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125th and Amsterdam: Creating Spaces for Social Interaction

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125th and Amsterdam

Creating Spaces for Social Interaction

Joshua Payne, Class of 2008, SAAHP

Joshua Payne, Class of 2008

Independent Project submitted to Roger Williams University, School of Architecture, Art and Historic Preservation in fulfillment of the requirements of the Bachelor of Architecture Degree in August, 2010.

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Project Abstract

This Project is designed to address the negative aspects of gentrification in an urban context, specifically Harlem, NYC. This is relevant to the current situation in Harlem as 125th Street, its main corridor, is being revitalized and wealthy investors are buying property in the area. Through siting, programming and integrated design, my goal is to relieve the tension between two drastically different socio-economic neighborhoods as they are becoming one.

Architecture cannot accomplish this goal on its own, but it can create an environment conducive to social interaction.

125th and Amsterdam

Creating Spaces for Social Interaction

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“We Americans have the chance to become someday a nation in which all radical stocks and classes can exist in their own self hoods, but meet on a basis of respect and equality and live together, socially, economically, and politically. We can become a dynamic equilibrium, a harmony of many different elements, in which the whole will be greater than all its parts and greater than any society the world has seen before. It can still happen.”

-Shirley Chisholm 1924-
American Social activist

Introduction

The function of architecture has always been to facilitate social, cultural, government, and living needs. The way that we organize our programs can greatly influence our environment. Interconnecting architecture fosters interaction by bringing people with different backgrounds into the realm of coexistence.

This melding of a larger demographic is important for raising awareness and understanding a broader range of cultures around us. When this is not achieved, an unhealthy tension can be created. Diversity brings more opportunity not only for the community but also for the Architects.

Our every day environments are changing with the times as we seem to be slipping into a world of isolation. Interactive environments are scarce because our cities and developments have primarily been made up of a series of isolated buildings which result in social, political, and economic segregation. Separated programs are the product of a financially driven attitude toward development as opposed to a social attitude of cohesive living. Isolated development is undertaken without considering the living environment that will be created and the limits it imposes on society.

There are many different types of people with many different interests within an urban context, but we all share a common desire of social interaction. When environments are set up to support one program typology it removes the potential to attract all of its residents. If one looks at development with a socially sensitive eye, program diversity becomes the platform for unified communities.



Suburban Development with no social consideration

Problem Statement

The problem that this project addresses is two fold.

The first is isolation which affects both suburban and urban areas. It seems that every structure we encounter (i.e. Store, library, theater, etc...) faces the community with its own identity both internally and externally. Destinations are singular and we are likely to rush here and there with item tasks rather than enjoying the experience of our surroundings. There is no coexistence between programs within and around a site, or within the local community.

Take for instance, the contrast of an open air market and the typical indoor mall. The mall while conceptually a place to accomplish many tasks is still limited by its designation of a place to shop. You must travel to the mall, park, and walk inside where you remain inside until you have exhausted your need or ability to shop. There is not much interaction with other patrons. Minimal connection between different programs becomes a problem because users' exposure to life and activities of their fellow citizens becomes extremely narrow. An open air market on the other hand is a place that is passed through while shopping and one is able to absorb

street scenes, feel the environment they are in and encounter their entire community.

By incorporating multiple programs into one interconnected indoor/outdoor environment, users will discover and become interested in activities that they may not otherwise have been exposed to. Program overlaps incorporate complimentary offerings within one open space. Merchants, Libraries, Social programs for children, performing arts, dining and educational venues can be placed under one roof. This creates communication and interaction between different uses and users and promotes a diverse socio-economic community. In an isolated program people visit their desired destinations and are usually only exposed to a single experience.

By removing occupants from a sheltered existence, program interconnectivity will force them to consider their role within in the larger social picture. This project explores overlaps created by complimentary and diverse programs, where one program's weakness is mitigated by the adjacent program's strength (And vice-versa). These programs should

be more than simply adjacent; they should be holding hands with each other and encouraging the potential for spontaneous events to take place within some common space. These common spaces take on the function of flexibility.

The concept of program interconnectivity is most beneficial where there is a vast socio-economic diversity, which brings me to the second problem this project addresses which is gentrification. In these diverse, usually urban environments, there is inevitably a wide range of activities and places of interest within close proximity. These can range from interests in performing arts, scholastics, athletics, dining, and fashion. If this diversity is handled by separating the different venues from each other, a condition of social segregation manifests.

Often residents of a particular neighborhood are intimidated by the businesses and structures in an adjacent community if it is of a lower or higher social status as defined by society. Many times this vivid environmental distinction between one neighborhood and another makes its residents uneasy. Consider two people from totally different neighborhoods working together side by side at the same job. They do

this in harmony but neither has an opportunity to encounter the other in a social setting due to the division. This deepens the disconnection between the neighboring residents. They might not realize that while there are many differences between them, they could each learn from each other, and in effect their differences become the vehicle for their commonality.

Project Statement

To deal with the underlying problems identified earlier, I am proposing a Project that adopts the culture of two adjacent neighborhoods in an attempt to blend the social barrier that is prevalent between Morning Side Heights and Harlem in NYC.

Harlem, especially the 125th street corridor, has very deep cultural roots in activism and the arts. Today, that tradition continues with a multitude of music venues within close proximity to each other. The economic status of most people in Harlem is also predominantly lower class. Morningside Heights has an extremely high aesthetic value with its historic upper class brownstone apartments and Columbia University which was designed by McKim, Mead, and White. The University dominates the area, creating a strong intellectual overtone through the architecture and people. The Manhattan School of Music also has a campus adjacent to Columbia, which takes a scholastic approach toward music as opposed to the music clubs of Harlem.

This project attempts to appeal to Harlem through the implementation of two music halls, while engaging Morning Side Heights through

youth mentor and tutor programs within a library and youth center. In order to appeal to the general public, commercial space, a restaurant, and bar are incorporated as well as open community space for spontaneous performance. These aspects of the program act as an anchor for pedestrians to interact and become aware of the people, activities and events in the community.

This project and its relative attributes create an intimate collaboration of both neighborhoods.



Children from Harlem enjoying the grounds at Columbia University. They were asked to leave.

Morningside Heights vs. Harlem

The threshold between these two neighborhoods is a place where one sees with their own eyes the clashing of two very different socio-economic groups. This is the perfect setting for the exploration of program diversity, interconnectivity and overlaps between programs that will attract users from both of the adjacent neighborhoods. A project attempting to interconnect two different neighborhoods benefits from being sited on the threshold between the two rather than deeper into one neighborhood or the other. It is a common ground, or neutral ground, where both groups of people would be comfortable venturing.



Morningside Heights, Amsterdam Ave looking north

VS



Harlem, 125th street looking east toward site

PROGRAM-QUALITATIVE & QUANTITATIVE



Performing Arts Center & Art Gallery - Quantitative

Performing Arts	
Entry/Lobby	2,300 sf
Ticketing	80 sf
Bathrooms	600 sf
Performing Arts Exhibit/Education	5,000 sf
Seating	4,600 sf
Stage	750 sf
Backstage	900 sf
Green Room	1,600 sf
Control Room	650 sf
Administration	1,800 sf
Shipping & Receiving	2,000 sf
Storage	2,500 sf
Art Gallery	4,500 sf
<hr/>	
TOTAL	27,280 sf

Performing Arts Center & Art Gallery - Qualitative

The Theater and Art Gallery act as the anchor for the complex. This program represents the expression of ideas which is symbolically formulated from the interrelationships on the site. The circulation acts as an experiential progression as users are able to interact with the Art Gallery and be brought into a zone which functions as a museum, highlighting the history of Harlem, NYC. The Performing Arts Center has a prominent presence from the street and act as a beacon for the neighborhood. The Art Gallery faces the street as an element geared toward pedestrians. It is to be primarily glass, exposed structure, with independent/movable elements for the display of artwork. While there is no direct overlap with any other programs, one will visually experience the diversity of the building as they approach the main performance space.

Flexible Assembly Space - Quantitative

Dance Floor	1,800 sf
Stage	430 sf
Backstage	800 sf
Flexible Space	1,800 sf
Balcony	1,200 sf
Lighting Control Room	140 sf
Administration	130 sf
Shipping & Receiving (Shared with Restaurant/Bar)	200 sf
Storage	300 sf
<hr/>	
TOTAL	6,800 sf

Flexible Assembly Space - Qualitative

One of the most important aspects of the project is that the Flexible Assembly Space acts as a platform for community activities of all kinds. The performance space is large and open and is flanked by a “loggia”, which is used as an extension of the interior, or as an off street market space. This flexibility is accommodated by transparent garage doors which close on either side of the space. The performance space is designed in an unassuming way to promote using the space for other community functions such as neighborhood meetings, emergency shelter, food drives, rallies, markets, etc...If desired for a certain function, there is the opportunity to have a free flow of pedestrians between the interior and exterior of the building. Storage spaces are available for repeat market vendors to store their “wagons” on site.

Restaurant & Bar - Quantitative

Indoor Dining	2,900 sf
Outdoor Dining	875 sf
Bar Area	1,800 sf
Kitchen	750 sf
Bathrooms	100 sf
Office	200 sf
Shipping & Receiving (Shared with Secondary Performance)	200 sf
Storage	300 sf
<hr/>	
TOTAL	7,125 sf

Restaurant & Bar - Qualitative

The Restaurant & Bar is a way of activating the site at night, as well as generating income. It is on the second floor and shares the same spacial volume as the flexible performance space to create a viewing platform. In the case of a larger community meeting or rally, these spaces can be used as an extension to accommodate more people. While this program is somewhat separate from the rest of the building, there is a visual connection across the atrium to the Performing Arts Center, Library, Art Gallery and Digital Media Center.

Library / Youth Center / Greenhouse

Library

Front Desk/Entry	1,200 sf
Reading Areas	8,200 sf
Stacks	8,000 sf
Group Study Rooms	1,200 sf
Audio Visual	2,000 sf
Staff Offices	2,400 sf
Bathrooms	200 sf
Out of Circulation Collection	1,200 sf

Youth Center

Entry/Front Desk	800 sf
Common Area	5,600 sf
Workshop/Activities Room	1,600 sf
Bathrooms	150 sf
Storage	2,000 sf

Green House	4,800 sf
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TOTAL **39,350 sf**

Library / Youth Center / Greenhouse

These programs serve the purpose of education and create an opportunity for interaction with nearby Columbia University. The three programs are all freely accessible to each other except for a secure access to the Youth Center. The Library is an open plan with northern glass walls to create an open environment promoting the free exchange of ideas. As a way of creating interaction between Columbia University and the youth of Harlem, there is ample space provided for tutoring and mentoring programs. The Greenhouse is both visually and physically interactive with the Library and Youth Center. It acts as a retreat and a place to feel connected to nature within an urban context. It is also to be used as a learning environment to teach users about agricultural systems and the principles of home gardening.

Digital Media Center

Front Desk	100 sf
Working Spaces	6,000 sf
Bathrooms	350 sf
Storage	400 sf

TOTAL **6,850 sf**

Interior Piazza 11,500 sf

Outdoor Performance "Pit" 2,600 sf

Net Total **101,505 sf**

Mechanical/Service @ 15% Net 15,225 sf

Circulation @ 20% Net 20,300 sf

Total Building Area **137,030 sf**

Digital Media Center

The Digital Media Center is a series of stacked floors, each featuring its own service to give low income users a place to keep up with technological advances.

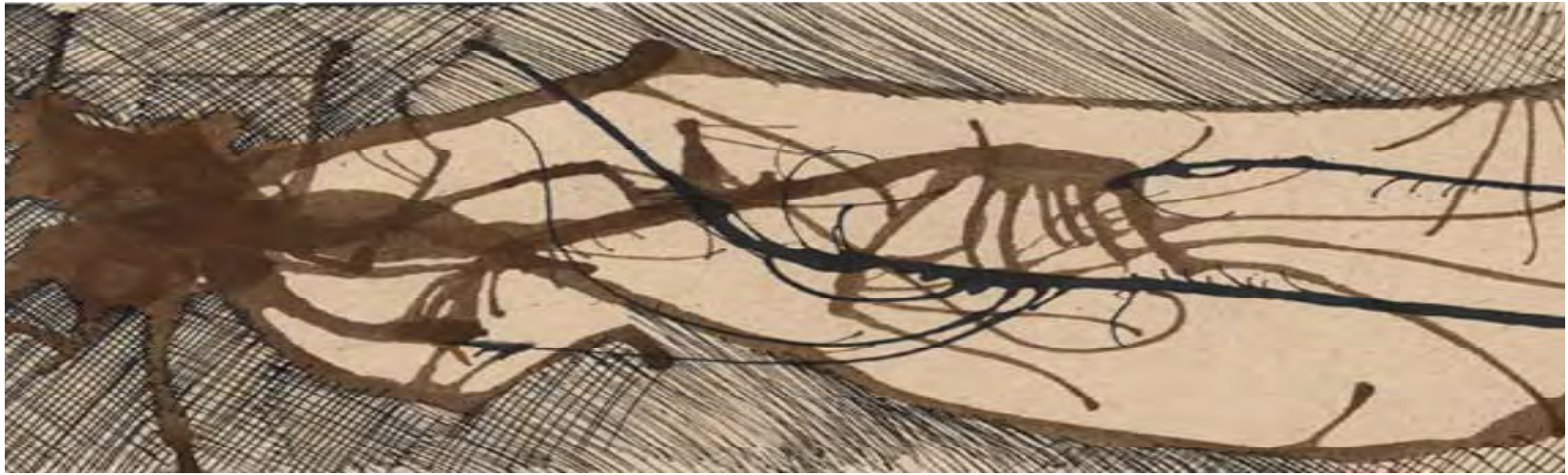
The spaces have open plans, glass and an open visual connection to the rest of the building. The Center also has a connection with the Library and the Performing Arts Center, acting as a place for non-print research.

Interior Piazza

The Interior Piazza is vital in making this project more approachable for pedestrians. The ground texture from the sidewalk continues right into and through the “Piazza”. This space acts as the pivot point from which all other programs are organized. It is a meeting place, where each different user will pass and ultimately create a social environment. The Piazza has the flexibility to be open air in the warm months and closed during the cold months.

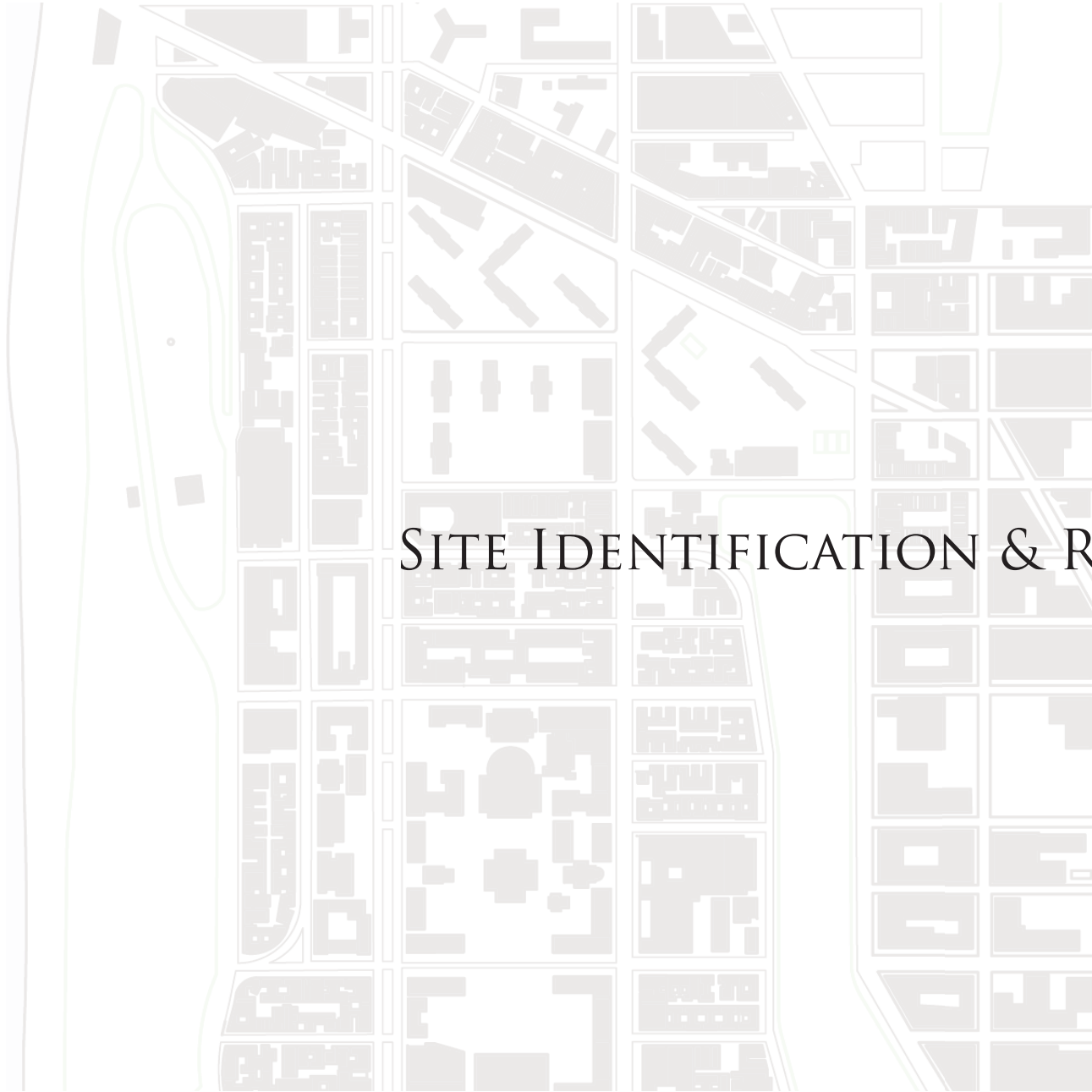
Outdoor Performance “Pit”

This space is used to accommodate both spontaneous and sponsored performances directly on the sidewalk. It is sunken in the ground to create a panoramic view of performances. When not being used for performance, it acts as a public element for meeting, sitting, eating, reading and everything else pedestrians engage in.



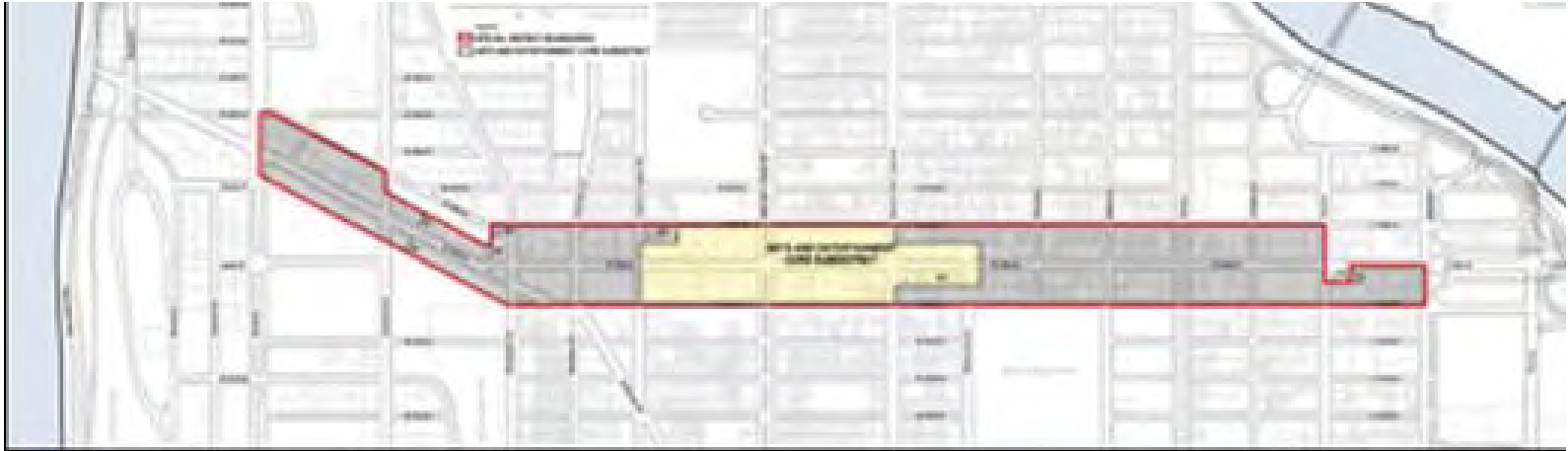


An abstract representation of two neighborhoods growing into and overlapping with each other.



SITE IDENTIFICATION & RATIONAL

“...125th street, Harlem’s main street...”



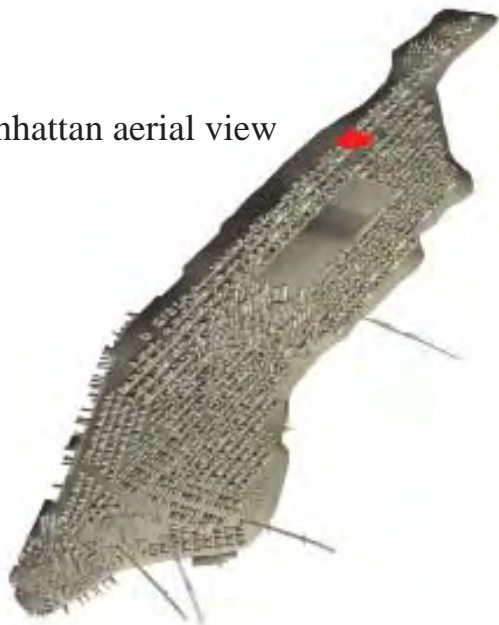
Proposed Special district boundaries and rezoning area map

The New York City Department of City Planning is reviewing proposals for the rezoning of the 125th street corridor. Planning director Amanda M. Burden says, “This comprehensive initiative will fulfill the promise of Harlem’s Main Street as a vibrant corridor and a premier arts, entertainment and commercial destination in the city”. The corners of w. 125th and Amsterdam Ave. fall within this initiative for revitalization.

“The zoning proposal seeks to sustain and enhance the revitalization of 125th Street as a unique Manhattan Main Street. Key to the zoning proposal is establishing a new special purpose district for the 125th Street corridor. The special purpose district allows the proposed zoning regulations to respond to specific conditions with customized density, building form controls and use regulations. The proposal incorporates a balanced rezoning approach that creates incentives for new mixed-use development”

-NYC Dept. of Planning

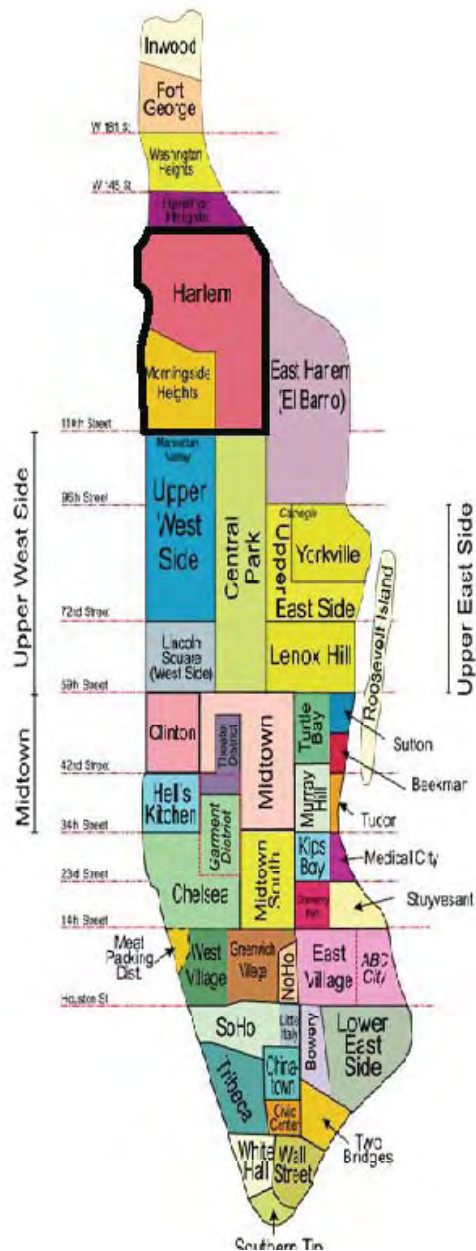
Manhattan aerial view



The figure ground image of the area between Harlem and Morningside Heights shows a large difference in density. The housing projects stand taller, allowing them to leave open space around them. The rest of the urban fabric is much more dense. The site sits in such a way that it is directly influenced by both models of density. This proposal will show a tighter density which will mediate between the two different models of density around the site. This change in density at the intersection between 125th Street and Amsterdam Ave will be possible because of new zoning guidelines in an attempt to revitalize the 125th Street corridor.



Figure Ground



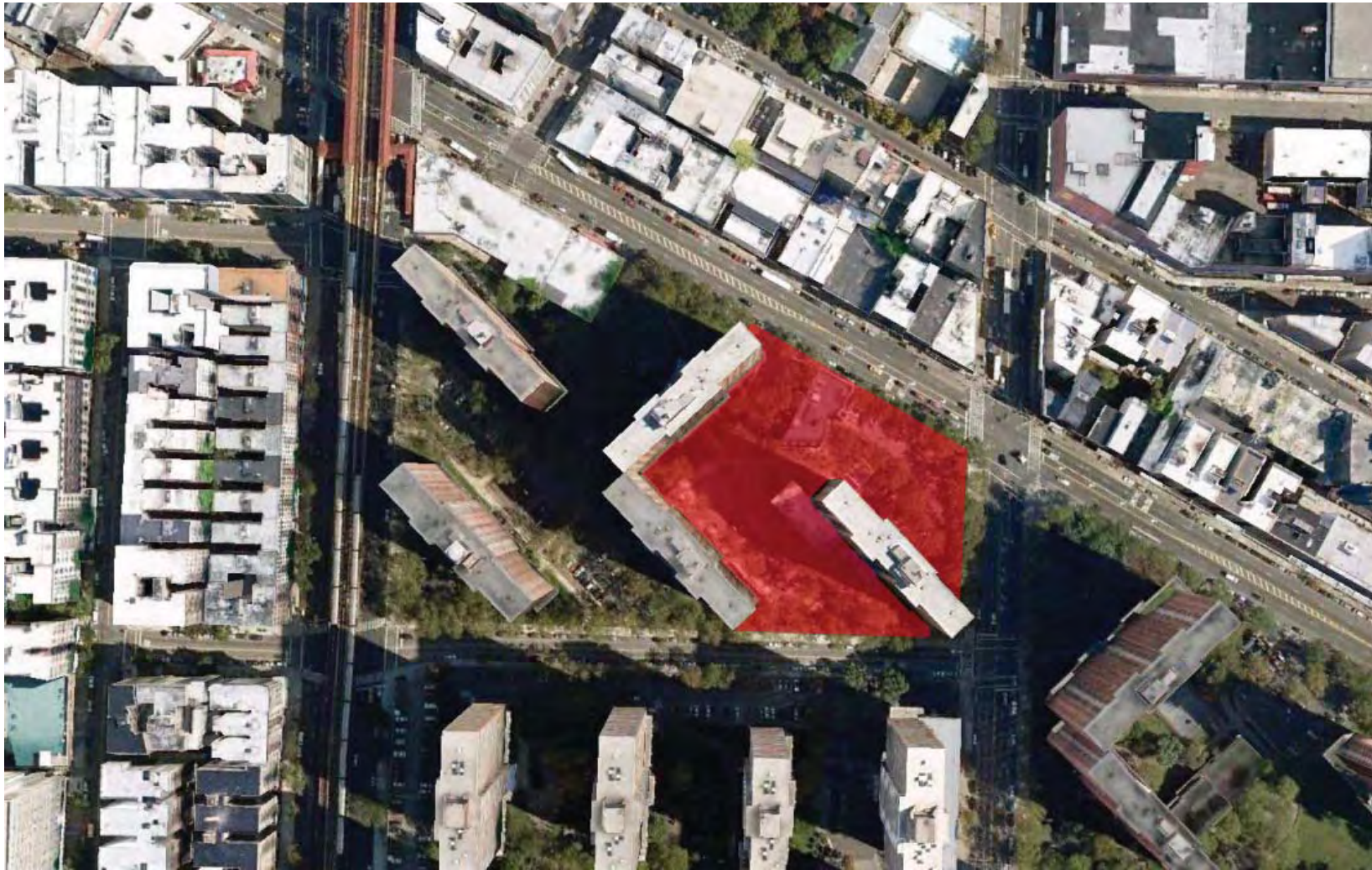
From this diagram it is clear that the intersection of Amsterdam Ave. and 125th street exists as a threshold between Morningside Heights and Harlem, making it a perfect location for this proposal.



Distant view of Site-Looking South



Distant view of Site-Looking North



Site as seen from above



Site looking South



Site looking North



Site looking South-West



Major roads around site



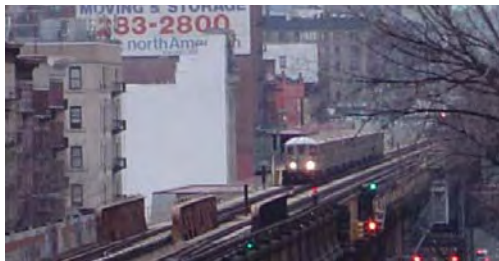
Green Spaces Around Site



Train Stops Around Site



Bus Stops Around Site



Not only does the site sit on a major intersection of pedestrian and vehicular traffic, but it is also easily accessible by way of public transportation.

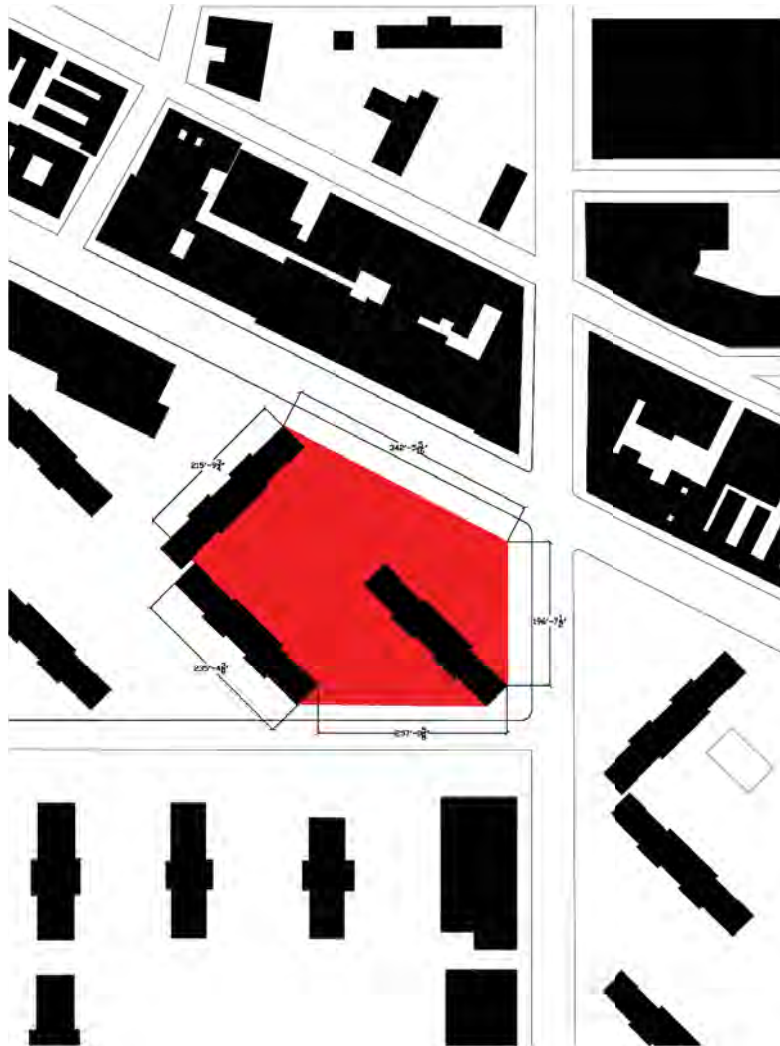


Columbia's main quad



Lerner Student Center, Bernard Tschumi

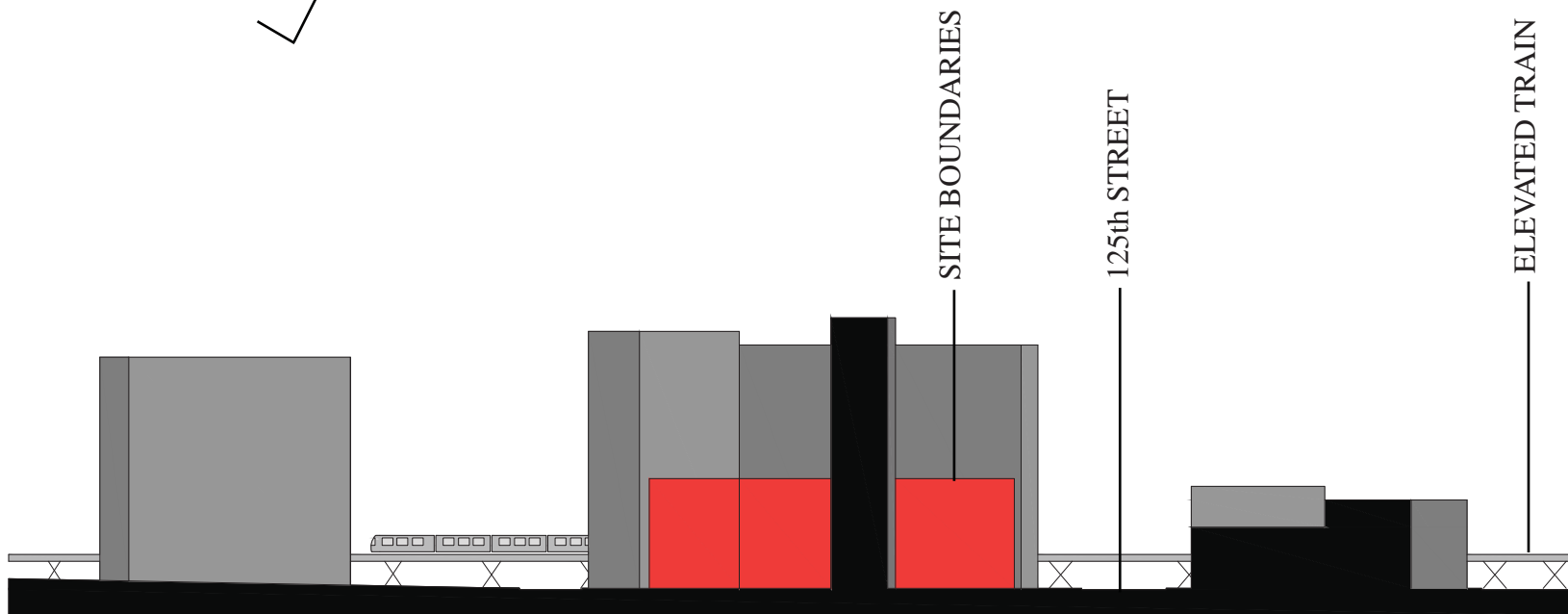
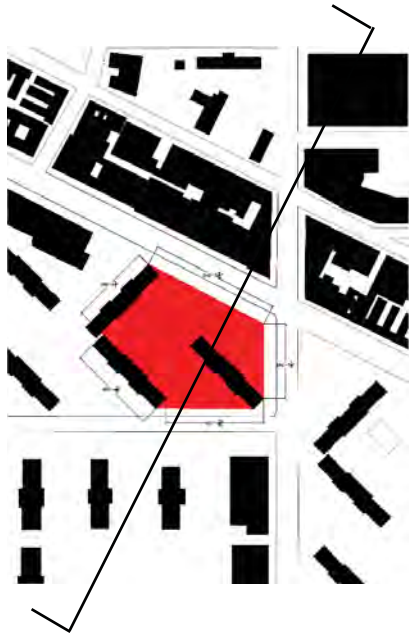
Columbia University has a strong presence in Morningside Heights. It is a International destination for students and professors alike and stands as an icon for cultural and intellectual growth.



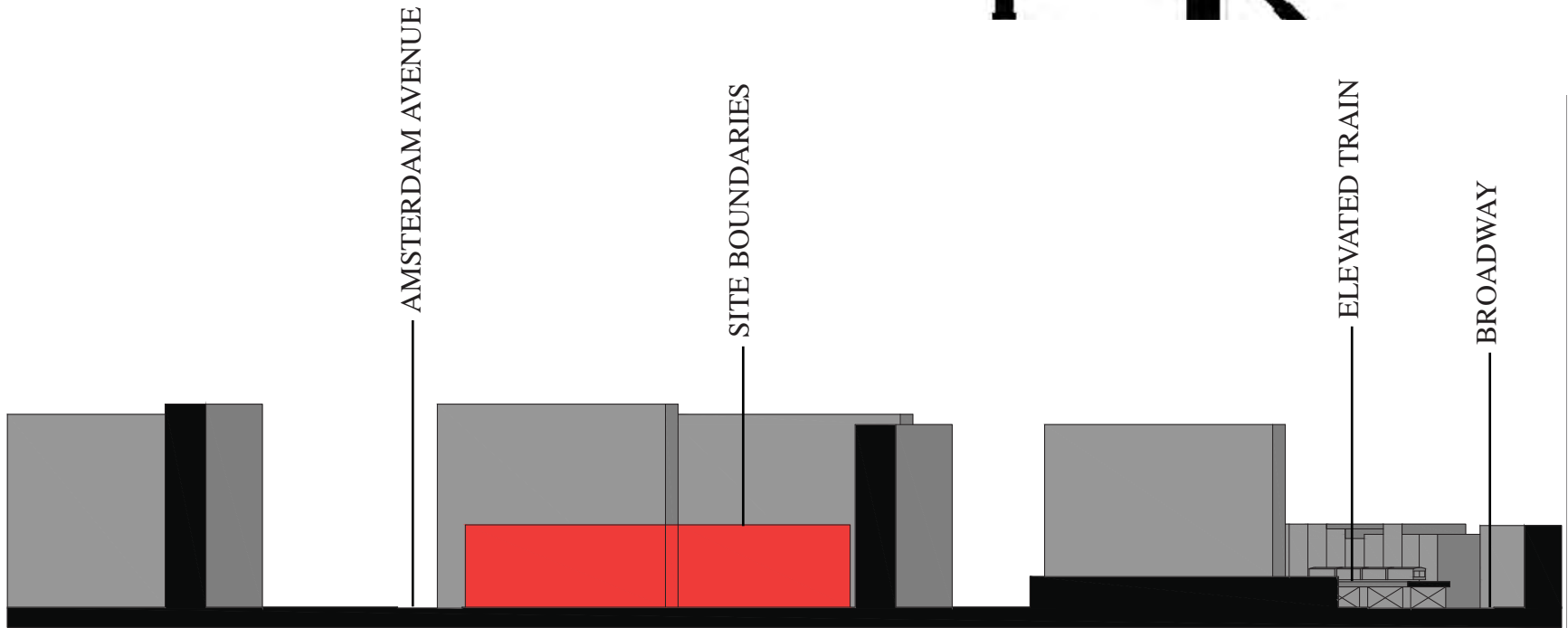
Site dimensions / Figure Ground

The site sits at the feet of 13-20 story affordable housing complexes. To the west exists a parking lot, to the east a small park. To the far west there is an existing NYC branch library which will be redesigned as an integral part of the community center.

Approximate Site Area - 80,500 sf



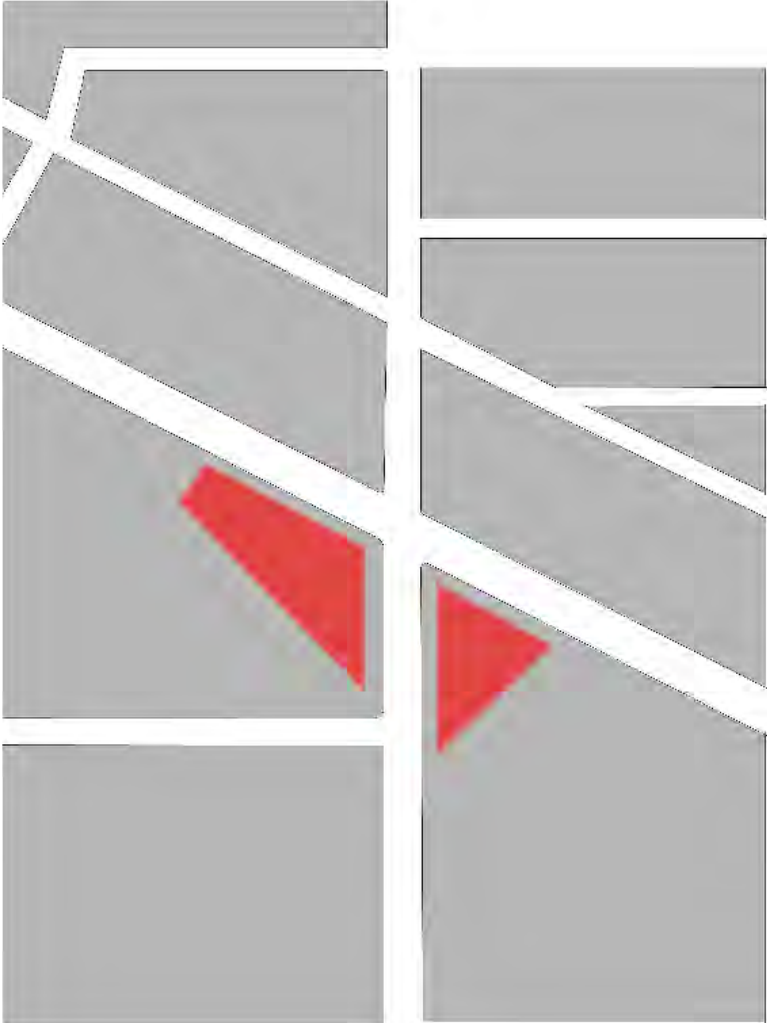
Site Section Looking West -
Toward the elevated train and the Hudson River



Site Section Looking South -
Toward Columbia University, Central Park, and Downtown

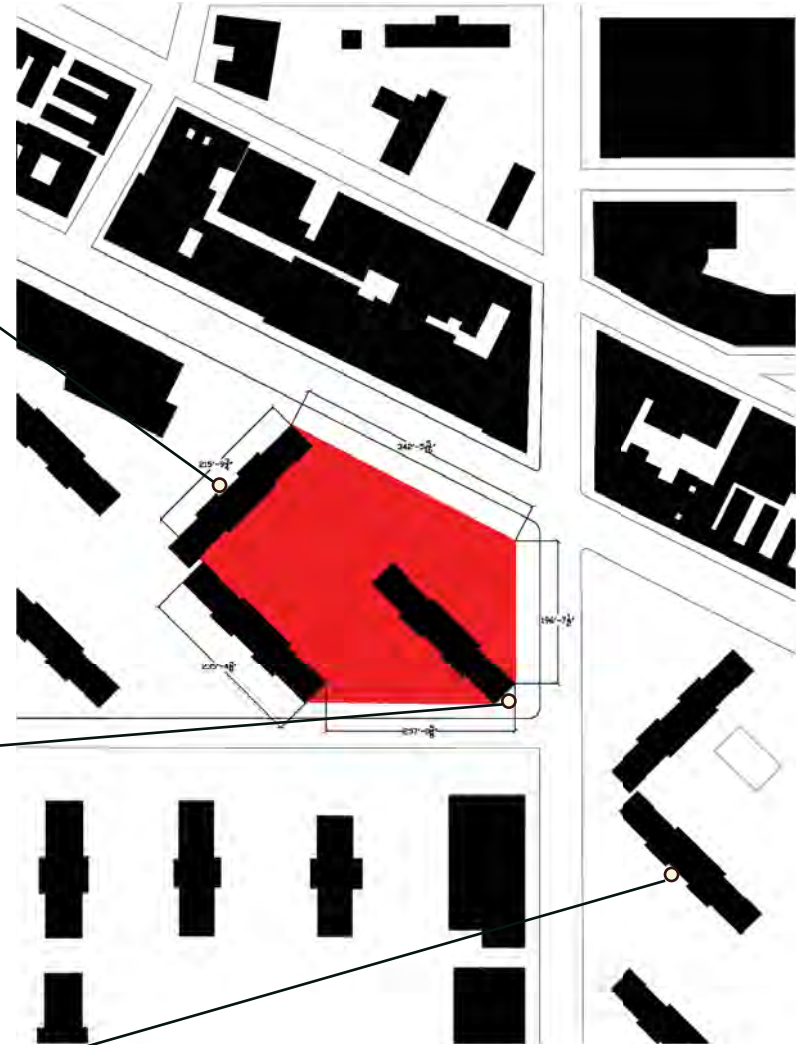


traffic around site



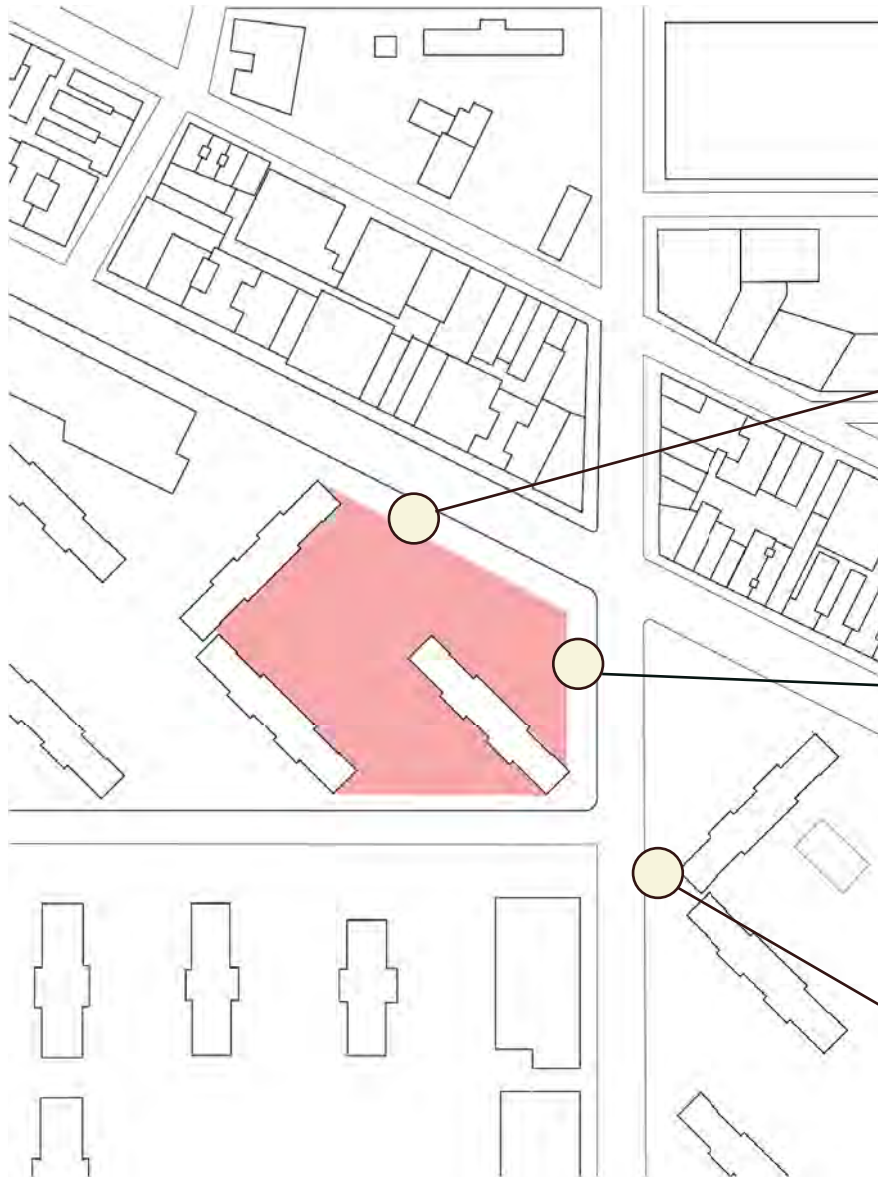
blocks and streets around site

Entrances



Existing Building Entrances Around the Site

Sidewalks



North side of site_ 15 feet



East side of site_ 21 feet

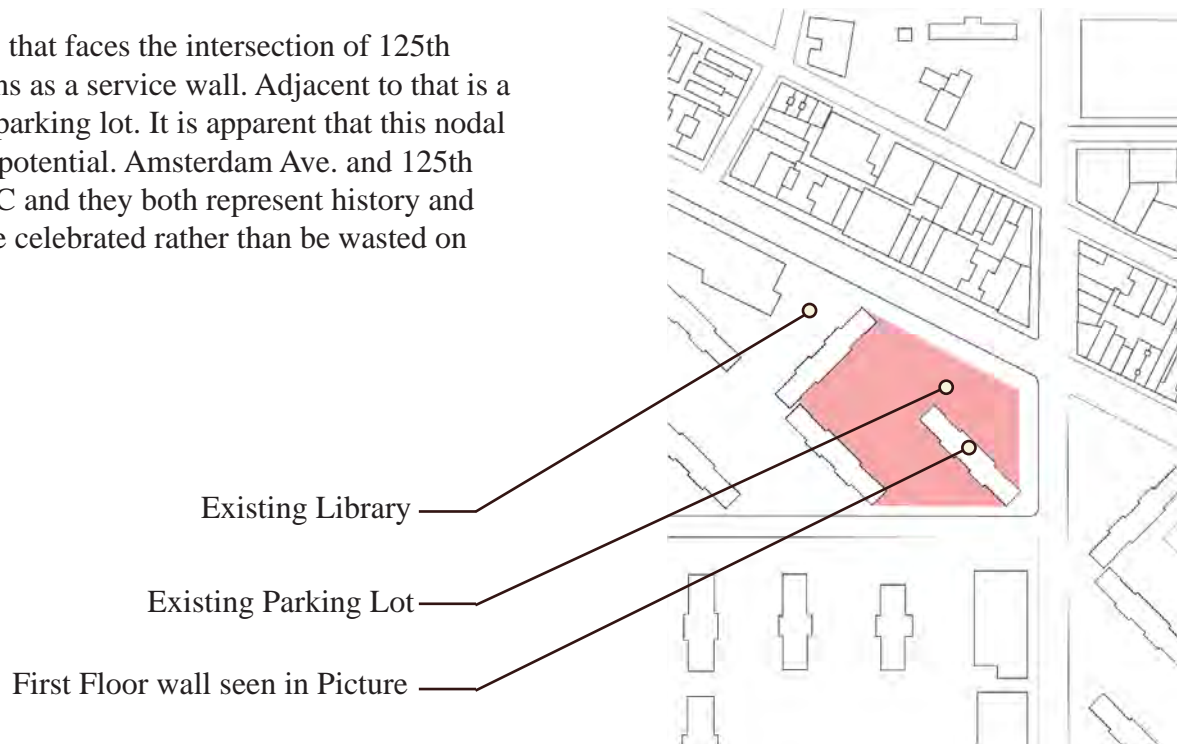


East side of Amsterdam Ave_ 21 feet



View of housing service wall

The surface of the housing building that faces the intersection of 125th Street and Amsterdam Ave. functions as a service wall. Adjacent to that is a 30' service corridor, followed by a parking lot. It is apparent that this nodal intersection is not being used to its potential. Amsterdam Ave. and 125th Street are two major arteries in NYC and they both represent history and culture. This convergence should be celebrated rather than be wasted on unsightly service functions.





The fabric of the local area consists mostly of commercial functions on the ground floor and offices or apartments on the upper floors. This collage of the building facades across the street from the site show that there are other community functions in close proximity, such as two churches and a gym.

The use diagram of the local area shows that the potential site is presently a housing and mixed use development. The blue represents institutional establishments which are dispersed around the area and are predominantly owned by Columbia.



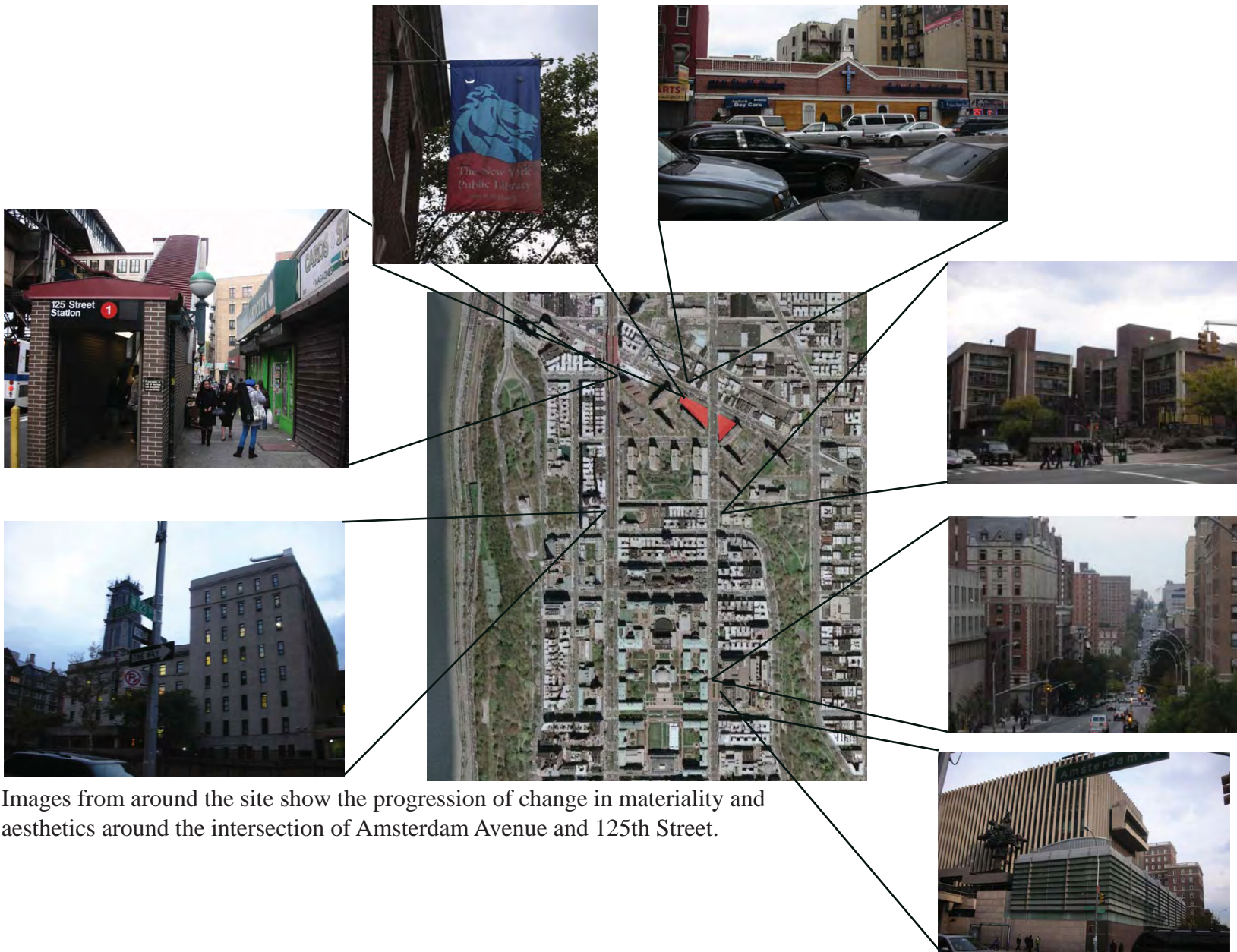
use diagram around site



music clubs (locations) around site



Located around the site, primarily in Harlem, are several places with live music performance spaces. From this diagram one can see the lack of performance space in the immediate proximity of the site. Activating the site with a music venue will help to identify the place with its surrounding



Images from around the site show the progression of change in materiality and aesthetics around the intersection of Amsterdam Avenue and 125th Street.



view from the corner of 125th street and Amsterdam Avenue, looking south on Amsterdam Avenue



view looking south on Amsterdam Avenue, toward 125th street



View looking north-west on Amsterdam Avenue



View looking south-east on 125th street



View from across the street looking south at the site

CODE ANALYSIS:

2006 International Building Code

Use Group Classification(s):

Because this building is Multi-Use, i.e. Music Venue, Youth Center, Library, Gymnasium, Restaurant and Commercial, it falls under multiple categories.

303.1 _ Assembly Group A, A-1, A-2, and A-3

305.2 _ Education Group E

Allowable Height and Building Areas:

Based on table 503, Construction 602.2 Type II A

A-1 _ 3 stories / 15,500 sf

A-2 _ 3 stories / 15,500 sf

A-3 _ 3 stories / 15,500 sf

E _ 3 stories / 26,500 sf

For Group E, the building will be equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 so as to not have area limitations if it is one story.

No separation is required between the different programs in the building (Table 508.3.3)

Fire Resistance:

Table 601

Structural frame 1 hour rated

Interior and Exterior Bearing walls 1 hour rated

Floor Construction 1 hour rated

Nonbearing partitions 0 rating

Roof construction (including supporting beams and joists)
1 hour rated

ZONING ANALYSIS:

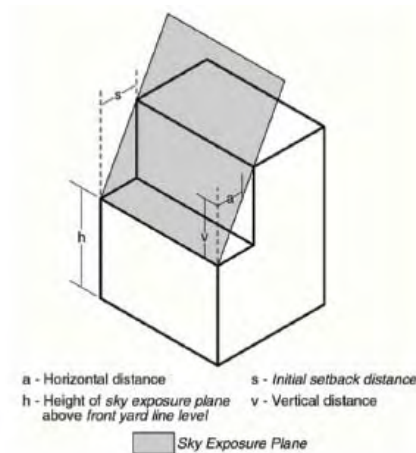
New York City Zoning Resolution_ November 15, 2007

The site is located at the corner of 125th street and Amsterdam Avenue on the south side of 125th street. It is within zone R7-2.

Initial Setback_ 15 ft.

Maximum Height of front wall_ 60 ft or 6 stories

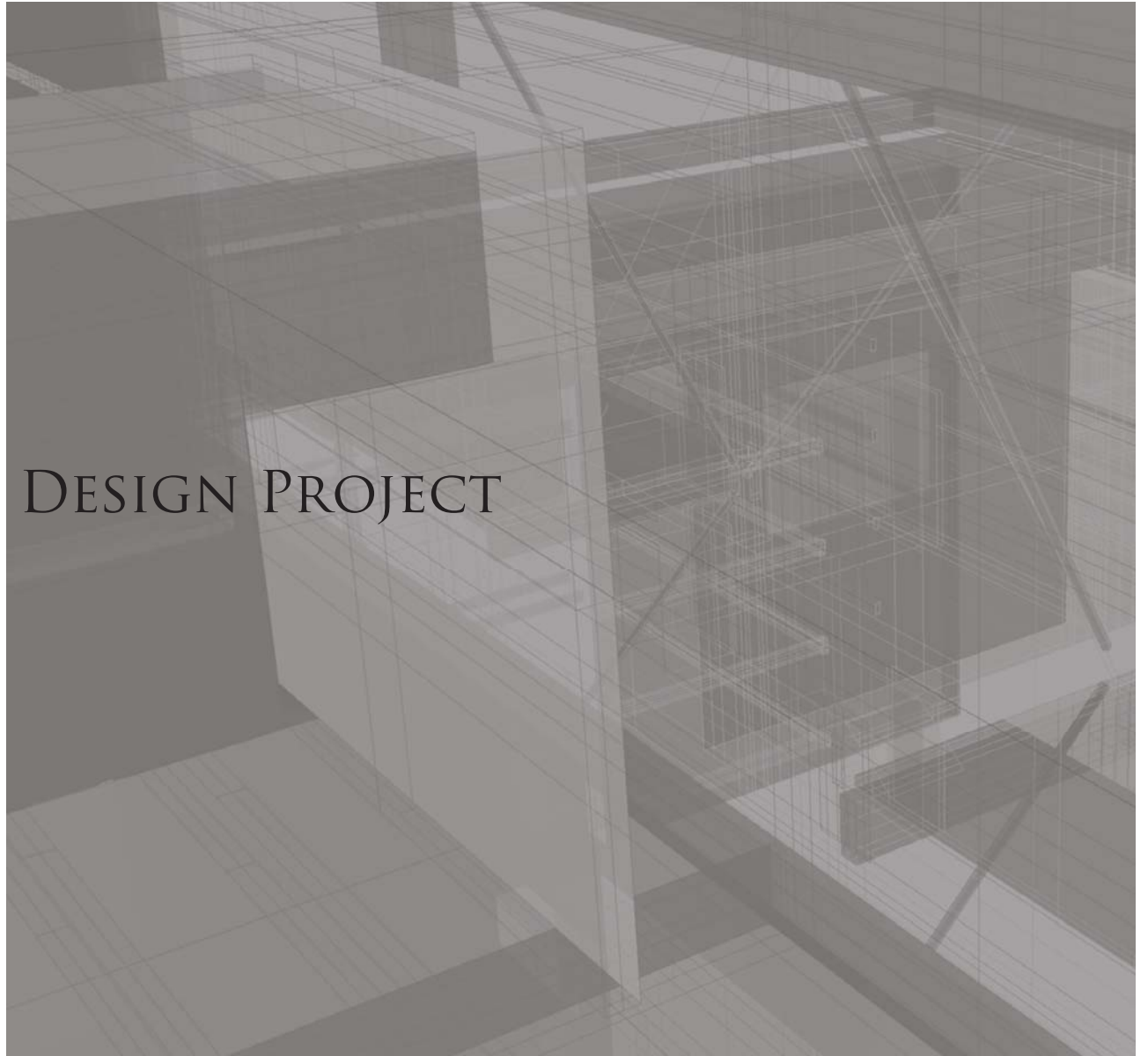
Slope Over Zoning Lot_ 5.6 (vertical) to 1 (horizontal)





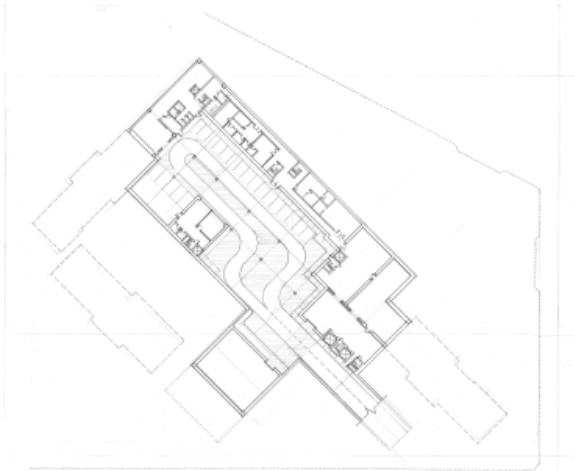
The site is located at the corner of 125th street and Amsterdam Avenue on the south side of 125th street. It is within zone R7-2.

ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN PROJECT
FINAL PRESENTATION





Site Plan



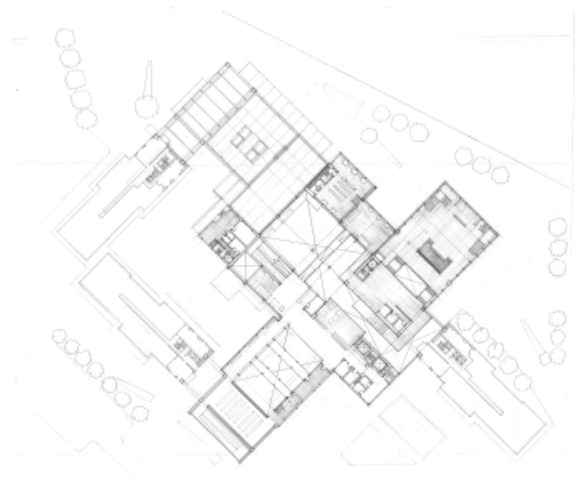
Basement Plan



Ground Floor Plan



Second Floor Plan



Third Floor Plan



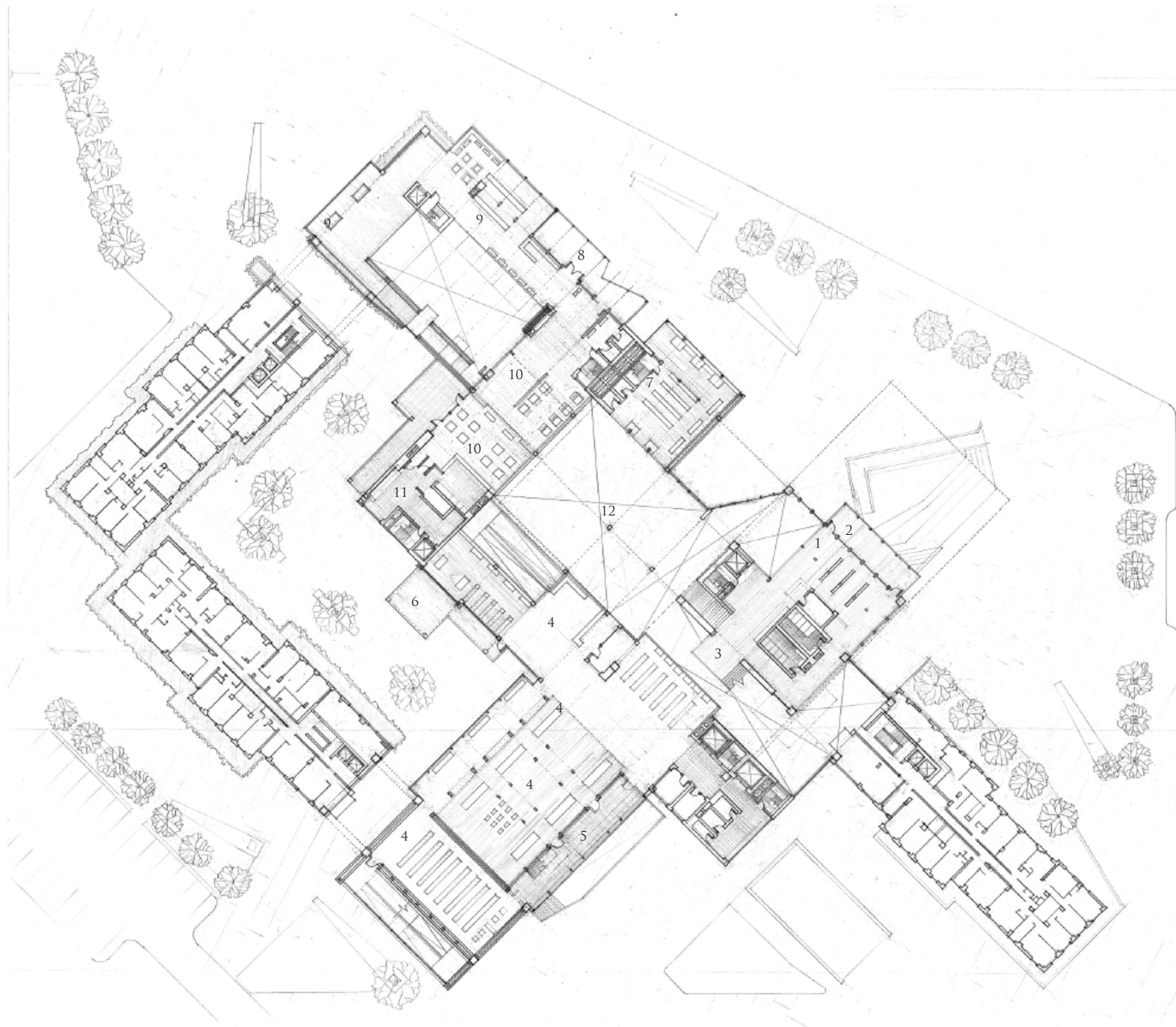
Fourth Floor Plan

- 1 Gallery (First Floor)
- 2 Theater/Gallery Administration
- 3 Theater Sequence Entrance
- 4 Youth Center
- 5 Green House (First Floor)
- 6 Library Entrance (From Youth Center)
- 7 Library Entrance (From Main Lobby)
- 8 Digital Media Center (First Floor)
- 9 Restaurant Entrance
- 10 Flexible Space (market stalls/performance space lobby)
- 11 Performance Space Overflow/Main Lobby Extension
- 12 Flexible Assembly Space
- 13 Meeting Room
- 14 Atrium
- 15 Outdoor Performance Pit
- 16 Parking Garage/Receiving Ramp
- 17 Housing Tower Lobby



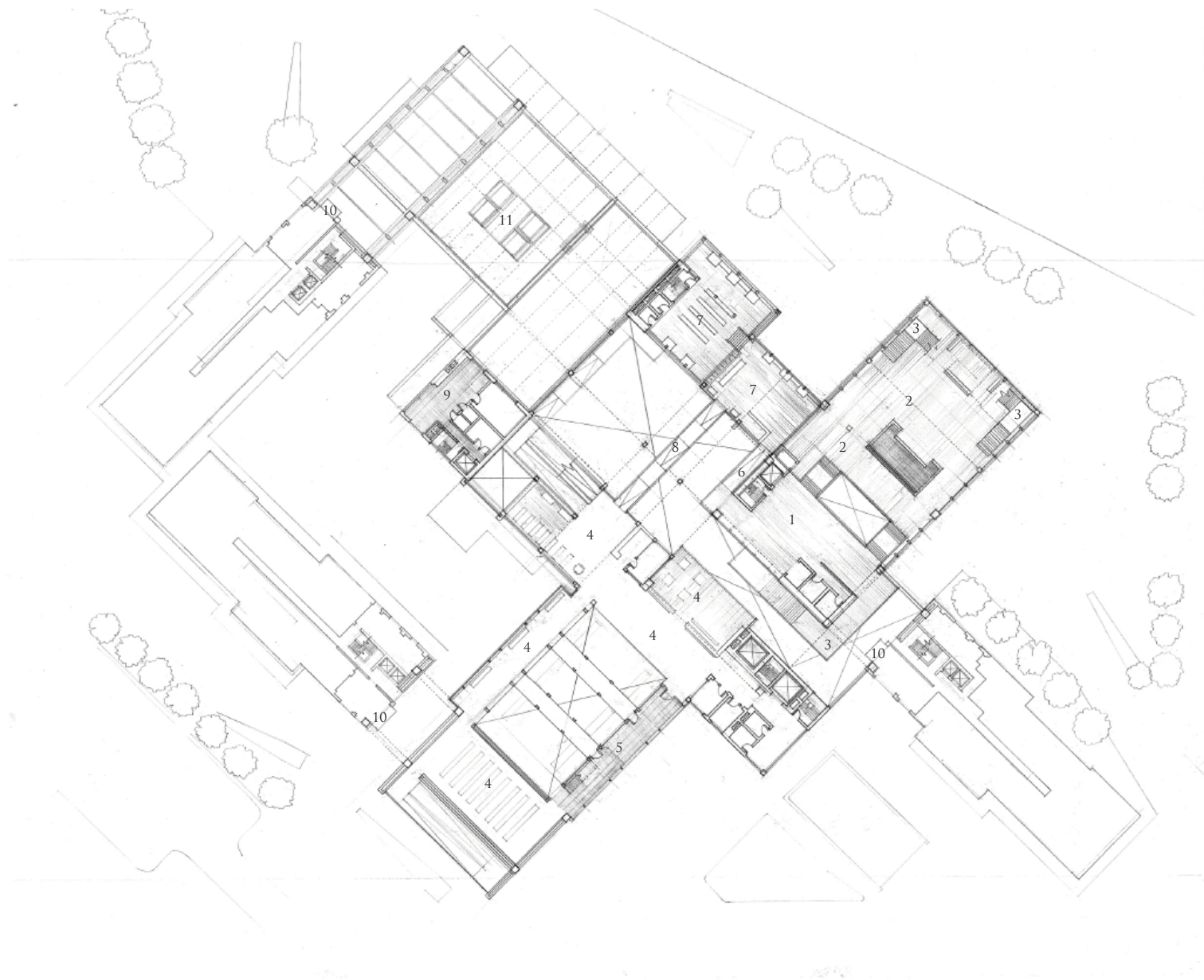
Ground Plan

- 1 Gallery (Second Floor)
- 2 Exterior Balcony
- 3 Theater Sequence (Cont.)
- 4 Library
- 5 Green House
- 6 Exterior Balcony (Library)
- 7 Digital Media Center (Second Floor)
- 8 Restaurant/Bar Exterior Balcony/Entrance
- 9 Bar
- 10 Restaurant
- 11 Kitchen
- 12 Atrium



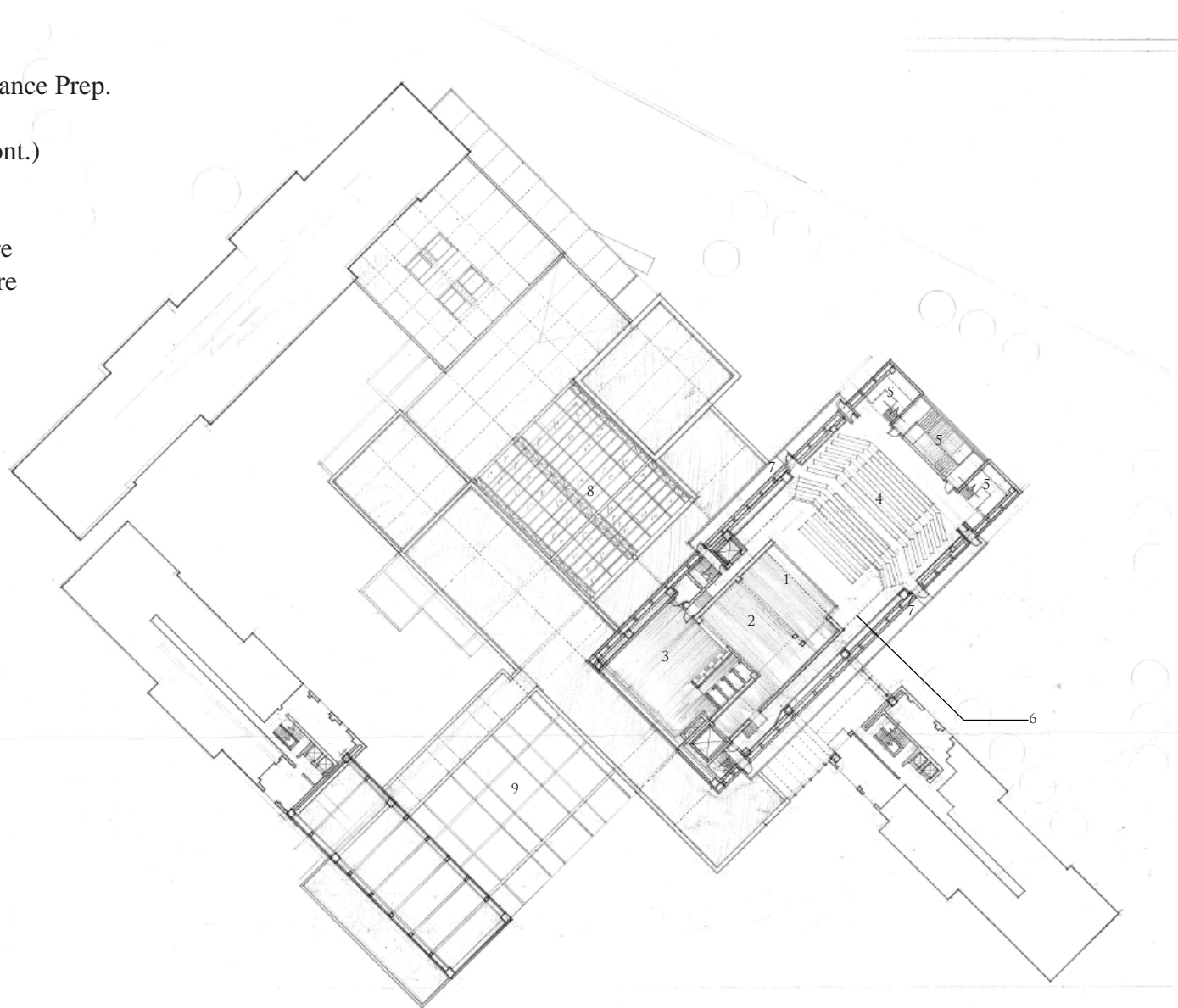
Second Floor Plan

- 1 Theater Ticketing/Lower Lobby
- 2 Main Theater Lobby/Banquet Room
- 3 Theater Sequence (Cont.)
- 4 Library
- 5 Green House
- 6 Theater/Digital Media Connection Ramp
- 7 Digital Media Center (Third Floor)
- 8 Library/Digital Media Connection Ramp
- 9 Restaurant Offices/Break room
- 10 Housing Balconies (Addition)
- 11 Assembly Space Vision Wells

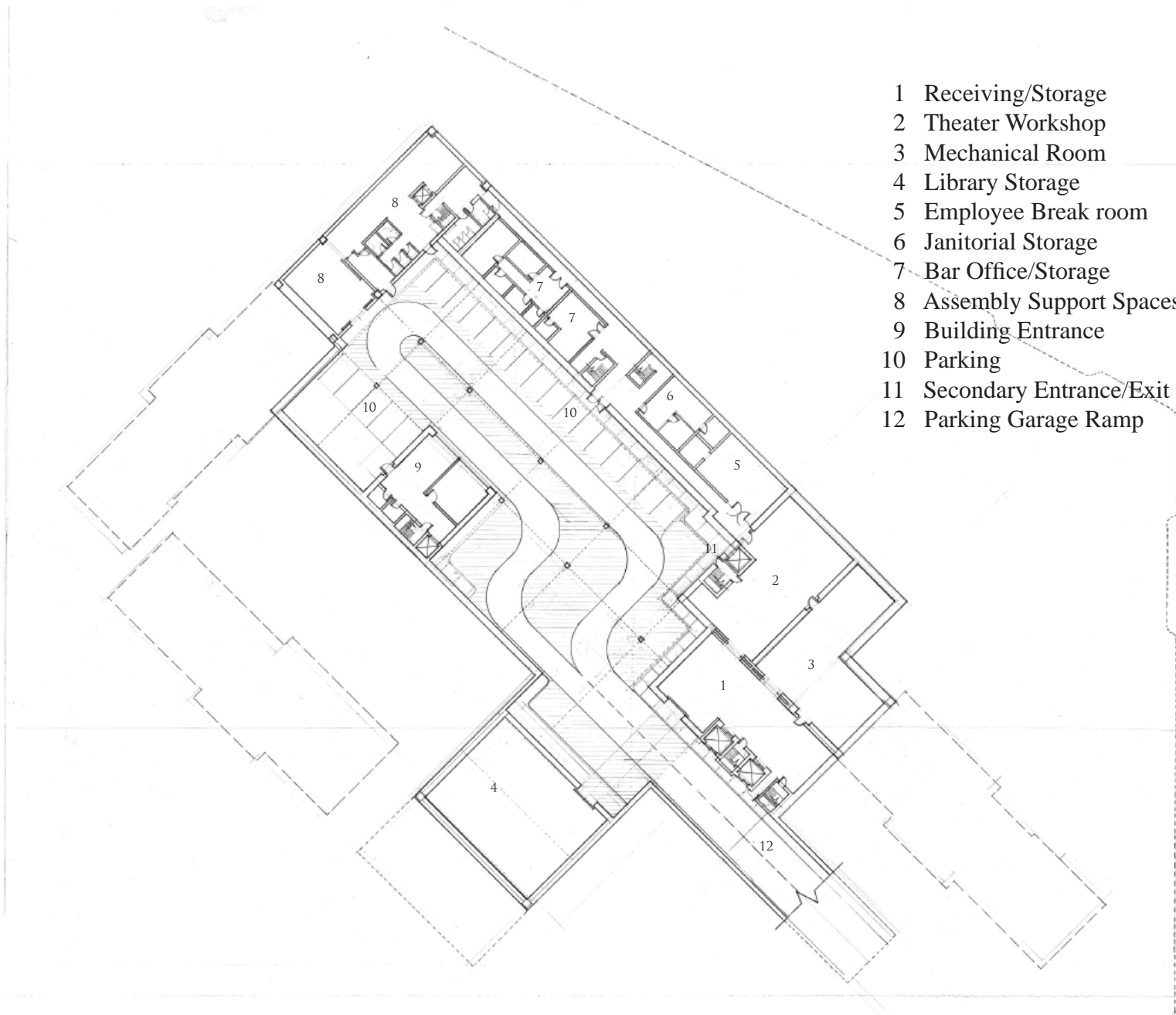


Third Floor Plan

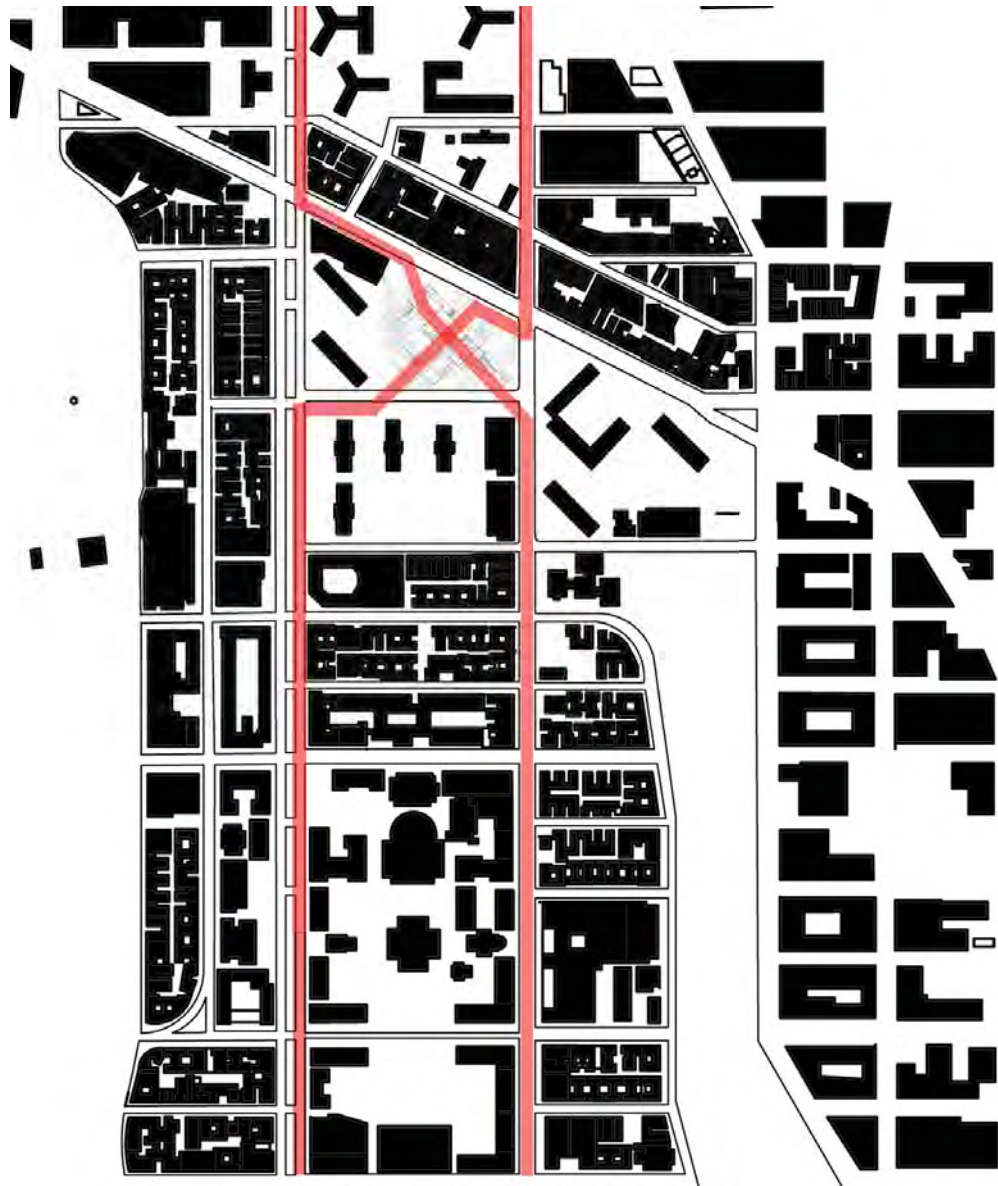
- 1 Main Stage
- 2 Back Stage
- 3 Green Room/Performance Prep.
- 4 Seating
- 5 Theater Sequence (Cont.)
- 6 Balcony Edge
- 7 Emergency Egress
- 8 Atrium Glass Structure
- 9 Library Glass Structure



Fourth Floor Plan



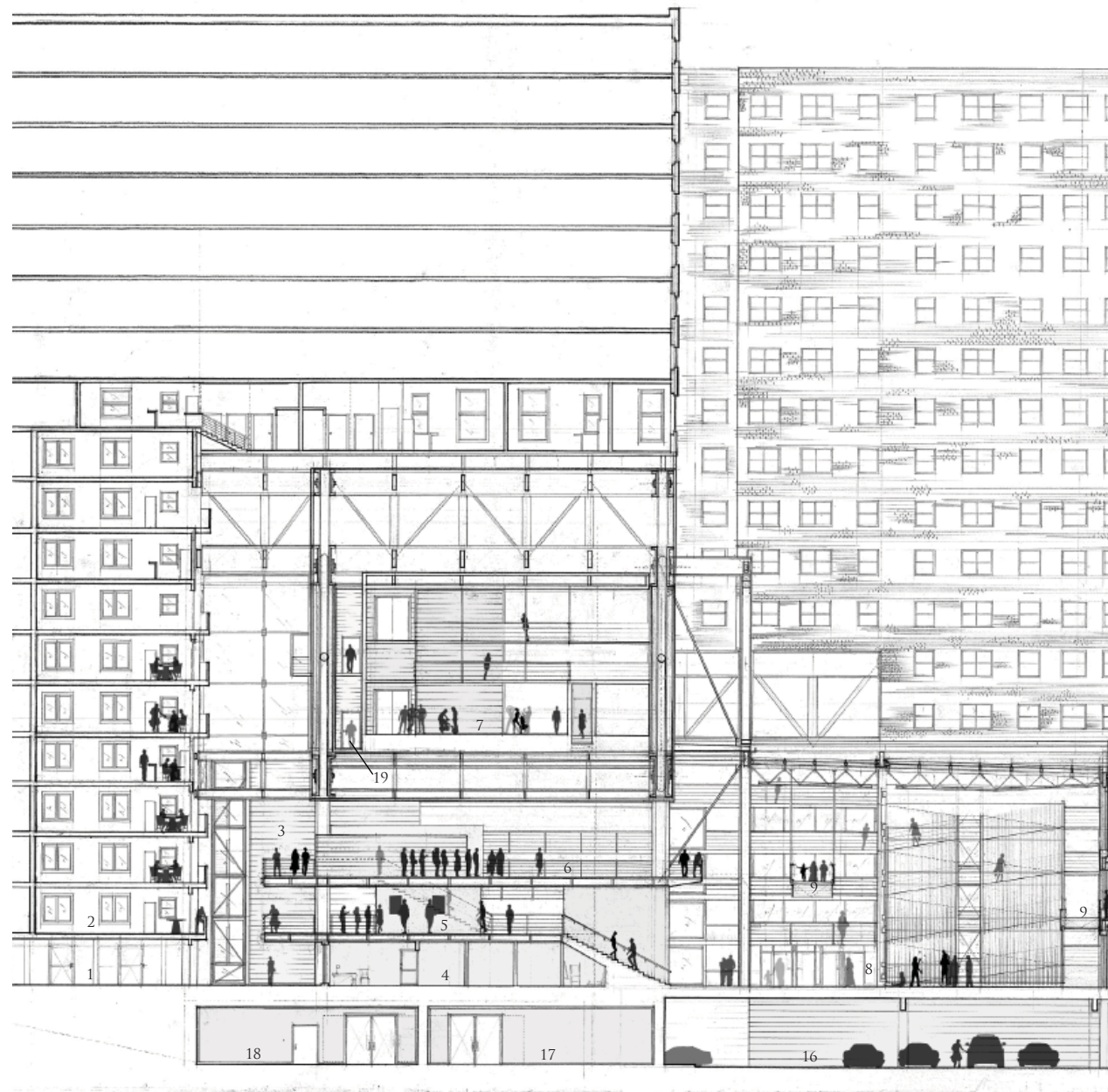
Basement Plan



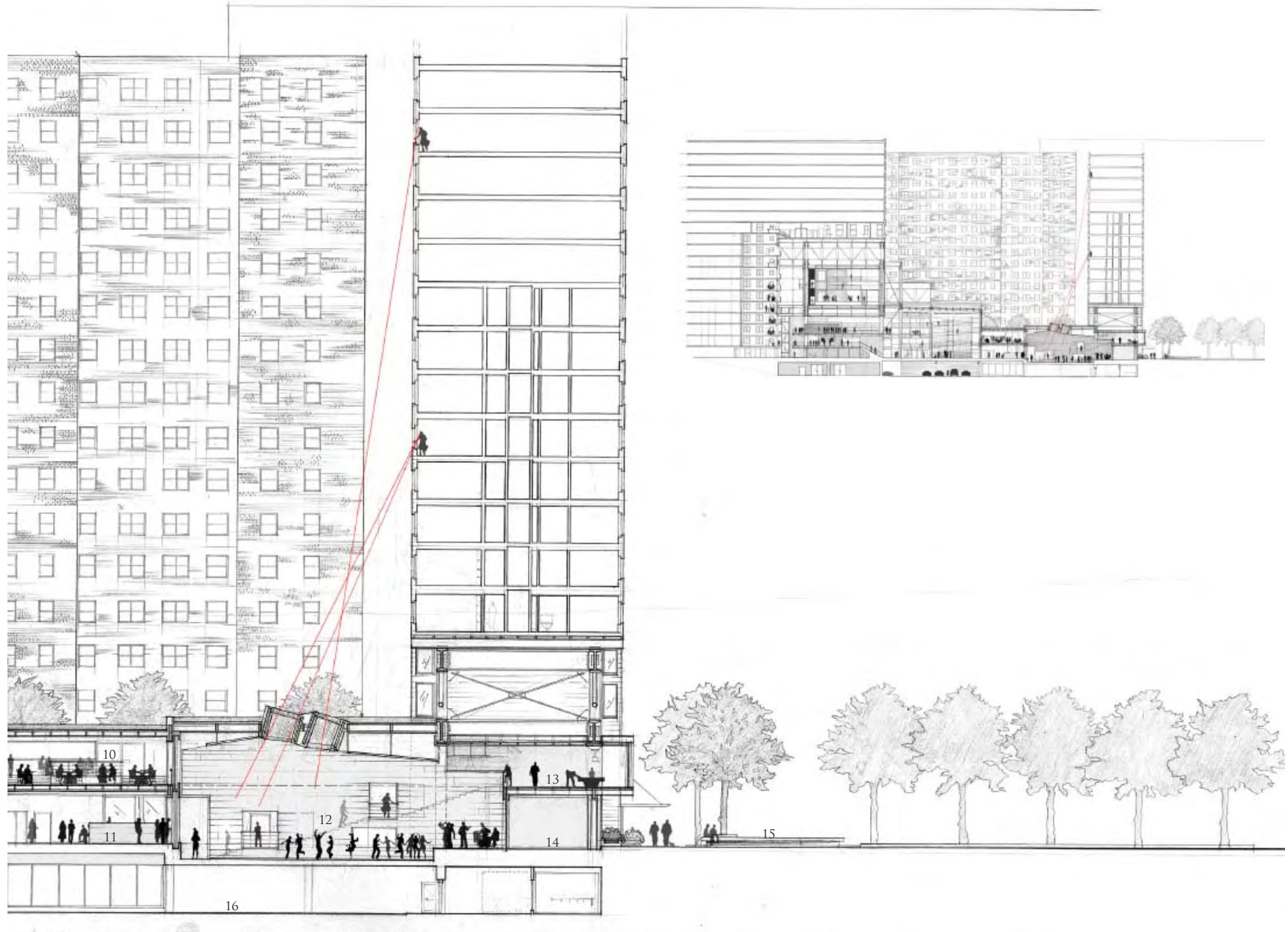
Major Pedestrian Paths Through the Building

In the Atrium of this project there is an intersection of two different pedestrian paths that flow through the site. This strengthens the idea of bringing the public realm into the project.

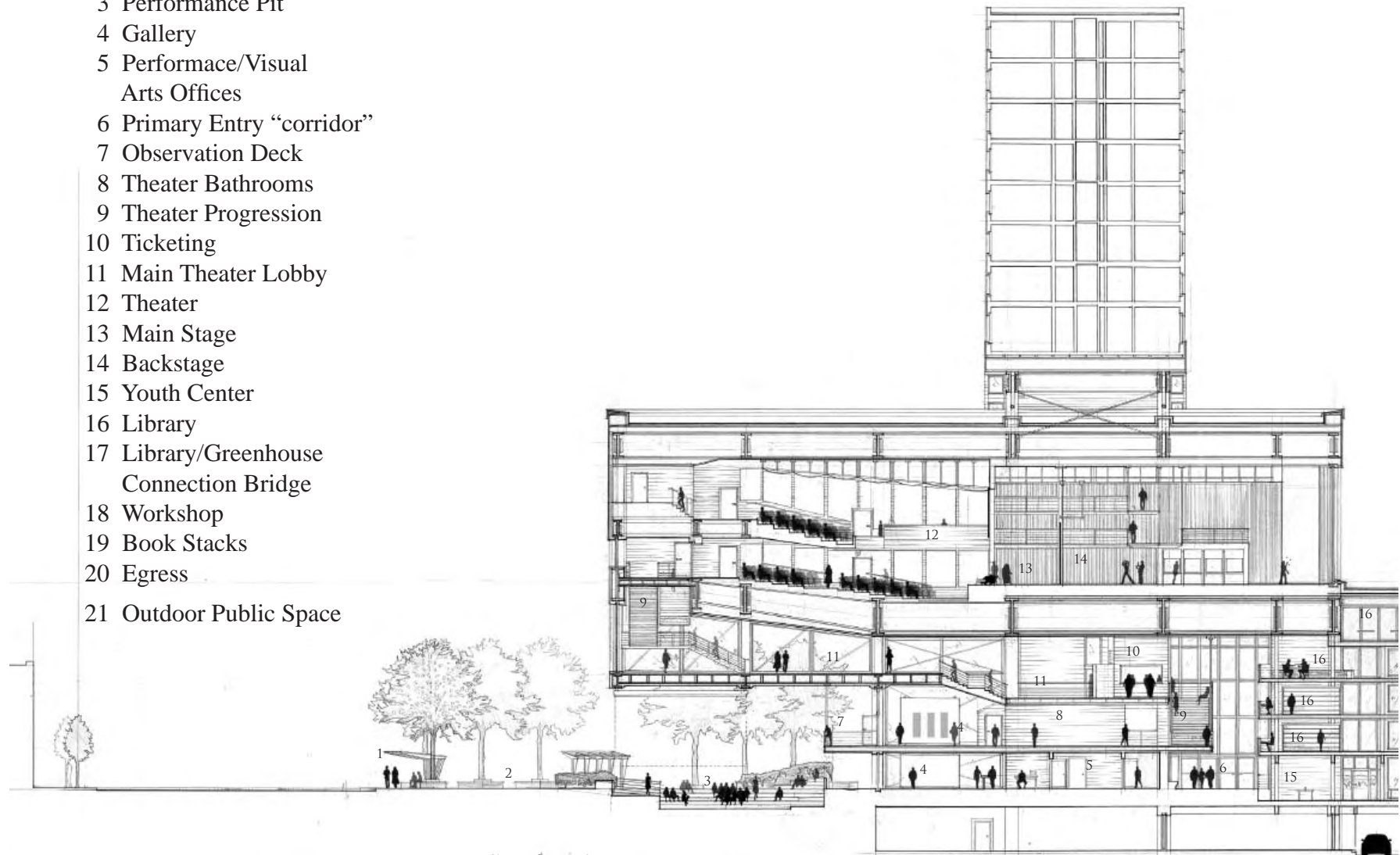
- 1 Existing Housing
Lobby
- 2 Public Housing
- 3 Buffer Space
- 4 Performing/Visual
Arts Offices
- 5 Bathrooms and
Gallery Level 2
- 6 Ticketing/Main
Theater Lobby
- 7 Backstage
- 8 Atrium
- 9 Library/Digital
Media connections
- 10 Restaurant
- 11 Artrium Extension
- 12 Flexible Assembly Space
- 13 Bar
- 14 Backstage
- 15 Outdoor Public
Space
- 16 Basement Parking
- 17 Theater Storage
- 18 Mecahnical Room
- 19 Emergency Exit



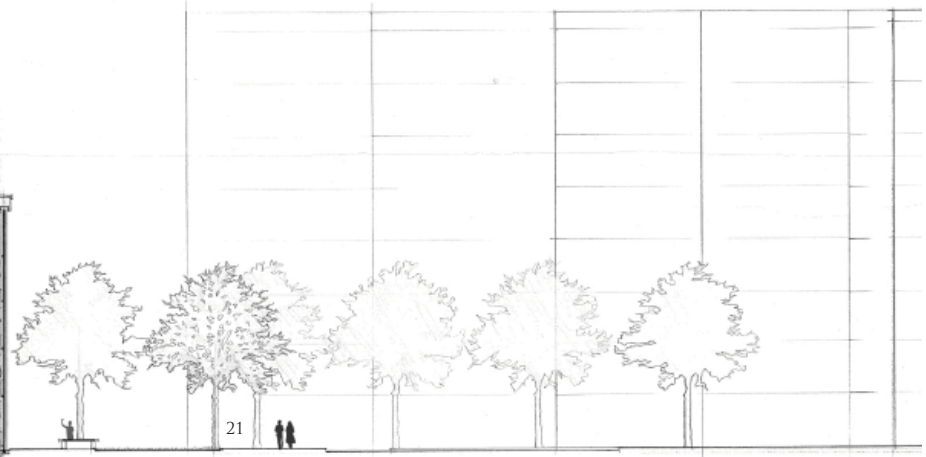
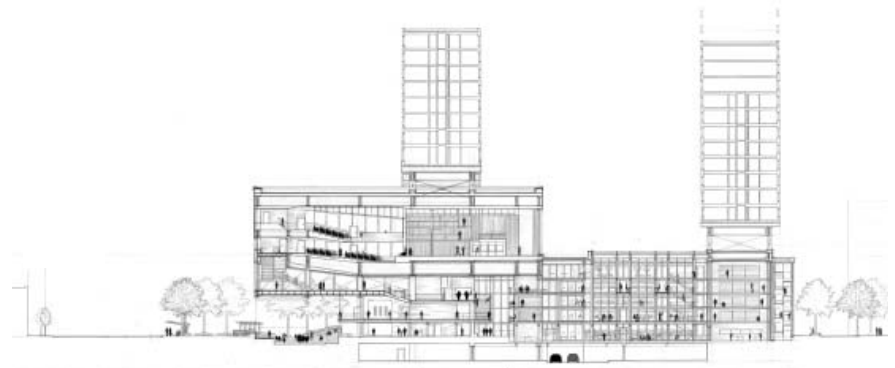
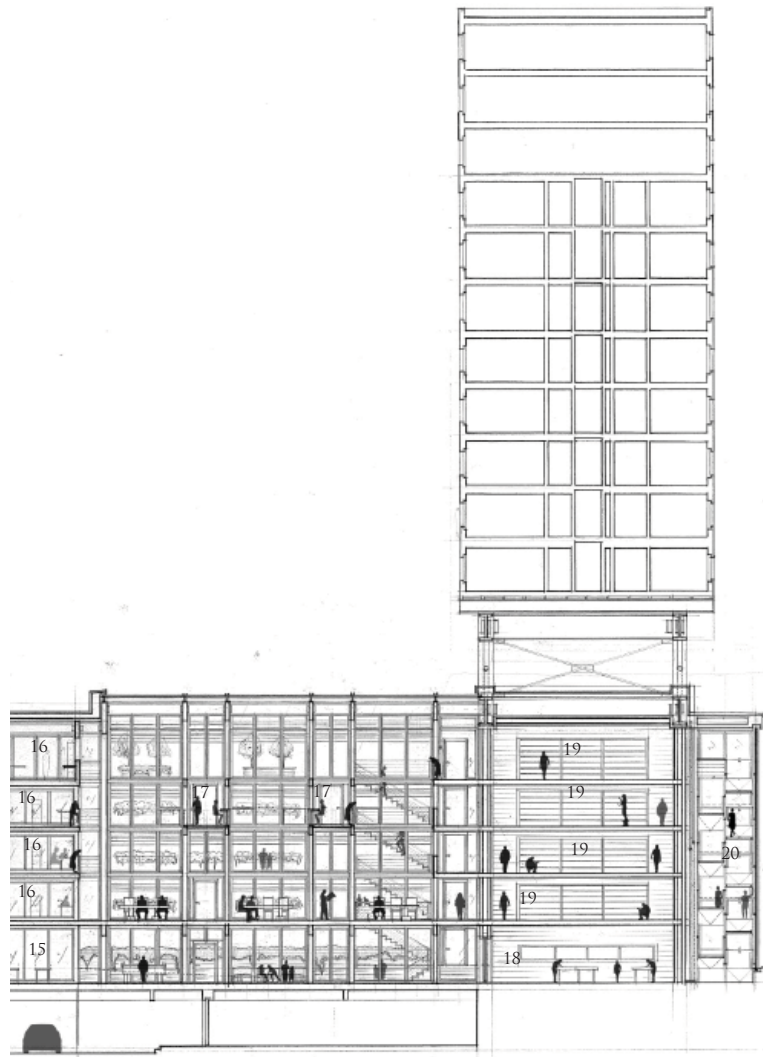
Long Section 1



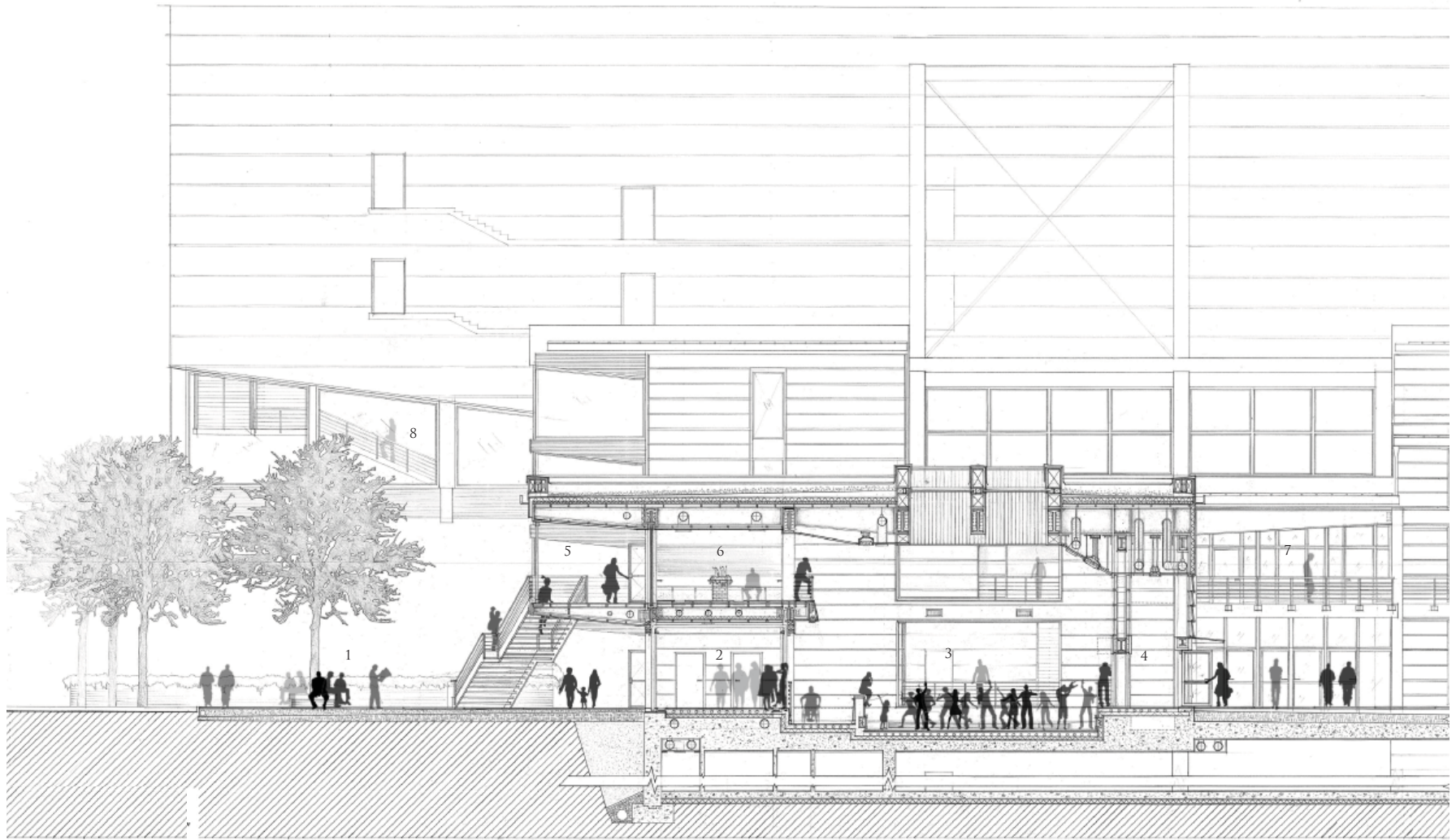
- 1 Bus Stop
- 2 Sidewalk
- 3 Performance Pit
- 4 Gallery
- 5 Performace/Visual Arts Offices
- 6 Primary Entry "corridor"
- 7 Observation Deck
- 8 Theater Bathrooms
- 9 Theater Progression
- 10 Ticketing
- 11 Main Theater Lobby
- 12 Theater
- 13 Main Stage
- 14 Backstage
- 15 Youth Center
- 16 Library
- 17 Library/Greenhouse Connection Bridge
- 18 Workshop
- 19 Book Stacks
- 20 Egress
- 21 Outdoor Public Space



Long Section 2

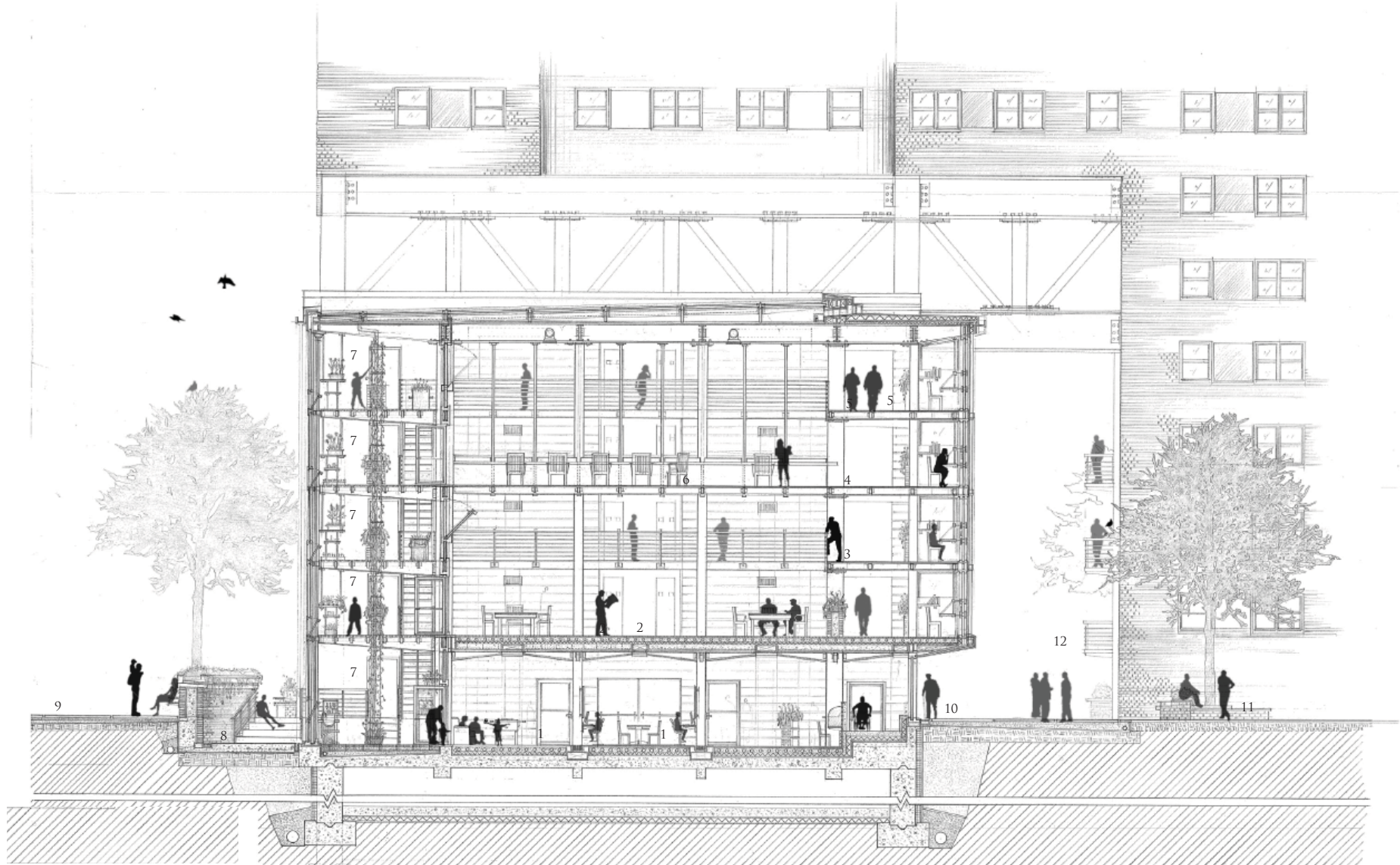


- 1 Sidewalk
- 2 Flexible Space (market stalls/assembly space lobby)
- 3 Flexible Assembly Space
- 4 Entry (Access to Above and Below)
- 5 Restaurant/Bar Balcony Entry
- 6 Restaurant/Bar Lobby
- 7 Restaurant Outdoor Balcony
- 8 Theater Lobby



Short Section 1

- 1 Youth Center
- 2 Library, First Floor
- 3 Library, Second Floor
- 4 Library, Third Floor
- 5 Library, Fourth Floor
- 6 Library/Green House Connection Bridge
- 7 Green House
- 8 Emergency Exit/Outdoor Horticulture Area
- 9 Outdoor Public Space
- 10 Primary Entry "Corridor"
- 11 Courtyard
- 12 Private Housing Balcony



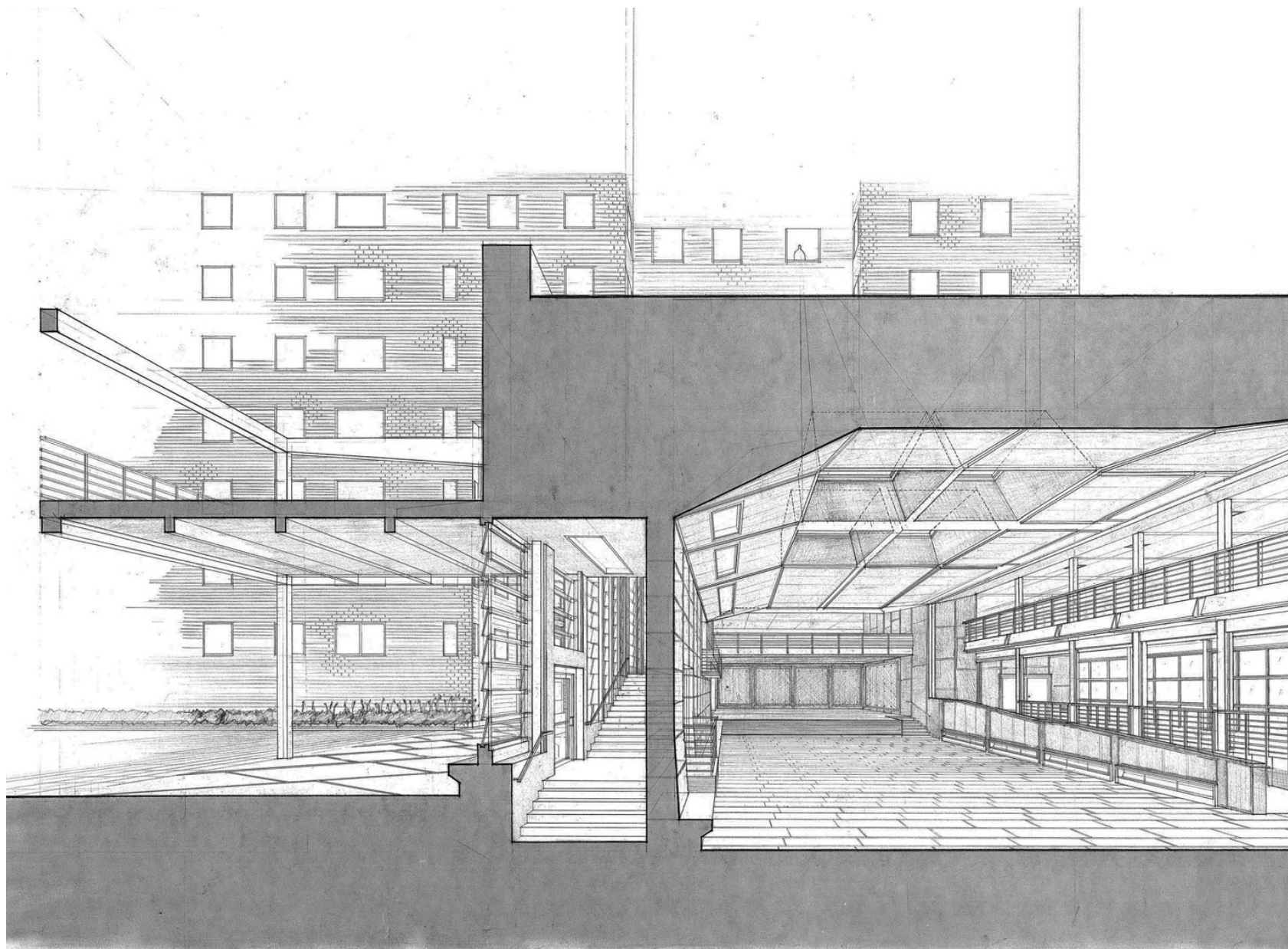
Short Section 2



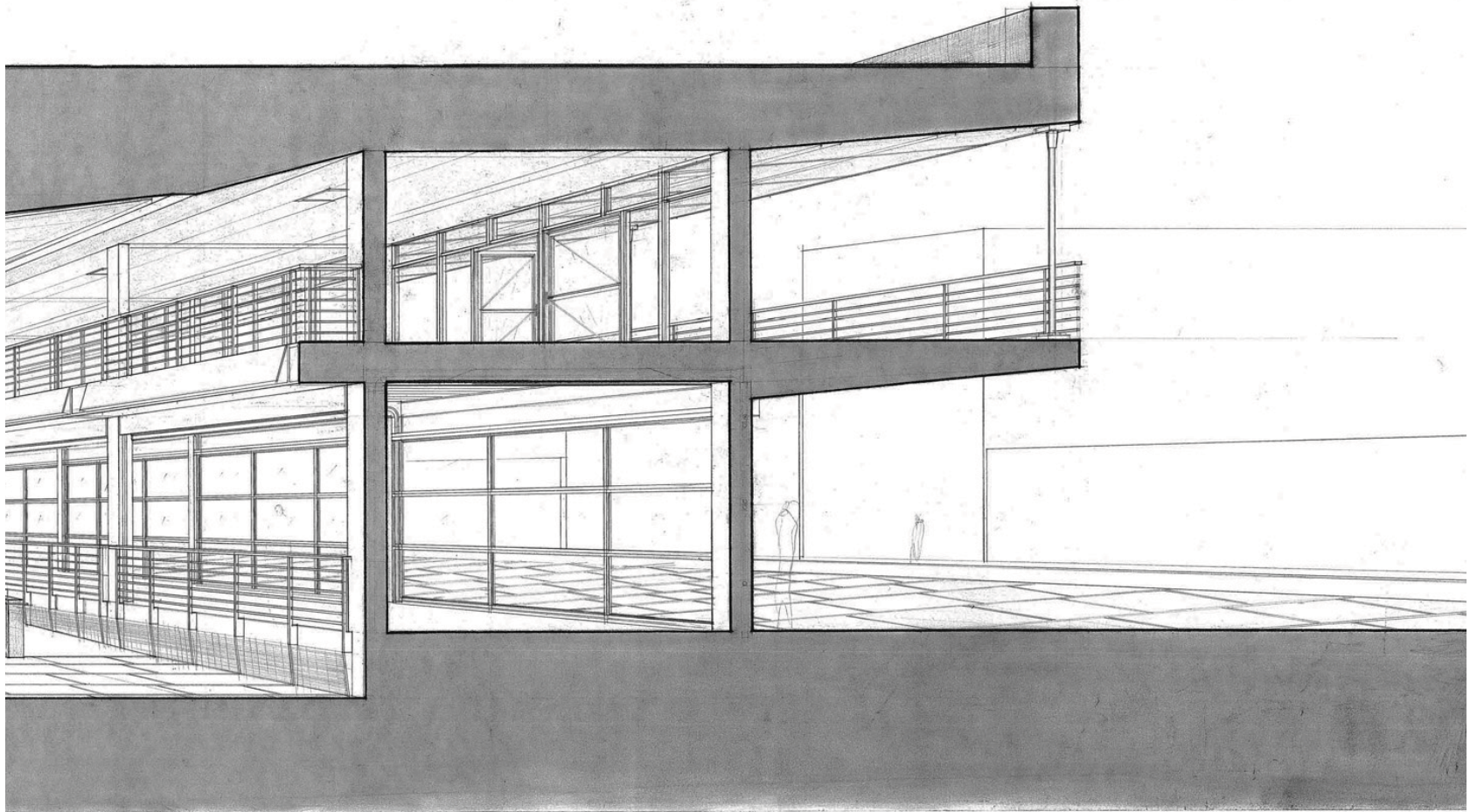
Perspective as seen from the intersection of Amsterdam Ave. and 125th Street



The cantilever envelope is shown here with a perforated metal. This was part of an experiment to create a semi-transparent wall.



Section-Perspective through the Flexible Assembly Space



Existing Housing tower seen through the glass curtain wall. _____

New Balconies from Housing Tower which project into this buildings public space. _____

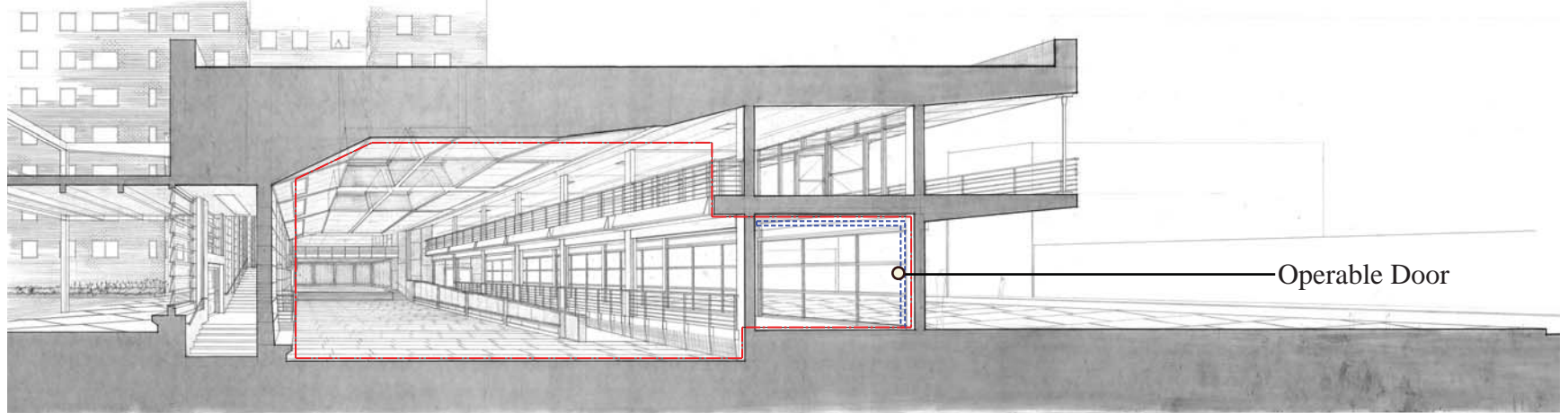
Ticket Booth _____

This space is a direct manifestation of my problem statement. The drawing shows one common space where multiple programs overlap and coexist. From the Housing balconies, one can view the public events happening within and vice-versa.

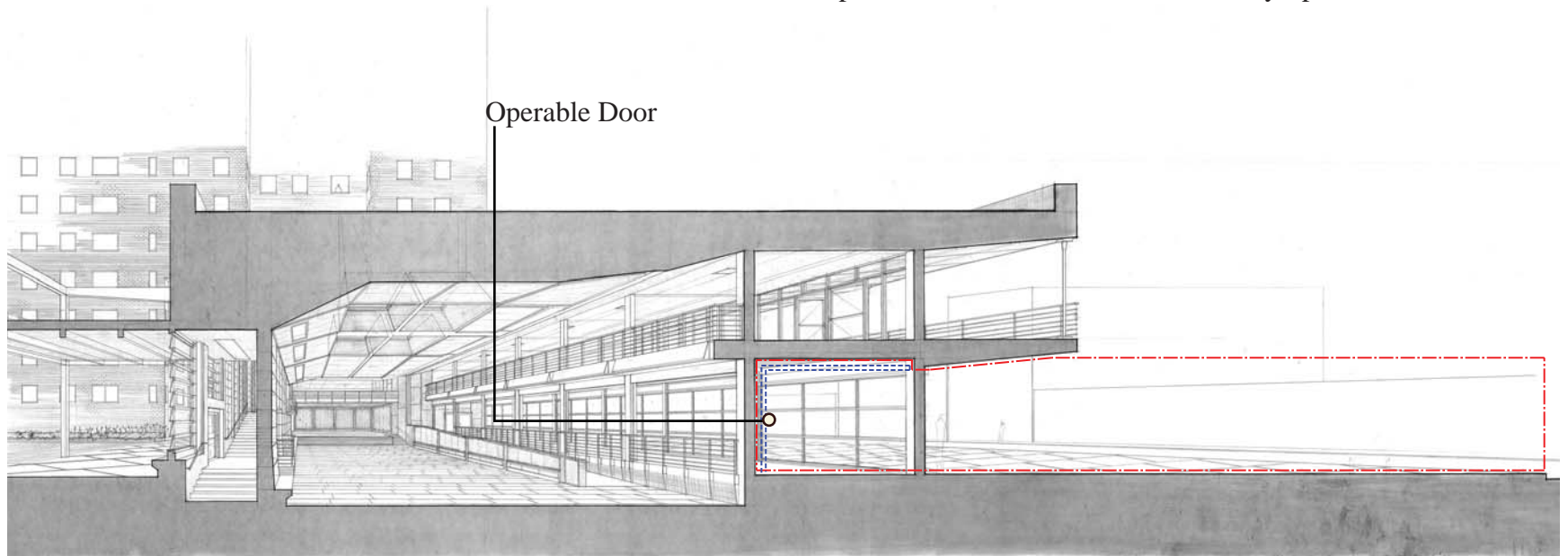


View from the library looking toward the Theater circulation sequence.

Diagram of Dual-Functioning Glass Door System



Door Open to Inside: Mezzanine to Assembly Space

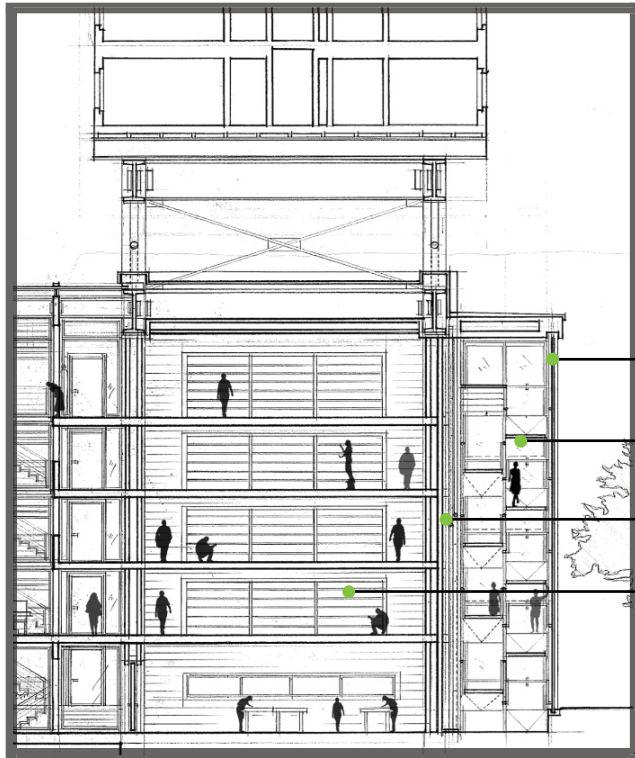


Door Open to Outside: Continuous Market Outside



North Library Elevation

The Layering of transparent and semi-transparent walls reveals the activities and program of the rooms within

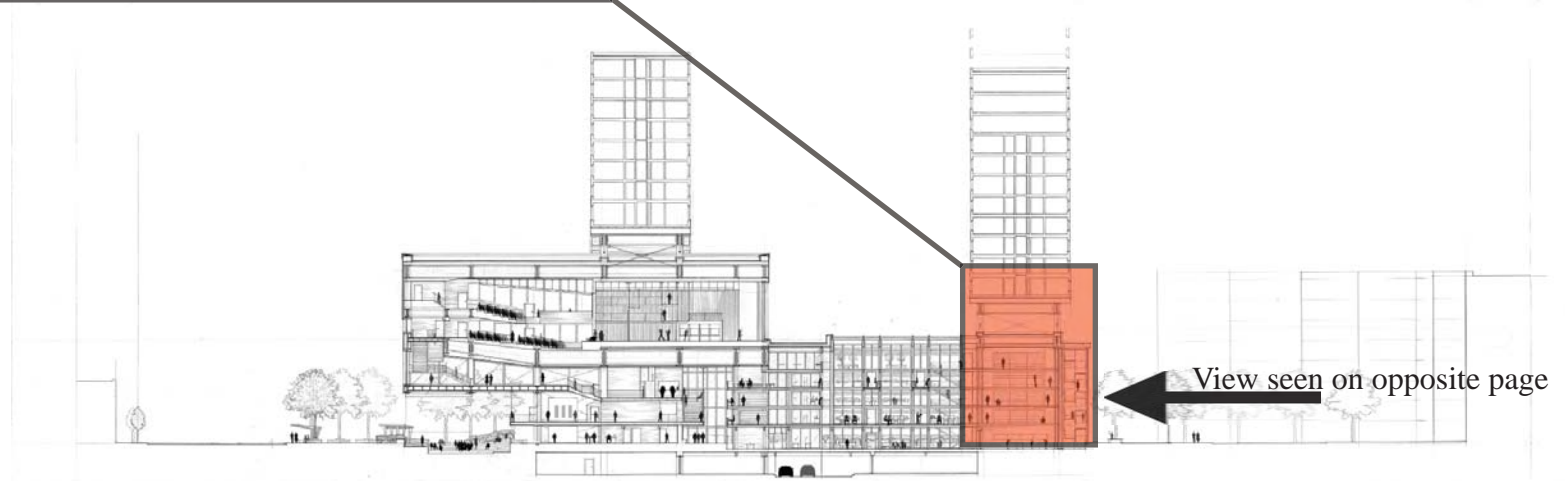


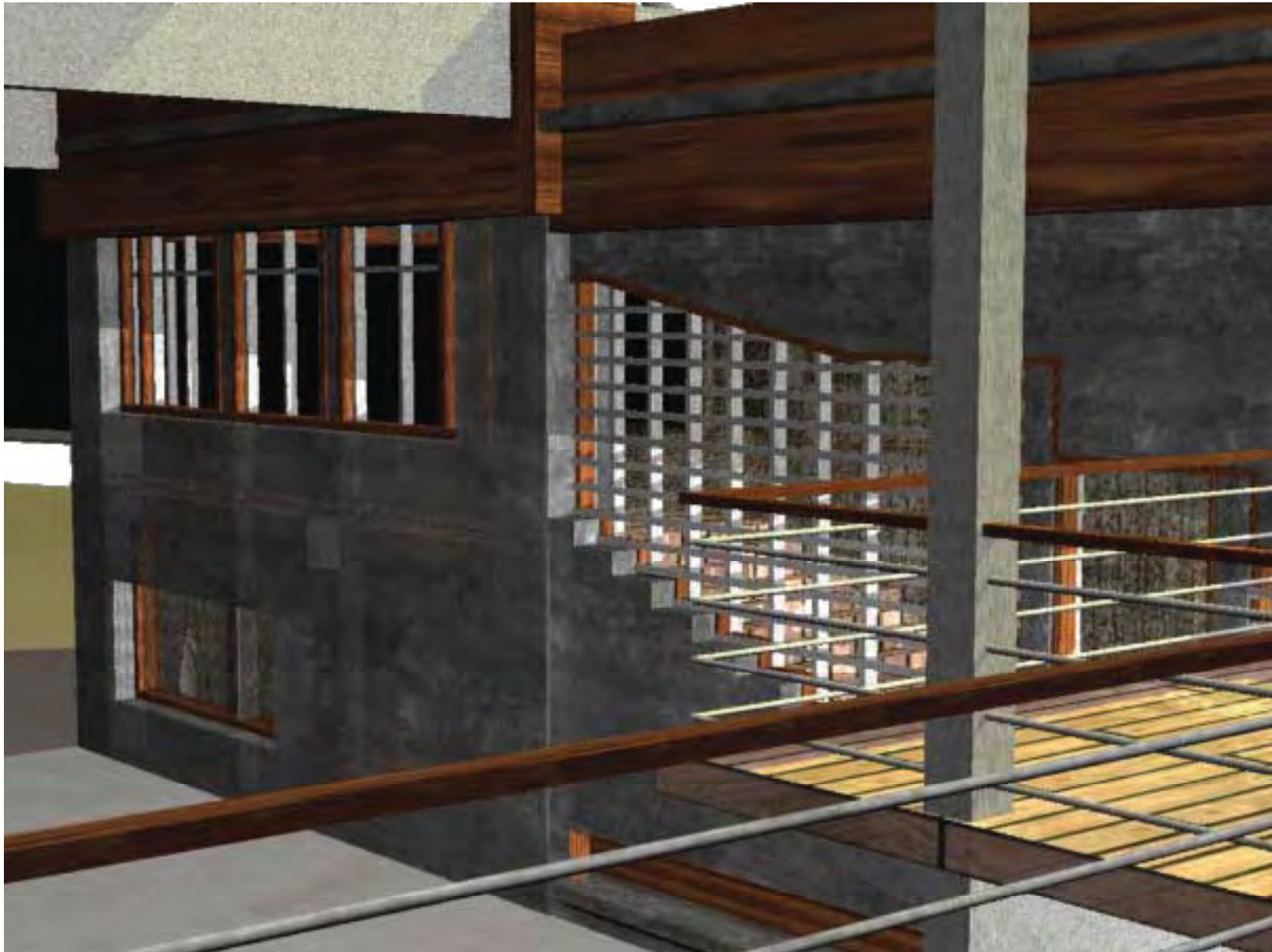
Glazed Exterior Wall

Circulation Ramp

Translucent Concrete wall

Book Stacks

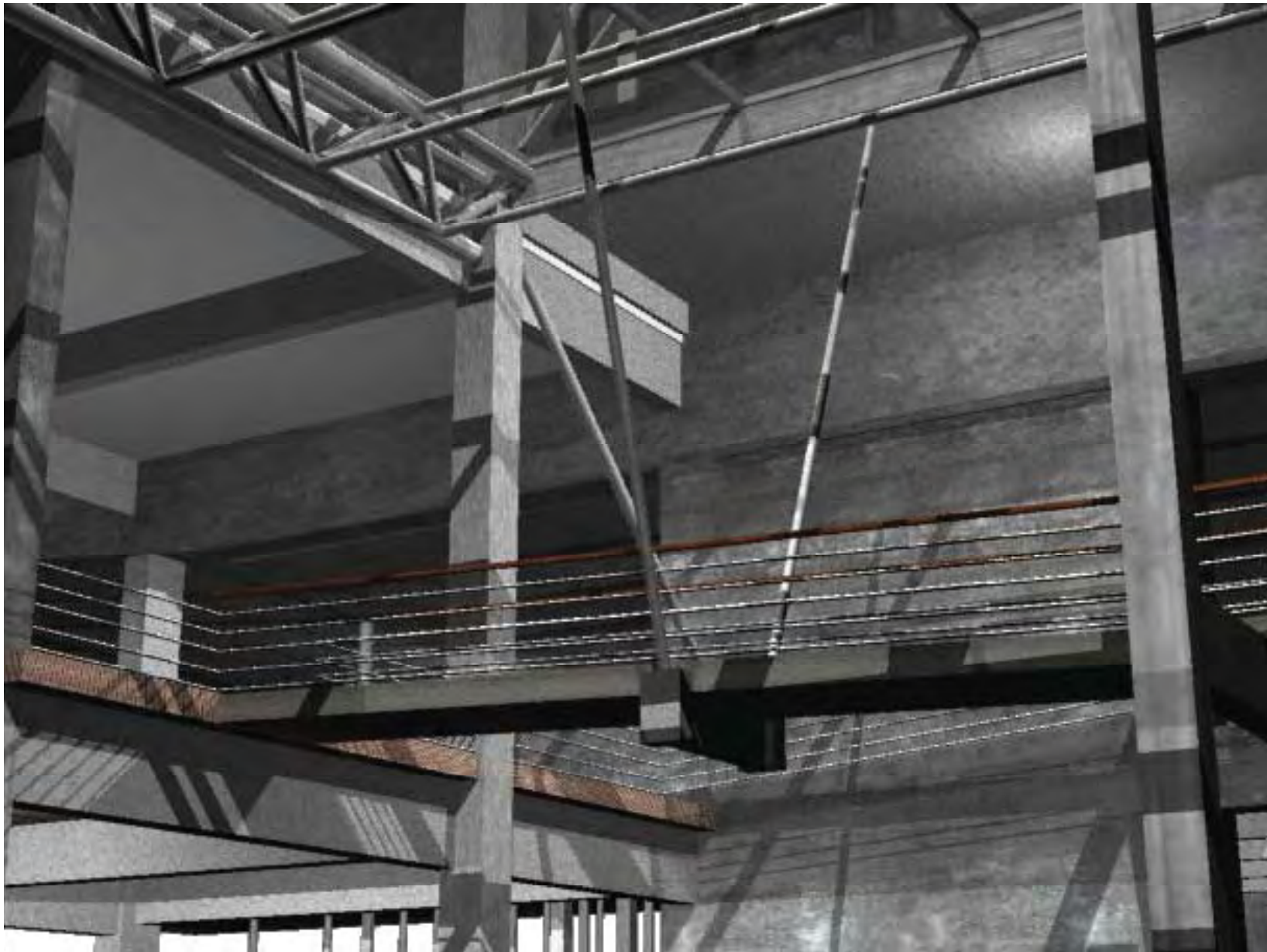




View from Restaurant Balcony looking out toward the sidewalk (in the direction of the train stop)



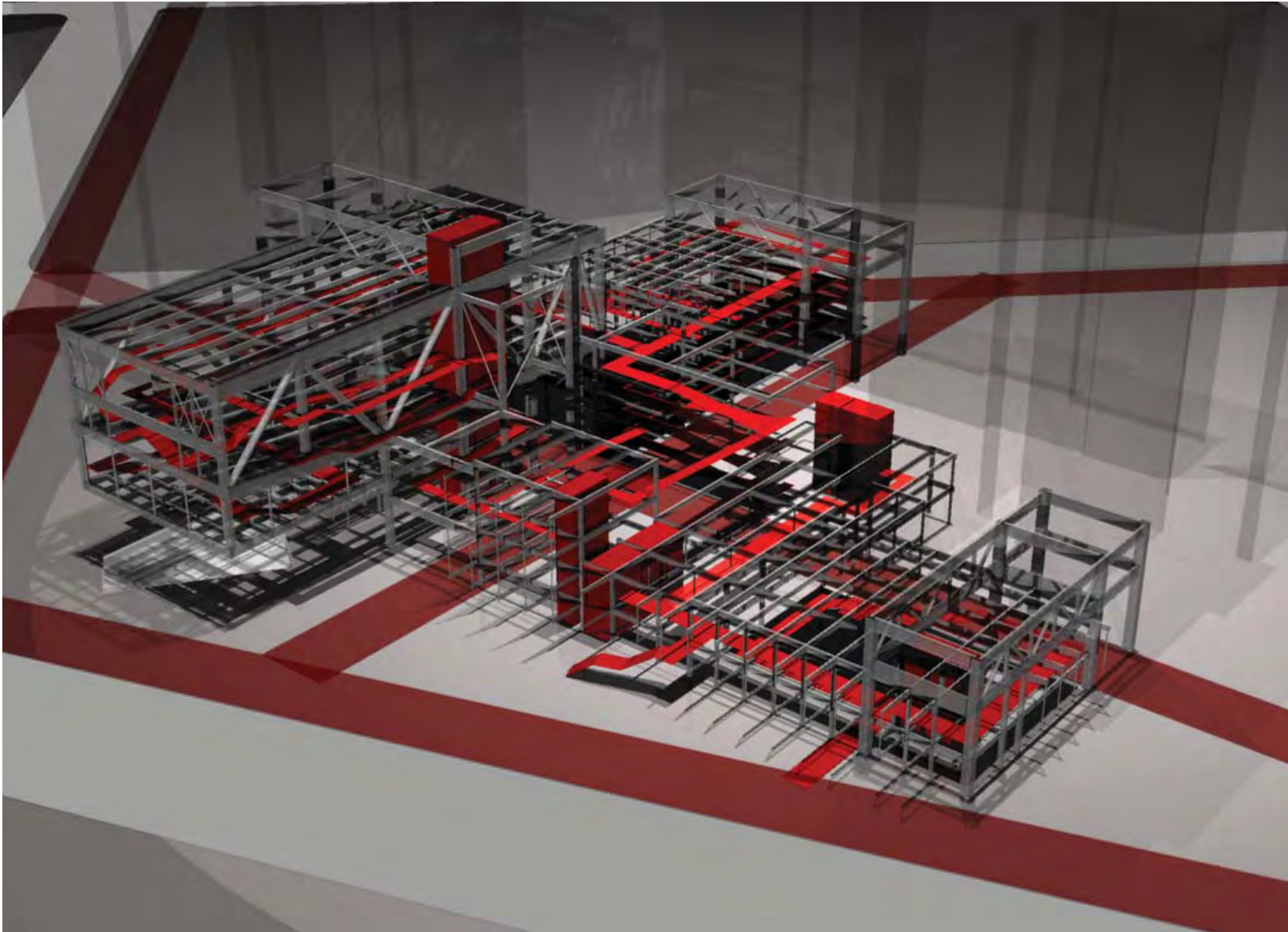
Spatial Study from inside the atrium looking upward toward the digital media center.



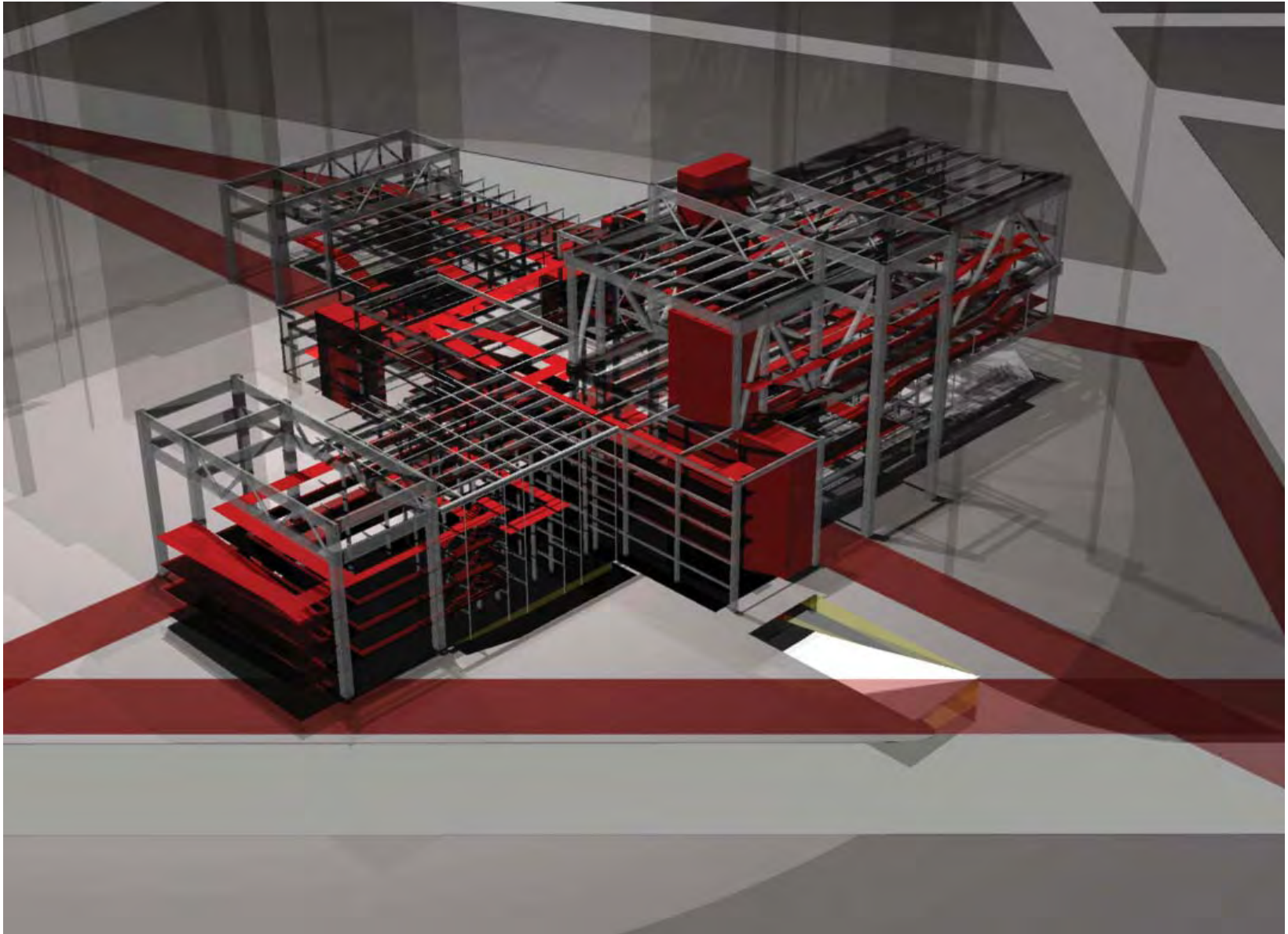
Spacial Study from inside the atrium looking upward toward the theater lobby.



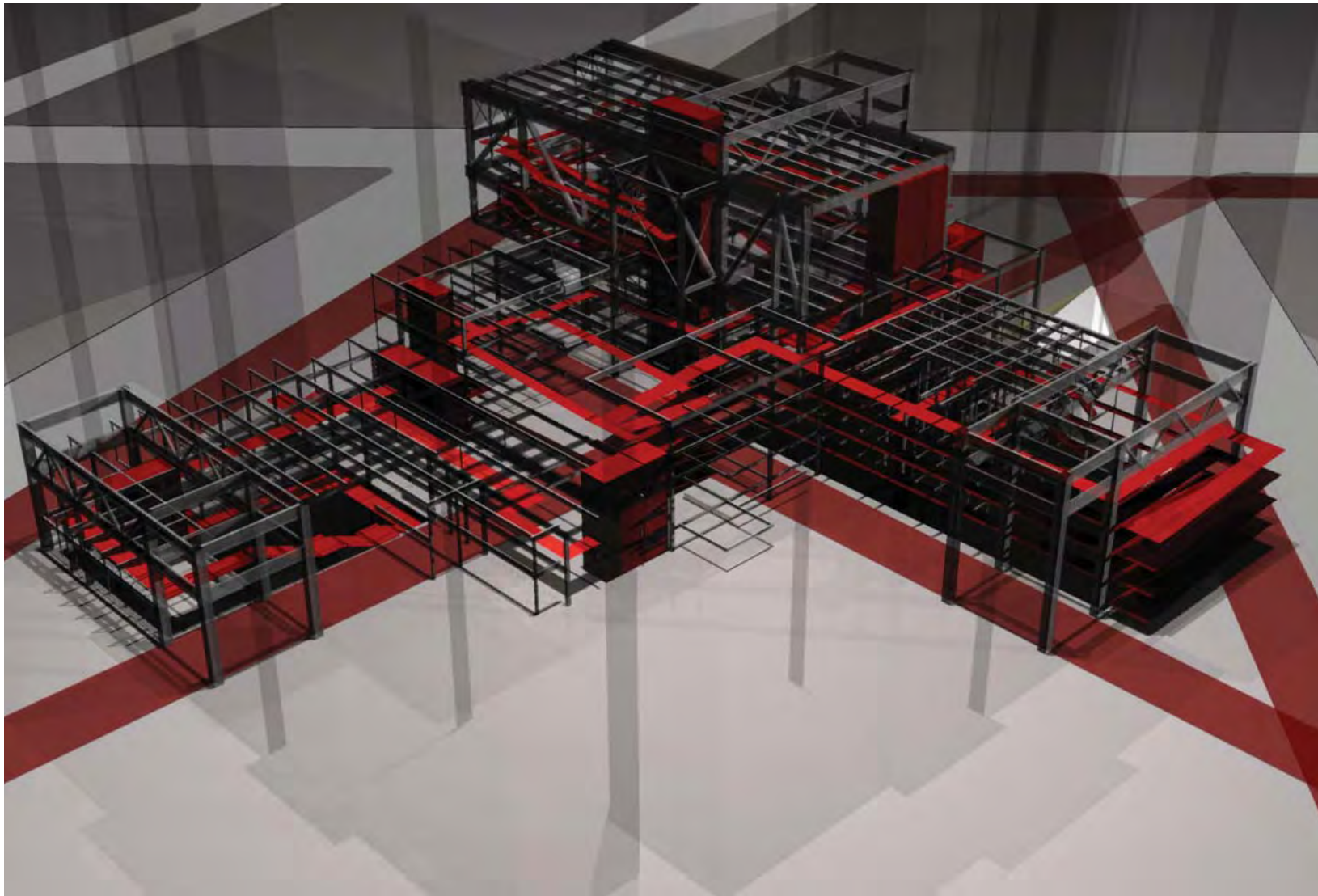
View from the bridge between the library and the Theater Lobby and Digital Media Center.



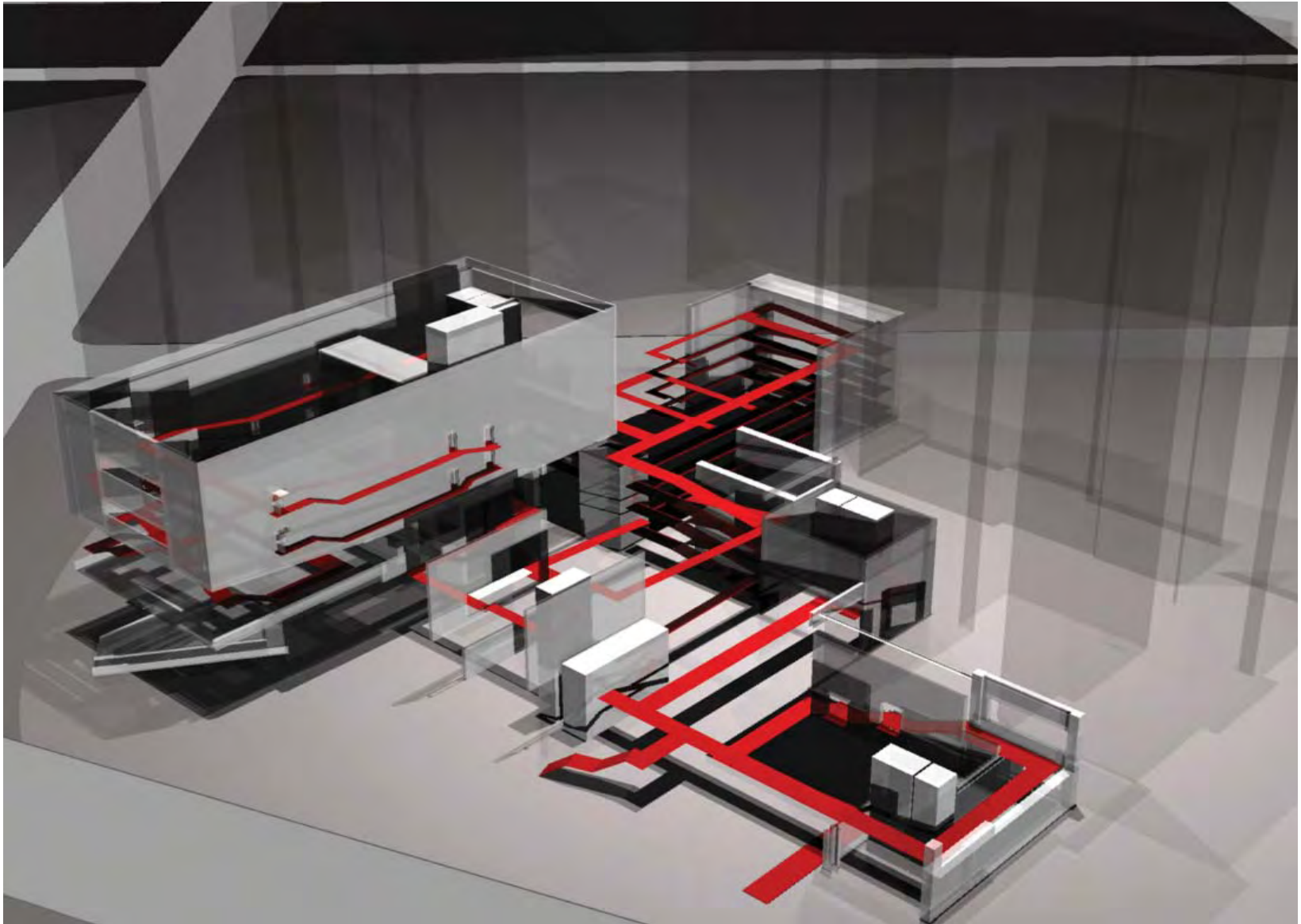
Main Circulation Through Building



Main Circulation Through Building



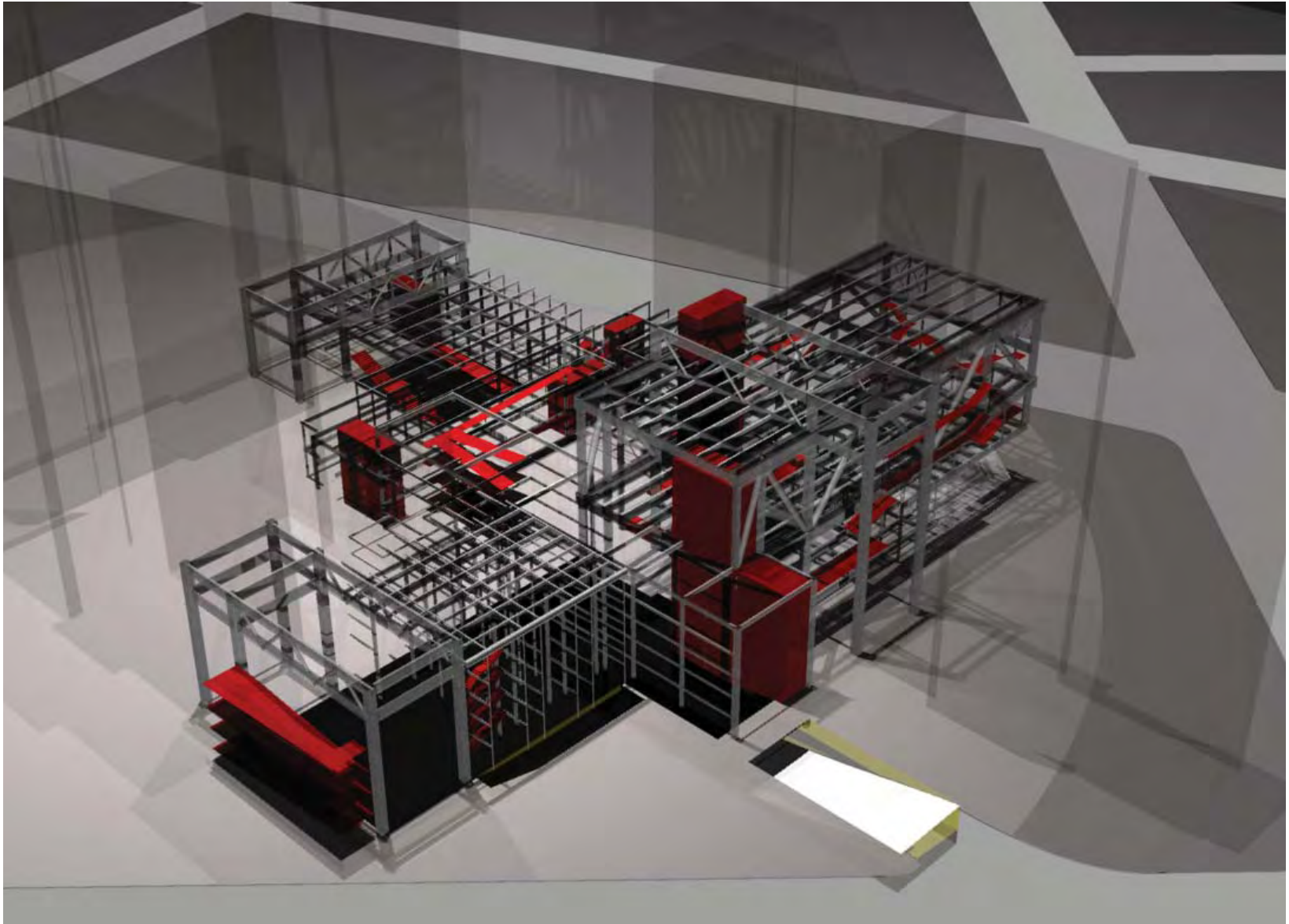
Main Circulation Through Building



Main Circulation Through Building with Load Bearing Walls



Vertical Circulation and Mechanical Cores



Vertical Circulation and Mechanical Cores

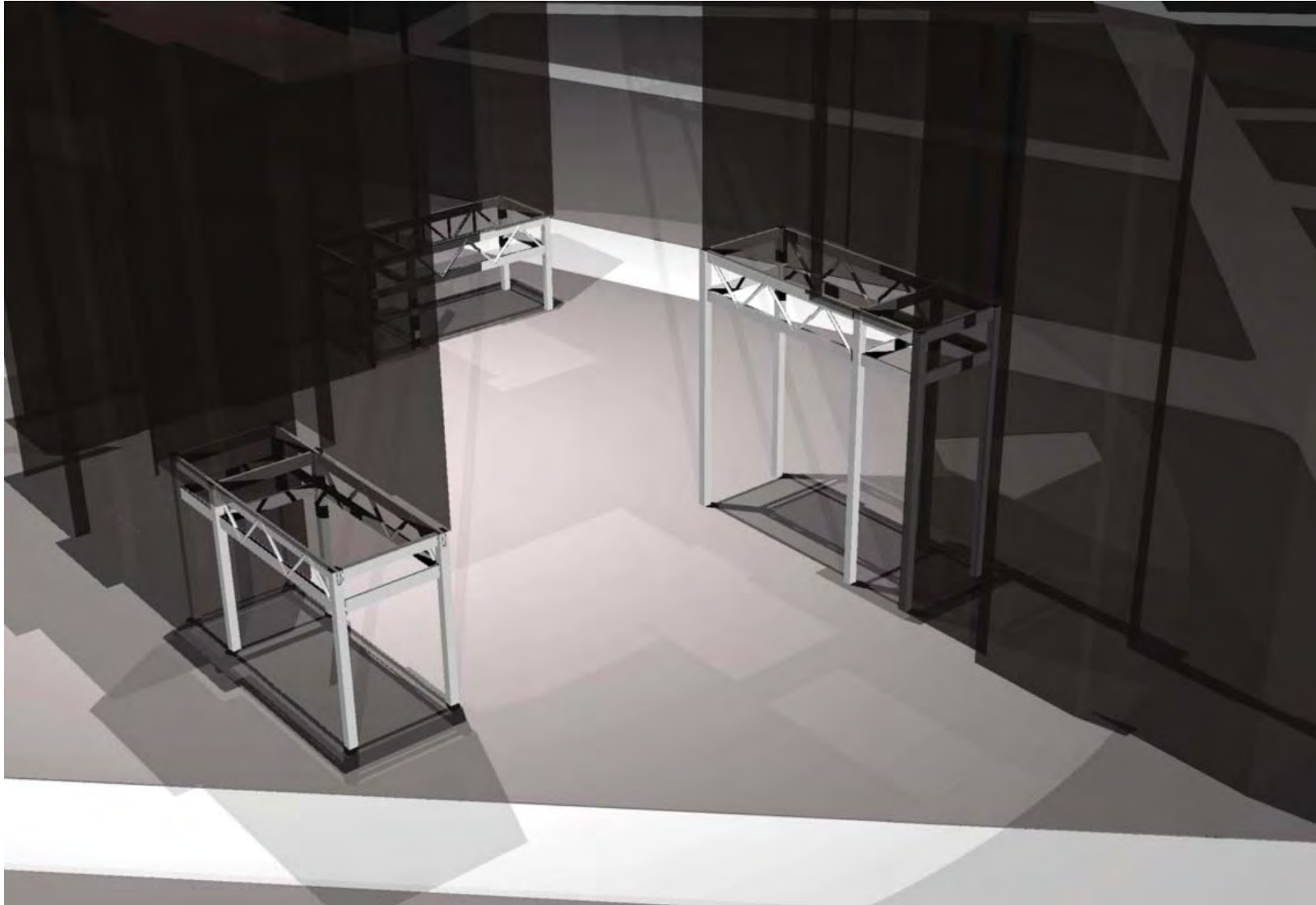
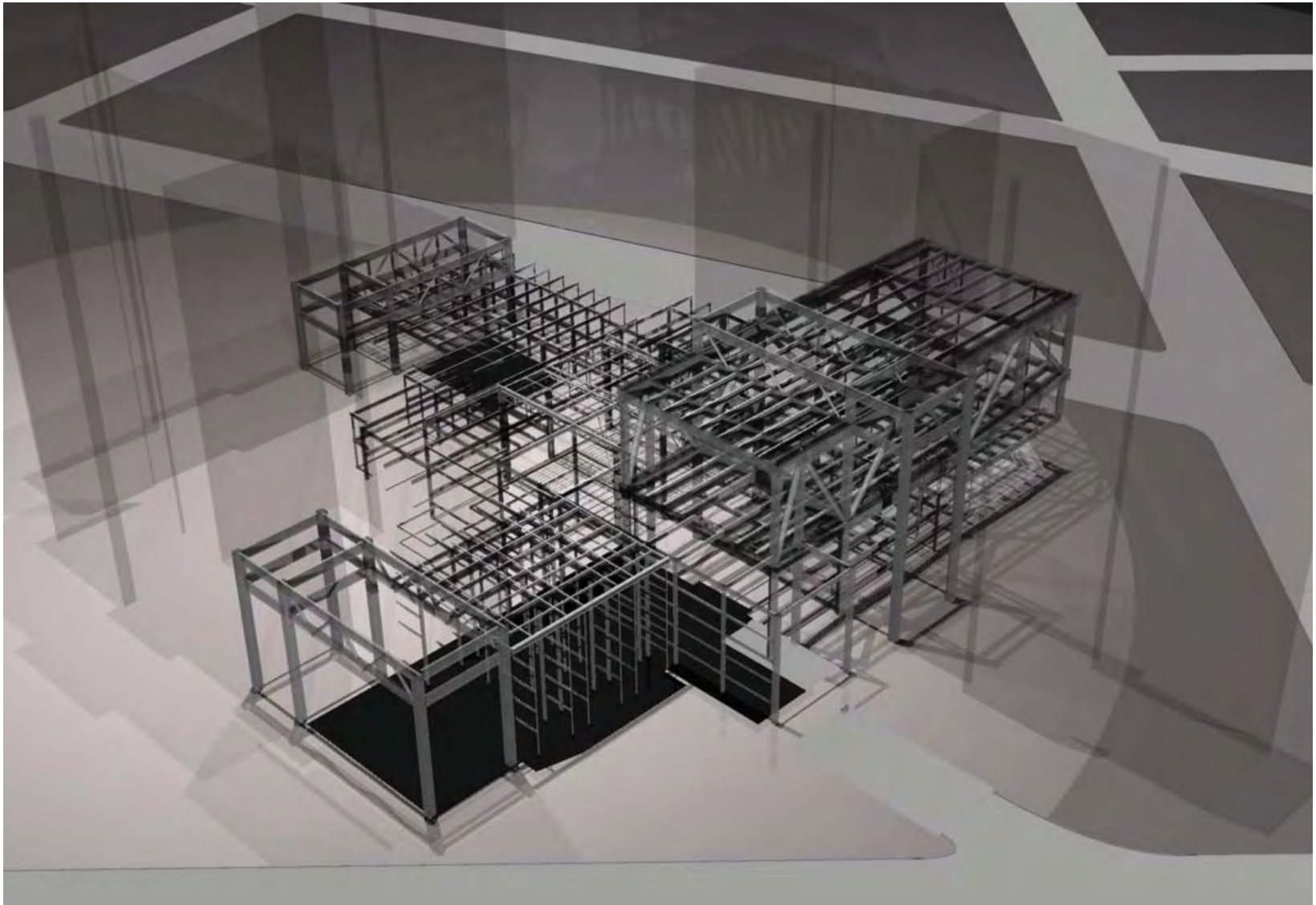
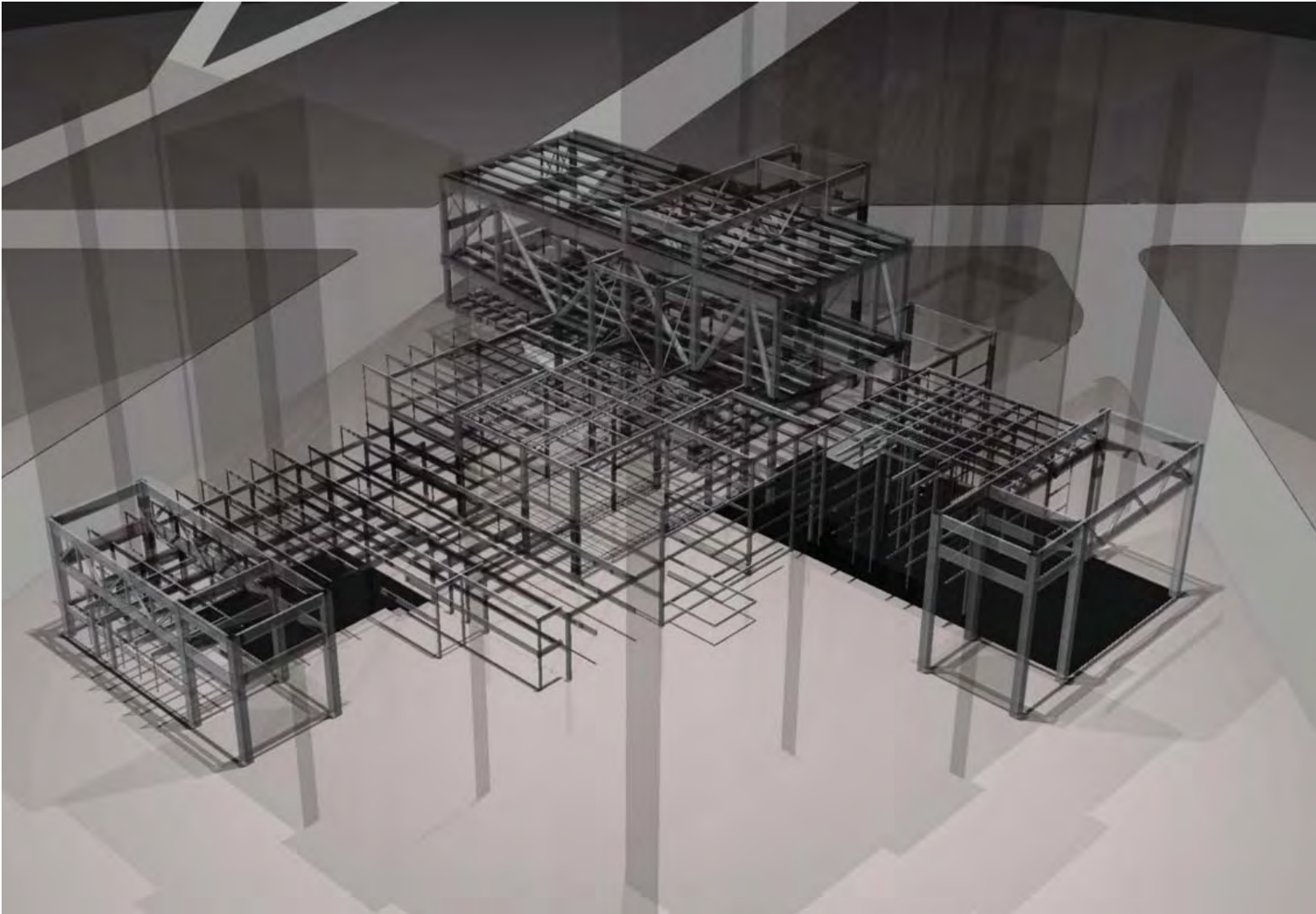


Diagram of Existing Housing Removal and New Base Structure



Primary Structure



Primary Structure



Primary Structure



Cantilever Structure Diagram



Atrium: Glass Ceiling Structure

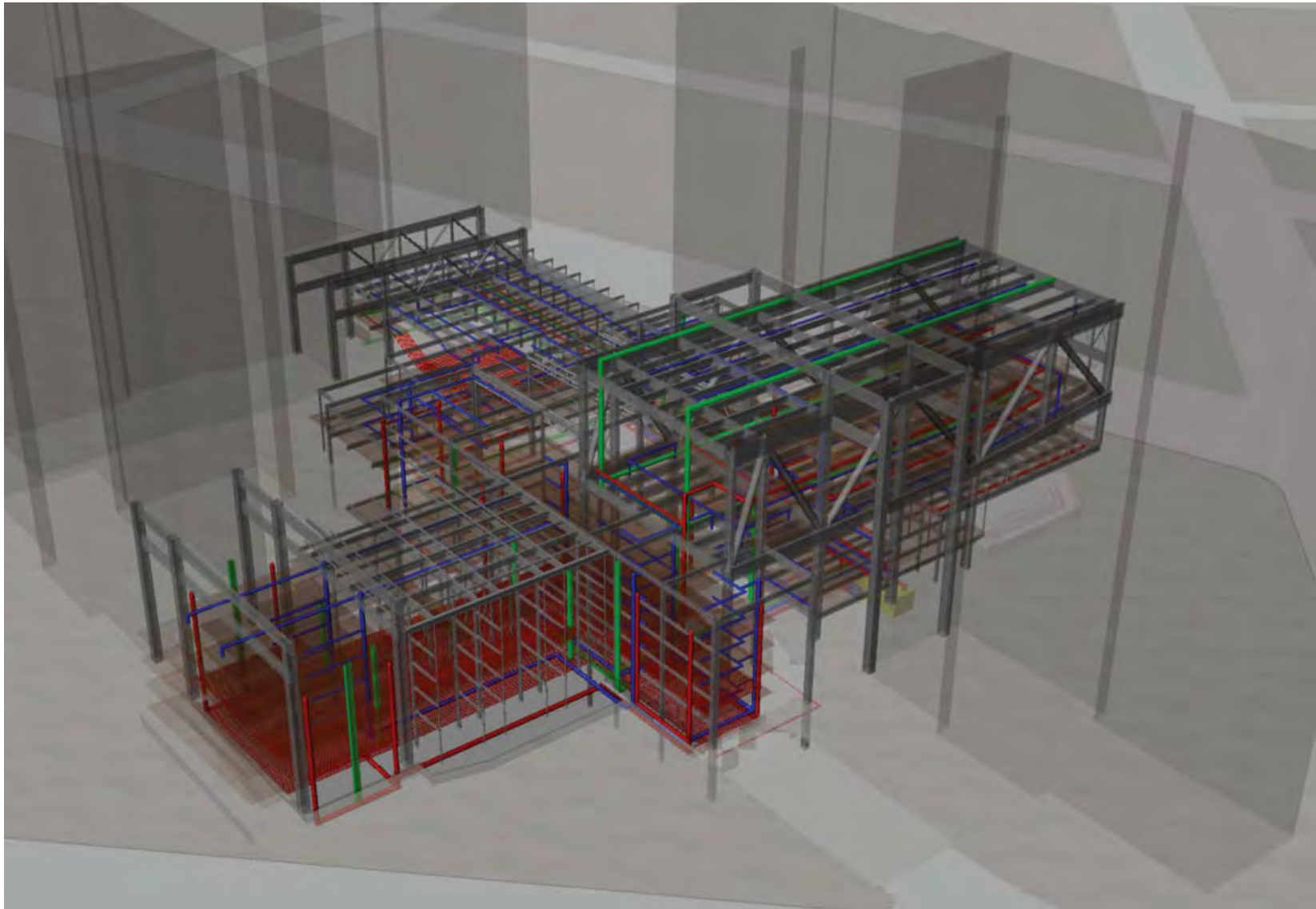


Diagram of Mechanical System

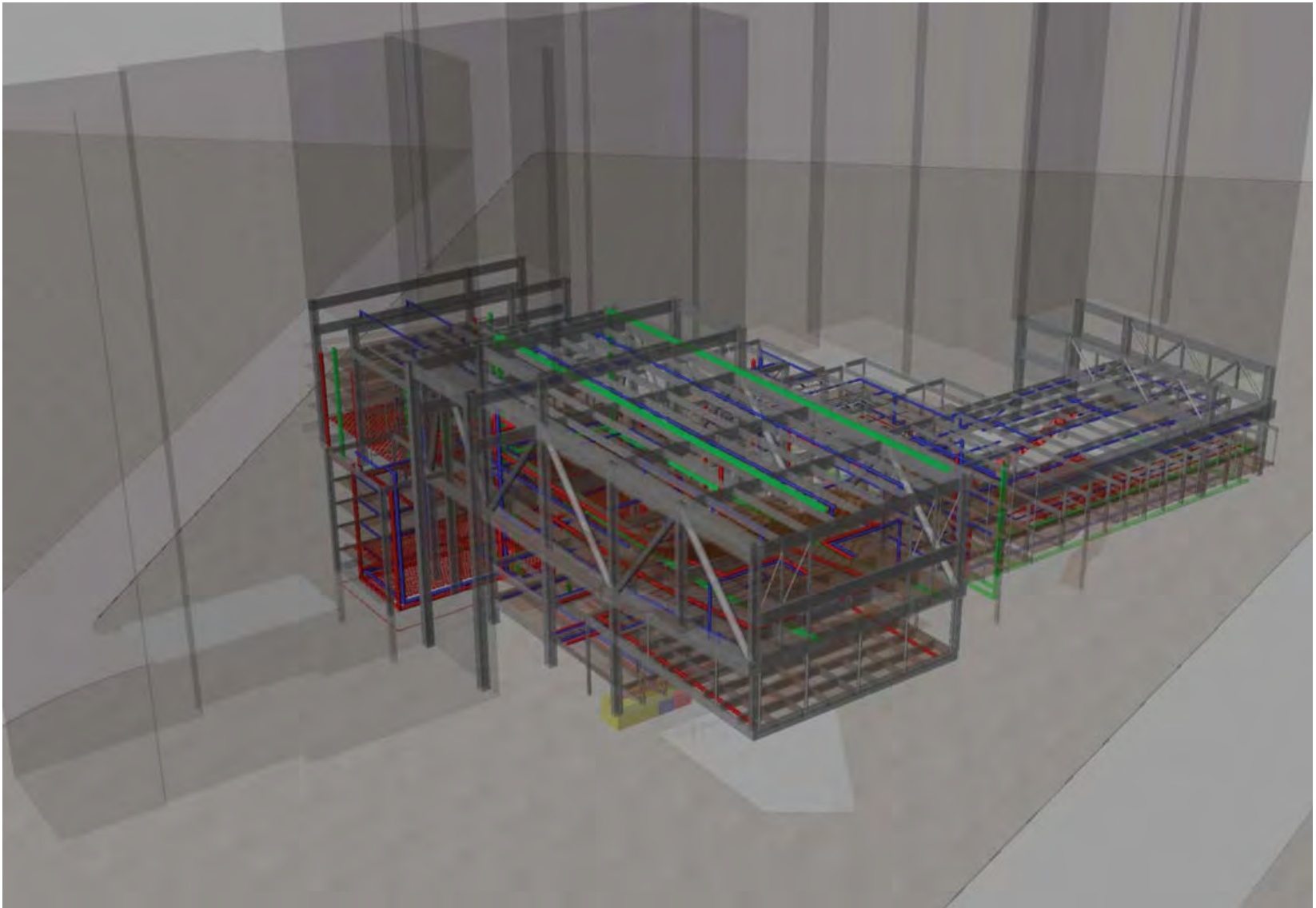
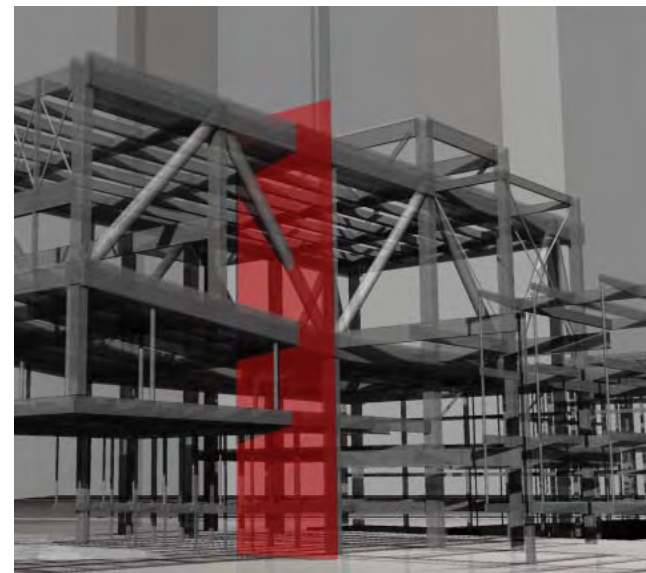
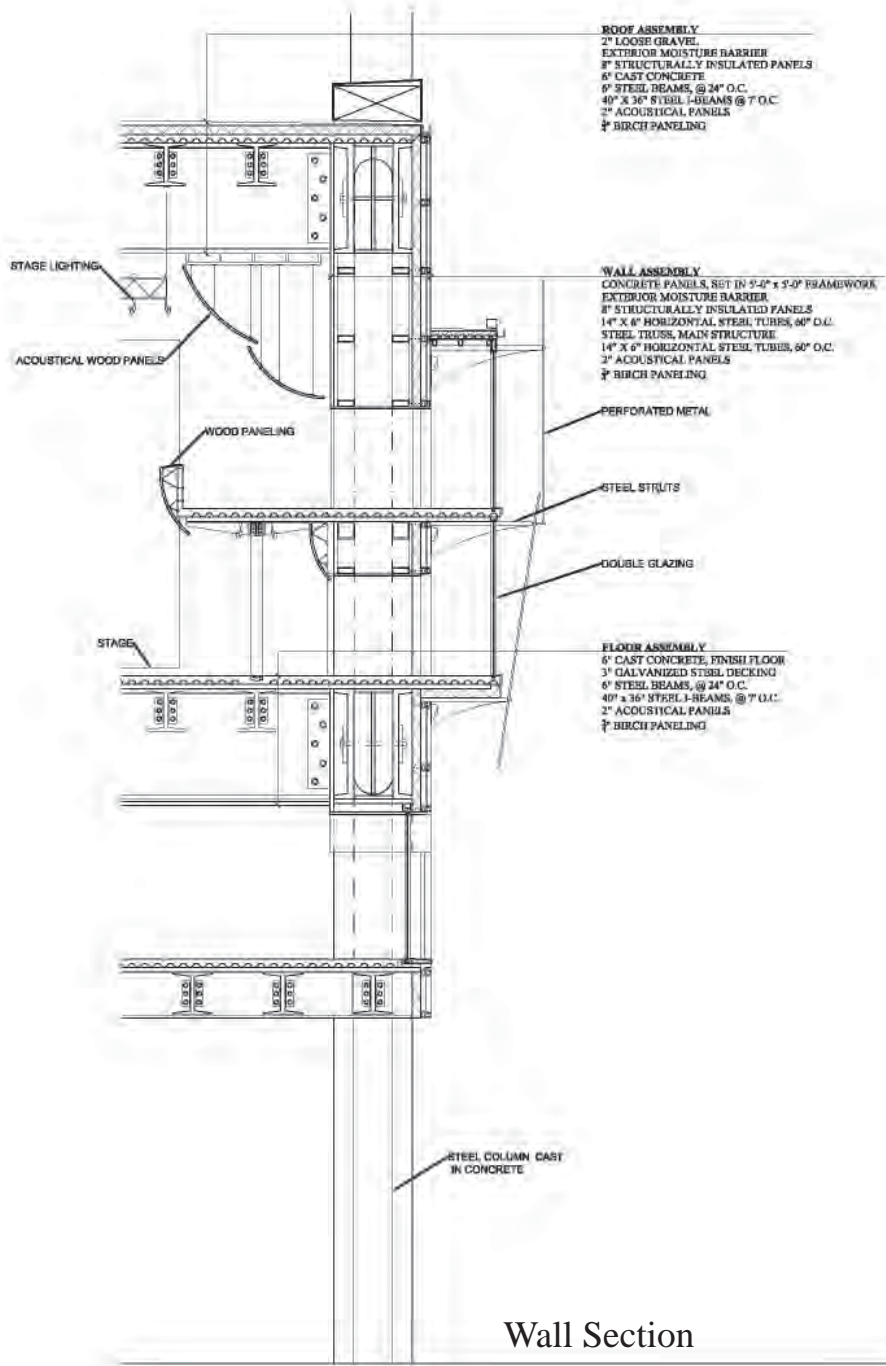
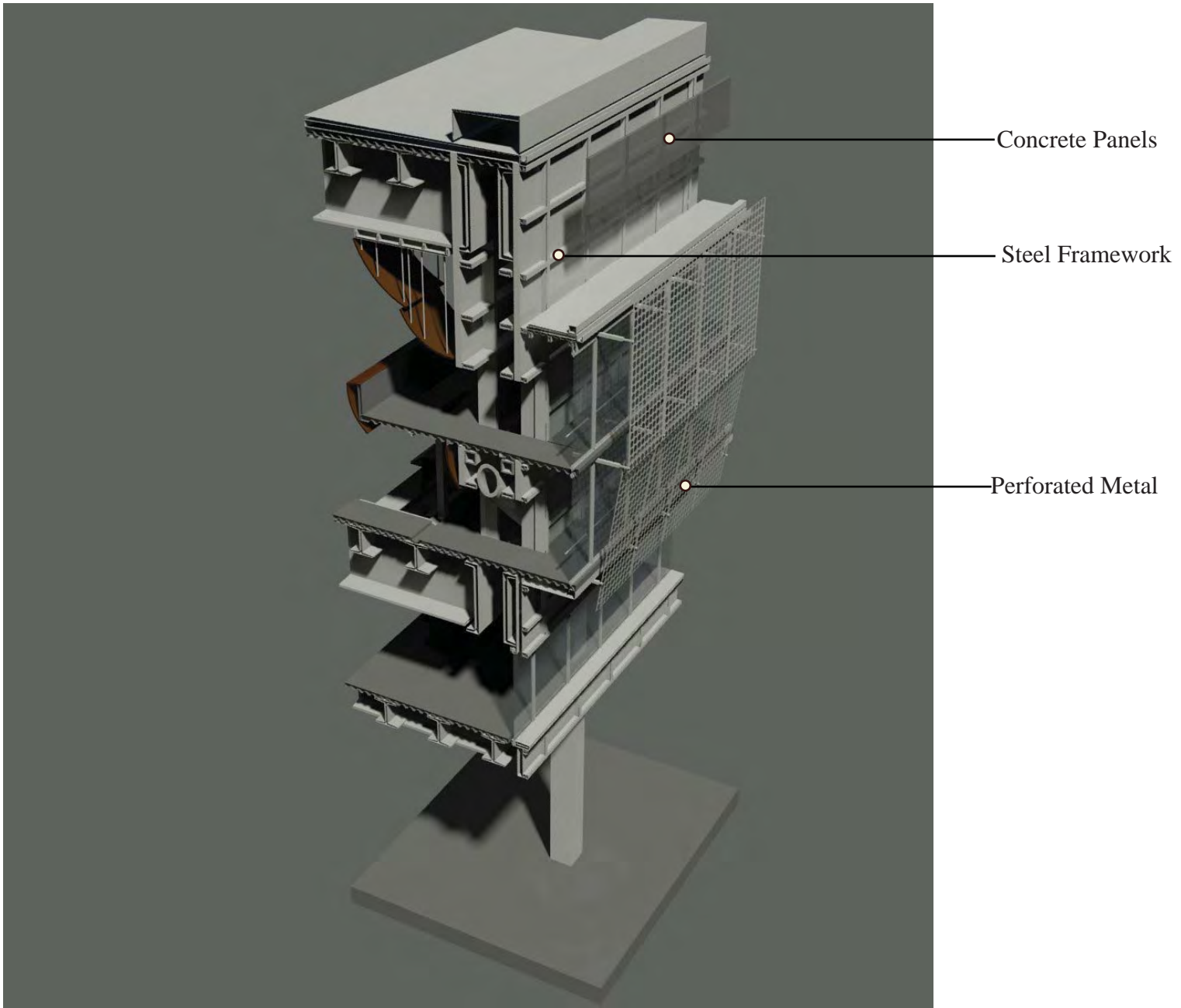


Diagram of Mechanical System

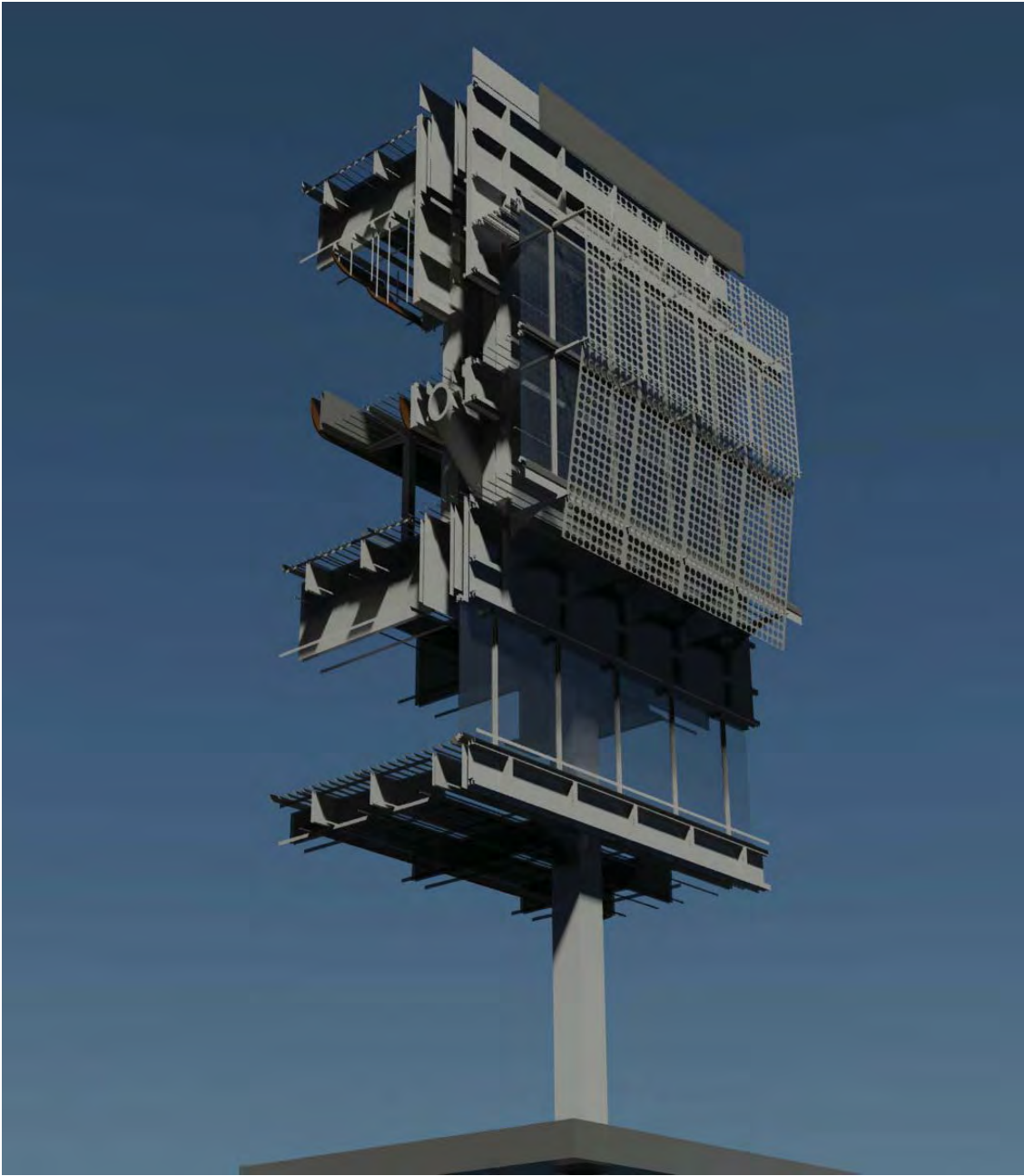


Wall Section Cut Location

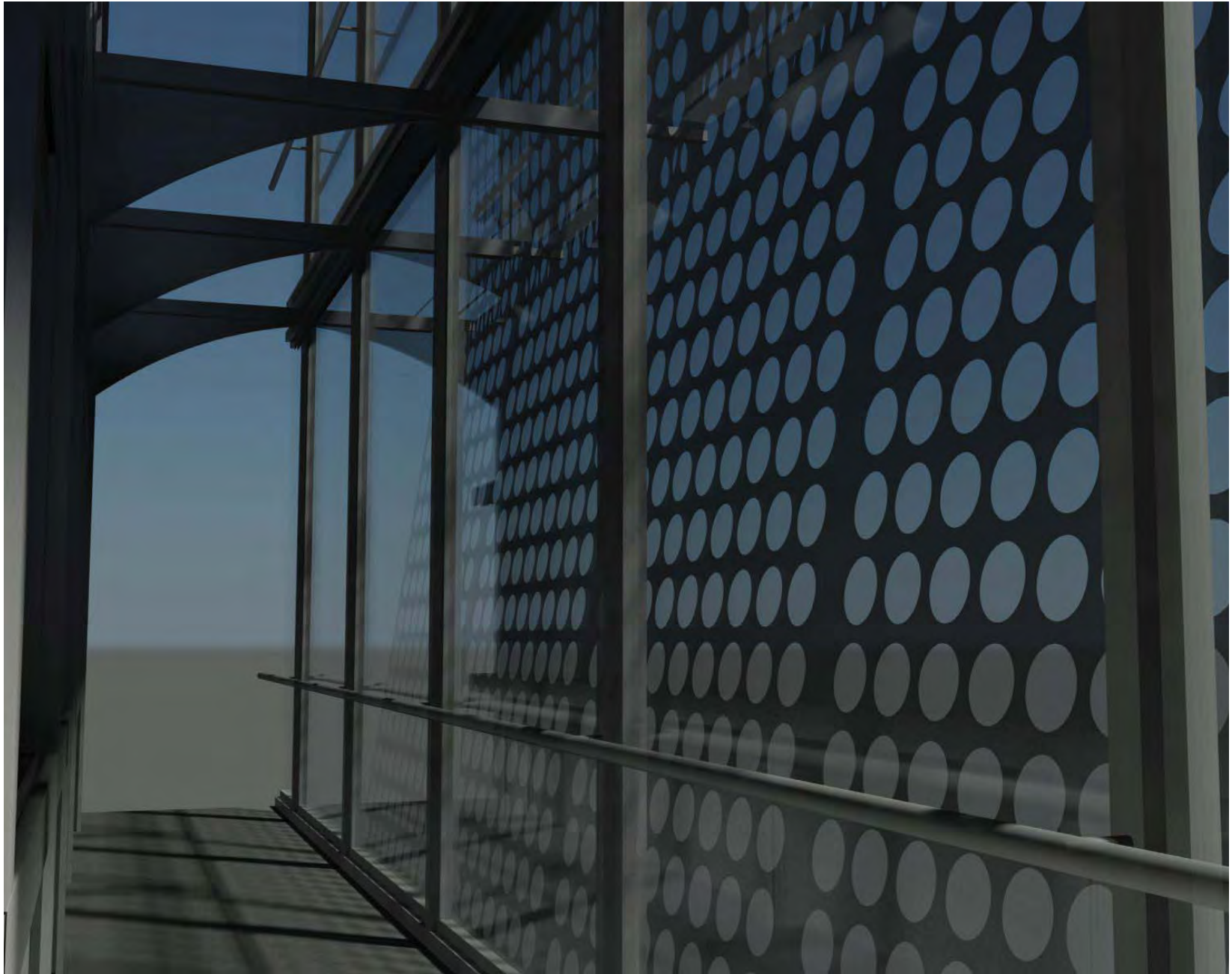
Wall Section



Wall Section Model



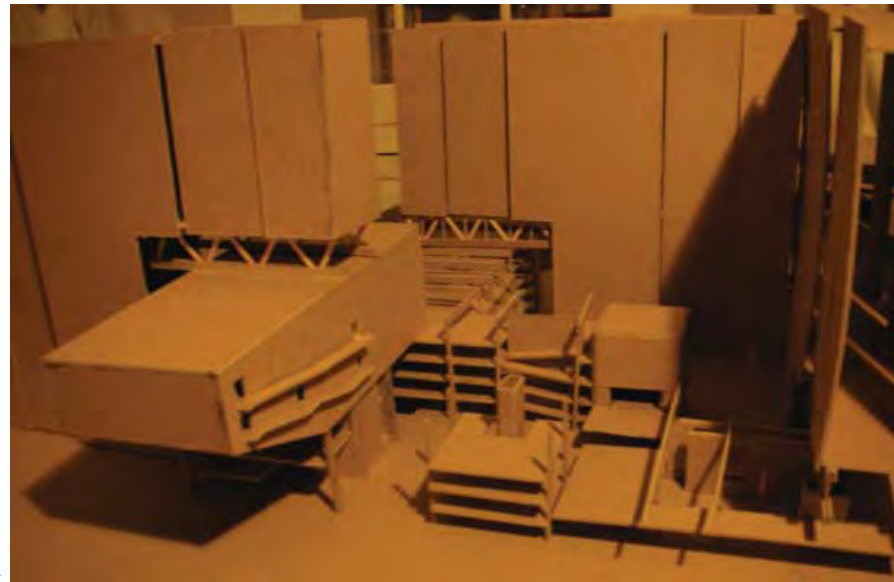
Wall Section Model



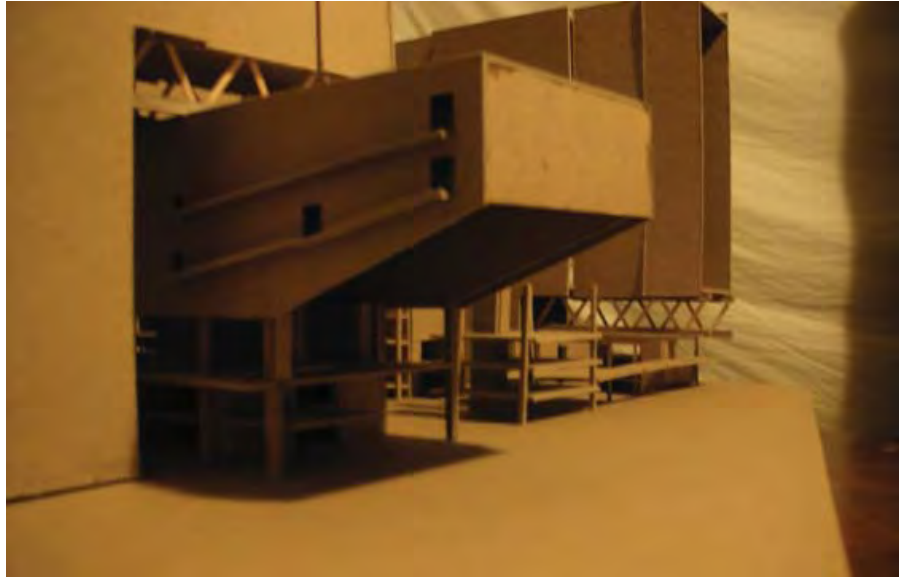
Interior View of Wall Section Model: Exit Circulation Path



Study Model Looking North



Study Model Looking South

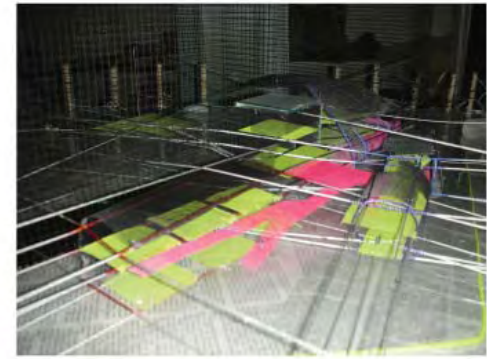
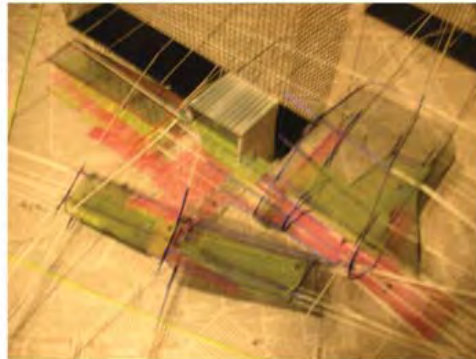
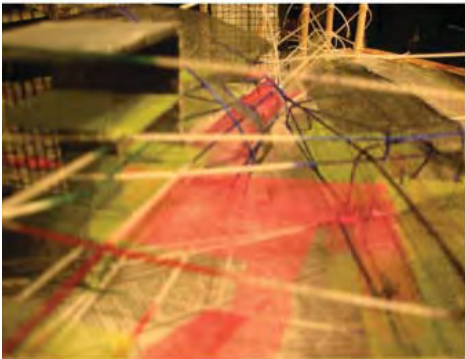
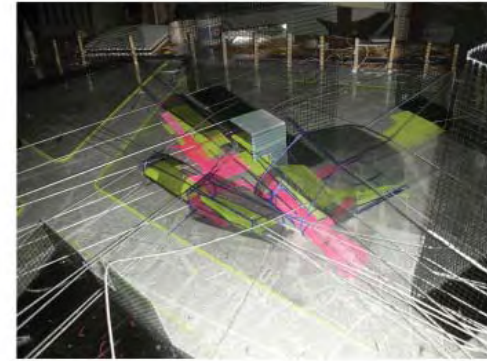
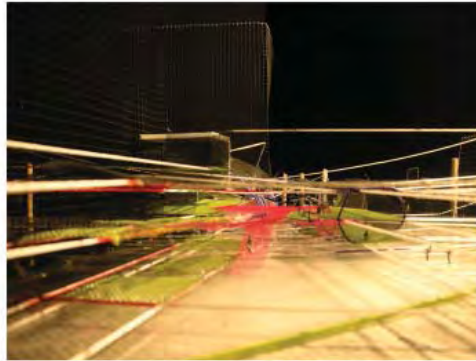
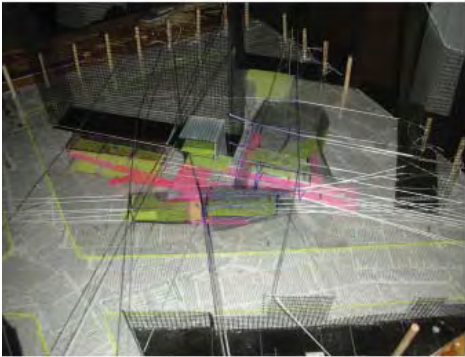


Study Model Looking West

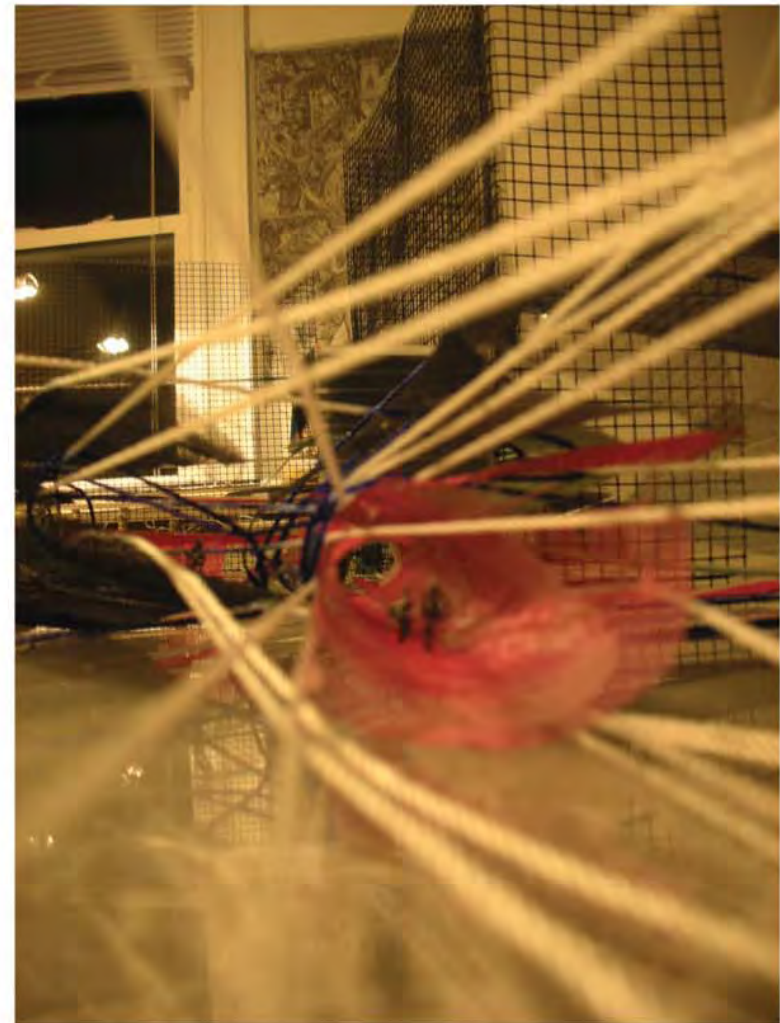
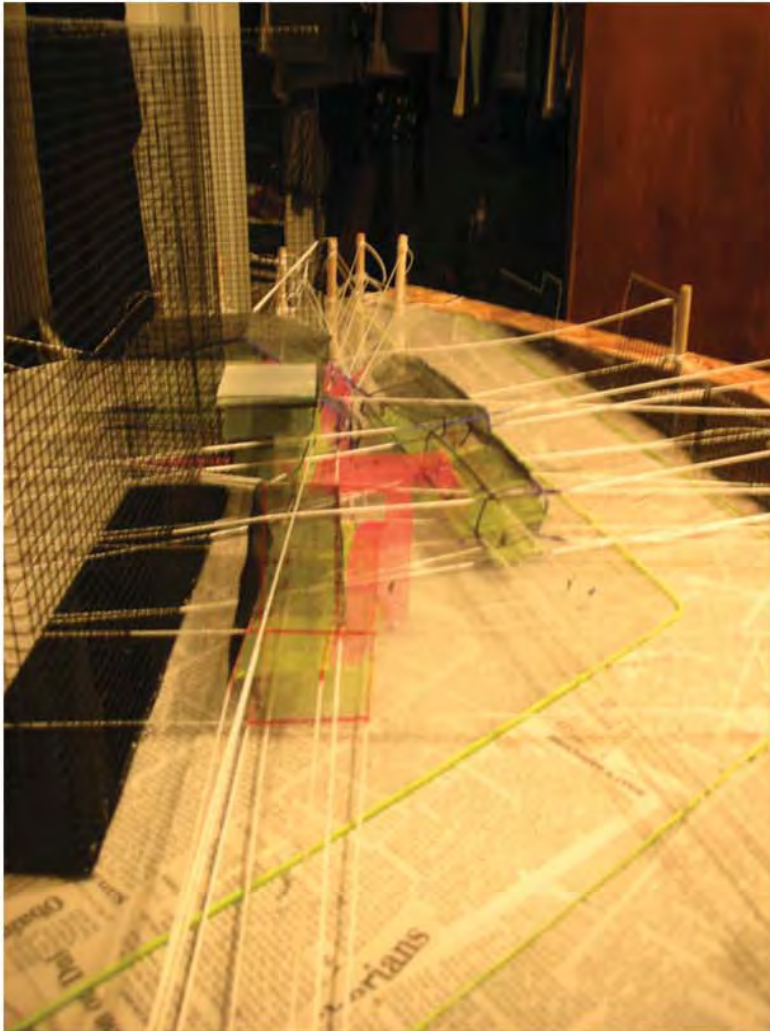


Aerial View of Study Model

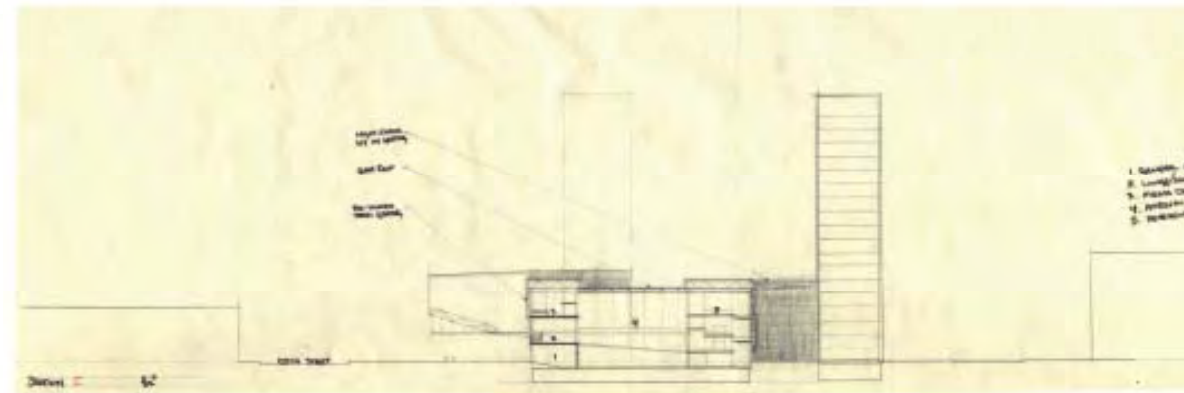
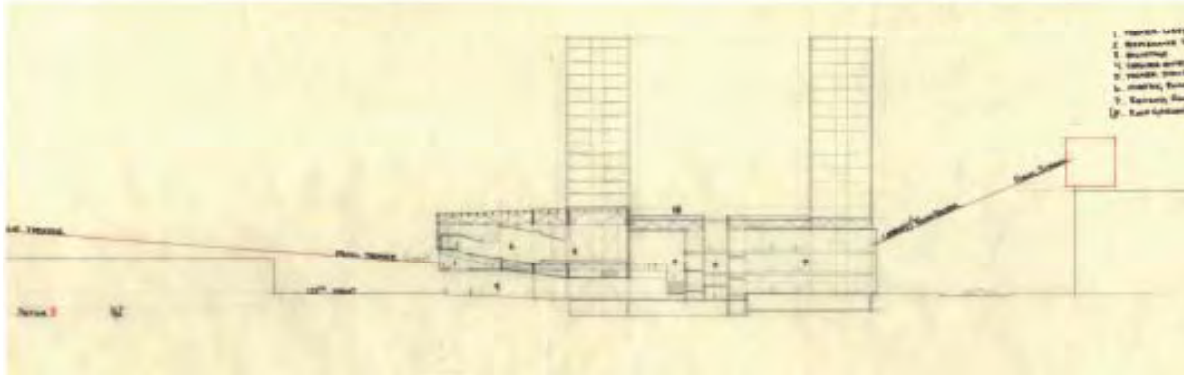
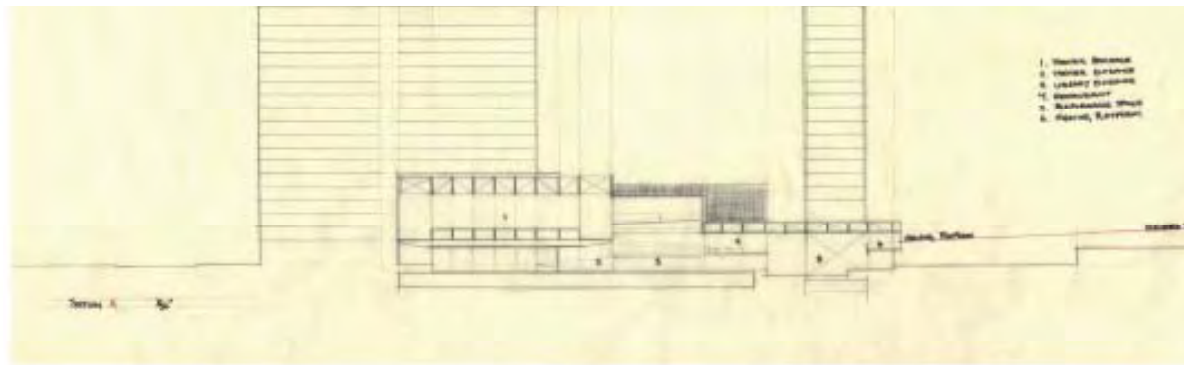
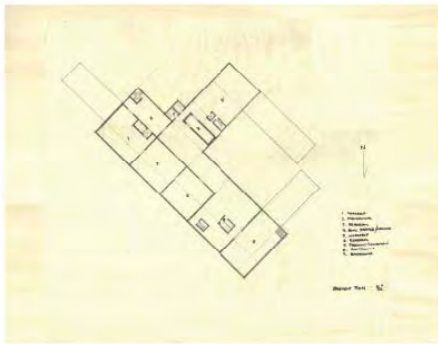
ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN PROCESS



Conceptual “String Model”



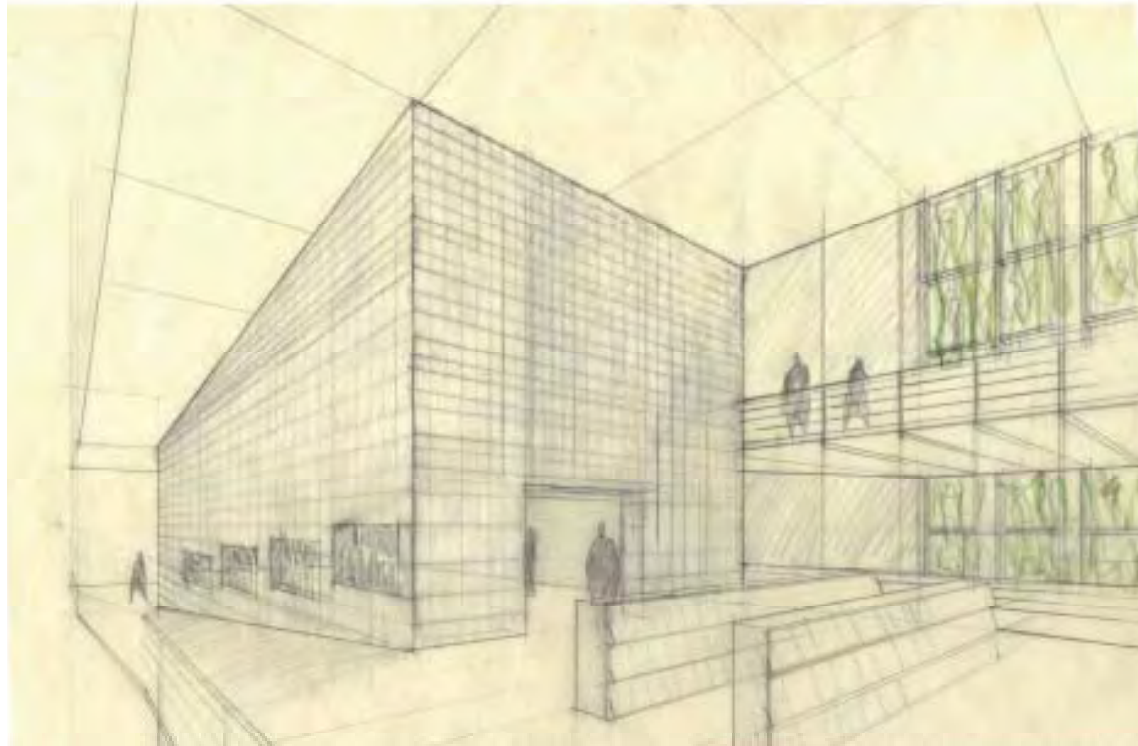
While this model did not impact my final design, the strings represent the idea of tying together different influences from around the site. Where the strings intersect with each other, they create geometries which become the architectural framework for the project.



Schematic Design: Plans & Sections



Schematic Design: Street Perspective



Schematic Design: Interior Perspective

Precedents

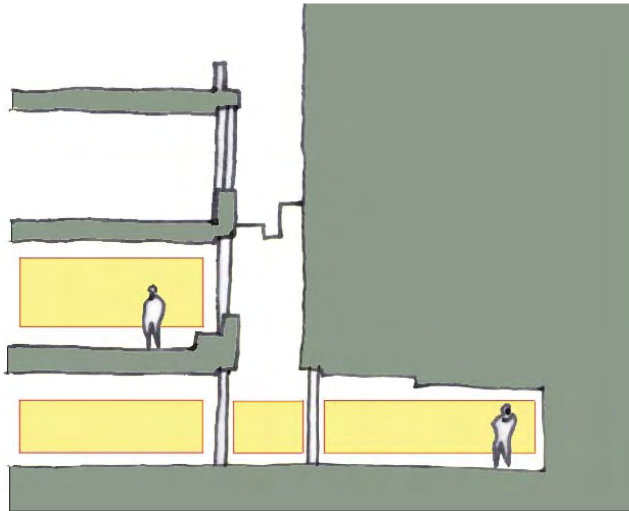
Vredenburg Music Center, Herman Hertzberger, Utrecht, 1979

Theater Center, Herman Hertzberger, Den Haag, 1993

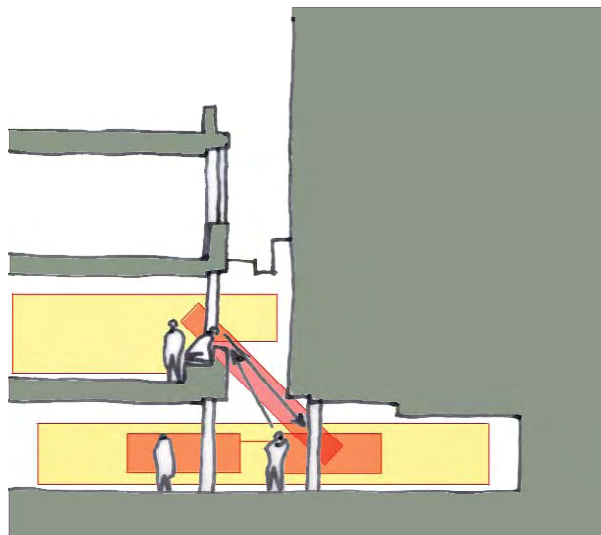
Educatorium, Rem Koolhaas, Utrecht, 1997

De Young Museum, Fong & Chan, 2005

Vredenburg Music Center



separate zones

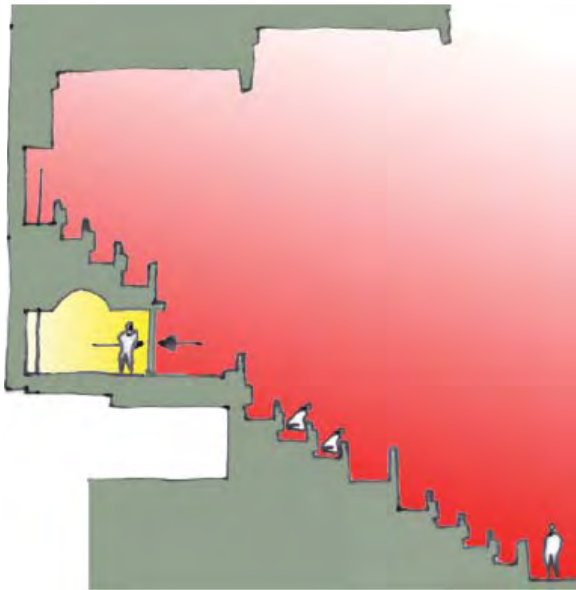


Interconnected zones



This sectional condition between spaces served as an example of one desirable in my project. The idea is that they can exist as separate zones and interconnected zones.

Vredenburg Music Center



seperate zones

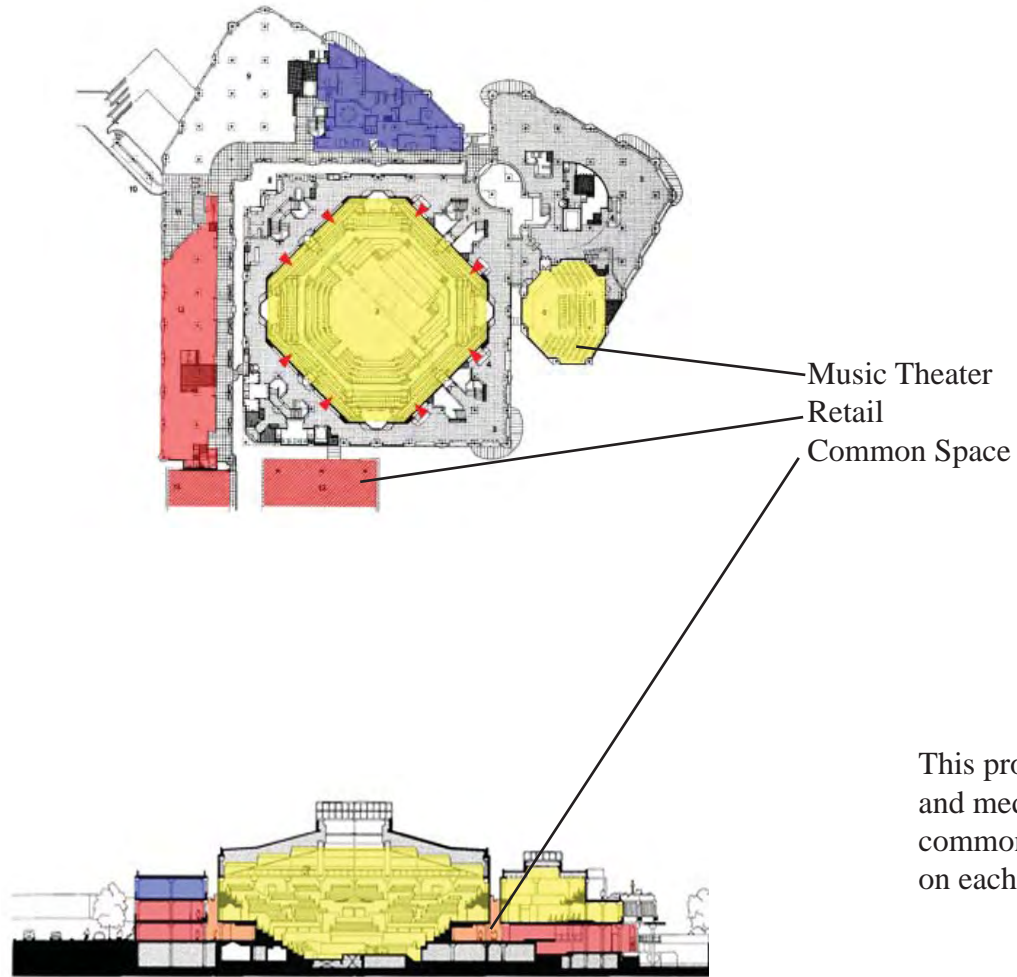


interconnected zones



This picture is taken from inside the lobby of the main performance space. There are partition walls that pivot open and closed in order to allow for an open viewing platform of the performance within. The lobby can be either separated or interconnected with the performance.

Vredenburg Music Center



This project includes two music halls and retail spaces and mediates the program with a continuous band of common space. In effect, the programs are not forced on each other but can still coexist.

Theater Center



interior piazza



view of interior piazza



diagrammatic sketch

The aspect of this project that is beneficial to my studies is the function of the interior piazza. It serves to pull people in from the surrounding environment and allows for public events to take place.



exterior view

Educatorium



interior view



interior view

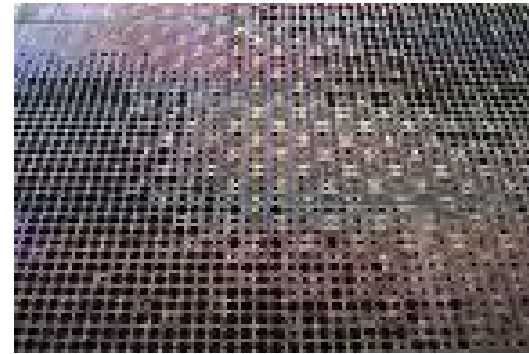
The Educatorium uses sloped planes as a means of circulation and gathering space.

While this project did not directly influence my design project, I was inspired by its relationship to the public space around it.

De Young Museum



De Young Museum



Sporadic Perforated Metal used for envelope to allow for semi-transparency

The perforations in the metal here are dictated by the program behind. The metal is less perforated in front of spaces where a more private, or controlled condition is required.

Working Bibliography

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