

An aerial photograph of a desert landscape. A winding river flows through the center of the image. In the lower-left corner, there is a small town or village with several buildings. The terrain is arid and rocky, with some sparse vegetation. The overall color palette is muted, consisting of various shades of brown, tan, and grey.

SELECTED WORKS

NICOLAS A. NEFIODOW

BUILDING HOPE

Spring 2023
Accra, Ghana
Instructed by Gary Bates

A growing number of children in Ghana are victims of trafficking, and the situation is rapidly aggravating from widening income inequality and the HIV/AIDS crisis. Affected minors from affected families are left vulnerable to kidnapping and recruiting from criminal organizations preying on more than 200,000 minors living in the streets of Accra alone.

Building Hope aims to house and empower children by providing them with the necessary tools to thrive. The project includes the construction of a network of buildings that can house, feed, provide medical and psychological attention and skill training to 140 minors in the neighborhood of La. Facilities such as large kitchens, maker spaces, art studios, and an improved soccer field will be also accessible to the community seeking integration and a strong sense of belonging to the orphaned children with the locals. Giving minors the opportunity of being mentored and supported by locals willing to participate.











A MEMORIAL TO THE 2011 TUNISIAN REVOLUTION

Fall 2022

Tunis, Tunisia

Instructed by Ziad Jamaledine

Collaboration with Maclane Regan

Avenue Habib Bourguiba can be read as a scripted infrastructure for a display of power both historically and in the present political framework. Paved over layers of ecological history, civilian agents interrupt and re-script the image of the avenue through political demonstration, challenging the curated notion of the streetscape. Anchoring the thoroughfare, the ministry of the interior operates as a controlling force that currently demands protection from, and jurisdiction over the avenue below. The urban planter is deployed through a gradient of architectural scales, not ignoring the political reality of the streetscape, but shifting the benefit of an urban security gesture to serve the local population and protect the avenue for the civilian. The presence of police power is challenged, rejected, and gradually overtaken by the forgotten layers of ecological history.

- 01 - Object or property
- 02A - Assets (financial support)
- 02B - Donor and administrator (operator)
- 03 - Beneficiaries
- 04 - Benefits
- 05 - Imagined future

01:

The urban planter - an object of security in the hyper policed 21st century Tunis

The median of the avenue, stretching from the cross streets of Rue Jamel Abdenasser and Avenue Habib Bourguiba to the Avenue Habib Bourguiba clocktower on Pl. du 14 janvier 2011.

The unbuilt property extents and adjacent sidewalk and street in front of the ministry of the interior that is currently blocked off to pedestrian and vehicular thoroughfare

For consideration: The sidewalks adjacent to the median

For specification: The sectional area of the median. Does the space of the median include all of the geological layers and utility lines below?

02:

A:

The ministry of the interior budget

The city budget for economic development - investing the the local fabrication and distribution of a new catalog of urban planters

The maintenance budget for landscaping along the avenue, the current supply of labor for maintenance to the avenue can be coupled into the partnership as maintenance shifts.

Can we shift away from scripting the manicured image of the city and into an avenue maintenance plan that expands the ecology of the site, and reclaims the surface and subterranean layers for flourishing human and non human experience?

B:

Cultural activities along the avenue that are currently encased by the scripted facade line

- The bookstore
- The municipal theater
- The cathedral

03:

The ecology

The human in the form of the demonstrator, the political participant, the body subject to political violence.

04:

A rescripted landscape within the median

Remediation ecologically. Pollution, habitats, vegetation, water retention.

Re-scaped to host vegetation. Uprooted, exposed, re-claimed by the ecological diversity of the region.

Physical breaking of the ground to re-scape. Programmatic breaking of the endless facade of political power. Can the hidden public programs of the avenue be taken out from the

historical shells and expand into the median. Transitioning from a thoroughfare to a settling place.. of sediment, locals, tourists, bodies.

An archive of the ecological, colonial, and political history of the region, seen through the lens of scripted public space.

A deployment of urban planters, crafted to slowly weather and disintegrate, giving way to new fertile ground to host an expanding fabric of vegetation.

A deployment of occupiable infrastructure, bunkers, tunnels, excavations to host a variety of public programs and resources. An expansion of the bookstore into a historical archive, an amphitheater for public expression, nodes for legal assistance, public forum, and political demonstration.

05:

1. URBAN PLANTERS: The immediate creation of a new industry of planter recycling, retro-fitting, and re fabrication using recycled material and excavated clay, silt, and soil to form a new inventory of earth planters intended to be stacked and distributed along the avenue

1A. The distribution and collection of planters forms a subverted barricade closing in the activities and ensuring the spatial protection of the ministry of the interior, with the material composition intended to deteriorate, be dismantled by the water and plants that occupy, back into hills and piles of fertile soil to host a new landscape of flourishing local vegetation. Over time the militaristic barricade dividing the ministry from the public transforms from the typological reference to the political present to a un-scripted monument to the underground and local ecology

1B. The reconfiguration of planters fabricated from the recycled aggregate of existing planters provides new public program along the avenue

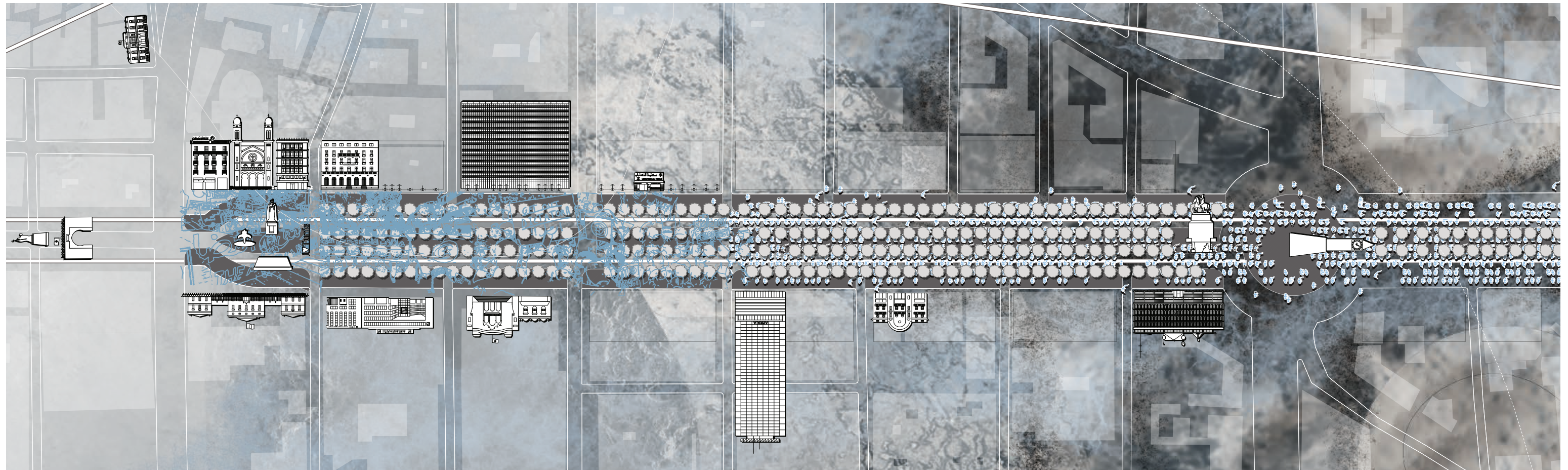
- Urban furniture
- Cat habitats
- Stages
- Archives

2. EXCAVATIONS: Breaking the avenue hardscape with strategic excavations to archive the objects and structures of political power, exposing, re-routing, counter-scripting.

2A. Burying - objects of oppression are sunken beneath the avenue surface, deactivated from intended power structures and embedded in a preserved archive of how police power has impacted space since 2011, a memorial to the efforts of the revolution

2B. Exposing - within the sunken caverns along the avenue, subterranean infrastructure is exposed. The underground nodes allow the user to peer into the hidden subterranean world. Including utility lines, tree roots, tunnels between the cathedral and the french embassy, bunkers beneath the median in front of the ministry of the interior. Each instance referencing layers of political history and activity in the area.

2C. Reprogramming - Excavations allow for public programs along the avenue that challenge the oppressive political landscape to expand beyond the facade of the avenue into the median.







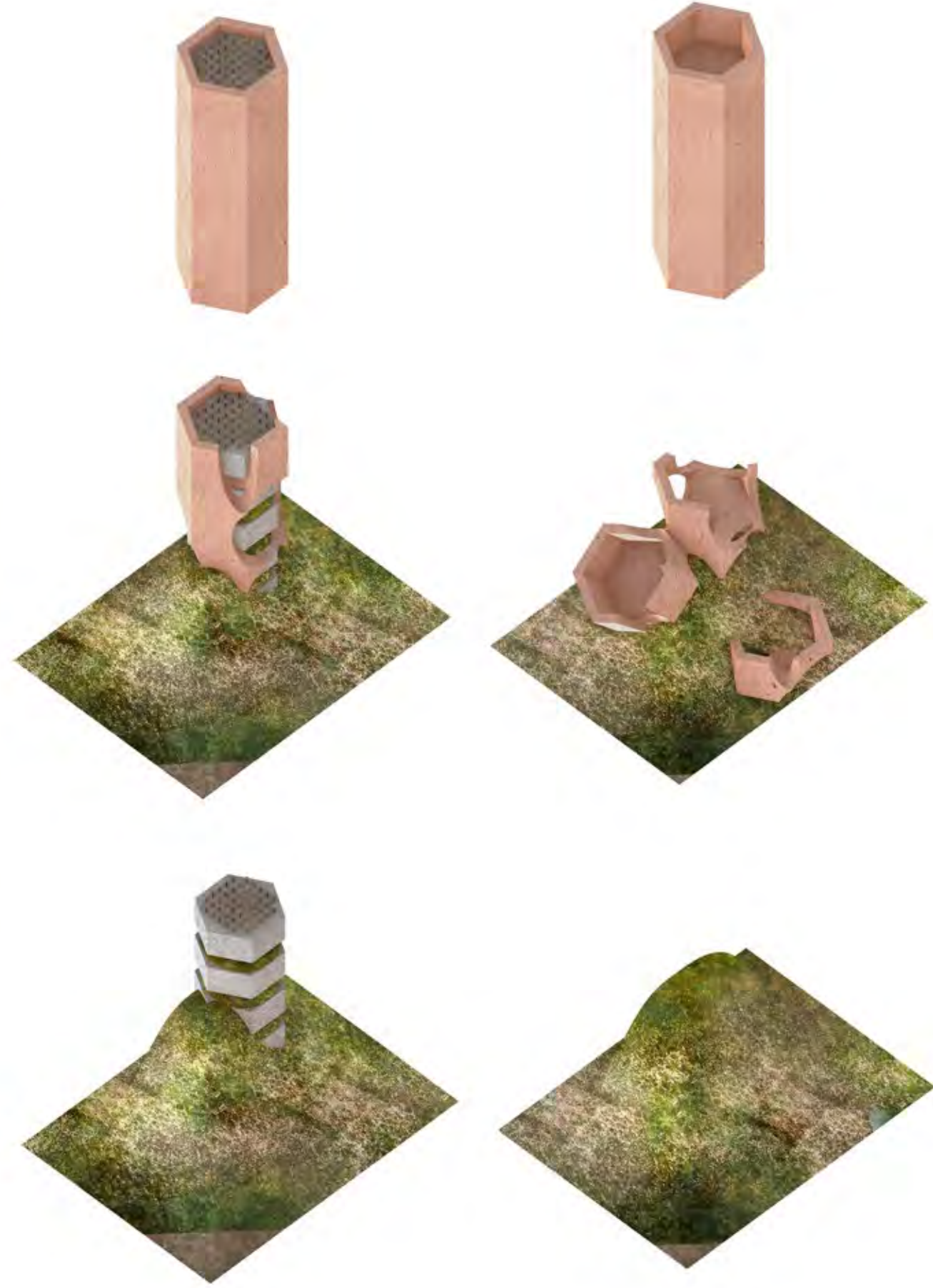


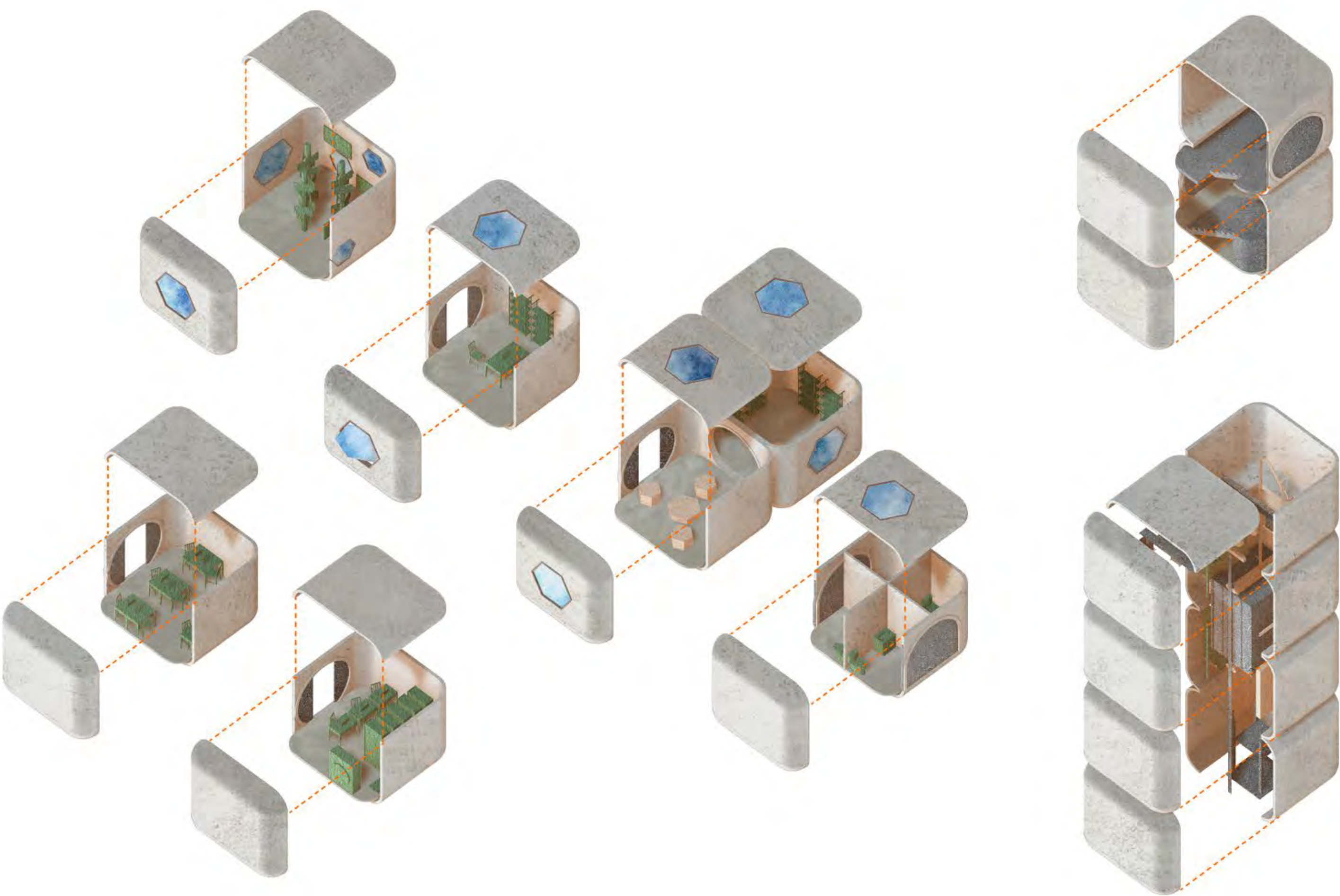










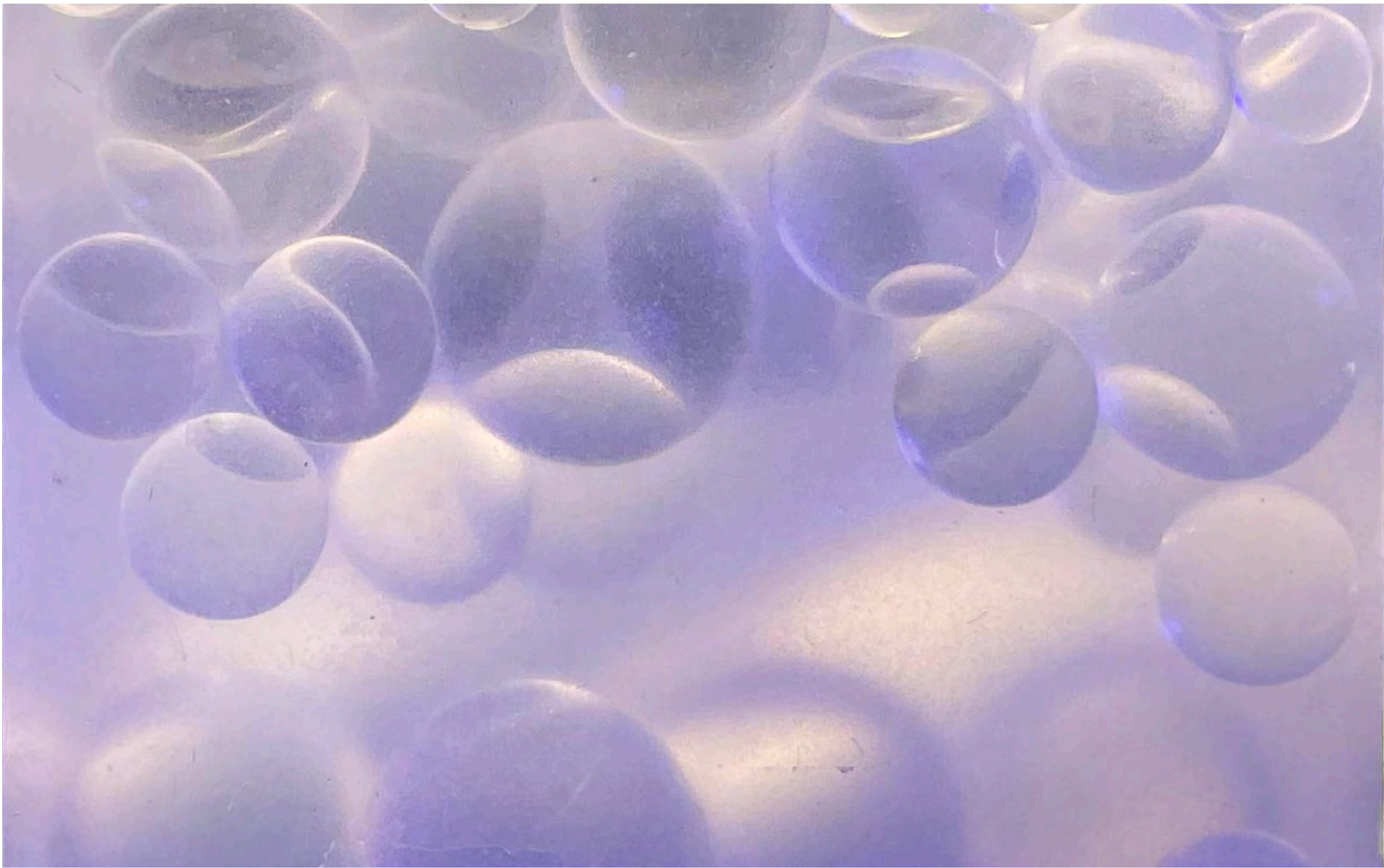


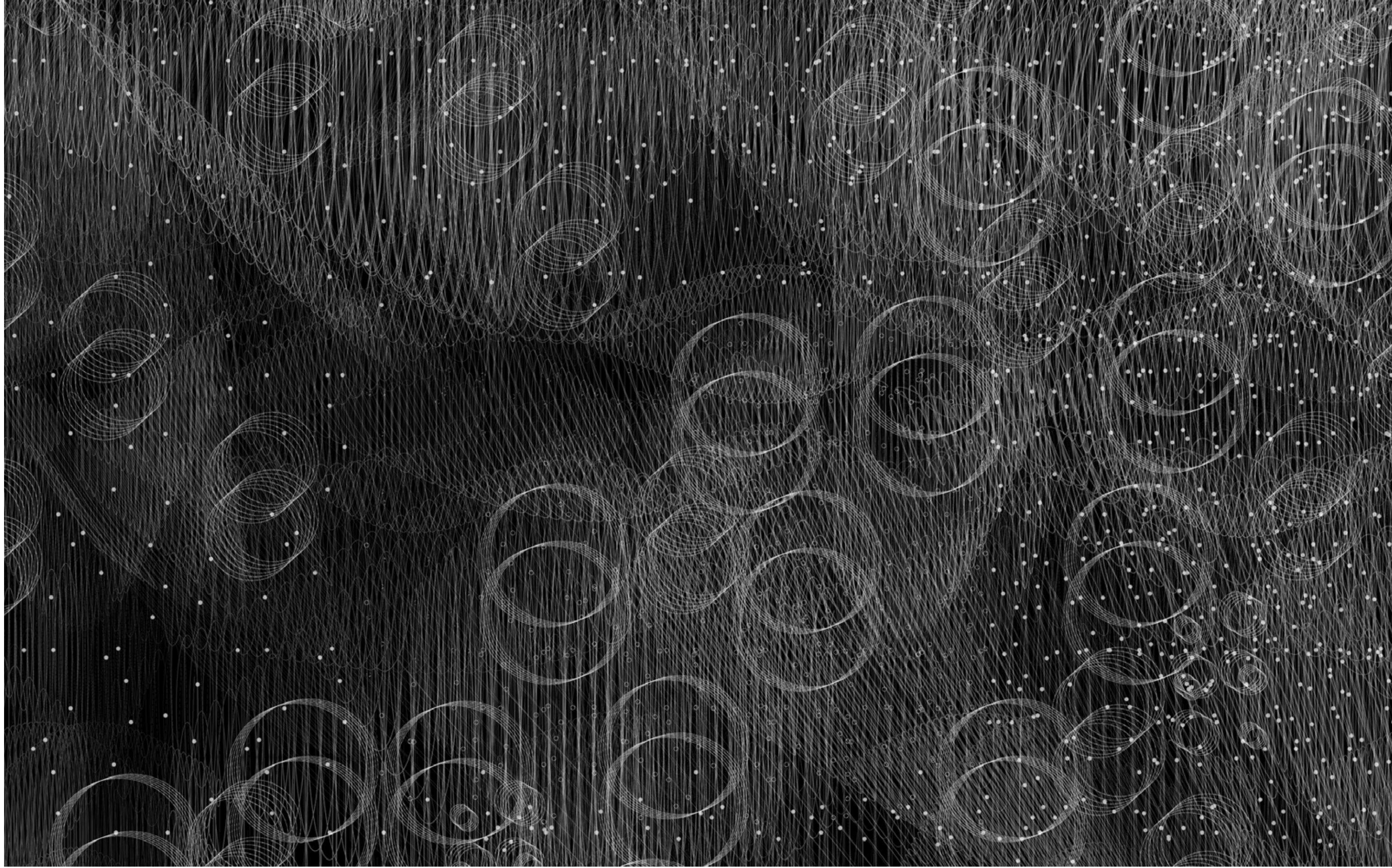
VARIANT HORIZONS

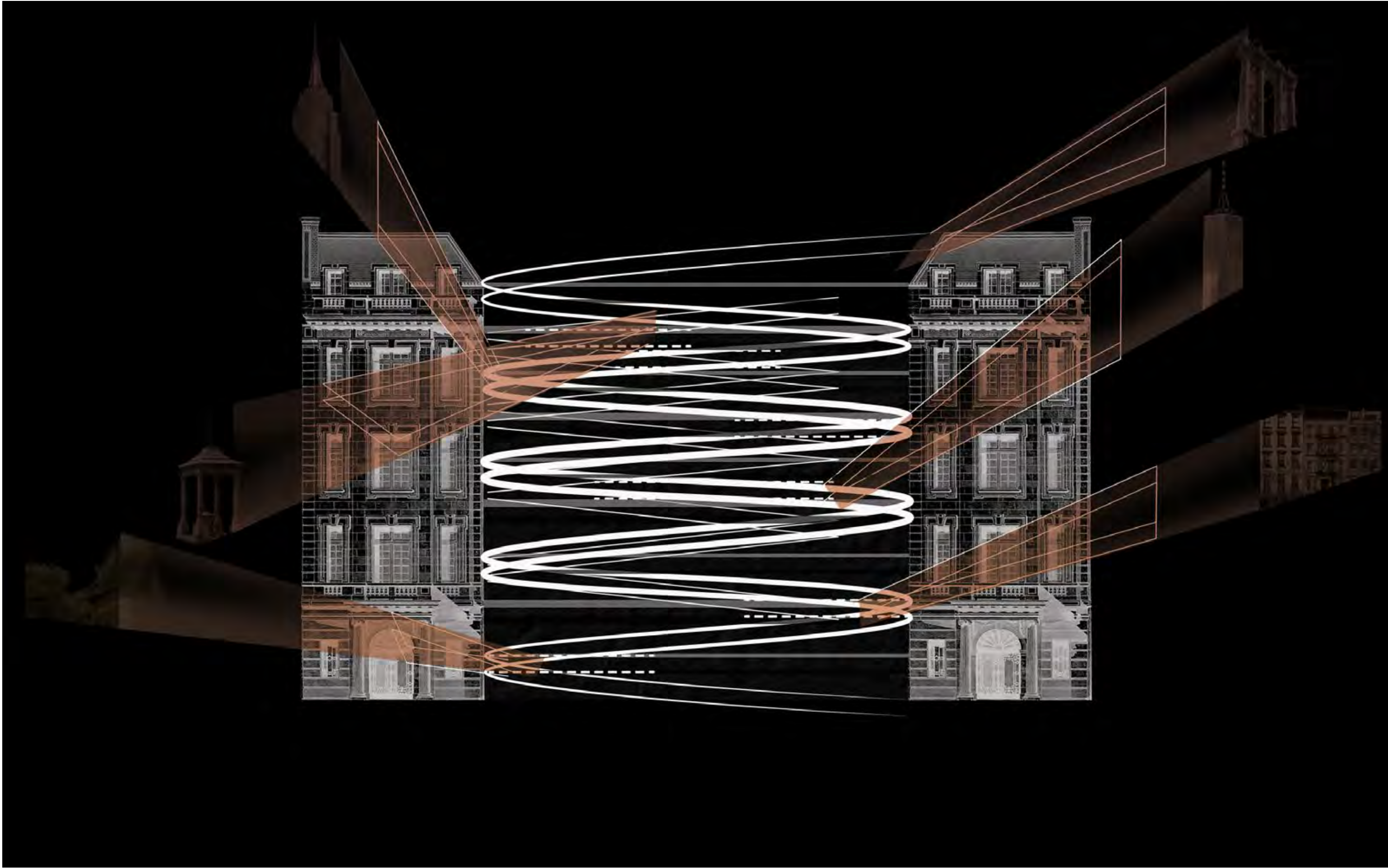
Spring 2021
New York, NY
Instructed by Karla Rothstein

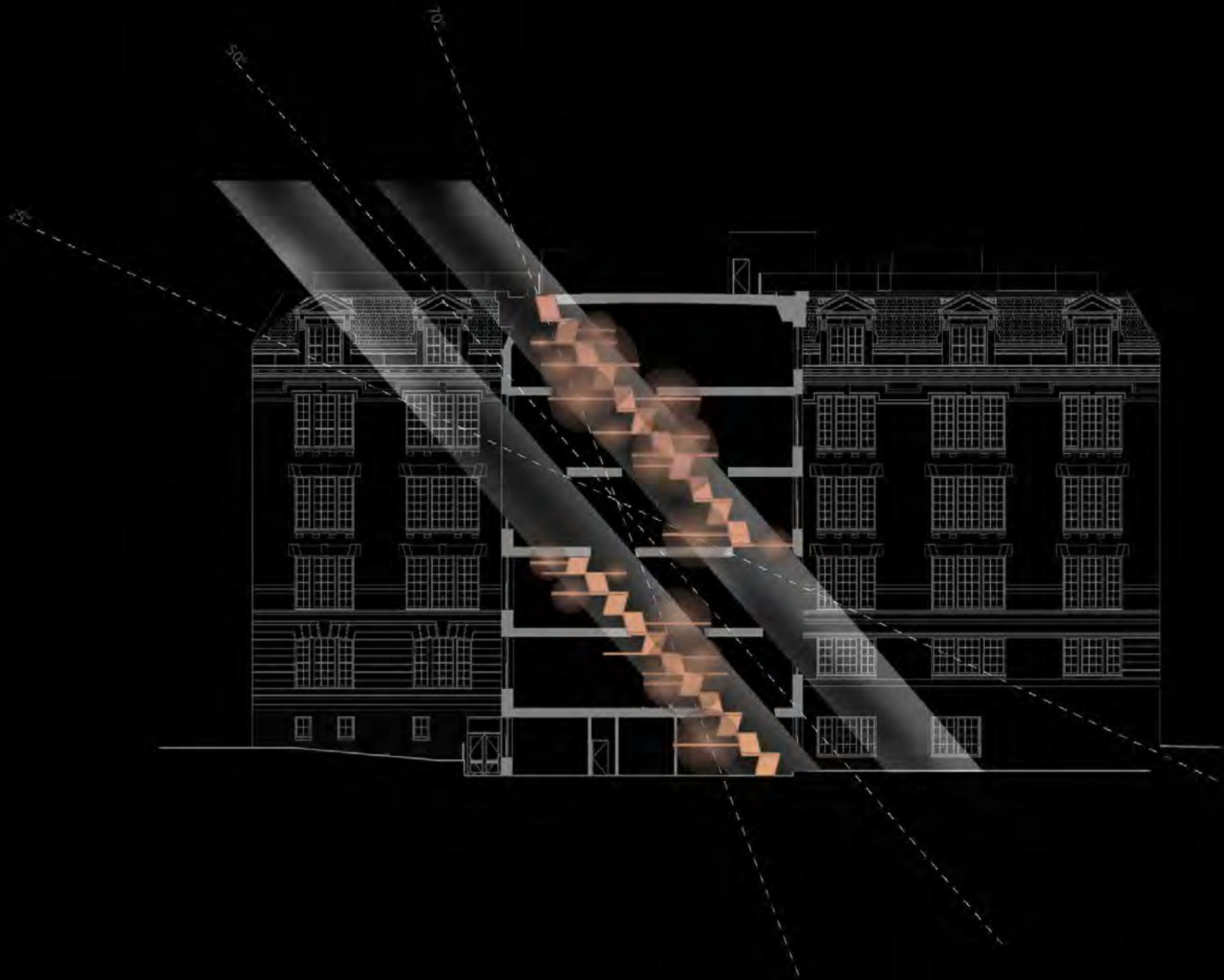
The design operates by removing the center bar of the H plan and reconfiguring the circulation of the school as a procession, with critical transparency between spaces that facilitate illumination and interaction. The central circulation becomes an anchor point for a new arrangement of classrooms that are heavily informed by sun exposure and dynamic moments of adjacency within the classroom scheme. In order to reduce embodied energy from the interventions on the building, most floor plates are to be preserved, and those that need to be relocated reuse existing materials.



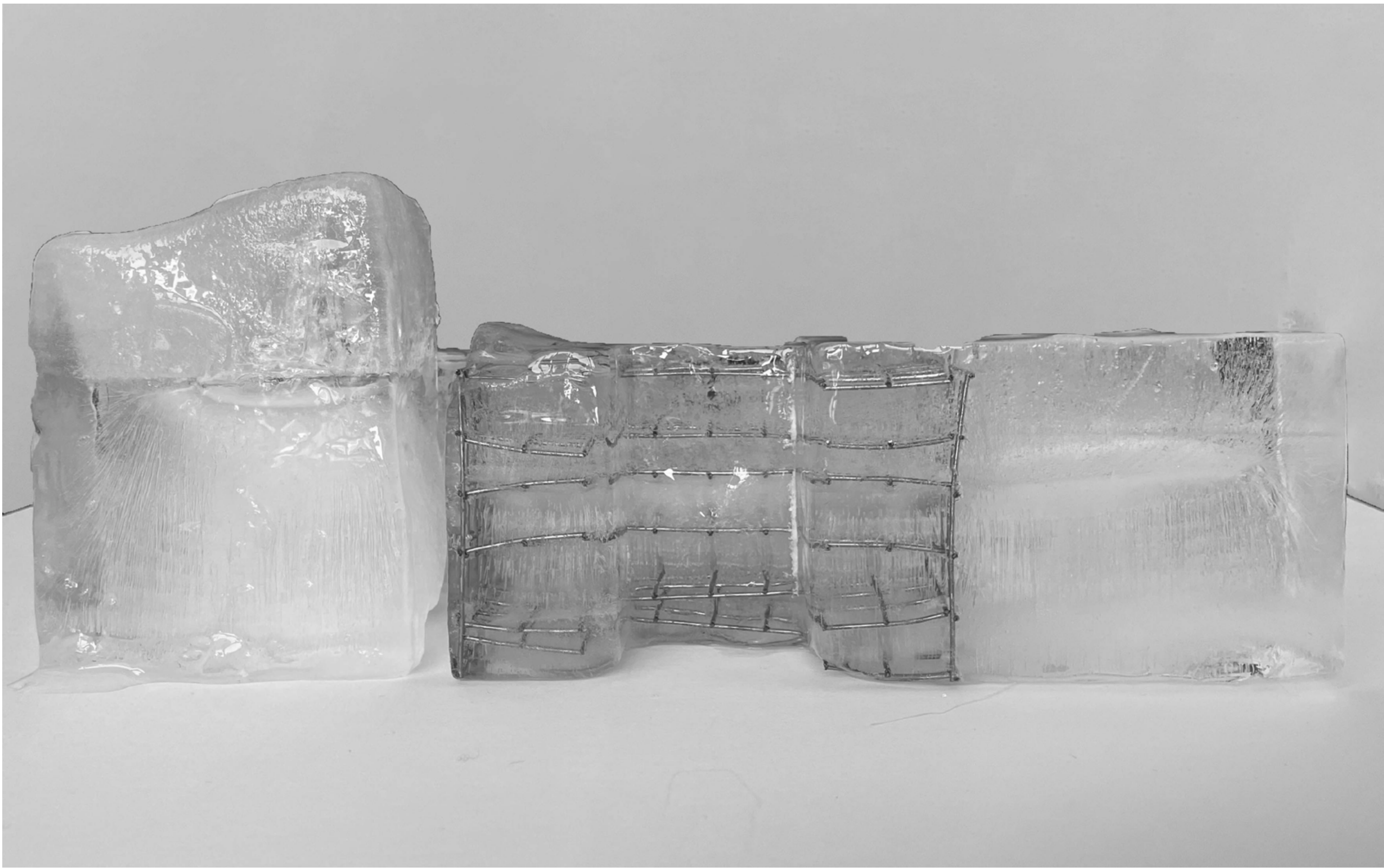


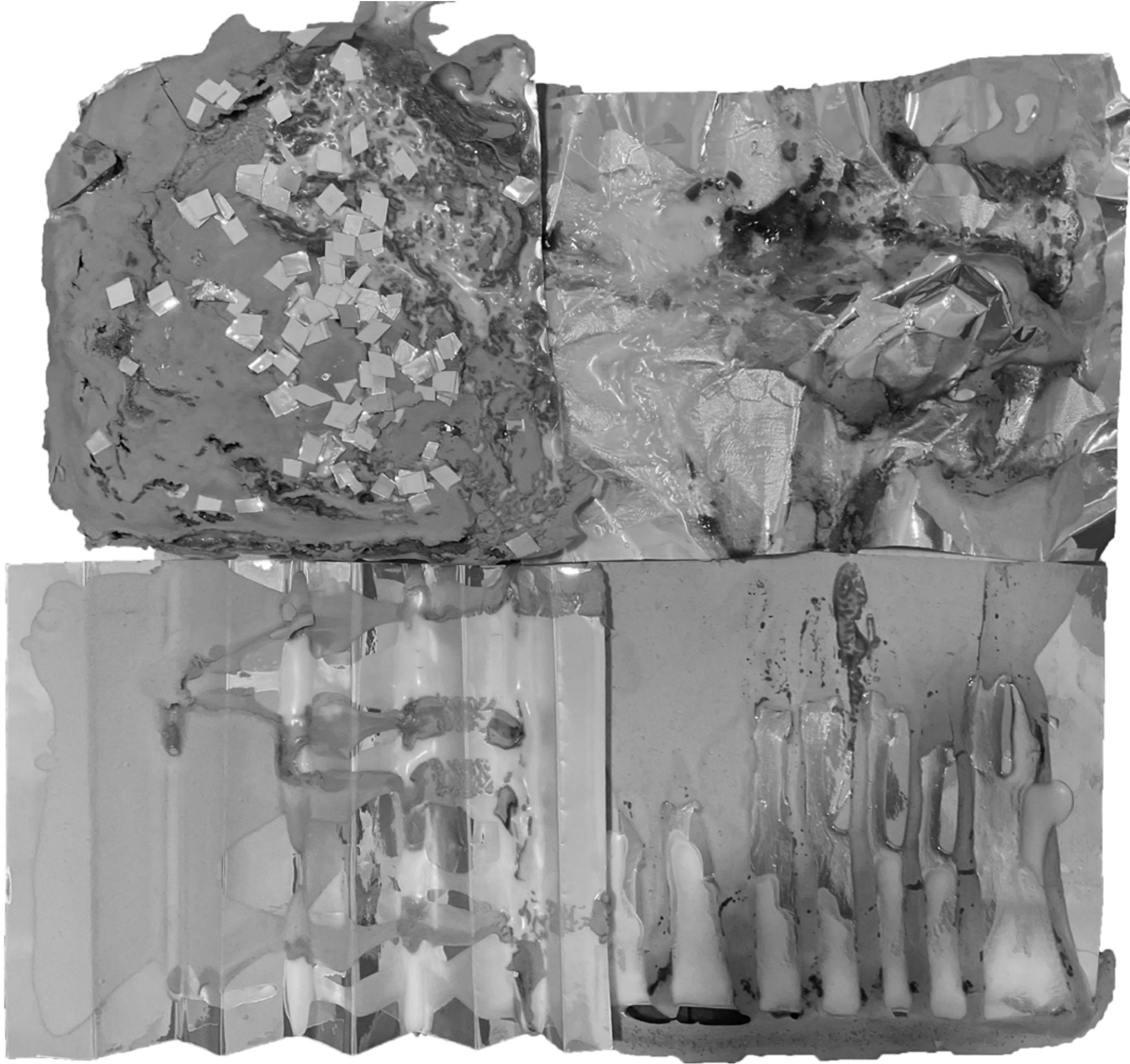


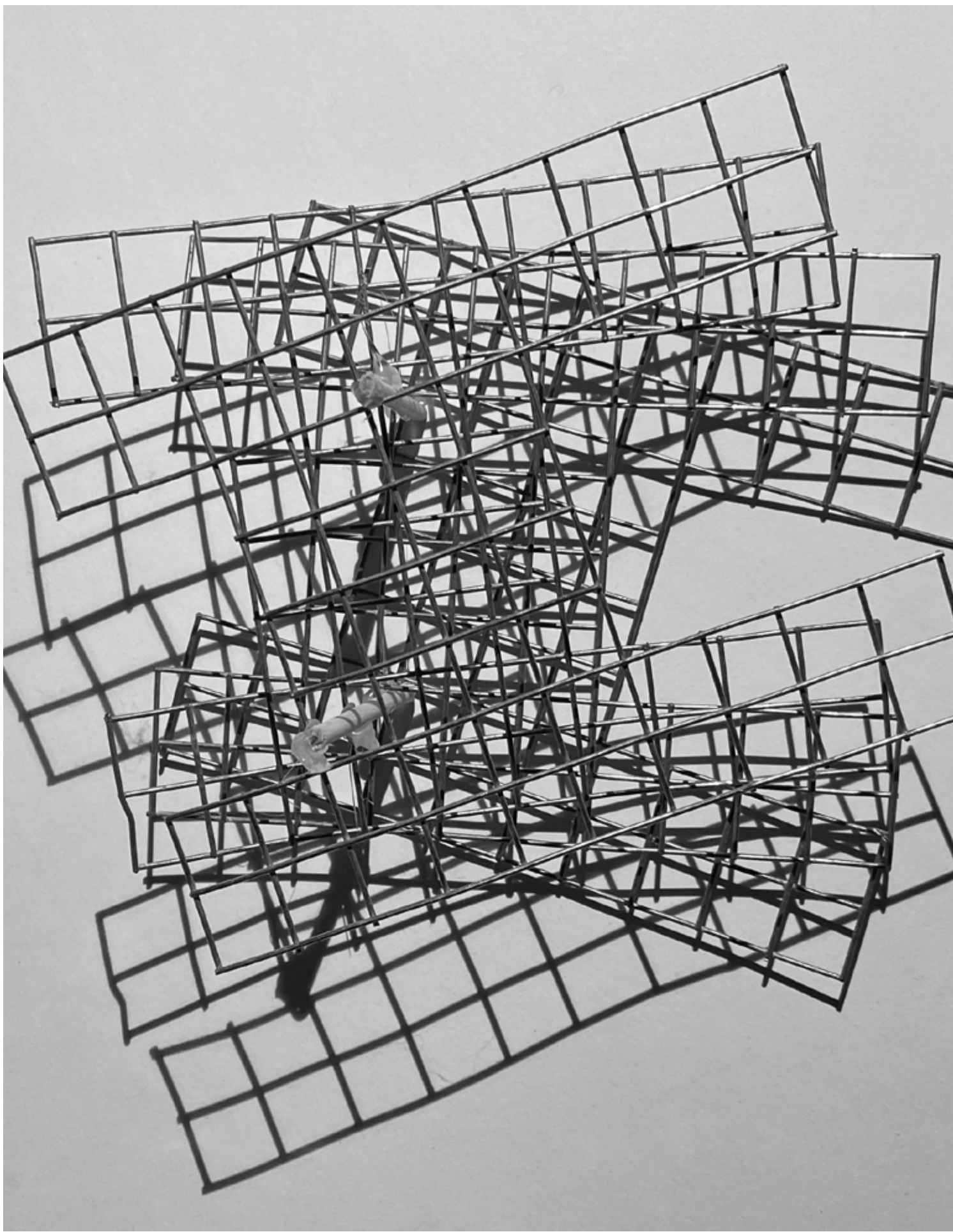
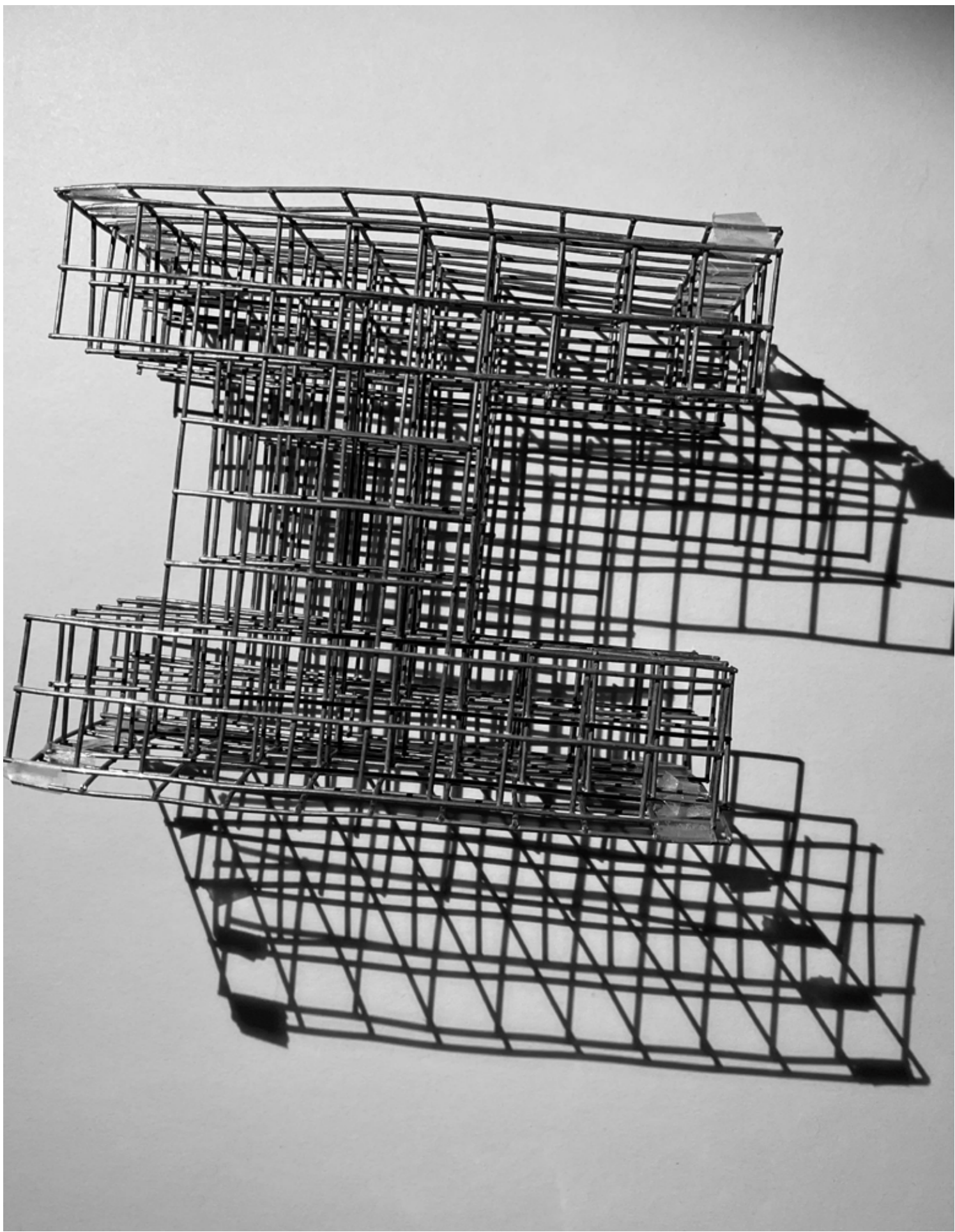




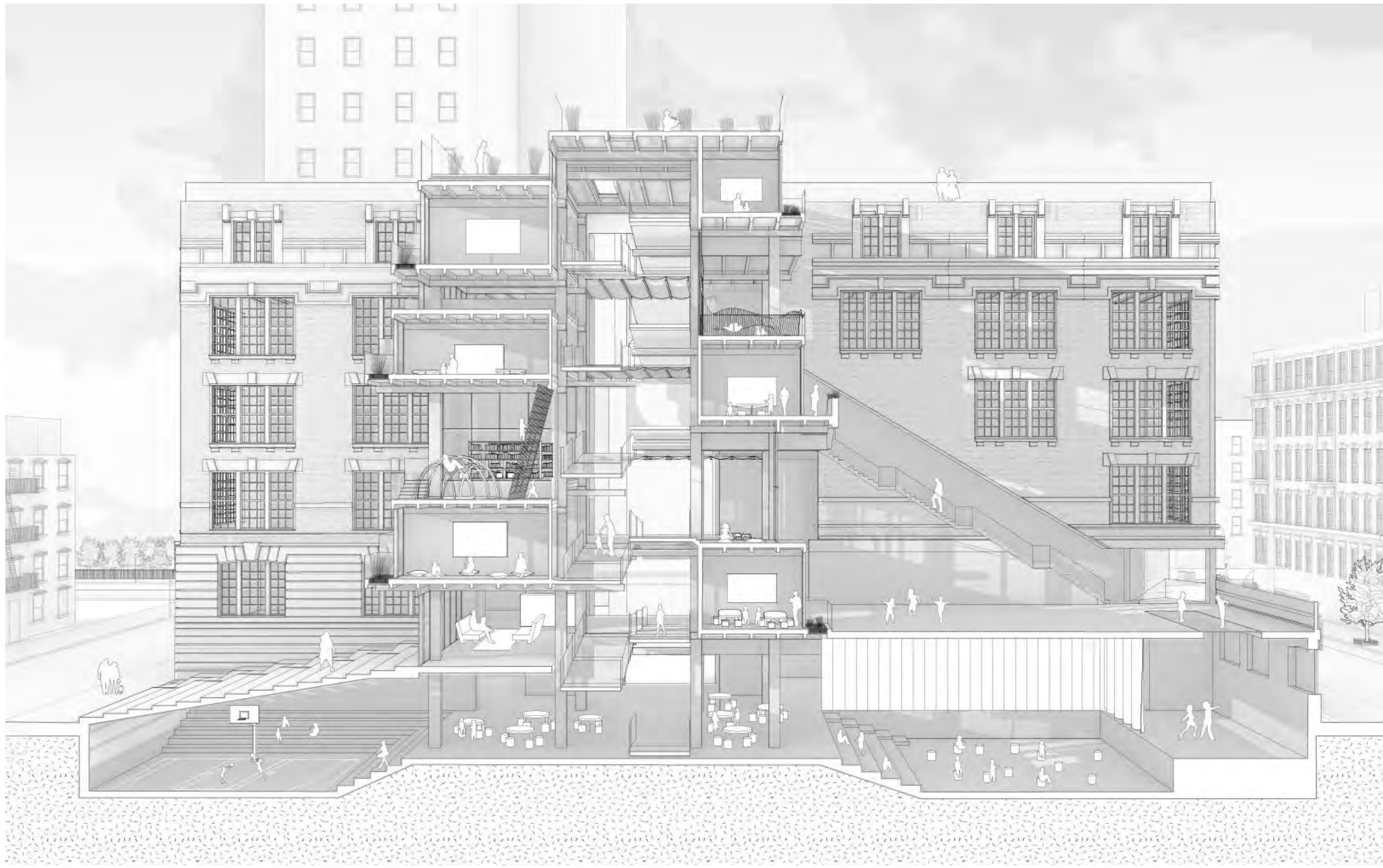


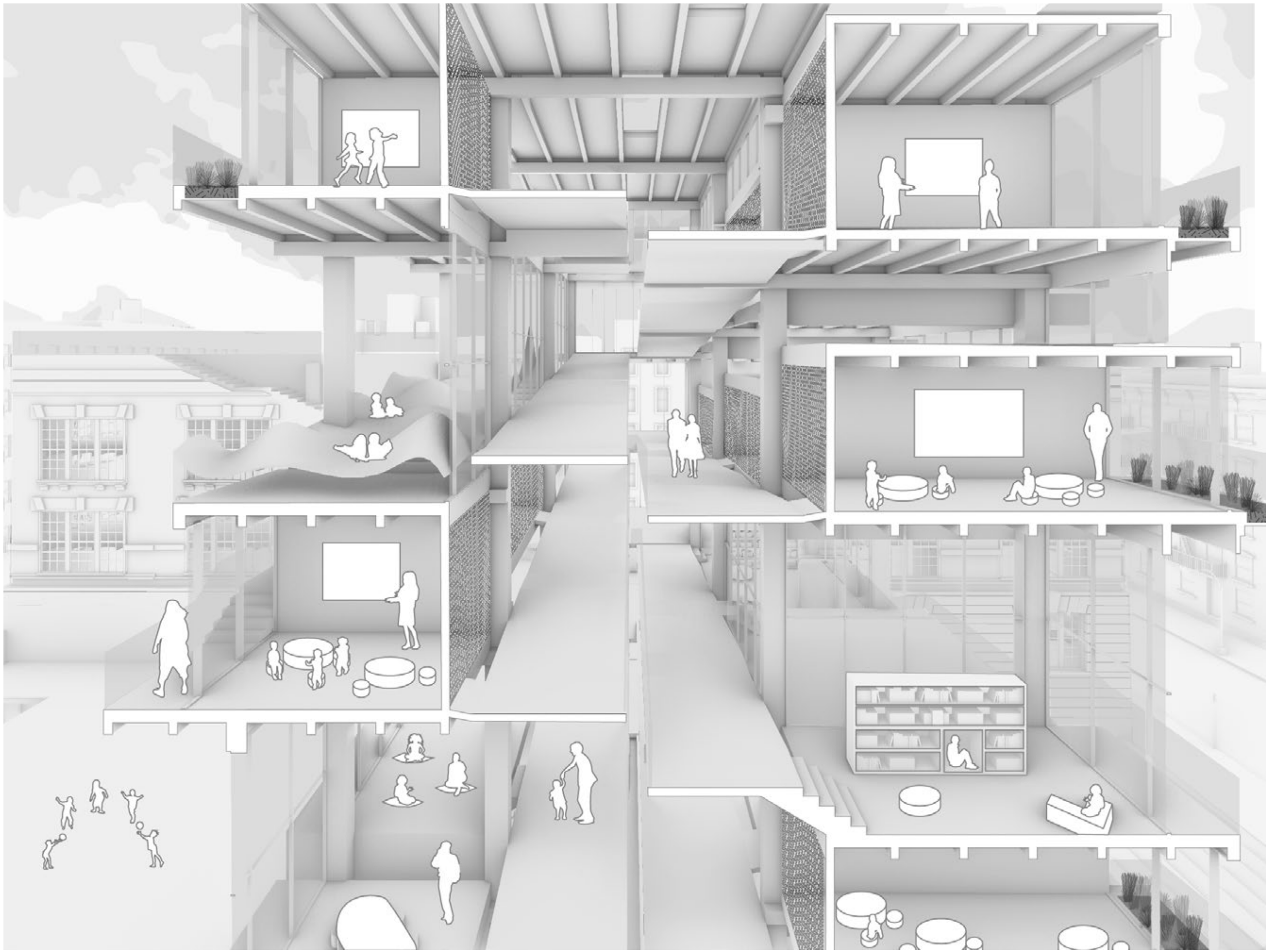
















SOUTH BRONX CASITA

Fall 2021
New York, NY
Instructed by Galia Solomonoff
Collaboration with Maclane Regan

Aiming to provide a response to the housing crisis in New York City, we created a housing proposal for a site rich in culture, aiming to preserve cultural values and improve living conditions. Our proposal is rooted in vignettes of community observed in the South Bronx. Both the historical manifestation of gathering in the area, and a current understanding of community life in the South Bronx. We are proposing a scheme that aims to facilitate moments for these vignettes to occur, horizontally as you traverse the city block, and extending vertically into the private spaces of the unit, blurring a gradient of public space throughout the city block.

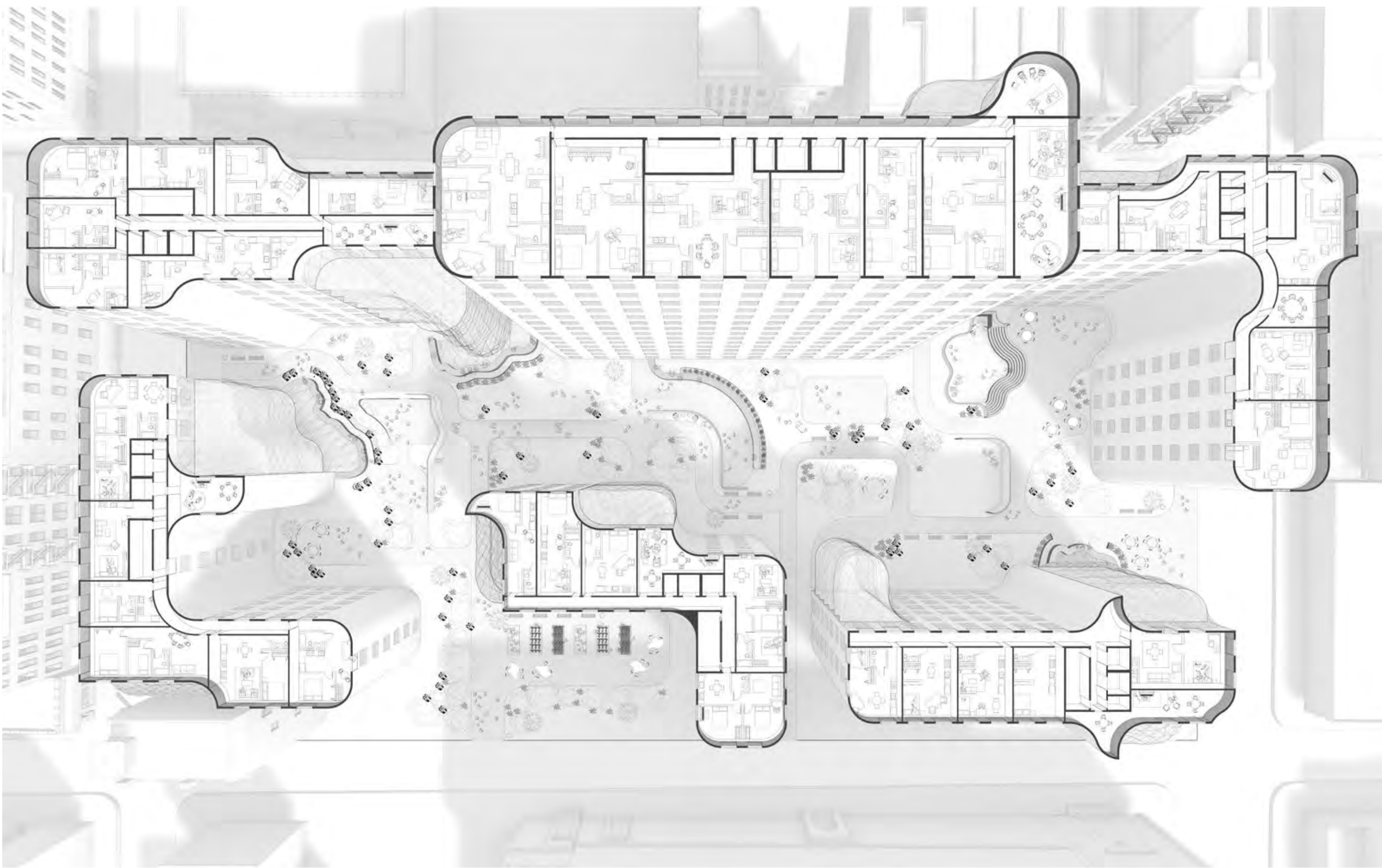






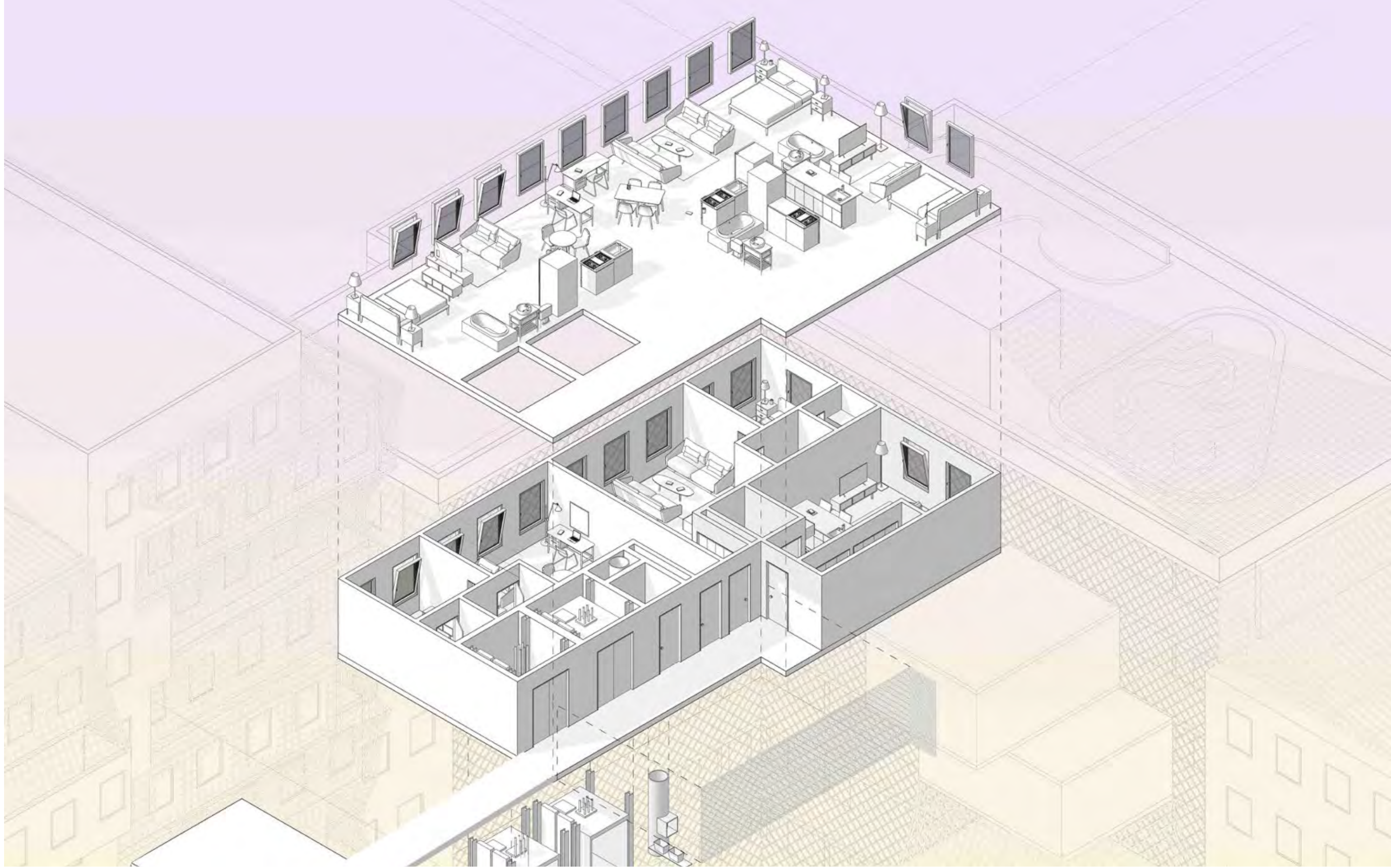












MIND-FLOW

Spring 2022
Poughkeepsie, NY
Instructed by Bryony Roberts
Collaboration with Michael Lau

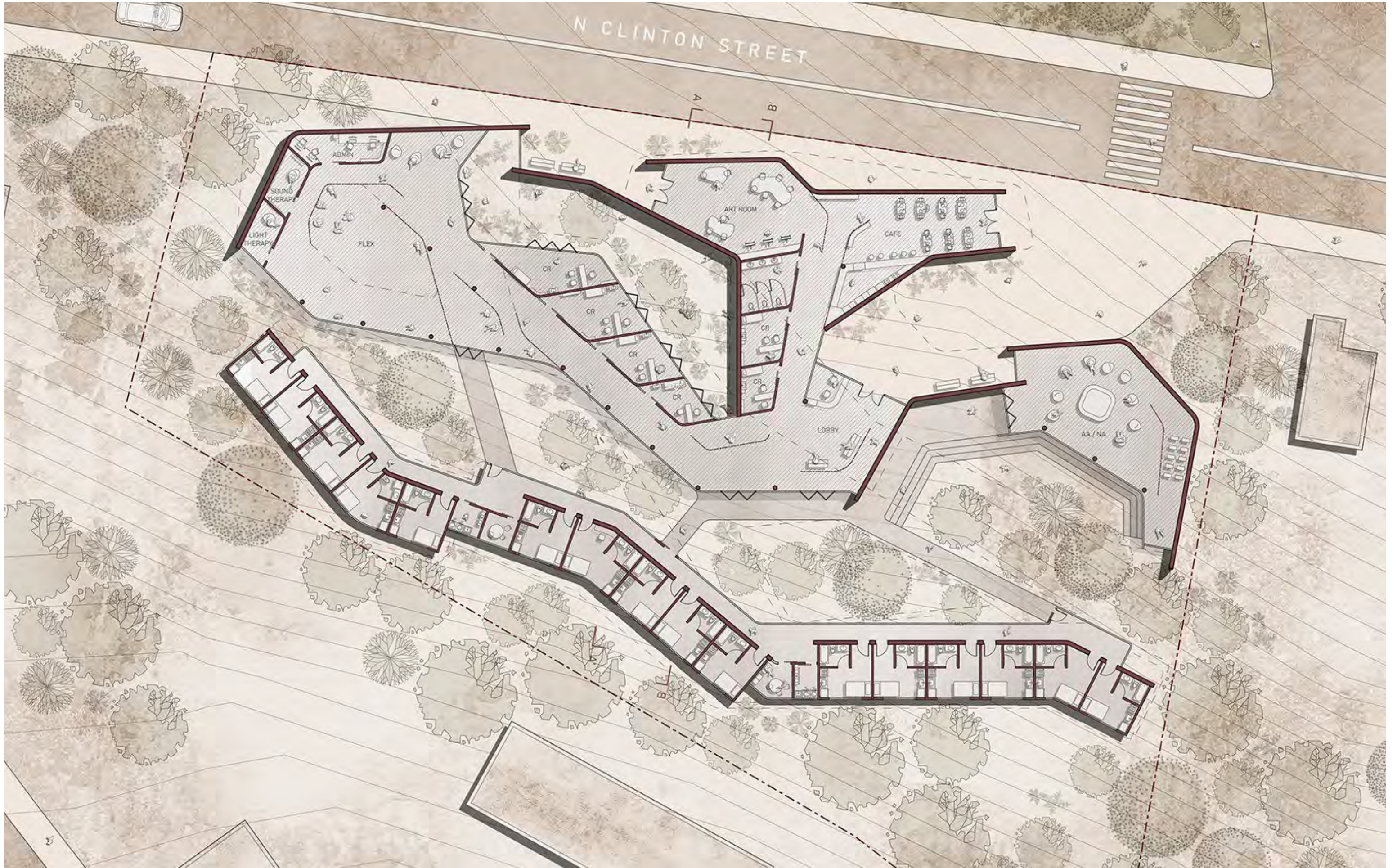
Poughkeepsie, New York, has been severely affected by the opioid crisis and political decisions that have only aggravated segregation and worsened the quality of life for residents.

Poughkeepsie is home to large medical institutions and a large county jail facility which is currently being expanded at a cost of over \$200 just blocks away from our site.

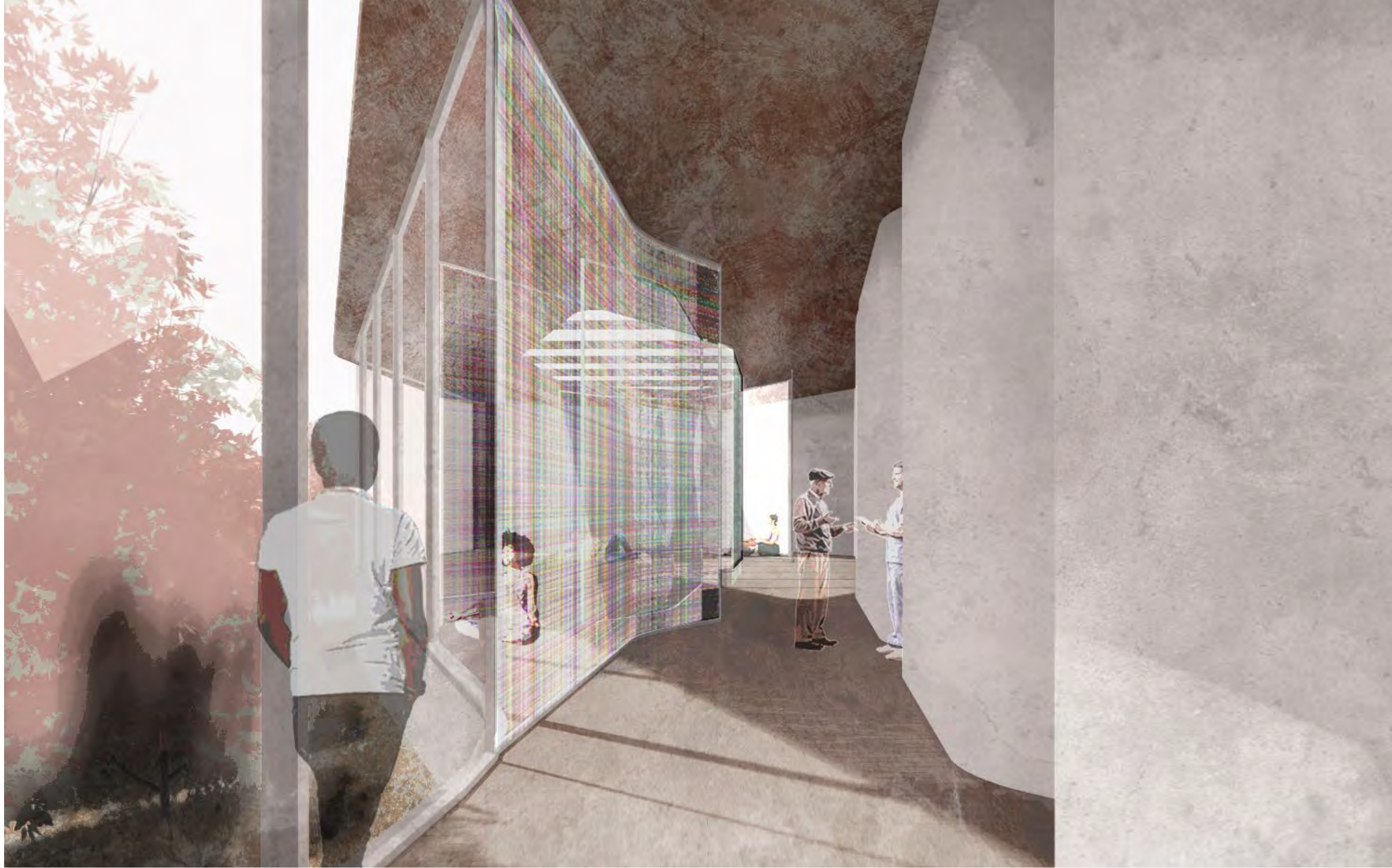
Seeking to provide alternative healing options to addiction recovery that do not involve prescription drug dependency and/or incarceration, we looked into different meditation techniques and the importance of nature in a person's well-being.

Our response was to design a healing center with both in-patient and out-patient services based on the CCHBC guidelines, which include medical care but also spaces flooded with natural light and a direct connection to nature. The topography allowed us to divide the building into different portions, allowing for different monuments of interactions between the building and the preserved nature existing on the site.

Our healing center is meant to provide inpatients with means of interaction with the community in the form of arts, food, and events hosted on-site that could provide additional help with recovery.

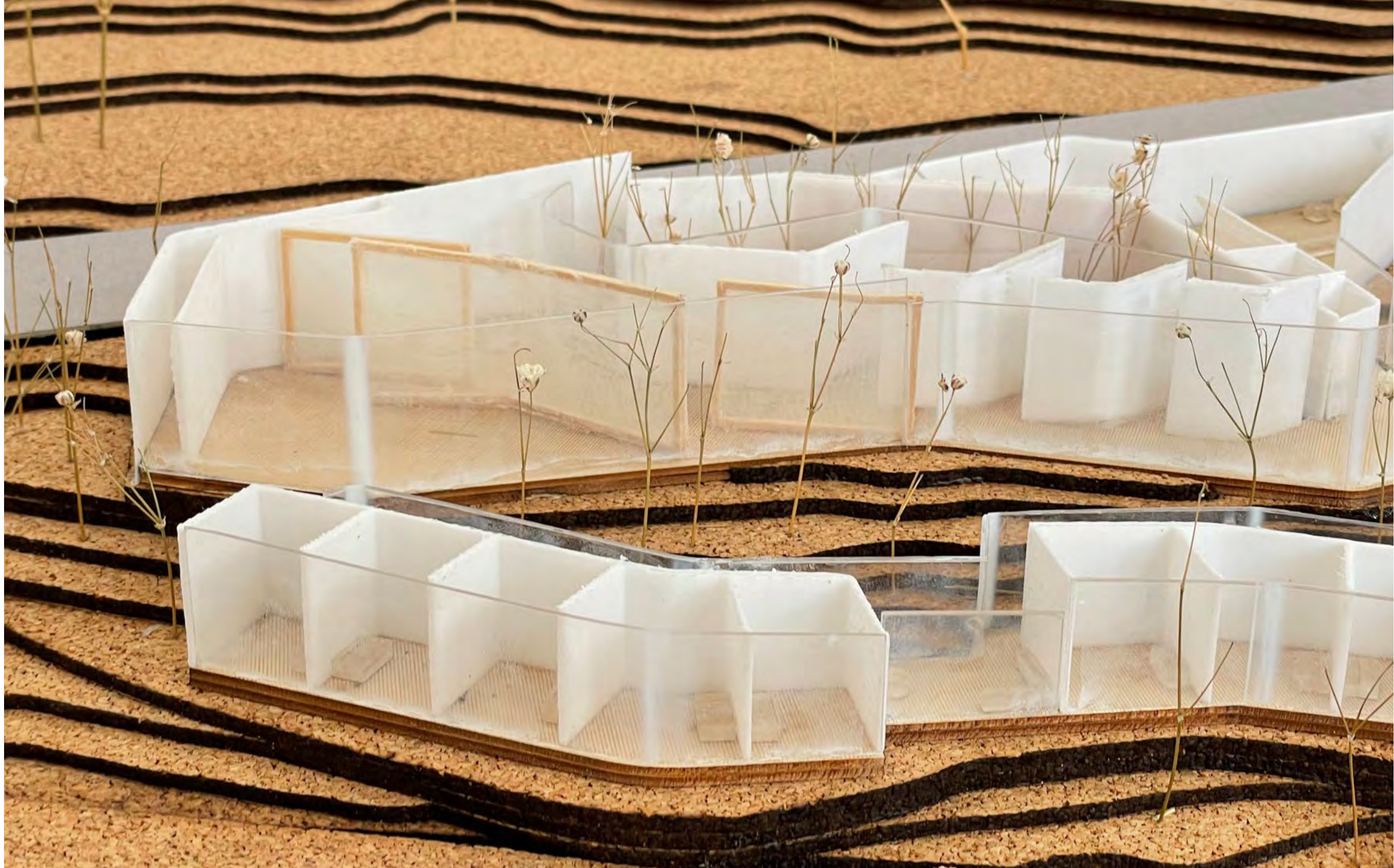












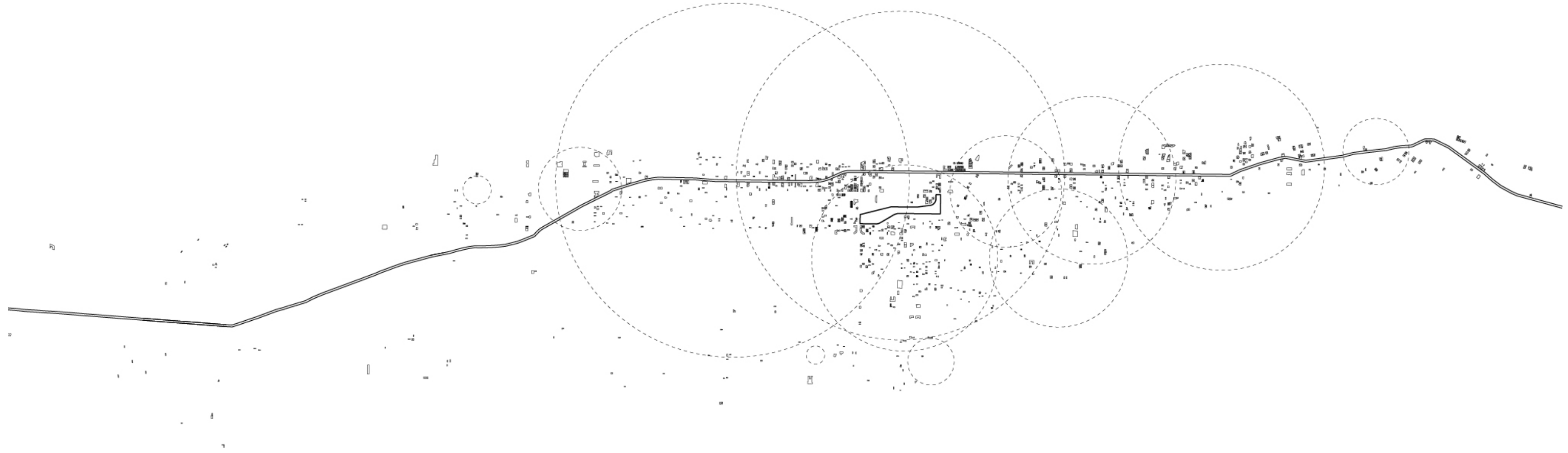
DO WE NEED MORE LAND?

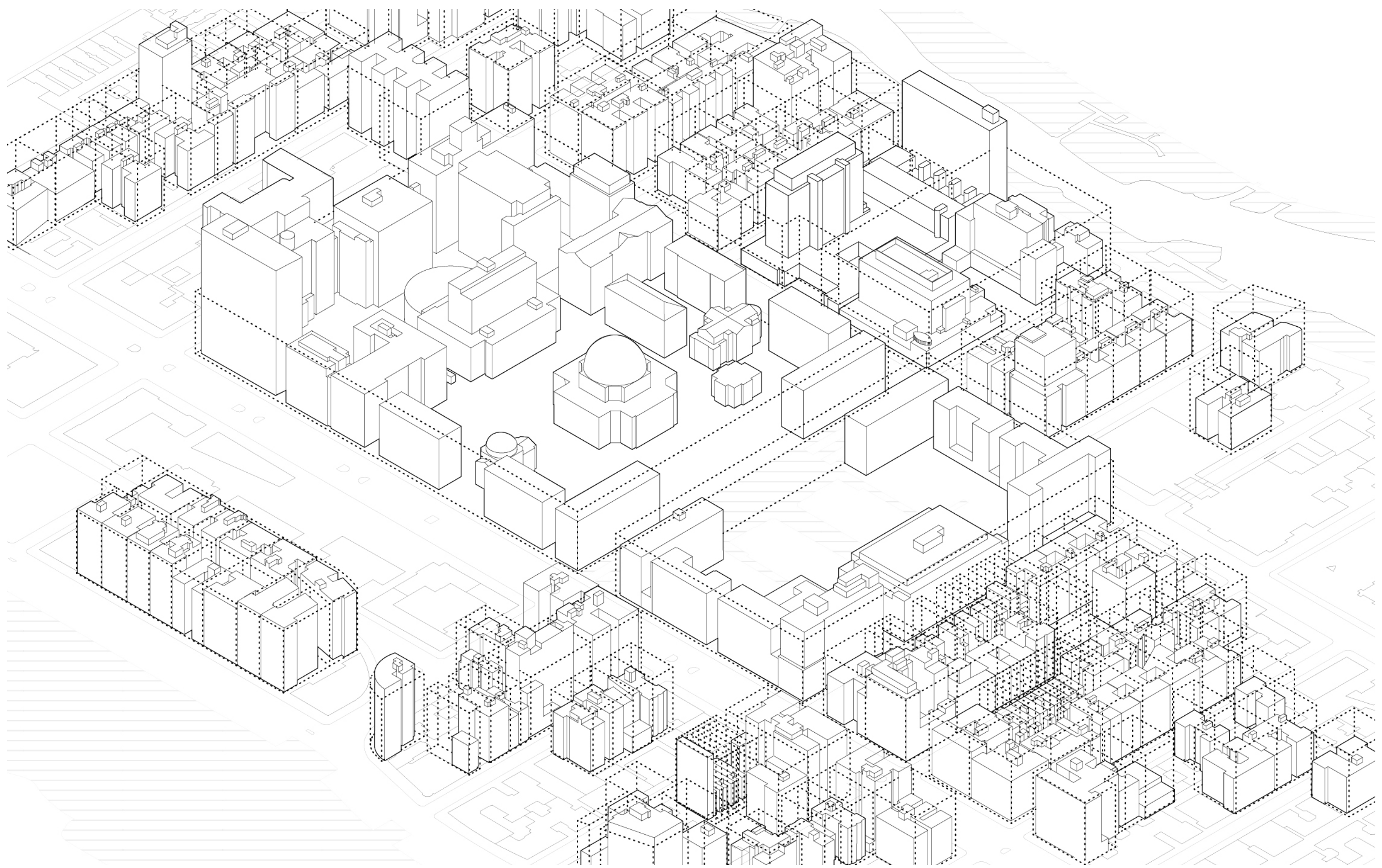
Fall 2020
Manhattan Valley, NY
Instructed by Lindy Roy
Research collaboration with Maclane Regan

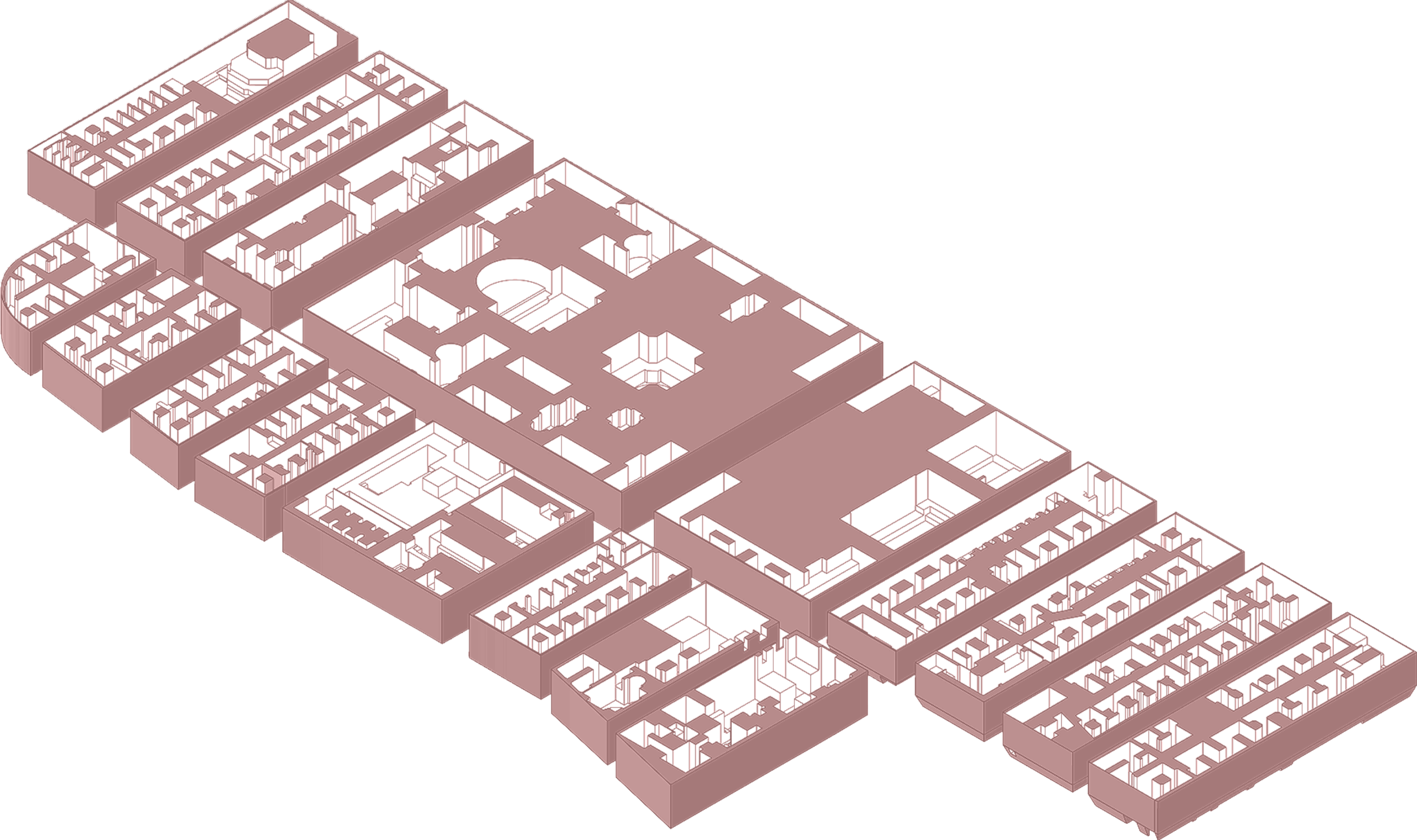
Despite being already the number one owner of property in New York City, Columbia University has had an accidented relationship with neighboring Harlem and Manhattanville as the university seeks to continue expanding property ownership in the area. The city applying eminent domain at times in support of the expansion have further exacerbated the tensions with the community.

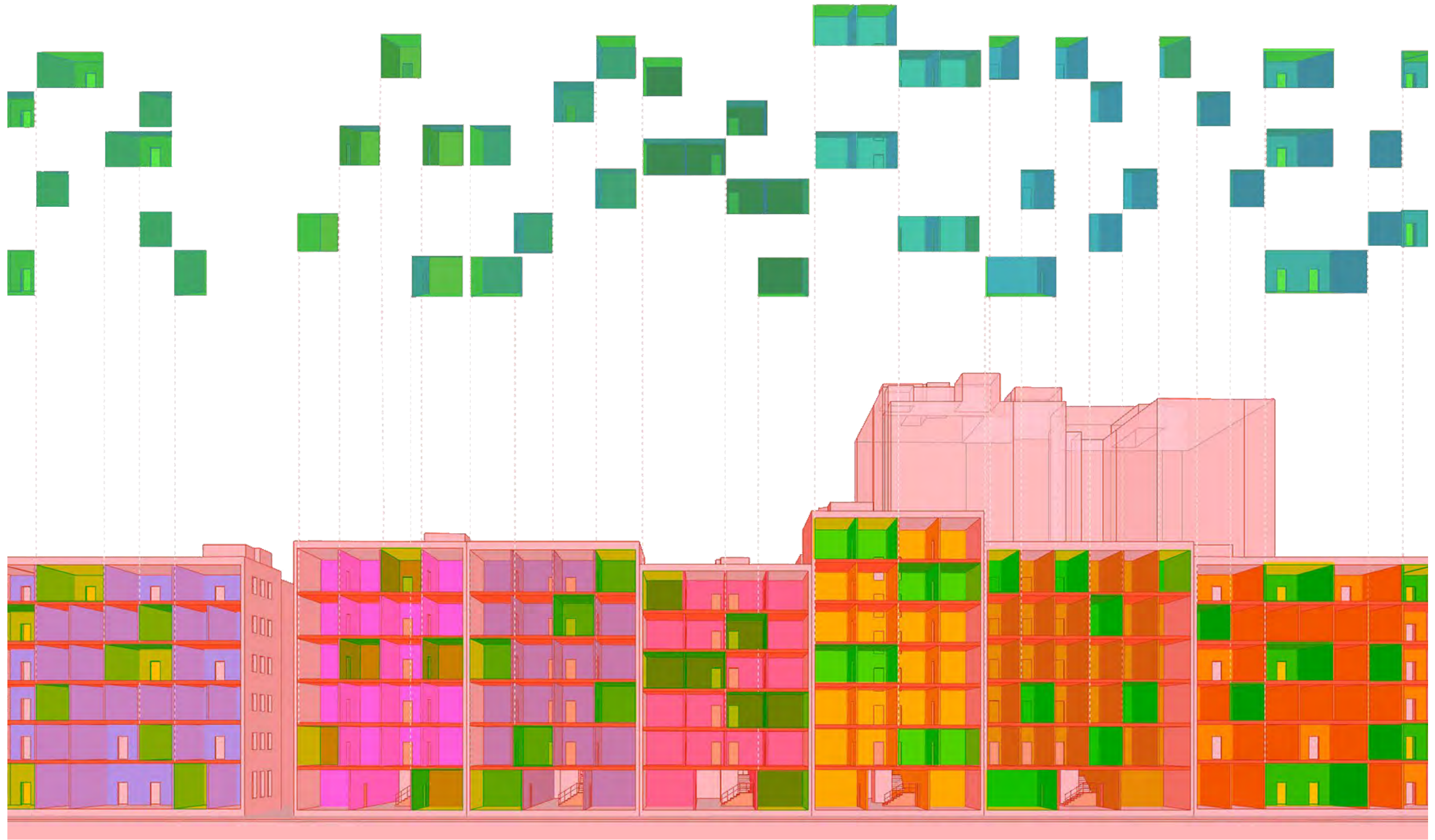
Do we need more land? Maps out property owned by the university in Manhattan, using Broadway as a reference. Then it zooms in to focus on the area covered by the Morningside Heights Campus and maps all unused Air rights and discovers more than 350,000 SF of unused area that could be used by the university to expand their built area if needed vertically, without taking over more neighboring land.

After considering expanding vertically, the project also looks into expanding underground, seeking to take advantage of empty storefronts along Broadway. The already struggling commercial rentals along Broadway have only worsened during the pandemic as 320,000 New Yorkers left the city in 2020 alone. Empty storefronts have caused a deactivation of the sidewalk along many segments of the avenue and this project seeks to provide a solution to turn those unused spaces into services to the community. It intends to activate the sidewalk by providing community spaces and participatory engagement at different levels to ensure inclusivity.





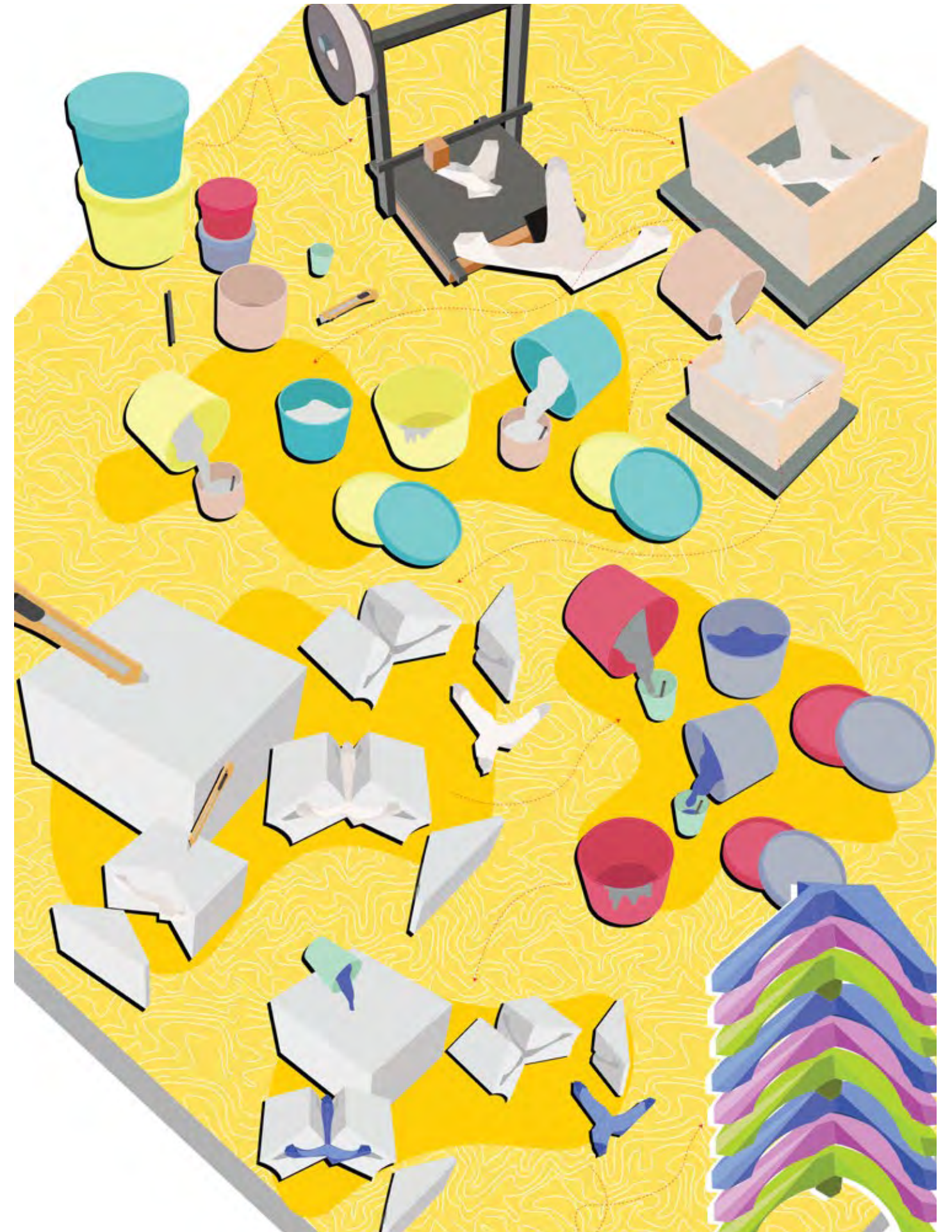






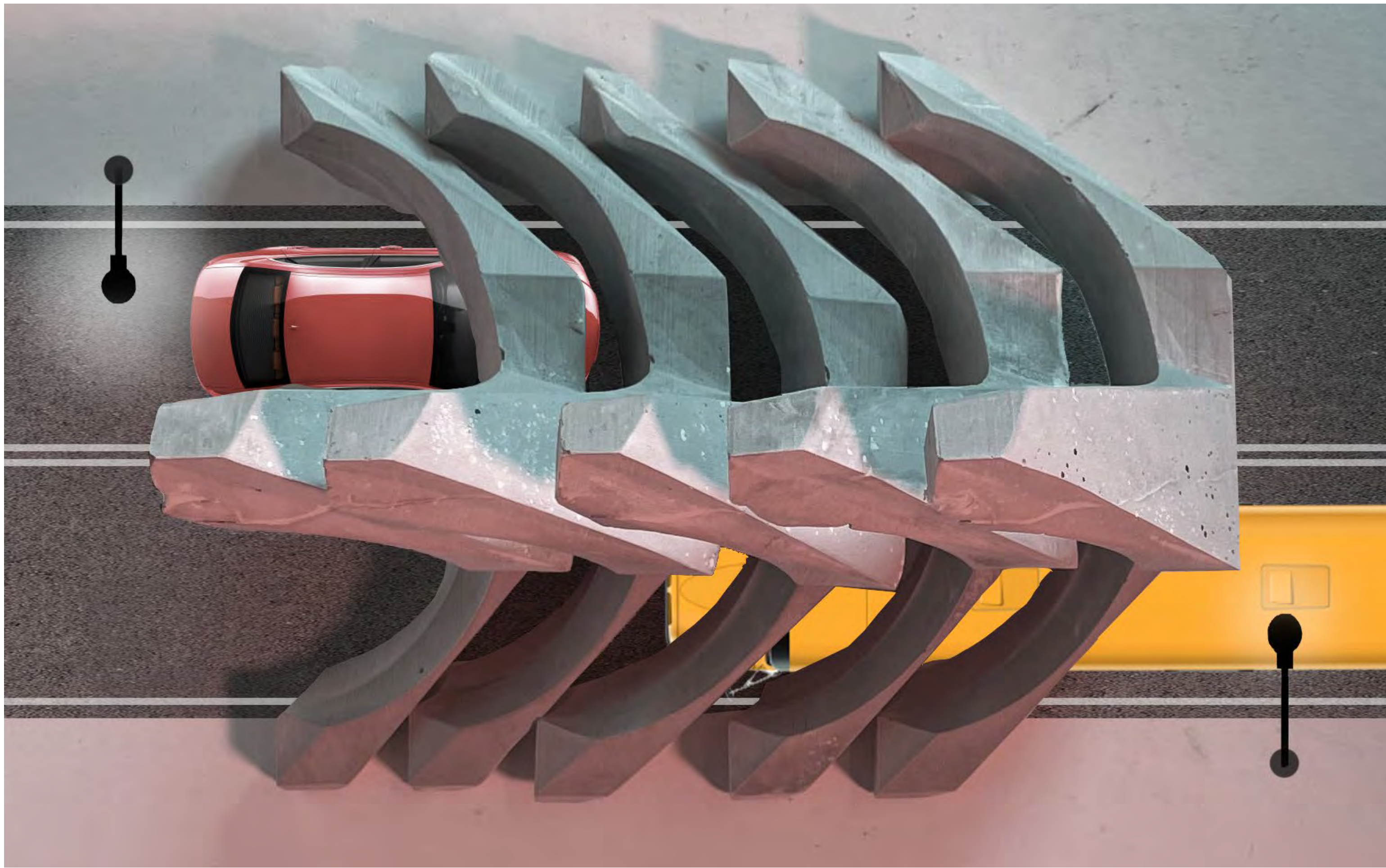
TESSELLATION

Fall 2022
Instructed by Joshua Jordan
Collaboration with Zina Berrada



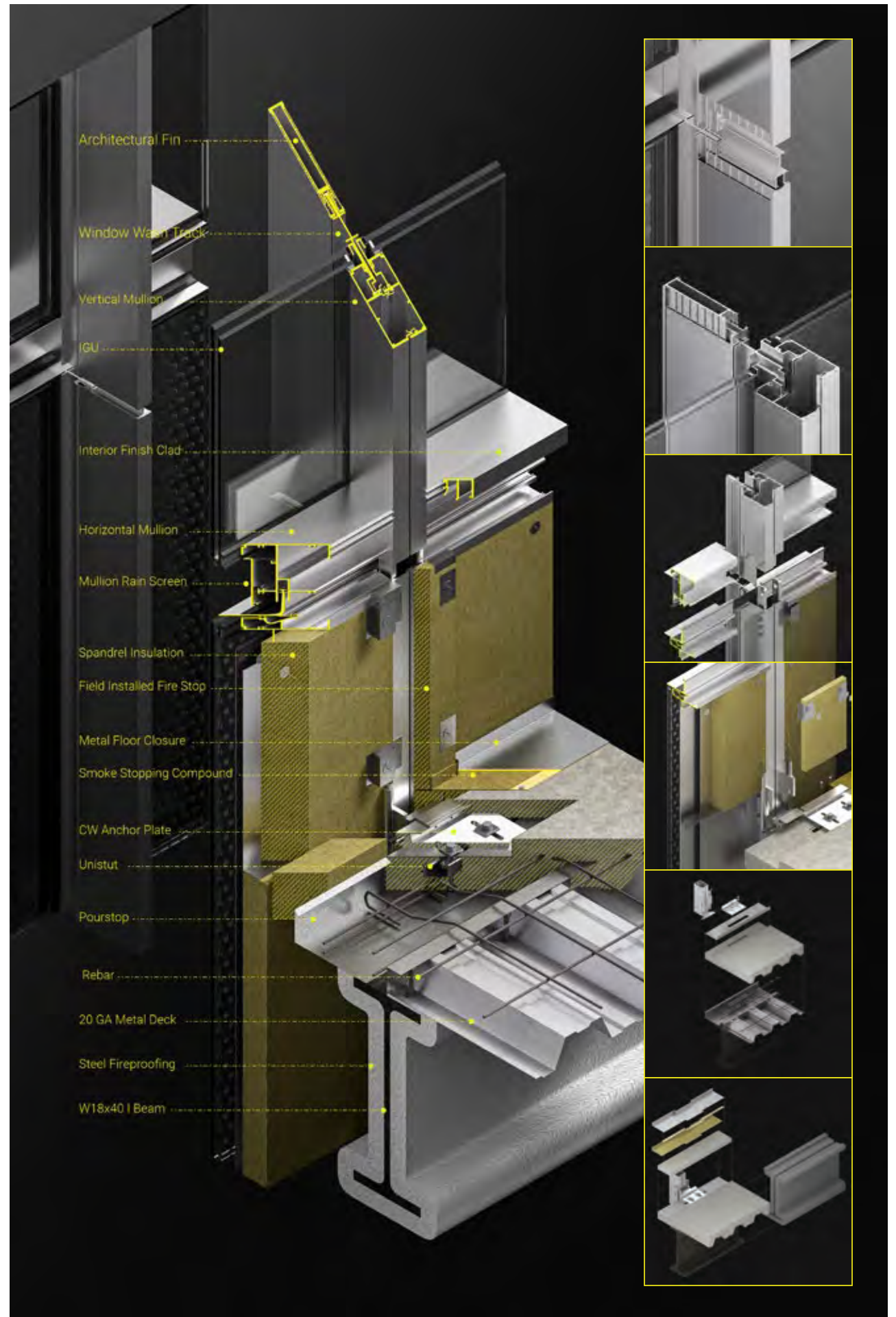


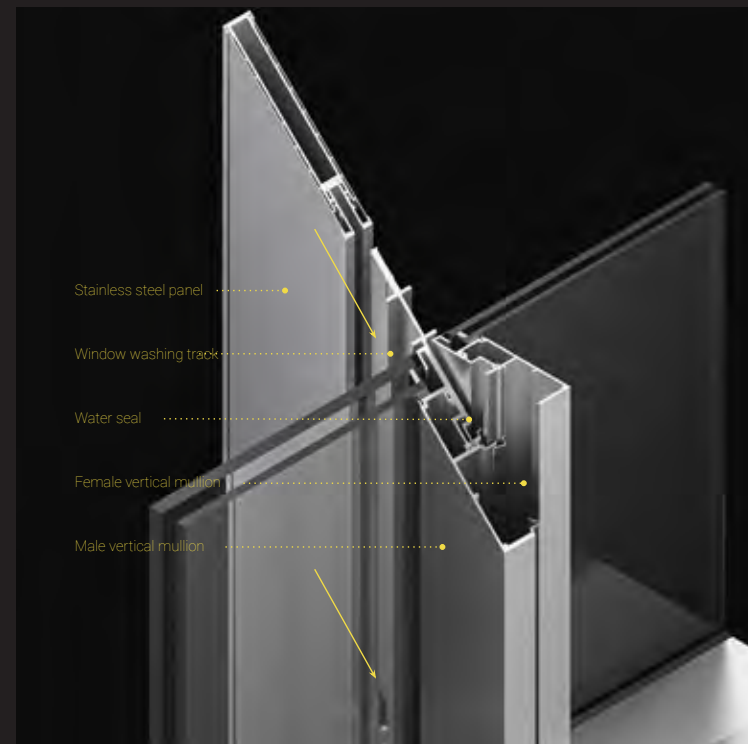
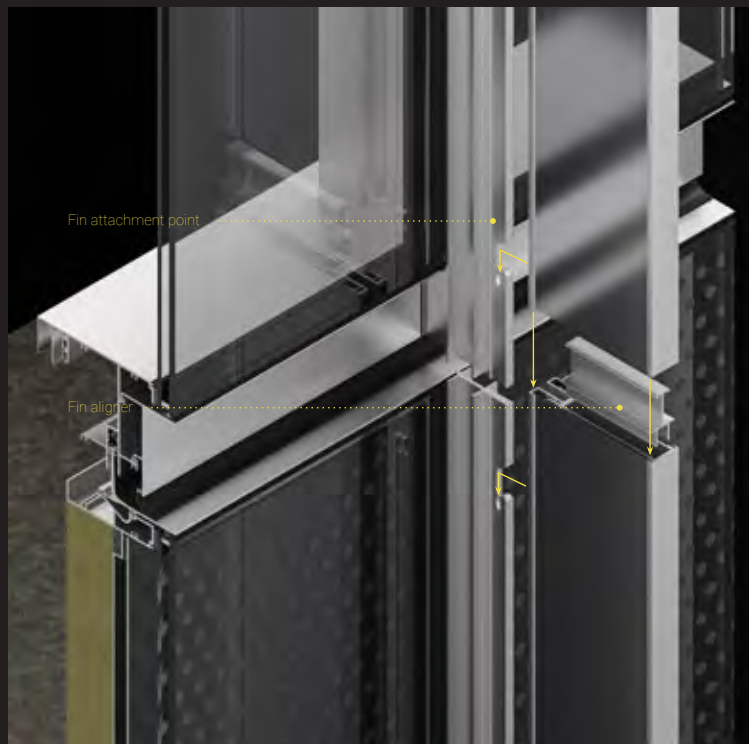
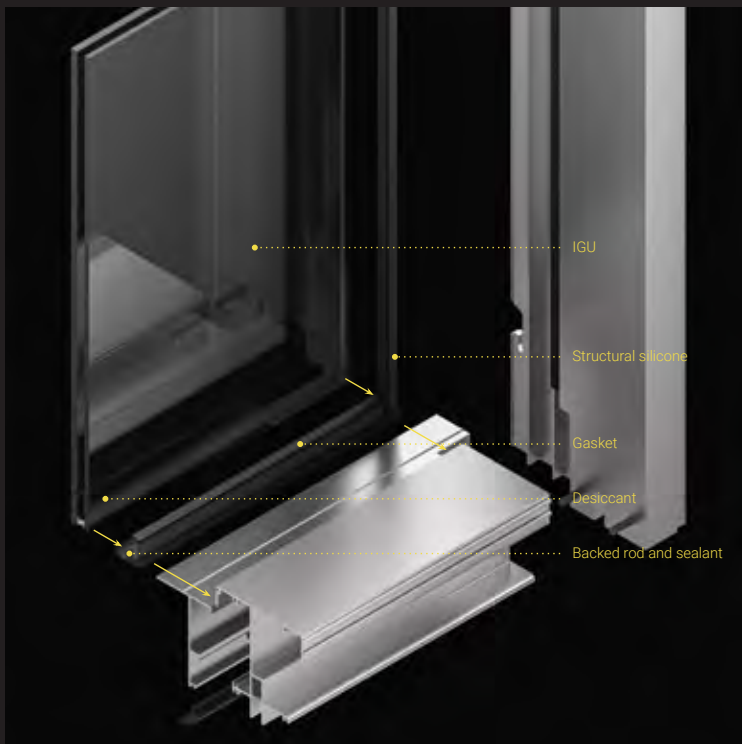
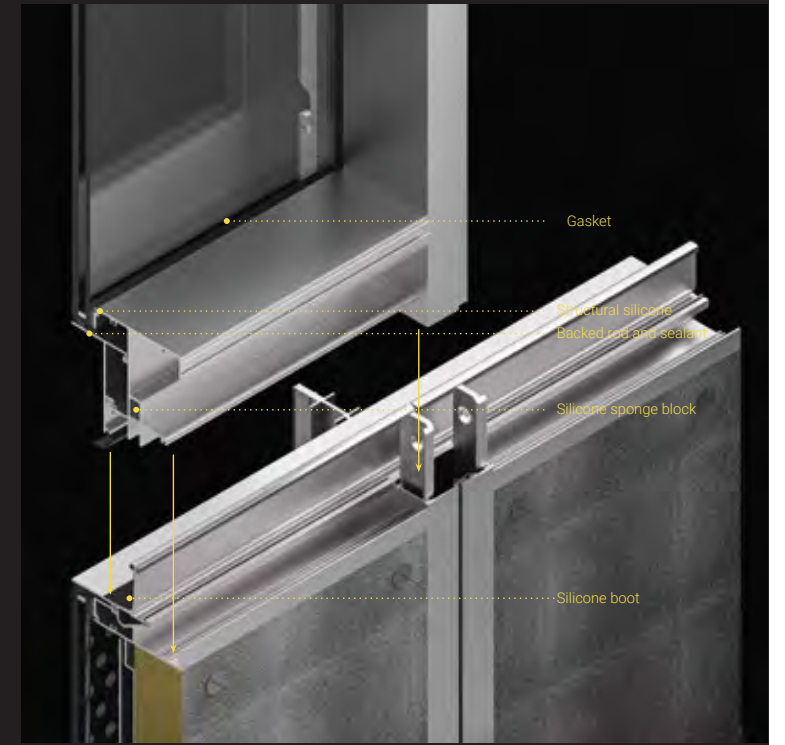
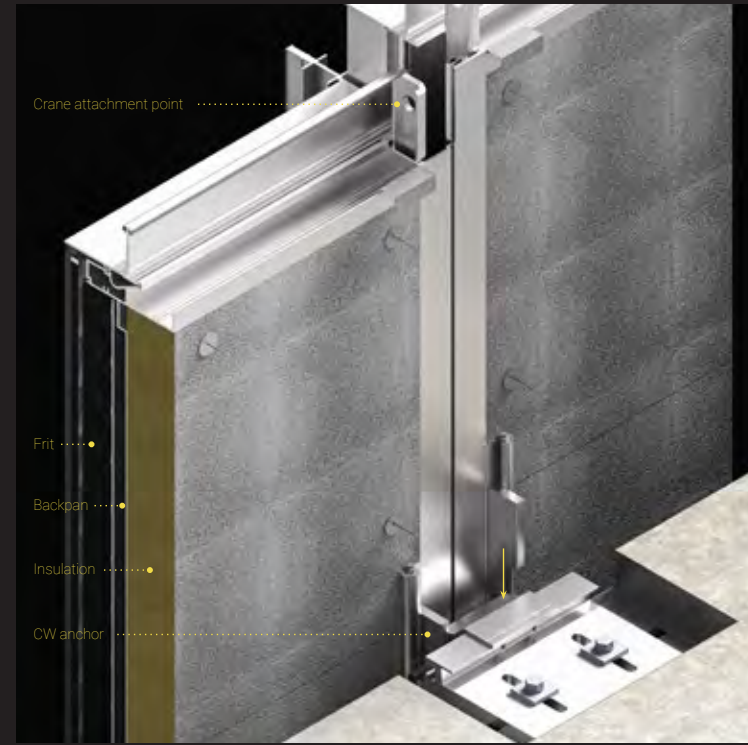
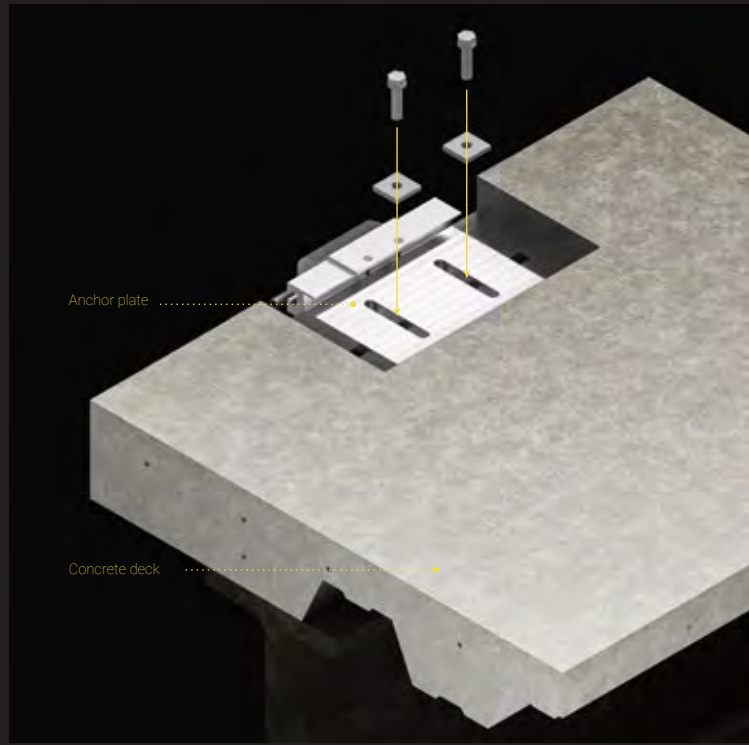
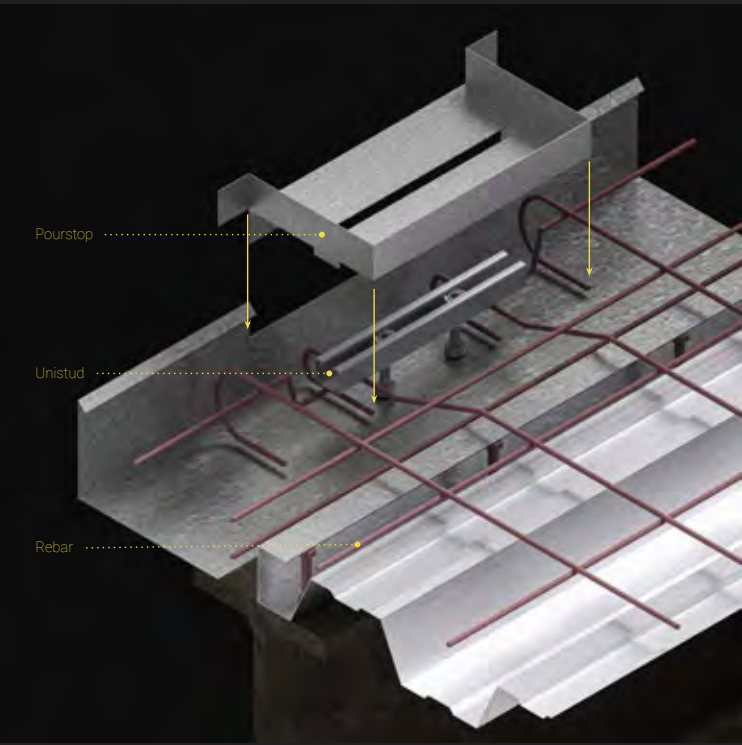


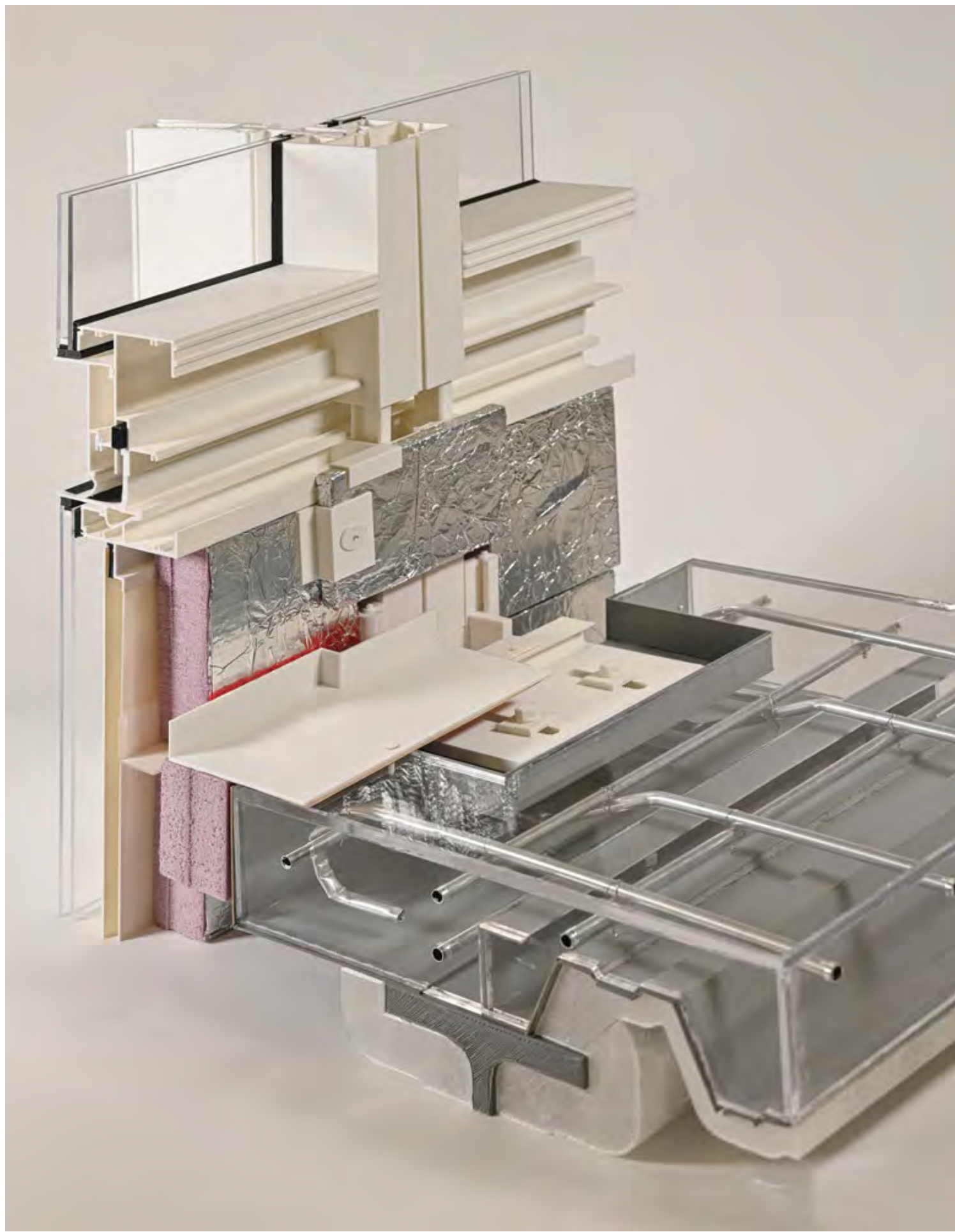


COMMERCIAL FACADE ASSEMBLY

Spring 2022
Instructed by Nicole Dosso
Collaboration with Nara Radinal, Ruisheng Yang and Zina Berrada





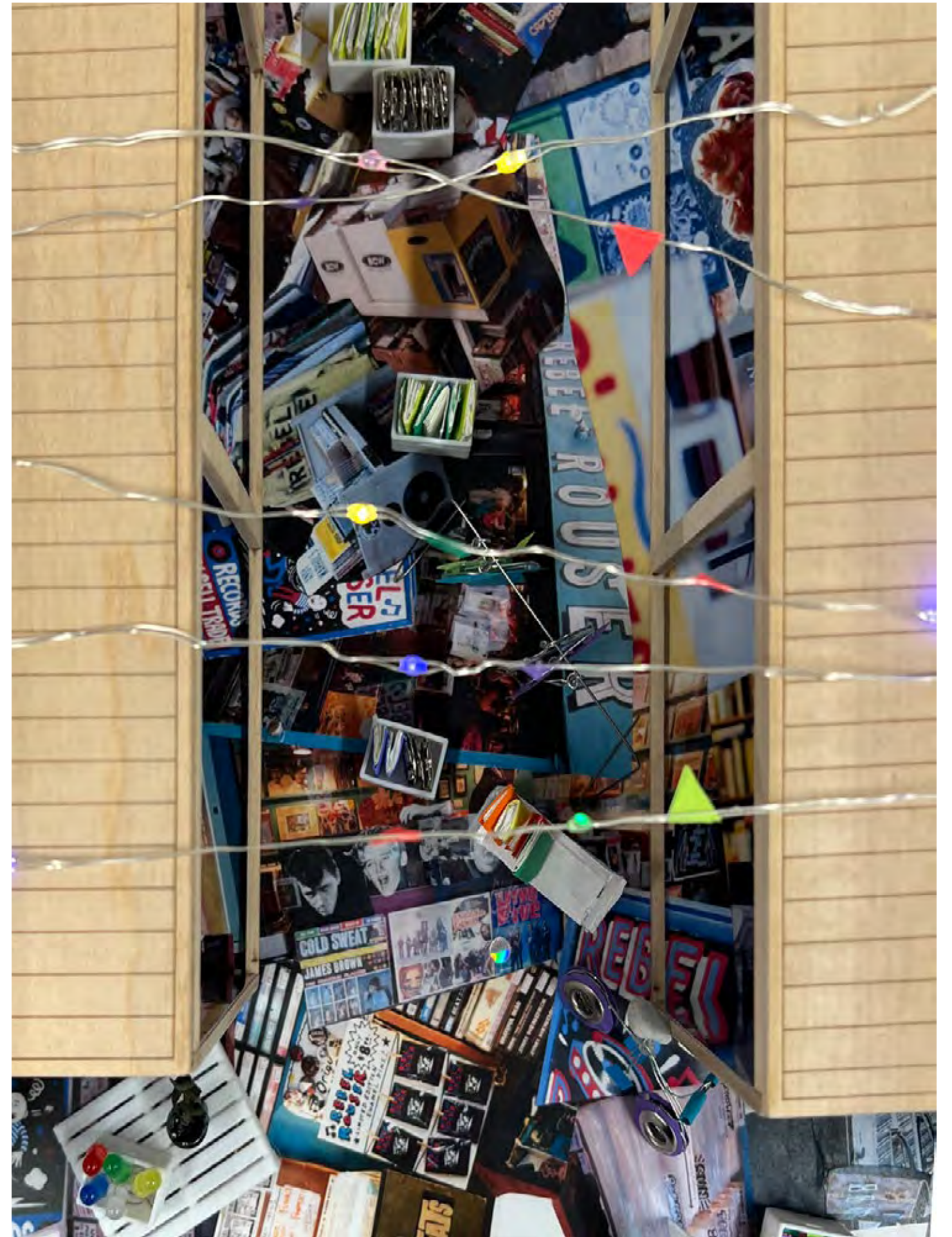


POWER TOOLS

Spring 2022

Brooklyn, NY

Instructed by Lexi Tsien and Jelisa Blumberg
Collaboration with Maclane Regan and Angela Keele





COLLABORATORS

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Zia Jamaledine
Gary Bates
Josh Jordan

Maclane Regan
Michael Lau
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