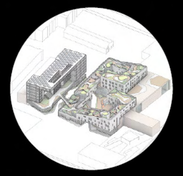
portfolio

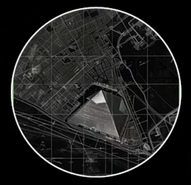
SCHOOL | PROFESSIONAL



Graduate Studio



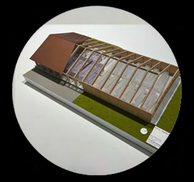
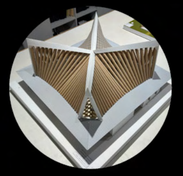


Furniture & Map Design





Morphosis Architects


Shigeru Ban Architects

morphosis

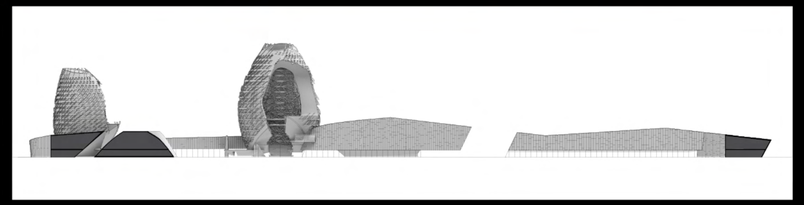
JUN 2022 - DEC 2022

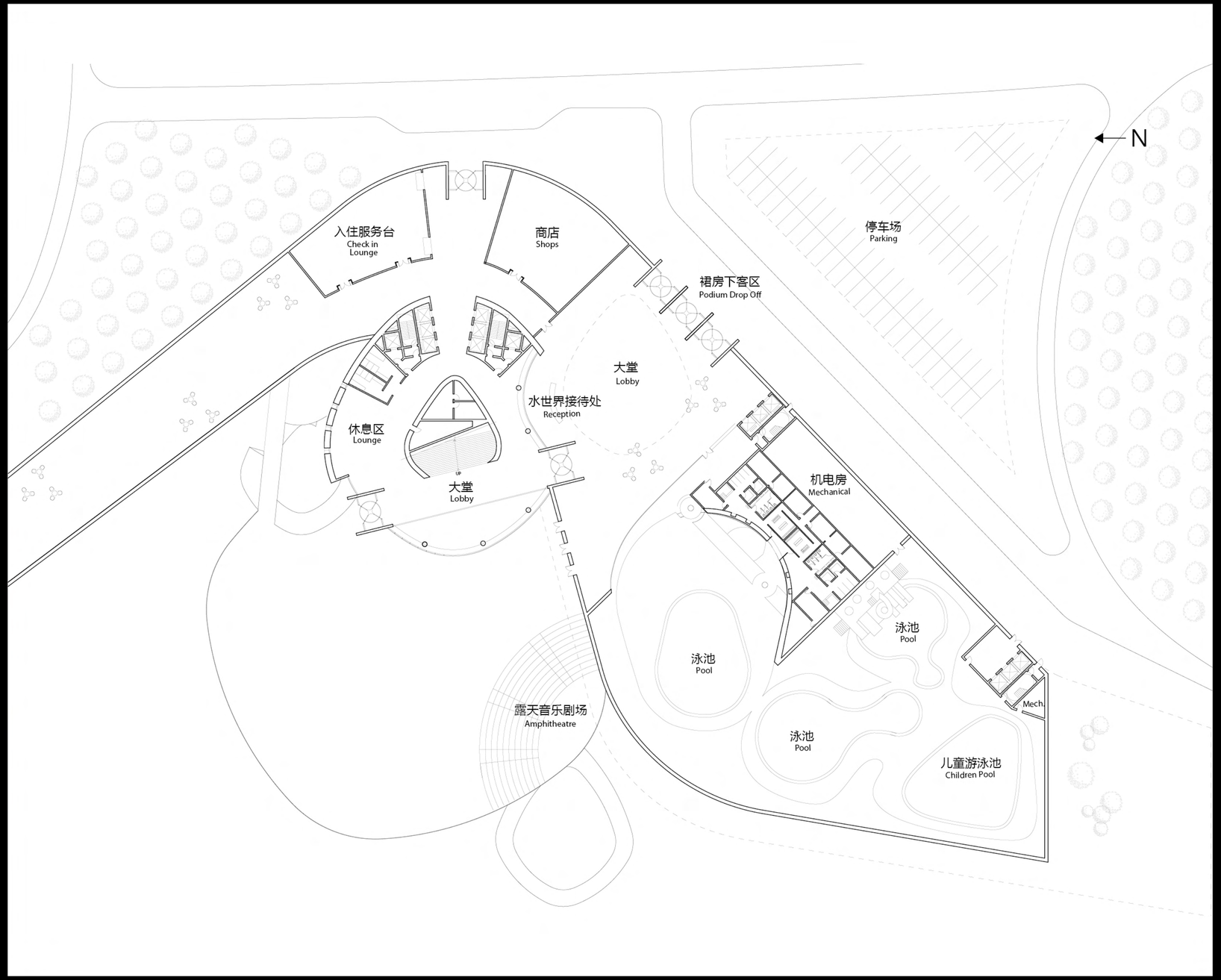
Morphosis Architects

Competition Honorable Mention

Team: Thom Mayne, Daniel Pruske, Jamie Wu, Brian Wu, Nigel Xu

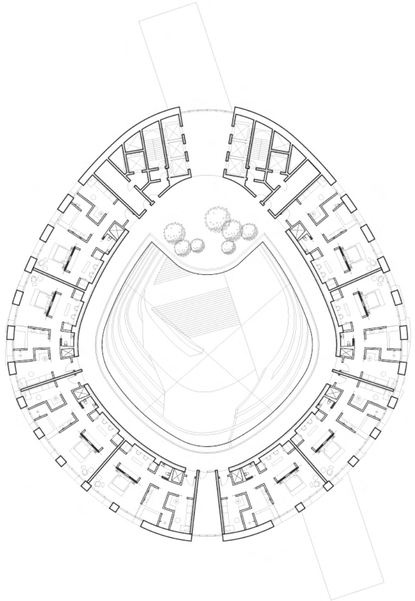






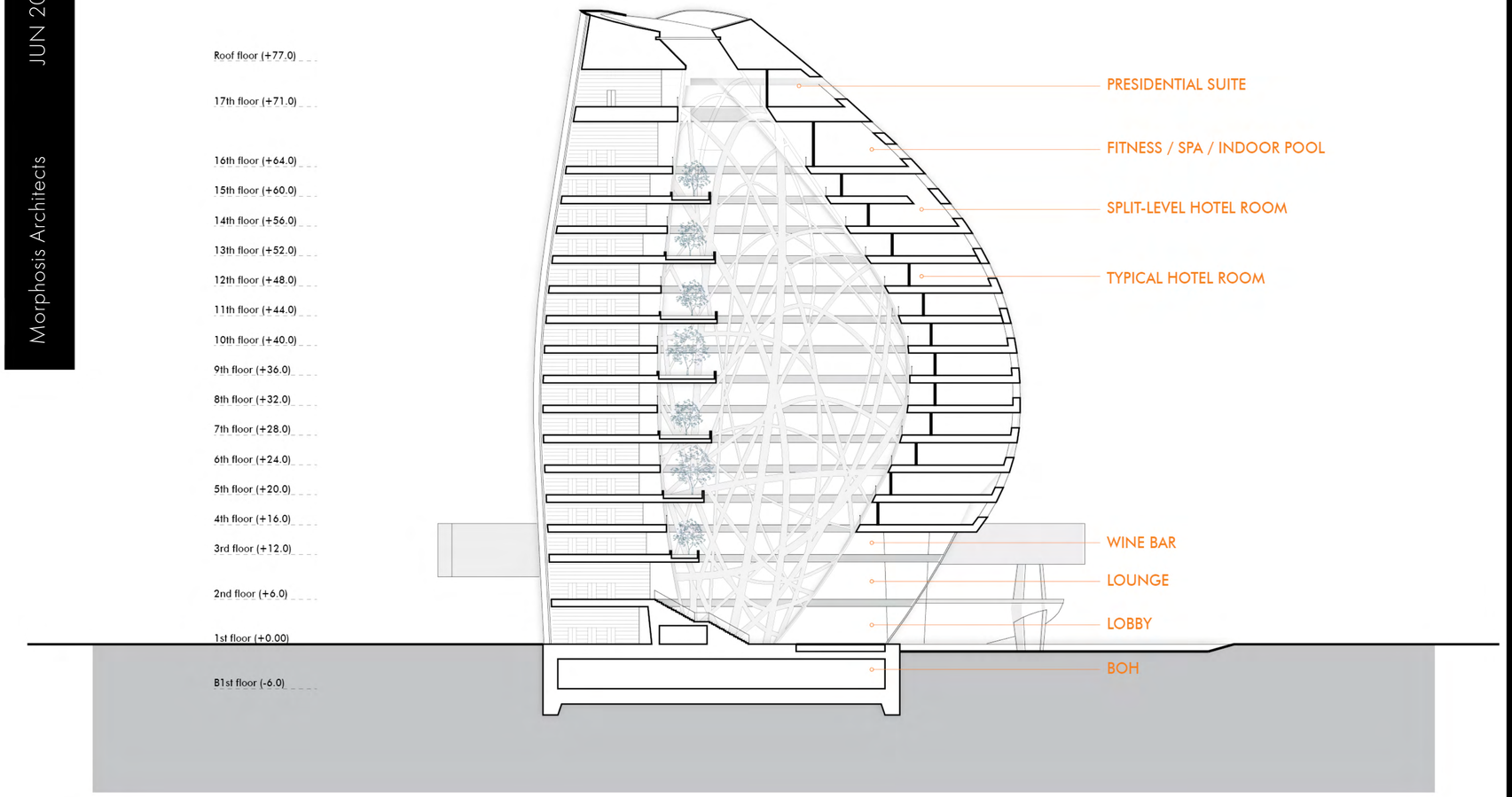
morphosis





Morphosis Architects

JUN 2022 - DEC 2022



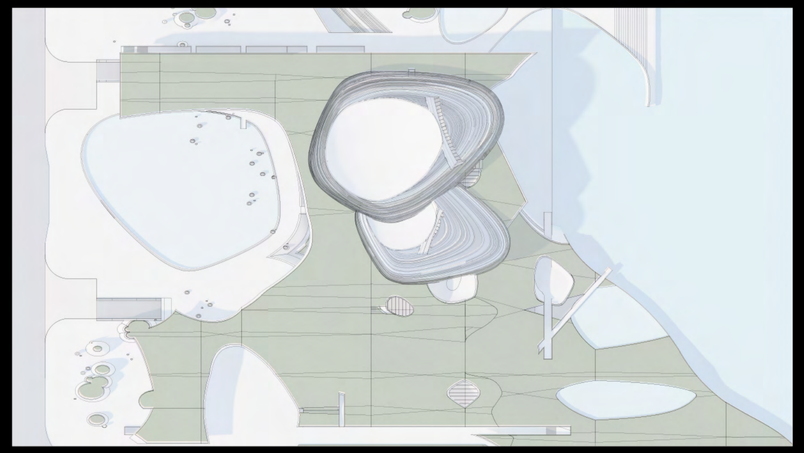
morphosis

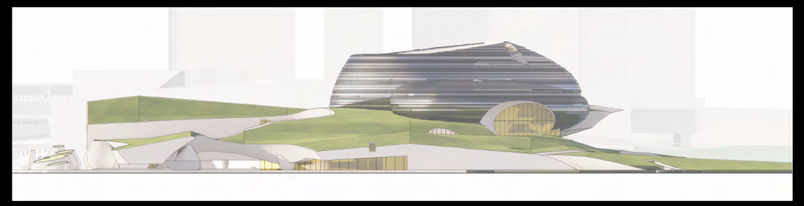
Competition First Prize
Against: Isozaki, Fuksas, Portzamparc, Pelli.

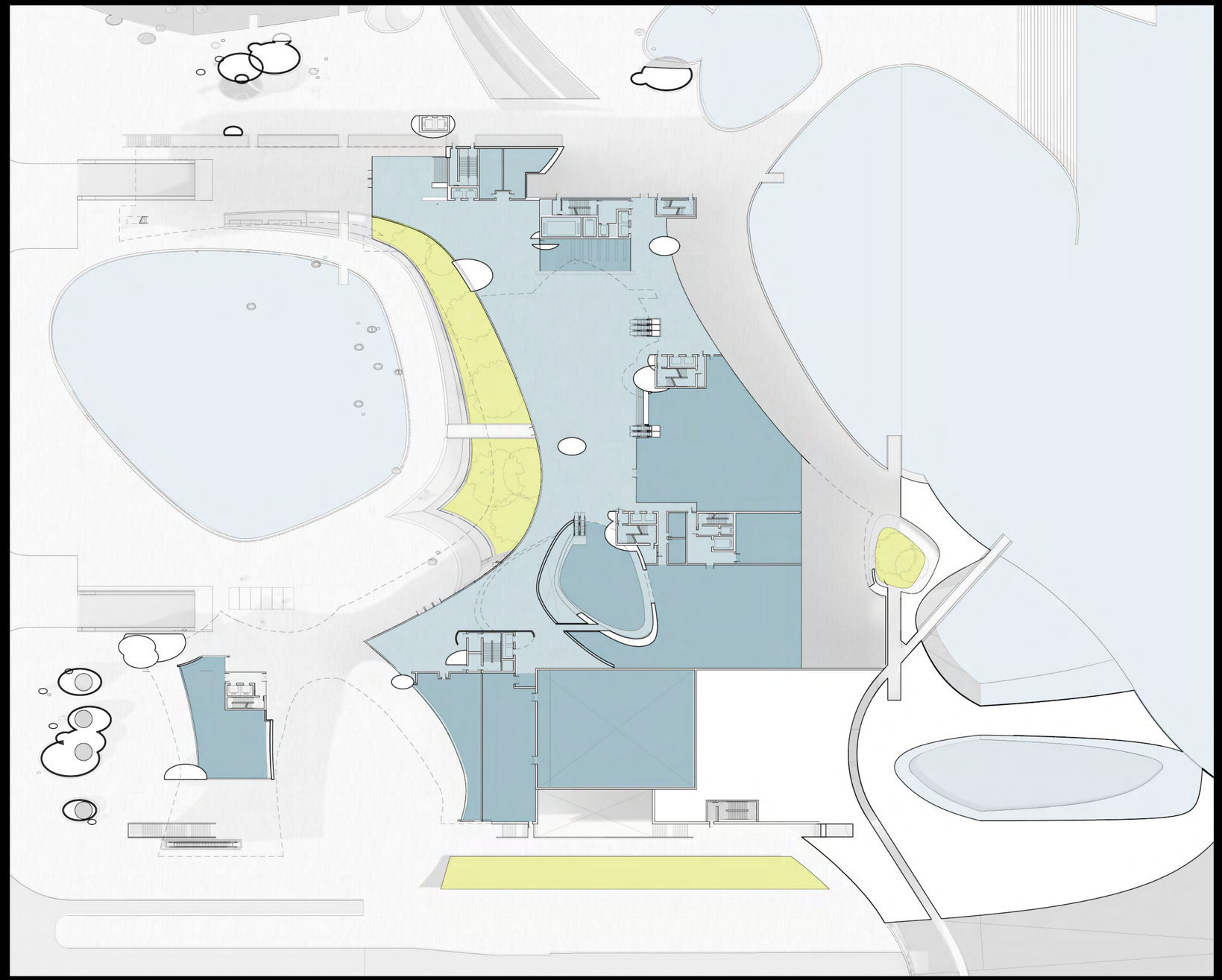
Team: Thom Mayne, Daniel Pruske, Jamie Wu,
Brian Wu, Nigel Xu, Wilson Chan

Morphosis Architects

JUN 2022 - DEC 2022







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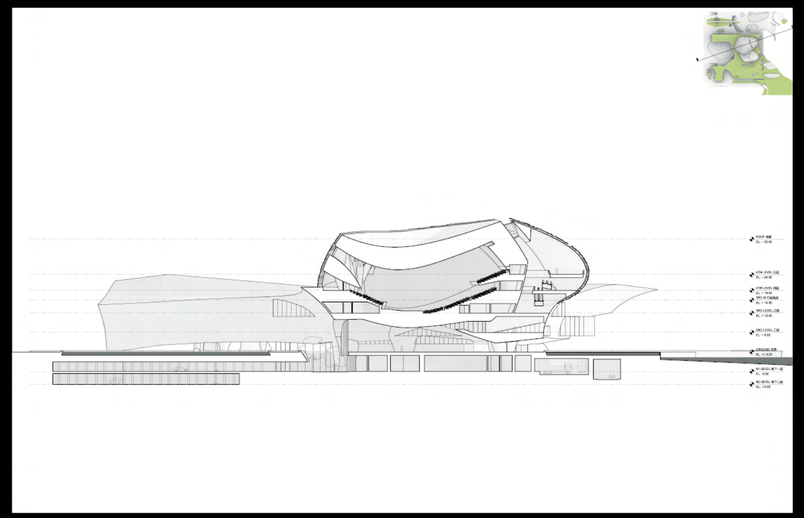
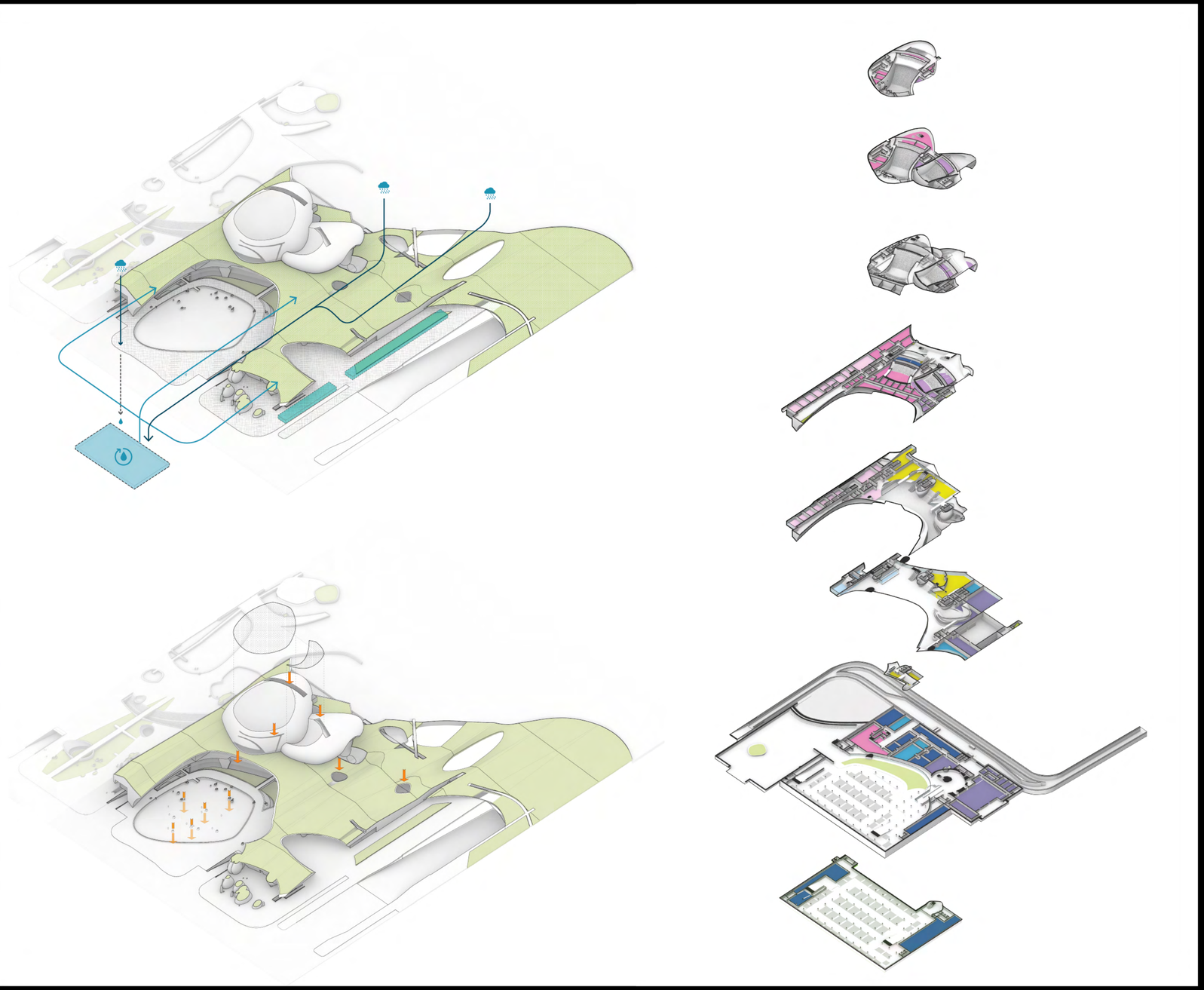




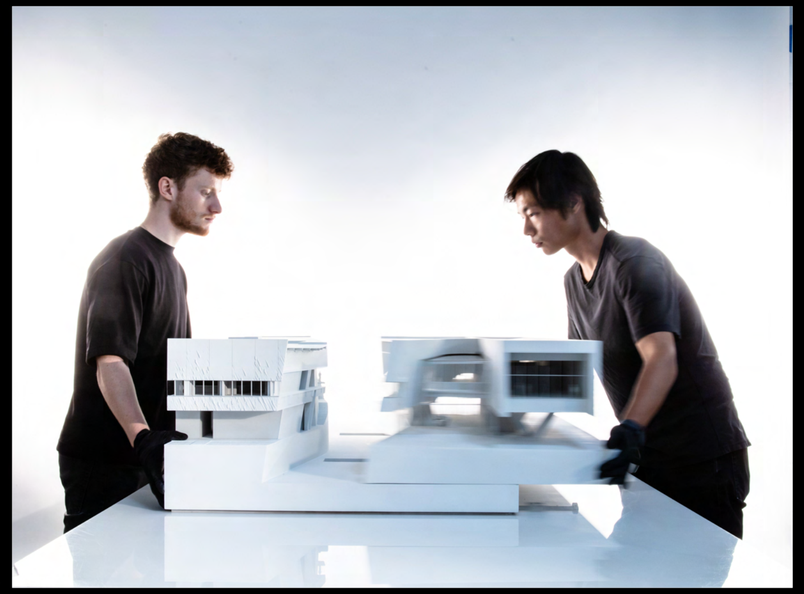
morphosis

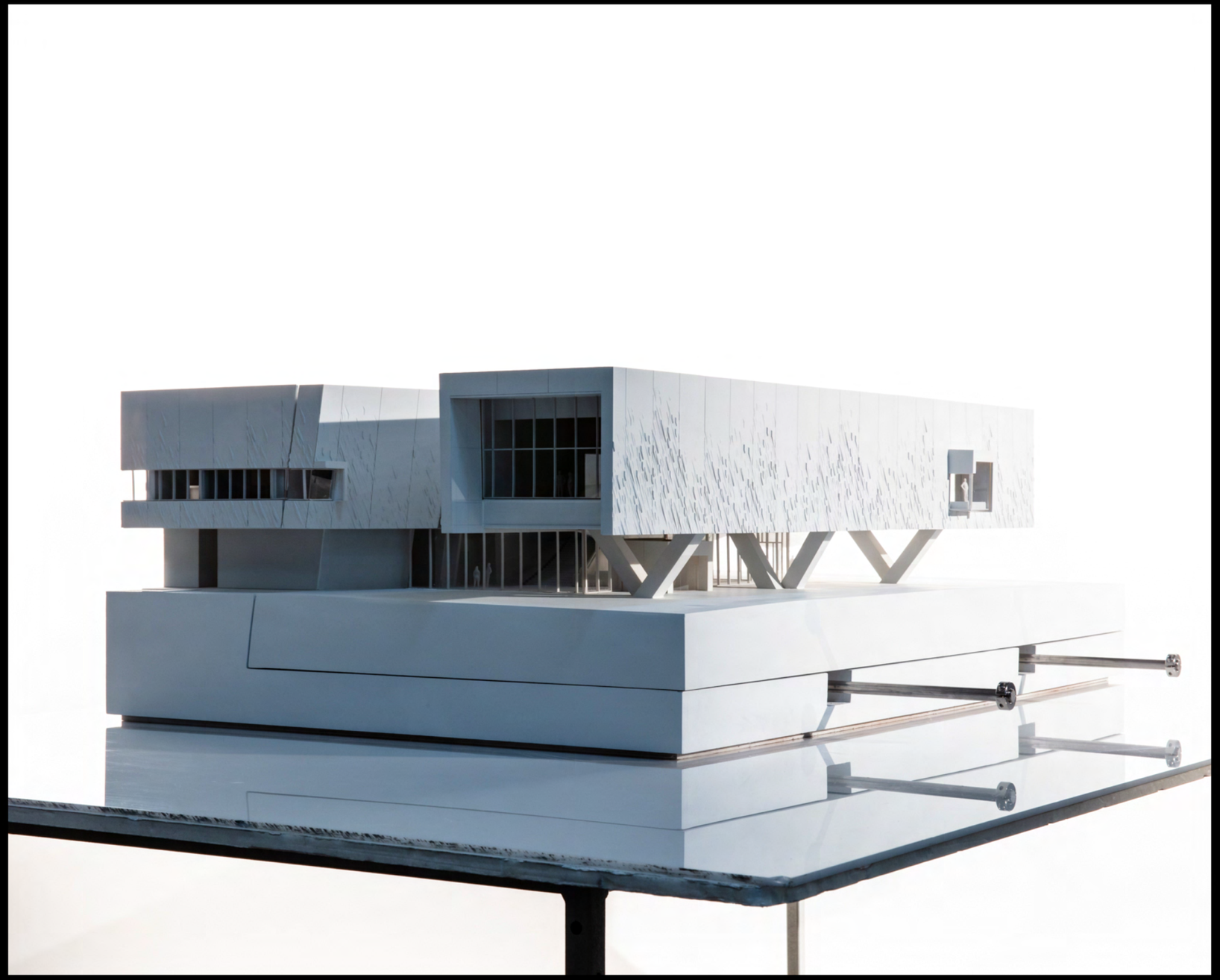
Exhibition Model
Crow Museum of Asian Art, UT Dallas

Team: Team: Allan Mezhibovsky, Nigel Xu

Morphosis Architects

JUN 2022 - DEC 2022





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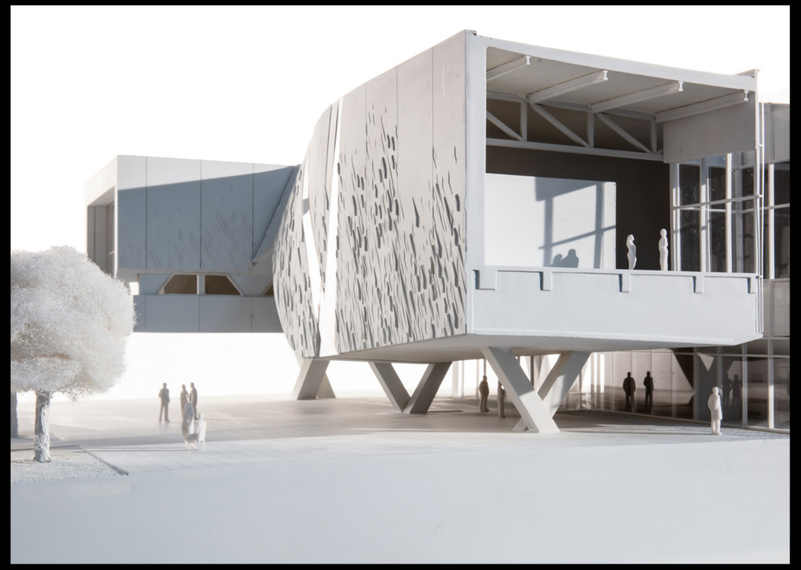
JUN 2022 - DEC 2022



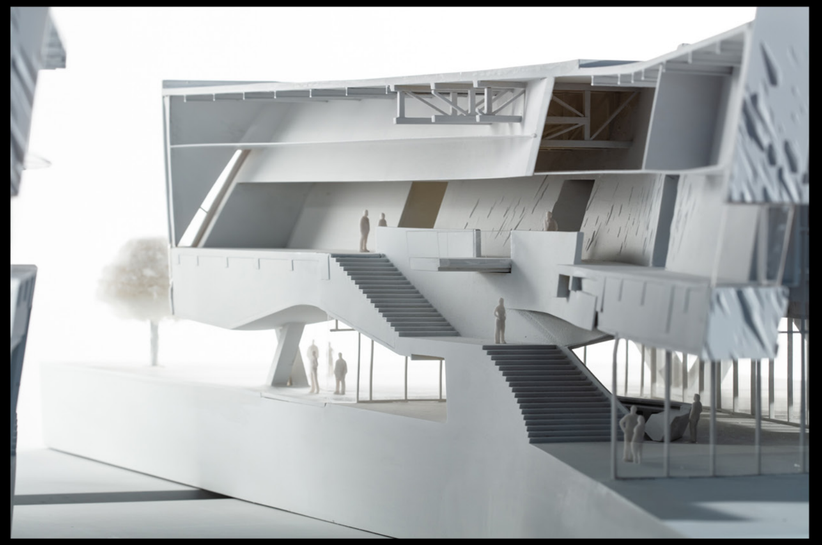


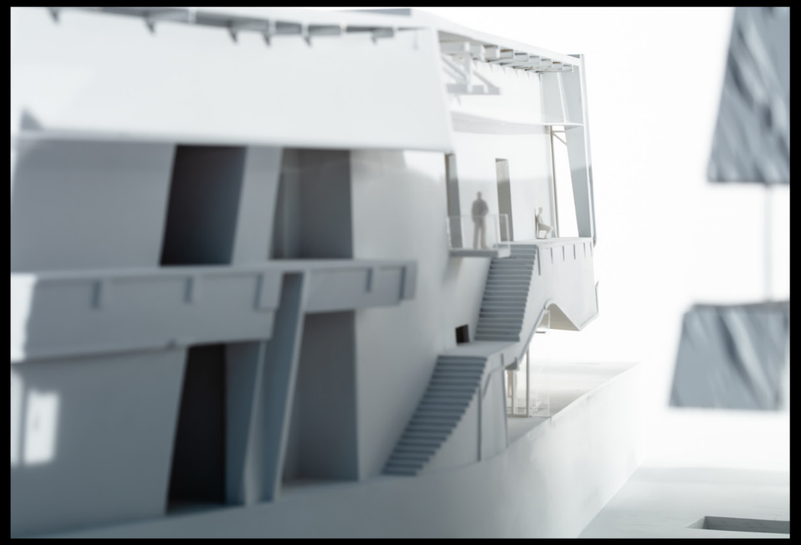












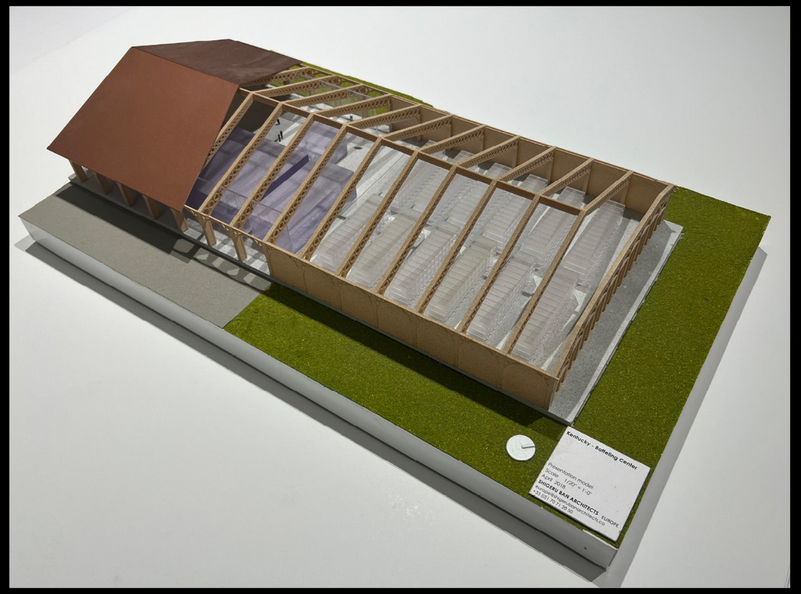
sba

Kentucky Owl Park is the headquarter for a major US bourbon maker on a 420-acre land. The program includes a distillery, visitor centre, and bottling centre, in addition to rick houses and a restaurant in Bardstown, KY.

Team: Shigeru Ban Architects America

Jan 2023 - Nov 2023

Shigeru Ban Architects





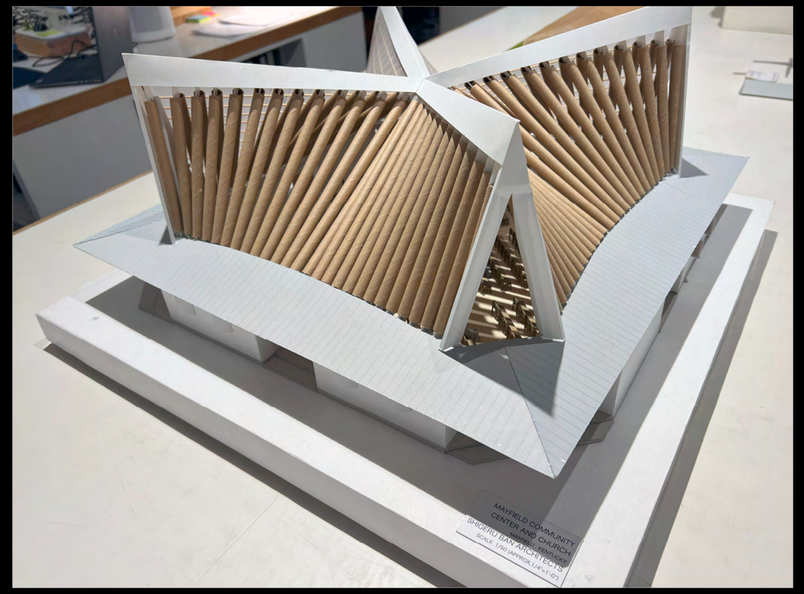
sba

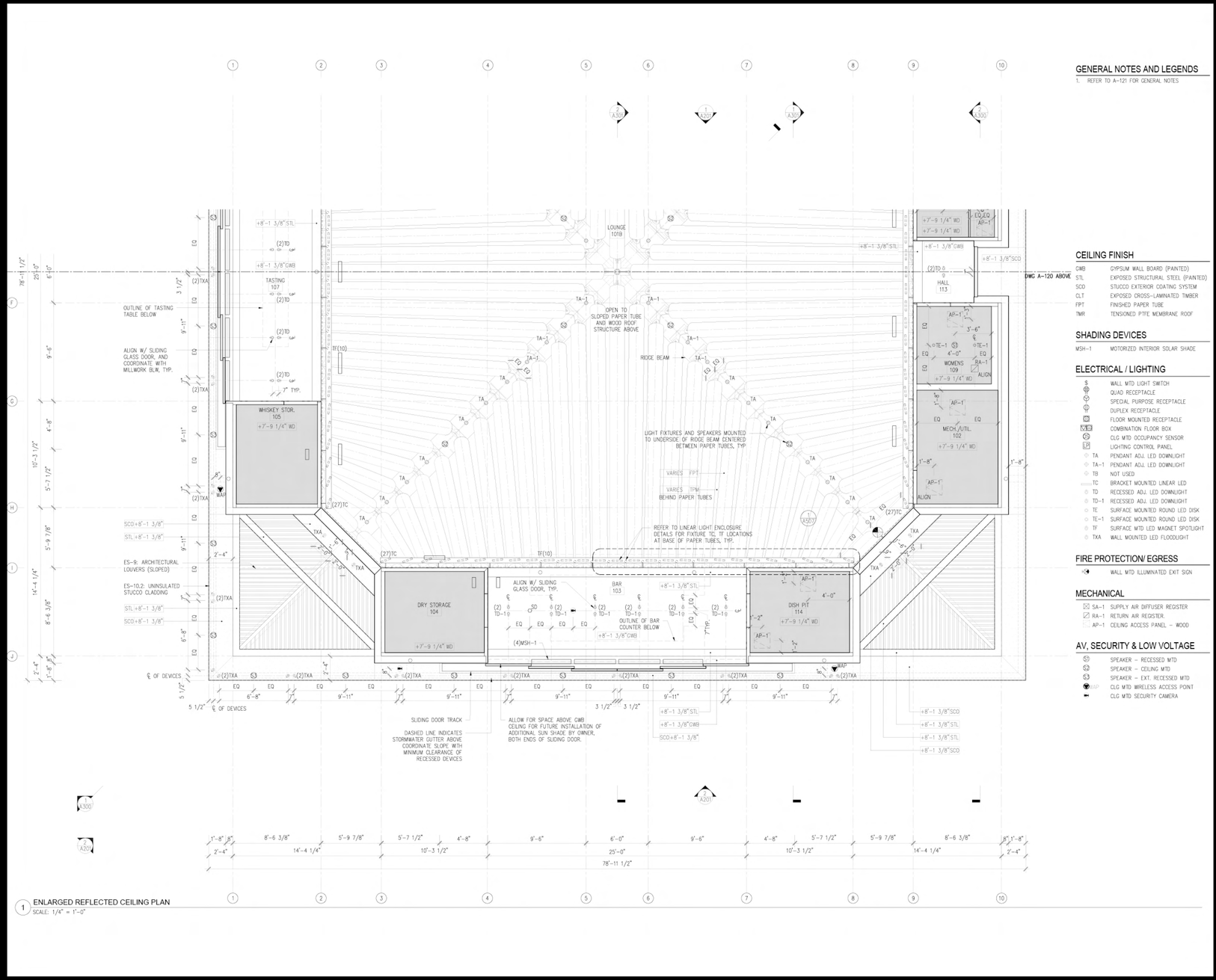
Kentucky Owl Park - Temporary Visitor Centre
(Paper Tube Roof Structure)

Team: Shigeru Ban Architects America

Jan 2023 - Nov 2023

Shigeru Ban Architects





sba

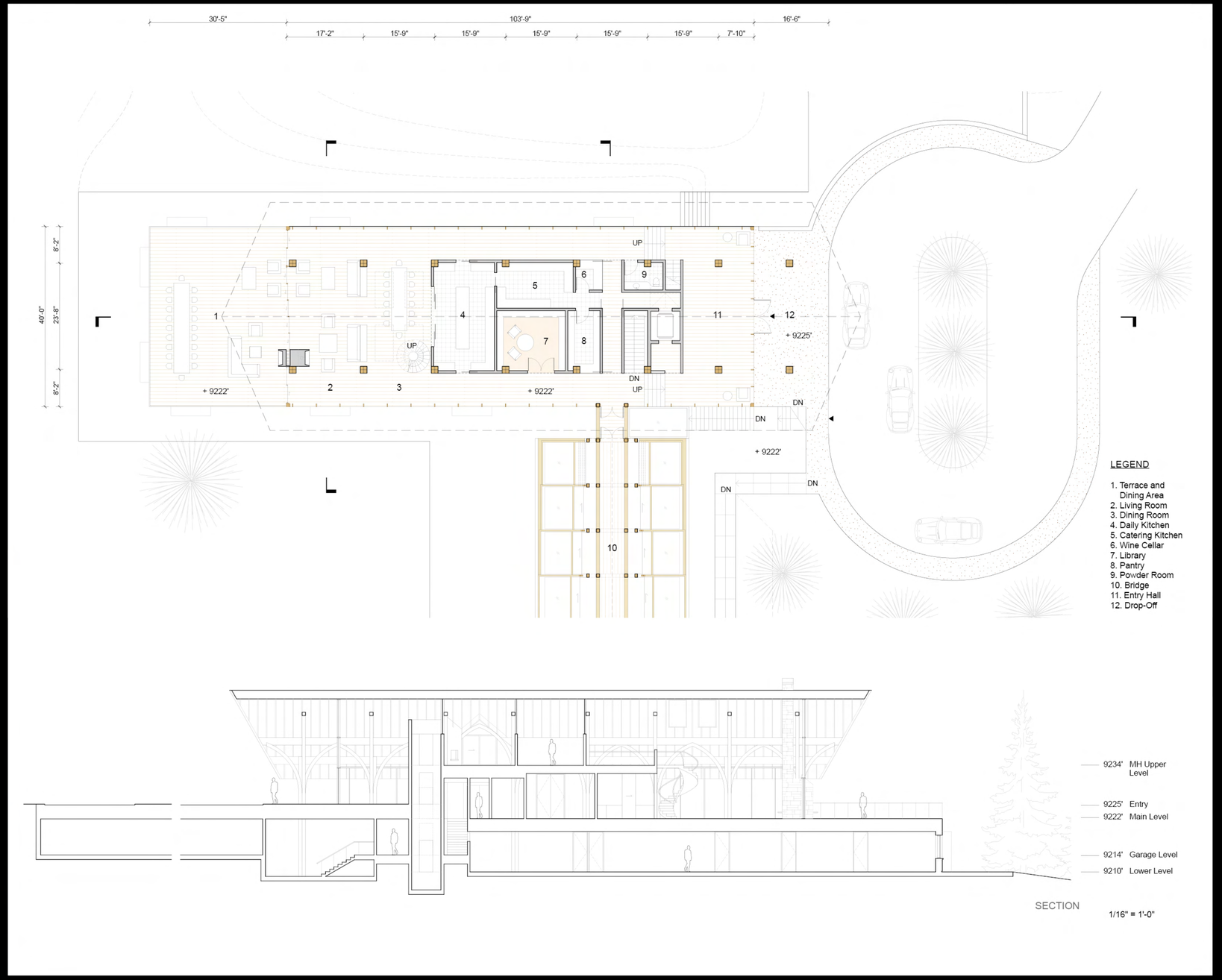
Jan 2023 - Nov 2023

Shigeru Ban Architects

Park City House is a private ski-in/out residential project in Park City, UT. It features a main house, a guest house and an event pavilion (Mass Timber Structure)

Team: Shigeru Ban Architects America





sba

Jan 2023 - Nov 2023

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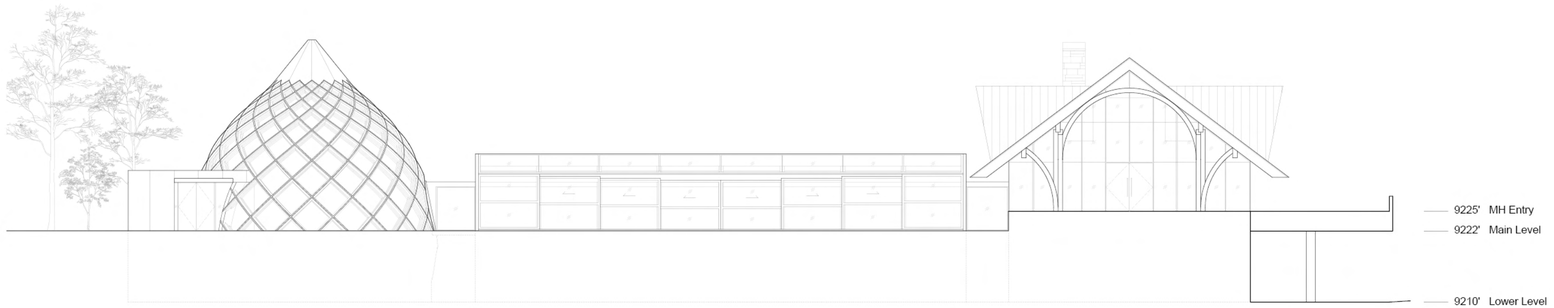
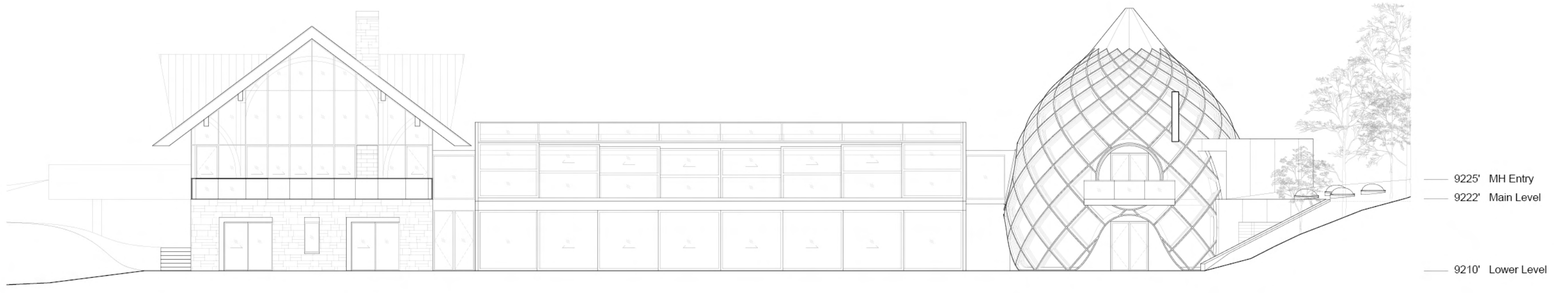
Team: Shigeru Ban Architects America





SOUTH WEST ELEVATION



NORTH EAST ELEVATION

1/16" = 1'-0"

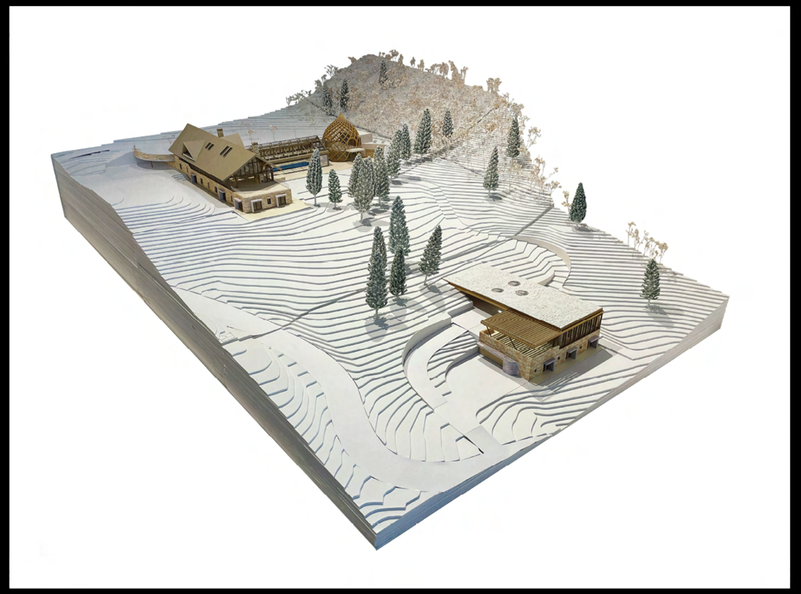
sba

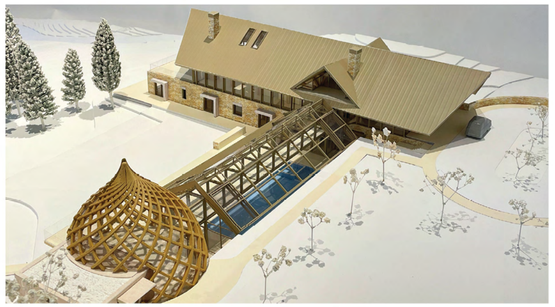
Park City House is a private ski-in/out residential project in Park City, UT. It features a main house, a guest house and an event pavilion (Mass Timber Structure)

Team: Shigeru Ban Architects America

Shigeru Ban Architects

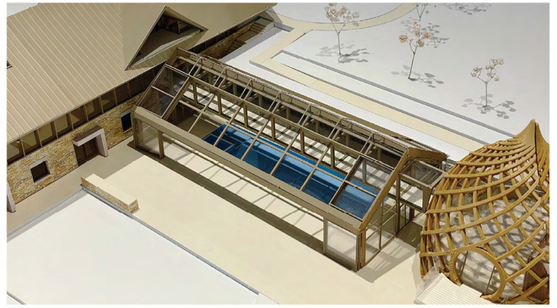
Jan 2023 - Nov 2023

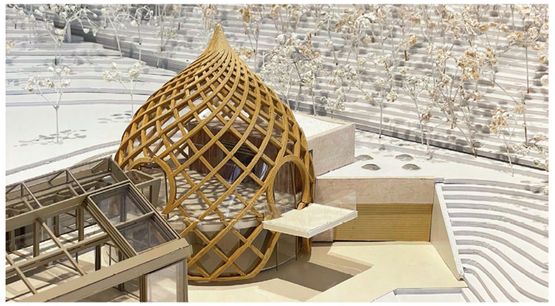


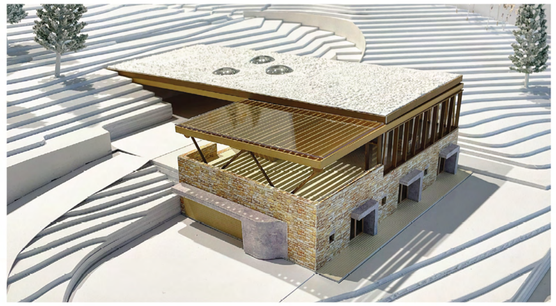


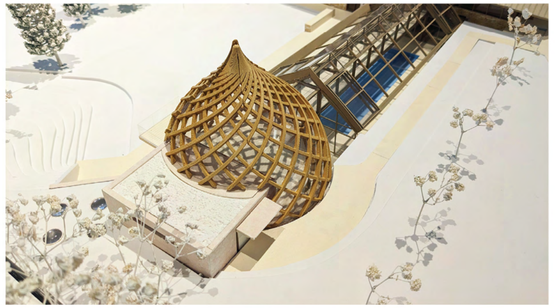














Intern

John Mutlow Architects

MAY 2021 - MAR 2022

To Whom This May Concern,

I have known Nigel since his Graduate Education at USC.
Nigel was dedicated to his studies, but more interestingly to me is also what I consider to be “A Listener”, a student that spends time conscientiously listening to faculty and other students positions which is one of the most important characteristics of a student who is receptive not only to history, but also to new ideas and new thoughts. and thereby advancing the topic not just repeating the topic.
Nigel was engaged, enthusiastic, and curious in his studies.
Whilst studying at USC he had a steep learning curve and was a quick learner. He also proactively engaged in discussions and exchanges of his ideas and experiences with other students, especially an understanding of communities and public spaces in differing parts of the world..
Nigel spent two semesters as an intern in my office where he assisted with and worked on real life Residential and mixed-use projects, the site planning for a residential project in Santa Barbara and Documentation drawings. He was respectful of schedules and project deadlines.
Nigel is an excellent candidate for an intern position at your firm.
Thank you,
John

.....

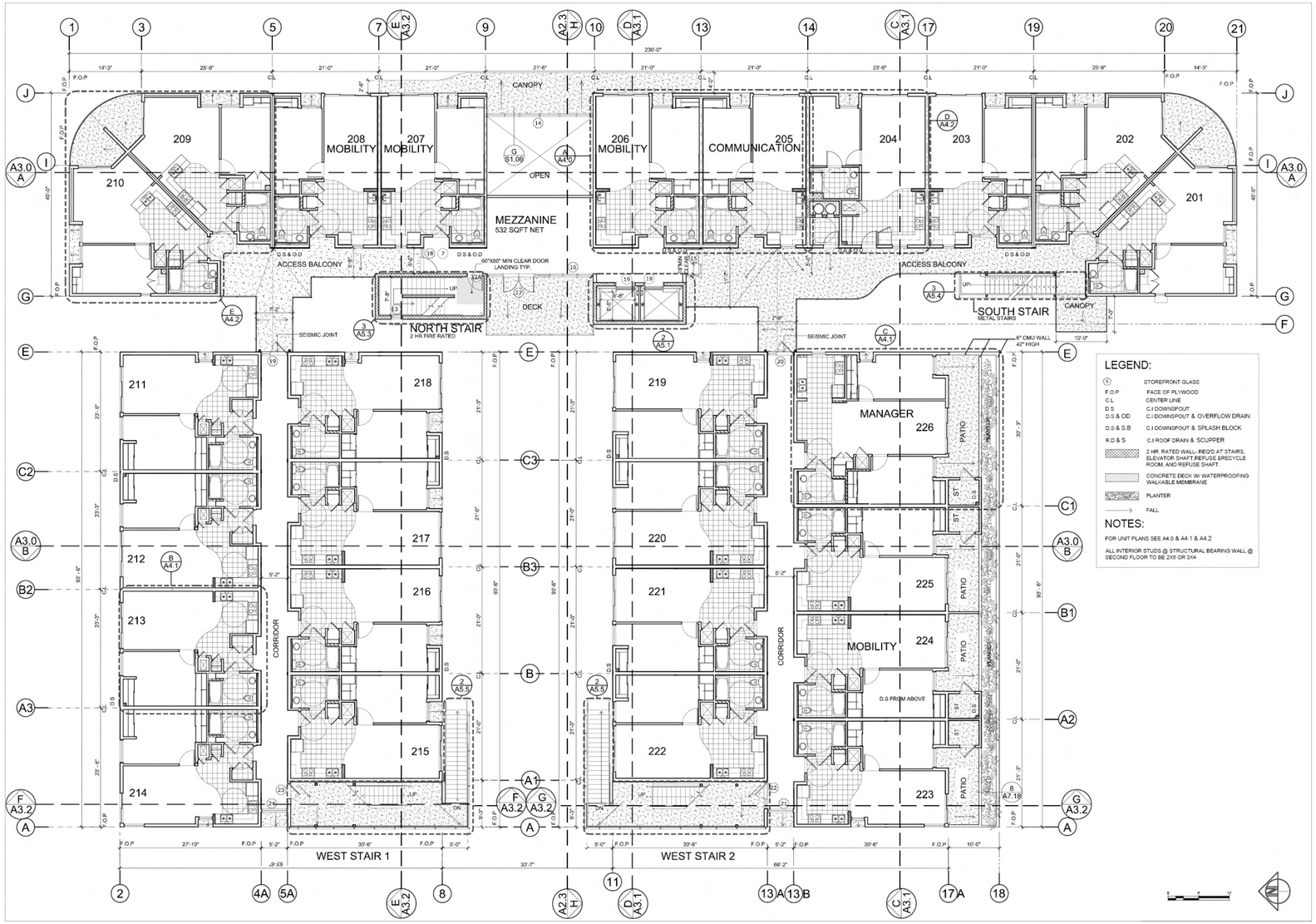
John V Mutlow FAIA. M.Arch UD, UCLA 1969, AA Dipl..

Professor

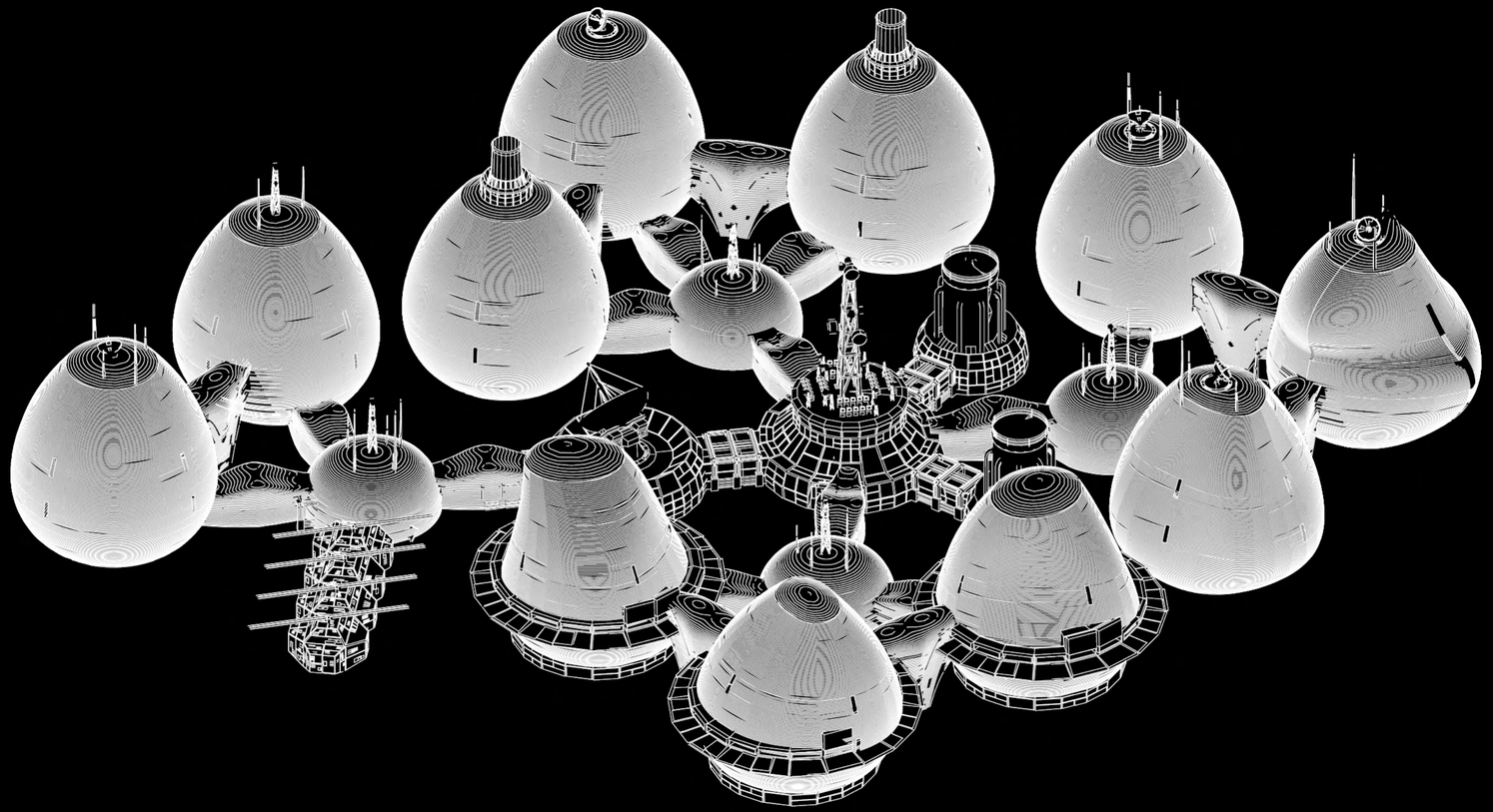
ACSA Distinguished Professor

School of Architecture

University of Southern California.







oikos galaxias

(HOME FROM THE STARS)

1.

This thesis proposes housing for an expanded group of residents on Mars. The project aims to provide housing for 88 colonists including first generation settlers and their children, with comfort and social wellbeing as primary design drivers.

The project absorbs the technological solutions for safety and infrastructure provided for the original eight scientists and researchers. Each dwelling will be 3D printed on site with local Martian soil and basalt mix.

The site, program, and fabrication assumptions push the limits for housing using 3D printing for designs that can implemented back on Earth for various applications and situations.

Graduate Thesis: HOUSING ON MARS

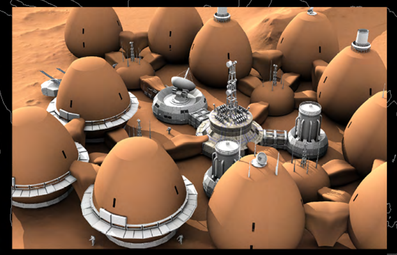
Instructor: Lisa Little

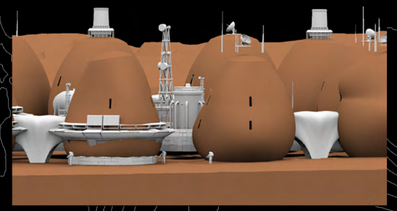
Jane Smith / 2025

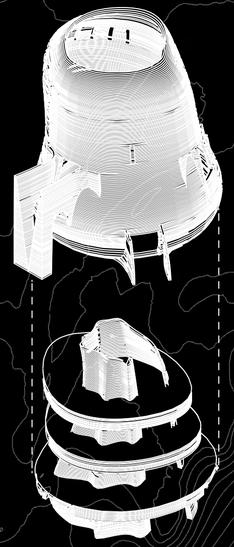
concept

3D Printing with Martian Soil on site









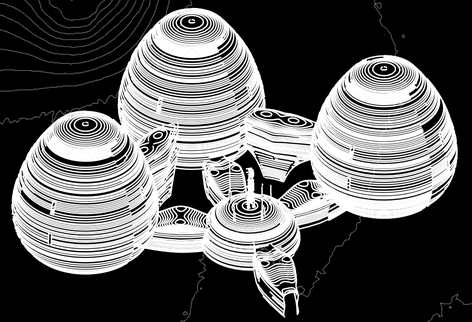
SLEEP PODS+BATHROOM

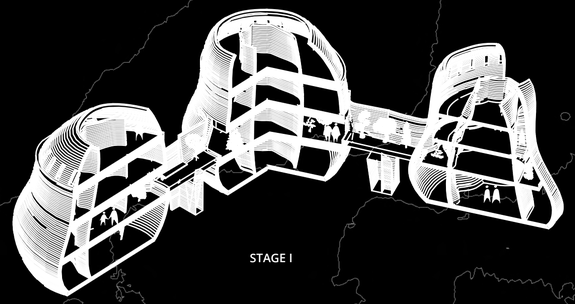
KITCHEN+DRY LAB

GARDEN+SOCIAL

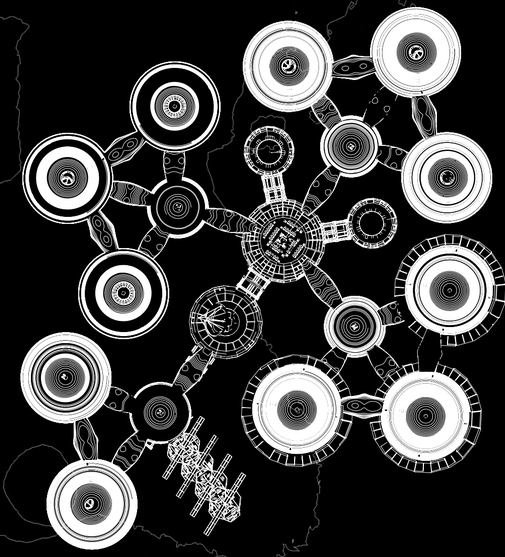
GARAGE+EXPEDITION

SINGLE DWELLING





STAGE I



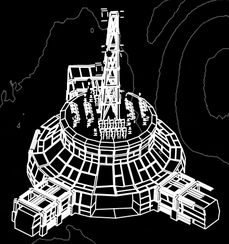
STAGE II



PLUG-IN UNITS+ POWER STORAGE



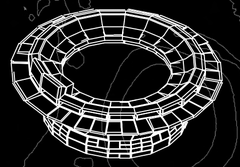
SOCIAL SPACE



TOWN HALL



COMMUNAL CLINIC



SOLAR POWER COLLECTOR

www.example.com

Et odi quunt aut laborem re

Venice 2080

Housing / Mix-Use
Venice Beach, CA









Venice is an eclectic collage of people and structures that has created abundant residual and left over spaces. Our project attempts to take advantage of the gaps in the neighbourhood fabric to create places of discovery using infill, terraces, courtyards, housing and other programs to create a natural, more open light filled typologies that contribute to the community in a more compact sustainable and equitable future.

Progect Team: Daniel Yi, Nigel Xu, Jinmeng Han

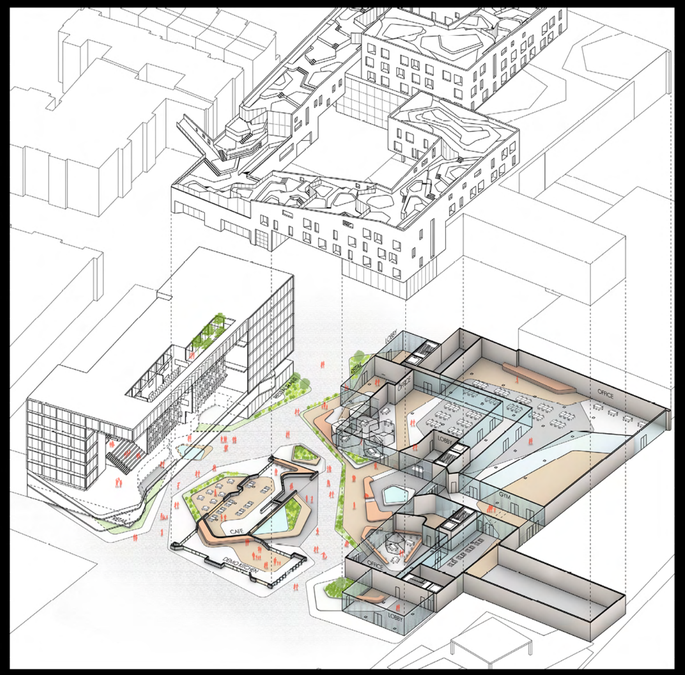
My role:
Early massing and programming. Produced diagrams, renderings, and physical model.

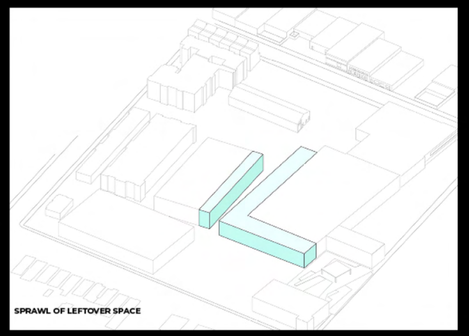
Software Used: Revit, Rhino, Grasshopper

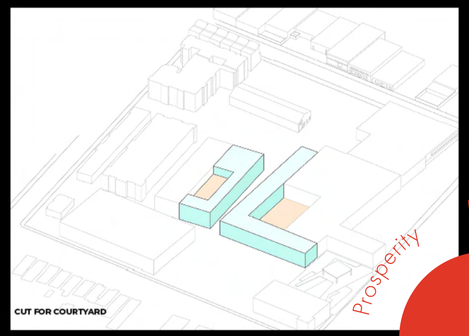
2.

Instructor : Larry Scarpa

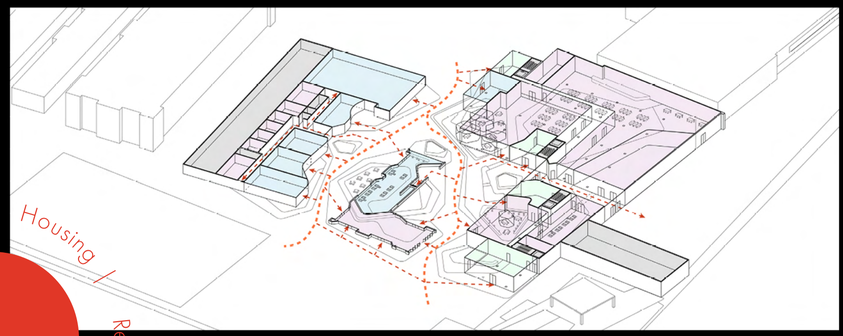
GRAD
STUDIO

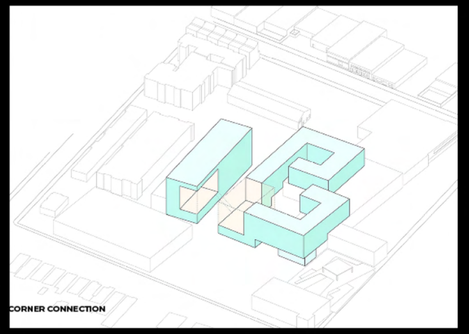


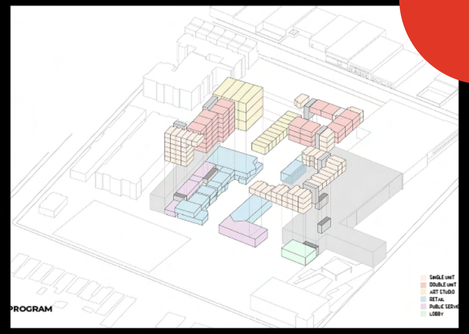


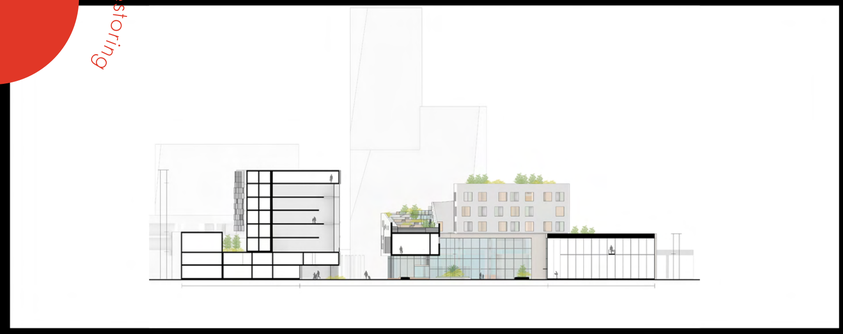


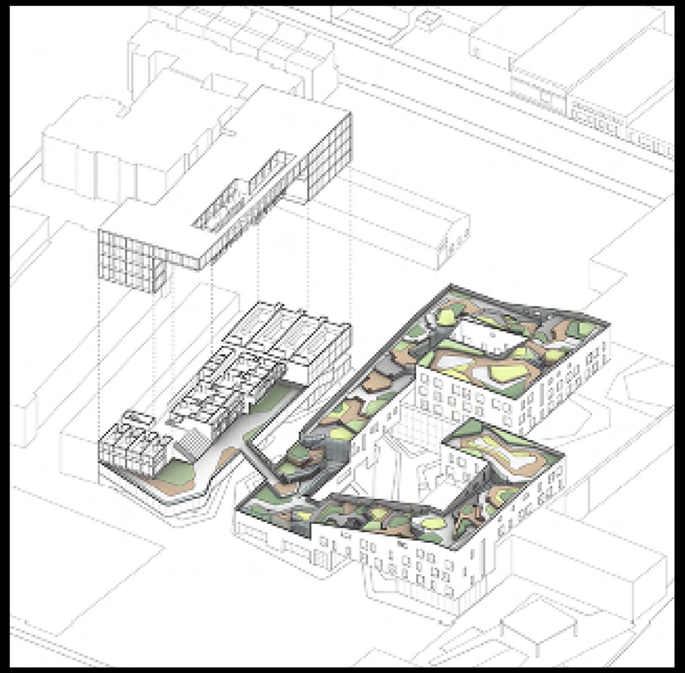
Prosperity / Housing / Restoring















Grad Studio

Instructor: Roland Wahlroos

Valley in the Basin

Clinic / Mix-Use
Crenshaw, Los Angeles

VALLEY IN THE BASIN

Alexander Shirley
Nigel Xu
David Thai

World Health Organization recommend minimun 100sf urban green space per person, with an ideal recommendation of 540sf per person. In Los Angeles County, the average number is 524 sf green space per person.

However, this average number does not hold water. In Leimert Park for example, with population of 11,391 there are only around 100,000 sf of green space put together. This means the average green space per person in Crenshaw is at 8.7 sf per person which is extremely unreasonable.

With that in mind, our project aims to redefine what a clinic means in such urban setting, and to demonstrate what it can be in the future. As a Mixed-use project, Valley in the Basin is divided into four major components: Medical, Education, Retail and Community gathering space. The Park is made possible by the large green roof supported by glulam beams. The atrium space enabled by a large CLT sky frame also offers natural light and ventilation, with the patients' well-being in mind.

My role:
Developed early conecpt, Produced drawings and renderings. Made physical model.

Software Used: Revit, Rhino, Grasshopper



3.



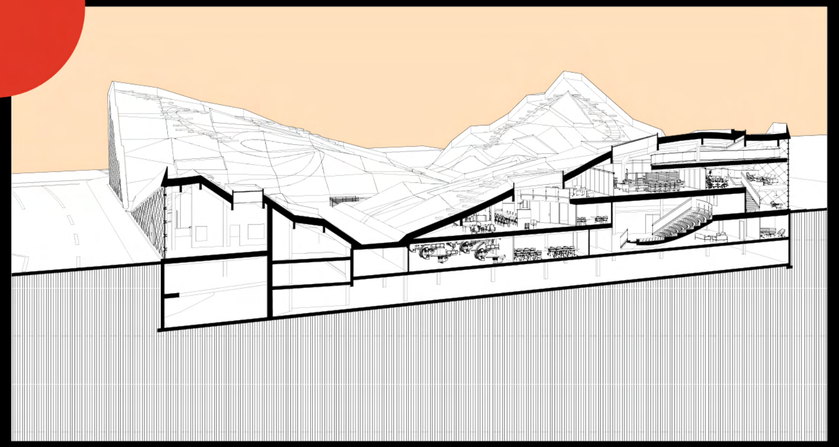


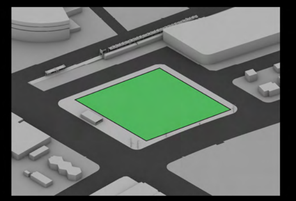


goal

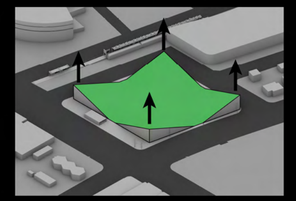
Nature / Clinic / People



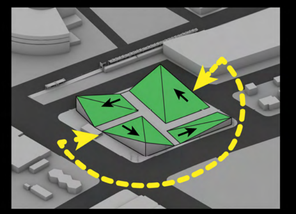




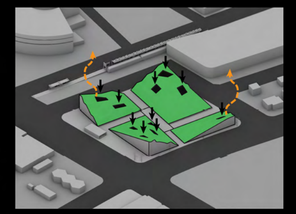
What if the Med Hive were to be the park itself, covered in a blanket of native greenery?



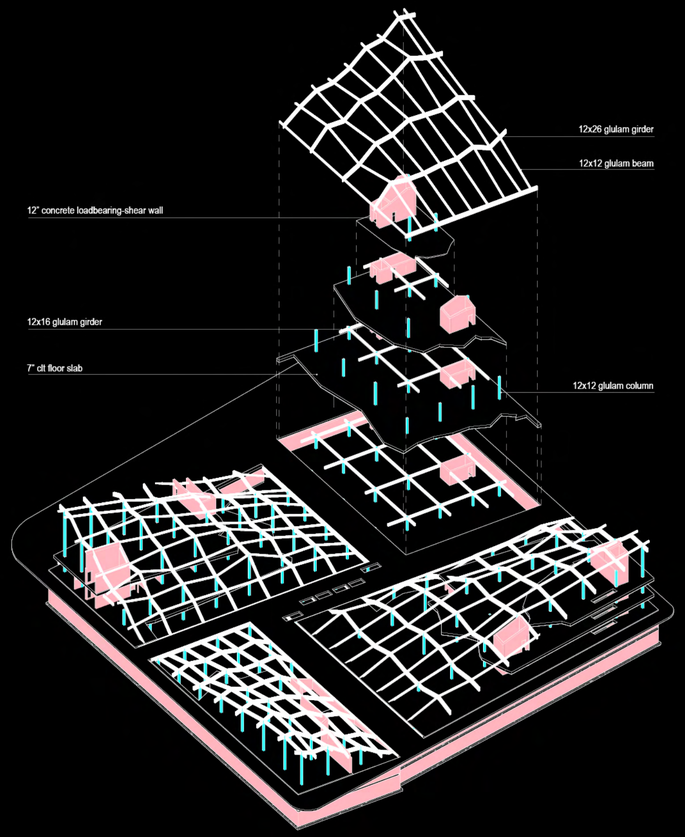
What if the Med Hive were a valley of grassy knolls that visitors could climb, explore, and recreate upon?

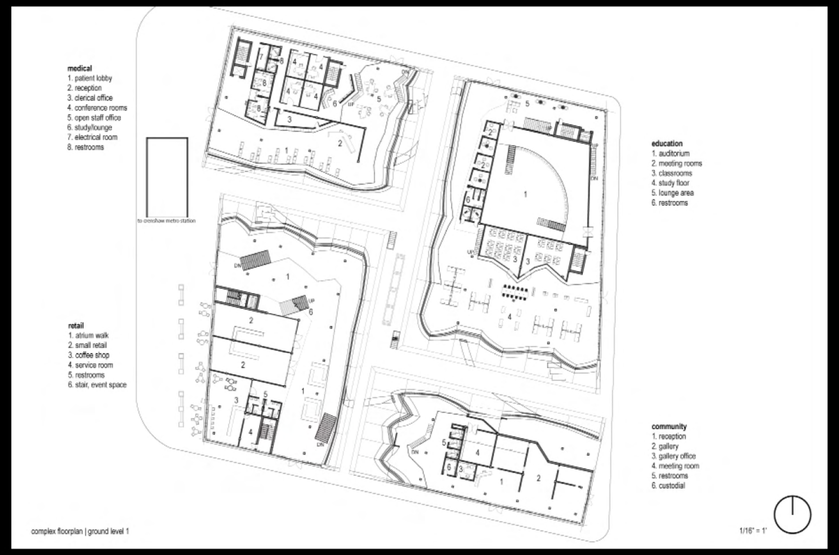


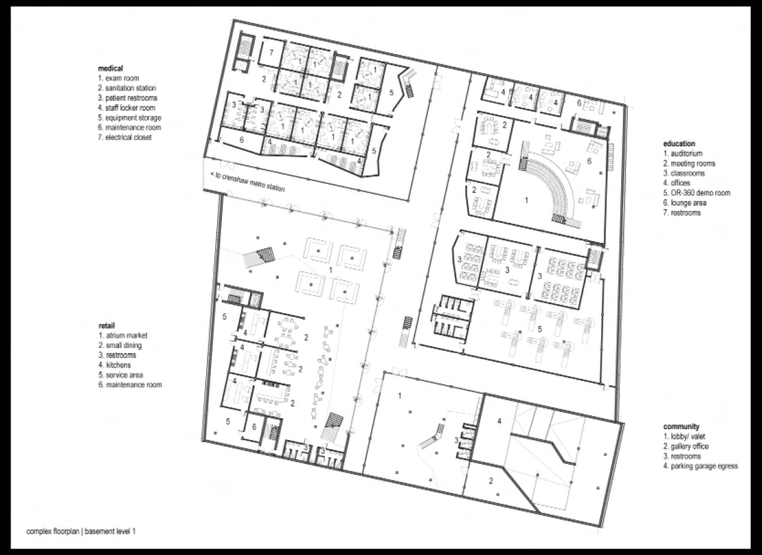
What if we compartmentalized the programs and gave each one equal access to the green space above?



What if as part of the blanket, we systematically punched wells of light into the cavernous undersides of the hill?





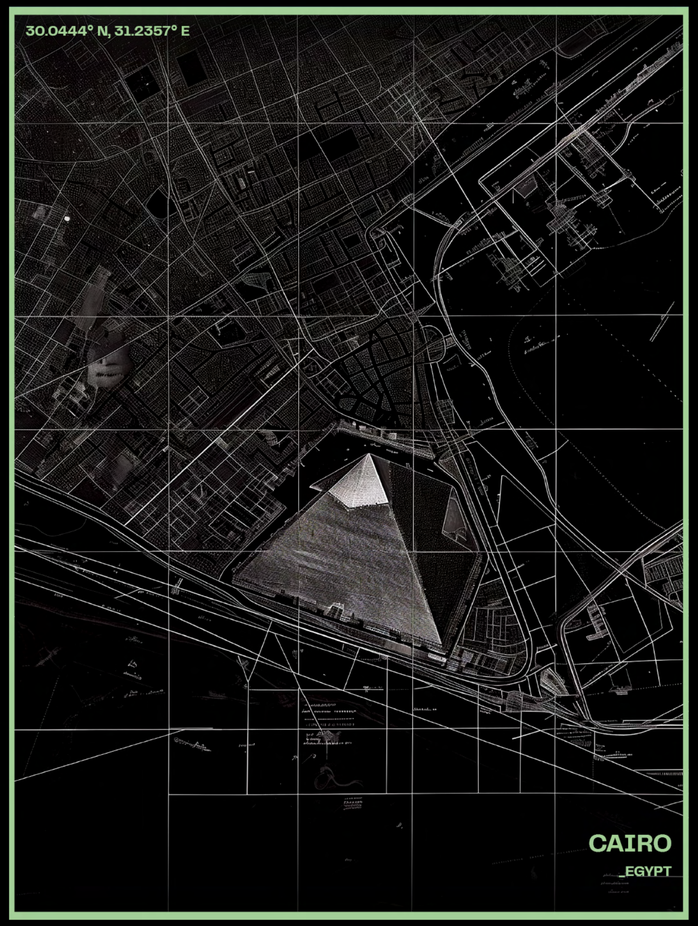


4.

CITY MAP DESIGN

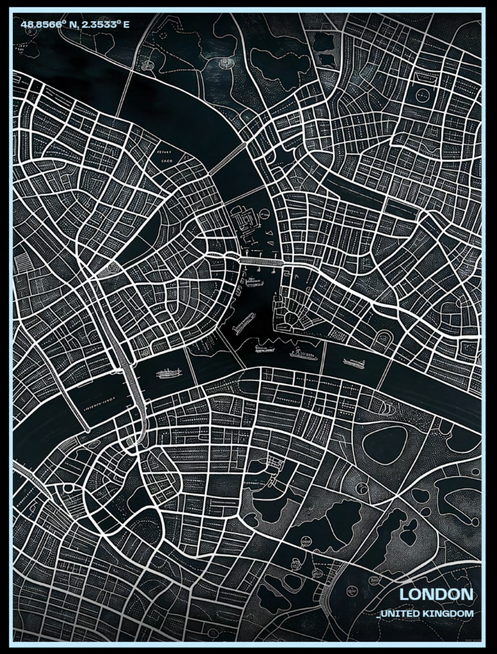
Designing city maps has been my lifelong passion, one that I've nurtured since college. It's an art of collecting spatial data and reorganizing it in a way that familiarizes yet distinguishes each city. Every metropolis boasts its unique features, cultural symbols, and iconic landmarks, which I strive to encapsulate in my designs. Whether integrating climate statistics or traffic patterns, my maps reflect varied attitudes and perspectives.

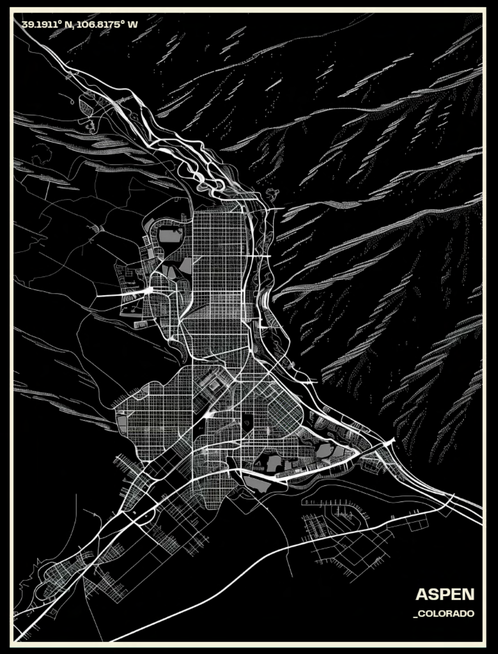
The process, though intricate, follows a familiar path: modeling in Rhino and refining through Adobe workflows. Sometimes, I venture into 3D rendering, overlaying plans with sections to offer a multifaceted view. Throughout, my aim remains consistent: to unveil new urban possibilities while safeguarding the city's intrinsic essence.

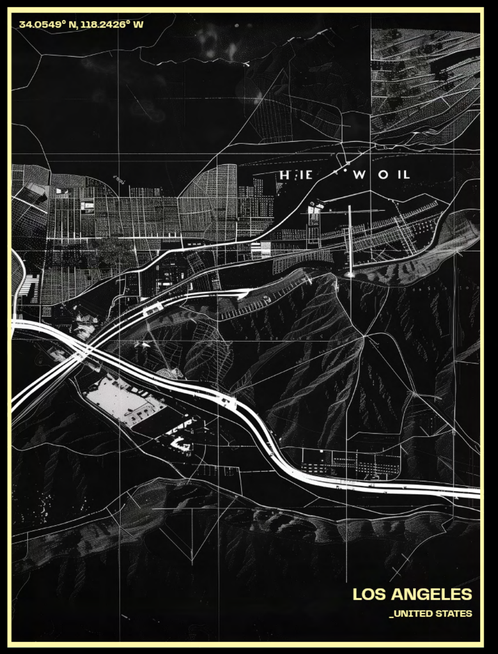


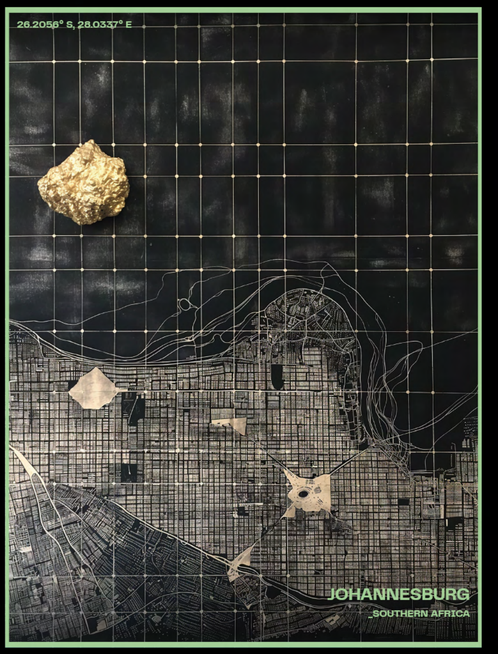
See more at UNPS.STORE

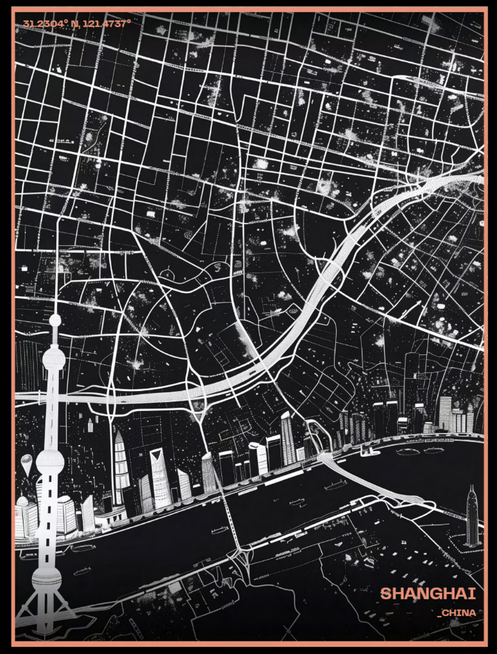

41.0082° N, 28.9784° E
ISTANBUL
_TURKEY

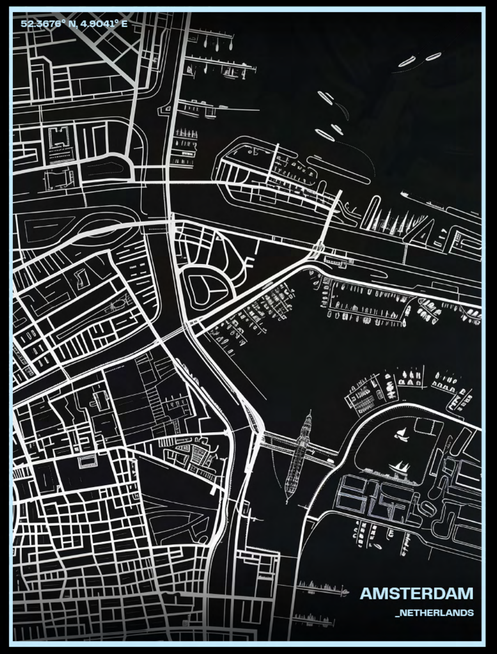

48.8566° N, 2.3533° E
LONDON
_UNITED KINGDOM


39.1911° N, 106.8175° W
ASPEN
_COLORADO

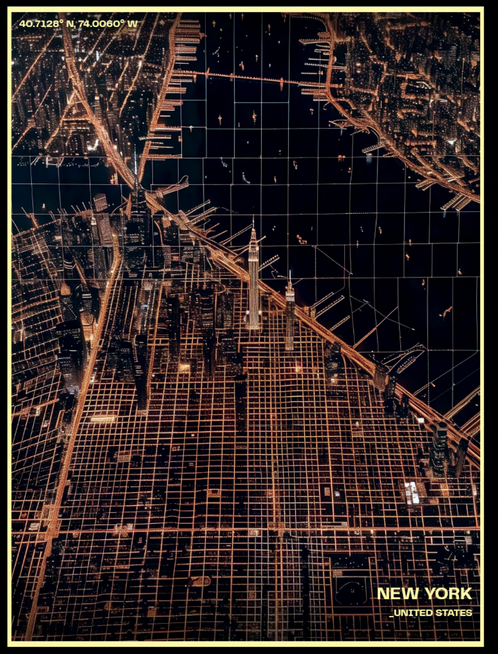

34.0549° N, 118.2426° W
LOS ANGELES
_UNITED STATES

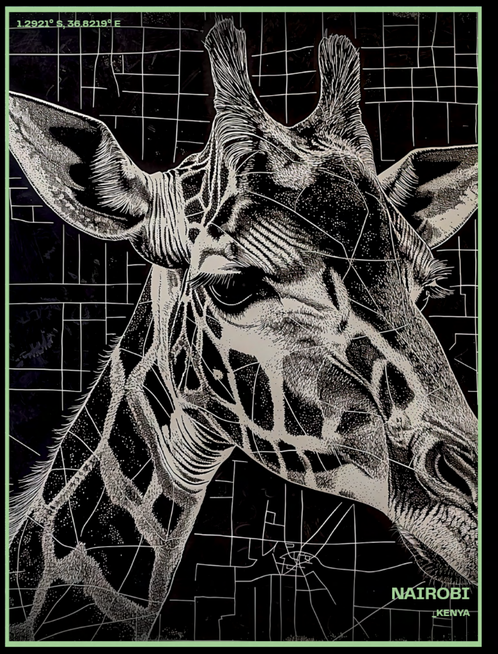

26.2056° S, 28.0337° E
JOHANNESBURG
_SOUTHERN AFRICA


31.2304° N, 121.4737°
SHANGHAI
_CHINA


52.3676° N, 4.9041° E
AMSTERDAM
_NETHERLANDS


39.6433° N, 106.3781°
VAIL
_COLORADO


40.7128° N, 74.0060° W
NEW YORK
_UNITED STATES


1.2921° S, 36.8219° E
NAIROBI
_KENYA

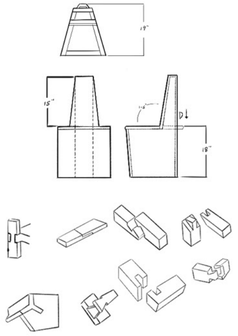


Chair One





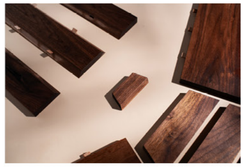


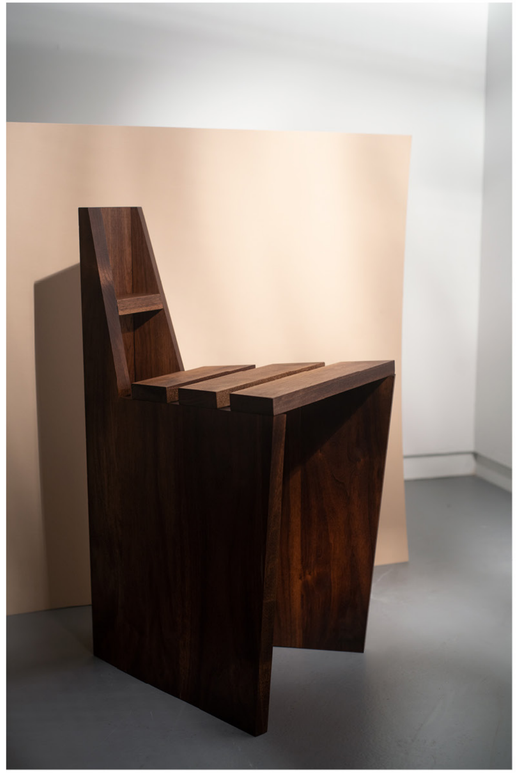


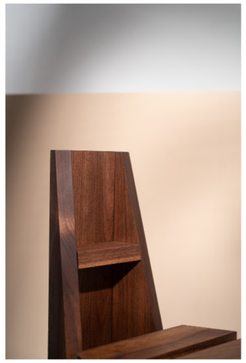
Reclaimed walnut | Domino Joints | Aesthetic of Wood

I had tremendous pleasure in making this chair. On the one hand, it showcases my woodworking through the joinery and multi-tapered cuts. On the other hand, this chair was a vehicle for me to seek for the aesthetic of wood through the volumn and pattern.

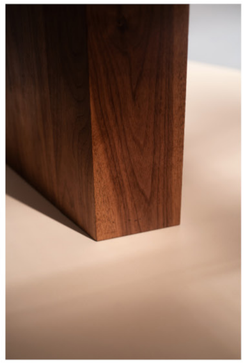
Reclaimed American Black Walnut with Coconut Oil Finish

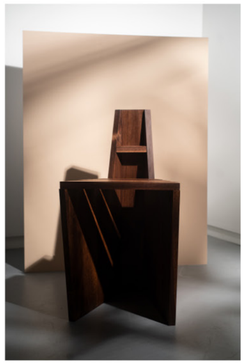














Chair Two

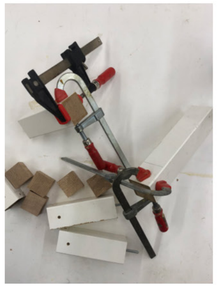
Welding | Hacking | Reinforcing IKEA

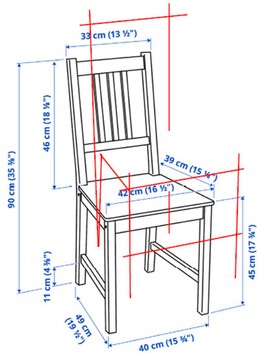
We love IKEA furniture for its affordability. We will love it even more if the durability improves. So I selected two iconic IKEA furniture to do this reinforcing exercise: Stephan Chair and Lack Table.

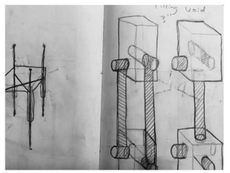
We know that IKEA Furniture is designed for specific use. For example, the LACK table will last as long as one doesn't sit on top for its not load-bearing. So the first step is to fill the void by stuffing solid wood into the legs. With the solid wood inside, we can then drill the holes and insert the metal rods, which acts as re-bar. This design of mine got featured on Interior Design Magazine, thankfully.

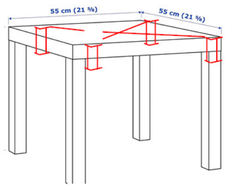
https://interiordesign.net/designwire/next-generation-shows-skills-at-usc-s-furniture-design-class/



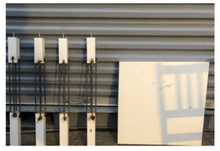












Furniture

Nigel Xu / 2019

Product



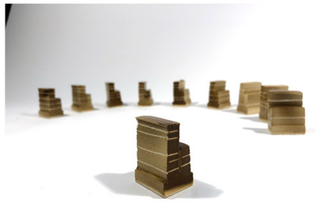
10 sets of gift boxes



25 E 13th St. Building



University Center (Dorm)



2 W 13th St. Building



Map of 5th Ave & 13th St. corner





Parsons Souvenir Box

Souvenir | Small Batch Production | Recycled Material

Souvenir carries meanings. The problem with mass production is the lack of individual identity. Upon graduation, I wanted to design and fabricate a small batch of souvenir for my school's gift shop. Since Parsons doesn't have a campus but a series of buildings scattered along Fifth Avenue. The idea of small building models in a gift box came to mind. I chose three major school buildings to be made in three materials: recycled clay, scrap wood and recycled plastic. Each material used was found within each building such that the spirit is embodied. In this project, the process is what creates meaning, not the product:

Collected and CNC Milled Scrap Wood (sourced from 25 E 13th St. Wood Shop)

Shredded laundry detergent boxes, and Injection Molding Plastic (sourced from student Dorm)

Extruding & Die cutting Clay, fired twice (sourced from 2 W 13th St. Wet Lab)

WOOD

(25 E 13th St. Building)





PLASTIC

(2 W 13th St. Building)





CERAMIC

(University Center)



