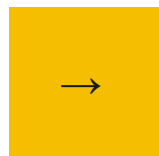




ELRICA M. METAYER

ARCHITECTURAL DESIGNER + URBAN DESIGN PROFESSIONAL

Interior | Architecture | Urban Design



SELECTED WORK

Designing places through clear thinking, spatial problem-solving, and visual communication.

ABOUT ME

DESIGNING ACROSS SCALES

Design professional with 10 + years of experience across design, documentation, urban studies, research, and multidisciplinary work. I connect interiors and buildings with neighborhoods and community systems, using context, human needs, and clear visual communication to shape functional spatial solutions.

My work spans adaptive reuse, building design, urban diagnostics, mapping, land-use and mobility analysis, and collaborative project delivery. I bring an organized, research-informed approach to design across scales and work with clients, teams, and stakeholders to turn complex requirements into clear decisions.

People → Place → Problem → Strategy → Design

CAPABILITIES

SPATIAL DESIGN

Concept Development
Space Planning
Design Development
Material + Finish Selection
Visualization

PROJECT DELIVERY

Project Coordination
Documentation
Budget Coordination
Client Coordination
Quality Control

LEADERSHIP + STRATEGY

Team Leadership
Research + Analysis
Stakeholder Engagement
Problem Solving
Cross-Cultural Communication

EDUCATION

Master of Urban Design

University of North Carolina - Charlotte

Bachelor of Architecture

Pontificia Universidad Católica Madre y Maestra

LANGUAGES

English

Spanish

French

Haitian Creole

SOFTWARE

AutoCAD | Revit | SketchUp

Photoshop | Illustrator | InDesign

QGIS | ArcGIS | Microsoft Office

SELECTED PROJECTS

1.0



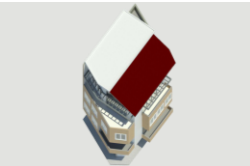
WIN Dental Clinic

Interior Design | Adaptive Reuse



04

2.0



BOUG Building

Architecture | Renovation | Mixed-Use



09

3.0



BLOSSOM Street

Architecture | Conceptual Design | Public Realm



13

4.0



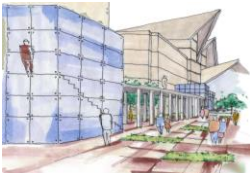
The RIBBONS

Urban Design | Mobility | Public Realm



19

5.0



Neighborhood PULSE

Urban Design | Mixed-Use | Revitalization



25



HEALTH | COMMERCIAL

WIN Dental Clinic

PETION-VILLE, HAITI

Adaptive reuse of an existing commercial space into a modern dental clinic, reorganized to improve patient flow, comfort, and clinical efficiency while working within existing building constraints. A curved slatted timber partition defines circulation and privacy, translating the design concept into a defining element of the built interior.

As Designer and Project Lead within a two-person team, I contributed from design development through construction coordination, including space planning, material and finish selection, client coordination, budget management, documentation, and visualization.

CONTEXT

Professional

COLLABORATION

Two-Person Design Team

ROLE

Designer + Project Lead

CONTRIBUTION

Design + Construction Coordination

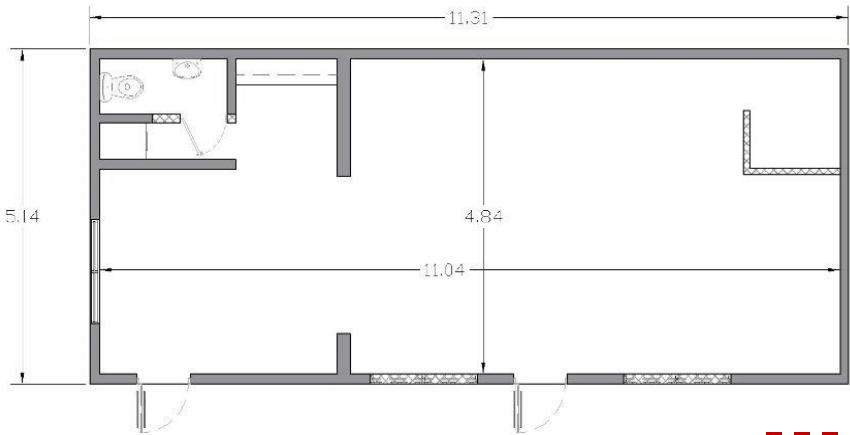
STATUS

Designed and Built 2019



DESIGN STRATEGY — CONCEPT BOARD

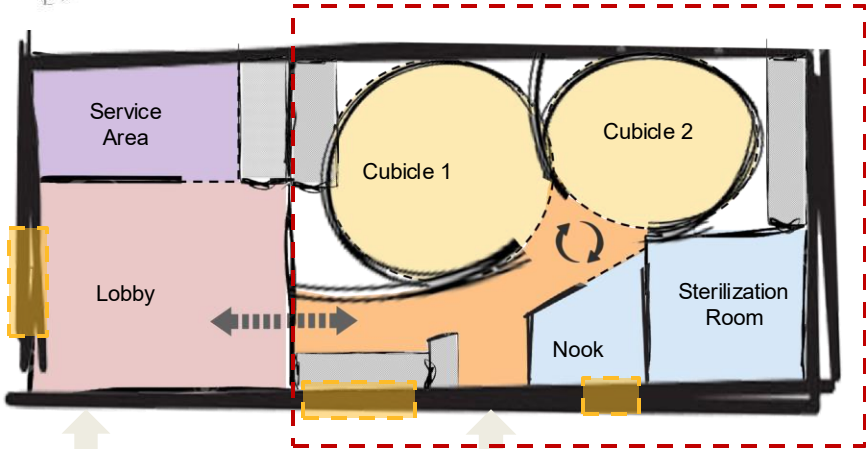
SPACE PLANNING STUDY



A former hair salon within a small commercial complex was adapted for dental use within a limited budget. The existing layout was rigid and compartmentalized, with a single entry and no clear separation between patient and staff circulation.

Existing Plan

The strategy focused on reorganizing zoning rather than altering the footprint, maximizing spatial efficiency while accommodating the client's preference for a sophisticated material palette.



Zoning Diagram

- Authorized Area only
- Authorized Hallway
- Storage/ Cabinet
- Pierced openings

MATERIAL + INSPIRATION

- FLUTED PANEL
- STONE
- NAVY
- WHITE BRICK
- BRUSHED GREY
- OAK FLOOR
- OAK VENEER
- WALNUT

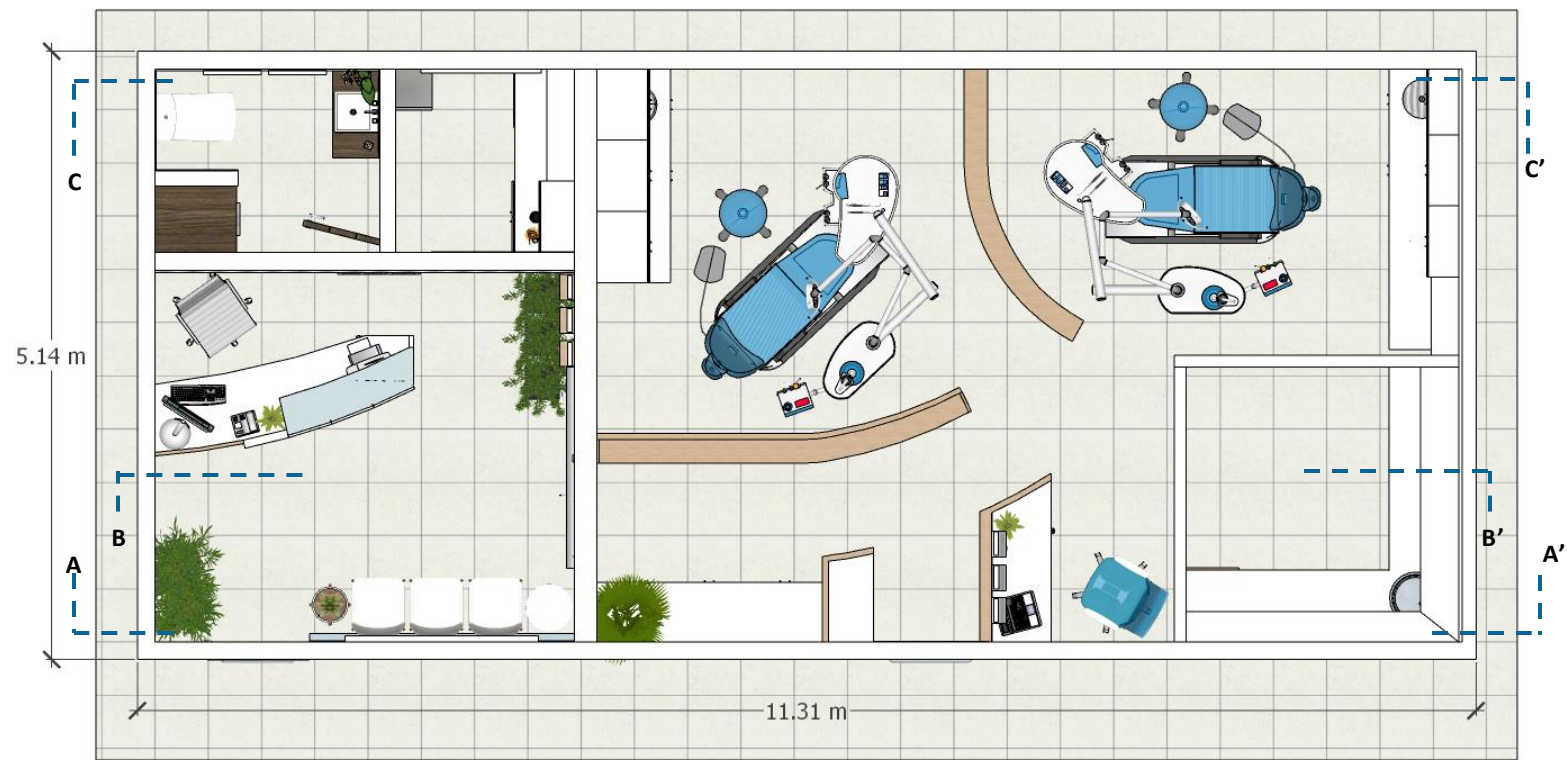


A warm, tactile palette of stone, oak veneer, and walnut is balanced by navy and brushed-grey accents. Sculptural lighting and soft furnishings create a calm, contemporary clinical environment.

DENTAL CLINIC

PLAN | LAYOUT

PLAN



Furnished Plan

The layout prioritizes clear circulation and efficient workflow while maximizing the existing footprint. Clean spatial organization supports both clinical functions and patient comfort, while underused areas are incorporated as additional storage.

SECTION A-A' Lobby ■ Storage Hall ■ Nook ■ Sterilization



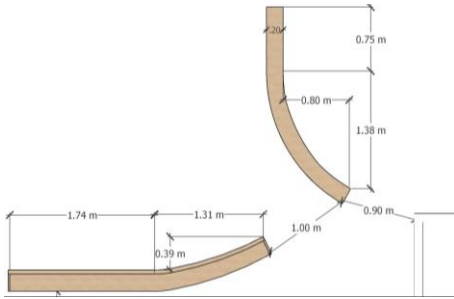
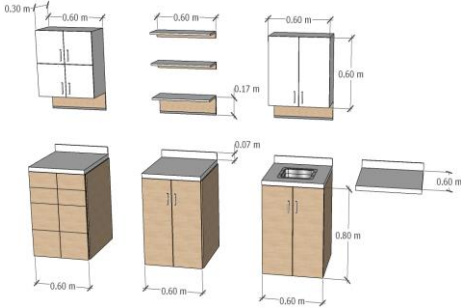
SECTION B-B' Sterilization ■ Nook ■ Storage Hall ■ Lobby



SECTION C-C' Cubides ■ Kitchenette / Bath



DETAIL ELEMENTS



MODULAR CABINETRY

Modular cabinetry supports efficient workflow while allowing components to be assembled, transported, and configured according to spatial and functional needs.

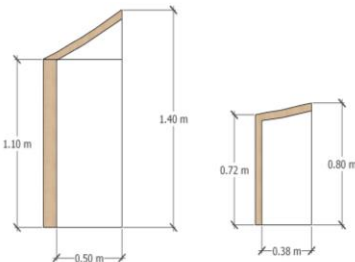
CURVED PARTITION

The curved timber partition creates privacy around the treatment area while maintaining circulation through the hall. Integrated shelving adds storage while reinforcing the partition as a defining architectural element.

DETAIL ELEMENTS

CUSTOM PARTITION

Wood, stone, and white finishes carry the material language throughout the clinic across partitions, ceilings and cabinetry, creating visual continuity and warmth.



LIGHTING



Strategically placed light fixtures provide consistent illumination across clinical work areas.



RESTROOM

The compact restroom uses an off-white palette and subtle variations in texture to maximize light and create a clean, spacious feel. Plated-steel accents and a custom dark vanity provide contrast within the restrained material palette.





MIXED-USE | DENSITY

BOUG Building

FORT-DE-FRANCE, MARTINIQUE

Adaptive reuse of an existing four-story townhouse in downtown Fort-de-France into a mixed-use building combining ground-floor commercial spaces with flexible residential accommodations above. The design study reorganizes the interior layout to maximize usable space and density while reworking the building's two street-facing façades to strengthen its presence within the surrounding urban context.

As Architectural Designer within a two-person team, I contributed to space planning, architectural drawings, and the façade study, exploring how the existing structure could accommodate new uses while maintaining a cohesive architectural identity.

CONTEXT

Professional

COLLABORATION

Two-Person Design Team

ROLE

Architectural Designer

CONTRIBUTION

Space Planning + Drawings + Façade Study

STATUS

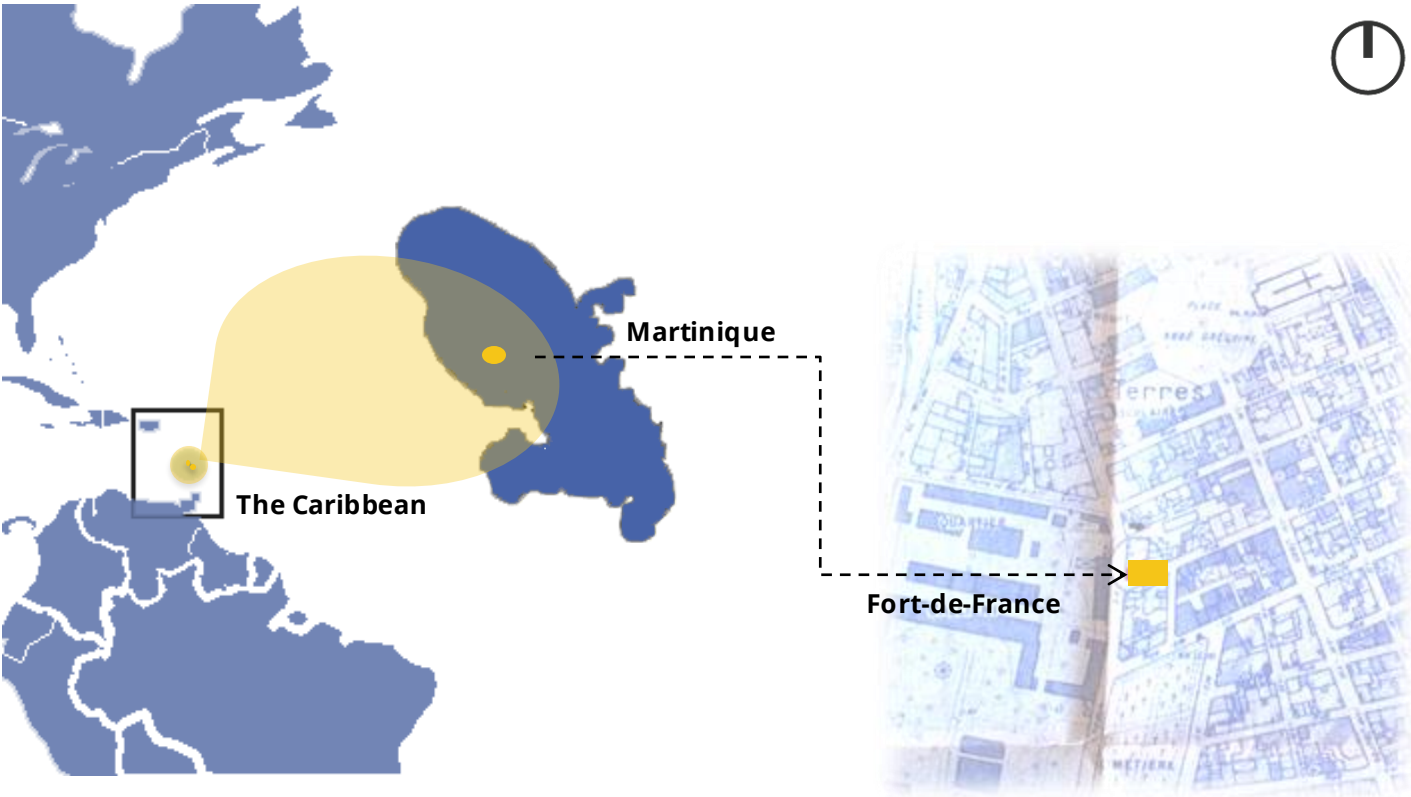
Renovation Study · 2023



DESIGN STRATEGY

The existing four-story family townhouse is reorganized as a mixed-use building, introducing two commercial spaces at street level and a range of residential accommodations above.

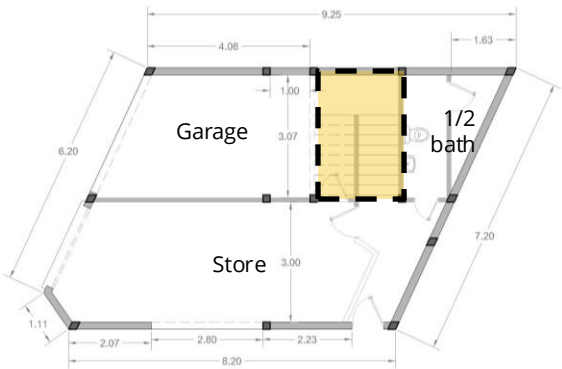
The design strategy maximizes the existing footprint through efficient interior planning while using the building's two street-facing façades to establish a stronger architectural identity and relationship with the surrounding urban context.



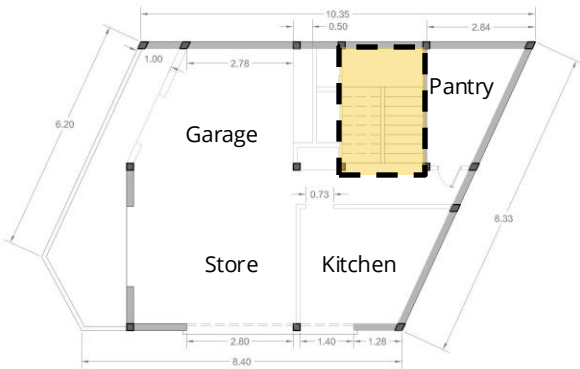
EXISTING HOUSE PLAN



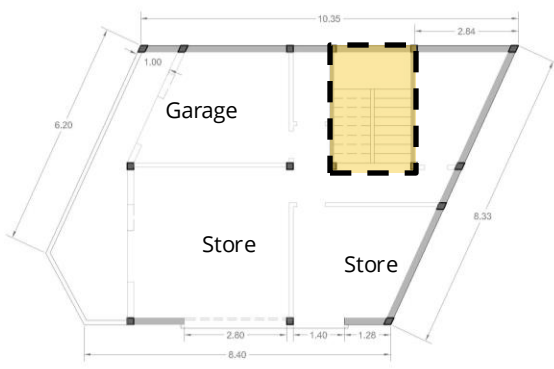
Core Center



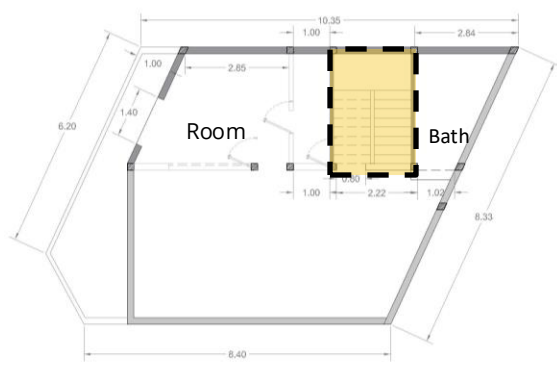
Level 1



Level 2



Level 3



Level 4

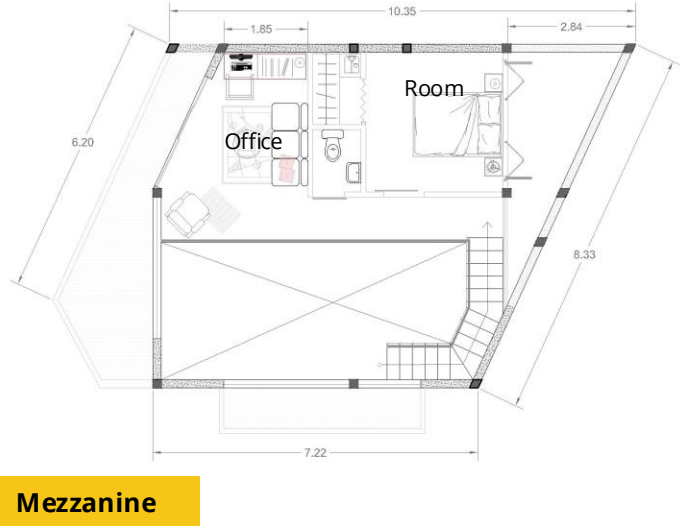
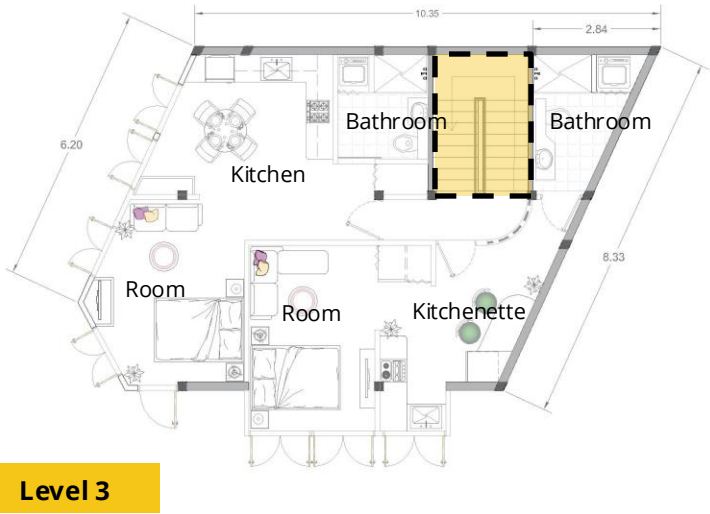
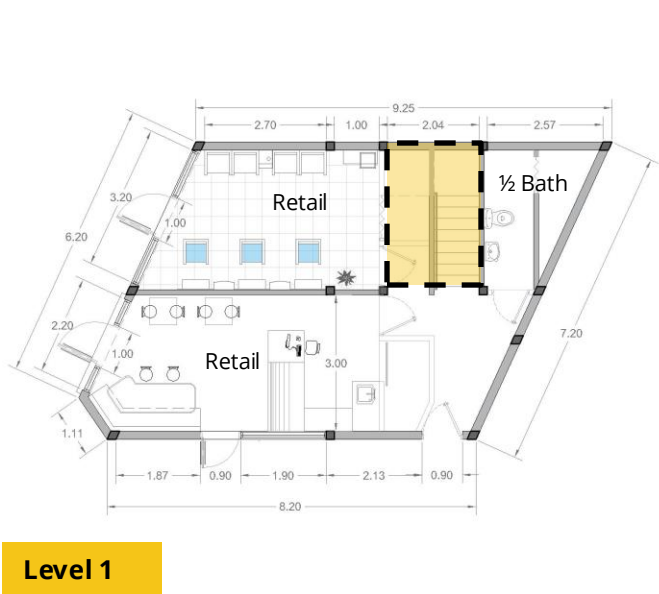


SPATIAL ORGANIZATION

The new layout organizes the building vertically by use, with commercial spaces activating the ground floor and residential units distributed across the upper levels. A centralized core supports efficient circulation while allowing each floor to accommodate a distinct residential configuration within the existing structure.

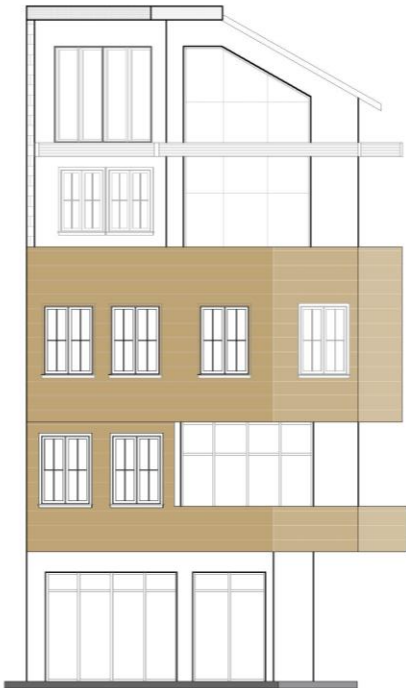
- column
- Core Center
- Existing wall
- New wall
- Extended wall

Level 1	2 commercial spaces (54.39 m²)
Level 2	1 bedroom apartment (63.37 m²)
Level 3	2 studio-apartments (75.47 m²)
Level 4	1 penthouse with a mezzanine (89.32 m²)



FAÇADE STUDY

West Elevation



South Elevation



The façade study responds to the changing proportions of the existing townhouse as the upper level is extended to accommodate the penthouse and mezzanine.

A timber wrap anchors the center of the composition, giving the taller building greater visual balance and proportion. Above, larger steel-and-glass openings create a lighter, more transparent expression for the penthouse, establishing contrast between the grounded base and the new upper levels.





COMMERCIAL | PUBLIC REALM

BLOSSOM Street

RUICHANG, CHINA

BLOSSOM Street, designed as part of an international design competition for MOLEWA in Ruichang, China, explores a pedestrian commercial environment shaped by architecture, landscape, and public space. The proposal draws from the larger development's golden-ratio urban framework while integrating cultural references and spatial strategies to create an active destination for shopping, gathering, and leisure.

As Architectural Designer and Design Team Member, I contributed to spatial development and urban analysis, helping translate the broader planning framework into a pedestrian-focused architectural experience.

CONTEXT

Design Competition

COLLABORATION

Collaborative Design Team

ROLE

Architectural Designer + Design Team Member

CONTRIBUTION

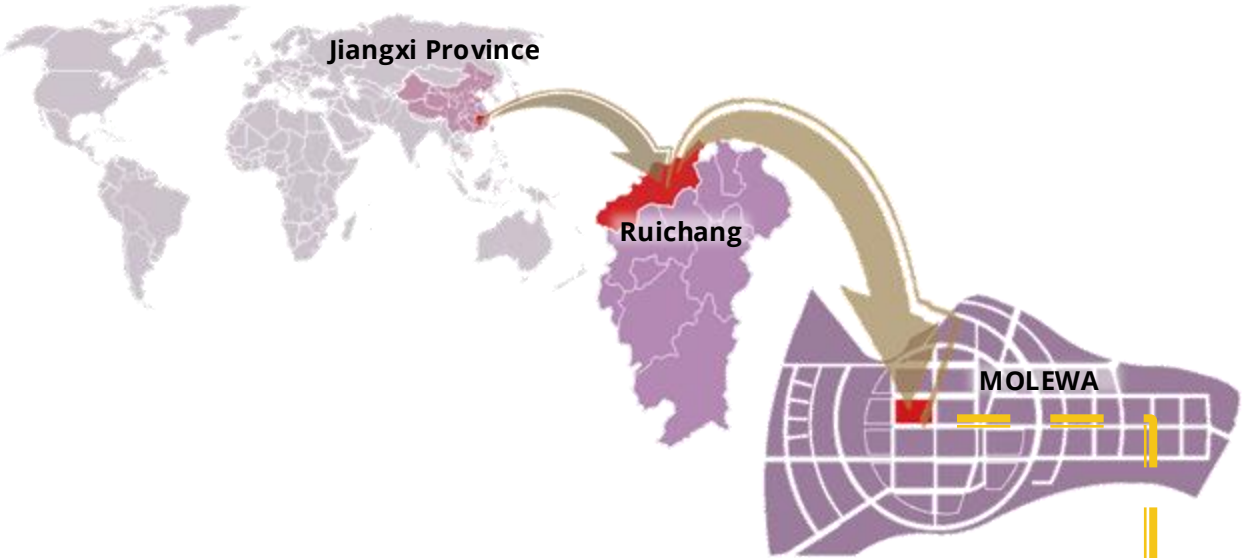
Spatial Development + Urban Analysis

STATUS

Competition Proposal · 2015

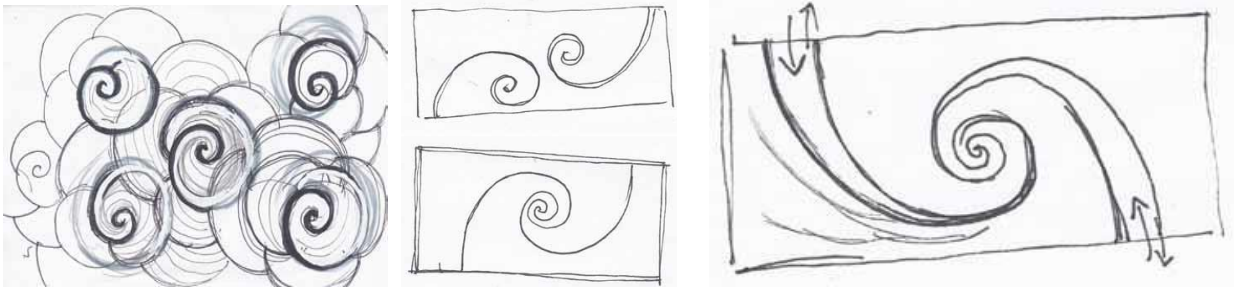


CONTEXT + URBAN FRAMEWORK

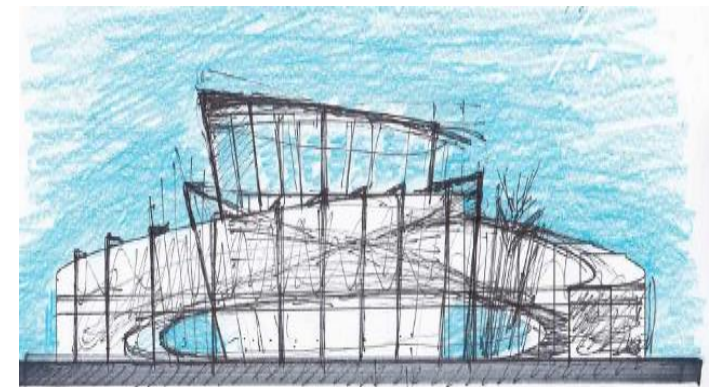
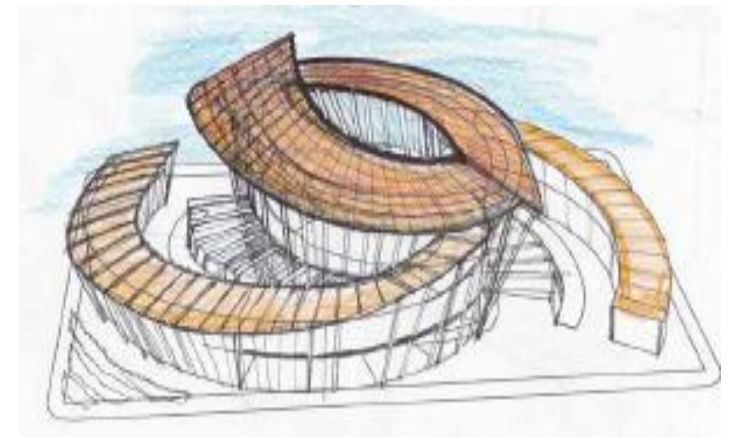
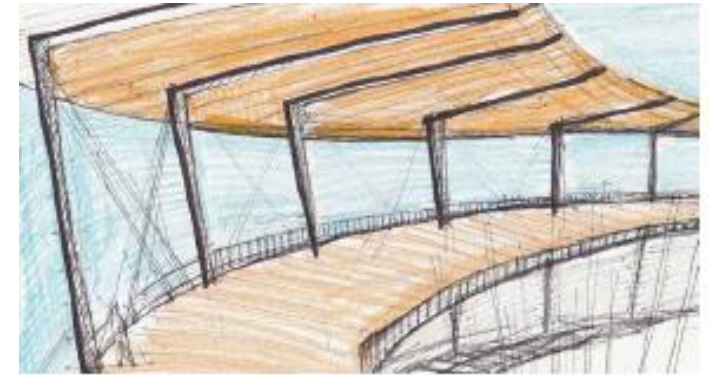
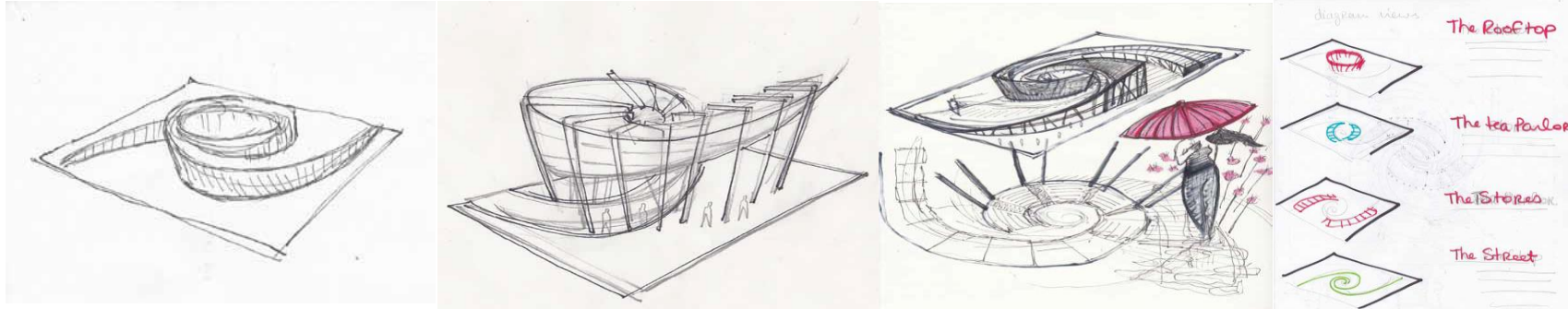
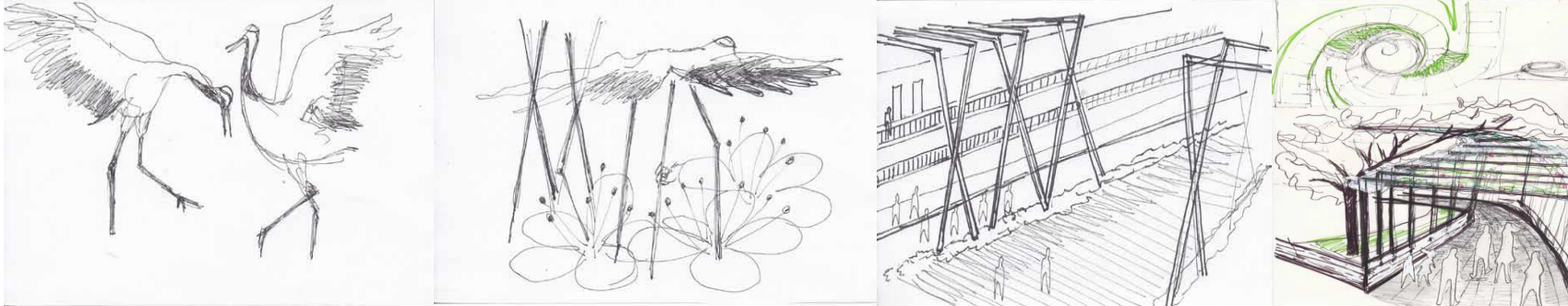


BLOSSOM Street was developed as part of a 2015 international design competition for MOLEWA (Mount Lu Estates World Architecture) in Ruichang, Jiangxi Province. Envisioned as a flower-themed destination between Mount Lu and Poyang Lake, the larger development integrates architecture, landscape, commerce, and leisure.

MOLEWA’s urban grid uses golden-ratio proportions to organize 72 × 120 m blocks. Within this framework, BLOSSOM Street was conceived as a pedestrian commercial destination supporting the development’s broader live, work, and play strategy.



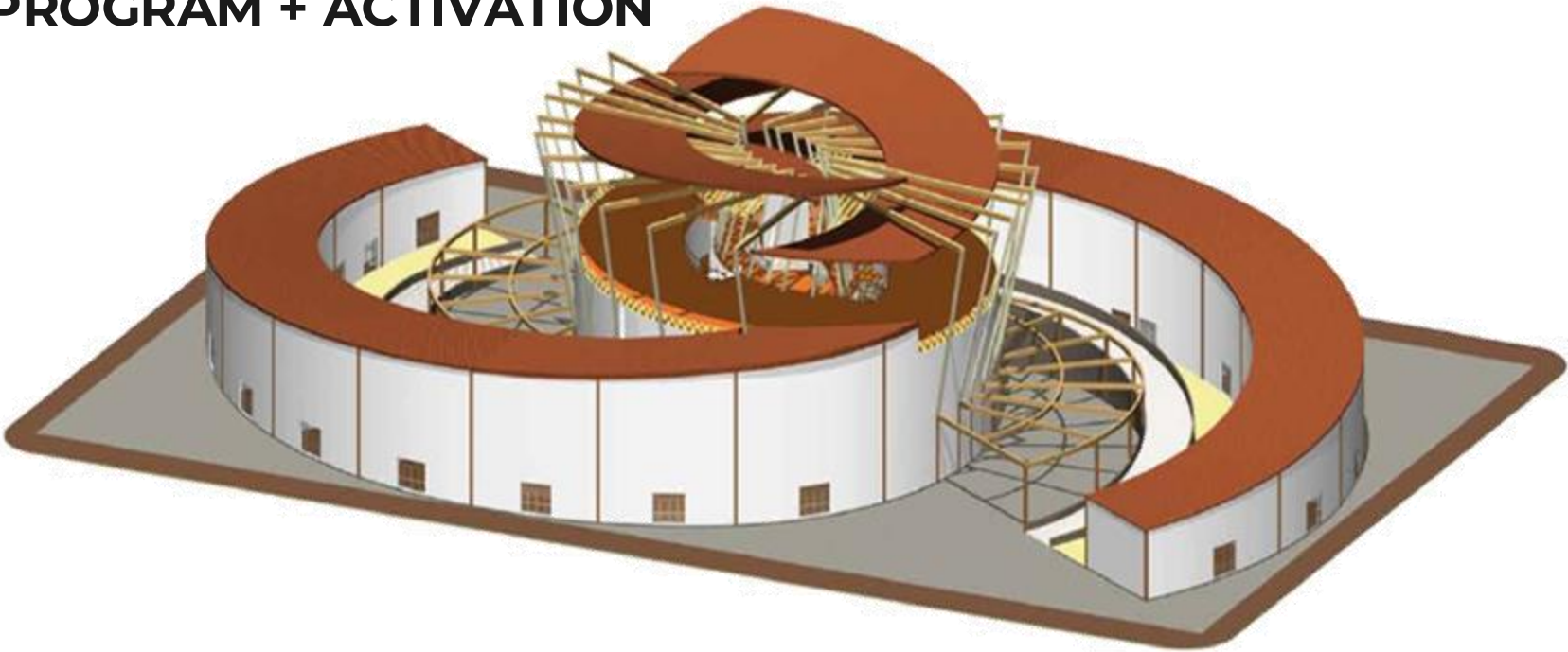
DESIGN CONCEPT + MATERIALITY



The design concept draws from the golden ratio, the plum blossom, and the red-crowned crane to translate cultural references into architectural form. Slender structural poles evoke the crane's legs, while the elevated roof structure extends outward like wings to define and shelter the pedestrian street.

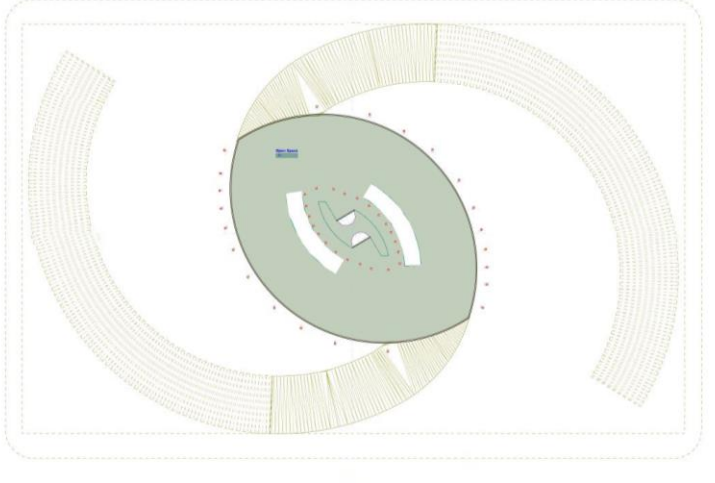
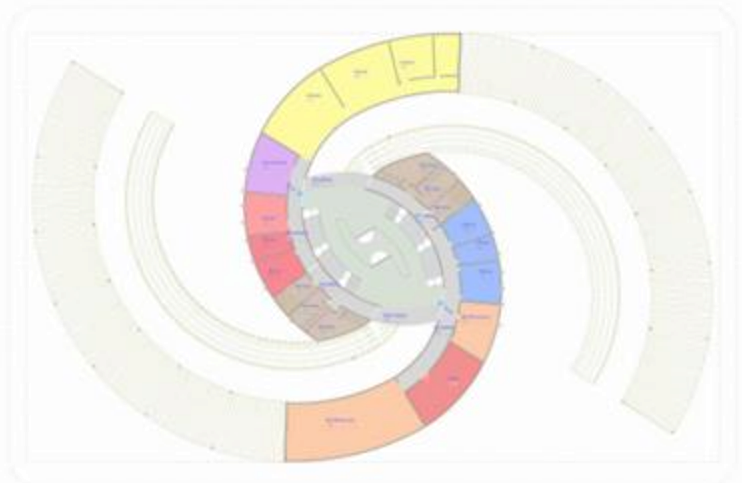
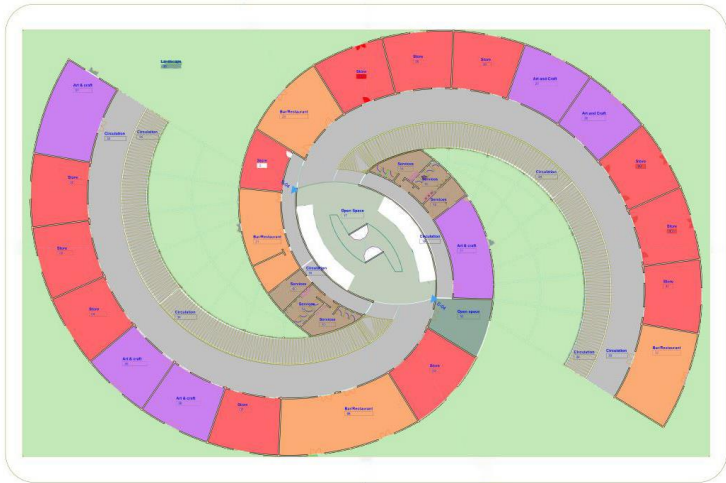
Bamboo connects the proposal to traditional Chinese material culture while supporting a contemporary architectural expression. Stone paving, landscaped water elements, and garden spaces extend this material language into the public realm, creating a pedestrian environment inspired by the atmosphere of traditional Chinese gardens.

PROGRAM + ACTIVATION



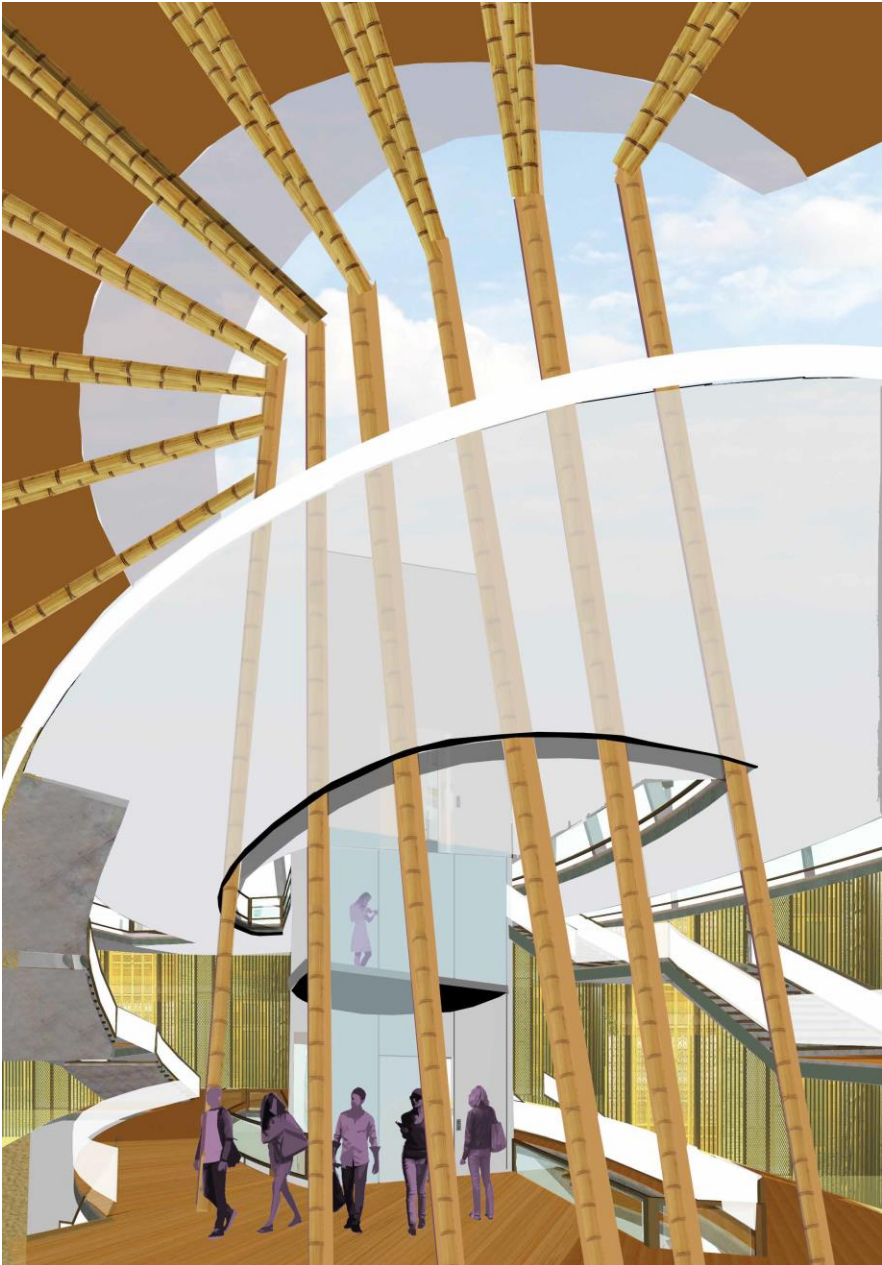
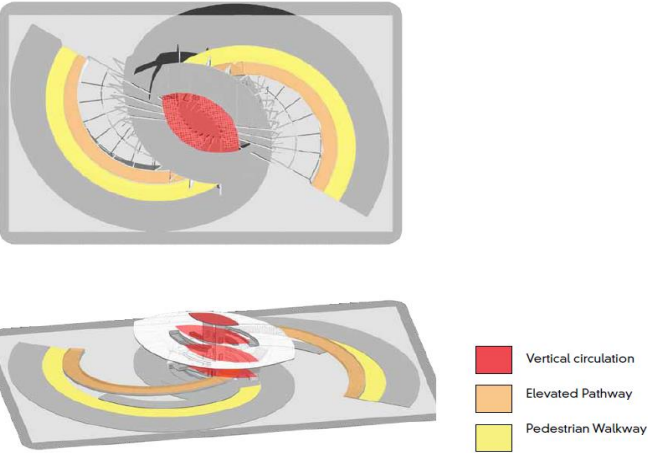
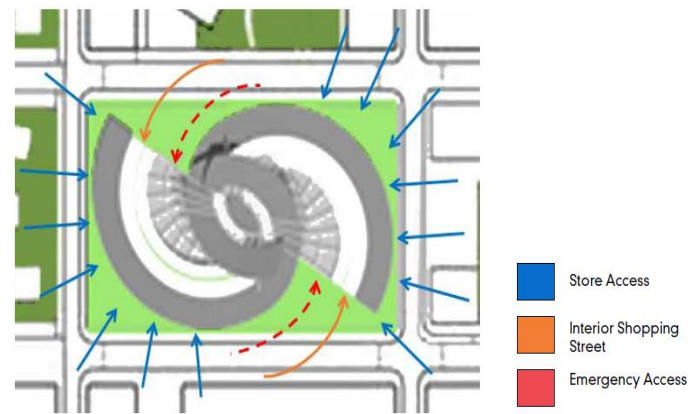
The program reinforces the horizontal organization characteristic of traditional Chinese architecture, concentrating commercial activity at ground level to activate the pedestrian street. A landscaped bamboo garden forms a central nucleus for vertical circulation while connecting the different levels and uses.

Varied storefront setbacks create a dynamic street edge, alternating between direct sidewalk access and more intimate entry sequences. The resulting mix of retail, dining, leisure, landscape, and open space supports activity throughout the pedestrian environment.



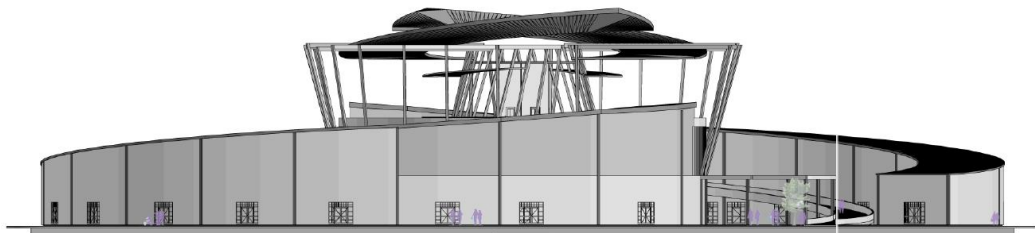
- Store
- Arts & Craft
- Bar/Restaurant
- Leisure
- Offices
- Circulation
- Services
- Landscape
- Open Space

CIRCULATION DIAGRAMS + VIEWS

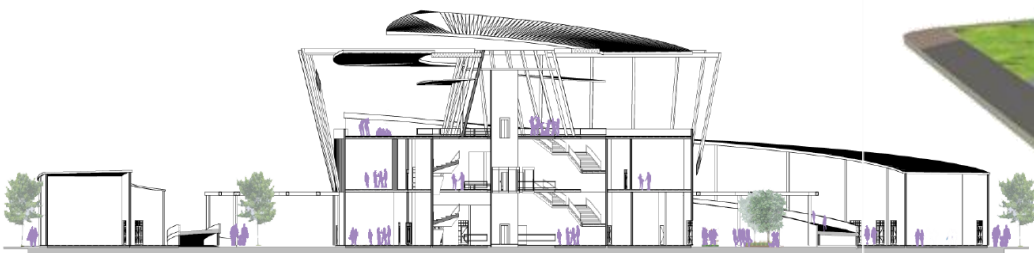


DESIGN OUTCOME

North Facade



Long Section



West Facade



The final proposal brings architecture, landscape, and circulation together to create a cohesive pedestrian environment. Layered façades, sheltered walkways, and interconnected open spaces reinforce the street as both a commercial destination and a place for gathering.



The RIBBONS

SUZHOU, CHINA

The RIBBONS proposes an urban framework for a key entry point to Suzhou's old city. Responding to existing streets, canals, urban thresholds, and surrounding movement networks, the proposal organizes green space, circulation, public realm, and mixed-use development as a series of interconnected ribbons that extend the existing urban fabric into the site.

As Urban Designer and Researcher within an international academic team of American and Chinese students, I contributed to urban analysis and design development, helping translate existing site conditions into a coordinated strategy for mobility, public realm, land use, and connectivity.

CONTEXT

Academic

COLLABORATION

International Design Team

ROLE

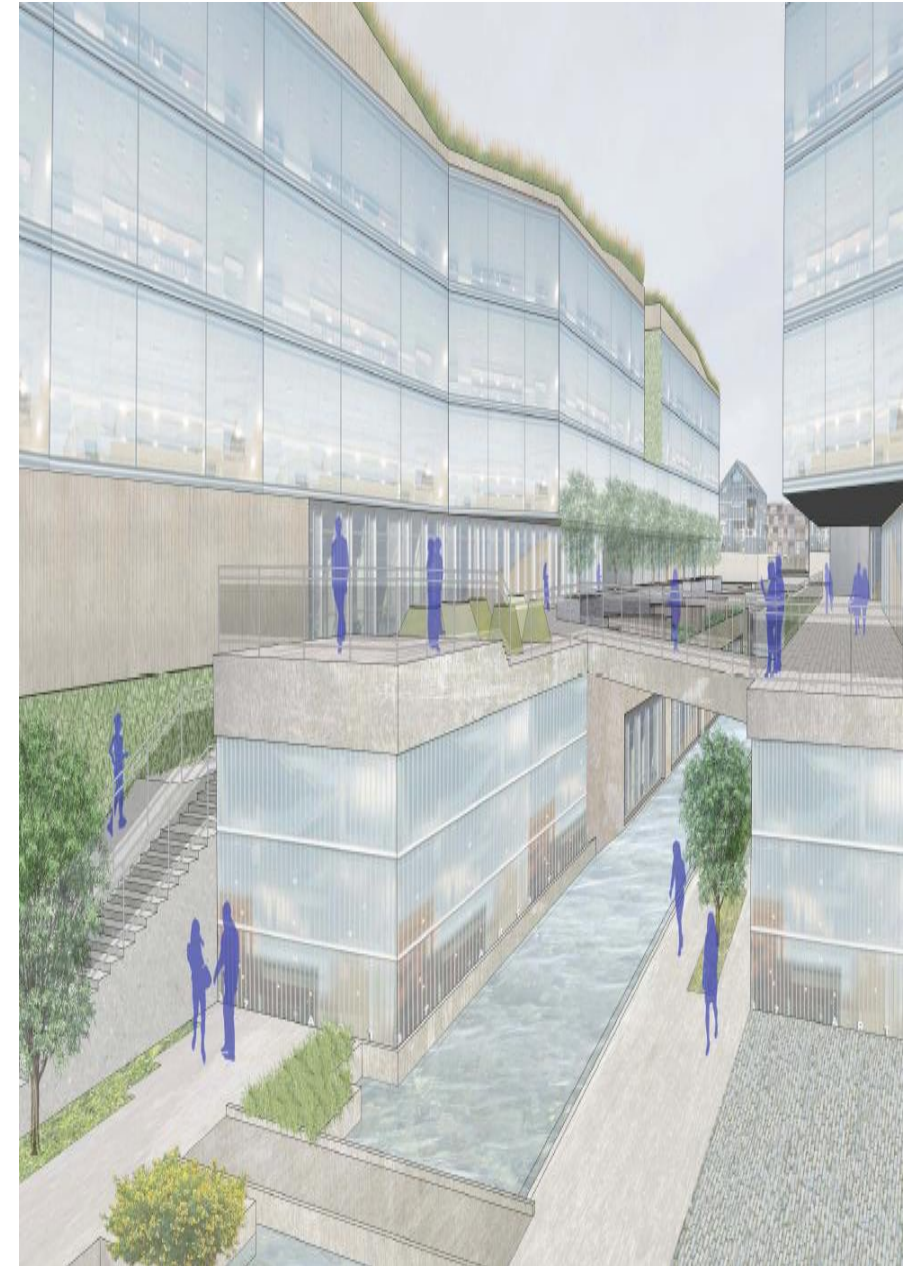
Urban Designer / Researcher

CONTRIBUTION

Urban Analysis + Design Development

STATUS

Academic Proposal · July 2013

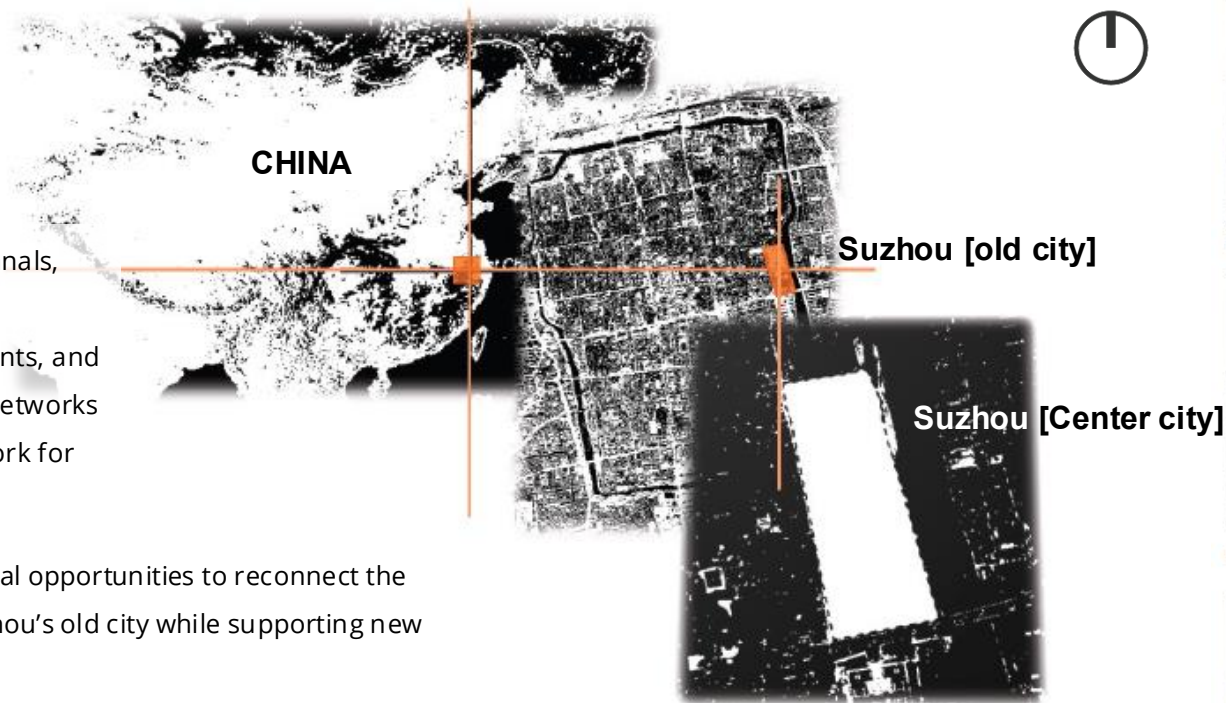


The RIBBONS

SITE ANALYSIS

Existing circulation, canals, urban thresholds, development constraints, and adjacent movement networks establish the framework for the site.

These conditions reveal opportunities to reconnect the project area with Suzhou's old city while supporting new development.



Existing Conditions South Block



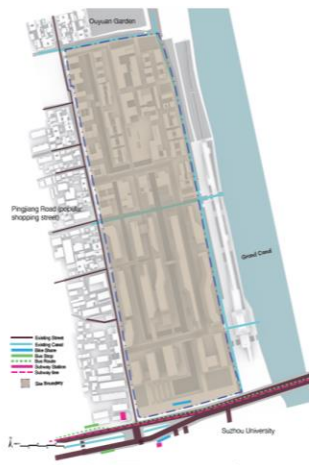
Existing Conditions Mid-Site



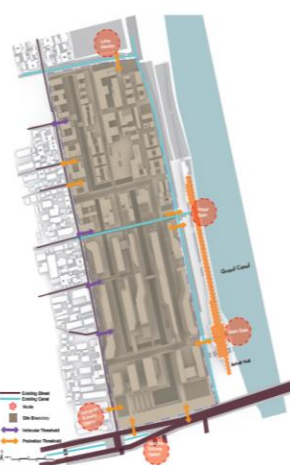
Existing Conditions North Block



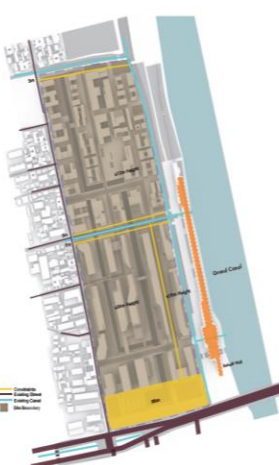
Existing Streets + Canals



Transportation Network



Existing Nodes + Thresholds



Setbacks + Height Limits



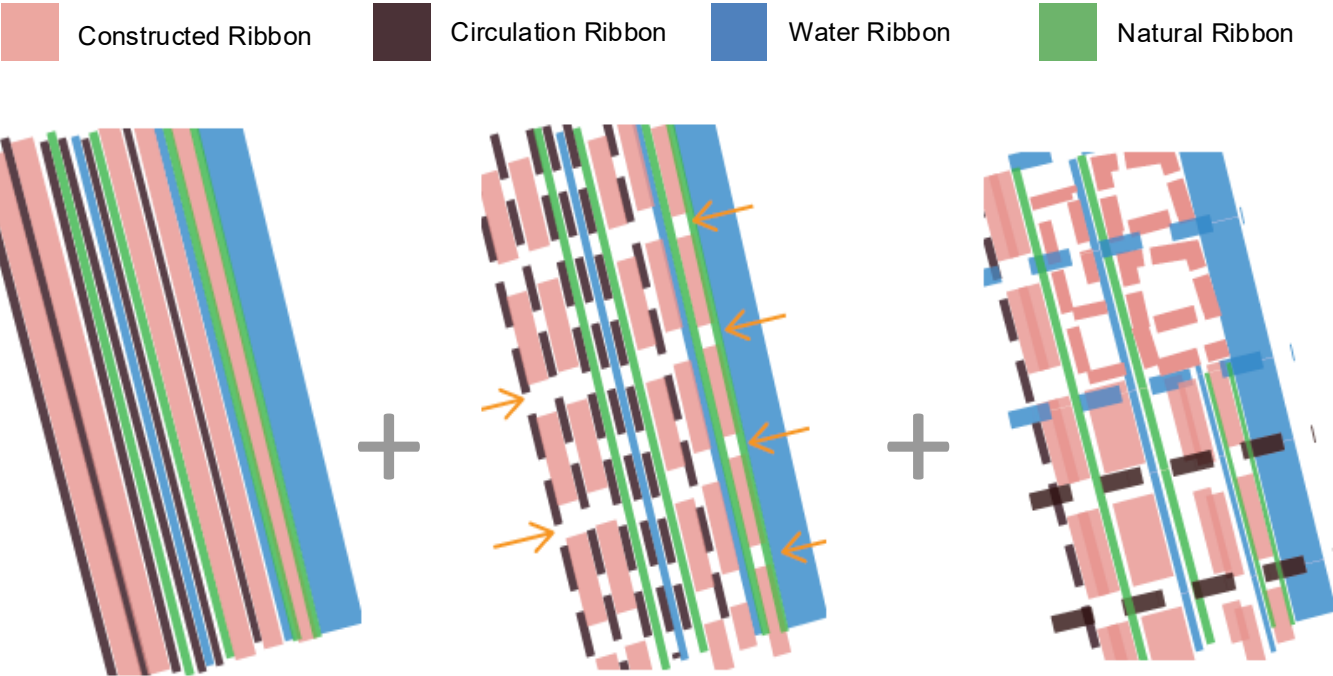
Adjacent Pedestrian Pathway



Adjacent Vehicular Street

The RIBBONS

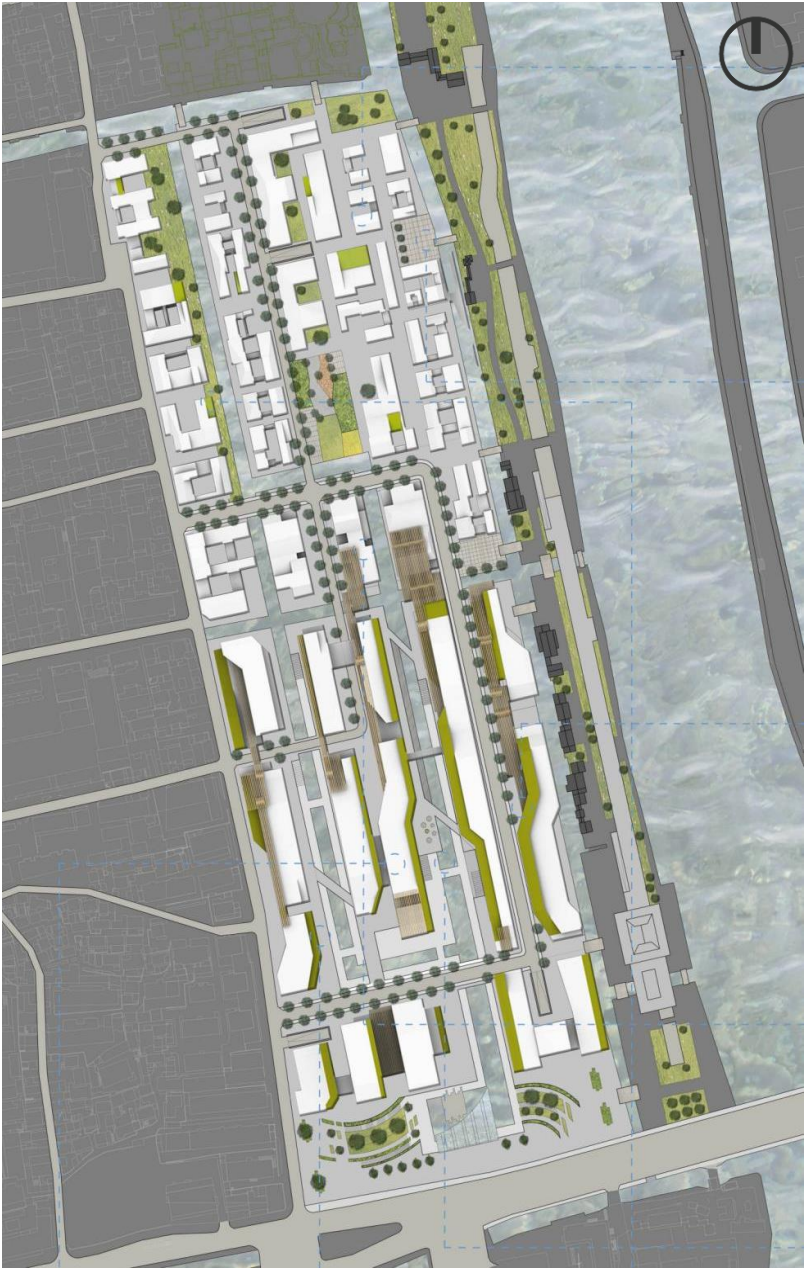
DESIGN CONCEPT



The site is organized as a series of interconnected ribbons that extend existing urban patterns into the development. Constructed, natural, circulation, water, and development ribbons create a flexible framework connecting contextual nodes, movement networks, public spaces, and new program.

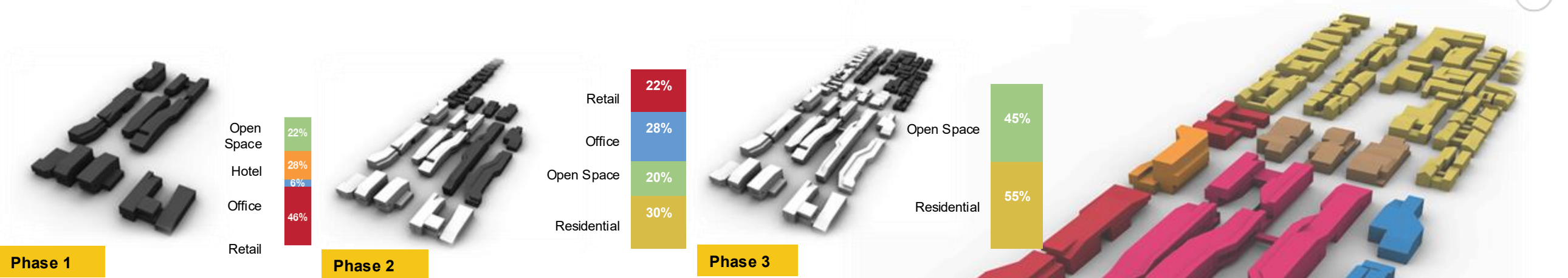
Pedestrian and vehicular routes break down the larger ribbons, responding to existing openings, gates, and connections while creating a sequence of public spaces across the site.

Overlapping grid systems define development blocks and allow different site conditions to work together within a cohesive urban structure.

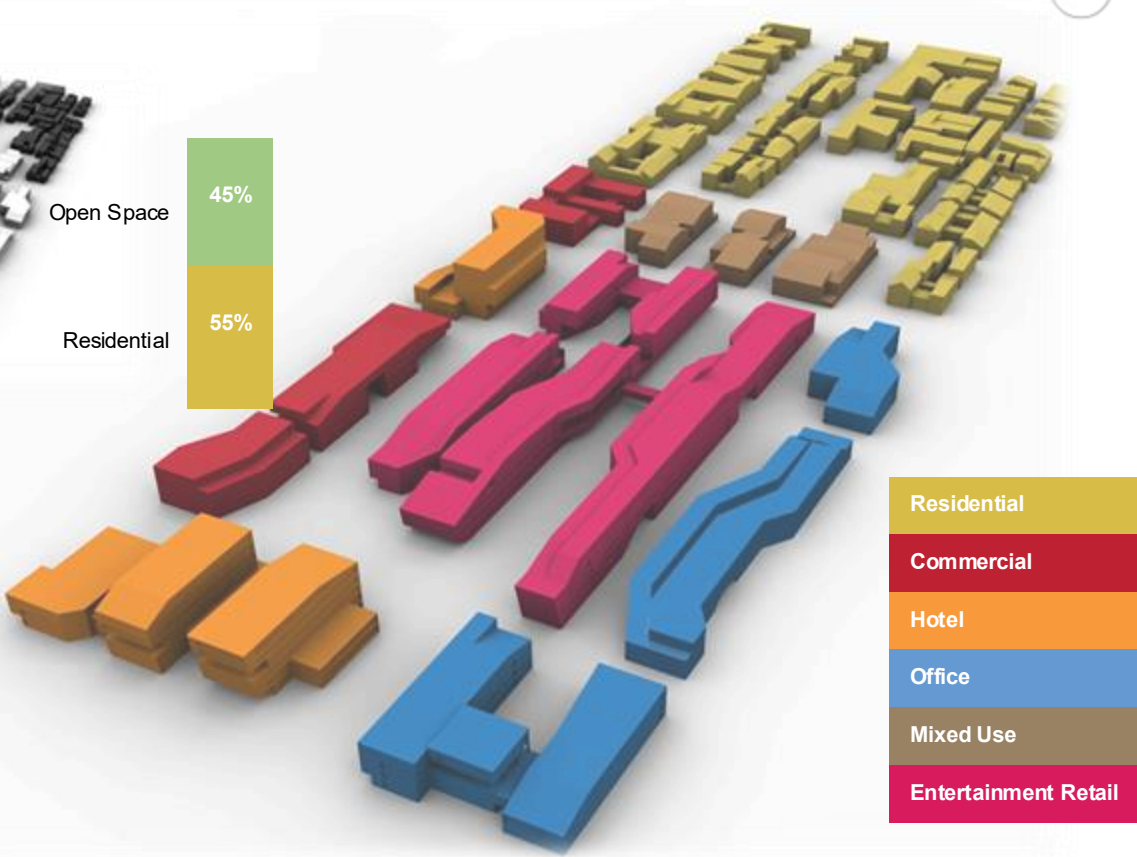


The RIBBONS

PROGRAM + PHASING



Development is organized in phases to balance built program with open space while establishing connections across the site over time. Residential, commercial, office, hotel, and entertainment uses are distributed within the ribbon framework to support a mixed-use urban environment.



North-South Section through Entire Site



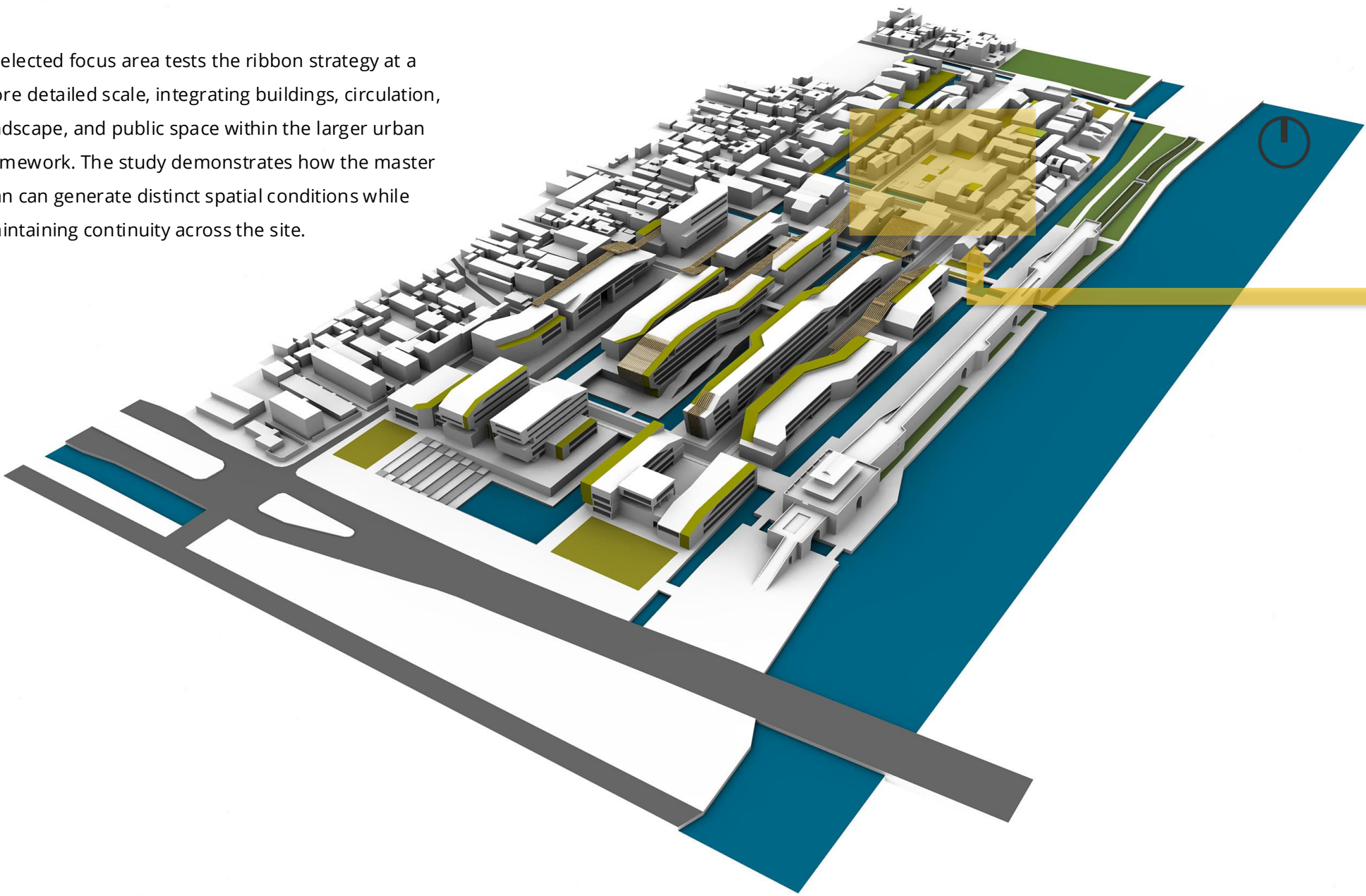
East-West Section through North block



East-West section through South block

FOCUS AREA DEVELOPMENT

A selected focus area tests the ribbon strategy at a more detailed scale, integrating buildings, circulation, landscape, and public space within the larger urban framework. The study demonstrates how the master plan can generate distinct spatial conditions while maintaining continuity across the site.



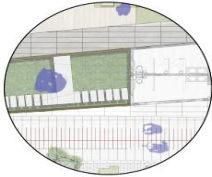
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PUBLIC REALM + LANDSCAPE

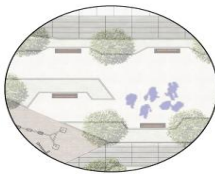


ELEVATED LANDSCAPE



Elevated planted surfaces transform the landscape into occupiable public space, providing areas for gathering, movement, and shelter.

CENTRAL GATHERING SPACE



Changes in paving, texture, and level define distinct zones while maintaining continuity across the larger public realm.



Section B



MIXED-USE | CITY CENTER

Neighborhood PULSE

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

Neighborhood PULSE proposes a mixed-use revitalization strategy for Downtown East Minneapolis, using public space, mobility, cultural activity, and development to strengthen connections within the city center. Organized around the idea of the city's "PULSE," the proposal identifies human, urban, and cultural activity as drivers for creating an active, connected, and recognizable neighborhood.

Developed as part of a graduate-level academic design competition, the project was completed collaboratively within a design team. As Urban Designer and Researcher, I contributed to urban analysis and design development, exploring strategies for land use, connectivity, public realm, and phased mixed-use development.

CONTEXT

Academic Design Competition

COLLABORATION

Graduate Design Team

ROLE

Urban Designer / Researcher

CONTRIBUTION

Urban Analysis + Design Development

STATUS

Competition Proposal · January 2013



VIEW TOWARDS "DOWNTOWN EAST SQUARE" 1

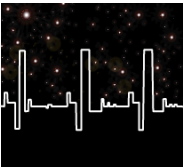
Neighborhood PULSE

IDENTITY STUDY

HUMAN
Activity + Well-being

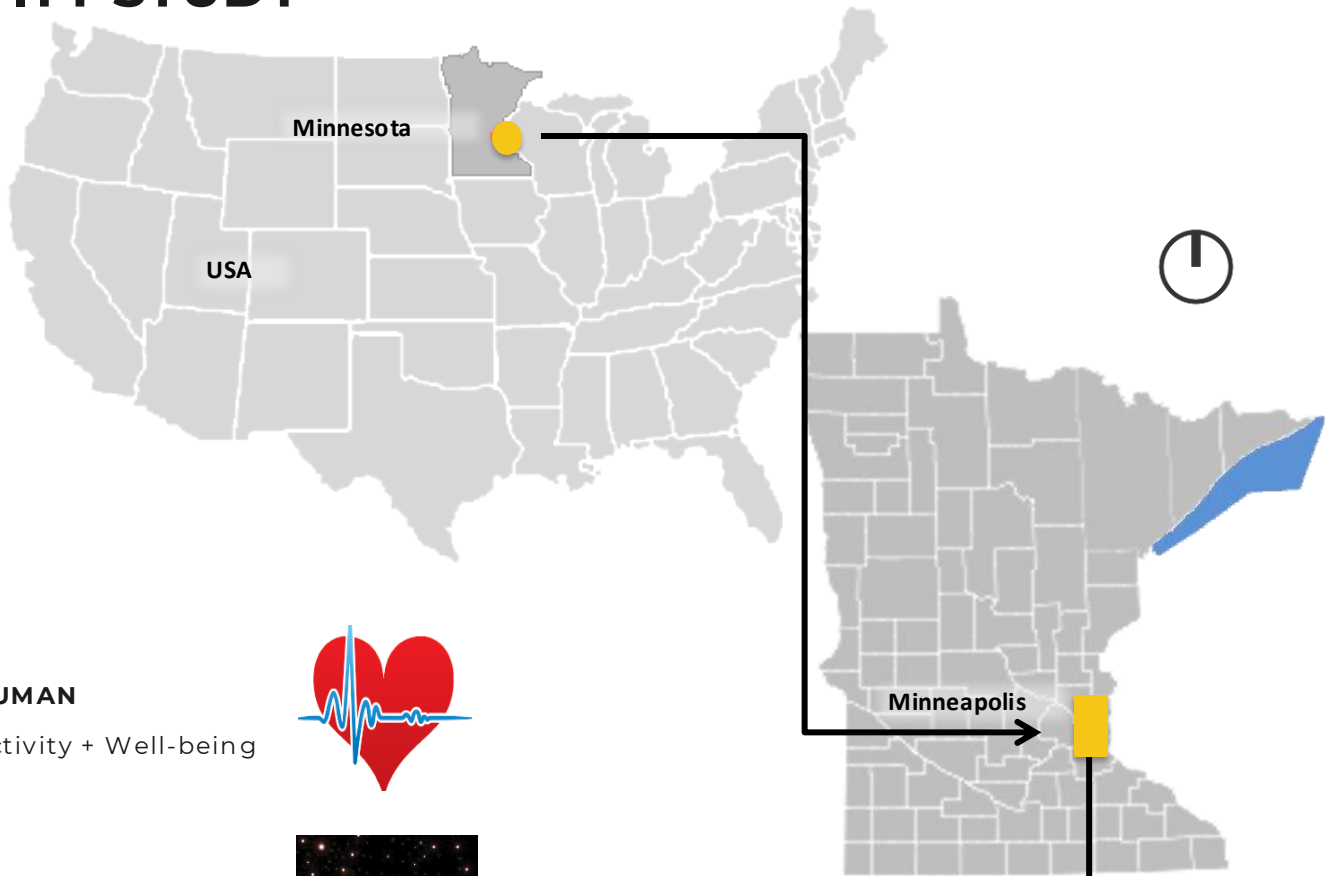


URBAN
Place + Community



CULTURAL
Identity + Expression





PULSE represents the rhythmic beat of the city: the flow of people, activity, culture, and movement through Downtown East. The identity study organizes these qualities around three interconnected dimensions: Human, Urban, and Cultural.

Together, they establish a framework for creating multifunctional public spaces, strengthening connections to the surrounding city, and supporting transit, walking, and cycling.



Neighborhood PULSE

DESIGN STRATEGY

The PULSE strategy connects five components to create a network of activity across Downtown East. Together, they combine mixed-use development, public space, cultural destinations, housing, and pedestrian connections to strengthen movement and year-round activity.

01 DOWNTOWN EAST SQUARE

Mixed-use destination combining shops, dining, hospitality, housing, and performance space.

02 SKYWAY

Extends the elevated pedestrian network to street level through an active colonnade.

03 THE ARMORY

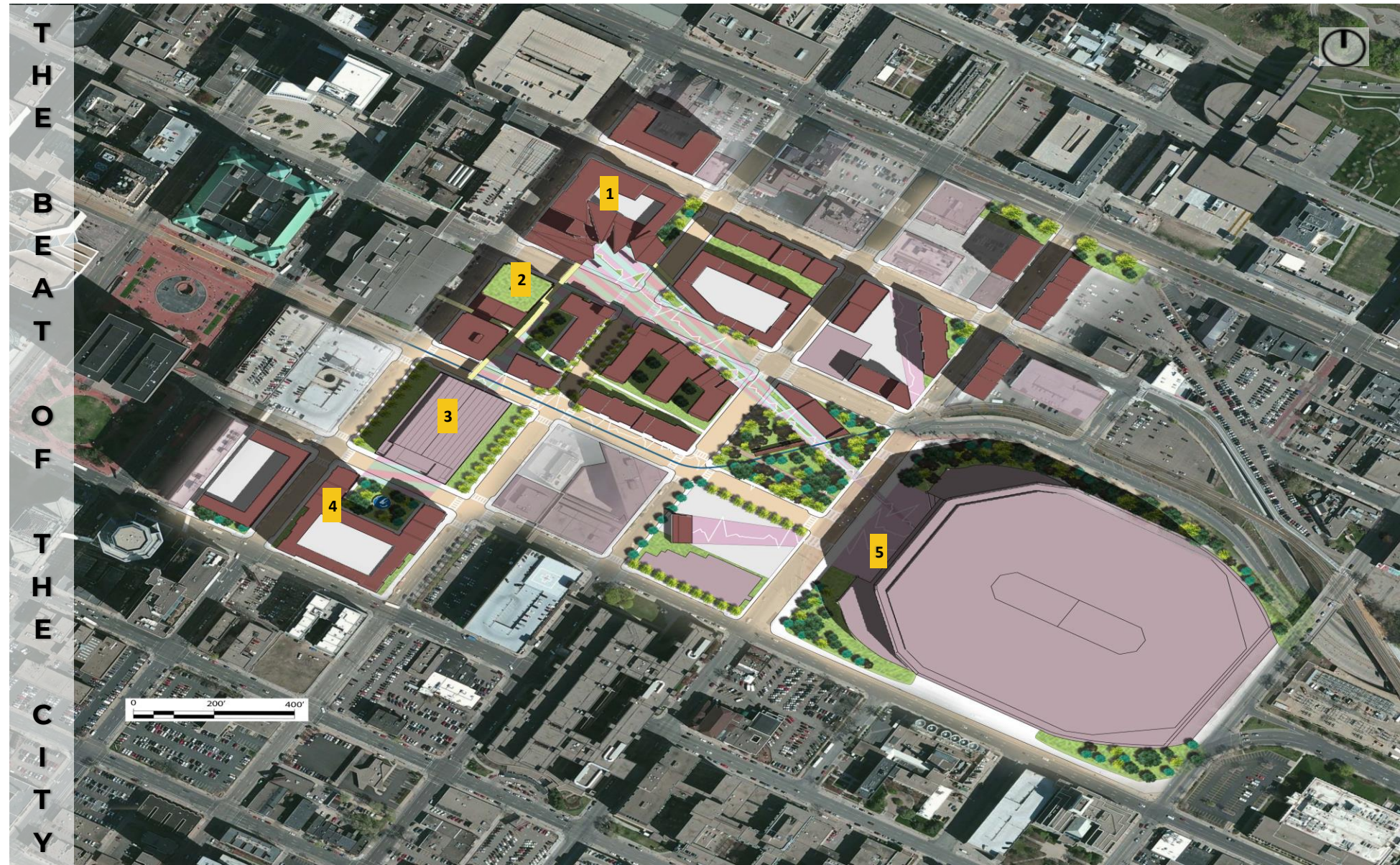
Adaptable event venue supporting entertainment, recreation, and community gatherings.

04 COMMUNITY

Downtown housing supports neighborhood activity, accessibility, and a more connected urban lifestyle.

05 VISTA PLAZA

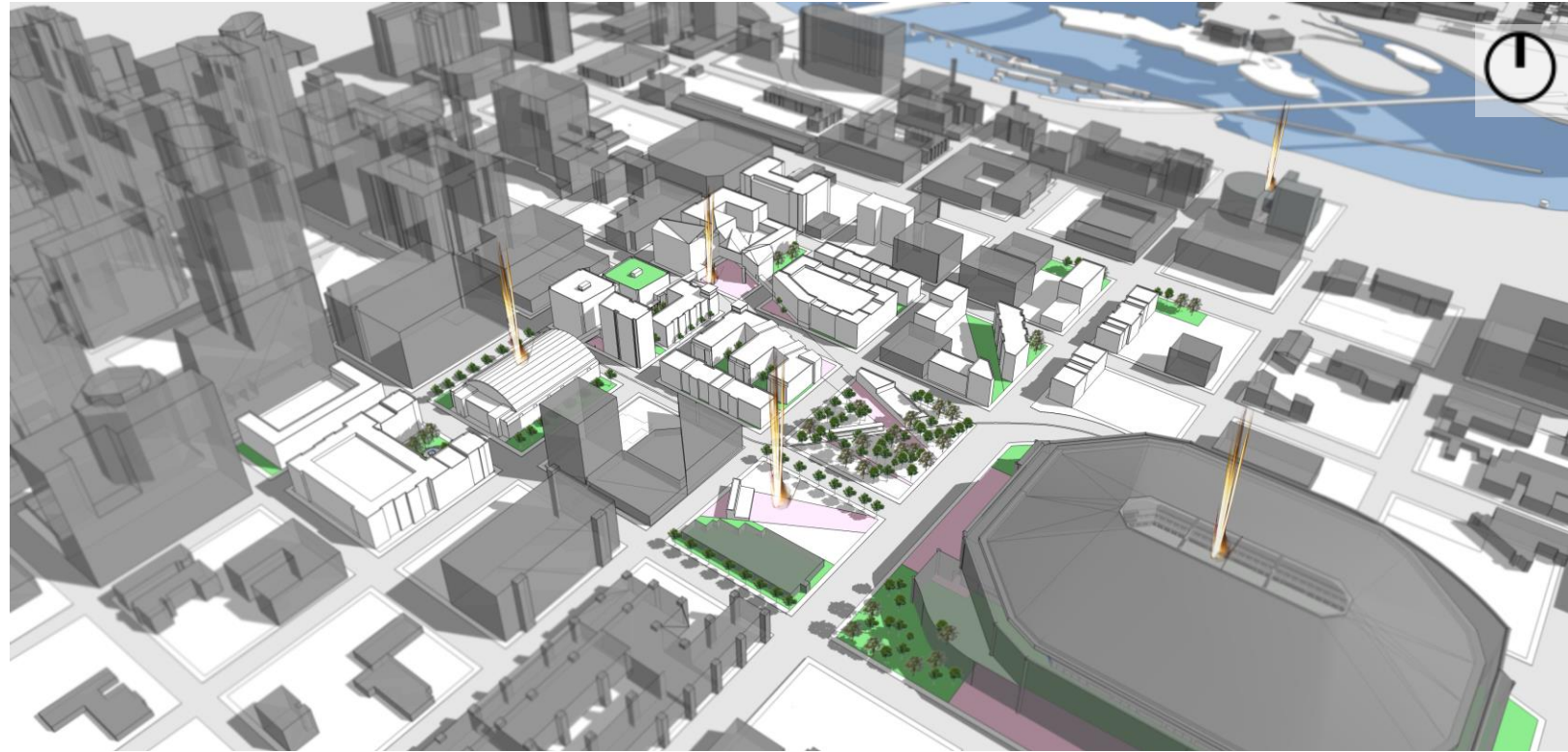
Creates a visual and spatial axis connecting Downtown East Square with the stadium.



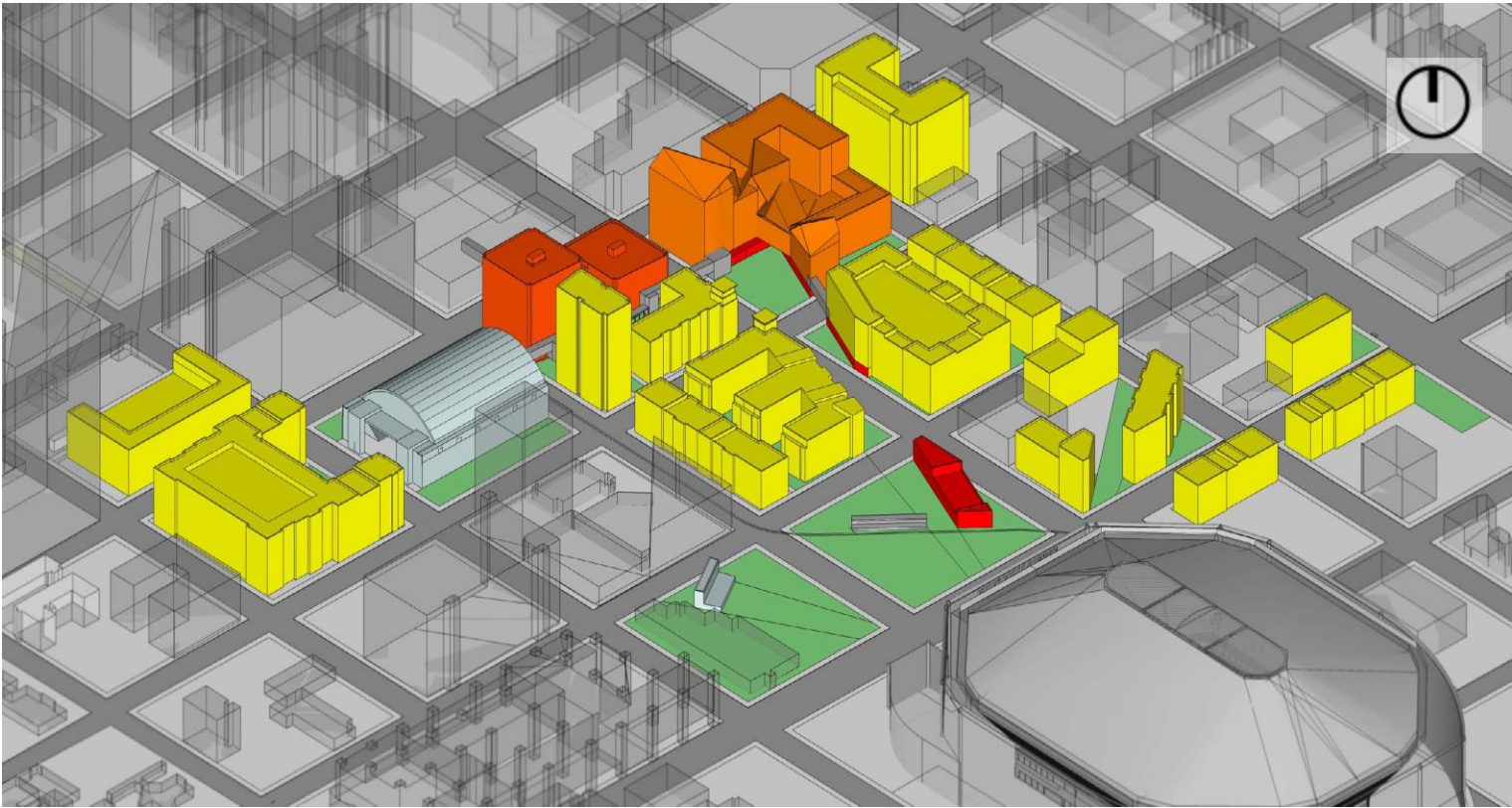
ACTIVITY + CONNECTIONS

Existing cultural, entertainment, and public destinations, including the Armory, stadium, Guthrie Theater, Downtown East Square, and outdoor performance spaces, form a network of activity anchors across the site.

Connecting these destinations supports a continuous rhythm of activity while reinforcing Downtown East as a place for gathering, entertainment, and community life.

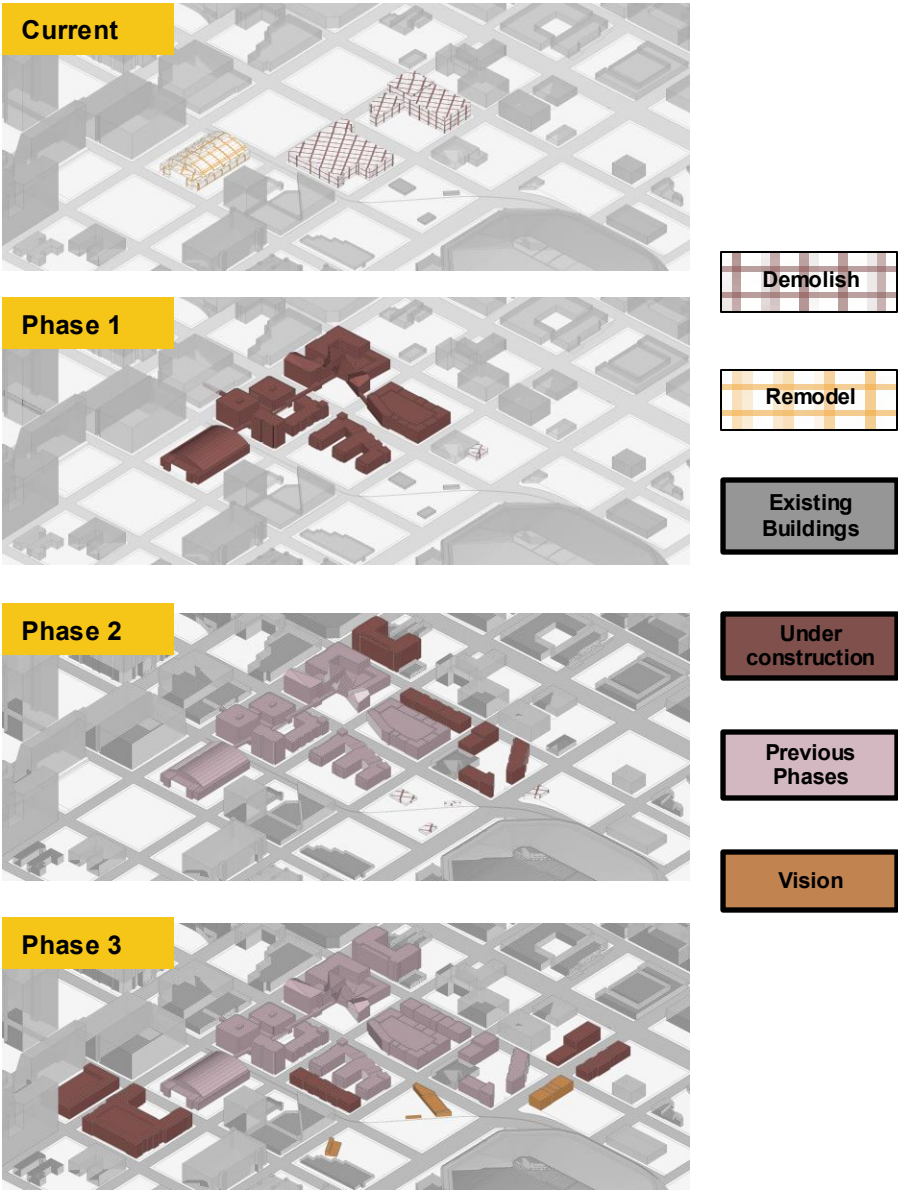


PROGRAM + PHASING



- Residential
- Mixed Use
- Office
- Open Space
- Commercial/ Retail
- Recreational / Cultural

Development is organized in three phases, allowing a mix of residential, commercial, office, recreational, and cultural uses to build activity over time. The first phase establishes the most concentrated mix of programs and public space, while subsequent phases expand residential development and complete the broader urban framework.



SPATIAL CONNECTIONS

Extensions to the existing skyway system and connections along 5th Street strengthen pedestrian movement between new and existing development while creating an additional green axis across the site.

A central vista establishes a visual and spatial connection between Downtown East Square and the stadium, creating a primary organizing axis through the neighborhood. Development density is concentrated along this connection to reinforce activity around key destinations.



PUBLIC REALM + COLONNADE

OPERABLE COLONNADE

The operable colonnade creates a flexible, year-round public space at street level. Retractable walls allow the space to respond to seasonal conditions, enclosed during harsh weather and opened when conditions are comfortable.

With active storefronts along one edge and the adaptable enclosure along the other, the colonnade extends pedestrian activity beyond the building interior and strengthens the relationship between architecture and public realm.





Thank you!

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