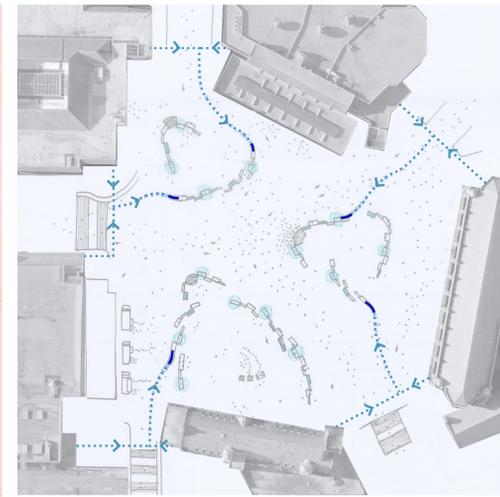
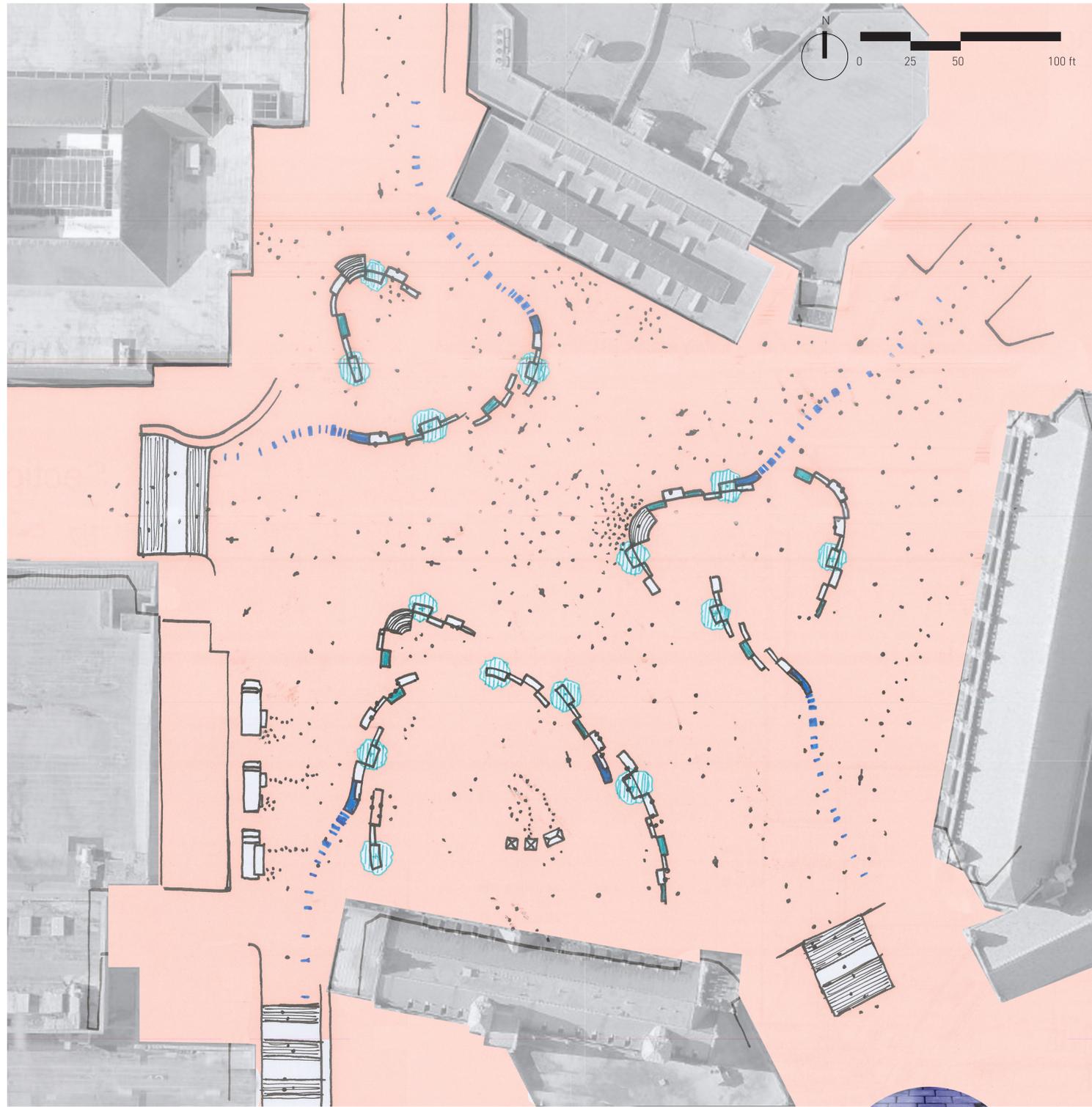
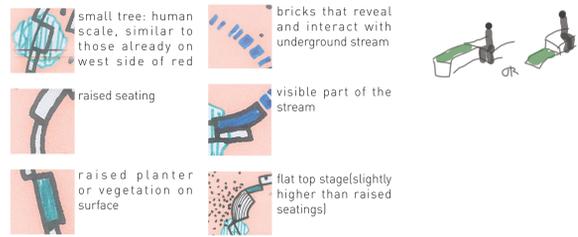


(DAY)LIGHTING RED SQUARE

When searching for new ways to understand and relate to the world around us, sometimes we must deconstruct the assumptions and rigid beliefs we have inherited. Red Square is a sturdy and iconic space that has served the campus for many years. But based on surveys of those who move through it daily, it is time to challenge the idea that it should remain the way it is. Three main complaints from students about Red Square are that it lacks seating, it is dark at night and it is slippery when wet. Our design addresses these issues by deconstructing the ground plane and using the resulting structures to shape water and human movement through the site.

"Lux Sit" or "Let there be light," says the University of Washington motto. We echo this with bold, curving seating areas that sweep across the square, outlining major patterns of circulation while defining places of gathering and respite. During busy times they allow people to flow through. When the square is empty they hold the shape of movement. While their organic form and vegetated sections contrast with the straight lines and hard surfaces in the square, their structure relates visually to the bricks, maintaining a link to the past. The blocks form intimate seating areas where people can pause to enjoy the present, while the long sweeping lines maintain a sense of expansiveness and prospect.



WATER FLOW DIAGRAM



LIGHTING DIAGRAM

We use these seating structures to channel water through the space, harvesting water from the surrounding buildings into pipes that water planting beds and drain to the west. These channels become partially "daylighted" and visibly woven into the seating areas, inverting the pattern, and revealing the way water moves and then disappears below the surface. Textured, solar powered glass bricks create a river of light along major circulation corridors, at times exposing the water flow below them. Their modular form allows them to be purchased by donors enabling the community to work together to replace slippery surfaces and illuminate the heart of the campus.

