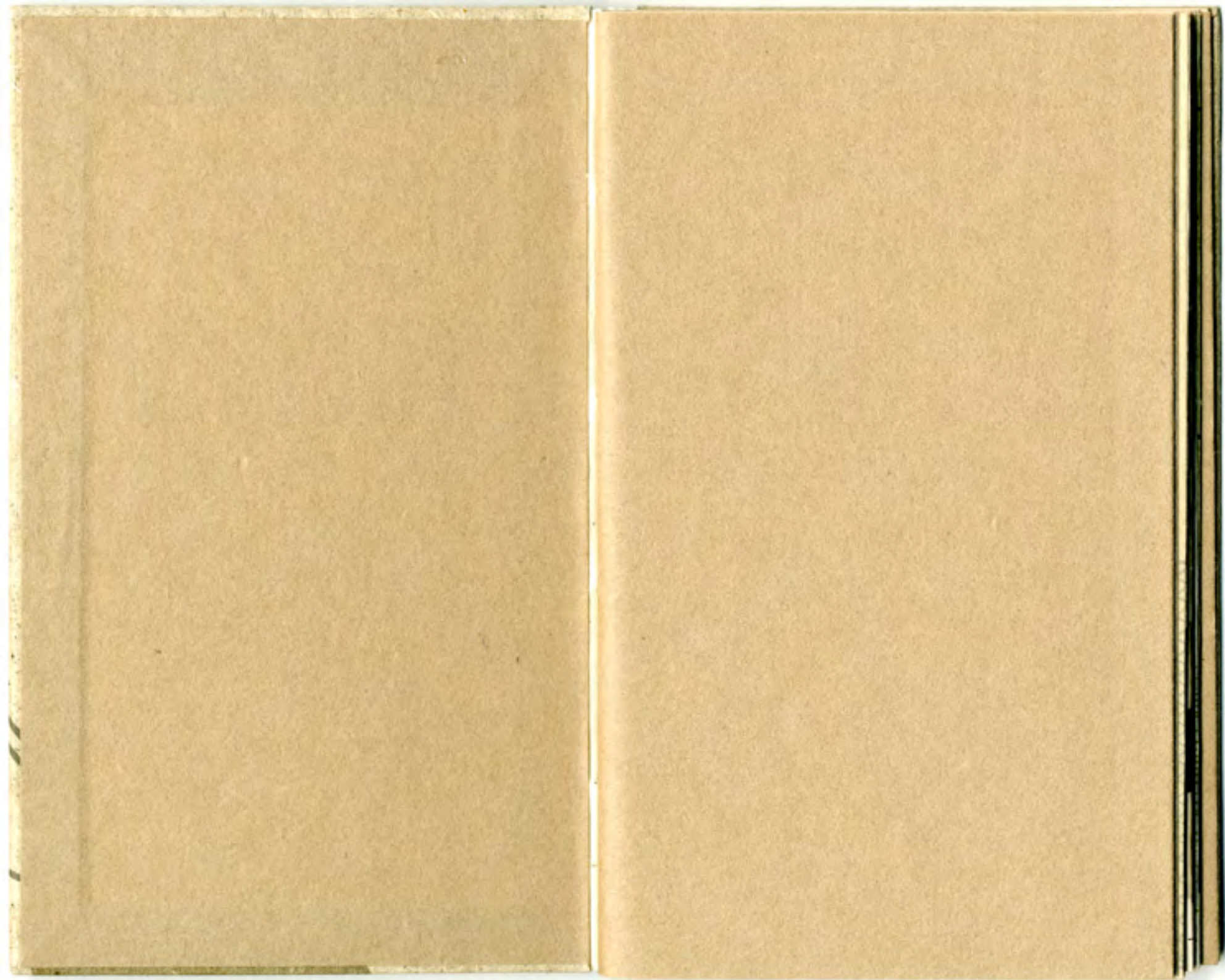


CHANNEL &  
FLOW









CHANNEL &  
FLOW

The Kidney Press



CHANNEL &  
FLOW

TRIPP'S RUN

TRIPP'S RUN  
Fairfax County, VA

On an early spring day, I set out to follow Tripp's Run as an attempt to orient myself in a dense, suburban landscape. My access was constrained by property abutments and infrastructural obstacles, and I therefore encountered the stream as a series of discrete units. This book is a representation of two miles of the run as I saw it, both as flow and as fragment.

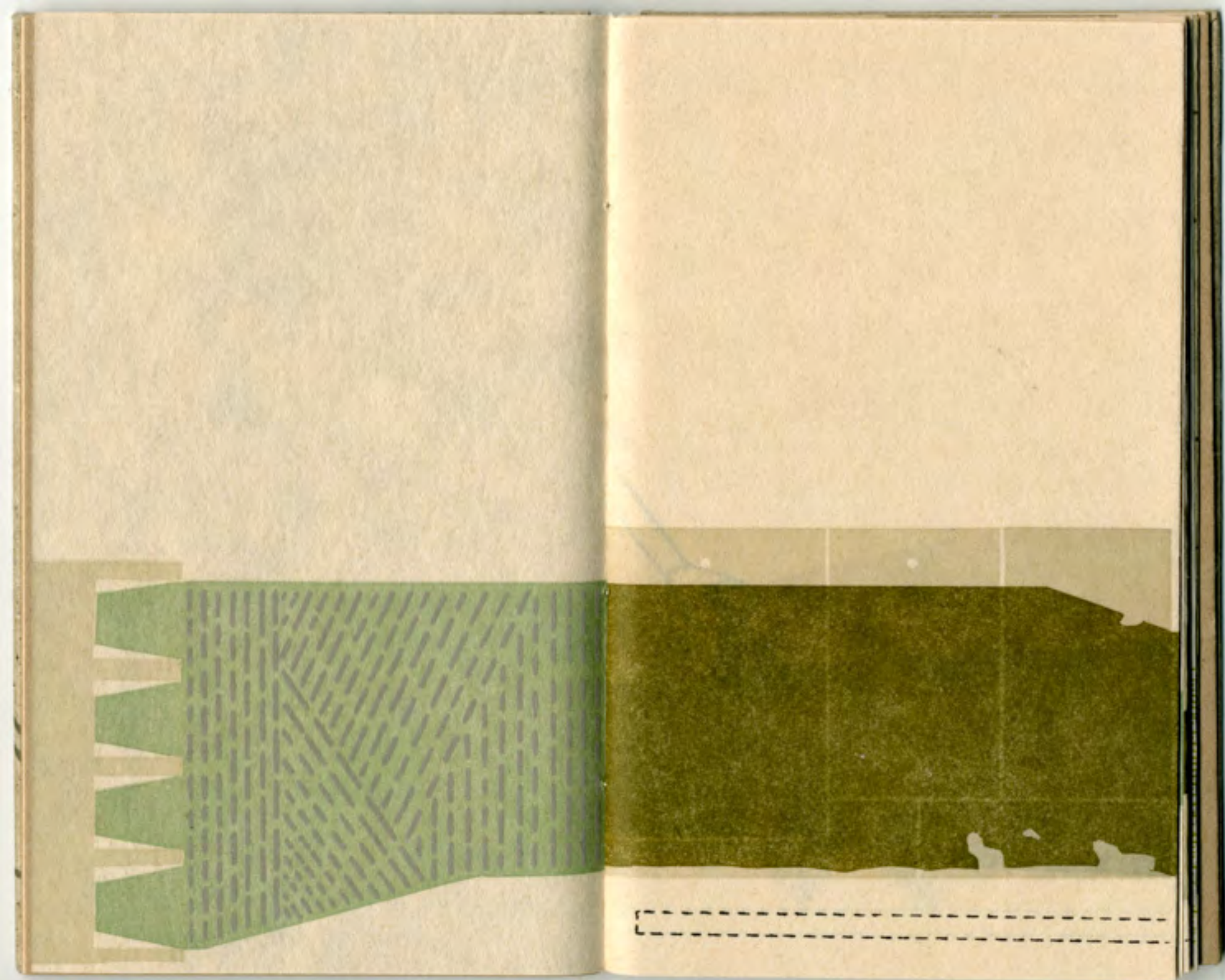


The following are the names of the  
persons who have been appointed  
to the various committees of the  
Board of Directors of the  
University of California, for the  
year 1900-1901.

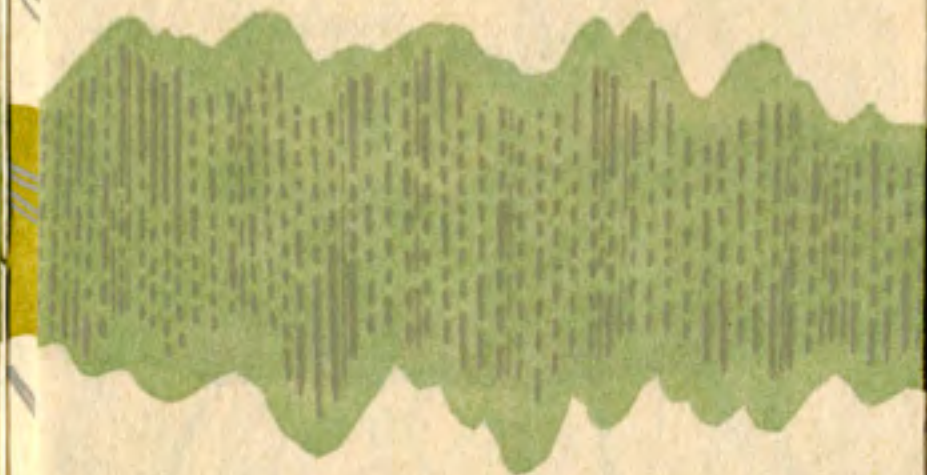


Arlington Boulevard































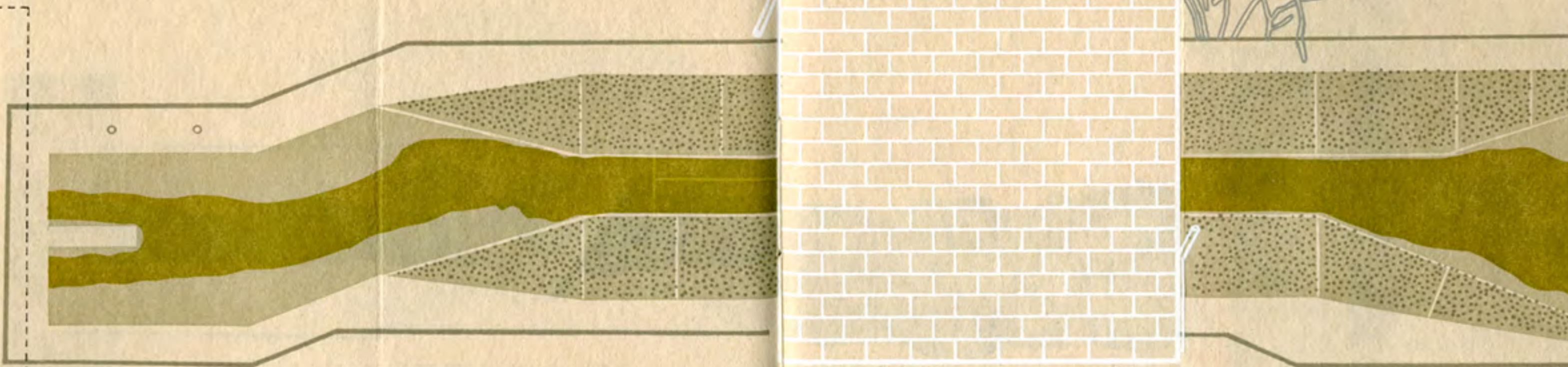
Route 29

QUARRY INN





*victory*

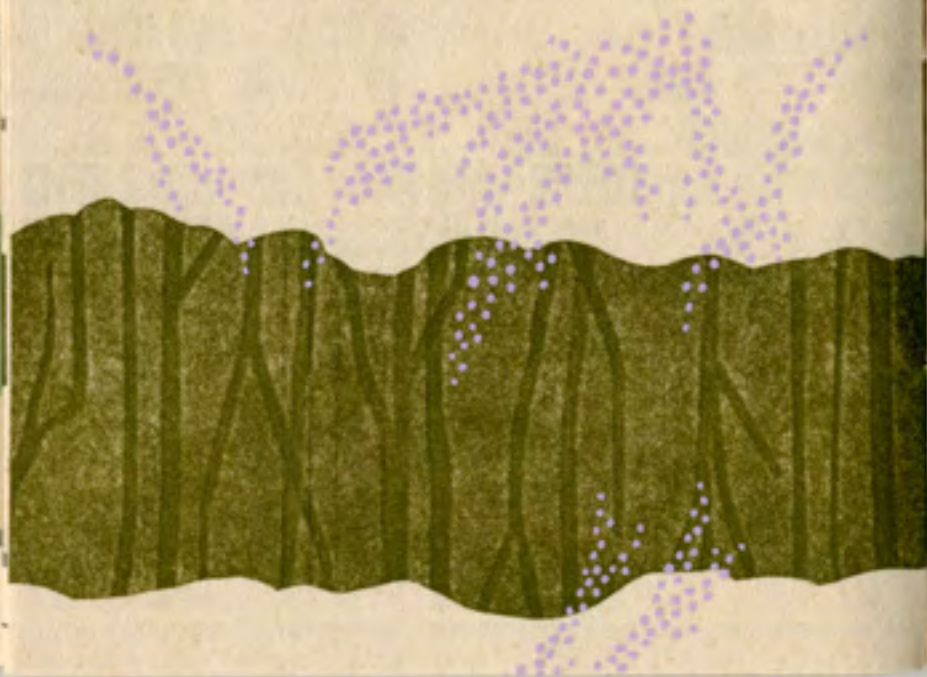




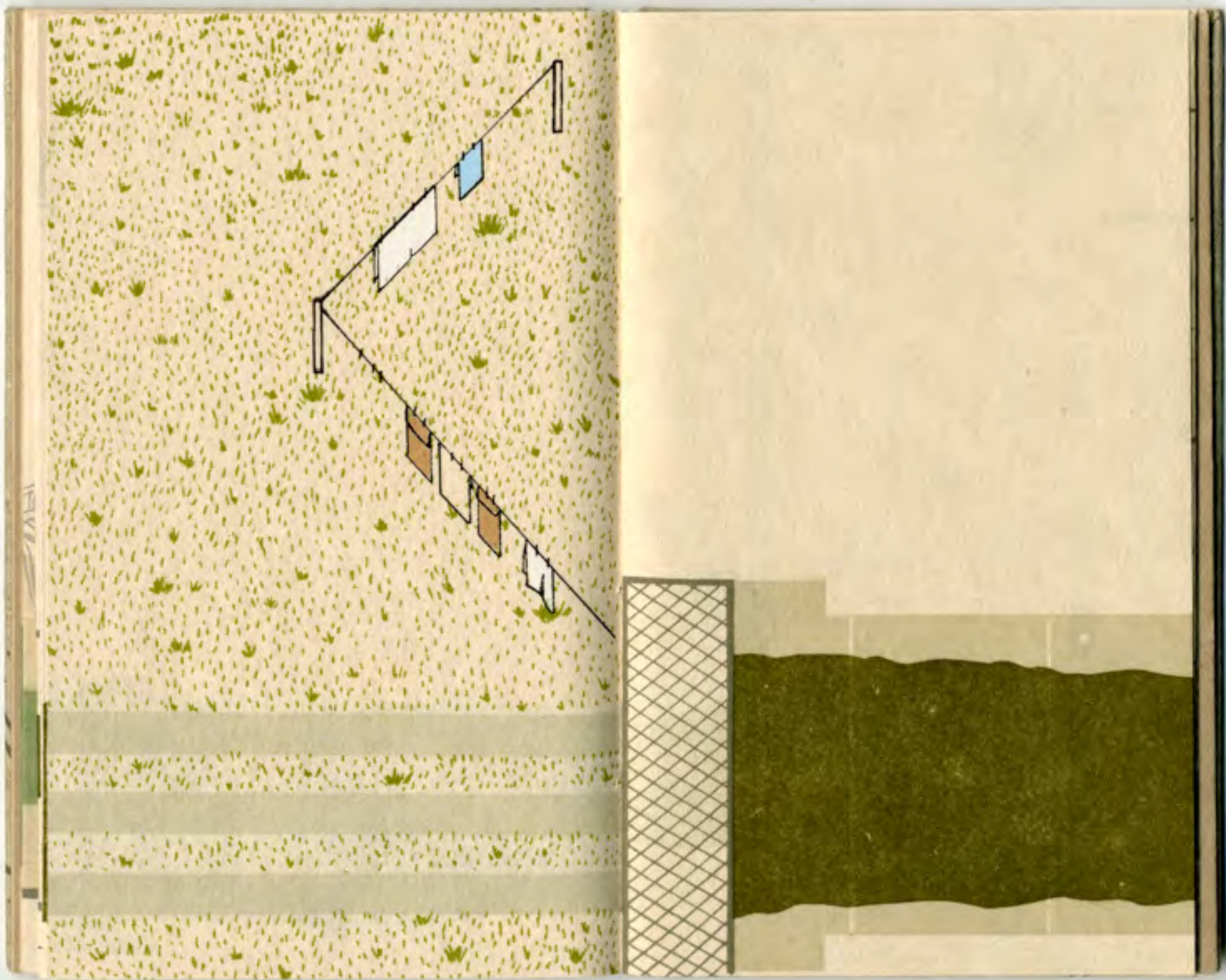
Route 29



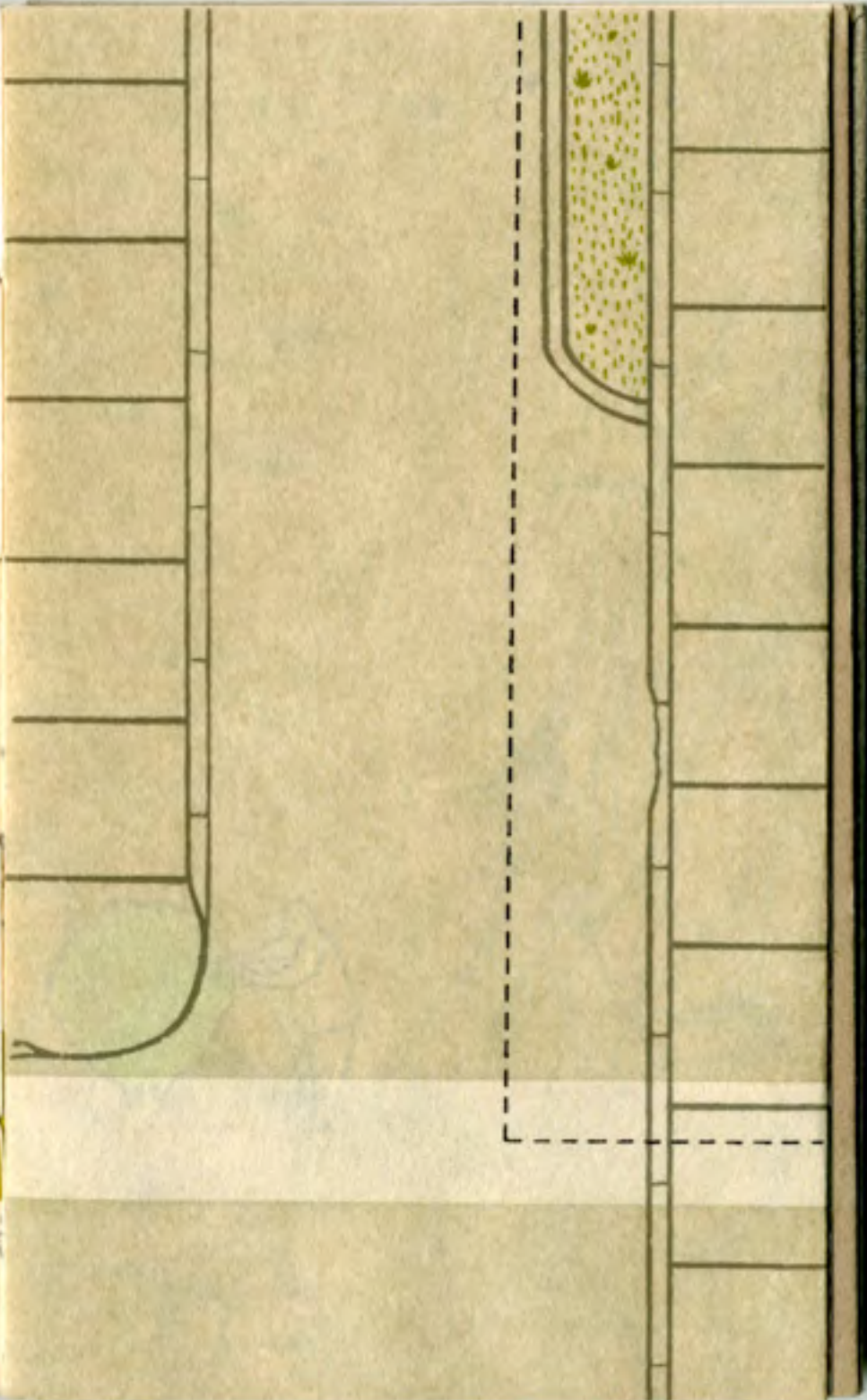










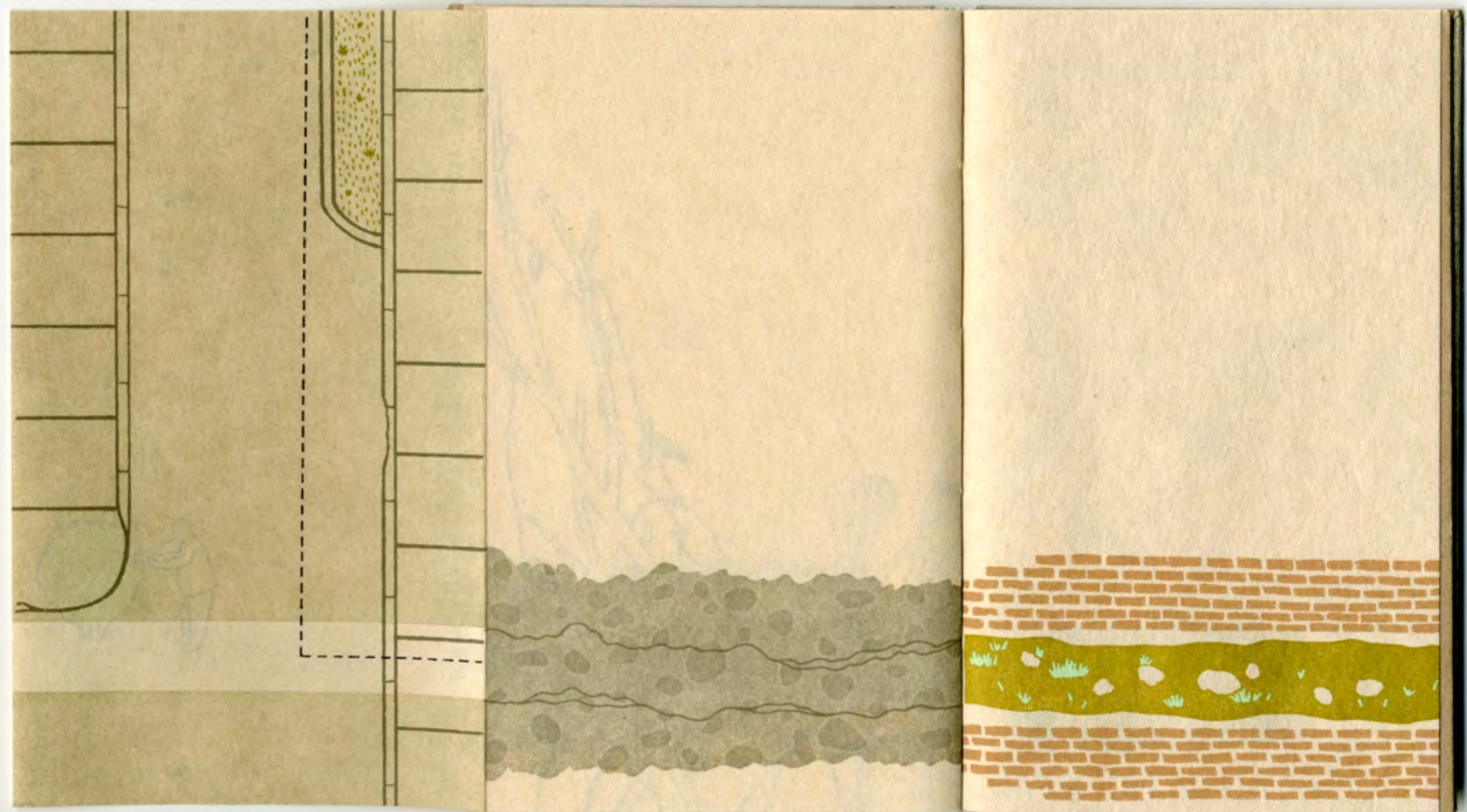




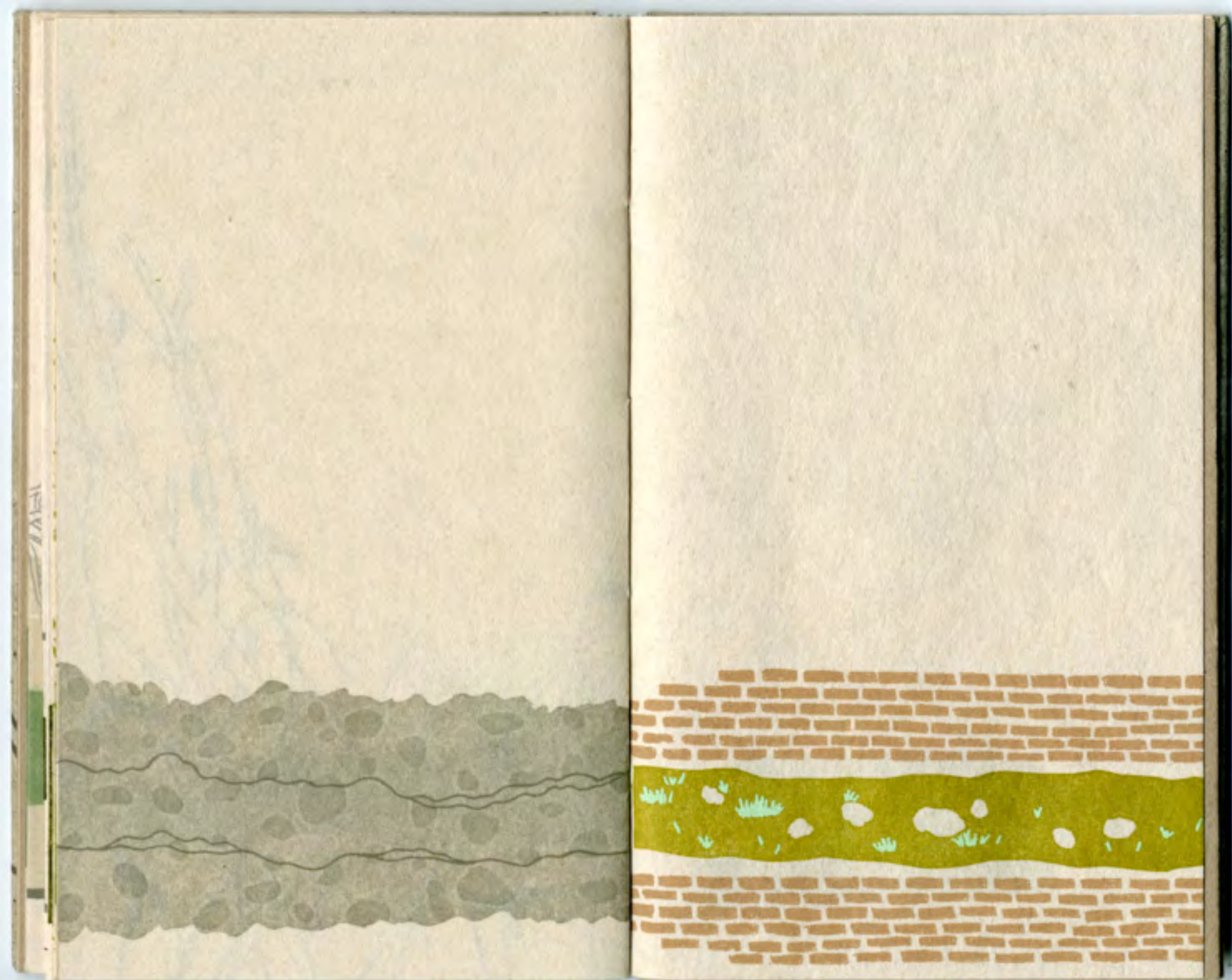
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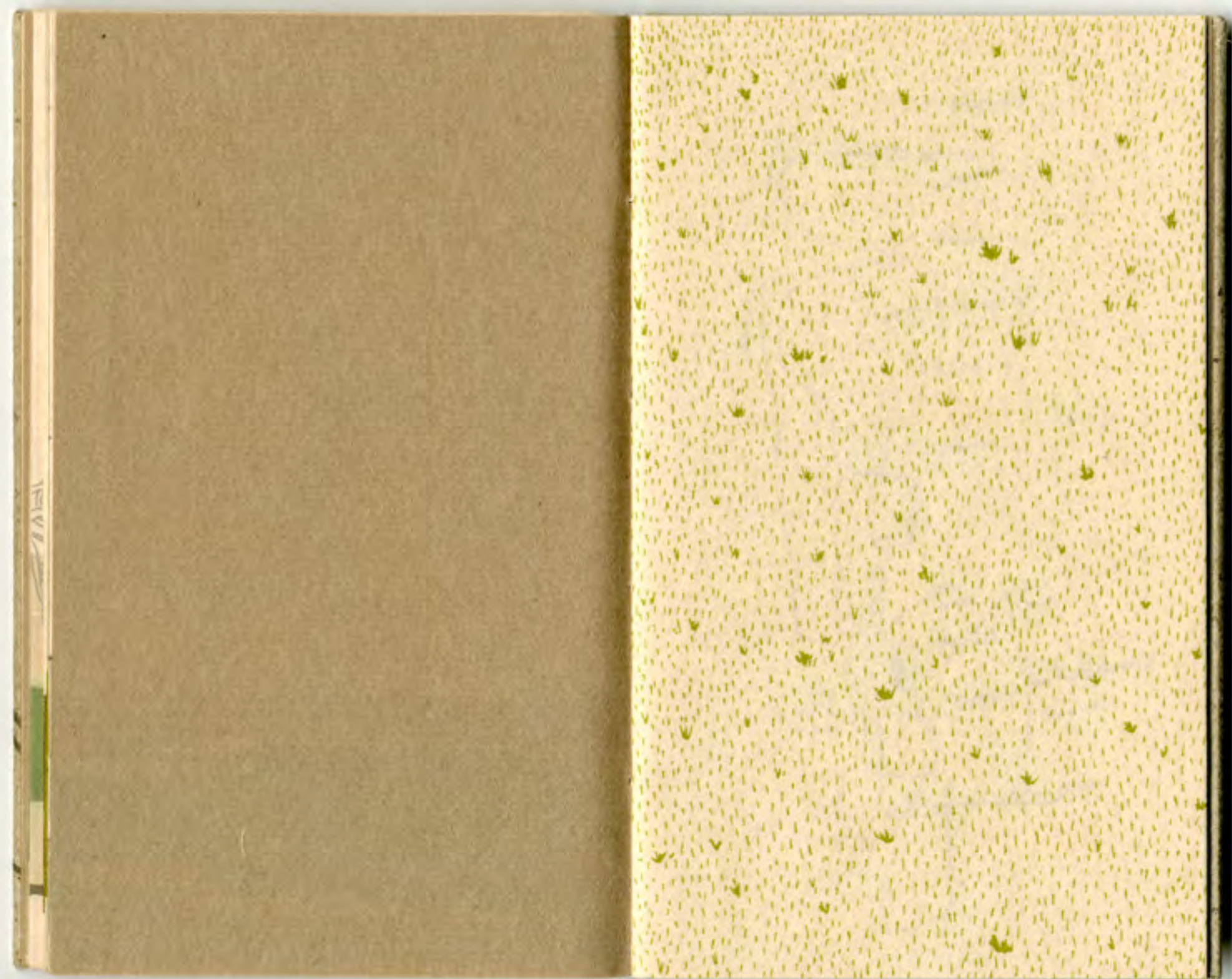




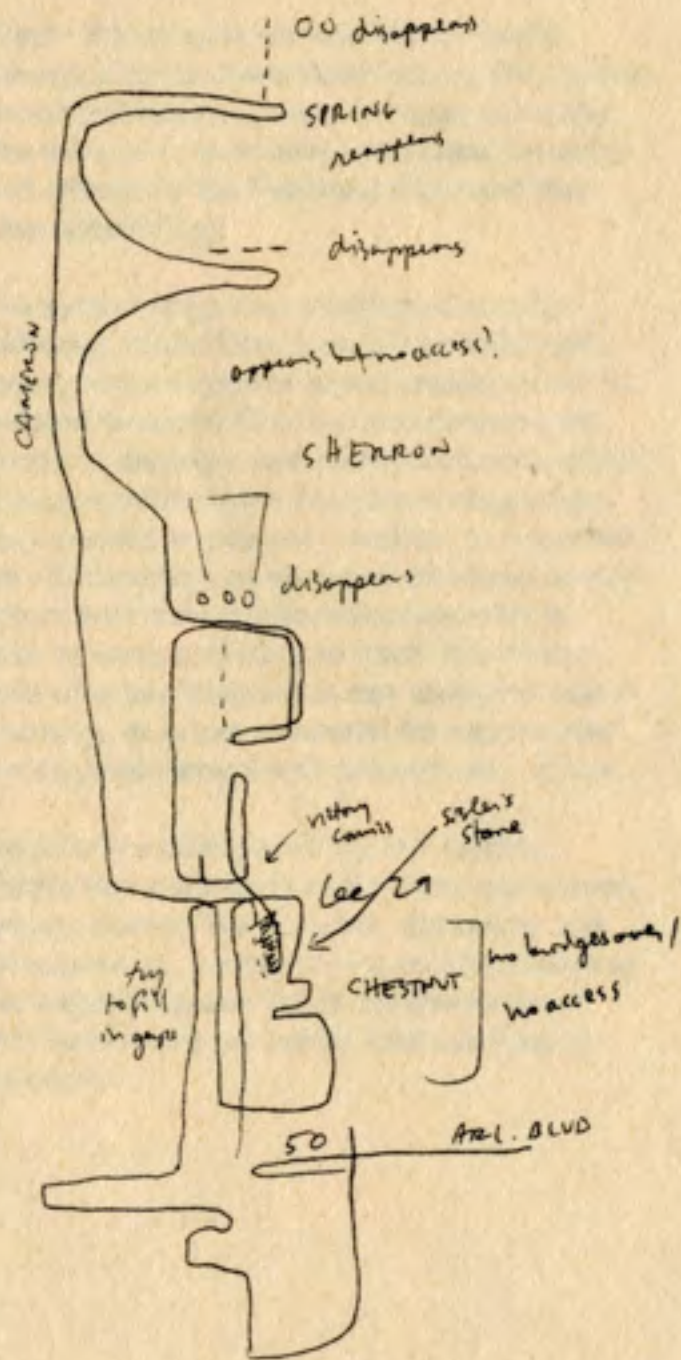




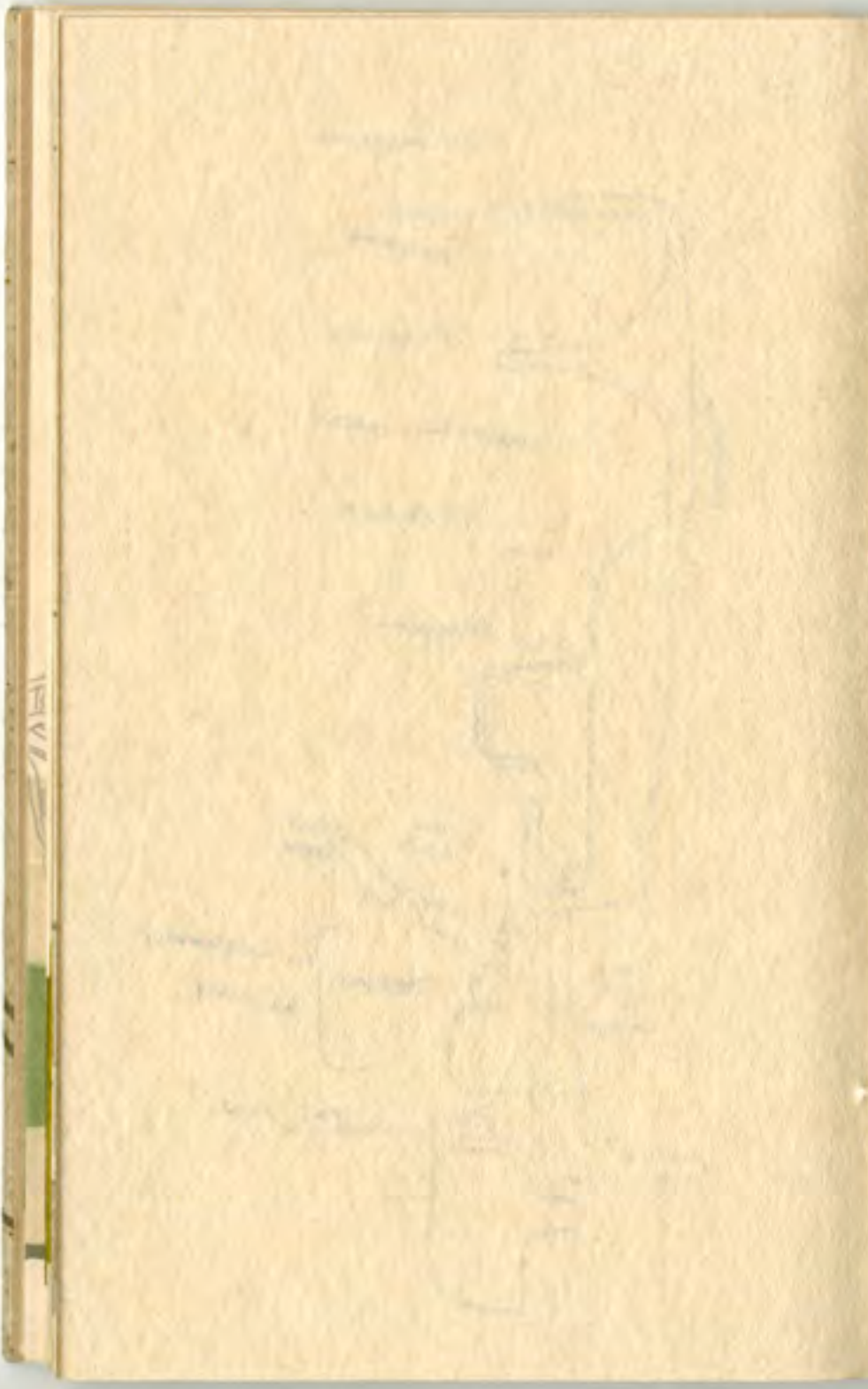










A faint pencil sketch on the left page of an open notebook. The sketch depicts a landscape with a winding path or stream that meanders from the top left towards the bottom right. There are some light, sketchy lines suggesting trees or vegetation along the path. The overall impression is that of a preliminary drawing or a light sketch.

Tripp's Run originates near I-66 in Fairfax County, Virginia, near Washington, DC. It runs above and below ground for approximately five miles before draining into Lake Barcroft, and ultimately the Potomac River and the Chesapeake Bay.

The surrounding area developed rapidly following World War II, and Tripp's Run was mostly channelized or piped underground to prevent seasonal flooding and consequent property damage, with the unfortunate effect of exacerbating flash floods and degrading the stream's ecological complexity. A combative relationship has emerged between human actors and water's inherent propensity to flow, spread, and cling to itself. It is debatable whether Tripp's Run can today be called a stream, or is just a channel for stormwater events, maintained with groundwater inflow.

Despite the changes of the last century, Tripp's Run persists in some form, a presence we experience like an echo, appearing and disappearing, perhaps most reliably visible as the negative space inside an environment that has been built under, over, and up to its edges.



*Channel and Flow* was published by the Women's Studio Workshop in Rosendale, NY. WSW is funded in part by the New York State Council on the Arts. This project is supported with funding from the National Endowment for the Arts.

The Kidney Press is Sarah McDermott. She made this book in the spring of 2014. The images are letterpress printed and screen-printed on Shikoku paper. The typeface is Avenir, letterpress printed from polymer plates. The cover is handmade paper from milkweed collected and retted at Ruocco Family Farm in Sandgate, VT, mixed with cotton and abaca. Many thanks to the superlative staff at WSW for their support, technical assistance, and flexibility, including Chris Petrone, Tatana Kellner, Jenn Bratovich, Anita Wetzel, and Ann Kalmbach, and to interns Liz Cunningham and Emily Ritter for their long hours of labor. Thanks also to Joanna Ruocco for text editing, to Jesse Ruocco for his help with papermaking, and to the Fairfax County Stormwater Planning Division for answering many questions.

This book is no. 23 of 50 copies.

ISBN 1-893125-89-0

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