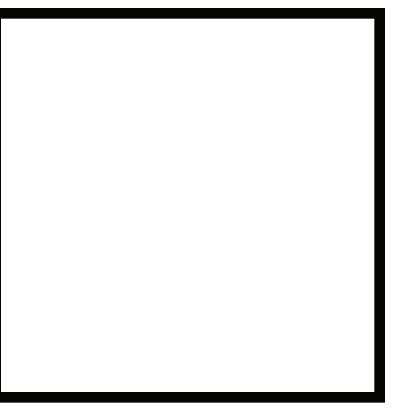
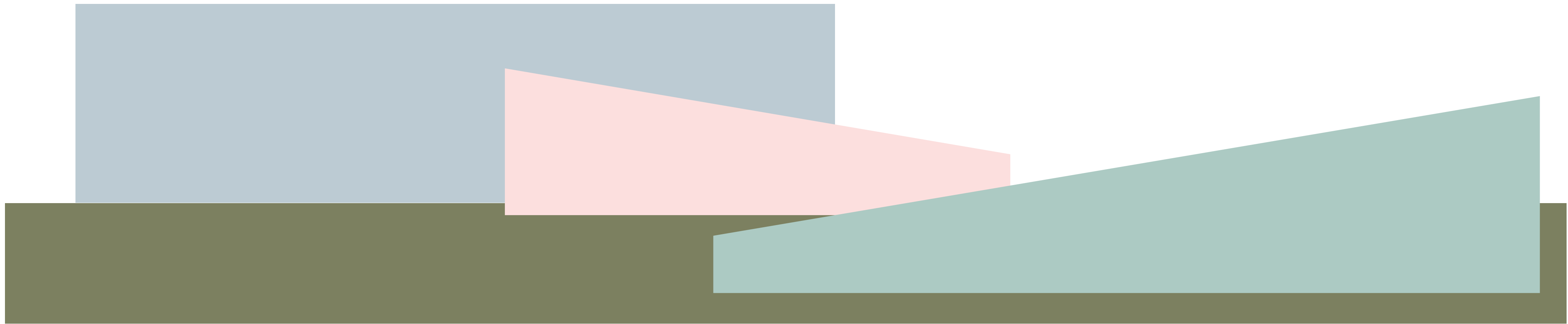


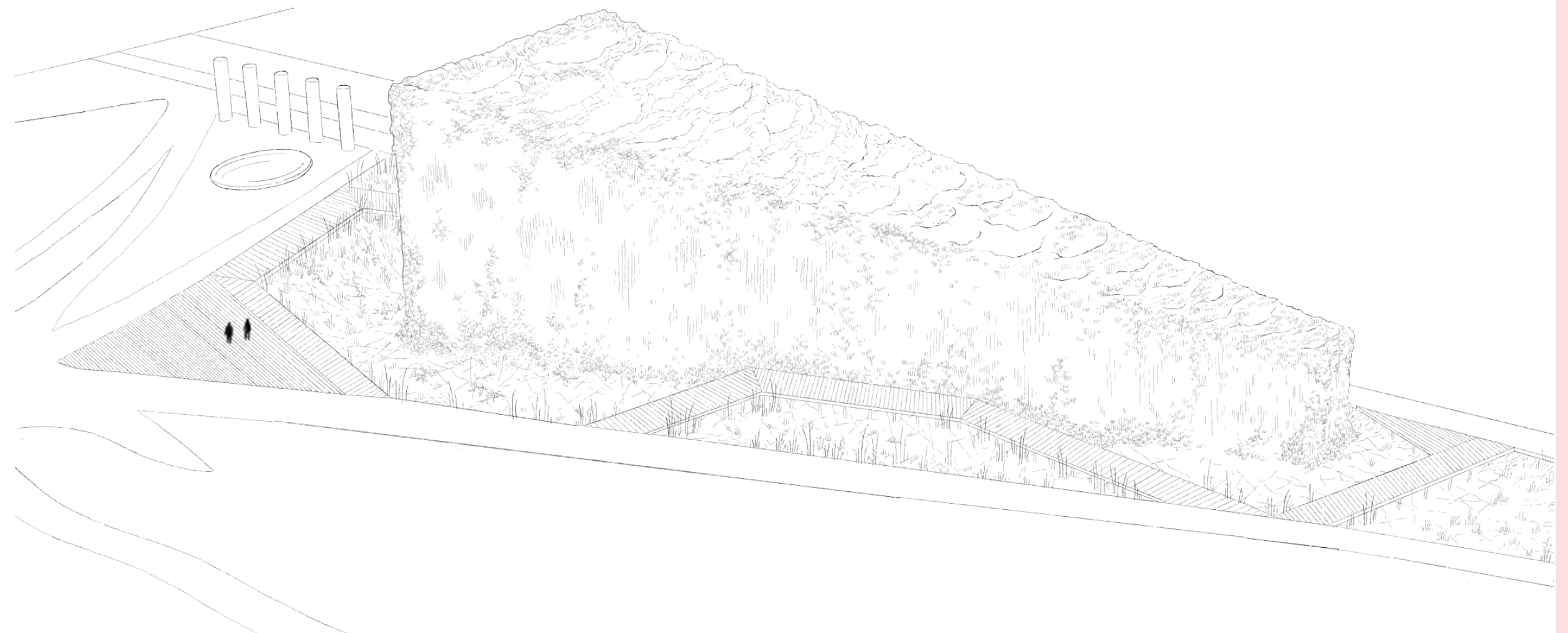
where are you/ where you are



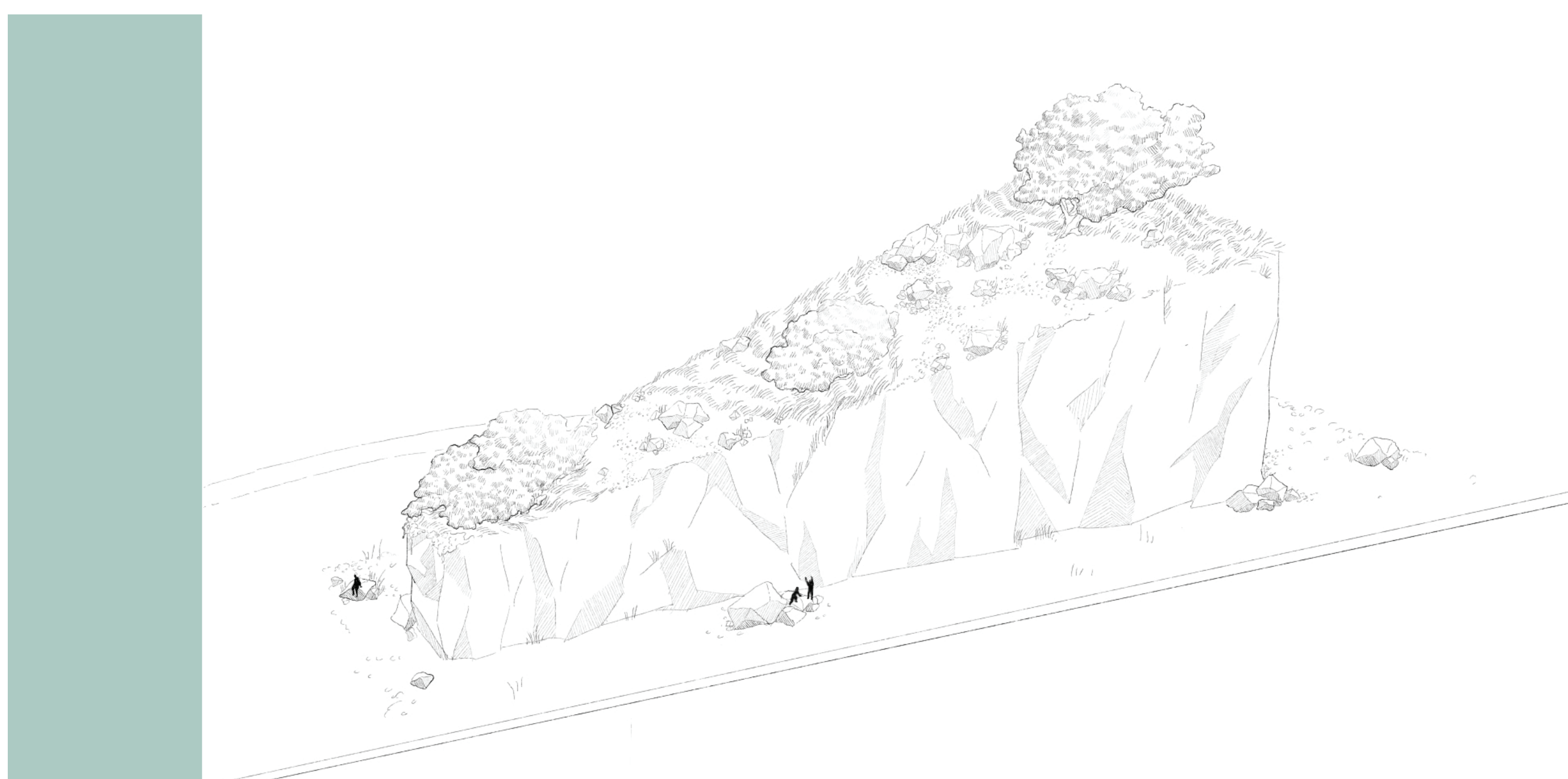
Where are you when you stand at the confluence
of Los Gatos Creek and the Gaudalupe River?



between the sea...



Upstream of tidal sloughs where prehistoric megafauna licked salt crystals from the bay mud, and generations of Ohlone people gathered lacy flakes to season their meals, and August Schilling built red pools to mine salt on an industrial scale.



At the place where rain split along the ridge between Loma Prieta and Mount Umunhum is reunited to finish its flow into the San Francisco Bay.



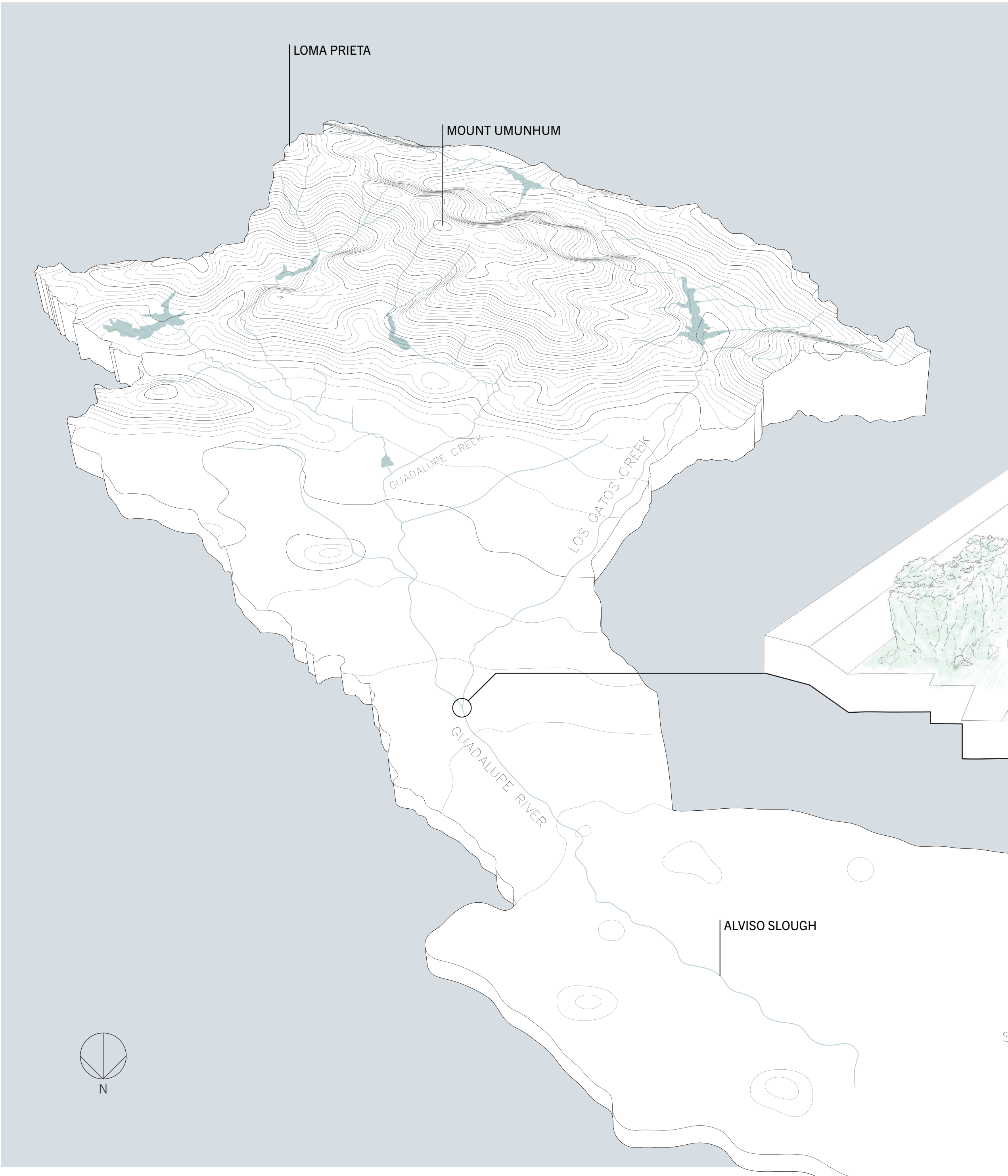
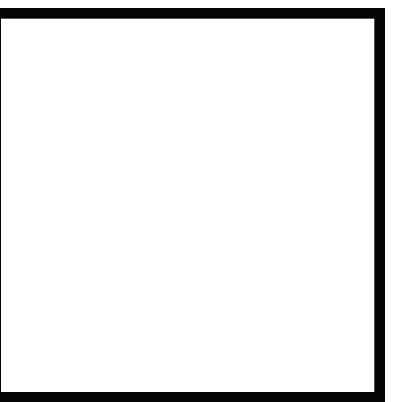
...and the sky





View towards the Santa Clara Valley across a serpentine outcropping

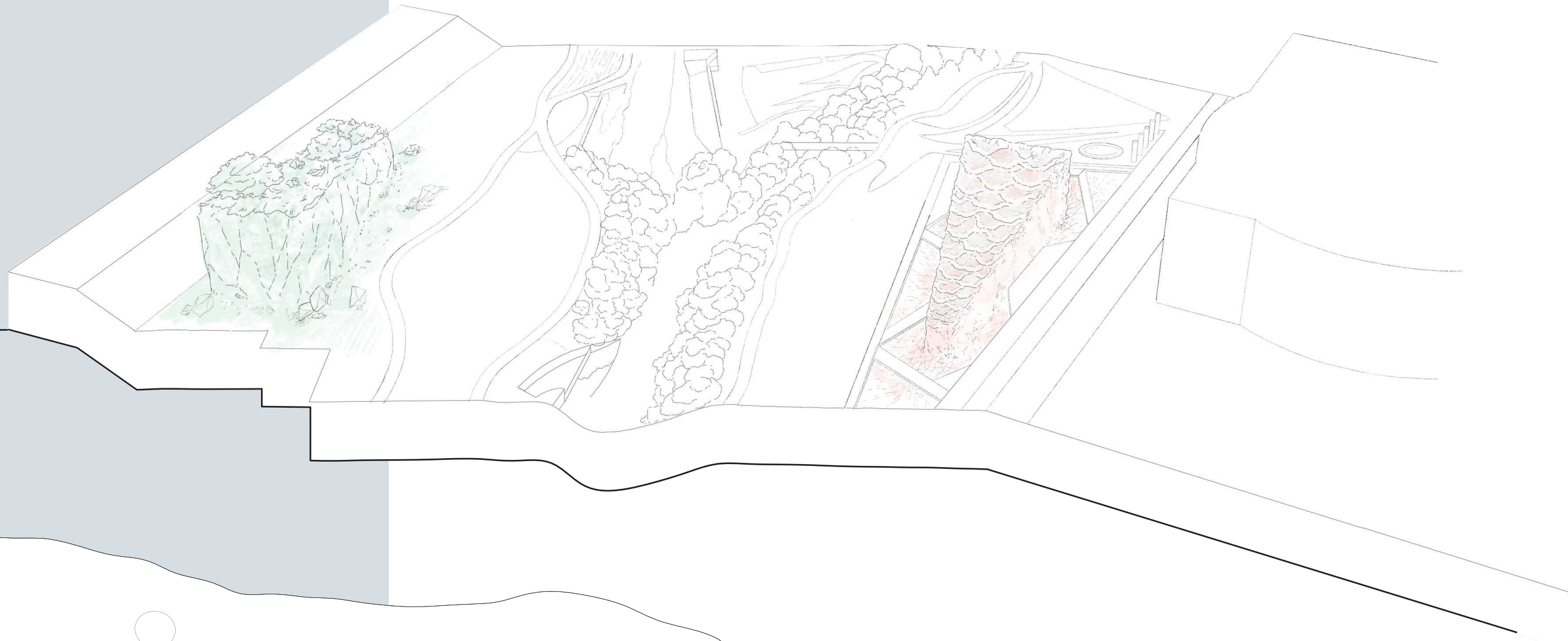
The monument to the mountains raises a serpentine meadow above Highway 87, tilting it to the north to shade the slope. Although the highway is a great source of noise, this side of the project is a peaceful place for individual activities - a nod to the stoicness of stones that move at geologic timescales. The base is surrounded by a green-tinted gravel surface studded with boulders that function both as seating elements and as a naturalistic playscape.



Reverence for seas and mountains is universal.

This proposal constructs an abstract representation of the Santa Cruz Mountains and the San Francisco Bay from their most iconic materials, salt and stone, to describe the place that is cradled between them.

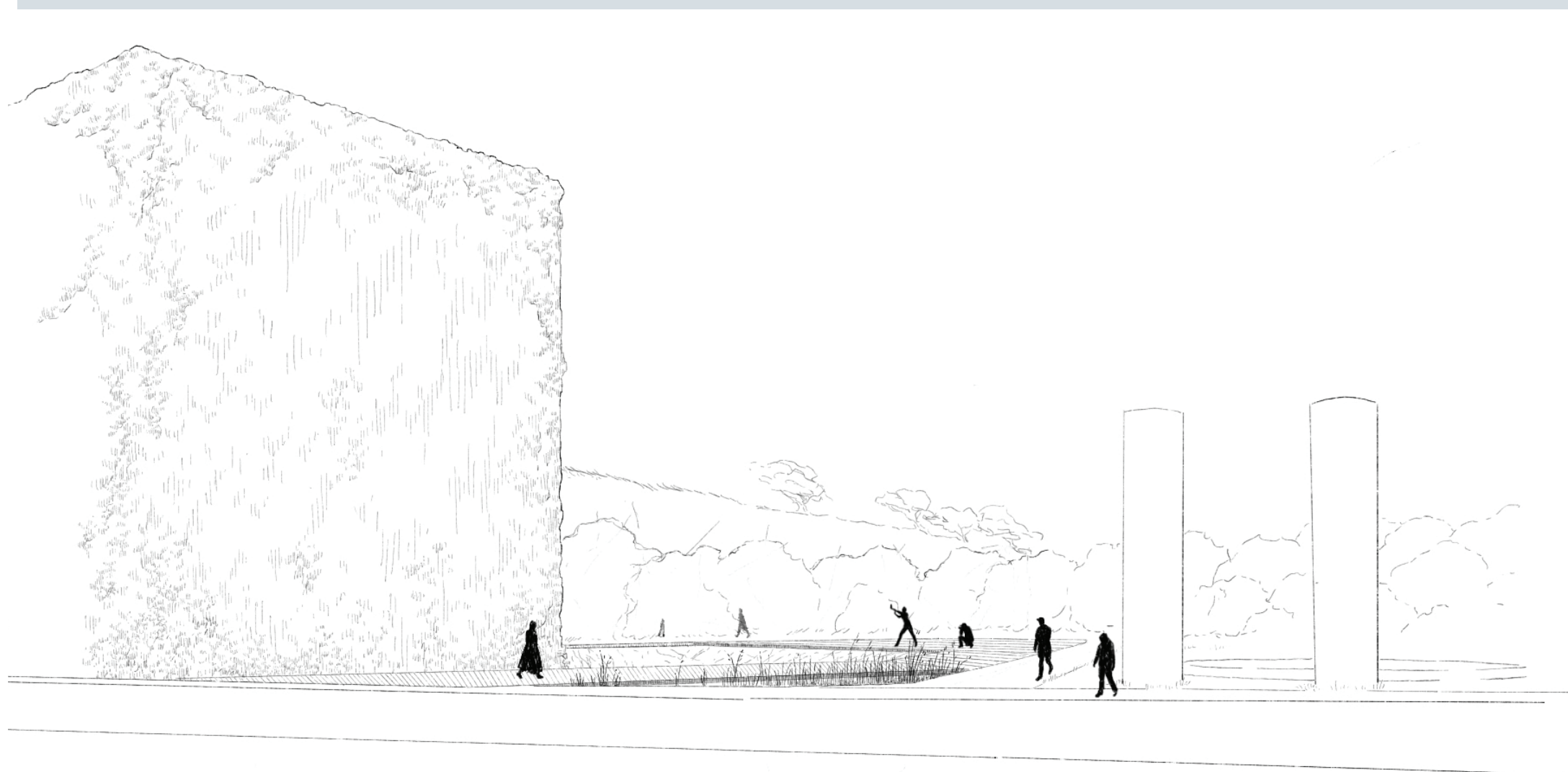
The bountiful productivity of the Santa Clara Valley was created by the interactions between the mountains and the bay. The push and pull of flooding, tides, and tectonics have swept it with fine sands and rich silts. These fertile soils rooted the social and economic development that led to its current identity as a hub of technological innovation.



The monument to the sea would begin as a monolithic form made of dry salt, but rain and sun would quickly create brine pools on the south-facing upper surface and a salty swale where halophytic plants can be showcased around the base. These pools would be visible from the upper levels of the SAP Center, northbound traffic on Highway 87, and planes flying in and out of SJC. Boardwalks at the base allow visitors to approach the salty walls, and welcoming platforms provide space for socialization, events, and community gatherings.



View of Cargill Salt from restored wetlands at Alviso Slough



View of Arena Green from the SAP Center during a calm day



View of Arena Green from the SAP Center during an illuminated sculpture festival