Forest design principles

Scale

We have already looked at how the scale of the landscape influences its character

We have considered how the scale of the landscape can be assessed relative to a feature or ourselves

Scale describes the relative size between the elements seen and experienced by the viewer

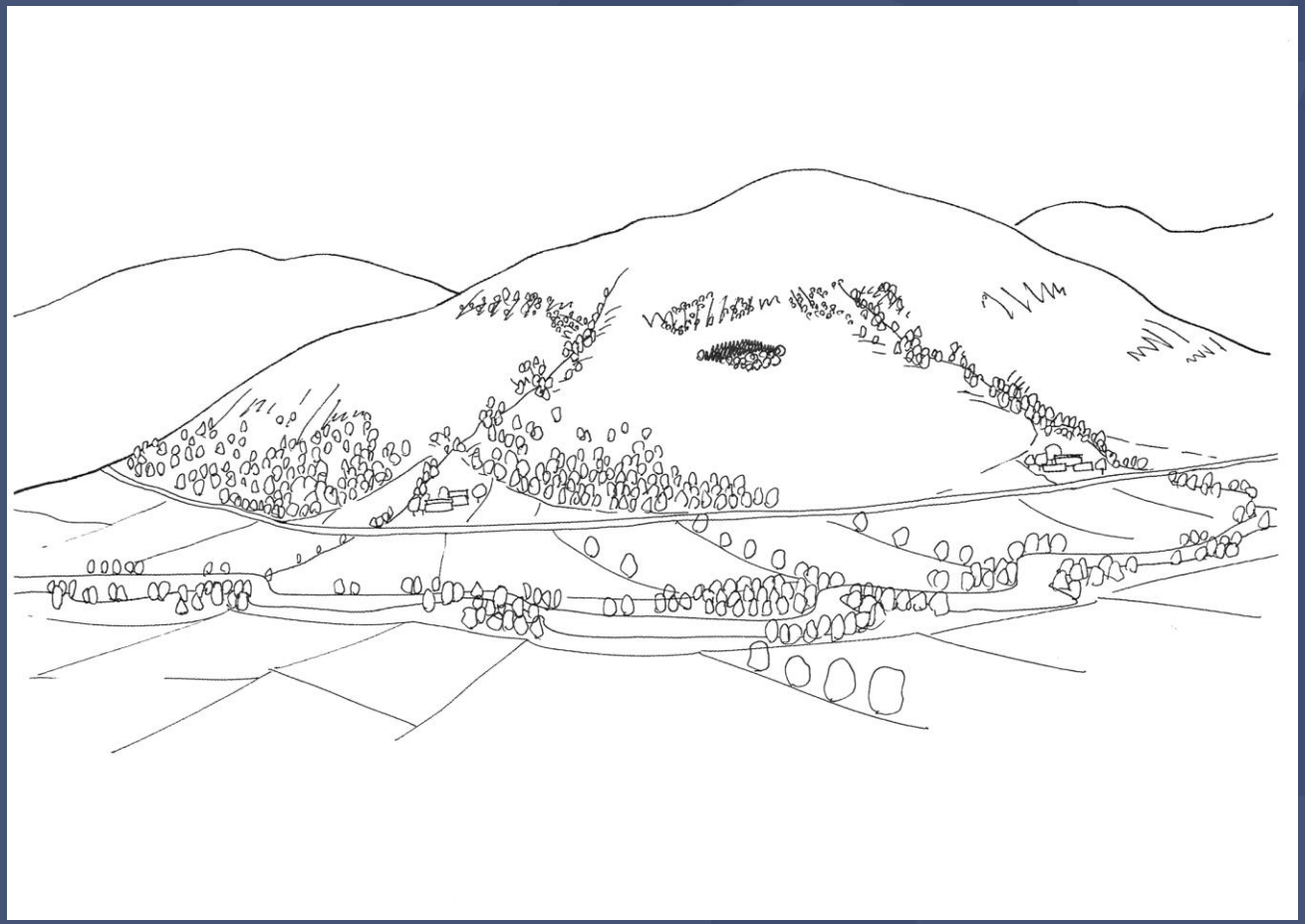
Generally, the scale of a forest or landscape, and the shapes within it, should reflect landscape scale.

Forest design principles

Scale

Forest design principles

Scale

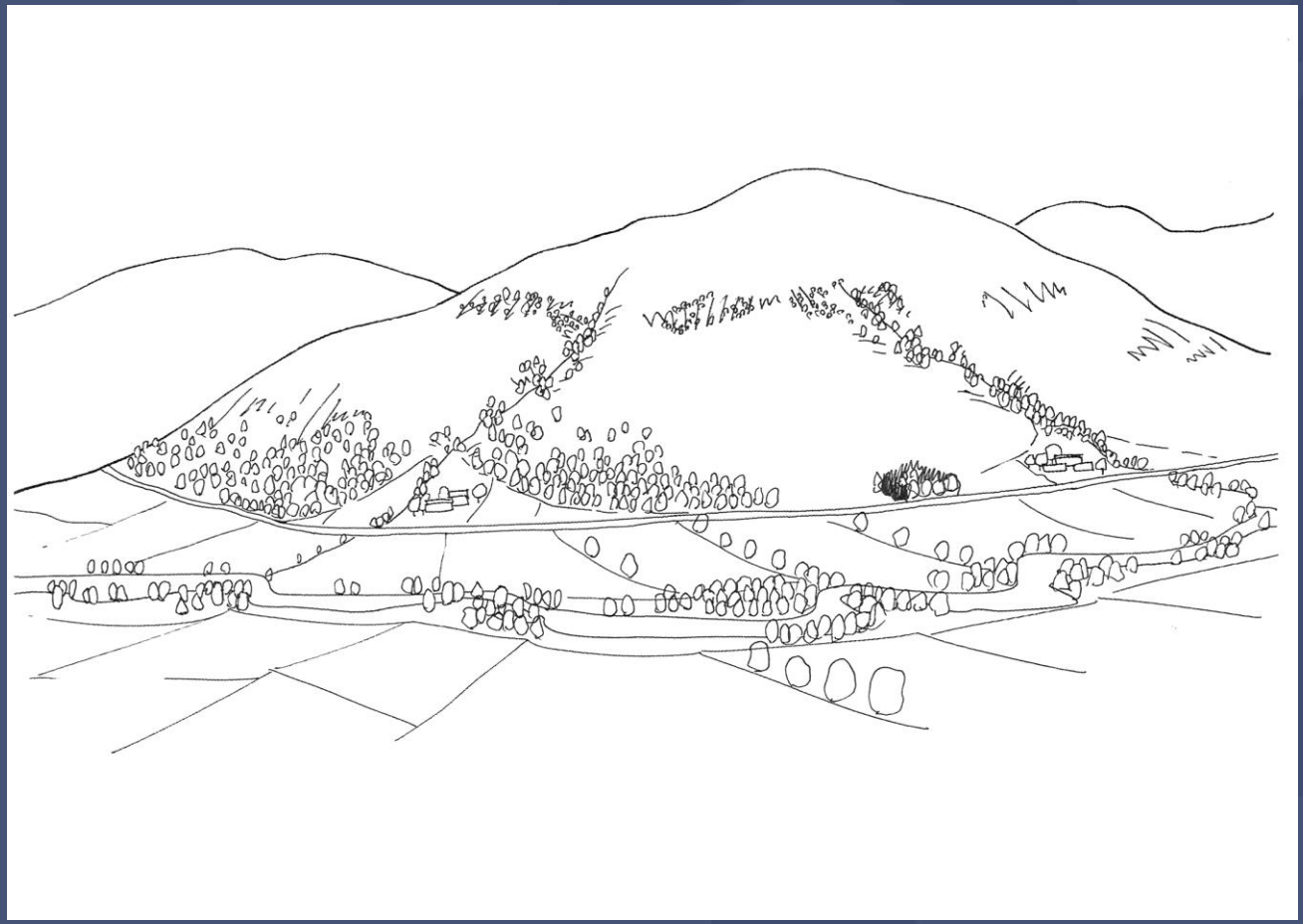


Forest design principles

Scale

Forest design principles

Scale



Forest design principles

Scale

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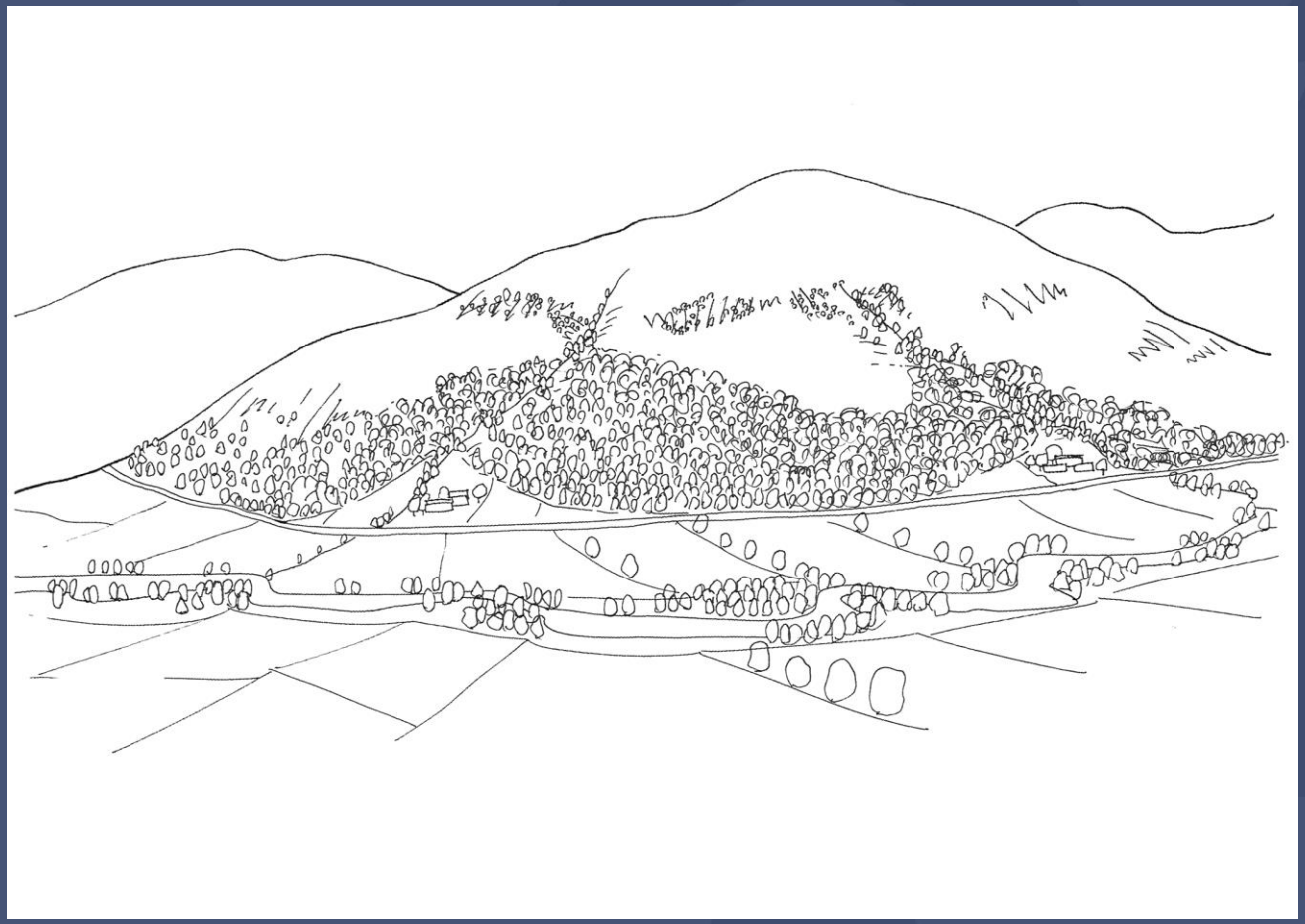
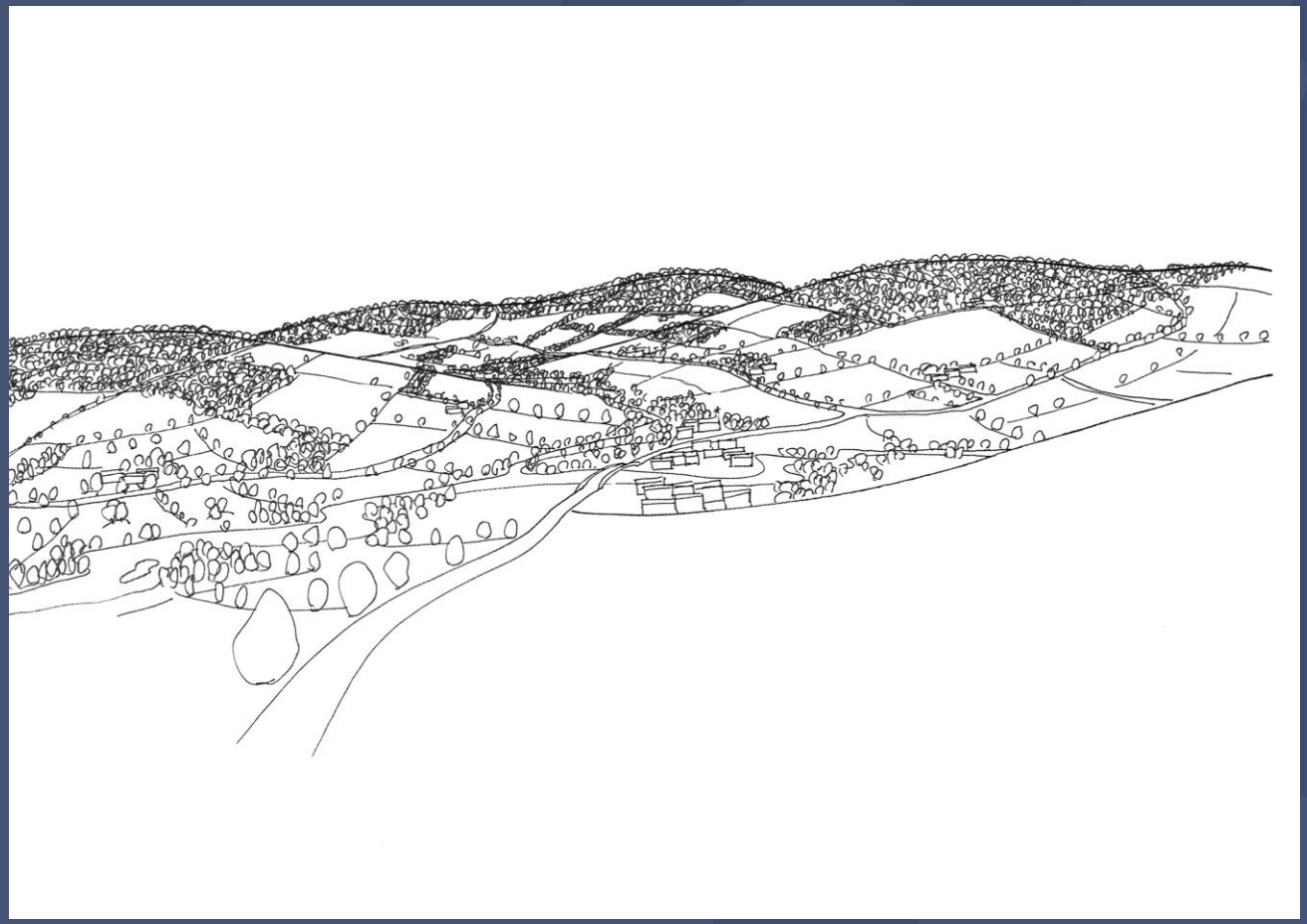


Forest design principles

Scale

Forest design principles

Scale



Forest design principles

Scale and proportion

To respect existing character, the scale of the woodland should relate to the scale reflected in the existing landscape - whether it is landform or enclosure pattern that dominates

Landscape scale reduces lower down a hillside

The amount of open space left when a hillside is planted should also be in scale with the landscape

This is one example of designing with proportion.

Forest design principles

Scale and proportion

No discussion of proportion would be complete without looking at the ‘Rule of Thirds’

The ‘Rule of Thirds’ is a simplified way of applying the ‘Golden Ratio’.

Forest design principles

The Golden Ratio

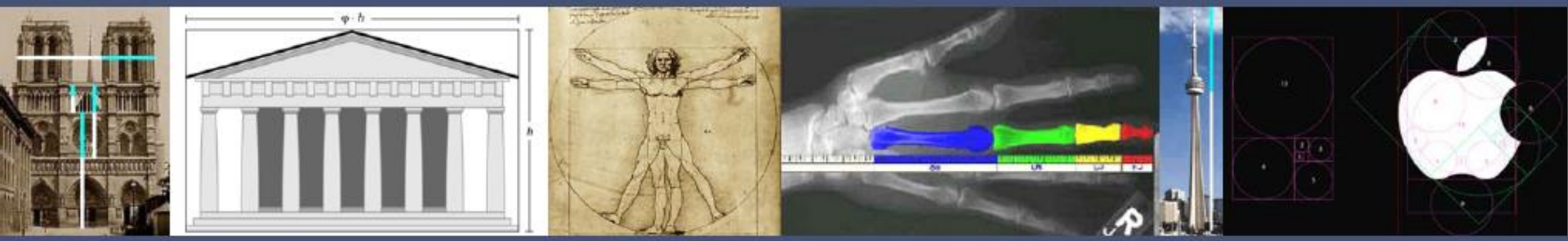
The Golden Ratio is regarded as being the ideal way to divide something into two perfectly proportioned parts

Forest design principles

The Golden Ratio

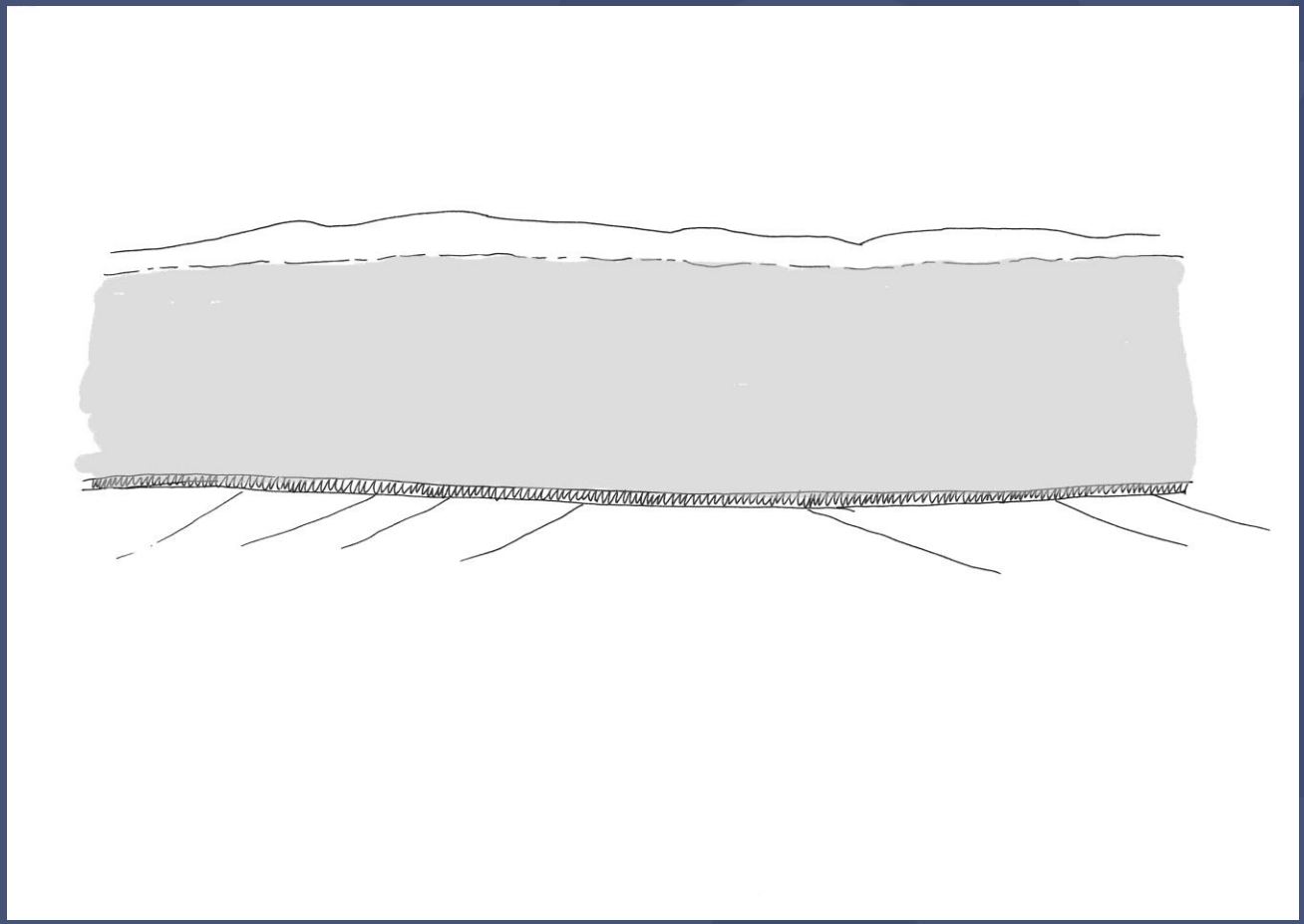
The Golden Ratio is everywhere you look in nature and these mathematical proportions have been applied by designers for thousands of years

The Golden Ratio (0.618 - 0.382) is very close to the 'rule of thirds' (0.666 - 0.333), but is mathematically more elegant



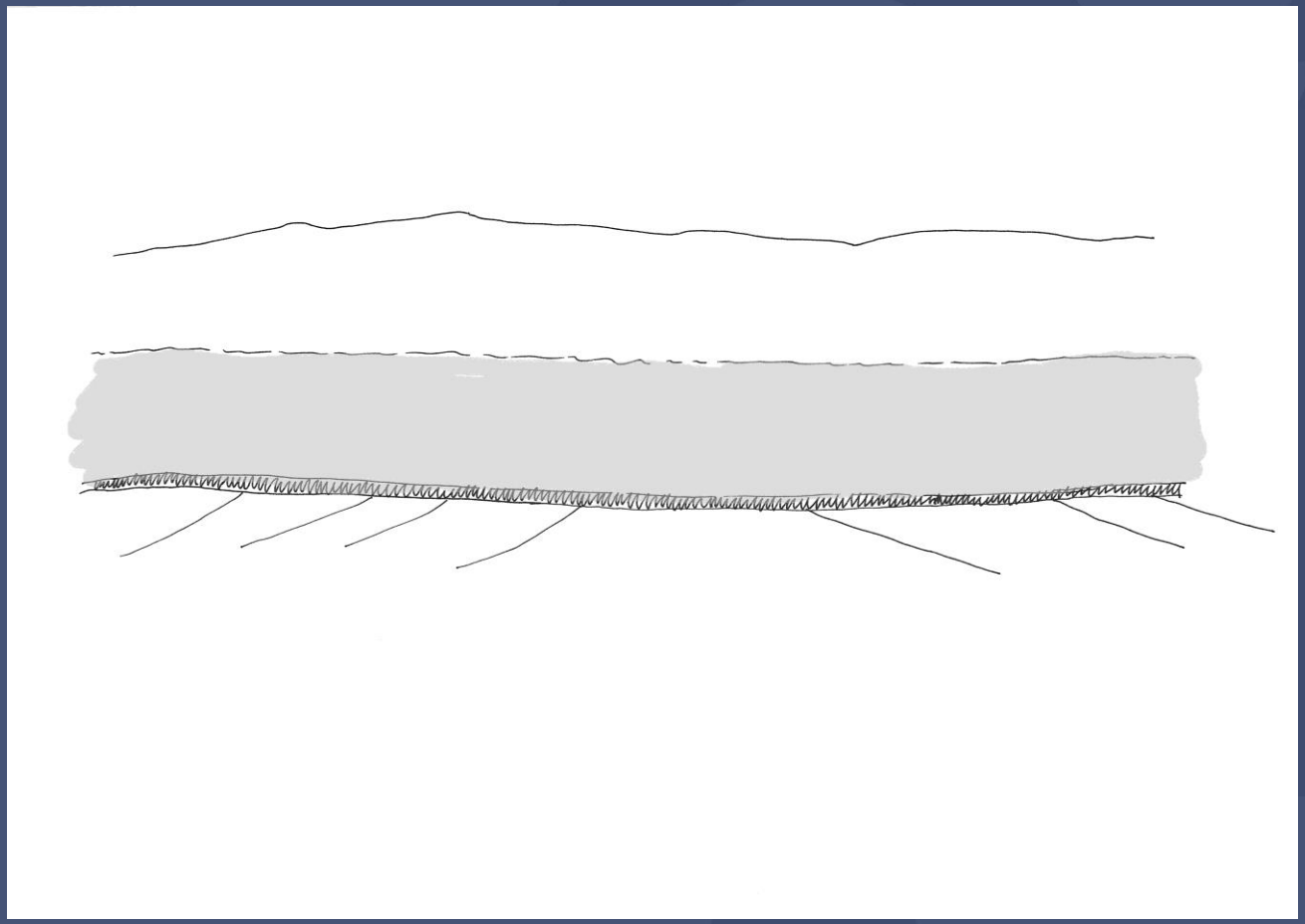
Forest design principles

Scale and proportion



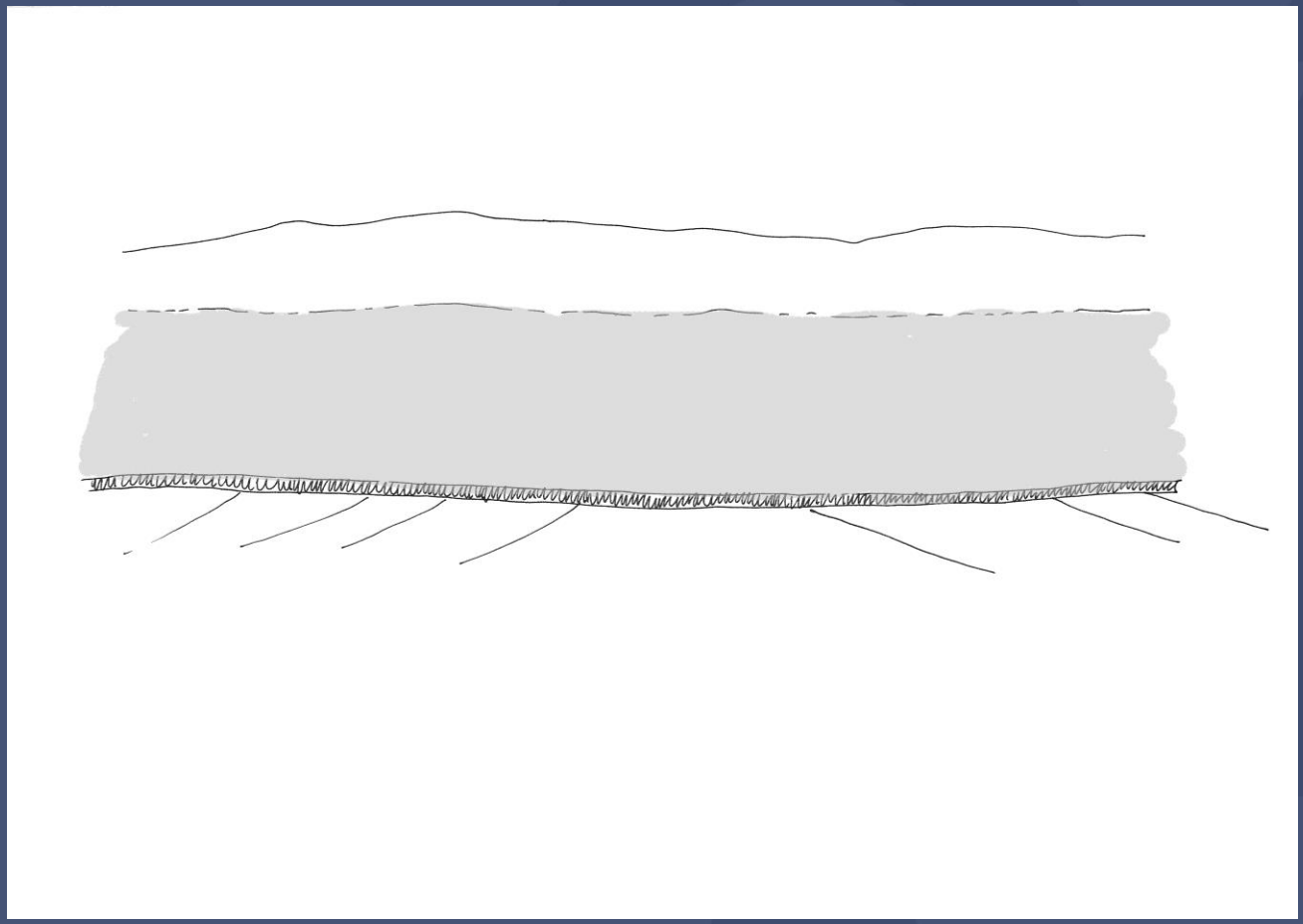
Forest design principles

Scale and proportion



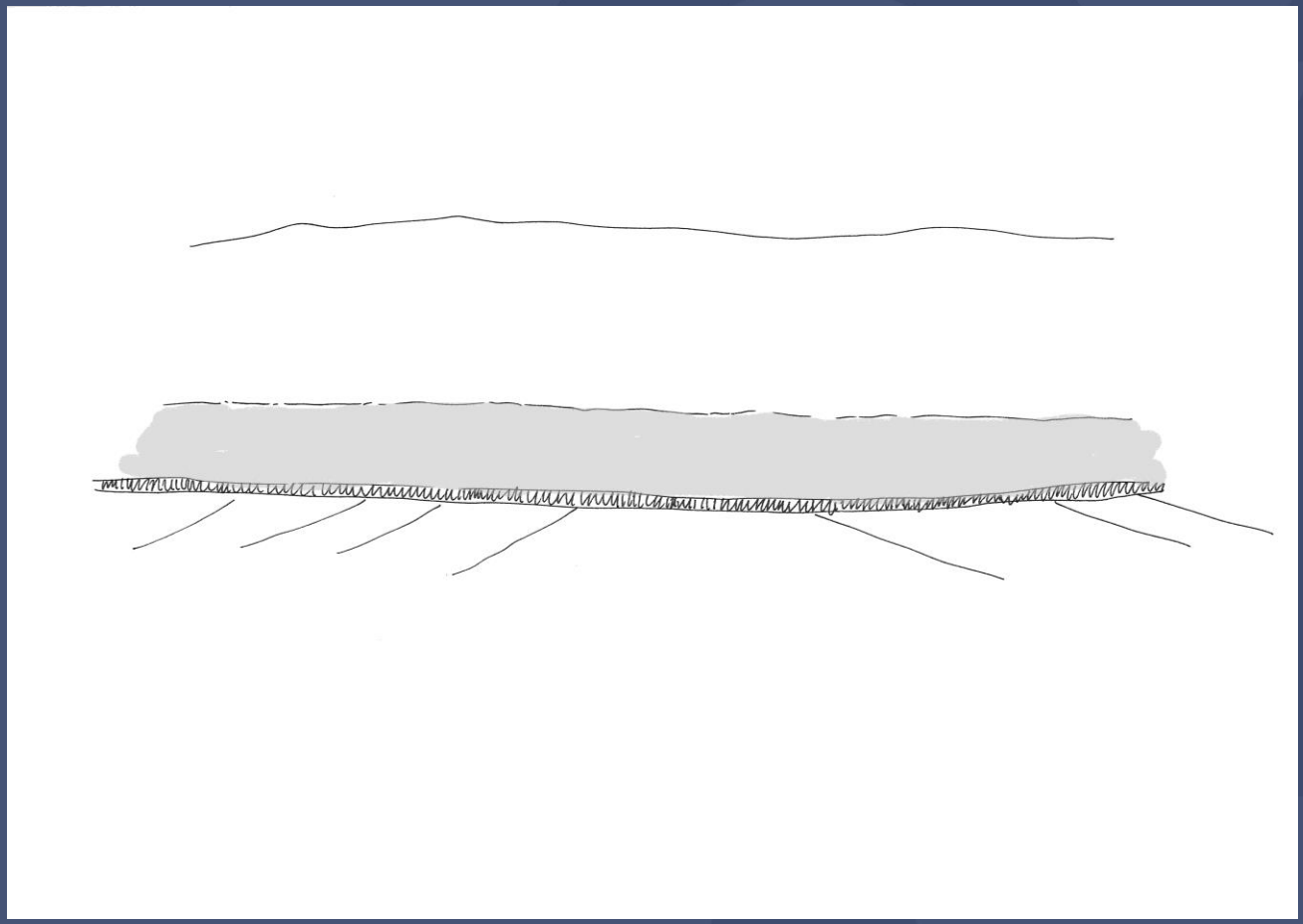
Forest design principles

Scale and proportion



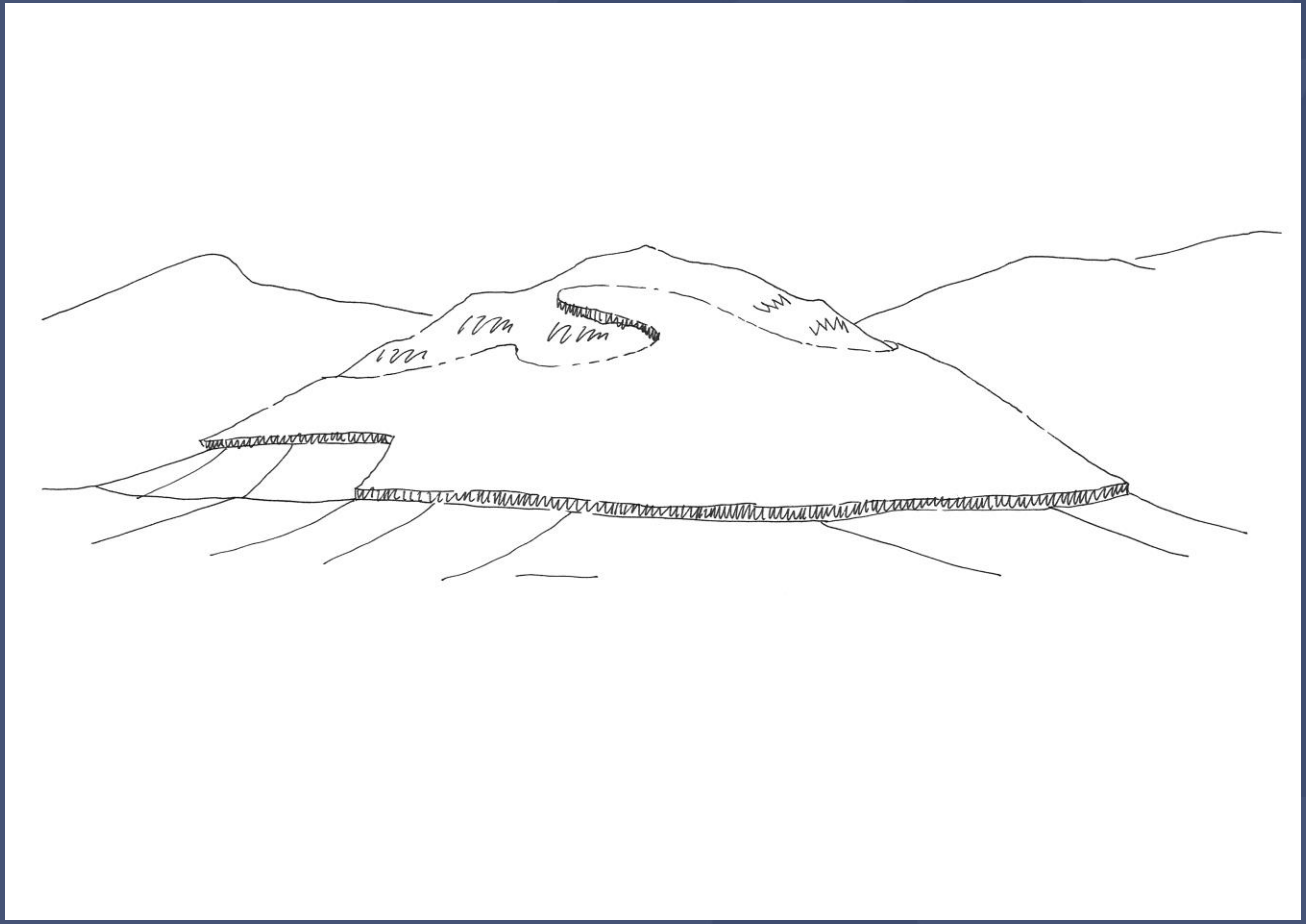
Forest design principles

Scale and proportion



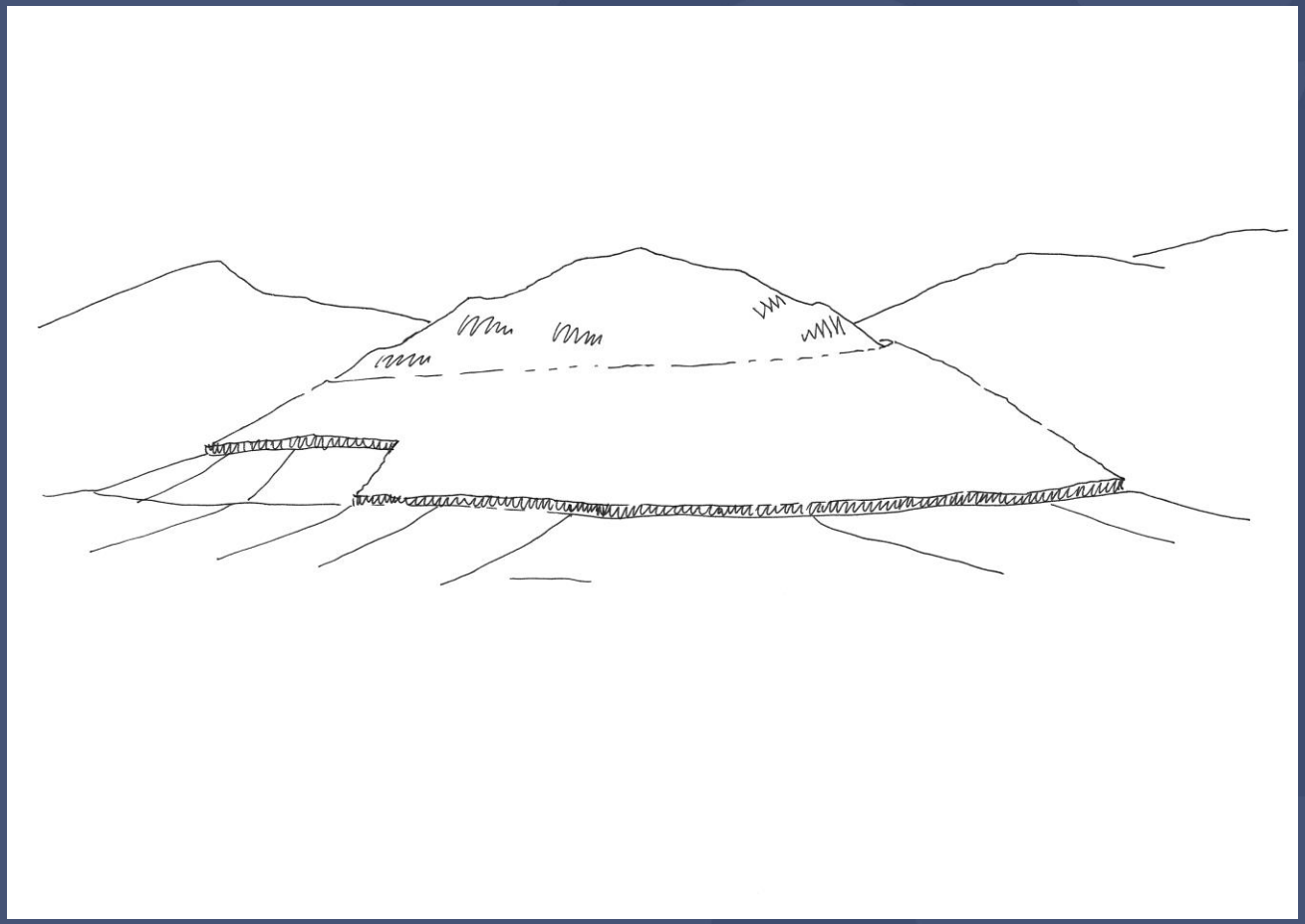
Forest design principles

Scale and proportion



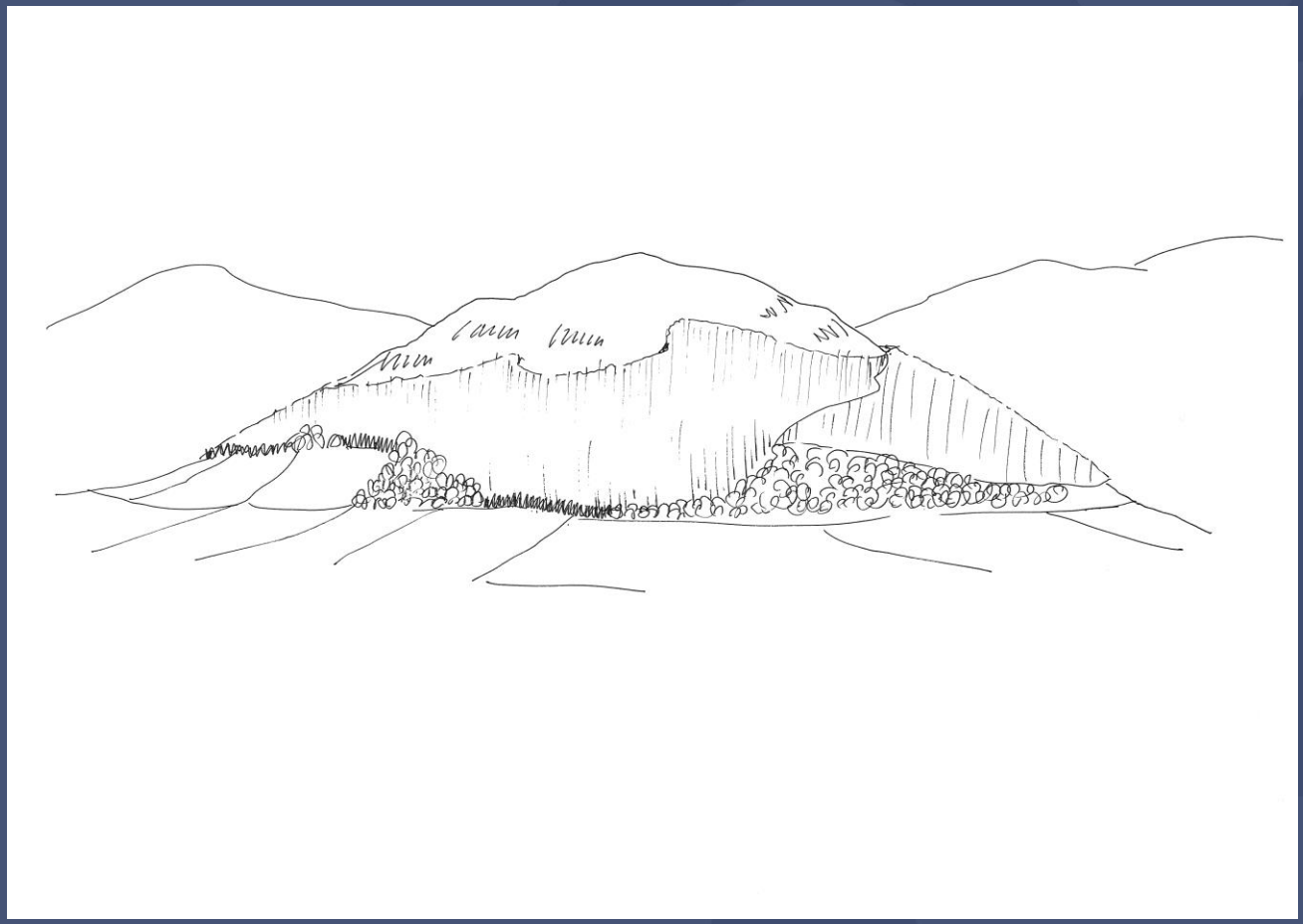
Forest design principles

Scale and proportion



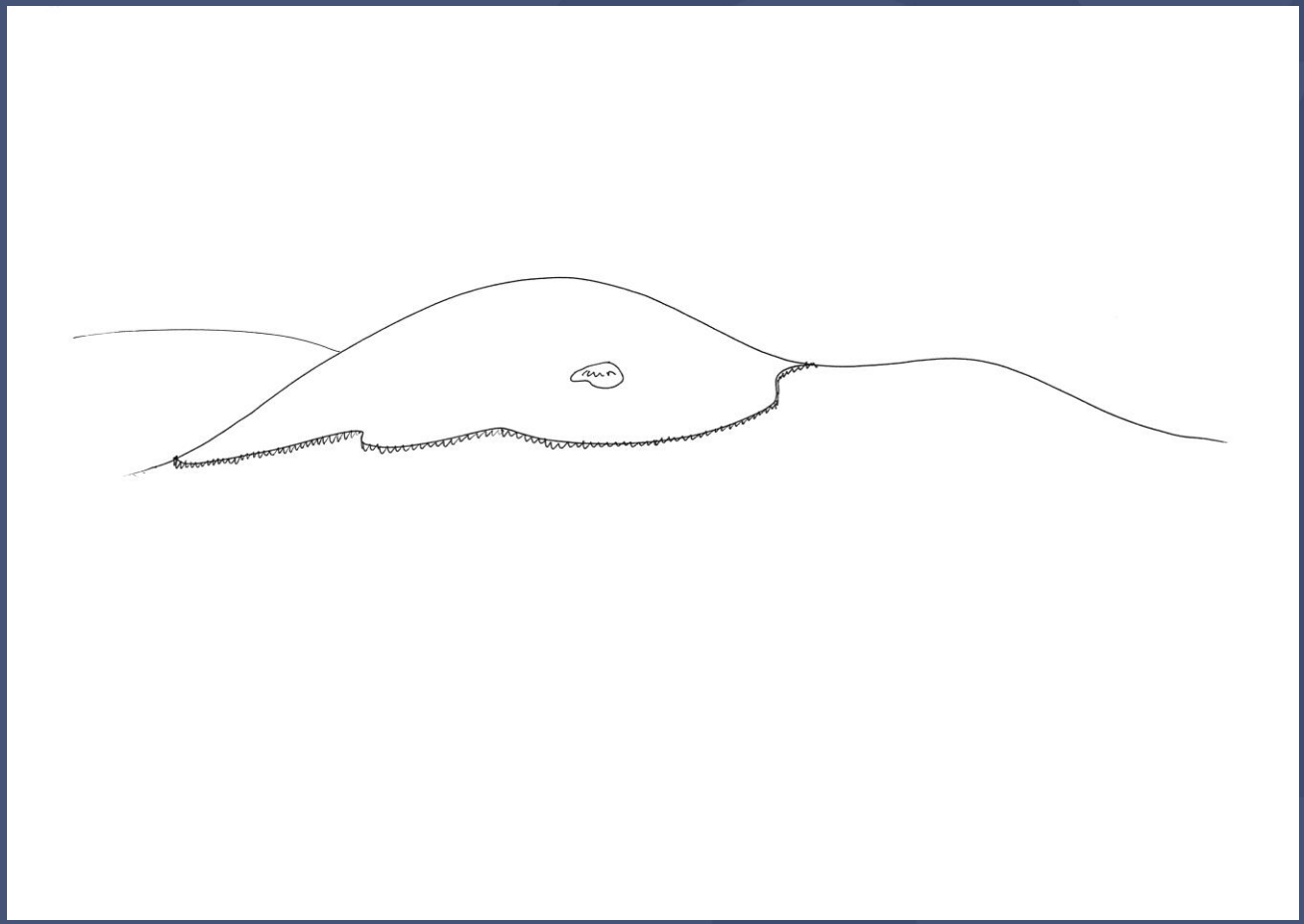
Forest design principles

Scale and proportion



Forest design principles

Scale



Forest design principles

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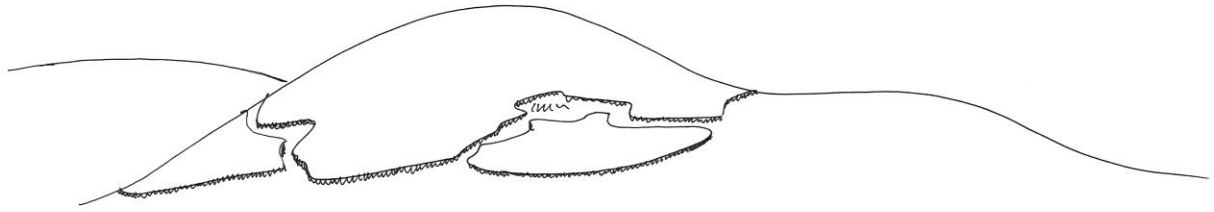
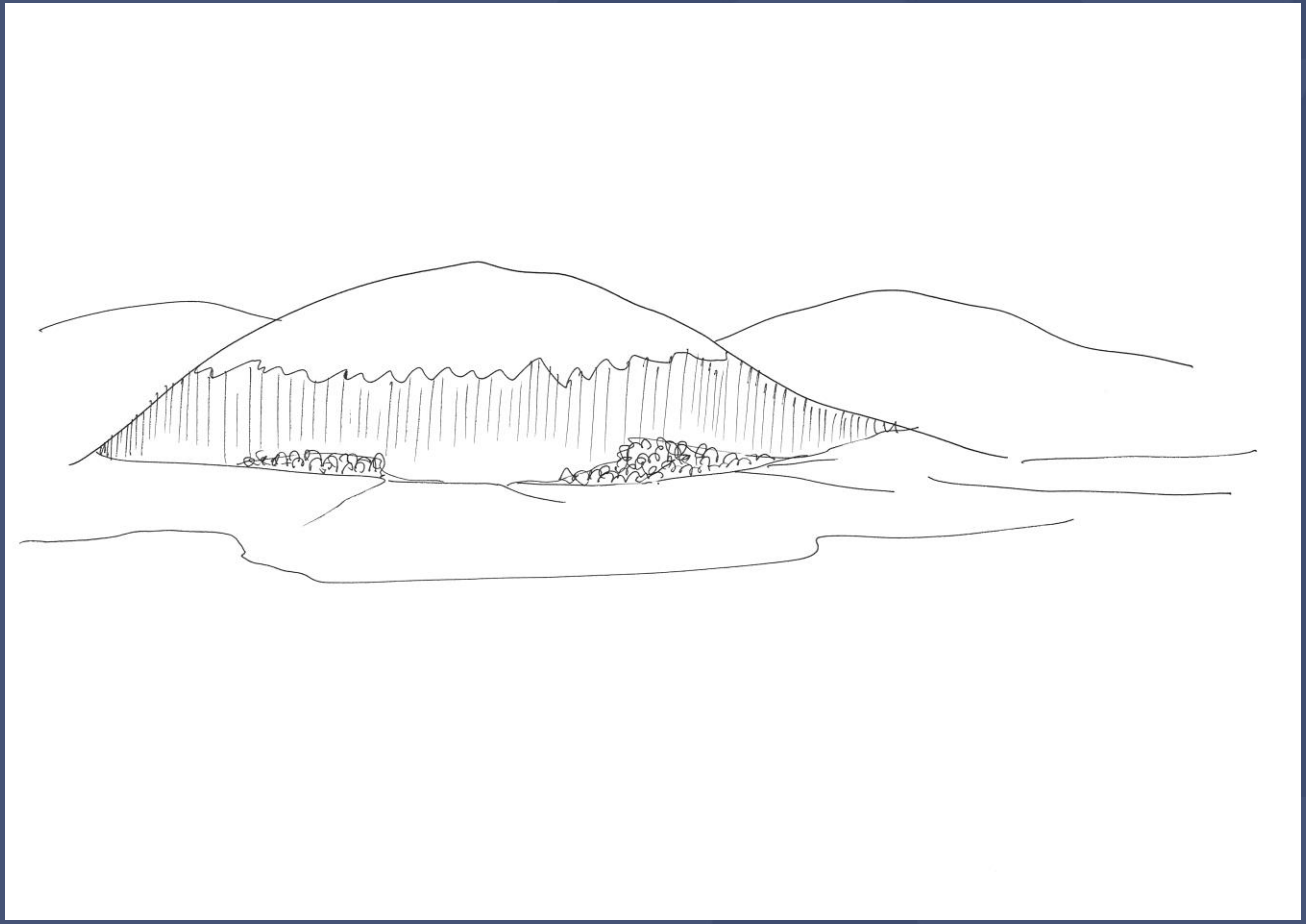


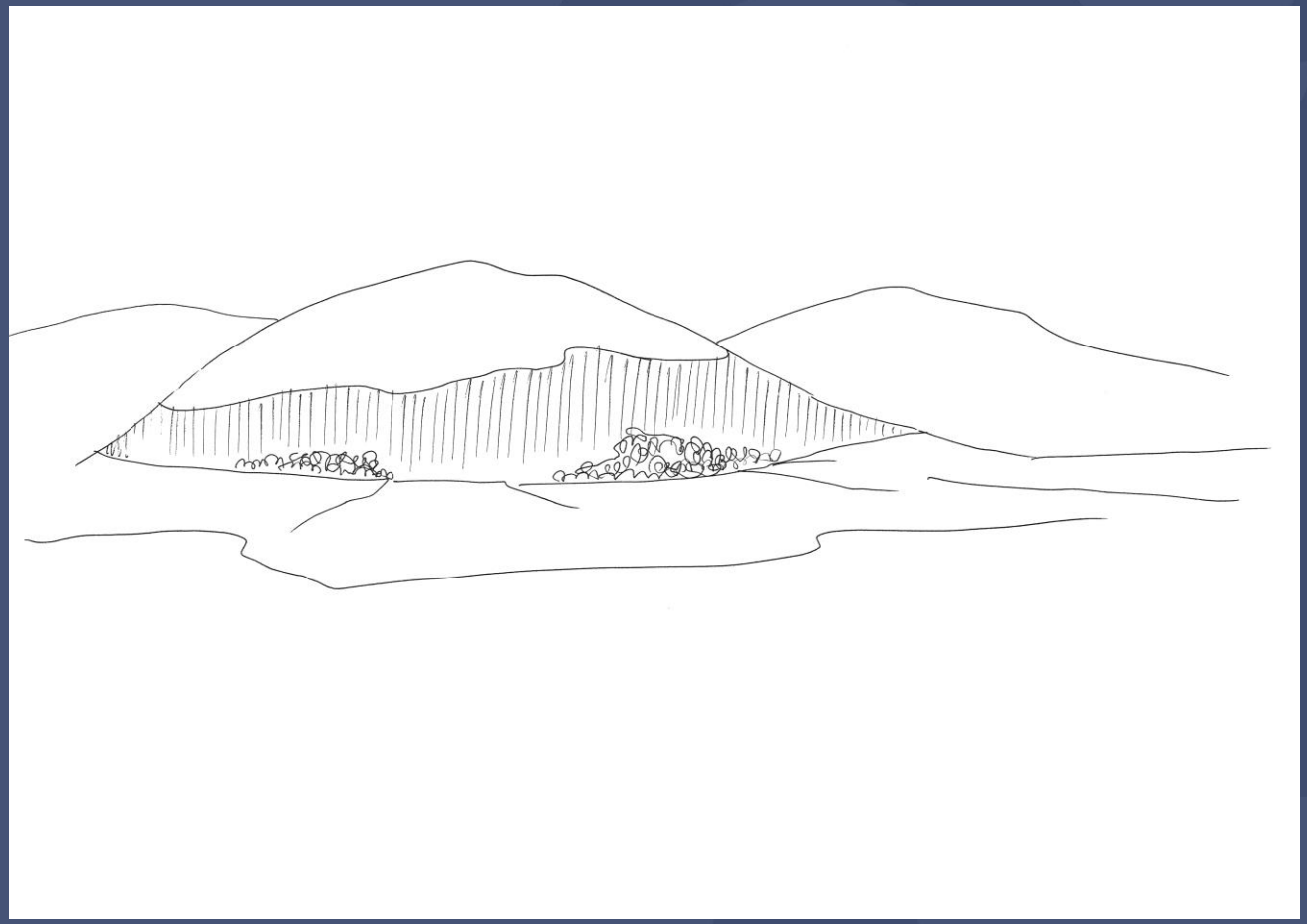
Forest design principles

Scale



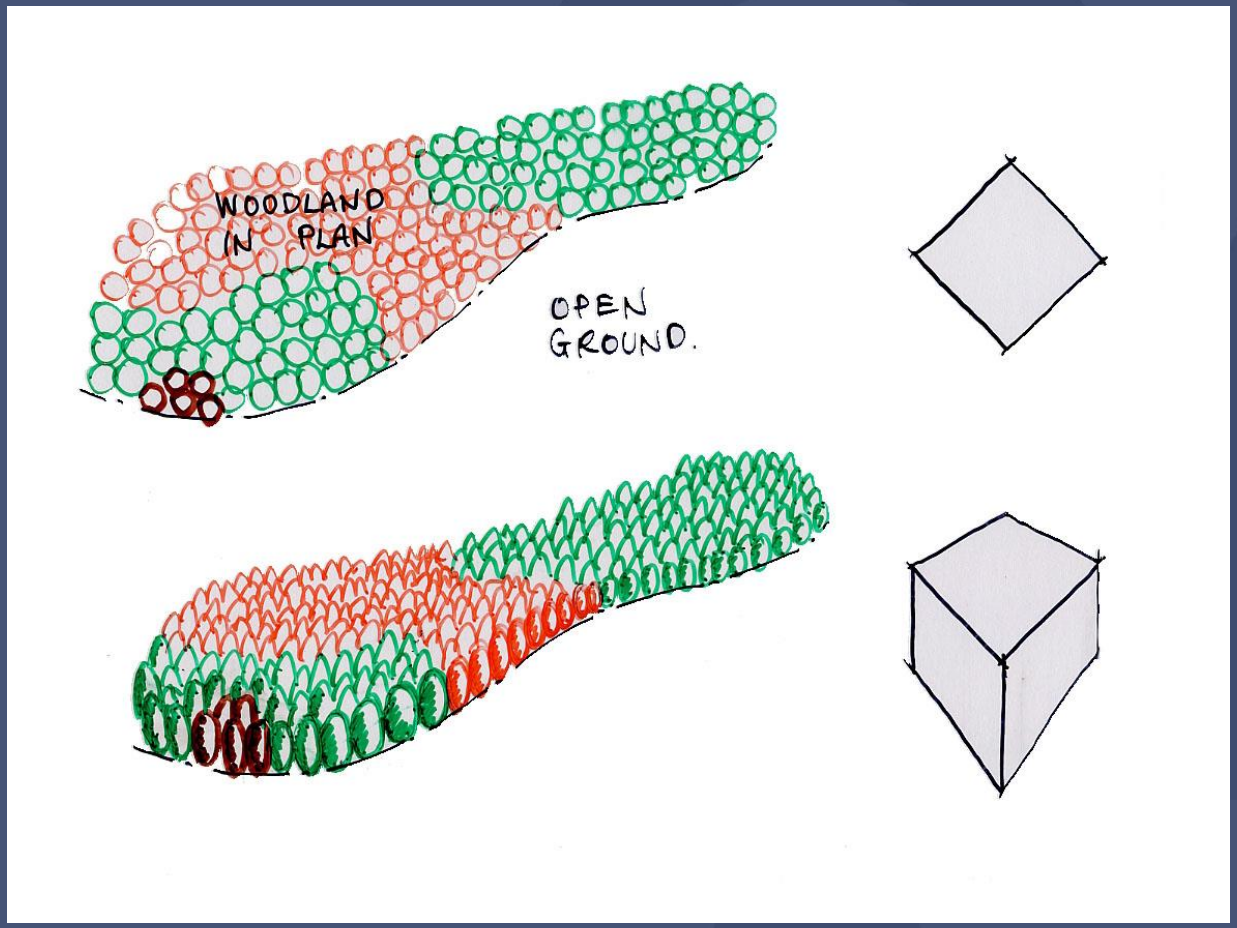
Forest design principles

Scale



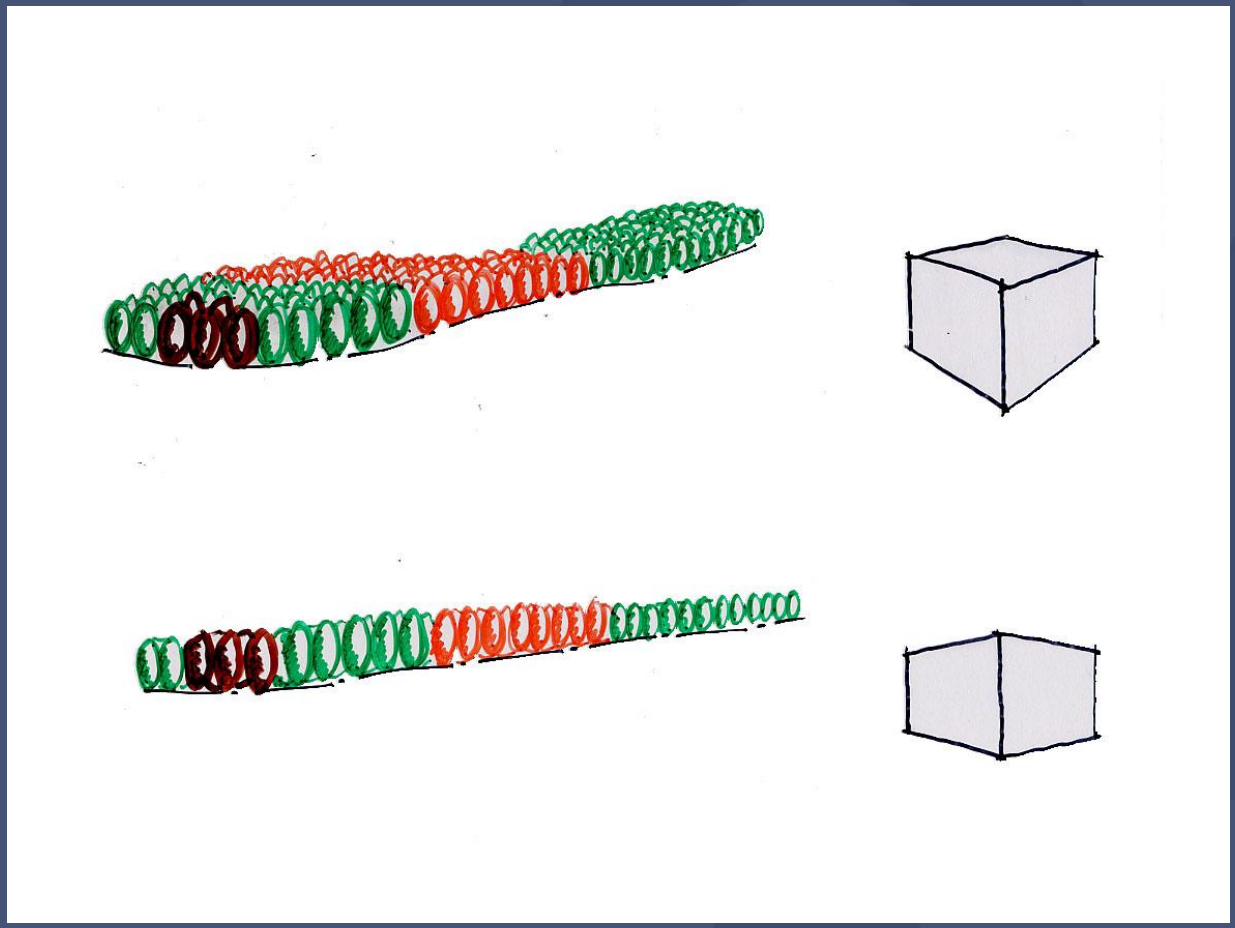
Forest design principles

Scale and point of view



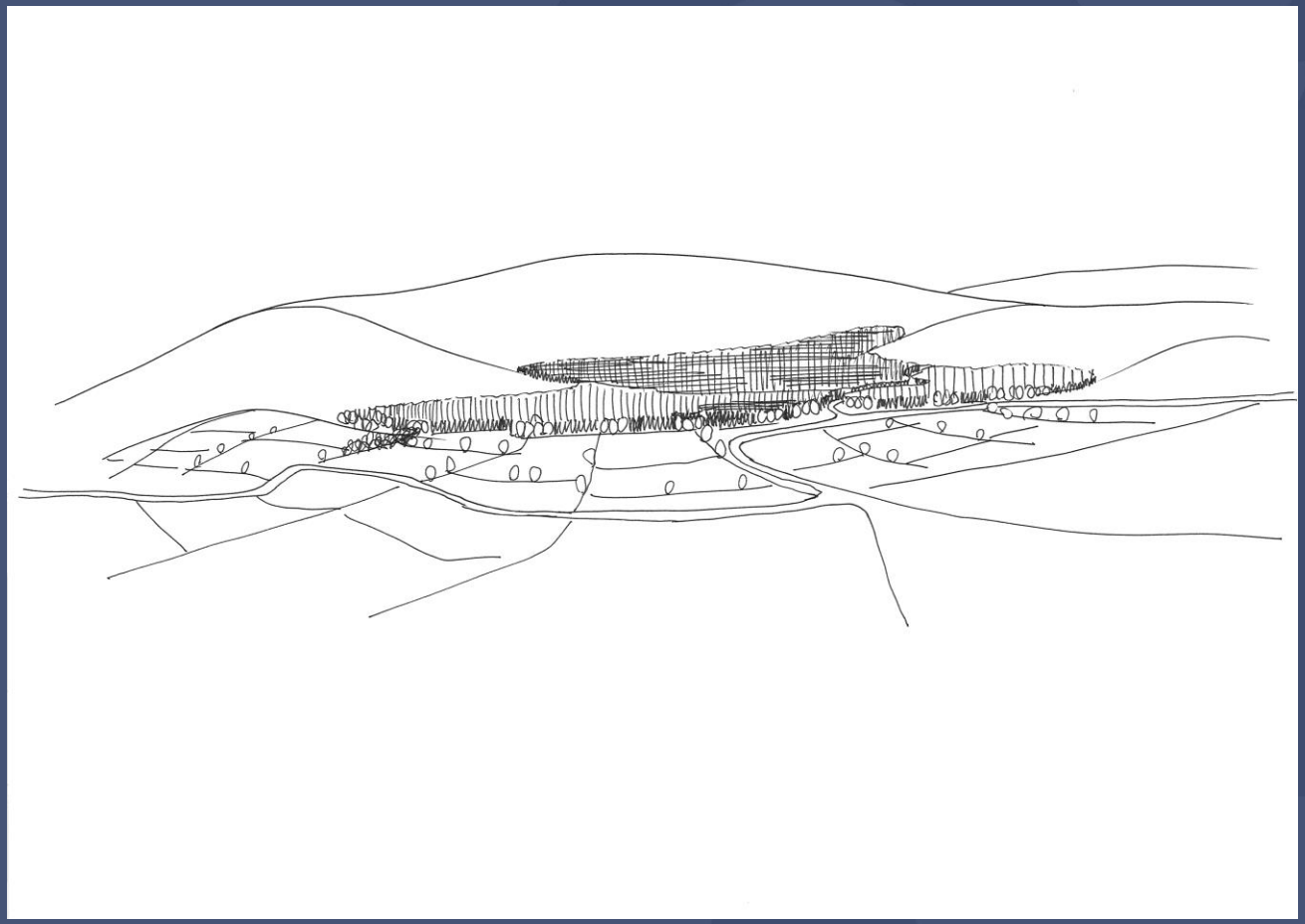
Forest design principles

Scale and point of view



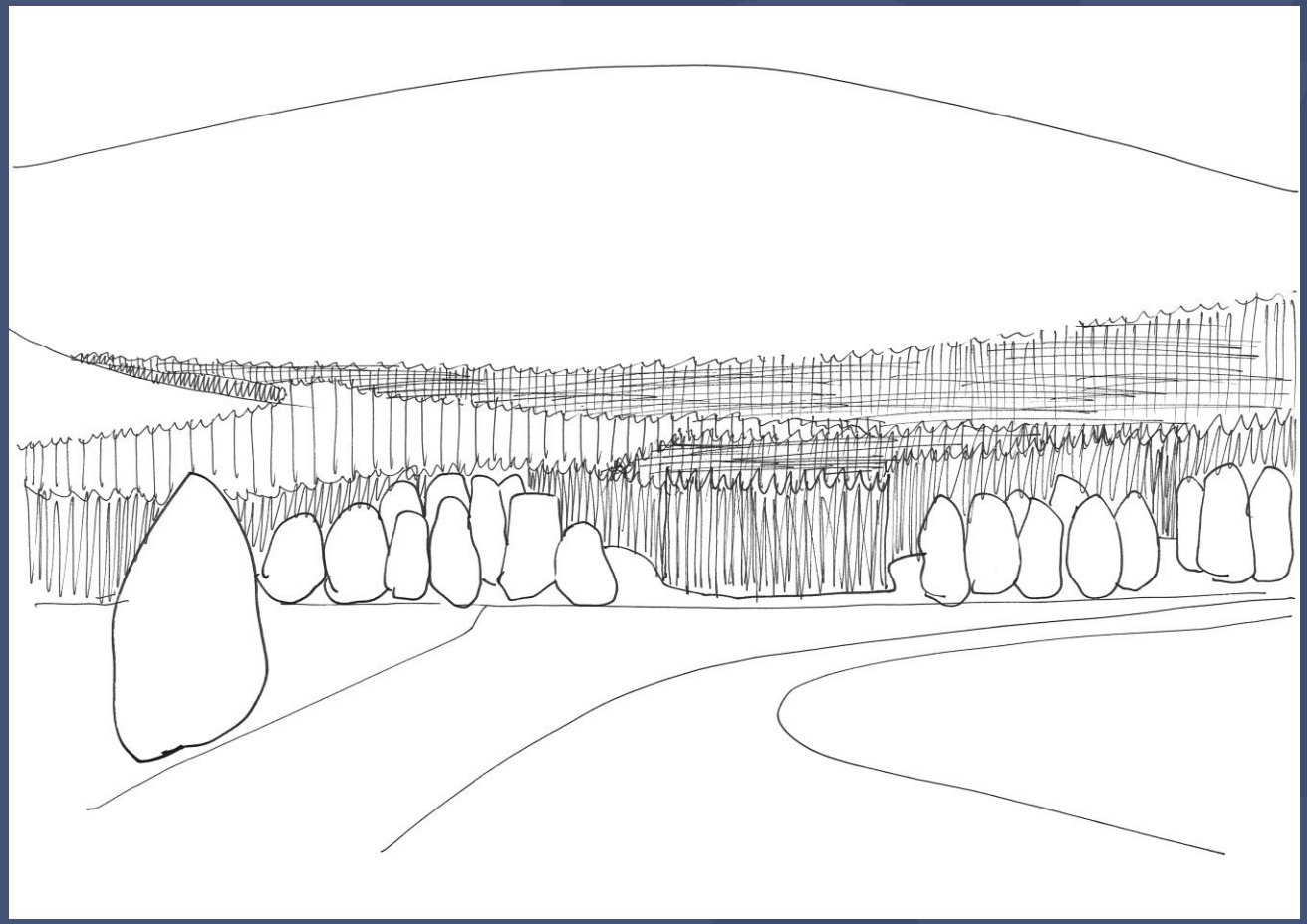
Forest design principles

Scale and point of view



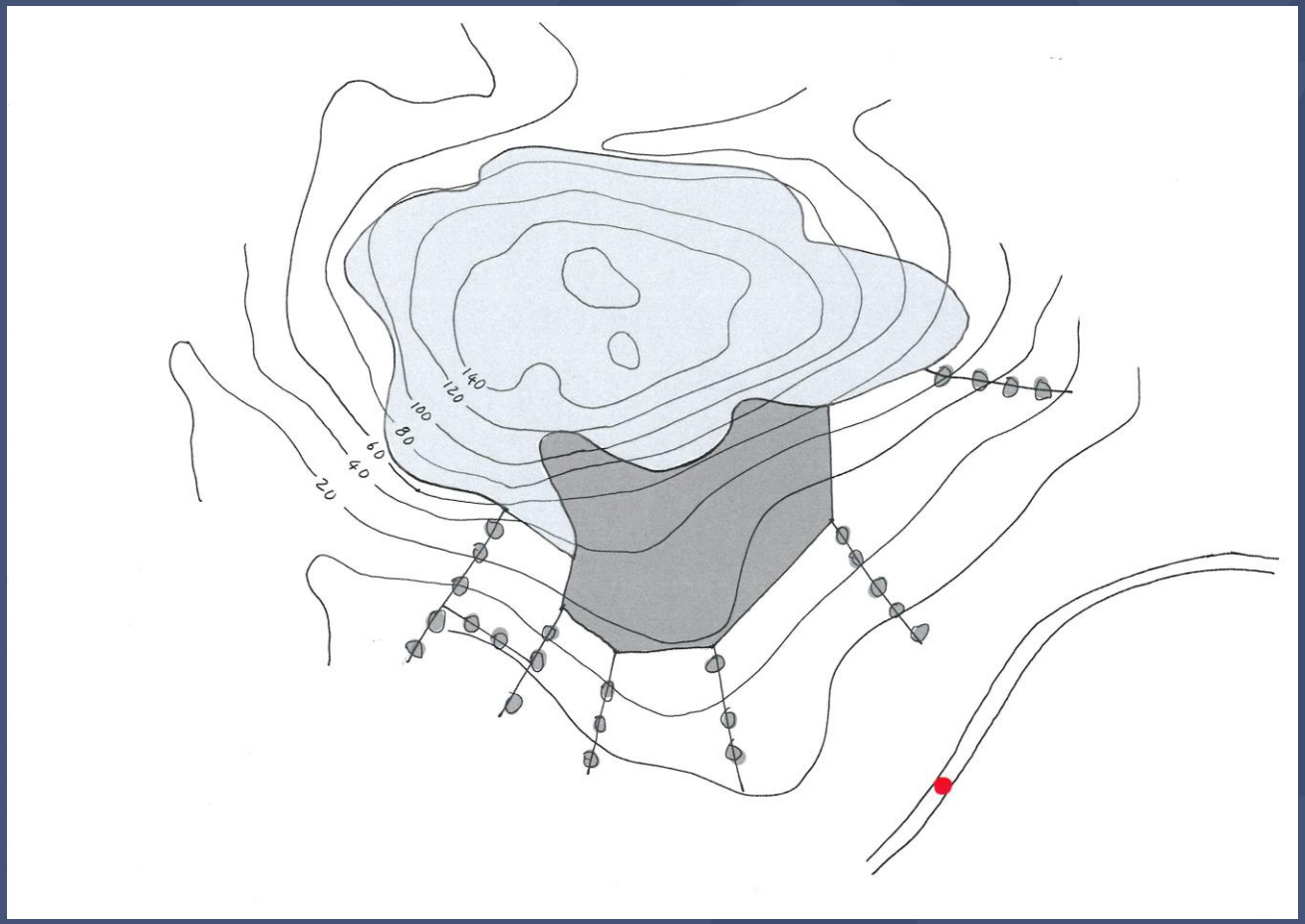
Forest design principles

Scale and point of view



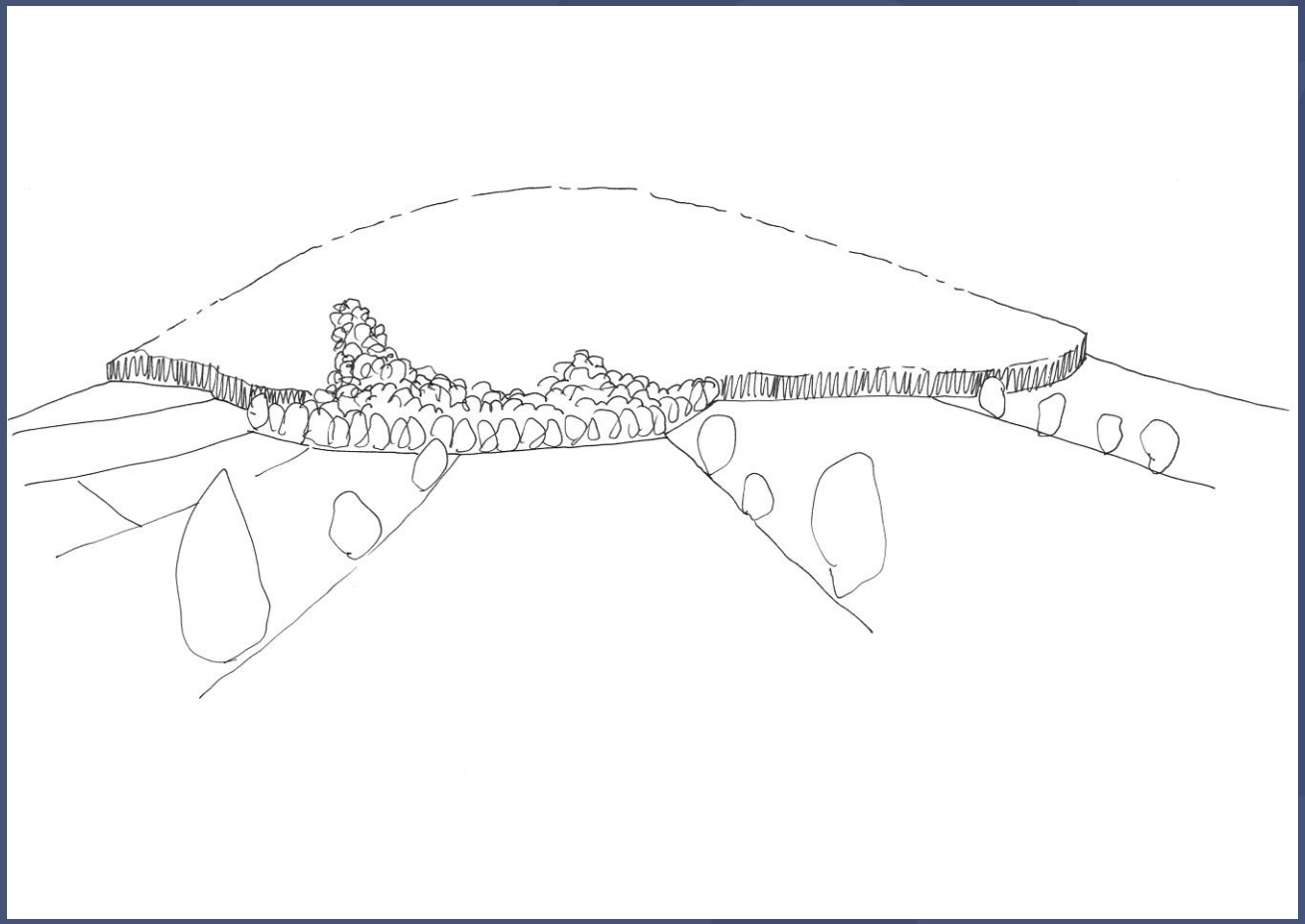
Forest design principles

Scale and point of view



Forest design principles

Scale and point of view



Forest design principles

Scale and point of view

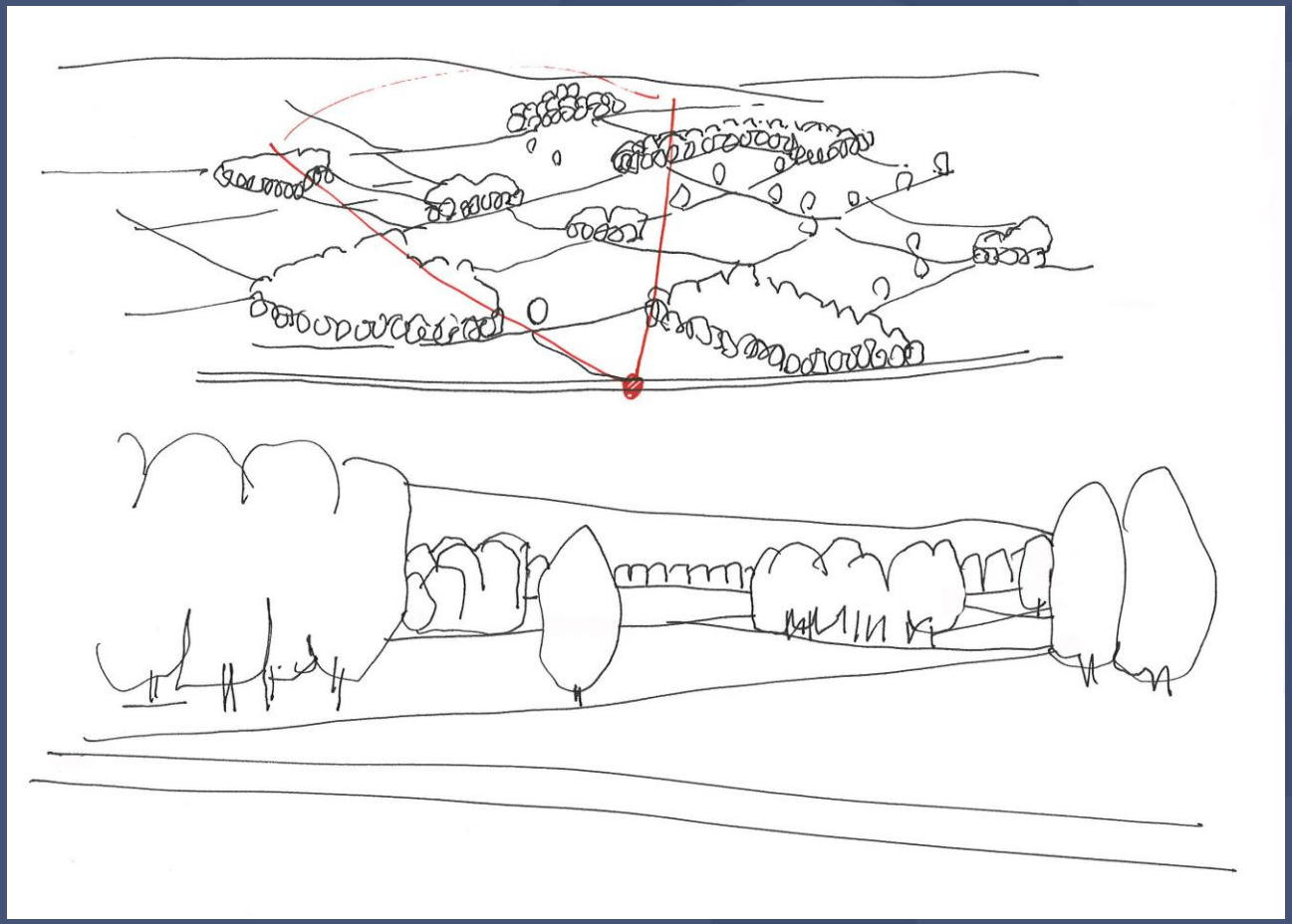
As we have seen, visual perspective, or point of view, can adjust your perception of shape, scale and diversity in a forest

Point of view can create ‘foreshortening’

Point of view can also create ‘coalescence’.

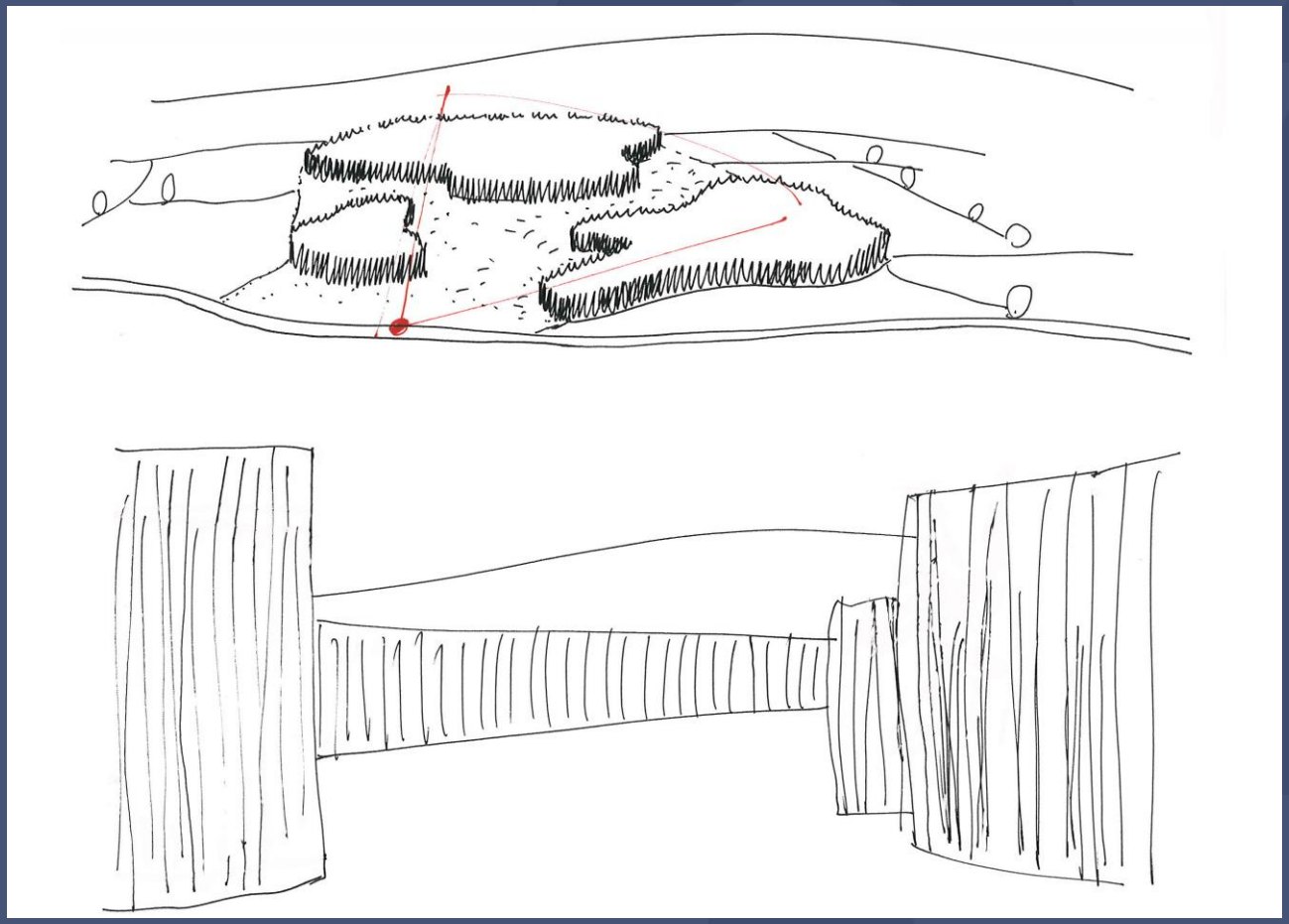
Forest design principles

Coalescence



Forest design principles

Coalescence



Forest design principles

Scale - Summary

Wide, sweeping expansive landscapes, and high hills are often large scale

Small drumlins, and enclosed glens are smaller scale

Enclosure pattern reduces scale

Scale is larger higher up slopes than lower down

Forests should be designed to reflect scale in terms of their overall size and in terms of the species pattern within them…

Forest design principles

Scale - Summary

The balance between forest and open space, and the species pattern within the forest should aim to be in proportion

The shapes and detail of the design also need to reflect the scale of the landscape

Woodland design needs to take into account how scale changes in relation to viewpoint.

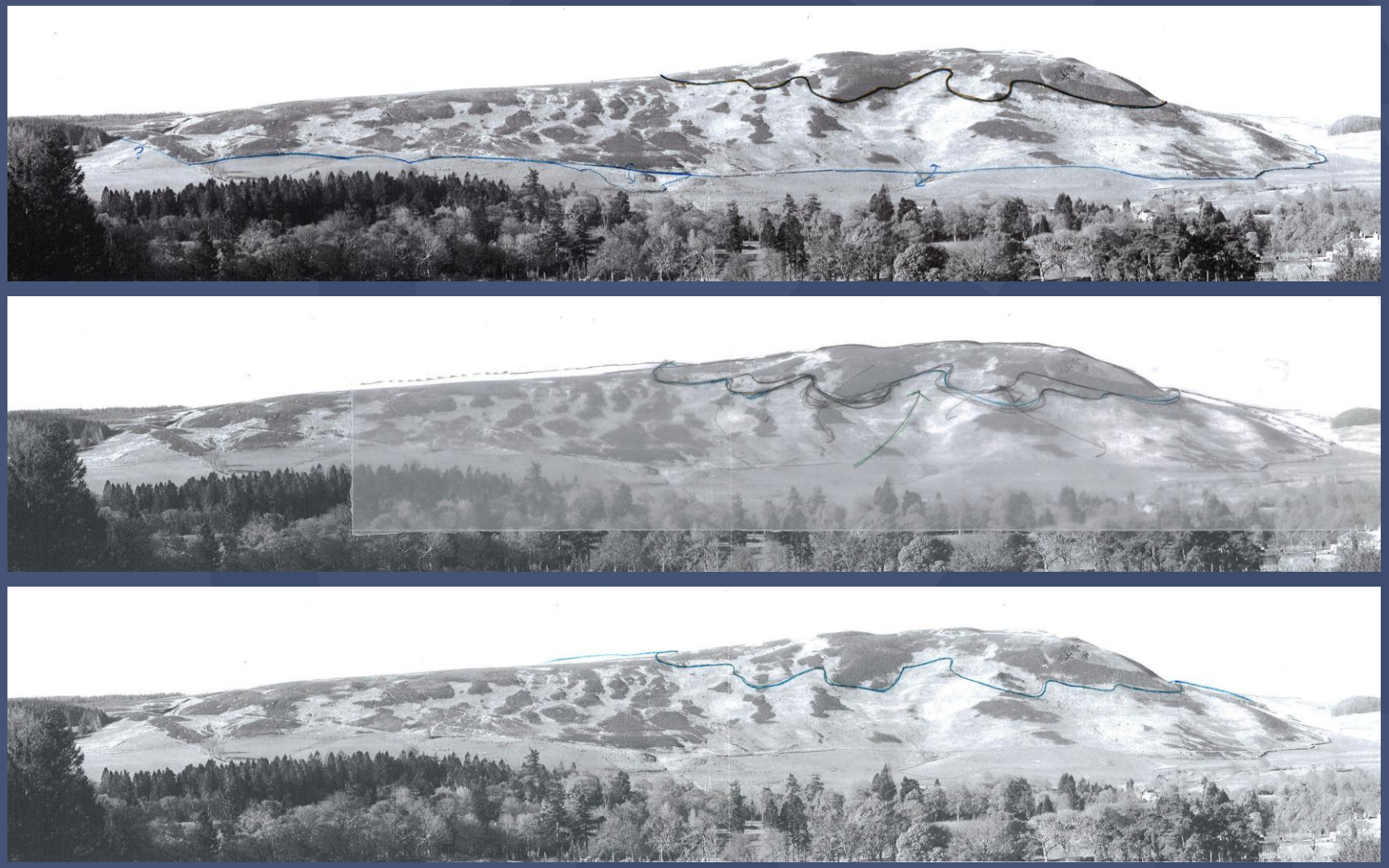
Workshop 2

Scale

Using the principles of scale, design your upper margin to create a well-scaled and well-shaped open space at the top of the hill.

Workshop 2

Tutor's response



Workshop 2A

Scale continued

Identify opportunities to reduce the scale of the proposed new planting along the lower slope of the hillside.

Workshop 2A

Tutor's response