

An Urban Pier

by

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ABSTRACT

Why is it that when we come across a pier reaching out from a coast we have a desire to walk out on to it... Could it be because a pier gives us something special a place set apart, a place to view the world...

Would it not be a wonderful thing to walk on an urban pier... past the surf of buildings... to an island of gardens... in a urban sea... to view the world a few steps closer... A place to glimpse where we are and where we could be.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I wish to thank my committee and friends who have opened my eyes to these words.

The way one does things is private, but what one does can belong to everybody. Your greatest worth is in the area where you can claim no ownership, and that part that you do that doesn't belong to you is the most precious. It is the kind of thing you can offer because it is a better part of you; it is a part of general commonality that belongs to everybody. You feel that what you truly have to offer is in your next work, and that what you have done is always incomplete.

I believe it takes a long time to be an architect; it takes a long time to be the architect of one's aspirations. You can become an architect professionally overnight, but to feel the spirit of architecture from which one makes his offering takes much longer and where does the architect sit? He sits right there; He is the one who conveys the beauty of space, which is the very meaning of architecture. Think of meaningful space and invent an environment, and it can be your invention. Therein lies the architect.

Louis I. Kahn

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INTENTIONS

This project is about understanding...

Understanding a city... a block... an architecture...

The beginning of this understanding lies within Georgetown... one has only to visit this place... for to visit it is to become a part of its colors... to glimpse the enchantment of its gardens... it is to know the excitement which lies beyond the facades... stories and lives which can only be seen when one looks within the block... for therein lies the structure which supports the spirit of Georgetown. To look beyond the facades is the beginning of understanding... it is then that one can learn the stories and the dreams which are Georgetown. These lie within the block... held by its architecture. The pier allows one to move from the urban sea across the surf of buildings to the island of gardens. It is during the passage that one gains an understanding of this world... for on the pier, a glance backward will show where one has been... More importantly, looking forward into the block to the place where dreams are born... one learns what can be.

The Sea

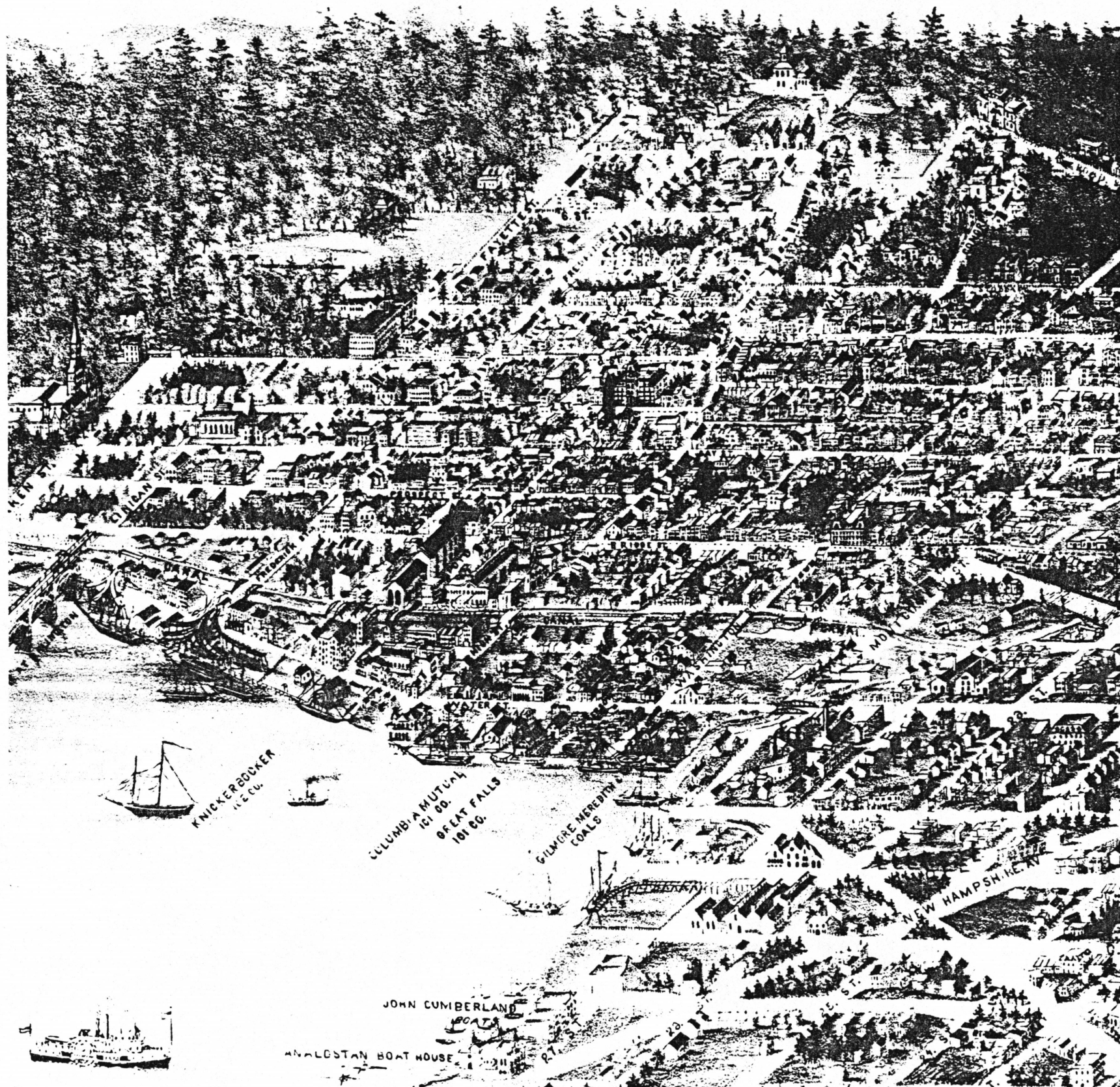
The images and impressions of Georgetown



sketch of the urban sea



the sea from space



the sea in history



The Sea



M street

The Islands

The structure of Georgetown



figure ground of Georgetown



reversed figure ground

SPRAY SCREENS

The following graphics illustrate the concept of the islands. Arising from the urban sea each island has its own story, its own lesson to tell. Each block uses the same language, but tells different stories, inspired by the lives and experiences only it has known.

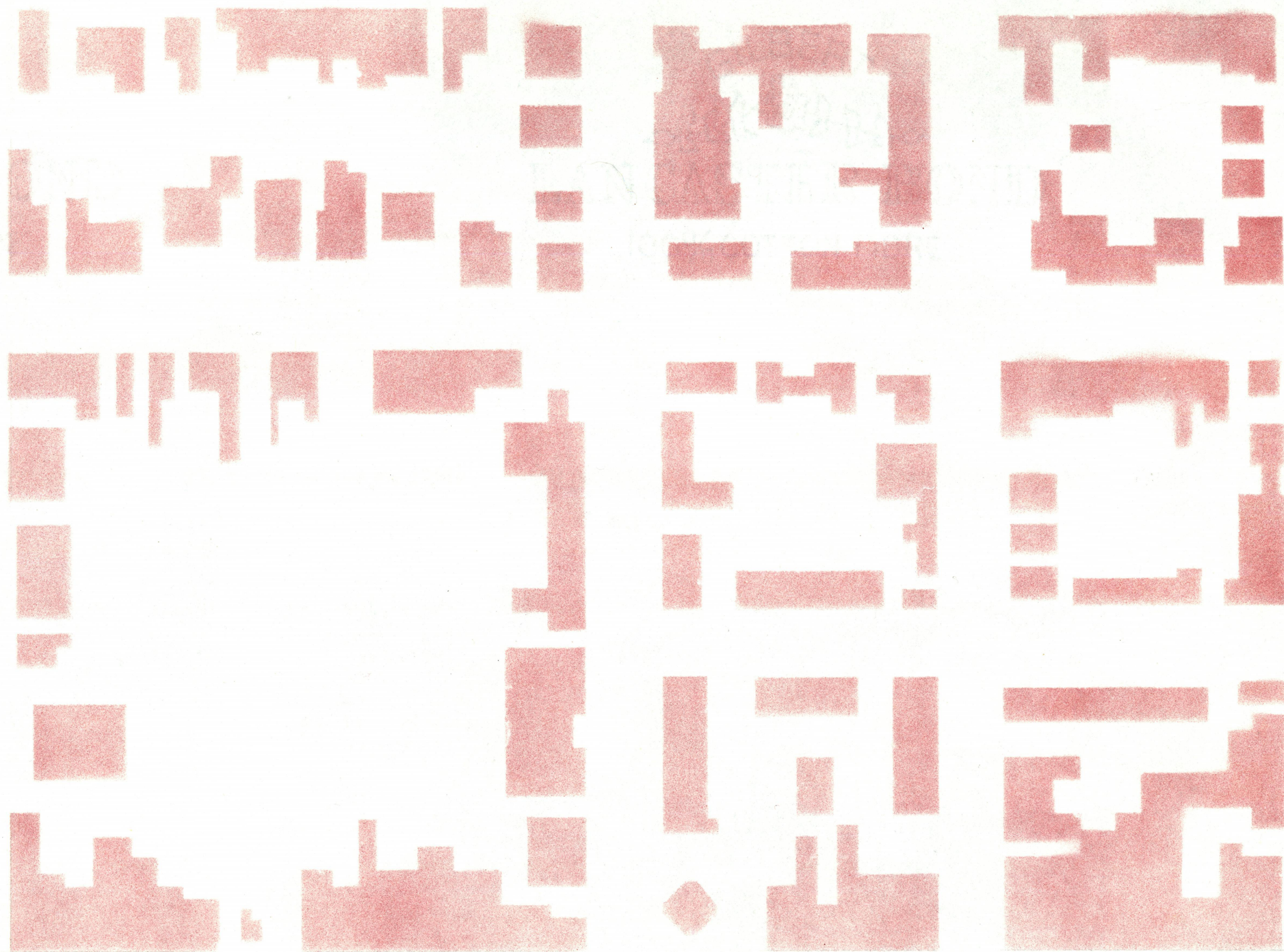
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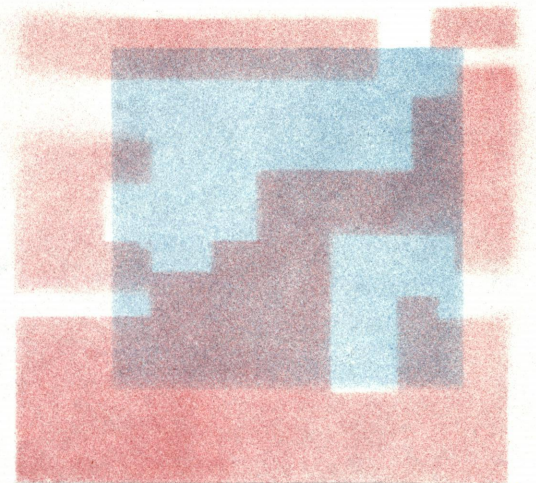
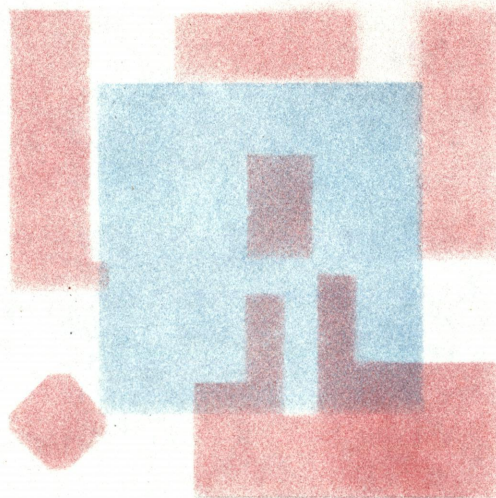
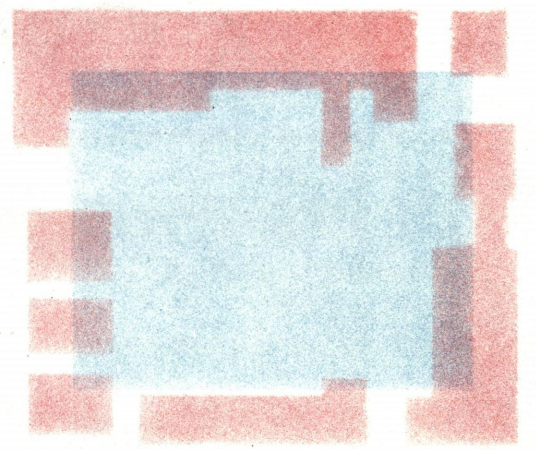
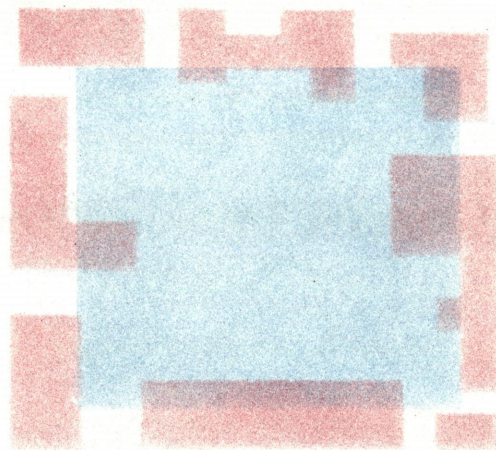
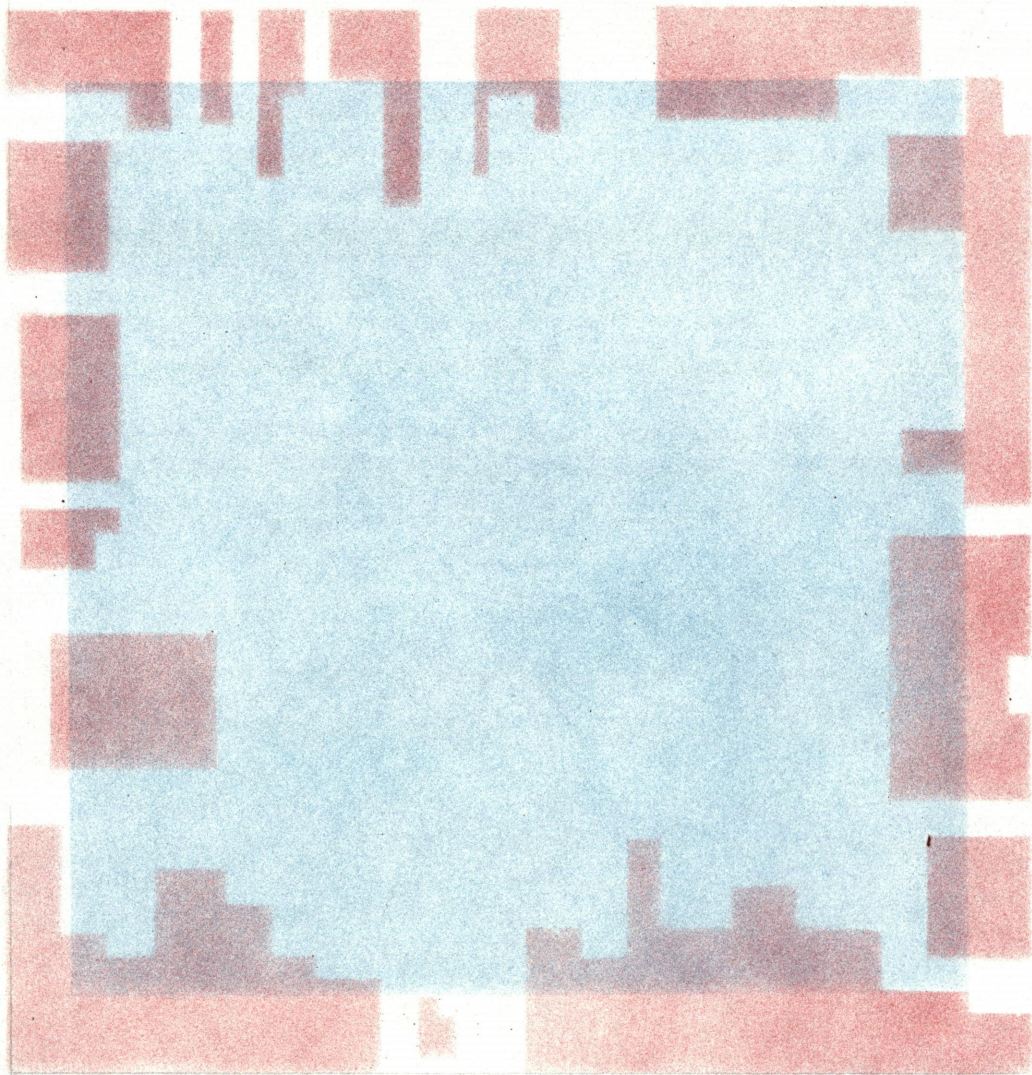
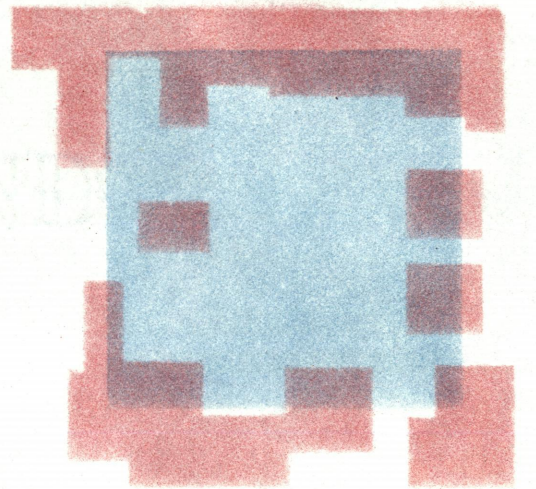
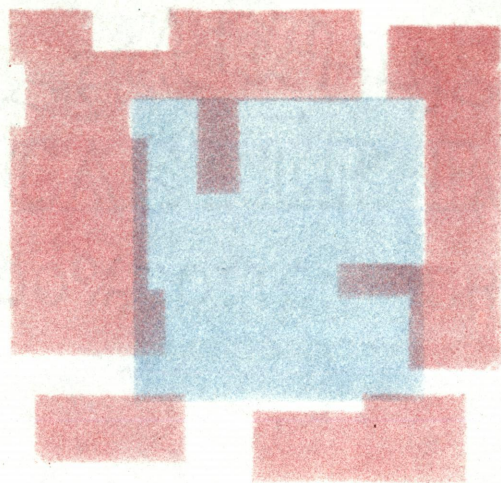
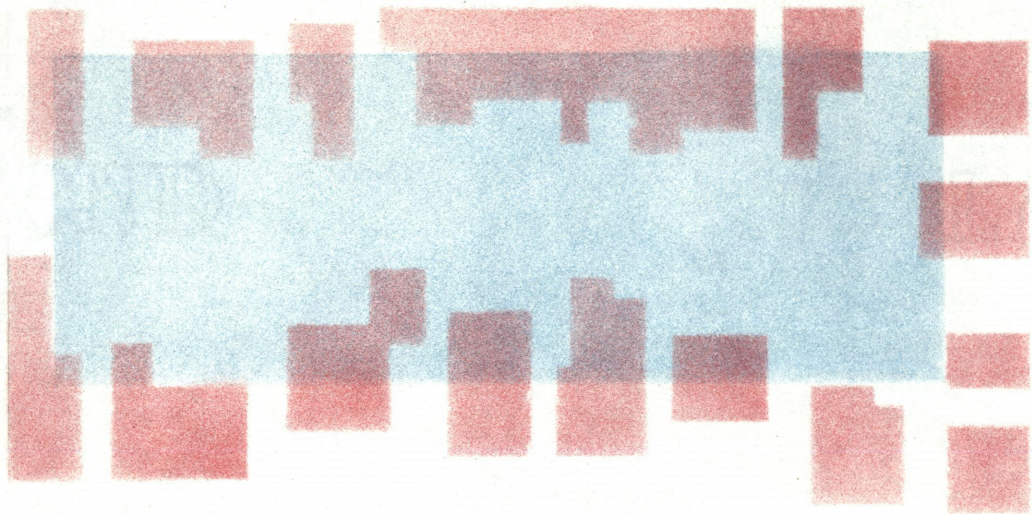
The surf of buildingred

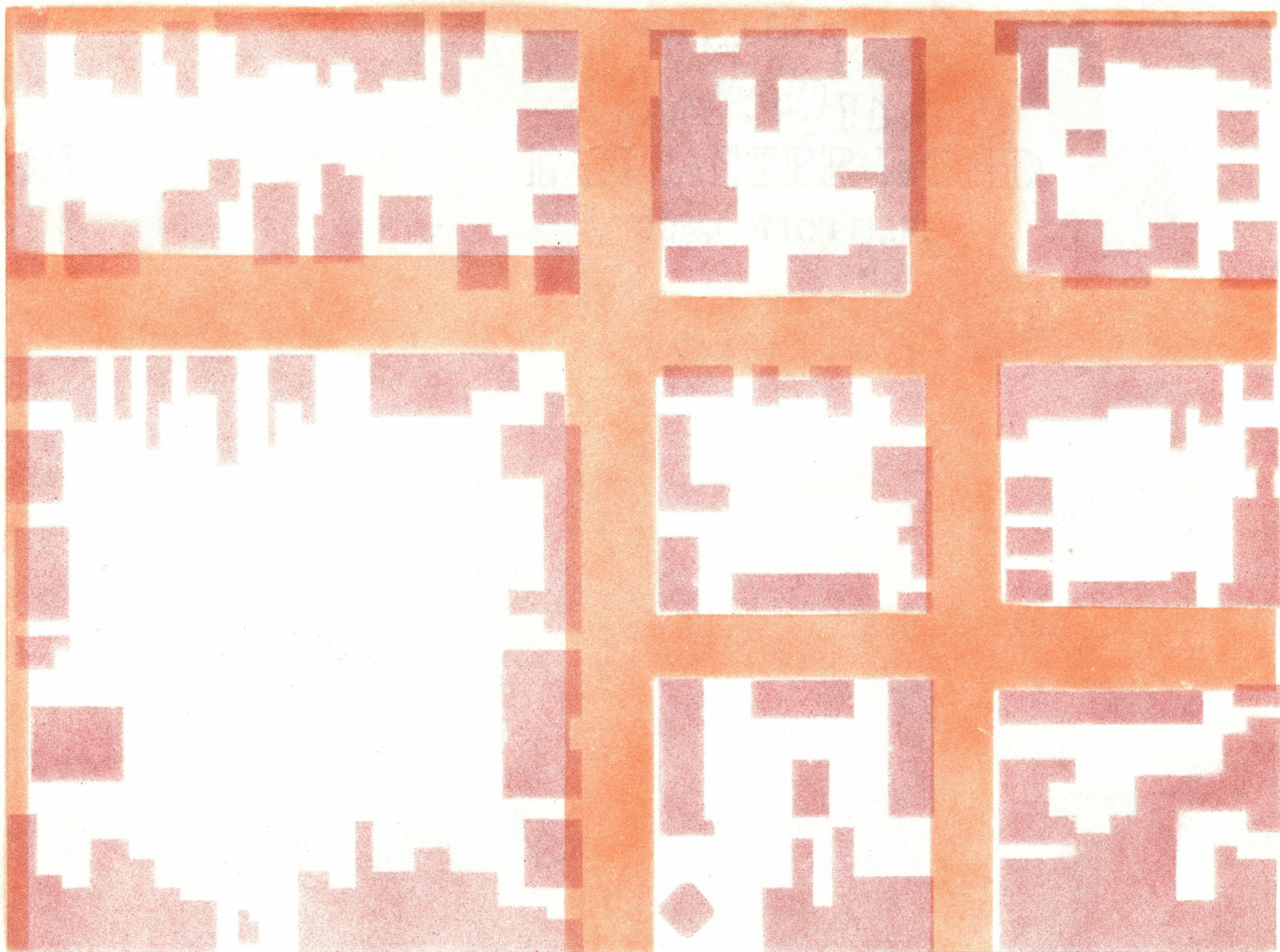
The islands.....blue

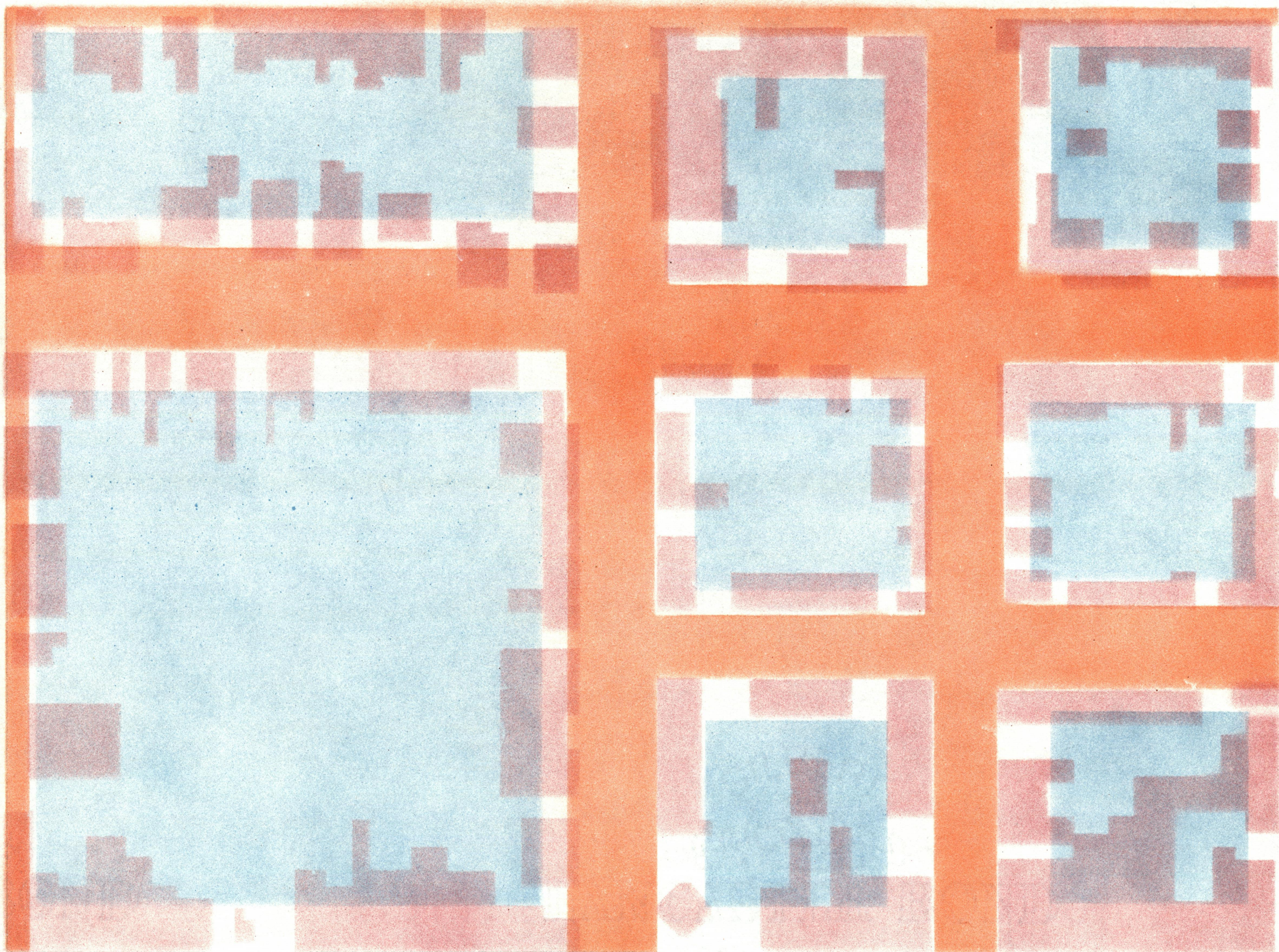
The urban seaorange

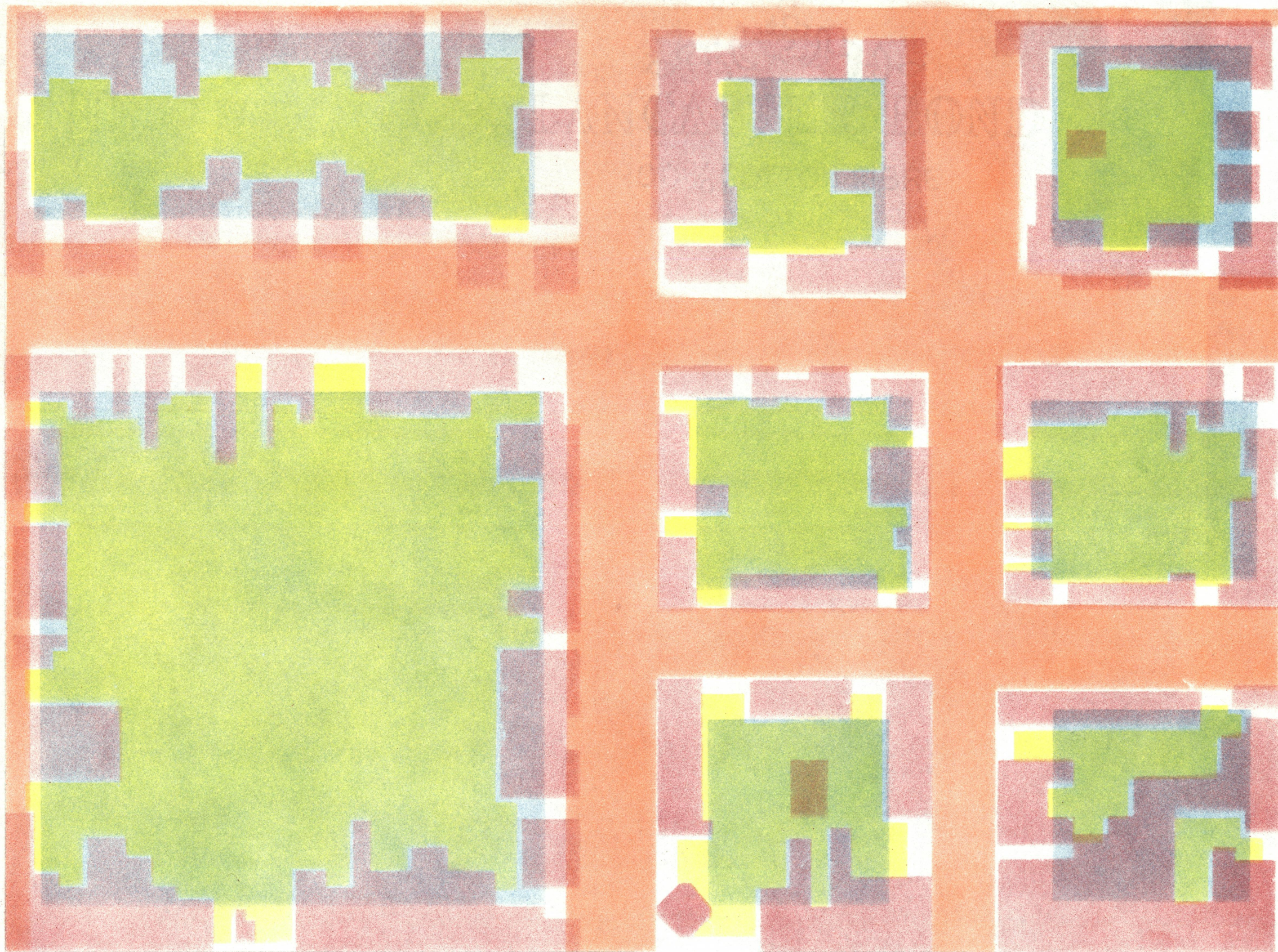
The gardengreen

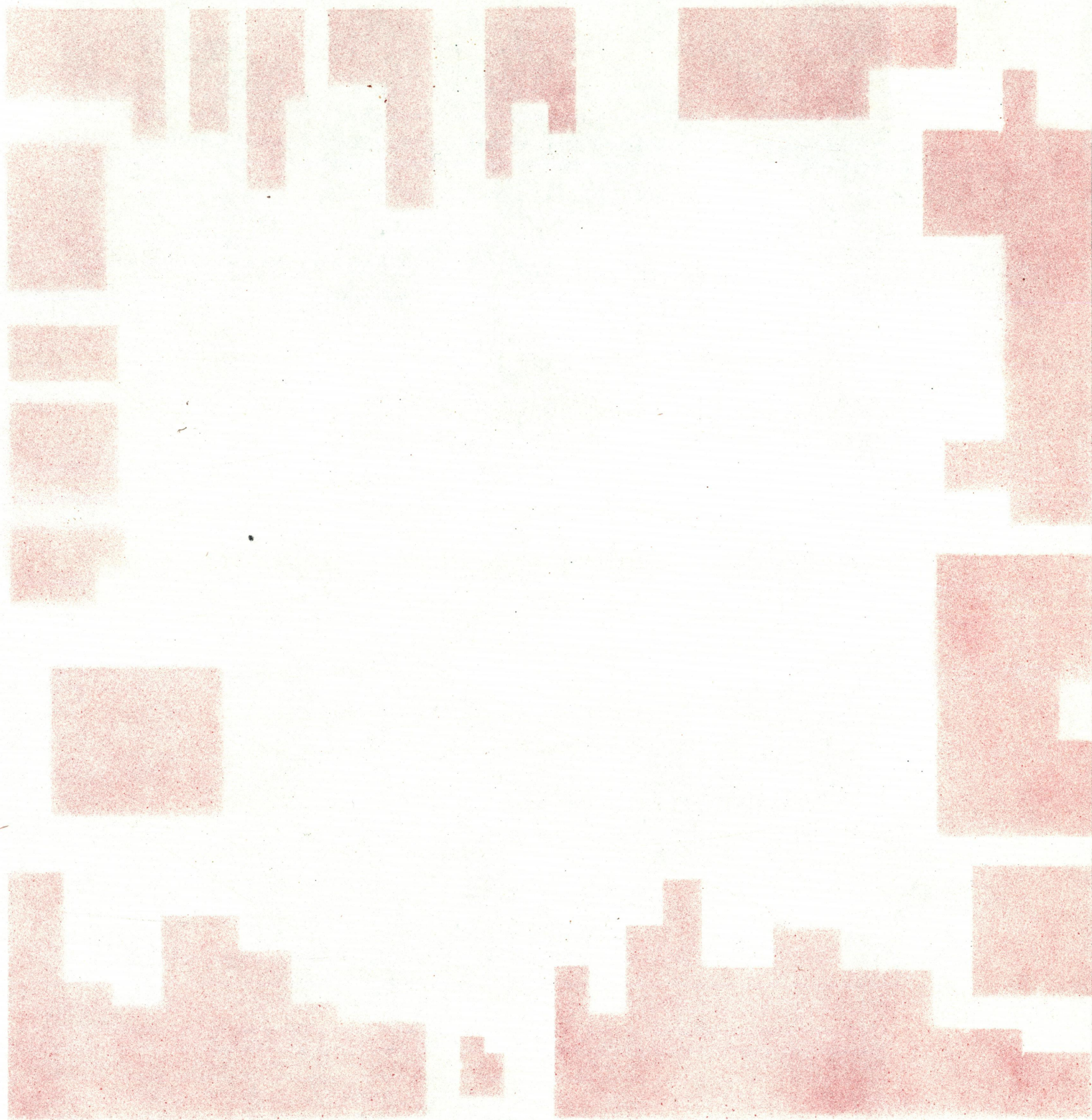


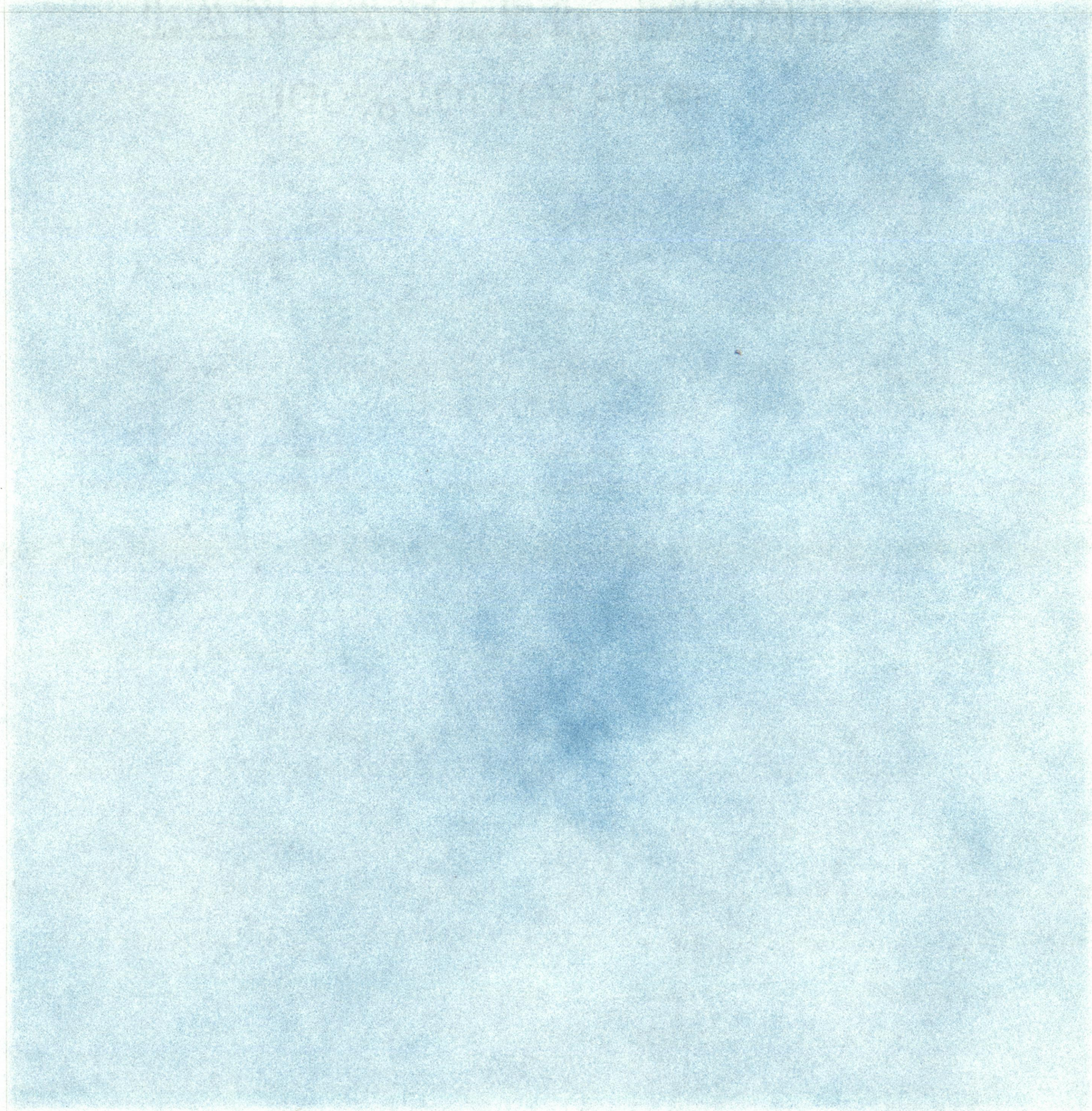


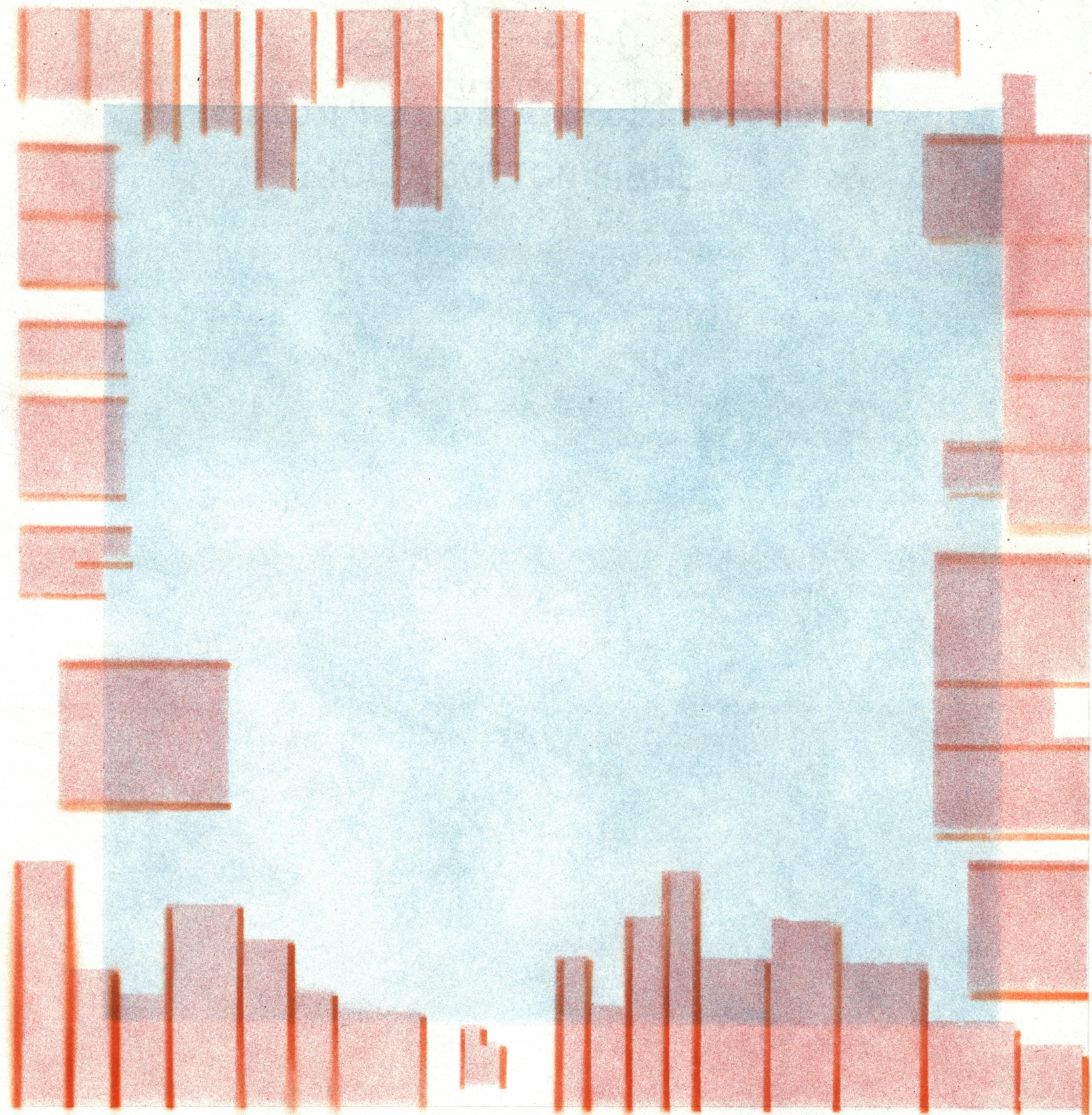


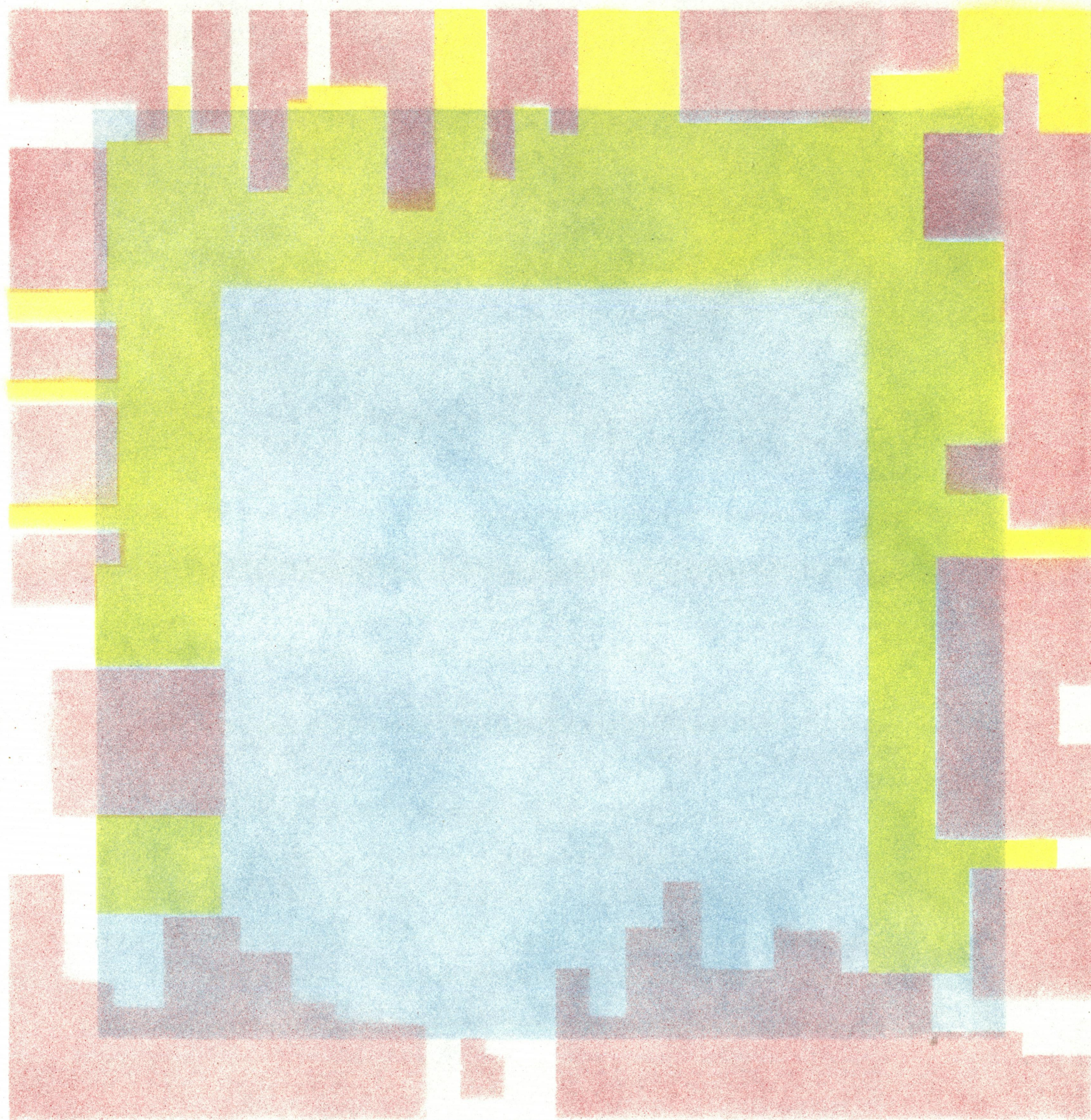








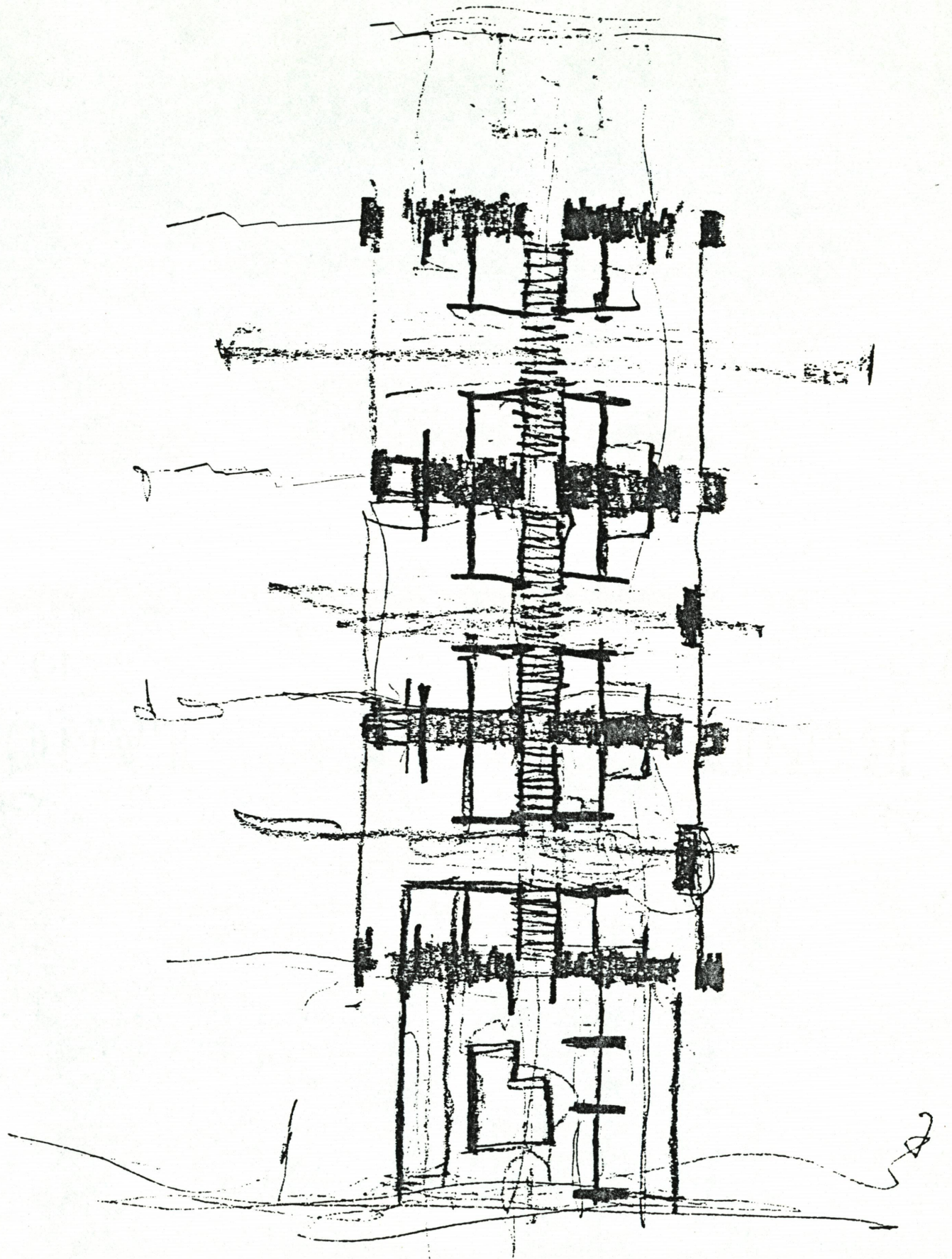


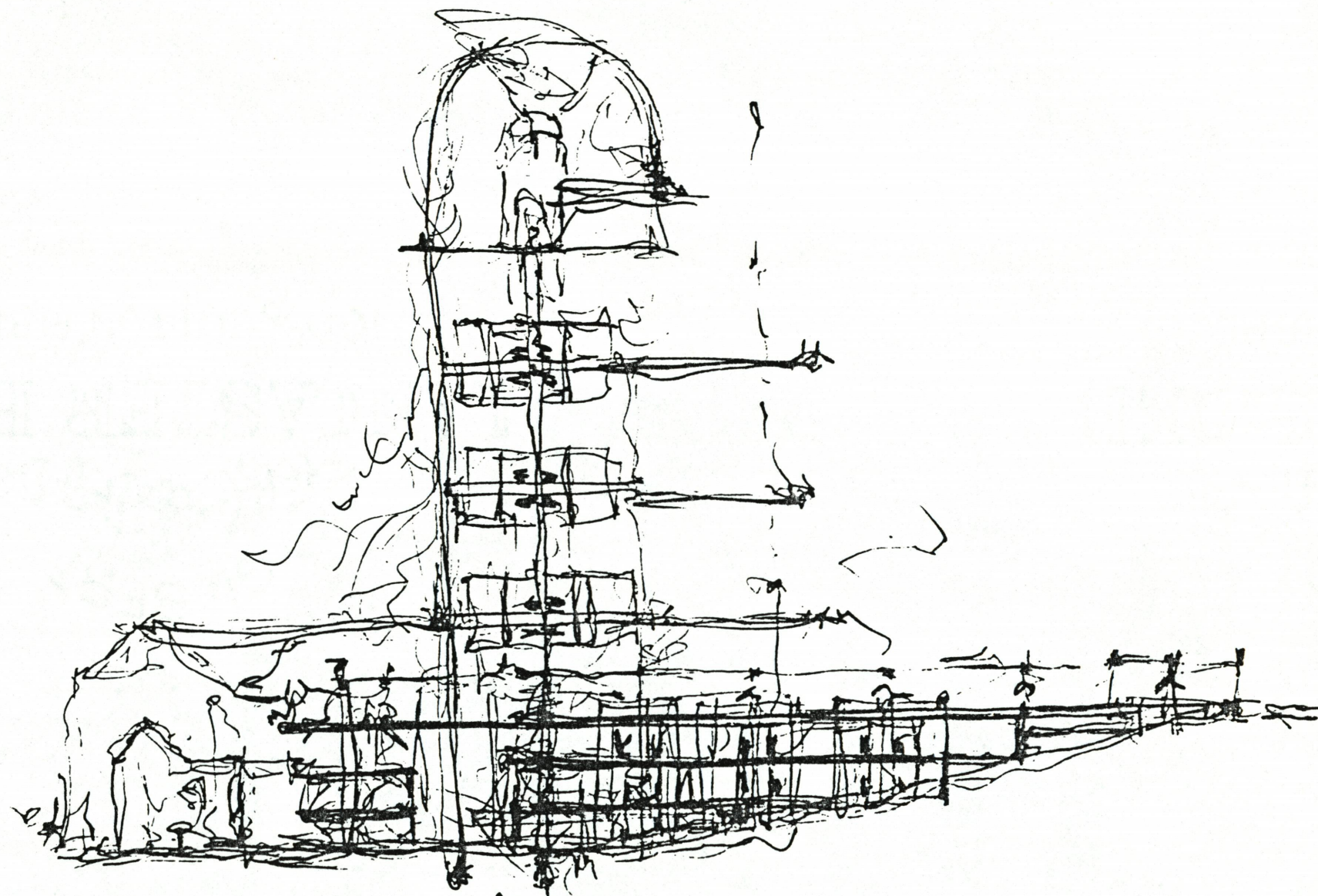


The Pier

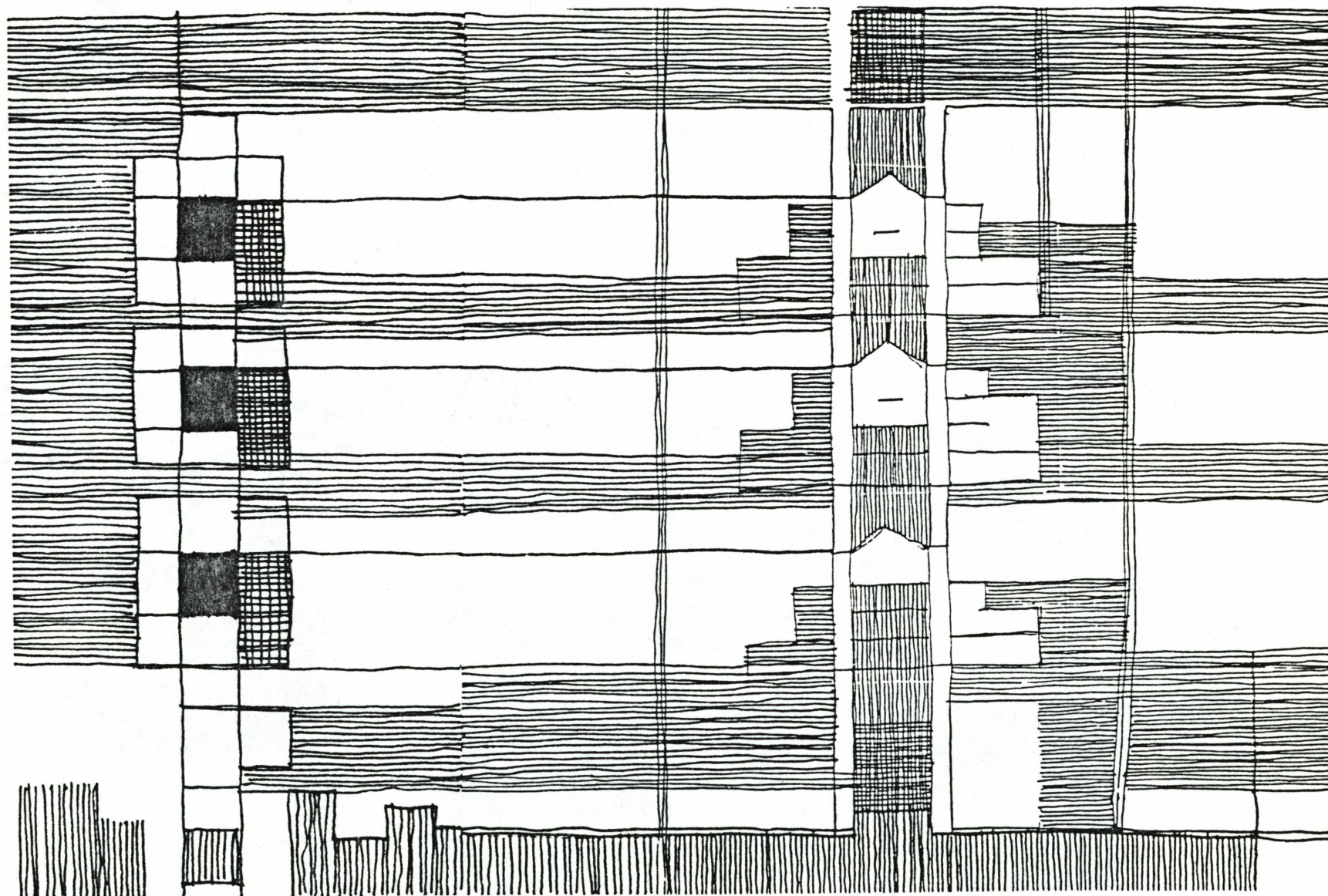
A personal understanding of Georgetown

conceptual sketch

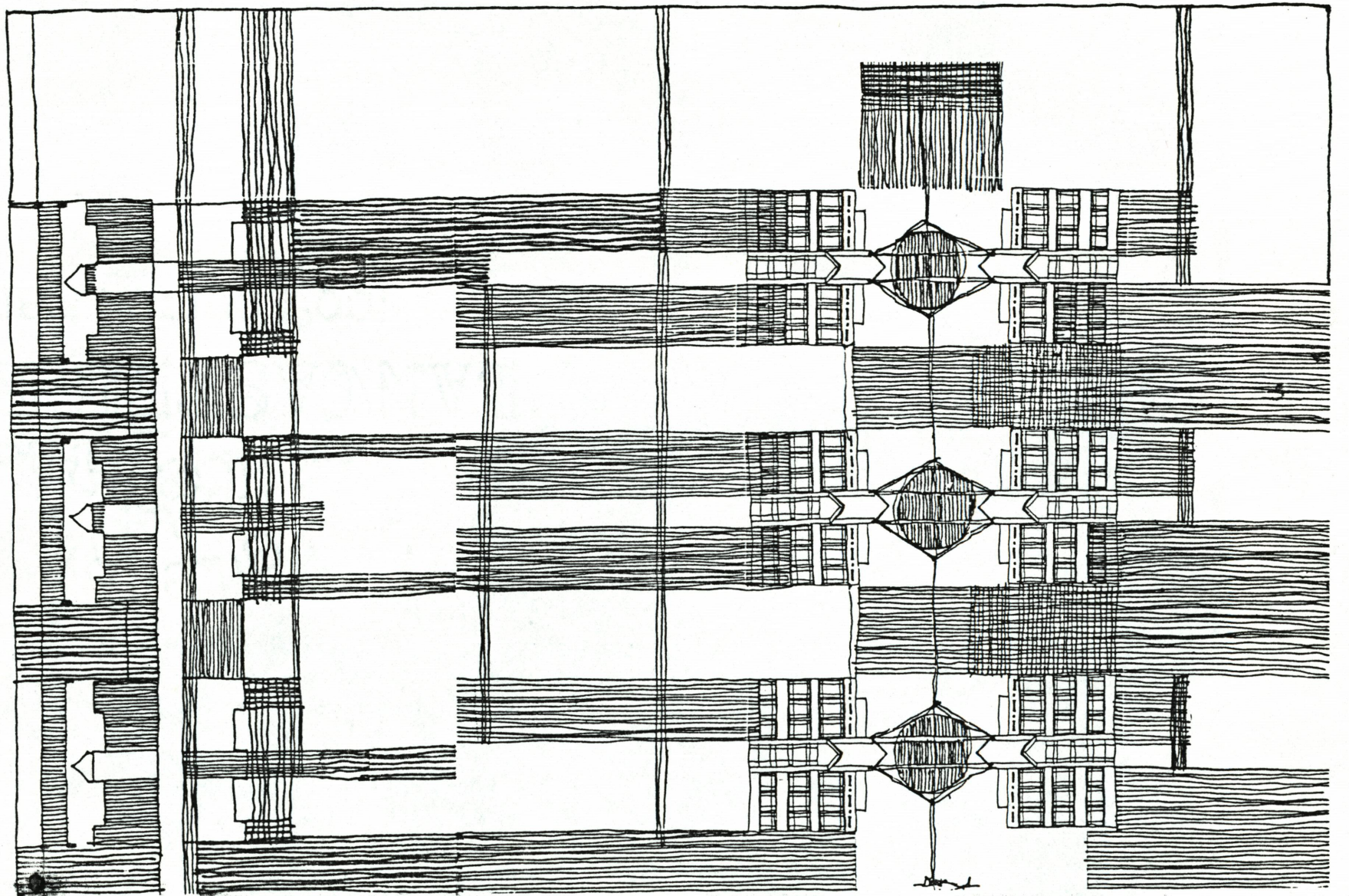




development sketch

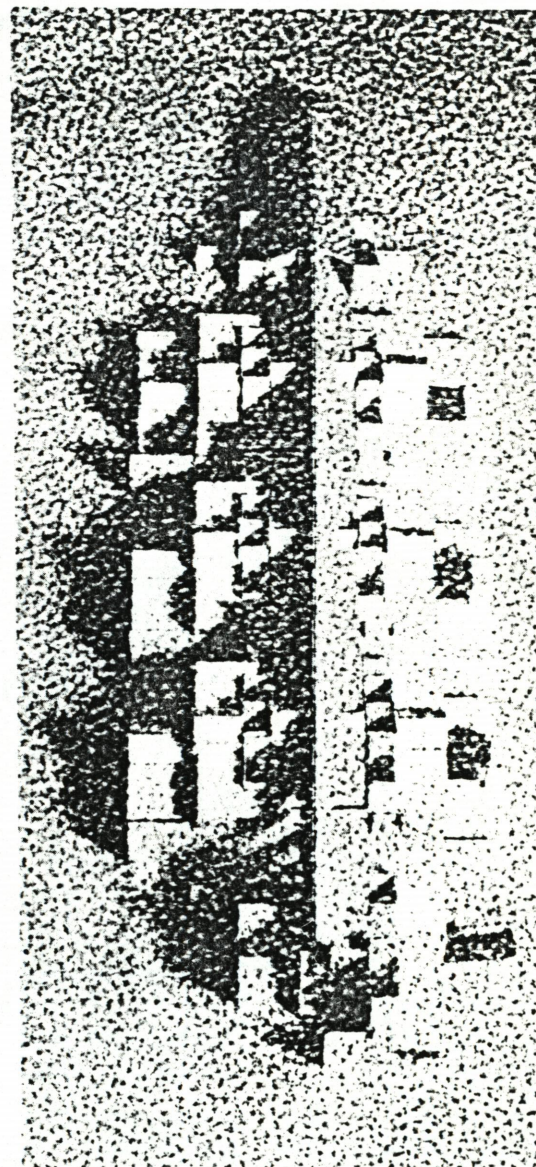
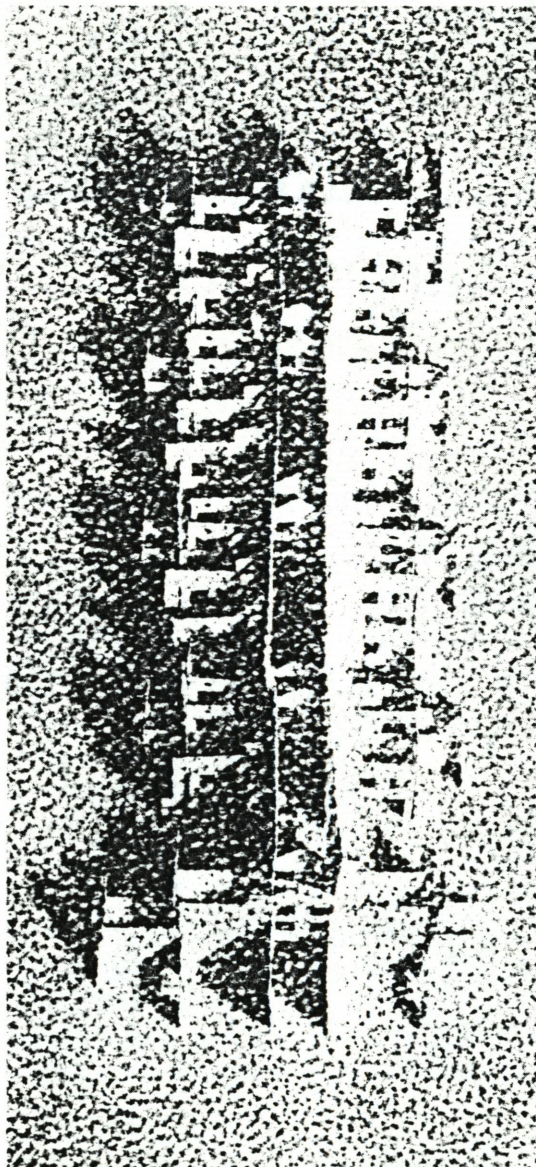
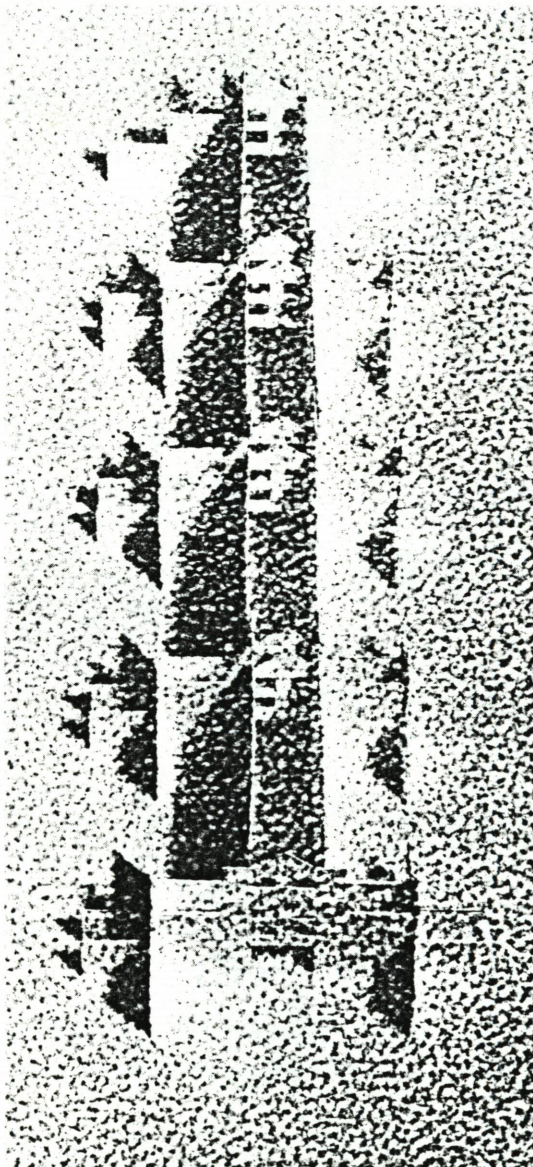


Study of Plan and Section

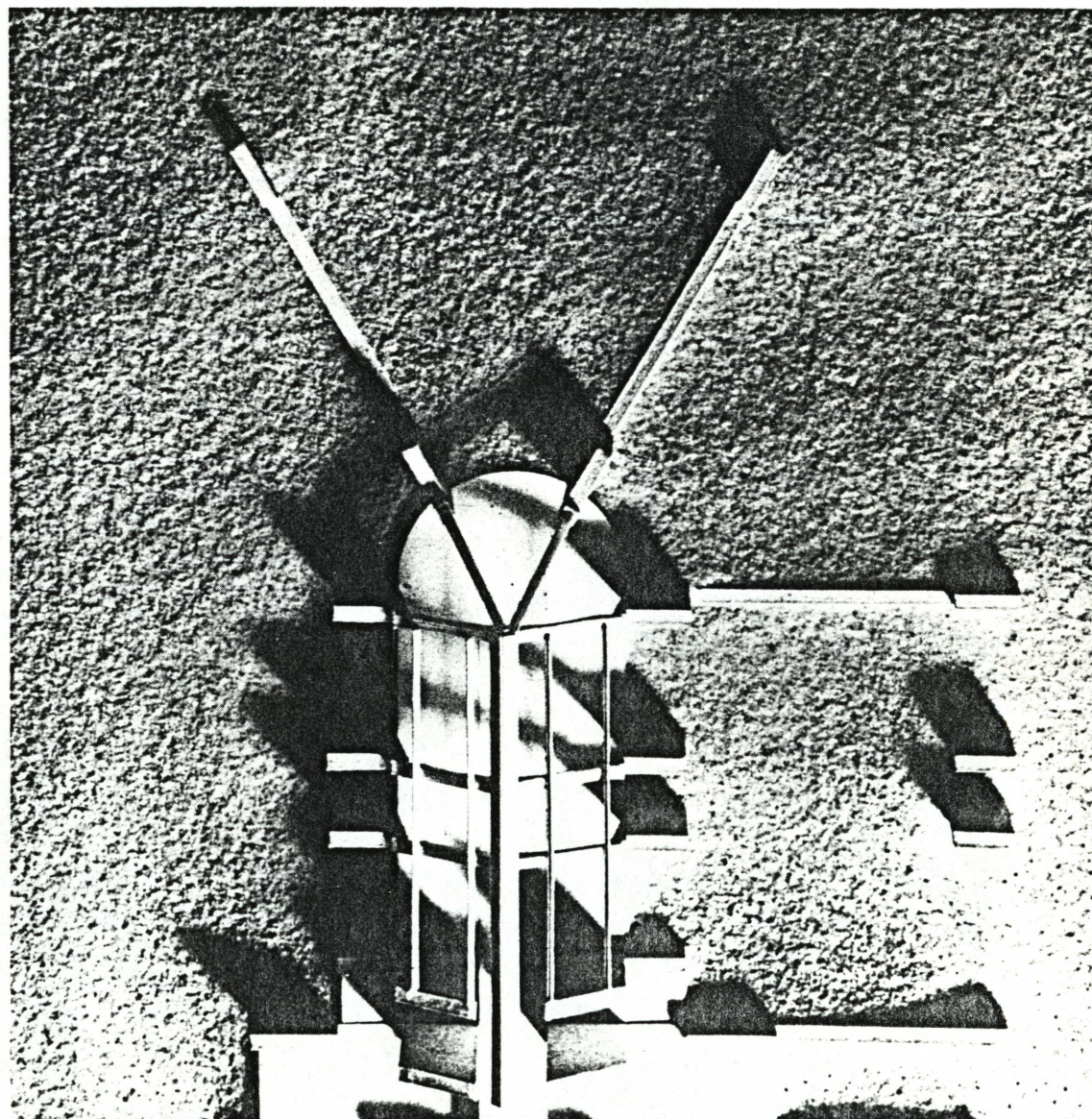
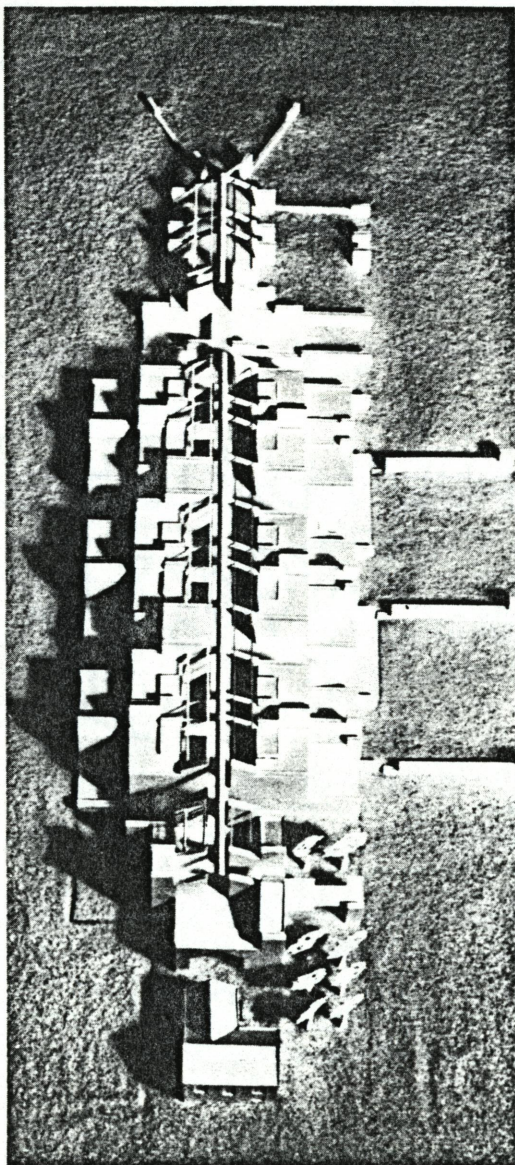


Study of Elevation and Section

PROCESS MODELS



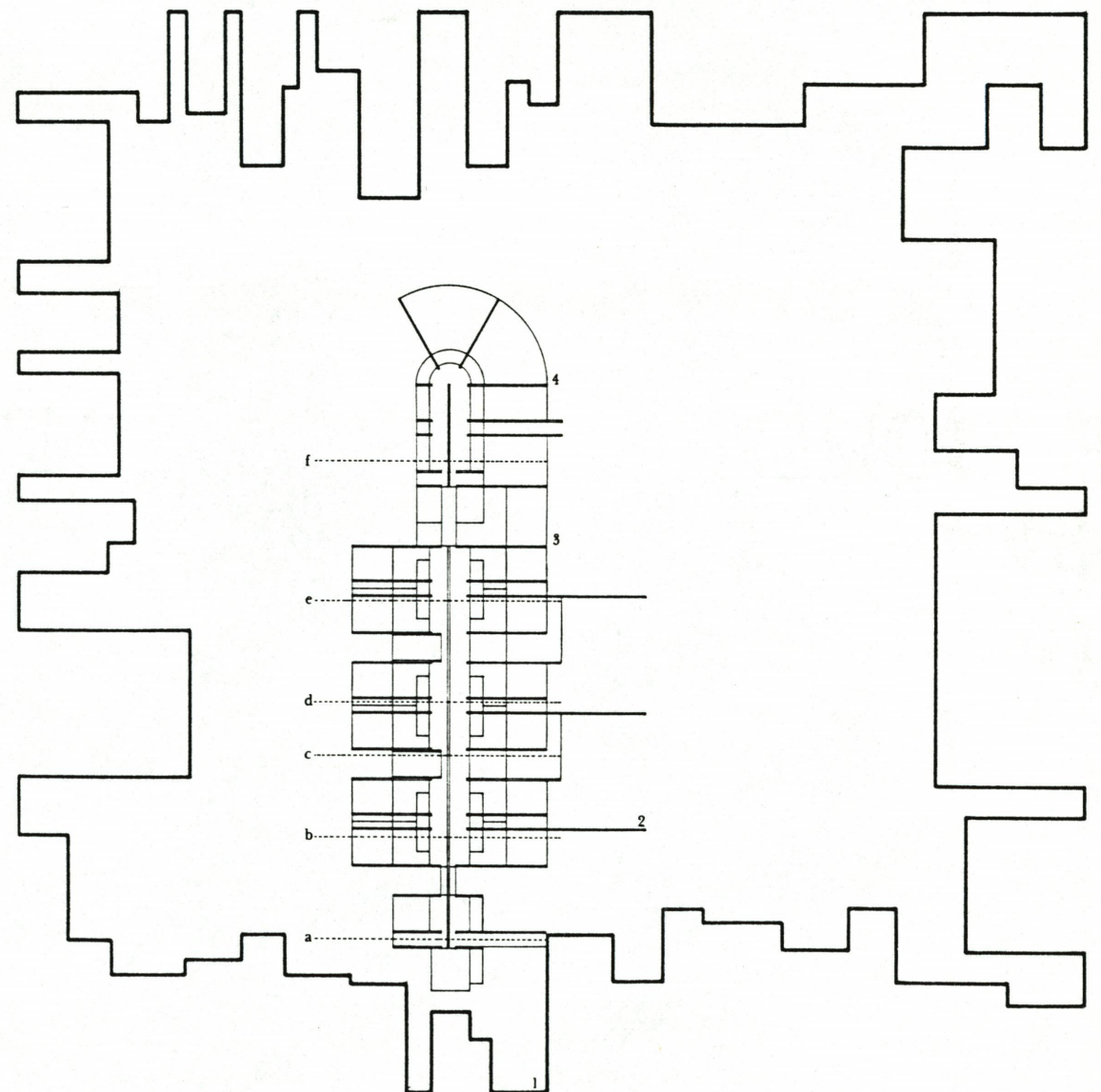
AN UNDERSTANDING



SITE PLAN

GARDENS

- 1 Urban garden
- 2 Pier gardens
- 3 Block terraces
- 4 Block gardens



PLANS

PIER LEVEL

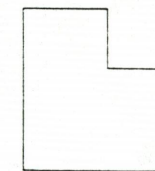
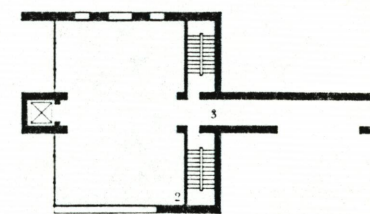
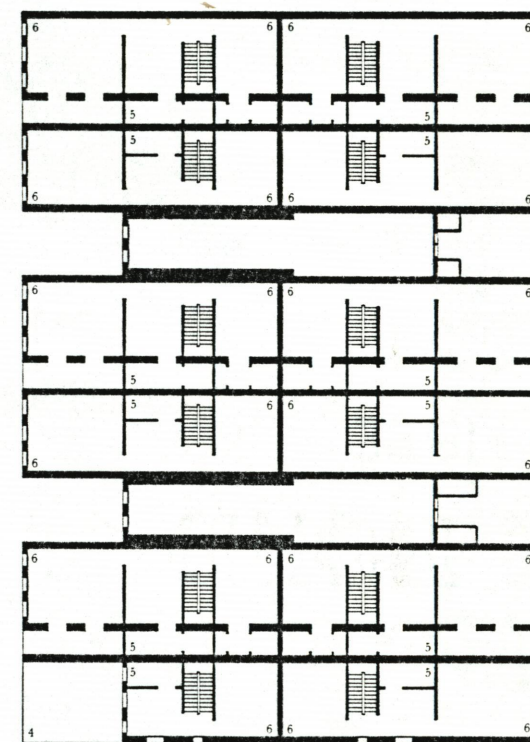
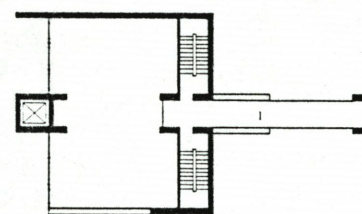
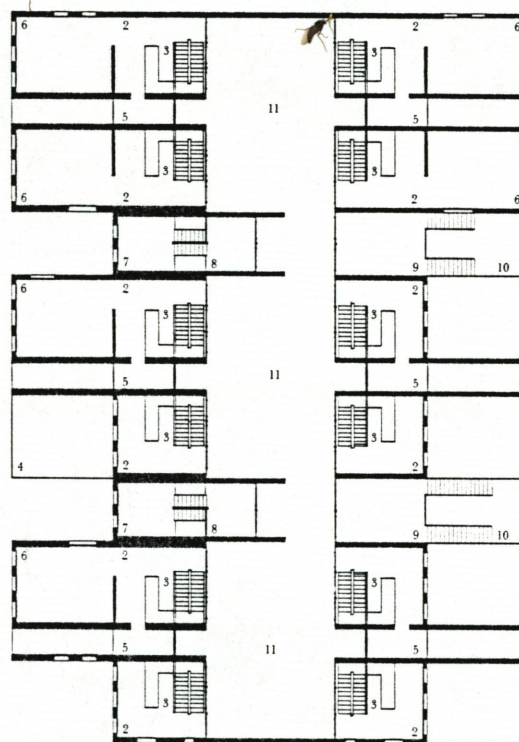
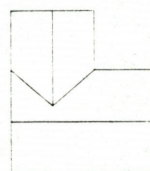
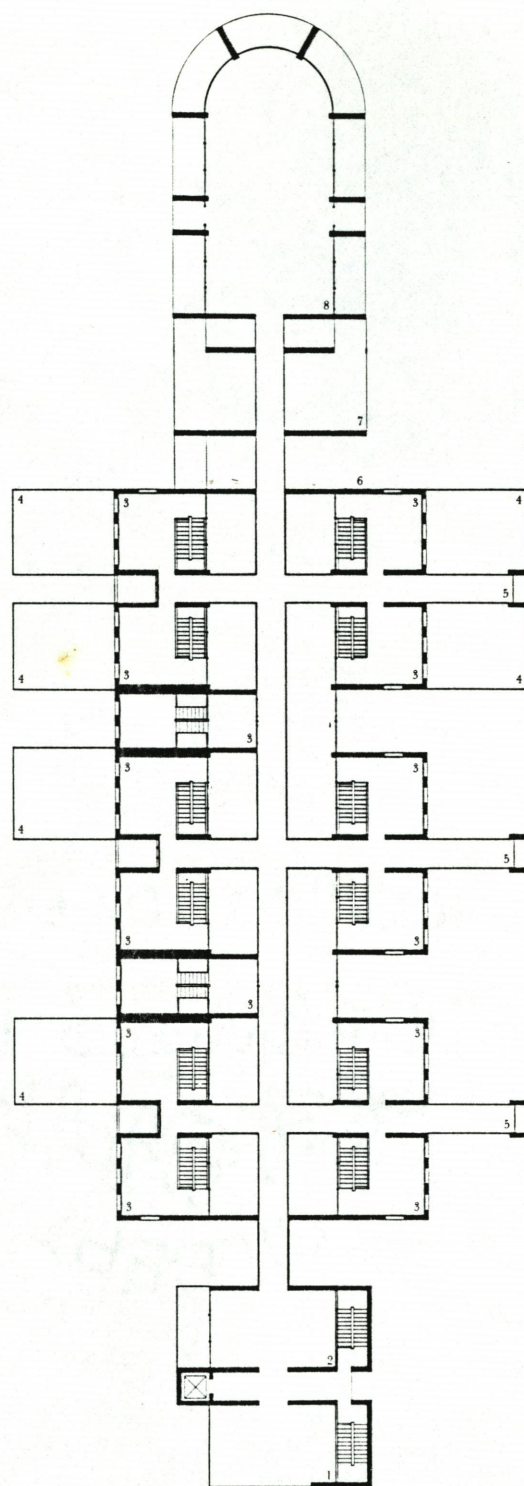
- 1 Pier
- 2 Vestibule
- 3 Living
- 4 Terrace
- 5 Side pier
- 6 Lower terrace
- 7 Upper terrace
- 8 Block garden

GARDEN LEVEL

- 1 Entry pier
- 2 Dining
- 3 Kitchen
- 4 Terrace
- 5 Study
- 6 Living
- 7 Kitchen/Living
- 8 Garden Room
- 9 Upper terrace
- 10 Lower terrace
- 11 Great garden

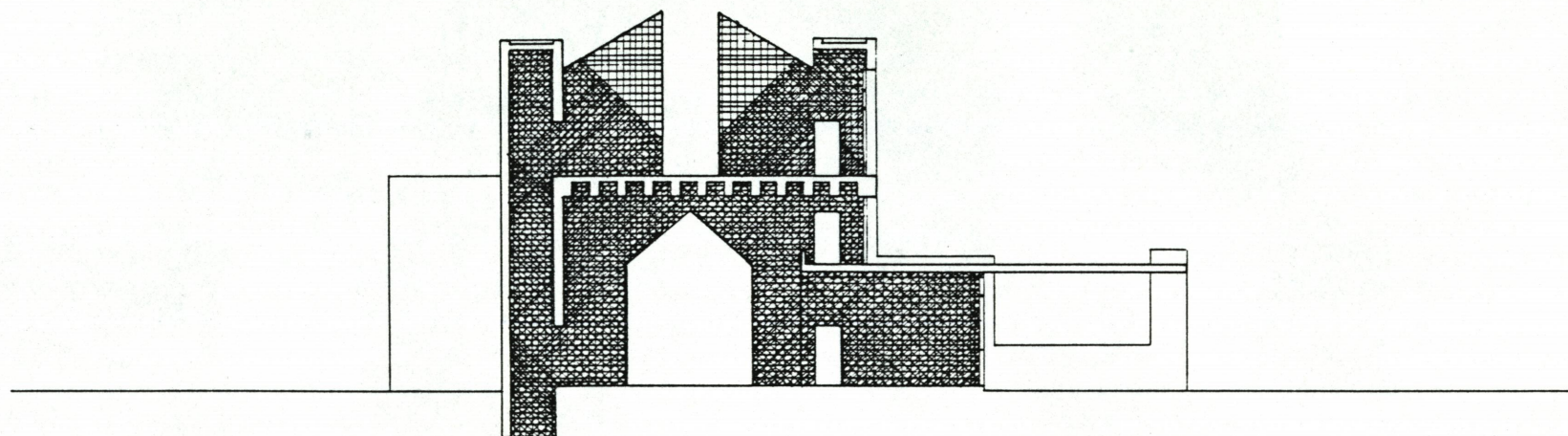
LIVING LEVEL

- 1 Old Stone House
- 2 Lobby
- 3 Entry
- 4 Terrace
- 5 Bathroom
- 6 Bedroom

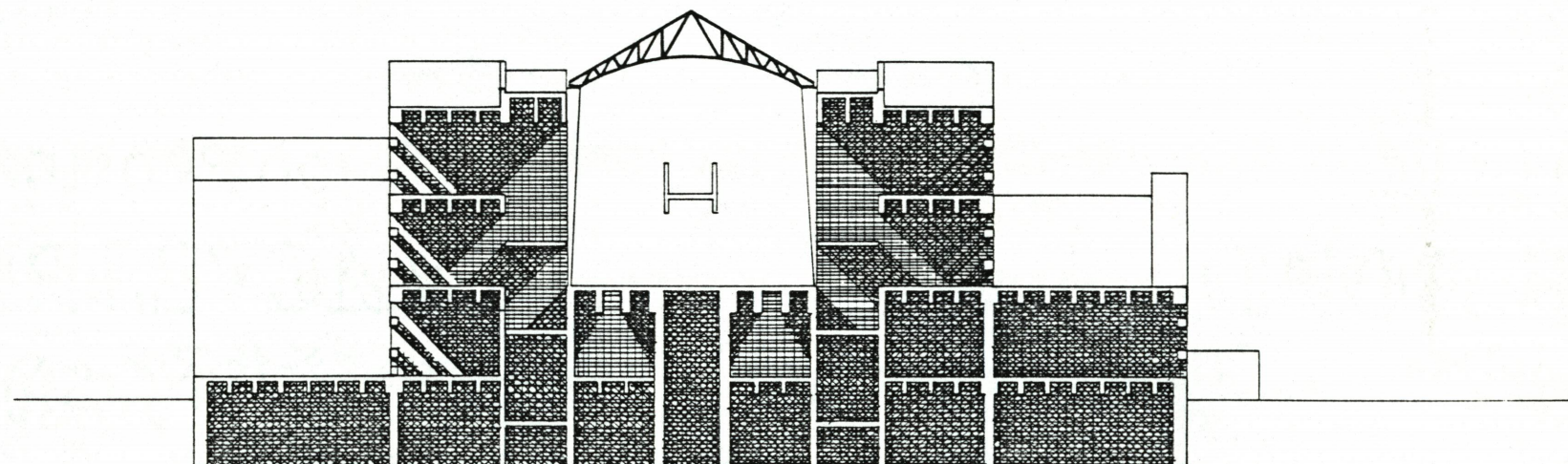


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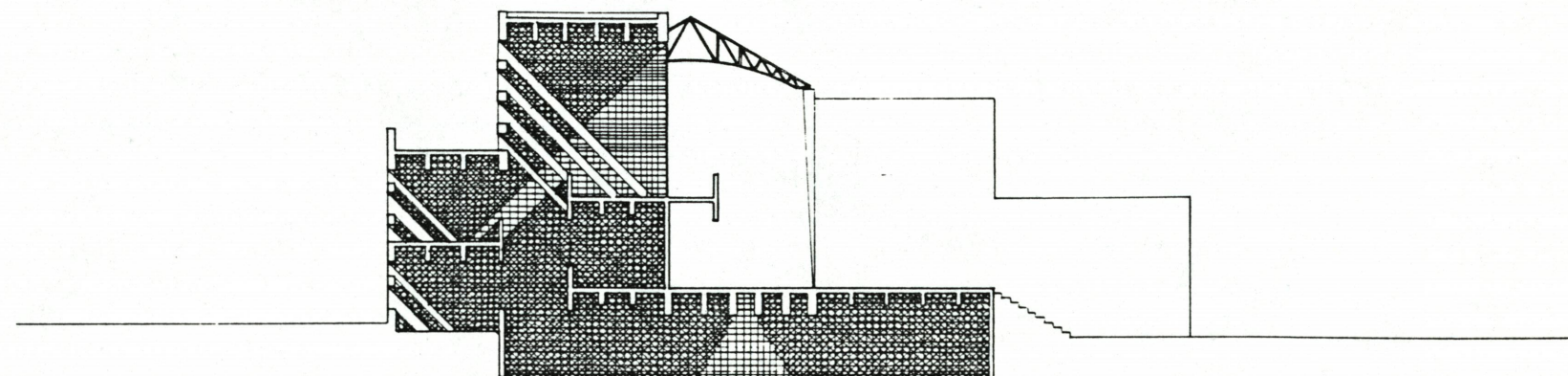
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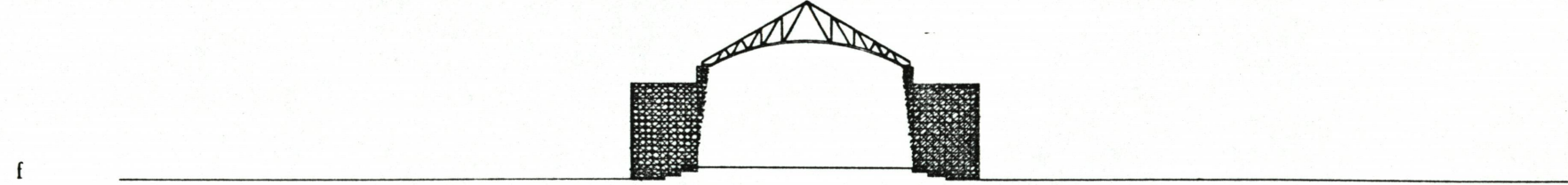
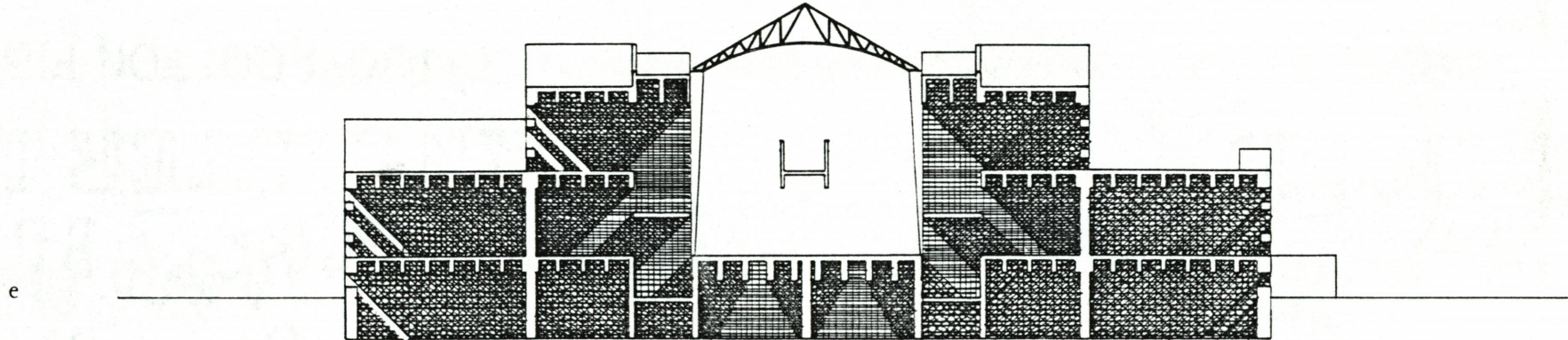
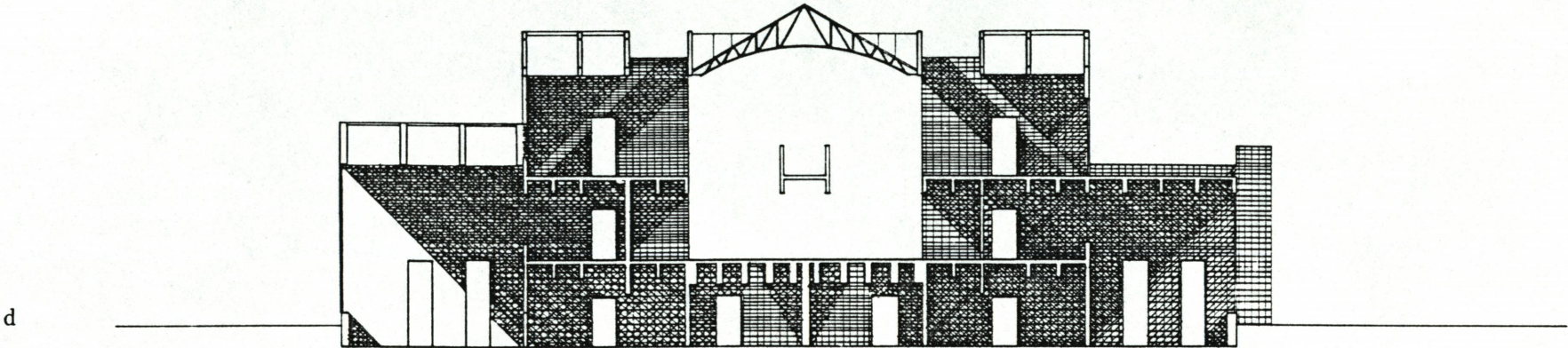
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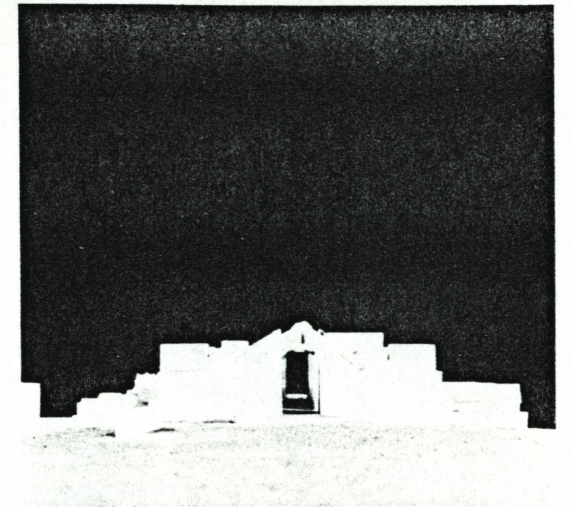


SECTIONS

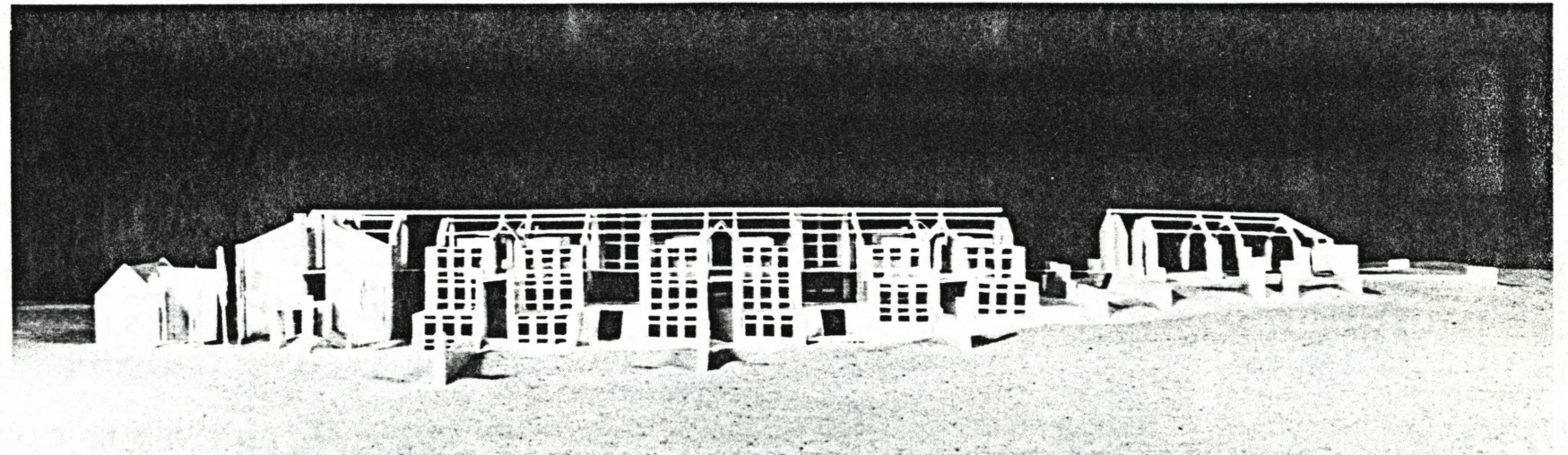


ELEVATIONS

North, South

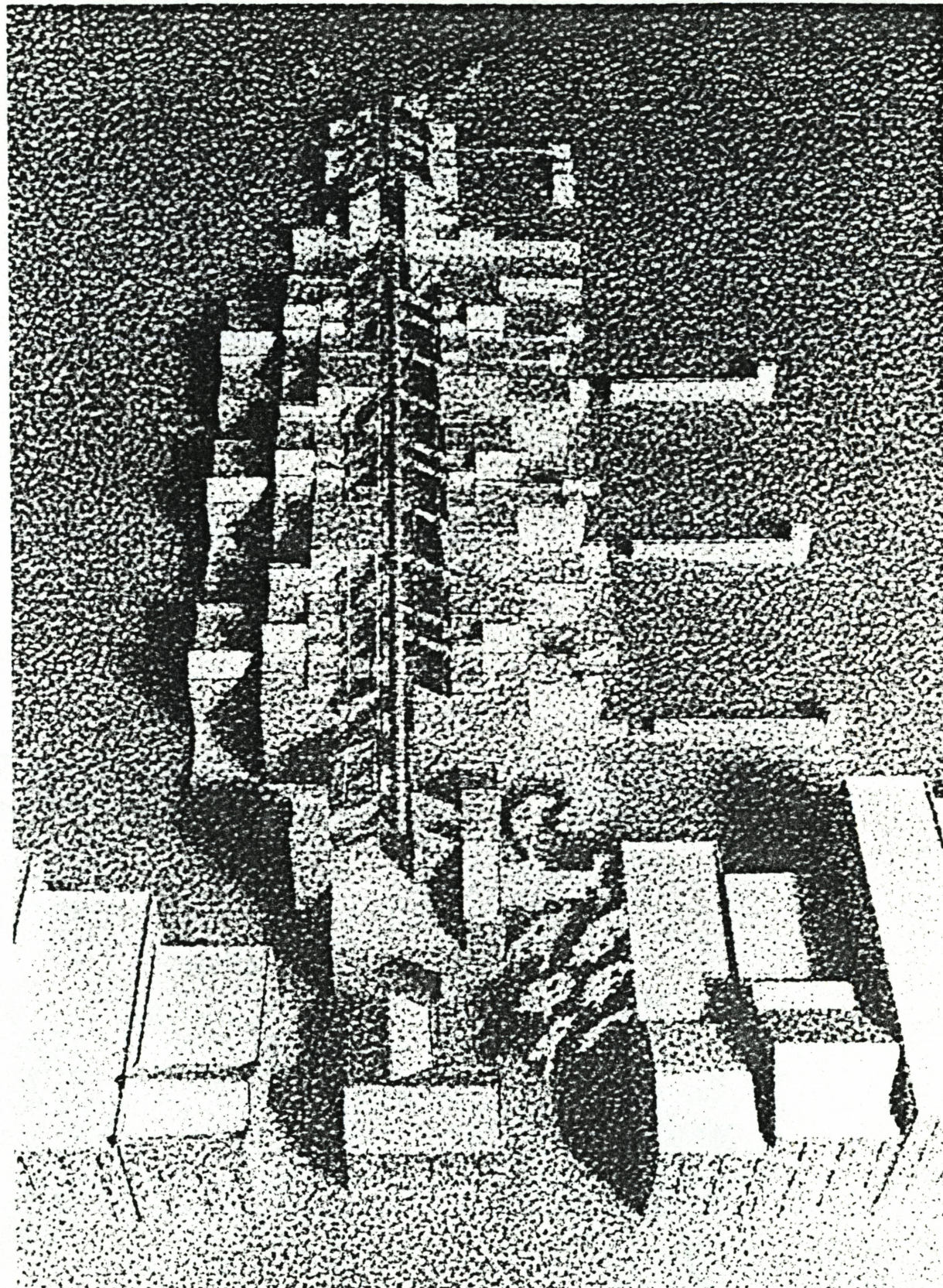


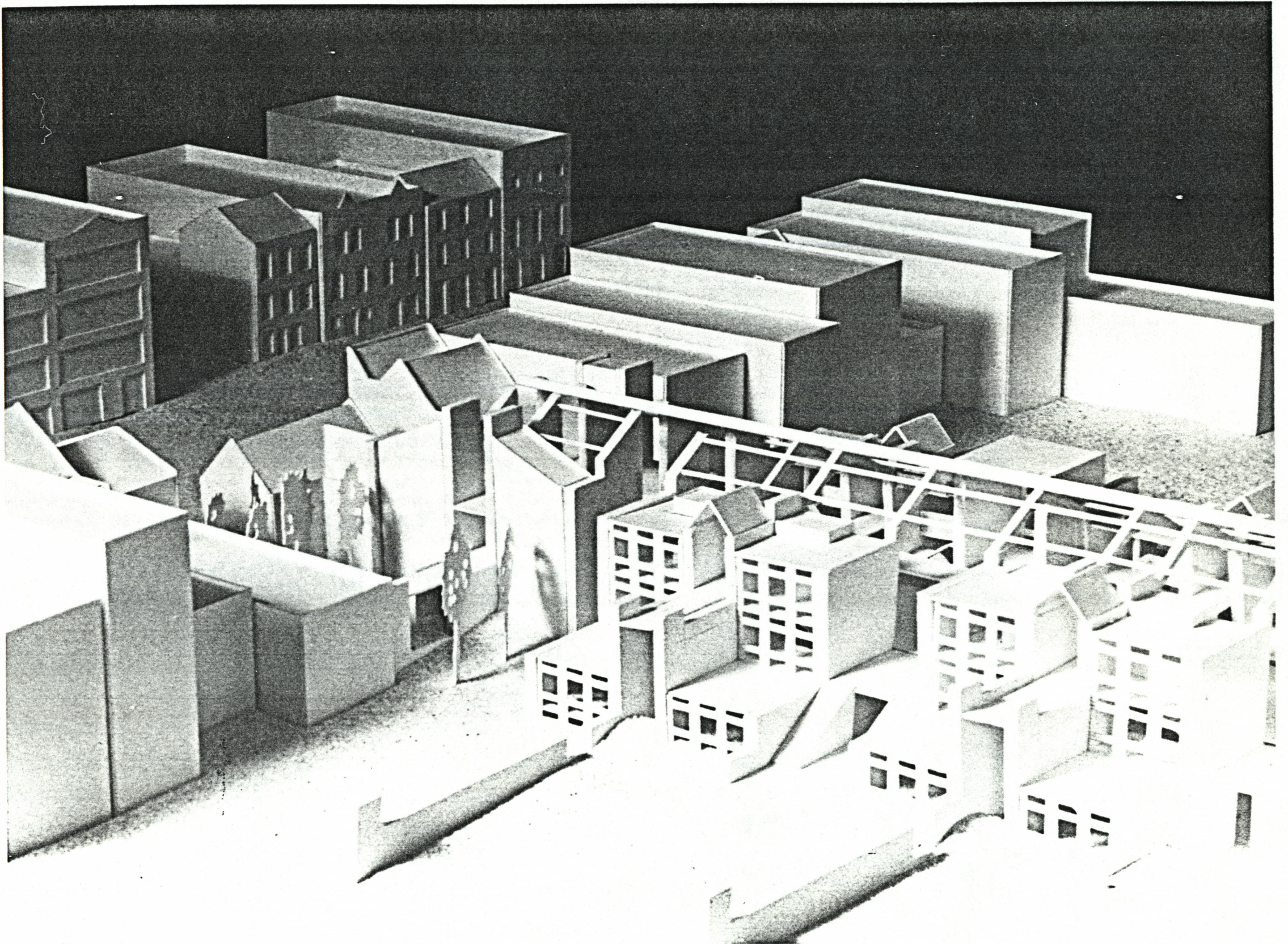
East

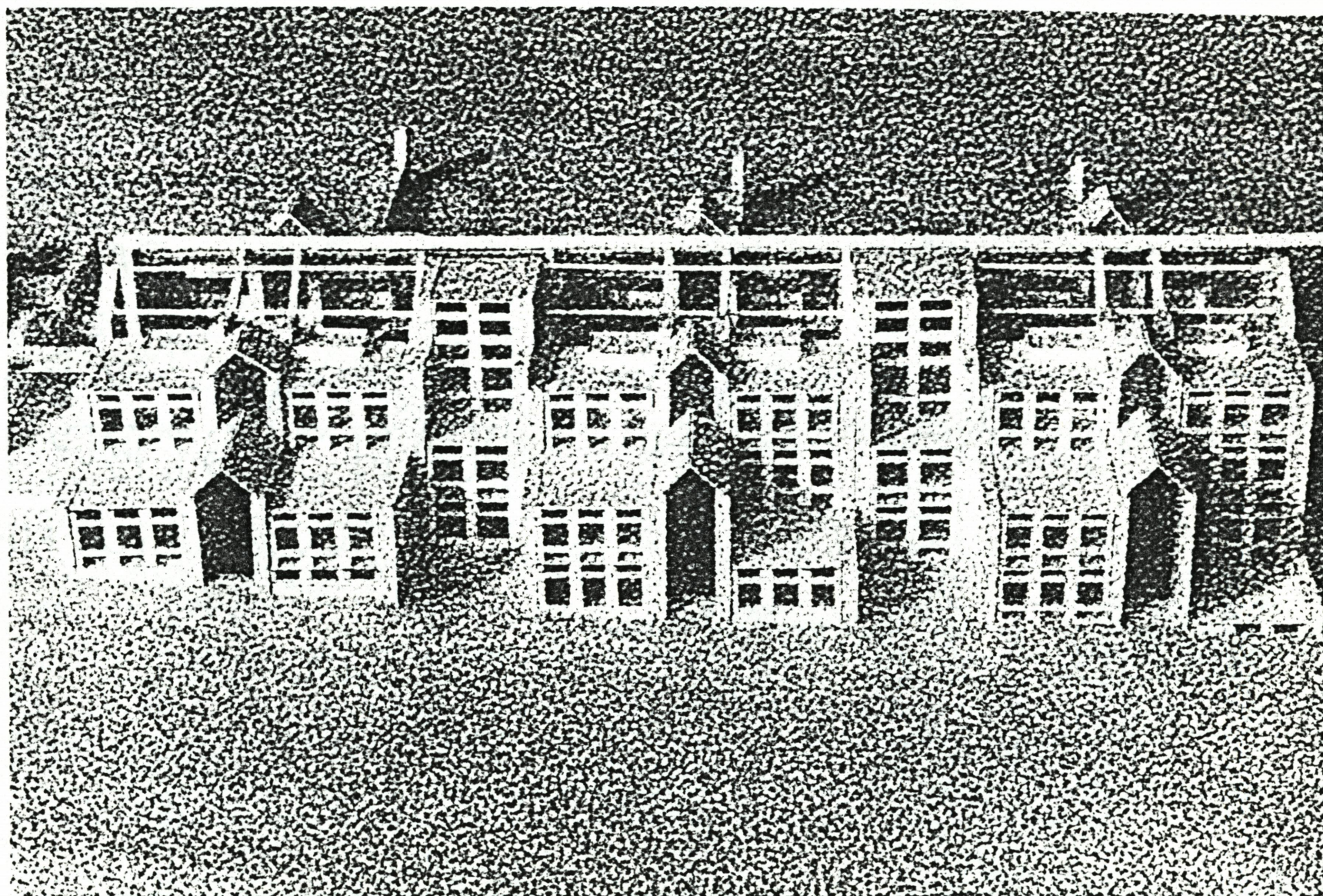


West









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