ARCH2010 E2 RURAL ASSEMBLIES
NATURAL INTERCONNECTIONS
Daniel Pemueller
Instructor: Schaeffer Somers

This project consists on a design for a pavilion located on the Rivanna River. The first step of the project was to conduct a botanical analysis of a given plant to serve as a basis of inspiration for the pavilion's design, in this case being a pokeweed plant. Upon closer inspection, the most notable feature of a pokeweed is the way in which its berries are connected with one another through the stem, thus providing a bridge between the most vital parts of the plant. The next step was to conduct a site analysis on a designated plot along the Rivanna River. In this analysis, several factors were taken into account, such as the terrain, veggetation, atmosphere, paths, water, and sound. The thurough analysis of the site brought up both constraints and opportunities that would impact the design of the pavilion. The rich abundance of nature surrounding the Rivanna River gave a clear indication that one of the most vital and standout aspects of its environment are the trees. Taking on this idea that the pokeweed connects its most vital plants, the design process for this pavilion sought to connect the most vital parts of the environment within the site — its trees. The first step in doing this was to find formal relationships between the trees in the site and how they are alligned with each other. Once these relations were outlined, the trees that held the strongest were to be given direct access through the pavilion. After a general layout was done, the topography of the site was taken into account. While the steep terrain brought some structural limitations, it also provided opportunity to build and interior space along the general path. What is left as the final product is a pavilion that guides visitors along a series of interconnected trees just as a pokeweed plant connects its most important features. This project doesn't seek to hide and immitate its surroundings but rather aims to bring an admiration for the environment where it finds itself.

0 16 32 48 64   1/16" = 1'0"