ART DIRECTION FOR UNCHARTED 2 AMONG THIEVES

ART DIRECTORS

Erick Pangilinan **Robh Ruppel**

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

ART DIRECTORS

Erick Pangilinan

Robh Ruppel

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

ART DIRECTORS

Erick Pangilinan

Implementation side

Robh Ruppel

Art side

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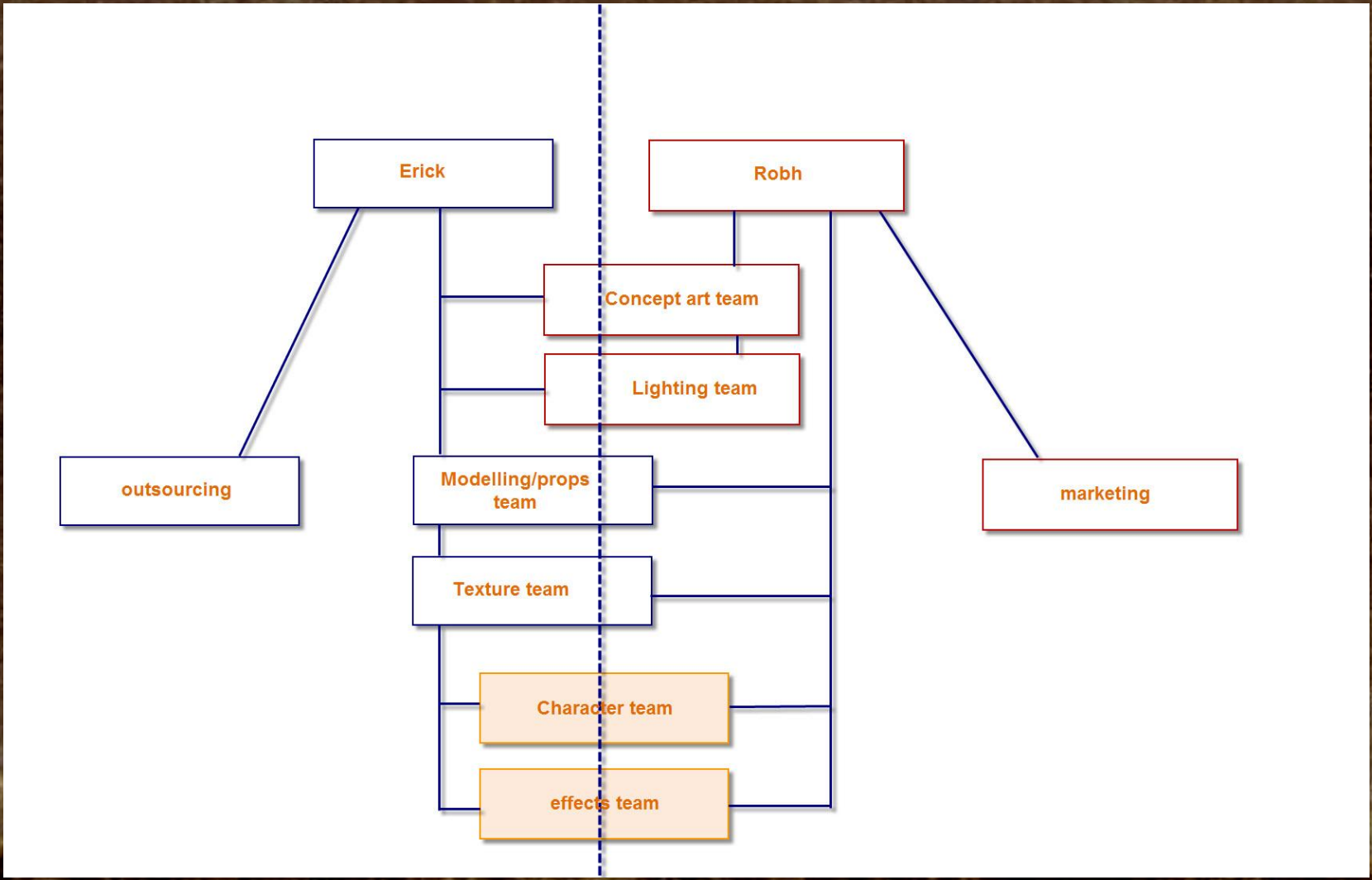

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Most asked question

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Robh Ruppel

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Robh Ruppel

Mies van der Rohe

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Robh Ruppel

Mies van der Rohe

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Robh Ruppel

Mies van der Rohe

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Robh Ruppel

ART DIRECTOR "Meet the Robinsons"
"Brother Bear"

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Robh Ruppel

ART DIRECTOR “Meet the Robinsons”
“Brother Bear”

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ART DIRECTOR

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

What makes Naughty Dog unique?

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

SOLVING THE SAME VISUAL
PROBLEMS IN FILMS AND GAMES

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VISUALS REINFORCE
EMOTION/MOOD/STORY

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EVOKING WAR

Gritty, horror, grim, tragic, desperate

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High level concepts and procedure

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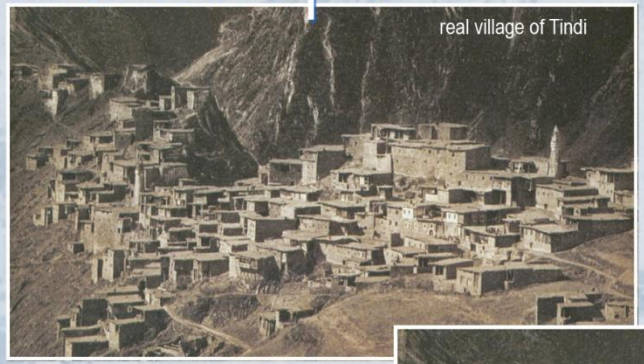
Style Guides

visual concepts



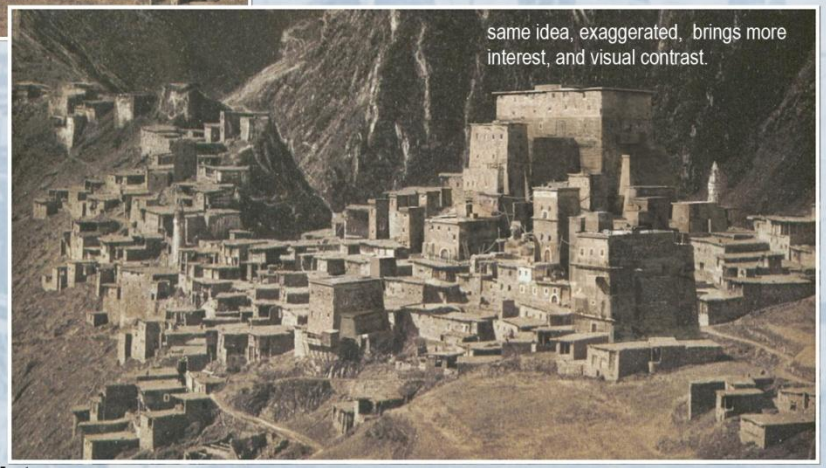
GAMES:

"An activity providing entertainment or amusement"

this is ok

this is **better**, more *interesting*

exaggeration



All art is a translation of life or Nature.
Translation; the rendering of something into another language or into one's own from another language.
This is a very good definition. We aren't copying life, we should be translating it into the medium we work in.

Robh

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

SHAPE
LANGUAGE

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

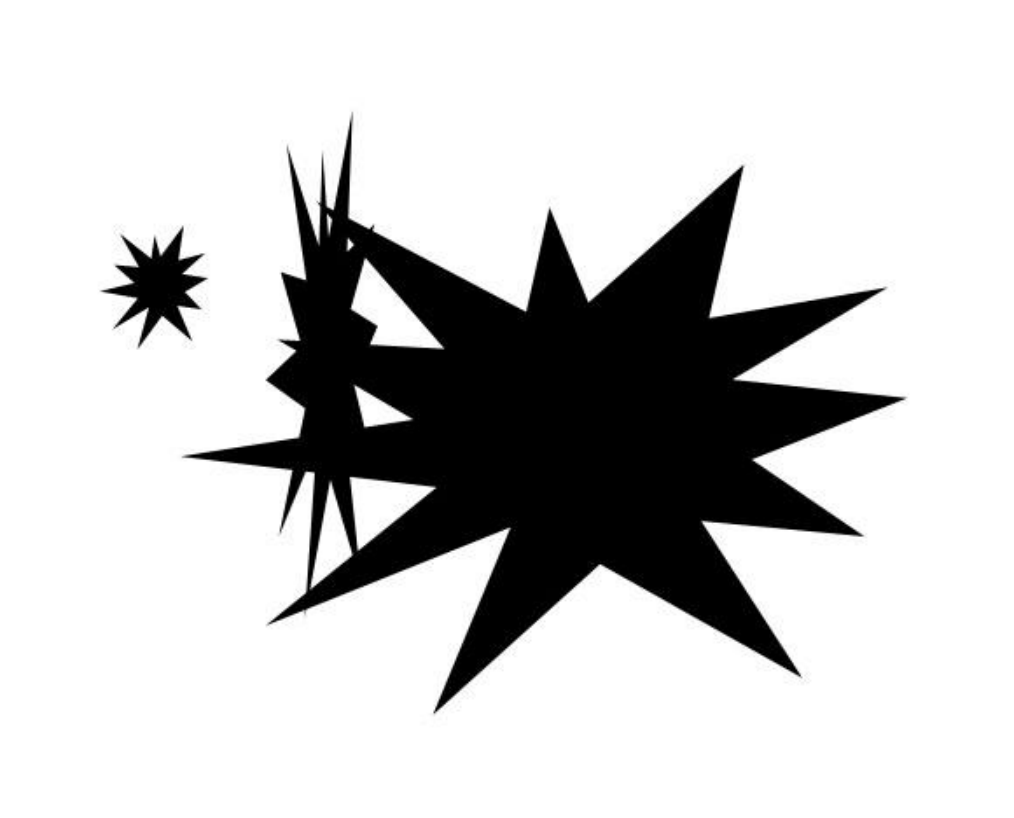
SHAPES:
TOOL TO AFFECT HOW
PEOPLE FEEL

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Style Guides

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Style Guides



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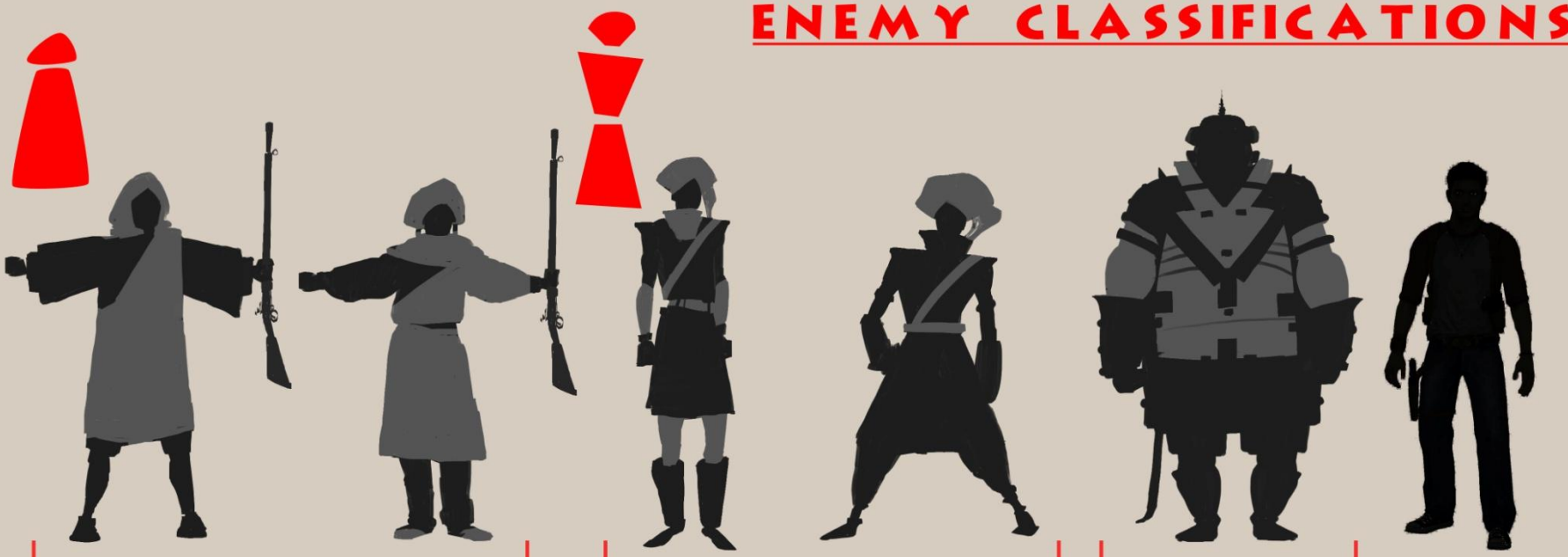
Style Guides

C CLASS. SOFTER, BOTTOM WEIGHTED TAPOZOIDAL SHAPE. MOSTLY LIGHT IN TONE. CLEAN OUTLINE.

B CLASS. OPPOSING TRAPEZOIDAL SHAPES. MORE COMPLEX OUTLINE, MORE ANGULAR. MOSTLY DARK IN TONE

A CLASS. THE TANK. BIG, SPIKY, COMPLEX AND HARD TO KILL.

ENEMY CLASSIFICATIONS



C CLASS

B CLASS

A CLASS

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Style Guides

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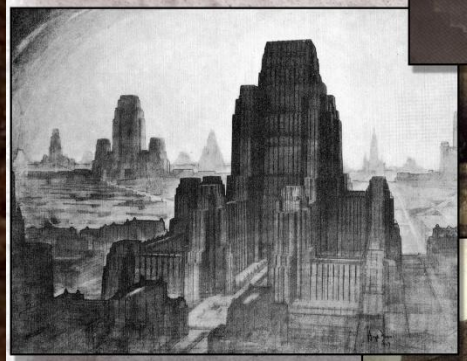
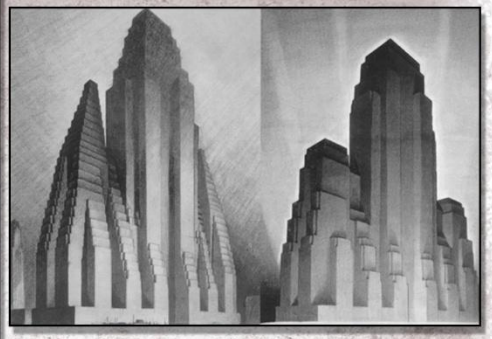
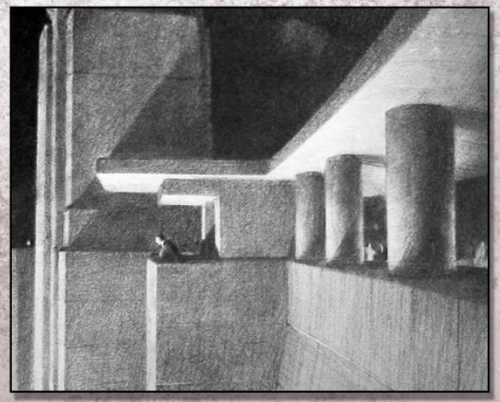
Style Guides

HEROIC ARCHITECTURE







SHANGRI-LA NEEDS TO BE THE MOST IMPRESSIVE DESTINATION TO DATE AT THE END OF THE GAME. HERE'S A COLLECTION OF SOME AMAZING RENDERINGS THAT CAPTURE THE FEELING OF IMPRESSIVE ARCHITECTURE. HUGH FERRISS WAS AN ARCHITECTURAL ILLUSTRATOR WHOSE WORK EXEMPLIFIED THE HEROIC NATURE OF MASSIVE STRUCTURE. WHILE SHANGRI-LA WILL HAVE DETAILS THAT REFLECT ASIAN-TIBETIAN ARCHITECTURE THE MOOD AND HEROIC-MASSIVE-IMPRESSIVE FEEL THAT FERRISS ACHIEVES IS WHAT OUR PLAYER SHOULD FEEL WHEN THEY SEE THE CITY FOR THE FIRST TIME.

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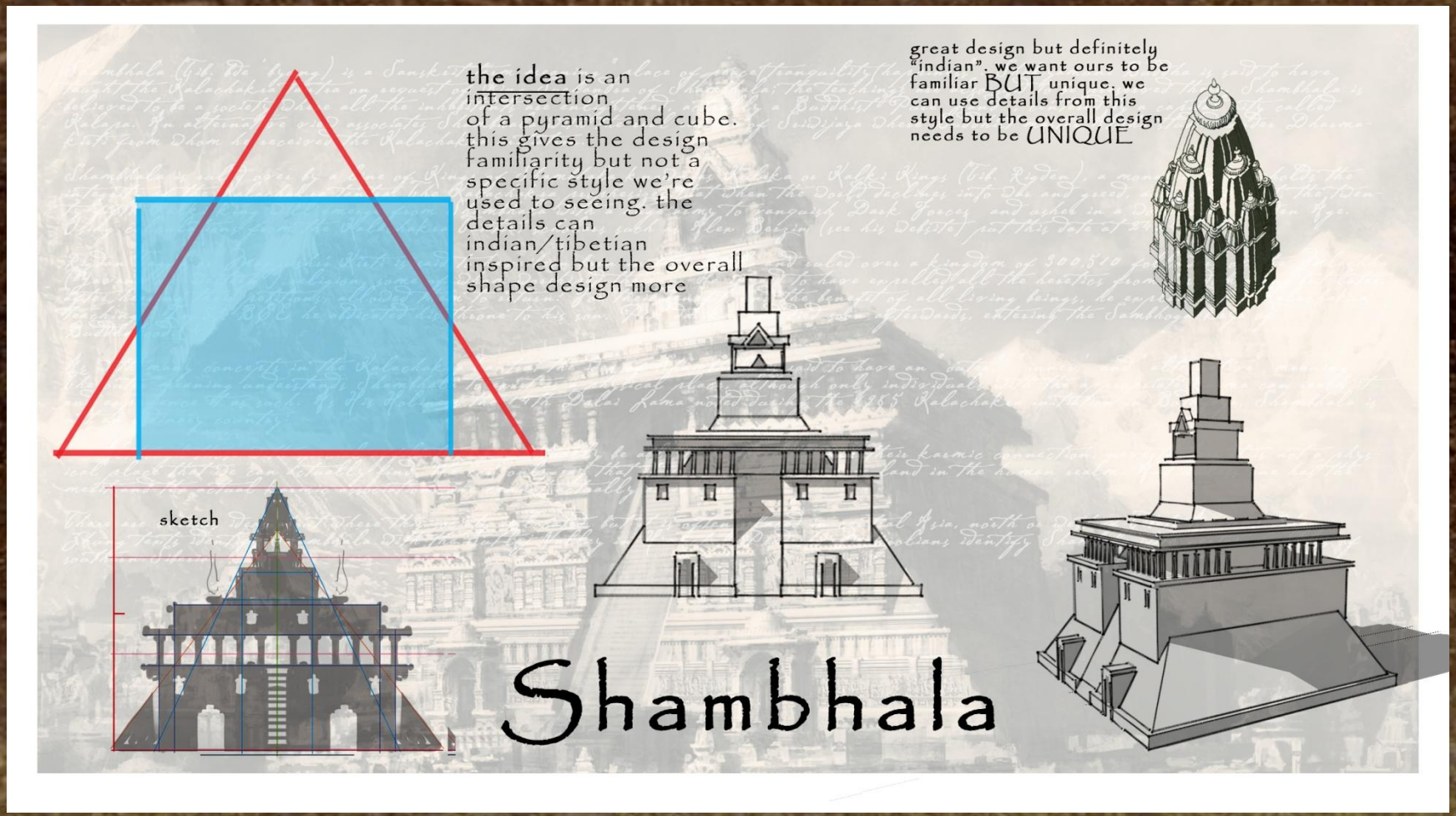
Style Guides



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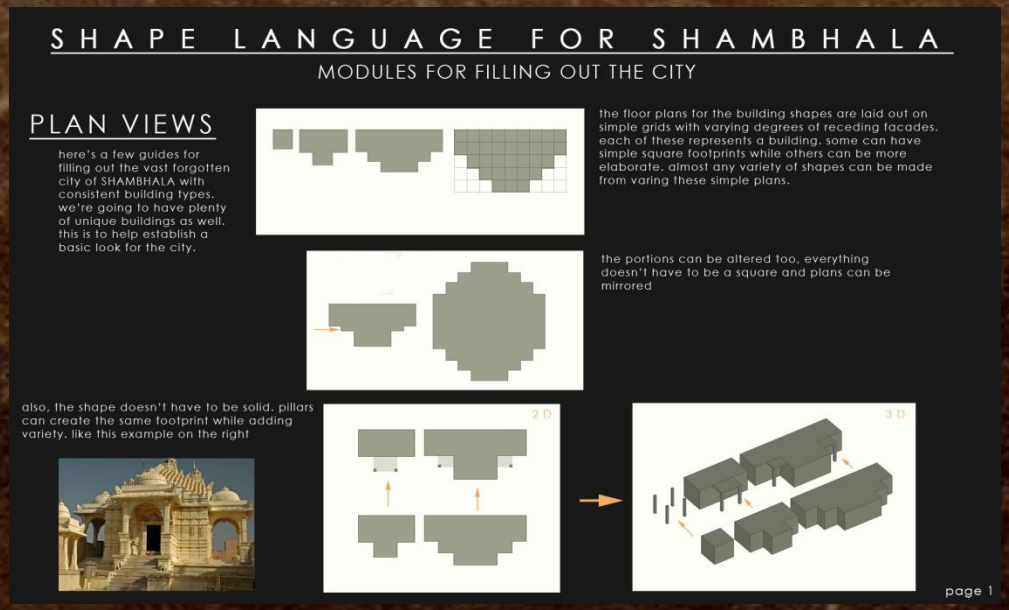
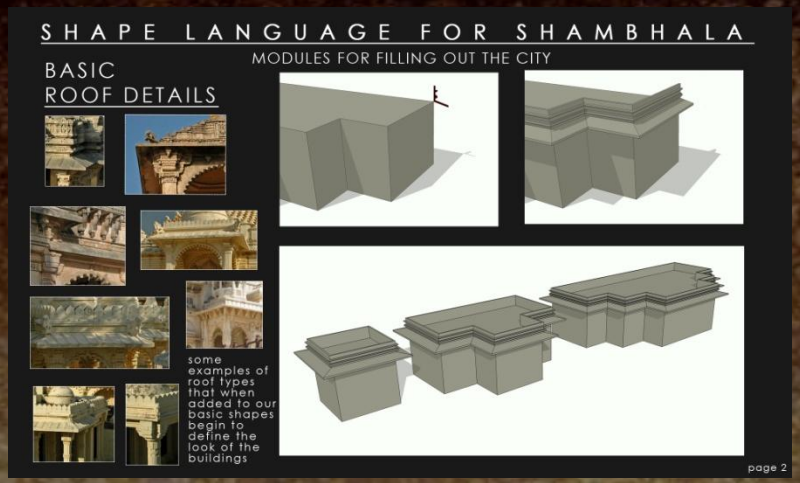
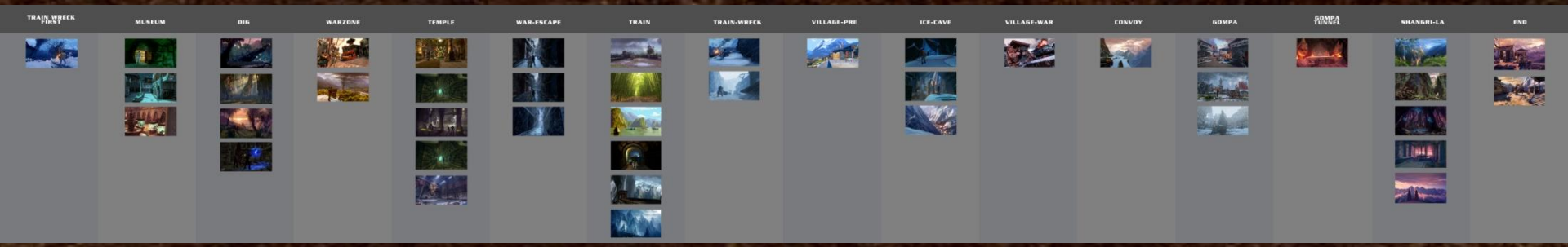
Style Guides





Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Color Scripts



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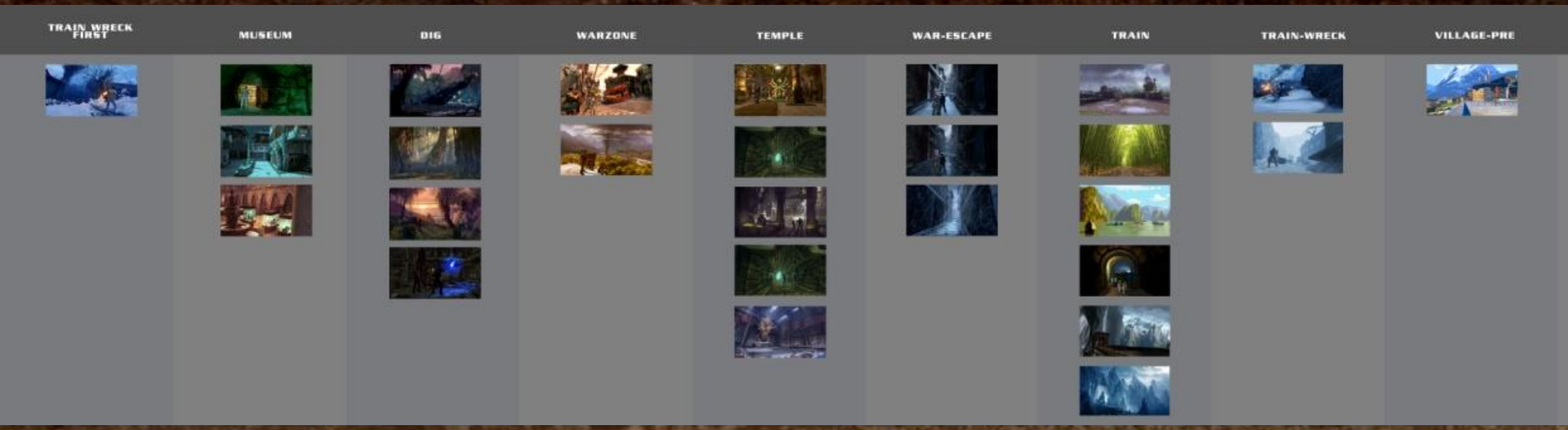
Color Scripts



Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Color Scripts

taller range in the beginning that visually "traps" Drake. large triangular shapes used as compositional devise to lead eye towards Drake. slightly darkening foreground for emphasis on Drake.

same idea here as well. small "dunes" of snow give ground form. rhythm of dunes opposes Drakes path.

depth of field on close ups with longer lens. turbulent sky.

snow blowing into camera. mountains open a bit for contrast to beginning shots and to give screen space for where Tenzen comes from. more dunes on ground for depth cues and opposing rhythm to Drakes direction.

more dunes on ground for depth cues and opposing rhythm to Drakes direction.

very shallow depth of field.

Tenzen approaches. snow blowing towards camera. less DOF because of wider lens. a little brighter sky behind Tenzen for mystery.

exaggerate atmospheric perspective from Tenzen to Drake. Drakes almost gone so hazing him back fits story point.

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

COLOR AND
LIGHTING
VERY EMOTIONAL
TOOLS

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Color Scripts

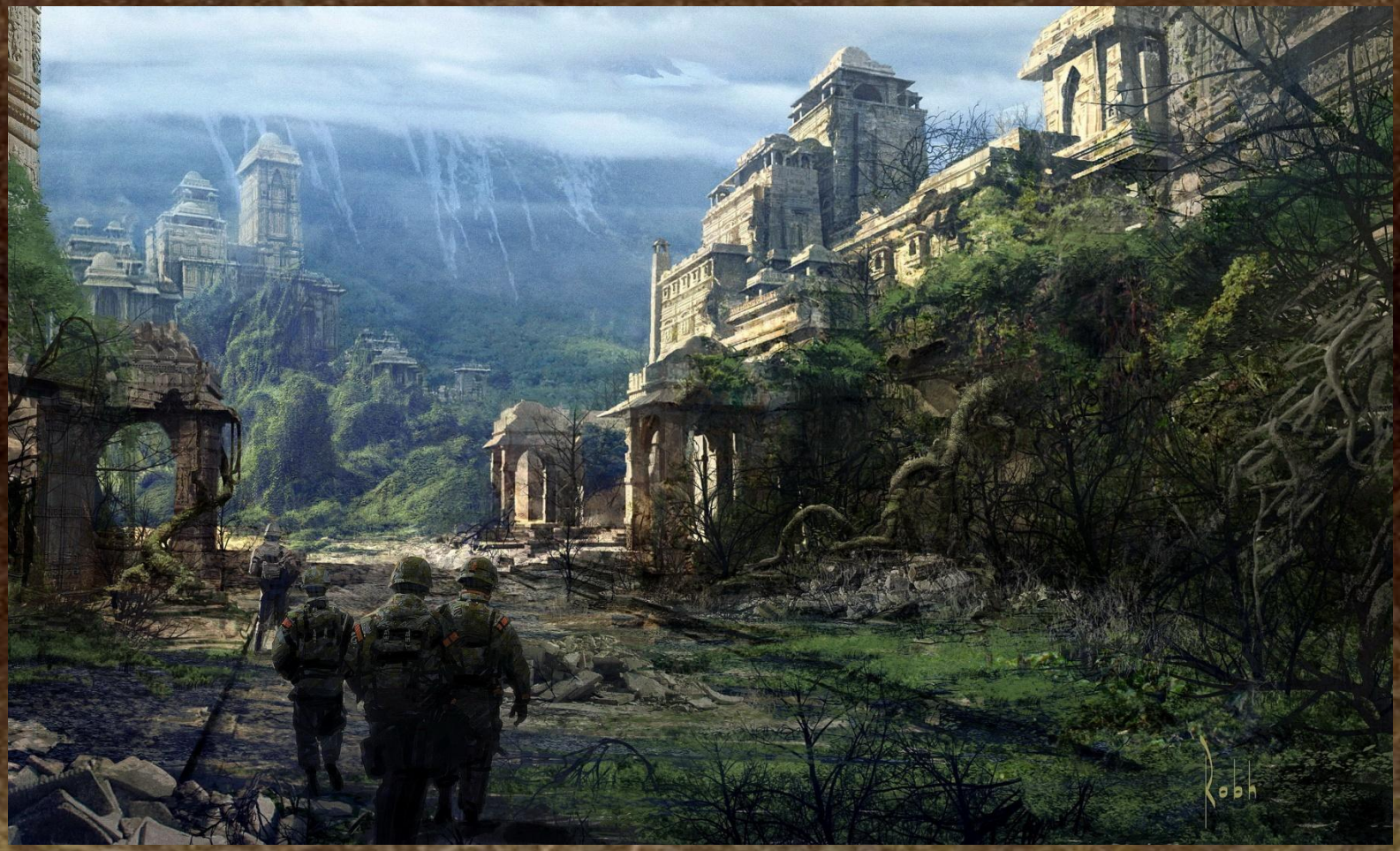
Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Blue Sky

IT ALL STARTS WITH DRAWING

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Blue Sky



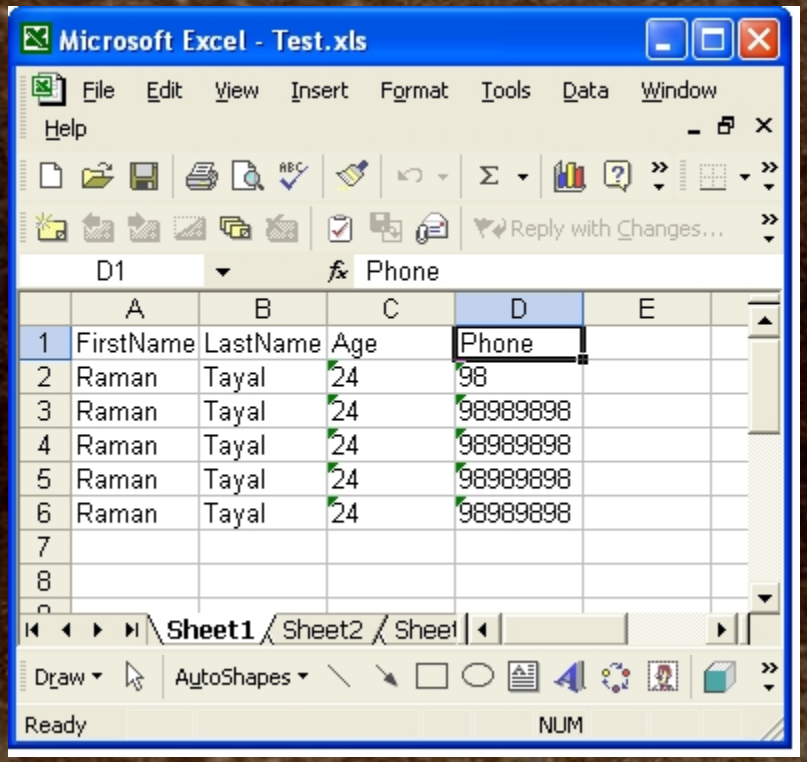
Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Blue Sky

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Blue Sky

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION



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1	FirstName	LastName	Age	Phone	
2	Raman	Tayal	24	98	
3	Raman	Tayal	24	98989898	
4	Raman	Tayal	24	98989898	
5	Raman	Tayal	24	98989898	
6	Raman	Tayal	24	98989898	
7					
8					

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Blue Sky

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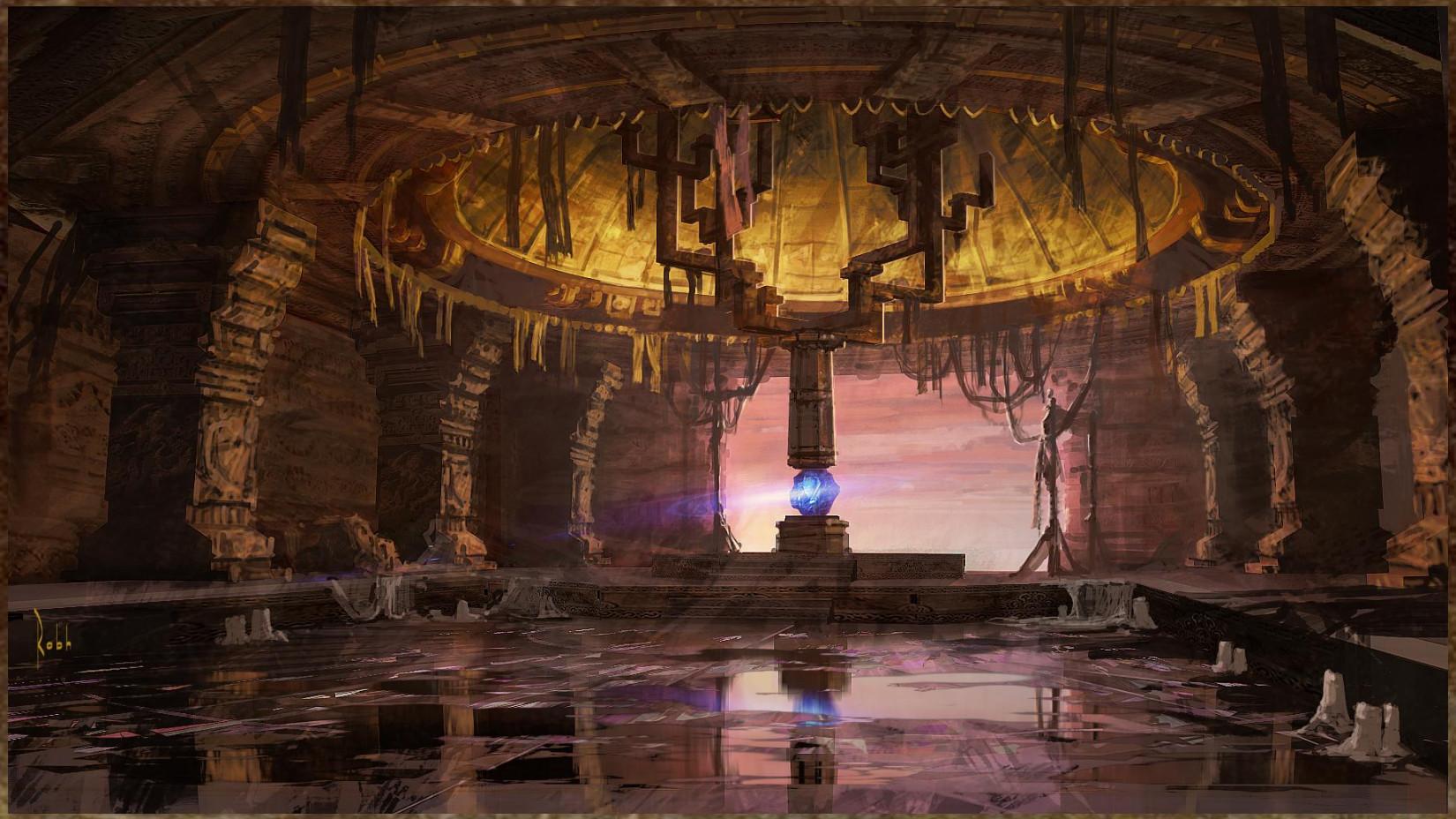
Blue Sky



Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Blue Sky

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Blue Sky

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Blue Sky

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Blue Sky

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Making ART

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

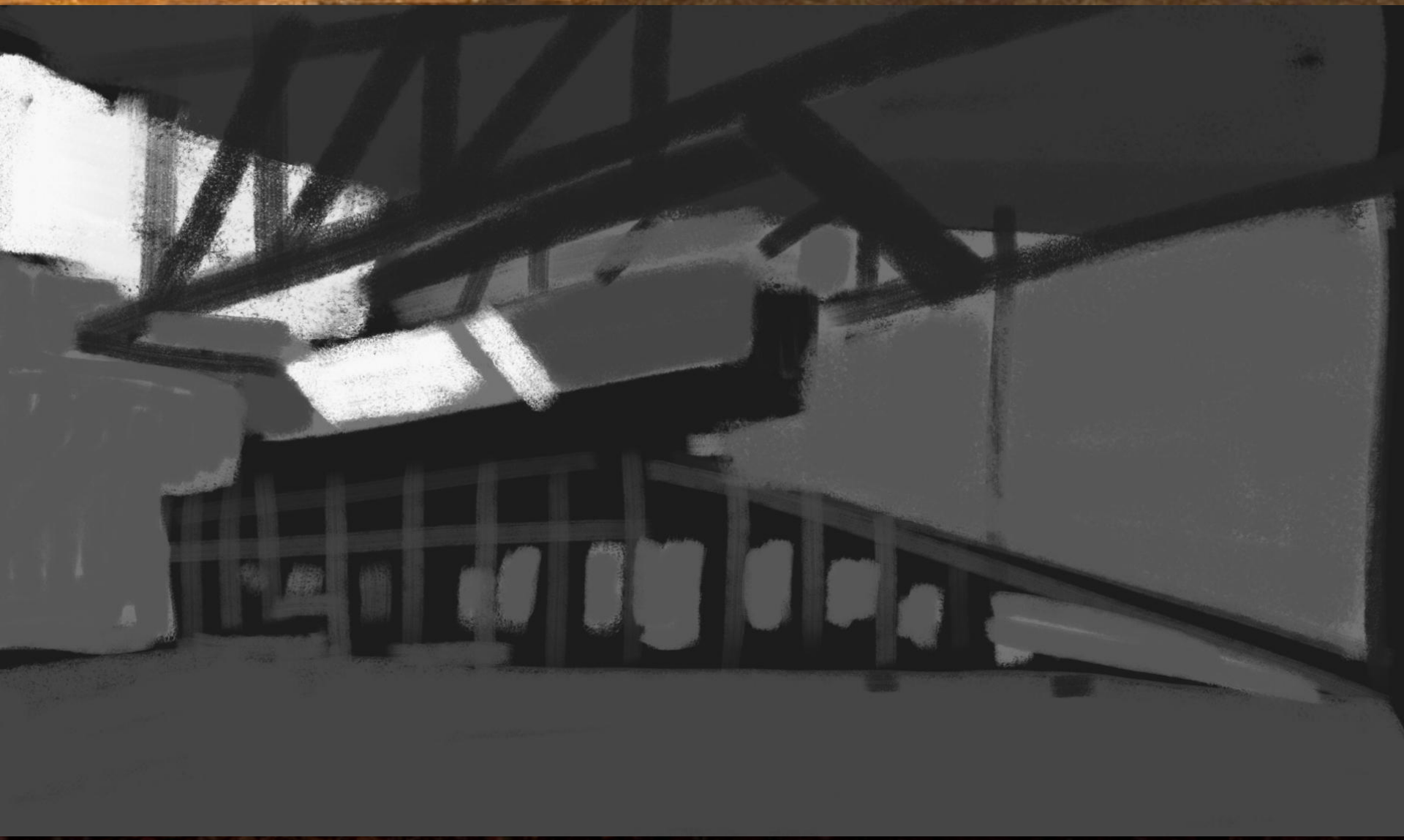
Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION



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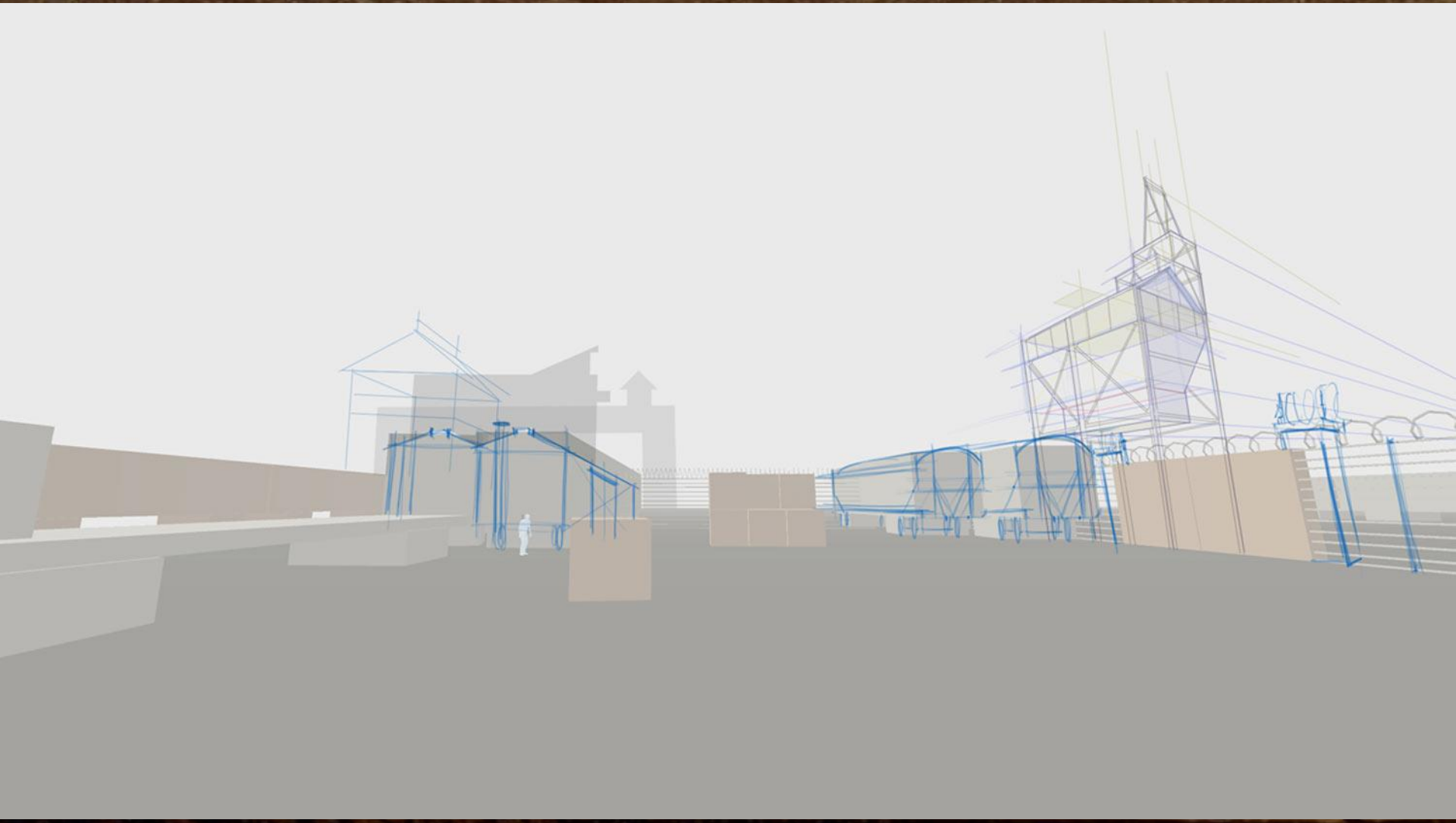

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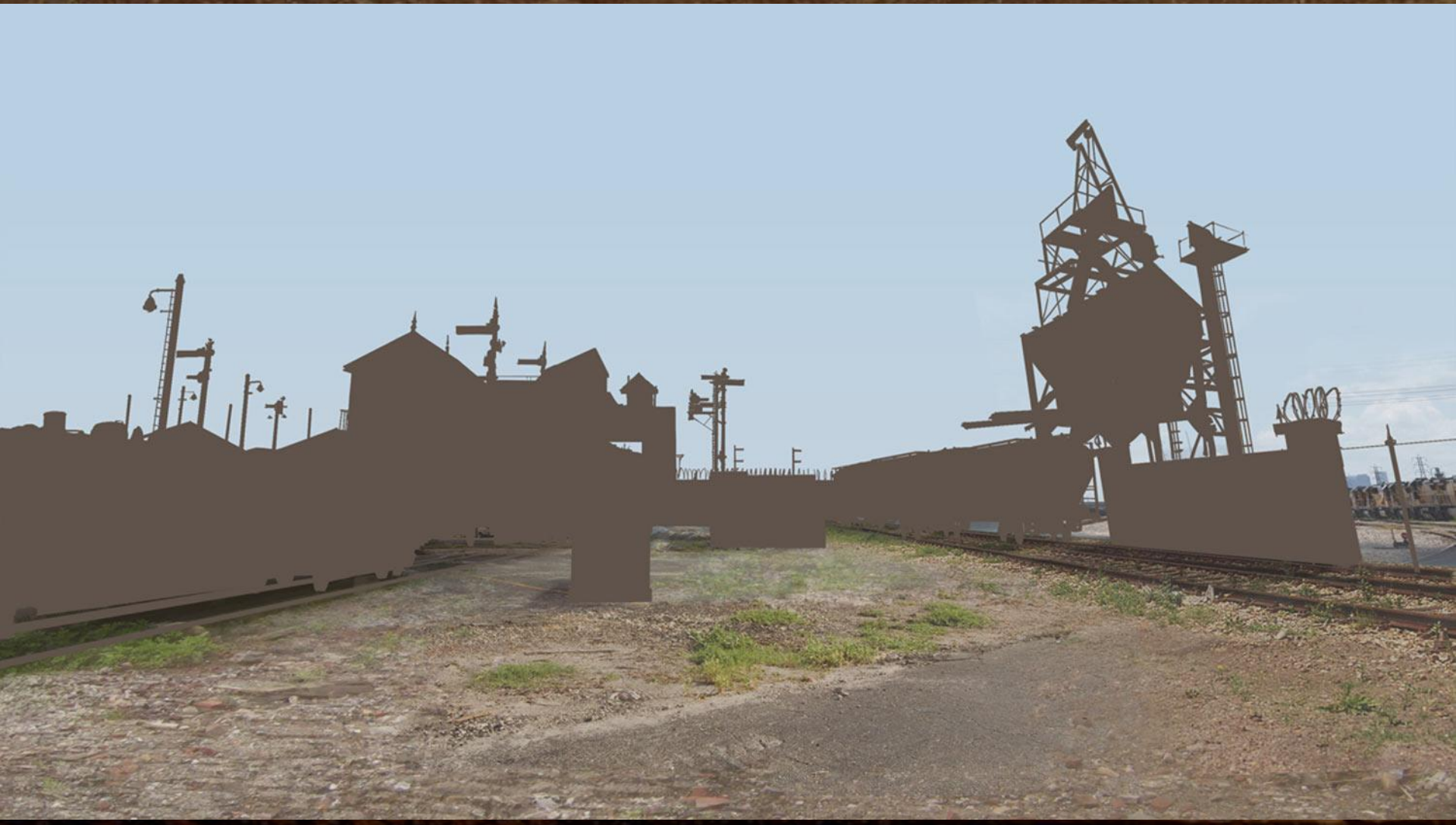

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And all the details

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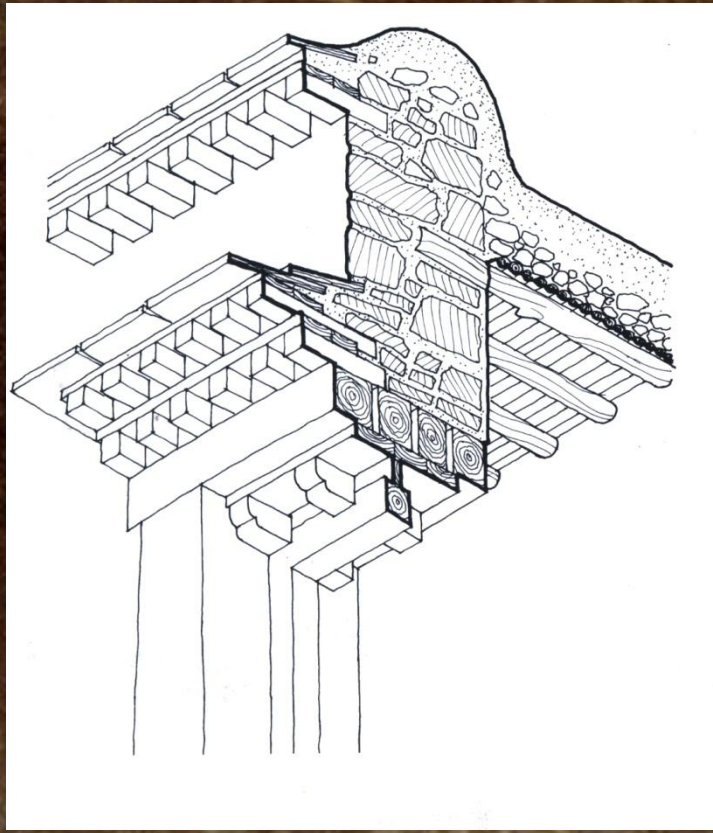
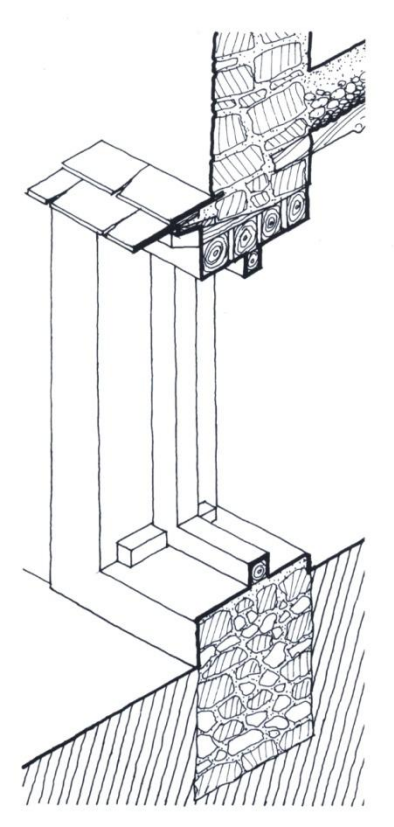
Gompa Level

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

PLACE FALLING APART SO WE NEED TO KNOW HOW IT'S PUT TOGETHER





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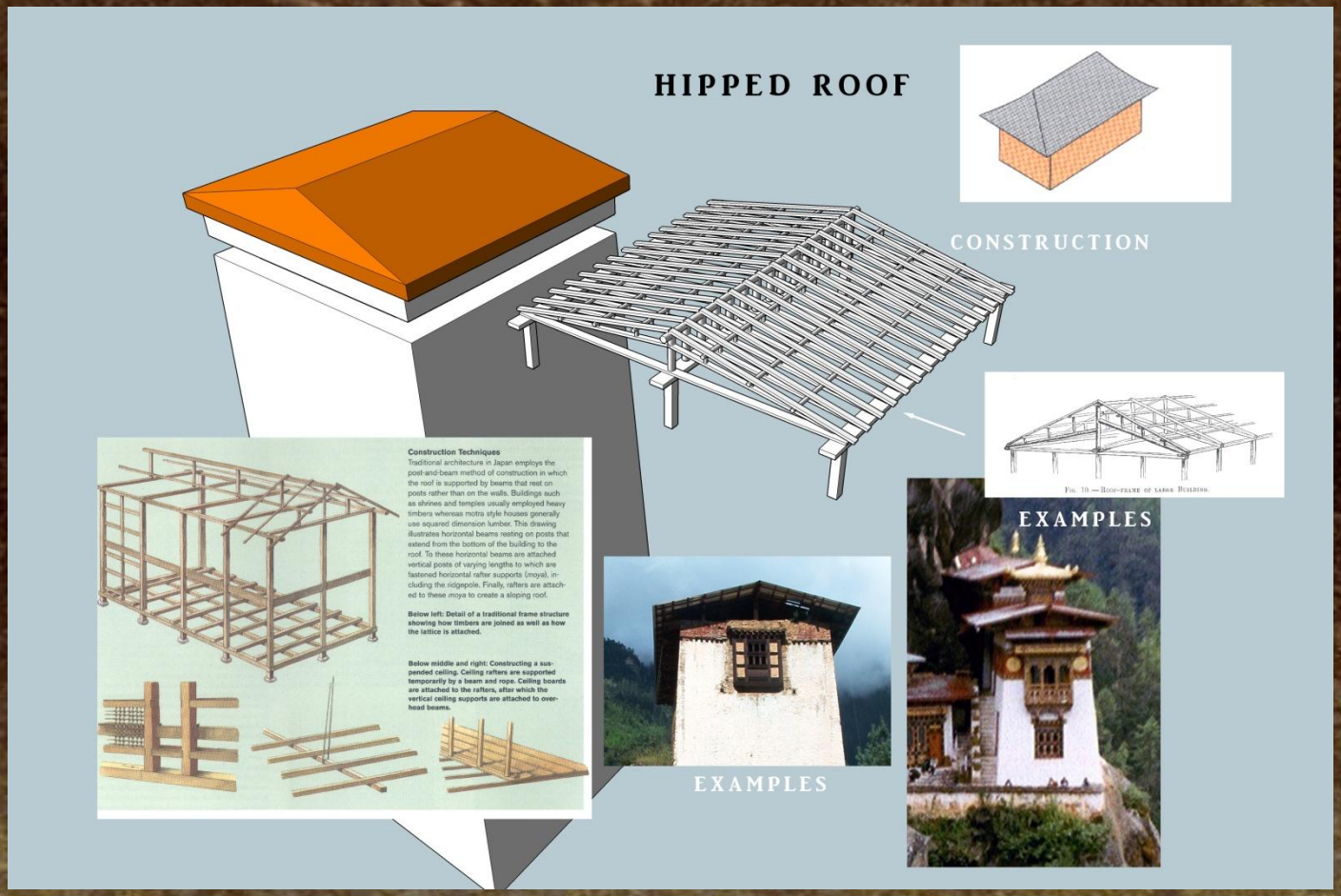

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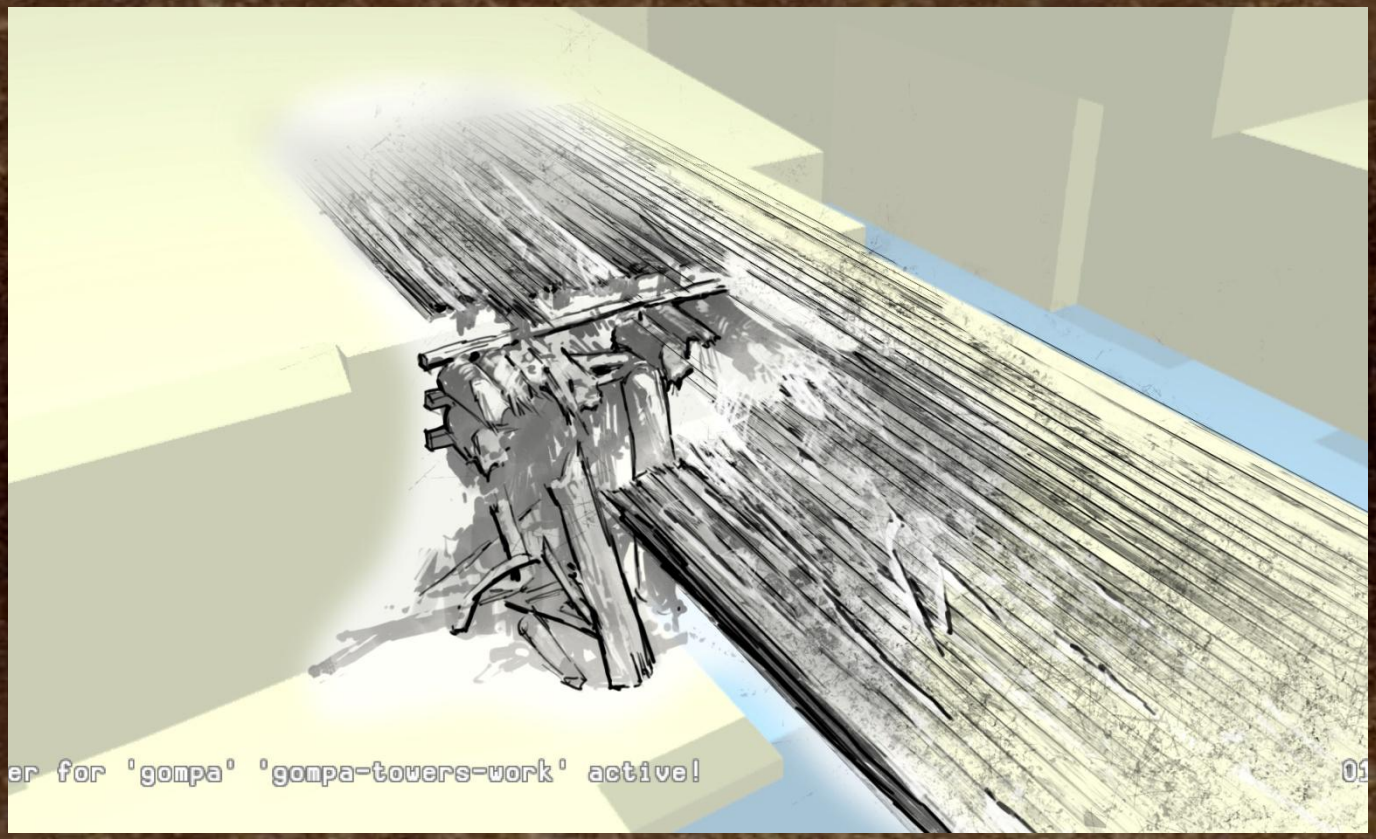

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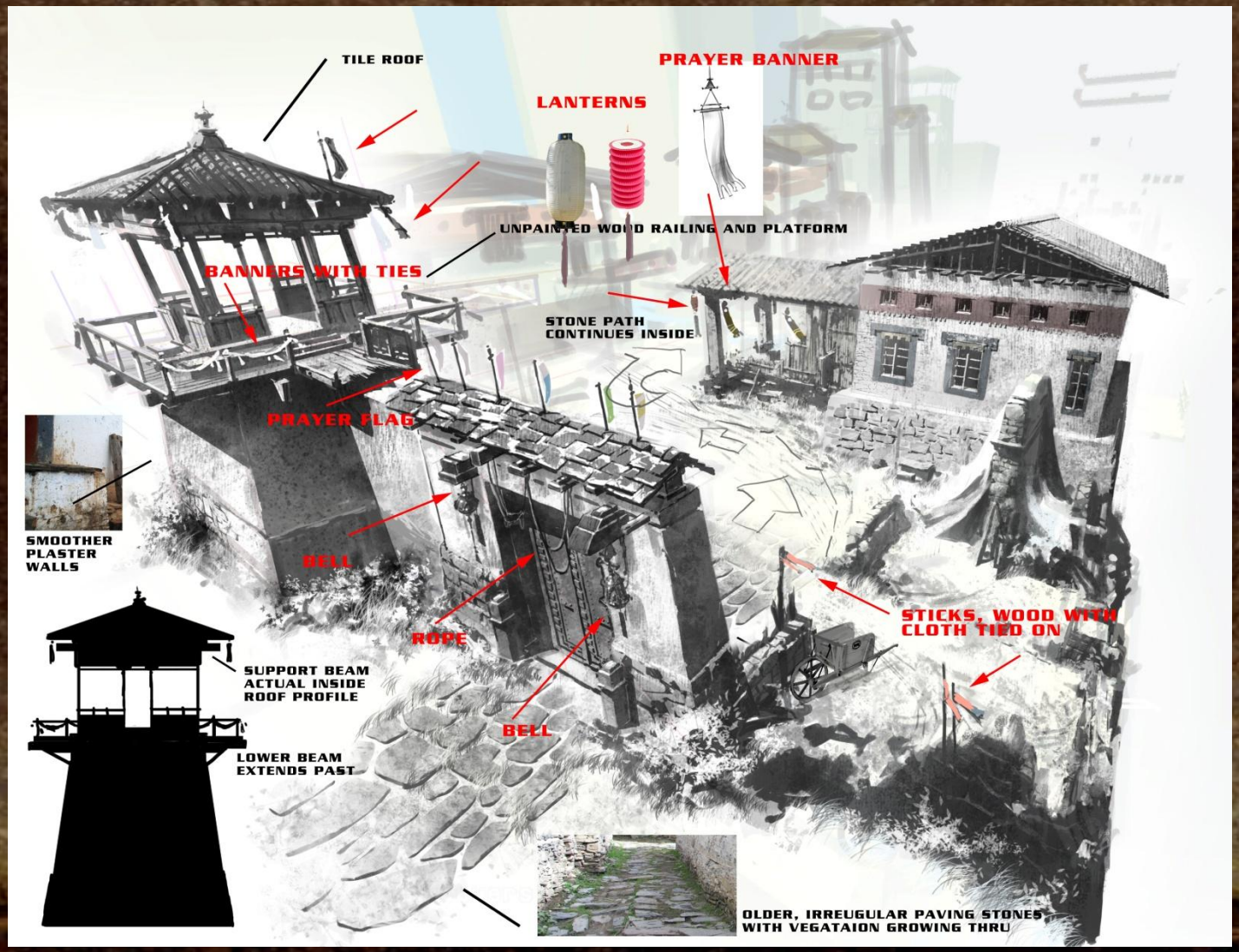

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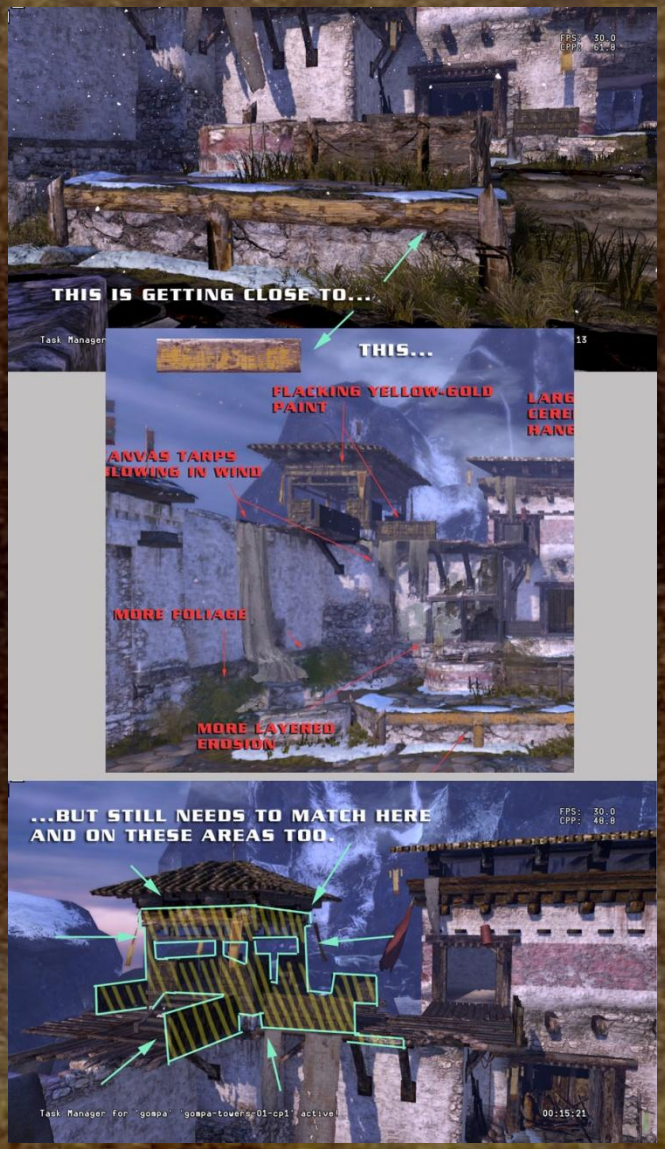

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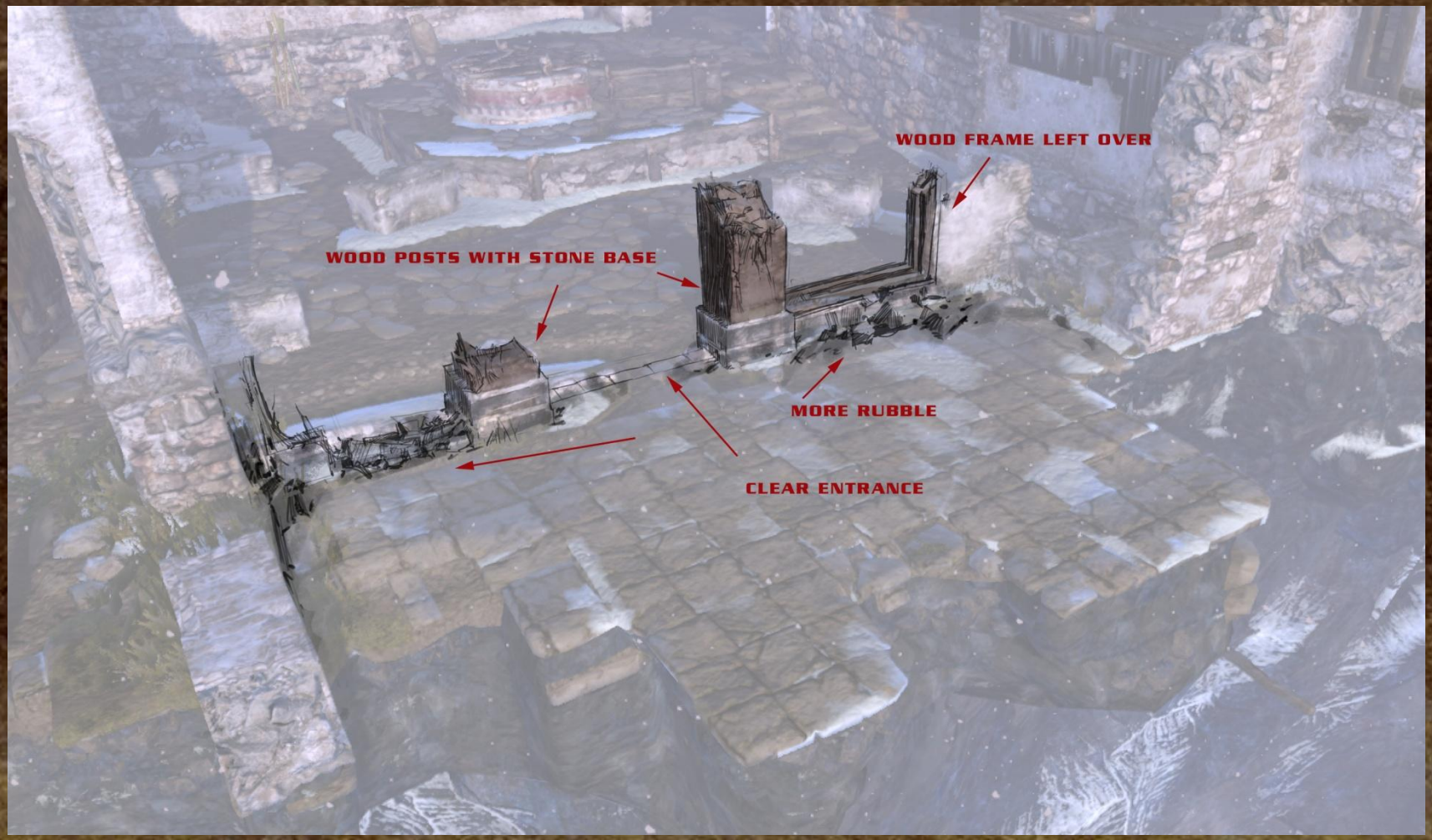

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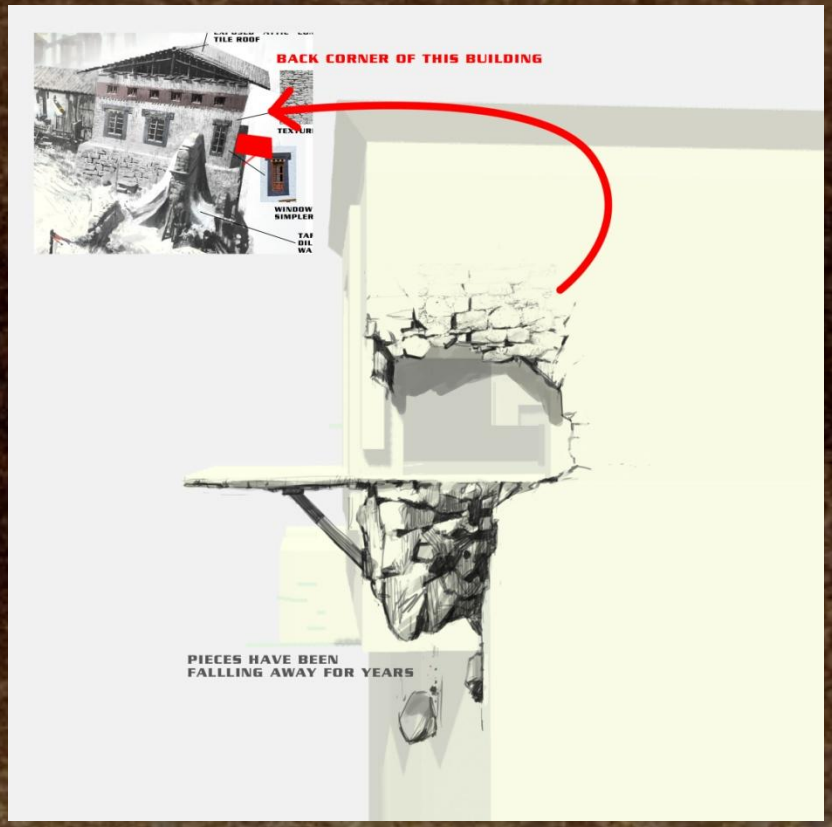

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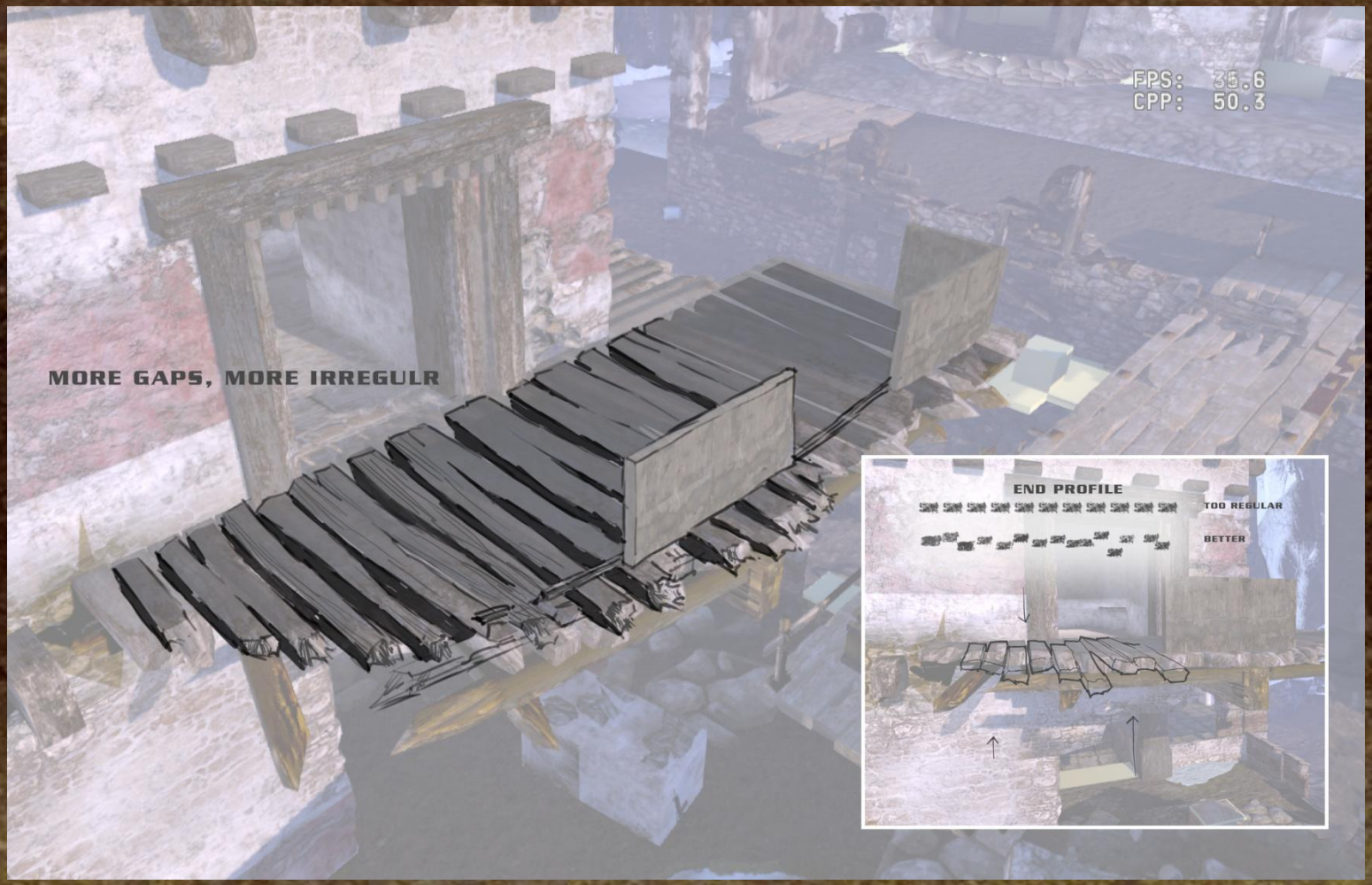


Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Paint overs

CURRENT

stronger warm/cool on buildings. less magenta overall

more snow, vegetation

lighter ground overall

MORE LIKE THIS!

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

BORNEO - Swamp/dig level

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

BORNEO - Swamp/dig level

Just so you don't think it's all perfect ☺

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

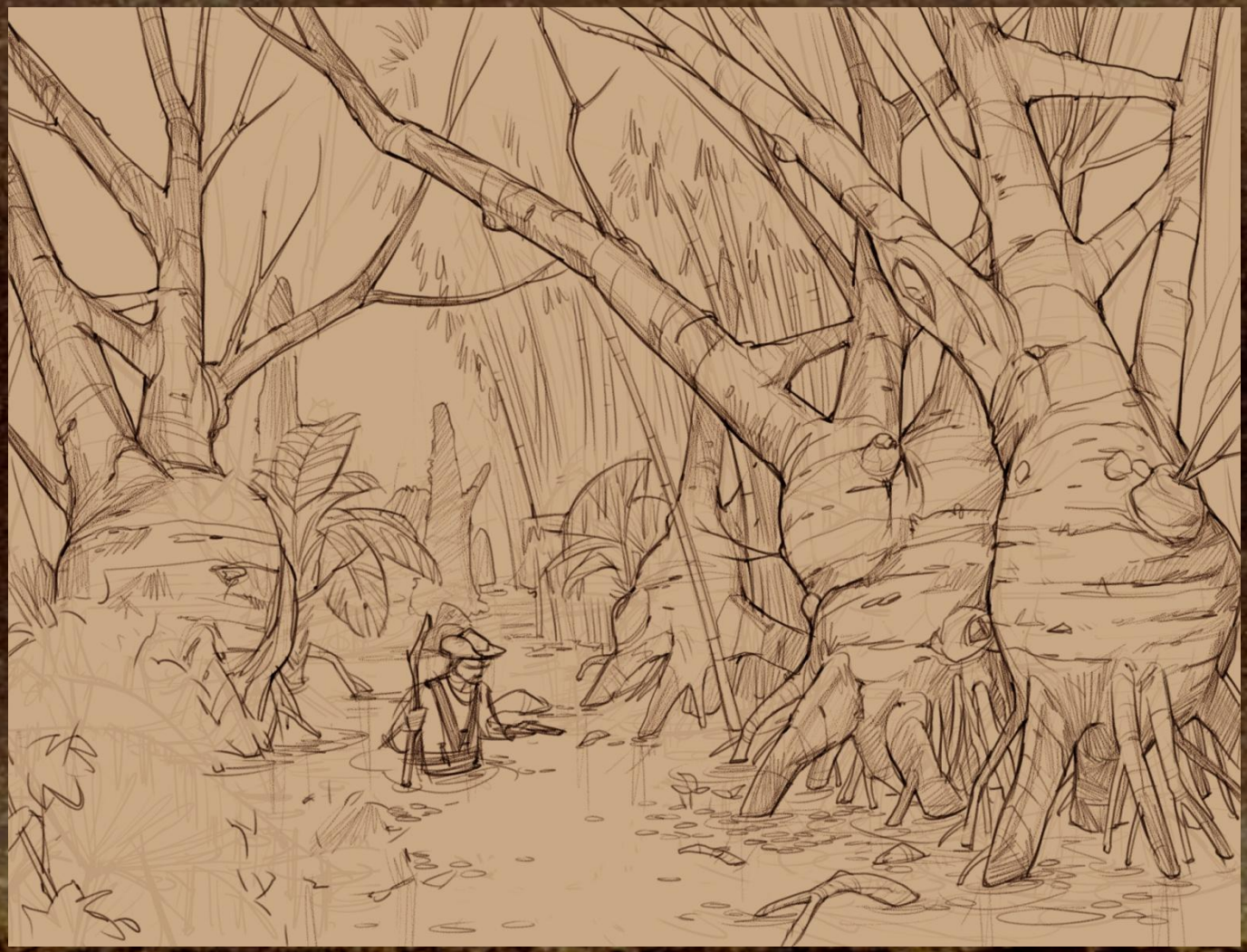
Final Look

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Final Look

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Early concept



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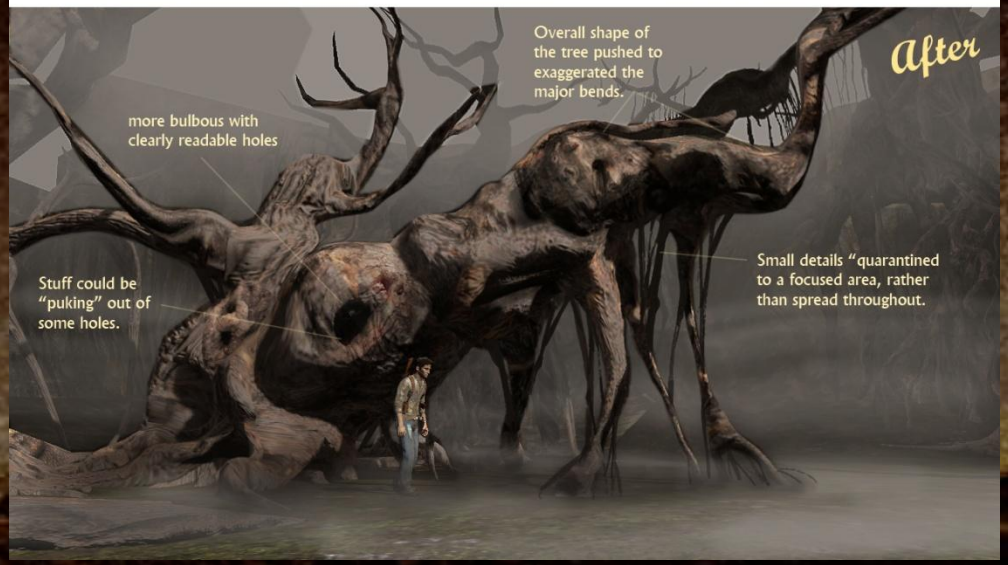

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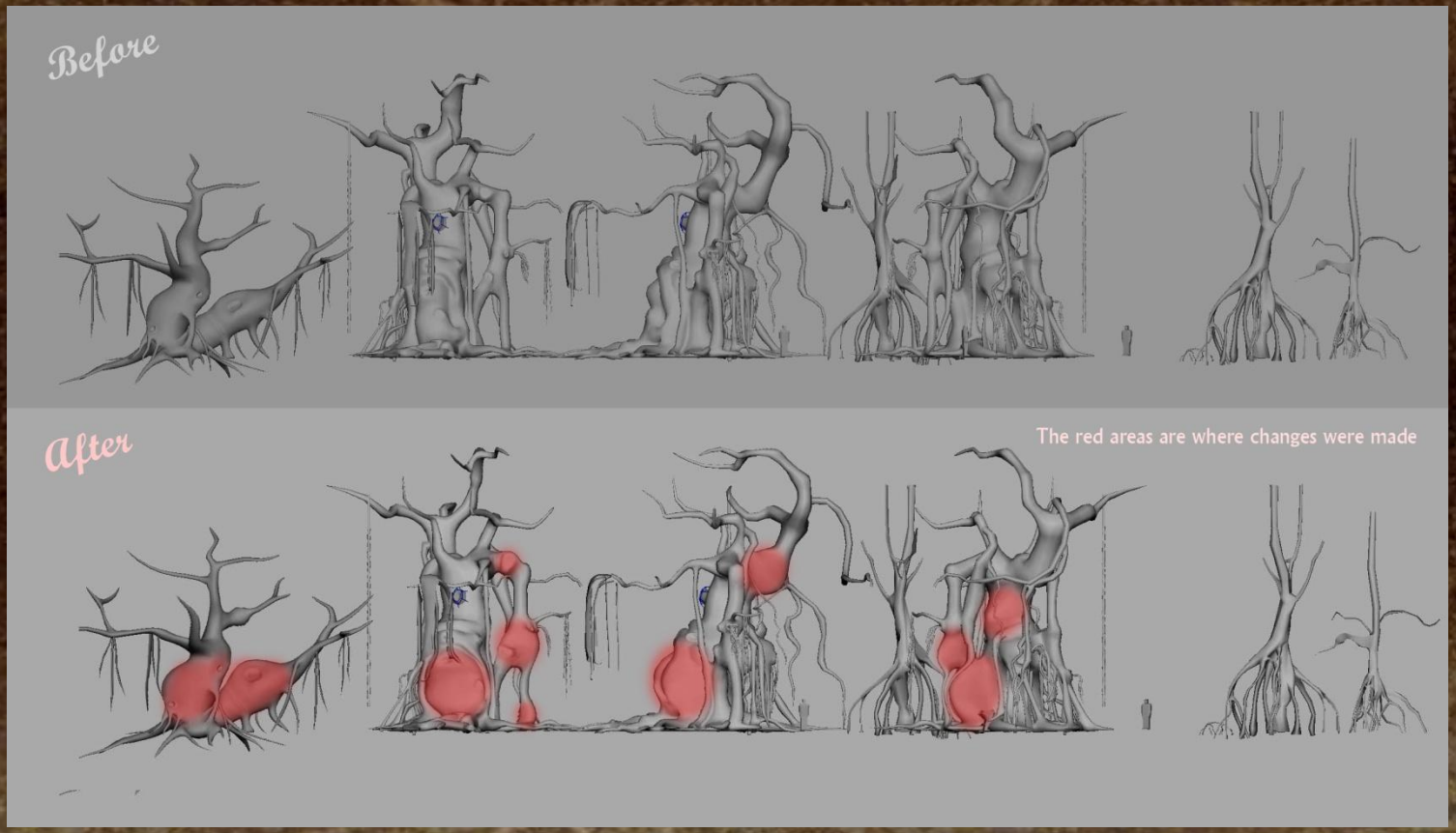
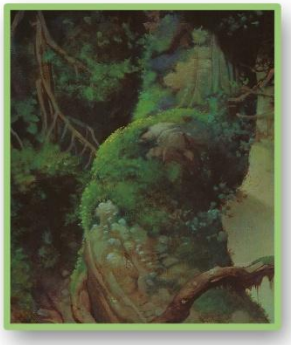


Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

New direction

WE'RE GOING FOR A MORE MYSTERIOUS, FRAZETTA FEEL TO THE SWAMP LEVEL IN THE BEGINING OF THE GAME. LOTS MORE TWISTY, ROPEY, ORGANIC, MOSSY....

NEW CONCEPTS



FRAZETTA DETAILS

NEW SWAMP STYLE

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

sketches

LOOKING DOWN ON MARCO POLO FLEET

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

sketches

LOST MORCO POLO FLEET IN SWAMP

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Finished Sketch

DISTANT VOLCANO IN SWAMP/FLEET LEVEL

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

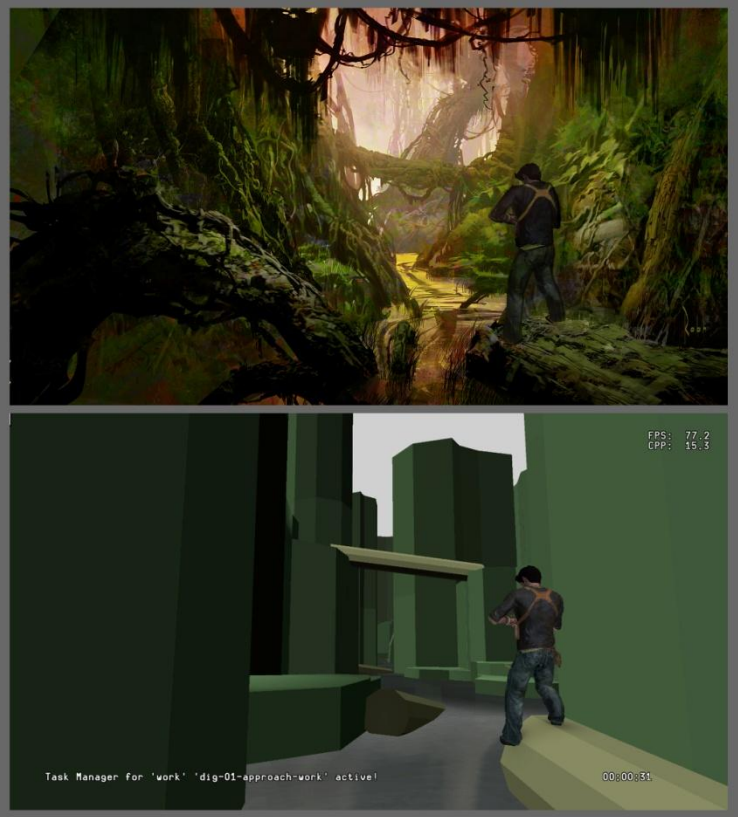
Finished Sketch

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Full Color Painting

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

...done over block mesh



Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

reference

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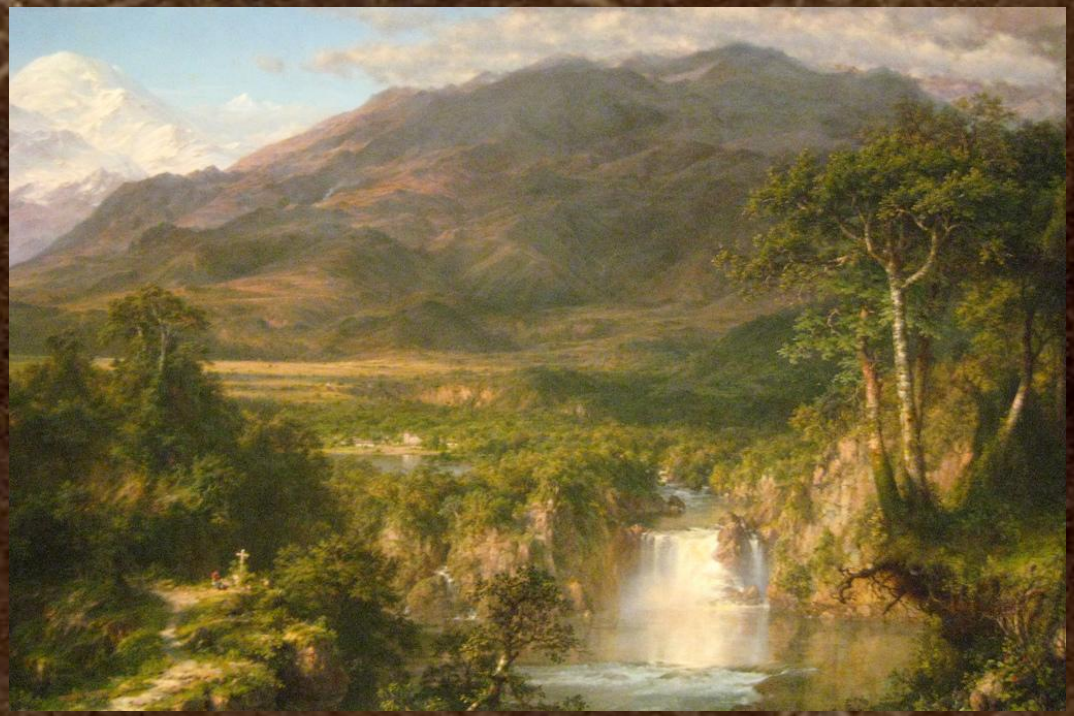

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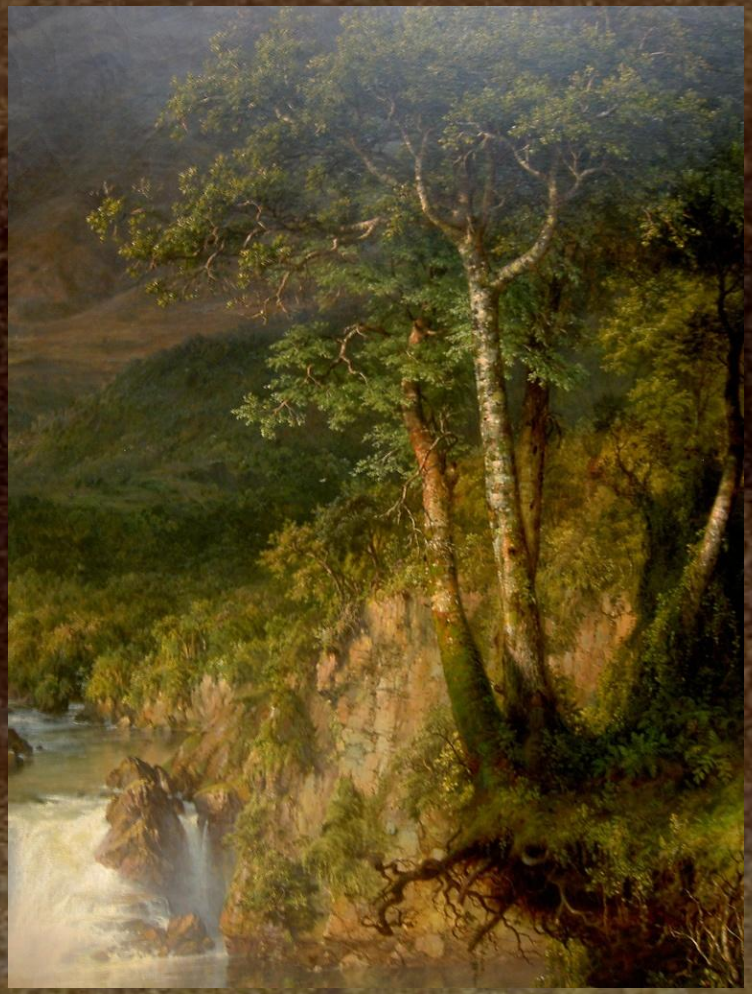


Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

reference

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

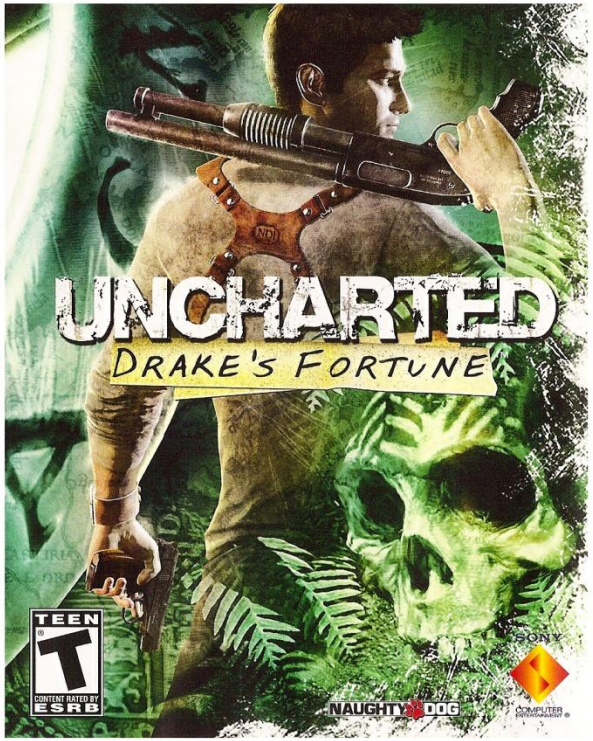
It’s one thing to have an idea and another to make it into a game.

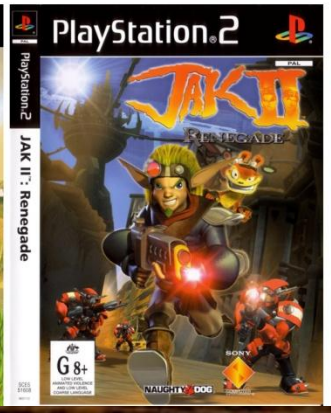
Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

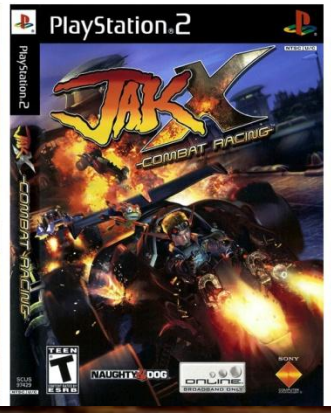
Erick Pangilinan

Erick Pangilinan

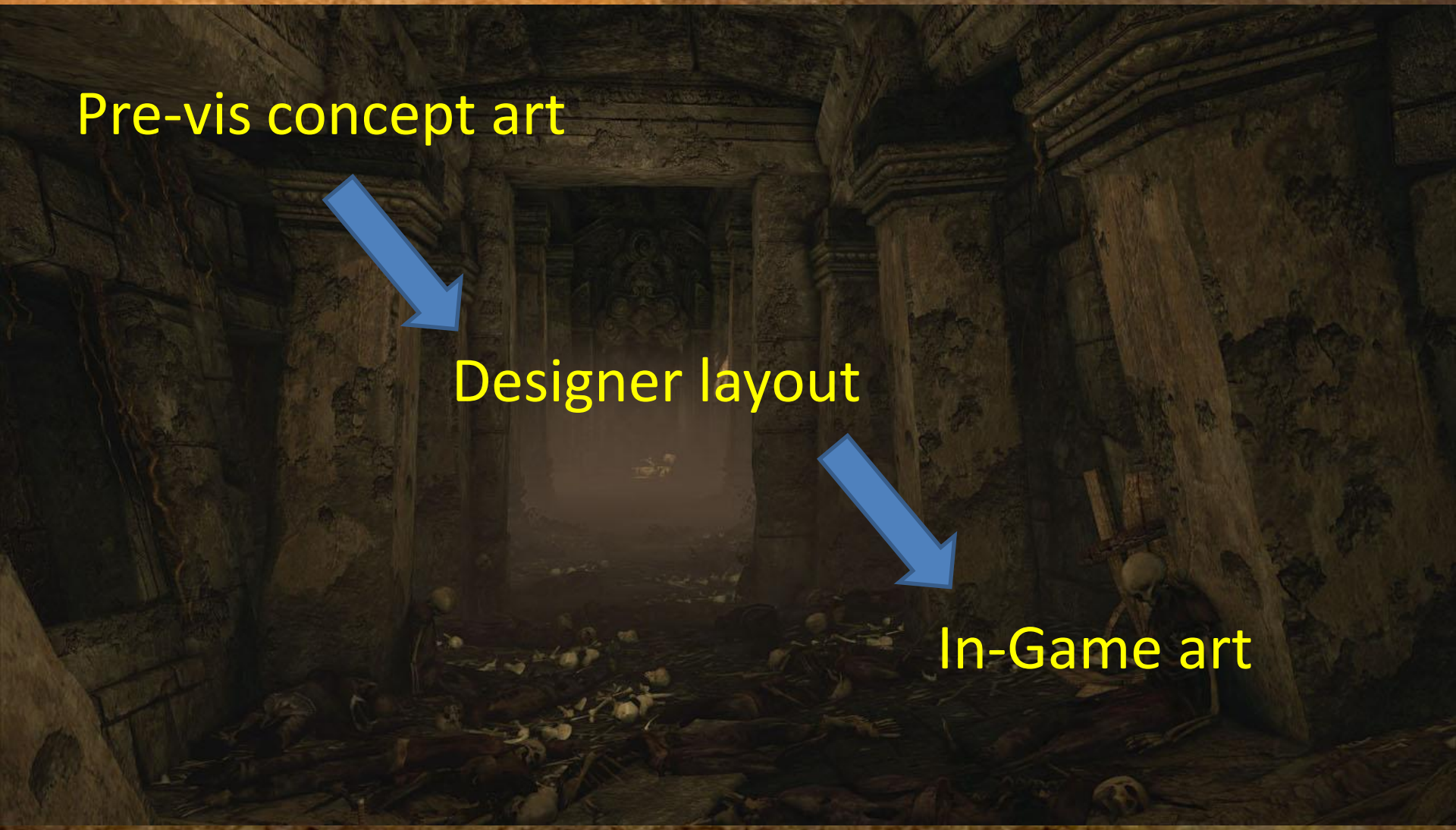
Art Director – Uncharted 2: Among Thieves
Lead Environment artist – Uncharted: Drake's fortune
Environment artist – Jak & Daxter series
Environment artist – Crash Bandicoot 2,3 and CTR







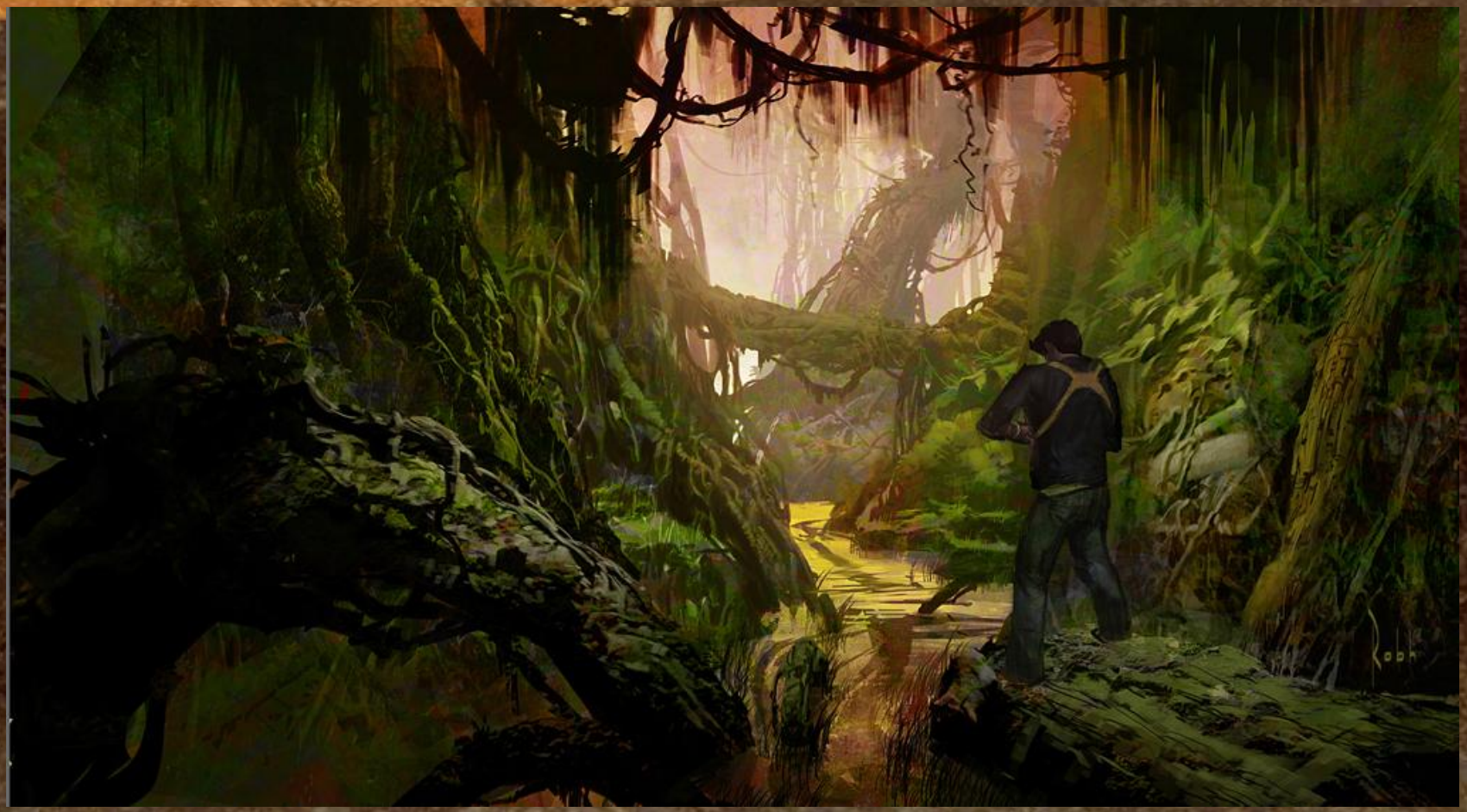
Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION



Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Artists Tools

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

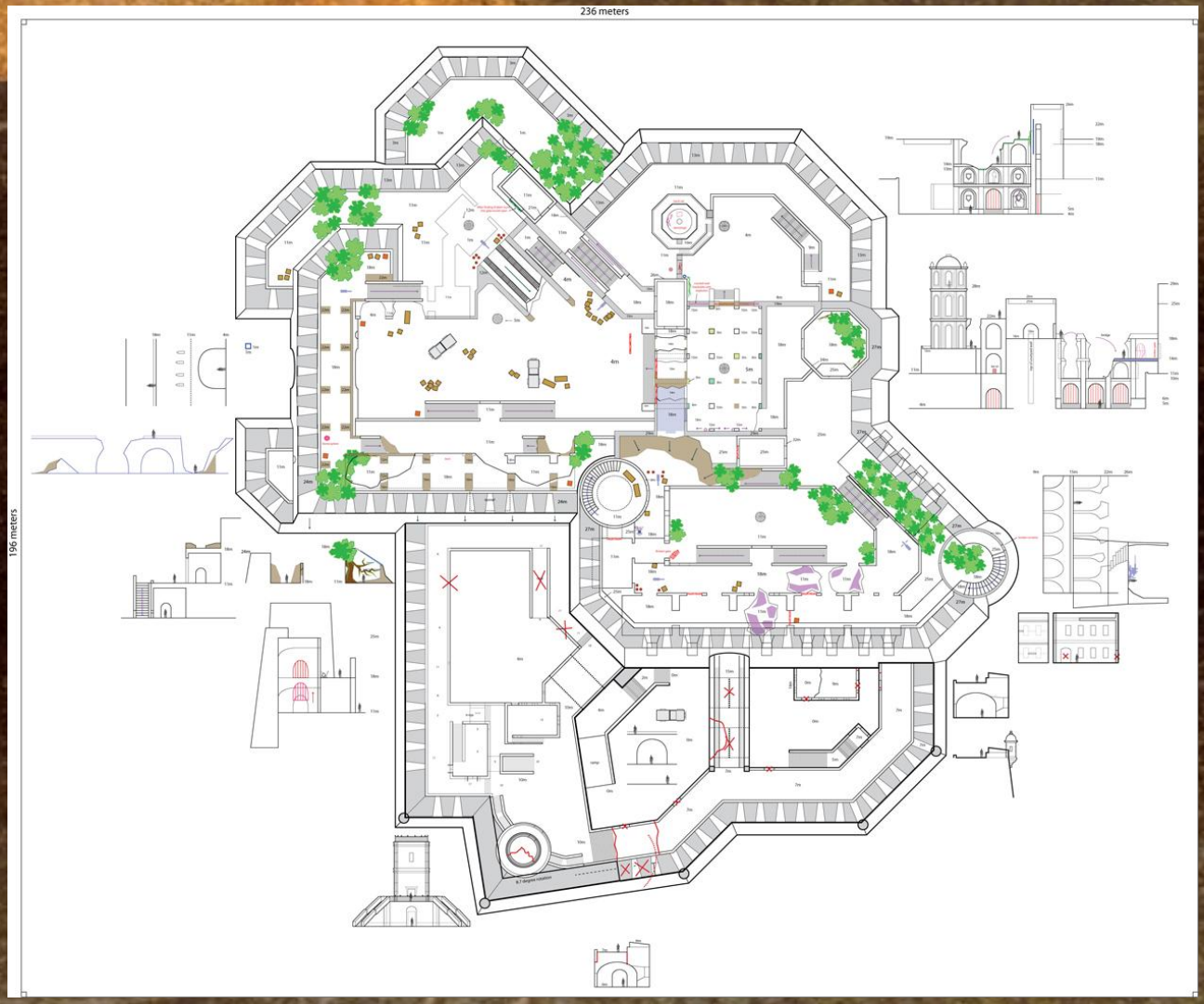


Concept art

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Reference pictures

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

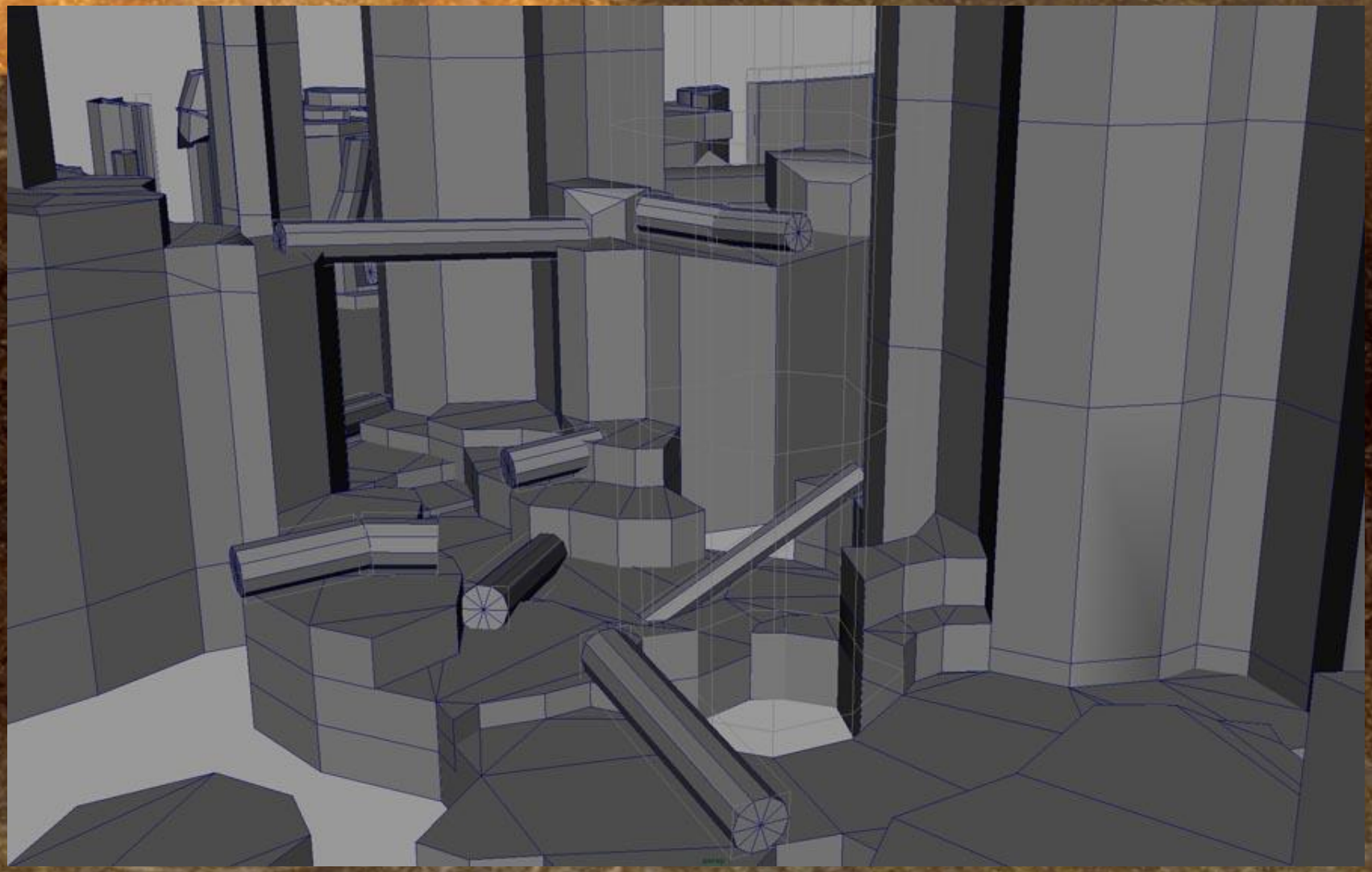


2D maps- designer

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

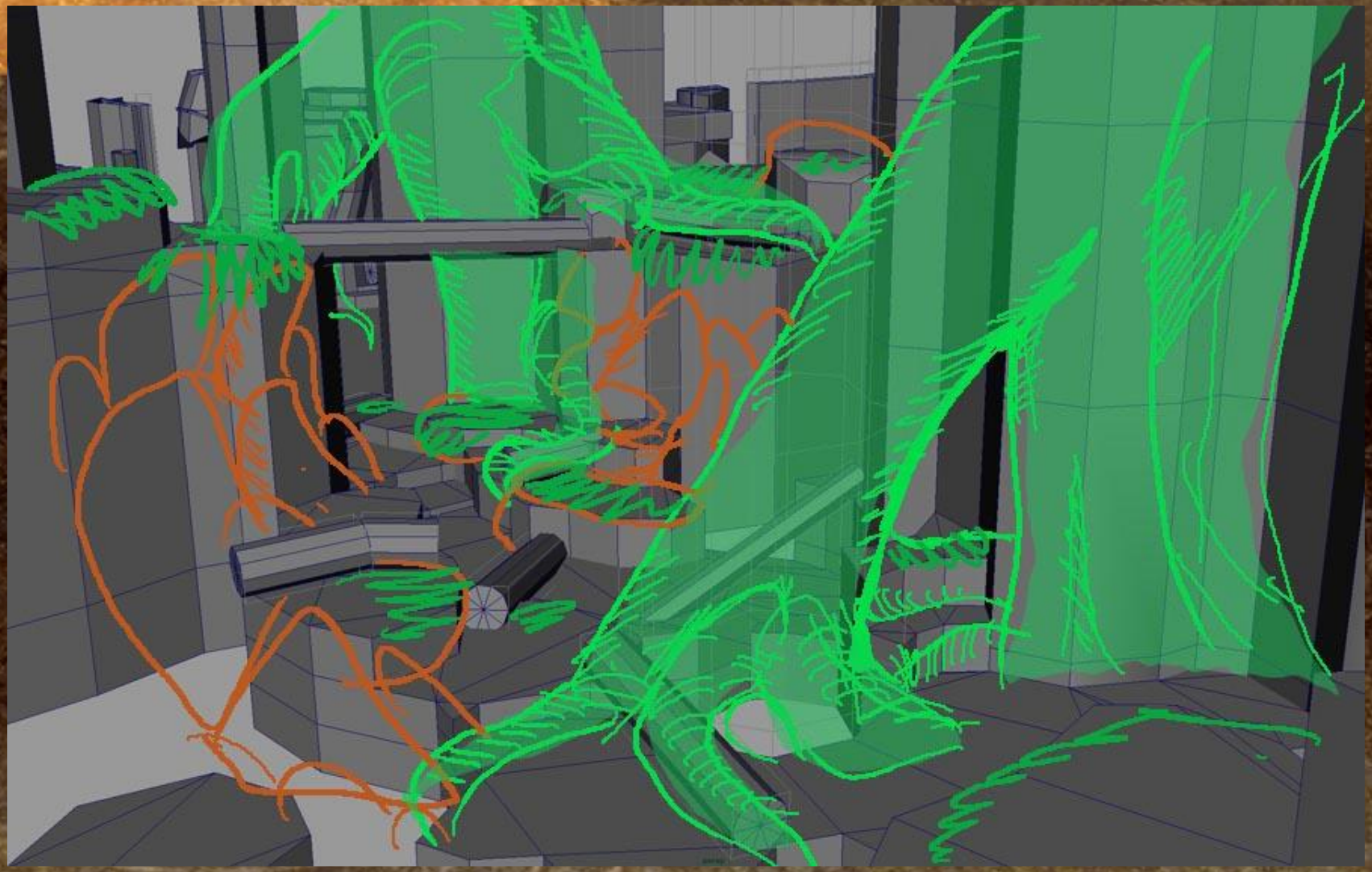
2D maps- designer

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION



Block mesh/Grey box

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION



Blockmesh - drawover

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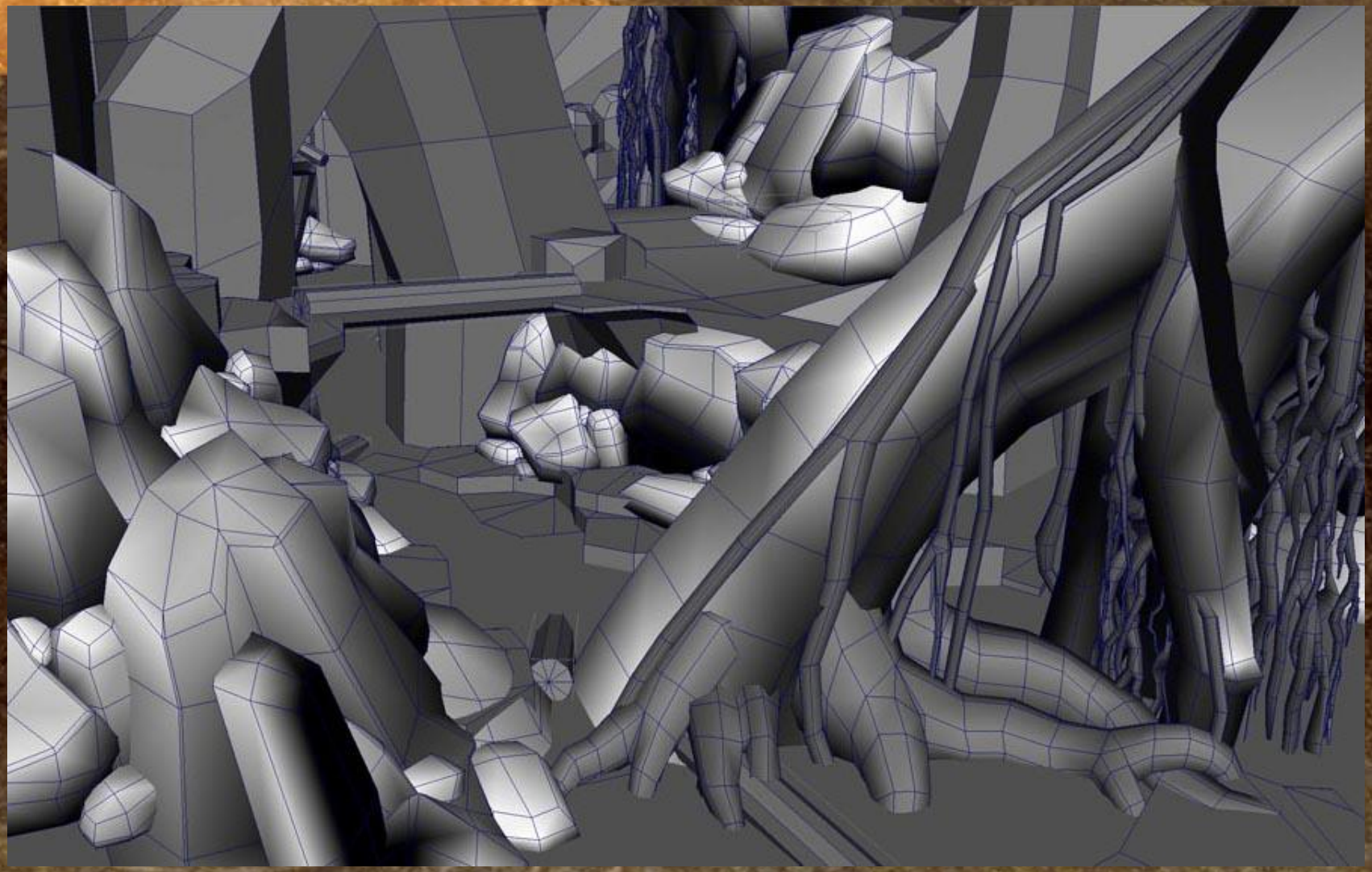
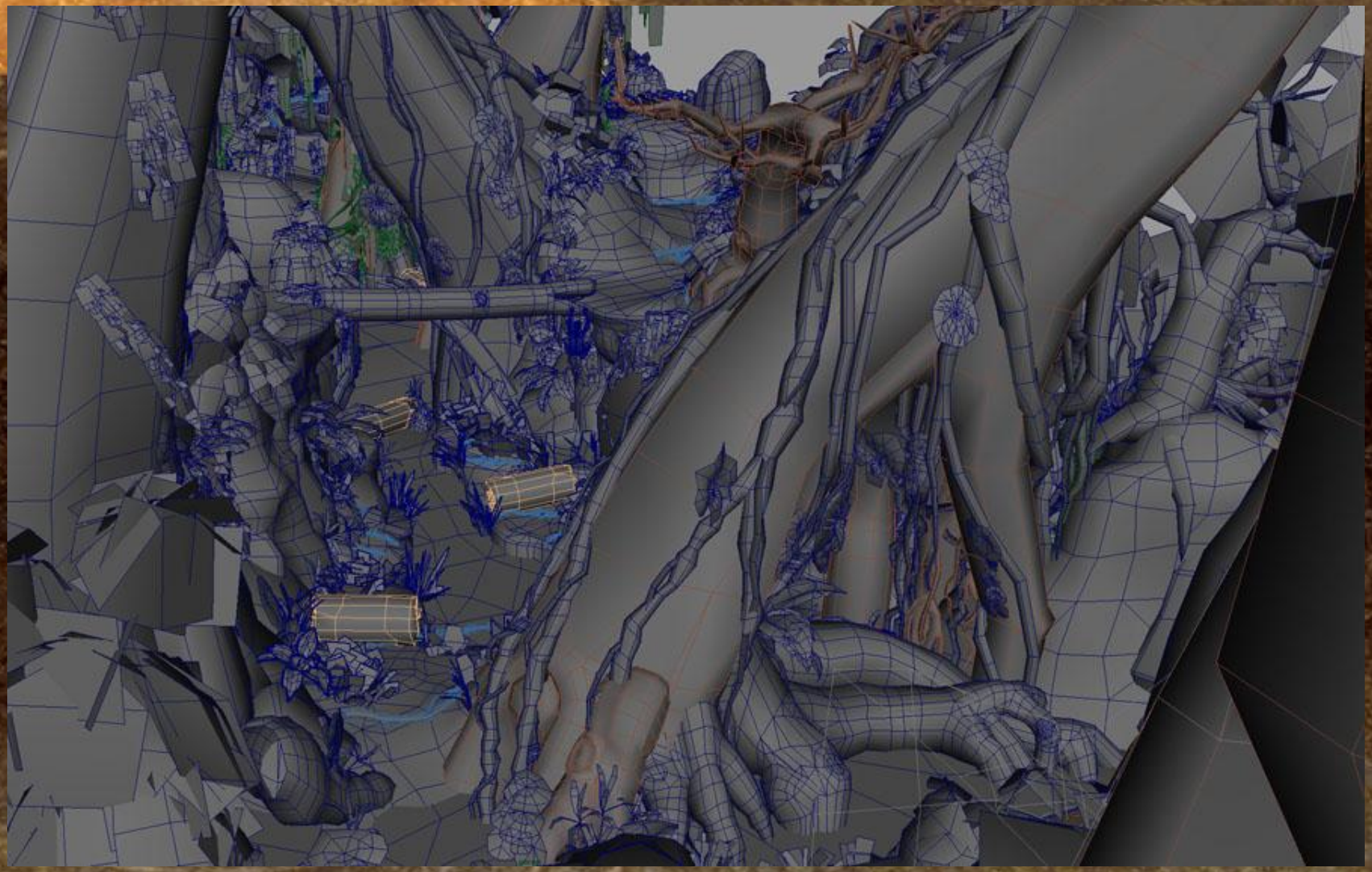


Artist blockmesh

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

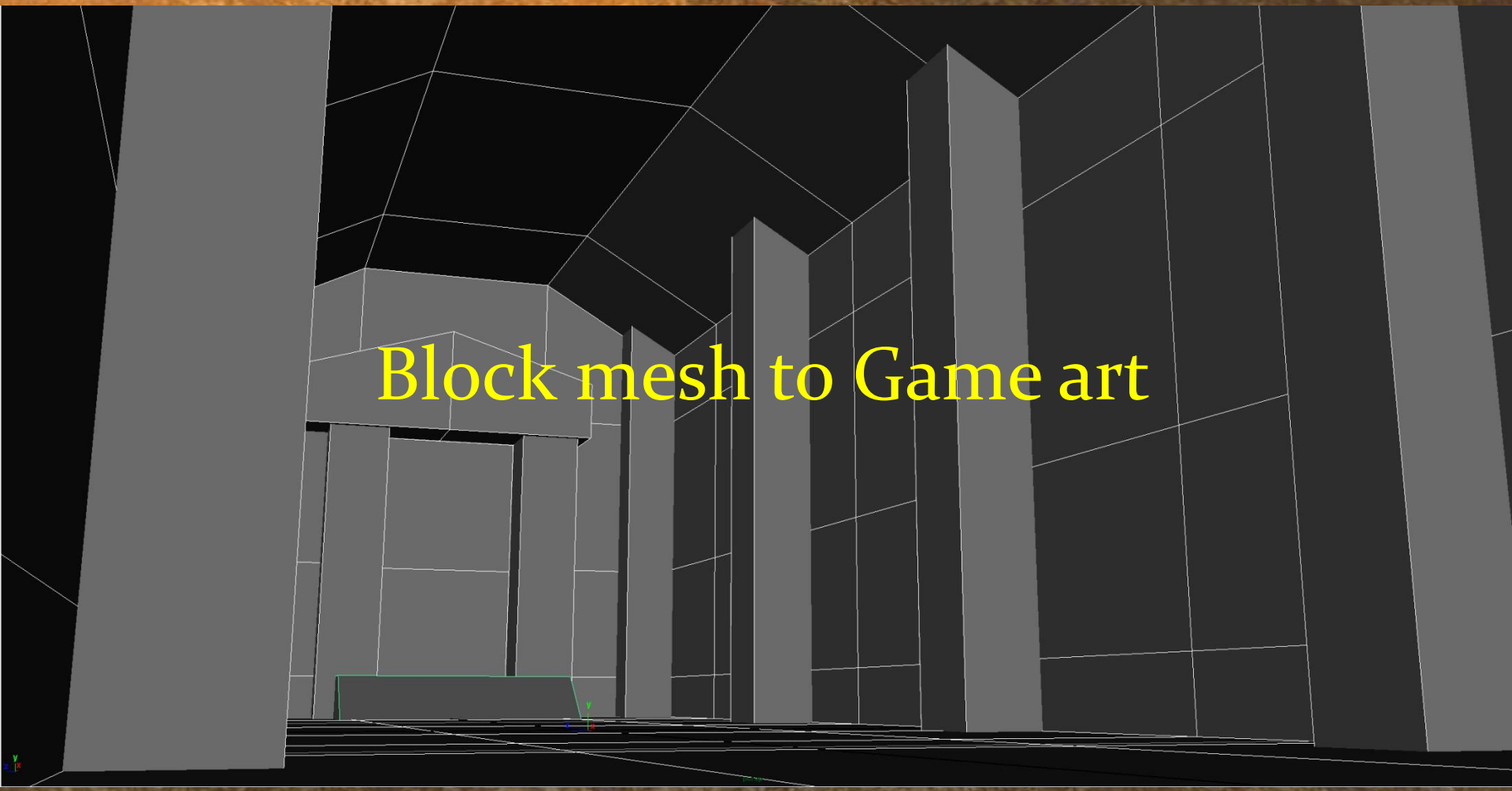


Final Maya mesh

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Final game art

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

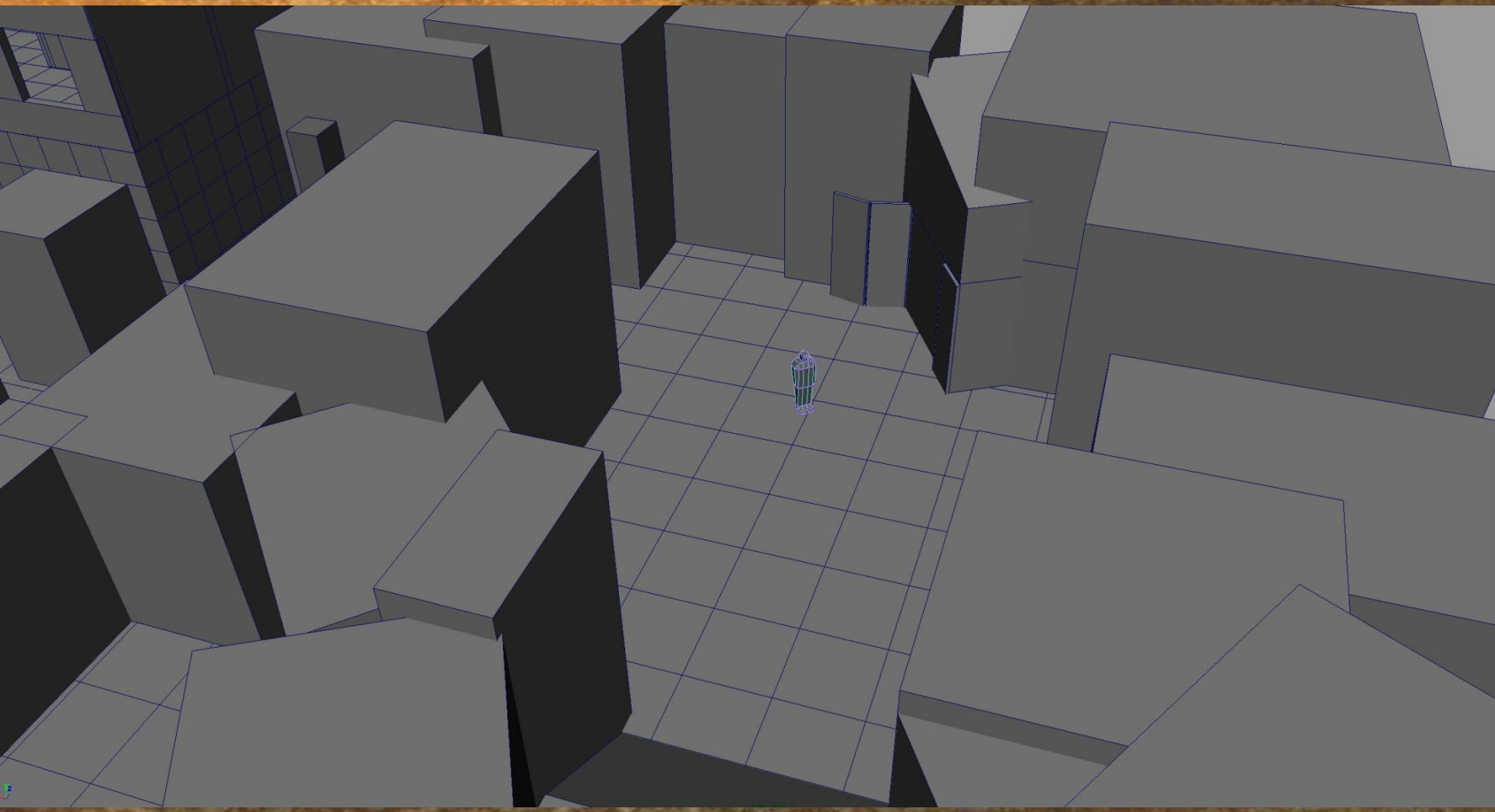


Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

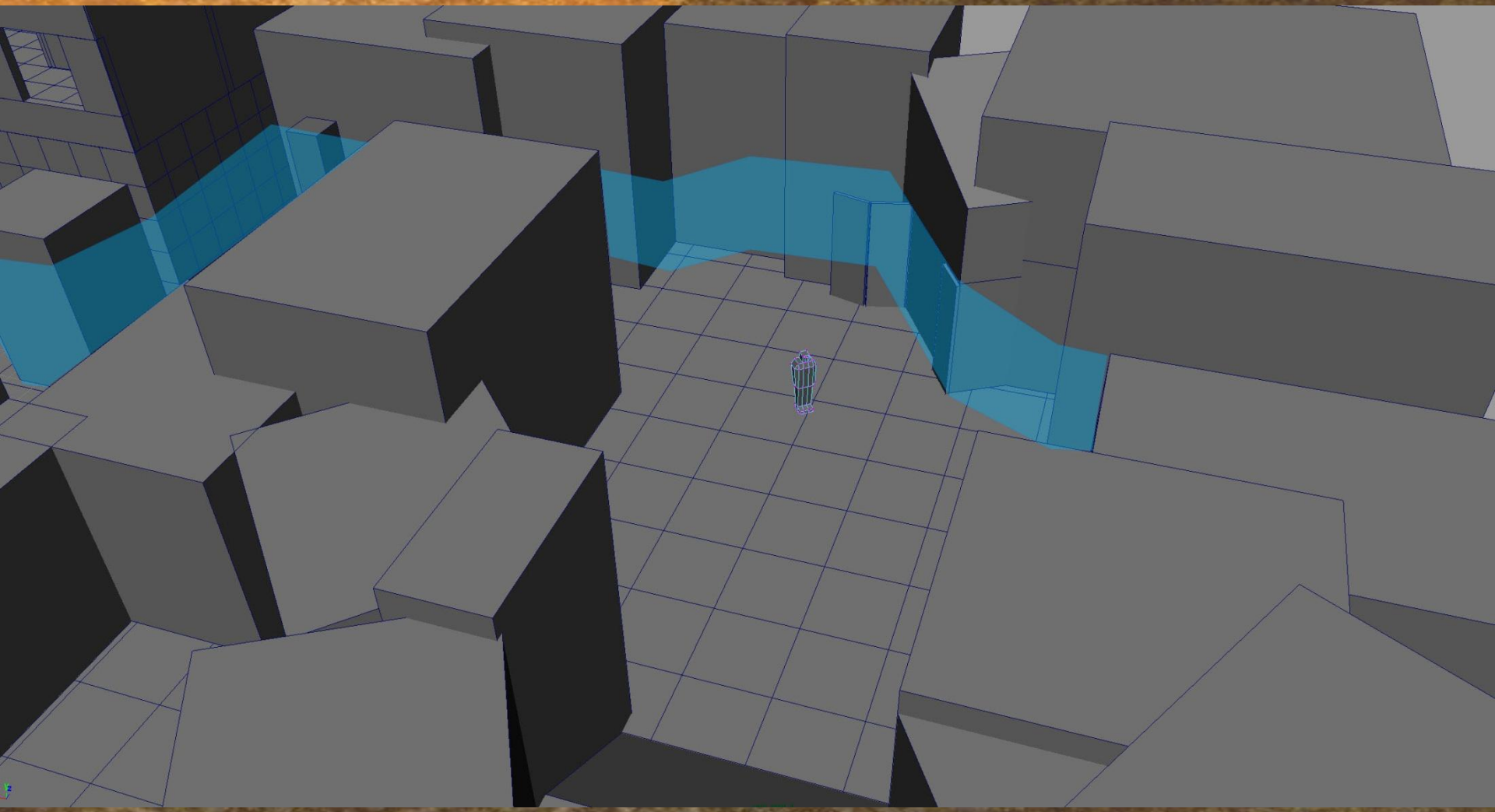
Original concept

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION



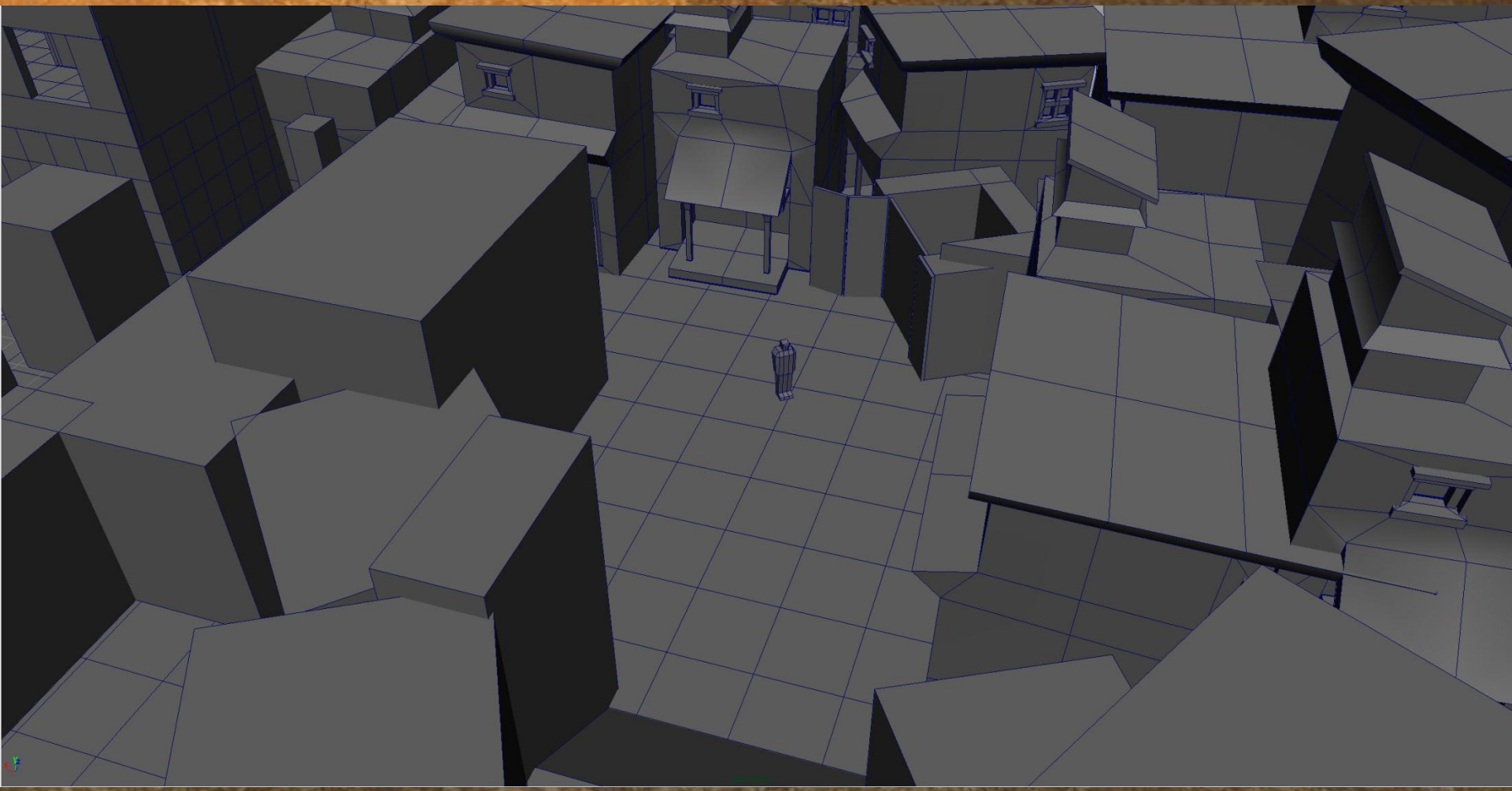
Original blockmesh

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION



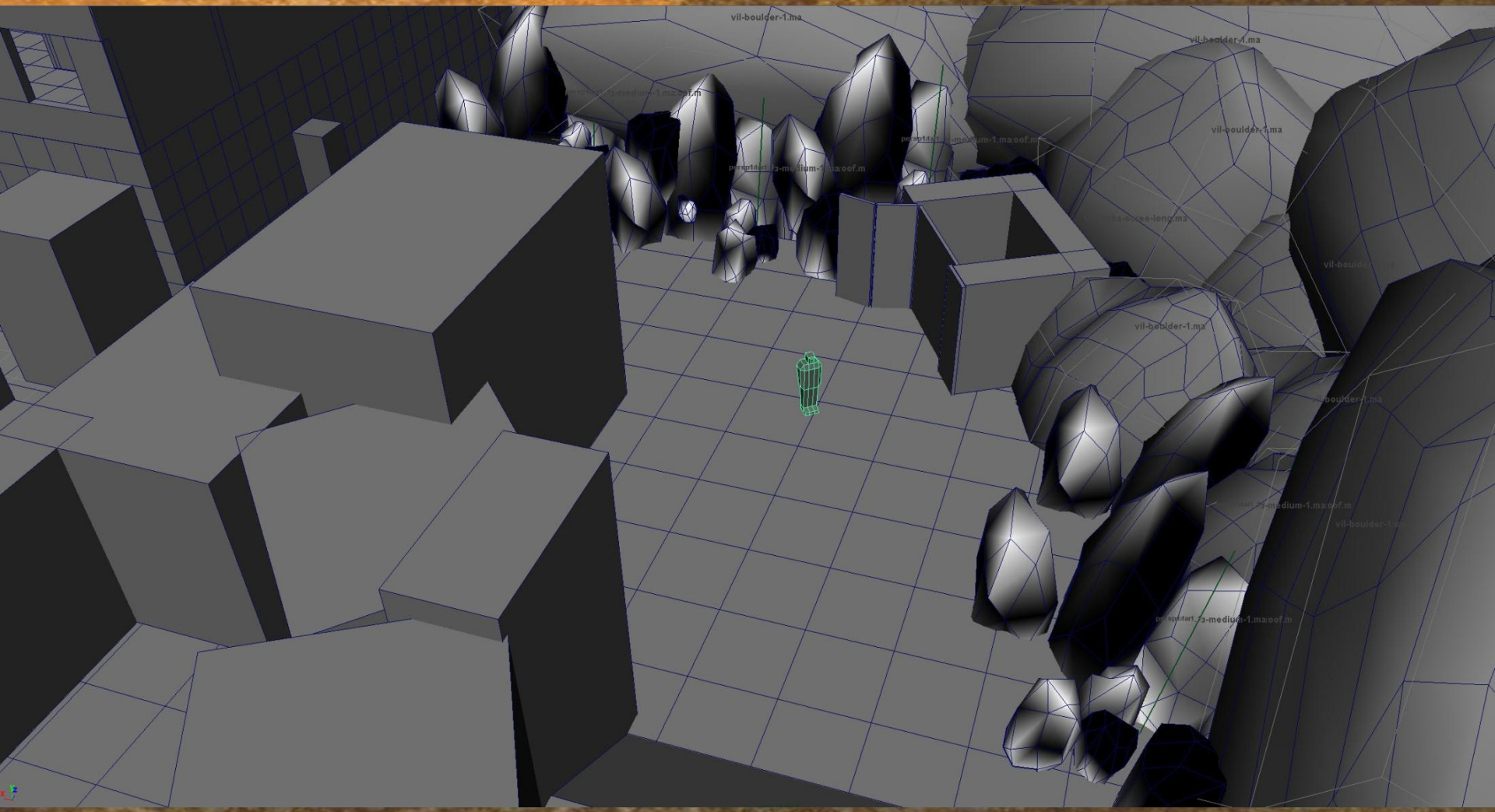
Original blockmesh

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION



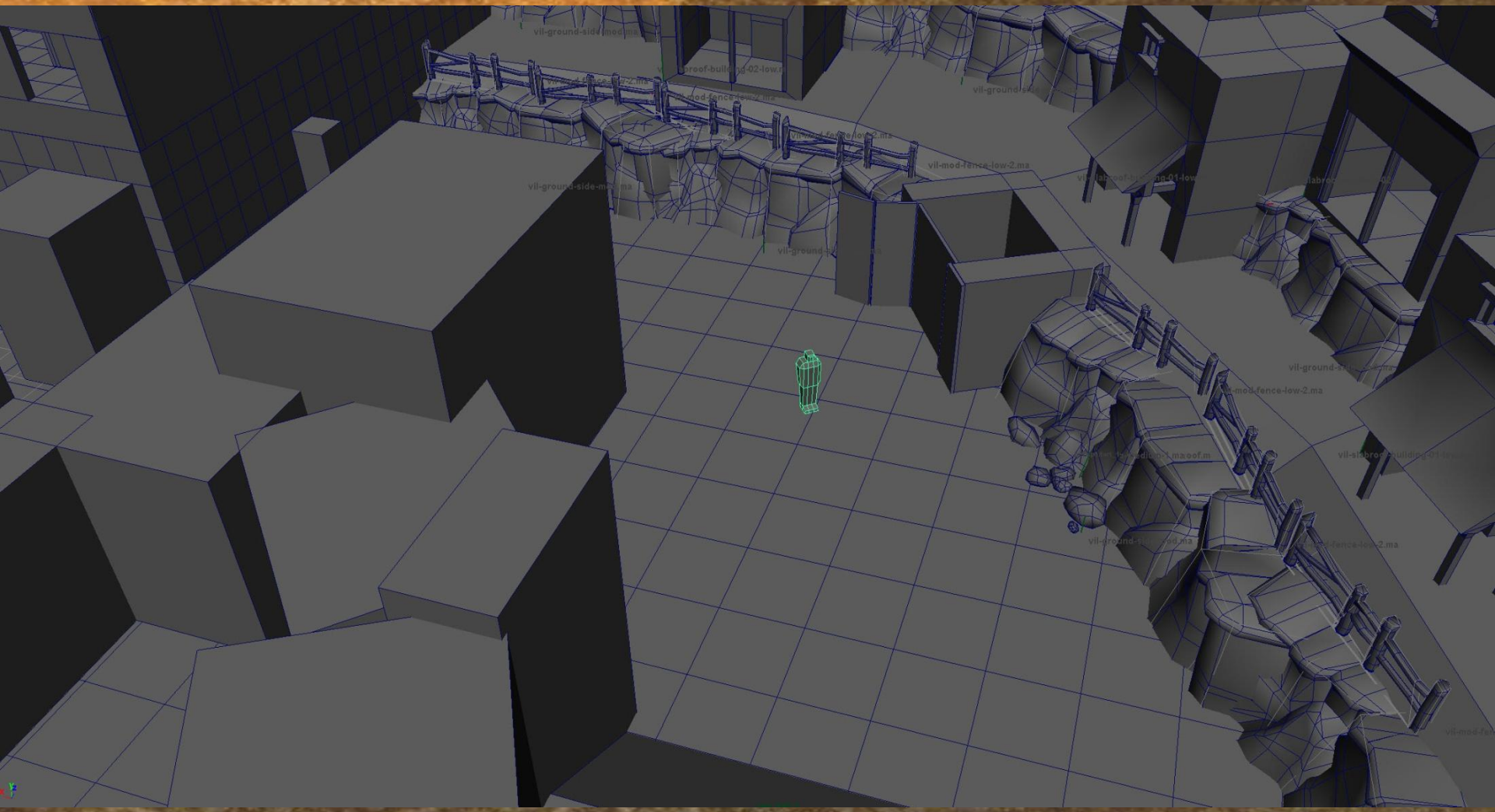
Original blockmesh

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION



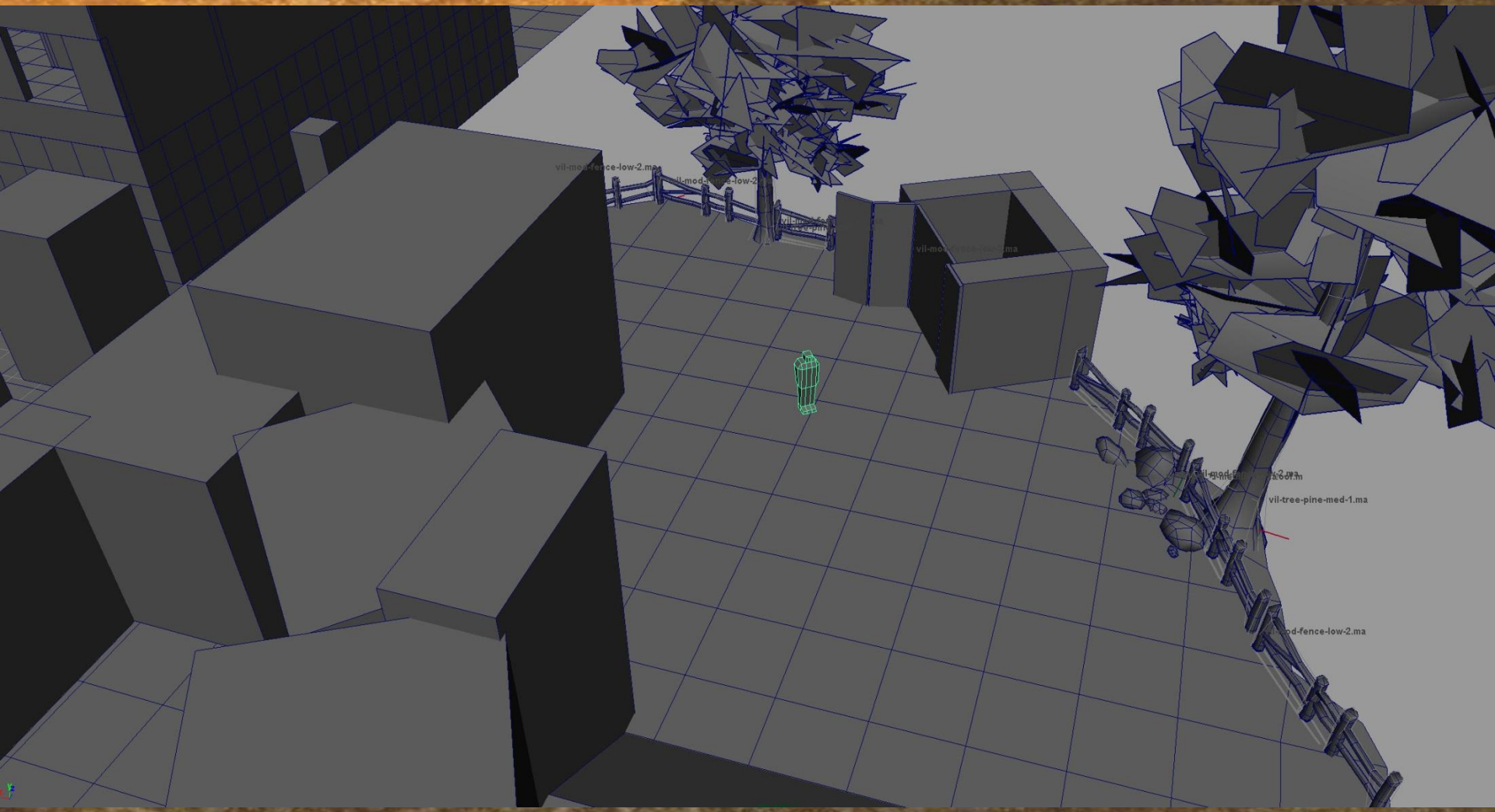
Mountain wall idea

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION



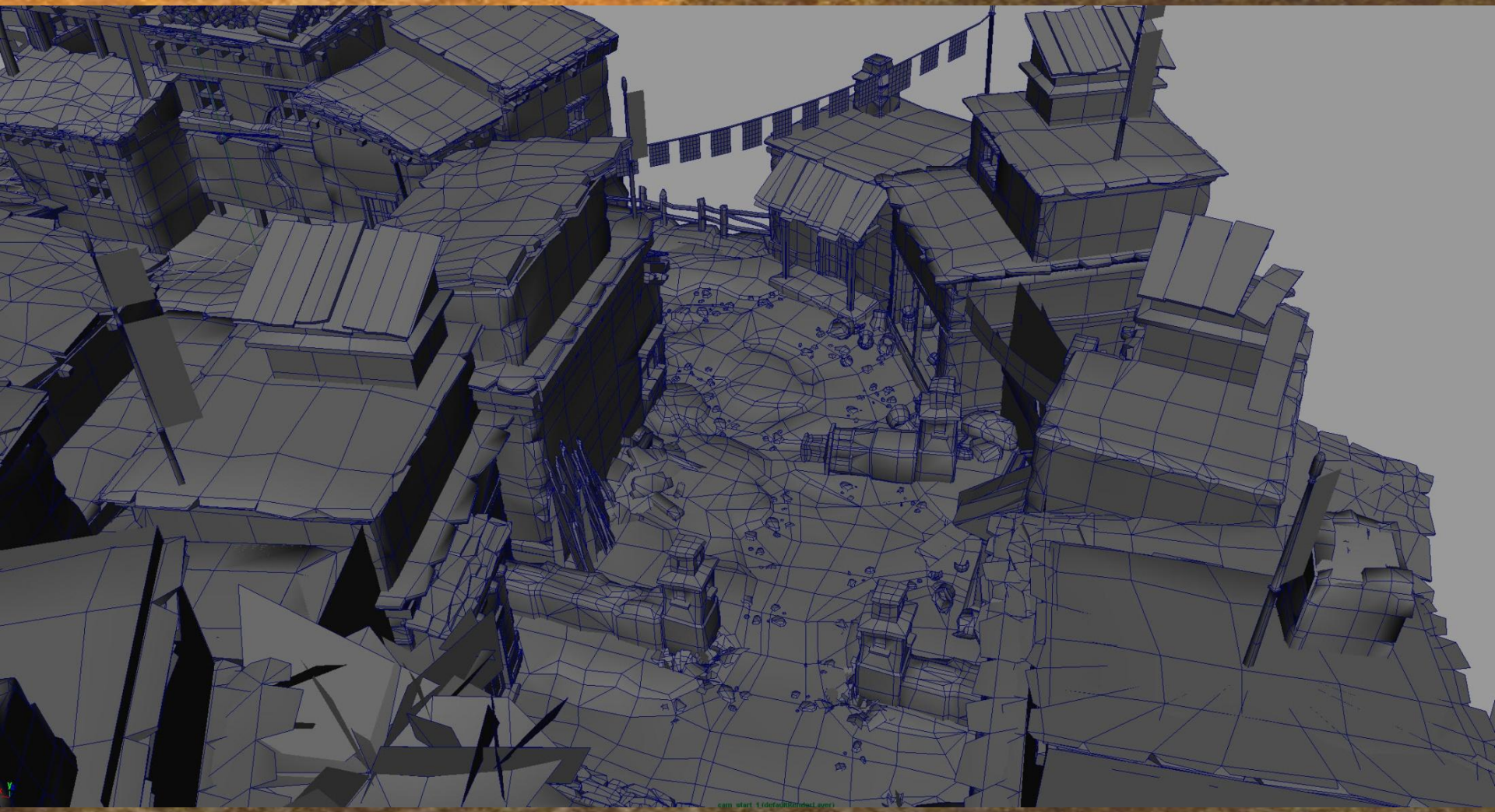
Terrace idea

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION



Cliff idea

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION



Combination of cliff and buildings

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Final design

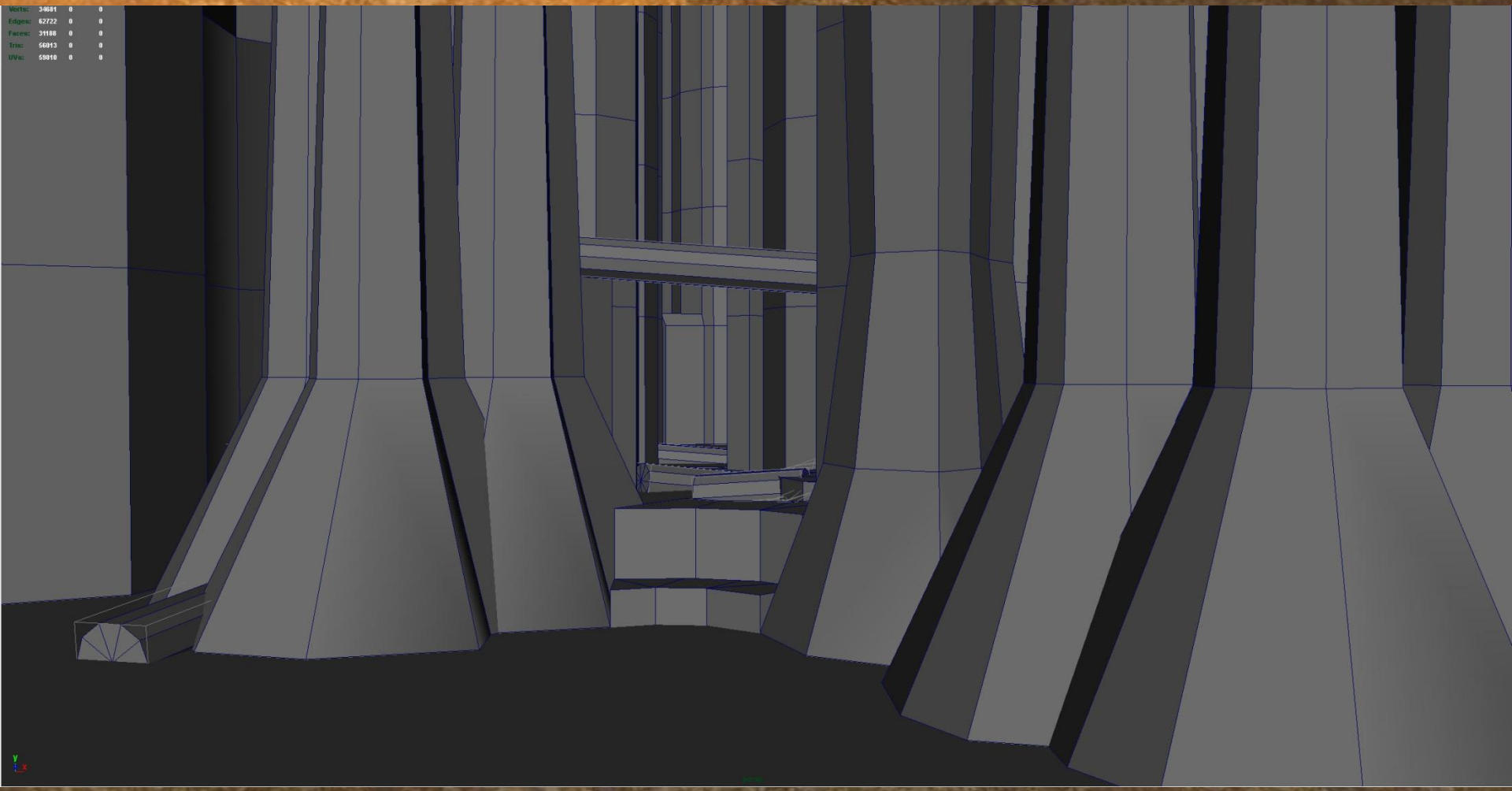
Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Final design

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

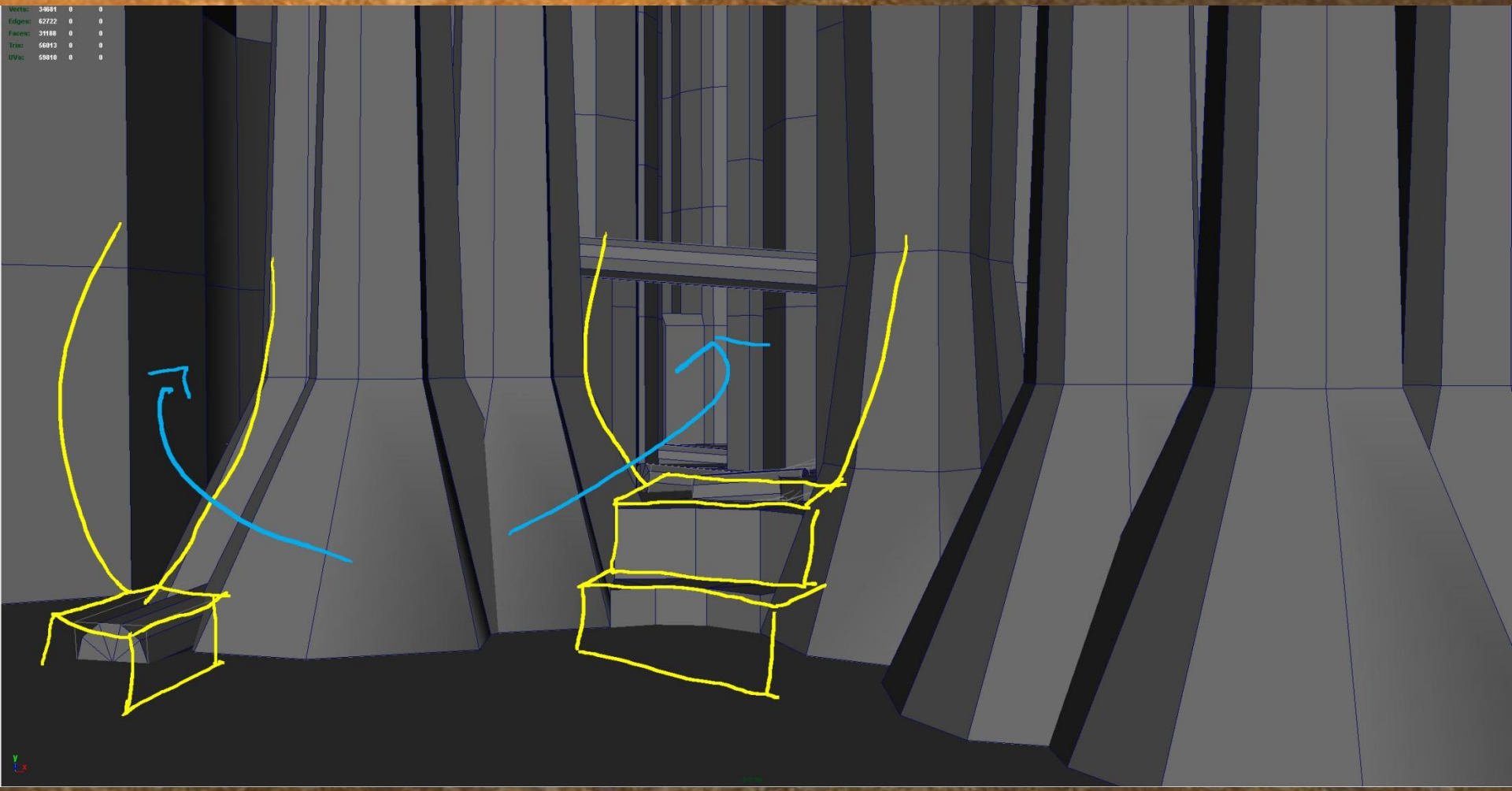
Final design

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION



blockmesh

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

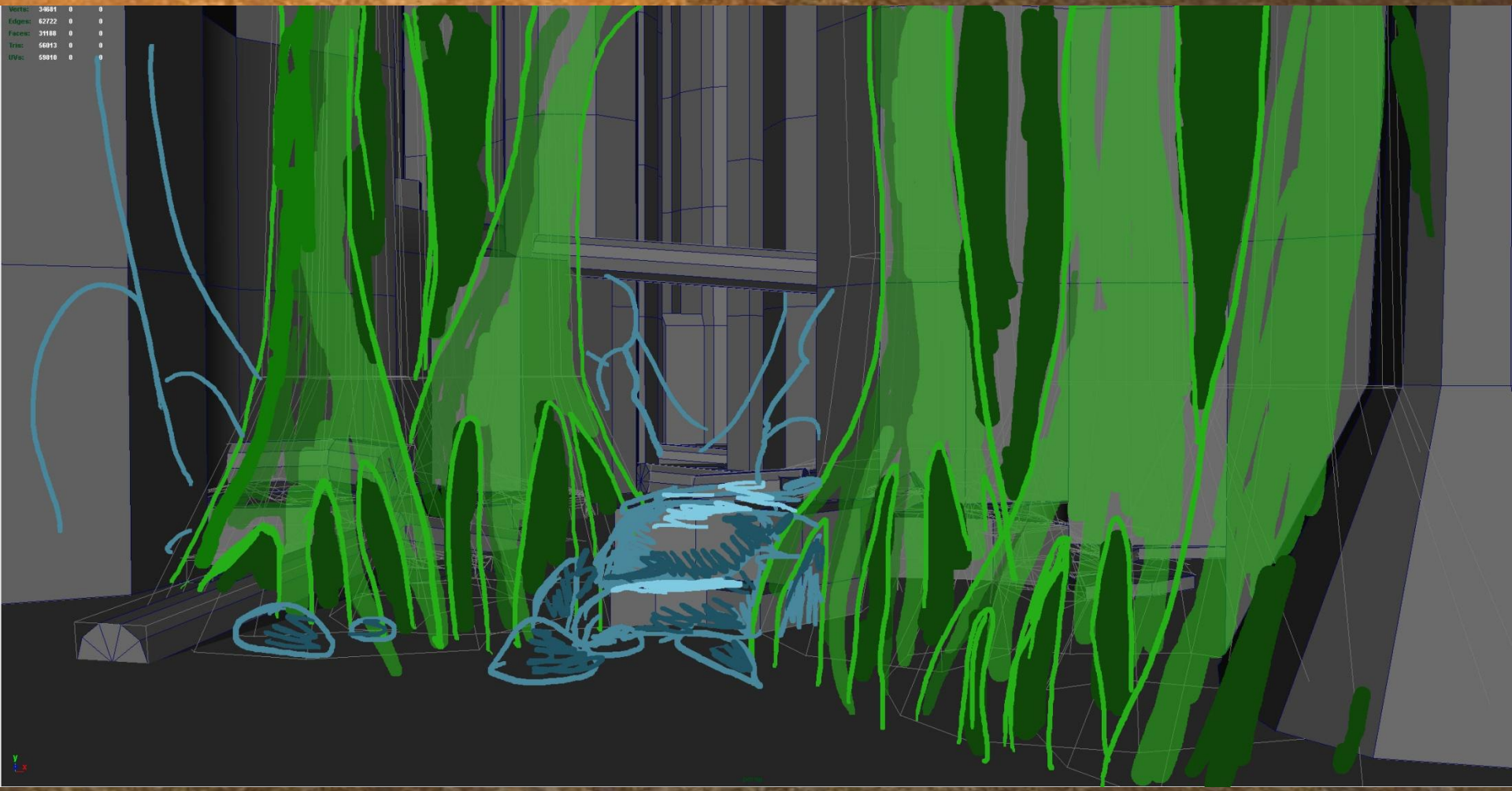


Check game play requirements…

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

concept

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

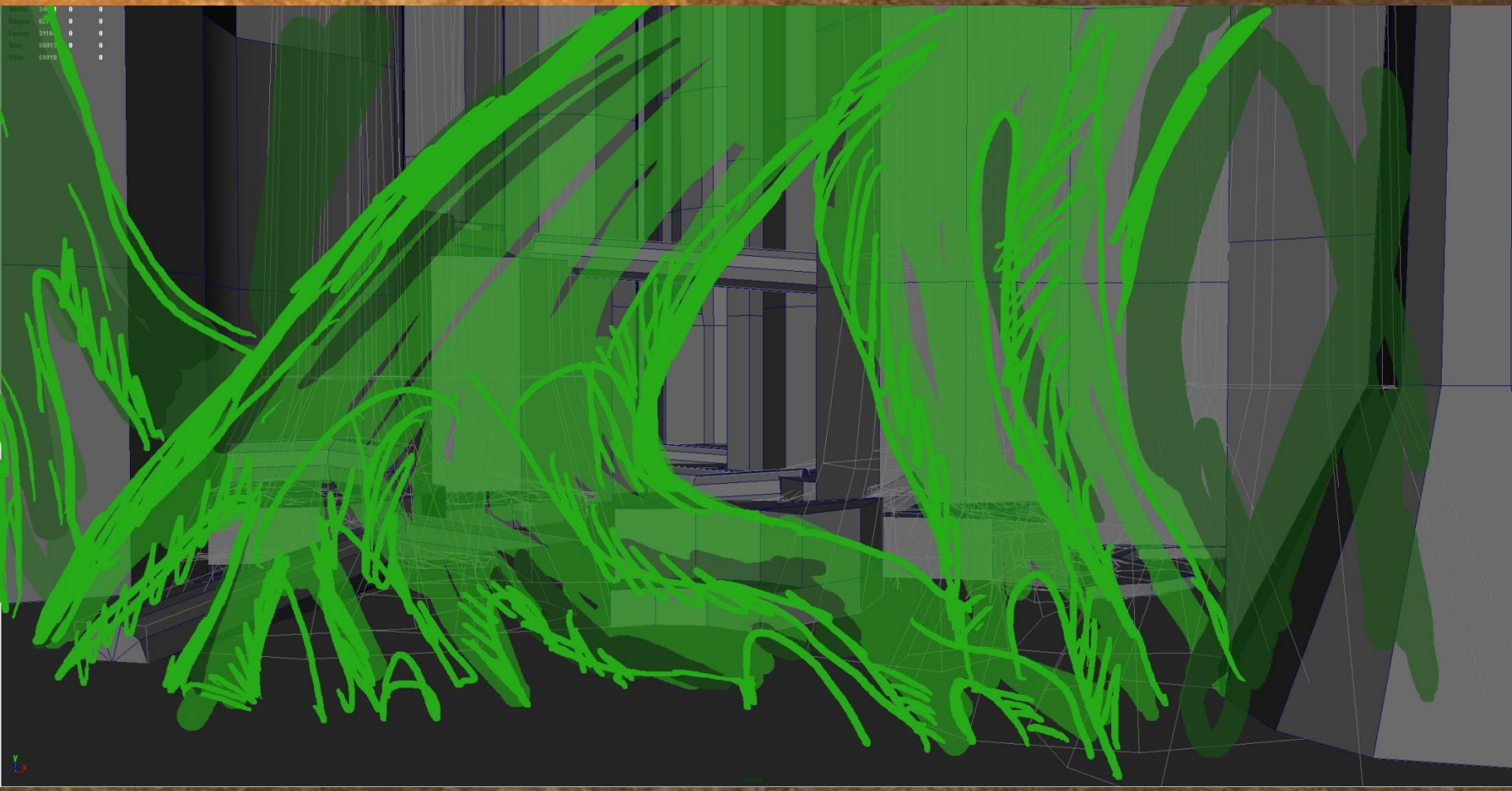


Draw over

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Draw over

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION



Draw over

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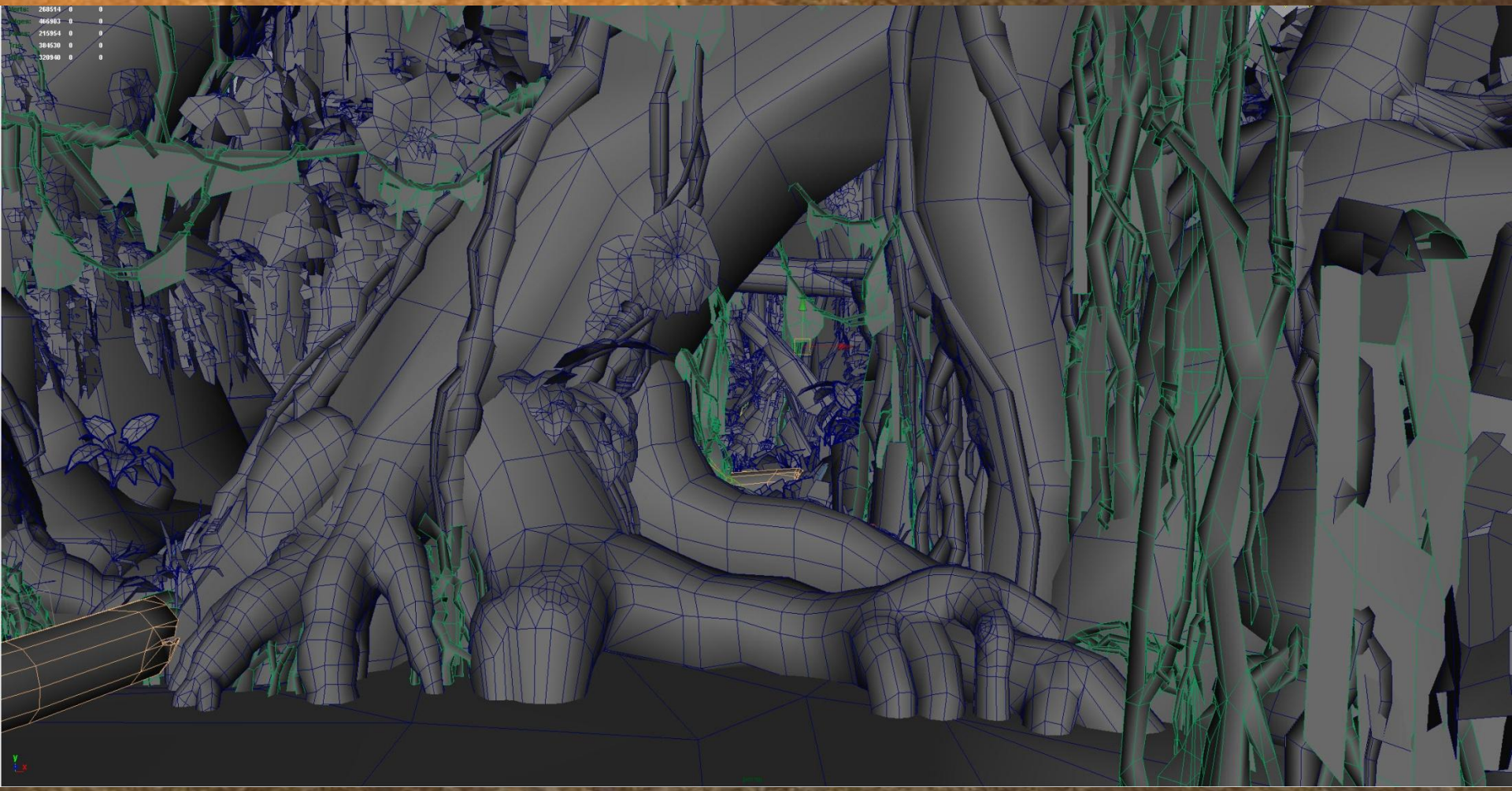
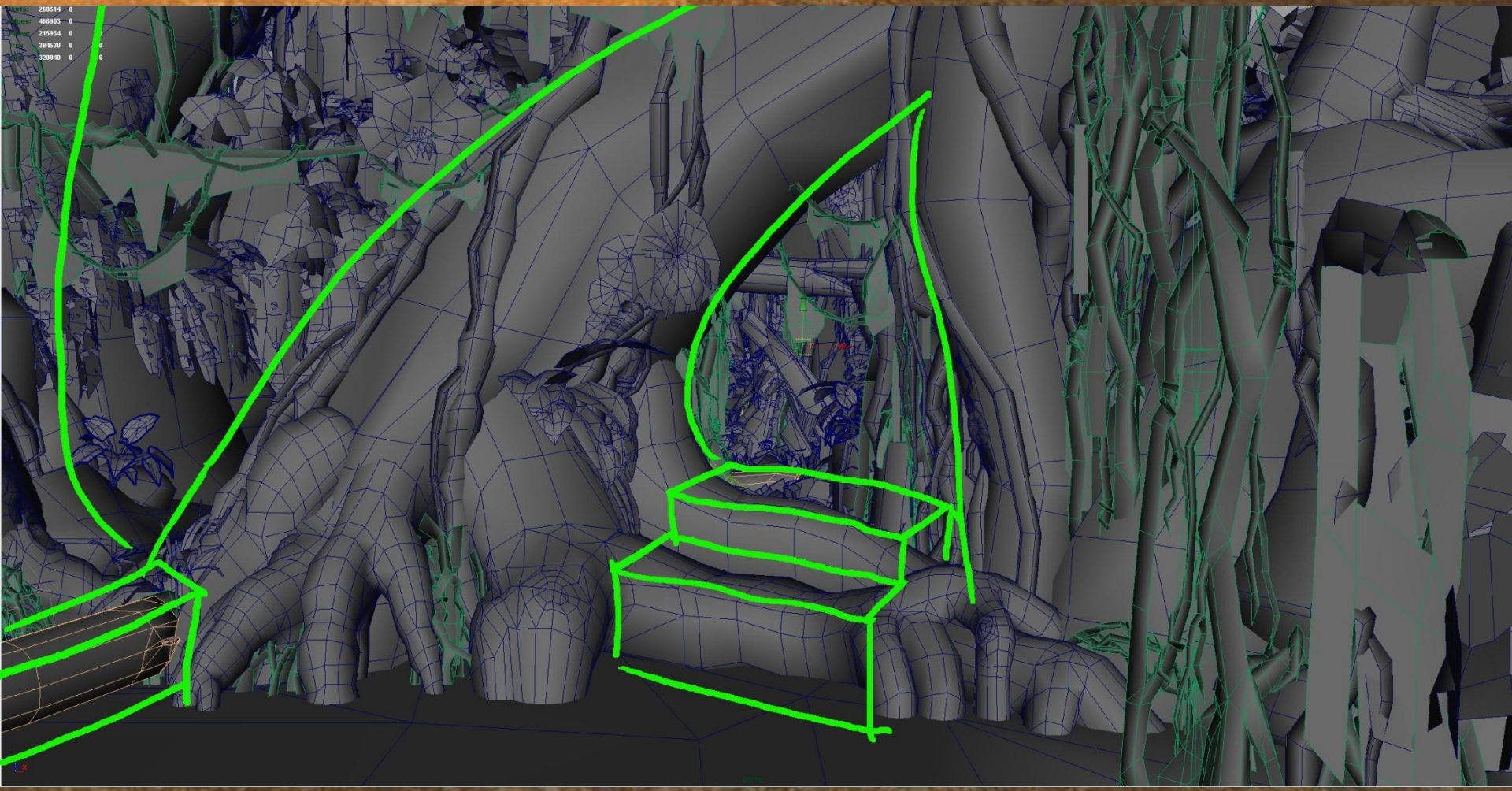


Final Maya art

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION



Final Maya Art

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Final game art

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Variety in Scale and proportions

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Final game art

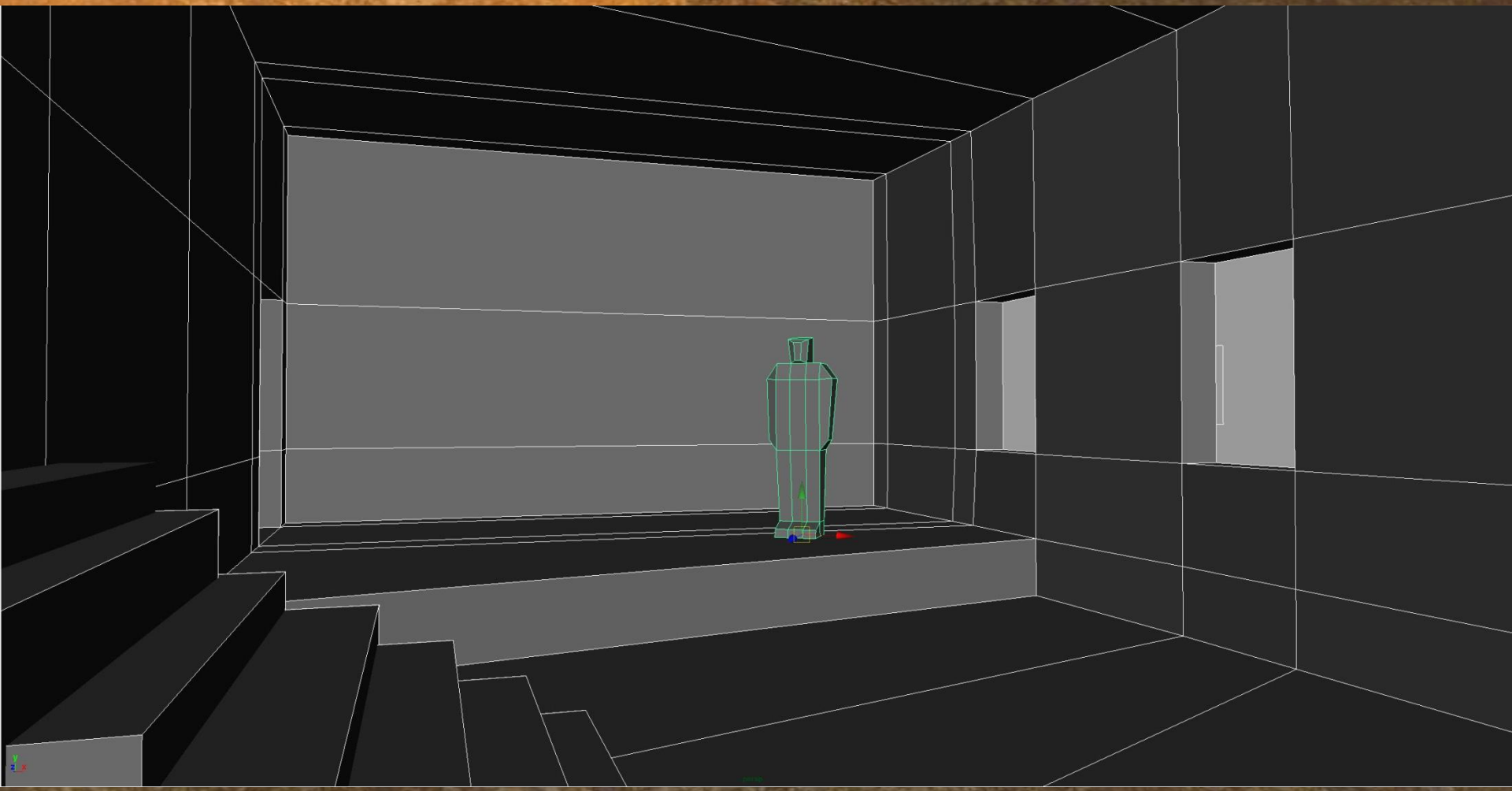
Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Final game art

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Final game art

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION



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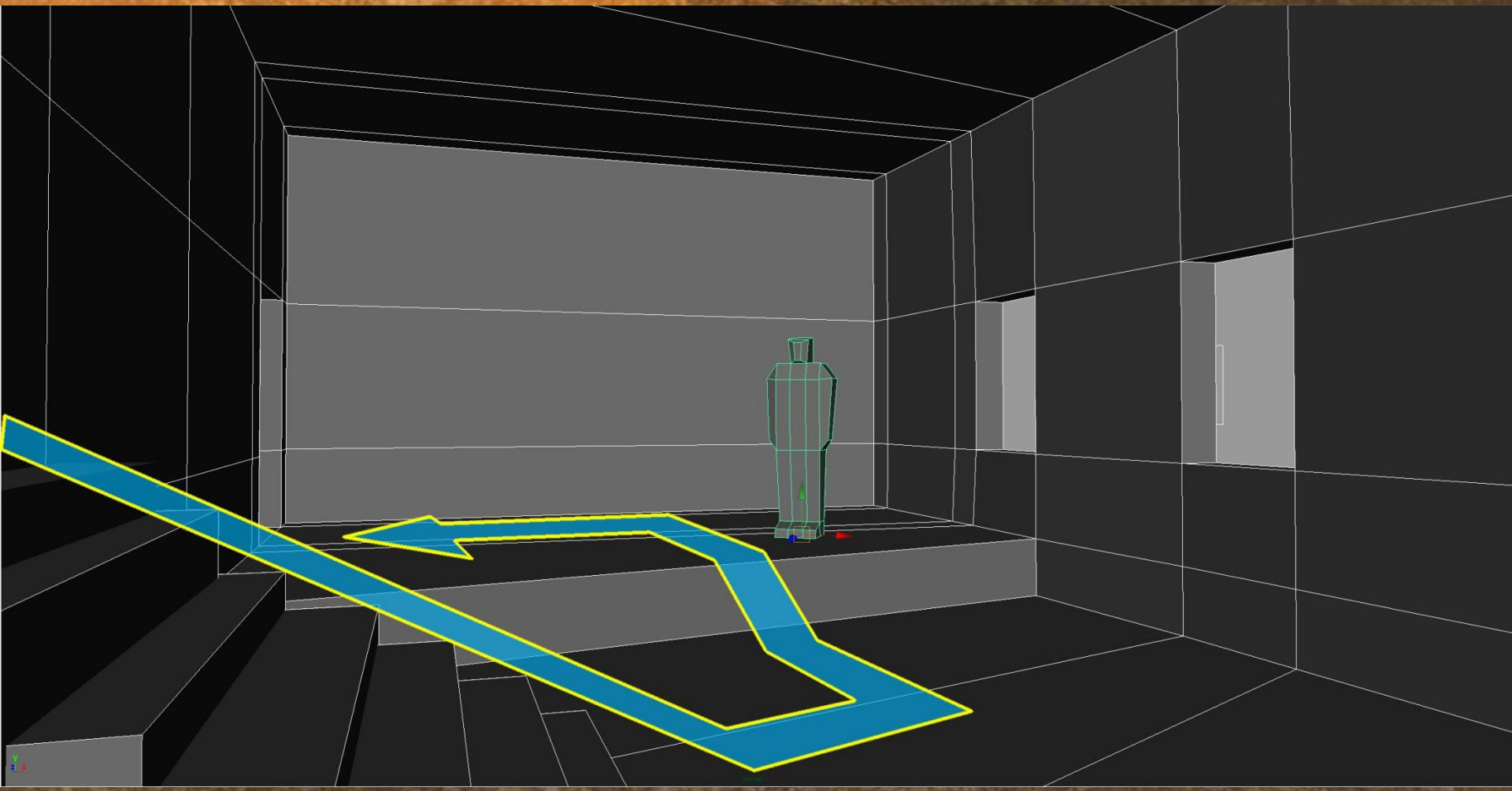
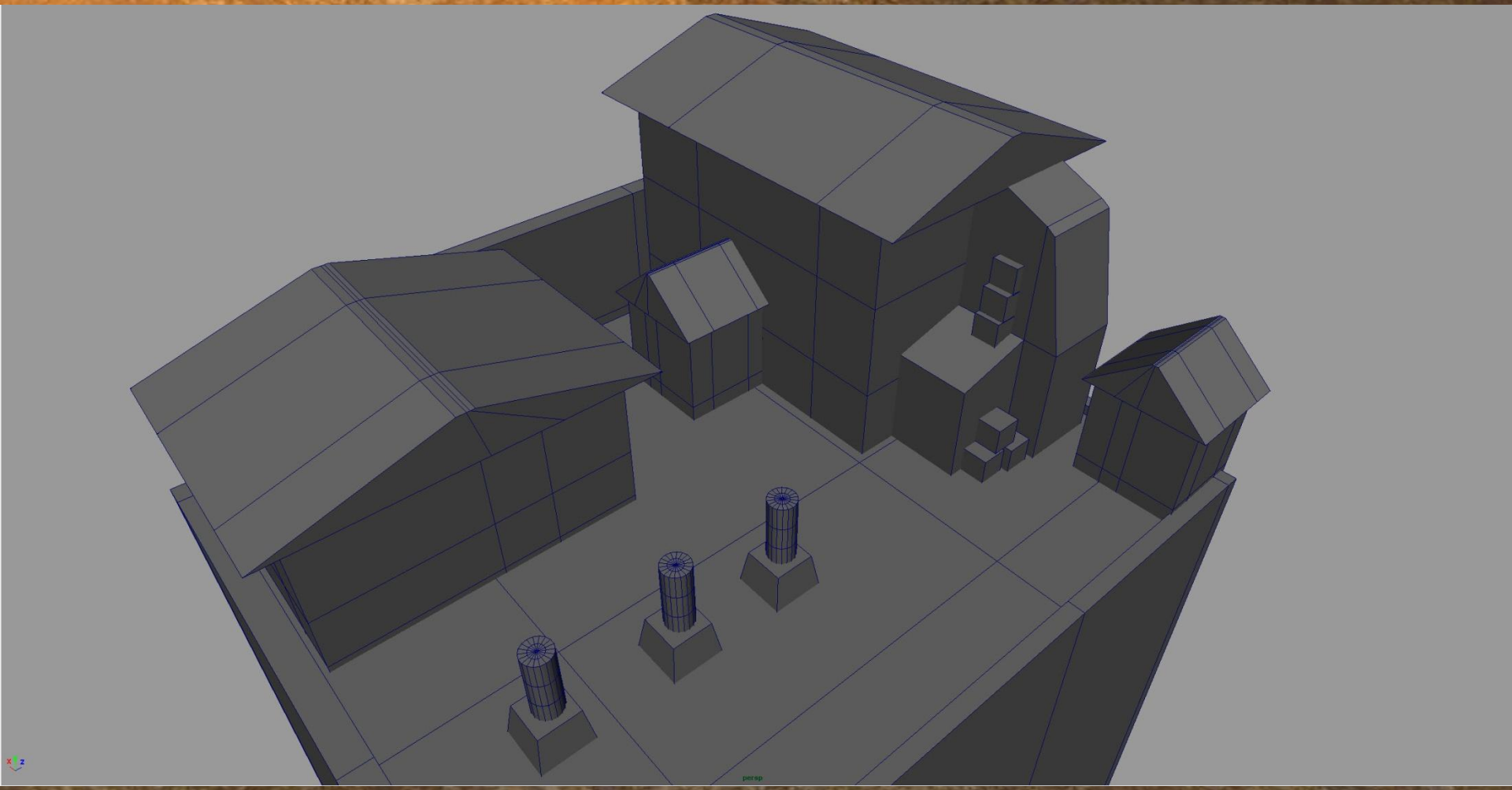


Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION



Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Ground plane/wall plane separation

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Ground plane/wall plane separation

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Ground plane/wall plane separation

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Stepping stones

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Ground plane/wall plane separation

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Ground plane/wall plane seperation

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

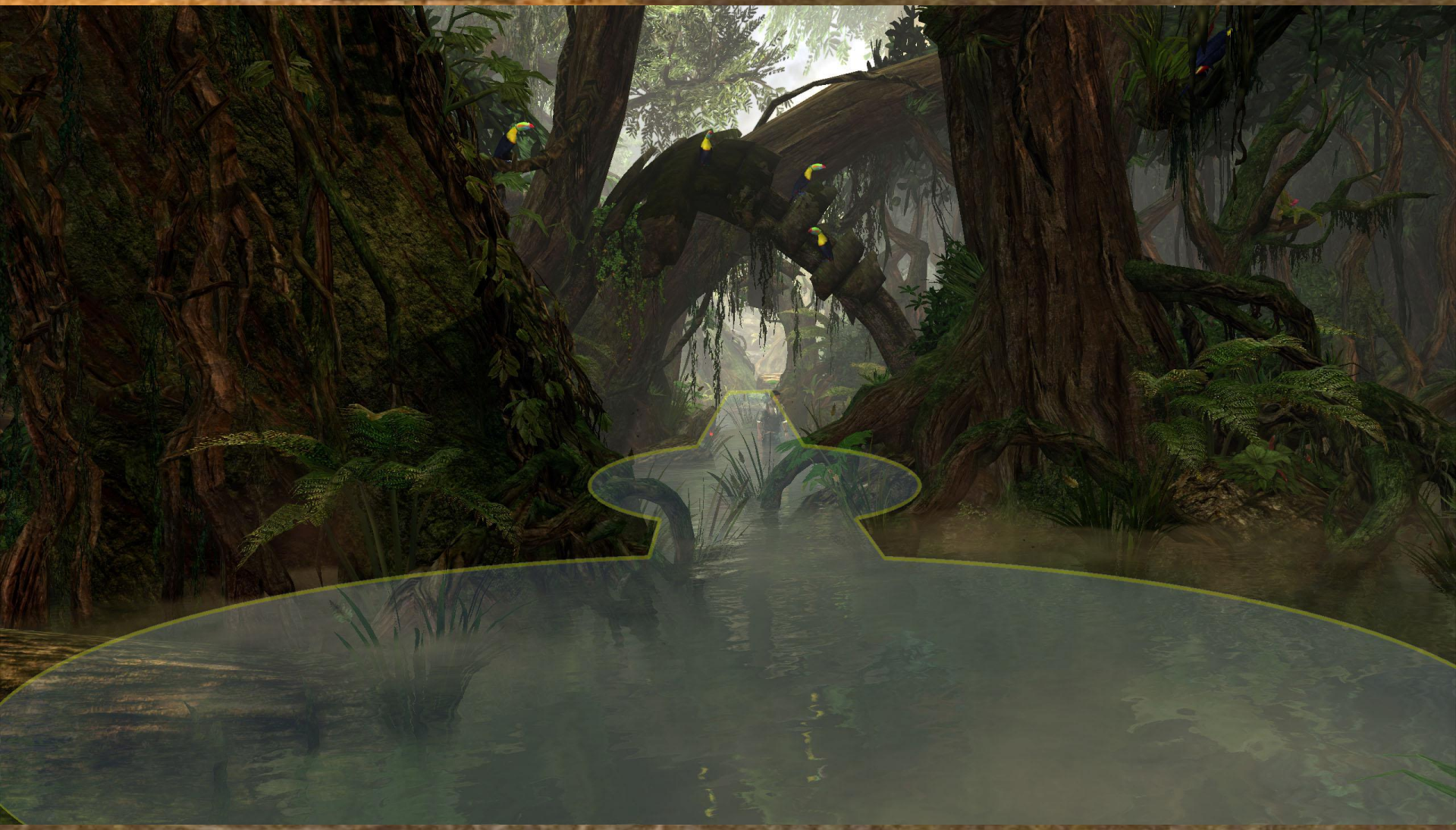
Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Create arches to lead player through.

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

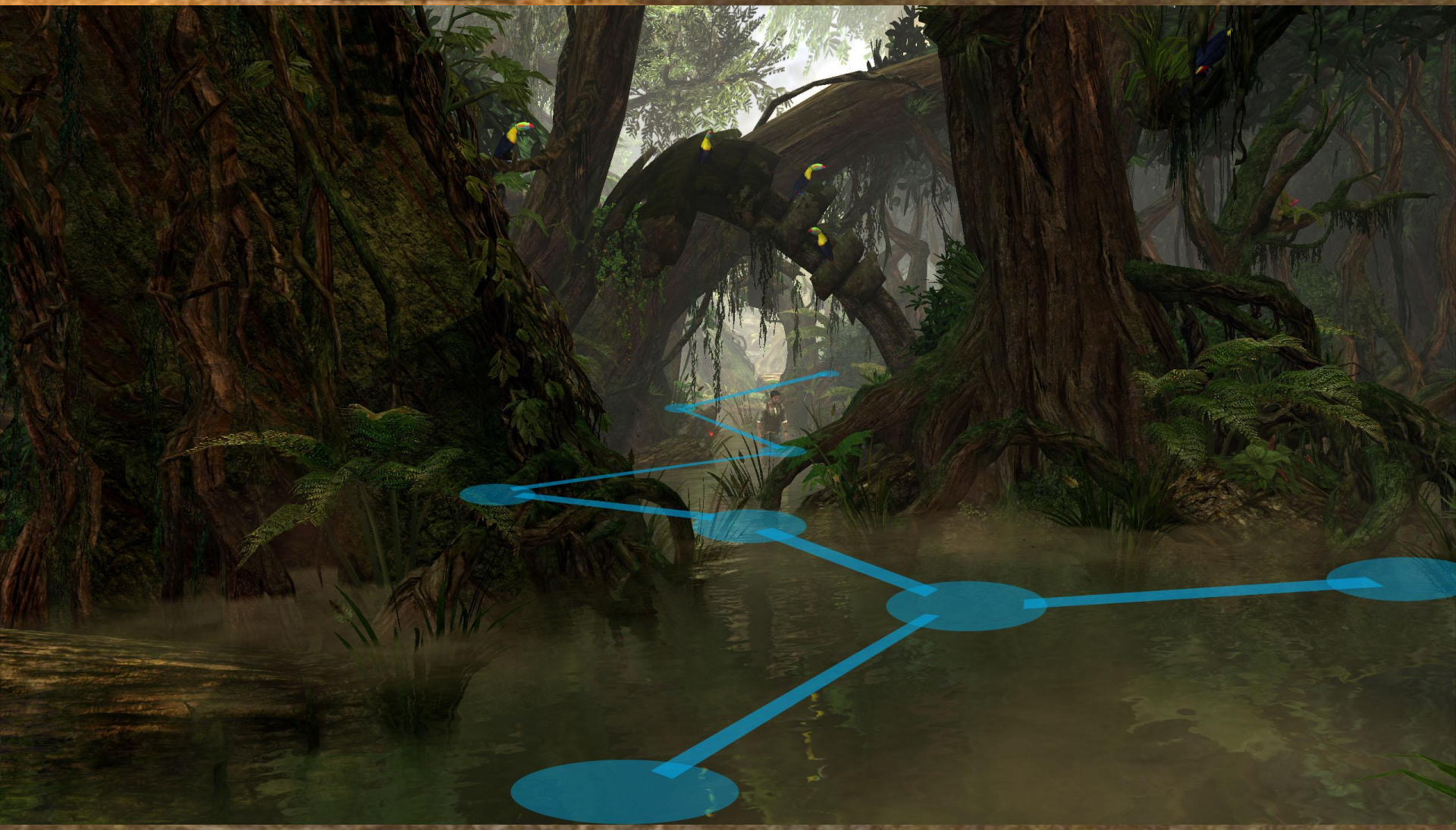
Create Path Variety .

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION



Create Path Variety .

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

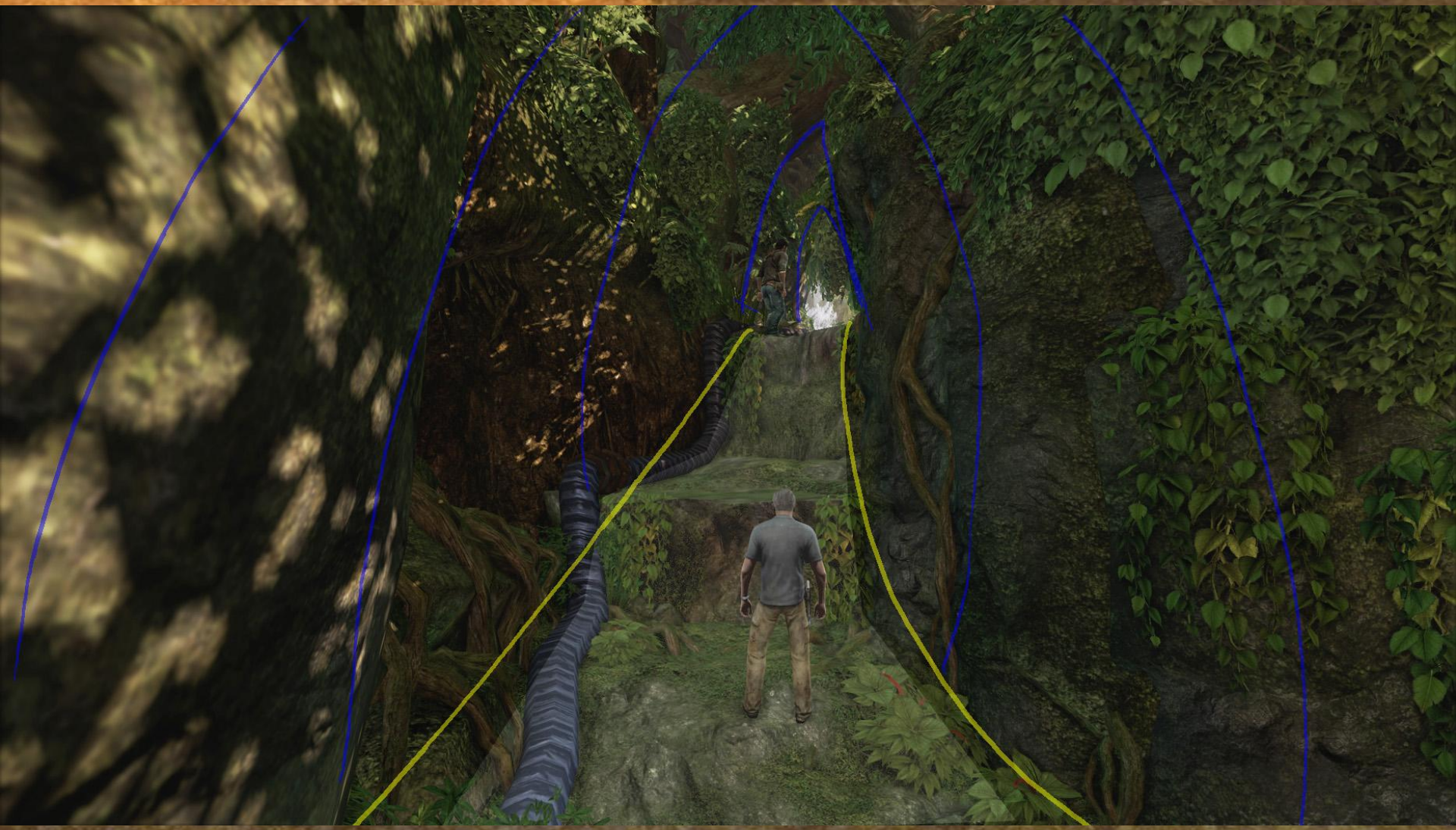


Create Path Variety .

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Counter point spaces .

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION



Counter point spaces .

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Counter point spaces .

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

....to exaggerate the effect of the final space.

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Landmarks

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Landmarks

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Landmarks to give orientation

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Landmarks

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Landmarks

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Landmarks

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

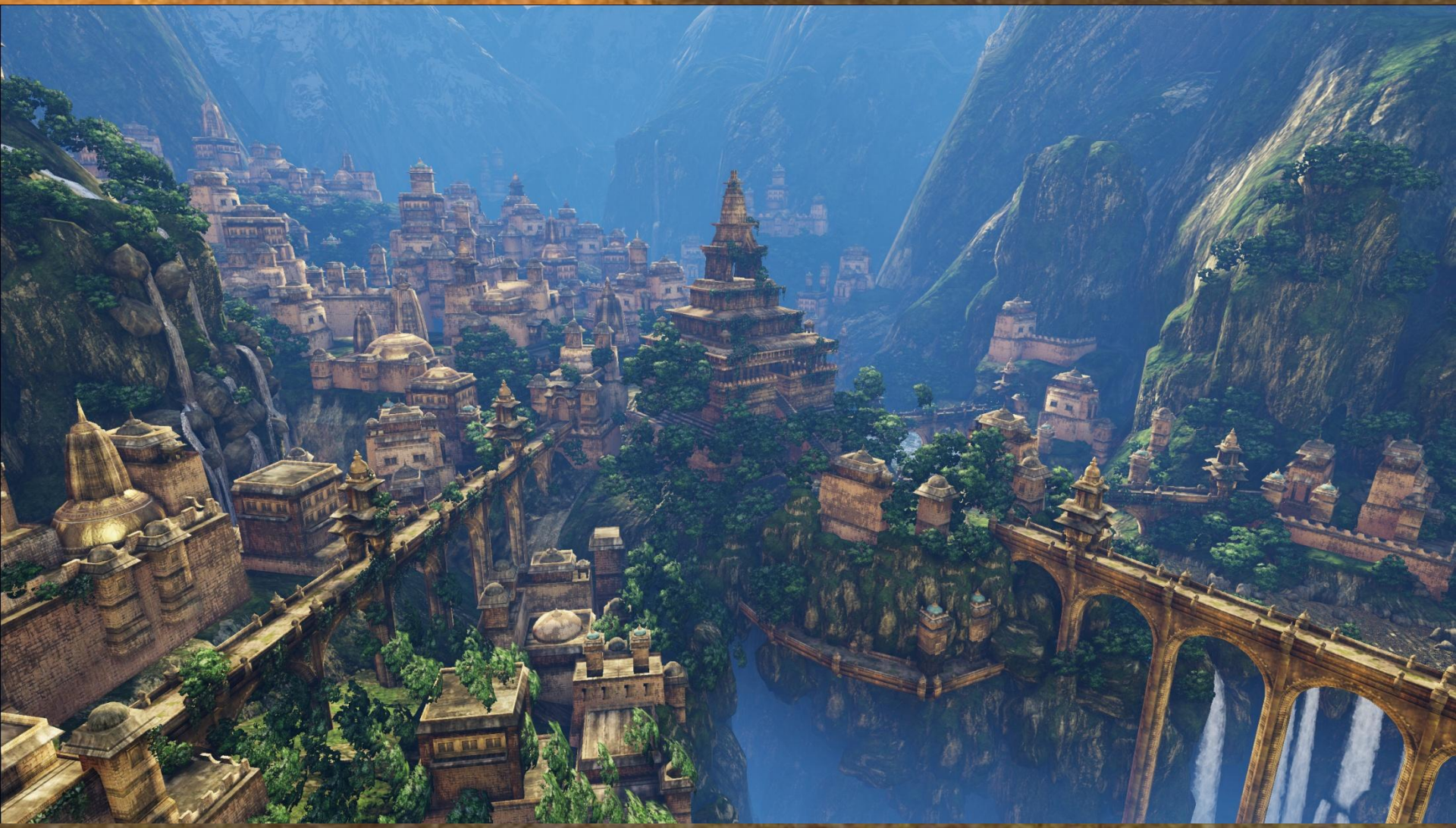
Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION



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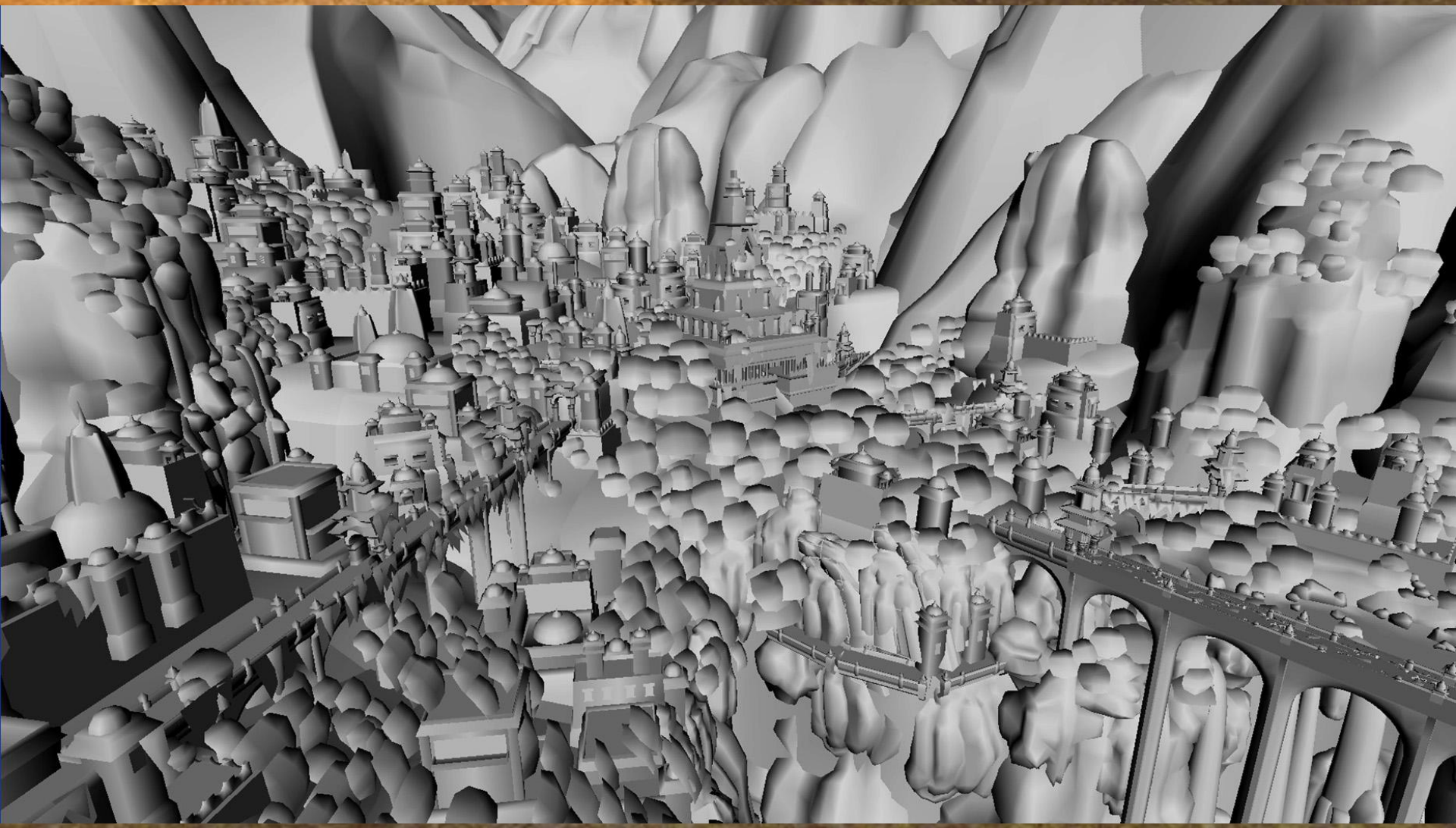

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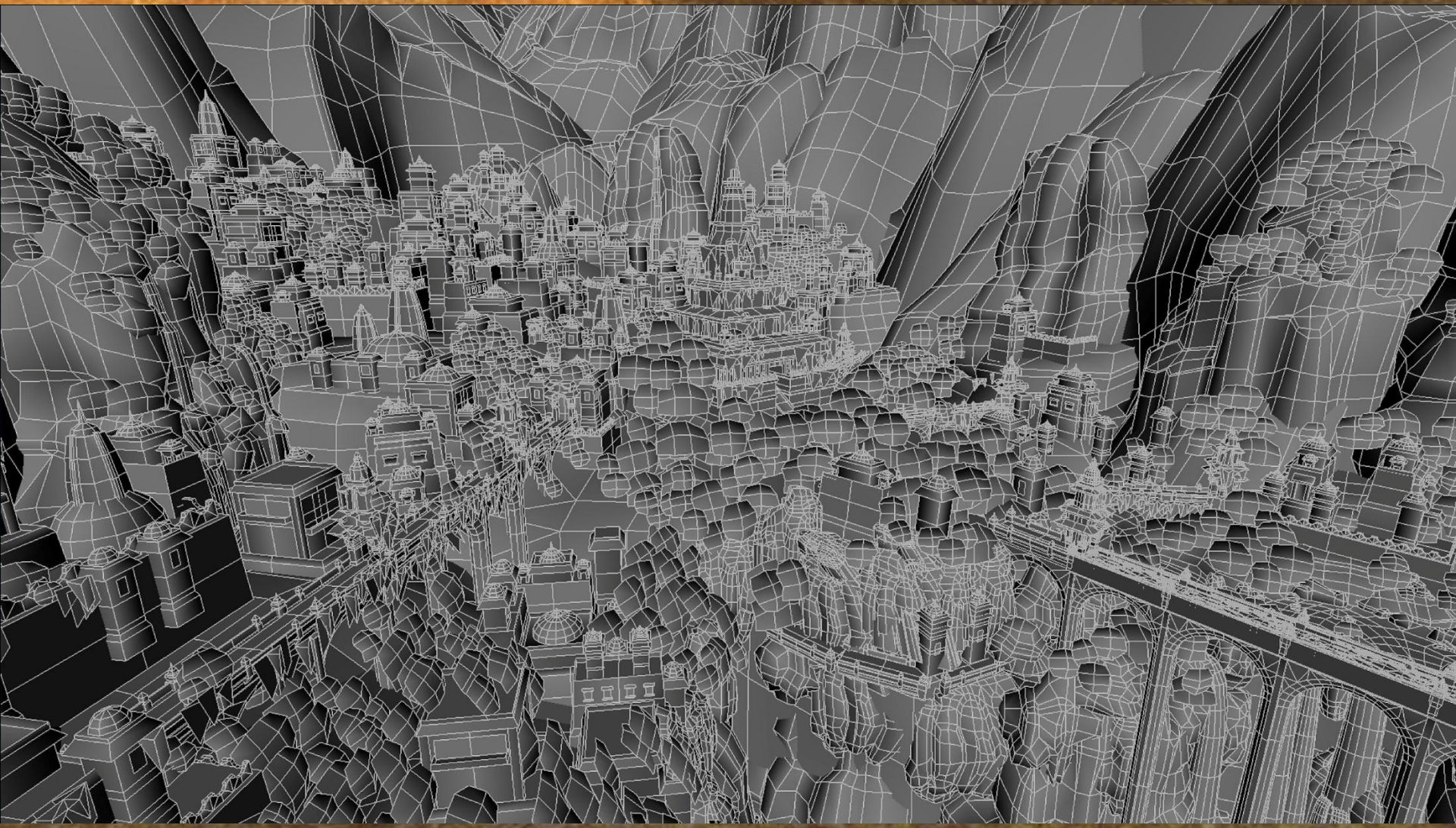

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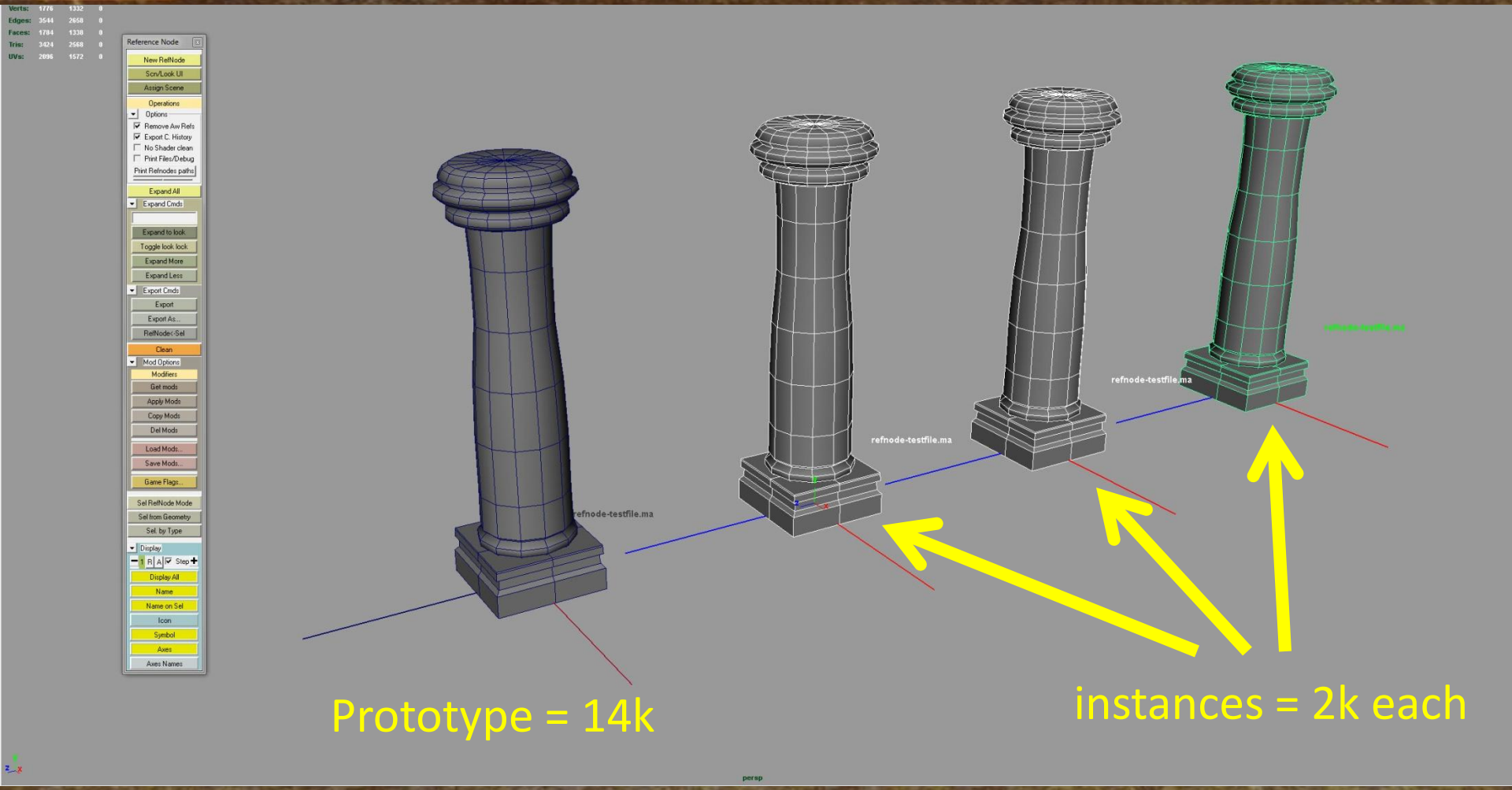

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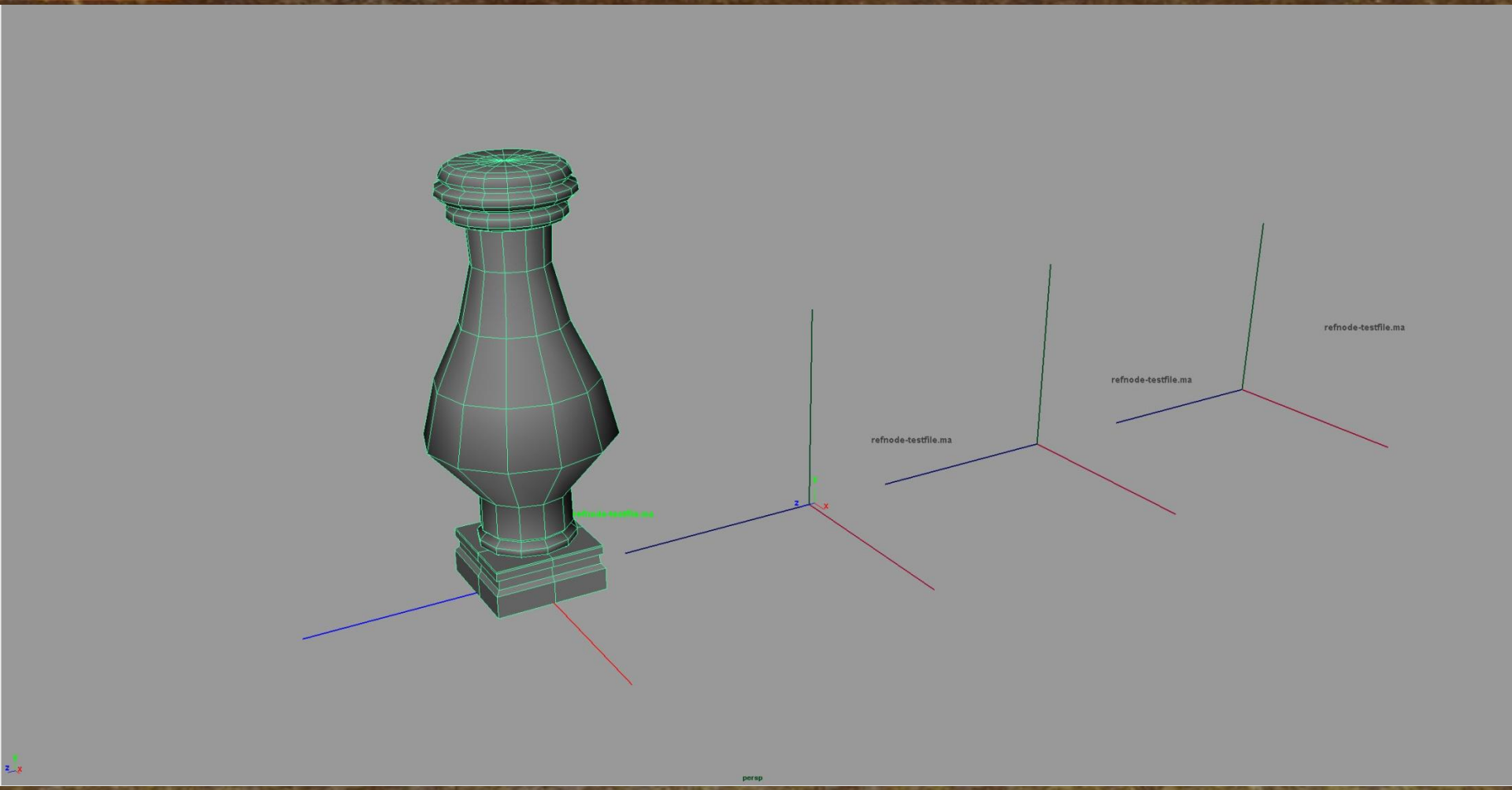

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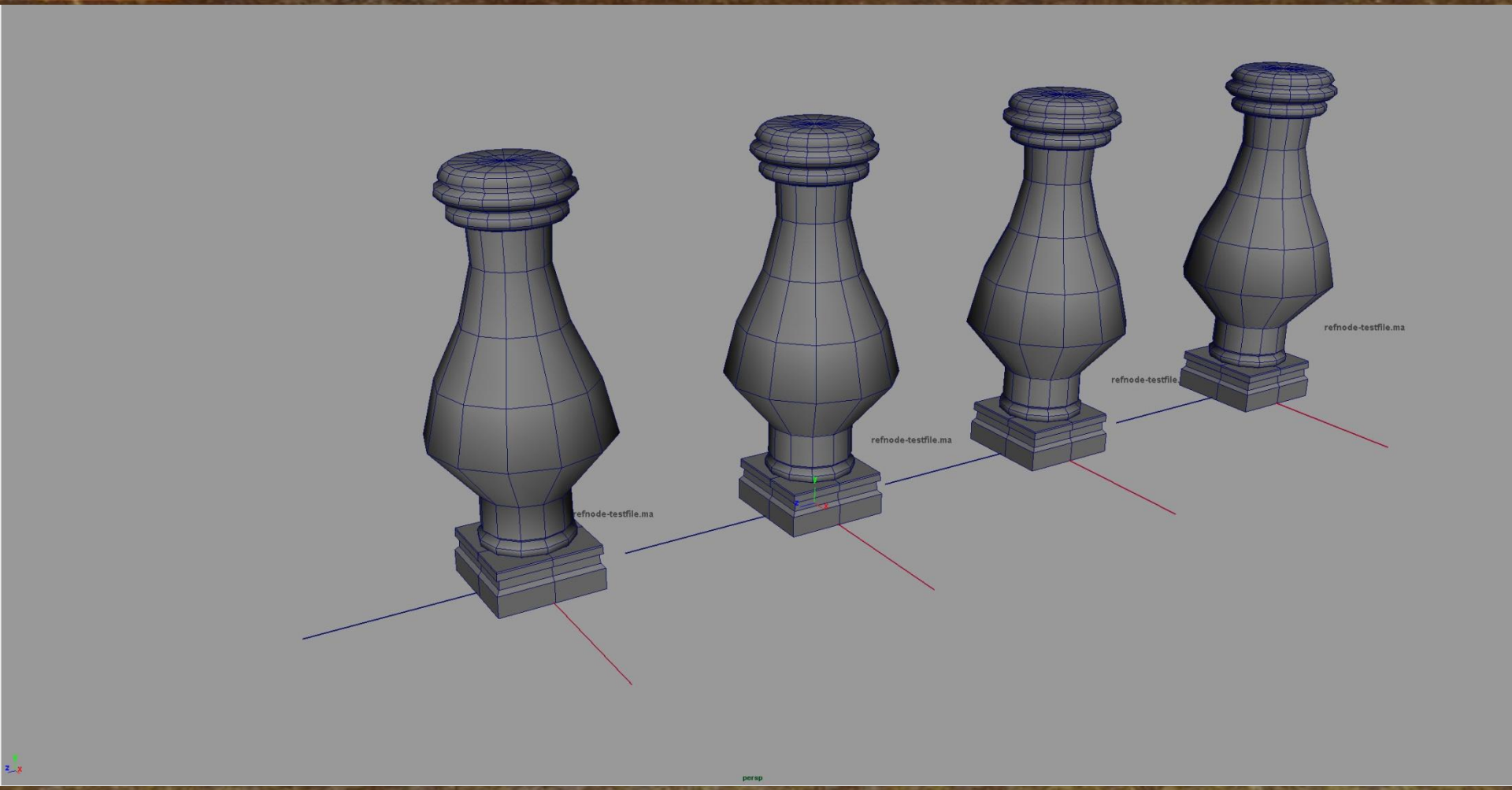

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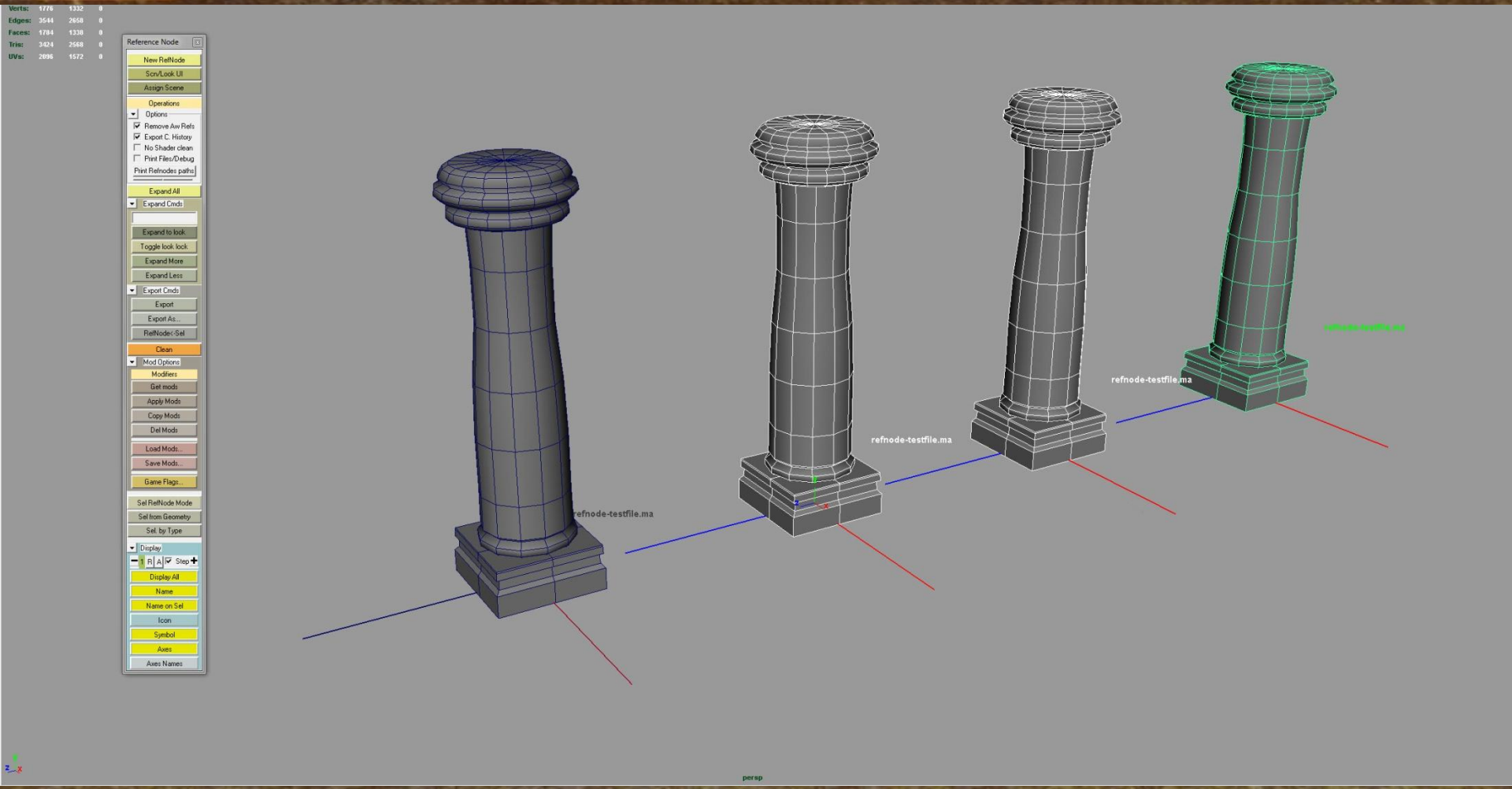
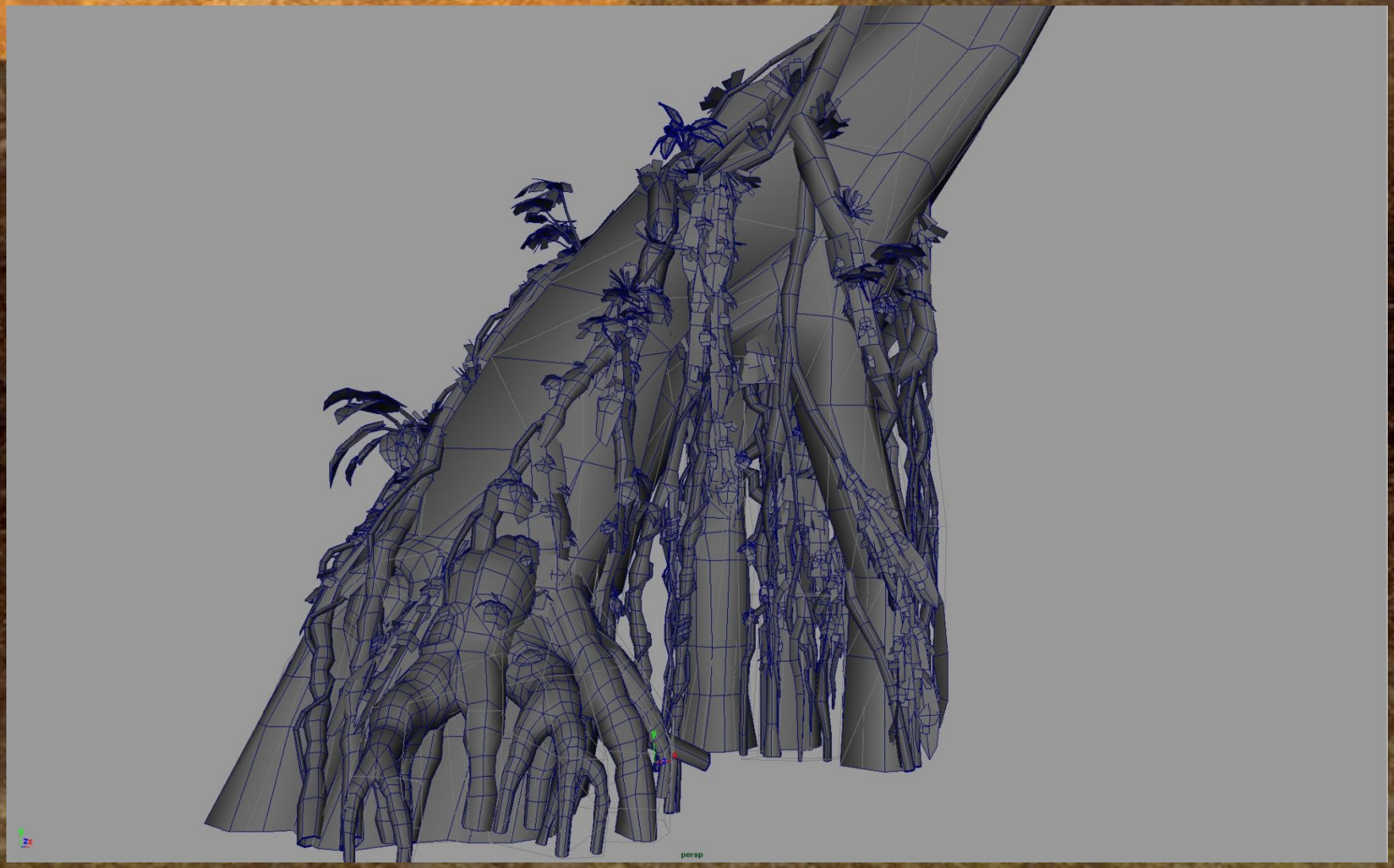


Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

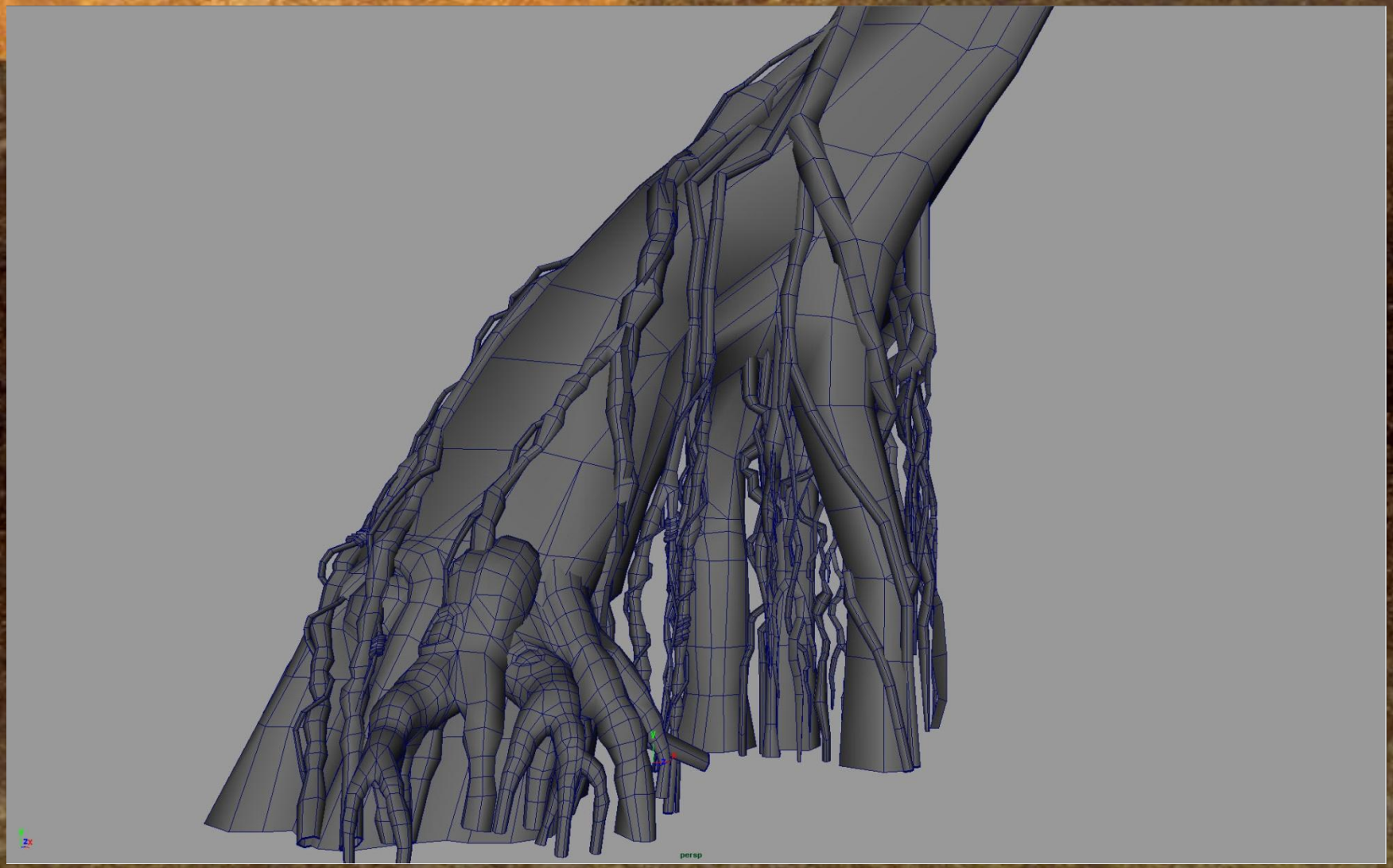
Fading distance

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION



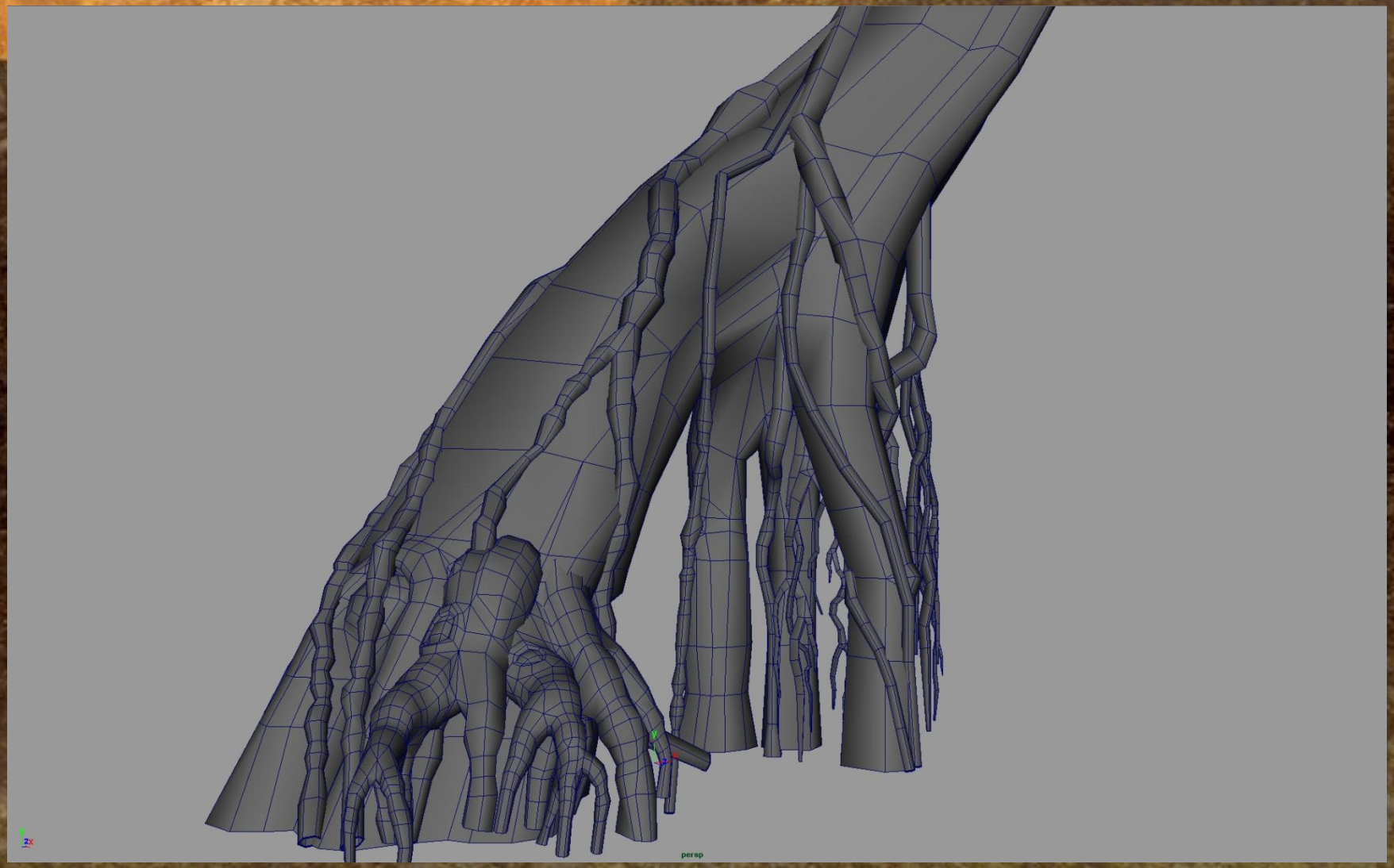
Fading out details

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION



Fading out details

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION



Fading out details

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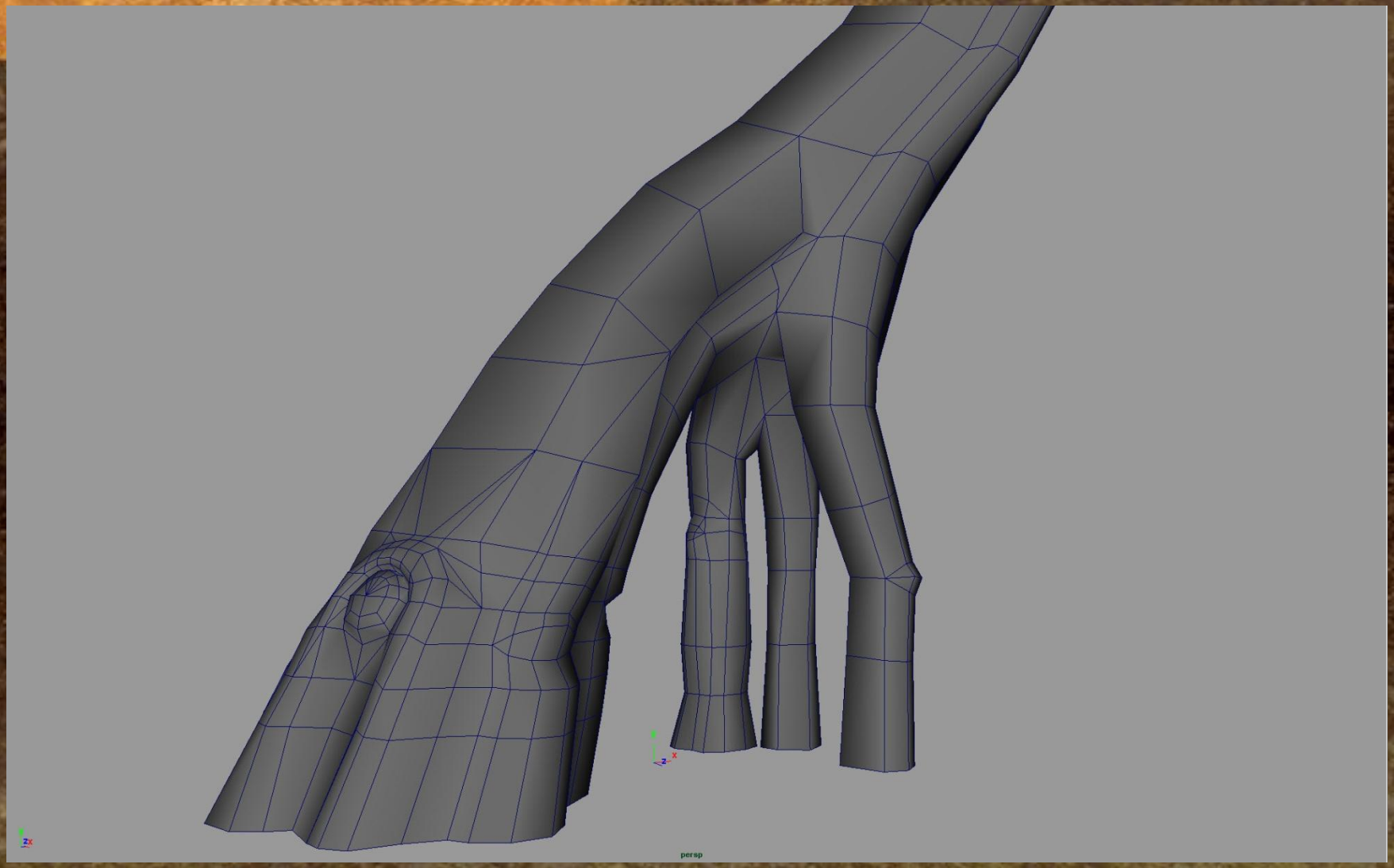
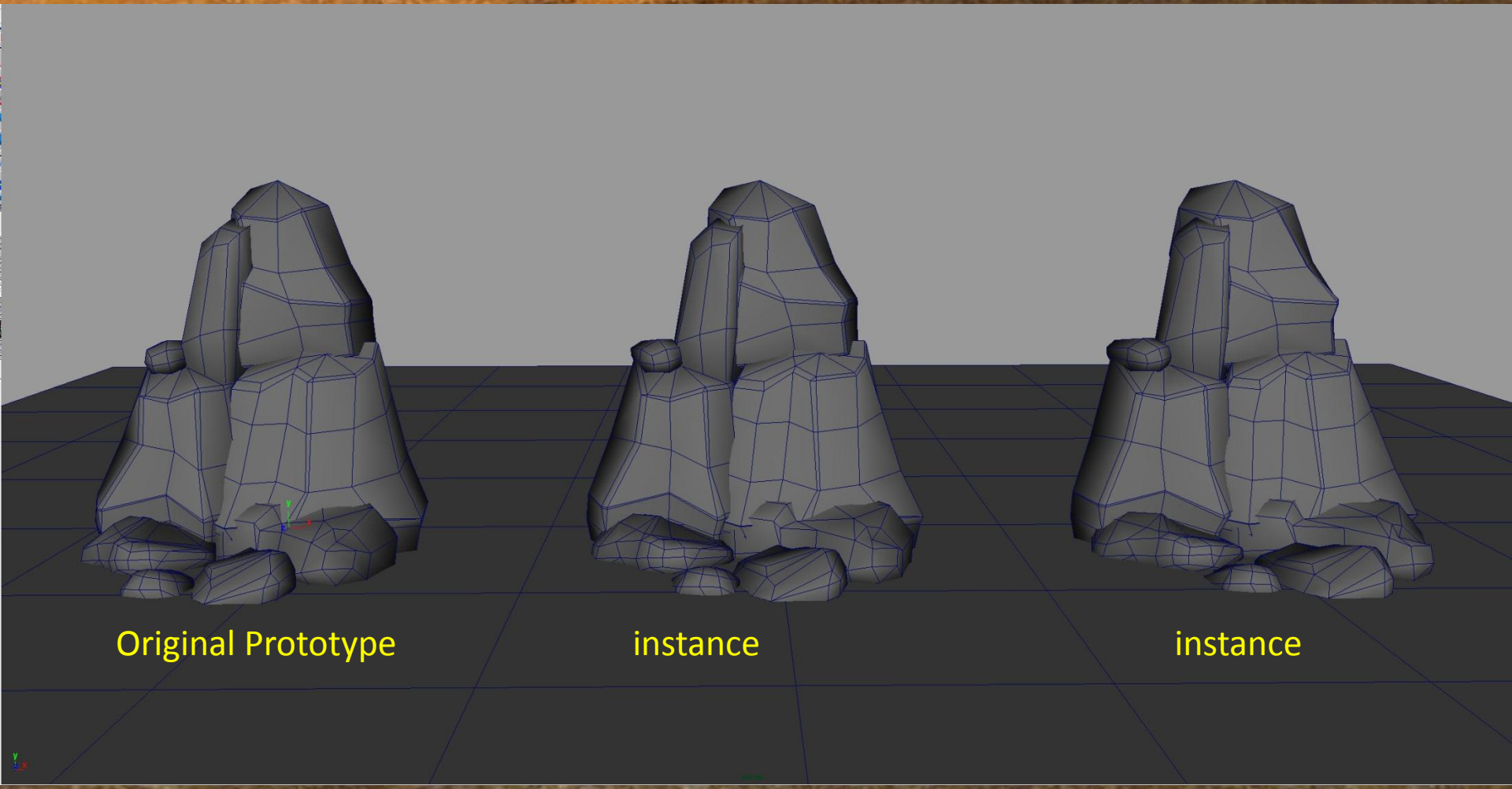


Fading out details

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

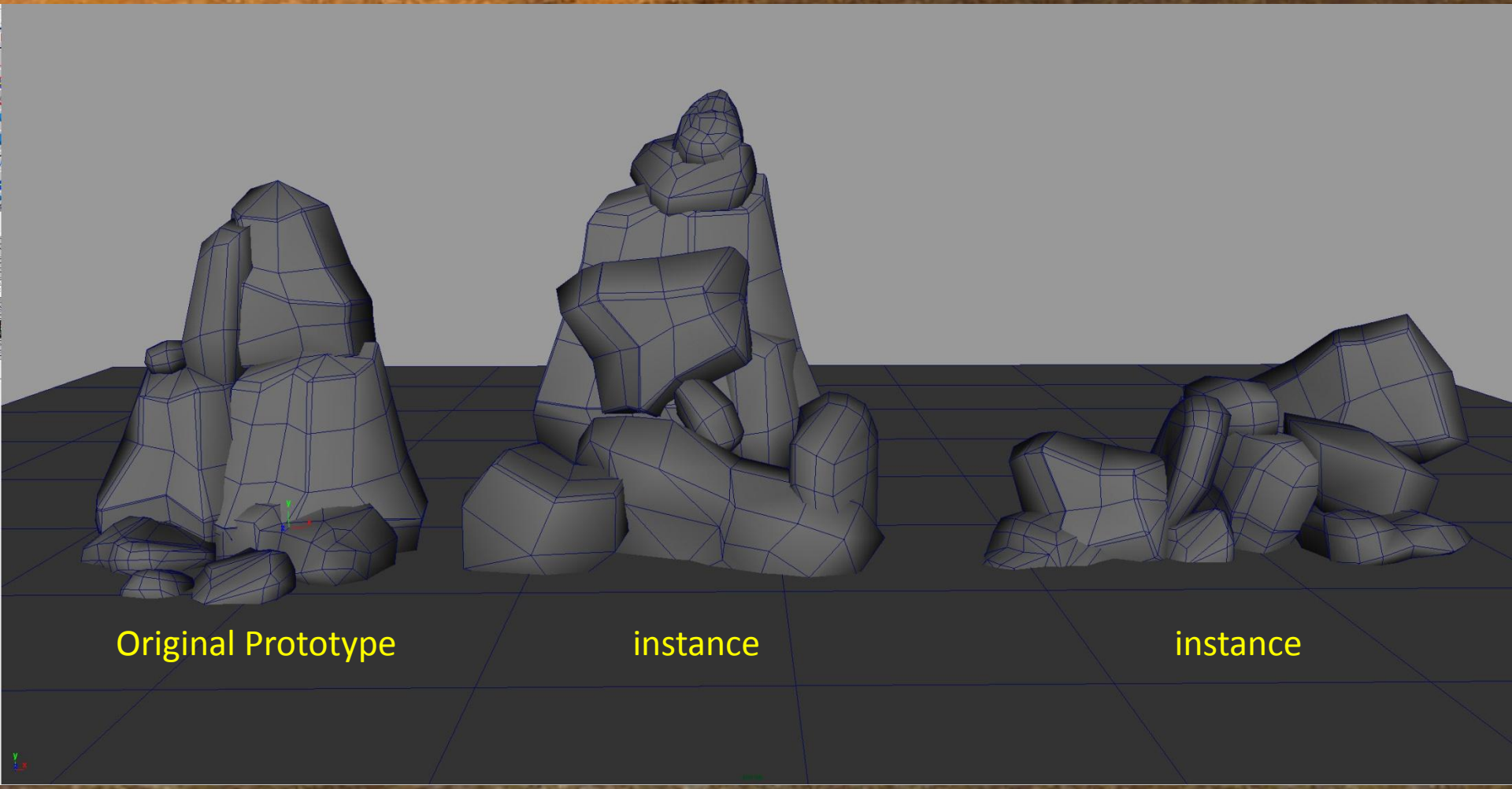
Fading out details

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION



Repetitive instances

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION



Rock arrangements

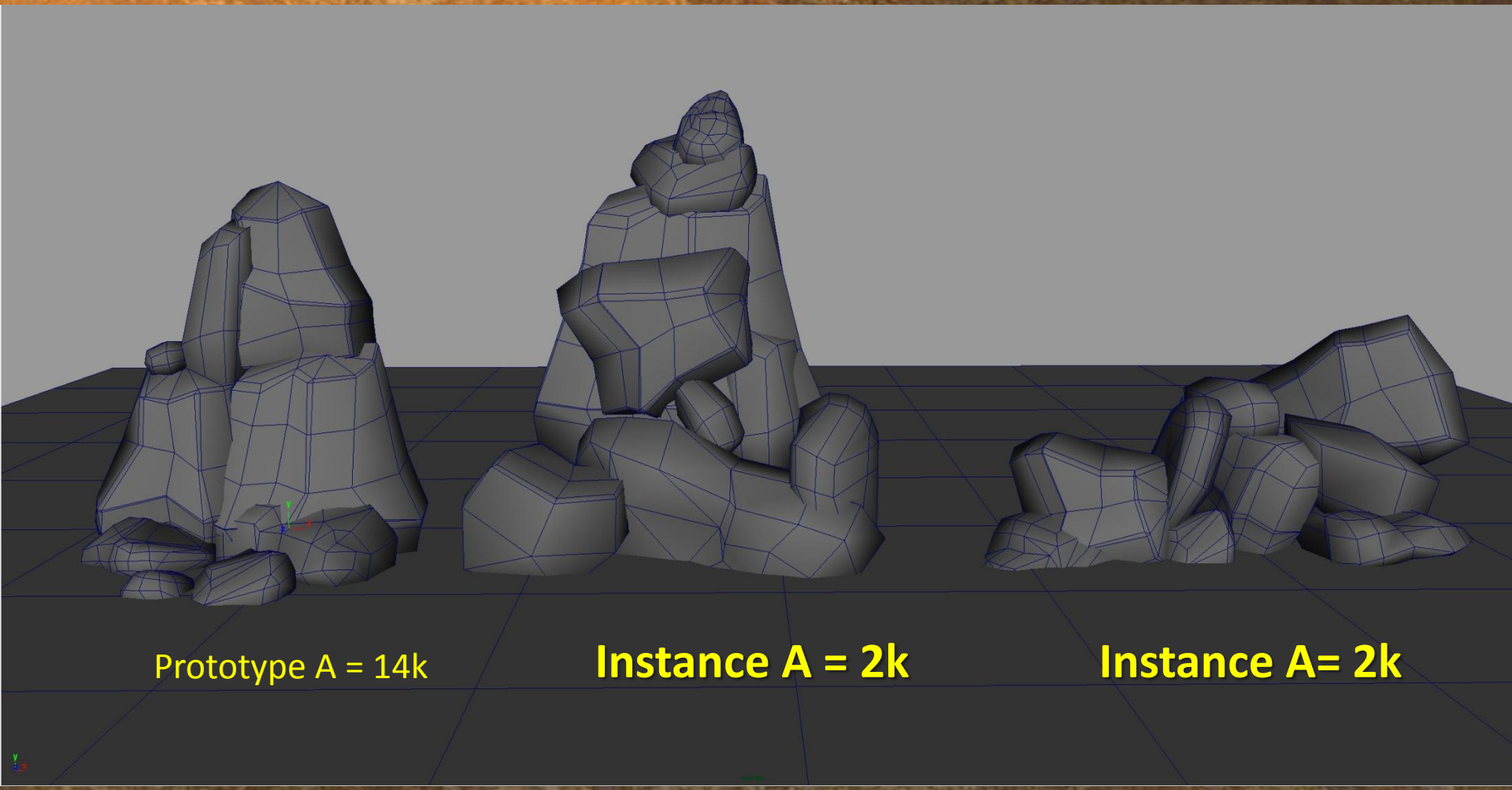
Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Typical Art request pipeline

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

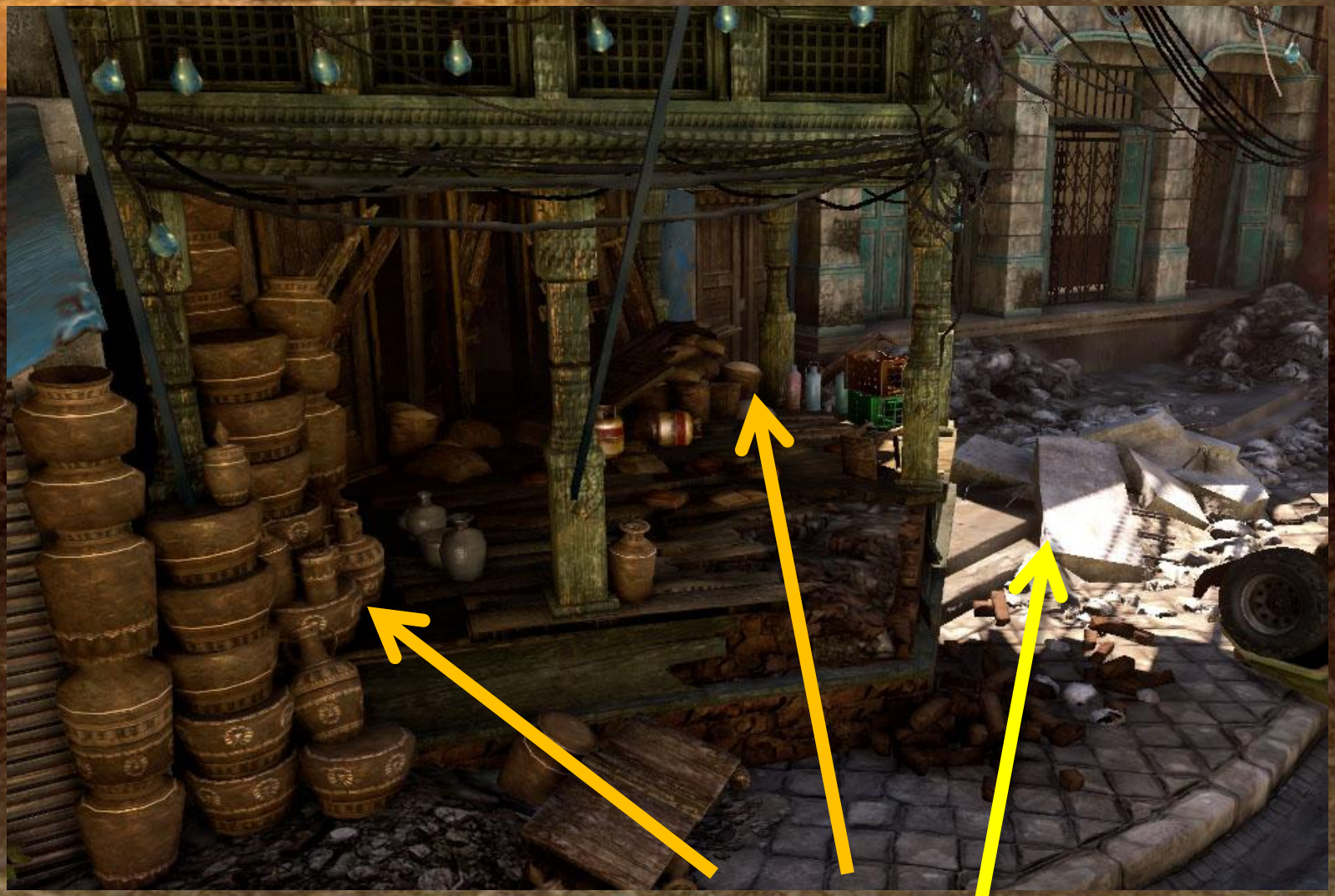
.....with motivation.

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION



Rock arrangements

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION



Modified instances

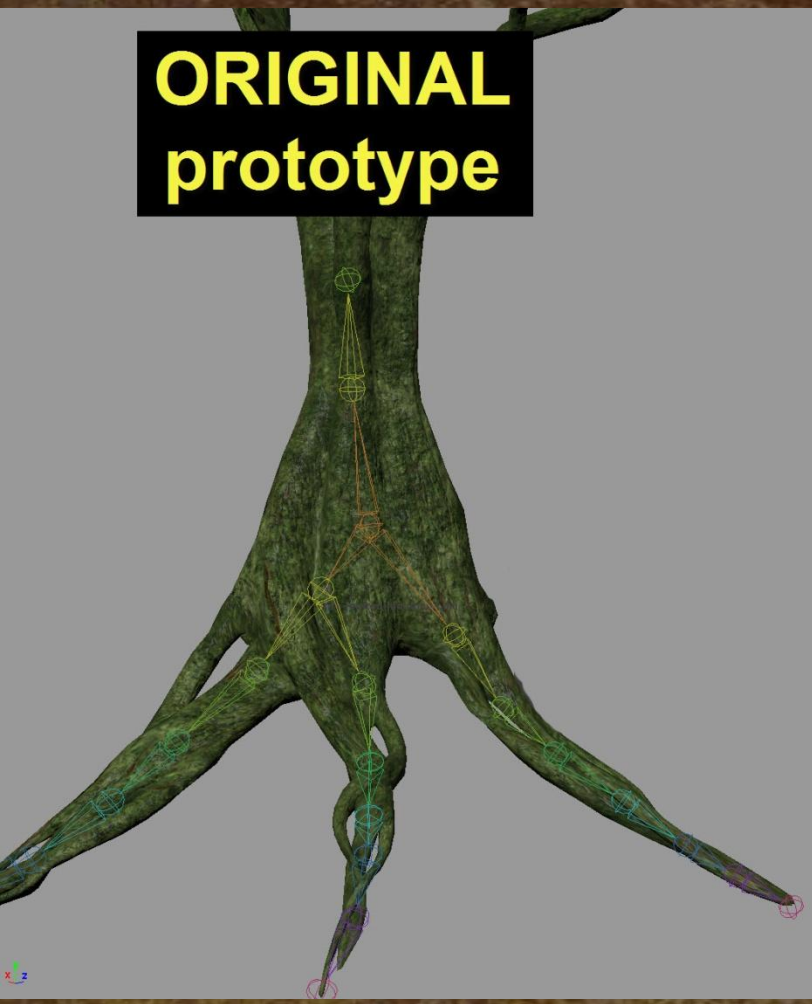
Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Modified instances

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Modified instances

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION



Jointed roots

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Jointed roots

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Ref-nodes + Modifiers

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

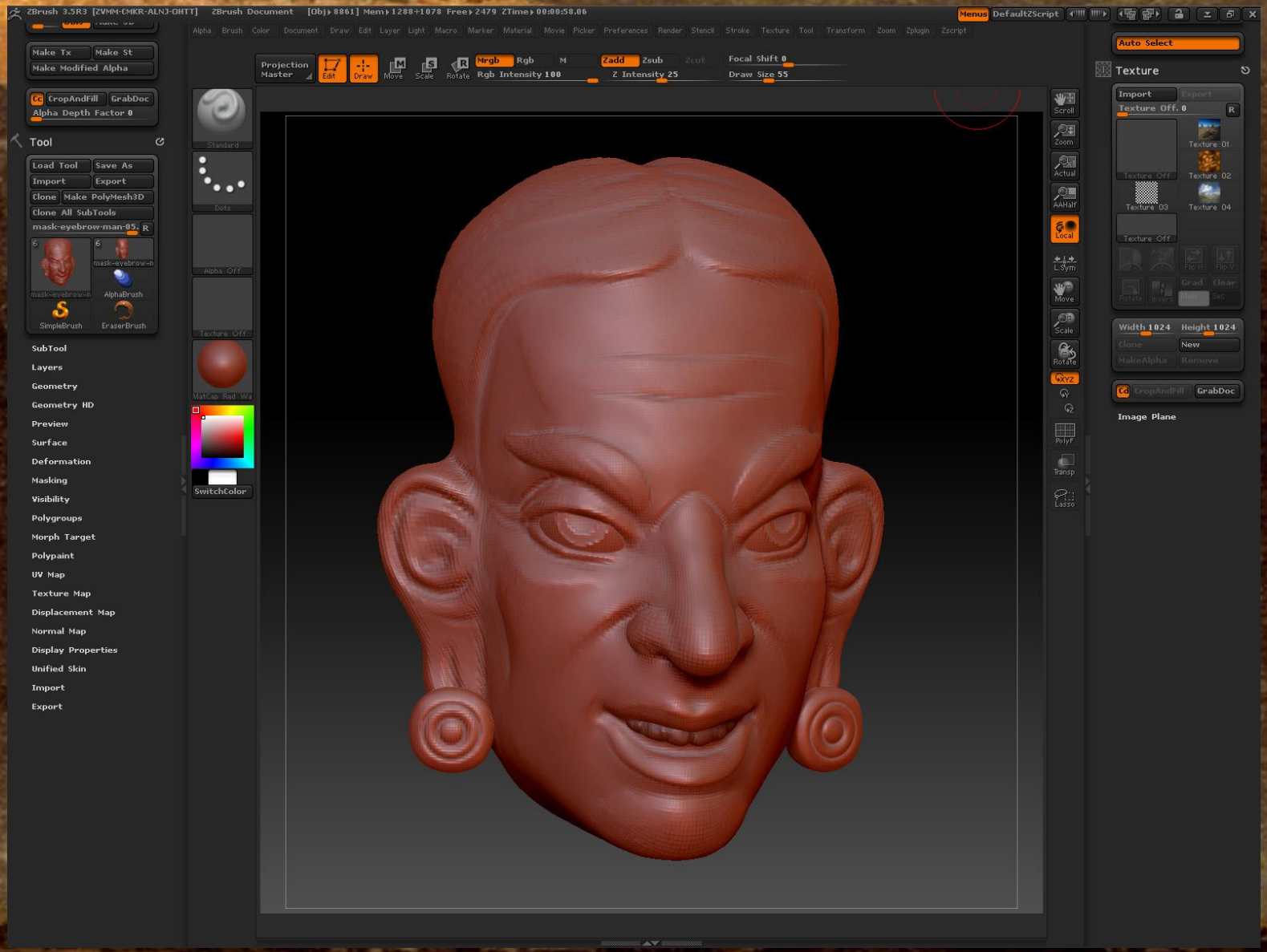
Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Normal maps

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION



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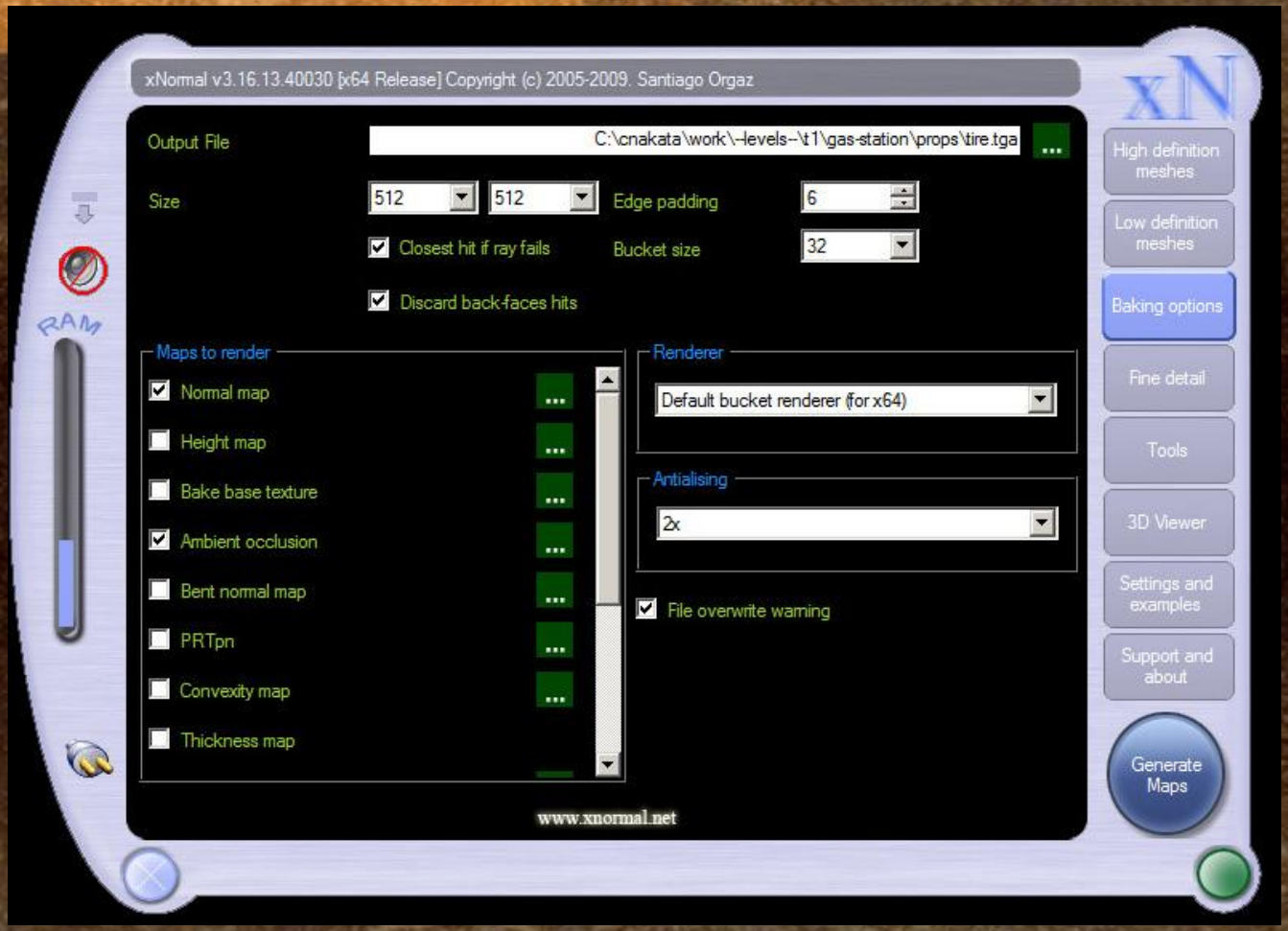

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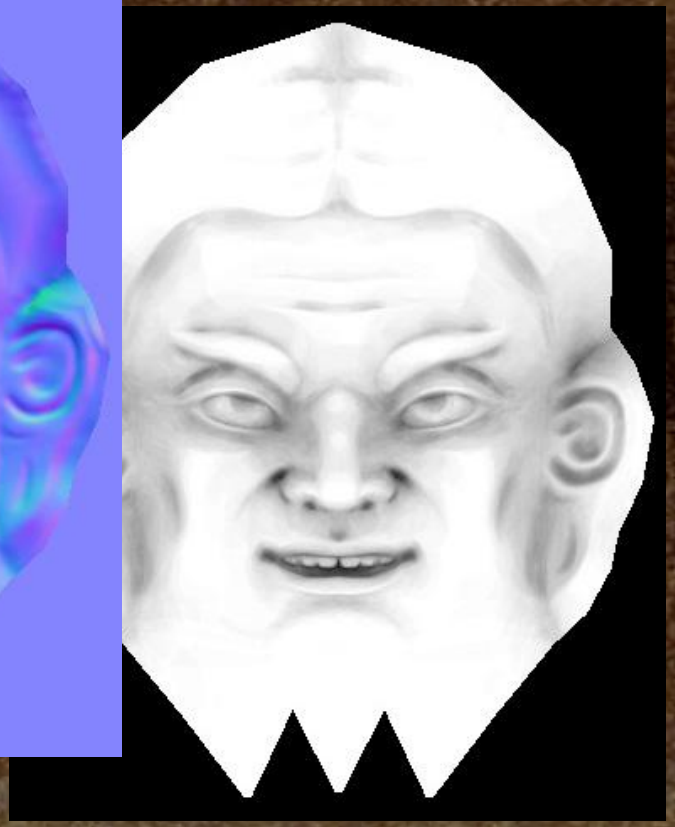


Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Nvidia

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Crazy Bump

Nvidia

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Crazy Bump zbrush Nvidia

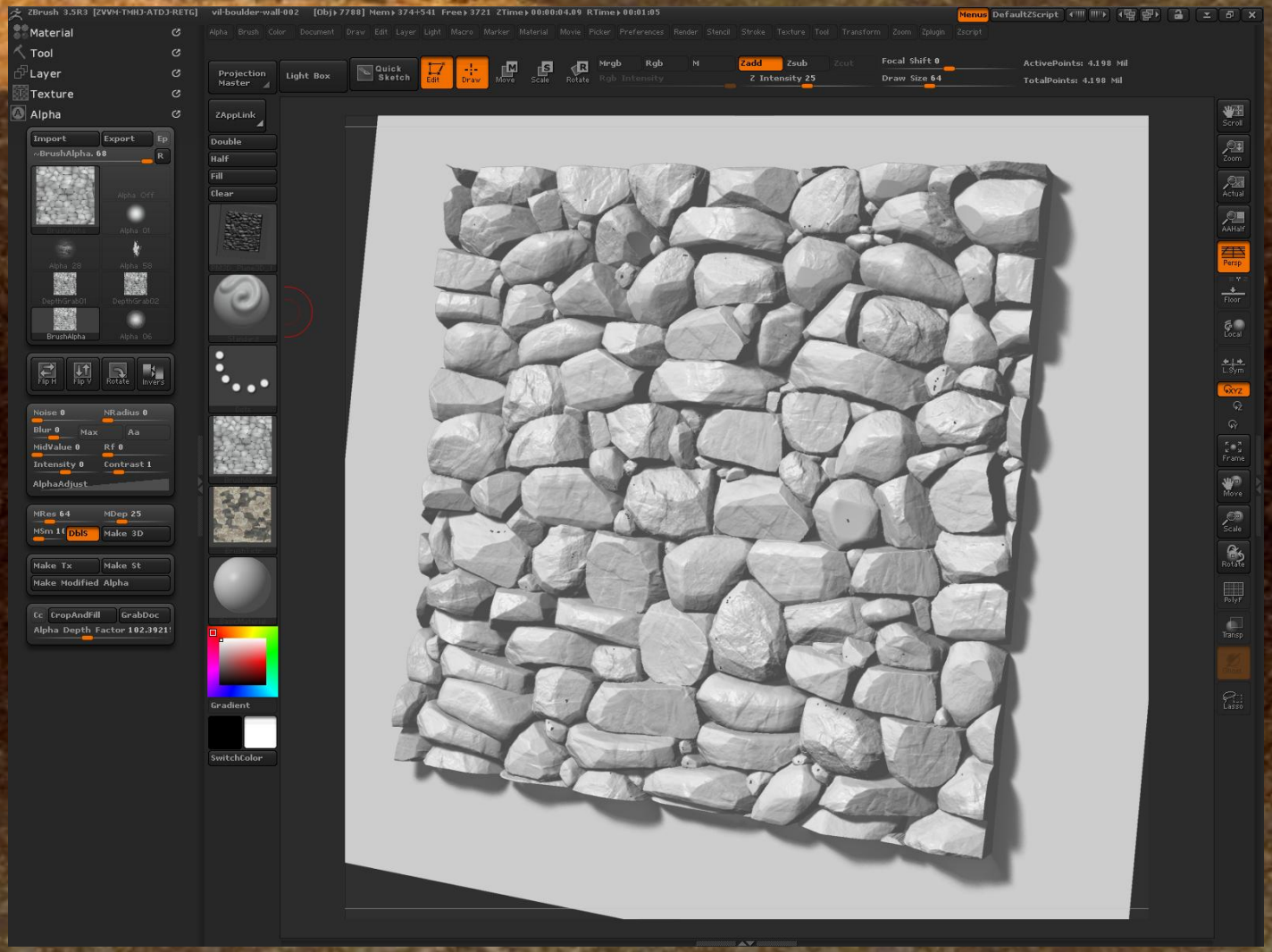
Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Crazy Bump zbrush Nvidia

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Color map

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

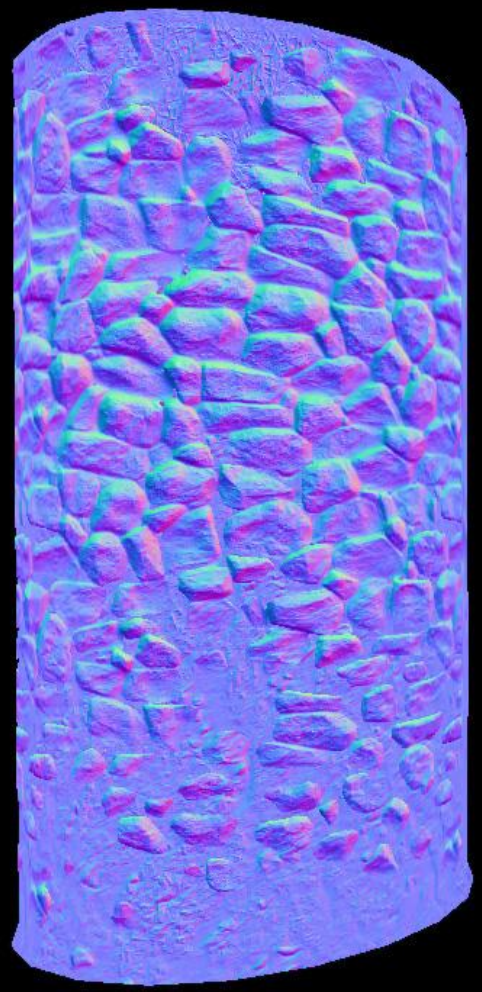


Zbrush sculpting rocks

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

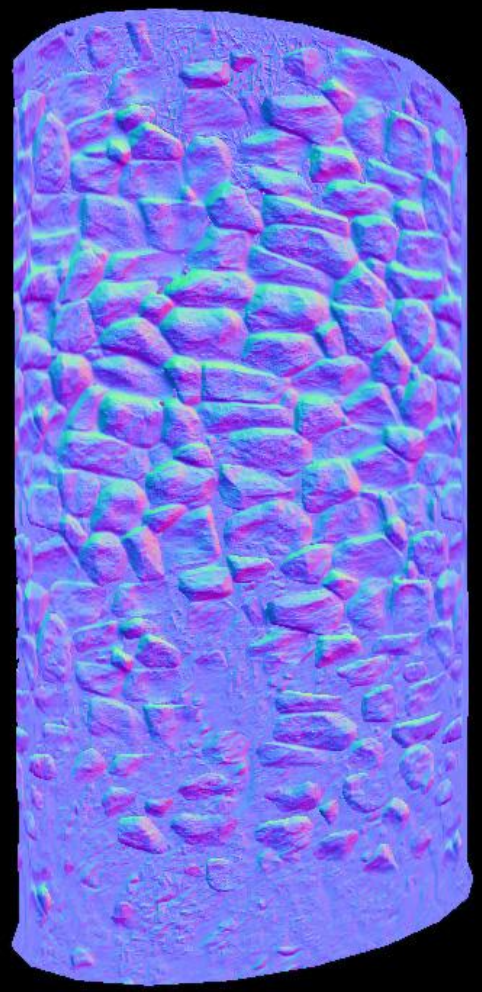
Crazy Bump zbrush Nvidia

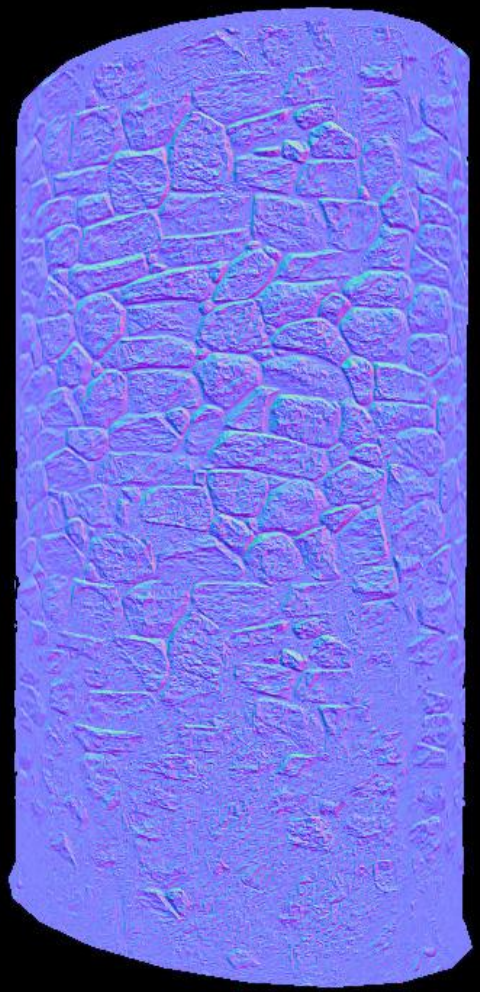
Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION



Crazy Bump zbrush Nvidia

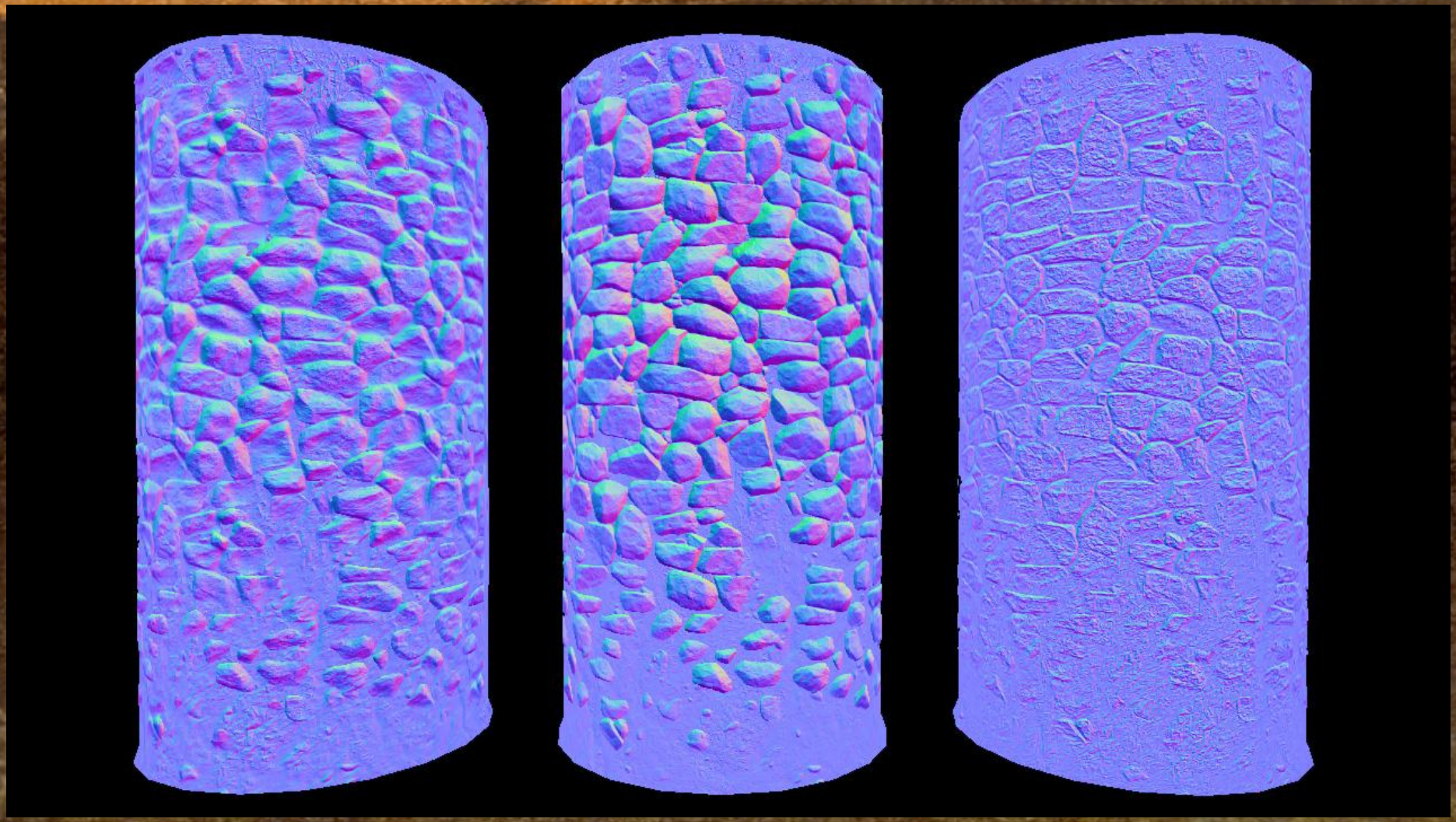
Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION





Crazy Bump zbrush Nvidia

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

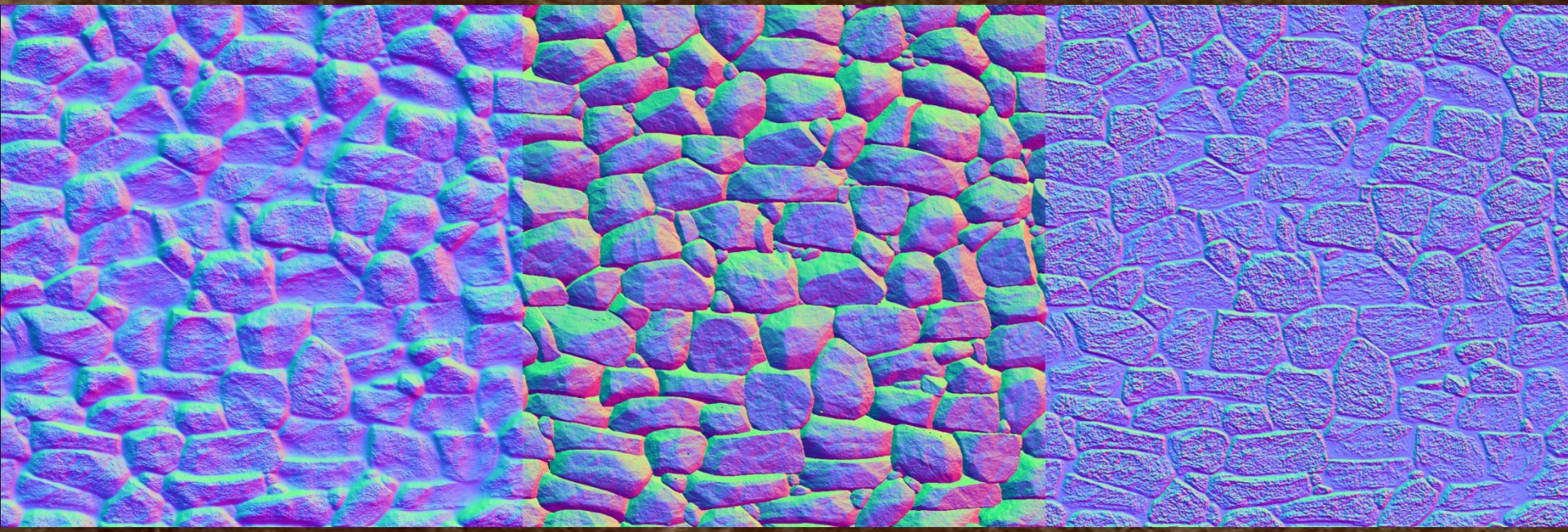


Crazy Bump zbrush Nvidia

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Crazy Bump zbrush Nvidia

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION



Crazy Bump zbrush Nvidia

Normal map comparison

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

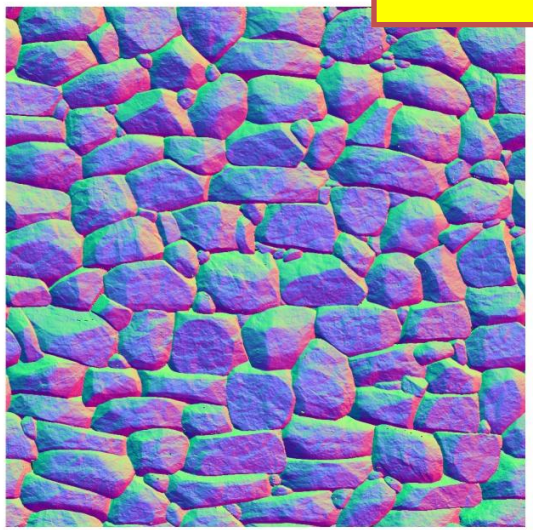
Tiling textures

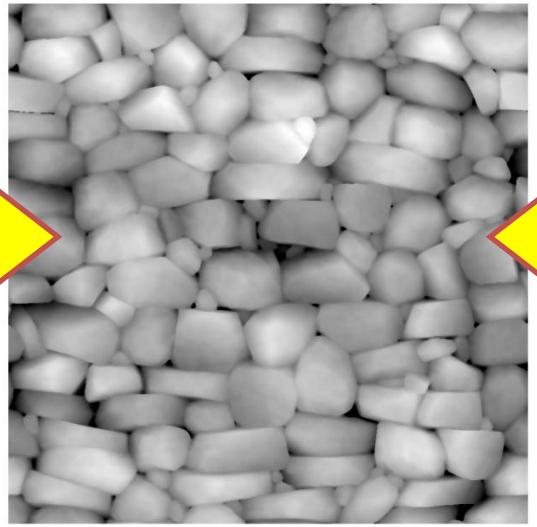
Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

blend shaders

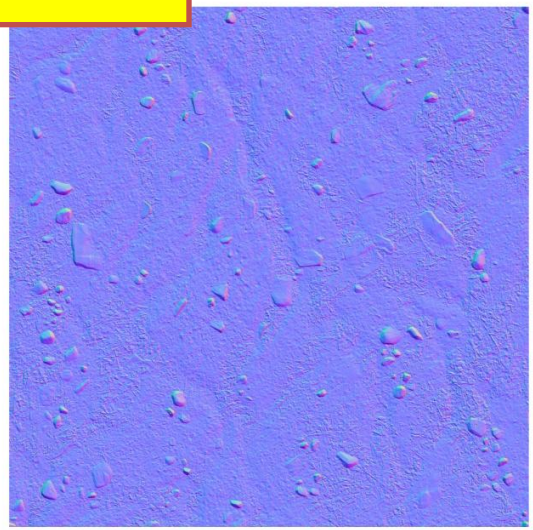
Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION





Blend threshold



Texture set #1

Texture set #2

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Final blended texture

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

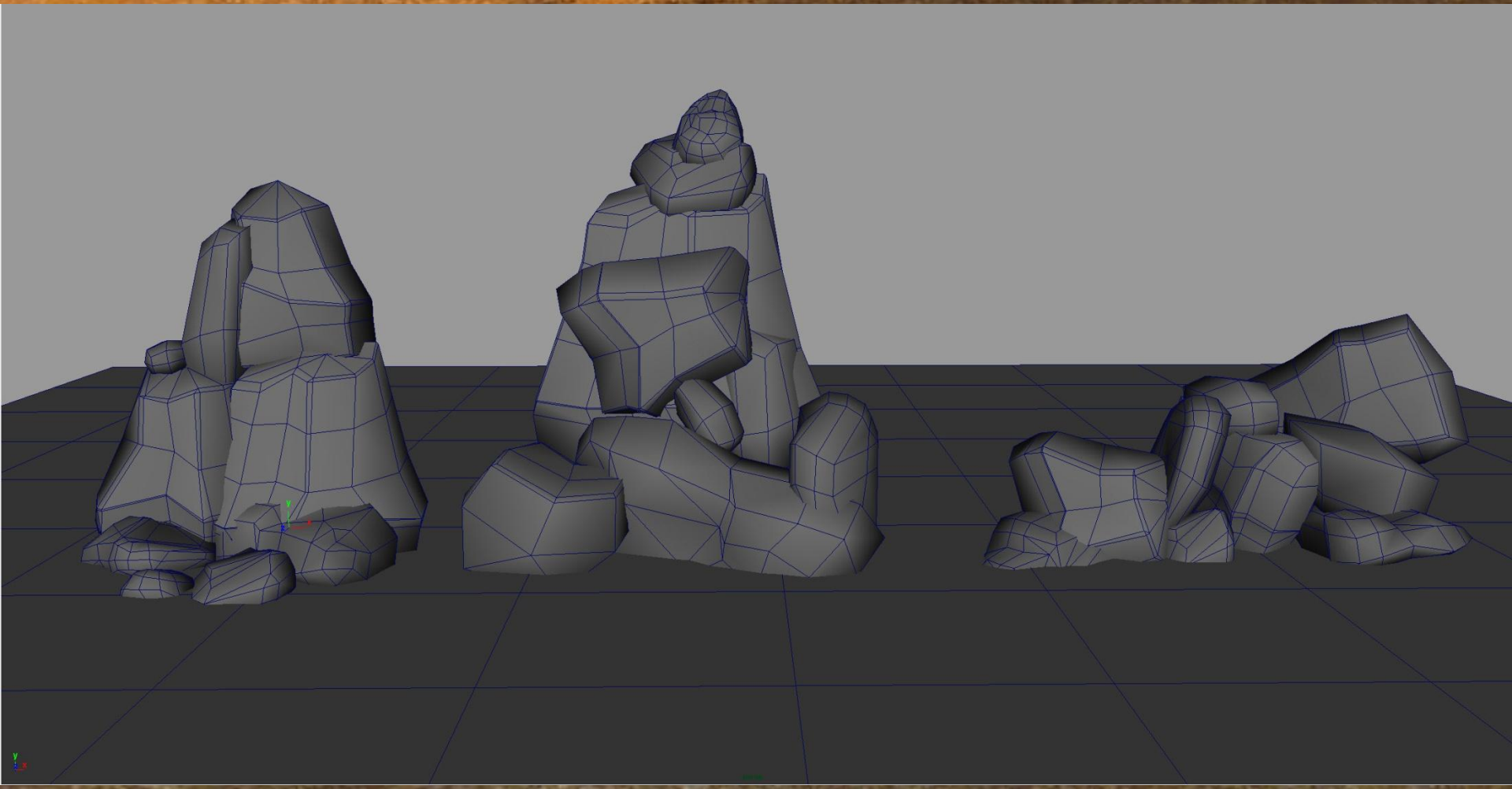
Final blended texture

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

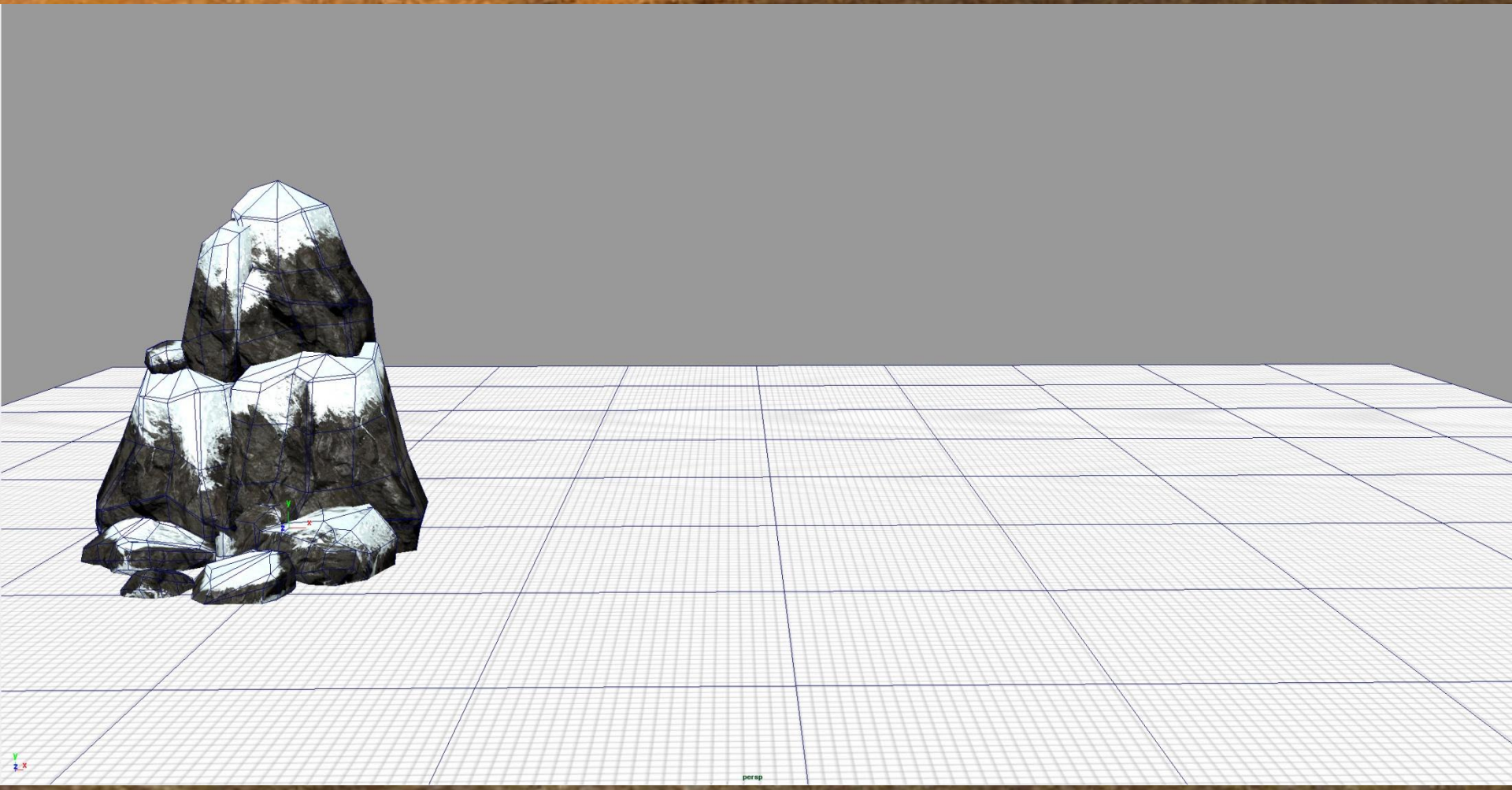
Final blended texture

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION



Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION



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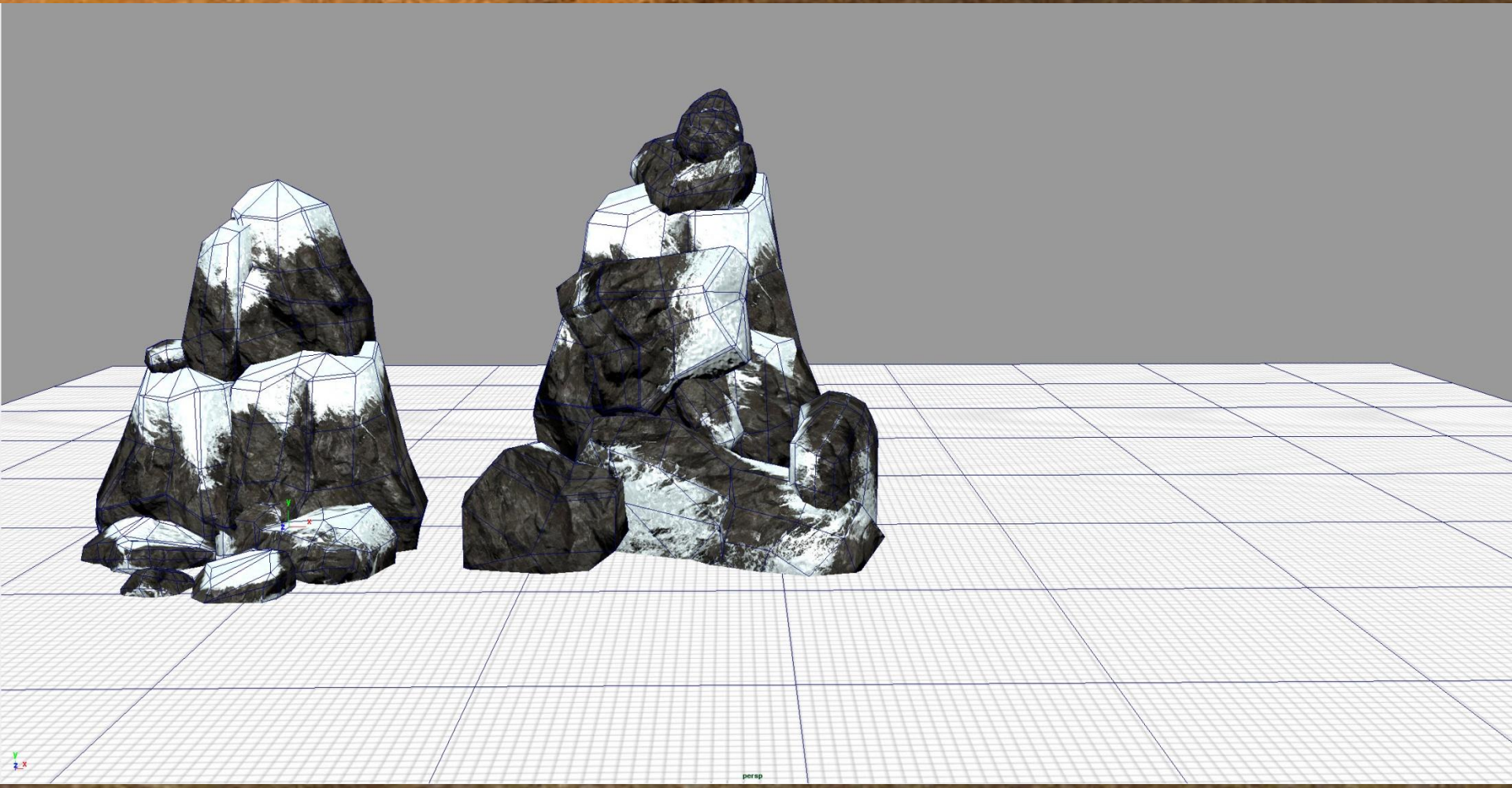
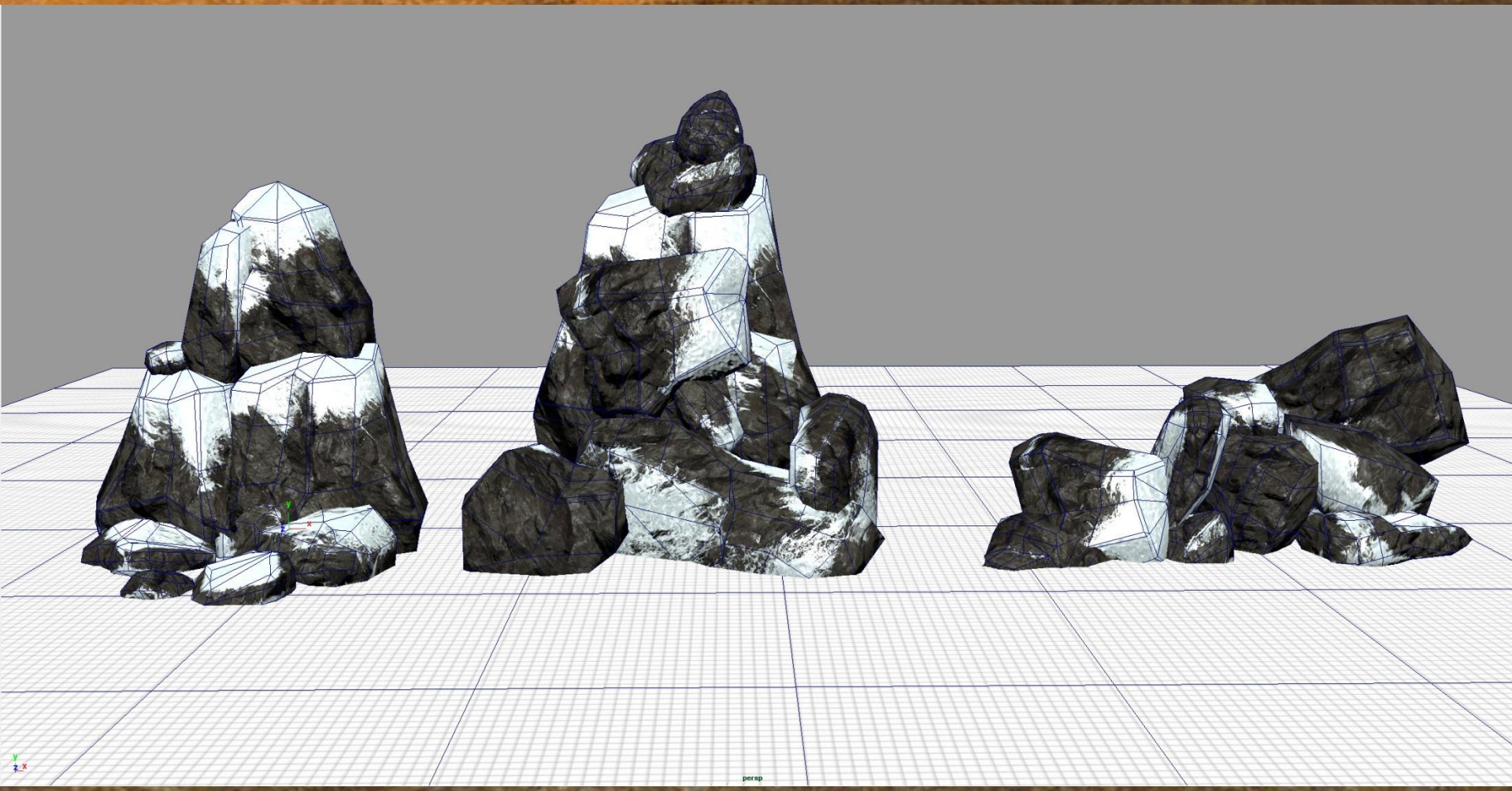


Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION



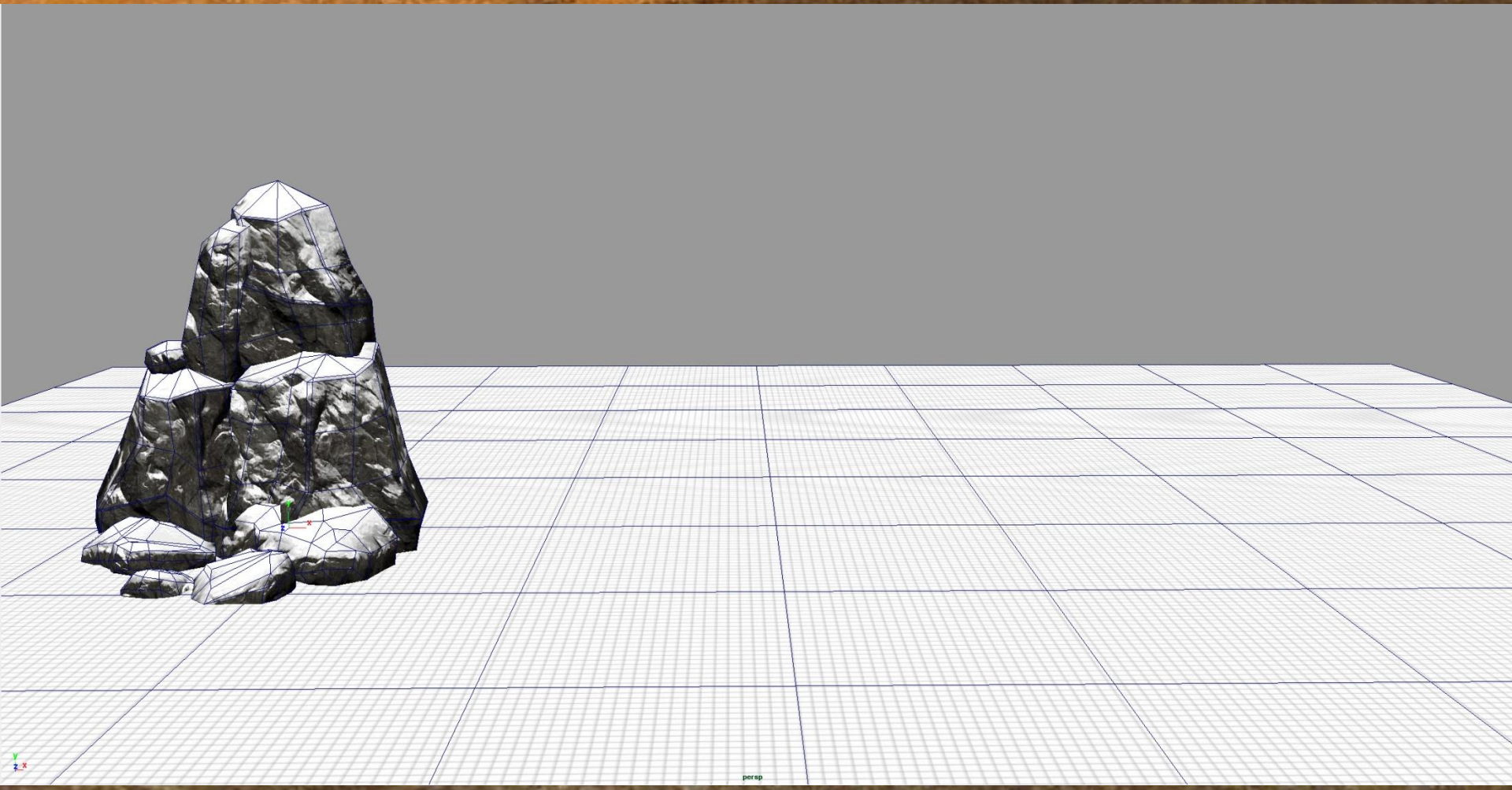
Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Typical Art request pipeline

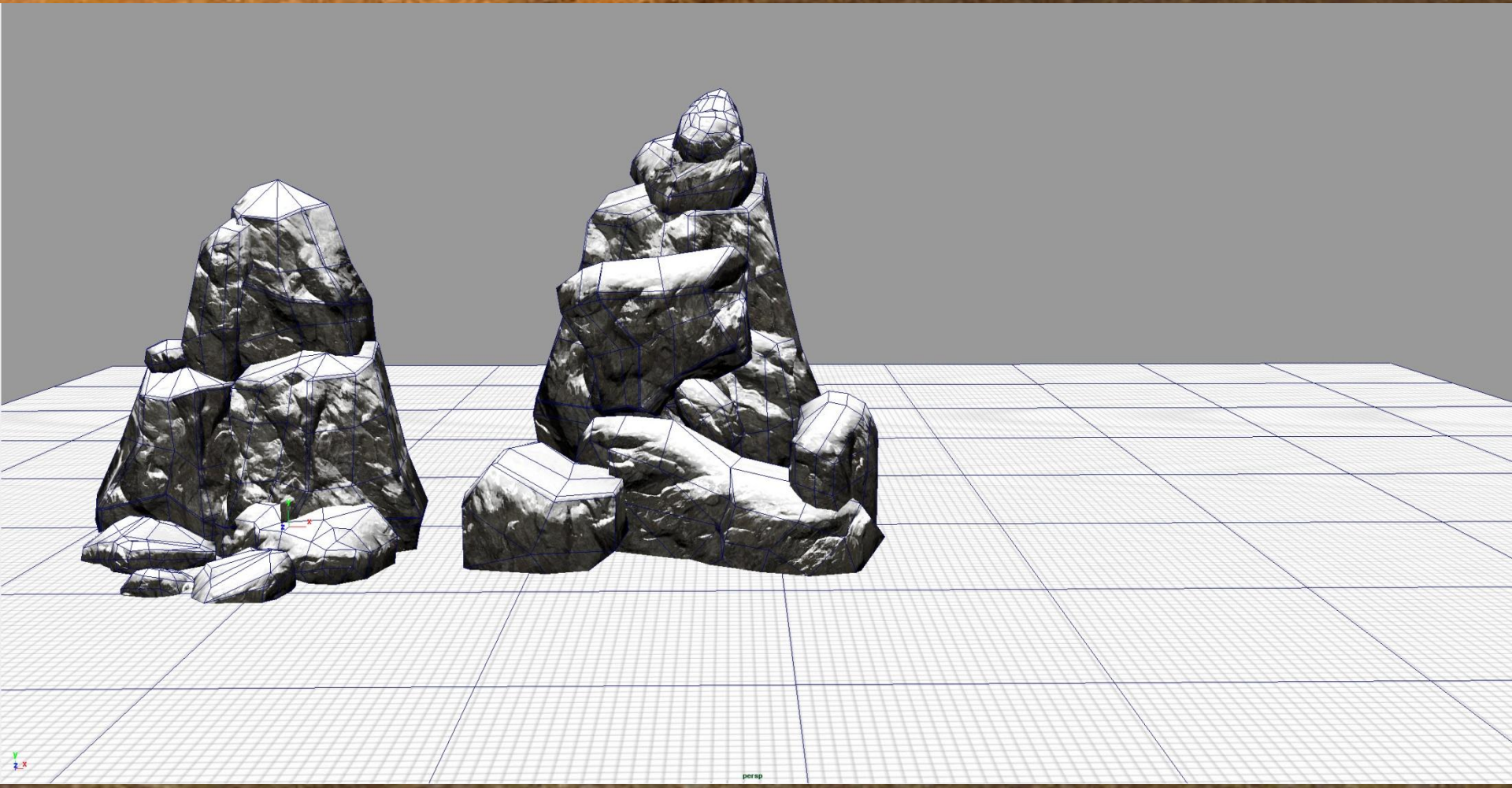
Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

…….with motivation.

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION



Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION



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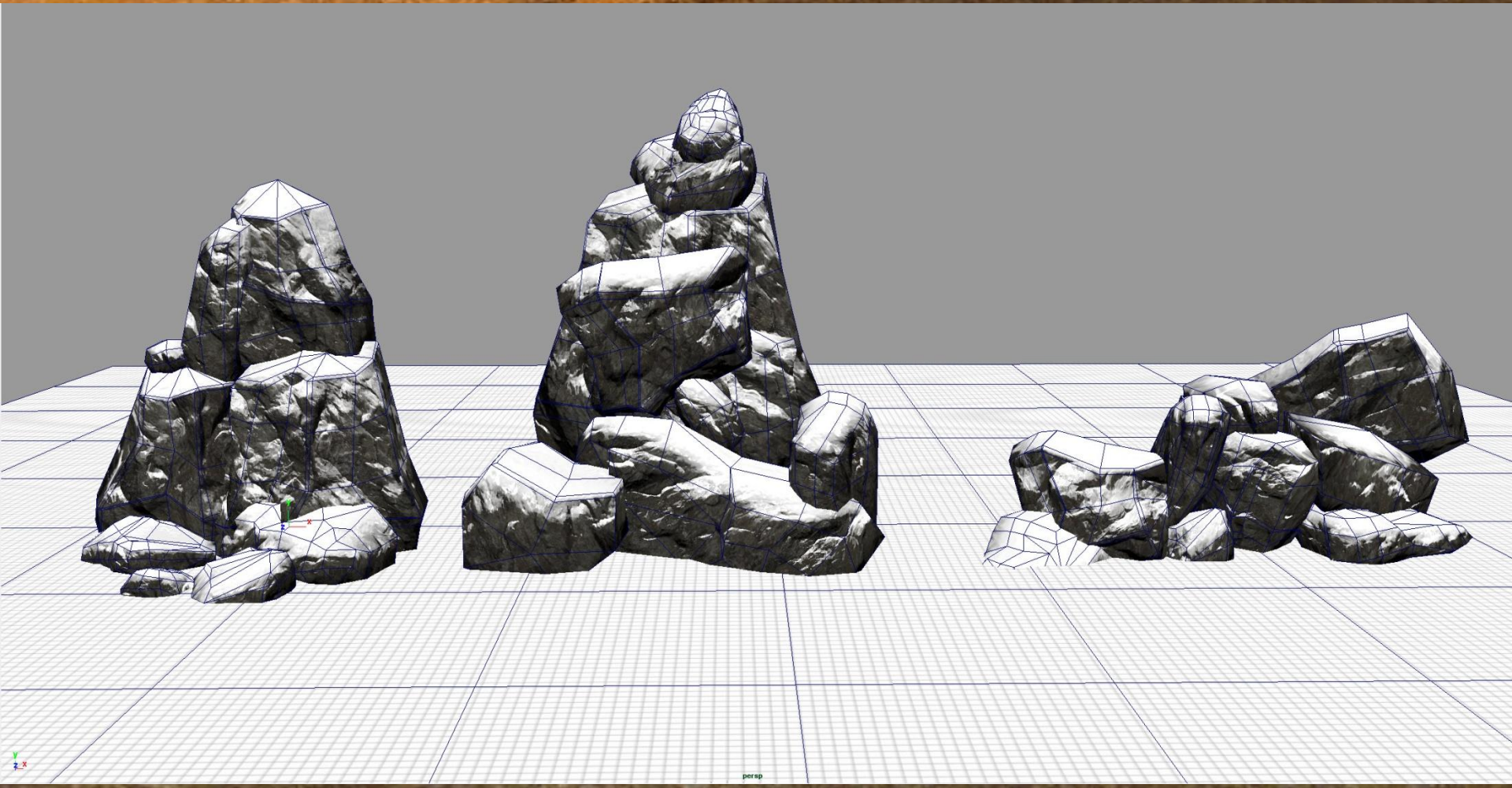

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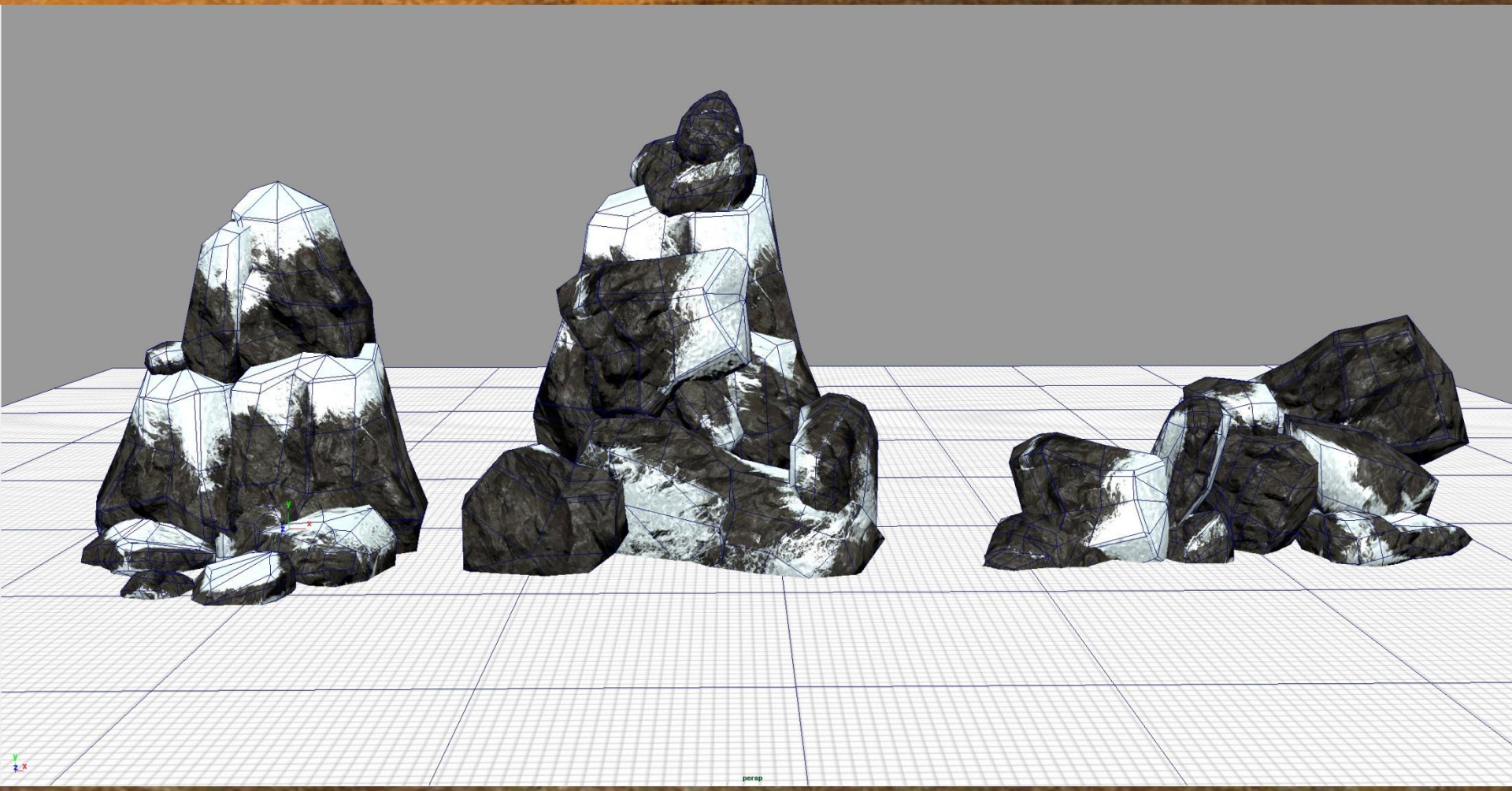
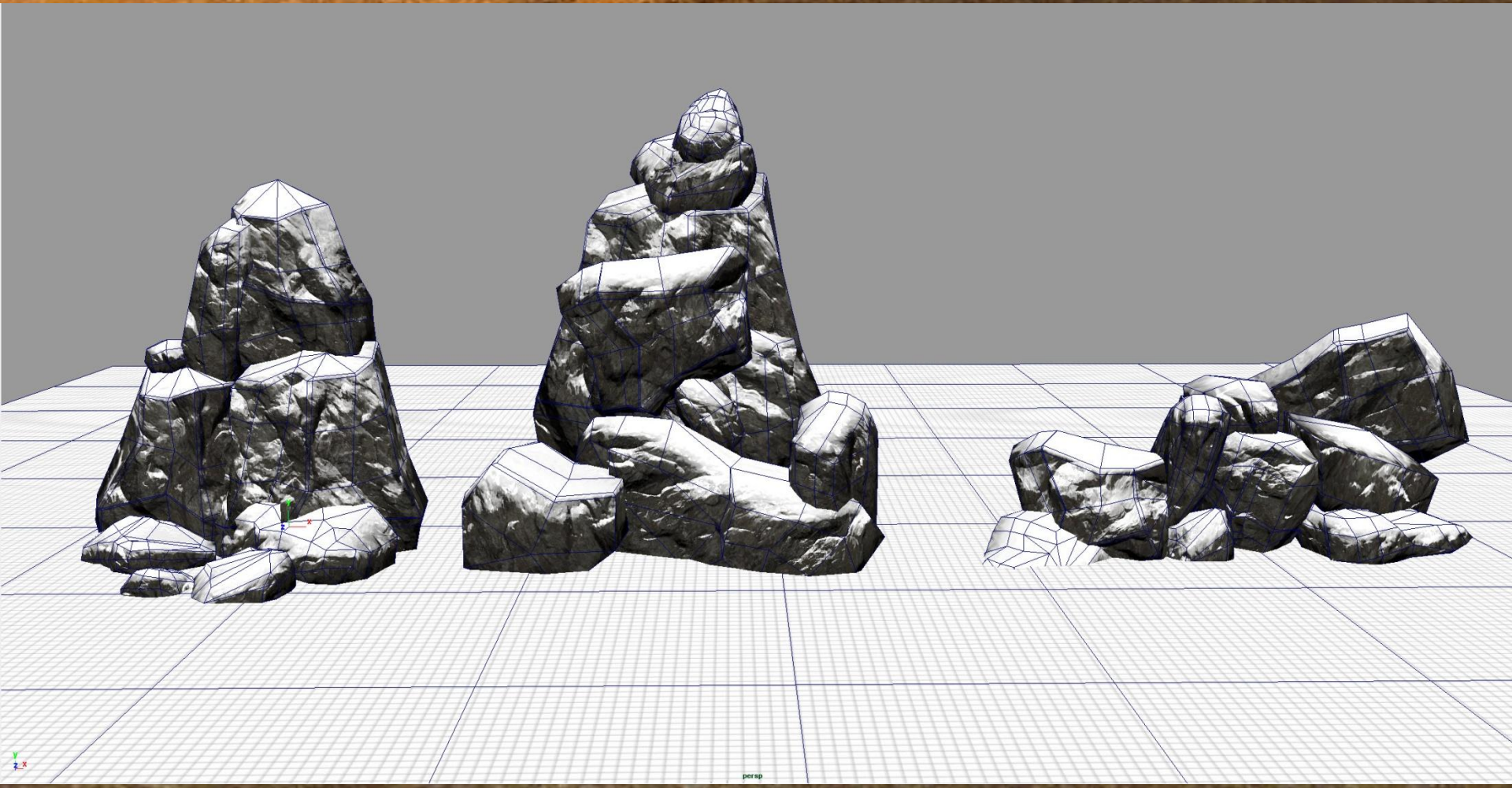


Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION



Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Slope shader

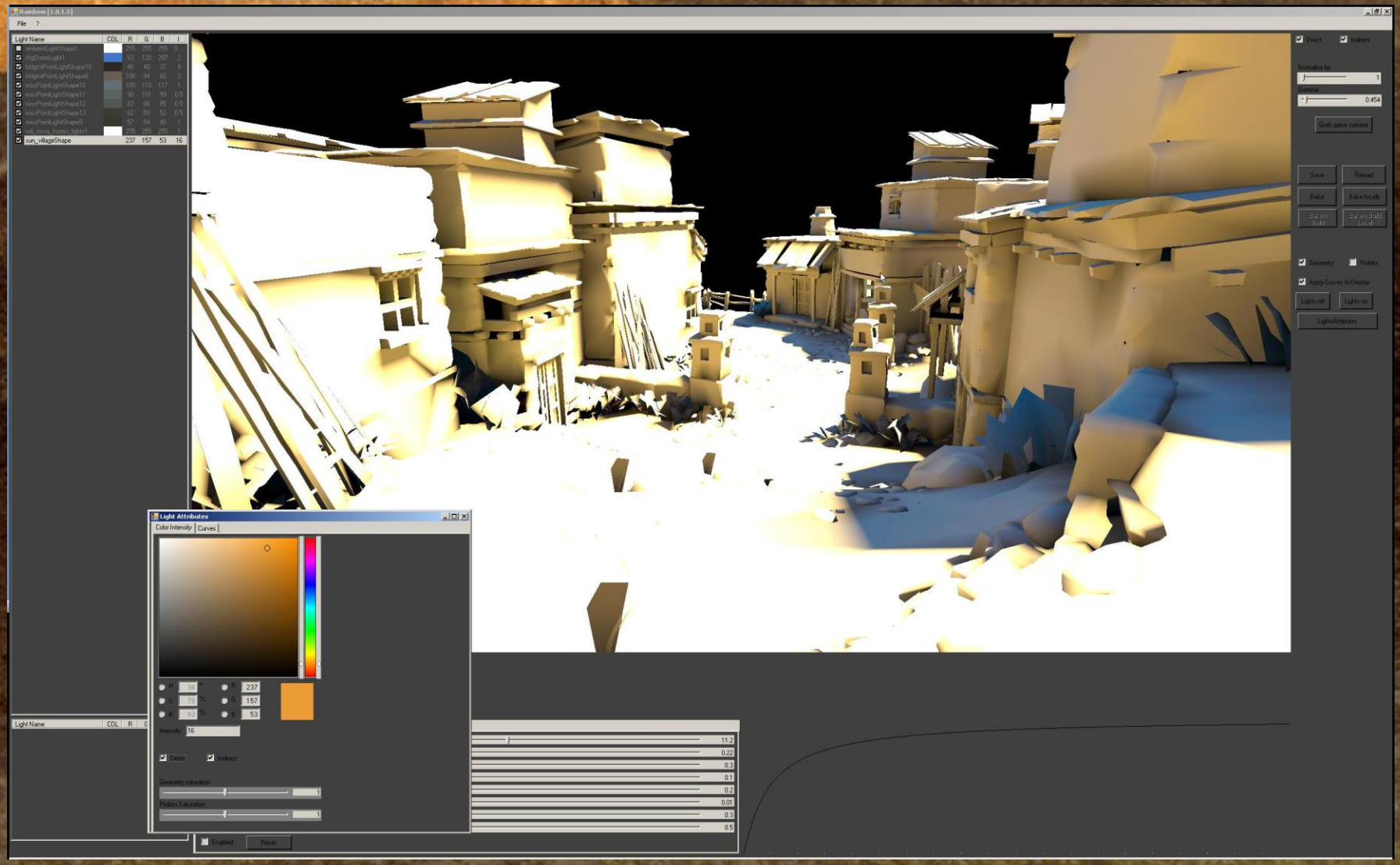
Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Tiling + blend + slope shaders

Lighting Process

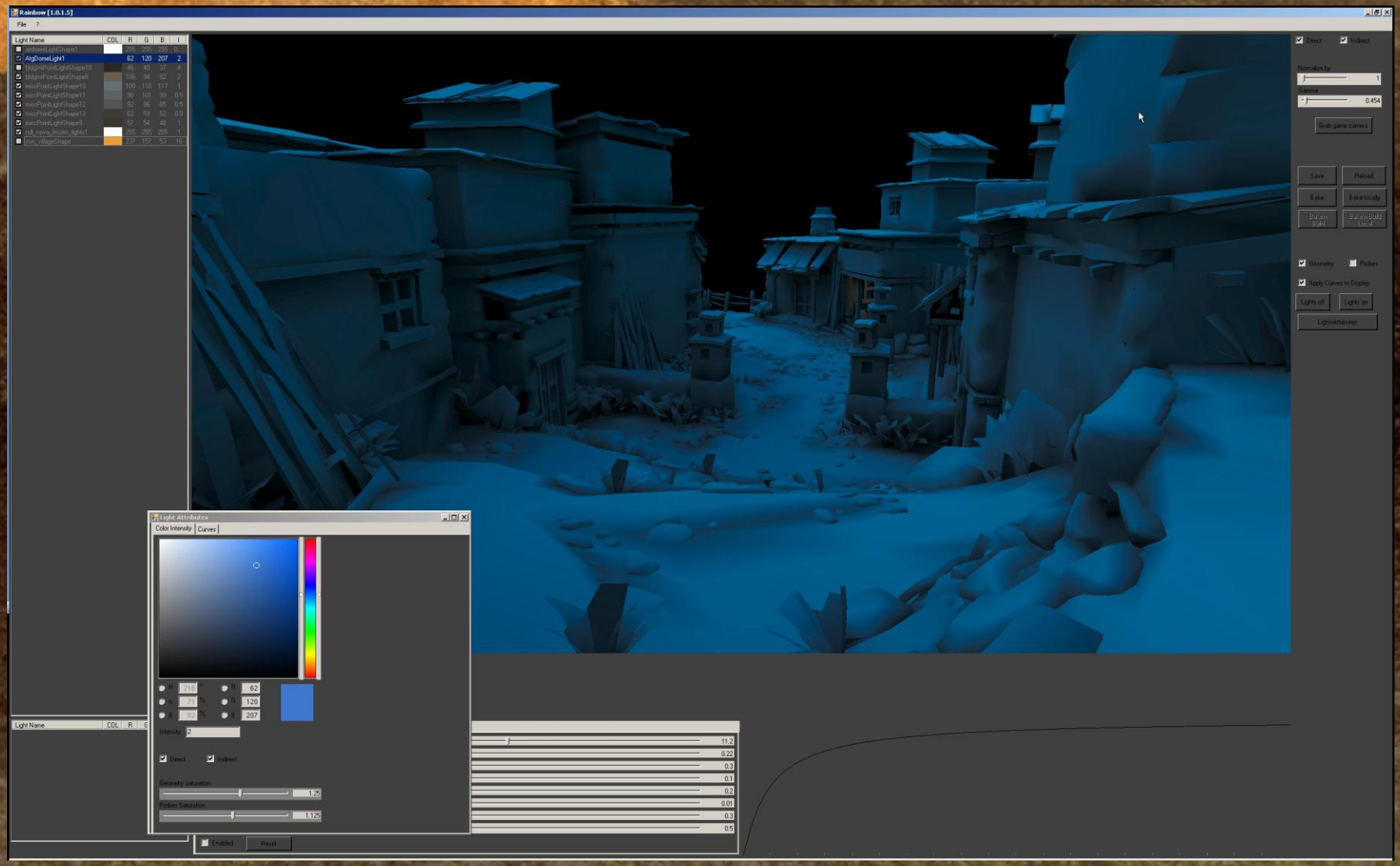
Baked Lighting

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION



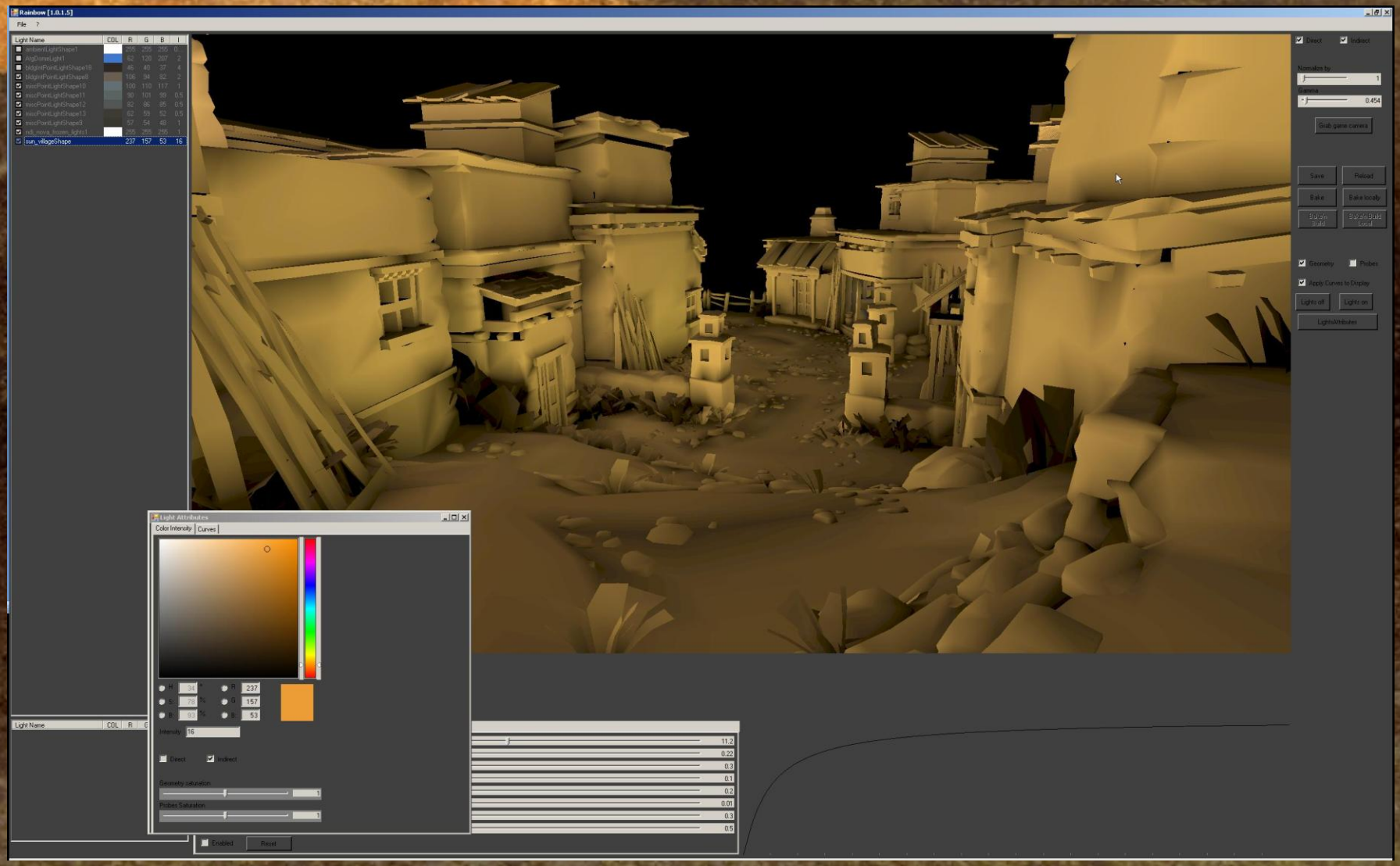
Direct Sunlight (replaced with run-time sunlight)

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION



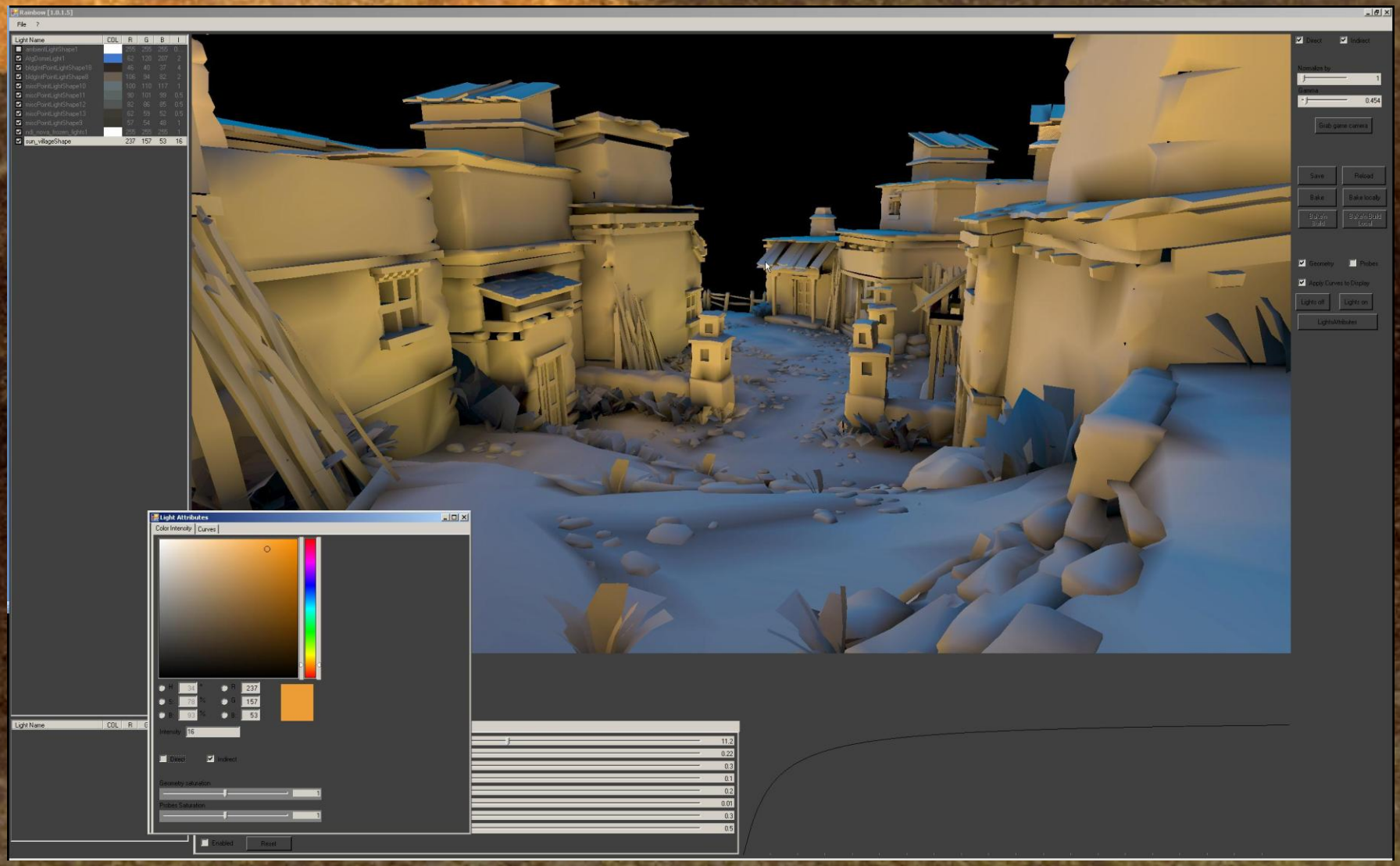
Dome lighting

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION



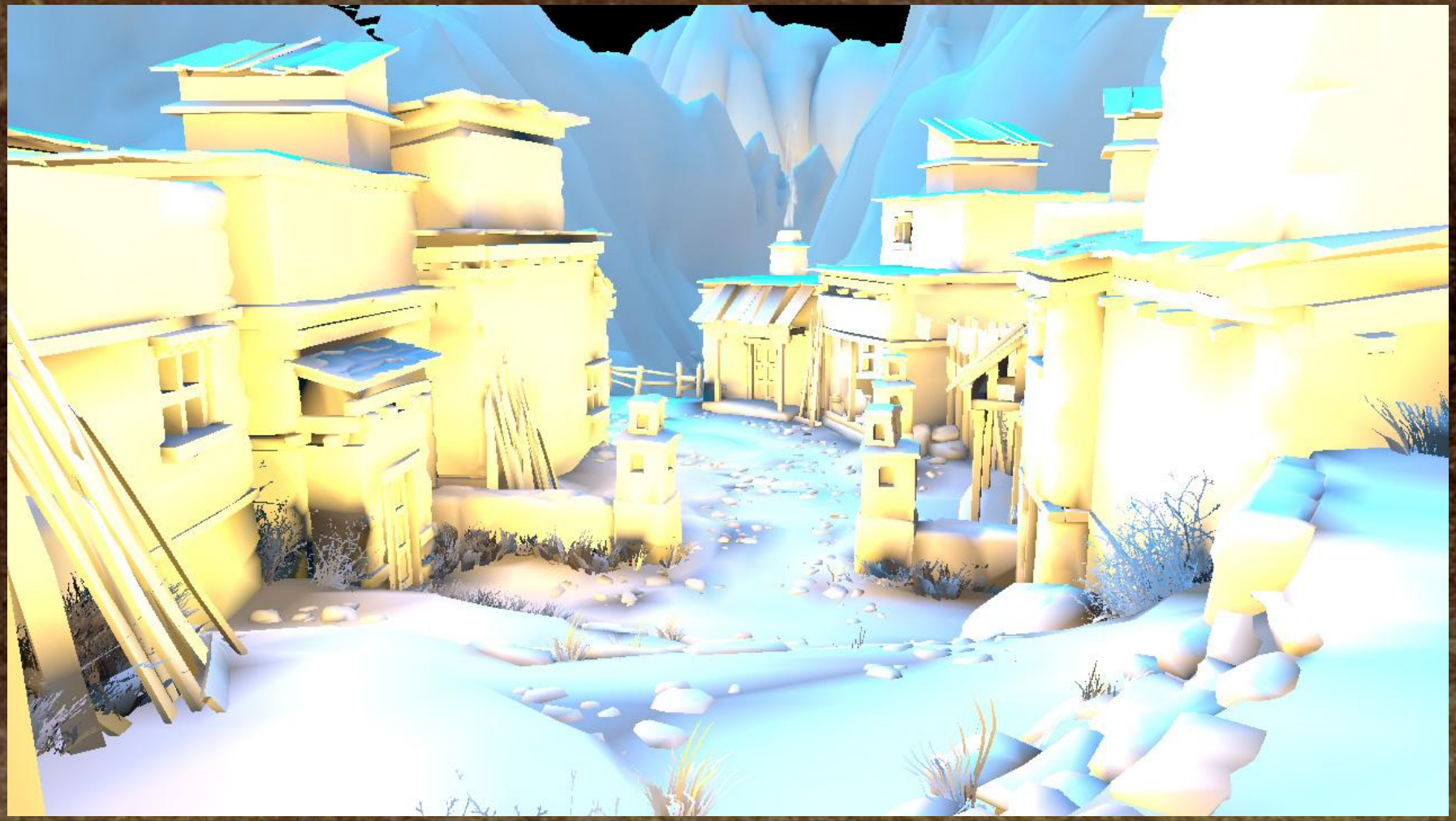
Sun-lights Indirect channel

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION



Combined Dome + indirect channels

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION



dome + indirect channel (in-game)

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Combined with textures

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Run time shadows

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Run-time Shadows

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Baked Shadows

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

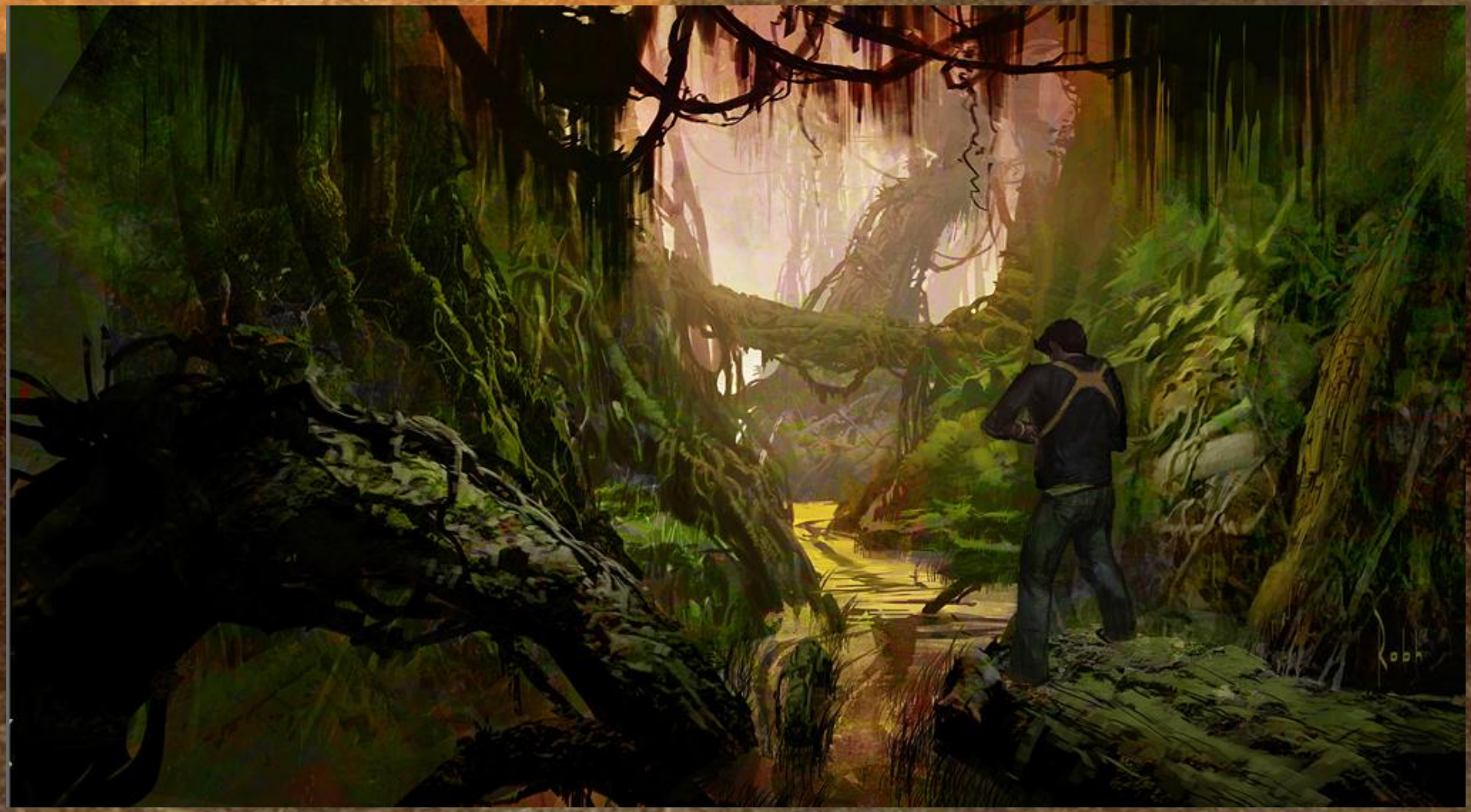
Baked & Run-time Shadows

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Light maps

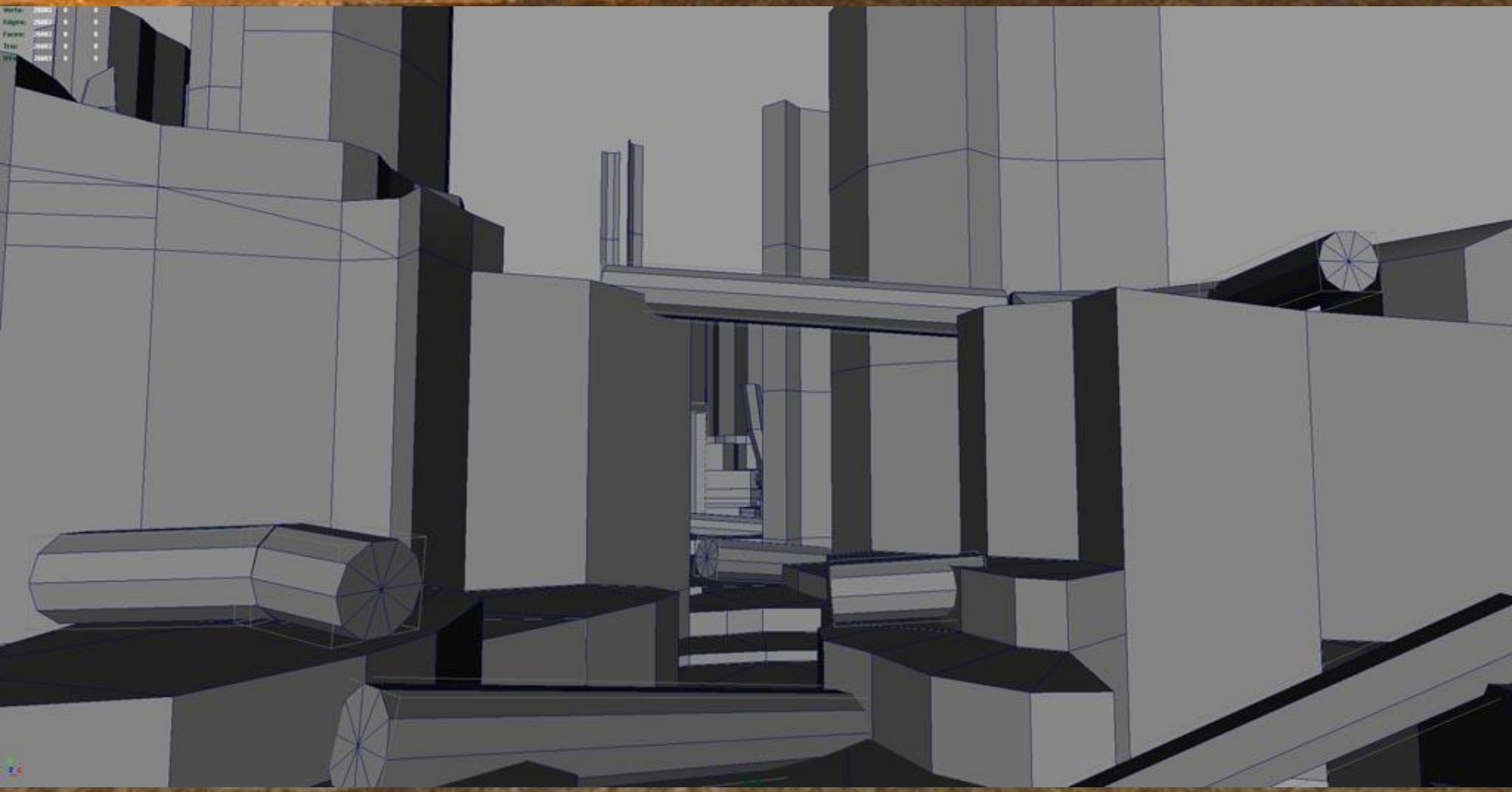
Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION



Concept Art

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

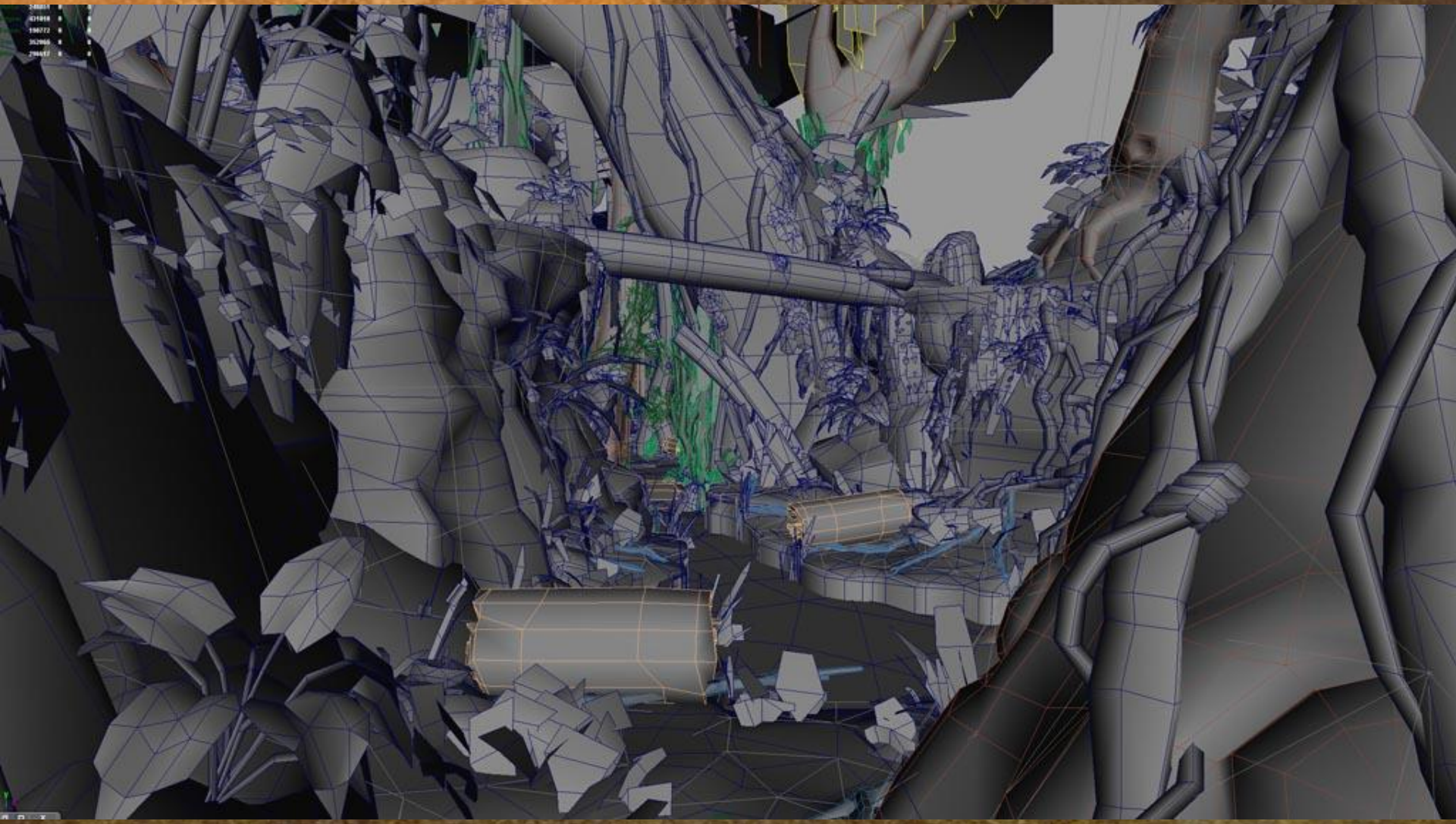


Blockmesh

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Friendly programmer

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION



Maya final geometry

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Maya textured view

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

In-game with lighting

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION

Uncharted 2 ART DIRECTION