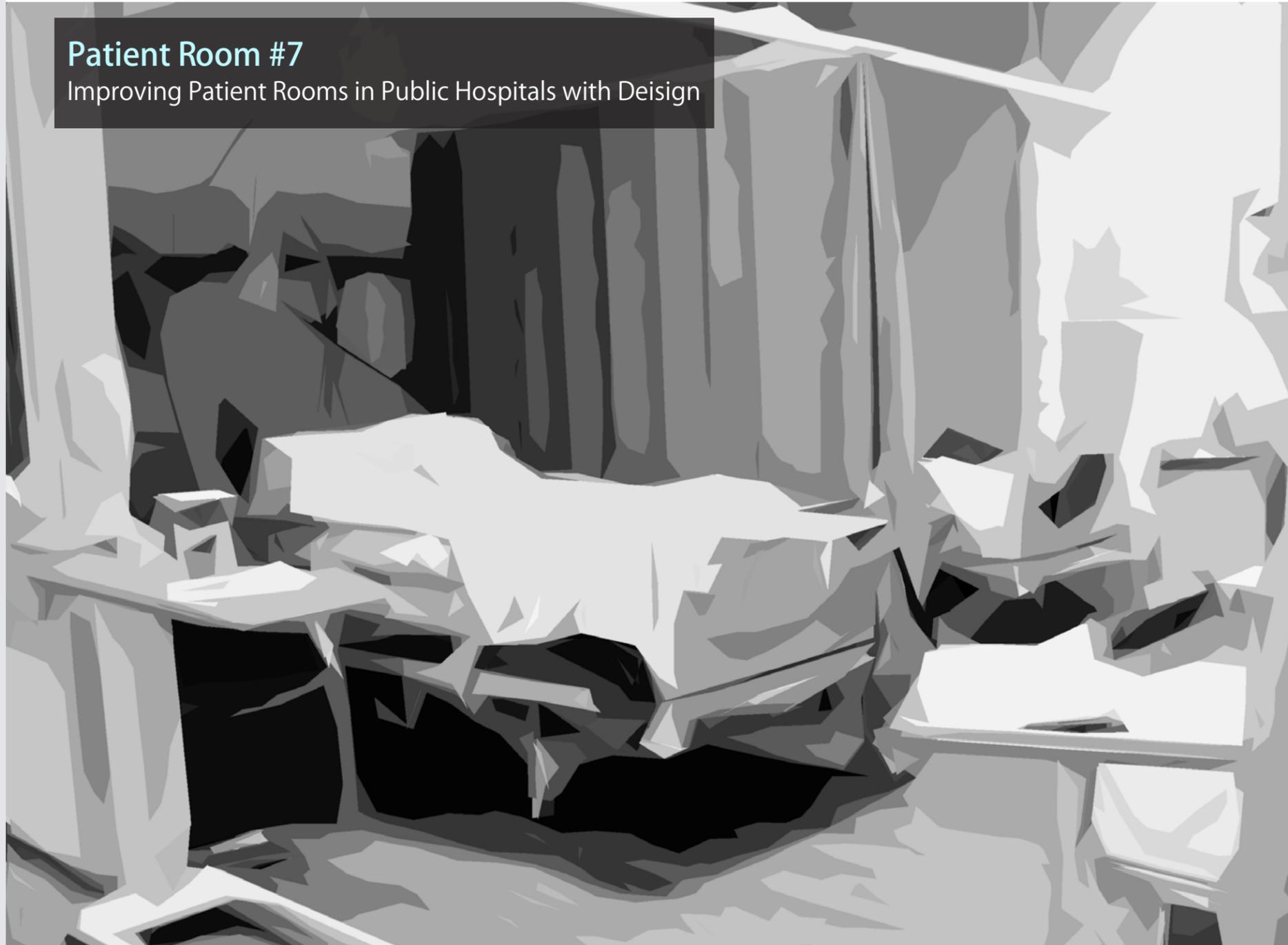


Kousaku Haruguchi
Making Meaning Class 2010-2011

Patient Room #7

Improving Patient Rooms in Public Hospitals with Deisign



Medical Design

There are many opportunities for making the hospitals better through industrial design. From monitors in the patient's room to small precision equipments in the ICU, many products could be designed and/or redesigned to give better results and easier use for the patient, nurse, and the doctor. I decided to focus on the patient and improve the atmosphere in the patient room through set of products that are cohesive and create a friendly environment for all people who enter the room, especially the patients and their families. From the objects that one can find in patient rooms (including curtains, chairs, doors, sinks, garbage bins)

The focus will not be on the individual products but the over all cohesiveness when put together inside a patient room. The product will be designed for the patient and their family members.

The first semester will be dedicated to careful research, interviews, and form studies as well as constructing rough models.

The second semester will be used to make CAD models in Solid Works and 3D renderings. I will also construct a scale model of the proposed patient room.

Problems with Patient Rooms

Many patient rooms in public hospitals are white, light blue or gray with walls covered with instruments that almost act as a constant reminder that they are not well. The slow and constant beeping of heart monitors or the sounds of televisions show the mundane depressing life at a hospital.

Many rooms have 2 to 4 people per room or more. because single rooms are costly. The curtains that separate the beds do not provide enough privacy. The patient rooms lack in cohesiveness. Depending on the patient type, the room will have complicated machines with numerous tubes sticking out, which make the patients look and perhaps feel sick than they really are. The medical devices are bulky, lacks in visual aesthetics, and are hard to use. Within a few feet of these devices, patients lie in their beds and their families sit in a randomly selected seat. Because of the mismatch of these objects, patient rooms becomes an unwelcoming atmosphere where patient families prefer not to stay for long. Patient rooms should feel more inviting and make the patients and feel like they are at home in their living room having a relaxing time.

Improving the patient room atmosphere will not only benefit the patient and their families but also the medical professionals who come into the rooms. By making the patient rooms more appealing, patient families will come more often to give the patient company, and nurses and doctors will have a better time caring for the happier patients.

Through research and interviews, I will develop a set of products that will give patients and their visitors privacy and a comfortable atmosphere in the multi-bed patient room.

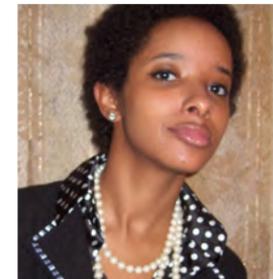
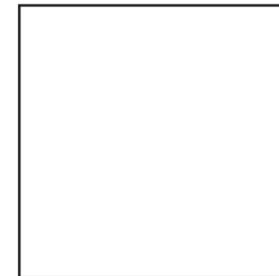
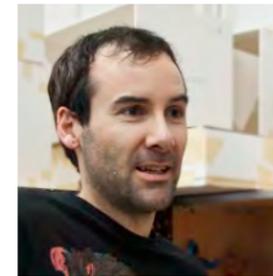
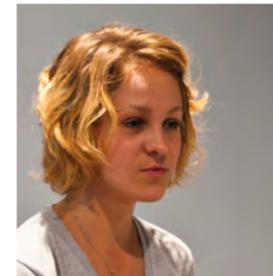




Dialogue

I started by interviewing people and asked questions about their experiences in patient rooms to see what other problems existed in patient rooms.

patient **Laurent Hildreth**
patient family **Klara Varosy**
dietary nurse **Emily Glassman**
patient friend **Justyna Kanigowska**
patient family **Asli Omar**



What I learned from the interviews

Problems in patient rooms

privacy

sound from conversation, TV, moaning of pain

closed curtains during check up.

atmosphere

white walls + grey floors = depressing atmosphere

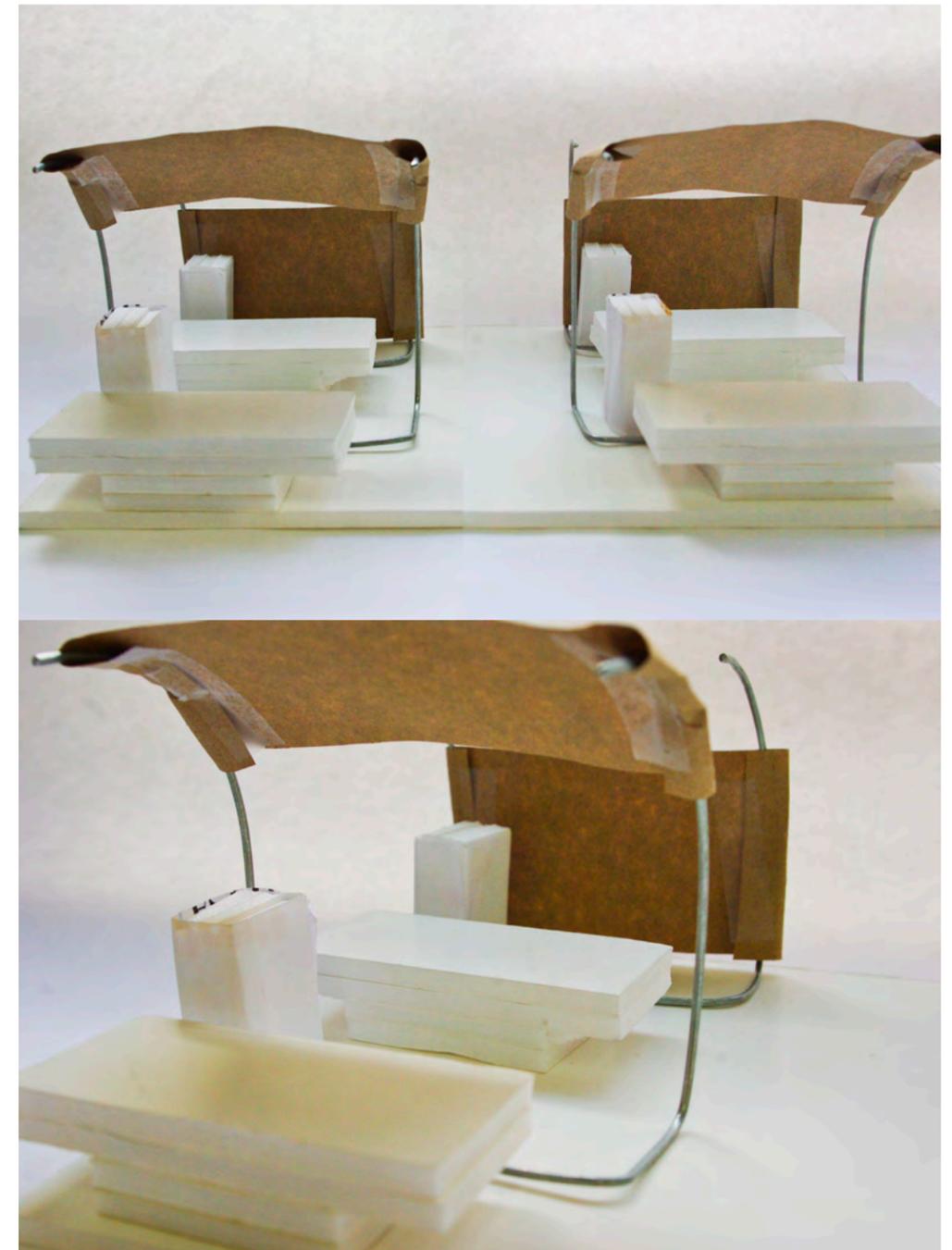
others

lack of color
empty beds
uncomfortable seats for visitors
lack of organization

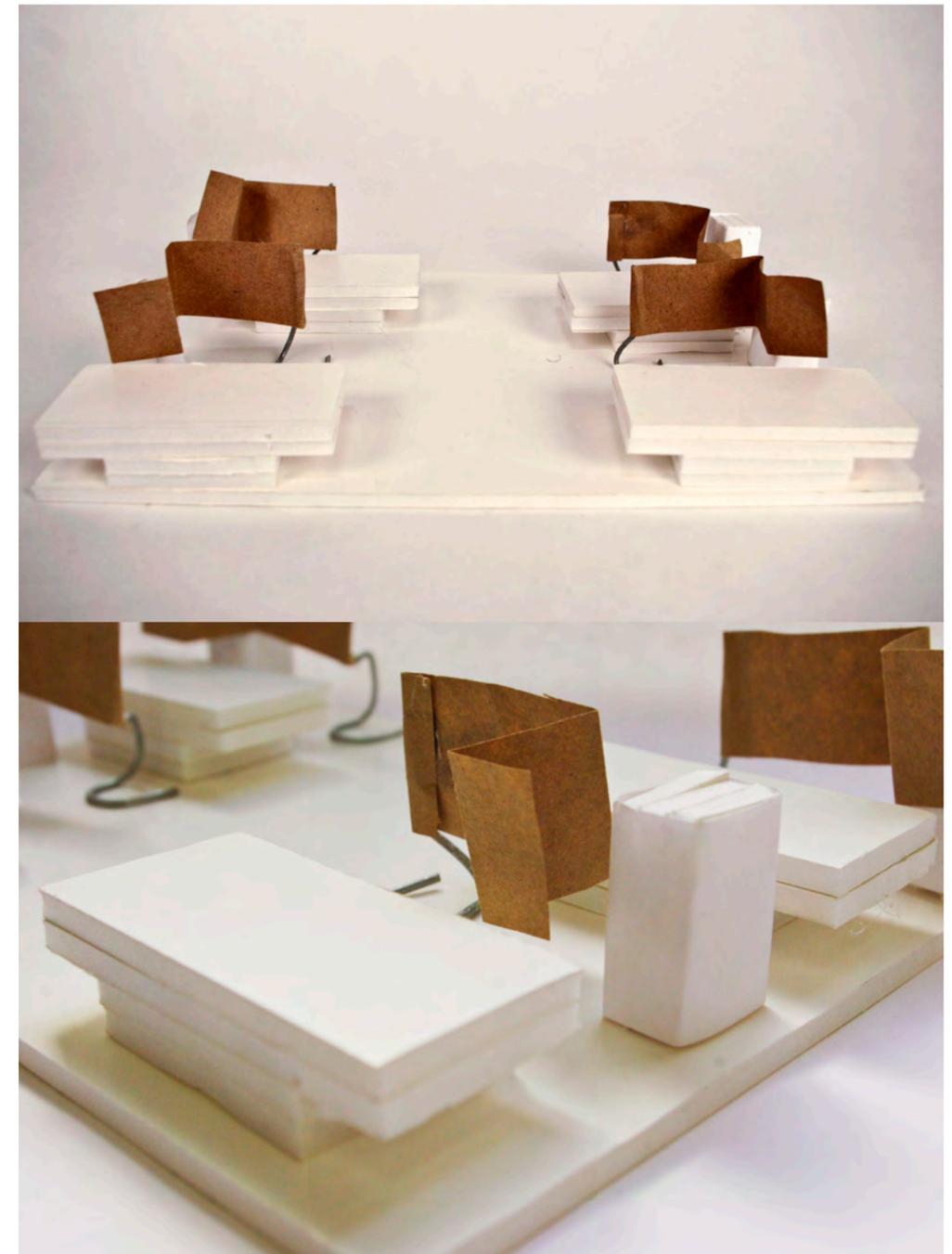


Models

By covering a large surface and placing them next to the patient beds, these are intended to give the patient and the visitor more privacy.

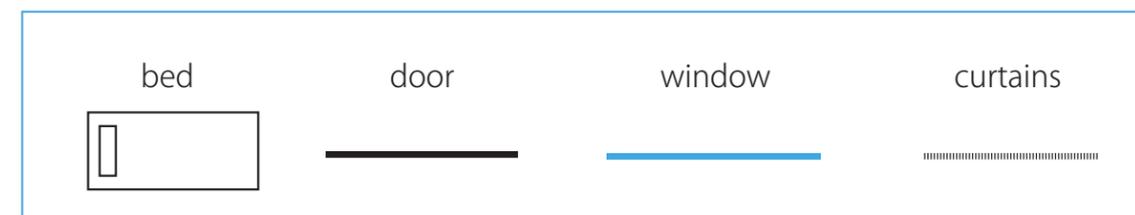
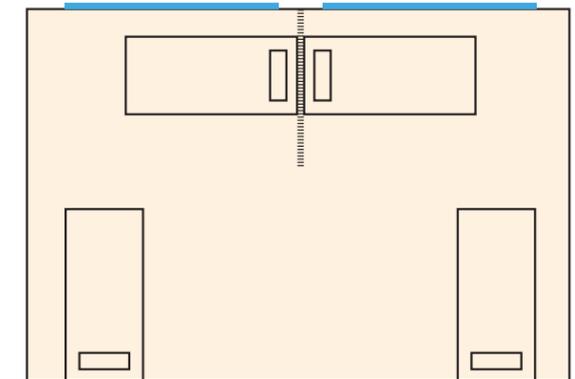
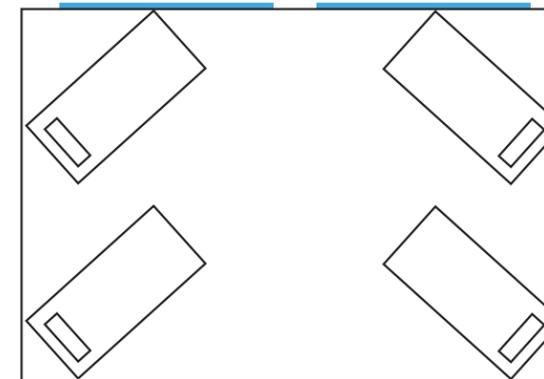
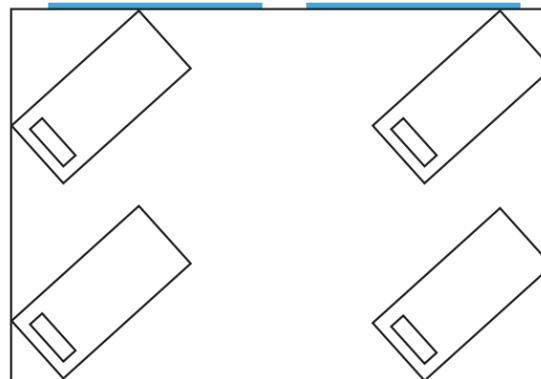
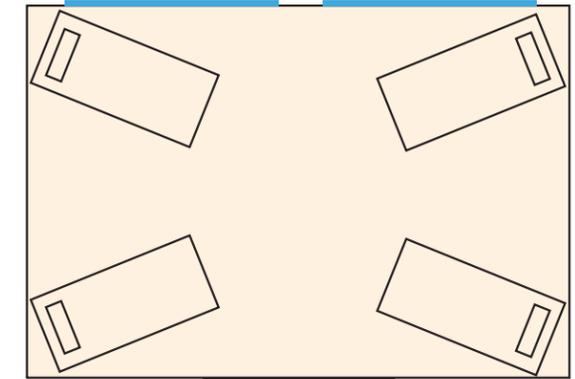
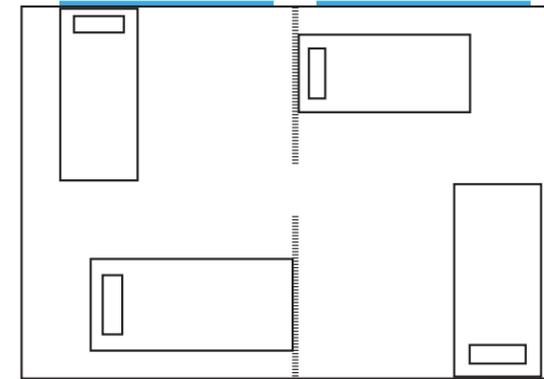
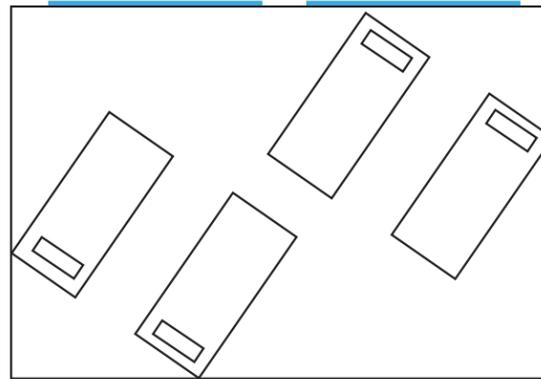


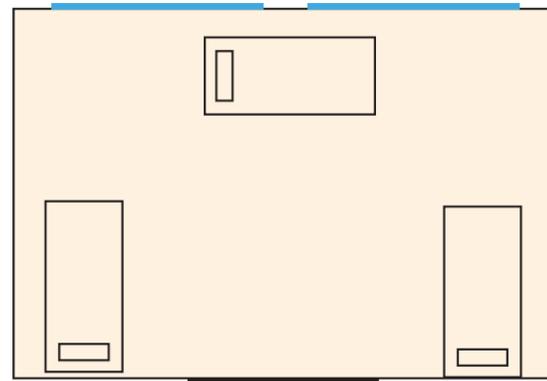
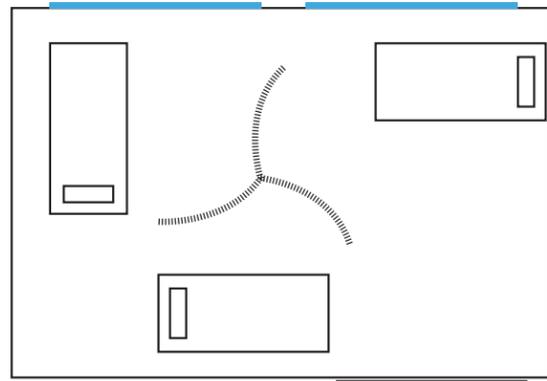
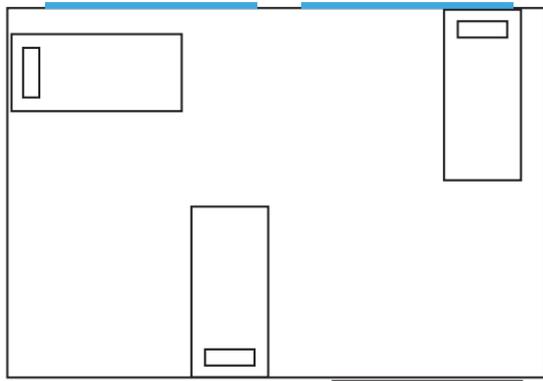
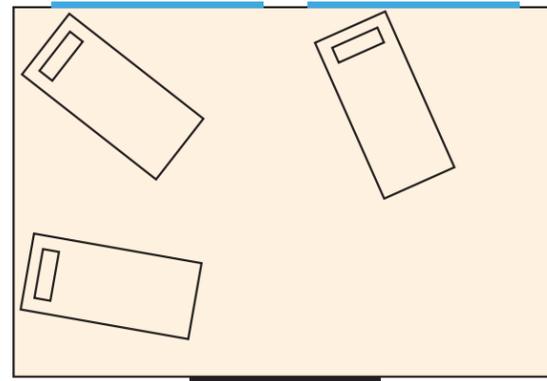
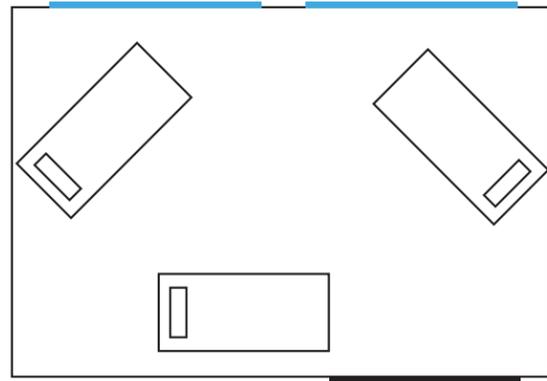
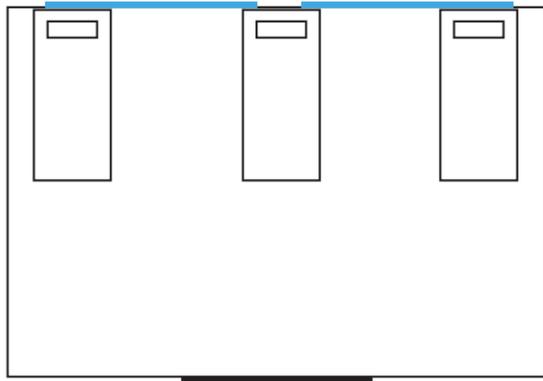


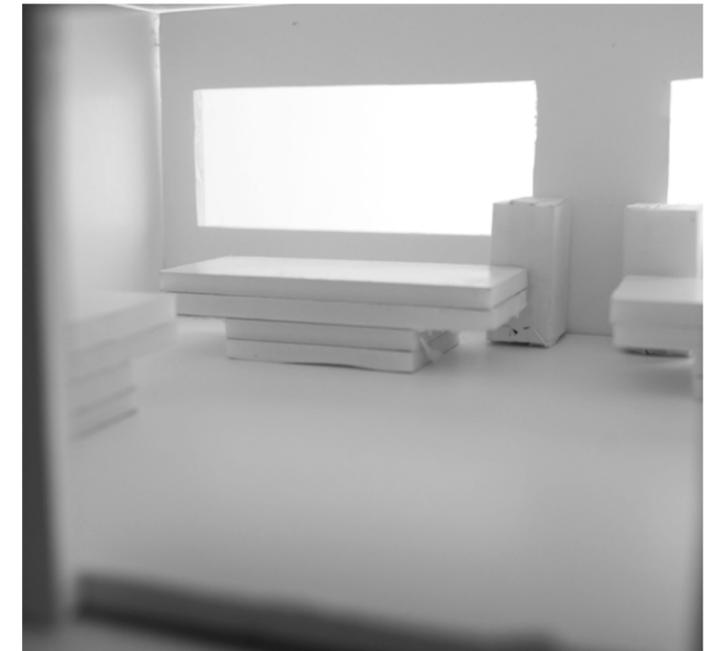
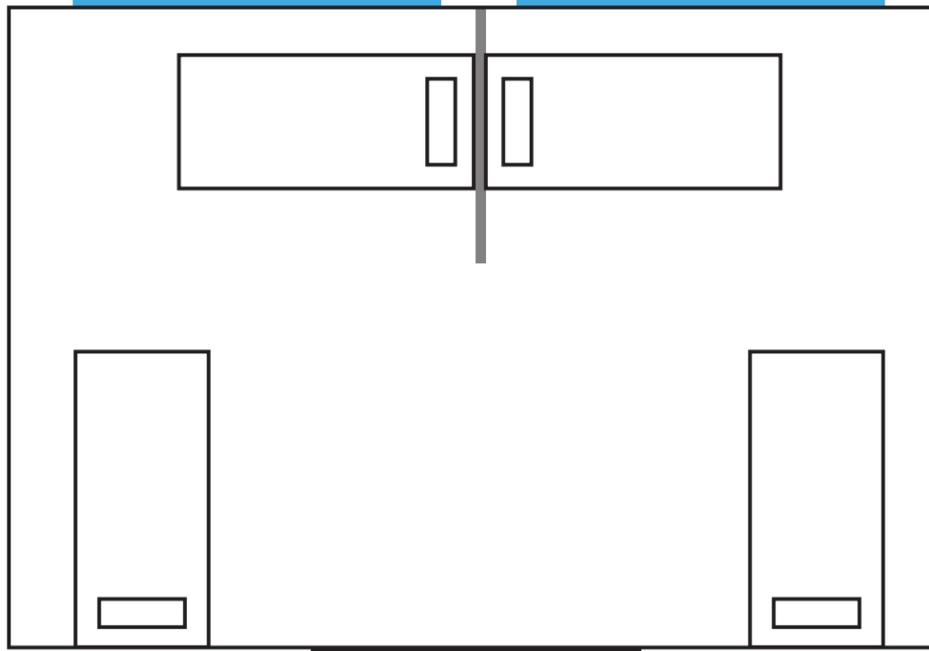


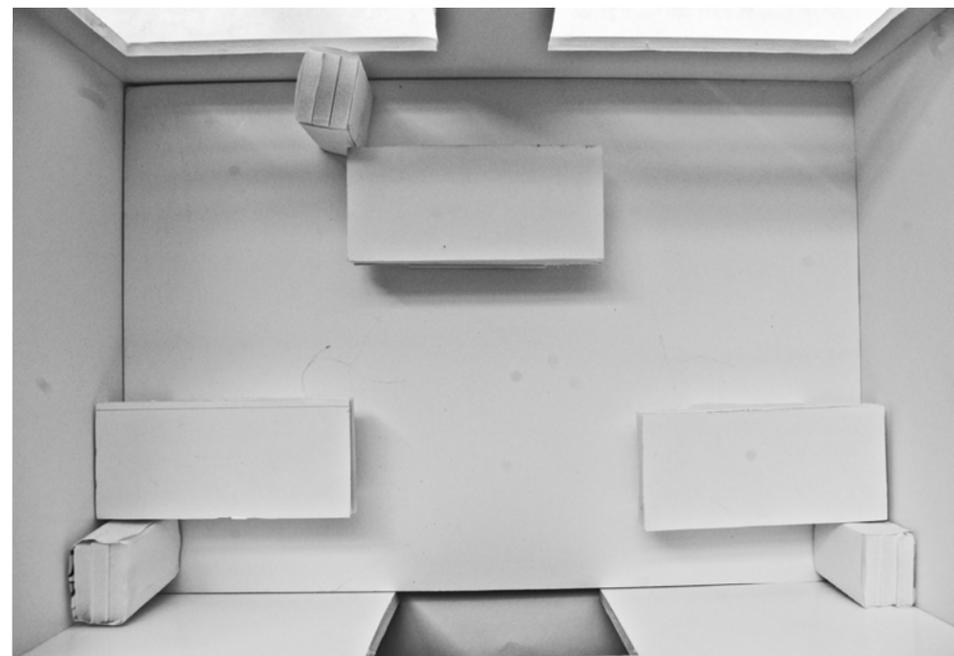
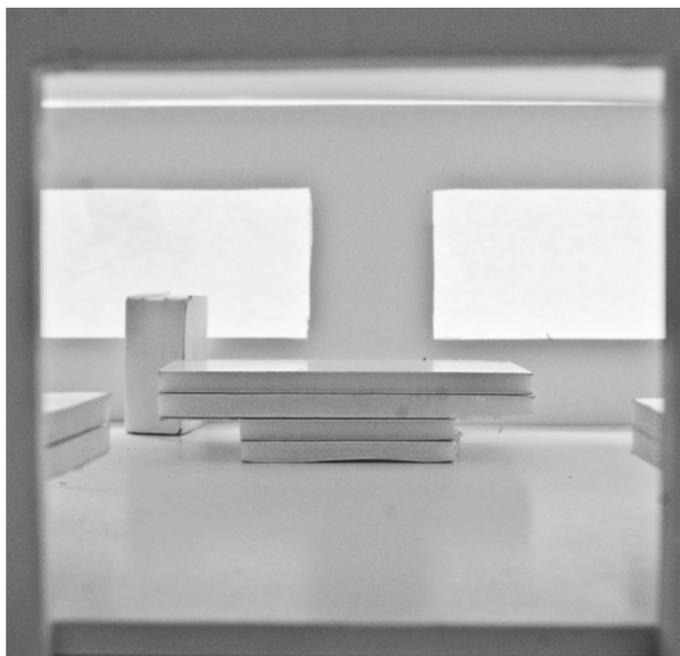
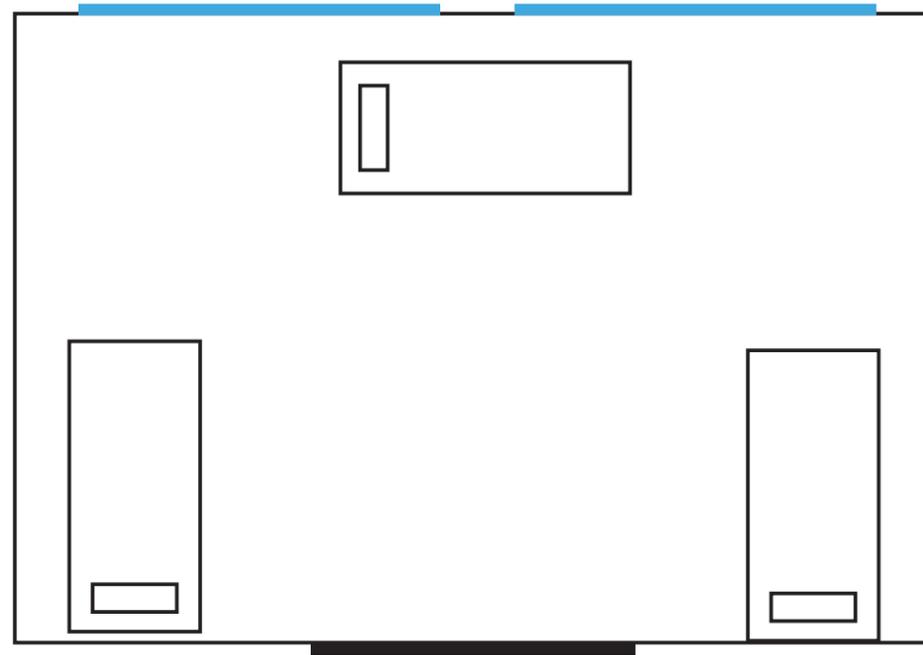
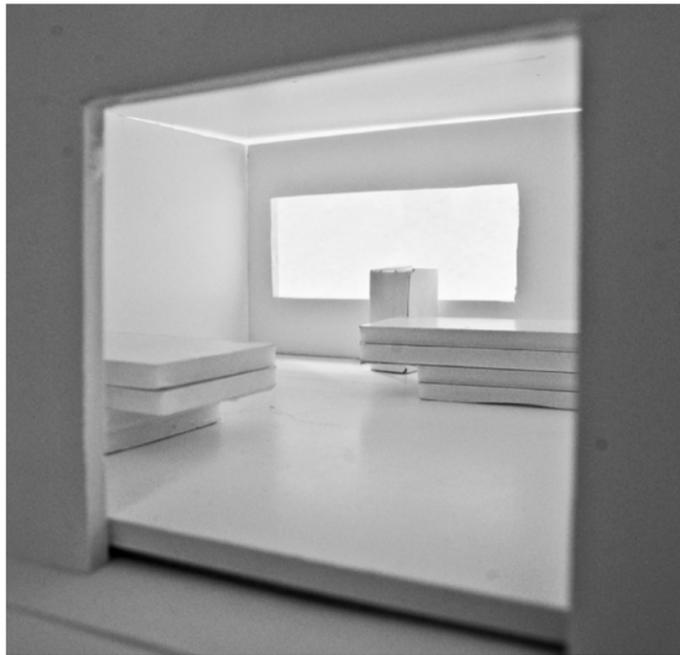


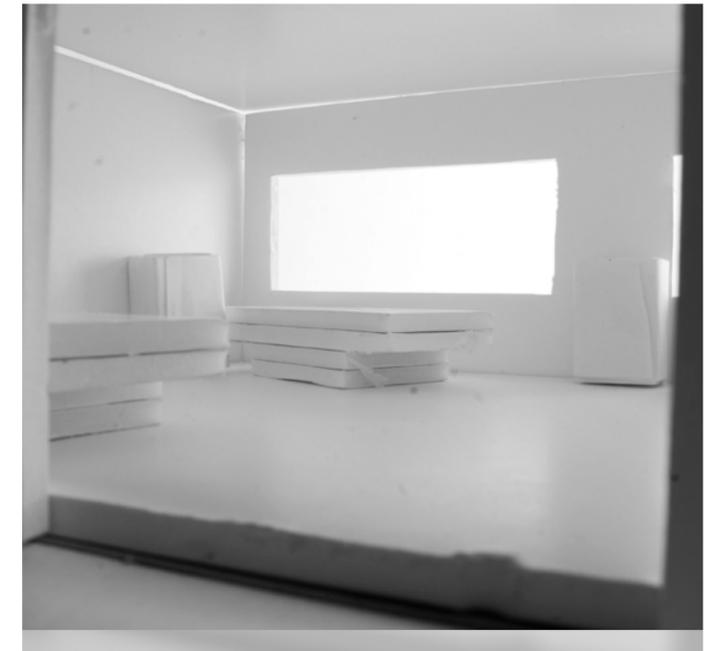
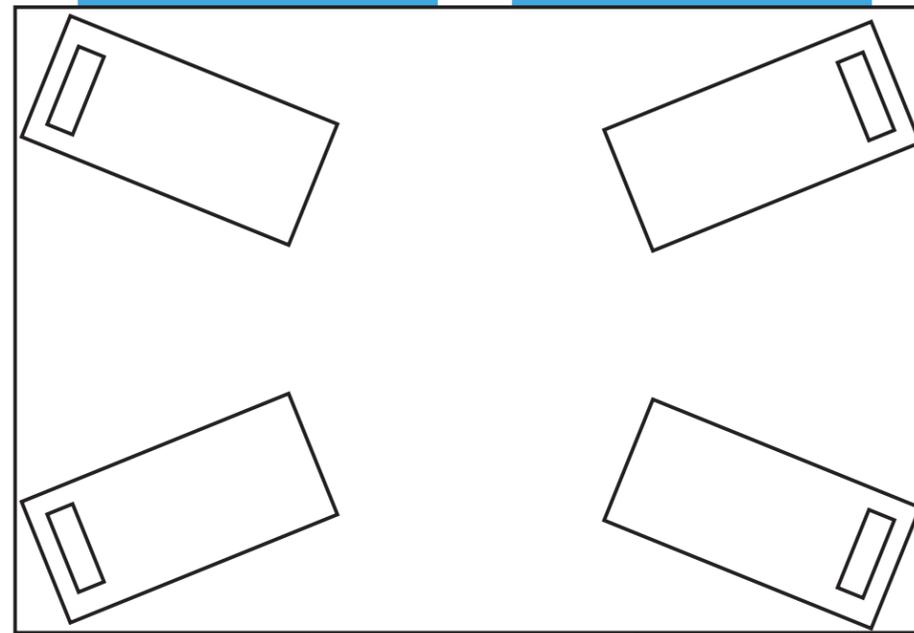
Room Layout Ideas

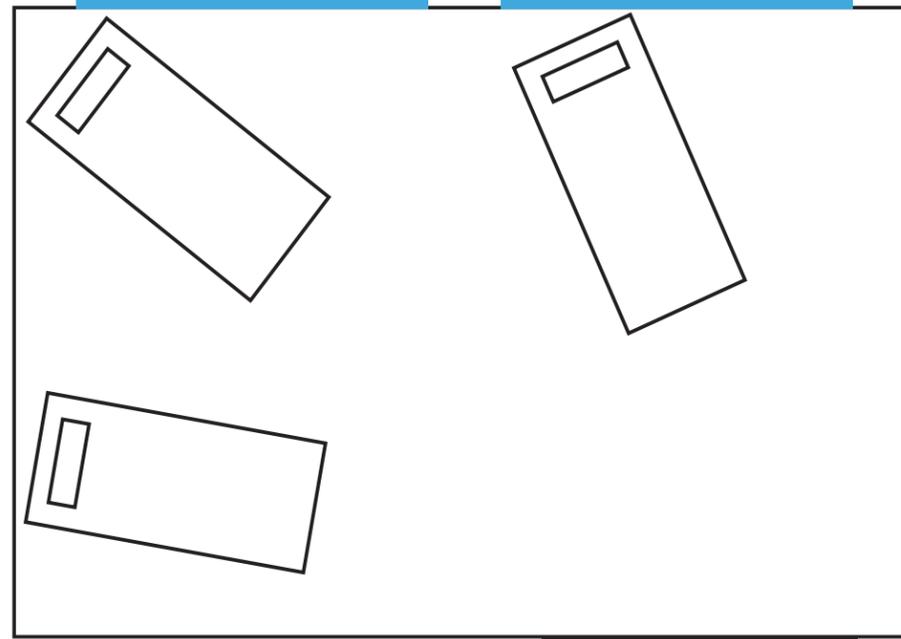
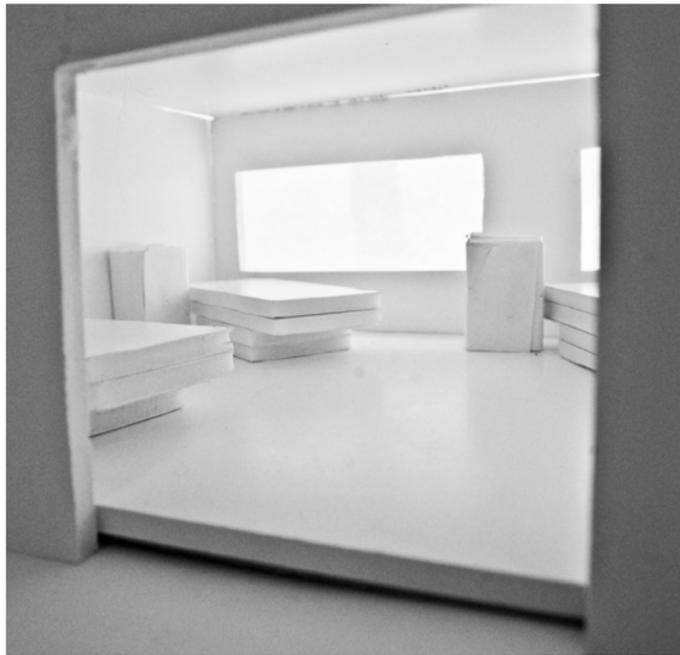








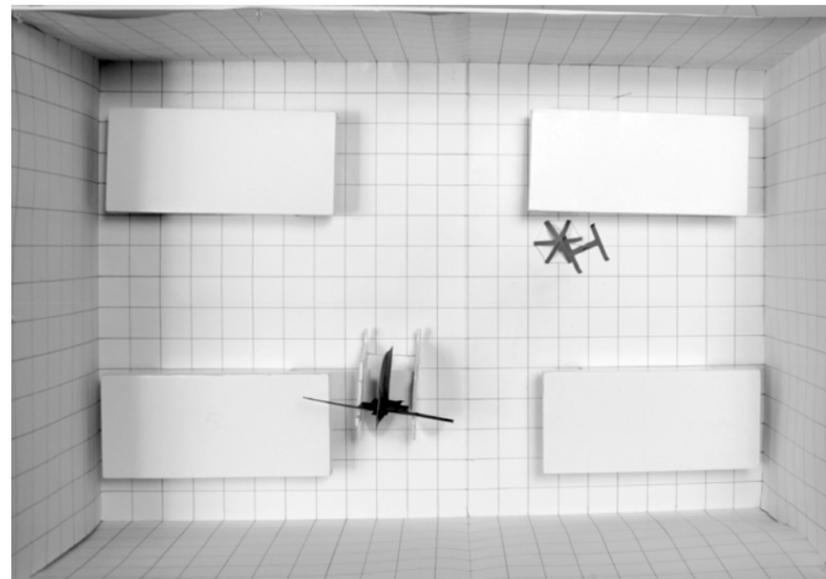
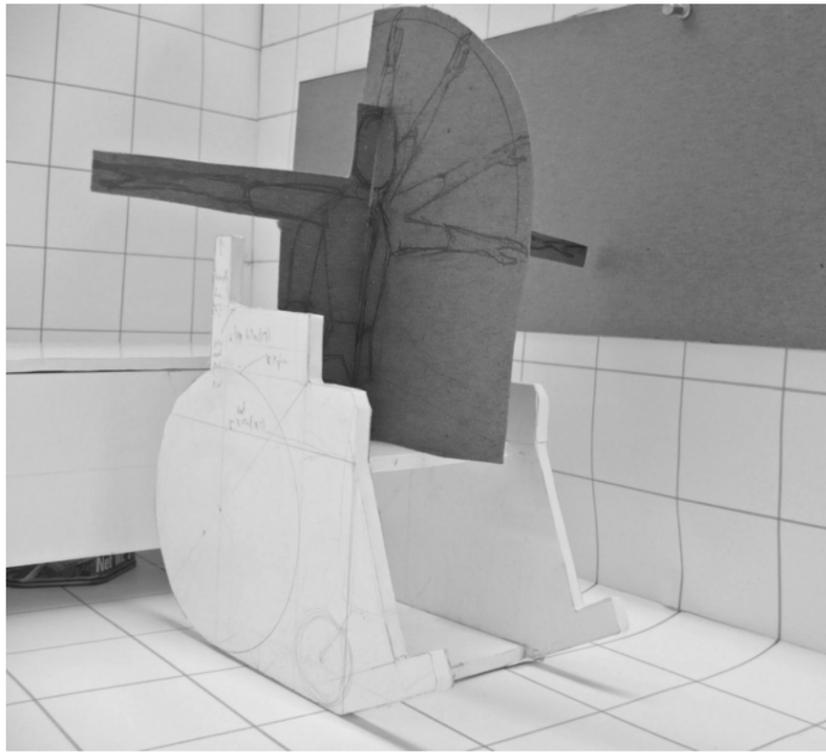




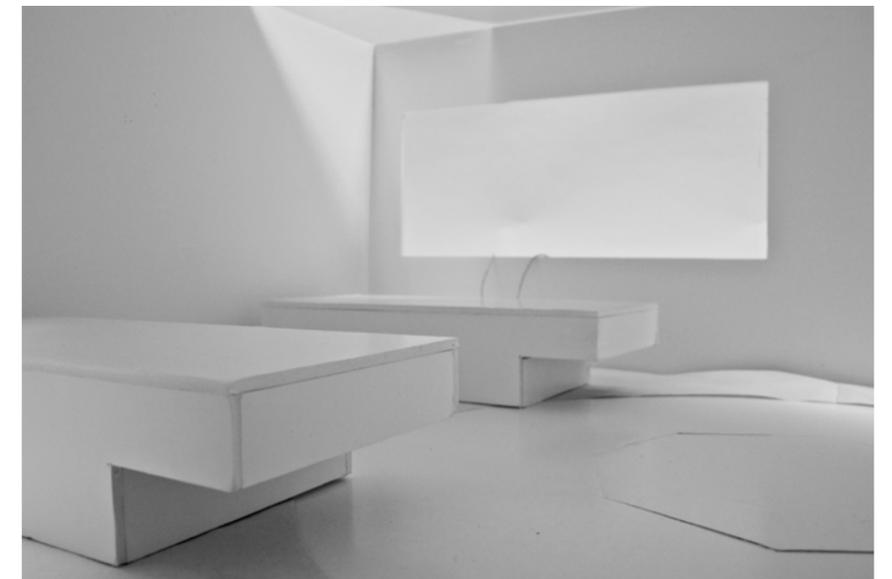
1/6 scale model

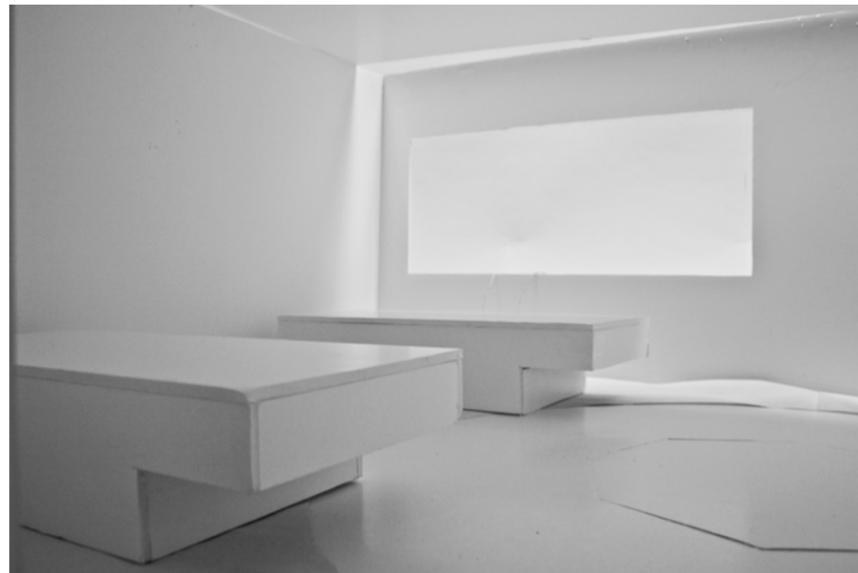


A 2inch scale model was made to get a better understanding of the space.



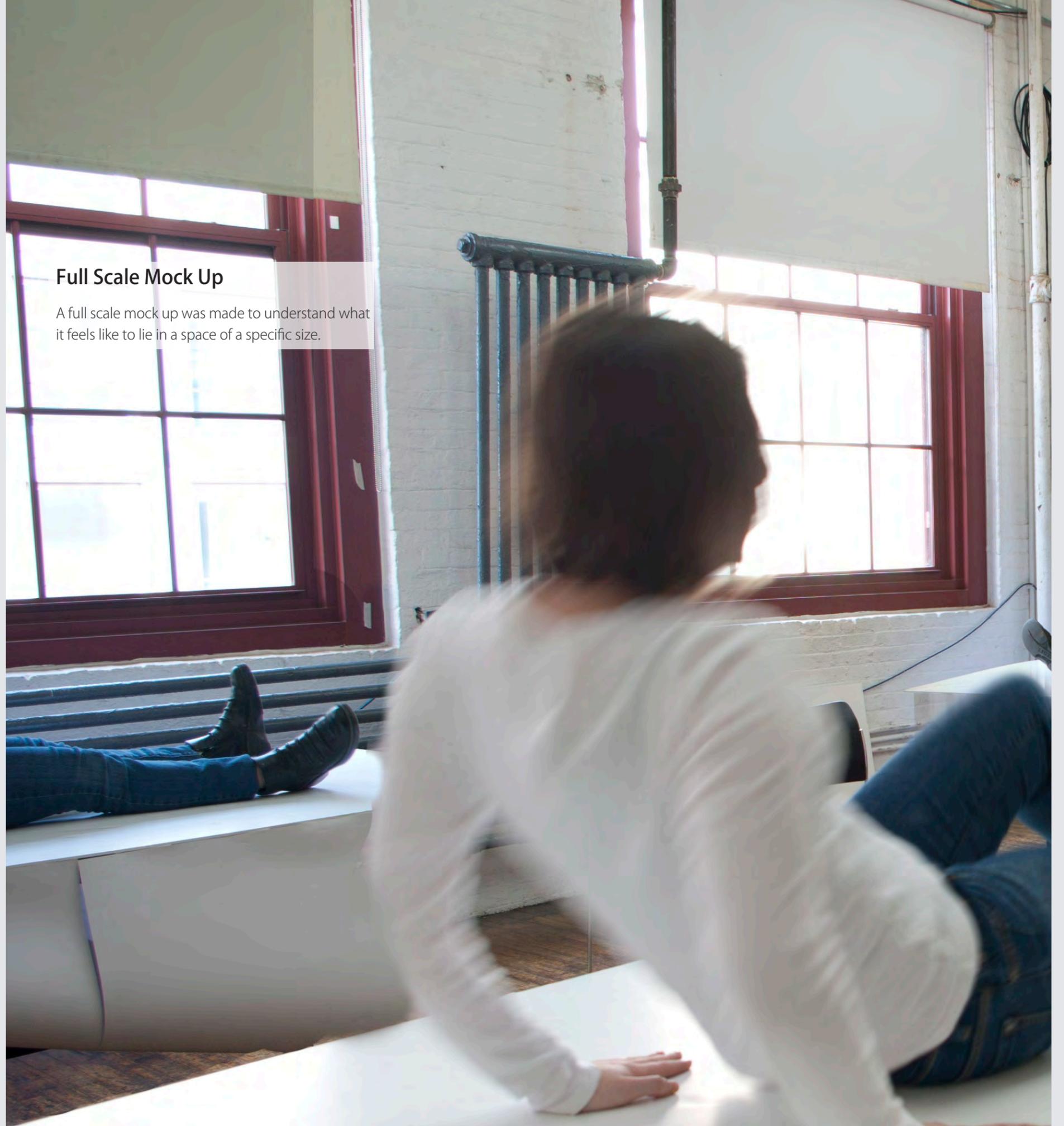
Lighting experiments





Full Scale Mock Up

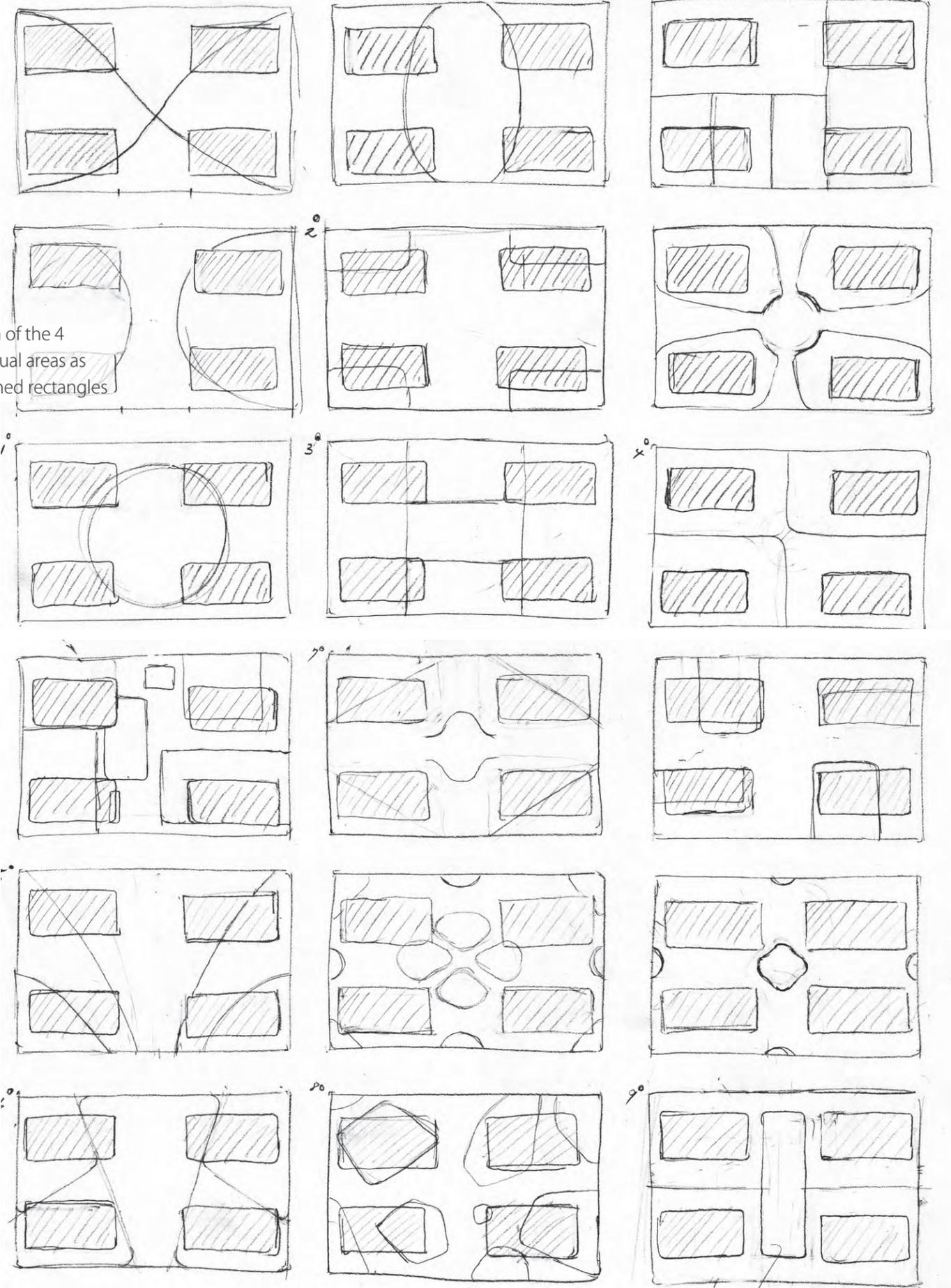
A full scale mock up was made to understand what it feels like to lie in a space of a specific size.

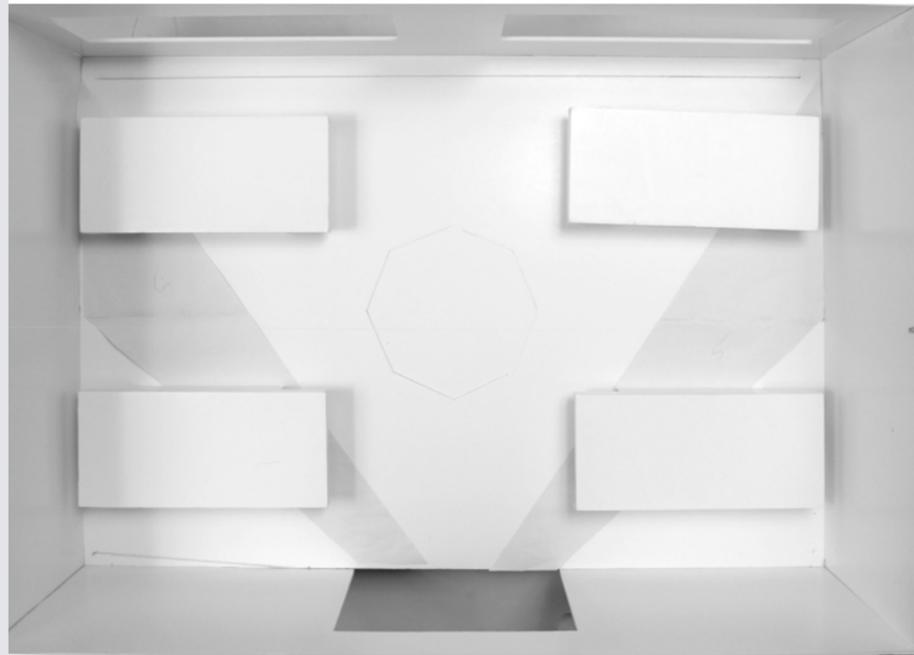




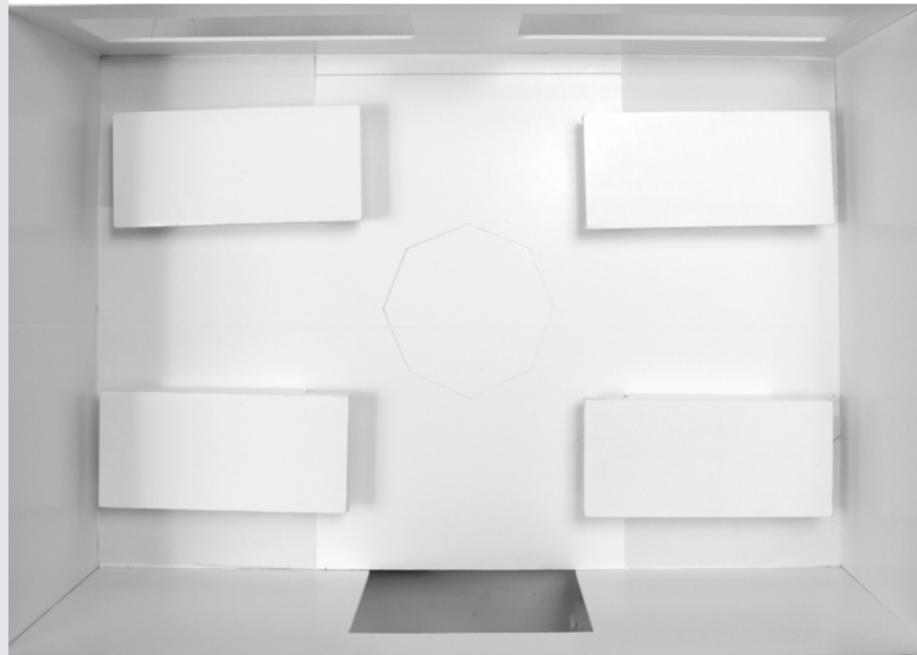
Floor division

The floor was divided up to give each of the 4 patients a better sense of their individual areas as well as expanding the space. The dashed rectangles represent patient beds



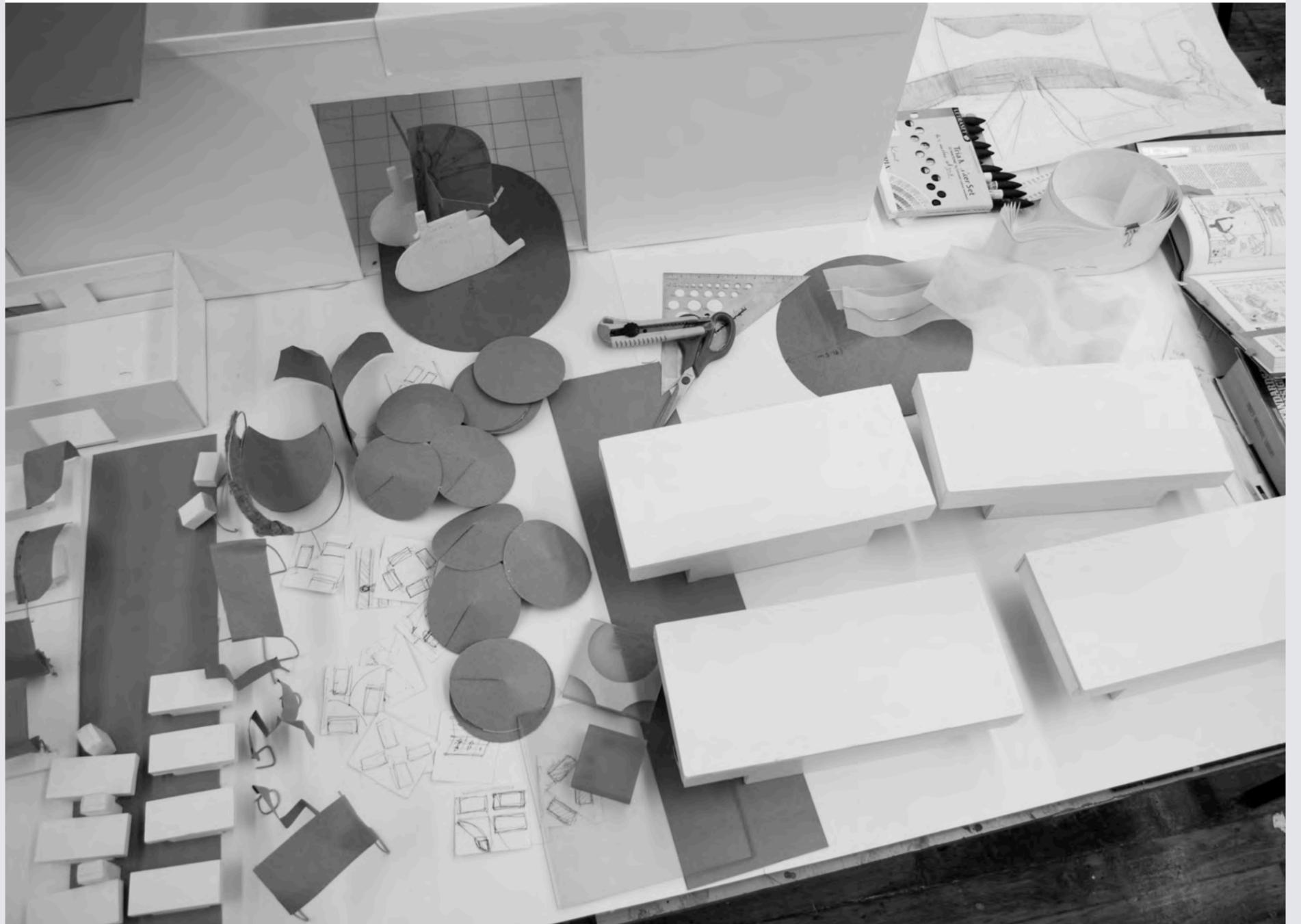


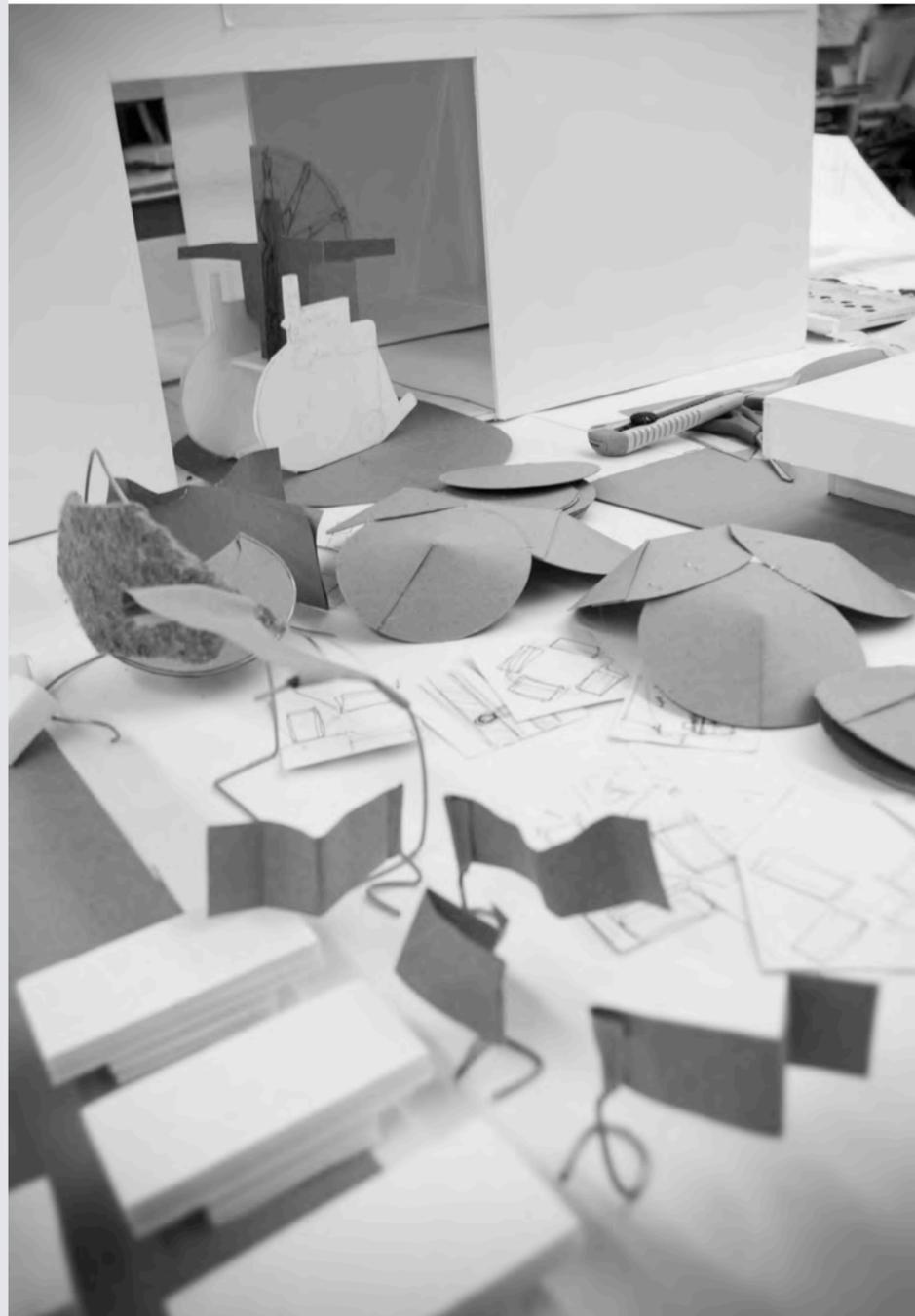




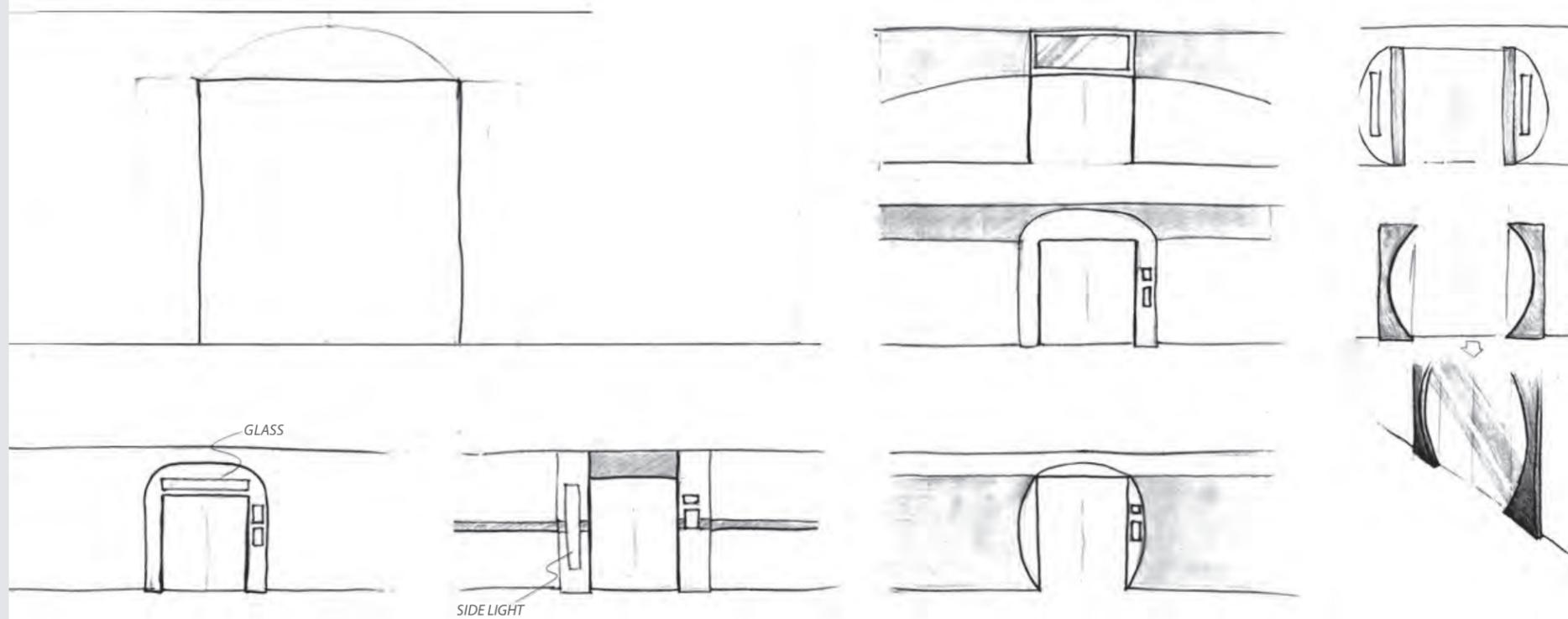


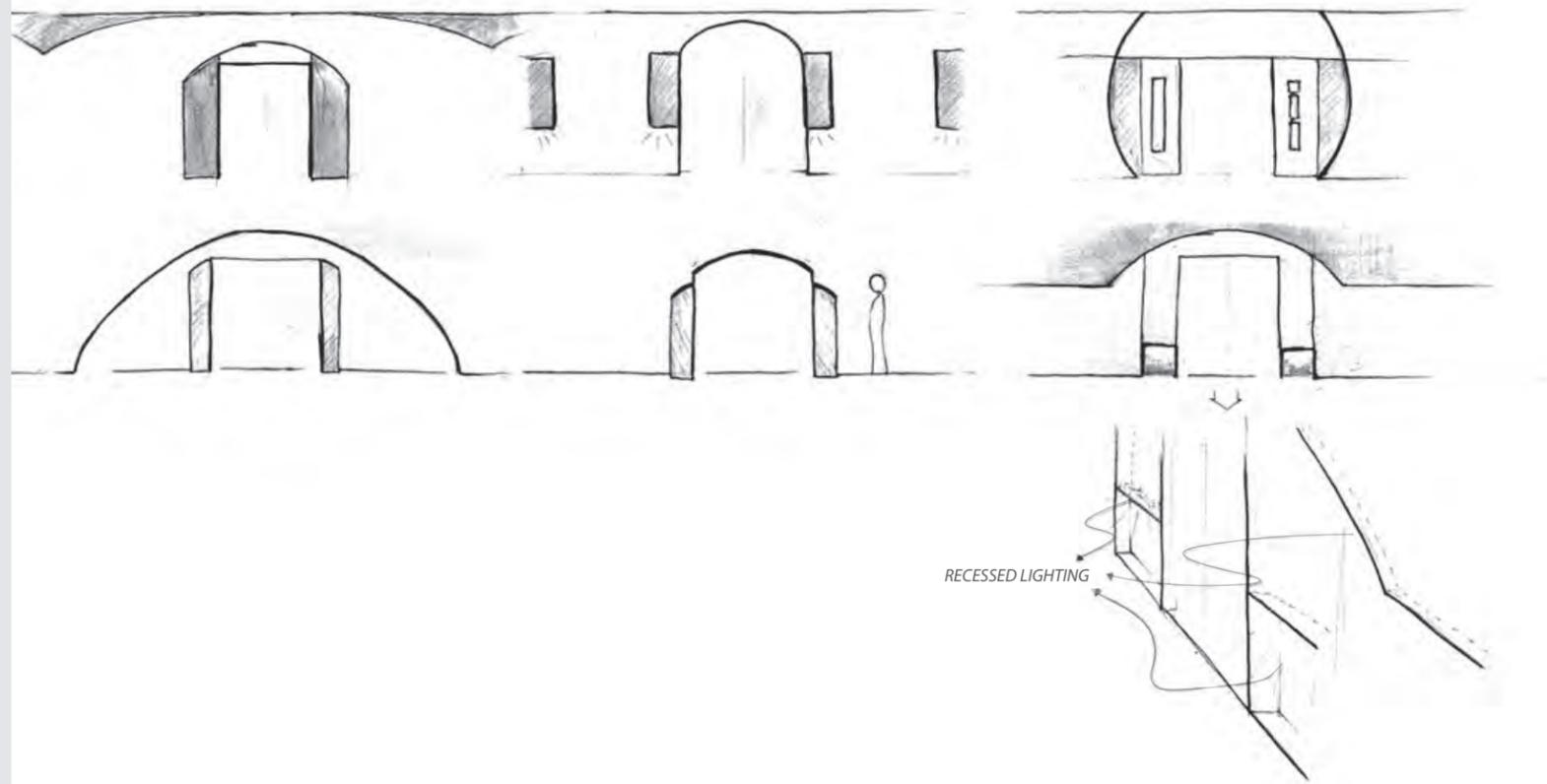






Entrance Ideas





Support Team

Jeffrey Kapec Designer of a variety of products who specializes in medical equipment.

Kate Hixon Designer who specializes space analysis.

Emily Glassman Dietary Nurse

Carla Jaspers Rehabitational Therapist

