

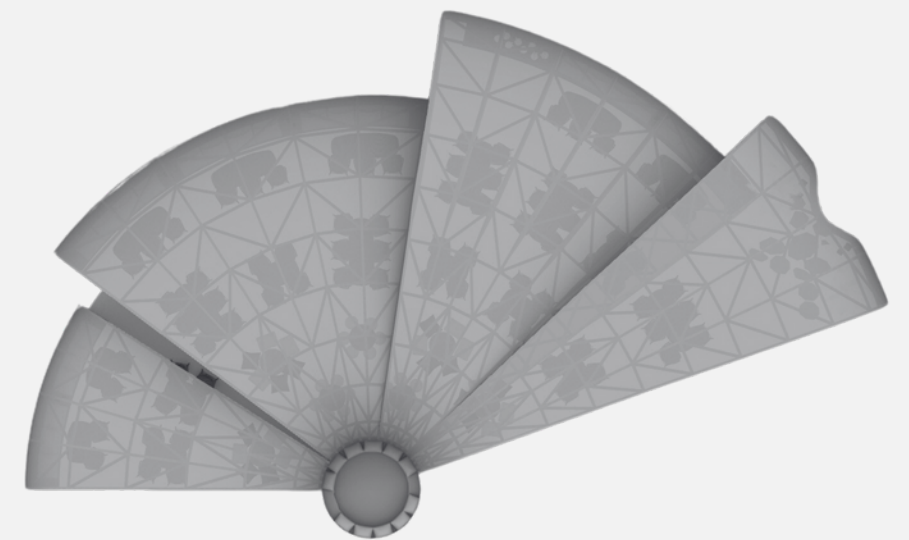
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THE SHELL

A dialogue between nature and structure



The Sand



THE VISION

In the heart of the Egyptian desert, we wanted to create a structure that blends quietly into the landscape. not to interrupt the view, but to belong to it.

The Shell serves as a shaded shelter and a restaurant for travelers, a space to pause, breathe, and feel part of nature.

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Valley of whales



Sand dunes



Seashells in the desert

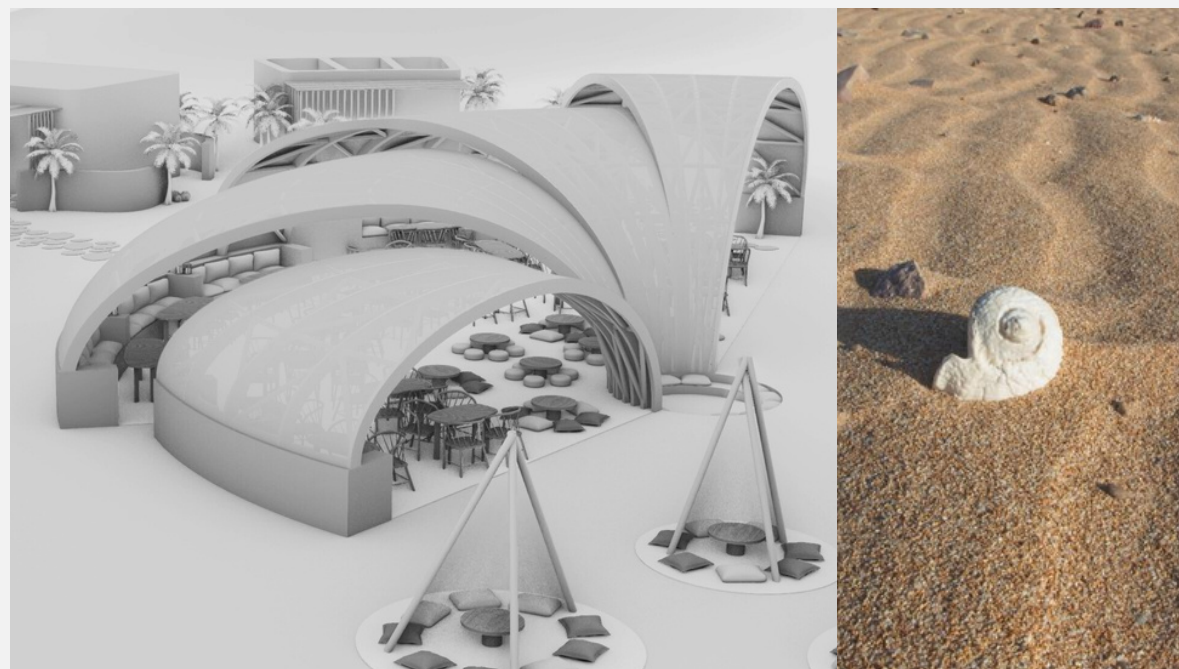
CONCEPT INSPIRATION

Inspired by the form of a whale's skeleton found in the valley of whales and the softness of the seashells that were in the seabed thousands of years ago and the charming beauty of the sand dunes. Three natural shapes that hold movement and stillness at once. The structure captures that same balance: fluid, protective, and deeply connected to its surroundings.

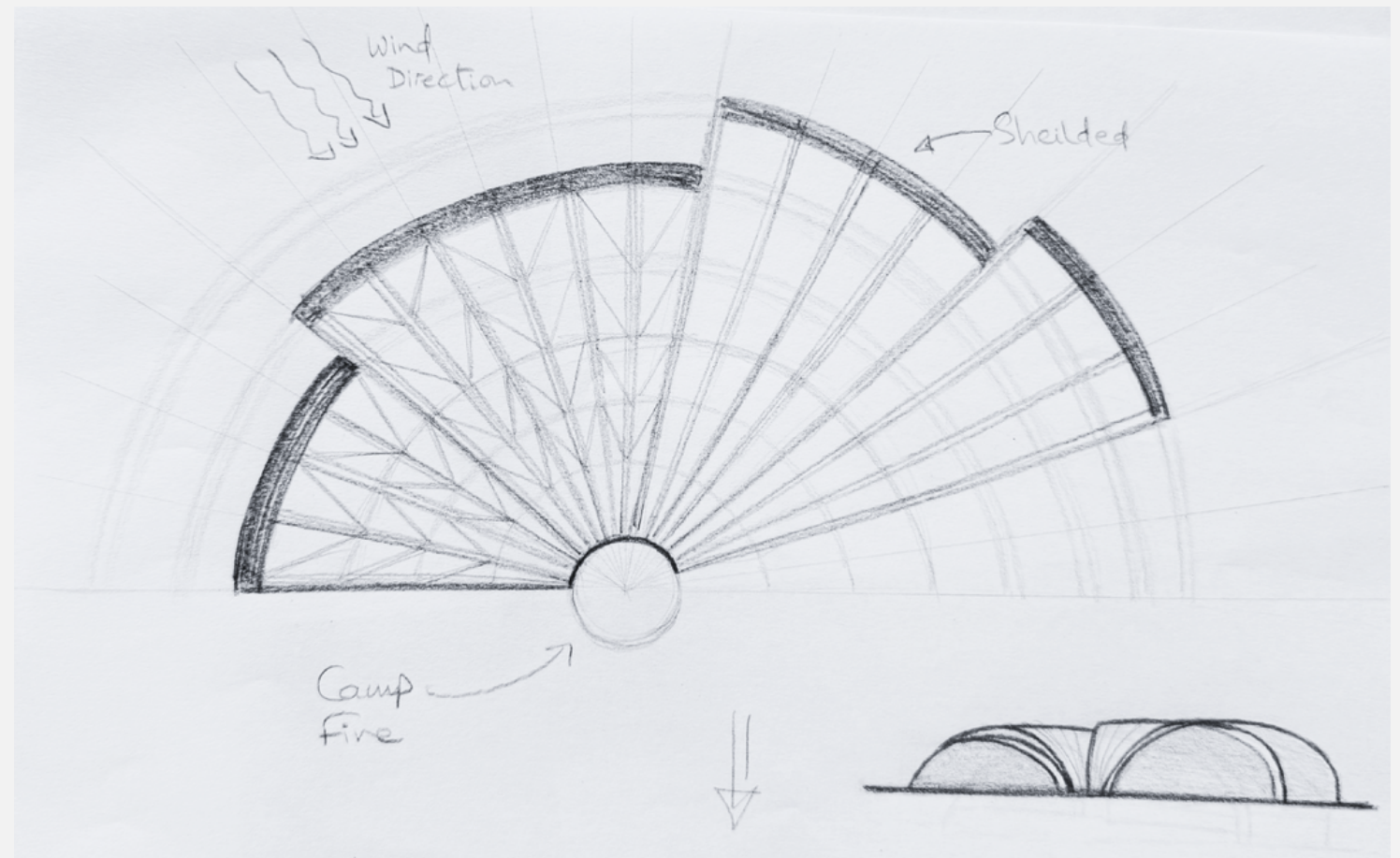
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Whale Inspiration



Shell Inspiration



DESIGN APPROACH

We looked to nature for guidance
how a whale moves, how a shell curves,
how both feel effortless yet strong.
From that, the form grew, simple lines, grounded in place.

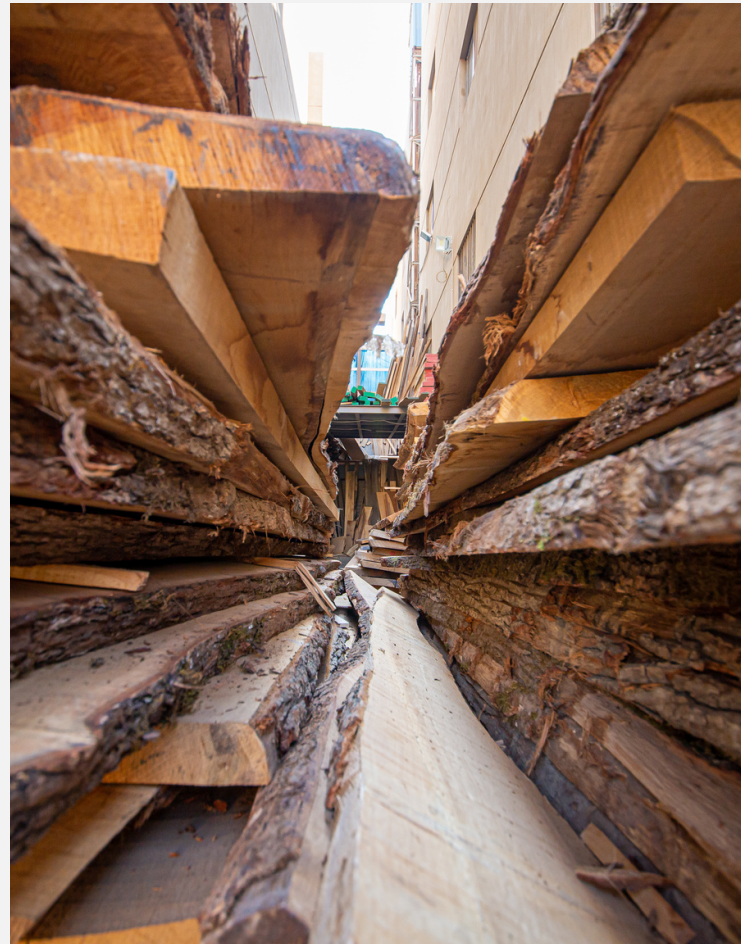


The team bringing the design to life

CHALLENGES

- Designing a minimal, functional structure that blends with its natural surroundings.
 - Creating a structure that is lightweight, sustainable, and easily transportable.
 - Ensuring the design can withstand desert heat and sand, yet still feel soft, organic, and welcoming.
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- Achieving a balance between accuracy and manual expertise, since every piece requires shaping, adjusting, and assembly in site under the summer sun.

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Material Origin



Wooden Ribs Detail



Cotton duck fabric

MATERIALITY

We built this structure entirely from sustainable wood, letting its natural grain guide every gentle curve. It feels warm, with no sharp edges, just a natural flow.

Cotton duck fabric, a local Egyptian textile, adding a soft layer.

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STRUCTURE

Each piece supports the other, like bones within a body, forming a shell that breathes with light and shadow.

This architectural unity is designed to blend seamlessly with the desert. Its subtle, earth-toned contours ensure that the building feels discovered rather than built, a natural extension of the ancient, sweeping landscape.



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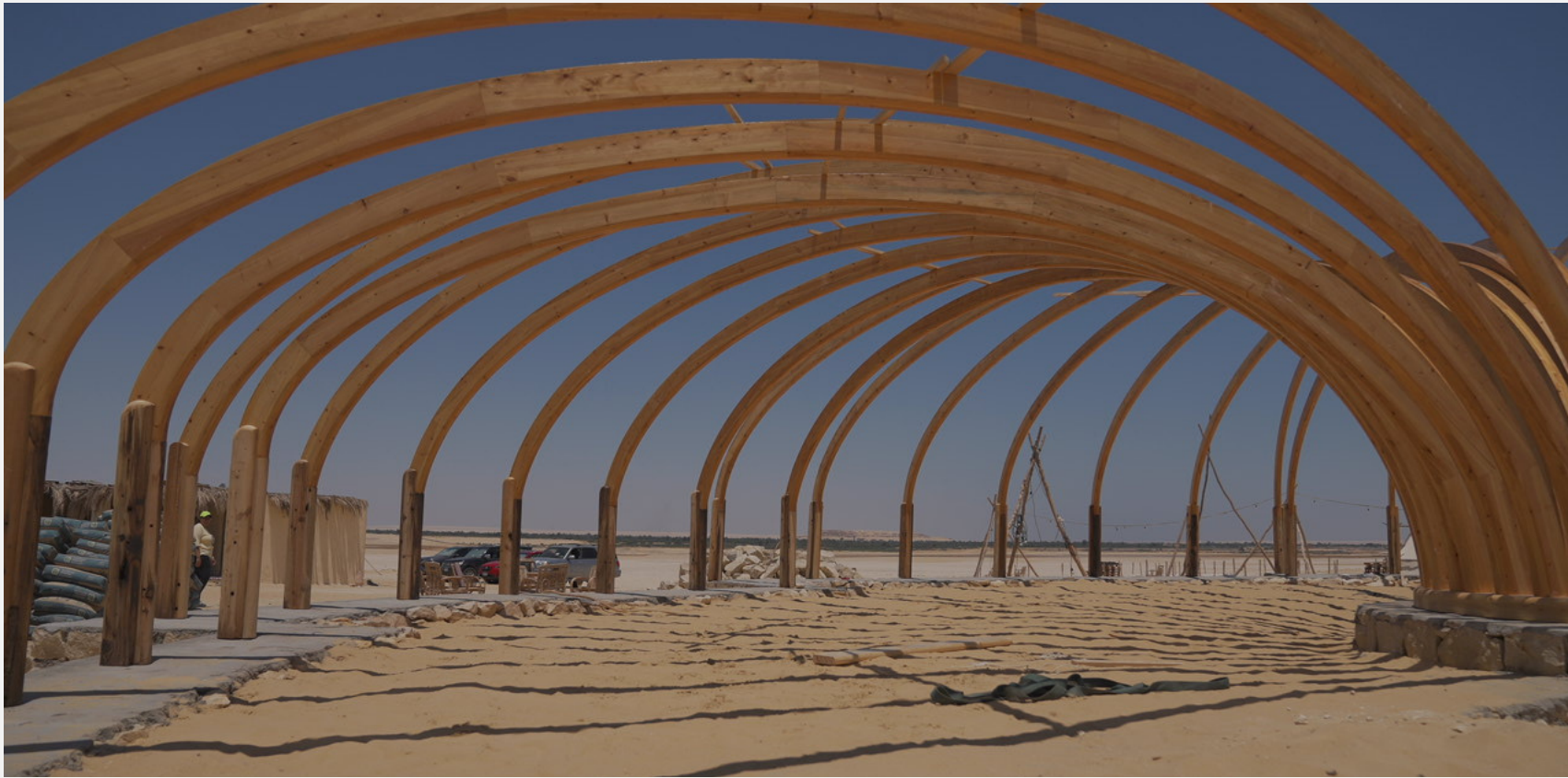
EXPERIENCE

From within, filtered light plays across the curved surfaces, creating a living texture that shifts throughout the day, while not blocking the view, instead, the structure is designed to blend in with the sand dunes and to respect the environment.

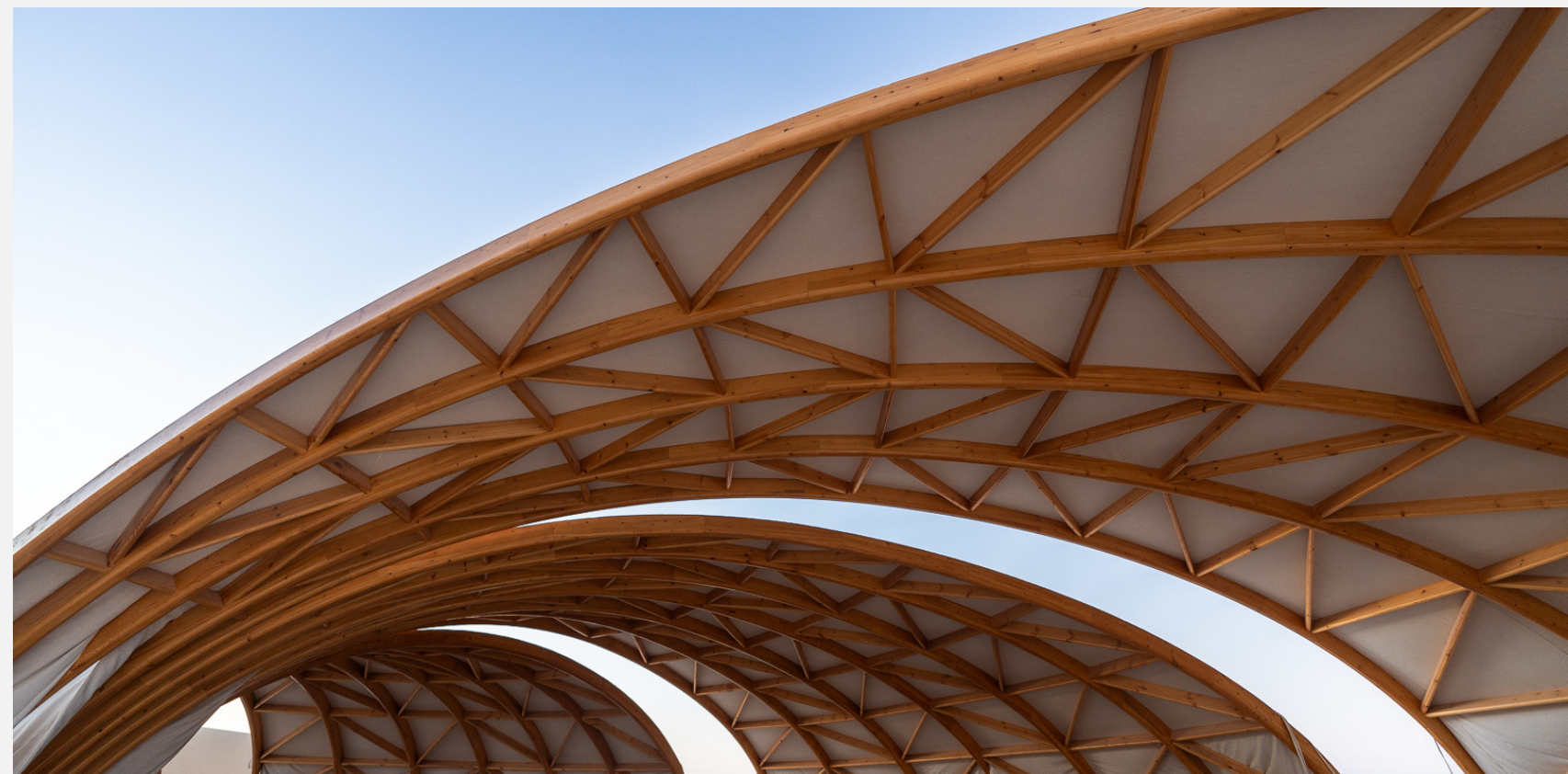


THE OUTCOME;

A shell that embraces people in shared moments,
allowing them to feel the rhythm of nature from within.



The Shell



The Shell



The Shell