

**(Un)Making Places:**  
*Supportive Housing As Human Infrastructure*

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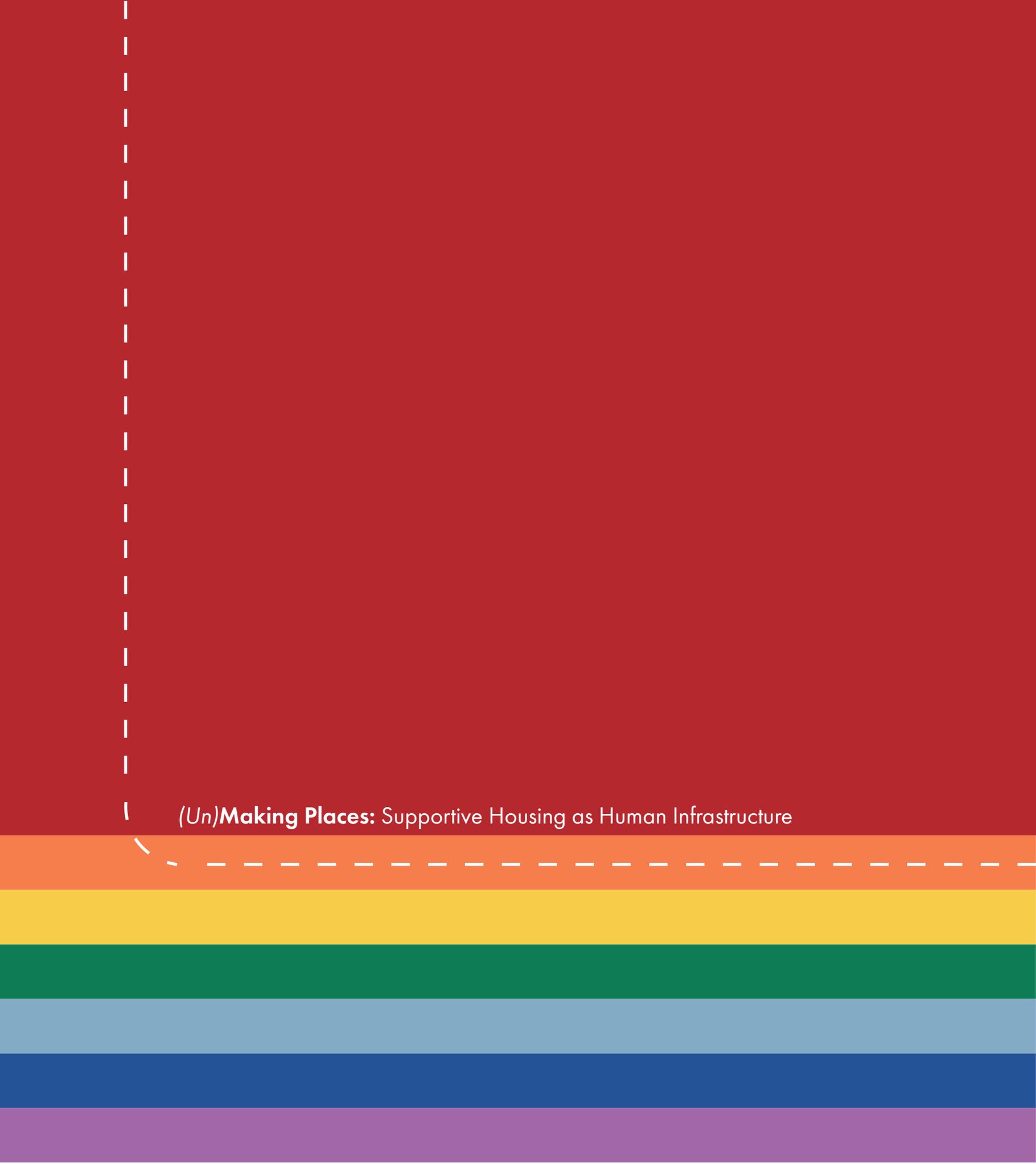
Master of Architecture  
in Architecture

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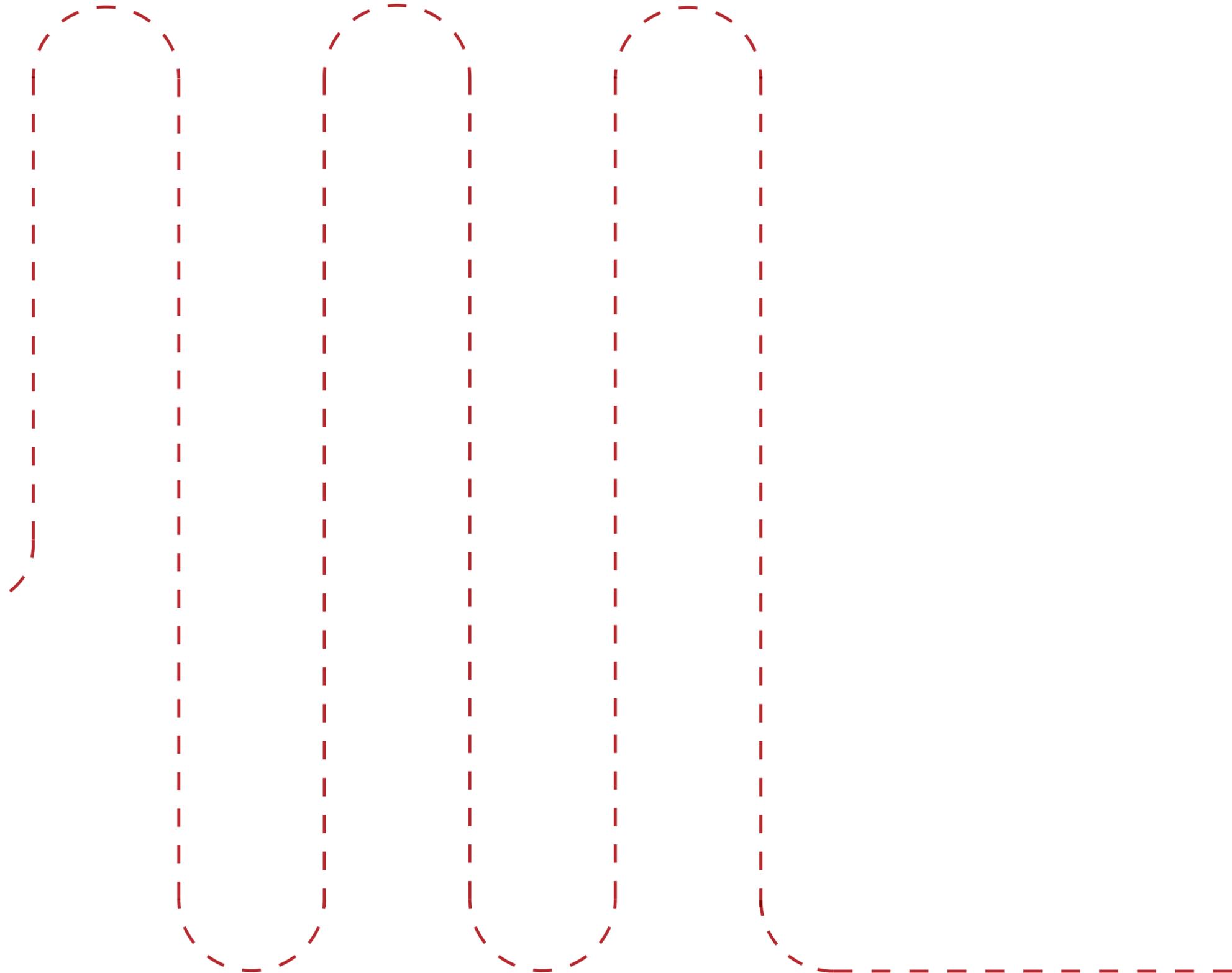
*(Un)***Making Places:** Supportive Housing as Human Infrastructure

(Un)Making Places: Supportive Housing as Human Infrastructure

Eliezer O. Perez II

A B S T R A C T

Homelessness is a layered issue, not only limited to social justice, but also impacting architectural and urban planning concerns. Treated as an identity rather than a temporary condition, many cities fail to address the complex variety of external factors which contribute to homelessness. The result often being budget-driven shelters congregated in already resource deficient, low income areas. The misconception that homelessness only happens in a city's poorest areas is rooted in prejudice and functions to only further prevent the same types of developments seen in more desirable neighborhoods. With a specific socioeconomic climate and disparity in Orlando, Florida, Parramore presents itself as an opportune place to provide a central downtown sanctuary that additionally will provide greater access to necessary services for the adjacent neighborhoods. A study of queer theory and ergonomics were an integral part of the design process. The former primarily concerned with the development of queer spaces from illicit "underground" safe havens of refuge built out of a necessity to exist freely in space (a precursor to present-day DIY culture) to now transparent, integrated queer spaces existing almost indifferently to the naked eye. The emergent idea being that together, the community campus is intended as an accessible series of places, rather than a singularly defined one.



**G E N E R A L   A U D I E N C E   A B S T R A C T**

Homelessness is a social issue which affects everyone. There is a long history of intolerance towards the homeless which is evidenced by discriminatory policies that prevent the homeless from existing in the public and/or stress a homeless individual's ability to access the necessary services needed to escape homelessness. Current housing assistance for the homeless are often limited by inconsistent access to services (e.g. healthcare, counseling, job assistance, etc.), traditional living arrangements, availability, accessibility, and budget-driven designs. Additionally, the social stigma around homelessness is counterproductive to a critically vulnerable group of people's recovery and re-assimilation into society. Supporting the development and design exploration of services such as permanent supportive housing is beneficial because it is a model focused on embedding users into the community through thoughtful and holistic design. (i.e. a housing assistance service which places chronically homeless individuals into market-rate apartments or similar residential dwelling; usually centrally located and/or connected to necessary services). Another important aspect of this thesis is exploring non-traditional sites for such projects as it is equally as important for city's to reassess the opportunity to renew areas lost to discriminatory planning. This thesis references various ideas, philosophies, and design strategies borrowed from similar vulnerable groups to establish connections and create a roadmap for how the architectural intervention will be developed for the specific user group and site context. It is my hope that this optimistic reimagining of lost spaces as sites for supportive housing and community can help redefine what and who homelessness is and shed light on how services could like moving forward into the future.

“Relentlessly optimistic.”

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Abstract/General Audience Abstract .....	iii
Introduction .....	1
Research .....	3
Perspective .....	25
(Un)Making Places .....	33
Site Analysis .....	51
Case Studies .....	95
Early Studies .....	101
Design Proposal .....	117
Conclusion .....	192
References: Images .....	193
References: Bibliography .....	197

# I N T R O D U C T I O N

Homelessness is a layered issue, not only limited to social justice, but also impacting architectural and urban planning concerns. Treated as an identity rather than a temporary condition, many cities fail to address the complex variety of external factors which contribute to homelessness. The result often being budget-driven housing assistance programs congregated in already resource deficient, low-income areas. The misconception that homelessness only happens in a city's poorest areas is rooted in prejudice and functions to only further prevent the same types of developments seen in more "desirable" neighborhoods. In reality, it is a human condition universally experienced by all demographics and yet national and local resources often fail to provide a holistic place of refuge for arguably the most chronically vulnerable group of people in America. Current housing services are limited by their lack of focus on access to preventative services, traditional living arrangements, availability, transparency, and most significantly in its relation to this thesis: assimilation into their communities.

With a specific socioeconomic climate and disparity in Orlando, Florida, Parramore presents itself as an opportune place to provide a central downtown sanctuary that additionally will provide greater access to necessary services for the adjacent neighborhoods. Despite experiencing dwindling development over the decades, Parramore has remained resilient as a culturally rich community, being the city's oldest and largest historically black neighborhood. This offers a location imbued with the transformative powers of survival; a necessity in maintaining community (protection). It also serves as an opportunity to reconnect the existing potential of a once thriving sector of the downtown area back to the city at large through architectural intervention. A specific consideration regarding the site election was equity. The interstate underpass which bisects Parramore from the downtown from its inception was largely motivated by discriminatory planning practices, i.e. "slum clearing," largely popularized by Robert Moses. Over 600 structures in Parramore were destroyed via eminent domain for the highway's construction and it's negative socioeconomic impact can still be seen today. The architectural intervention focuses on rebuilding this lost area of the Parramore community. The paths of desire homelessness often takes us are, ironically, never desirable: underpasses, alleyways, abandoned structures, stoops, policed public parks, "tent cities," etc. Conceptually, the site's centrality puts homelessness on the "main stage" of the city. Transparency is transformative. In praxis, the development's mixed complex of residential, assembly, and services in a challenging atypical site creates a new precedent to reference moving forward.

The proposed community campus focuses on a wide range of demographics but data provided by the Coalition for the Homeless, influenced design and programming to be focused primarily around single adults and student age youths (the two largest groups by percentage of Orlando's homeless population). Spaces range from individual, group and mixed collective use, reflecting that healing and individuality is a comprehensive process. Together they create a milieu in which a means of establishing self, a reliable network of resources, and reintegration into society en masse is possible with dignity.

A study of queer theory and ergonomics were an integral part of the design process. The former primarily concerned with the development of queer spaces from illicit "underground" safe havens of refuge built out of a necessity to exist freely in space (a precursor to present-day DIY culture) to now transparent, integrated queer spaces existing almost indifferently to the naked eye. Ideologically, themes of transparency as a transformative power and the concept of camp heavily influenced the rationalization behind site selection, provided a framework for the success of the proposed master plan, and the repeating pattern of porosity throughout the campus. The latter, ergonomics, is an emphasis on the root of the campus: the user, i.e. the individual. Permanent supportive housing is located in curvilinear bays, which from exterior to interior are designed in a continuous line of human-conscious design. Operable windows placed on either side of the facades capture indirect daylight and establish passive cooling through a natural cross-breeze felt internally and in the exposed circulatory breezeways. Interior spaces are organized by an ergonomic millwork form that establishes zones for cooking, bathing, and living. The goal being an emphasized sense of permanence and an efficient usage of the SRO's small footprint. Other users are welcomed into the supportive housing center's campus of services and drop-in programs, such as counseling, education, sustainable food sources and recreation through a porosity felt around the campus' perimeter. Retail, dining and large assembly spaces located along the campus' public edge are programmed to create a symbiotic relationship between residents and potential neighborhood users. Circulation flows freely from interior to exterior, shared to protected, and done so in a multitude of ways to emphasize the duality of public and private components. The emergent idea being that together, the community campus is intended as an accessible series of places, rather than a singularly defined one.

Through direct access to necessary services and empathetic dwelling spaces, the campus will provide users the opportunity to shed the identity-less identity of homelessness, celebrating their individuality and humanity, as well as upholding the resiliency of Parramore. The potential of urban infrastructure ultimately becomes possible by simply re-contextualizing it as: **human infrastructure.**

YOU CANT HIDE  
HOMELESSNESS



RESEARCH

# H O M E L E S S N E S S

## BY THE NUMBERS: U.S.A.

According to the National Alliance to End Homelessness's 2020 report, seventeen out of every 10,000 people in the United States were experiencing homelessness on a single night in January 2019 during HUD's Annual Point-in-Time Count. These 567,715 people represent a cross-section of America. They are associated with every region of the country, family status, gender category, and racial/ethnic group. No group of people is removed from homelessness; **it is a part of the human experience.**



## TOTAL NUMBER OF PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS PER YEAR BY TYPE 2019

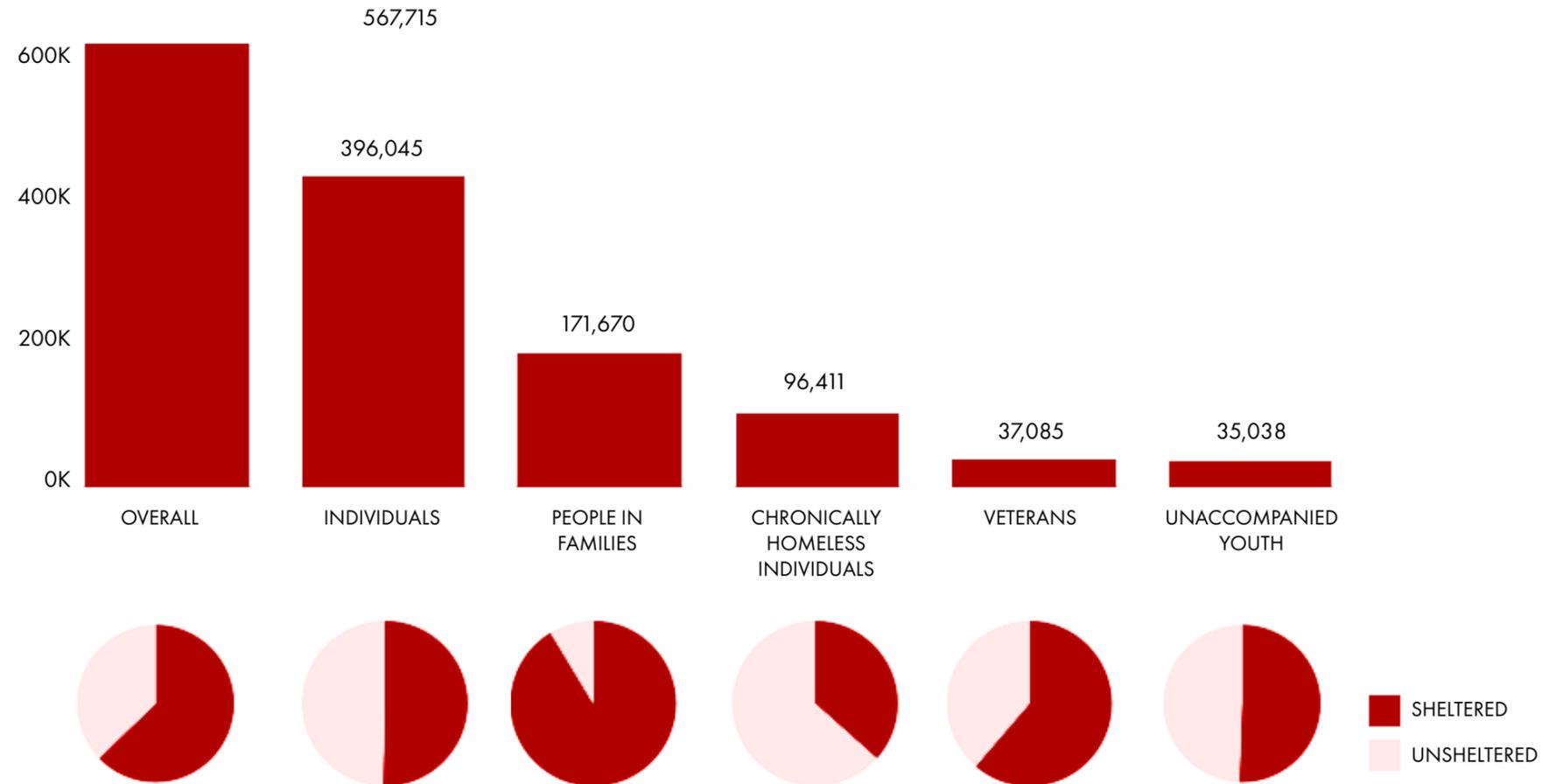


Fig.1 (Above): TOTAL NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN THE USA EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS PER YEAR BY TYPE 2019; *The National Alliance to End Homelessness.*

# H I G H L I G H T S

## L A R G E S U B P O P U L A T I O N S :



*Individuals.* Seventy percent of people experiencing homelessness are individuals who are living on their own or in the company of other adults. The remainder (30 percent) are people in families with children.



*Males.* Homelessness is significantly defined by gender. Sixty percent of all people experiencing homelessness are male. Amongst individuals, the numbers are starker—70 percent are men and unaccompanied male youth.

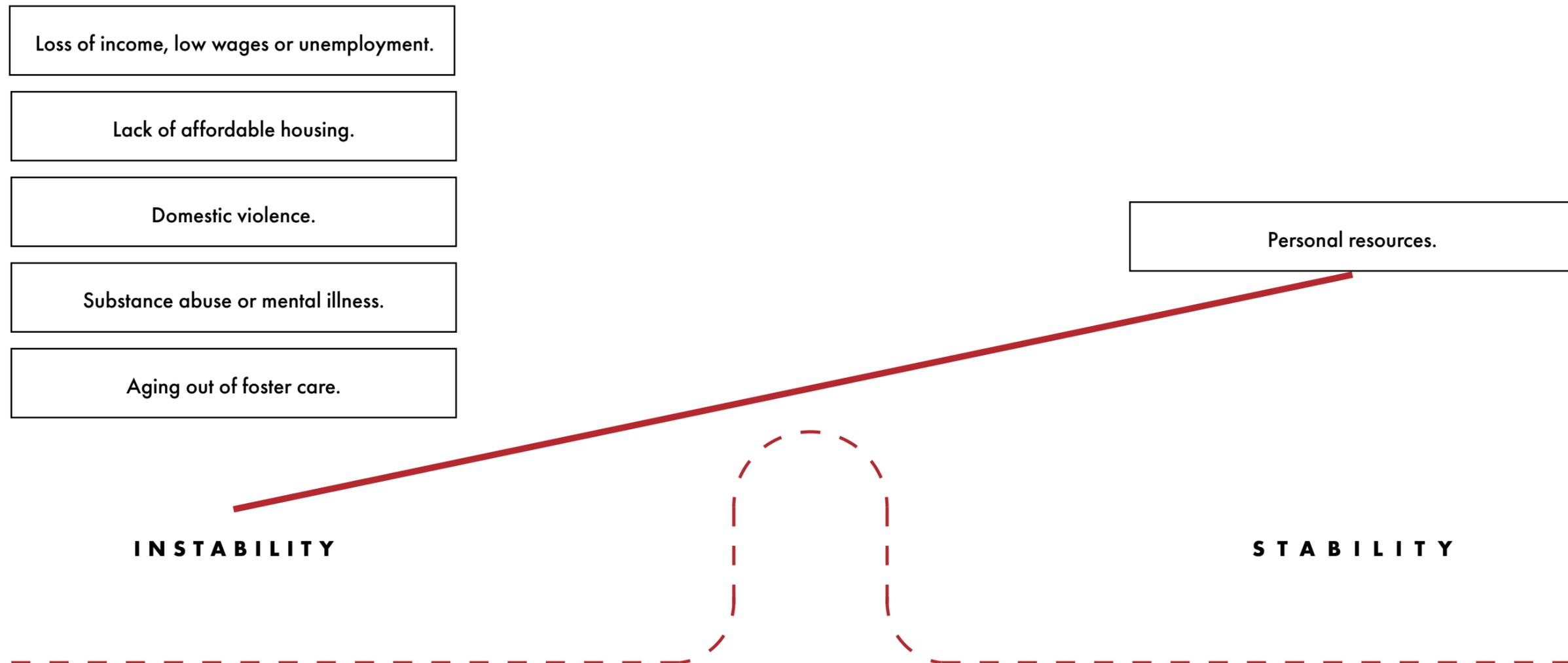


*Unsheltered.* Far too many people in America sleep outside and in other locations not meant for human habitation. This group includes more than 200,000 people (37 percent of the overall population). Among individuals experiencing homelessness, the numbers are more dire—1 in 2 are unsheltered.

# H O M E L E S S N E S S

## MAIN CONTRIBUTORS

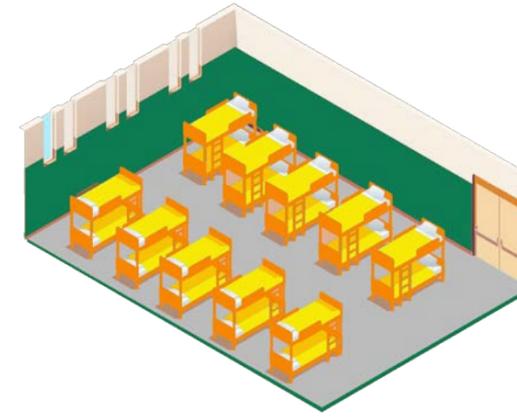
Homelessness is an emergent situation, with many different contributing factors that impact both those experiencing homelessness and the entire community. Many cities which struggle with a deficit in affordable housing, also fail to have their minimum wage meet the standard cost of living. Meaning that sometimes any loss of income/resources whether due to unsteady economic times, domestic violence, substance abuse, mental illness, foster care limitations or some combination thereof, can be the defining factor in one's agency over their safety and security .



# I N T E R V E N T I O N

## HOMELESS ASSISTANCE TYPES

Generally, homeless services are not equipped to fully meet the needs of everyone experiencing homelessness. Working in spite of this is a range of housing services, each attempting to meet various scales of needs. The most commonly thought of housing assistance service is the emergency shelter, and for good reason. A 2007 report on bed inventory trends from the Nat'l Alliance to End Homelessness showed that emergency shelters equaled more or less in number to alternative housing services but the 2019 report shows that the number of temporary housing beds has trended down by 9 percent, while the number of permanent housing beds (Permanent Supportive Housing, Rapid Re-Housing, and Other) has increased by 20 percent over the last five years. These numbers reflect a shift in policy priorities. Renewed emphasis is on ending homelessness by moving more people into permanent housing, rather than allowing them to linger indefinitely in shelters and unsheltered locations.

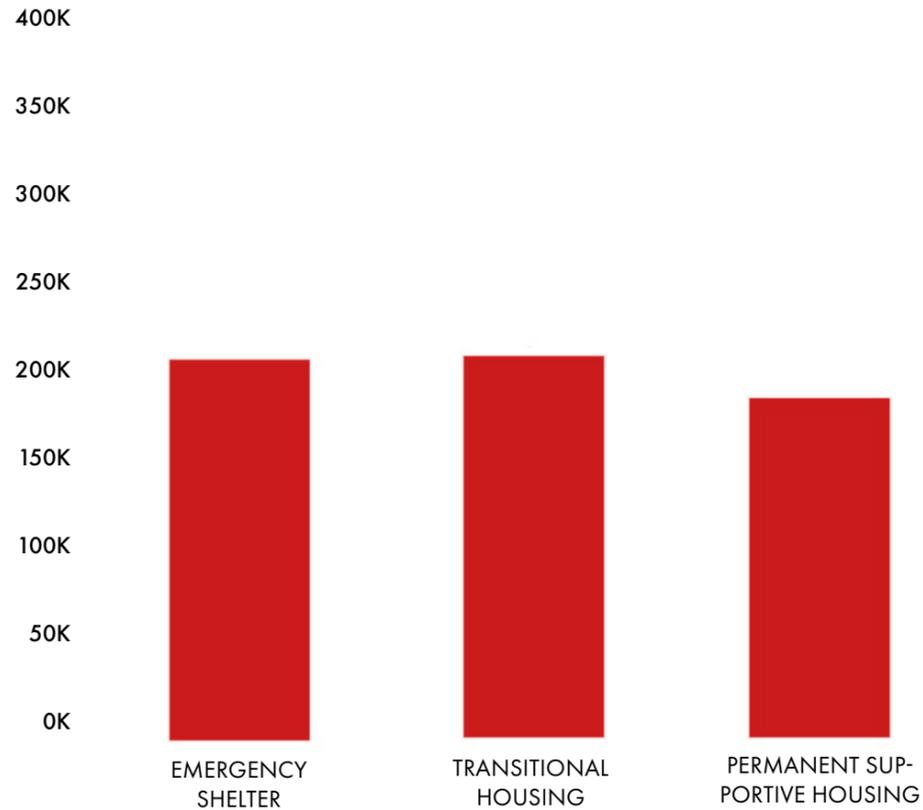


E M E R G E N C Y  
S H E L T E R



S U P P O R T I V E  
H O U S I N G

HOMELESS ASSISTANCE BED INVENTORY TRENDS, 2007



HOMELESS ASSISTANCE BED INVENTORY TRENDS, 2019

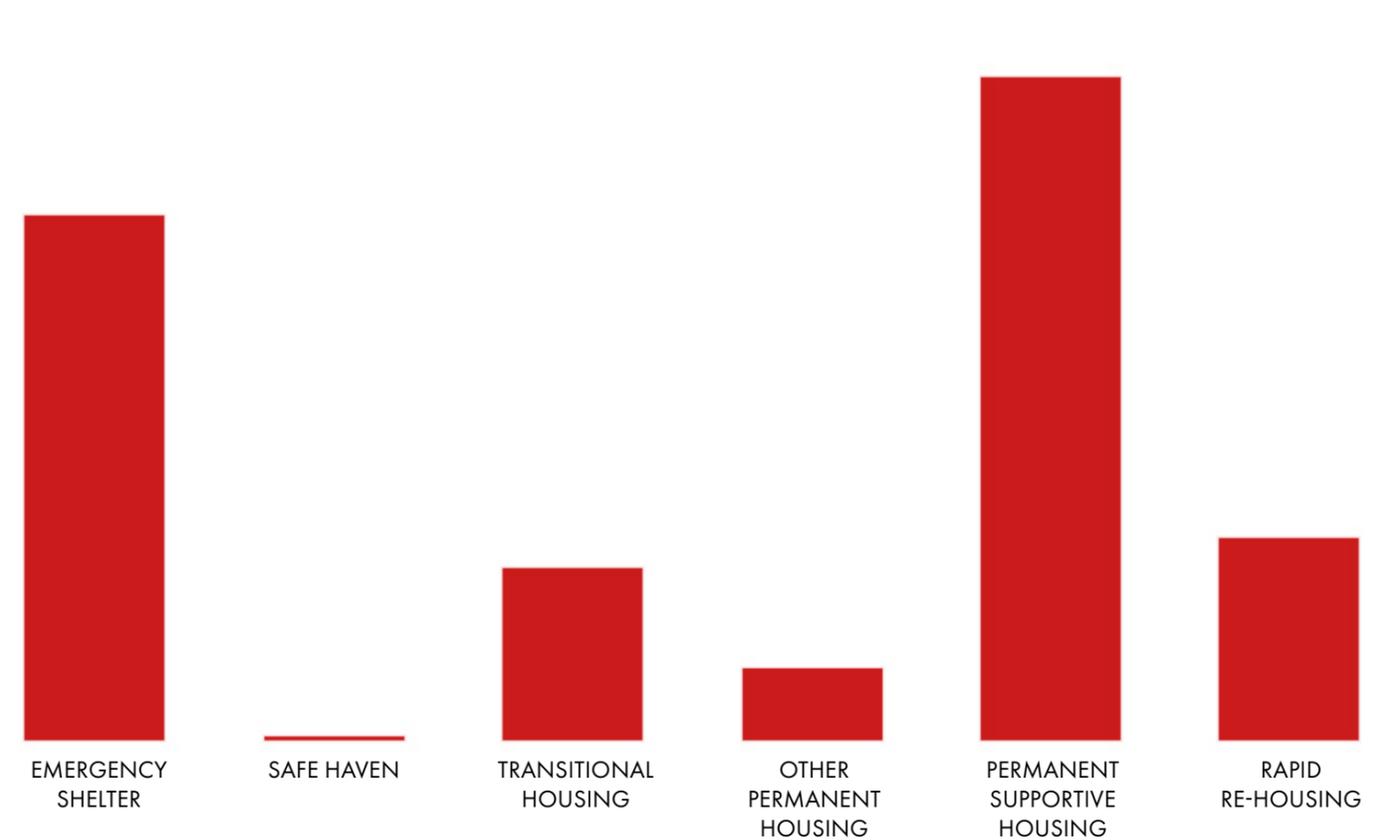


Fig.2 (Top Right): GRAPHIC VISUALIZATION OF (2) HOMELESS HOUSING ASSISTANCE SERVICES, (LEFT) AN EMERGENCY SHELTER AND (RIGHT) A SUPPORTIVE HOUSING PROGRAM; Graphics by Adriana Heldiz.

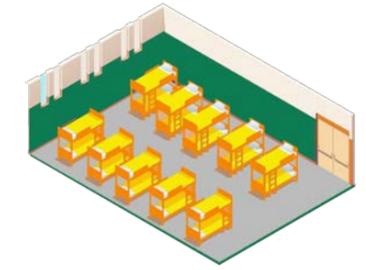
Fig.3 (Bottom): HOMELESS ASSISTANCE BED INVENTORY TRENDS 2007 V. 2019; *The National Alliance to End Homelessness*.

# I N T E R V E N T I O N

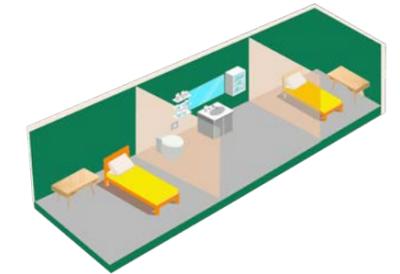
## SHORTCOMINGS: HOUSING

While additional services outside the visualized range below exist, for the purposes of this thesis, focus was placed on the four most prevalent /commonly thought-of housing models. Reported issues for which there is data for are assumed to be representative of the larger housing assistance industry not discussed.

	EMERGENCY SHELTER	TRANSITIONAL HOUSING	PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING	AFFORDABLE HOUSING
PURPOSE	Temporary safe haven while more permanent housing is attempted to be secured.	Provide a program which if followed could lead to placement support; HUD pushed away from program type in 2015.	Targeted at chronically homeless individuals, i.e. those who have lived on the streets for years and are particularly	Income-restricted housing; major contributor of homelessness is unavailability of affordable housing.
DURATION	A couple days - a couple months.	A couple months - a couple years.	Varies, could be a couple years to an indefinite amount of time.	Indefinite.
IMPACT OF LOCATION	Geographically limited to areas of known activity; often undisclosed; security is prevalent.	Geographically limited to areas of known activity; security is prevalent.	Apartment, residential home, embedded in community, need to have access to community services.	Apartment, residential home, embedded in community, need to have access to community services.
AGENCY	Program is usually in control of user's access to services and general condition.	Program is usually in control of user's access to services and general condition.	User is primarily in control; emphasis on self-agency and pro/cons of individual actions.	User is in complete control.
OFFERED SERVICES	Safety, basic needs, shared living quarters, placement support, etc.	Safety, basic needs, dormitory style living quarters, placement support, case management, etc.	Safety, basic needs, placement support, SRO living, access to services, academic, vocational, case management, etc.	Community, sometimes access to services, income restricted rent, safety.
DESIGN IMPACT	Design is usually budget-driven, gymnasium-style living, institutional aesthetic...	Design varies as funding could be public or private; typically though there is an institutional aesthetic...	Design is on par or exceeds existing quality and is of similar style of surrounding context; human-conscious.	Design is on par or exceeds market rate quality and style of surrounding context; human-conscious.



EMERGENCY  
SHELTER



TRANSITIONAL  
HOUSING



PERMANENT  
SUPPORTIVE



AFFORDABLE  
HOUSING

Fig. 4. GRAPHIC VISUALIZATION OF (4) OF THE MOST COMMON HOMELESS HOUSING ASSISTANCE TYPES; Graphics by Adriana Heldiz.

# PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

## THESIS PROGRAM

Permanent supportive housing is a relatively newer, yet promising holistic model of housing assistance. Typically, these programs operate under the ideology of “housing first.” Permanent supportive housing is the residential program of this thesis project as it is the only holistic and most comprehensive program in terms of approach, intervention, recovery, and education. There is also a general attitude towards the design of supportive housing that is in line with the idea of designing homes with thought and dignity, and not necessarily design that is just purely budget driven.

“Housing first prioritizes providing permanent housing to people experiencing homelessness, thus ending their homelessness and serving as a platform for which they can pursue personal goals and improve their quality of life. This approach is guided by the belief that people need basic necessities like food and a place to live before attending to anything less critical, such as getting a job, budgeting properly, or attending to substance abuse issues. Supportive services are offered to support people with housing stability and individual well-being, but participation is not required as services have been found to be more effective when a person chooses to engage. Permanent supportive housing has been found to be cost efficient. Providing access to housing generally results in cost savings for communities because housed people are less likely to use emergency services, including hospitals, jails, and emergency shelter, than those who are homeless.”

- National Alliance to End Homelessness

Fig. 5. GRAPHIC VISUALIZATION OF A SUPPORTIVE HOUSING CENTER; Graphics by Adriana Heldiz.



## PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

- APARTMENT
- OFFICE
- COMMUNITY
- CAFETERIA
- INTERNET

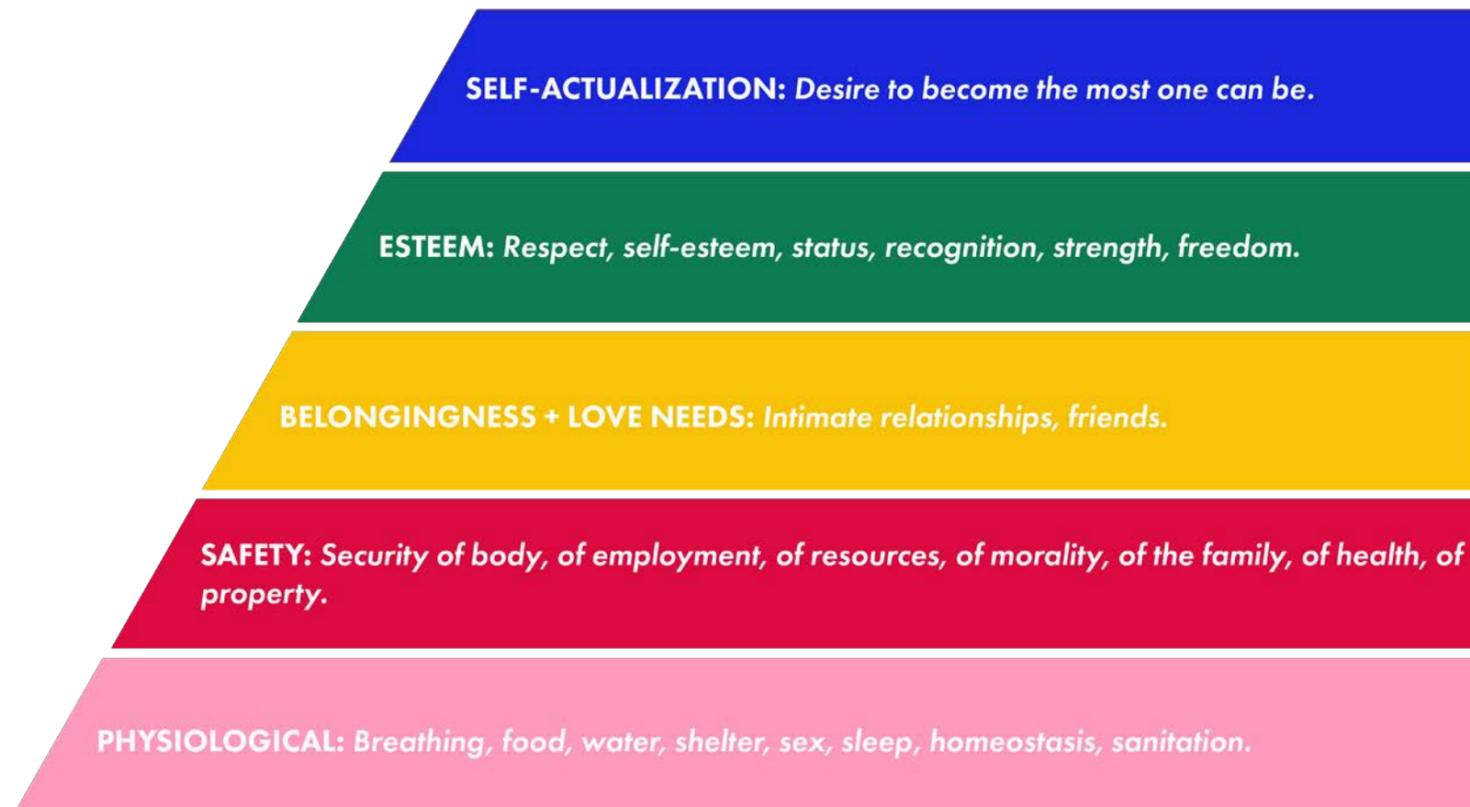


Fig. 6. Diagram explaining the various stages, ascended vertically from bottom to top, of Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs.

**P E R M A N E N T  
S U P P O R T I V E  
H O U S I N G**

**MASLOW'S HIERARCHY OF NEEDS**

A different way of looking at this housing assistance type, is seeing it as a program structured around Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs -- a psychological concept that essentially asserts that in order to grow as people, we first must have our physical needs met (e.g., shelter, food, safety, etc.).

The root of homelessness is the absence of a permanent home, which is why housing first prioritizes home placement as that ends a person's homelessness. This fulfills the base of a person's needs, our physiological ones. Only after achieving this can we begin to work on things such as security (many of the elements falling under this category being typical services provided in supportive housing centers), and beyond that our interpersonal relationships (program and community engagement), and self-agency.

# I N T E R V E N T I O N

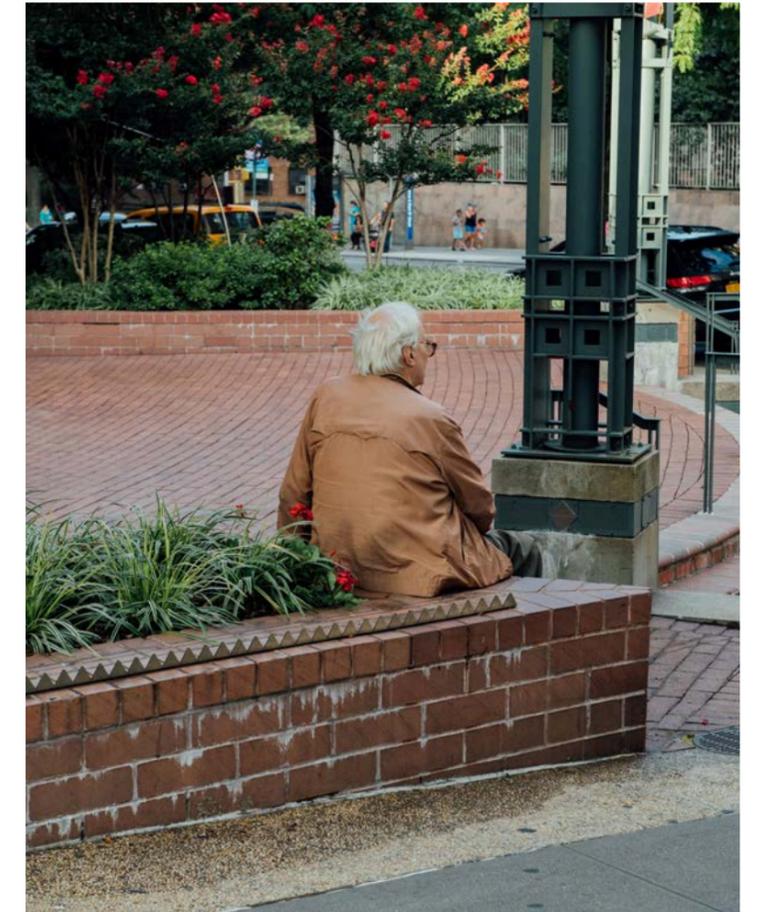
## SHORTCOMINGS: PUBLIC SPACE

**Hostile Architecture** : noun [uncountable] the planning and design of buildings or public spaces in a way which discourages people from touching, climbing or sitting on them, with the intention of avoiding damage or use for a different purpose.

While steps have been taken to address homelessness through various housing services, there is still the larger issue of how homelessness is perceived by society, i.e. those who have never been homeless and/or are ignorant to the complexity of it. There are many misconceptions as to who is homeless, too much emphasis on the idea that homeless individuals deserve their situation and/or a general apathy (acceptance) of homelessness existing in general. Housing assistance quickly becomes no more than a specialized ghetto for the homeless when you look at the larger relationship of urban space and homelessness. Signage, policing, and hostile architecture are all utilized in the public urban realm to control who and how people occupy space, specifically, homeless populations. The obvious issue then becomes when housing assistance can not meet bed demands **and** homeless people are kept out of or made to feel unwelcome anywhere else. These types of measures do nothing to assist a critically vulnerable group of people, nor does it make any impact in ending homelessness. This is how homeless camps come to exist in the margins or liminal spaces of a city: stoops, alleys, underpasses, condemned/abandoned structures, forested areas, etc.

Fig 7 - Fig. 9. Common examples of hostile architecture, i.e. public elements designed to prevent usage by homeless individuals

Fig. 10. Example of a homeless encampment.



# I N T E R V E N T I O N

## SHORTCOMINGS: SLUM CLEARING | THESIS SITE CONSIDERATION

From the 1940's through the 1960s, the United States saw great post-war success. A booming economy and influx of returning soldiers led to the rise of suburbs as people increasingly needed greater space to accommodate what a greater spending budget could acquire, specifically: the automobile. This naturally led to greater traffic as commute times and the number of drivers greatly increased, pushing the government of the 40s and 50s to greatly subsidize road and highway construction by as much as 90% through the Federal Highway Act of 1944 and 1956, respectively, to jumpstart the nation's infrastructure. Black Americans were kept specifically out of this transition from the inner city to suburbs through a form of segregation and housing discrimination known as redlining. Many black Americans were denied home loans and any opportunity to buy into suburbs, a direct cause as to why so many inner cities are disproportionately black and suburbs so overwhelmingly white. Eventually inner cities became overly congested, and in the 60s-80s American planners began to heavily utilize planning ideologies popularized by Robert Moses, a strong proponent of aggressive highway construction. A particular idea he promoted was the idea of using strategically placed infrastructure as "slum clearance." The basic idea being that neighborhoods which were usually minority dominated could be razed partly or entirely through eminent domain to make way for the construction of "necessary" circulation to ease traffic congestion. Various civil rights acts would put an end to redlining and other flagrantly discriminatory practices, but the damages done can be felt generationally in communities never recovered. An undeniable consequence of displacing residents through eminent domain was homelessness and the lasting impacts, which have destroyed local economies and development opportunities. This has created a precarious environment lacking in many of the same quality and accessible resources seen in wealthier suburbs outside the city. As land values tend to also be much cheaper as a result of the aforementioned, these neighborhoods are generally populated by mostly low-income workers, making for a system that does nothing to uplift its community, and everything to ensure homelessness is eminent for many who are financially insecure. **This thesis focuses heavily on the spaces lost and created to infrastructure.**



Fig. 11. Over 600 properties were razed in the predominantly black Neighborhood of Parramore for the construction of Interstate-4; circa 1950's

I N T E R V E N T I O N  
OR INTOLERANCE ?

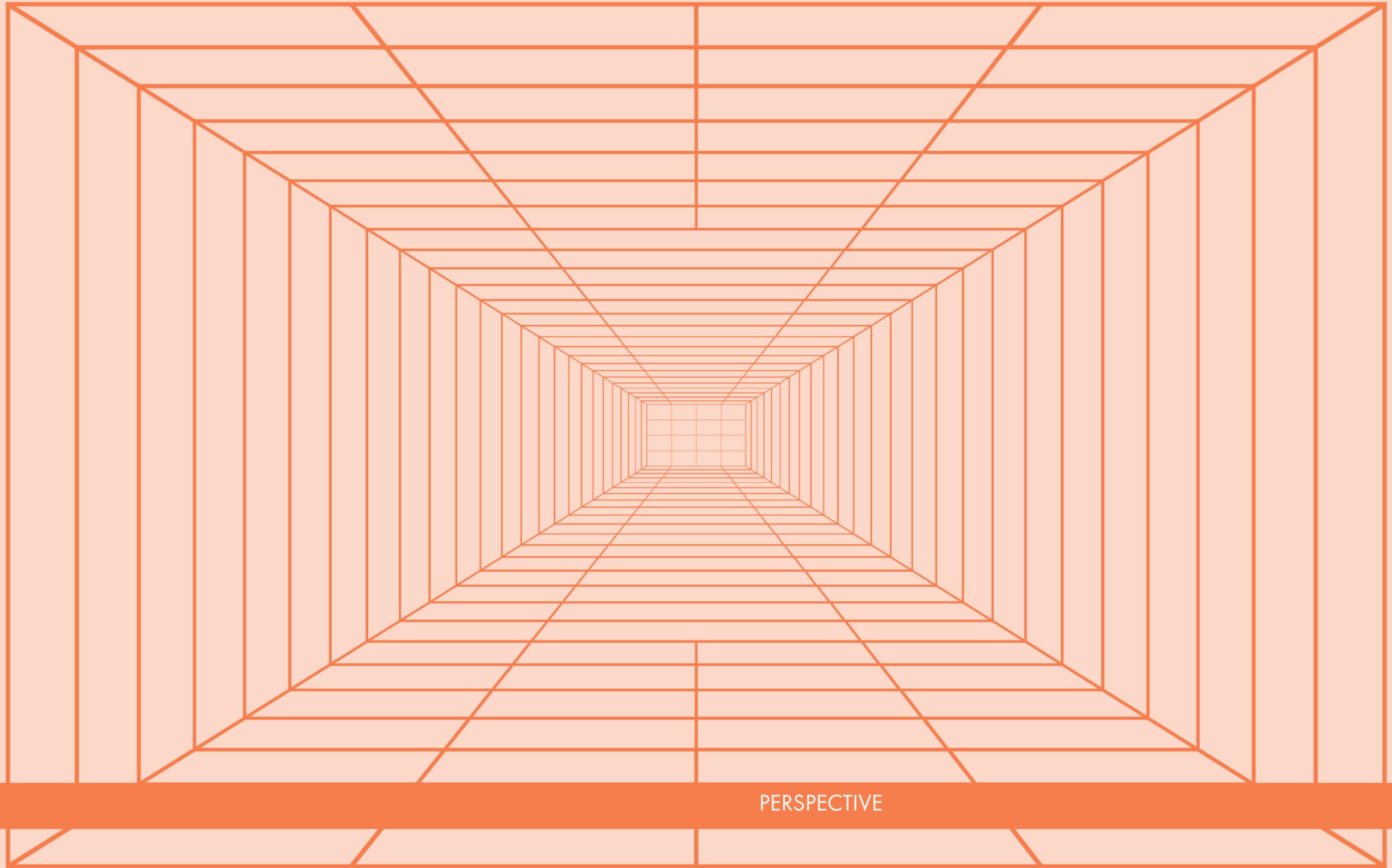
Despite data supporting that homelessness is experienced by a representative cross sample of all American groups, societal and political attitudes towards it is one more of maintenance than any real comprehensive attempt at prevention and true healing. Greater emphasis needs to be placed on transparency, we do not need to accept homelessness, but we do need to accept that it happens, and the resources provided should be seen just as commonplace and necessary as services such as healthcare, education, and other examples of **“human infrastructure.”**

**DO NOT  
LIE OR OTHERWISE  
BE IN A  
HORIZONTAL  
POSITION ON  
A PARK BENCH  
DO NOT  
SLEEP OR REMAIN  
IN ANY BUSHES,  
SHRUBS OR FOLIAGE  
PER CITY CODE SEC. 18A.09(A) AND (O)**

*Fig. 12 Posted signage at Lake Eola Park in Orlando,  
Florida.*

Q U E S T I O N S

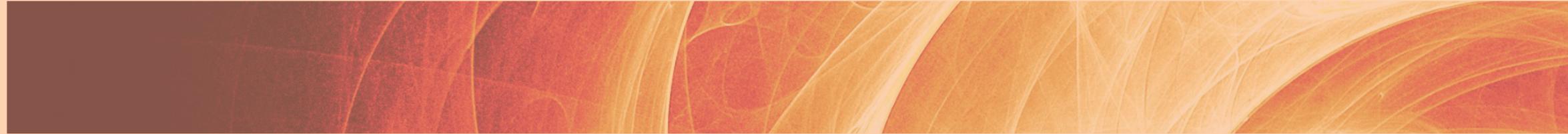
1. **Knowing that homelessness is highly stigmatized, how can design serve to normalize a truly vulnerable situation and do so with respect and dignity?**
2. **How can design serve to address the present problematic relationship between homelessness and the urban public realm.**
3. **How do we improve upon the existing range of housing assistance services?**
  - 3a. *How can permanent supportive housing specifically serve as an anchor for a much larger conversation on homelessness, public space and accessibility to community?*
4. **How can design address equity lost from the systems that were designed to control homelessness and displace people?**



PERSPECTIVE

"Nothing is lost, nothing is created, everything is transformed."  
--Antoine Lavoiser, *Law of Conservation*

Transformation is power, or rather the power. It is everything.



“Buildings and structures do not inherently and exclusively grant effects of freedom, no matter how much architects want them to.”

--Foucault

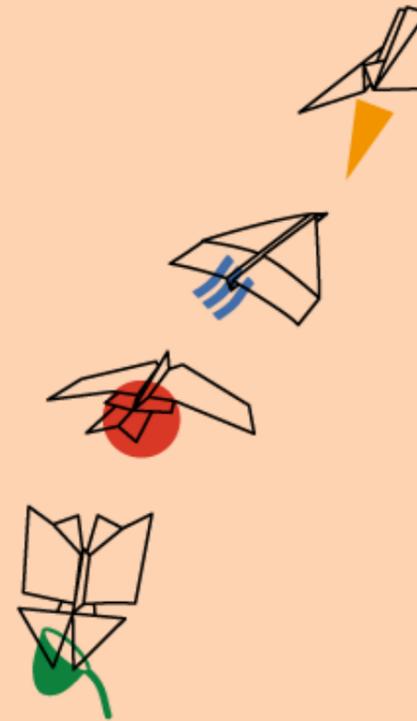
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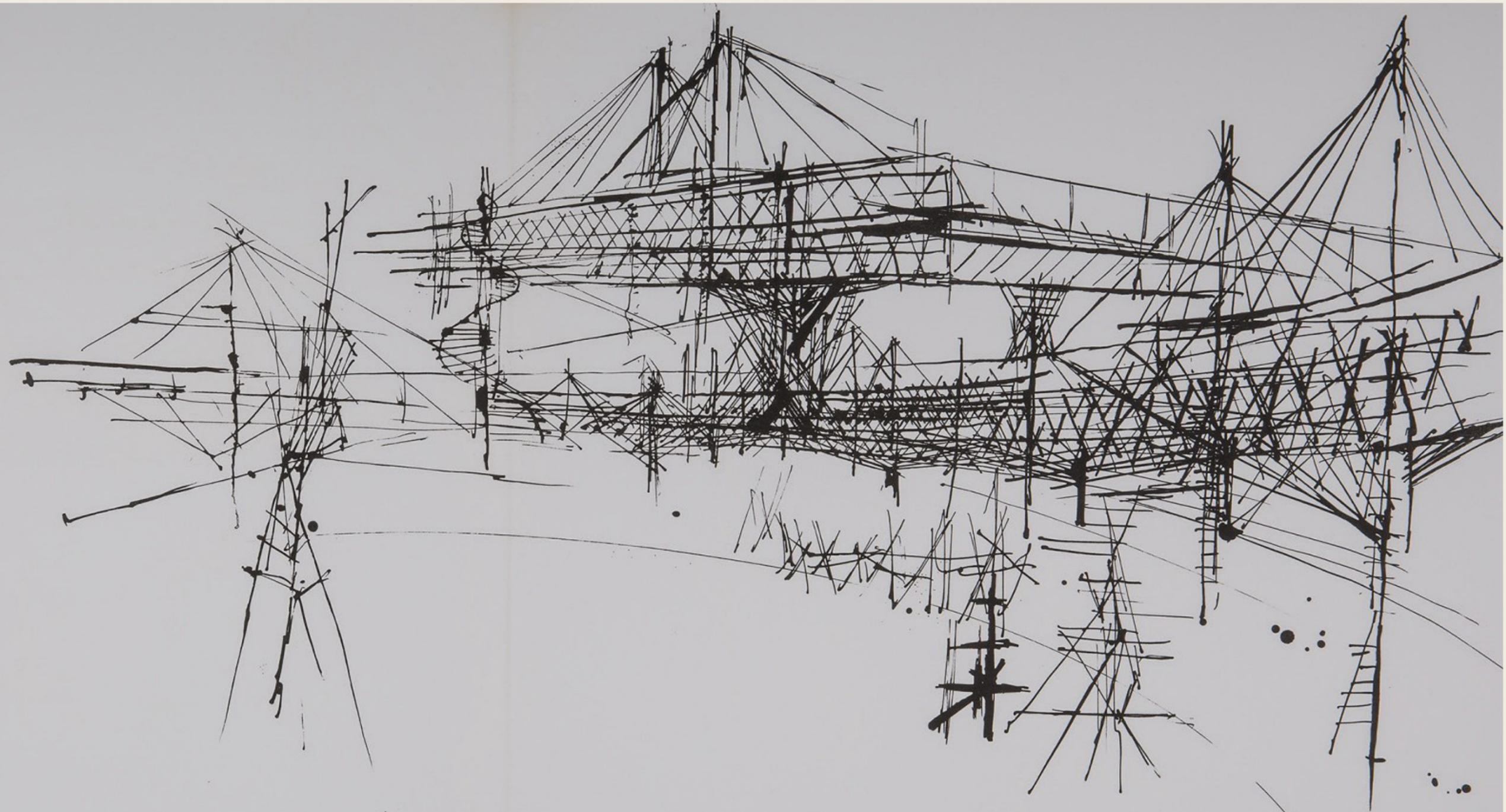
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**EXIT**

"The capacity to adapt and change remains a central aspect of queer theory...transformation is always, first and foremost, a matter of survival...The need for secrecy is deeply rooted in the history of queer spaces which, as a matter of survival, needed to be adaptable, ephemeral, and anonymous... The peril associated with leading a queer life has led to the development of an architecture without the presence of architects; an architecture of necessity and creativity that uses the insignificant, liminal, and transient spaces between the boundaries of the heteronormative world. These non-places...are effectively transformed into places...The occupation of these invisible spaces and their transformation into places becomes an act of transgression, of resistance to a world that constantly tries, at best, to confine queerness to the margins, and at worst, to eradicate it completely.

--Eloise Choquette, *Queering Architecture*





(UN)MAKING PLACES

# ( U n ) M A K I N G P L A C E

## APPROPRIATING SPACE

In her article, *Queering Architecture*, Eloise Choquette describes how transformation and appropriation of liminal space has served as a means of survival in queer history. I want to draw comparisons between this dialogue on queer space to what a homeless camp is, physically and metaphorically. In a similar way, queer people and homeless individuals are marginalized by invisible characteristics; characteristics which despite holding no impact on who it affects or relates to, are used to blindly generalize highly nuanced groups of people in ways detrimental to their agency, health and safety.

In both groups policy was implemented to control how and where they could occupy space and in both groups that left them in situations without a space for them to exist freely in with still some semblance of dignity. Homelessness is controlled in the public realm because ideally institutional services will house those populations (or in other words: keep them out of sight), but historically those same services have never been able to fully meet demands, proving again that the separation of homelessness from the urban public realm is problematic. Additionally, despite how housing assistance services are intended to function, homelessness still exists, and despite how the urban public realm is designed to prevent homelessness from being visible, it remains so and even more prevalent in the city's margins.

In the same way queer people carved out an underground scene to exist socially in, homeless populations have been carving out homes in similar out-of-sight and undesirable spaces to exist generally in. The evolution of queer space over time however is drastically different from that of homeless camps. Generally speaking, queer spaces presently exist mostly anywhere and in non-coded ways (i.e. existing in the mainstream no differently than any other group's space). Queer institutional services that do exist focus heavily on community connections, access to healthcare, education, and other necessary services. Homeless housing assistance is obviously valuable but there is an element of how they tie into the public realm and how they interact with the larger community that is lacking. Stigma and misconception usually keeps these services only in a city's low-income areas where access to necessary resources may already be difficult. This creates a cycle of issues with access to care and services. Existing resources and the potential of future developments suffer from the stigma of homeless housing services, which overtime negatively impacts land and property values, staggering the physical and economic growth of those communities.

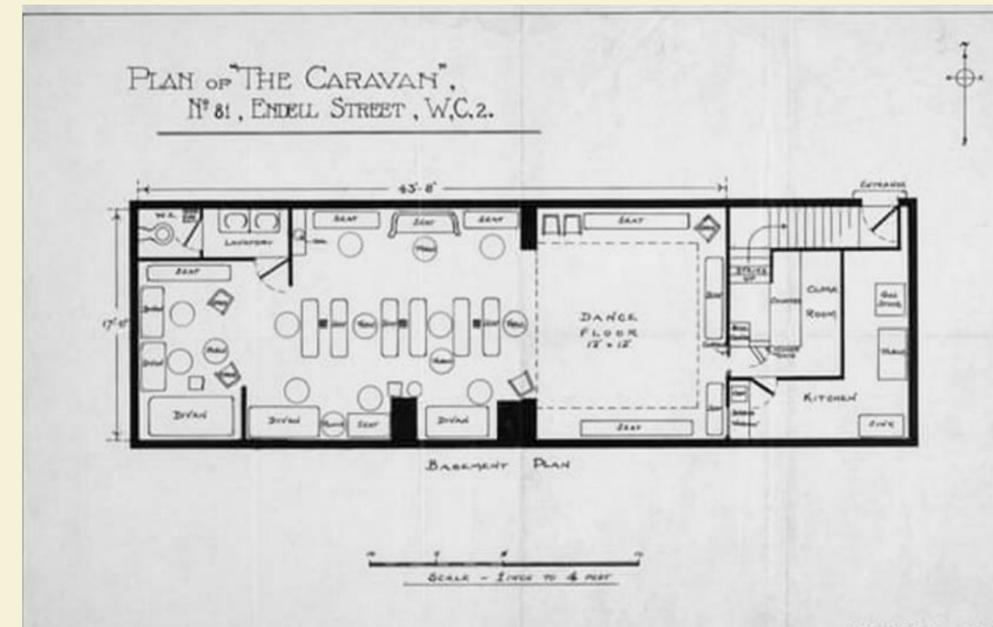


Fig. 13 Caravan Club; an underground gay club in 1930's London.

# ( U n ) M A K I N G P L A C E

## A SUGGESTION

Homeless housing assistance is a vital system of resources in ending homelessness, but it must go further. The separation from the public realm -- out of sight, out of mind -- from policy, physical barriers, and societal stigma, forces homeless individuals into a lower caste of human, making it all the more difficult for them to regain agency and assimilate back into society. Additionally many services offered at certain programs, such as access to health care or internet, might better serve a larger community if housing assistance could be reframed as being part of a more specialized, semi-public/semi-private, community center, or in the case of this thesis: **a community campus.**

But **where** does that happen?

This thesis suggests a re-contextualizing of how homeless camps appropriate space and how that can be used to evolve supportive housing and community centers as programs. A study of queer space history will reveal that DIY space appropriation has a long history and even outside of the LGBTQIA community, there are countless examples of diverse groups enacting agency on unused or "undesirable" space. In many cases, these feats of transformation are celebrated and treated as precedence for future projects. Why is this not the case with homeless camps? Forming a community under aggressive policies with virtually no access to reliable and secure resources or even security in undesirable spaces should most definitely be considered a feat. Yet housing assistance is not necessarily seen as the evolution of a homeless camp in the same way a LGBTQIA center (right) or similar queer venue might be seen as evolutions of their once hidden and illicit predecessors. Moreover the transformation of space and resiliency of the people who created it are in no way celebrated, but seen as blights or nuisances, i.e. "city litter." Featured on the following pages are some examples of how liminal space has been appropriated to fill a gap in specific communities.



Fig. 14. Los Angeles LGBT Center - Anita May Rosenstein Campus / Leong Leong + Killefer Flammang Architects; Community center in L.A., 2019.

# ( U n ) M A K I N G P L A C E

## CASE STUDIES

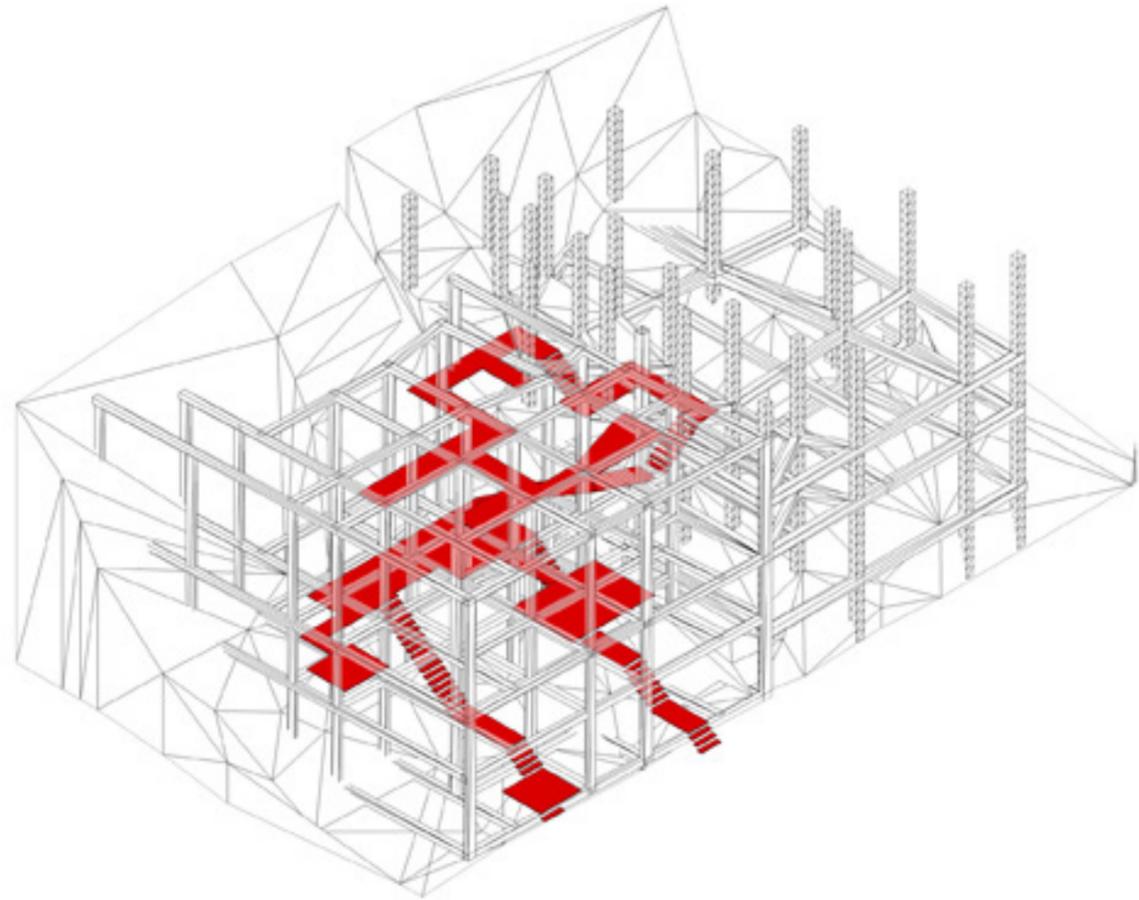


Fig. 15. *Topographical Amnesia* by Vazio S/A; Community venue in Curitiba, Brazil, 2001; a unique and unused system of infrastructure is turned into a sort of maze of circulation and venue spaces via the usage of simple scaffolding.



Fig. 16. *Spacebuster* by Storefront for Art and Architecture; Community venue in NYC; an inflatable PVC "bubble" capable of being installed almost anywhere creates a pop-up assembly/venue space for a variety of programs.

CASE STUDIES



These examples were featured specifically because they focused on addressing community needs for flexible assembly spaces in less than obvious locales, and in all there was an alluring element of performance. Performance is an important aspect of this thesis as it again allows points to be drawn between queer theory and homelessness, which is again partly the basis for developing **a community campus**. This topic will be explored further in the next section.

Fig. 17. A-Space: Venue (2000-15); A-Place: Gallery (2015-16); A-Shop: Retail (2016-18) by Time Waste Management; Mixed program community DIY flex space; also known as "The Space Above Anthony's Pizzeria," A-Space has for decades served as a community canvas, adapting to needs as they arose, with each stage of its life being entirely DIY and locally funded.

C A M P

A BRIEF LESSON ON CAMP: QUEER THEORY

Performance is a fundamental aspect of queer theory. Performance is on one end of the spectrum the literal act of performing “straight” in mixed company when deemed necessary for safety, and then on the other end also a defiant act of intentionally liberated flamboyancy. It is also a central aspect of **camp**.

CAMP: n. adj. a queer sensibility that reveals subtly or conspicuously in artifice, stylization, theatricalization, irony, playfulness, and flamboyant exaggeration rather than content, as Susan Sontag famously defined the term in her short essay, “Notes on Camp.”



Fig. 18. Camp Exhibit at the MET in NYC, 2019.

C A M P

GAY GATHERINGS: A 20TH CENTURY SALON

“Gay Gatherings” was the title of an exhibit at Phillip Johnson’s famous Glass House in 2019 which explored the interactions amongst eight gay men who set a profound impact on the framework for 20th century artistic culture: architect Philip Johnson and his longtime partner, curator/collector David Whitney; composer John Cage; choreographer Merce Cunningham; ballet impresario Lincoln Kirstein; and artists Jasper Johns, Robert Rauschenberg, and Andy Warhol. The exhibit underscored an essential element of the site’s history which until that point had not been fully presented as part of its public interpretation. While these men presided over an era where artistic contributions of gay men were prevalent and increasingly acknowledged within the mainstream culture, homosexuality has historically been framed as immoral and until the early 2000s in the U.S.A. deemed punishable by sometimes up to 20 years in prison due to various sodomy and indency laws which existed at the time. For them, the Glass House was an intellectual and artistic gathering space where ideas could be truly exchanged without consequence. The irony should not be lost then that for a space which hosted possibly amoral or illicit activities, it was designed to be completely transparent, where its occupants are displayed almost as if on a stage. The Glass House is arguably an exercise in camp. There is an ever present theatricality in how the Glass House’s intense transparency stands in juxtaposition to the almost opaque “Brick House,” which is what serves as the guest house (the relationship being a sort of metaphor for “being in the closet”). There is also a playfulness and exaggeration to being entirely on display yet being on a completely private property where no one from the public would see or hear them anyways -- dramatic irony.



Fig. 19. The Glass House designed by Phillip Johnson; Private home in New Canaan, Connecticut.

CAMP X HOMELESSNESS

What if the Glass House was contextually in an urban setting ? This thesis argues that camp sensibility would have still allowed for these men to engage privately in plain sight and that there would have been an unknowing acceptance and assimilation into the mainstream by passerby simply due to the intense transparency and stylization of the design. The openness and maintained visual connection between exterior and interior would create a sensible dialogue between private and public by inviting the senses inward onto scenes normally not featured or understood. If a range of transparencies could be employed in a thoughtful way which invites the public physically in, creates the potential for interaction, allows for agency, and still privacy where security is needed, I would argue that camp sensibility can then be utilized at the scale of a supportive housing and community campus design. Camp also allows for the possibility of urban liminal space to be reassessed for possibilities of development. Unused open spaces in the inner city serve as vital opportunities at creating access to services in vulnerable sites already occupied by homeless camps. By giving these spaces the opportunity to be reimagined and developed, they are recontextualized as being part of the urban fabric. This allows the public to see how “undesired” space can be permanently reclaimed for the betterment of all society through dignified design while also practically making use of centrally located sites which may already be in control of the city, making the realization and funding of any developments in the realm of possibility.



Fig . 20. Deconstruction and reimagining of space.

Q U E S T I O N S

1. **Knowing that homelessness is highly stigmatized, how can design serve to normalize a truly vulnerable situation and do so with respect and dignity?**
2. **How can design serve to address the present problematic relationship between homelessness and the urban public realm.**
3. **How do we improve upon the existing range of housing assistance services?**  
*3a. How can permanent supportive housing specifically serve as an anchor for a much larger conversation on homelessness, public space and accessibility to community?*
4. **How can design address equity lost from the systems that were designed to control homelessness and displace people?**

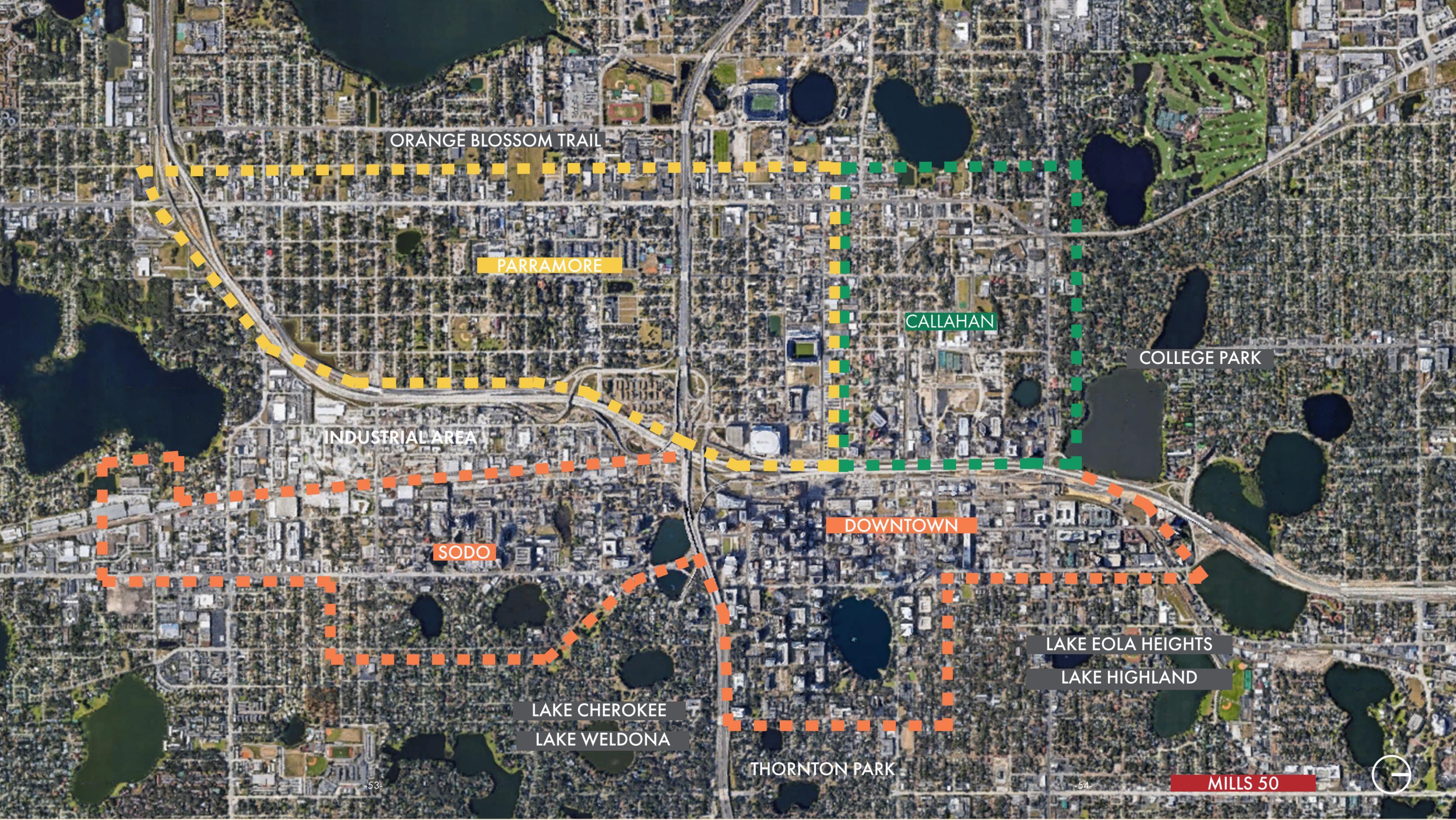
A N S W E R S

1. **Utilizing camp as a style to achieve a gradient of transparency in how private, semi-public and public spaces are viewed, accessed, and experienced generally; utilizing camp to achieve an effective stylized design in a thought provoking context.**
2. **Placing interventions at central locations that are porous and transparent; employing a thoughtful mix of public and private programs to establish a sensible dialogue between the campus and community at large.**
3. **Housing is undoubtedly a community service and a function of community centers is to offer necessary services to the areas served. In a way, supportive housing acts as a specialized community center offering similar services to the areas they serve. This thesis argues for a recontextualization of supportive housing as an element of the community center, or in this case, campus. In that way homelessness is not an isolated topic, but one within the context of a connected community that acknowledges and addresses its community's needs transparently.**
4. **By the strategic selection of sites such as innercity underpasses as sites for development, opportunities to develop in dense central downtown locations become available. This allows for access to valuable resources to be created in some of the very sites which may have contributed to homelessness in those site's cities.**



SITE ANALYSIS





ORANGE BLOSSOM TRAIL

PARRAMORE

CALLAHAN

COLLEGE PARK

INDUSTRIAL AREA

SODO

DOWNTOWN

LAKE CHEROKEE

LAKE WELDONA

THORNTON PARK

LAKE EOLA HEIGHTS

LAKE HIGHLAND

MILLS 50



# O R L A N D O

## SITE CRITERIA + OVERVIEW

Orlando, Florida boasts itself as the most visited U.S. city for entertainment in the world. Attractions such as Disney World, Universal Studios Orlando, the International "Strip," and several major convention centers amongst others draw in a domestic and international audience totalling on average, 72 million tourists annually. For context the entire state of Florida's population is only 21.6 million people in comparison and the most populated city in the world, Tokyo, is only 37,393,000 million people in comparison. The city also hosts several major universities, one of which being the University of Central Florida which is the second largest university in the country by enrollment size (68,571 students at the time of this thesis). Additionally the city touts a vibrant arts community, botanical gardens, unique shopping, dining and sporting opportunities.



Fig. 21. (top right) UCF campus; Fig. 22. (top left) Orlando Museum of Art exhibit; Fig. 23. (bottom left) Lake Eola Fanner's Market; Fig. 24. (bottom right) mural downtown by local artist.

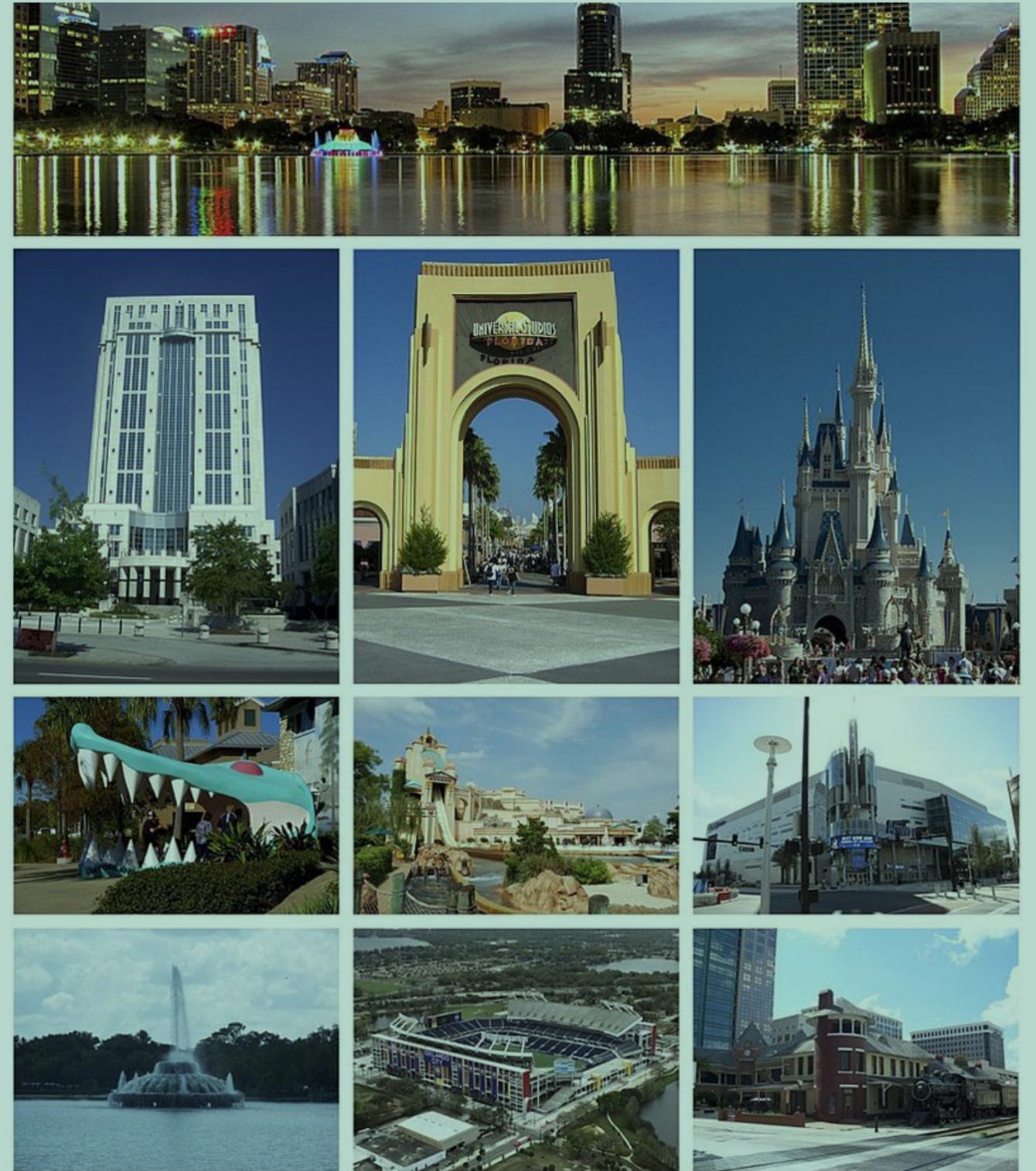


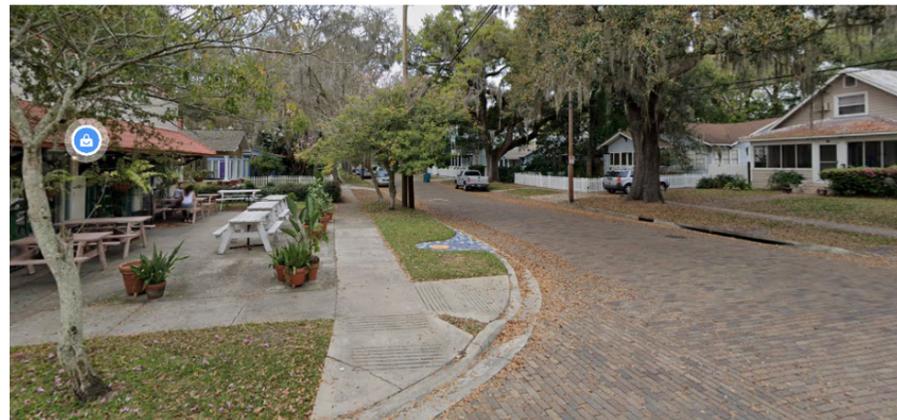
Fig. 25. Range of Orlando attractions featuring downtown venues, theme parks, arenas, and parks.

# O R L A N D O

## SITE CRITERIA + OVERVIEW



Fig. 26. Snapshots of varying scales and styles of residencies in the downtown Orlando area; generally this area is of newer, denser developments, yet single-family residential neighborhoods bleed into the downtown areas fringes. These are typically high in property value and usually hold a historic distinction.



# P A R R A M O R E

## SITE CRITERIA + OVERVIEW

Based on the previous section's research, it was important to consider a site that would service existing concentrated areas of homeless camps and particularly low-income and financially vulnerable areas that could also serve as a bridge across communities to re-establish equity lost by discriminatory design. The list of site criteria below was formulated to use as a basis to determine an appropriate neighborhood in the Orlando area for vulnerable communities to heal and reintegrate with the participation and inclusion of the city at large.

1. Central location capable of servicing large area.
2. Appropriate infrastructural space that could support a large scale program.
3. Area designed specifically to prevent homelessness, yet fails at it.
4. Affordable neighborhood.
5. Racially and ethnically diverse.
6. Local job opportunities.
7. Access to public transit.
8. Area in need of greater public amenities.

Parramore fits well into these 8 criteria. Located immediately west of Orlando's vibrant historic downtown district, its blue collar, historically black roots with robust transportation infrastructure allows for an opportune place to insert programs that would benefit both homeless populations and the greater Parramore/Orlando community. Understanding the history of Parramore, the evolution of it within the greater fabric of Orlando, and community building opportunities contributed to conceptualizing programming needs of homeless individuals and residents of Parramore/Orlando.



Fig. 28. Snapshots of varying scales and styles of residencies in the Parramore neighborhood; generally developments are older with concentrations of dense "islands" seperated by blocks of single-family residential, open fields, and light commercial/retail.

# PARRAMORE

## SITE CRITERIA + OVERVIEW



Fig. 29. Housing project adjacent to Parramore neighborhood. Note that it is completely surrounded, and in some cases, directly under highway infrastructure.



Fig. 30. Community programs in the Parramore neighborhood; (top) existing community center; (bottom) historic church.



Fig. 31 The historic Wells Built Hotel

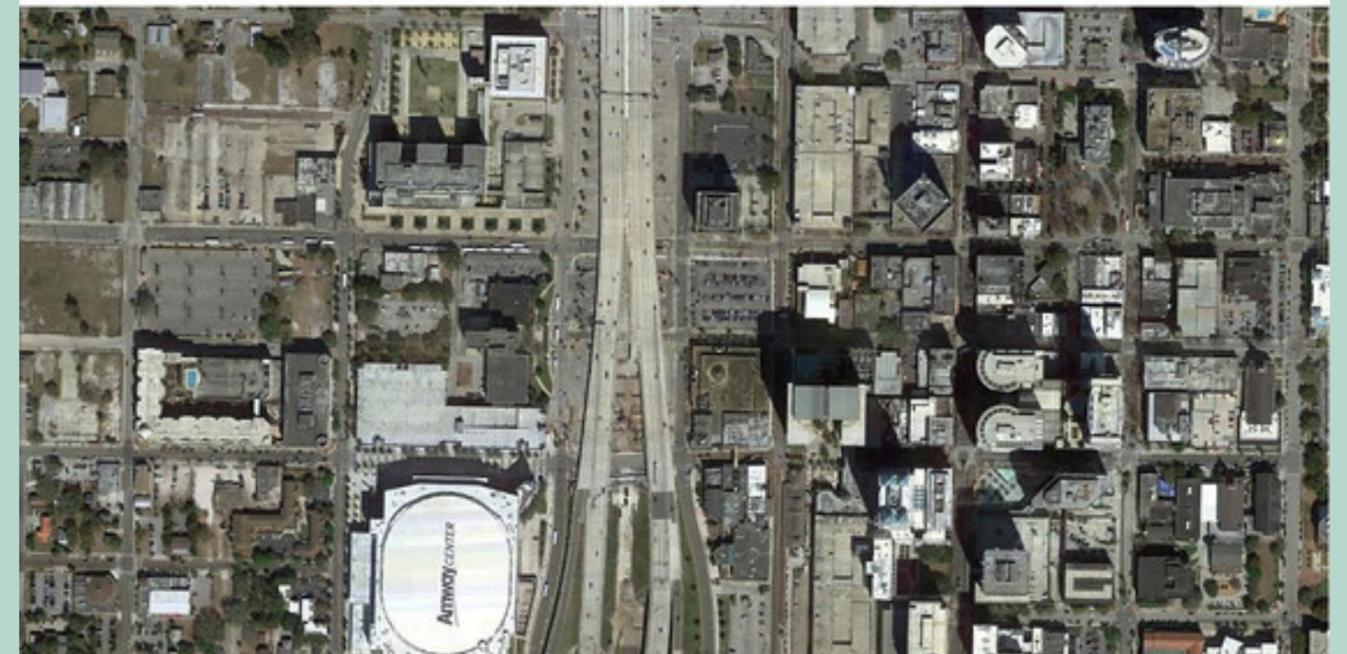


Fig. 32 Parramore 1940s (top) versus Parramore 2019 (bottom).

# P A R R A M O R E

## HISTORY + COMMUNITY

Parramore is one of Orlando's oldest, historically black neighborhoods, with a rich history, ethnically diverse food scene and resilient community. Though driving through it, one might be remiss to pass judgement without knowing the historical forces which have shaped it into what it is today.

Settled in 1881 as a segregated area for white employer's black workers, Parramore emerged from the relationship between the two races in which whites decided where African Americans could exist. Adding to this disenfranchisement, is a history familiar to the rest of the South: an aggressive pattern of racial violence and intentional injustices. According to historian Tameka Hobbs, "even though Florida was one of the most sparsely populated of the Southern states, for the period between 1882 and 1930, it had the highest rate of lynching per 100,000 of its black citizens at 79.8, followed by Mississippi with 52.8. By the 1940s, Florida was only one of two states with recorded lynchings." Notable events include: the 1920 Ocoee Massacre where an entire black section of the city was razed after black citizens attempted to vote; the 1923 Rosewood Massacre where white supremacists succeeded in razing an entire city which was predominantly black; and decades of the early 1900s which saw a rise in the popularity and intensity of the Klu Klux Klan. Florida's 1885 Constitution would prevent black citizens from voting via various barriers (e.g. literacy tests, poll taxes, etc.), and elections would be controlled by white voters until 1950.

In spite of its beginnings, Parramore experienced a golden age of growth and development between the 1940s and 1960s. Several influential community leaders, doctors born and raised in Parramore, gave prominence to the neighborhood and were largely responsible for the neighborhood's only access to healthcare as well as helping establish the county's NAACP branch. An especially prominent doctor was Dr. William Monroe Wells, who established the Wells Built Hotel, which hosted a list of iconic black artists such as Ella Fitzgeralds, Cab Calloway, and Count Basie. There was also once a casino and dancehall.

This prosperity was not without hurdles either however. Post-WWII, central Florida's population boomed and as downtowns deteriorated, influxes of residents moving to suburbs increased significantly. This growth unequally affected suburbs and inner cities. Following this rearrangement of residents was an increased need in road infrastructure as more and more automobile users increased annually. This largely influenced the creation of the National Highway System -- an interstate project that caused the displacement of thousands across the U.S.A. Making way for this new infrastructure, cities attempted to renew themselves often by seizing black neighborhoods through eminent domain and concentrating them in public housing projects (i.e. segregation).

This is exactly what happened in Parramore in 1939 when the black neighborhood of Jonestown was demolished through the 1939 Reorganization Act, and its residents thereafter placed in Orlando's first housing project known as Griffin Park. Compounding this is the redlining which prevented black residents from leaving the inner city. Redlining was a practice which basically prevented black residents from obtaining home loans to acquire property in white suburbs. Parramore was precariously contained and in the 1950s when talks of the Interstate-4's construction began, it was without surprise that plans made way to cut through Parramore. With nowhere else to be given agency, Parramore's residents suffered the decade-long effects of the interstate construction. Prior to the highway's construction, Parramore was seamlessly connected to the downtown, but over 600 properties were displaced in its development and as a result of this separation, the 1970s and 1980s saw a visible decline in the neighborhood's development. It is a modern day class barrier that continues to serve as enhancement of an existing racial boundary. Comparing the economic development between the city of Orlando and Parramore, the Orlando Sentinel reporter Sherri Owens wrote that in 1960, Parramore's median household income reached \$2,700 and Orlando's median household income was around \$3,200. In 1960, the unemployment rate in Parramore reached around 7 percent, and Orlando's unemployment rate reached 4 percent. Twenty years later in 1980, Parramore's unemployment rate reached a staggering 10 percent, while Orlando's only rose to 5 percent.

Presently Parramore remains affected by its history, with census data showing that it remains the largest concentration of Orlando's black residents and across the city having some of the lowest-household income averages in comparison to urban suburbs just east of the highway dividing it from the downtown. The city government has worked at reestablishing Parramore as an important sector of the city through various large-scale projects including two of the city's biggest sporting venues as well as a university satellite campus complete with academic, dining/retail and residential services.

This historic neighborhood has dealt with poverty, crime, and economic disparity, yet its history and resiliency were integral factors in its selection as the site of this thesis. Additionally, while many of the neighborhood's recent large-scale projects' intentions are dubious and do not necessarily provide any accessible or needed community services to its neighbors of the Parramore community, this existing relationship with the city served well in validating the potential of a large-scale architectural intervention.

INTERVENTION SITE

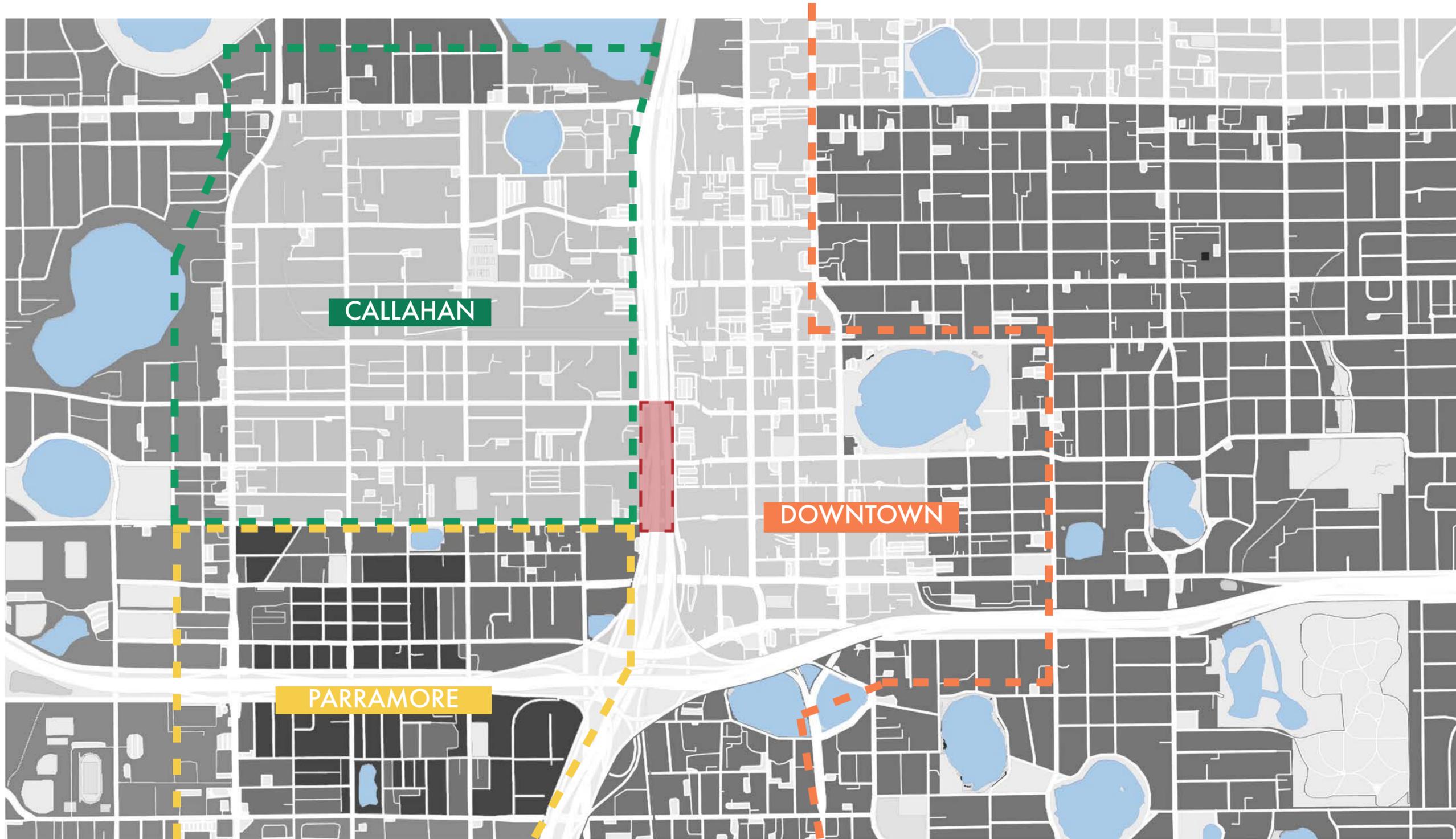


Fig. 33. Immediate neighborhoods adjacent to intervention site.

■ SITE



P A R R A M O R E

INTERVENTION SITE

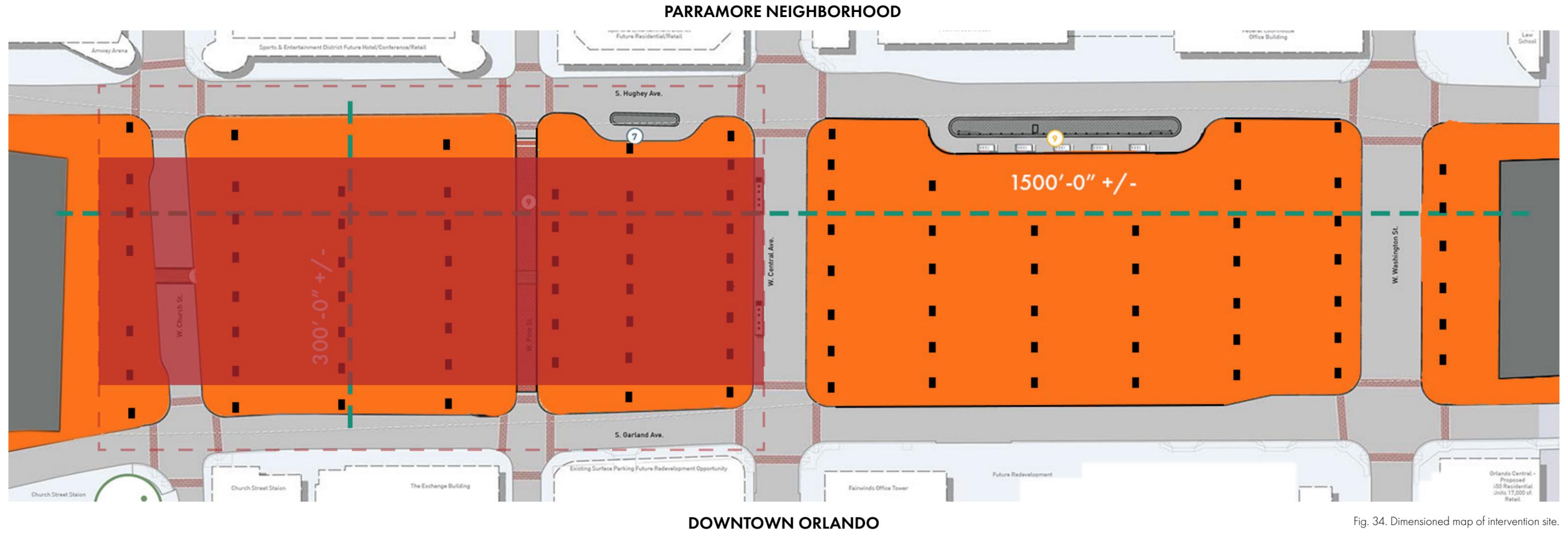


Fig. 34. Dimensioned map of intervention site.

SITE: BRIDGE DISTRICT UNDERPASS (9.75 ACRES)

AREA OF DEVELOPMENT (300'-0" X 640'-0" +/-)



P A R R A M O R E

INTERVENTION SITE: CONTEXTUAL PHOTOS

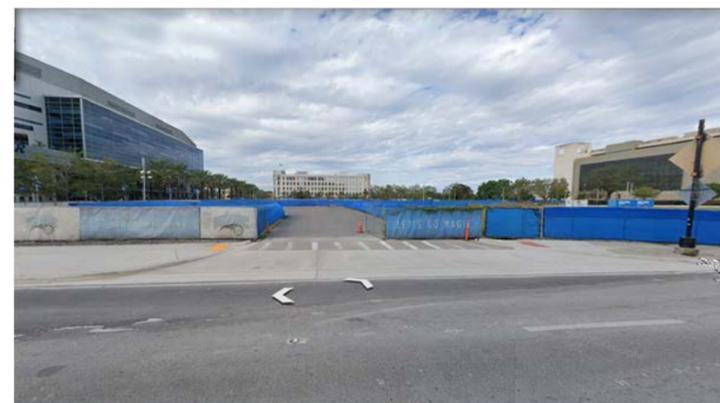
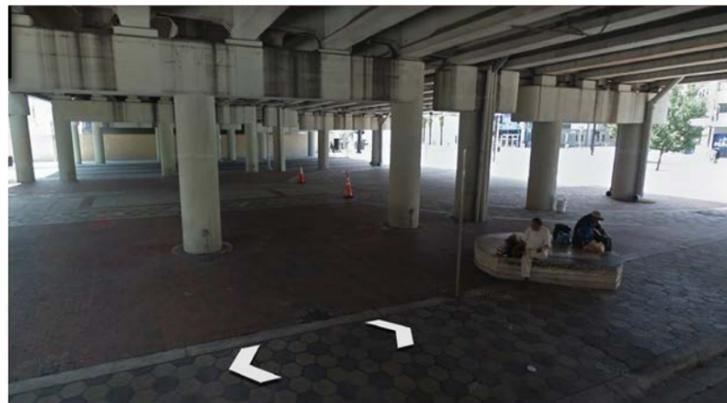


Fig. 35. Contextual snapshots of spaces within and around the intervention site.

# H O M E L E S S N E S S

## BY THE NUMBERS: ORLANDO, FLORIDA

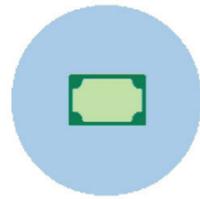
Orlando ranks in the top amongst American cities with the worst availability of affordable housing units. With a standard of living requiring an hourly wage almost 3x the minimum wage, homelessness is a common product of Orlando's economy. This significantly impacts a wide cross-section of Orlando's residents from all ages and the economic impact on the city is staggeringly burdensome.



There are only **13 affordable rental units** available for **every 100 low-income households** in Central Florida.



The 2018 Point-in-Time (PIT) Count found **2,053 homeless individuals** on a single night in Orange, Osceola and Seminole counties.



Earning minimum wage (\$8.25 per hour), a single person needs to work **84 hours each week** to afford a **one-bedroom rental** in Florida.



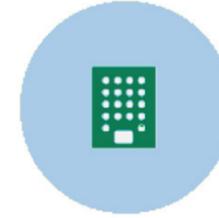
According to Orange County Public Schools' figures, nearly **9,700 students** experienced homelessness over the past academic year.



The average cost for a **chronically homeless** individual living on the streets is \$84.93 per day – adding up to over **\$30,000 per year!**



**77%** of the individuals and families who turn to the Coalition **do not qualify** for community supportive housing programs, such as Rapid ReHousing and Permanent Supportive Housing.



### ORLANDO HOUSEHOLDS:

HOUSEHOLDS, 2014-2018: 111,674  
PERSONS PER HOUSEHOLD: 2.45

OWNER-OCCUPIED HOUSING: 35.1%  
AVERAGE HOUSE COST: \$217,000

AVERAGE GROSS RENT: \$1,435  
(12TH MOST EXPENSIVE U.S. RENT RATE)

"Without paying more than 30% of income on housing – a household must earn \$4,234 monthly or \$50,807 annually. Assuming a 40-hour work week, 52 weeks per year, this level of income translates into an hourly Housing Wage of \$24.43."

"13 affordable units per 100 renters."

"It takes 112 work hours per week at minimum wage to afford a two-bedroom rental property and 96 hours per week to afford a one-bedroom in the Orlando-Kissimmee-Sanford metro area."

-Nat'l Low Income Housing Coalition

Fig. 36. Infographic data provided by the Orlando Coalition for the Homeless of Central Florida.

# S I T E     A N A L Y S I S

Downtown Orlando Income Map



Fig. 37. Income map across the downtown Orlando area; not the void space of the highway acts as a stark transitioning point in income levels.



# S I T E      A N A L Y S I S

## Downtown Orlando Racial Demographics

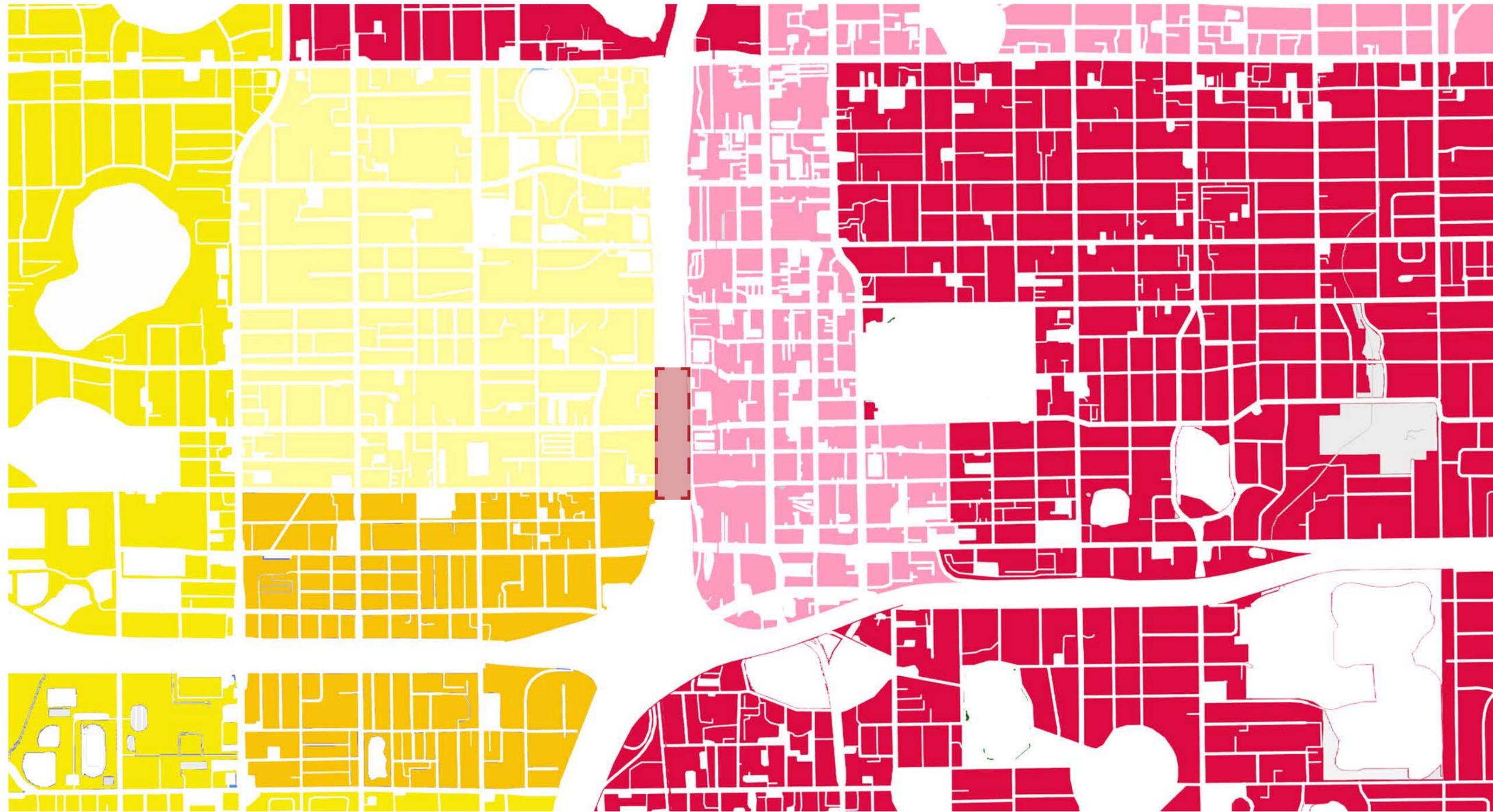


Fig. 38. Race demographic map across the downtown Orlando area; note that in this case as well the void space of the highway acts as a stark transitioning point.

- BLACK
- WHITE
- SITE



# S I T E A N A L Y S I S

Downtown Orlando Open Undeveloped Space Map

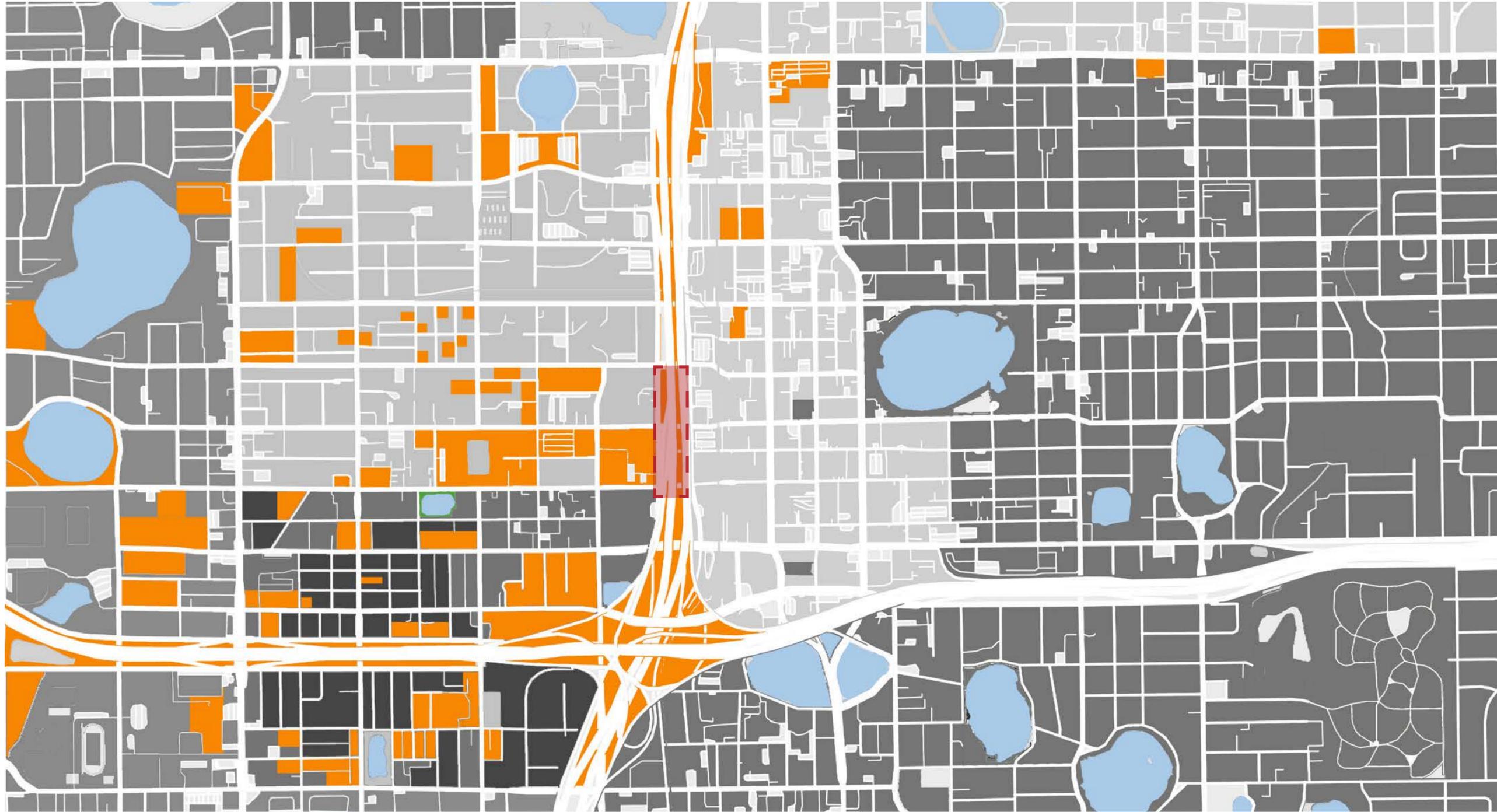


Fig. 39. Map of open or undeveloped space in the downtown Orlando area; again note that the highway serves as a stark transitioning point.



# S I T E A N A L Y S I S

Downtown Orlando Developed Green Space Map

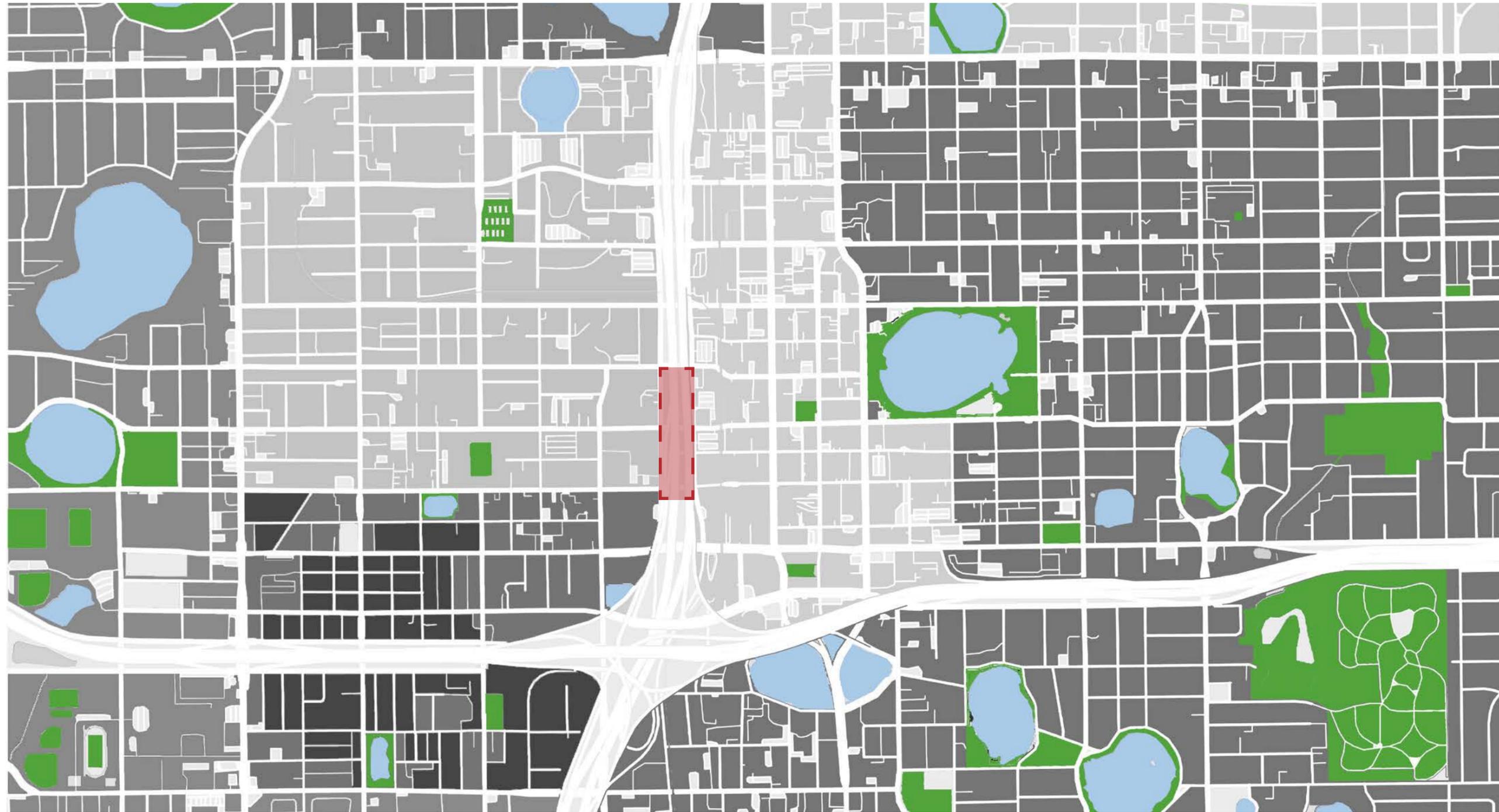


Fig. 40. Map of developed green spaces in the downtown Orlando area; while the contrast from east to west of the highway is not as stark as in other site analysis layers but there are significantly larger green spaces made available to the east than in the west.

DEVELOPED GREEN SPACE  
SITE INTERVENTION



# S I T E A N A L Y S I S

## Existing Grocery Locations

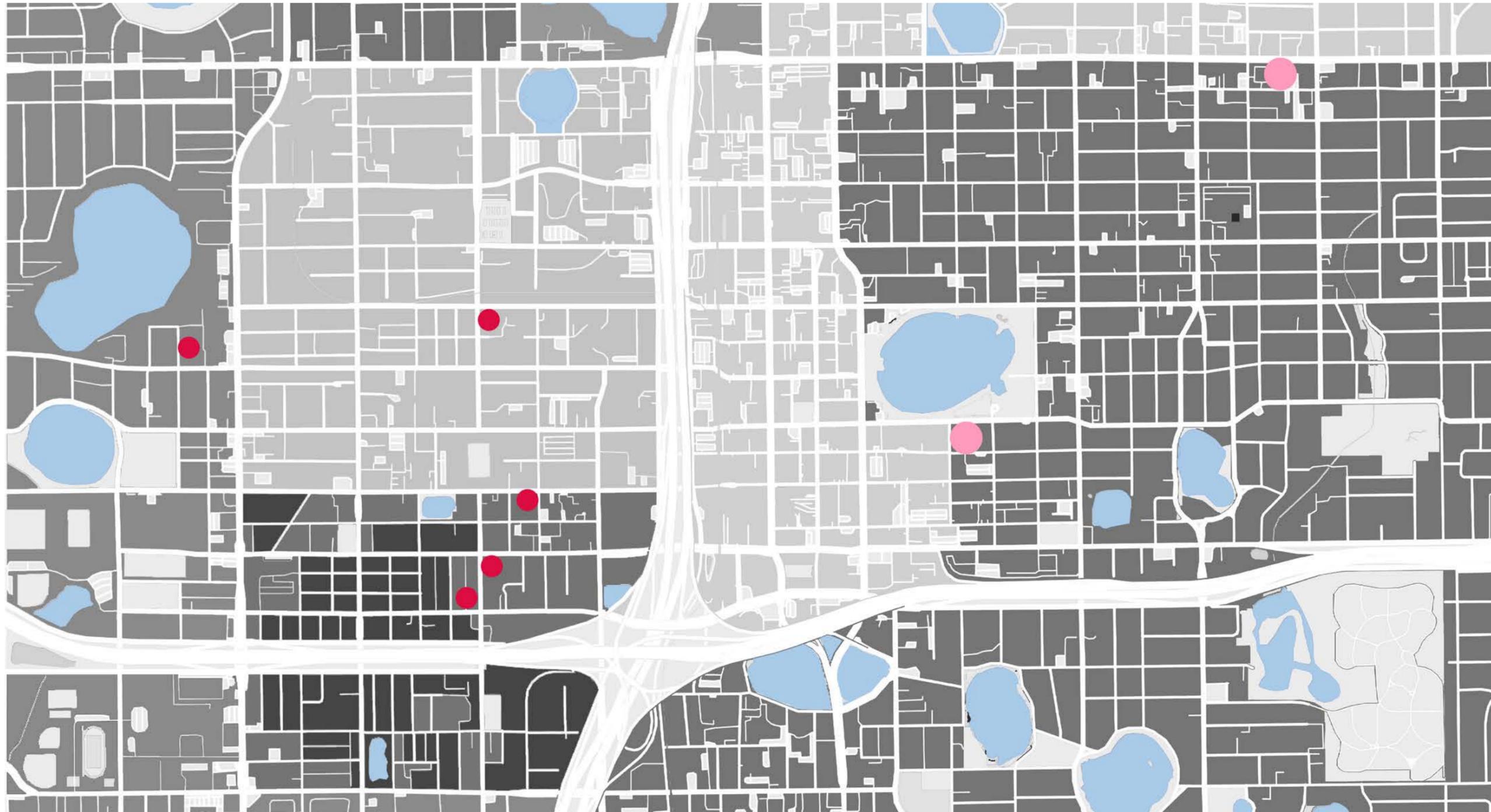


Fig. 41. Map of grocery and alternative food sources.

-  SITE INTERVENTION
-  FULL-FLEDGED GROCERY STORE
-  CONVENIENCE GROCERY



# S I T E A N A L Y S I S

## Site Transit Locations and Routes



Fig. 42. Map of local transit and routes in the downtown Orlando area; ~400'-0" TO NEAREST METRO / NEAREST BUS STOP ~1000'-0" 2200'-0."





# S I T E A N A L Y S I S

## Existing Housing Assistance Services

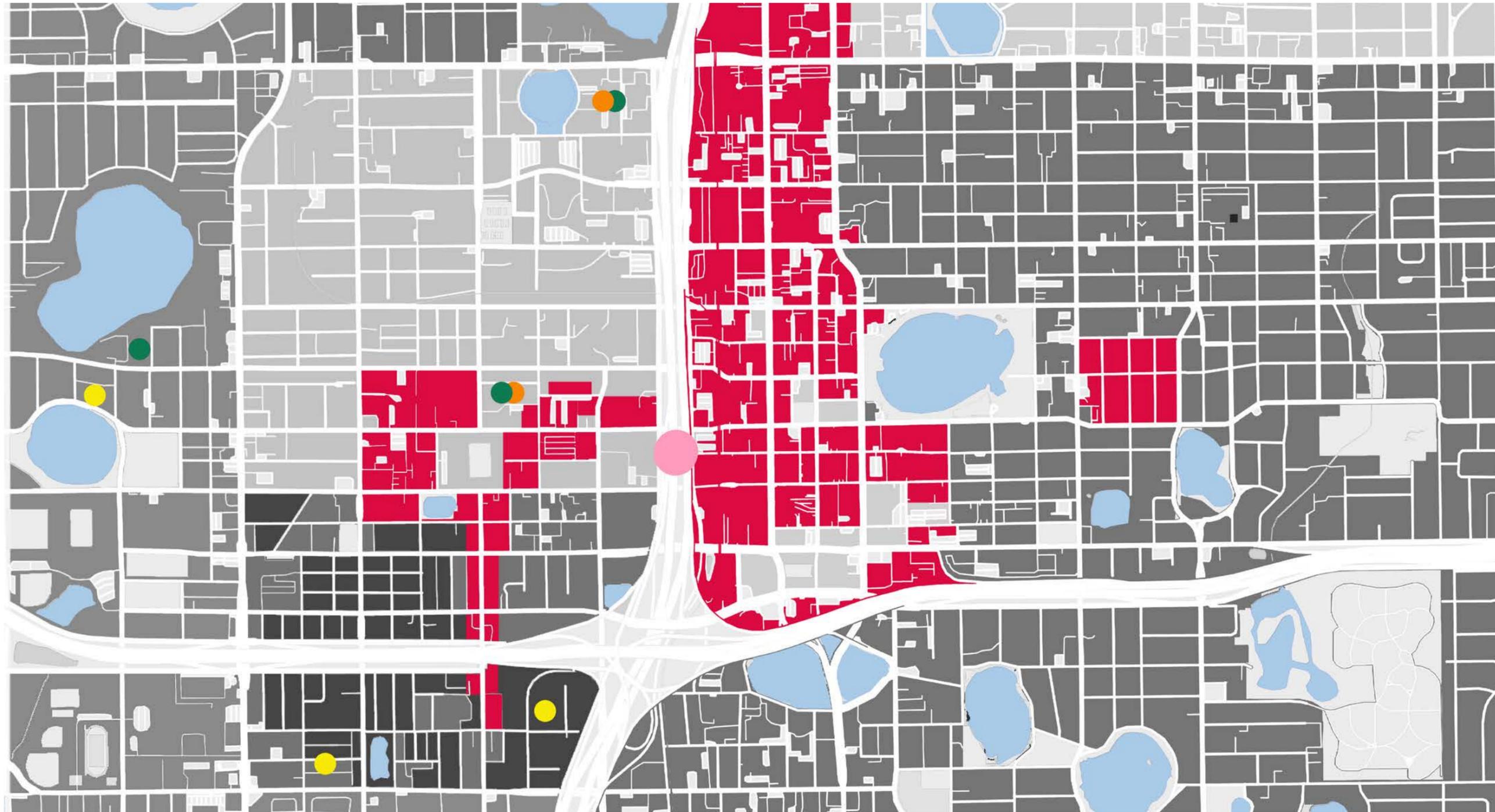


Fig. 44. Map of existing housing assistance services in the downtown Orlando area.

- AFFORDABLE
- PERMANENT
- TRANSITIONAL
- SHELTER
- SITE INTERVENTION



# C O A L I T I O N

## SITE CRITERIA + OVERVIEW

The Coalition for the Homeless of Central Florida was formed in 1987 by a group of concerned citizens who noted a growing problem of homelessness in our community. It is a low barrier residential shelter focused on housing, emergency services, and diversion. They are one of the largest providers of services to homeless populations in Central Florida and much of the data gathered for this thesis was provided by the Coalition as they are actively engaged in outreach and the assessment of community needs. The thesis project lies 180'-0" East of the current Coalition campus, and will serve as an extension of their existing program, ideally establishing a resilient armature of services and shelter.

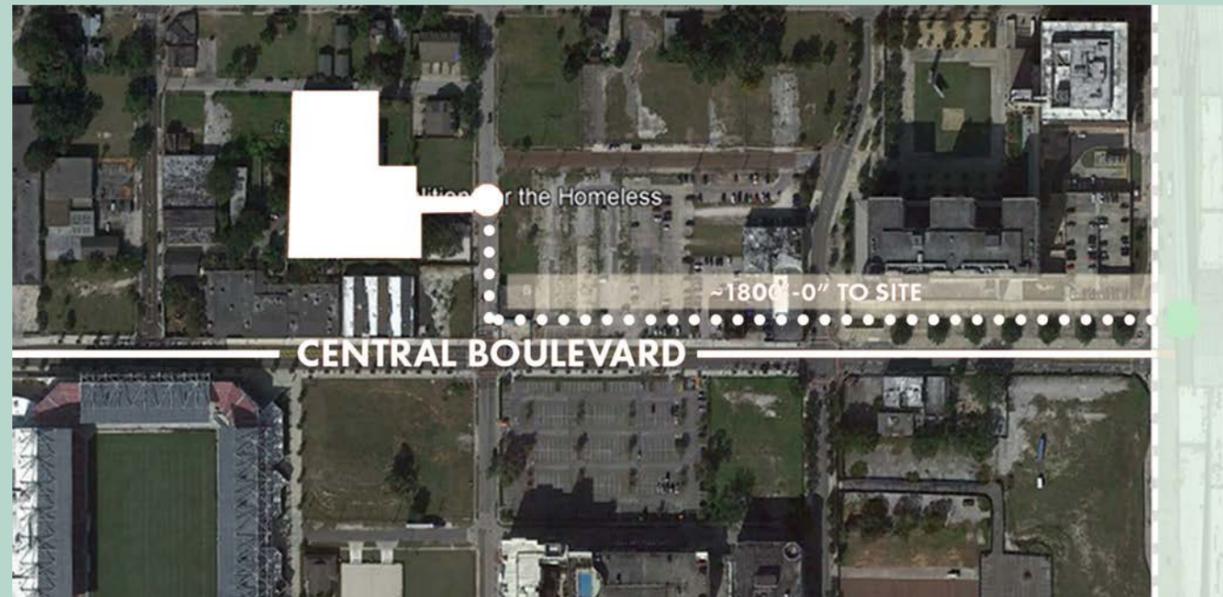


Fig. 45. Coalition campus adjacency to thesis site.

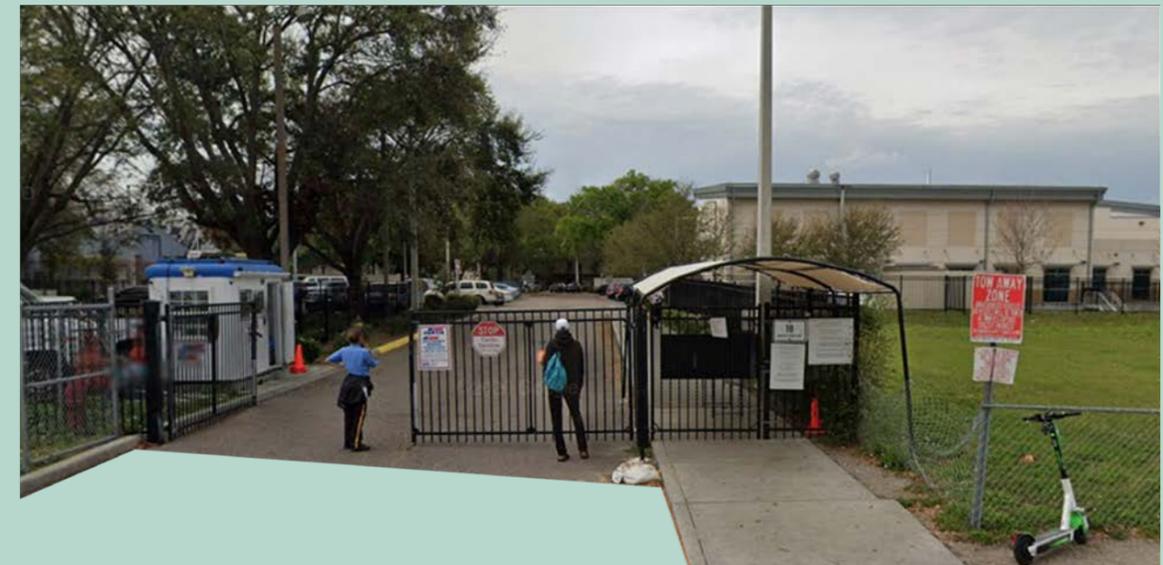


Fig. 46. Exterior photos of existing Coalition campus; not the unassuming exterior, setback from the main street, and the usage of privacy fencing to enforce separation.

# C O A L I T I O N

## SITE CRITERIA + OVERVIEW



Fig. 47. (top) public facade; (bottom) private courtyard.



Fig. 48. Interior service areas of existing Coalition campus.



CASE STUDIES



C A S E S T U D I E S

LA CASA - PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING - STUDIO TWENTY SEVEN + LEO DALY



Fig. 49. La Casa Permanent Supportive Housing: Studio Twenty Seven Architecture + Leo Daly, D.C., 2015; community services are located on the ground level with attractive and transparent entry points; SRO units are given personality and individuality through a playful facade; SRO units are designed with dignity, with efficient materials, bright warm colors and plenty of light.

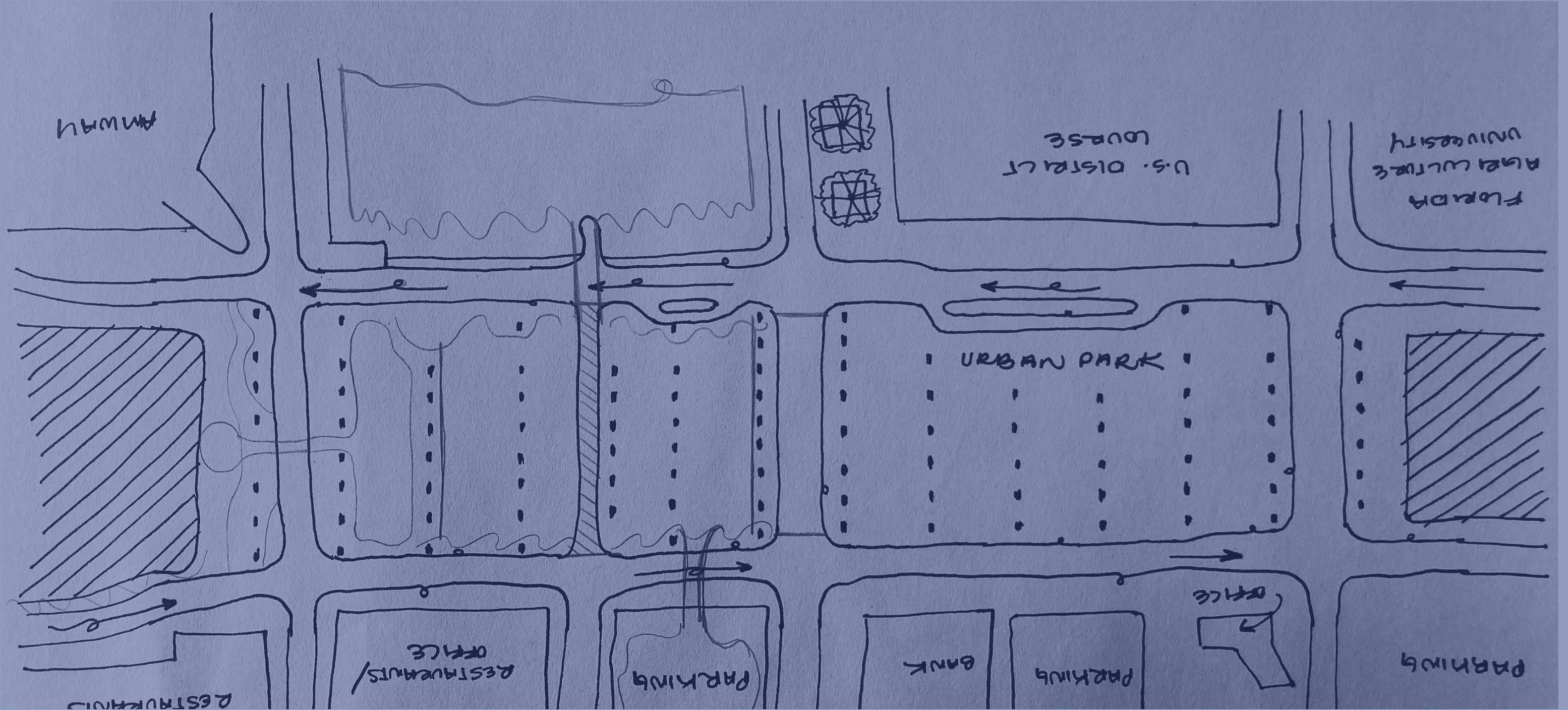
C A S E S T U D I E S

LOS ANGELES LGBT CENTER - ANITA MAY ROSENSTEIN CAMPUS /  
LEONG LEONG + KILLEFER FLAMMANG ARCHITECTS;



Fig. 50. Los Angeles LGBT Center - Anita May Rosenstein Campus / Leong Leong + Killefer Flammang Architects; Community center in L.A., 2019; the community center is designed with a relentless consideration for transparency; visual connections and porosity are maintained throughout the campus with strategic green spaces creating private internal oases for users.

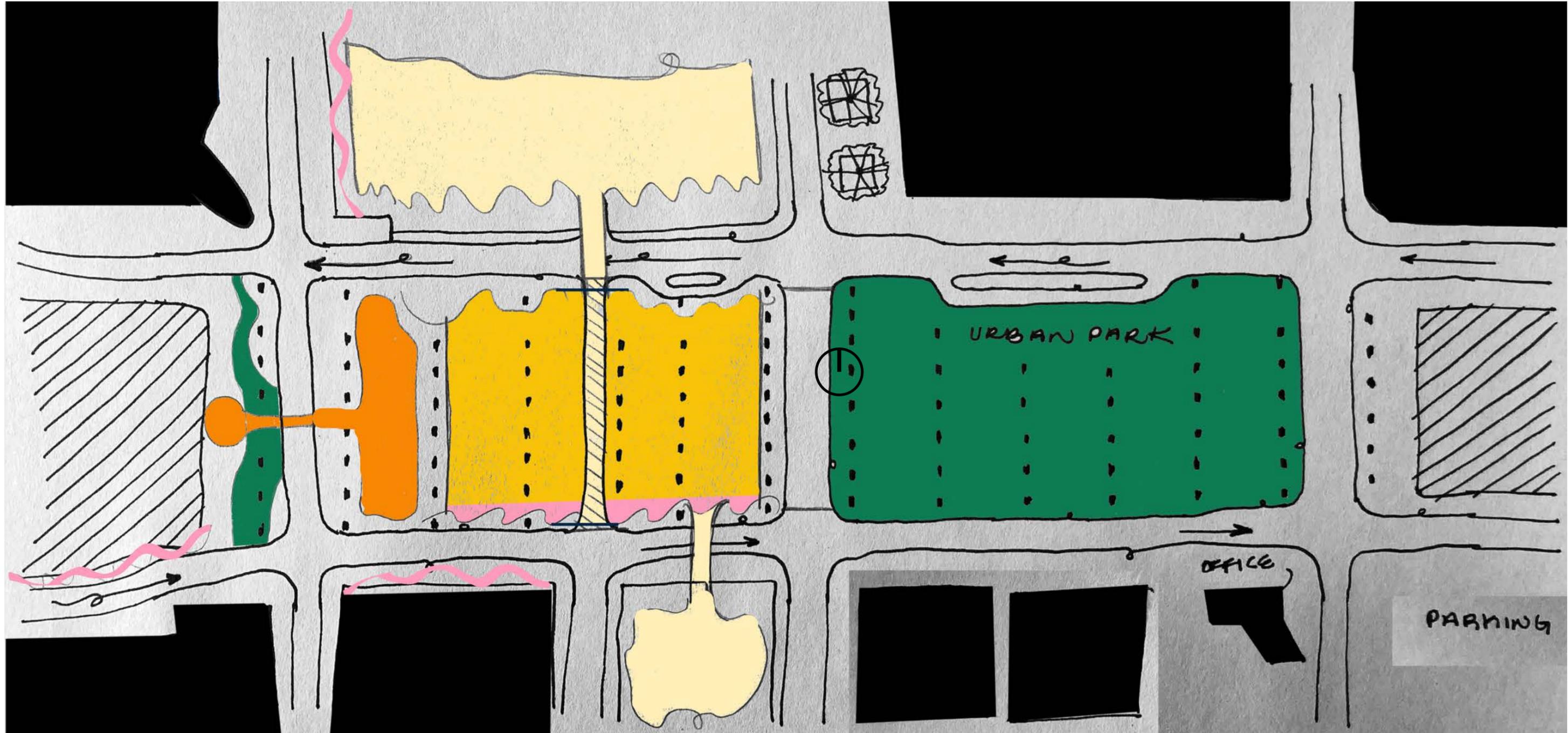




EARLY STUDIES

E A R L Y S T U D I E S

SPACE DIAGRAM

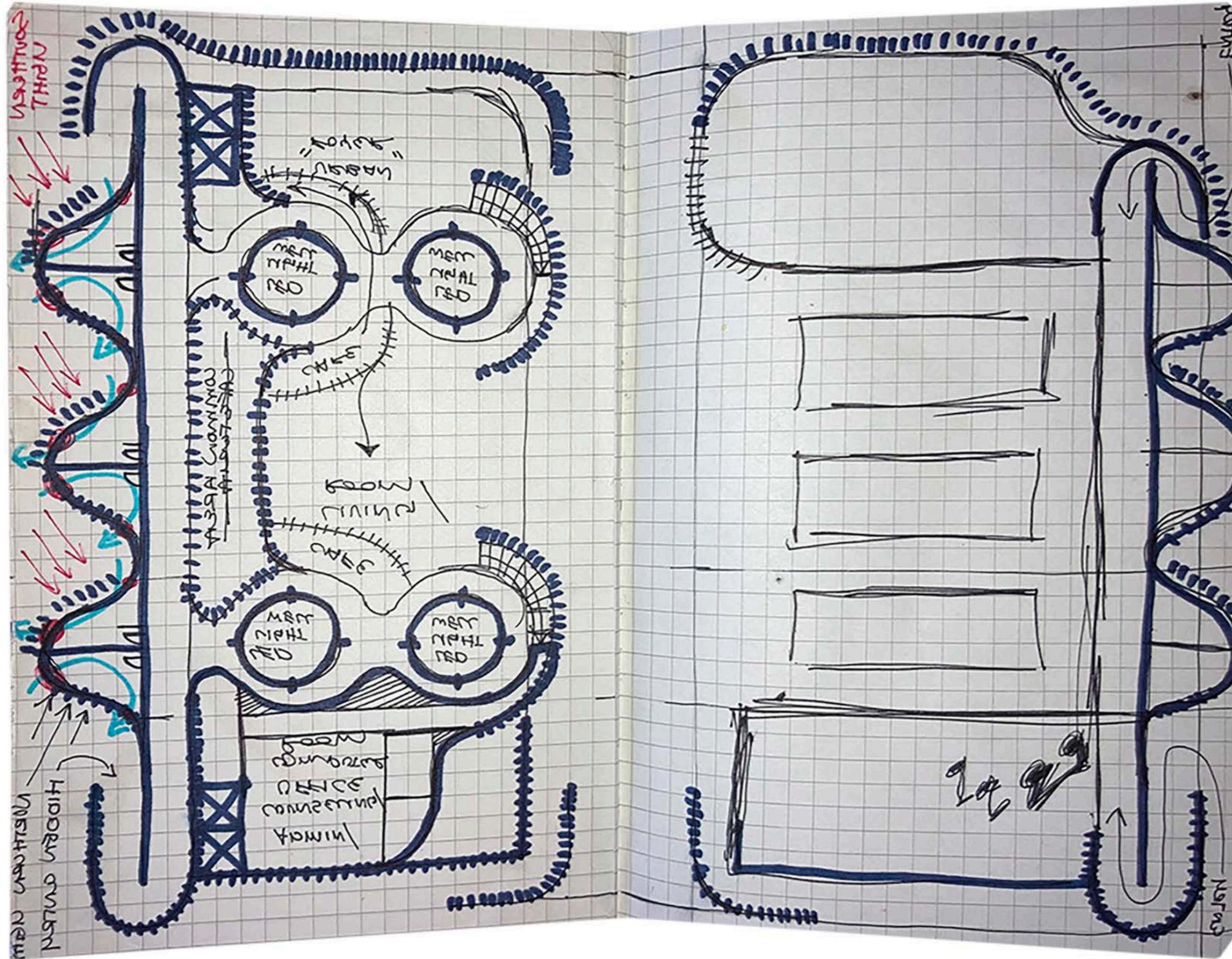


Early studies consisted of space planning the large area and establishing a relationship with the site's adjacencies.



# E A R L Y S T U D I E S

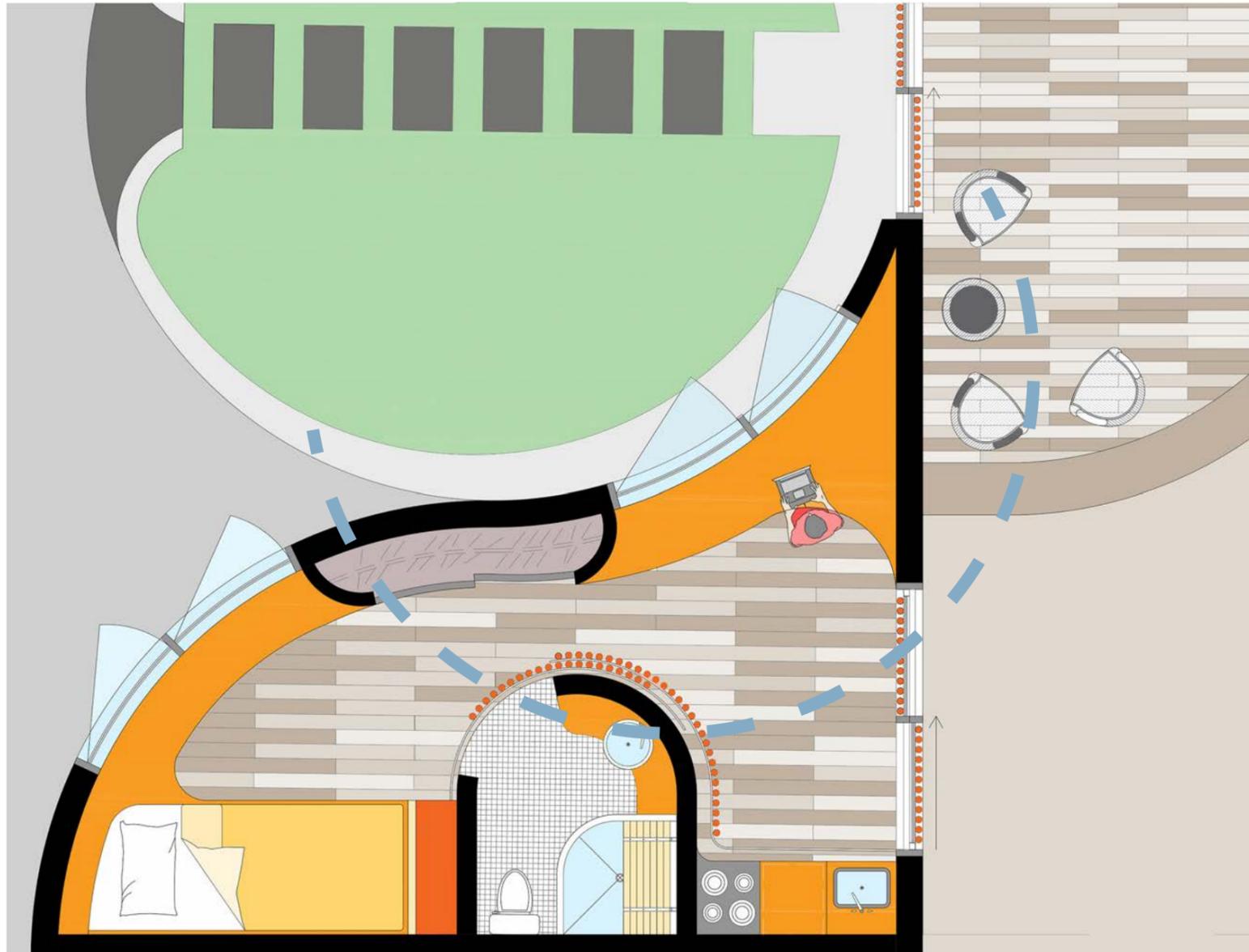
## SPACE DIAGRAM



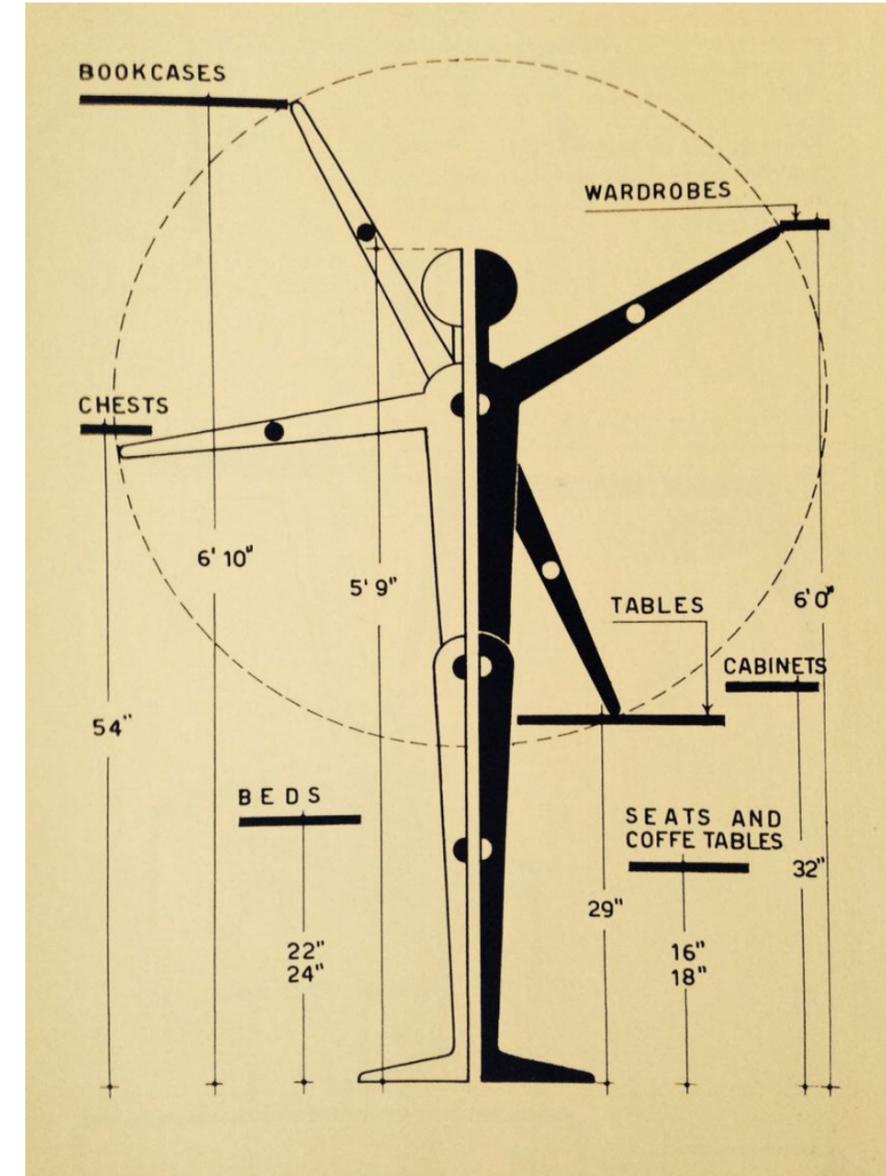
Moving forward in the space planning, programs were assessed for a section of the campus, and the overall concept of the SRO unit and architectural language began to be developed. Curvilinear walls allow for indirect lighting and the control of cross-breezes for natural ventilation, an important consideration in Florida's humid climate.

# E A R L Y S T U D I E S

## SRO UNIT PROPOSAL BASED ON ERGONOMICS



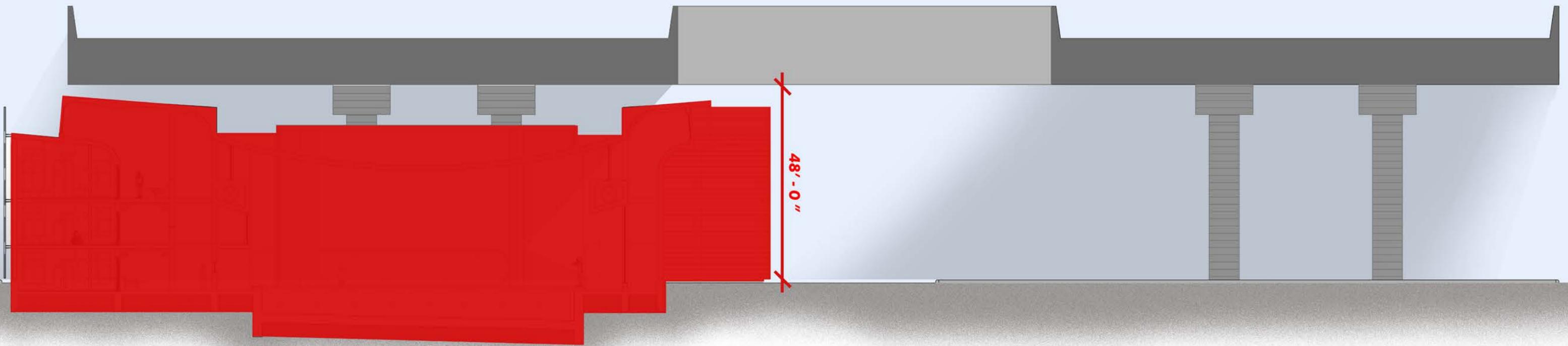
The SRO unit draft is composed of a winding internal space whose programs are separated by a water closet. Sliding screens and operable windows allow for a user defined control of space while built-in millwork makes usage of a tight footprint creating points for storage, living and working.



Influencing the design of the millwork and SRO unit footprint was the concept of ergonomics. Internal elements are designed with the user in mind with height conscious surfaces and operable systems considerate of physical limitations (e.g. a twisting motion such as when operating a typ. door knob is challenging for those with arthritis or similar condition, but is not as challenging as a sliding motion such as when operating a sliding door).

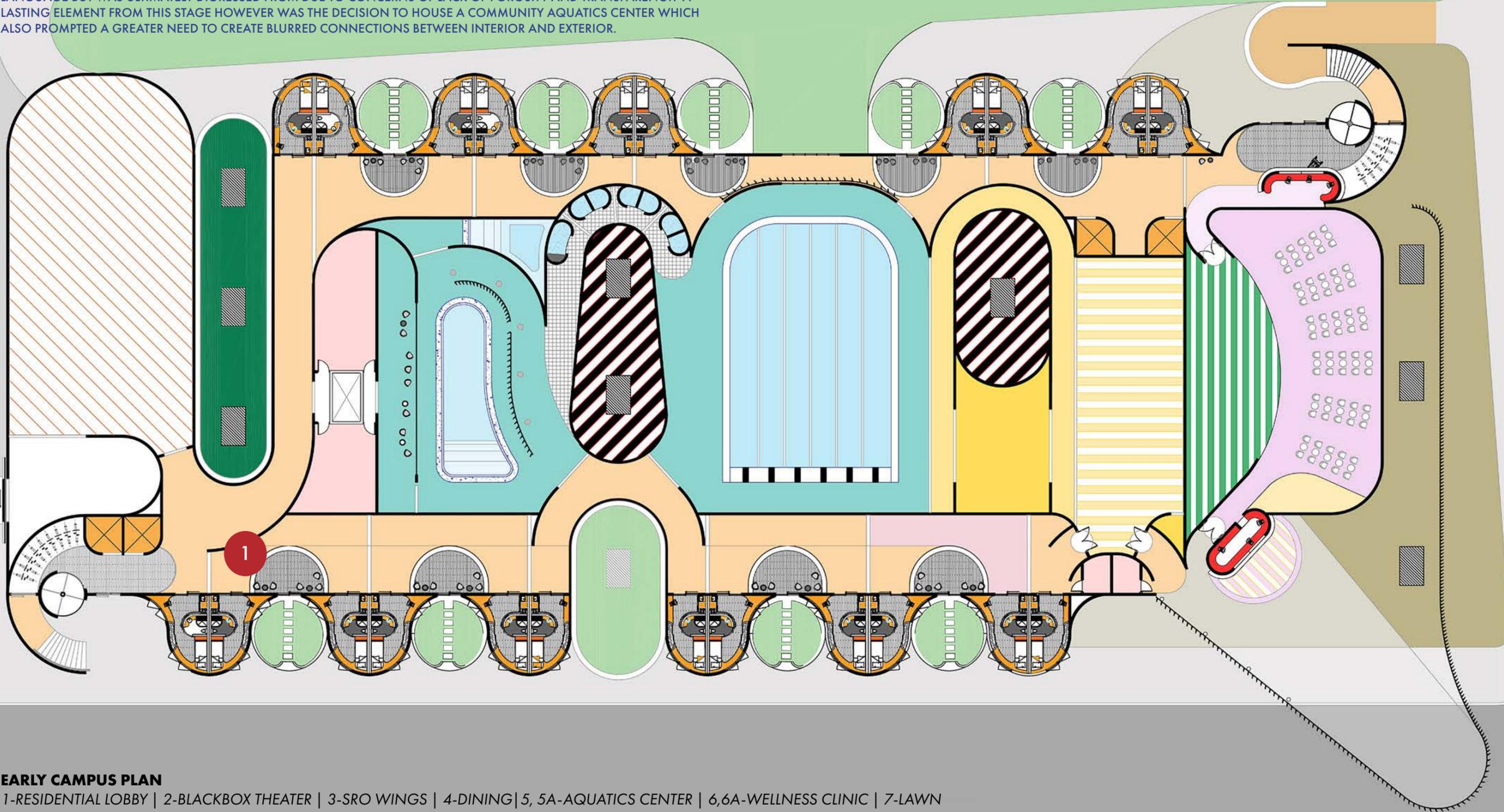
E A R L Y \_ S T U D I E S

INTERVENTION RELATIONSHIP TO HIGHWAY



# E A R L Y \_ S T U D I E S

GROUND FLOOR PLAN PROPOSAL ESTABLISHED A MORE FORMAL RELATIONSHIP OF PROGRAMS AND ARCHITECTURAL LANGUAGE BUT WAS ULTIMATELY DIGRESSED FROM DUE TO CONCERNS OF LACK OF POROSITY AND TRANSPARENCY. A LASTING ELEMENT FROM THIS STAGE HOWEVER WAS THE DECISION TO HOUSE A COMMUNITY AQUATICS CENTER WHICH ALSO PROMPTED A GREATER NEED TO CREATE BLURRED CONNECTIONS BETWEEN INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR.



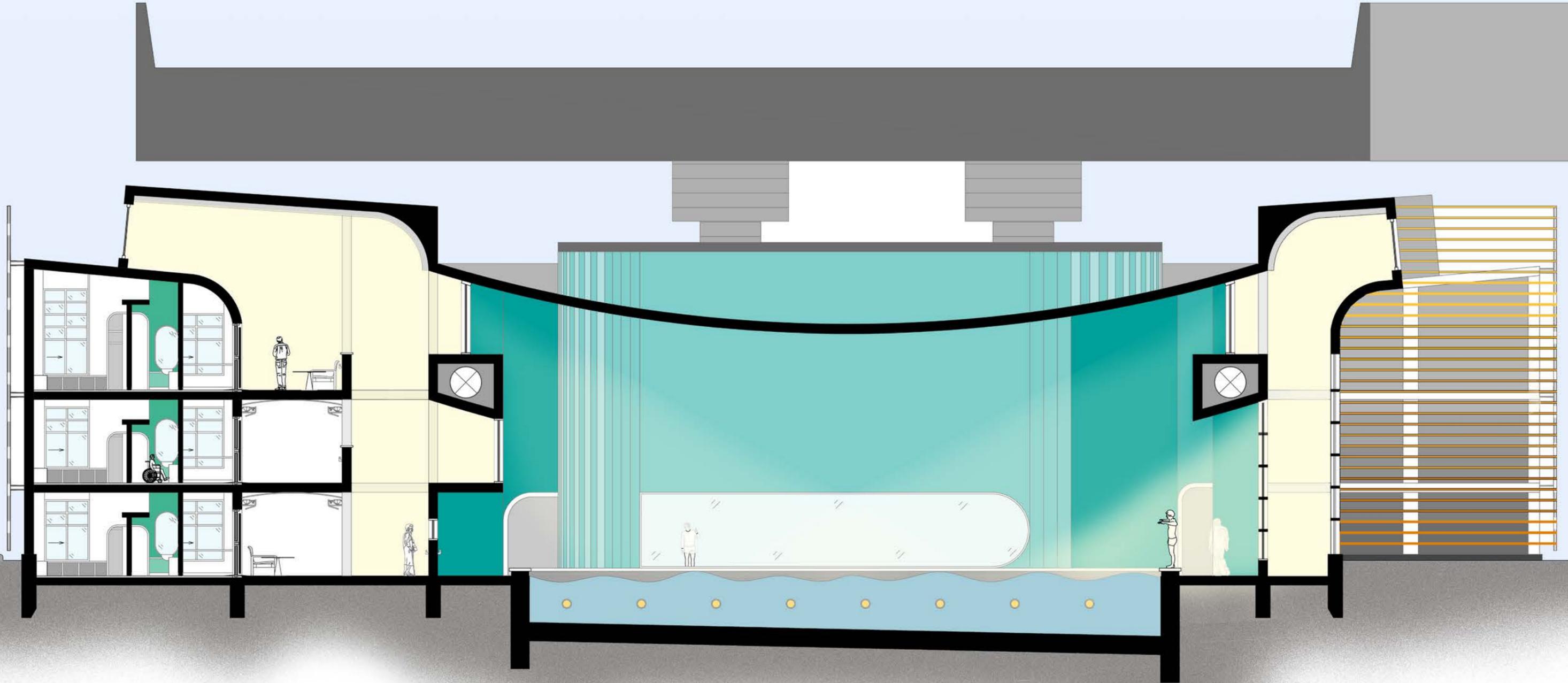
## EARLY CAMPUS PLAN

1-RESIDENTIAL LOBBY | 2-BLACKBOX THEATER | 3-SRO WINGS | 4-DINING | 5, 5A-AQUATICS CENTER | 6,6A-WELLNESS CLINIC | 7-LAWN



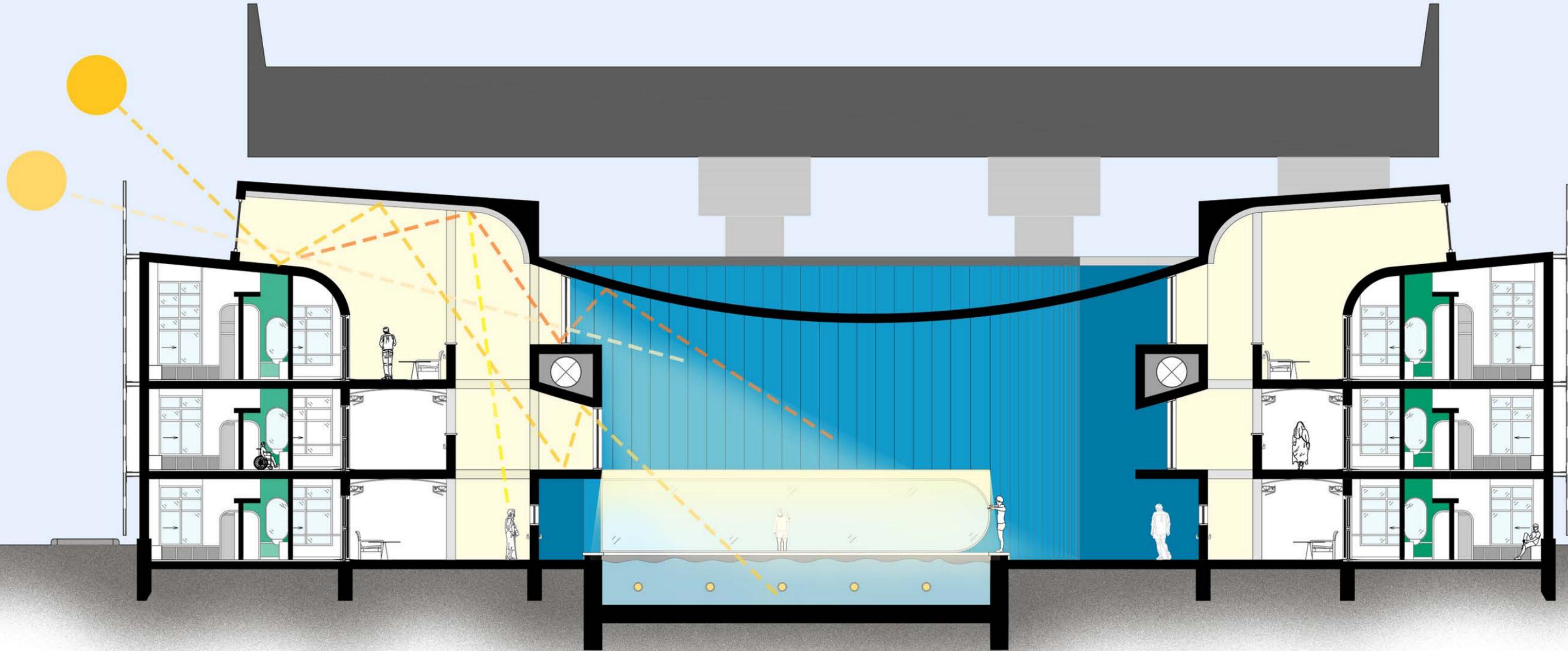
# E A R L Y \_ S T U D I E S

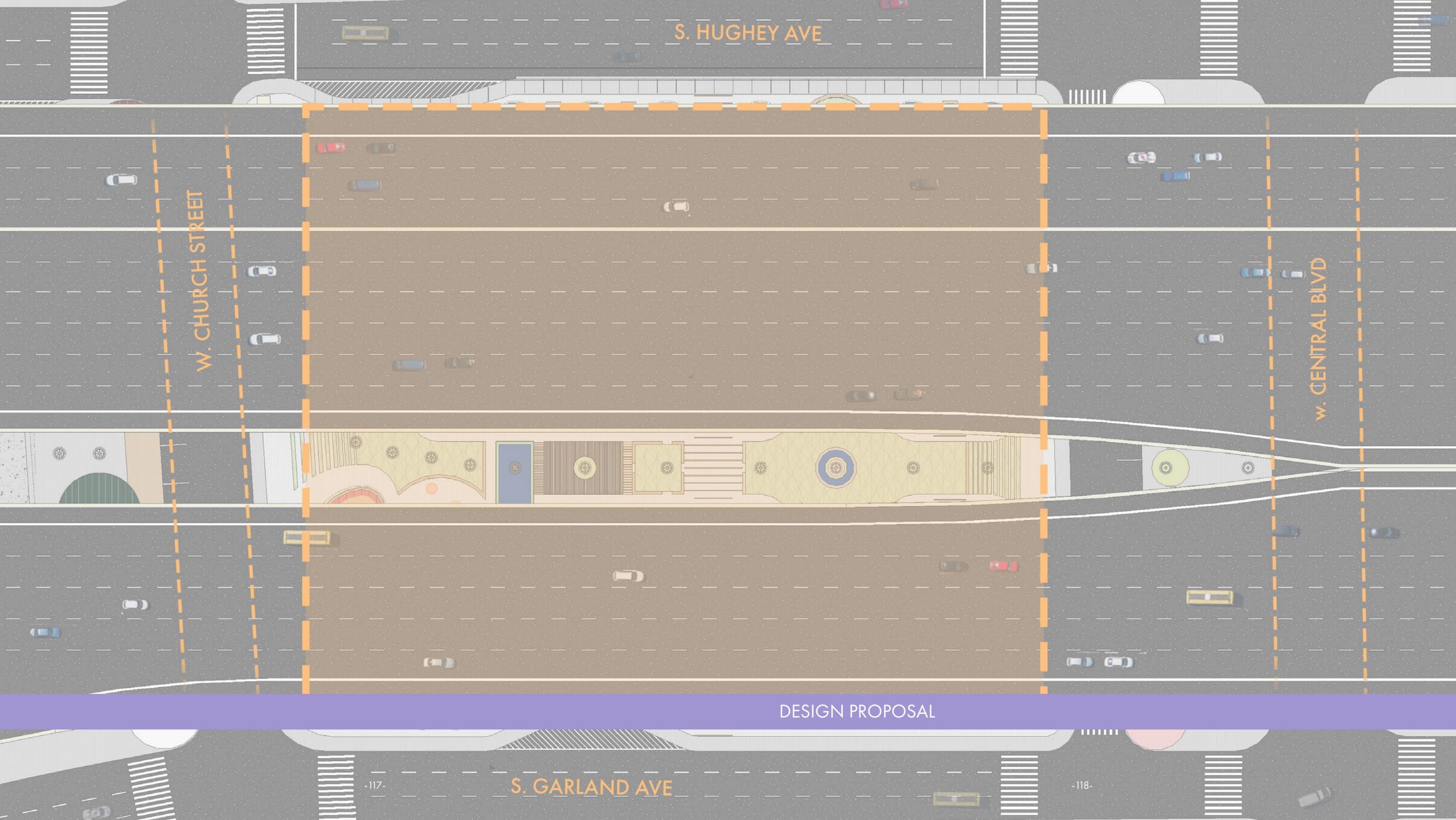
EARLY CROSS SECTION THROUGH AQUATICS CENTER ESTABLISHED A FORMAL VERTICAL RELATIONSHIP OF ELEMENTS WITH MAIN CONCERNS DEVOTED TO EXPERIMENTING WITH VARIOUS PASSIVE LIGHTING TECHNIQUES SUCH AS THE LIGHT SHELF TO PUSH NATURAL DAYLIGHT FURTHER INTO THE INTERVENTION WHERE IT WOULD OTHERWISE NOT REACH.



# E A R L Y \_ S T U D I E S

EARLY CROSS SECTION THROUGH AQUATICS CENTER ESTABLISHED A FORMAL VERTICAL RELATIONSHIP OF ELEMENTS WITH MAIN CONCERNS DEVOTED TO EXPERIMENTING WITH VARIOUS PASSIVE LIGHTING TECHNIQUES SUCH AS THE LIGHT SHELF TO PUSH NATURAL DAYLIGHT FURTHER INTO THE INTERVENTION WHERE IT WOULD OTHERWISE NOT REACH.





S. HUGHEY AVE

W. CHURCH STREET

W. CENTRAL BLVD

S. GARLAND AVE

DESIGN PROPOSAL

**GROUND LEVEL PLAN**

**1-COMMUNITY THEATER**

- 1A-ADMIN
- 1B-COWORKING OFFICE

**2-COALITION ANNEX**

- 2A-MEDIA CENTER
- 2B-LIBRARY CIRCULATION
- 2C-STUDY SUITES
- 2D-SOLAR COURTYARD

**3-COALITION WELLNESS**

- 3A-OLYMPIC POOL
- 3B-SPA
- 3C-REFLECTION POOL
- 3D-AQUATICS
- 3E-WELLNESS CLINIC

**4-DINING**

- 4A-OUTDOOR SEATING
- 4B-VENORS
- 4C-COMMUNITY KITCHEN

**5-YOUTH DROP-IN SHELTER**

**6-COMMUNITY PLAZAS**

- 6A-MARKET PLAZA
- 6B-GREENBELT
- 6C-COMMUNITY GARDEN
- 6D-REFLECTION PLAZA

**7-SUPPORTIVE HOUSING**

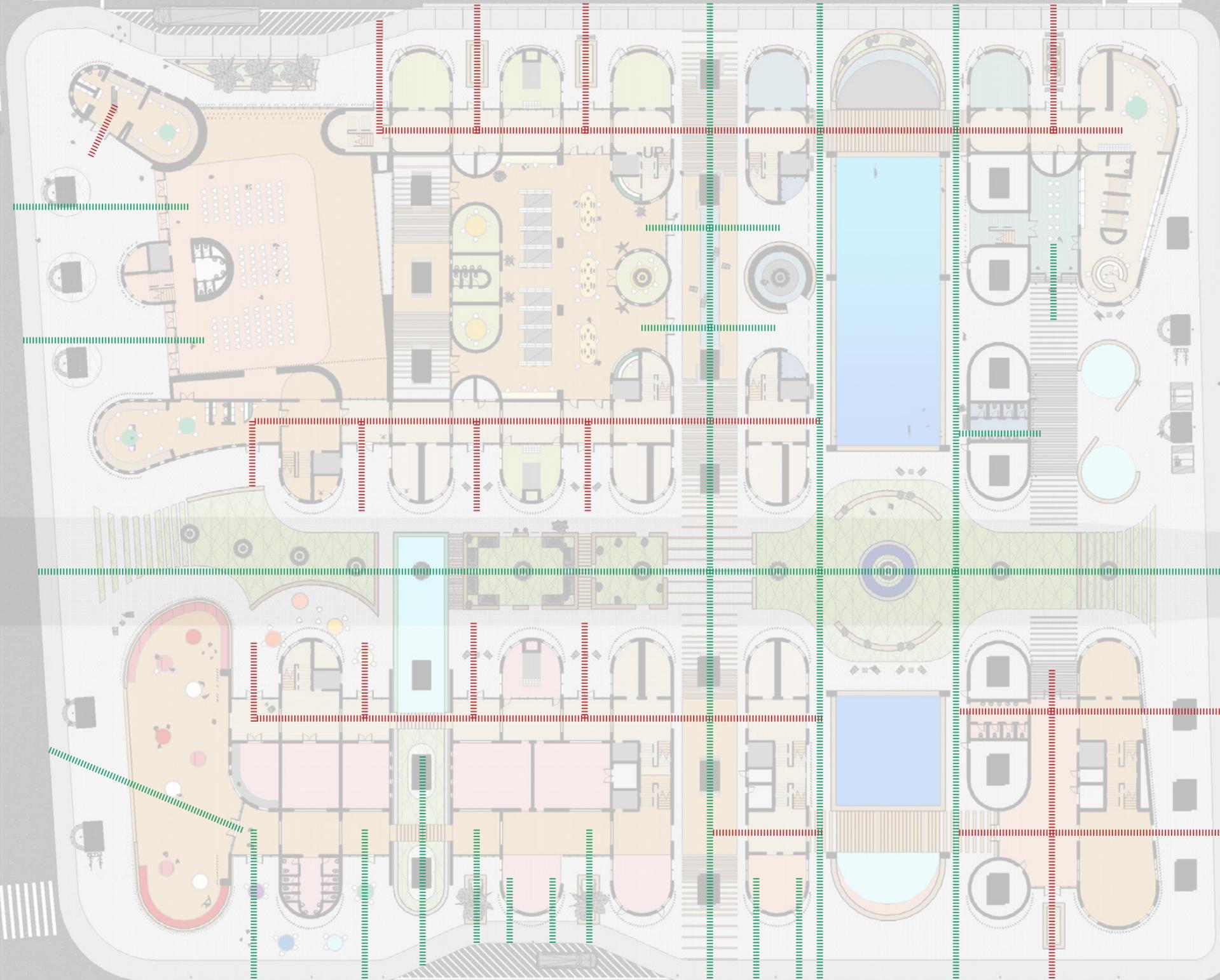
- 7A-LAUNDRY SERVICES
- 7B-MAIL SERVICES | TRASH



GROUND LEVEL POROSITY

PRIVATE ENTRY ONLY  
SUPPORTIVE HOUSING  
ADMINISTRATIVE  
DROP-IN YOUTH SHELTER

PUBLIC ENTRY ALWAYS  
COMMUNITY THEATER  
ANNEX  
WELLNESS CENTER  
DINING SERVICES  
RETAIL  
GREEN SPACES



2ND/3RD LEVEL, TYPICAL

1-COMMUNITY THEATER

- 1A-ADMIN
- 1B-COWORKING OFFICE
- 1C-MEZZANINE

2-COALITION ANNEX

- 2C-STUDY SUITES

3-COALITION WELLNESS

- 3A-CLINIC

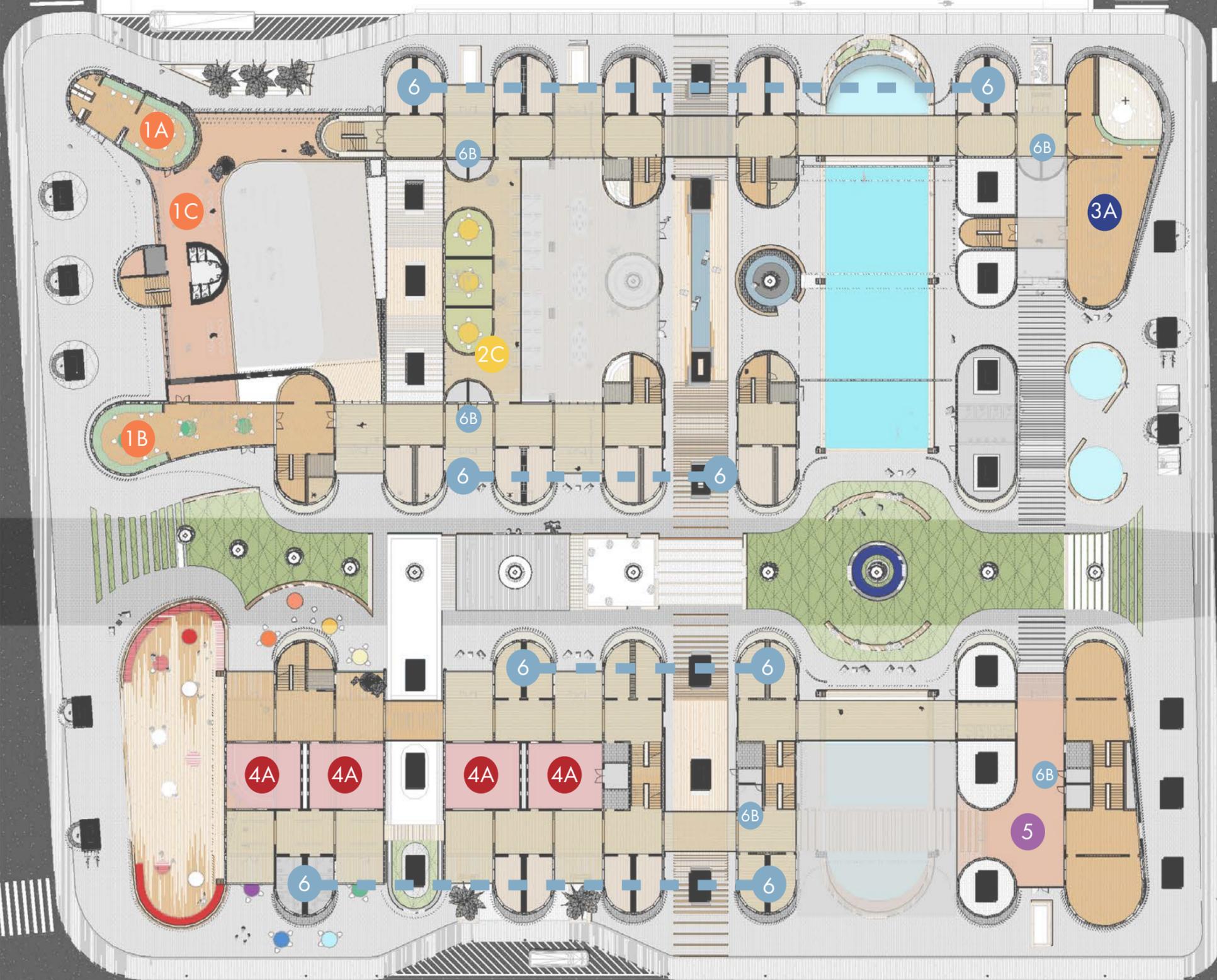
4-DINING

- 4A-CLASSROOMS

5-YOUTH DROP-IN SHELTER

6-SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

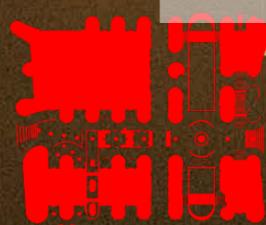
- 6A-LAUNDRY SERVICES
- 6B-MAIL SERVICES
- TRASH SERVICES

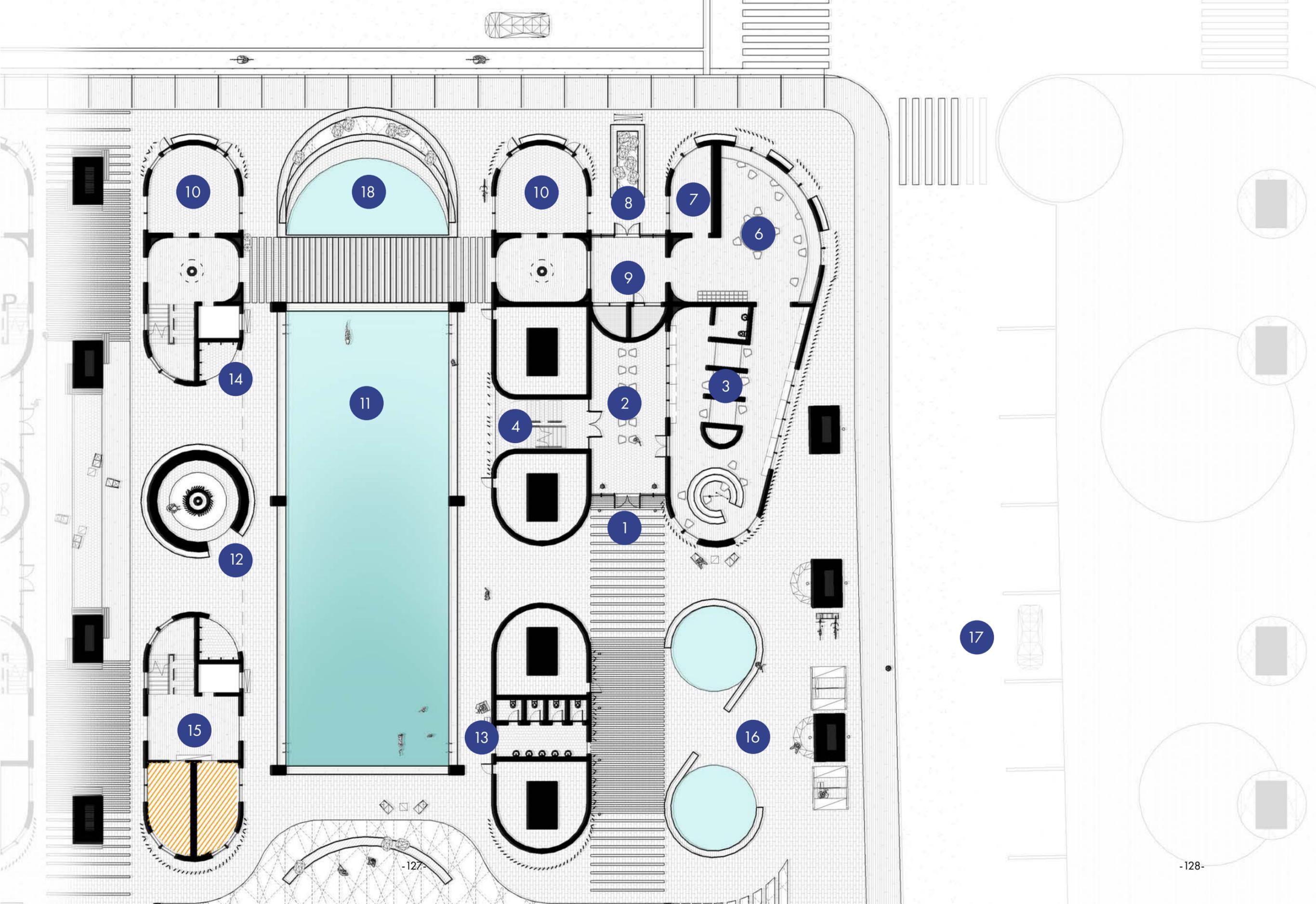




WELCOME

WELLNESS CENTER ENTRY



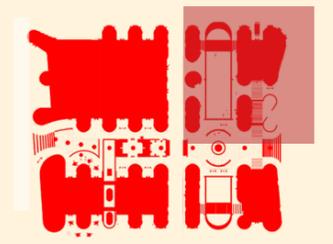


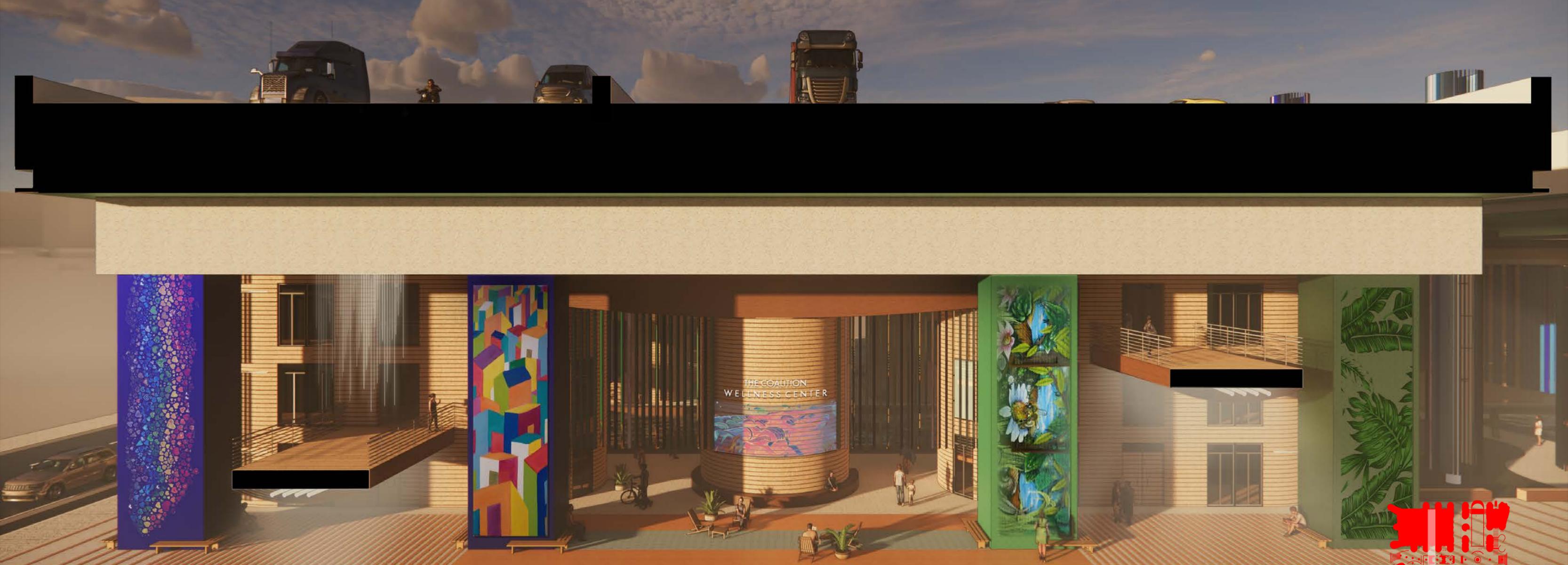
**WELLNESS CENTER GROUND LEVEL**

- 1-WELLNESS CLINIC ENTRY
- 2-INTAKE
- 3-COUNSELING
- 4-EGRESS STAIR

- 6-COMMUNITY LOUNGE
- 7-EXAM ROOM
- 8-LOBBY
- 9-TRASH + MAIL SERVICE
- 10-RETAIL

- 11-OLYMPIC POOL
- 12-SPA
- 13-PUBLIC RESTROOM
- 14-PUBLIC SHOWER
- 15-RESIDENTIAL TOWER
- 16-WELLNESS PLAZA
- 17-RIDE-SHARE/DROP-OFF AREA
- 18-REFLECTION POOL





**ART COLUMNS: CELEBRATION OF ORLANDO'S RICH MURAL SCENE**

BY SMITE/ WEST ART DISTRICT

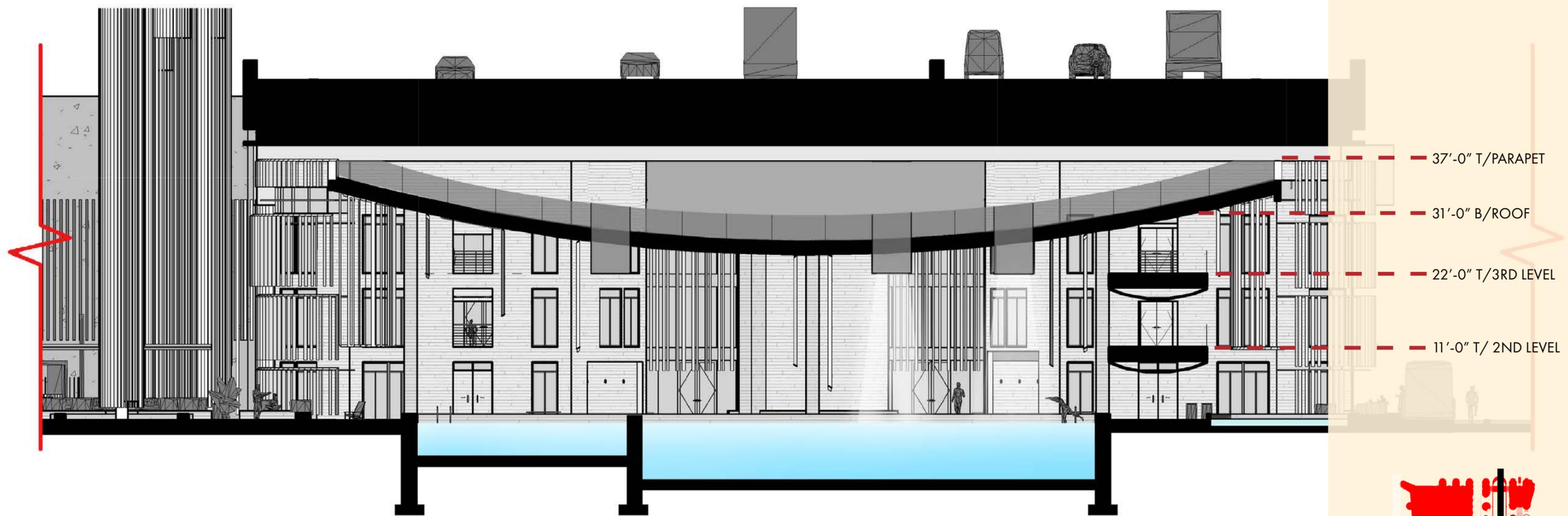
JOE BURBANK/ORLANDO SENTINEL

VICTOR VING/UNCLE TONY'S

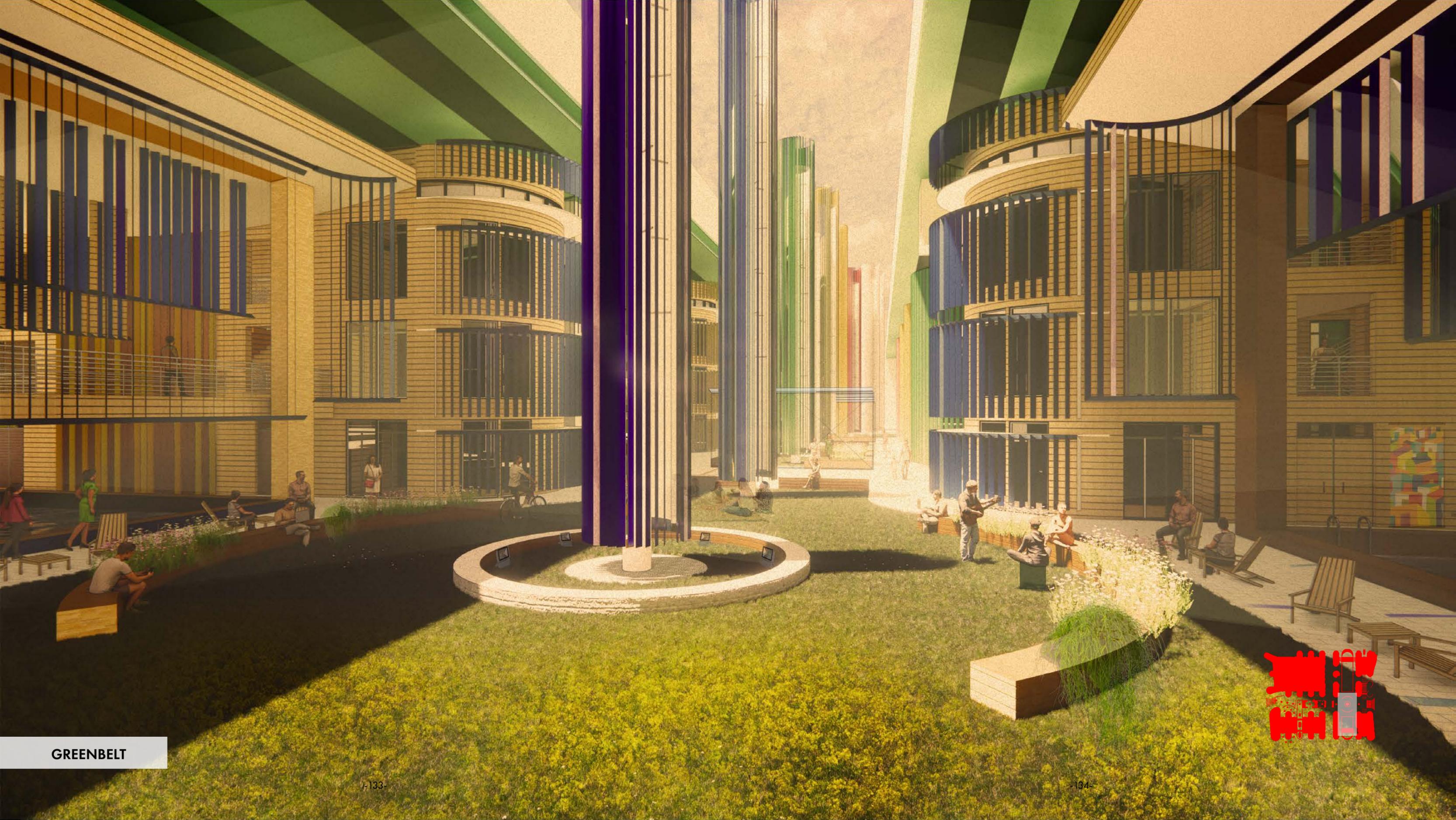
CHRIS JONES/MILK DISTRICT

JONAS NEVER/FLOYD'S



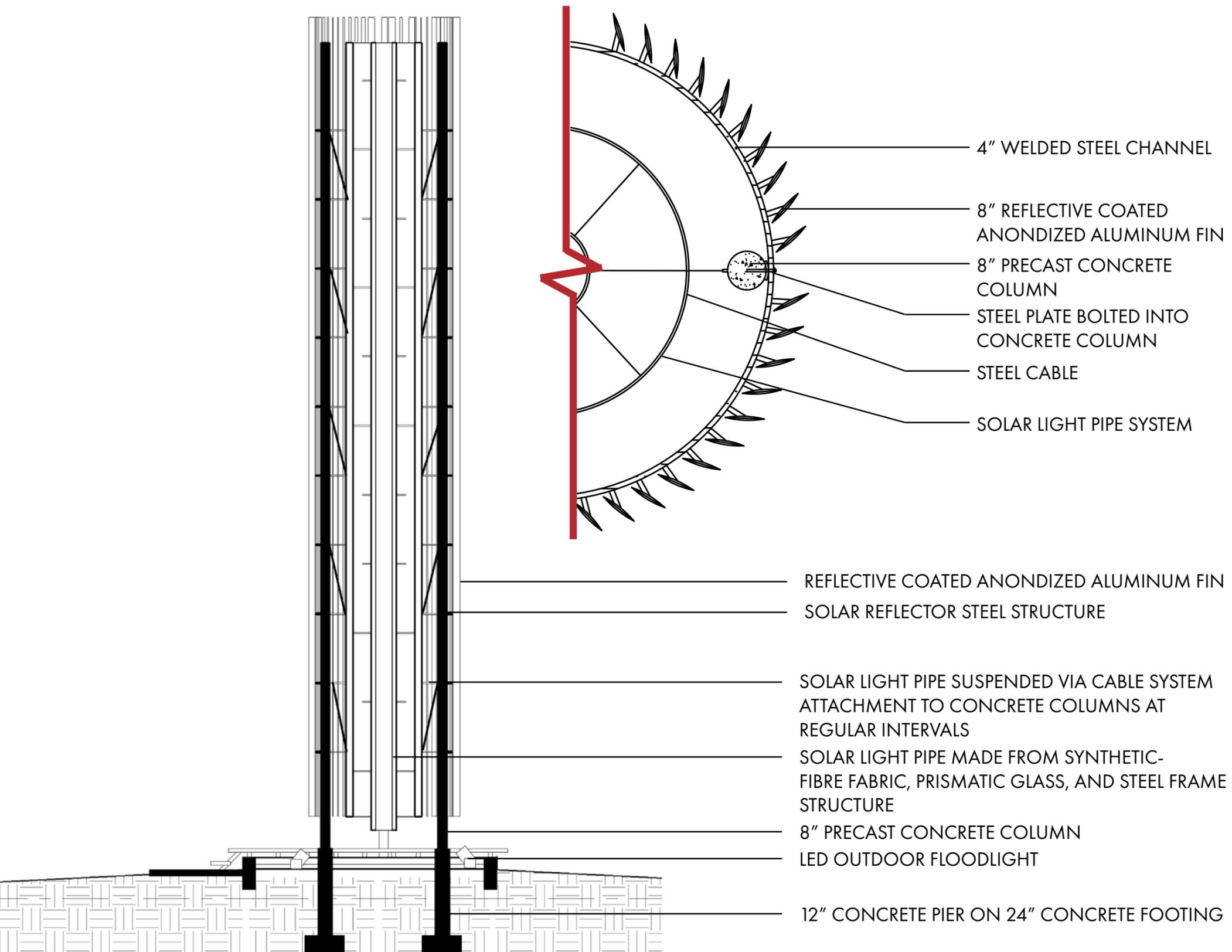


SECTION THROUGH OLYMPIC POOL



GREENBELT





**SOLAR LIGHT PIPE DETAIL**

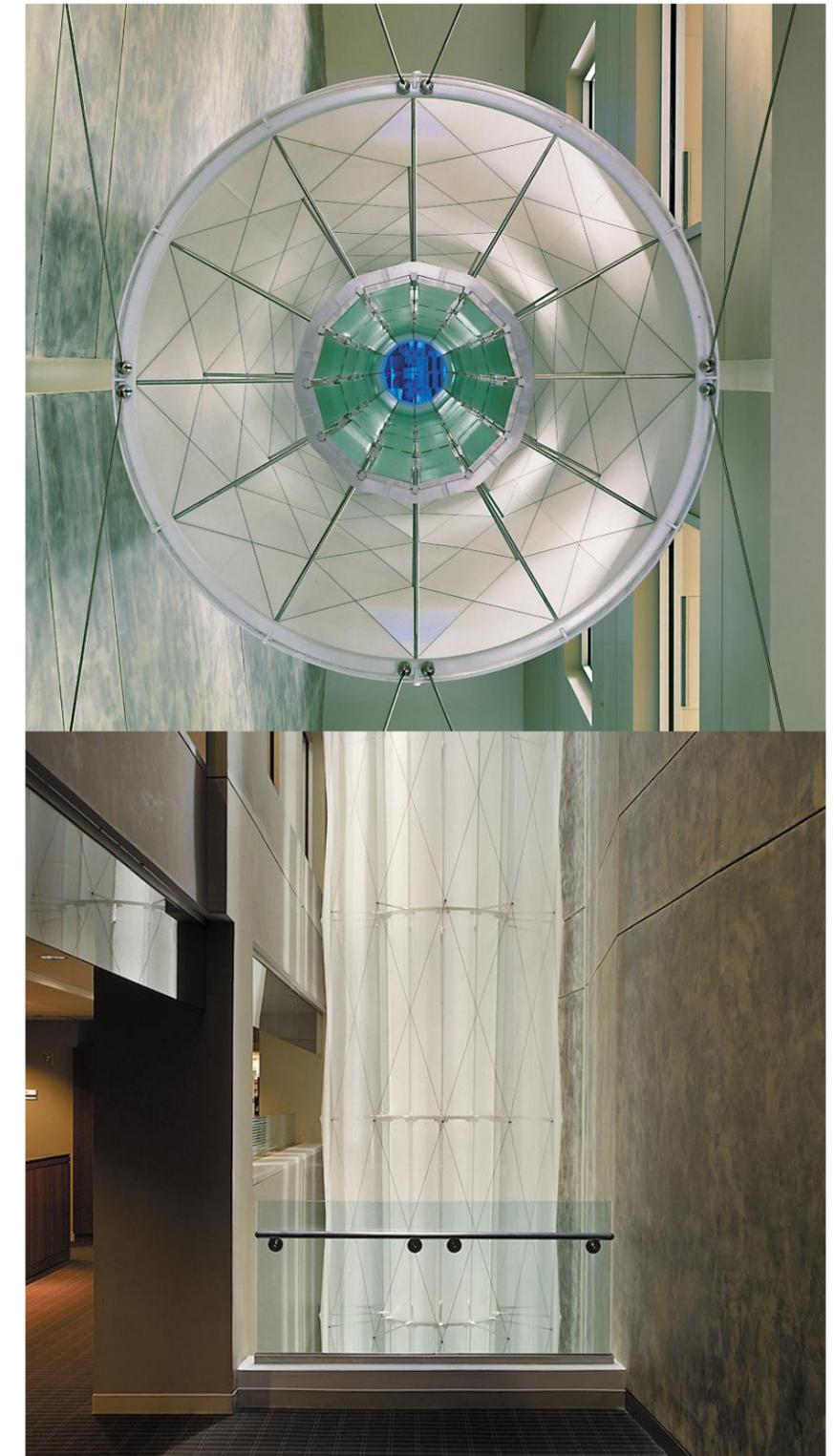


Fig. 51. Solar Light Pipe in Washington, D.C.

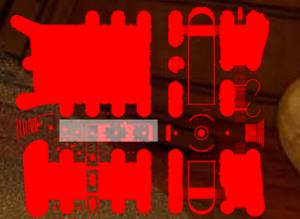


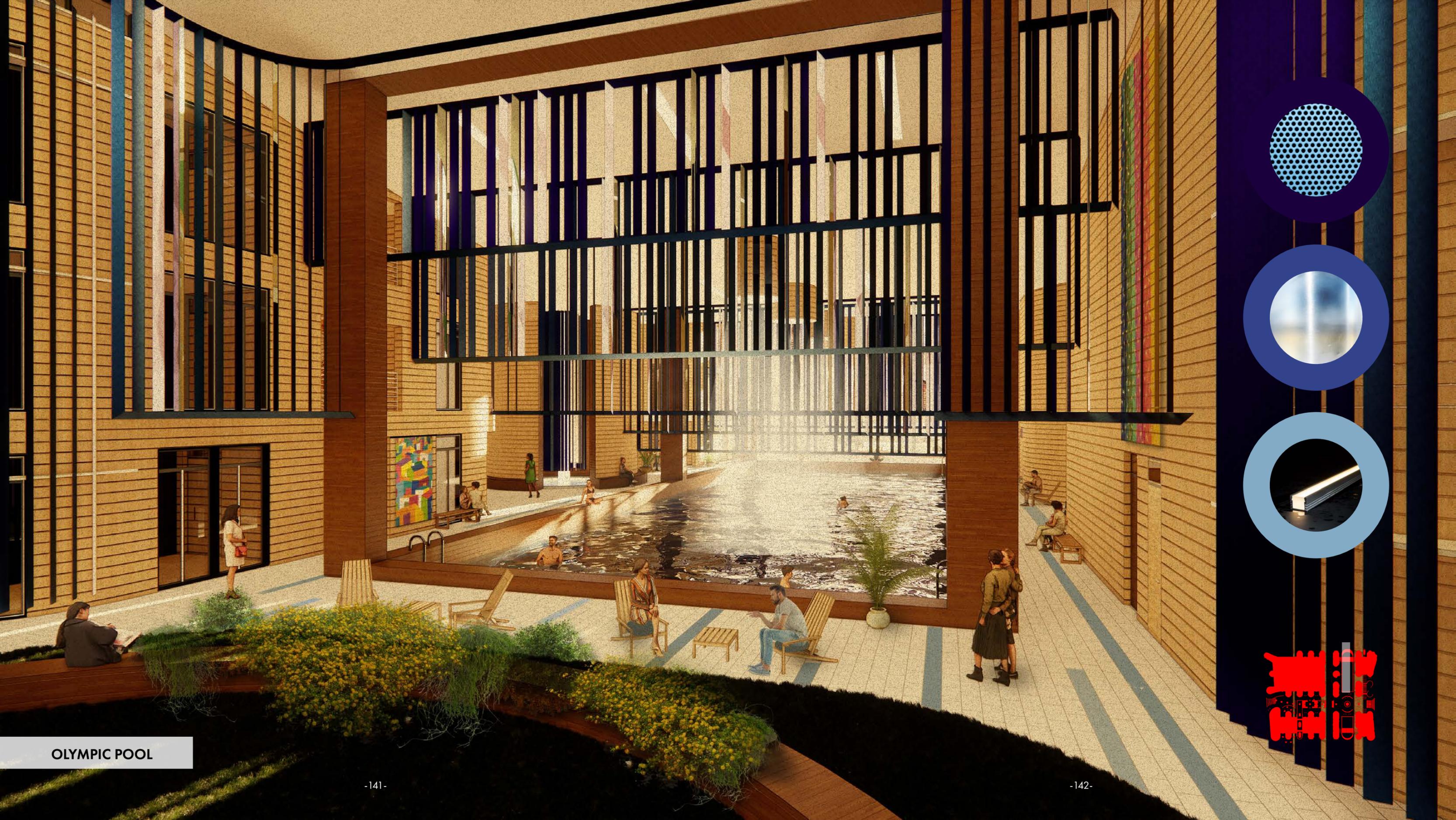
GREENBELT: COMMUNITY GARDEN



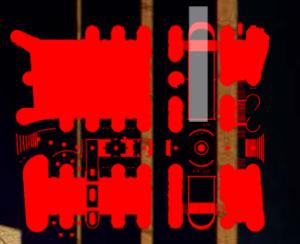


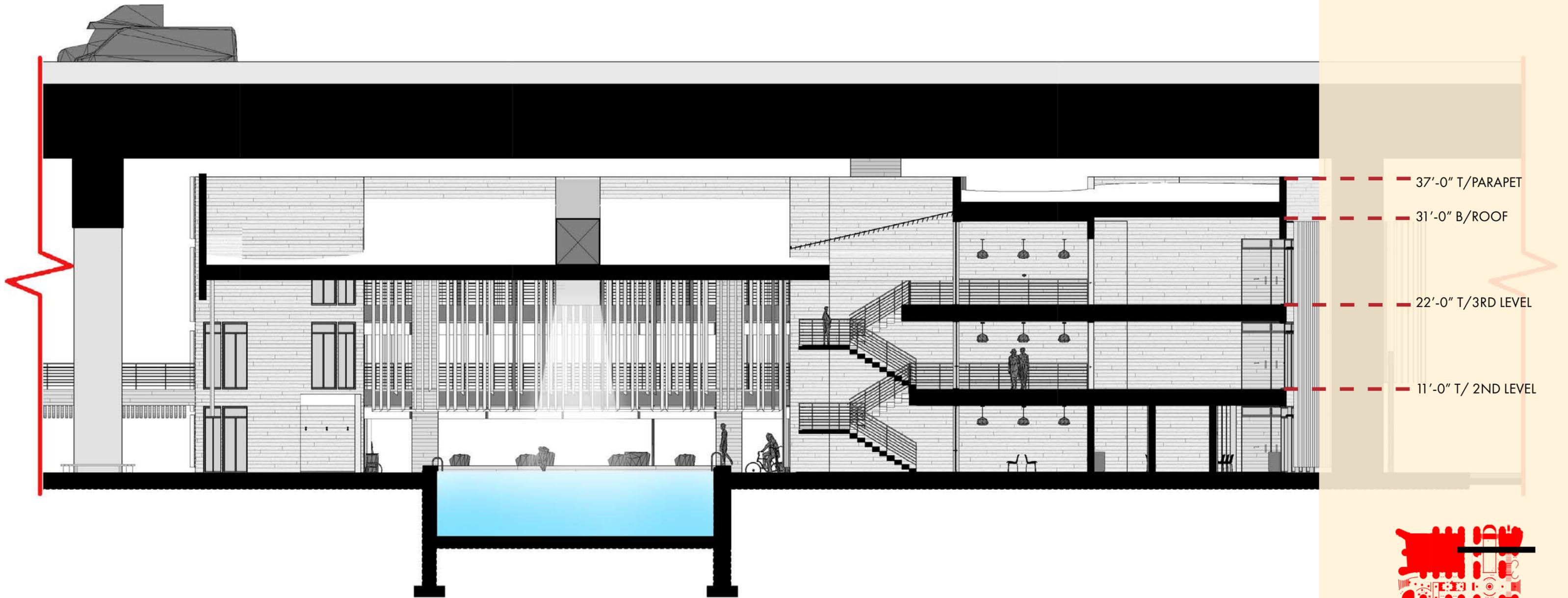
GREENBELT: COMMUNITY GARDEN





OLYMPIC POOL



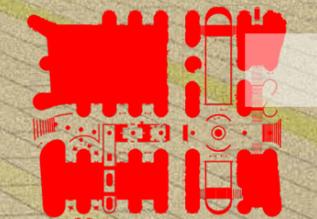


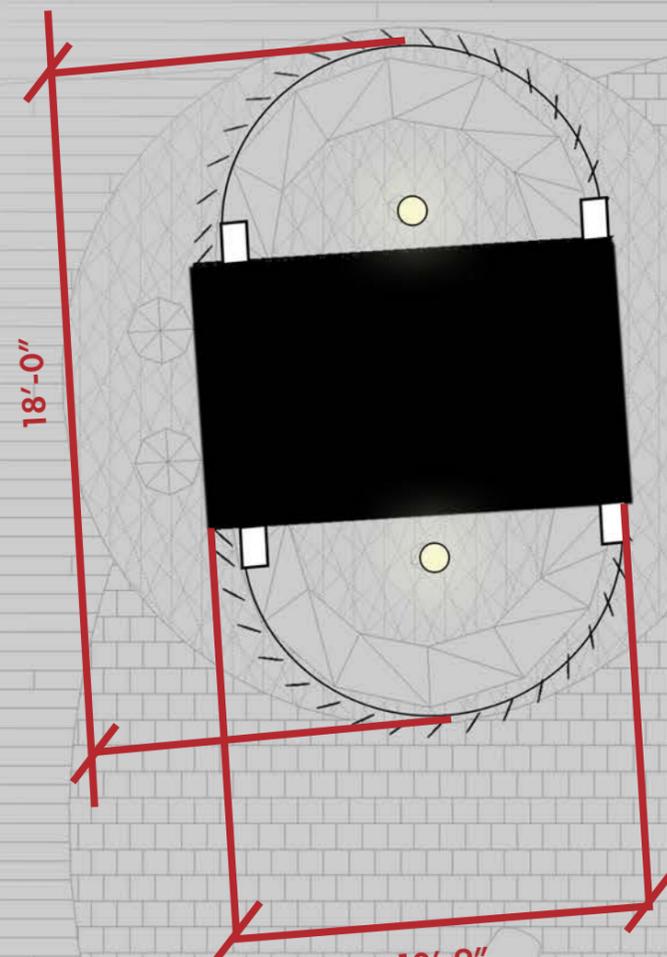
SECTION THROUGH WELLNESS CENTER AND CLINIC



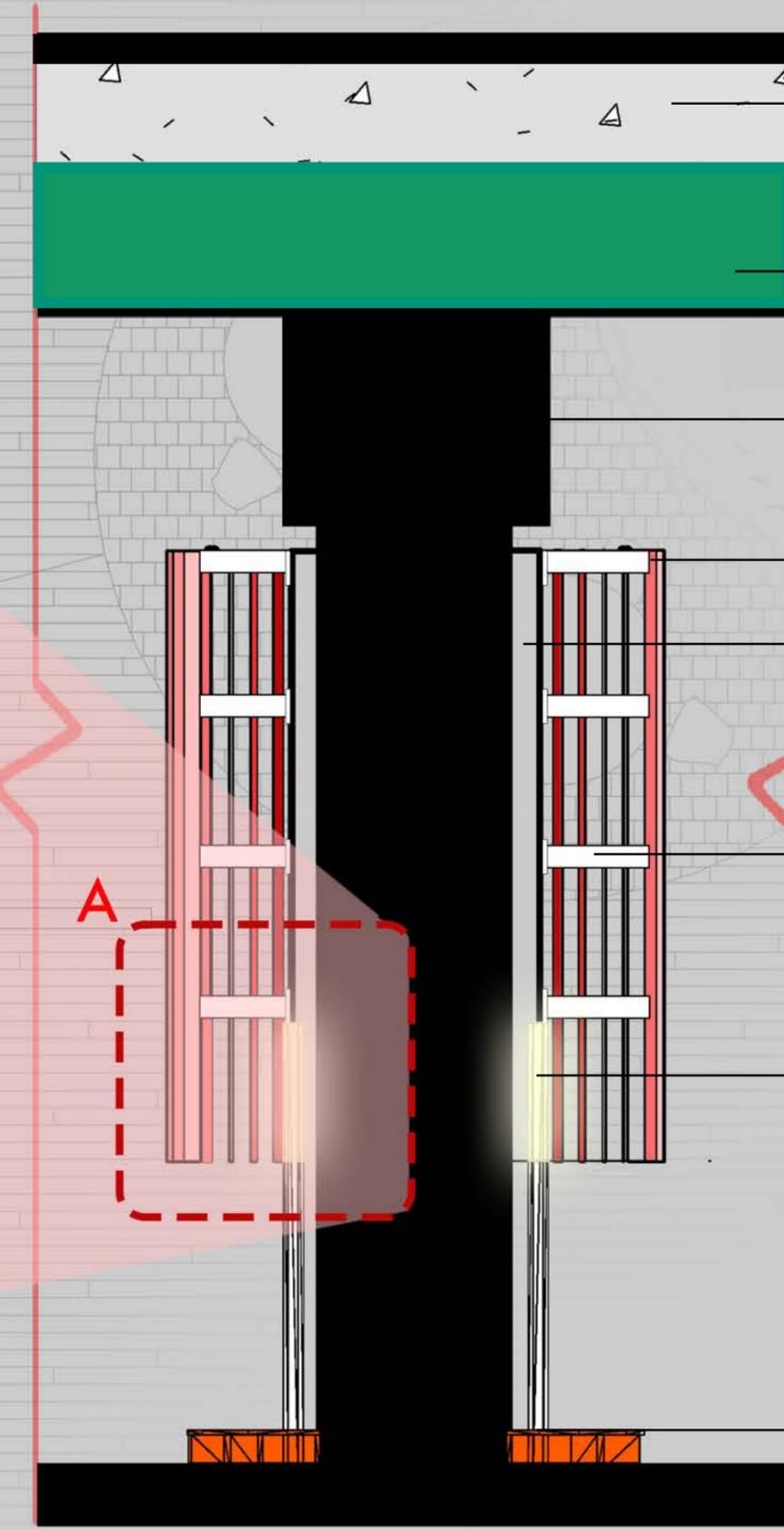
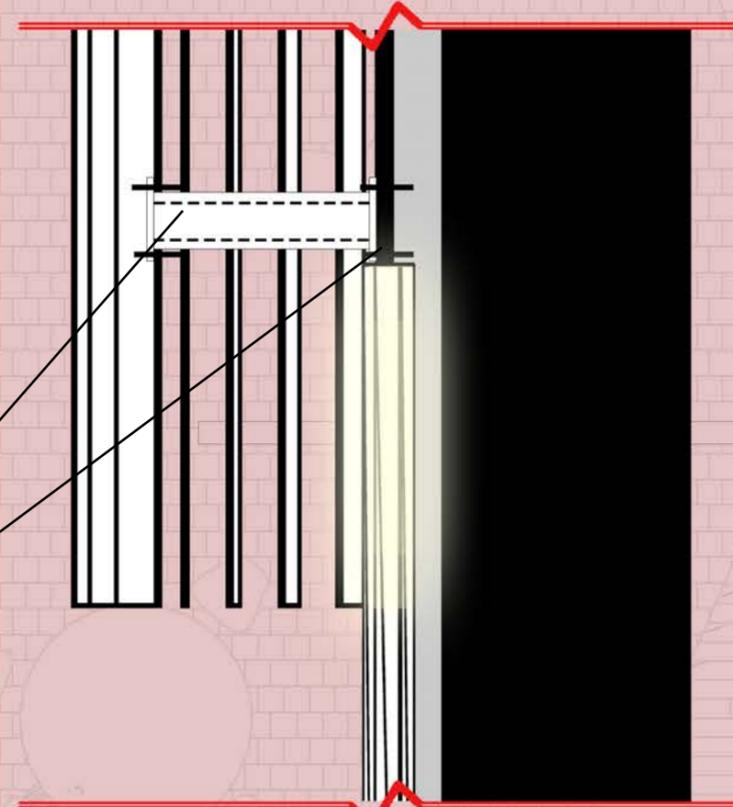
THE COALITION  
WELLNESS CLINIC

COALITION CLINIC ENTRY AND WELLNESS PLAZA





4" WELDED STEEL CHANNEL  
STEEL PLATE BOLTED IN PLACE



HIGHWAY

REINFORCED STEEL GIRDER

HIGHWAY REINFORCED CONCRETE COLUMN

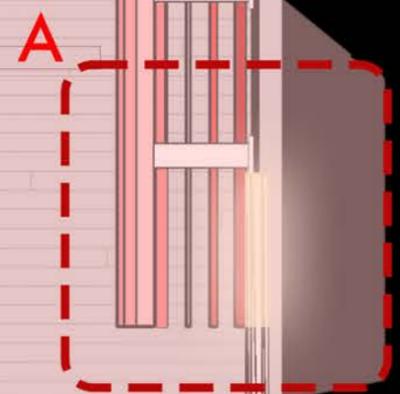
8" REFLECTIVE COATED ANODIZED ALUMINUM FIN

8" PRECAST CONCRETE COLUMN

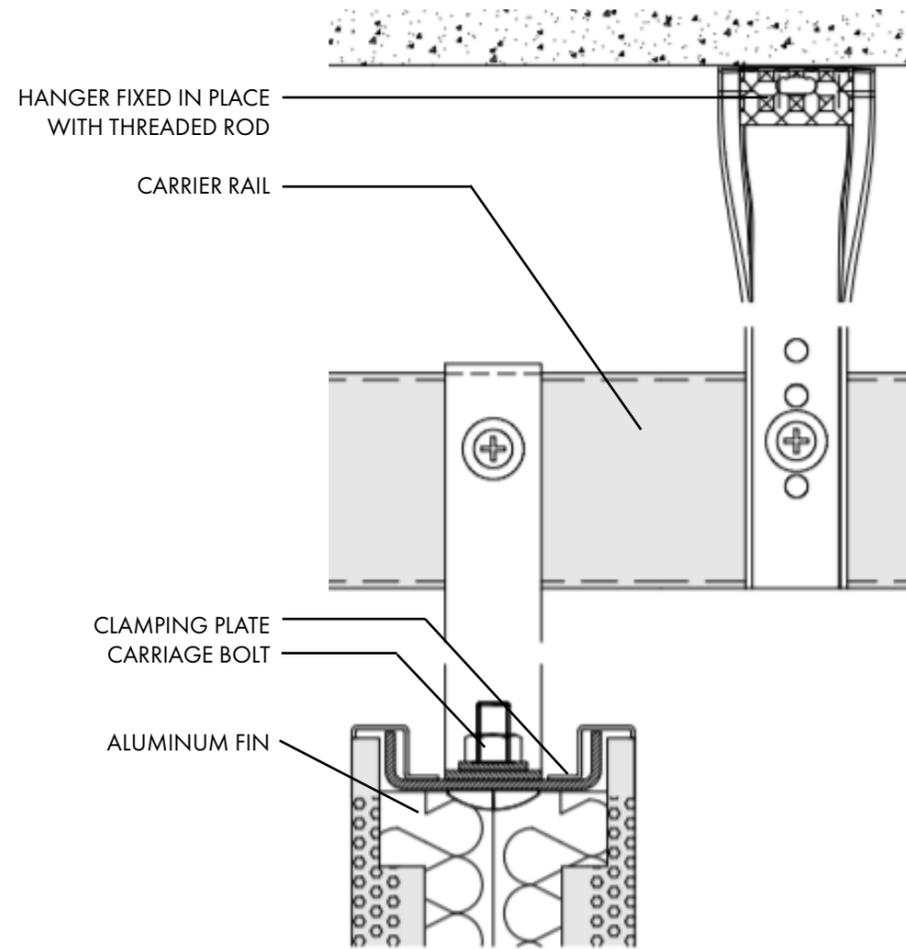
4" WELDED STEEL CHANNEL

LED EXTERIOR LAMP POST

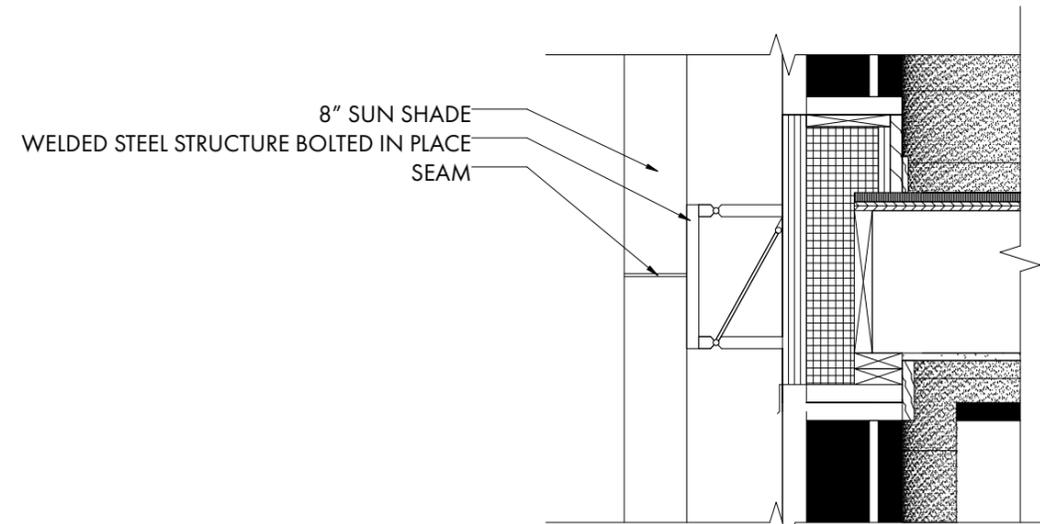
18" A.F.F WOODEN BENCH



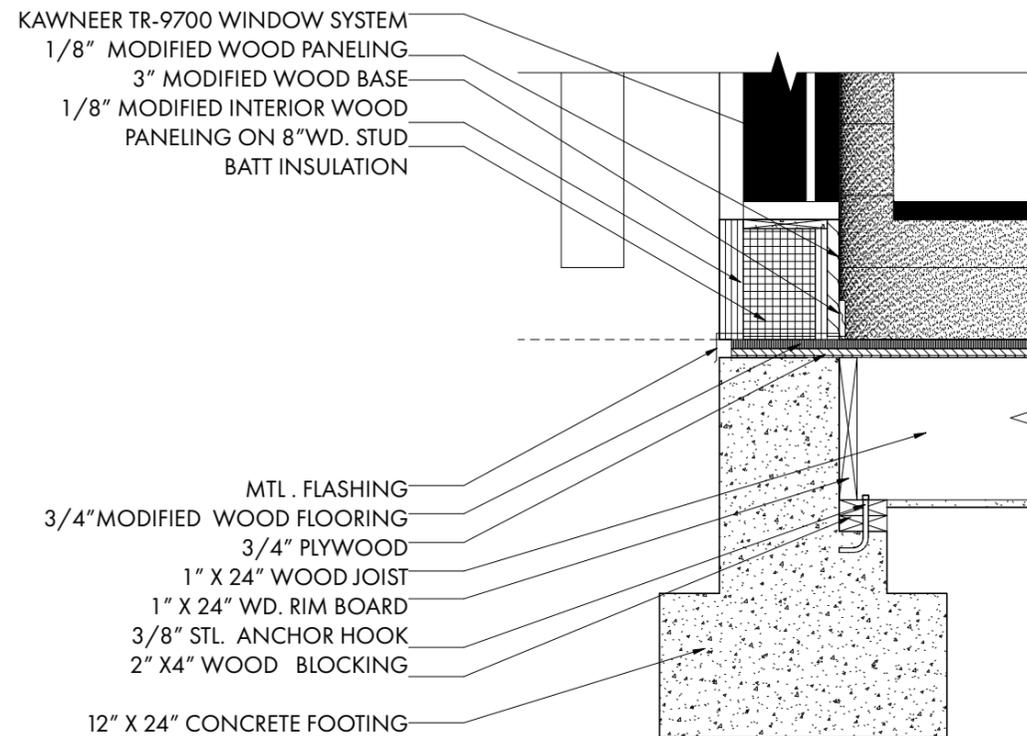
SCREEN DETAILS



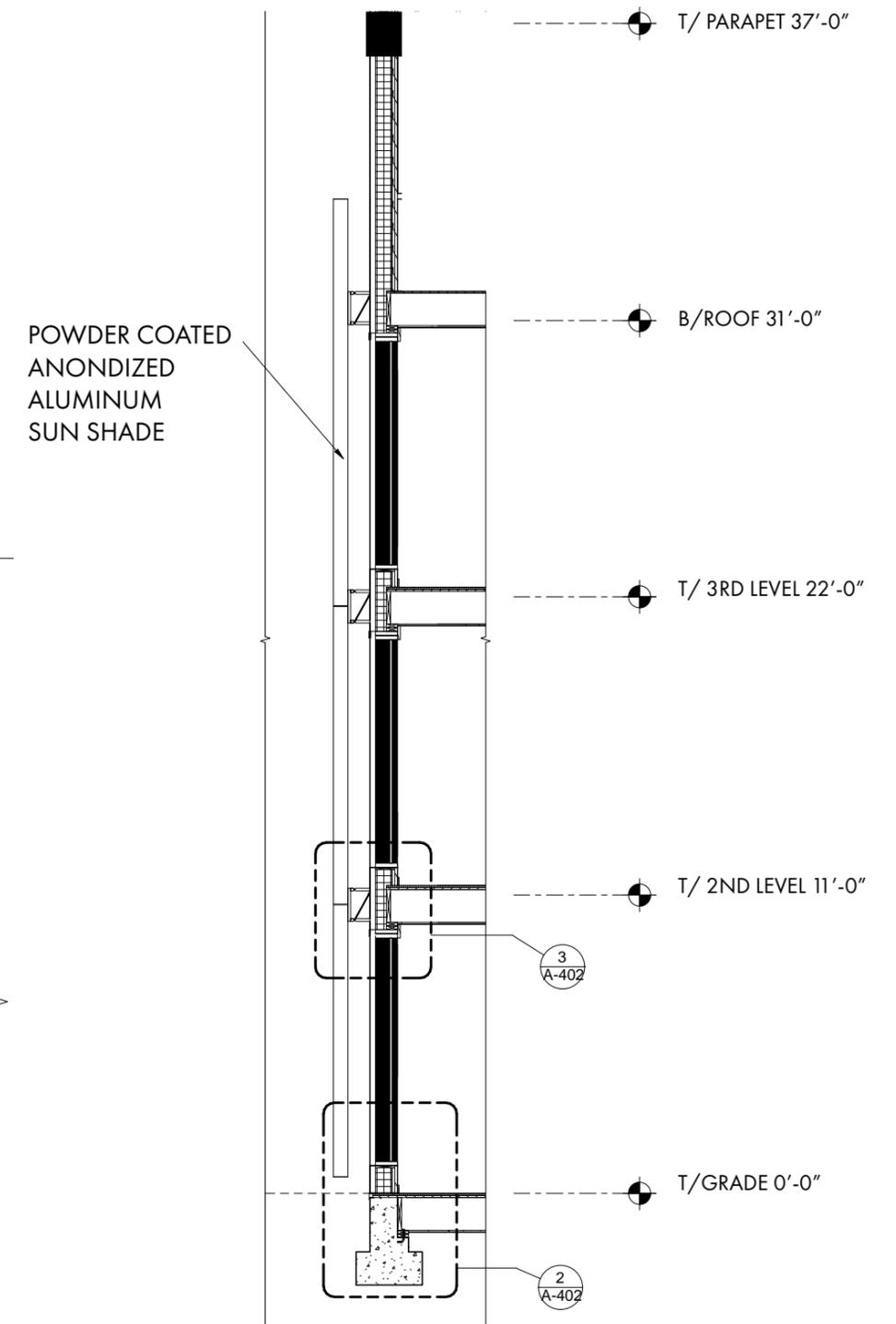
1 SCREEN ATTACHMENT TO CEILING TYP.



2 SCREEN ATTACHMENT TO FACADE TYP.



3 FOOTING DETAIL TYP.



4 SCREEN WALL FACADE DETAIL TYP. WW

TYPICAL SCREEN DETAILS

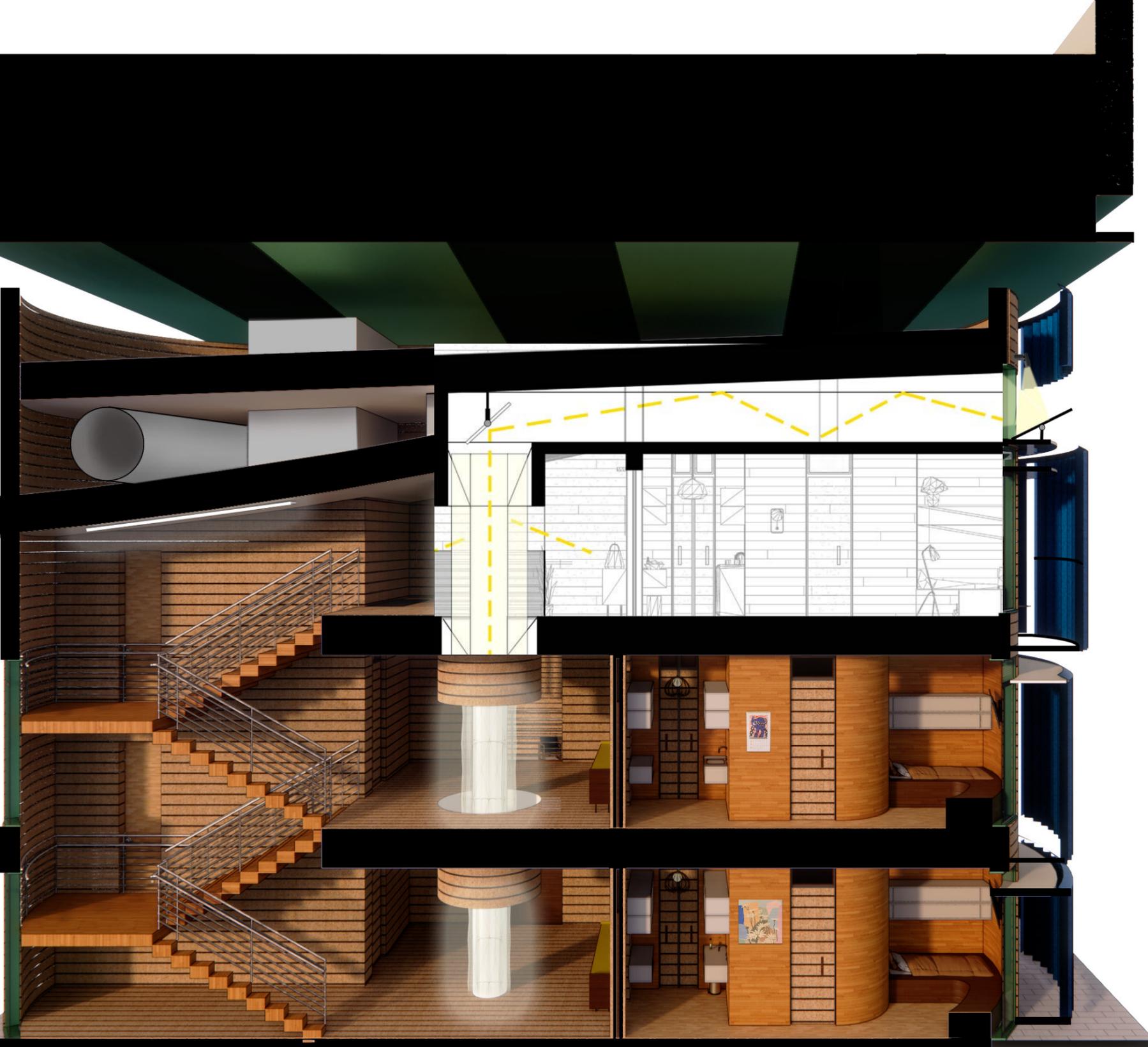


3  
0  
3

E F

TYP. RESIDENTIAL LOBBY





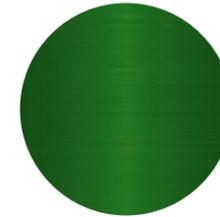
SOLAR LIGHT PIPE GRAPHIC DETAIL | MATERIAL BOARD



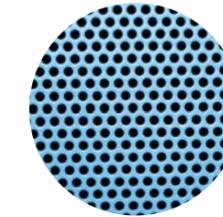
HELIOSTAT



SOLAR LIGHT PIPE



POWDER  
COATED  
ANONDIZED  
ALUMINUM  
FRAMING



POWDER  
COATED  
ANONDIZED  
PERFOATED  
ALUMINUM SCREEN



S.S. MIRROR REFLECTIVE  
CLADDING



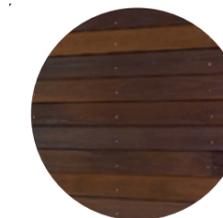
EXTERIOR  
MOUNTED LED  
STRIP LIGHT



MODIFIED WOOD  
SIDING + FLOORING  
(EXTERIOR/INTERIOR)



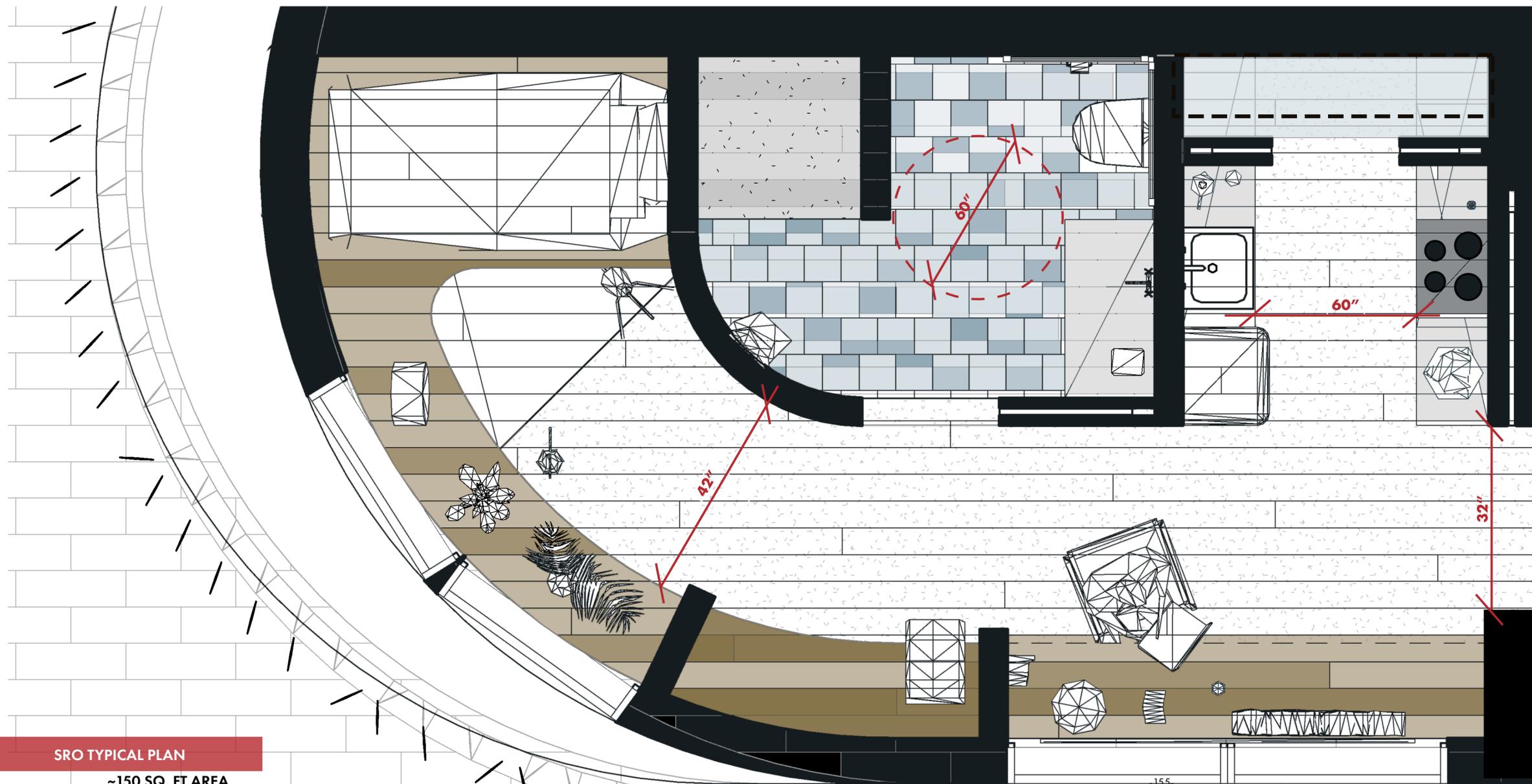
MODIFIED WOOD  
SIDING + FLOORING  
(EXTERIOR/INTERIOR)



WHITE OAK  
(FURNITURE)



CONCRETE PERMEABLE  
PAVERS



SRO TYPICAL PLAN  
~150 SQ. FT AREA

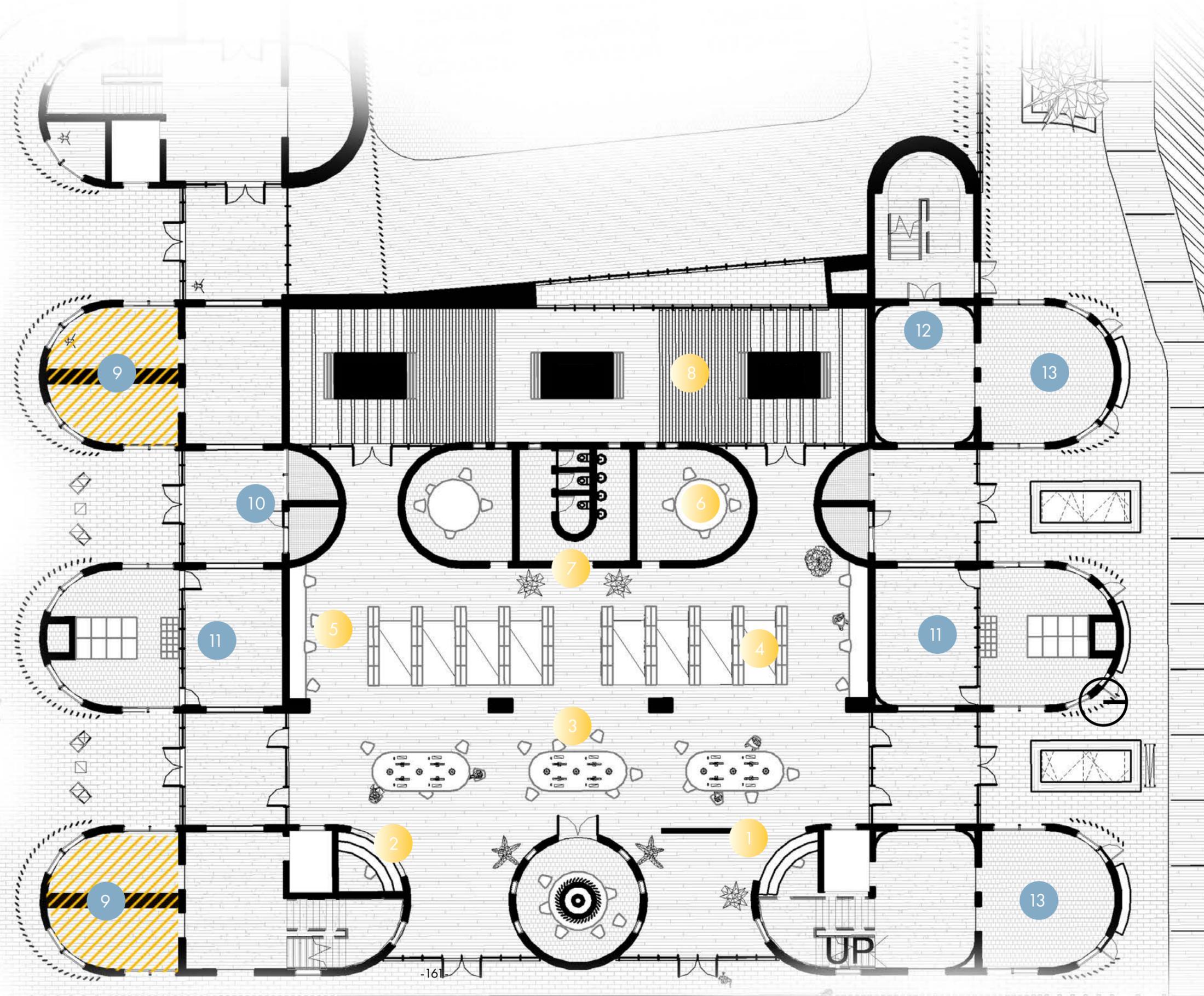




TYP. SUPPORTIVE HOUSING SRO RENDERING

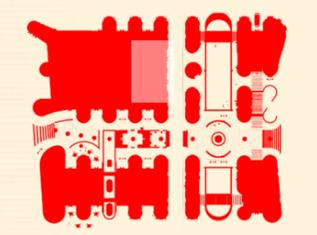


TYP. SUPPORTIVE HOUSING SRO RENDERING



**MEDIA CENTER GROUND FLOOR**

- 1-RECEPTION
- 2-COMPUTER HELP
- 3-COMMUNAL COMPUTERS
- 4-SMALL CIRCULATION
- 5-WORK AREA
- 6-PRIVATE STUDY/WORK SUITES
- 7-RESTROOMS
- 8-COLUMN COURTYARD
- 9-SUPPORTIVE HOUSING
- 10-TRASH + MAIL SERVICES
- 11-LAUNDRY ROOM
- 12-EGRESS STAIR
- 13-RETAIL





MEDIA CENTER PERSPECTIVE FROM SECOND FLOOR CIRCULATION

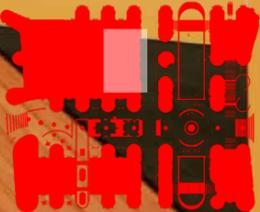


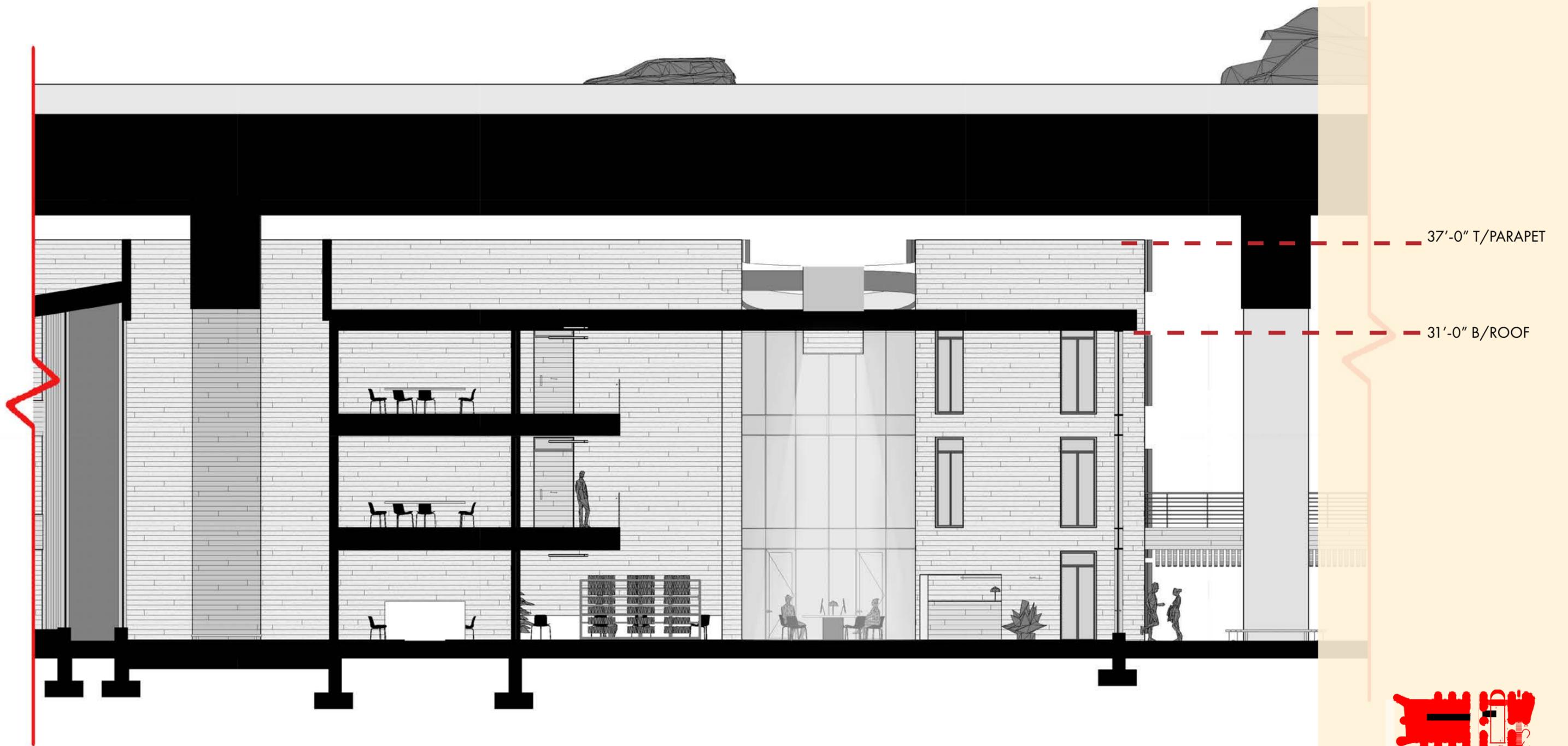


ENLARGED MEDIA CENTER SECTION

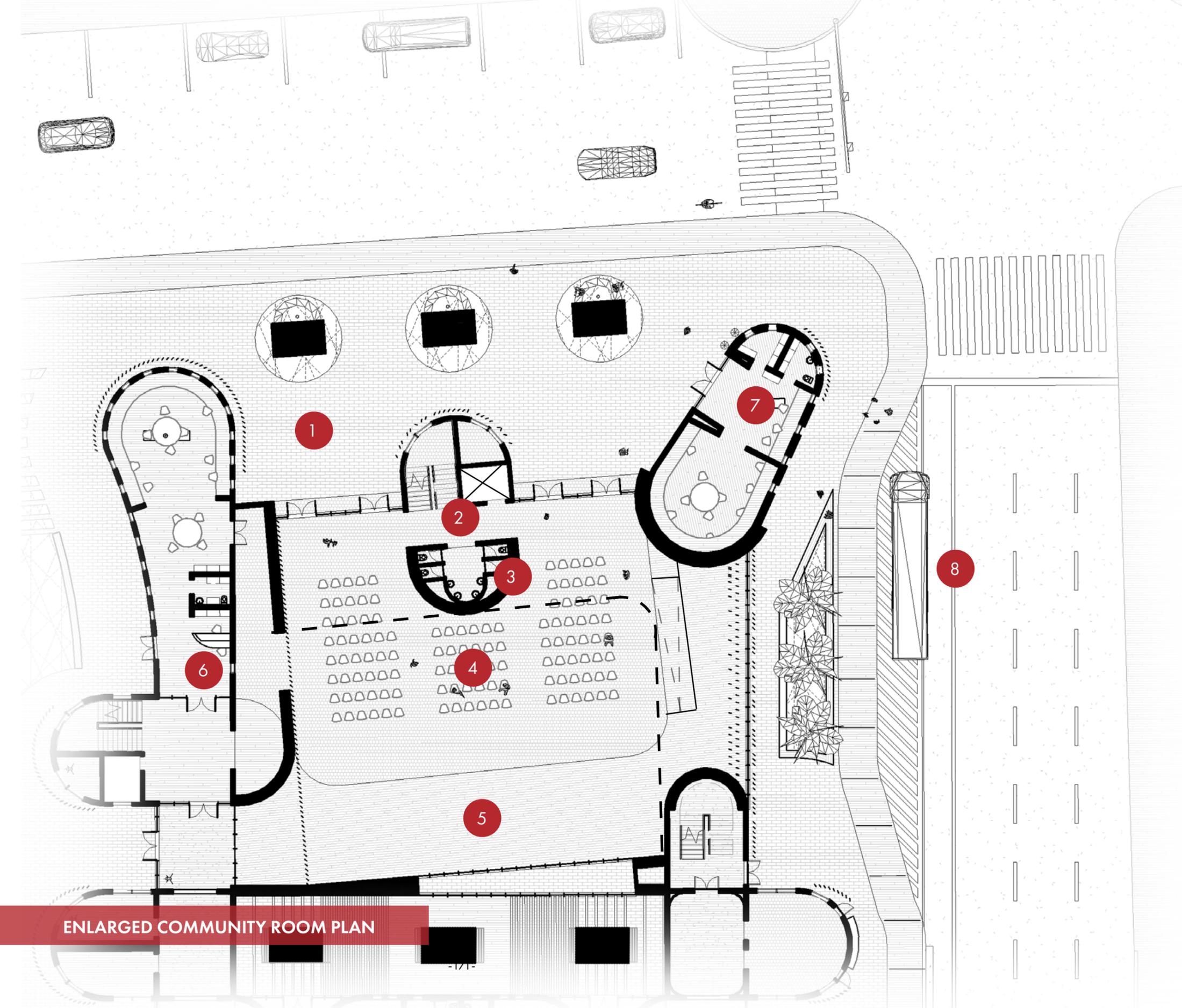


MEDIA CENTER





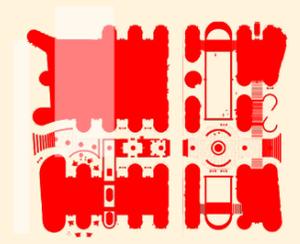
ENLARGED MEDIA CENTER SECTION



**COMMUNITY ROOM**

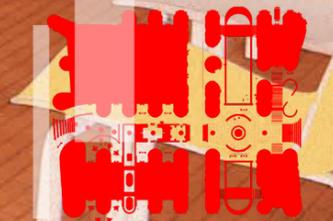
- 1-OUTDOOR LOBBY
- 2-CIRCULATION LOBBY
- 3-RESTROOM
  
- 4-SEATING
- 5-STAGE
- 6-CO-WORKING OFFICE SPACE
- 7-COALITION ADMIN OFFICE
  
- 8-BUS STOP

**ENLARGED COMMUNITY ROOM PLAN**





COMMUNITY ROOM PERSPECTIVE FROM ENTRY

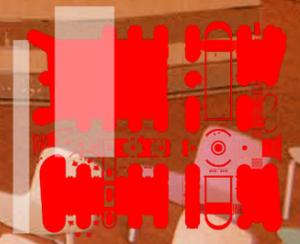


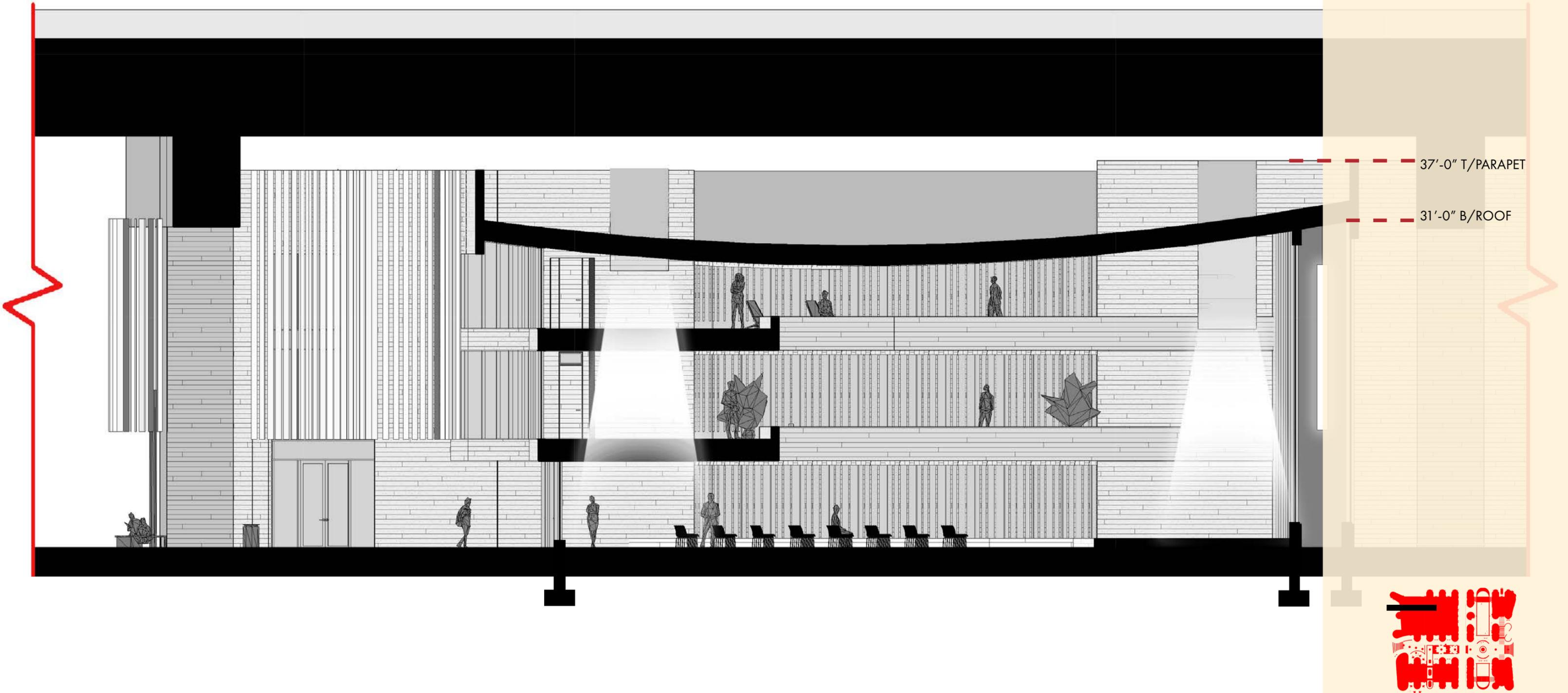


COMMUNITY ROOM PERSPECTIVE FROM STAGE



COMMUNITY ROOM PERSPECTIVE FROM SECOND FLOOR MEZZANINE

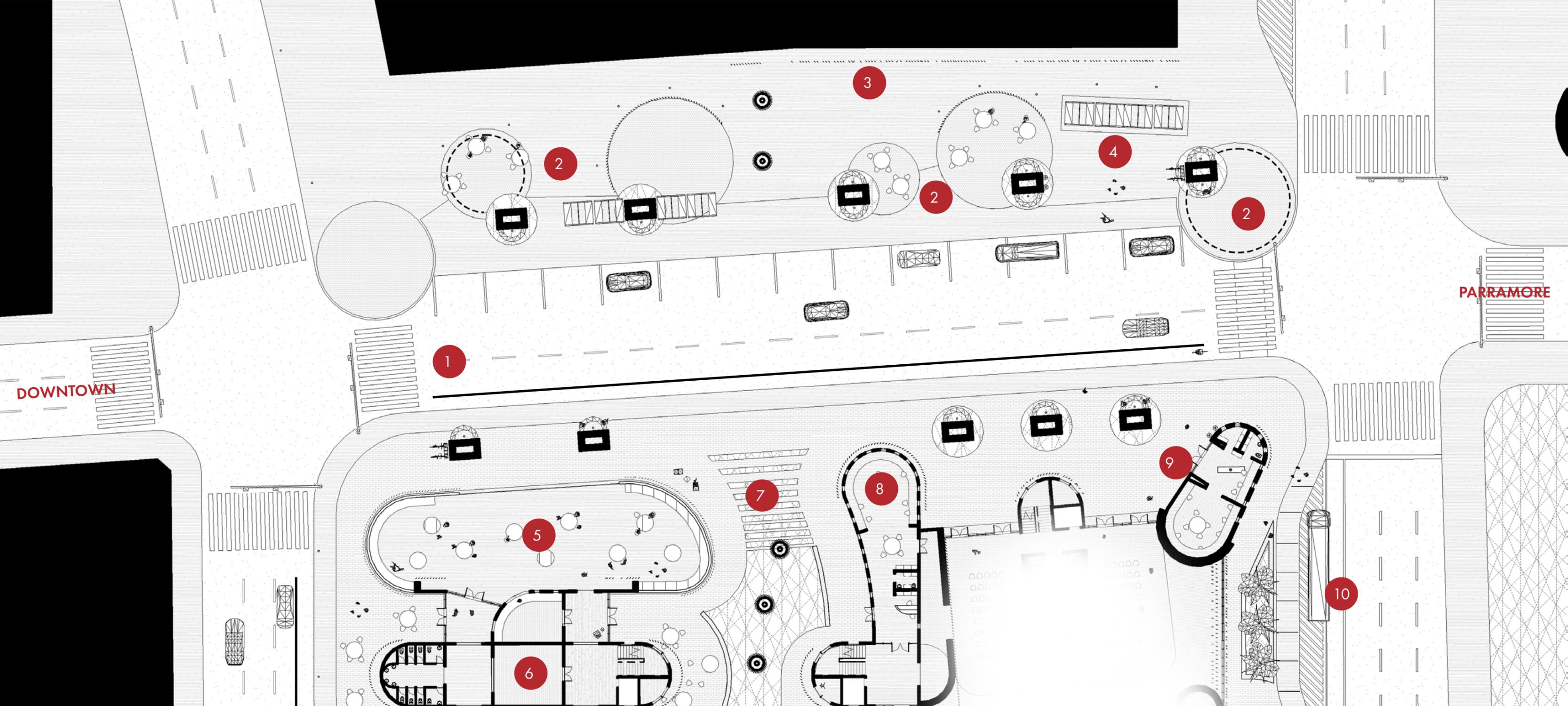




ENLARGED COMMUNITY ROOM SECTION

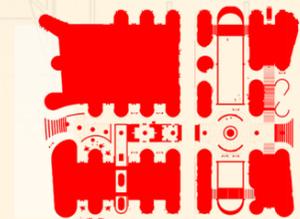


ENLARGED COMMUNITY ROOM SECTION



**ENLARGED CHURCH STREET PLAN**

1-REDUCED TRAFFIC FROM THREE TO TWO LANES, ADDED BIKE LANE | 2-CANOPY COVERED SEATING | 3-LED LIGHT SCREEN | 4-MARKET STALLS | 5-OUTDOOR DINING  
 6-DINING HALL VENDORS | 7-BEGINNING OF GREENBELT | 8-CO-WORKING OFFICE SPACE | 9-BUILDING ADMIN ENTRY | 10-NEW PROPOSED BUS STOP





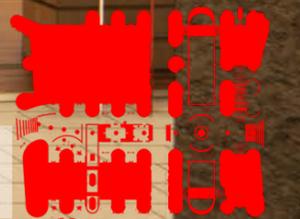
COALITION CAMPUS ENTRY LOOKING FROM PARRAMORE CHURCH STREET





# COALITION DINING

COALITION DINING ENTRY





COALITION CAMPUS ENTRY LOOKING FROM DOWNTOWN CHURCH STREET



# C O N C L U S I O N

In summation, this thesis has led a line through homelessness, hostile architecture, queer history and theory, camp, DIY culture, racism, redlining, "slum clearing," the national highway system, the racial disparity between Orlando and Parramore, to a proposed campus which introduces an accessible series of community services, rooted in those most vulnerable, but welcoming to all from the community. The layering and density of references which contributed to the end result of this thesis is a testament to the truly complex nature of homelessness. A favorite (mis)quote of mine by Nelson Mandela is "If you talk to a man in a language he understands, that goes to his head. If you talk to him in his own language, that goes to his heart." He never actually said this, but many remember it. This is important to me for two reasons. First, the success of utilizing queer history, theory and design to address the design of this supportive housing and community center I believe is evidentiary to this quote. "Queer" and "homeless" are not mutually exclusive identities in many ways, they often in fact overlap, but there is significance in that while the literal elements, issues and languages of these groups might differ, at their roots, they are both focused on: **community, safety, agency, and survival**. Secondly, history is often recorded through the influence of those in power. Why do viral misquotes occur? Because there is power in the majority believing a lie. Power that can be of no consequence, such as in this (mis)quote, or power which defines the lives of individuals just trying to survive, such as those who are homeless.

Re-contextualizing urban infrastructure as **human infrastructure**, allows the placement of important developments in vulnerable areas and integrates a community node into existing urban densities, establishing connections across neighborhoods. Rather than uphold the lie of what and who homelessness effects, the transparency and porosity of this intervention invites the public in to a space that emphasizes not the actions of the displaced, but rather the importance of community healing. Through direct access to necessary services and empathetic dwelling spaces, the campus would provide users the opportunity to redress their identities, celebrating their individuality and humanity, as well as upholding the resiliency of Parramore. Recontextualization is also crucial to a city's growth in general. Open spaces such as this thesis site which takes a large amount of surface area are especially vital as their potential for development yields far greater benefits for the surrounding communities than anything the infrastructure has introduced as a byproduct of its construction. Though admittedly idealistic, devoting time to relentless optimism and reimagination of these less desirable sites is something which cannot be sacrificed on: equity will never be achieved through value engineering and prejudiced policy.

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## R E F E R E N C E S : I M A G E C R E D I T S

Fig. 1. National Alliance to End Homelessness. (2020). Total Number of Experiencing Homelessness, By Year by Type. National Alliance to End Homelessness. <https://endhomelessness.org/homelessness-in-america/homelessness-statistics/state-of-homelessness-2020/>.

Fig. 2. National Alliance to End Homelessness. (2020). Homeless Assistance Bed Inventory Trends, 2007 vs. 2019. National Alliance to End Homelessness. <https://endhomelessness.org/homelessness-in-america/homelessness-statistics/state-of-homelessness-2020/>.

Fig. 3. Heldiz, A. (2019). Housing Assistance Types. Voices of San Diego. Voices of San Diego. <https://www.voiceofsandiego.org/topics/government/what-we-mean-when-we-talk-about-housing-the-homeless/>. Emergency shelter vs. permanent supportive housing center.

Fig. 4. Heldiz, A. (2019). Housing Assistance Types. Voices of San Diego. Voices of San Diego. <https://www.voiceofsandiego.org/topics/government/what-we-mean-when-we-talk-about-housing-the-homeless/>. The (4) most common housing assistance types.

Fig. 5. Heldiz, A. (2019). Housing Assistance Types. Voices of San Diego. Voices of San Diego. <https://www.voiceofsandiego.org/topics/government/what-we-mean-when-we-talk-about-housing-the-homeless/>. A typical permanent supportive housing center.

Fig. 6. Simple Psychology . (n.d.). Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs. Simple Psychology. <https://www.simplypsychology.org/maslow.html>.

Diagram recreated by the author based on the information provided by the original infographic.

Fig. 7 -9. Common examples of hostile architecture. (2019). <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/11/08/nyregion/hostile-architecture-nyc.html>

Fig. 10. Example of an underpass homeless camp. (2019). <https://abc7news.com/santa-cruz-homeless-homelessness-shelter/5283889/>.

Fig. 11. Field, M. (2017). In-process construction photo of the Interstate-4 in Orlando, Florida; circa 1950s. Modern Cities. <https://www.moderncities.com/article/2017-mar-the-rise-and-fall-of-an-african-american-inner-city-page-2>.

Fig. 12. Sullivan, E. (2015). Posted "anti-homeless" signage at Lake Eola Park in Downtown Orlando, Florida. Orlando Weekly. <https://www.orlandoweekly.com/Blogs/archives/2015/01/30/homeless-jesus-sleeping-on-a-bench-statue-to-be-installed-where-homeless-arent-allowed-to-sleep-on-benches>.

Fig. 13. Mark Brown, "Revived: the 1930s London Gay Members' Club Raided by Police," The Guardian, 27 February, 2017, [www.theguardian.com/culture/2017/feb/27/revived-1930s-london-gay-members-club-caravan-club-raided-by-police](http://www.theguardian.com/culture/2017/feb/27/revived-1930s-london-gay-members-club-caravan-club-raided-by-police).

Fig. 14. Baan, I. (2019). Various imagery of Los Angeles LGBT Center - Anita May Rosenstein Campus designed by Leong Leong + Killefer Flammang Architects. ArchDaily. <https://www.archdaily.com/917774/los-angeles-lgbt-center-anita-may-rosenstein-campus-leong-leong-plus-killefer-flammang-architects>.

Fig. 15. Eckenfels, E. (n.d.). Art installation, exhibit, and venue space by Vazio S/A in Belo Horizonte, Brazil, circa 2004. World Architects . <https://www.world-architects.com/en/vazio-s-a-belo-horizonte/project/topographical-amnesias-ii>.

Fig. 16. Tansey, A. (2006). Spacebuster at Csv Cultural Center; Photo by Alan Tansey. Storefront for Art and Architecture . <http://storefrontnews.org/programming/spacebuster-by-raumlabor/>.

Fig. 17. Perez, Eliezer. (2015, 2016, 2018).

Fig. 18. (2019). Photos from the MET exhibit on Camp. The MET. <https://www.metmuseum.org/exhibitions/listings/2019/camp-notes-on-fashion/selected-images>.

Fig. 19. 2021 National Trust for Historic Preservation and The Glass House. (2019). Images of the Glass House from a 2019 exhibit titled "Gay Gatherings," at Phillip Johnson's famous Glass House. The Glass House. <https://theglasshouse.org/whats-on/gay-gatherings-philip-johnson-david-whitney-and-the-modern-arts/>.

Fig. 20. (2020). Interstate-4 underpass and graphic expression. Google Images and the author, respectively.

Fig. 21 - 24. (2020). Various contextual images from around the central Orlando area. Google Images.

Fig. 25. (2020). Various popular Orlando attractions. Google Images.

## R E F E R E N C E S : I M A G E C R E D I T S

Fig. 26. (2020). Various contextual images of typical styles and development in the central Orlando area. Google Images.

Fig. 27. (2020). Various contextual images of typical styles and development in the central Orlando area. Google Images.

Fig. 28. (2020). Various contextual images of typical styles and development in the Parramore area. Google Images.

Fig. 29. (2020). Various contextual images of typical styles and development in the Parramore area. Google Images.

Fig. 30. (2020) Various contextual images of typical styles and development in the Parramore area. Google Images.

Fig. 31. (2020). The Wells Built Hotel, a historic Parramore institution. Google Images.

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