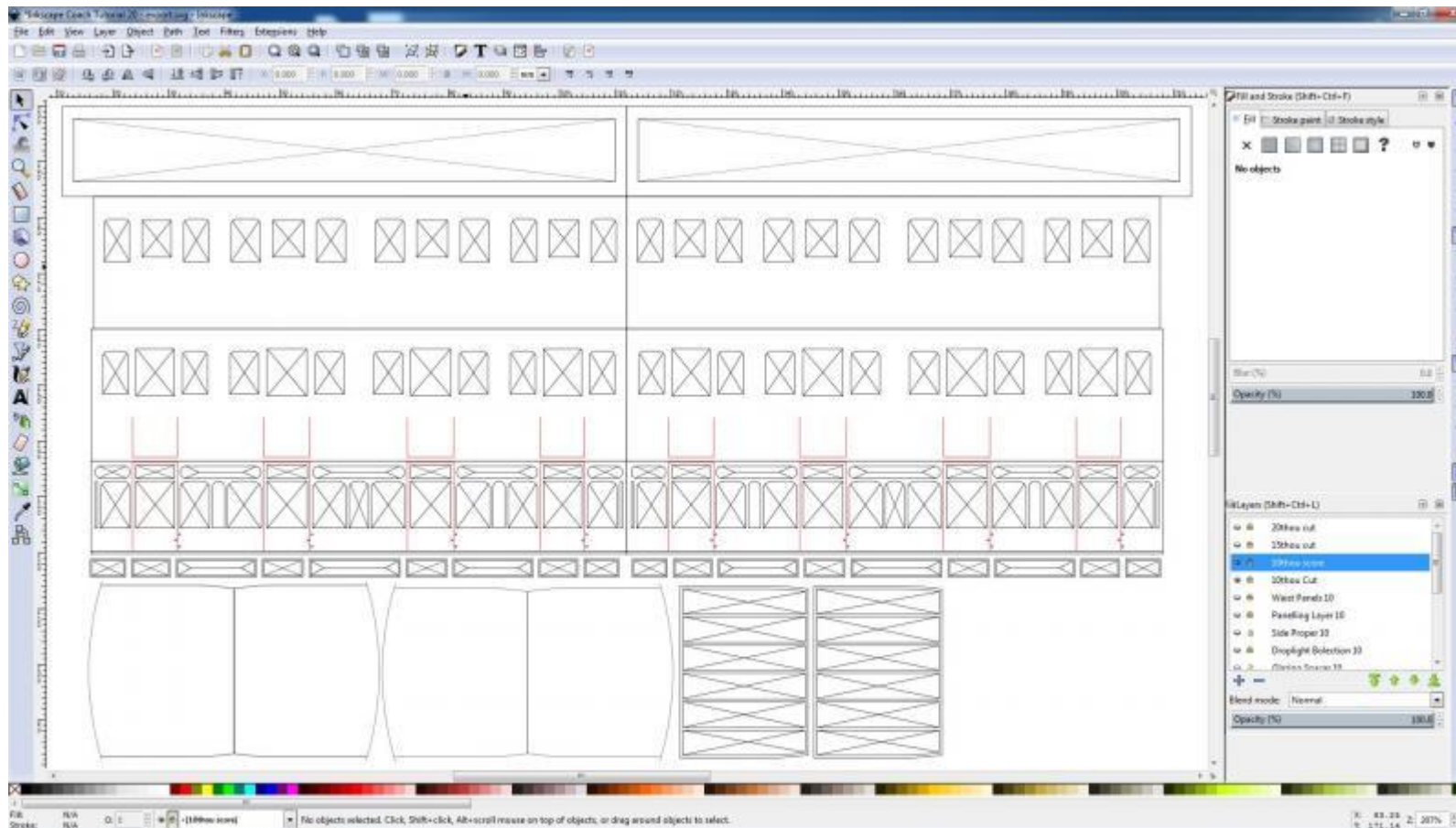


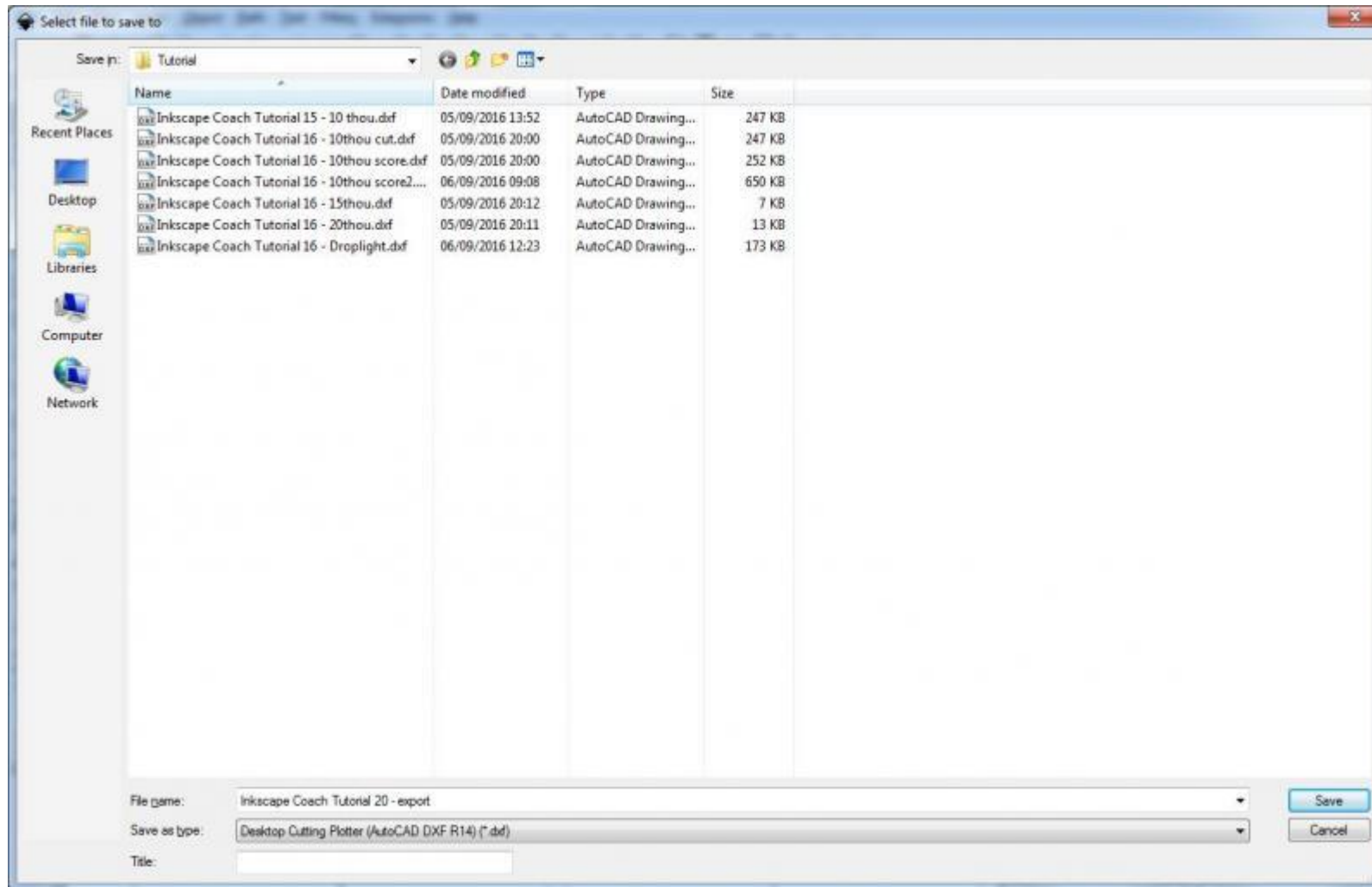
GETTING READY TO CUT

So we have our basic artwork and want to cut it out. There was a time I could send it to the cutter direct from Inkscape, however since upgrading I have lost this capability and have not resolved it yet. Instead I have to export the drawing as a dxf file and open it in Silhouette Studio. So let's give it a go and see what happens.

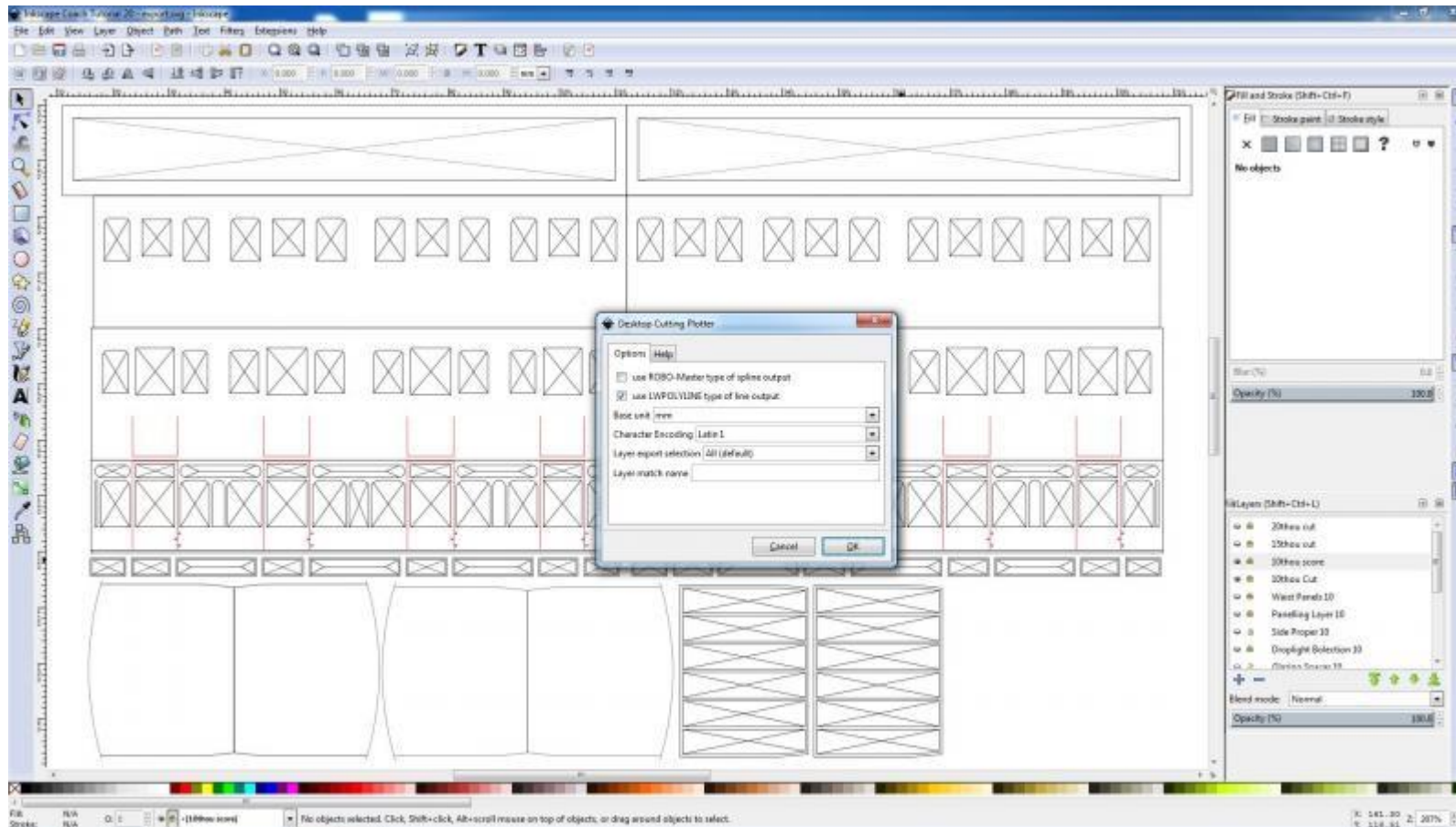
The 10thou layers from the previous posts:



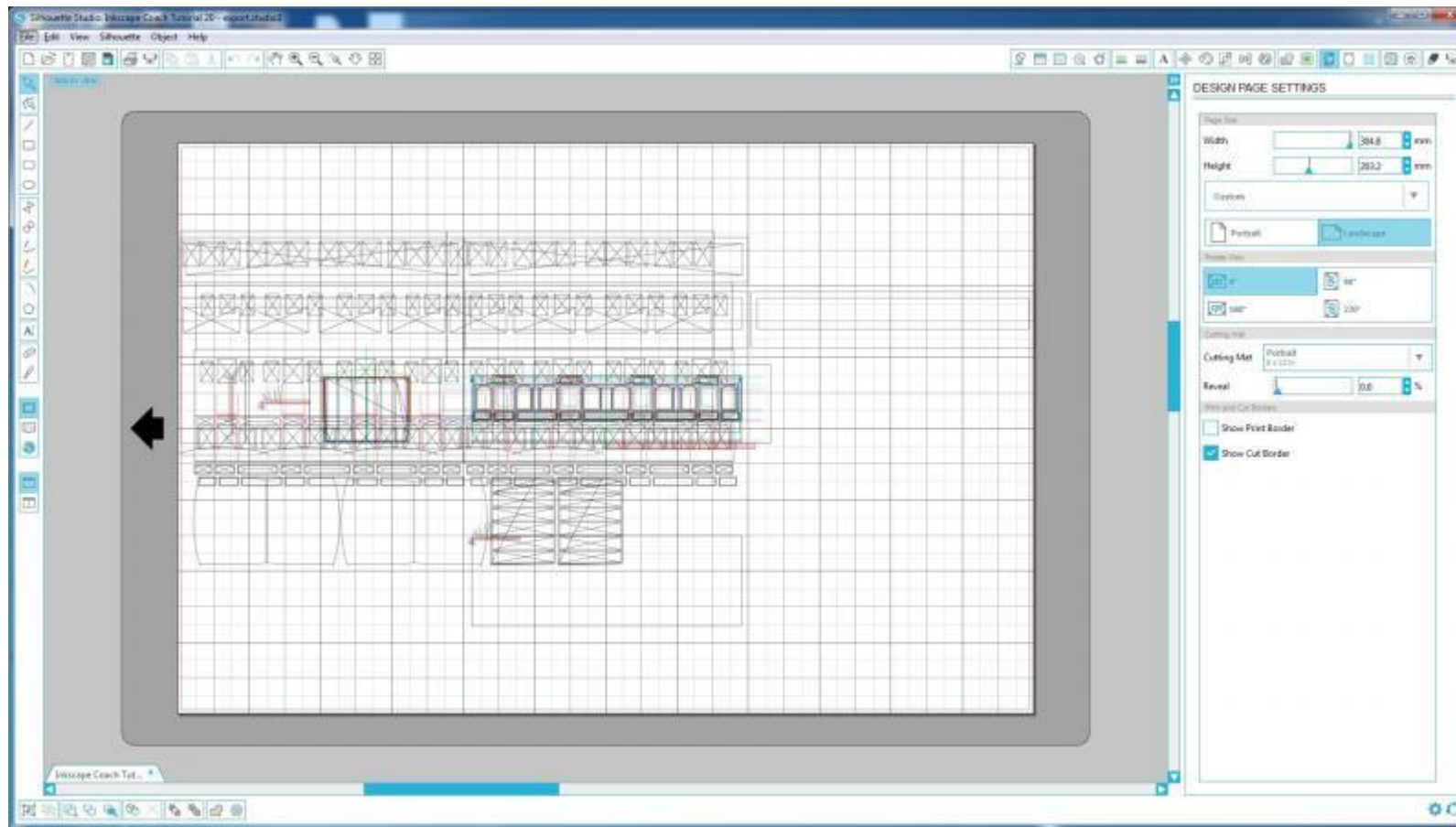
"File->Save As.." and change the file type to dxf then save:



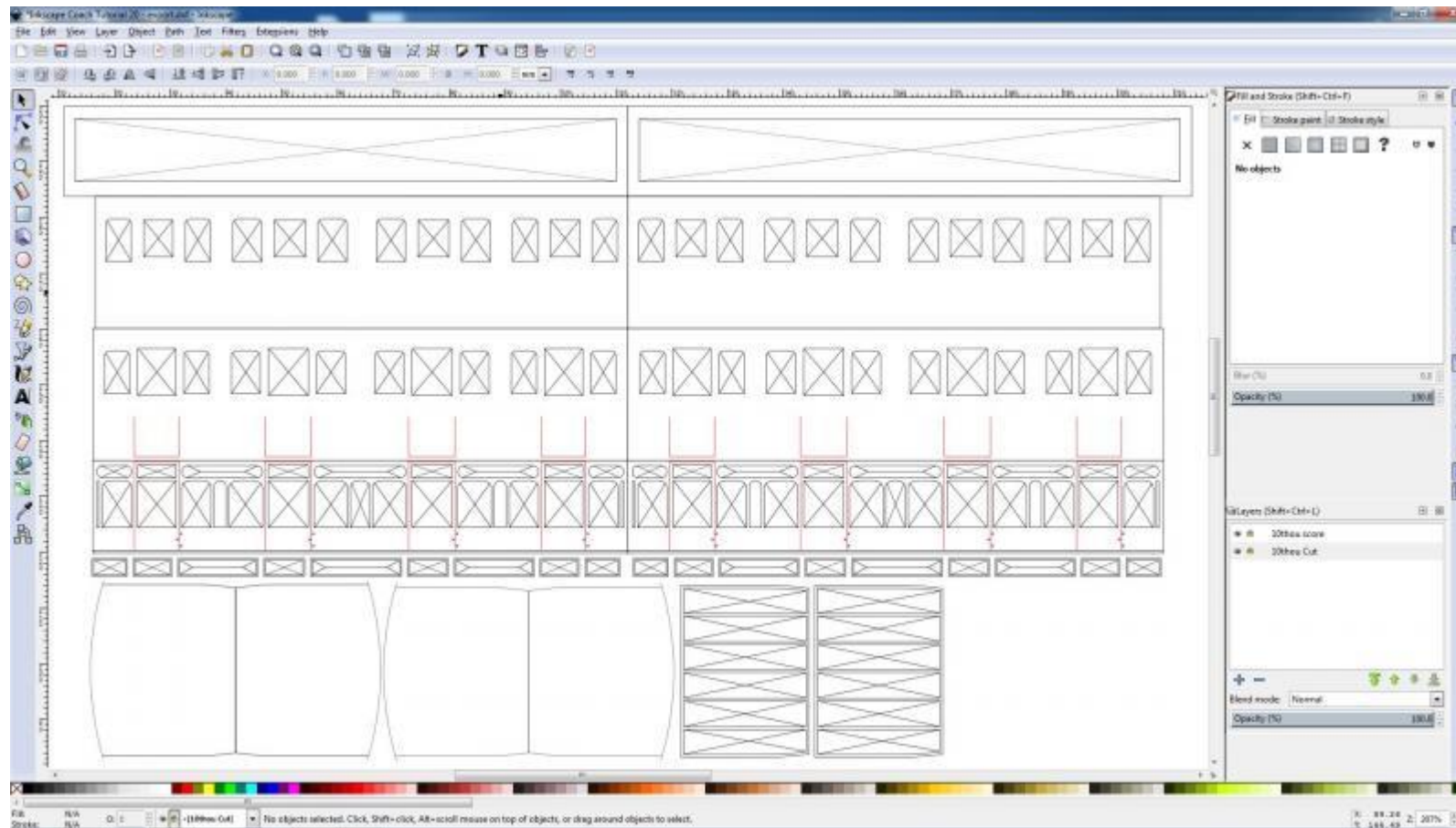
When the dialogue box appears I leave it as default and just click OK:



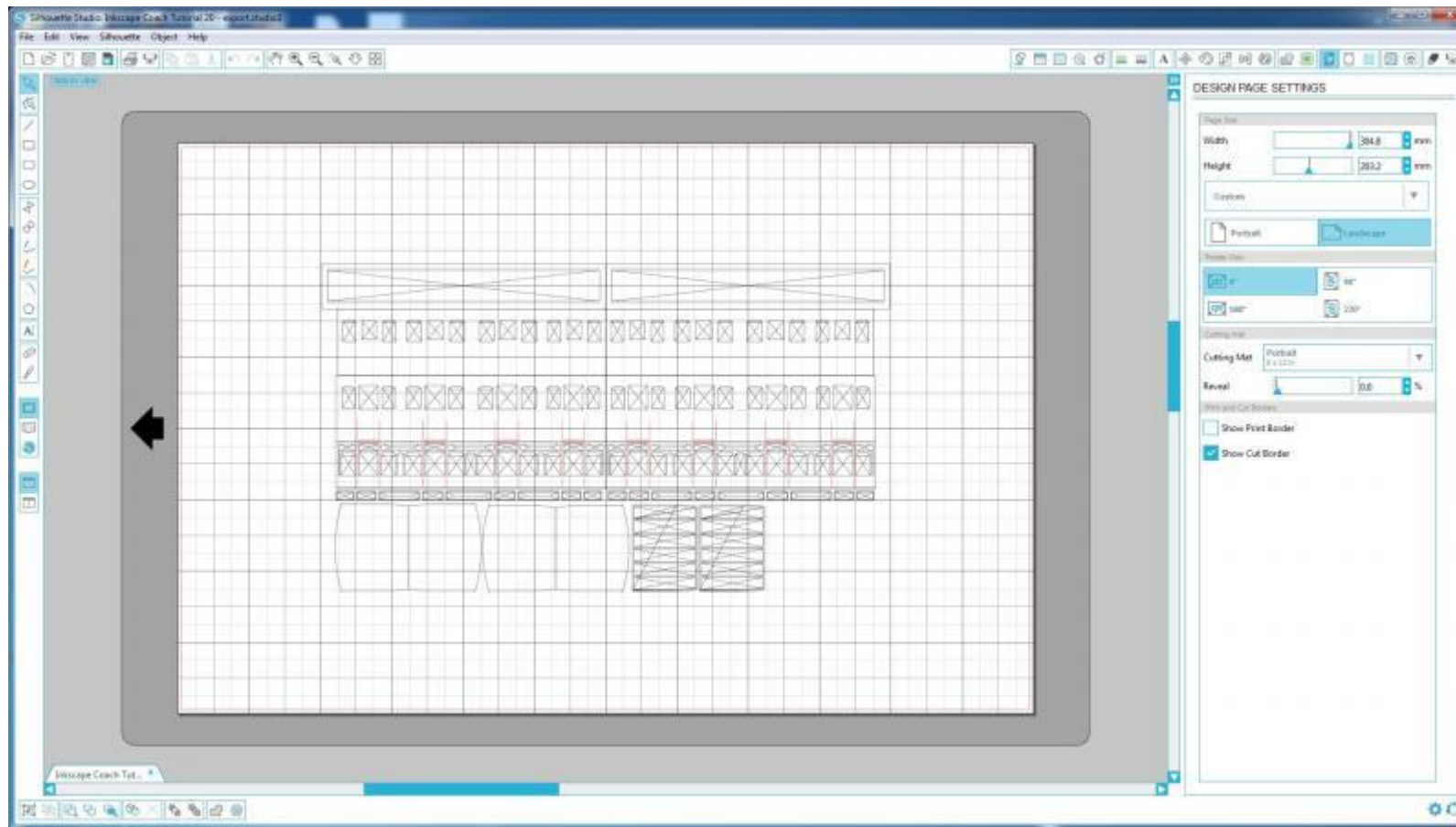
Now open the dxf in Silhouette Studio. OK not what I expected:



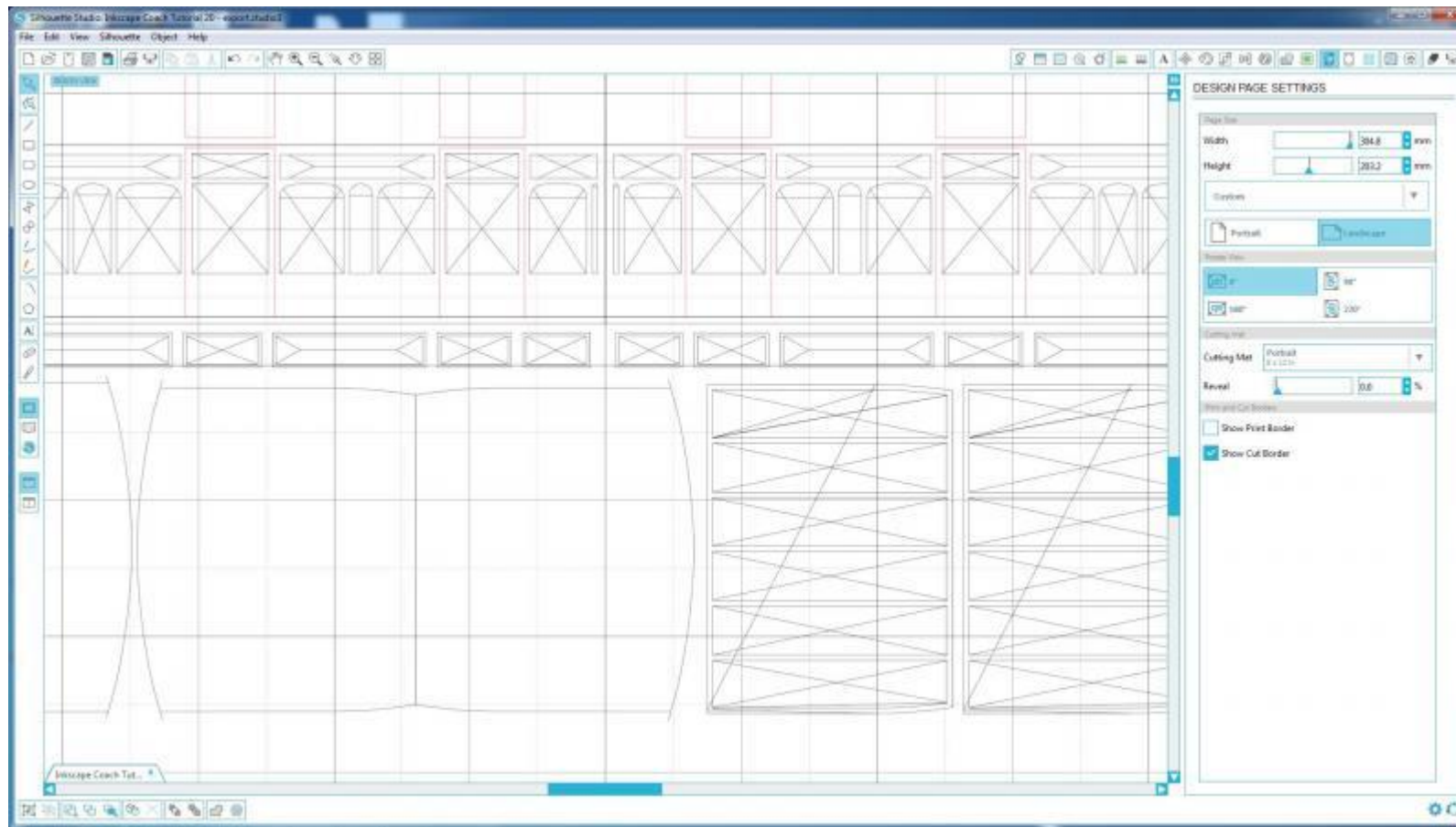
It is clear that Inkscape is saving ALL layers to the dxf file, not just the visible ones. So back to Inkscape and delete all non visible layers:



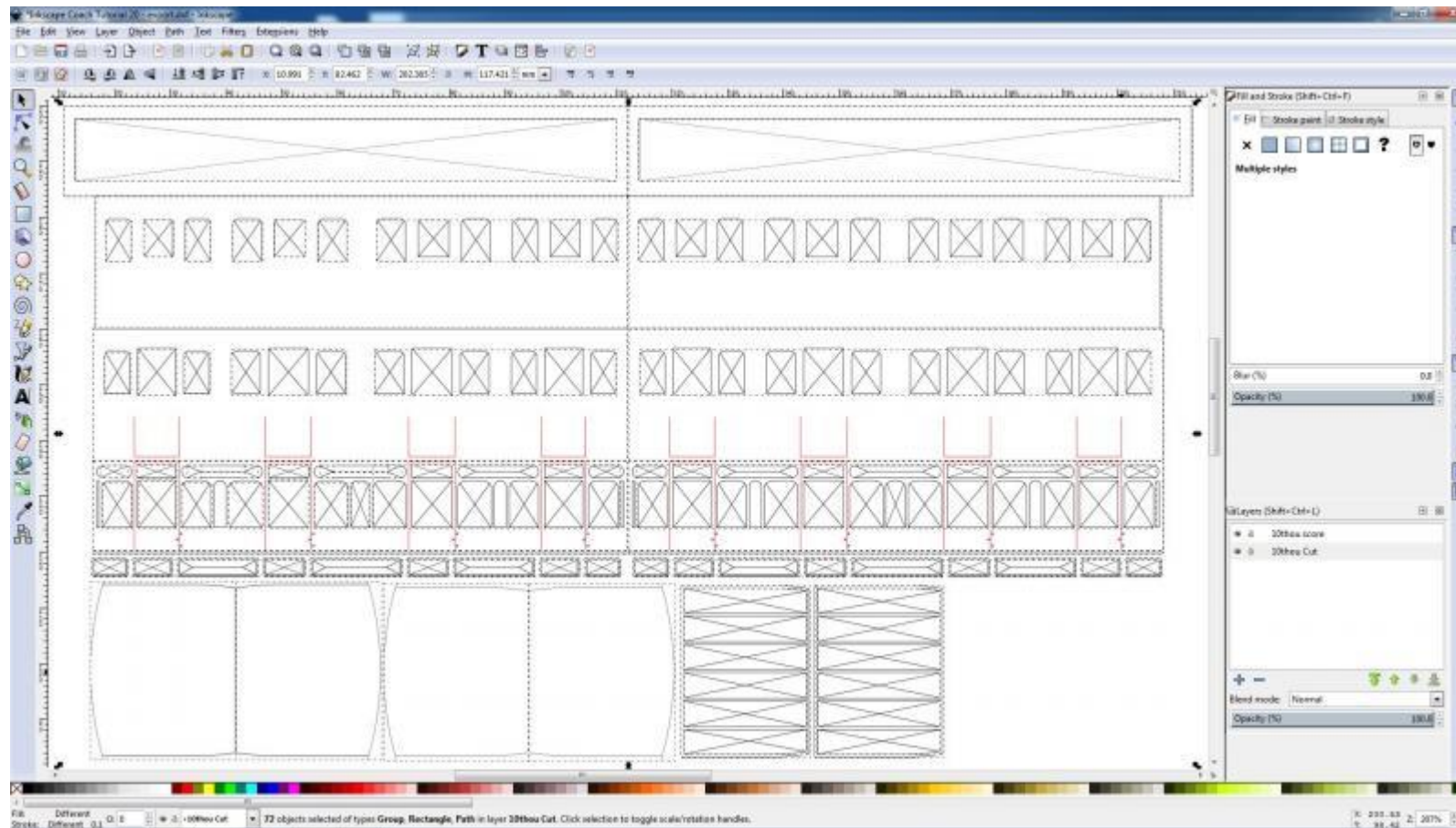
Save as dxf and open in Silhouette Studio. Looking much better:



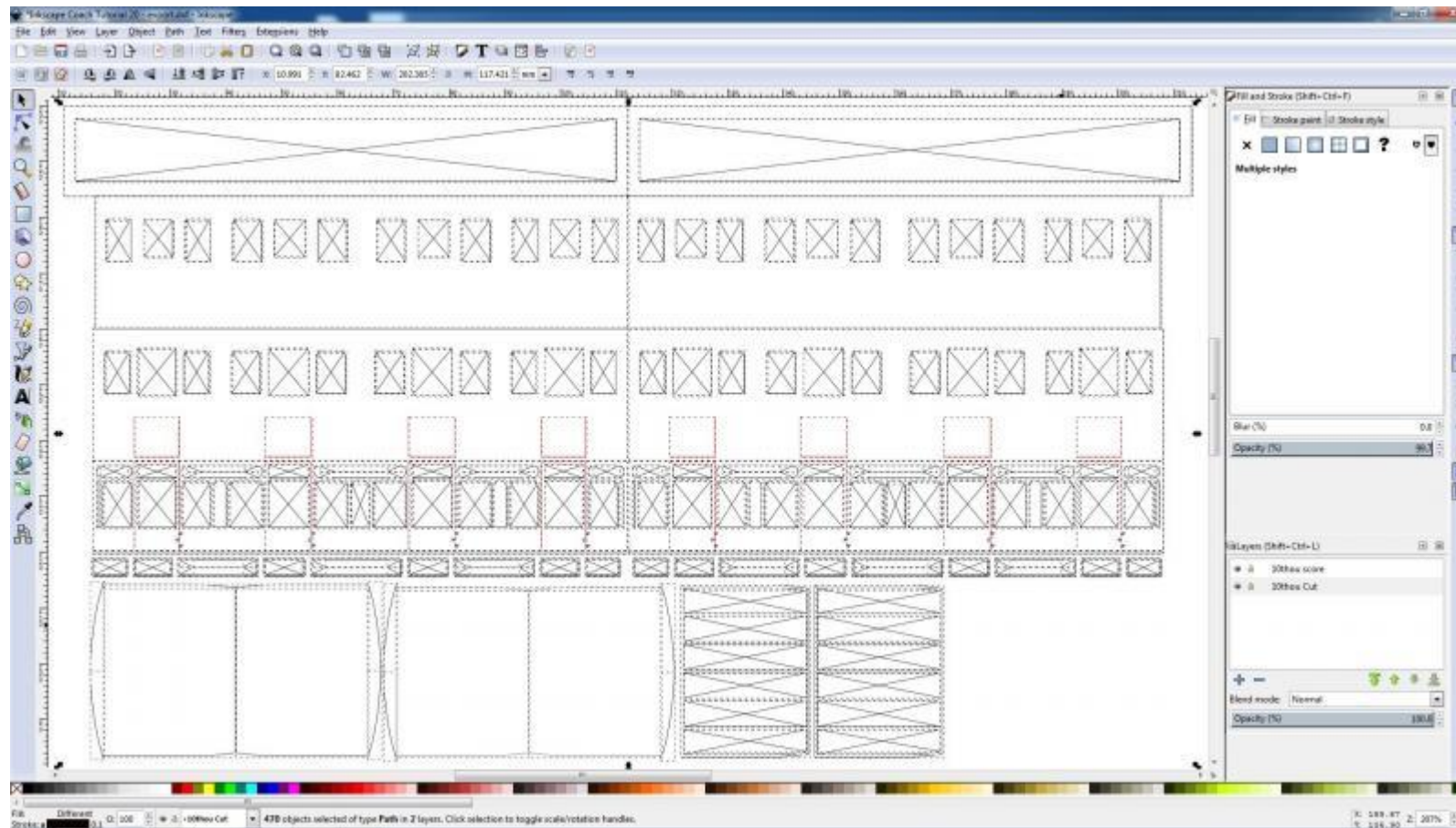
However zooming in it appears that some of the shapes have spurious cut lines which were not present in the original Inkscape drawing:



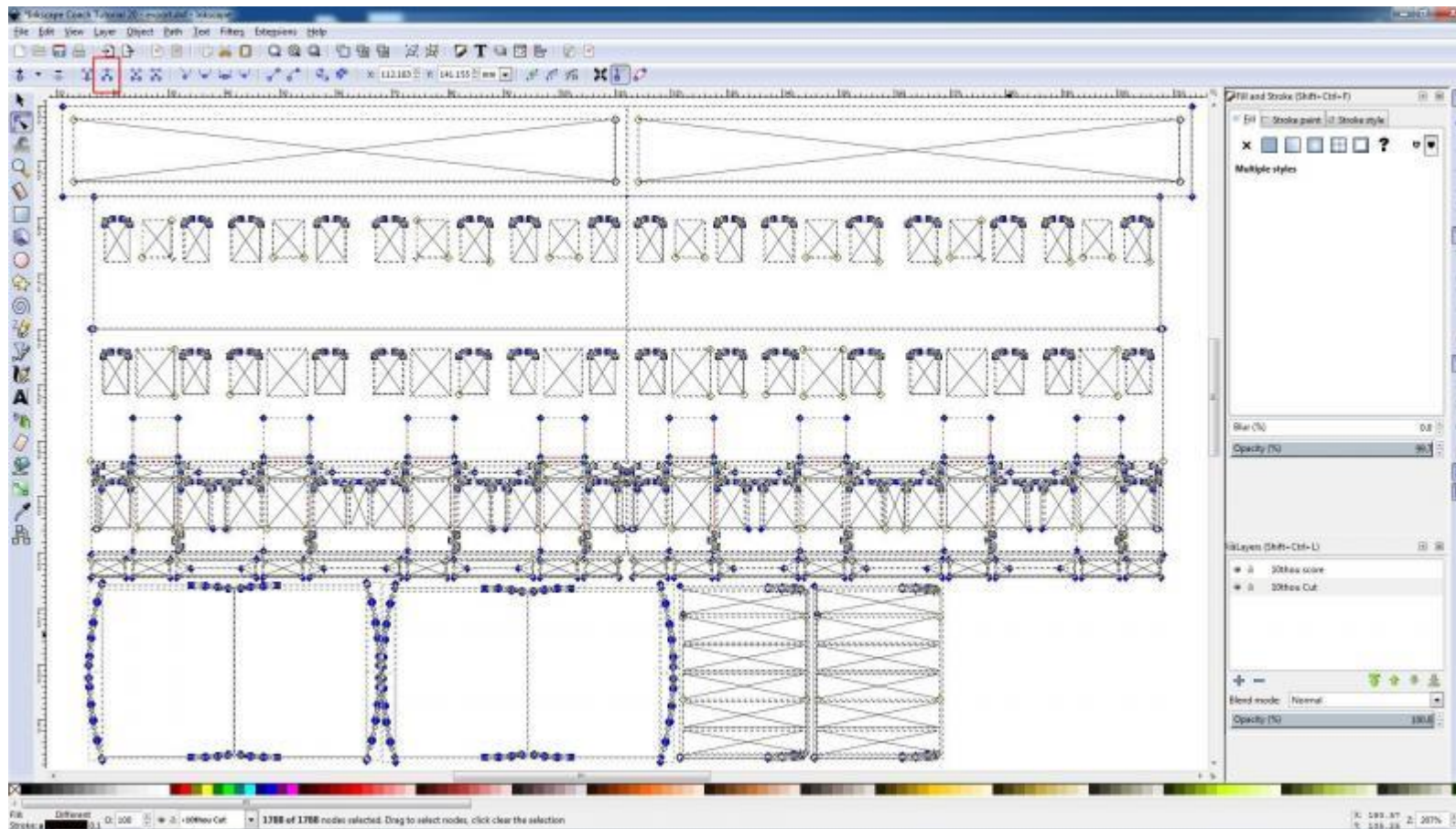
Back in Inkscape select all objects. Note that the status bar at the bottom states there are a mixture of groups, rectangles and paths:



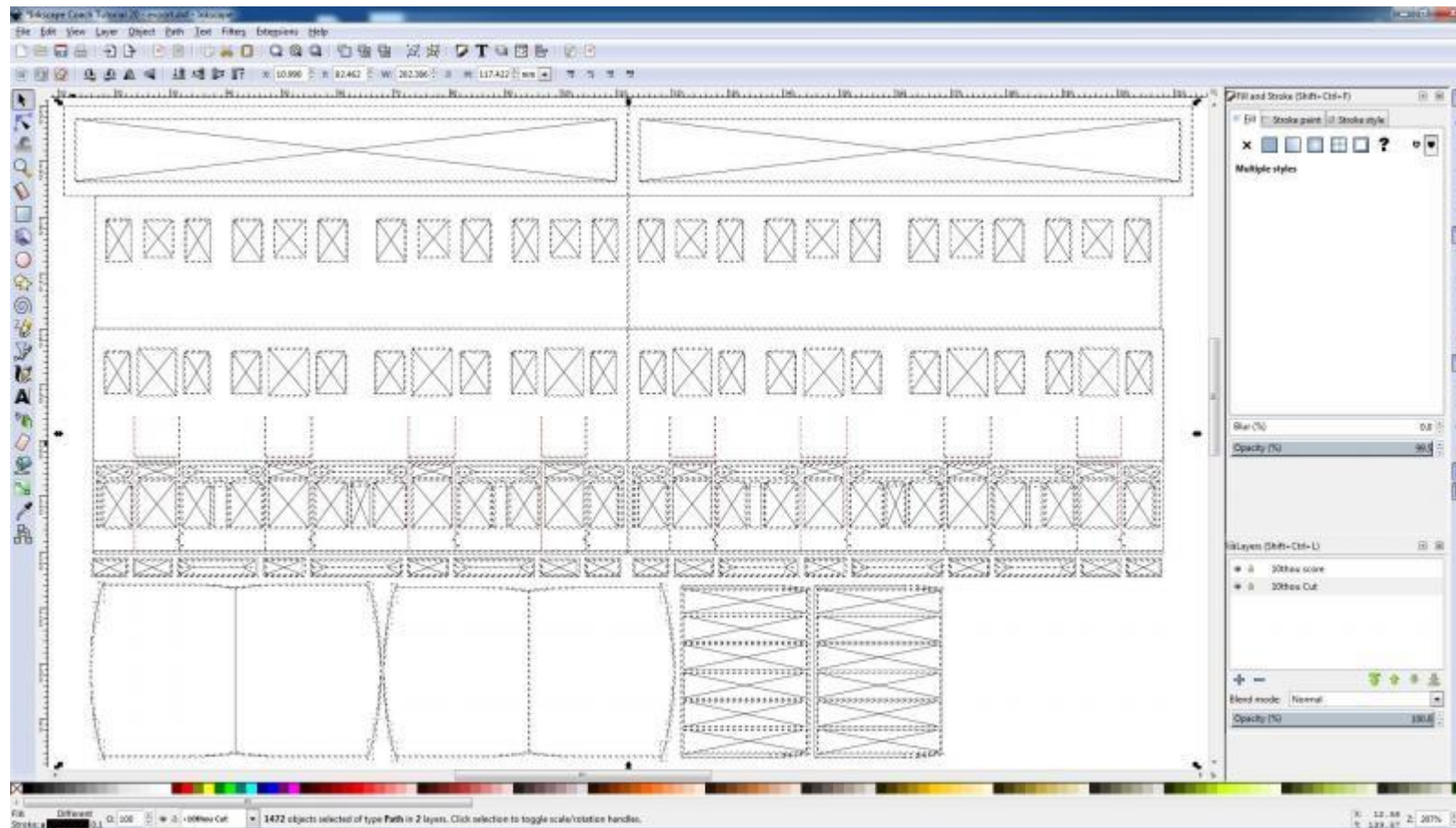
Keep selecting "Object->Ungroup" until no more groups are reported, then "Path->Object to Path":



Now change into node edit mode and click on the node break apart icon on the toolbar:



Finally back in selection mode select all objects and select "Path->Break Apart". We now have lots of small path segments in the drawing:



Save as dxf and open in Silhouette Studio:

