

**DESIGN INTENT:**

THIS DESIGN AIMS TO CREATE A TRANQUIL, RELAXING COMMUNITY BASED SPACE THAT IS FORMED AROUND THE ABSTRACTION OF IDEAS BASED ON THE PHILOSOPHIES, CULTURE AND LANDSCAPE OF THE AFRICAN REGION.

**PHILOSOPHY:**

TO DO THIS, I HAVE DRAWN ON THREE MAIN IDEAS BASED ON THE CULTURE, LANDSCAPE AND PHILOSOPHY OF THE REGION. THE MAIN PHILOSOPHY THAT I HAVE DRAWN ON IS THE PHILOSOPHY OF UBUNTU. THIS PHILOSOPHY IS BASED ON PEOPLE'S ALLEGIANCES AND RELATIONS WITH ONE ANOTHER. A QUOTE THAT HAS STRONGLY INFLUENCED THE SPATIAL QUALITIES OF THE DESIGN FROM THE UBUNTU PHILOSOPHY IS "TO BE HUMAN IS TO AFFIRM ONE'S HUMANITY BY RECOGNIZING THE HUMANITY OF OTHERS AND, ON THAT BASIS, ESTABLISH RESPECTFUL HUMAN RELATIONS WITH THEM". TO ME, THIS SYMBOLISES THE IMPORTANCE OF COMMUNITY TO AFRICAN PEOPLE AND THIS IS THE REASON FOR THE LARGE OPEN, "INWARDS FACING" SPACES IN MY SITE. THIS SHOULD ENCOURAGE HUMAN INTERACTION WITH ONE ANOTHER WHILE EXPERIENCING THE SITE. THE PHILOSOPHY HAS ALSO INFLUENCED THE POROSITY OF THE DESIGN, IE: NOT HAVING A SET ENTRANCE BUT INSTEAD HAVING A NUMBER OF ENTRANCES AND EXITS THAT ARE RANDOMLY ARRANGED, ALSO RELATING TO THE "WILDNESS" OF THE REGION.

**LANDSCAPE:**

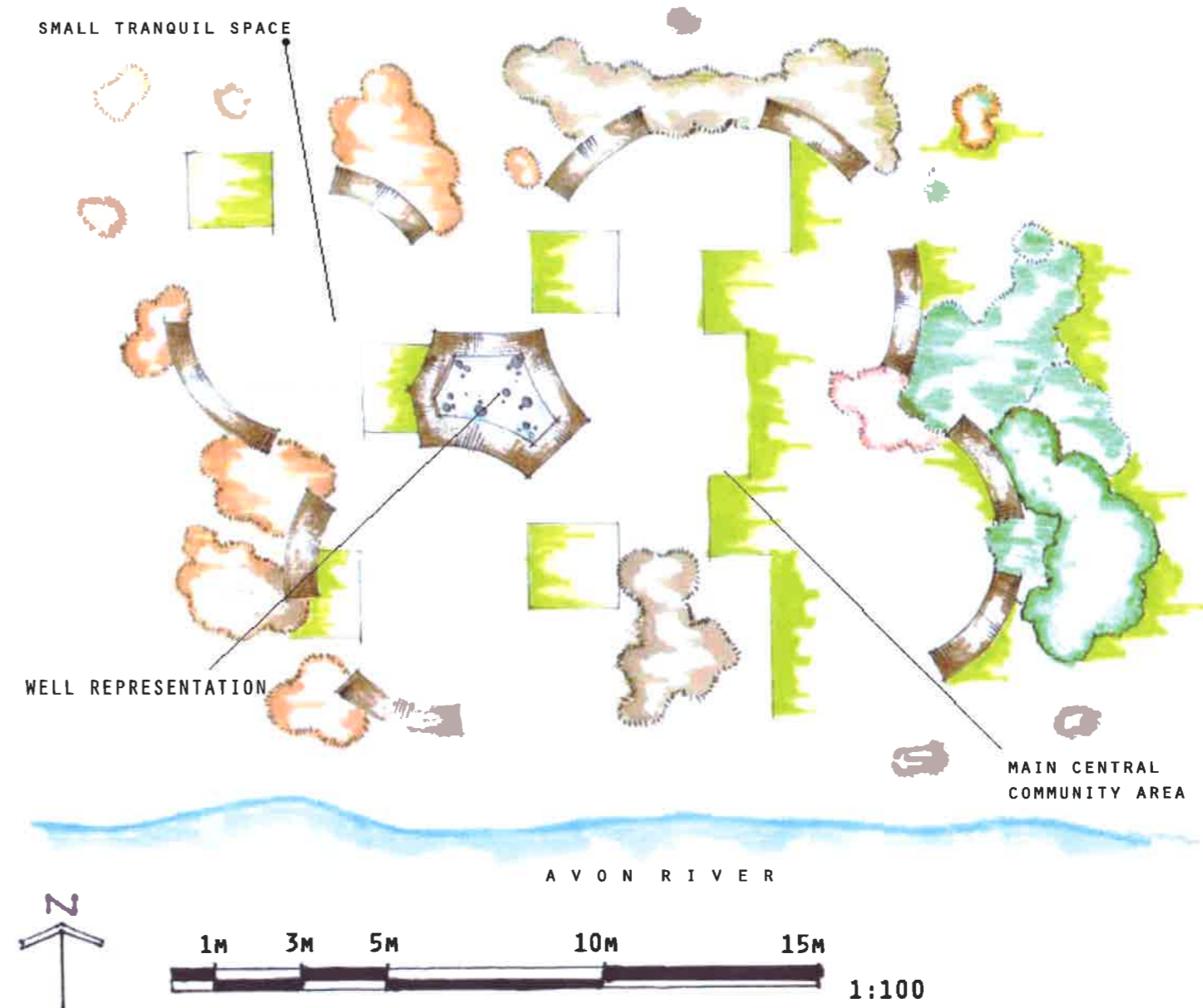
THE LANDSCAPE OF THE REGION HAS ALSO HAD A LARGE INFLUENCE ON MY DESIGN AS A WHOLE, THE CHANGING LANDSCAPE FROM NORTH TO SOUTH AND THE COLOURS THAT THIS CREATES HAS INFLUENCED THE COLOURS OF PLANTING USED ON THE SITE (AS SEEN ON PLAN). THE CHANGING COLOURS OF THE LANDSCAPE HAS ALSO BEEN THE INFLUENCE TOWARDS THE GROUND COVER OF THE SITE, AS IT FADES ARTISTICALLY FROM LIMESTONE CHIP (REPRESENTING THE SAHARA DESERT AND GRASSLANDS) TO GREEN LUSH GRASS (REPRESENTING THE DENSE RAINFORESTS). THE SLOW ROLLING HILLS OF AFRICA HAS ALSO INFLUENCED THE FORM OF THE SITE, WITH SUBTLE "ROLLS" IN THE SITE CREATING TRANSITIONAL ELEMENTS THAT DEFINE EACH SPACE AS YOU MOVE THROUGH THEM. THE DESIGN ALSO REPLICATES THE TRANQUIL NATURE OF A SAVANNAH WITH NOISE FROM THE PLANTING, PLANTS LIKE TUSSOCK HAVE BEEN PLANTED TO CREATE A PEACEFUL, TRANQUIL SOUND AS THE WIND RUSHES THROUGH THEM, CREATING A FAMILIAR SOUNDING, AND LOOKING LANDSCAPE TO THE PEOPLE USING THE SITE.

**CULTURE:**

THE CULTURE AND COMMUNITY OF THE REGION HAS ALSO STRONGLY AFFECTED THE DESIGN, IN THE CENTRAL AREA OF THE SITE, A SEAT THAT HAS RIVER STONES PLACED INSIDE IT, RELATES TO THE SIGNIFICANCE OF WATER TO THE PEOPLE OF THE REGION, AS WHEREVER THE WATER IS, IS GENERALLY WHERE THE PEOPLE ARE FOUND AS THERE IS NO WAY OF LIFE WITHOUT WATER. ALL OF THE SEATING AROUND THE SITE HAS BEEN INFLUENCED BY THE IMPORTANCE OF WATER WITH GABIAN BASKETS, THE SEATS ALSO HAVE BEEN INFLUENCED BY THE NATURAL CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS USED WITHIN THE COUNTRY, THATCHED ROOFS ON HUTS HAS INSPIRED THE USE OF SIMILAR MATERIALS TO GIVE THE SEATS A MORE INTERESTING AESTHETIC. ANOTHER INSPIRATION FOR MY DESIGN THAT HAS BEEN FOUND FROM THE CULTURE IS THE INSTRUMENT MBIRA, THIS INSTRUMENT HAS A CURIOUS ALMOST "DOTTY" SOUND THAT HAS INFLUENCED THE RANDOMNESS OF THE PLANTING AROUND THE SITE.



COLOUR GRADIENT OF PLANTING



**MATERIALS PALETTE**



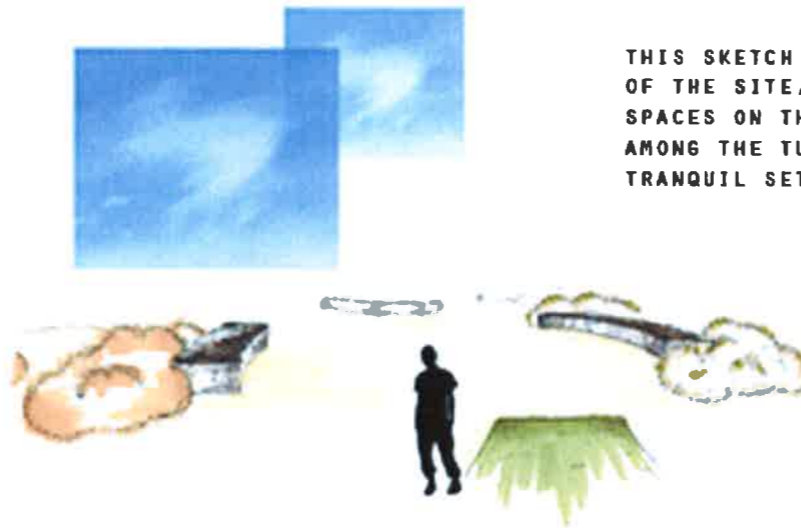
CLIENT BRIEF/INTRODUCTION:

THE EARTHQUAKES HAVE HAD A LARGE EFFECT ON ALL OF OUR LIVES, INCLUDING THE ETHNIC COMMUNITIES IN CHRISTCHURCH. THESE COMMUNITIES, KNOWN AS CALD (CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE) HAVE SUFFERED OVER THE LAST 2 YEARS SINCE THE EARTHQUAKE WITHOUT THE SUPPORT OF FAMILY ON THE OPPOSITE SIDE OF THE WORLD.

IN THIS DESIGN, THE CALD COMMUNITY IS AFRICA. WORKING WITH HEALTHY CHRISTCHURCH, (AN INTER-ORGANISATIONAL INITIATIVE) AN IDEA HAS BEEN DEVELOPED TO PROVIDE SPACES FOR THESE COMMUNITIES THAT ARE TRANQUIL AND PROVIDE A FAMILIARITY TO THEIR HOME LAND.

TO CREATE THIS SPACE, RESEARCH HAS BEEN UNDERTAKEN INTO THE CULTURE, TRADITIONS, PHILOSOPHIES OF THE COMMUNITY SO THAT THE SPACE WOULD HAVE SOME SIGNIFICANCE TO THEM.

THE SPACE THAT IS TO BE CREATED IS TO BE 25M X 20M AND WILL HAVE A CONNECTION TO THE AVON RIVER ON ONE SIDE AND A ROAD FRONTAGE ON THE OTHER. THE SITE WILL ALSO HAVE TO BE ABLE TO BE RELOCATED AS THE DEVELOPMENT OF CHRISTCHURCH CONTINUES AND WILL EVENTUALLY BECOME PART OF A TRANQUILLITY WALK FOR CHRISTCHURCH.

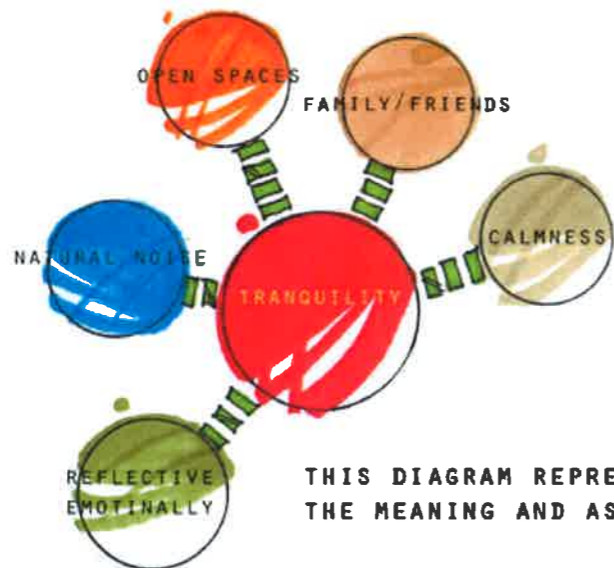


THIS SKETCH SHOWS AN AREA OF THE SITE, ONE OF THE SMALLER SPACES ON THE SITE WITH SEATS AMONG THE TUSSOCKS CREATING A TRANQUIL SETTING.



THIS SKETCH SHOWS THE MAIN CENTRAL AREA OF THE SITE, THAT WILL BE USED BY THE COMMUNITY FOR GATHERING AND SOCIALIZING.

THE BLEND FROM LIMESTONE CHIP TO GRASS REPRESENTING THE CHANGING LANDSCAPE OF AFRICA CAN BE SEEN HERE.



THIS DIAGRAM REPRESENTS THE MEANING AND ASPECTS OF TRANQUILITY



THIS DIAGRAM SHOWS A CLER DESCRIPTION OF THE BACKGORUND INFORMATION ON THE CULTURE OF AFRICA

DESIGN BACKGROUND