

2022 MERIT

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RENSELAER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE

FACULTY ADVISOR - RHETT RUSSO

LYCEUM

A traveling fellowship in Architecture



Archive name: *Here to Here Before*

Material: *Karst, steel and wood*

Location: *Friesenhahn Cave Site*

Application ID: *LF-9894*



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.





HERE TO HERE BEFORE
PLEISTOCENE RESEARCH CENTER

CONCEPT

Karst Geology



Karren Karst Window Doline Amibe Stalactites

Inchoation Formation

Karst Erosion (clay slices)



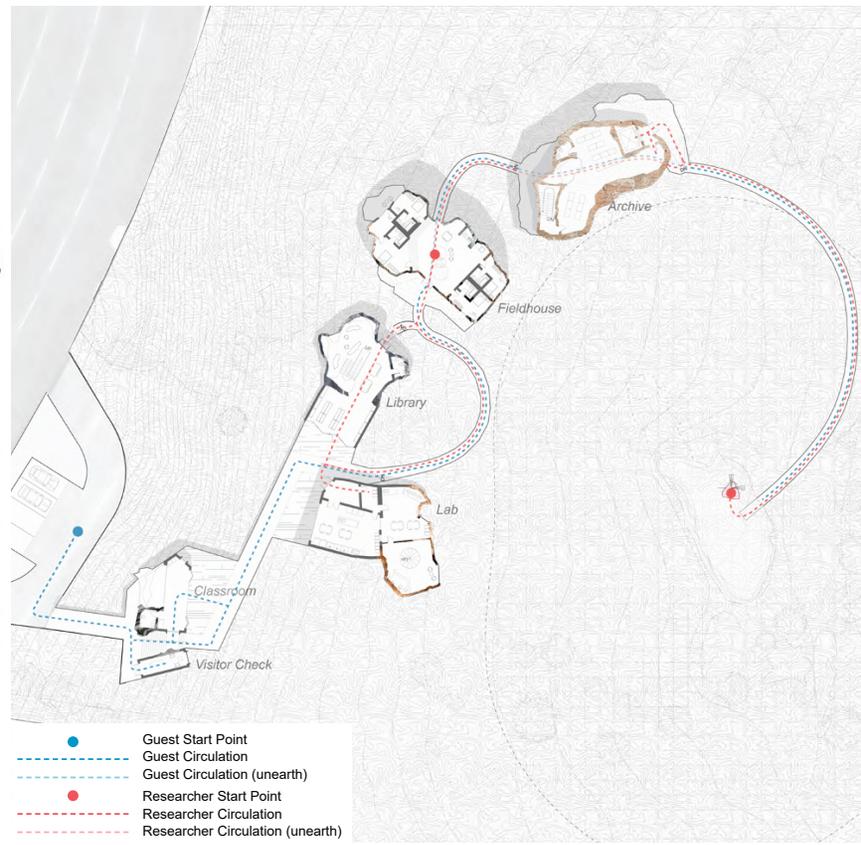
One Day One Year A Hundred Years A Thousand Years Twenty Thousand Years Old

Karst Erosion touches Architecture (clay models)



Threshold Portion Half Conceal Completely Karst Stones Karst

Karst & Architecture Programs



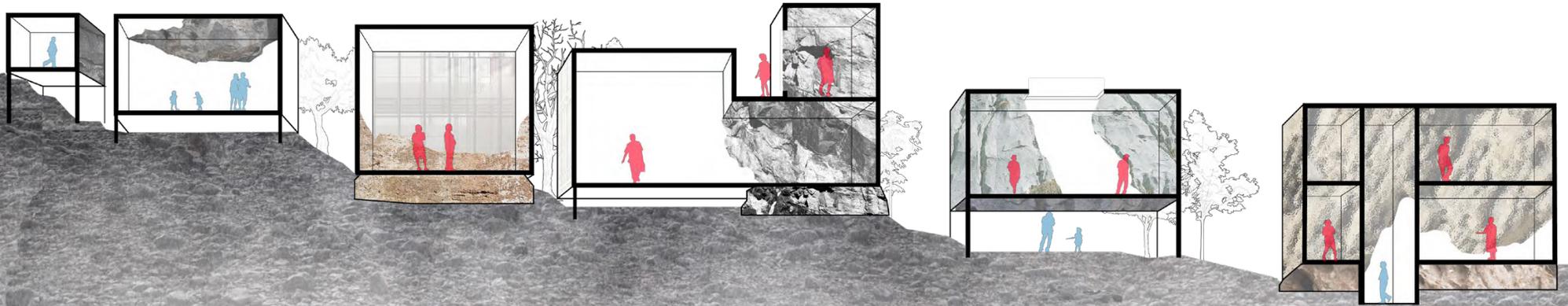
1 Visitor Check & Classroom

2 Lab

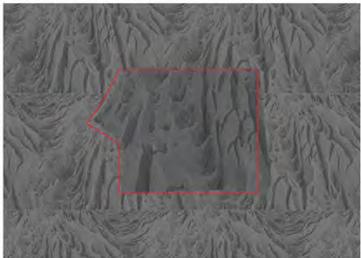
3 Library

4 Fieldhouse

5 Archive



SITE ANALYSIS



20000 years ago The Karst landscape was formed by the erosion of water.



1985 Forest covered the Karst Features



2021 Residential area invaded the forest.



Site Location
29°40'53.47N 98°28'25.87W



Observation Point A

They are some normal buildings...



Observation Point B

Oh! They become caves!



Karren (or 'lapiés') 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.



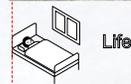
Seminar



Experience



Research



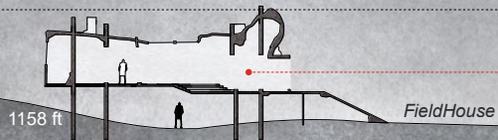
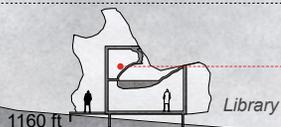
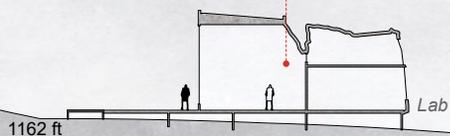
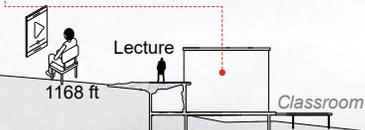
Life



Document



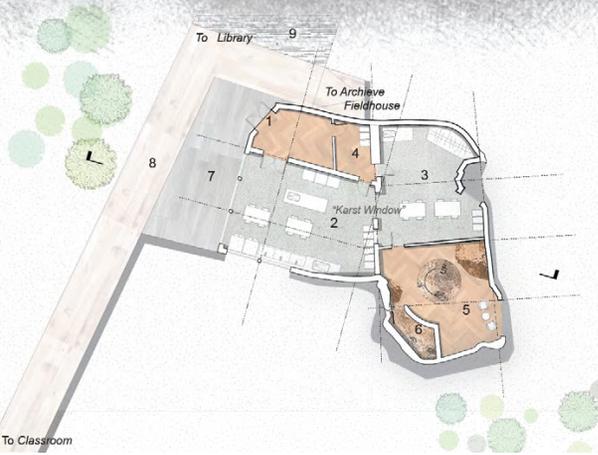
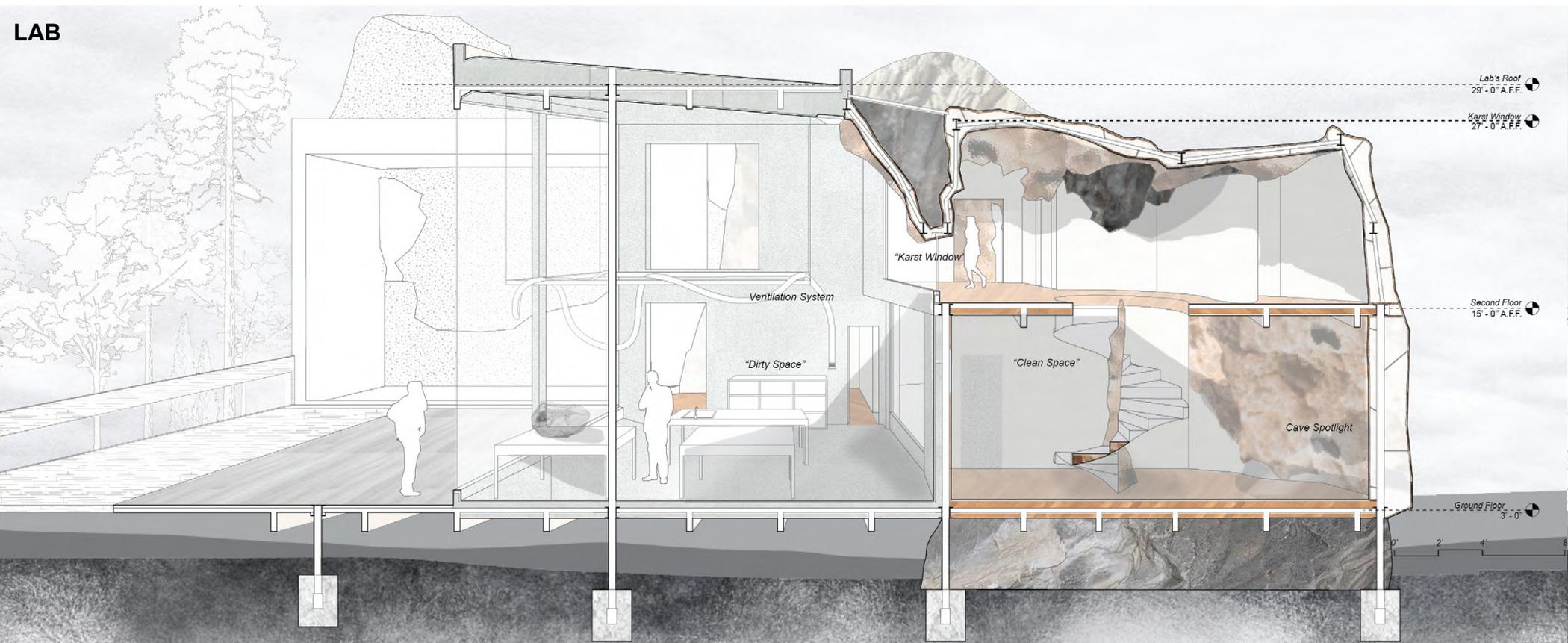
Visit



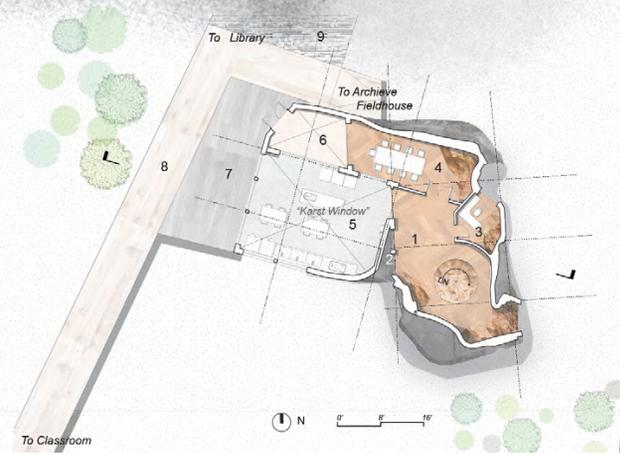
Story of Visitor
I am one of the members who visit the Friesenhahn Cave. After leaving the parking lot, the height of the sitewalk goes lower and lower until I enter the underground archive gallery, which makes me feel like I walk inside the cave. The exit of the archive faces the real entrance of the 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."

Story of Researcher
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 has 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?

LAB

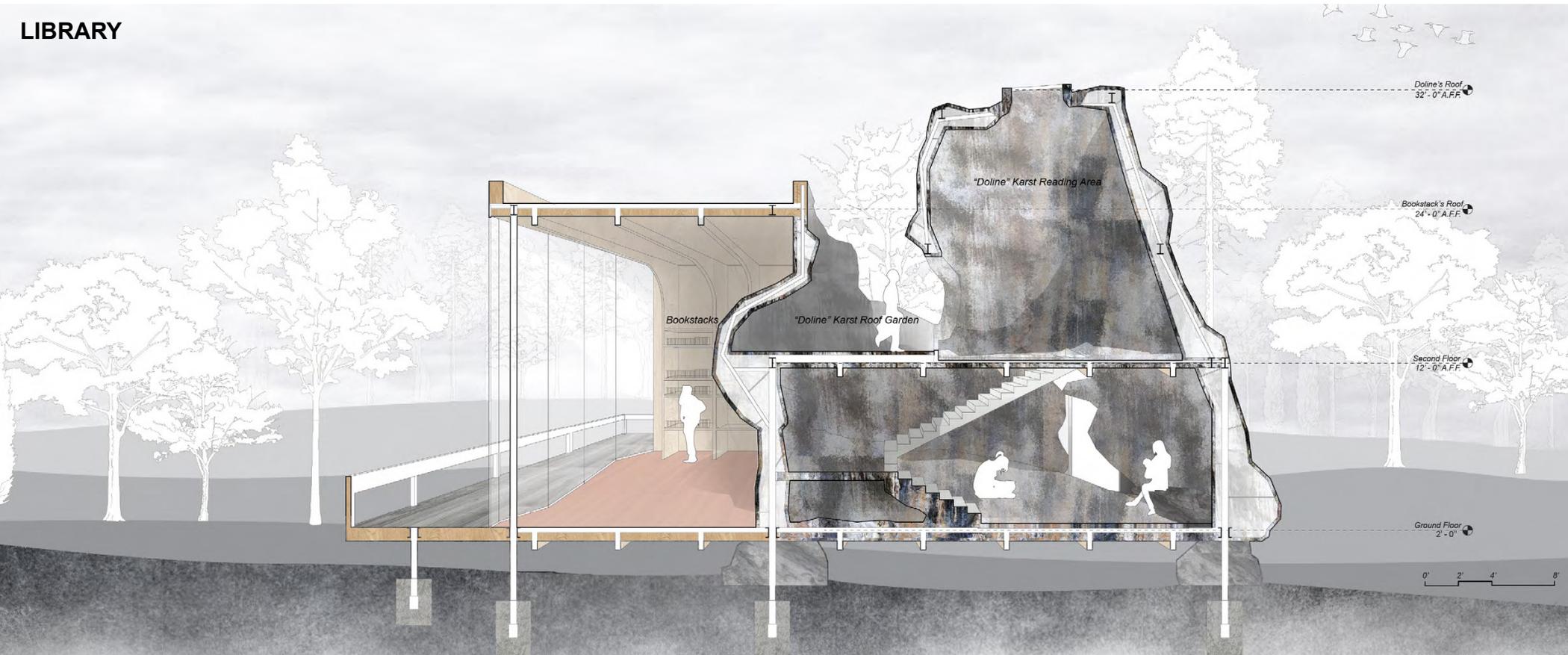


- SPZ
- 1 Entrance
 - 2 "Dirty Space" of Karts Window Lab
 - 3 "Grey Space" of Karts Window Lab
 - 4 "Clean Space"
 - 5 Lounge
 - 6 Uni-sex Restroom
 - 7 Deck
 - 8 Sitewalk
 - 9 Deck of Library



- SPZ
- 1 Gallery
 - 2 "Karst Window"
 - 3 Office
 - 4 Meeting room
 - 5 Open to Below
 - 6 Open to Below
 - 7 Deck
 - 8 Sitewalk
 - 9 Deck of Library

LIBRARY



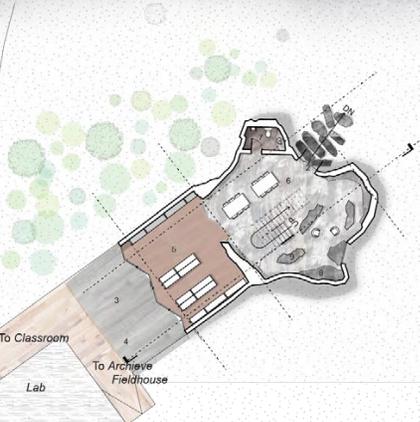
Doline's Roof
32'-0" A.F.F.

Bookstack's Roof
24'-0" A.F.F.

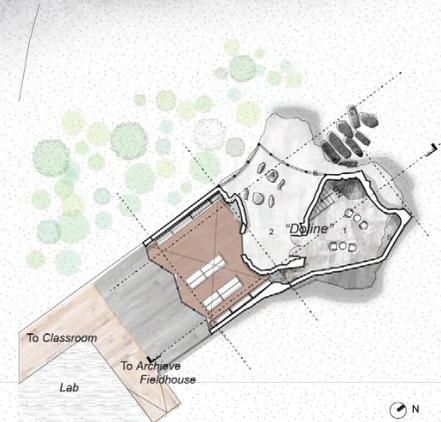
Second Floor
12'-0" A.F.F.

Ground Floor
2'-0"

0' 2' 4' 8'



- 1 Entrance
- 2 Entrance
- 3 Deck
- 4 Sitewalk
- 5 Bookstacks
- 6 Reading Area
- 7 Uni-sex Restroom
- 8 Karst Seats
- 9 Karst Bookshelf



- 1 "Doline" Reading area
- 2 "Doline" Roof Garden
- 3 Karst Limestone Window
- 4 Karst Seating Area
- 5 Karst Seats
- 6 Handrail

N 0' 8' 16'

ARCHIVE

