

MATERIAL & DETAIL

Short-Term Accommodation for
Solo Travellers

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INTRODUCTION

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This Stage 3 project sets out to develop a compact and functional hotel guest room that responds to the essential needs of solo travellers — providing space to sleep, wash, change, and store belongings. The approach is guided by the users behaviour, with materials and finishes chosen for their simplicity, durability, and ease of upkeep. While the room will be minimal in layout, the atmosphere will be carefully considered to ensure comfort and warmth. Social and communal areas will be located elsewhere in the building, allowing the bedroom to remain calm, efficient, and purpose-driven.

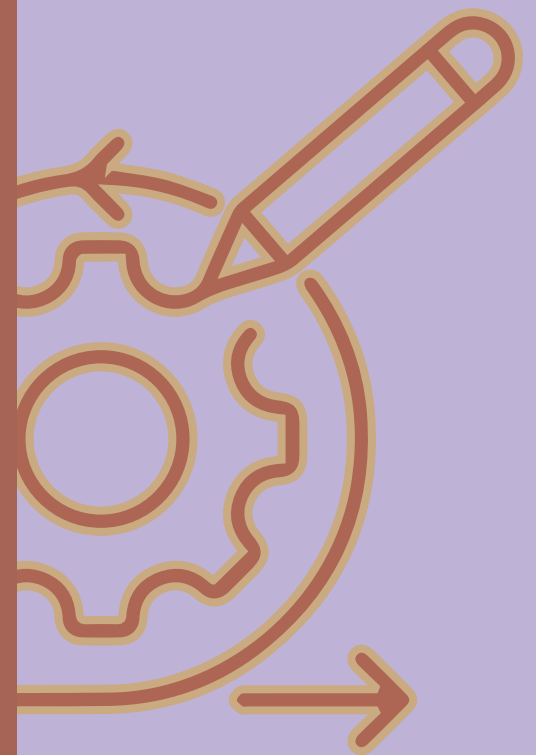
At this stage, the focus shifts toward exploring and refining a bespoke construction detail that aligns with the wider concept of a sustainable, budget-friendly hotel. Rather than simply curating surface finishes or furniture. This exploration will help shape the final design — one that supports wellbeing, independence, and thoughtful simplicity.

To communicate the overall vision and development of this project, a final series of images will portray the three key areas: the guest room, the lobby, and the third space. Each image will reflect how the concept has been translated into spatial design

PG 3.

DESIGN DEVELOPMENT

DESIGN DEVELOPMENT
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DESIGN DEVELOPMENT



PG 5.

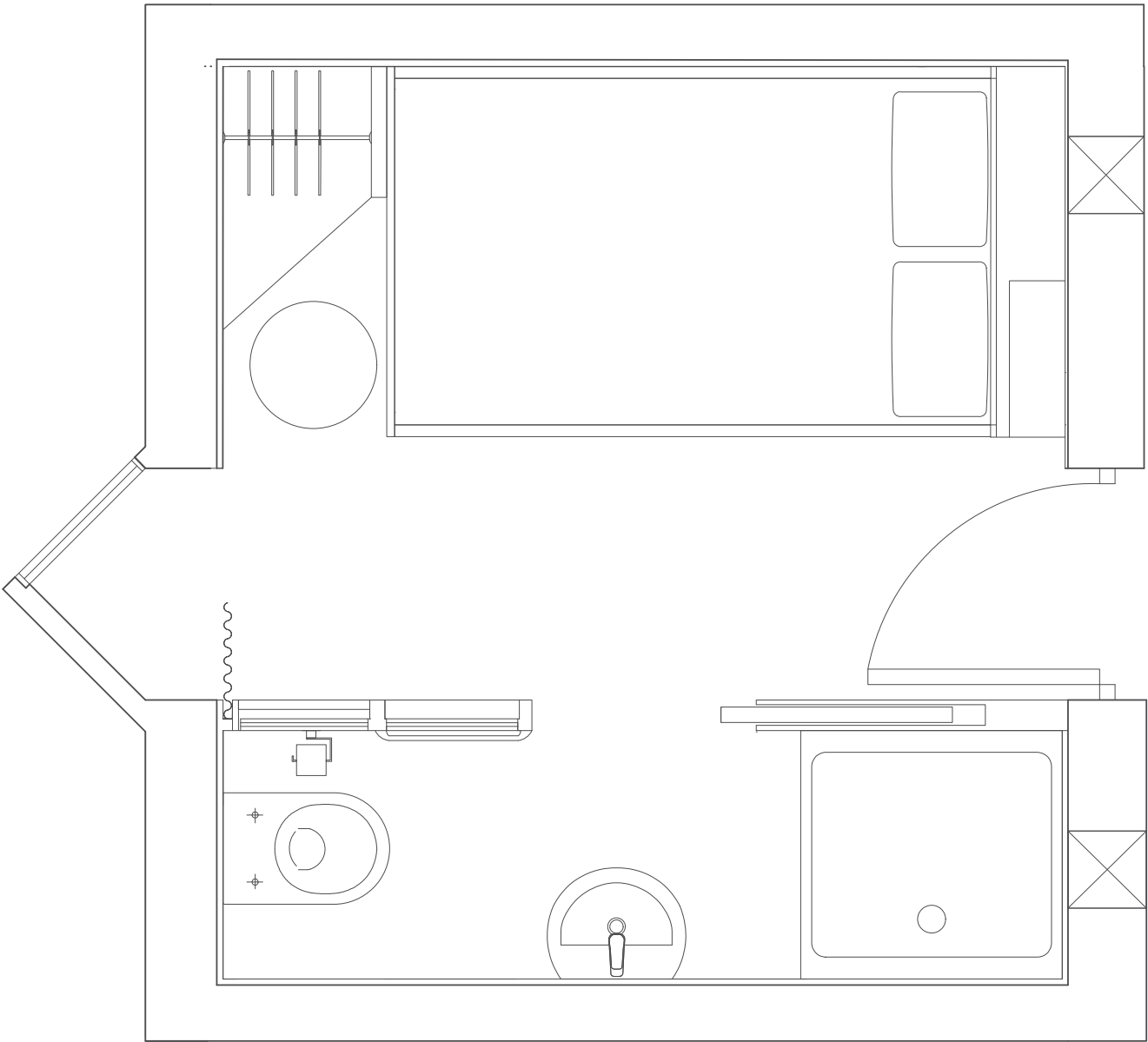
GUEST ROOM DESIGN

1. POD-STYLE GUEST ROOM CONCEPT

The guest room is designed as a compact, pod-like space, maximising efficiency while providing only the essential functions needed for a brief hotel stay. The room is kept minimal to focus on the core needs: sleeping, washing, changing, and secure storage, with everything carefully considered for practicality and ease of use. Social and leisure areas are located elsewhere in the building, keeping the room itself streamlined and functional. The pod design is not only space-efficient but also supports cost-effectiveness, long-term adaptability, and easy maintenance.

2. DOUBLE-SIDED WALL UNIT DESIGN

A double-sided wall unit, designed to centralise essential features while maintaining a clean, minimal aesthetic. Manufactured off-site for easy installation, this wall unit integrates electrics, lighting, switches, and a fold-away table to ensure maximum functionality within the limited space. The wall unit is designed to be easily removable and replaceable, with discreet brackets that allow for minimal disruption during installation or maintenance. This approach aligns with the Shearing Layers model (Brand, 1994), offering a sustainable solution that reduces unnecessary fixings and allows for future reconfiguration or updates without impacting the rest of the building.



GUEST ROOM - TOP PLAN
Scale 1:20

1. POD STYLE GUEST ROOM

Room Dimensions and Scale:

Bed width: 1200 mm
Floor space: 800 mm between bed and bathroom wall
Shower: 800 mm

Spatial Planning

Wall thickness allows a buffer between corridors and other rooms — no removal of existing structure required
Pocket door used for compact bathroom access
Round sink selected to avoid sharp edges in a tight space
Mirror positioned opposite window to reflect natural light and offer a view from the bed
Clear access to window maintained for ventilation and user control

Material Choices

Flooring: Hard-wearing carpet.
Pod Walls: Natural, easy-to-maintain wood fixed over breathable lime plaster for a clean, sustainable finish.
Surfaces: Soft, natural textures to support a minimalist aesthetic

Lighting Placement and Type

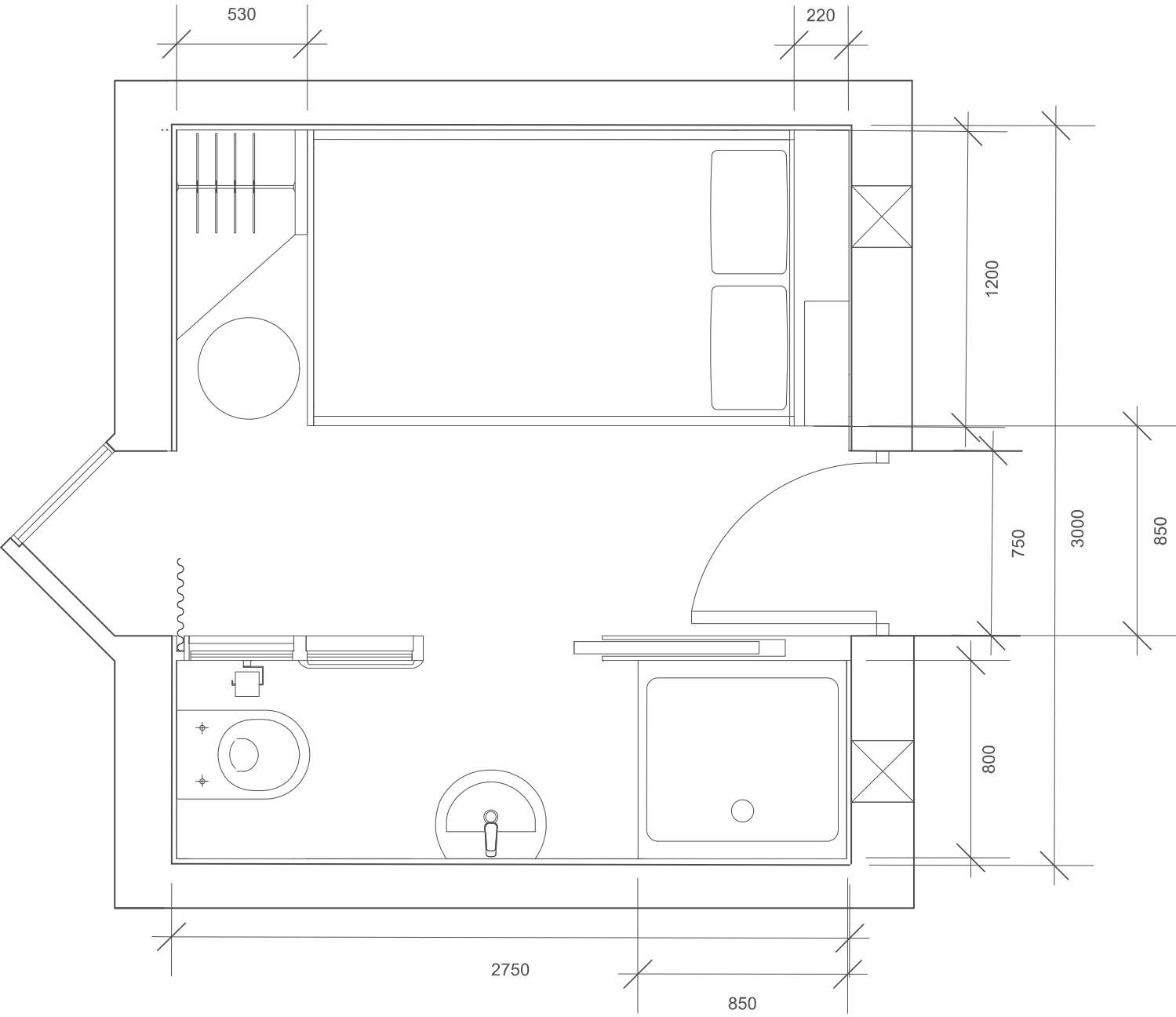
Soft ambient lighting
Layered with directional task lighting
An adjustable reading lights by the bed

Control panel installed for:

Temperature (heating & cooling)
Ventilation & air quality
Lighting

User Experience

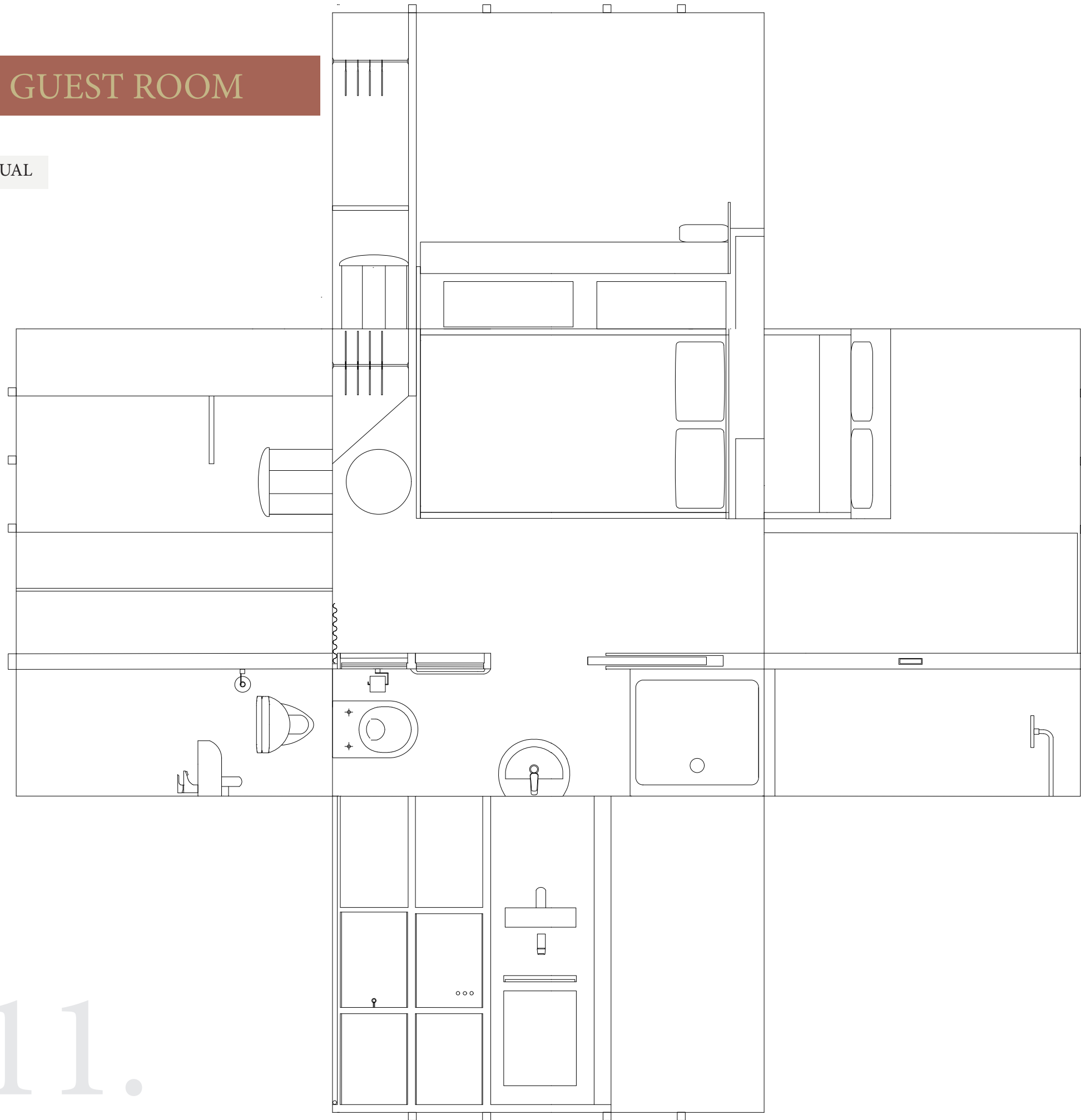
Bright, modern, and minimalist space
Easy-to-use, tactile controls
Materials and layout designed for emotional comfort, relaxation.



GUEST ROOM - TOP PLAN
Scale 1:25

1. POD STYLE GUEST ROOM

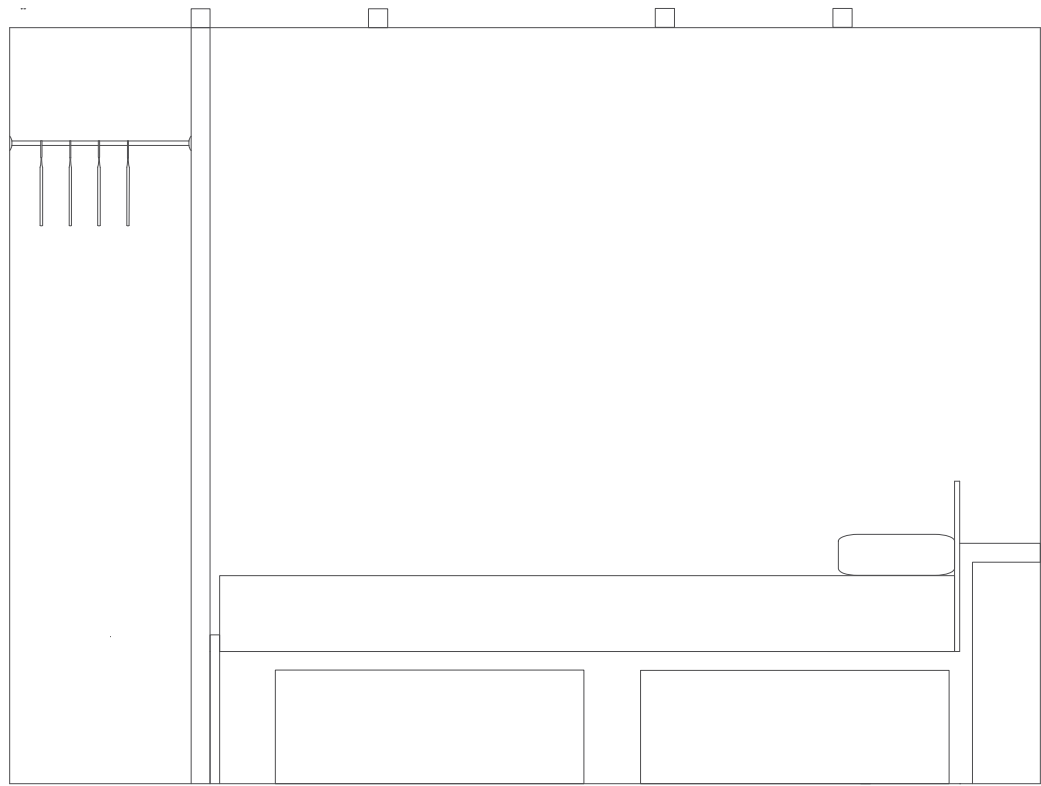
FLAT PACK VISUAL



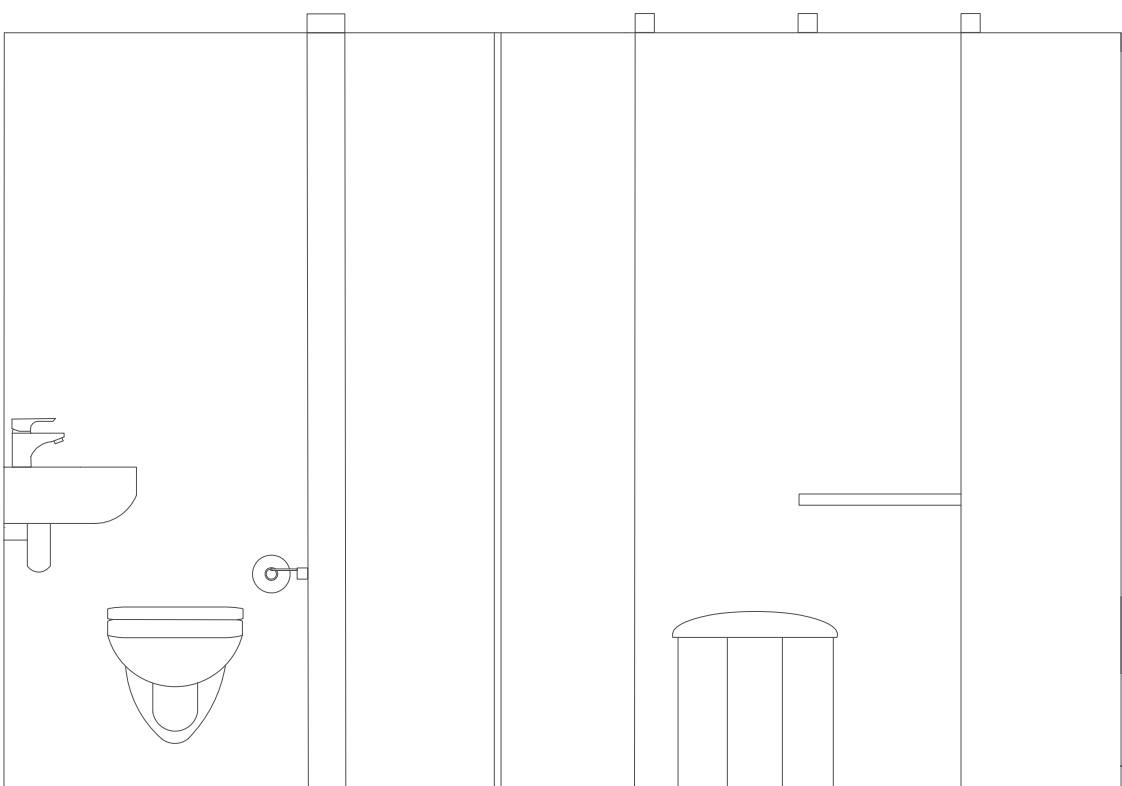
PG 11.

1. POD STYLE GUEST ROOM

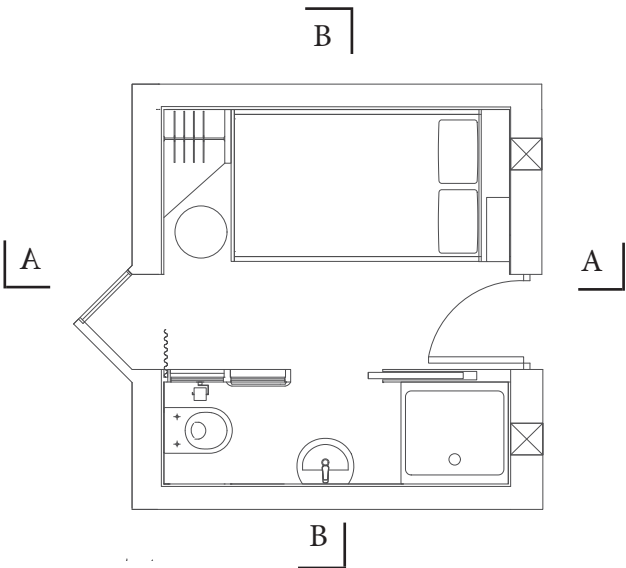
SECTIONS OF GUEST ROOM



SECTION A-A
Scale 1:20

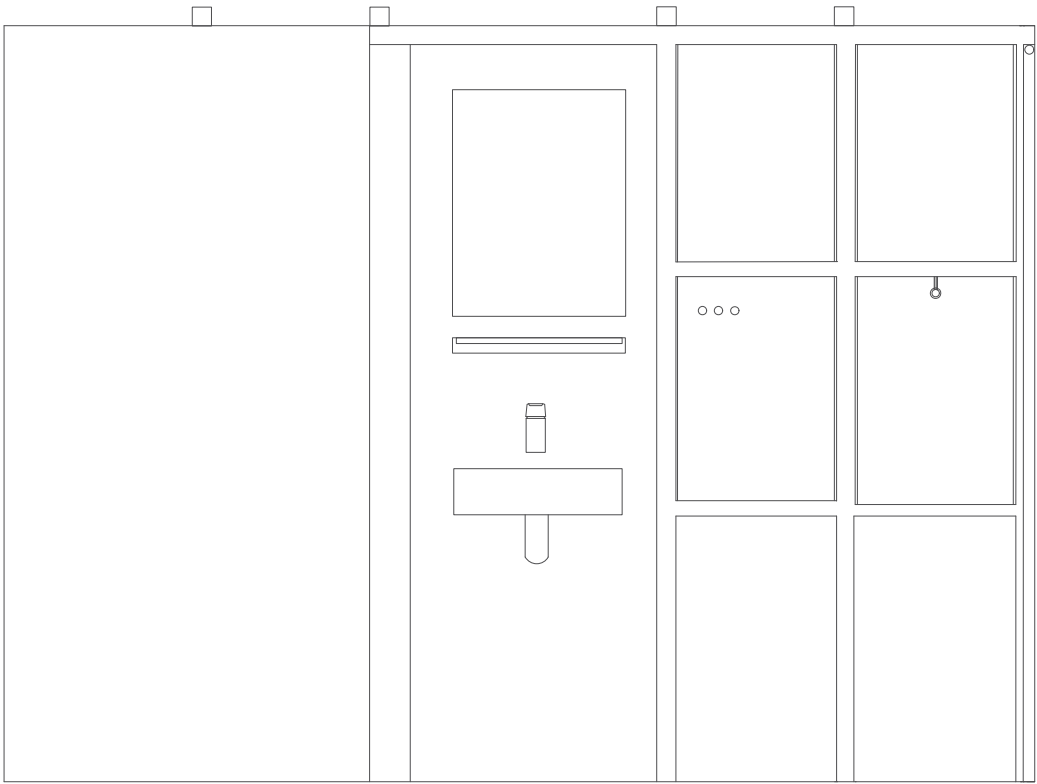


SECTION B-B
Scale 1:20

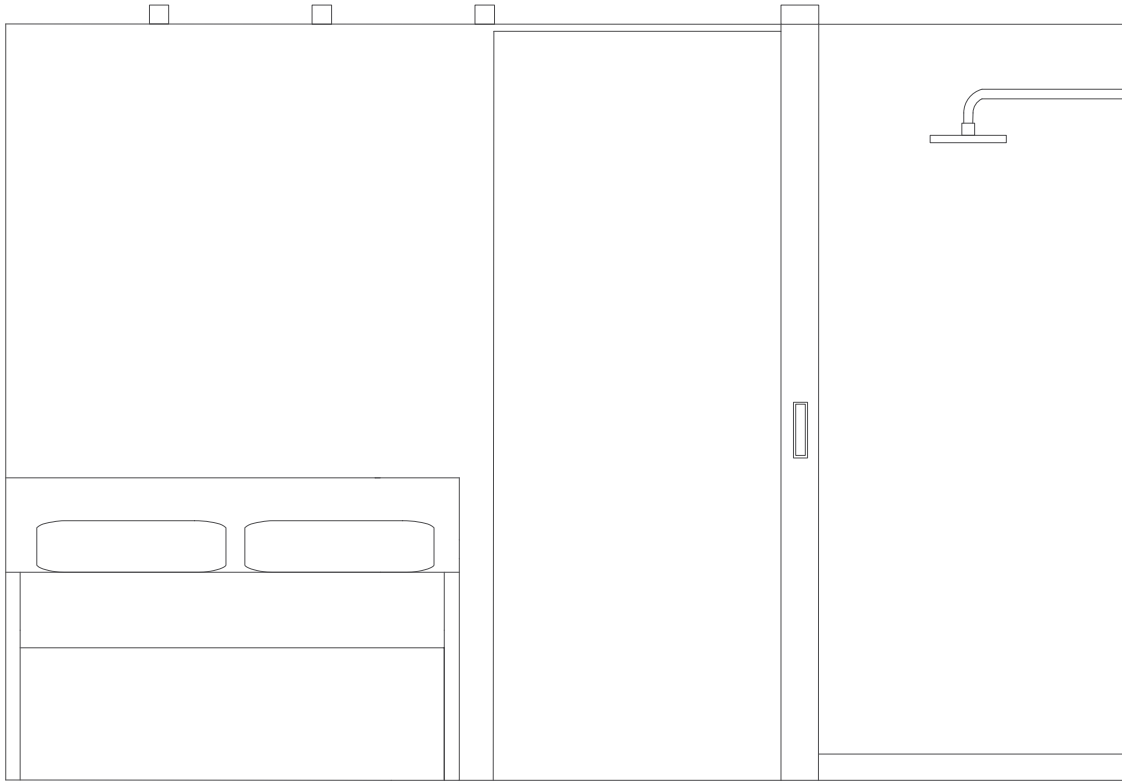


1. POD STYLE GUEST ROOM

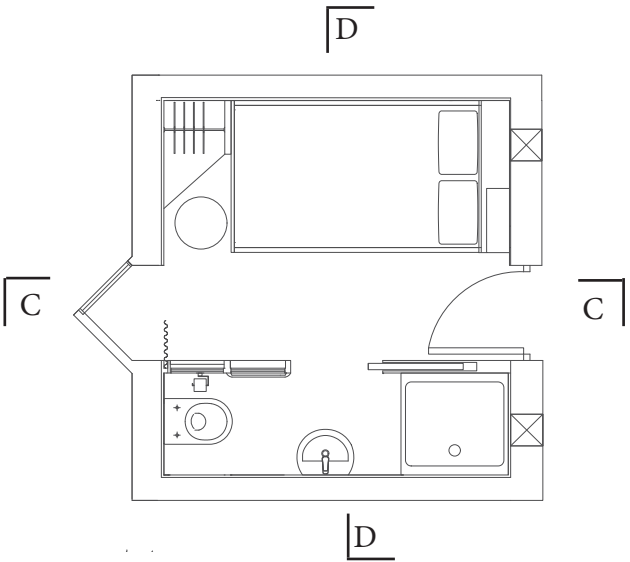
SECTIONS OF GUEST ROOM



SECTION C-C
Scale 1:20

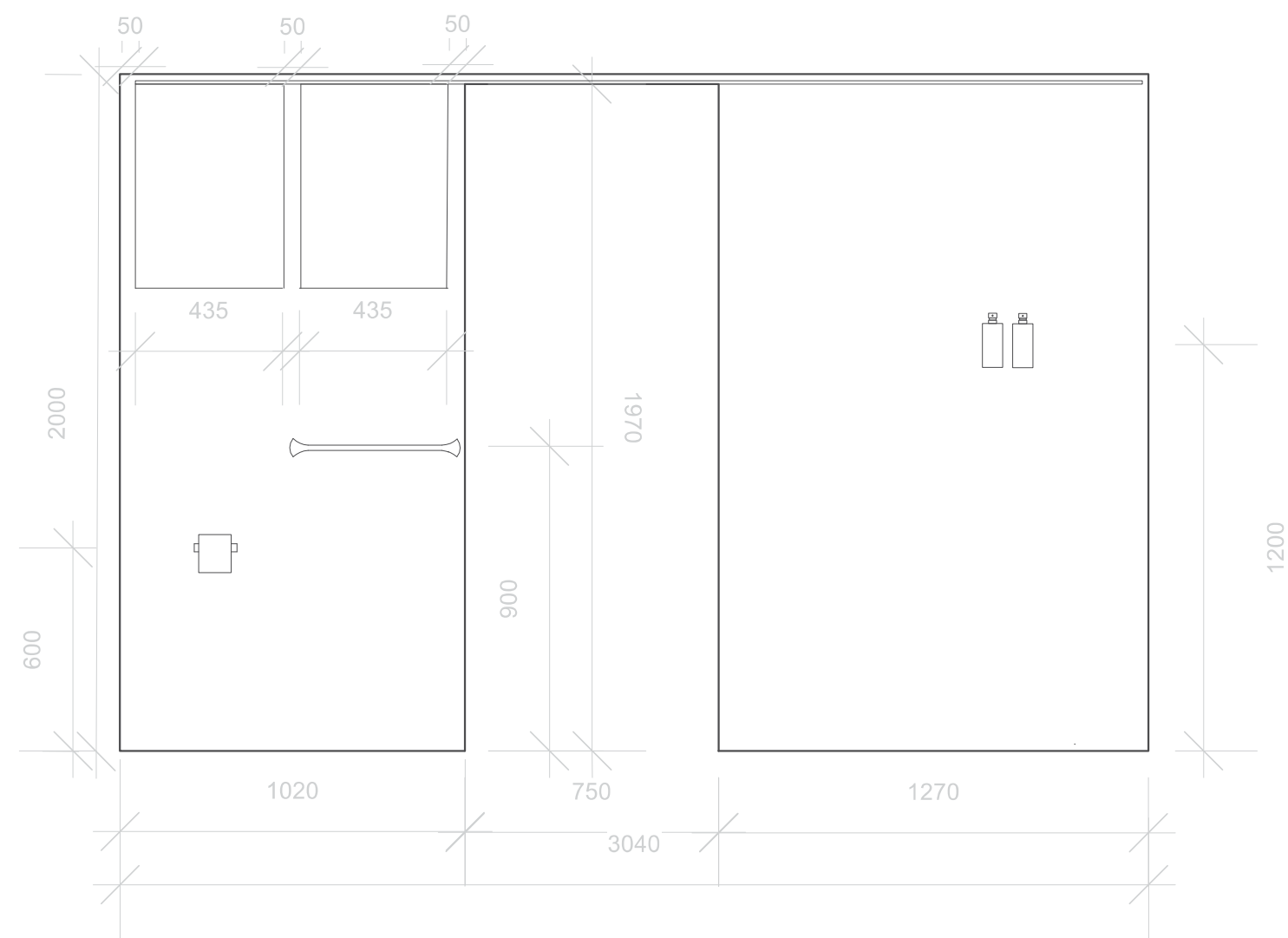


SECTION D-D
Scale 1:20



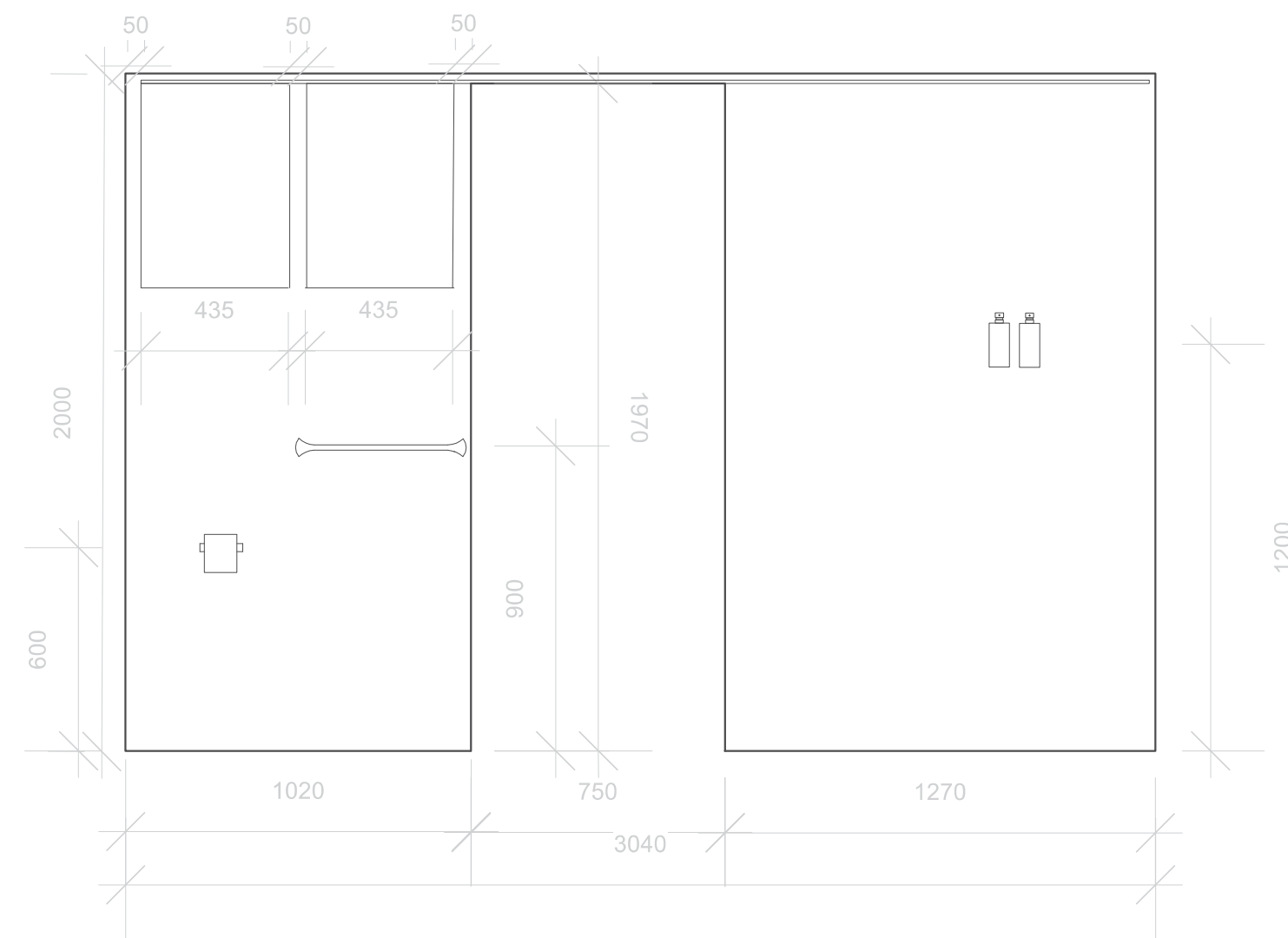
2. DOUBLE-SIDED WALL UNIT

WALL UNIT- FRONT



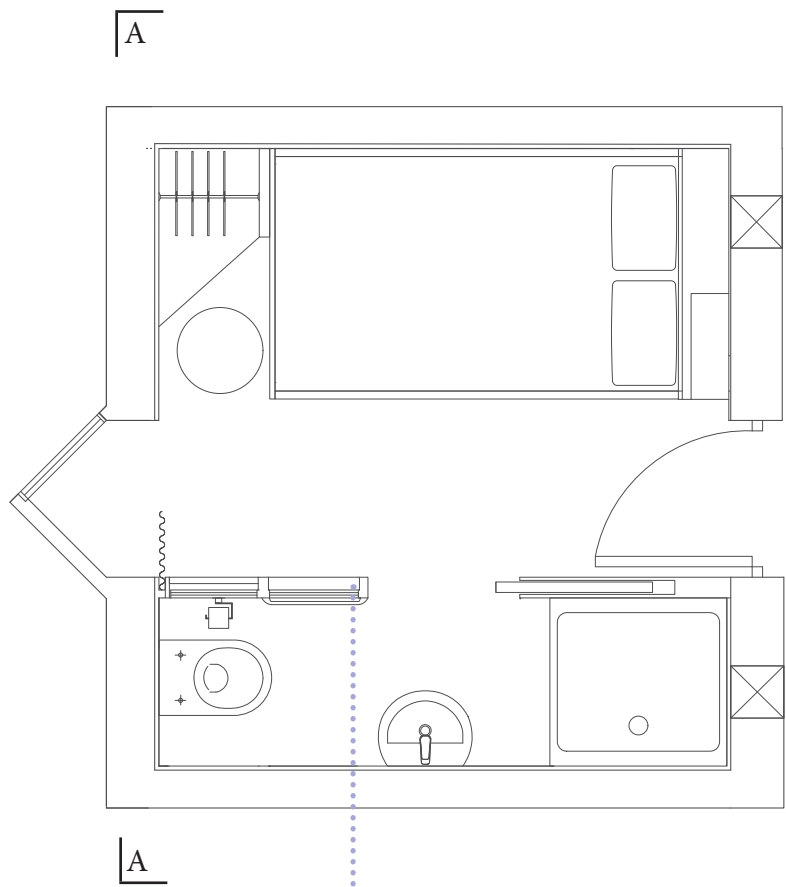
Scale 1:20

WALL UNIT - BACK

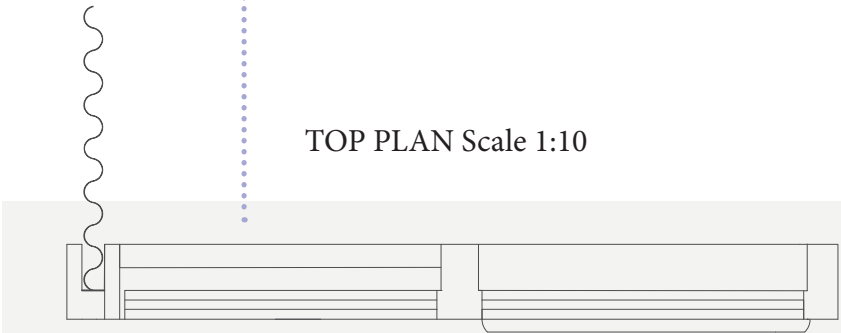


Scale 1:20

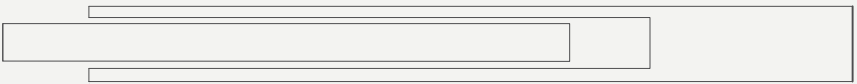
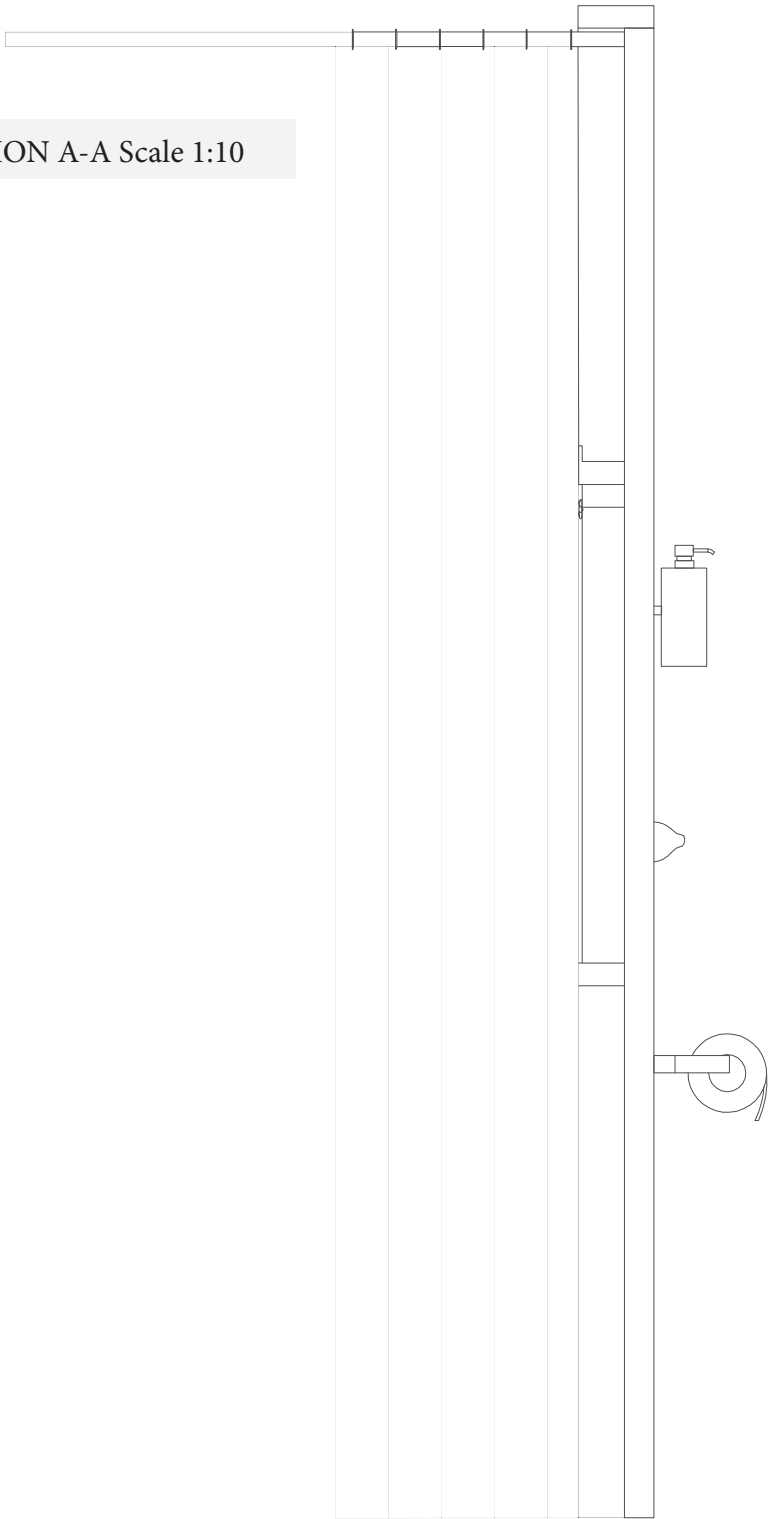
2. DOUBLE-SIDED WALL UNIT



TOP PLAN Scale 1:10

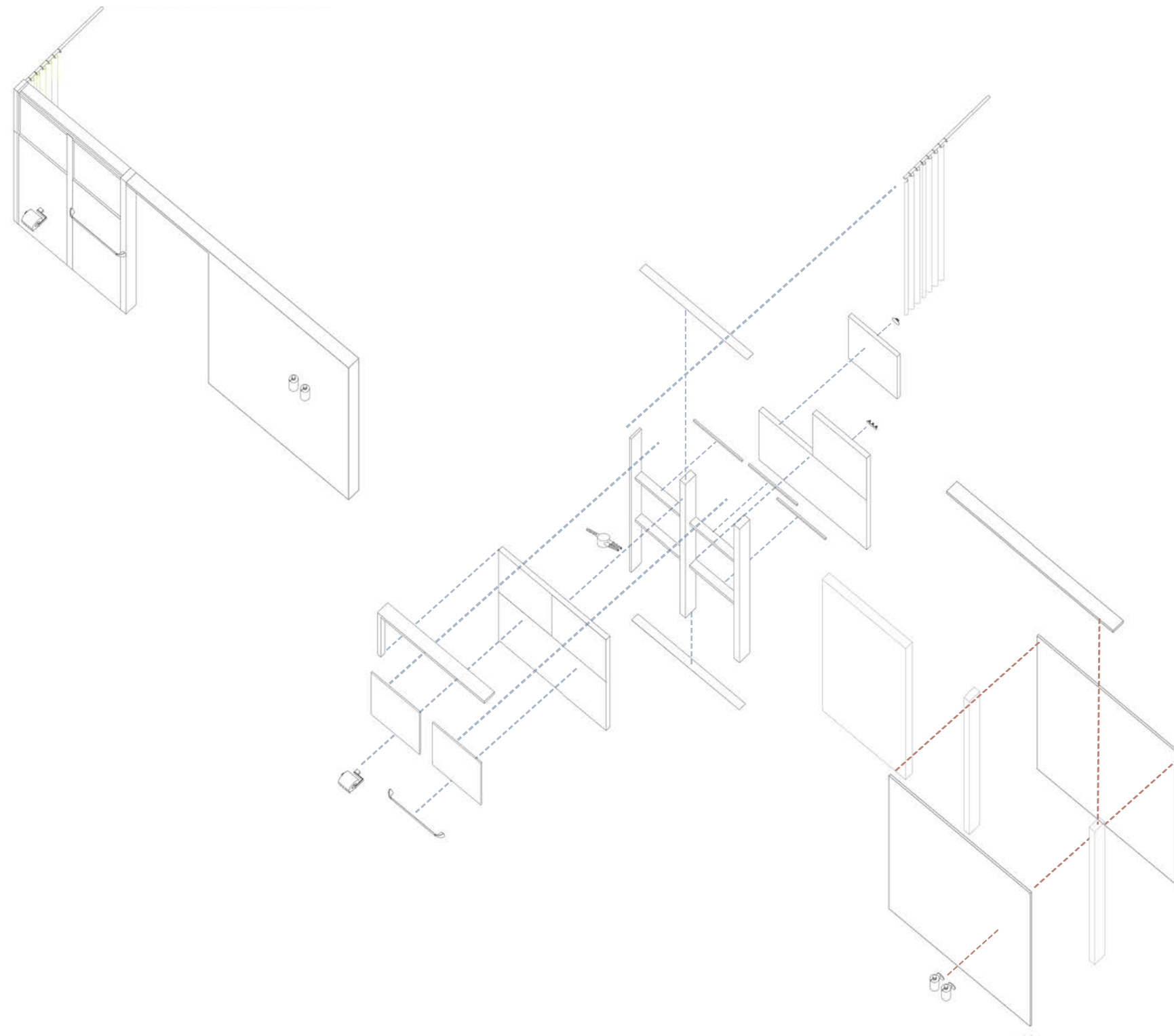


SECTION A-A Scale 1:10



2. DOUBLE-SIDED WALL UNIT

ASSEMBLY OF UNIT



PG 21.

2. DOUBLE-SIDED WALL UNIT

DETAILS



A user control panel features three antique bronze effect dials offering a tactile experience.

Each dial is assigned a dedicated function:

- Room Lighting – controls the main ambient lighting.
- Bathroom Lighting – controls separate lighting for the bathroom.
- Temperature Control – allows for intuitive adjustment of room temperature.

Individually engraved with a symbolic icon that intuitively reflects its function.

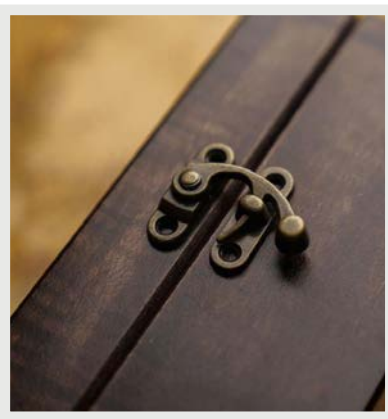
Fitted with a tiny, discreet LED dot to indicate the active setting—providing just enough feedback without compromising the vintage look - visible in the dark but not an annoyance.

Surrounded by engraved level markers giving a tactile guide for setting and adjustment.

Electrics are concealed in this unit with on input to allow for easy placement, maintenance and replacement.



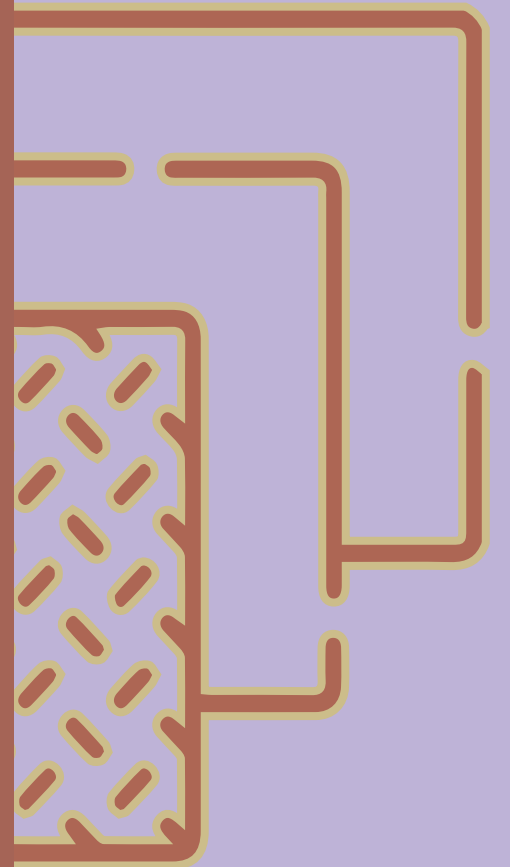
Handle



Clasp

MATERIAL RESEARCH

MATERIAL RESEARCH
MATERIAL RESEARCH
MATERIAL RESEARCH



PG 25.

LOCAL MATERIAL RESEARCH

RED BRICK



Seen in Chester’s architectural heritage. Enhancing this existing material will add texture and a sense of place to the design. It brings warmth and character and will connectstheinteriortotheexistingbuilding.

SLATE



Slate or Stone and the darker grey colours including slight hints of purple, referencing the historic architecture and durability.

WOOD



Reused timber and antique furniture will be featured in the lobby and throughout the third space supporting a sustainable reuse strategy through local salvage sources. In the guest rooms, durable wood to be chosen for its longevity, ease of maintenance, and natural qualities that promote well-being by bringing warmth and a sense of calm into the space.

BRONZE



Bronze or alternatively brass detailing – to add warmth and a sense of craftsmanship, like the archives this will suggest heritage.

SANDSTONE



Tones of this material to be introduced, helping to create a balanced and inviting colour.

IRON



A material deeply connected to Chester’s industrial and architectural history, often seen in historic ironwork like railings, gates, and structural details.

GUEST ROOM MATERIALS

GUEST ROOM

This project aims to create a minimalist space that is functional and calming, inspired by traditional Japanese design. The goal is to keep things simple but thoughtful.

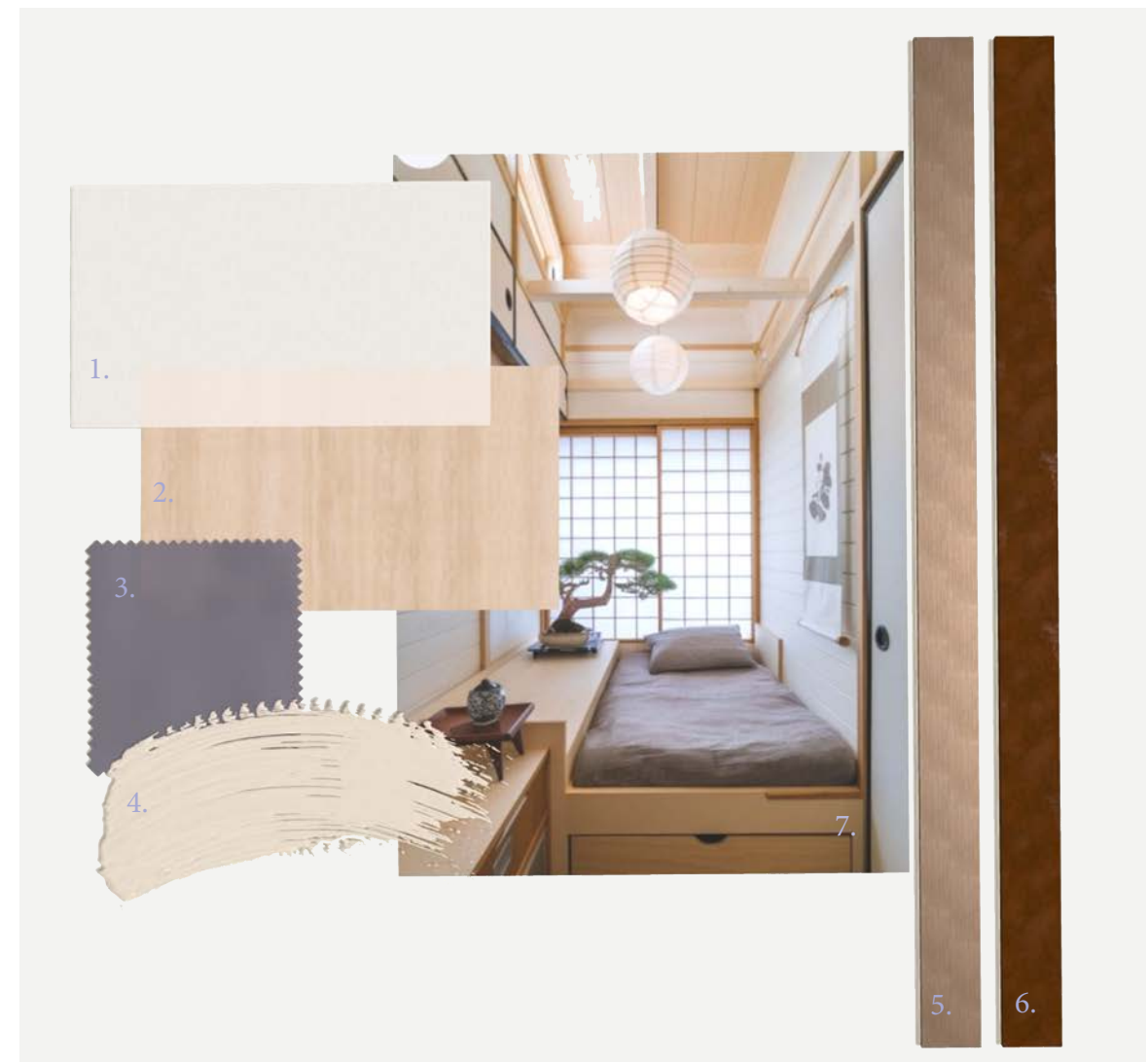
The room will be compact but designed with space efficiency in mind — for example, a built-in bed with storage drawers underneath to keep the space tidy and organized without clutter.

A neutral colour palette of warm wood tones and soft beige will set a relaxing, peaceful mood, while natural light filters in to make the space feel welcoming and support overall well-being.

Natural materials will be used wherever possible to promote sustainability. These materials are durable, biodegradable, and better for the environment, supporting a design that is built to last.

To enhance sustainability further, smart thermostats will be introduced to manage temperature and energy use, helping guests stay comfortable without wasting energy, and contributing to the eco-friendly goals of the space.

MATERIAL BOARD



1. Shōji Paper
2. Birch Plywood (High Grade)
3. Linen or Organic Cotton
4. 'High Style Beige' Colour
5. Brass
6. Bronze

LIGHT RESEARCH

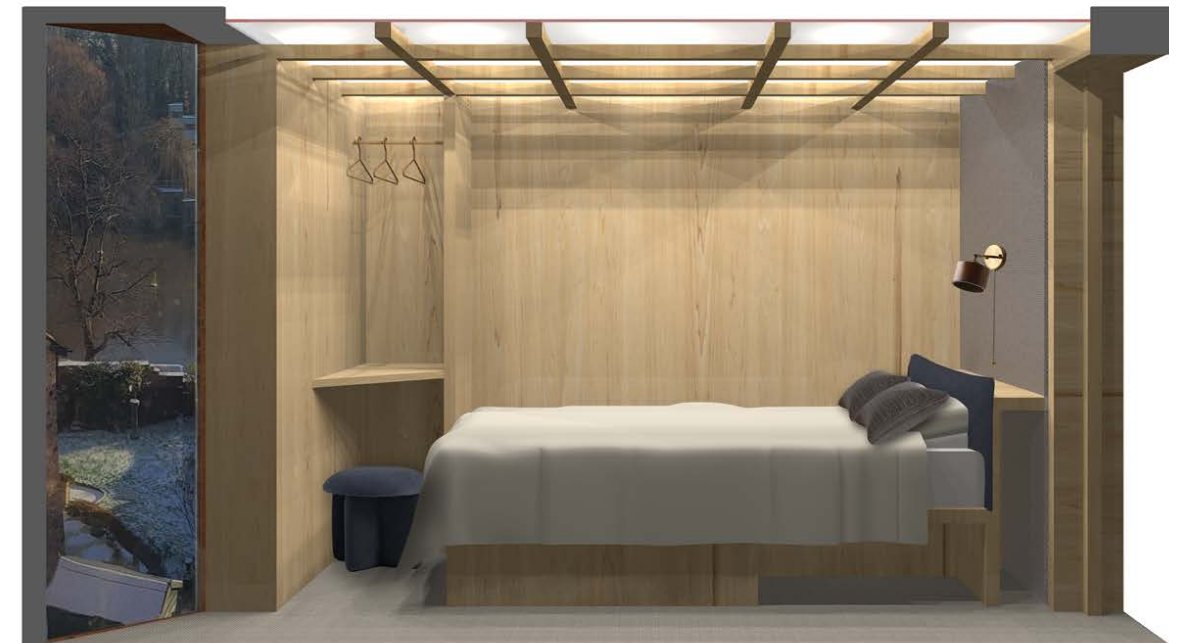
EXPLORATION OF LIGHT ELEMENT



While the room features a dimmable ceiling light with a Shoji paper detail to create a soft, ambient atmosphere, this smaller reading lamp is intended to offer a more focused lighting option.

An exploration into a compact, hardwearing reading light, drawing character from elsewhere in the building; the light will be adjustable, easy to reach, securely fixed with internal wiring, and constructed from durable, non-glass materials to prevent damage or theft.

DAY



NIGHT



PG 31.

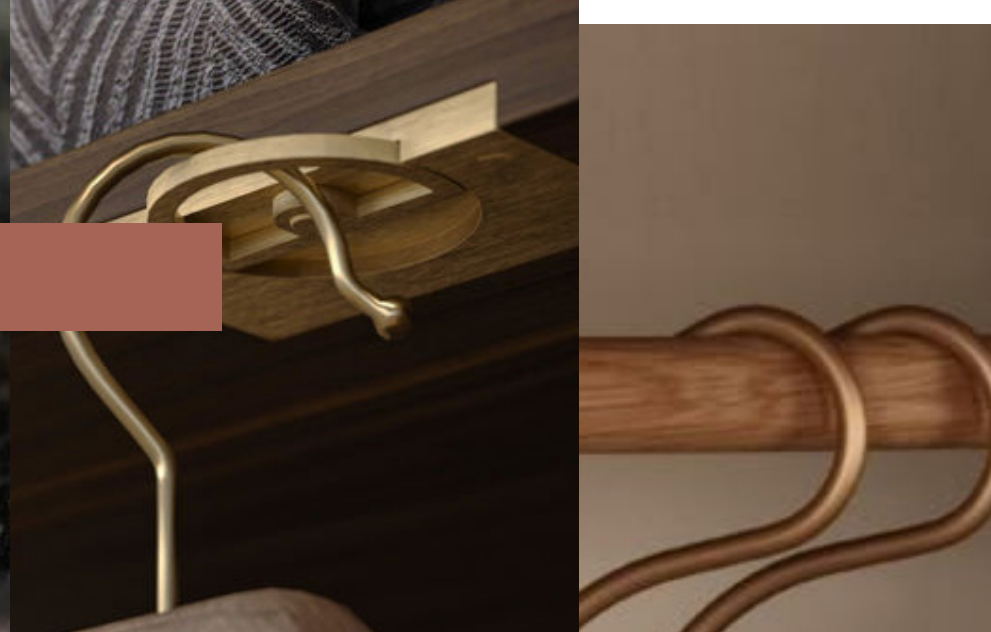
MATERIAL STUDY

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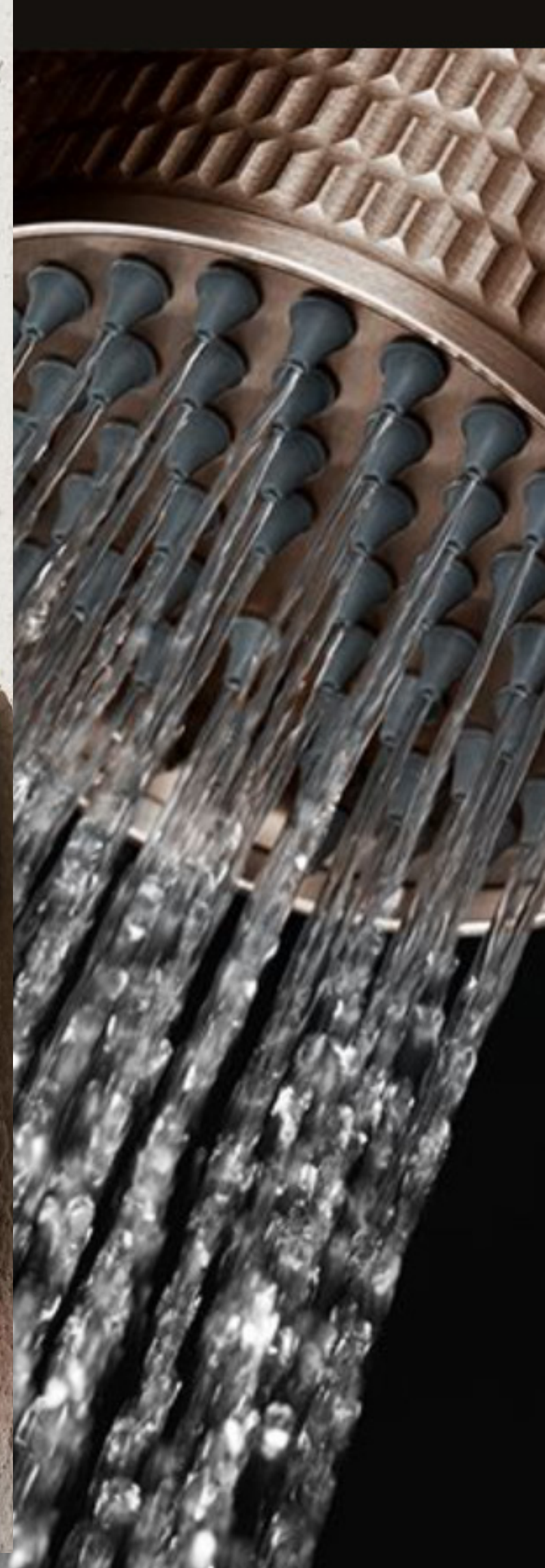
PG 33.



MATERIAL PRECEDENTS



MATERIAL PRECEDENTS



MATERIAL BOARD

1.

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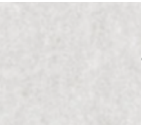
10.

11.

12.

- 1. IRON
- 2. BIRCH PLYWOOD
- 3. BRASS DIALS
- 4. SHOJI PAPER
- 5. OTTOMAN
- 6. CARPET TILE
- 7. FEATURE CUSHION
- 8. LINEN/COTTON
- 9. READING LAMP
- 10. LAVENDER
- 11. HEADBOARD FABRIC
- 12. PRECEDENT

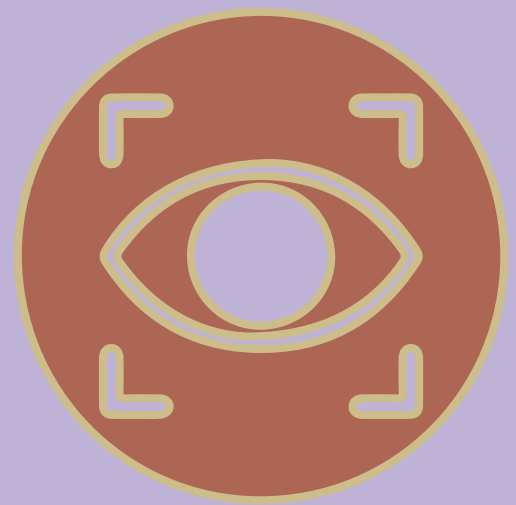
FF & E SCHEDULE

PRODUCTS	NAME	MATERIAL/FINISH	DIMENSIONS	QTY*	DATA	MAINTANANCE/CARE	SOURCE	COST/unit	FUTURE USE
	Birch Plywood Wall Panels	Birch Plywood (High Grade)	Bespoke	N/a		N/a	https://hanson-plywood.co.uk/products/exterior-glued-birch-through-out-plywood/	POA	https://www.unilinpanels.com/en-gb/about-unilin-panels/sustainability/circularity/take-back-programme
	White Warlon Laminated Shoji paper	Japanese rice paper laminated with a plastic vinyl resin	1.0 mmx 930mm x 2040 mm	x6		N/a	https://www.shojidesigns.com/	POA	Recyclable
	Maggie Harris Tweed	Wool	1550mm	x3		Hand wash	https://merchantandmills.com/uk/maggie-harris-tweed	51.50	Recyclable
	Carpet Tile	Yarn and backing Desso Tactile1 AD46 9097-V B8 Ref. 71229600	500 x 500 mm	x36		See manual	www.professionals.tarkett.com	POA	Cradle to Cradle
	Duvet & Pillow Set	100% Eygptian Cotton	Small Double	x1		Recommended wash 30-40°C	https://www.soakandsleep.com/classic-200-thread-count-egyptian-cotton-bed-linen-duvet-covers.html	86.50	Recyclable
	Long Pole Wall Light	Walnut	150 x 150mm	x1		N/a	www.afralia.com	75.01	Re-Sell
	Madeline Ottoman	Chenille tweed	510mm Diameter x 470mm Height	x1		See manual	www.westelm.co.uk	149.50	Re-Sell
	Double-sided Wall Unit	Birch Plywood (High Grade)	3000mx2000mx2000mm	x1	N/a	N/a	Bespoke	N/a	Recyclable

*per room

3D VISUALS

3D VISUALS
3D VISUALS
3D VISUALS
3D VISUALS

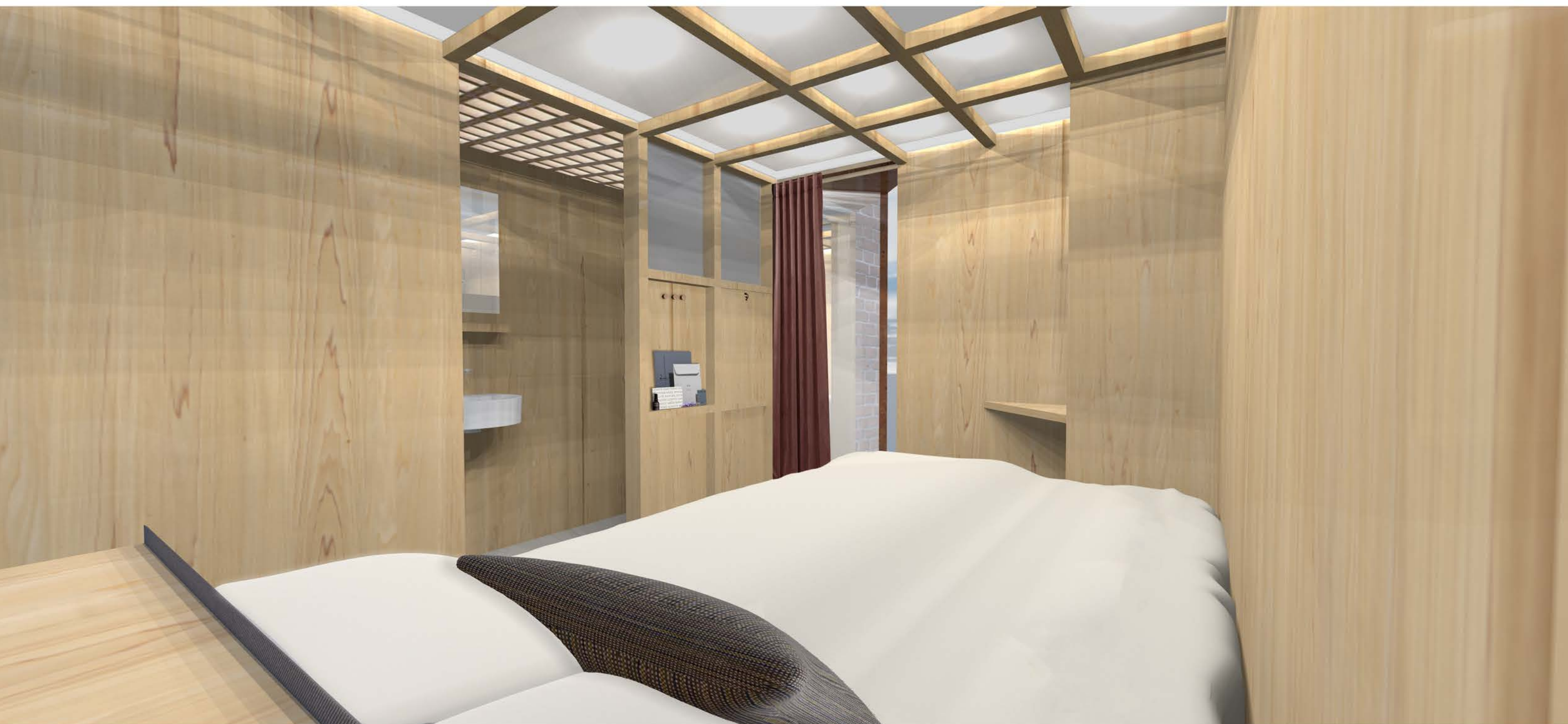


PG 43.

GUEST ROOM



GUEST ROOM



THIRD SPACE



THIRD SPACE



LOBBY SPACE



LOBBY SPACE



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Stag & Manor. (2025). Body Wash [Image]. <https://stagandmanor.com/products/danish-body-wash?variant=40204430672026>

Joseph Giles (2025). Rotating recessed hanger [Image]. https://www.josephgiles.com/products/fa1007-sincro-rotating-recessed-hanger/?utm_source=pinterest&utm_medium=ads&utm_campaign=wardrobehardware-012025&utm_content=sincro&pp=1