



**ADAM ACHRATI**

**PORTFOLIO - 2024**

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## Professional Work

Calvert Wright Architecture  
Standard Architects  
Gans & Company  
DASH7 Design  
Eric Colbert & Associates

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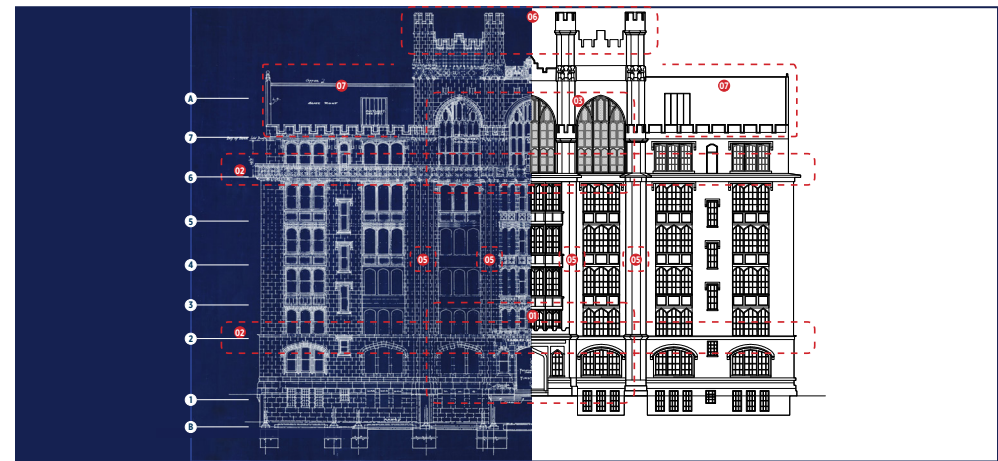
# Thomas Hunter Hall Masterplan

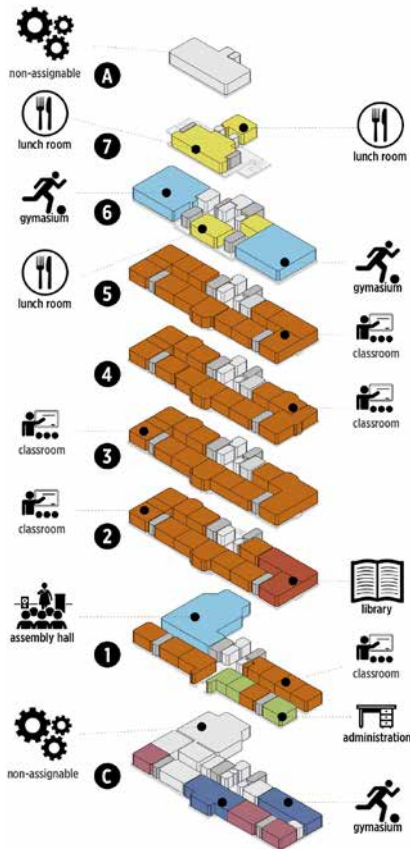
Calvert Wright Architecture | Spatial Discipline  
October 2021 - September 2023  
New York, NY

Design Team - C. Wright, F. Scognamillo, M. Pinilla

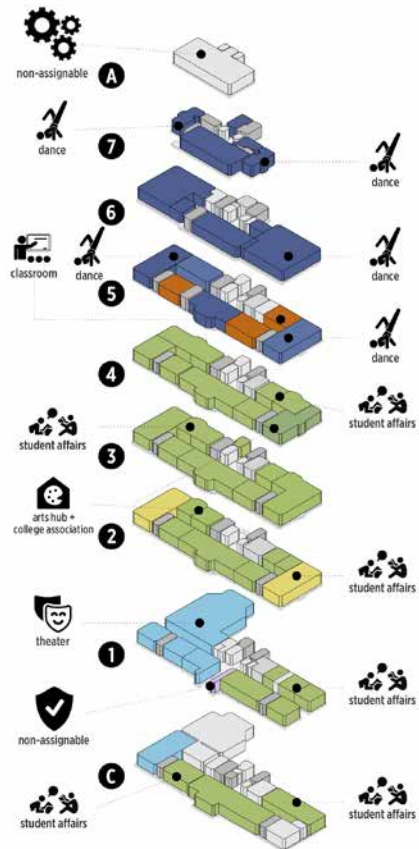
This report includes a conditions analysis, master plan and renovation feasibility study for the revitalization of a 100,000sf landmarked academic building at the heart of Hunter's Manhattan campus. The modernization of Thomas Hunter Hall will include new building systems, life-safety improvements, energy code compliance and new programming integrated with the building's existing historic character. To accommodate logistical and funding challenges, renovations will be broken into five phases of construction over the next 12 years.

As project manager I coordinated the production of and revisions to the 110-page masterplan, including reviews with DASNY, CUNY and Hunter College. I also lead the masterplan's sustainability goals, as well as the building code analysis and zoning studies.





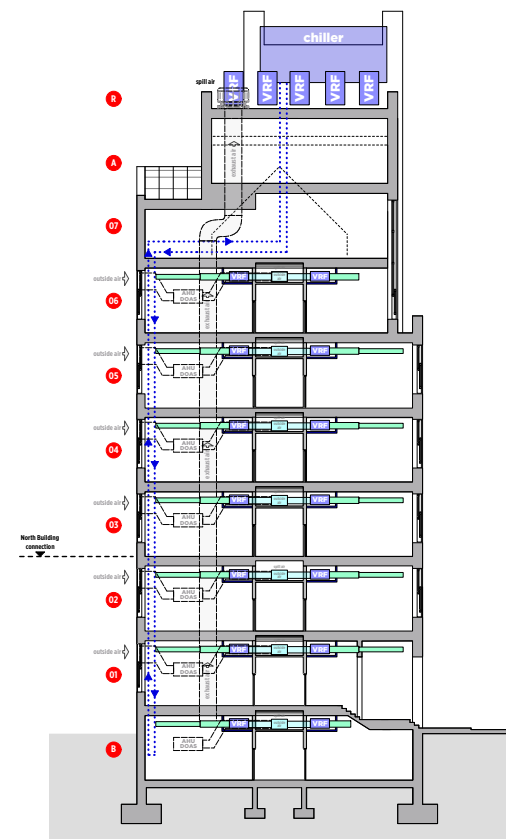
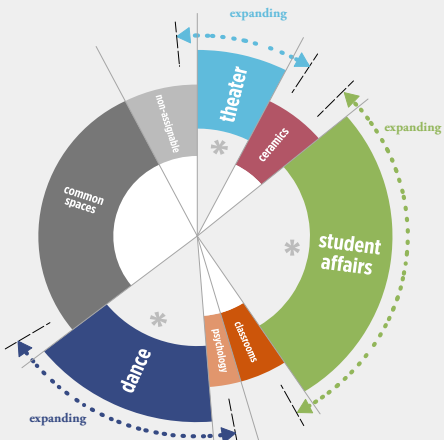
1913



2040

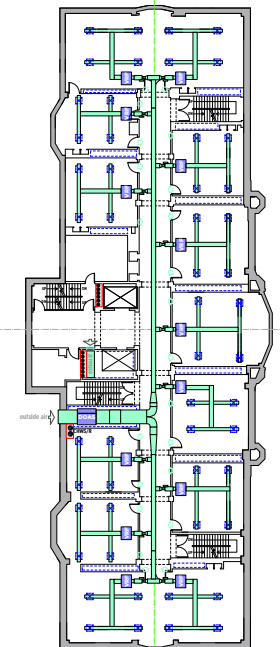
### program summary

Thomas Hunter Hall	net square footage	percentage overall
<b>theater department</b>		
Loewe Theater and support spaces	5,045 nsf	6.3%
<b>fine arts</b>		
ceramics studios, classrooms, offices	5,320 nsf	6.6%
<b>student affairs</b>		
club rooms, activity space and admin	21,297 nsf	26.5%
<b>general academic</b>		
classrooms	5,293 nsf	6.6%
<b>psychology department</b>		
autism research labs	3,087 nsf	3.8%
<b>dance</b>		
rehearsal, instruction studios, ofcs/stor	11,604 nsf	14.5%
<b>common spaces</b>		
stairs, elevators, toilets, etc.	22,053 nsf	27.5%
<b>non-assignable</b>		
facilities/operations	6,604 nsf	8.2%
<b>total program floor area</b>	<b>80,303 nsf</b>	



### recommended scheme VRF with DOAS

(variable refrigerant flow heat recovery system with dedicated outdoor air and glycol chiller)



VRF system provides both heating and air cooling distribution of conditioned air includes VAV boxes for precise demand control dedicated outdoor air system (DOAS) with rooftop glycol chiller and individual AHU's each floor rooftop exhaust relieves indoor air pressure utilities from the North Building not required.

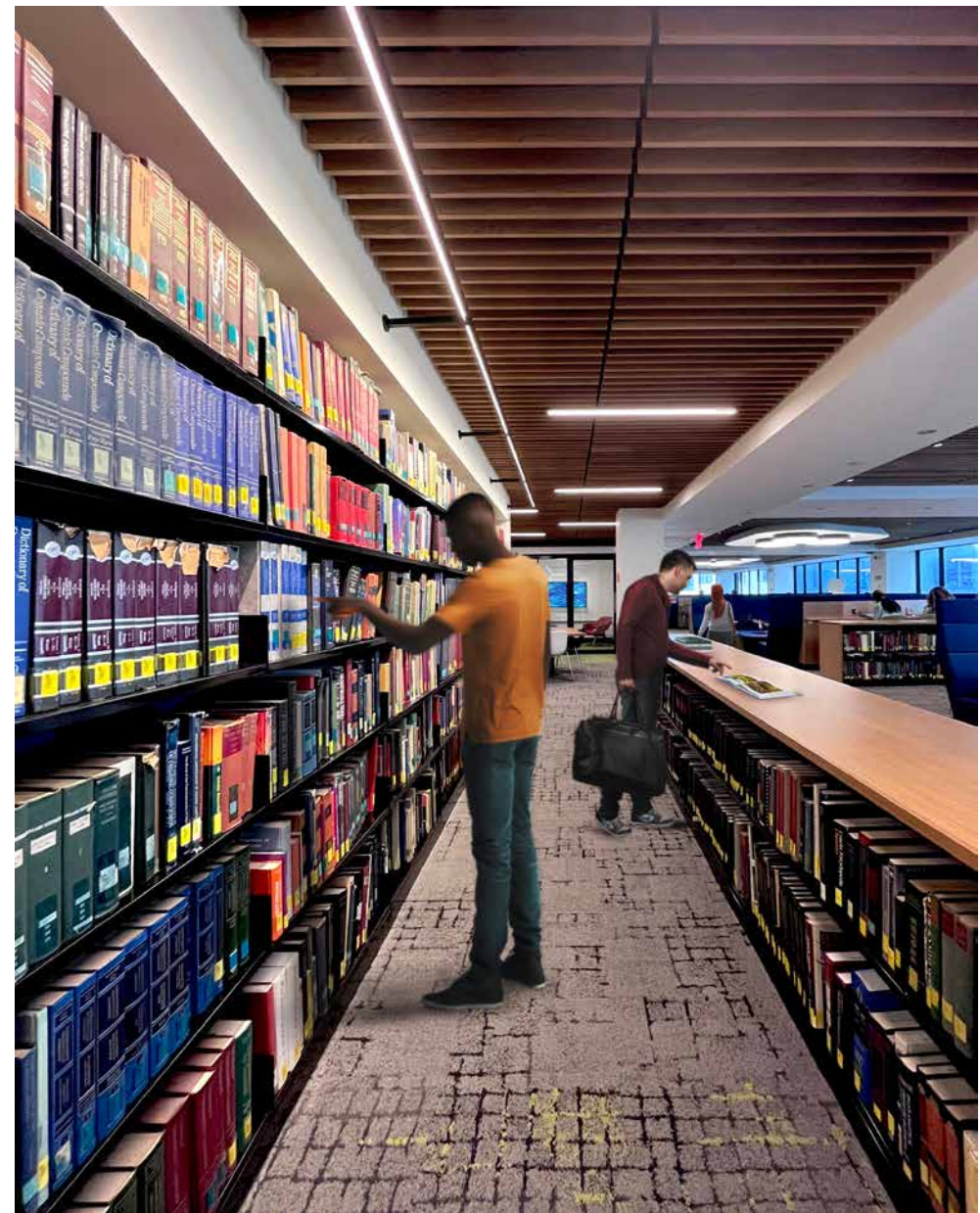
# Cooperman Library for Student Success

Calvert Wright Architecture | Spatial Discipline  
January 2022 - June 2023  
New York, NY

Design Team - C. Wright, F. Scognamillo, M. Pinilla

This 18,500sf gut renovation was the first work done to the 5th floor since the library opened in 1981. Renovation work transformed the library with new programming for both students and faculty. The new floor triples the existing quantity of student seating while also including reservable group study rooms, two learning studios, workshop and conference space, a faculty resource center and library staff offices. Glass-walled “co-labs” anchor the reading room and feature three walls of whiteboard and tackboard with shareable touch-screen monitors. The glass walls give these rooms a performative quality inspiring curious classmates and voyeuristic passersby.

My responsibilities as project manager included design coordination during construction to deliver renovations on time and under budget utilizing union construction and NYState contract procurement.



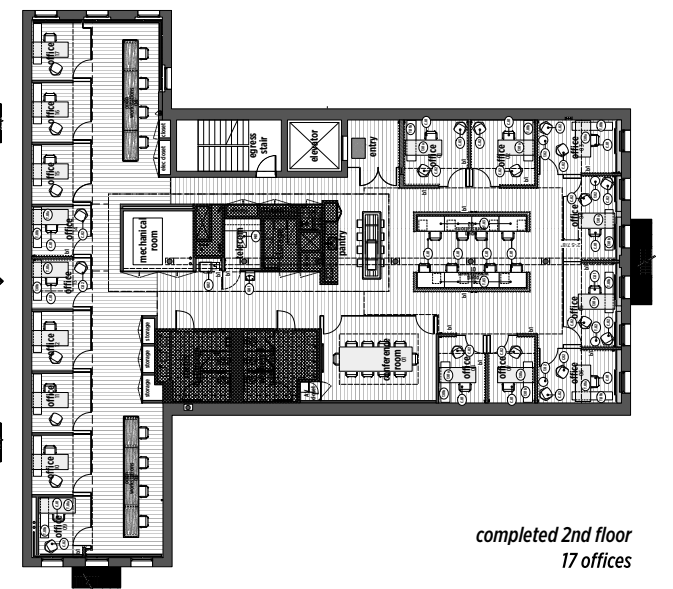
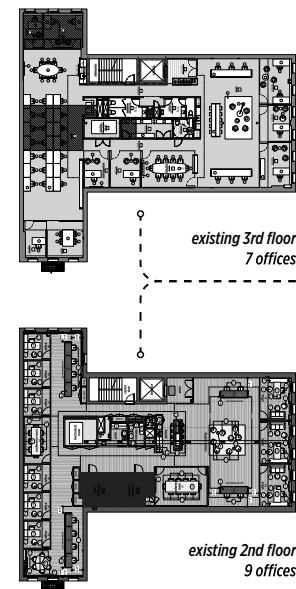


# Anonymous Content

Calvert Wright Architecture | Spatial Discipline  
May 2023 - April 2024  
New York, NY  
Design Team - C. Wright

This fast-track commercial interior renovation consolidated 22,500sf of workspace into a single 11,250sf floor for the HBO film production company, Anonymous Content. To address changes in post-COVID office utilization, this floor significantly increased the number of private office spaces and facilitates collaborative work both in-person and remote.

My responsibilities as project manager included coordination of design team and bicoastal stakeholders from planning through construction and project closeout, including all regulatory approvals (Department of Buildings, Landmarks, FDNY).



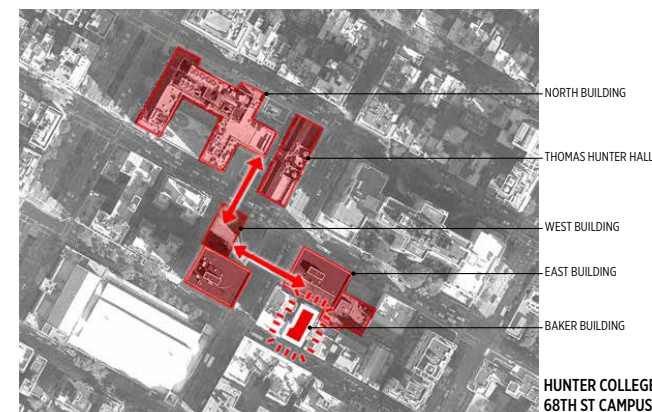
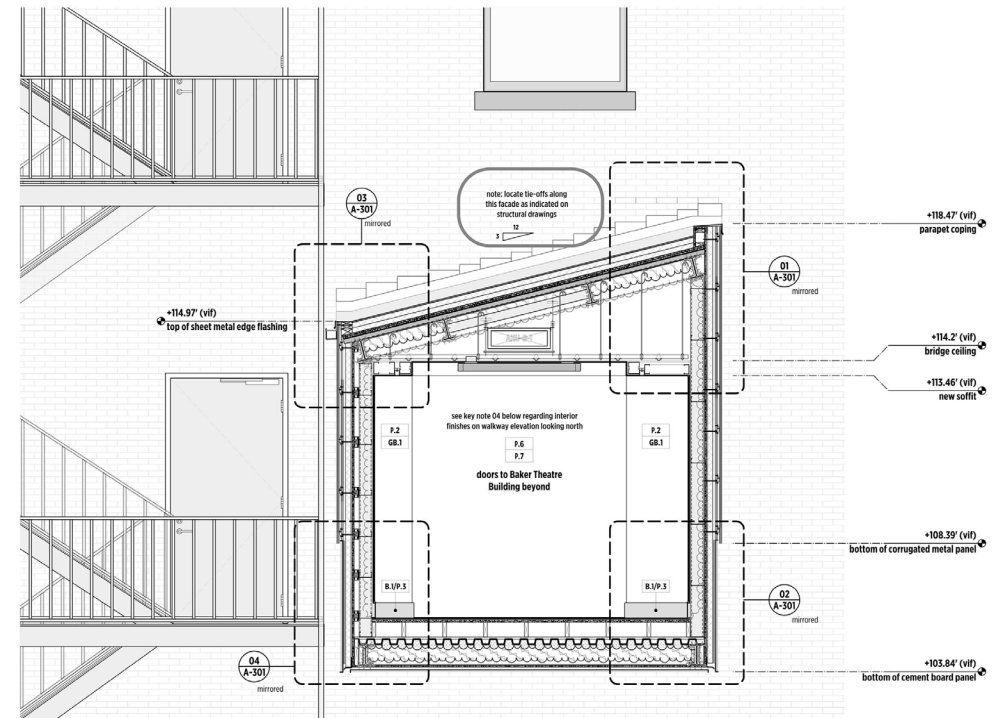
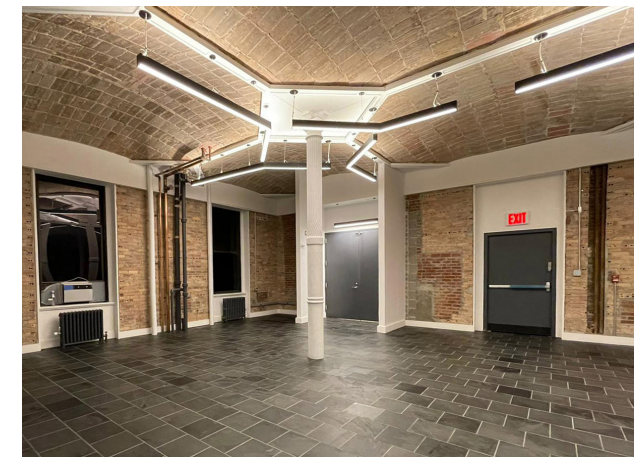
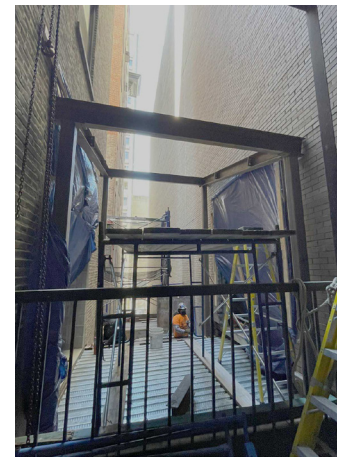
# Hunter College Baker Walkway

Calvert Wright Architecture | Spatial Discipline  
September 2021 - May 2023  
New York, NY

Design Team - C. Wright, M. Pinilla

Built in 1889 as an outpatient facility for Mount Sinai Hospital, the Baker Theater Building is currently undergoing a phased rehabilitation and renovation to suit its new use as home to the Theater Department at Hunter College. This first phase of renovations includes a structural walkway addition to the rear of the Baker Theater Building (built in 1890 by Guastavino Tile Co) to connect to existing Hunter College network of sky bridges and provide wheelchair access to the historic building. Work includes restoration of terracotta ceilings and cast iron columns.

I served as project manager and was responsible for the design and construction of an enclosed bridge which connects this historic building to Hunter's more modern academic buildings. I was responsible for the coordination of all engineering subconsultants, general contractor, and construction manager.





# Historic Spring House

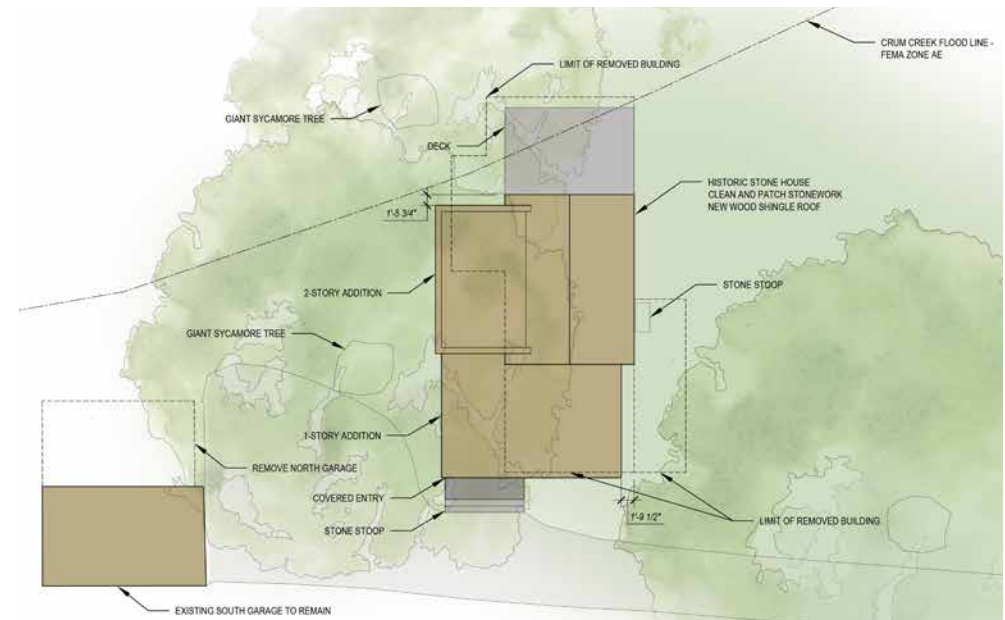
Standard Architects  
November 2019 - June 2021  
Berwyn, PA  
Design Team - F. Read; D. Villegas-Cruz

This historic stone spring house dates back to the 1870s and has had many lives. Most recently flanked by two additions from the mid-20th century, we worked to remove vinyl and paint to return the stone to a more neutral and elemental state. In response to flood zone and historic preservation regulations (as well as three adjacent Sycamore trees), Standard Architects designed a new addition to the south and west of the historic structure. The new modern volumes are clad in metal and wood and engage in a dialogue with the existing stone.

As project manager I worked with the firm principal and team on the massing, materiality, layout and composition of the design. I lead the documentation process which culminated in the issuances of bid drawings and construction documents.



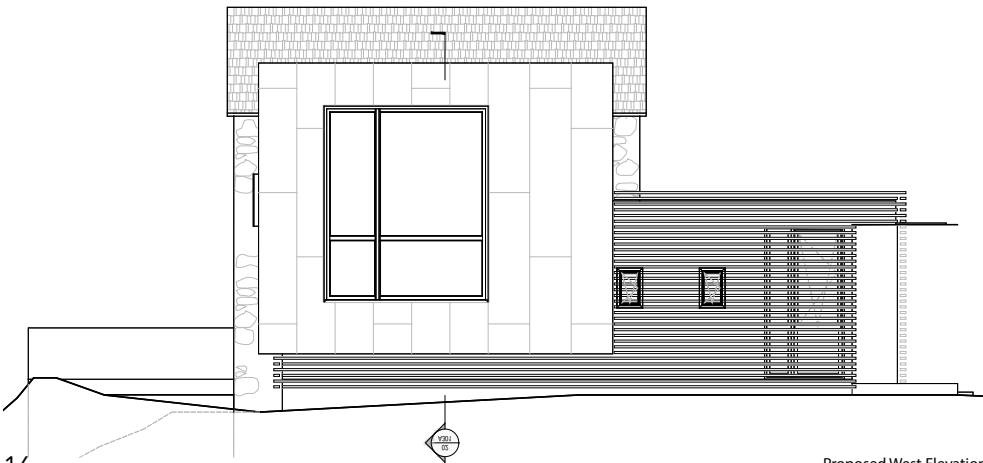
North Elevation



Proposed Site Plan



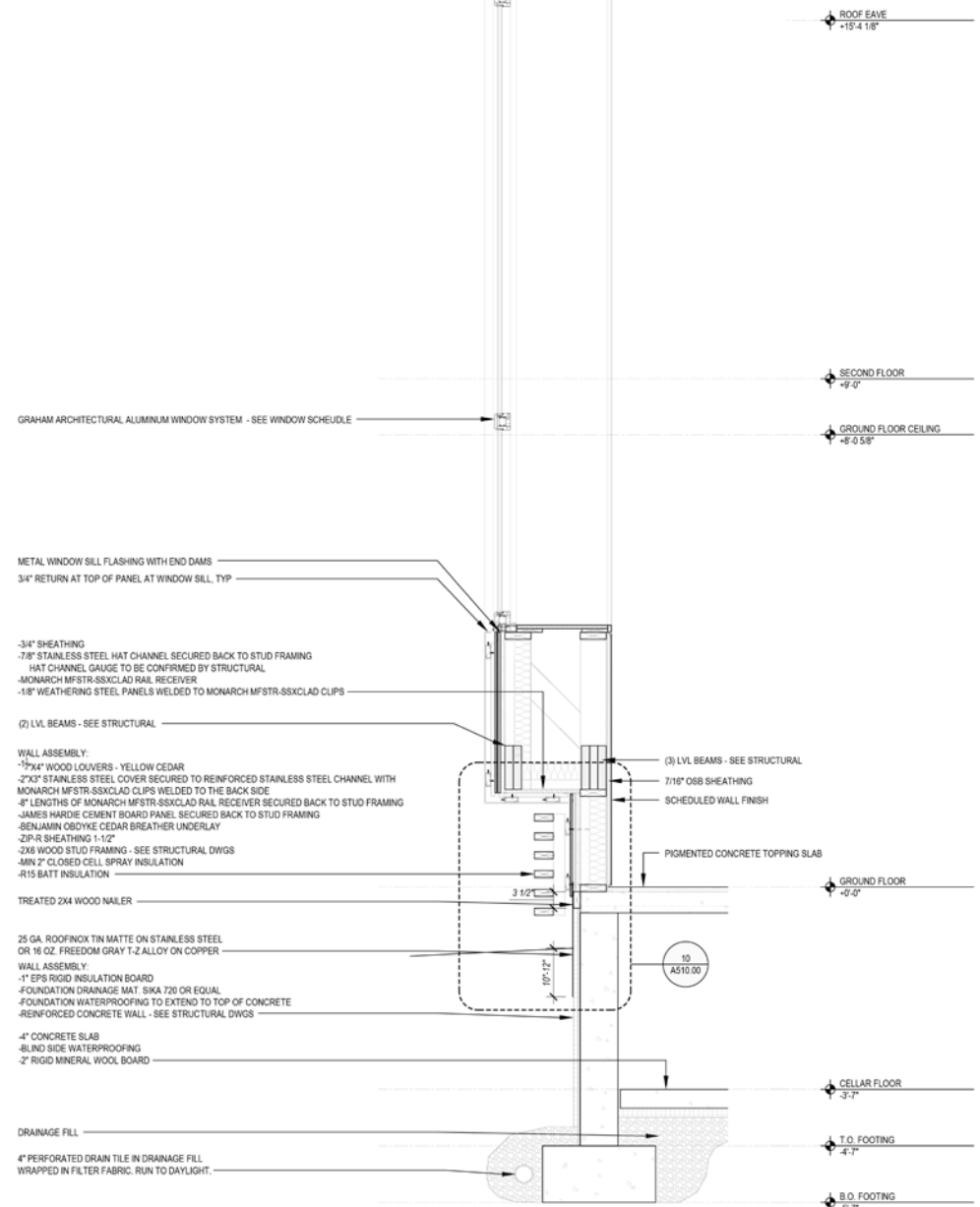
Proposed North Elevation



Proposed West Elevation

**ROOF ASSEMBLY:**  
 FULLY ADHEARED TPO OR PVC SINGLE PLY MEMBRANE ROOFING  
 3/4" ADVANTECH ROOF SHEATHING  
 2X4 WOODEN SLEEPERS SLOPED TO ROOF SCUPPER  
 MIN 2" CLOSED CELL SPRAY INSULATION  
 2X10 ROOF FRAMING - SEE STRUCTURAL DWGS  
 R30 BATT INSULATION  
 PLASTER CEILING - SEE FINISH SCHEDULE

**WALL ASSEMBLY:**  
 1/8" WEATHERING STEEL PANELS WELDED TO MONARCH MFSTR-SSXCLAD CLIPS  
 MONARCH MFSTR-SSXCLAD RAIL RECEIVER  
 7/8" STAINLESS STEEL HAT CHANNEL SECURED BACK TO STUD FRAMING  
 HAT CHANNEL GAUGE TO BE CONFIRMED BY STRUCTURAL  
 JAMES HARDIE CEMENT BOARD PANEL SECURED BACK TO STUD FRAMING  
 BENJAMIN OBOYKE CEDAR BREATHER UNDERLAY  
 2P-R SHEATHING 1-1/2"  
 2X6 WOOD STUD FRAMING - SEE STRUCTURAL DWGS  
 MIN 2" CLOSED CELL SPRAY INSULATION  
 R15 BATT INSULATION  
 (3) LVL BEAMS - SEE STRUCTURAL  
 METAL FLASHING AT WINDOW HEADER



METAL WINDOW SILL FLASHING WITH END DAMS  
 3/4" RETURN AT TOP OF PANEL AT WINDOW SILL, TYP

3/4" SHEATHING  
 7/8" STAINLESS STEEL HAT CHANNEL SECURED BACK TO STUD FRAMING  
 HAT CHANNEL GAUGE TO BE CONFIRMED BY STRUCTURAL  
 MONARCH MFSTR-SSXCLAD RAIL RECEIVER  
 1/8" WEATHERING STEEL PANELS WELDED TO MONARCH MFSTR-SSXCLAD CLIPS

**WALL ASSEMBLY:**  
 1 1/2" X 4" WOOD LOUVERS - YELLOW CEDAR  
 2"x3" STAINLESS STEEL COVER SECURED TO REINFORCED STAINLESS STEEL CHANNEL WITH MONARCH MFSTR-SSXCLAD CLIPS WELDED TO THE BACK SIDE  
 8" LENGTHS OF MONARCH MFSTR-SSXCLAD RAIL RECEIVER SECURED BACK TO STUD FRAMING  
 JAMES HARDIE CEMENT BOARD PANEL SECURED BACK TO STUD FRAMING  
 BENJAMIN OBOYKE CEDAR BREATHER UNDERLAY  
 2P-R SHEATHING 1-1/2"  
 2X6 WOOD STUD FRAMING - SEE STRUCTURAL DWGS  
 MIN 2" CLOSED CELL SPRAY INSULATION  
 R15 BATT INSULATION

TREATED 2X4 WOOD NAILER  
 25 GA. ROOFINOX TIN MATTE ON STAINLESS STEEL OR 16 OZ. FREEDOM GRAY T-Z ALLOY ON COPPER

**WALL ASSEMBLY:**  
 1" EPS RIGID INSULATION BOARD  
 FOUNDATION DRAINAGE MAT. SIKA 720 OR EQUAL  
 FOUNDATION WATERPROOFING TO EXTEND TO TOP OF CONCRETE  
 REINFORCED CONCRETE WALL - SEE STRUCTURAL DWGS

4" CONCRETE SLAB  
 8LND SIDE WATERPROOFING  
 2" RIGID MINERAL WOOL BOARD

DRAINAGE FILL  
 4" PERFORATED DRAIN TILE IN DRAINAGE FILL WRAPPED IN FILTER FABRIC, RUN TO DAYLIGHT.

ROOF RIDGE  
 -21'-4 7/8"

T.O. METAL PANEL  
 +18'-6 1/8"

ROOF EAVE  
 +15'-4 1/8"

SECOND FLOOR  
 +9'-0"

GROUND FLOOR CEILING  
 +8'-0 5/8"

GROUND FLOOR  
 +0'-0"

CELLAR FLOOR  
 -3'-3"

T.O. FOOTING  
 4'-3"

B.O. FOOTING  
 -5'-3"

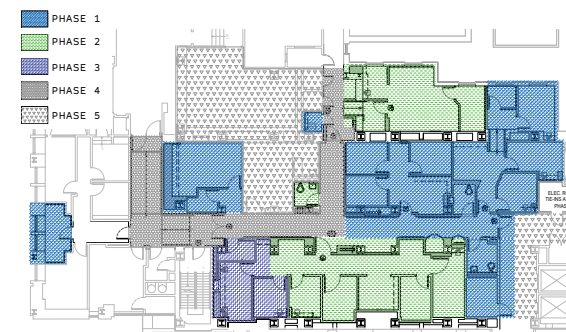
Wall Section Through West Wall Oversized Picture Window at Stair

# New York Presbyterian Orthopedics Clinic

Standard Architects  
October 2019 - July 2020  
New York, NY  
Design Team - F. Read; D. Villegas-Cruz

This project renovated an orthopedics clinic within New York Presbyterian Hospital and leased to and operated by the Hospital for Special Surgery. Work on the twelve exam rooms and support spaces (cast room, reception, offices, changing rooms, bathrooms) was staged in three phases to allow for their continued use by the clinic.

I served as project manager during construction contract administration and project close out. I coordinated site visits, requests for information, submittals and samples between the contractor, MEP engineer, owner's rep and client.



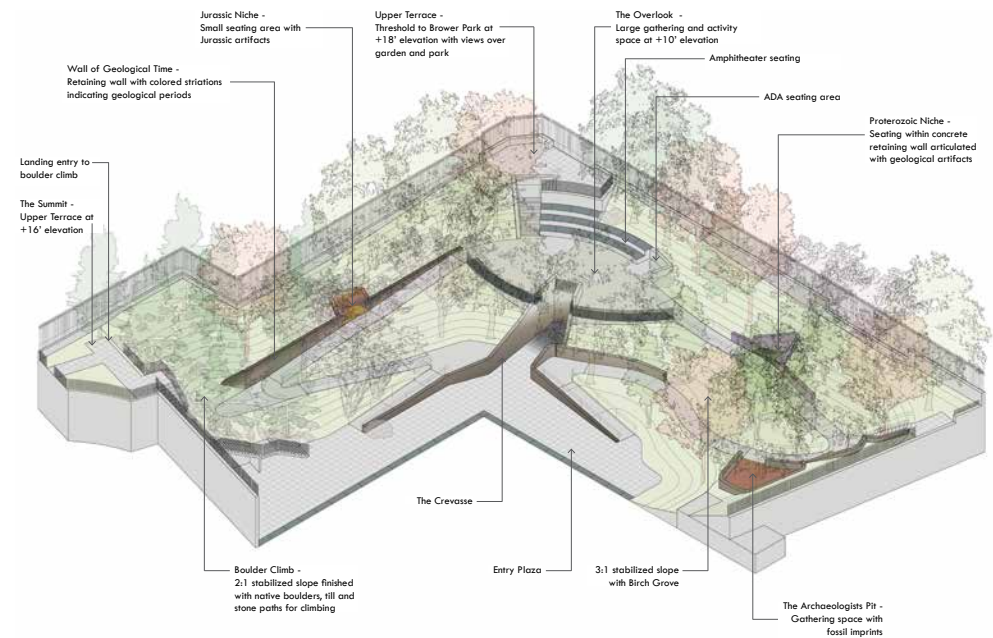
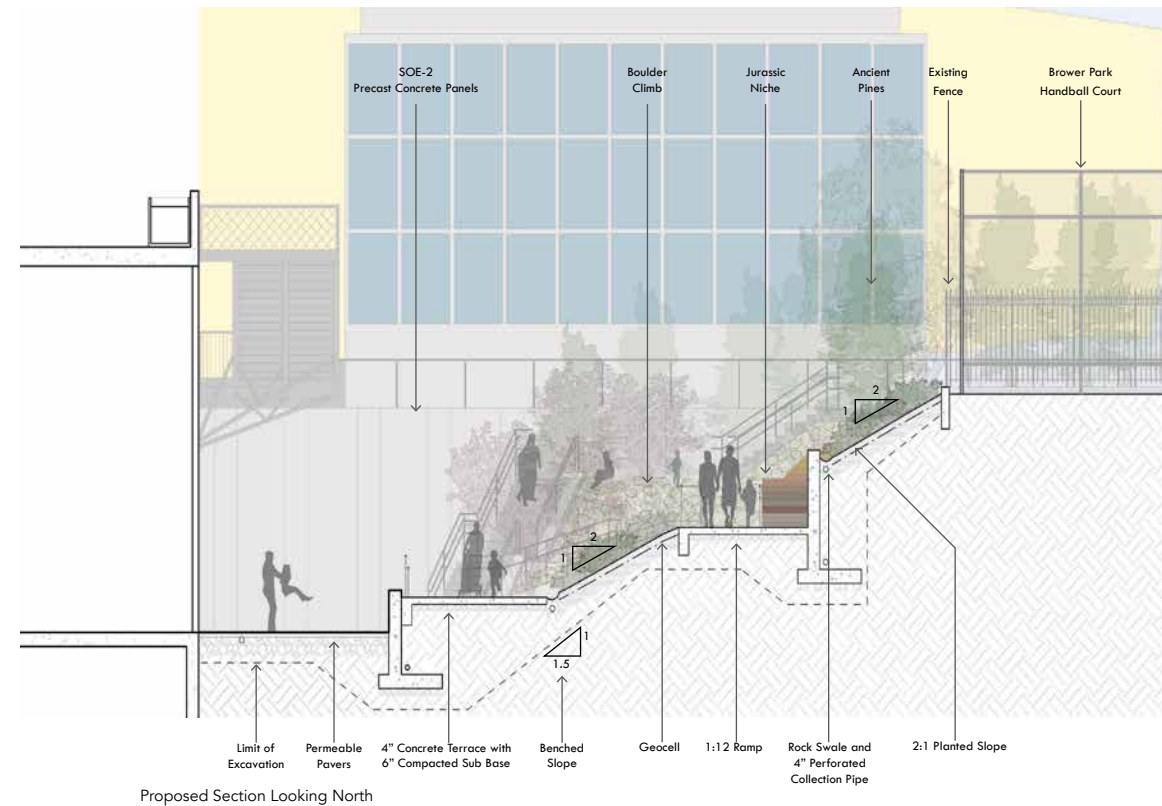
# Brooklyn Children's Museum Courtyard

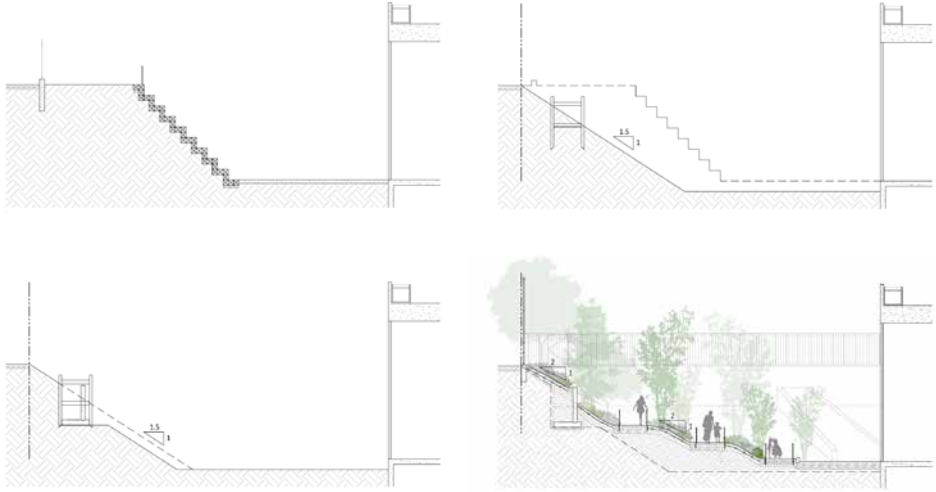
Gans & Company  
June 2018 - October 2019  
Brooklyn, NY

Design Team - Gans & Co, Nancy Owens Studio

Under the guidance of the NYC DDC Design Excellence program, this project is a renovation of the damaged and failing retaining walls of the Brooklyn Children's Museum Garden. The project sought to replace the poorly draining courtyard with a 'high performance' landscape of geo-grid reinforced sloping soil and plantings to provide a space for outdoor learning at the museum. Geological site features such as boulder erratica and crevasse reference the themes of the museum's permanent exhibits.

As the project architect I served as the day to day manager for schematic design and design development phases, coordinating between the DDC project team and our consultants (Landscape Architecture, Civil, MEP, Geotechnical Engineering).





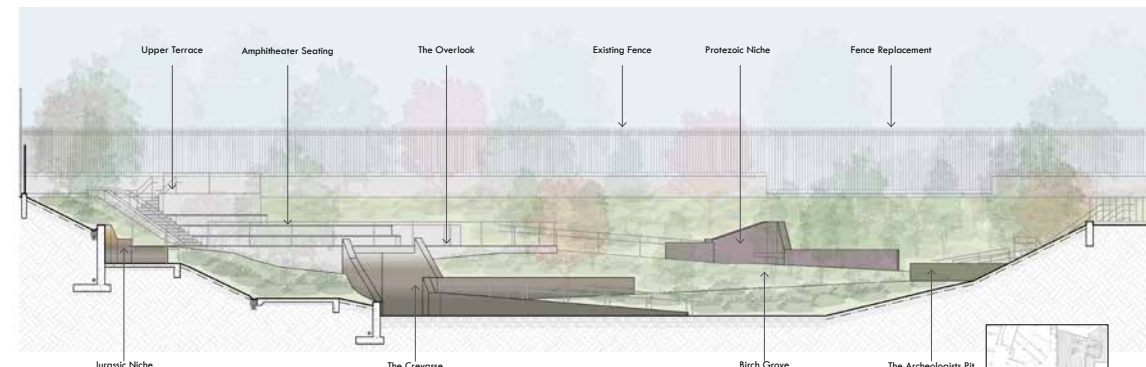
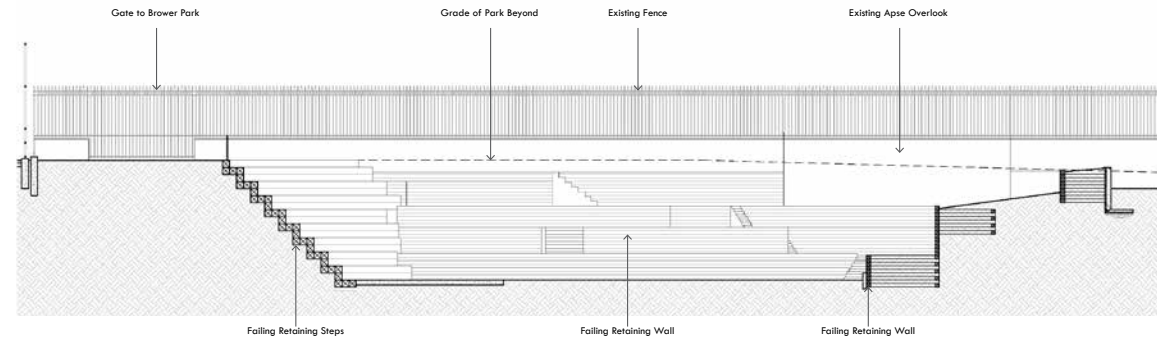
Diagrams of Site Excavation (top left to bottom right)



Rendering of Tree Grove Looking East - by consultant



Proposed Site Plan



Existing (top) and Proposed (bottom) Section Looking North

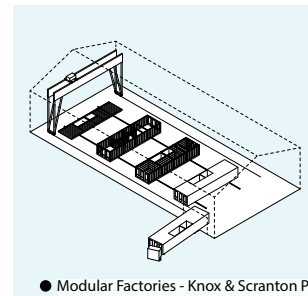


# Build-it-Back: Modular

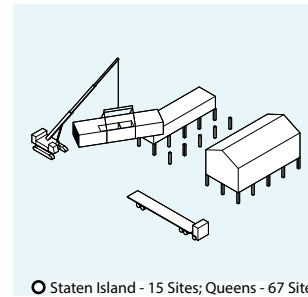
Gans & Company  
June 2017 - July 2018  
Queens & Staten Island, NY  
Design Team - D. Gans, C. Zubillaga

To expedite Superstorm Sandy recovery efforts in Queens and Staten Island, Build-it-Back turned to modular construction. Gans & Company designed twenty housing prototypes which responded to specific Build-it-Back program guidelines, zoning regulations, and local fire code. These prototypes became 83 houses, with modules constructed in Pennsylvania and delivered and installed in coastal neighborhoods in Staten Island and Queens.

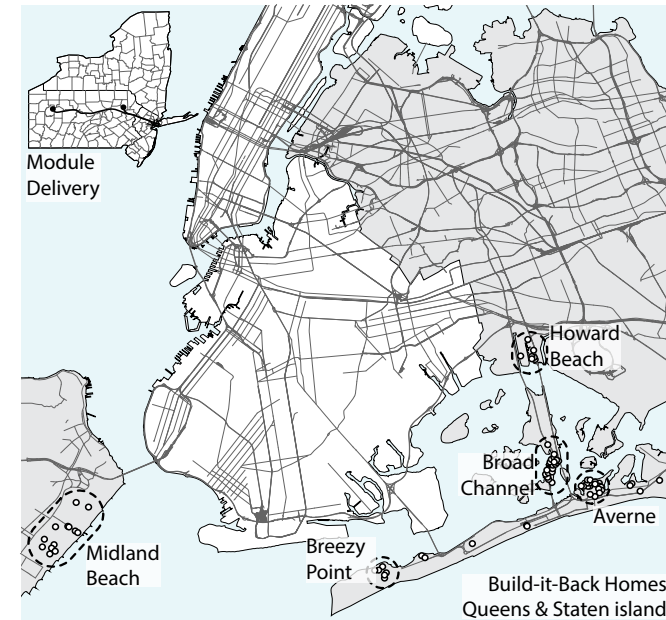
As staff designer I produced iterations of prototype designs for homeowner approval, and reviewed modular shop drawings and DOB submission packages.



● Modular Factories - Knox & Scranton PA



○ Staten Island - 15 Sites; Queens - 67 Sites



Prototype 20 - Two Family  
2BD/1BA - 1800 SF



Prototype 19 - One Family  
4BD/3BA - 1650 SF



Prototype 12A  
Two Family 3BD/2BA  
2000 SF

Prototype 12C  
Two Family 3BD/2BA  
2000 SF

Prototype 1A - One Family  
1BD/1BA - 750 SF

Prototype 4: One Family  
3BD/2BA - 1100 SF



Prototype 3 - One Family  
2BD/2BA - 900 SF

Prototype 10A - Two Family  
2BD/1BA - 1900 SF



# Sag Harbor Cottages

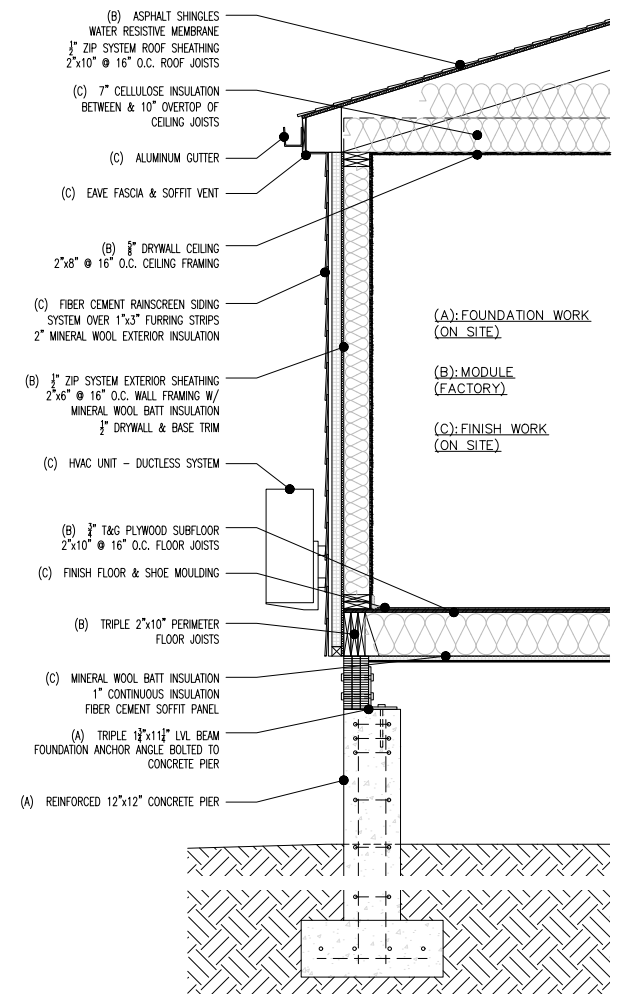
Gans & Company  
June 2017 - April 2018  
East Bridgehampton, NY  
Design Team - D. Gans, J. Kirschenfeld, C. Zubillaga

Sag Harbor Community Housing Trust commissioned this project to address the area's urgent need for workforce housing. The cottages are a replicable model for affordable housing that is sensitive to the small-scale residential typology and unique ecology of the twin forks of Long Island. The one- and three-bedroom houses are all assembled from combinations of two basic prefabricated modules. The site arrangement includes individual front yards and rear decks, connecting side porches and a shared garden path. In this way, the design encourages community interaction and recreation, while also creating private outdoor spaces that extend the house into the landscape.

As project manager I prepared drawings for a NYS DHCR grant application and reviewed bid proposals from general contractors (for all site work, setting and 'button up' scope) and from modular construction companies.







One-Bedroom Cottage



Three-Bedroom Cottage, First Floor



Three-Bedroom Cottage, Second Floor



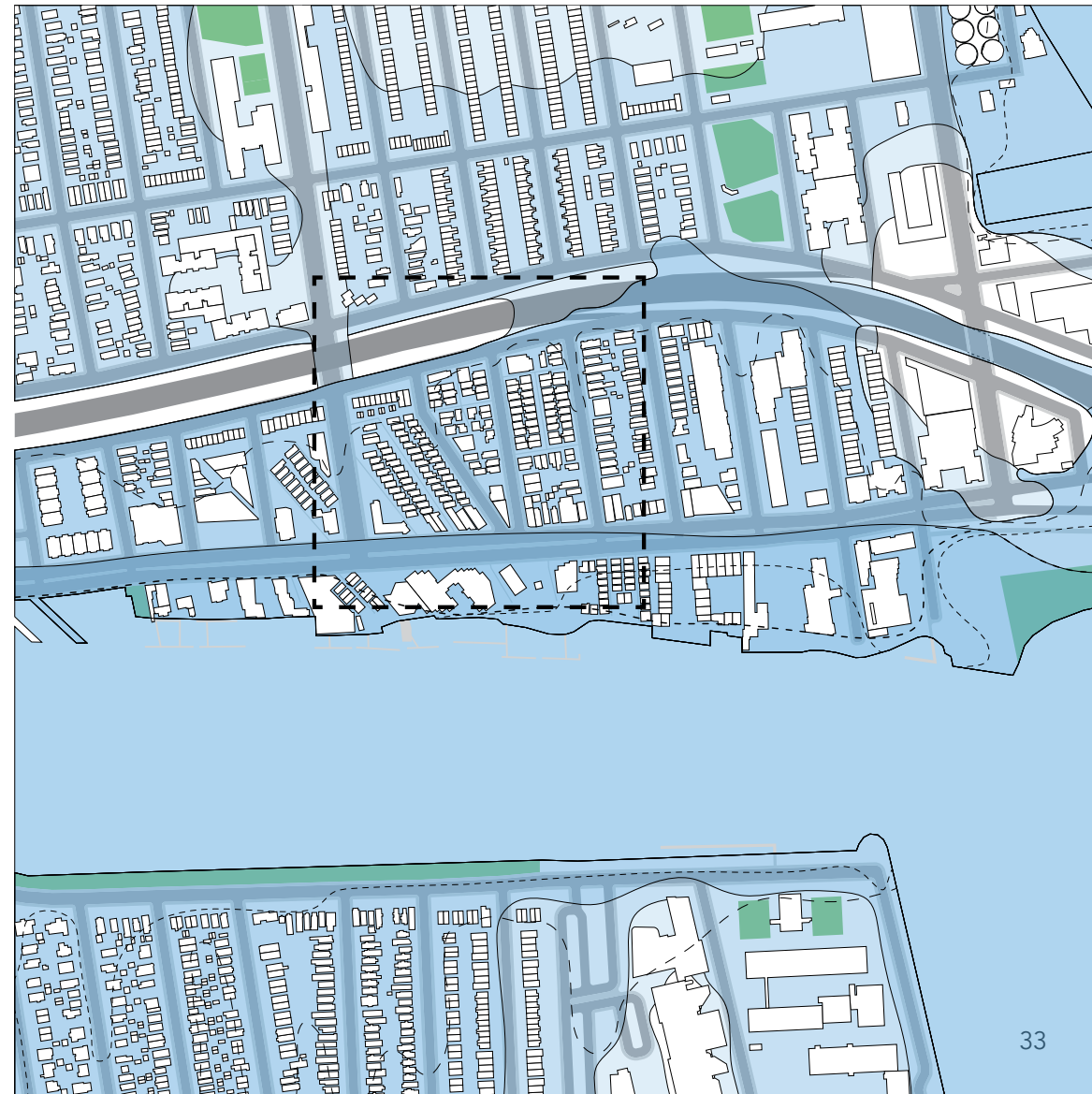
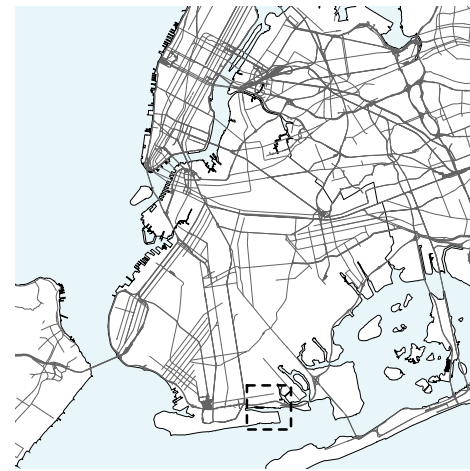
# Build-it-Back: Brooklyn

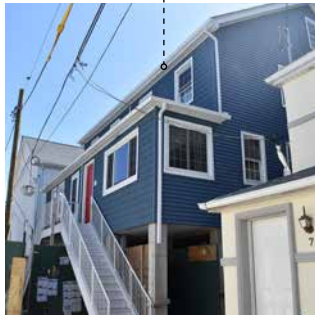
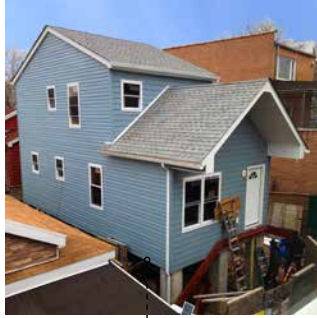
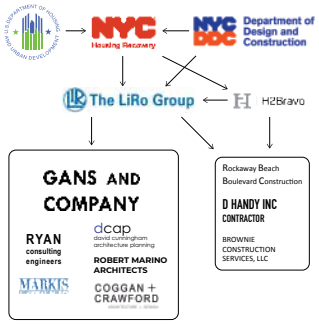
Gans & Company  
June 2017 - Fall 2019  
Brooklyn, NY

Design Team - D. Gans, D. Cunningham, R. Marino

In October 2012 Superstorm Sandy devastated the Sheepshead Bay neighborhood of Brooklyn. Existing mews courts, located between streets and often sunken a few feet below the street grade, were hit especially hard. In the summer of 2017 construction began on elevating and rebuilding homes on Stanton Road, Mesereau Court and Webers Court. As part of Build-it-Back Brooklyn, Gans & Co led a team of three architecture firms, structural and mep engineers through the design, approval and construction process.

In my role as project architect for these sixteen new and elevated homes, I manage and coordinate all construction related communication between architects of record, engineers, contractors, program managers and city agencies.





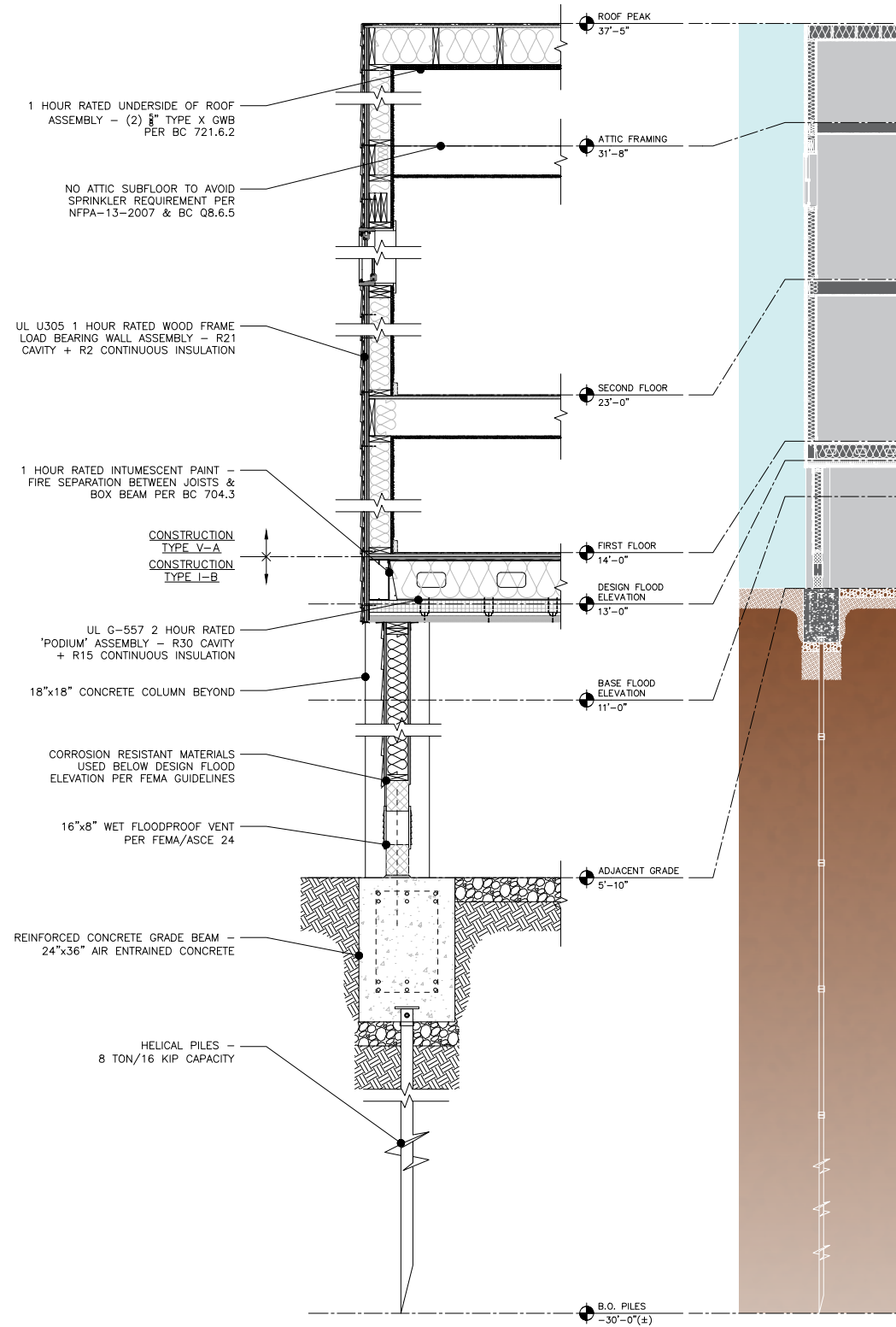
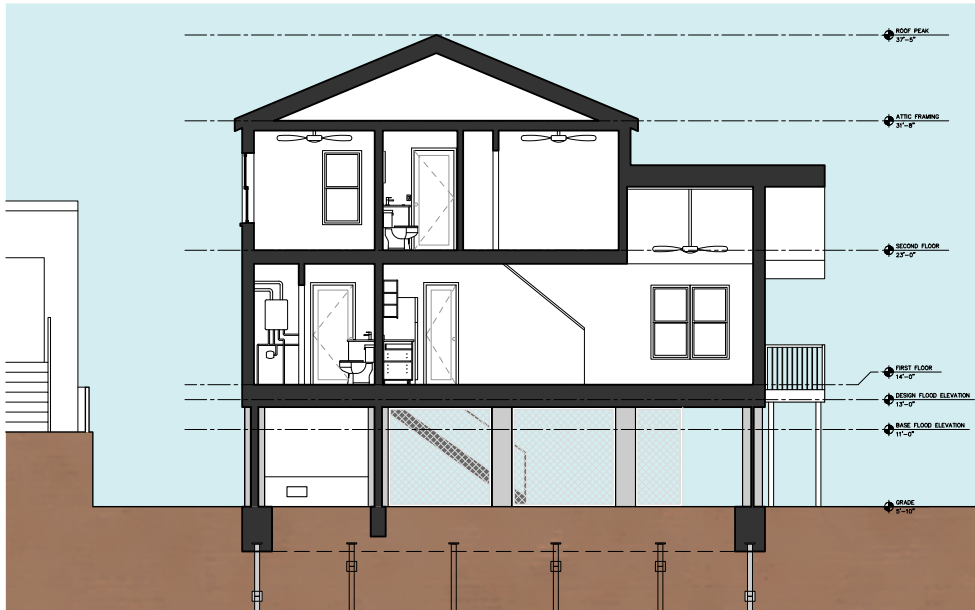
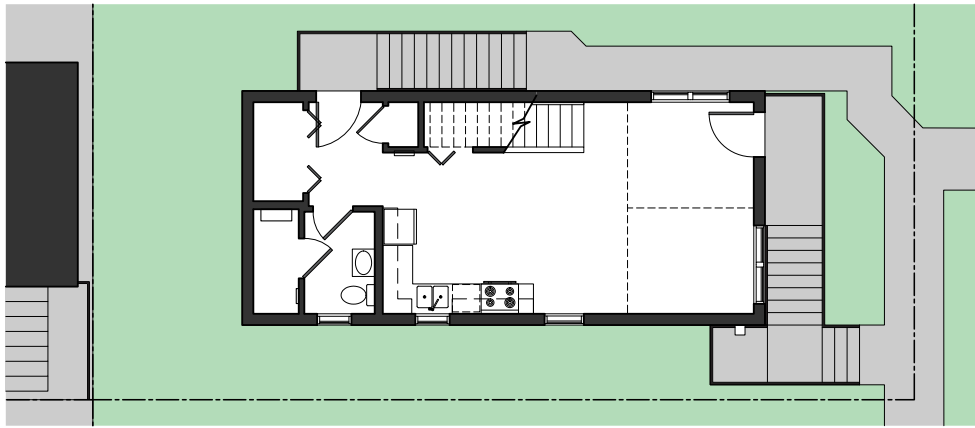
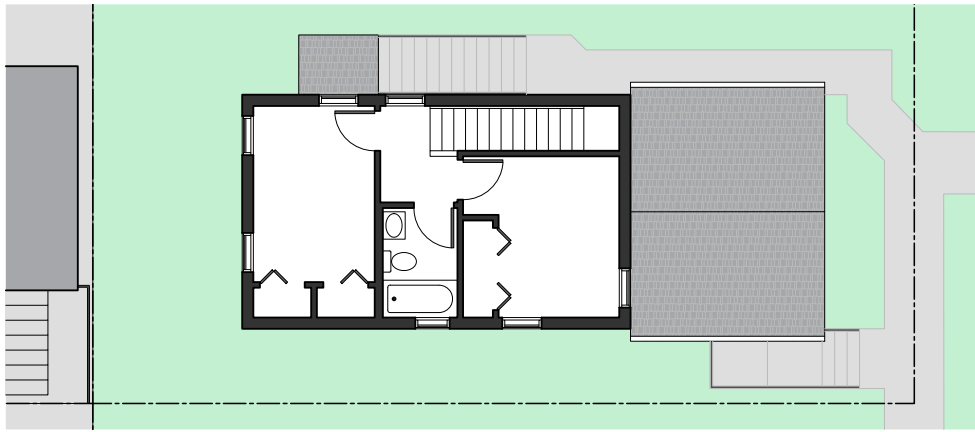
# 24A Mesereau Court

Gans & Company  
February 2018 - Summer 2019  
Brooklyn, NY  
Design Team - Deborah Gans (principal)

This home was the last Build-it-Back home assigned to Gans & Co in Brooklyn, and the first to utilize podium construction (a hybrid of steel and wood framing) to meet the restrictions of building in the fire district. Operating within the tight constraints of Built-it-Back, we were able to design a cathedral ceiling for the living room and an integrated front overhang at the home's entrance. Flood zone restrictions required the home to be elevated 7' off of the ground, and determined material use and plumbing infrastructure below the Design Flood Elevation. Poor soil conditions required the use of helical piles to support the concrete foundation.

In my role as project architect, I led this house through schematic design & homeowner approval, construction documentation and NYC Department of Buildings approval, cost estimation and BSA hearings, and finally construction services (site visits, submittals, requests for information).



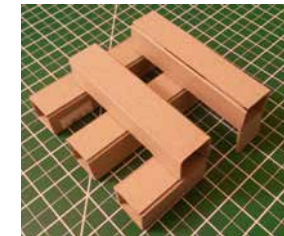


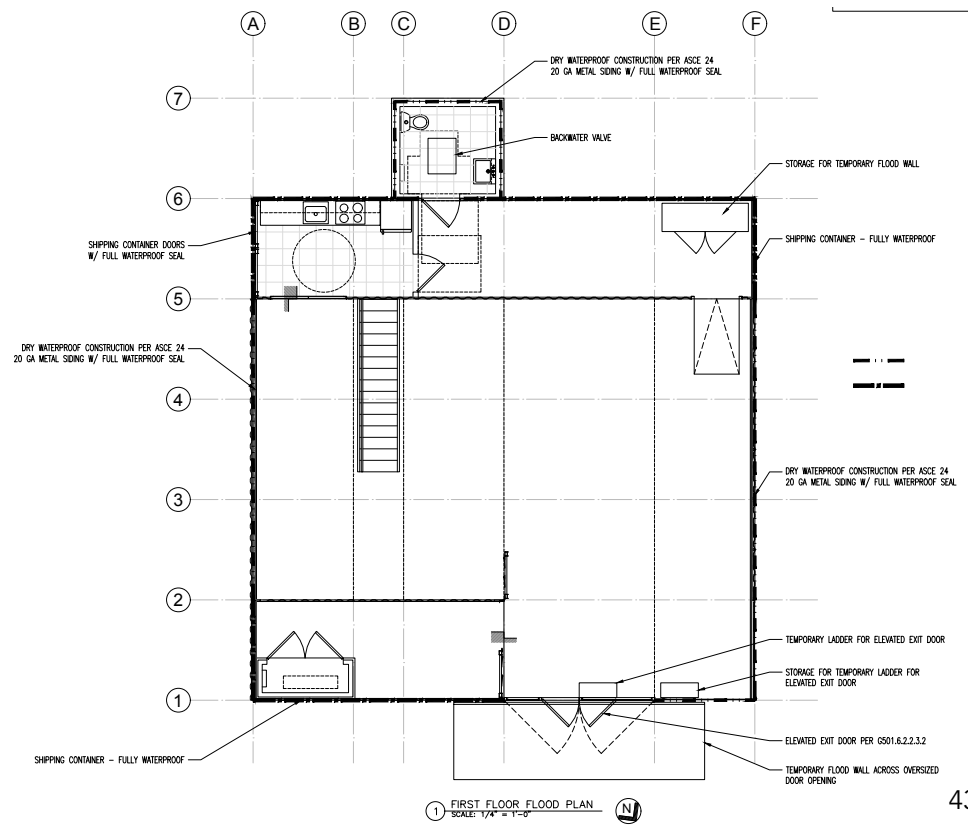
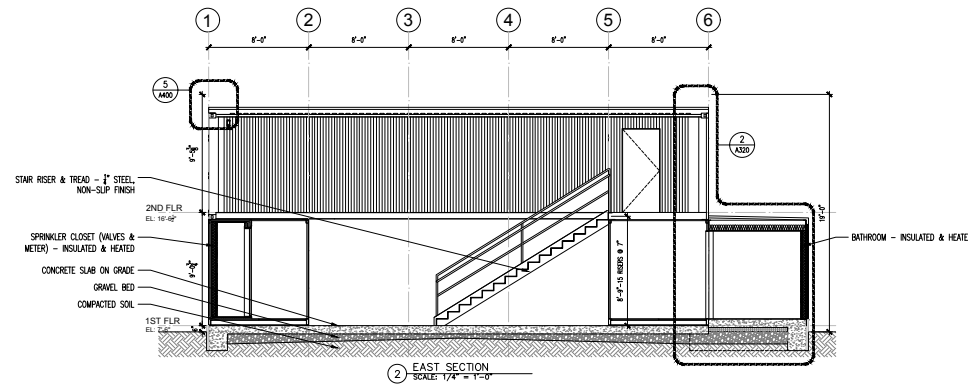
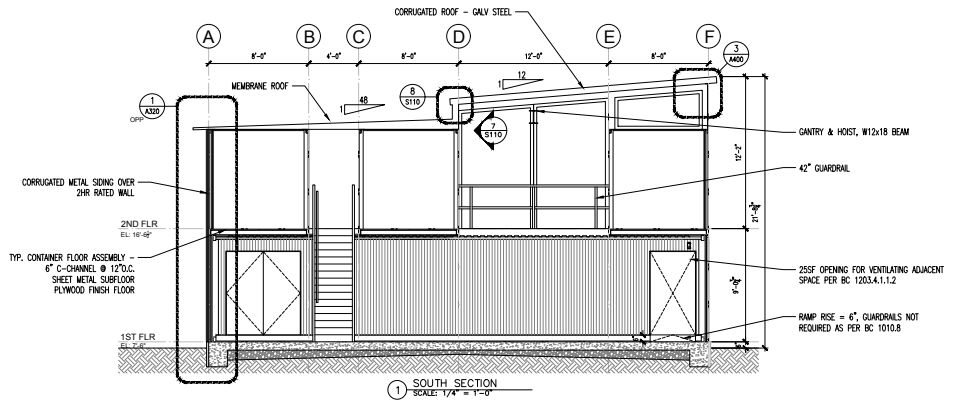
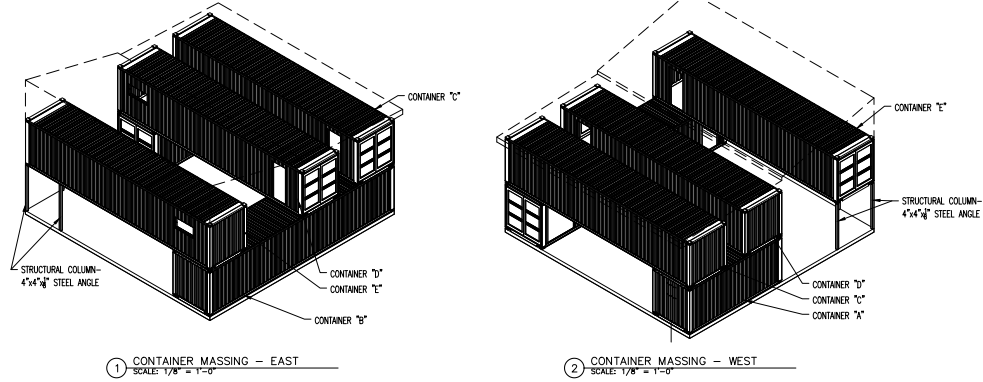
# Container Shop

DASH 7 Design  
September 2014 - May 2019  
Brooklyn, NY  
Design Team - M. O'Toole

In 2014 DASH 7 Design wanted to exploit their knowledge of shipping container construction to design and build their new fabrication shop. Massing studies helped determine optimal container configuration for building circulation and program spaces. The building envelope includes corrugated wall panels, weathering steel, clerestory windows, and half corrugated roof/half membrane roof.

Since 2015 DASH 7 has relocated and is currently sited in a flood zone. The building is currently undergoing a code compliance review (NYC Building Codes, Energy Codes, FEMA) in an attempt to formalize a certificate of occupancy for the space.



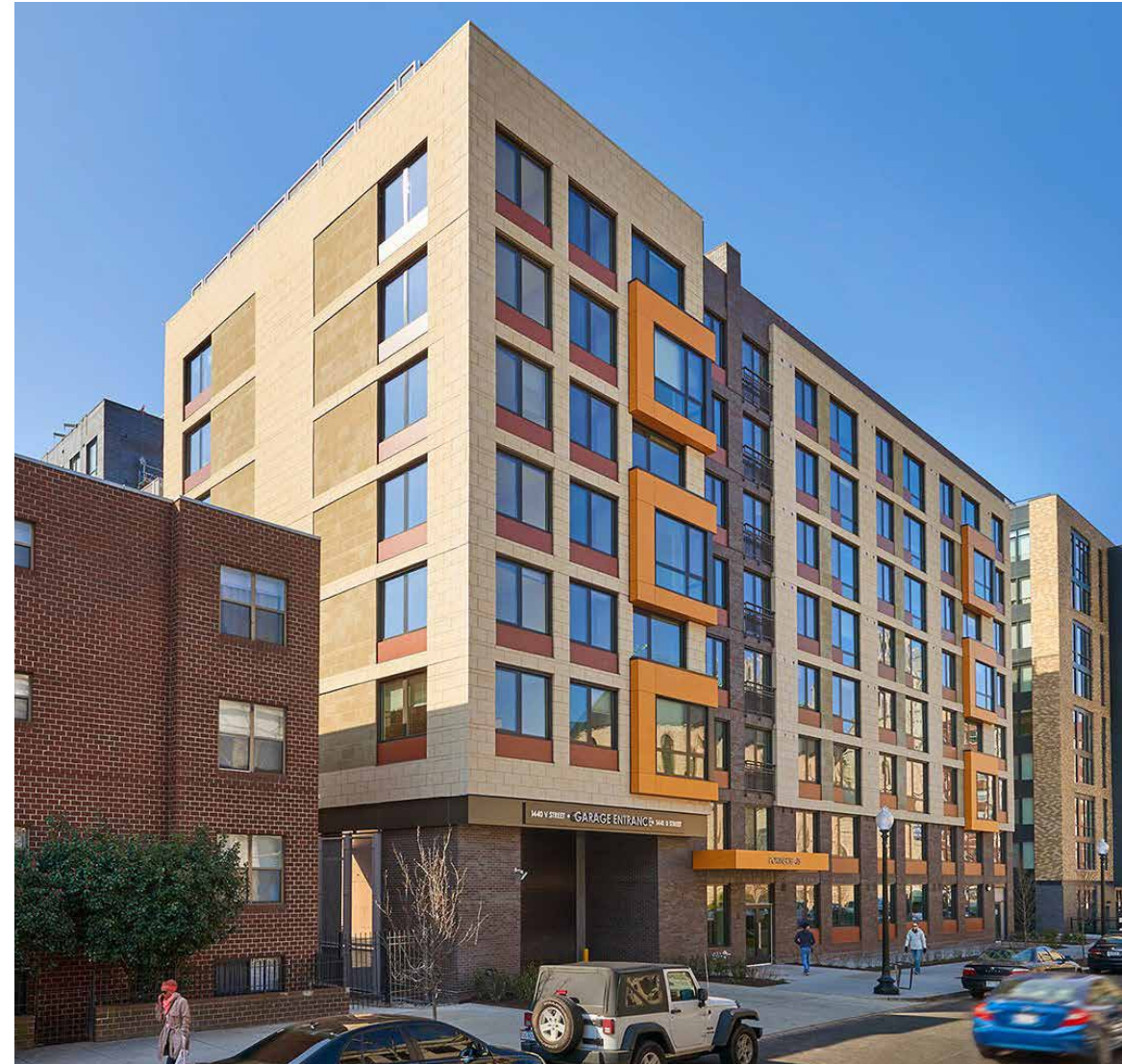


# Portner Flats & 1441 U Street

Eric Colbert & Associates, PC  
Sept 2014 - Sept 2016  
Washington, DC  
Project Manager - Brian Bucskowski  
Design Team - C. Moreau, U. Deitz, J.B. Lallement

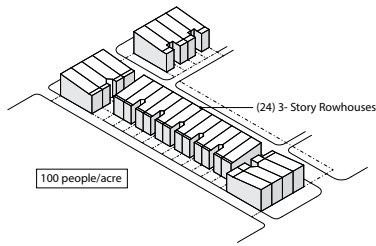
Portner Flats is a multi-phased project redeveloped garden style affordable housing apartments with a 96 unit apartment. Developers Somerset and Jonathan Rose teamed up to expand affordable housing supply and to keep current residents within a rapidly gentrifying neighborhood. 1441 U Street is a mixed use development extending the commercial U Street Corridor. The 11 story project includes 288 apartments and 15,000 SF of retail. This project was developed and is being constructed in conjunction with Portner Flats.

I served as staff architect, working under a project manager and with a project designer. Personal responsibilities included coordination between structural and MEP engineers and the landscape architects, corresponding with building envelope and accessibility consultants, and assisting with all phases of design from schematic design through construction documents and the commencement of construction.

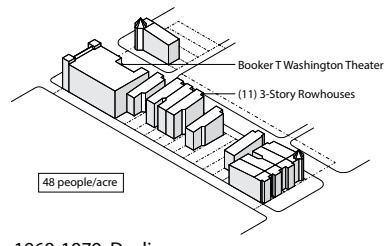


photographs by Judy Davis ©

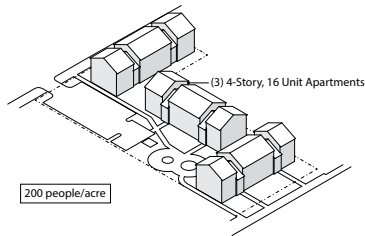




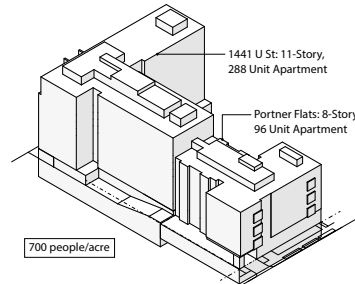
1895-1903: Expansion



1968-1979: Decline



1979-2014: Urban Renewal

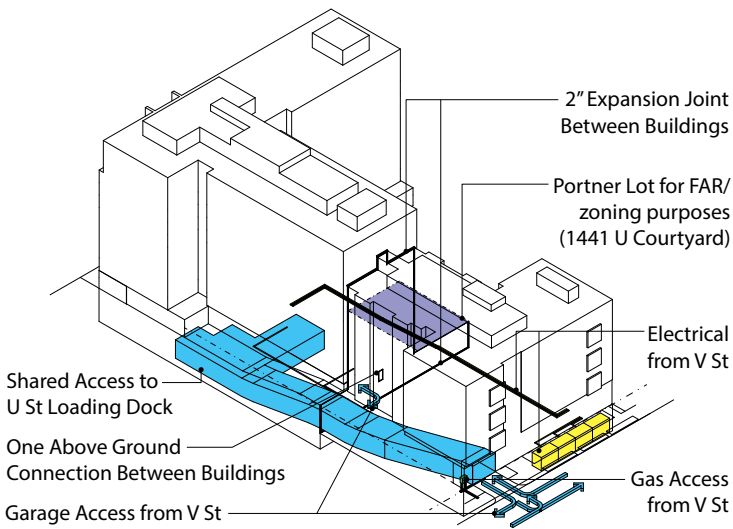


2016- : Portner Flats & 1441 U St

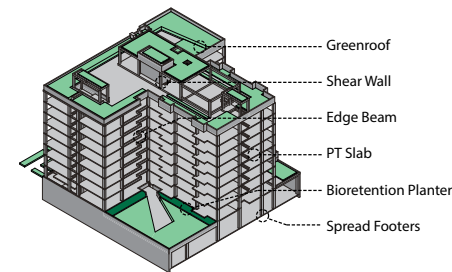
Development history of site



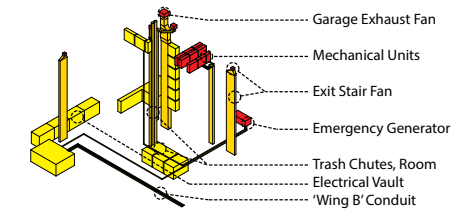
photographs by Judy Davis ©



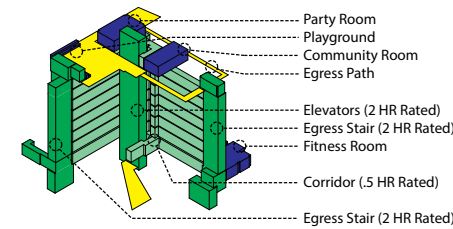
Covenants Between Buildings



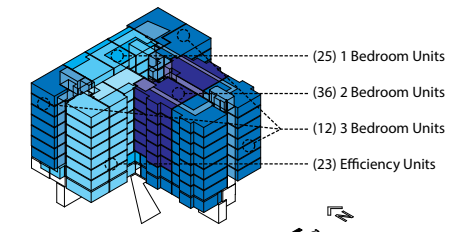
Structure & Greenroof



Utilities

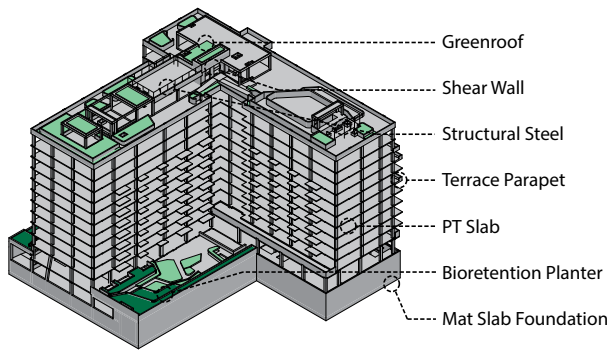


Circulation

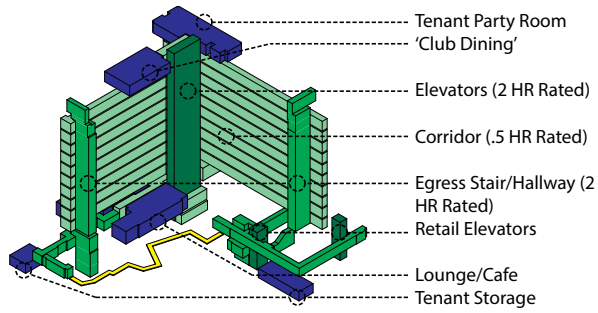


Unit Types

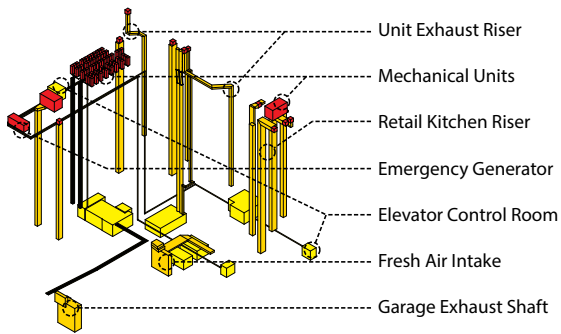
Systems diagrams of Portner Flats



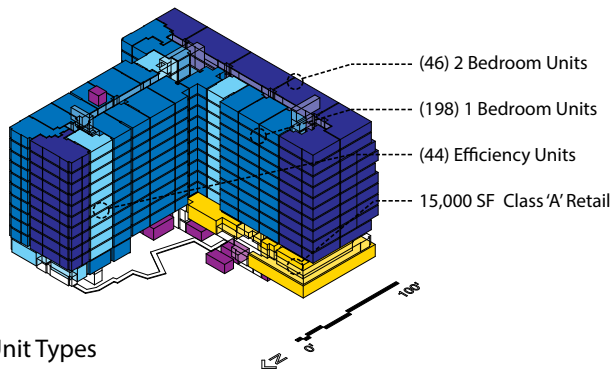
Structure & Greenroof



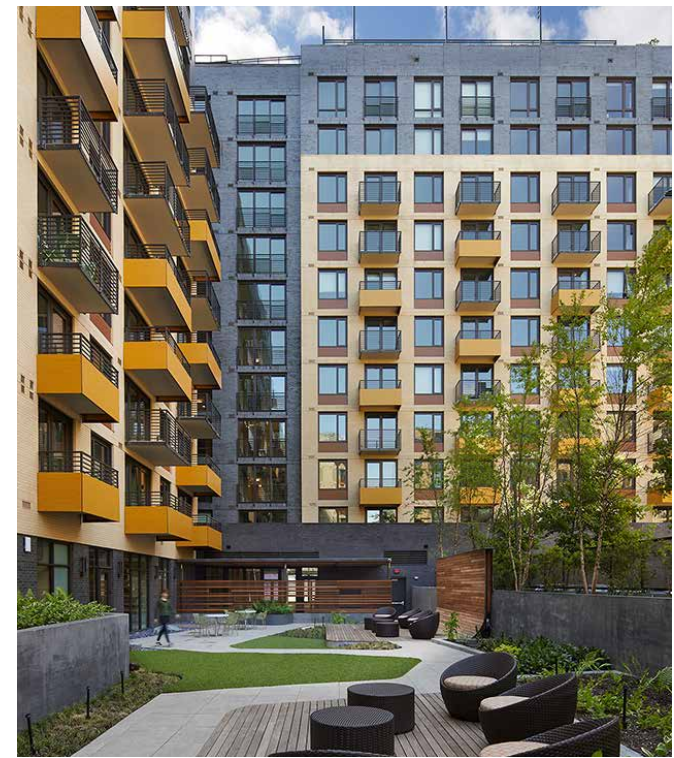
Circulation

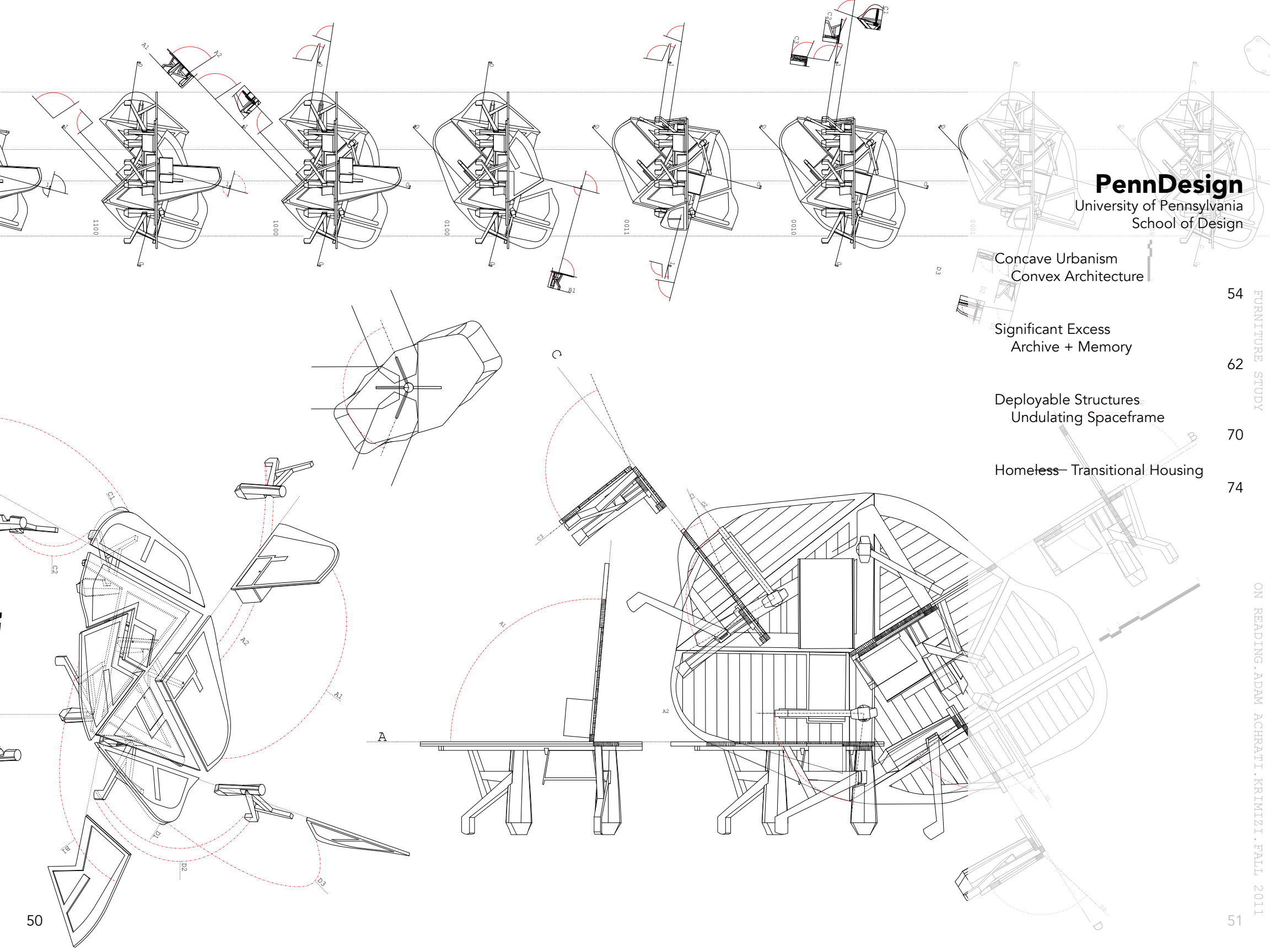


Utilities



Unit Types





Concave Urbanism  
Convex Architecture

Significant Excess  
Archive + Memory

Deployable Structures  
Undulating Spaceframe

Homeless— Transitional Housing

# Concave Urbanism Convex Architecture

University of Pennsylvania  
Fall 2013  
Medellín, Colombia  
Instructors - David Gouverneur & David Maestres  
Based on research completed with  
L. Hua, J. Seyfried, D. Zellefrow

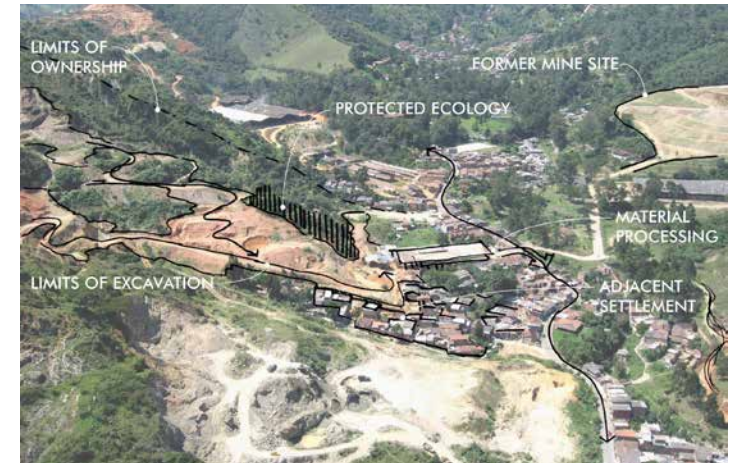
Based in Medellín, Colombia, this studio focused on strategies that would guide the informal growth of settlements on steep hillsides. This project focused on locating public buildings on the steepest slopes, framing open public space in the concave valleys. The convex hillsides would be open to self-constructed dwellings, providing security and social cohesion while looking over the public spaces.

This project looked at the growth and expansion of the valley city, specifically abandoned mining facilities on the hills to the southwest. The site strategy included 'ecological protection zones' to help remediate land scarred by mineral extraction. Public outreach and programming focuses on helping resettle Internally Displaced People, those who fled violence from other parts of Colombia.

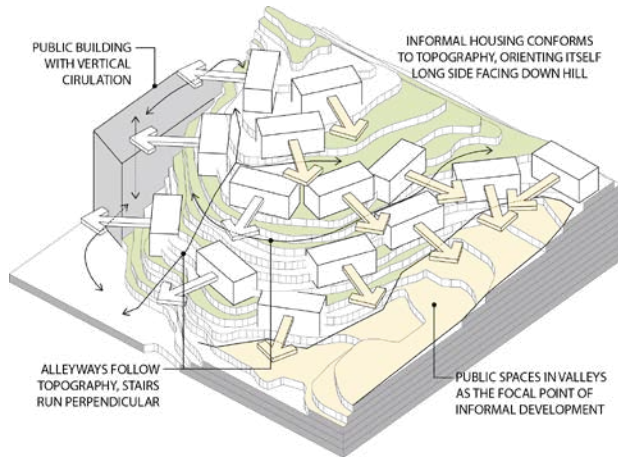




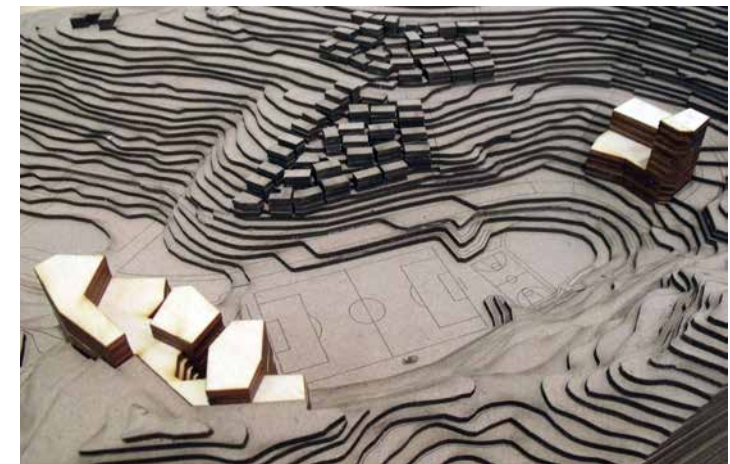
Aerial view of informal settlements in Medellín, Colombia



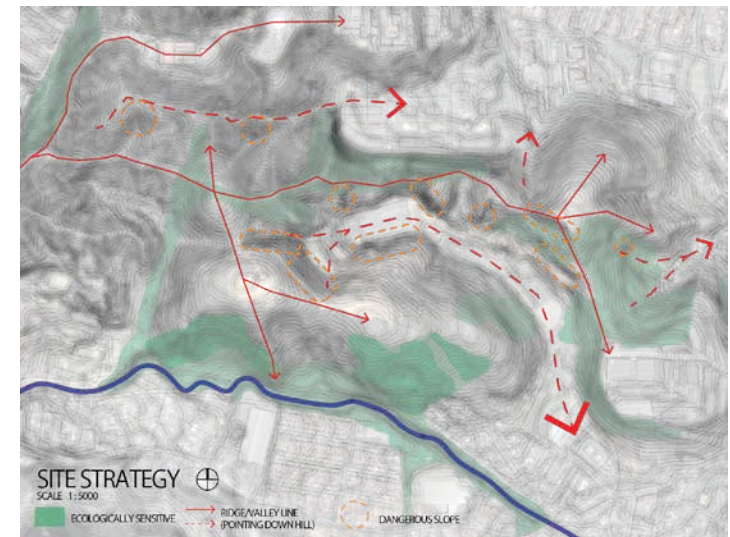
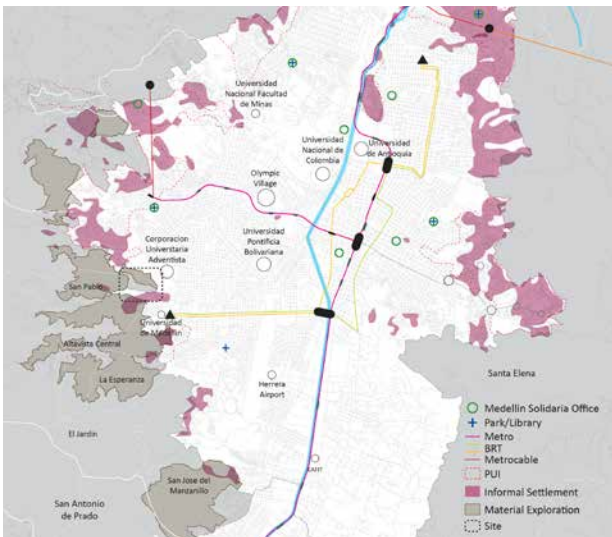
abandoned mining facility as potential location for future settlement

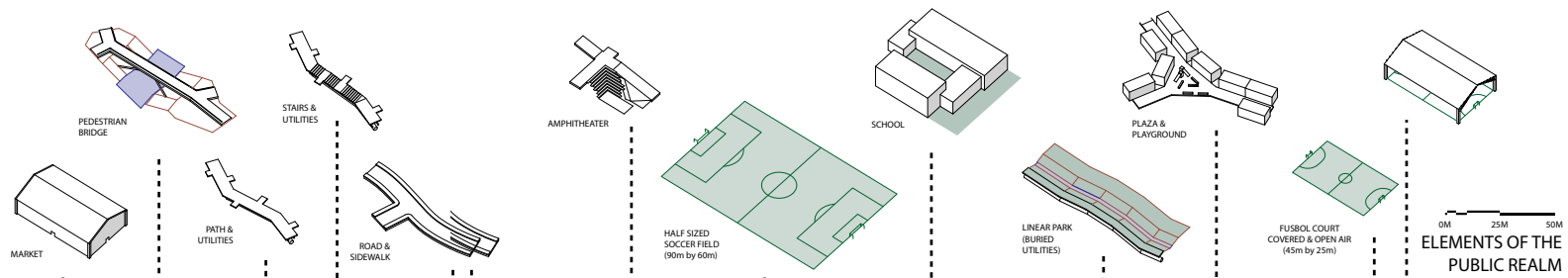


Informal settlements, mining operations in Medellín

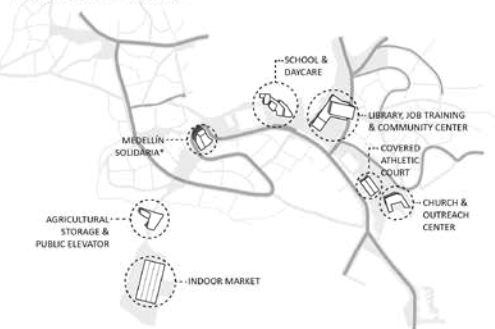


analysis showing preferable locations of public, private, protected spaces

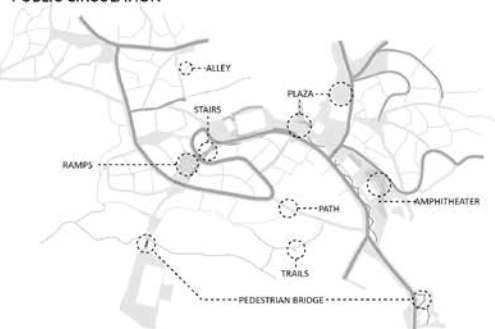




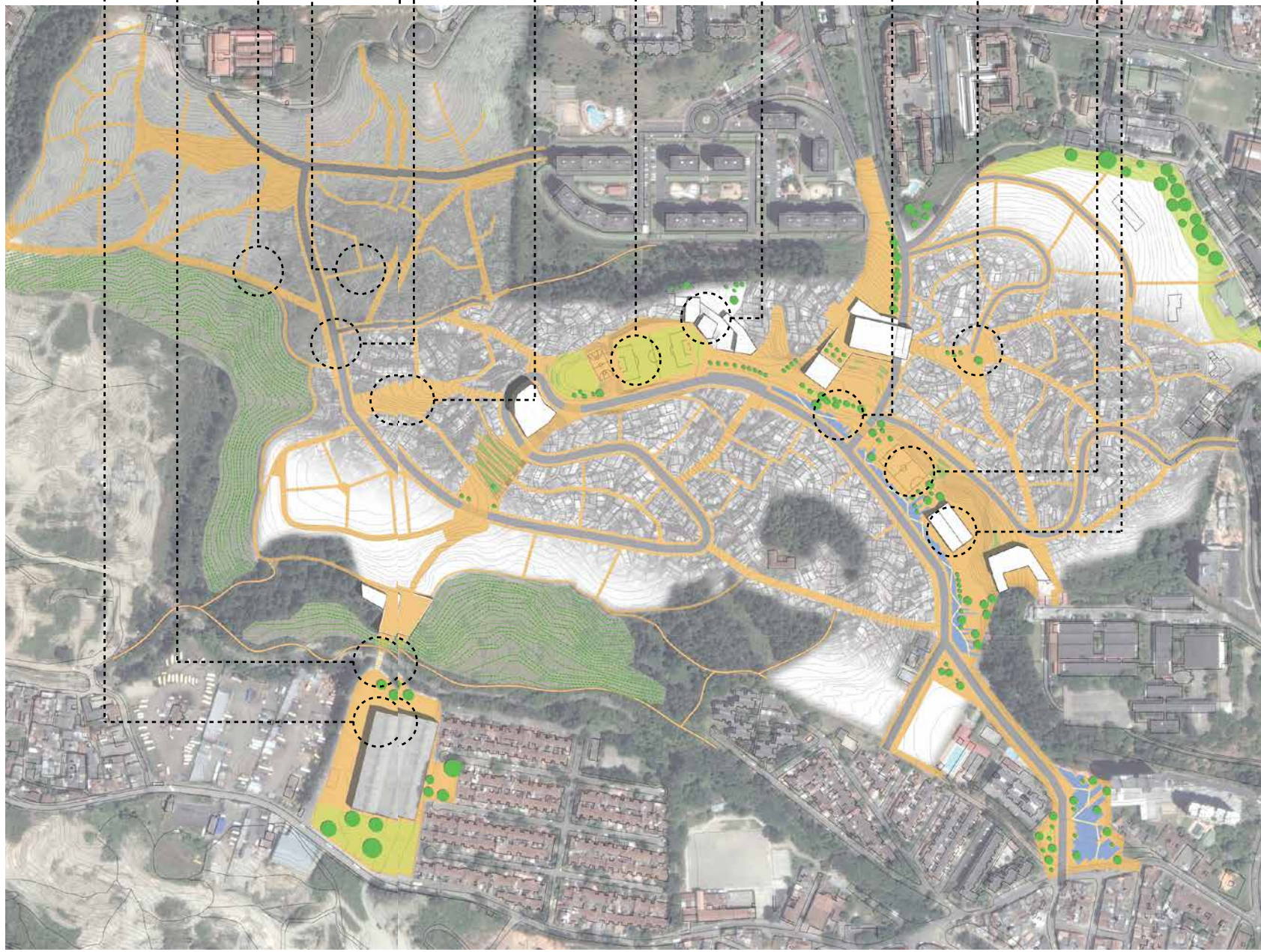
**BUILDINGS & PROGRAM**

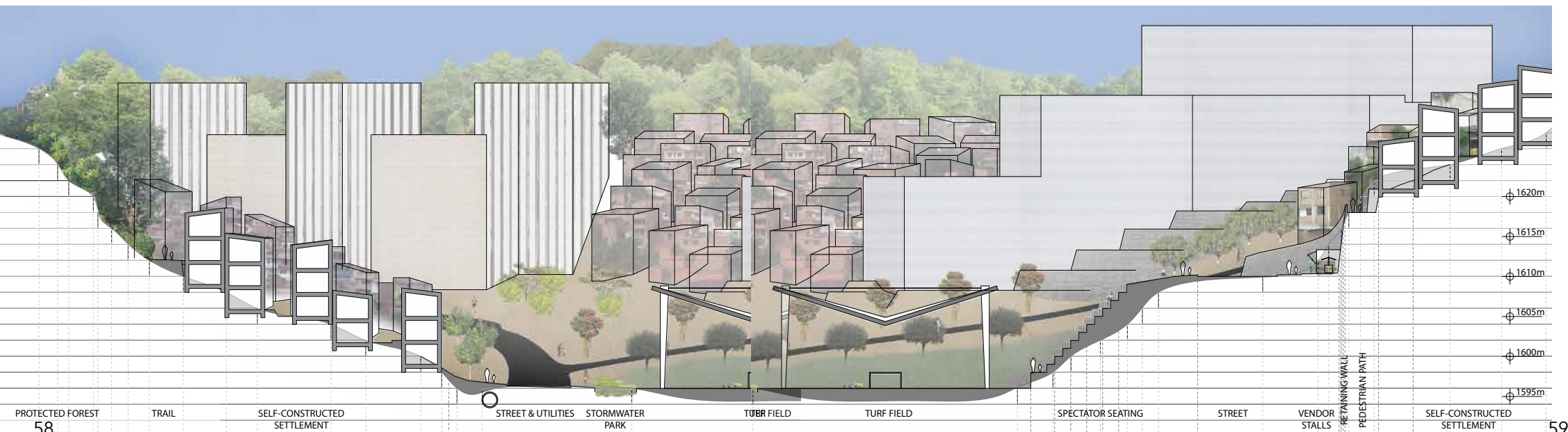
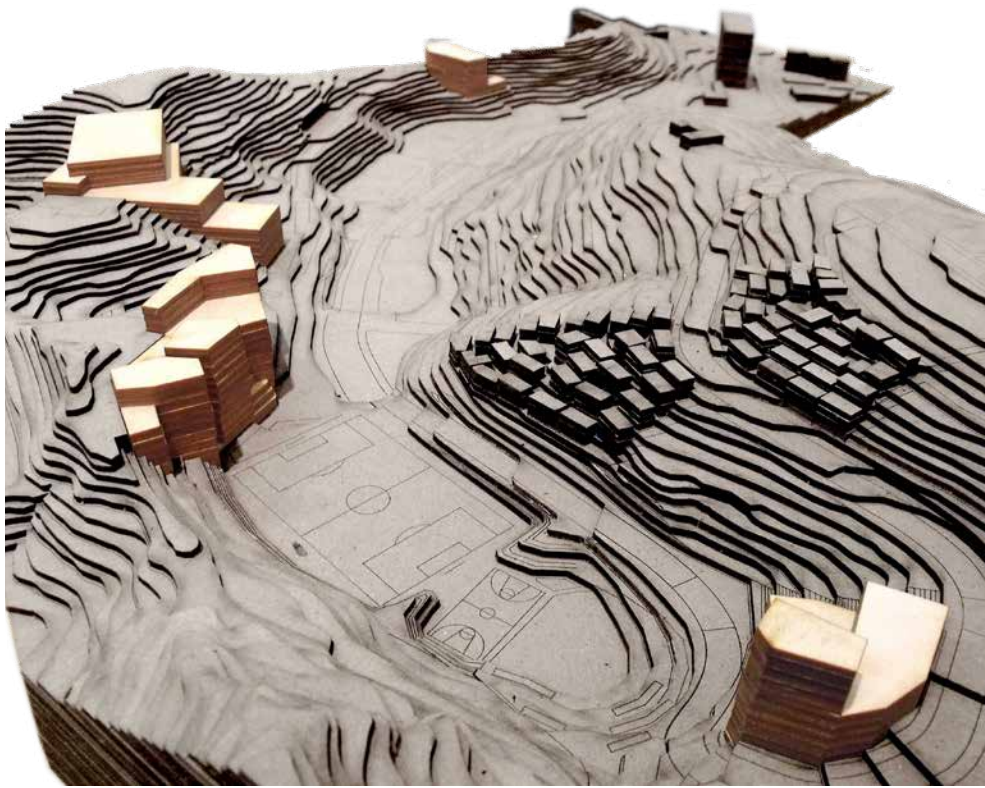


**PUBLIC CIRCULATION**



**GREEN SPACES**





## Significant Excess: Archive + Memory

University of Pennsylvania  
Spring 2013  
Queens, NYC  
Instructor - Ben Krone  
Collaborator - Alex D'Aversa

The Digital Archive investigates storing non-material societal memory by way of digital documentation of visual art. The building serves as museum to promote public interaction with the archives as a means of extending the life of the artifacts. The two main street frontages are connected by an internal sidewalk, drawing visitors and passers by to explore more of the museum.

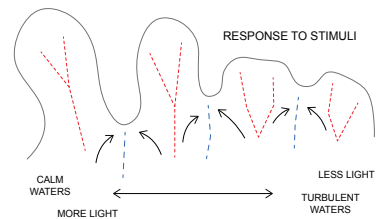
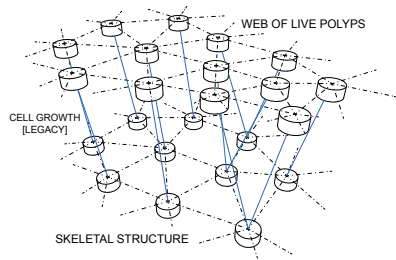
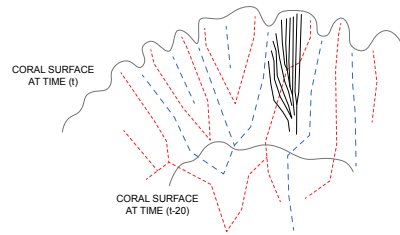
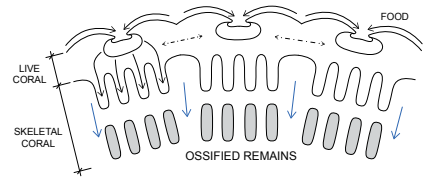
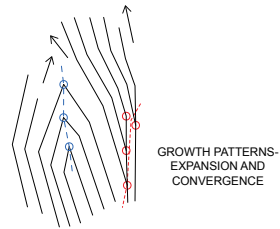
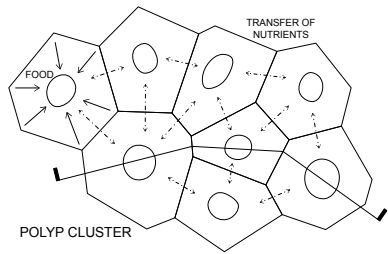
The studio focused on using the growth patterns and logic of coral reefs to inform how artifacts are documented. Coral leave a calcified record of its own history, likewise the museum would document the changing context of individual artwork as people react to it. The building's facade changes over time as well, with the perforated copper paneling gaining a patina with age.



(above) Aerial view of gallery bridges spanning internal alleyway  
(below) Rendering of gallery spaces





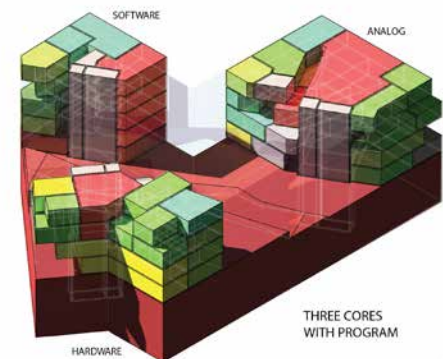
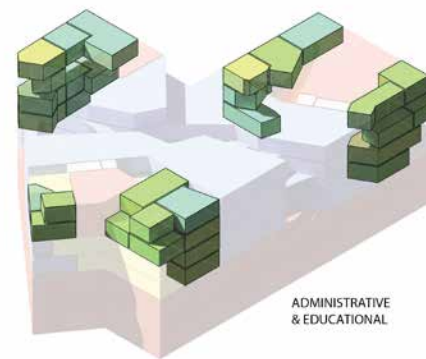
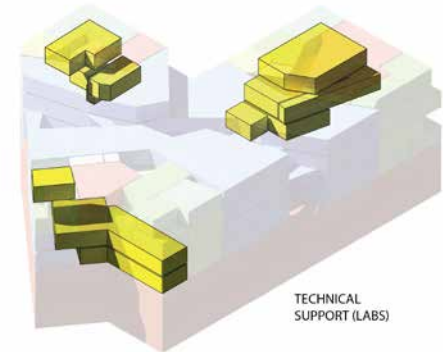
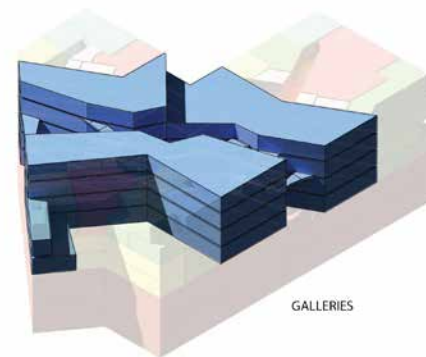


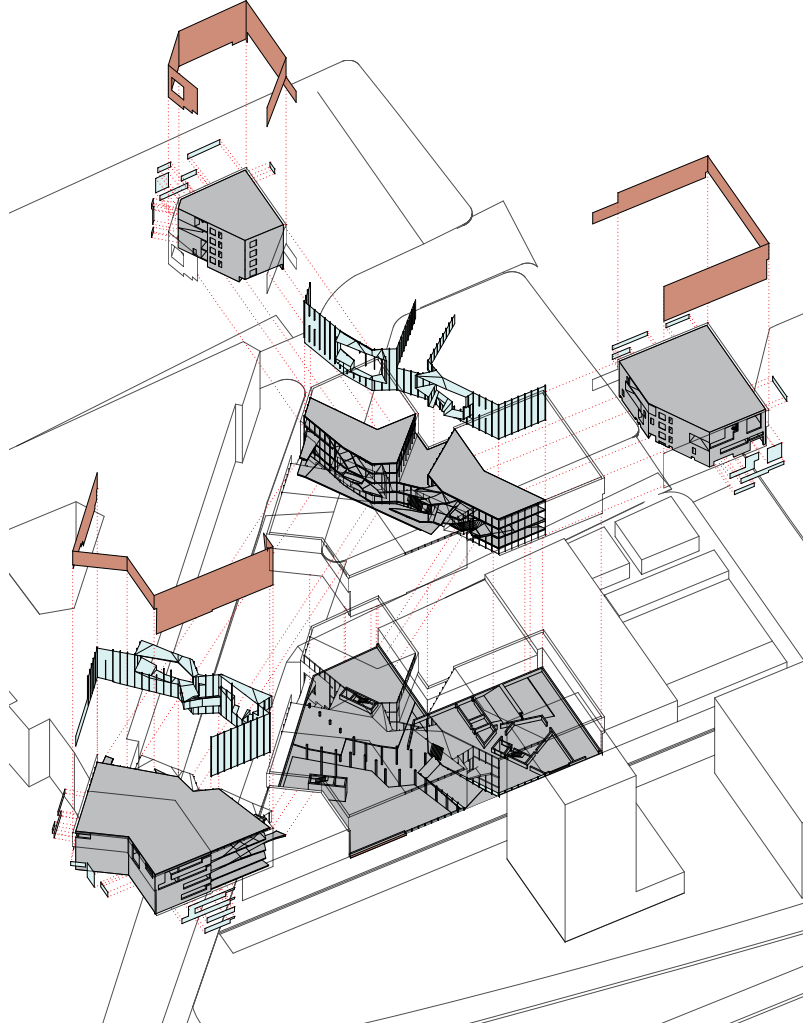
**CORAL GROWTH DIAGRAMS**  
TREE-WEB HYBRID STRUCTURE & ORGANIZATION

below - process model looking west up the internal alleyway

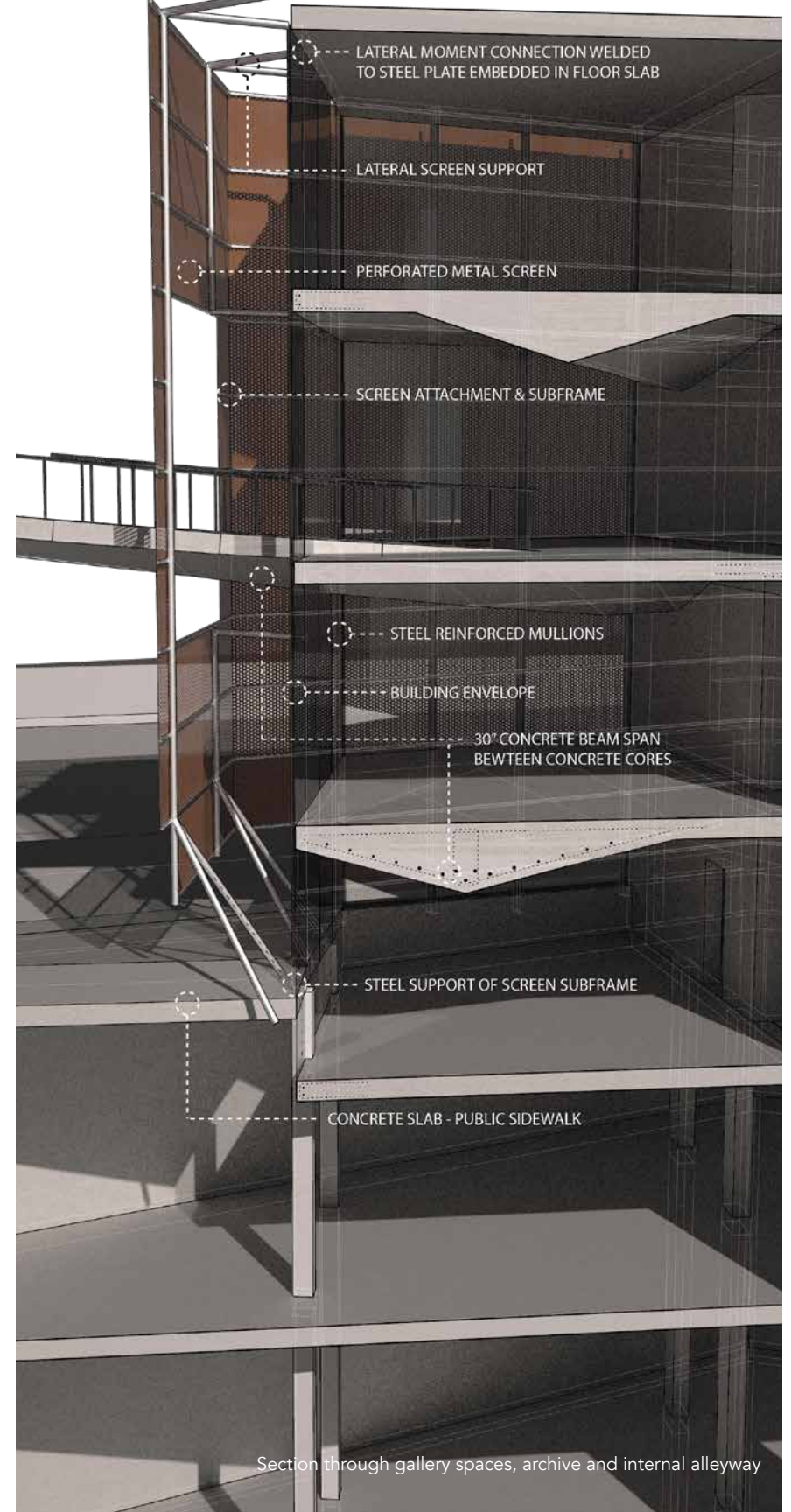


Aerial view looking north, final model



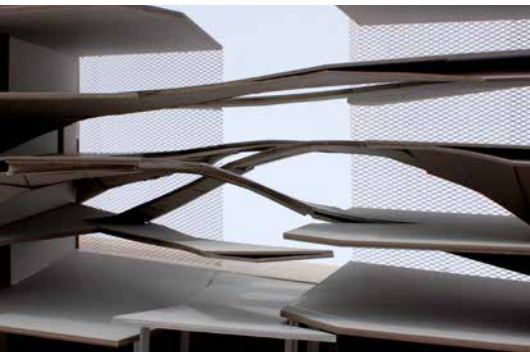


above - exploded isometric showing material components



Section through gallery spaces, archive and internal alleyway

below - model photos of gallery bridges



Nighttime render across Thompson Ave

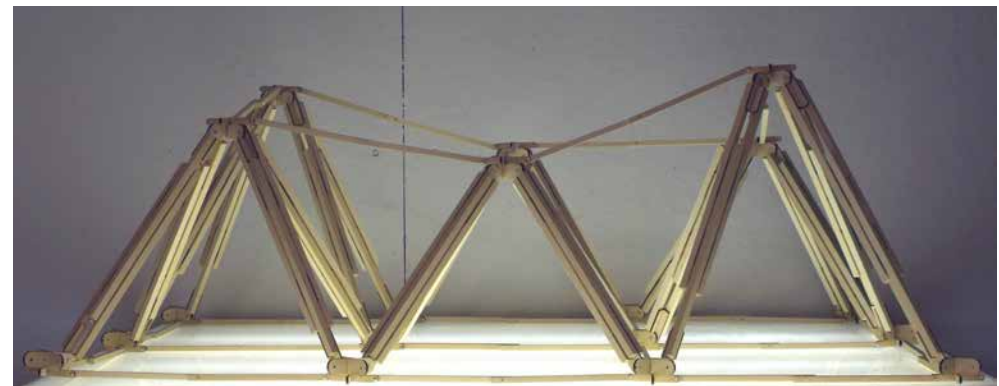
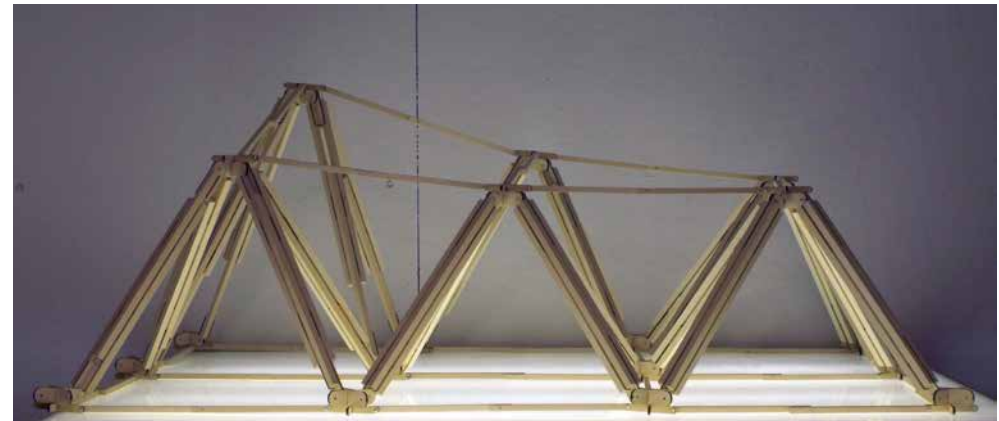
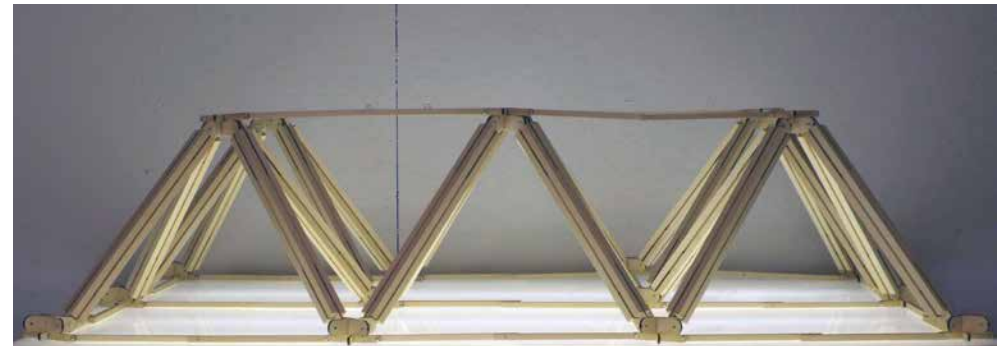
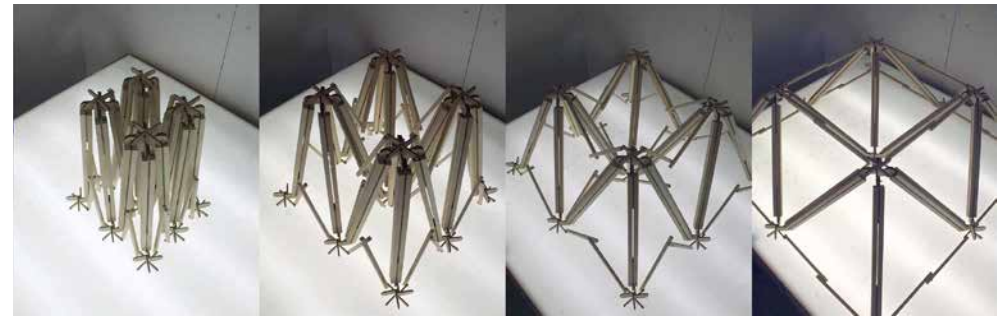


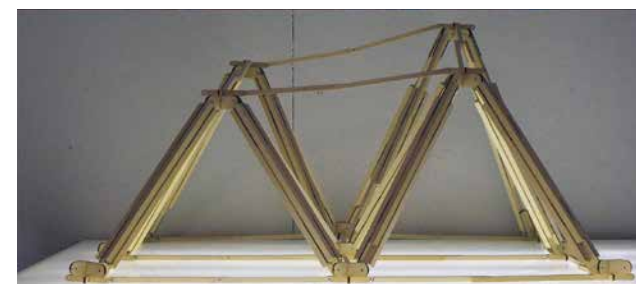
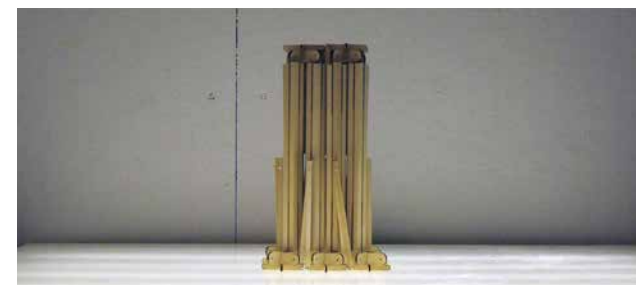
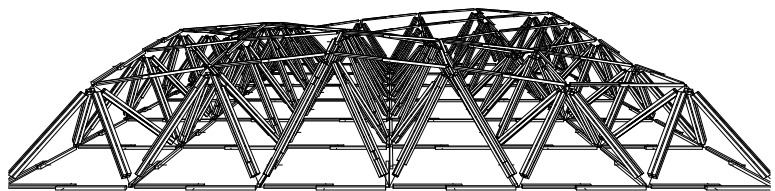
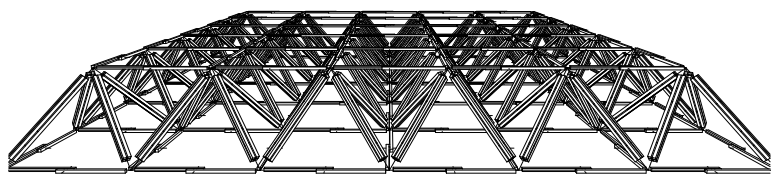
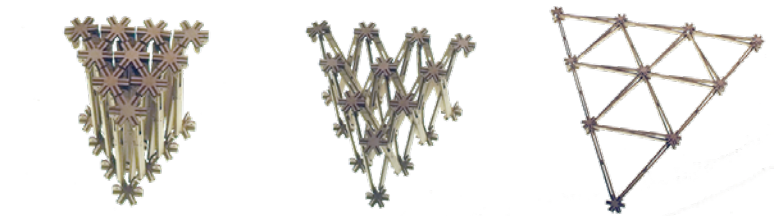
# Deployable Structures

## Undulating Spaceframe

University of Pennsylvania  
Spring 2013  
Instructor - Mohamad Al Khayer  
Collaborator - Steven Kocher

This project takes a look at a form for a deployable space frame, comprised of square pyramids and tetrahedra. The semester long course looks at space filling geometry (shapes able to tessellate and fill a three dimensional volume) and deployable structures (having multiple configurations & sizes). A novel strut design allows for each diagonal member to extend individually, allowing for the creation of dozens of unique undulating forms. This space frame is part of an ongoing fabrication project exploring its use in custom furniture.





# HOMELESS

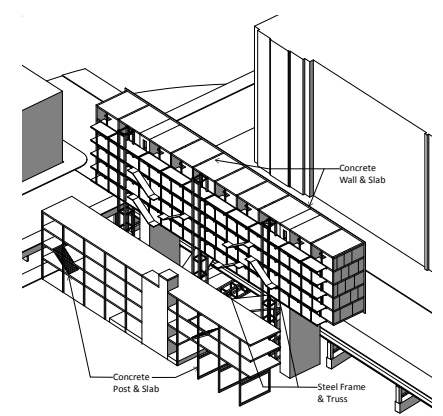
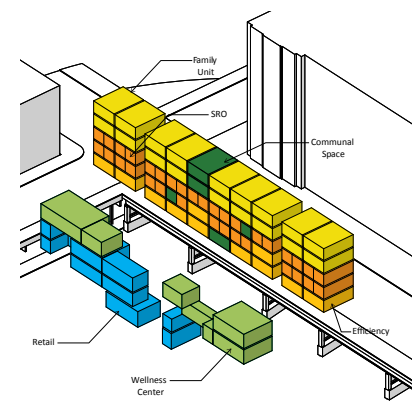
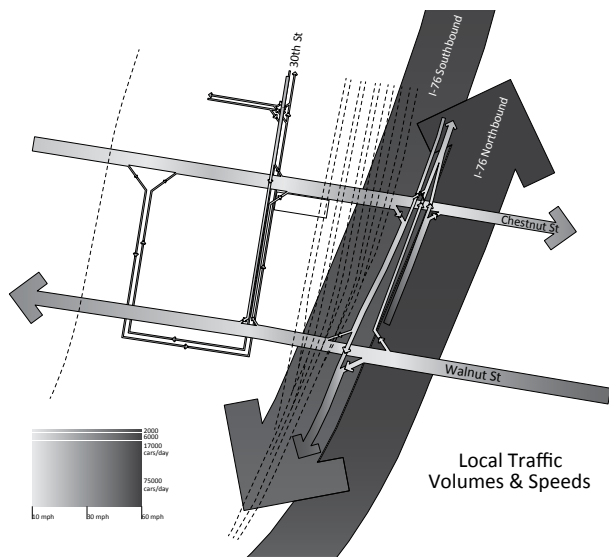
## Transitional Housing

University of Pennsylvania  
Fall 2012  
Philadelphia, PA  
Instructor - Scott Erdy

The site is one defined by transience, by commute, by motion. The site is an overlap of anonymous paths and few destinations. In an effort to provide a safe and therapeutic environment for the formerly homeless, the contrast between secure abode and dynamic street has been heightened. The apartments are raised to improve access to daylight, and housed in a stable concrete frame. Circulation spaces are supported by light weight steel frames and trusses, extending from Chestnut Street's raised infrastructure. The energy from the street traffic below is transferred as a tactile experience, a gentle reminder and reinforcement of the state of sanctuary to be found in one's own residence.



sectional model of street condition, truss supports for circulation space & residences



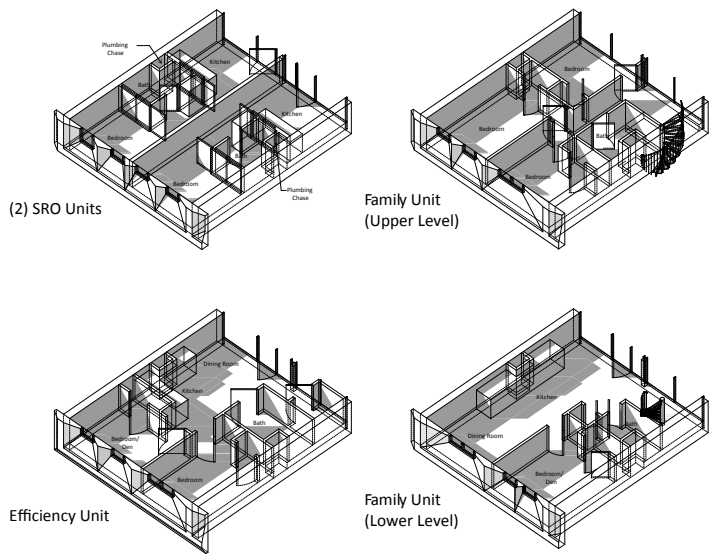
Rendering looking west from Interstate 76



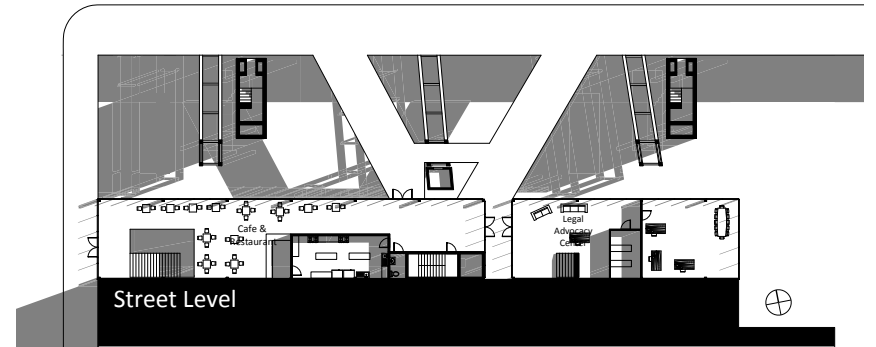
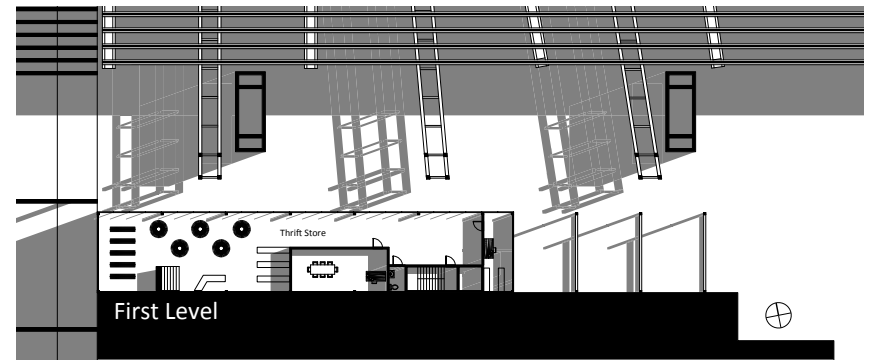
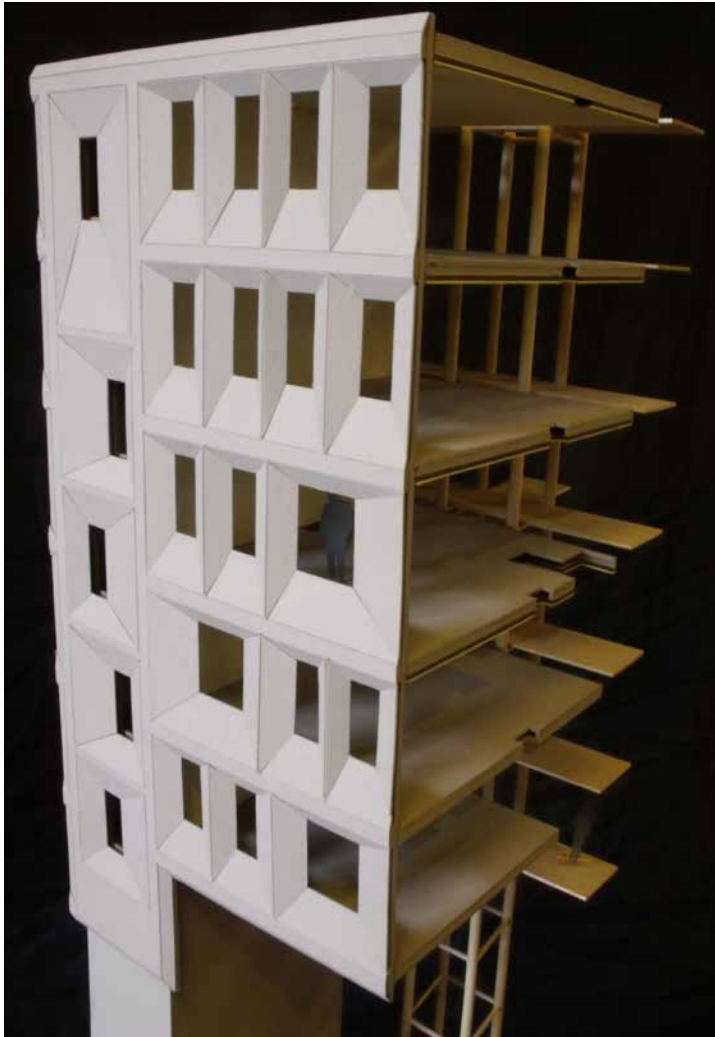
The Northeast Corridor, east of the site



Aerial view looking west. Train tracks in the foreground

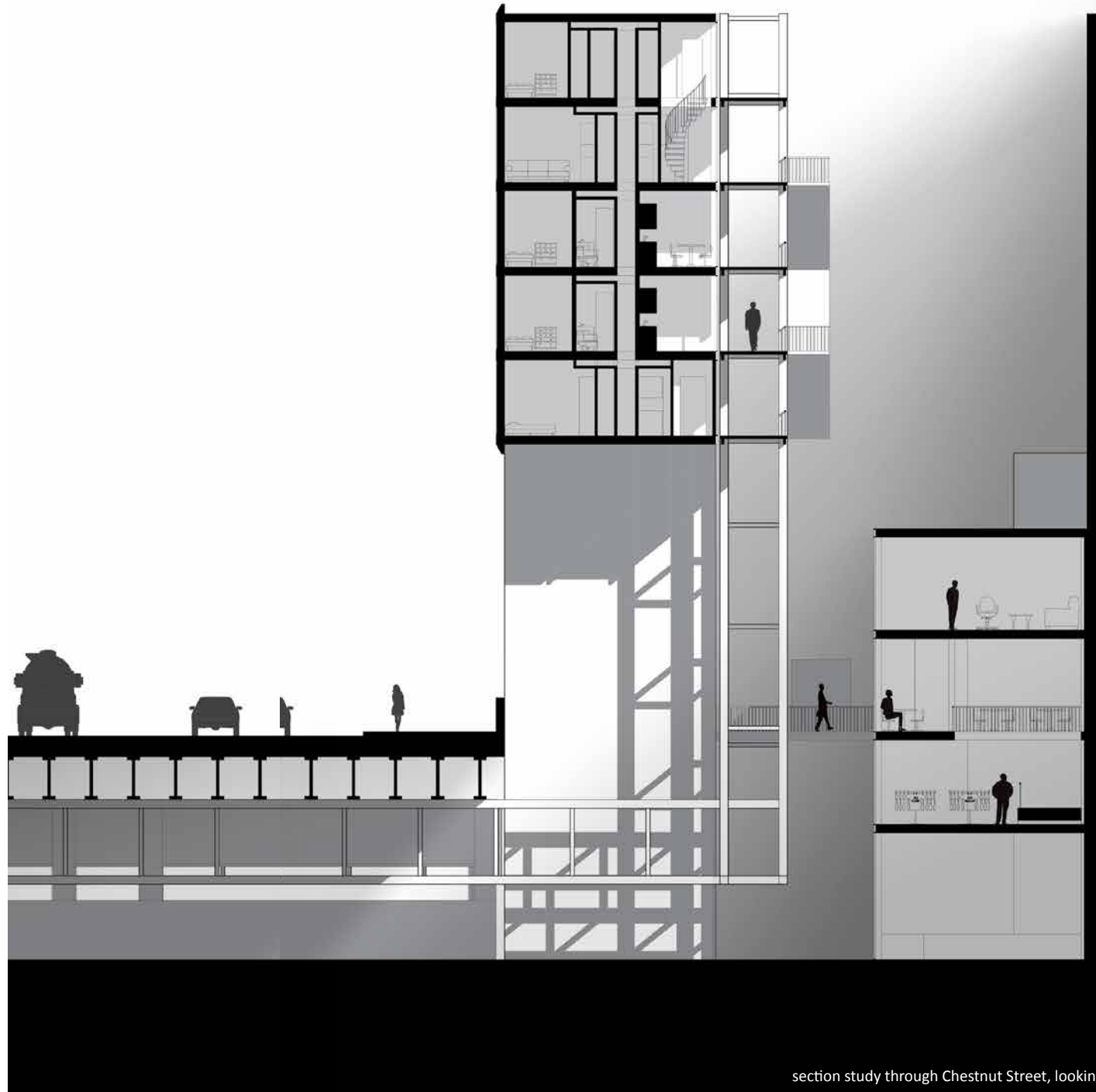


below - sectional model showing building's facade





Sectional model showing dynamic circulation condition and its connection to the elevated roadway below



section study through Chestnut Street, looking east



## CUArch

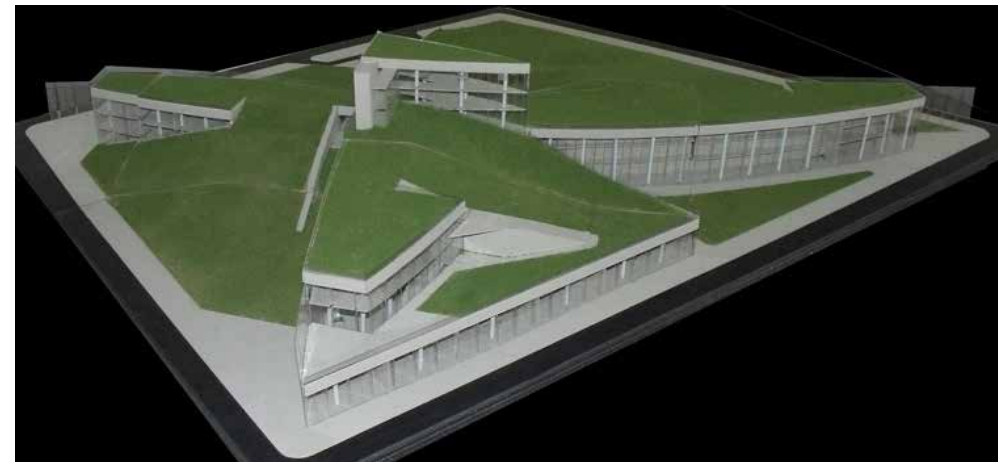
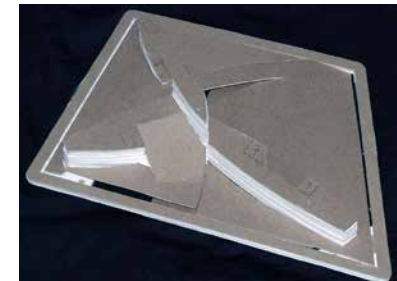
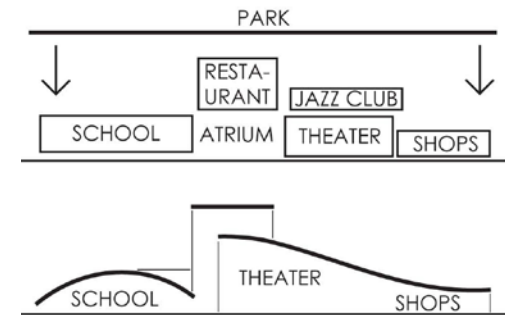
The Catholic University of America  
School of Architecture and Planning

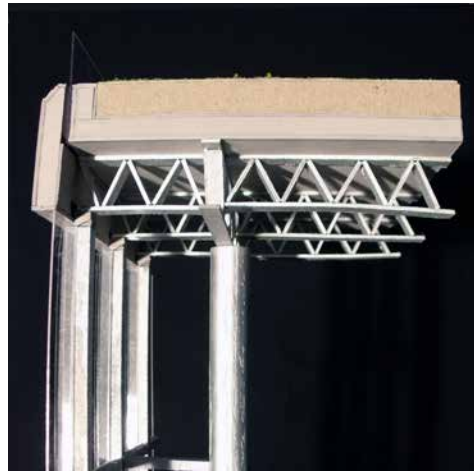
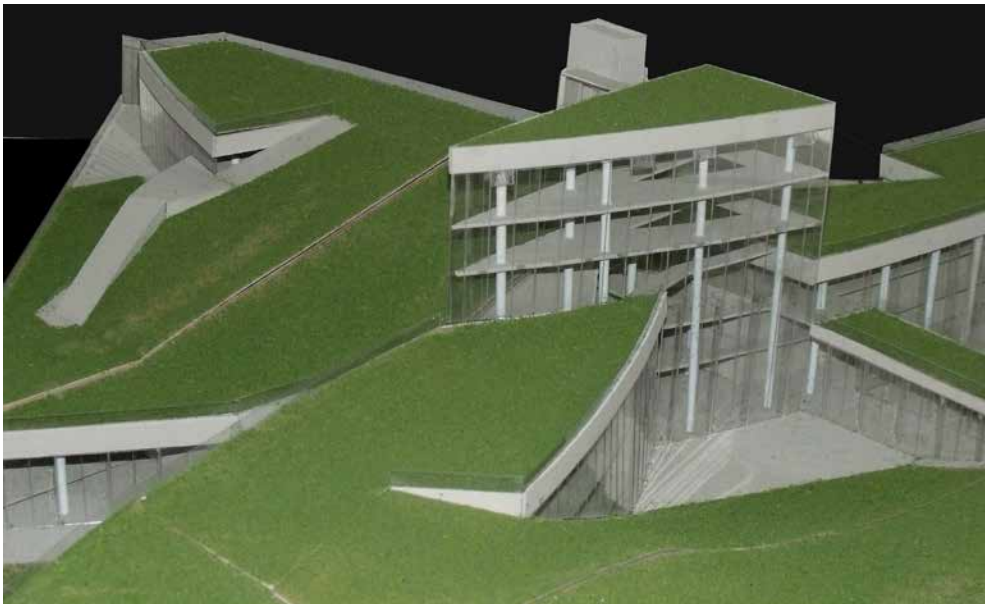
Music Center	84
Eastern Market Information Hub	88
Environmental Center	92
Sacred Chapel	96
Plan, Entry, Arrival	100
Temple of the Tides of Time	102

# Music Center

The Catholic University of America  
Fall 2009  
Washington, DC  
Instructor - Kent Abraham

This project explored the poetry of music and music's influence on and inspiration for architectural design. The semester culminated in a mixed use redevelopment of the old Washington Convention Center in the District of Columbia (currently acres of parking lot). The improvisational riffs of Dizzy Gillespie and Charlie Parker inspired a site plan shaped by sweeping paths. In lieu of a parking lot (which occupies 100% of the site), a park is draped over the site, covering a mixed use music center and forming outdoor amphitheaters and vantage points for observing the vibrant revitalized Chinatown.

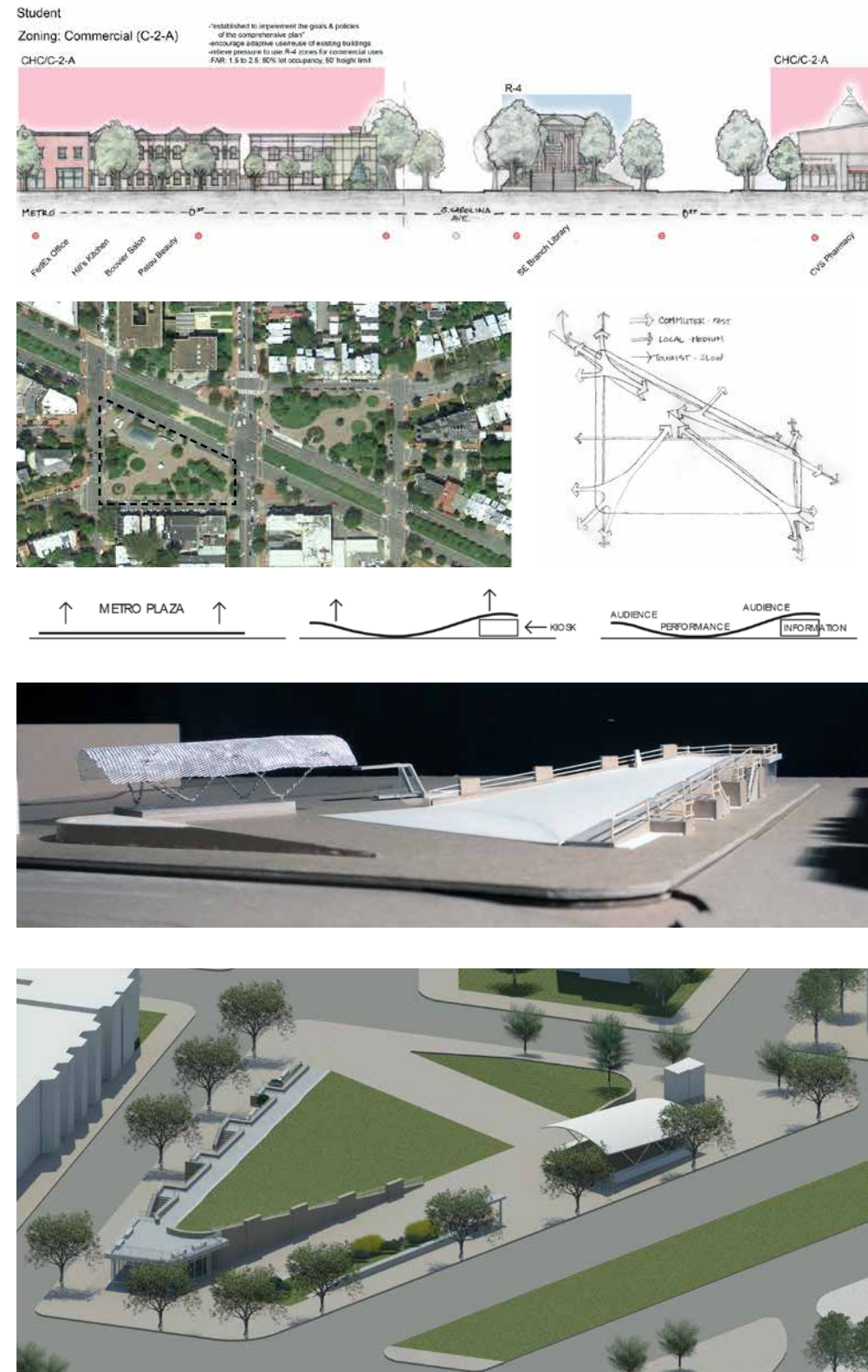


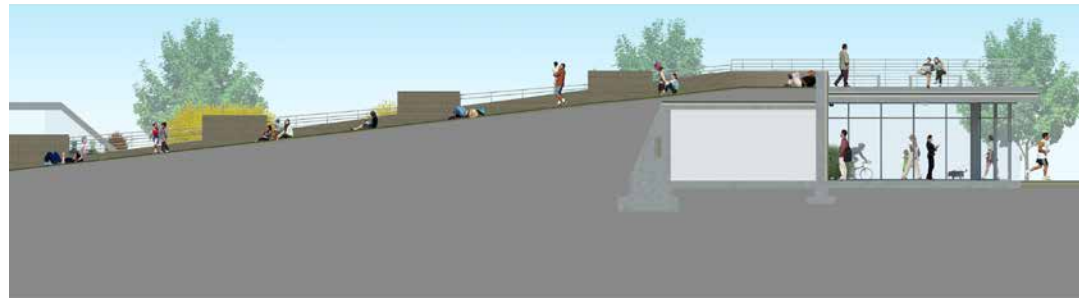
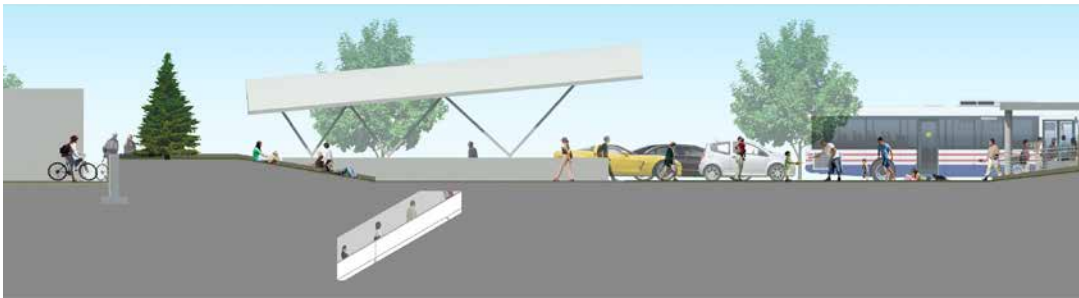
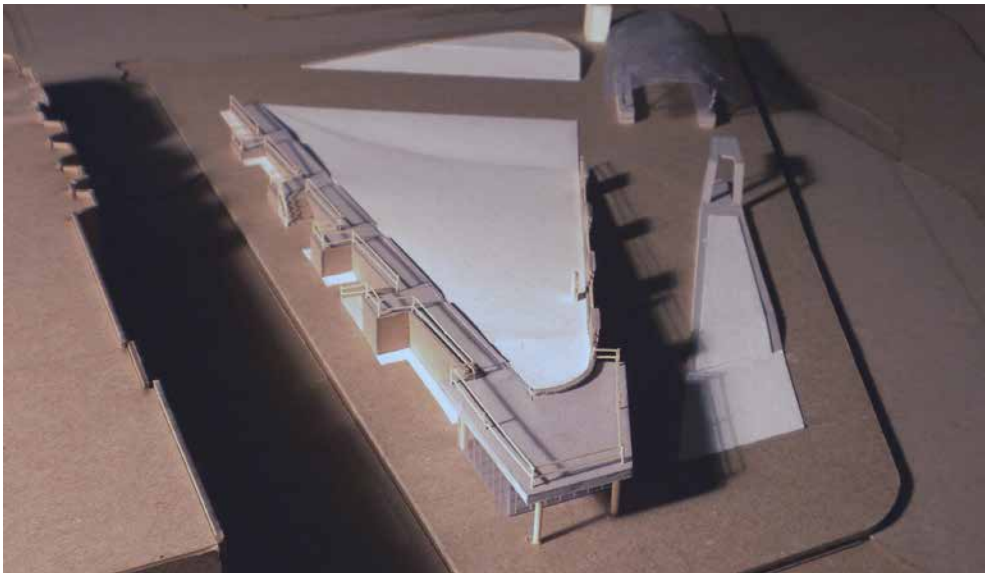


# Eastern Market Information Hub

The Catholic University of America  
 Spring 2010  
 Washington, DC  
 Instructor - Rauzia Ally  
 Collaborators - Ryan Monahan, Phy Nguyen, Edwin Perez

This semester long group project focused on the plaza surrounding the Metro station in the Capitol Hill Historic District of Washington DC. Partnering with local Business Improvement Districts and the Department of Transportation, students organized into firms responsible for presenting a concept, an architectural response, structural and MEP integration and a working set of Construction Documents. The Information Hub "will become a landmark for the neighborhood they are in" serving as "a significant emblem of the nature and character of the culture they serve."



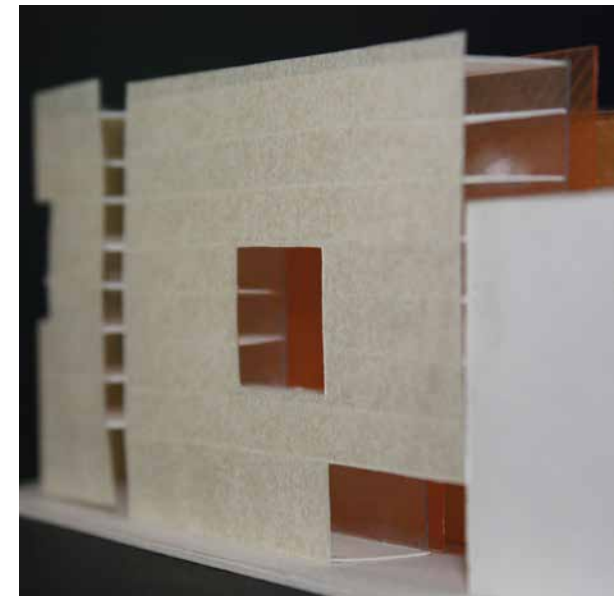
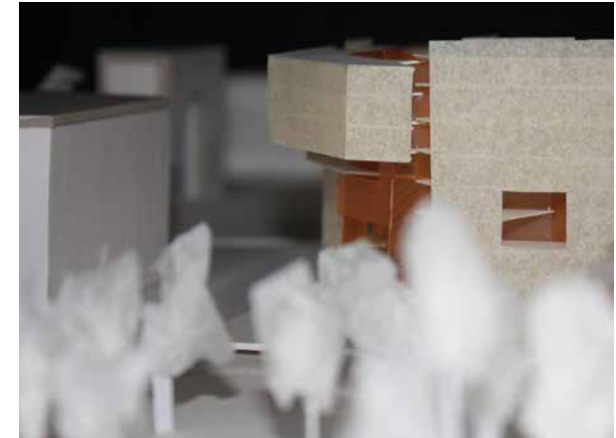
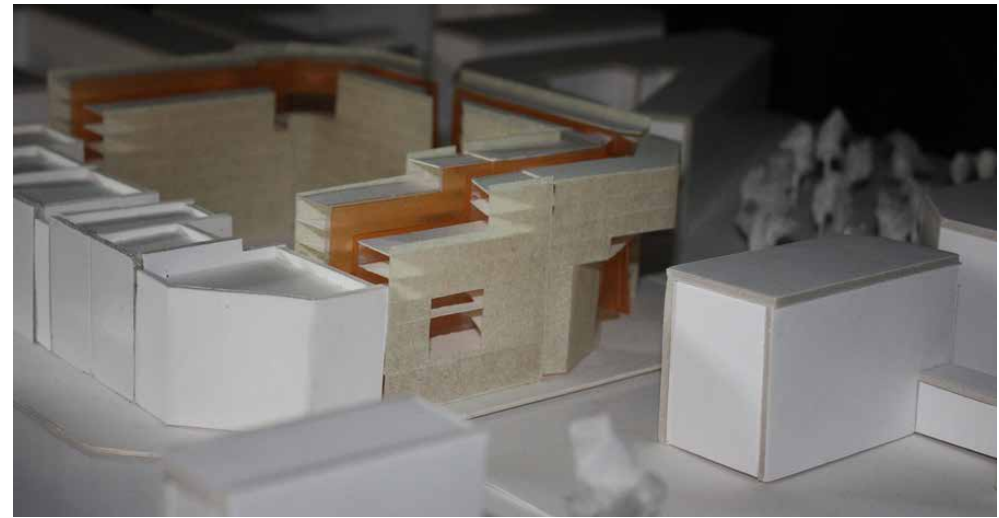


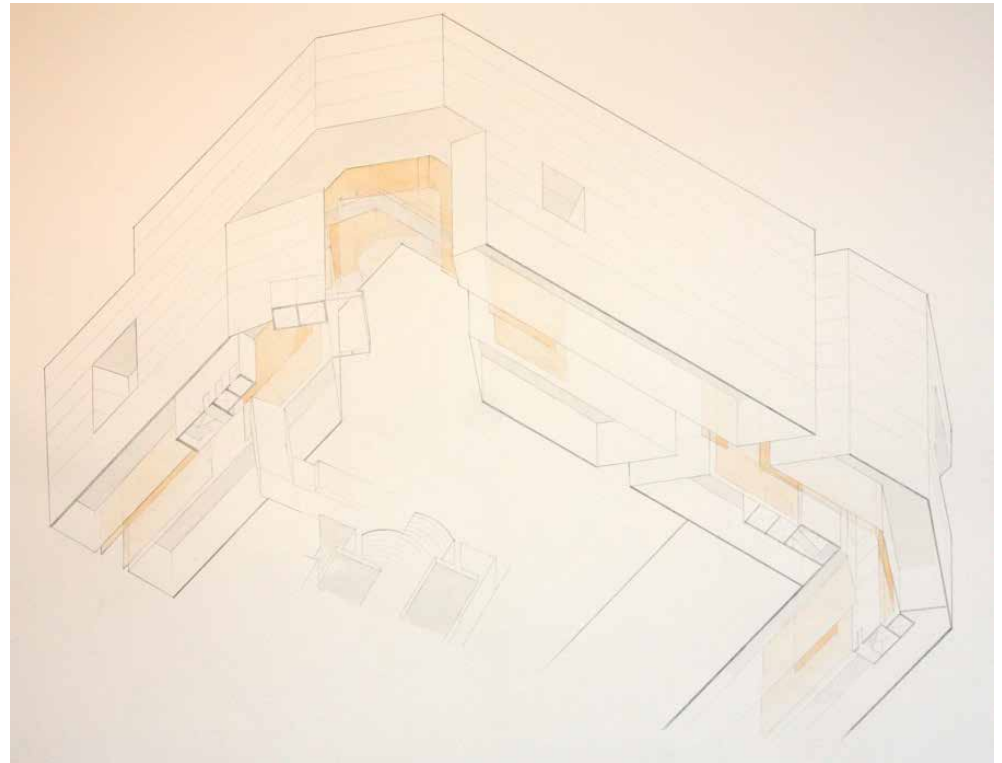
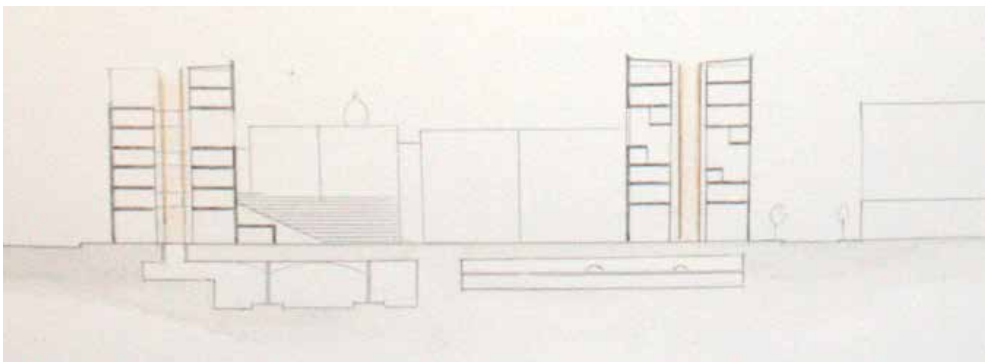
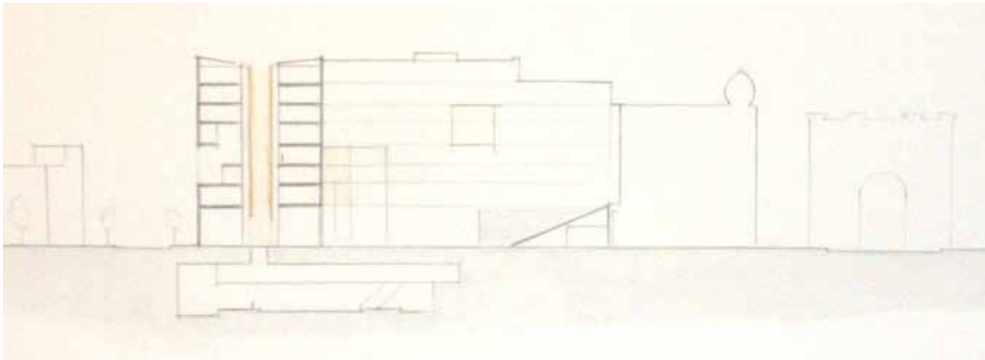
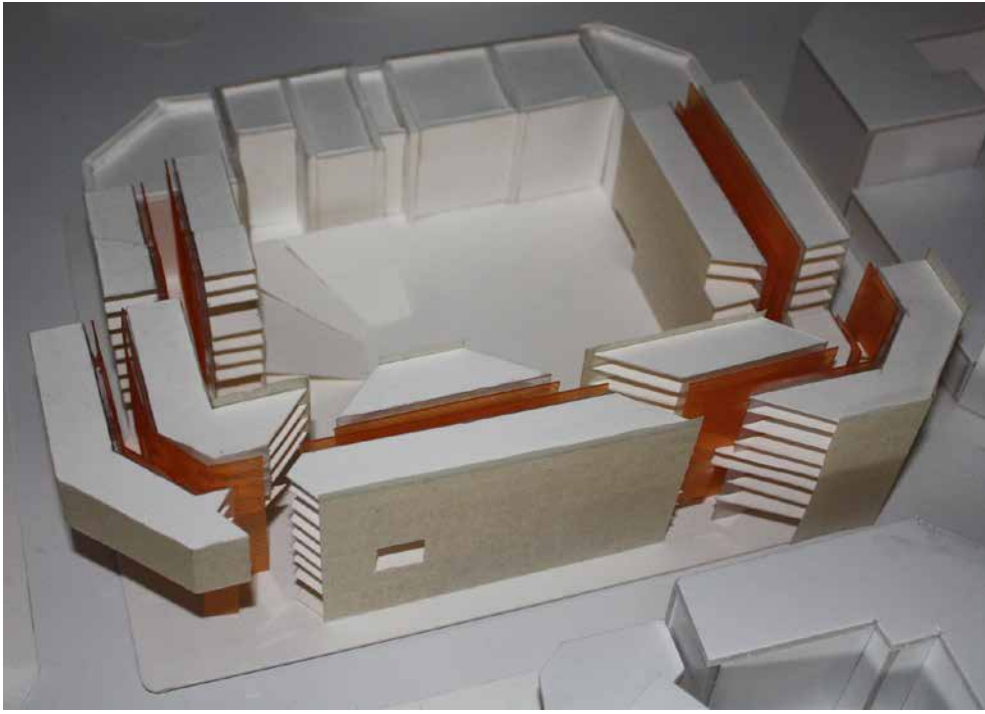
# Environmental Center

The Catholic University of America  
Spring 2009  
Barcelona, Spain  
Instructor - Sophia Gruzdys  
Collaborator - John Pierce

The programming of this environmental center brings artists together to create and display work inspired by or promoting of the natural environment. Auditorium, restaurant, community center, studio spaces and art galleries were included with residences for the general public. A spine of water and foliage connected all spaces and cut through the perimeter massing of the Eixamples large courtyard block.

This hanging gardens 'spine' is exposed to the inner courtyard and the public street at a few key vantage points, including an approach to the neighboring Arc de Triomf. The main entrance to the center includes public entrances to the subway and commuter trains below street level.





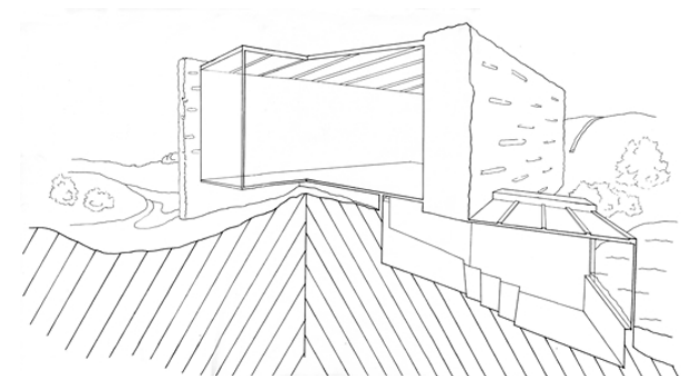
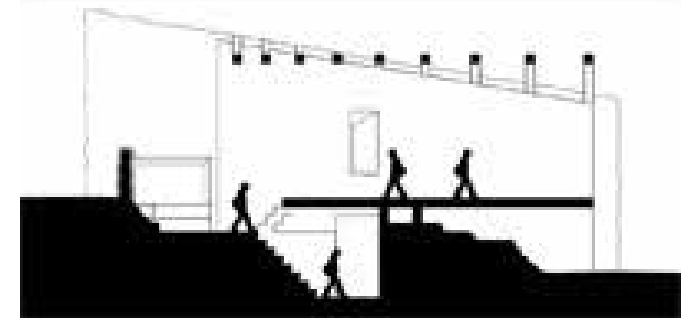
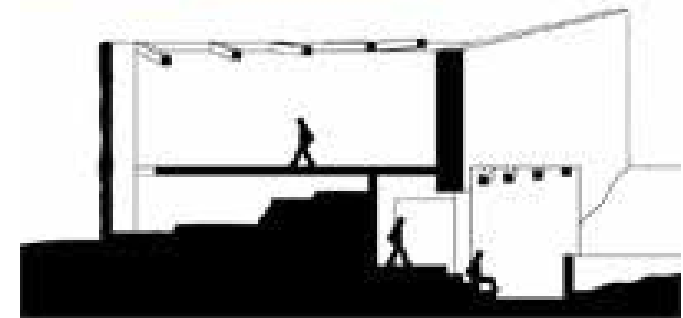
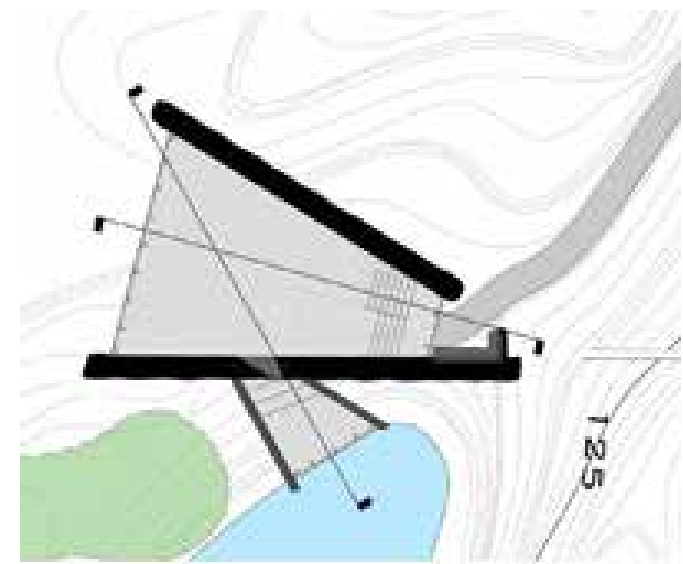


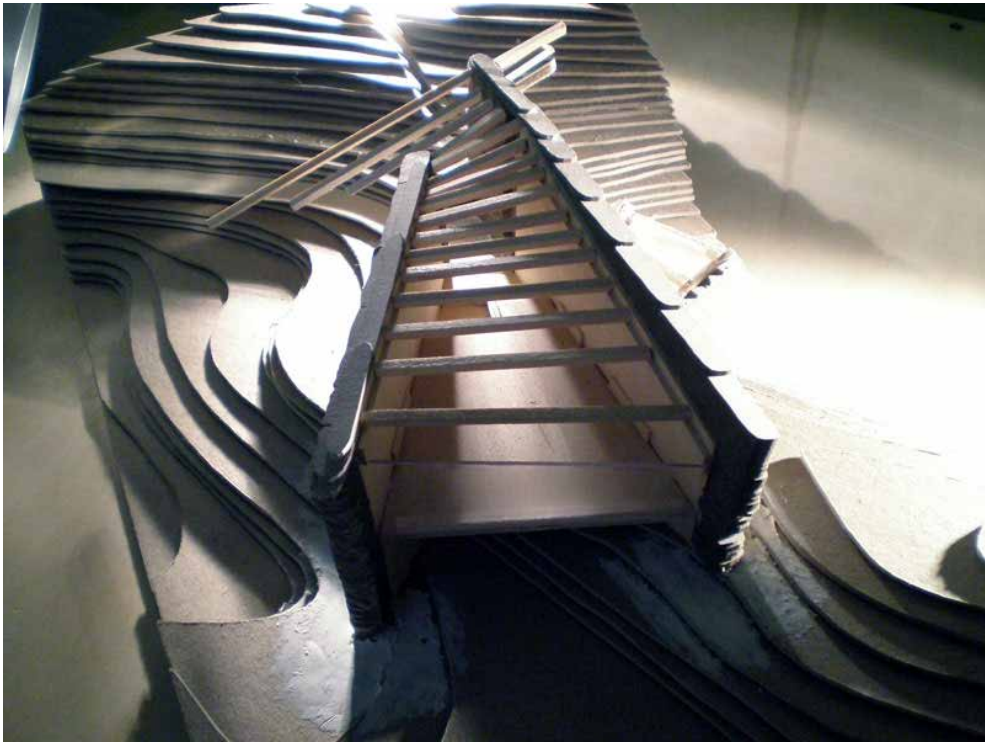
# Sacred Chapel

The Catholic University of America  
Fall 2007  
Great Falls, Maryland  
Instructor - Bill Jelen

Situated on an island in the Great Falls National Park, this nondenominational chapel faces out to the falls of the Potomac River and faces in to a small pond. Visitors take a pedestrian bridge across the river to arrive and follow the topography of the island. A narrow gap in the hillside provides a glimpse of the chapel. The building was oriented by the solar axes of the equinox, winter and summer solstice.

The smaller meditation space faves the calm water of the pond and sits the meditator low to match waterline with their line of sight. The resulting horizon calms and prepares the meditator. The main chapel faces the dynamic waters of the Potomac.





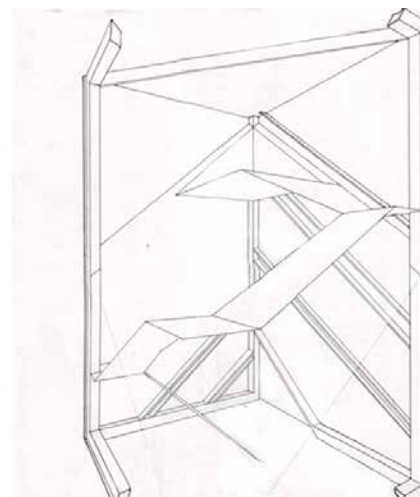
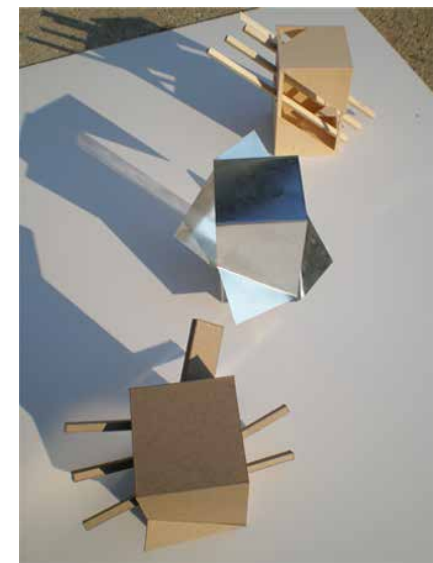
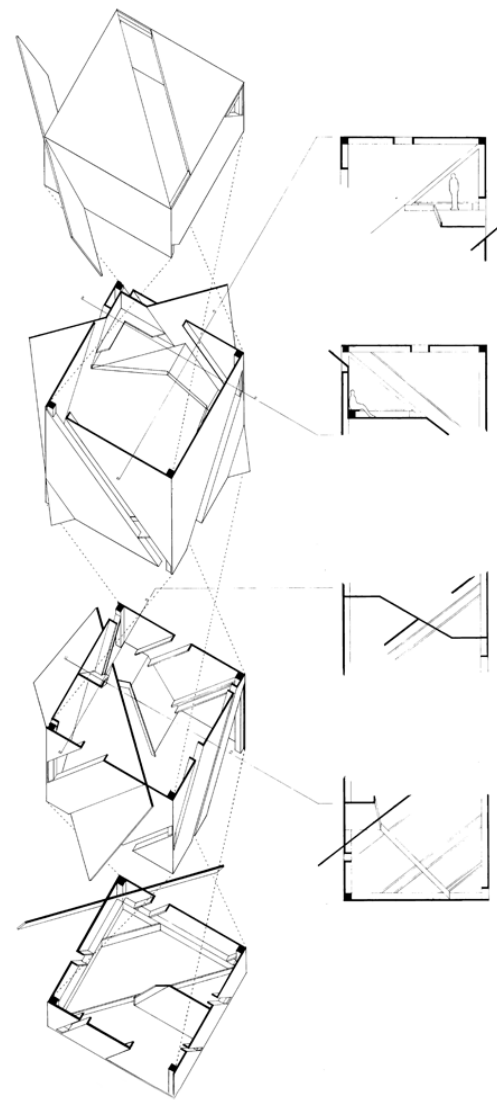
# Path, Entry, Arrival

## Spatial Concerns

The Catholic University of America  
Fall 2007  
Washington, DC  
Instructor - Bill Jelen

This project called on students to explore a concept as inspiration for a habitable space by designing path, entry and arrival. I explored the concept of 'datum' or common organizational element among other elements. A datum organizes, simplifies and gives heightened meaning to other elements.

Spatial exploration started with a selection of simple shapes (cube, cone, cylinder, prism). The wooden volume is bisected by a plane of glass which defines the angle of all apertures in the volume. A path winds its way up to the top of the cube with an entrance formed by passing through this datum/glass plane. The point of arrival is a place of reflection within this glass plane.



# Temple of the Tides of Time

The Catholic University of America  
Spirit of Place, Spirit of Design  
Spring - Summer 2007  
Washington, DC and Belmullet, Ireland  
Instructor - Travis Price

This project was one of a series of outdoor follies including a star gazing temple at Machu Pichu, a river house on the Amazon, and a meditation space in Nepal. These projects research local spiritual phenomena and use them as conceptual inspiration for finding architectural form.

The concept behind this project was the Gaelic “thin places” where past, present and future meet in a mystical experience. This concept was rendered into physical sculptures which in turn inspired the architectural design of a small rest area in a local park in Belmullet, Ireland.

Stainless steel columns represent a progression of time, in rows extending beyond the stone tiled plinth. The columns compress around a stone wall and metal and glass platform which turns out to face Achill Island and the path taken by ships to the US during and after the 19th century potato famine.





## High School

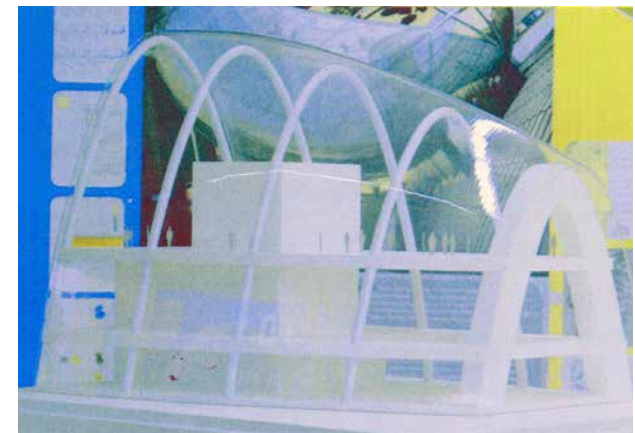
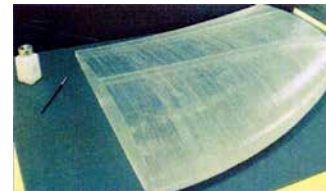
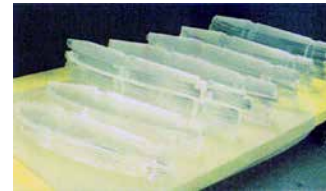
Skidmore, Owings & Merrill  
Chicago Architecture Foundation  
Marwen | Chicago Art Nonprofit  
CUA Experiences in Architecture

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# Pearl River Tower

SOM Chicago  
museum exhibit model  
July - August 2006

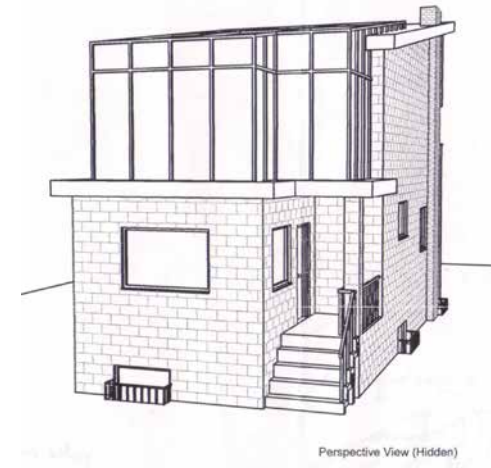
The Pearl River Tower (2006-2009) incorporated an unprecedented level of sustainable design features in a super-tall building (300+ meters). Chicago's Museum of Contemporary Art commissioned SOM to create an exhibit commemorating the building's unique design and achievement as part of the exhibition "Sustainable Architecture in Chicago: Works in Progress" (Sept 2006-Jan 2007). I assisted Kamil Krol on the production of a scale model of the double curved facade of the penthouse of the building. Production required building the geometry out of acrylic and vacu-forming the glass facade out of a thin layer of plastic.



# Sustainable Residence

Newhouse High School Architecture Competition  
Chicago Architecture Foundation  
Division 10 - First Prize  
Spring 2006

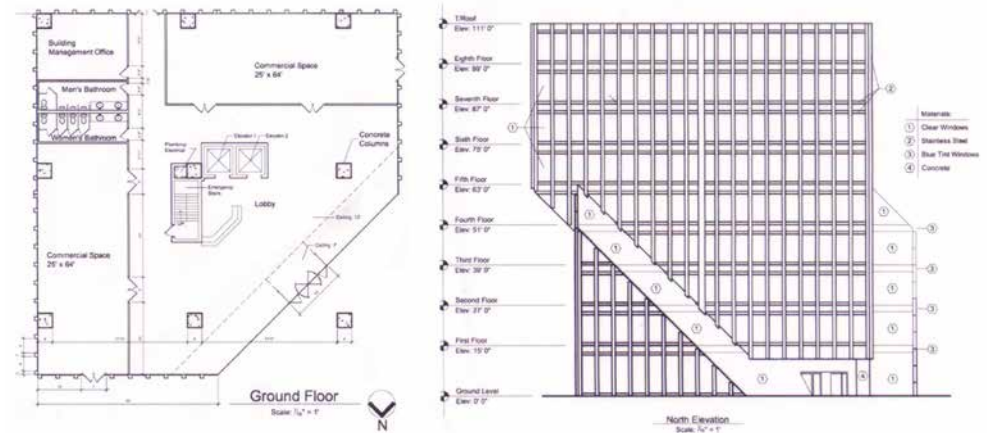
The key energy efficient aspects of this house are its greenhouse, ventilation system and small size (<1200 sq ft). The small size helps reduce the need for heating and cooling. The greenhouse helps reduce heating needs, trapping hot air and warms the second floor. This hot air accumulates at the top floor and is recirculated to the basement, to slowly rise through the house. The open floor plan, large opening at the stair and double height kitchen facilitate cross ventilation and an expansive sense of space in a house of limited footprint.



# Office Building

Newhouse High School Architecture Competition  
Chicago Architecture Foundation  
Division 7 - Second Prize  
Spring 2006

The shape of the office building was inspired by a cube sliced in half, offset and intersected. The structural columns were laid out within the intersection of these two shapes, with slabs cantilevered as required. Vertical circulation and building systems are laid out schematically, as is the basic programming of the main spaces. The ground floor is dedicated to retail space and lobby for the office space on floors 2-9. The exterior facades have deep profiled mullions to contrast with the 'frameless' glass of the diagonal portion of the facades. The construction drawing set of the Doral Plaza Building (Chicago, IL) was used for reference to graphic representation and building systems. Completed with Steve Granda.

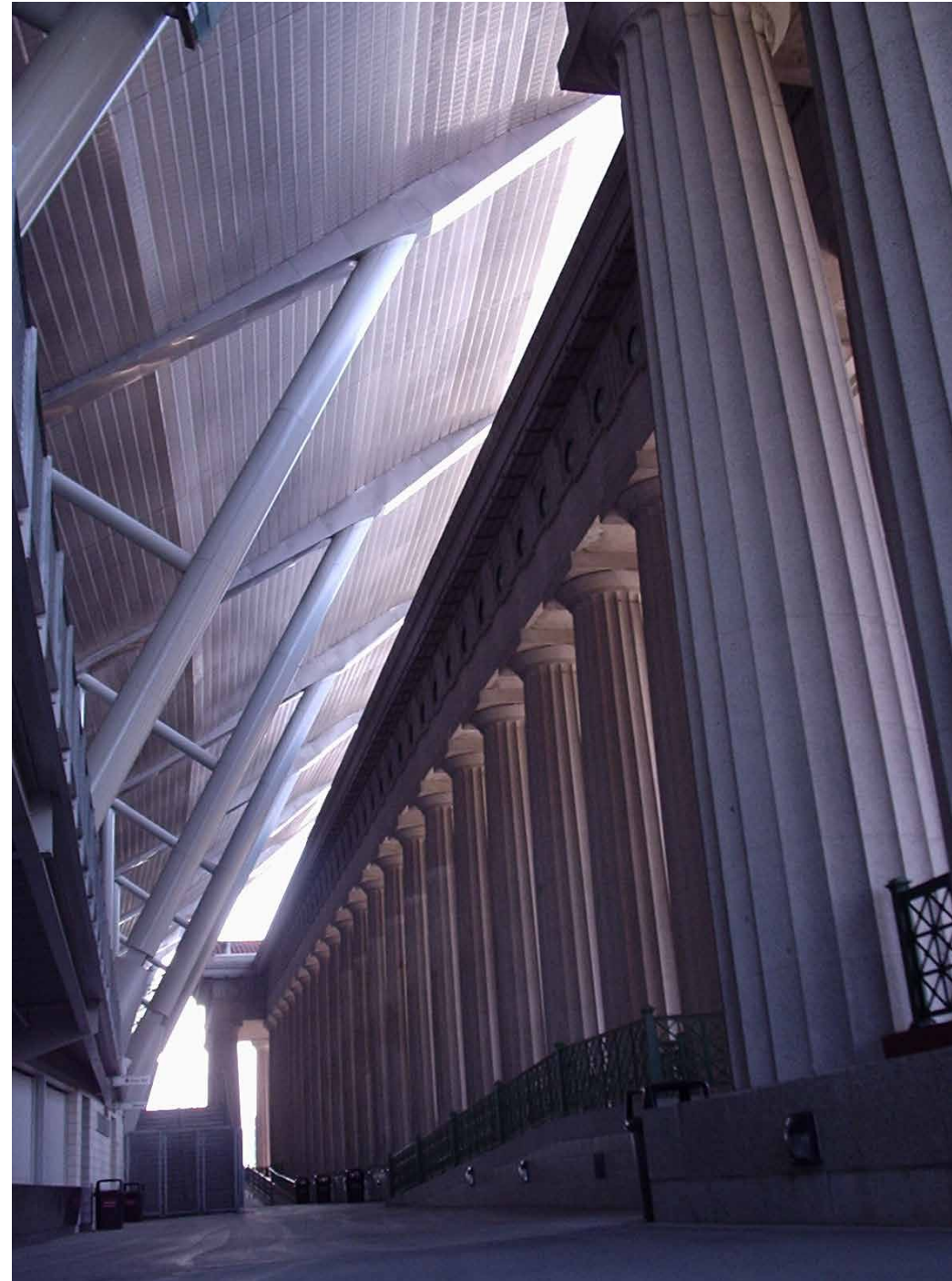


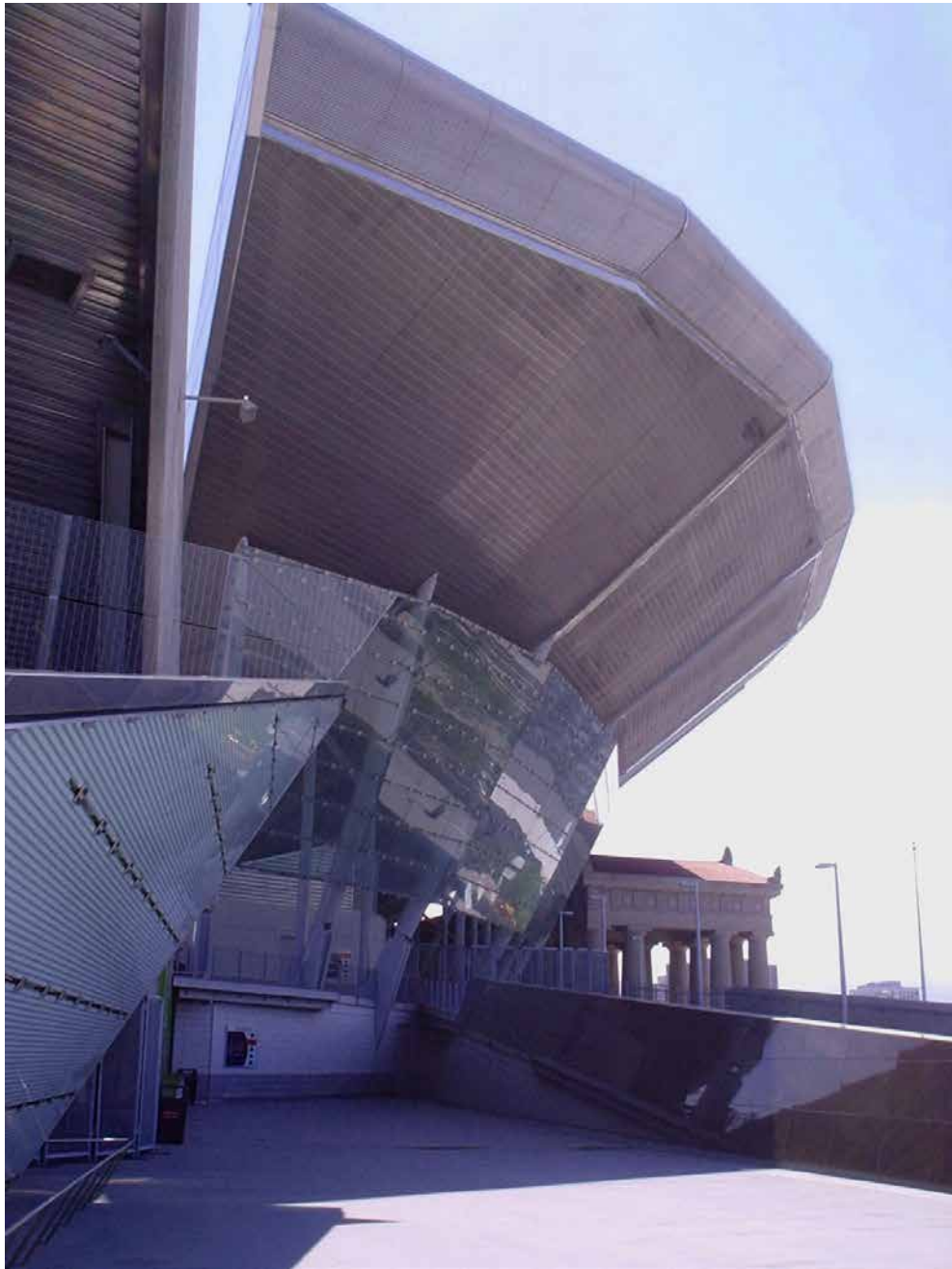


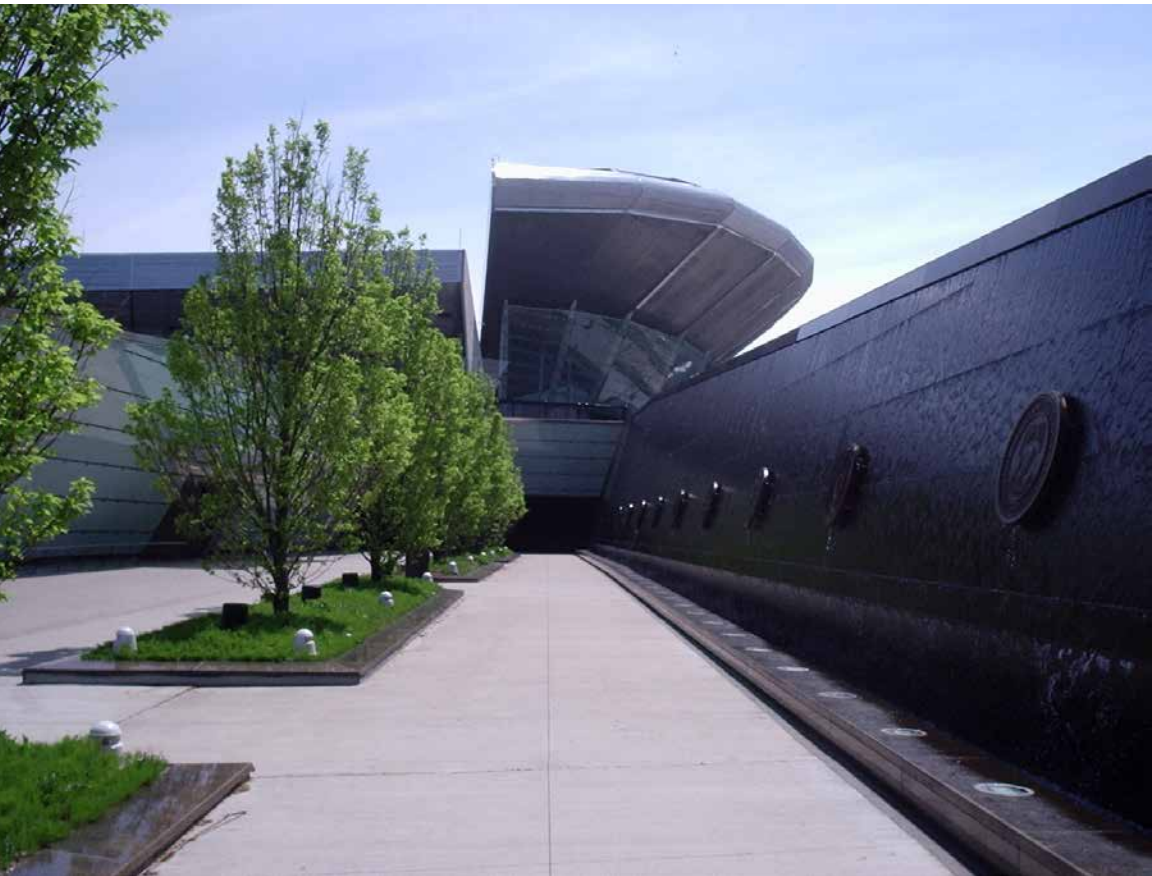
# Architectural Photography

Newhouse High School Architecture Competition  
Chicago Architecture Foundation  
Division 11 - First Grand Prize  
Spring 2006

Tasked with capturing the new Soldier Field (2003) in five photographs, the images focus on the contrast between original structure and the new stadium. Greco Roman colonnades with red spanish tile roofs are the most prominent remains of the existing structure, and the new stadium is constructed within and on top of these structures. The photographs evoke balance, symmetry and a strong sense of one-point or two-point perspective.



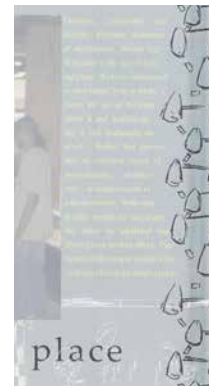
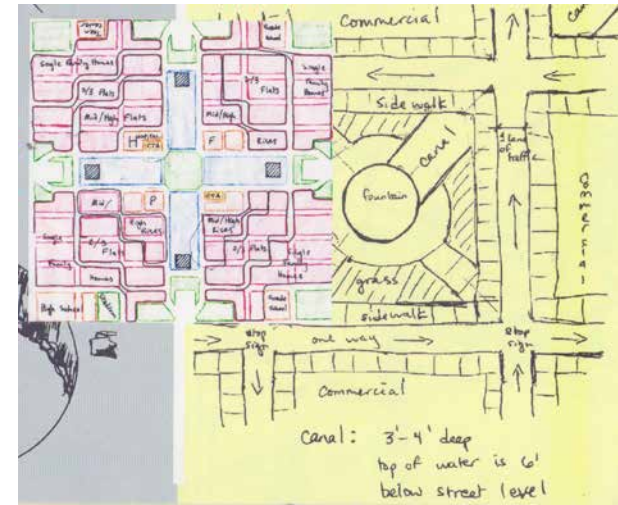
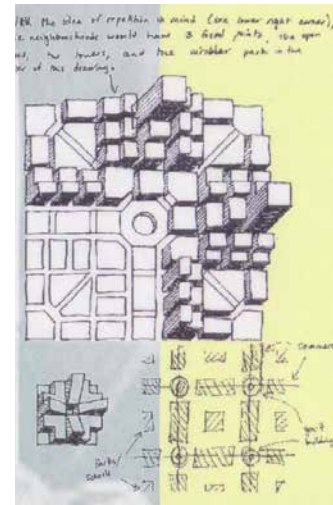
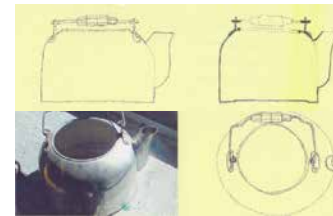
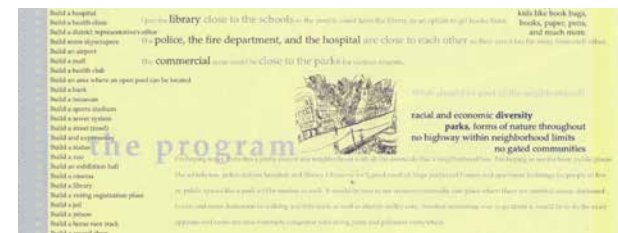




# Think Like an Architect

Marwen Seminar  
Spring 2006

This eight week course served as an introduction to design, architecture and city planning. As students we analyzed and redesigned household objects, brainstormed characteristics of and definitions of successful neighborhoods, and composed visual representations of our idealized visions of a neighborhood. Course sessions focused on visually articulating and verbally communicating ideas and criticisms.



## Path, Entry and Arrival

The Catholic University of America  
Experiences in Architecture  
Summer 2005

The focus of a three week introduction to architecture for high school students, space is first conceived of as a manifestation of a concept, in this case 'layering'. Next, human experience is introduced through the concepts of Path, Entry and Arrival. As these concepts, as well as general criticism and feedback are incorporated into the design the relatively static and symmetrical early iterations make way towards a focus on rhythm and path. As the design progressed, materiality and client were introduced to further develop the project.

