

APRIL 14, 2021

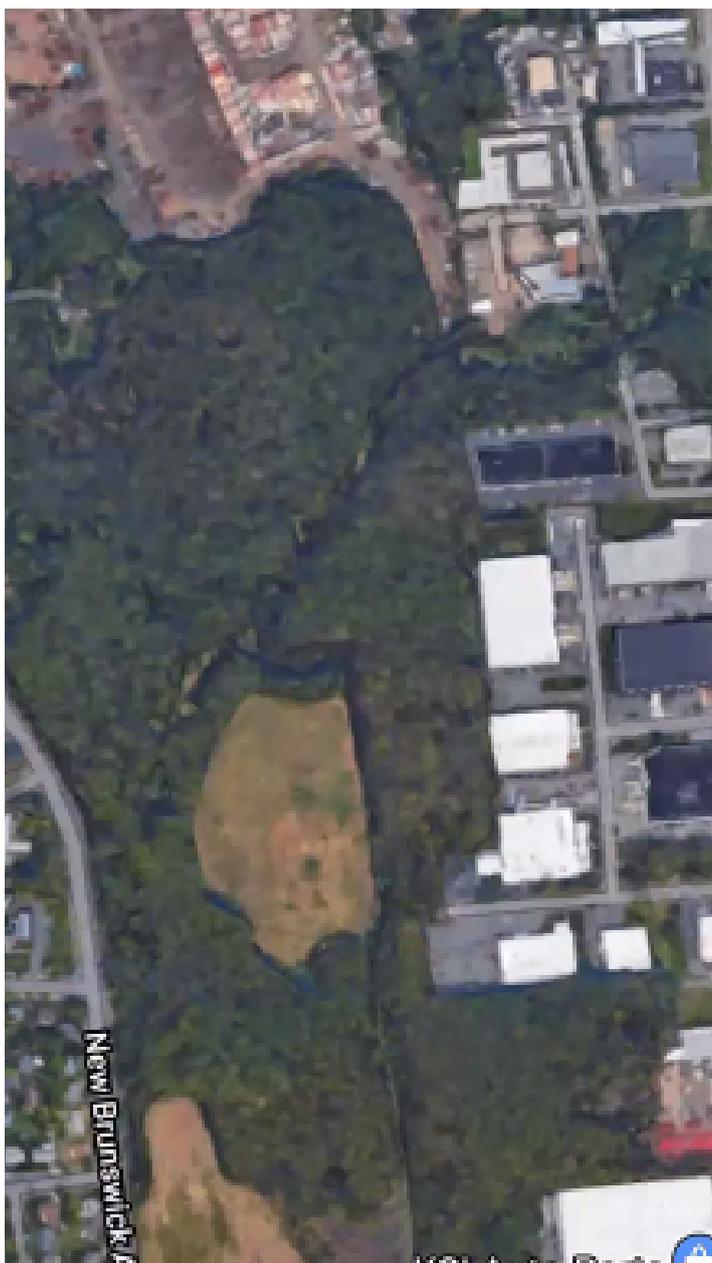
**SITE  
SPECIFIC  
ART:  
SUPERFUND  
TERRARIUM**

PREPARED BY

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WHITMIRE & KARI  
ERICKSON**

Art & Science

of emergency, Call 911  
t the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
814-3213 or (215) 814-3239



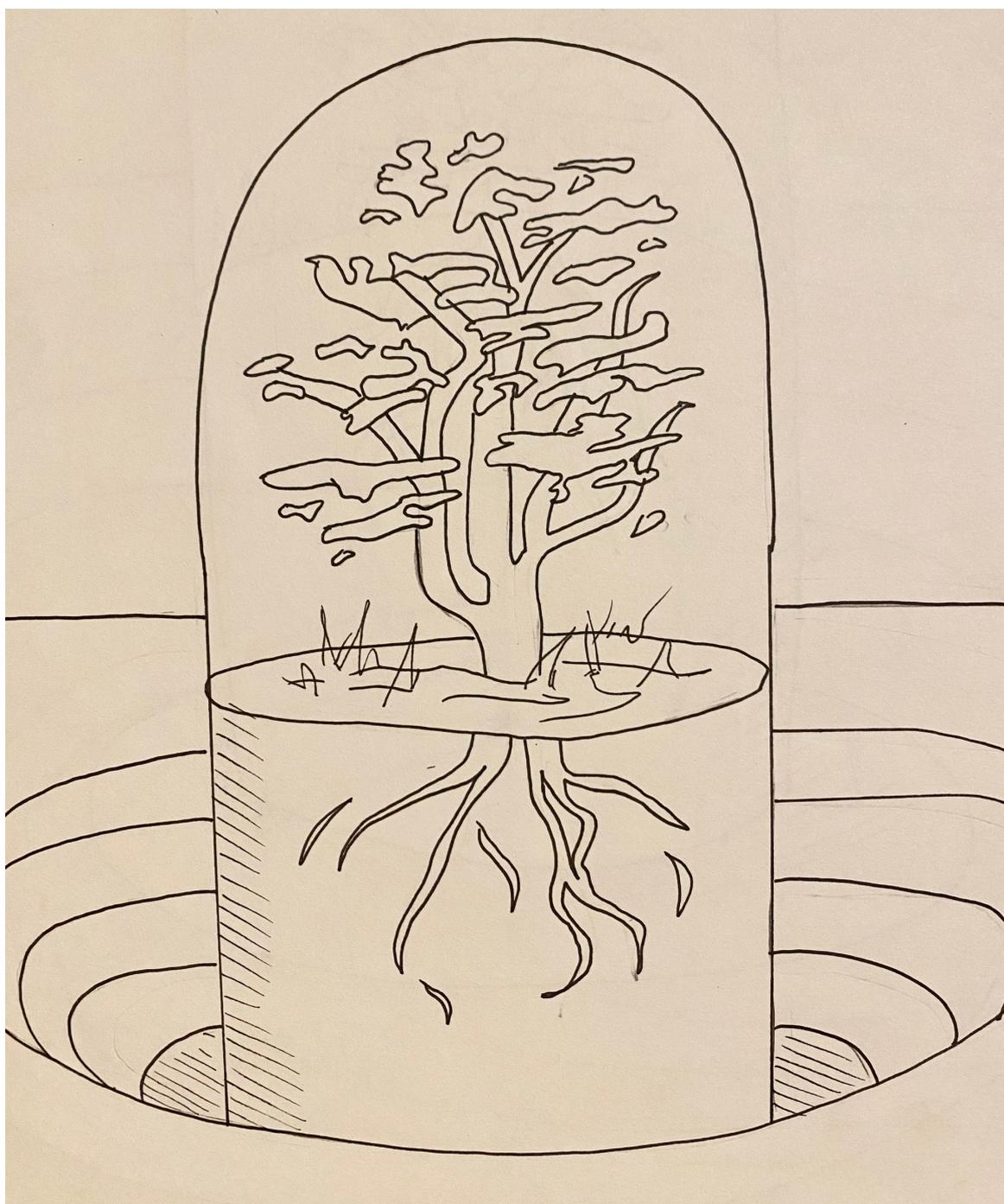
# LOCATION: NEW JERSEY

Our artwork would be located in New Jersey, the state in the United States with the largest number of superfund sites, such as in Piscataway. The work would be a large-scale terrarium large enough to encase a fully grown tree originally native to the area alongside other native plants and species. The work would be constructed of long-lasting materials and glass so that the project is able to be viewed for years--long enough for the tree to grow completely, etc. The time of this piece is central to its concept--we hope that viewers will visit this site as an opportunity to reflect on policies regarding toxicity in America and feel inspired by the native plants/ way the environment looked before human interference. By constructing this piece with materials made to last/ able to upkeep, this site would last throughout any changes to the scenery, a constant reminder of how humans have impacted the environment (mostly negatively) as well as ways that humans can work to restore it.

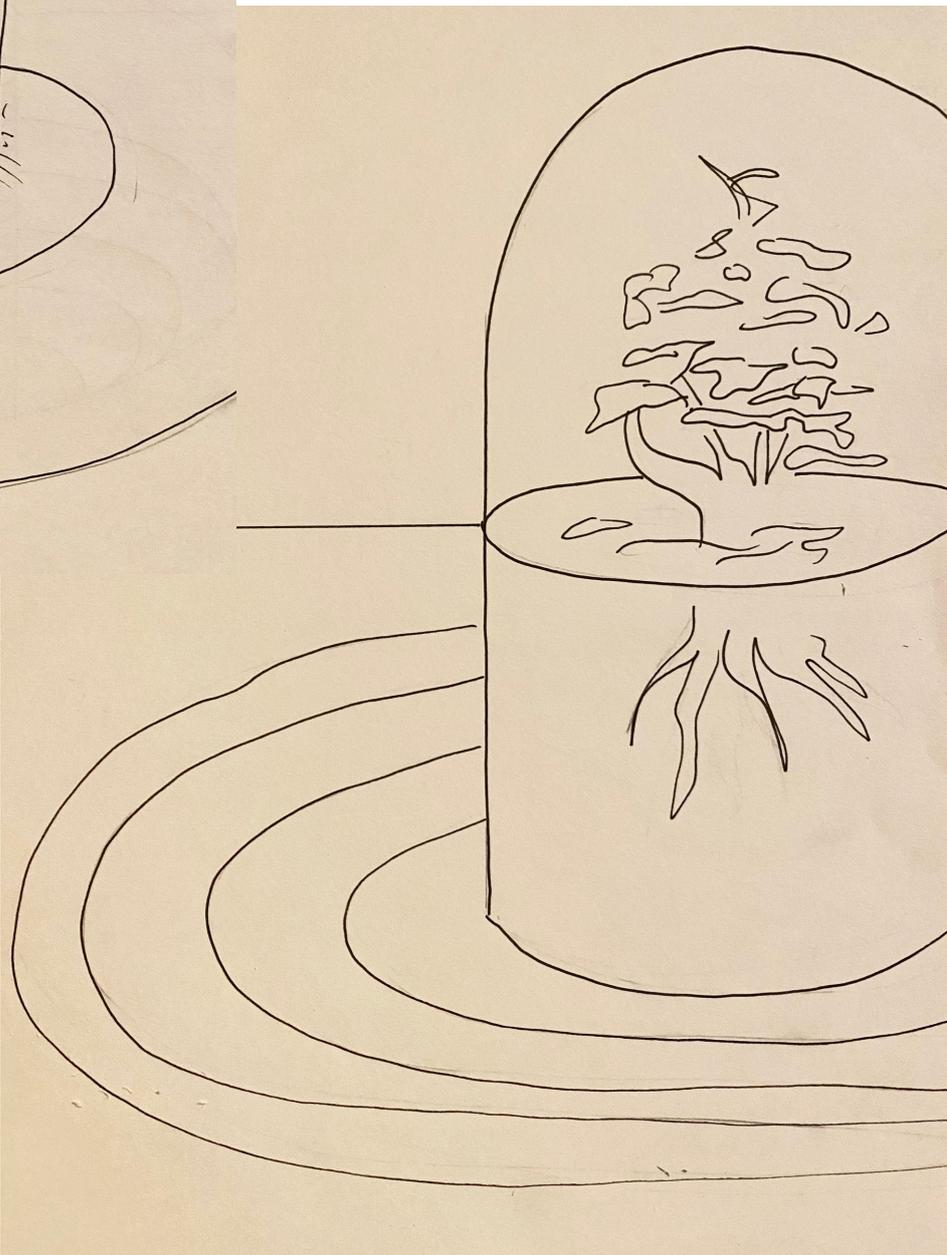
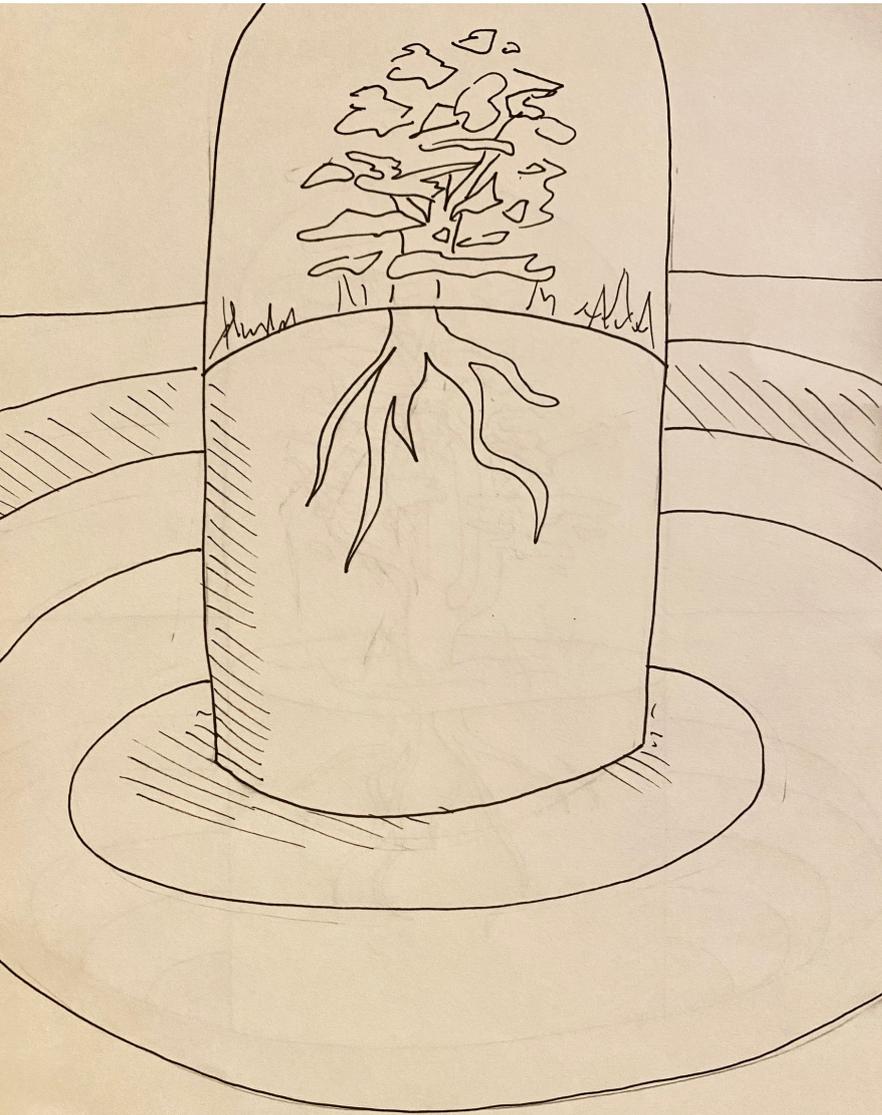


# VIEWER EXPERIENCE

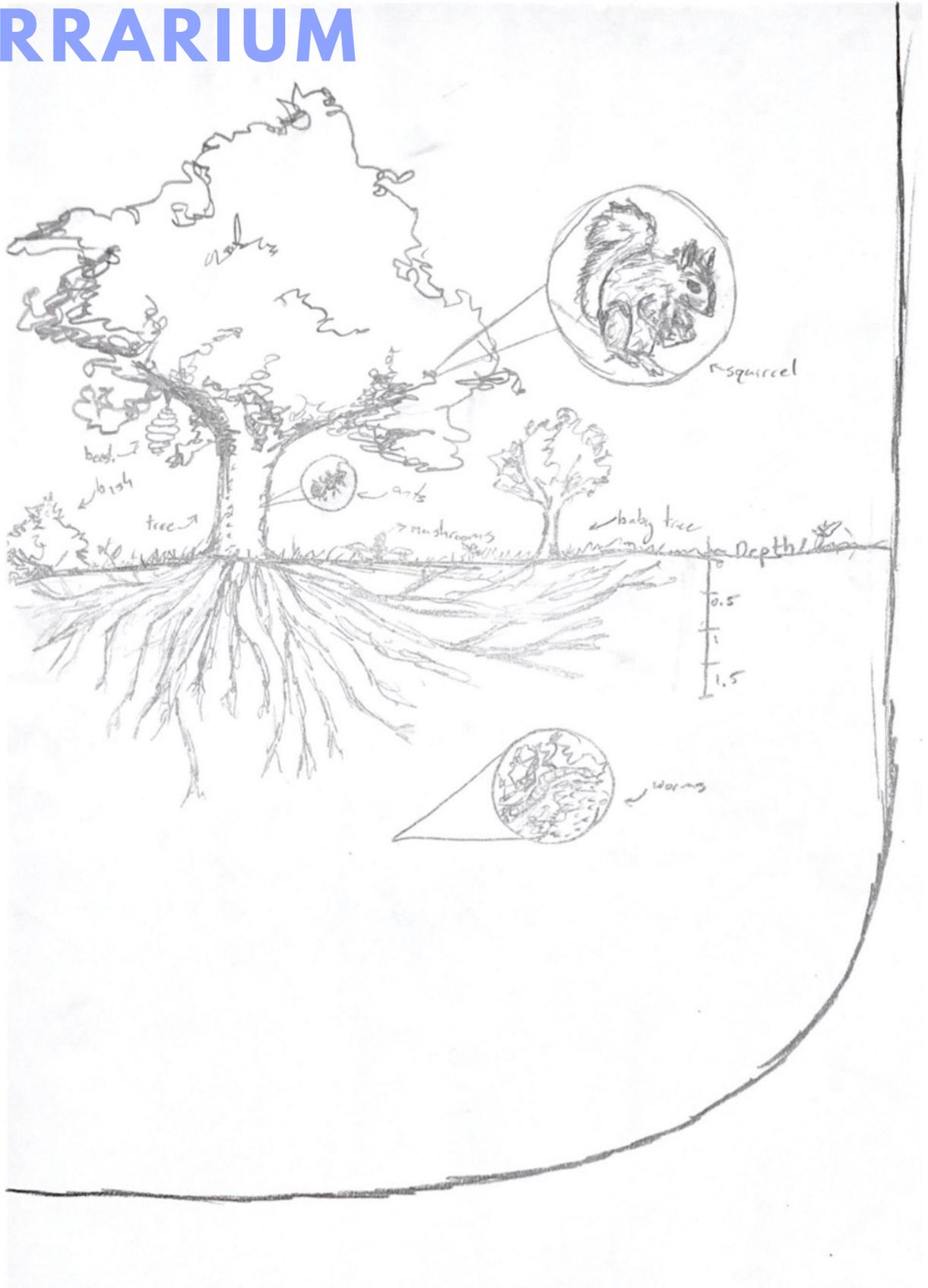
Viewers' experience of the piece would first be informed by the scale of the terrarium; it would be about the height of a 5 story building with a corresponding width. The encasement of the terrarium would not stop at the ground; it would include the dirt below so that viewers could walk down an amphitheater of stairs to sit, see the roots, and contemplate the self-sustaining environment. We were inspired by the way terrariums work and are able to host entire environments within an enclosed space.



# ADDITIONAL SKETCHES



# ADDITIONAL SKETCHES: LIFE INSIDE THE TERRARIUM



# FINAL THOUGHTS

The barrier between us and the inside of the terrarium creates an opportunity to contemplate the state of humanity's relationship with nature in the 21st century. How far away is a future where the only ecosystems left must be contained in a glass jar to survive? Where can humanity fit into such a future? Is there any value to nature that can only exist behind glass? These are the questions we want the audience to consider during their experience with the piece, taking time to reflect on the state of our planet and the increasing necessity for environmental protection that is a result of our negligent treatment of our surroundings.