

they played fairly



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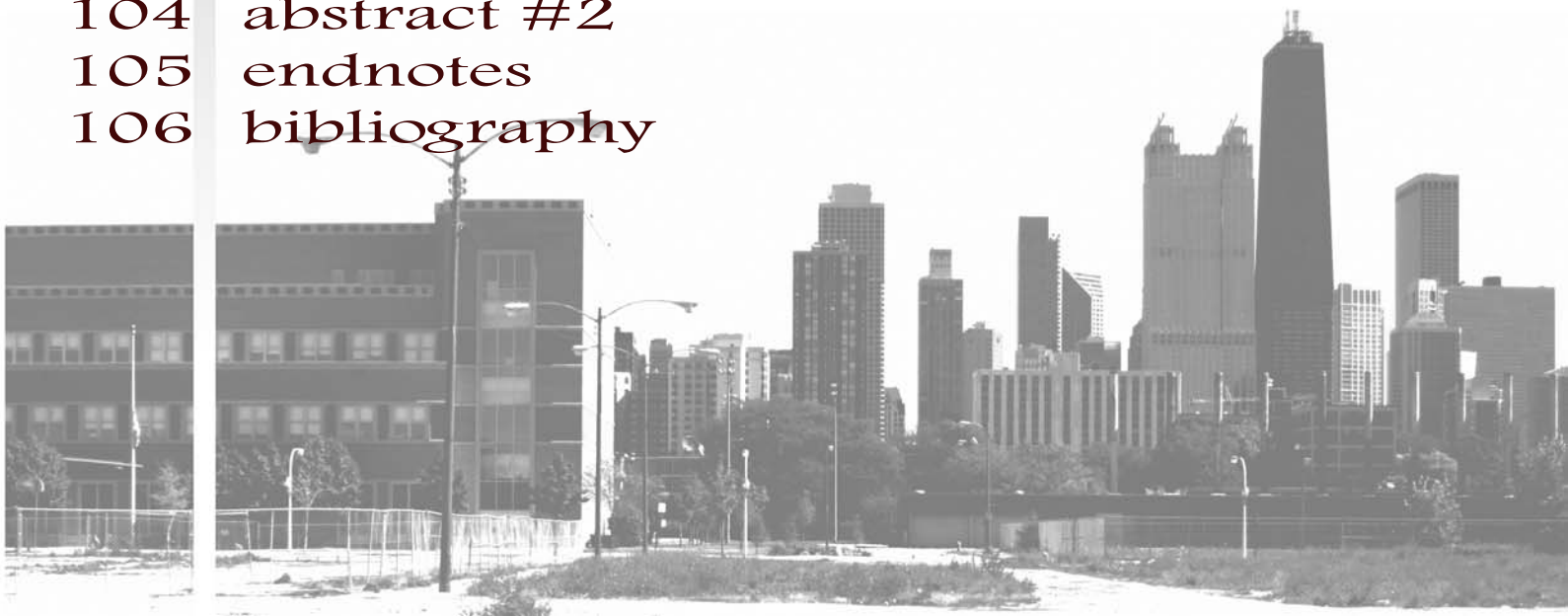
The title, they played fairly, is a remark based on the lifestyle choices which were catered to in the thesis. The thesis in general revolves around an environmentally conscious lifestyle. Design features include a collaborative organic farm, physical well-being, and gentrification of a historically indigent area.

Below is a photo of a man providing his own means of transportation that not only reduces pollution but provides fresh air. The idea of self sufficiency and minimal impact begin to build the foundation for this thesis.



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# thesis abstract

There exist, fundamentally, social problems throughout the inner cities of America. While interpreting these problems, certain criteria are made prevalent. The generations surviving in these problems lack many of the foundations to live outside of their current state. The thesis will explore a way to integrate lifestyles not commonly found in these areas. The techniques include sustainable design in creating a smaller footprint, a structured fitness routine imbedded into daily activity, and a chance to revert the footprint a person leaves back to its origin by creating and providing a source of food.

Sustainable design is an existing trend in the architectural community that is now being taken on broadly by even developing countries. By incorporating the philosophies into the architecture and the master planning, the hope is to teach the surrounding community how to make a smaller footprint in their life.

Next, the thesis will look at combining fitness with residential communities since the current state of physical fitness of many inner residents is below unhealthily below average. This can be traced back to the few amenities that spawn near these areas and the lack of funding to provide after school programs for youngsters.

The third criteria will merge urban farming, an up and coming trend, with the same residential units that contain the fitness. These two foundations will work together to force the community to listen and act according to the founding principles.



# circumstance

A particular district in Chicago has been selected as the target area for the project. The proposed area has been plagued for over half a century with misuse, abandonment, and neglect. Once home to the largest public housing district in the United States - Cabrini Green - the Near North area of Chicago now plays host to new market rate developments. However, the recently developed areas fail to address fundamental problems and continue to shun the historical relevance of the area. They also fail to account for sustainable design and do not provide anything outside of housing and personal storage.

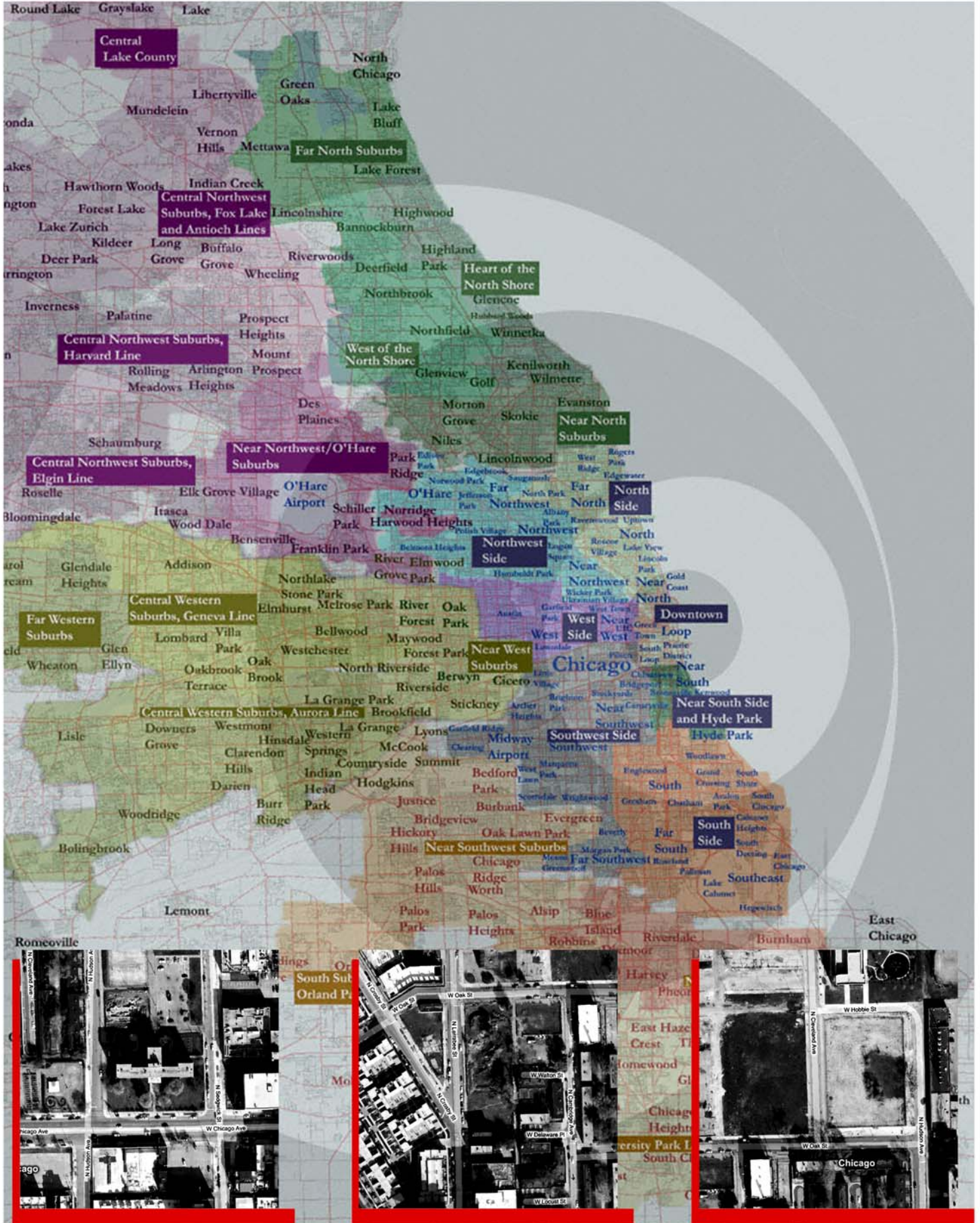
In this thesis, historical relevance will be used to help create a new situation. Although it will not be marked, it will not be ignored like the current construction. In order to better the environment that was once known synonymously with gang violence, the project must first look into why this place became a haven for activity and only after investigation can a development be proposed. The final will be a place of community with main site focusing on housing.



Currently, social boundaries exist that must be crossed for the new environment to be constructed. Connections will be bridged to link the formerly separate entities. The total site consists of the majority of Near North and includes a resurgence of physical activity concentrating on a park like atmosphere. The attempt is to relieve the area of the stigma once associated with it. These ideas will also be interpreted by the public as continuously linked path that includes bike trails, running tracks, and room for walking.

The effected overall plan will encircle these densely concentrated smaller sites. However, design features such as a blue light trail and a linked system of parks will be master planned.





## Chicago Transit Authority (CTA)

Nation's second largest system

1914 all street railways to Chicago Surface Lines(CSL)

1924 additional companies formed Chicago Rapid Transit (CRT)

These two combined to make CTA

## 2,000 buses

154 routes

2,273 route miles

12,000 bus stops

## 1,190 trains

Eight routes

222 route miles

144 stations

Serves two airports

## Near North Area

Brown Line Train runs through

Bordered by Division and Chicago bus routes

\$530 million Brown Line Capacity Expansion Project

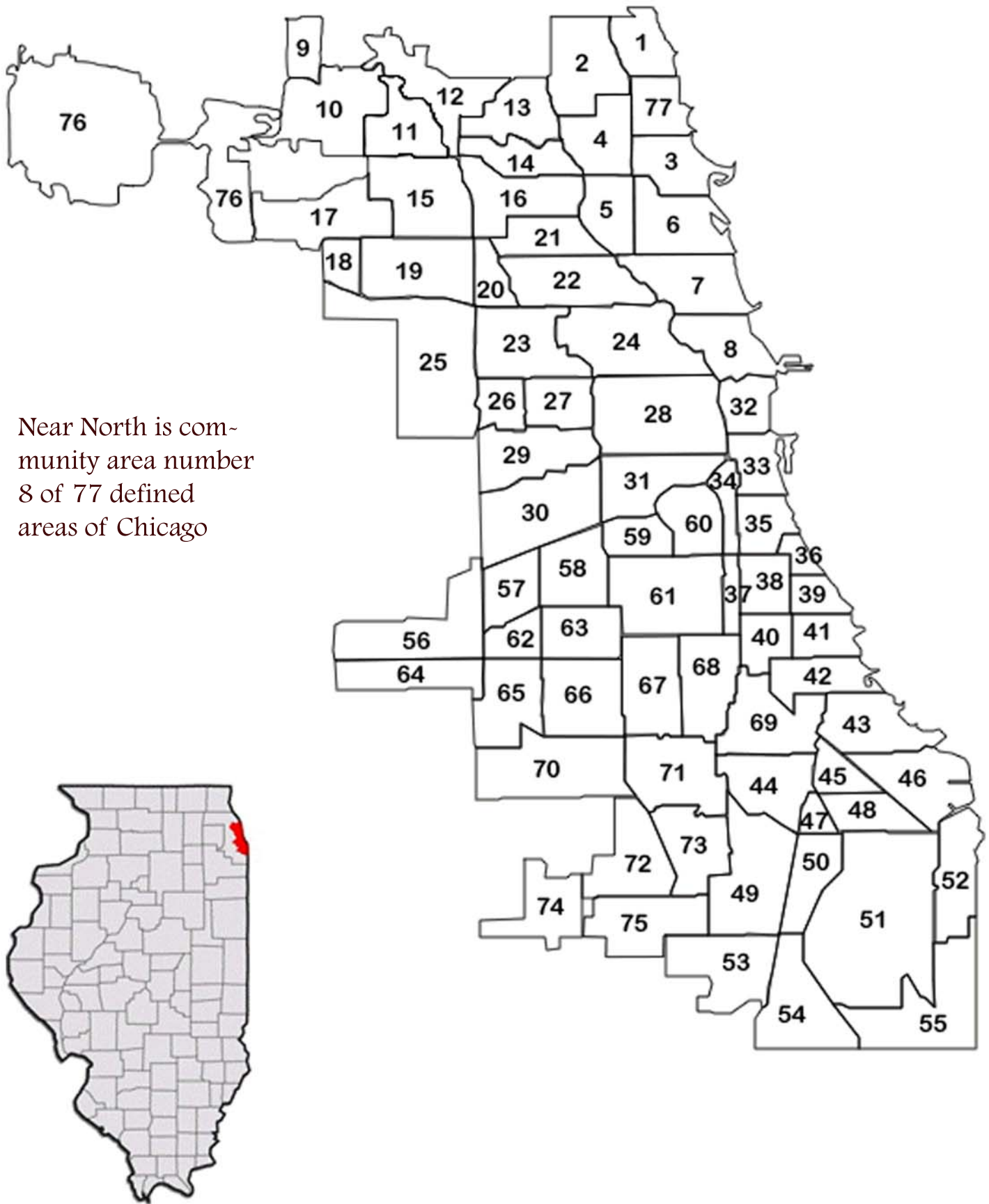






# site analysis

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Near North is community area number 8 of 77 defined areas of Chicago

The Near North Area underwent a large clearing in the last five years. The tower like structures called the “reds” and the “whites” will be completely destroyed by summer of 2009. 53 structures in all will be removed.

The first image is looking into one of the “reds” while a construction crew is clearing out materials of any importance.

The middle image is one of the last “reds” to be vacated and is still in use. Take notice of the entrance appeal.

Finally, the last image is the last “white.” Although it is not occupied at the time, the “whites” were viewed as a step up from the “reds.”



Fenced In



Entrance into a “Red”



Last of the “Whites”

Again, the blight of Cabrini shows through to this set of photographs.

The last one is a model of what the new developments will look like on the Near North - Old Town boarder.



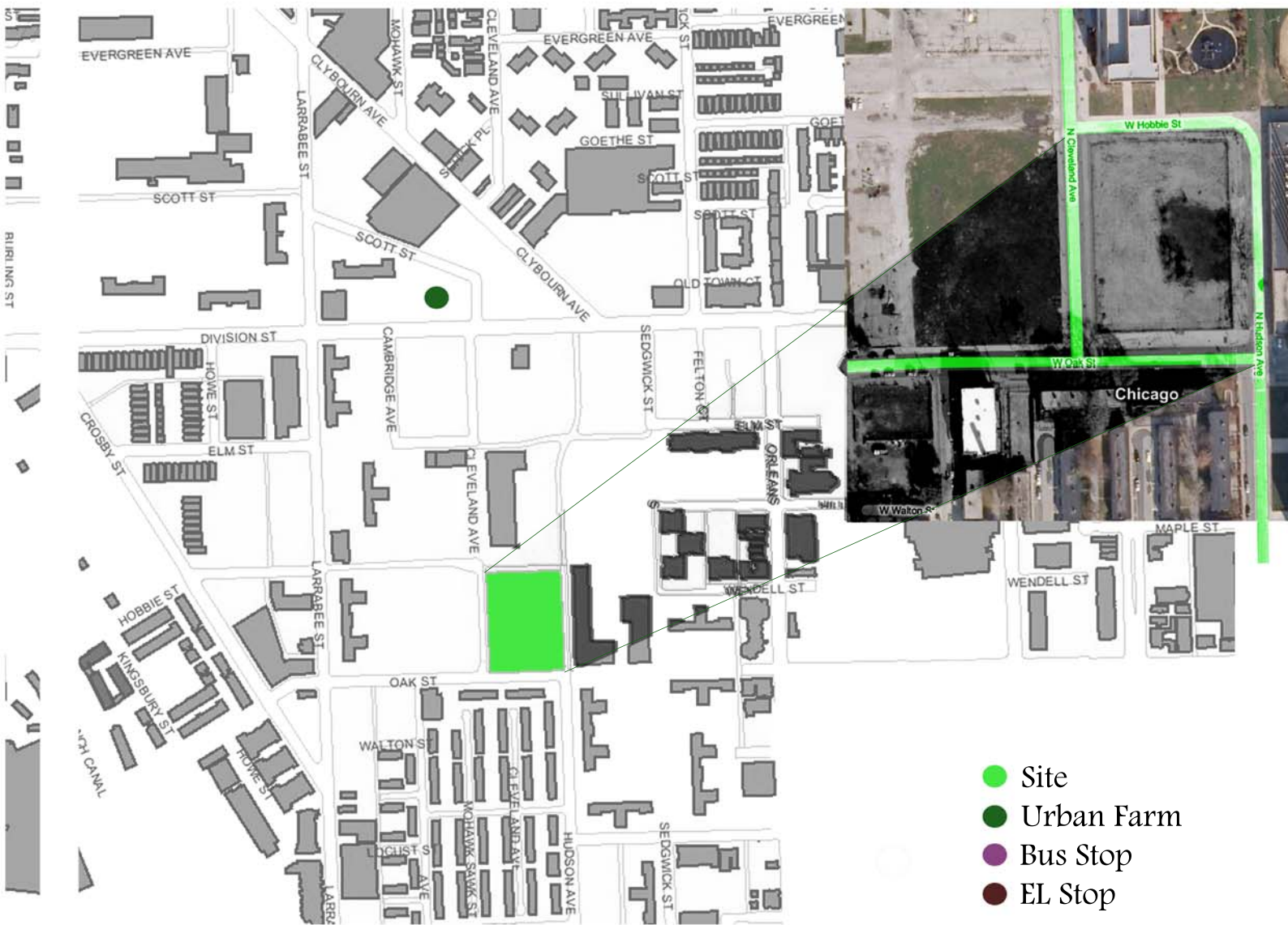
Melting Playstructure



Disregarded Parking Lot

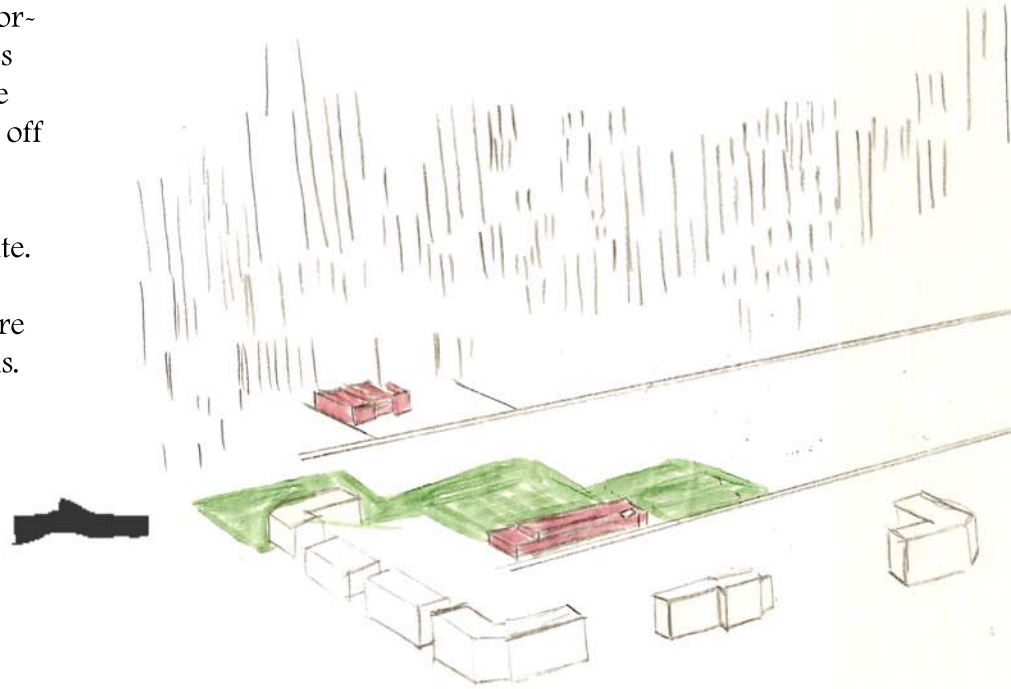


Near North Town Model



The plan sketch emphasizes important locations such as park spaces and new developments, while the site sketch shows the city skyline off in the distance as a recognizable landmark in proportion to the planned developments and the site.

A linear park system became more prevalent with the sketch analysis.



Site Sketch



Plan Sketch

## Positive Aspects

Eight blocks Chicago EL stop

Three blocks Chicago bus stop

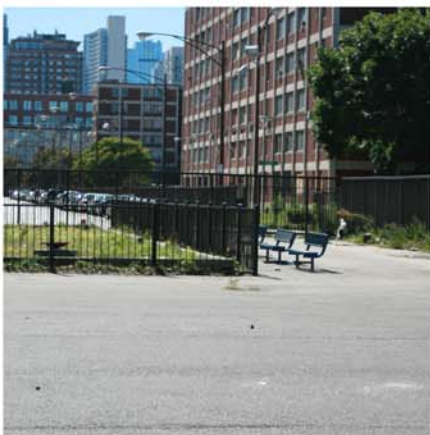
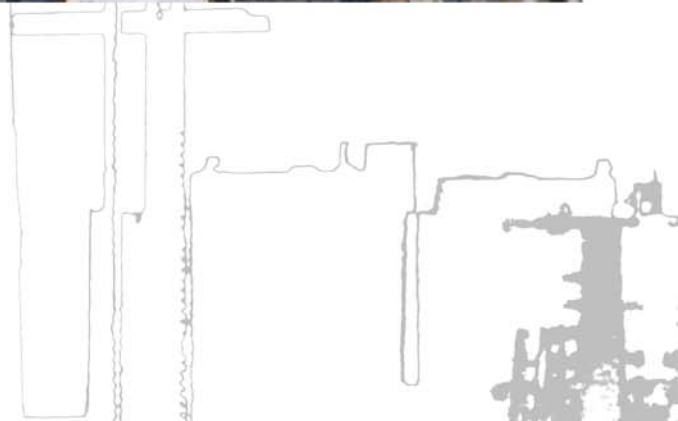
New Housing in area

Four blocks from shopping

## Negative Aspects

Original row houses remain

Largest cultural/financial clash



## Positive Aspects

Two blocks Chicago EL stop

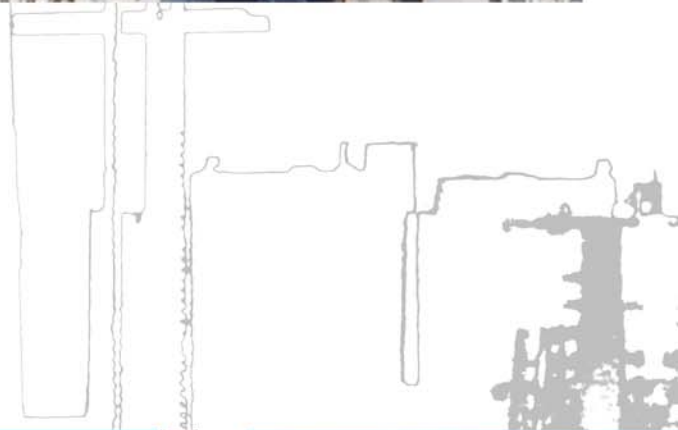
Two blocks Chicago bus stop

## Negative Aspects

Crowded Chicago Avenue

Surrounded by small industrial

Small amount of expansion



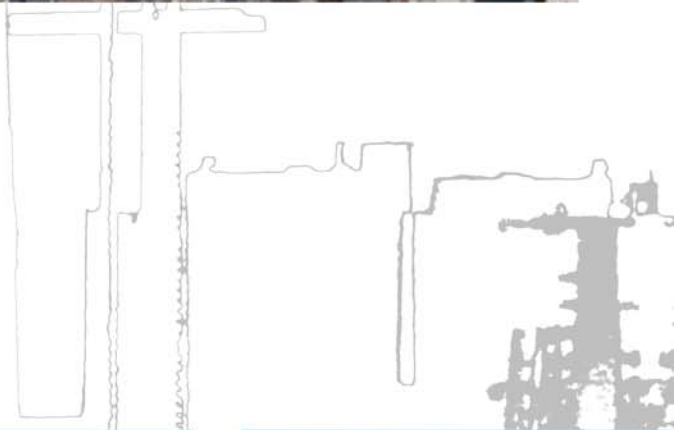


## Positive Aspects

- Six blocks Chicago EL stop
- Two blocks Division bus stop
- Two schools four blocks
- Two blocks police station
- Three blocks from Urban Farm
- Three blocks from shopping

## Negative Aspects

- Original row houses remain across Oak

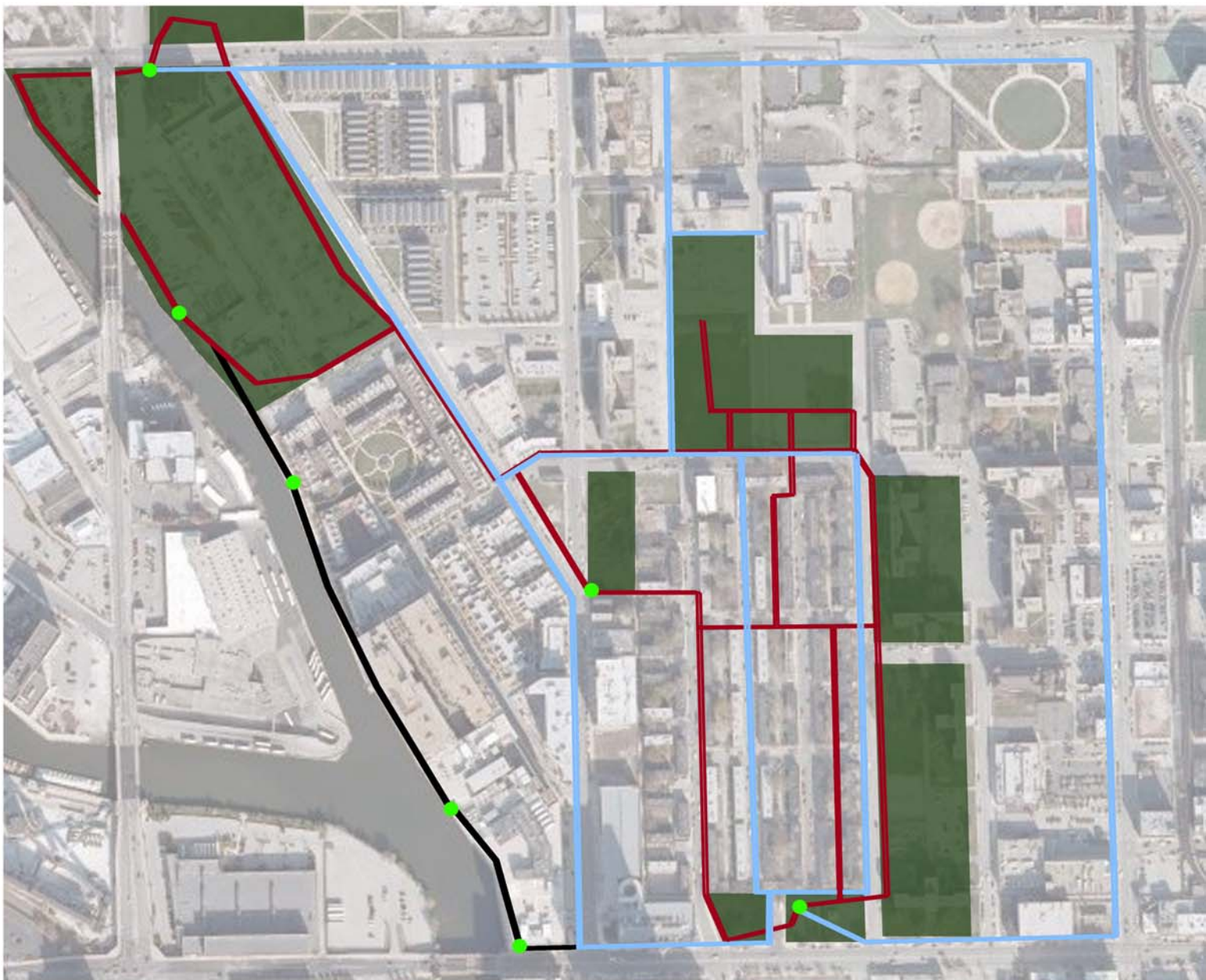


# site analysis

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This is a view of the entire site. The final site connects the three original. In addition, there are several large plots of land that serve as recreational spaces or urban farm. In this sense, the site will not be fully developed, instead, it will utilize a path system to connect the major sites. The path consists of running, walking, and riding. At times the three are combined and a different color highlights area where they grow apart.

- The running track is highlighted in red.
- The walking path is highlighted in black.
- The riding path is highlighted in blue.
- Meeting areas are highlighted in green



In this time, there are rising numbers in obesity, diabetes, and asthma among adults and children. Many of the new cases are found to be non-hereditary and linked to either poor nutrition, lack of up to date vaccinations, or pollution. These are all easily preventable causes if planning takes them into account. Local and national governments are reducing CO2 emissions in cars and going smoke free in restaurants. Presumably this will help our children in the future begin to build a base for a healthier life. Yet, these are only some of the small steps officials are making to help the overall health of our society.

Current technologies produce healthier and more plentiful foods with lower impact on the earth. How then are some of the answers to childhood obesity traced to the lack of these foods reaching certain populations located in America? The Center for Disease Control and Prevent (CDC) states,

Research increasingly suggests that children benefit from the opportunity to play outdoors, where they can explore and enjoy natural environments. Planning parks near residential areas -- and making sure that the parks include attractive landscaping, well-designed amenities such as playgrounds and sports facilities, and safe routes leading to and from them -- can be invaluable as part of a strategy of community design that is healthy and nurturing for children.

Urban planning as well as architecture plays a large part in organizing and controlling the way people travel and the way people interact with the urban landscape, too often are our pedestrians confined to one path. Good architecture attempts to reconcile problems as well as create a usable atmosphere.



## I. How architecture can respond to or drive a lifestyle

People often associate certain buildings with a specific building typology. A church has a nave, an altar, high ceilings etc., while a court or jail may look more masculine and sturdy. These are fairly common associations. People place these types into genres because it is common and easy for them to do so. The much more difficult aspect of architecture is the one that acts on a subconscious level, the architecture that alters a person's perception.

Theoretically, by incorporating elements of a healthy lifestyle into the master plan of a city, citizens may be encouraged to become healthier people. This must not be seen as an attempt to control. It is a way for the city to provide a necessity to those in need. Take for example a bus system. This type of system is only a true part of the city if people use it; therefore if it goes unused it is not necessary, but even if they do use it, the city is not controlling the citizens transportation needs. The same goes for city planning. A city can have good city planning or poor city planning. Citizens consider good city planning the parts that they use on a regular basis. How then can architecture/planning engage citizens to use it?

There exists a certain power in architecture that does not exist in many other places. Architecture is granted this power because it is something that a regular person cannot escape. In organized society, architecture is ever-present. However, it something which people can lose interest after the first few times of personal interaction. Naomi Stungo says, "Nothing is more boring or stupid than to wake up in the morning naively confident in what you already know." It is then the job of the architect to create something worth exploring.



In certain context, architecture is able to drive lifestyle choices. For example, a person living next to a park is forced to see this park day in and day out. Subconsciously, the person is influenced to use the park on a more regular basis. This passive act is similar to the way a city addresses a lake or a river in order to attract citizens to the water feature, or the way a landscape is left to be visible behind the skyline in a mountainous region.

## A. Architecture and a healthy community

Healthy communities are very important in today's society. People pack an excessive amount of chores into a small amount of time and forget to take care of themselves. According to USA.gov, 2008's number one New Year's resolution was to lose weight (quit smoking, drink less, get fit also made the list).

## B. Urban Farming

The idea of the urban farm providing for its cities residents is not a new concept. In fact the more noticeable difference would be the movement away from the farm in the city. Not until very recently in history have there not been farms strewn about the city, and it was not until the machine age produced too much pollution for farms that the cities became void of crops. However, around the country in places like Chicago there is a small movement to incorporate farming into urban situations. Internationally New Farm (an Urban Farm company) is developing in Japan and Africa as long as America. These mostly small organic farms produce food for inner city families, fresh air, and places for school to teach students about agriculture.

New Farm is just one of the urban farms out there trying to make a difference. The idea is based on regenerative agriculture. The process starts by choosing plants native to the local conditions. The plants then begin to filter the rain, the soil, and the air to clean out the chosen site. Once the site is clean the runoff from the site no longer contains pollutants. The neighboring areas are now being affected positively by your small site.



## 1. Food Production

While regenerative agriculture is an important concept, the main idea of the urban farm is to produce wholesome-healthy food for the public. American inner cities are all devoid of spaces. The urban farm not only fills in these spaces but allows for nature to return to these concrete jungles. Healthy fresh food is not always available in inner cities due to expensive shipping costs and the inability to keep organic foods from spoiling. To combat this, pesticides are used to produce a fleshier stronger fruit and vegetable while limiting the person's intake of vitamins.

## 2. Gardening

The planned area must be able to incorporate people during business hours as well as after hours. It must be adaptable to all ages and demographics. Spaces like this do not work without people interacting with them. Therefore, they need to be spontaneous and the spaces need to evoke some sort of energy that makes visitors feel like they are helping.

The act of gardening can be one of pride and one of learning. Students in these areas can learn how to grow the plants they see as they walk to school in the morning. Parents can take their kids there to have bonding experiences. The idea could be construed to be a after school child care. The most important thing is that people must use a space like this, otherwise it turns into Hart Plaza.

## Fitness

The Mayo Clinic has linked regular physical fitness to mood improvement, weight management, cardiovascular health, REM cycle regulation, a better sex life, and a chronic disease combatant.



## II. Overlapping Boundaries

### A. Demolishing historic boundaries with negative connotations

The Near North Area of Chicago was always one filled with blight, poverty, and racial segregation. It is currently undergoing a mass transformation to become a viable residential community and abolish the negative connotations of its past. On Mayor Daley's approval the 53 "whites" and the "reds" that once clouded the skyline are being removed to bring in new construction. The lower scaled construction will be mainly suited for higher end establishments, creating a boundary between them and the remaining Francis Cabrini Rowhouses. This boundary is subject to the very thing the city is trying to avoid. This will create a newer more prominent clash between income levels.

### B. Creating new boundaries with positive connotations

Architecture can create positive boundaries and erase negative ones. By merging two different forms of architecture or two different distinct areas, a better more prominent area can become the product while still holding on to some relevance of the past. Current trends in inner city movements are redefining historic areas for preservation. But the question is, what happens when you want to erase the past?

An architect must understand this approach and choose a side either to forget the past or use the past. To not choose would mean to not address the problem and prove ignorance. Either way of choosing however, can be done in a nice way. Berlin addresses its recent turbulence in a positive way with the resurrection of the Potsdamer Platz (Sony Center) and the Brandenburg Gate. In Potsdamer, Germans chose to keep fragments of the Berlin Wall not mourn, but to understand that this is part of their history as much as anything. Likewise at the Brandenburg, there was a choice to repair the gate or let the people who come to experience it be able to place their fingers in the bullet holes left from the war.



## Conclusion

It is recognizable throughout history that dramatic decisions must be addressed, and dramatic events drive this nation. There are always two different routes a designer can take and there are several examples of how different views influenced or drove a design.

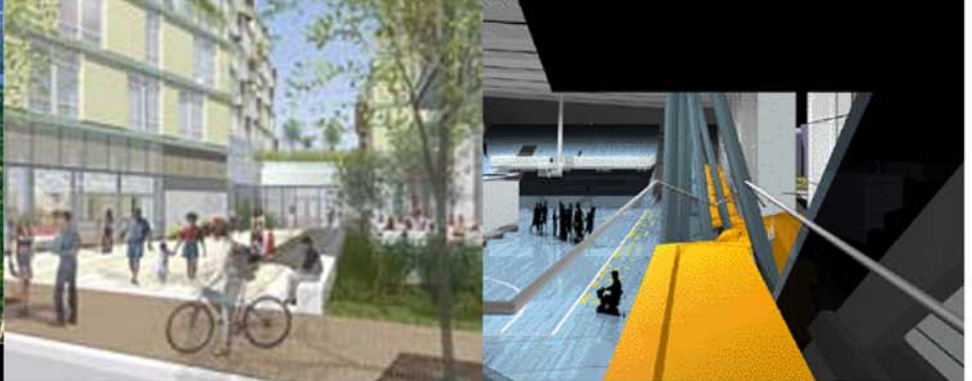
The true aspiration of any good piece of art or architecture has a variety of questions to address. To do so is to attempt good design, and to avoid them is to limit the possible success. As any designer, a person has the right to embrace history or to neglect it, to use a boundary or to erase it, to influence or to adapt. These questions must not be avoided.

[The New York skyline] "never was planned; it's all a race for rent, and it is a great monument I think to the power of money and greed, trying to substitute money for ideas. I don't see an idea in the whole thing anywhere, do you?"





# precedent studies



## Large Studies

-the big dig house

-pig city

-the high line

-central park

## Small Studies

-greenbridge

-friend's gym



## Architects

Single Speed Design LLP  
171 Brookline Street  
Cambridge MA 02139

## Structural Design / Construction

Paul Pedini  
Jay Cashman

## Structural Engineer

Weidlinger Associates, Inc.  
201 Broadway  
Cambridge, MA 02139

## Water Management Design

Cristina Perez-Pedini

## Awards

AIA/BSA Housing Design Award

## Size & Program

4,300 Square Foot - Residence

## Cost

\$645,000

The Big Dig was Boston's attempt to take its main highway system and put it underground. It was called the Central Artery/ Tunnel Project (CA/T). The Big Dig House, imagined by a structural engineer Paul Pardini, utilizes a number of sustainable design approaches, among these, over 600,000 lbs of recycled materials came from Boston's Big Dig (600,000 lbs of steel and crushed aggregate). By utilizing these free materials the building costs were estimated at around \$150 sq/ft.

Pardini arrived at his design criteria before consulting any architects. He had recently been a member of a consulting company that had worked on the Big Dig for over a decade and saw all of the raw materials going to waste in a junkyard. After his vision was set, the project was handed over to Single Speed Design and architects Jinhee Park and John Hong. However, Pardini was not finished. He also oversaw most of the construction.



Rear Elevation



Front Elevation





The image of the stair leading to the roof porch portrays the ability of the designers to think about exterior uses not commonly found in everyday construction.

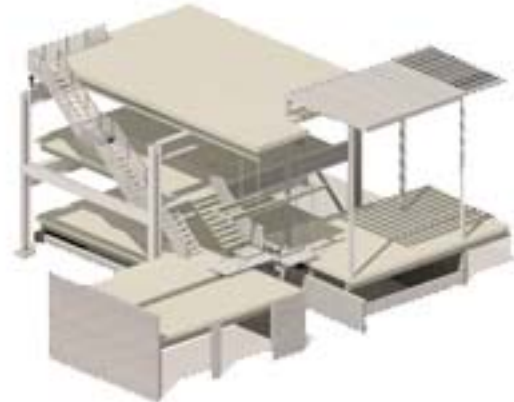
Also, notice the detail where the beams protrude out of the seemingly solid wood wall in order to provide structure to the stair.

A close-up of the balcony emphasizes the recycled elements. The panels beneath and the floor slab, along with the steel that holds the balcony, were all once part of a bridge over Interstate 93.





Foundation walls using recycled aggregate



Light steel framing and stairs



Salvaged steel framing



Roof gardens and water reclamation



Reclaimed panels



Exterior rainscreen and windows



## Interior Stairway

Here are more elements from the job site. In the mixture of wall materials behind the stair placement, recycled concrete block comes together with gypboard. This particular stair leads to the home's roof garden.

Although not everything was recycled, Single Speed Design had more tricks up their sleeves. They designed the lighting throughout the house and the built in furniture.



## Interior Perspective

This photograph shows the strong beams used that allow for such high interior spaces. Even though the majority of the materials used were industrial, wood accents revive the warm homey atmosphere most people recognize with a house.

## Architects

MVRDV

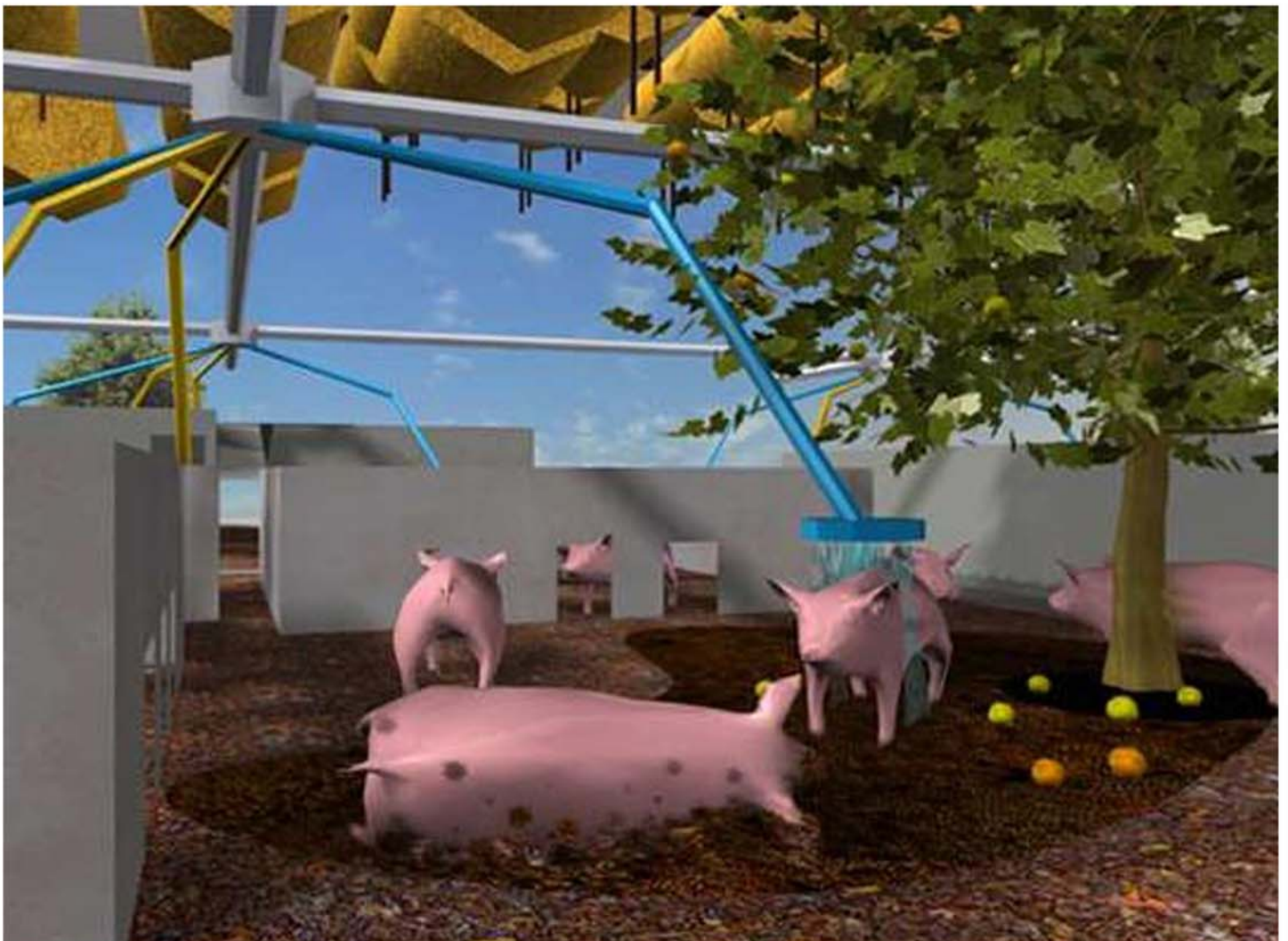
Postbus 63136

3002 JC Rotterdam NL

## Size & Program

Sustainable Pig Farm

664 square meters per pig







“The Netherlands produces some 16.5 million tons of pig meat each year, making it the European Union’s leading exporter. In 1999 there were officially 15.2 million pigs in the country, and 15.5 million people. Each pig requires 664 square meters of space, including that required for meat processing.” - Next Nature

This is an important concept for American’s to grasp. The idea of streamline production is not sa foreign concept. However, Pig City epitomizes farming and reduces animal abuse, while conserving an enormous amount of precious land. The city itself is sustainable once it is built. It relays on biogas and methane to fuel the machines that water and feed the animals; the gas is produced from the digestion tanks that house the animal waste. Depending on how little power the machines use, the additional fuel would be used as a hybrid power plant.

This project is important to my thesis because it utilizes space, and it combines living (for pigs) and farming in an economical way. Space in Europe is a precious commodity, and America will soon feel the same effects.





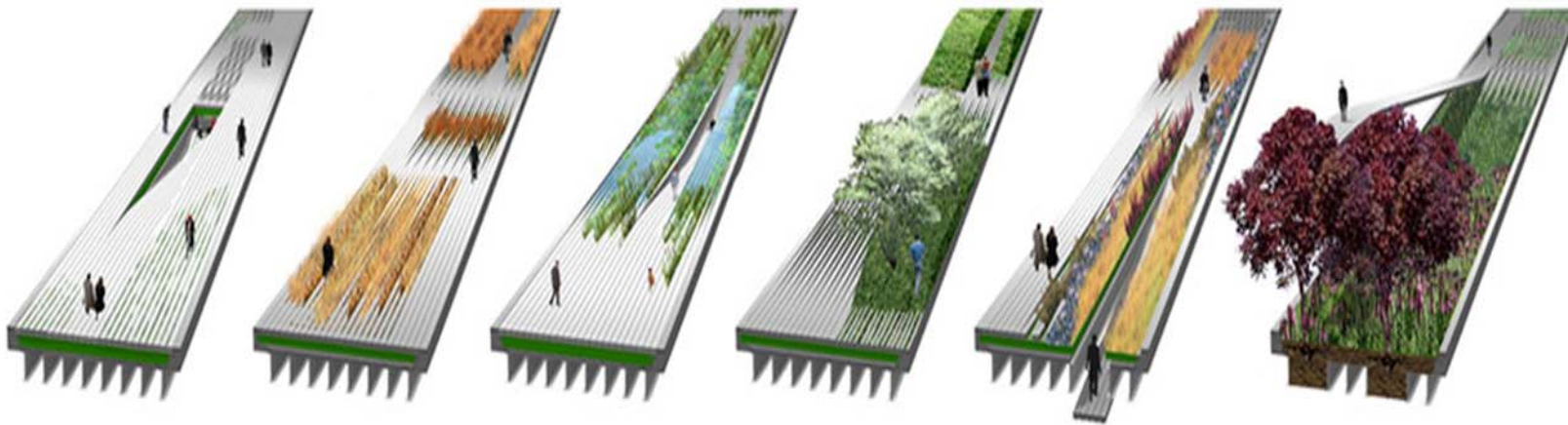
## Architects

Diller Scofidio & Renfro  
601 W26th St  
New York, NY 10001

## Size & Program

1.45 Mile - Park Space

“The design team of Field Operations and Diller Scofidio + Renfro is currently at work on preliminary designs for the High Line. Under the direction of Friends of the High Line and the City of New York, and guided by input from the community, the designs will continue to evolve as the project moves toward construction. Inspired by the industrial ruggedness and unruly wilderness of the High Line today, the team seeks to create a contemplative public landscape atop the structure. Preliminary designs focus special attention on integrating planting areas with planked public walkways, creating a diverse series of interactions between the High Line, its users, and the spontaneous landscapes that come to inhabit man-made structures over the course of time.”



Pit 0% : 100%   Plains 40% : 60%   Bridge 50% : 50%   Mound 55% : 45%   Ramp 60% : 40%   Flyover 100% : 0%



Mossland

Tall Meadow

Wetland

Woodland

Mixed Meadow

Young Woodland

## Curve along the High Line

Areas such as this curve allow for interesting transition points on the path. One can imagine a jogger overlooking pedestrians on the street level making the most of an ever changing scene yet constantly out of the way.



## Nature taking over

Given time, nature begins to take over what was once a bustling transit line for products and materials. Now the materials utilizing the track are that which are found locally in what becomes nature's own riparian filter.





## Analysis

This precedent study is important to the thesis because it is utilizing something that is already built to create a new park space for the community. The path was once used as a shipment rail line but is being converted into a public space for walking and picnicking.

The design team for the High Line used six different elevation patterns to mimic those found locally in nature. In time, this will allow for plants to flourish without much help from gardeners, landscapers, and additional water other than rain.

The thesis employs a similar tactic to encourage pedestrian use of the site. A multiple of elevation changes as well as textures will be used as a path for walking, jogging, or recreation.

Diller Scofidio and Renfro have done a great job creating something usable and peaceful amidst the chaos of New York that was once such an additional blight on the city.

Landscape Designer  
Frederick Law Olmsted

Architect  
Calvert Vaux

Location  
Manhattan, New York

Size & Program  
843 acres  
Athletics and entertainment

Founded  
1857



## Park Distances

Loop 6.1 miles

Upper Loop taking 102nd St.cutoff 5.2 miles

Lower Loop 1.7 miles

## Point-to-Point

A-B .7678 miles

B-C upper loop 1.1503 miles

B-C shortcut .2662 miles

C-D 1.7083 miles

D-E by lower loop 1.4073 miles

D-E across 72nd St. .3080 miles

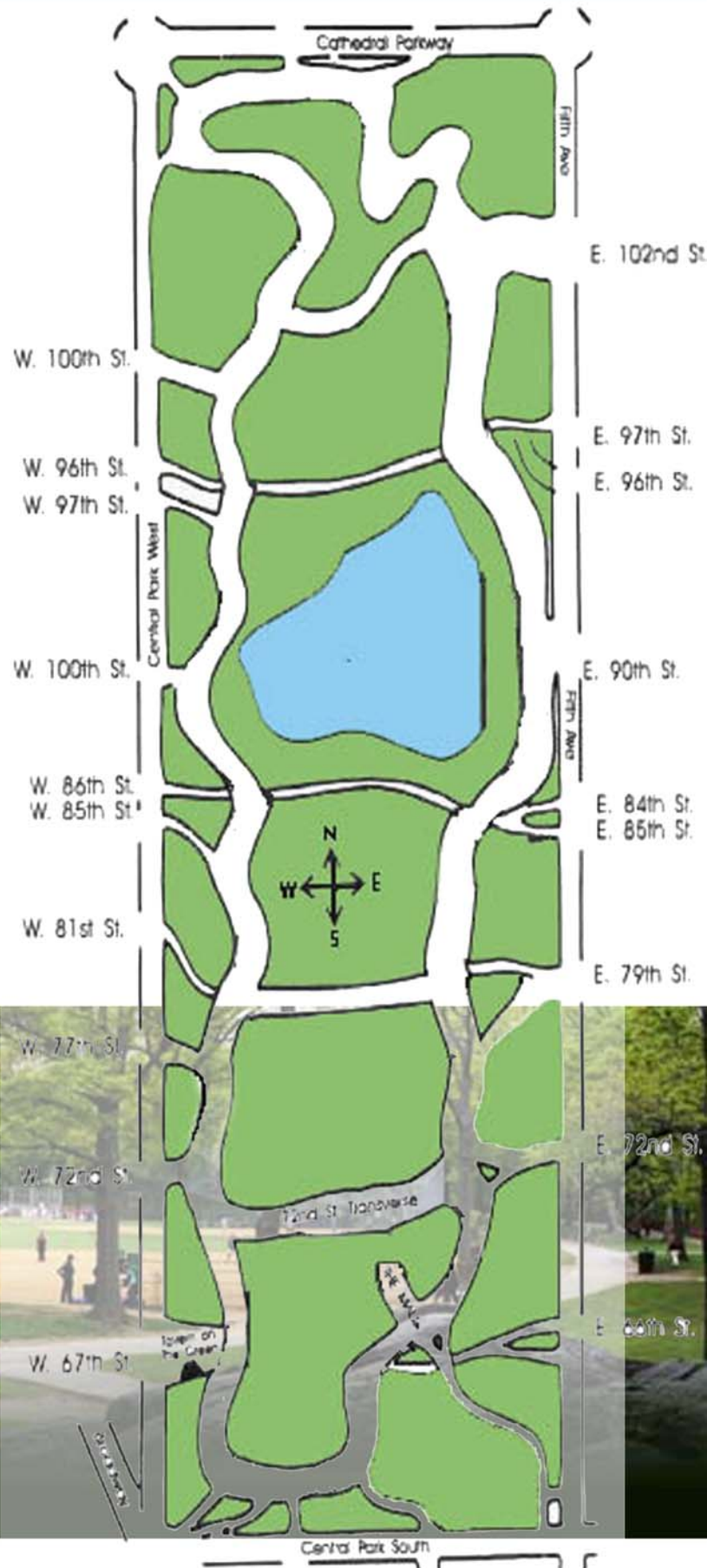
E-A .9936 miles

## Reservoir

Reservoir 1.57 miles

Lower Bridle Loop 1.66 miles

Full Bridle Loop 2.5 miles



Although there are obvious scale differences between this thesis and Central Park, the quality of uses provided and the amount of interaction are key to any physical wellness project.

Central Park's running/jogging track features different surfaces, i.e. dirt, gravel, and pavement, and also combines different loop sizes.

Central Park is also ideally situated in the urban context. Instead of just being a park to walk by, it becomes the destination.







## Architects

William McDonough  
(GGA Architects of record)  
700 East Jefferson Street  
Charlottesville, Virginia 22902

## Structural Engineer

Dunbar, Milby, Williams, Pittman + Vaughn  
110 3rd Street  
Charlottesville, Virginia 22902

## Features Include

Solar Power  
State of the art HVAC  
Water catchment and re-use  
Green roofs  
Computerized building management  
Energy Star appliances

## Date Completed & Awards Won

Spring of 2009 & LEED Gold Certified

## Size & Program

215,00 total sq/ft  
Mixed Use- Residential, office, retail  
85 Residential Units  
25,000 sq/ft of retail space  
15,000 sq/ft of office space

## Cost

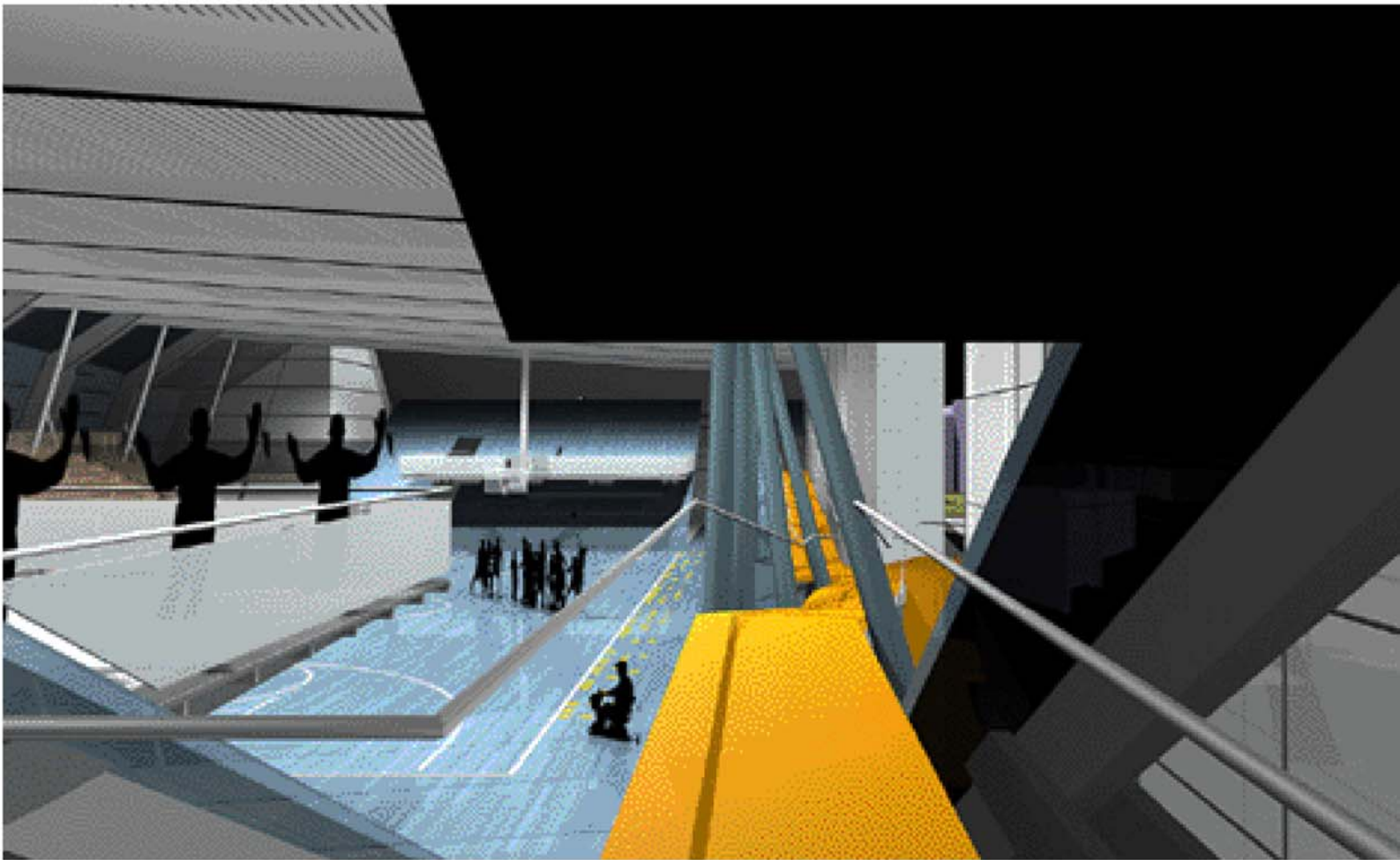
\$30,000,000

## Architects

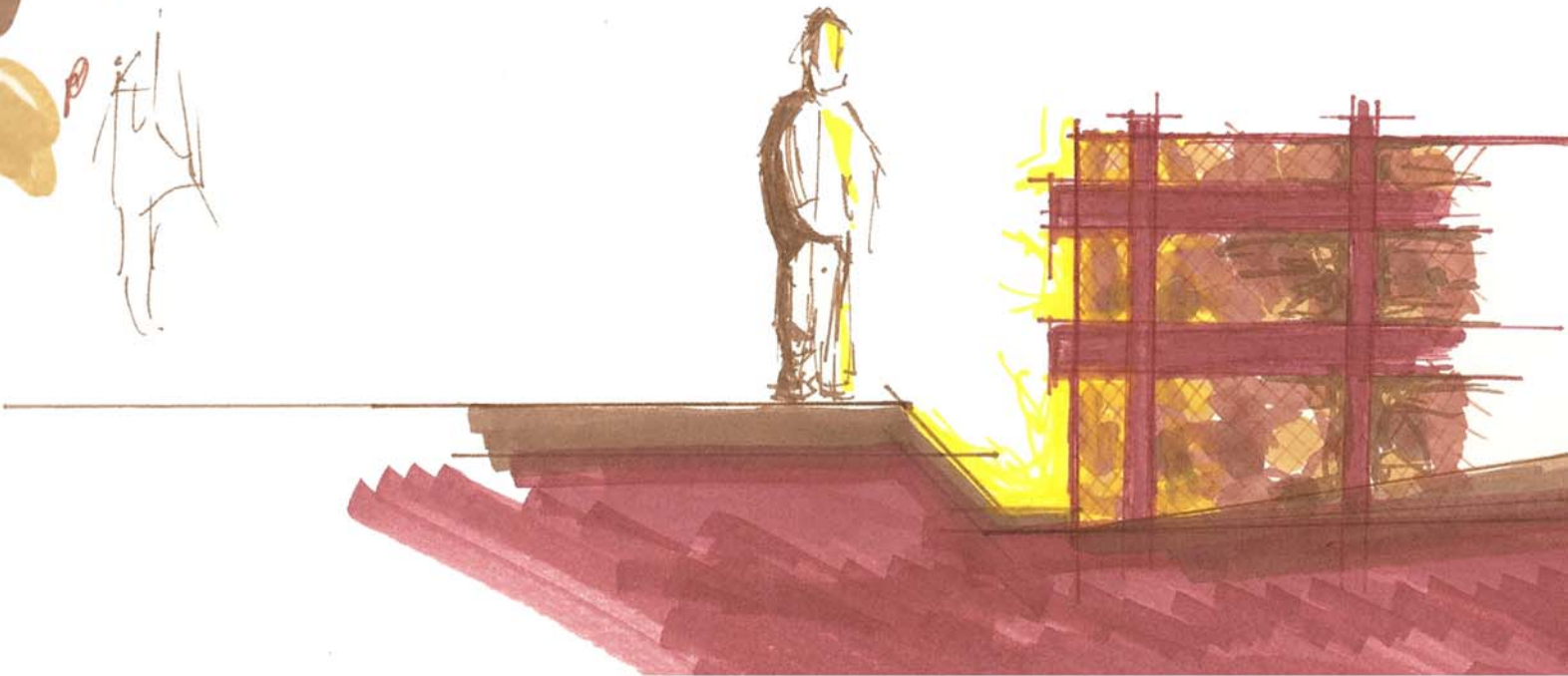
Detroit Collaborative Design Center  
University of Detroit Mercy

## Project Partners

Children's Institute of Detroit



# springboard





This is an example of a springboard design process. The initial idea is that of a Gabion Basket, which can be found quite frequently around rivers or underpasses. The basket is technically a wire mesh and rock retaining wall.

The process started with a sketch exploring new ways this old and fairly simple technology could be used. Upon more consideration, the basket was fused with a retaining wall. This first image begins to show how the wall could be used as a border or as a privacy screen.

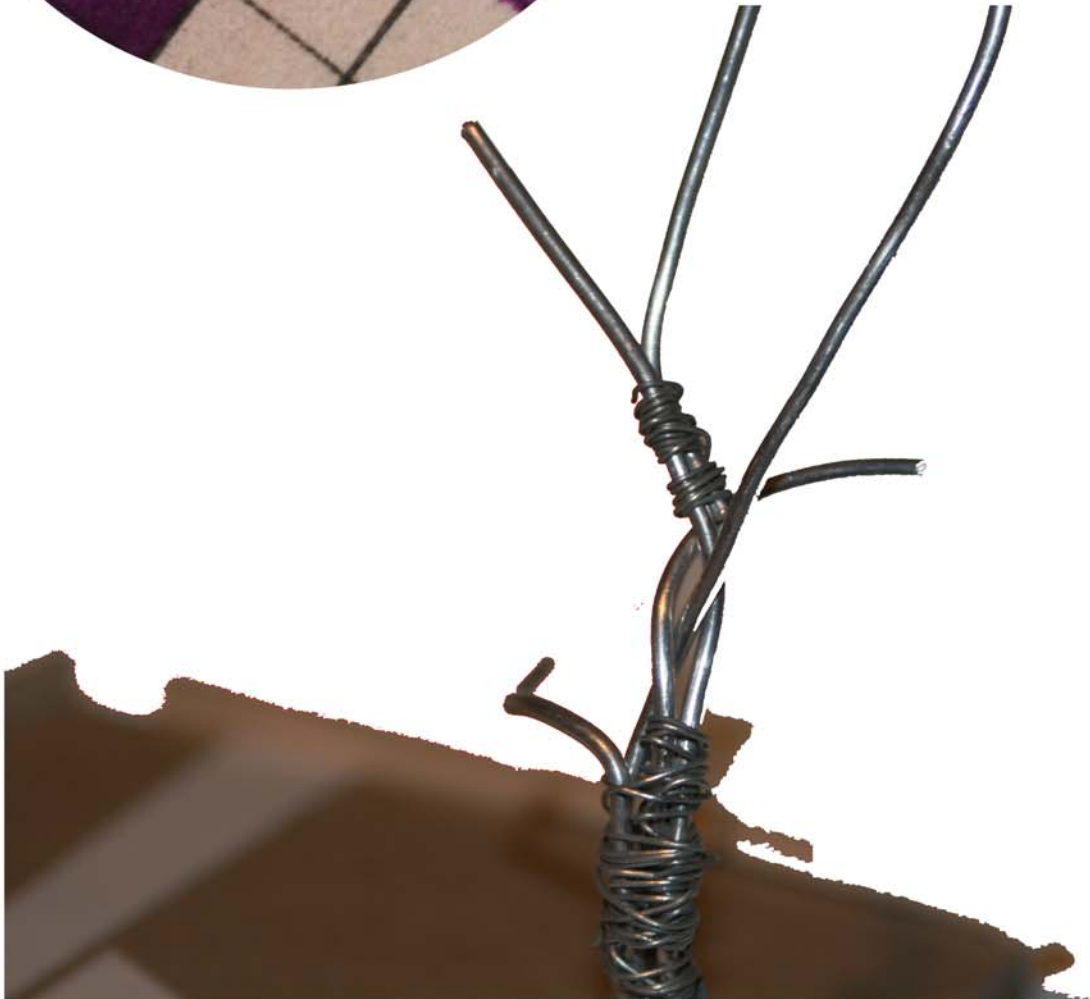
The second image is a moment specific drawing. It is an example of a pathway that may border the private realm. Depending on how thick the wall is made, a certain amount of light begins to penetrate the voids made by the rock's peculiar shapes.

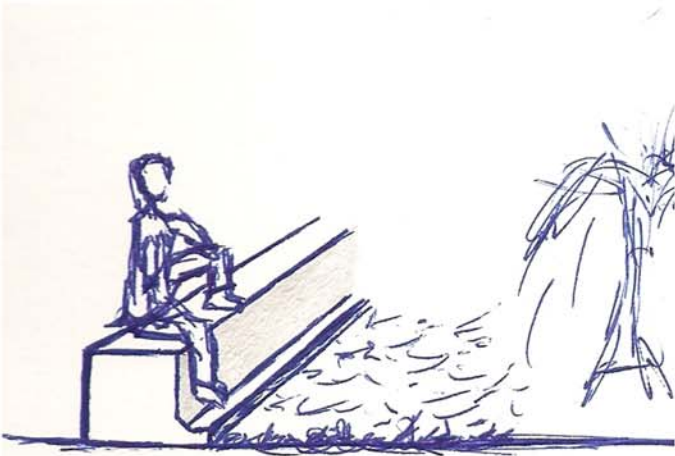
The last three images show how the idea evolves into architecture. The last image is a rendered scene at the base of a building. The two people having a conversation begin to scale and humanize the work.



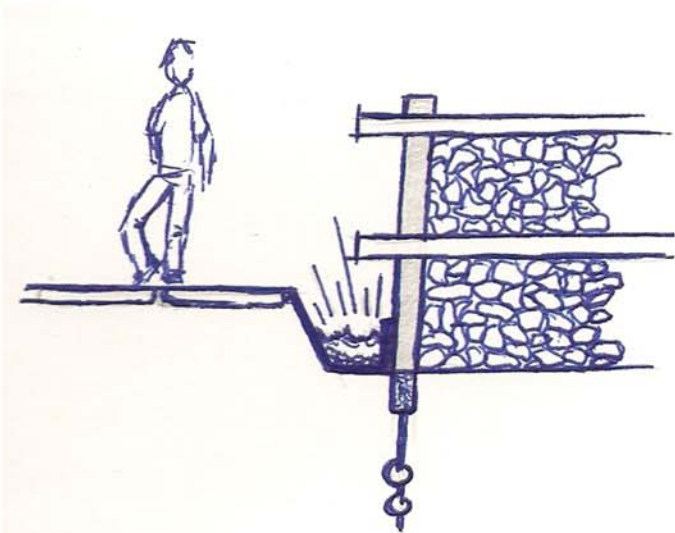
The island effect is when a certain object is singled out. In this context, Cabrini-Green was singled out from the Near North Area and greater Chicago. By doing this, crime developed more intensely. At times the social boundaries of Cabrini-Green were so bad that it became Omega Zone. These zones are areas of the city where cops will not enter due to their own safety obligations.

This feeling is transposed into the design elements meant to reduce them, but ultimately hurting the area even more. These images describe the feeling of being alone, sheltered, and confined while living in these Omega Zones.

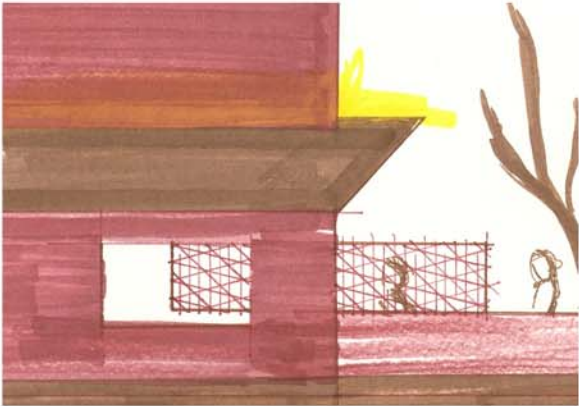




Wading Water Feature Sketch



Gabion Basket Rock Wall Sketch

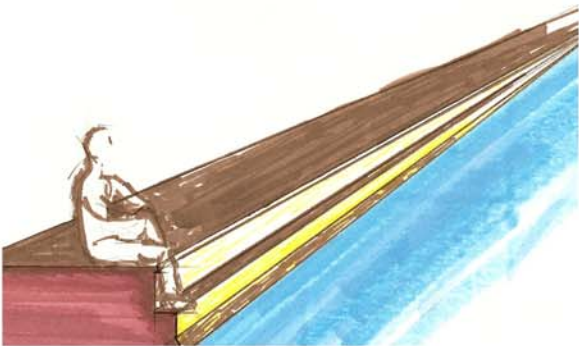


Sliding Screening Wall

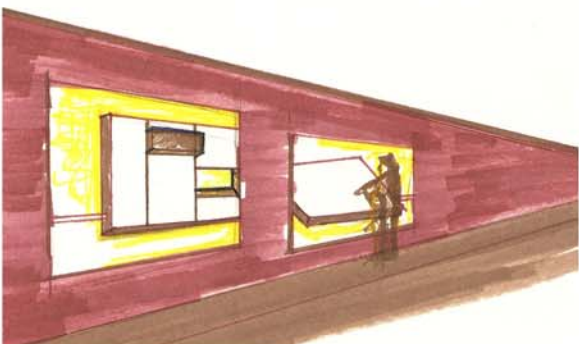
These colored marker renderings were the second step in a springboard series. Once the original sketches were to a certain level of clarity, it was appropriate to add color to emphasize mood.

One nice thing about these images is their simplicity. They are able to carry along a message without detailed line work, and without taking an extensive amount of time to construct.

Since these were all adaptations of previous sketches, however, they do not experiment with new ideas and therefore slightly hindered the intended springboard process.



Wading Water Feature

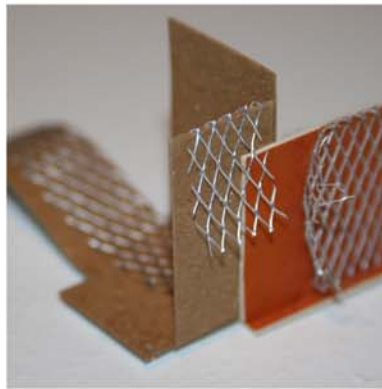
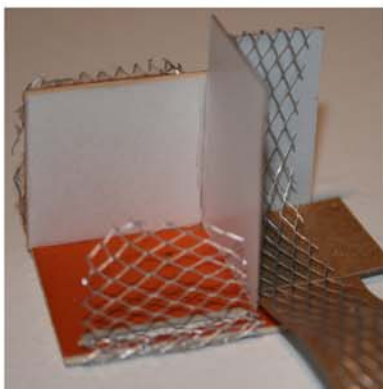
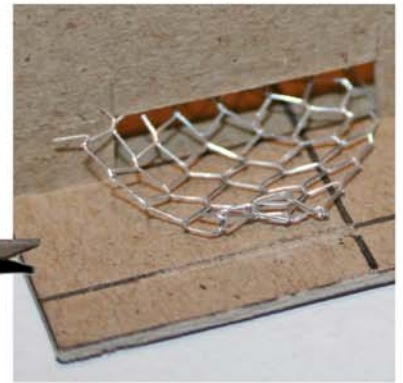
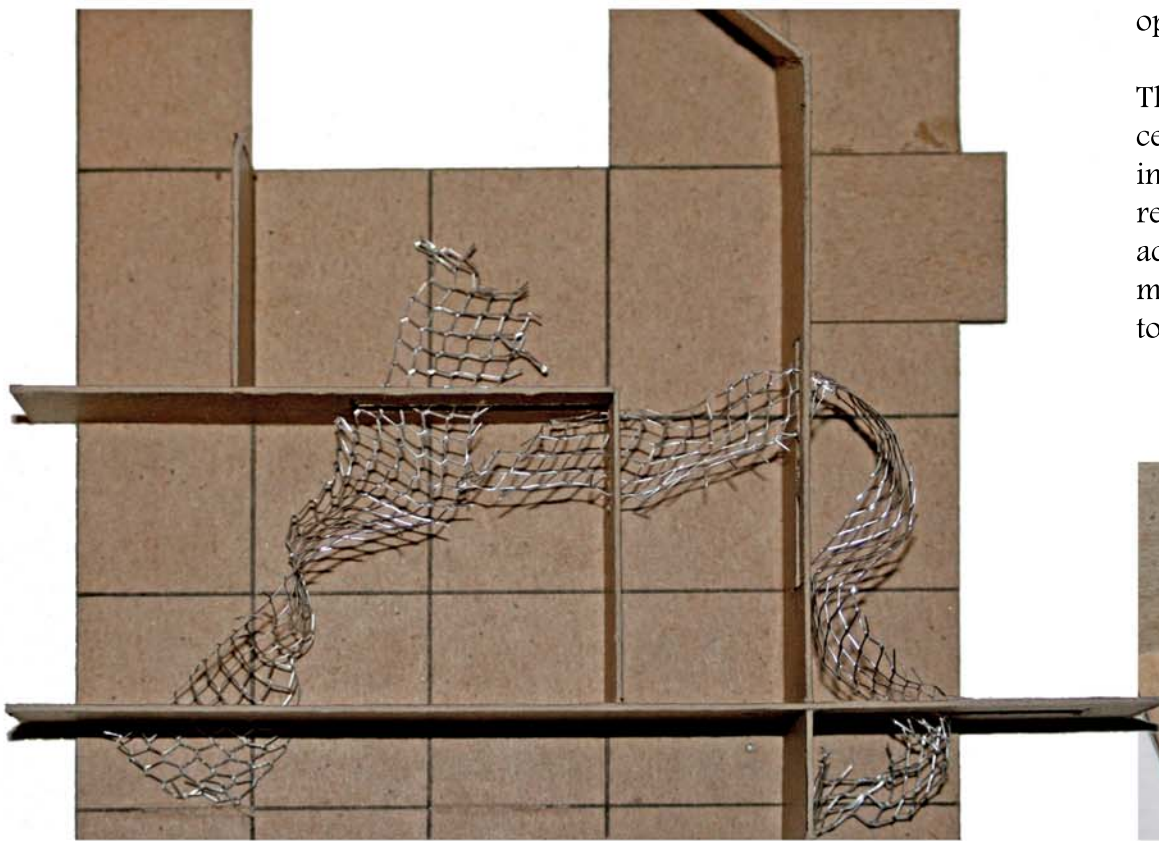


Interactive Front Facade

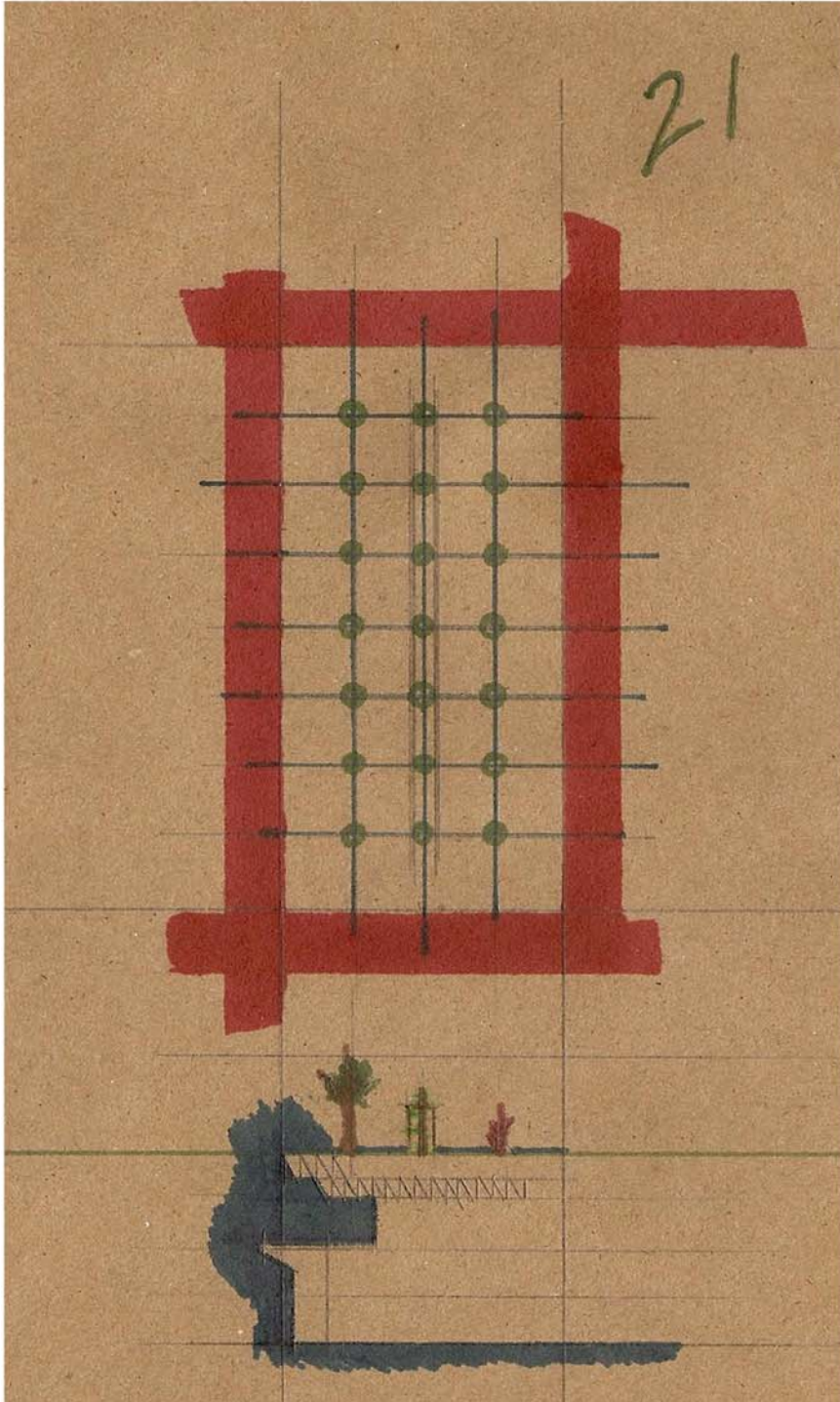


The group of models featured here is an abstract interpretation of a Francis-Cabrini housing unit. The unit was viewed from the outside. The rowhouses seemed confined and boxed in by fences, but still the residents prevailed by talking to each other on opposite sides of the fence.

The grid like pattern is reminiscent of the monotonous buildings, and the mesh is meant to relate to the caging effect of the actual fencing that the government put up once crime became too big of a problem.

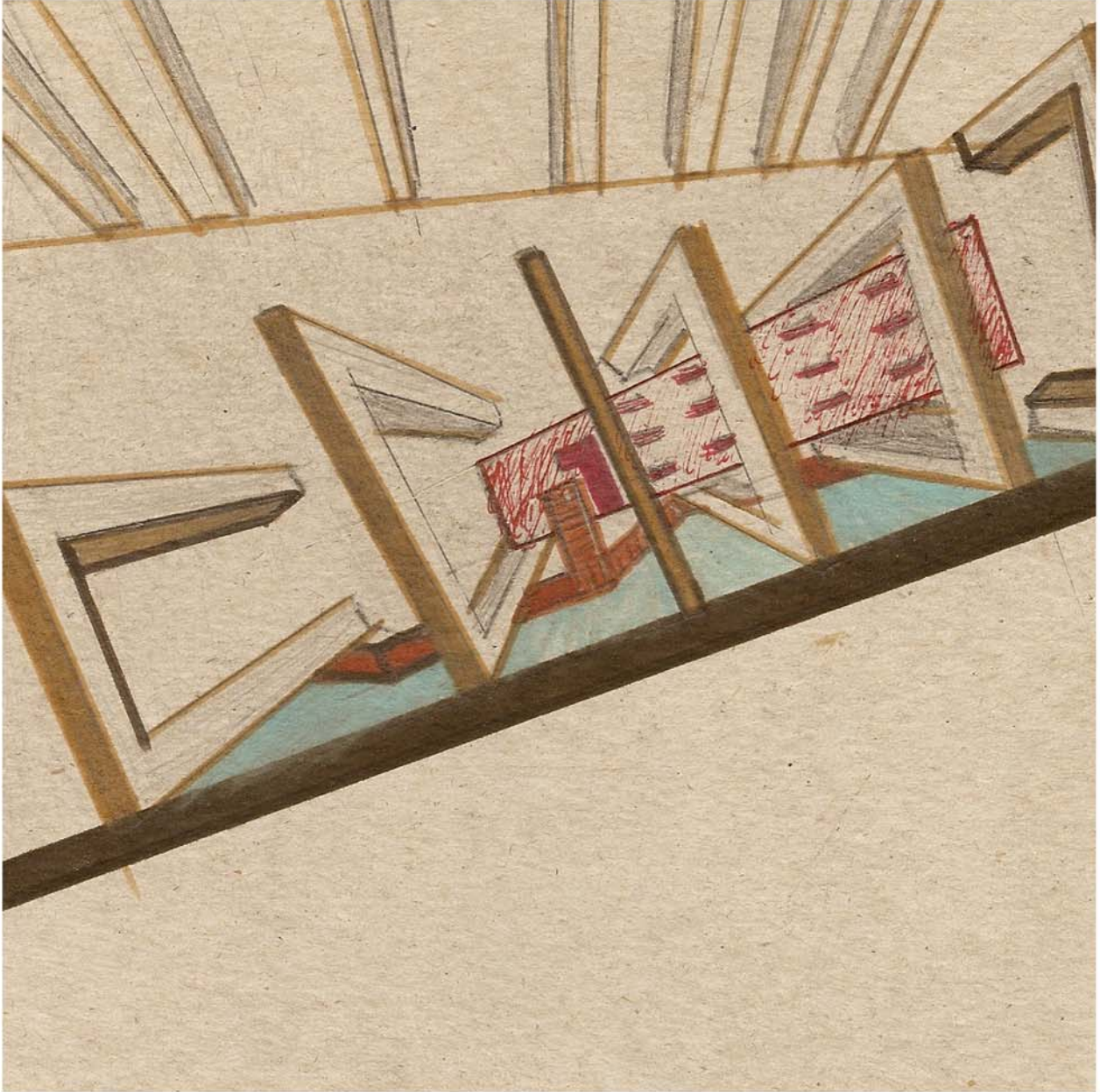






Springboard is also a time to experiment with smaller details. In this image, a grid is being worked out that was formed from the lower section. Sections like these were implored to explore ways a specific moment can be calculate. Here the question becomes how a rooftop can be planned out for an efficient use of farming.

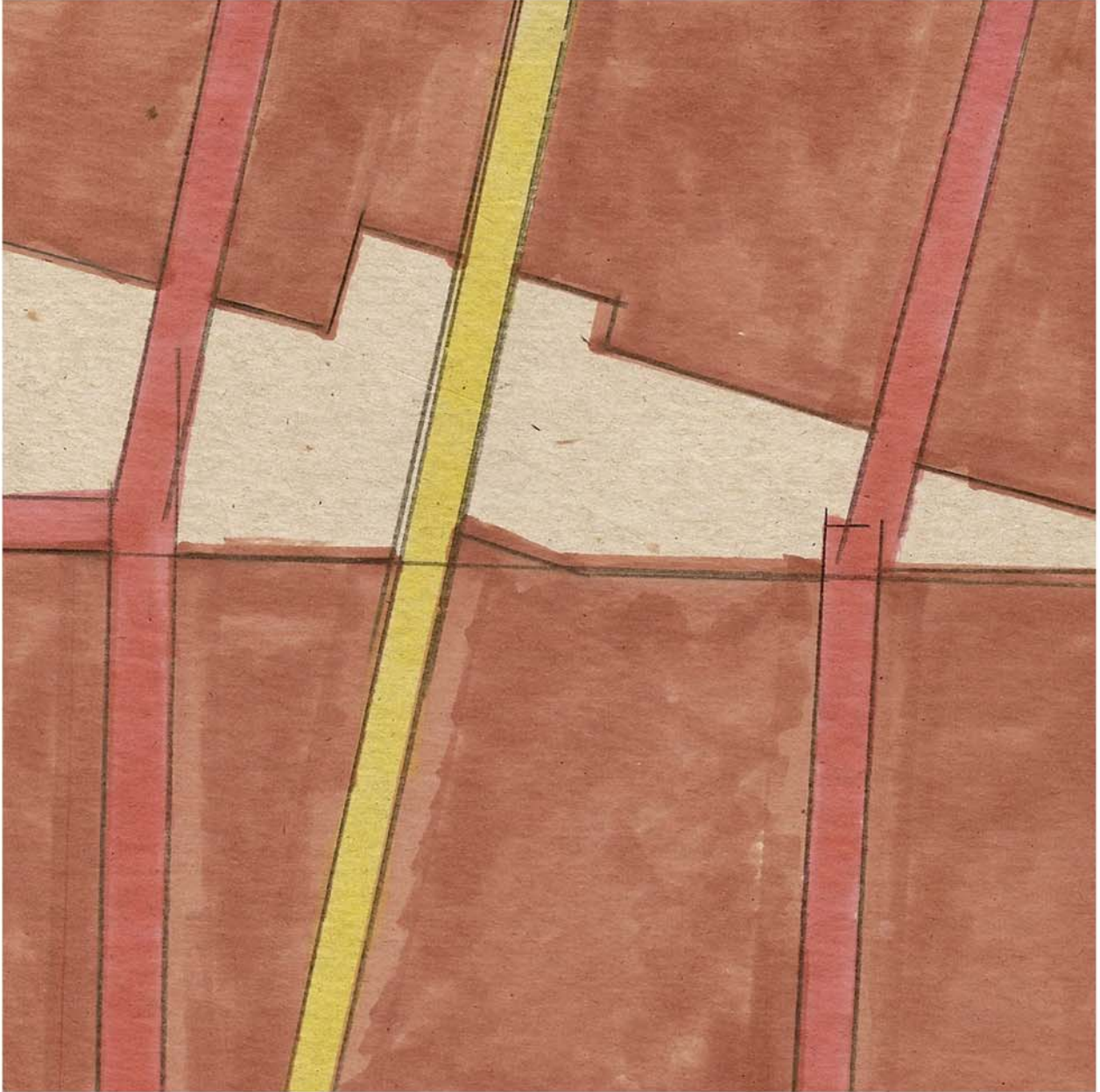
These short studies proved to be useful in future experiments because they formed a jumping off point for further experimentation.



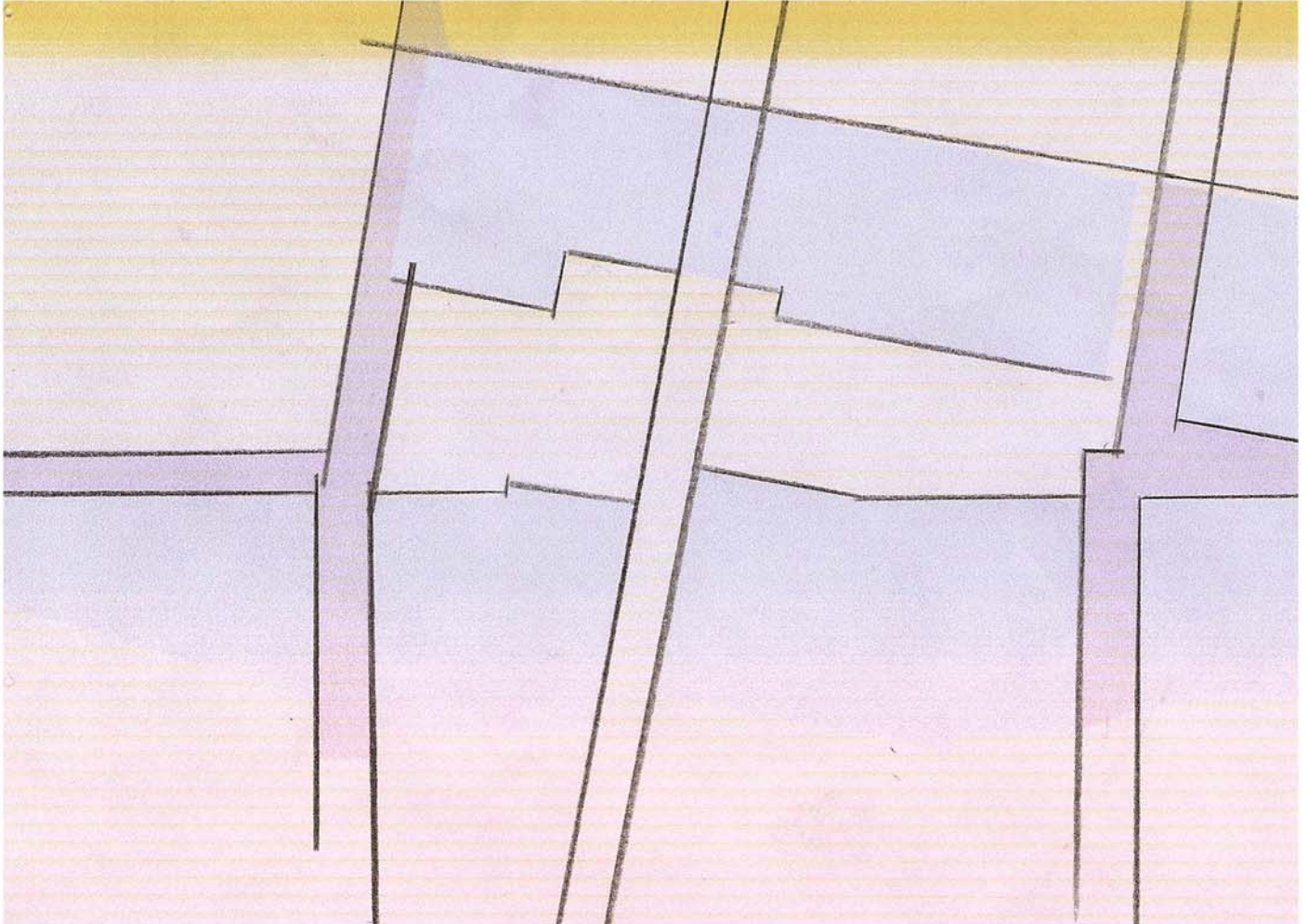
Bird's Eye view of fitness center

# springboard

50



How pathways and units mesh



How pathways and units mesh II

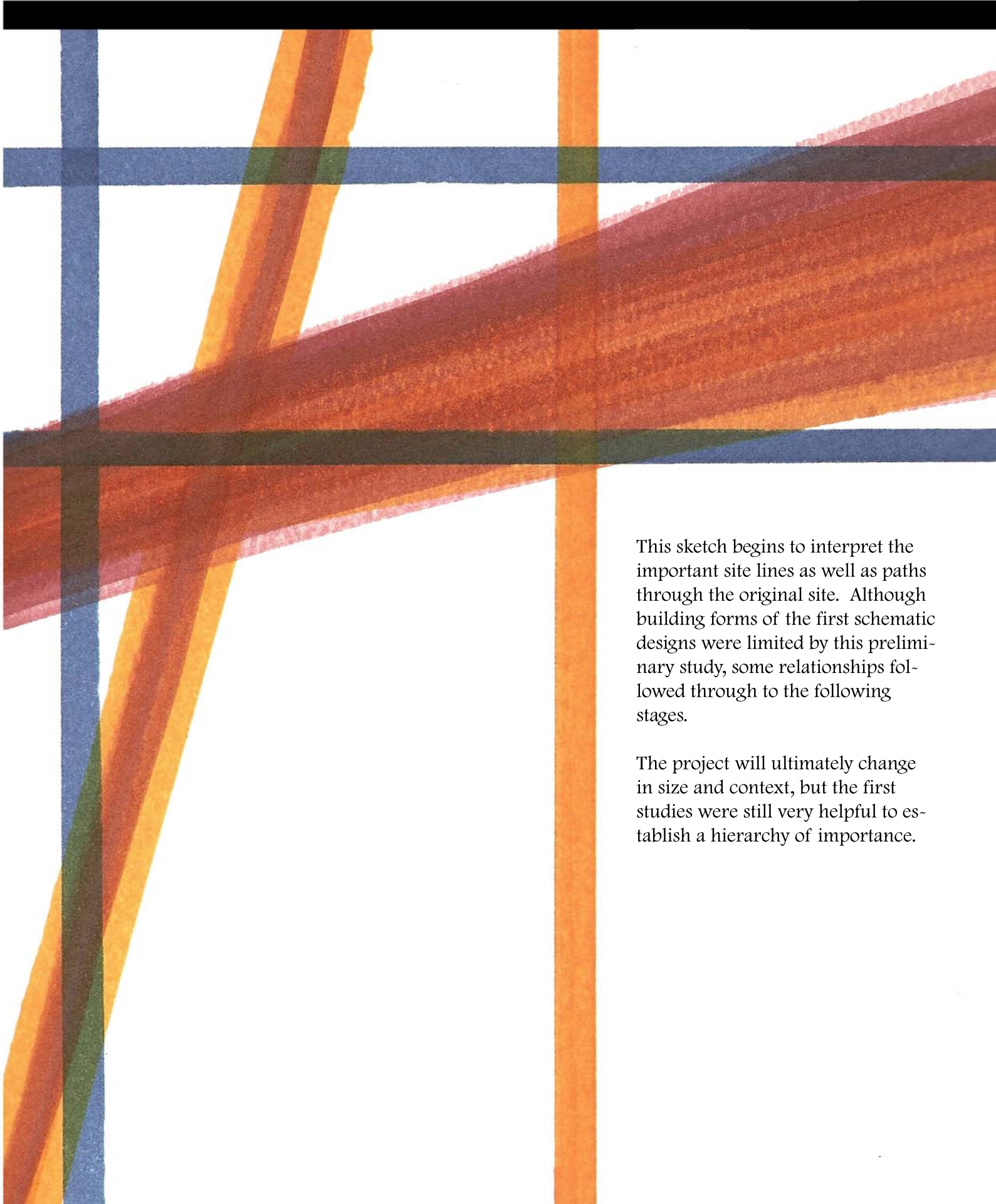


Distortion of America

This material study is based on the concept of a Gabion basket. It is a form of retaining wall that is made of a wire mesh and steel tubing. In this case, the basket is formed using reclaimed wood and acts as a night-light barrier alongside a pathway. Further investigation can be found in the next section (schematic).

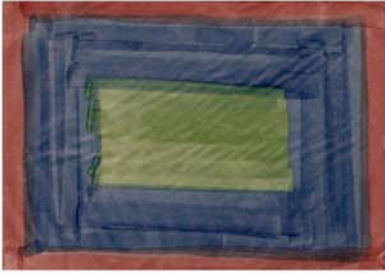


# schematic design



This sketch begins to interpret the important site lines as well as paths through the original site. Although building forms of the first schematic designs were limited by this preliminary study, some relationships followed through to the following stages.

The project will ultimately change in size and context, but the first studies were still very helpful to establish a hierarchy of importance.



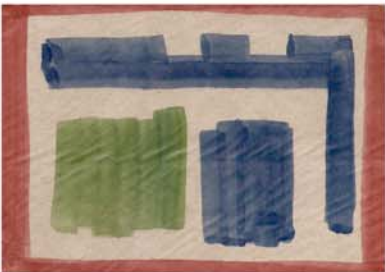
This is a sketch revisiting an old philosophy of light transmission through a deep building.



This idea expresses a common area while maintaining separate units. A dividing line becomes apparent when private and public realms are drawn.



The plan is featured throughout the Near North and Old Town Areas. The separated buildings allow the residents to have a sense of privacy.

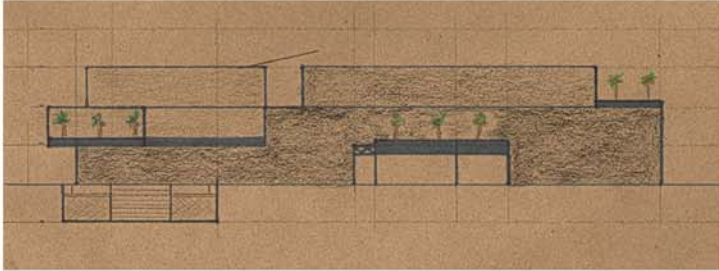


This scheme emphasizes a wrapped residential complex with a large amount of units facing the sun and centered to the park.

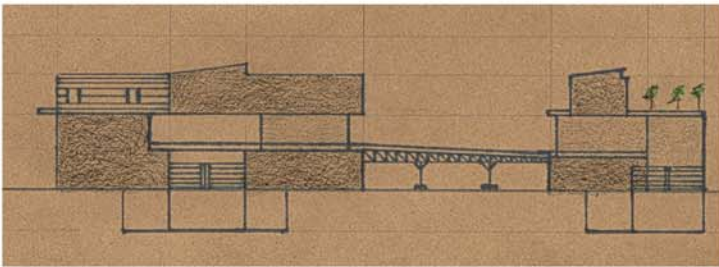


This was an adaptation of above, but the fitness area was pushed closer to the main complex to enlarge the park.

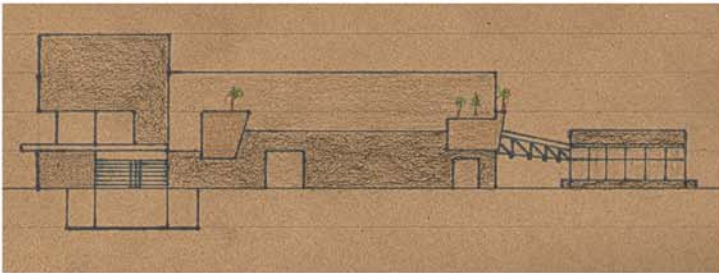




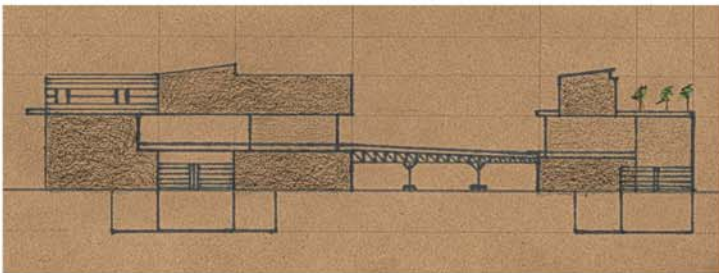
West Elevation Series #1



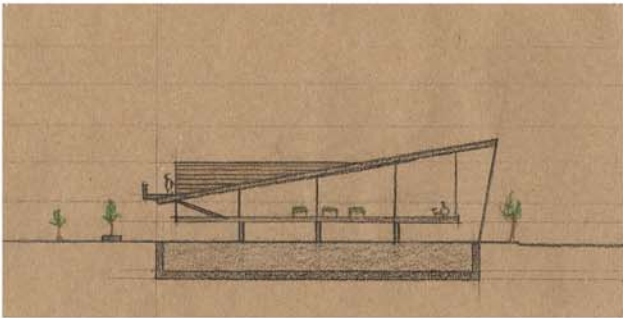
South Elevation Series #1



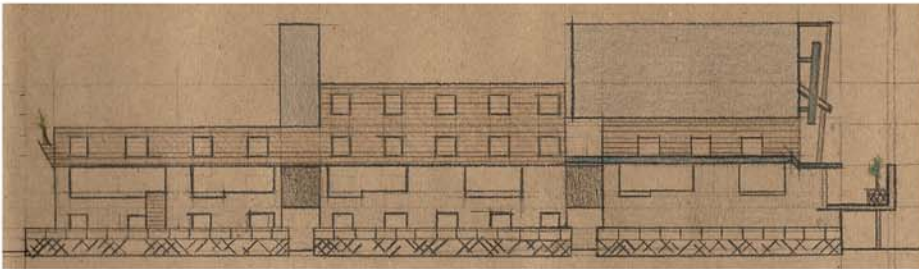
South Elevation Series #2



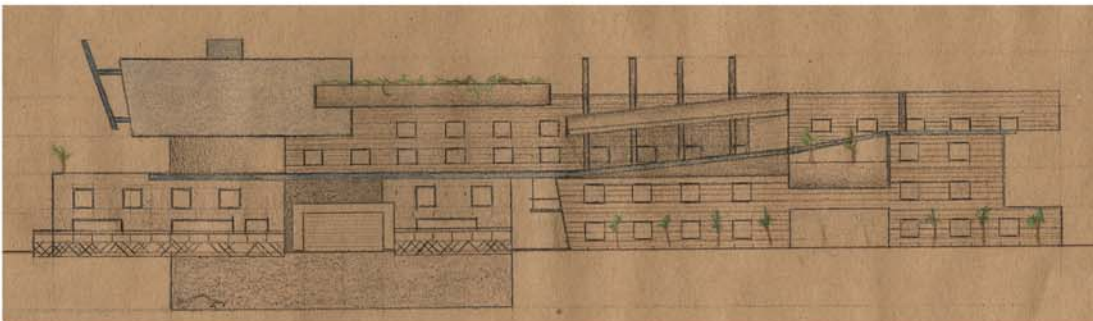
East Elevation Series #2



East Elevation Series #3

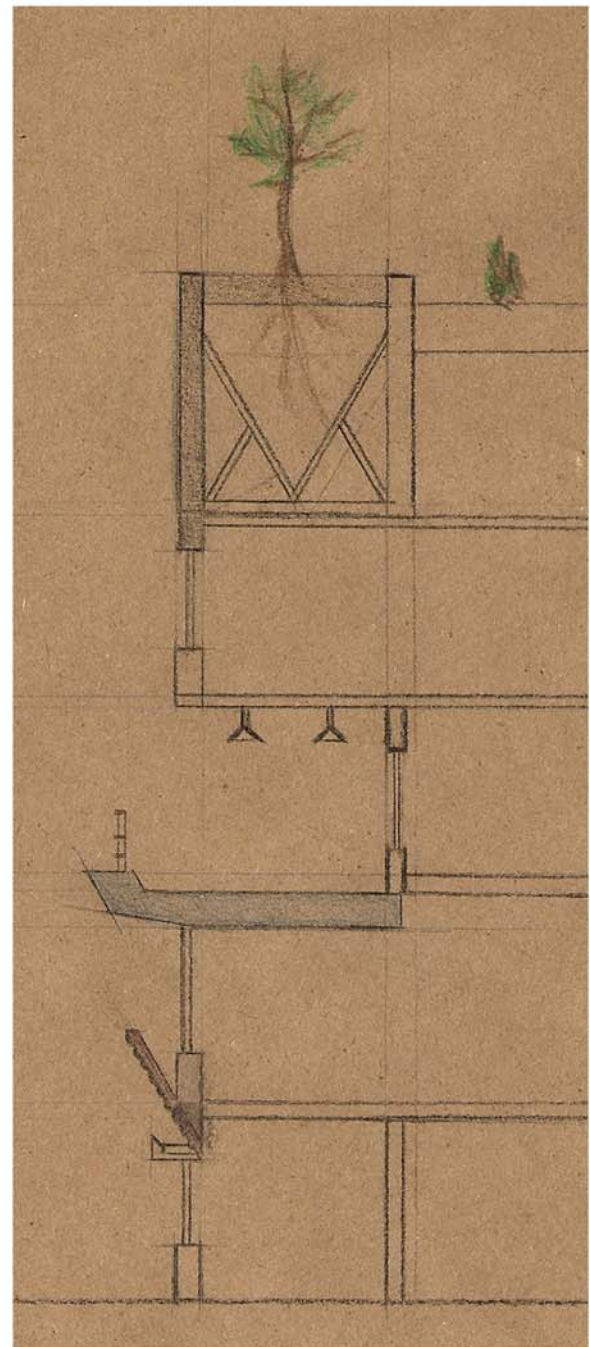
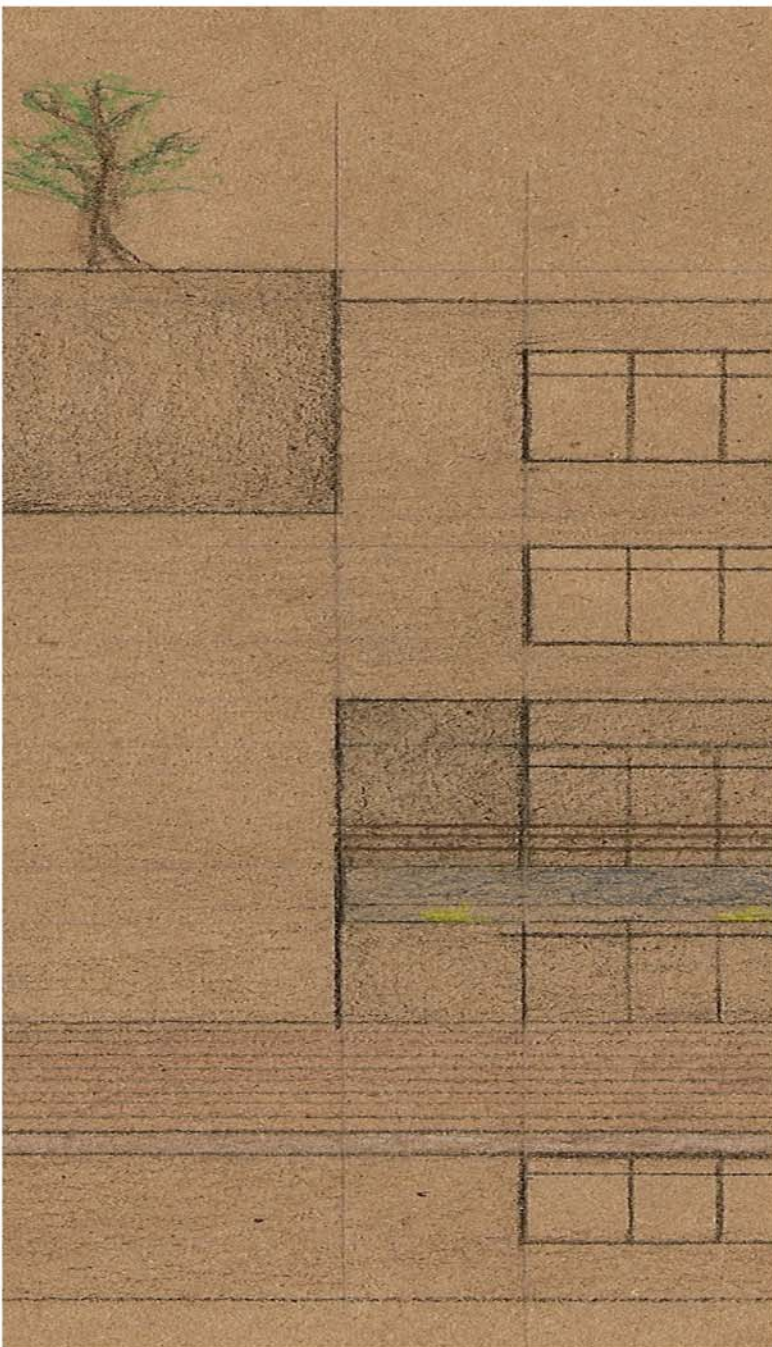


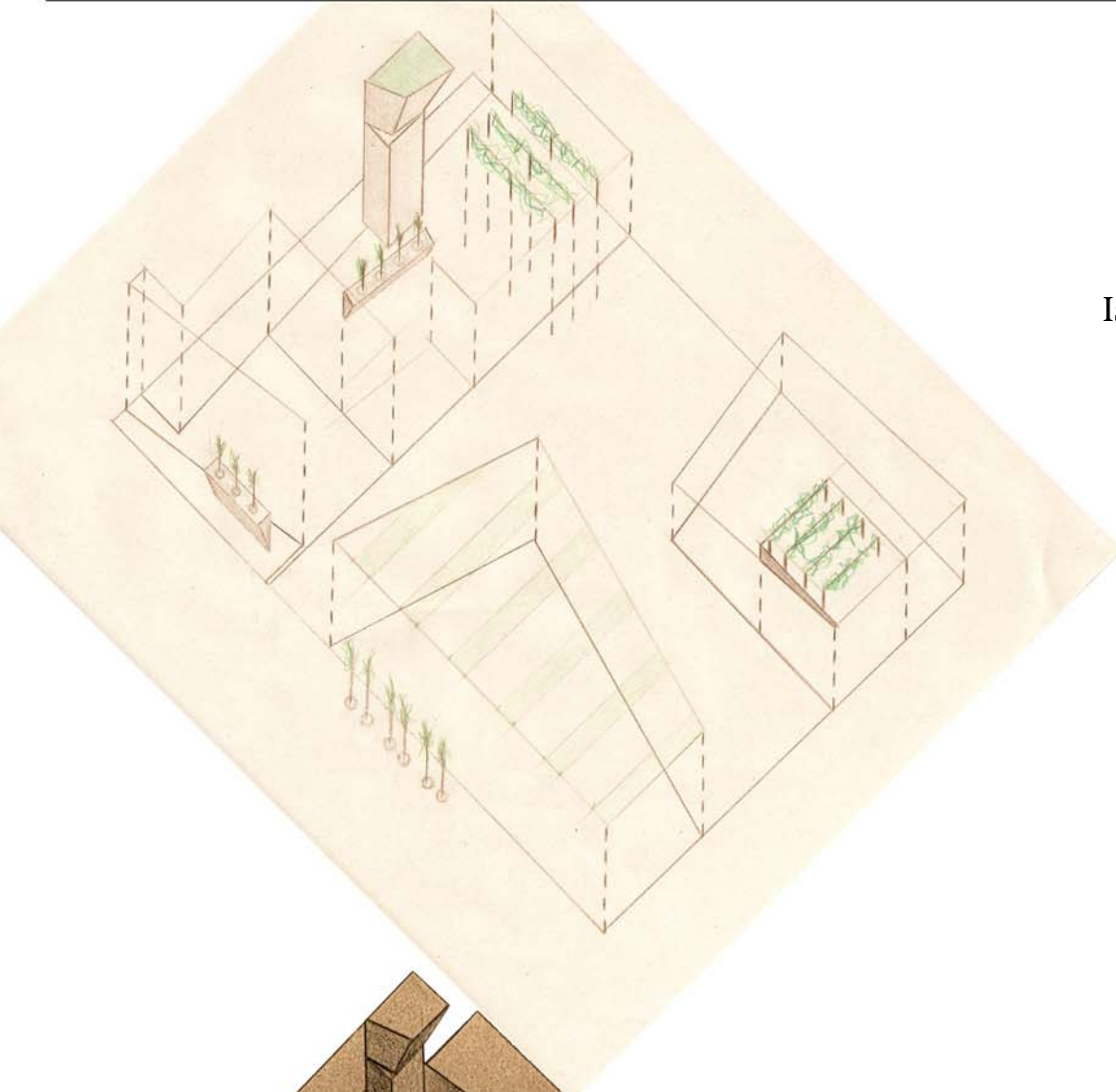
North Elevation Series #3



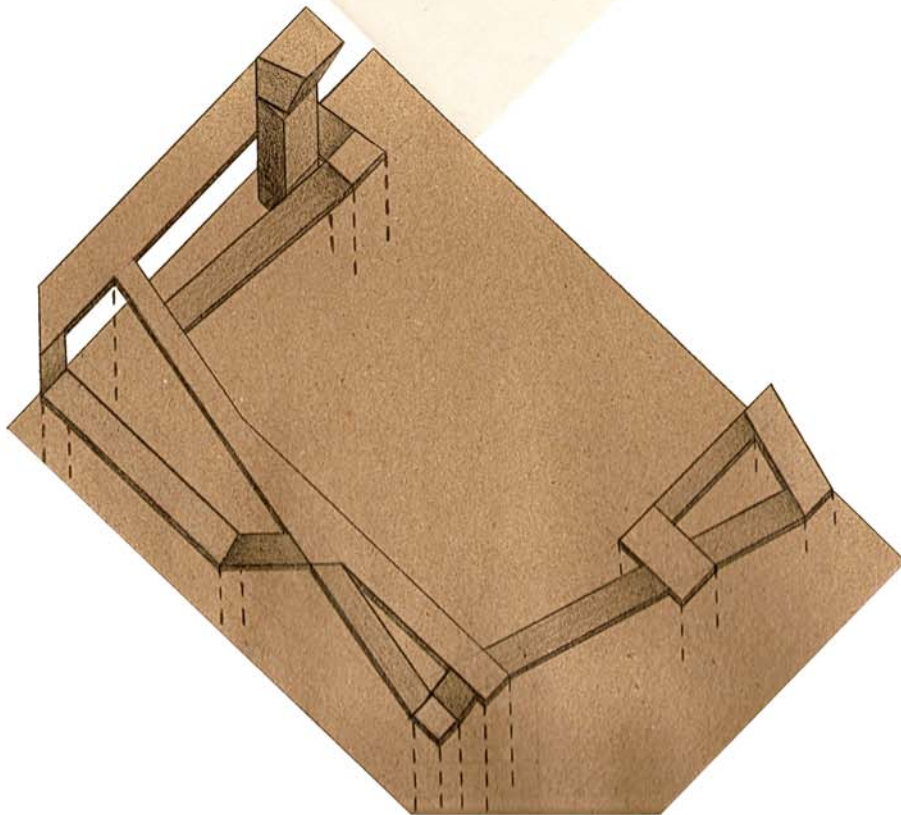
West Elevation Series #3

Another process in this schematic design phase was to draw either a section or an elevation and then make a model of another drawing off of that first one. Sections in general allow for a better understanding of how the exterior and interior elements of a building coexist. In order to fully grasp the building's potential, sections dictate the design as opposed to the floorplan.



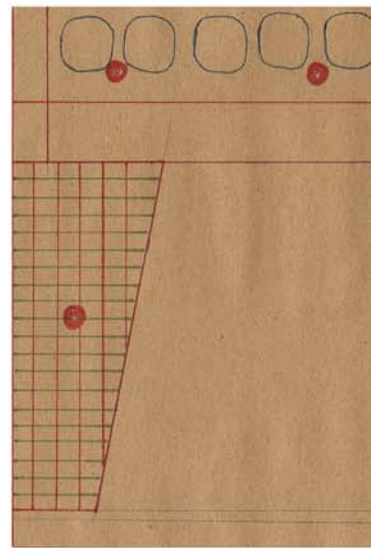
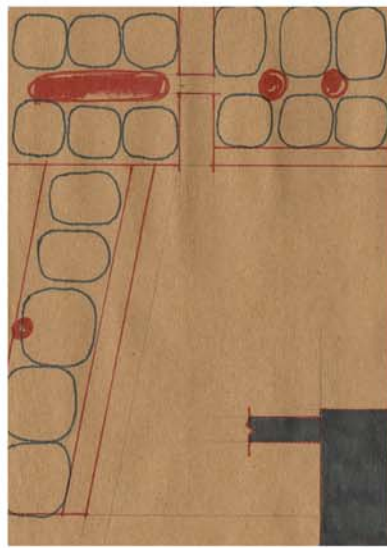
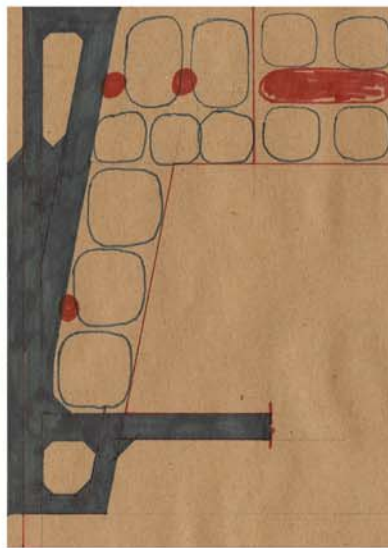
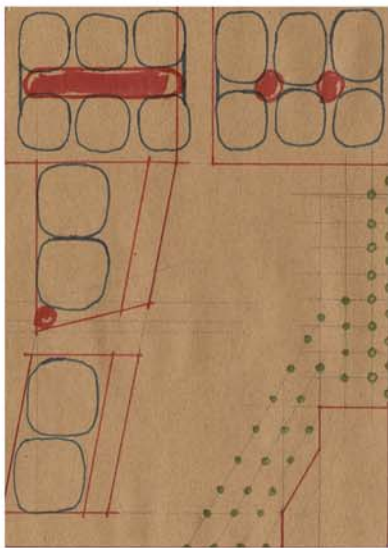


Isometric Garden Roof



Isometric Running Track

Preliminary unit layouts allowed for an analysis in the size of the original site and also the layouts made it possible to look at how this area center would be orchestrated.



# study models

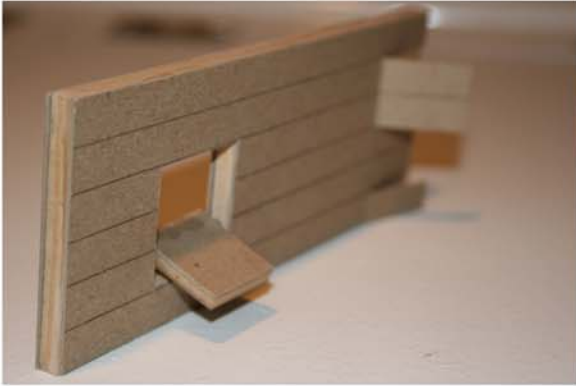
This section includes models from schematic design as well as working models from the first semester.





Running path w/ private garden





Movable Storefront

The models on this page all focus on one specific time of development.

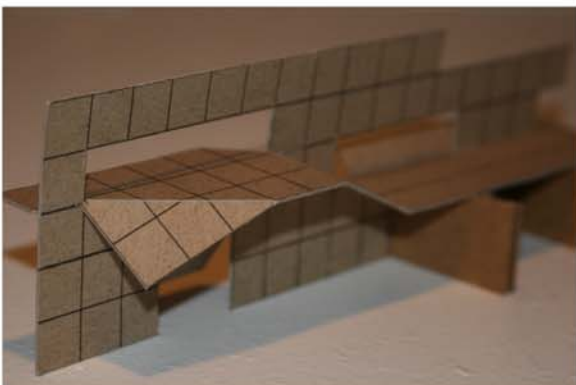
The first examines how the neighborhood could directly interact with a wall section.

The second model describes how a personal meeting place could exist from a retractable wall.

The third model plays with the development of the running track into a reformable accent that inhabits different areas depending on personal preference.

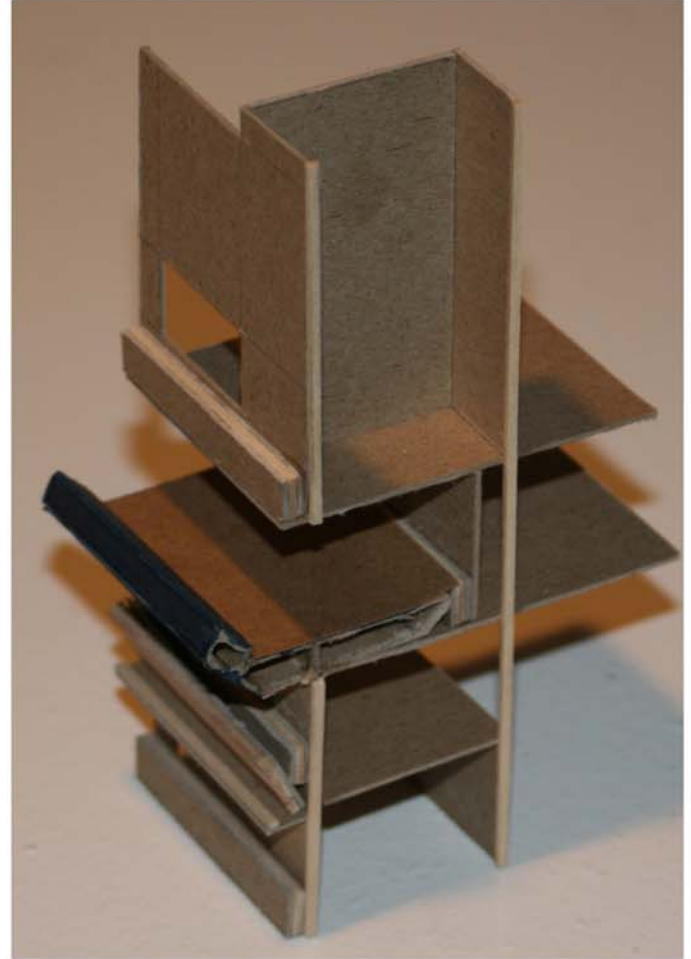
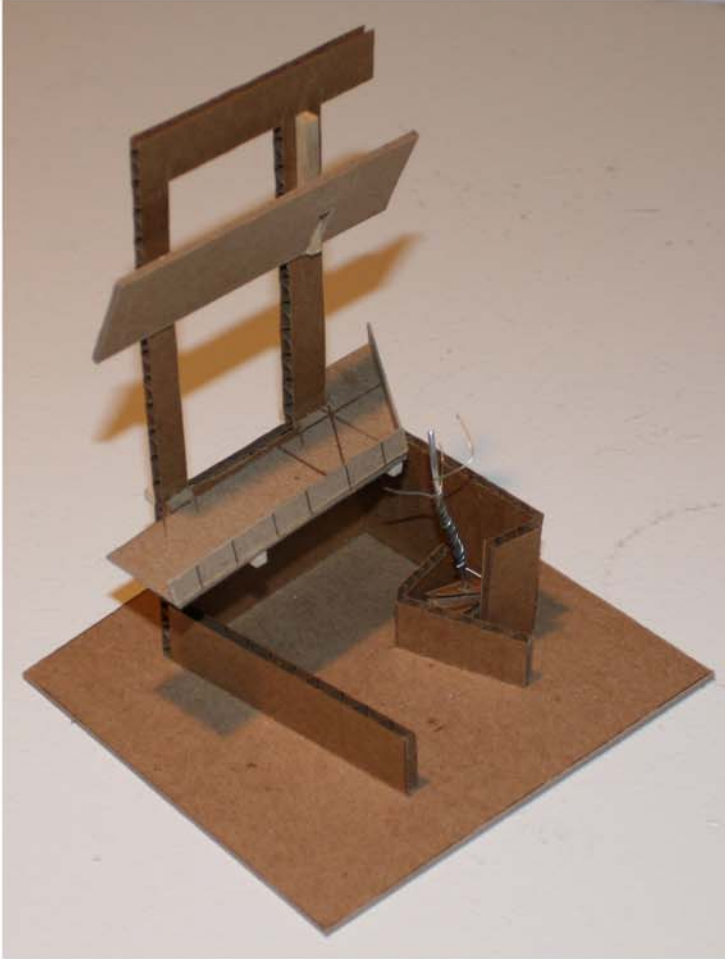


Preliminary Elevation



Rolling Trackway



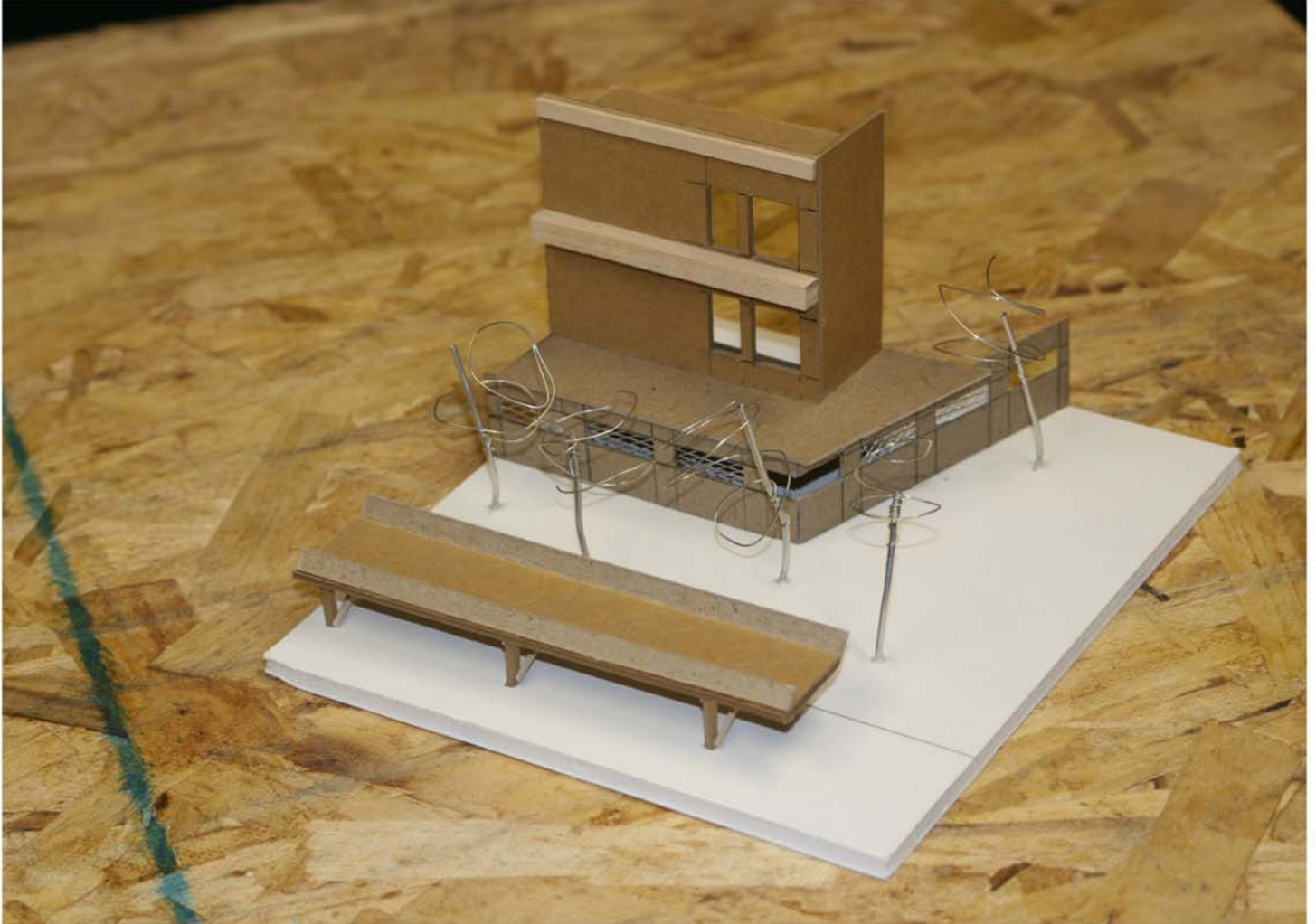


Wall Section 1 & 2

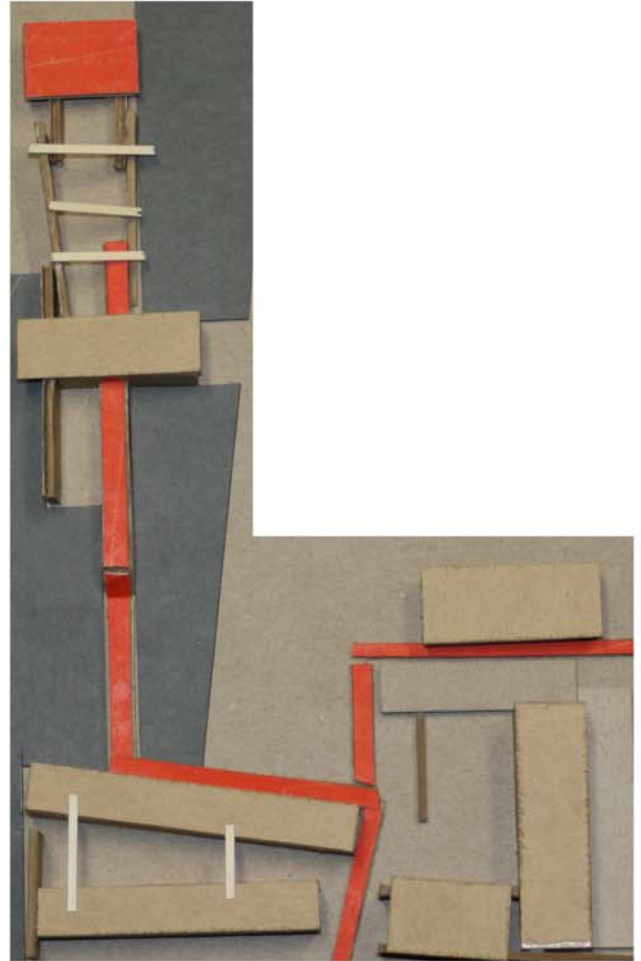
These models are versions of wall sections that help to show how the track and the unit's exterior wall are formed.



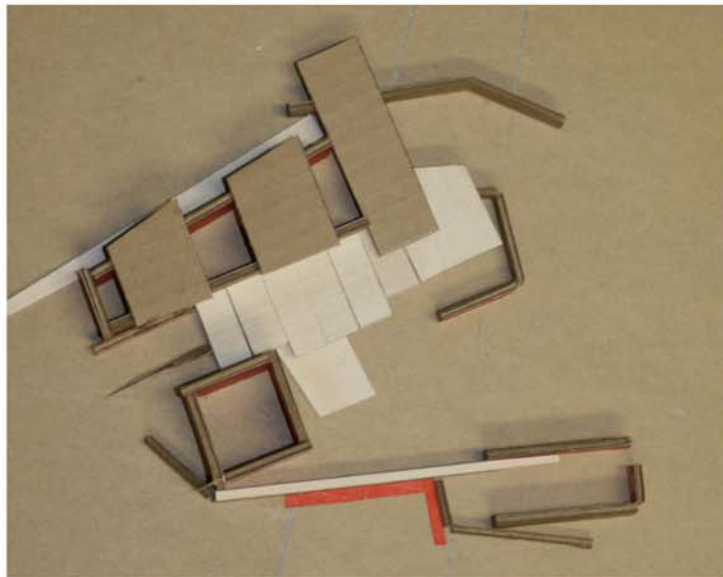
Example Elevation

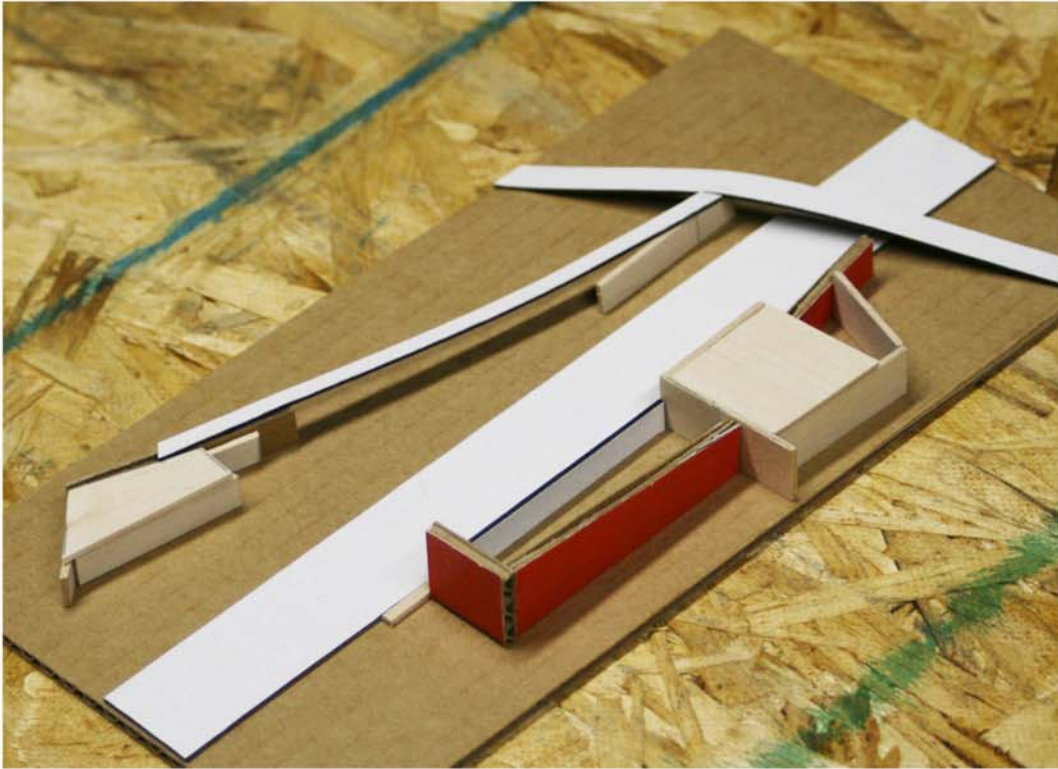


Example Elevation #2

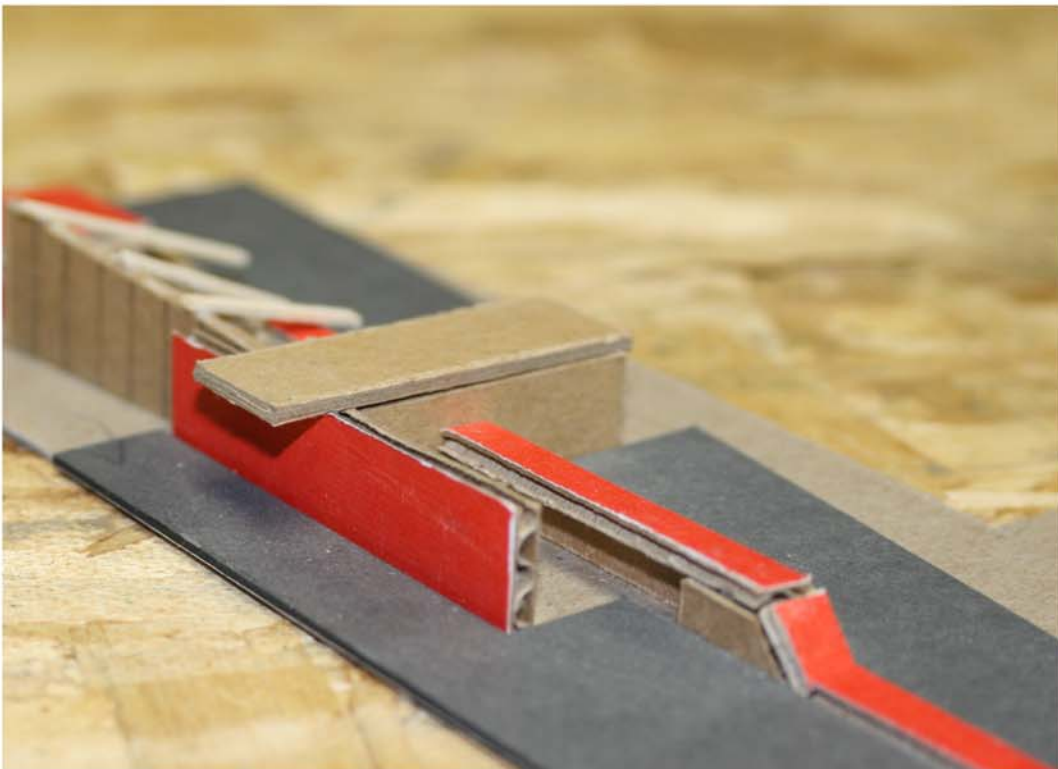


Different Layouts






Same models as previous in elevation



# project program





## Program Summary

This program will address points such as blending boundaries, wellness, and community interaction.

The program attempts to address problems found in the current housing conditions within the Near North Area such as lack of community involvement and an increased presence of psychological deterrents. The program will recognize both positive and negative boundaries and will explore the historic decisions that led to each.

The neighborhoods will be bound by a sustainable farm that will be scattered throughout the area. The unifying theme will be one of wellness. In addition to the farm, a wellness center will be centrally located. This will serve as a market as well as a fitness center.

The final concept in this design revolves around how people interact. Interaction can be thought of as a medium for communication, which is an important aspect when bridging the borders that up until this point are marked by a very distinct income and racist distinction. Therefore, the gathering space in this project will be more important than the living space.

## Action

With a focus on communal interaction, the open spaces will facilitate unpattereded play.

To create a strict pattern would limit the perceived activity and therefore limit the possible users. By creating an open area, free of form and function, the user is able to make a new activity or form the space to their own guidelines.

“ No place exists in a void and all places are inextricably a part of the relation of all sites.” - Foucault, Michel





## Urban Agriculture

Growing - This is a twofold concept that relates to both the act of providing fresh food and the act of developing the community.

Horticulture has been proven to reduce stress and urban farms, in general, have been found to provide the freshest produce that many poor inner cities will ever see. Although the Near North Area is becoming more affluent, combining these attributes will lead to a community that can acquire new production methods and benefit from healthier foods.

The new community gardens and farms will educate all ages and compel the community to interact with each other in a new way. This act of “growing” reduces demeaning stereotypes as it places everybody participating on the same level, and by providing for the community, the participants will feel a sense of pride in contributing.



## Space Detail Summary - Studio 700 square feet

Bedroom 200 square feet

Bathroom 100 square feet

Kitchen 100 square feet

Den/Dining Room 200 square feet

Laundry Room/Foyer/Storage 100 square feet



## Space Detail Summary - Studio w/Balcony 700 square feet

Bedroom 200 square feet

Bathroom 100 square feet

Kitchen 100 square feet

Den/Dining Room 200 square feet

Laundry Room/Foyer/Storage 100 square feet

Balcony 60 square feet



## Space Detail Summary - 1 Bedroom 1 & 1/2 Bathroom 975 square feet

Master Bedroom 200 square feet

Master Bathroom 100 square feet

1/2 Bathroom 50 square feet

Kitchen 150 square feet

Den/Dining Room 275 square feet

Laundry Room/Foyer/Storage 150 square feet



## Space Detail Summary ~ 1 Bedroom 1 & 1/2 Bathroom w/Balcony 975 square feet

Master Bedroom 200 square feet

Master Bathroom 100 square feet

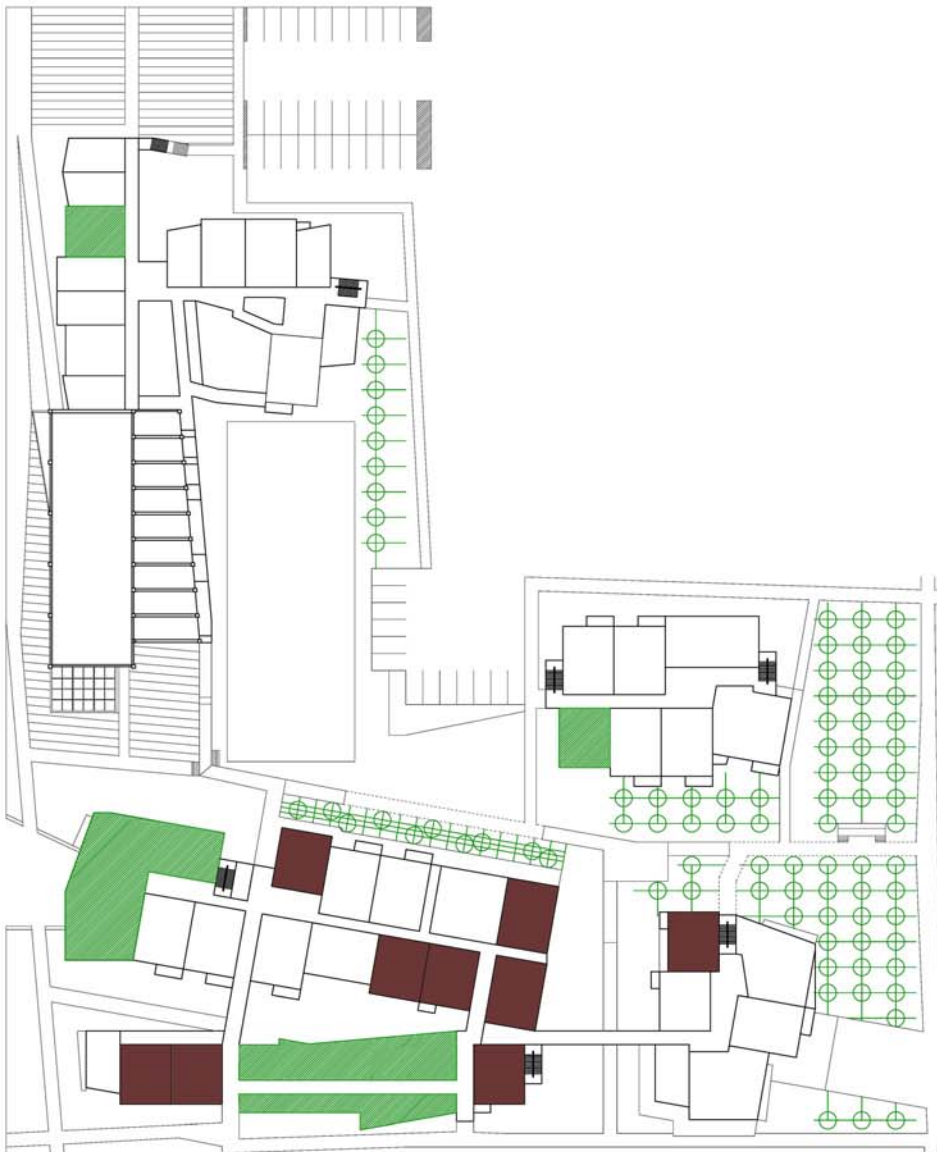
1/2 Bathroom 50 square feet

Kitchen 150 square feet

Den/Dining Room 275 square feet

Laundry Room/Foyer/Storage 150 square feet

Balcony 60 square feet



## Space Detail Summary - 2 Bedroom 1 & 1/2 Bathroom 1,200 square feet

Master Bedroom 200 square feet

Bedroom 2 150 square feet

Bathroom 1 100 square feet

1/2 Bathroom 50 square feet

Kitchen 200 square feet

Den/Dining Room 300 square feet

Laundry Room/Foyer/Storage 150 square feet



## Space Detail Summary - 2 Bedroom 1 & 1/2 Bathroom w/Balcony 1,200 square feet

Master Bedroom 200 square feet

Bedroom 2 150 square feet

Bathroom 1 100 square feet

1/2 Bathroom 50 square feet

Kitchen 200 square feet

Den/Dining Room 300 square feet

Laundry Room/Foyer/Storage 150 square feet

Balcony 60 square feet



## Space Detail Summary ~ 2 Bedroom 2 Bathroom 1,500 square feet

Master Bedroom 275 square feet

Master Bathroom 100 square feet

Bedroom 2 200 square feet

Bathroom 2 75 square feet

Kitchen 200 square feet

Den/Dining Room 350 square feet

Laundry Room/Foyer/Storage 200 square feet





## Space Detail Summary ~ 2 Bedroom 2 Bathroom w/Balcony 1,500 square feet

Master Bedroom 275 square feet

Master Bathroom 100 square feet

Bedroom 2 200 square feet

Bathroom 2 75 square feet

Kitchen 200 square feet

Den/Dining Room 350 square feet

Laundry Room/Foyer/Storage 200 square feet

Balcony 60 square feet



## Space Detail Summary ~ 3 Bedroom 2 Bathroom 1,700 square feet

Master Bedroom 275 square feet

Master Bathroom 125 square feet

Bedroom 2 200 square feet

Guest Bedroom 175 square feet

Bathroom 2 100 square feet

Kitchen 200 square feet

Den/Dining Room 400 square feet

Laundry Room/Foyer 200 square feet



## Space Detail Summary ~ 3 Bedroom 2 Bathroom w/Balcony 1,700 square feet

Master Bedroom 275 square feet

Master Bathroom 125 square feet

Bedroom 2 200 square feet

Guest Bedroom 175 square feet

Bathroom 2 100 square feet

Kitchen 200 square feet

Den/Dining Room 400 square feet

Laundry Room/Foyer/Storage 200 square feet

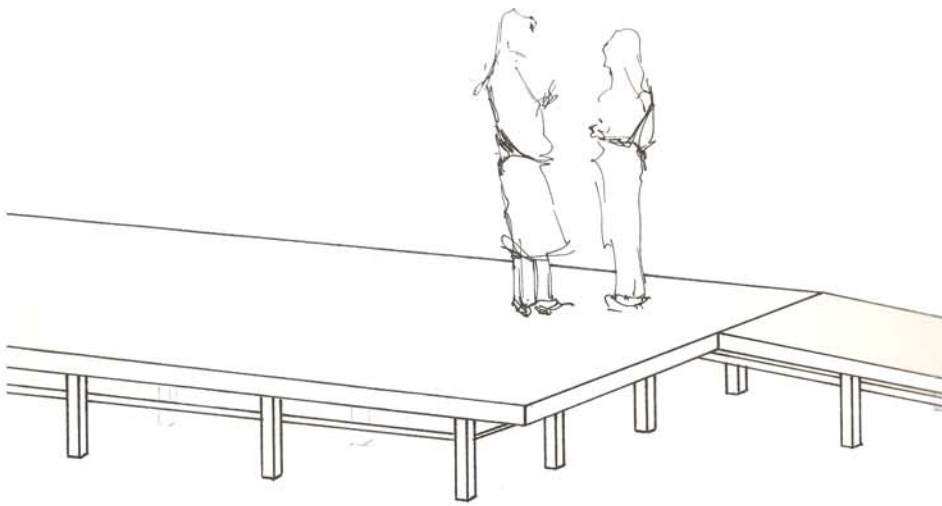
Balcony 60 square feet

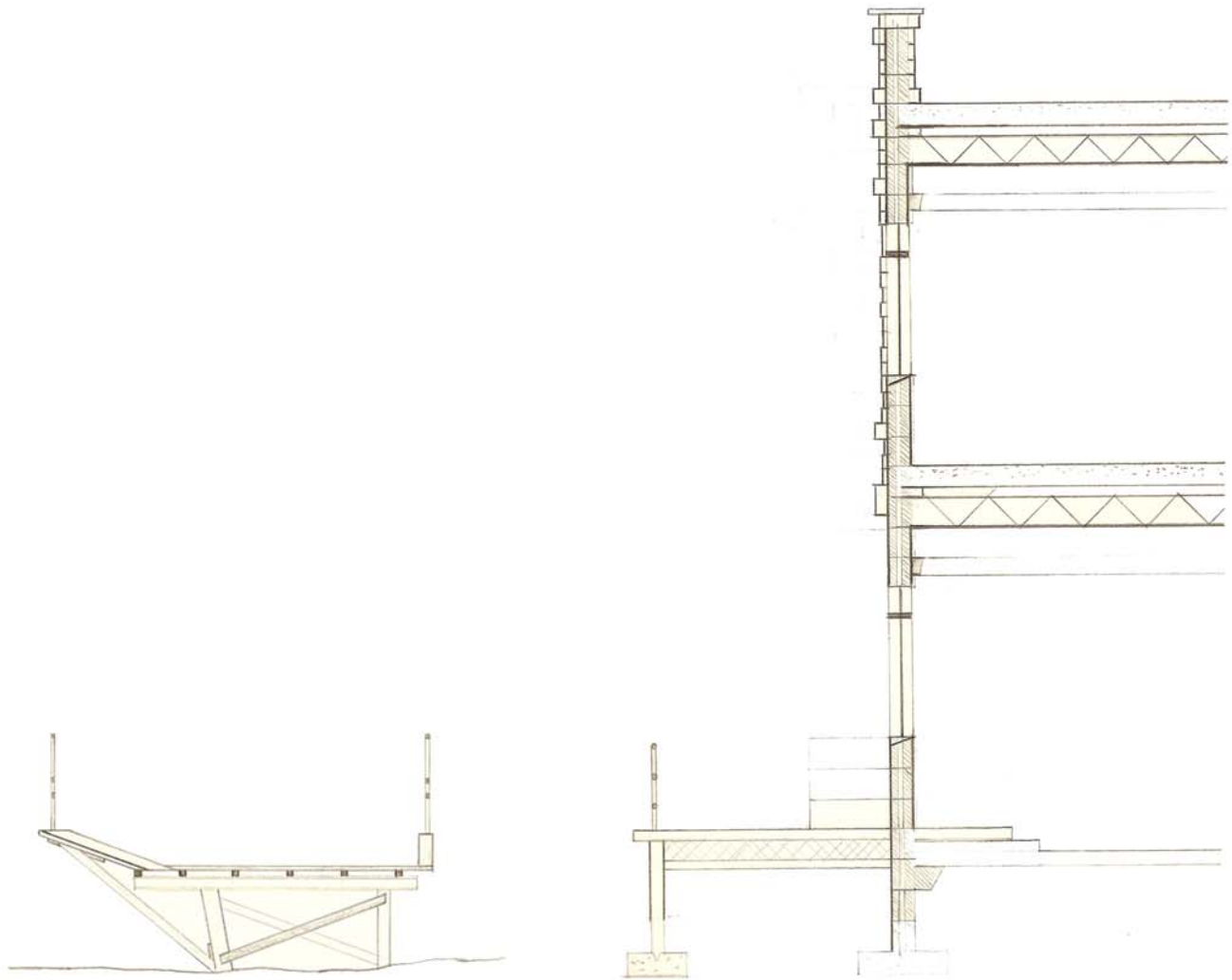


# final production

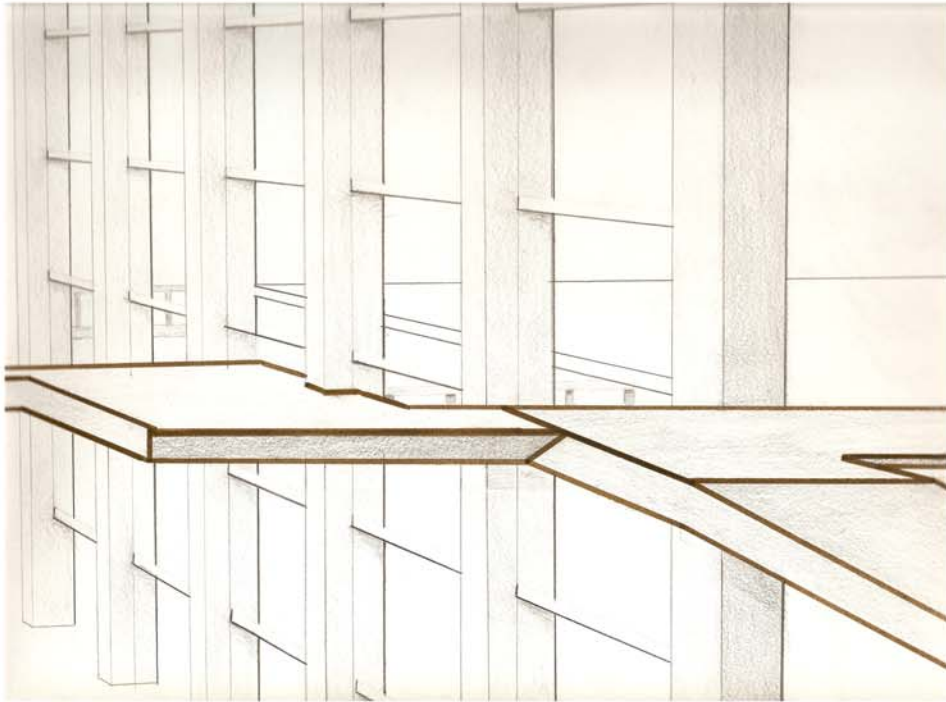
The first six pages deal with hand drawn moment sketches. These sketches deal with the daily activities that go on throughout the site. These sketches are to allow the reader to better understand specific areas of the project.

The second section deals with the final drawings and presentation.

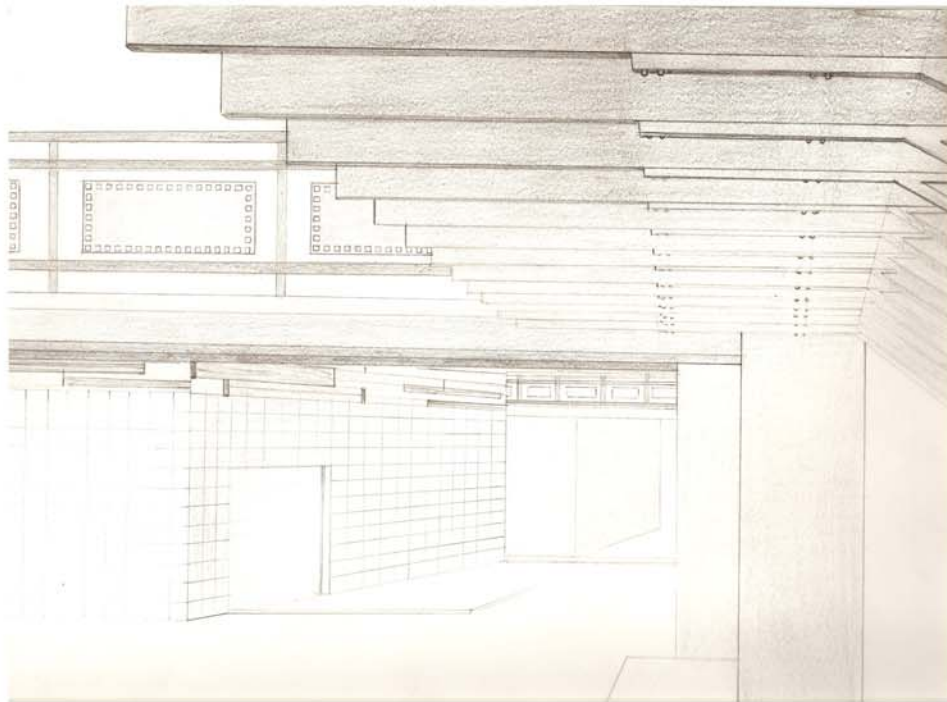




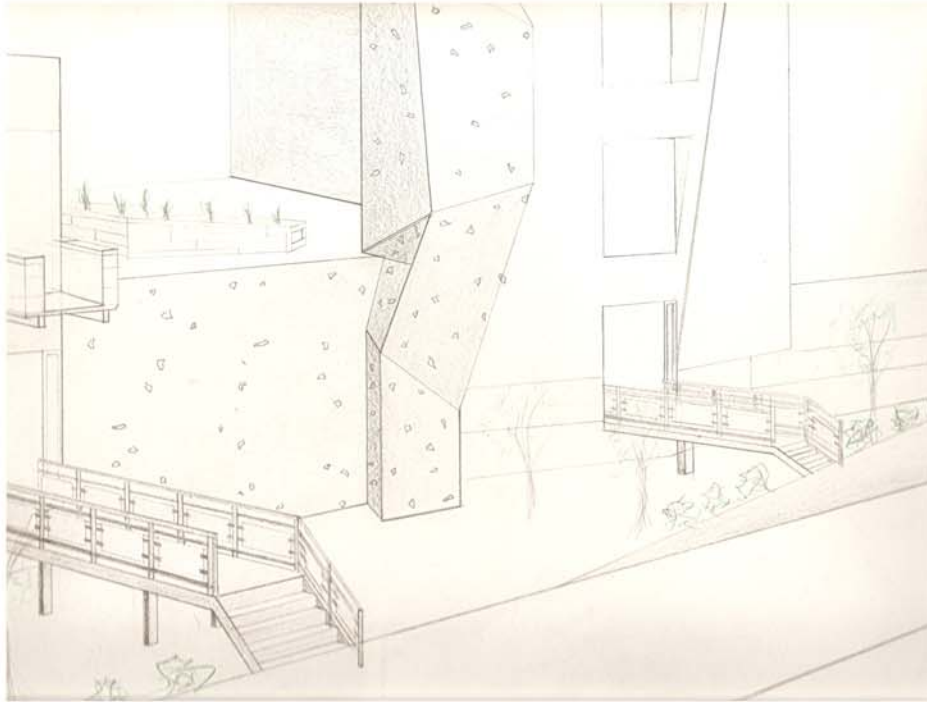
Wall Section & Walkway w/ Tree Picking Stand



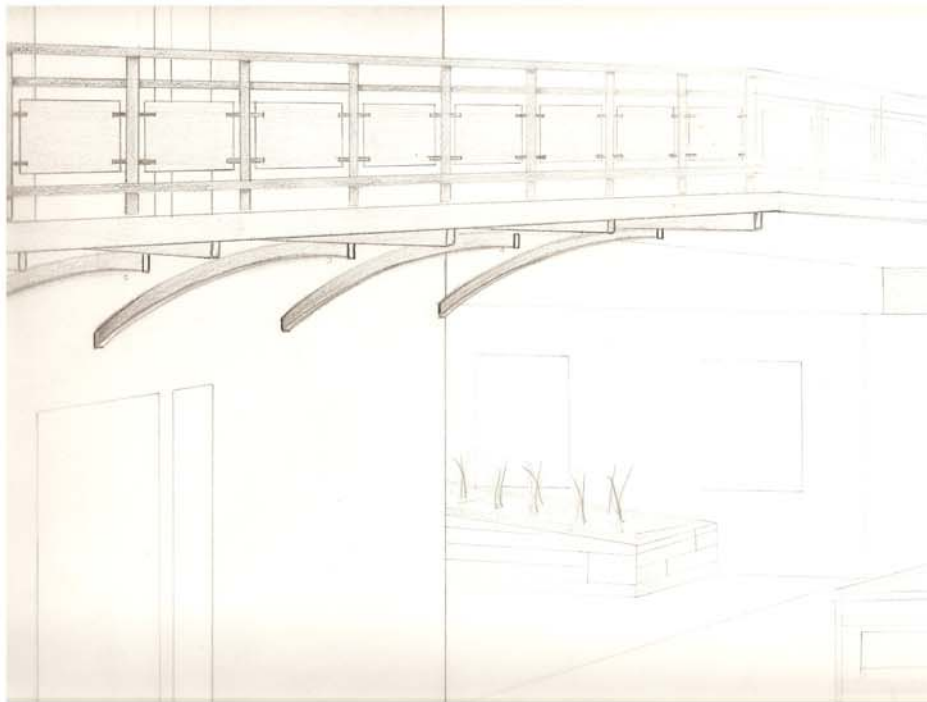
Running Track Meets Fitness Center



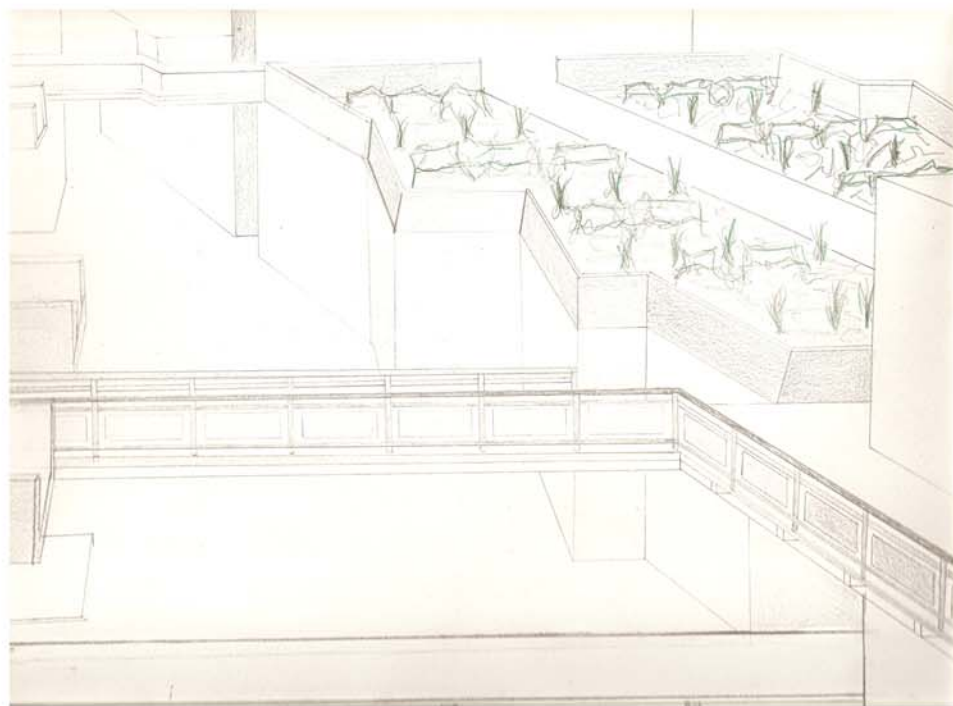
Underside of Bridge



Rock Climbing Wall & Private Garden



Underside of Bridge #2

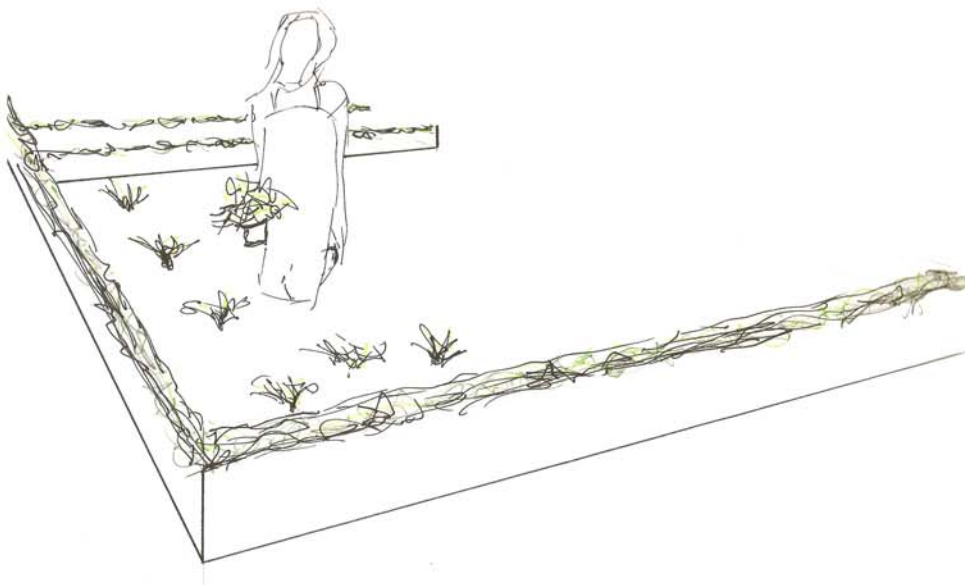


Community Rooftop Garden

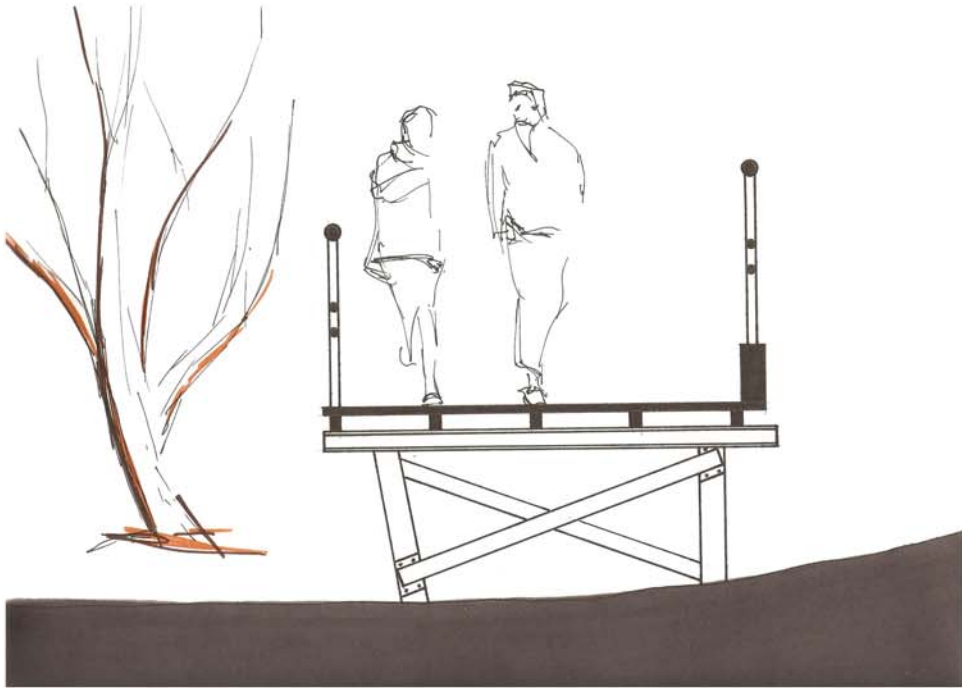




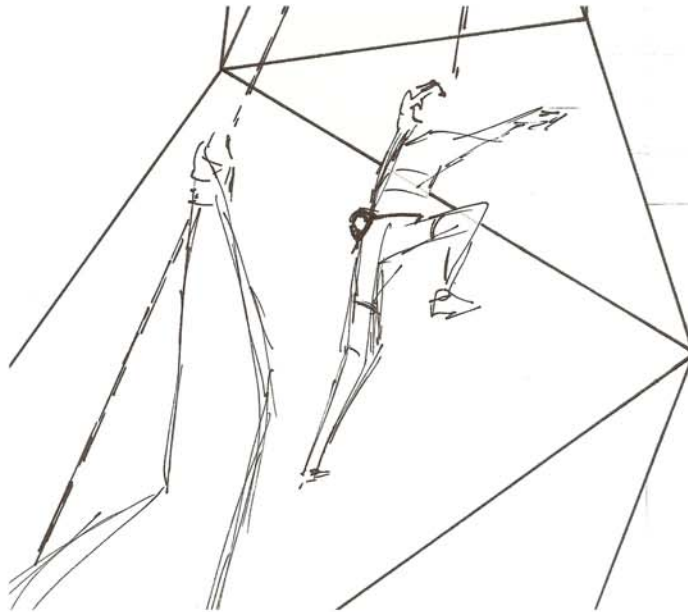
Recreational Field



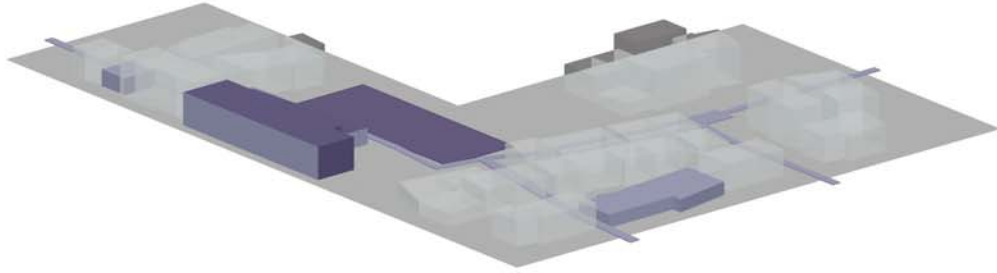
Community Gardening



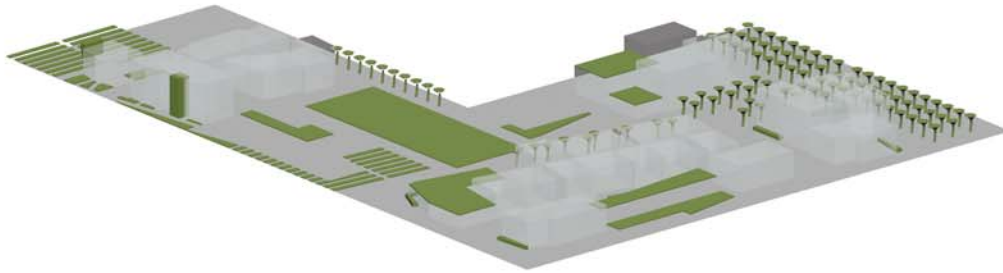
Running Track



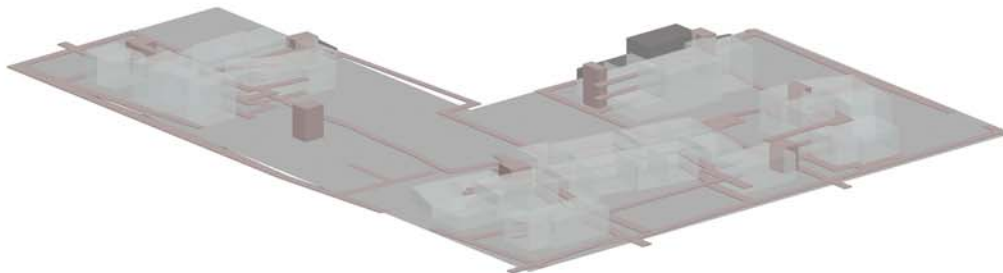
Rock Climbing Wall



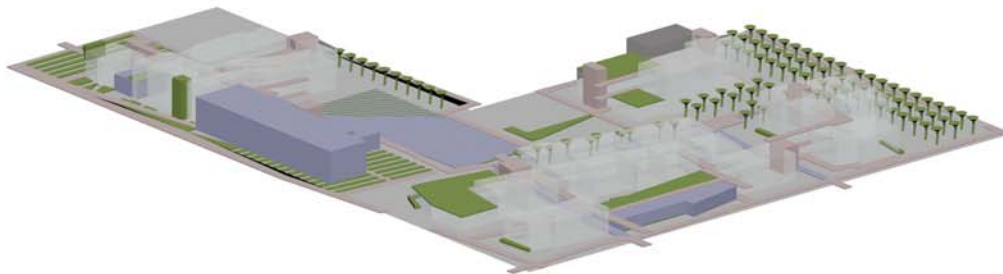
Recreational



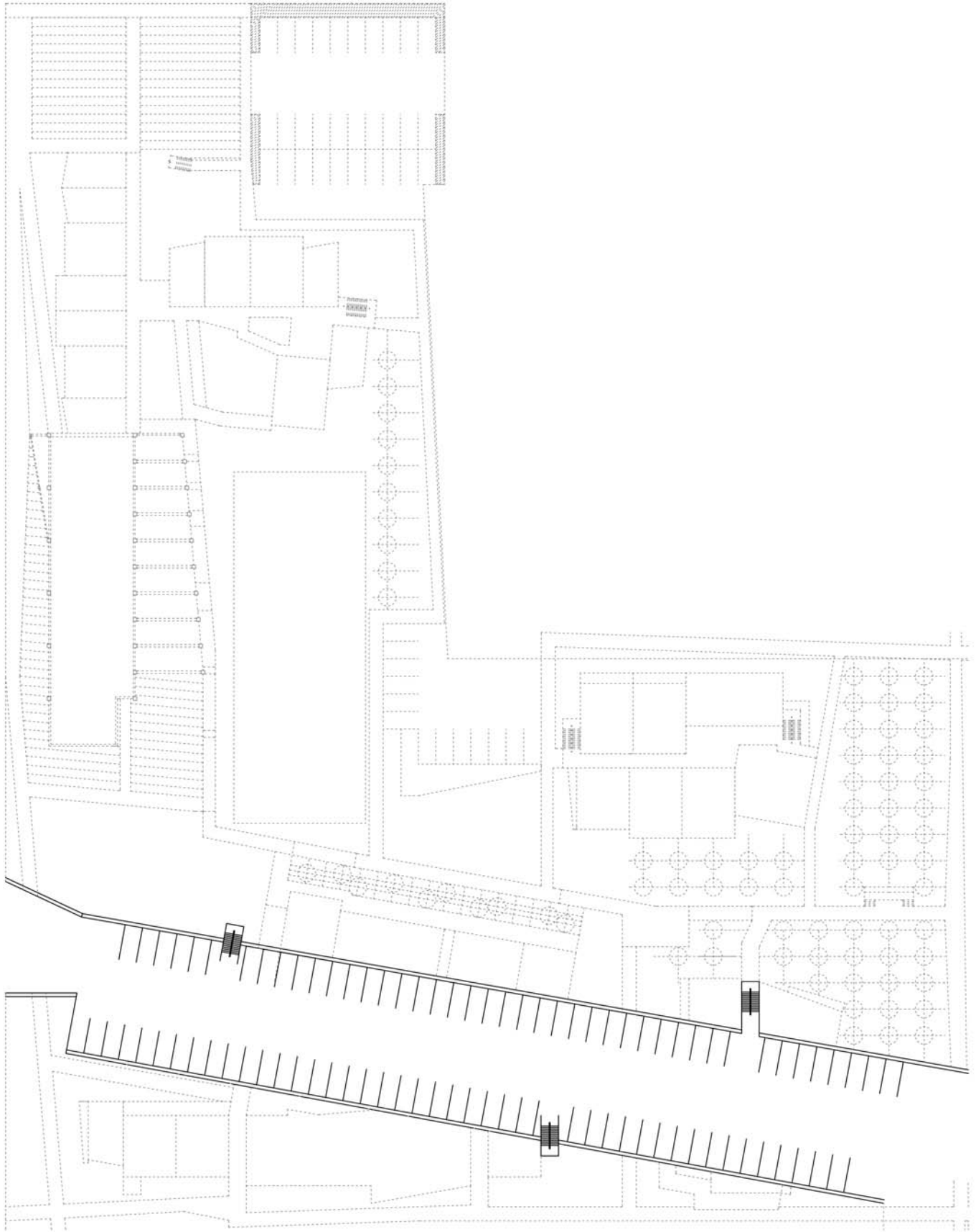
Farming and Gardening



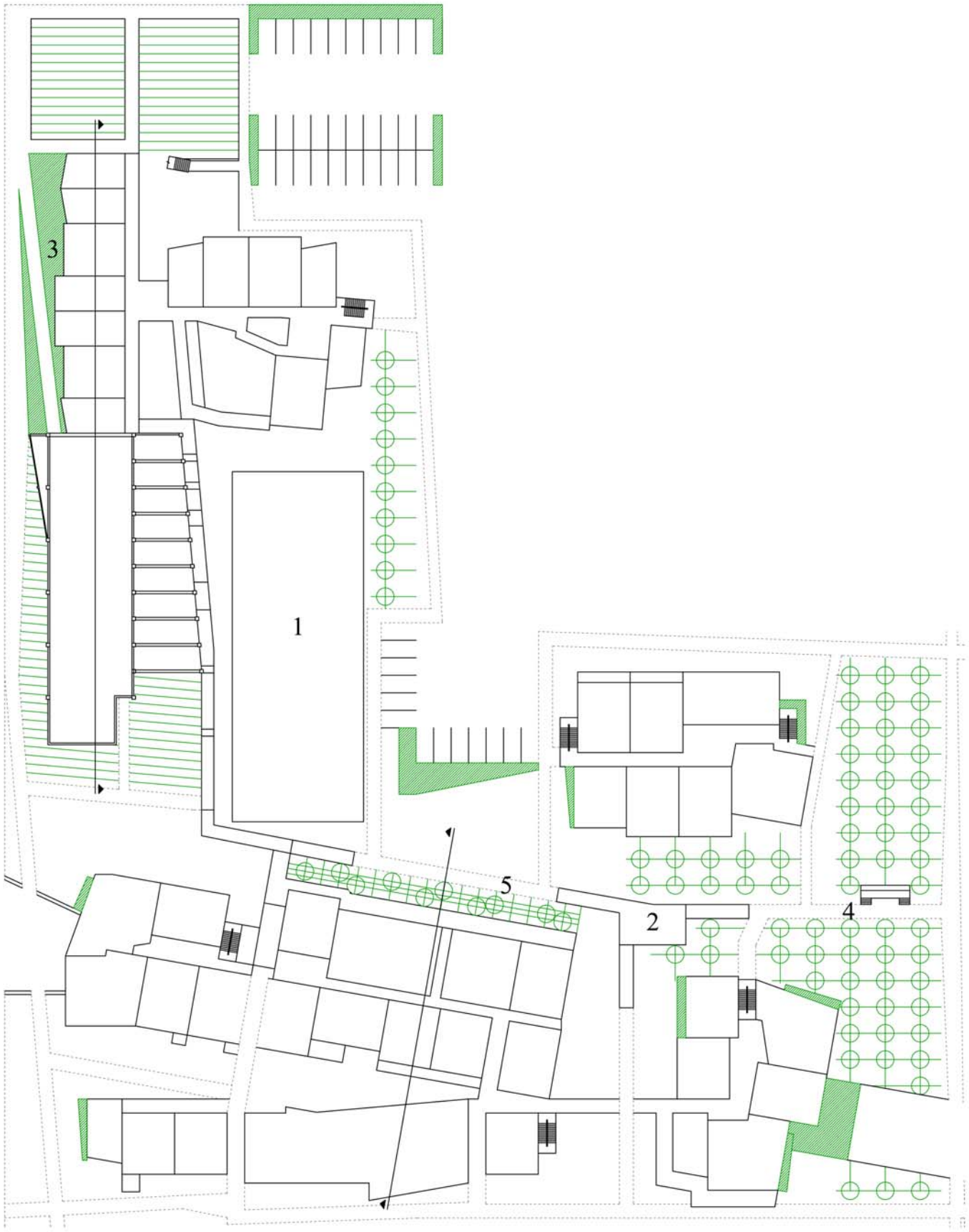
Horizontal and Vertical Circulation



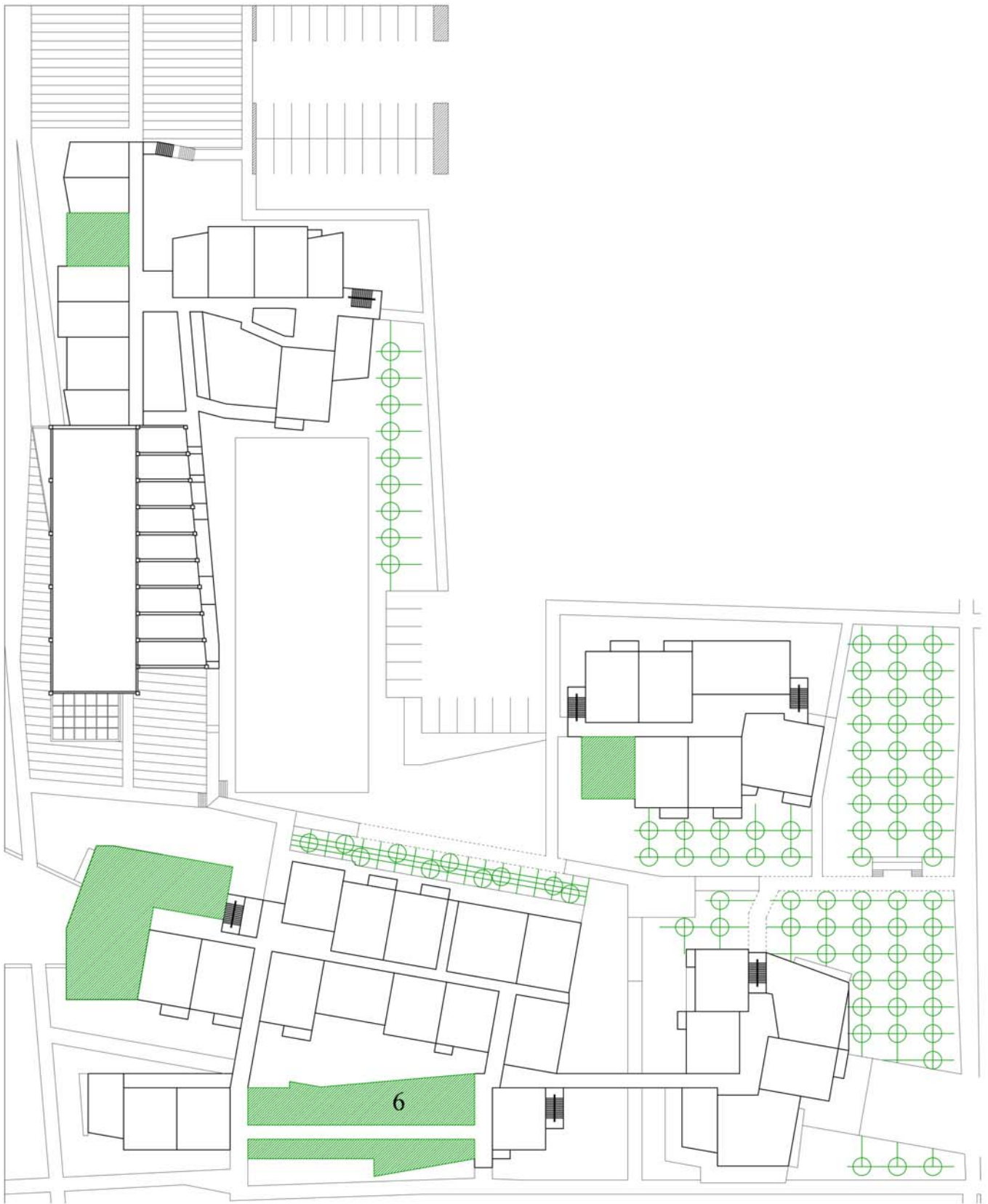
Combined



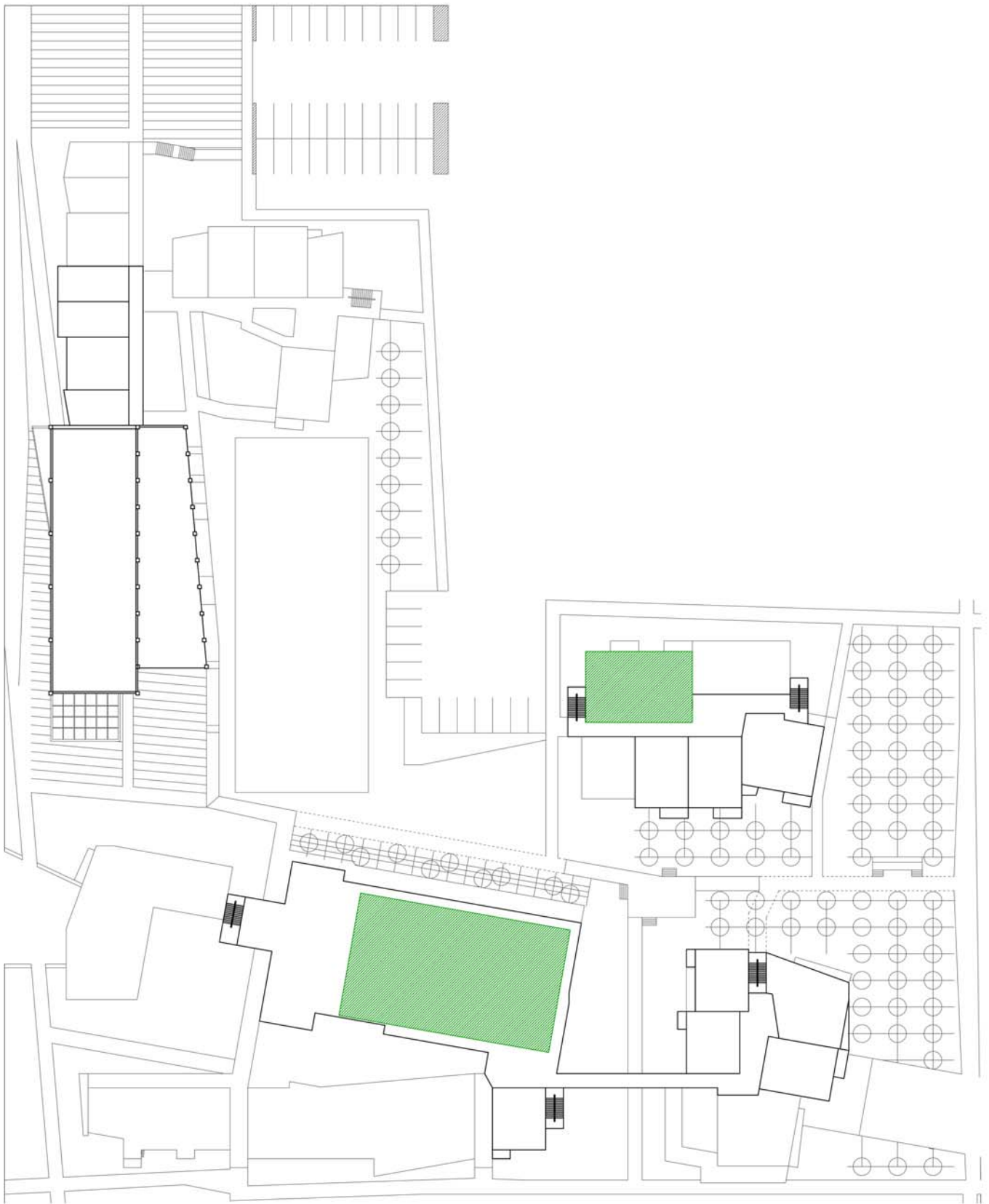
Parking Level



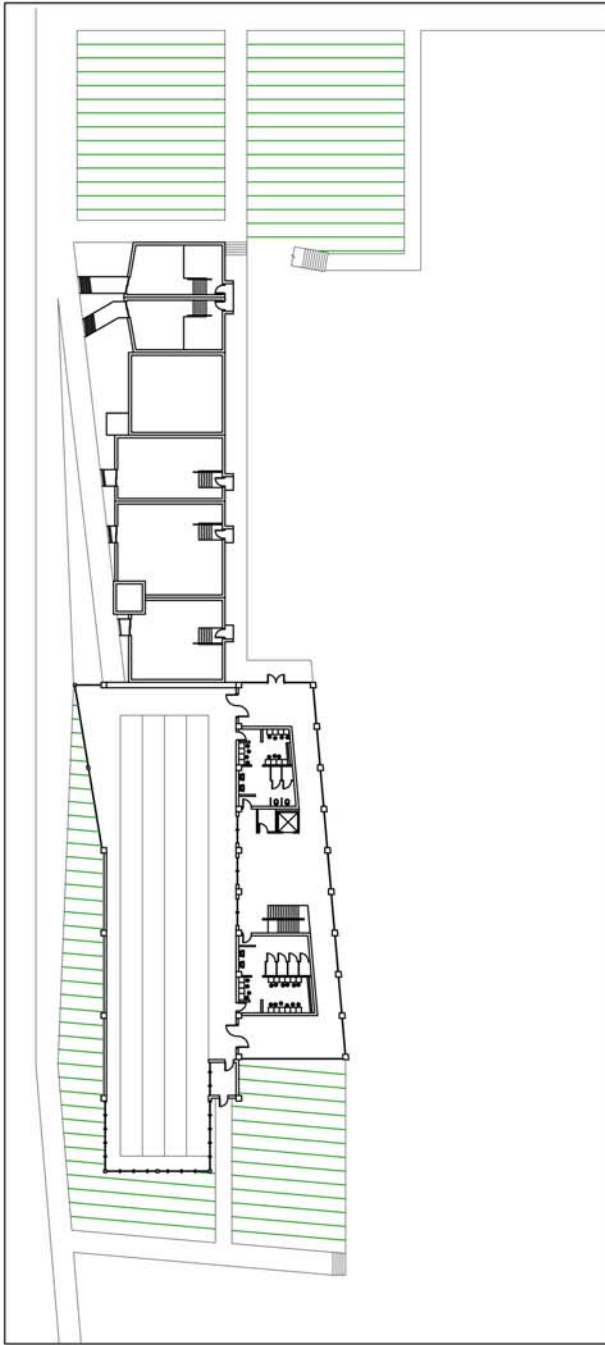
Grade Level



Second Level

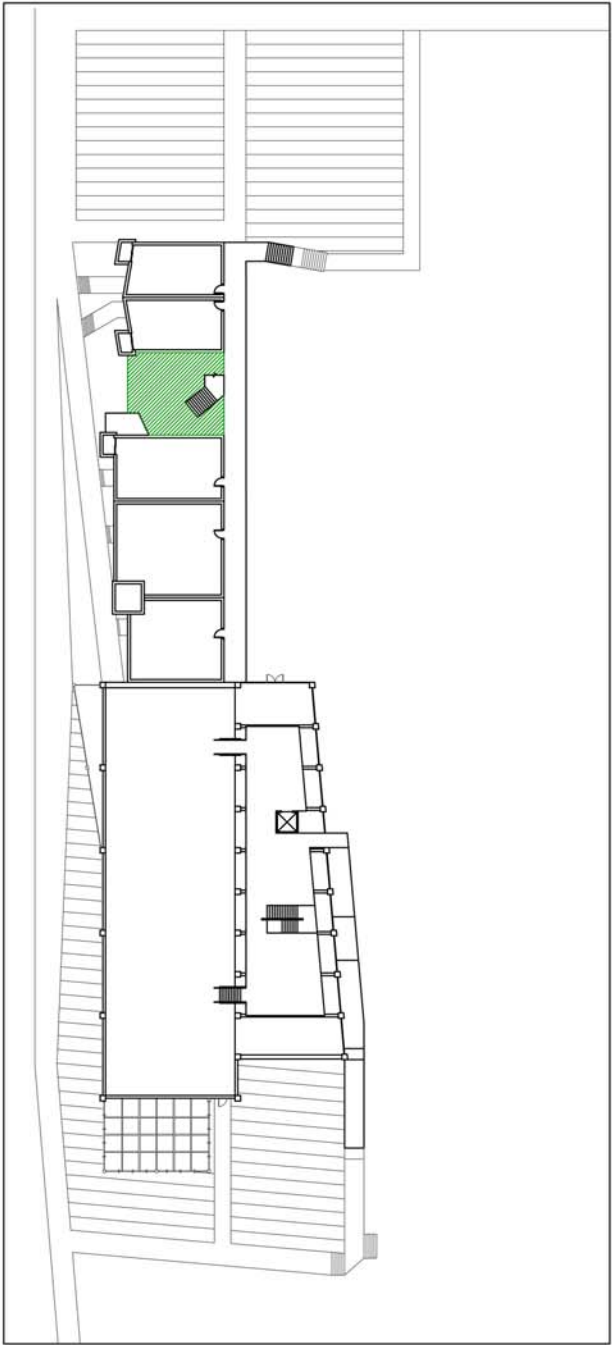


Third Level

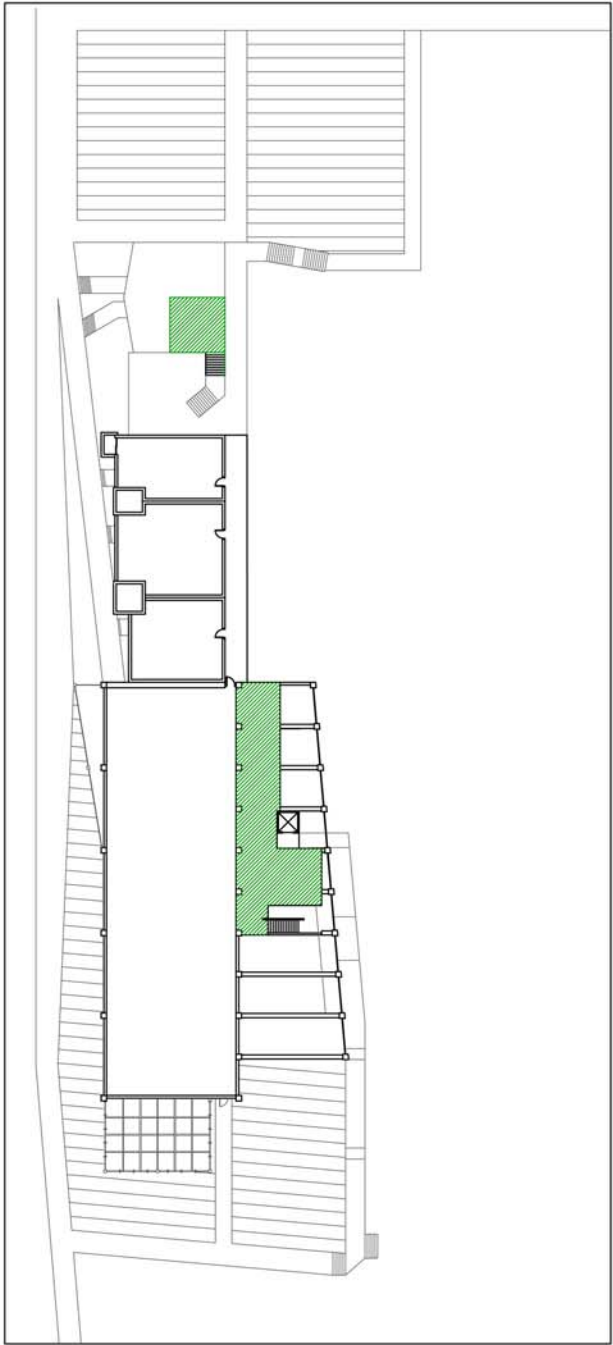


Grade Level Zoom #1

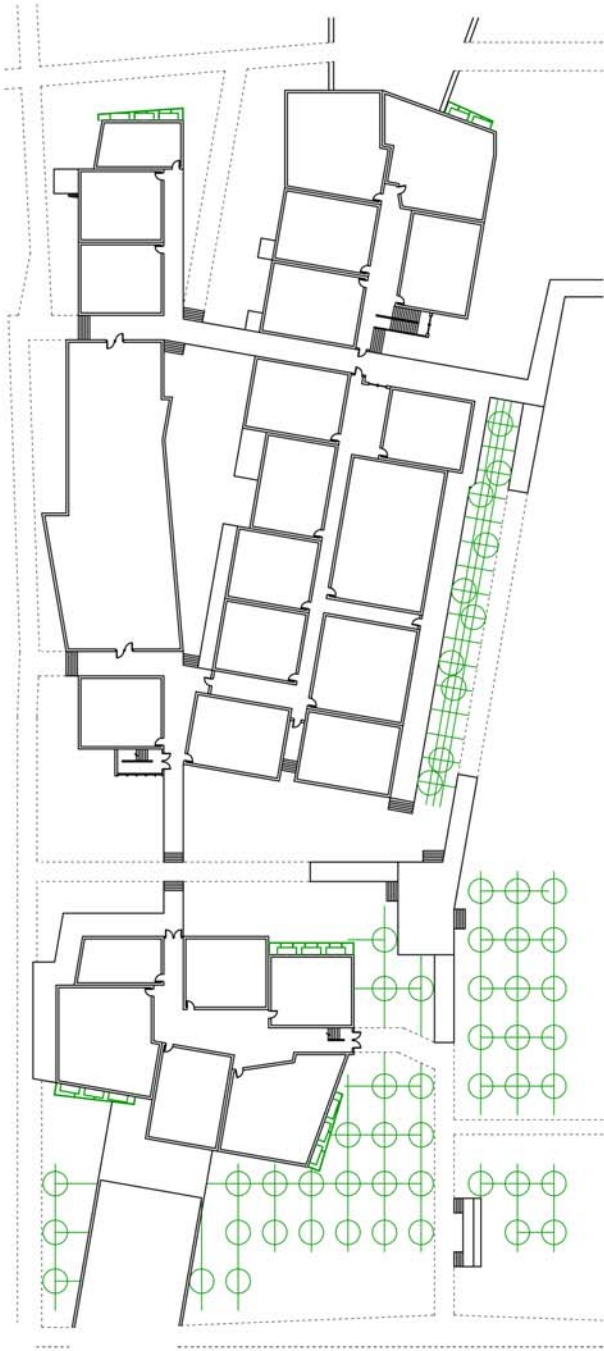




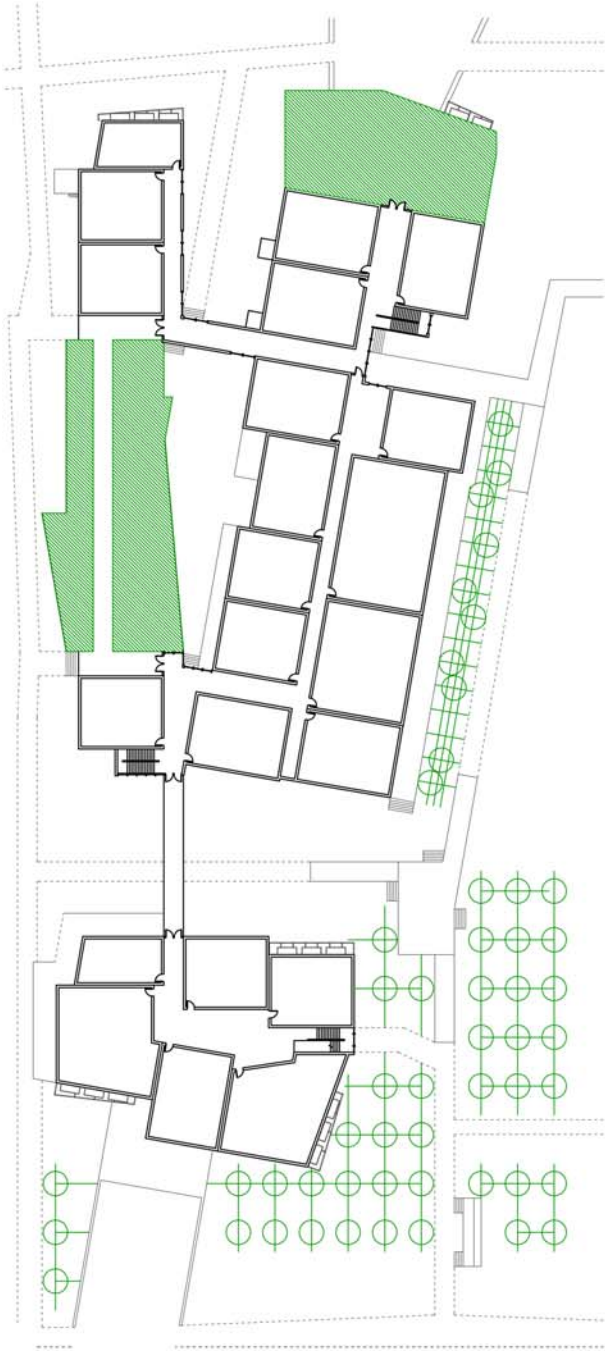
Second Level Zoom #1



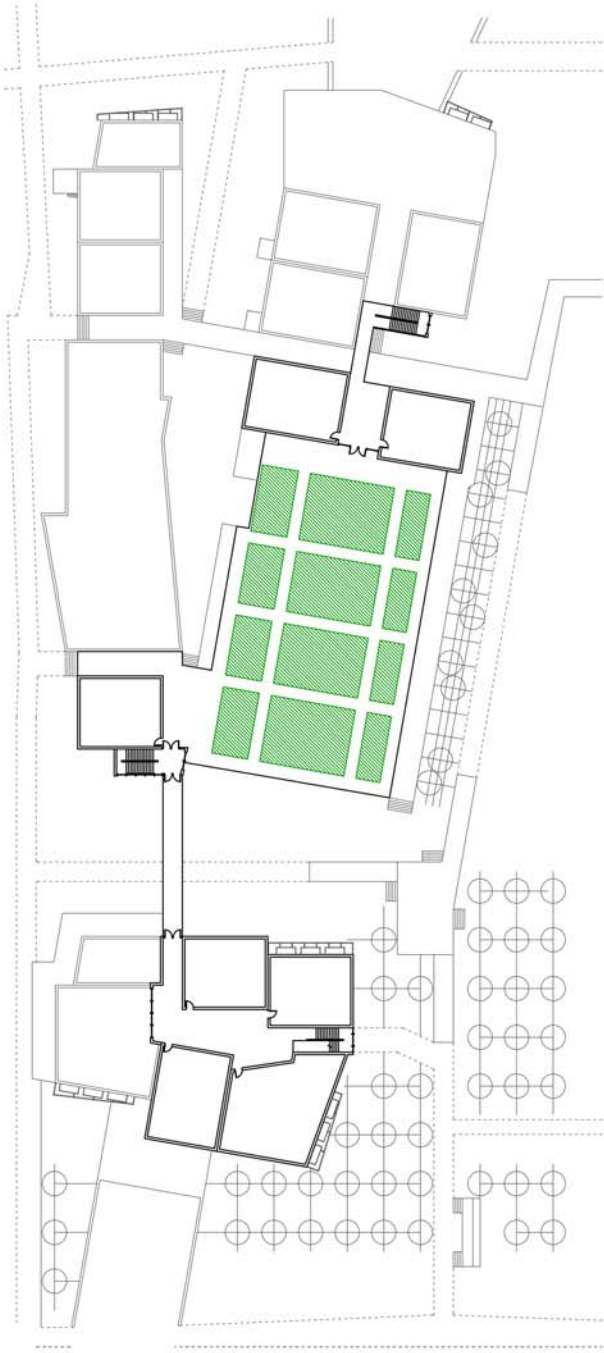
Third Level Zoom #1



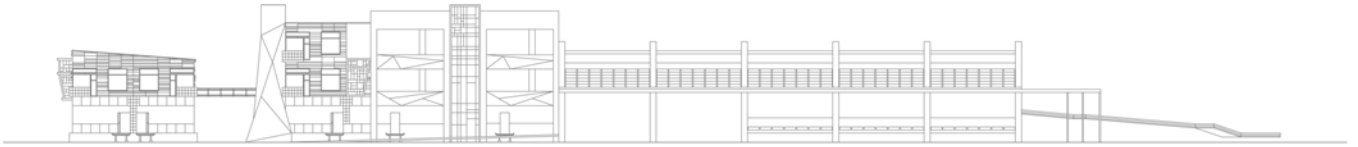
Grade Level Zoom #2



Second Level Zoom #2



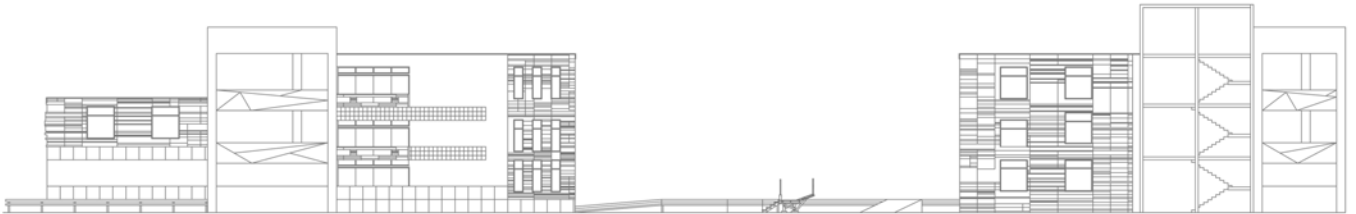
Third Level Zoom #2



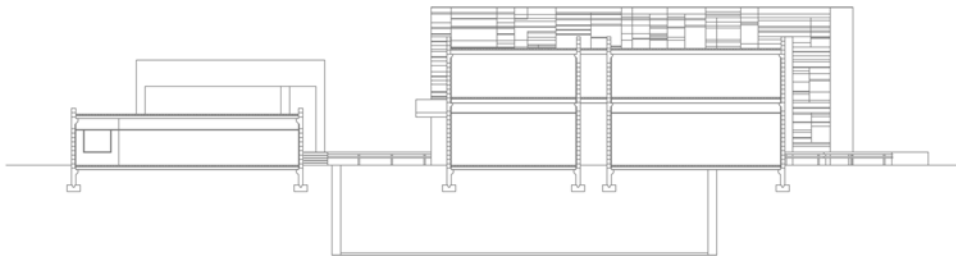
Elevation #1



Section #1



Elevation #2



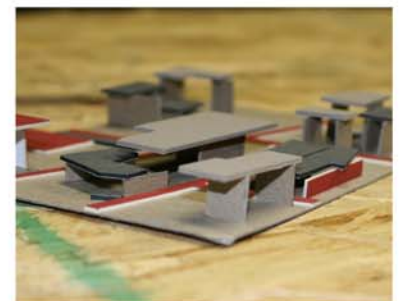
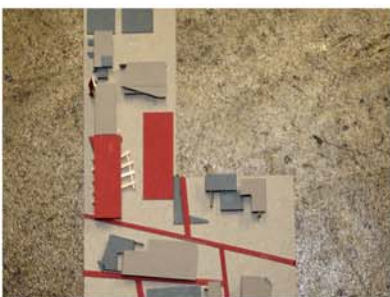
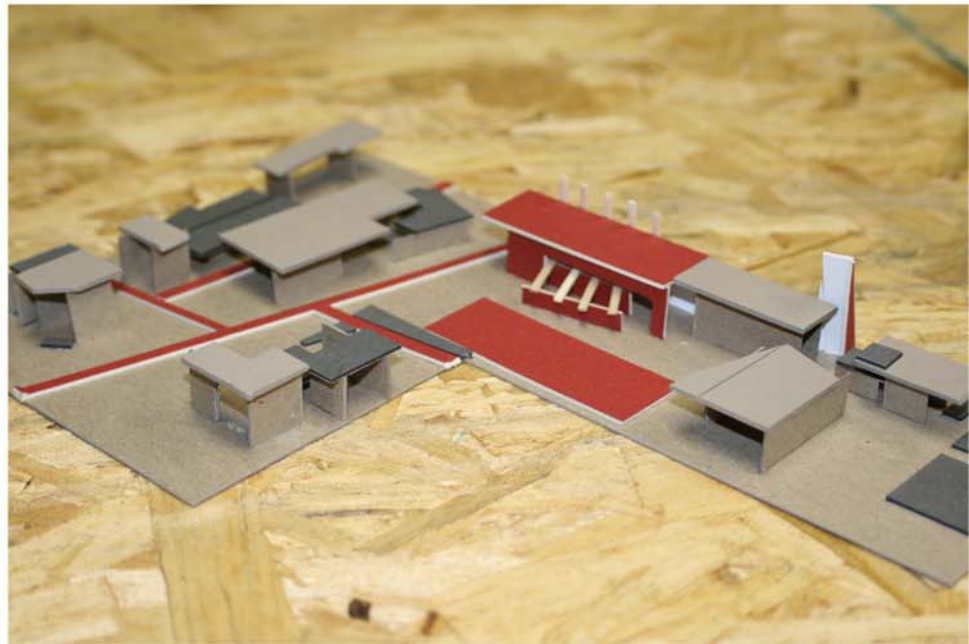
Section #2

This was the final massing model done for the thesis presentation.

At such a small scale a massing model was appropriate to describe how certain elements merged with others. The red is symbolic of fitness oriented areas, the charcoal with farming and gardening, and the dark tan with residential units.

This final design layout accommodated for a wide variety of uses. The inclusion of a full sized soccer field and five lanes of an Olympic sized swimming pool are just to name a few. Also a fifty-five foot rock climbing wall and bouldering room exist on the north side of the campus.

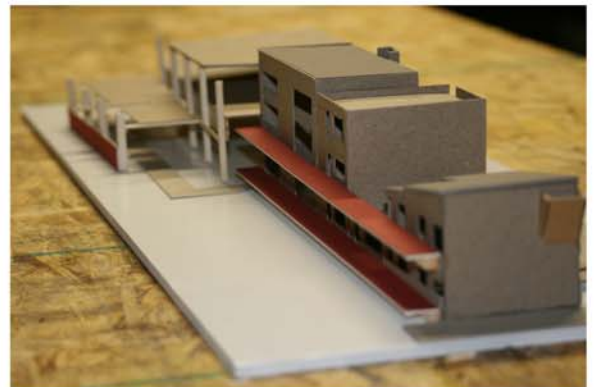
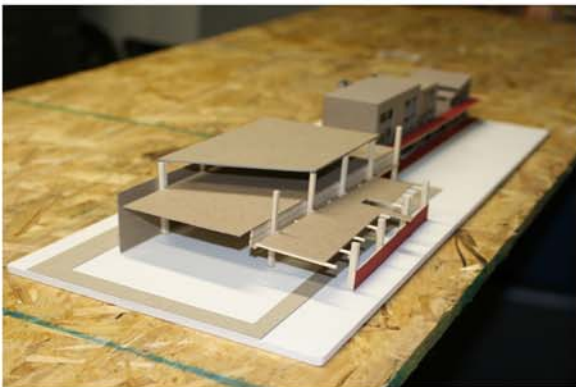
The look of the campus was broken up between the fitness oriented developments and the residential units. The fitness aspect had a much looser feel to it with exposed beams, open floor plans and glass curtain walls.





The final model failed to express the same simplicity as the previous, however, the massing became more apparent in this version. However, the open planned structure of the fitness center is still prevalent.

The red again becomes the track and fitness, while the residential and green areas become meshed with the dark tan chipboard.





Space is not only defined by the walls, floors, and ceilings that make up a building, but it is also a derivative of the connections that these materials make.

In order to fully understand space, designers must understand how materials and structures work together to form space, and what impact these decisions make on our experiential understanding of space. Designers must also realize what emotional responses people have with these spaces.

It is without regard that the public responds to certain architectural elements, only to think of them as one entity—the physical presence of a building — and not subscribing to this memory response. In order to alleviate this mentality, designers must constantly question and focus on innovative material uses as well as how these choices will affect the built environment.

Architecture does not stop at the exterior elements of a building. Communal spaces must also be addressed to create places that are as important as the interior. The act of bridging and connecting with other areas becomes very important. A stance must be chosen favoring or disfavoring aspects of other designs. Ignorance is not an option when fully interpreting the site.



Master's year is not to be taken lightly. While classes become more time consuming and difficult, studio teachers become much more stringent on deadlines and production. Some will produce and some will design. Do not let yourself get completely caught up in the prevalent situation or you will worry yourself sick. Work hard and learn as much as you can because it will be over just as it seems to start.

I made a large mistake thinking I could accomplish everything I had set out for myself. It is not the end of the world if you fail at that, but you find yourself wondering what could have been. Do not set unreasonable goals.



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