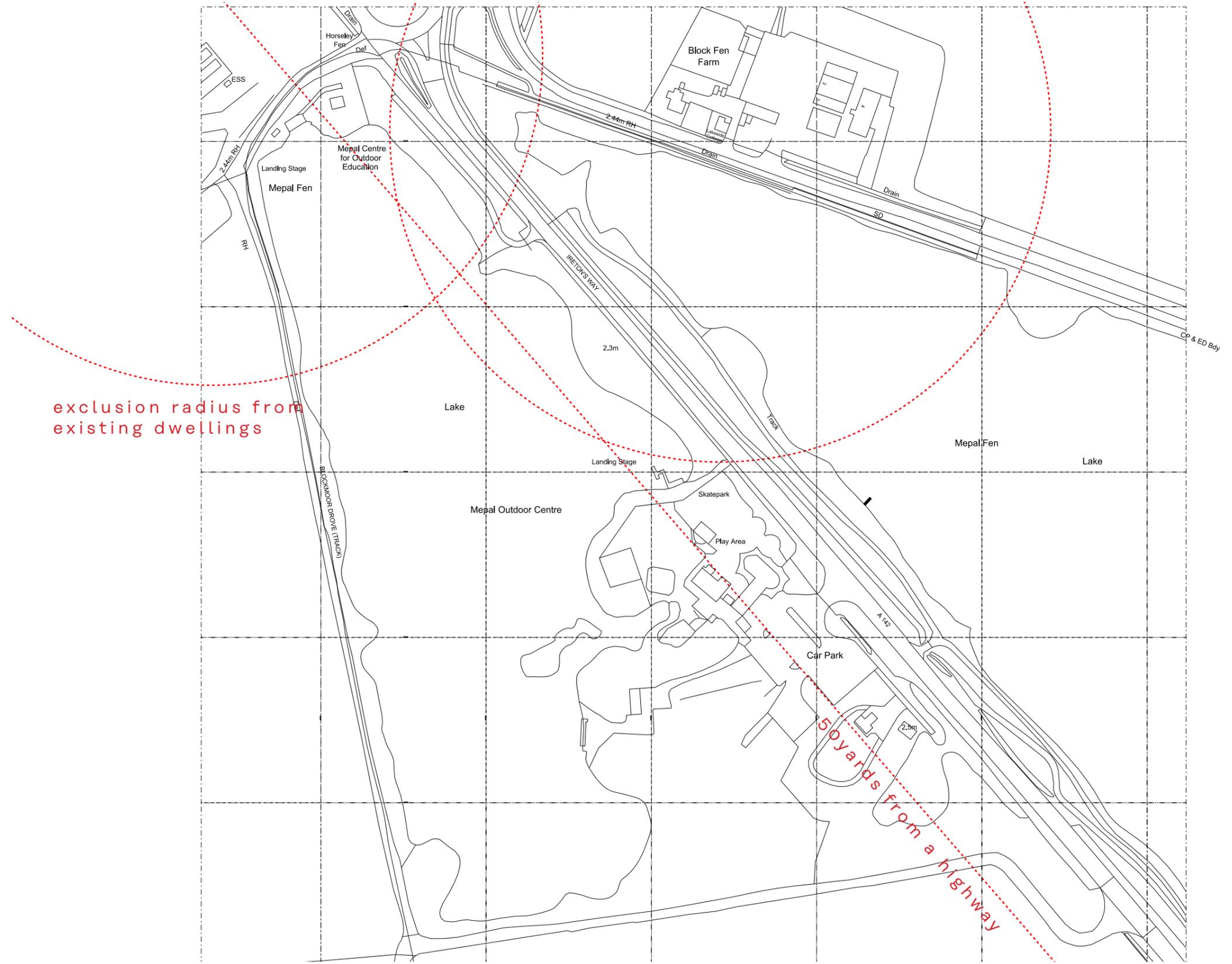


Elevated view across the lake to the West



View across the lake to the North West

ZONAL PLAN



exclusion radius from existing dwellings

50 yards from a highway



CONCEPT

raised walkways & stilts

...like the original Mepal bridge crossing and woodland walkways above the flood plain...



BENCHMARK
ARCHITECTS

PROPOSALS



INDICATIVE SITE MASTERPLAN - OPTION 1

The adjacent site masterplan shows key positions across the site for the mix of buildings and external elements required.

The emphasis is on creating clusters of spaces nestled into the surrounding context. These spaces are linked with low-lying walkways which lift pedestrians off the scrub land and help to give clearly defined routes to the modular Function Room, Crematorium, woodland burial, remembrance and memorial spaces.

The lake provides the principle views on the site and the buildings have been positioned to take advantage of this. The crematorium complex is sited in the location of the existing buildings as far as possible.

Existing landforms such as the raised bund have be retained and modified as features.



INDICATIVE SITE MASTERPLAN - OPTION 2

The adjacent site masterplan shows an alternative option for the layout which uses the existing site entrance as the main point of access onto the site. This enables the woodland burial area to be extended. All other aspects remain the same as option 1.



CLOSE UP SITE PLAN

-▶ pedestrian flow
-▶ admin flow
-▶ funeral procession

On leaving the car park, visitors use the raised walkway to make their way to the welcome building. Inside this building will be a waiting area, refreshment facilities and toilets.

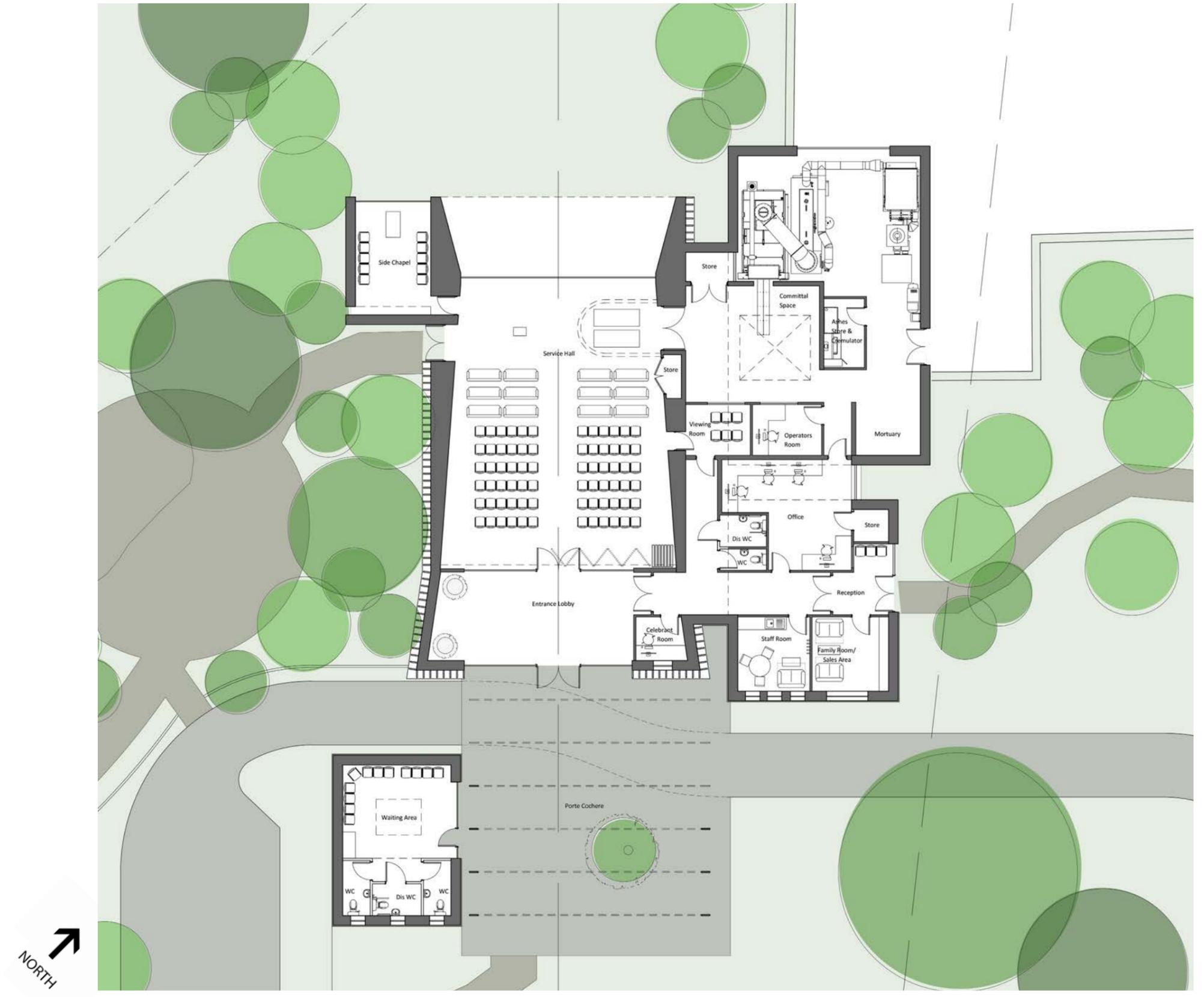
Visitors will see the funeral procession arriving and can exit the welcome building and join the funeral party beneath the porte cochere. From here, they move into the main service hall building. A secondary service chapel is accessed off the main hall for small ceremonies.

At the end of the ceremony, users leave the service hall and make their way through the raised flower walkway which incorporates a viewing terrace. From the flower walkway, visitors can either return to the car park, or make their way to the modular function building and memorial gardens.

Staff and formal visitors will park in the admin car park and have direct access into the admin building. The admin building houses the office, family room, staff and bearers rooms.



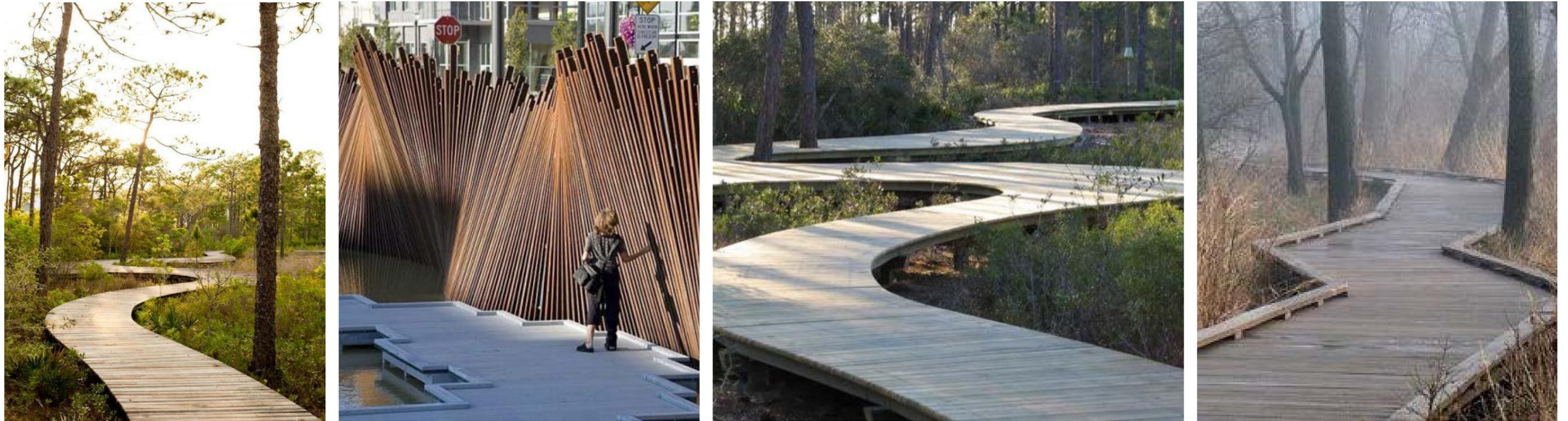
INDICATIVE FLOOR PLAN



CONCEPT VISUAL



LANDSCAPE PRECEDENTS

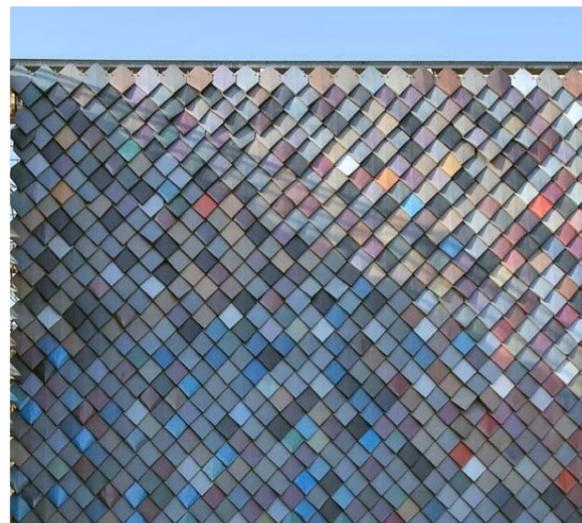


Raised walkways and textured surfaces

BUILDING PRECEDENTS



Vertical timber cladding and contrasting textured surfaces



ACCOMODATION SUMMARY

Modular Cafe/Function Building

50 seat function room
kitchen/wcs/storage

Welcome Building

Waiting and entrance
WCs

Admin Building

Admin Office
Staff area
Ashes collection and family room

Multifaith Chapel #1

100-125 seat Ceremonial Hall
Vestry / music room
Lobby
Bearers room

Multifaith Chapel #2

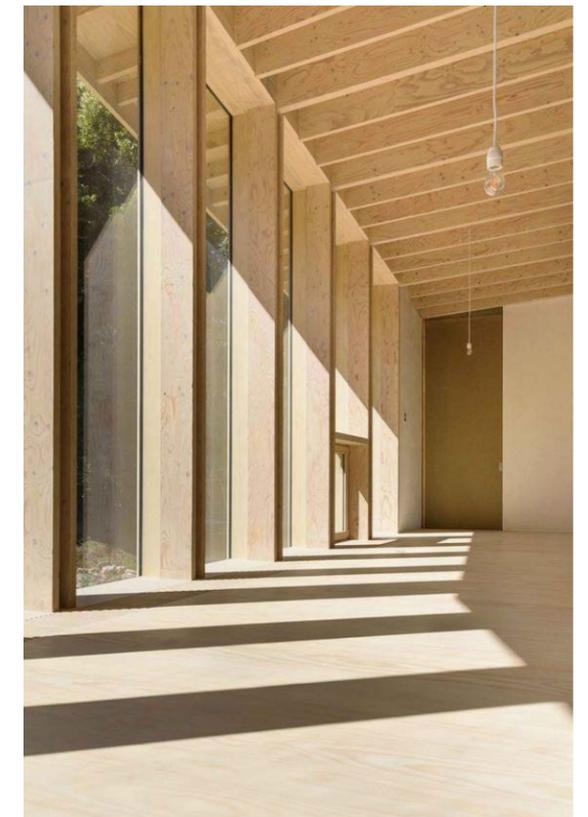
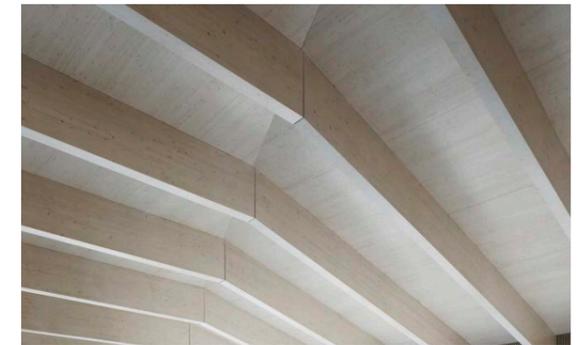
6-12 seat Ceremonial Chapel

Crematory

Crematory Hall
Viewing room
Mortuary/Store
Ashes and cremulator
Plant

External spaces

Porte Cochere space
Raise walkways and Flower Walk
memorial wall and remembrance space
Service yard
130 no. parking spaces



Interior & material concepts

BENCHMARK
ARCHITECTS

BENCHMARK ARCHITECTS LTD

01525300612

TEAM@BENCHMARKARCHITECTS.COM
WWW.BENCHMARKARCHITECTS.COM