Designing Libraries XII

Keynote Address

Andrew Frontini

Episodes in Public Architecture

Episodes in Public Architecture
Andrew Frontini
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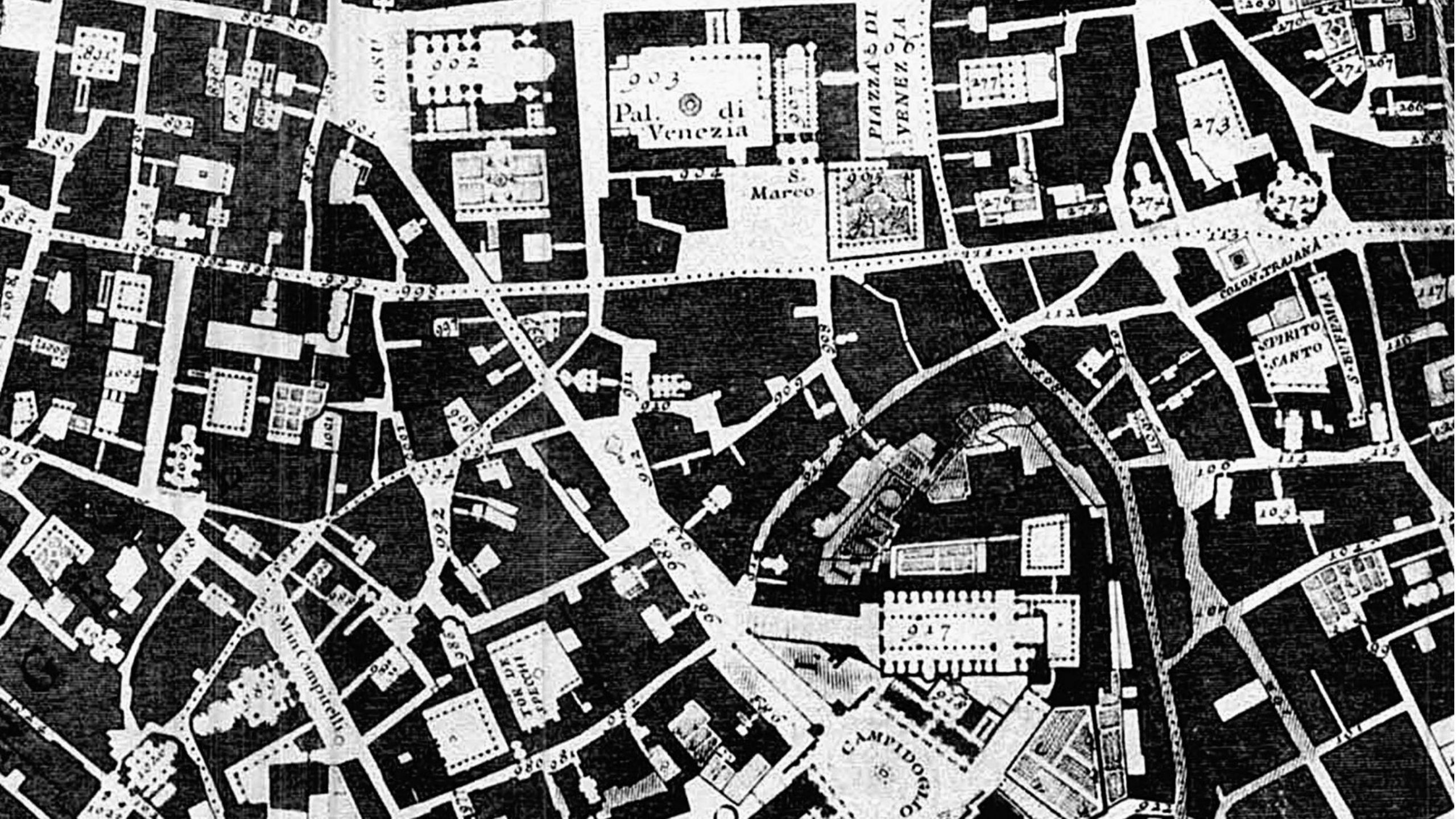
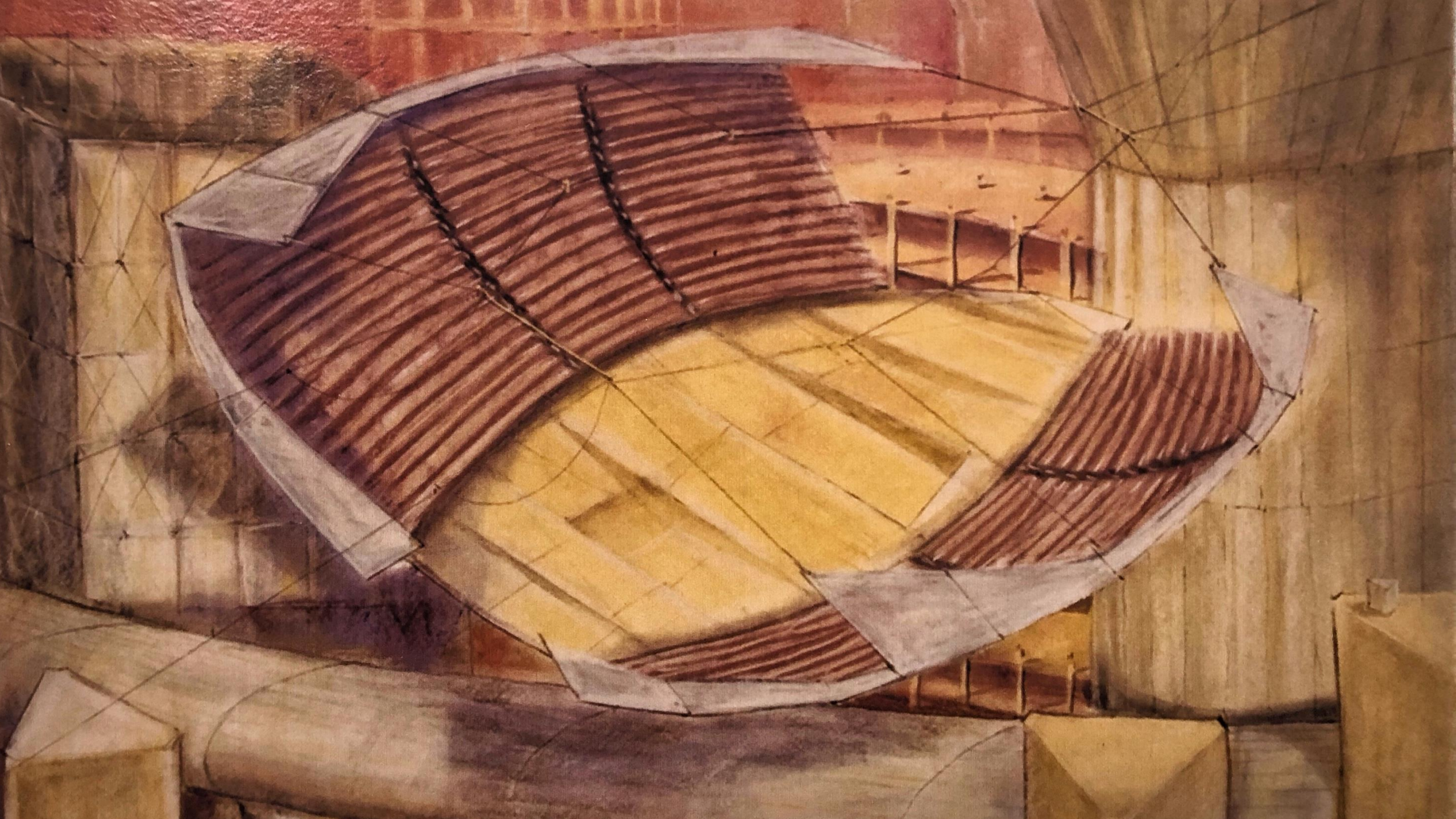
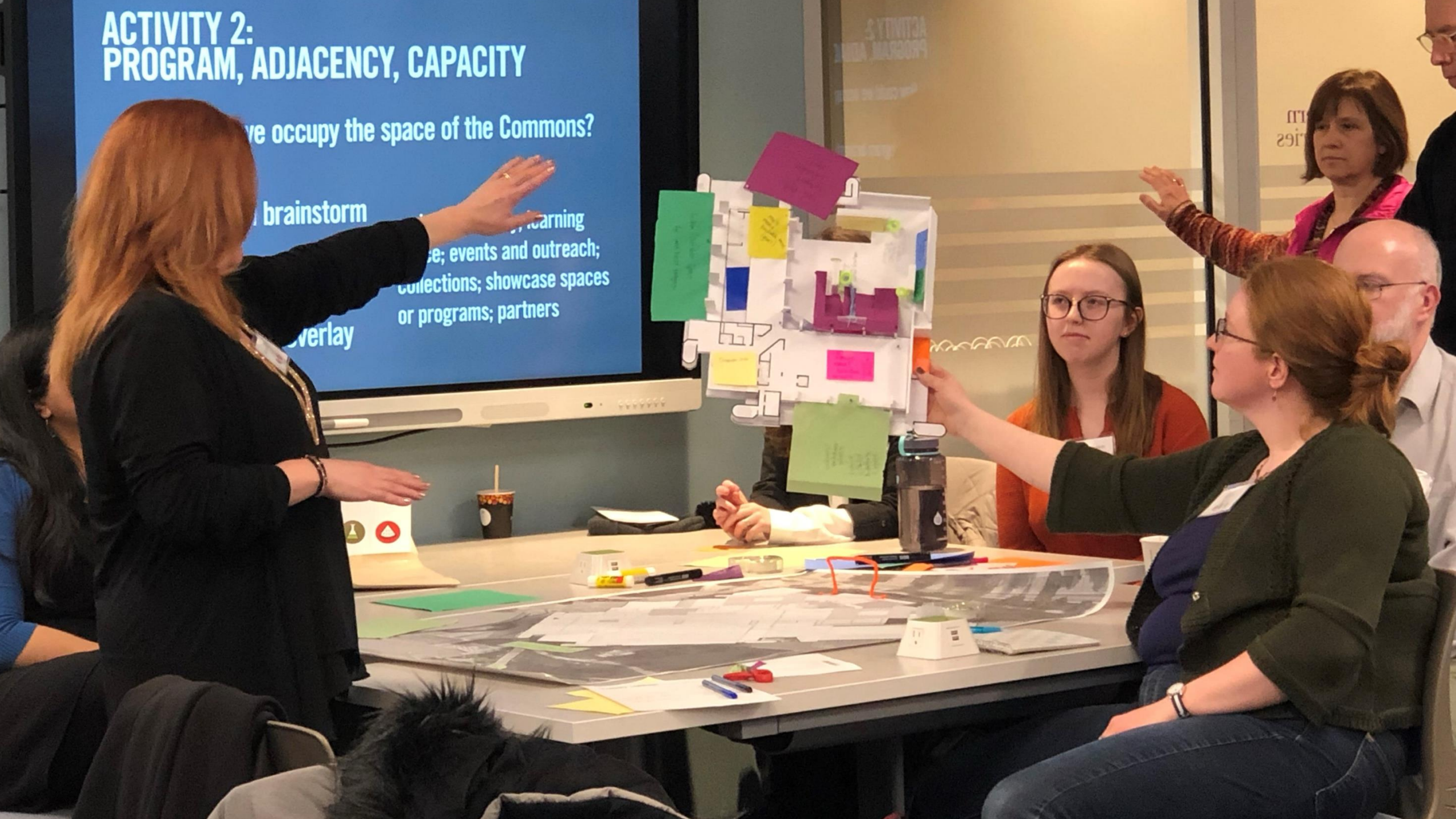
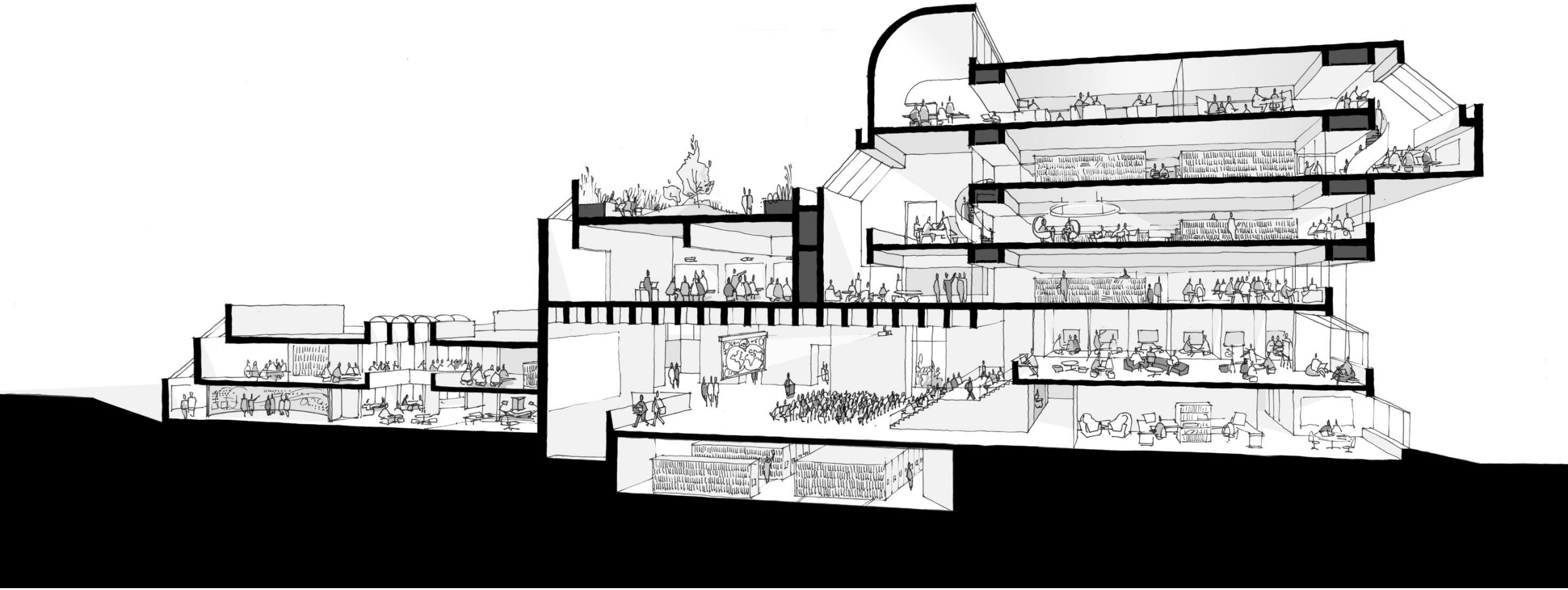
Andrew Frontini
Left to my own devices, I'd title this book "The Naked Architect." Most design monographs are essentially photo albums of buildings in a triumphant state of completion, and this one doesn't disappoint in that regard. The projects on view are smart and attractive. But the architect in question, Andrew Frontini, took things much further. He bared his professional soul. The narratives Frontini has written are confessional in nature and didactic in their cumulative effect, exposing for our benefit the often messy, occasionally infuriating, and fundamentally optimistic nature of the creative process.
—Ned Cramer, founding editor, Architect Magazine
Perkins&Will
Episodes in Public Architecture
Andrew Frontini
Episodes in Public Architecture

Foundations


Pal. di Venezia
S. Marco
PIAZZA DI VENEZIA
COLON. TRAJANA
SPIRITO SANTO
S. GIUFFRIA
TOR DE SPECCHI
CAMPIDOGLIO



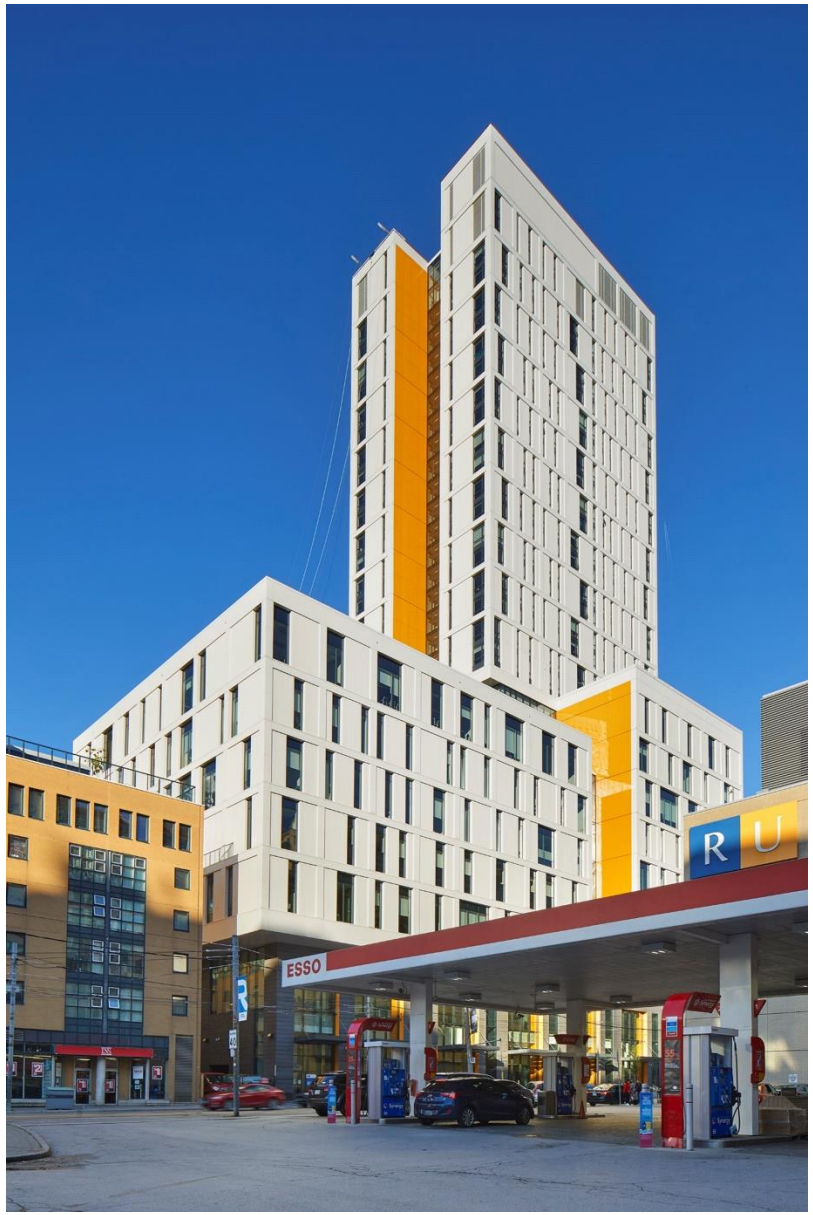

ACTIVITY 2:
PROGRAM, ADJACENCY, CAPACITY
ve occupy the space of the Commons?
brainstorm
learning
ce; events and outreach;
collections; showcase spaces
or programs; partners
verlay



Info

CIRCULAR
ROBBINS LIBRARY
ARTS & MUSIC
RARE BOOKS
DIGITAL PROJECT CENTRE
LEVEL 5
LEVEL 4
LEVEL 3
LEVEL 2
LEVEL 1
MEZZANINE
SECTION
ADDITION TO RUSH RHEES LIBRARY

RARE BOOKS
-and-
SPECIAL COLLECTIONS
STARBUCKS
COFFEE
Susan B. Anthony
Celebrating "A Heroic Life"
MODERN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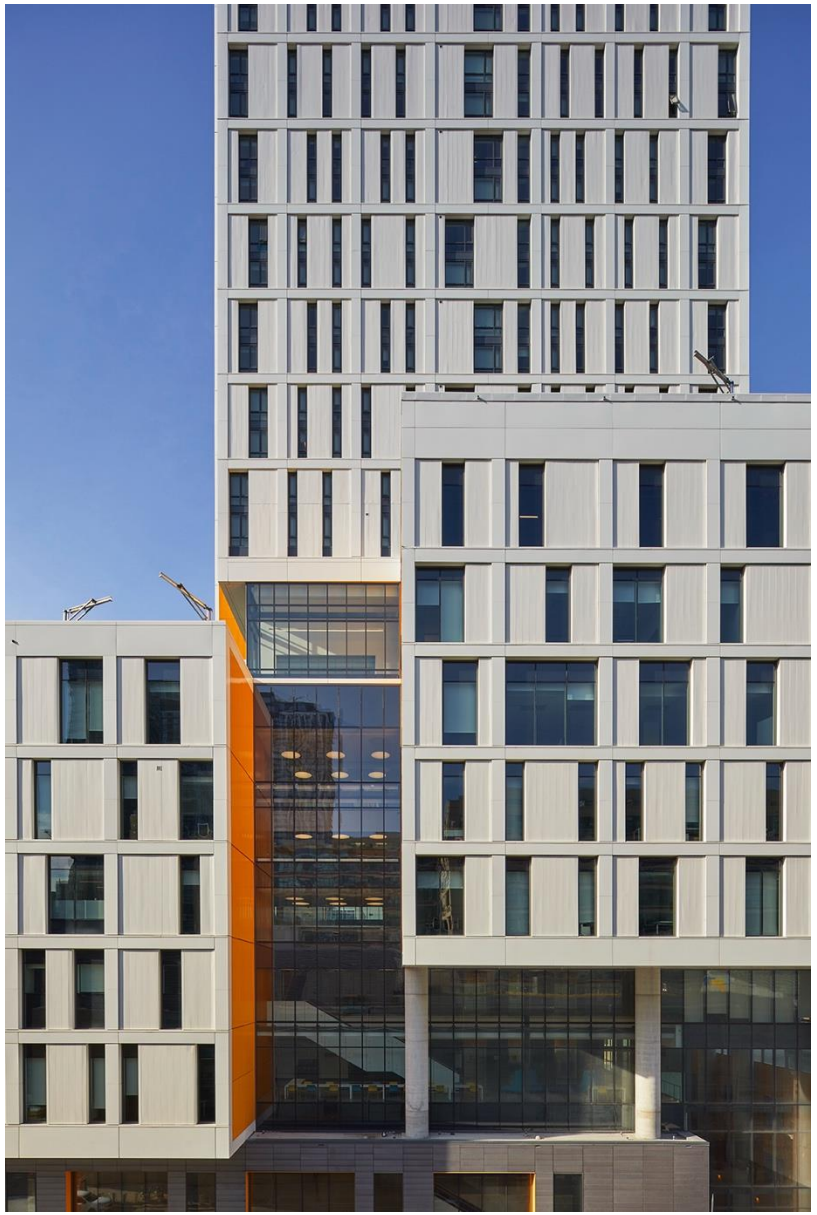

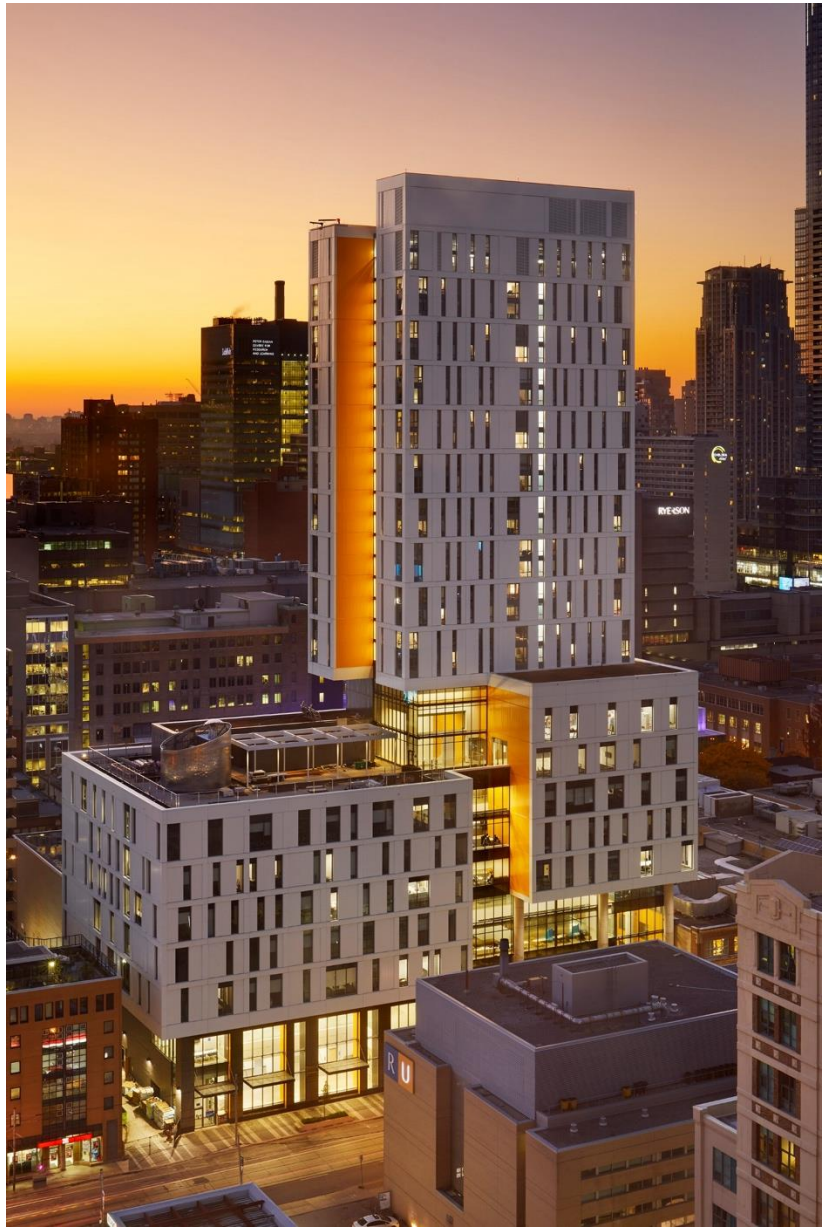
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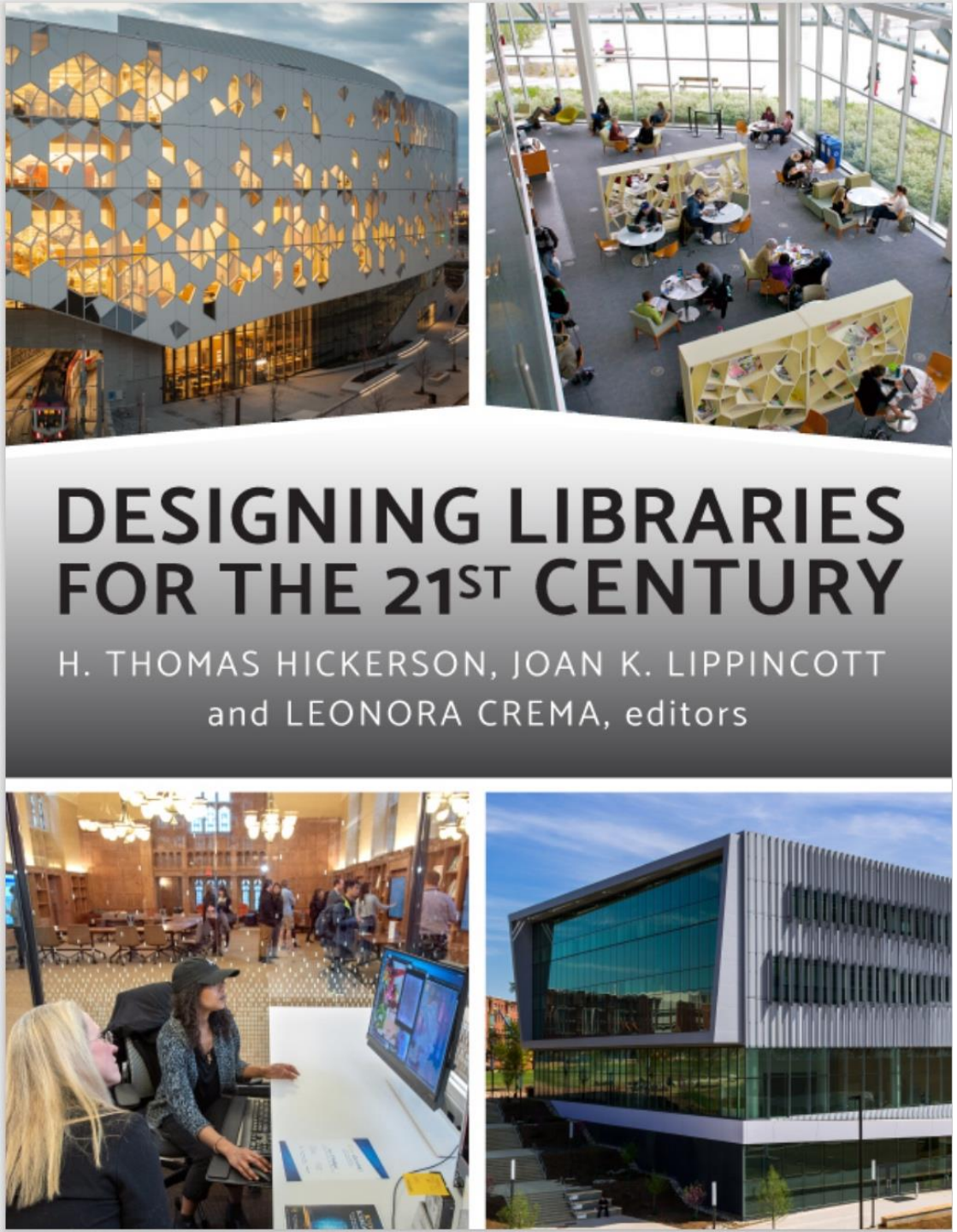
James Gillies

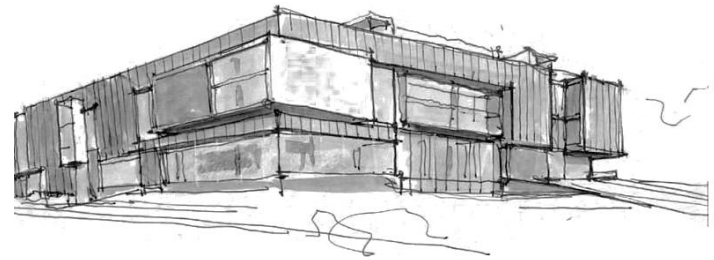
306
206
209

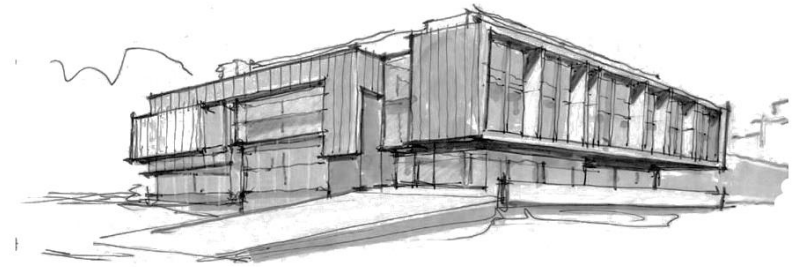


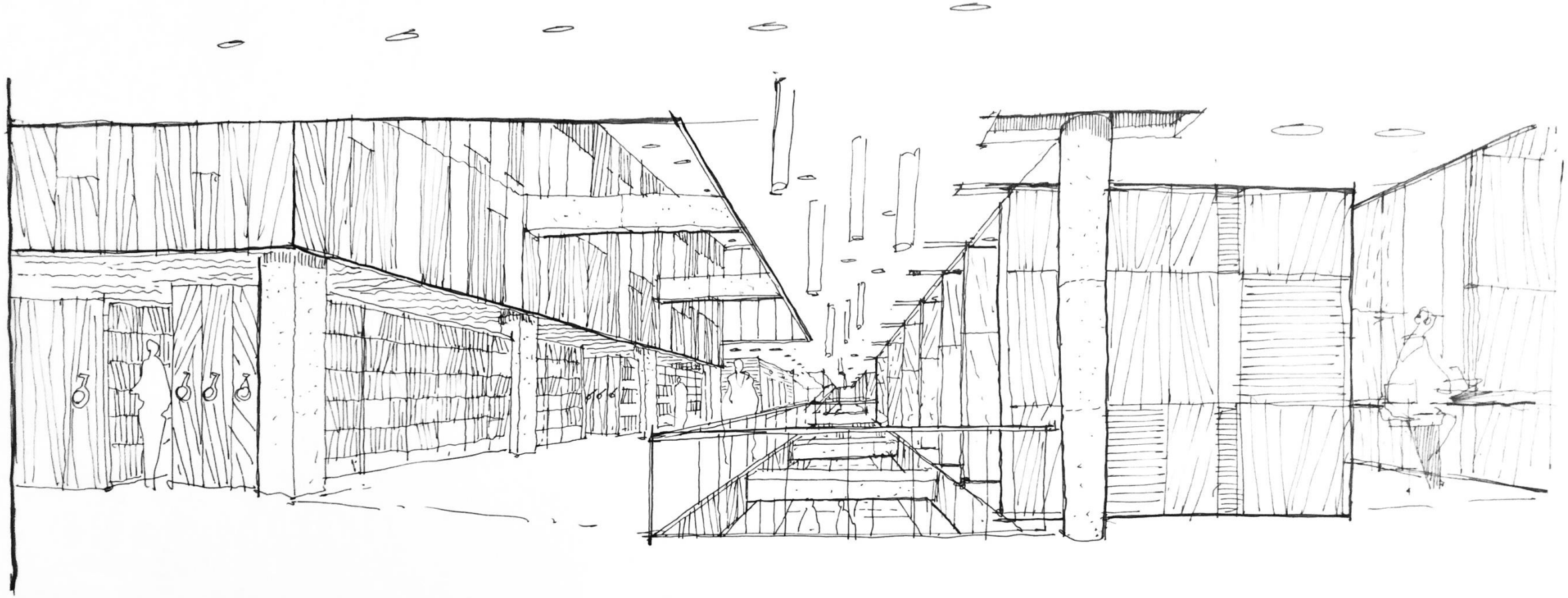
Elements of a Partnership: The Role of the Architect and the Role of the Librarian

In this chapter, I have provided my observations regarding the way architects and designers think, the language that they use, and some of the driving preoccupations that they will likely bring to the design of your library space. At this point, I think it will be useful to reflect on roles that both the architect and the client play in the creation of a successful library project. Designers will design the project, and though they will bring their own prior knowledge, experience, and inspiration to the table, they are professionally bound to help you realize your project objectives and aspirations and need your effective participation in the process to succeed. In my profession, we often observe that there is no great design without a great client. What do we mean by this? Invariably it comes down to a productive and mutually inspiring relationship that assumes good communication and clear perspectives and priorities. The client must know what they want and know how to communicate it in terms that the architect can translate into a design. In both the ambition and the communication there must be specificity and commitment. Libraries are programmatically and culturally complex, as they draw on a broad range of users, and achieving clarity of purpose requires a good deal of reflection and hard work both with your architect and before you even meet them.

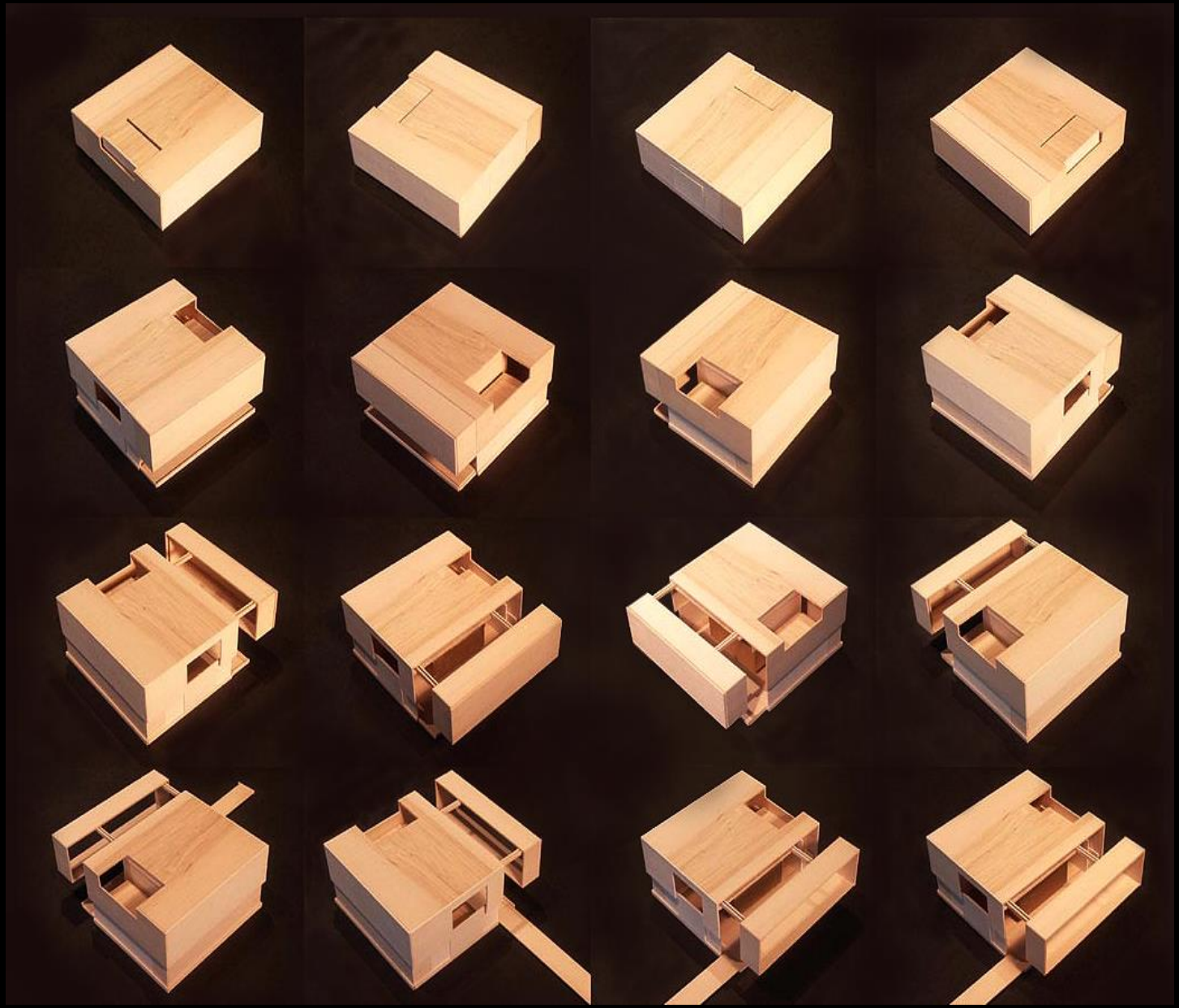
The Puzzle Box



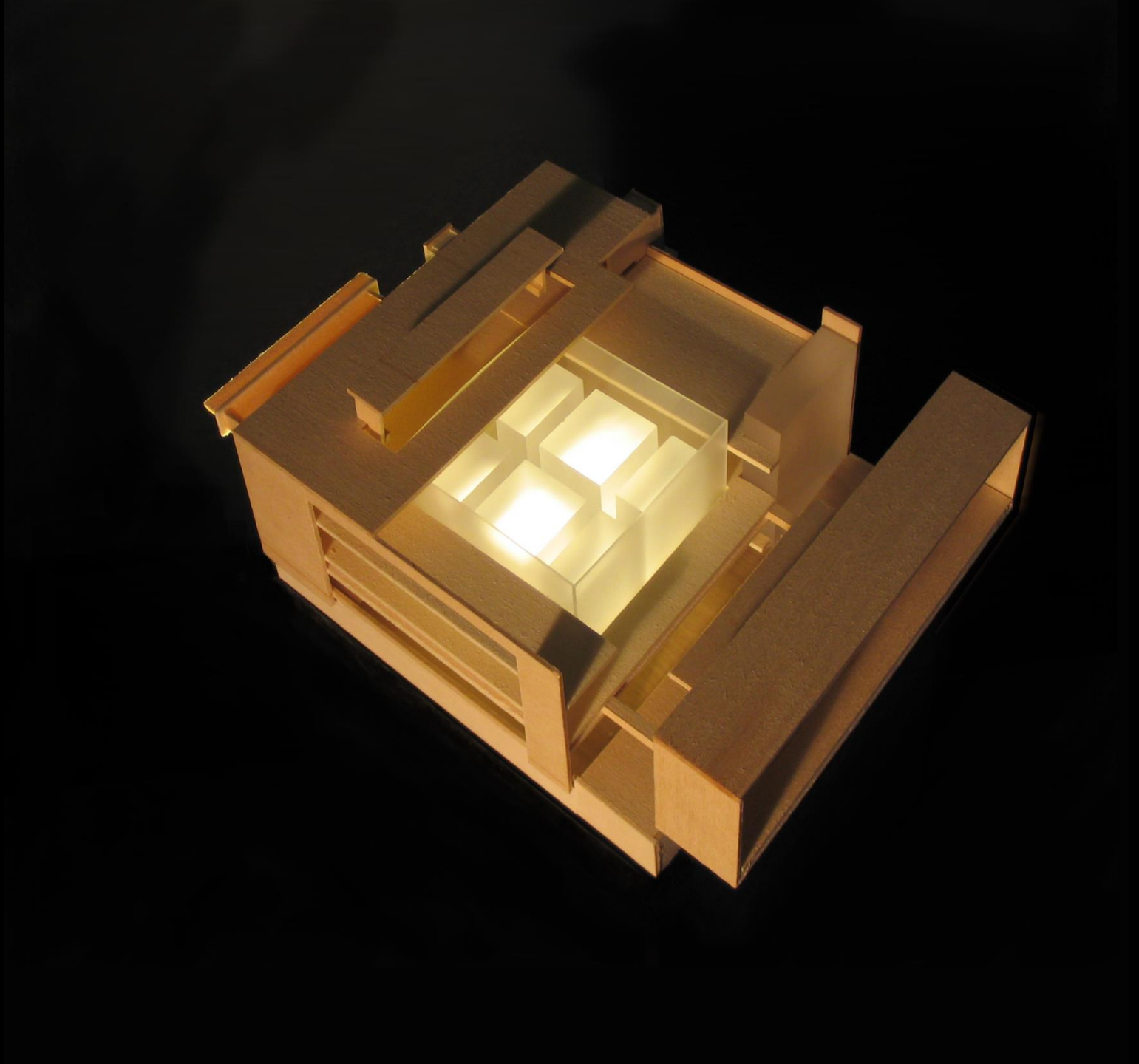




The Puzzle Box



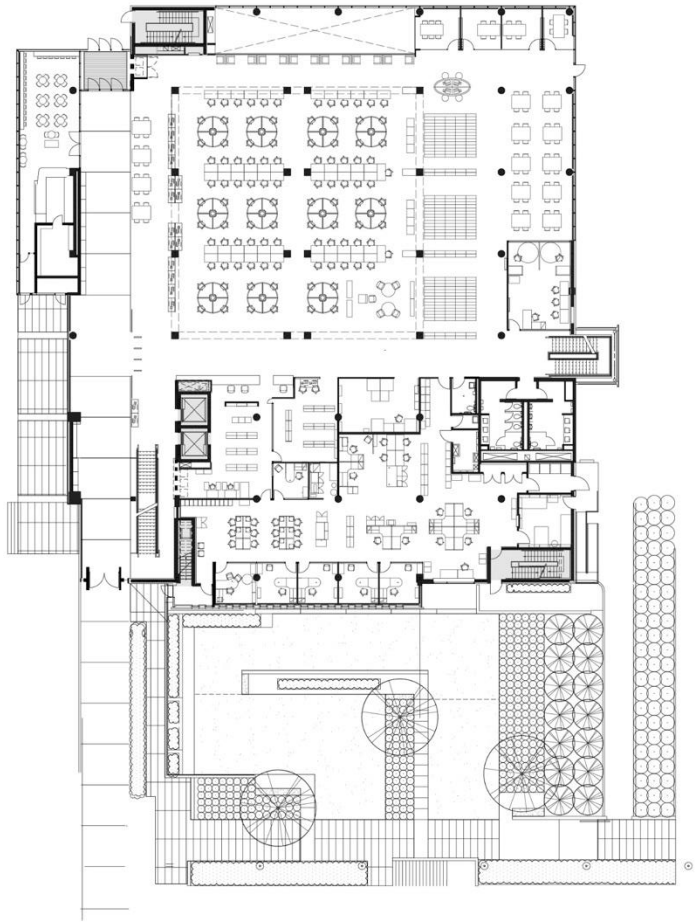
The Puzzle Box

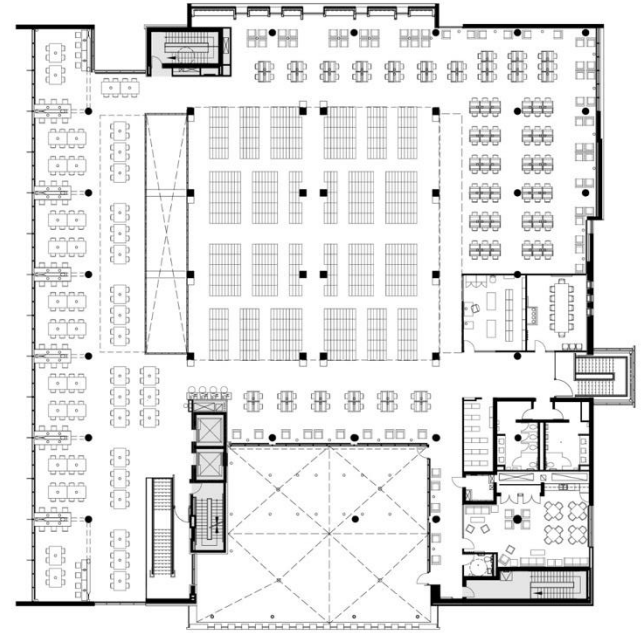


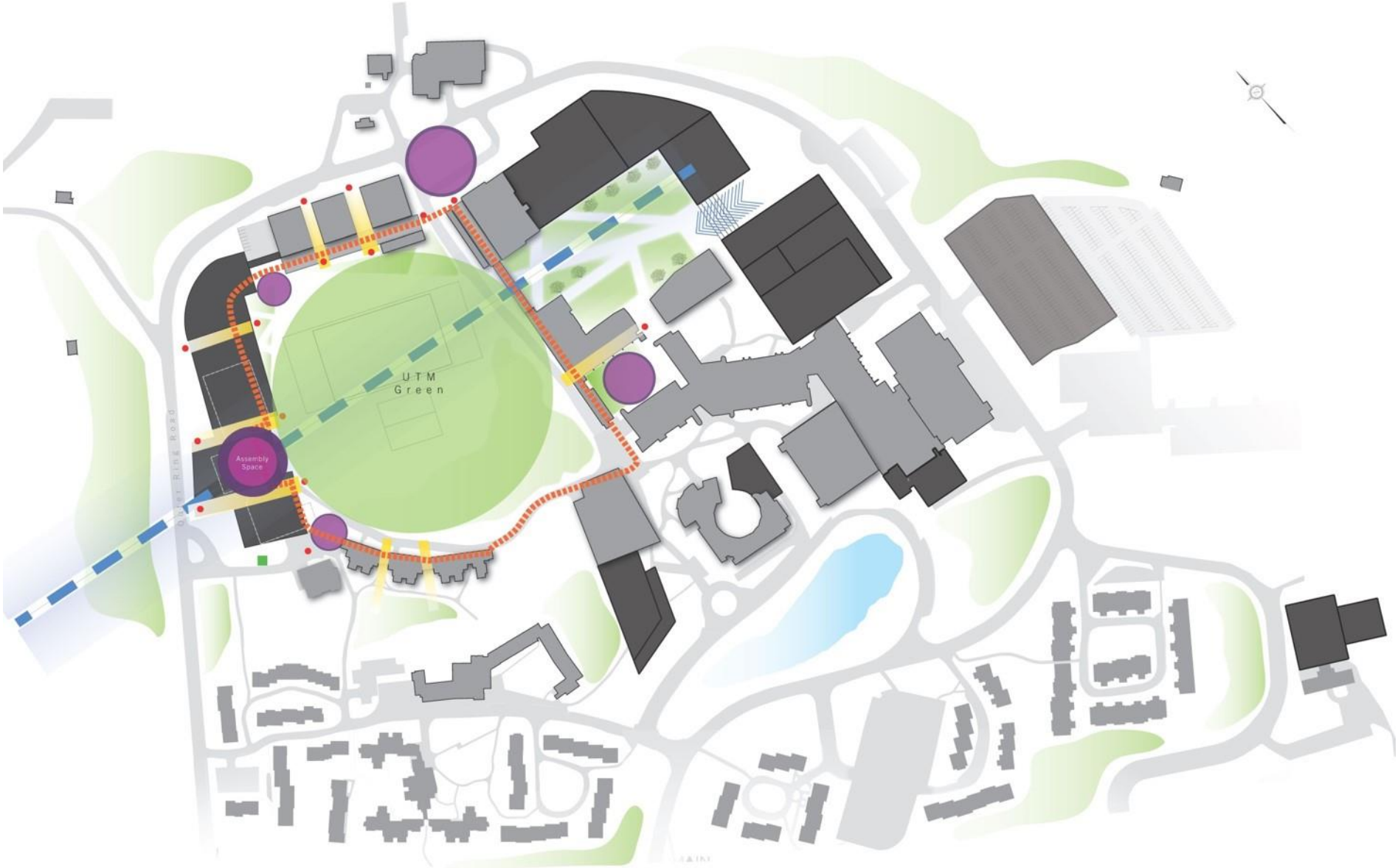
Hazel McCallion Academic Learning Centre
University of Toronto, Mississauga, 2007

Hazel McCallion Academic Learning Centre

University of Toronto, Mississauga, 2007






UTM
Green
Assembly
Space
Outer Ring Road

Maanjiwe nendamowinan,
University of Toronto, Mississauga, 2019

Colour Theory

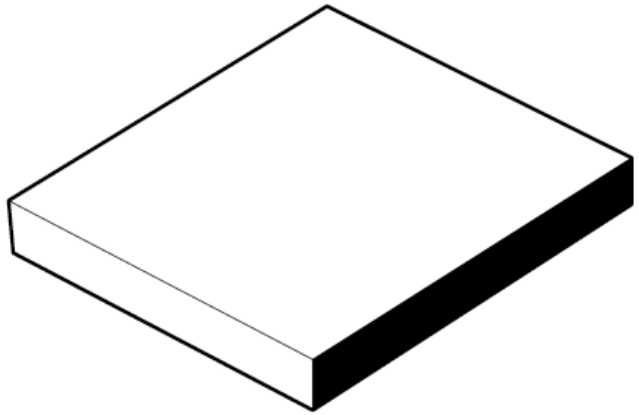
POLICEGIRI
ALBION
CINEMAS
WOOD

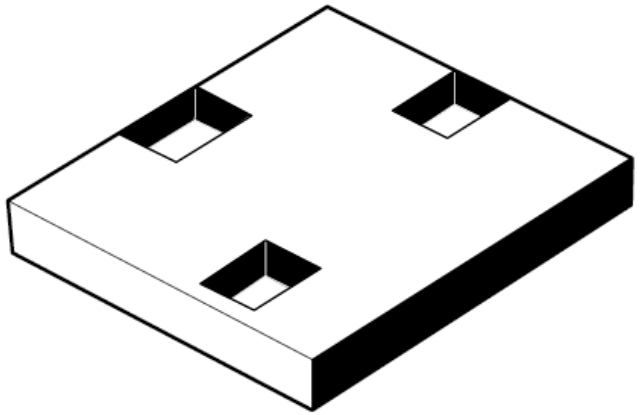
CANADIAN TIRE

1. Existing library building and parking lot.

2. Siting of new building allows existing library to remain in operation through construction.

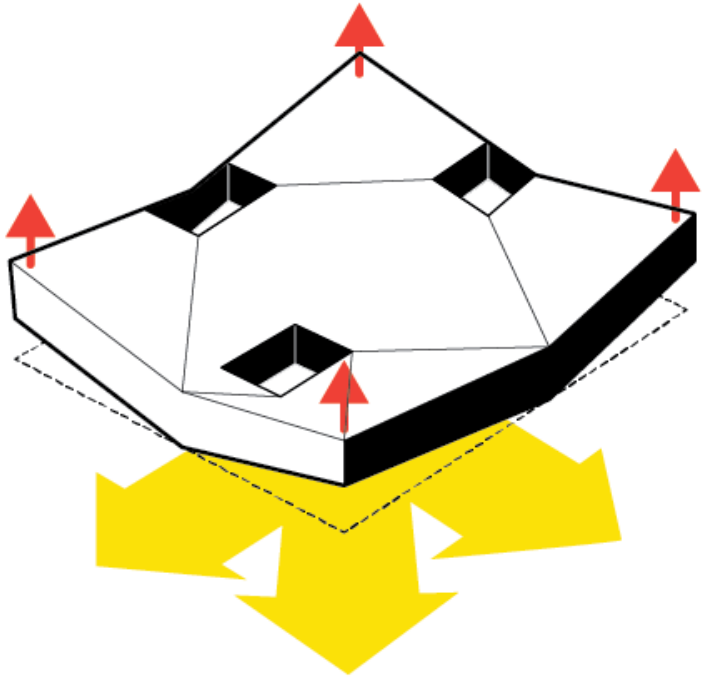
3. Once new library is opened, existing library is demolished, new parking lot doubles as market square.

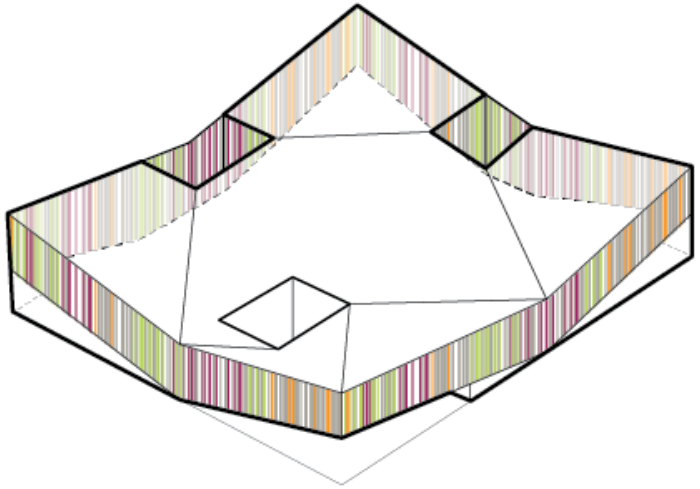




a. cube

b. nature / daylight

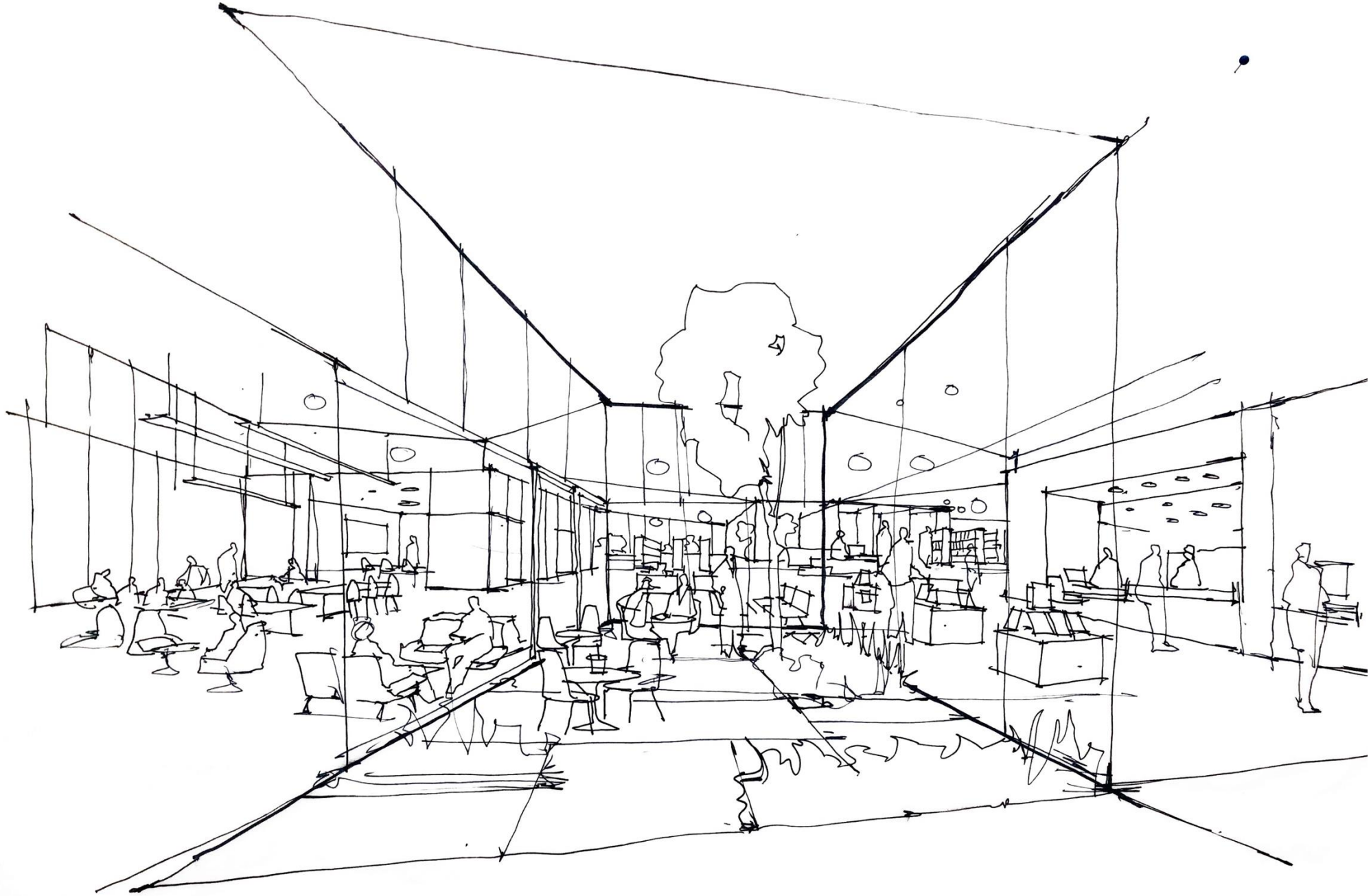




c. views / Key program

d. Identity

Albion District Library
Toronto, Ontario, 2018



xs Canada
Parcs Canada

Home Essentials
POPEYES
MEDICAL CENTER
SHOPPERS DRUG MART

borrow explore watch experience
load think read listen enjoy
hear see discuss
CARAVAN
instant canopies
Anga's Farm and Nursery
Free Workshop On Now
THE HOME DEPOT

SHOPPERS DRUG MART

Blanket Statement

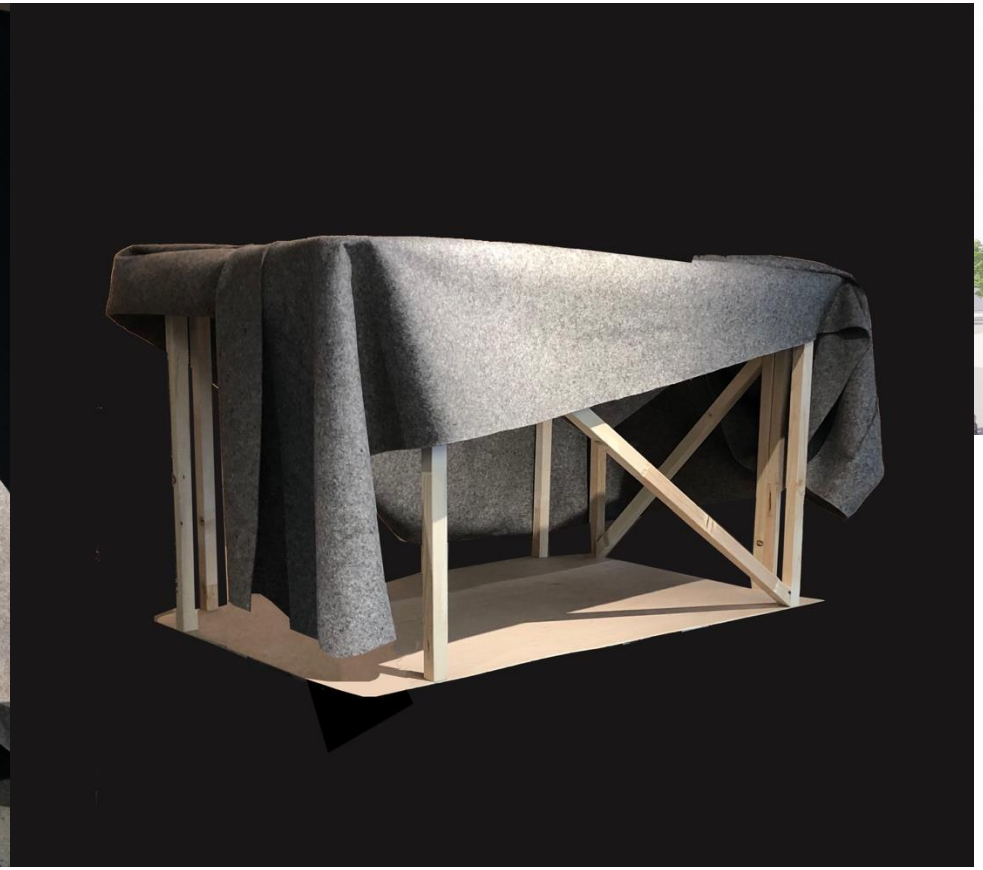
Dawes Road Library, Toronto, with Smoke Architects, 2026

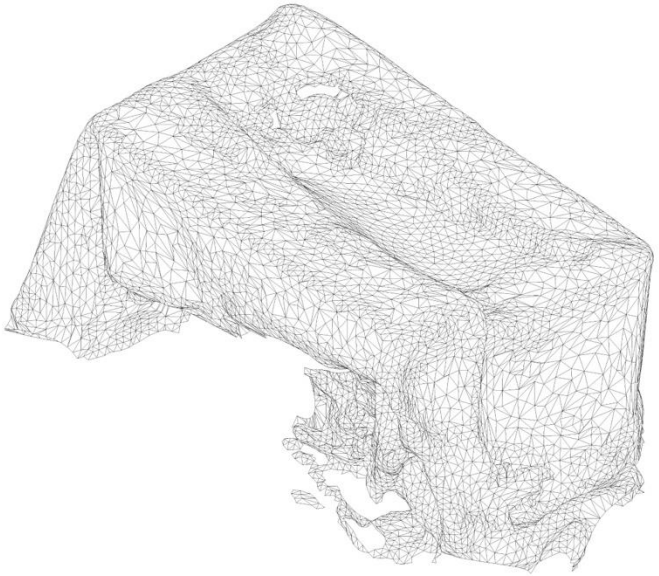
A Gift

The creation and gifting of a star blanket wraps around the respect and admiration of everyone in the community physically and spiritually.

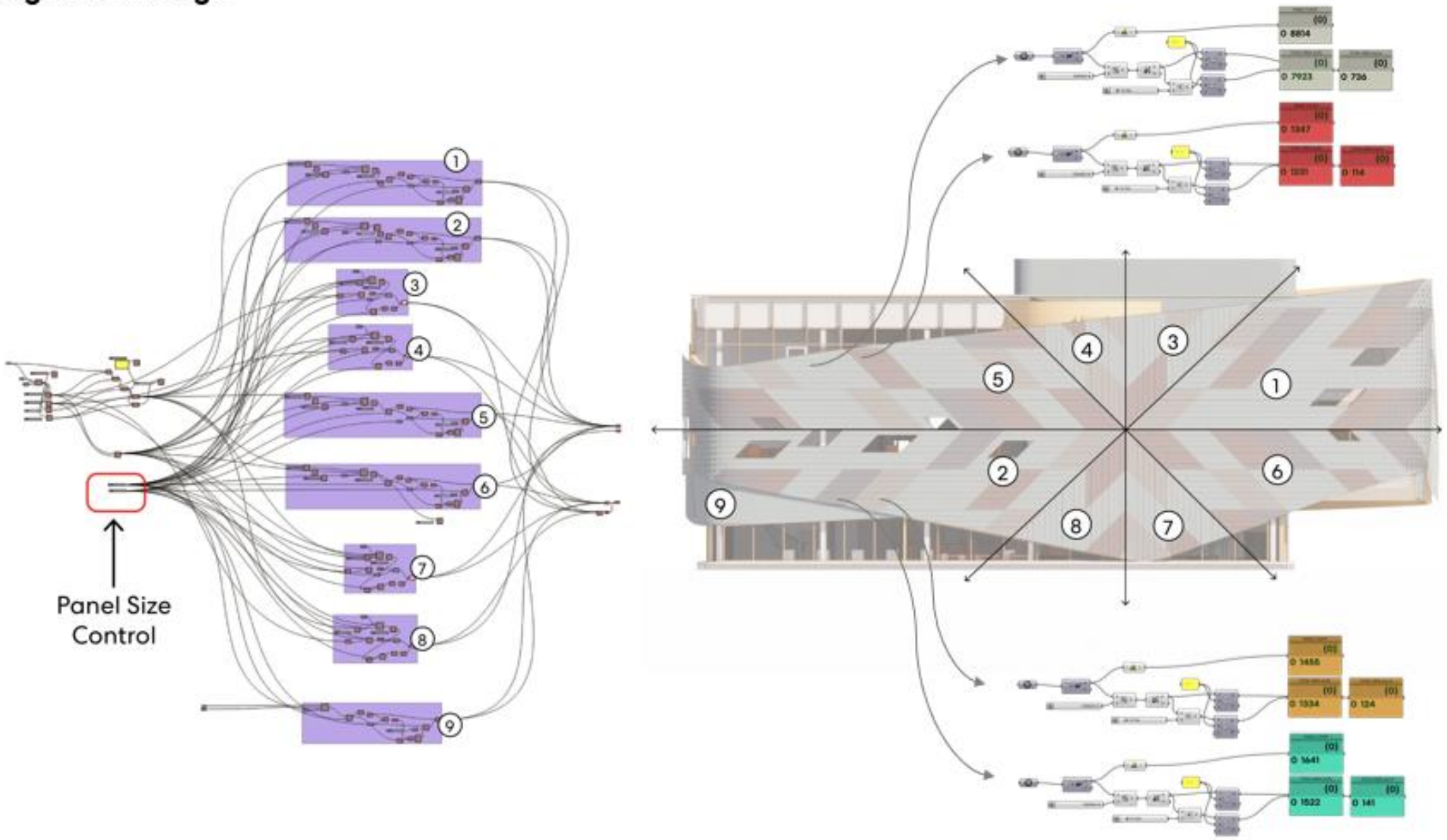
It's made and gifted to honour a significant achievement that contributes to the community.

Dawes Road Library, Toronto, Ontario, 2025

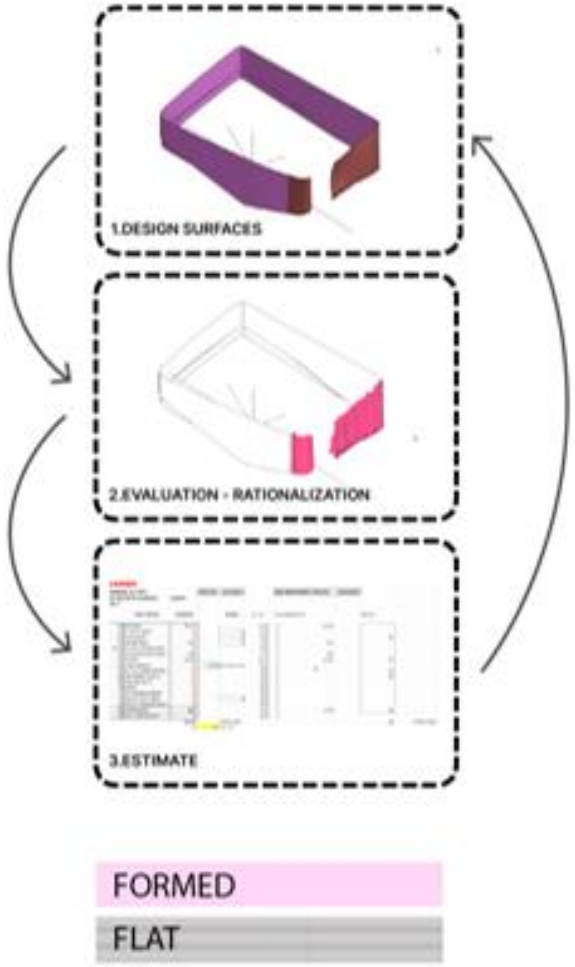


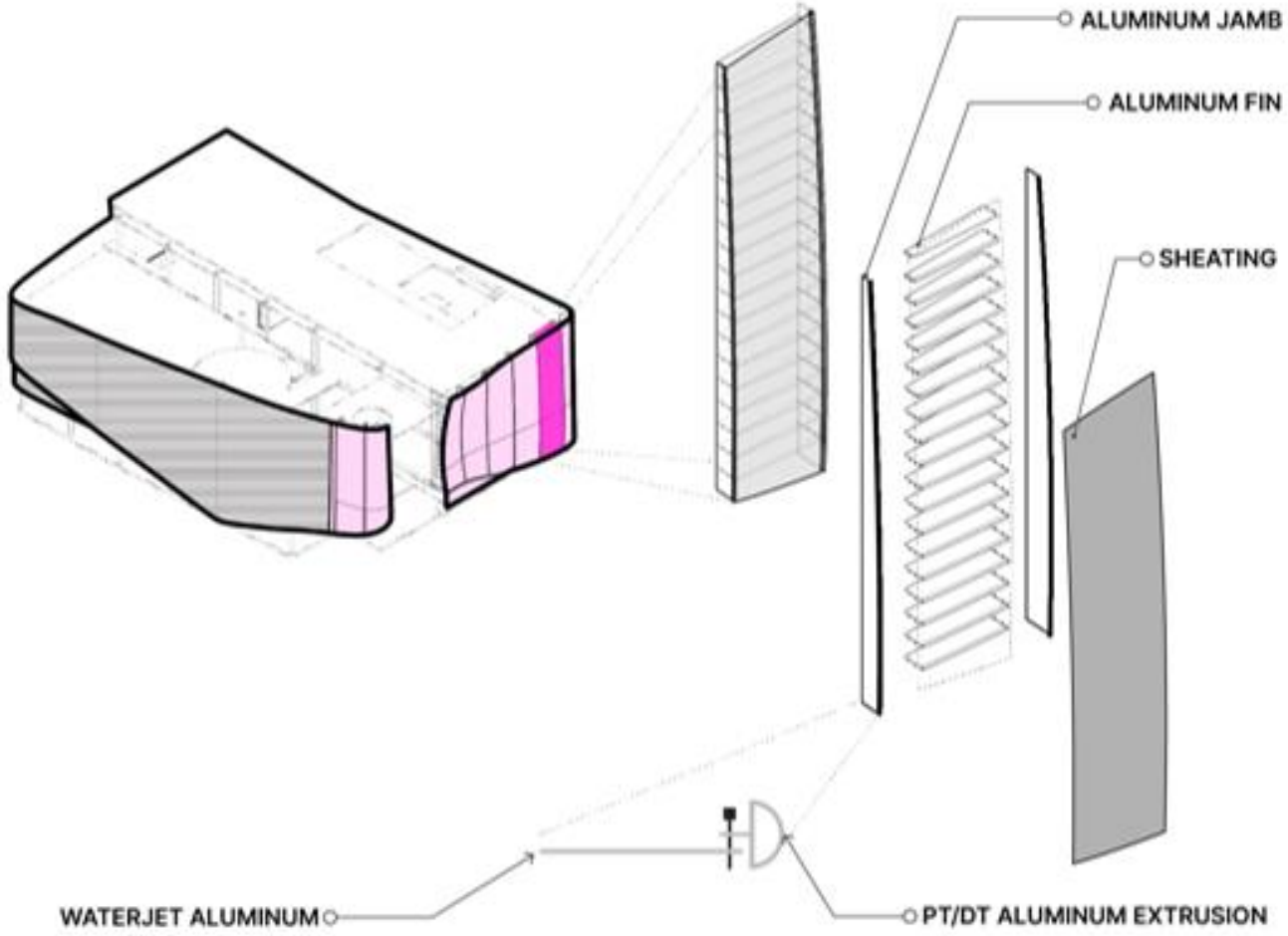


Resulting Pattern Logic



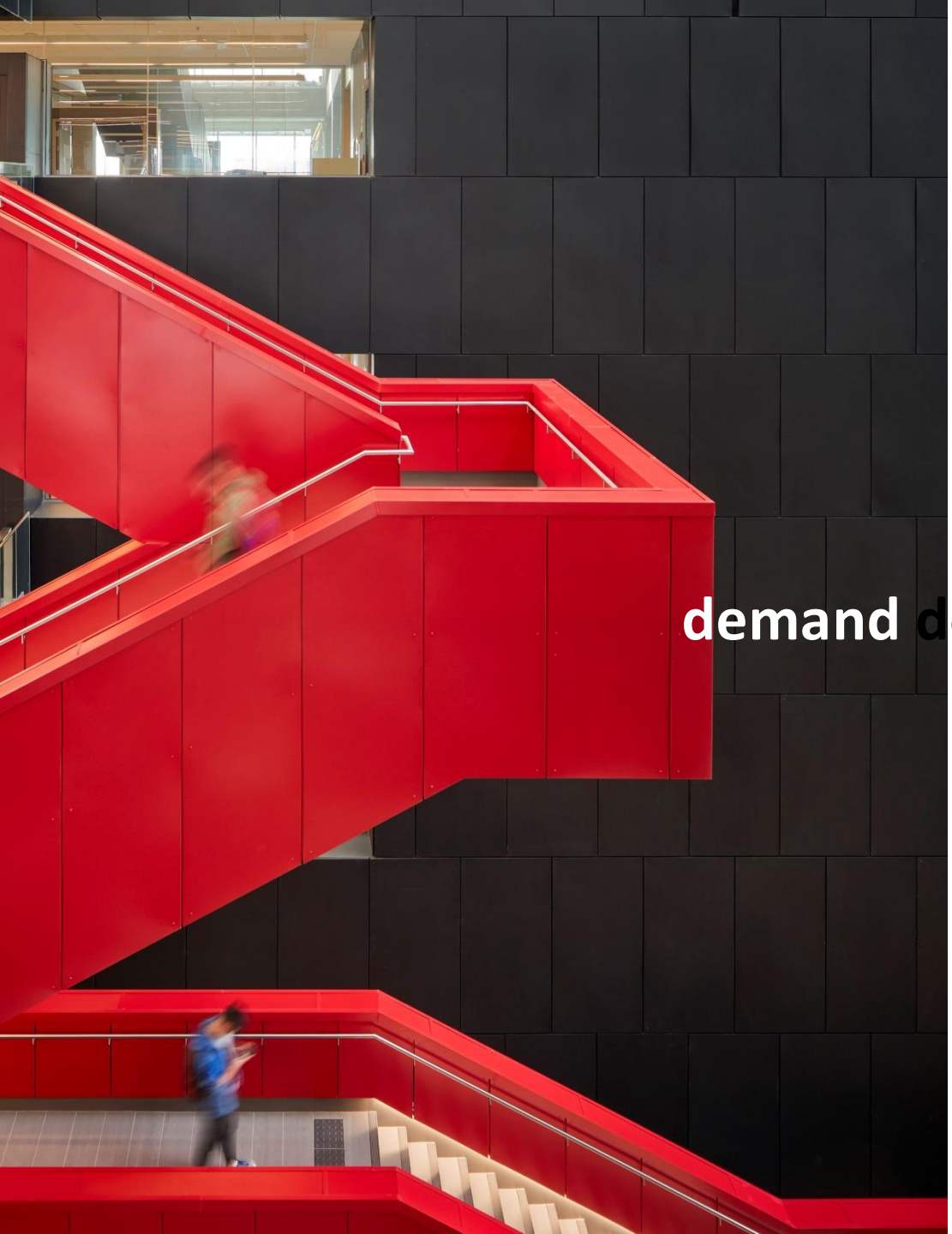
Zahner Workflow





PEOPLES COLLECTION
NATIVE PEOPLES COLLECTION

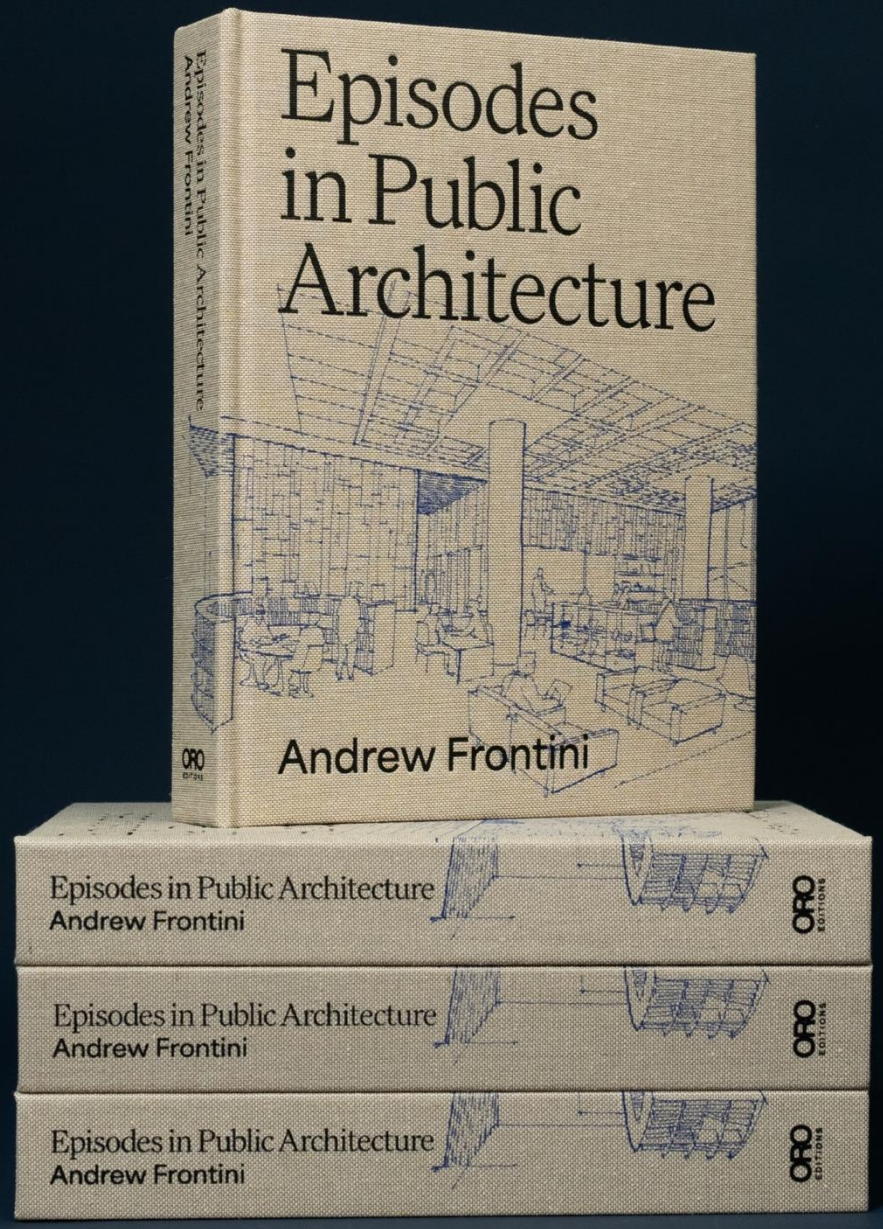
View from the east



demand designs worthy of your dreams

listen to your community

dare to transform society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Discussion