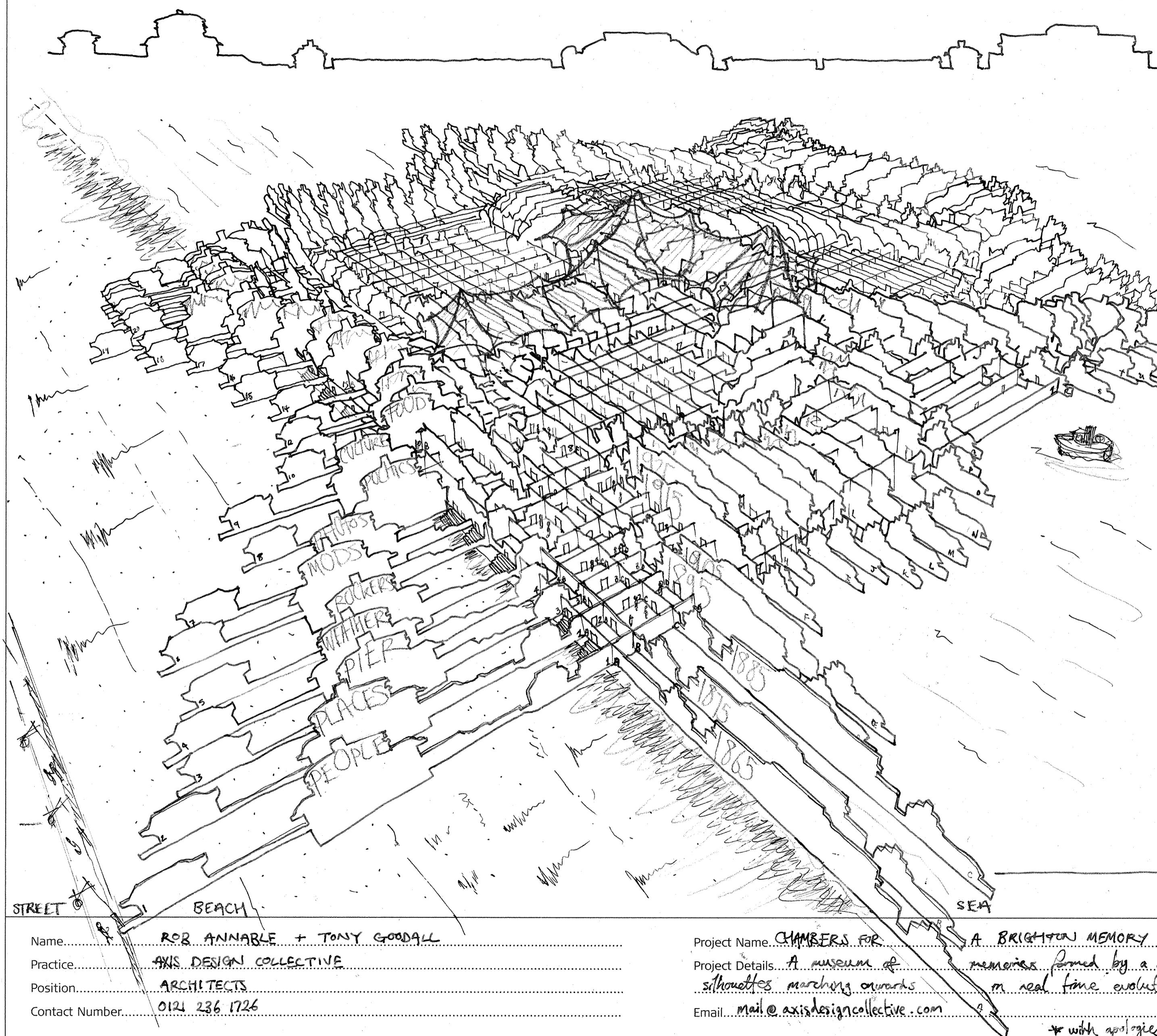
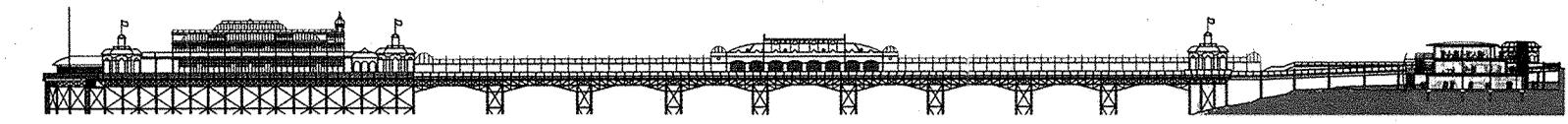


THE 2006 EUROCLAD DRAWING COMPETITION

in conjunction with **Architecture Today**



Brighton Memory Palace

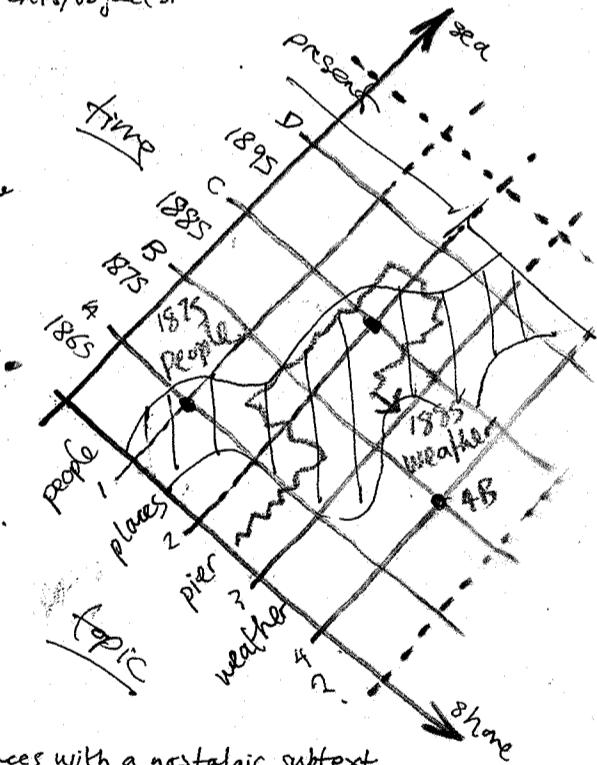
Concept: The first pier at Brighton was known as the Chain Pier, and there was a silhouette artist working on it throughout most of its history. The silhouette artists moved to the West Pier when it opened in 1866, and continued more or less continuously until shortly before its closure in the 1970s.¹

The profile of a sea front pier is a well understood, easily recognisable form that stir's recollections. The history of the silhouette cutters on West Pier is captured within the full scale profile and becomes a surface to chisel and then receive the memories of the people of Brighton.

Repeated, rotated and woven together to form a field of chambers showing exhibitions, events and installations the grid becomes a set of co-ordinates that control the curving of time and topics.

Construction: The spaces are created by intersecting, perforated metal clad walls with an opening in each side connecting to the adjacent chamber. Exposed spaces drain towards the edges and covered areas shed rainwater into the cavity between the walls. Colour controlled lighting in the cavity seeps through the perforations and assists themed environments by directing visitors across the grid. lightweight tent structures stretch over the volumes that trace a winding path across the grid providing alternative environments for different events/objects.

Context: The grid of silhouettes conveys the passing of time in one direction and cultural topic in the other. The profiles heading away from the beach out onto the sea carry the topic through the intersecting date lines parallel with the shore. We begin at the shore in 1865² and travel towards the horizon to the present day, crossing decades as we move from chamber to chamber. As time passes the structure continues to grow into the sea and new topics are added along the beach. Non-linear journeys through history are suggested within the volumes traced across the grid by the silhouettes of the original pier buildings.



The co-ordinates provide public meeting places with a nostalgic subtext.

"Should we meet at 1964/Mods or 1975/Pier?"

1. see <http://rob.annable.co.uk/journal.cgi/ideas/BrightonMemoryPalace> for source
2. construction of West Pier

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Practice..... AXIS DESIGN COLLECTIVE
Position..... ARCHITECTS
Contact Number..... 0124 236 1726

Project Name. CHAMBERS FOR A BRIGHTON MEMORY PALACE*
Project Details. A museum of memories formed by a grid of West Pier silhouettes marching onwards in real time evolution
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*with apologies to Charles Moore and Donlyn Lyndon!

EUROCLAD

Draw on our experience