



Riley Eckert

ARCHITECTURE

PORTFOLIO

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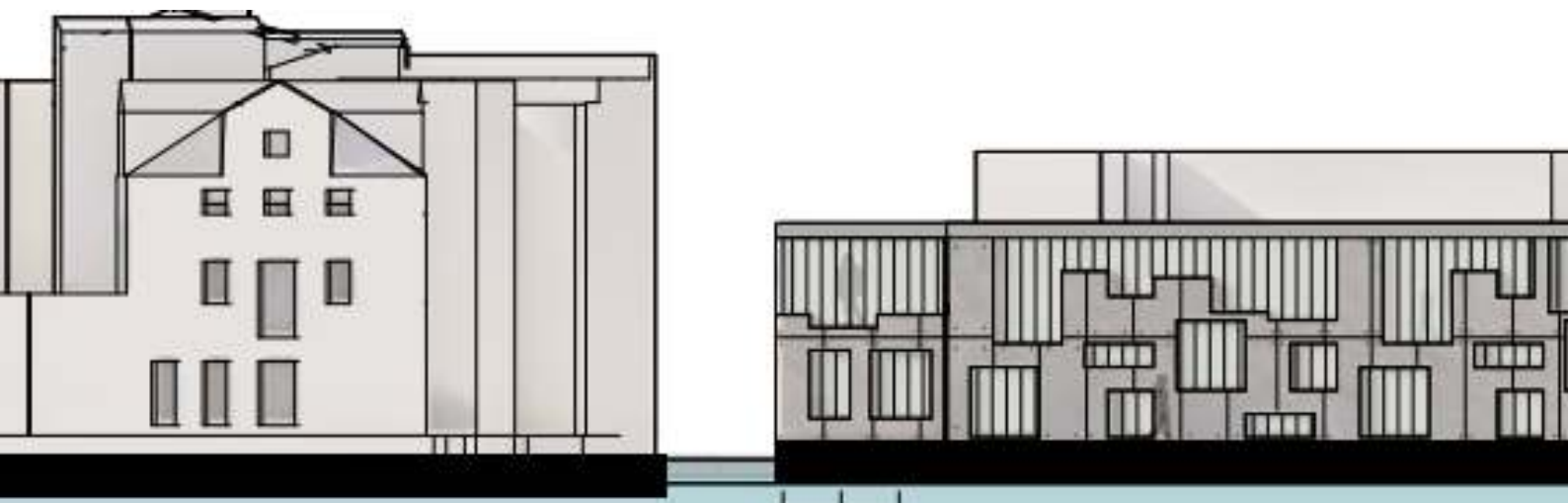
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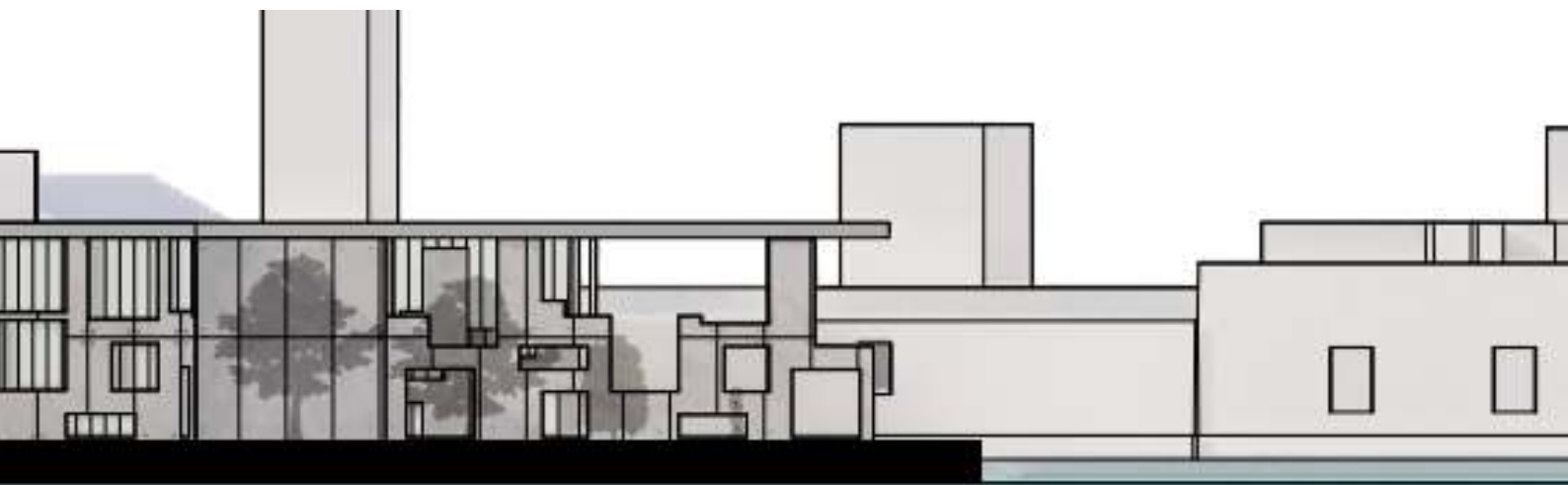
WELCOME

My name is Riley Eckert. I am currently a 4th year student at New Jersey Institute of Technology, persuing a bachelor of architectures degree. Outside of school, I am a member of Alpha Rho Chi, a professional architecture fraternity. Additionally, I am the representative for my year on the AIAS Learning Teaching and Cultures Board. I also work part time as a Peer Advisor liasion teaching time management skills and helping first year students adapt to college and have helped with students one on one for architectural studio. Through my years of school, I have grown increasingly interested in designing “places for people”. I am continually inspired by the work of Jane Jacobs and analyze her ways of thinking through an architectural lense for my projects. Throughout this collection of pieces, the people who utilize these spaces remain in the forefront of my design. Whether that is through program , circulation, or architectural invention of spaces to mimic areas of familiarity.

I hope you enjoy my collection of projects and hope to hear from you soon.

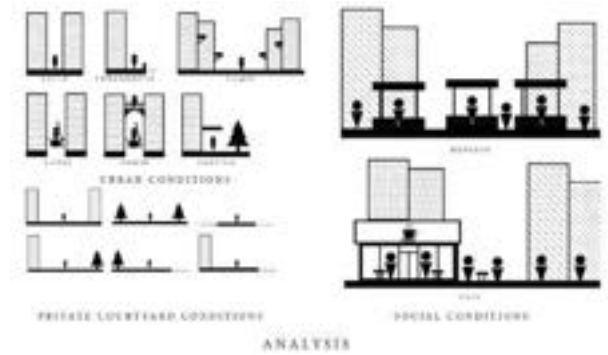
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3.12.2025



01 Lanterna Luminosa

Located in the heart of Venice, Lanterna Luminosa is an immersive gallery experience where one learns about the process of glassmaking and then proceeds through exterior piazzas and portegos to see showcased finished works and a series of unique gallery experiences. The project frames the culture of Venice through a crate and barrel vault module market place and abstractified Venetian window facade. Lanterna Luminosa was created to provide creative solutions to overtourism. The beginning process of the project included an analysis of the locals of Venice both urban and social characteristics. Through this lens and the use of designing in perspective to create a sequence of moments, spatial conditions similar to Venice were able to be reimaged in a modern context.

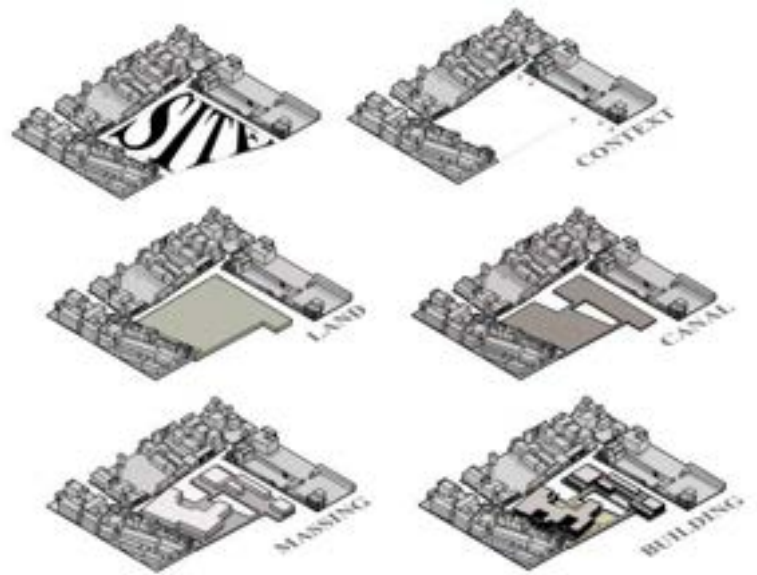


Site Plan

Site Strategy

The site is located on an existing marina on the outskirts of Venice. With the importance of boats in the city, I wanted to ensure that boats can access the site as well as cargo can be exported from gallery spaces. The central canal of the site not only plays a practical role but also represents the division of program on the site, the glass art school and the gallery exhibitions.

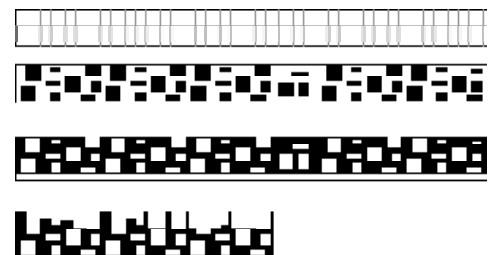
The building placement relied heavily on circulation of the Fundamenta Nove water taxi, which drops off tourists at the edge of the hot shops. The tourists automatically are required to travel around the hot shops creating glass art and then get to proceed to see finished products.



Canal Perspective

Facade

Venetian locals are extremely particular about introducing modern architecture on the island. There is a lot of push back, especially due to overtourism which makes locals feel as the culture of the city is being washed away. To combat this issue, The glassworks utilizes an abstractified Venetian window facade which compliments and reflects the windows of the opposite side of the canal. Utilizing precast concrete panels and translucent glass, the project's exterior walls are a replication of Venice.



The window facade was created by creating a grid from the opposite side of the canal for reference, then finding a pattern series that can provide a similar rhythm to the ones throughout the site. Lastly, adding additional space for columns so it appears the abstract wall is holding up outdoor terraces.



1st floor



2nd floor

Glassworks

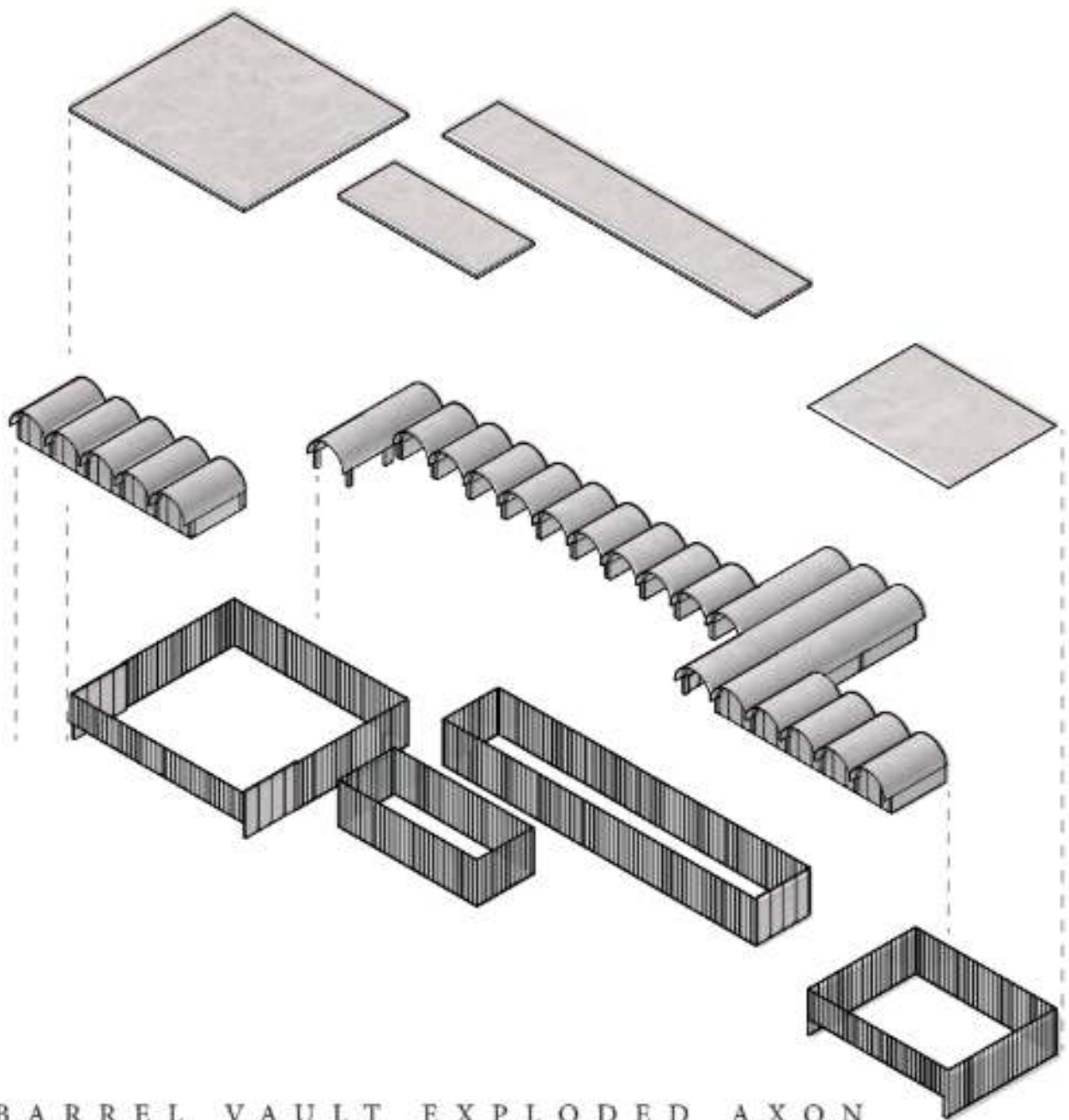
The Glassworks area includes four hot shops where students learn how to mold glass from furnaces. In addition to the hot shops there is additional administration offices on the second level as well as a trattoria and lookout areas where tourist can view the hot shops from overhead.

Hot shops have several requirements for design criteria. One major concern was the use of natural light must be diffused due to the fact that the brightness of the furnace with sunlight can provide levels of difficulty with work prooduction. The glass used for the facade of the glass works is translucent so that the natural light can be diffused so that the workers and students are able to focus on their craft.



Exploded Axonometric





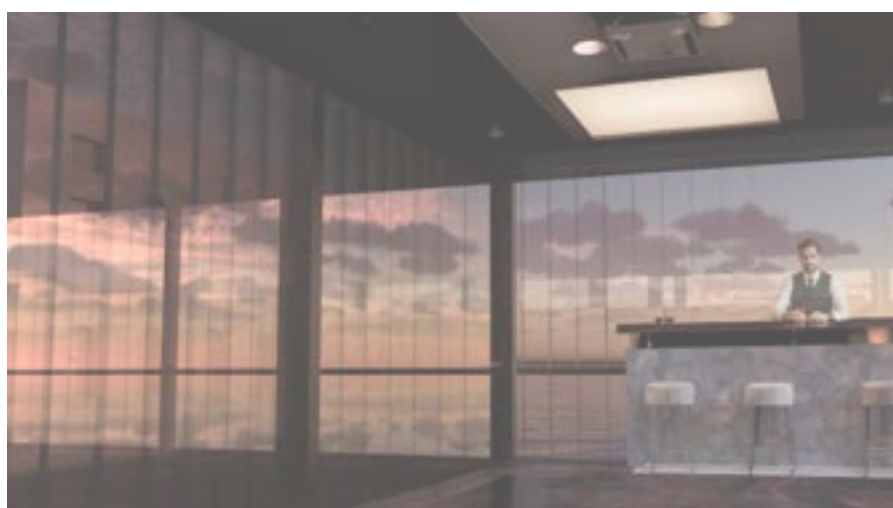
BARREL VAULT EXPLODED AXON

El Mercato

Inspired by Louis Kahn Kimbell Museum, The gallery space contains of sequence of external barrel vault arches that act as a store front for temporary, outdoor markets. This exterior program provides a space where locals can show pieces of their culture on their own terms while also bringing a unique experience to tourists. It will also help aid in relinguishing some tourist crowds from infringing on local markets, ones that are the primary source of fresh produce in Venice. This will help lower the urban congestion in other areas as well as provide a solution to others on ways that architecture itself can help with overtourism and congestion of urban spaces.



glassworks section



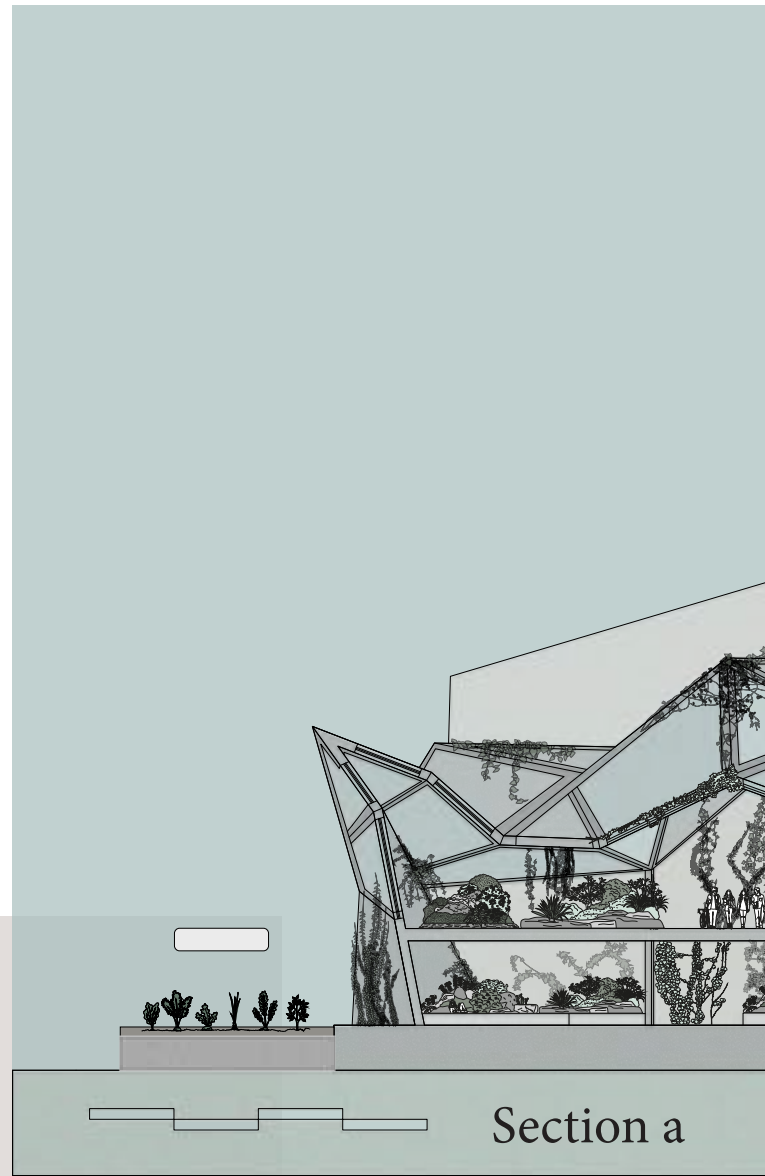
interior gallery perspectives



gallery section



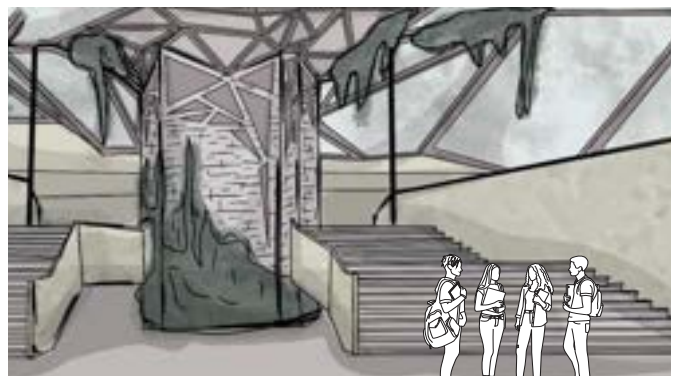
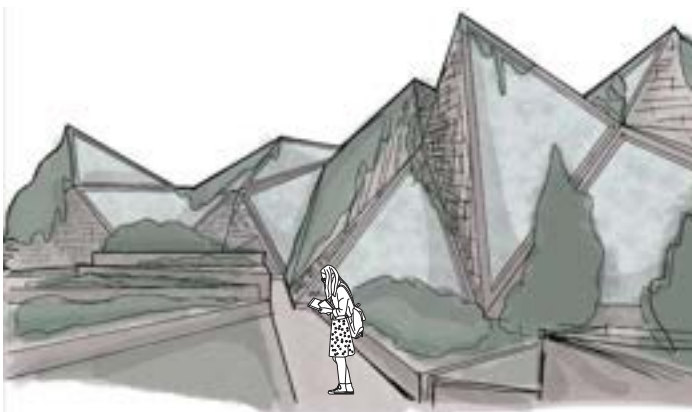
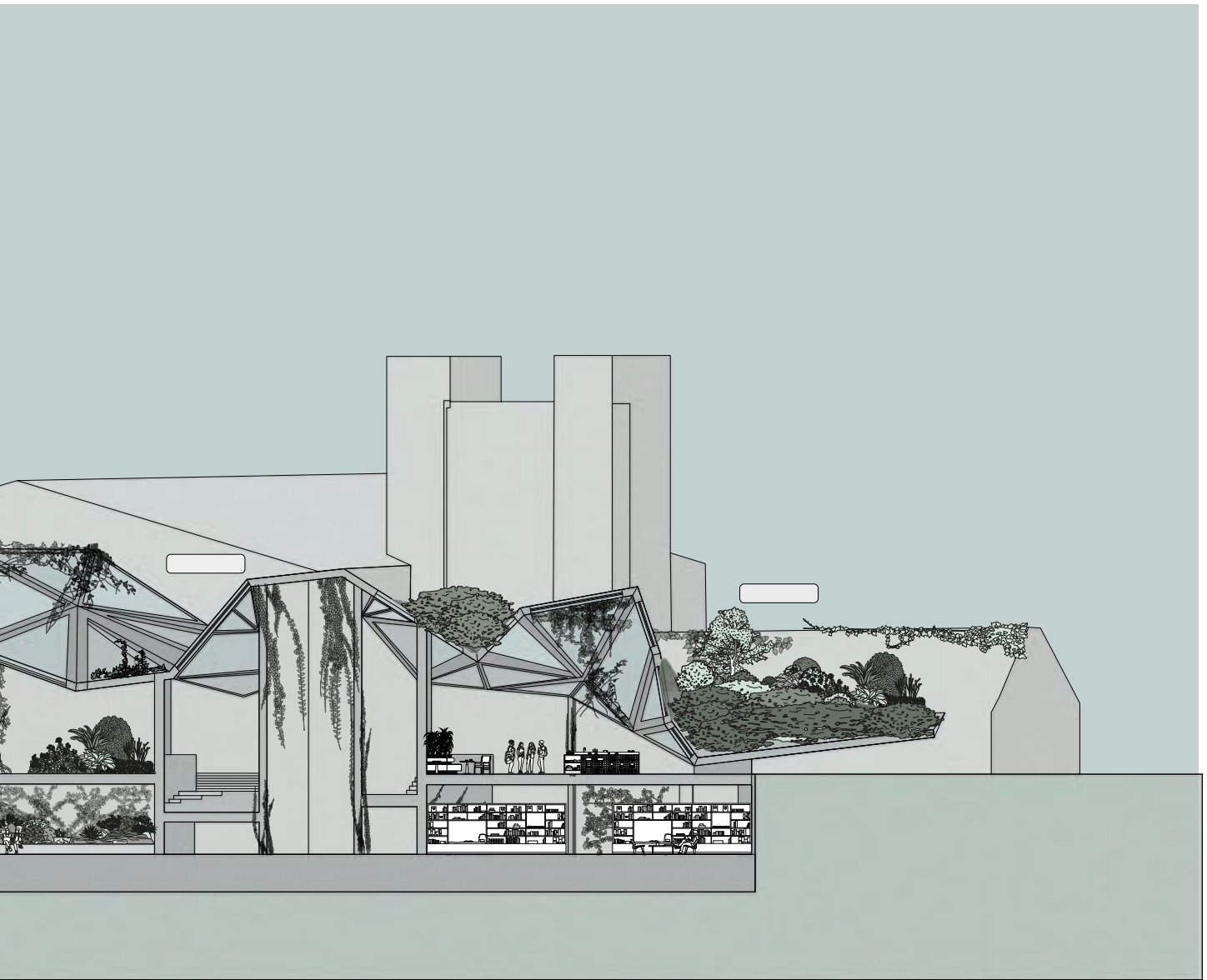
02



Over The Garden Wall

This proposal for an extension of a gym in Princeton University was tasked to represent the idea of centralizing students and giving them a relief from the academic realm. The project explores how a greenhouse expansion can cultivate a community and promote wellness. Inspired by the works of Lebbeus Woods, this project suggests creating an exterior shell that breaks the geometry of the original structure into forming an angular greenhouse sanctuary.

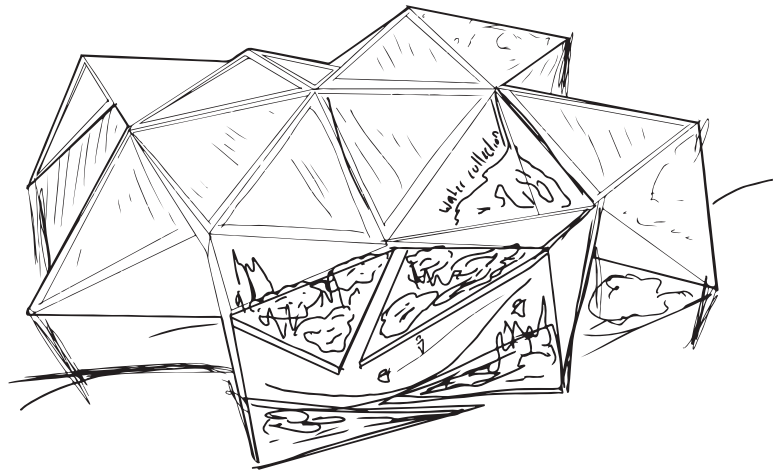
The interior of this project features a student ran farm to table cafe, yoga classes within the interior garden platforms, and a space for agricultural education. In addition to the interior spaces, the structure is enwrapped within a walking path through a series of elevated gardens. The goal is that each class contributes to the project through a landscape project, then it will continue to grow as their professional careers and minds develop with them.



Hand drawn perspectives

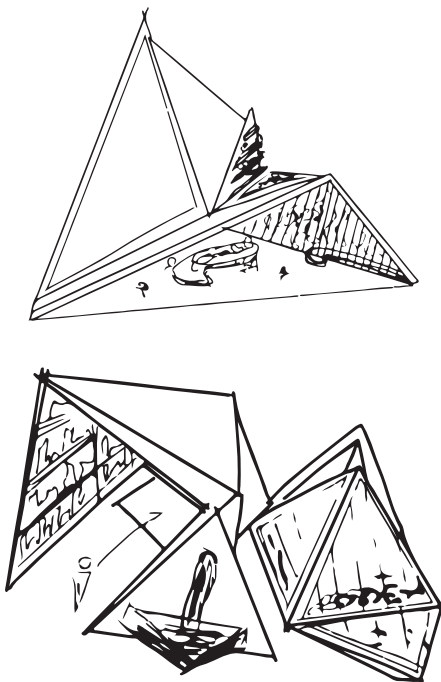
Process

The Process of this proposal was through a series of physical models which served as architectural “moments” which were then sketched and reimagined at various scales and functions. This process helped understanding the students experiences within the space. It also heavily contributed to understanding the abstract system and developing it architecturally, conceptually, and technically.



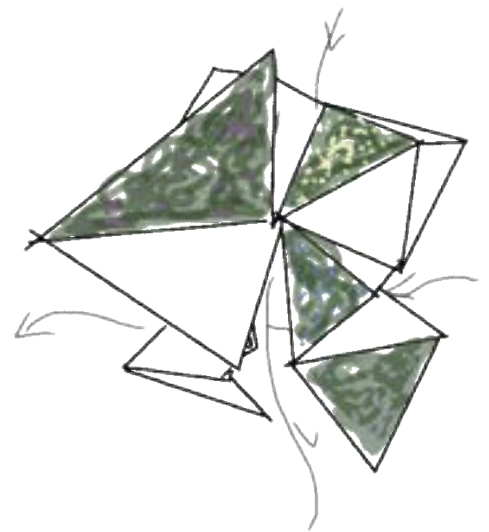
Moments

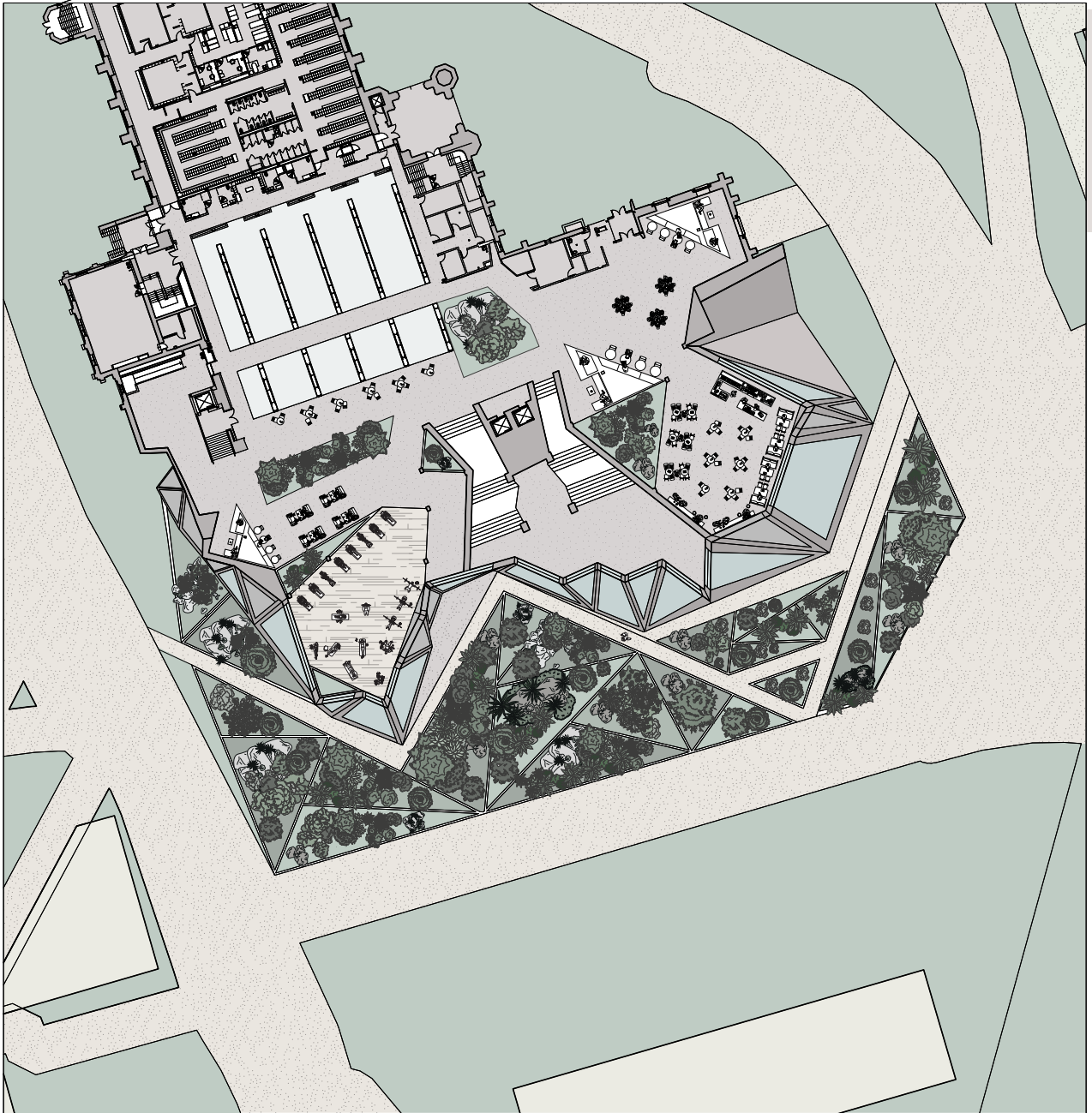
Through these moments a sequence of garden types were made and designed to create series of gardens of which students would interact with. Some examples are exterior ivy gardens where local ivy would grow on the facade, indoor lilly pad gardens and water features, and container gardens made out of recycled materials inside the green house.



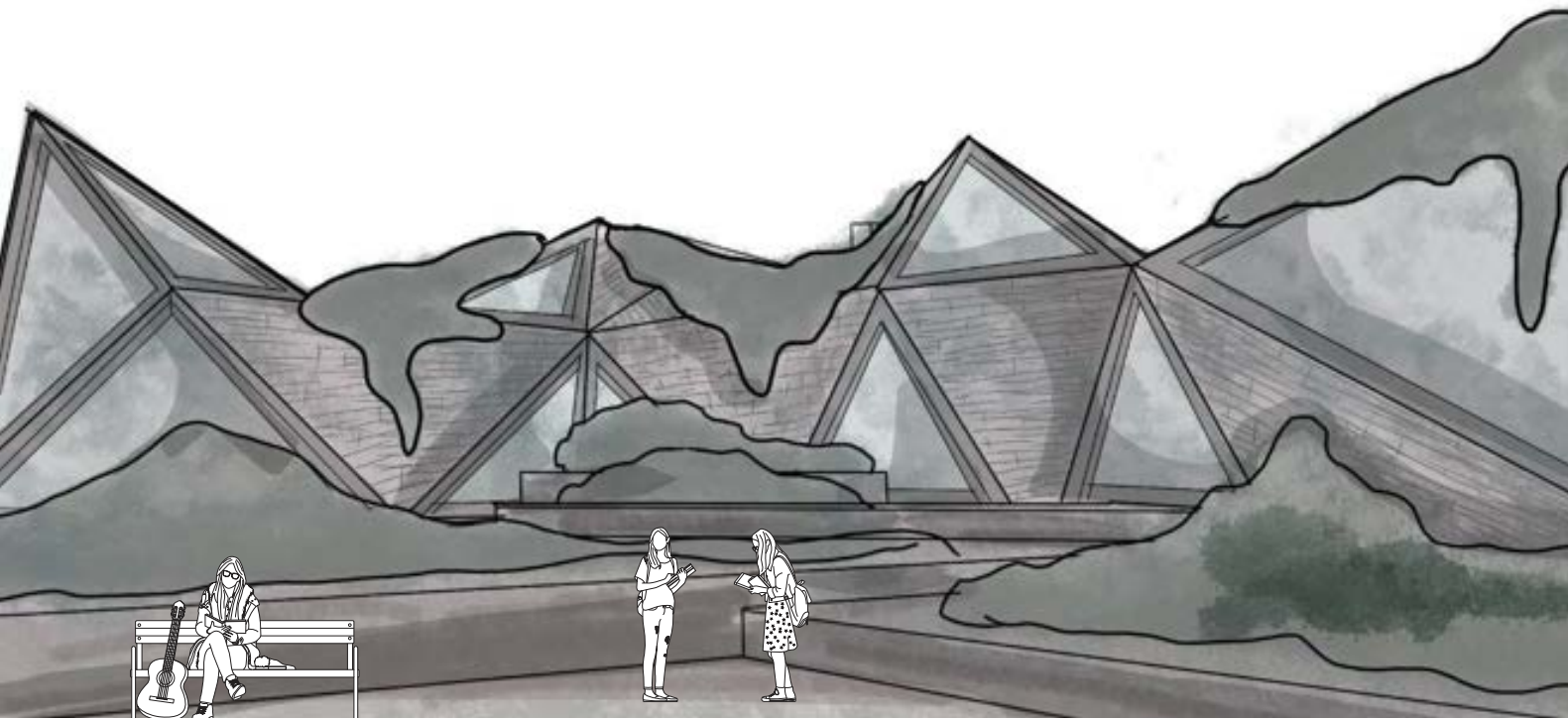
Environmental Response

Part of the other exploration of this project is its response to its environment and following the Campus Green Plan of Princeton University. Exploring methods for water collecting systems and green roof tiles through physical modeling and sketching to create a unique experience to both humans and flora and fauna itself.

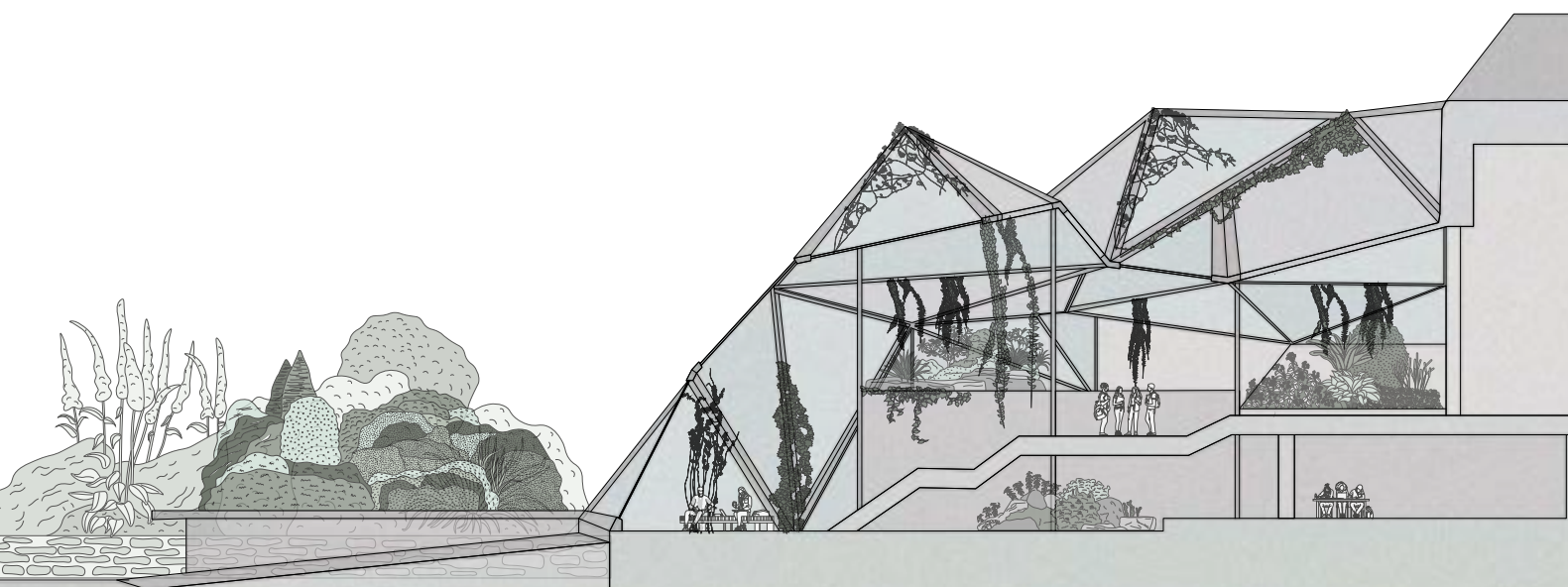




2nd floor plan



Hand drawn perspective



Section B

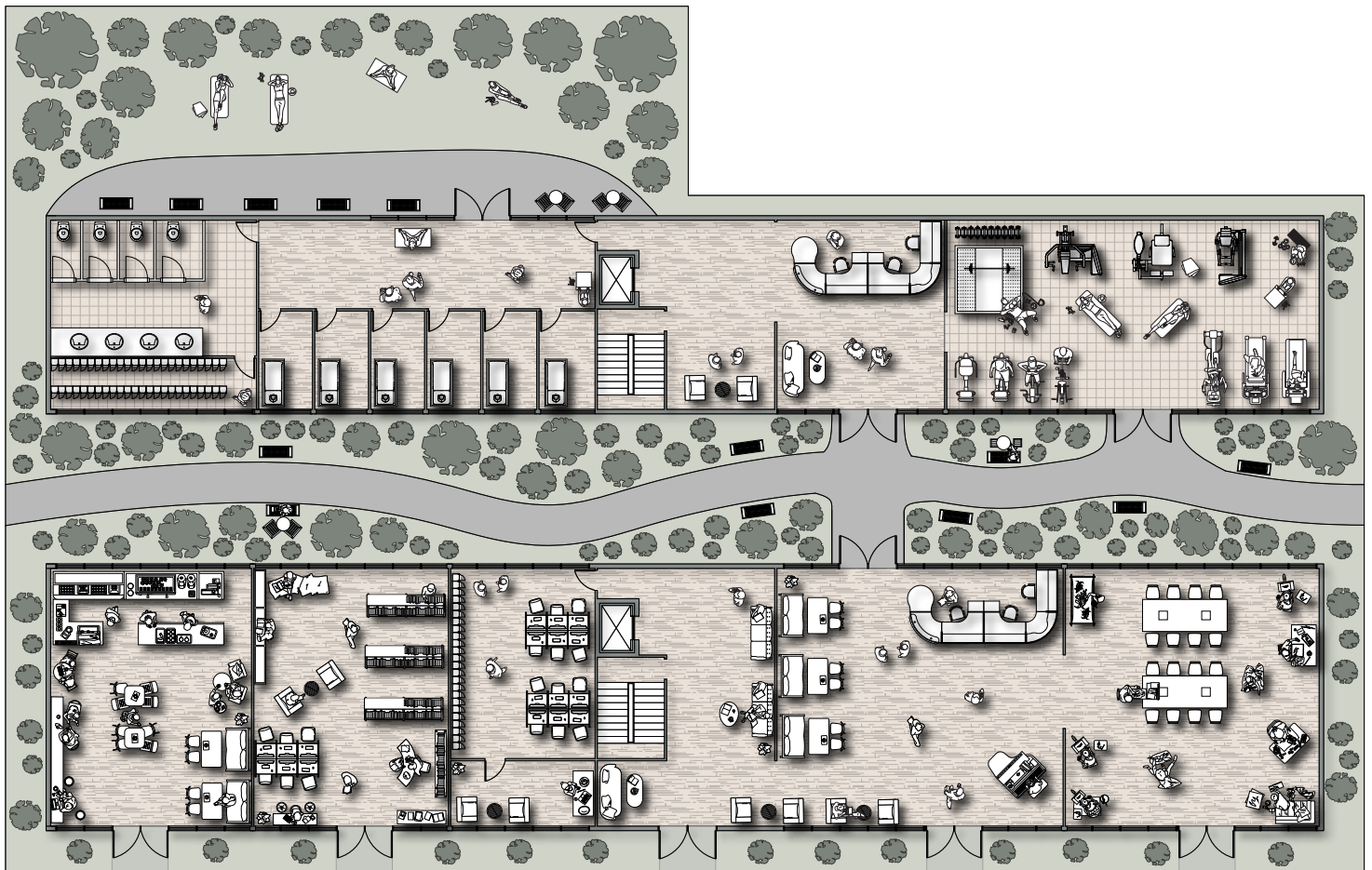
03

Tranquility

This proposal for a midrise residential building located in Ironbound, Newark NJ. It features a variety of amenities to compete with surrounding housing projects. The structure contains a spa, gym, artist workshops, library and cafe on the ground floors. Each floor contains spaces for yoga and socialization lounges. In between the two masses is a garden area where residences and public can walk through.

The bridges connecting the two masses are symbolizations of connection in community and creates interlocking circulation of the two forms.

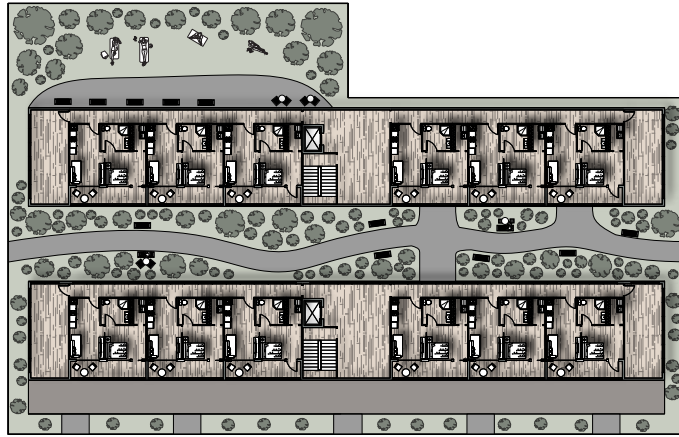




Ground Floor



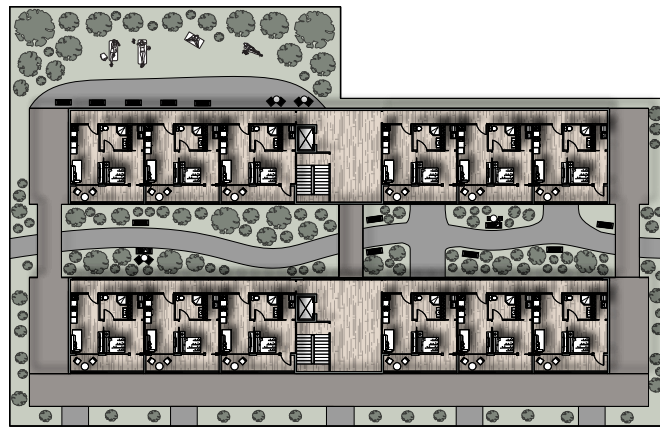
Section



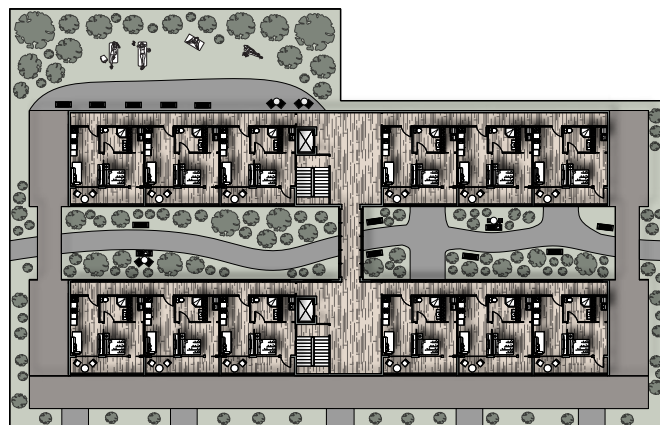
2nd floor



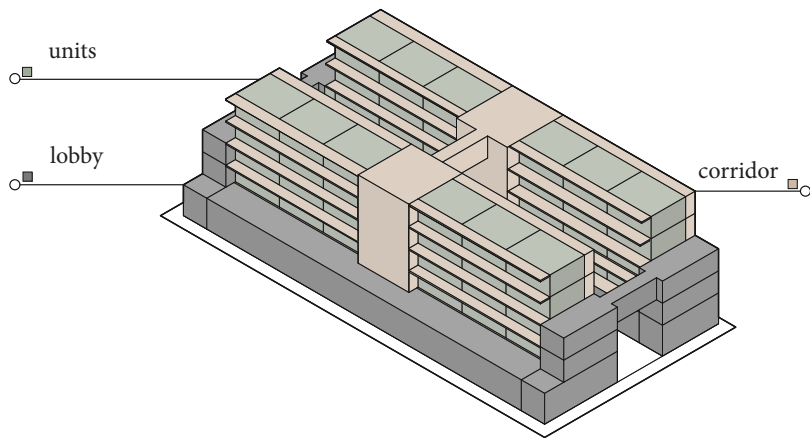
3rd floor



4th floor



5th floor



balcony spaces

each unit has its own balcony space with a moveable window facade to create a user interactive environment. Residence can use the interactive facade to make their balconies semi or fully enclosed. This adds to a level of privacy and freedom within the design



END

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