

PORTFOLIO



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CASE STUDY

FARNSWORTH HOUSE 17

GRACE SOLIMAN

Fifth-year architecture student at Pratt Institute, graduating in May 2025, with a minor in Sustainable Design and Social Justice. Proficient in AutoCAD, Revit, and Rhinoceros, with expertise developed through Pratt's rigorous five-year program and hands-on experience in residential, retail, and commercial projects. Passionate about creating innovative, functional spaces that integrate sustainability, social impact, and investigative design methodologies. Interested in the intersections of architecture, memory, and forensic analysis to uncover spatial narratives. Eager to bring different perspectives and creative solutions to a dynamic architectural team.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Architecture Intern | John Ferraro Architecture Firm | New City, NY | 06/23 - current

- Assisted senior architect in various phases of project development.
- Contributed to design meetings, brainstorming sessions, and client presentations.
- Produced architectural drawings and modeling using Revit.
- Supported project analysis and documentation.
- Gained valuable experience from 1:1 mentoring and coaching.

Engineering Intern | Cosentini Associates, Tetra Tech | New York, NY | 06/24 - 08/24

- Worked as part of the lighting team, collaborating with licensed architects and engineers in the lighting field.
- Attended Cosentini University courses which covered a variety of engineering topics including, electrical, plumbing, and fire safety.
- Learned new softwares like AGI for lighting design.
- Assisted in various phases of project development.

Architecture Intern | Atmosphere Design Group | Valhalla, NY | 05/22 - 08/22

- Coached and mentored by senior architects.
- Learned Auto CAD and used it throughout the internship.
- Created plans, sections, and elevations for luxury brand stores such as Cartier and Gucci.
- Prepared architectural drawings and presentations for client meetings.
- Assisted senior architect in all phases of project development.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Co-President of Pratt Futures | Pratt Institute | Brooklyn, NY | 04/23 - 01/25

- Student-led club whose mission is to highlight the work of emerging designers.
- Increased student involvement by engaging them in selecting from an influential panel of speakers, pertinent topics and questions.
- Initiated and co-hosted a podcast series which serves as a platform for architects and designers to share ideas with students.

Computer Lab Support | Pratt Institute | Brooklyn, NY | 08/23 - current

- Supported students navigating printing software and operating equipment.
- Provided front desk customer service.

Rome Study Abroad Work-study | Pratt Institute | Rome, Italy | 01/24 - 07/24

- Honors program provides a rigorous and diverse semester-long learning experience on site.
- Immersive architectural training.
- One of five students offered paid work-study positions.
- Worked directly under the program director to update and edit drawings and presentations.

Teaching Assistant for Design Studio | Pratt Institute | Brooklyn, NY | 08/23 - 12/23

- Coached and mentored first-year students in the use of software, concept development and adjusting to the learning environment.
- Provided guidance and feedback to support and improve their pinups.

Co-founder of Femmes of the Future | Pratt Institute | Brooklyn, NY | 09/22 - 09/23

- Student-led club whose mission is to uplift and amplify the voice of women in design-related fields.
- Hosted lecture series, created mentorship opportunities and organized networking events.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Rhinoceros 3D
- Auto CAD
- Revit
- V-Ray
- Adobe Illustrator
- Adobe InDesign
- Adobe Photoshop

INTERPERSONAL SKILLS

- Communication
- Teamwork
- Analytical skills
- Leadership

EDUCATION

Pratt Institute School of Architecture

- Bachelor of Architecture
- Minor in Social Justice and Sustainability
- 2020-2025

CONTACT INFORMATION

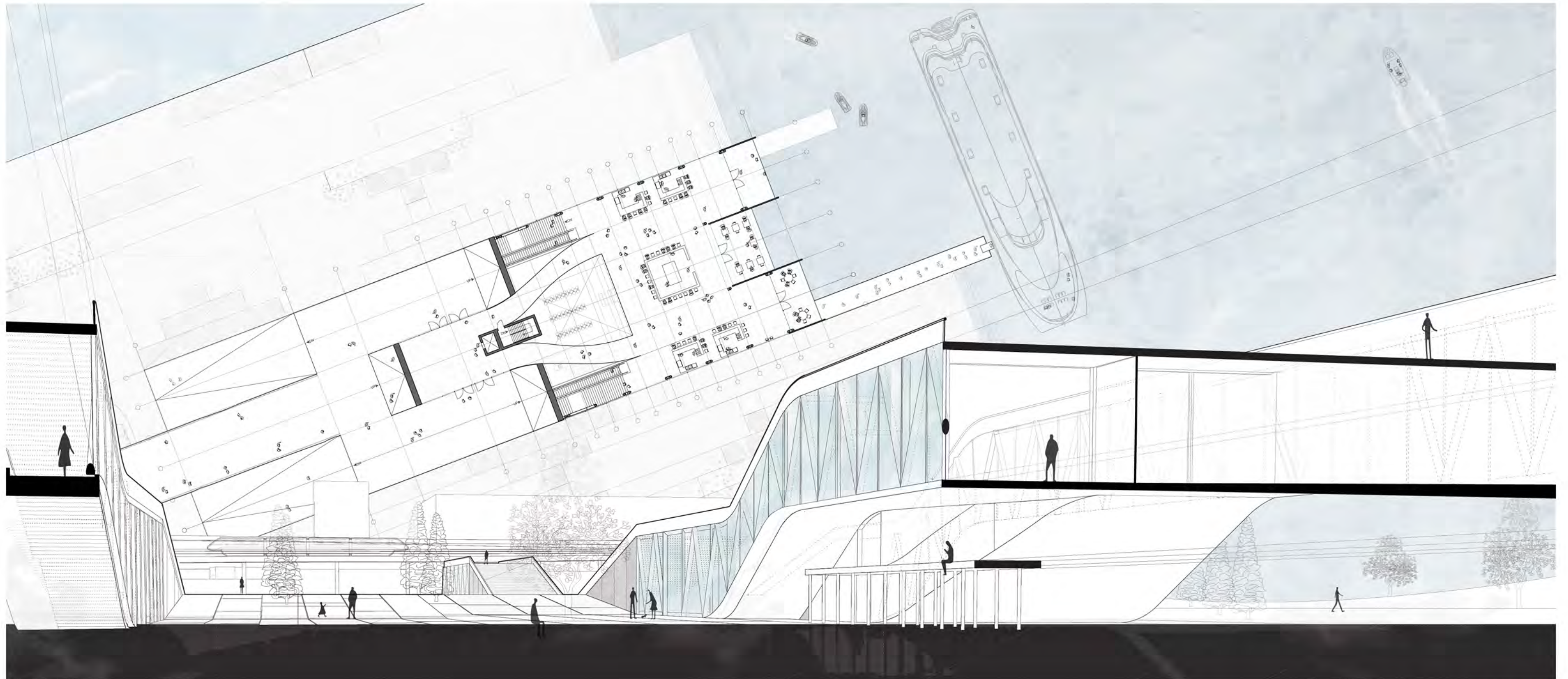
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URBAN CONFLUENCE

Redefining the edge between city and water

:: In Collaboration with Tristin Charron

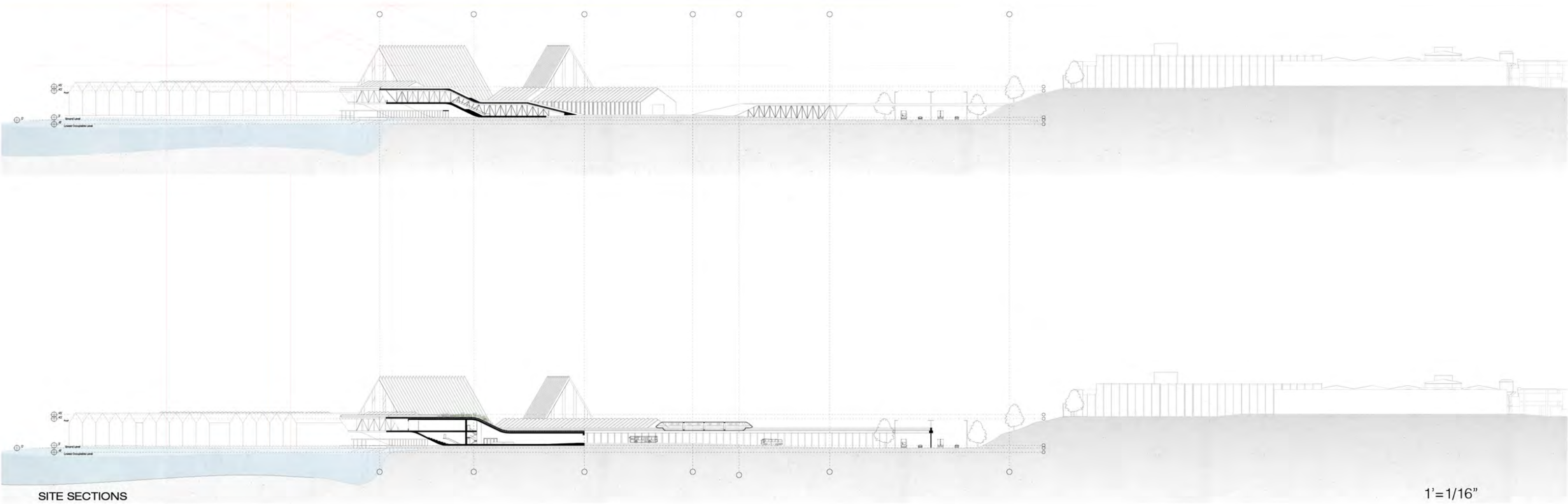
Constructed on the waters edge of Rosario Argentina, this intermodal transportation hub creates a space that mediates between city and water edge. Rather than imposing on the site, this structure peels up from the water edge and reverberates back into the city. These pieces that emerge start creating spaces that can be occupied under, within, and above.





Creating the form through geometries

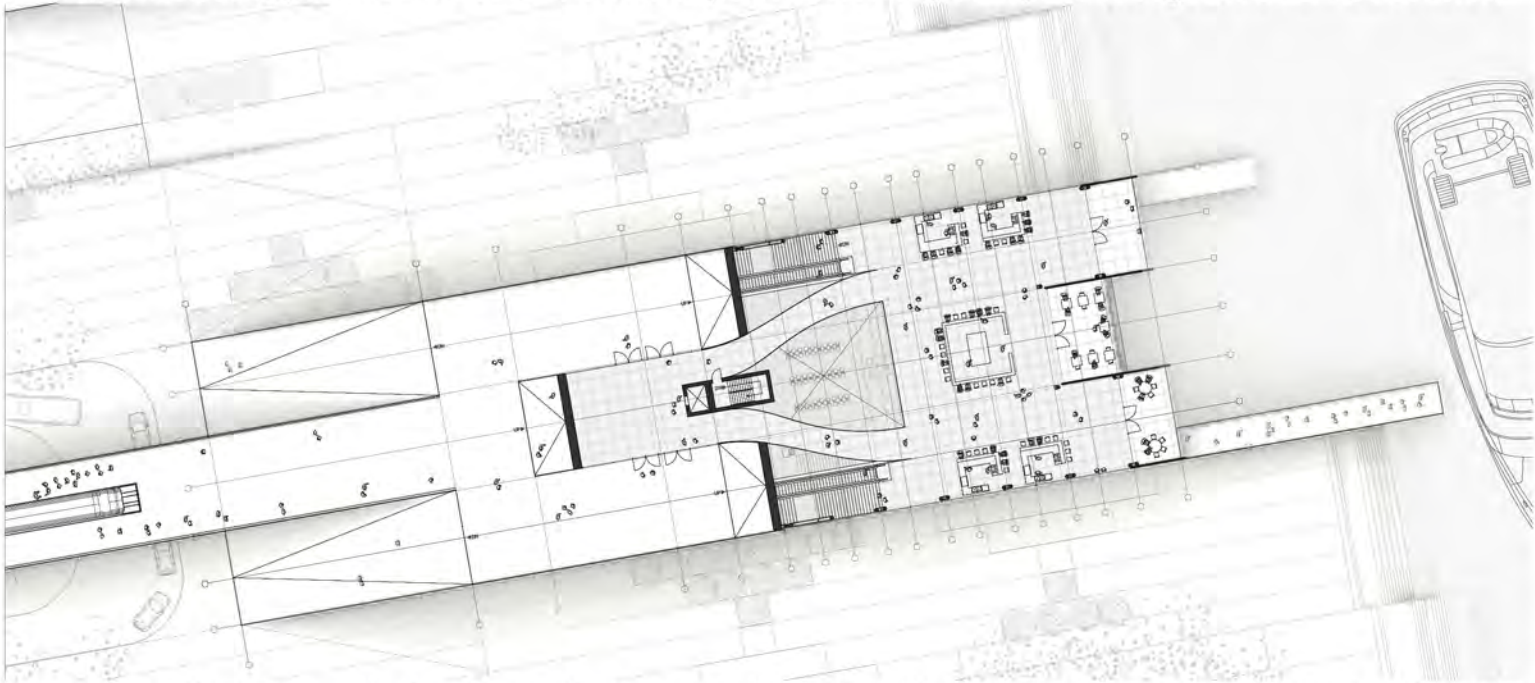
Sectionally, the space is organized so that private program is positioned in between public spaces. The central module shows the split where the structure begins to “peel up” and bifurcates. Someone interacting with the site from outside can ascend the stairs to the roof, while someone looking to occupy the interior can continue forward into the module. The street facing module are all public markets with a bridge connecting the site directly to the city.



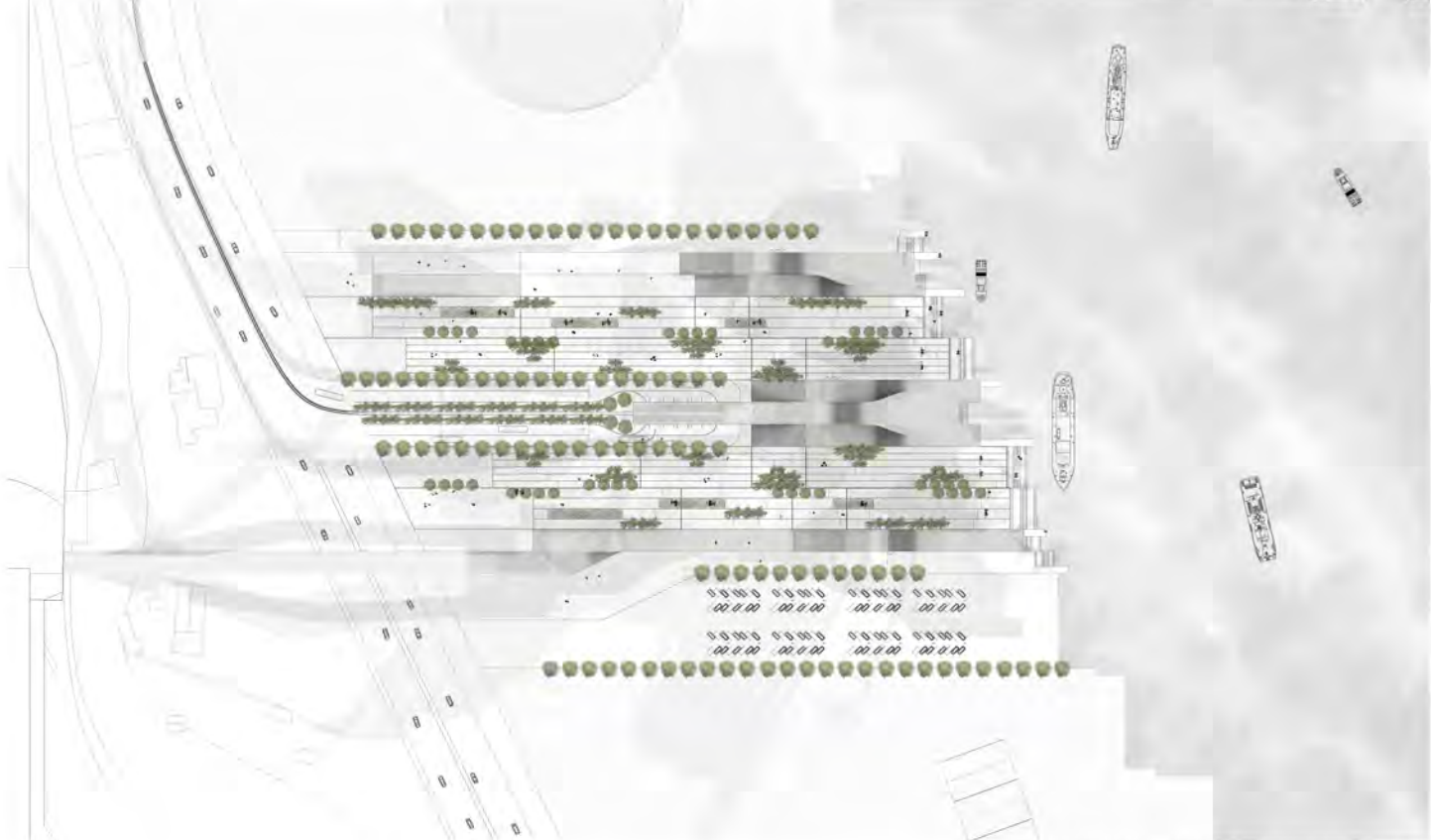
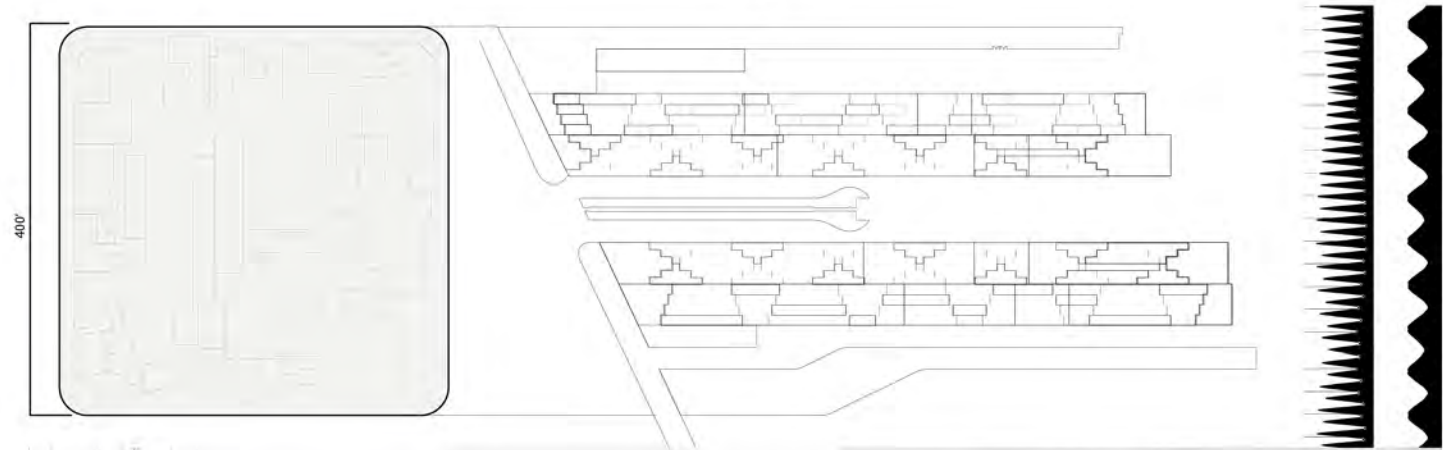
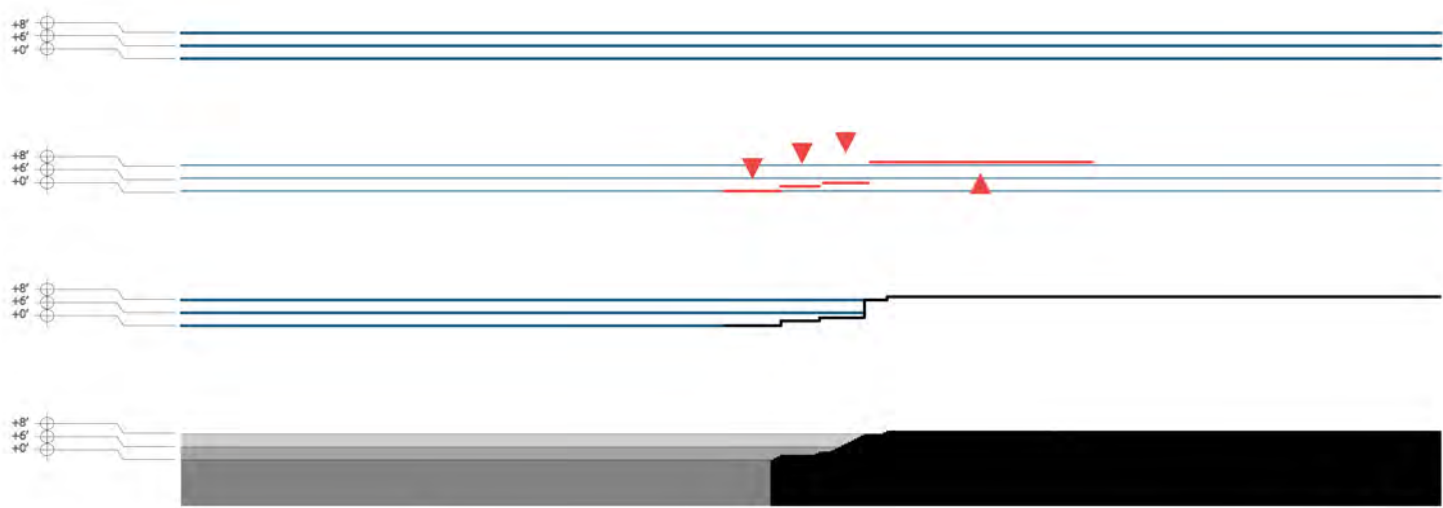


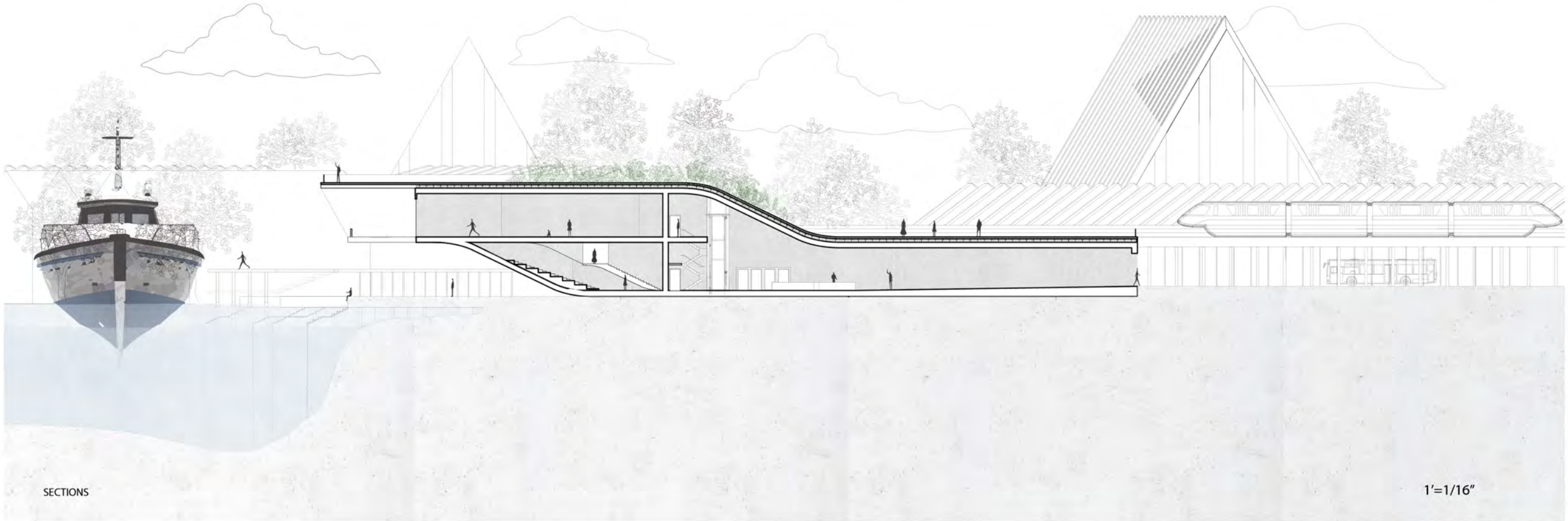
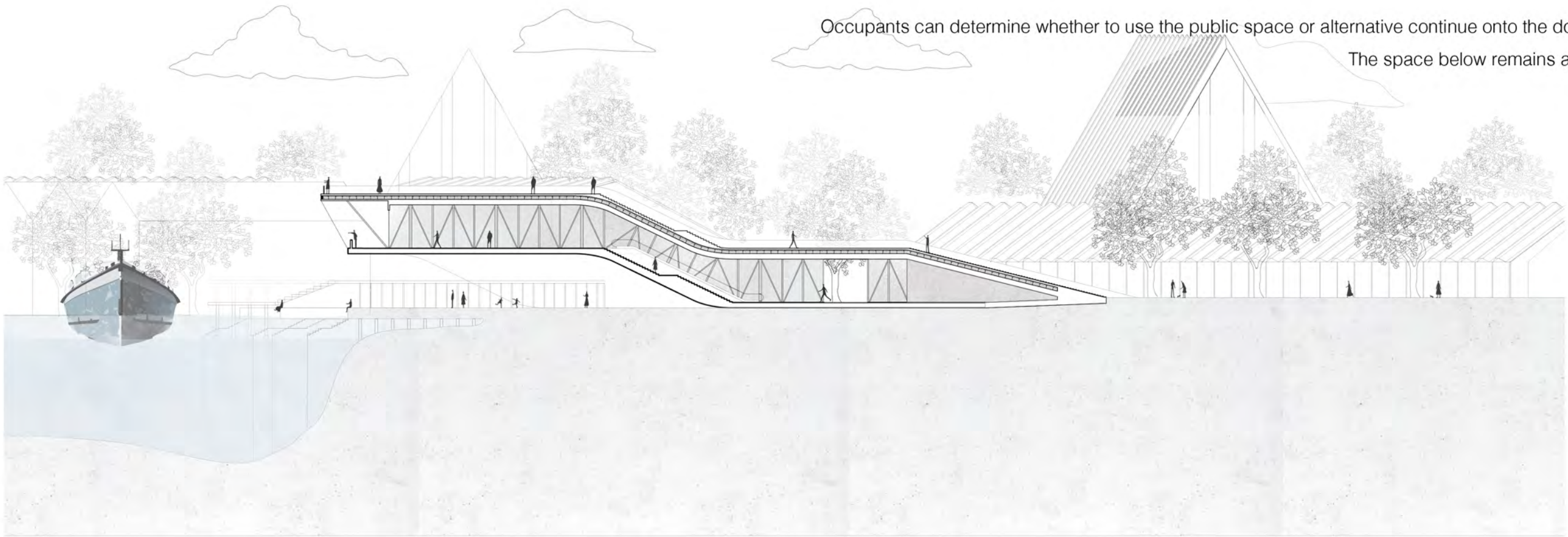
The diagrams show a new relationship of the building to the site.
First, its orientation and dimensions were established. It was oriented to the city block and sized to align with each end of the block so that, visually, it was not broken from the organization of the city.

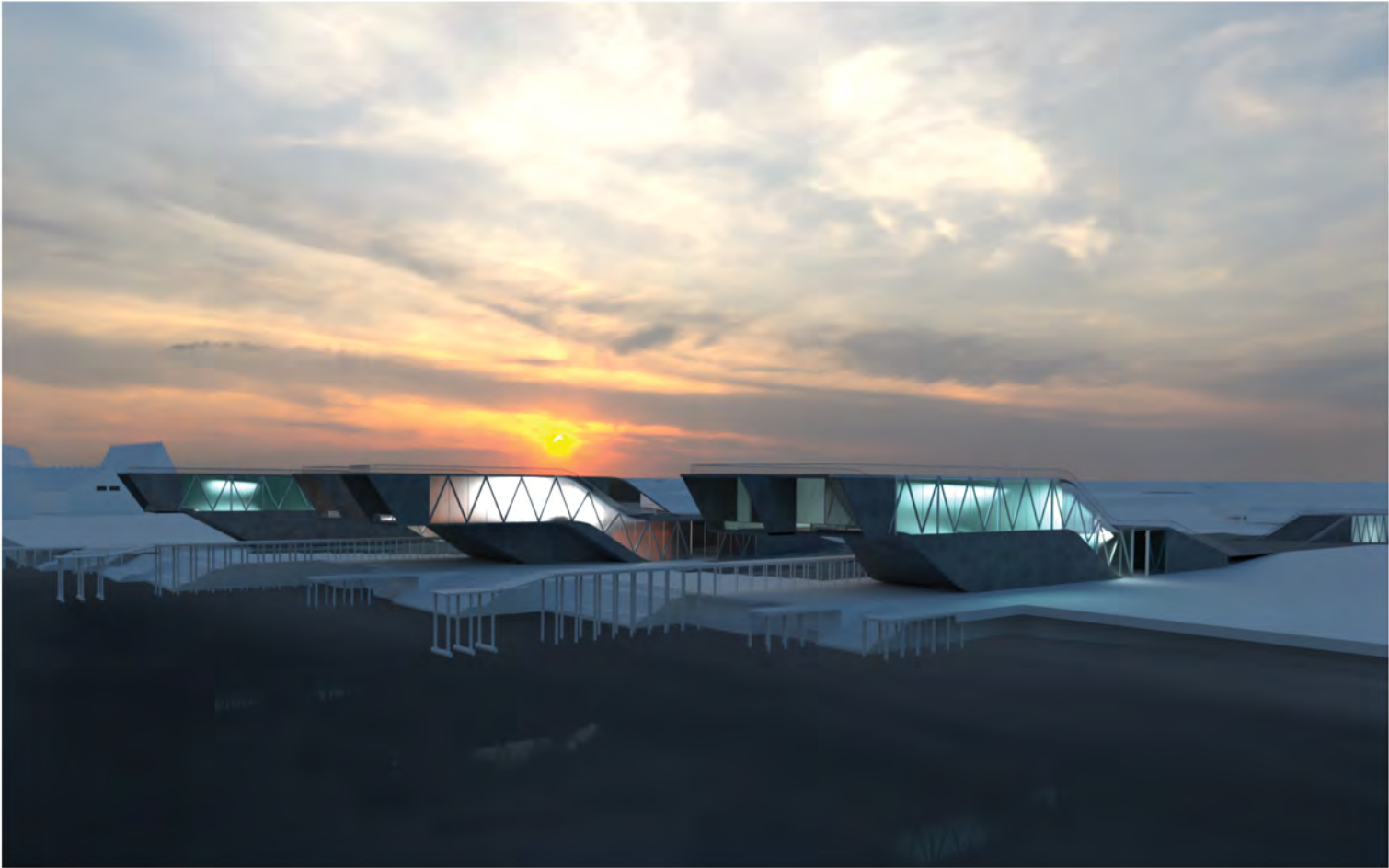
Next, as the ground was designed, tide levels, which rose and fell frequently along the water's edge, were examined. While the ground was landscaped, graphs of water levels were studied, shown here across a day and a week, and these fluctuating patterns were used to create dispersed areas of green space through the otherwise concrete



The analyzed fluctuating water levels were then used to design the different altitudes where landings were placed to be used for rest and socialization throughout the waters edge





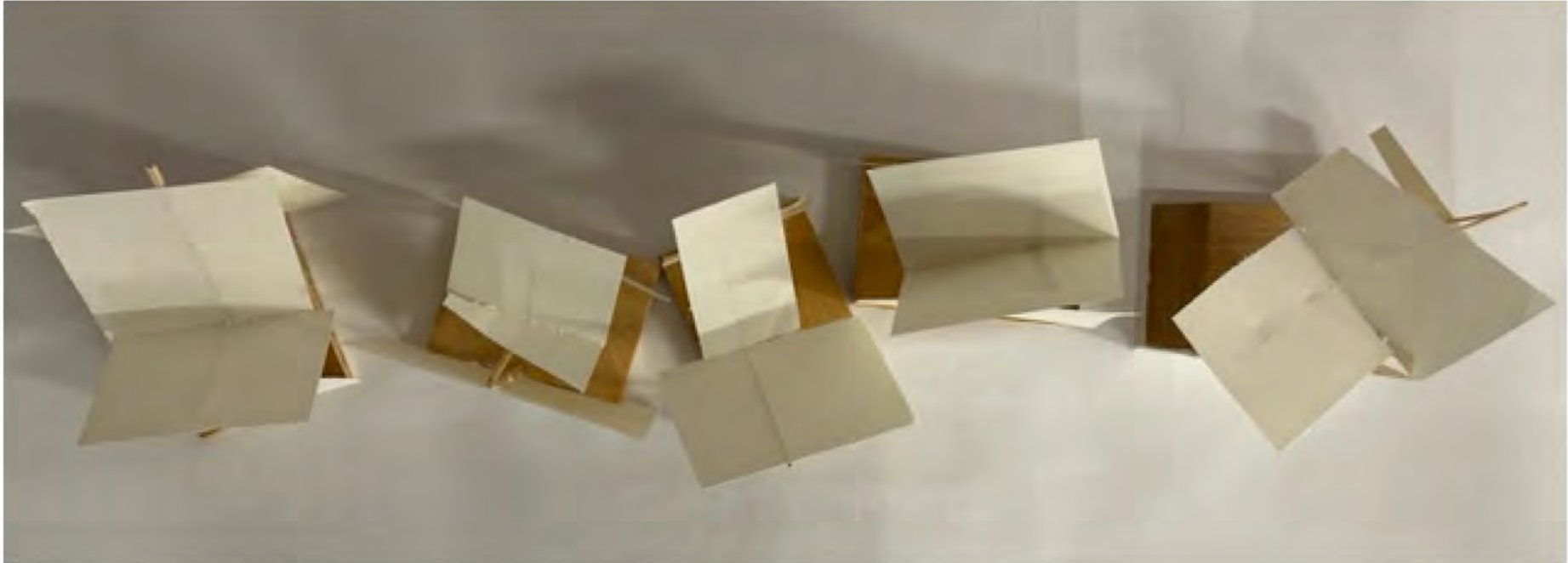
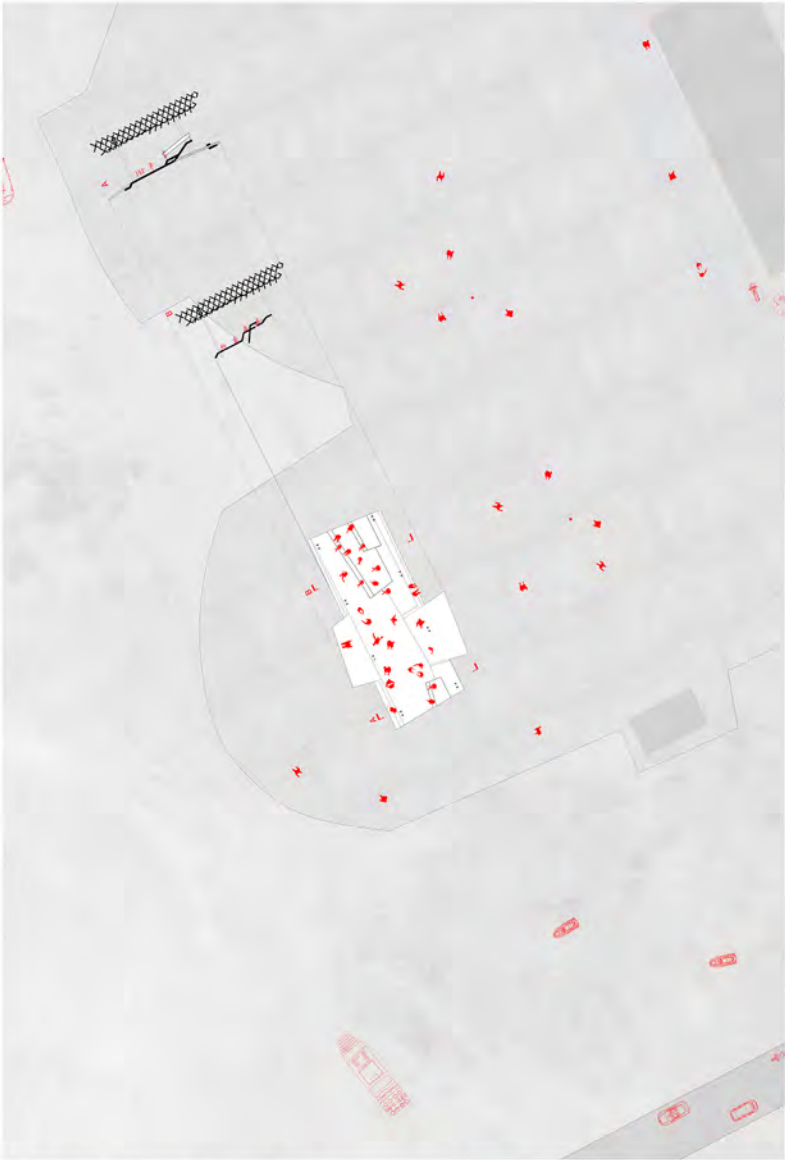
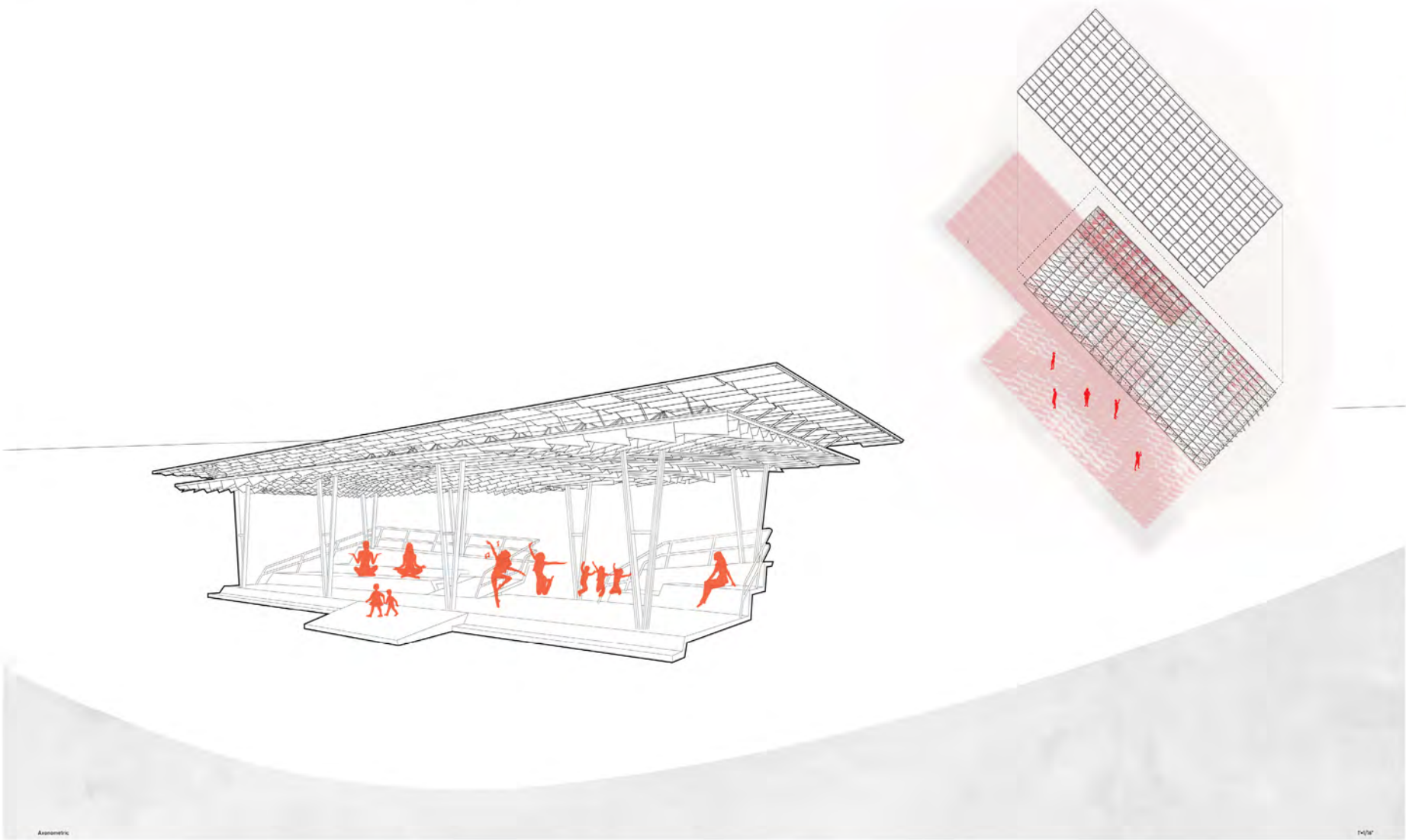


SPATIAL WEAVE

Integrating Commerce, Craft, and Community

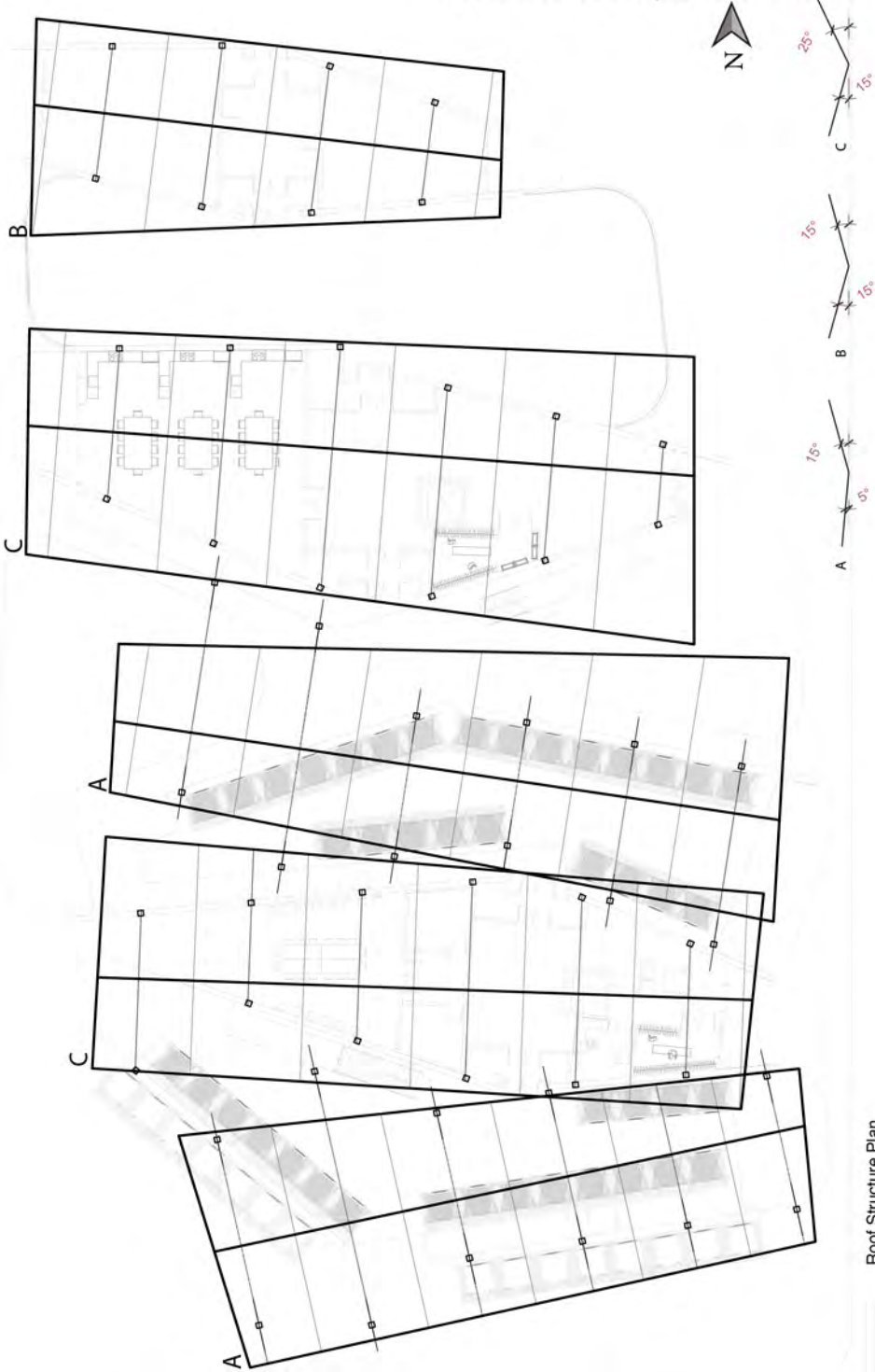
This textile market is a harmonious blend of public accessibility and private learning spaces. Positioned within the vibrant Sara D. Roosevelt Park, this textile market stands as a beacon of sustainability and community engagement. It redefines the traditional market concept, seamlessly integrating open-air textile commerce with educational initiatives and green practices.



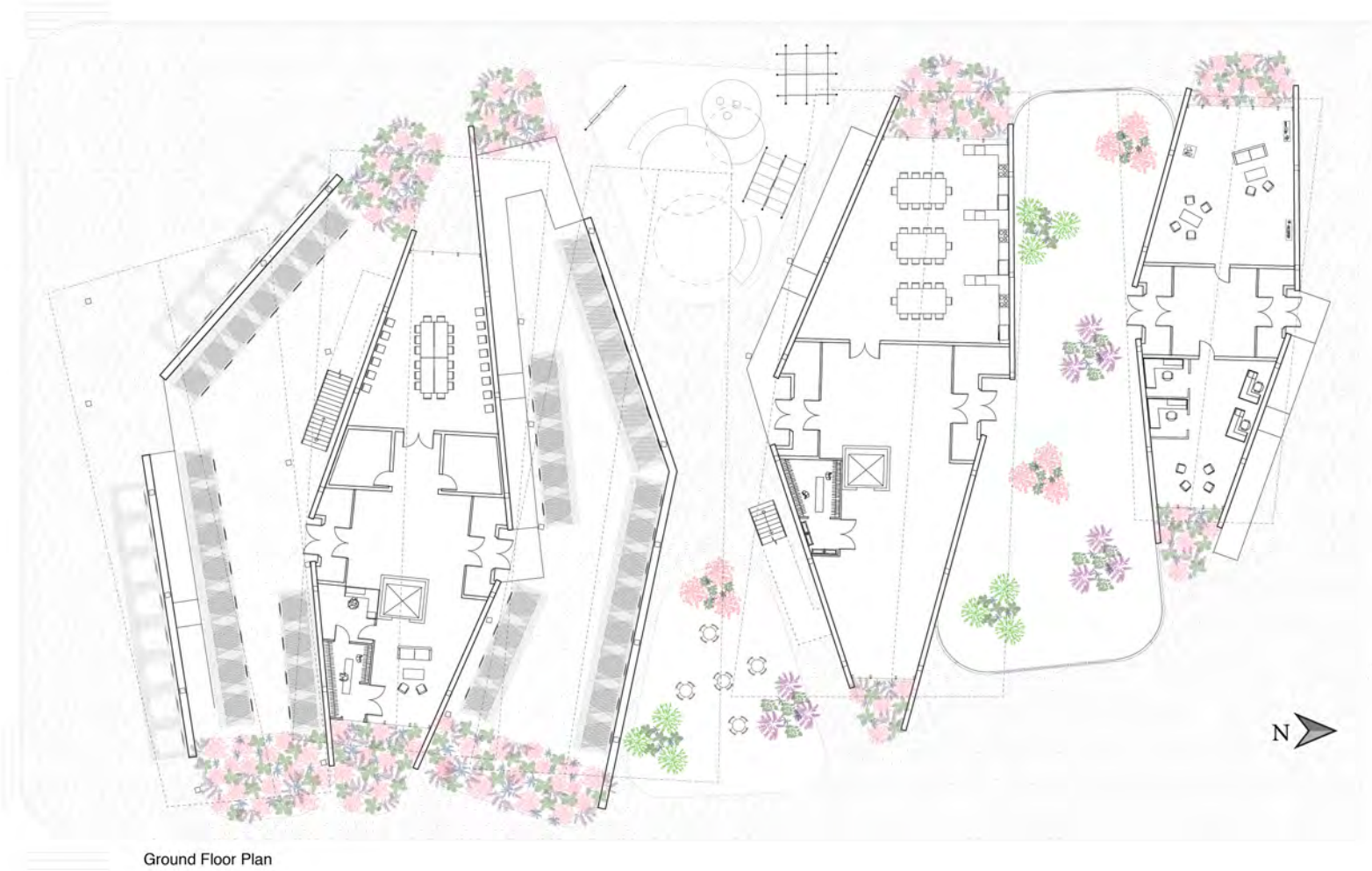




Sectionally, the market is designed to be gently recessed into the terrain, subtly merging with its surroundings to create a contrast to the bustling cityscape. This design choice not only preserves the natural flow of the park but also establishes a sense of retreat for visitors, encouraging them to slow down and engage more thoughtfully with the space. The interplay of light and shadow within the recessed spaces further enhances the market's calming atmosphere, while strategically positioned greenery strengthens its connection to the park's environment.



The market alternates between expansive public areas for browsing and intimate, private classrooms dedicated to education and skill-building. The open-air stalls, arranged in a modular layout, encourage dynamic interactions between vendors and visitors, while private spaces tucked away within the design allow for uninterrupted learning experiences. These classrooms serve as hubs of creativity, where visitors can explore plant-based fabric production, natural dye techniques, and sustainable textile practices through hands-on workshops and demonstrations. The duality of public and private spaces is carefully orchestrated to provide both engagement and introspection, enhancing the overall visitor experience.





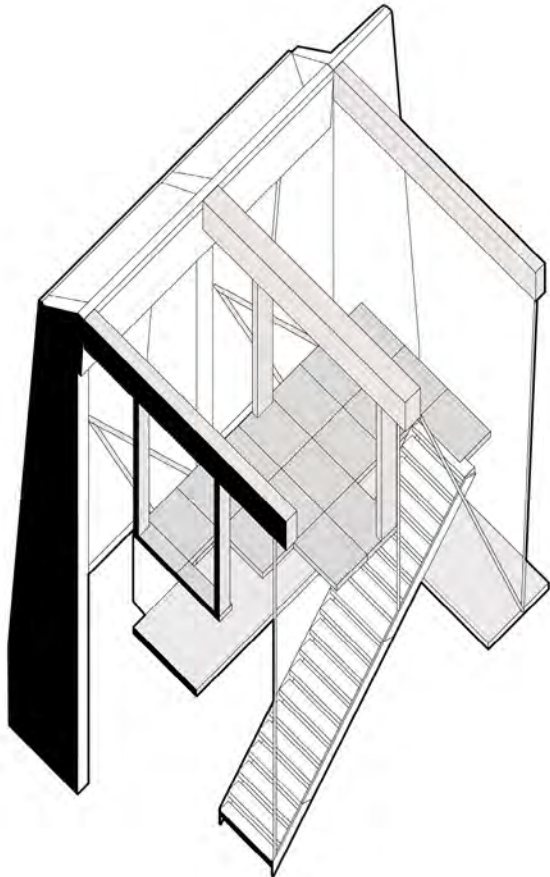
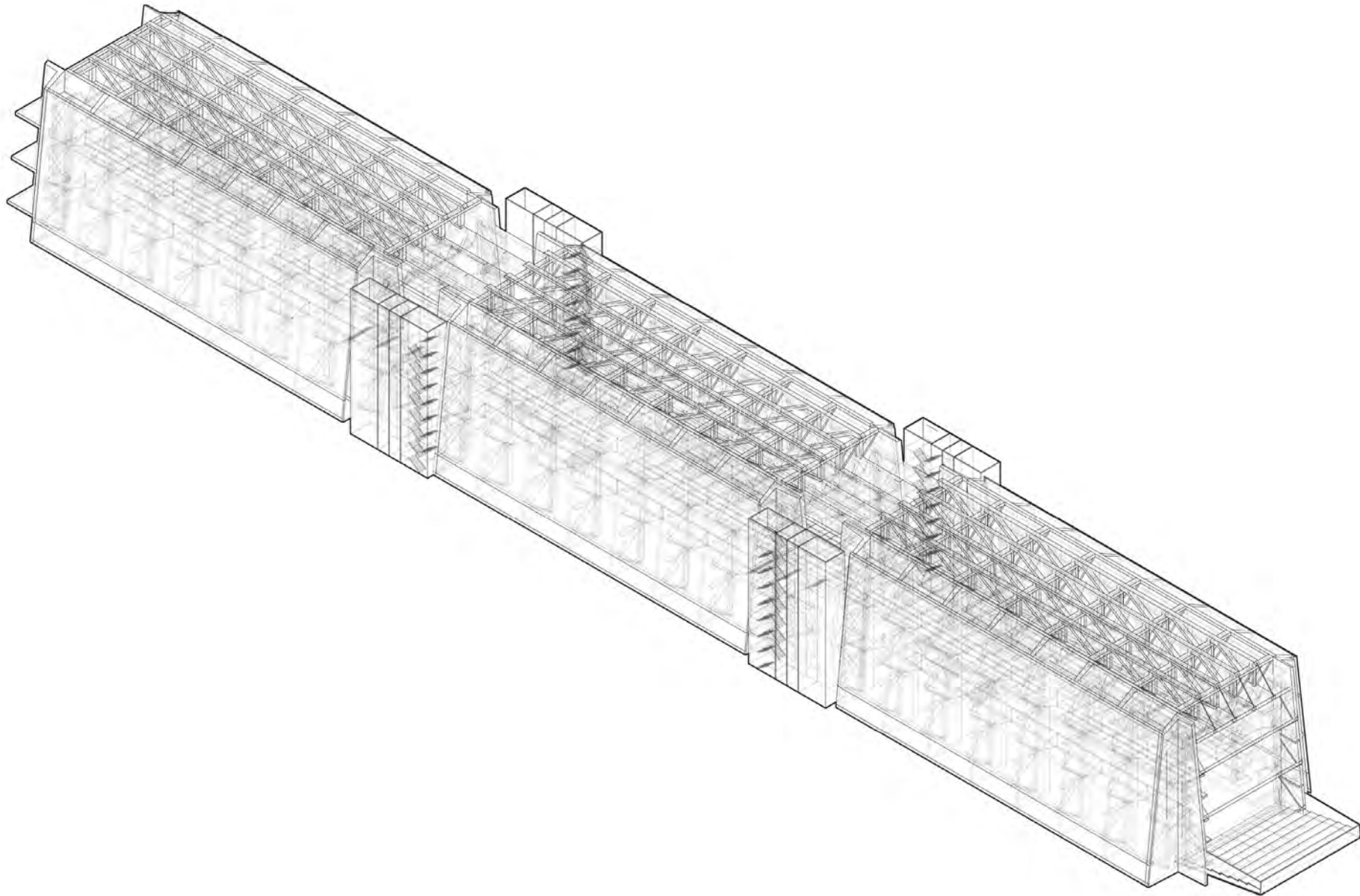
PERFORMATIVE LAYERS

A Spatial Dialogue Between Light, Structure, and Program

A theater addition to an existing library in Washington Heights, New York City, this project seamlessly integrates contemporary design with the historical context of the neighborhood. Retro-fitted onto the existing library, the theater serves as a cultural extension of the space

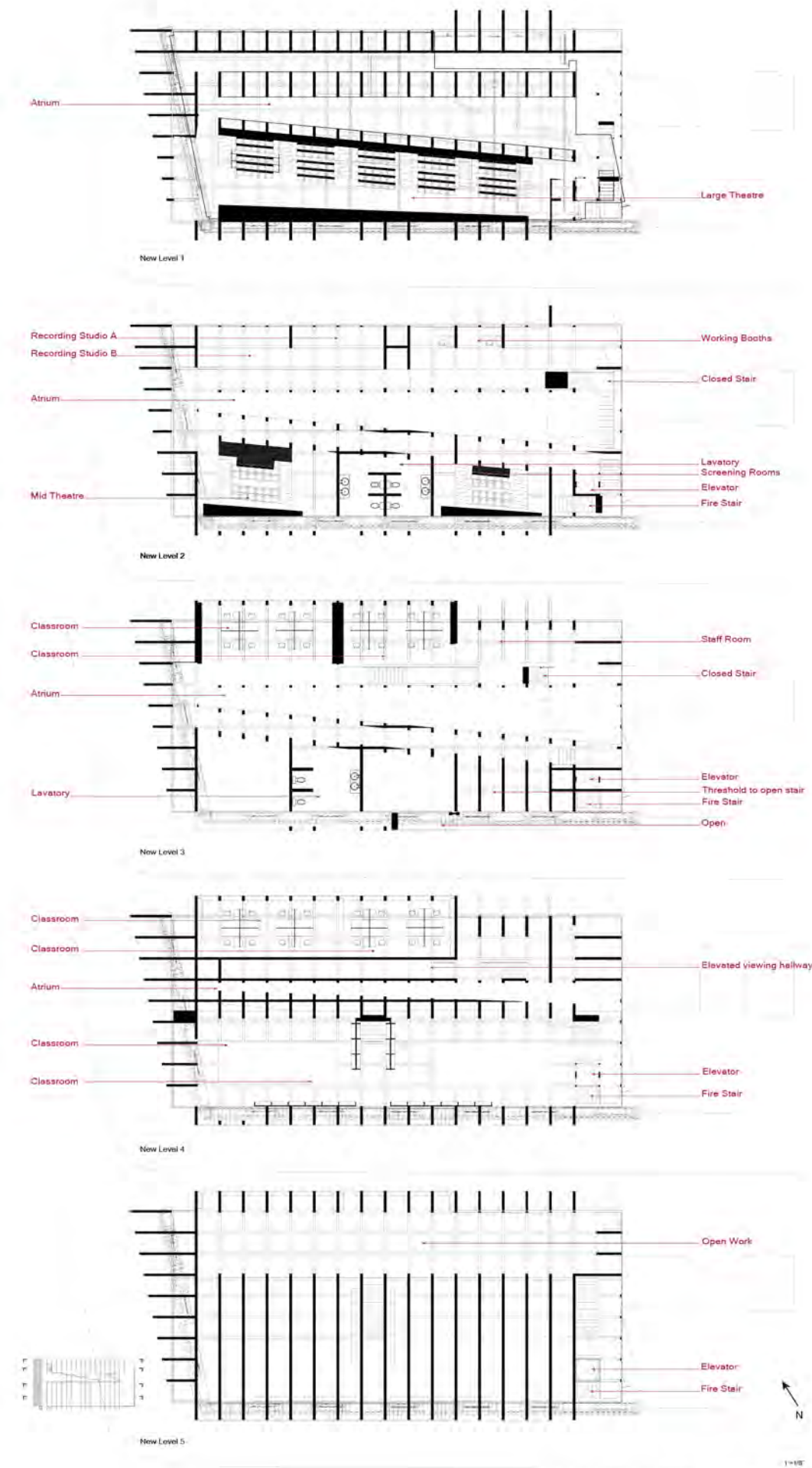
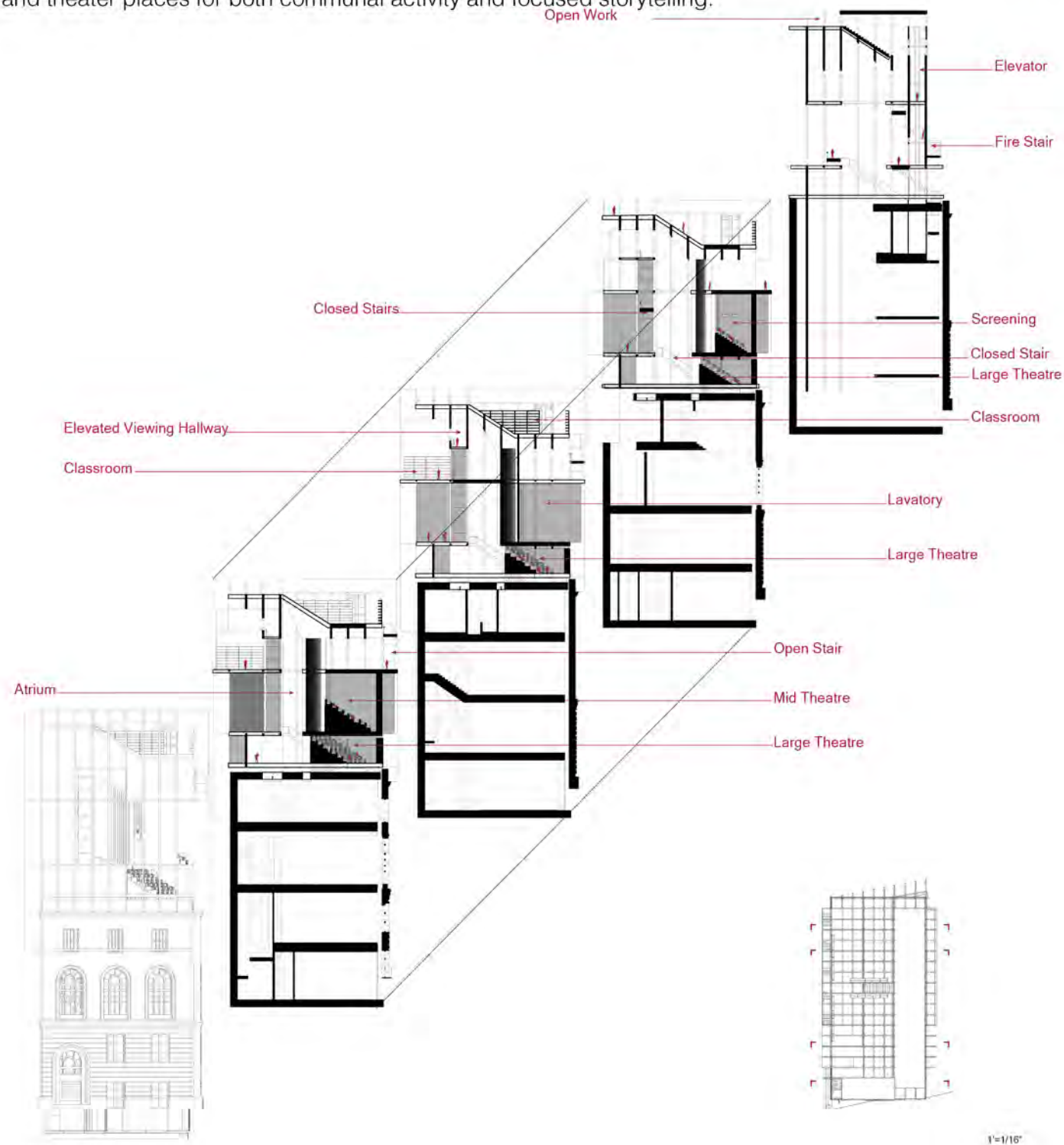


The Vasconcelos Library by Alberto Kalach served as a key precedent for this project, influencing its spatial and material approach. The perforated effect achieved through the frosted glass floors and suspended bookshelves in the Vasconcelos Library led to this version of the “domino house” which later inspired the design of the theater addition.



:: Sections and Plans

In this project, light is drawn in through the facade and filtered into the interior via the gridded structure and frosted glass elements. This interplay of light and shadow naturally delineates the space, creating areas of brightness and darkness that informed the programmatic layout. Bright, open zones were designated for social functions, fostering interaction and engagement, while dimly lit, introspective spaces were allocated for theater and performance programs. This dynamic organization not only enhances the spatial experience but also mirrors the dual functions of the library and theater places for both communal activity and focused storytelling.





Farnsworth House Study :: Sections, Plans, Isometric

Case study on the Farnsworth House. Designed by Mies van der Rohe in 1945 it is a widely recognized example of International Style of architecture.

Analyzing Mies van der Rohe's interplay of form, function, and material in the Farnsworth House." Grid-based design principles highlighting proportion and balance.

