

SITE



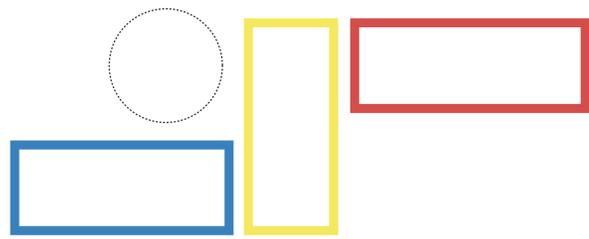
This site is located on the White Earth Nation Reservation in Mahnomen County, Northwest of the Twin cities in Minnesota.

Previously a tree farm owned by the White Earth Forestry department, this site is being developed by the White Earth Enterprises for both a Proposed HHealth Center and a transitional housing complex. Our goal was to provide an initial site and building study for the purpose of jump starting the financing campaign for this project.

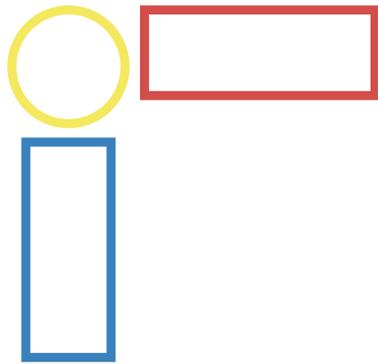
Another primary goal was to save as many landscape feature on the site including large stands of trees.



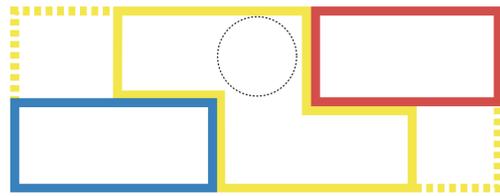
DESIGN CONCEPTS



'Z' SCHEME



'L' SCHEME

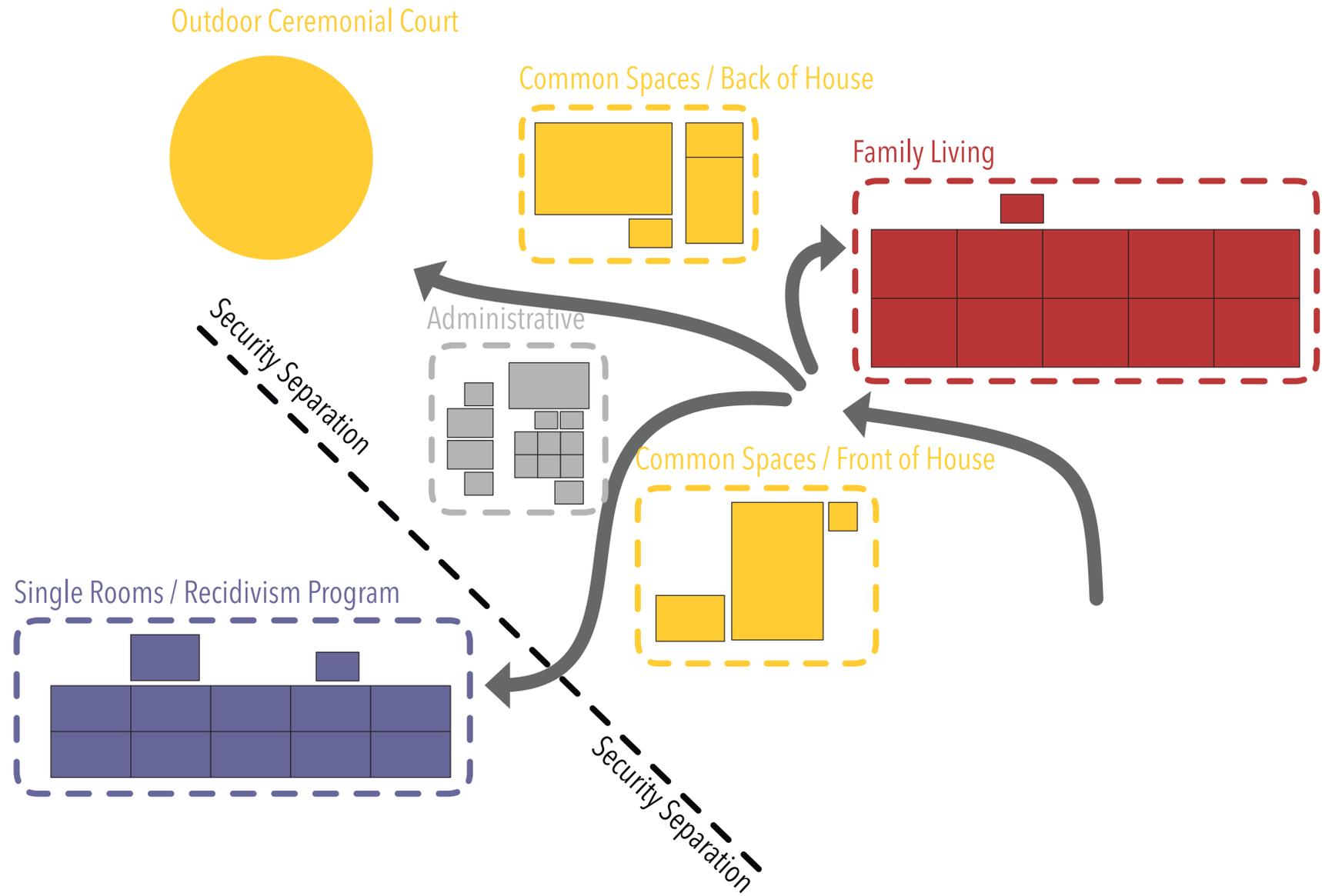


BLOCK SCHEME

The final design concepts we developed each involved a central space for the common events and programming which the public could utilize in addition to the residents. The residents were divided into two wings of the building; two bed apartments for families and one bed apartments for those enrolled in the recidivism program.

After some discussion we settled on the "Z Scheme" for its coupling of cost efficient form and programmatic effectiveness.

PROGRAM PLANNING

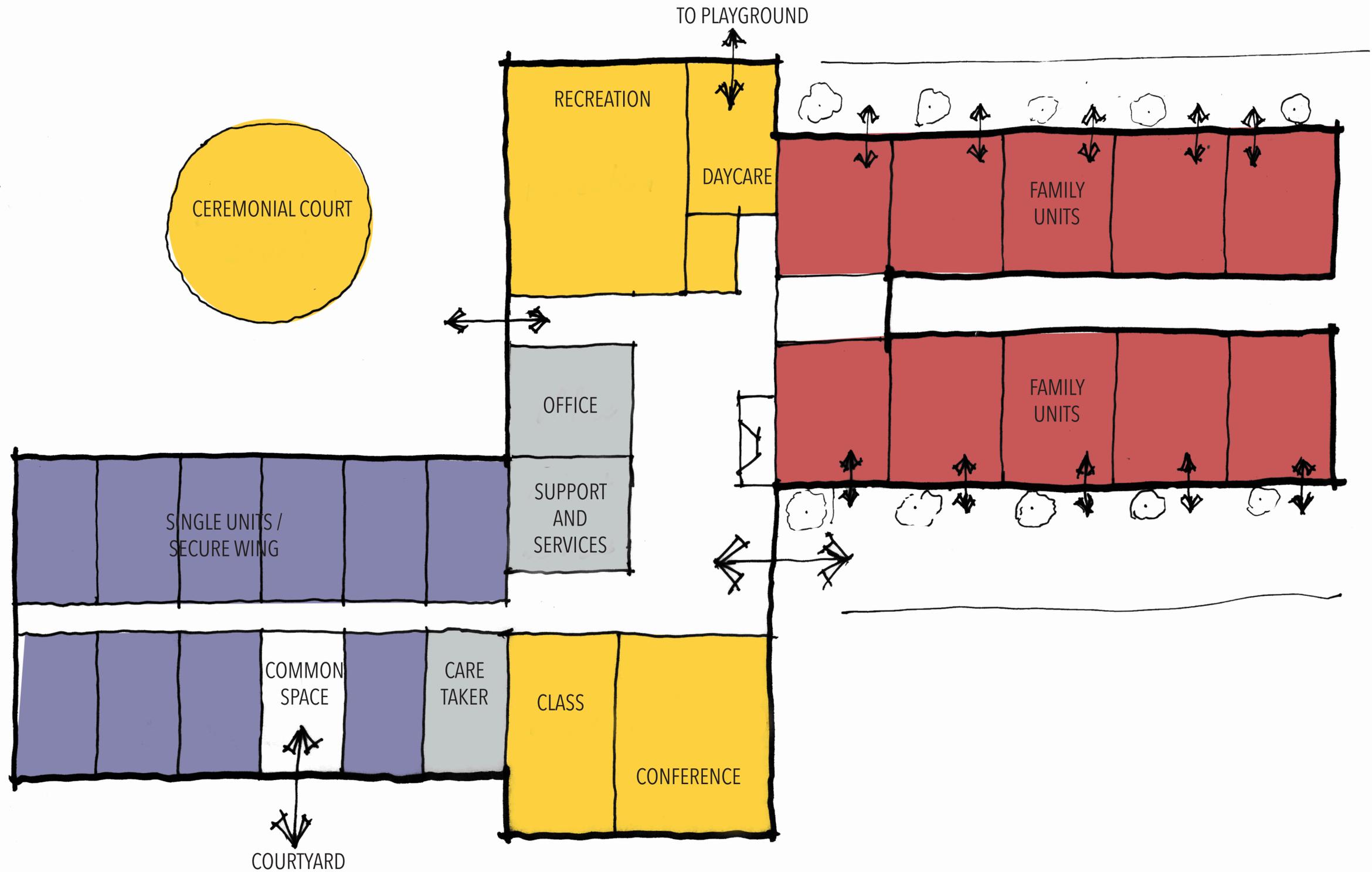


FINAL PLAN

The primary means of entrance is on the southeastern corner of the commons area. The central spaces serve the purpose of accomodating community events, providing services for residents such as daycare and education. The administrative services are also located in this central space both for convenience and monitoring activity taking place in the building.

The single / secure units are located in the west wing of the building, and are separated by security lock. This location keeps the recidivism program separate from the family living quarters while allowing them to have access to all the common areas in the central space of the building.

The family units are located in the east wing of the building and are accessible from the exterior. The separation of these units is intended to replicate the independence of property ownership, while creating easy access to the common spaces.



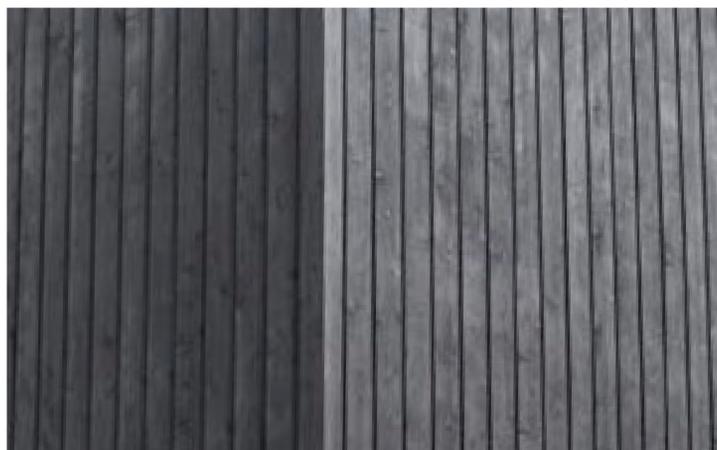
MATERIALS



BIRCH TREES



CORD WOOD



VERTICAL WOOD SIDING



SOUTH ELEVATION

The client placed a heavy emphasis on respect for the earth and natural materials. We decided to use wood as the primary material used on the building. Many locations, including walls and doors. The center building mass is vertical black-stained wood siding and the resident wings incorporated Cordwood construction. We were inspired by the home created by General Contractor, Robert Zahorski of Clearwater Building and Design, and the collaboration with Tribal Group Leader Bill Paulson's building team of Ojibwa trained masons using the technique of Cordwood Construction. Their involvement allows local craftsman to participate in building process.

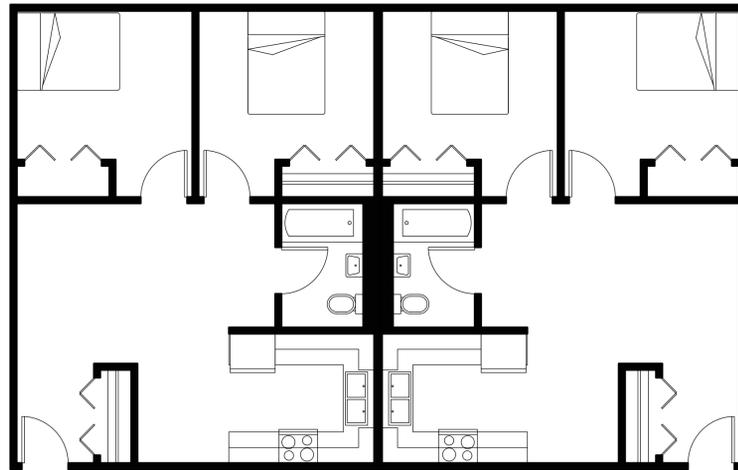
In addition, we have incorporated the colors of White Earth Enterprise (red, yellow, black). The vertical wood on the central building charred for black. The doors will be stained red and yellow is used for the prefinish steel located above the red doors. The birch trees located on the site would be incorporated with the building as a cultural representation of White Earth Enterprise on the element of earth in context of the site. This process can be achieved with Cordwood Construction, a local contractor. Members of Cordwood Construction are part of Ojibwa tribe and are familiar with Ojibwa home traditions.



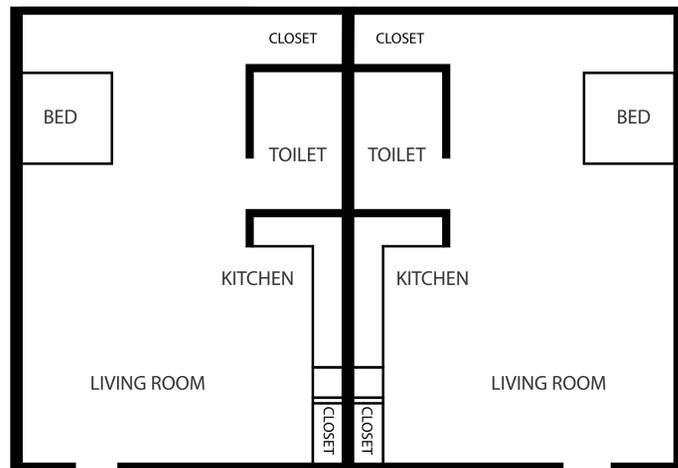
MAIN ENTRY

Dwellings

TWO BED



SINGLE BED



Within the cordwood house, artistic symbolic imagery associated with the Ojibwa tribe were embellished within the constructed wall. This could be a personal touch adorning each of the living spaces found in the new facility. Depending on the meaning of the symbol acquired by the owner, final placement of each symbolic form would need to be determined by the White Earth Tribe. Our first inclination, would be to apply one of these pieces near the front entry.

the technique would also allow for arranging the wood to feature the animals of each clan (bear, turtle, wolves, pelicans, sturgeon) and creating a dream catcher. Cordwood Construction specialize in constructing log homes by using sources that are renewable as the infill for the mortar mixer, therefore not only making the structure sustainable but affordable as well.

Finally, vegetation that are important for the White Earth Enterprise such as sage and sweetgrass will be placed near the entrance and the Ceremonial Court for performances and discussions.

