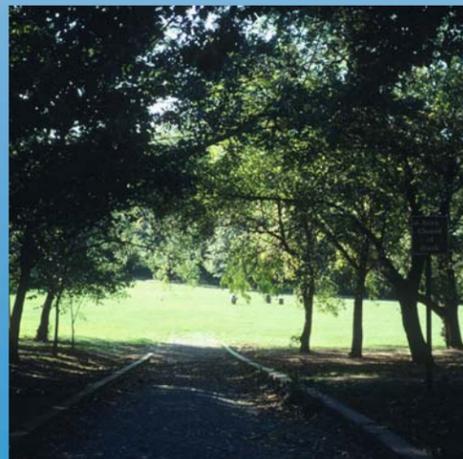




View North at Shevchenko Park



View East across 21st Street. View of Dupont Circle Neighborhood, cafes, offices



Entry to P Street Beach and Rock Creek Park from 22nd Street



White location map at 1"=200'-0" showing proximity to Dupont Circle. Black location map at 1"= 100'-0"

Site

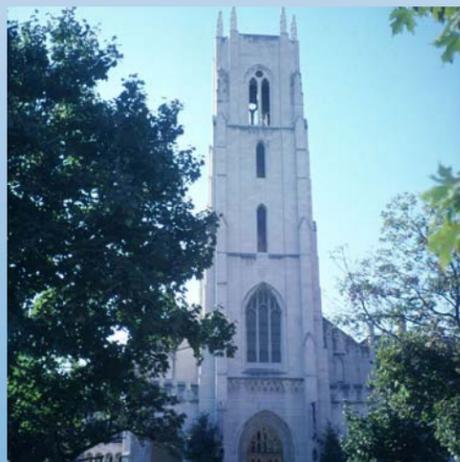
I chose a site in the Dupont Circle Neighborhood of Washington, D.C. for several reasons. This community is lively, diverse, largely liberal and recognized as a center of the city's gay population. Dupont Circle would likely welcome a facility dedicated to assisting people with HIV/AIDS and other illnesses. The area is part of downtown Washington and therefore easily accessible by all forms of public transportation. Dupont Circle is a pedestrian friendly neighborhood. Hospitals, grocery stores, restaurants, pharmacies, office buildings, and all other necessary services are within walking distance or are a short cab/bus ride away.

The Holistic Center project comprises an entire square block. The site is located between P and O Streets and between 22nd and 23rd Streets. Currently, the site houses the Congressional Quarterly Newspaper building and a gas station. Plans include purchase and demolition of the existing structures.

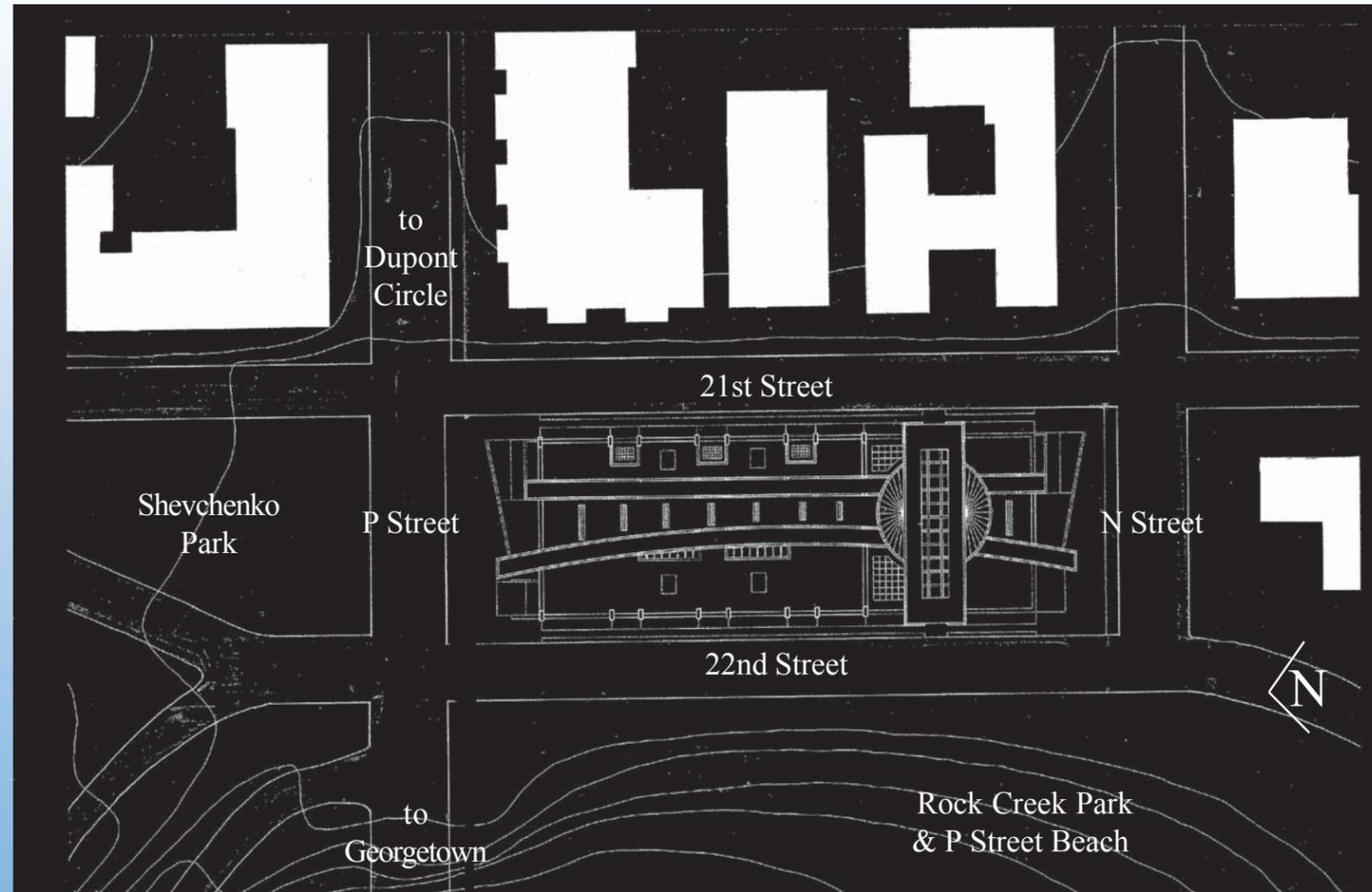
The sick and elderly of our communities should not be hidden away in the suburbs of our cities. They should not be relegated to living in areas where the main source of entertainment is vehicular traffic. More Hospice and Assisted Living facilities are needed in urban areas and particularly in predominately gay and minority areas. These urban areas are often hit hard by HIV/AIDS, cancer and other debilitating illnesses. The urban community is especially important to citizens of the inner city. Often, they need the energy and pulse of the city to retain their sense of belonging. Housing should



South view down 22nd Street with bldg. site to right and Rock Creek Park to left.



View West toward the Church of the Pilgrims on 22nd Street



Roof plan and site plan with topography at 1" = 30'-0"

A full range of experience from the urban to the wild is essential to the landscape within which human culture evolves.

William McDonough

allow proximity to tranquil, natural settings while encouraging exciting, daily activities outside the facility.

The Holistic Center's project site is wonderfully situated at a portal to Rock Creek Park. Residents can take advantage of walking, jogging and biking trails. Residents have an opportunity to commune with nature and still enjoy all the benefits of living in the city. The site is also at the gateway of two major city neighborhoods: Dupont Circle and Georgetown. A leisurely walk to the west leads to the historic, upper class, conservative Georgetown and to the east is vibrant, upper middle class, liberal Dupont Circle. Both neighborhoods are mainly residential but boast of fine cafes, restaurants and shops along their main thoroughfares.

As a gateway location, the site I chose for the Holistic Center is the first example of the way Architecture can serve as a habitable threshold. The site is a gateway between nature and the city. The site is a portal between two city neighborhoods. The building itself is a city within a city.