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**EQUITABLE DESIGN THROUGH THE URBAN MUSEUM:  
CATALYZING COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION AND  
ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IN THE SWEET AUBURN HISTORIC  
DISTRICT(The New APEX Museum)**

Day'Zhanera King

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# EQUITABLE DESIGN THROUGH THE URBAN MUSEUM

CATALYZING COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IN THE SWEET AUBURN HISTORIC  
(The New APEX Museum)





EQUITABLE DESIGN THROUGH THE URBAN MUSEUM:  
CATALYZING COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IN THE SWEET AUBURN HISTORIC  
(The New APEX Museum)

The Historic Auburn District  
Atlanta, Georgia

This Final Thesis Project is Presented to the  
Faculty of the Department of Architecture  
College of Architecture and Construction Management

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Pegah Zamani Ph.D

Thesis Coordinator  
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Chair of Department  
Tony Rizzuto PhD.

By  
Day' Zhanera A. King

In fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree  
Bachelor of Architecture  
Kennesaw State University  
Marietta, Georgia  
May 4, 2020

DEDICATION  
This Thesis is dedicated to:

My Mom & Family:  
La' Keesha King, Sanaa, Josh, and Canaan,  
Thank you to my Mom raising me to see real life, to be bold and take calculated risks. Thank you for loving me unconditionally, and always supporting me. I pray You All learn something from my college experience, and grow a desire to discover life beyond Atlanta, Georgia. This is me breaking generation curse and beginning generational wealth. Remember wealth is a mindset.

My 10th grade literature teacher:  
Pamela Haskins, shout out to you for encouraging Me to courageously challenge Myself beyond interior design and suggesting My career path in architecture, with determination and promised room for growth; You taught me to write like I'm writing to an old woman reading on her porch, give her the business -literally- because it's that woman and Your precis layout are the reason for my A's on college essays.

My Friends:  
Thanks for all of the emotional support through college, and food for all of my late nights in studio.

My Haters:  
I could not have been more motivated and driven to prove you all wrong. I truly mean this with all of my heart, thank you. I was often doubted or told "NO" many times and in many ways while attaining this degree.

Humanity (My People):  
This is for your knowledge. Use it.

Owner of the APEX Museum:  
Dan Moore  
Thank you for never doubting me, welcoming me to explore APEX museum and use your knowledge and experience for the betterment of this thesis. The APEX Museum is a historic and cultural landmark. You started the race to tell the real story of Black Americans, and with this baton the marathon will continue.

Myself:  
I had a lot of adulting to do during this journey. So, I thank myself for being open to growth and remaining driven despite my hardships.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Writing a book is hard. But, brainstorming, developing, organizing, researching, citing and understanding a written and graphic work that addresses a real life issue is much harder. Teaching someone else how to do it must be the hardest.

It is teachers who provide hope for our future students. Educators who put forth the effort to challenge, inspire and effectively communicate with their students not only provide a safe learning space, but also propels their students' success and ambition.

At times, I think some professors lose sight of their purpose to encourage that hope for the youth outside of academic enrichment. It's not just a job. It's a state of being, and I appreciate the consistent professors who encouraged me to persevere instead of encouraging me to quit or "take some **time** off".

I am eternally grateful for my Thesis advisor, Pegah Zamani, and Thesis Prep professor, Ameen Farooq for challenging my original design to be more than another experiential theatre, and design beyond my comfort.

Zamani taught me how to design for humanity. Farooq taught me to question everything about design. Professor Martin along with Zamani encouraged me to submit and ultimately become selected as a presenter for the National Conference For Undergraduate Research of March 2020. Women in architecture support the development of each other and the few men who respect them are just as important to do away with gender biases for the minority women.

**Time** waits for no one and is of the essence. With that being said I formally acknowledge their consistent guidance, wisdom and patience:

Pegah Zamani  
Ameen Farooq  
Liz Martin  
Kathryn Bedette

This book wouldn't be all that it is without You All.  
Thank You.  
THANK GOD!



# 01

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- 1.2 LITERATURE REVIEW
- 1.3 DESIGN IMPACT
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- 1.5 CASE STUDIES

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**WARNING  
READER DISCRETION ADVISED**

THIS WORK ACKNOWLEDGES ISSUES OF RACISM, INEQUALITY,  
INEQUAITY, AND INJUSTICE IN NORTH AMERICA.

*This thesis discusses issues of environmental racism, environmental injustice, lack of equitable design, violation of human rights, prejudices and detrimental their side effects, and contains strong language.*

*While this written work is relative to my own personal experience as a black person in America, raised in the thriving predominantly black southern City of Atlanta and a female professional in a predominantly male society, it appeals to universal issues of mistreatment of people based on both gender and race and the manifestation of mistreatment reflected onto the planet Earth.*

**THIS THESIS:**

**-Challenges** how qualities of equitable design improve the emotional and physical wellness within a community raise cultural awareness

**-Promotes** a livable, equitable and ecological community

**-Reestablishes** a sense identity and community through historical relevance

**-Manifests** effective equitable design through environmental justice

**-Implicates** social architecture, urban recreation and the modern museum to promote cultural awareness and pride, improve mental health, increase social networks, and social capital through elements of equitable design

**-Renovates** and expands the African American Panoramic Experience (APEX) Museum located in the Sweet Auburn Historic District in Atlanta.

**-Enforces** the following types of design: Urban design values, Ecological, Universal and equitable design, Local and Neighborhood planning.

"The US will become  
'minority white' in 2045,  
Census projects  
Youthful minorities are the  
engine of future growth."

- Brookings Editor William H. Frey

**DO TO OTHERS WHAT YOU  
WANT YOU WANT THEM TO  
DO TO YOU.**

- THIS the Golden Rule also known as Common Sense. \*\*Common Sense if not common.



CHAPTER ONE  
RESEARCH

01

1.1 DESIGN HYPOTHESIS 1.2 LITERATURE REVIEW 1.3 DESIGN IMPACT 1.4 HISTORY OF MIXED-USE COMMUNITY CENTERS 1.5 CASE STUDIES





## INTRO

Have you've ever heard of the Black Lives Matter Movement, or B.L.M.? B.L.M. was created as a response to the resurgence of racism and xenophobic hate-crimes against black people and their communities, often at the hands of police. Actually, It was the scape-goating of blacks plus black poverty, the exponentially high black unemployment rates, and the over policing of black neighborhoods. B.L.M. is the modern activist response to the continuance of Richard Nixon's War on Drugs, Bill Clinton's crime bill and the massive, disproportionate incarceration of black men. BLM grew weary of seeing black

men and women ignored in healthcare, evicted from their homes, bullied by police, as much as I grew weary seeing it on MARTA train rides into high-school Atlanta every week day. Black Lives Matter made a bold social statement, but it only made a splash in the ocean of political debates over war on poverty, drugs, and crime. Lyndon Johnson on his War On Poverty once said "Negro poverty is not white poverty , many of its causes and many of its cures are the same. But there are deep, corrosive, obstinate differences — radiating painful roots into the community, and into the family, and the nature of the individual."

His approach to subtract the responsibility of white person's contribution to the problem, fix the black individuals, specifically targeting black men, as if they were broken to begin with, rather than addressing the economic issues within the community at hand is wrong because urban poverty and urban unrest in the black community has been addressed as problem of discipline, rather than a problem of denied opportunity. However, there is some truth to his comment on urban warfare and its cure being rooted within the community. I agree, community healing begins with the manner in

which American society addresses the urban warfare within the black community. Instead of completely altering the existing aesthetic of the neighborhood through the development of overly-ambitious or tin-eared design initiatives, let's transform urban environments without disrupting them

## 1.1 DESIGN HYPOTHESIS



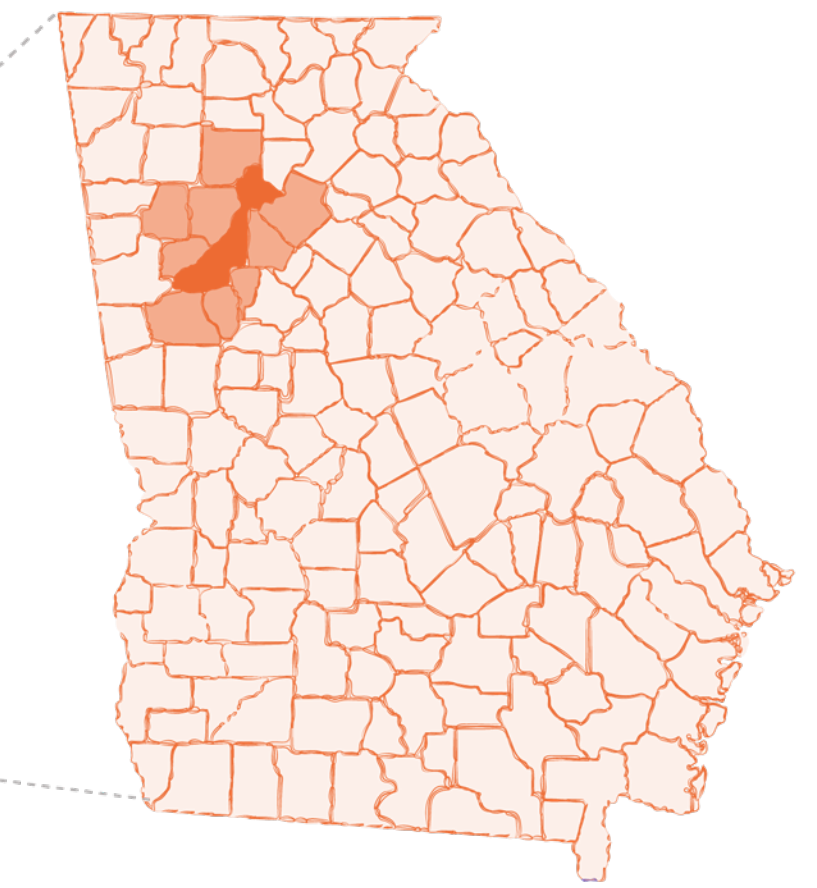
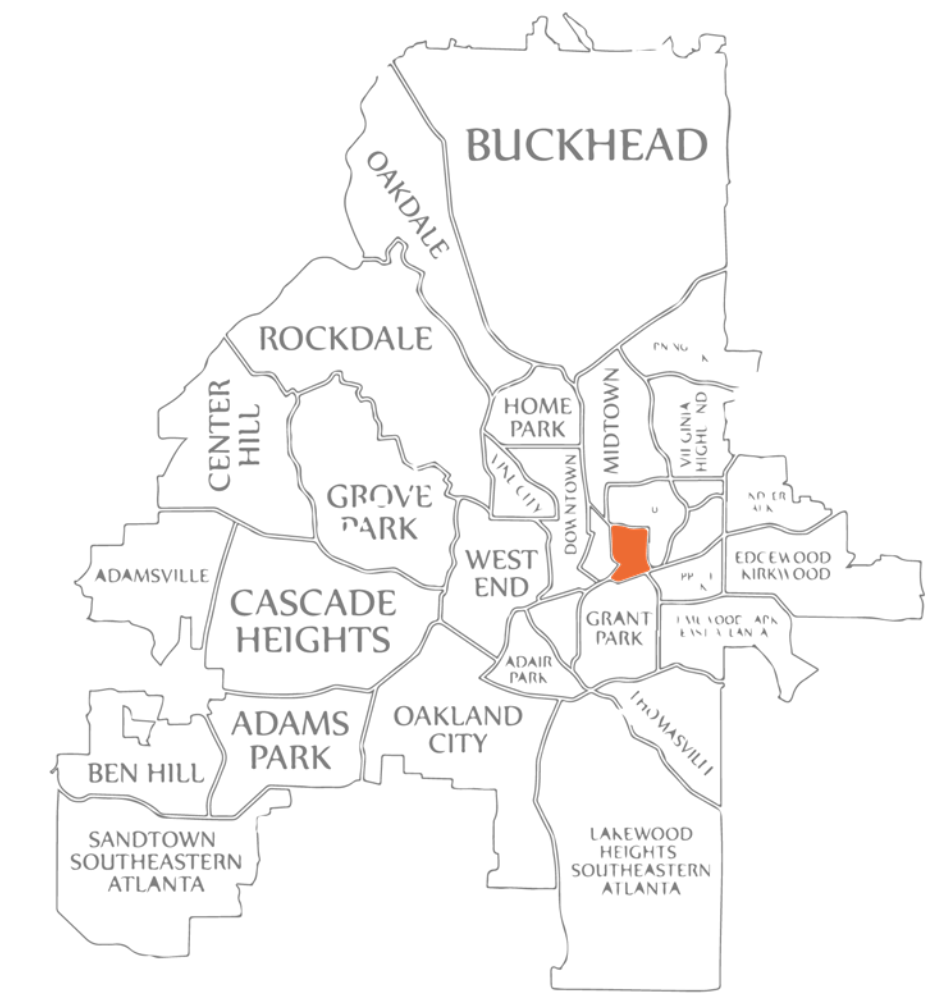
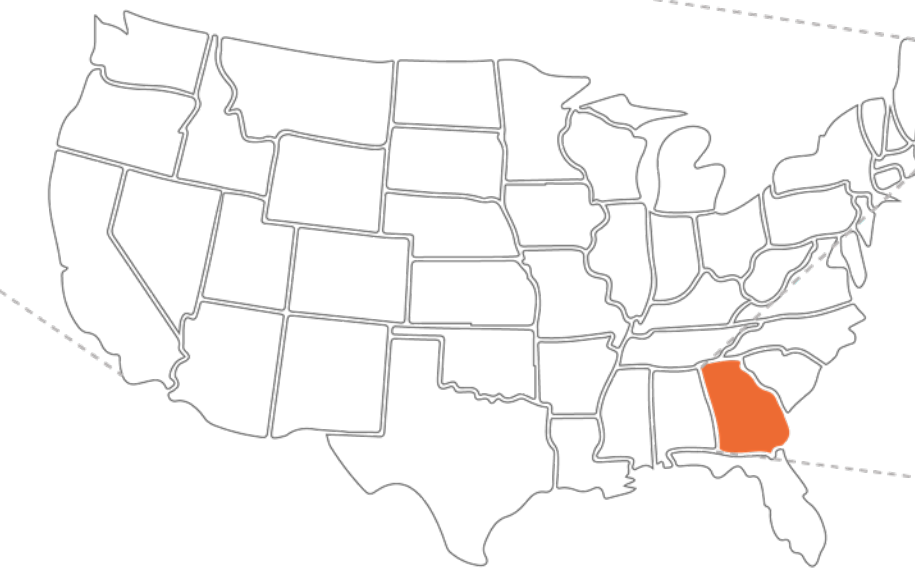
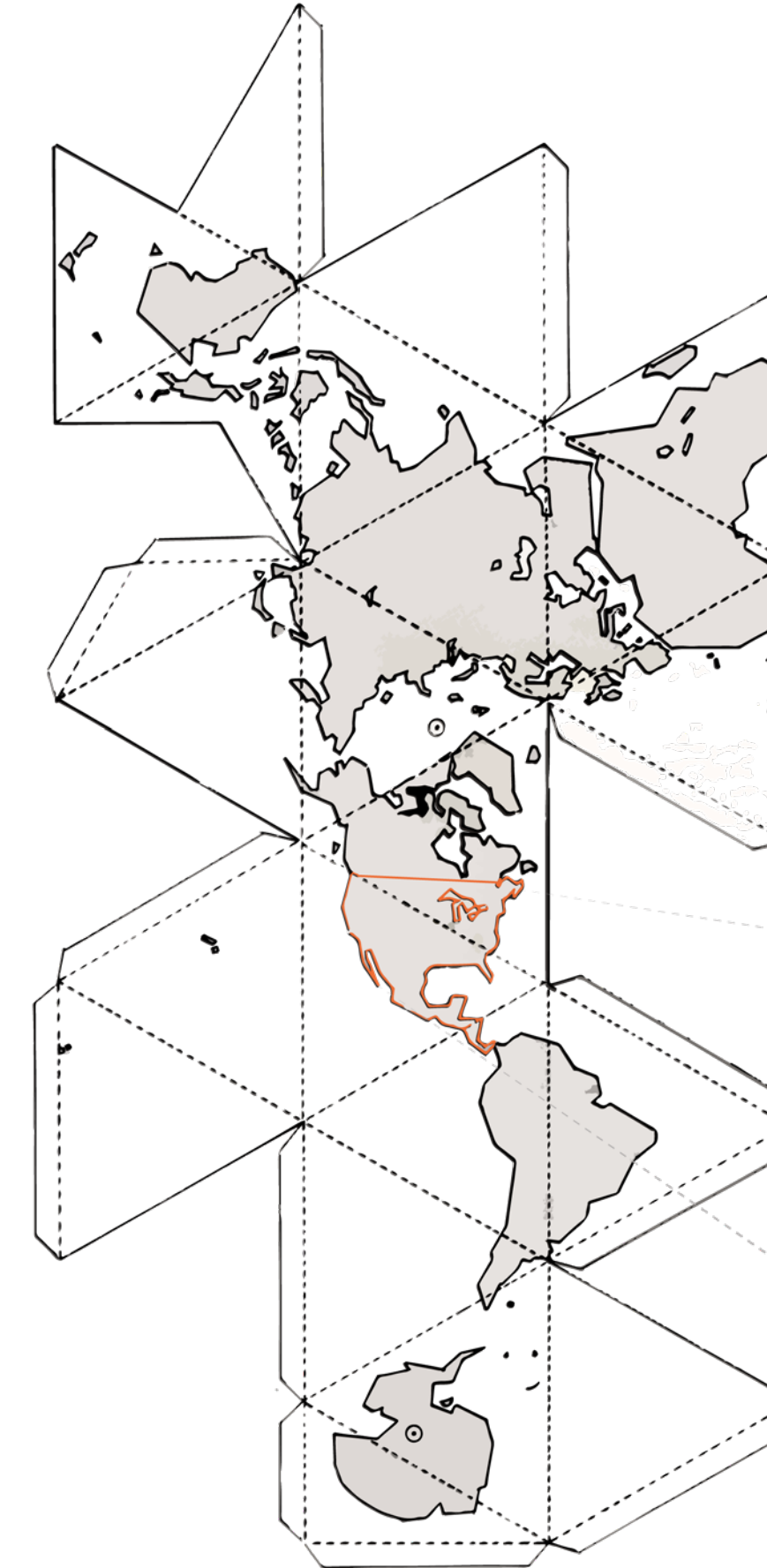


This study challenges how society approaches urban warfare in the minority community through the use of the equitable design in the Sweet Auburn Historic District and redevelopment of the Atlanta APEX Museum. The inquiry underlines environmental injustice; explores strategies of **EQUITABLE DESIGN** and **SOCIAL ARCHITECTURE** to promote cultural awareness and improve the overall community well-being.

The intent of this thesis research project is to **REVITALIZE** a once-thriving, culturally rich, and urban community through equitable design and establish of the neighborhood center.

This proposal will result in the transformation of the existing APEX Museum retrofitted into The Urbanized APEX Multi-use Cultural Center. Most importantly, the study responds to the deficiency of space that fails to respond to its community and presents design solutions that respond to the issue of individual hindrance from lack of community-centered design that improve the quality of life and wellbeing of its community.

## THESIS STATEMENT





## EQUITABLE DESIGN MACRO VS MICRO

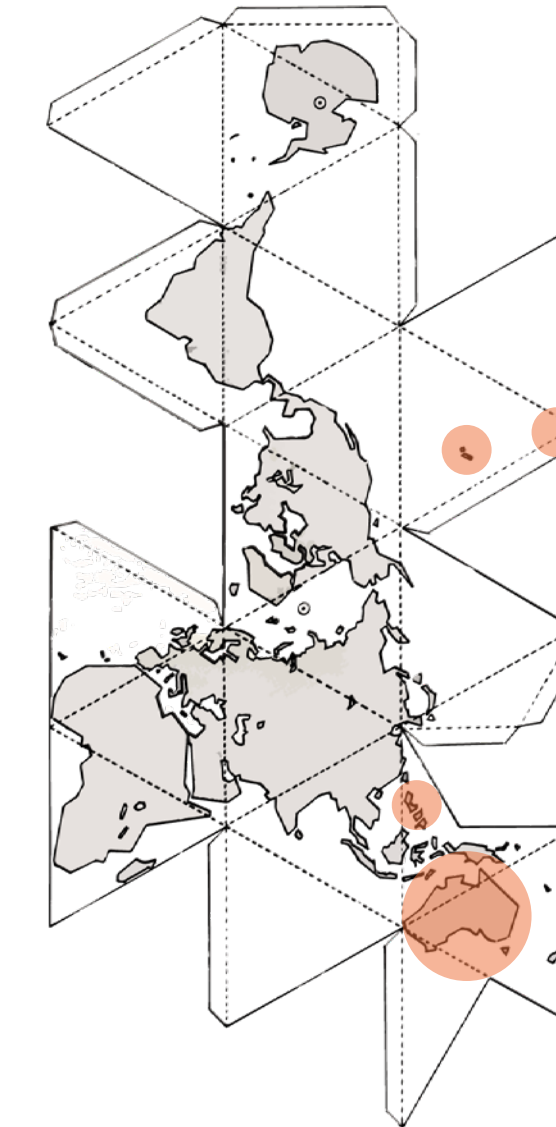
In Yellow Woods article titled "UNIVERSAL DESIGN VS. EQUITABLE DESIGN" equitable design is observed and its effects at a macro and micro scale.

### GLOBAL

At the macro-level it involves future casting, master planning for a world and a way of living we can only imagine. Climate change, driver-less cars, outrageous carbon footprints, explosive density Design that adapts as we learn in real time. For instance, a company like phenomenally successful & New-York-based We Work, which has a front row seat in progressing design innovation around more equitable office design. Creating algorithms from data about how people really work (a mix of open & closed spaces) versus how we think they work (wide open spaces) has informed their in-house design team and allowed a more equitable mix of work spaces.

Most of these spaces reflect nature driven designs made to lower the carbon footprint, decrease stress and increase mental health much like the locations with the lowest carbon footprint **(Nauru, Niue, Kiribati.)**

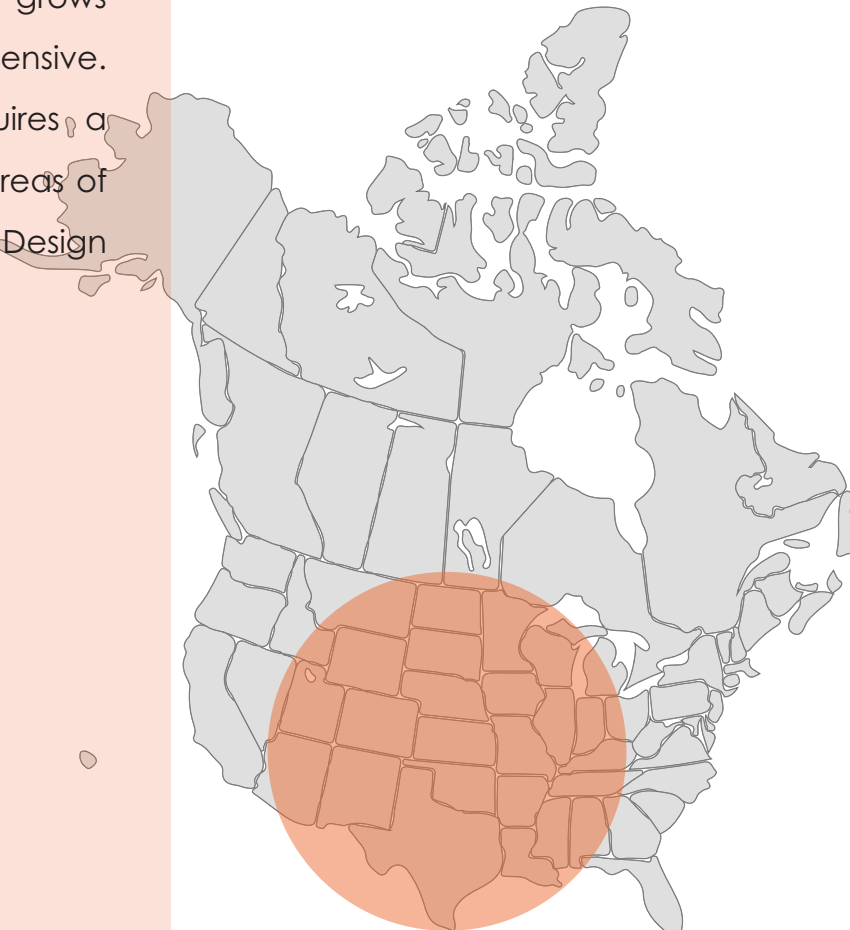
Equity is about providing opportunities to thrive and should question the disparity of reality versus conceptualized. what value do we take & move forward from this story and what do we leave behind.



*Dymaxion map, a.k.a. the Buckminster Fuller is important when representing the global population, Humanity, by reinforcing boundaries that separate people and the changing the world perspective from segregated individualism to a unified dynamic viewpoint.*

### LOCAL

At a micro-level Equitable Design revolves around the individual and their relationship with the space. Smart homes, multi-generational housing, multi-tasking furnishings - structures that adapt to a user that will never remain static. As an example, the most recent figures from the Pew Research Center show that a record 20% of **Americans** live in multi-generational homes. The idea of aging in place has become a main driver as the baby boomer population grows older and housing becomes more expensive. Extended families living together requires a compromise of spaces, a capacity for areas of retreat and community which Equitable Design tools can help navigate.



*Map of Continent, North America*



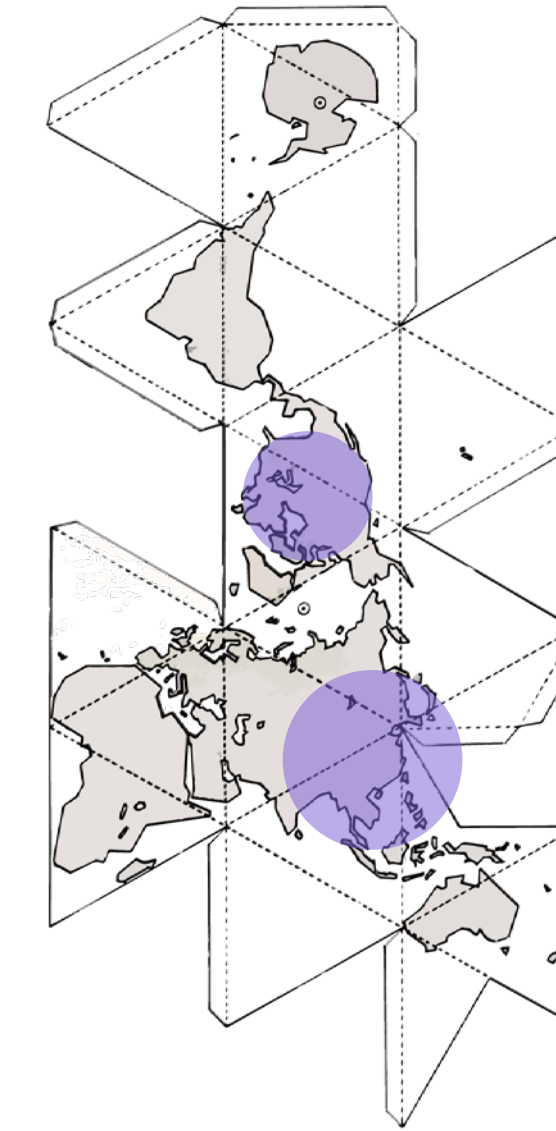
## ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE MACRO VS MICRO

In an interview with Daniels Stones Newsweek "Resolving Environmental Injustice on a Local Level," Julie Sze, director of the Environmental Justice Project at the University of California, explains how environmental justice is rarely politically motivated but more an issue of business-focused zoning and lax regulatory control and can also be a symptom of the larger inequality in America, which often falls along race and class lines.

### GLOBAL

The scope of this type of environmental injustice on a global scale: globalization directly effects the climate change and which in turn affects people disproportionately in the third world. Global contaminants from groundwater contamination to toxic expulsion from refineries is occurring as a result of inequality, which is happening in the **U.S.** On a national scale, ground-water contamination and lack of clean air are found more in developing countries and more disadvantaged communities especially in the U.S.

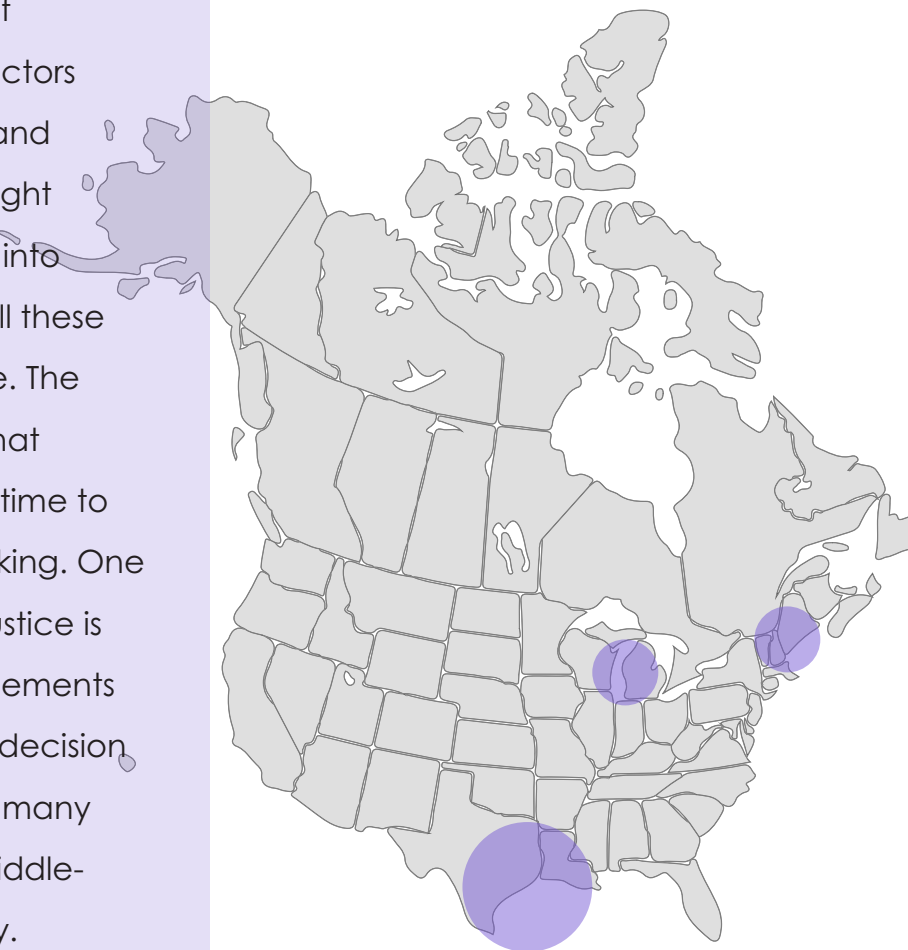
China also emits more carbon dioxide than the U.S. and EU combined, which is an alarmingly high amount with negative health effect.



Buckminsterfuller dot map

### LOCAL

SZE says in the Southeast resides large African-American communities live around oil refineries which may be a factor of employment discrimination. The effect of nuclear mining on uranium[-rich] communities is an entirely different historical problem which plays with factors like race, class, zoning laws and, of course interests in political decisions. **New Orleans** post-Hurricane Katrina & **New York** both exemplify the immediate results of industrial pollution on environmental factors and lack of appropriate policy. Black and Latino child-asthma rates are almost eight times the national average. That plays into the zoning history that concentrated all these industrial developers in the same place. The problem is compounded by the fact that these communities lack the resources, time to assemble, and access to decision making. One of the slogans behind environmental justice is giving people "a place at the table." Elements of environmental justice like access to decision makers, access to legal resources and many others mirror the mobilization of that middle- and lower-class communities differently.



Map of Continent, North America

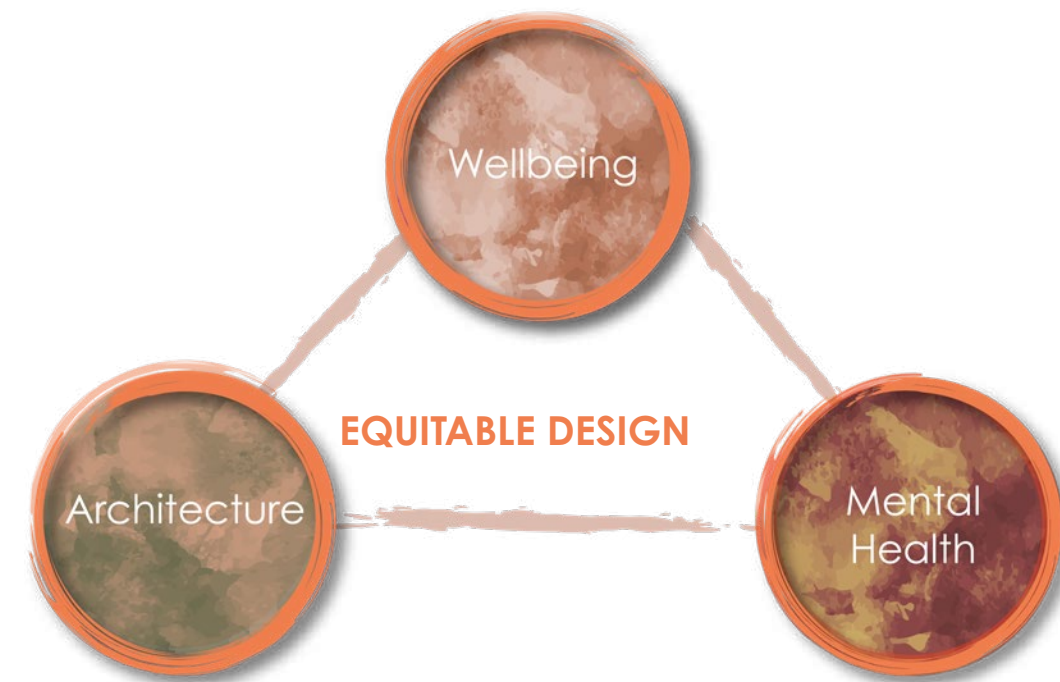


# EQUITABLE DESIGN

In "A student's guide: ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE" written by three Masters of Landscape Architecture Students who wanted to learn more about how landscape architecture can promote social justice and equity through design.

Equitable Design is defined as both a process and an objective. As a process, equitable design taps into the tools of inclusive and participatory design with communities. Equitable design is one that promotes environmental justice as an explicit objective through the creation of healthy places and access to resources. Environmental Justice is expressed in the landscape as equitable design. The Principles of Equitable Design are i. Facilitate Meaningful Community Engagement in Planning and Land Use Decisions ii. Promote Public Health and a Clean and Safe Environment iii. Strengthen Existing Communities vi. Improve Access to Opportunities and Daily Necessities v. Provide Transportation Options iv. Provide Housing Choices vii. Preserve and Build on the Features That Make a Community Distinctive.

- i. Participatory Design and Planning
- ii. Healthy Places
- iii. Access to Resources



v. Provide Transportation Options

An equitable design empowers marginal users through spatial design and by providing amenities that are usable and accessible to all people.



vi. Improve Access to Opportunities and Daily Necessities

An equitable design does not produce or distribute pollutants hazardous to public or ecological health.



i. Facilitate Meaningful Community Engagement in Planning and Land Use Decisions

An equitable design process is inclusive to all, ensuring that marginalized populations typically excluded from decision-making are actively involved.



iii. Strengthen Existing Communities

An equitable design is inclusive to all, allowing everyone feel welcome and free from discrimination.



vii. Preserve and Build on the Features That Make a Community Distinctive

An equitable design includes a long-term plan to prevent the project from falling into disrepair and compromising the safety or accessibility of the space.



iv. Provide Housing Choices

An equitable design does not accelerate neighborhood gentrification or the displacement of people from their homes.



ii. Promote Public Health and a Clean and Safe Environment

An equitable design should promote the equal distribution of resources such as clean air, clean water, healthy food, transportation, and open space. Conversely, the design should equally distribute the burden of unavoidable risks among all populations and mitigate and re-mediate pollutants.

# 1.3 DESIGN IMPACT

According to County Health Rankings, community arts programs are a highly suggested design method to raise social support and develop social capital throughout communities (NEA-Strategic plan 2014, Kelaher 2013, Lewis 2013a, Jones 2010, Stuckey 2010). Available evidence suggests community arts programs and creative activities can improve mental health for participants (Leckey 2011, Kelaher 2013), including delinquent youth (Rapp-Paglicci 2011). Such programs may also promote community involvement (Chung 2009). However, additional evidence is needed to confirm effects.

Community arts programs may improve health outcomes and increase community connections among older adults (Hallam 2012, Phinney 2014). A study of Porch Light, a Philadelphia-based mural art project, suggests that residents are more likely to perceive high levels of neighborhood cohesion and trust, and less likely to stigmatize individuals with mental illness in neighborhoods with participatory art projects (Tebes 2015).

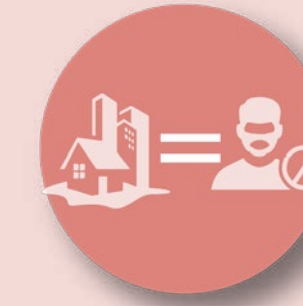
Creative extracurricular activities such as music, dance, drama, and visual arts, frequently part of community arts programs, can improve self-confidence and self-esteem, and increase positive behaviors among participating children and adolescents (Bungay 2013)."



Improve Community Economic Reports



Improve Mental Health



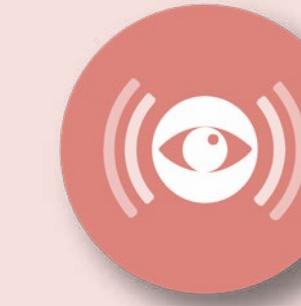
Improve housing stock, and crime control



Increase Community Trust and Street Life



Increase Social Capital and Networks



Increase Cultural Awareness



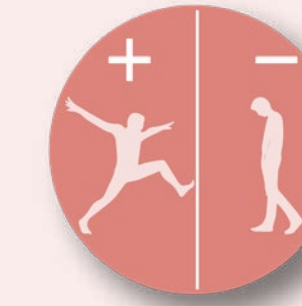
Empowerment Through Education & Exposure



Sense Of Purpose & Self Discovery



Visual Connection to Nature



Inspire Behavioral Change



Transform Urban Community



Decrease S.E.S. Bias



Employment



Support Groups



# ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

According to The American Society of Landscape Architects otherwise known as ASL, the Professional Practice Networks say environmental justice addresses issues of: **(1) unequal distribution of resources** such as clean air and water, healthy food, homes, parks, places to walk and sit in public, etc.; **(2) inaccessibility of public goods and resources** because of transportation, cost or discrimination; and **(3) exclusion from facilities and full participation in decisions** about one's community largely because of poverty, prejudice, race, income, recent immigration, or other marginal status.

## ALL INCLUSIVE:

Everyone should participate in design and planning decision making regardless of

- Race
- Ethnicity
- Class
- Income
- Gender Identity
- Sexual Orientation
- Age
- Indigenous Status
- Ability

## HEALTHY PLACES:

Replenish critical resources accessible to all:

- Green Space
- Healthy Food
- Transportation
- Affordable Housing
- Jobs

## Environmental Response:

Environmental issues that create an unhealthy place:

- Air Pollution
- Accidental Hazardous Releases
- Waste Incinerators
- Brown-fields + Contaminated Sites
- Lack of Maintenance + Neglect
- Climate Change
- Flood-Prone
- Drinking Water Quality
- Quality of Water bodies



**RESPECT MOTHER EARTH**

Affirms the sacredness of Mother Earth, ecological unity and the interdependence of all species, and the right to be free from ecological destruction



**SUSTAINABLE & RESPONSIBLE LAND USE**

Mandates the right to ethical, balanced and responsible uses of land and renewable resources in the interest of a sustainable planet for humans and other living things.



**MUTUAL RESPECT & JUSTICE FOR ALL**

Demands that public policy be based on mutual respect and justice for all people, free from any form of discrimination or bias.



**RIGHT TO EXPRESS CARE**

Affirms the fundamental right to political, economic, cultural and environmental self-determination of all peoples.



**EQUAL & INCLUSIVE PARTICIPATION**

Demands the right to participate as equal partner at every level of decision-making, including needs assessment, planning, implementation, enforcement and evaluation.



**UNIVERSAL PROTECTION**

Calls for universal protection from nuclear testing, extraction, production and disposal of toxic/hazardous wastes and poisons and nuclear testing that threaten the fundamental right to clean air, land, water, and food.



**SAFE HOME & WORK ENVIRONMENTS**

Affirms the right of all workers to a safe and healthy work environment without being forced to choose between an unsafe livelihood and unemployment. It also affirms the right of those who work at home to be free from environmental hazards.



**CESSATION OF TOXINS**

Demands the cessation of the production of all toxins, hazardous waste, and radioactive materials, and that all past and current procedures are held strictly accountable to the people for detoxification and the containment at the point of production.

# ENVIRONMENTAL INJUSTICE (RACISM)

Environmental Injustice is practices acting against environmental justice, also known as the intentional placement of hazardous waste sites, landfills, incinerators, and polluting industries in communities inhabited mainly by African Americans, Hispanics, Native Americans, Asians, Pacific Islanders, migrant farm workers, and the working poor. Minorities are particularly vulnerable because they are perceived as weak or passive citizens who will not fight back against the poisoning of their neighborhoods in fear that it may jeopardize jobs and economic survival. Environmental justice addresses issues of these discriminatory practices.

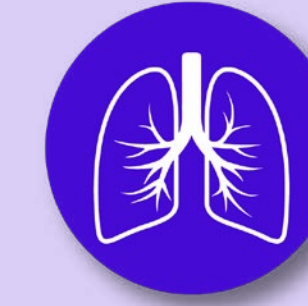
Practices of Environmental Injustice are called factors or **environmental inhibitors** such as the following listed: **The placing of hazardous and other noxious facilities, Lead poisoning among children, Asthma and other respiratory illnesses, Unsafe indecent, and exploitative workplace conditions, Cancer, birth defects, and developmental illnesses, Pesticide poisoning of farm workers, Contaminated sites and properties, Transportation thoroughfares, Congested and decaying housing conditions.**



**Proximity to Superfund Sites**  
placing of hazardous and other noxious facilities



**Lead paint**  
Lead poisoning among children



**Respiratory hazard index**  
Asthma and other respiratory illnesses



**Proximity to Potential Chemical Accidents**  
Unsafe, indecent, and exploitative workplace conditions



**Diesel fuel particulate matter**  
Contaminated sites and properties



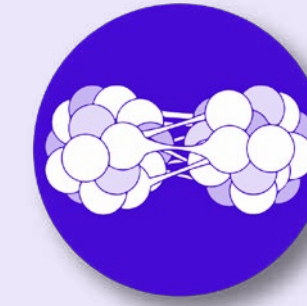
**Stream Proximity and Toxic Concentration**  
Pesticide poisoning of farm workers



**Proximity to Treatment Storage and Disposal Facilities**  
Congested and decaying housing conditions



**Traffic proximity and volume**  
Transportation thoroughfares



**Air toxics cancer risk**  
Cancer, birth defects, and developmental illnesses



# PARTICIPATORY PROGRAM DESIGN

In an AHRC funded research study titled "Experimenting with the Co-experience Environment" (June 2005 – June 2006) experts analyzed a small group of participants to question how a physical environment designed specifically for co-experiencing might contribute to new knowledge in design?

The study concluded that participatory activity of equitable collaborative spaces is indeed *progressive the mental state and physical response to a communal space*. Environments designed specifically for co-experiencing establish the role for the physical environment in experience is to be designed in a way "that 're-moves' participants from their everyday experience and offers them the opportunity for a discourse of discovery." The program of this Urban Museum will foster environments that creates the opportunity to attain design intentions, and intended occurrences the take place. It will creates an the opportunity to encounter one of these experiences.

The psychological mental and emotional health effects of participatory program and design are proven to have the following impacts: (1) *Improve Mental Health*, (2) *Inspire Behavioral Change*, (3) *Provide Sense of Purpose & Self Discovery*, *Improve Community Economic Reports*, (4) *Empowerment Through Education*, (5) *Visual Connection to Nature*, (6) *Increase Cultural Awareness*, (7) *Increase Community Trust and Street Life*, (8) *Transform Urban Community*, (9) *Increase Social Capital and Networks*, (10) *Improve housing stock, and crime control*, (11) *Decrease S.E.S. Bias*, (12) *New Job Opportunities for locals*.

Participatory program examples include but are not limited to program involving **Visual Arts**: painting, drawing, sculpting, film & photography; Architecture; **Musical Arts**: singing, instrument, playing (bands, musical groups), musical composition; **Creative Movement & Athletics**: dance, drama, performance sports; **Literature**: story writing, public speech, poetry, educational & cultural classes; **Dwelling**: reflective spaces, museums, maker spaces (technological resources) and support groups.

## Visual Arts



Painting



Drafting



Photography



Film

## Musical Arts



Instrument Playing



Musical Composition



Singing

## Dwelling



Dwelling



Immersive Museum



Maker Spaces

## Creative Movement & Athletics



Dance



Drama



Sports

## Literature



Public Speech



Poetry



Edu. Courses

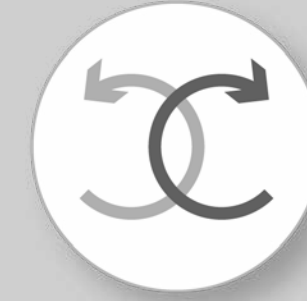


Story Writing

# AIA 10 COTE MEASURES OF SUSTAINABILITY

Although design revolves around aesthetics, it is centered on the building performance for people. Formerly known as the COTE Top Ten, the framework for Design Excellence consists 10 measures. According to a journal published The American Institute of Architects, also known as AIA, titled "Framework for Design Excellence Inspiring sustainable, resilient, and inclusive design" the ten measures organize our thinking, facilitates conversations with our clients and the communities we serve, and sets meaningful goals and targets for climate action.

The icons to the right clearly define each of the measures, including best practices, high impact strategies, resources, and case studies that promote climate action.



**Measure 1**  
Design For Integration



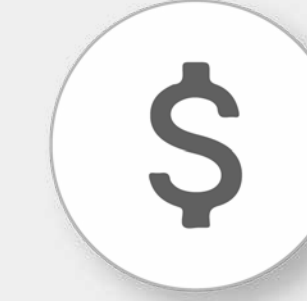
**Measure 2**  
Design For Community



**Measure 3**  
Design For Ecology



**Measure 4**  
Design For Water



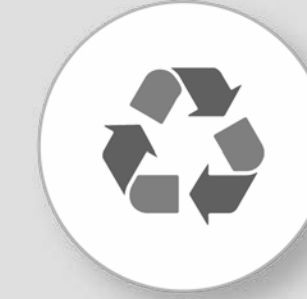
**Measure 5**  
Design For Economy



**Measure 6**  
Design For Energy



**Measure 7**  
Design For Wellness



**Measure 8**  
Design For Resource



**Measure 9**  
Design For Change



**Measure 10**  
Design For Discovery



# HOW ART WORKS

In a comprehensive article on The Connection Between Art, Healing, and Public Health, Heather L. Stuckey and Jeremy Nobel say that "[a]rt helps people express experiences that are too difficult to put into words, such as a diagnosis of cancer."

Engaging and participating in the arts can jump starts people to process a wide range of mental ill health conditions and psychological distress. What's amazing is it improves their mental health through creativity. Creating art, with or without words is extremely expressive.

When applied to the masses, the arts do impact the community. With time, people age, possibly isolation or loss of social connections, such as friends, family and workplace - as well as other limitations such as decreasing physical health. In turn, engaging in the arts in social settings such as those proposed in the APEX transformed Urban Museum, introduces new social opportunities and extend existing support within communities. Communication and human interaction assists with loneliness and isolation. The same idea is applied in care homes, where arts activities are incorporated within the weekly schedule to increase social interactions between residents and residents and staff ultimately improving mood and wellbeing.

This same idea can be applied to the Urban Museum in terms of communication and human interaction for visitors who may experience loneliness, isolation, or any other negative symptoms as a result of the poor state of their home, work and surrounding environment. These poor environments directly correspond with the high incarceration, depression and poverty rates commonly found in predominantly minority communities, such as the Sweet Auburn-historic and Downtown Atlanta Community.

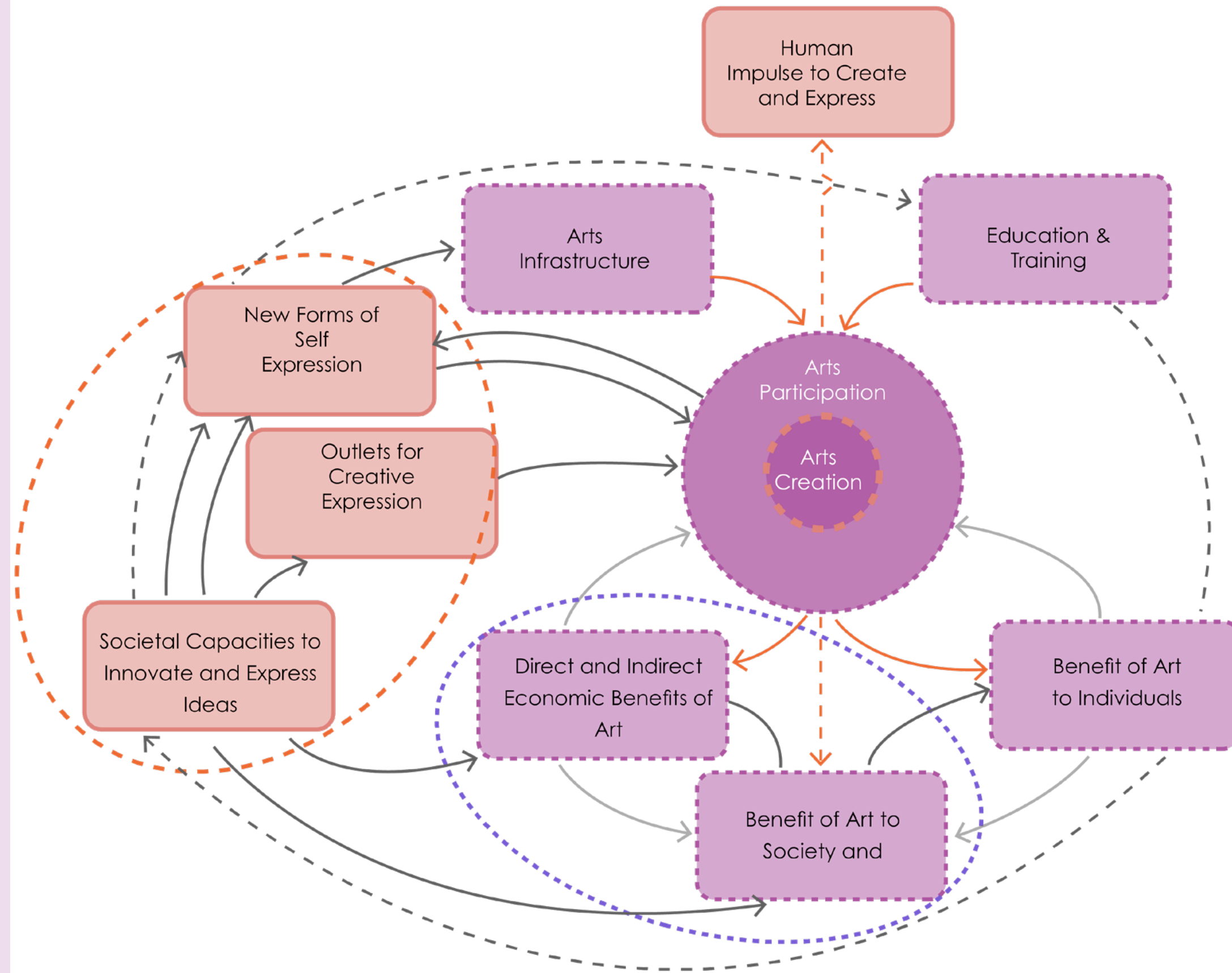
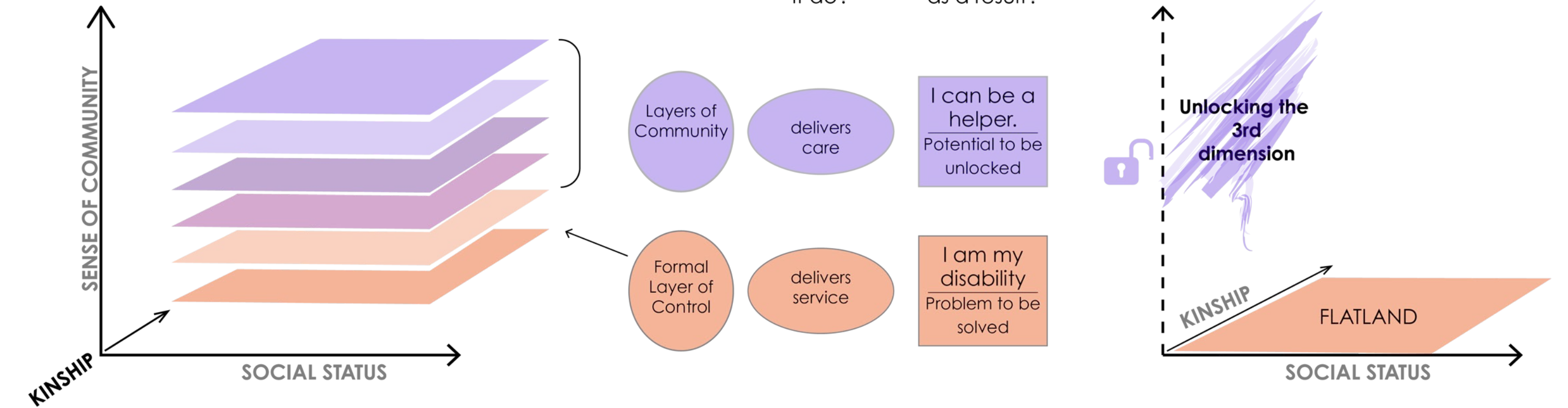


Figure 1. "How art works" inspired by Iyengar et al.

# SOCIAL ARCHITECTURE

is the conscious design of an environment that encourages certain social behavior leading towards some goal or set of goals.

Social architecture is a balancing act.



In an Iowa State Investigation labeled "Expanding architectural practice to advance social justice: Social architecture creates equitable shelter", graduate theses student, Hannah Rosenthal declares equitable shelter as extension of social architecture, that is both a product and a system which facilitates social justice because it aligns with respected theories on the nature of social justice.

"Equitable shelter is an environment that ensures the safety of inhabitants and protection from the elements, acting as a gateway to the satisfaction of basic needs, self-actualization, self-expression and self-direction.' This conclusion aligned closely with the literature on social justice, demonstrating that equitable shelter as both a product and a system advances social justice."

## SENSE OF COMMUNITY



This analysis reveals that inclusive, participatory and proactive modes of practice each uniquely relate to three key areas of social justice theory: spatial justice, empathetic empowerment and equity, respectively.

Ultimately, community involvement and consideration for the locals build's neighborhoods political and social capacity, and empowers participants with the design tools necessary to mold their own surroundings. This is one way the enforcement of equitable design is used to expand both social justice and social architecture, whilst uplifting depreciated communities.

The built environment of architecture affects mental well being and individual psychology. A paradigm of responsive architecture is developed through changing the space and placing parameters.



# THE EXPERIENCE & PROGRESSION OF DIVERSITY AND CULTURE IN MEDIA

**1913**  
 first all black cast  
 Blackface- Lime Kiln Club  
 Lime Kiln Club Field Day was a silent film with an all-black cast. Produced in 1913, it features legendary entertainer Bert Williams



**1919**  
 First Black Film Producer  
 Oscar Micheaux  
 Oscar Micheaux formed his own movie production company and in 1919 became the first African-American to make a film. He wrote, directed and produced the silent motion picture The Homesteader



**1927**  
 First Black Movie Star  
 Although he never won an Oscar, Lincoln Perry was America's first black movie star. But for that distinction, Perry paid a heavy price - he is best known as the character of Stepin Fetchit, a befuddled, mumbling, shiftless fool.



**1939**  
 First Woman Head Studio  
 On Jan. 2, 1980, Sherry Lansing made headlines for becoming the first woman to head a major studio, becoming president of 20th Century-Fox Productions. In 1992, she was named chairman and CEO of Paramount Pictures, where she held that title until 2005. (right)



**1915**  
 Acknowledging racism  
 birth of a nation  
 Director D. W. Griffith's 1915 silent drama, Birth of a Nation, for instance, depicted African Americans (white actors in black face) better off as slaves. Griffith's movie showed the institution of slavery "civilizing" blacks. With "Birth of a Nation," movies arrived in America as a middle class medium (despite the racism of the film). The movie demonstrated the power and popularity of movies; it also showed that huge profits could be made.



**1923**  
 First Black Women  
 Maria P. Williams who produced, distributed, and acted in her own film, The Flames of Wrath.



**1928-1948**  
 The Golden Age of Motion Pictures  
 Golden Age of American Motion Pictures were exponentially increasing in attendance and movies were just as increasing as the numbers because they were precisely designed for amusement rather than educational gain, meaning topics of controversy were avoided to avoid depressing thought.

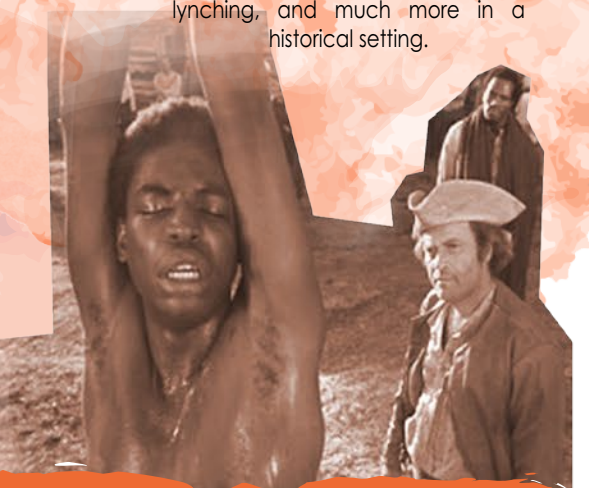


**1940**  
 First Acknowledge Female Actress  
 Hattie McDaniel Biography.  
 Actress and radio performer Hattie McDaniel became the first African American to win an Oscar in 1940, for her supporting role as Mammy in 'Gone With the Wind.'

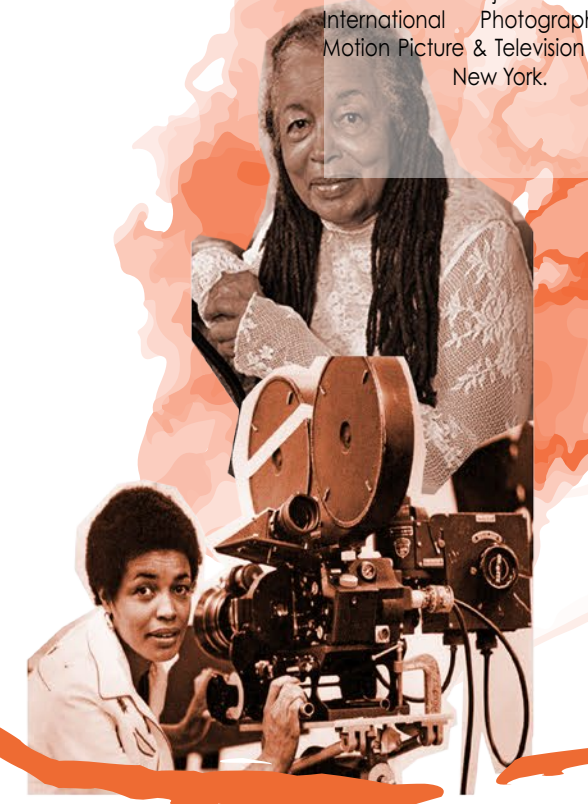


**1977**  
 First Honest African America TV Show  
 Roots

In 1977, the seven part mini-series "Roots" became the first major TV drama to feature a primarily Black cast, and tackle the issue of racism and slavery in primetime television. "Roots" was also one of the first of its kind to capture racial oppressions, lynching, and much more in a historical setting.



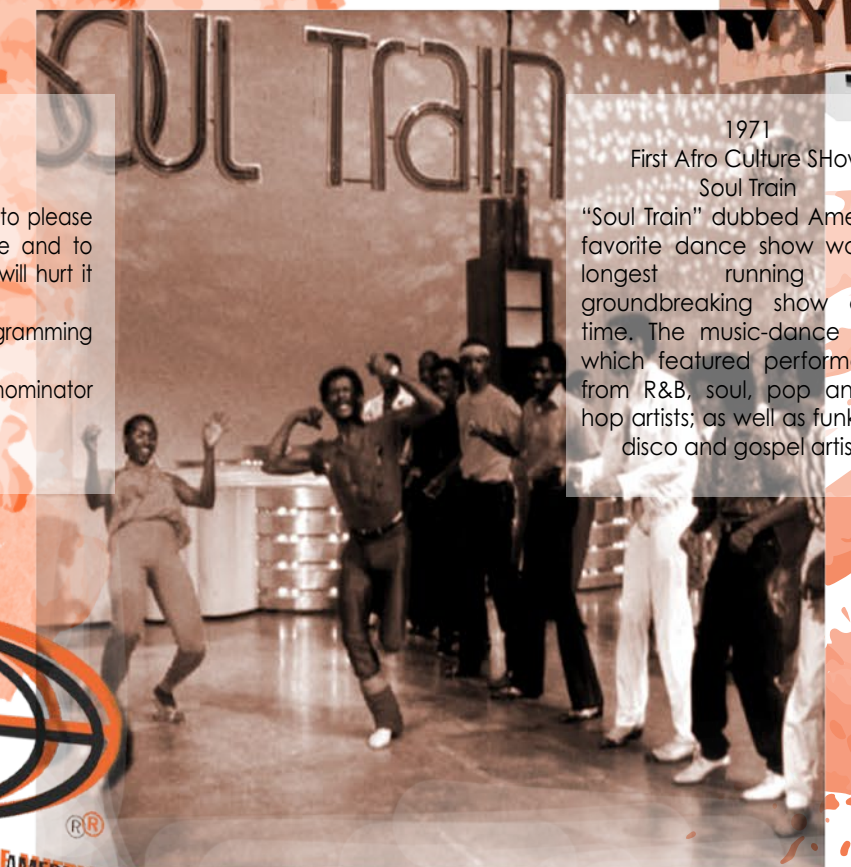
**1981**  
 First Woman to Join IATSE  
 Jesse Maple  
 First woman to join the union of International Photographers of Motion Picture & Television (IATSE) in New York.



**2012**  
 the first black woman to win Sundance  
 Ava Marie DuVernay  
 Ava Marie DuVernay is an American filmmaker and film distributor. She won the directing award in the U.S. dramatic competition at the 2012 Sundance Film Festival for her second feature film Middle of Nowhere, becoming the first black woman to win the award.



**1940-1970**  
 LOP & LCD  
 Censorship  
 Industry has attempted to please mainstream public taste and to avoid controversy that will hurt it financially.  
 Least Offensive Programming (LOP)  
 Lowest Common Denominator (LCD)



**1971**  
 First Afro Culture Show  
 Soul Train  
 "Soul Train" dubbed America's favorite dance show was the longest running and groundbreaking show of all time. The music-dance show, which featured performances from R&B, soul, pop and hip hop artists; as well as funk, jazz, disco and gospel artists.



**2006**  
 Major Black Owned Film Studio  
 Tyler Perry Studios (TPS)  
 Tyler Perry Studios is an American film production studio, founded by actor, filmmaker, and playwright Tyler Perry in 2006 in Atlanta, Georgia.



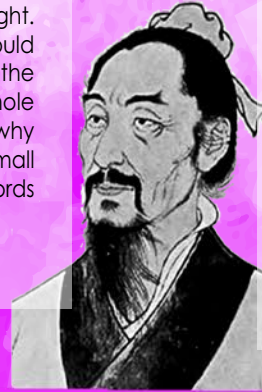
**2018**  
 Billion dollar black cast  
 Black Panther  
 The first movie to make over \$1 billion at the box office with a predominately Black cast



# THE INTEGRATION OF ARCHITECTURAL EXPERIENCE IN MEDIA

400 BC  
Pinhole method

The pinhole effect is how the camera obscura records light. Mozi figured out that he could record the light around the shadow if he put a small pinhole into a piece of paper. This is why the camera obscura has a small hole on the front where it records the light



1878

first motion picture on 19 June, 1878, Edward Muybridge took a series of photographs of a horse, using 12 cameras. As the horse galloped, it tripped a series of wires, triggering each camera. The images were then copied onto plates and animated by projecting them using his invention, the zoopraxiscope



1891

Kinetoscope Viewable Motion Device that Allows people to view motion one by one was invented. Kinetoscope is another invention by Thomas Edison. It was an individual viewing device in it, where a strip of film was passed rapidly between a lens and an electric light bulb while the viewer peered through a peephole. The first movie "Monkeyshines No. 1" was viewed.



1896

Vitascope Hall First Permanent Theatre On July 26, 1896, the first permanent home for showing movies in the United States was opened at 623 Canal St, New Orleans called Vitascope Hall. The man operated the vitascope hall. Mark created the world's first permanent movie theatre designed to exclusively showing motion picture films. The Edsonia Vitascope Hall opened in downtown Buffalo, New York, in October of the same year.



1902

Special Effects & Color in Silent Film On AUG 15 Georges Melies' 'A Trip to the Moon' is released, marking the first science fiction film "Trip to The Moon" and innovative use of special effects.



1923

Hollywood as a Lifestyle and the Big Screen, an aspiration, was officially crowned when Hollywood's major studios took control in 1923. Production Loews, Paramount, 20th Century Fox, Warner Brothers, Columbia and Universal (A few others would emerge in the 1930s).



AUG 16, 1939

Technicalcolor The 'Wizard of Oz' is one of the most popular films recognized for technical color in 1939 using a three-strip film process.



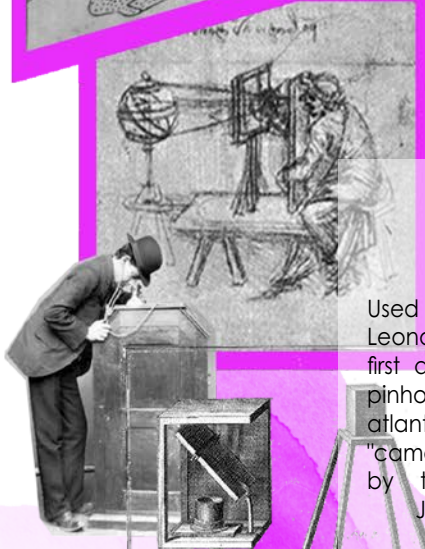
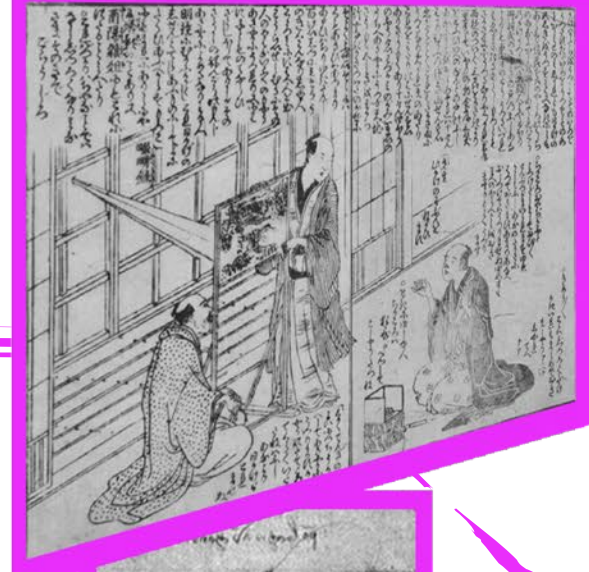
1971

The first permanent IMAX projection system was installed at Ontario Place's Cinesphere in Toronto in 1971.



2009

Highest Grossing Film "Avatar" December 31, 2009 the highest grossing film of all time. James Cameron's 3D film Avatar became the highest-grossing film of all time.

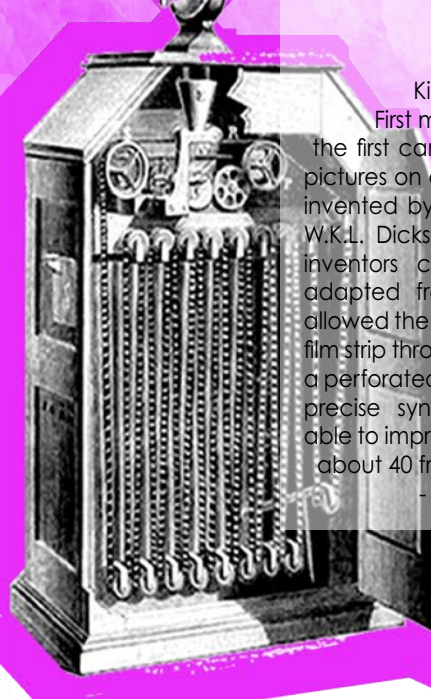


1485

Camera Obscura Used to study perspective, Leonardo da Vinci provided the first detailed description of the pinhole camera in the Codex Atlanticus (c. 1485). The term "camera obscura" was first used by the German astronomer Johannes Kepler in 1604

1889

Kinetograph First motion camera the first camera to take motion pictures on a moving strip of film, invented by Thomas Edison and W.L.L. Dickson in 1889. The two inventors combined a device adapted from a clock, which allowed the regular motion of the film strip through the camera and a perforated celluloid film strip for precise synchronization. It was able to imprint up to 50ft of film at about 40 frames per second." -WordPress



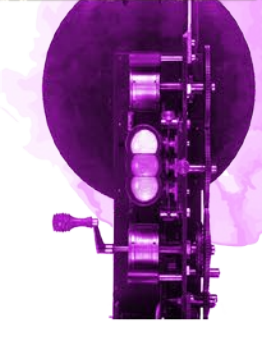
1896

The vitascope First Public Projection Mitchell H. Mark, A New Yorker by created the world's first permanent movie theatre. The vitascope effectively launched projected motion pictures as a screen novelty in the United States. In late April 23, 1896 the vitascope was showing films in only one American theater, Koster & Bial's Music Hall in New York City.



1902

color in film on MAR 22 the First Use of Color in Film Located merely years ago, the first use of color on film was produced by Edward Raymond Turner from London who captured colored productions of his children at his home in Hounslow. Found by the National Museum in Bradford, the film had been forgotten for 110 years.



1922

first 3d film on AUG 15, 1922 the First commercially 3D film is released called "The Power of Love". It used anaglyph glasses with opposite coloured lenses creating the 3D effect.



JUN 6, 1933

Drive-Movie Theater The first drive-in movie theater was in New Jersey, USA.



1957

The Sensorama Machine was invented in 1957 and patented in 1962 under patent. It is a simulator for one to four people that provides the illusion of reality using a 3-D motion picture with smell, stereo sound, vibrations of the seat, and wind in the hair to create the illusion.



2017

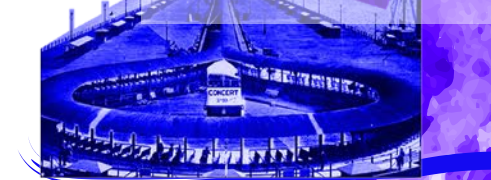
Virtual Reality theatre Paramount december 29th Paramount Pictures has just created another platform — or maybe even a new distribution window — to display its feature content.





# THE EVOLUTION OF IMMERSIVE TECHNOLOGY IN MEDIA

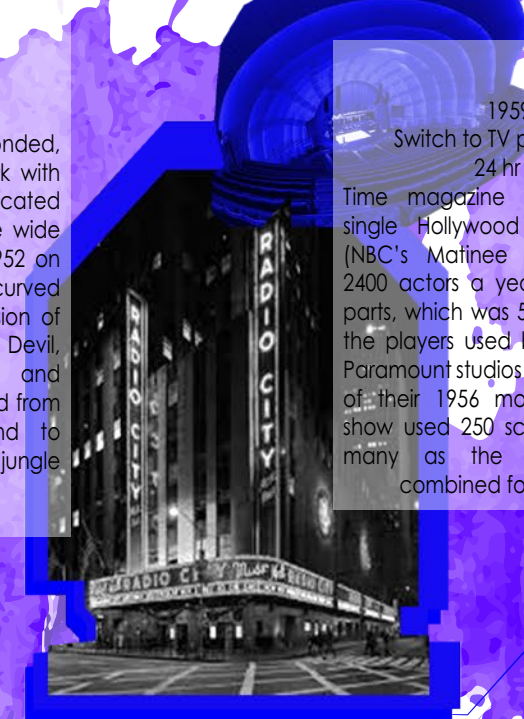
**1893**  
Moving Sidewalks  
The first moving walkway debuted at the World's Columbian Exposition of 1893, in Chicago, Illinois, in the United States and was designed by architect Joseph Lyman Silsbee. It had two different divisions: one where passengers were seated, and one where riders could stand or walk.



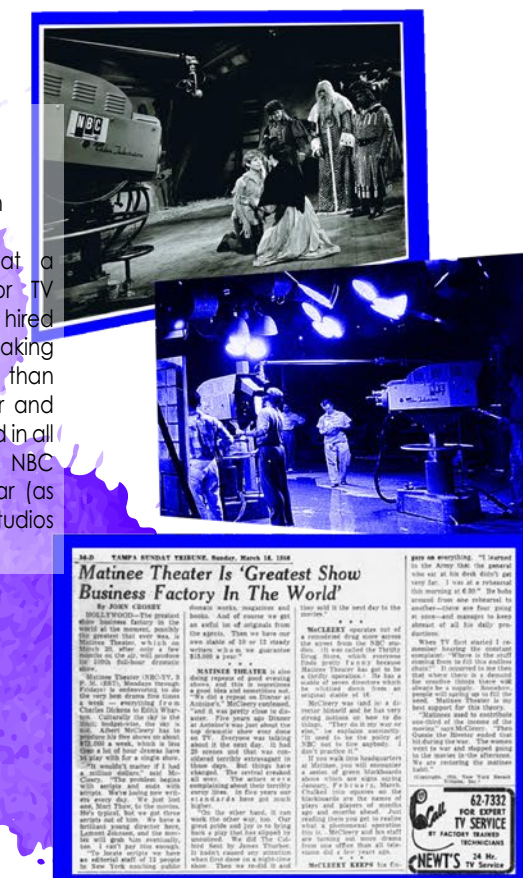
**1922**  
German expressionism  
Nosferatu  
Pallasmaa says spaces and environments present a "fantastic architecture suspended between dreaming and reality." Wiene's film Nosferatu shows completely distorted architecture characterized by oblique angles and marked shadows on the surfaces of the setting, establishing the architecture as something out of touch with reality.



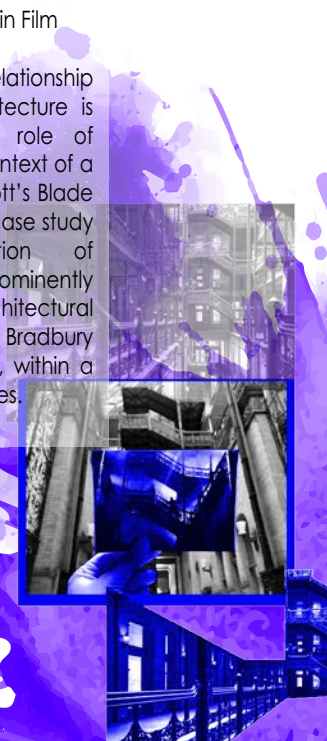
**1952**  
Innovation  
Wide Screen  
The movie industry responded, trying to woo viewers back with increasingly sophisticated techniques. These include wide screen (Cinerama) from 1952 on (using three projects and a curved screen, enhancing the illusion of depth); 3-D movies (Bwana Devil, 1952) -- a surprising hit and Aromarama (smells released from your chair, to correspond to scenes on the screen, e.g., jungle smells, incense, etc.).



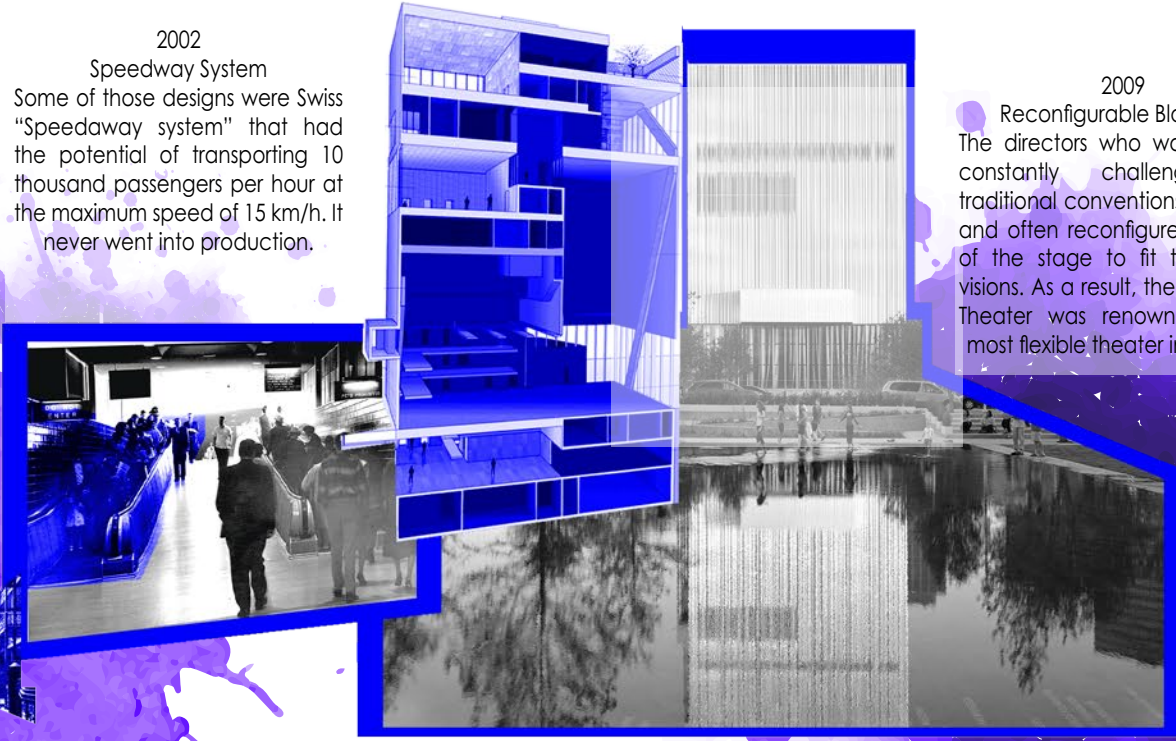
**1959**  
Switch to TV production  
24 hr tv  
Time magazine noted that a single Hollywood show for TV (NBC's Matinee Theater) hired 2400 actors a year for speaking parts, which was 50 % more than the players used by Warner and Paramount studios combined in all of their 1956 movies. The NBC show used 250 scripts a year (as many as the major studios combined for movies).



**1982**  
Exposing Architecture in Film  
Blade Runner  
The discussion of the relationship between film and architecture is often focused on the role of architecture within the context of a film's narrative. Ridley Scott's Blade Runner (1982), cinema's case study for the representation of architecture in film, prominently features notable architectural landmarks, including the Bradbury Building and Ennis House, within a futuristic Los Angeles.



**2002**  
Speedway System  
Some of those designs were Swiss "Speedway system" that had the potential of transporting 10 thousand passengers per hour at the maximum speed of 15 km/h. It never went into production.



**2009**  
Reconfigurable Black Box  
The directors who worked there constantly challenged the traditional conventions of theater and often reconfigured the form of the stage to fit their artistic visions. As a result, the Arts District Theater was renowned as the most flexible theater in America.

**2015**  
ROTO VR: Interactive Chair  
originally pitched to consumers as an interactive chair for VR videogaming with its Kickstarter campaign in 2015, the chair now supports all PC-based VR, AR and 360-degree hardware and software out-of-the-box.



**BUFFALO EXPRESS**  
WEDNESDAY MORNING, NOV. 7, 1897.  
**VITASCOPE THEATRE**  
ELLICOTT SQ. BUILDING, 308 Main Street  
CONTINUOUS EXHIBITION  
From 10 A.M. to 11 P.M. EVERY DAY, EVERY SUNDAY.  
ONE PRICE 10c. SEVENc. for any time and see Edison's Latest Wonders.  
The most perfect automatic machine ever produced.  
Pictures changed every minute and thousands see "The Million" and "The Other" every day.  
FREE ADMISSION TO PHOTOGRAPHY PARLORS.



**1896**  
first storefront theatre  
the first "storefront theater" in the US dedicated exclusively to showing motion pictures was Vitascope Hall, established on Canal Street, New Orleans, Louisiana June 26, 1896—it was converted from a vacant store, called vitascope.



**1927**  
Metropolis  
Metropolis By Fritz Lang is another instance of the future being portrayed as dystopia. Santos (2004) writes that "the systems' great machine is effectively represented by an oppressive and omnipresent city, which reduces its inhabitants to mere ventriloquists manipulated by gears in a clear manifestation of the fears aroused by a new industrial city."



**1958**  
Selling old films to TV  
By 1958, an estimated 3700 feature films had been sold or leased to TV for an estimated \$220 million.



**1960**  
Sensory Film  
Smell-O-Vision  
Smell-O-Vision was a system that released odor during the projection of a film so that the viewer could "smell" what was happening in the movie. The technique was created by Hans Laube and made its only appearance in the 1960 film Scent of Mystery, produced by Mike Todd, Jr., son of film producer Mike Todd.



**1975**  
Home Video  
sony digital  
By the mid 1980s, the home video revolution had swept the country. Sony introduced its Betamax half inch home video cassette recorder (VCR)

**1975**  
blockbusters  
"Jaws"  
In an era of increased competition from other media (such as TV), movie industry made fewer movies but went for the big hit -- the big blockbuster that was sure to pull in a lot of people and do well at the box office. Steven Spielberg's (USA) Jaws (USA, 1975) is considered the first summer blockbuster. Not only did people queue up around the block to see the movie, it became the first film to earn \$100 million at the box office.



**2007**  
4d Theatre  
Atlanta World of Coca-Cola  
The World of Coca-Cola. The World of Coca-Cola is a museum, located in Atlanta, Georgia, showcasing the history of The Coca-Cola Company. The 20-acre (81,000 m2) complex opened to the public on May 24, 2007, relocating from and replacing the original exhibit, which was founded in 1990 in Underground Atlanta.



**March 7, 2014**  
The Grand Budapest Hotel  
The Grand Budapest Hotel!: Wes Anderson's Artistic Manifesto

The exterior of the hotel is a miniature model created by set designer Adam Stockhausen. Photography by 20th Century Fox. Wes Anderson's latest movie, The Grand Budapest Hotel, is a fictional murder-mystery-adventure-love story set in a sumptuous pink Eastern European hotel on the eve of World War



**2016**  
Perkins+Will's mixed-reality app provides immersive tours of spaces. Courtesy Perkins+Will.ox.





# 1.5 CASE STUDIES

Precedents such as recreation facilities, cultural centers, museums and studios mimic similar social and architectural settings the Urban Museum intends to recreate for the Sweet Auburn Historic district.

The National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) developed a presentation that reflects the benefits of recreation centers and well planned parks. "Sprawling land use patterns have altered our travel behavior, lead to physical inactivity, and contributed to soaring costs for health care and investments in our transportation system. Planning for parks and recreation facilities can promote active lifestyles, build healthy communities, and lower health care and transportation costs." The nasty living conditions of environmental injustice cause influx in health demands and costs, physical inactivity, and lack of

transportation increases public transit systems. Increase Health Longevity: "According to the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA), children who live close to multiple recreation centers were more physically active and less likely to be obese than children that did not have access to recreation centers. Community recreation centers hold the key to a number of benefits that enhance the quality of life in your community. Regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, age, or socioeconomic status, there are valuable programs ... fitness classes, after-school programs, or job training, there's a little

something for everyone." Reduce Stress: "Stress greatly affects the community at large, and studies conducted in both the United States and Australia have found that people who participate in recreational activities are more resilient to stress and experience better mental health. Recreation has a positive impact on happiness as well. A study in the Journal of Happiness Studies examined the results of over 23 studies dating back to 1980. The studies included over 500,000 people found that there were correlations between happiness and exercise."

Families Benefits: "Recreation centers present opportunities for parents to model good health for their children. Research from the University of Cambridge indicates that for every minute of physical activity a mother engages in, her child is more likely to perform 10 percent more of that activity." Social and Equity Benefits: "... recreation facilities provide social and equity benefits for community members. According to an analysis of social equity and parks conducted by NPRPA, [they] provide equal access to all citizens regardless of age, gender, socioeconomic status, ethnicity, or ability... recreation

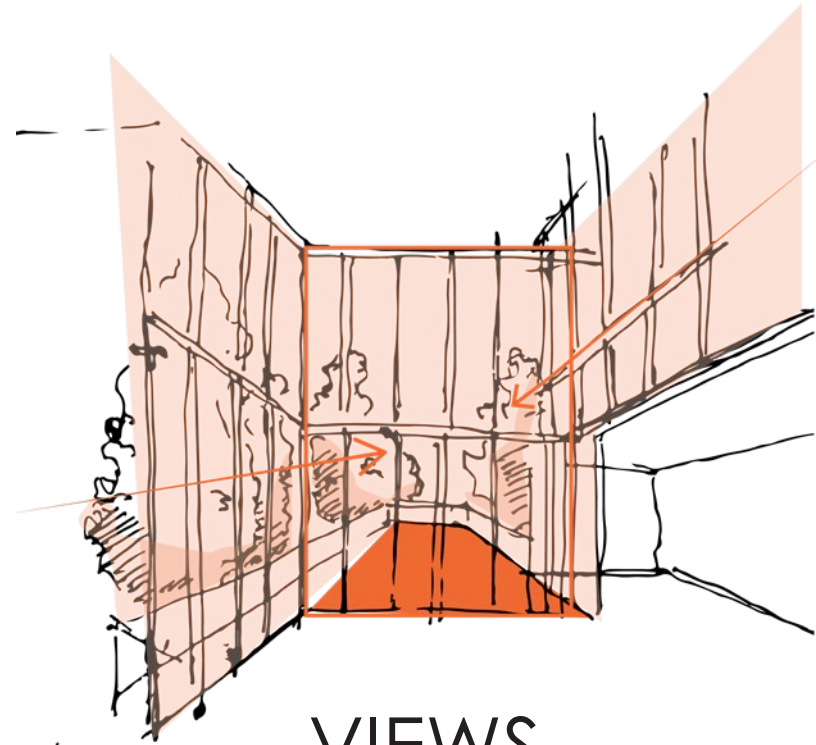
facilities can foster community pride, bring people together, create destination-oriented places, and connect people to each other and nature."

## FRAMEWORK PROGRAM CONNECTION

The following sketched diagrams illustrate the architectural connection between the framework and how it translates to an inhabitable space. The framework: participatory design, design impact, equitable design, environment justice and injustice are the muses of the museum. Each sketch implements a design quality of the framework, so when paired with a precedent image, the sketched diagrams represent qualities intended for the Urban Museum that are reflected in the Precedents design.

The museum and arts portion of the program caters directly to the participatory program, environment justice and injustice education throughout the design of the urban museum because there are all intertwined architecturally. Thus, they are not displayed in the diagrams.

ALL Precedent images are cited from Arch Daily.



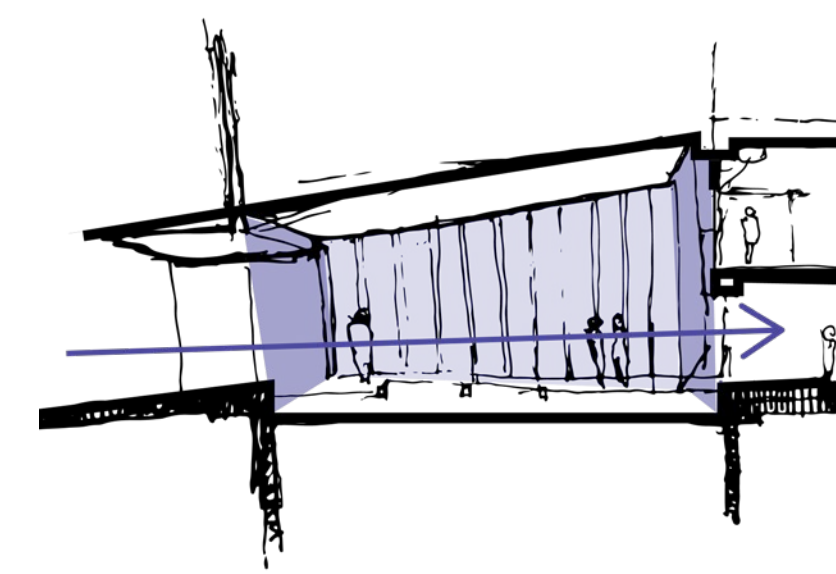
### VIEWS

Continuous views invite the natural exterior inside and provide well-lit dwelling spaces.



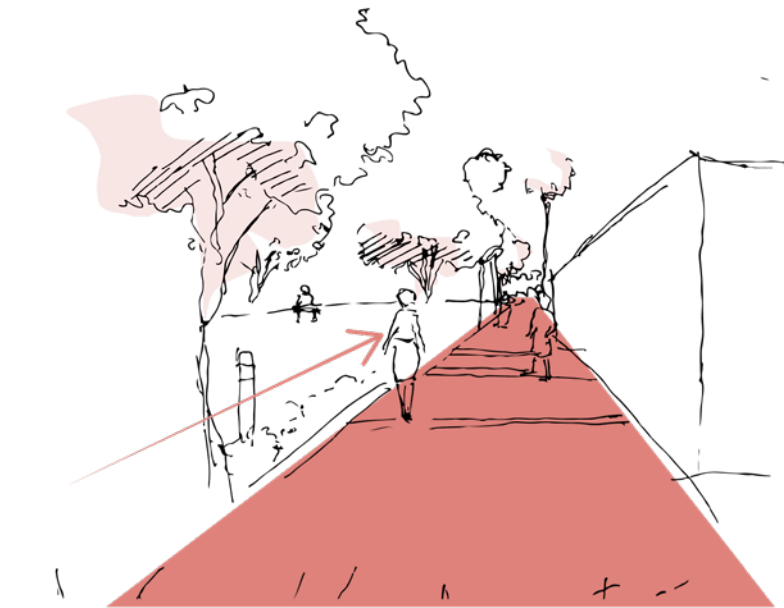
### EXHIBITION & RECREATION

Exhibitions and recreational spaces promote social interaction.



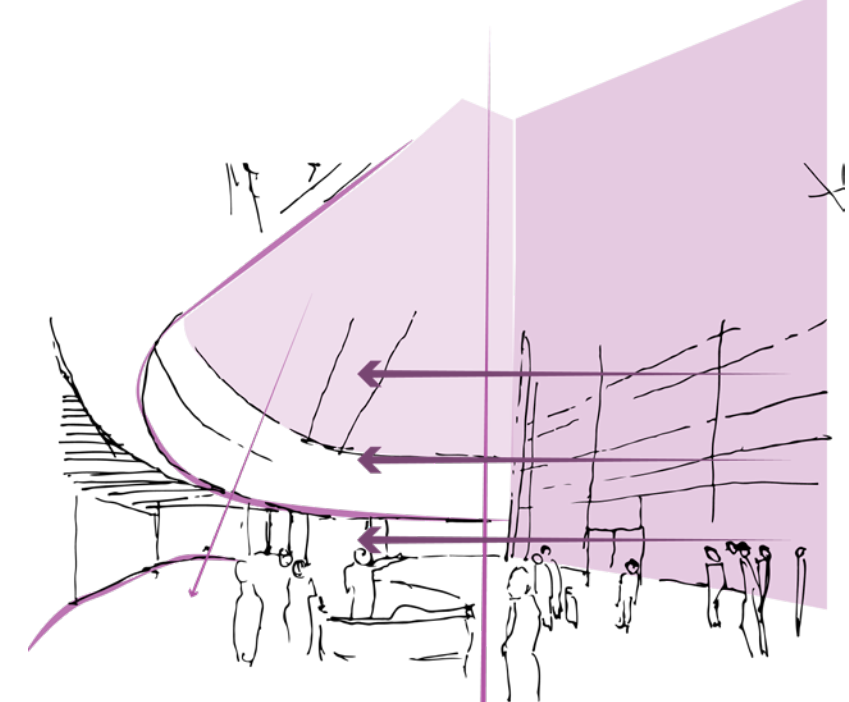
### BRIDGING

Connect the existing to the new development through program.



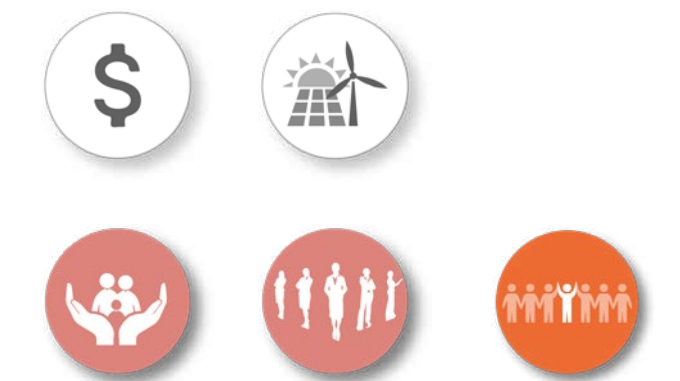
### NATURE ENGAGEMENT

Plazas promote exercise, socializing, dwelling and street connections



### EQUITABLE DESIGN

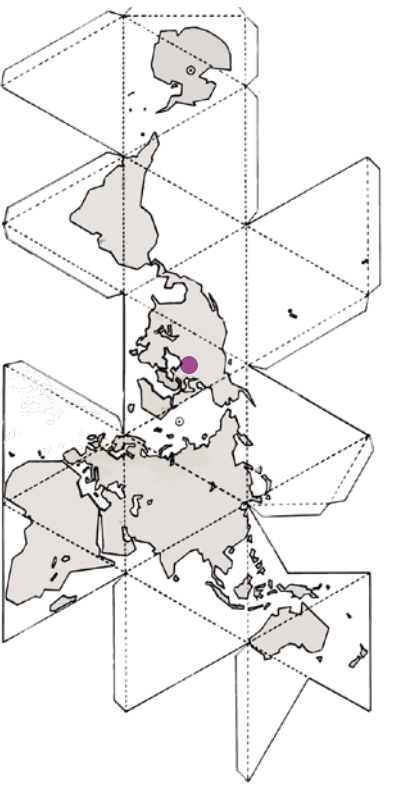
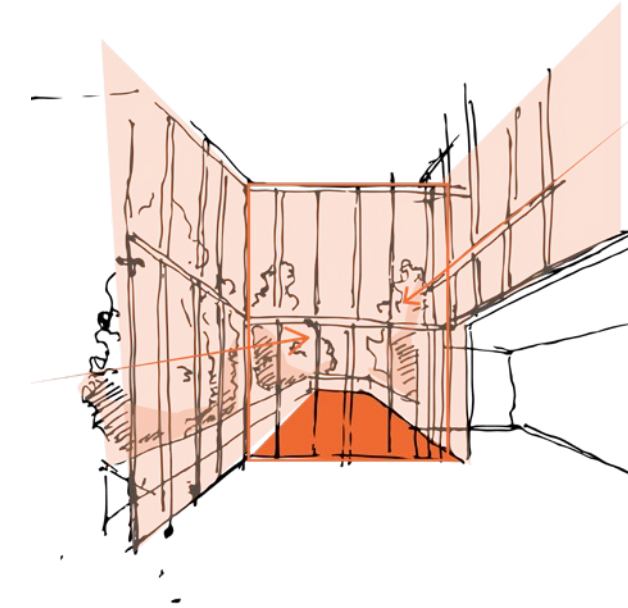
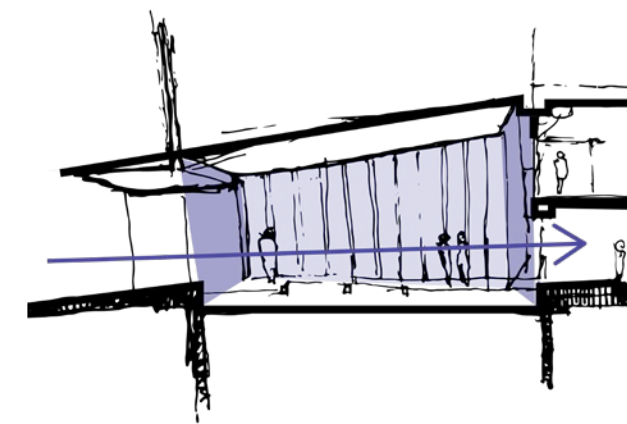
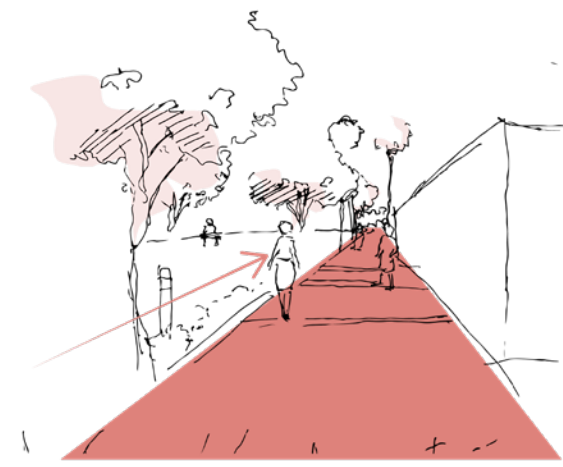
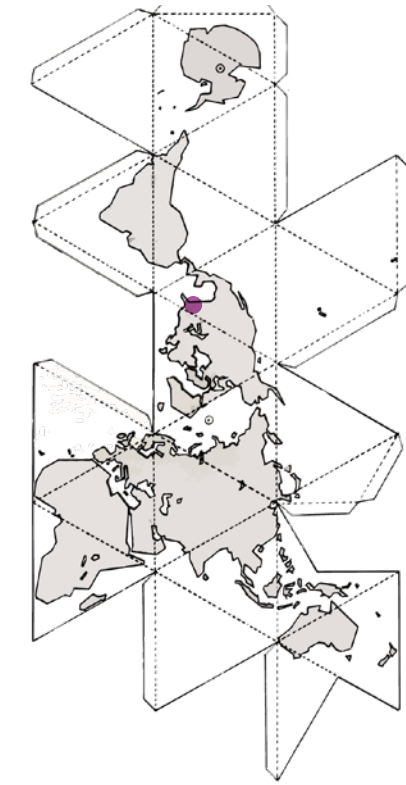
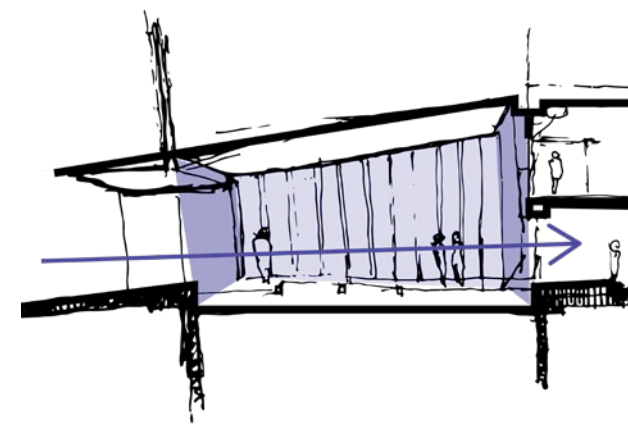
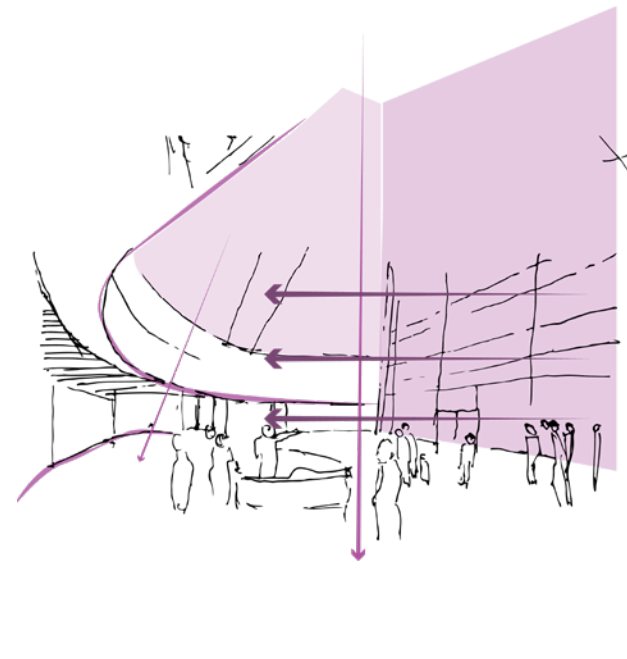
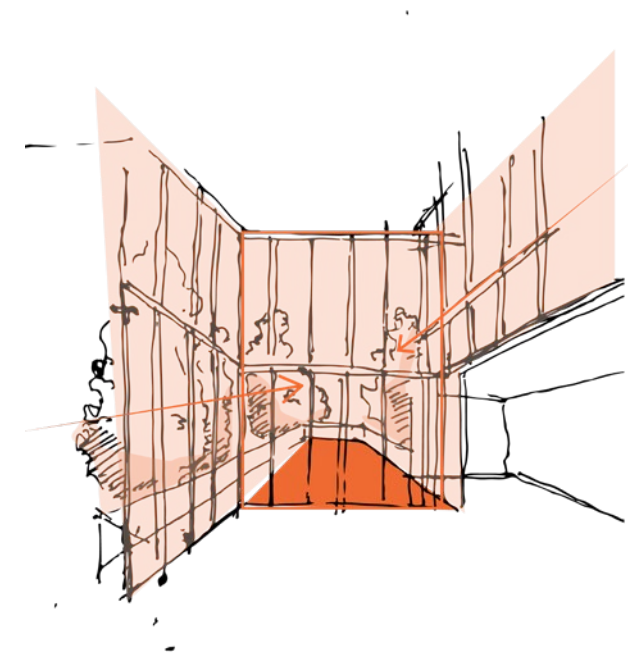
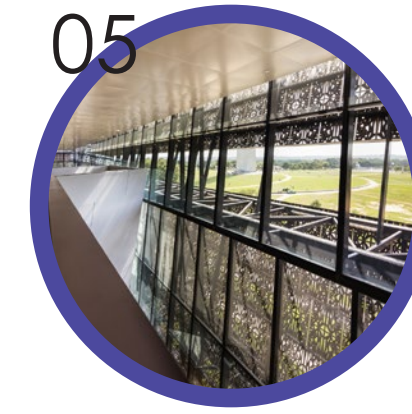
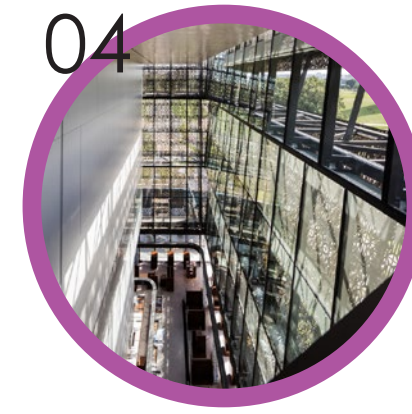
Communal atrium spaces create a welcoming gathering hub and promote use of natural sunlight & social engagement.





# Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture

# Hogans Alley



N. America

Washington D.C.

Freelon Adjaye Bond/Smith Group

World Map

Canada

Vancouver, Canada

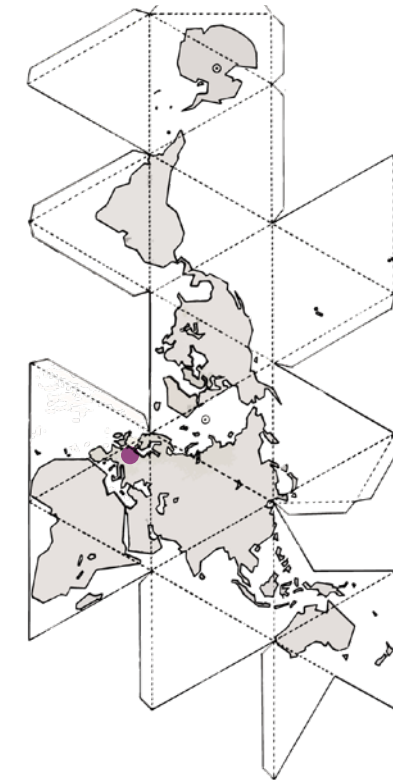
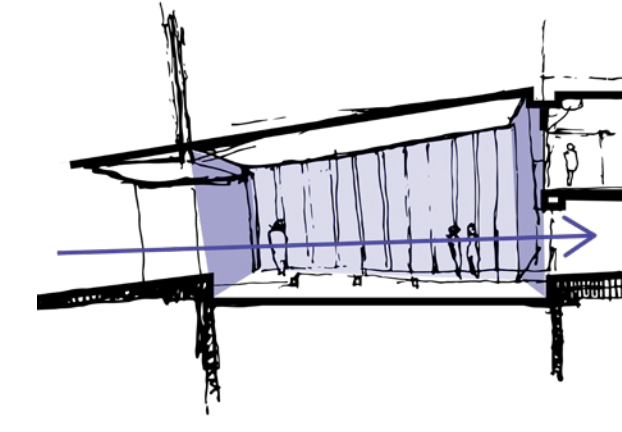
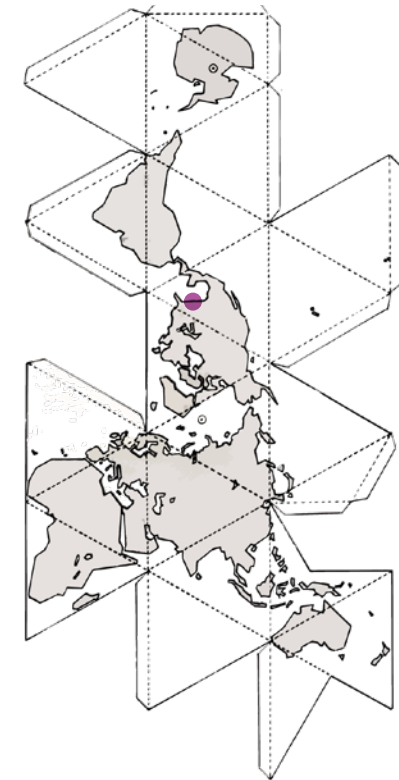
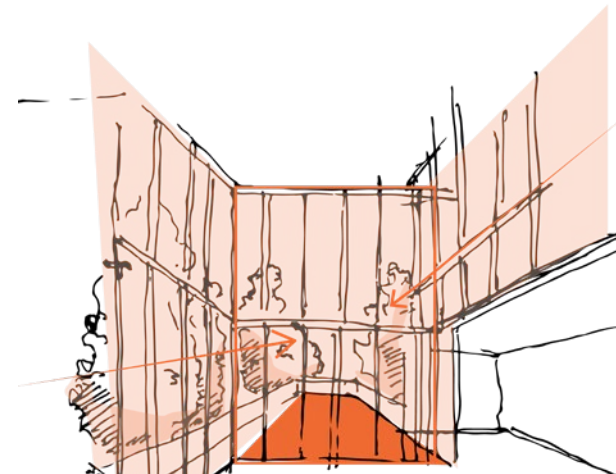
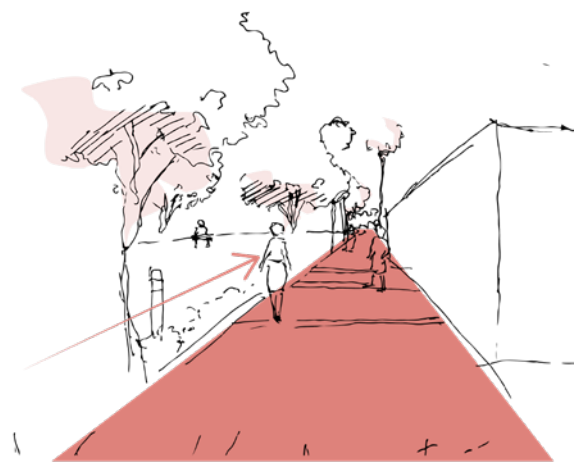
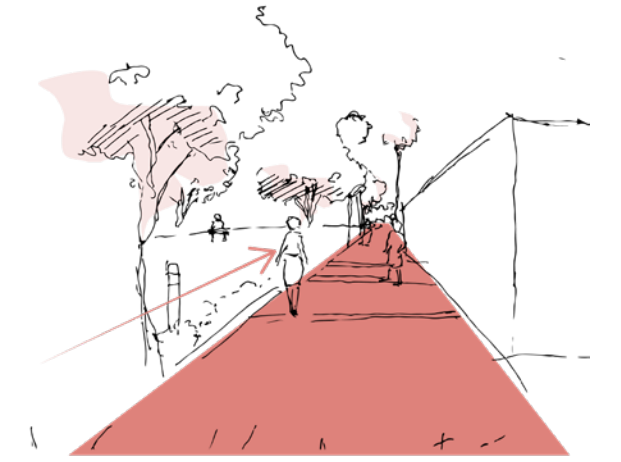
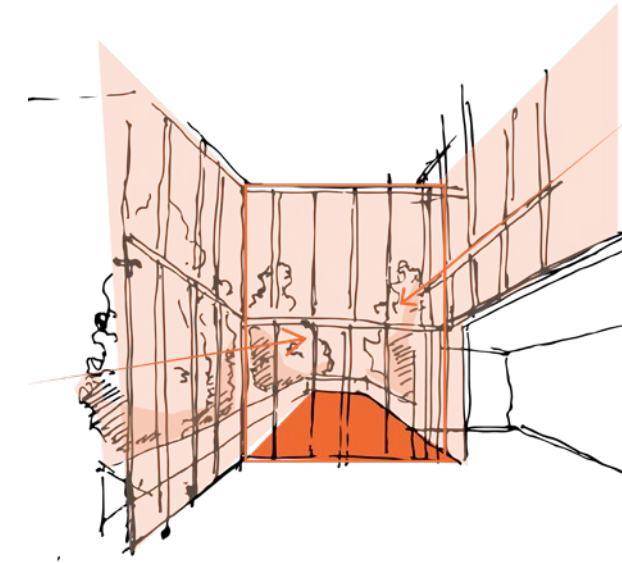
Dunsmuir viaducts

World Map



# The CLAIBORNE CULTURAL INNOVATION DISTRICT (CID)

# The Warsaw Museum of Modern Art



N. America

New Orleans, Louisiana

Architects Unknown

World Map

Europe

Warsaw, Poland

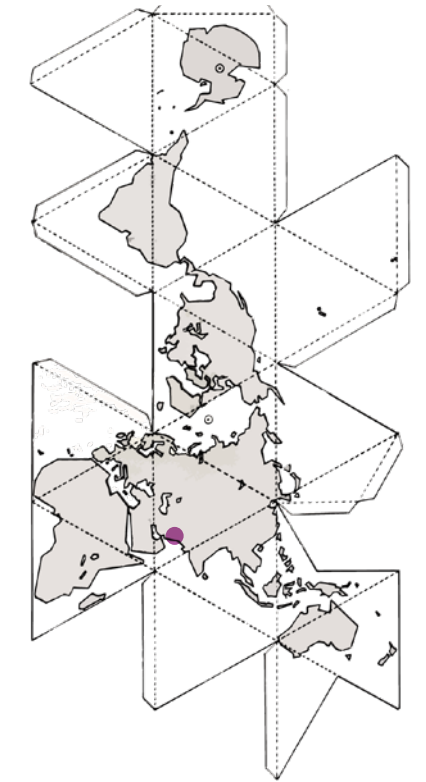
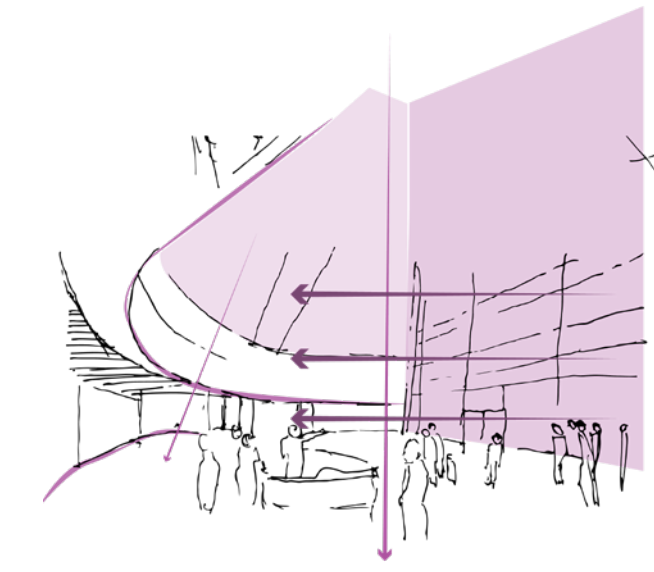
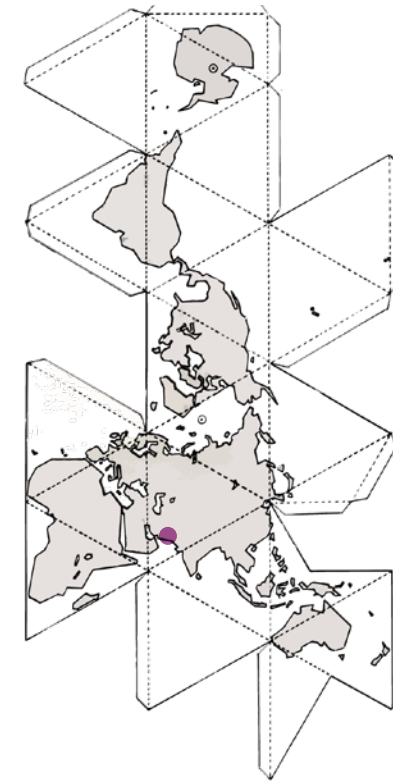
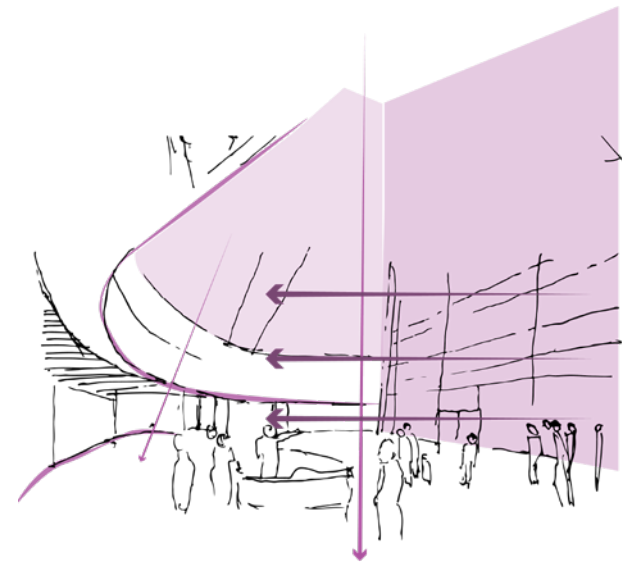
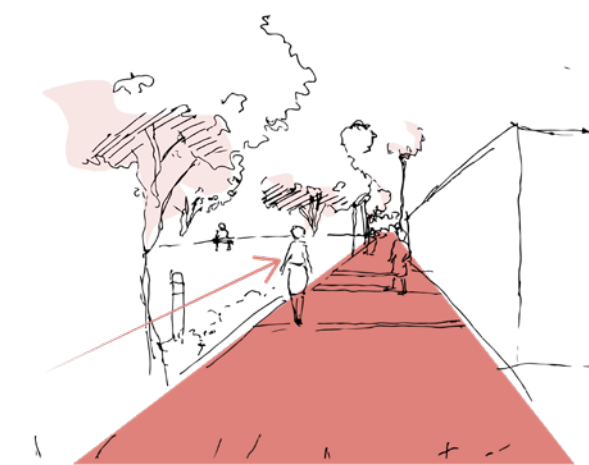
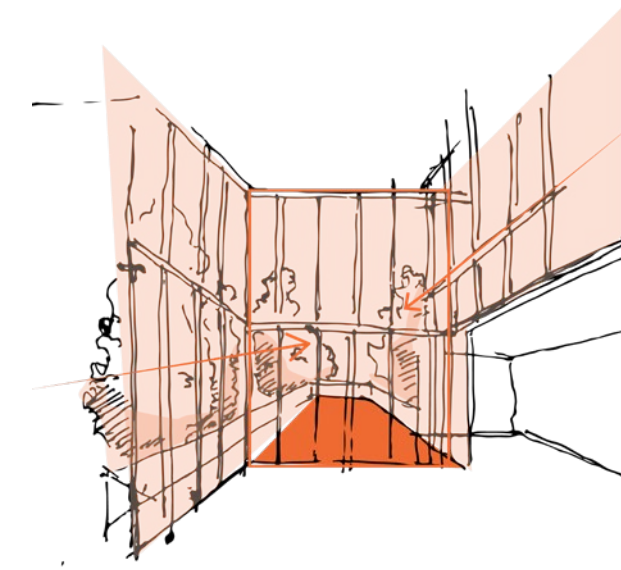
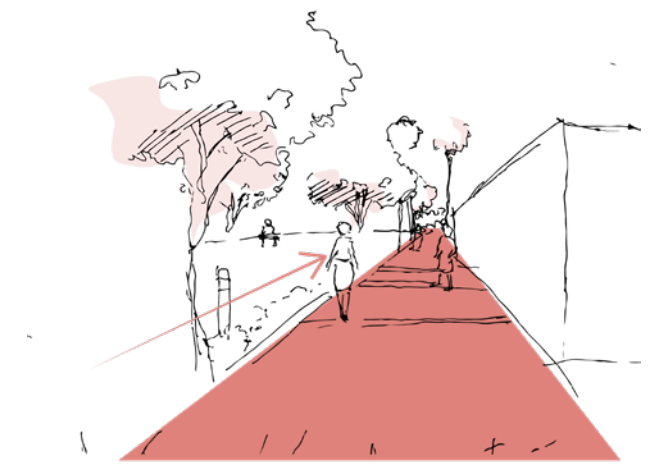
Architects Unknown

World Map



# Ideal Land Art & Culture Center

# The Ataturk Cultural Center



Asia

Henan Province, China.

Architects Unknown

World Map

Asia

Istanbul, Turkey

Architects Unknown

World Map



TWO

CHAPTER

SITE ANALYSIS

02

Chapter 2 | SITE ANALYSIS

- 2.1 SITE SELECTION
- 2.2 SITE ANALYSIS
- 2.3 EXPERIENTIAL ANALYSIS
- 2.4 SITE STUDIES
- 2.5 MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS OF COMMUNITY





## AUBURN AVENUE

I selected Sweet Auburn as the site of this thesis because I witnessed its rise and fall growing up as an inner-city student in Atlanta. For some time of my childhood, it was the center of hundreds of booming brown and black owned businesses, which was a rare success for people of African, Indian or Spanish descent during its prime.

Designated a National Historic Landmark in 1976, but not shortly after it was found as one 1/11 of America's Most Endangered Historic Places In 1992 by the National Trust for Historic Preservation the Historic District Development Corporation. Like so many other predominantly

Black and inner-city neighborhoods, Sweet Auburn fell victim to many qualities of environmental injustice such as lack of investment, crime and abandonment, compounded by highway construction that split it in two. (NPS, Sweet Auburn Historic District).

It is apart of my childhood, and it's fair to want my children and their children to experience the success of their ancestors. It's a symbol of unity for my cultural and racial community that I will fight to keep alive.

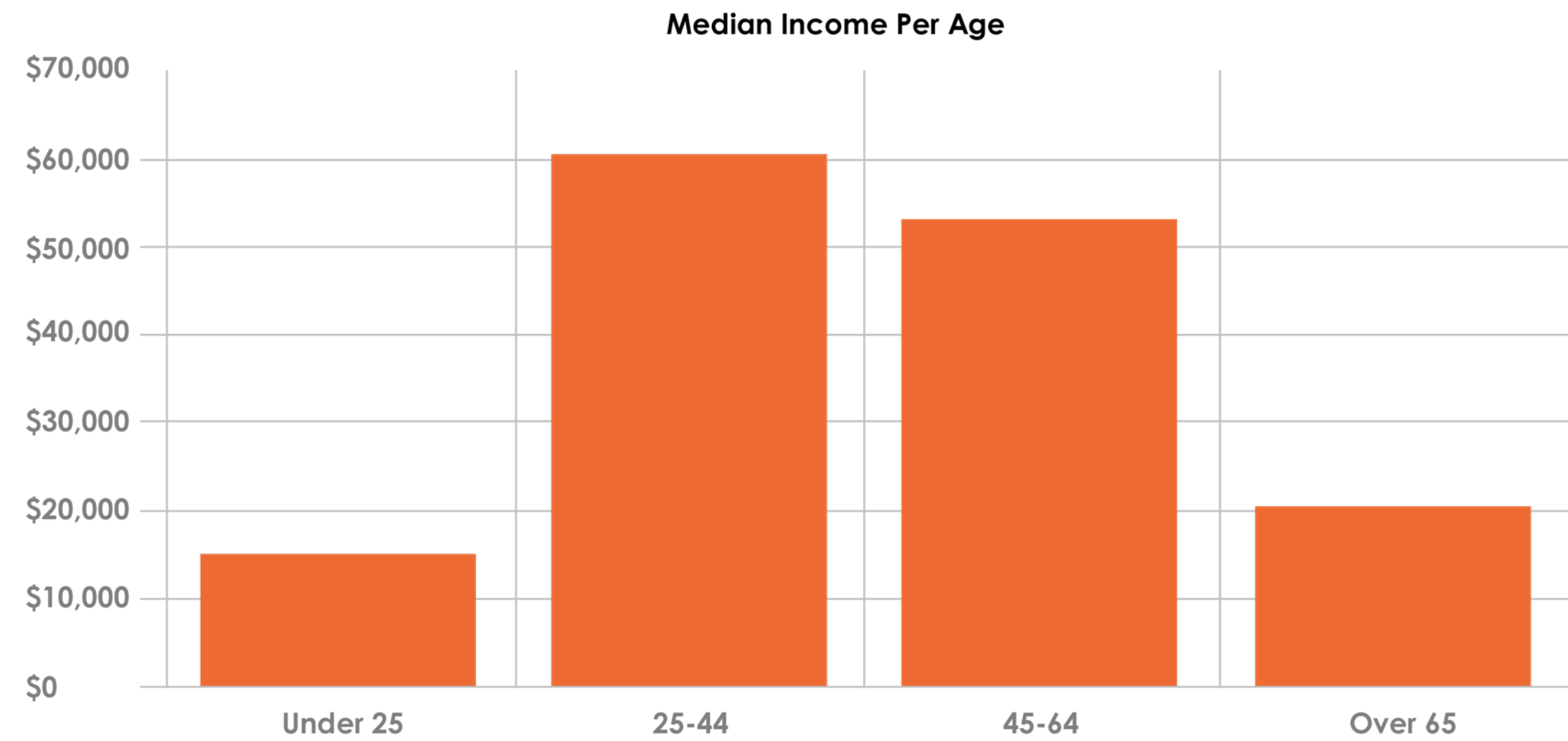
## 2.1 SITE SELECTION





# MEDIAN & AVERAGE INCOME

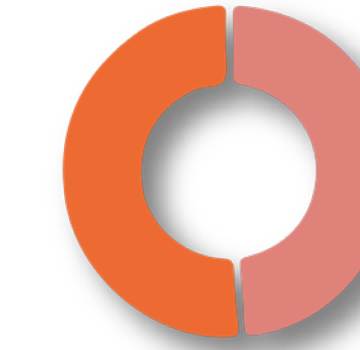
Average Household Income	\$67,258.50
Median Household Income	\$48,802.00
People below Poverty Level	5,515
People above Poverty Level	15,852



# POPULATION DEMOGRAPHICS

Total Population	21,731
Male Population	10,587
Female Population	11,144

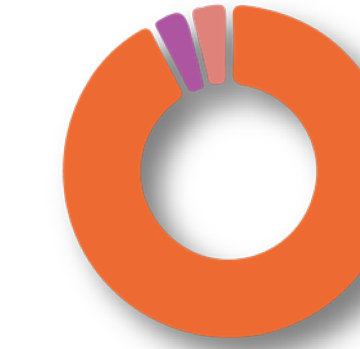
GENDER POPULATION



- Male Population 48.72 %
- Female Population 51.28 %

Median Age	34.1
Citizen US Born	20,041
Citizen not US Born	839
Not Citizen	851

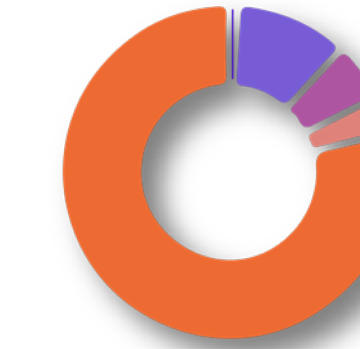
CITIZEN



- Citizen US Born 92.22 %
- Citizen not US Born 3.86 %
- Not Citizen 3.92 %

Moved from Abroad	183
Moved from Same Country	2,355
Moved from Same State	1,239
Moved from Different State	790

MOVED



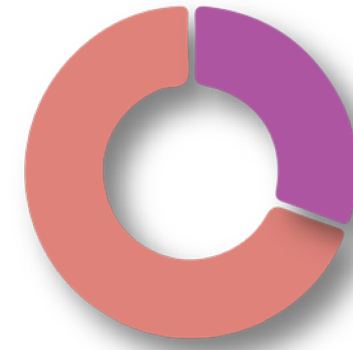
- Moved from Abroad 0.85 %
- Moved from Same Country 10.91 %
- Moved from Same State 5.74 %
- Moved from Different State 3.66 %
- Same House as Last Year 78.84 %



## NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS

Total Households	11,331
Average People Per Household	2
Family Households	3,461
Non-family Households	7,870

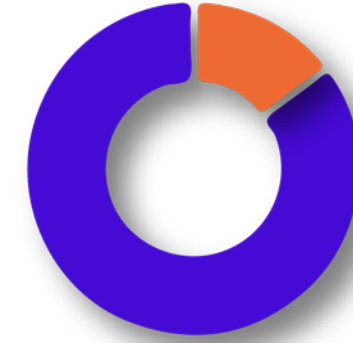
HOUSEHOLD



- Non-family Households  
30.54 %
- Family Households  
69.46 %

Households with Children	1,678
Households without Children	9,653

HOUSEHOLD

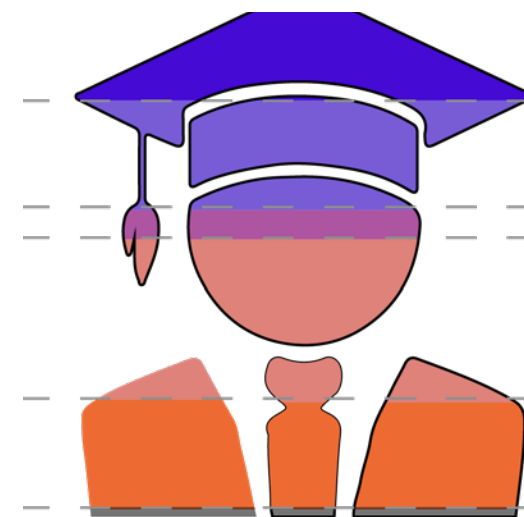


- Households with Children  
16.78 %
- Households without Children  
96.53 %

## EDUCATION STATISTICS

No High School	528
Some High School	3,824
Some College	3,834
Associate Degree	948
Bachelor's Degree	5,428
Graduate Degree	3,711

EDUCATION STATISTICS

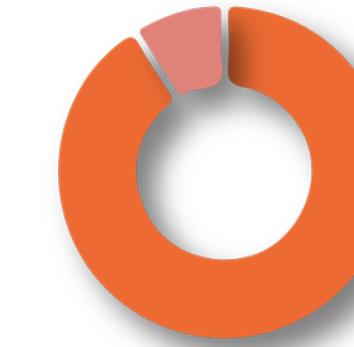


- Some High School  
21.07 %
- Some College  
20.46 %
- Associate Degree  
5.22 %
- Bachelor's Degree  
29.9 %
- Graduate Degree  
20.44 %
- No High School  
2.91 %

## OCCUPATIONAL EMPLOYMENT

White Collar	11,396
Blue Collar	1,125

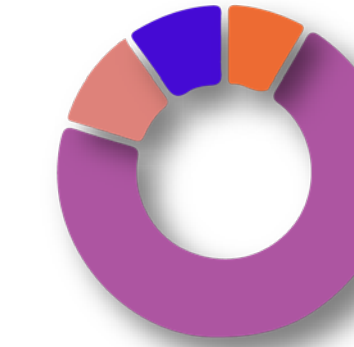
EMPLOYMENT



- White Collar  
91.02 %
- Blue Collar  
8.98 %

Self Employees	1,066
Private Companies	8,922
Governmental Workers	1,285
Not for Profit Companies	1,248

EMPLOYMENT

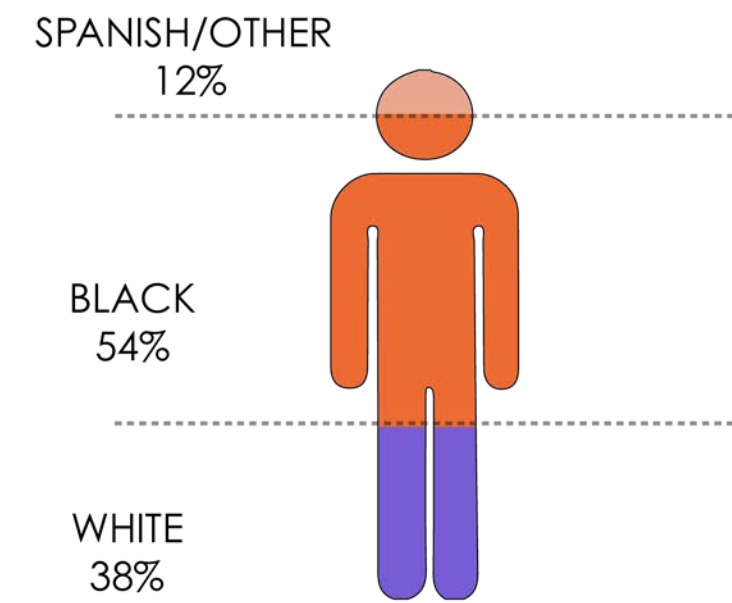


- Self Employees  
8.51 %
- Private Companies  
71.26 %
- Governmental Workers  
10.26 %
- Not for Profit Companies  
9.97 %

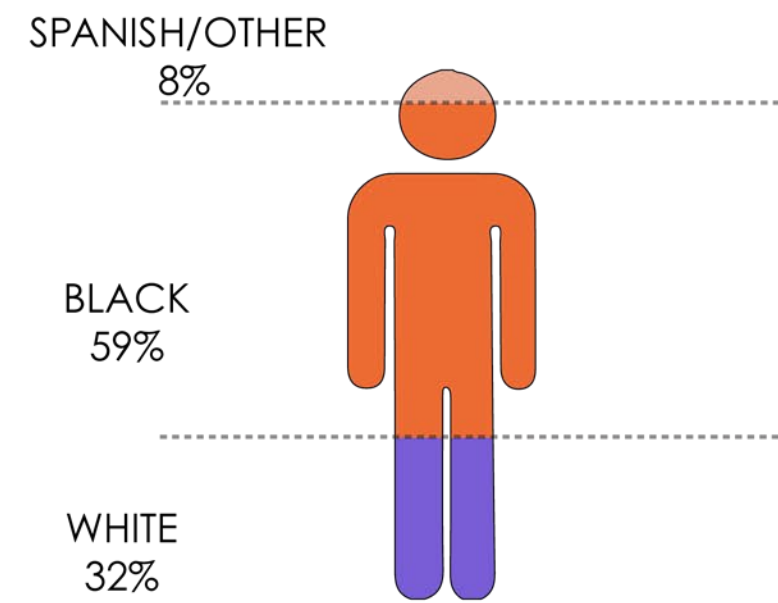


# RACIAL DEMOGRAPHIC

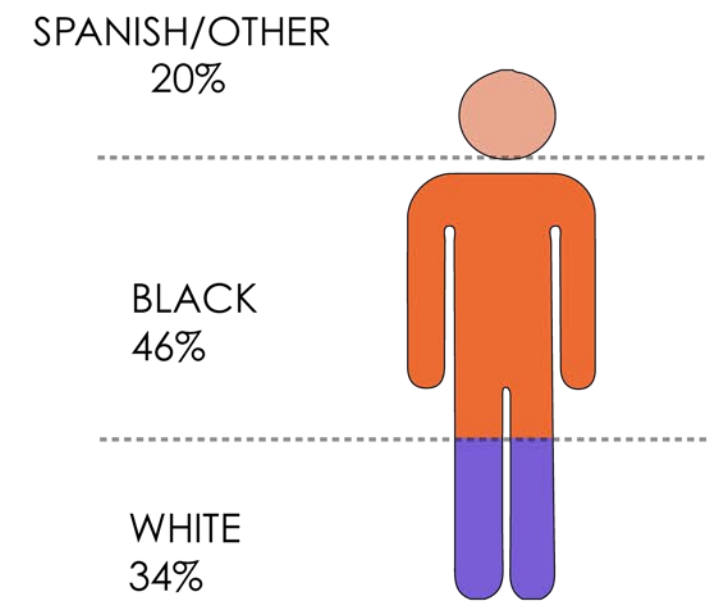
CURRENT ATLANTA POPULATION



CURRENT SWEET AUBURN POPULATION



PROJECTED 2063 ATL. RACIAL DEMOGRAPHIC



**“Atlanta is, as of 2010, the nation's 4th largest black-majority city and has long been known as a "black mecca" for its role as a center of black wealth, political and social power, education, and culture including film and music.”**

Author N/A

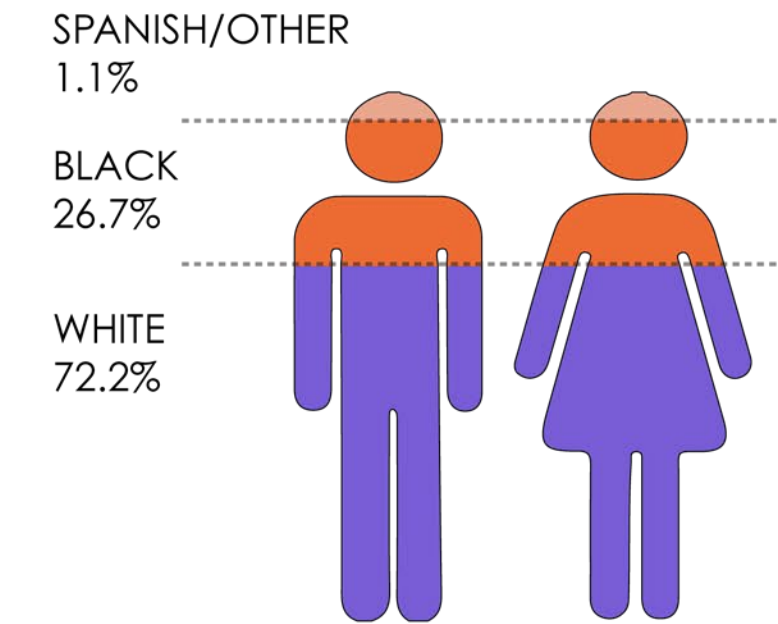
Percentages provided by the U.S. Census Projected Population Growth and Zip Maps Demographics, and AJC regional maps

The diagrams show the progression of racial and gender integration in Georgia alone, the City of Atlanta, and the Sweet Auburn Historic District over time. They indicate that while the non-White population and the majority of the Nation's Black population that reside in the South continues to grow in inner-cities where housing is affordable but environmental injustices are plentiful, the majority remains Whites throughout the state with very few examples of poor environmental health in their neighborhoods.

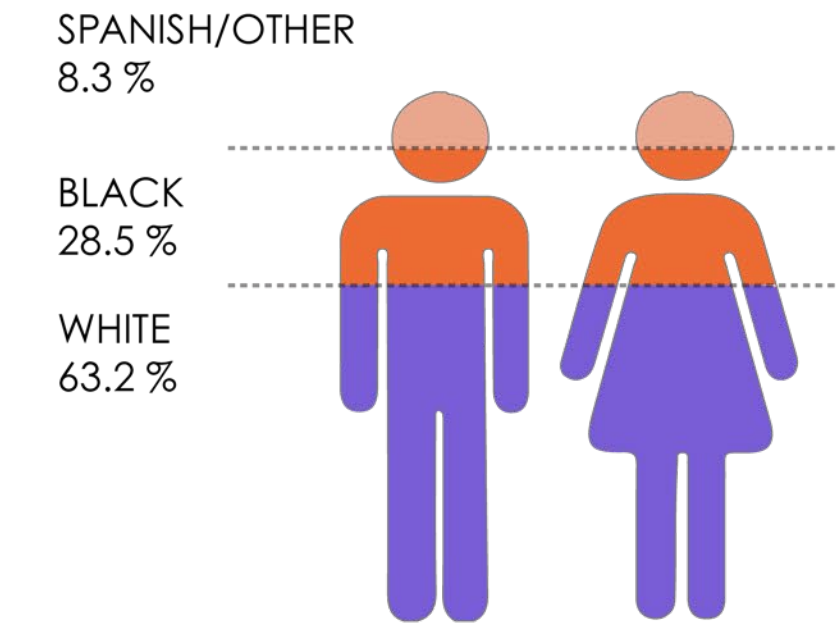
Since the birth of the APEX Museum in 1978, the amount of Black and Brown registered citizens located in the Southern Region of Georgia has almost doubled. With the influx of women, Brown and Black Americans, the slow death of the Richest Negro Street in the world, formally known as Auburn Avenue or the Black Wall-street, thrives with new developments along with environmental injustices.

# GENDER DEMOGRAPHIC

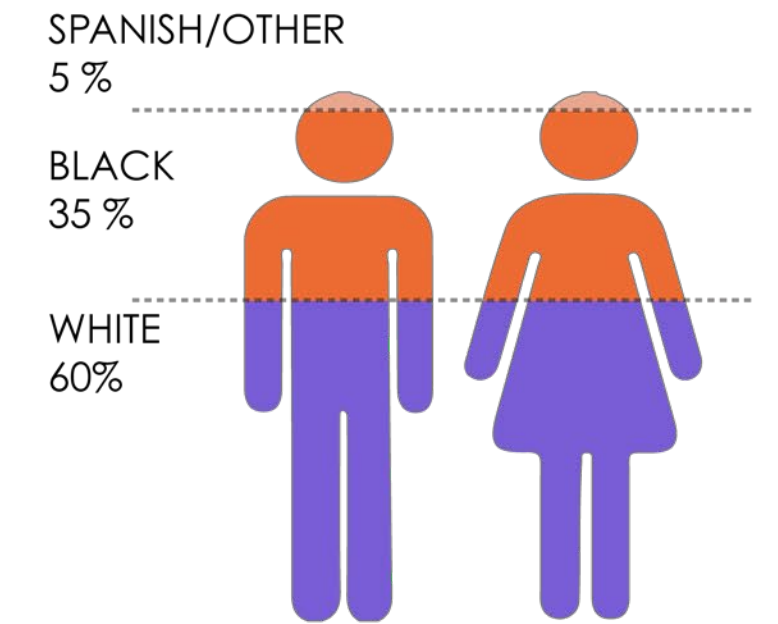
THE 1980 US CENSUS COUNTS OF GA POPULATION



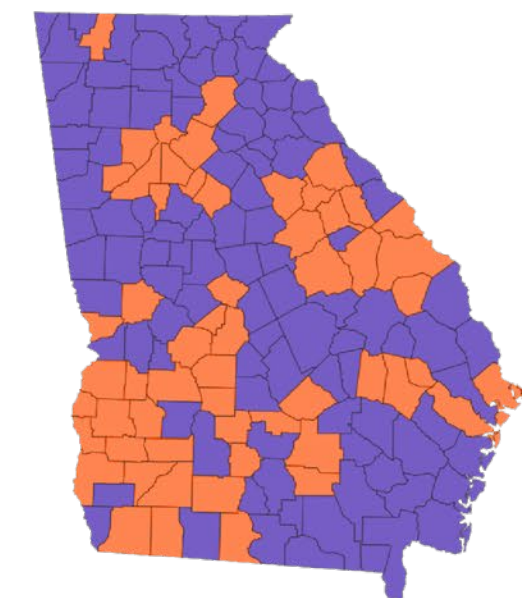
THE 2000 US CENSUS COUNTS OF GA POPULATION



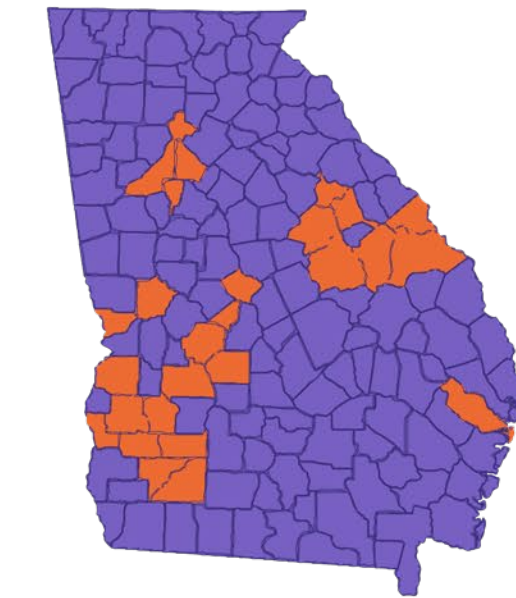
CURRENT GEORGIA RACIAL DEMOGRAPHIC



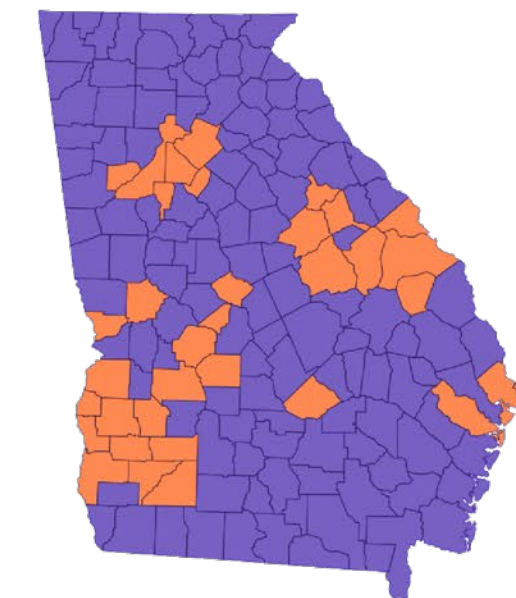
PROJECTED 2040 GEORGIA RACIAL POPULATION



2000 GEORGIA RACIAL POPULATION

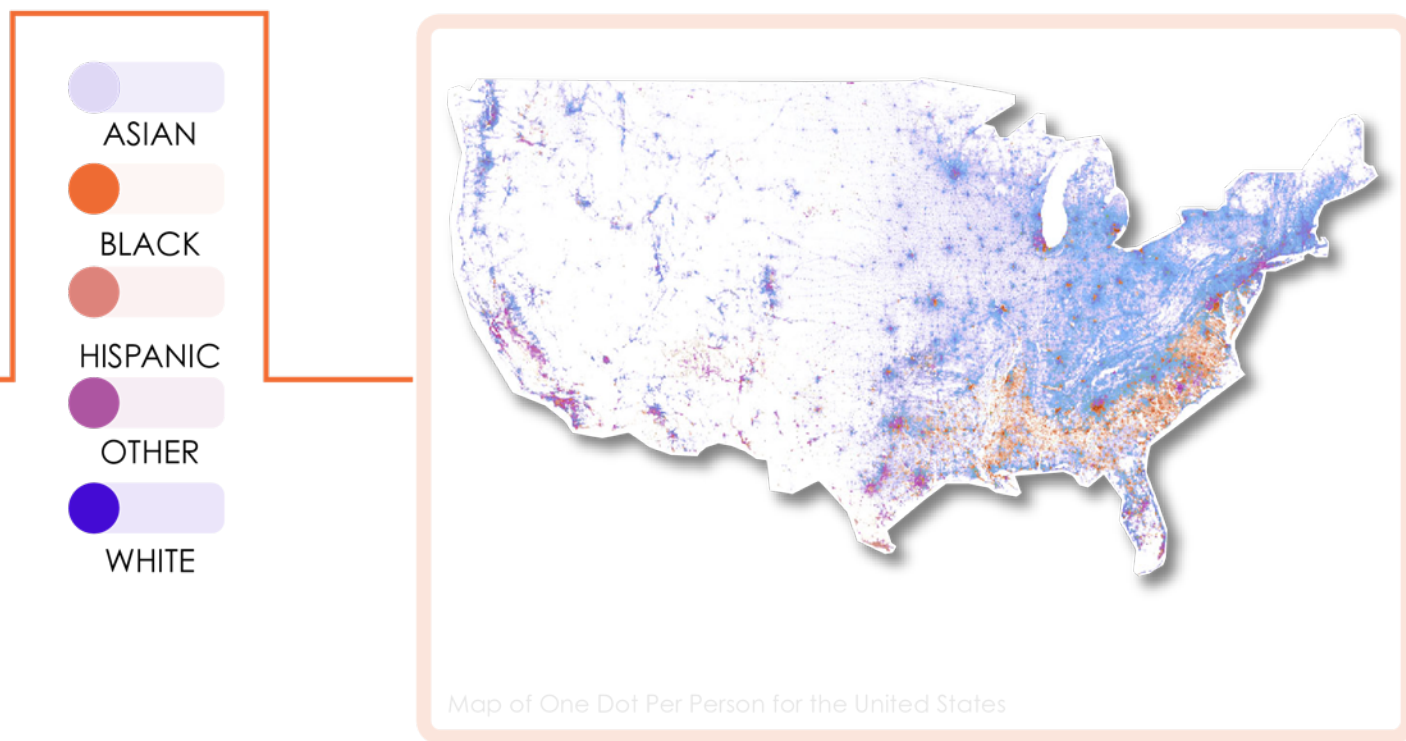


CURRENT 2020 GEORGIA RACIAL POPULATION

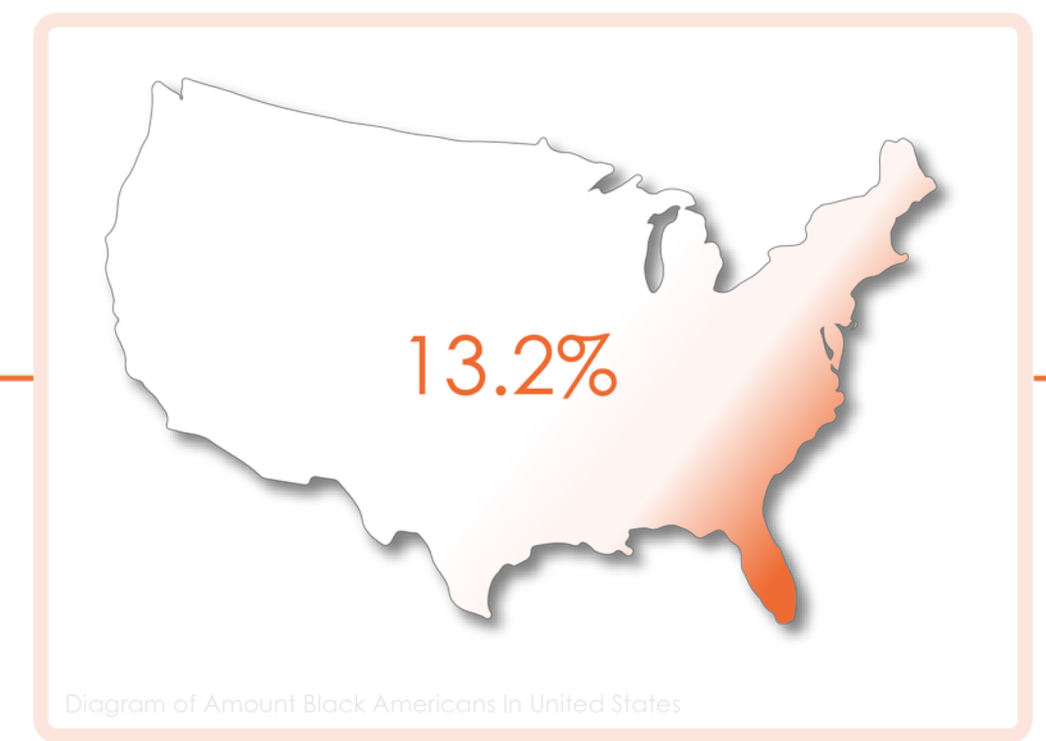




# DEMOGRAPHICS & SOCIETAL ISSUES

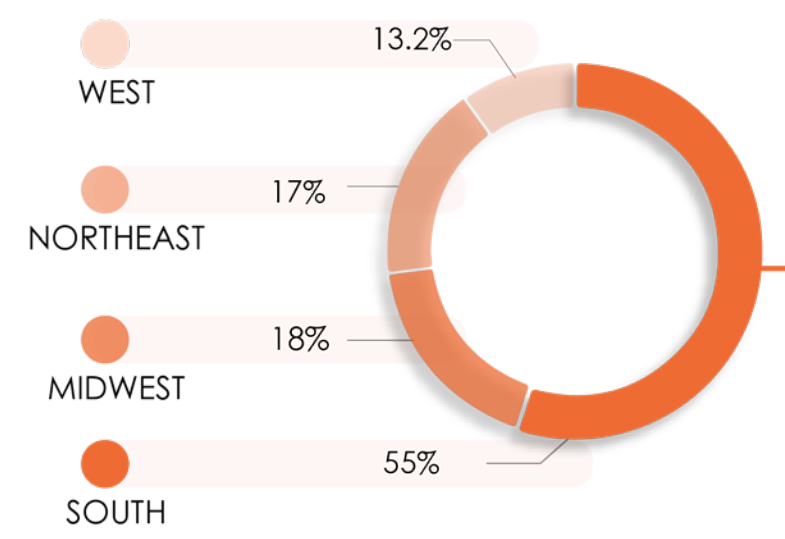
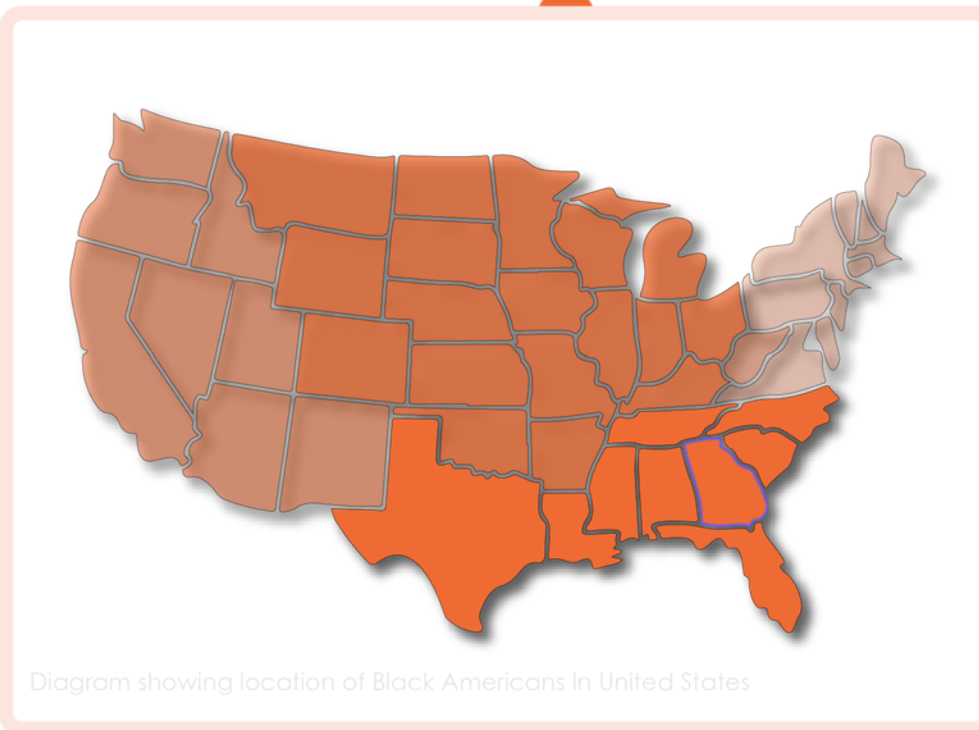


S.E.S.



## DID YOU KNOW?

Only **13.2%** of the U.S. population, or roughly 45.7 million people living in North America identify themselves as Black or African American, according to 2014 U.S. Census Bureau numbers. **Less than 2/5** of the population, **55%** of all Black/African American people lived in the South, 18% lived in the Midwest, 17% percent in the Northeast, and 10 percent in the West.



# Historical and Sociocultural Factors Relate to Mental Health.

The personal and emotional development of community citizens are hindered as a result of intentional placement of environmental inhibitors.

Jason D. Boardman, a Professor of Sociology at the University of Colorado Boulder, identifies the lasting effects and mental trauma that these factors of environmental structural racist cause in neighborhoods, in a focus analysis called "Stress and physical health: the role of neighborhoods as mediating and moderating mechanism." Board-man concludes most **theoretical and empirical work linking socioeconomic status, environmental quality, and health focus on one risk pf environmental racism at a time.**

The problem is that there are not enough people with power questioning whether industrial environmental hazards negatively affect the mental and physical health, educational outcomes, or labor market success of community citizens (Downey and Van Willigen 2005.) In order to better understand the human, social, and economic consequences of living in highly disorganized, extremely poor, and highly polluted neighborhoods, Downey and Hawkins study suggest that "sociologists need to identify those communities that experience excessively high numbers of social and environmental stressors, determine whether these communities share specific socioeconomic and racial

characteristics, and compare the psychological, physical, educational, and labor market outcomes of people in these communities to those of people in other communities."

### HOMELESS

**5**

6

5/6 of the homeless citizens documented in Atlanta are B.A.A.

### INCARCERATED

Black Americans, who make up **40%** of the incarcerated population despite representing only 13% of U.S residents. Incarceration is the key to maintaining financial predominance.

### IMPOVERISHED

Among racial and ethnic groups, African Americans have the highest poverty rate, **27.4 %**. **45.8%** of young black children (under age 6) live in poverty.

### HEALTH DISPARITY

Ethnographic Indicators of community well-being suggest that rural black communities are as vulnerable as their **urban counterparts** which influence **behavioral changes**.

### DRUG ABUSE ISSUE

People of color experience significant disparities in health coverage, with over **54%** of P.O.C. un-insured in United States.

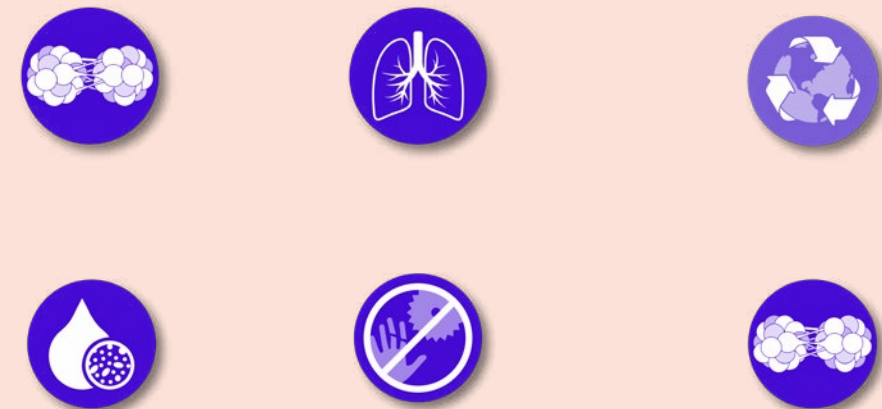
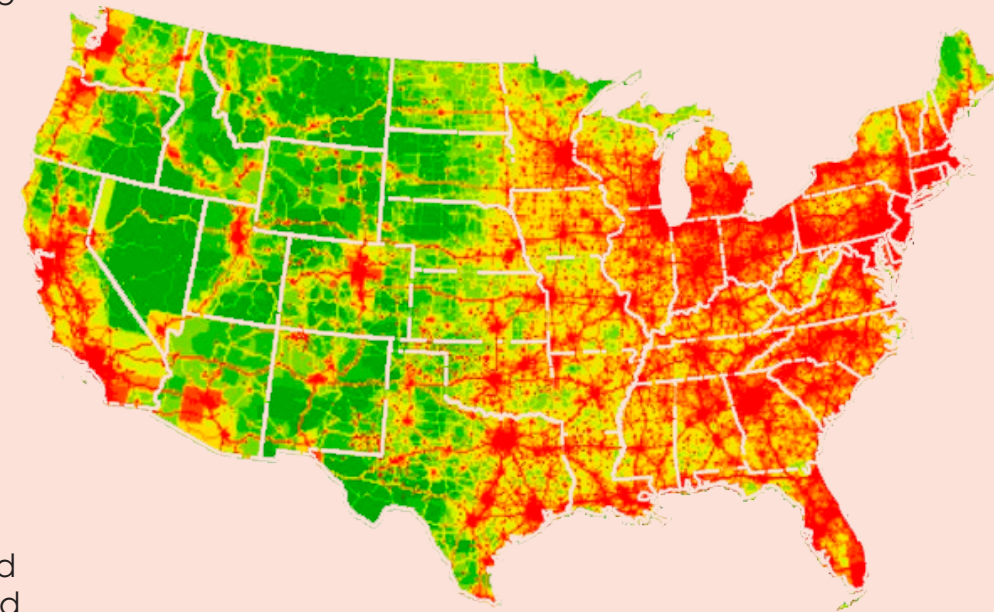


# ATLANTA CODE RED & ORANGE SMOG ALERT

This map shows fossil fuels released CO2. Areas highlighted in red and yellow indicate the largest pollution points, composed from Vulcan Project at Purdue University 2002. The map to the right shows emissions unlike airborne concentrations.

"The Vulcan Project is a NASA/DOE funded effort under the North American Carbon Program (NACP) to quantify North American fossil fuel carbon dioxide (FFCO2) emissions at space and time scales much finer than has been achieved in the past. The purpose is to aid in quantification of the North American carbon budget, to support inverse estimation of carbon sources and sinks, and to support the demands posed by higher resolution FFCO2 observations (in situ and remotely sensed)." Essentially, the maps provided by this project provide a sense of pollution activity. CO2 domes, also known as invisible clouds of pollution, are heavily concentrated amongst urban areas and cities. These domes exacerbate effects of air pollution such as ozone and particulates which lead extreme health malnourishment such as respiratory diseases. A range from 300 to 1,000 premature deaths are a result of CO2 emissions in the Unites States alone.

0-50	GOOD
51-100	MODERATE
101-150	UNHEALTHY
151-200	VERY UNHEALTHY
201-300	HAZARDOUS
301-500	HAZARDOUS

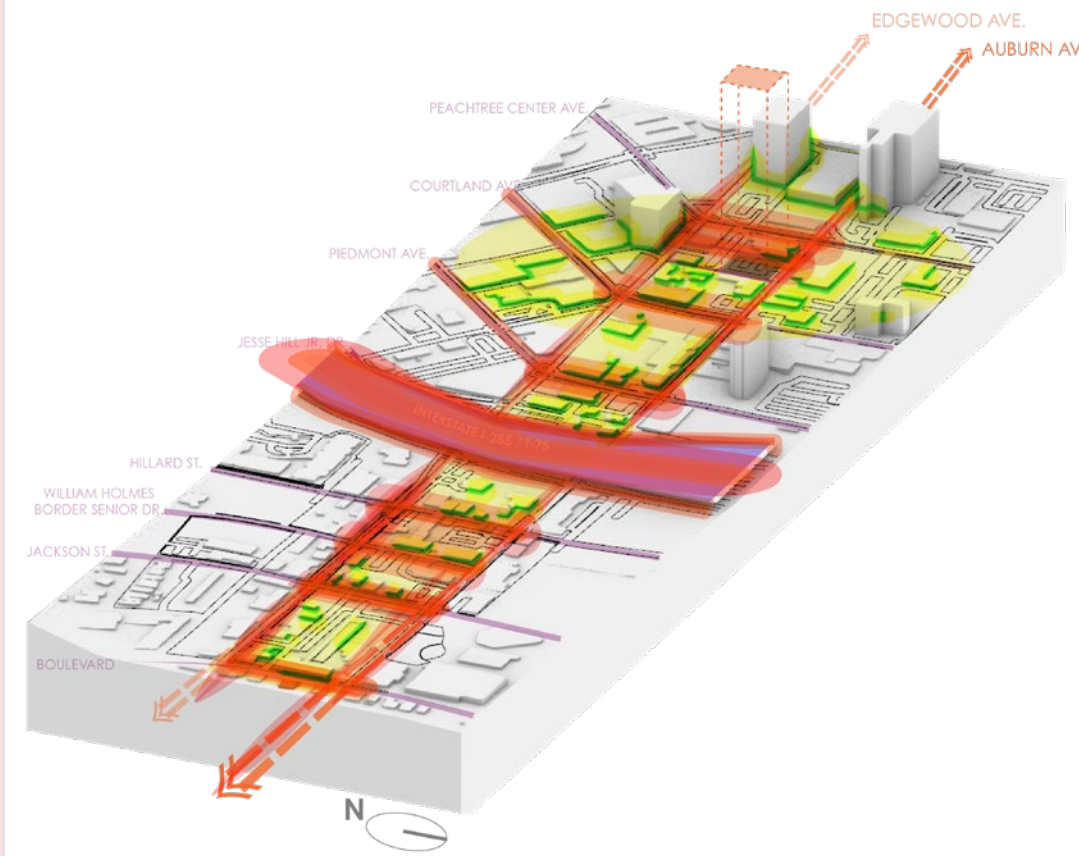


a. "A Yale University study found that non-Hispanic whites had the lowest exposure rates for 11 of the 14 pollutants monitored in the study. Meanwhile, Hispanics had the highest exposure rates for 10 out of the 14 pollutants, and African Americans had higher exposure rates than whites for 13 out of the 14 pollutants."

b. Flint Michigan "Lead poisoning disproportionately affects children of color. Children of color who live in urban areas are at the highest risk for lead poisoning caused by lead-based paint. A study by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention determined that 11.2 percent of African American children and 4.0 percent of Mexican-American children are poisoned by lead, compared with 2.3 percent of white children."

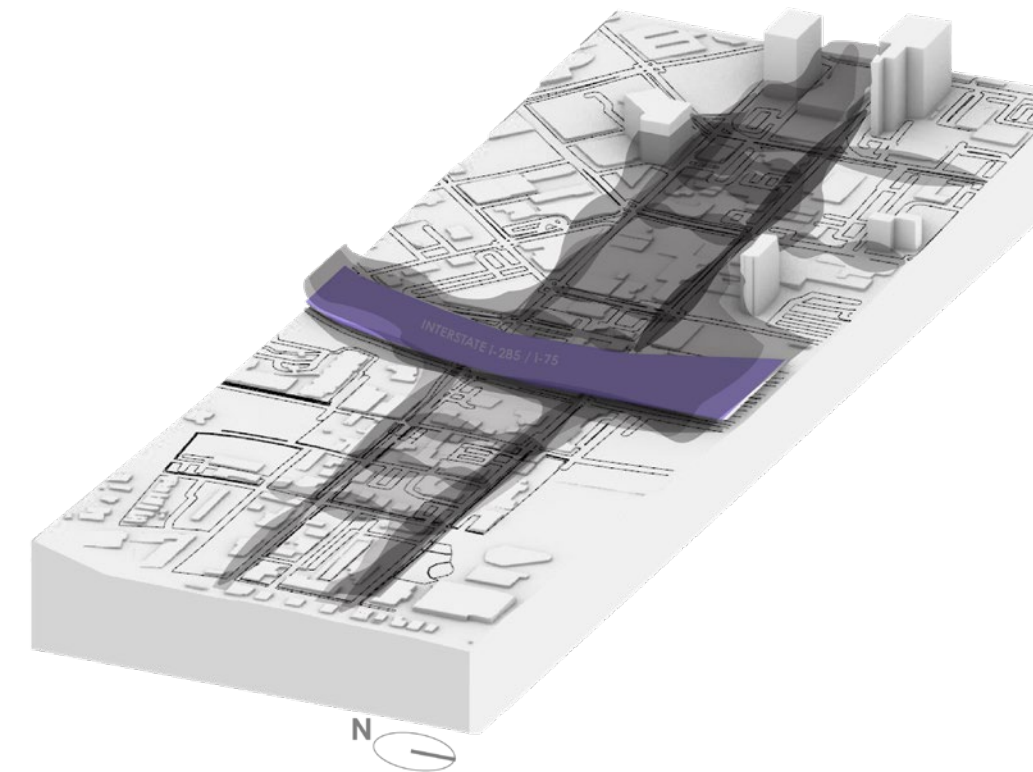
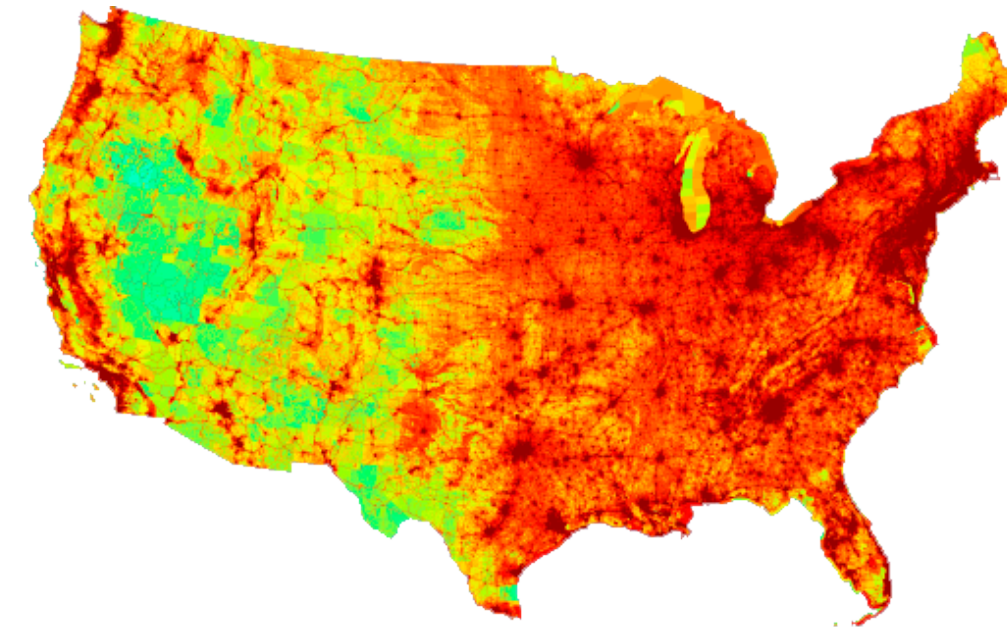
With environmental inhibitors like cancerous air toxins, respiratory hazard index, diesel particle matter, and traffic particle matter factors, climate change is a troublesome outcome. Climate breakdown and the global crisis of environmental degradation are increasing violence against women and girls, failing poor countries, and the amount of wasted resources, with the persistence of gender-based exploitation the ability to tackle the crises diminishes, according to a two year study by The International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN). "... women are already disadvantaged and lack

land rights and legal rights, so are vulnerable to exploitation. When the additional stresses caused by the climate crises bite, they are the first to be targeted." This is a violation of the first principle of equitable design to facilitate meaningful community engagement in planning and land use decisions, and violation of environmental justice principles equal and inclusive participation, and mutual respect and justice for all.



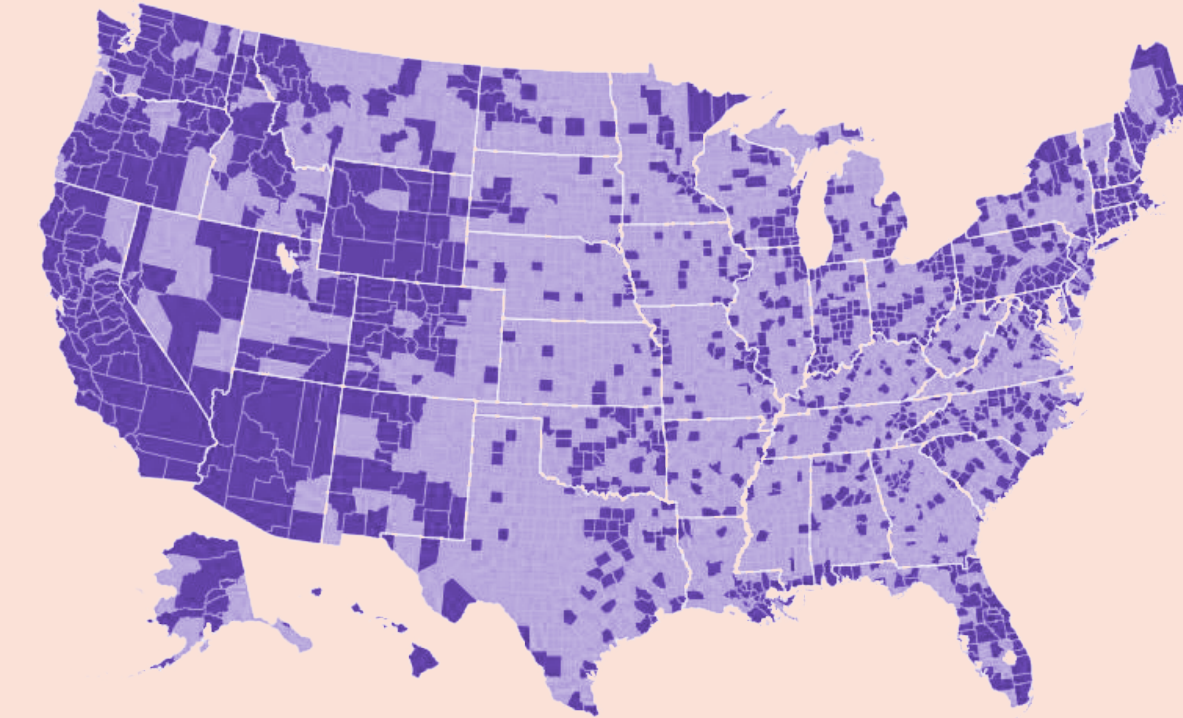
- Diagram above demonstrates a visual of the state of air quality on the site.  
 - Map to the left courtesy of Purdue University Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences.  
 - Diagram to the right illustrates the smog content within the site.  
 - Map to the right Vulcan v2.2 FFCO2 emissions for cy2002 on a continental US, 0.1 x 0.1 degree grid, annual time resolution, netcdf file format.

# SMOG HEALTH DEFECTS



Smog forms when certain pollutants combine with heat and sunlight. They produce ground-level ozone, which mixes with fine particulate matter. Children, teenagers, adults, the elderly and people with lung disease or asthma are encouraged to reduce prolonged or heavy exertion outdoors, especially when in code red smog alerts such as the large cities like New York, Los Angeles, and Atlanta.

Maps  
 Darker shaded counties monitored outdoor air quality in the past five years.



Trends For Pollutants that Affect People with Asthma or other Lung Disease.

Pollutants and levels that affect people with Asthma or other Lung Disease:

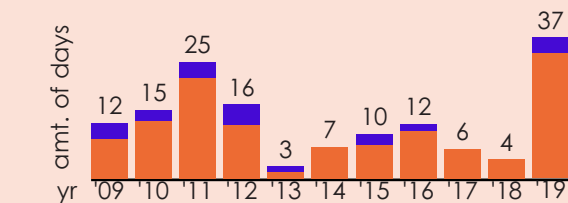
- Any pollutant:** code red or higher also
- Ozone:** code orange or higher
- Particle pollution:** code orange or higher
- Sulfur dioxide:** code orange or higher

Trends For Pollutants that Affect People with Heart Disease

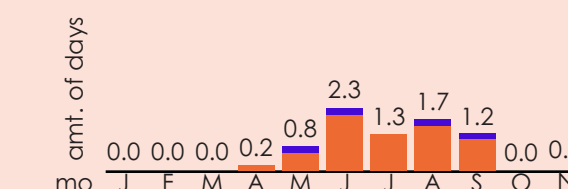
- Pollutants and levels that affect people with Heart disease:
- Any pollutant:** code red or higher also
- Particle pollution:** code orange or higher
- Carbon monoxide:** code orange or higher

## Fulton, GA

Number of Unhealthy Days for Active Outdoors Yearly



Number of Unhealthy Days for Active Outdoors Monthly



Charts  
 The trend charts display the number of unhealthy days for the specified sensitive group. The bar for each year shows the total number of unhealthy days and the proportion of days in code orange, code red, or code purple categories of the Air Quality Index.

The season charts show the average number of unhealthy days by month, using all data available over the last five years. The bar for each month shows the average number of unhealthy days and the proportion in code orange, code red, or code purple categories of the Air Quality Index.



# Mass communities have directly experienced socioeconomic decline and stressors of environmental racism due to facilities lacking equitable design qualities.

In a research study article titled "RACE, INCOME, AND ENVIRONMENTAL INEQUALITY IN THE UNITED STATES" authors Liam Downey and Brian Hawkins find poor blacks are likely to experience a greater range and intensity of social and environmental stressors than do members of other racial/income groups which is why poor blacks are not only more likely than other groups to live in highly disorganized and extremely poor neighborhoods with high rates of welfare dependency, crime, joblessness, and violence they are also more likely to live in neighborhoods with high levels of industrial pollution. This is why race and income should interact to produce environmentally inequitable outcomes. An illustration labeled "Table 2" shows that in the continental United States, "non-Hispanic blacks are more highly overrepresented in environmentally hazardous census tracts than are any of the other racial/ethnic groups included in the table. Non-Hispanic whites are also overrepresented in environmentally hazardous census tracts but not to nearly the same degree as non-Hispanic blacks."

Downey and Hawkins studies conclude that as a result of exposure to multiple social and environmental stressors, grave psychological, physical, educational, and labor market remain a consequence.

An illustration labeled "Table 2" shows that in the continental United States, "non-Hispanic blacks are more highly overrepresented in environmentally hazardous census tracts than are any of the other racial/ethnic groups included in the table. Non-Hispanic whites are also overrepresented in environmentally hazardous census tracts but not to nearly the same degree as non-Hispanic blacks."

Downey and Hawkins studies conclude that as a result of exposure to multiple social and environmental stressors, grave psychological, physical, educational, and labor market remain a consequence.

Average Neighborhood Toxic Concentration Values by Race and Hispanic Ethnicity, the Continental U.S. 2000 <sup>a</sup>

	Black	White	Hispanic	Asians	Other
Black	732.90 <sup>b</sup>				
White	1.45***	503.73			
Hispanic	1.70***	1.17***	430.36		
Asians	2.52***	1.73***	1.48***	1.42***	291.5
Other	4.14***	2.78***	2.34***	414.48	

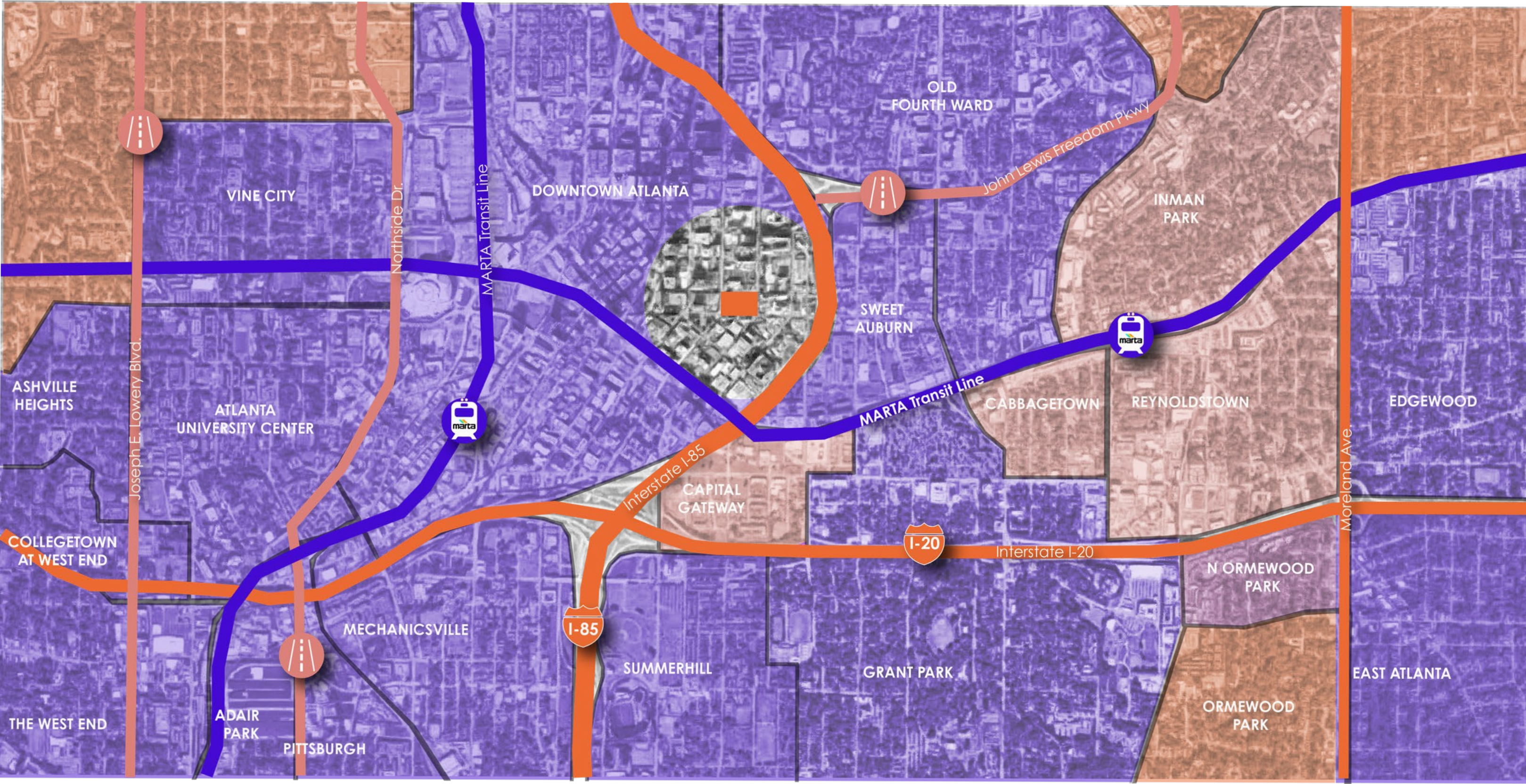
<sup>a</sup> All 5 racial categories include non-Hispanics only.

<sup>b</sup> These are analysis of variance results. A scheffe's test was conducted to determine whether each group mean is significantly different from every other group mean in the table (Scheffe's test controls for multiple comparisons). Thus, significantly results indicate different means rather than ratios that are significantly different from one.



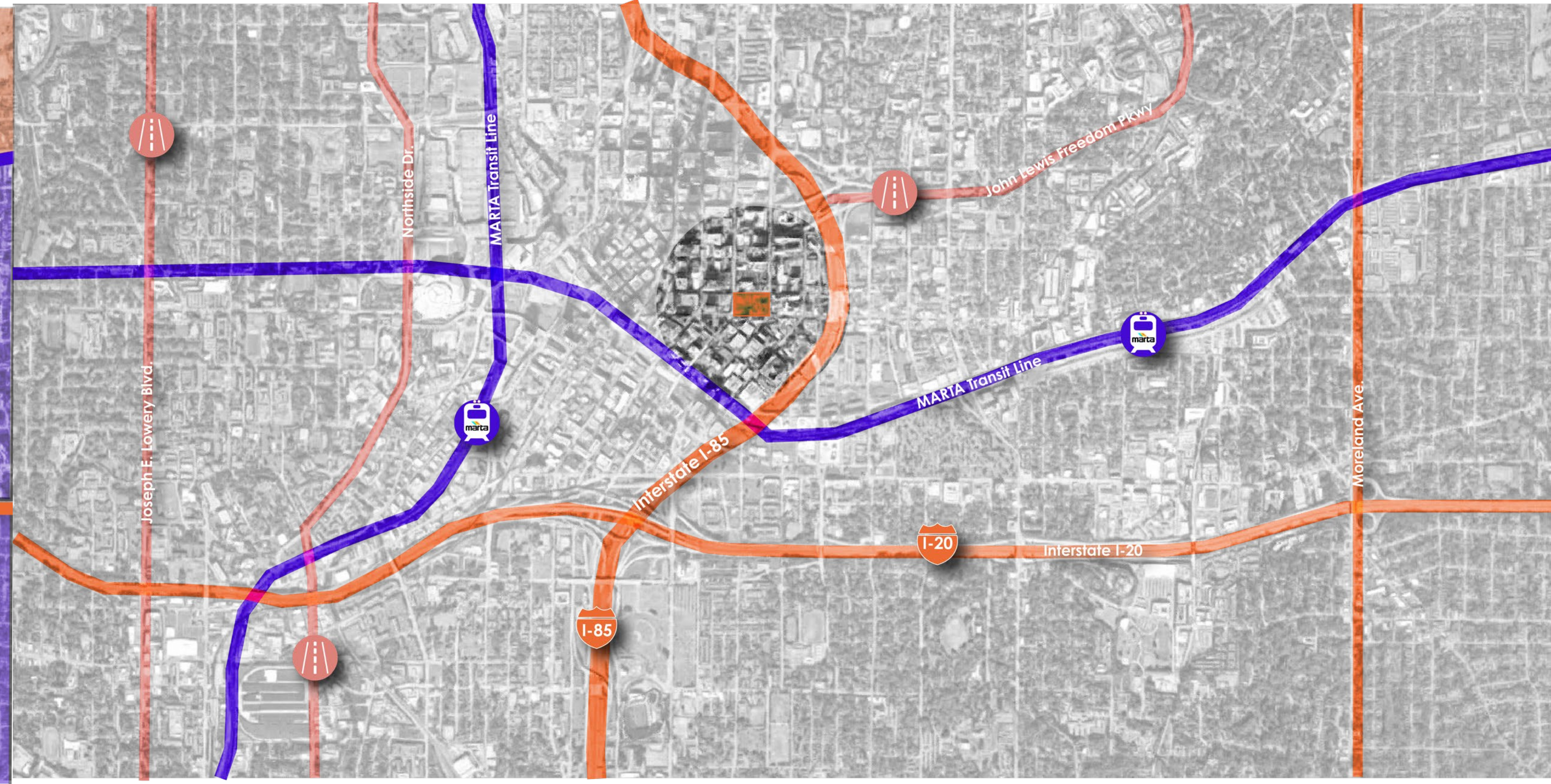


# SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES



- PREDOMINANTLY WHITE NEIGHBORHOODS
- PREDOMINANTLY BLACK NEIGHBORHOODS
- SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES
- BOUNDARY LINES

# CONNECTIVITY

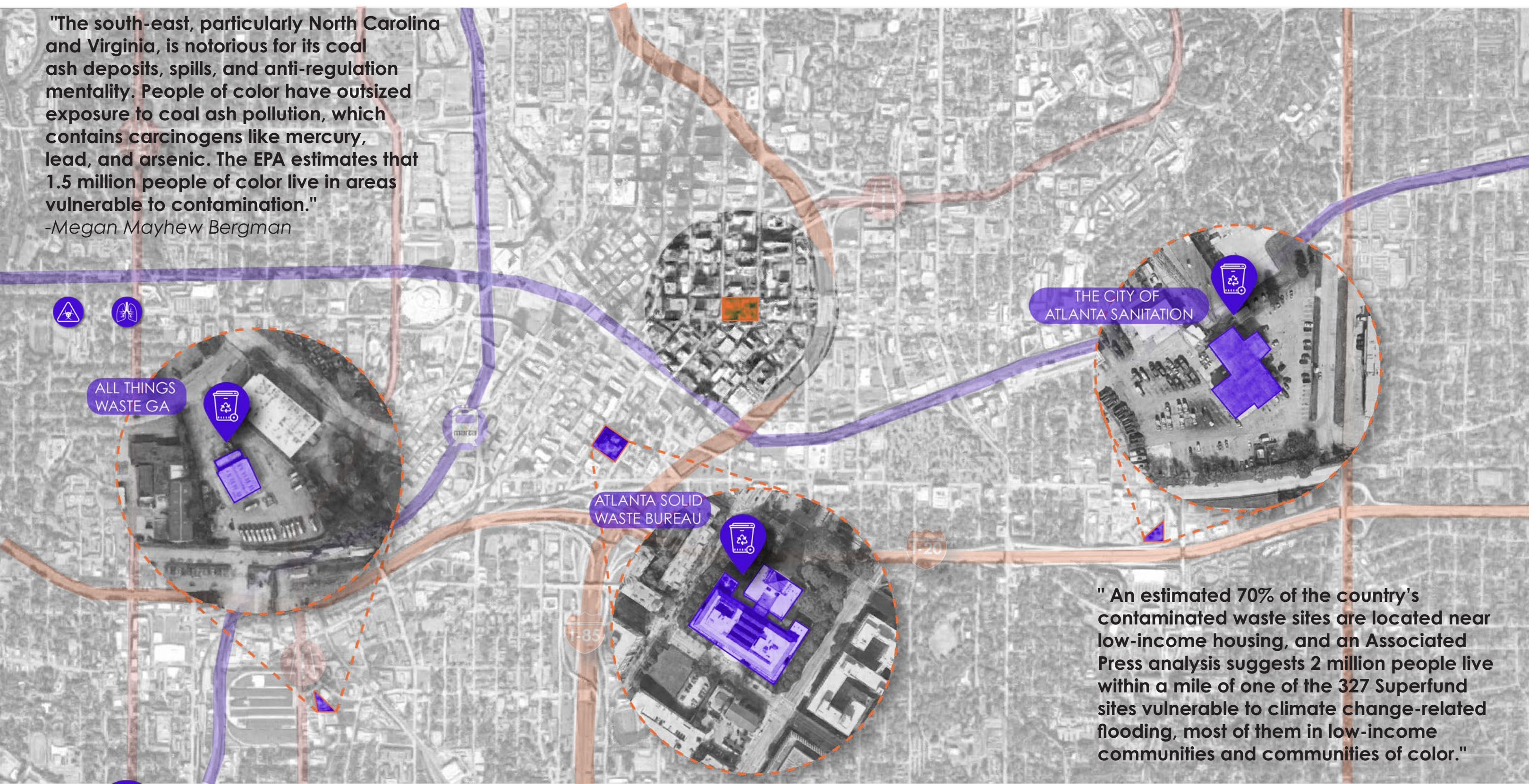


- Major Roads Near Site
- Transit Systems
- Interstates



# LANDFILLS WITHIN ATLANTA

"The south-east, particularly North Carolina and Virginia, is notorious for its coal ash deposits, spills, and anti-regulation mentality. People of color have outsized exposure to coal ash pollution, which contains carcinogens like mercury, lead, and arsenic. The EPA estimates that 1.5 million people of color live in areas vulnerable to contamination."  
-Megan Mayhew Bergman

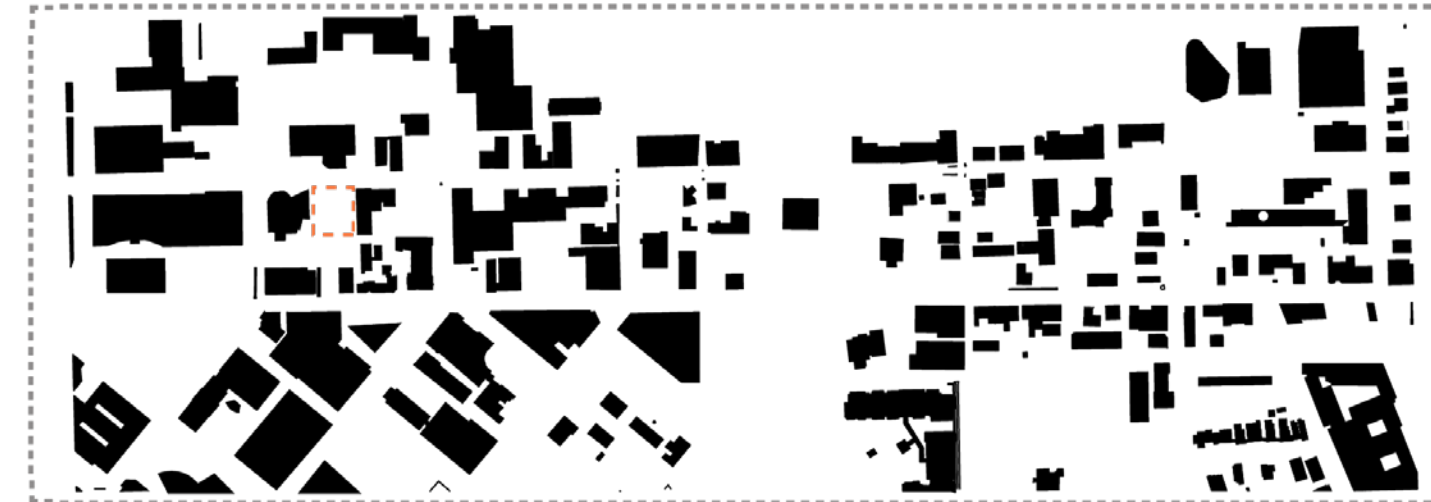


"An estimated 70% of the country's contaminated waste sites are located near low-income housing, and an Associated Press analysis suggests 2 million people live within a mile of one of the 327 Superfund sites vulnerable to climate change-related flooding, most of them in low-income communities and communities of color."  
-Megan Mayhew Bergman

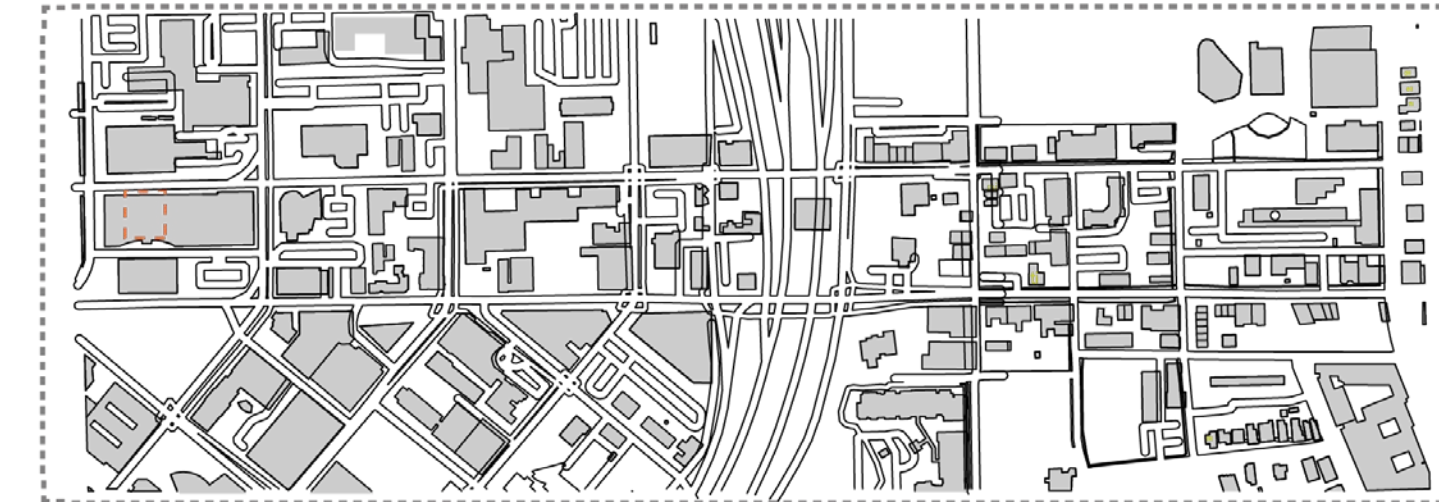
**Proximity to Superfund Sites**  
placing of hazardous and other noxious facilities



# SITE TYPOLOGY & FUNCTION



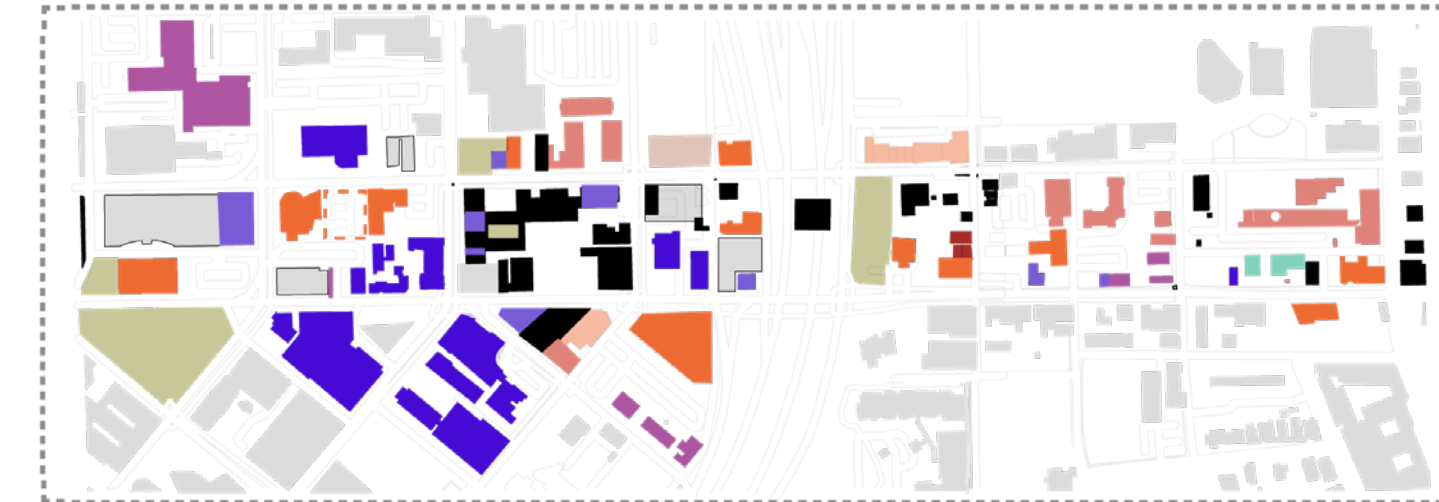
Building Footprints



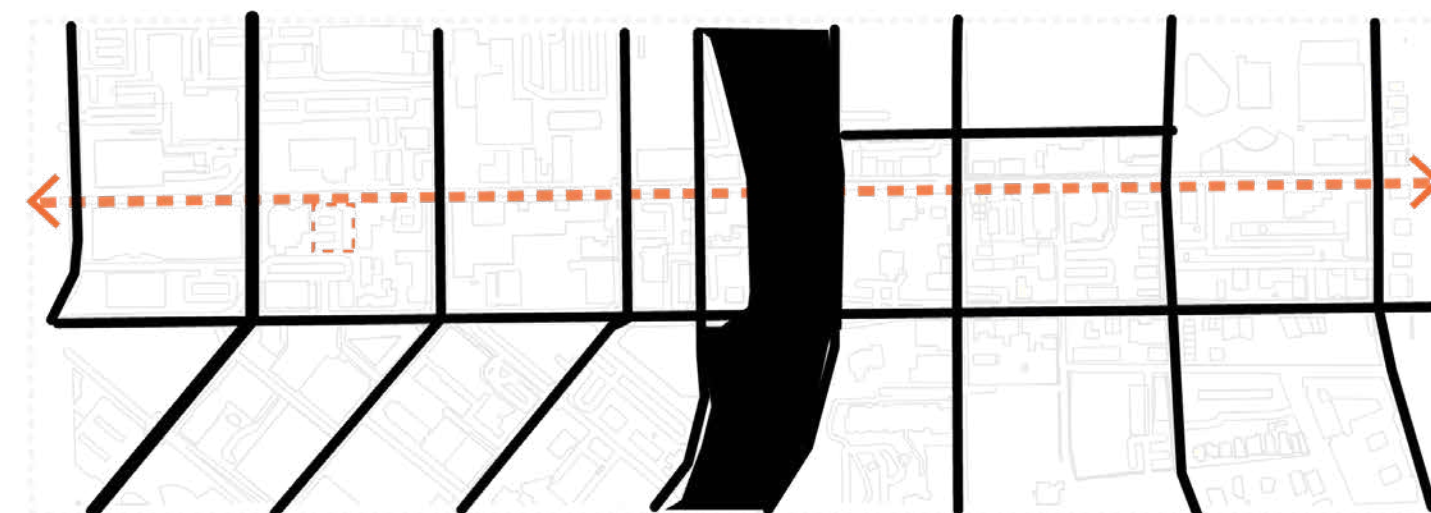
Parcelation



Street Block Grid Figure Ground



- Mixed-Use
- Dining
- Religious/
- Office
- Commercial
- Institutional
- Cultural
- Vacant



Primary Grid



Secondary Grid



Predominantly minority communities- specifically black communities experience issues of environmental injustice the most. Resource scarcity, social and economic isolation in the United States is exhibited the most in poor urban African Americans than the general black population, even when compared with poor urban whites, according to Census 2000 5% Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS). "Clear evidence exists documenting **dramatic differences in death rates, life expectancy, and disease rates between African Americans and Whites**. Black and Hispanic Americans are generally poorer, less educated, have higher rates of unemployment, are less likely to be covered by health insurance, and are less likely to own their own homes than White Americans. How the

possibly other unidentified variables contributes to the health disparities remains less clear."

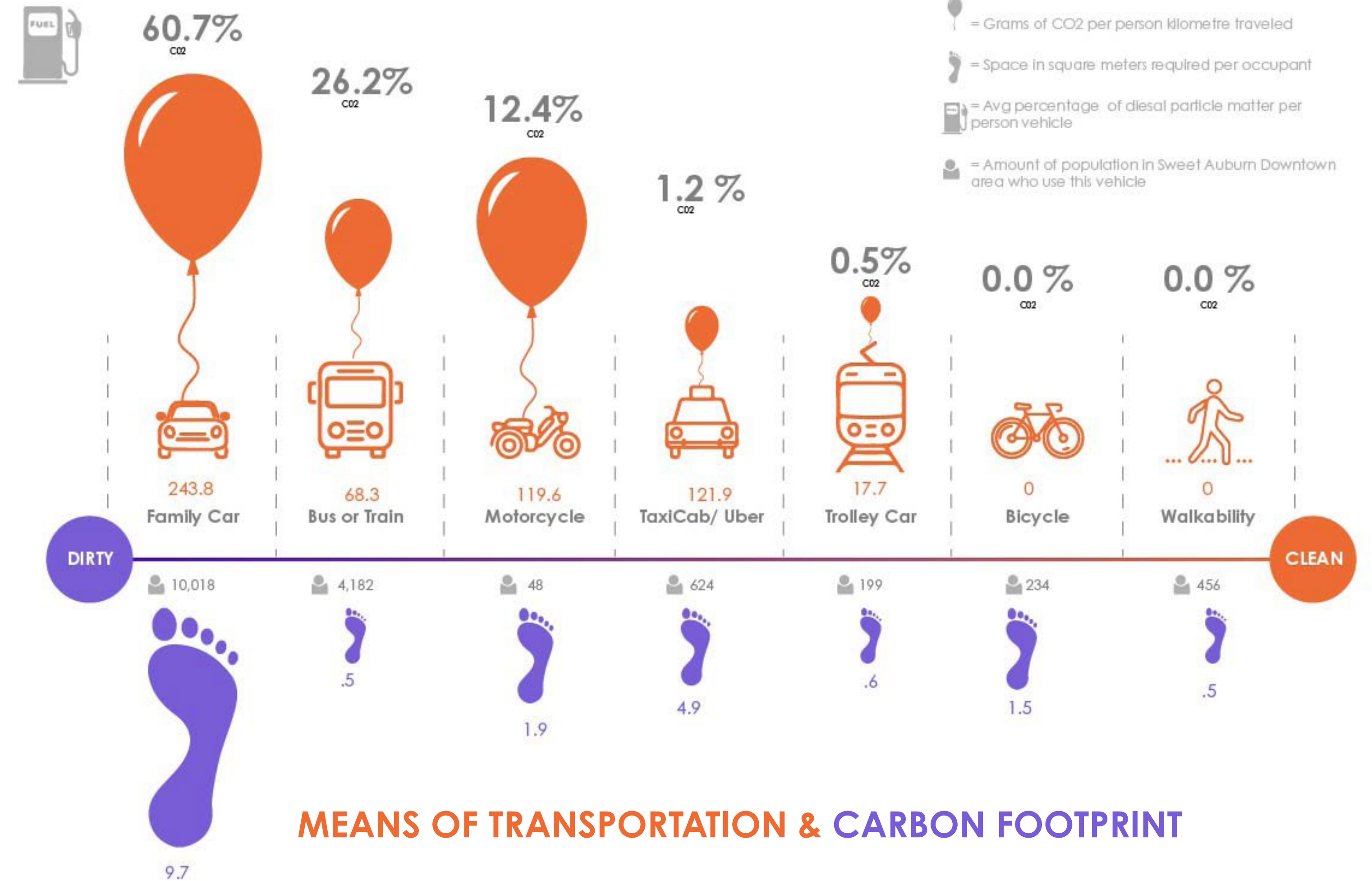
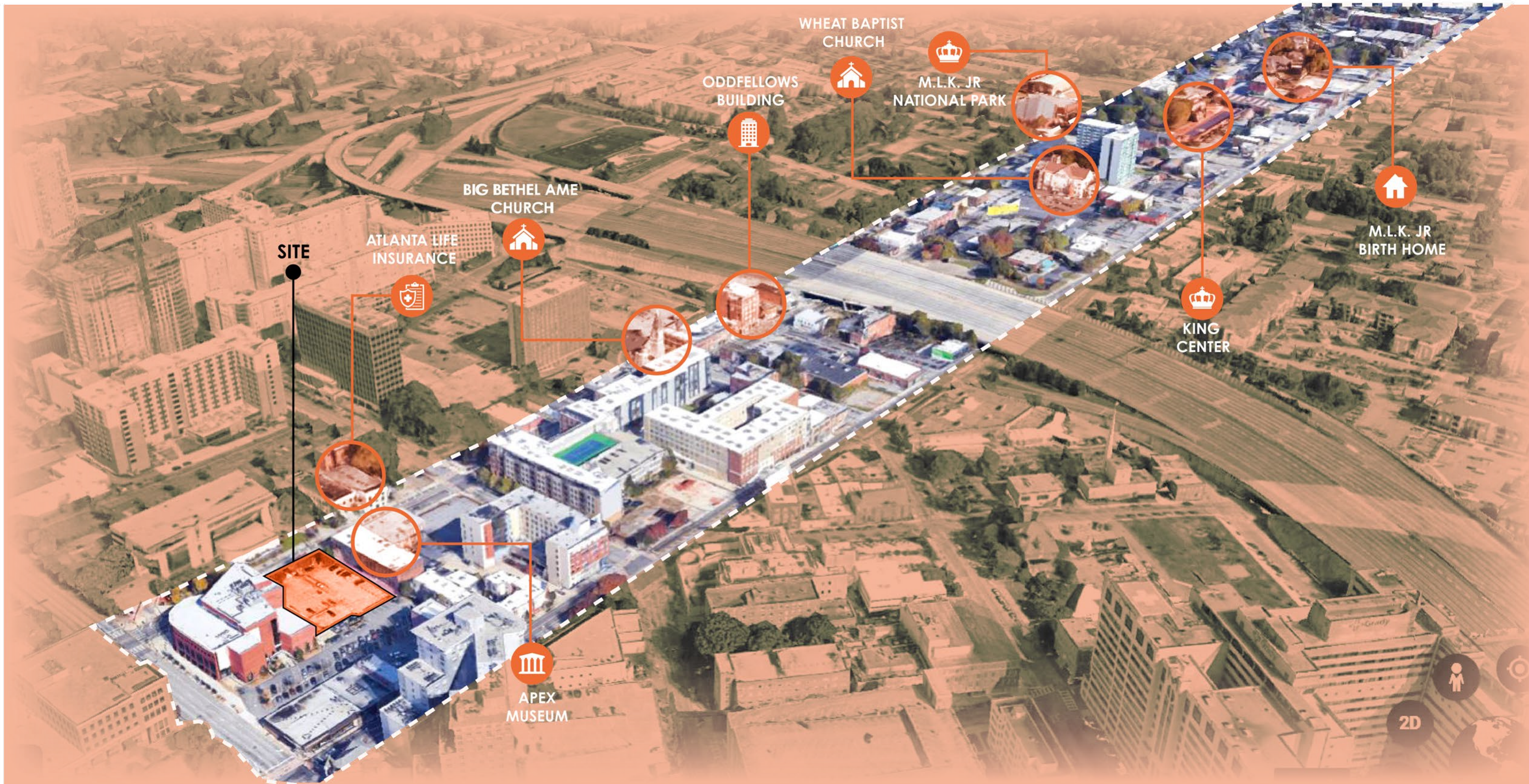
Water contamination plagues low-income areas and communities of color across the nation.

1. Communities of color have **higher exposure rates to air pollution** than their white, non-Hispanic counterparts.
2. Failing to meet the environmental justice principles **sustainable and responsible land use and cessation of toxins** is a violation of human rights.





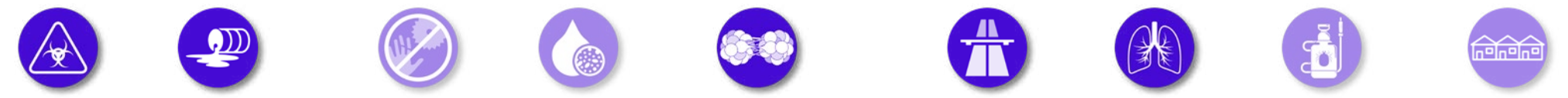
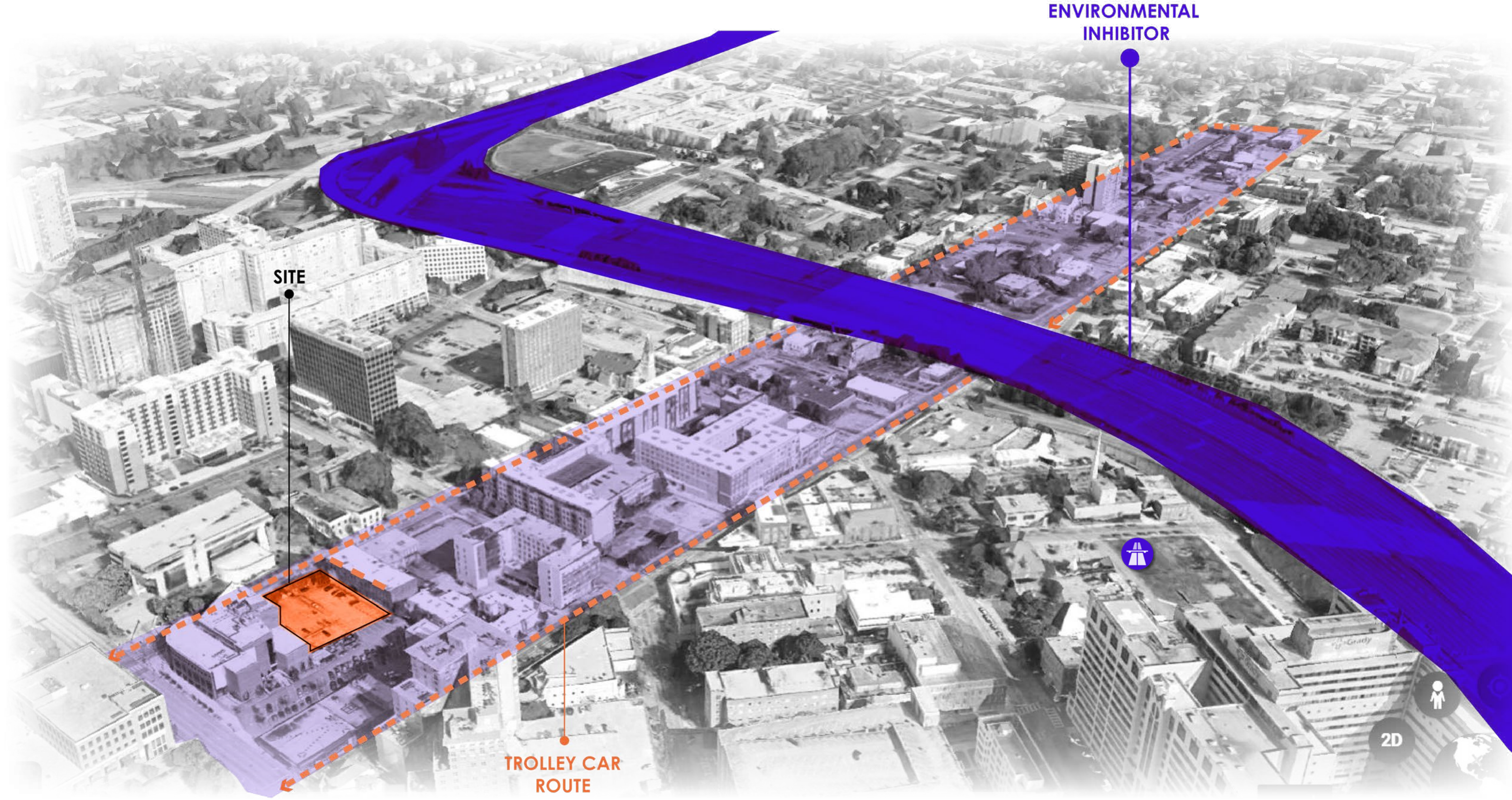
# CONNECTING CULTURE



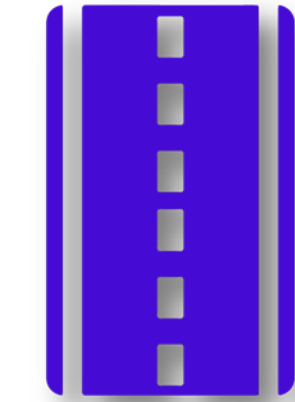
MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION & CARBON FOOTPRINT



# ENVIRONMENTAL INHIBITOR: INTERSTATES & VEHICULAR TRAFFIC



## ENVIRONMENTAL INJUSTICE ENABLER



Suburbanization Through Interstates

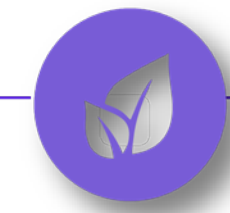
- Business Displacement (existing & prospective)
- Segregation
- Racial Zoning (Gentrification)
- Trapped Inner-City Ghettos
- Decline In Property Value

## Community Impact



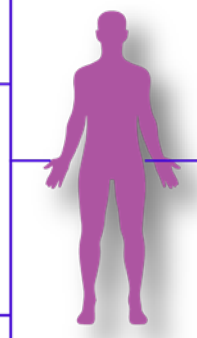
- Increased Transportation
- Air pollution (CO<sub>2</sub> & Greenhouse Gasses)
- Food & Water Contamination
- Greater Exposure to Lead
- Soil Erosion
- A Decrease In Open Space & Wildlife Habitat
- Noise Level Increase
- Land Loss & Alteration

## Environmental Impact



- Cancer
- Asthma
- Fatigue
- Coughing & Wheezing
- Respiratory Inflammation
- Damages to Reproductive Systems

## Physical Body Impact



- Depression
- Lack of Motivation
- Anxiety
- Cognitive Impairment
- Decreased Attention Span
- Mood Swings

## Mental Health Impact



# SPATIAL ANALYSIS

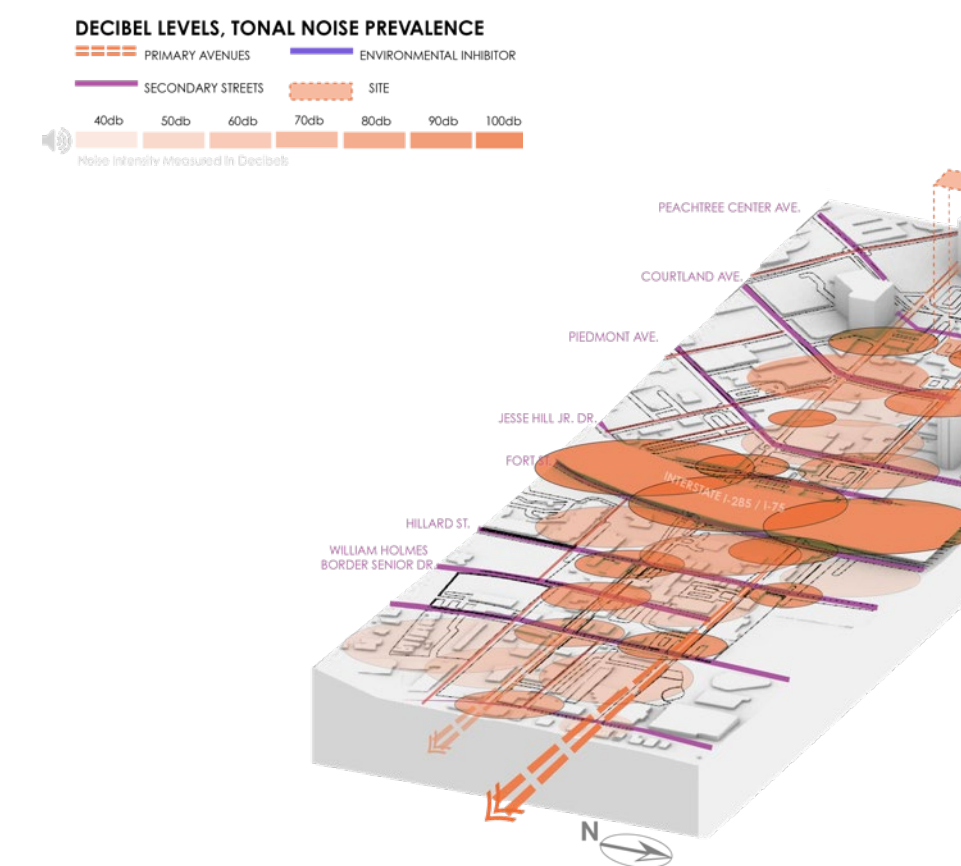
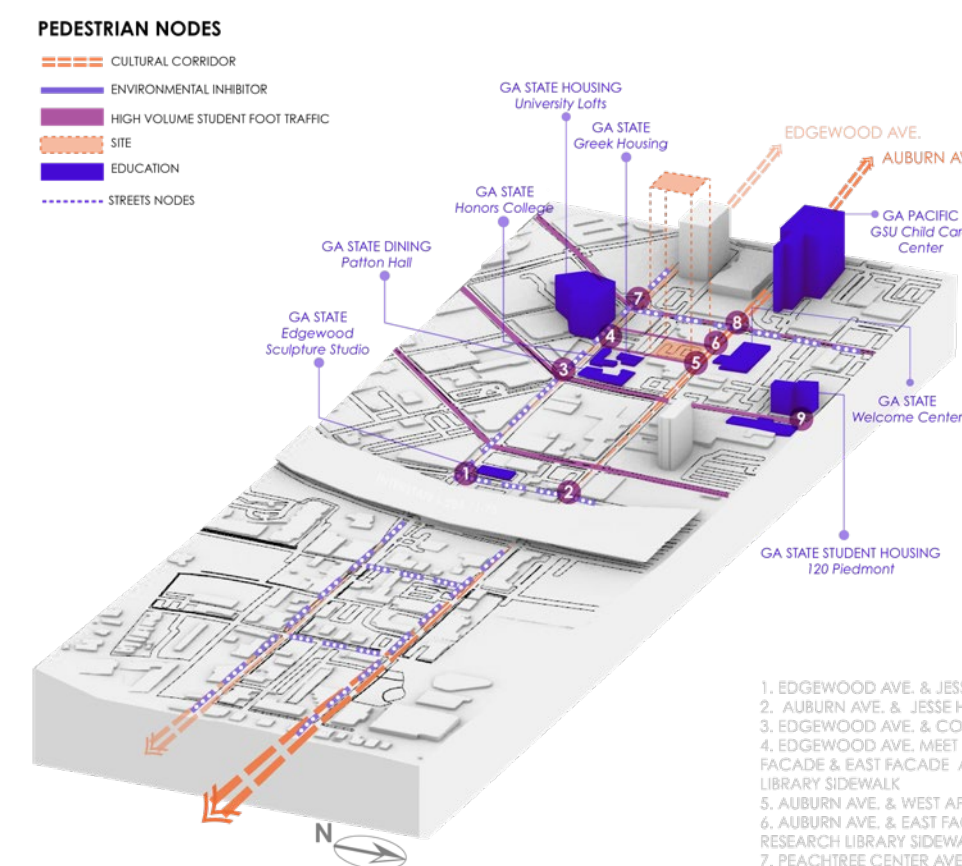
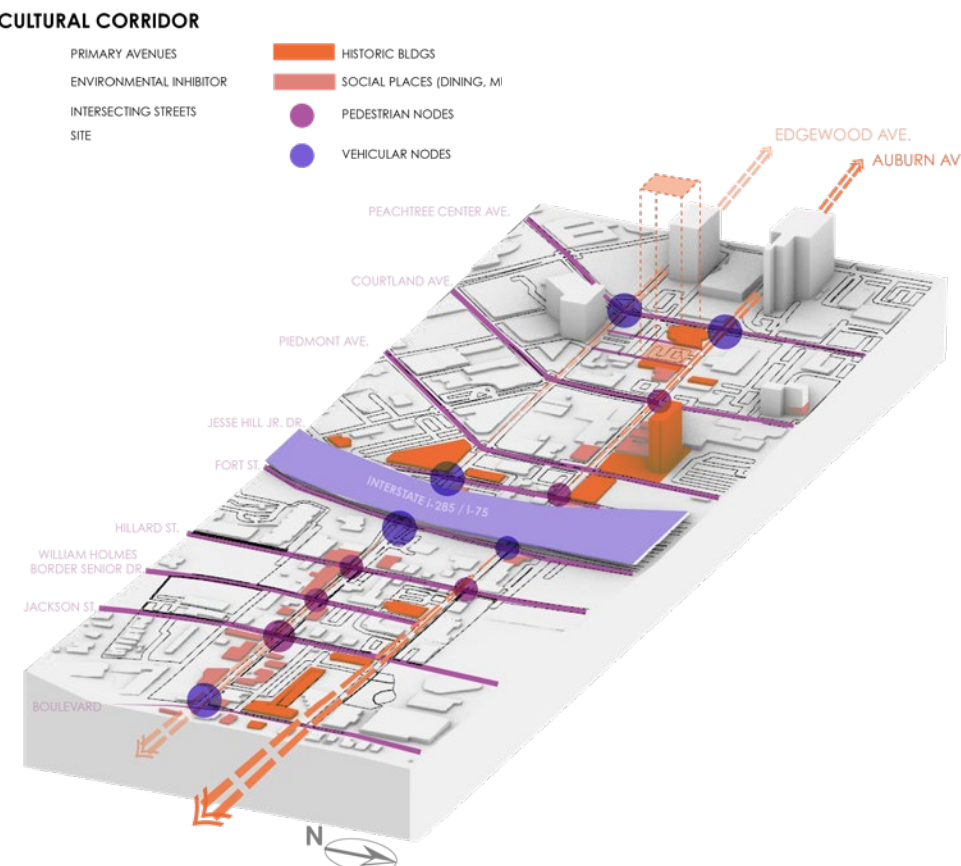
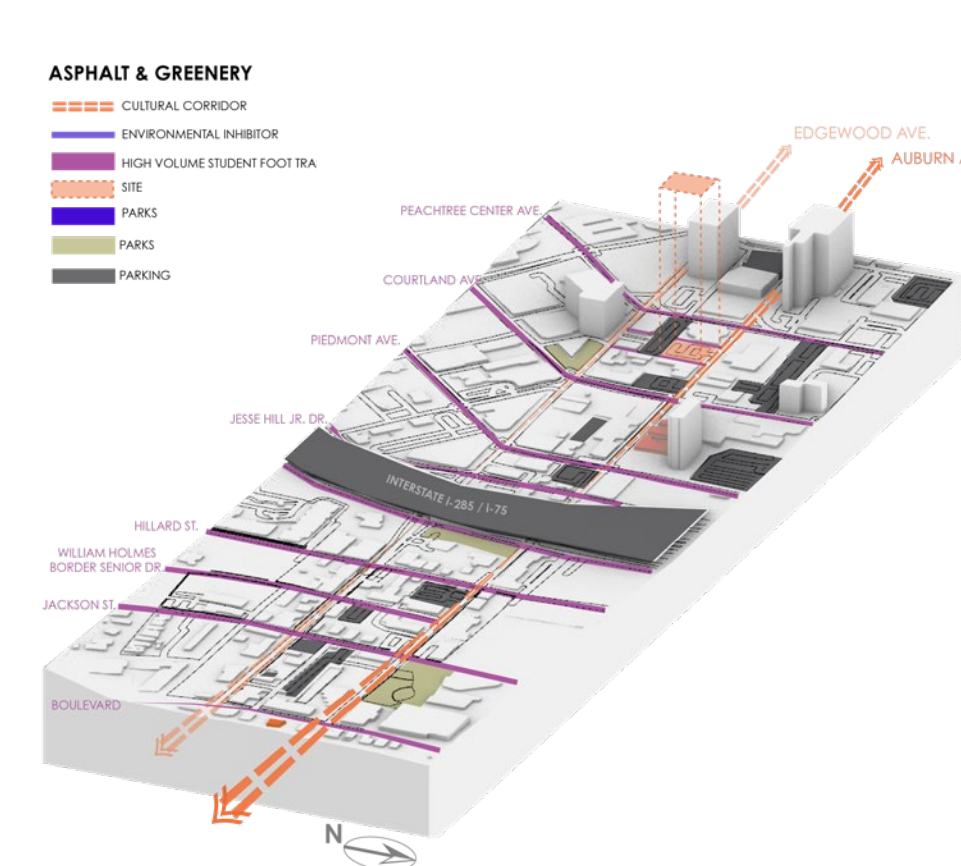
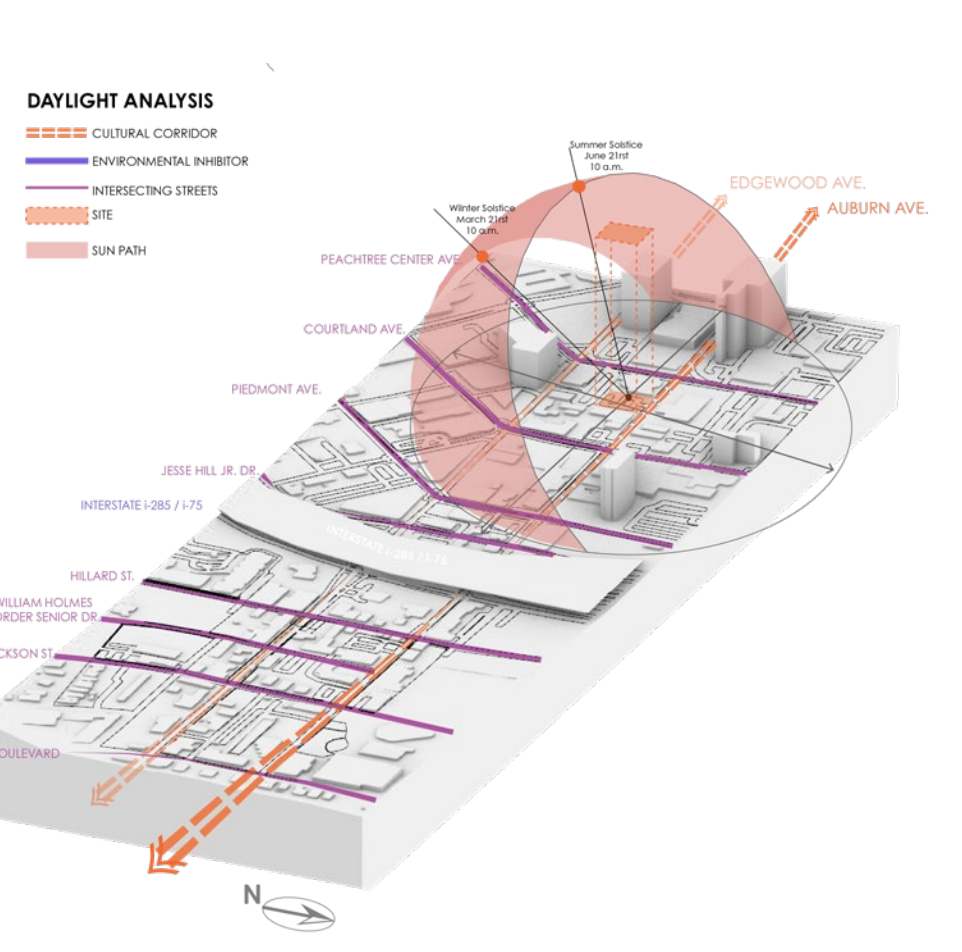
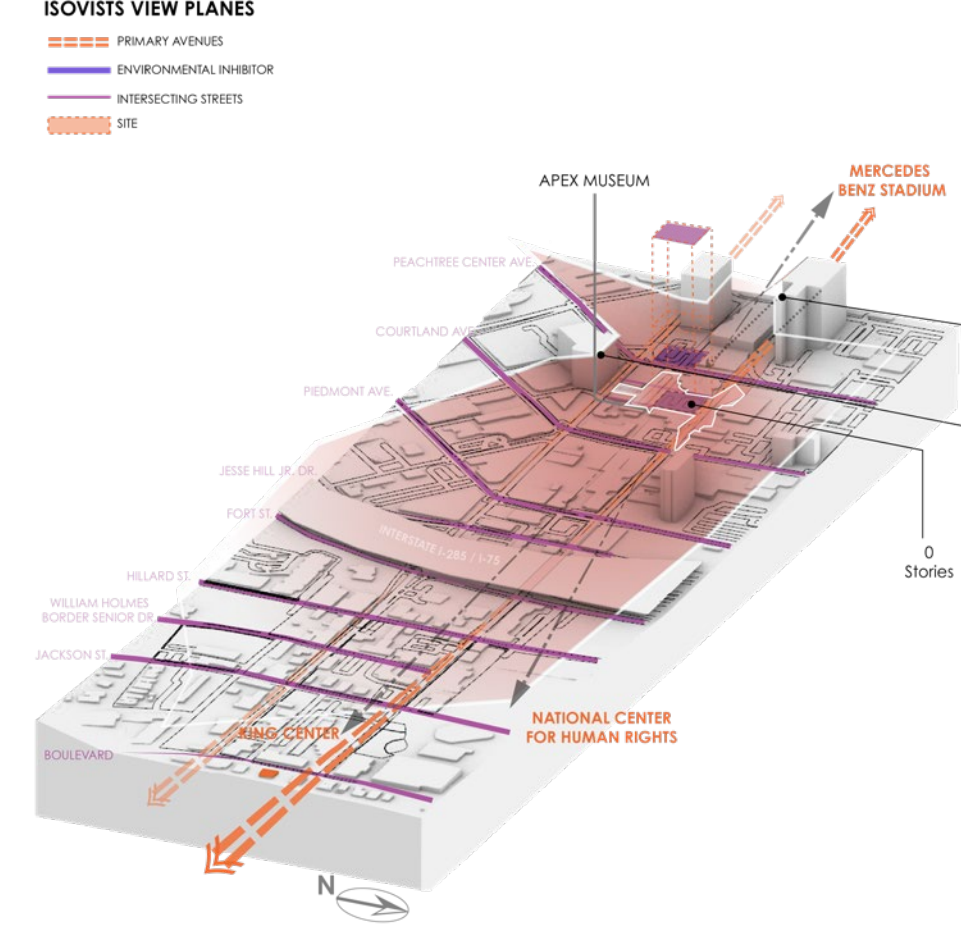
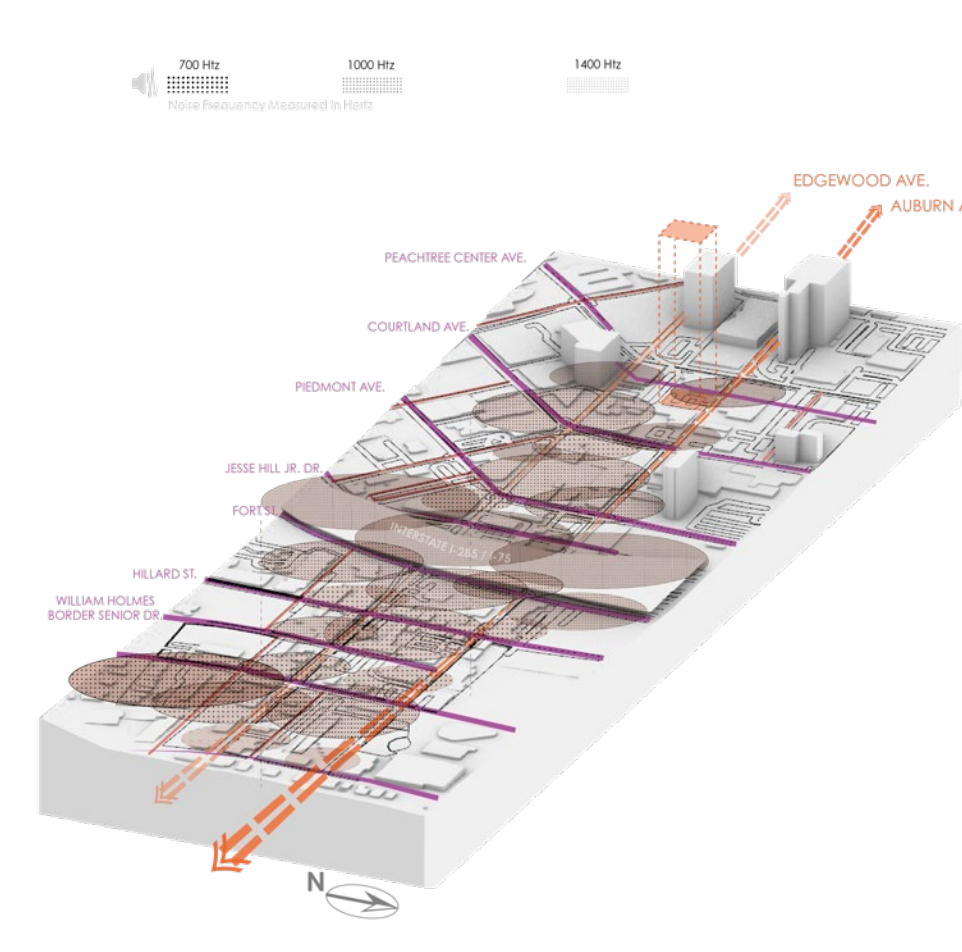
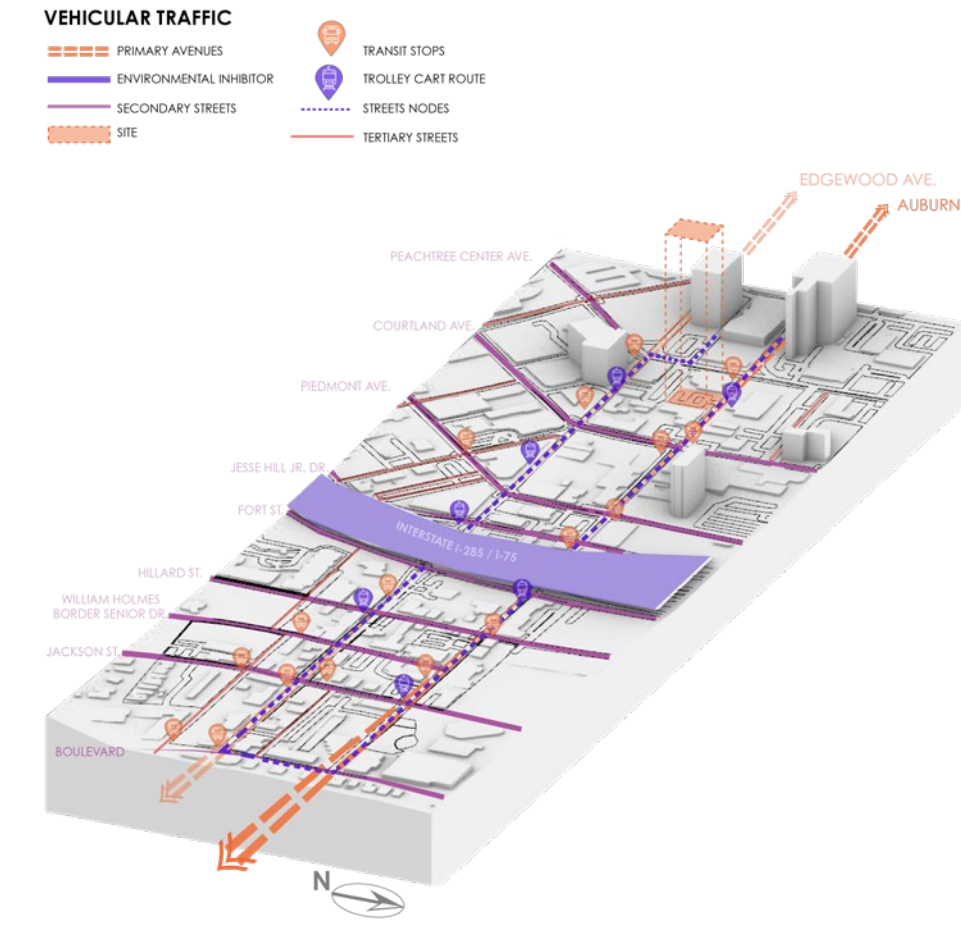
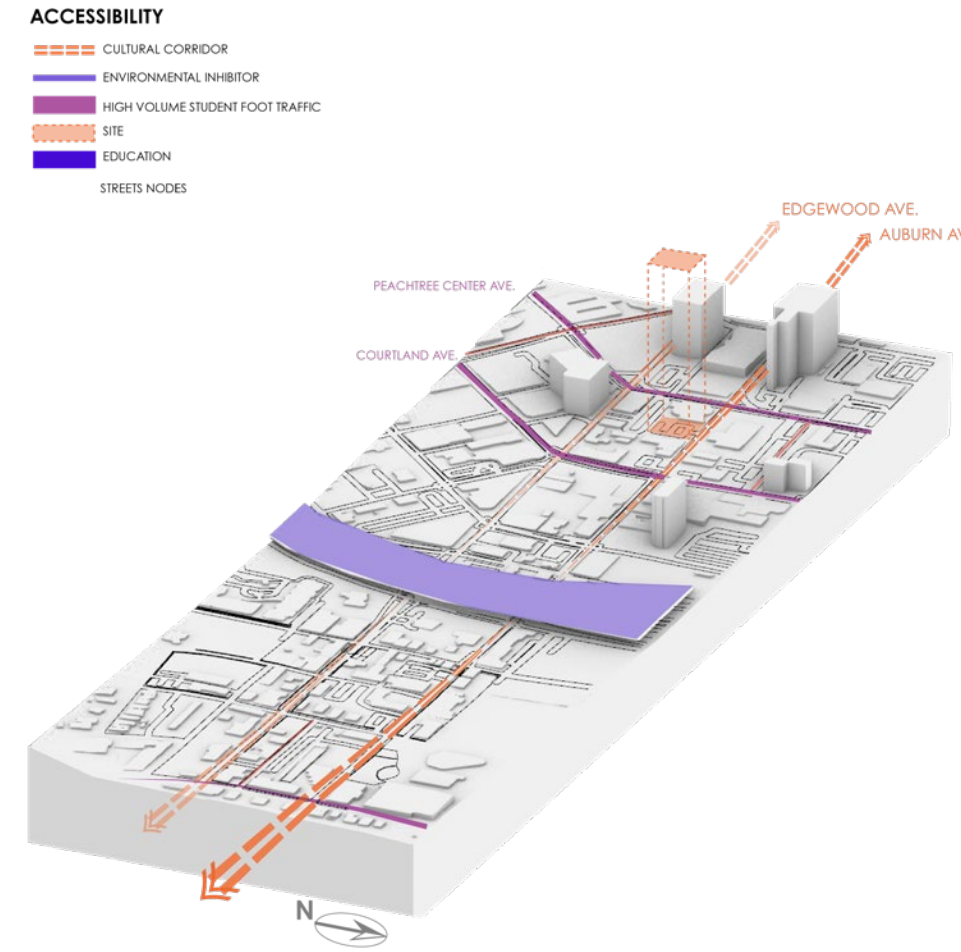
The spatial analysis of the Sweet Auburn Historic District in relation to the site, 135 Auburn Avenue deconstructs the individual factors currently existing that affect the site and the experience of the individual on or near the site. At present, there are three environmental inhibitors: the i-85 and i-75 interstate, the trolley car, and vehicular traffic, so the majority of the environmental factors are vehicular routes which contribute to the poor air quality.

Where these routes intersect with primary, secondary roads and popular pedestrian shortcuts create nodes.

These nodes are considered the sweet spots for increased noise, circulation, social interaction.

Two of the major nodes reside on the corners of the sites intersecting pedestrian paths, which runs vertical to Auburn Avenue. This is a result of the surrounding building context that is mostly Georgia State University buildings, so the majority of the social interactions from GSU students. These buildings also limit some views from the site.

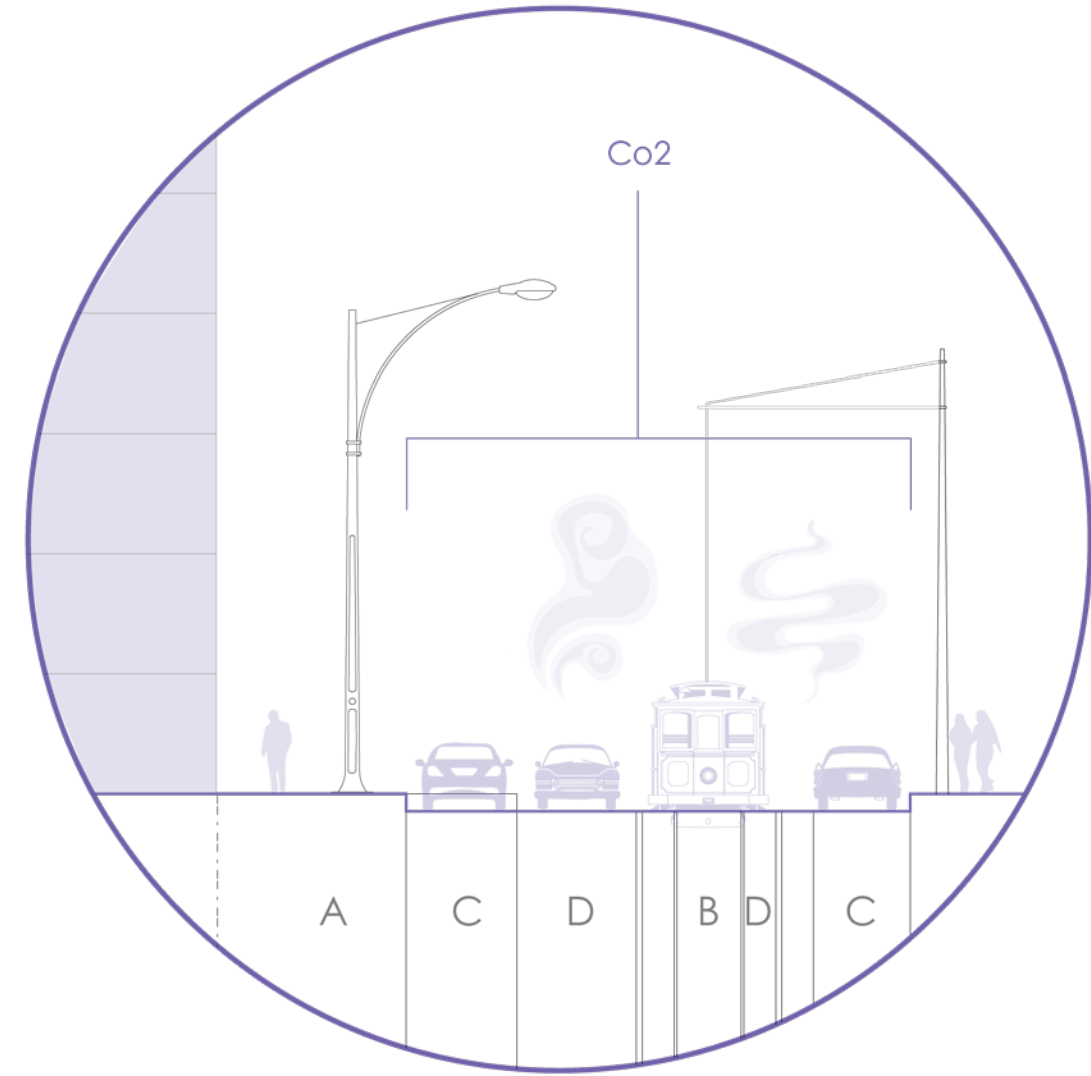
One of three parks, rests on the outskirts of the University, while another exists for the culture of the King Center, and the middle park is socially driven for Sweet Auburn Festivals. Lastly, a plethora of abandoned parking lots amount to most of the eroding asphalt.



1. EDGEWOOD AVE. & JESSE HILL JR DRIVE
2. AUBURN AVE. & JESSE HILL JR DRIVE
3. EDGEWOOD AVE. & COURTLAND AVE
4. EDGEWOOD AVE. MEET WEST APEX FACADE & EAST FACADE A.A. RESEARCH LIBRARY SIDEWALK
5. AUBURN AVE. & WEST APEX FACADE
6. AUBURN AVE. & EAST FACADE A.A. RESEARCH LIBRARY SIDEWALK
7. PEACHTREE CENTER AVE. E& EDGEWOOD AVE.



# STREET ELEVATION HEALTH ANALYSIS



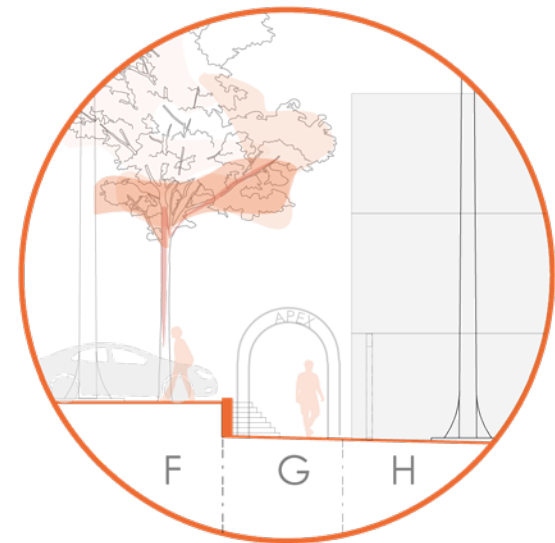
East elevation of Sweet Auburn Library and Georgia State University, at intersection Auburn Ave. & Courtland Ave, Section of Auburn Ave.

Higher Levels of Co2, greenhouse gases, diesel particle matter and other pollutants due to the consistently high vehicular traffic volume. Coupled with low oxygen rate from the lack of greenery and landscape, students and workers are put at high risk of air toxin ingestion, respiratory diseases and cancer.

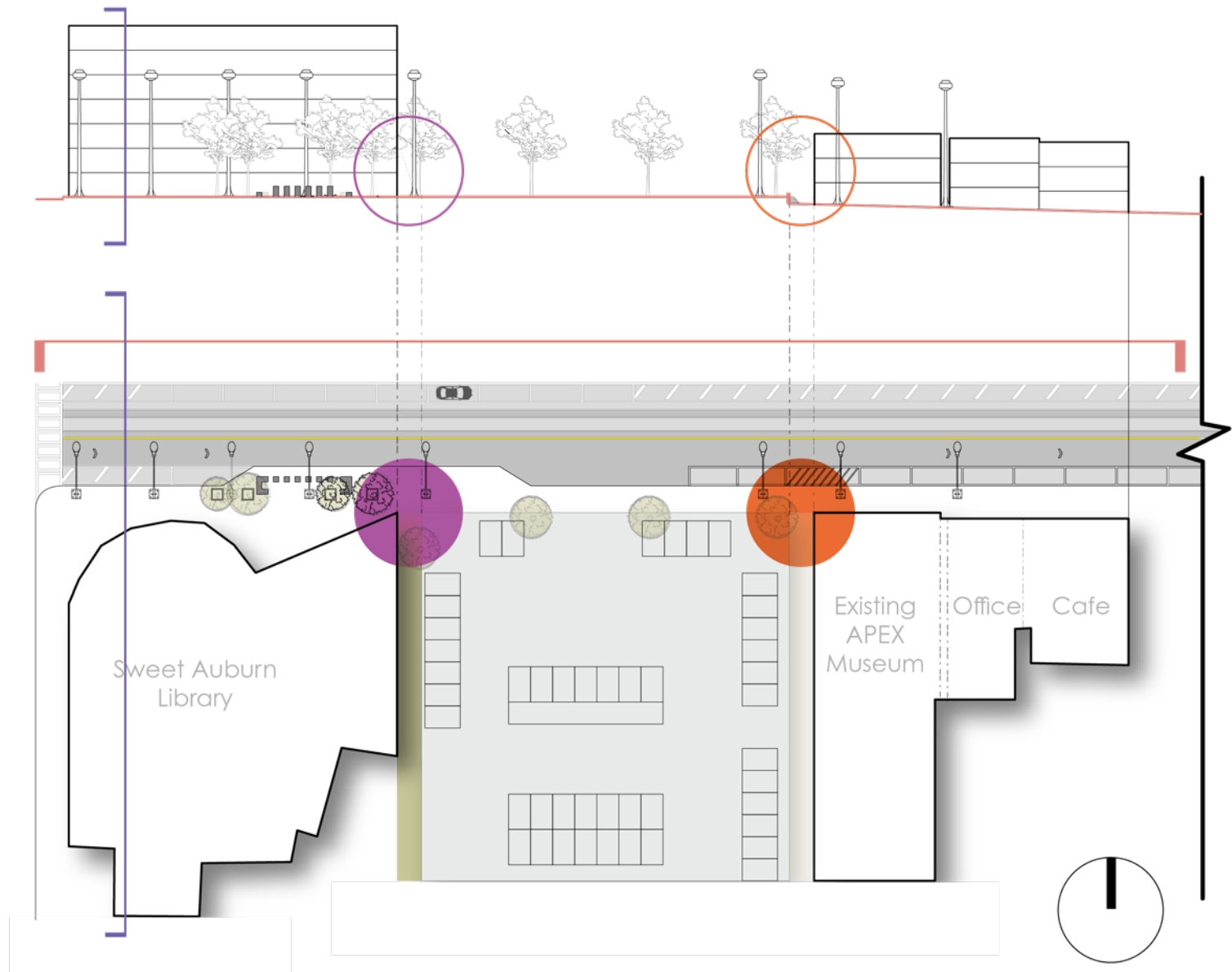
- A = Pedestrian Zone
- B = Trolley Car Zone
- C = Parking Zone
- D = Moving Traffic Zone
- E = Bicycle Zone
- F = Landscaping & Tree Zone
- G = Paved Pedestrian Way
- H = Even Sustainable Pavement



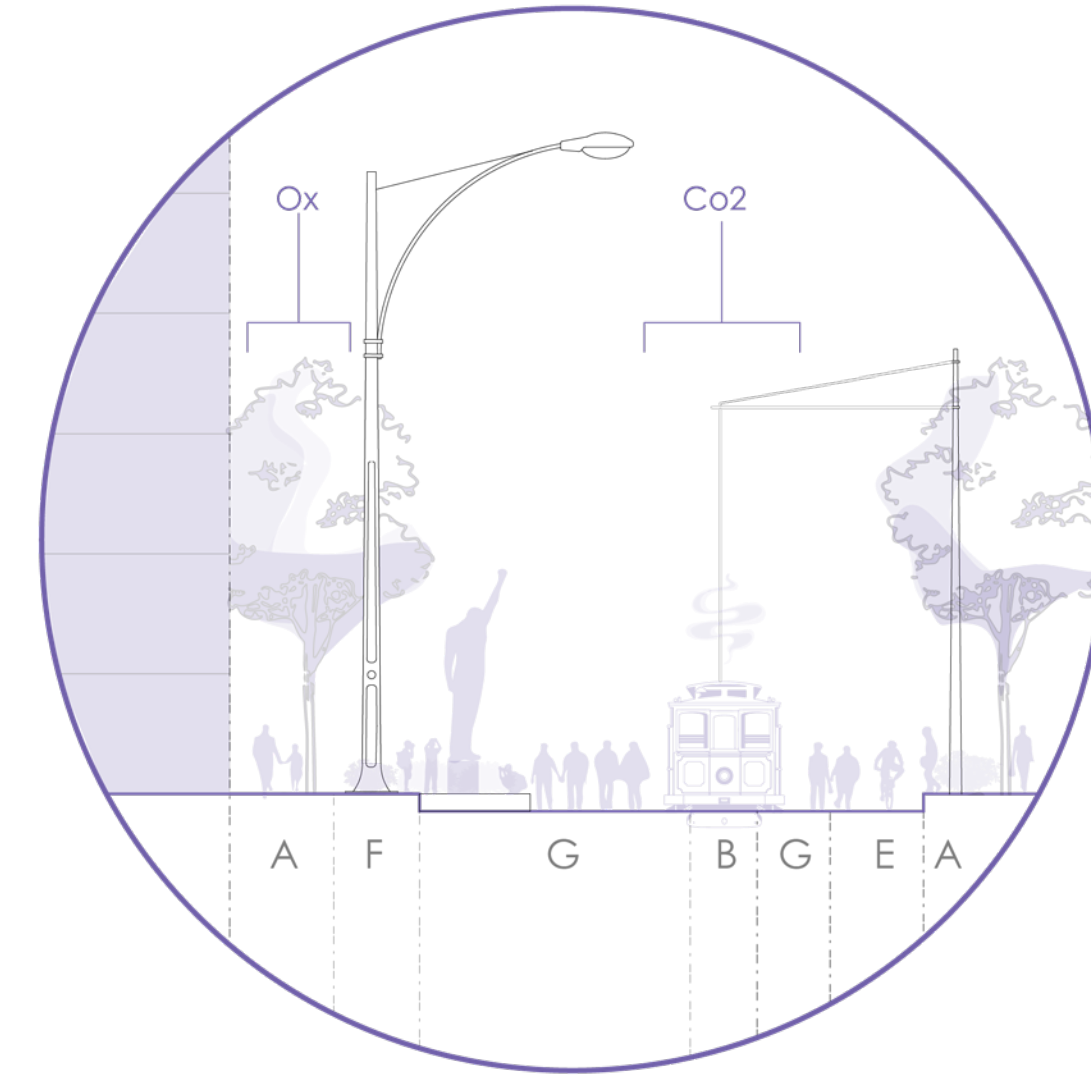
North elevation of the existing site parking lot (on the right) and Sweet Auburn Library corridor (to the left), Auburn Ave. pedestrian intersection.



North elevation of the existing site parking lot and APEX Museum entrance corridor, Auburn Ave. pedestrian intersection.

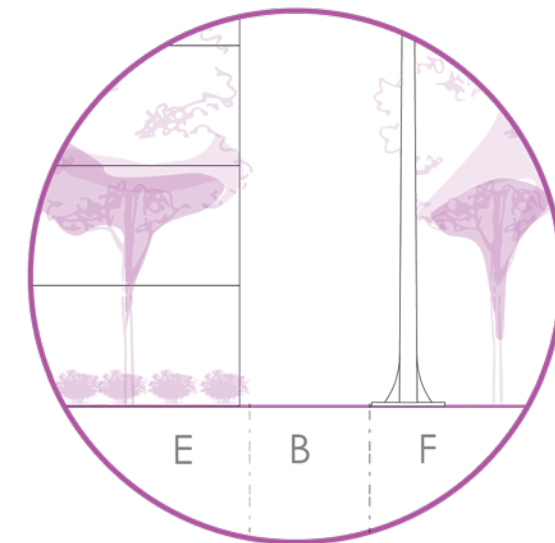


# STREET EDGE TREATMENT

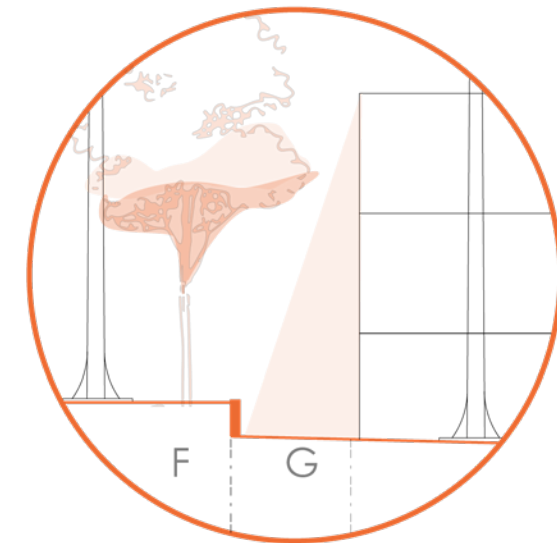


Pedestrian corridor will replace vehicular traffic, and give way to predominantly pedestrian walk way, creating a social street front, which promotes business and networking.

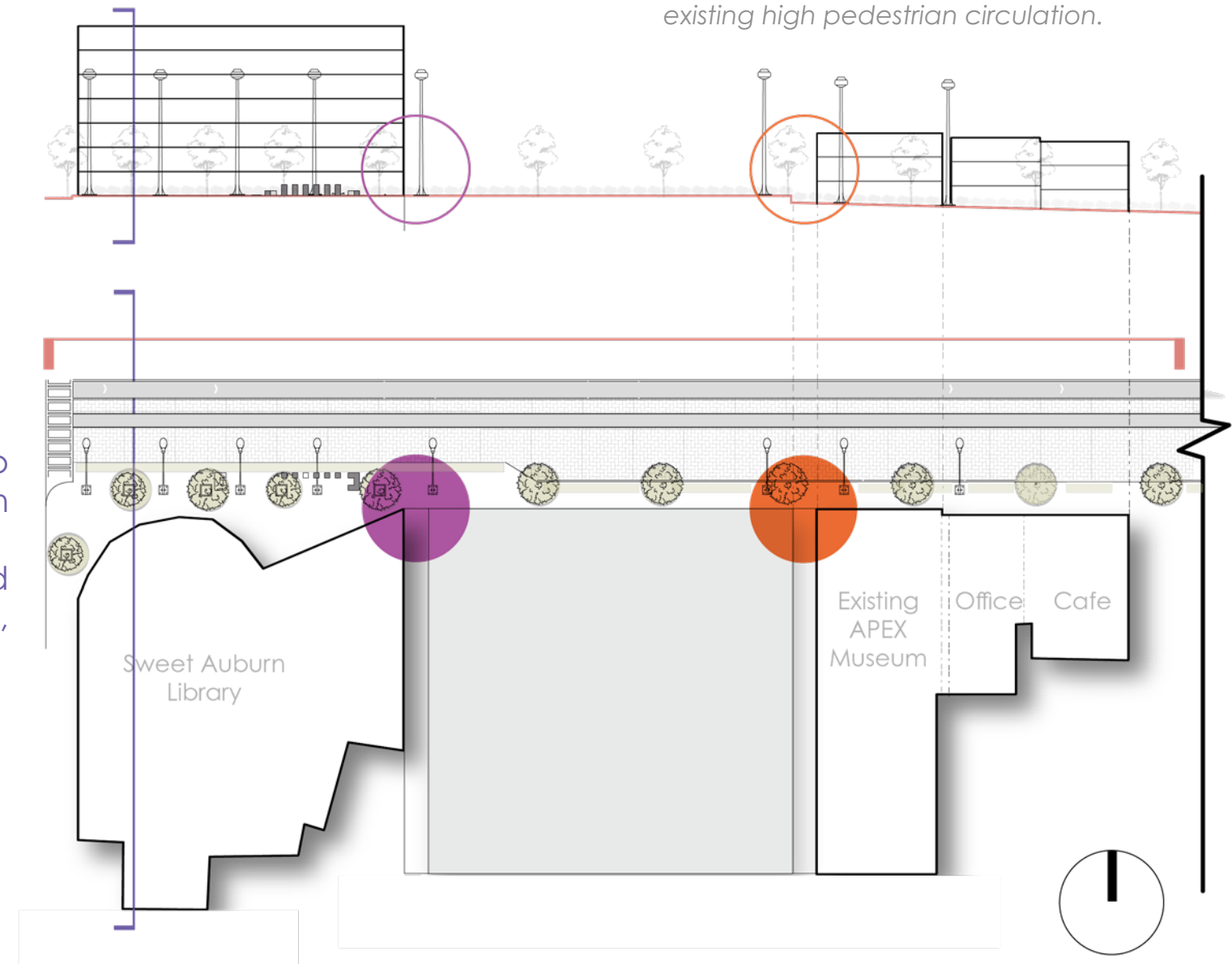
The landscape zone will act as a plant-belt buffer zone between the paved pedestrian way, to increase Oxygen production, and combat poor air quality, thus creating a healthier environment for the pedestrian way.



Maintain the historic configuration of a storefront, highlighted on the building facade.



Pedestrian node transforms into main entry point between existing and new development by plaza, thus creating a grand entrance and increasing overall aesthetic, take advantage of existing high pedestrian circulation.





THREE

CHAPTER

DESIGN PROCESS

03

- 3.1 DESIGN DRIVERS
- 3.2 PROGRAM PARAMETERS
- 3.3 DESIGN PROCESS





## APEX MUSEUM

The mission of the APEX Museum, located on Auburn Ave NE, Atlanta, Georgia is to interpret and present history from an African American perspective to help all Americans and international visitors better understand and appreciate the contributions of African Americans to America and the world.

## NATIONAL CIVIL RIGHTS MUSEUM

The purpose of the National Civil Right Museum located in Ivan Allen Jr Blvd NW, Atlanta, Georgia, is to create a safe space for visitors to explore the fundamental rights of all human beings so that they leave inspired and empowered to join the ongoing dialogue about human rights in their communities.

## URBAN MUSEUM

The purpose of the Urban Museum as an extension of both the National Civil Rights Museum and the APEX Museum is to educate the public on the historic and current intentionality of environmental injustice, its role in racism, it's long term effects on mental health, degradation of communities and urbanization; provide safe spaces with a programmatic range of cultural, educational, and human service activities beyond the arts to increase communal wealth and wellbeing; ultimately reestablish the cultural corridor by celebrating black culture & history to inspire cultural pride.





# WELLNESS

TEXT ABOUT HOW COLLAGE ILLUSTRATES COMMUNITY WELLNESS AND PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION



## COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION

The Urban Museum intertwines the program of a museum, office, and recreational environment.

The participatory program provides the Sweet Auburn Historic District with a variety of social and private settings, allowing visitors the choice to alternate roles between the observing spectator or dwelling audience. This program is heavily motivated by the positive emotional processing outcomes of artistic expression. that invites creativity, the Urban Museum provides the community with job opportunities, a dwelling space for the youth, educational enlightenment with a trip to the museum for students but most importantly it provides resources and options for all.

The youth is the future. The future of tomorrow requires to preparations for successful careers and creative outlets. The way to community revitalization begins with replenishing the supplies for those next up.





## ENVIRONMENTAL INJUSTICE AWARENESS

Through a series of sculptures, graphic walls, and vibrant murals the Urban Museum will raise environmental awareness through a multiple experiential design moments illustrated in schematic design. These moments will consist of visual panoramic experiences, interior set design aspects, galleries, exhibitions as well as interactive experiences.

The characteristics embedded within these moments will showcase facts, exhibit artworks and historic findings relative to environmental justice and injustice. The mission of this portion of the program is to educate the public on the historic impact of environmental justice and injustice and the role American culture and Black play in them.

The culture of the Black community is tethered to the attacks of environmental injustice, and it's important that the world keeps record of these crimes against people which are essentially becoming crimes against the planet Earth.

Because a human is a keeper of the Earth, all humans deserve the know when the Earth hurting and at who's expense. It's time to let the people know, and it's time for change.

Moments of designed for environmental relief such as green roof, pedestrian walks, plazas and environmental community services programs cater to the practice of environmental justice.





CULTURAL RESTORATION

## CULTURAL RESTORATION THROUGH EQUITABLE DESIGN

The historic background of the site dates back to when Dr. King waded the streets of Sweet Auburn. To combat the threat of gentrification, the Urban Museum prioritizes paying homage to the purpose of the Sweet Auburn Historic District and original Atlanta Trolley.

With historically black and minority sites such as this one currently experiencing the longterm effects environmental degradation, it is imperative that the American people empathize and celebrate the strength, culture and grace of the American patsy, the non-European or non-male population, otherwise known as the Black Kings and Queens of the American Nation.

The Urban Museum will begin the restoration Black Excellence of the Sweet Auburn Historic. It is an extension of untold story of Black Americans first told in the original 40 year old APEX Museum adjacent to the site. Second, it is the motherland of Black Wall street, and to maintain this regality, it becomes a setting for networking, and practicing of environmental health with a pedestrian walk, cafe and a splash of urban acupuncture through landscaping.

Restoring the culture is like reviving a wilting flower with cold water. Hydrate it and it will flourish.

**Equitable design is the cold water and the culture is the thirsty flower.** Implementation principles of equitable design not only improve the overall aesthetic of this precious community, but it's efficiency which ultimately influences it's people and preserves it's rich culture.



Americas racist history is an ongoing racist reality, which is why addressing the terms which enable racist references to black and brown Americans is imperative when discussing the culture embedded within the historic and predominantly black site of this thesis.

The following definition is a conclusion drawn from Patrick Davis's "The Origins of African American Culture and Its Significance in African American" and the Urban Dictionary. Student Academic Success"

## PRESERVING BLACK CULTURE

### BLACK CULTURE

/ 'blak kul·cher,/  
noun

1. The only minority culture in the United States that was founded and created in slavery, derived from American sub-cultures which shaped the social, psychological, economic, educational, and political development of black people. Culture is the medium for cognition for all human beings, not just ethnic minorities. The dismantling of legally sanctioned segregation.

#### 2. THE SOUL OF ATLANTA

A thriving vehicle driven by today's black youth. The advances of a race of people who've overcome their first 400 years spent in bondage in the Western World, freed from slavery 140 years ago, and had no civil rights 50 years ago, presents the possibility of a seamlessly integrated society in the near future. The progression of Blacks from shackles to politicians, educators, police, social activists, and overall business people and their contributions to America represents Black Excellence, and serves as a right to black pride. As a result of centuries of segregation, Black-Americans have formed their own distinct culture, foods, dialects, music, and fashions which has influenced American mainstream culture but also the world.

The following definitions are provided by Oxford Dictionary, Merriam Webster dictionary, dictionary.com, the urban dictionary, The Guardian : Britt Julius, Washington Post: Randall Kennedy

### BLACK

/blak/  
noun

1. a member of a dark-skinned people, including but not limited to one of African or Australian Aboriginal ancestry.
2. black color or pigment.

### Af·ri·can A·mer·i·can

/'afr k n am r k  
noun

1. a black American.
2. the decedents of slaves sold to European settlers during the Atlantic Slave Trade.

African Americans have been removed from their continental west & central African roots, and brought to the U.S. where they've resided for several generations. These are the blacks who dealt with the historical black obstacles such as American chattel slavery, Jim Crow segregation laws, mass incarceration, the 80's crack epidemic, etc.

"African Americans are American people whose roots go all the way back to any of Africa's ethnic groups. It is generally used to refer to black Americans, although **not all Americans with African ancestry are black.** Most Americans of African ancestry can trace their lineage back to enslaved people who were brought to the United States."

To read definitions aloud refer Negro and its derivatives as "the n-word" with it differentiated suffix.

### NE·GUS

/'nē-goose/  
noun

1. KING- used as a title of sovereign of

Tafari Makonnen Woldemikael, aka Lij Tafari Makonnen, aka Ras Teferi, aka Janhoy, aka Talaqu Meri, aka Conquering Lion of the Tribe of Judah, aka Abba Teke, aka Jah, aka Jah Rastafari, aka HIM (His Imperial Majesty), aka king – negus, aka probably Guinness World Record holder for person and deity with the most akas, aka king of kings, aka Negusa Nagast aka Haile Selassie I.

### rac·ism

/'rā, siz m/  
noun

1. prejudice, discrimination, or antagonism directed against someone of a different race based on the belief that one's own race is superior.

### mi·nor·i·ty

/'m ˌ nōr dē/  
noun

1. the smaller number or part,

In the context of this thesis, minority is referred to as the inferior population count as it appeals to the superior population count dominant races and sexes, so all **peoples considered non-European or non-male.**

### Nigga

/'m ˌ nōr dē/  
noun

1. the smaller number or part,

USAGE ALERT ABOUT NIGGA  
This term qualifies as a coreferential slur. Coreferentialism refers to the common assumption in the literature that slurs (e.g. faggot) and descriptors (e.g. male homosexual) are coreferential expressions with precisely the same extension, likewise, nigga is synonymous to a sibling or close friend and an extension of the derogatory term Nigger. Nigga is cultural re-appropriation when used by black and brown persons and is necessary for generations to overcome the atrocities of this country, and that "confusing" the two is willfully ignorant. Nigga is used mainly among African Americans, but also among other minorities and ethnicities, in a neutral or familiar way and as a friendly term of address. It is also common in rap music. However, nigga is taken to be extremely offensive when used by outsiders. Considered equally as offensive as nigger. (Shifferaw, Abel,

### negRO

/'nēgrō/  
noun

1. a member of a dark-skinned group of peoples originally native to Africa south of the Sahara.

The etymology of nigger is often traced to the Latin niger, meaning black. The Latin niger became the noun Negro (black person) in English, and simply the color black in Spanish and Portuguese.

### nig·gER

/'rā, siz m/  
noun

1. Slang: Extremely Disparaging and Offensive. a contemptuous term used to refer to a person of any

USAGE ALERT ABOUT NIGGER  
"Nigger is derived from the Latin word for the color black, niger. According to the Random House Historical Dictionary of American Slang, it did not originate as a slur but took on a derogatory connotation over time. Nigger and other words related to it have been spelled in a variety of ways, including niggah, nigguh, niggur, and niggar." (Washington Post, Randall Kennedy)

It is a profoundly hurtful racial slur meant to stigmatize African Americans; used as a term to describe blacks who display negative characteristics similar to the caricature "coon"An an important feature of many of the worst episodes of bigotry in American history. It has accompanied innumerable lynchings, beatings, acts of arson, and other racially motivated attacks upon blacks. (The Guardian Article, Britt, Julius)

It has also been featured in countless jokes and cartoons that both reflect and encourage the disparagement of blacks. It is the signature phrase of racial prejudice. It is so profoundly offensive that a euphemism has developed for those occasions when the word itself must be discussed, as in court or in a newspaper editorial: "the n-word." (Oxford Dictionary)  
A word that caused numerous school districts to ban the great American novel, The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn. (Urban Dictionary)  
"Niggers was the ones on the rope, hanging off the thing; niggas is the ones with gold ropes, hanging out at clubs" Tupac Shakur once said to Tabitha Soren during an interview with MTV News.



# ENDING STRUCTURAL RACISM

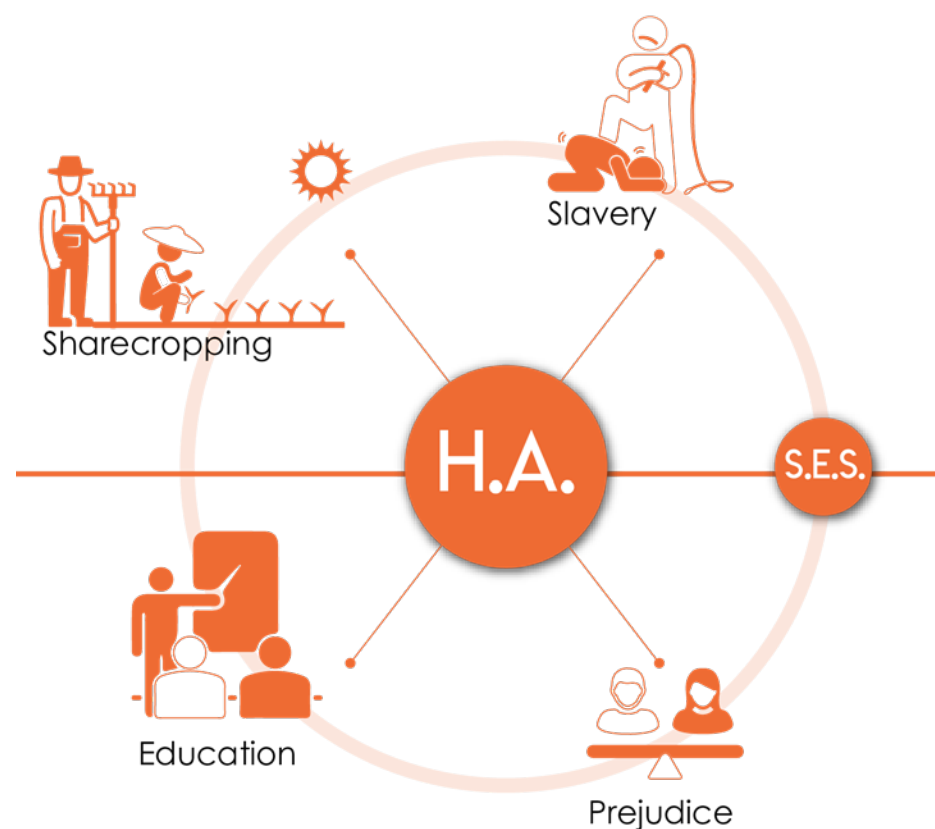
From the research conducted, this thesis can conclude that originally, white supremacy was the xenophobic desire which activated the separation people based on skin complexion, sex, size, culture and language. Particularly, it led to the segregation of America beginning with it's people, extended to neighborhoods, later cities and ultimately a segregated Nation.

The intent to remove and exploit people quickly and cheaply, was deeply rooted in prejudices birthed on the brink of the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade. These prejudices reflected in the likes of project housing, and practices of environmental injustices, which in turn resulted in environmental degradation. The manifestation of this form of structural racism was enforced by white supremacy and often looked a lot like Jim Crow Laws.

Jim Crow Laws affected people who looked like Me. These laws are the American government's doing. It's democracy infested with white supremacists, however it is best explained in a Spotify Podcast what liberty for all currently looks like from the perspective of a black female, otherwise known as a double minority, in the Modern American South titled Jemele Hill is Unbothered (EP83) "Democracy is like two wolves and a lamb voting on what to have for lunch... Liberty is making sure that lamb is well armed to protest that vote. [!] endeavour to share with young lambs and communitites of color are well armed to protest the school prison pipeline,

prison industrial complex, voter suppression, racist Jim Crow Laws like 'Stand Your Ground.'

Children living in South Central Los Angeles have a third of the lung capacity as children living in Santa Monica California, because **toxic pollutant chemical plants and poisonous factors are allowed to exist in our neighborhoods where our children go to school, play and live everyday! But they don't**



Structural Racism  
/'struk(t)SH(e)rel/ /'rā,sizem/

Structural Racism in the U.S. is the normalization and legitimization of an array of dynamics – historical, cultural, institutional and interpersonal – that routinely advantage whites while producing cumulative and chronic adverse outcomes for people of color. It is a system of hierarchy and inequity, primarily characterized by white supremacy – the preferential treatment, privilege and power for white people at the expense of Black, Latino, Asian, Pacific Islander, Native American, Arab and other racially oppressed people.

Scope

Structural Racism encompasses the entire system of white supremacy, diffused and infused in all aspects of society, including our history, culture, politics, economics and our entire social fabric. Structural Racism is the most profound and pervasive form of racism – all other forms of racism (e.g. institutional, interpersonal, internalized, etc.) emerge from structural racism. Indicators/Manifestations

The key indicators of structural racism are inequalities in power, access, opportunities, treatment, and policy impacts and outcomes, whether they are intentional or not. Structural racism is more difficult to locate in a particular institution because it involves the reinforcing effects of multiple institutions and cultural norms, past and present, continually producing new, and re-producing old forms of racism.

## White

(as in •"white people")  
/(h)wīt/  
noun

The term white, referring to people, was created by Virginia slave owners and colonial rulers in the 17th century. It replaced terms like Christian and "Englishman" (sic) to distinguish European colonists from Africans and indigenous peoples. European colonial powers established white as a legal concept after Bacon's Rebellion in 1676 during which indentured servants of European and African descent had united against the colonial elite. The legal distinction of white separated the servant class on the basis of skin color and continental origin. "The creation of 'white' meant giving privileges to some, while denying them to others with the justification of biological and social inferiority. (Margo Adair & Sharon Powell, The Subjective Side of Politics. SF: 1988. p.17.)

The following definitions are quoted from page four of "Chronic Disparity: Strong and Pervasive Evidence of Racial Inequalities POVERTY OUTCOMES" by Keith Lawrence, and Terry Keleher. These are what I consider the origin of many environmental injustices and hate crimes such as those mentioned throughout this thesis.

White Supremacy is the source of many odious crimes against humans, but it is also the mother of heinous crimes such as structural racism committed everywhere against Planet Earth including on American soil. It is the cause of systematic oppression. Downey and Hawkins studies conclude that systematic oppression weighing down ethnic and delicate people and deterioration of the natural environment. It is a global issue, however the catalyst for **change can begin with the awareness and action of one nation, one state, one city and one community. That community is**

## white supremacy

/(h)wīt/ /se-'pre-me-sē ?/  
noun

White supremacy is an historically based, institutionally perpetuated system of exploitation and oppression of continents, nations and peoples of color by white peoples and nations of the European continent; for the purpose of maintaining and defending a system of wealth, power and privilege.

## white privilege

/(h)wīt/ priv-lij  
noun

A privilege is a right, favor, advantage, immunity, specially granted to one individual or group, and withheld from another. (Websters. Italics mine.) White privilege is an historically based, institutionally perpetuated system of: (1) Preferential prejudice for and treatment of white people based solely on their skin color and/or ancestral origin from Europe; and (2) Exemption from racial and/or national oppression based on skin color and/or ancestral origin from Africa, Asia, the Americas and the Arab world. [However, races of lighter skin complexions such as Asians, or light-skinned Hispanics, or Mulattos (a person of mixed white and black ancestry, especially a person with one white and one black parent) can possess white privileged.] U.S. institutions and culture (economic, legal, military, political, educational, entertainment, familial and religious) privilege peoples from Europe over peoples from the Americas, Africa, Asia and the Arab world. In a white supremacy system, white privilege and racial oppression are two sides of the same coin. "White peoples were exempt from slavery, land grab and genocide, the first forms of white privilege (in the future US)." (Virginia Harris and Trinity Ordoña, "Developing Unity among Women of Color: Crossing the Barriers of Internalized Racism and Cross Racial Hostility," in Making Face, Making Soul: Hacienda Caras. Edited by Gloria Anzaldúa. SF: Aunt Lute Press, 1990. p. 310).

## RACE

\rās\  
noun

A specious classification of human beings created by Europeans (whites) which assigns human worth and social status using 'white' as the model of humanity and the height of human achievement for the purpose of establishing and maintaining privilege and power. (Ronald Chisom and Michael Washington, Undoing Racism: A Philosophy of International Social Change. People's Institute Press. People's Institute for Survival and Beyond. 1444 North Johnson Street. New Orleans, Louisiana, 70116. 1997. Second Edition. p. 30—31.)

## RA·CIAL JUST·ICE

/ rāSHul/ /'jestes/  
noun

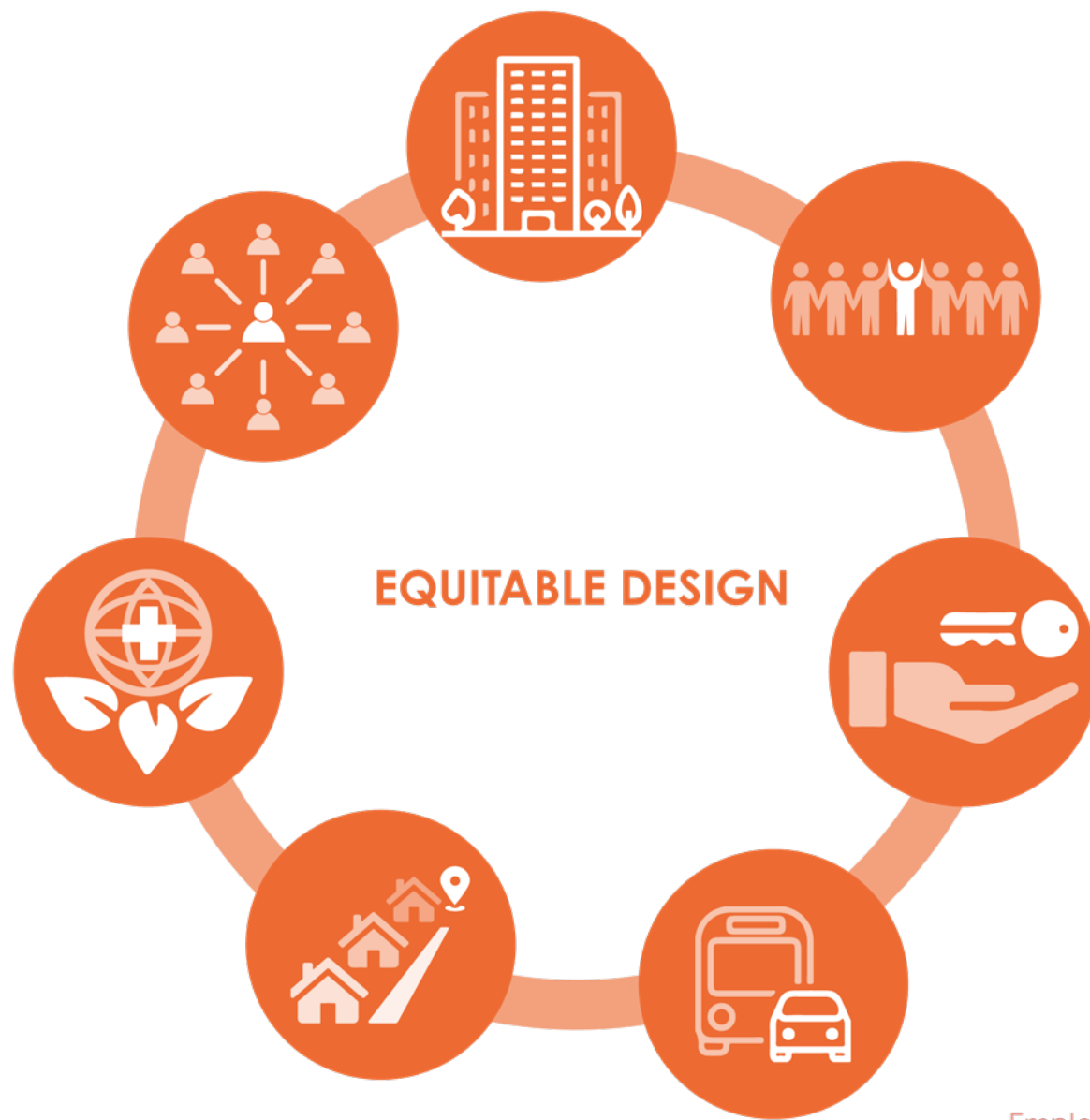
Racial Justice is the proactive reinforcement of policies, practices, attitudes and actions that produce equitable power, access, opportunities, treatment, impacts and outcomes for all.

Indicators: Equitable impacts and outcome across race is the key indicator off racial justice.

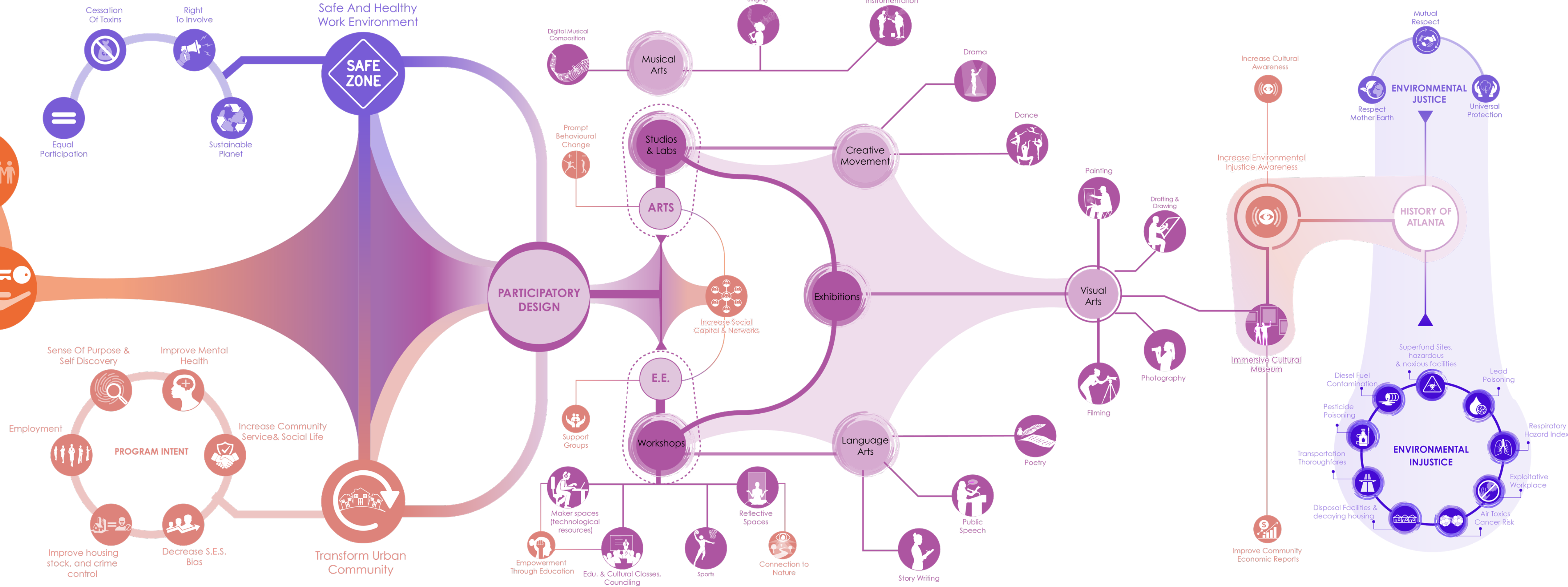
Interpersonal Racism: Interpersonal racism occurs between individuals. Once private beliefs come into interaction with others, the racism is now in the interpersonal realm. Examples include public expressions of racial prejudice, hate, bias and bigotry between individuals.



# PROGRAM PARAMETERS

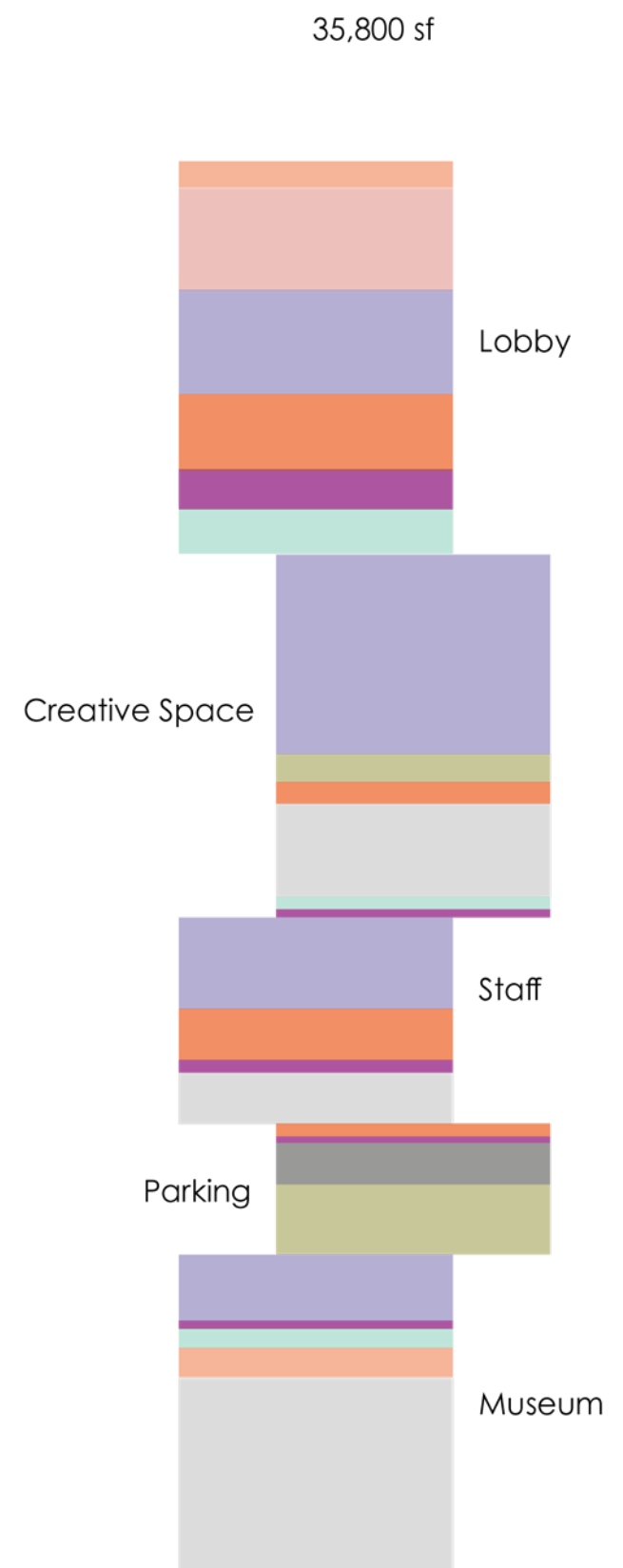
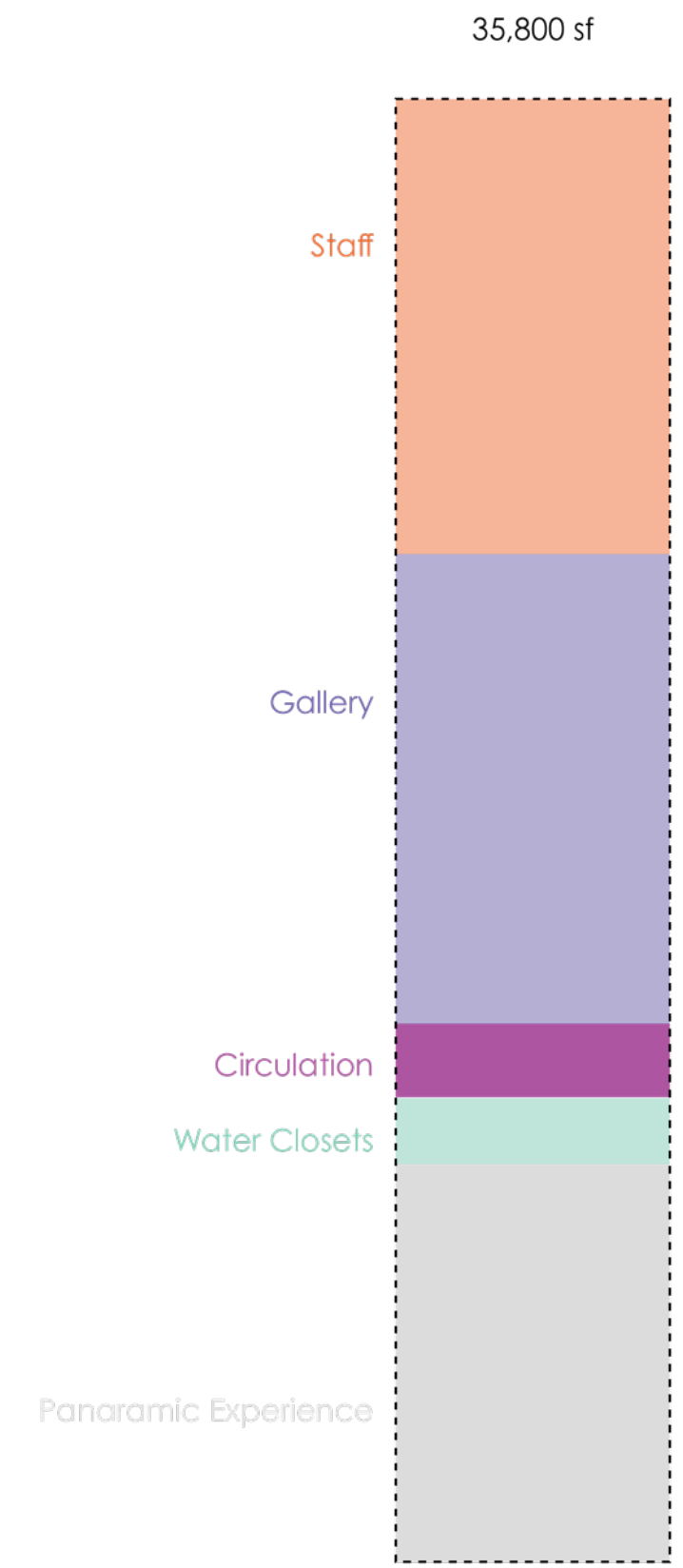
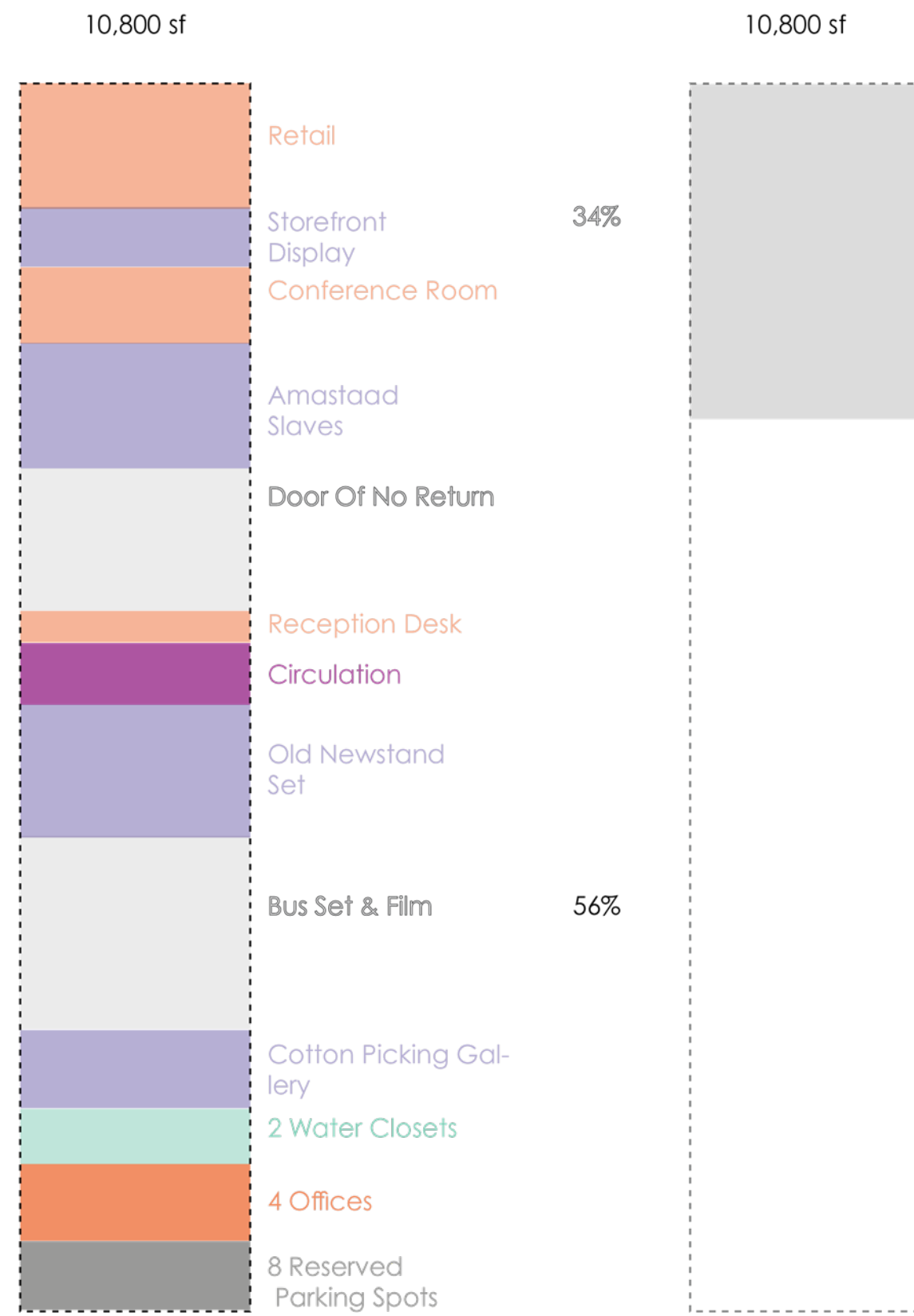


The diagram below display the connection between design and program intention of enforcing equitable design, prioritizing mental health, community empowerment through participatory design, raising environmental justice awareness through social architecture in attempt to create a space which serves as a catalyst to community transformation.

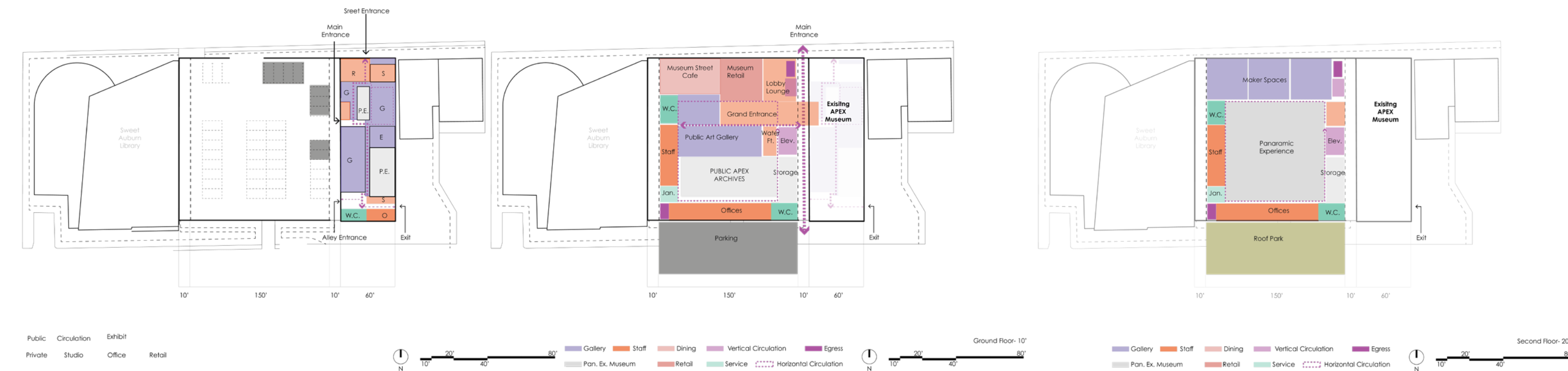




# PROGRAM MATRIX



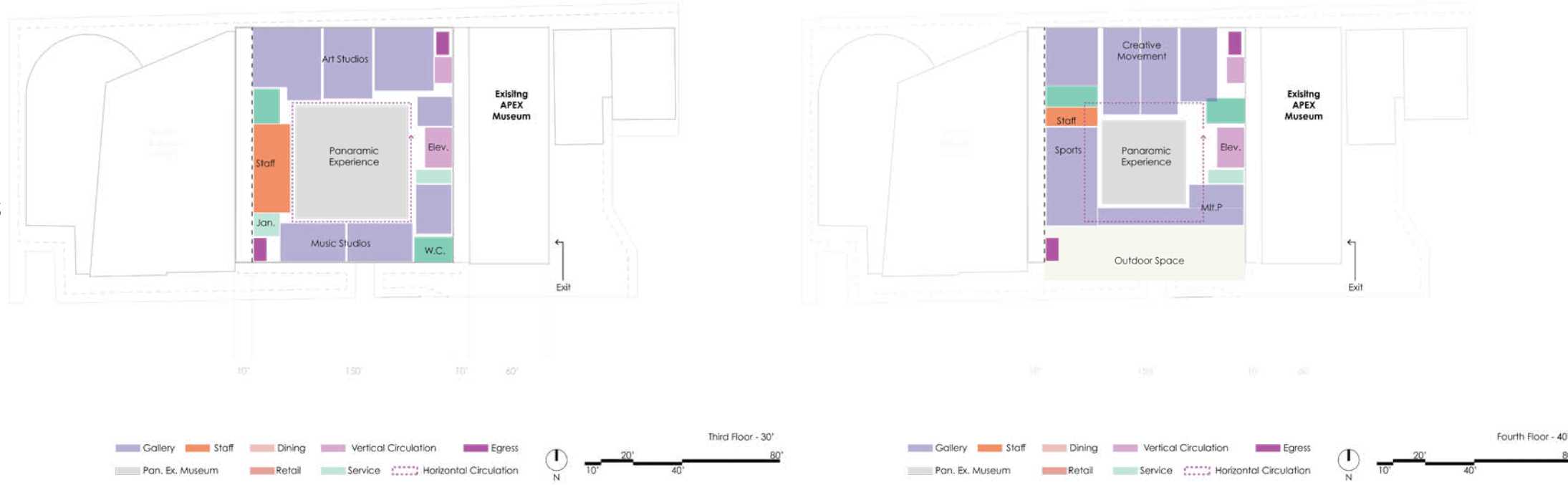
# INITIAL SCHEMATIC PROGRAM DESIGN



The overall intent of the Urban Museum to ultimately connect with the existing APEX Museum through program, and embrace the spatial opportunities that currently exist within the site.

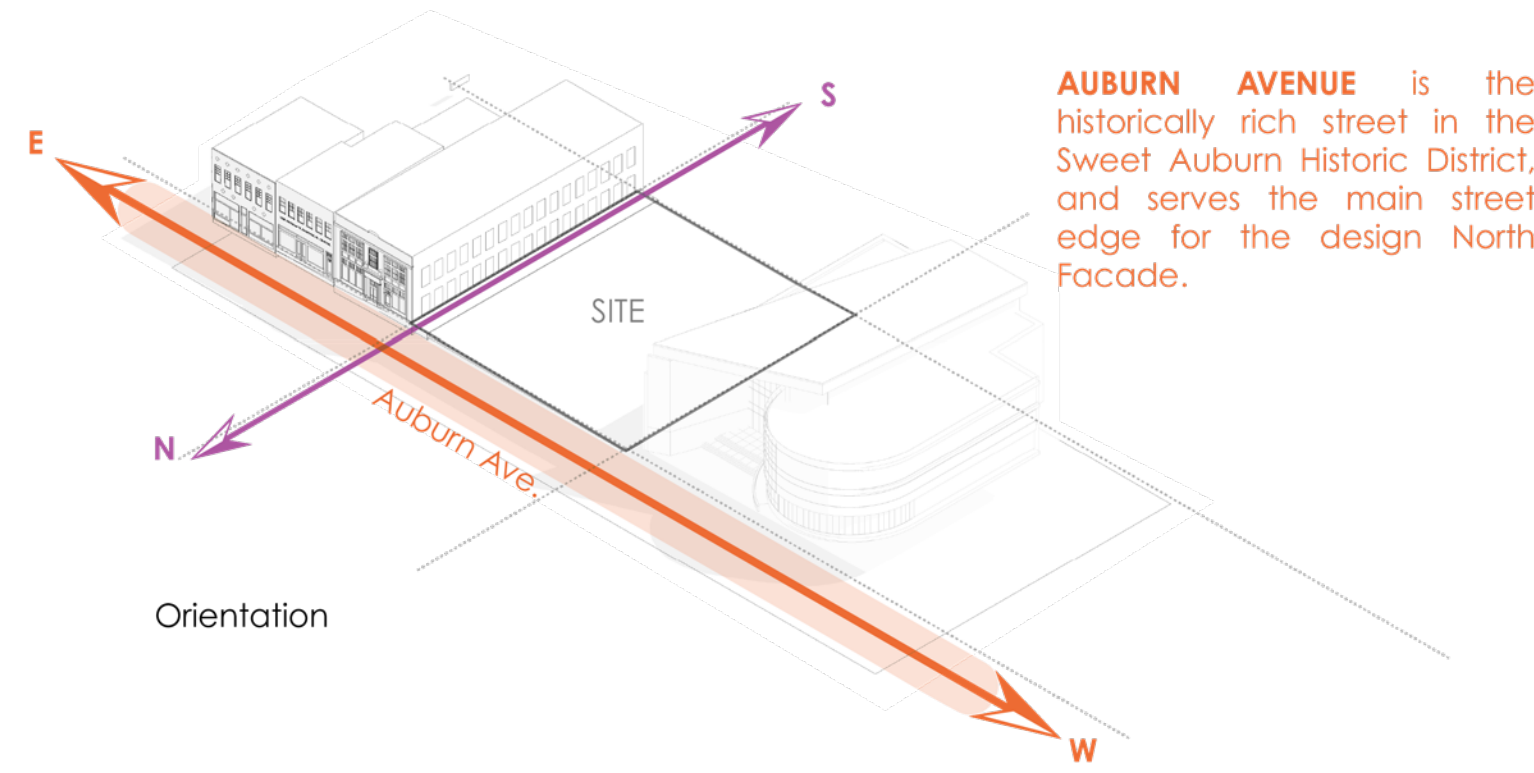
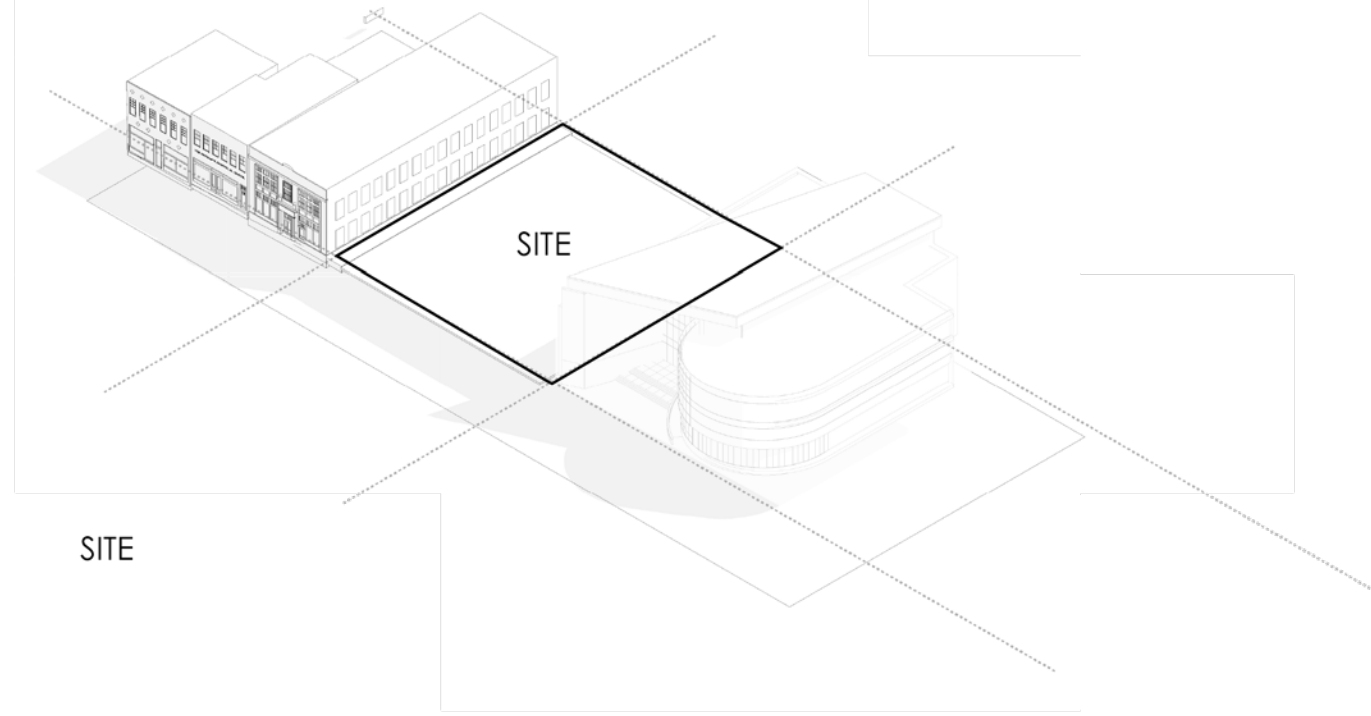
Because the mission of the Urban Museum is about providing a safe dwelling space for it's community, while educating the public on the likes of environmental injustices, it prioritized social activation on all fronts (North, East, South) excluding the West wall.

Integrating welcoming outdoor experiences amidst the Urban inner-city hustle and bustle pushes for asymmetric solid and voids within the design.

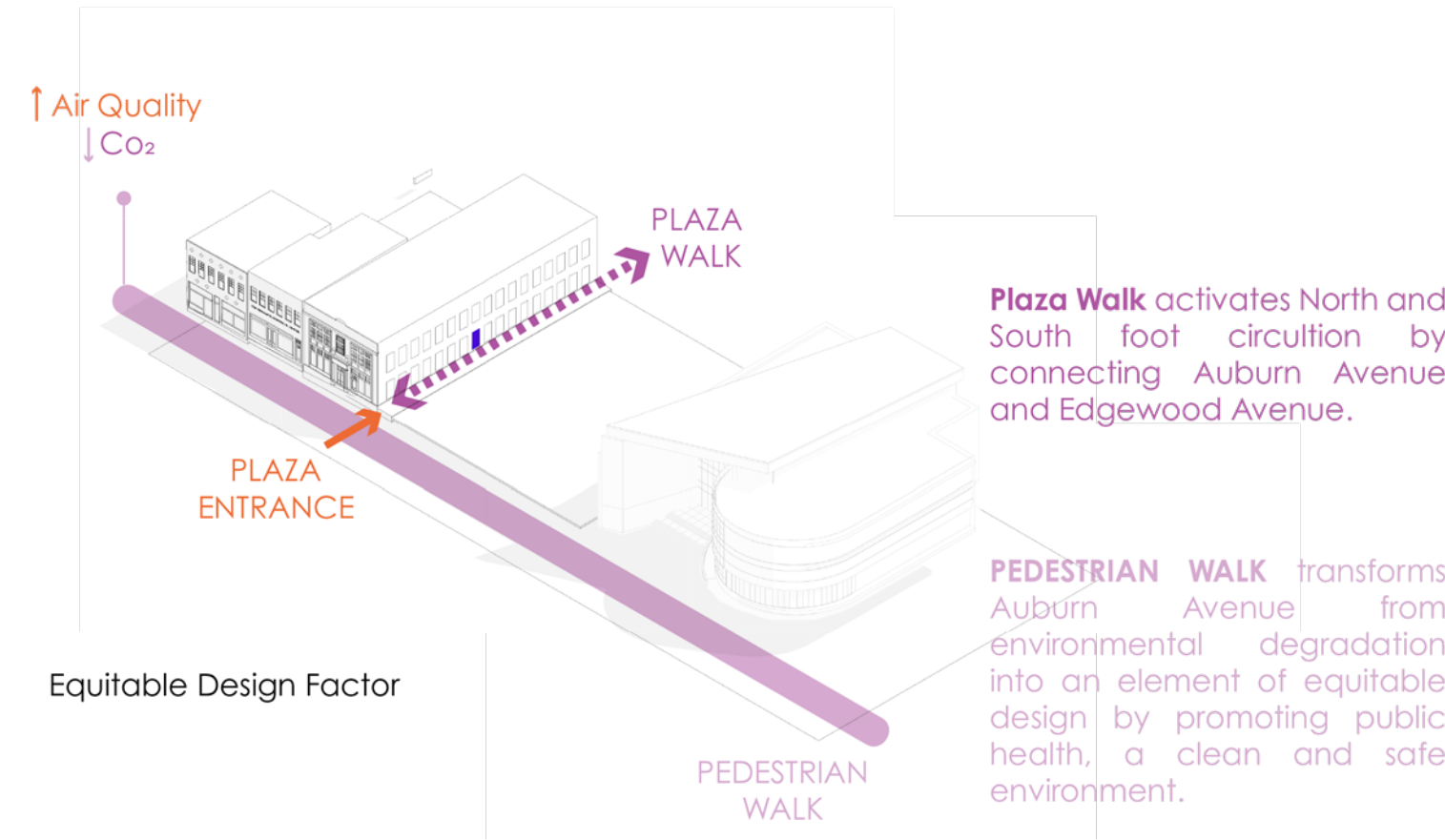
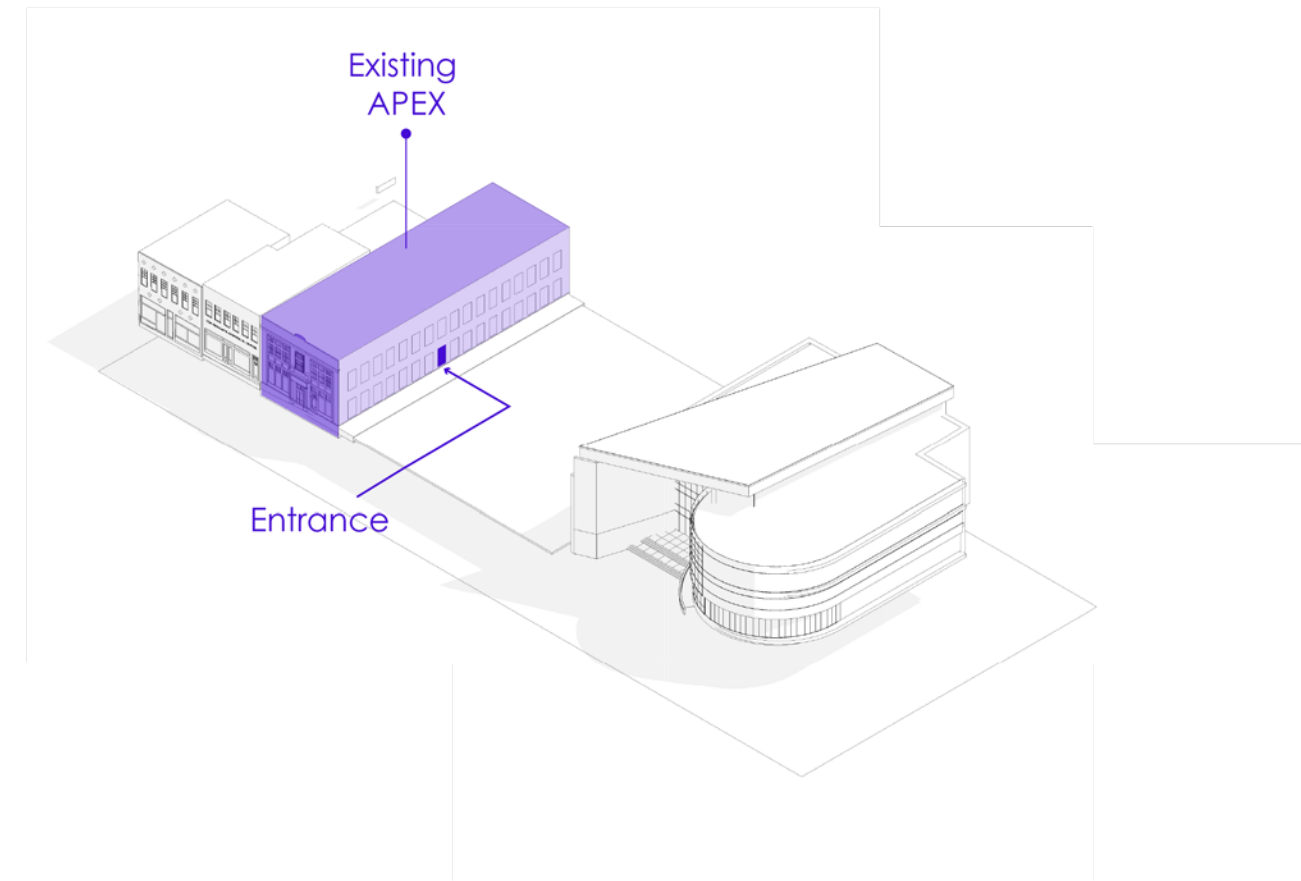




# DESIGN APPLICATION

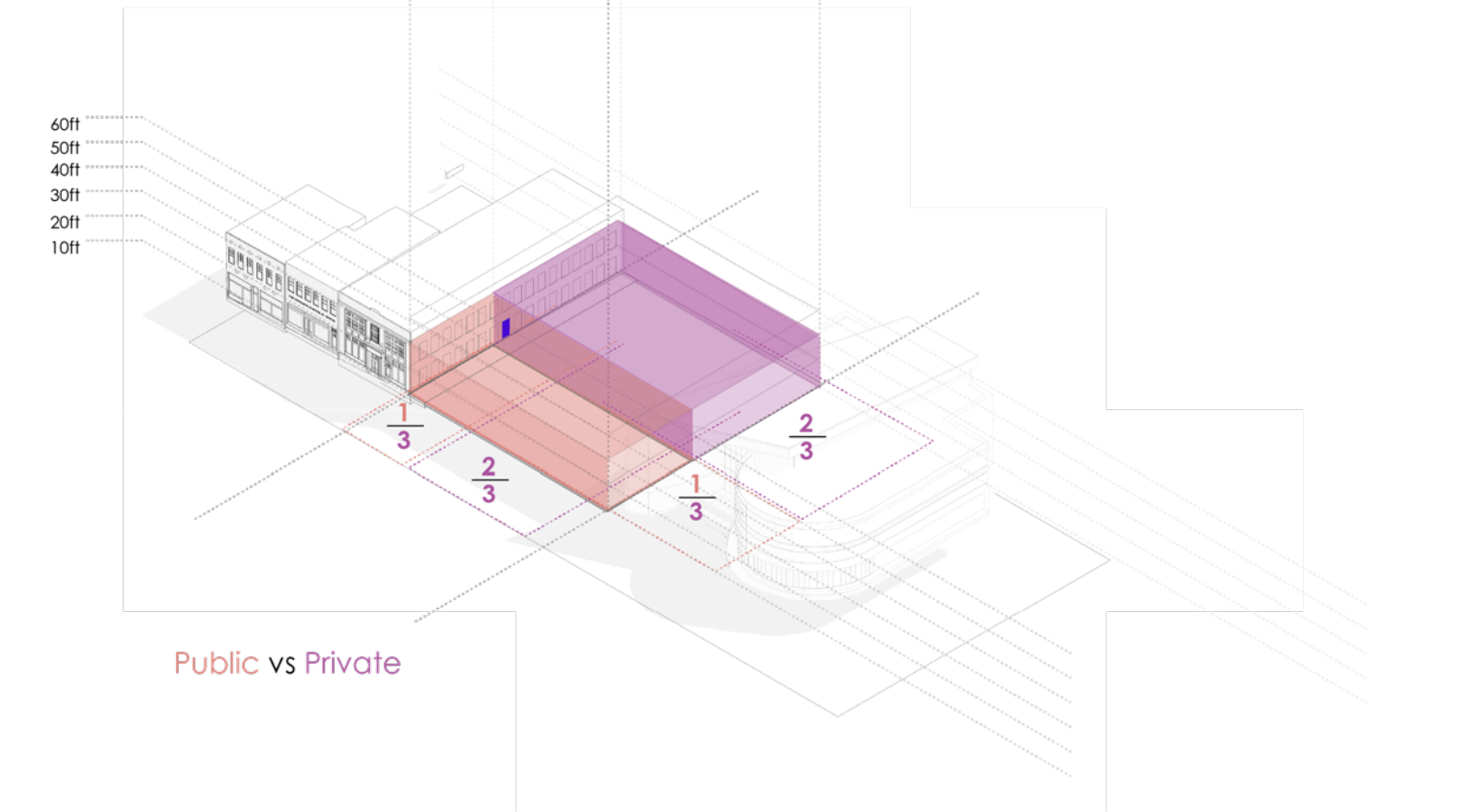
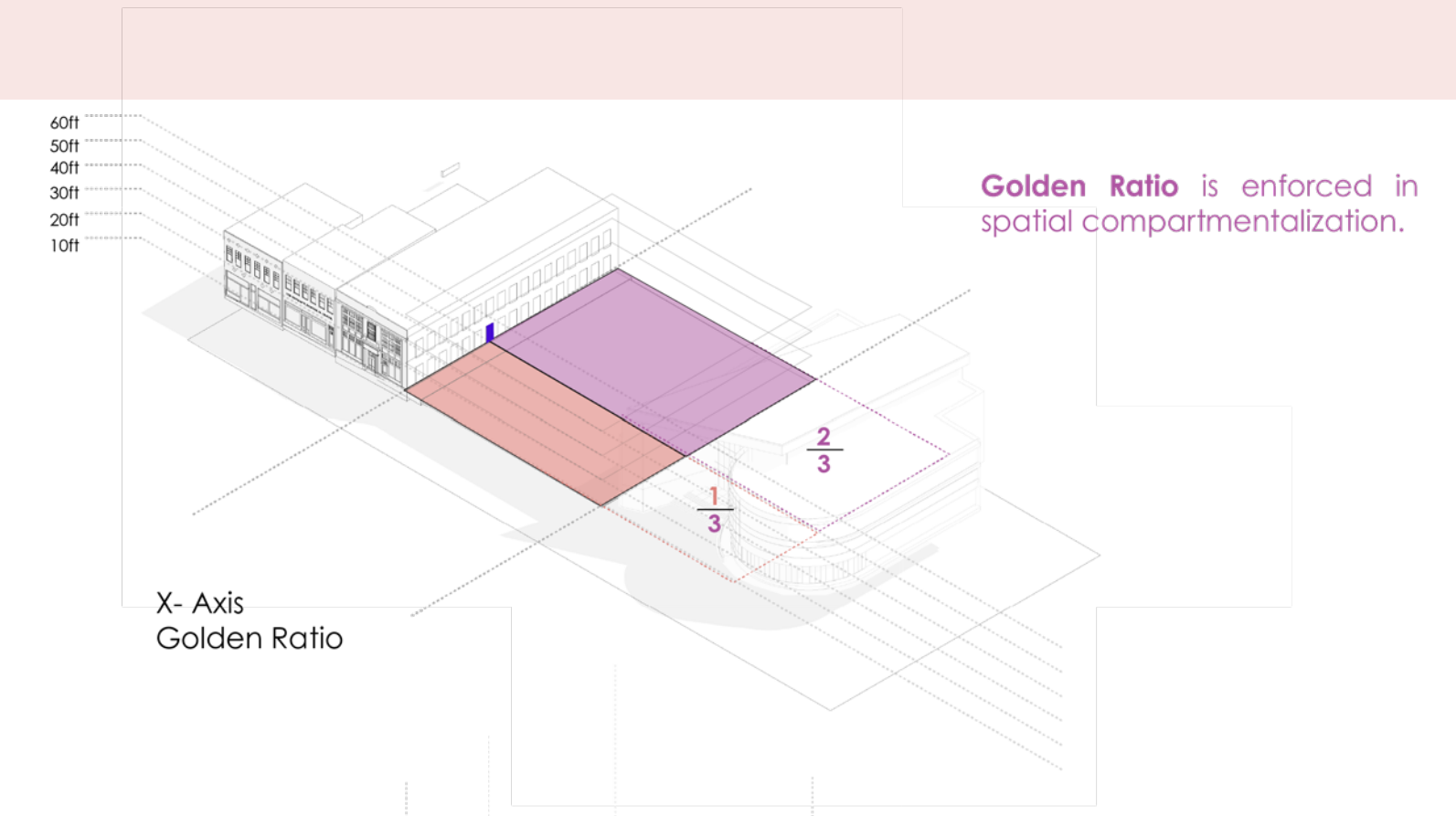
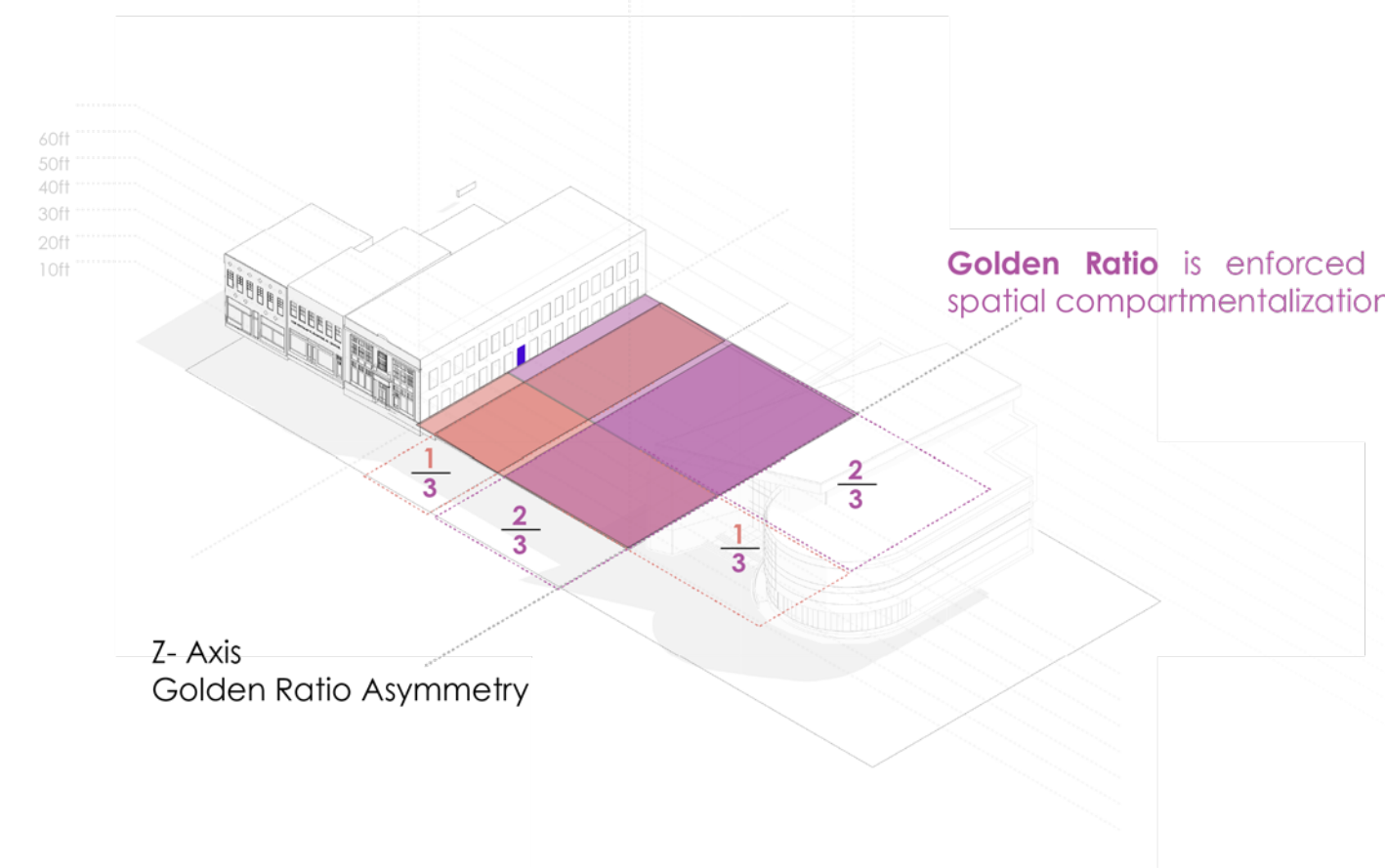
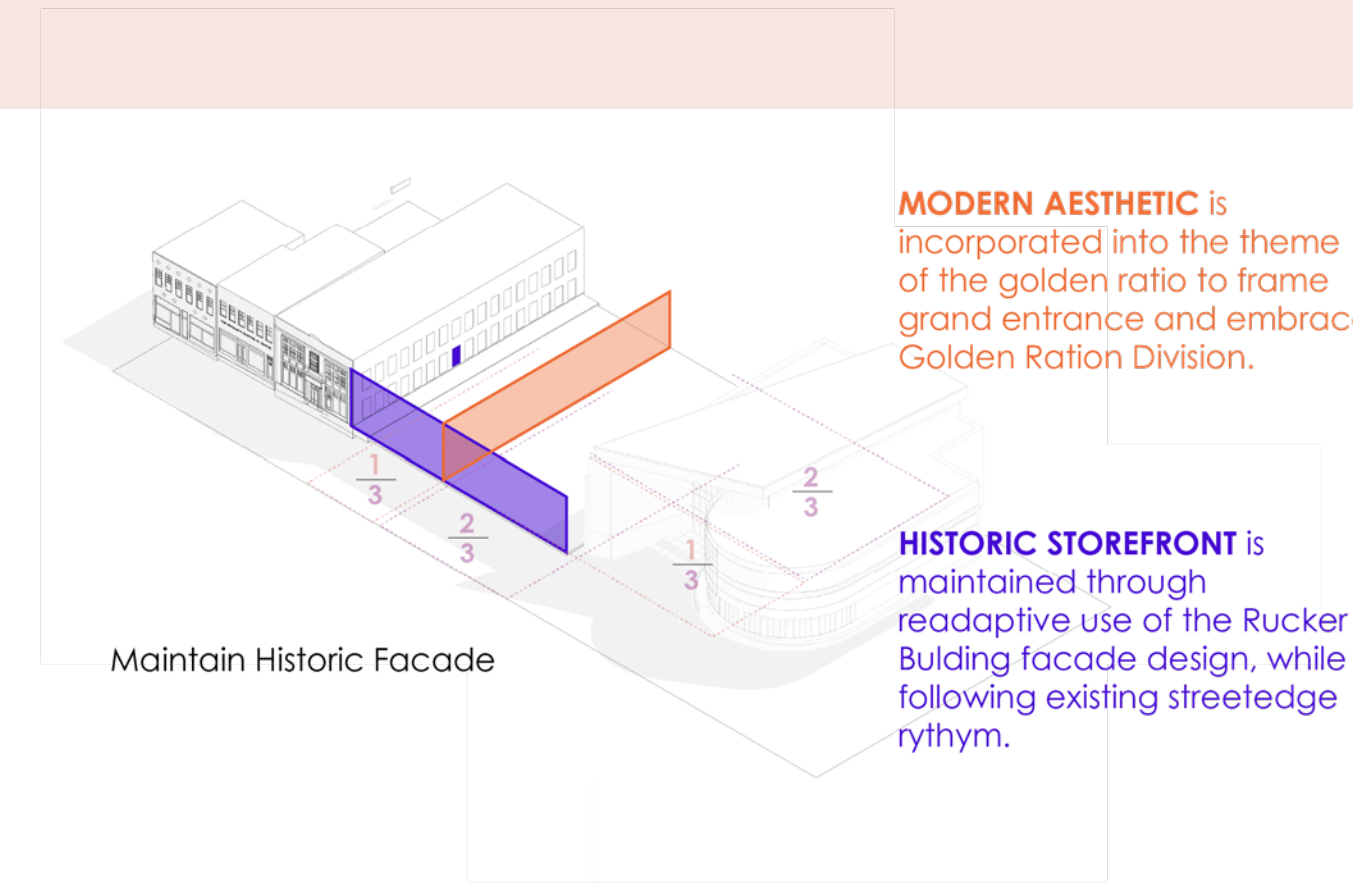


**AUBURN AVENUE** is the historically rich street in the Sweet Auburn Historic District, and serves the main street edge for the design North Facade.



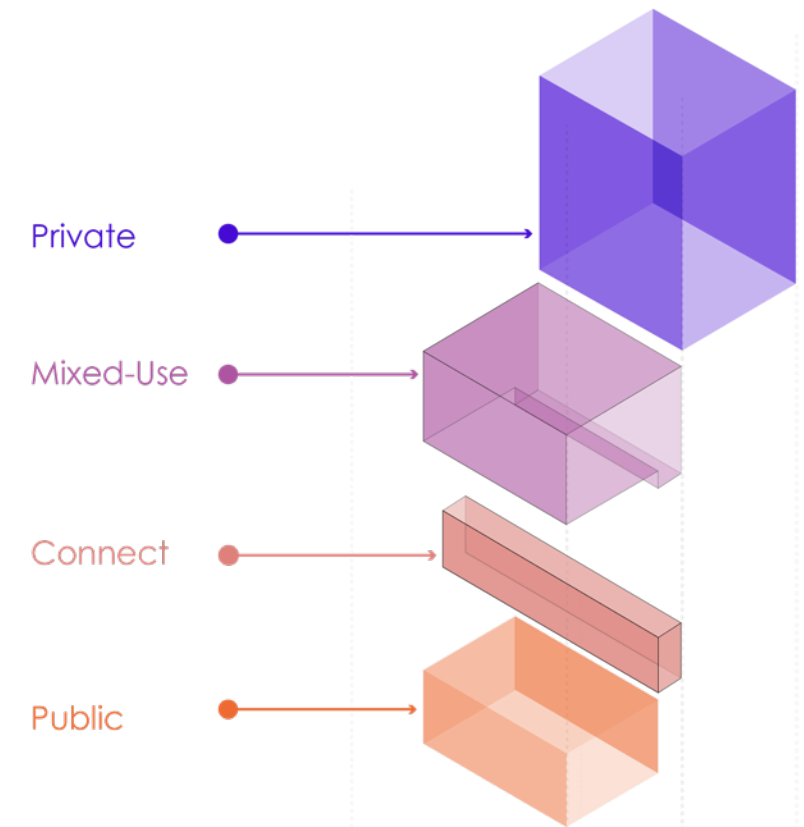
**Plaza Walk** activates North and South foot circulation by connecting Auburn Avenue and Edgewood Avenue.

**PEDESTRIAN WALK** transforms Auburn Avenue from environmental degradation into an element of equitable design by promoting public health, a clean and safe environment.

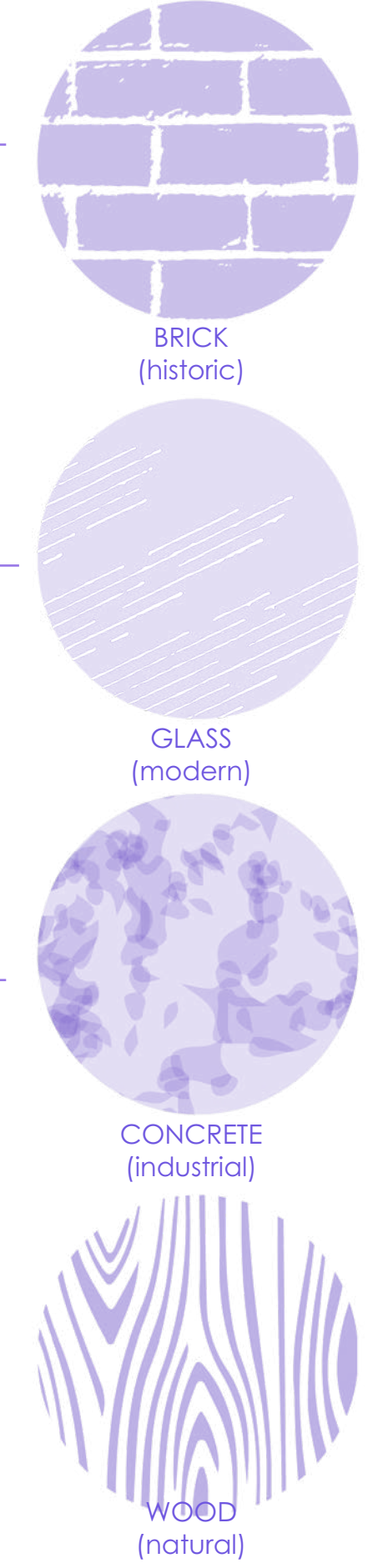
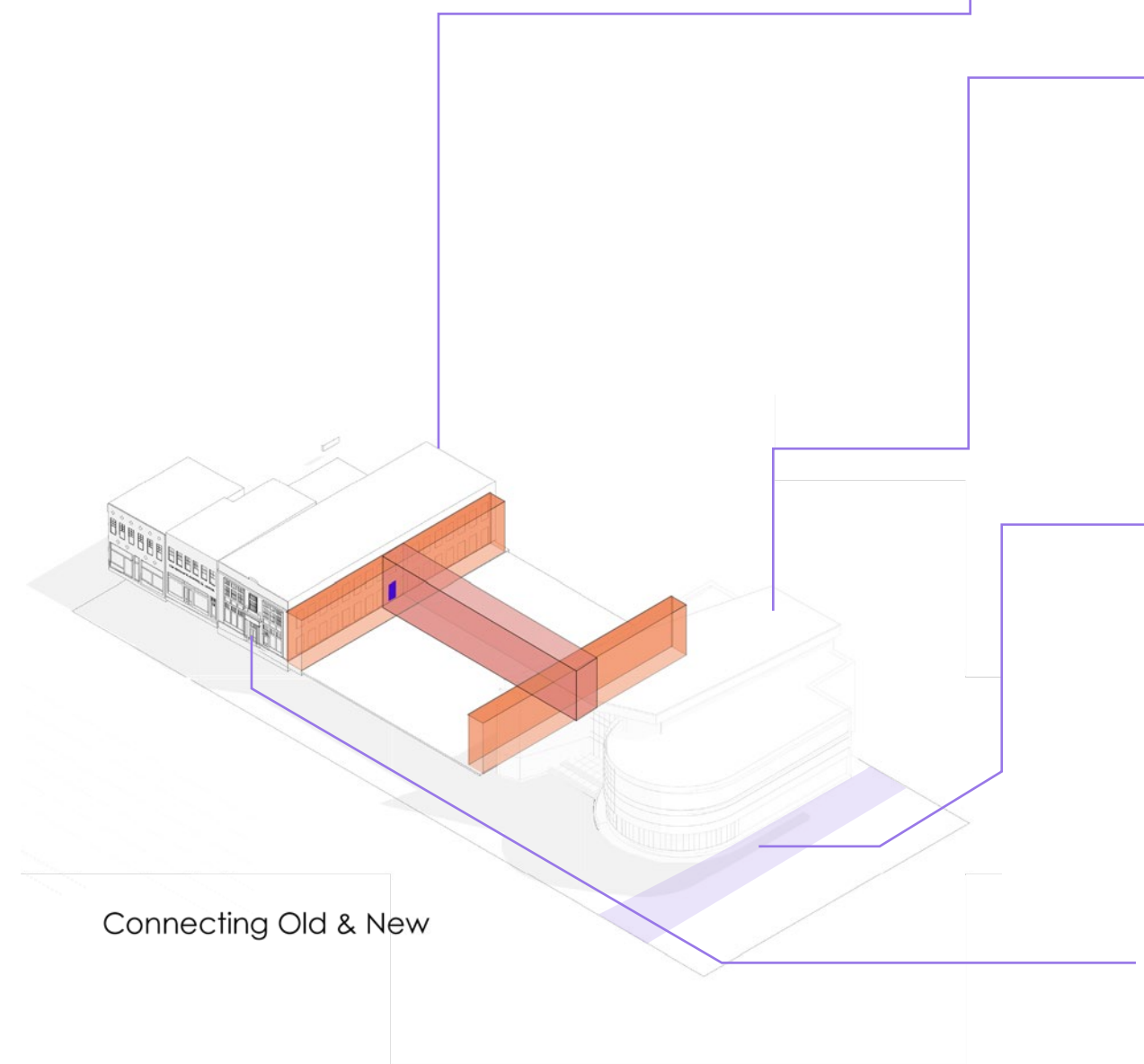
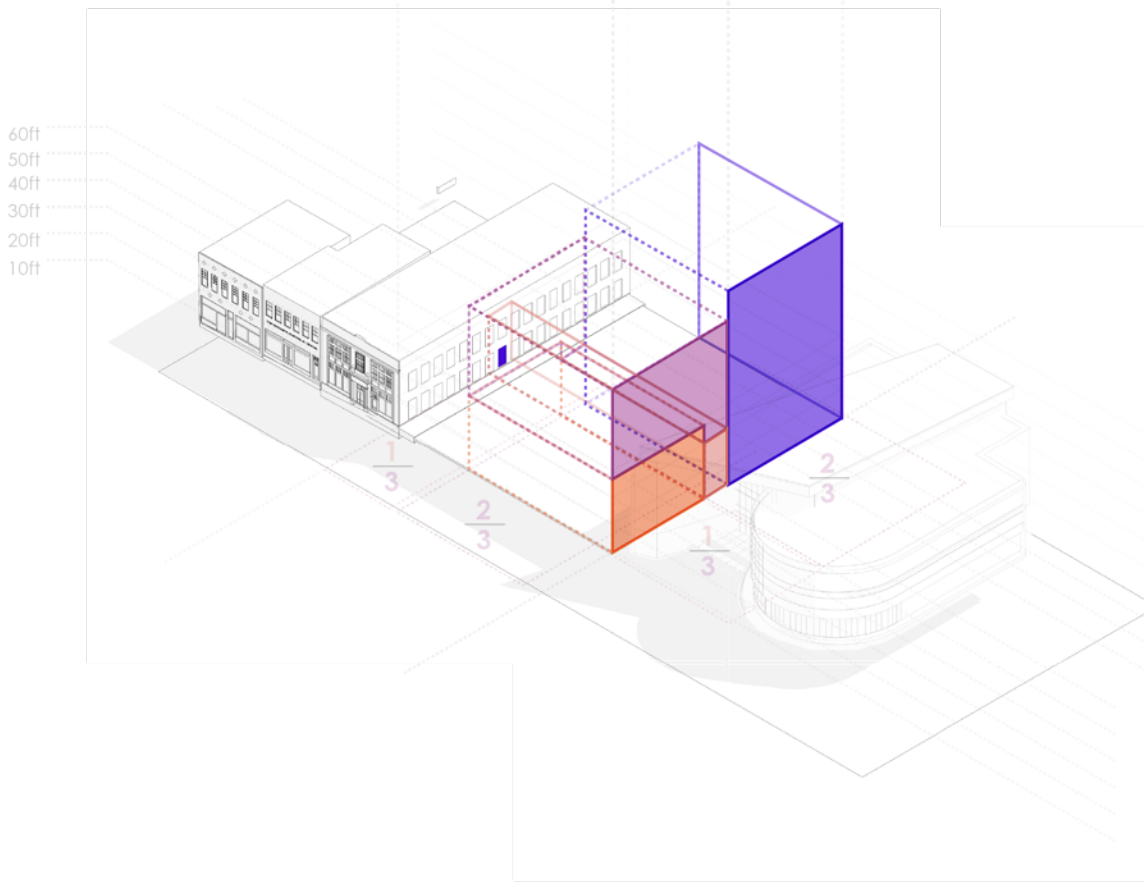




# MATERIALITY & CONNECTION



The materials are another connection to linking the design of the New Urban Museum with the old APEX Museum and historic textures indigenous to the site such as the rusty auburn bricks left from the 1980's, or the eroded concrete pavers lingering from Atlanta's 1996 Olympics, the new glass installed with the rebirth of the Auburn Library or the re-integration of woods and greener.



# HISTORIC FACADE RHYTHMIC ANALYSIS



Image of Rucker Building from Wikipedia.org

The Rucker building is historically renowned in the Sweet Auburn and cultural community. Named after Henry Rucker (1852- Nov 14), a Black man born a slave in Wilkins County Georgia, served as the first black owned office space for African & Black Americans on Auburn Avenue. It was built in 1904, was demolished in September of 2001 when a vehicle lost control and ran into the front support column causing the building to collapse, and was eventually been weakened by water entry.

This was one example of a multistory commercial building in the subarea.

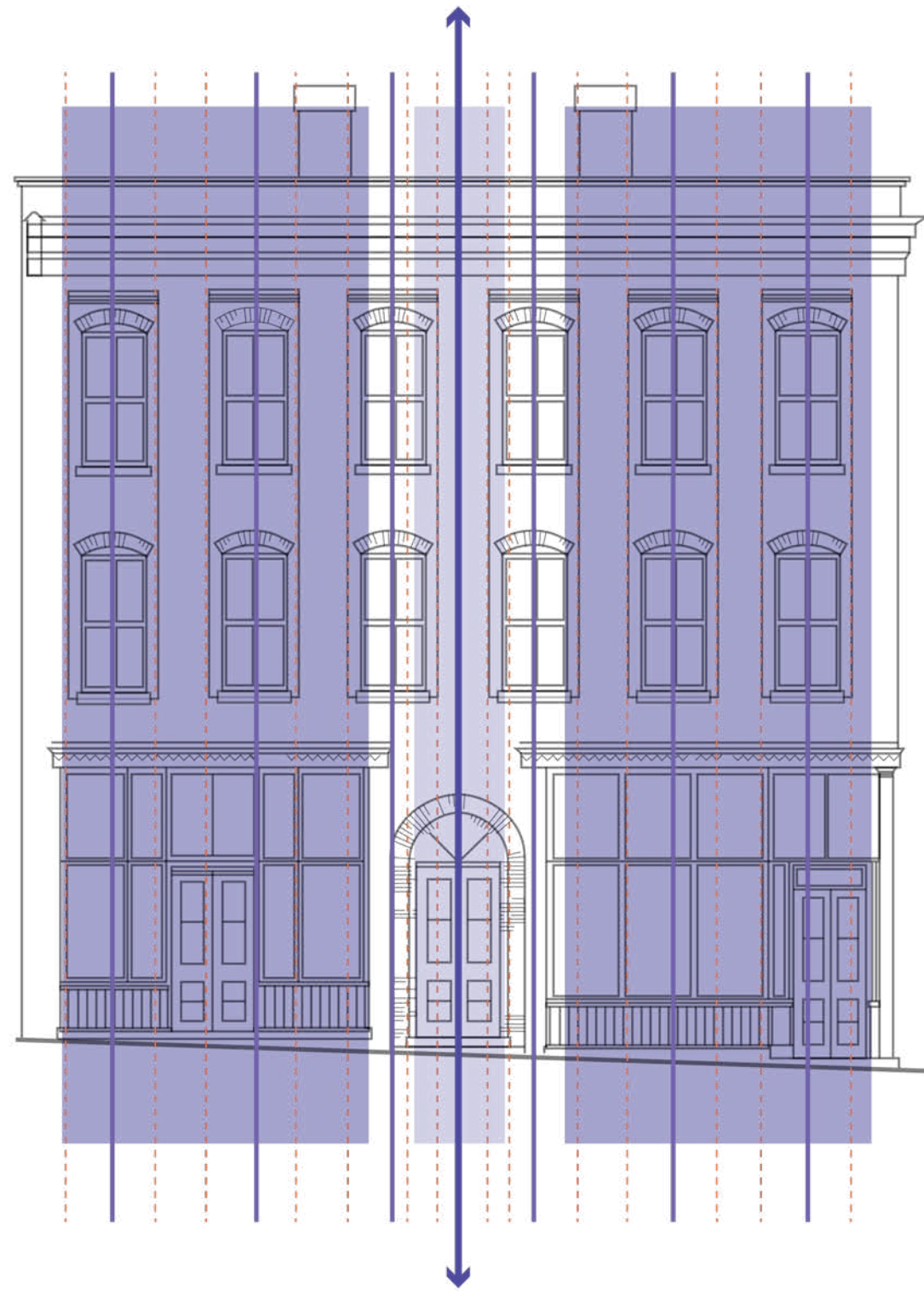
The Rucker Building's notion to provide a safe space for Africans and Black Americans during a time where safe spaces and abundant





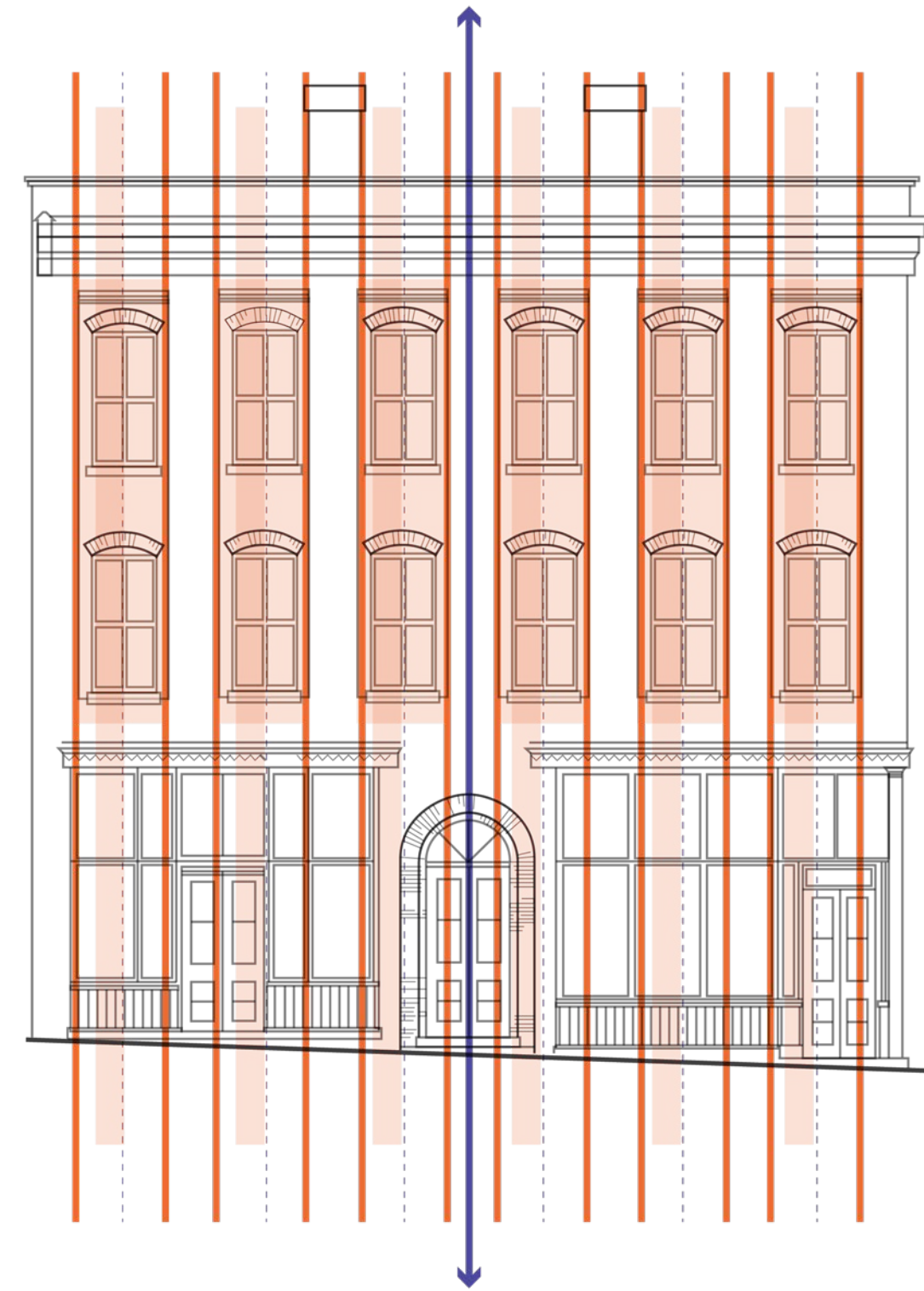
## SYMMETRICAL VERTICAL AXIS

### PRIMARY VERTICAL ALIGNMENT



The entryways primarily influence the vertical rhythm of the facade. The other openings, windows and chimneys, are offset from the center of the building, to align with edges of the cornices per opening, the centrality focal point within this aesthetic are a quality of it's classic French renaissance style.

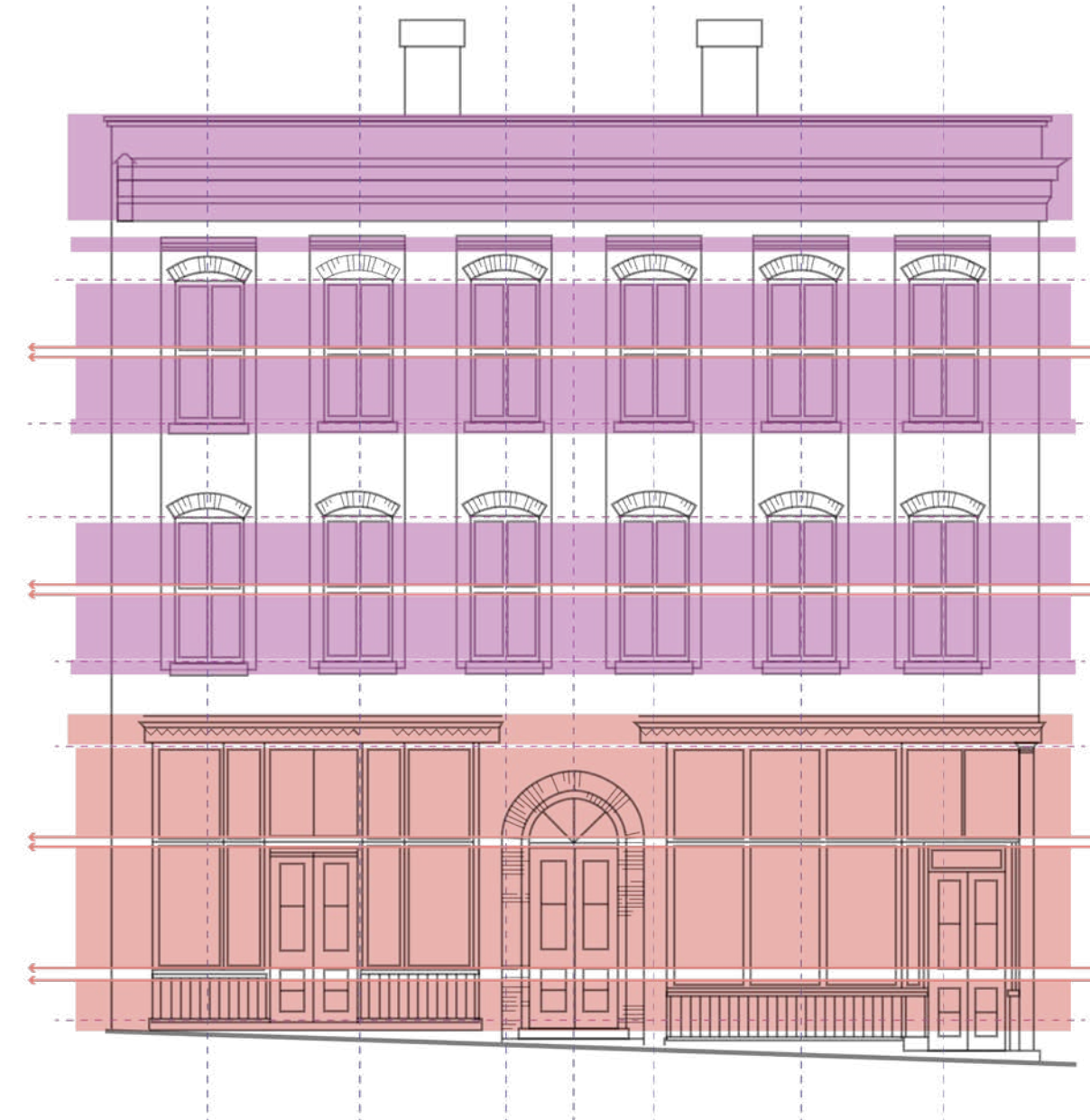
### SECONDARY VERTICAL ALIGNMENT



## ASYMMETRICAL HORIZONTAL AXIS

### PRIMARY HORIZONTAL ALIGNMENT

The facade is divided into 2/3rds contrary to its vertical alignment, its not centrally aligned. This is to call attention to the importance of the thresholds on the street level entries and emphasize the storefront aesthetic.

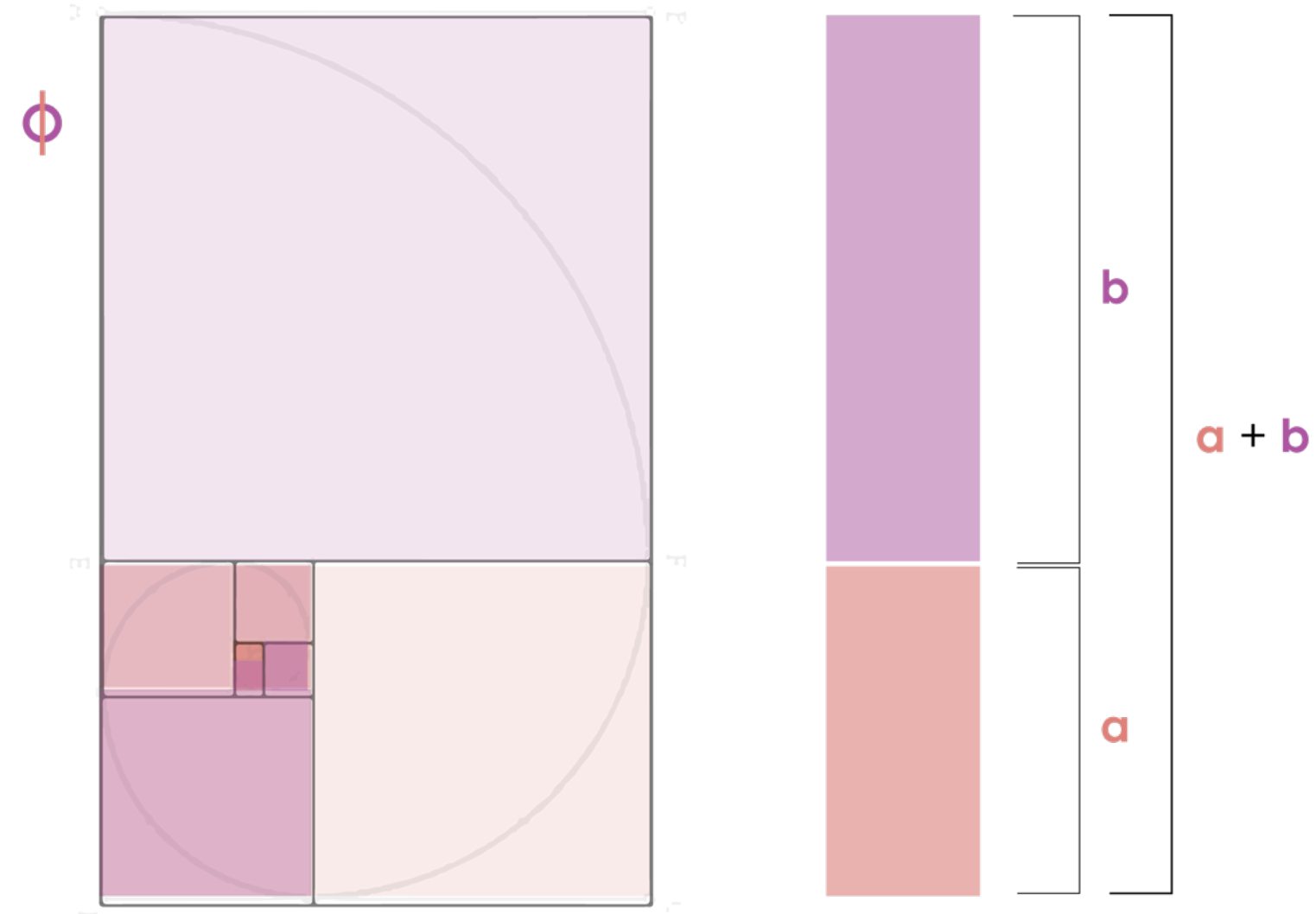


### SECONDARY HORIZONTAL ALIGNMENT

The 2/3rd composition represents the hierarchy of design program elevation repetition. The window repetition is evenly spaced per section, however the repetition is interrupted on the first floor acting as clerestory windows for maximum daylighting and an overall spacious first floor.

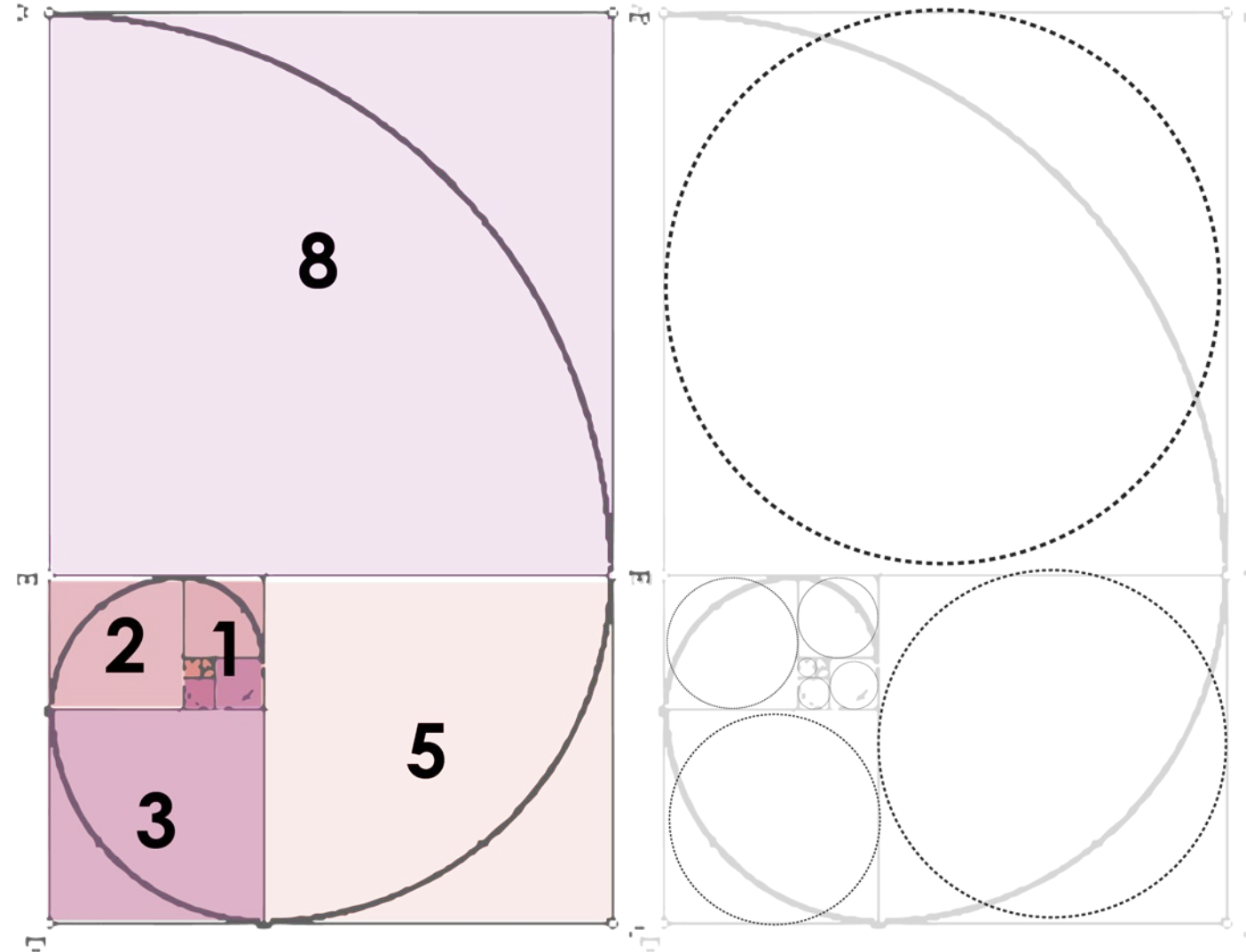


# GOLDEN RATIO APPLICATION



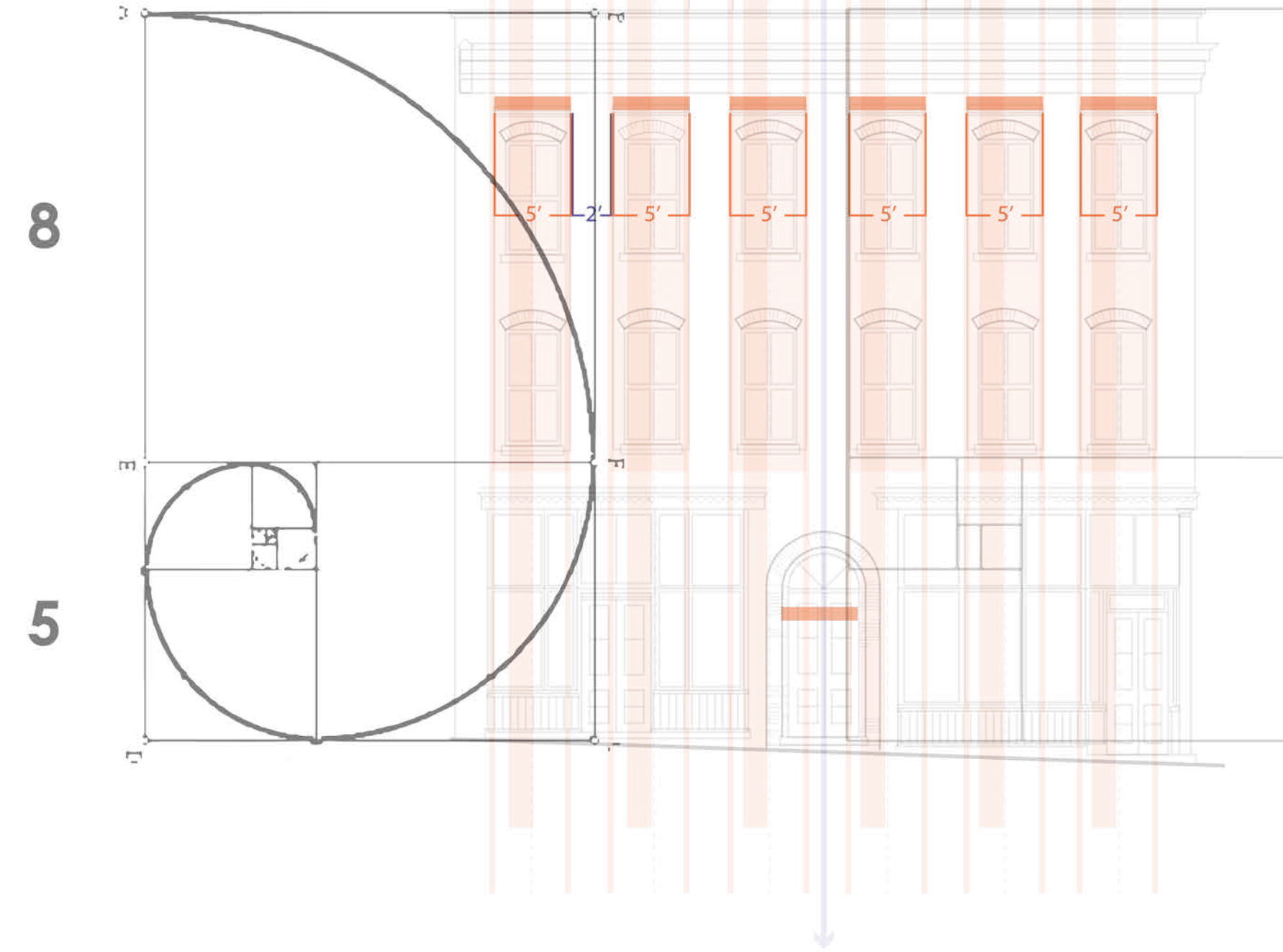
$$\frac{a}{b} = \frac{a + b}{a} = 1.618 \phi$$

The Golden Ratio (also known as the Golden Section, Golden Mean, Divine Proportion, Fibonacci or Greek letter Phi) or 1.618 a number sequence that is infinite (irrational). The first few numbers are 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21, 34, 55, 89, 144... and so on. It exists when a line is divided into two parts and the longer part (a) divided by the smaller part (b) is equal to the sum of (a) + (b) divided by (a), which both equal 1.618.



Taking the previous Golden Ratio diagram to form arch in each square from one corner to the opposite corner, this will create the first curve of the Golden Spiral (or Fibonacci Sequence) – a series in which the pattern of each number is the sum of the previous two numbers. Starting at zero, the sequence is: 0, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21, 34, 55, 89, 144... and so on.

Adding the arch in each square, results in the diagram of the Golden Spiral.



**Why is the Golden Ratio relevant to the design of the urban museum and how does it connect to the design adaptation of the Rucker building, and meaning to black culture?**

The Golden Ratio is known for its symmetrically pleasing proportion to natural appeal. It is considered Architecturally, mathematically and scientifically sexy because of its divine division found in different aspects of nature, and many aesthetically pleasing treasure in the world such as the Mona Lisa.

Homage to & Connection to APEX Museum & African Civilization: As stated in their mission statement, the APEX Museum is dedicated to enlightening the public on the origins of Black Culture, otherwise known as the roots of African Civilization prior to its people's American-stained oppression.

These roots are vested in the prime of the Egyptian Dynasties, when the pyramids of Giza birthed a wondrous architectural mystery into this earthly world.



The colossal scale, perfect symmetry and lofty perch on a plateau above the fertile Nile River Valley reflect the divine role that Ancient Egypt's leaders held in both their lives and afterlives. The ratio of the slant height of a pyramid to half the base dimension is 1.61804 which is extremely close to the Golden Ratio.

The Pyramids of Giza exist in Egypt, are mentioned in the APEX Museum exhibition as the origin of many people, but specifically those of African Egyptian descent.



FOUR

CHAPTER

DESIGN SYNTHESIS

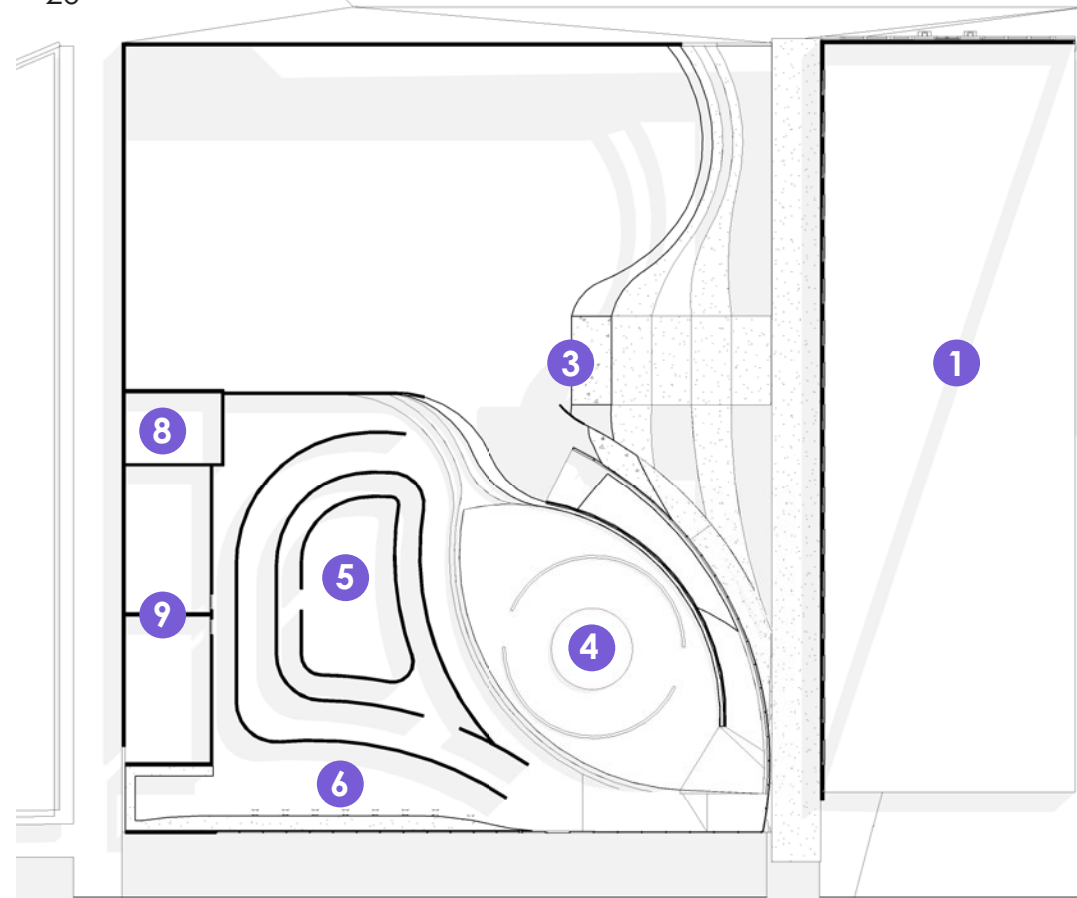
04

- 4.1 COMMUNITY CONTEXT
- 4.2 SPATIAL ADJACENCIES + FUNCTIONS
- 4.3 ORTHOGRAPHIC CONTEXT
- 4.4 IMAGERY
- 4.5 CONCLUSION

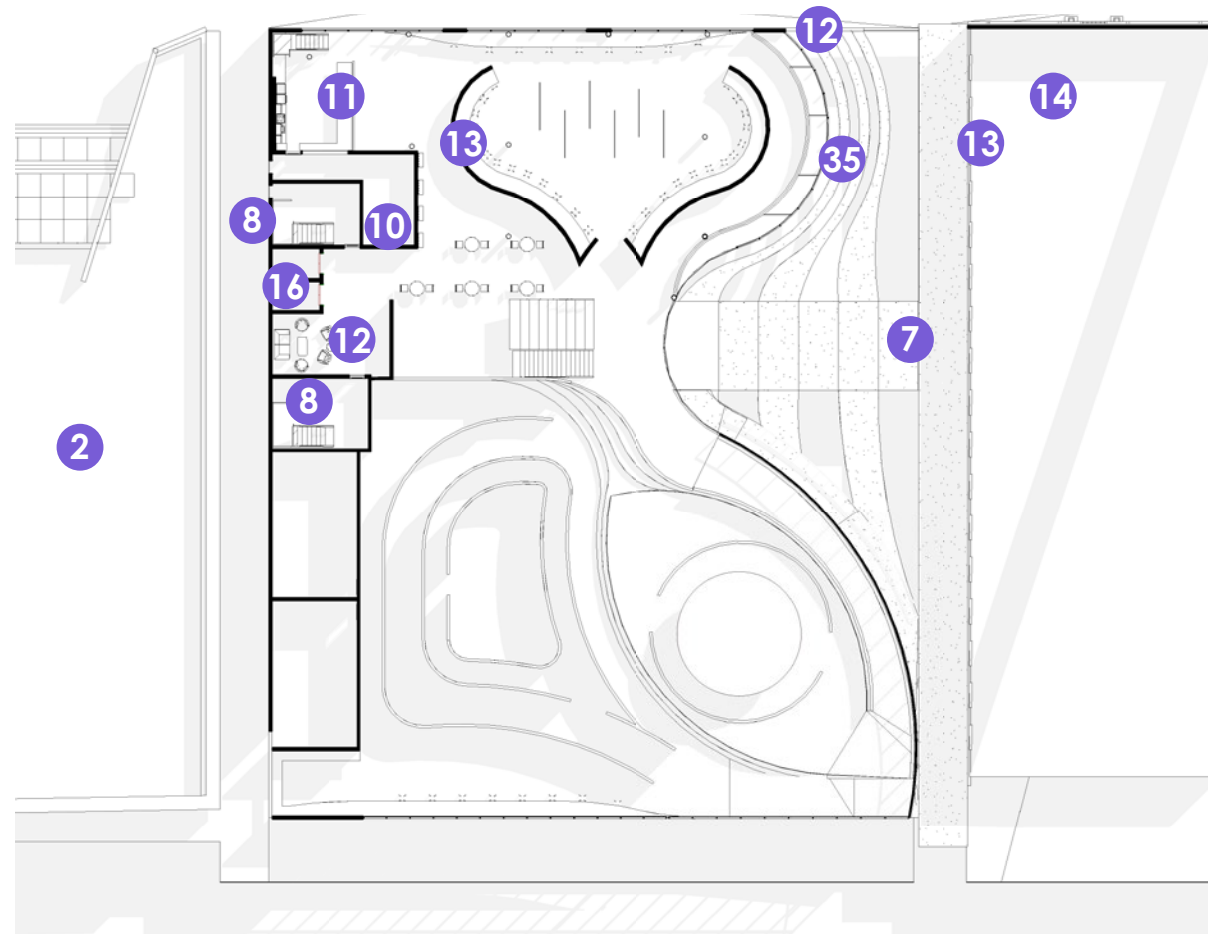


- 1 Existing APEX Museum
- 2 Sweet Auburn Library
- 3 Entrance 5' above
- 4 Enviro. Just. Interactive Globe Sculpture
- 5 Labyrinth Timeline Gallery
- 6 Work Bar South Garden Outlook
- 7 Entrance
- 8 Egress
- 9 Water Closet
- 10 Storage & Service
- 11 Cafe & Retail
- 12 Cafe Work Bar Pedestrian Walk Outlook
- 13 Gallery Work Bar
- 14 Cafe Window Cubbies
- 15 Cafe Kitchen
- 16 Public Elevators
- 17 Museum Ticketing
- 18 Museum Elevator
- 19 Terrace Garden (Plaza Overlook)
- 20 Reception
- 21 Custodial
- 22 Gym
- 23 Multipurpose Theatre Auditorium
- 24 Dressing Room
- 25 Film Studio
- 26 Hall to Gym
- 27 Control Room
- 28 360 Degrees Panoramic Film Room
- 29 Offices
- 30 Dance Studio
- 31 Maker Space/ Dwelling Space
- 32 Conference & Staff
- 33 Glass E.J. Gallery
- 34 Music Studio
- 35 Art Studio
- 36 Sky Bridge
- 37 Urban Museum Exhibition

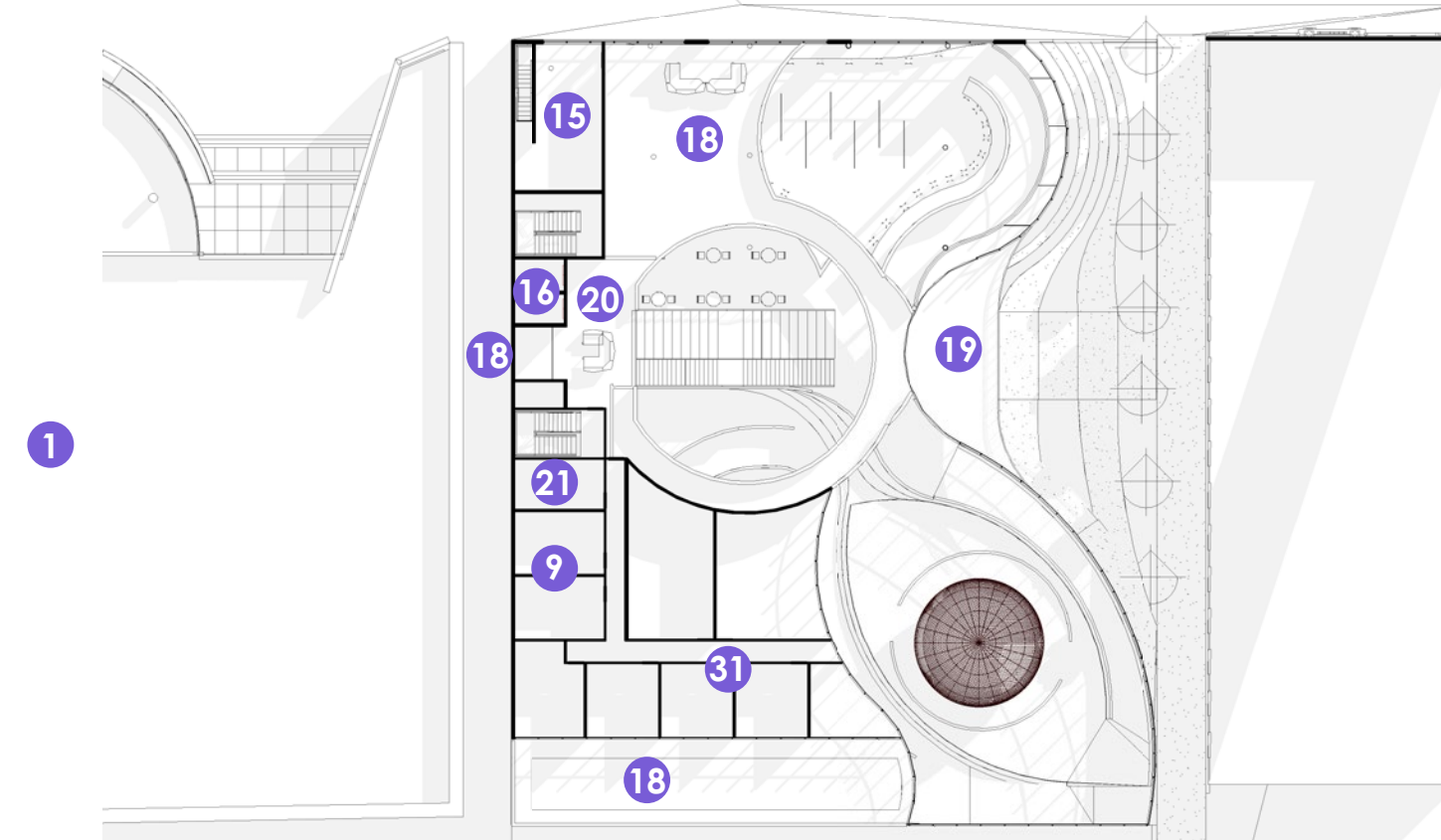
Ground Level -5' Below Grade  
Scale: 1' = 20"



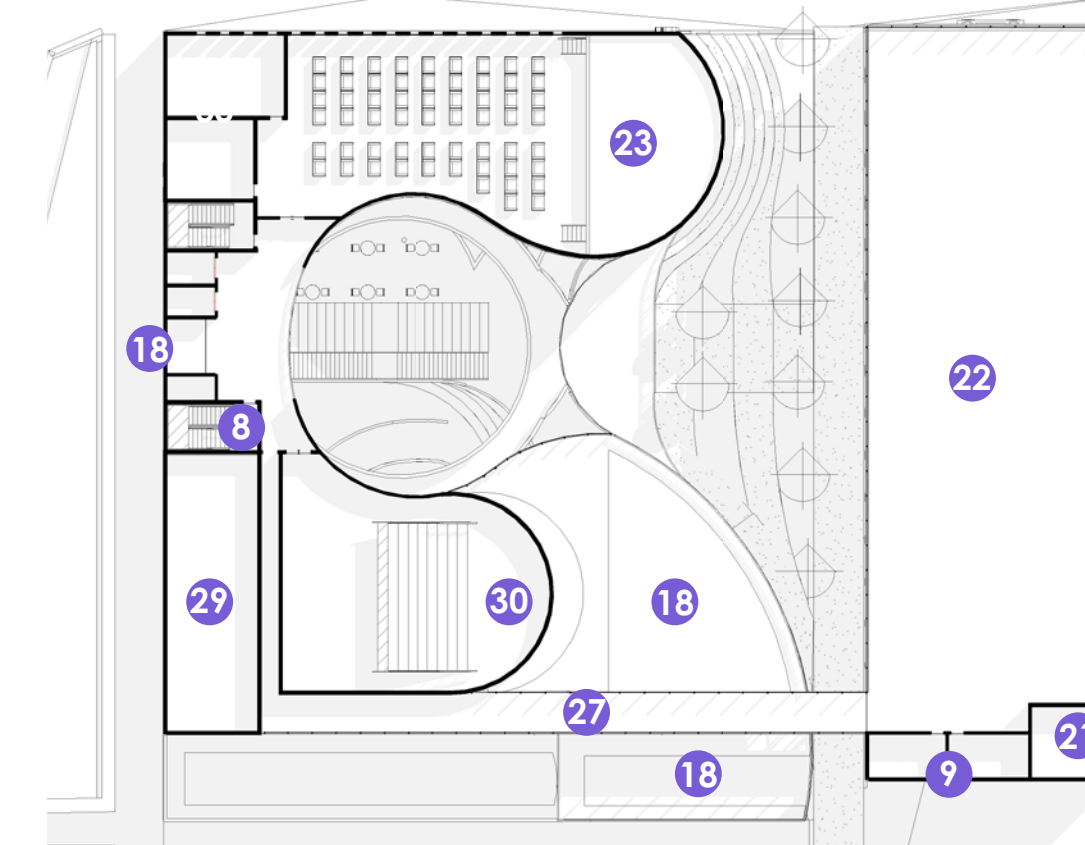
Terrace Level 1 0' Below Grade  
Scale: 1' = 20"



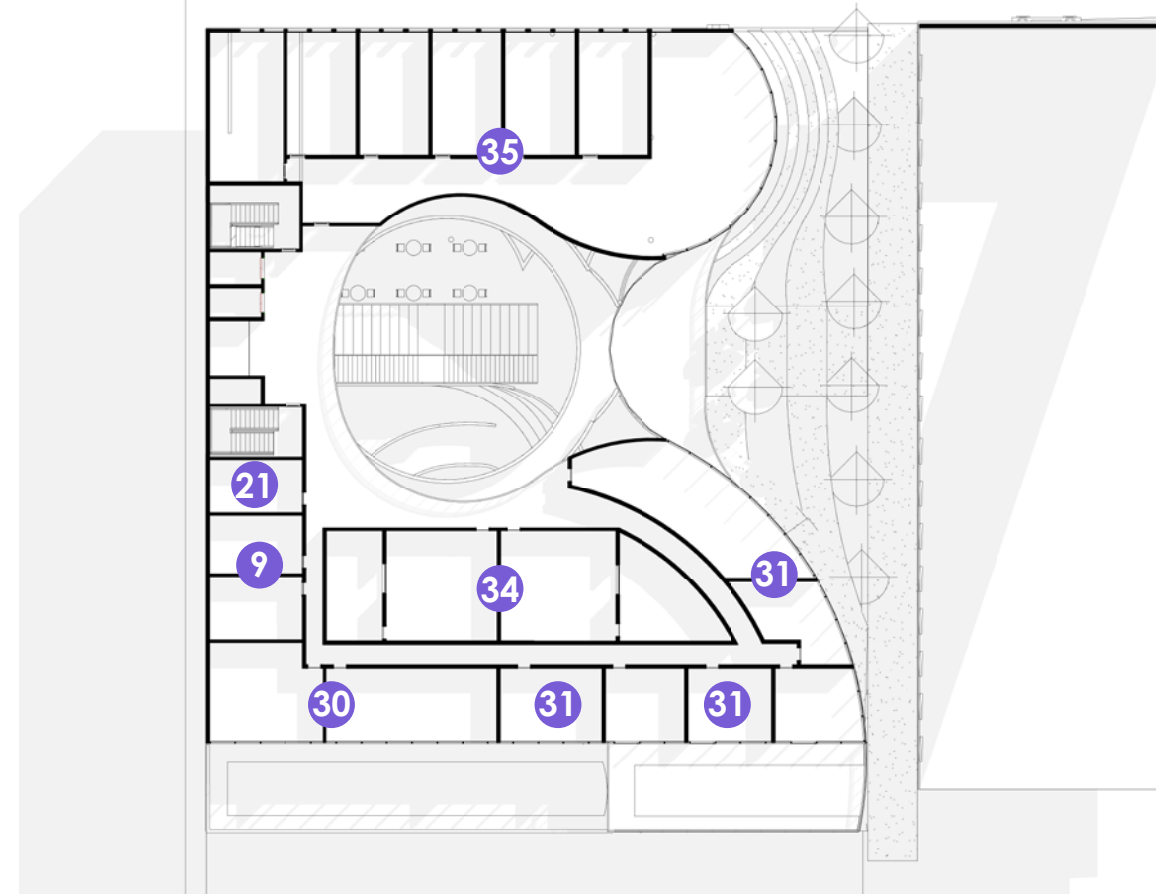
Level 2 12' Above Grade  
Scale: 1' = 20"



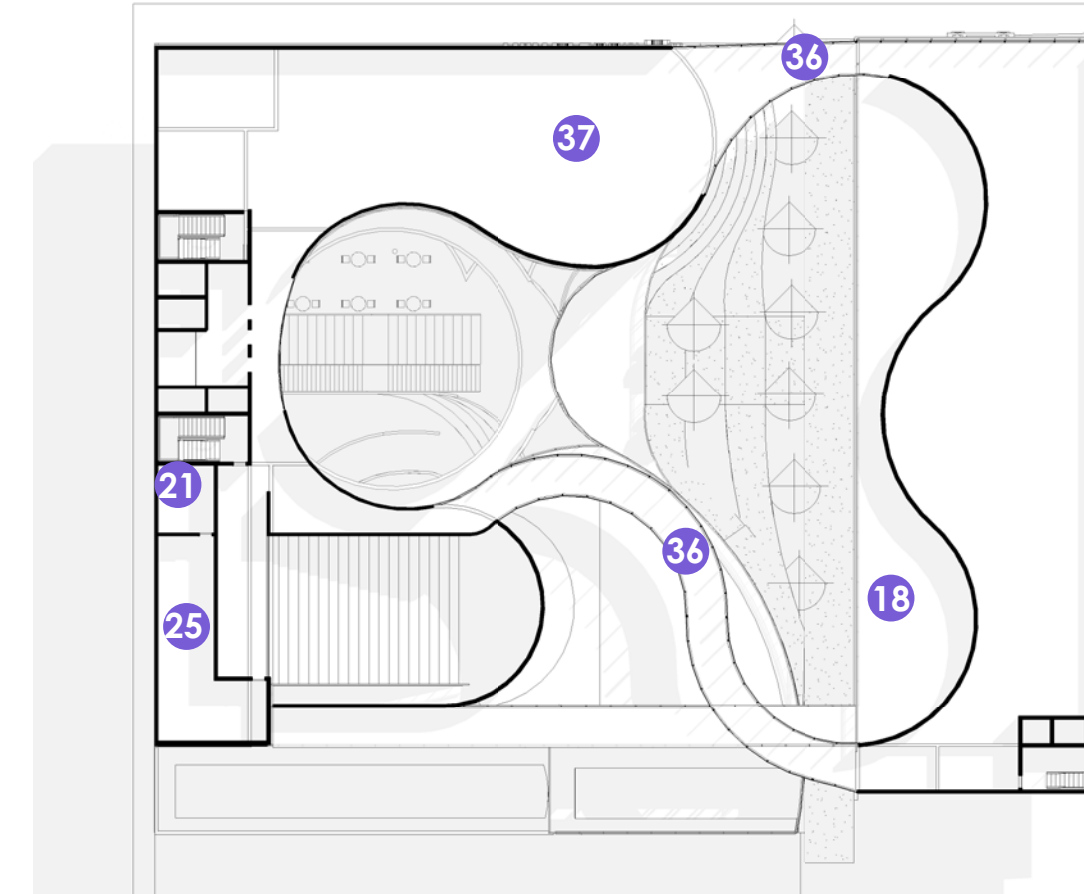
Level 3 24' Above Grade  
Scale: 1' = 20"



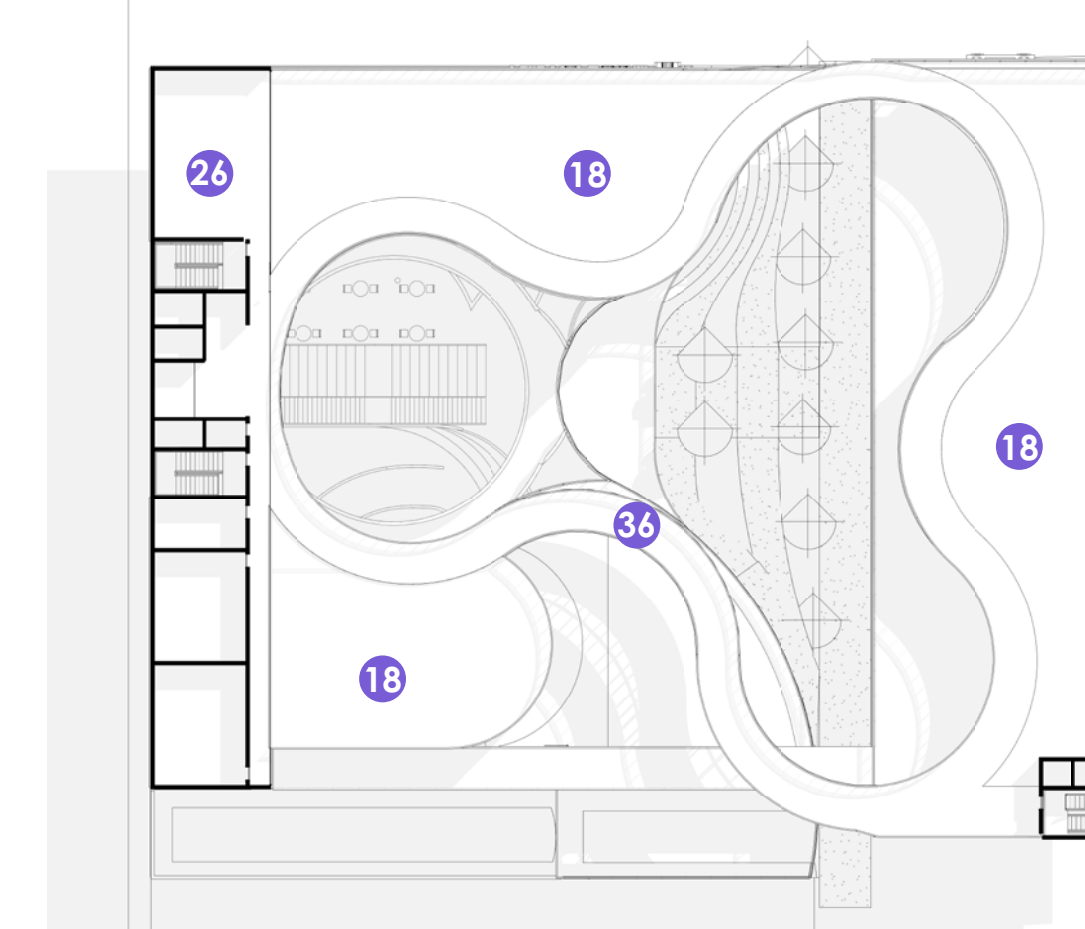
Level 4 36' Above Grade  
Scale: 1' = 20"



Level 4 48' Above Grade  
Scale: 1' = 20"



Level 5 60' Above Grade  
Scale: 1' = 20"





SKYLIGHT

GARDEN & TERRACE

360 PANARAMIC THEATRE

MUSEUM BRIDGE

GYM BRIDGE

(MAKER SPACES)  
DANCE & MUSIC  
STUDIOS

PLAZA

North East Section Diagram  
Scale: 1' = 20"

South East Section Diagram  
Scale: 1' = 20"

CORE  
MUSEUM  
ASSEMBLY  
STUDIOS  
STAFF  
CAFE SOCIAL

AUBURN AVENUE

W

E

Cafe Kitchen

stair

elev.

elev.

stair

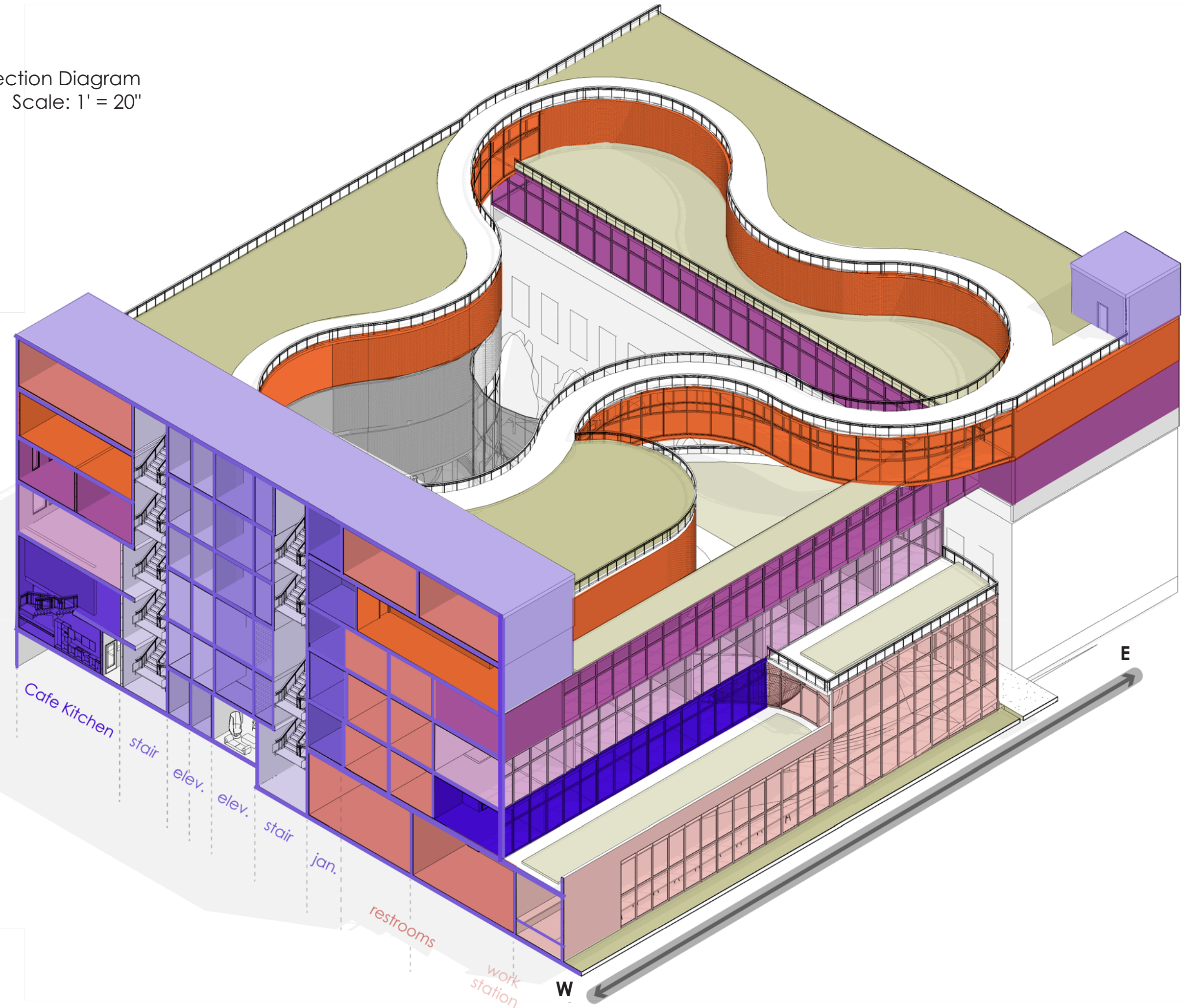
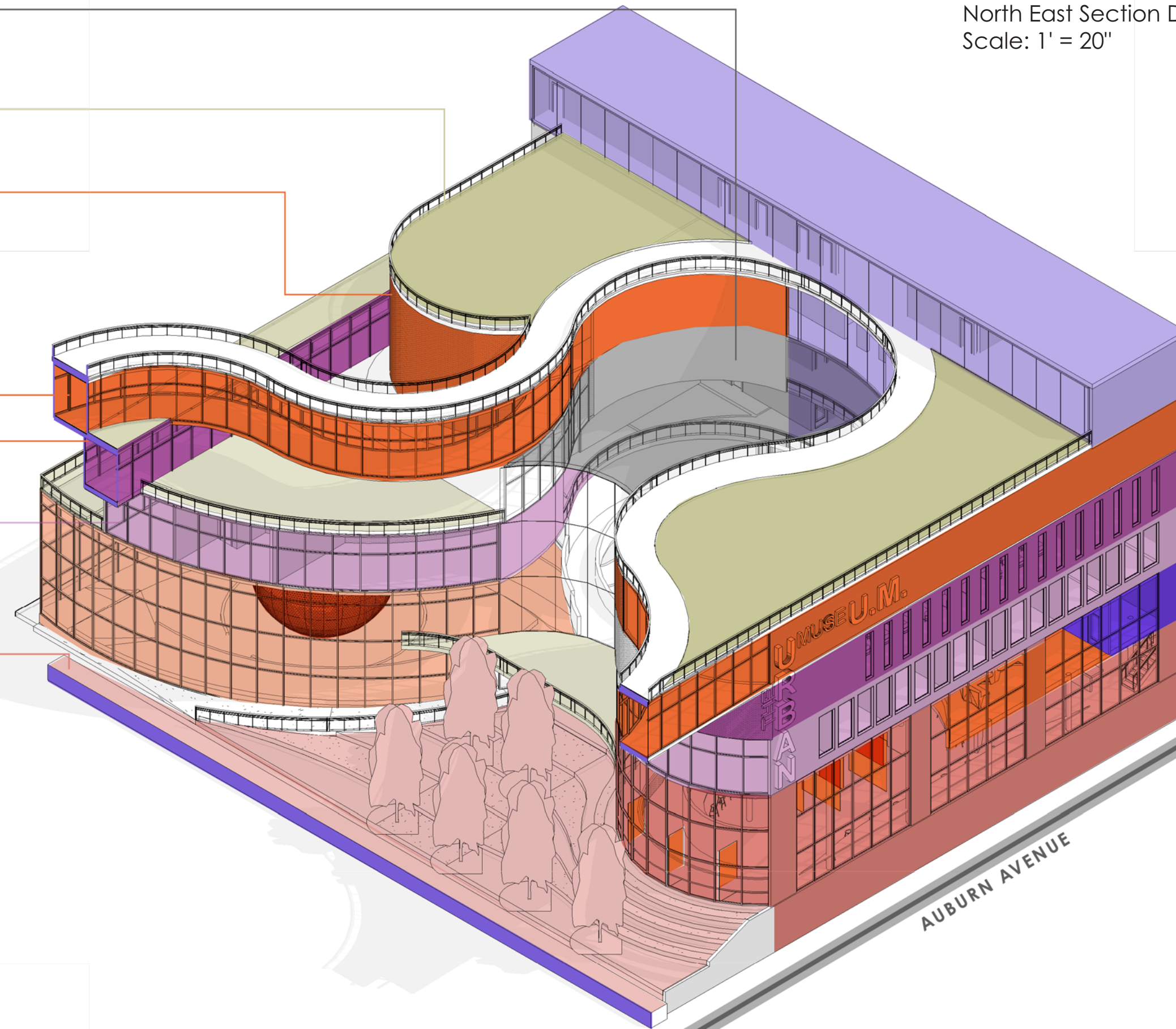
jan.

restrooms

work station

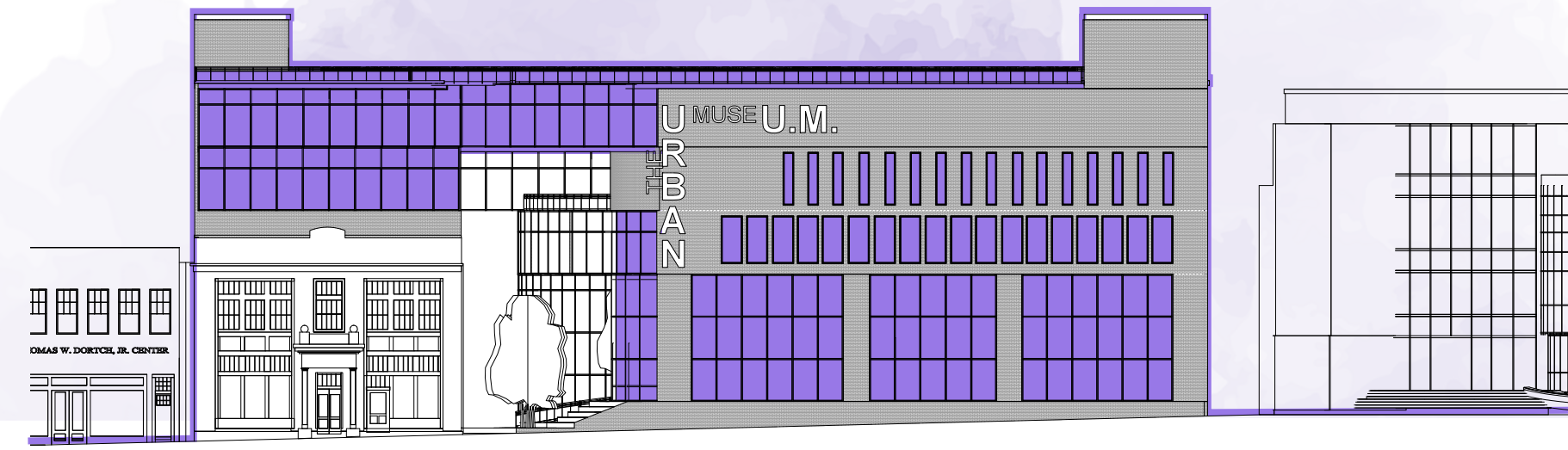
W

E





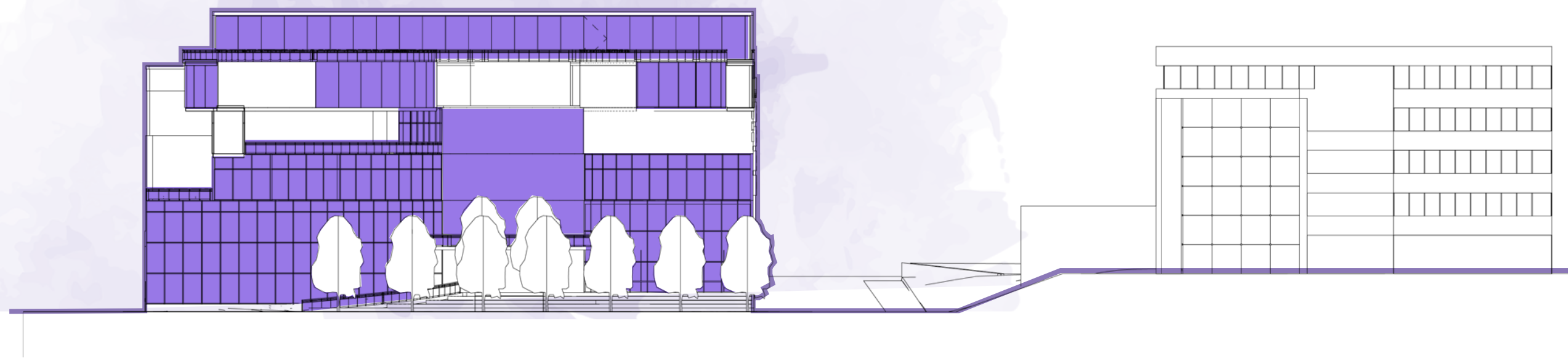
North Elevation 1"=1/20"



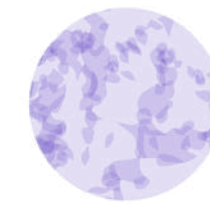
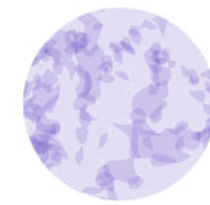
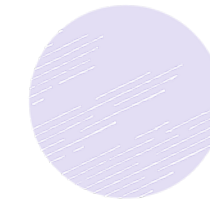
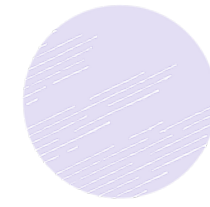
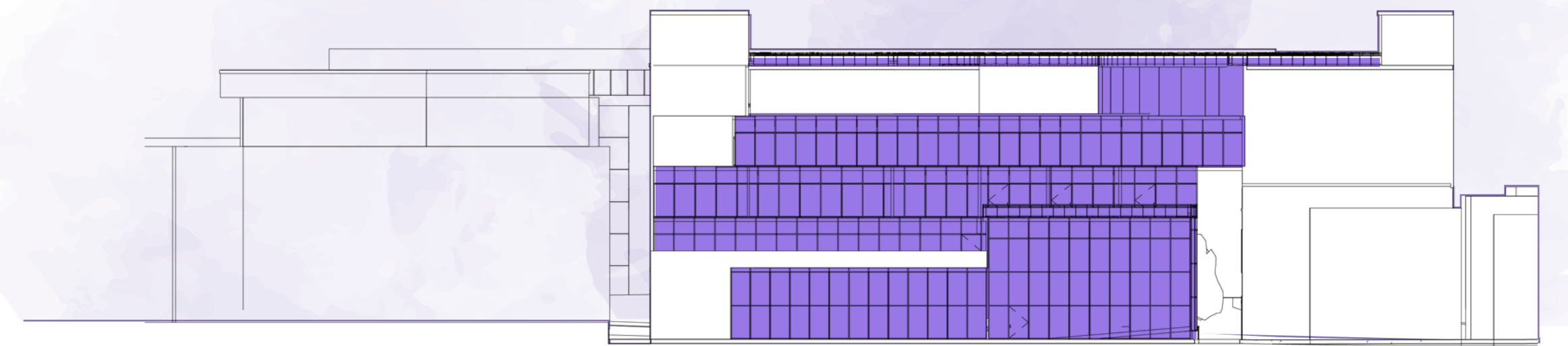
West Elevation 1"=1/20"



East Elevation 1"=1/20"



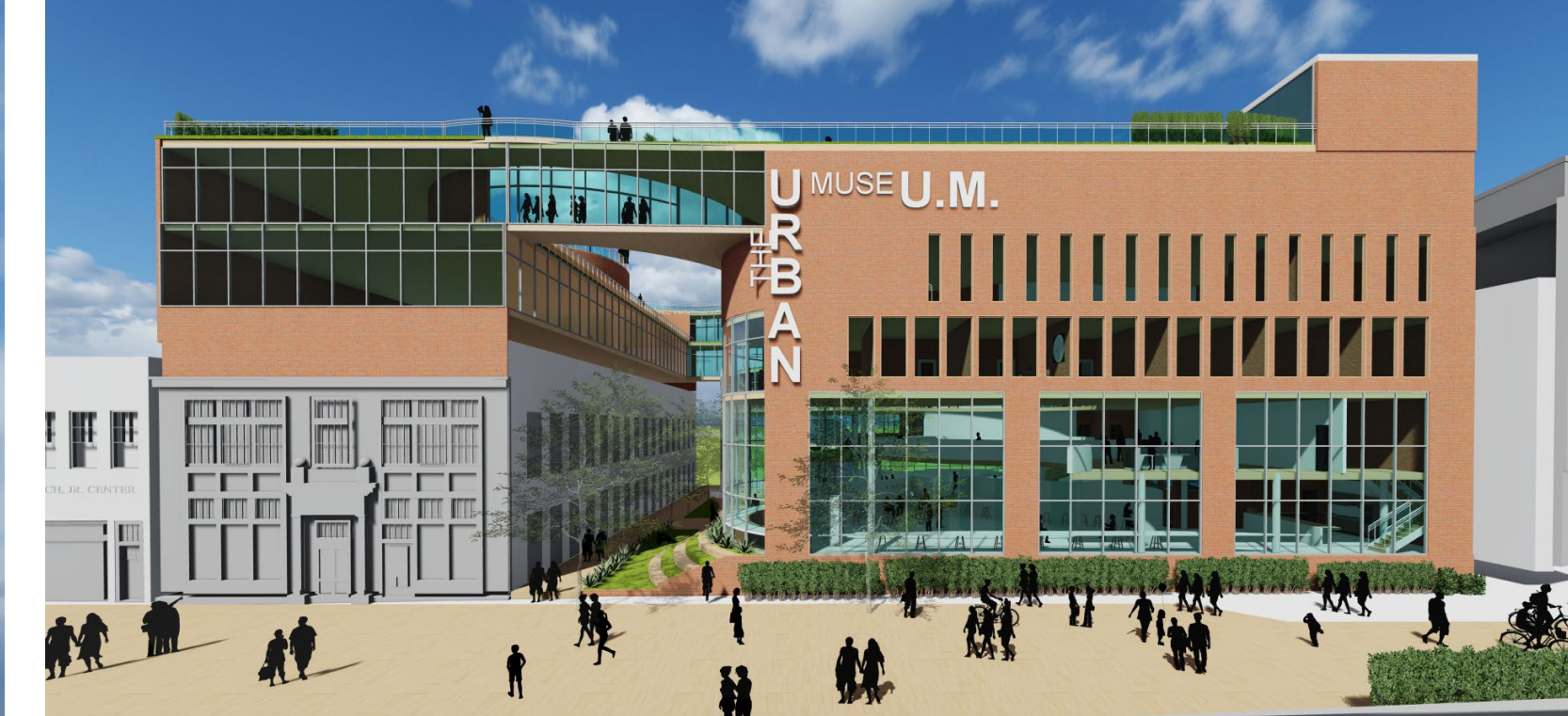
South Elevation 1"=1/20"



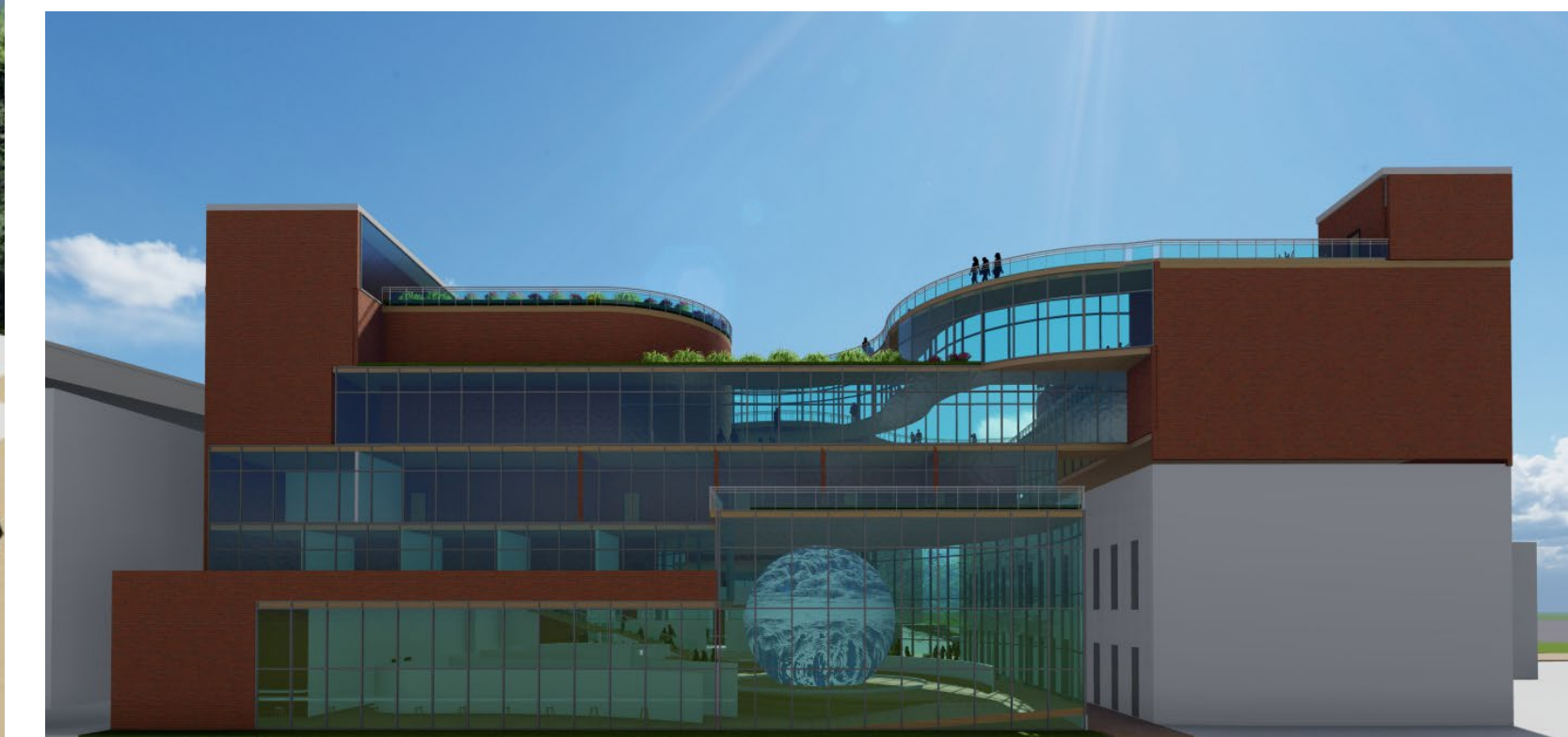




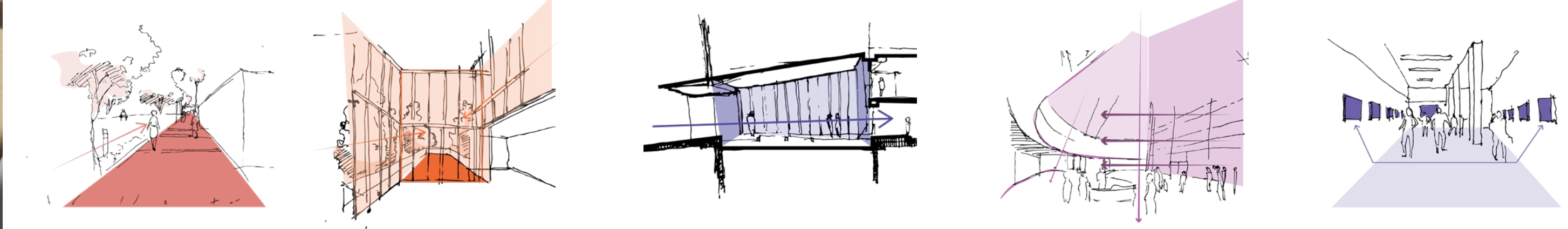
Urban Museum Entrance & Auburn Pedestrian Walk



North Elevation: Pedestrian Walk



South Elevation: Pedestrian Corridor Leading to Georgia State University Bldgs & Edgewood Ave.



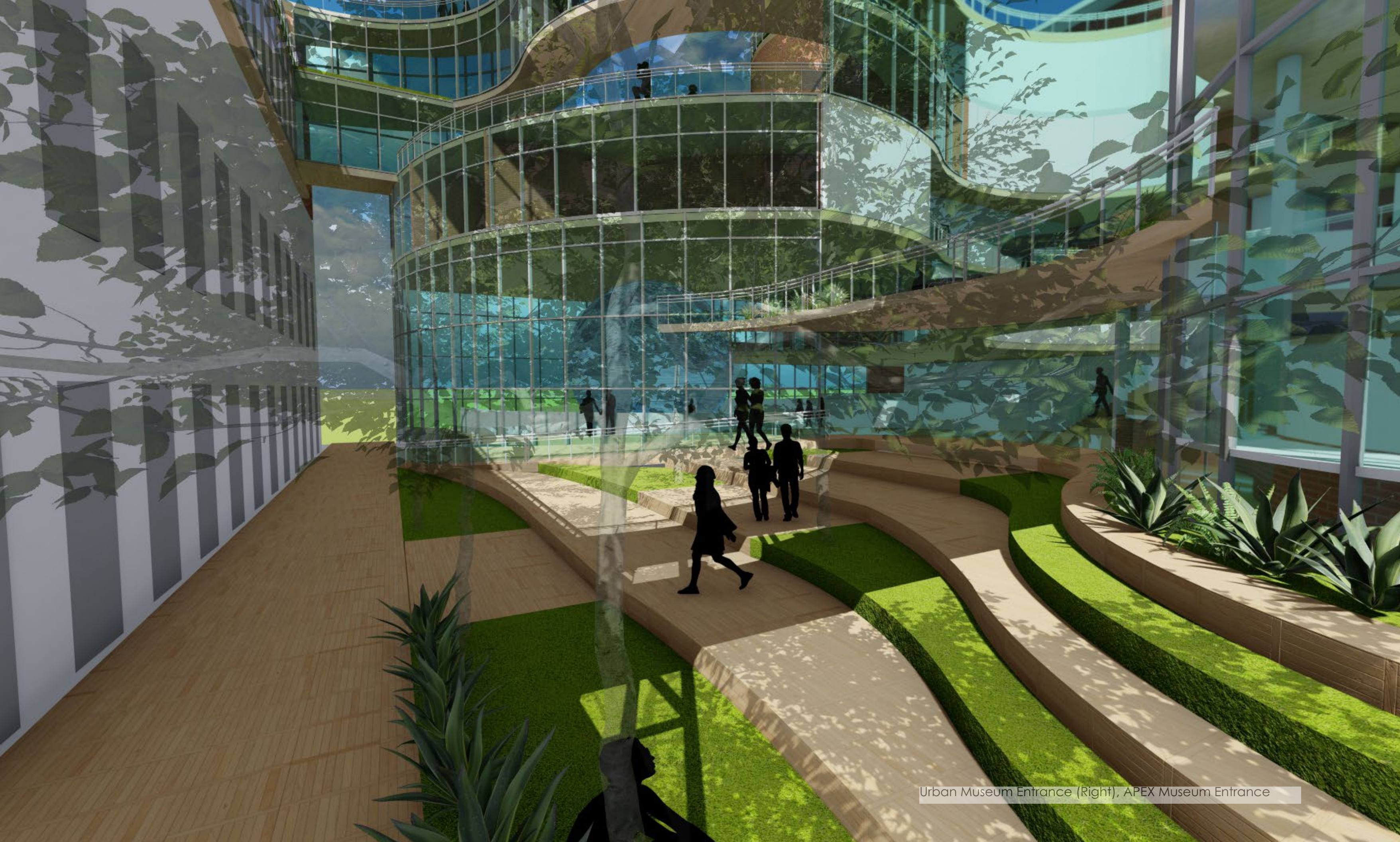
# THE URBAN MUSEUM

The Urban Museum is a mixed-use, 6 story community center composed of rent-able social and private spaces and resources listed below:

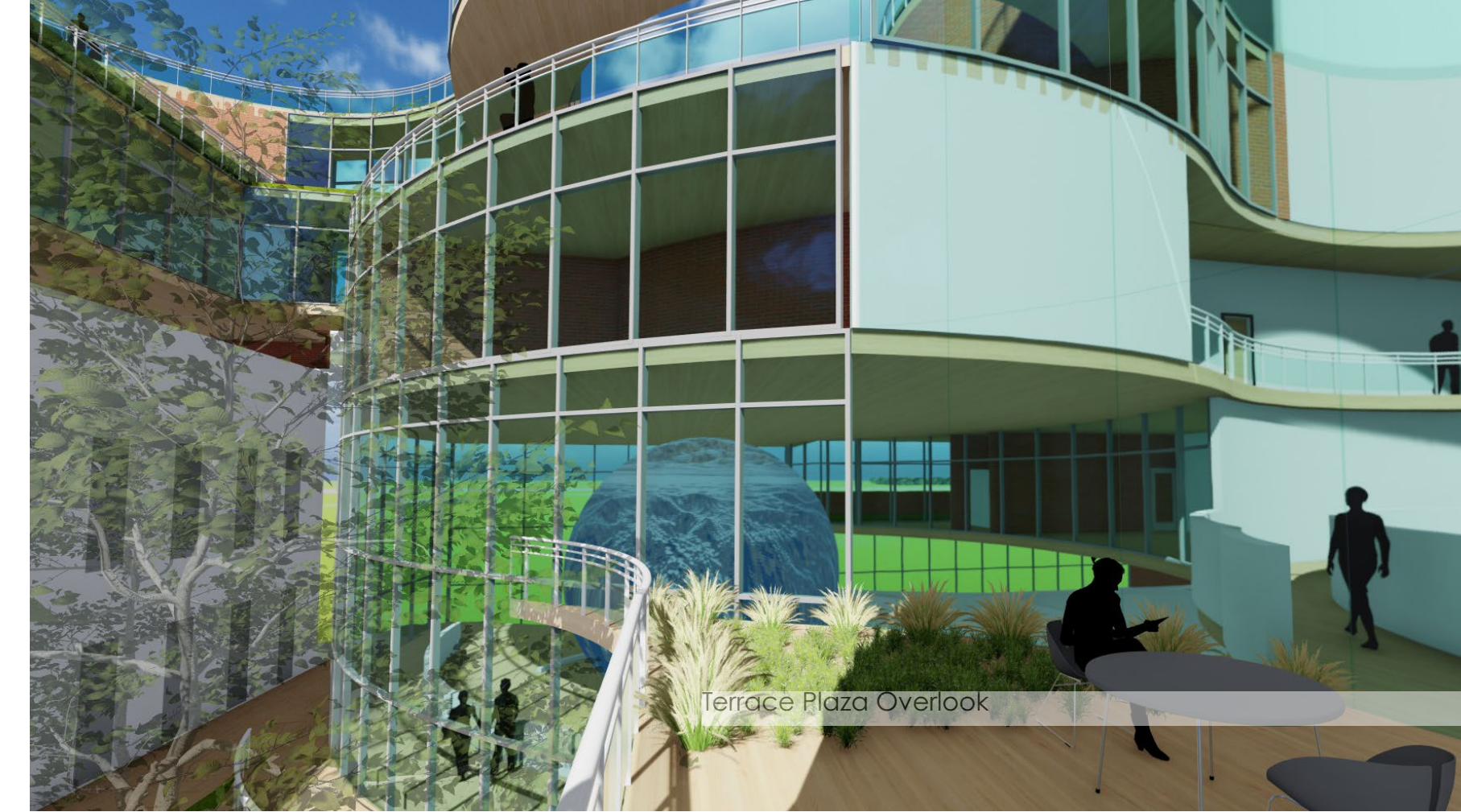
- Wooden Pedestrian Walk
- Plaza at Entrance
- Maker Spaces
- Public and Private E.J. Galleries
- Green Roofs
- Office Spaces
- Maker Spaces
- Art Studios
- Music Studio
- Dance Studios
- Classrooms
- Gym
- Miniature Auditorium
- Cafe
- Social Work-Station
- 360 degree Panoramic Film (museum introduction)
- Reception

While the Urban Museum is a resource for it's community, it exists to raise awareness about environmental justice and equity for all.  
Pedestrian walk

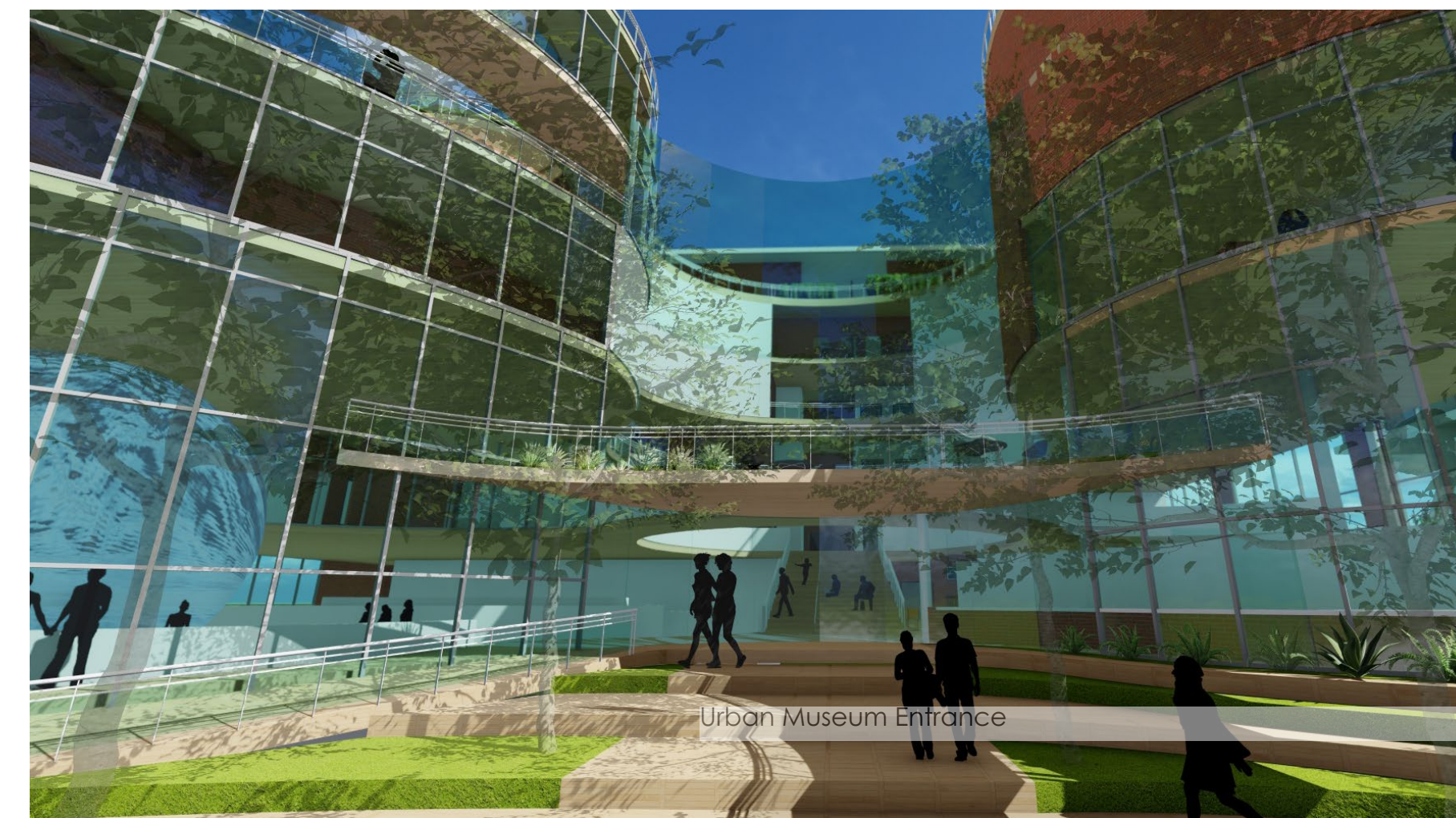




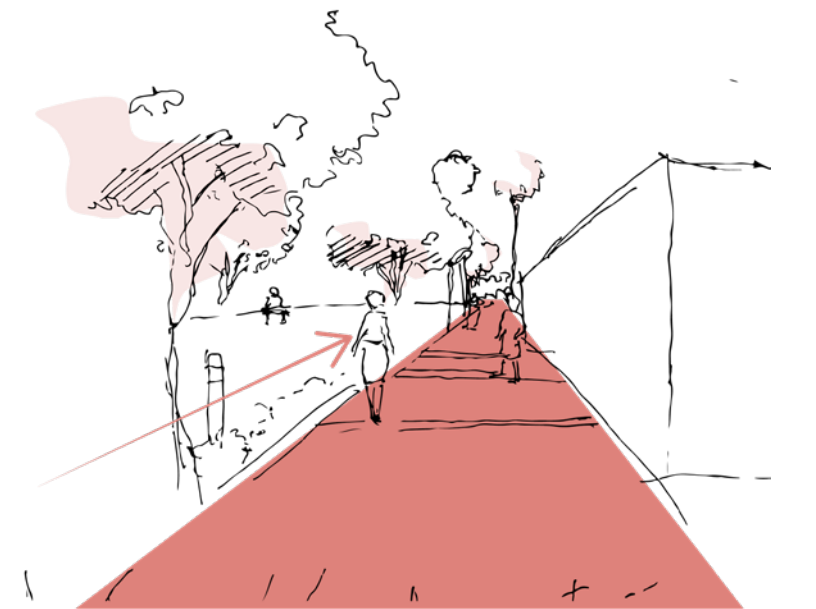
Urban Museum Entrance (Right), APEX Museum Entrance



Terrace Plaza Overlook



Urban Museum Entrance



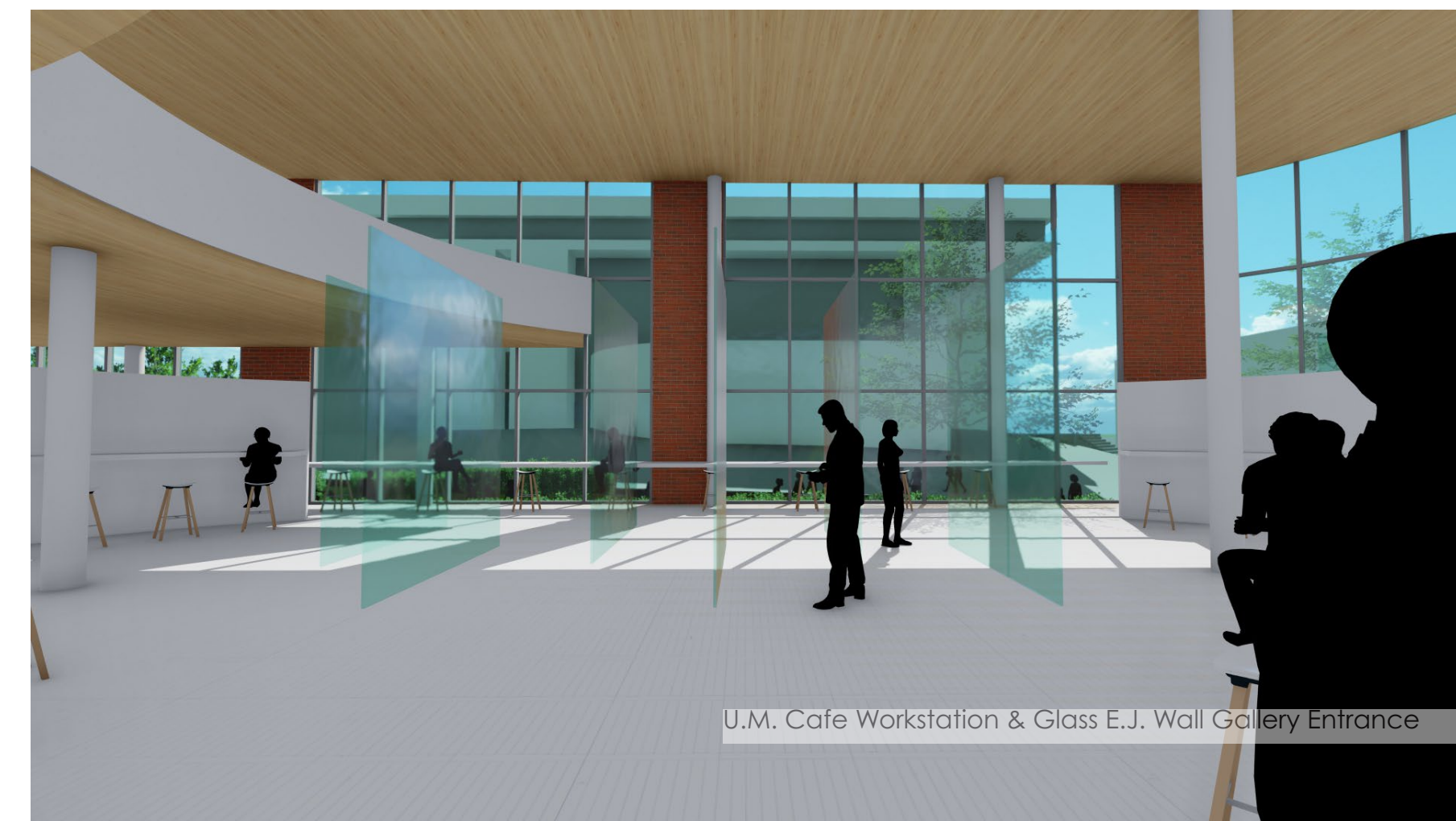




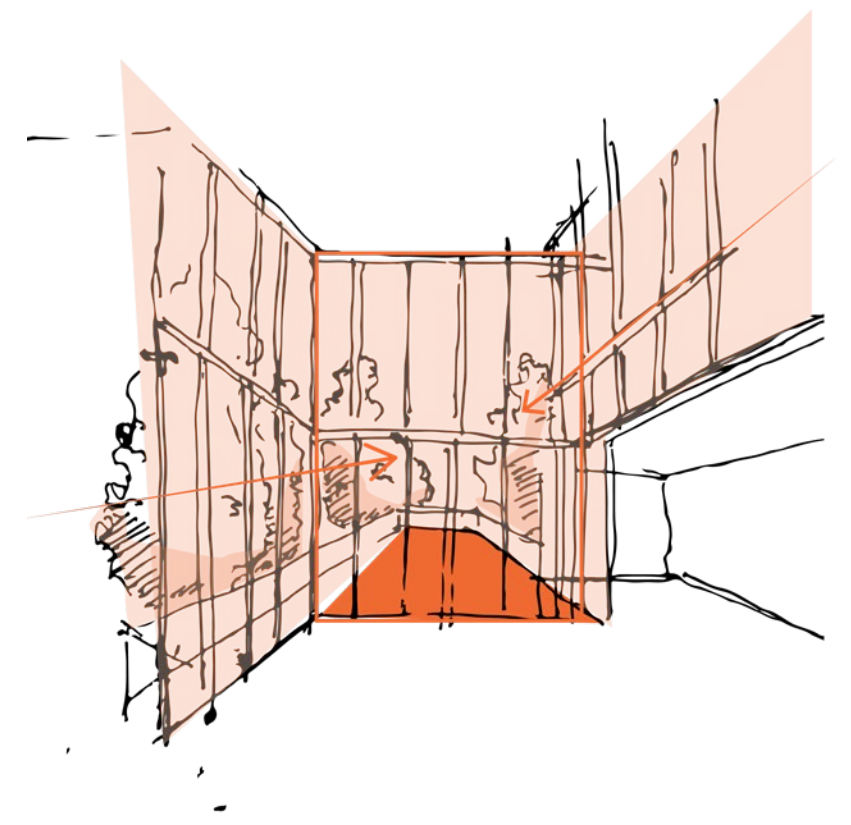
U.M. Cafe & Glass E.J. Wall Gallery Entrance



Urban Museum Entrance



U.M. Cafe Workstation & Glass E.J. Wall Gallery Entrance







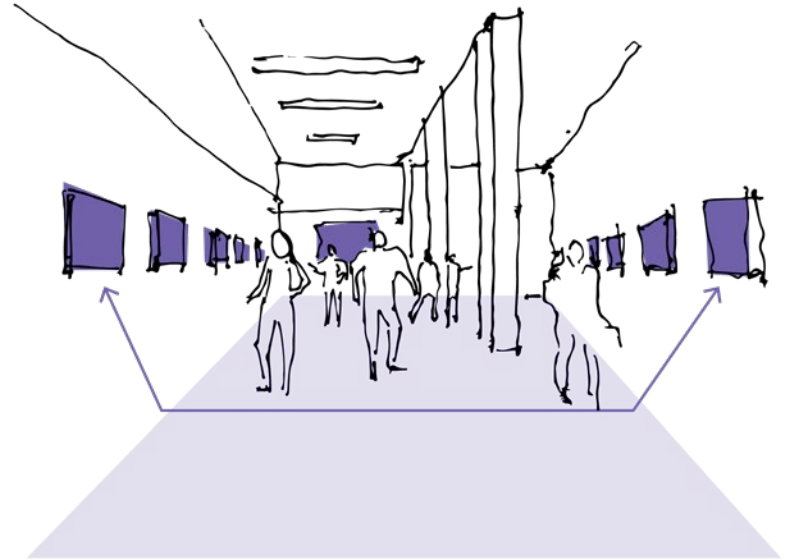
Ground Level E.J. Digital Globe Exhibit & Public Labyrinth Gallery, Private Office Spaces Above Gallery



South Work Bar & Labyrinth Gallery South Entrance



Labyrinth Gallery South Entrance







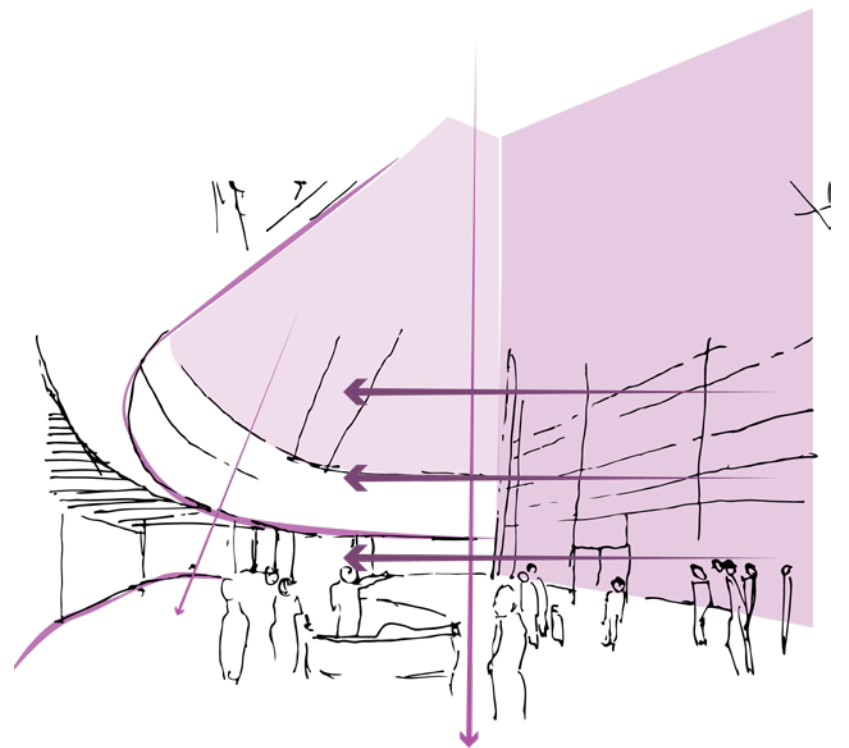
Museum Ticketing Level 2 (12' Above Grade) Glass Gallery Overlook



Museum Ticketing Level 2



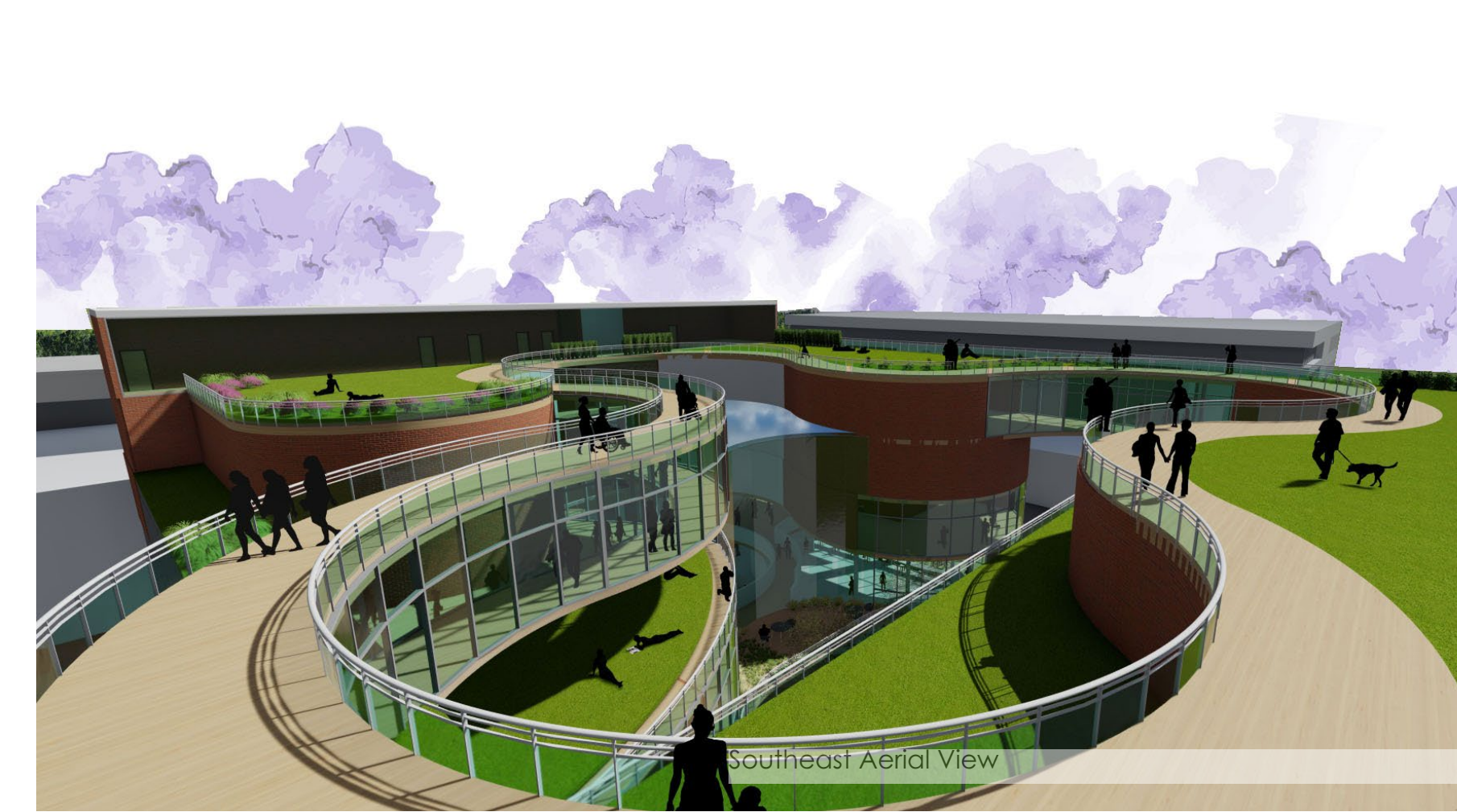
Lobby Reception Desk & Grand Stair Perspective ( View 24' Above Grade)







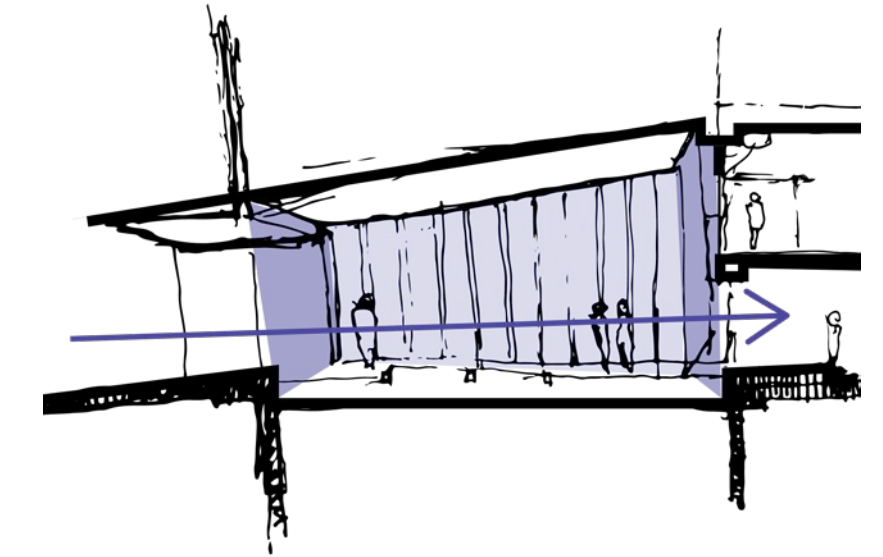
Museum Sky Bridge (48' Above Grade) Pedestrian Corridor Overlook



Southeast Aerial View



Studio Terrace (View 36' Above Grade) Plaza & Gym Overlook





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