

GRADUATE STUDY PORTFOLIO

KEITH PODALAK

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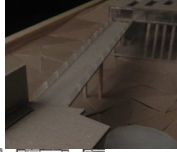
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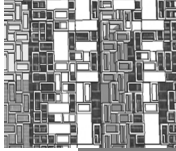
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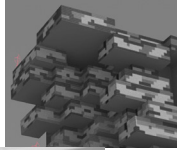
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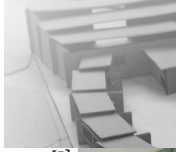
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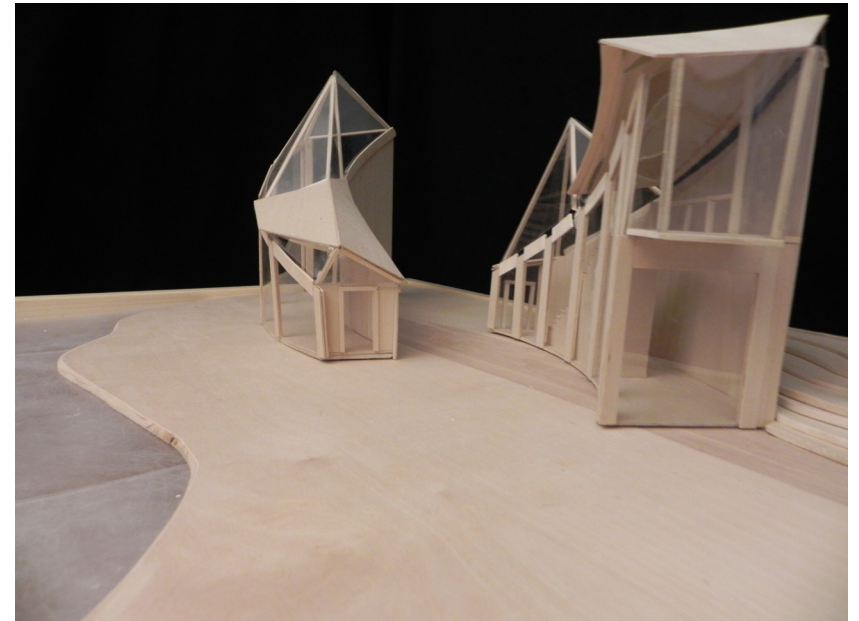
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RESIDENCE DESIGN SPLIT DECISION

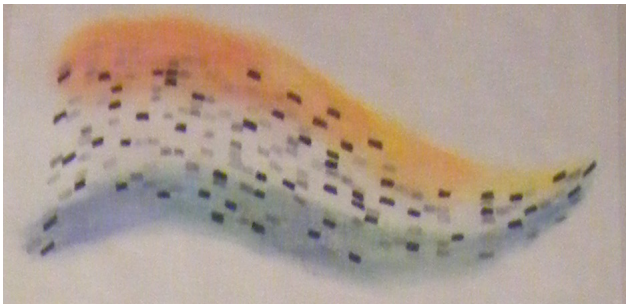
Project was to design a residence for a Russian author. Researching his biography identified a man with two different personalities that helped compliment each other. He is most known for being an author. This was his private image, where he enjoyed being a recluse, an author requiring isolation to create. He had a public image as the main doctor in his town knowing everyone. This private and public image was the concept for his summer residence which was to reflect this dual personality. The private and public areas of the residence were physically separated, but visually integrated. The resulting "S" shaped design integrated the personalities with the public side used to entertain guests and the private side allowing his privacy and solitude.



private/solitude personality on the right
public/entertaining personality on the left.

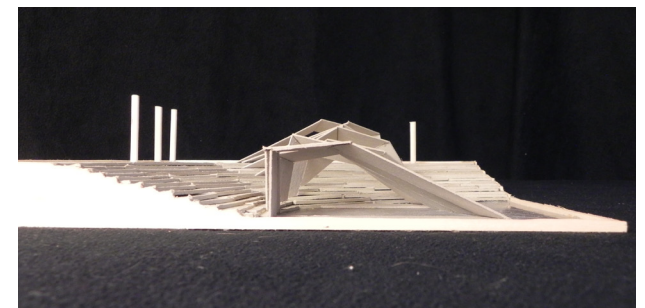
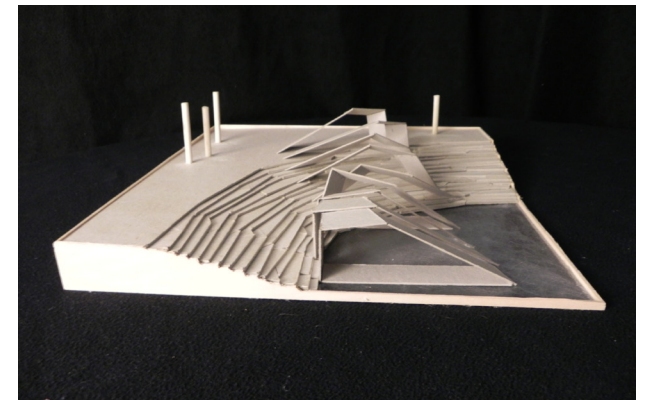
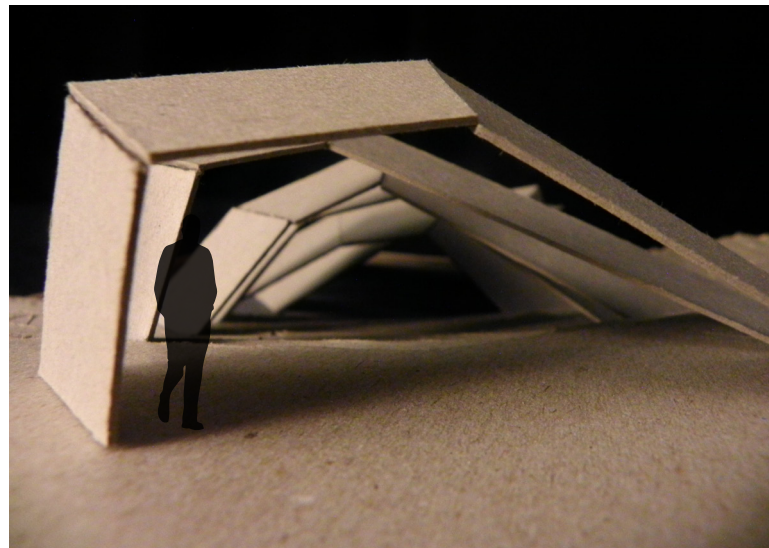
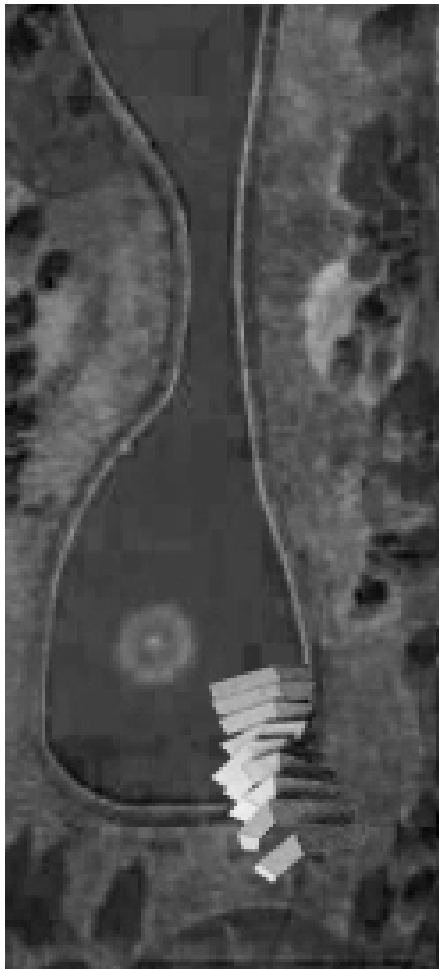
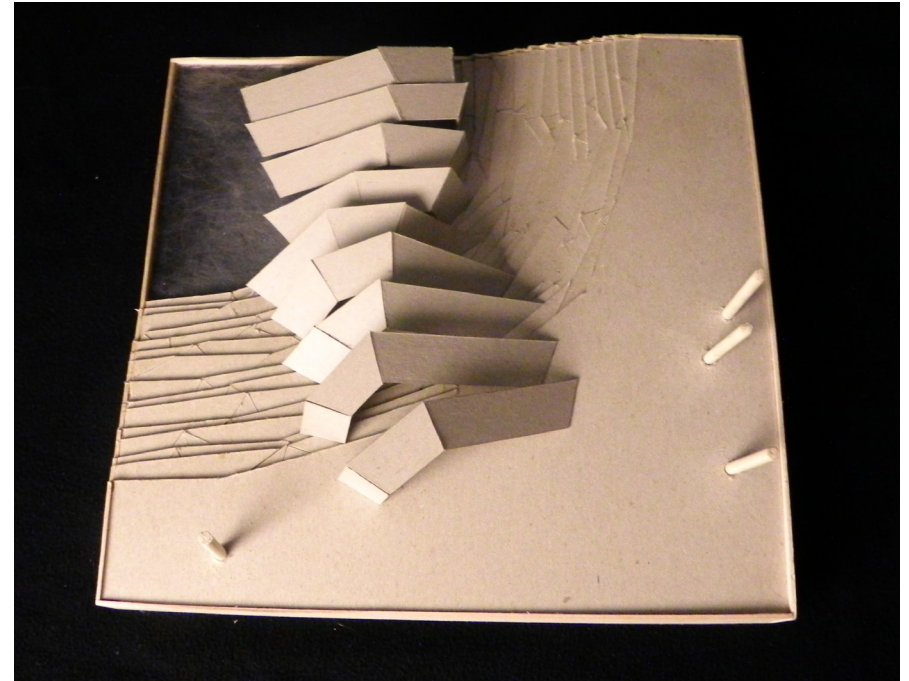


Two personalities that reflect two prominent careers.



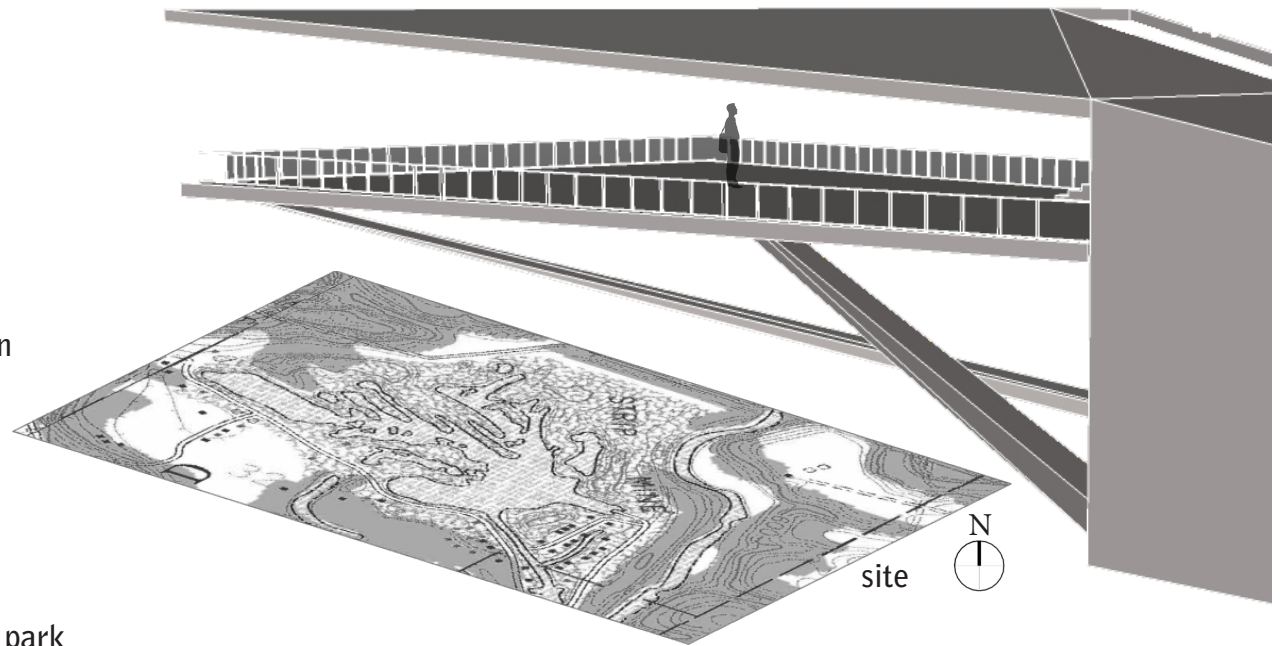
MONUMENT ON CAMPUS

Due to its size, designing a monumental piece of art or sculpture must be sensitive to the site. This monument can be used and experienced by students and the public for multiple purposes. On sunny days, it provides shade to study and relax. Others may use it as a meeting spot to socialize like UIUC's quad. Still others may visually see it as a focal point of the campus. This design appears as though it has been pulled out and molded from the landscape. A long, low angular series of canopies emerge from the ground side and transverse to the water side as it extends out over the aquatic region.

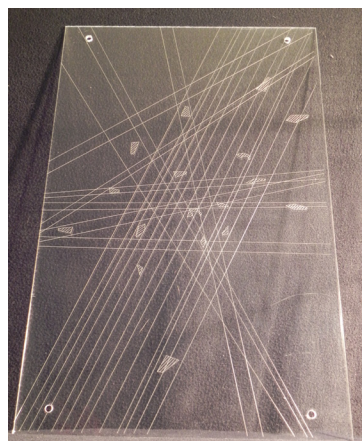
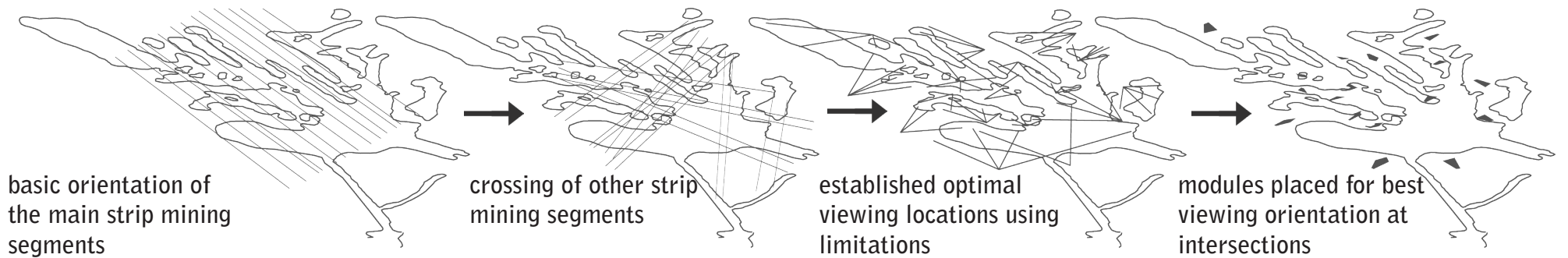


JUNIOR YEAR OBSERVATION MODULES AT KICKAPOO

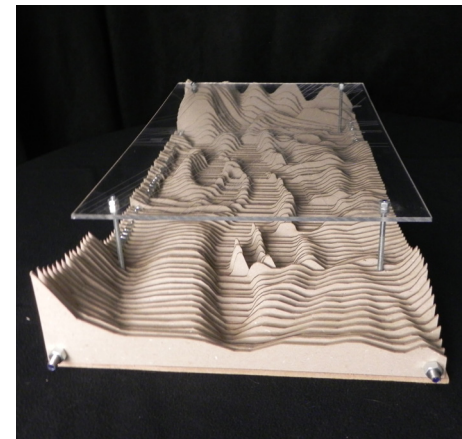
Kickapoo State Park exists in an area with a history of strip mining. This particular project was to create viewing modules in the park for scientists to observe vegetation growth within the previously mined areas. A key element was established allowing the antiquity of the area to blend with this design. A major criterion was the appearance of these modules and how they fit into the landscape. Their size and dimensions (100'L x 30'H) provide the viewer with a sense of the magnitude of land that was actually removed during the strip mining process.

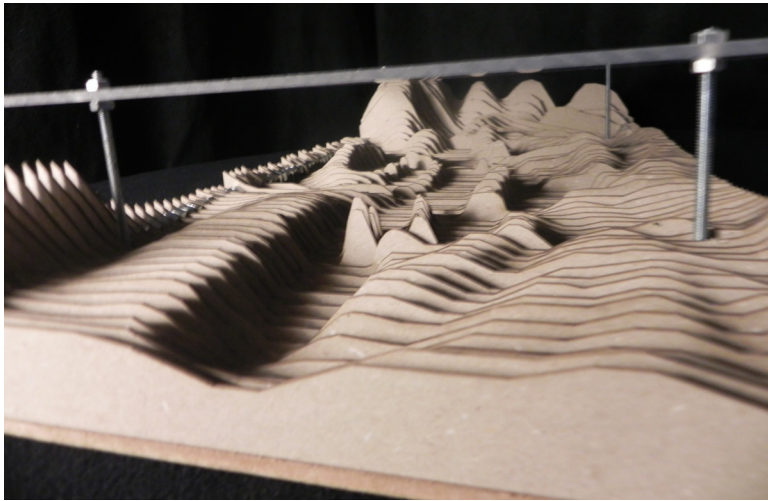


Process for the placement of the modules around the park

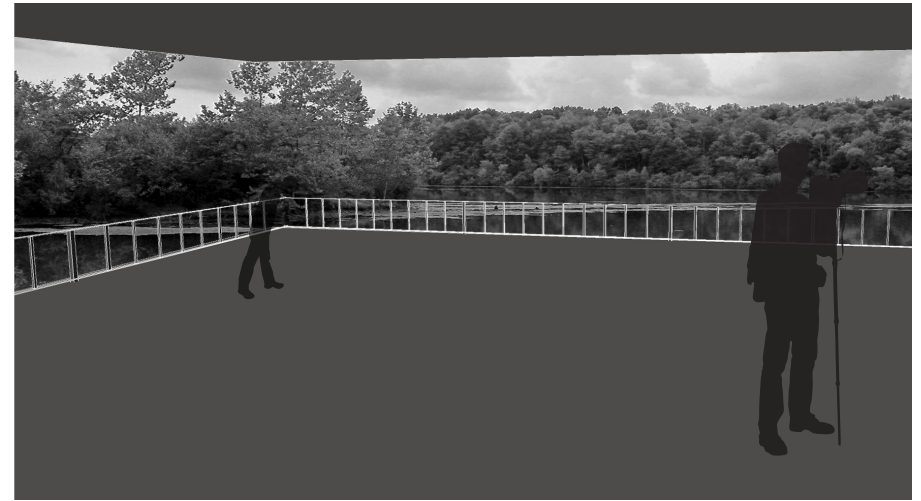


model that represents the desecration caused by the strip mining process with module locations overlaid

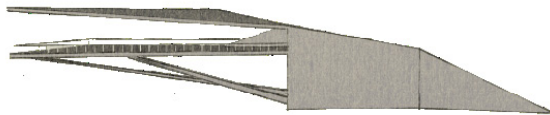




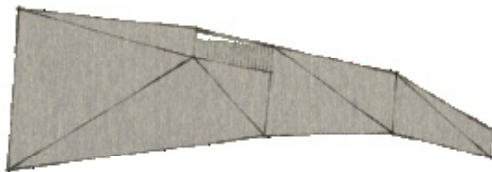
view of model - drastic differences caused by mining



first person view within module



side view of typical module



top view of typical module



ground view of module



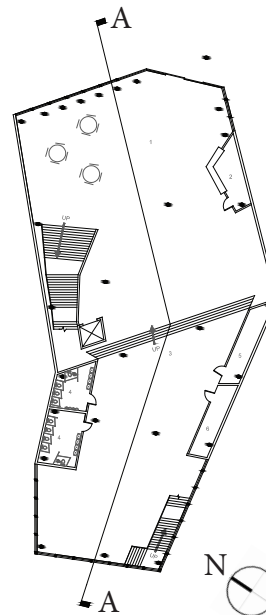
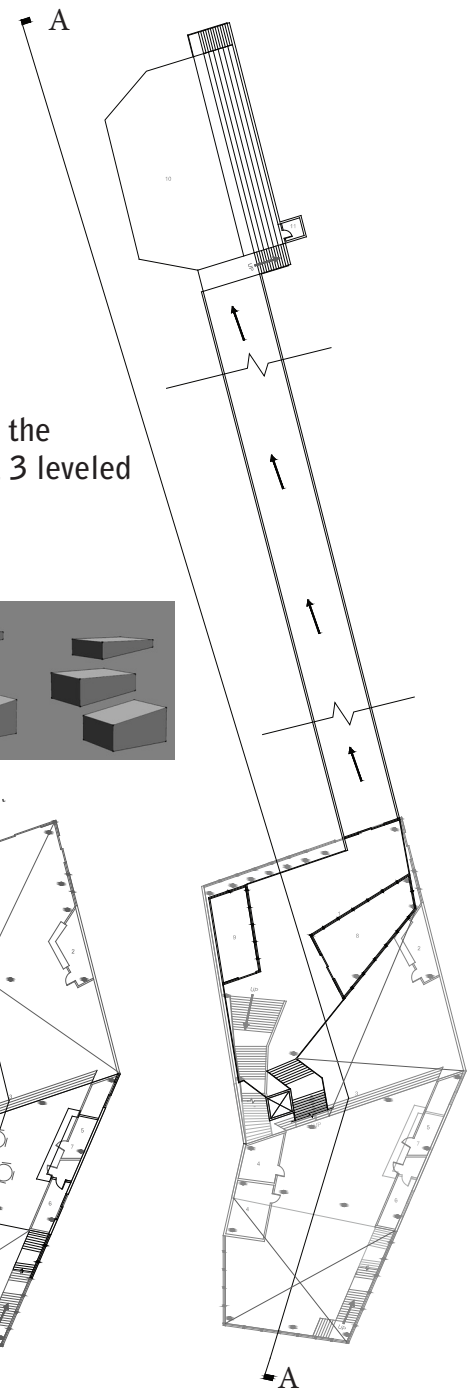
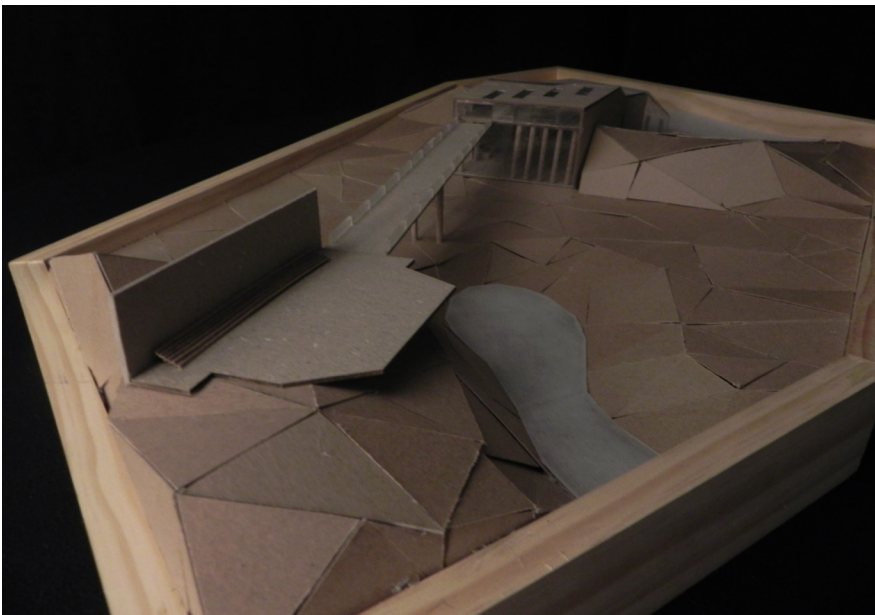
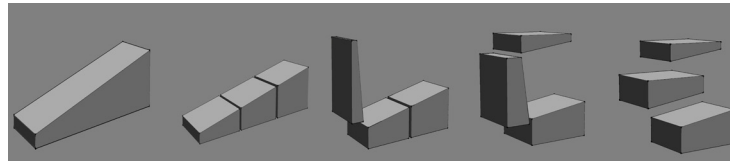
JUNIOR YEAR CONVENTION CENTER AT KICKAPOO

The Kickapoo State Park Observation Module project required a site for a convention information center. A similar concept was developed in the observation modules for integrating these vast excavated areas of land by connecting the two existing bodies of water, one man-made and the other natural, on opposite sides of the access road. The interior of the facility welcomes visitors with a high volume space to again reflect the vastness of the strip mining history. This information center allows guests to view devastation of this site done by strip mining. The bridge is an element that joins the man-made lake to the natural pond while leaving the ground level undisturbed. In addition, this bridge connects the information center to an outdoor amphitheater that is inset in the mined contours while providing the visitors with a panoramic view of the land.

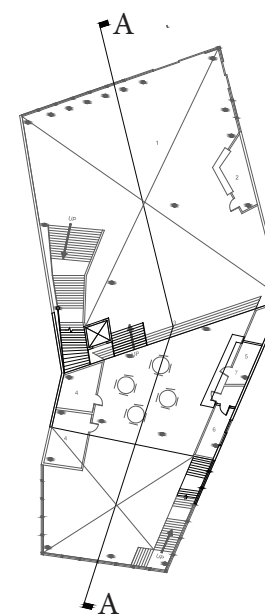


The convention center concept was to use the observation module and fold it to create a 3 leveled design

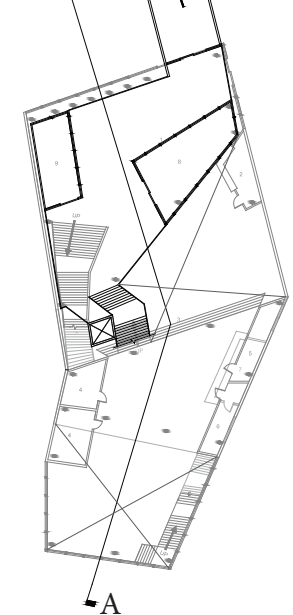
concept diagram



first level (informational)



second level (cafe)



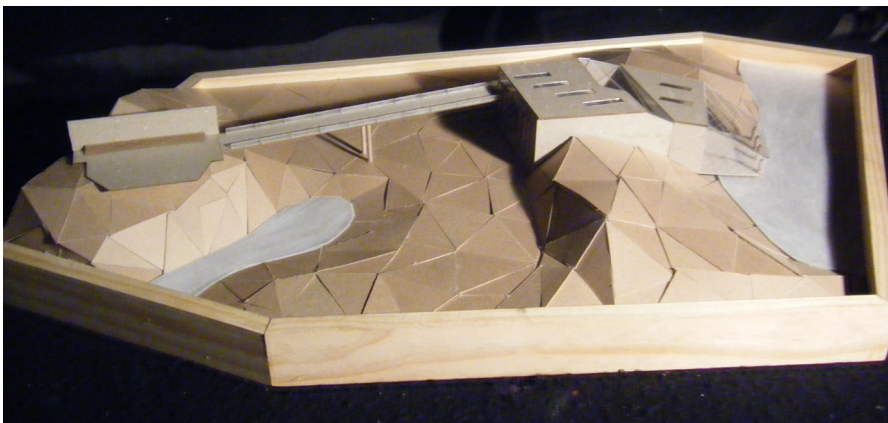
third level (offices)



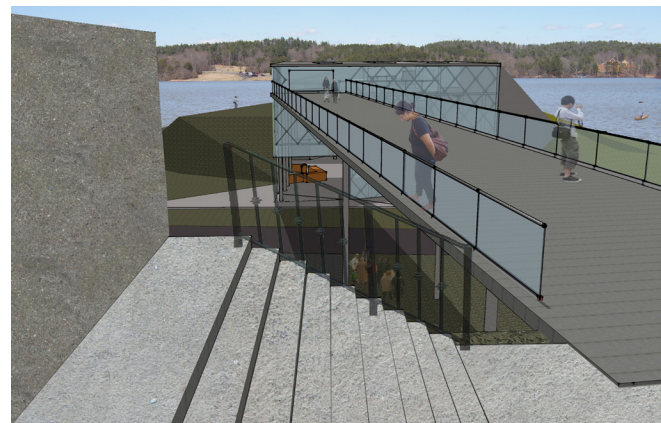
entrance view



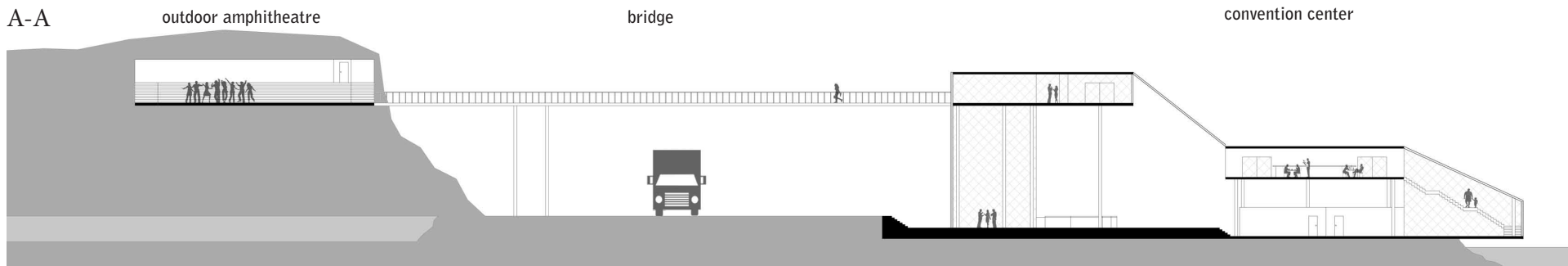
connecting bridge



convention center cuts into landscape



amphitheatre view



A-A

outdoor amphitheatre

bridge

convention center

JUNIOR YEAR



view of exterior entrance to cafe (2nd level)

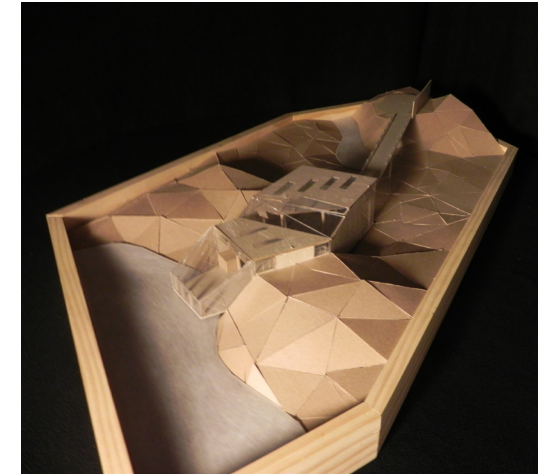
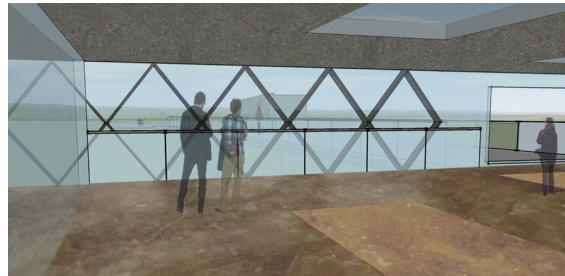


view of inland sea

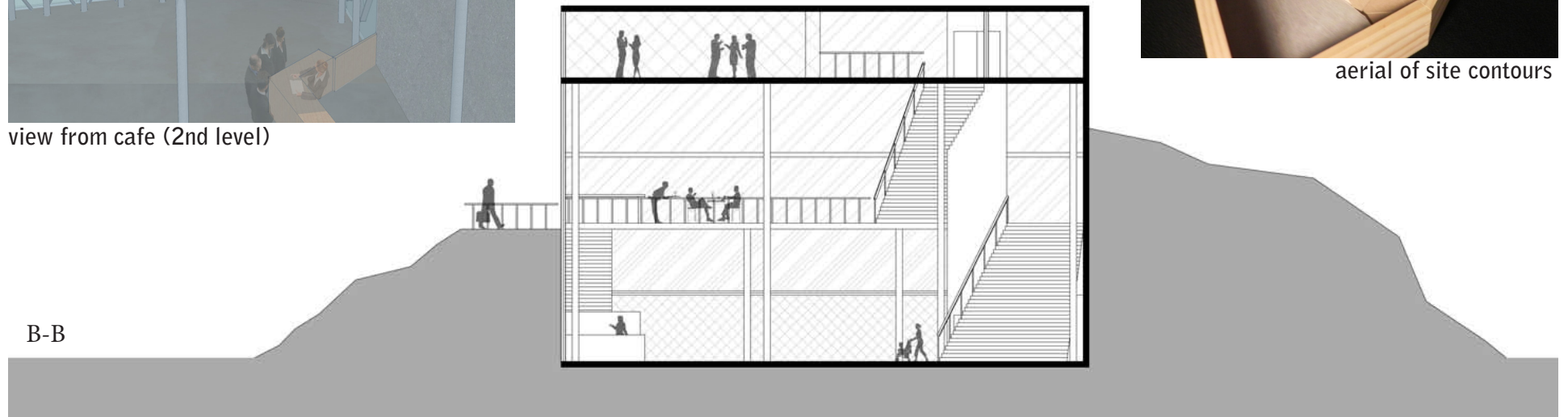


view from cafe (2nd level)

office (3rd level) view



aerial of site contours



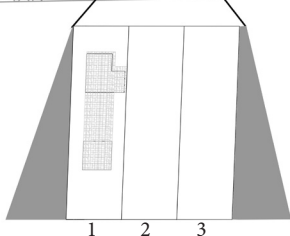
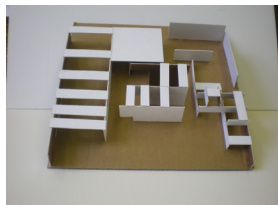
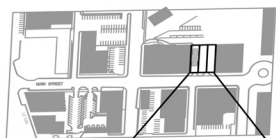
B-B



CHAMPAIGN APARTMENT

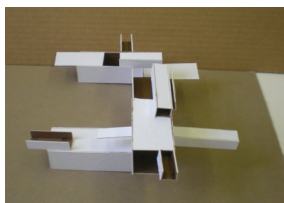


Project criteria, given one-third of a vacant lot (120'x30'), develop a building design to include a retail level and residence tower. A small downtown area like Champaign, IL, is an ideal location to create a design that is simple, yet prominent. While walking in downtown Champaign, one notices a modulation of storefronts and other entrances along the sidewalk. The stacking of windows on the façade plane allows vertical focusing by following a building from the ground up.

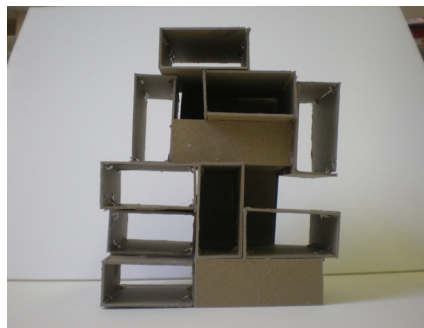


site

NOTE - this was a group project (site divided into 3 separate sites for 3 separate designs) the other two lot designs were not completed by the other students



study models showing the connection between elements that are slightly interrupted



study model to have one's eye subtly follow a set path.

building blocks used to create template



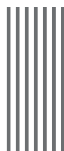
template



template placed on facade to connect ground to top floor



main street facade elevation

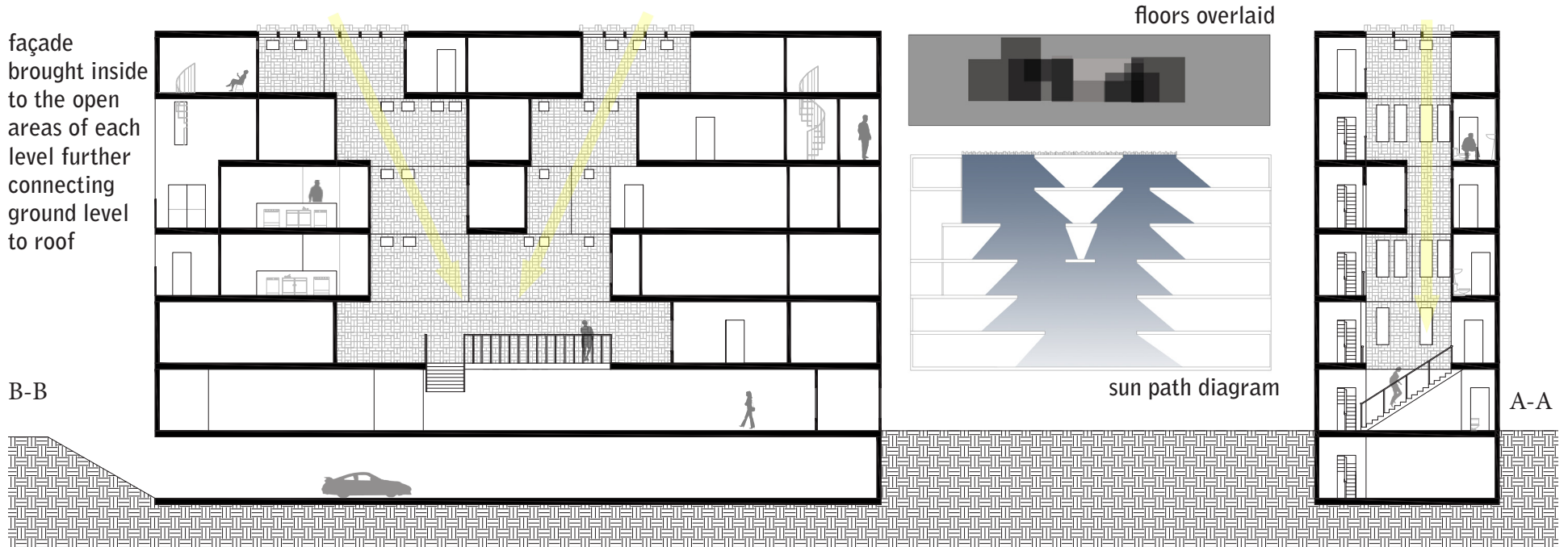


JUNIOR YEAR



voids are used in each level to transport sunlight from the roof to the ground level. Instead of one single atrium space extending directly upward, the voids are irregular to reflect sunlight to each individual level

façade brought inside to the open areas of each level further connecting ground level to roof

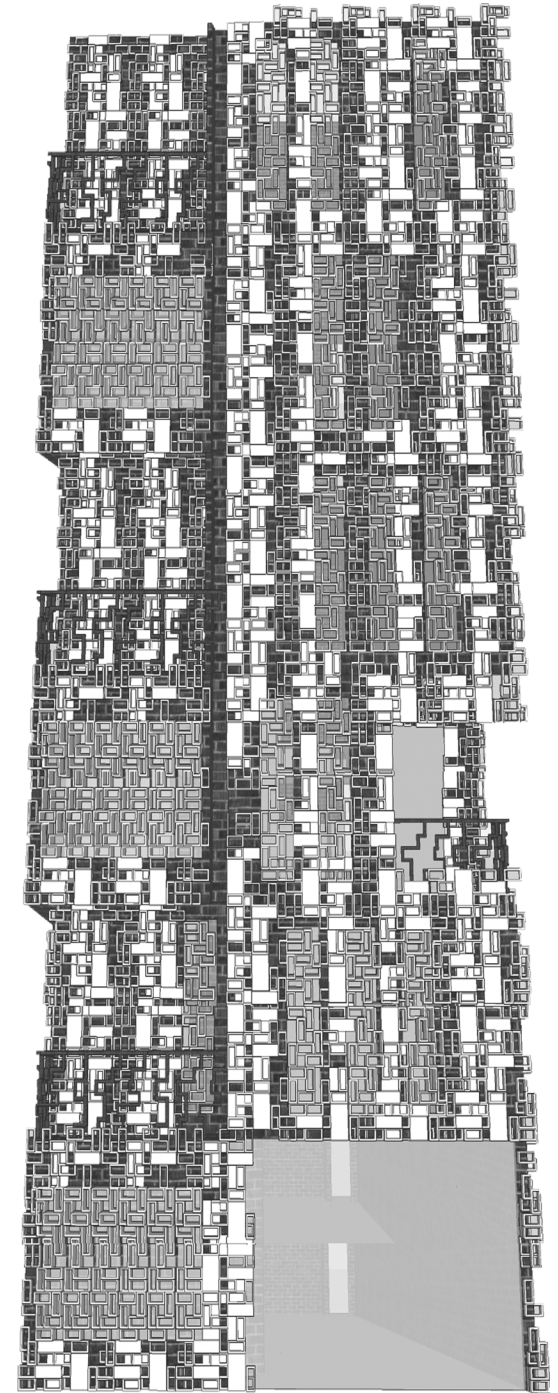




first level retail store at entrance



typical view of unit looking south



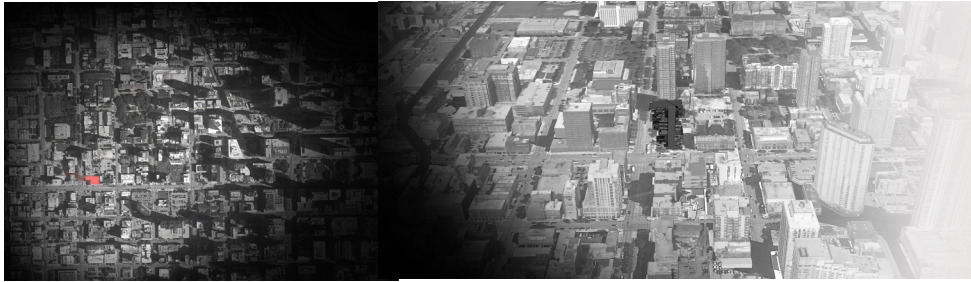
main street elevation



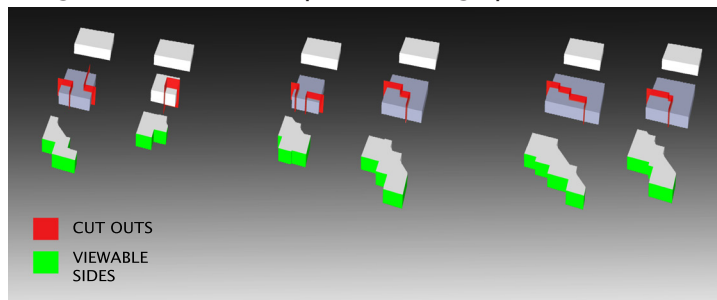
JUNIOR YEAR

DOWNTOWN CHICAGO APARTMENT

SUSPENDED SUBURBIA

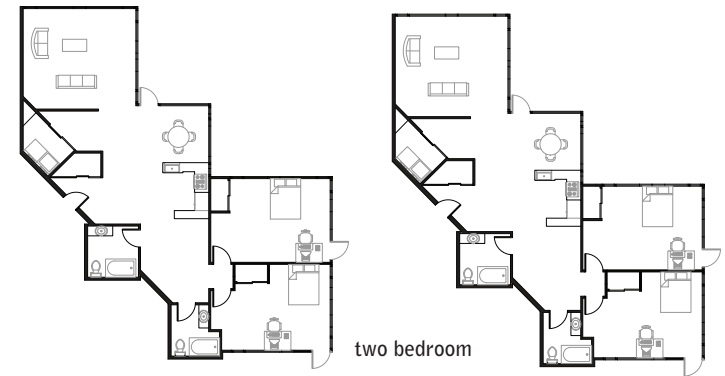
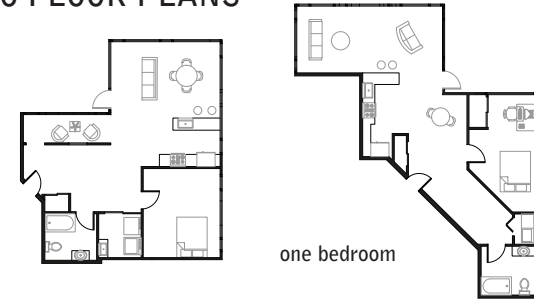


Today's apartment complexes in urban settings take advantage of each site by maximizing the allowed square footage. In most cases, the aesthetic value suffers and becomes lost in the magnitude of this concept. Most individuals wish to live in a unique place and base their decisions on numerous amenities. What features of urban and suburban lifestyle are most desired? Can and should these amenities be combined? People live in the city because they enjoy the atmosphere and want to participate in city activities. Apartment units usually have a limited pleasant window view. The opportunity for having as many views as possible in an apartment in an urban setting is very desirable and is worthy of investigating. Building upon one geometric module as a base, sides were extracted from a simple cube creating 3+ open sides for each unit allowing each tenant to live in their own suspended house. Using numerous study models and then removing the corner on the ground level maximizes the flow of public traffic through the building ground floor plaza. Not only does this open up the site, it also allows social interaction. In addition, mirroring this concept creates the unique appearance of replanting the corner at the top floor of the design which tends to flip the building upside down.



concept is to create as many viewable sides to give each unit a sense of individuality from the complex as a whole

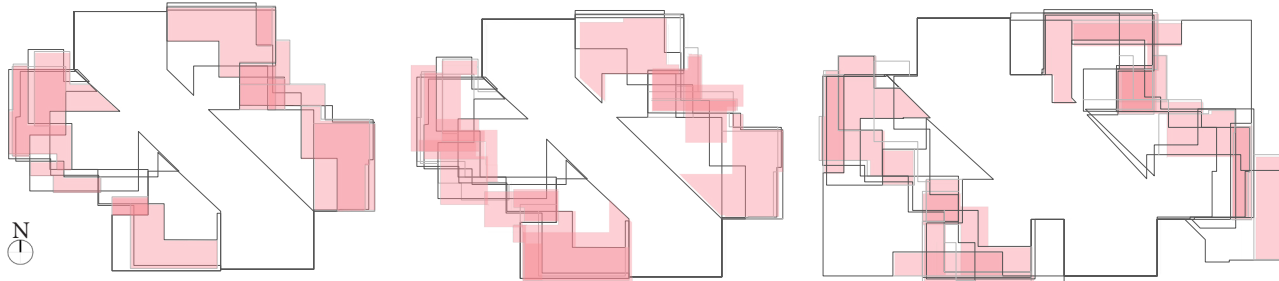
BASIC FLOOR PLANS



units are flipped/mirrored versions of this basic plans to integrate each unit on the various levels



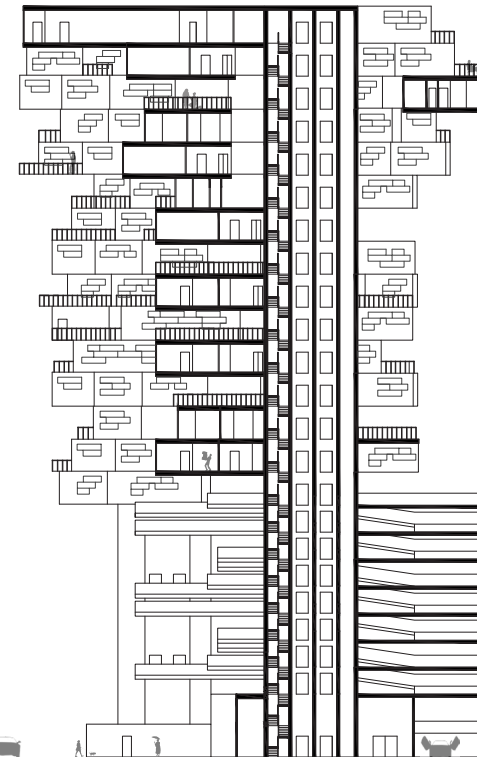
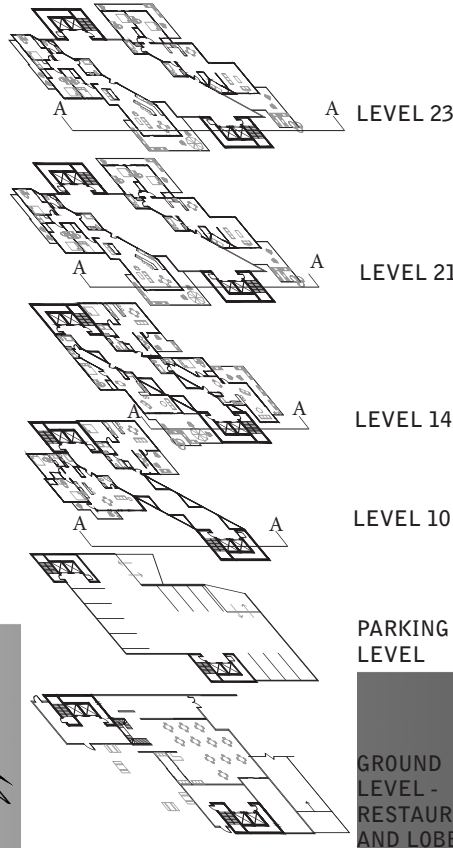
As shown below, the concept of creating these viewing sides, reduced square footage for each unit. In order to maximize the available square footage, each level's units were placed so the roof of the units below were able to be used as the balconies for the units above. Not only does this maximize the available space provided, but integrates each level visually with the others while providing an extension of the interior.



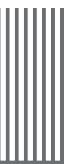
the red spaces indicate the balconies created by the roof of lower level



outdoor restaurant from west

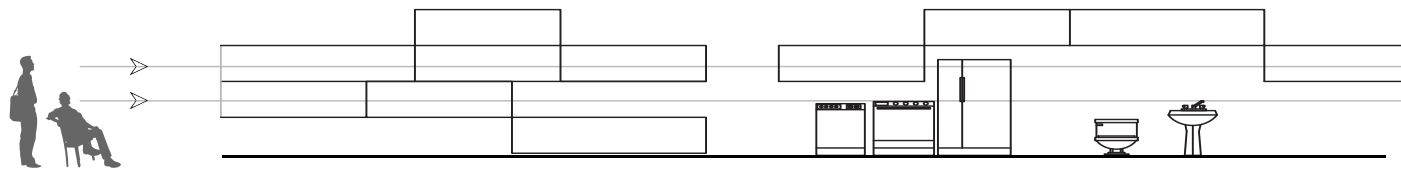


section looking north

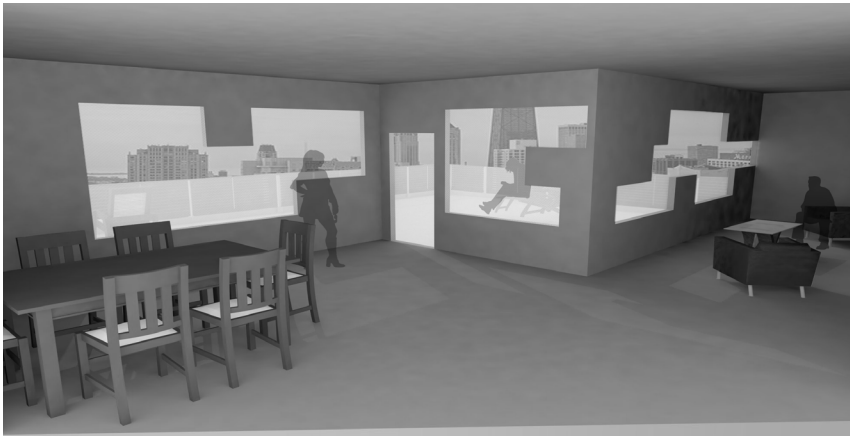


JUNIOR YEAR

The window design is a key feature of the suspended suburbia concept. The facade with its windows and balconies become the visual impact that ties the apartment together. The windows are located so they overlap and are located for the apartments views and the spaces they encompass.



In high activity areas, large combinations of windows maximize the views, while in private areas, windows are positioned for viewing as well as lighting purposes.



interior of three bedroom



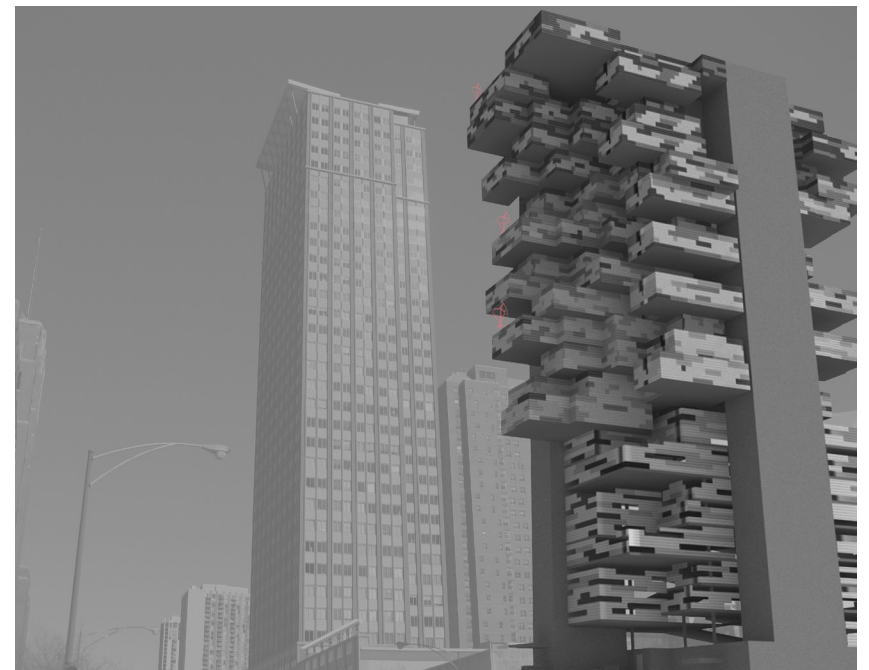
interior of two bedroom

facade study



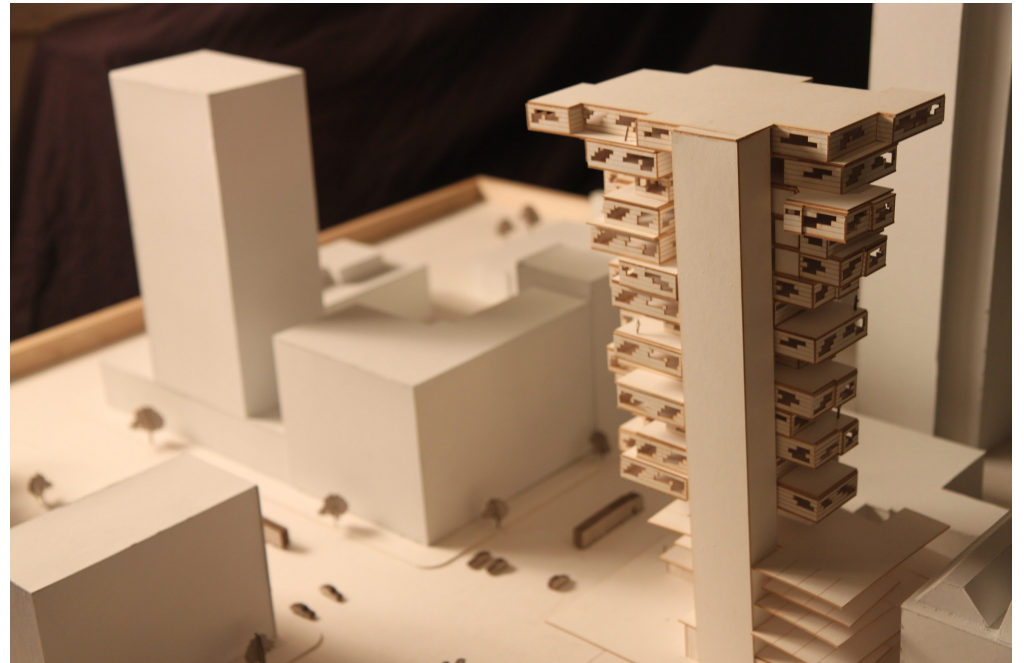
The facade was a result of the apartments windows, cut corners of each unit, and balconies. Emphasizing this replanted corner at the top floor restated the concept. To emphasize this feature, the lower levels have lighter colors and the building has a gradual darkening in color as it progresses up giving the upper levels a "hanging" sense.

approximately a 5% darkening of color in each increasing level

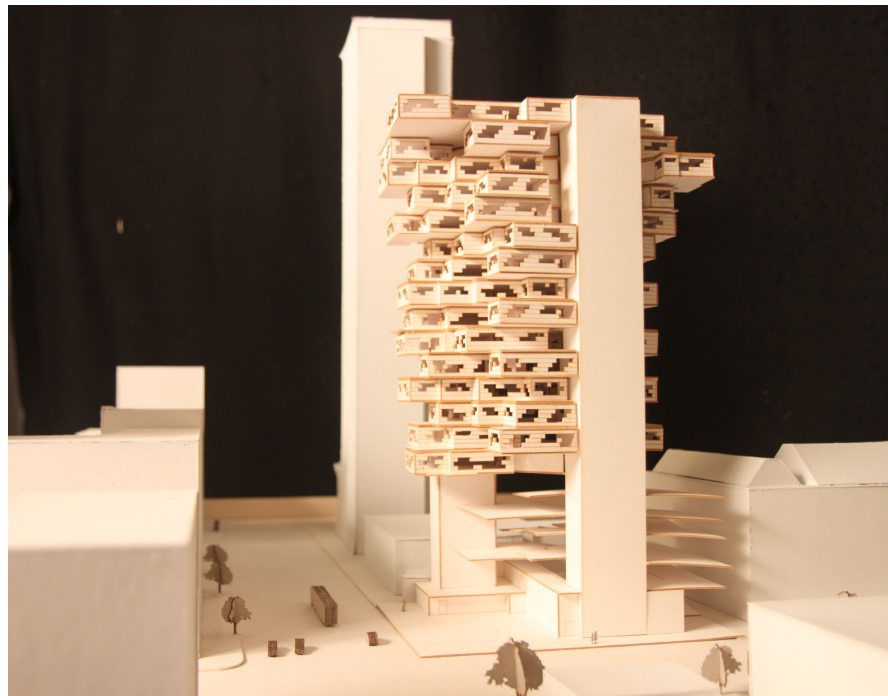




view from south across street



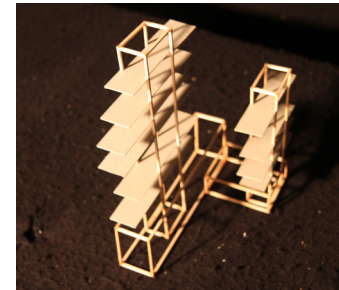
aerial view



note: parking level band/walls not shown for clarity of level functions

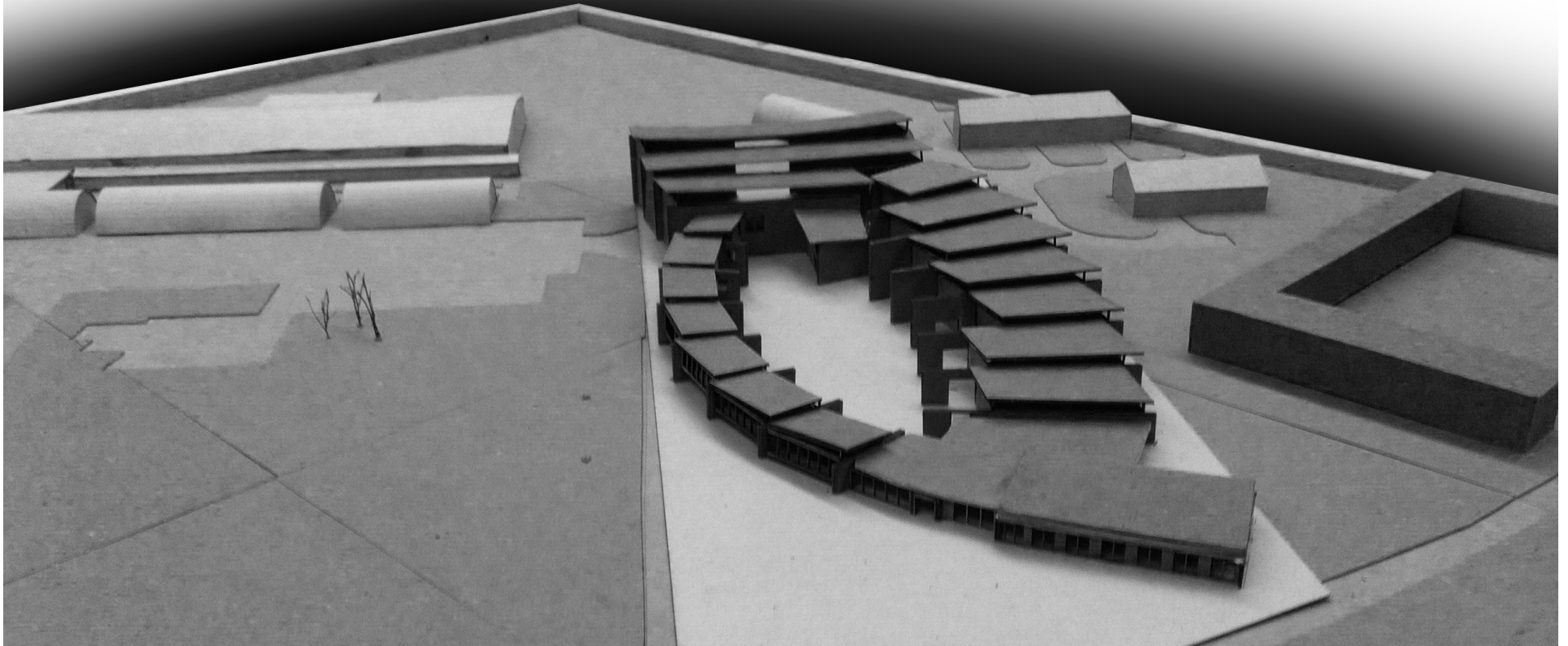
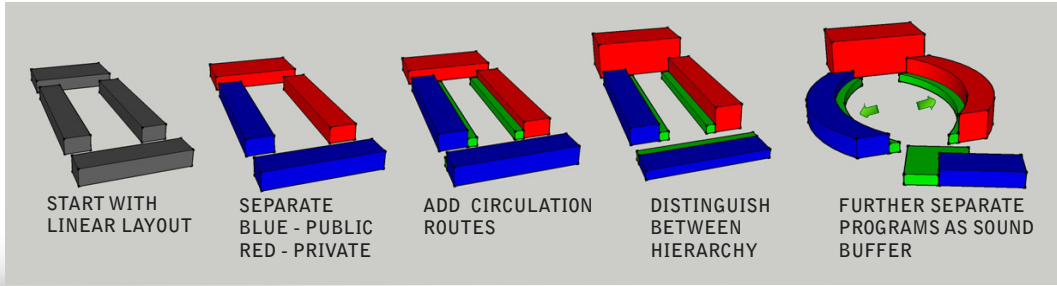
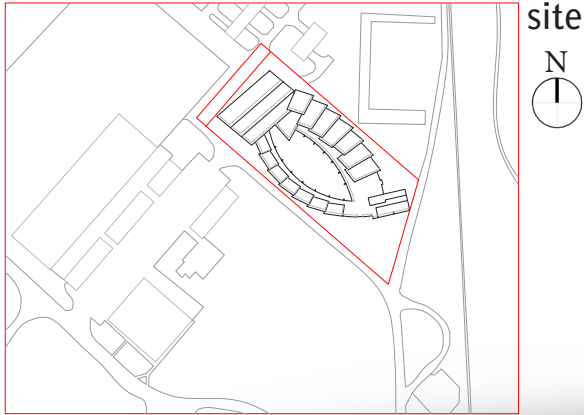
view looking south

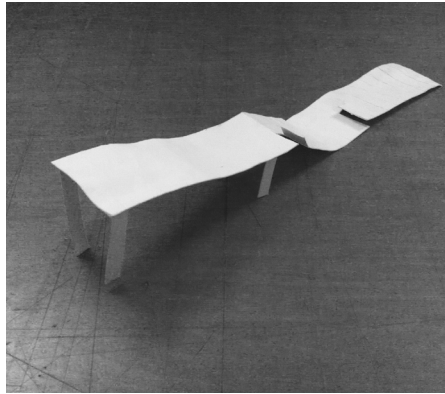
final structural model showing two main cores



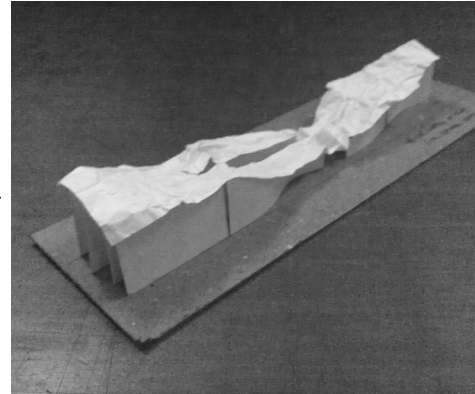
AIRCRAFT INSTRUCTIONAL FACILITY PARKLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE

The initial concept of the design was heavily influenced by the site parameters. Given a narrow, linear layout it was imperative to incorporate the design into these conditions. The initial premise of my design was the take-off of a plane. It travels a long distance with a gradual increase in height. Other program requirements included - private vs. public, educational vs. industrial, and noise levels.

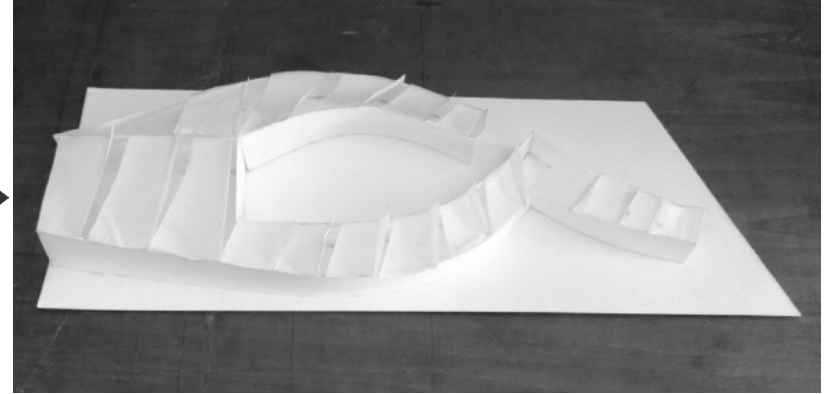




replicate the take off flight of plane

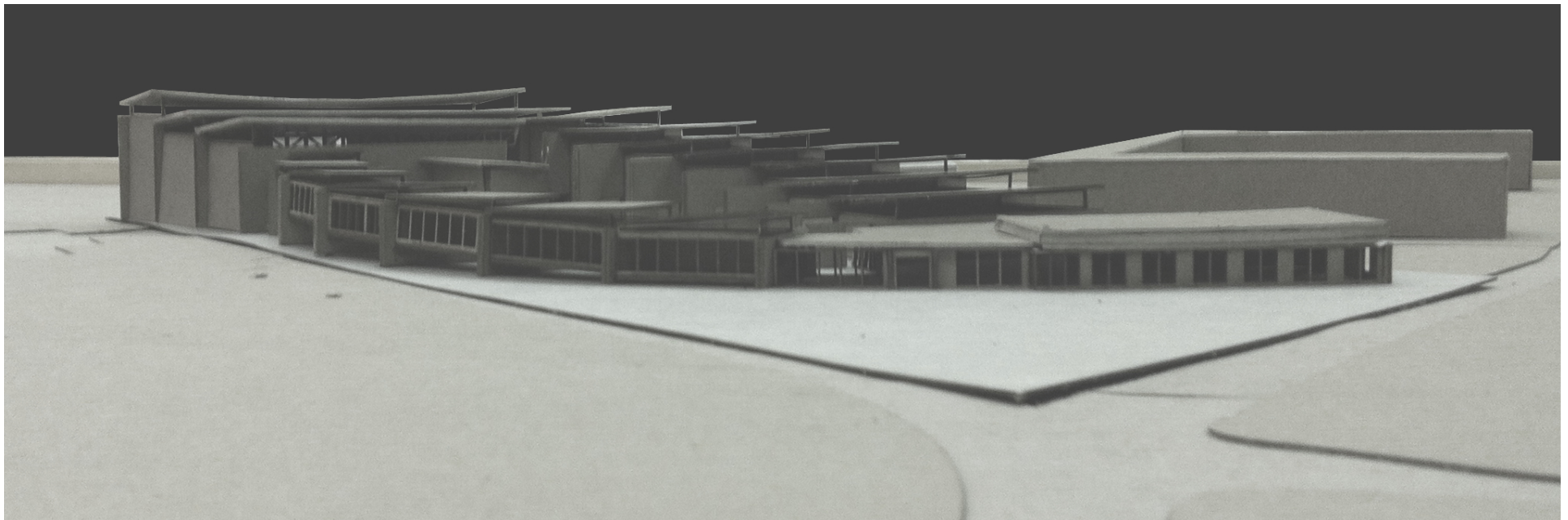


create central area as separator



sawtooth roofs to distinguish program

A separation between the public (educational) and private (institutional) was provided. This was created by separating these functions into individual elements and then, to bow away from one another creating a courtyard with a link to the entry and hangar at each level. Besides creating a sound a sound buffer zone, this courtyard helps bring light into each wing as well as ventilation, landscaping and a view of the buildings (3) main functions.

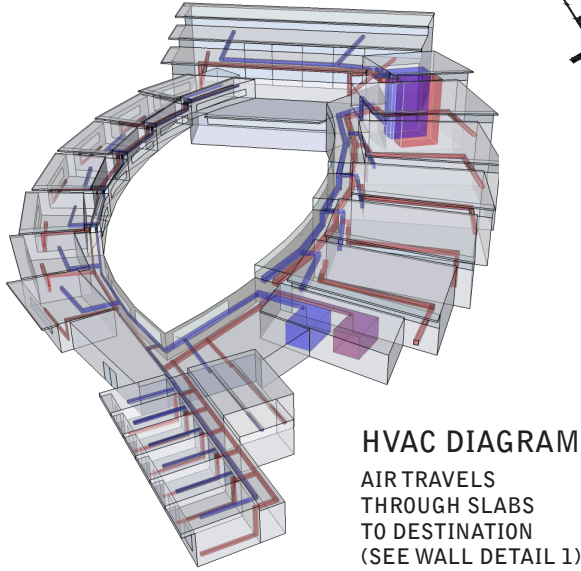
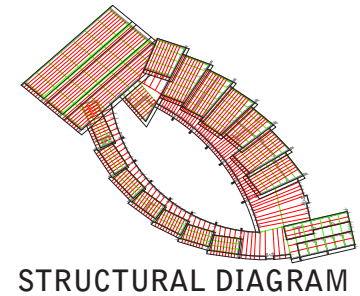
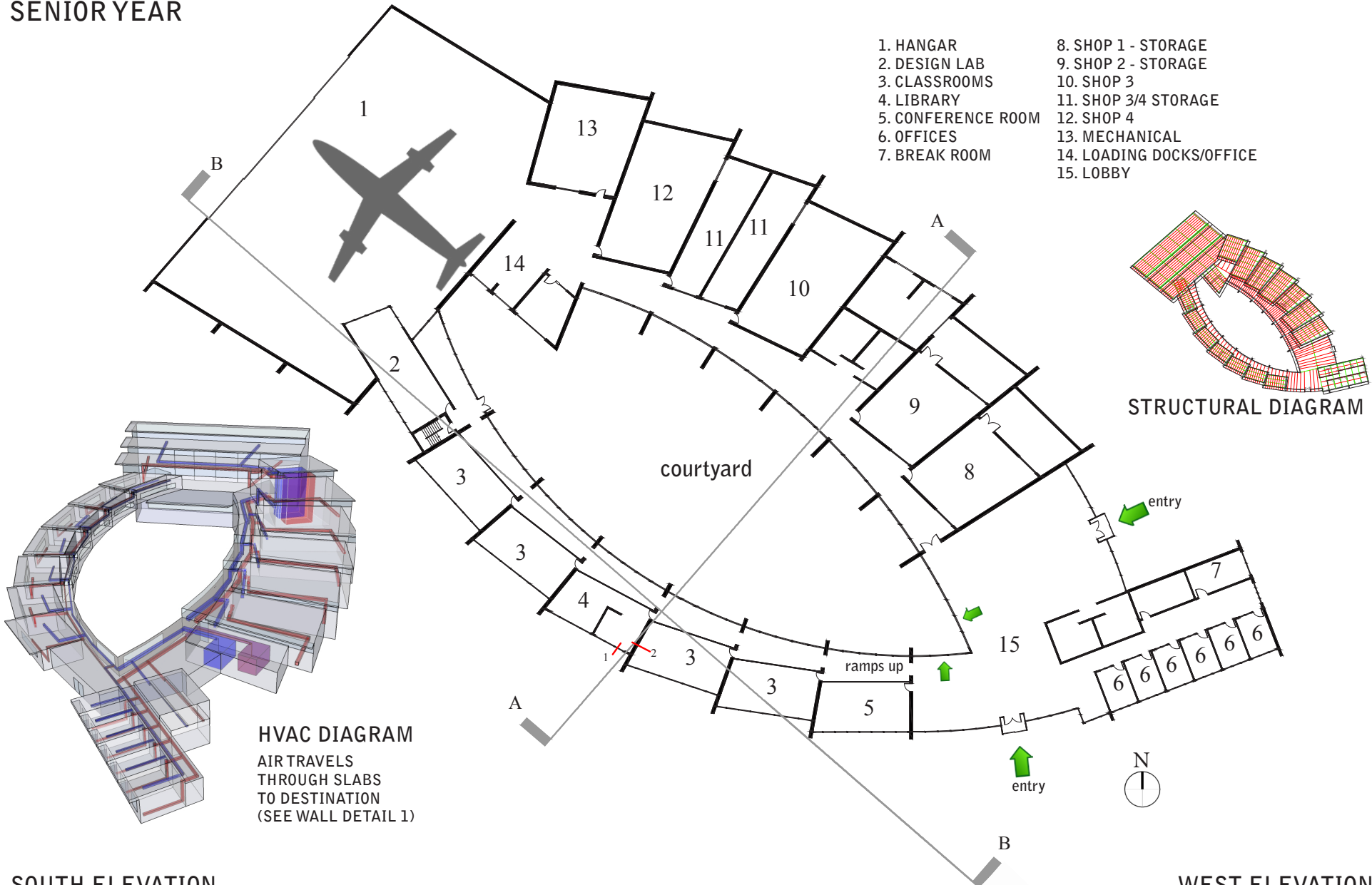


road entry view

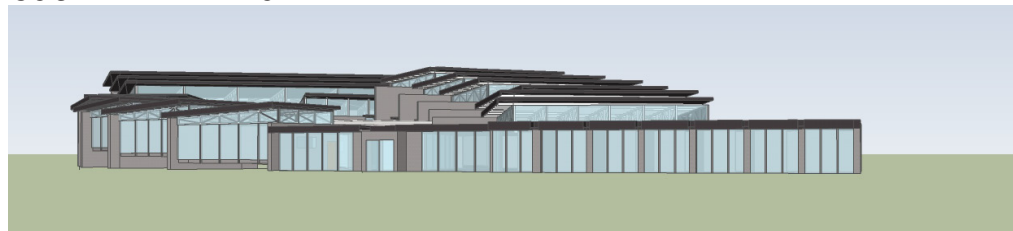


SENIOR YEAR

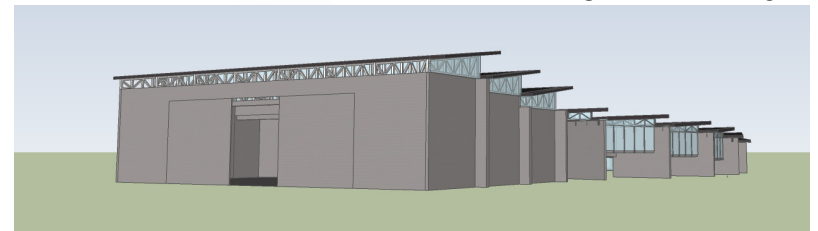
- 1. HANGAR
- 2. DESIGN LAB
- 3. CLASSROOMS
- 4. LIBRARY
- 5. CONFERENCE ROOM
- 6. OFFICES
- 7. BREAK ROOM
- 8. SHOP 1 - STORAGE
- 9. SHOP 2 - STORAGE
- 10. SHOP 3
- 11. SHOP 3/4 STORAGE
- 12. SHOP 4
- 13. MECHANICAL
- 14. LOADING DOCKS/OFFICE
- 15. LOBBY



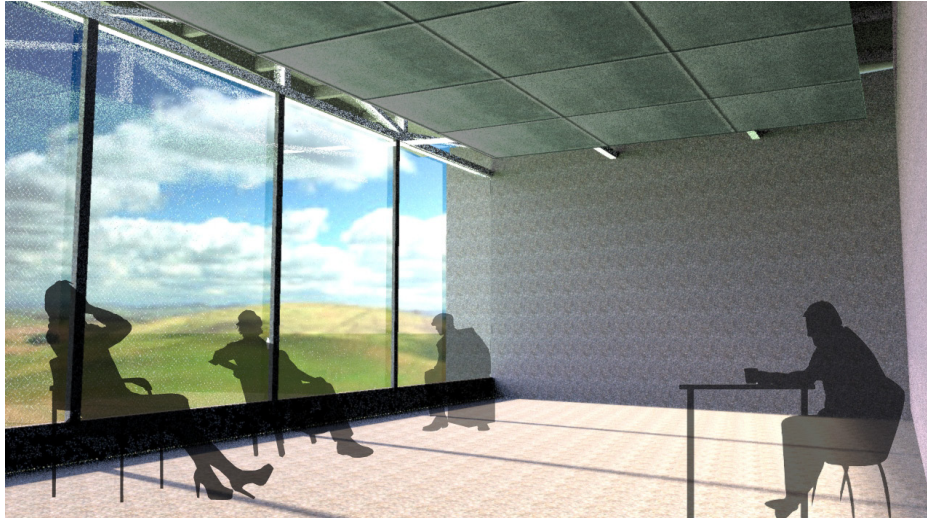
SOUTH ELEVATION



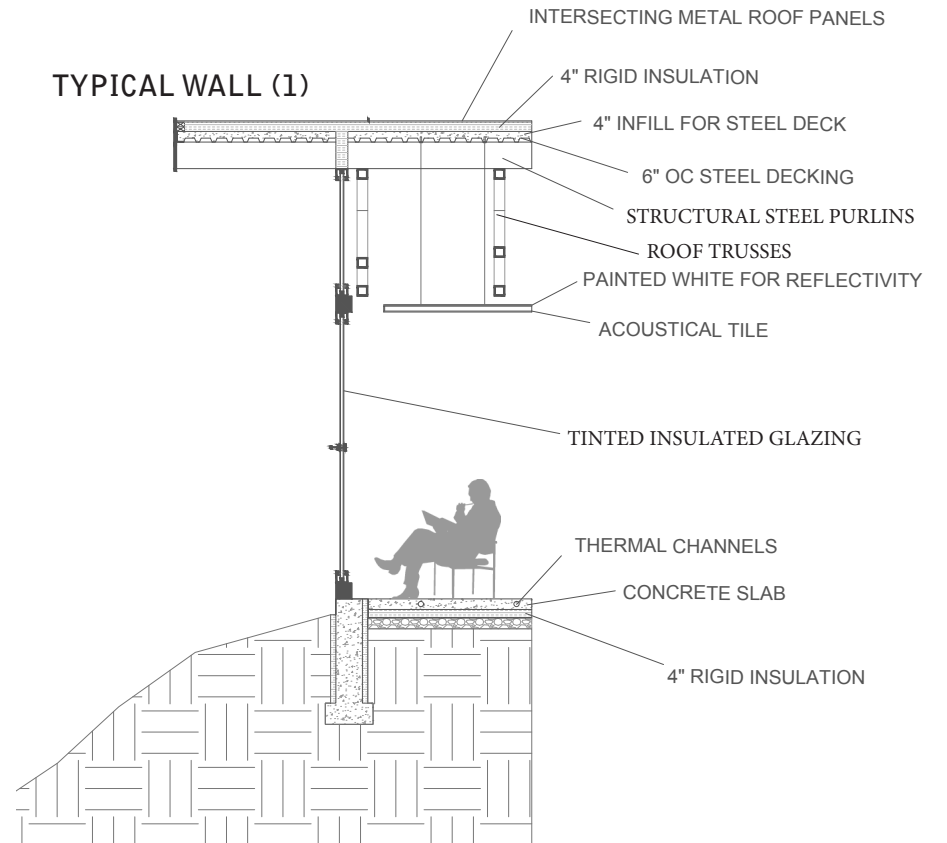
WEST ELEVATION



CLASSROOM

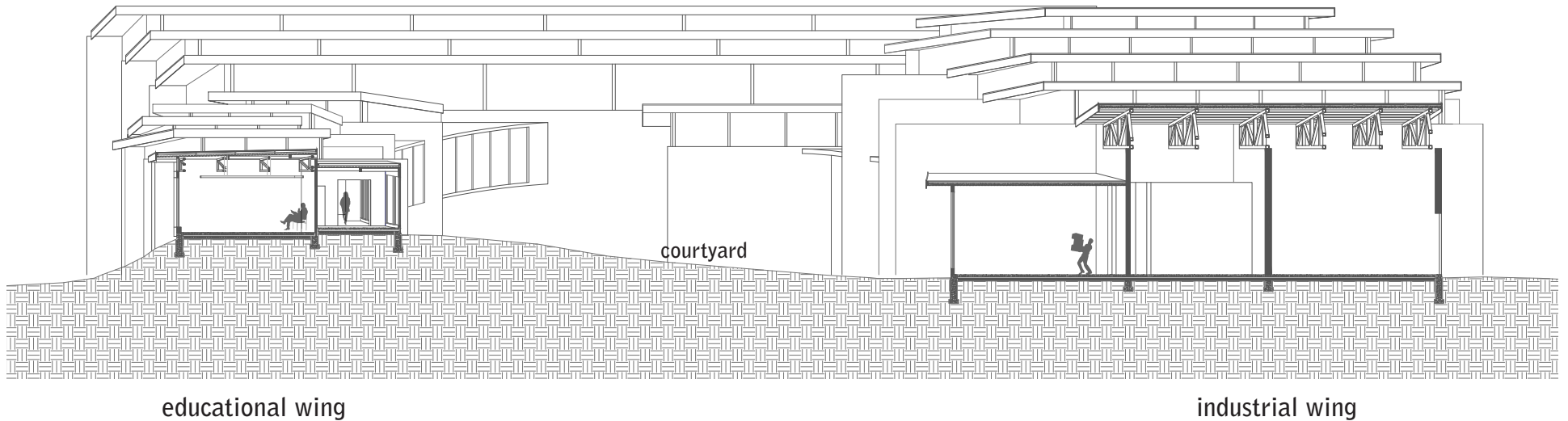


TYPICAL WALL (1)



A-A

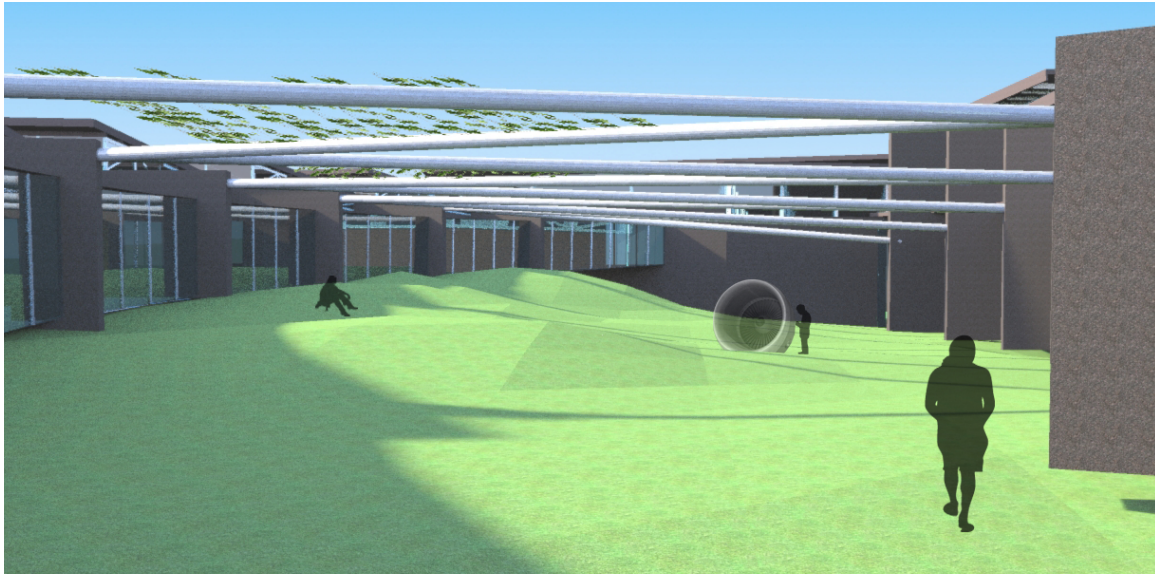
hangar beyond



educational wing

industrial wing

SENIOR YEAR

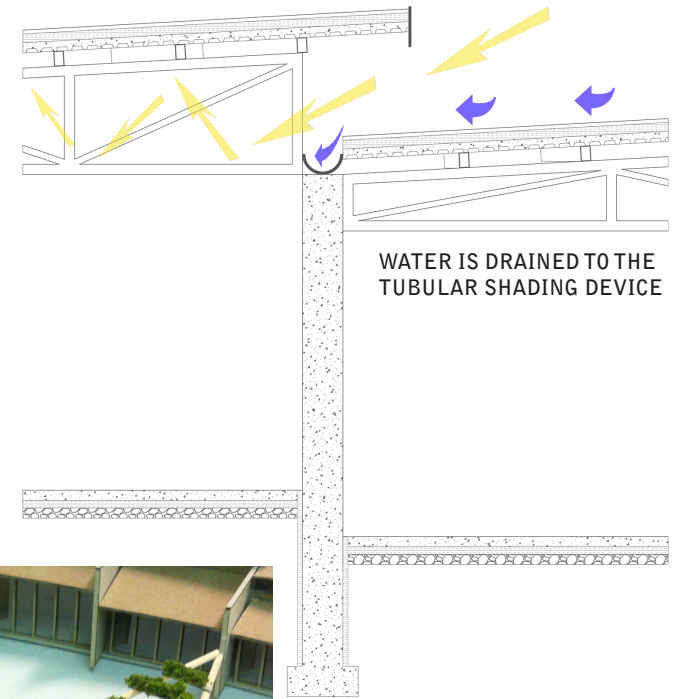


COURTYARD - SHADING DEVICE WITH AIRCRAFT PART

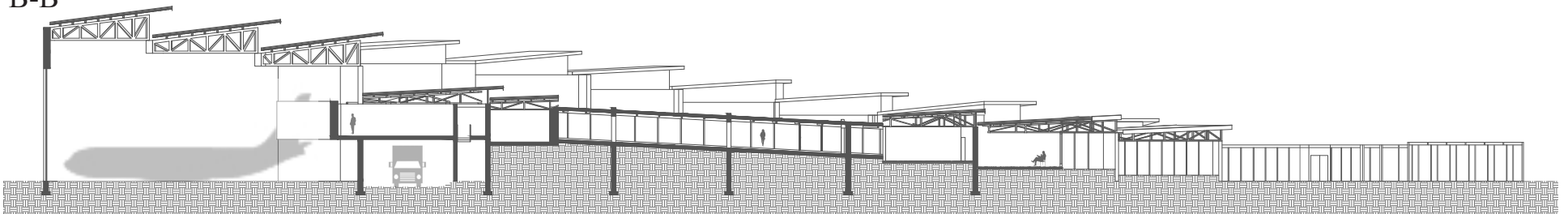
Creating a sawtooth roof design allows additional interior light while emphasizing the individual space functions. A tubular shading structure spans from one side of the courtyard to the other. This shading device consists of vines which rather than completely masking the sun, they merely create an attractive outdoor green screen space. This open area can be used by students or maintenance personnel as a sanctuary from their current task, but still allows the entire building to be experienced. It also provides an informational area where aircraft parts, like sculptures or old inventory, are placed outside for viewing.

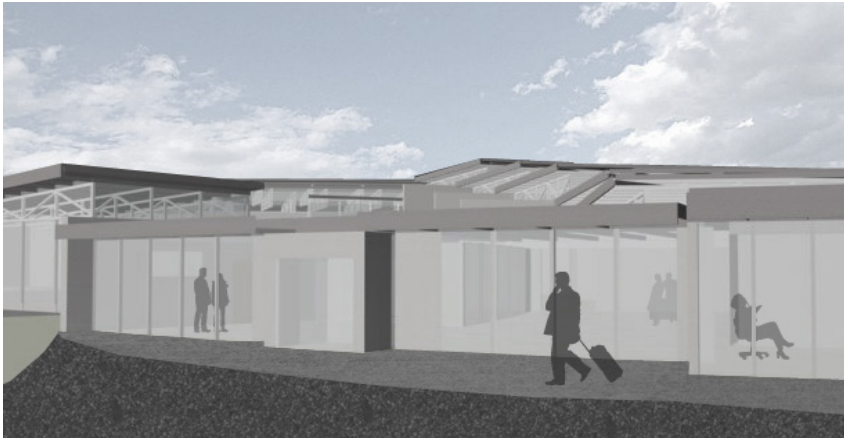
TYPICAL WALL (2)

SUNLIGHT IS REFLECTED WITHIN SUSPENDED CEILING - DISPERSES LIGHT INDIRECTLY

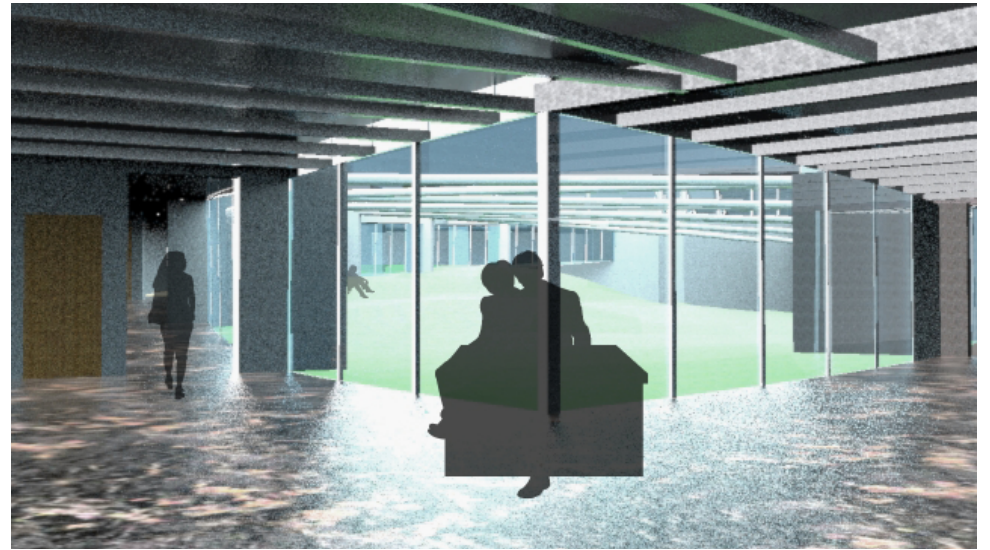


B-B





ENTRANCE



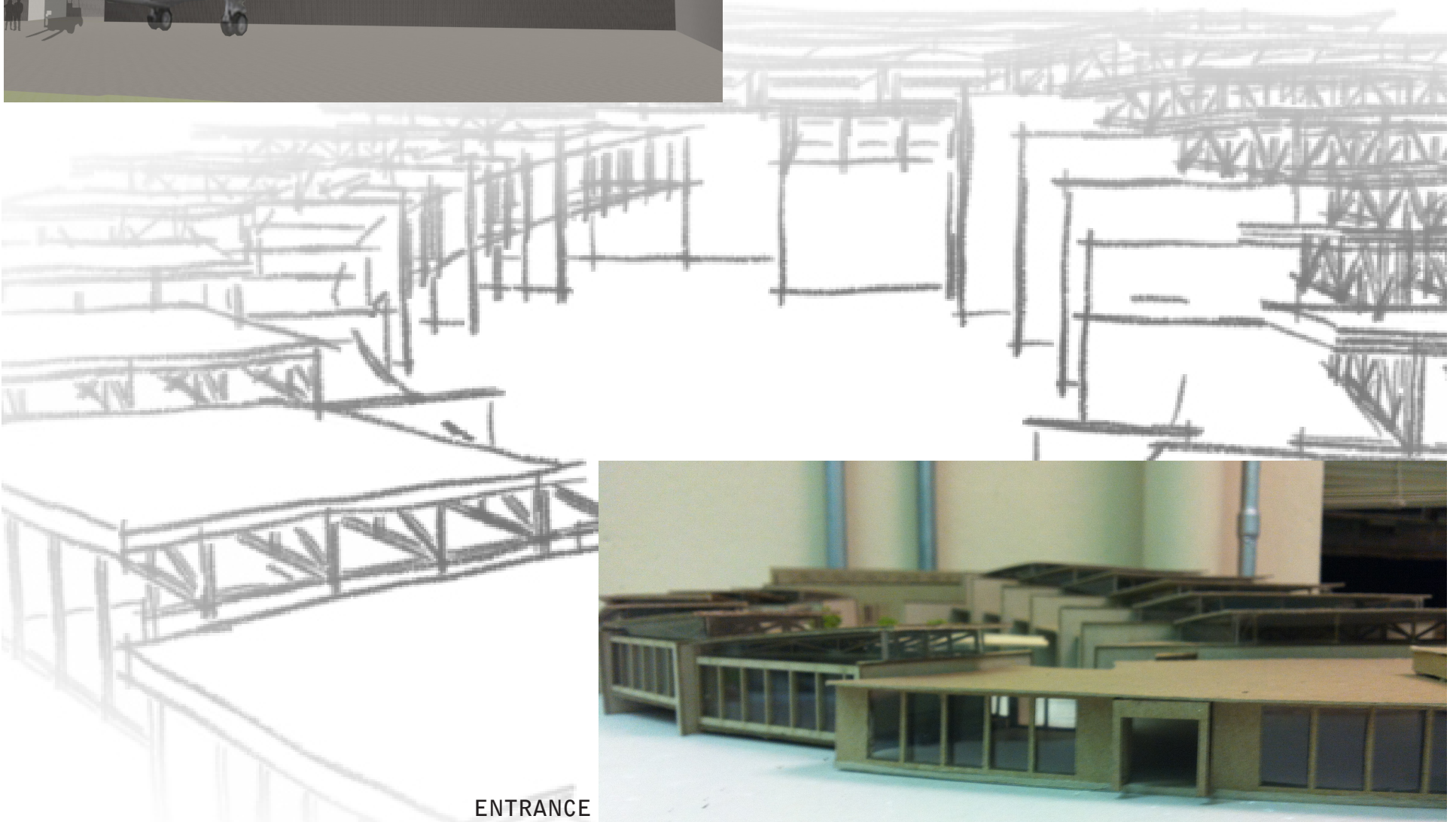
LOBBY

Upon entering the building, each wing has a complete view to the hangar providing a cohesive feeling of the unity of the entire building.



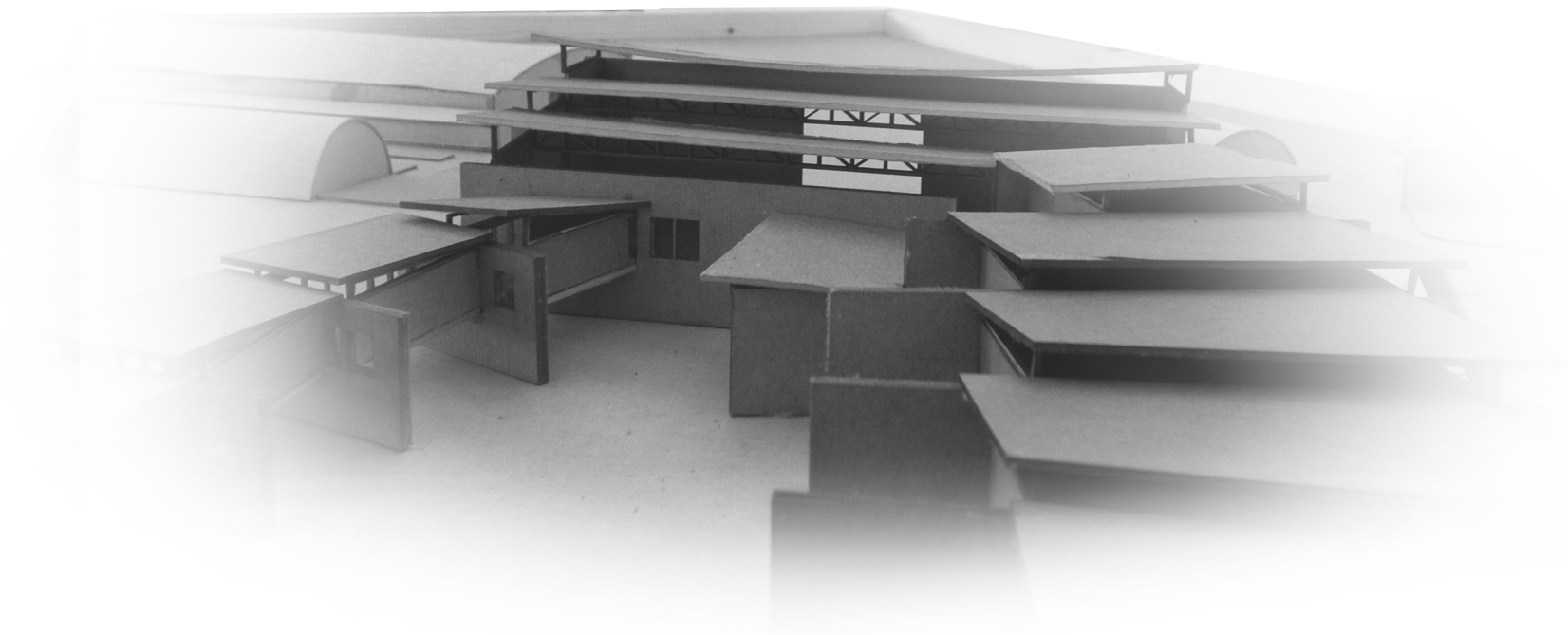
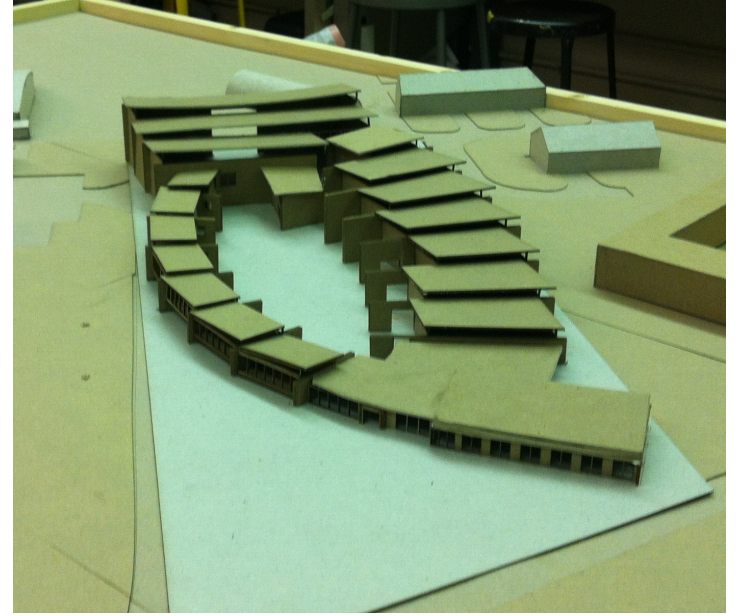
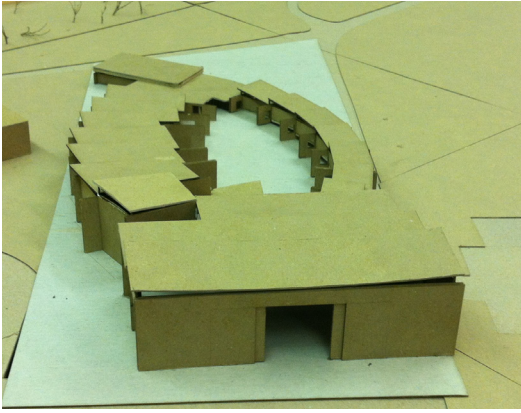


HANGAR WITH
OVERHANGING
DESIGN LAB

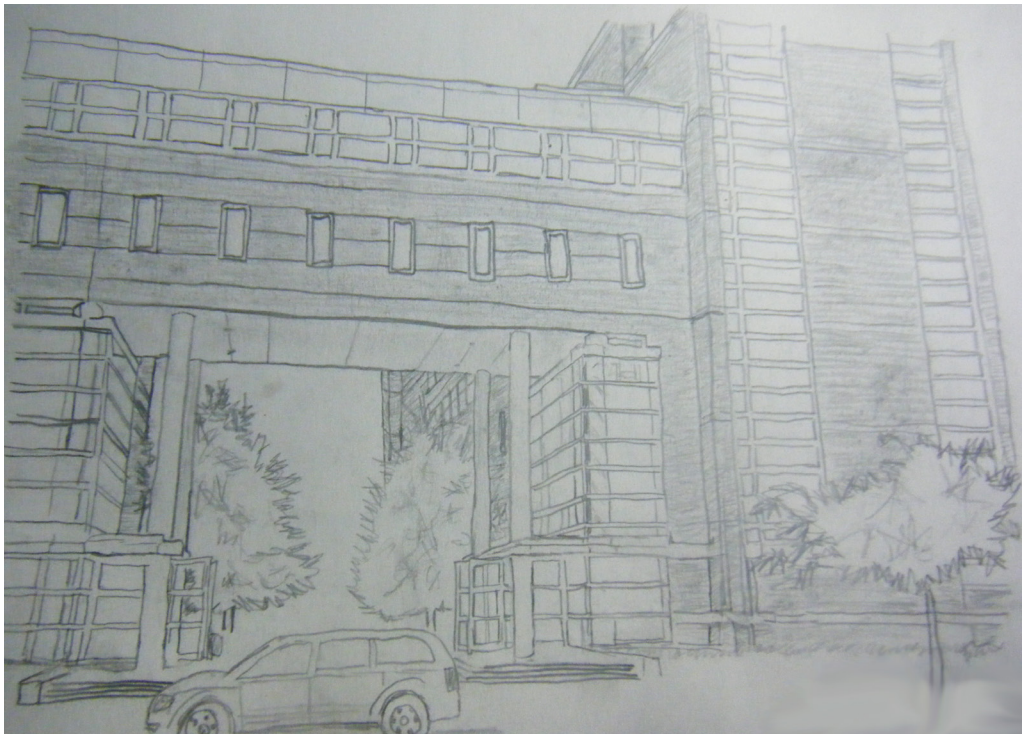


ENTRANCE



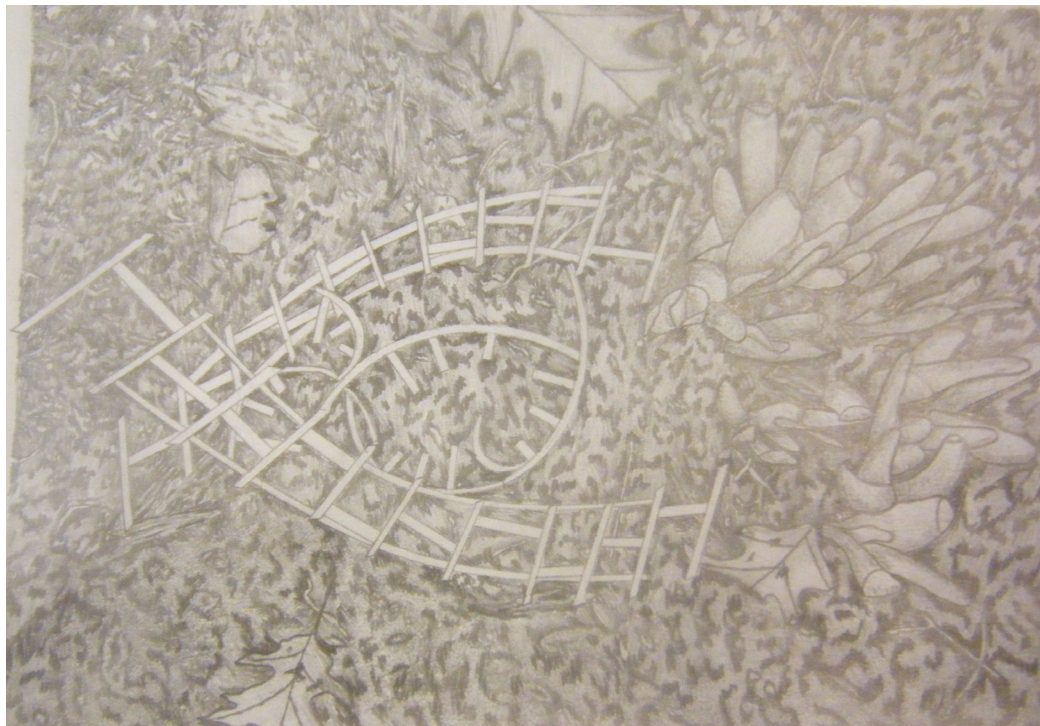
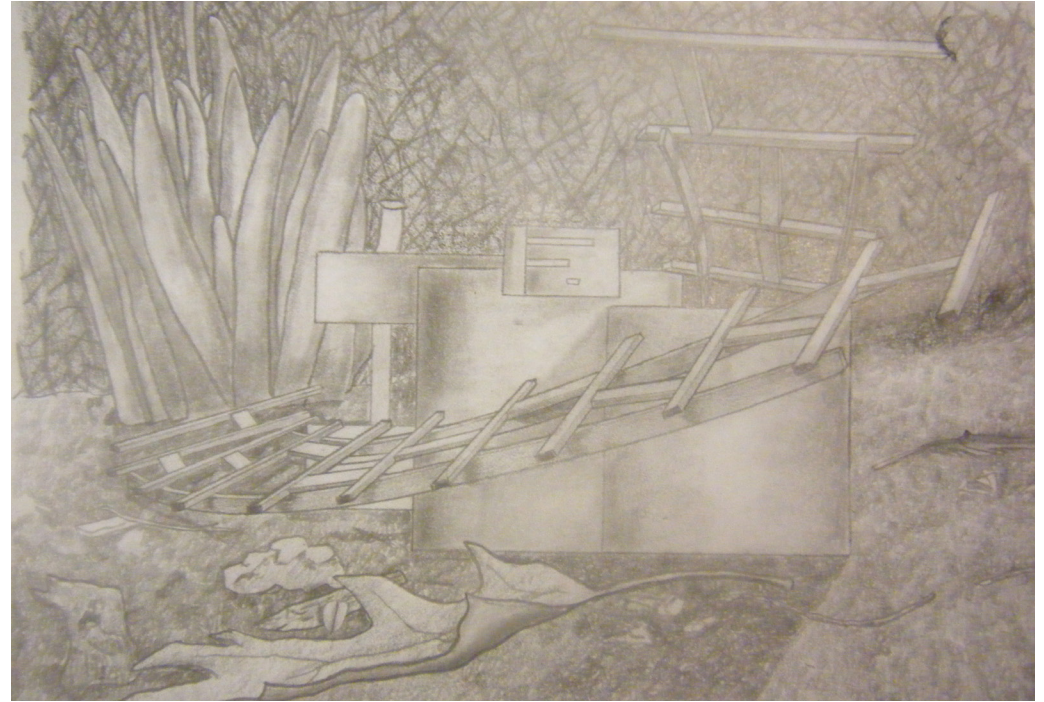


SOPHOMORE YEAR
HAND SKETCHES



MODEL PLACED IN LANDSCAPE

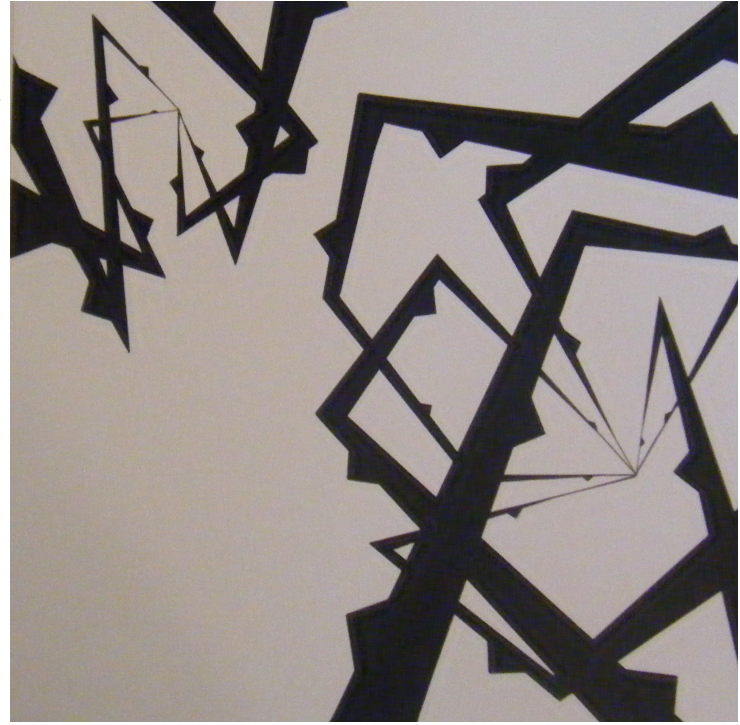
CRITERIA OF PROJECT WAS TO PROVIDE A
HAND SKETCH OF AN ABSTRACT MODEL
NO LARGER THAN 8" X 8" PLACED IN
A REAL LANDSCAPE SETTING



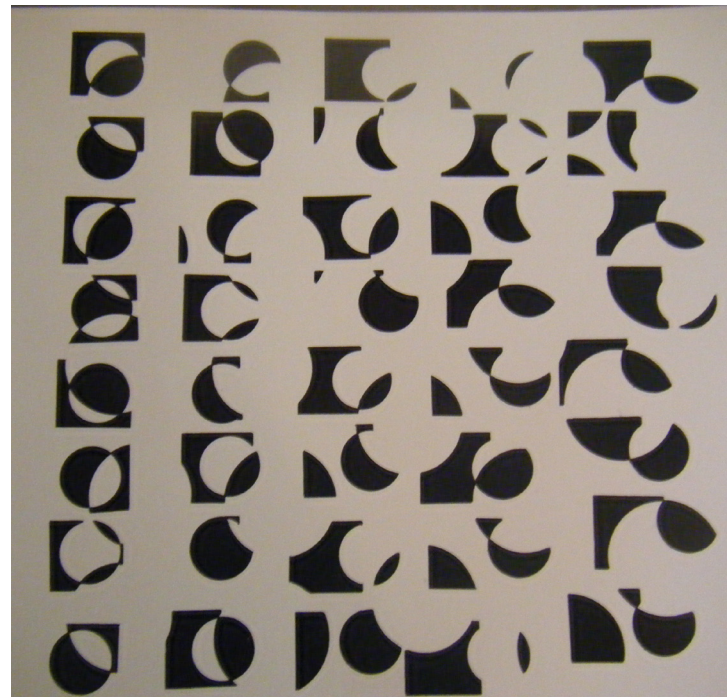
SOPHOMORE YEAR

INKED CHARETTES

criteria
draw 10 lines
that all intersect



criteria
draw a design
then choose sections
to rotate



criteria
using only two
shapes make a
unique connection



RESUMÉ



KEITH G. PODALAK

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708/638-3038 (Cell)

12410 South Nashville Avenue
Palos Heights, IL 60463

[Graduate Portfolio \(Condensed\)](#)

[Portfolio](#)

708/638-3038 (Cell)
708/389-3222 (Home)

EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS - URBANA/CHAMPAIGN

School of Architecture, Award Date - May 2014 (Graduate Student)

2012-Present

Candidate: M. Arch (Masters of Architecture)

Candidate: M.S.C.E.E (Masters of Science in Civil Engineering)

2008-2012

School of Architecture, Undergraduate Degree Awarded May 2012

Degree: Bachelor of Science in Architectural Studies,

DESIGN PROGRAMS/SKILLS

- ▶ LEED Trained
- ▶ Adobe PhotoShop, Illustrator, InDesign
- ▶ AutoCAD, Revit, 3DS Max
- ▶ Sage (Timberline) Office and Estimating
- ▶ Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint
- ▶ Corel WordPerfect, Presentations

AWARDS RECEIVED

2008-Present

- ▶ Chi Epsilon, National Civil Engineering Honor Society
- ▶ Phi Sigma Theta National Honor Society
- ▶ University of Illinois, Architecture, Schwenk Scholarship
- ▶ University of Illinois, President Award - Merit
- ▶ University of Illinois, Avery Brundage Academic/Athletic Scholarship
- ▶ EIC American Institute of Architects Award/Scholarship
- ▶ Eagle Scout Award - Project: Toy Collection for Disabled Touch Therapy
- ▶ 13 years Perfect Attendance - Kindergarten through High School

Urbana/Champaign
Urbana/Champaign
Urbana/Champaign

EMPLOYMENT

STATE OF ILLINOIS, Department of Corrections (217/558-2200 x4358)

Intern; Sustainability Committee Member, Specification Review, Data Input

2013-Present
Springfield, IL

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Teaching Assistant for Environment Tech - HVAC, Lighting & Acoustics

2012-2013
Urbana-Champaign, IL

CRAIG A. PODALAK ARCHITECTS (708/389-3333)

Intern; Miscellaneous Drafting and Filing, Verification of Field Conditions

2008-Present
Palos Heights, IL

FRONTIER CONSTRUCTION (708/460-9669)

Estimating Coordinator, Database Administrator

Summer 2012
Willowbrook, IL

115 BOURBON STREET (708/388-8881)

Server - Food, Beverage, Customer Contact

2010-2012
Merrionette Park, IL

PREMIER CONSTRUCTION (708/772-4500)

Construction Laborer

2008-2009
Orland Park, IL

ACTIVITIES

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS MEN'S VOLLEYBALL, NATIONAL COMPETITION

- ▶ Gold Medal, National Collegiate Libero, Individual Award
- ▶ National Collegiate All-Tournament Team, Individual Award
- ▶ Big 10 Defensive Player of the Year, Big 10 Defensive Player of Tournament
- ▶ National Champions, Men's Collegiate Volleyball, Team Award

2008-Present
2009 and 2010
2009, 2010, 2012, 2013

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

- ▶ Habitat for Humanity

2009
Urbana/Champaign

TRAVELS

- ▶ Architectural Tours, Buildings, and Galleries
United States, Canada, Mexico

REFERENCES

Will be provided upon request.

KEITH G. PODALAK - COLLEGE ACTIVITIES, AWARDS, HONORS

University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana - Graduate Architecture GPA 3.4, Civil Engineering 3.2 2012-Present
University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana - Undergraduate GPA = 3.2 2008-2012

University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana Award 2013

- Chicago Design Prize Nominee, Runner-Up
- Chi Epsilon, National Civil Engineering Honor Society
- Phi Sigma Theta National Honor Society
- University of Illinois, Architecture, Schwenk Scholarship
- University of Illinois, President Award - Merit
- University of Illinois, Avery Brundage Academic/Athletic Scholarship
- EIC American Institute of Architects Award/Scholarship

Urbana/Champaign
Urbana/Champaign
Urbana/Champaign

University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana Club Volleyball
• Awarded Gold Medal as National College Libero (Individual Award) 2009, 2010, 2012, 2013
• Named to the National All-Tournament Team (Individual Award) 2009
• National Champions, 1st Place (Team Award of 300+ teams) 2009
• Big 10 Defensive Player of the Year, Big 10 Defensive Player of the Tournament 2013

Civic/Service/Church

- Eagle Scout (Boy Scouts of America) - Project: Toy Collection for Disabled Touch Therapy 2006-Present

HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES, AWARDS, HONORS

National Society of High School Scholars (Dean's List GPA = 5.2 on a 5.0 scale) 2006-2008
Perfect Attendance (13 years - Kindergarten through Senior Year High School) 1995-2008
Brother Patrick Magee Service Award (Awarded to one boy/girl from Marist Senior class) 2007

- Recent service projects include:
 - Organized donation to create a revolving library among local senior nursing centers
 - Organized continual donations of stuffed toys to disabled children (4 years)
 - Paved reading patio/newsstand for train station in Palos Park, Illinois
 - Renovated The Center in Palos Park, Illinois (painted and repaired)

Student Ambassador / Student Council

National Young Leaders

- Representative Candidate to Washington, D.C. Seminar

Eucharistic Minister (Senior Year)

Who's Who in American High School Students - Academics

Who's Who in American High School Students - Athletics

Civic/Church Activities

- Eagle Scout (Fall 2007), Boy Scout Senior Leader and Instructor, Chair - Seasonal Road Cleanup
- TRAIN Youth Group Leader, TRAIN Coach - Softball, Basketball, Volleyball
- Sertoma Adults - Volunteer helping at activities, including parties and dances

High School Band - Four (4) years Marching, Concert, and Pep 2004-2008

- First Trumpet, Squad Leader, Section Leader
- Played at the Alamo Bowl, Disney World and a concert tour in New York, including Princeton University, as well as fifteen (20) local parades
- Summer Band Camp Instructor for Freshmen (Cadre - 3 Years), Trumpet, Guitar, Piano

Volleyball - Marist Three (3) years, Starter Varsity Team

- Individual Awards
- Player of the Year - ESCC Conference
- All-Conference Award 2007 and 2008
- All-Area Team for Star, Regional, and Southtown Economist Newspapers
- Top 20 Players of Illinois (2008 Chicago Tribune and 2008 Chicago Sun Times)
- Team Awards (Final Ranking: Top 10 in State)
- Conference Champions 2006, 2007, 2008; Regional Champions 2008

Soccer - Marist - Four (4) years, Starter Varsity Team 2004-2007

- Individual Awards:
 - Chicago Fire All-State All-Academic (2007)
 - All-Area (2007)
 - All-Sectional (2007 and 2006)
 - All-Conference (2007)
 - Most Valuable Player
- Team Awards: Regional Champions (2007 and 2005)

Marist Basketball Team - One (1) year, Starting 2nd Baseman 2004

Marist Baseball Team - One (1) year, Starting Point Guard 2004

Club Volleyball (High School) - Starting Libero, National Jr. Olympic Qualifier 2004-2008

Club Soccer (High School and Indoor) - All Years 2004-Present