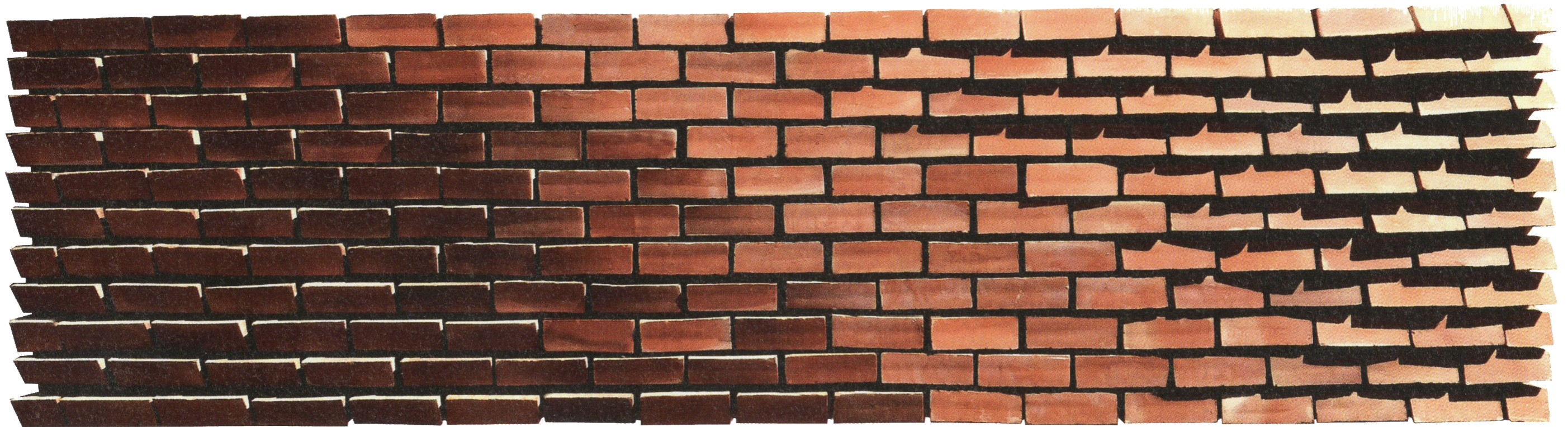


[R]EVOLVING BRICK:

INNOVATION IN CERAMIC BUILDING SYSTEMS





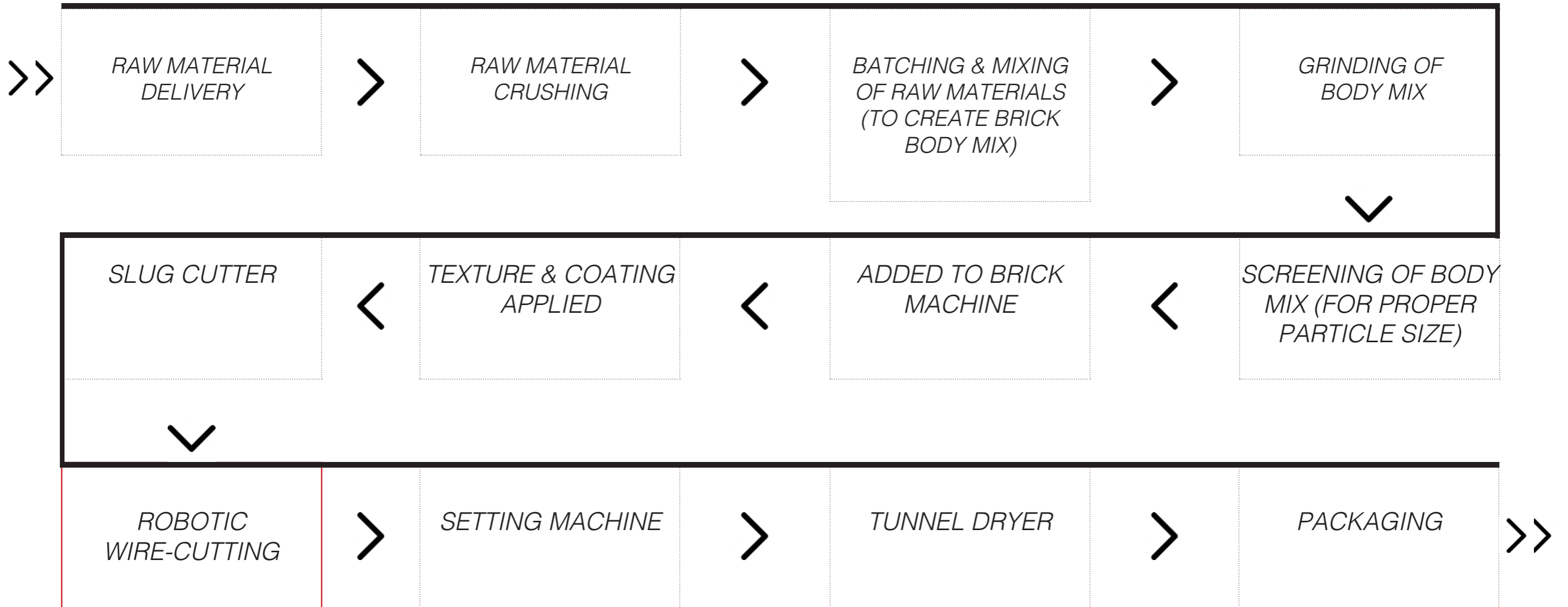
Bricks are one of the oldest known building materials devised by humans; their first appearance dates back to the nearly 7000BC. Naturally, the methods for their manufacture have improved tremendously over time, transitioning from the hand shaping and moulding to today's mechanised, high-volume mass produced extrusion systems. Yet despite the advancements in the manufacturing methodology and exploration in configuration, the overall geometry of the brick itself has changed very little.

With the introduction of a robotic or CNC wire cutting method into the clay extrusion process we are able to achieve strategic design improvements and mass-customisation of every individual brick. Such technology can be easily integrated into industry standard production processes at the extrusion stage. The clay brick is cut through by a straight wire or blade that rotates while the slug is moved along the conveyor belt. This strategic sculpting of the brick in the extrusion process allows designers to create innovative variations in their brick typologies.

The idea that we have used a material for so long yet are still developing new methods for its fabrication begs the question whether we have fully explored its complete potential. How does our pre-conception of a brick building change with new design typologies?



MANUFACTURING SCENARIO



ROBOTIC WIRE CUTTING

