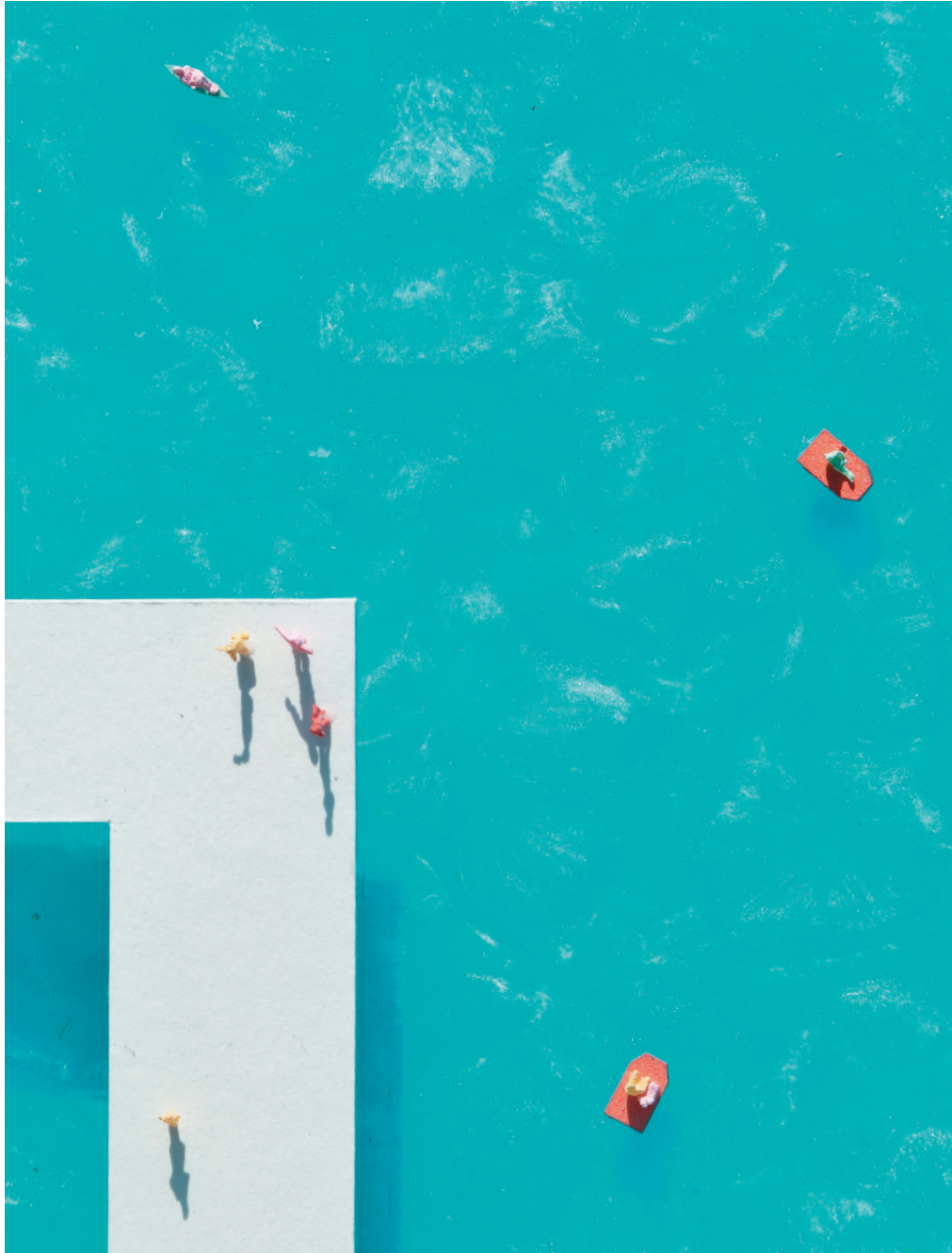




Kaya Ramirez

Portfolio

## Casual Boathouse







Bandemer Park is a popular warm-weather retreat for many students at U-of-M and citizens of Ann Arbor. Known by regulars as simply “the docks,” visitors partake in sunbathing, socializing, and an occasional dip in the water; if there’s one word to describe this location, it’s casual.

Bandemer Park is also the practice facility for the Michigan men’s rowing team. Rowers endure high physical stress on a weekly basis, practicing for a particularly elitist sport. If there’s one word that does not describe rowing, it’s casual.

A casual day-tripper uses these docks as a place for resting while a rower uses them solely as a device for entering the water. A swimmer uses the river as a place for fun and cooling off while a rower uses it as a surface for grueling exercise. These two actors are near polar-opposites, and yet they both go to the same riverside during the same season; a revamped Bandemer park would have to satisfy the needs of both parties.





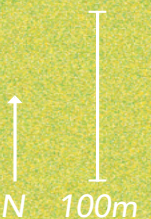
Rowers traverse north of the dock to have a 2000 meter straight

Bike paths connect the park with downtown Ann Arbor during the summer

Project Site

The current dock is small yet functional, providing a nice relaxing getaway for people in Ann Arbor

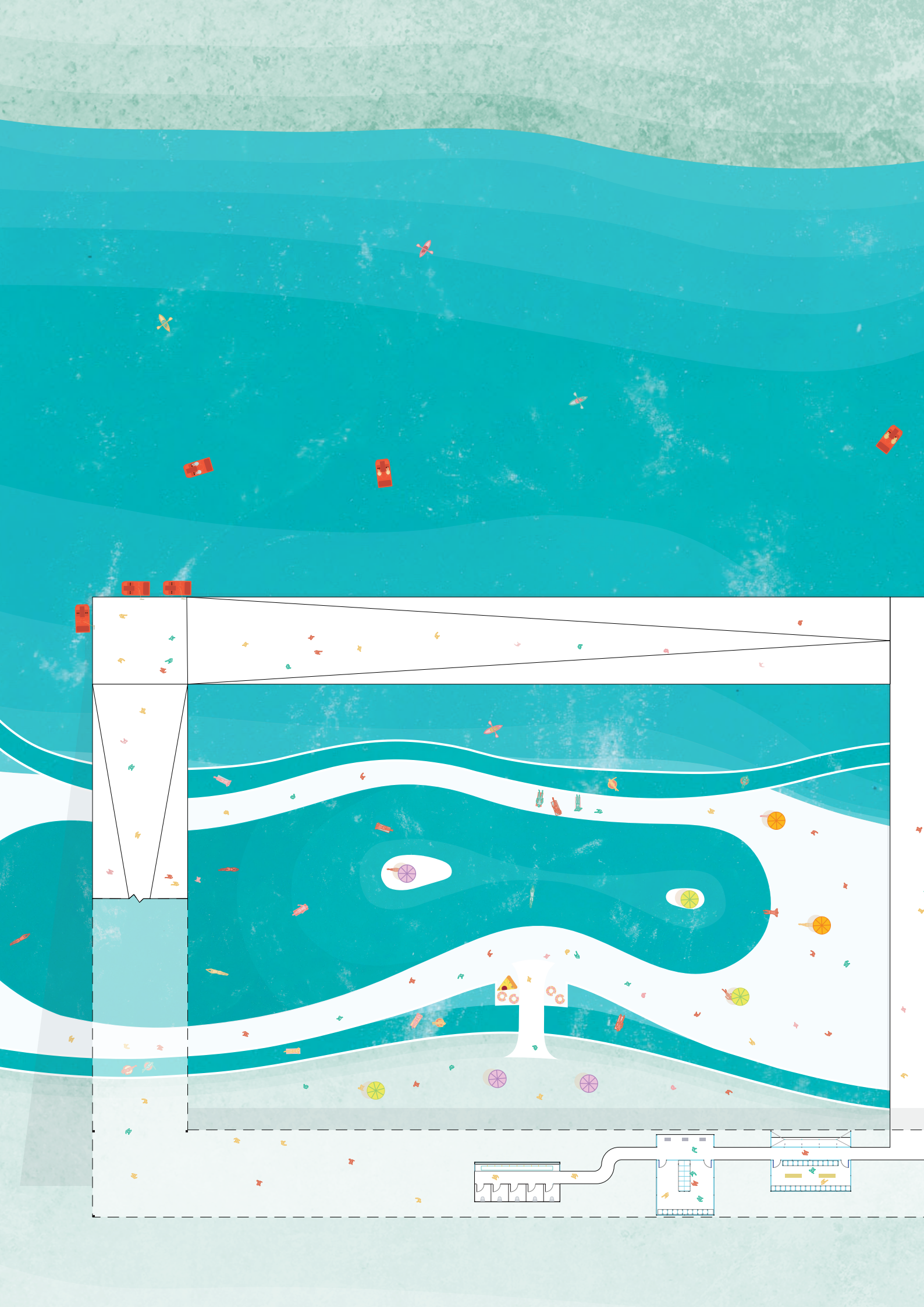
The Huron River runs between north and south campus, central to the city and university





If there's one painting that embodies a casual day-trip, it's *A Sunday Afternoon on the Island of La Grande Jatte* by Georges Seurat. The painting features people relaxing on the riverside, canoeing, swimming, and in the distance you can even see a crew of rowers; sounds a lot like Bandemer Park. I traced the characters from Seurat's painting and drew them into the activities that I wanted the new boathouse to contain, as well as program requirements for the rowers.

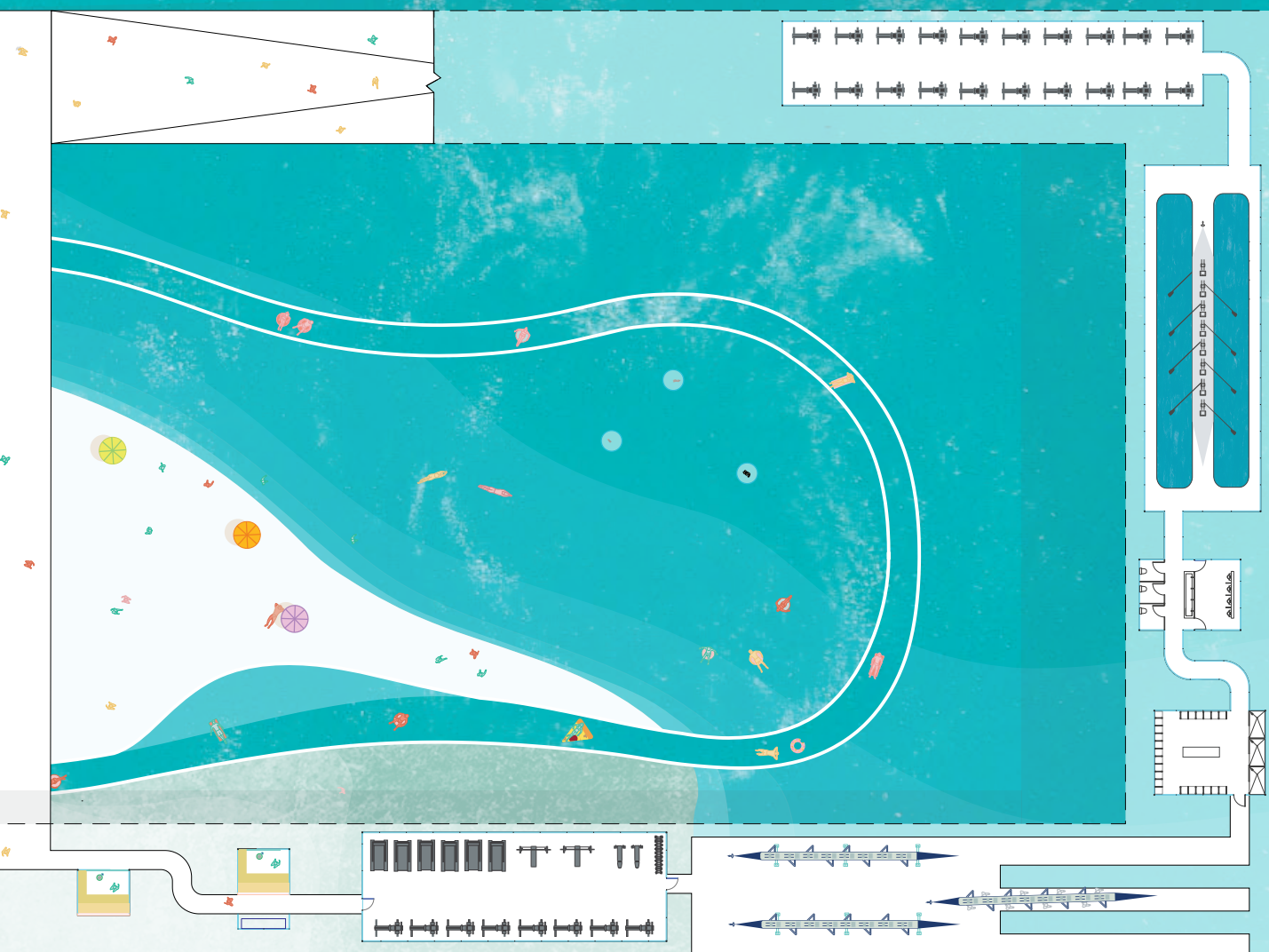




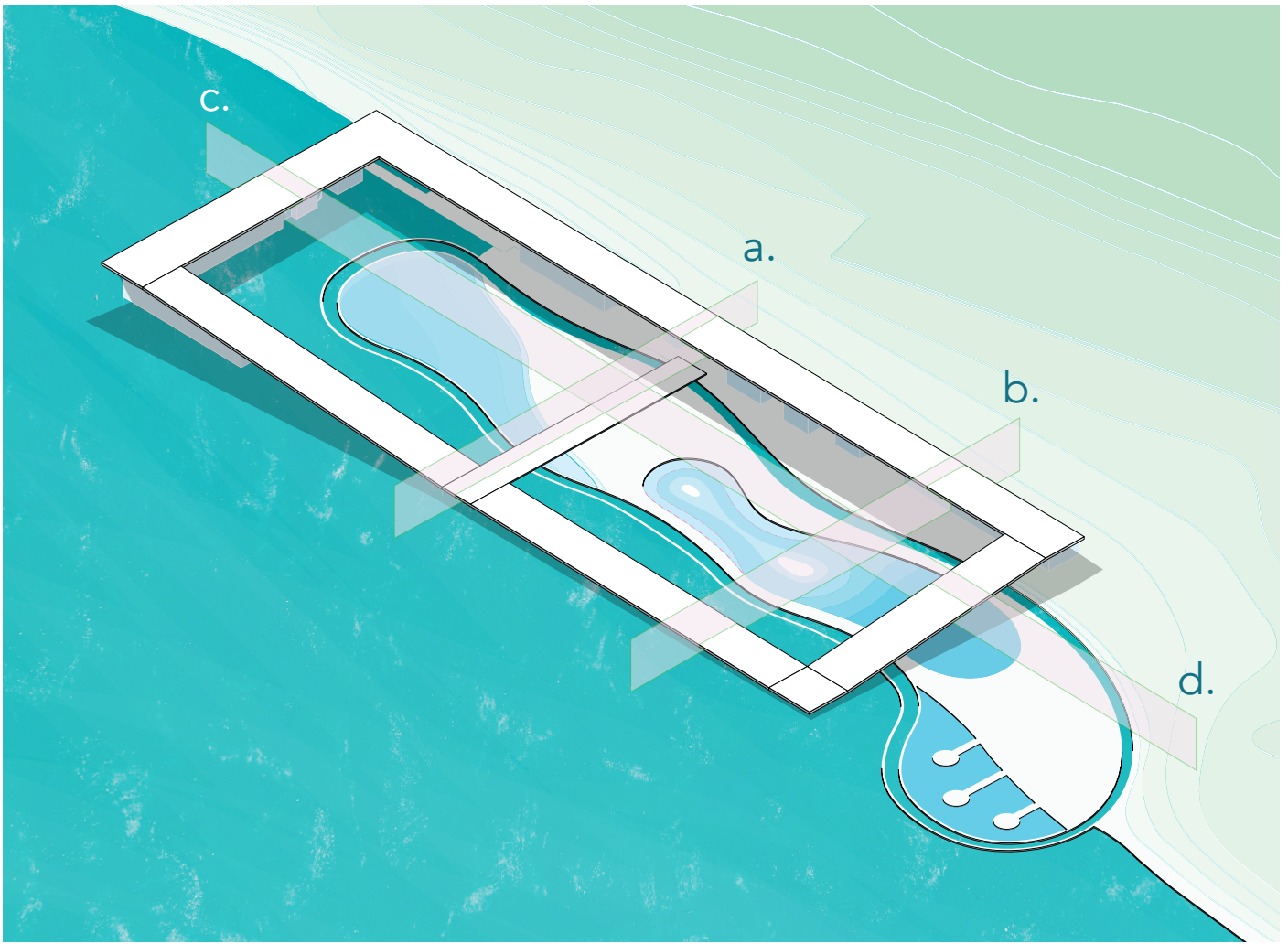




The program for the row team is covered by the dock, acting as a walkway for the visitor and even a platform for diving. The orthogonal form of the oversized dock contrasts with the amoeba-like layout of the pools and lazy river.



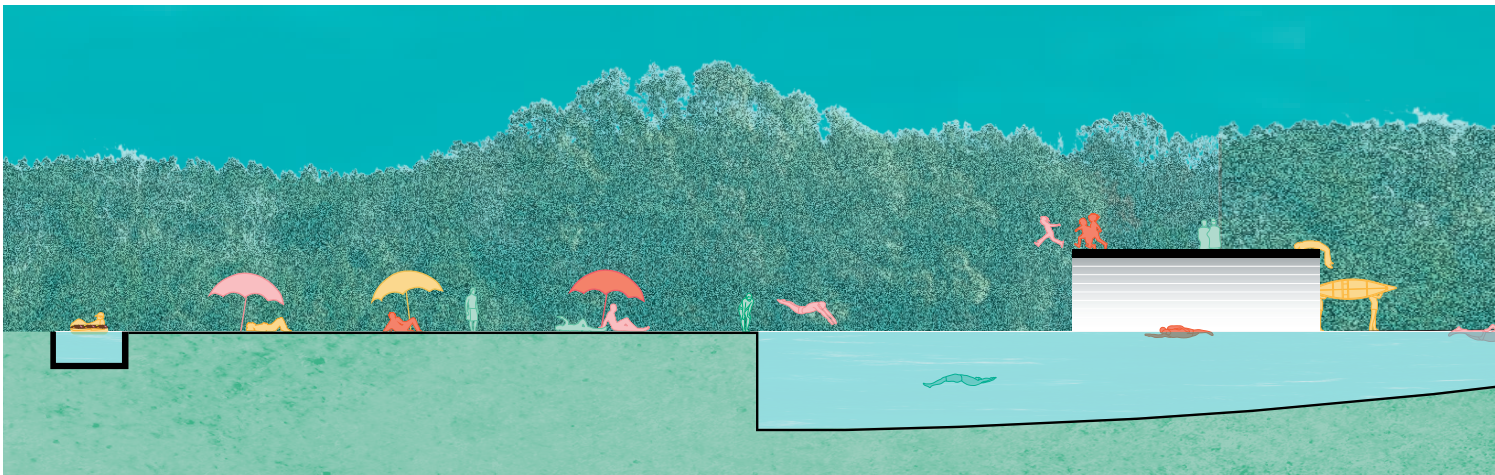




The dock slants so that it can both cover the rowing program and meet the water. This slanted structure provides pockets of shade on the shore and in the water and connects the park together.

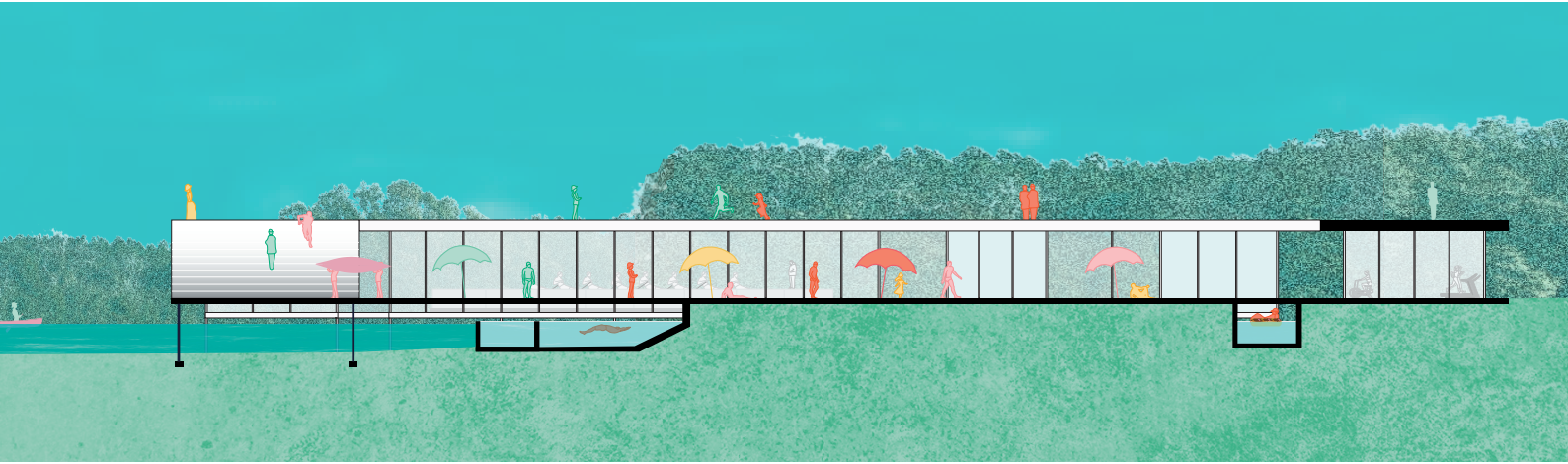


d.

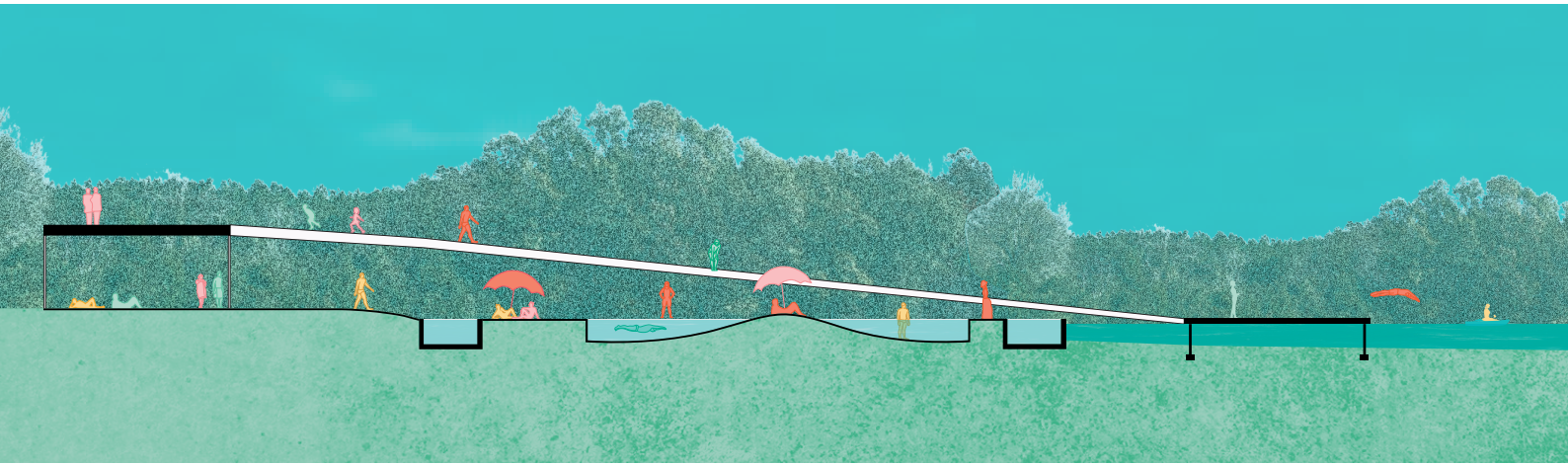




a.

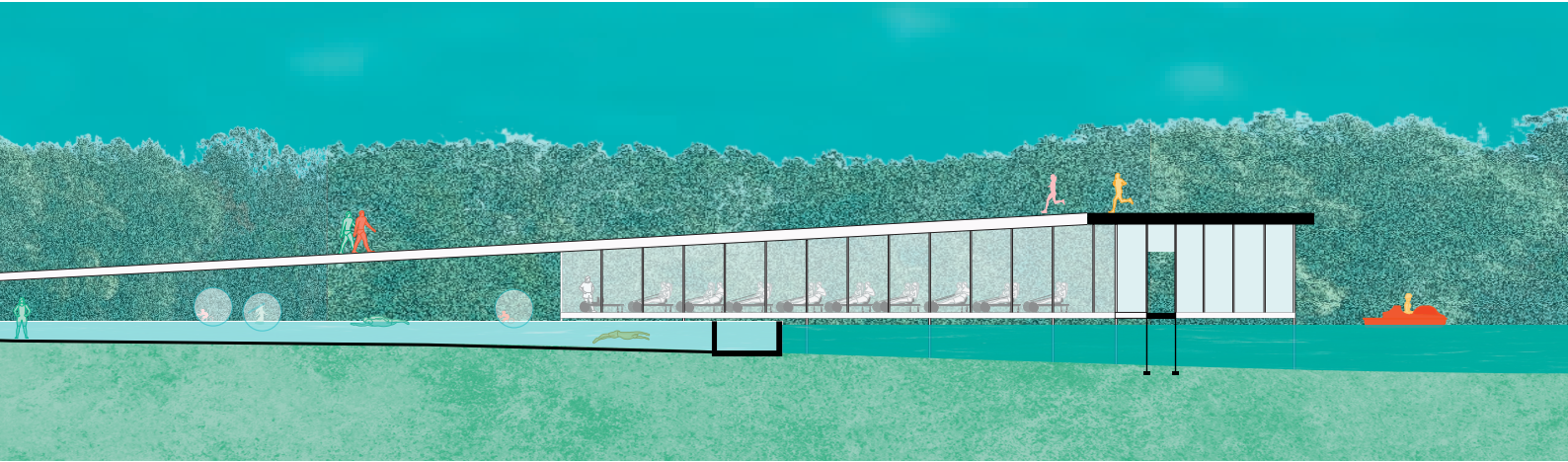


b.

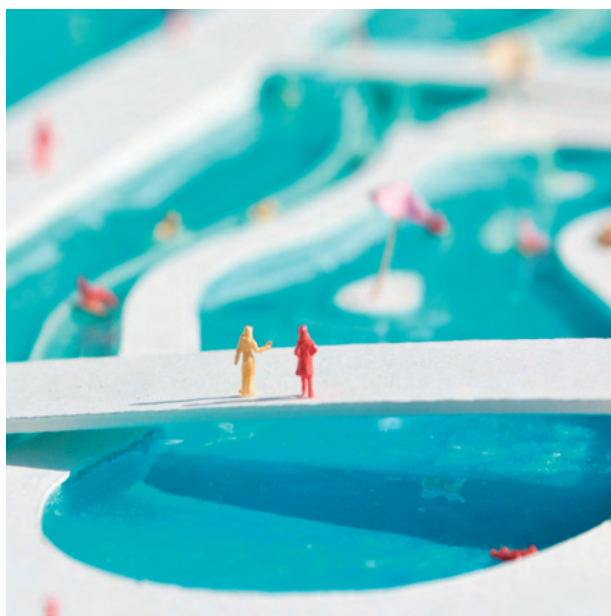
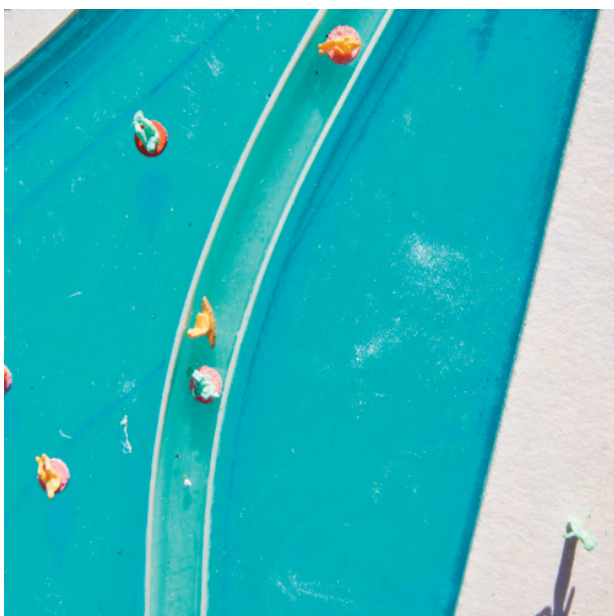
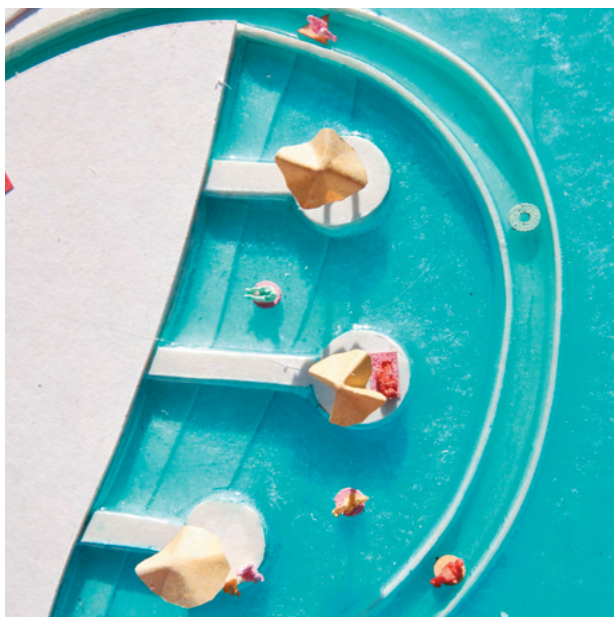


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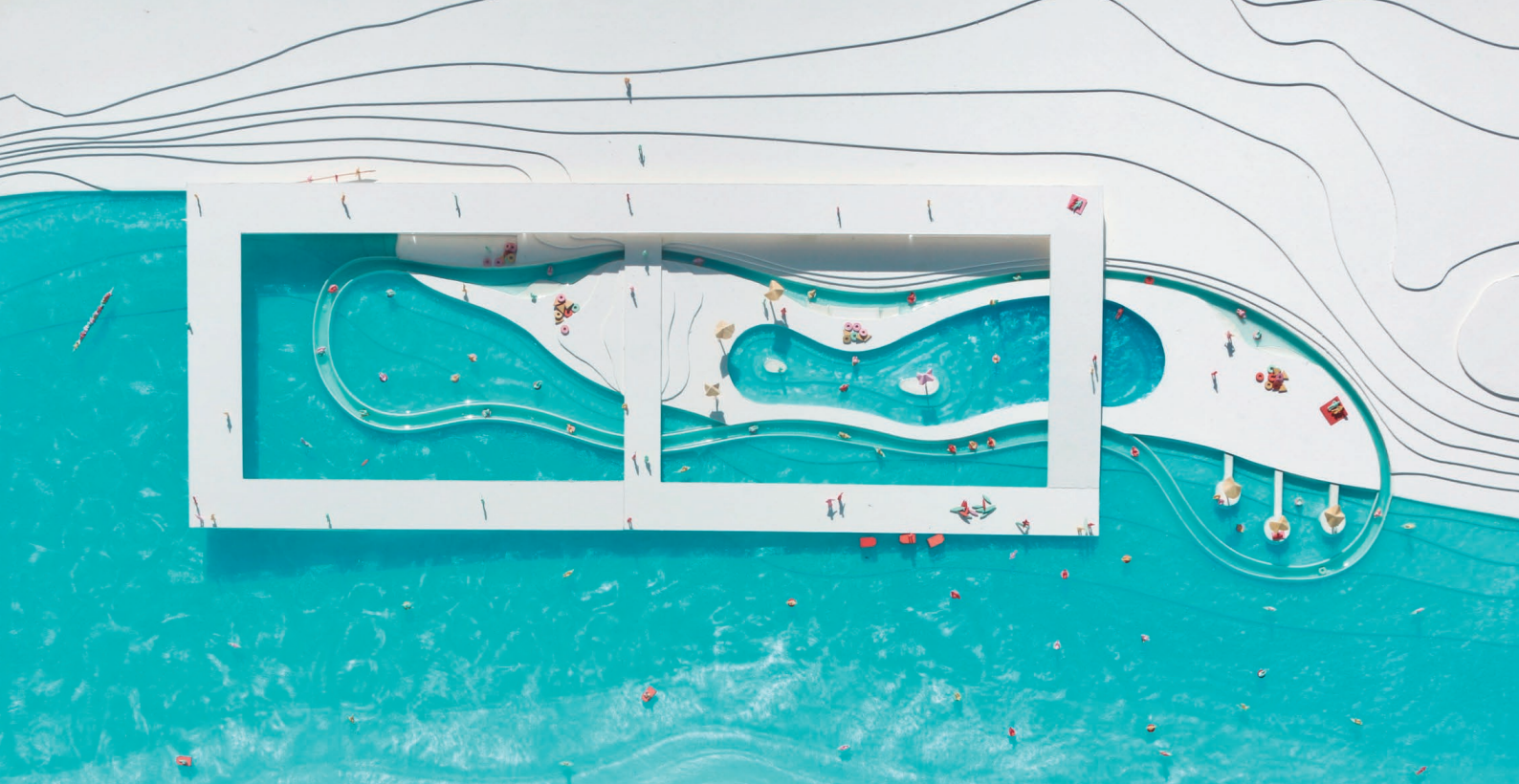
c.











This was one of my favorite models to make. I sliced the 3D model from the axonometric on the previous page in order to zund cut the topography, lazy river, and pool out of 2-ply museum board. I then cut acrylic and 4 ply museum board to form the buildings and overarching dock. The most difficult and most important part of the model was the resin pour. After a few tests I found the perfect blue pigment/ resin ratio to get the bright color that I wanted. I poured the resin into the empty river space, pool, and lazy river, and after a few minutes it got really hot and turned hard as glass.

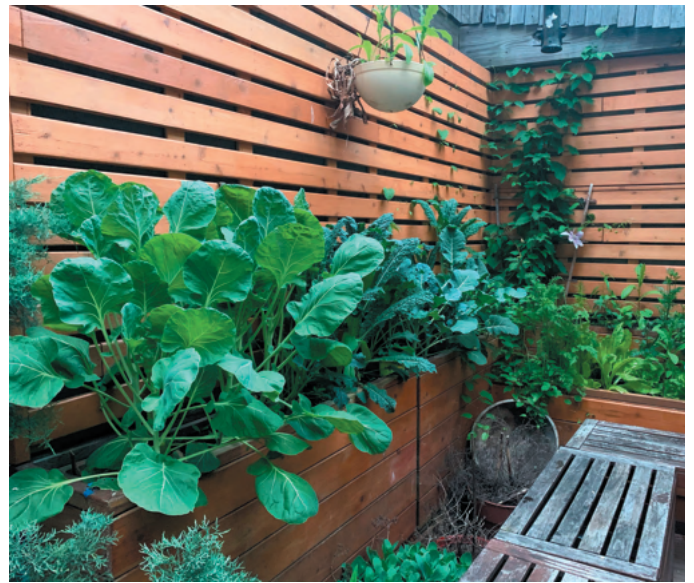
While the bright blue water certainly does not represent the hue of the Huron River, along with the colorful scale figures and pool toys it creates a sense of playfulness that a casual day trip to the river might have.



# Garden Construction

Over 10 Summer days, I transformed my concrete backyard into a quaint garden. The previous summer, my dad and I built a set of cedar planter boxes, but the rest of the garden left much to be desired.

My friend Alex and I cut, sanded, and mounted the same cedar from the planter boxes onto the cinderblock walls to create a vertical garden. We then laid wooden tiles atop adjustable stands and painted the walls a dark green to disguise the claustrophobic concrete enclosure.

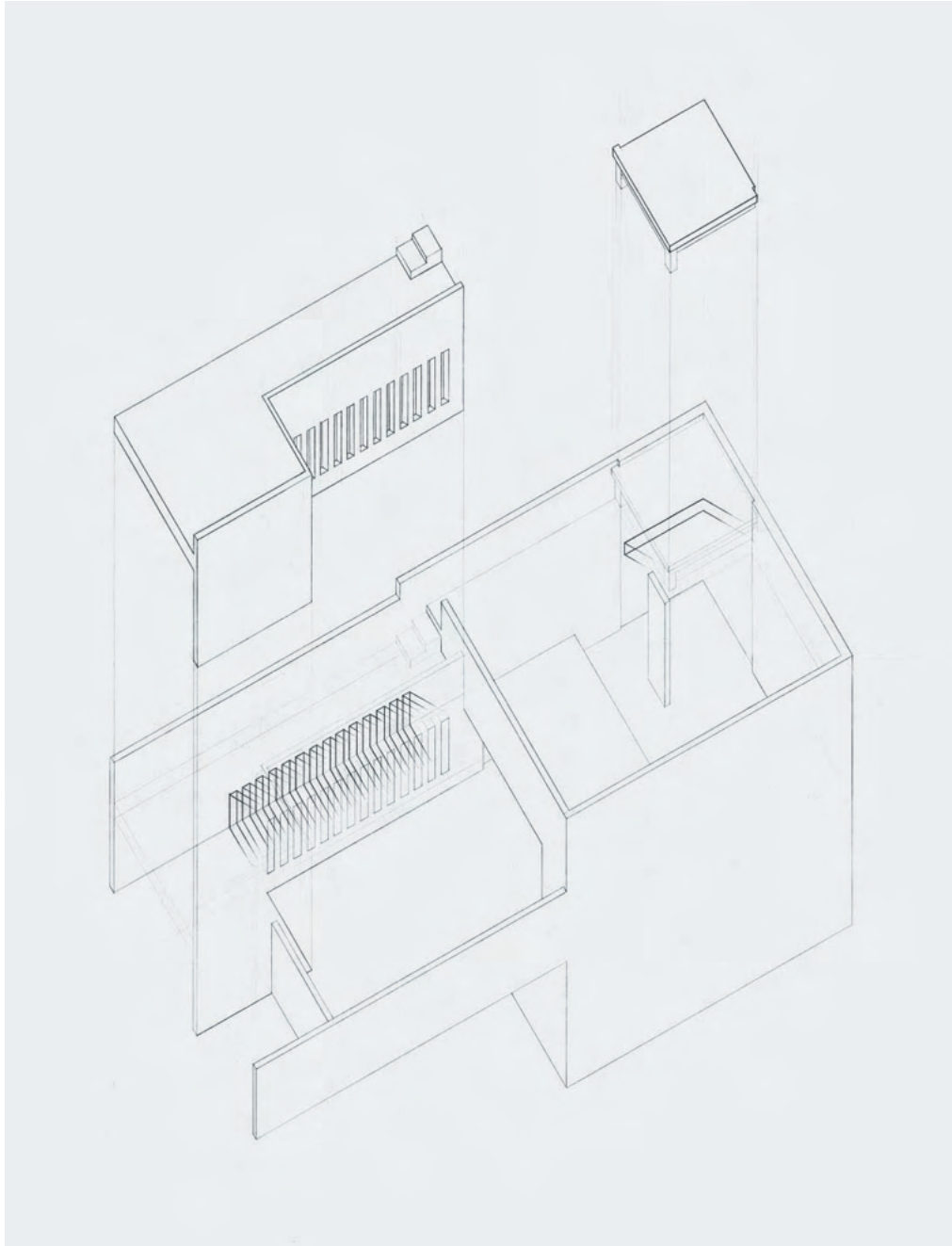




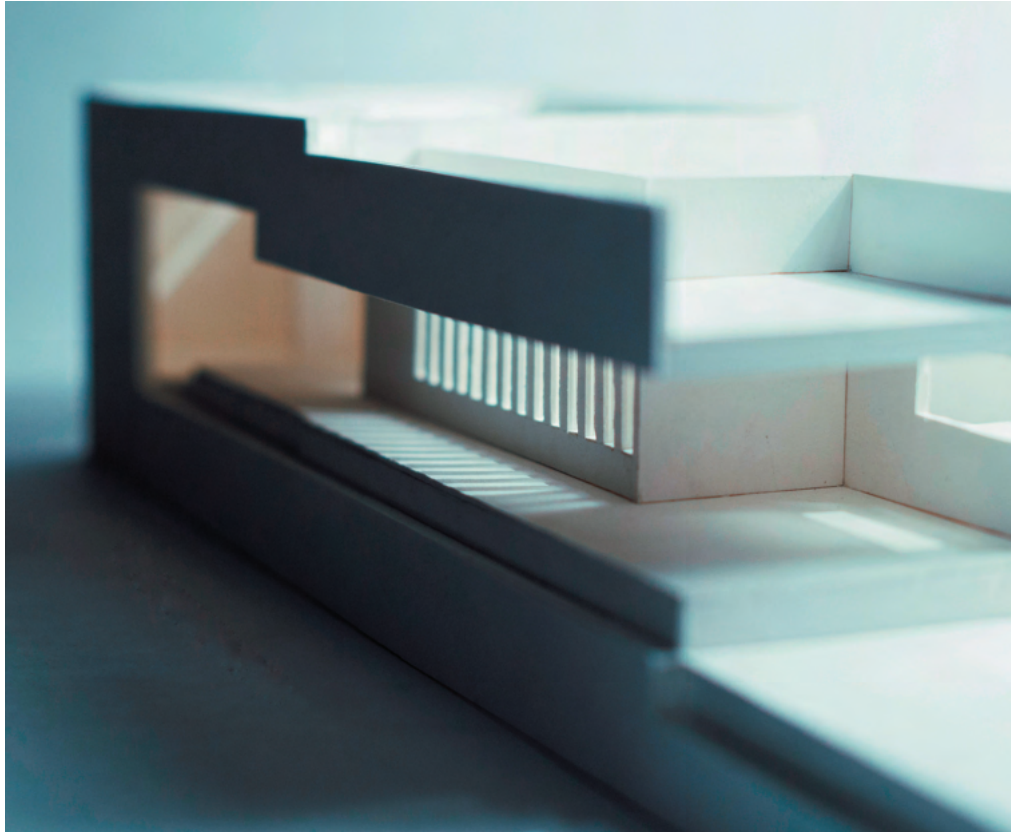




## Case Study of Casa Gilardí



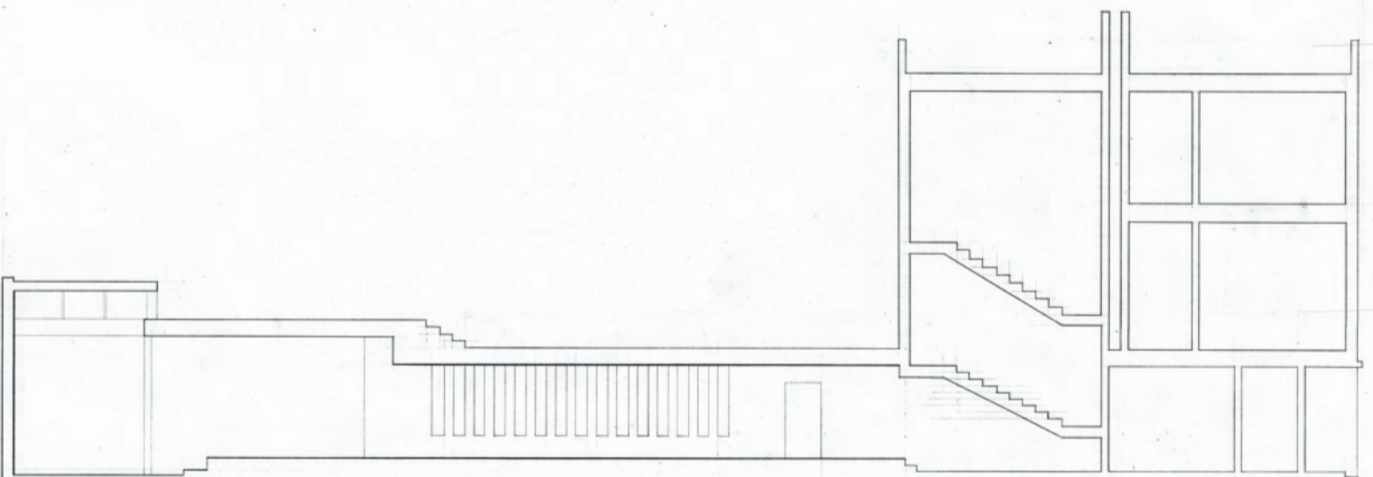
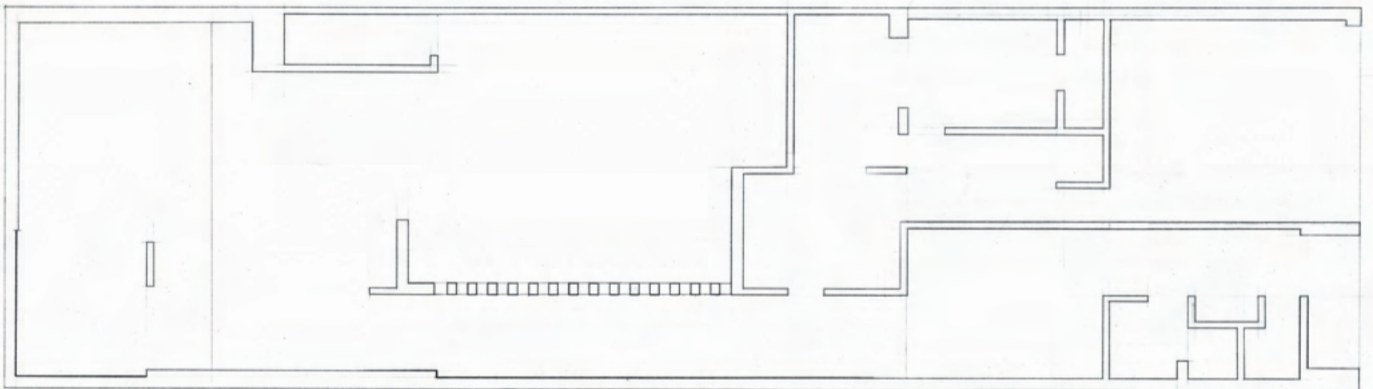
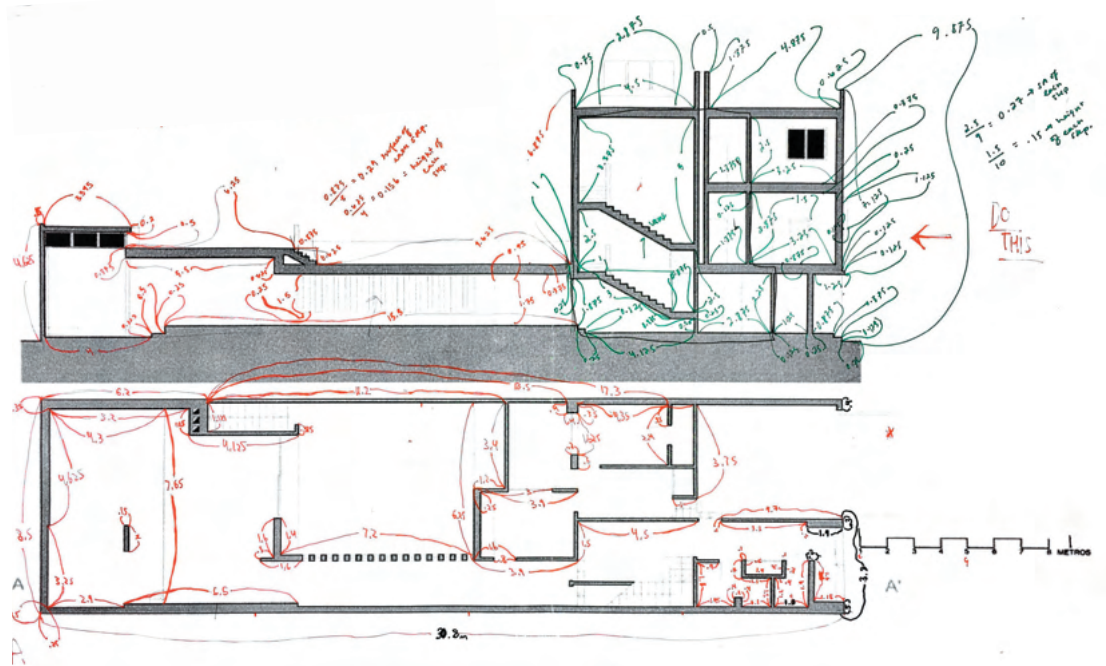




Luís Barragan was retired when two Bachelors approached him to design their house. At first he was hesitant, but after seeing the Jacaranda tree in the middle of the site, he fell in love and began creating yet another architectural Masterpiece.

As with any Barragan construction, this project evokes what he calls emotional architecture. The idea that any work of architecture that doesn't project a feeling of serenity is a failure. Casa Gilardi encourages meditation and quietude with its still reflection pool, its relationship with the Jacaranda tree, and the apertures that illuminate the house with deliberate streaks of light.



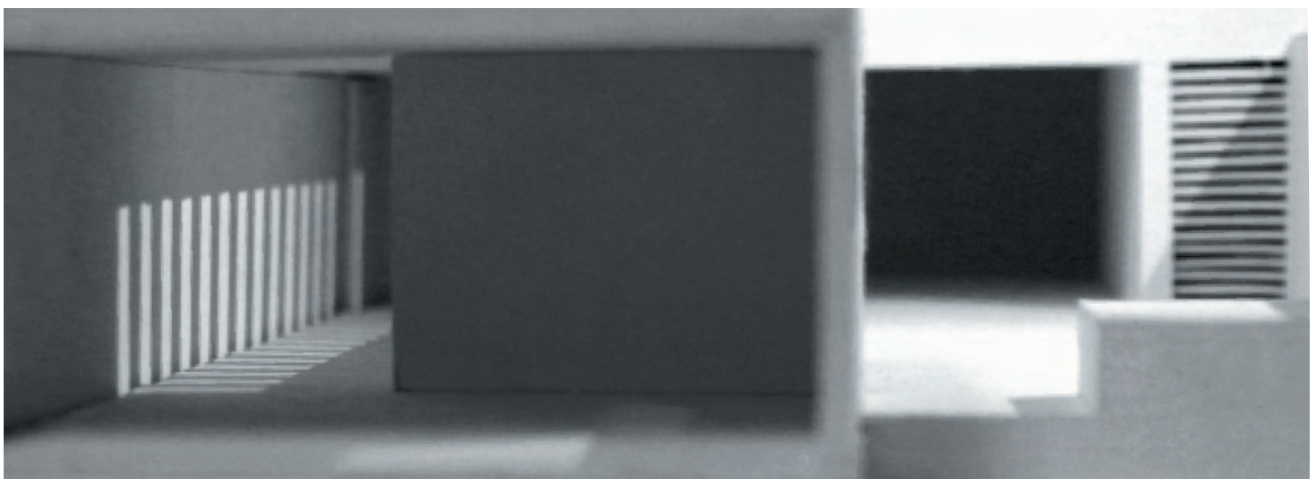
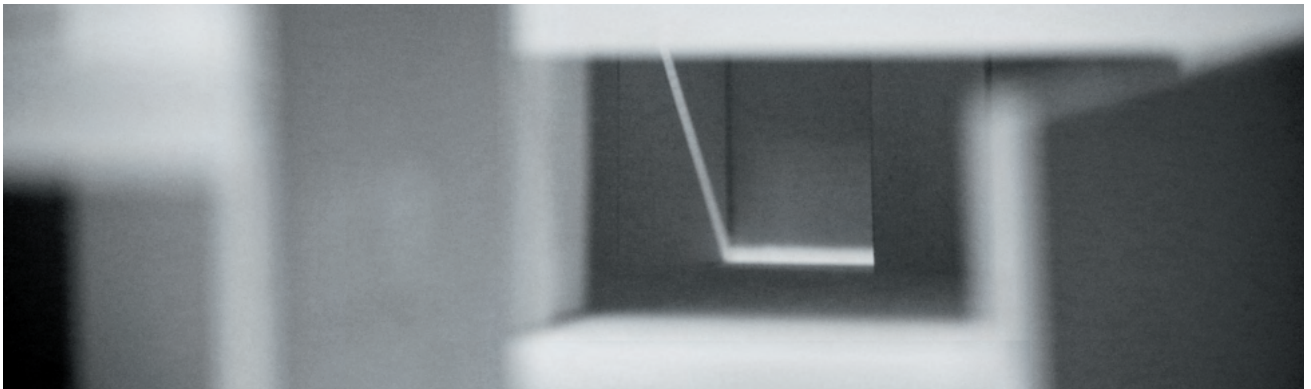




I made a detail model with classmates Jackie Urwin and Christian Rios. To start, we referenced the best plan we could find in order to create a detailed plan at the same scale as our model that we could use as a reference for cutting the walls.

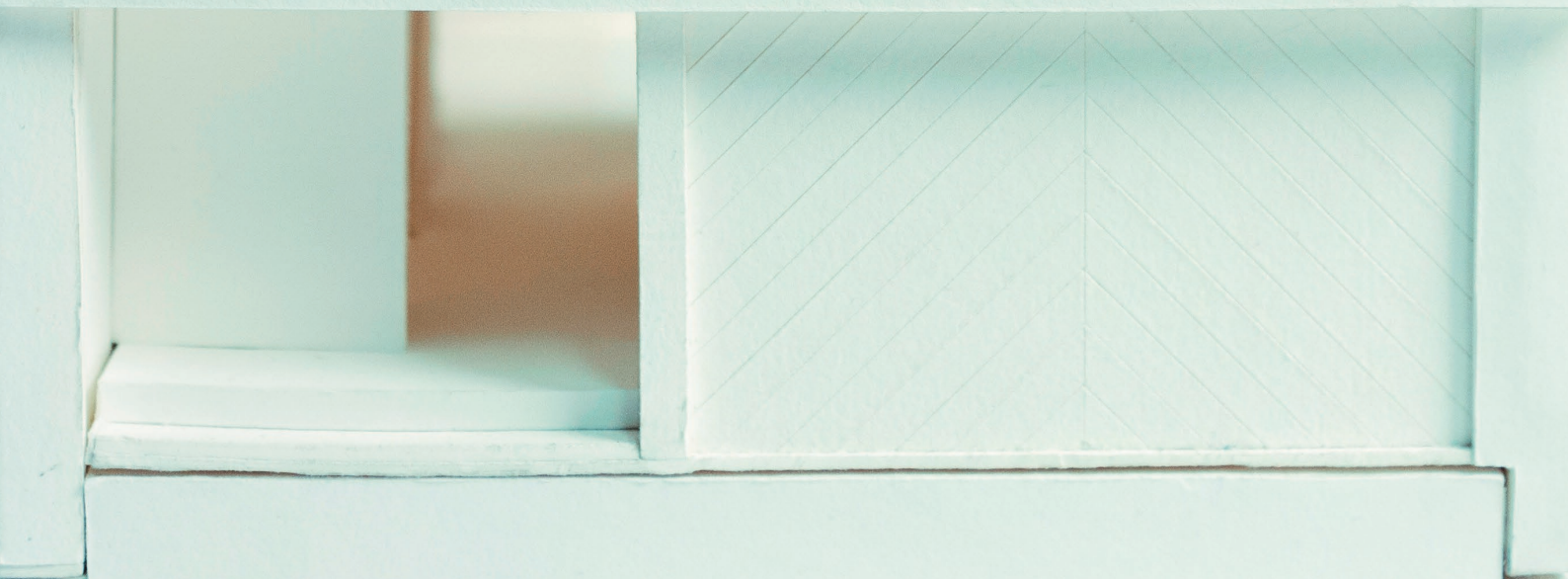
While it could be considered an injustice to model a Barragan work with an all-white material, Barragan himself believed that the best way to photograph architecture was in black and white.

The off-white, slightly textured museum board was perfect for capturing the moments of light that entice actors through casa Gilardí.

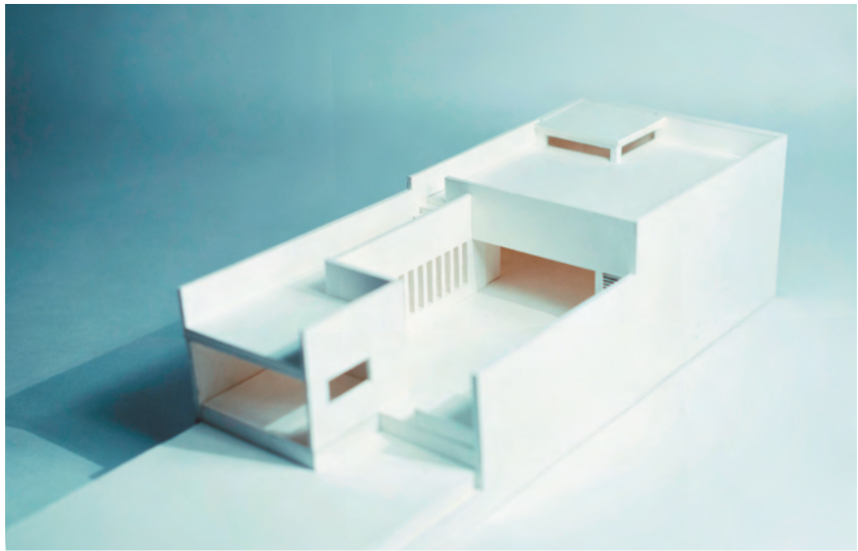




Each of us hand-cut a different section of the house. I made the base and rear section of the house, the side with the light filled hallway and reflecting pool; a place for relaxation and hosting guests. The two front pieces formed the residential side, a three-story place of privacy. These two pieces lock together and slide seamlessly onto the base to form a singular model.

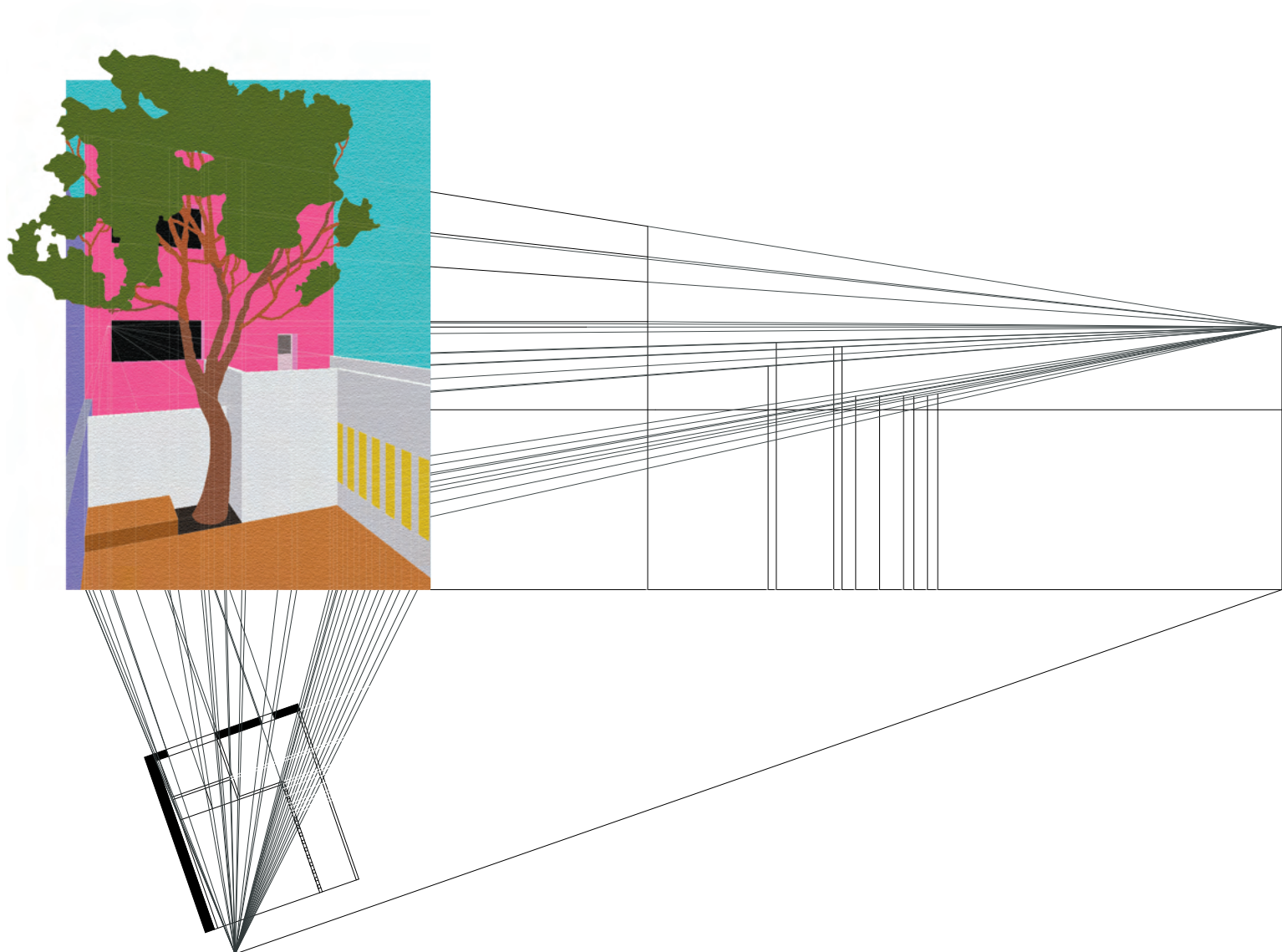




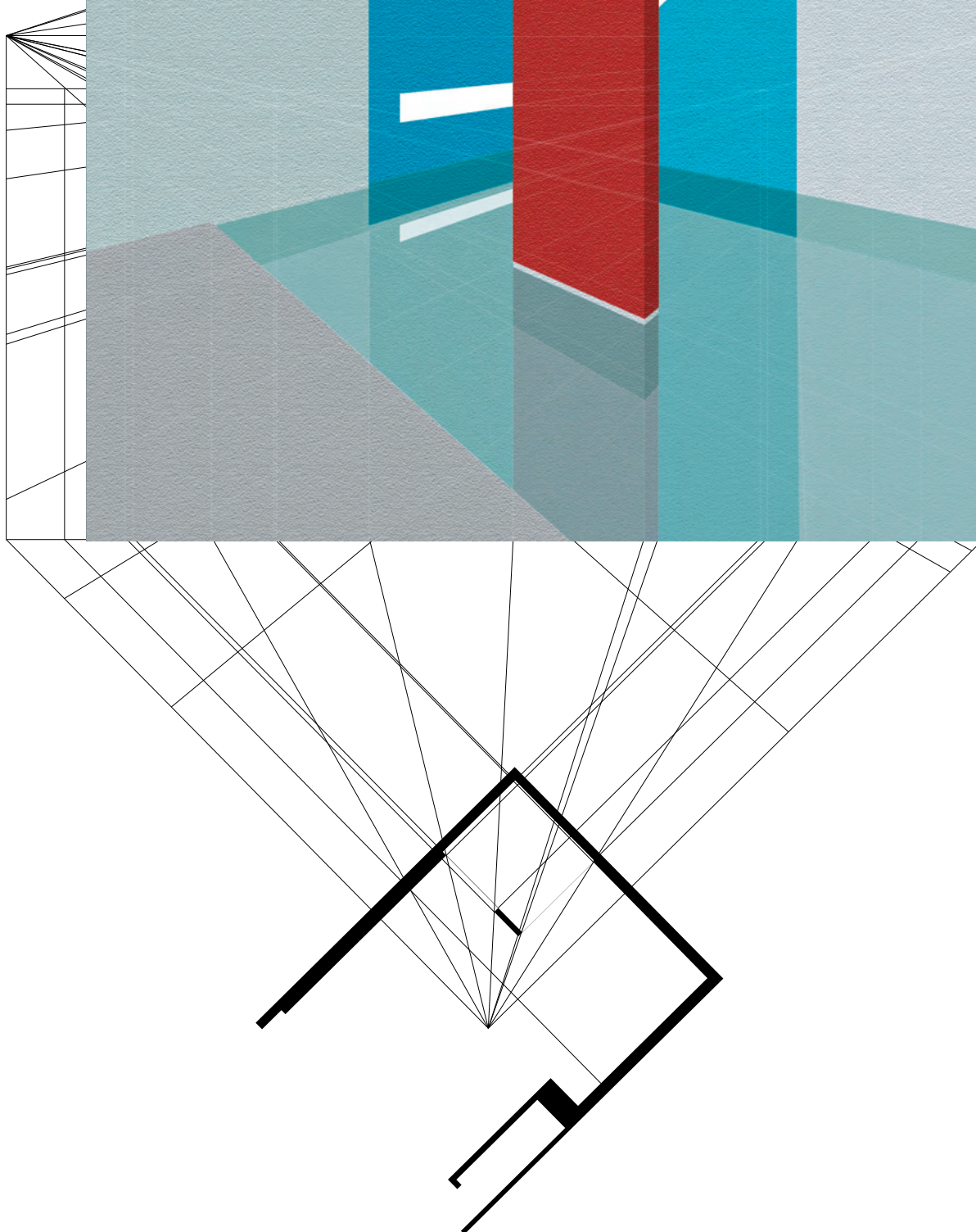
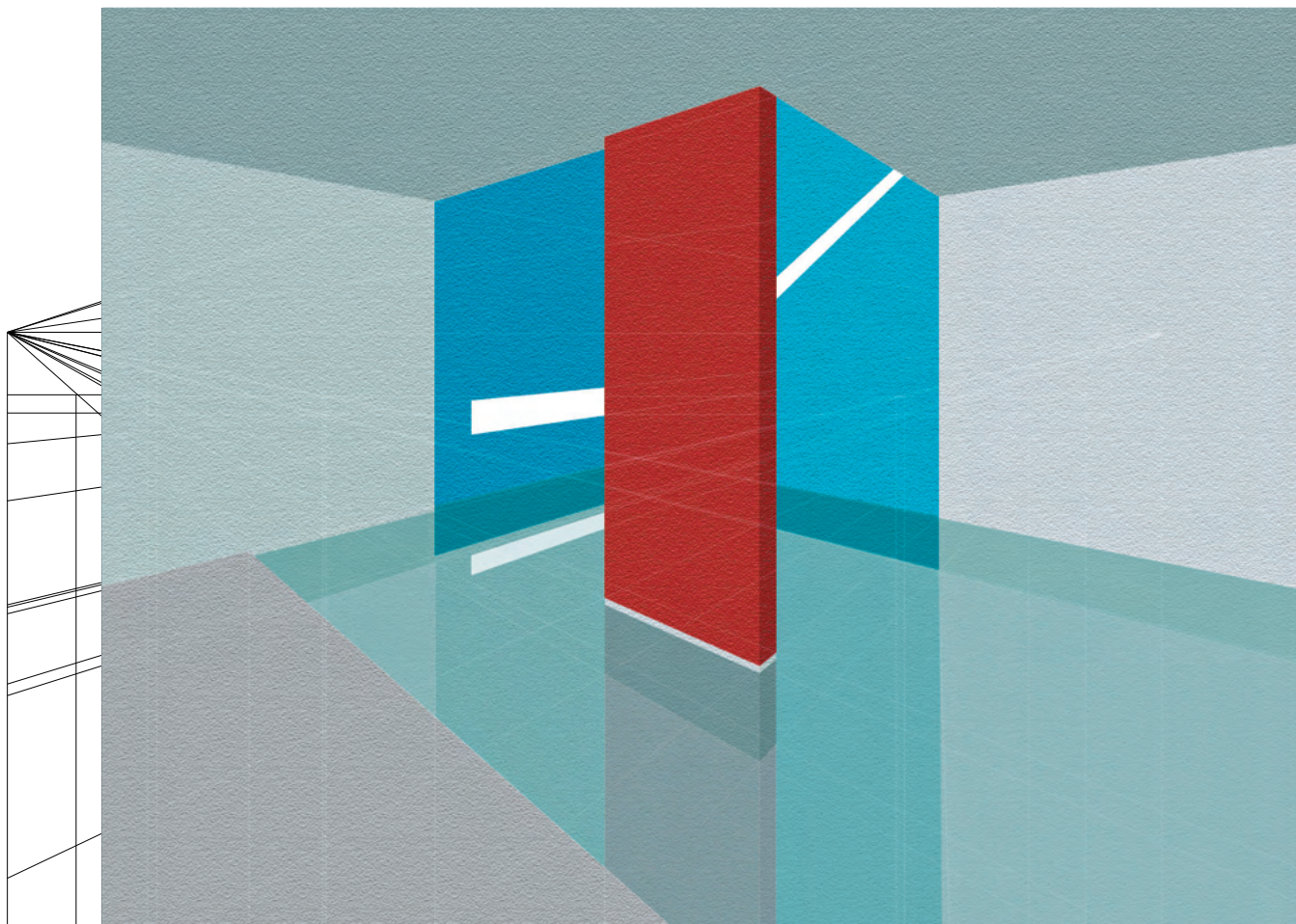




To compliment the model with a glimpse inside the building, I drew two perspective drawings pulled from my plan. One overlooks the atrium and Jacaranda tree that acts as a centerpiece for the entire structure. The other views the reflection pool in the dining room, a space that truly evokes meditation.





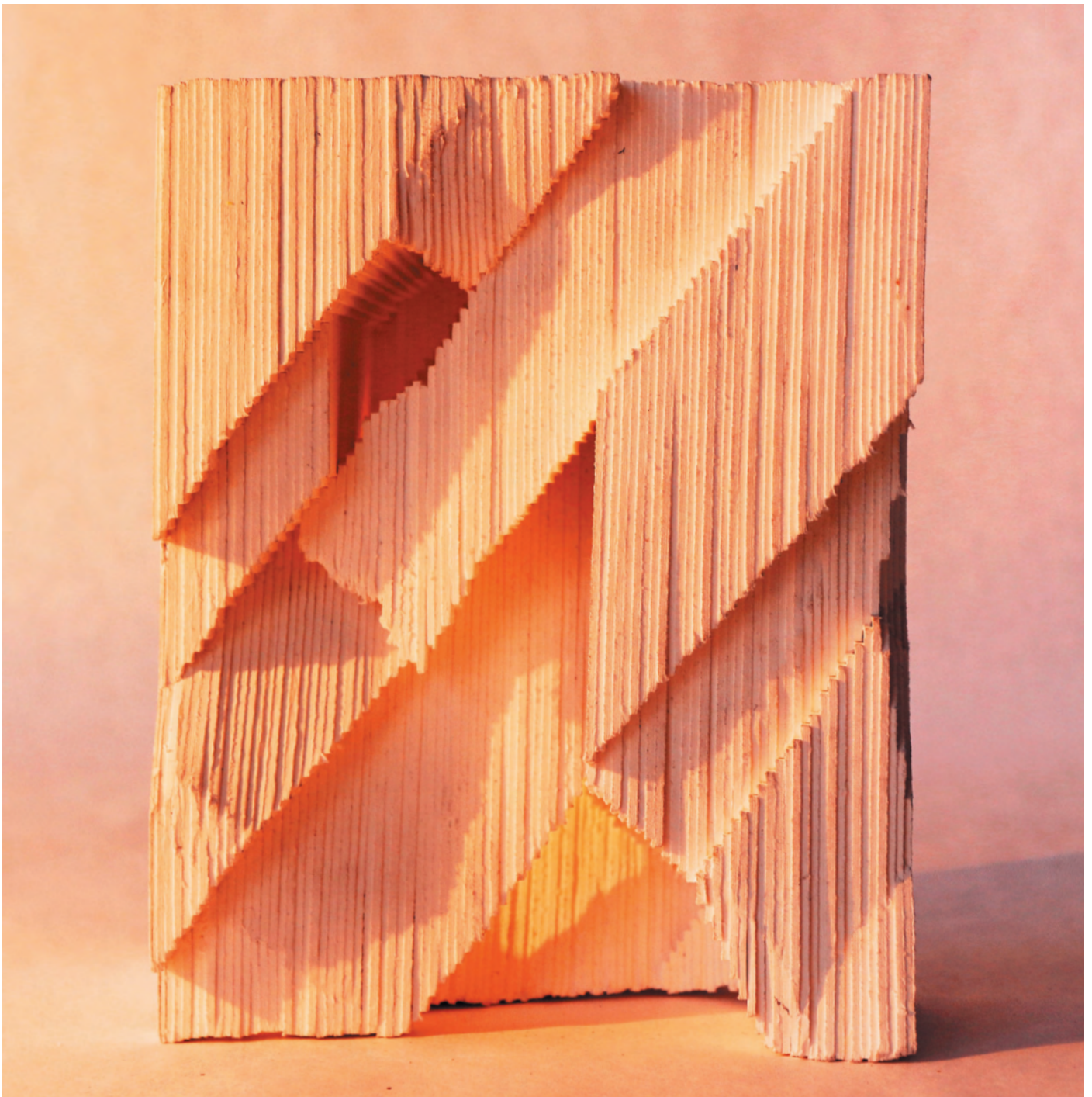




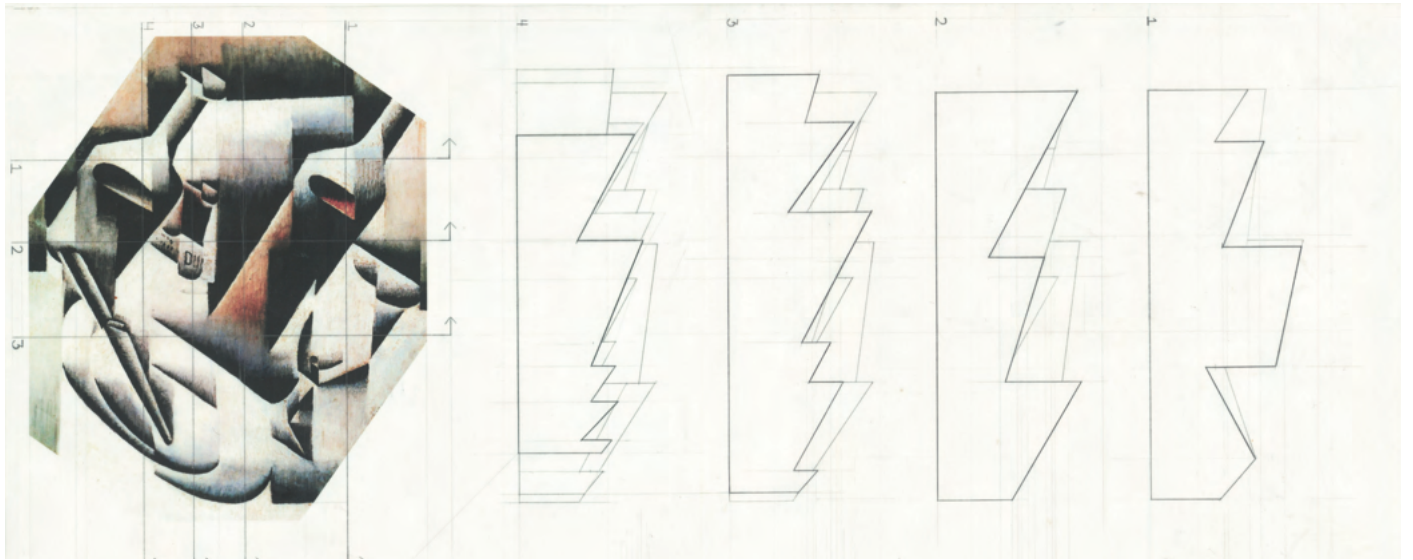
# Transparency

The painting *Bottles and Knife* by Juan Gris is the epitome of the phenomenal transparency of gridding.

Translating the painting into section I brought my pencil down on the shadows and up on the highlights. With this I created several razer-like layers that when stacked and under the right light looked just like the painting. I then followed these diagonals on their implied path through the model, creating moments of transparency on the opposite side.









## Big-Box De-Commission



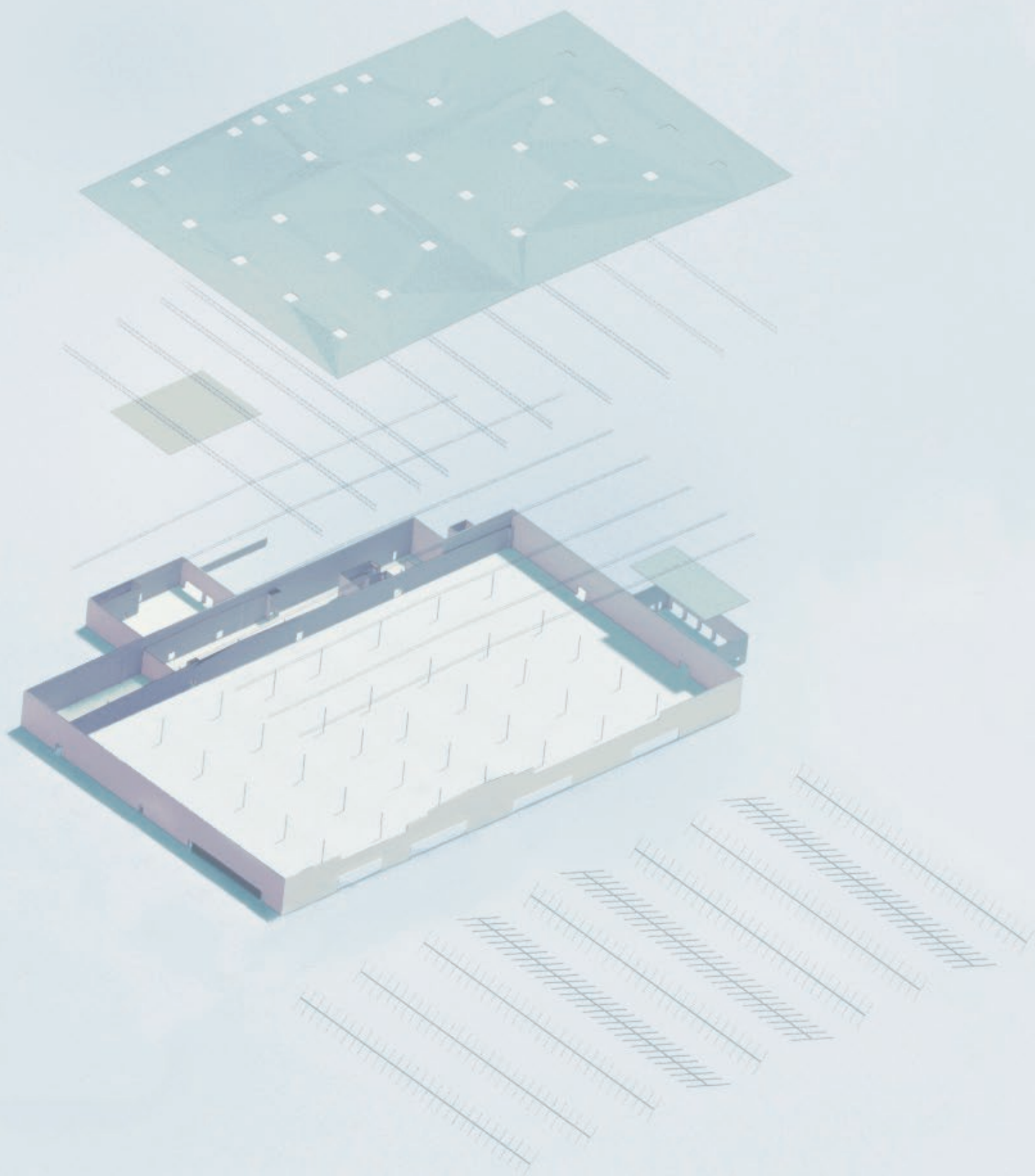




Walmart neglects the social and environmental consequences of their big-box stores, on the false promise that lower prices make us live better. Walmart #4526 in Houston, TX should be decommissioned into a co-operated chicken farm that creates economic opportunities for local businesses and incentivizes sustainable agriculture.

At the end of its transition, the big box has become a Chicken Co-op that serves the countless taquerias, restaurants, and grocers in the area. By providing shared assets and methods of concentrated farming, the Co-op reduces entry barriers for beginning farmers and eliminates the geographic constraints set by the slow moving meat industry.

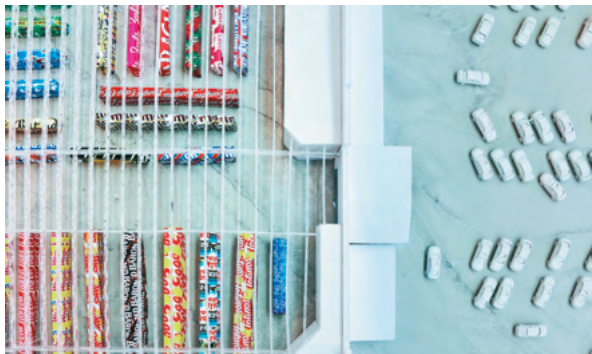
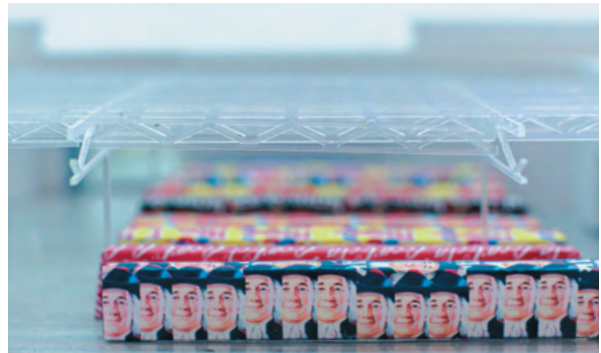






Walmart treats architecture as an operating cost. Their stores are “designed” to fit as much stuff as possible, for as cheap as possible. Each one of their 4,789 big-box stores redistributes \$25 million in sales from local businesses, and decreases salaries in the area by over \$600,000. These figures hit especially hard in low-income areas such as North-East Houston, home to SuperCenter #4526.

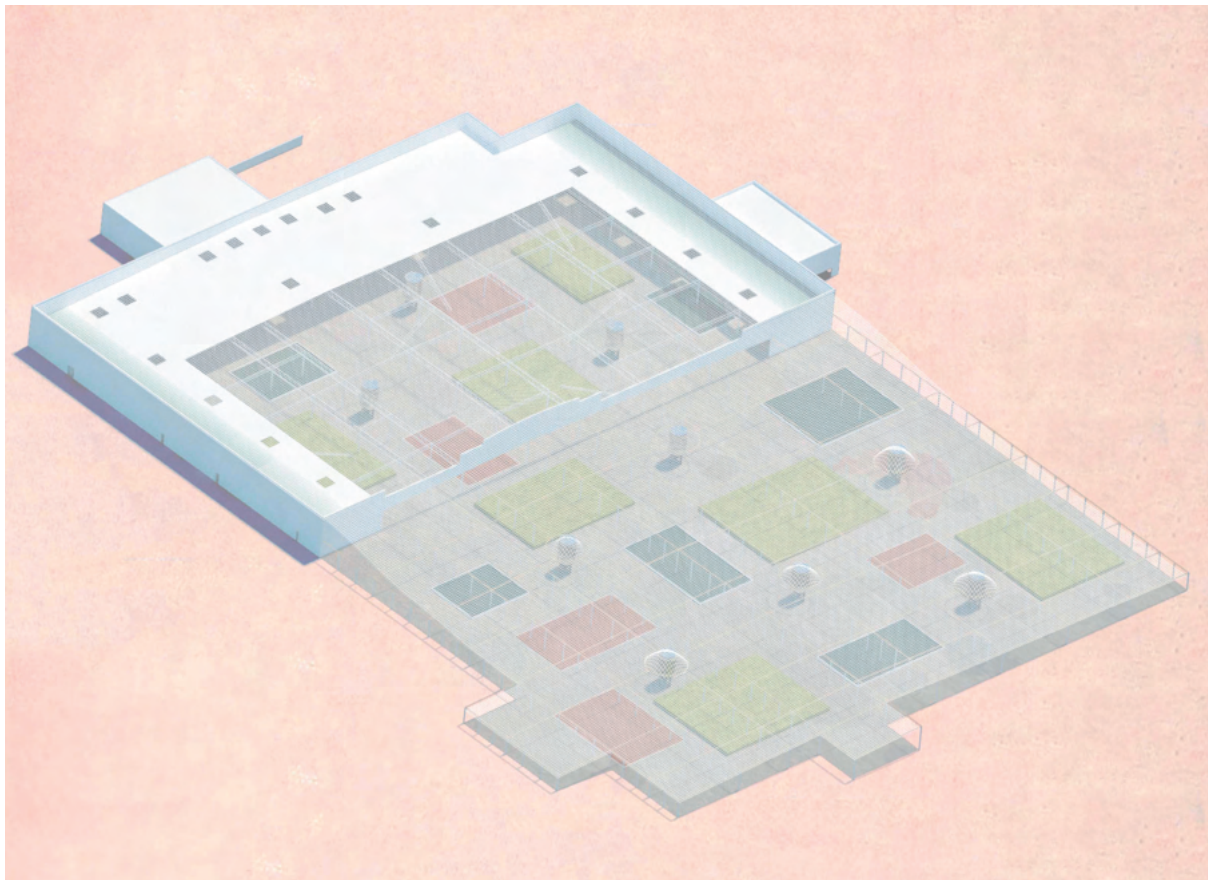
Despite idealistic marketing campaigns that promise bringing local, sustainable goods into poor communities, Walmart falls flat in regards to supporting sustainable agriculture. Although grocery makes up half of their total sales, they rarely source goods locally, and instead rely on a select few corporate farms, causing their produce to travel an average of 1500 miles before making its way onto a dinner plate.



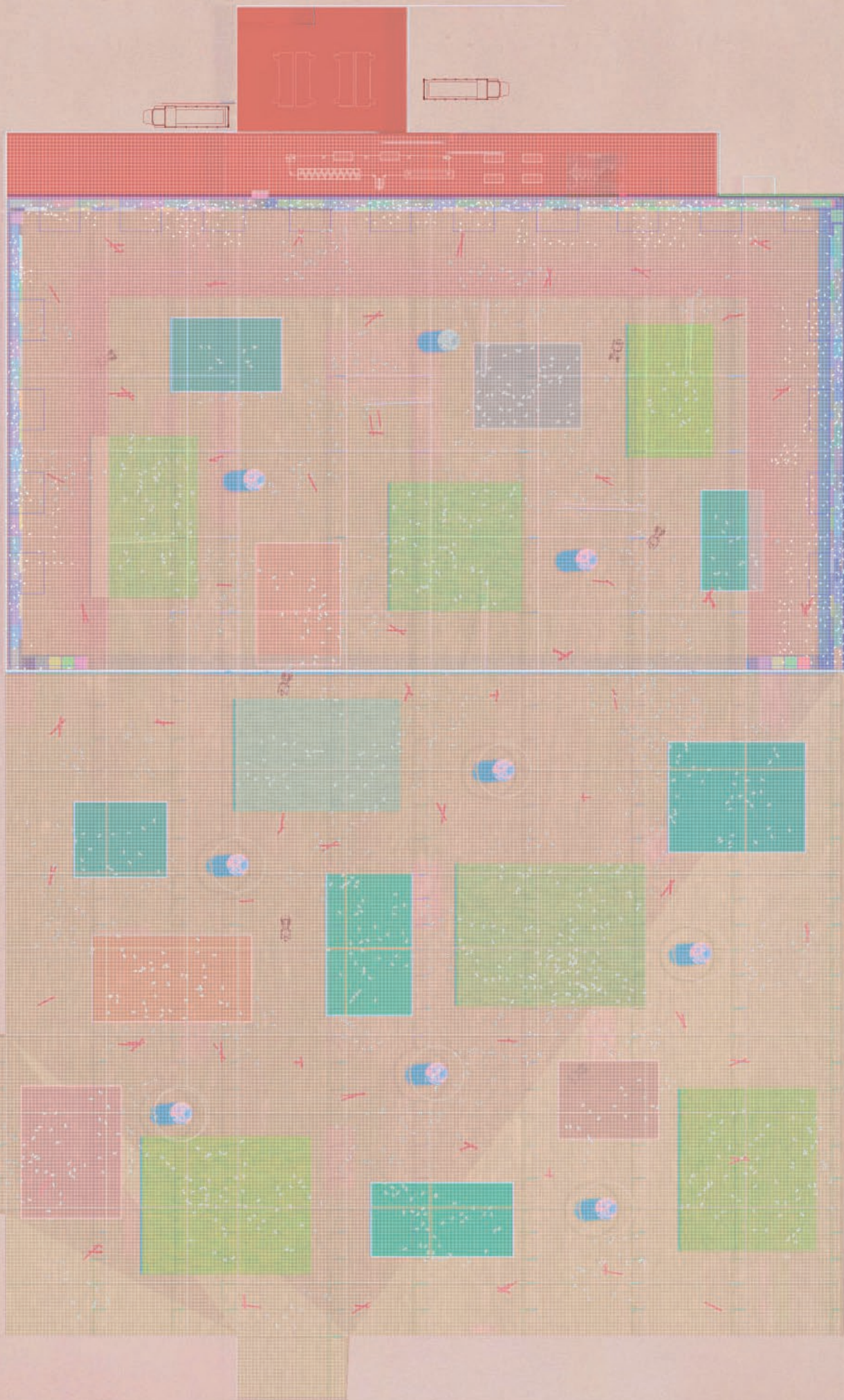


When broods of chicken enter the big-box, commercial goods are made obsolete as shelves become nesting boxes and storage rooms begin to house poultry processing. Chicken netting drapes over exposed sections of the store into the vast parking lot, creating a 12-acre free-range.

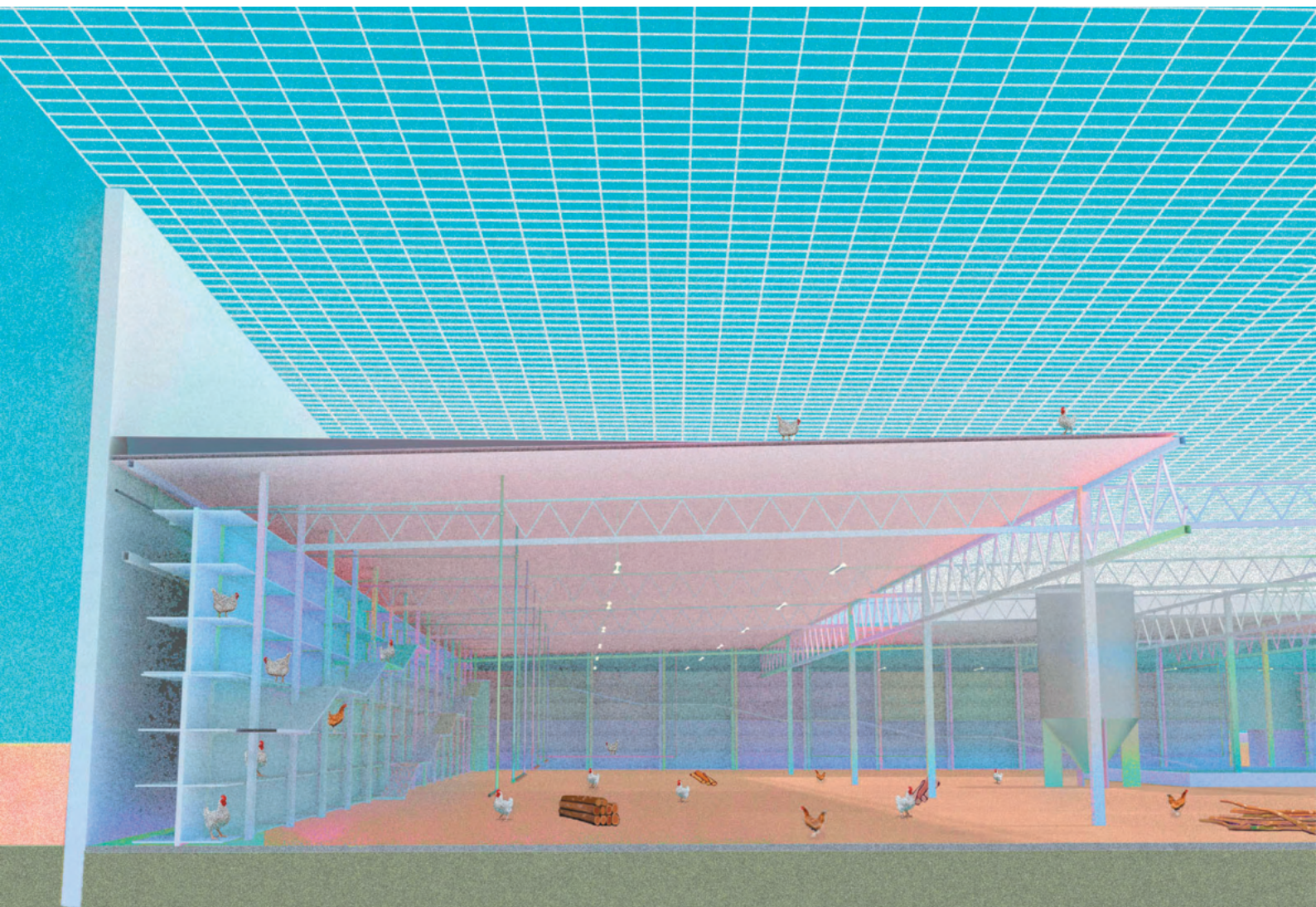
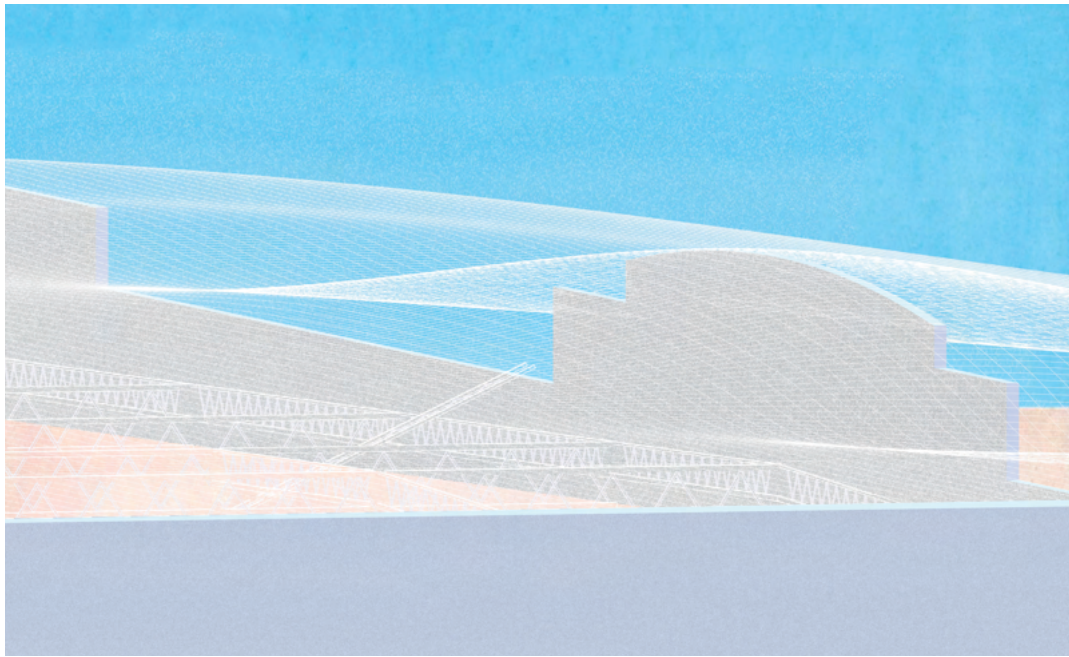
This big-box reuse functions around the chicken's natural cycle of converting trash into fertilizer that can produce more feed and support agricultural endeavors. When raised sustainably, chickens are extremely efficient at recycling their feed, and will compost up to 100lbs of food waste a year. With the immense reduction in transportation needed to supply local consumers with the goods they need, our Co-op will emit just 3 pounds of CO<sub>2</sub> for every pound of food produced, about the same ratio as tofu.



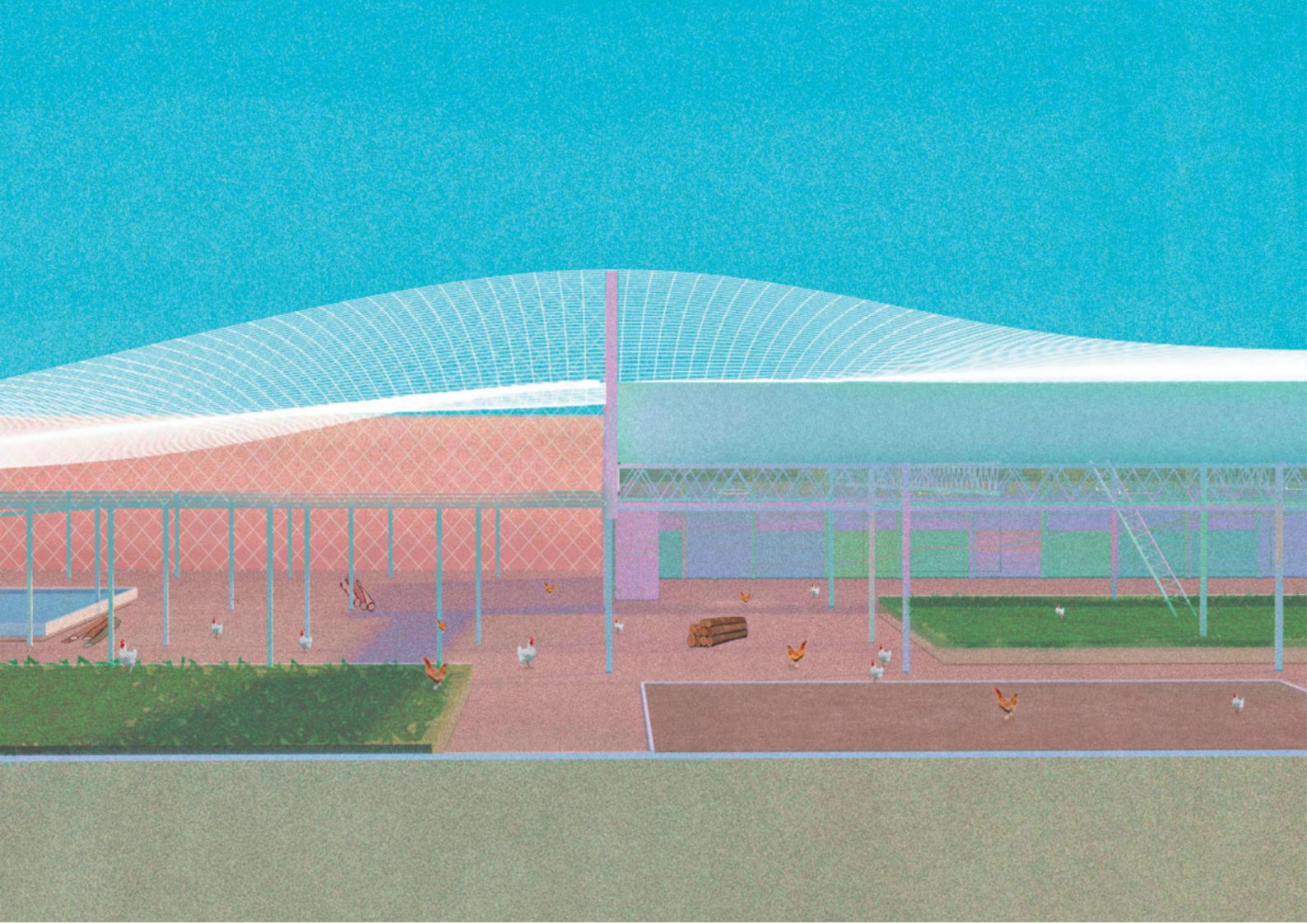












Unlike Walmart, which neglects their social and environmental consequences, the Chicken Co-op introduces sustainable practices that are geared towards and operated by local businesses. As shelves turn into coops and parking lots turn to pasture, the big box is no longer a machine of consumption and profit, but an agent for communal benefit.



# Photography Samples

After browsing through years worth of photos, I found two pairs of images that quite resemble each other; I then took to photoshop to match them even more (exaggerated the Viñoly building a bit). On the right, the layered shades of Colorado's great sand dunes at dusk are mimicked in Frank Gehry's Walt Disney Concert Hall. On the left, the infamous 432 Park Ave resembles a quaking aspen tree in Slovenia against the blue River Soča. While one stands lightly over the clear waters, the other aggressively towers the city.

**432 Park Ave:**

1/2000  
f/11.0  
ISO/100

**River Soča:**

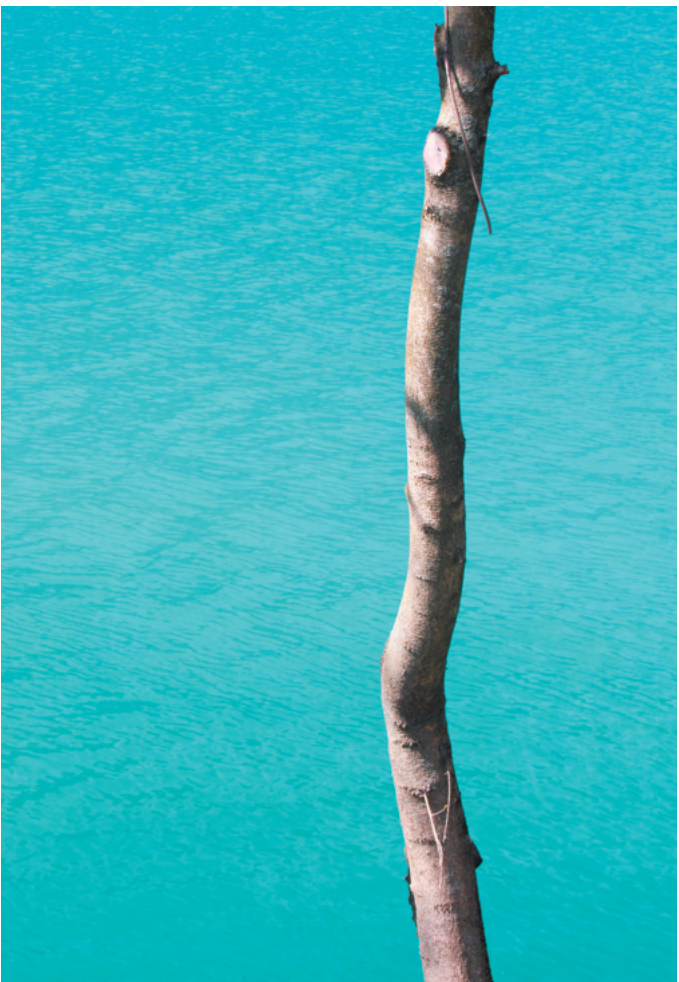
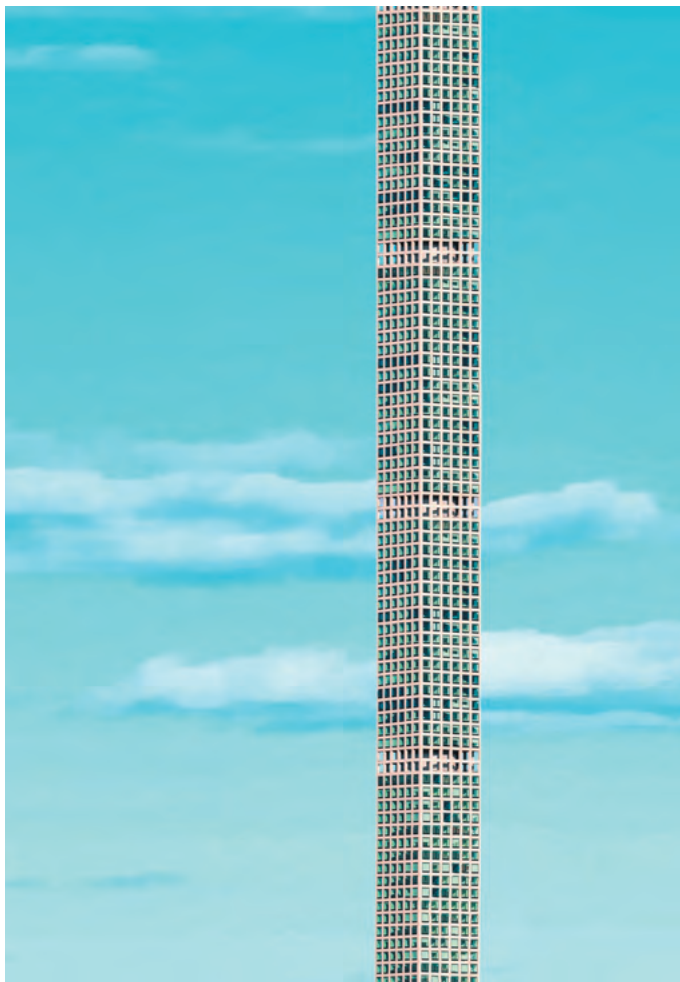
1/1000  
f/8.0  
ISO/100

**Dusk Dunes:**

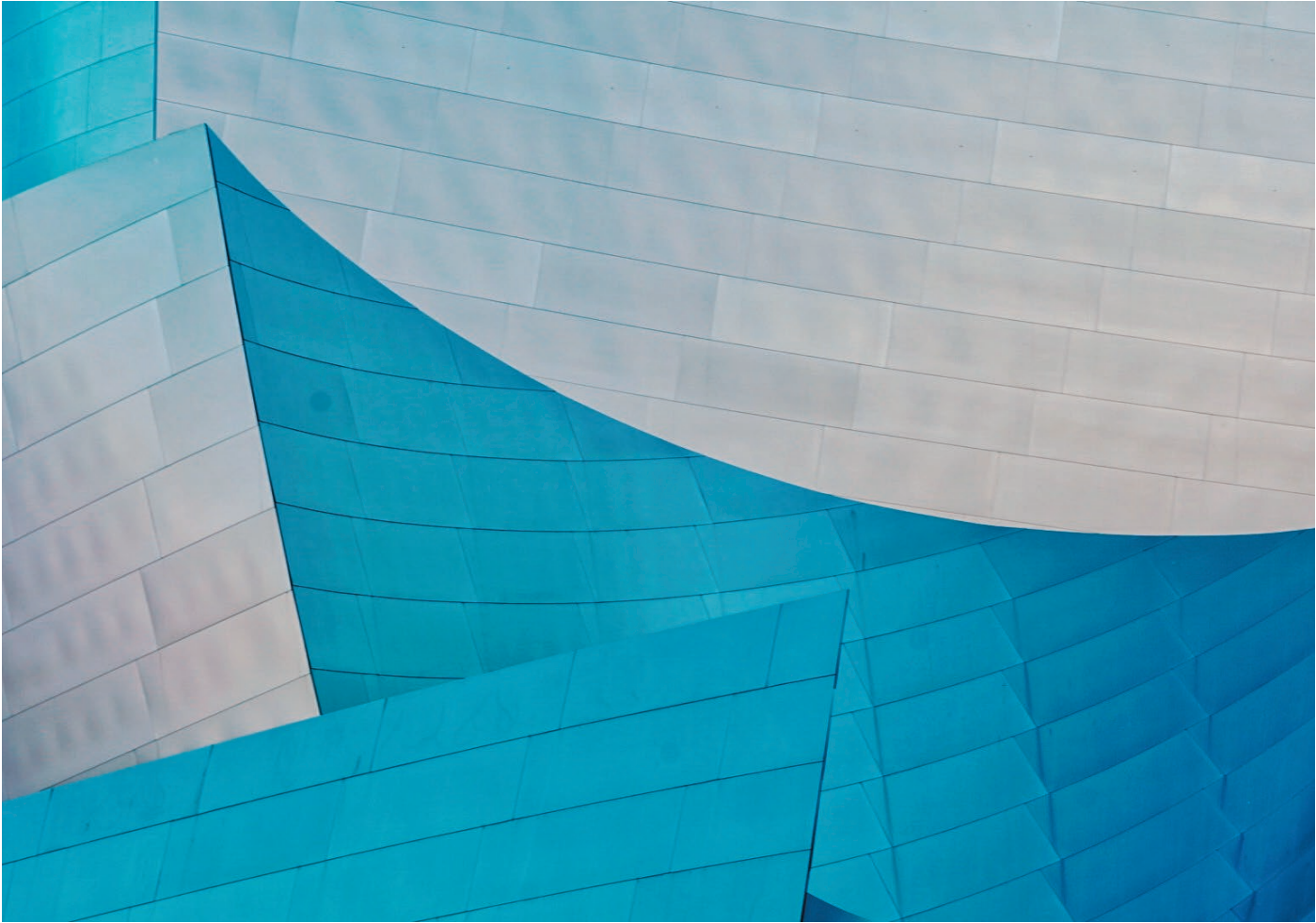
1/100  
f/2.8  
ISO/800

**Disney:**

1/1000  
f/8.0  
ISO/100









end





***Chicken on  
Donut Float in  
Casa Gilardi pool with  
light on one side***

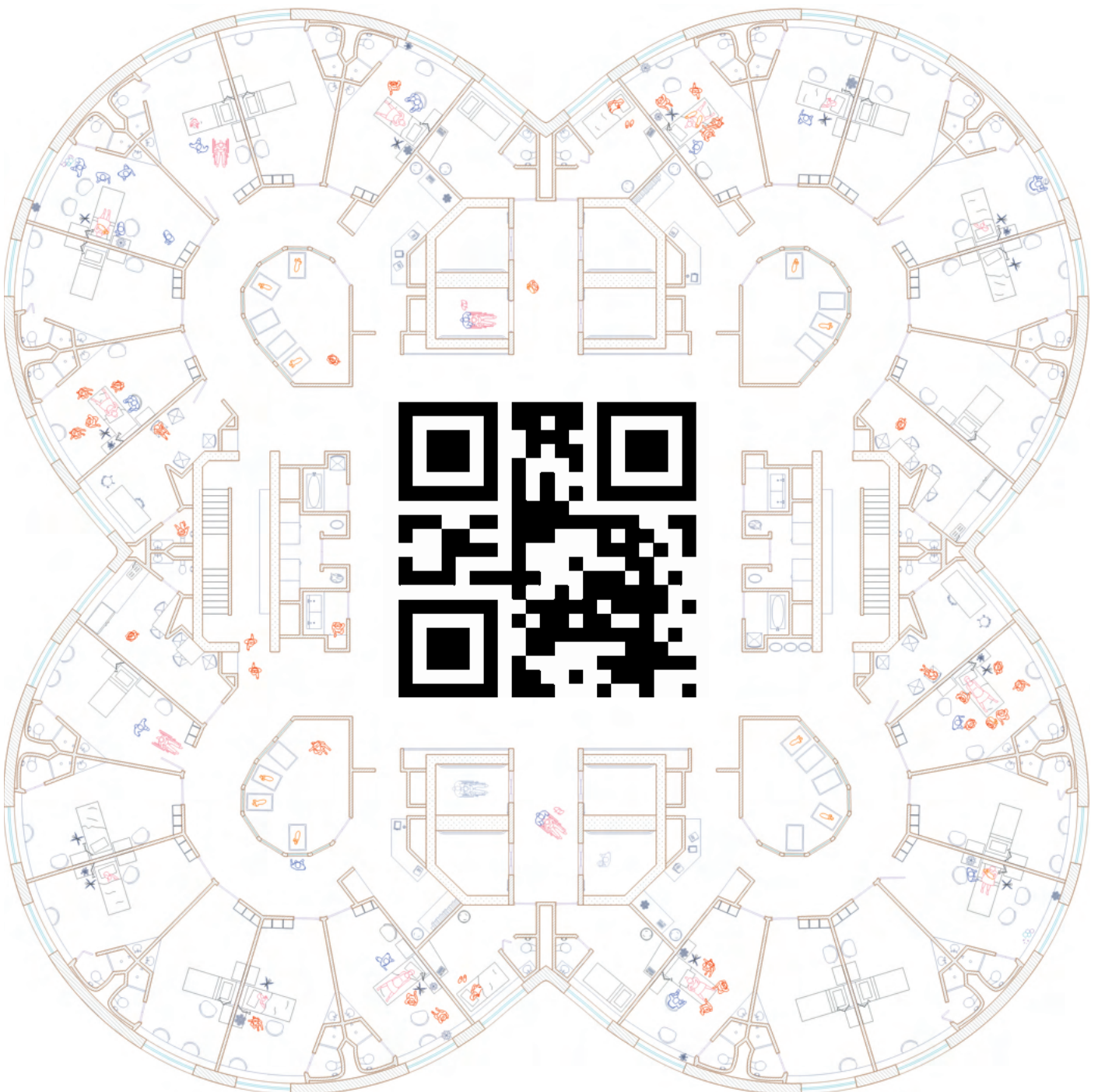
***Kaya Ramirez Portfolio***



# Prentice.GIF

scan QR code to view GIF on mobile  
or visit [prenticegif.com](http://prenticegif.com) in browser

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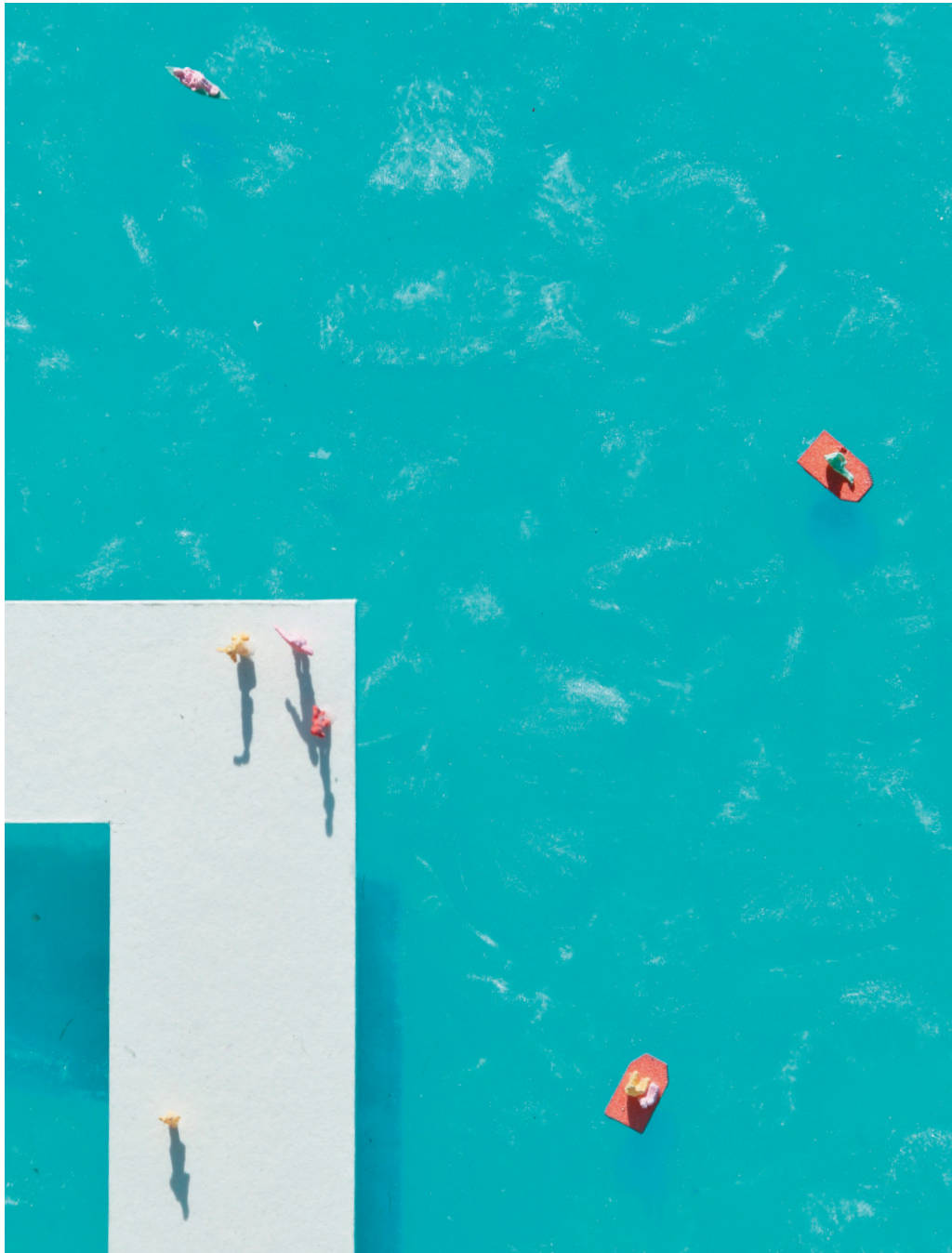






# Casual Boathouse

Spring 2019











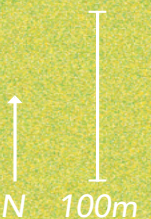
Rowers traverse north of the dock to have a 2000 meter straight

Bike paths connect the park with downtown Ann Arbor during the summer

Project Site

The current dock is small yet functional, often full on warm days, crowds fill into Bandemer park

The Huron River runs between north and south campus, central to the city and university

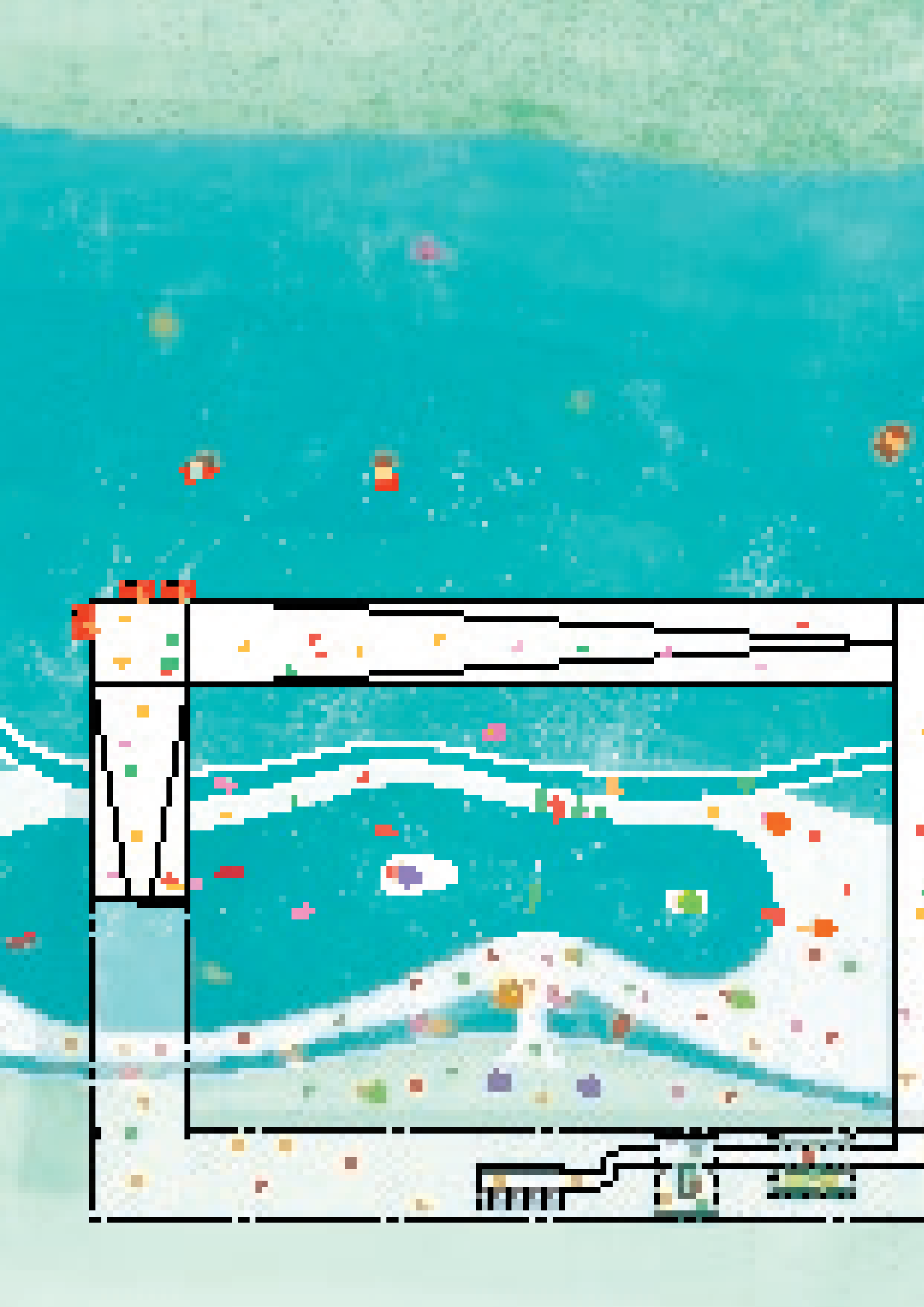




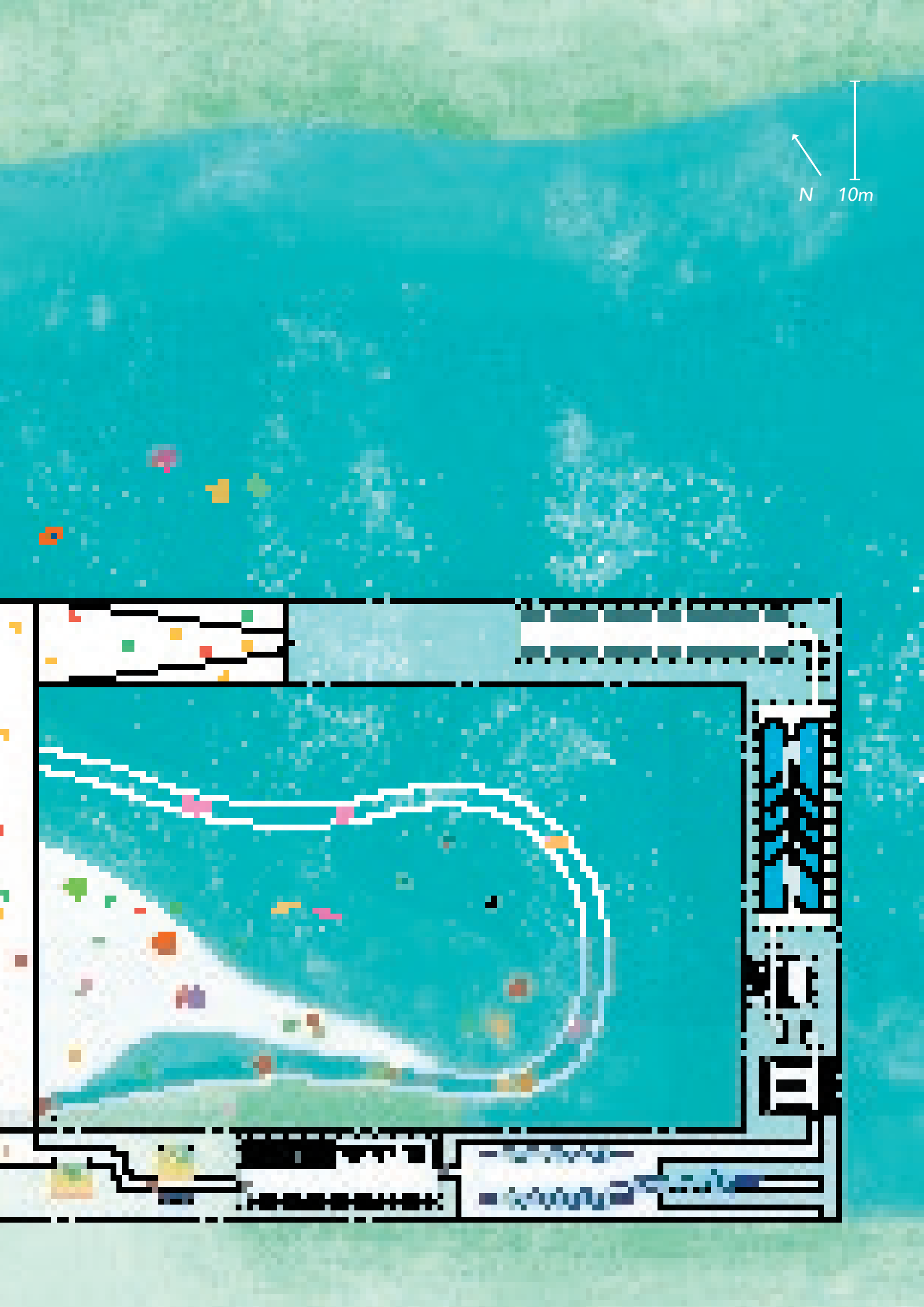
Bandemer Park is a popular warm-weather retreat for many students at U-of-M and citizens of Ann Arbor. Known by regulars as simply “the docks,” visitors partake in sunbathing, socializing, and an occasional dip in the water; if there’s one word to describe this location, it’s casual. Bandemer Park is also the practice facility for the Michigan men’s rowing team. Rowers endure high physical stress on a weekly basis, practicing for a particularly elitist sport. If there’s one word that





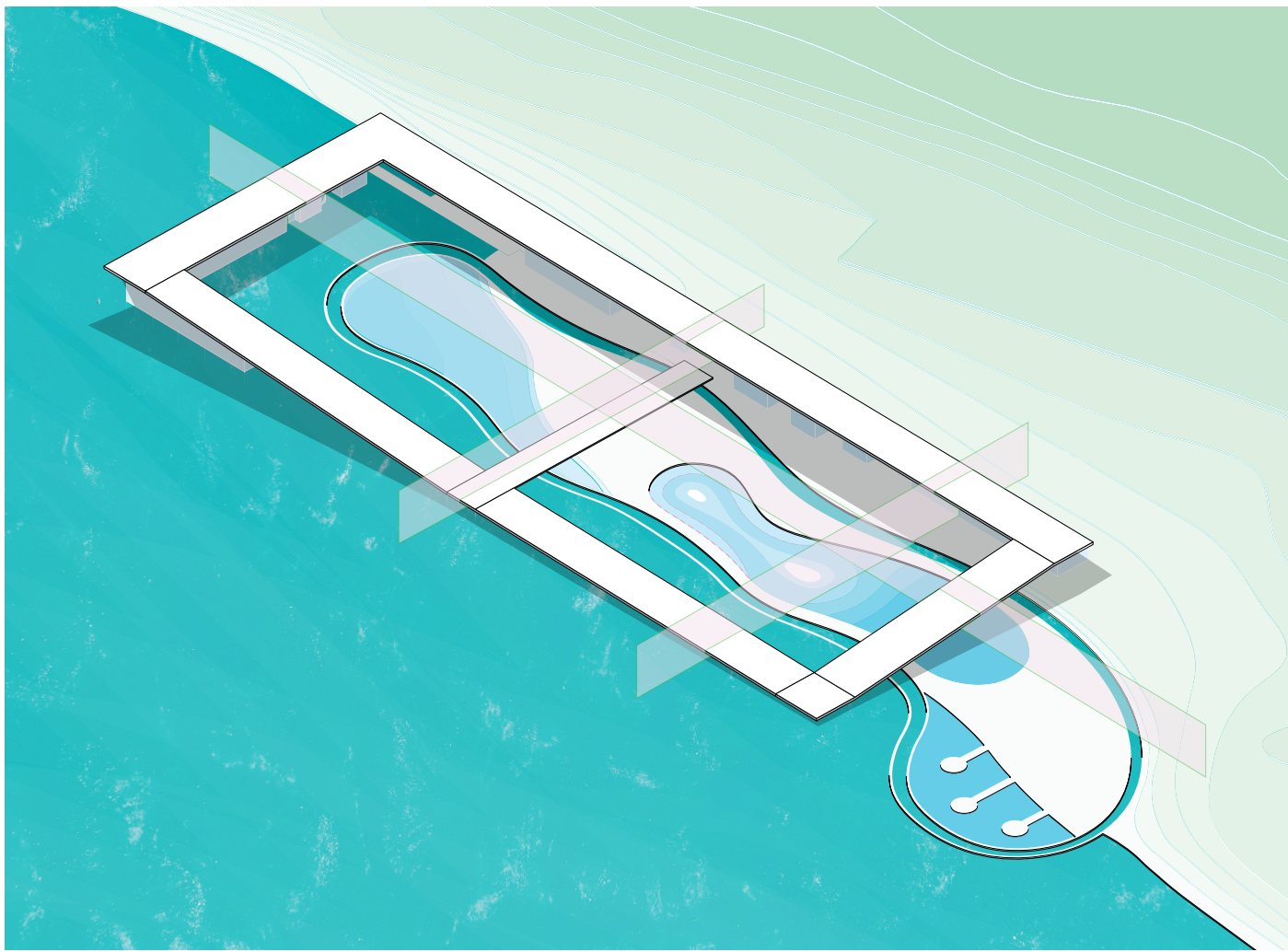






N

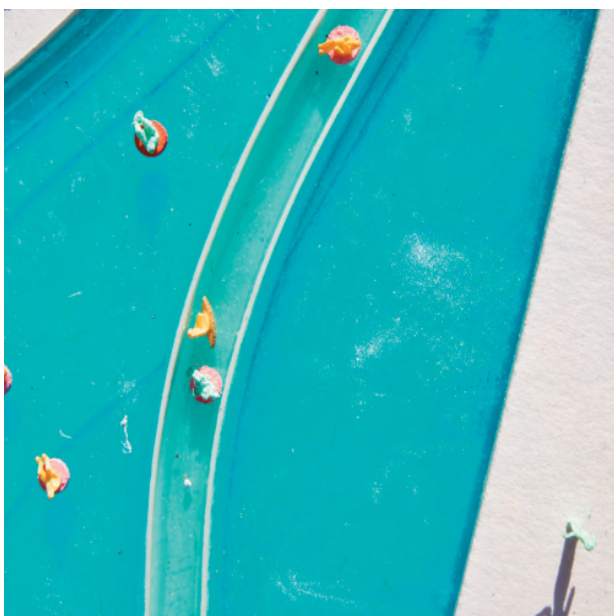
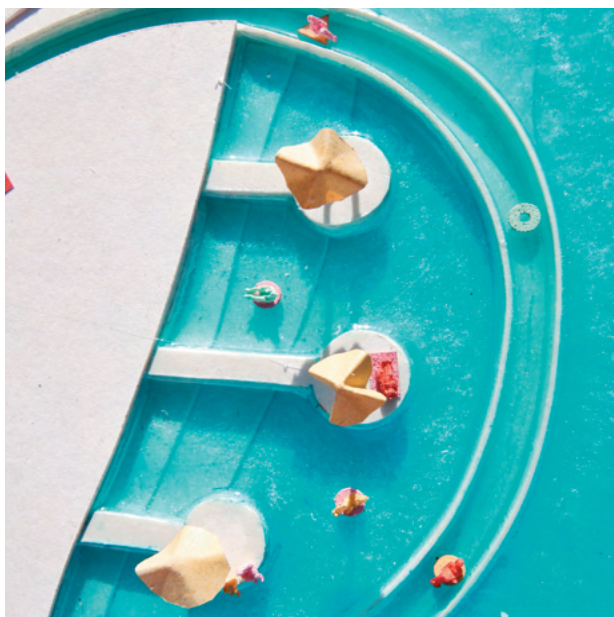
10m



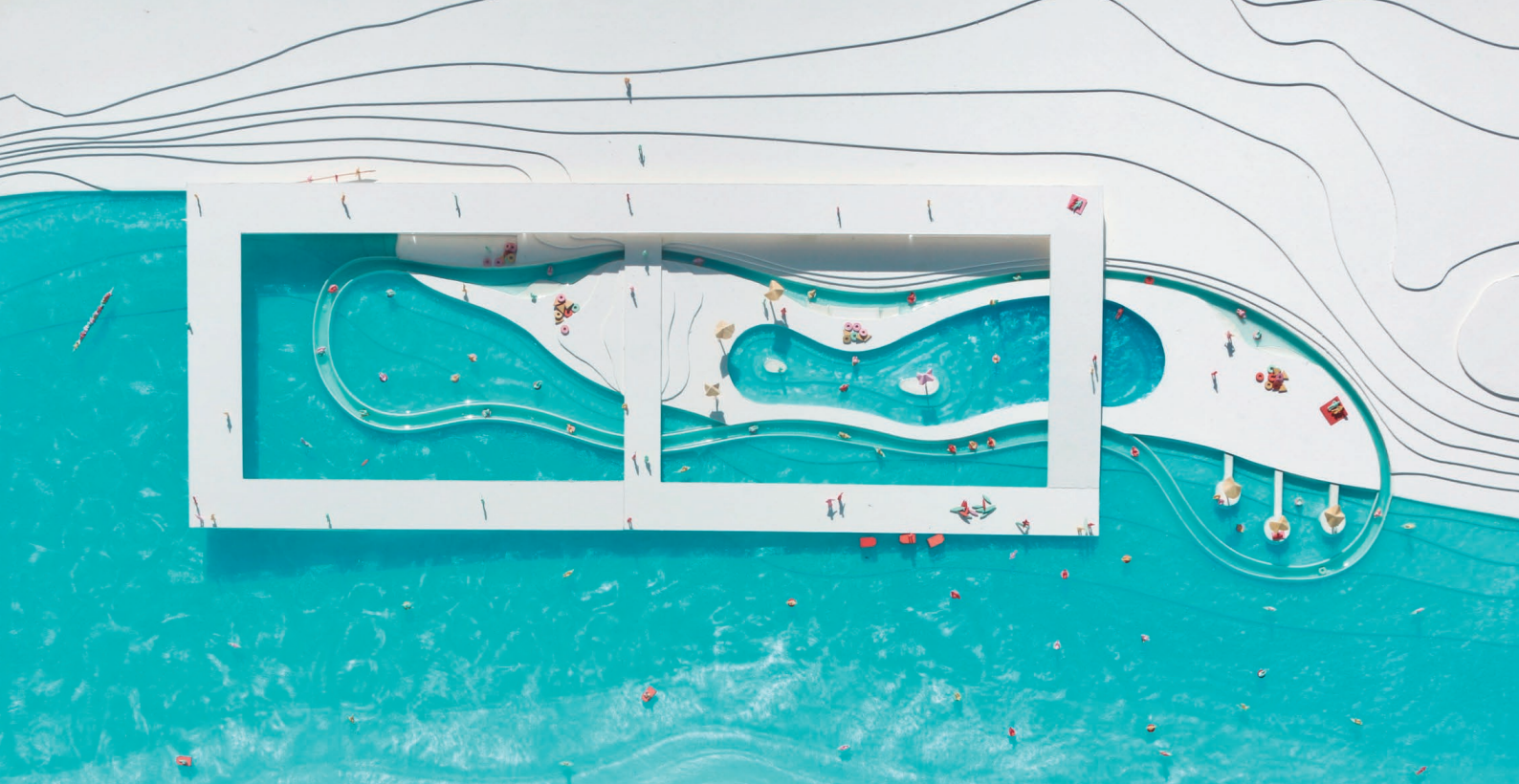
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Special thanks to instructor Liz Galvéz and classmate Keenan St. Aubin

# Garden Construction

Over the final 10 days and nights of Summer 2019, I transformed my "backyard" into a gardeners haven. With the help of a friend we painted the walls and built a vertical garden, planter boxes, a table, and a deck. Below is the original state of the yard, to the right is the garden the following year at its most luscious state.

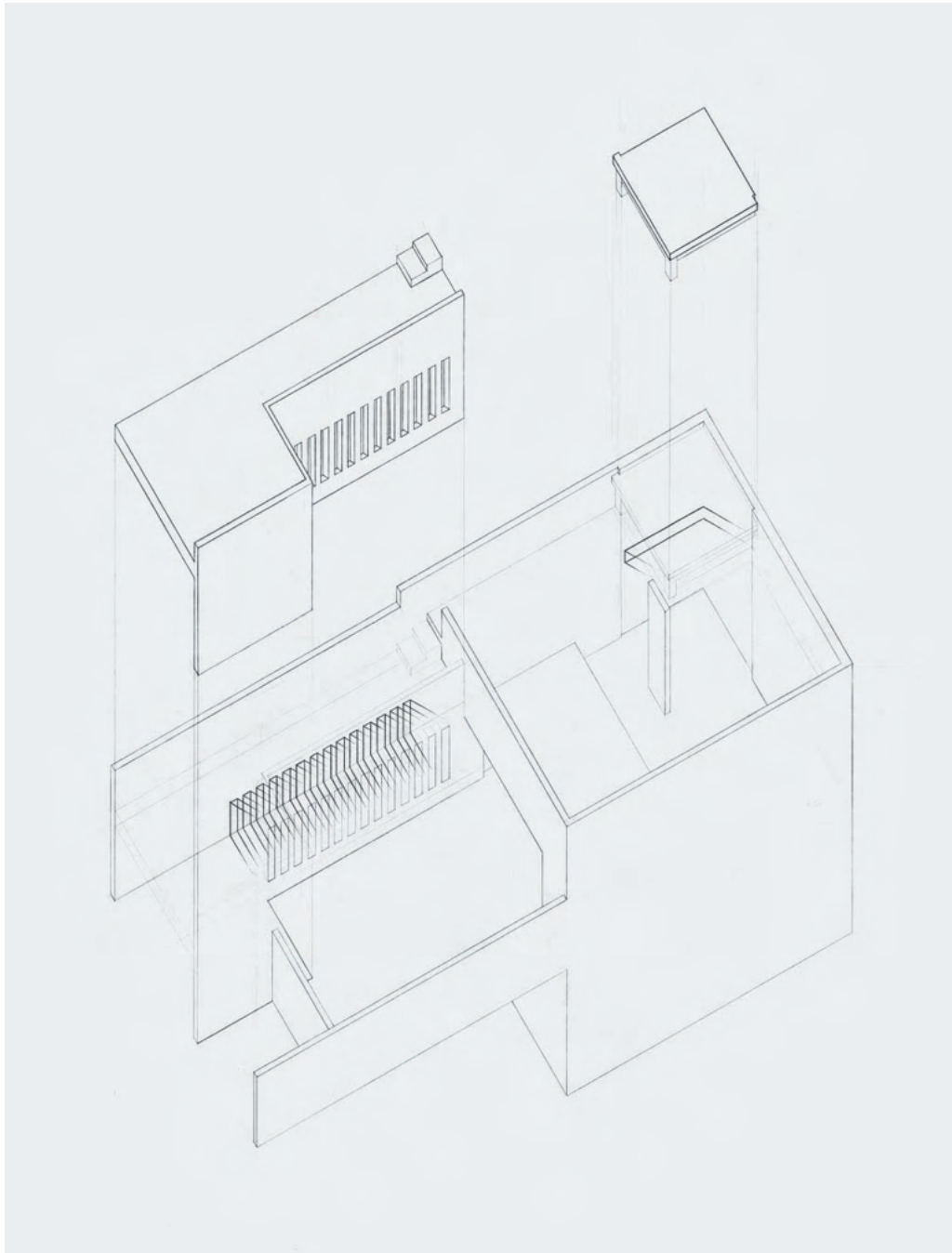






# Case Study of Casa Gilardi

Fall 2017







Luís Barragan was a retired man when two Bachelors approached him to design their house. At first he was hesitant, but after seeing the Jacaranda tree in the middle of the site, he fell in love and began creating yet another architectural Masterpiece.

All of Barragan's projects evoke what he calls emotional architecture. The idea that any work of architecture that doesn't project a feeling of serenity is a failure.

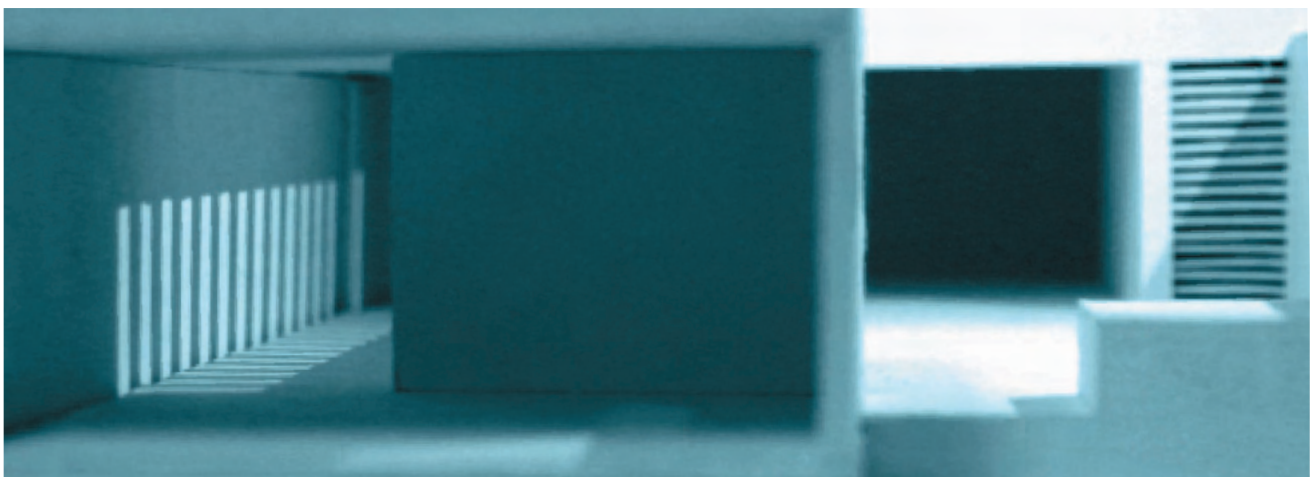
What makes Casa Gilardi special is not just its connection with nature, the contrast of right angles against a winding tree. But his use of light as a





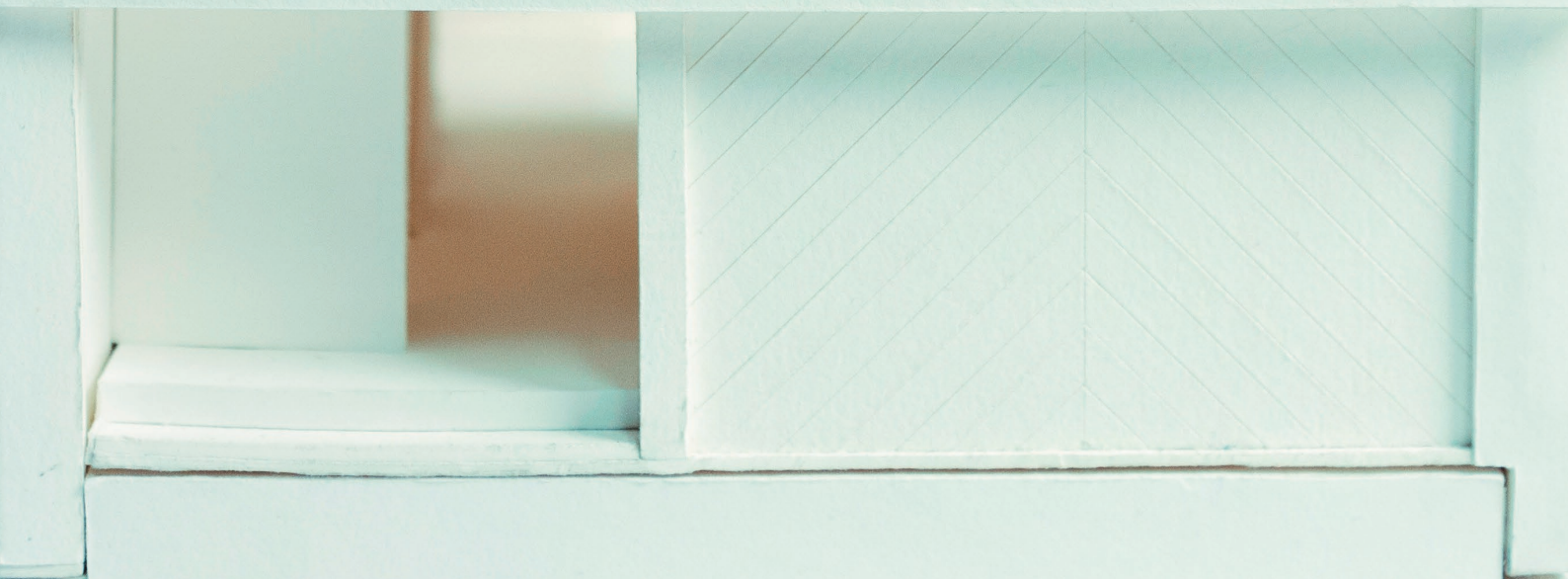
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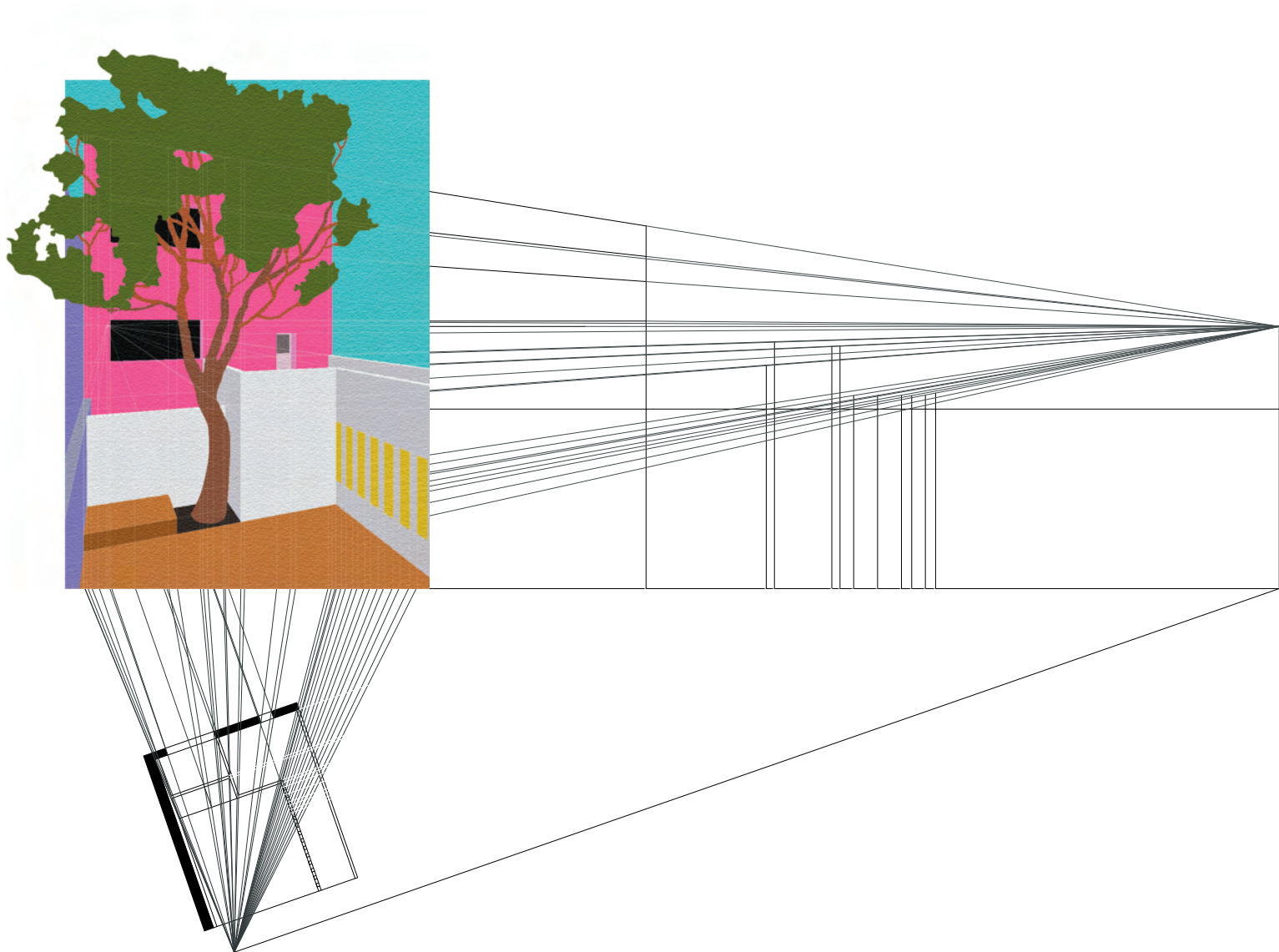
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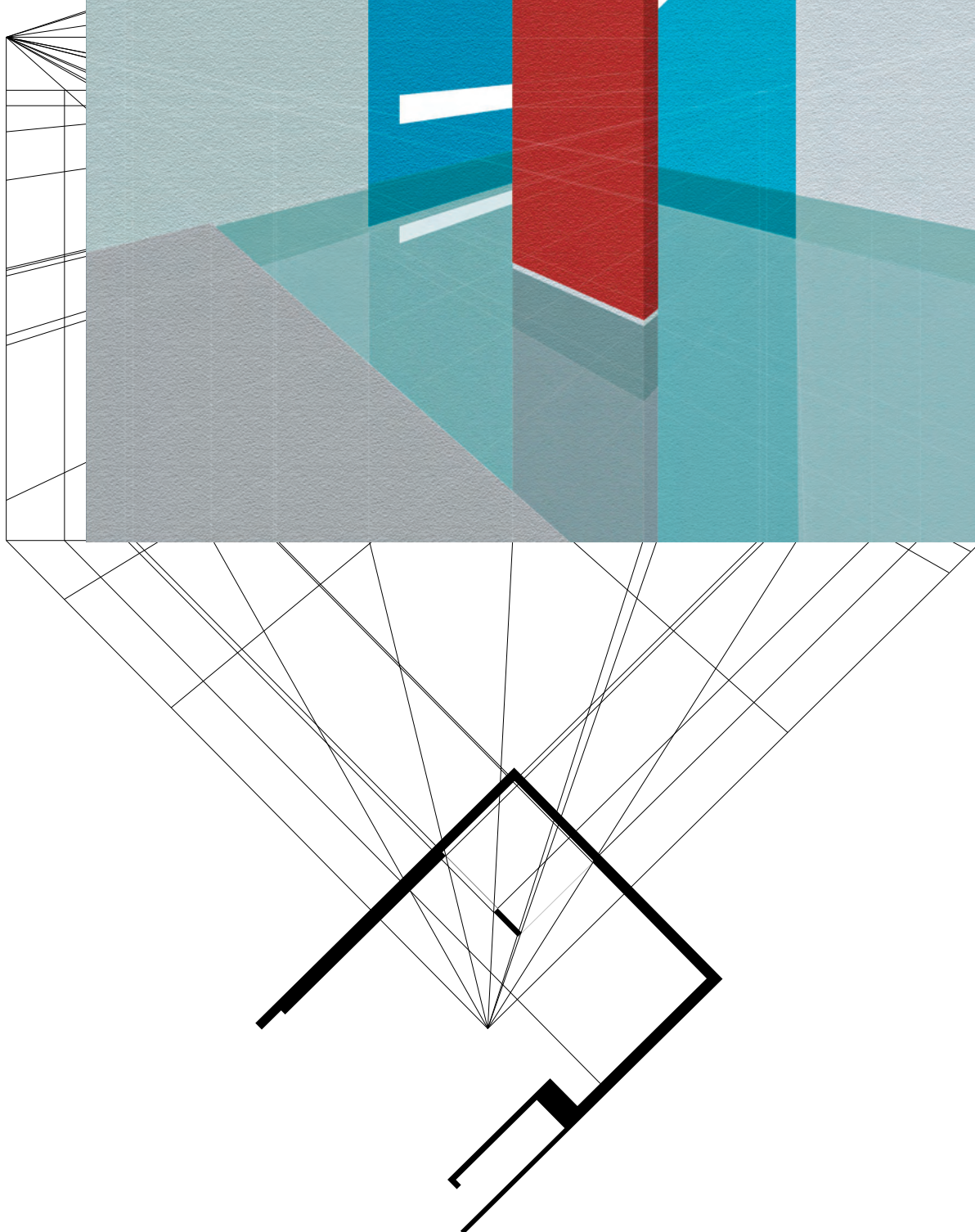
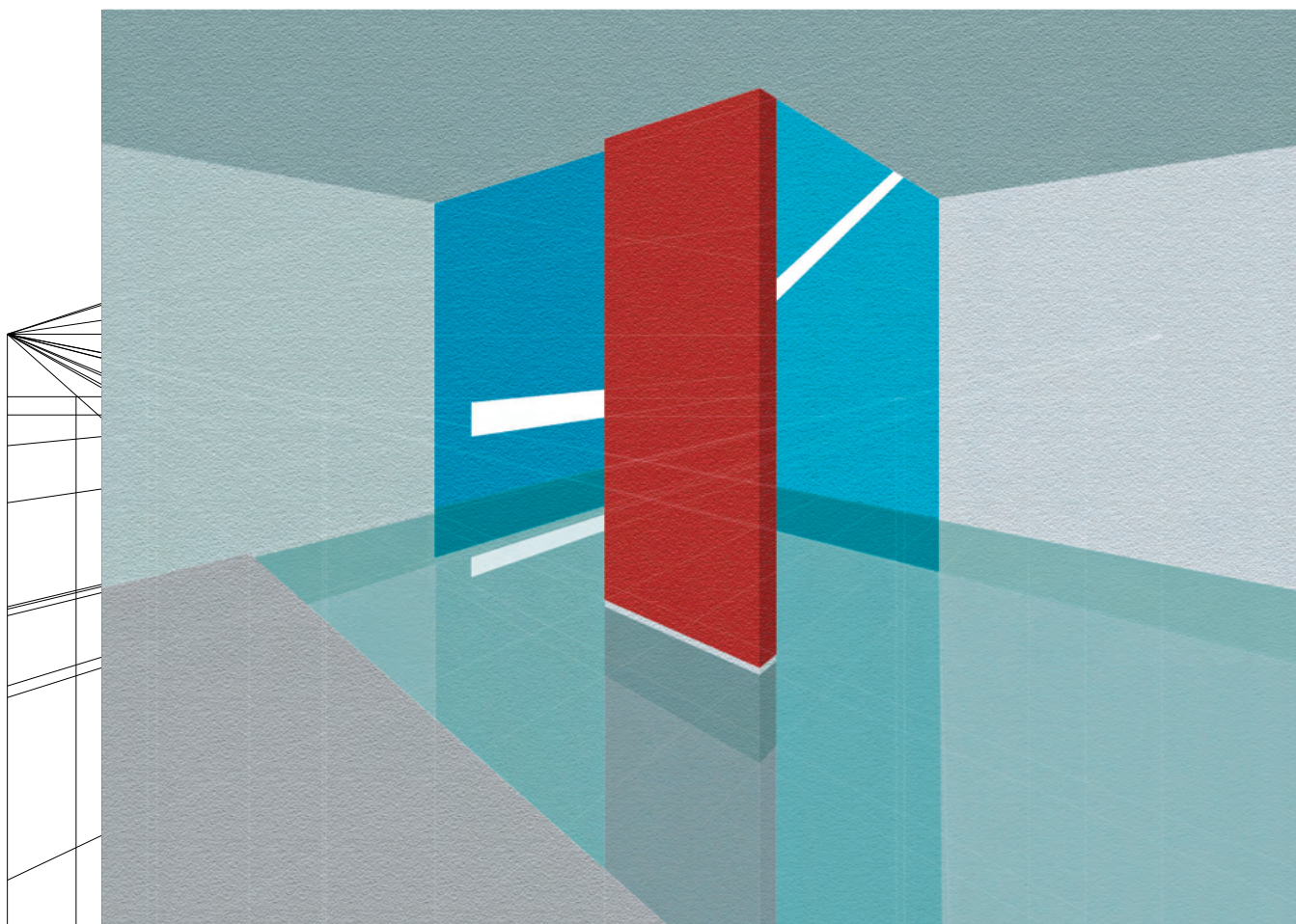




To compliment the model with a feeling of being in the building, I drew two perspective drawings pulled from my plan. One overlooks the atrium and Jacaranda tree that acts as a centerpiece for the entire structure. The other views the reflection pool in the dining room, a space that truly evokes meditation.

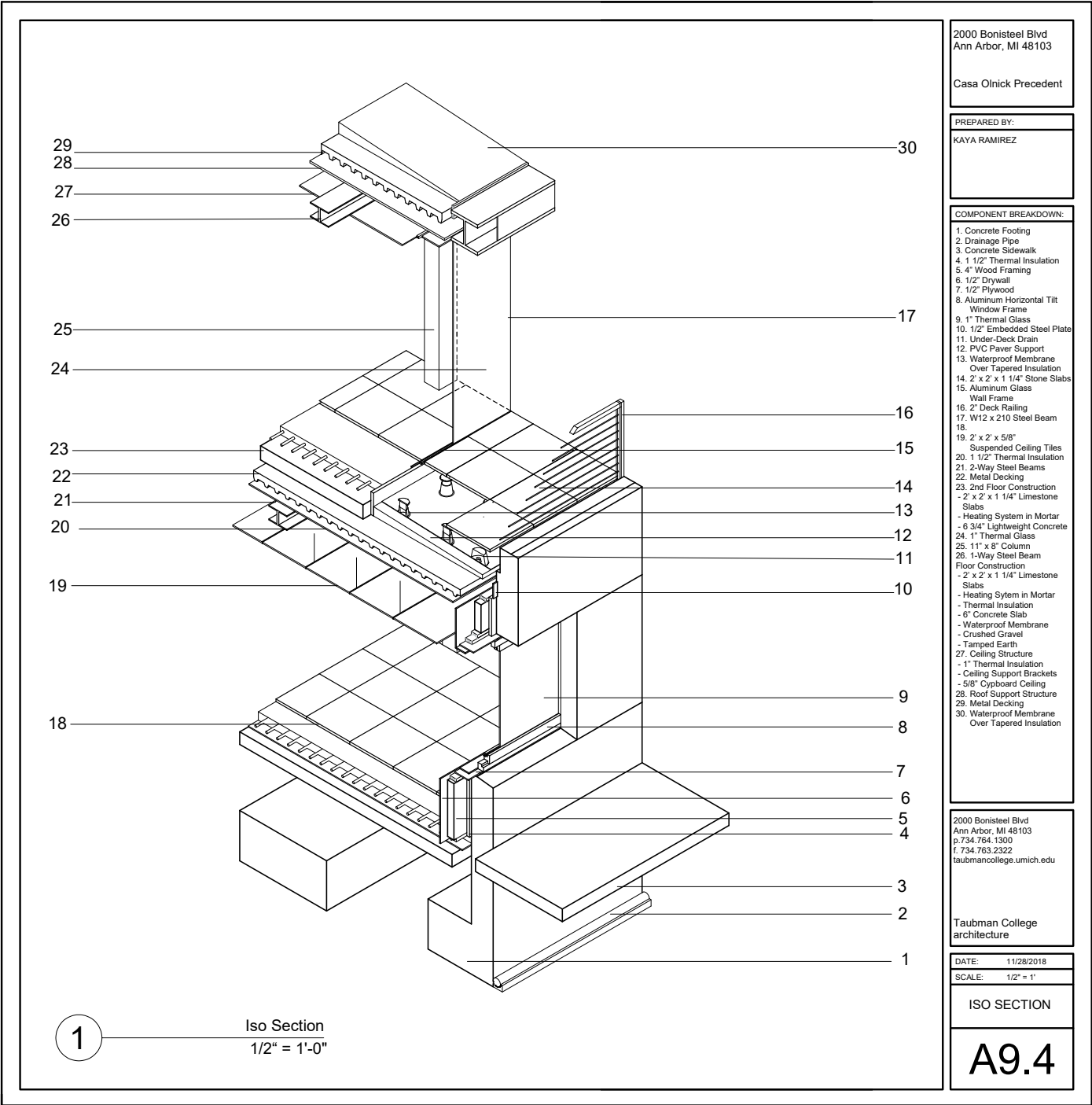




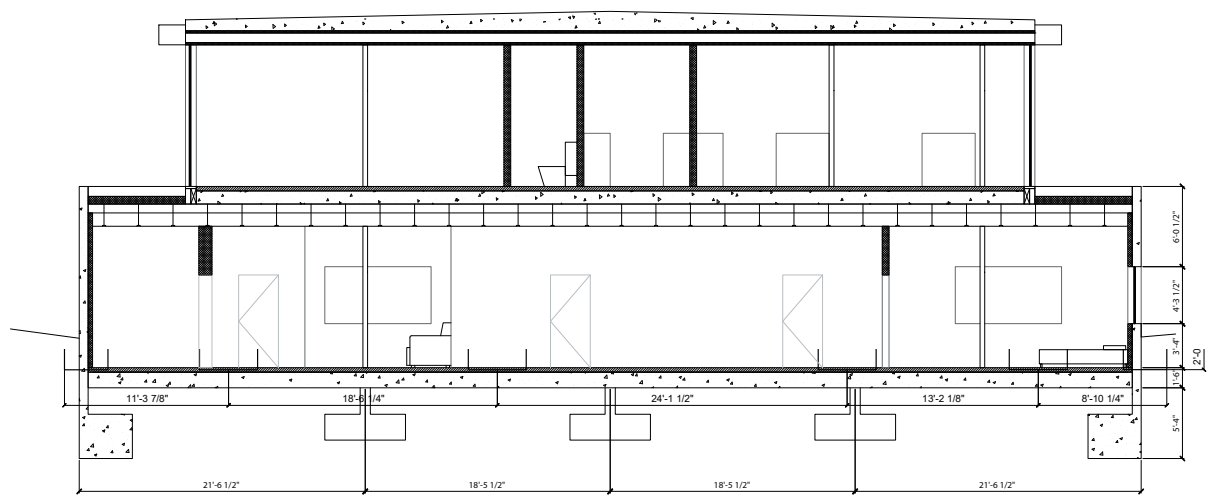


# Transparency

Here, I deconstructed Casa Olnik, a very bougie house that often caught my eye driving up the Hudson River. While the drawings provided on Campo Baeza’s website were low resolution, they had enough information for me to draw new sections of the house and







1 SECTION  
1/4" = 1'-0"

2000 Bonisteel Blvd  
Ann Arbor, MI 48103

Casa Olnick Precedent

PREPARED BY:  
KAYA RAMIREZ

CSI MASTER FORMAT:

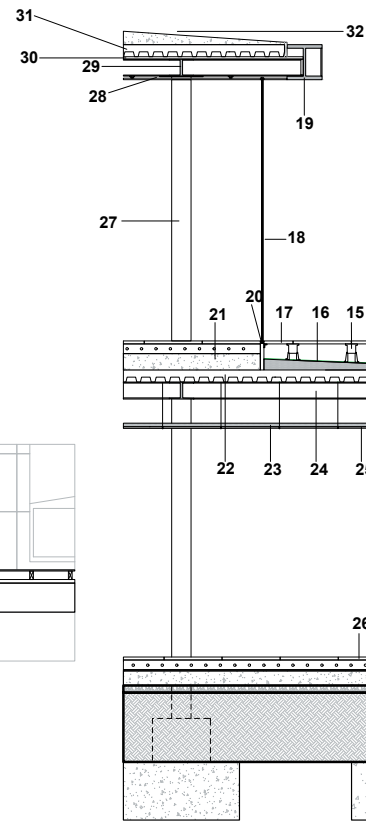
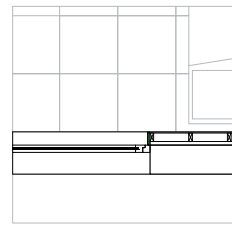
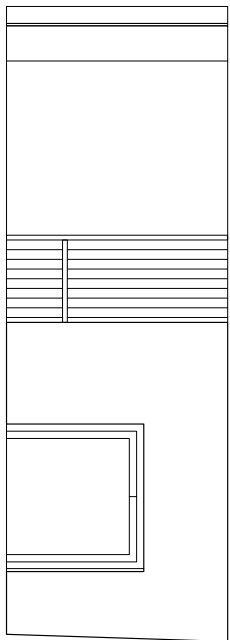
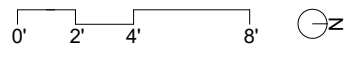
2000 Bonisteel Blvd  
Ann Arbor, MI 48103  
p. 734.764.1300  
f. 734.763.2322  
taubmancollege.umich.edu

Taubman College  
architecture

DATE: 11/28/2016  
SCALE: 1/4" = 1'

SECTION

A3.3



1 DETAIL WALL ELEVATION  
1/2" = 1'-0"

2 DETAIL WALL PLAN  
1/2" = 1'-0"

3 DETAIL WALL SECTION  
1/2" = 1'-0"

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Casa Olnick Precedent

PREPARED BY:  
KAYA RAMIREZ

COMPONENT BREAKDOWN

1. Drainage Pipe
2. Concrete Footing
3. Waterproof Membrane
4. Gravel Backfill
5. Concrete Sidewalk
6. 4" Wood Framing
7. 1 1/2" Thermal Insulation
8. 1/2" Drywall
9. 1/2" Plywood
10. 1" Thermal Glass
11. Aluminum Horizontal Tilt Window Frame
12. 1/2" Embedded Steel Plate
13. 2" Deck Railing
14. Under-Deck Drain
15. PVC Flange Support
16. Waterproof Membrane
17. 2" x 2" x 1 1/4" Stone Slabs
18. 1" Thermal Glass
19. W12 x 210 Steel Beam
20. Aluminum Glass Wall Frame
21. 2nd Floor Construction
22. 2" x 2" x 1 1/4" Limestone Slabs
23. Heating System in Mortar
24. 6.34" Lightweight Concrete
25. Metal Decking
26. 1 1/2" Thermal Insulation
27. 2-Way Steel Beams
28. 2" x 2" x 5/8" Suspended Ceiling Tiles
29. Floor Construction
30. 2" x 2" x 1 1/4" Limestone Slabs
31. Heating System in Mortar
32. Thermal Insulation
33. 6" Concrete Slab
34. Waterproof Membrane
35. Crushed Gravel
36. Tamped Earth
37. 11" x 8" Column
38. Ceiling Structure
39. 1" Thermal Insulation
40. Ceiling Support Brackets
41. 5/8" Plyboard Ceiling
42. 1-Way Steel Beam
43. Roof Support Structure
44. Metal Decking
45. Waterproof Membrane
46. Over Tapered Insulation

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WALL AND WINDOW DETAILS

A5.4

# Big-Box De-Commission

Spring 2020

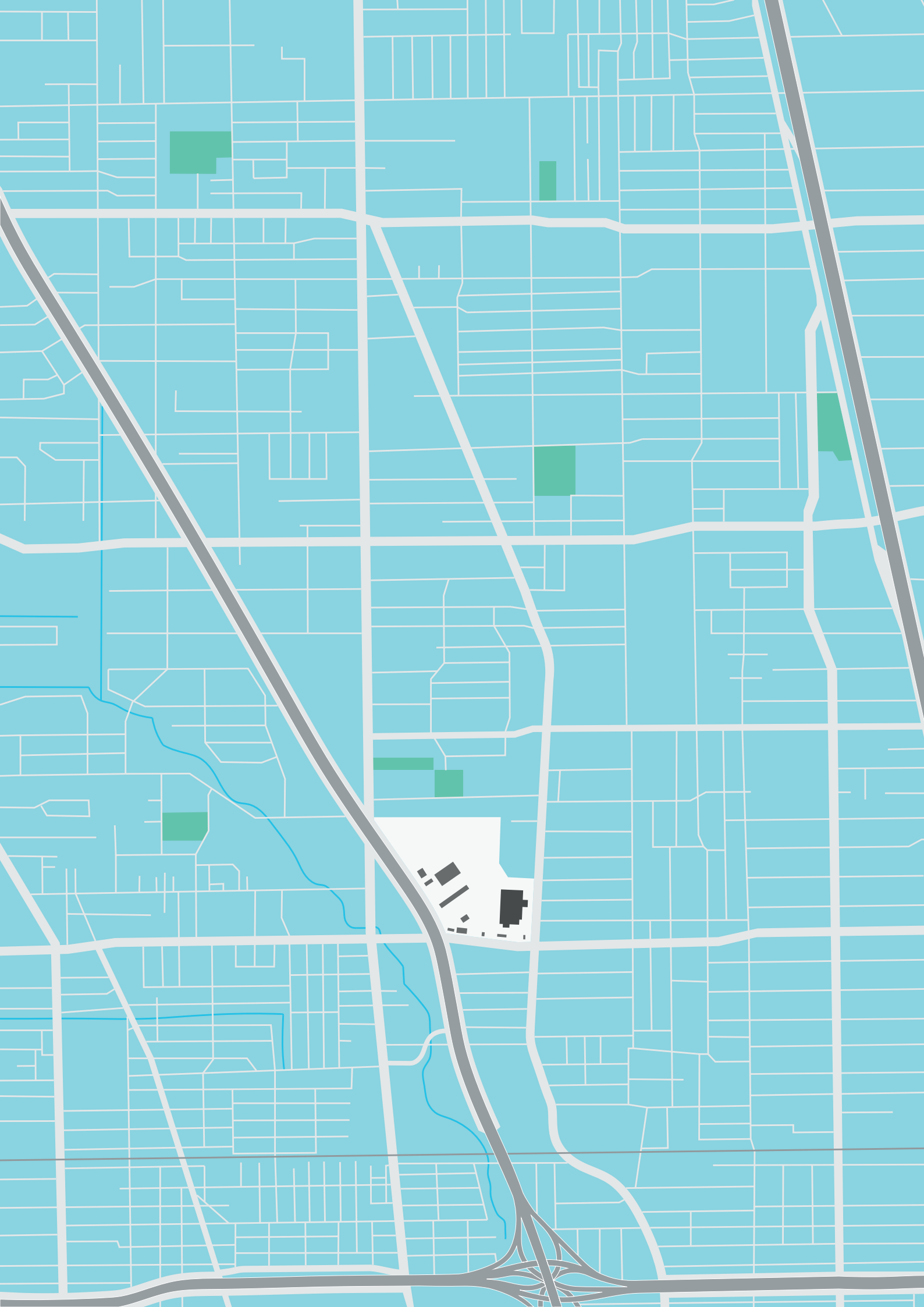




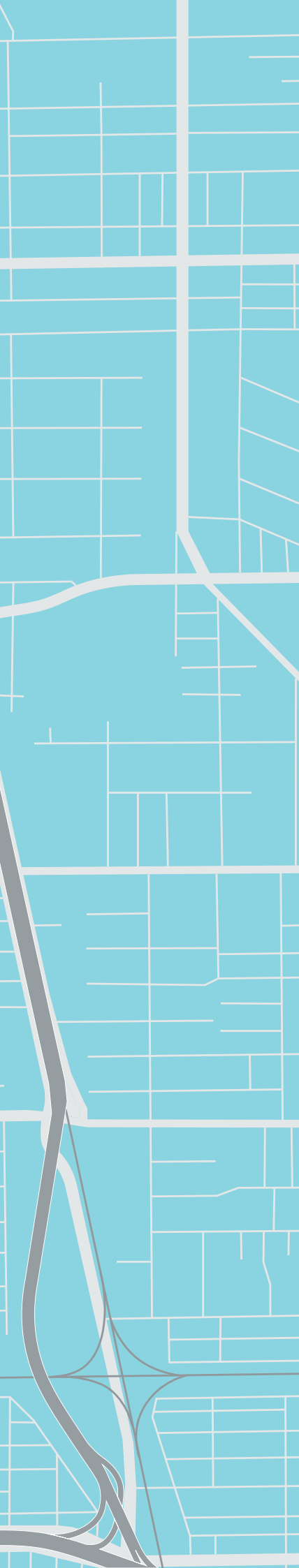


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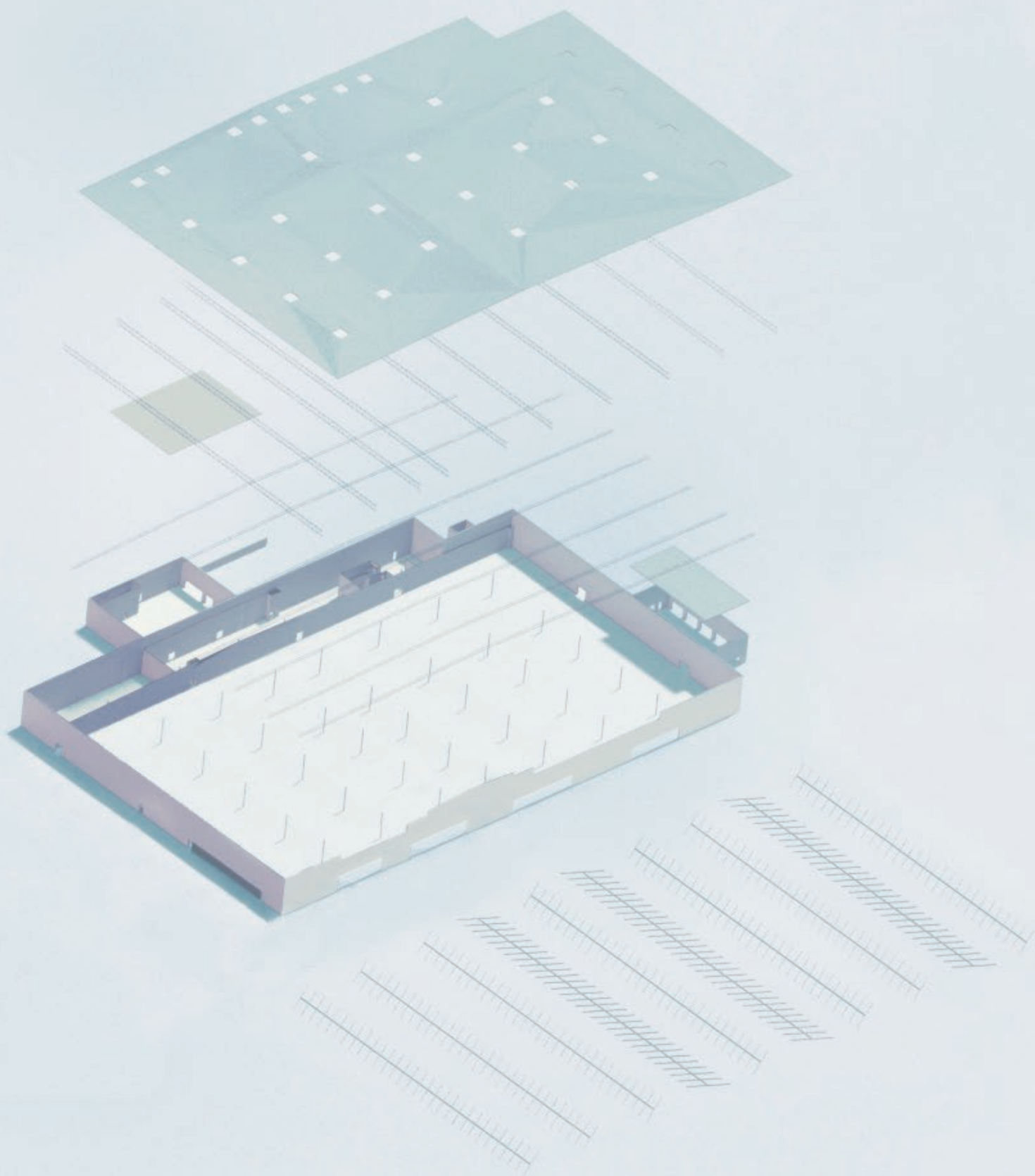


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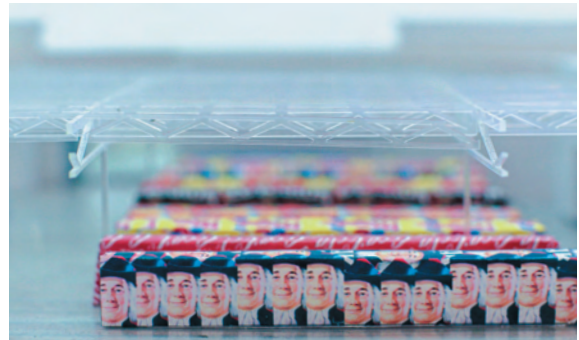
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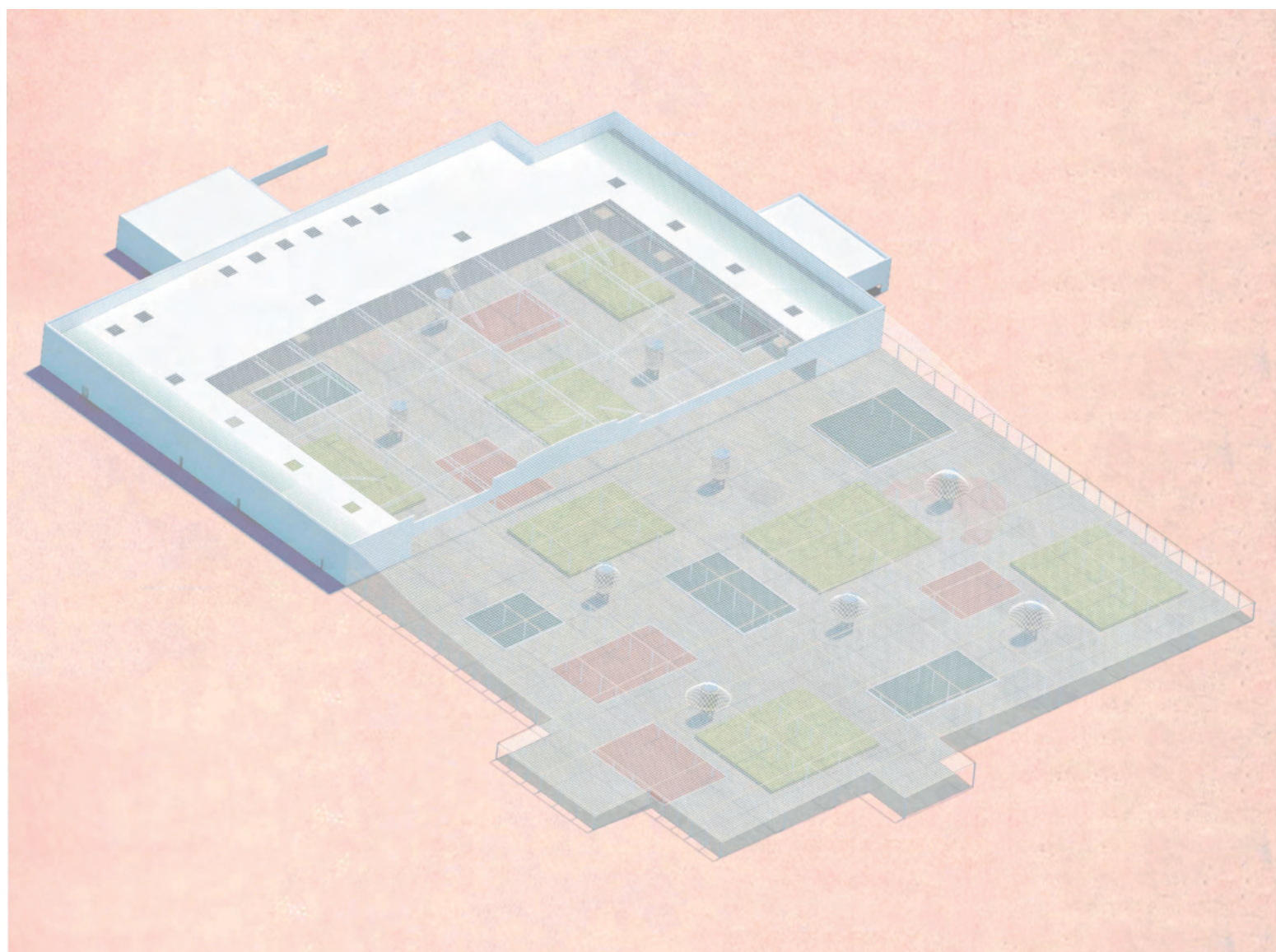
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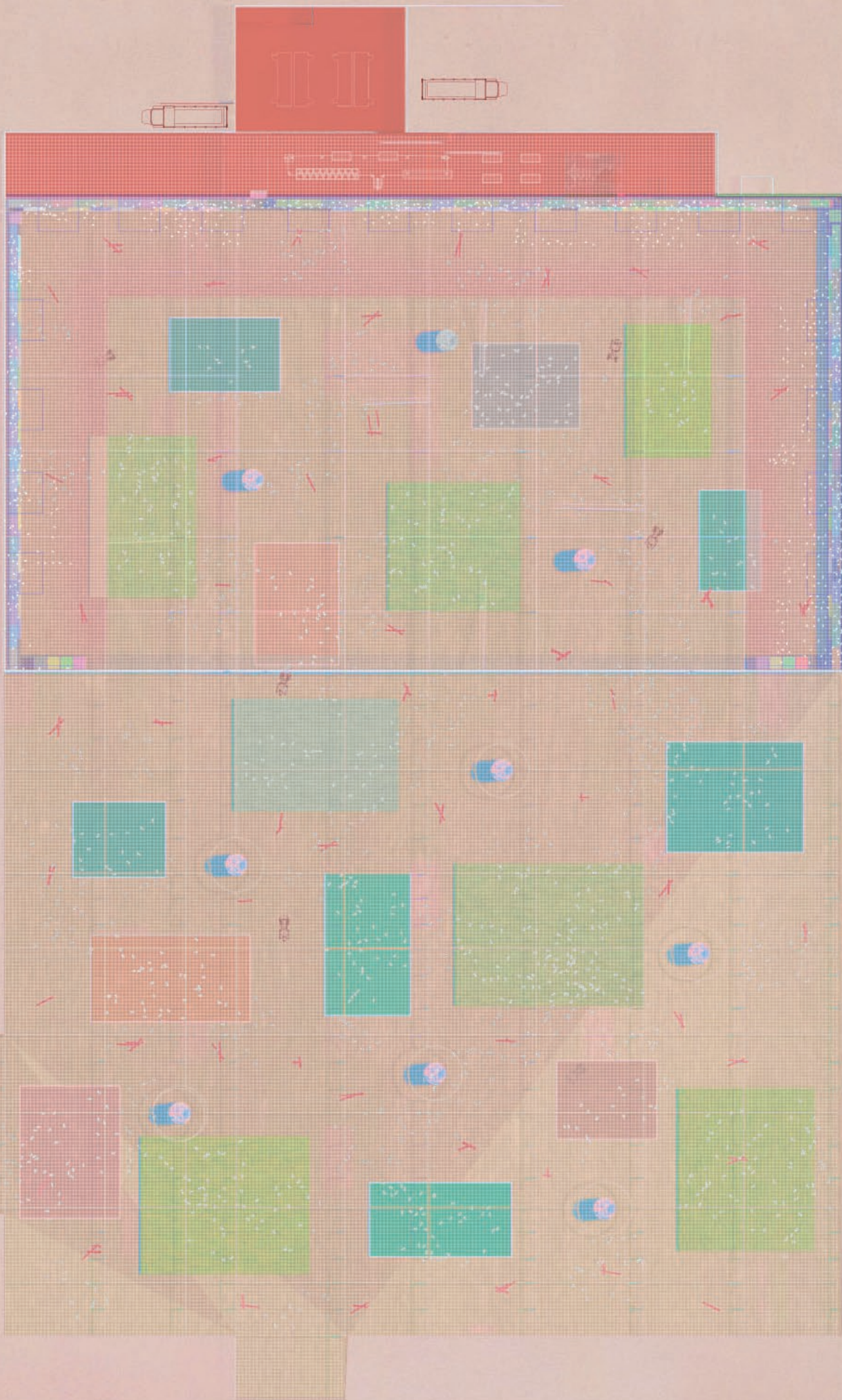
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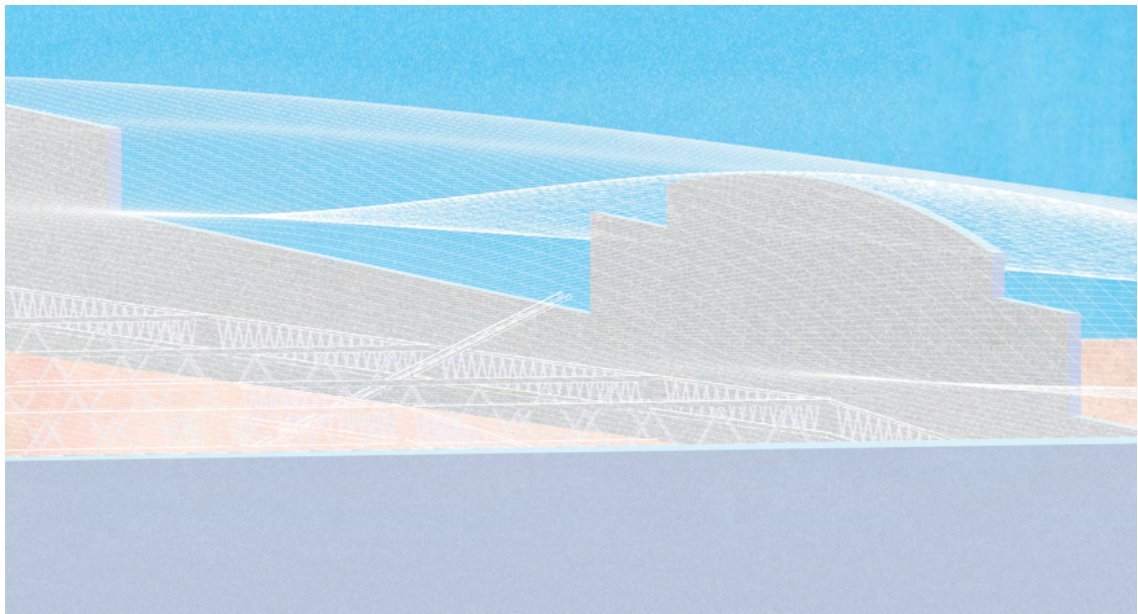




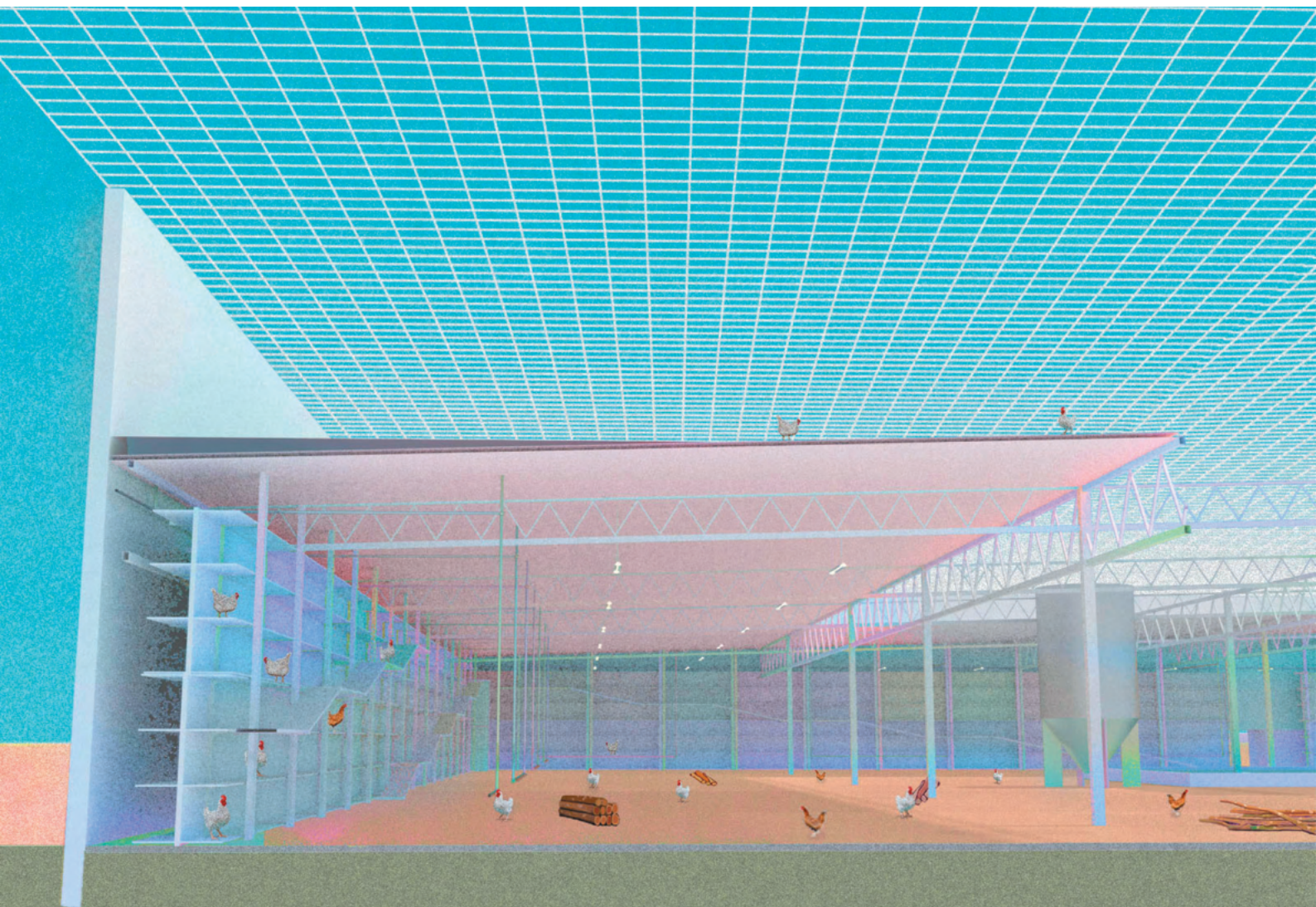




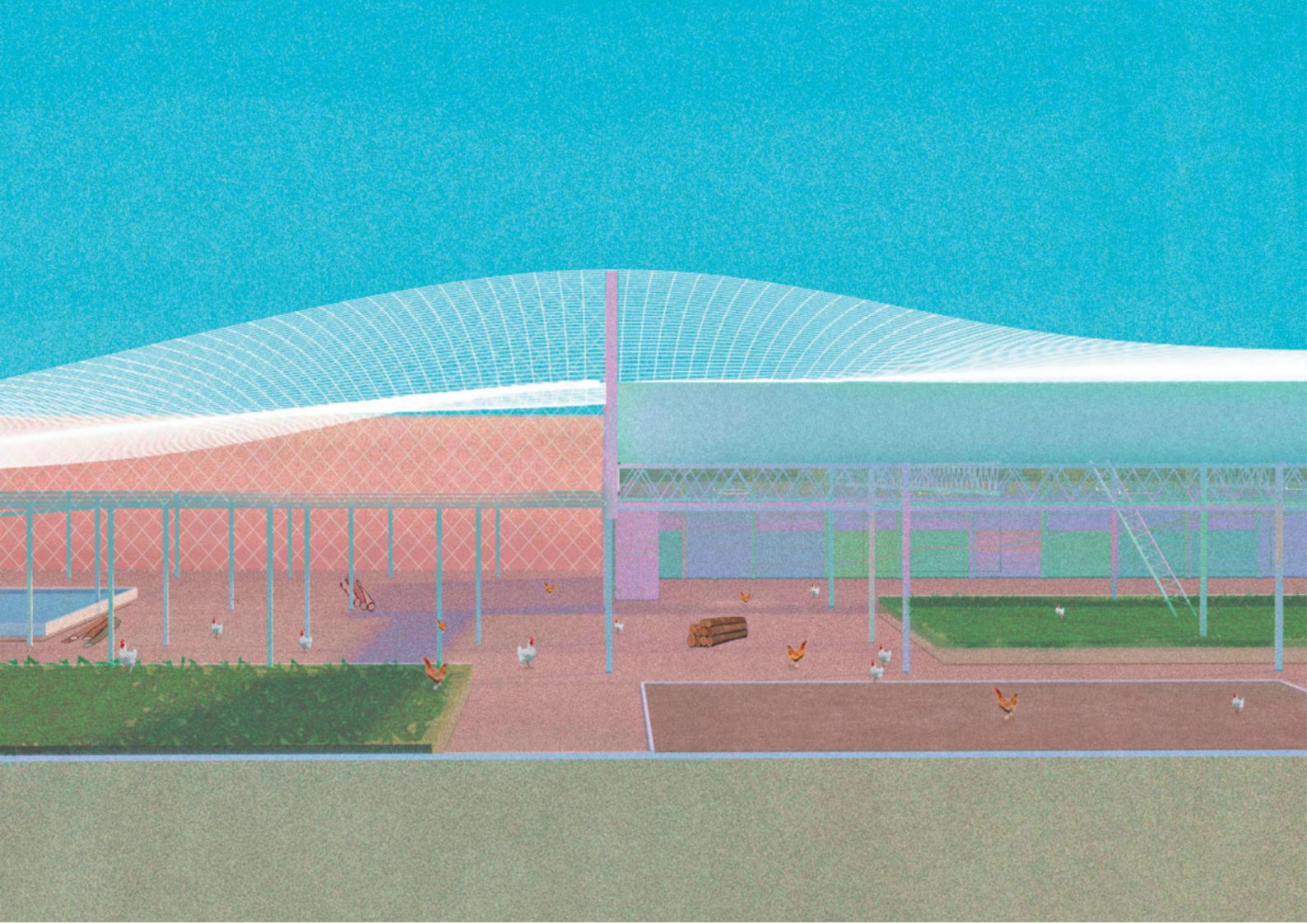
Bandemer Park is a popular warm-weather retreat for many students at U-of-M and citizens of Ann Arbor. Known by regulars as simply “the docks,” visitors partake in sunbathing, socializing, and an occasional dip in the water; if there’s one word to describe this location, it’s casual. Bandemer Park is also the practice facility for the Michigan men’s rowing team. Rowers endure high physical stress on a weekly basis, practicing for a particularly elitist sport. If there’s one word that does not describe rowing, it’s casual. A casual day-tripper uses these docks as a place for resting while a rower uses them solely as a device for entering



Unlike Walmart, which neglects their social and environmental consequences, the Chicken Co-op introduces sustainable practices that are geared towards and operated by local businesses. As shelves turn into coops and parking lots turn to pasture, the big box is no longer a machine of consumption and profit, but an agent for communal benefit.







Special thanks to instructor Matiss Groskaufmanis and classmate Katie Bailey



# Photography Samples

After browsing through years worth of photos, I found two pairs of images that quite resemble each other; I then took to photoshop to match them even more (exaggerated the Viñoly building a bit). On the right, the layered shades of Colorado's great sand dunes at dusk are embodied in Frank Gehry's Disney Opera house. On the left, the infamous 432 Park Ave resembles a quaking aspen tree in Slovenia against the blue River Soča. While one stands lightly over the clear waters, the other aggressively towers the city.

## 432 Park Ave:

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f/11.0  
ISO/100

## River Soča:

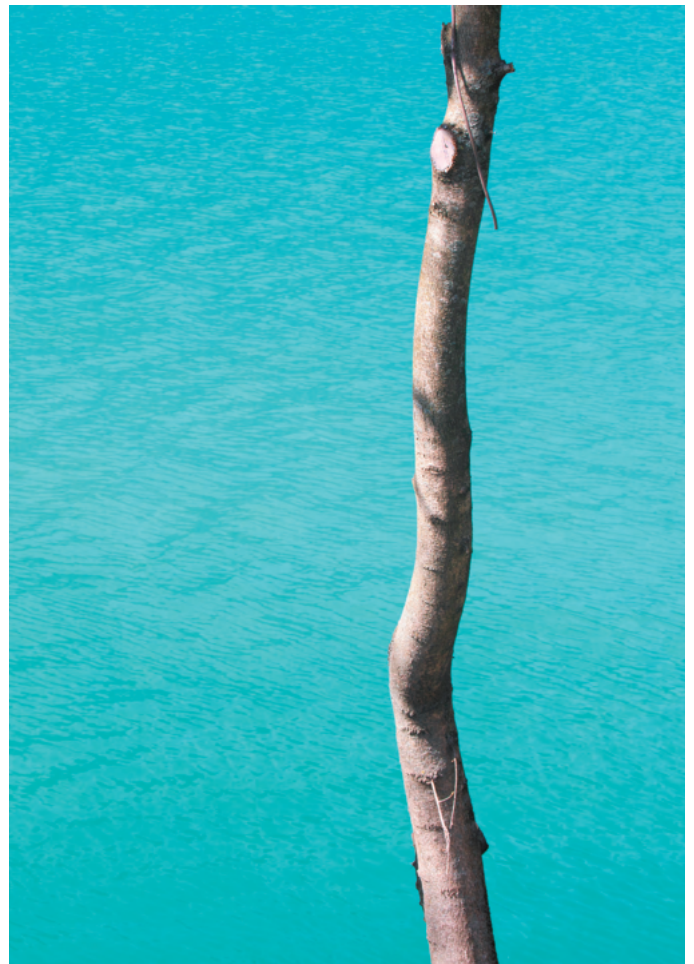
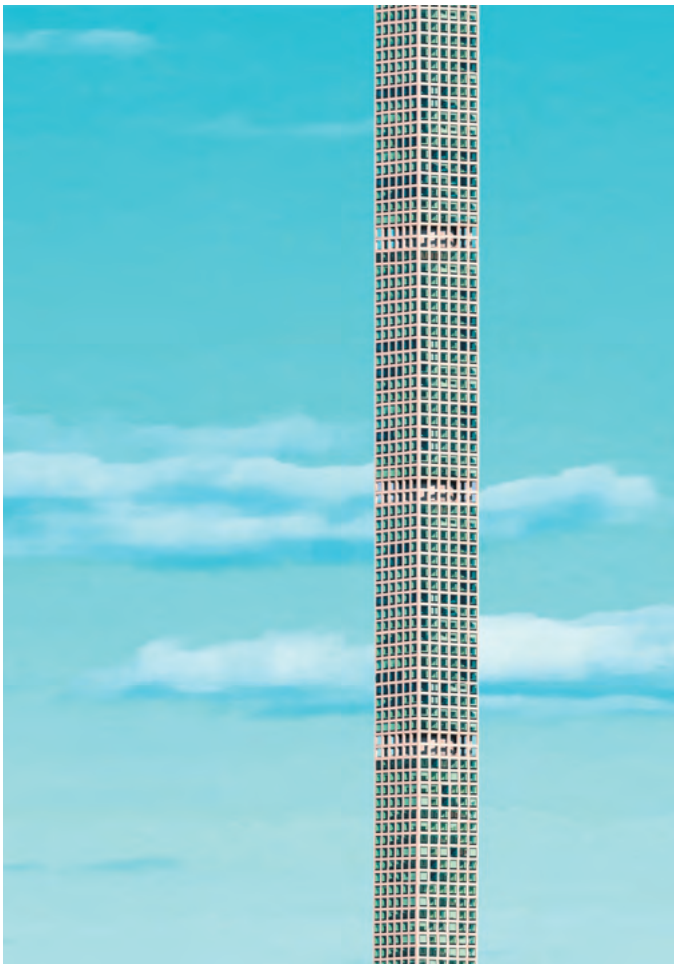
1/1000  
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## Dusk Dunes:

1/100  
f/2.8  
ISO/800

## Disney:

1/1000  
f/8.0  
ISO/100







***Deflated donut Float in  
Casa Gilardi pool with  
light on other side and  
feathers in the air***

***thanks. please hire me.***