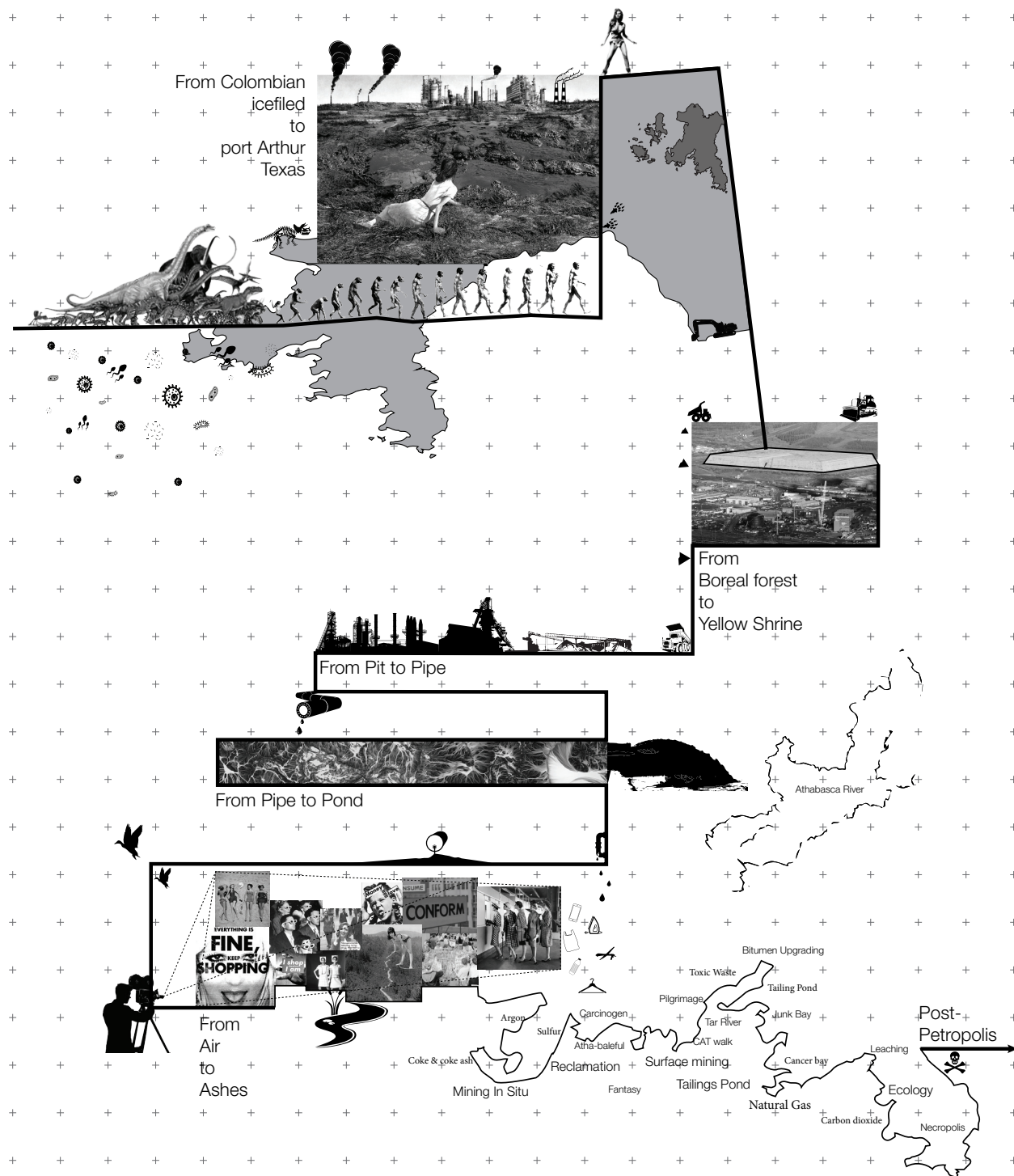


Post-Alberta after the Oil boom Petropolis



FROM FICTION TOWARDS AN ARCHITECTURAL CRITIQUE

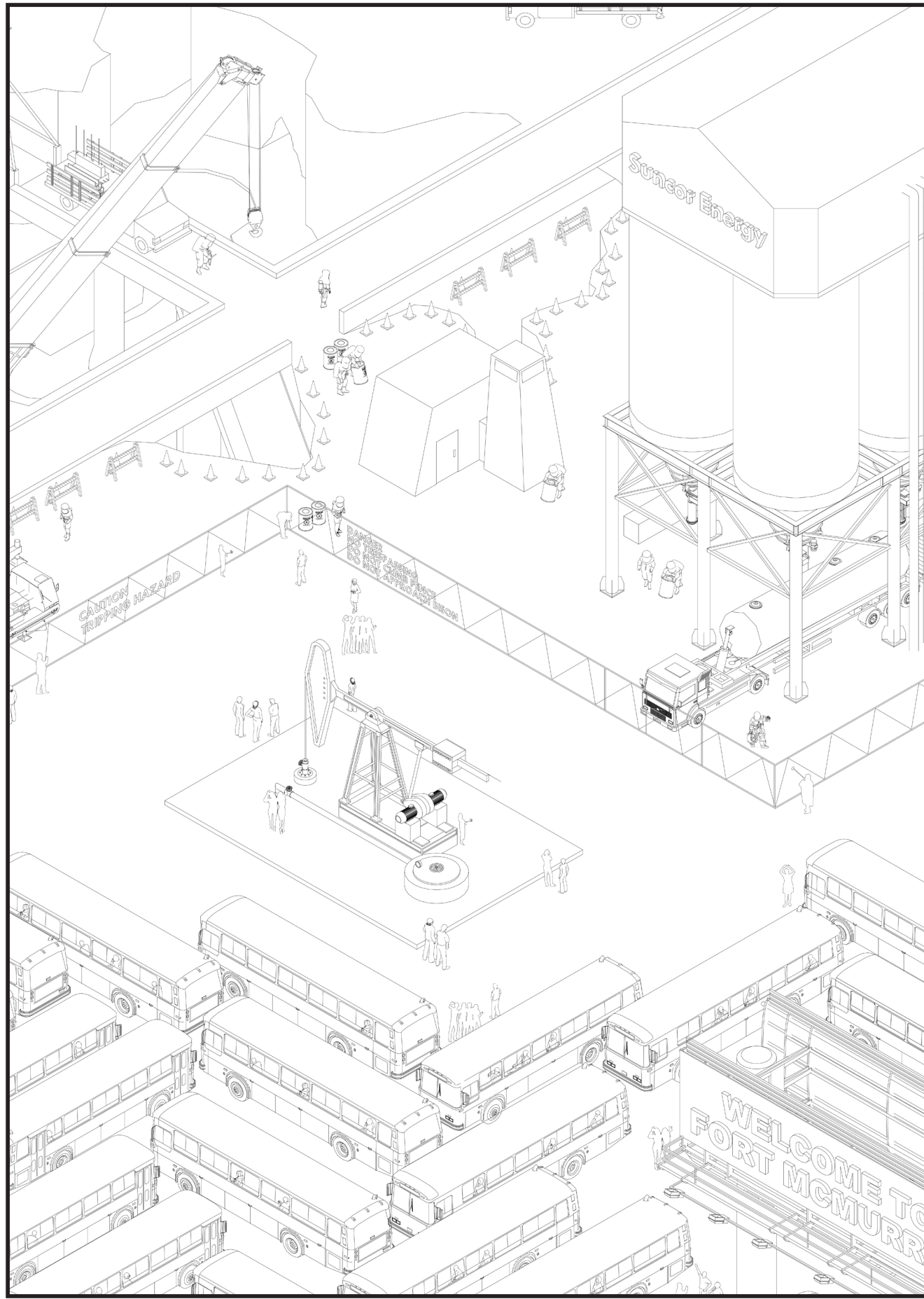
Post-Petropolis is the story of conflicting natural and artificial landscapes; a speculative and theoretical proposal that explores today's immense rate of consumption, our precipitous abuse of the landscape, and the planet's scarce resources. The context is Alberta after the Oil Boom. What will we be doing, imagining and designing after this orgy of production and immorality? What should be done with all the industrial carcasses and disfigured land left behind once the industries have exhausted the land? Post-Petropolis questions whether it is possible to heal the colossal land scars caused by Oil Sand production with an architectural strategy that envisions the post-oil future of Alberta.

Post-Petropolis is a fairy tale that tells the story of land, in a twelve-part fabular manifesto. Each fantasy finds its rationale with surreal and dystopian implications. An absurd ecological assault re-purposes the exhausted lands and glorifies the current irrational state of Alberta. This fairy tale is based on the belief that architecture with its visual capacity to comprehend space, people and time can provoke an alternative constituency and promote any utopian ideal.

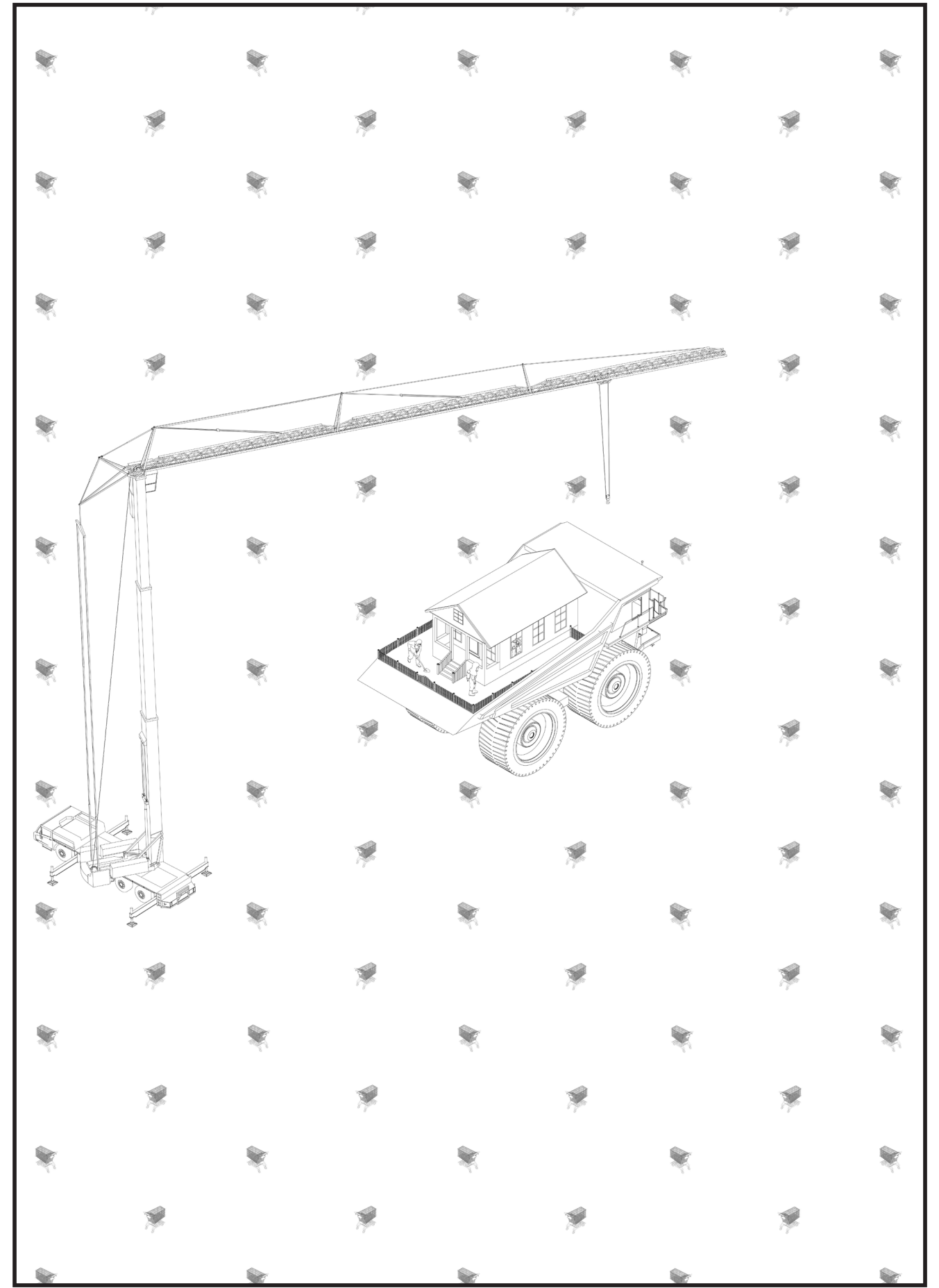
Surprising, speculative and vibrant fictional ideas act as a critique suggesting how an expanded architecture can influence the future. The first six dystopic drawings present as counter-factual proposals for the dynamic and fluxing fabric of the Oil Sand industry in Alberta; the final six utopian drawings provide enviro-conscience archetypes seen through different lenses.

To talk of remedies is perhaps naïve. In response to the current ecological paradigm, Post-Petropolis proposes a muted fiction pro tem. Irrespective of how real the techno-science behind each scenario appears, none of the six fictional acts provides any concrete solution. The final drawings examine and interrogate possible futures; the fabricated mythology and cynical humour in the six archetypes explore how consumers 'narrate' the Earth. The highlighted values in each act are left for the reader to draw their own conclusion.

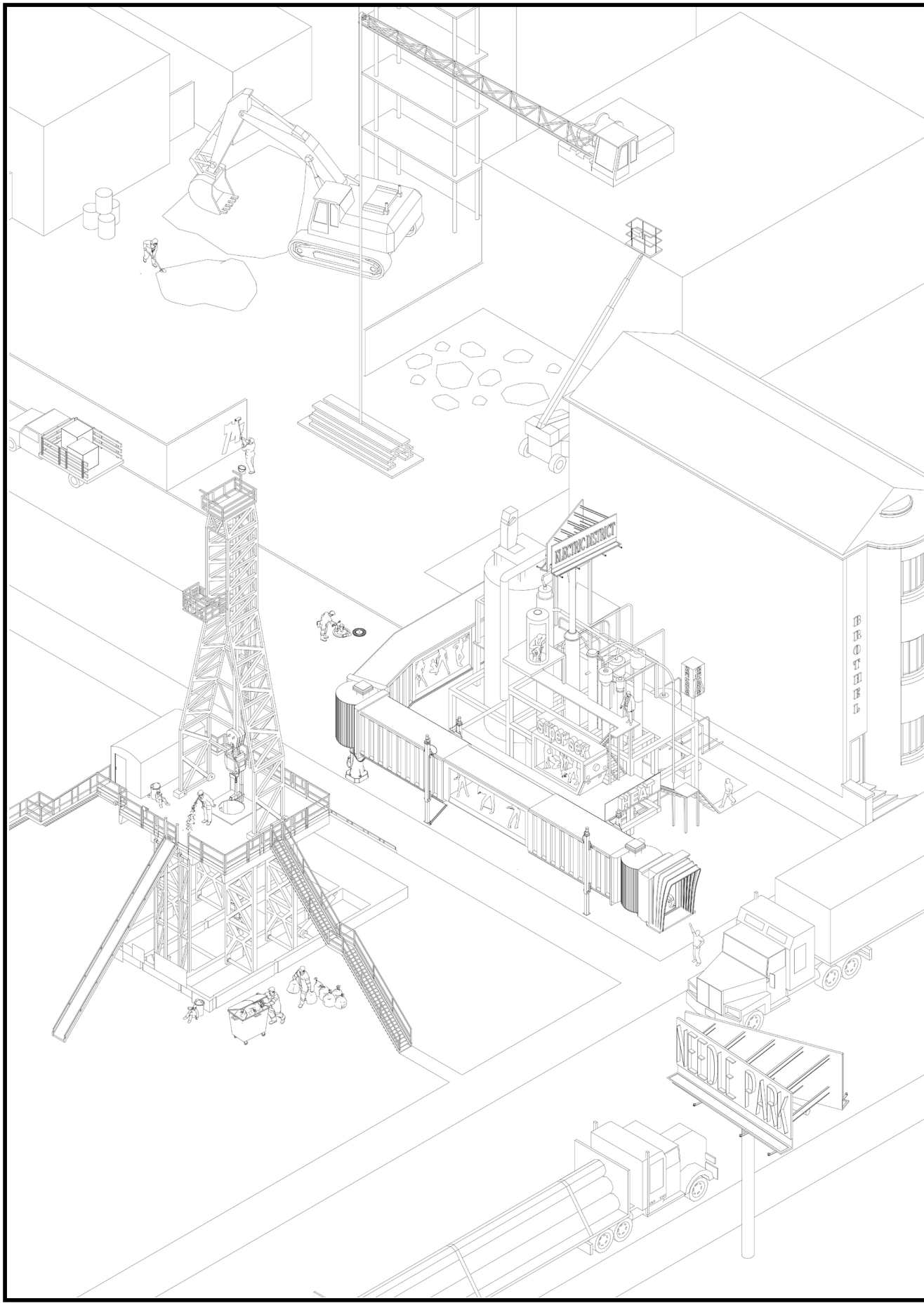
This fairy tale carefully blends critical fiction with reality, and raises dialectical issues of diversity against convergence, responsibility against irresponsibility and ethics against aesthetics. The twelve-part fabular manifesto is an activist architectural project that postulates a visual dimension to the current environmental dilemma surrounding the Oil Sands in Canada. Consequently, as a theoretical architectural fantasy it aims to create a new prehensile reality for Alberta after the oil boom.



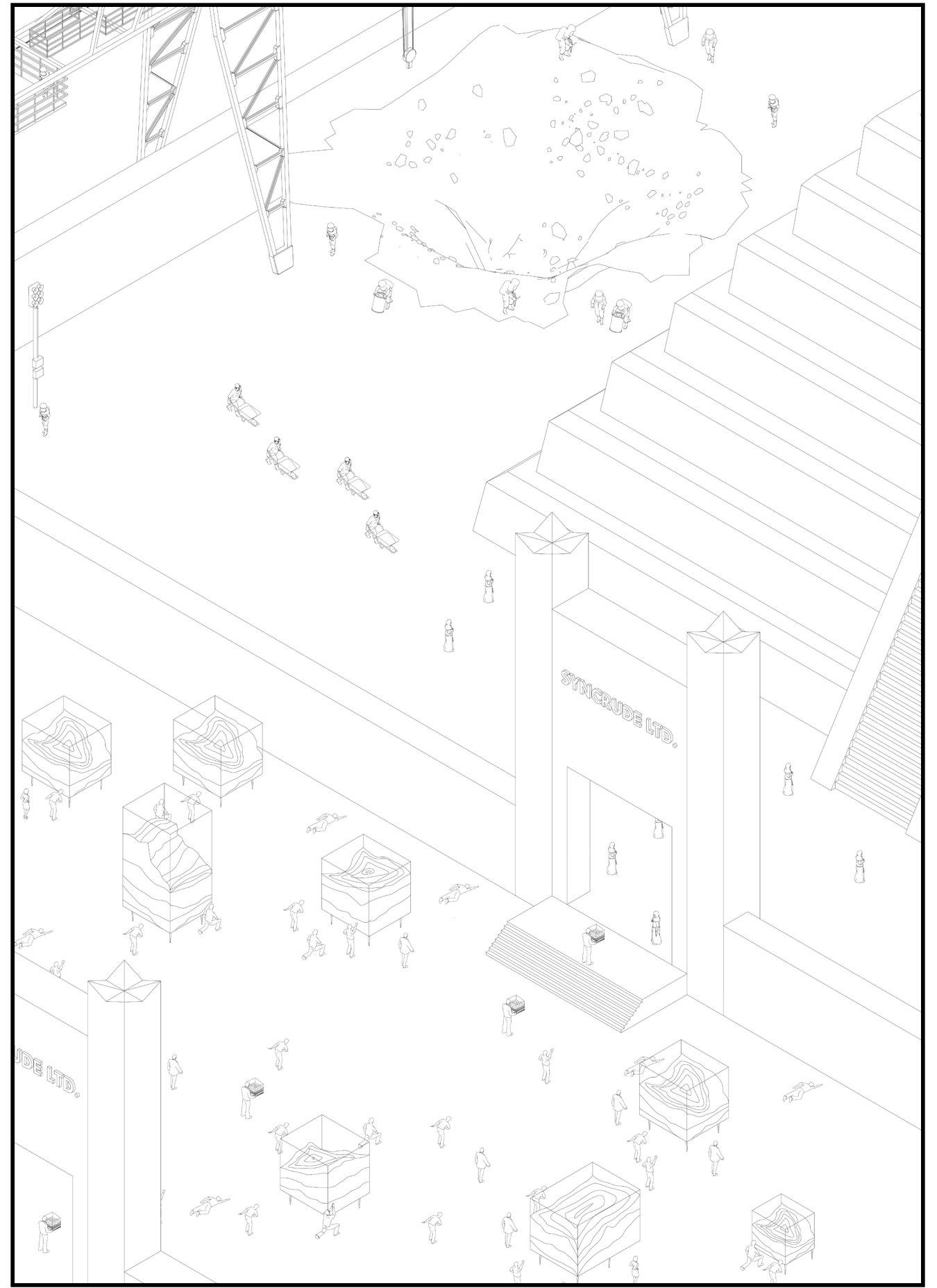
TOXIC TOURISM



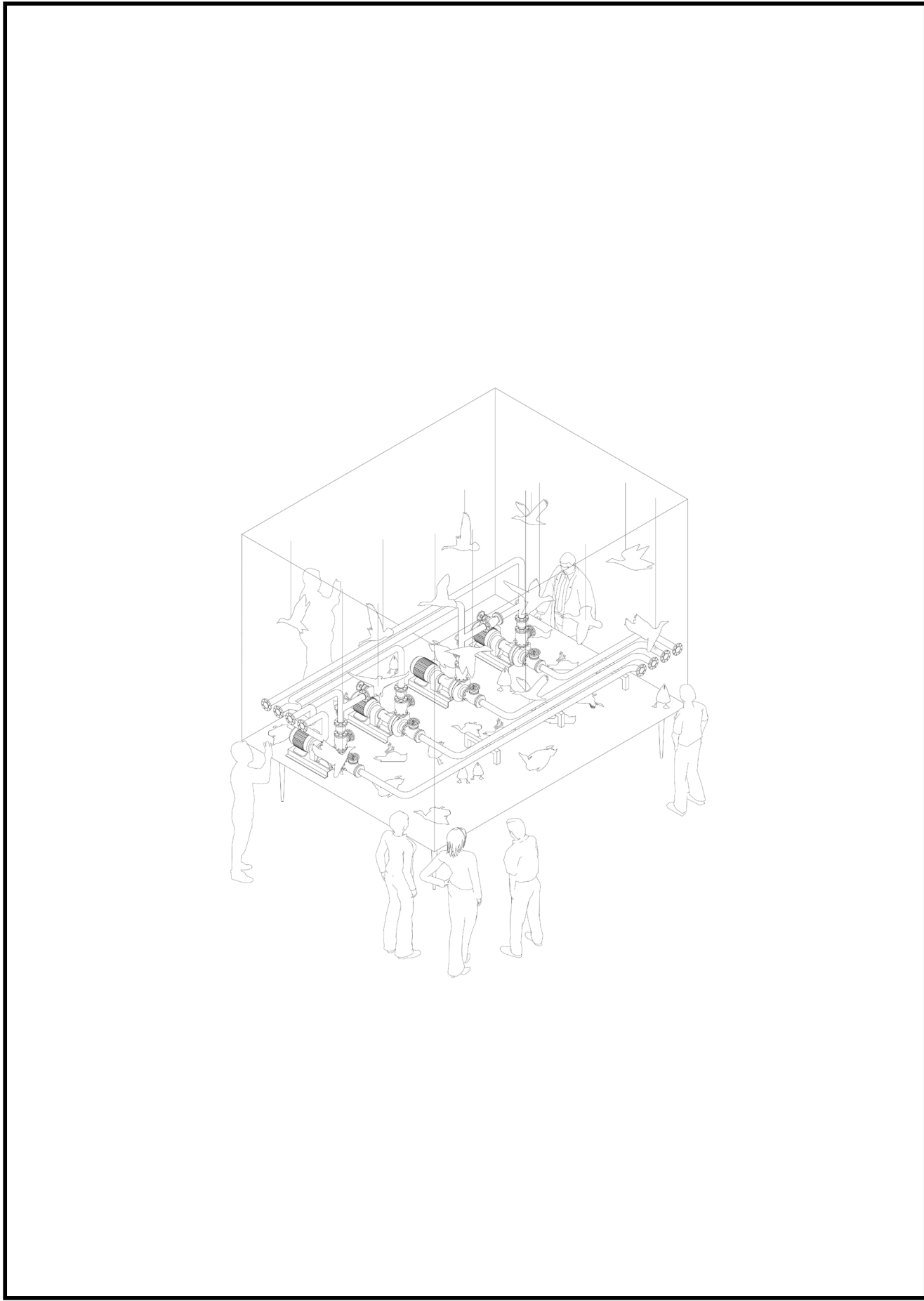
789D SUBURBIA



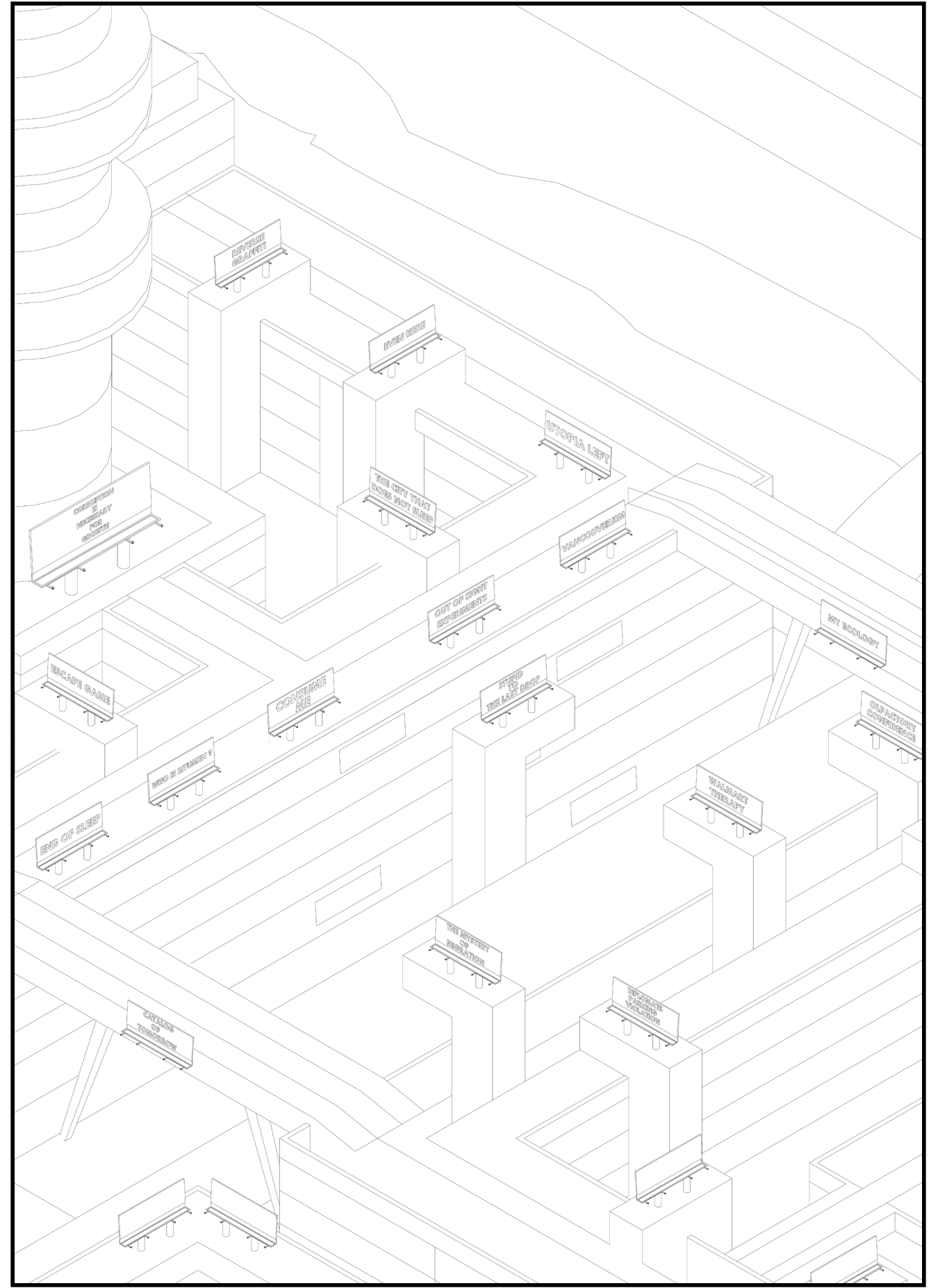
CARBON LUST / THE NEON CITY



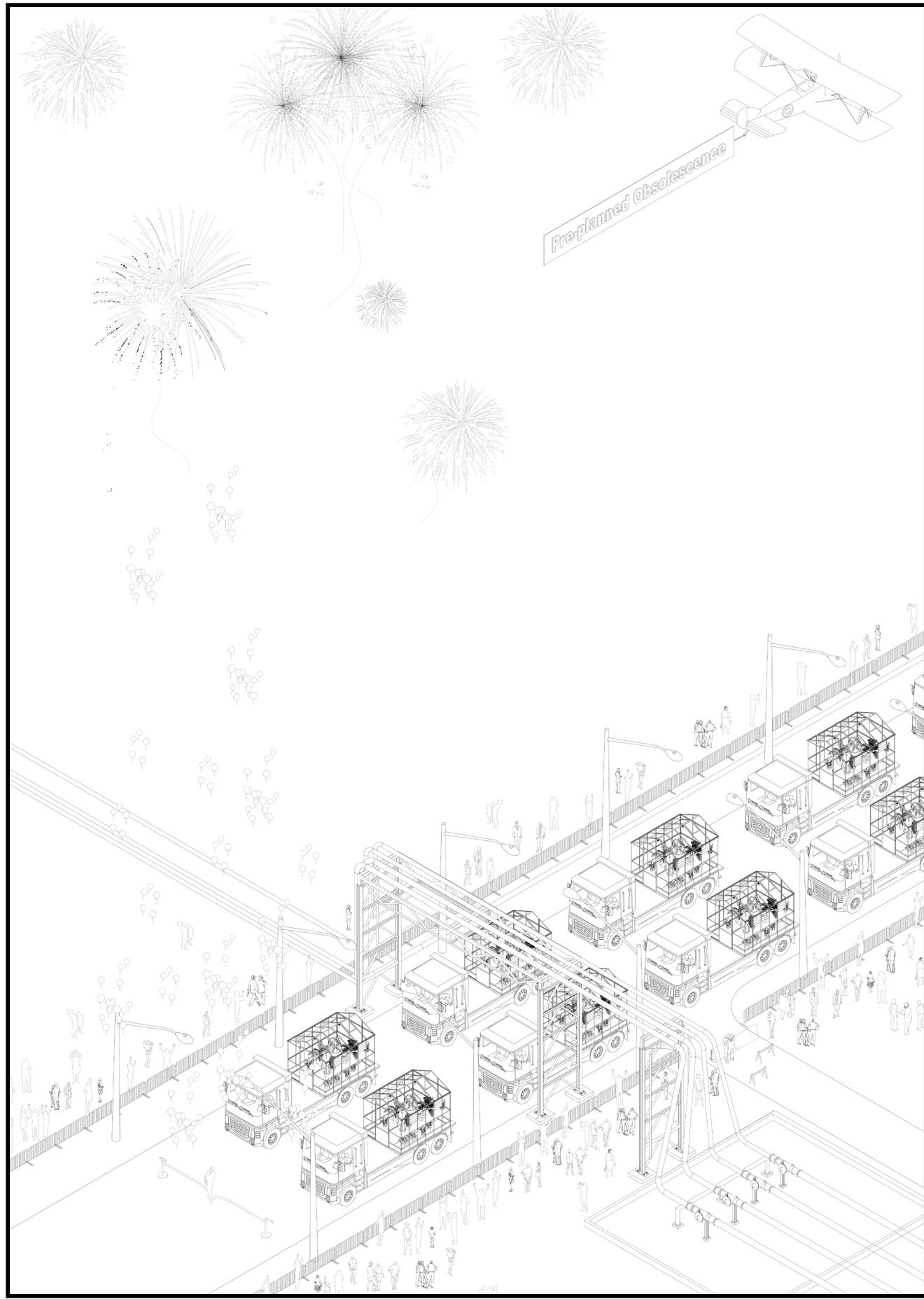
YELLOW SHRINE



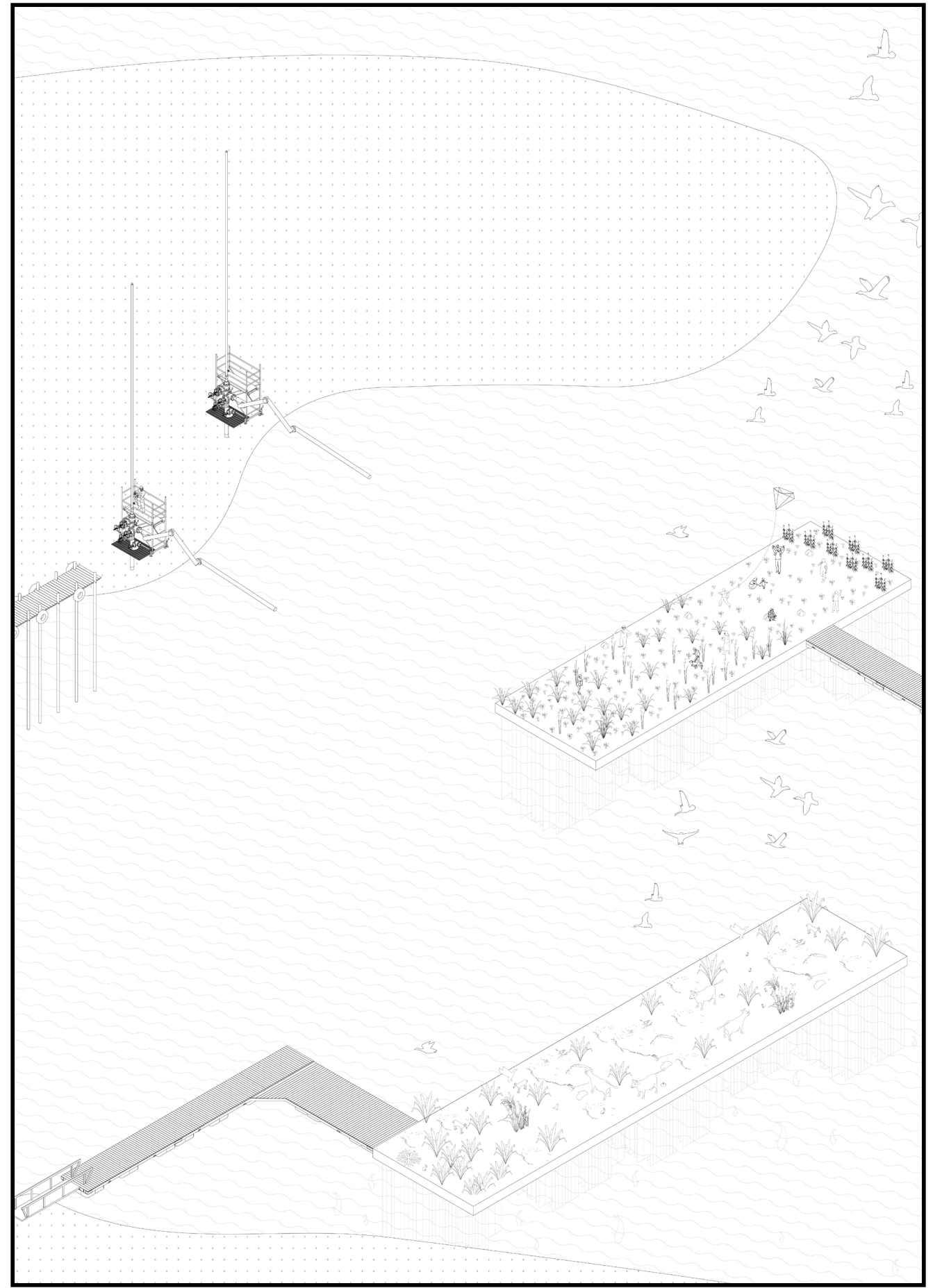
THE LITTLE DUCK HOLOCAUST



IN SEARCH OF SAD OIL



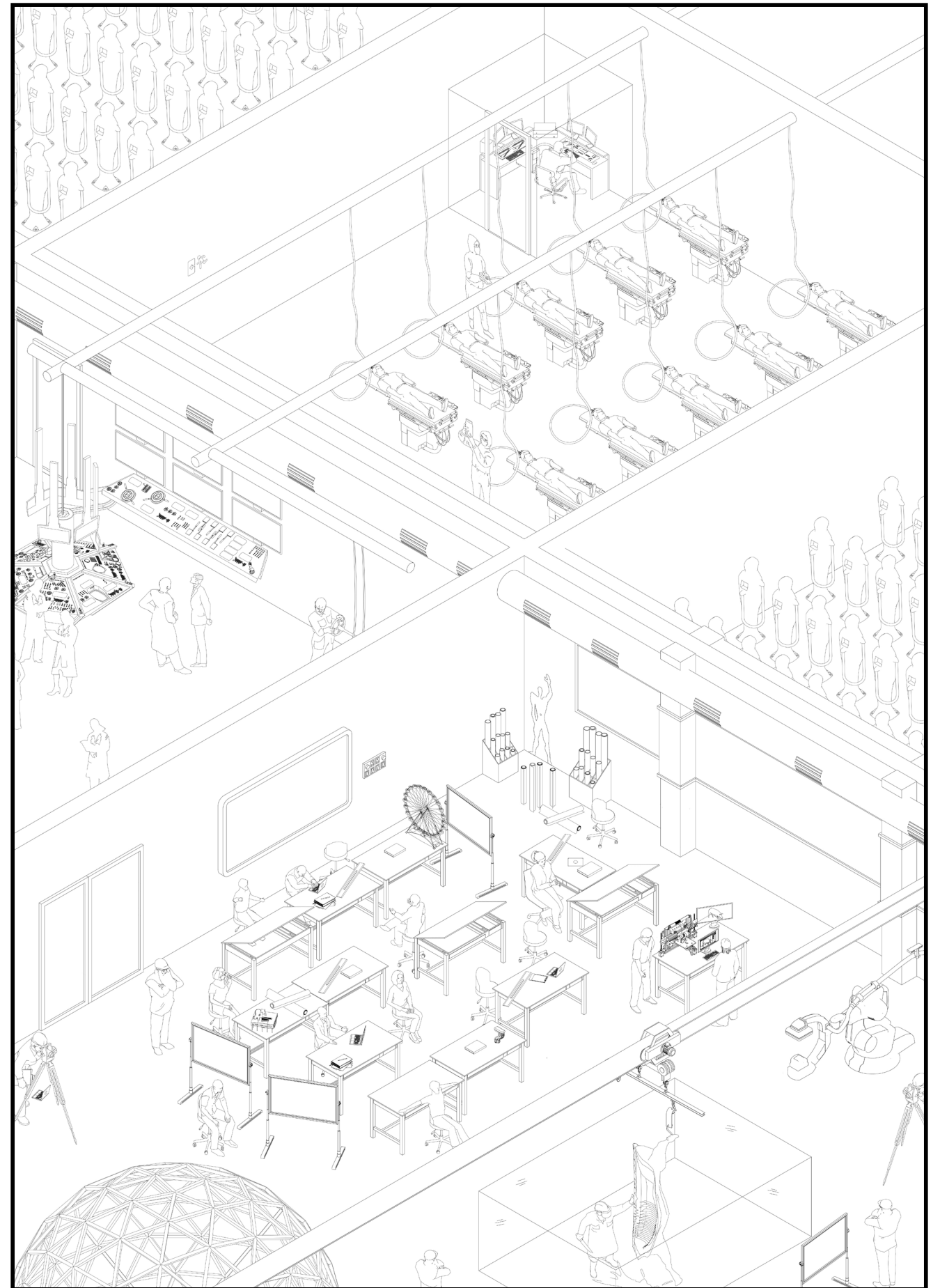
THE HOMOGENEOUS TERRITORY



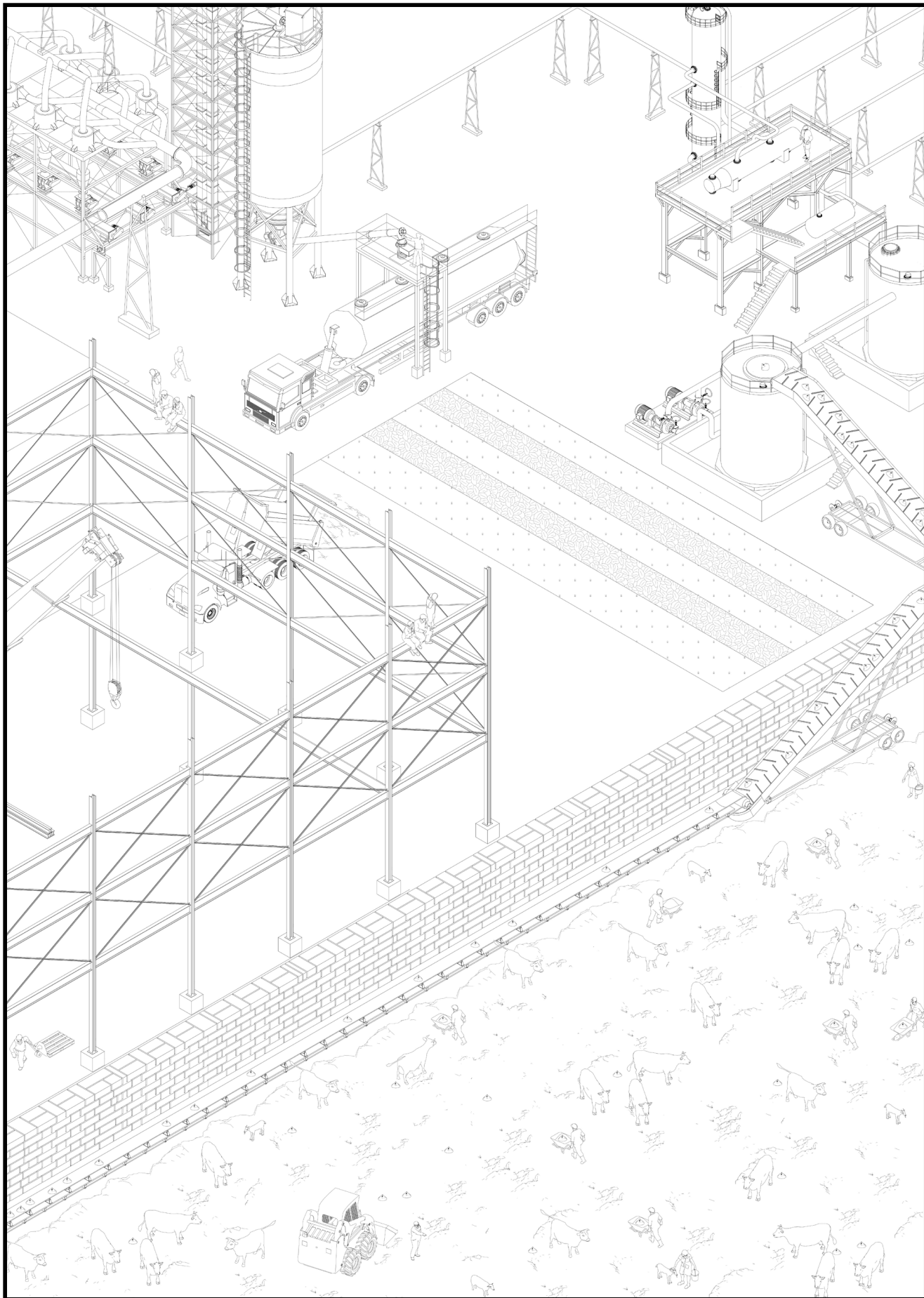
TRANSIENT WETLANDS TERRITORIES



NEW ALLIANCE TERRITORY



PEDAGOGIC TERRITORY



In search of a mask that **beautifies** a set of ugly exploitations and **pardons** the industry's greed, Experimental Utopia is a territory of **collective sympathy**. This is an **absolution** of all that went wrong. This new territory has an **out-of-the-world** looping architecture that offers no inkling of what is on the inside. This architecture is **alive** and the buildings thrive. It is a materialised vision of brilliant thinkers, **wet dreams** of Gustave Eiffel, Hugh Ferriss, Thomas Edison and Nikola Tesla. Constructed with the same respect that man shows to other **human beings**, here **Utopia** nurtures a vision of **desire**. No one pays interest on loans and all taxes are payable by volunteering. **Abundant Energy** eliminates the need to store energy. A new **value system** replaces profit with happiness, honors, morality and ethics. **Success** is finally redefined by **humility**, an **Economy of Honor** paving the way towards an **Architecture of Enjoyment** in a **slow city**.