

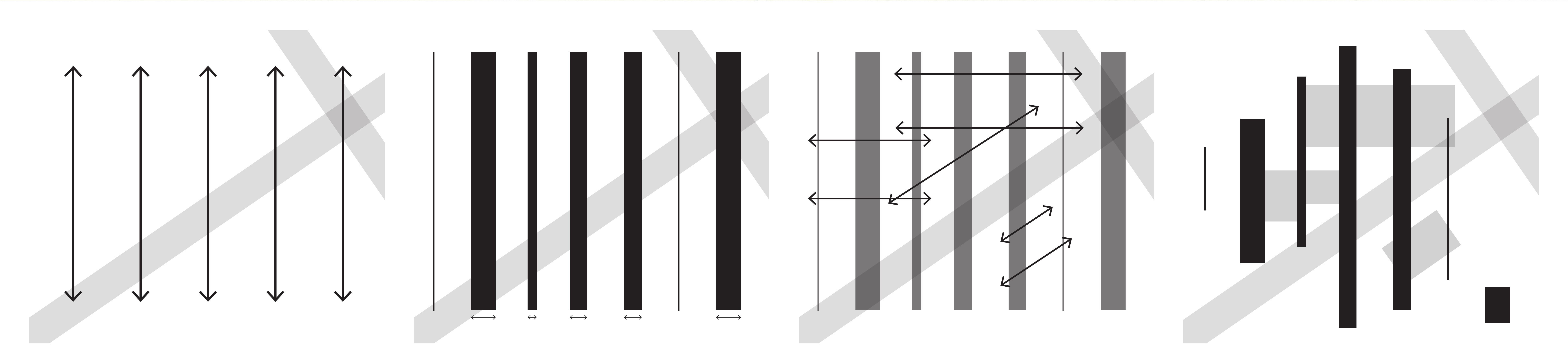
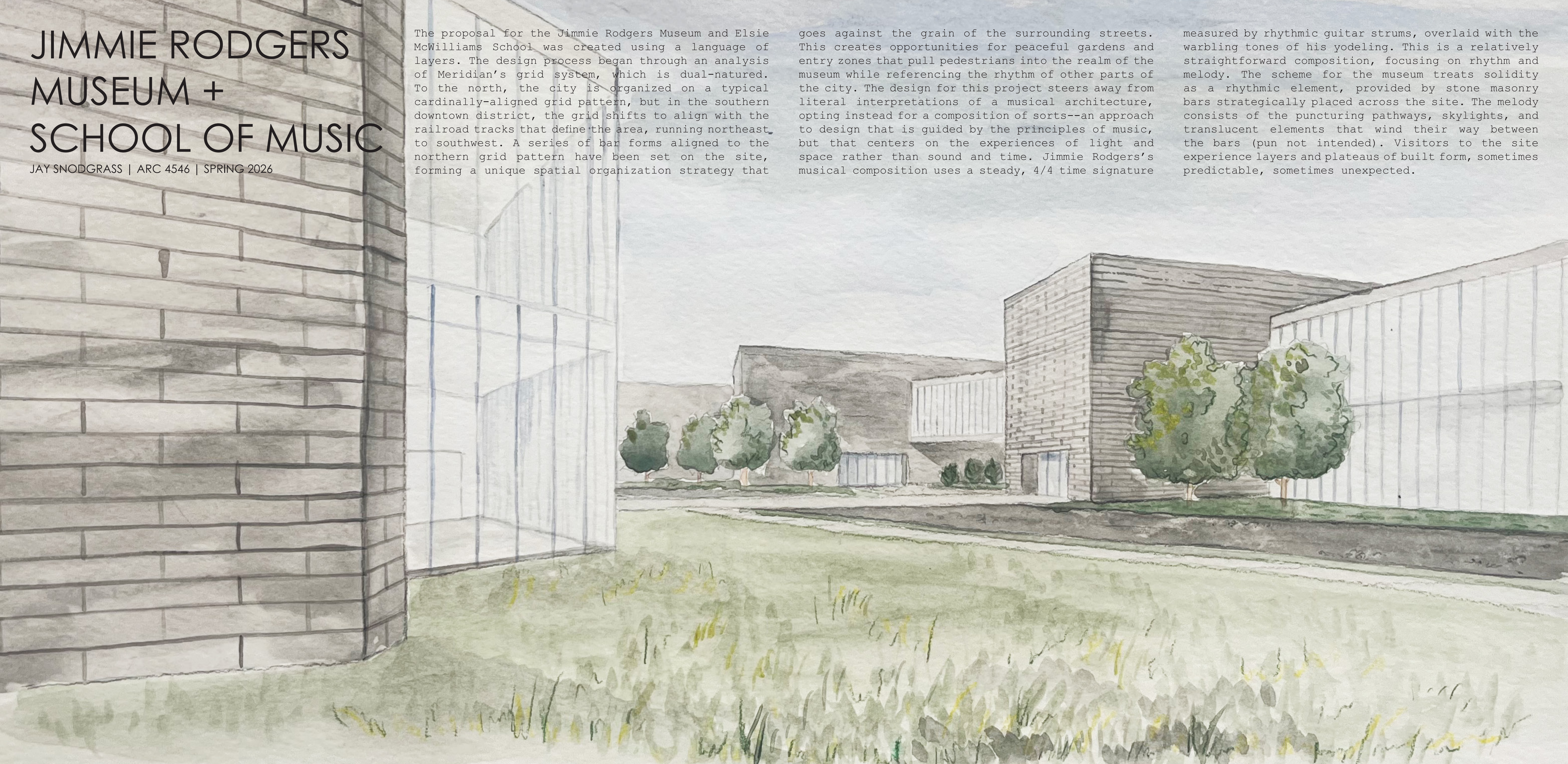
JIMMIE RODGERS MUSEUM + SCHOOL OF MUSIC

JAY SNODGRASS | ARC 4546 | SPRING 2026

The proposal for the Jimmie Rodgers Museum and Elsie McWilliams School was created using a language of layers. The design process began through an analysis of Meridian's grid system, which is dual-natured. To the north, the city is organized on a typical cardinally-aligned grid pattern, but in the southern downtown district, the grid shifts to align with the railroad tracks that define the area, running northeast to southwest. A series of bar forms aligned to the northern grid pattern have been set on the site, forming a unique spatial organization strategy that

goes against the grain of the surrounding streets. This creates opportunities for peaceful gardens and entry zones that pull pedestrians into the realm of the museum while referencing the rhythm of other parts of the city. The design for this project steers away from literal interpretations of a musical architecture, opting instead for a composition of sorts--an approach to design that is guided by the principles of music, but that centers on the experiences of light and space rather than sound and time. Jimmie Rodgers's musical composition uses a steady, 4/4 time signature

measured by rhythmic guitar strums, overlaid with the warbling tones of his yodeling. This is a relatively straightforward composition, focusing on rhythm and melody. The scheme for the museum treats solidity as a rhythmic element, provided by stone masonry bars strategically placed across the site. The melody consists of the puncturing pathways, skylights, and translucent elements that wind their way between the bars (pun not intended). Visitors to the site experience layers and plateaus of built form, sometimes predictable, sometimes unexpected.



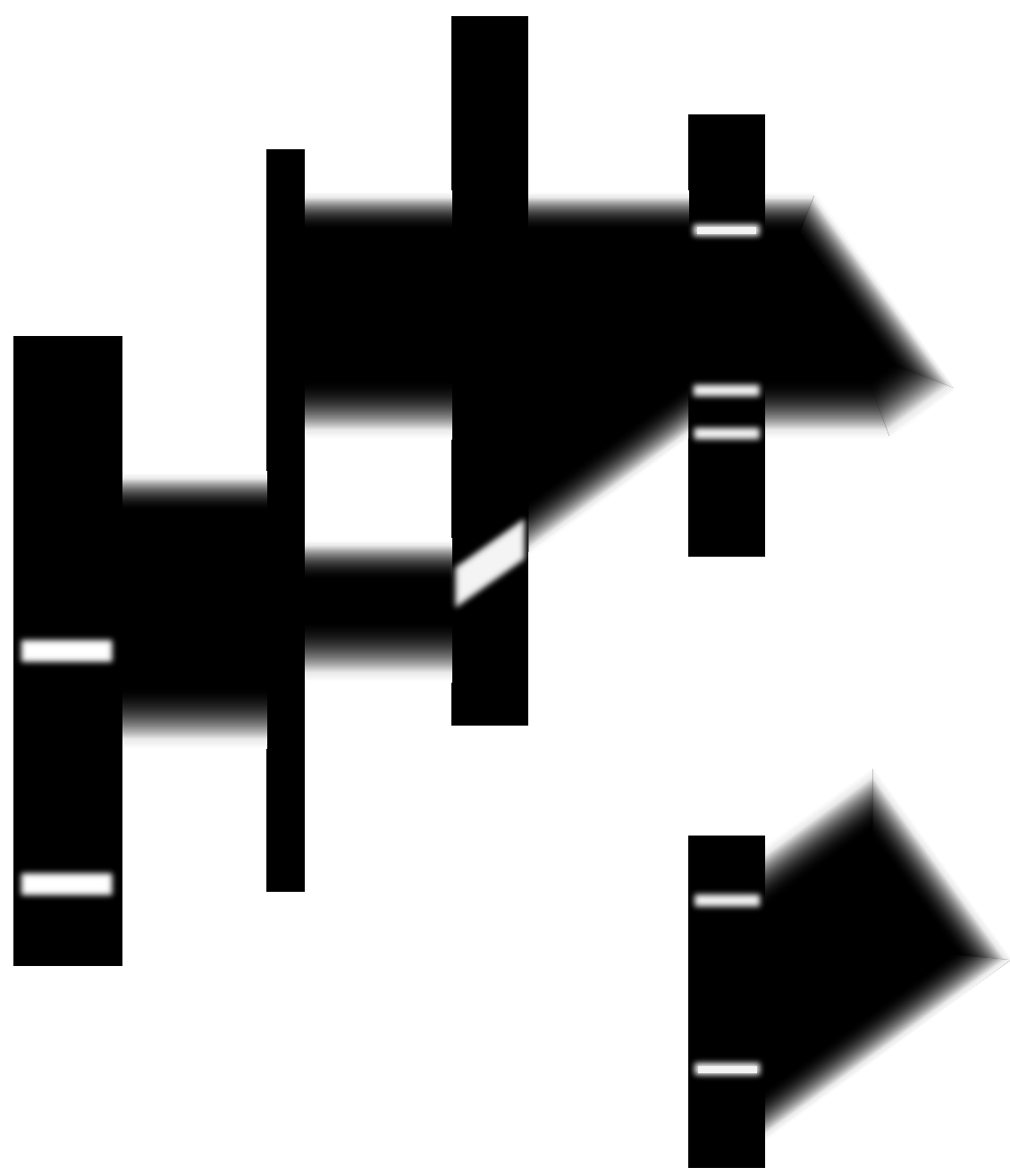
CONCEPTUAL SEQUENCE

Northern street grid > rhythmic bar creation > introduction of melodic connections > abstraction of final design.

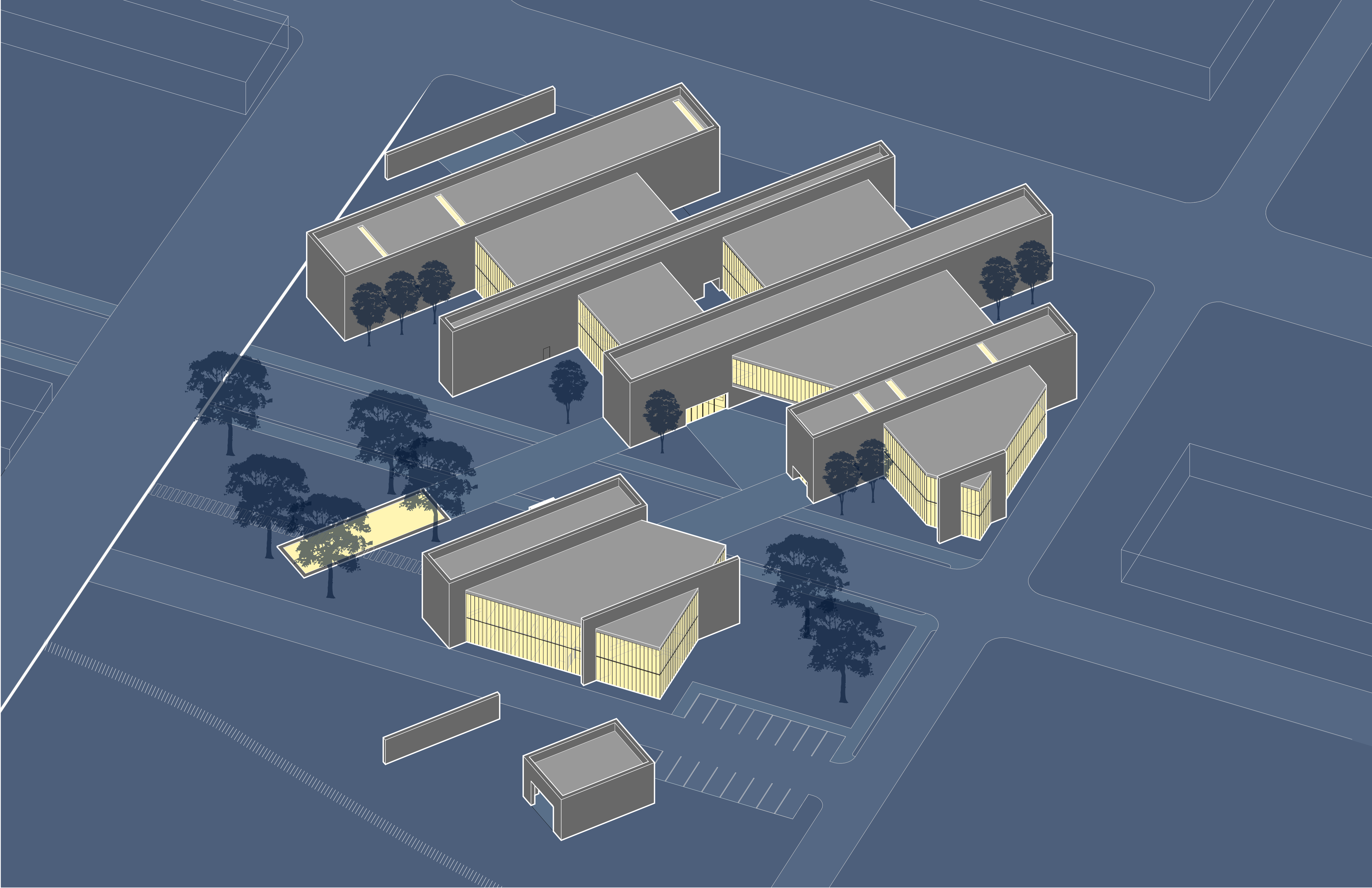
Above: View from corner of Front Street and 17th Avenue.



SITE CONTEXT 17th-18th Ave + 4th-Front St.



LIGHT DIAGRAM Skylights + glass facades.

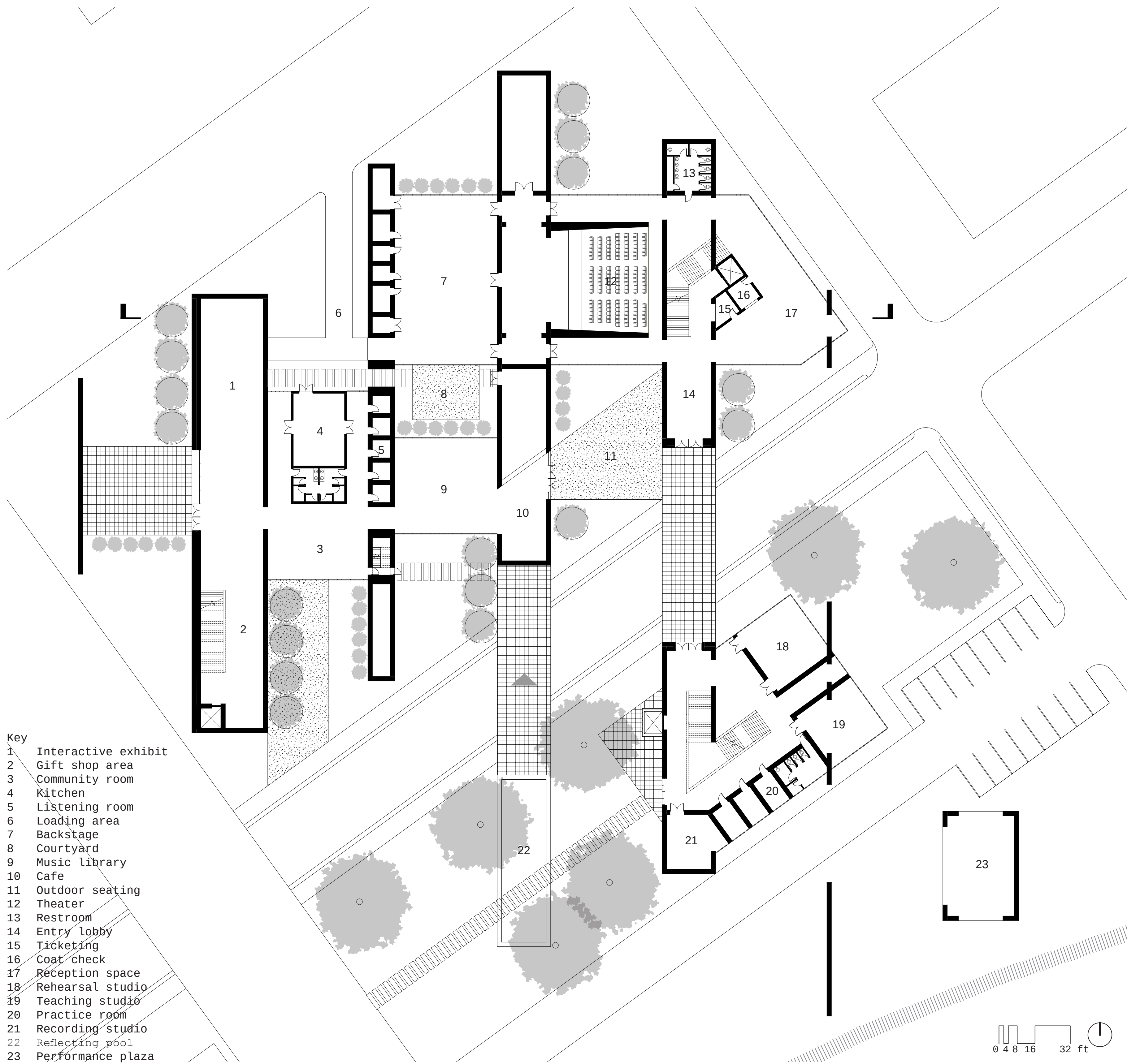


SITE AXONOMETRIC Channel glass creates a soft glow in the evening. Below: Reflecting pool at twilight.

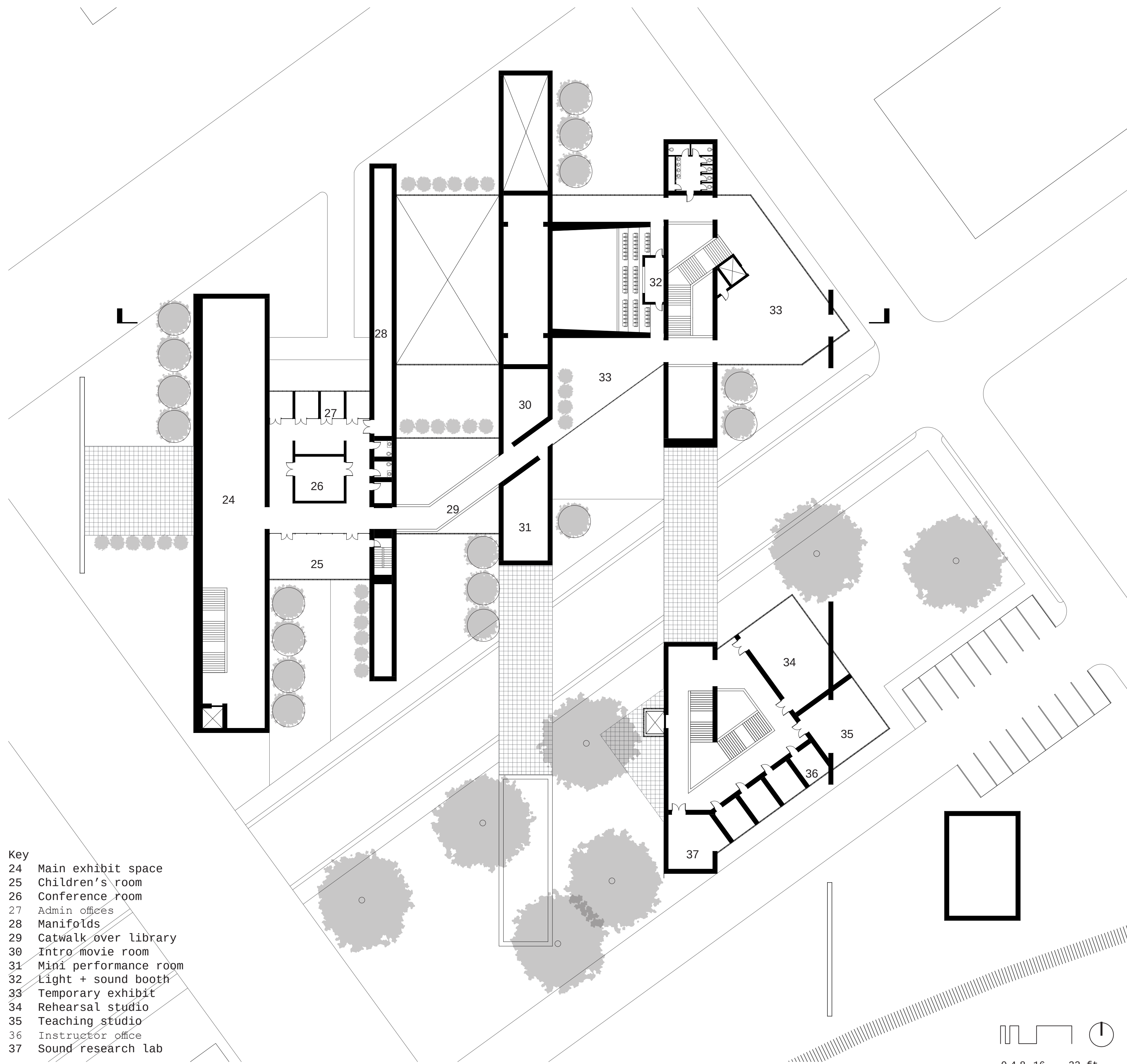


CORRIDOR Light entering through facade.

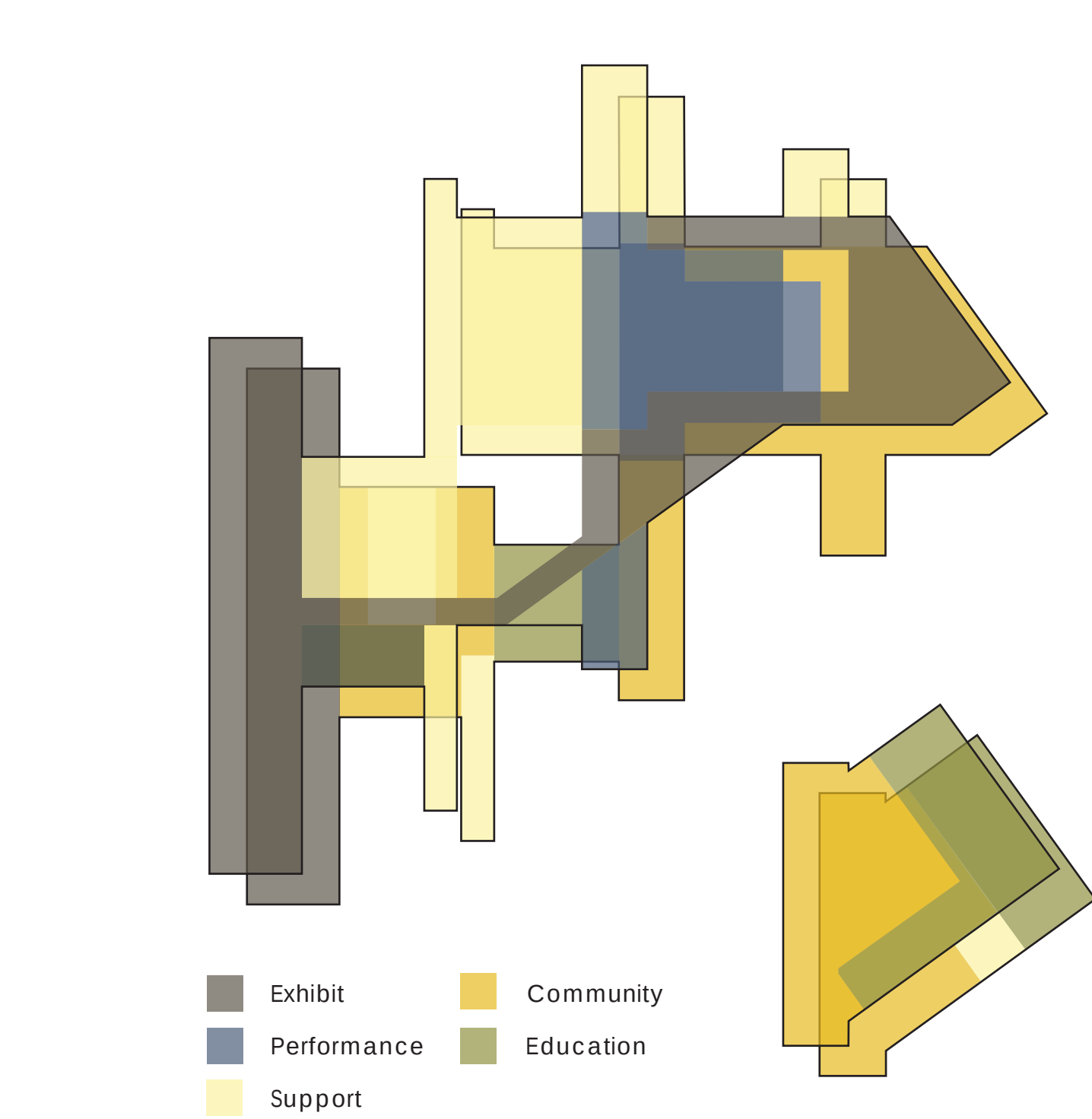




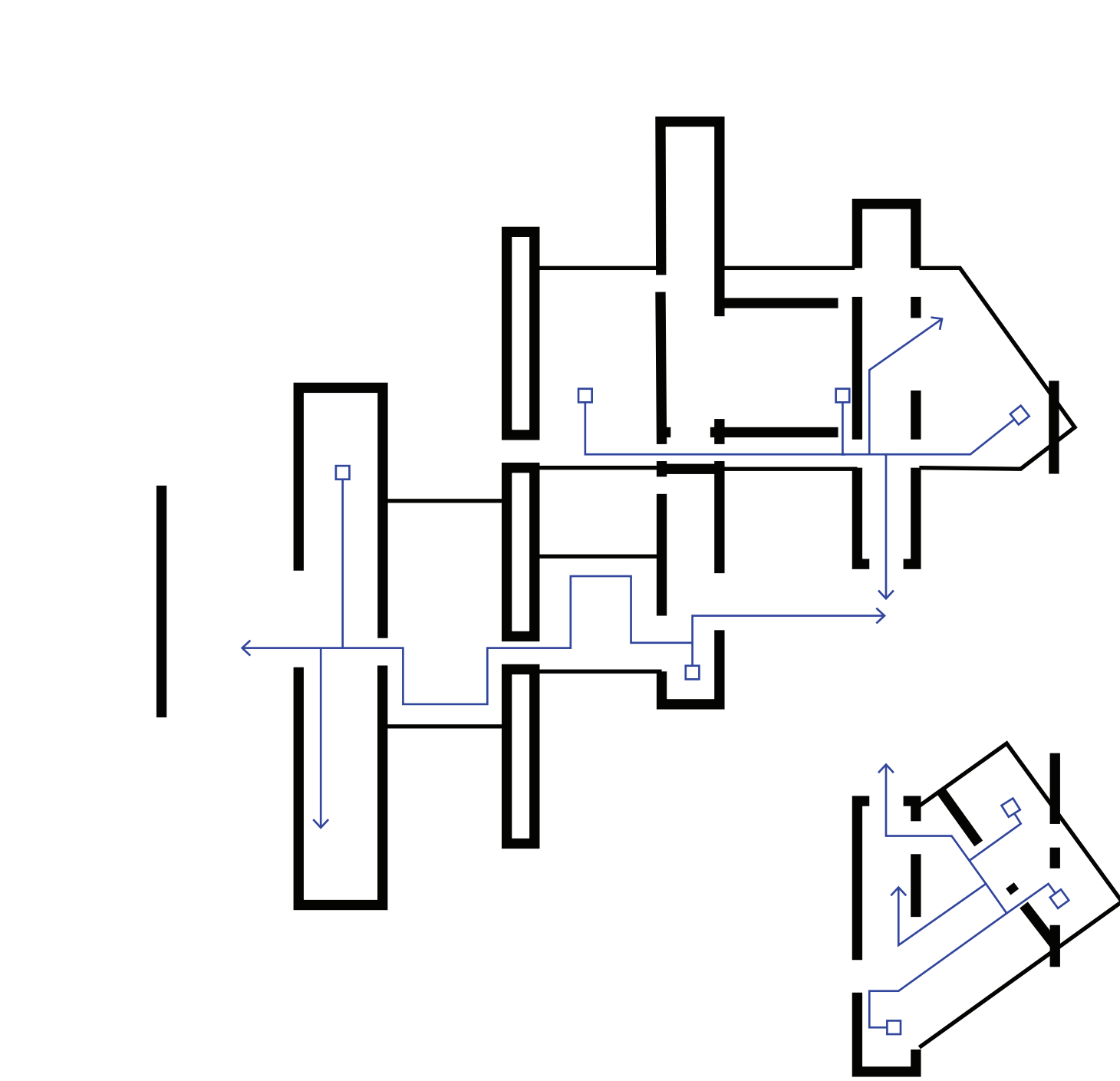
FIRST FLOOR PLAN



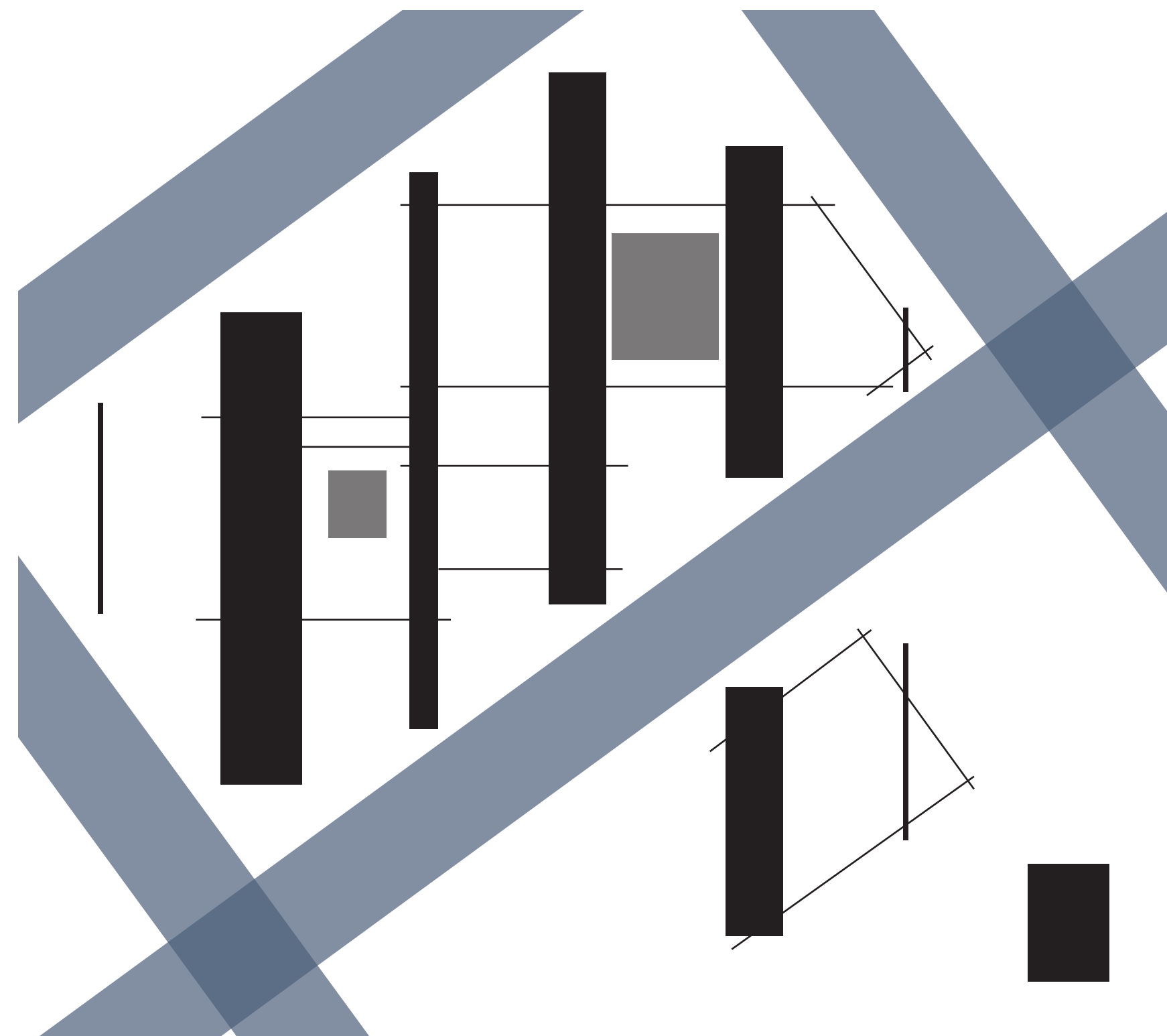
SECOND FLOOR PLAN



PROGRAM Interweaving layers of activity.



CIRCULATION Winding paths through the bars.



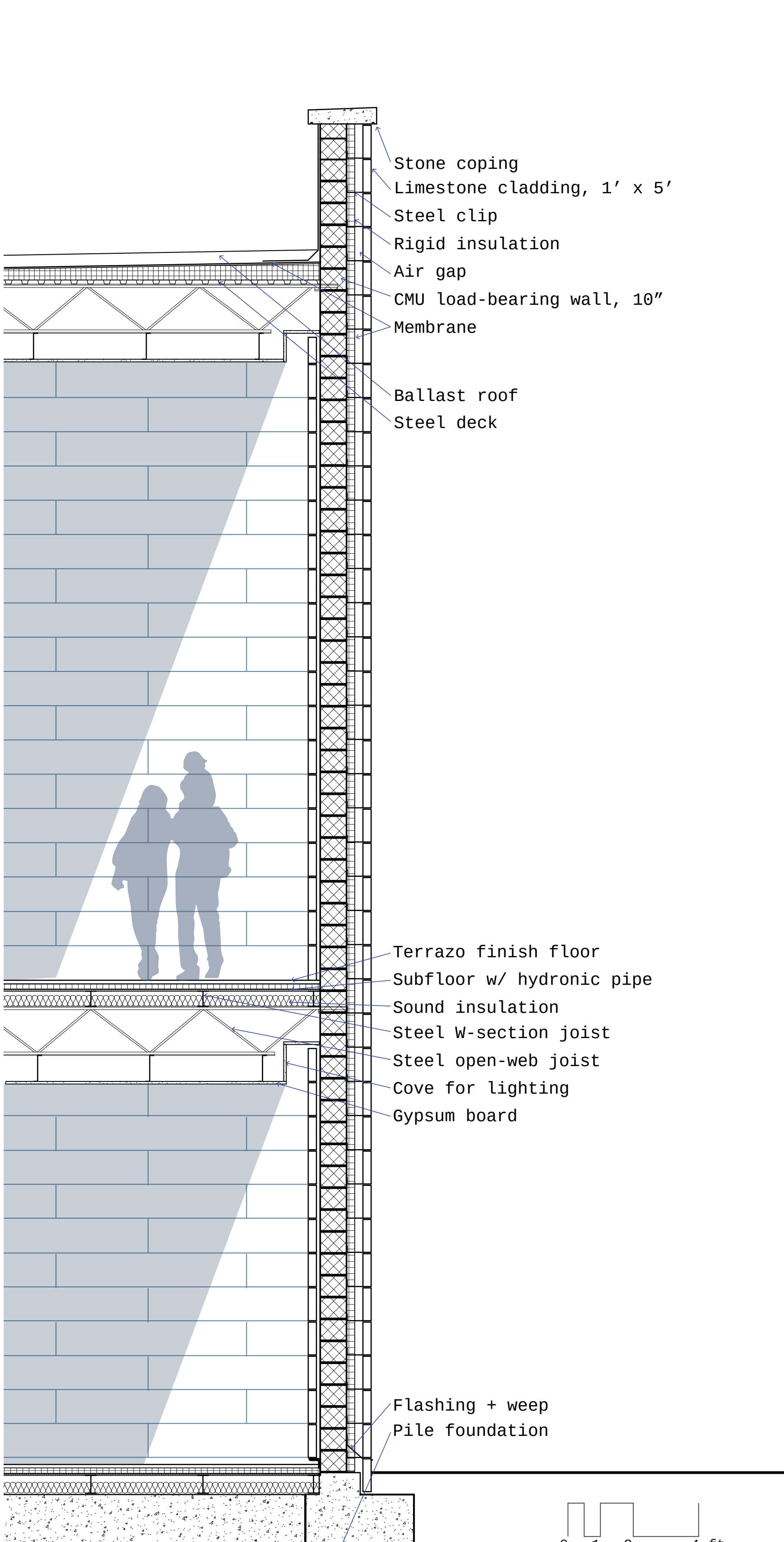
LAYERS Areas of transparency and opacity.



LIBRARY



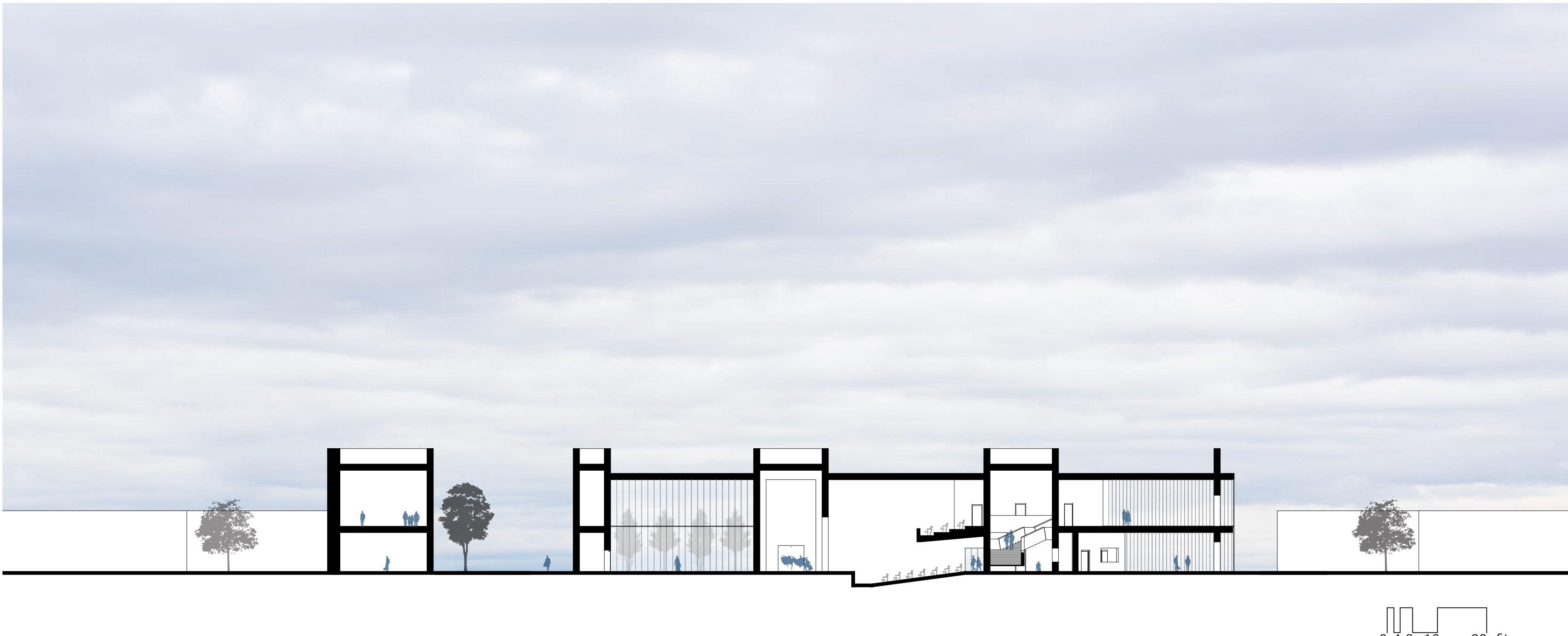
ENTRY LOBBY Skylights + catwalks cast shadows.



WALL SECTION Limestone cladding + CMU wall.



ELEVATION



SECTION Below: Main exhibit hall, entry from exterior, education building stairway.

