

PORTFOLIO

ELLA BRUNER

PITTSBURG STATE UNIVERSITY | INTERIOR DESIGN



ELLA BRUNER

THE LANGUAGE OF SPACE

Design is felt before it is understood.

To me, design is about shaping the experiences people feel within a space, even when they can't fully explain why. It's the ability to use the power of lighting, spatial composition, and thoughtful detailing placed within to influence how people move through the space and connect with it.

My design process always begins with observation and curiosity of course. Understanding the purpose of a space and identifying the people who will use it becomes the foundation of every single one of my projects. Through my education, conceptual thinking, and technical skills have given me the ability to translate actual ideas into purposeful solutions.

EXPERIENCE

Van Cleave Construction Design & Remodeling | Internship | 2025

- Managed the material library and organized specification ordering documents.
- Assisted in redeveloped spatial layouts within established project scope, budget, and timeline parameters.
- Worked collaboratively with the VCRD design team during multiple project developments at one time.

Residential Renovations 2021 | 2024

- Assisted with finish selections, tile installation, flooring installation, insulation, and interior painting.
- Performed construction tasks including tile cutting and framing preparation.
- Maintained job site organization and supported installation and cleanup.

Arch Construction Drafting | Freelance Commercial Drafting | 2025

- Created commercial floor plans to communicate layout.
- Produced 3D renderings to visualize building form from interior to exterior.
- Developed construction drawings for contractor planning.

Brick & Mortar Social House | Server | 2023 | 2026

- Balanced multiple tables and guest needs in a fast-paced restaurant.
- Coordinated with front and back of house teams to maintain smooth service.

SOFTWARE

- Revit
- AutoCAD
- Enscape
- Canva
- Adobe InDesign
- Bluebeam
- Buildertrend
- Chief Architecture
- SketchUp

DESIGN SKILLS

- Space planning
- Construction Documents
- Detailed Drawings
- Lighting Concepts
- Material & Finish Specifications

EDUCATION

Pittsburg State University
Gradution: May 2026
Bachelor of Science
Major: Interior Design
Minor: Construction Technology

ARAZI
HOTEL

FALL | 2025
PAGES 04-06

JONES
RESIDENCE

FALL | 2024
PAGES 07-09

PRIVATE
LOUNGE

SPRING | 2025
PAGES 10-11

MICRO
HOSPITAL

SPRING | 2026
PAGES 12-14

ARAZI HOTEL

HOSPITALITY

TIME | FALL 2025

LOCATION | PHEONIX, AZ

SQUARE FOOTAGE | 30,000 SQ FT

SOFTWARE | REVIT, ENSCAPE, CANVA

Arazi, meaning “land,” **shapes the design narrative** for a hotel created for a CEO in the business world with **Turkish background** along with blending **cultural influence with elevated hospitality**. The branding and organic shapes are inspired by the **Anatolian tiger and motif**, both representing **strength** and **connection** as a whole.

The lobby acts as **The Den**, this creates a **powerful arrival experience** from the moment guests step in the doors. The Turkish Tea and Coffee shop is known as the **Lair**, which influences an **intimate place to gather** and watch the art of **tea and coffee preparation**. At the center of the design, the courtyard serves as **The Watering Hole**, a **communal space** for hotel guests that encourages **connection with nature and one another**. Together these individual spaces **conclude the story of Arazi** that create an **unforgettable experience**.

LOBBY



MATERIALS

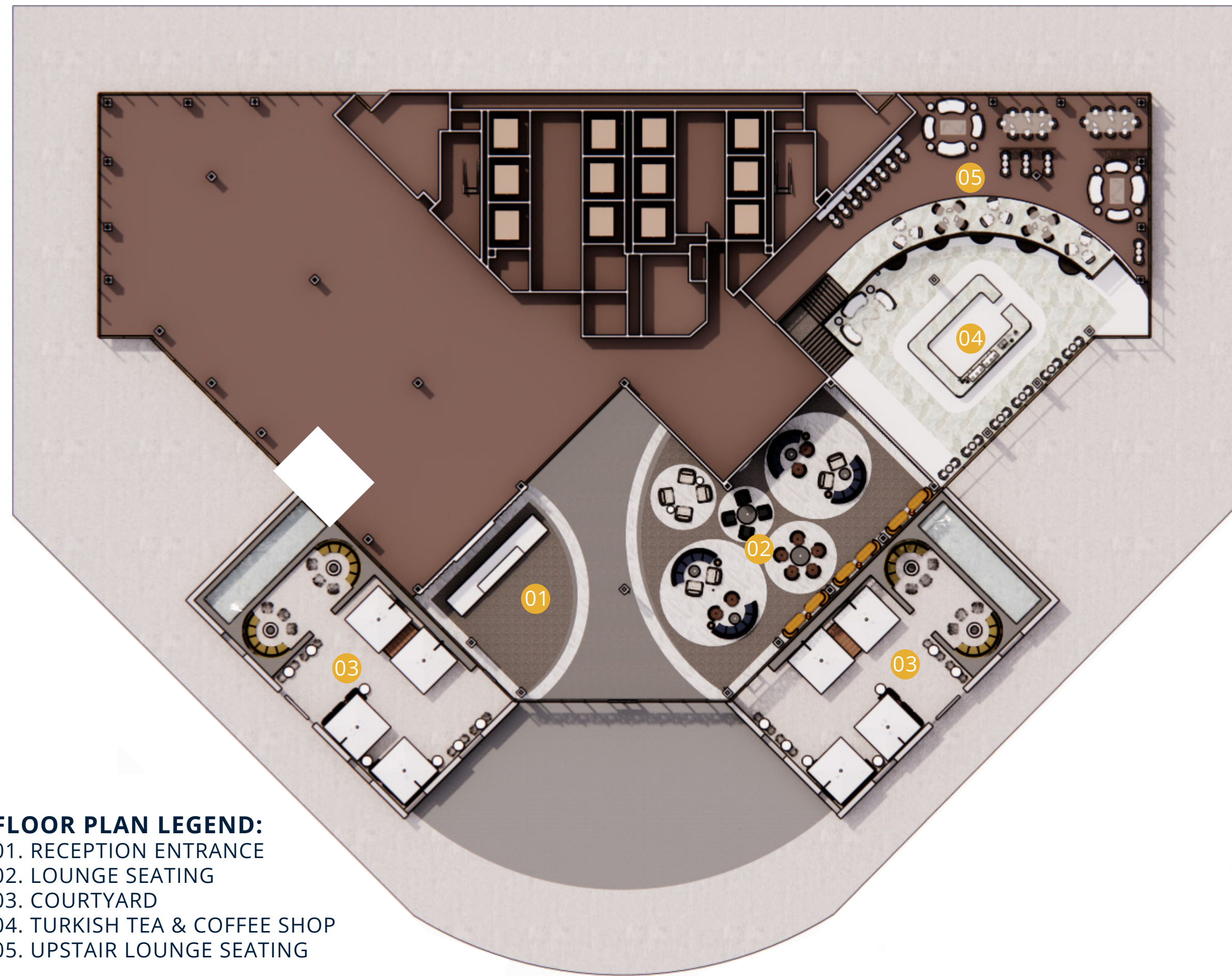


CONCEPT



FLOOR PLAN LEGEND:

- 01. RECEPTION ENTRANCE
- 02. LOUNGE SEATING
- 03. COURTYARD
- 04. TURKISH TEA & COFFEE SHOP
- 05. UPSTAIR LOUNGE SEATING



This page illustrates how Arazi is organized around a **series of shared and private gathering spaces**. The elevation shows how the tea and coffeshop, lobby, and courtyard act as a **layering effect**. Within the building a **progression of each area encourages connection** rather than just in the hotel rooms themselves.

Each area offers a **distinct experience** while staying **cohesive**. From the open courtyard designed for **casual gathering or drinks**, to the lobby serving as a **central social hub upon arrival**, to the elevated tea and coffee lounge with a **mezzanine overlooking the openness**. All to create opportunities for guests to **unwind, recharge, and network** to share experiences during their stay at Arazi.





TEA & COFFEE SHOP



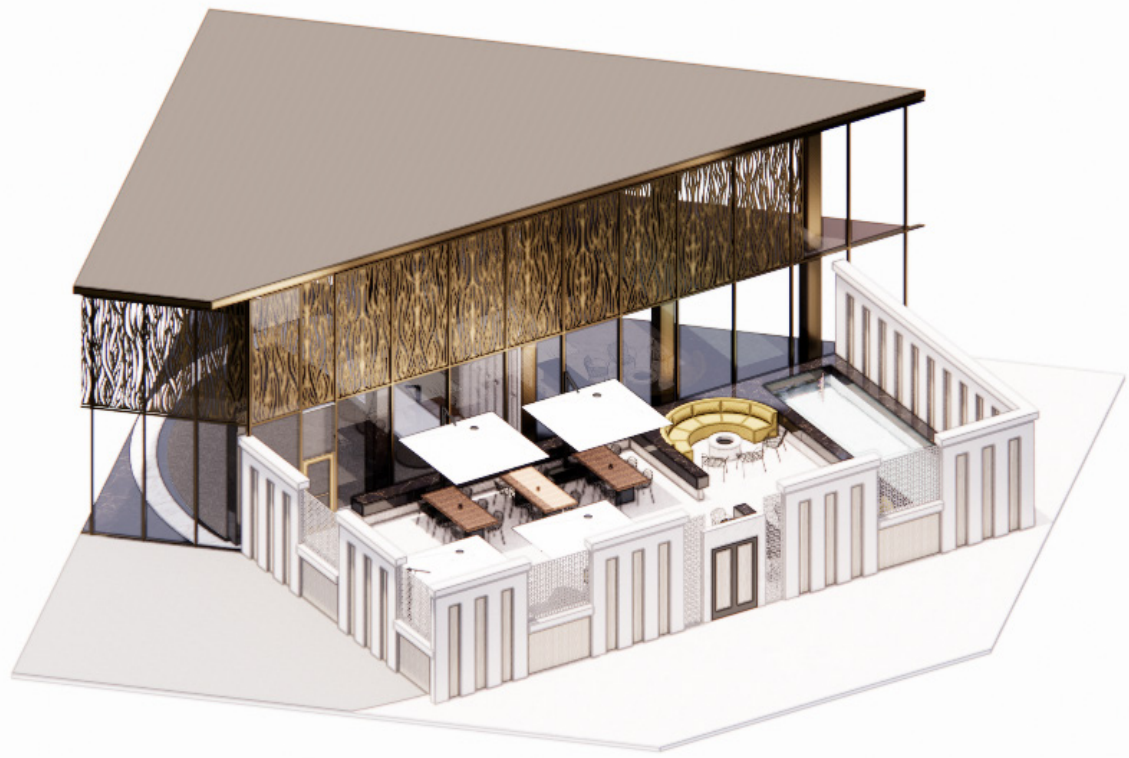
TEA & COFFEE



COURTYARD

THE POWER OF LIGHTING

Lighting and **acoustics** are intentionally used to **draw focus upward**, making the ceiling a **defining feature**. Through dropped down ceilings, soffits, suspended fixtures, and wall sconces, attention is directed not only in the paint colors and floor selection but **a mix of usage between** to create both **visual rhythm** and **functional performance**.



JONES RESIDENCE .02

RESIDENTIAL

TIME | FALL 2024

LOCATION | KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

SQUARE FOOTAGE | 3,622 SQ FT

SOFTWARE | REVIT, ENSCAPE, CANVA

The Jones Residence focuses on creating a home that feels **organized** but **not closed off**. The layout **divides shared living spaces from private living quarters**, giving each part of the house its own role while still feeling **unified** in the **overall concept**.

A **calm, neutral palette** of soft creams, warm beiges, and natural wood tones carries throughout the plan. Moments of black and **darker hues** are **introduced with intention** through metal accents, limestone, tile, window frames, and select furnishings. This aspect **adds the depth and contrast** for structural purposes without **overpowering the softness** tied into it.

SUN ROOM



EXTERIOR

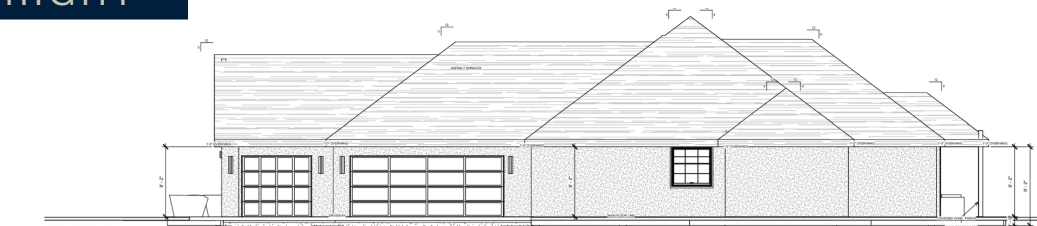


The exterior brings the same **sense of calm** found inside using **natural stone** and **restrained materials**. The stone facade introduces **texture** and **weight**, grounding the home while **directly reflecting the interior selections**. This connection allows the transition from the outside in to **feel correlated**, where the materiality is just **extended** and **not a complete shift**.

FRONT



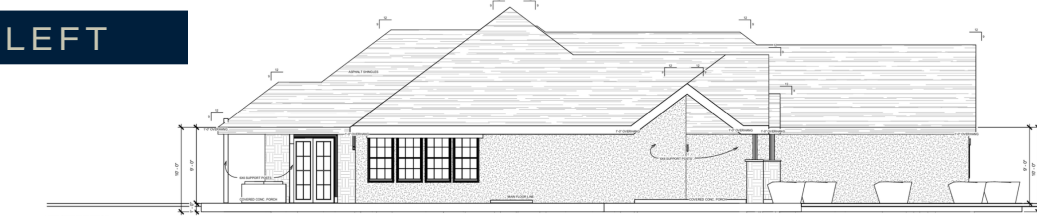
RIGHT

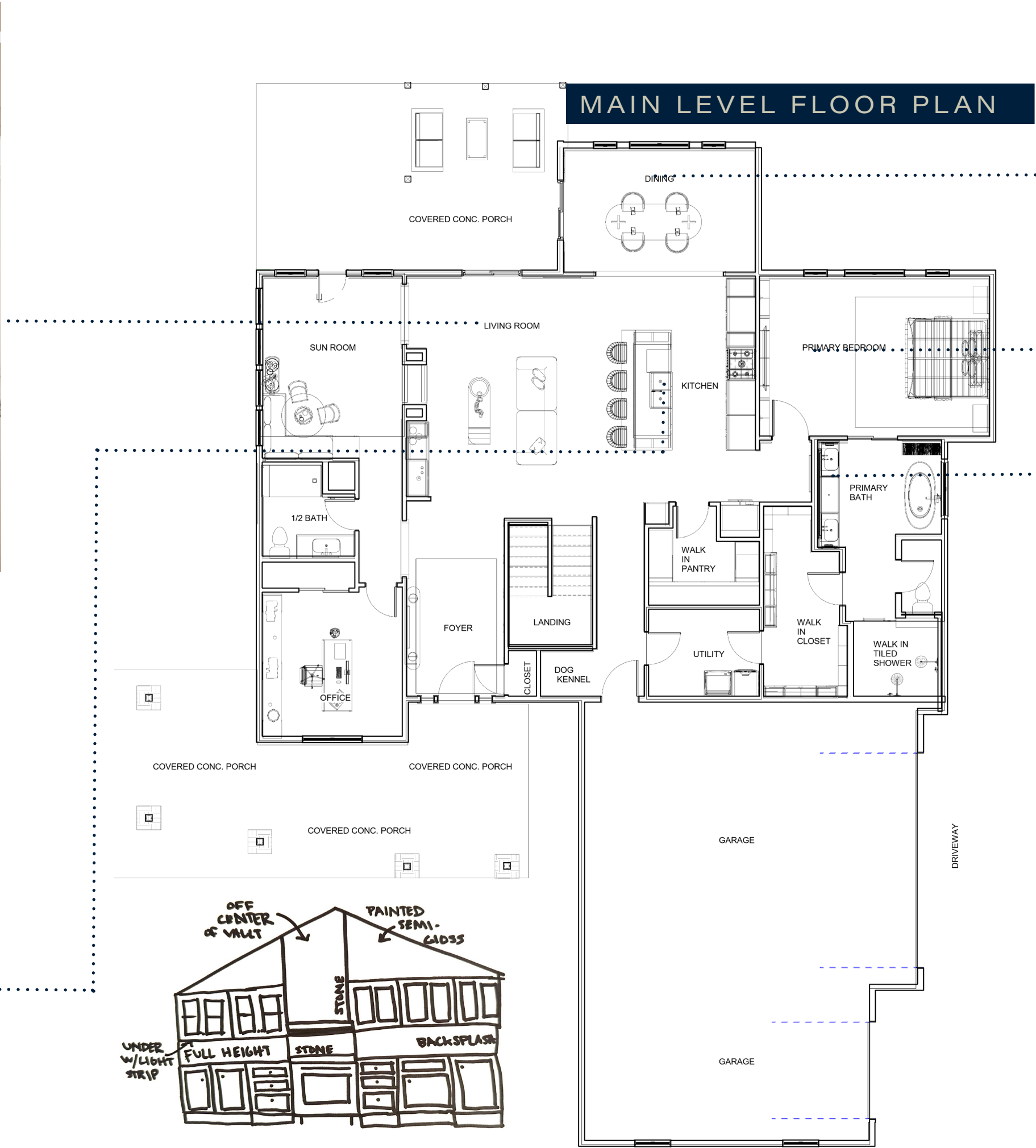


BACK



LEFT

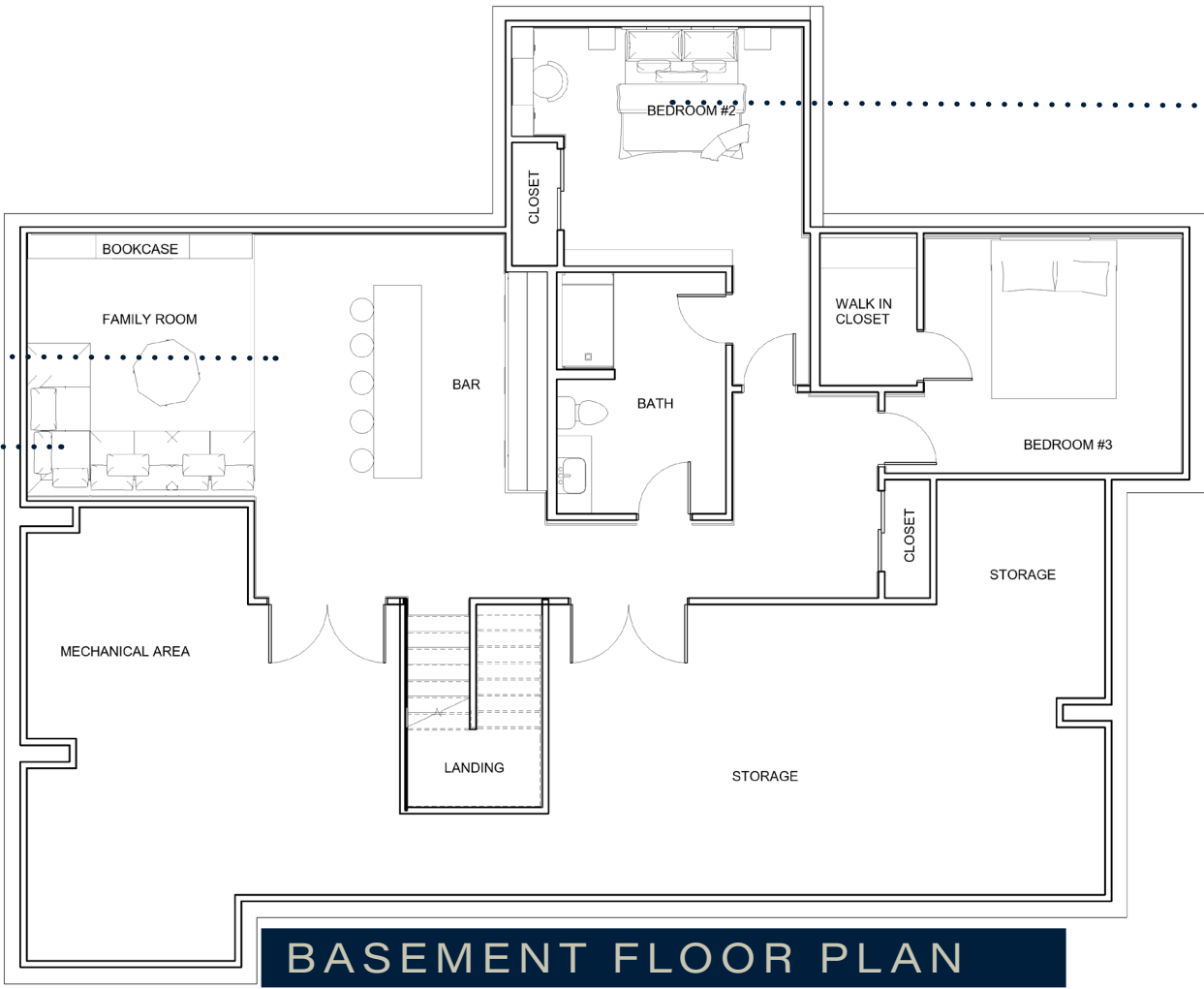




The dining room remains tied to the kitchen and living areas with its open placement, while its edge position **provides a sense of enclosure**. Direct access to the exterior patio enhances the **functionality** allowing for **optimal indoor-outdoor use** when needed.



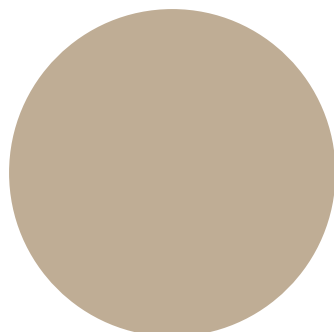
The primary bedrooms is supposed to feel **quieter** and more **pulled back** compared to the rest of the house, and that shift is **gradual** to the master bathroom suite. The transition **stays subtle**, letting the rooms **relate** without needing to match, creating **smooth rhythm**.



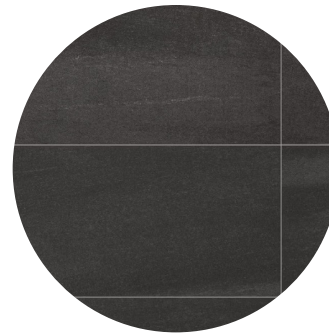
NS NOISETTE
GLOSSY



1" DOUBLE BEAD
TAMBOUR OAK



ANEW GRAY
SW 7030



FORDHAM NERO
BLACK PORCELAIN



CITY LOFT
SW 7631

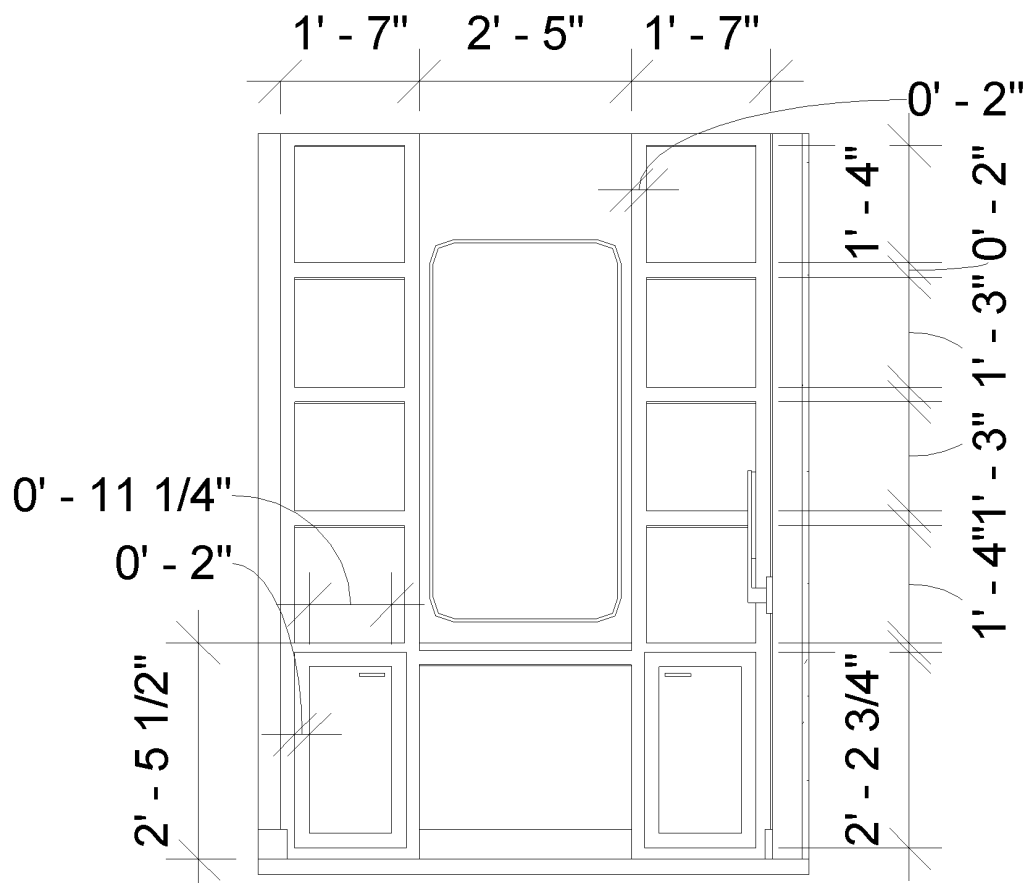


EUROPEAN OAK
CEILING LAMINATE

BUILT IN VANITY

ELEVATION
DETAIL

The built-in vanity with **custom millwork** integrated into the wall assembly aligns with the **surrounding proportions** to provide **adequate storage** and a **clear focal point**. Added **LED strips** for **ambient lighting** are placed which are a **must have** for layered lighting solutions and **room aesthetics**.



03 PRIVATE LOUNGE

COMMERCIAL

TIME | SPRING 2025

LOCATION | PITTSBURG, KANSAS

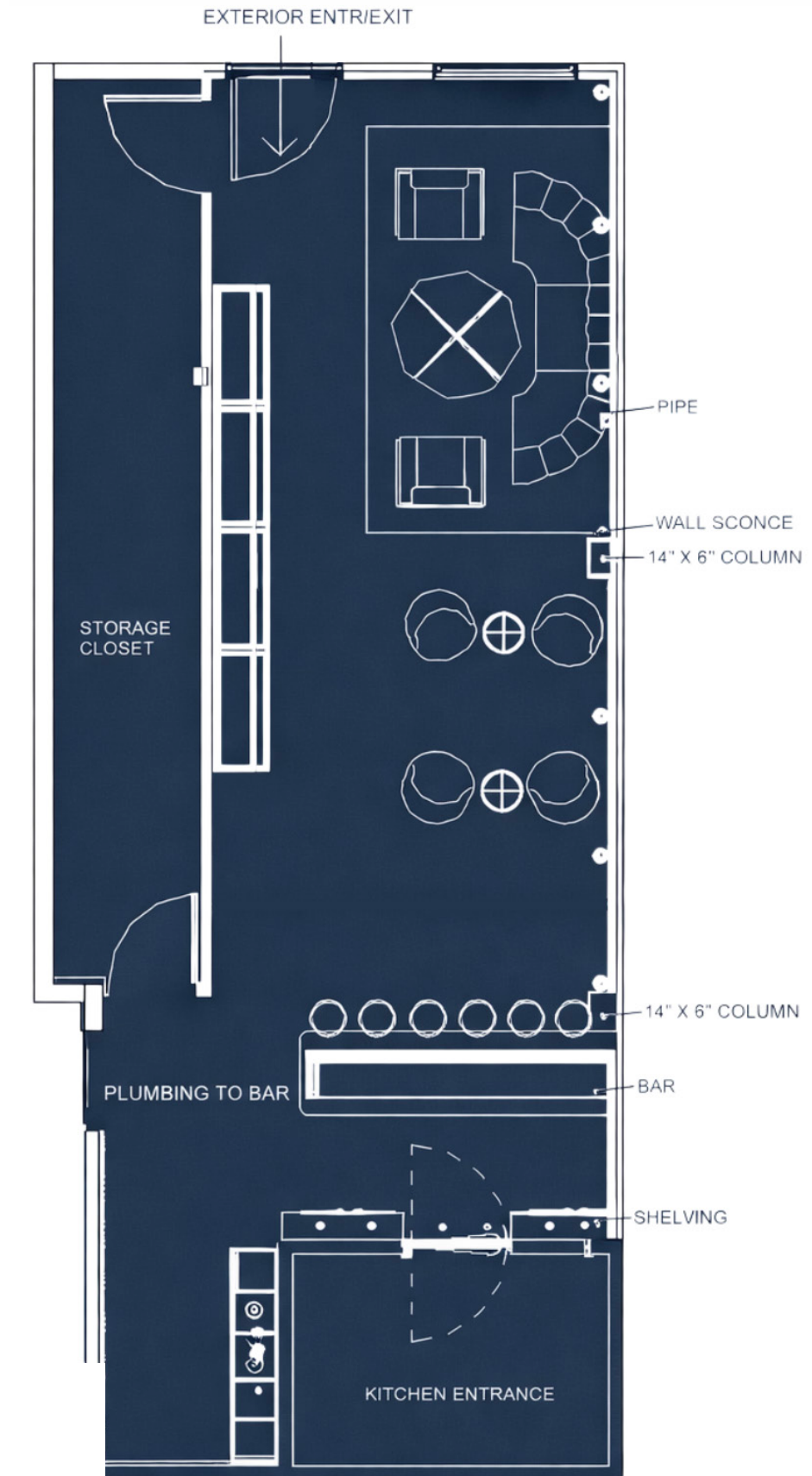
SQUARE FOOTAGE | 680 SQ FT

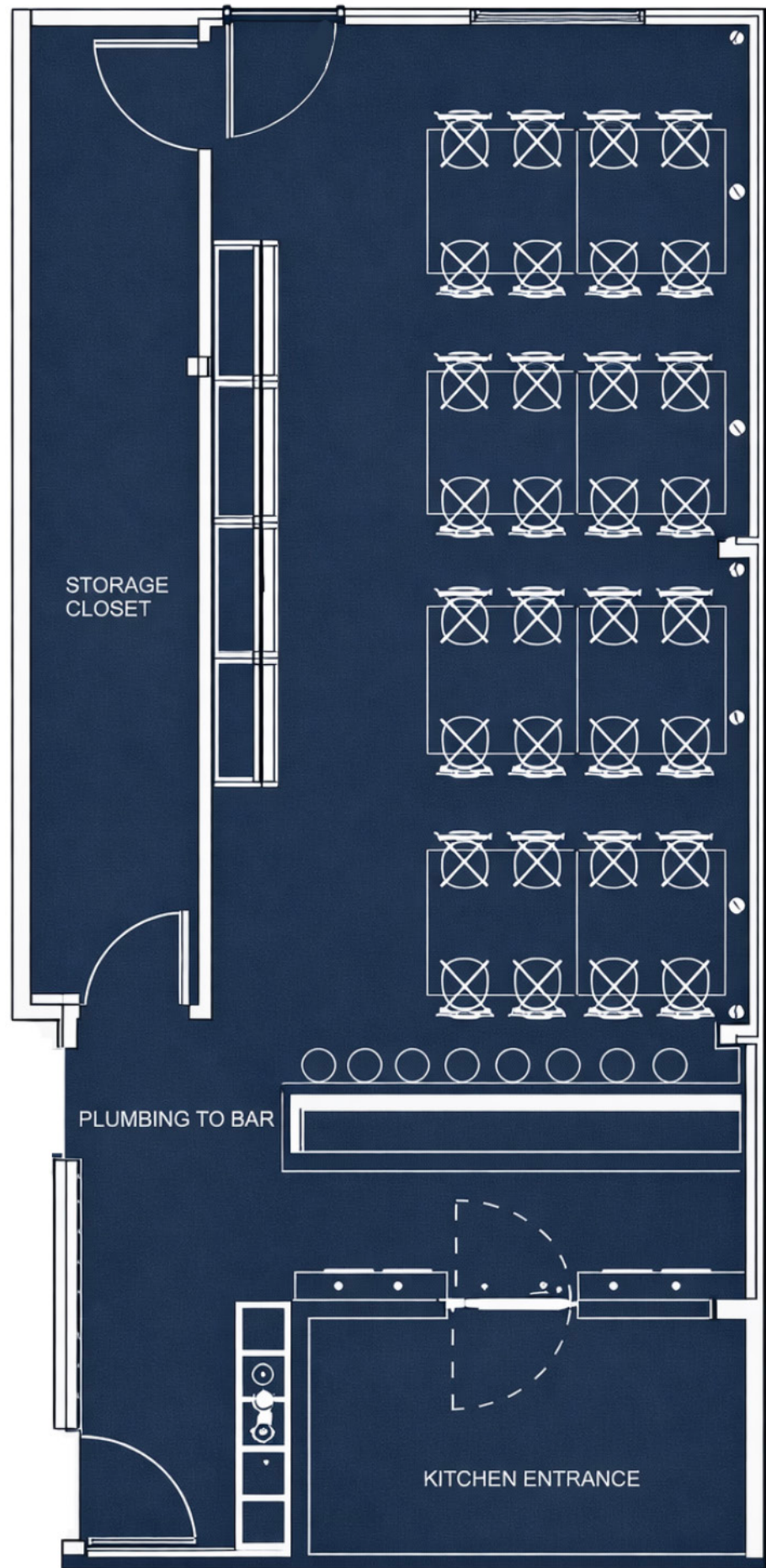
SOFTWARE | REVIT, ENSCAPE, CANVA

From a former storage room, this space turns into a **private setting** on the back side of **Brick and Mortar Social House**, a scratch kitchen in **downtown Pittsburg, Kansas**. Inspired by a **speakeasy style gentleman's club**, it feels more enclosed and **set apart** from the main restaurant, intended for **gatherings amongst the community**. The atmosphere is drastically different but the same in a sense. The same paint colors are used to **tie it back to the original restaurant** at the front of the house.

This space is used by the **Pittsburg community** for dinner reservations, wedding parties, business meetings, and much more. The idea of **"stay social"** carries back with an **exterior entrance** that provide guests with a keypad entry, avoiding the main dining area.

BAR VIEW





FUNCTIONAL DESIGNING FOR THE FUTURE

The room expands to **accommodate up to 32 people** by reconfiguring the furniture and using the open floor area efficiently. Lounge seating can be pulled back or tightened, while additional chairs are added to the center **along the perimeter without blocking circulation**. Clear paths are maintained from the kitchen entrance to the bar and through the seating zones. Built-in bar and walls storage keep **service contained**, allowing the main area to **stay open and adaptable**.



MICRO HOSPITAL

HEALTHCARE

TIME | SPRING 2026

LOCATION | KOTZEBUE, ALASKA

SQUARE FOOTAGE | 45,000 SQ FT

SOFTWARE | REVIT, ENSCAPE, BLUEBEAM

Northern Reach Regional Medical Center is designed to be a **stable** and **trusted anchor** within the community of **Kotzebue, Alaska**. The concept is inspired by an anchor as a symbol of **protection** and **reliability**, representing a place people can **depend on for care** in the harsh climate.

The design follows the **Two-Eyed seeing approach**, combining both Indigenous and Western perspective of healthcare. **"Northern"** reflects the arctic setting and **"Reach"** speaks to connection across long distances. The color palette pulls from the **surrounding landscape**, using blues and greens to reinforce a **sense of healing**.

The layout was influenced by **input from elders**, creating clear circulation and shared spaces that support the community. Overall, the project **reflects its environment and community**, creating a space that supports both **healing and connection to Kotzebue's way of life**.

LOBBY ENTRANCE

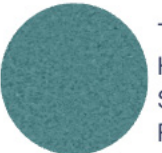
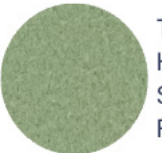
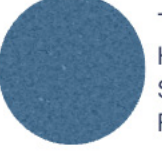


CONCEPT



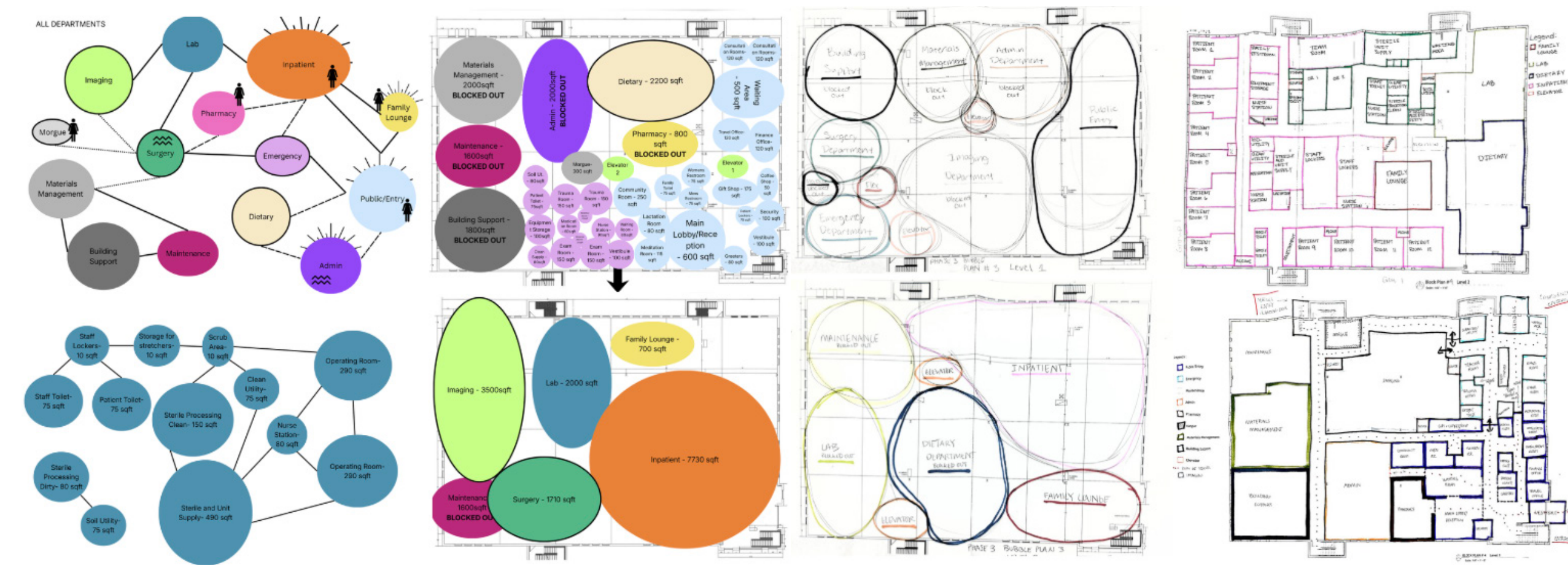
FLOORING SELECTIONS



- | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
|  | Tarkett iQ Granit Homogeneous Sheet Aqua Flooring |  | Tarkett iQ Granit Homogeneous Sheet Light Grey White Flooring |
|  | Tarkett Optima Homogeneous Sheet Clay Flooring |  | Tarkett iQ Granit Homogeneous Sheet Olive Flooring |
|  | Tarkett iQ Granit Homogeneous Sheet Blue Flooring |  | Tarkett Optima Homogeneous Sheet Beige Grey Flooring |

PHASE ONE & TWO

relationship diagrams | bubble diagrams | block diagrams



Phase three and four focused on taking the ideas from the previous phases and **fully develop** them into a **resolved design on Revit**. We **finalized layouts, materials, and details** while making sure we followed our **design goals** and **functionality** was met so it could **realistically be built**. Drawings became more **precise**, leaving less room for interpretation. At this stage, every decision had a **purpose** and **clearly communicated** the design of **Northern Reach Regional Medical Center**.

Phase one and two was all about **working as a team** and **bouncing ideas** off of each other to get the design flow in route. This is when we figured out what worked and what absolutely didn't. We questioned layouts, redrew them, used **Bluebeam** to help us figure out room layouts **efficiently** with the **minimum square footages** needed. Different **perspectives** early on helped push the design into a stronger more functional direction.

LEVEL ONE



LEVEL TWO



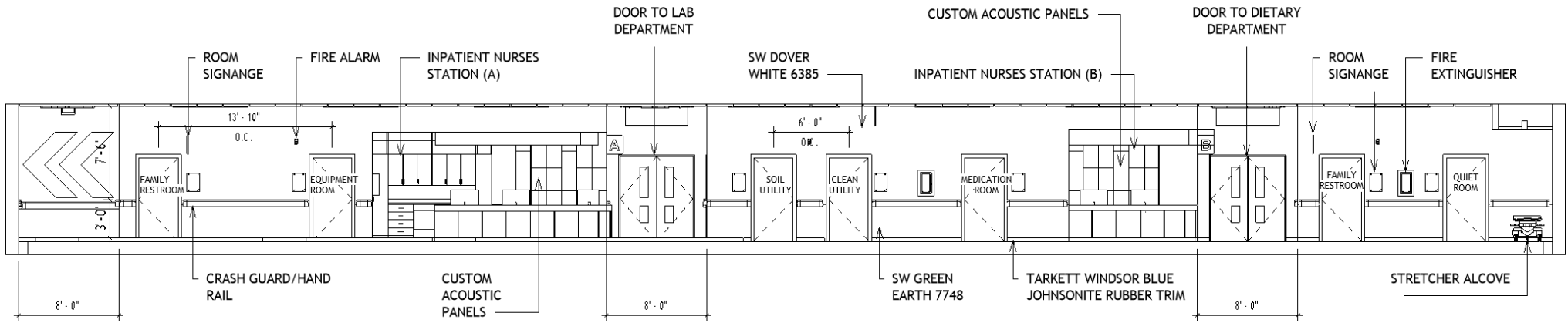
wayfinding | functionality | cultural influence | sustainability

PHASE THREE & FOUR

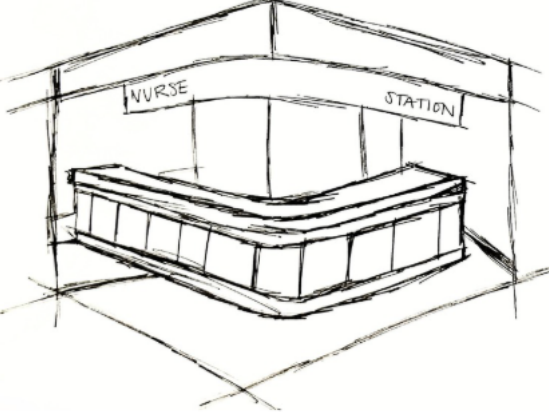
LEVEL 2 NURSES STATION



ELEVATION LEVEL 2: INPATIENT DEPARTMENT



Acoustic panel ideation for **noise control** outside patient rooms and cabinetry preliminary sketch for **spatial optimization** for the nurses.



Rounded corner customized desk with the same **organic shape** on the ceiling soffit for **wayfinding purposes** adjacent to the surgery department.



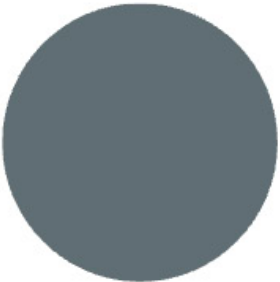
SW
Quietude
6212



Kodiak
Wood



Solid
Grey
Laminant



SW
Slate
Tile
7624



SW
Dover
White
6385



SW
Green
Earth
7748

THANK YOU!

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