

Problem Statement



Digital technology has immense **potential**. It is being **under-utilized**. The main focus lies on the methods of **mass-production**, **standardization**, and **efficiency**, generating an architecture that has become un-ornamental.

Relevance



Contemporary ornament serves as a tool to a very image and **digital driven society**. It is an instrument of **impression and expression**. It expresses the **symbolic dimension** of the form it holds. It creates a **bond between people** and their surroundings.

Al is the future. It is enriching and accelerating our cities, within out last decade. Wealth in its applications across different scales.

Research Questions

Why should ornaments be reintroduced into architecture, if they are seen as time-consuming, non-functional, and only a form of decoration?

How can AI and digital technology change the way we design and think about ornamentation?

What are the potentials of AI/digital technology and how will they change the fabrication process of ornaments? What should contemporary ornament aim to contribute/communicate to current, as well as future architecture and audiences?

Definitions

Ornament or na ment (noun)

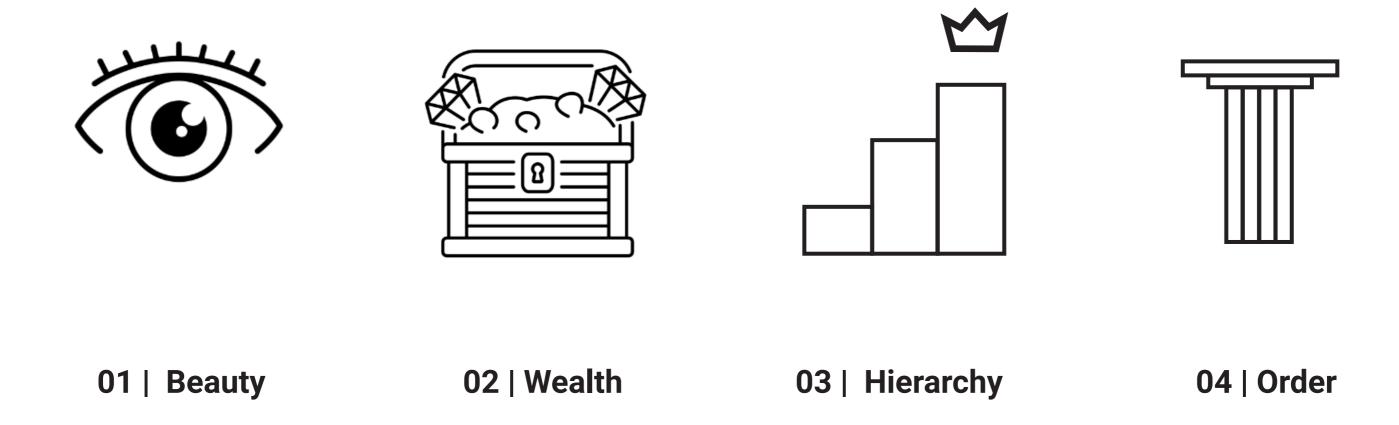
'Ornament' is defined as "a useful accessory that lends grace or beauty". It is "a thing used or serving to make something look more attractive but usually having no practical purpose".

¹ Ornament [Def. 2]. (n.d.). In Merriam-Webster online. Retrieved from http:// Merriam-Webster.com.

² Ornament [Def. 1]. (n.d.). In Oxford English Dictionary online. Retrieved from http://www.oed.com.

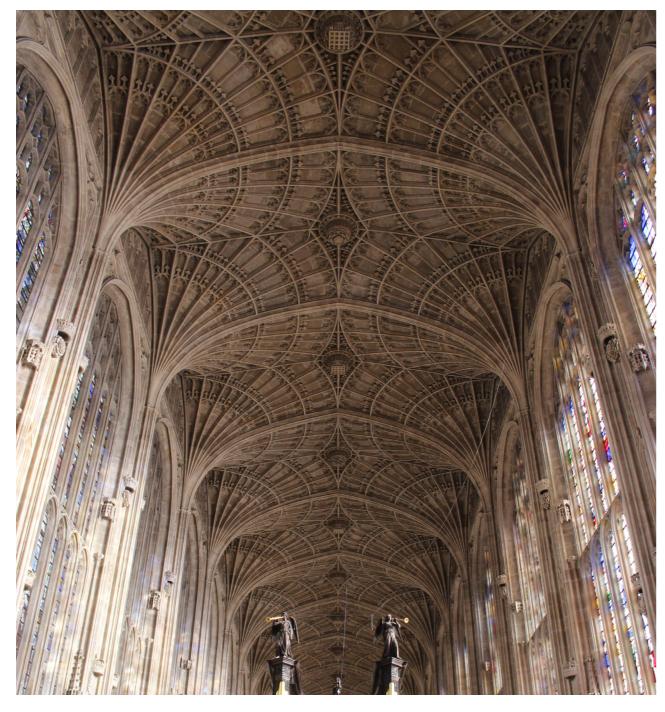
Purpose of Historical Ornaments

In a historical context, ornament was integral in creating a **sense of craft** in the design. The historical conception of ornament was interwoven with the **history of style**, each of which produced its own ornaments per se with a clear definition and **set of rules** for its design, production, and application.

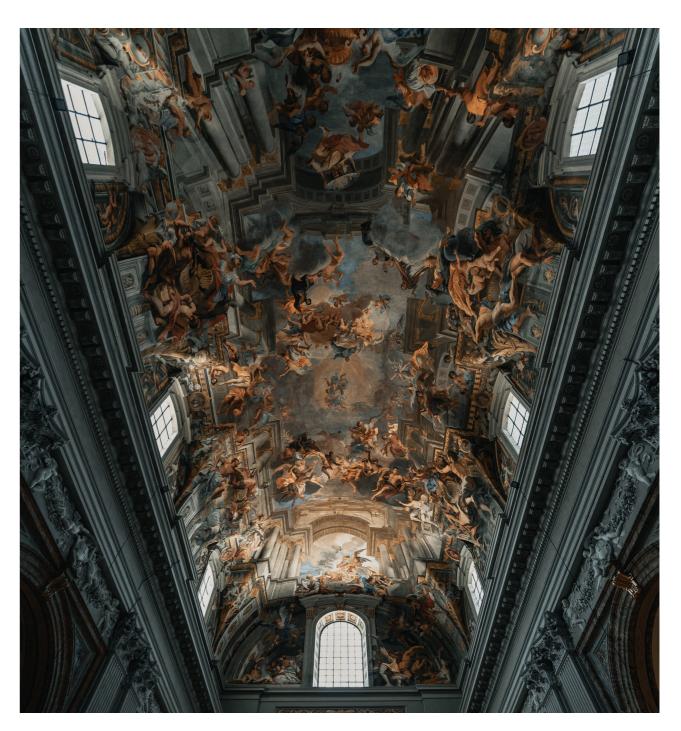


Historical Ornament

Throughout history, ornament was predominantly used as an expression of culture or hierarchy. Ornament has been either **integrated** into the design of the building or **applied** as a decoration.



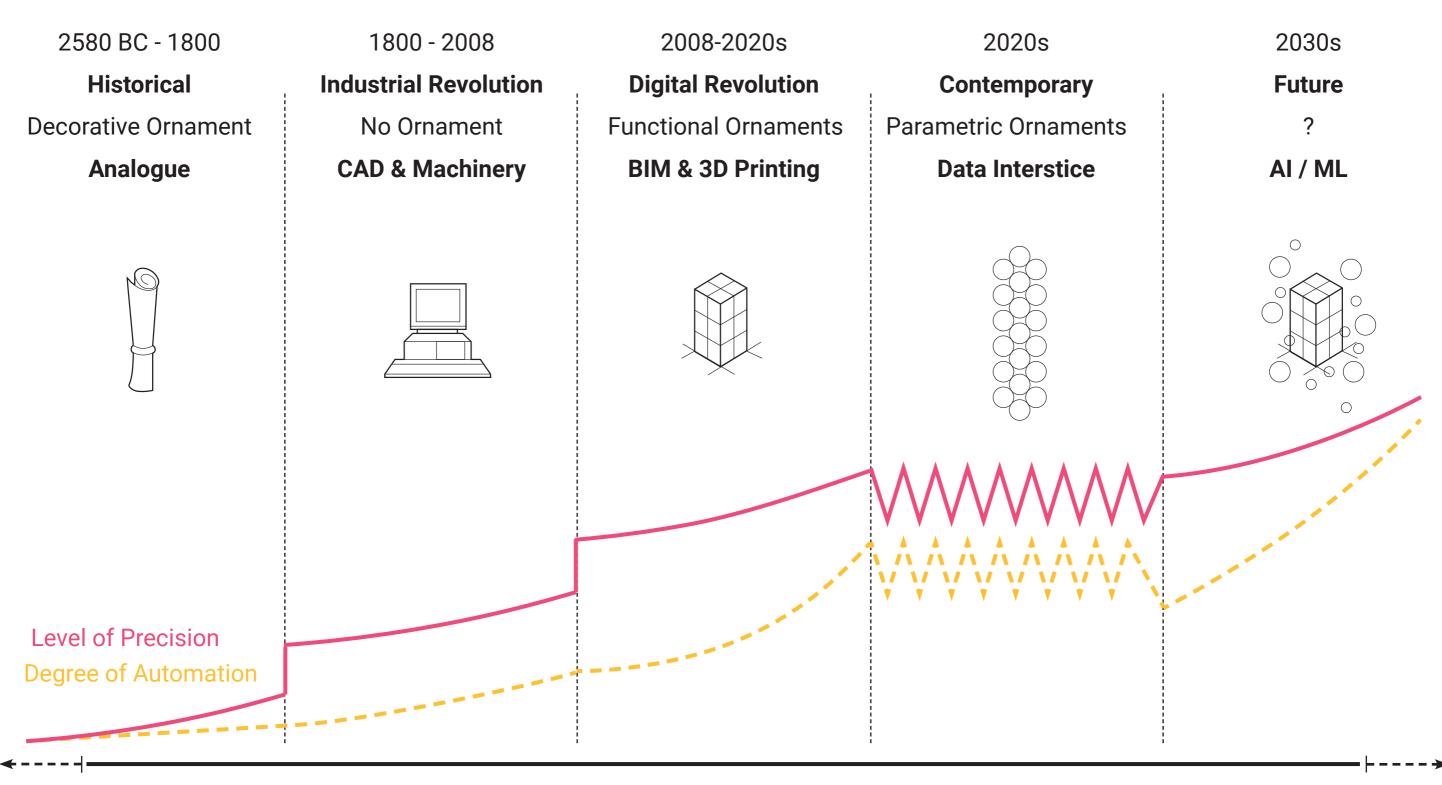
01 | Integrated



02 | Applied

Integrated Ornament; Source: https://unsplash.com/photos/er00p3S4us4 Applied Ornament; Source: https://unsplash.com/photos/mgLX9vQhxc8

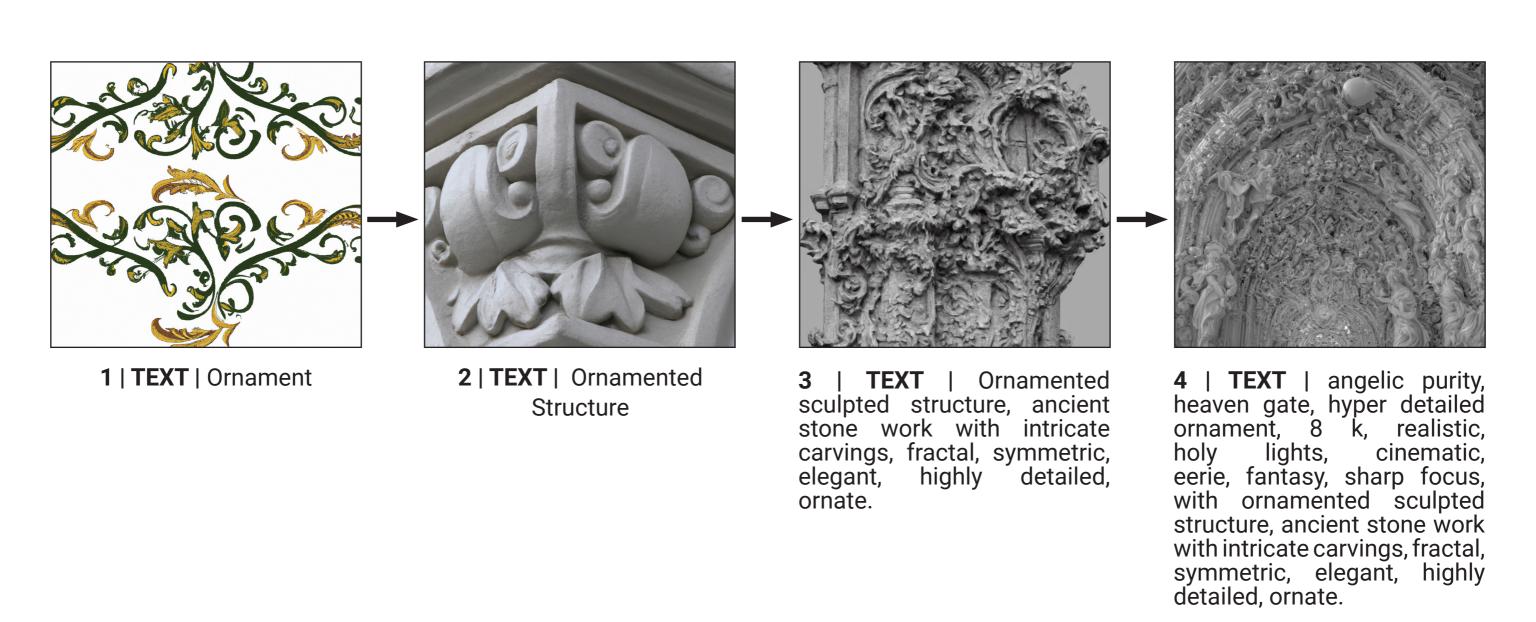
Ornament vs Technology



Technology Involvement Resolution & Precision

More

Visualization/Representation



Text-to-Image

Visualization/Representation



Image 01 | Content Image



Image 02 | Style Image



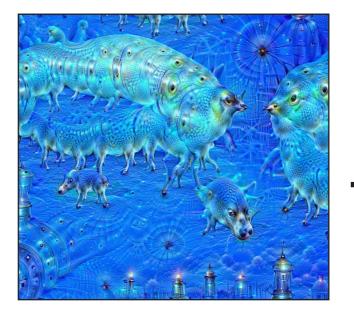
Image 03 | Resulting Image



Image 01 | Original Image



Image 02 | Original Images



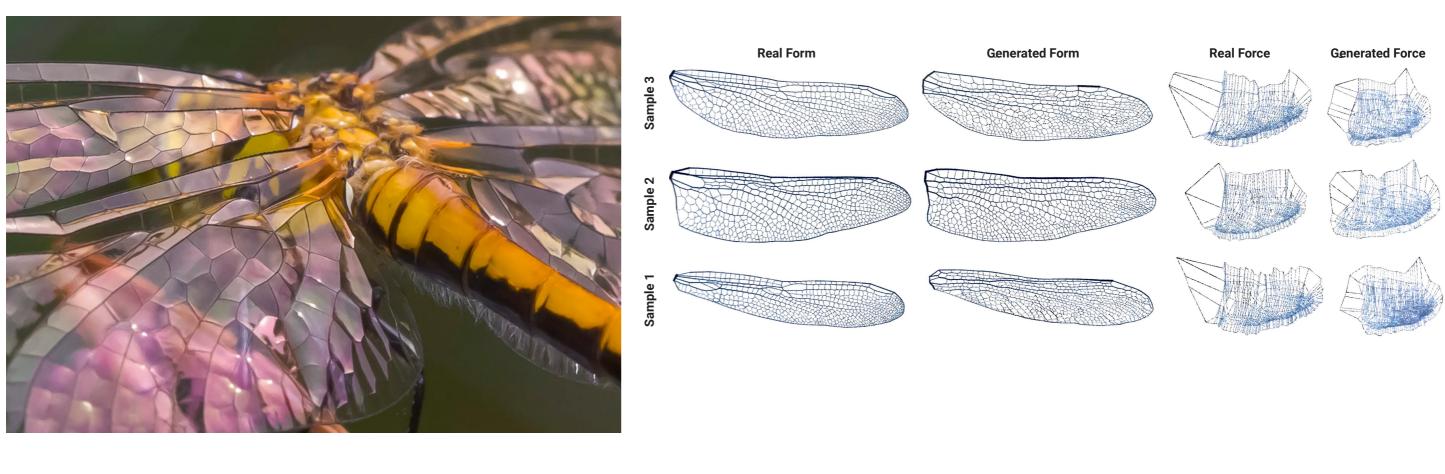
Resulting Image | 10 iterations of applying DeepDream

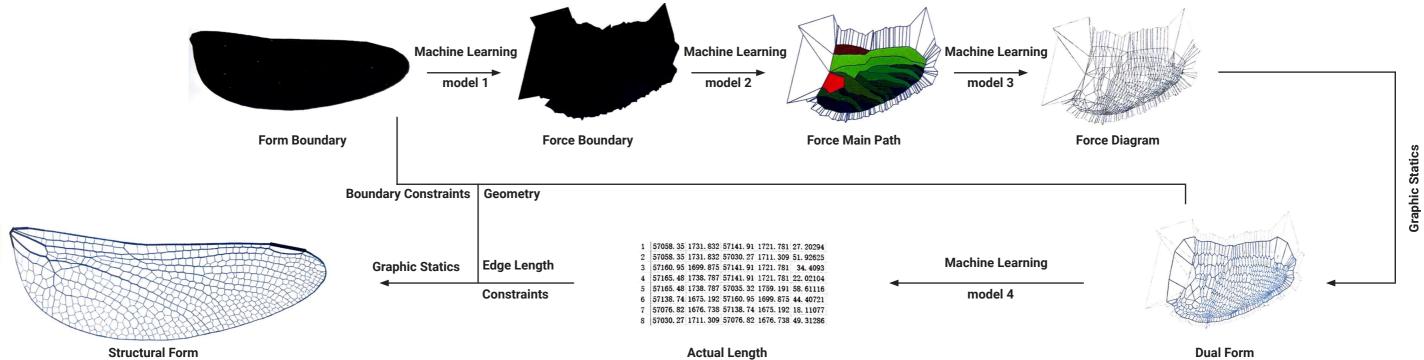


Resulting Image | 50 iterations of applying DeepDream

Image-to-Image

The Dragonfly Wing Project



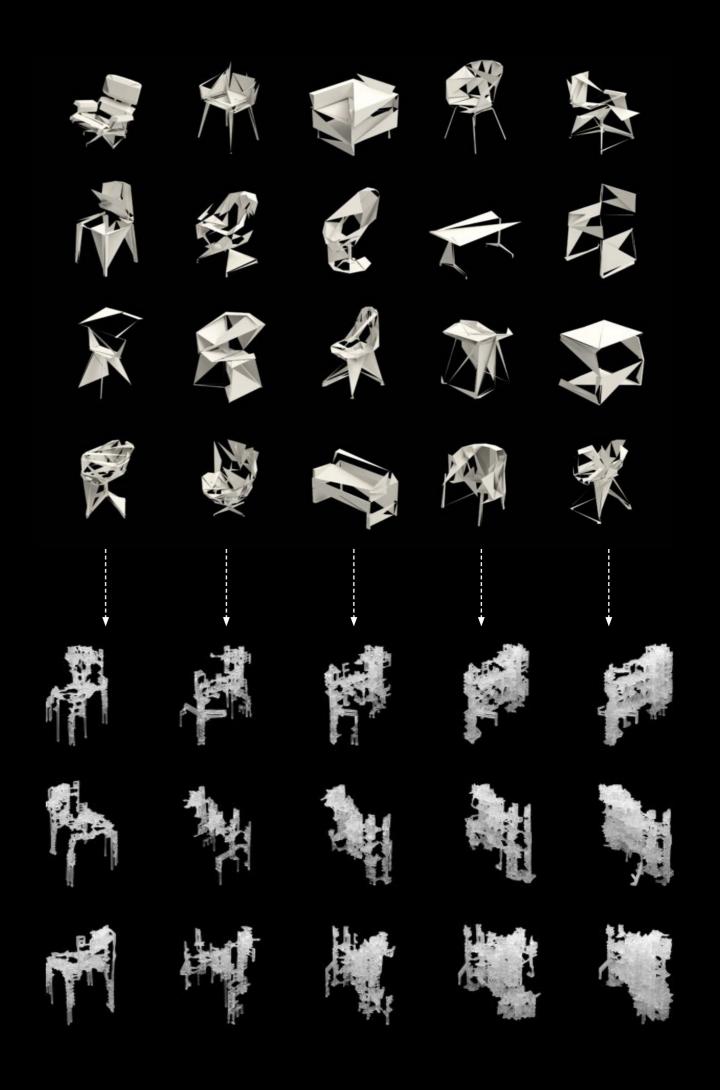


3D-GAN-Ar-Chair-tecture

"Deep neural networks in contemporary AI are machines of automaticity that imitate brain plasticity. There are therefore able to 'receive', 'give' and 'explode' form, yet are also inscribed with a conceptually similar 'fallibility' for their capacity to generate forms".

- Immanuel Koh





Contemporary Ornament



Contemporary Ornamentation should seek **functionality** and **express the symbolic** dimension of form it holds. Should strive to be the **equilibrium** of all things.

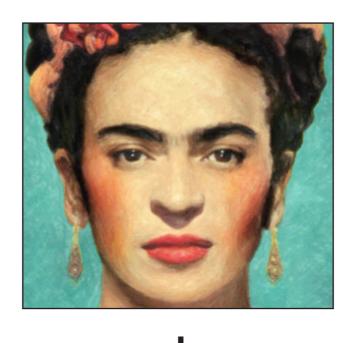
EXPLORATIONS

Types of Explorations





Method 01





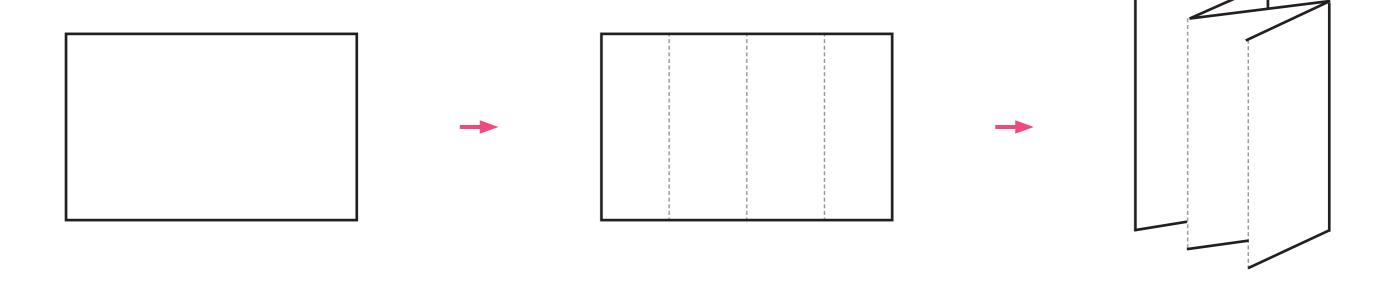
Method 02





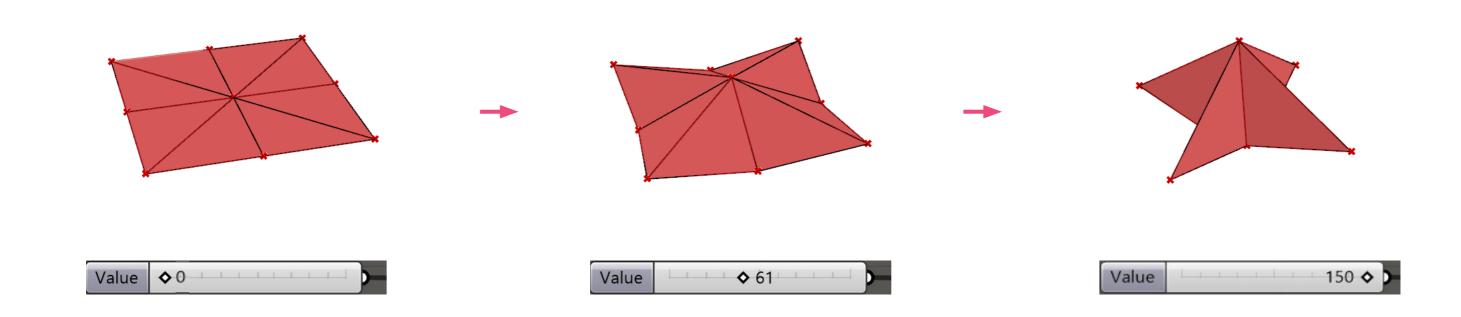
Method 03

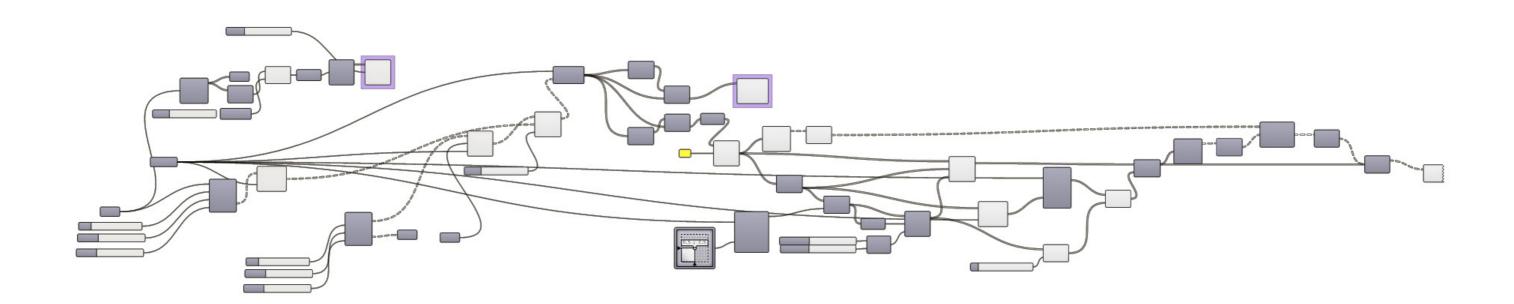
Exploration





Exploration





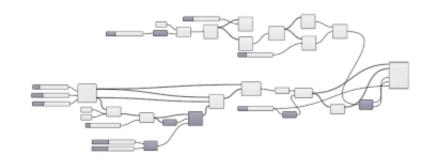
Method

{TEXT PROMT}

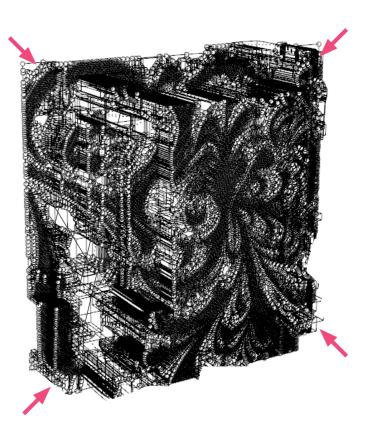
complex pattern, black, white, advanced, detailed, white background, line drawing, simple illustration, flat design, ornamentation, unrepetitive





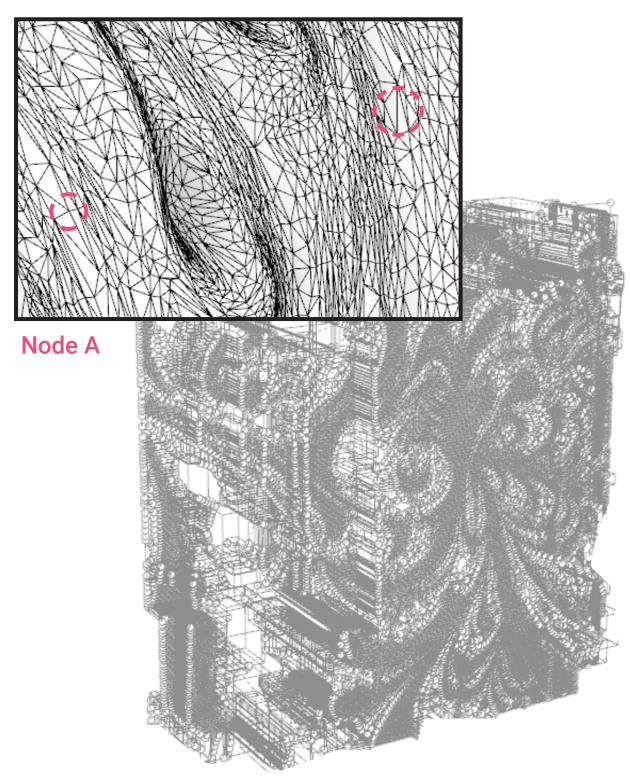


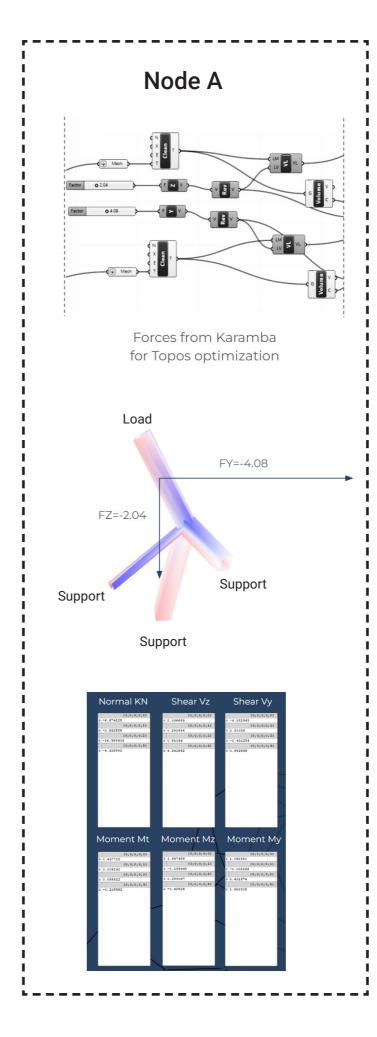


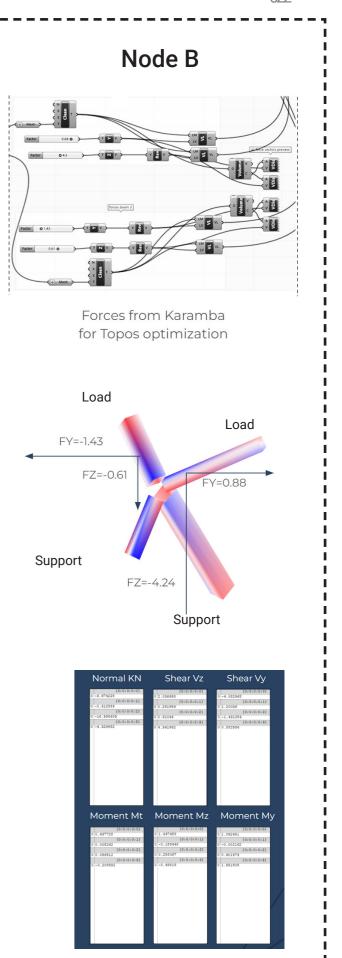


Structural Optimization in Karamba

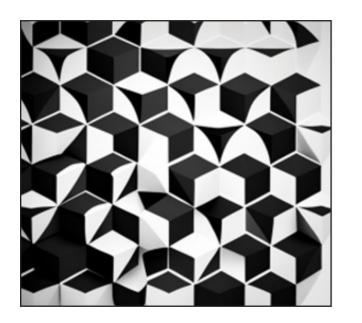
Node B







Level of Complexity



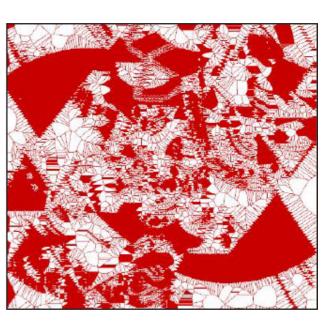
Output Image | Al Generated - Black and White Geometry



Output Image | Grasshopper Script



Output Image | Al Generated - Colourful Geometry



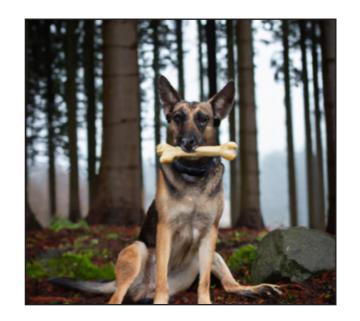
Output Image | Grasshopper Script



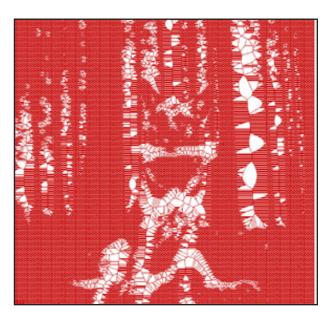
Output Image | Al Generated - Faces



Output Image | Grasshopper Script



Output Image | Al Generated - Complex Scenery



Output Image | Grasshopper Script

Existing Ornament Comparison



Image 01 | Photograph of David



Image 02 | Al generated image of David

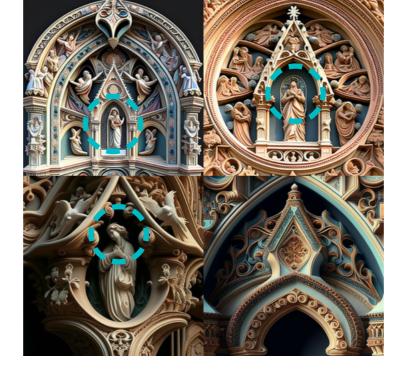


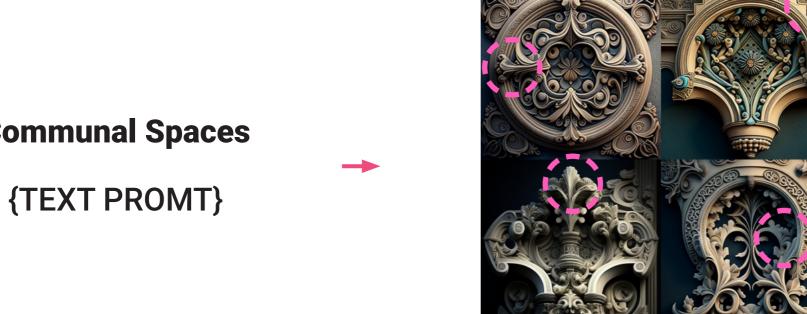
Image 03 | Resulting Image from Grasshopper Script

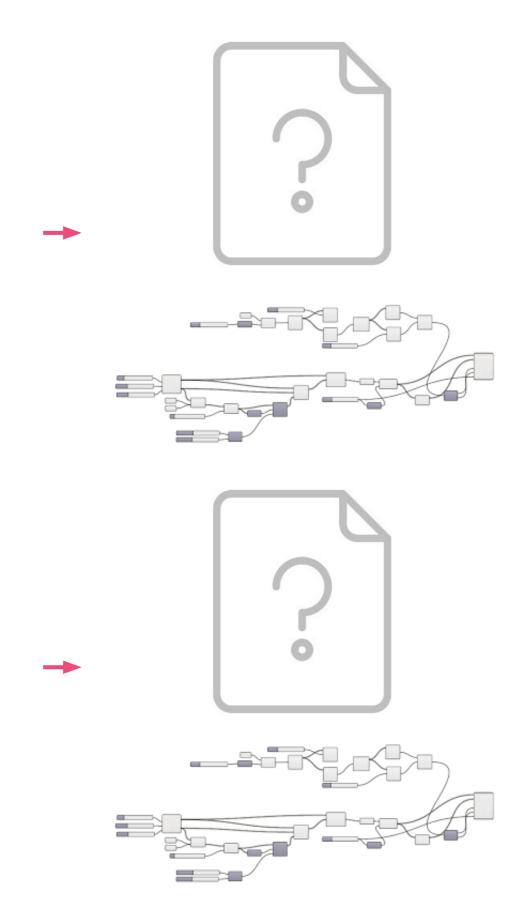
Implementation into Design

Religious Spaces

{TEXT PROMT}

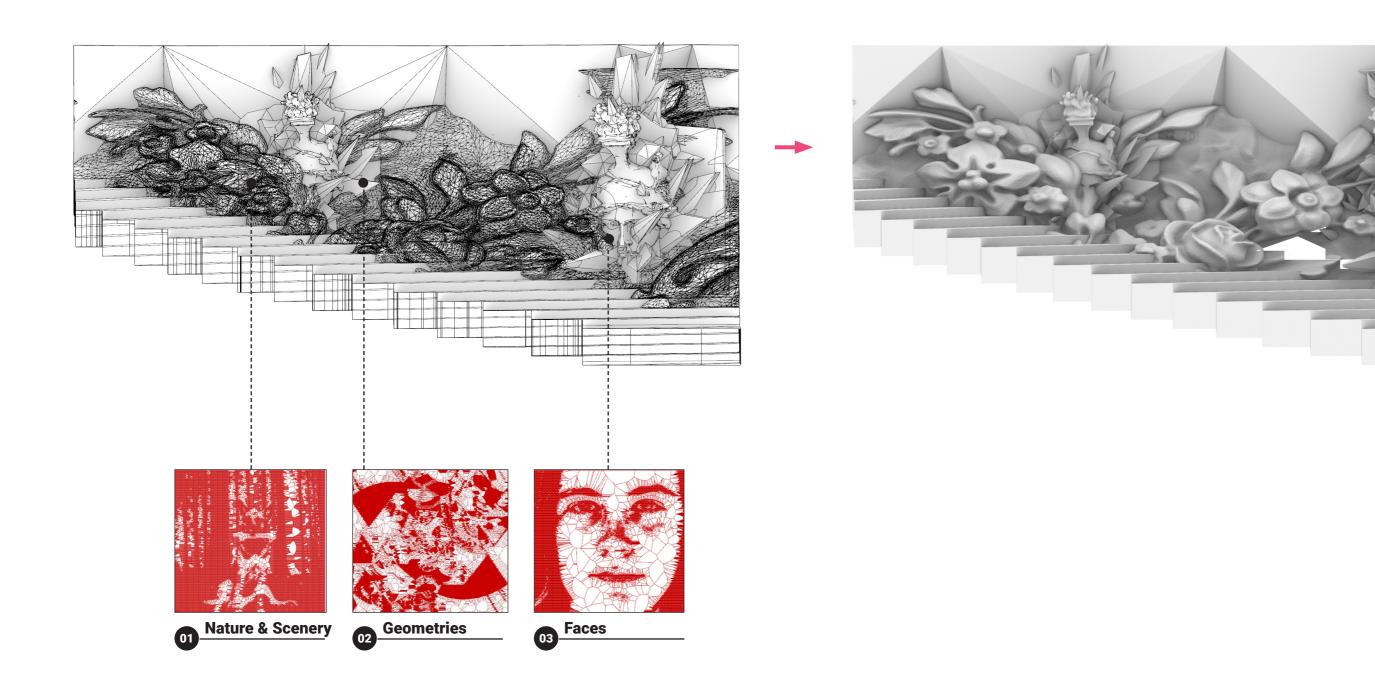






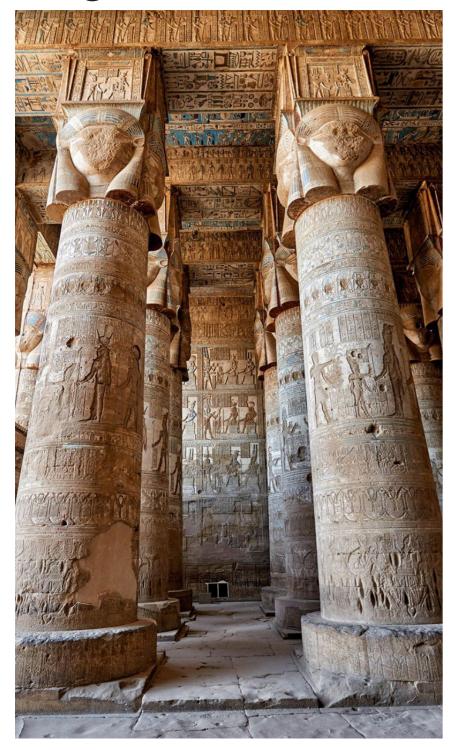


Ornament Wall

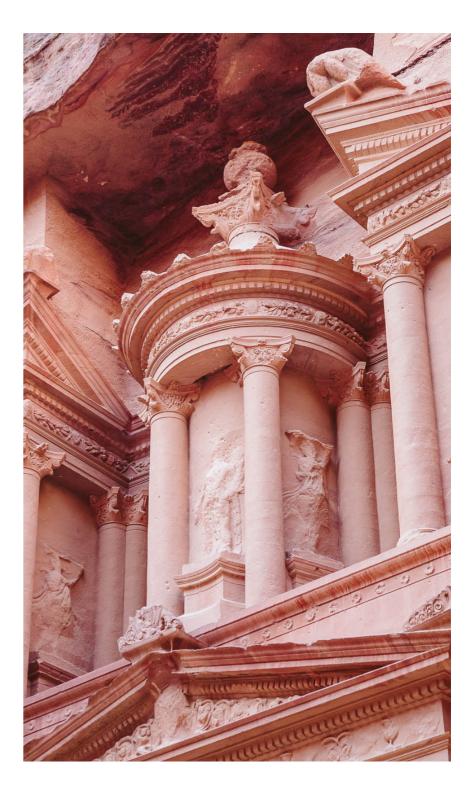


DESIGN

Original Ornament







The first ornaments appeared in **Ancient Egypt.** They were found within **temples** inteded to worship their gods. From then, ornaments have been incorporated in various **cultures**, **religious buildings** and **places of Worship**.



Religion Statistics of New York

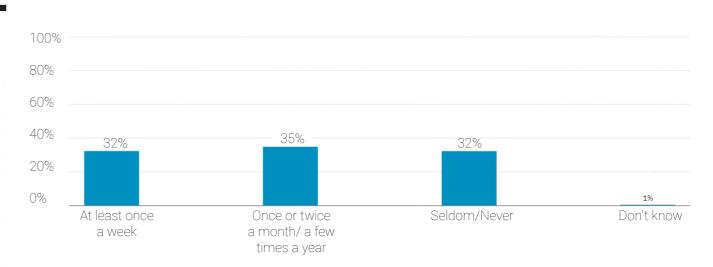
New York County is diverse religiously and ethnically. There's a place of worship every two blocks. There are about 350 Catholic Churches in NYC. And that doesn't count Baptists, Presbyterians, Lutherans, Orthodox, all other Christians and non-Christians.

Religious Affiliation of New York City Residents by Borough

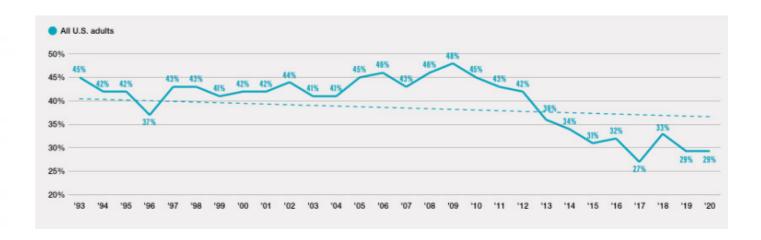
	All Americans	All New York City Metro Area	New York City	Manhattan	Bronx	Brooklyn
N=	81,970	5,183	2,304	525	452	695
White evangelical Protestant	17.3	2	1	2	1	1
White mainline Protestant	13.3	4	2	3	1	2
Black Protestant	7.9	12	14	8	18	17
Hispanic Protestant	3.8	5	6	4	12	6
Other non-white Protestant	3.1	2	3	2	2	3
White Catholic	12.1	17	9	8	4	6
Hispanic Catholic	7.3	14	17	13	30	11
Other non-white Catholic	1.8	3	4	1	4	6
Jehovah's Witness	0.7	1	1	*	1	1
Mormon	1.9	*	*	1	*	*
Orthodox Christian	0.6	1	1	2	1	2
Jewish	1.5	6	7	8	2	11
Muslim	0.9	3	3	1	2	4
Buddhist	0.7	1	1	1	1	1
Hindu	0.6	2	1	1	*	1
Unaffiliated	22.7	22	25	38	20	24
Unitarian/Universalist	0.2	*	*	*	*	1
Other religion	1	1	1	*	*	1
Don't know/Refused	2.6	3	3	5	1	2

Attendance at religious services among adults in the New York City metro area

% of adults in the New York City metro area who attend religious services...

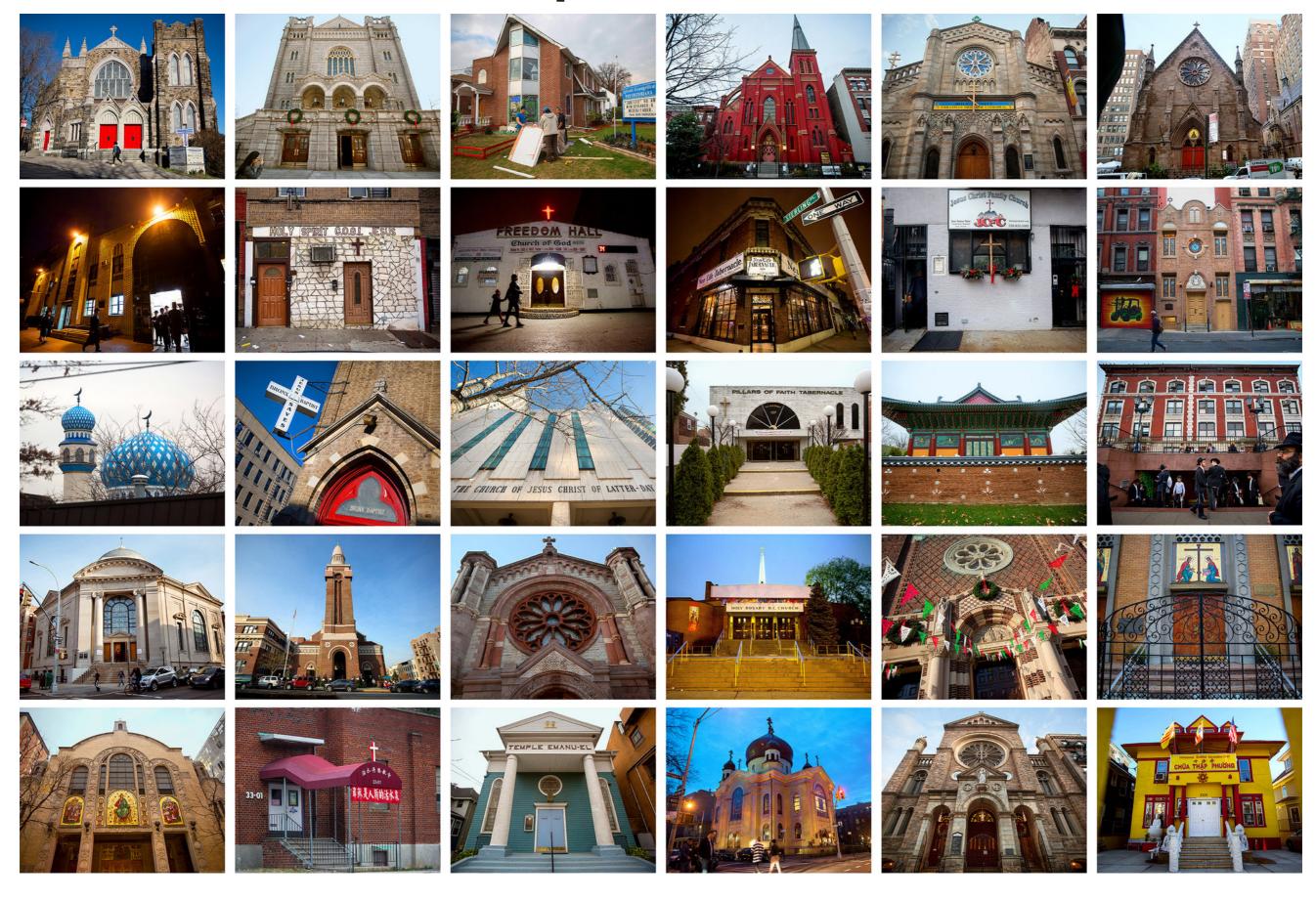


Weekly Church Attendance: 1993-2020

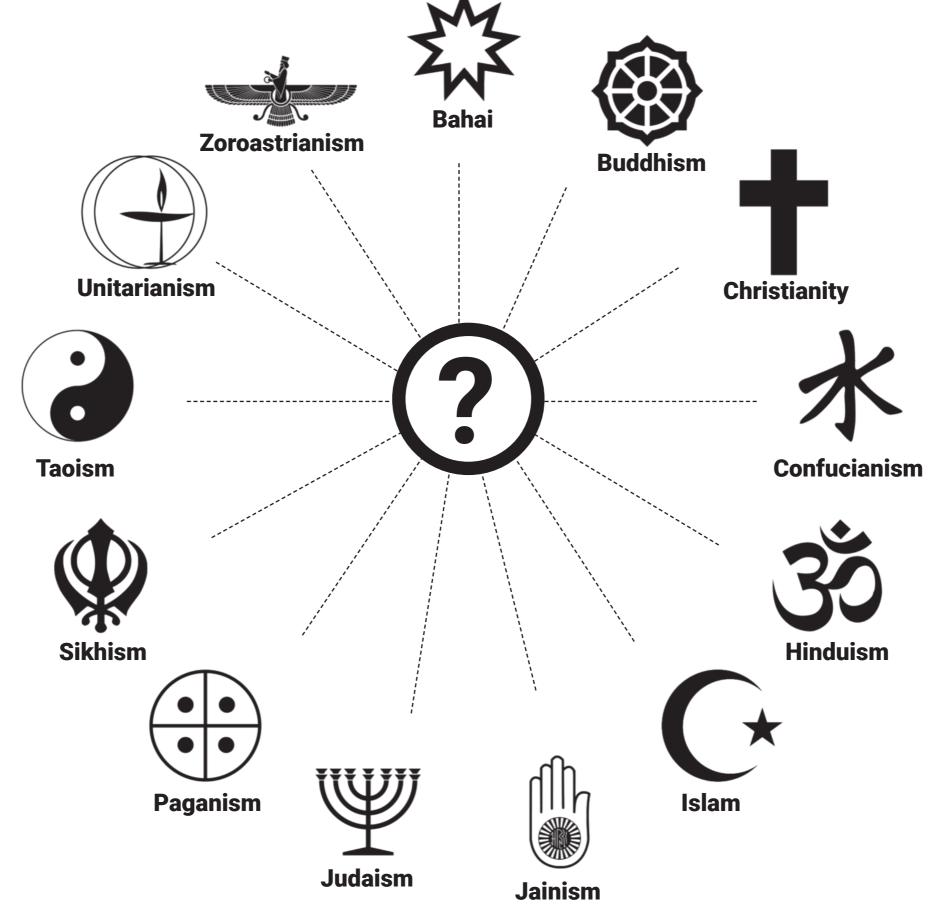




Where New Yorkers Worship

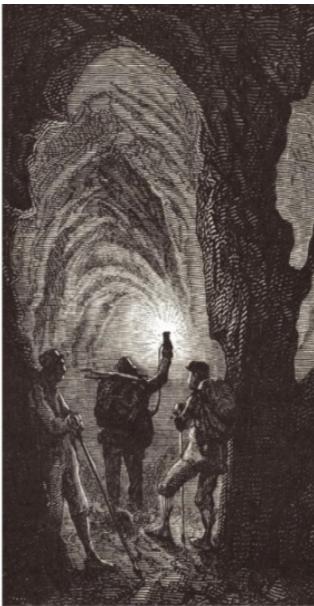


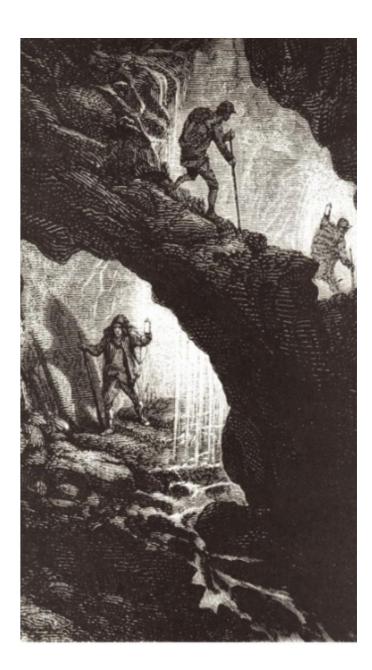
New Religious Space



Grotto

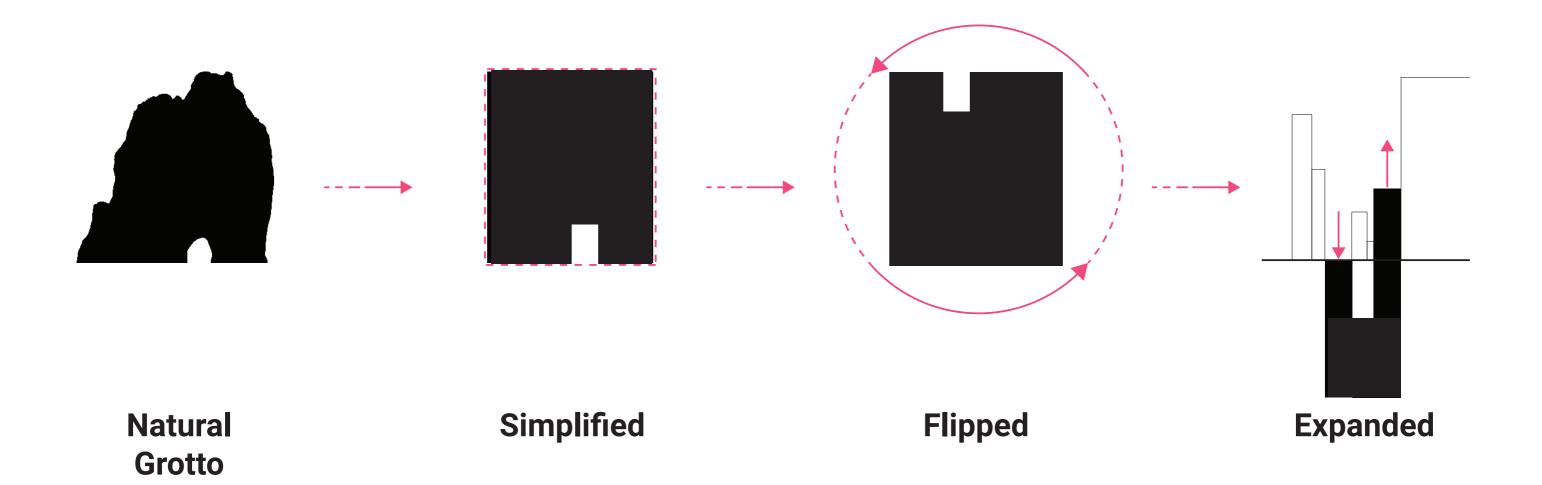


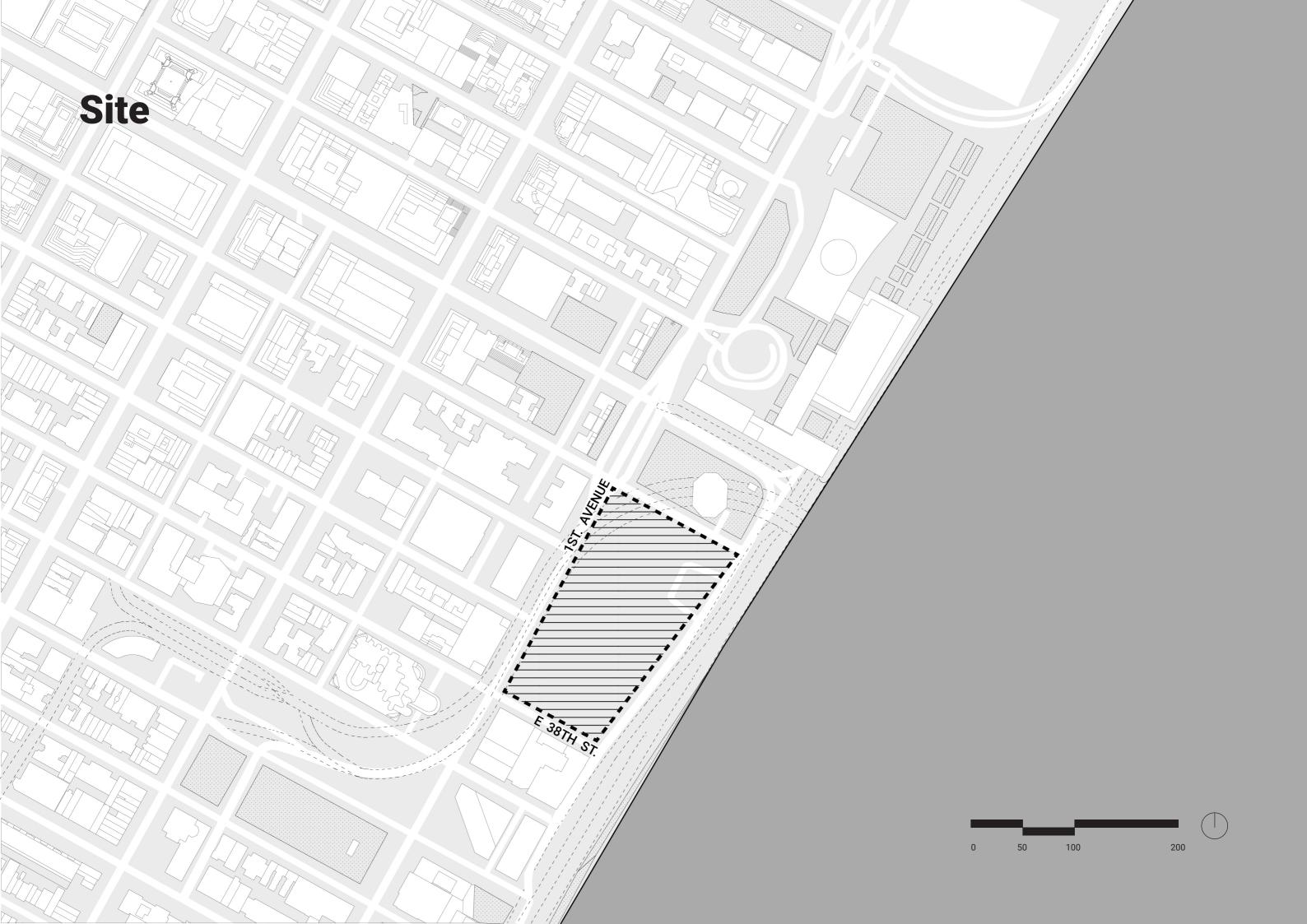




The grotto has historically been architecturalized as a hybridization of **built space** and **ornamented landscape** and were regarded in antiquity as **dwelling places of divinities**.

Parti

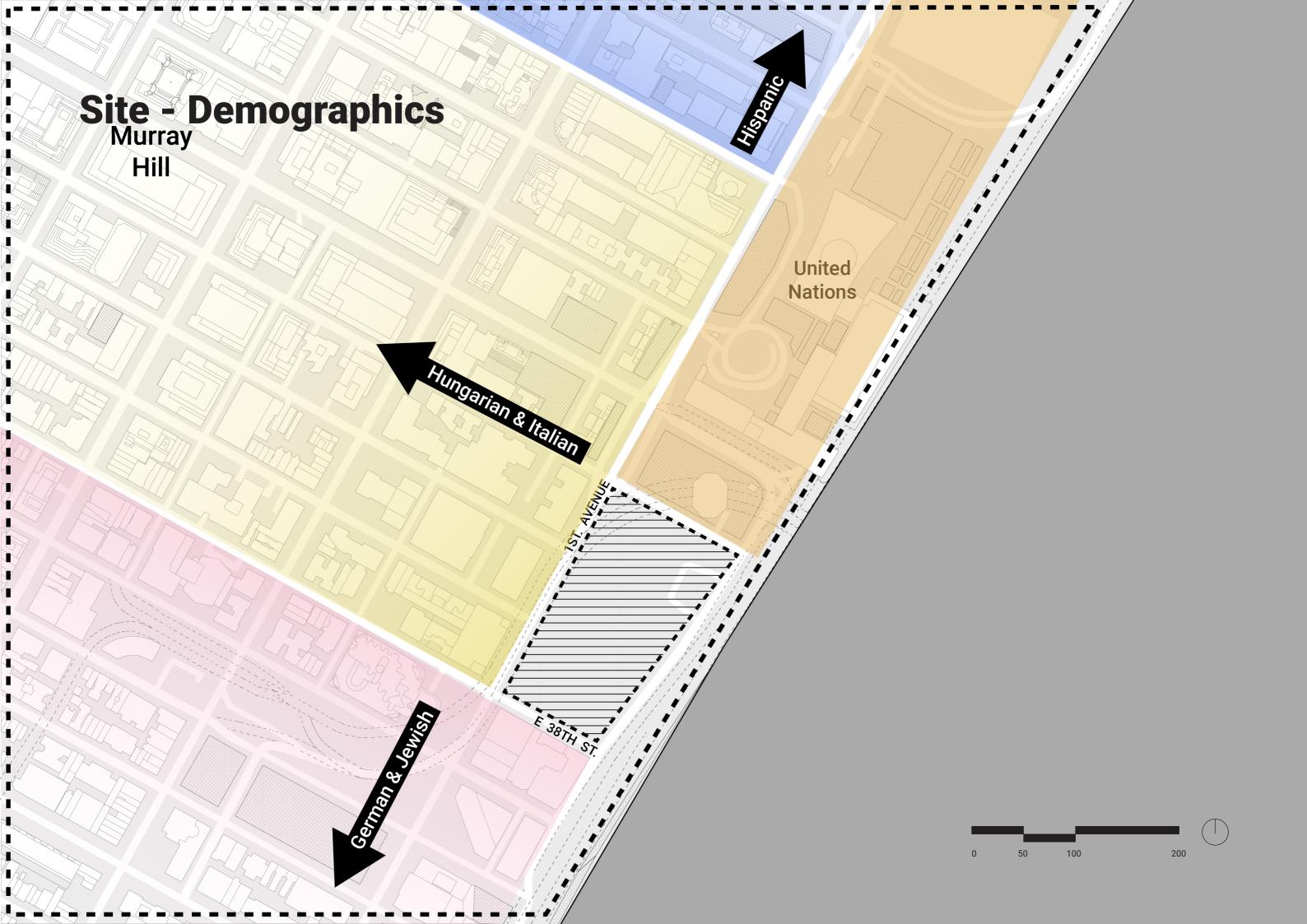




History of Site

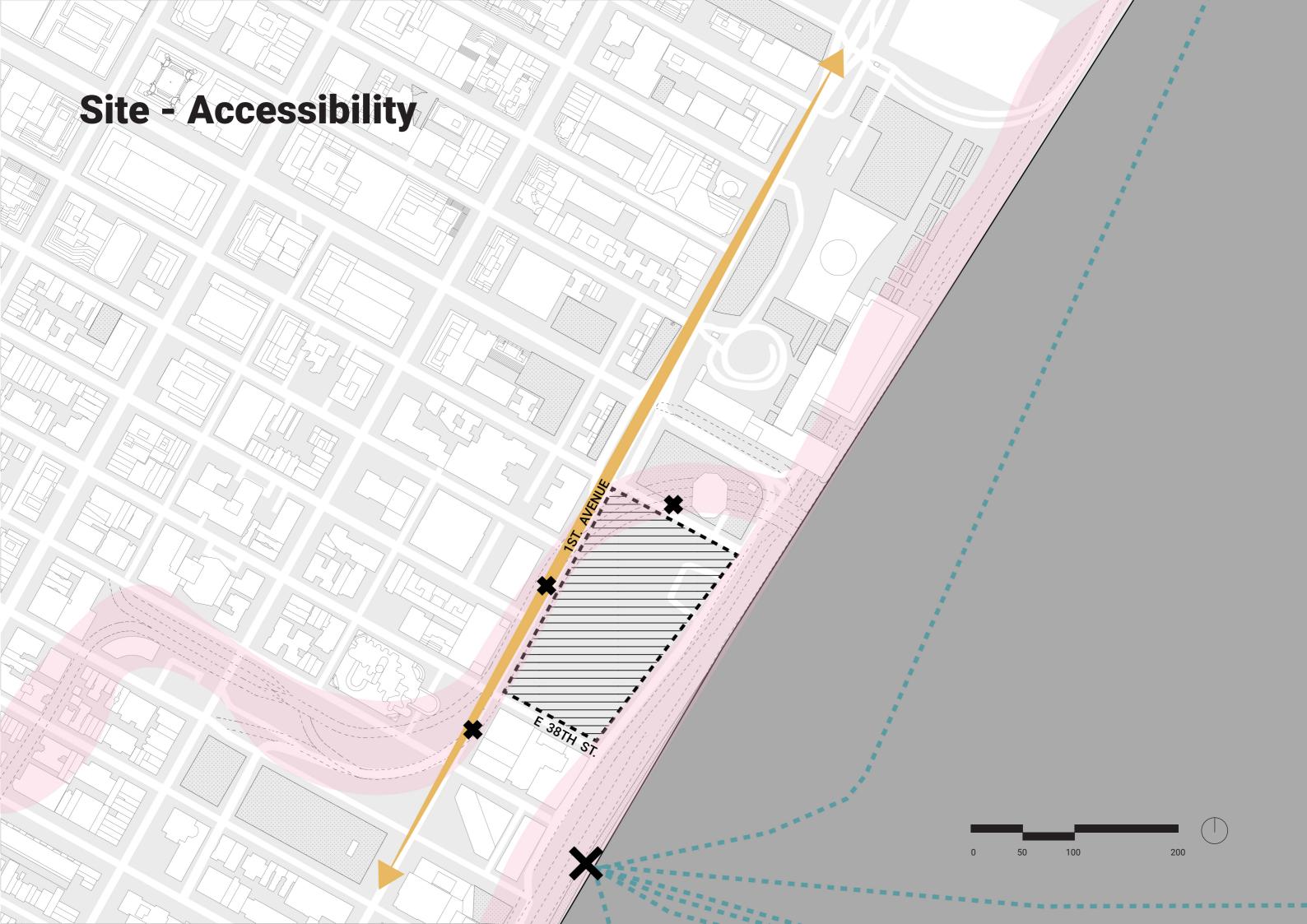


The primary purpose of the neighbourhood was "to provide refuge", it "entertained at various times almost every foreigner of distinction who came to the American shores". It was once an abrupt, steep-sided mound of glacial till - "a hill of the rudest and most heterogeneous mixture of stone and gravel and boulders".

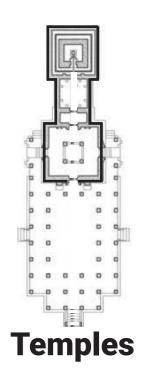


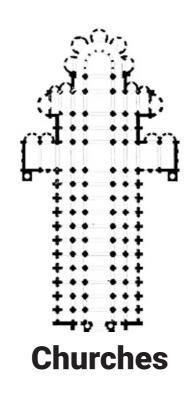
Public Program & Community Spaces

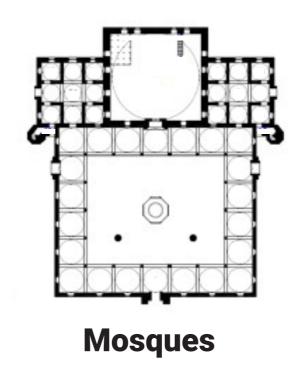


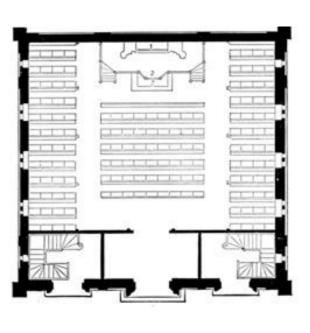


Programme

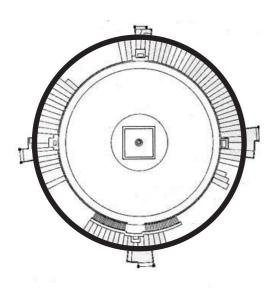




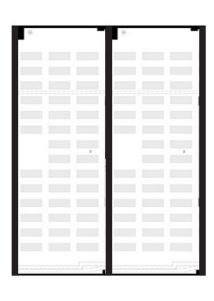




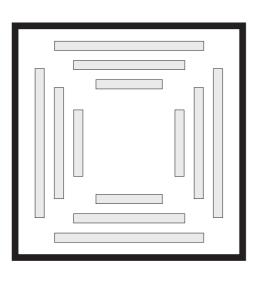
Synagogues



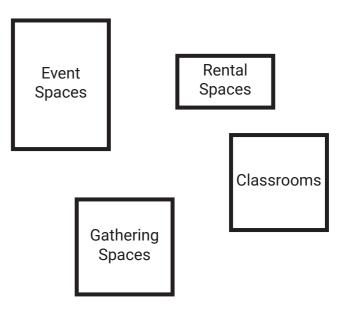




Meditation Spaces



Collective Spaces



Other

Building Program

Mosque Spaces

- Main prayer hall for men
- Main prayer hall for women
- Open prayer hall
- Courtyard/garden
- Men entrance/lobby
- · Women entrance/lobby
- Ablution area for men
- Ablution area for women
- Sabeel drinking water
- Library
- Ta'mir room
- Mihrab
- · Lockers/ shoe rack
- Dinning/ Kitchen
- · Imam's room
- Storage/ services
- Offices

Hindu Temple Spaces

- Sanctum
- Linga
- Dhyan Kaksh/ meditation place
- Garcha gnha
- Mandapa
- Archamanda
- Garden/courtyard
- · Storage/ services

Synagogue Spaces

- Main prayer space
- Social hall
- Entrance/lobby
- Garden/courtyard
- Classrooms
- · Room for Rabis
- Offices
- · Storage/ services

Church Spaces

- Main prayer space
- Choir space
- Social hall
- Zachestry
- Entrance/lobby
- Garden/courtyard
- Classrooms
- Kitchen
- Accommodations for Priests
- Chapel
- Storage/ services
- Offices

Buddhist Temple Space

- Monks living quarters
- Main prayer hall

- Communication center
- DHarma Hall
- · Abbols living quarter
- Kuti
- Meditation garden/courtyard
- Drawing room
- Meeting room
- Ossuary
- Ancillary space

Meditation & Other Worship Spaces

- Entrance/ lobby
- Quiet spaces
- Body meditation spaces
- Yoga /fitness spaces
- · Prayer spaces
- Zen meditation spaces
- Meditation Gardens
- Therapy/ Counselling
- · Green spaces
- Empty spaces
- Dark rooms
- · Censorial rooms
- Individual meditation spaces
- Waiting rooms
- Locker rooms
- Offices
- Storage/ services

Gathering Spaces

- Event spaces for religious celebrations
- Event spaces for alternative events
- · Cultural interaction spaces
- Cafeteria
- Kitchen

Learning Spaces

- Auditorium
- Lecture halls
- · Classrooms for religious education
- Classrooms for language education
- Classrooms for music, choirs, vocals
- Daycare
- · Bible Study
- Performance Spaces

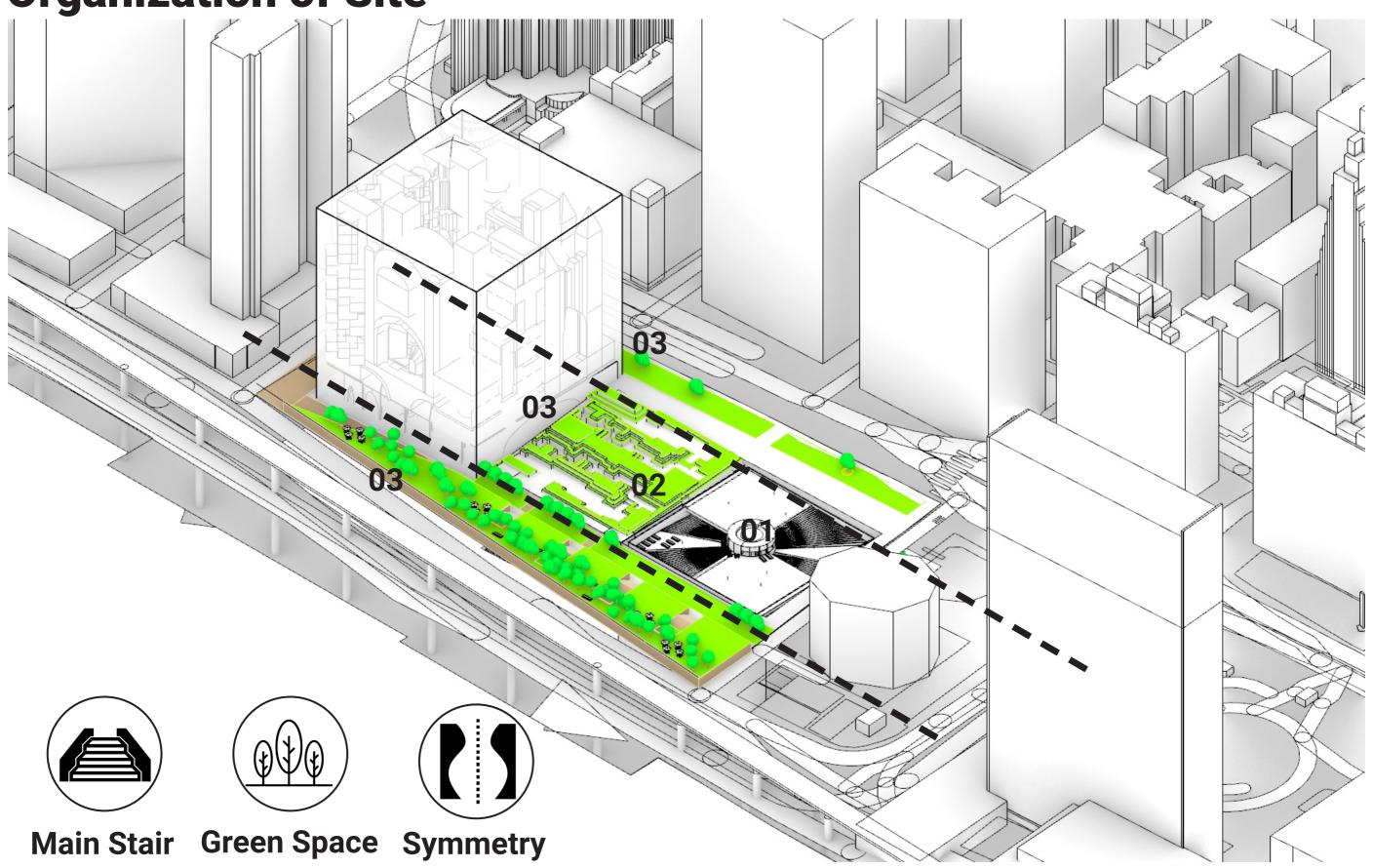
Other Spaces

- Facilities and Housing for Religious Clergy
- Religious shops
- Other Shops
- Book/ Gift store
- Flex spaces
- Rental Spaces
- Library /Study hall
- Storage

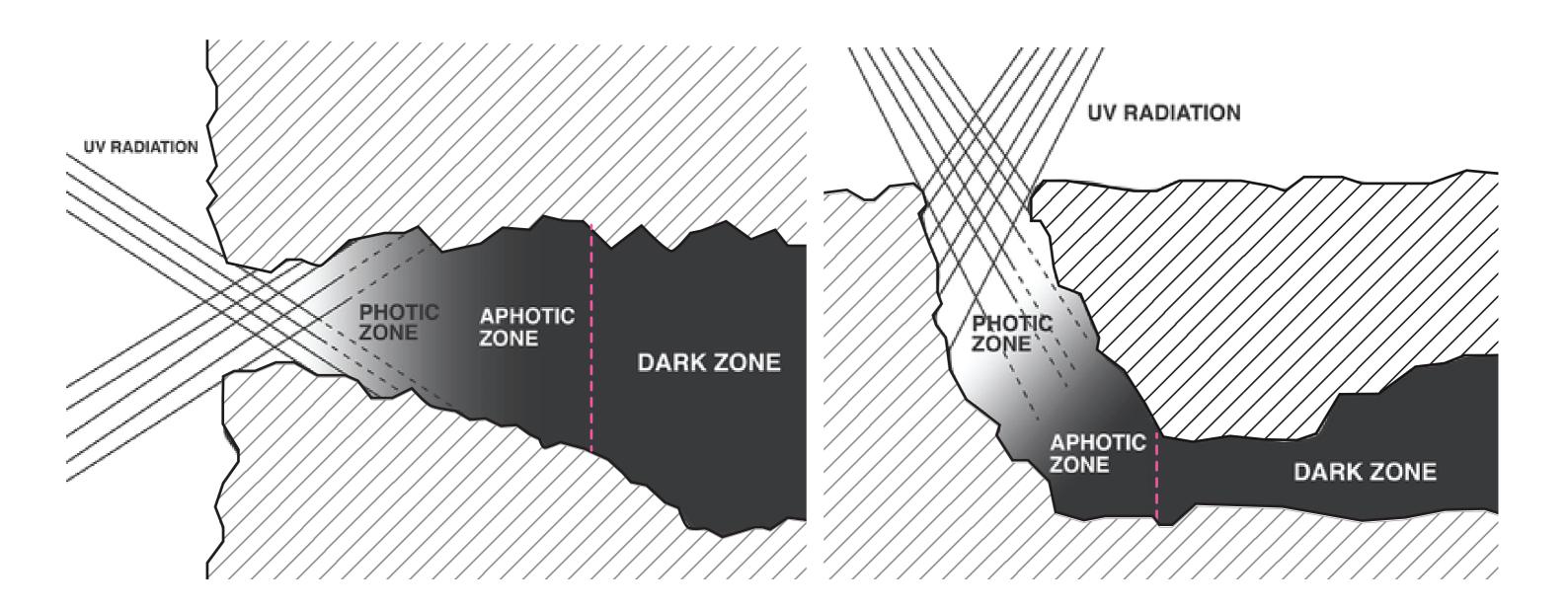
Organization of Site



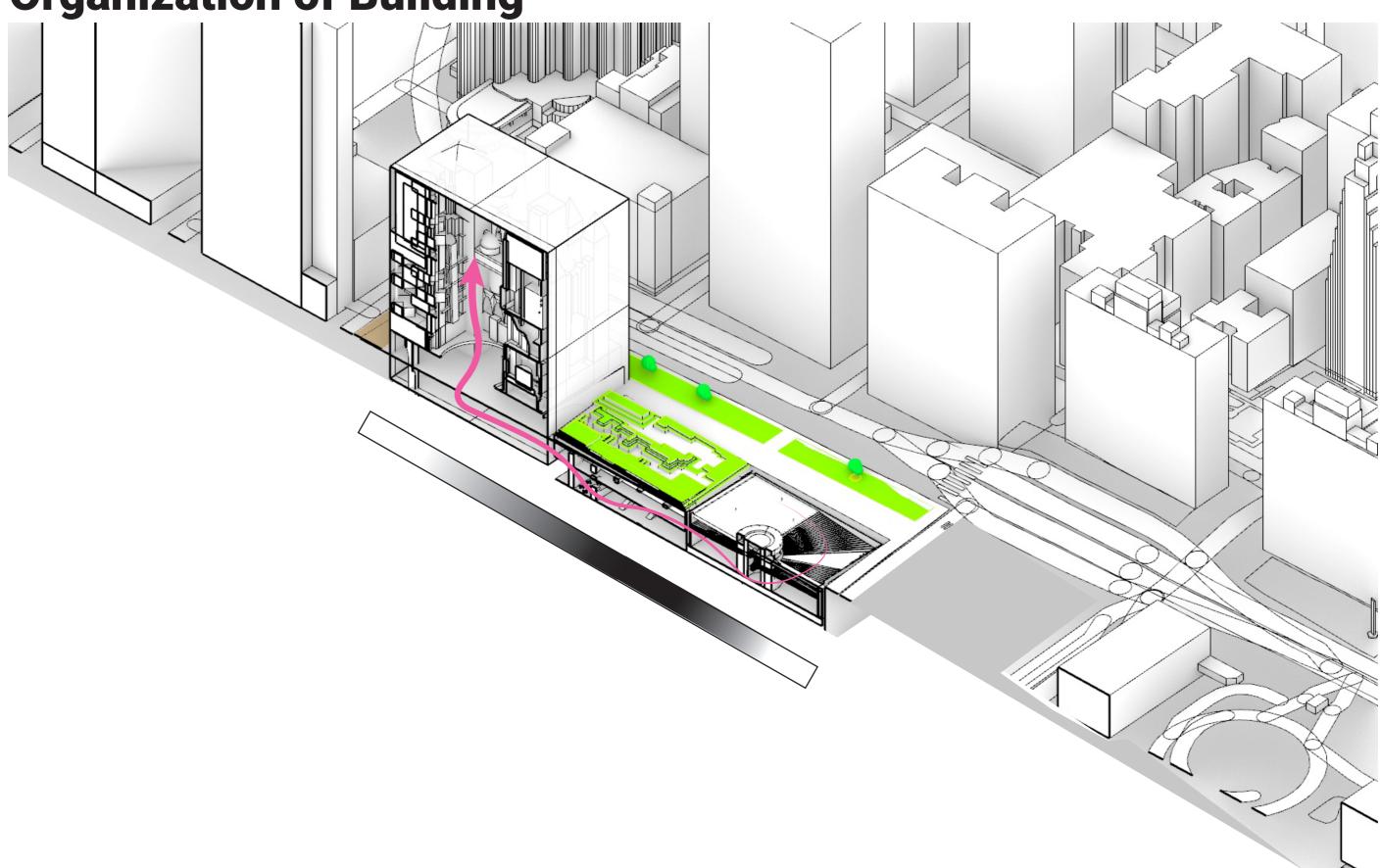
Organization of Site



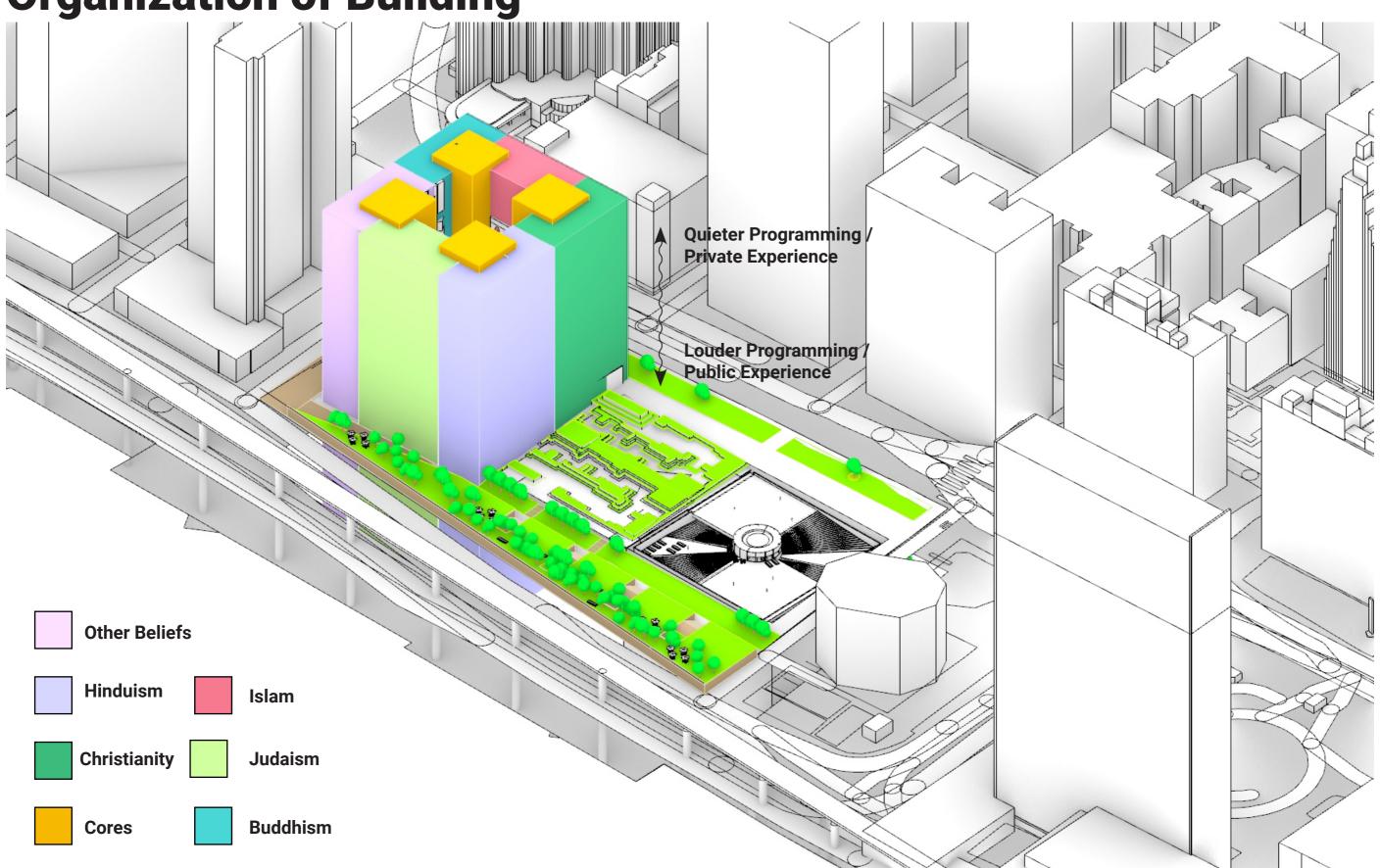
Grotto Section



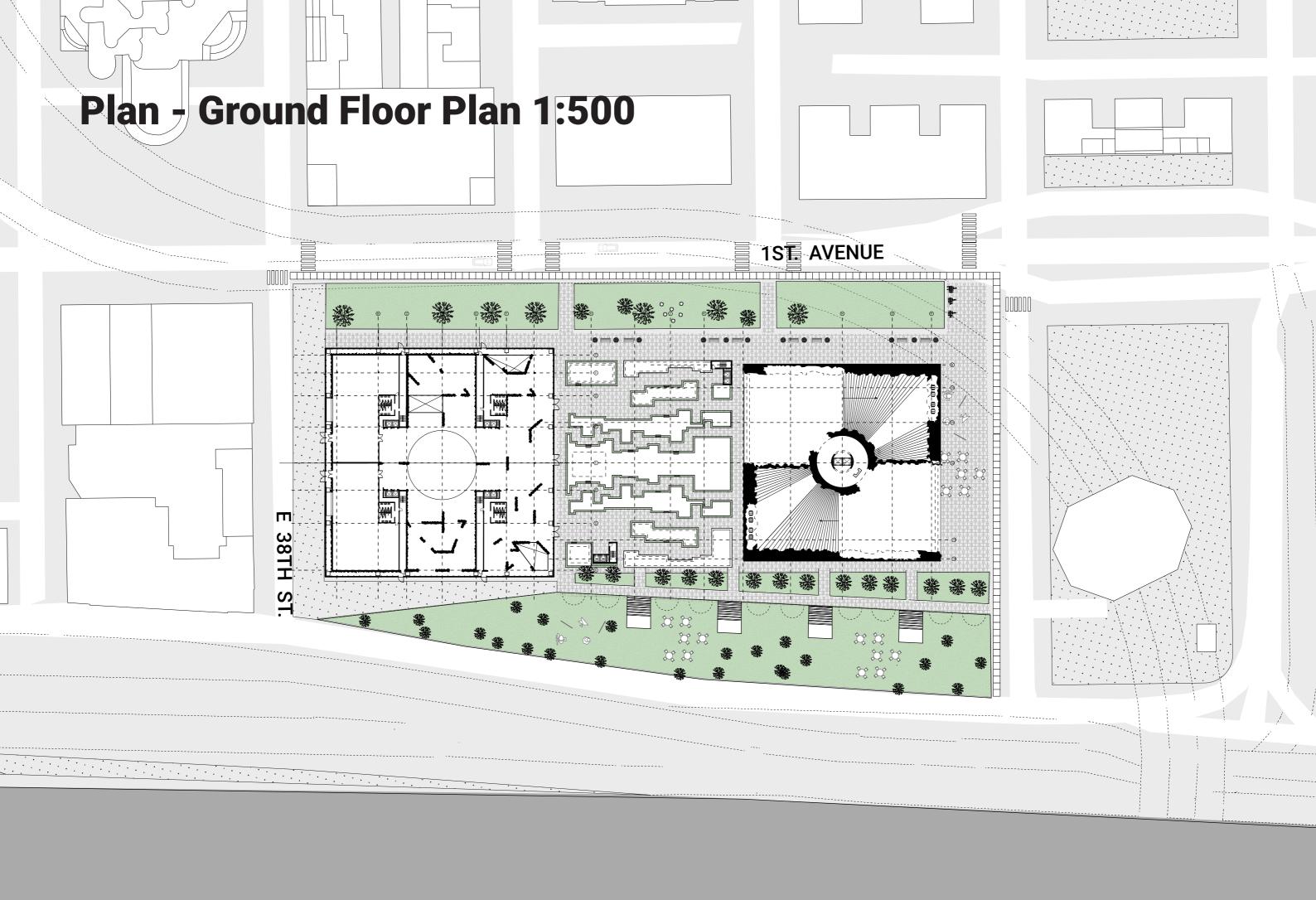
Organization of Building



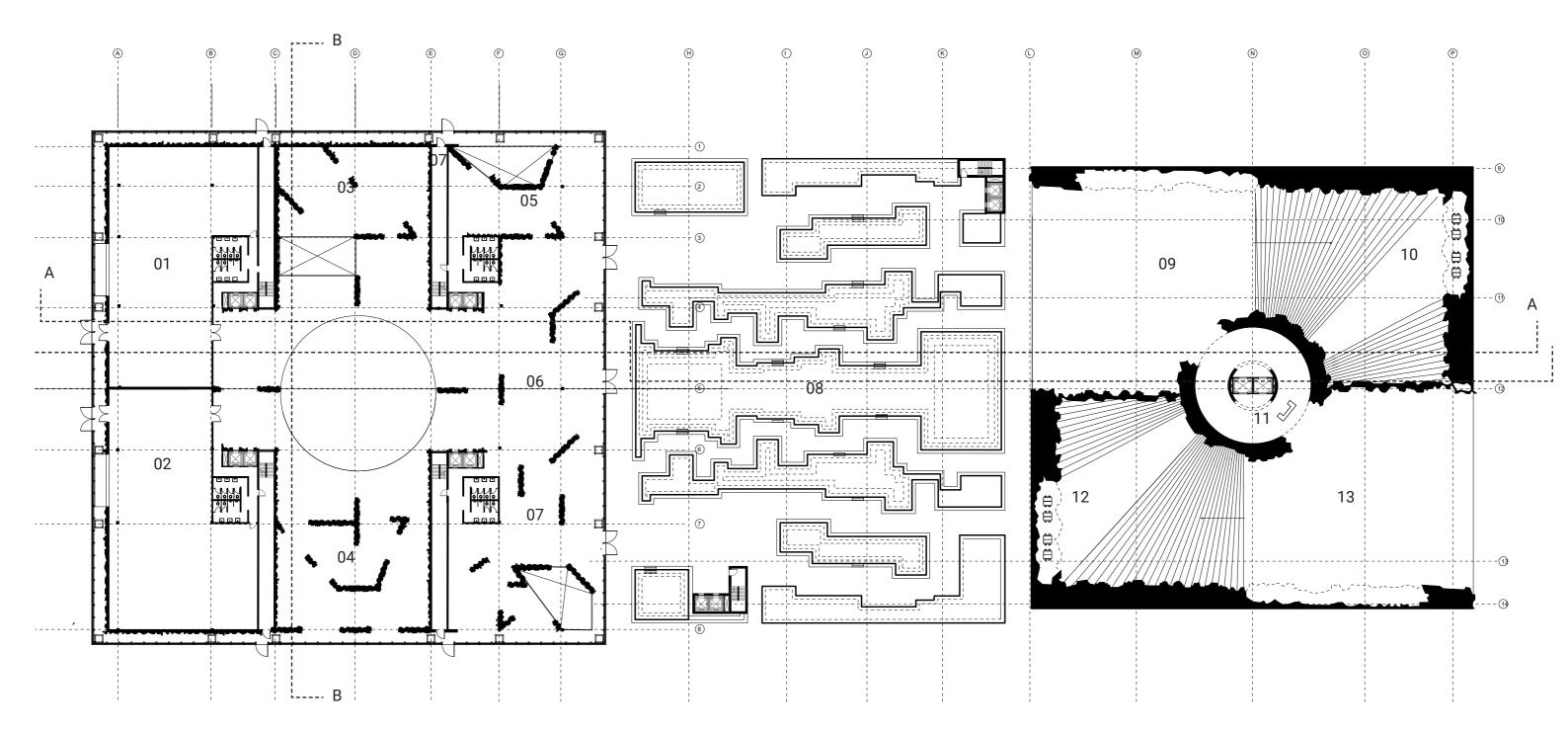
Organization of Building







Plan - Ground Floor Plan

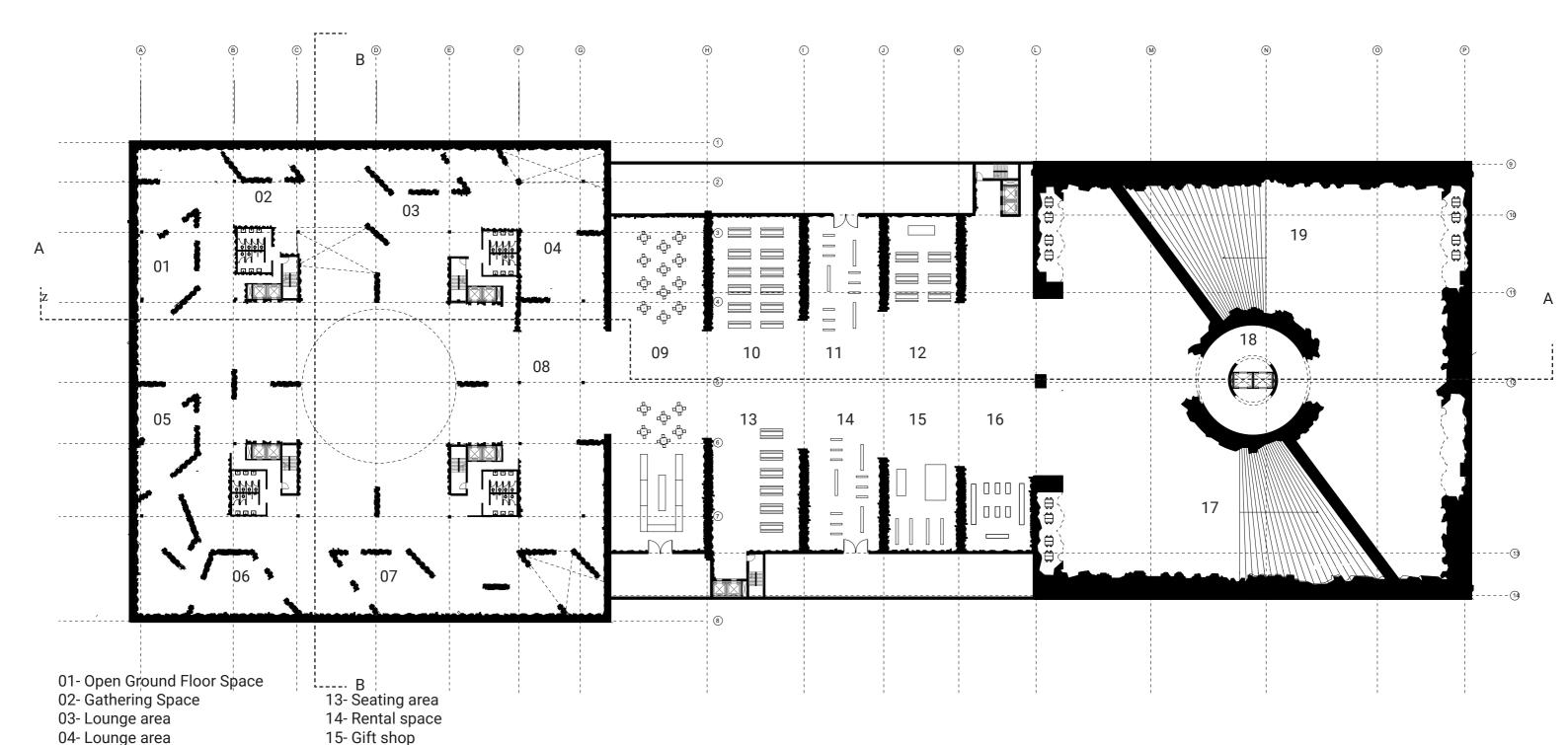


- 01- Delivery and storage space
- 02- Waste management
- 03- Meeting Area
- 04- Gathering spaces
- 05- Flexible space
- 06- Main entrance space 02
- 07- Exhibition space

- 08- Garden walkways a outdoor prayer spaces
- 09- Main exit space
- 10- Seating area
- 11- Lobby space and elevators 12- Stair programming cafe
- 13- Main entrance space



Plan - Lower Level



05- Meeting space

06-Shop

07- Shop

18-Main circulation space 08- Entry space 19- Ascent to Ground level

16- Bookstore

17- Descent into the building

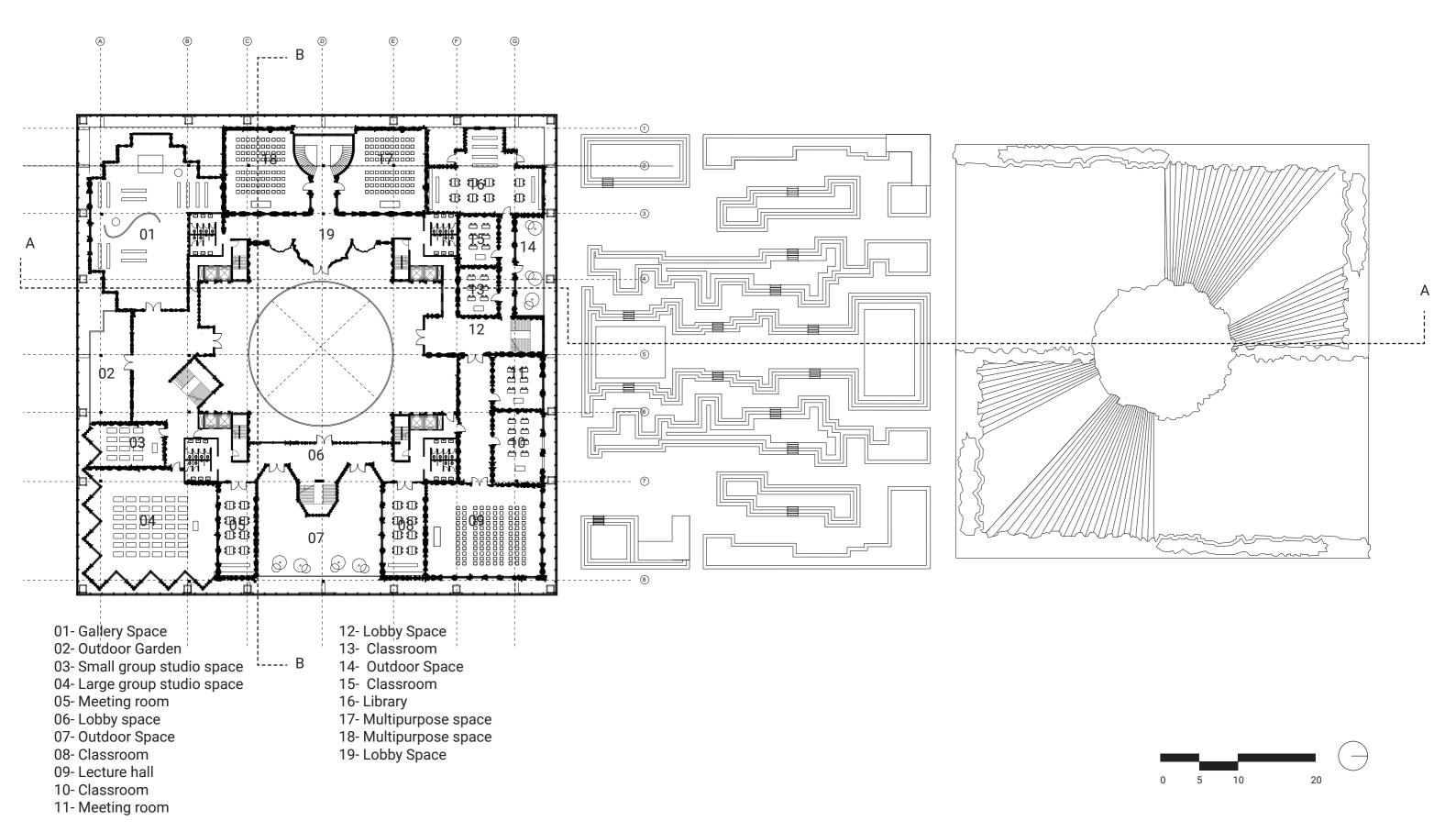
09- Cafeteria

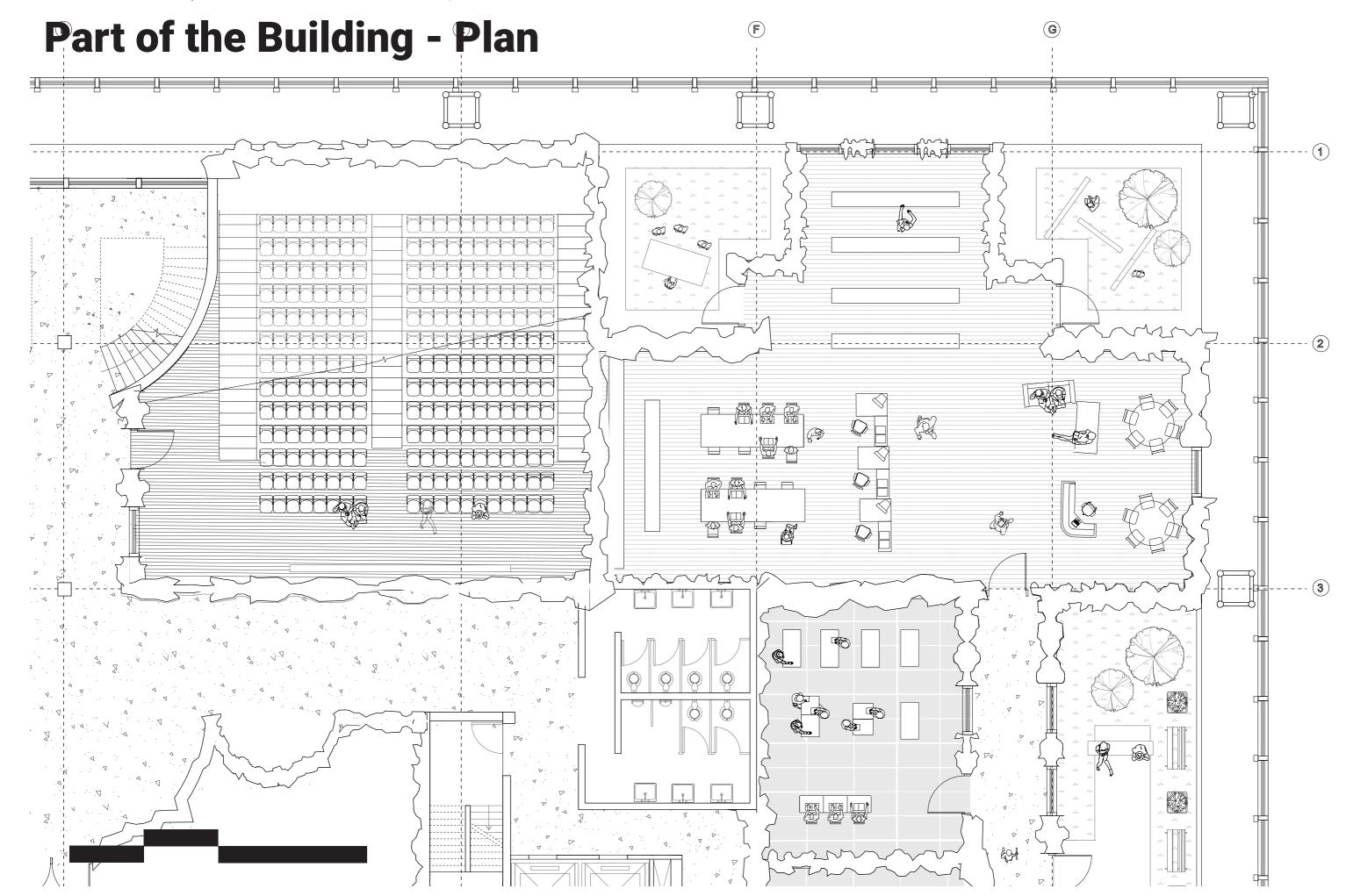
10- Seating space

11- Exhibition space

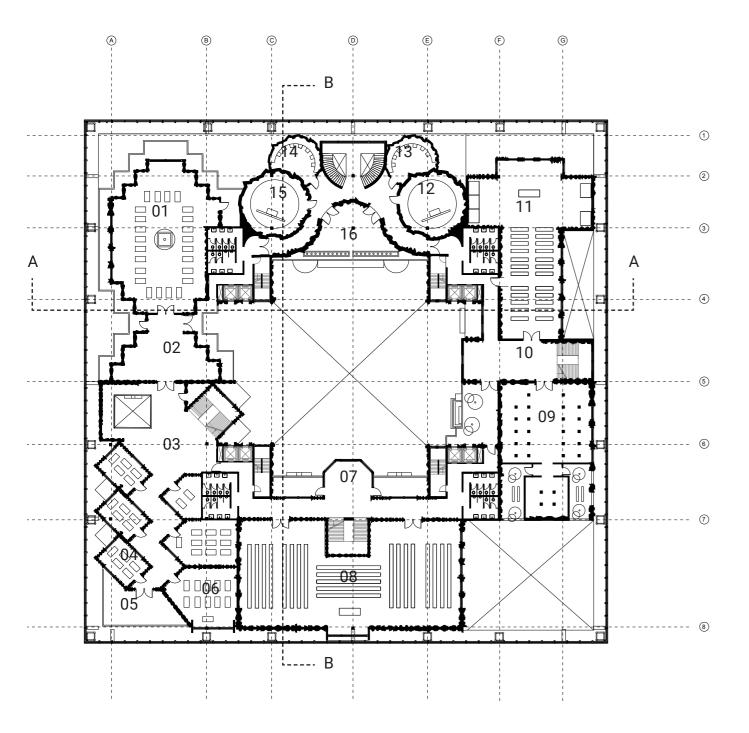
12- Meeting space

Plan - Upper Level A



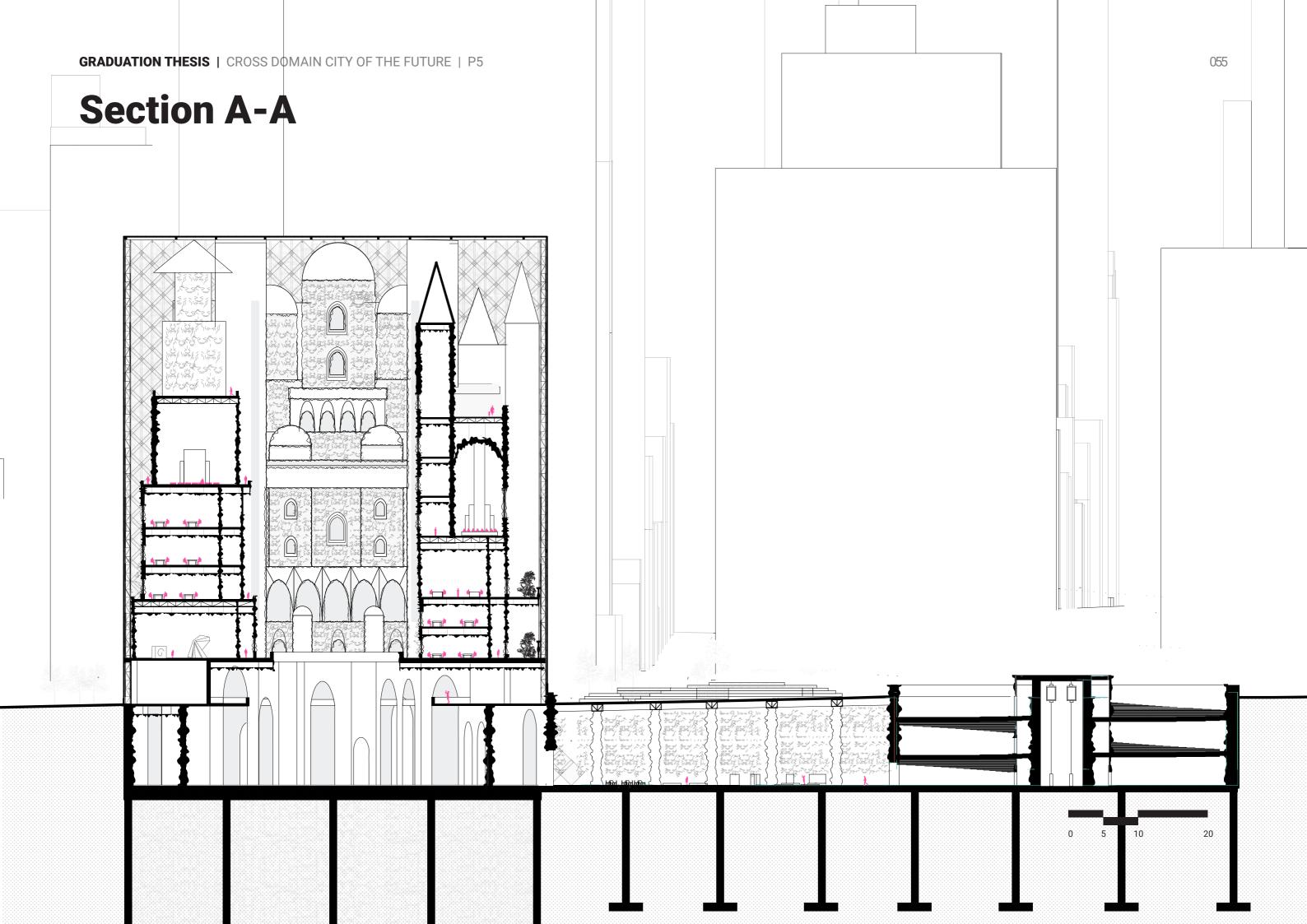


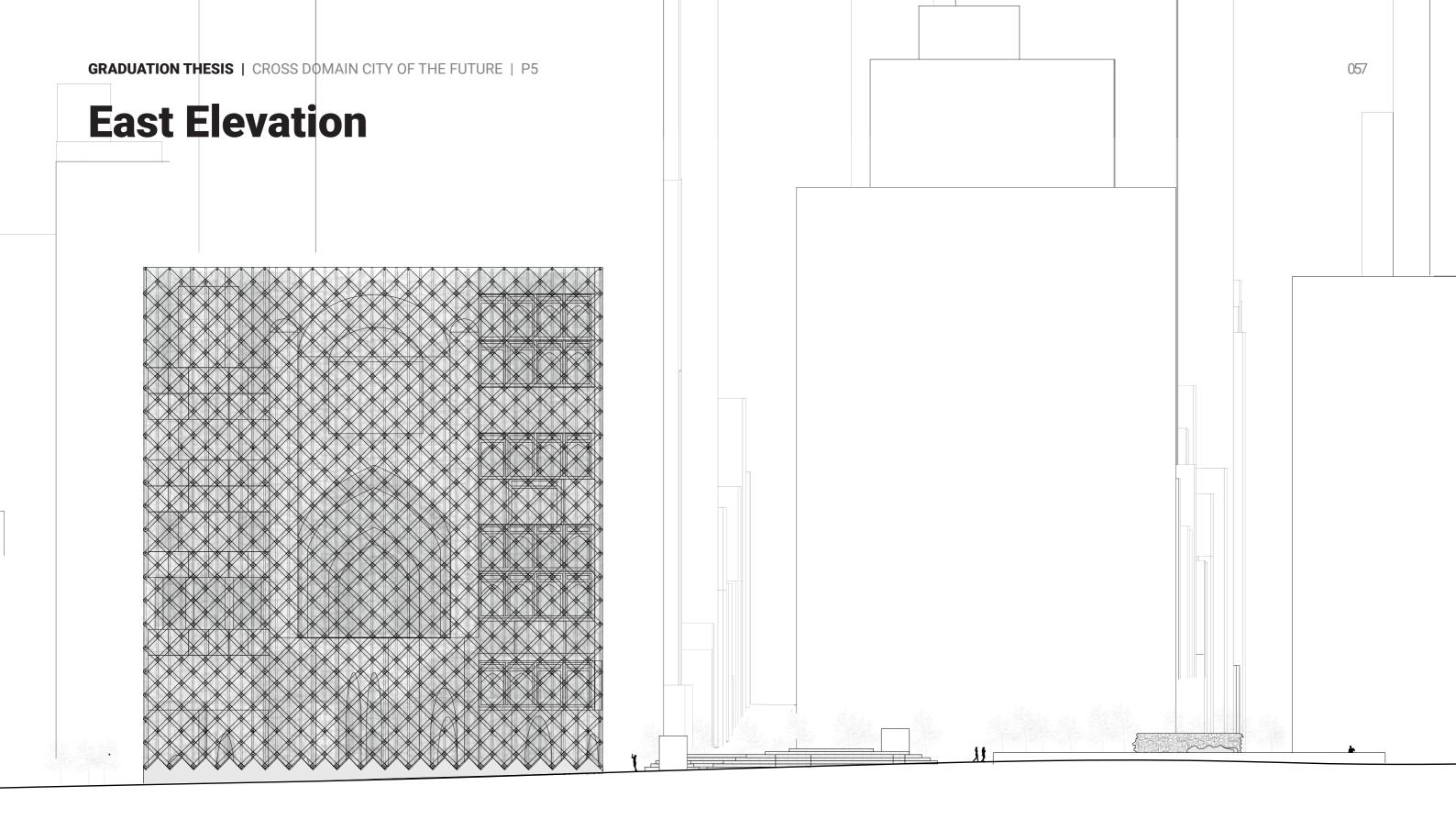
Plan - Upper Level B



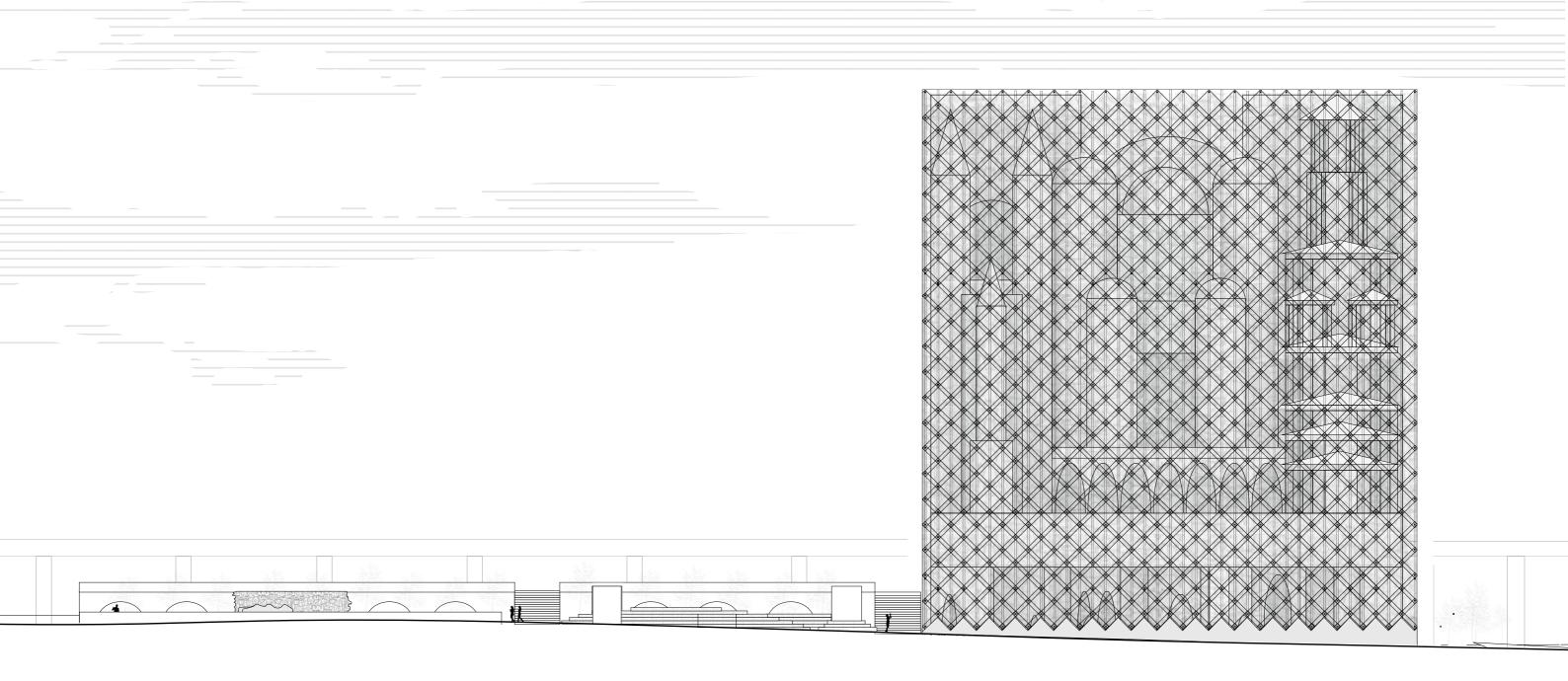
- 01- Buddhist Prayer Space
- 02- Open Meditation Space
- 03- Open Lobby space
- 04- Individual Meditation Area
- 05-Outer Meditation Area
- 06- Group Meditation Area
- 07- Open Lobby space
- 08- Synagogue Main Prayer Space
- 09- Hindu Temple Main Prayer Space
- 10- Open Lobby space
- 11- Church Main Prayer Space
- 12- Men Prayer Space in Mosque
- 13- Men Ablution Area
- 14- Women Ablution Area
- 15- Women Prayer Space in Mosque



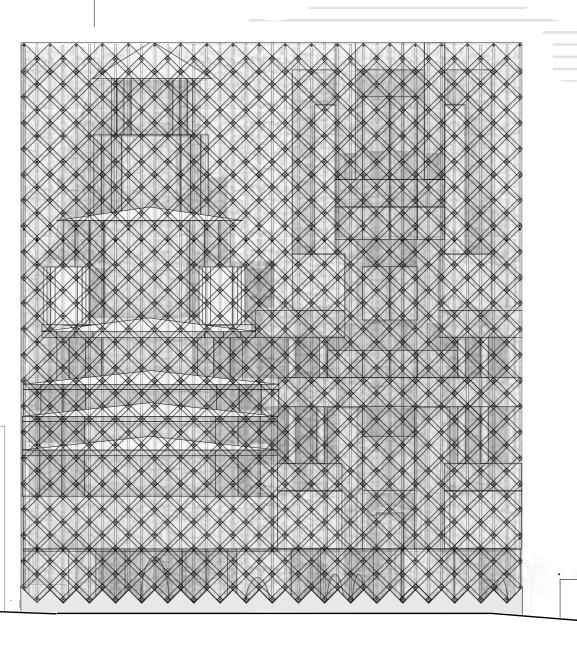




West Elevation

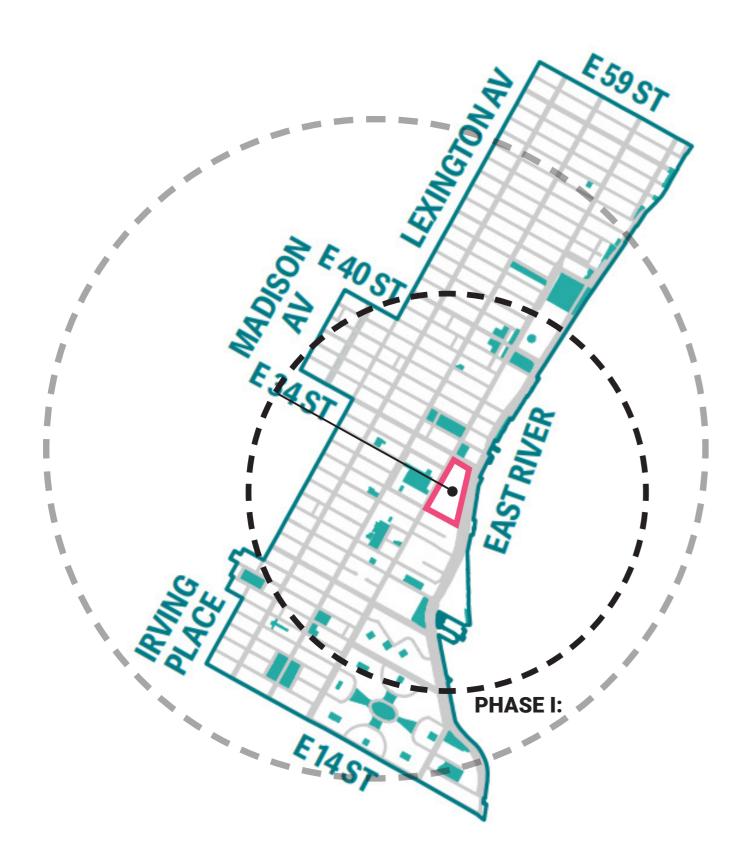


South Elevation





Future Phasing



PHASE I:

5 min. car / 20 min. walking

Churches: 15 buildings

Synagogues: 16 buildings

Mosques: 3 buildings

Hindu Temples: None

Buddhist Temples: 5 buildings

Other religious spaces: 8 buildings

PHASE II:

15 min. car / 40 min. walking

Churches: 22 buildings

Synagogues: 20 buildings

Mosques: 8 buildings

Hindu Temples: 4 buildings

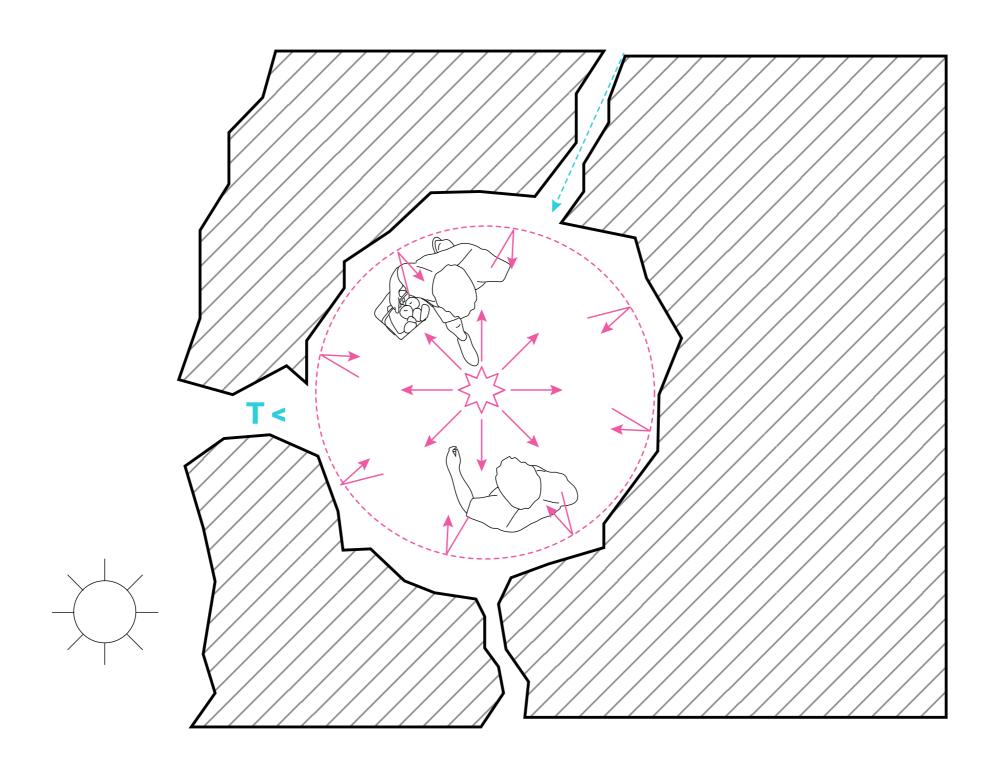
Buddhist Temples: 10 buildings

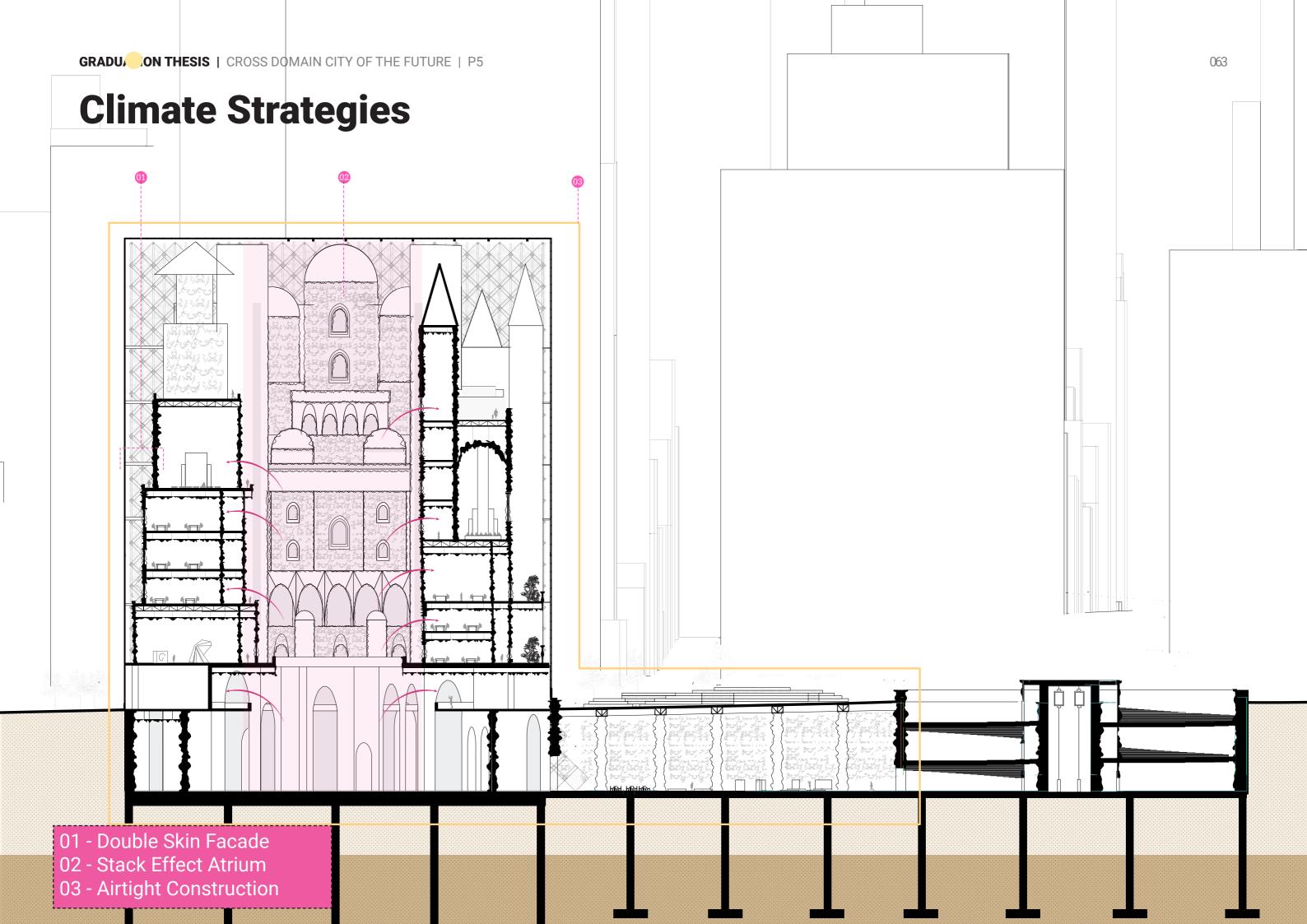
Other religious spaces: 15 buildings

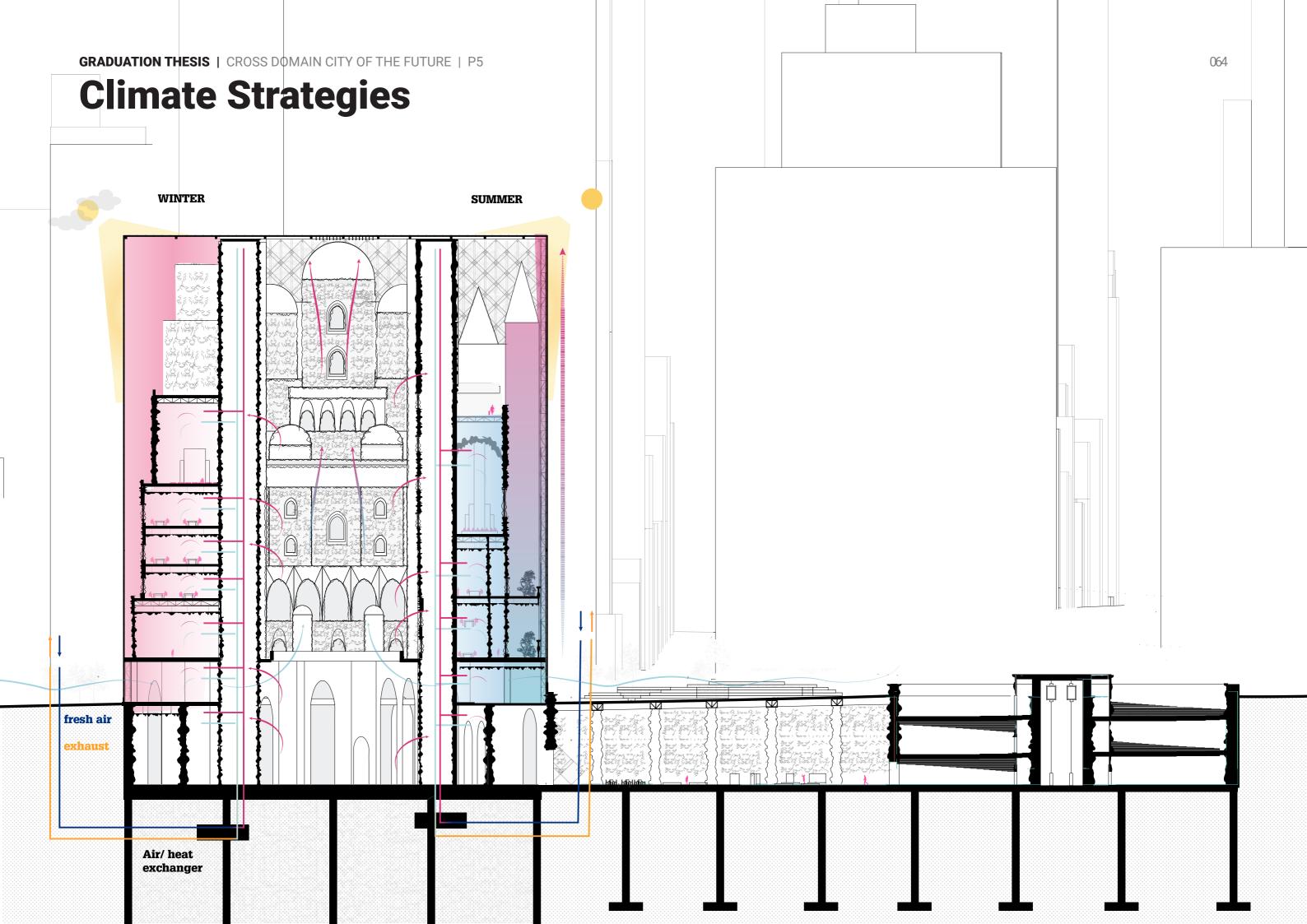
PHASE II:

etc.....

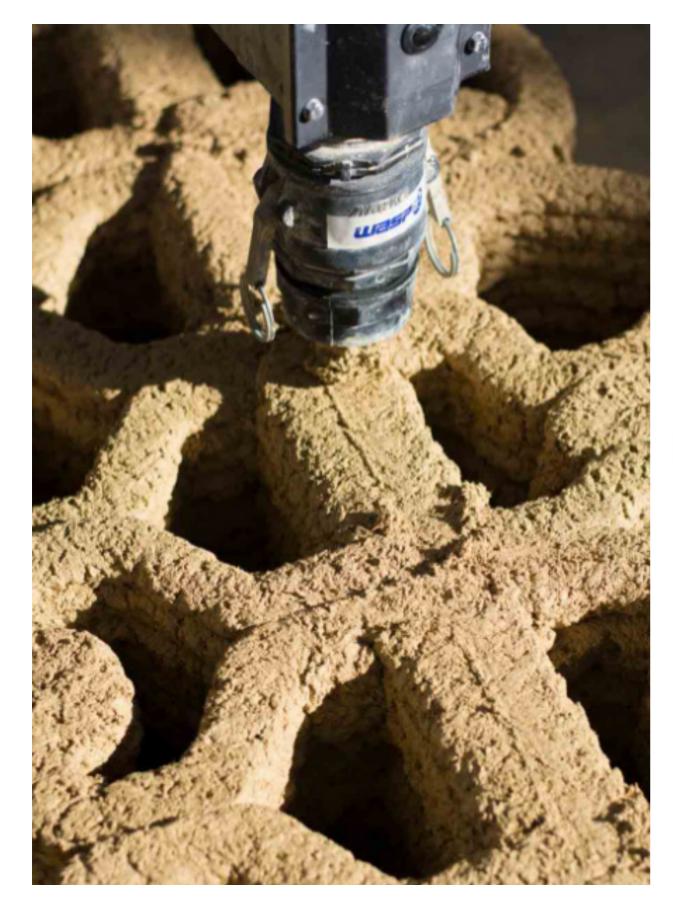
Grotto Climate

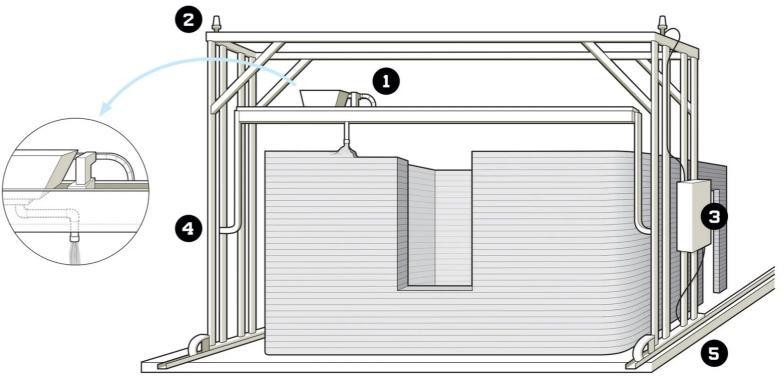


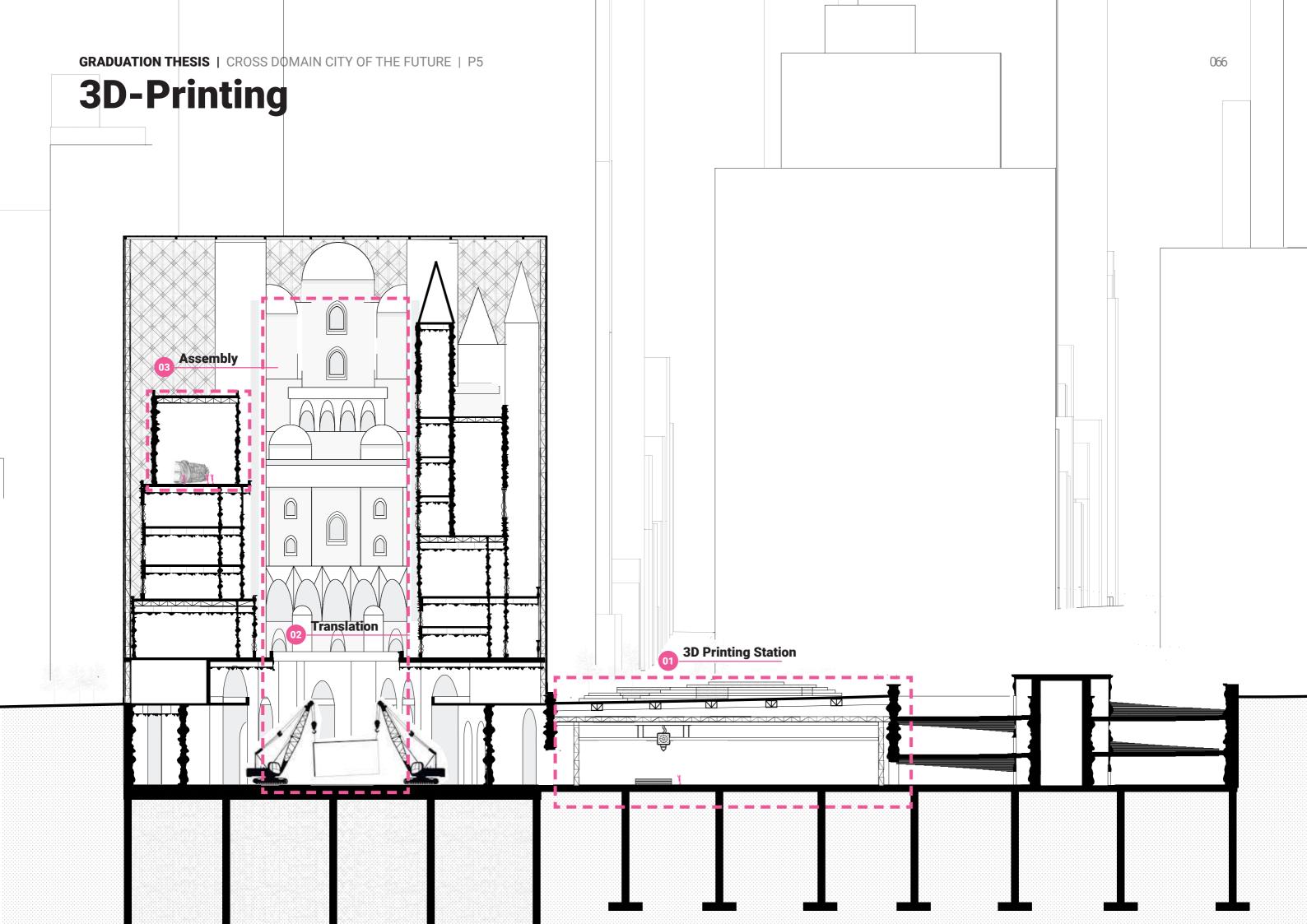




Soil

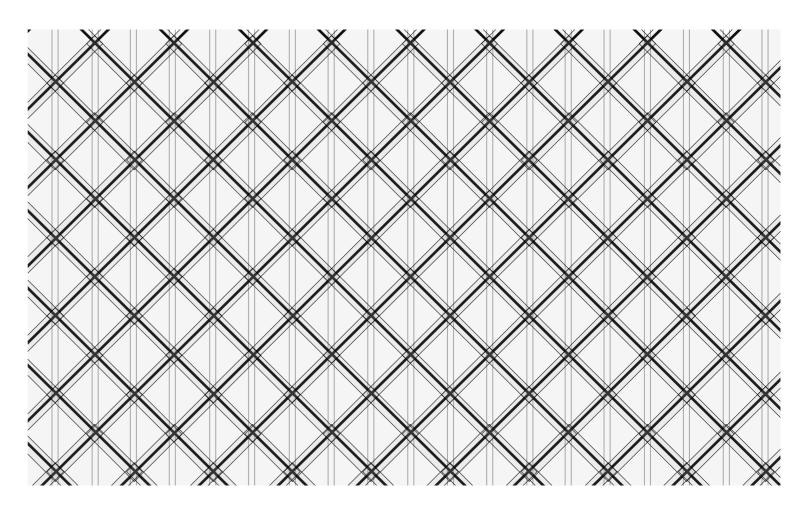


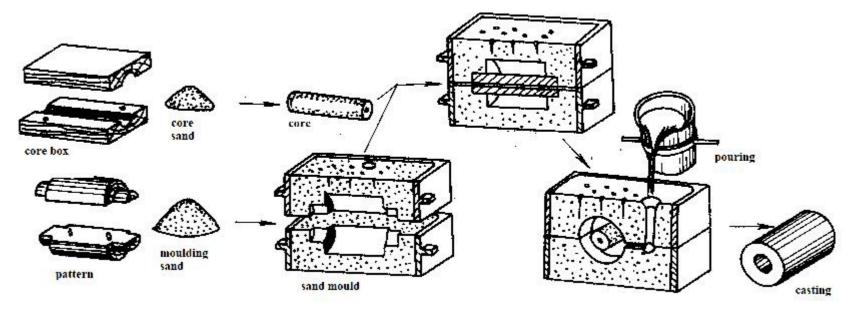




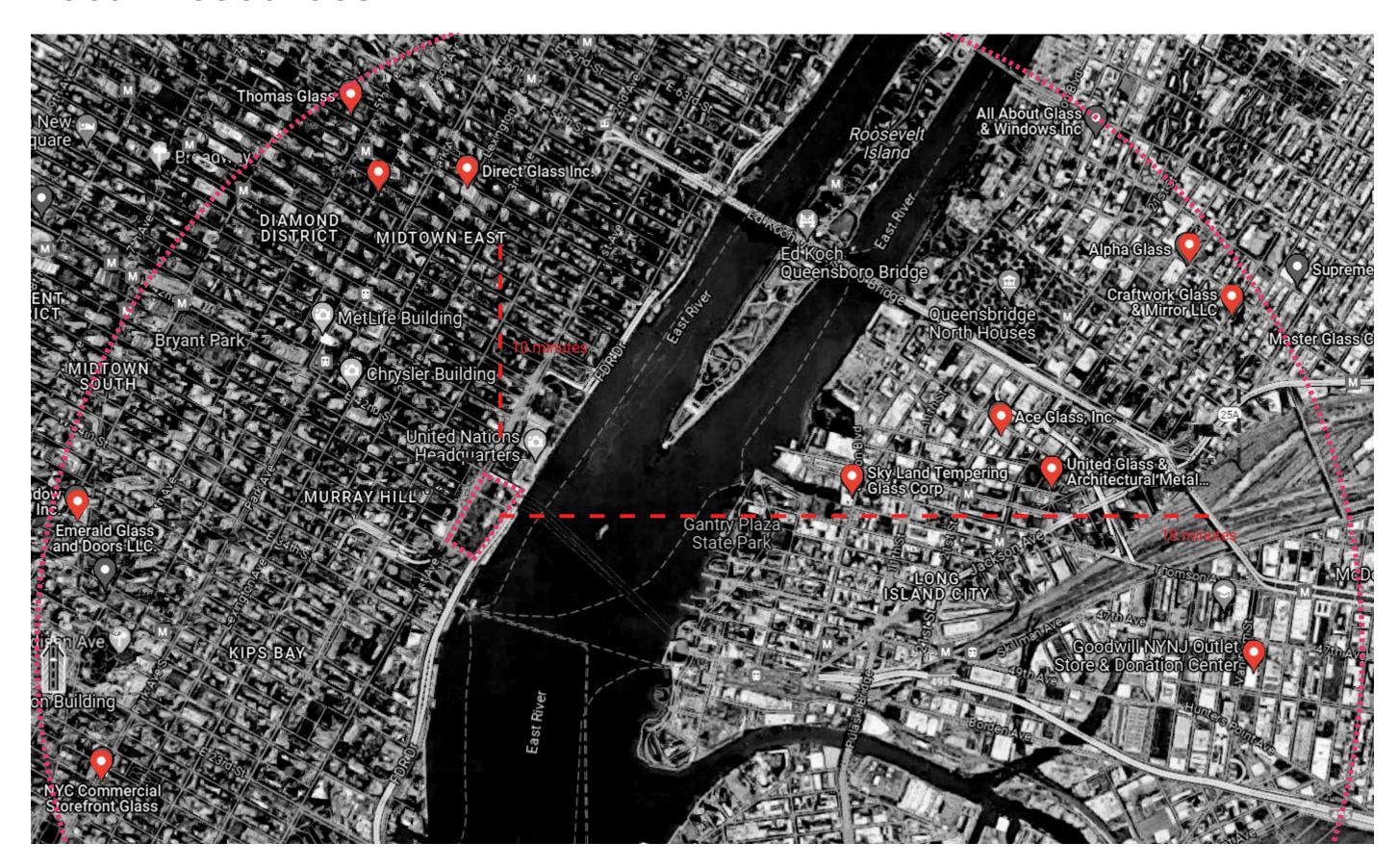
Glass Facade

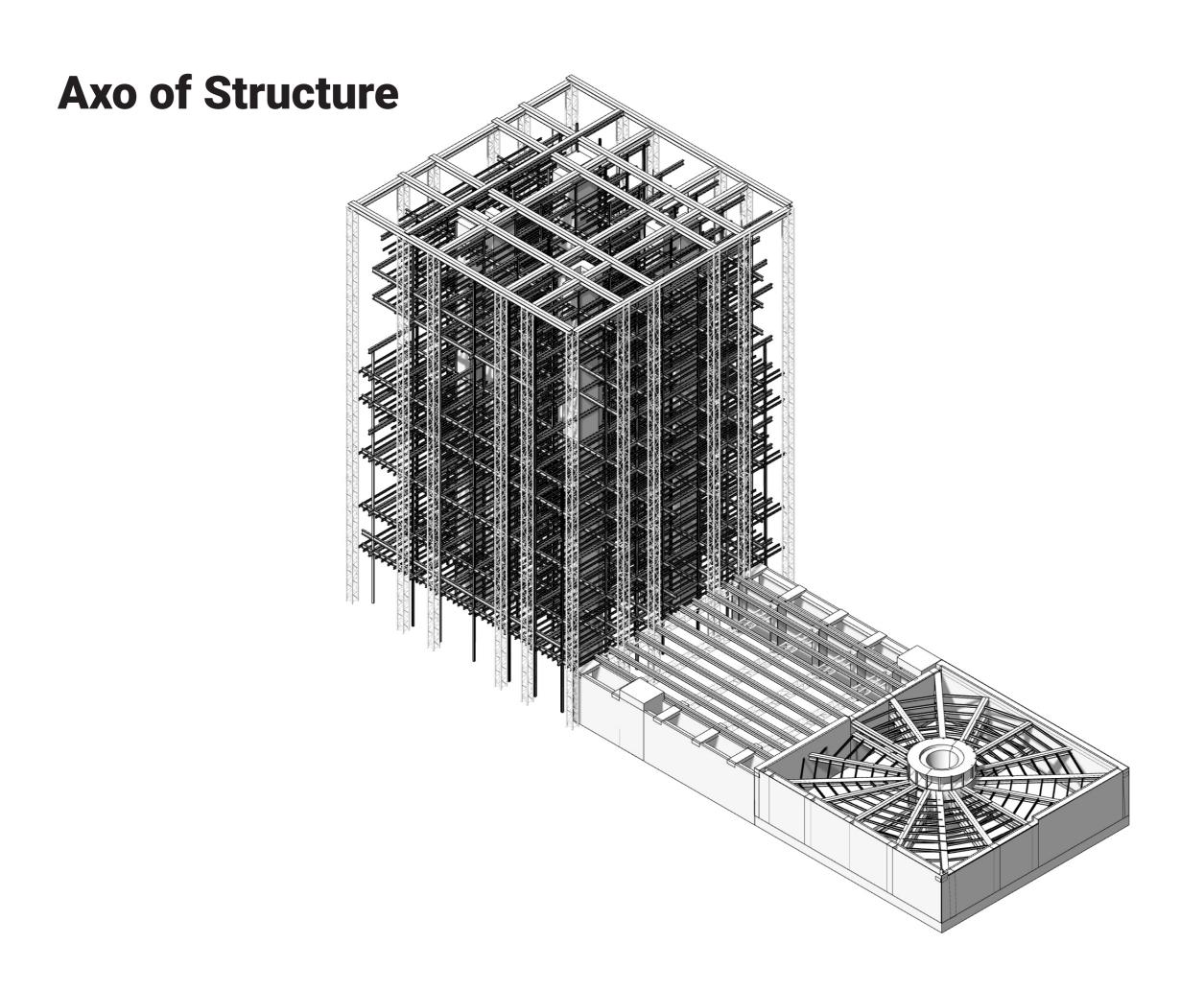


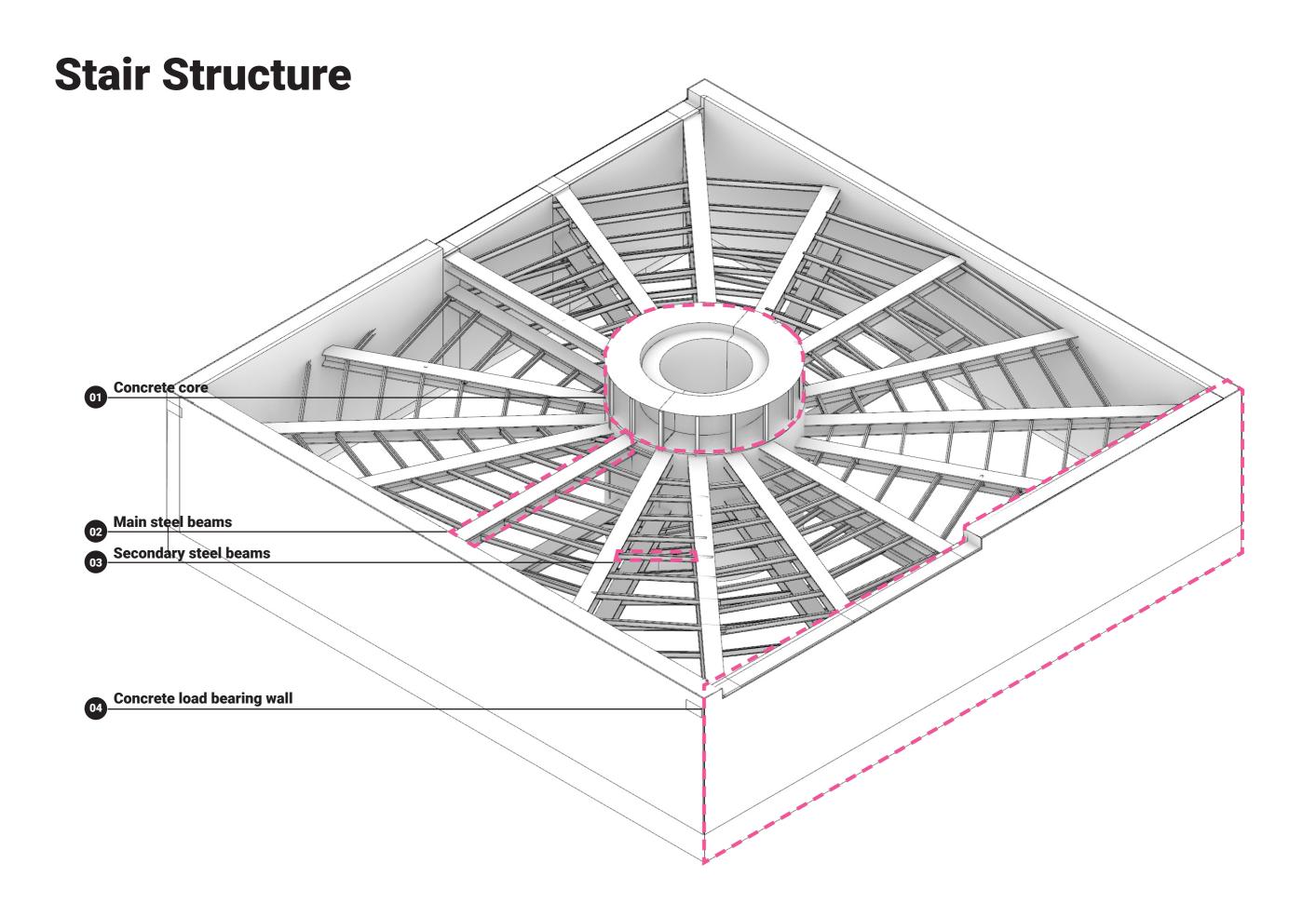


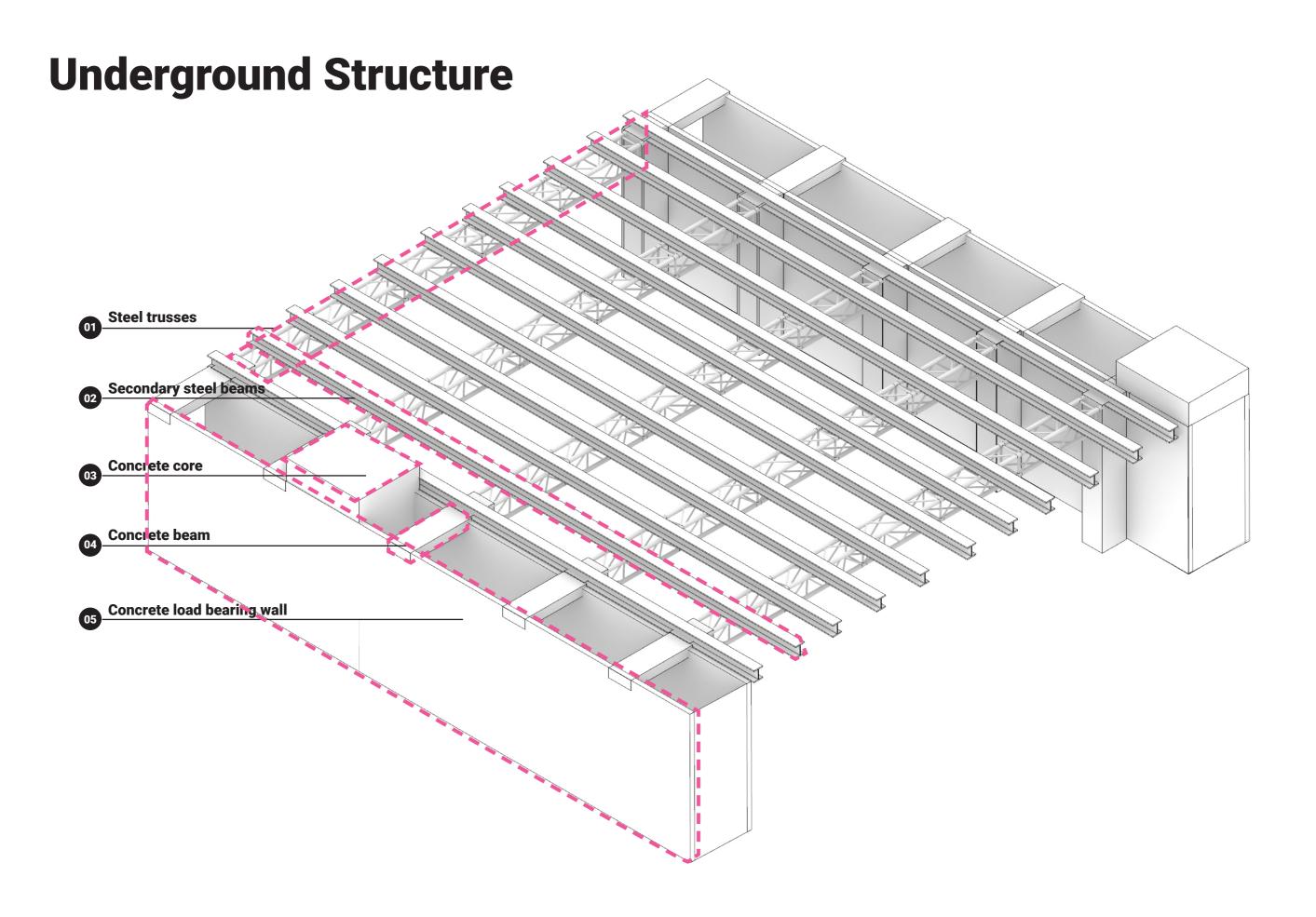


Local Resources

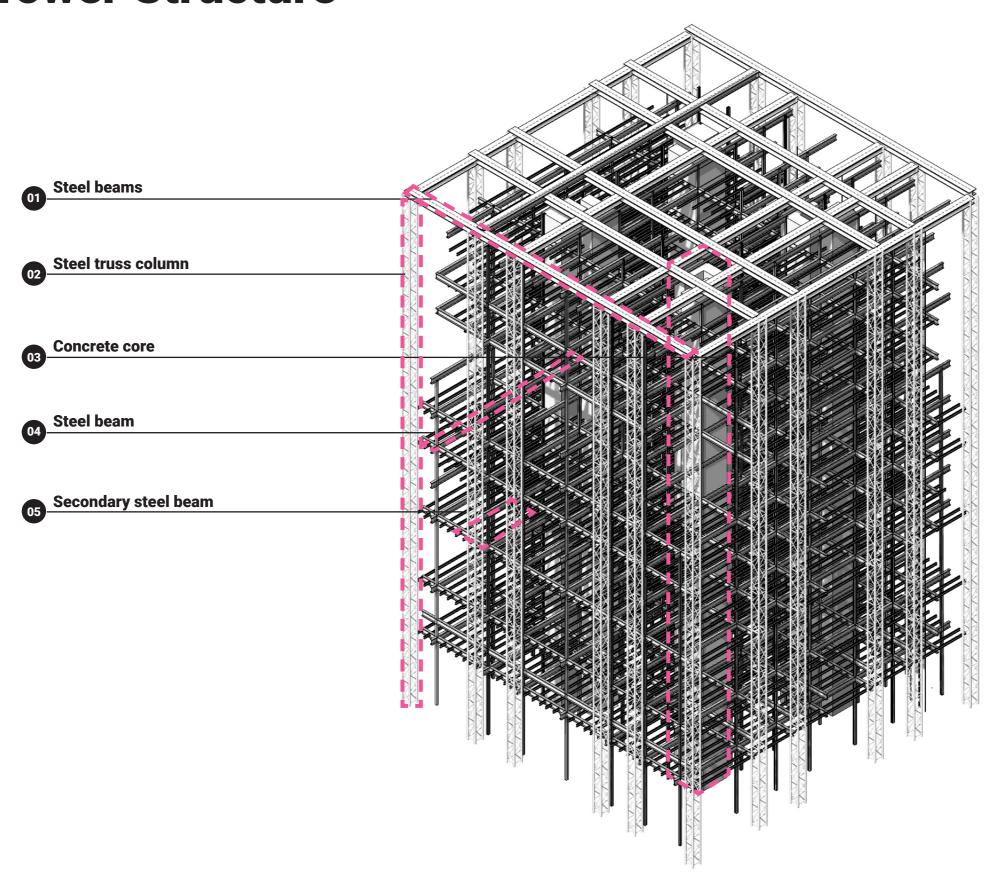




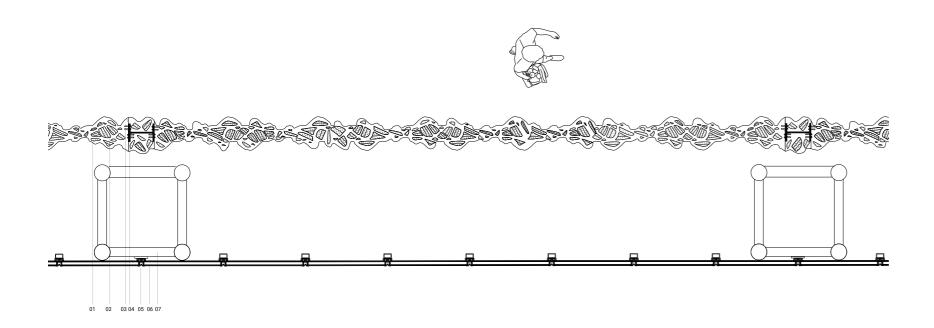




Tower Structure

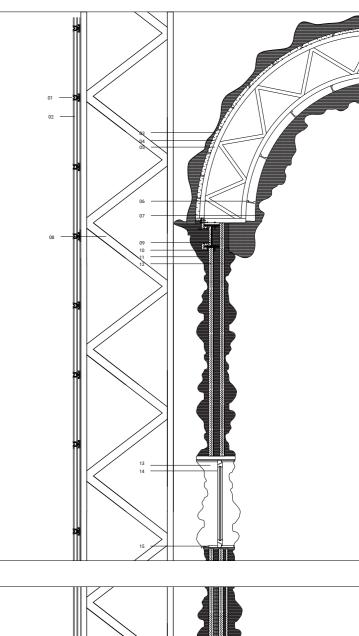


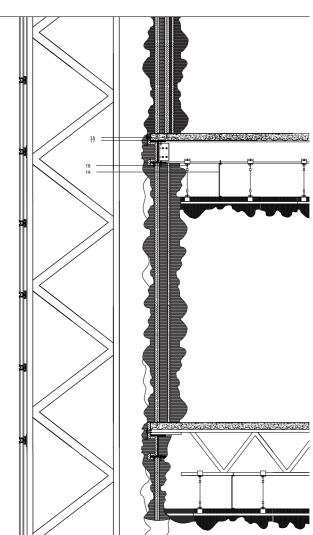
Facade Fragment



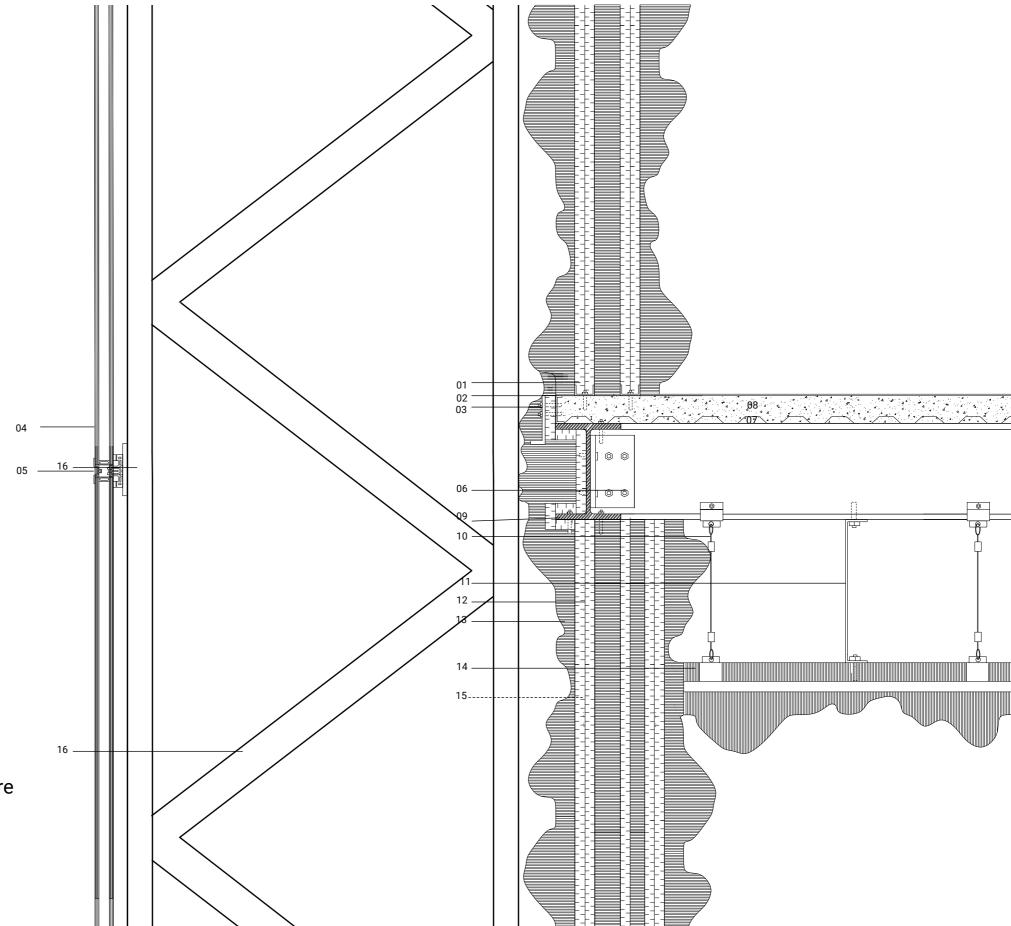
- 01-3D printed wall
- 02- Rigid Insulation
- 03- Anchor bolts
- 04- 500mm W-flange steel beam
- 05- Window panel fastener
- 06- Glass panel
- 07-2m steel truss column

- 01- Glass panels
- 02- Window panel fastener
- 03-3D printed roof cladding
- 04- 50mm rigid insulation
- 05-1m steel truss
- 06- Steel c-shaped bracket
- 07-3D printed ceiling
- 08- Steel bracket with bolts
- 09- 500 mm W-flange steel beam
- 10- Anchor bolts
- 11- 3D printed wall 12- 50mm rigid insulation
- 13- Window frame and sealant 14- window glass panels
- 15- Steel window sill
- 16- 150mm concrete topping, polished
- 17- Metal decking
- 18- Load transfer bracket and hanging wire
- 19- Compasso trim with bolts



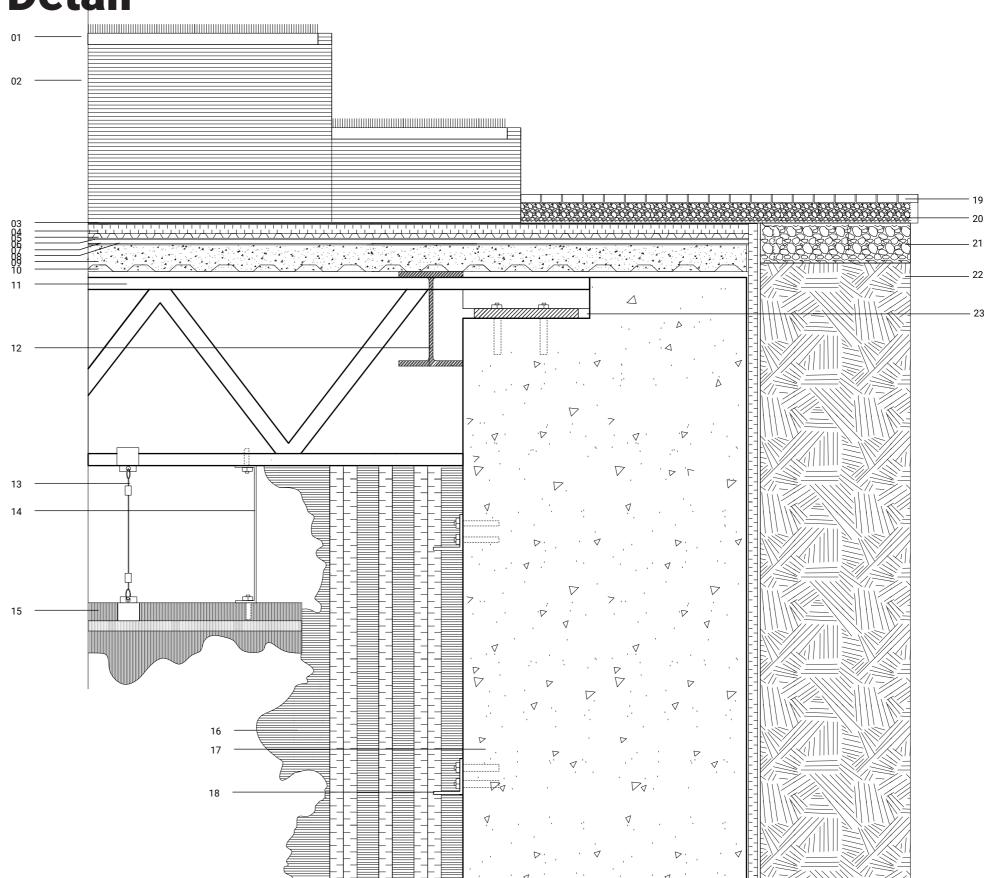


Facade Detail



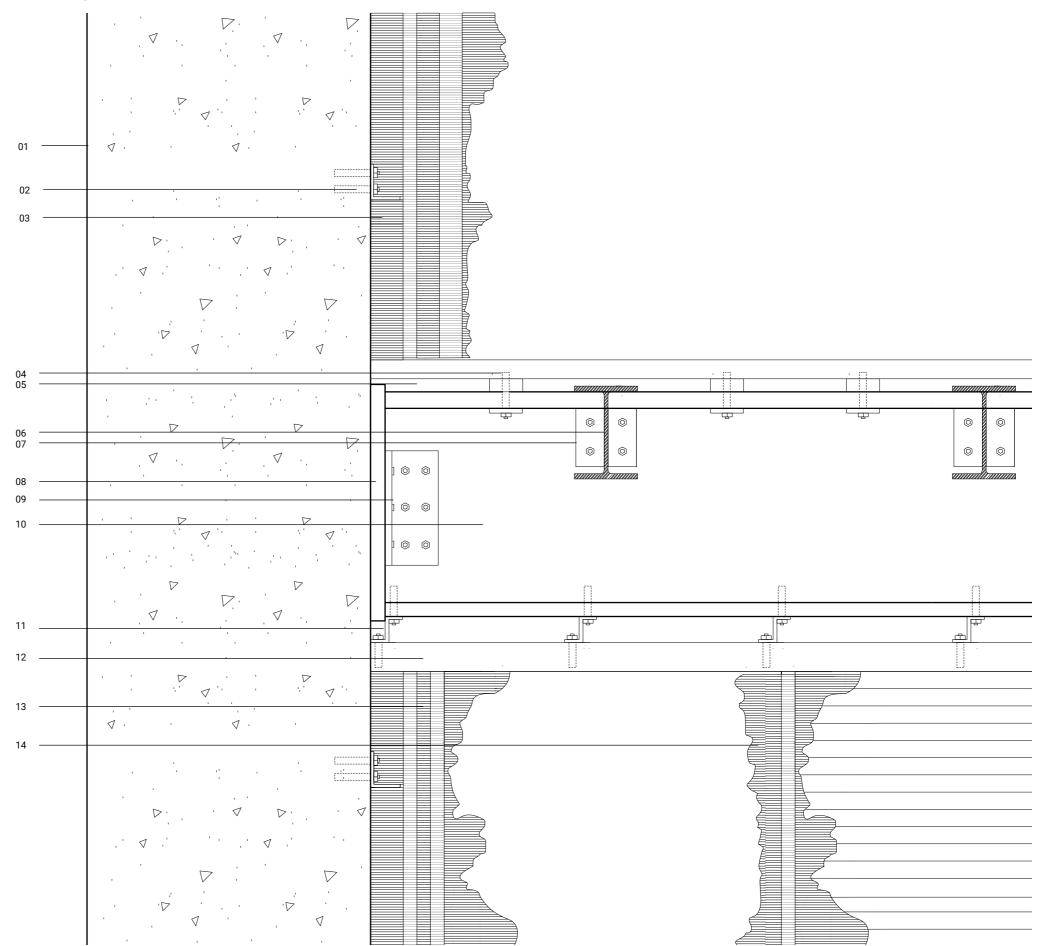
- 01- Steel deflection channel
- 02- Resilient floor finish
- 03- Aluminum bracket with bolts
- 04- Glass panels
- 05- Window panel fastener
- 06- Bracket with bolts
- 07- Metal decking
- 08-150mm concrete topping, polished
- 09- 500mm W-flange steel beam
- 10- Load transfer bracket and hanging wire
- 11- Compasso trim with bolts
- 12-50mm Rigid Insulation
- 13-3D printed soil wall
- 14-3D printed ceiling
- 15- Light gauge steel framing
- 16-2m steel truss column

Underground Roof Detail



- 01- Grass & soil
- 02- 3D printed sand planter benches
- 03- Filter fabric & moisture retention layer
- 04-50mm insulation
- 05- Drainage layer
- 06- Root barrier
- 07- Membrane protection
- 08- Waterproof membrane
- 09-150mm concrete topping, polished
- 10- Metal decking
- 11-1 m steel truss
- 12- 500mm W-flange steel beam
- 13- Load transfer bracket and hanging wire
- 14- Compasso trim with bolts
- 15- 3D printed ceiling 16- 3D printed wall
- 17-1.5 m concrete wall
- 18- L-shape bracket with bolts
- 19- Pavers
- 20 Wet mortar bed
- 21 Gravel
- 22 Existing Soil
- 23 Sill plate with bolts

Stair Wall Detail



- 01- 1.5 m concrete wall
- 02- L-frame bracket with bolts
- 03-3D printed wall
- 04- Metal block with bolts
- 05- Drainage layer
- 06- 500 mm W-flange steel beam
- 07- Steel plate with bolts
- 08- Sill plate
- 09- Steel bracket with bolts
- 10- 1.2m W-flange steel beam
- 11- Aluminum Z-shaped bar with bolts
- 12- Suspended ceiling formwork
- 13- 3D printed wall- inner 13- 3D printed wall- outer















