



GOLD COIN LODGE
A RESORT FOR ALL SEASONS
Discovery Basin
Anaconda, Montana



A Thesis project by Ken Smith

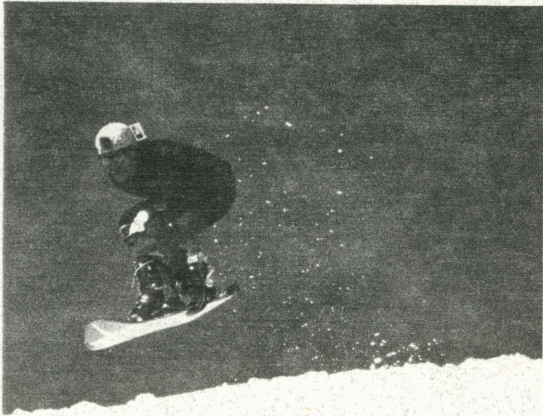
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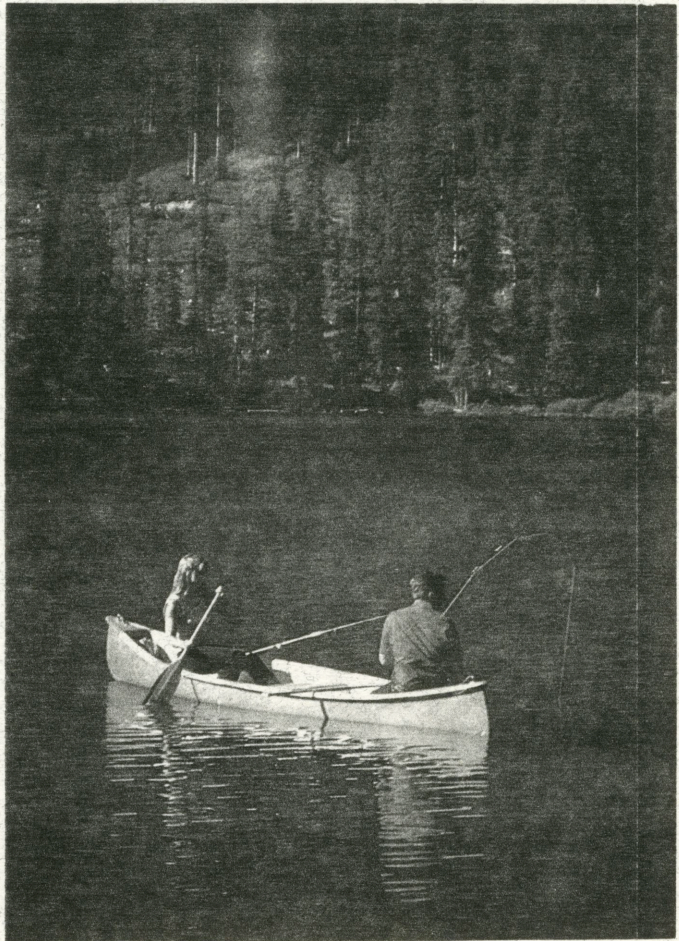
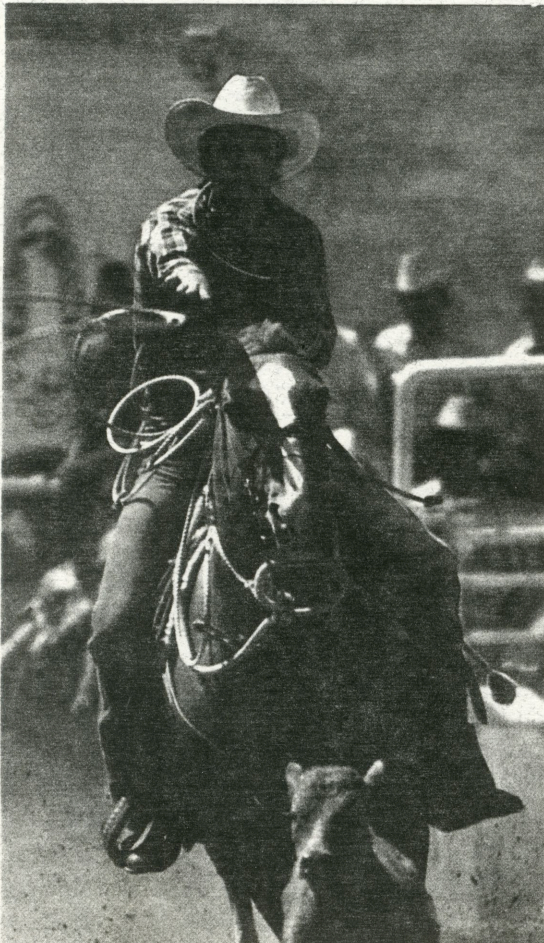
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SCENARIO

In the mid '80's the tourist trade became the leading industry in Montana, bringing millions of dollars in revenue to the state as well as local communities. Now with the increasing popularity of vacationing in Montana, during both the summer and winter, it is inevitable that vacationing resorts will undergo expansion and redevelopment in the foreseeable future.

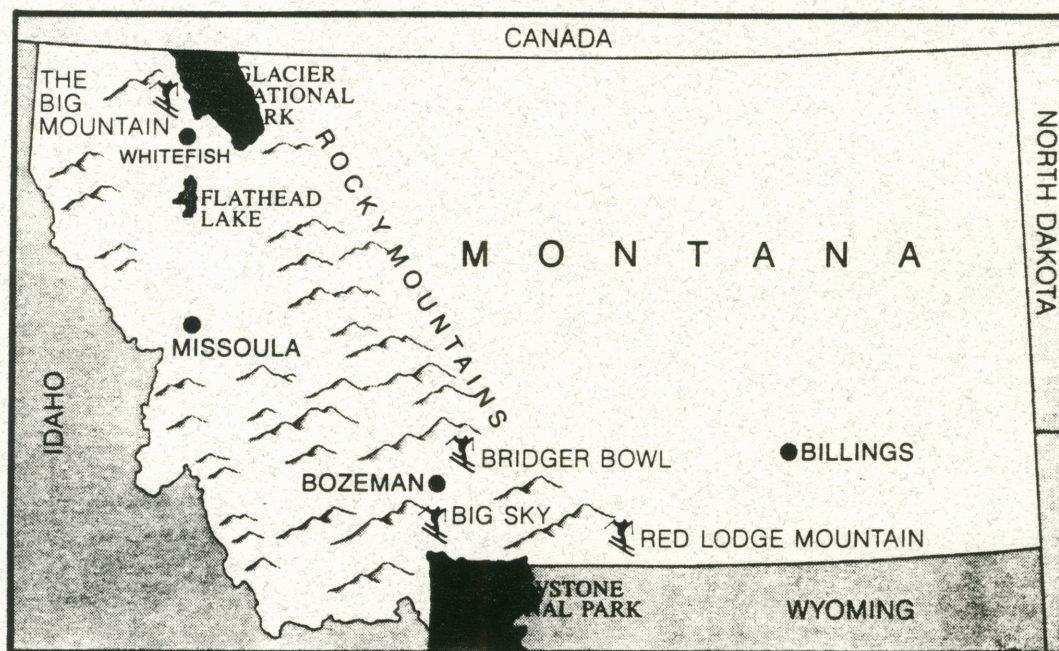
The goals of this thesis project are; (1.) to expand and redevelop a resort that serves not only the needs of the local and regional vacationers but a potential worldwide audience, (2.) to design a year- round resort which takes advantage of what Montana has to offer, (3.) to develop a resort which is sensitive to the particular location with regard to it's history and environment.





INTRODUCTION

Several existing ski areas are of note at the present in Montana. Among those: Big Sky and Bridger Bowl in the Bozeman area, Snow Bowl in Missoula, Big Mountain near Kalispell, and Red Lodge near Billings. All of these areas have a tremendous potential to accommodate tourists with sufficient proximity to major air transportation facilities in either Billings, Bozeman or Missoula. Between Bozeman and Missoula is the Butte/Anaconda area. The existing facility at Discovery Basin, west of Anaconda, is an example of a recreational area primed for the above mentioned expansion and redevelopment, which is the subject of this thesis.





THE SITE

Discovery Basin is located six miles north of Georgetown Lake; just off of Montana Highway 1 (The Pintler Scenic Rout) in a natural basin surrounded by rugged mountains. Three lifts serve over 50 runs on more than 300 acres of ski terrain with the possibility of expanding to over 1000 acres. The difficulty of the terrain is well distributed at 20% beginner, 30% intermediate and 50% expert. The surrounding area boasts blue ribbon trout fishing, scenic ghost towns, rustic mine shacks and miles of Pintler wilderness; all a stones throw from major airports at Missoula and Butte. With all of its recreation opportunities the area has the potential to be a major tourist destination as well as a strong economic anchor for the community.



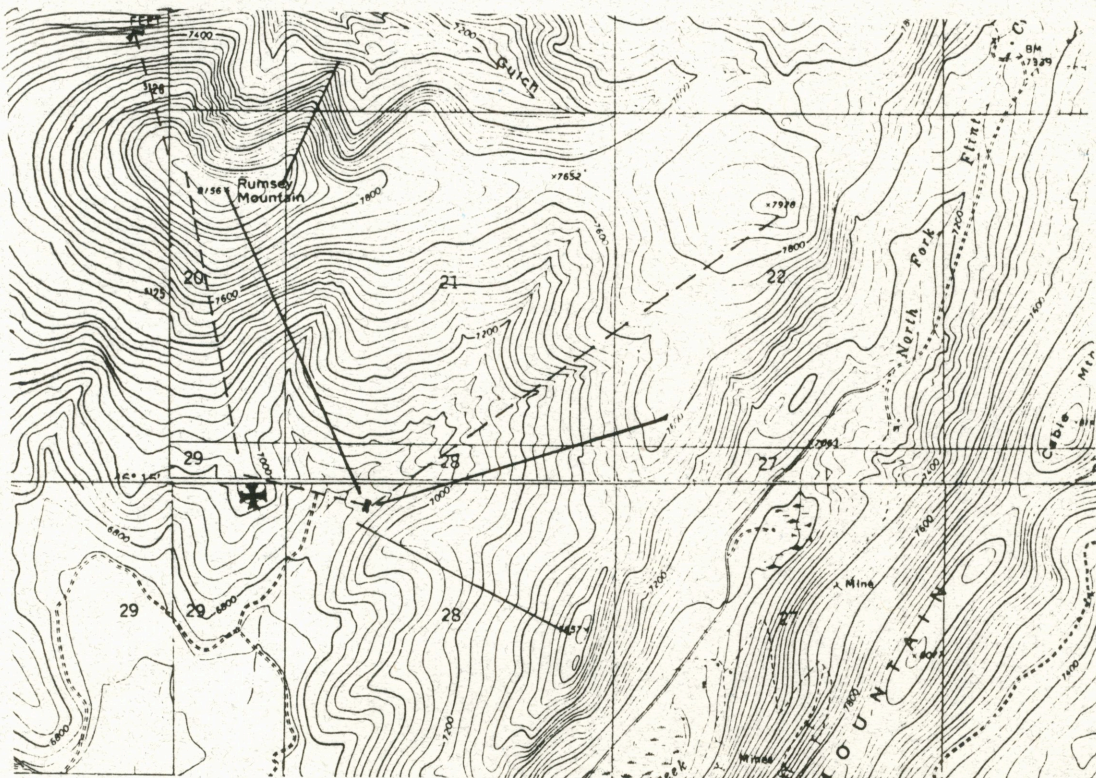
Lack of services and near-by accommodations have limited the growth of discovery. The only existing building on the site is the current lodge, an 8,000 sf wood frame building which houses the ski rental and sandwich shops. Having no significant accommodations within 30 miles of the ski hill creates a great potential for an exciting year-round destination resort at Discovery Basin.

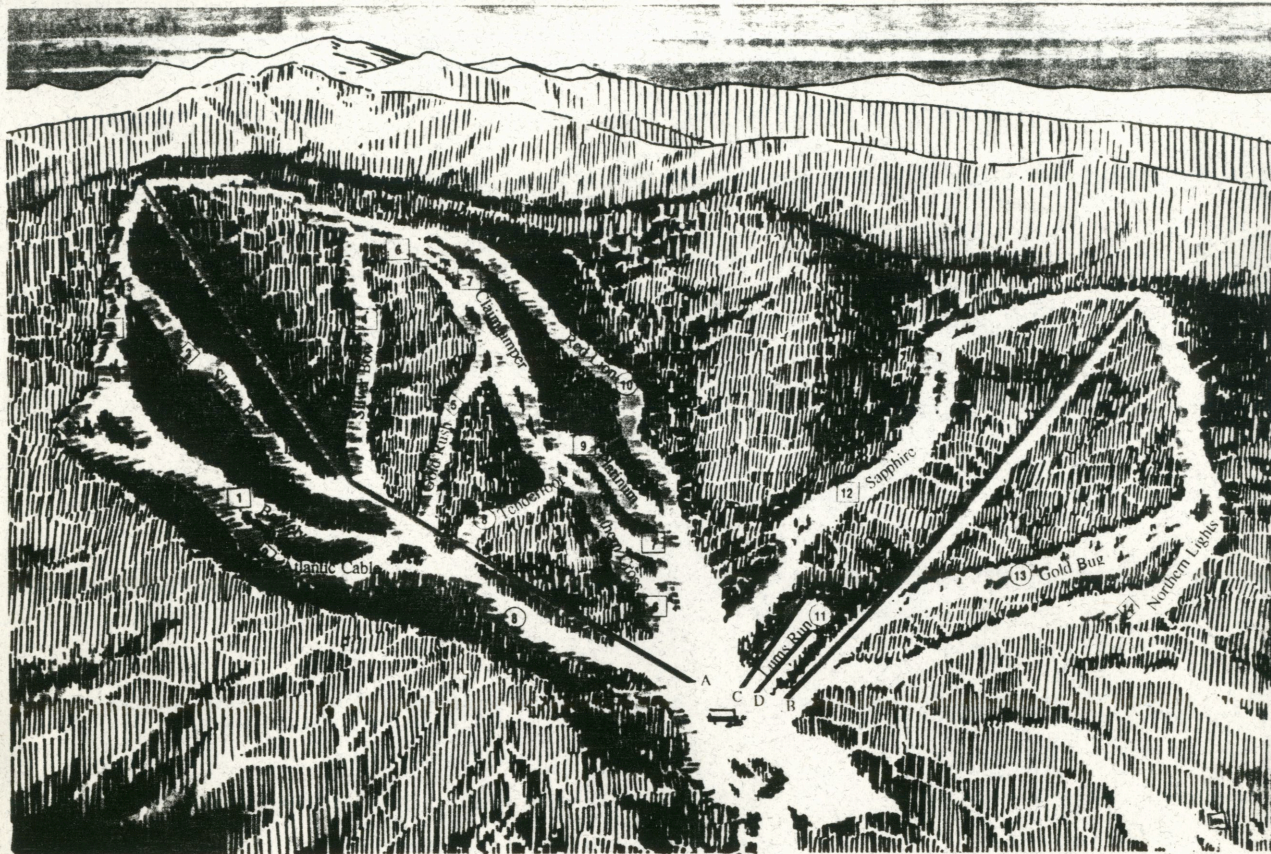


Historically ski areas start out as a base area that blossoms into a small village offering various services and accommodations. Unfortunately, in many cases, there is not sufficient room for the growth and the base area becomes a cramped, unsightly, urban eyesore plopped down in the snow such as the upper village at Big Sky.



The existing base at Discovery is located at the opening of a horse-shoe shaped basin on a site that offers only limited growth. In order to avoid the problems of visual as well as physical crowding and to preserve the views from the mountain a new site is necessary. The proposed site is directly west of the existing base area on the top of the hill facing away from the ski area with the potential of expanding to the west and south. The site has a south-west exposure with ski-in/ski-out access and dramatic views of Echo and Georgetown lakes. It is approached from the west by an existing road which winds through the proposed expansion area. The site will have a direct connection with the existing base area in the form of a tram or gondola, as well as direct access to ski lifts.





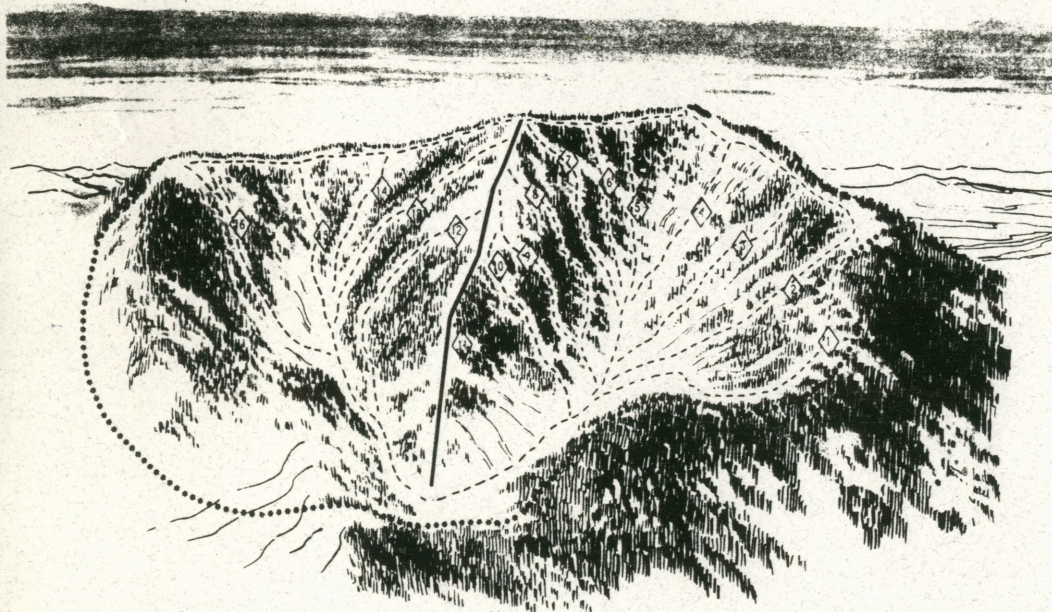
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|------------------|------------------|-------------|--------------------|
| 1 Berkely | 5 Gold Rush | 9 Platinum | 12 Sapphire |
| 2 Atlantic Cable | 6 Southern Cross | 10 Red Lion | 13 Gold Bug |
| 3 Sluice Box | 7 Claimjumper | 11 Lums Run | 14 Northern Lights |
| 4 Silver Bow | 8 Tenderfoot | | |

- [] MORE DIFFICULT
 [] MOST DIFFICULT
 [] EASIER

- A CHAIR LIFT
 B CHAIR LIFT
 C PONY LIFT
 D PONY LIFT

LIFT INFORMATION

	LENGTH	VERTICAL	CAPACITY
A	5200	1300	1100
B	5000	800	1200



1. Medicine Ridge
2. Bad Finger
3. Good Finger
4. Mother Lode
5. Haunted Forest
6. Terminator
7. Snaggle Tooth
8. Spooky Hollow
9. Christmas Park
10. Hangman's
11. Limelight
12. The Pitch
13. Manhattan
14. Ajax
15. Maverick
16. Catcha Wave

The Limelight Chair #3

Elevation Top	8,080 ft.
Elevation Bottom	7,116 ft.
Vertical Rise	964 ft.
Ski Terrain	120 acres
Longest Run	2 miles
Lift Capacity	900



Experts



Lift

..... Ski Area Boundaries

----- Ski Runs

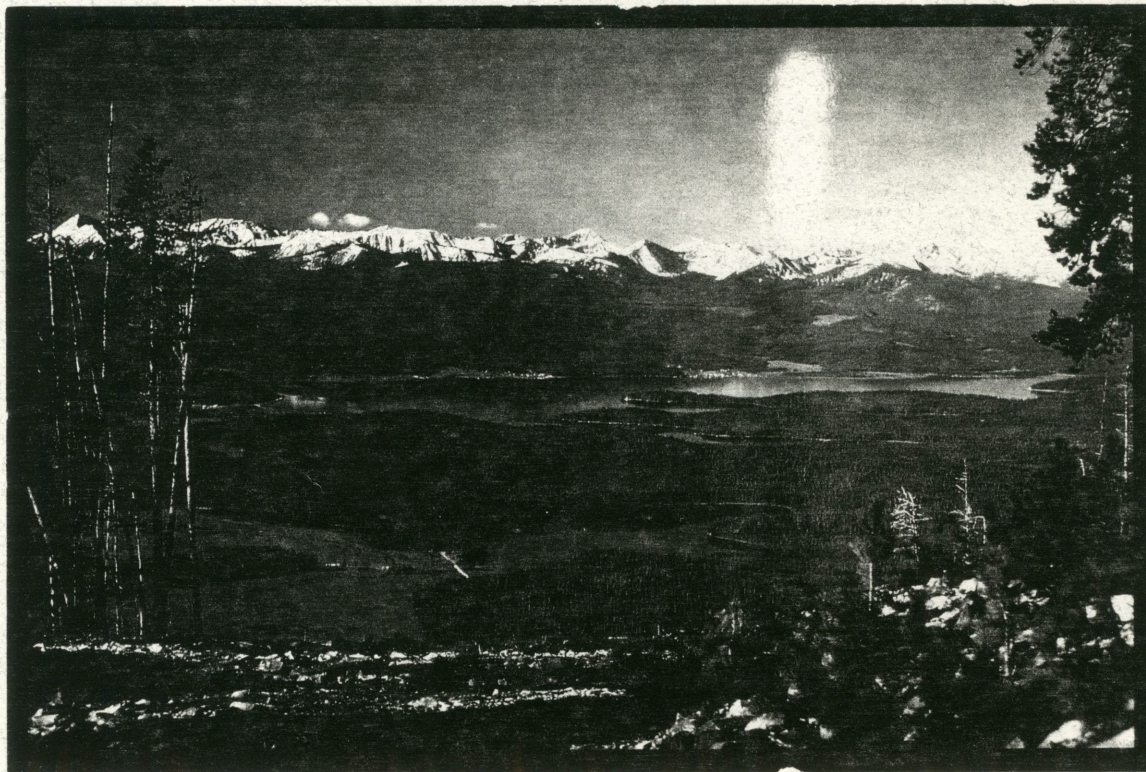


THE DESIGN CHALLENGE

The design challenge is to create a winter /summer resort that satisfies the needs and desires of local as well as out-of-state tourists.

Major concerns and objectives include:

1. Prevent visual as well as physical overcrowding of the base area while providing for expansion.
2. Retain the existing Building but change its' function.
3. Maintain the integrity of existing views from the hill as well as the site.
4. Acknowledge the rich history of copper mining in the area.



THE SOLUTION

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

FUNCTIONS / SPACE ALLOCATIONS

BASE LODGE (existing)

Gondola house	5000 sf
Sandwich Shop	2500 sf
Ski School Offices	1000 sf
Ski Patrol Offices	1000 sf
Ticket Sales	<u>500 sf</u>
	10,000 sf

NEW LODGE

Lobby/Desk	2000 sf
Offices	3000 sf
Guest Rooms (50 @ 1200 sf)	60,000 sf
Guest Lounge	5000 sf
Pool/Changing Rooms/Saunas	6000 sf
Deck	5000 sf
Shops	5000 sf
Restaurant A	5000 sf
Restaurant B	3000 sf
Bar	4000 sf
Multi-use Rooms	3000 sf
Ticket Sales	1000 sf
Gondola Area	3000 sf
Equipment Rental	2000 sf
Day Skier Changing Rooms	3000 sf
Ski Lockers	2000 sf
Circulation/Misc	5000 sf
Laundry/Service/Storage	<u>5000 sf</u>
	122,000 sf

VILLAGE

CABINS

Single Family	40 units
Multi-Family	5 units

ORIENTATIONS

The Site

The new site was chosen based on views, exposure, access and potential expansion.

Functions/Use of space

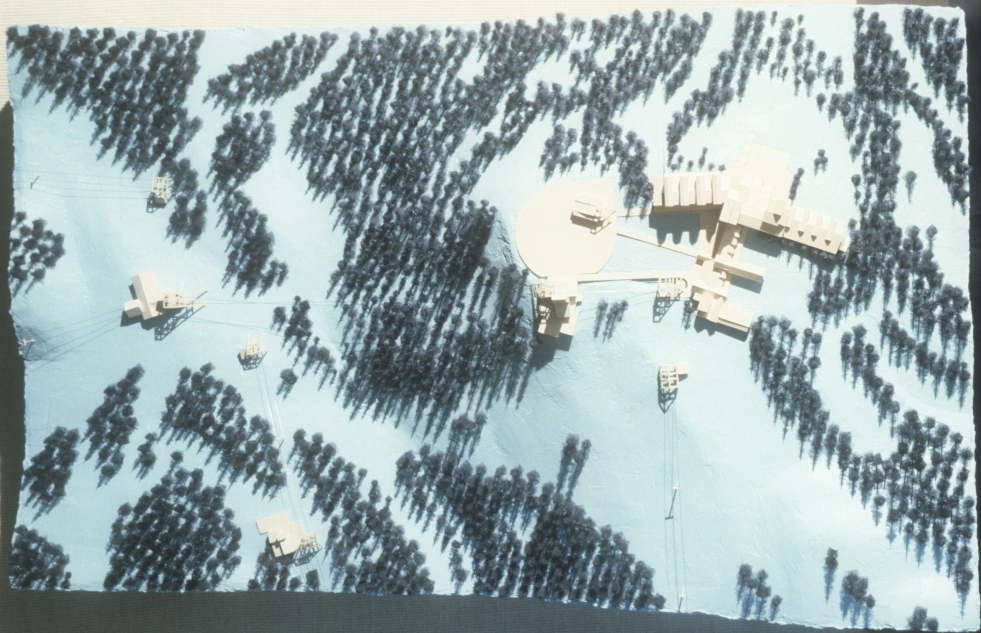
Public and private spaces are separated horizontally as well as vertically. Public spaces occur on the main (2nd) floor near or adjacent to the lobby. Private spaces, those reserved for hotel patrons, are located further from the lobby as well as above and below the main floor.

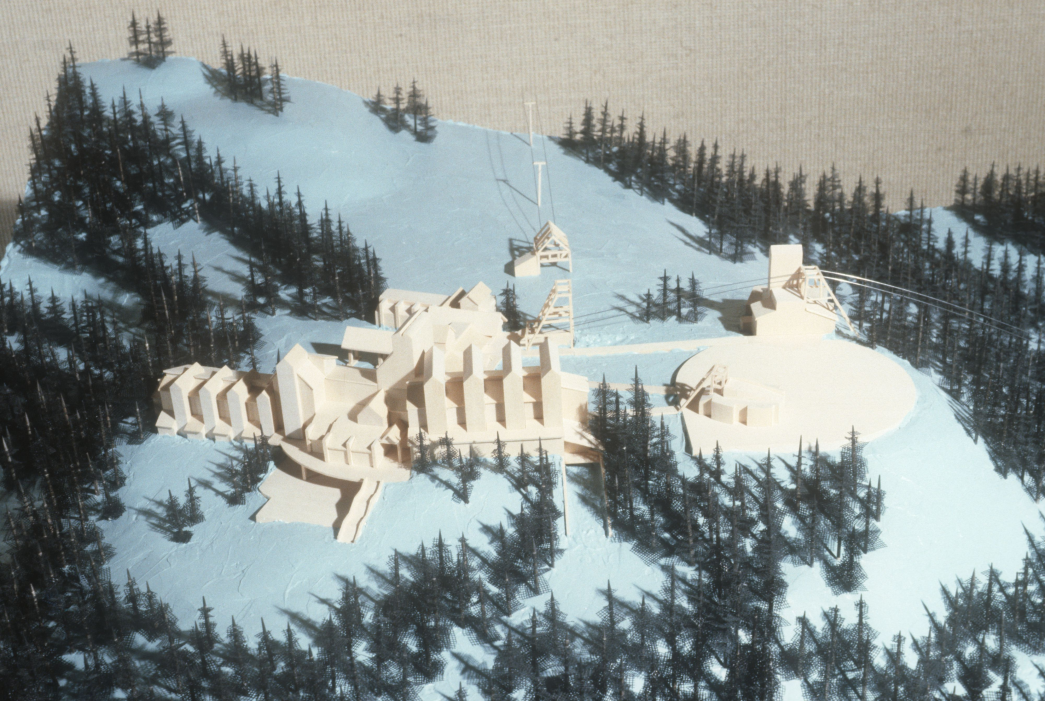
Spaces with functions related directly to skiing are located towards the ski hill while those related to the hotel functions are located further from the hill.

Hotel Patron vs. Day Skier

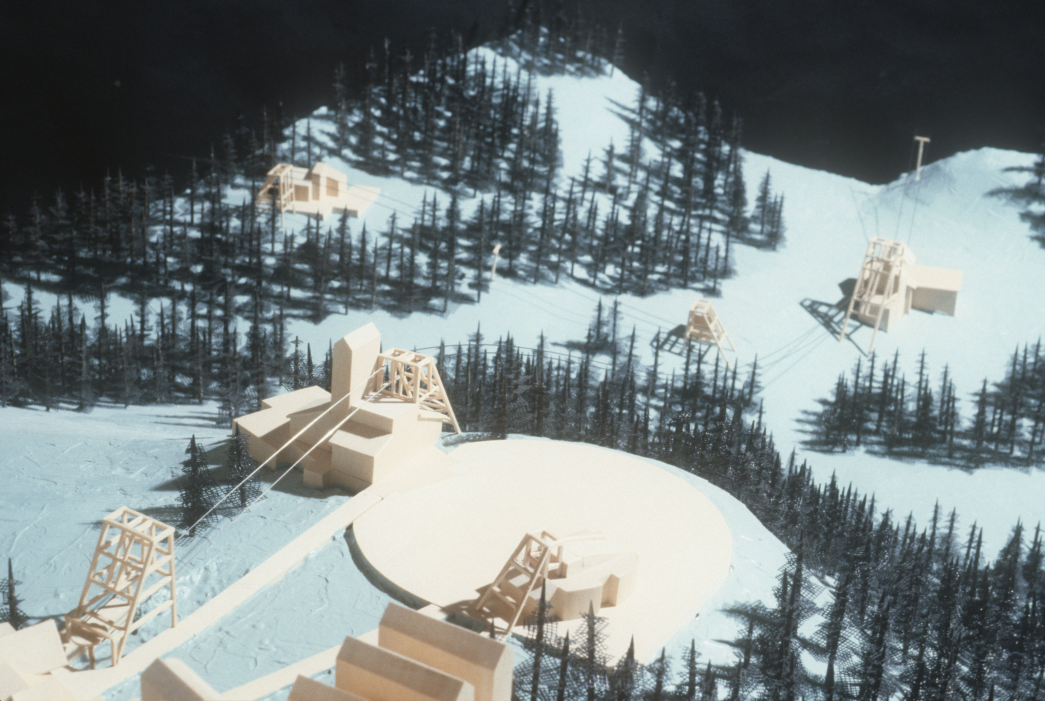
The functions related to day skiers and hotel patrons have been separated due to the nature of day skier visits and to limit the amount of required parking at the new base area. Day skiers will continue to use the existing base area and parking while the hotel patrons will have a separate parking area and approach.

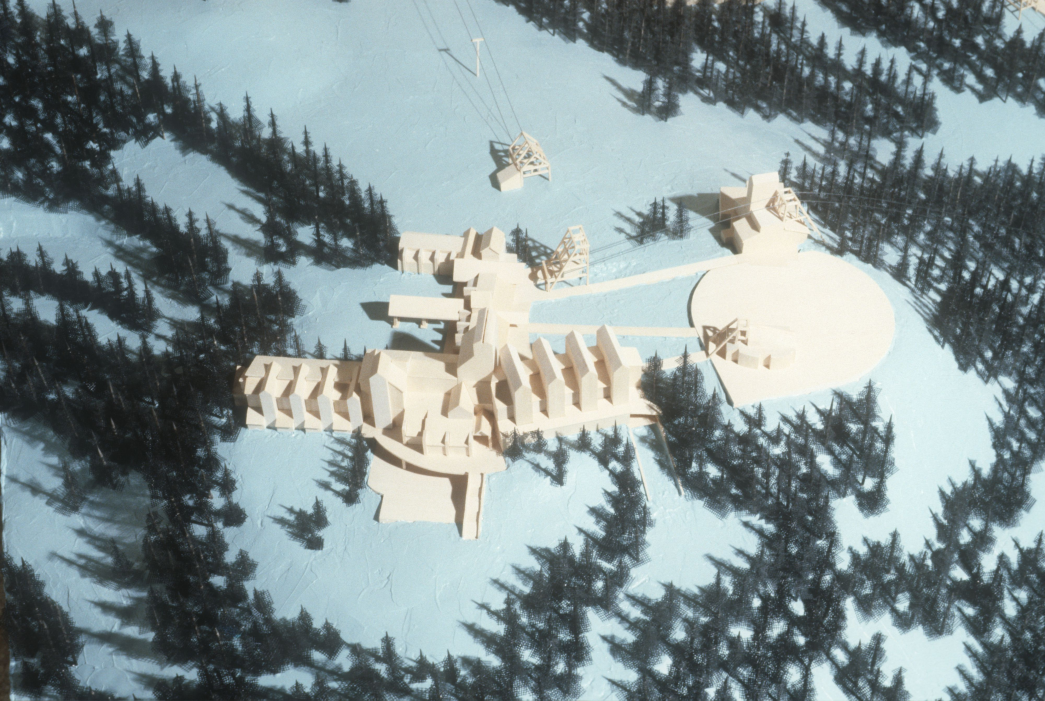








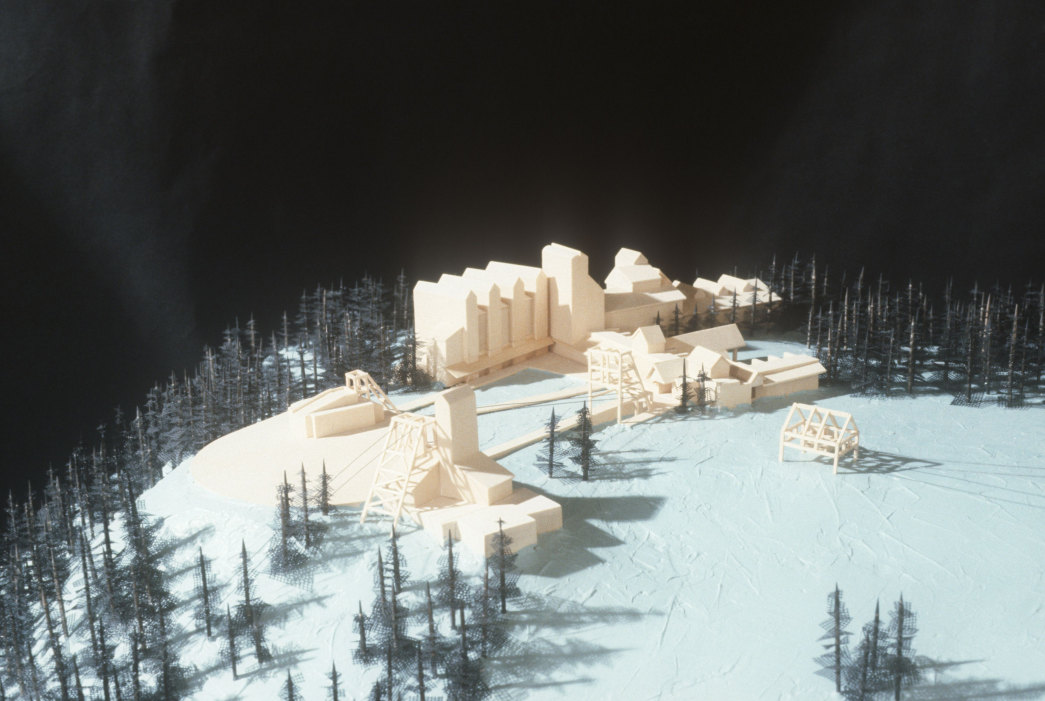


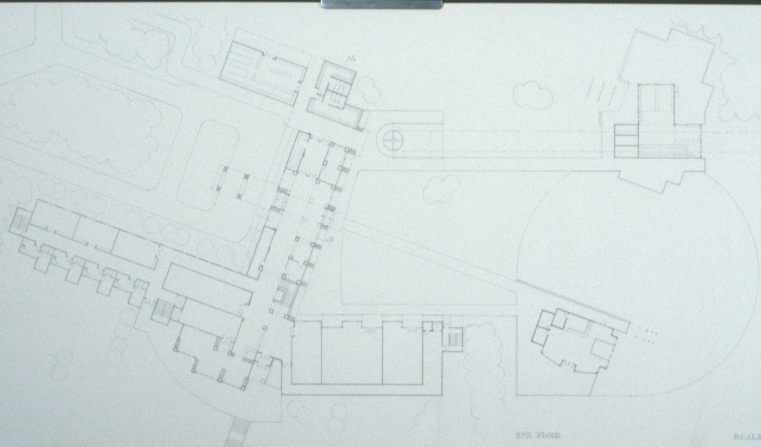


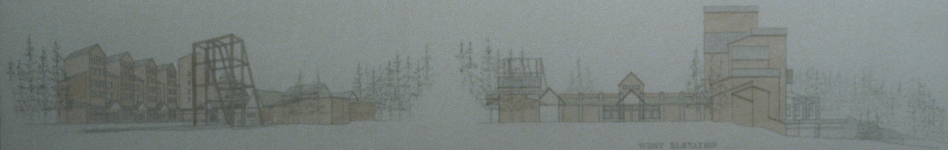
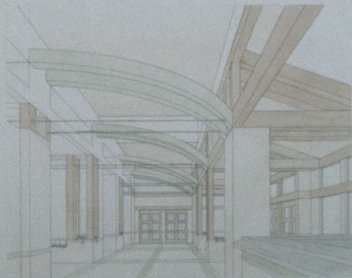
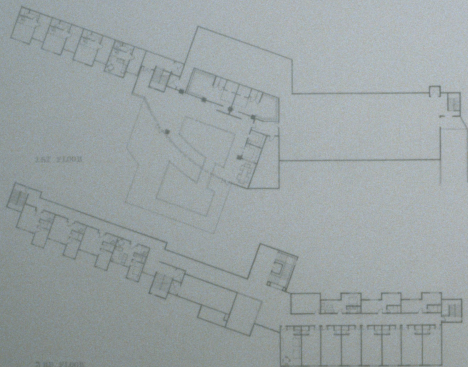


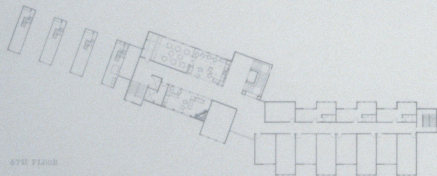




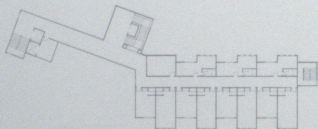








4TH FLOOR



5TH FLOOR



LOUNGE

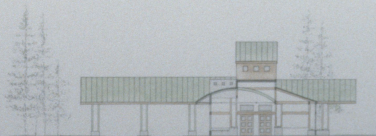


SECTION A

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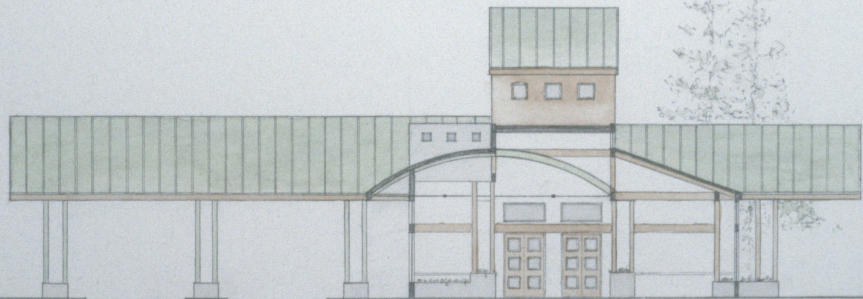


GOLD CHIP LODGE
A RESORT FOR ALL SEASONS
BY KEN SMITH



SECTION B

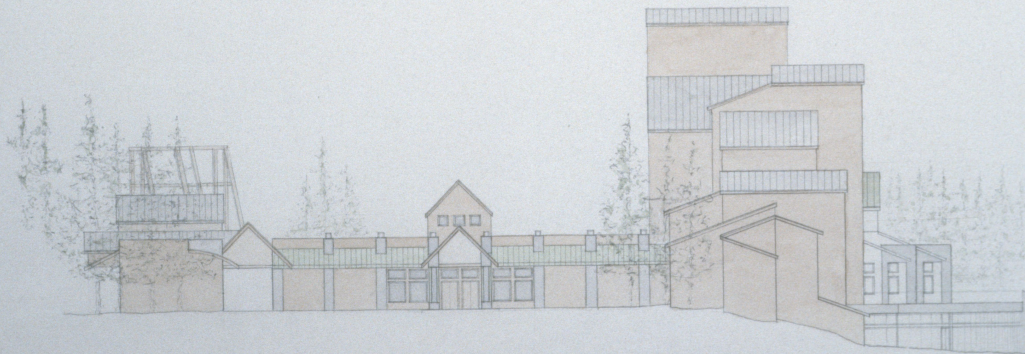
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SECTION B

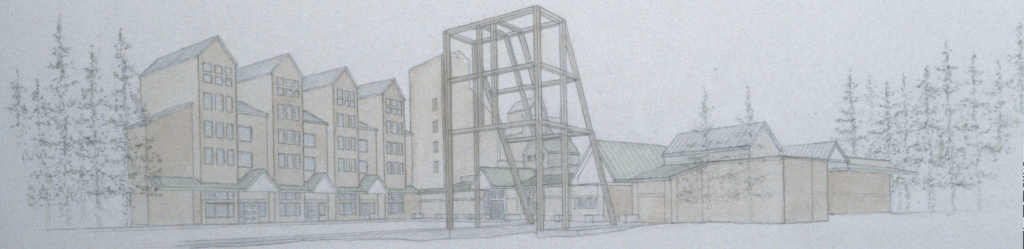
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