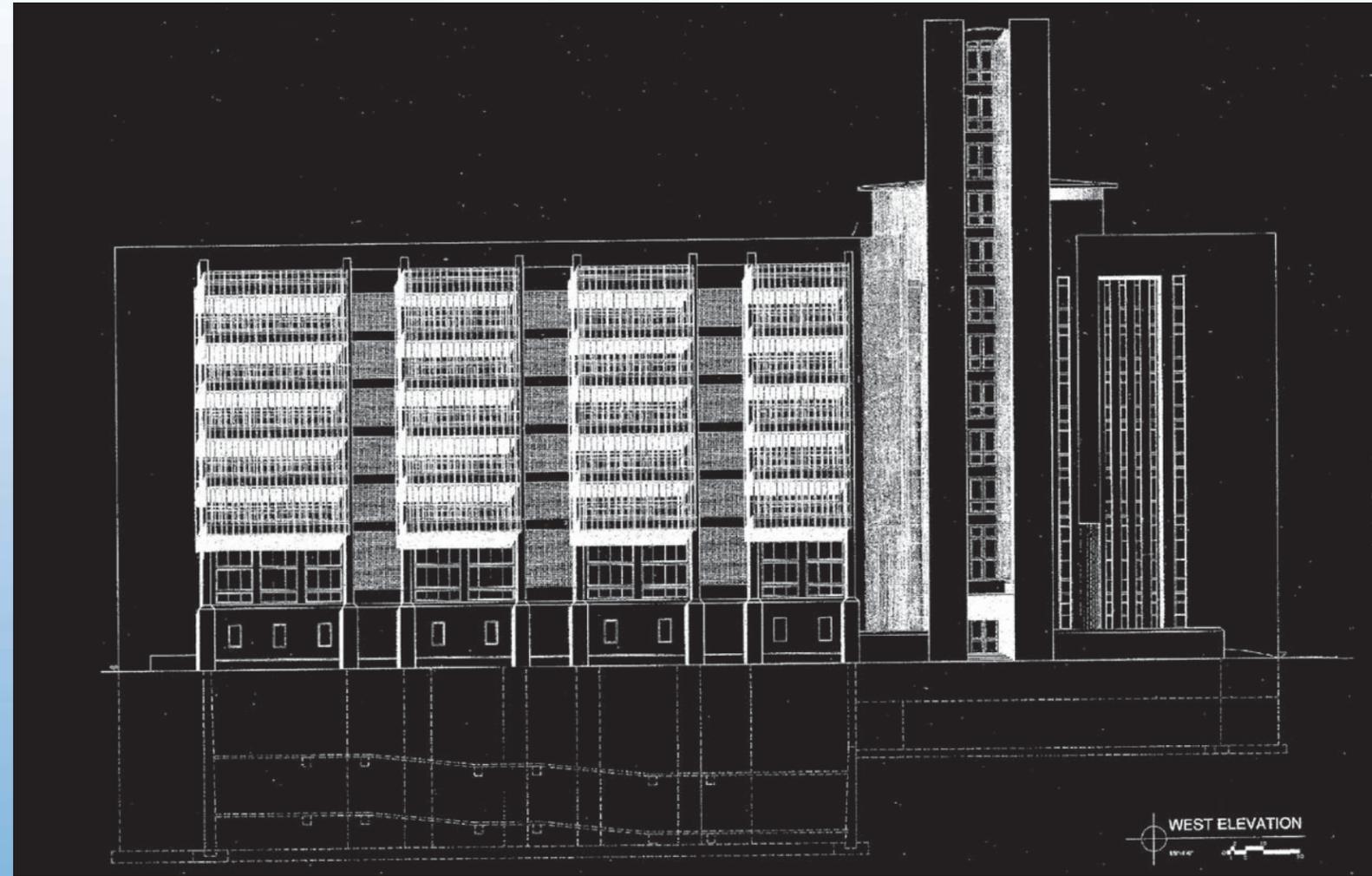


Process Model: Anthropomorphic Form



Process Sketch: Additive and Subtractive Form

Movement

Arrival and departure have been designed as two distinct experiences both for visitors and residents in the Holistic Center. Residents and visitors, on a daily basis, enter and exit the Holistic Center through the main entry vestibule at the North Plaza. The North Plaza provides an initial threshold space at the entry to the Holistic Center. This public urban space gathers the city's energy before funneling it into the building. The energy of the city stimulates mind, body and soul which encourages healing and brain activity among the residents.

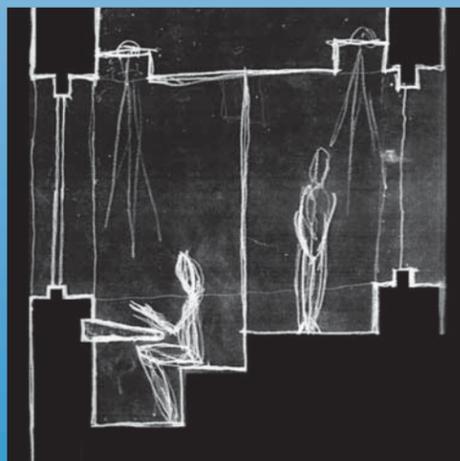
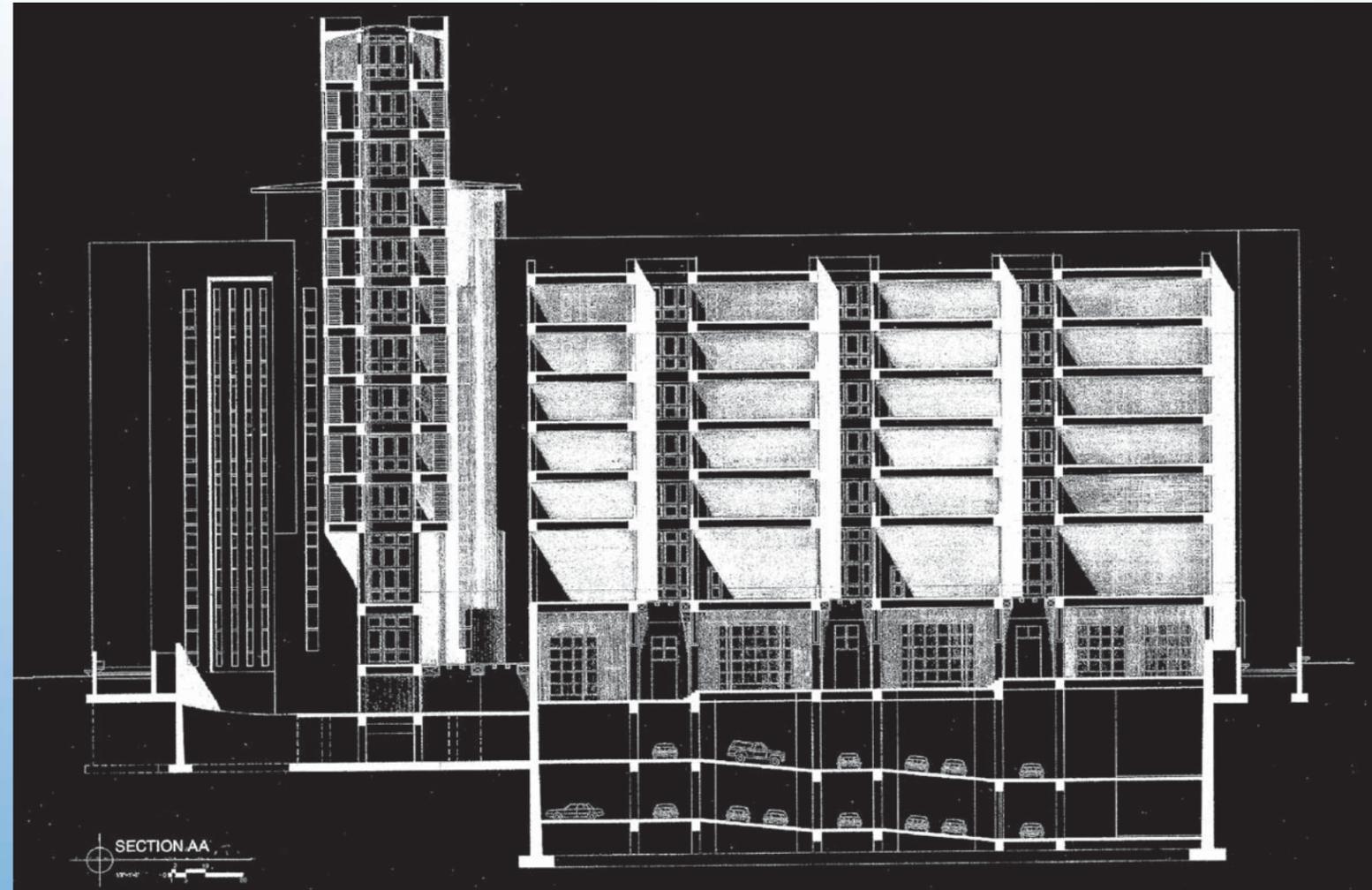
The South Plaza or Memorial Gate symbolizes a release of energy. The Memorial Gate is only used on the day of a resident's funeral for departure. It is opened at the end of the funeral as the casket and mourners leave the building. It symbolizes not only final earthly departure, but also arrival in the afterlife.

The East and West Gates allow movement through the building at the street level. They act as both a visual and physical connection between nature (West Gate) and the city (East Gate). These gates provide a separate entrance into the building for access to the Quilt Wall. The East and West Gates also allow direct access to the Meditation Chapel for funerals and religious services. The gate provides an exit from the building during the day, for residents and visitors. The doors are locked at night. These gates provide entry into the building only for special events at the Chapel and Quilt Wall.

Movement throughout the building is achieved by way of a series of interior pedestrian streets and bridges. The circulation routes act as a threshold



Process Model: Anthropomorphic Form



View of section through Prayer Hall with prayer carrel

between various wings of the building each with its own function. These routes are a part of the spine of the building, a concept discussed earlier in the section on “process”. Corridors are not purely functional but instead serve several functions. Built-in seating serves as a resting place for the weary and informal gathering spaces foster impromptu gatherings. In this manner, corridors are not passive spaces but active spaces which encourage residents to stop and interact with one another.

The Great Hall corridor is the Center’s “main street”. The Great Hall is the first major semi-private space one experiences upon entry into the Holistic Center facility. This large interior courtyard space is five stories high and lit by skylights from above. It serves as the major hub for movement through the Center. The Great Hall is not only a circulation route but also an art gallery and a memorial space. Paintings and sculpture of residents and community members grace the Great Hall as well as the North and South Plazas. Beginning at the second floor of the Great Hall, concrete panels are carved with the names of residents who have passed away. Access to all three wings of the Center is gained from the Great Hall. Elevators provide access to the Residence Wing to the West and the Research Wing to the East. A monumental ramp and series of steps descend into the earth and terminate at the Meditation Chapel. The Meditation Chapel is the also a semi-private space open to the Dupont Circle community.

Smaller corridors serve each floor of the Residence Wing and the Research Wing. The walls of these corridors will hold the Center’s extensive library collection and support small study carrel areas for private study. A library accessible to both residents and community members will create further ties with the surrounding neighbors. This library corridor is one of the Center’s many threshold spaces. The library corridor creates a transition between the semi-public area of the Library and the private area of the Residence Hall. Access to this library will stimulate the resident’s mental well being.