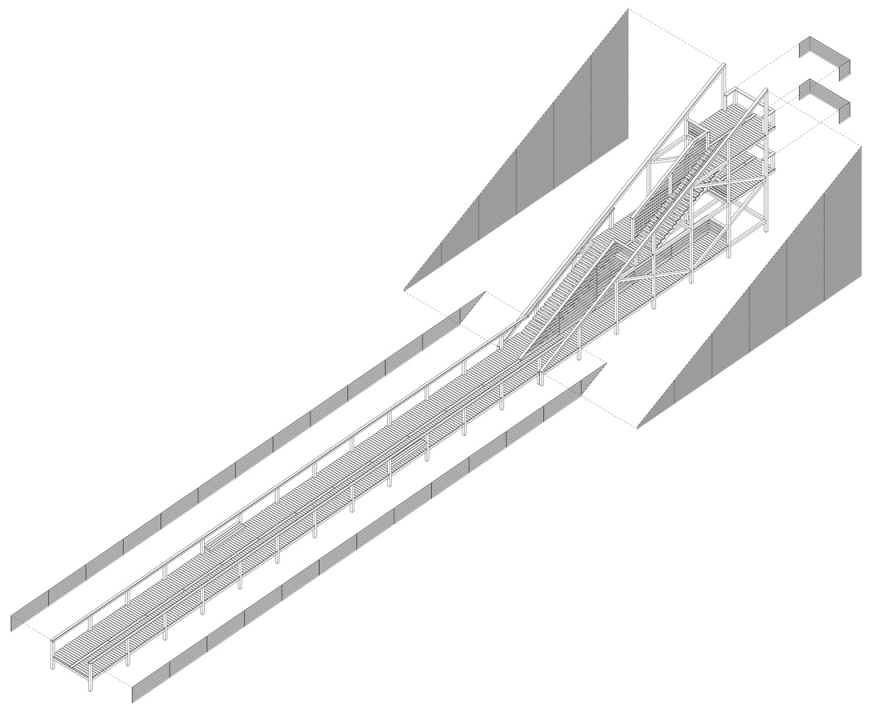


GNOMON

PAPE NATURE RESERVE LATVIA



Project Credits

Cleint: Latvia Nature Conservation Agency
Program: Bird Observation Tower
Location: Pape Nature Reserve, Latvia

Structure: Timber
Lot Area: N/A
Size (Footprint): 162 m²

Design: 2017
(Competition Winner)

Architects: Atelier RZLBD / Reza Aliabadi
Project Team: Reza Aliabadi, Arman Azar

The design's two key elements — bridge and tower — are arranged to mimic the fluid motion of a bird soaring into the sky. The observation tower's two sets of stairs, rather than wrapping around the perimeter of their enclosing structure as is typical in such towers, are instead positioned adjacent to one another. This creates dramatic, double-height spaces, while also establishing the staircases as parts of one continuous climb upwards. A visitor travelling to the top viewing platform effectively takes flight — escaping the limitations of their earthbound body and lifting their soul up to commune with nature amongst the clouds.