Here to Here Before is a research center designed as a bridge between Karst topography and architecture. Located in an ancient landscape, the Friesenhahn Cave is a sinkhole formed in the region’s karst topography. The old history of the karst sinkhole in deep time needs to be told.

To connect history and today, the programs are designed as switching from architecture to karst caves. In this process, the buildings combine the 20,000 years old Friesenhahn Cave with the current period, bringing the memories to people. With the decreased elevation height of the landscape, visitors will have a sense that they are walking into the cave through the programs. The project’s destination is the entrance of Friesenhahn Cave, leading people to experience the karst features.
20000 years ago: The Karst landscape was formed by the erosion of water.

1885: Forest covered the Karst Features.

2021: Residential areas surround the forest.

Site Location: 39.37334748, -102.0323374

Observation Point A

Observation Point B
I am one of the members who visit the Friesenhahn Cave. After leaving the parking lot, the height of the sidewalk goes lower and lower until I enter the underground archive gallery, which makes me feel like I walk inside the cave. The exit of the archive faces the real entrance of the cave. Like Dante's Inferno said, "Till on our view the beautiful lights of heaven Dawn'd through a circular opening in the cave: Thus issuing we again beheld the stars."

I am one of the members who live in the Pleistocene Research Center researching the Scimitar Tooth Cats. All the research center programs are designed as a combination of karst topography and architecture. The karst features filled my living environment, which made my life and my research project have a strong relationship. Did the Scimitar Tooth Cats live in a similar environment 20000 years ago? Did they also amazed by the beautiful karst features?

Karren (or "lapies") is a natural karst landform consisting of a flat, incised surface of exposed limestone that resembles an artificial pavement.

Karst Window is a feature where the spring emerges, then the discharge abruptly disappears into a sinkhole.

Doline is a natural enclosed depression found in karst landscapes. It can be cylindrical, conical, bowl- or dish-shaped.

Ambie is a deep vertical shaft in karst.

Stalactite is an icicle-shaped formation that hangs from the ceiling of a cave and is produced by precipitation of minerals from water dripping through the cave ceiling.
1 Entrance
2 "Dirty Space" of Karts Window Lab
3 "Grey Space" of Karts Window Lab
4 "Clean Space"
5 Lounge
6 Uni-sex Restroom
7 Deck
8 Sidewalk
9 Deck of Library