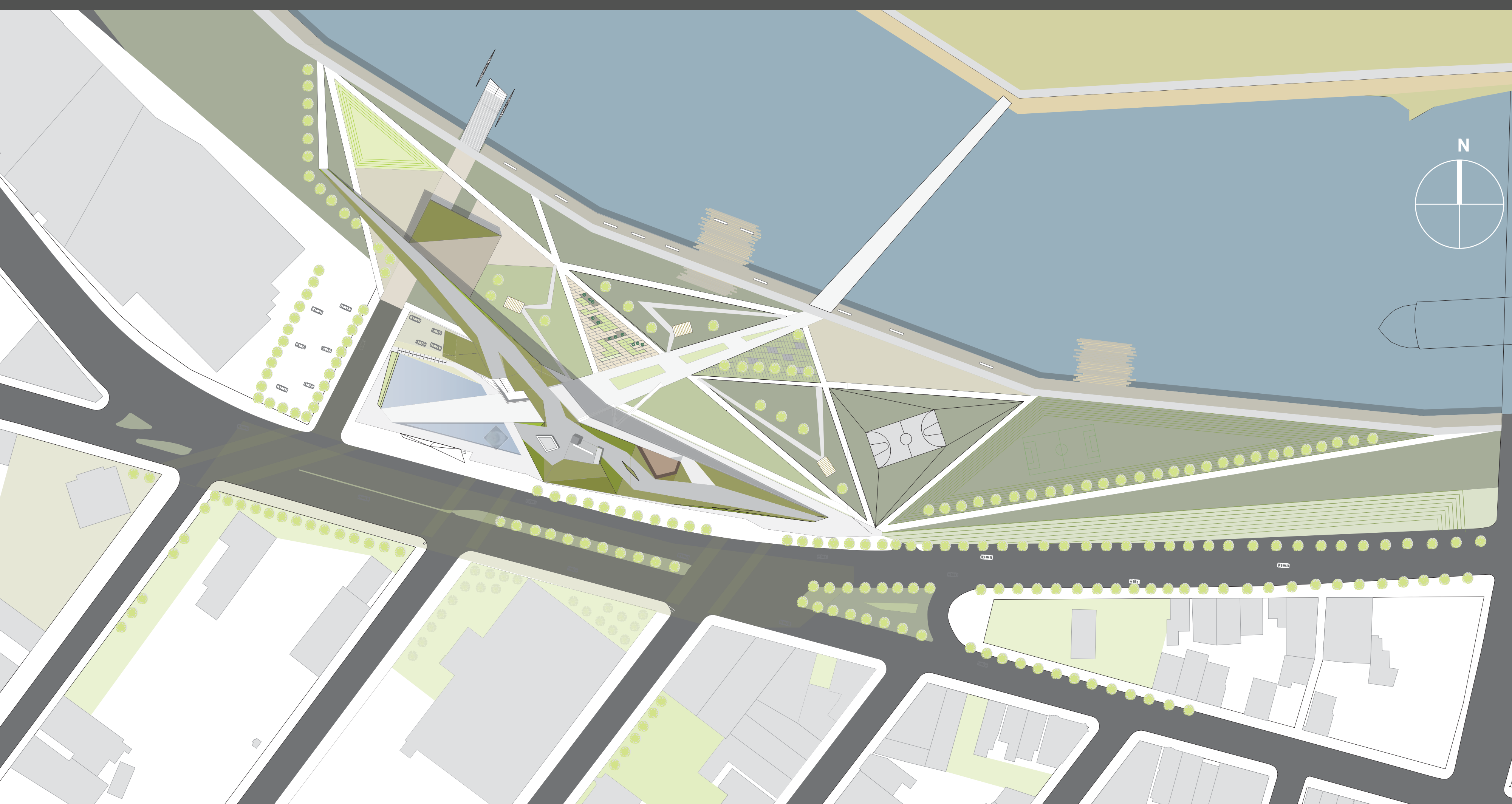


NEWARK THROUGH & TO

an urban interchange

A visitors' center in a complex urban setting like Newark should function as a multi-layered public institution. It should accommodate the needs of multiple user groups, form a relationship with the city at multiple scales and act as both a destination point and a gateway. The inherent characteristics of a visitors' center as multifunctional and working on multiple scales in conjunction with the project's implied relationship to a Passaic riverfront encouraged us to expand the scope of our proposal beyond the given site. The proposal responds to the existing urban conditions by relating the immediate context to the riverfront, developing underutilized land to the north and the east directly along the riverfront and using the urban strategies employed on the given site to improve Newark's overall connectivity to the riverfront.

Key destination points within Newark, although in geographic proximity to the river, currently turn their backs to the river. Building and landscape developments along the river will cause a paradigm shift in which existing destination points will seek to establish a stronger connection to the riverfront. As a catalyst for riverfront redevelopment the Newark Visitors Center will serve as a prototype. As both building and landscape, destination point and urban interchange, the key urban strategies employed for the Newark Visitors Center will be applied to future sites along the riverfront. Thus, the Newark Visitors Center will have significant impact on the growth of Newark as the catalyst in a multiphase project to redevelop Newark's riverfront.



SITE PLAN

Form, program and building systems merge to yield a design of integrated architectural elements. The building roof extends to meet the ground at two ends and reaches its highest point at a moment of formal and programmatic intersection. Forming an open threshold between city and building, city center and river, and between separate but interdependent building functions, the design encourages interaction between multiple user groups at multiple scales. Architectural concepts of bridging, passage and multiple entry points seek to create informal engagement with the built environment and between its users.

Sustainable systems form a central and outwardly noticeable element of the building design. Sustainable practices employed include:

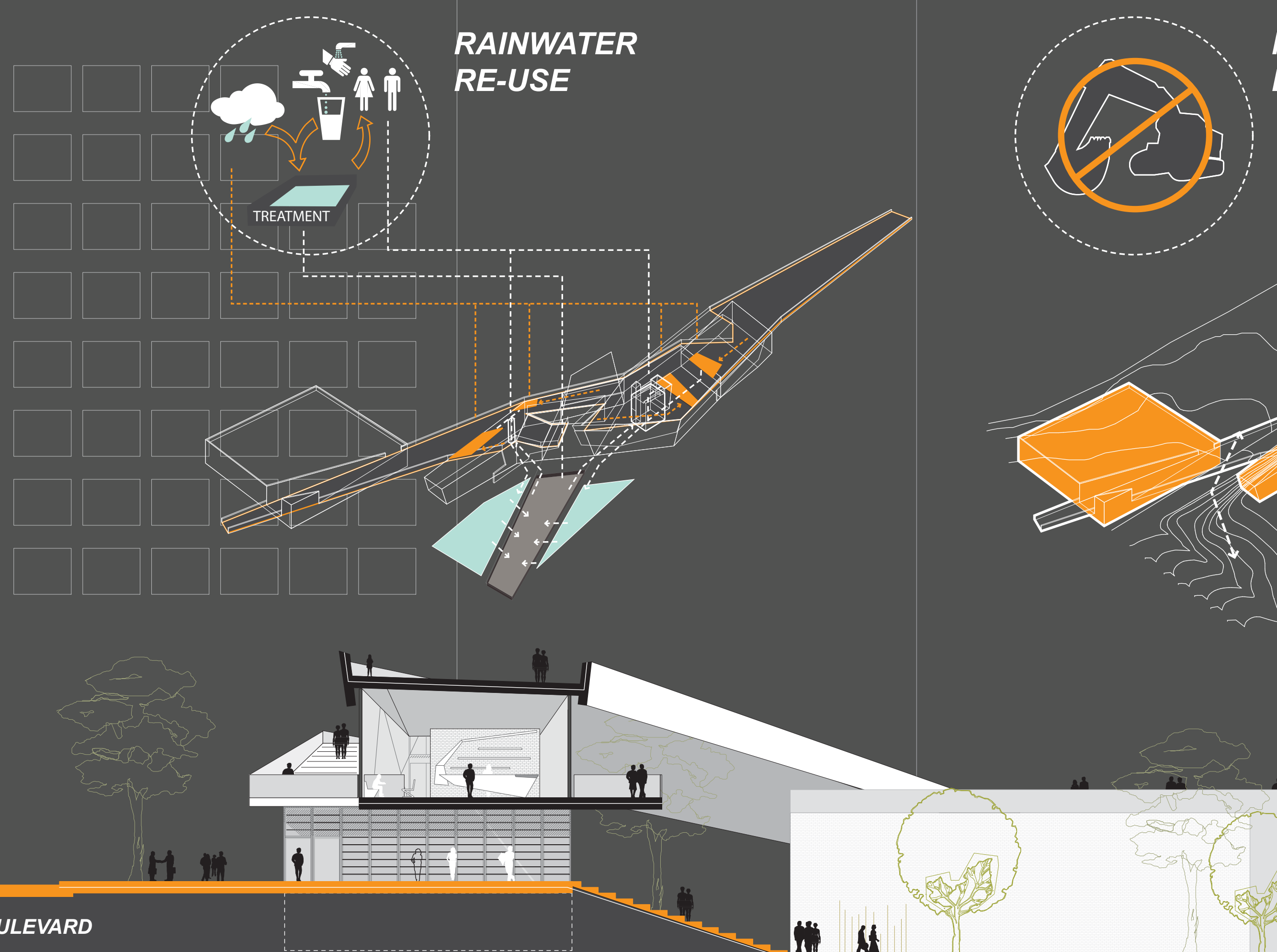
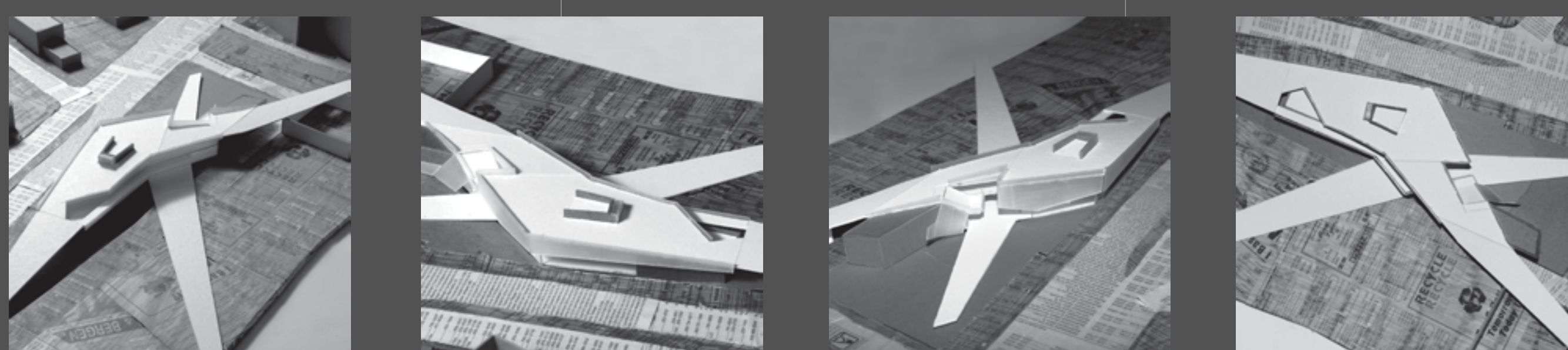
Storm water and grey water harvesting and re-use. Storm water collected on the roof and grey water from the building are retained and treated within the front plaza's water feature and cycled back into the building.

Minimal excavation. The majority of the building footprint sits at ground level, while the sloping auditorium space, the amphitheater and the back steps all follow the natural topography of the site.

Low-maintenance vegetation. A variety of plantings that require minimal maintenance provide the major landscape element on the roof structure and the open spaces between building and river.

Re-use of masonry from neglected building sites within Newark. Beyond promoting the sustainable practice of deconstruction and material re-use, this strategy also provides a material linkage to Newark's traditional construction paradigm. Juxtaposed with a glass curtain wall, the overall building tectonics encourage an interdependence between traditional and contemporary Newark.

Sunshading. Translucent panels extending from the primary glass curtain wall and trees along the building's south façade mitigate heat gains and diffuse light for light sensitive displays.



SECTION A-A

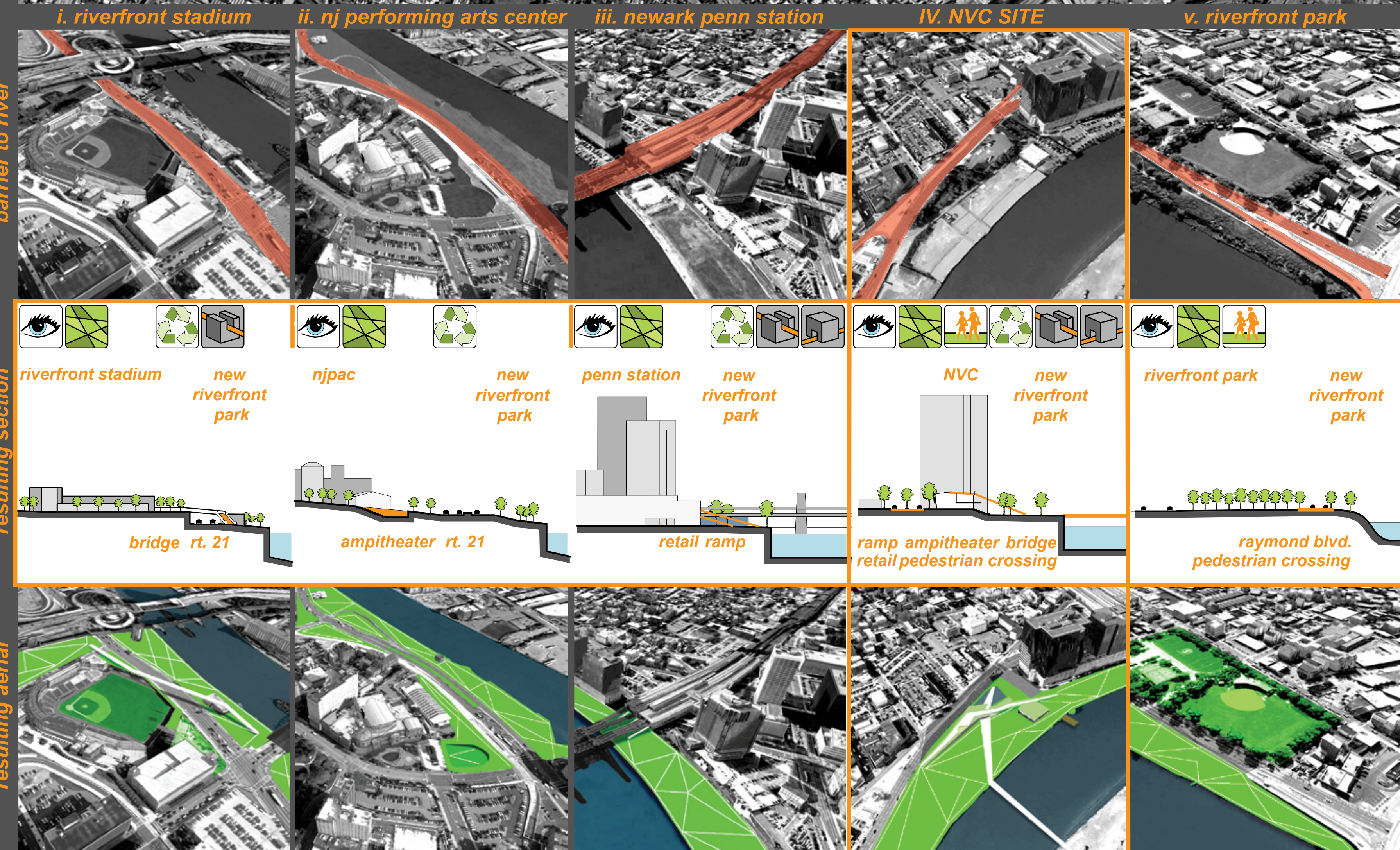
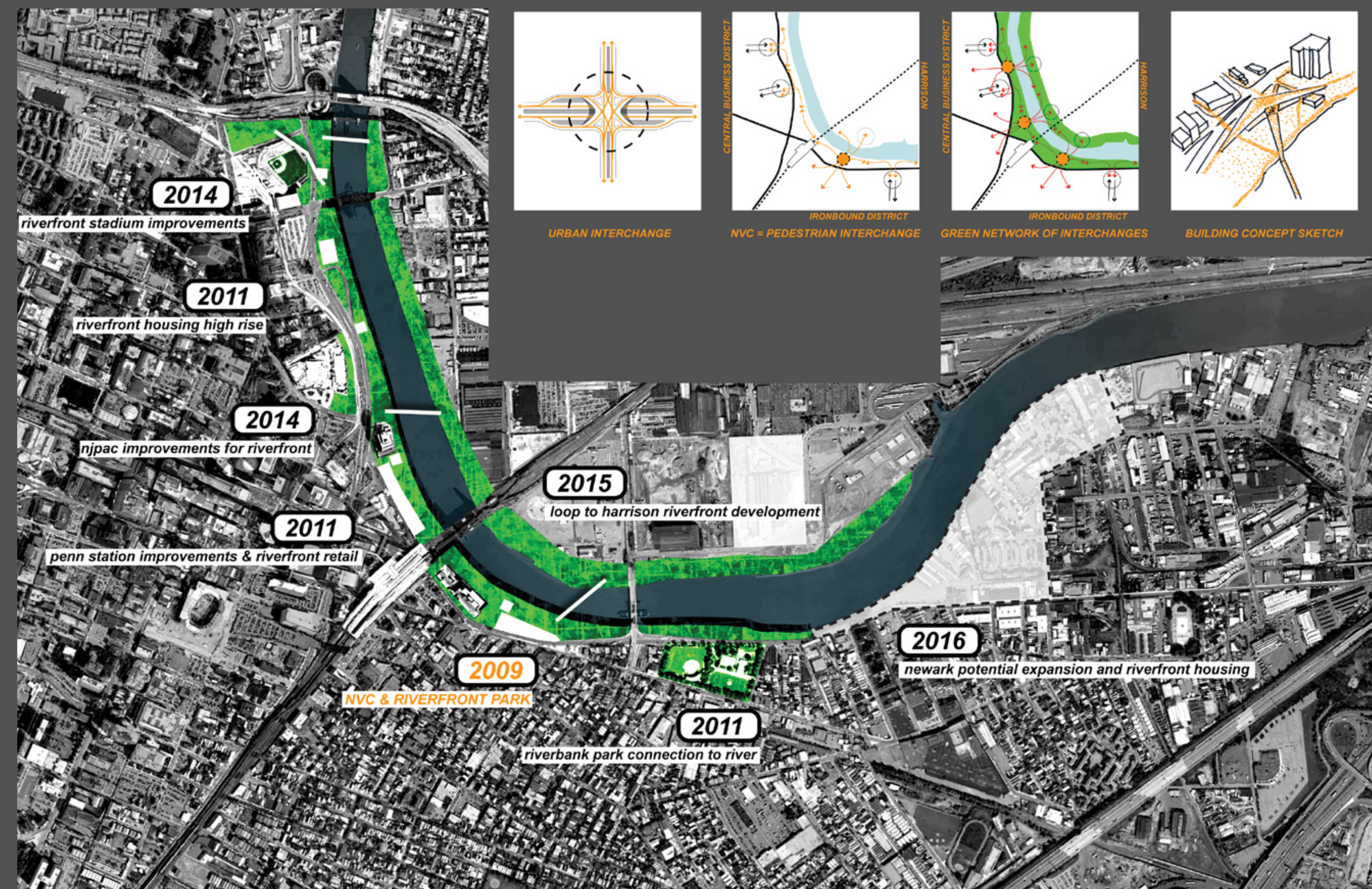
ROOF SEATING/CAFE & PASSAGE TO PARK

RE-USED STRUCTURE (NJIT ROWING CLUB)

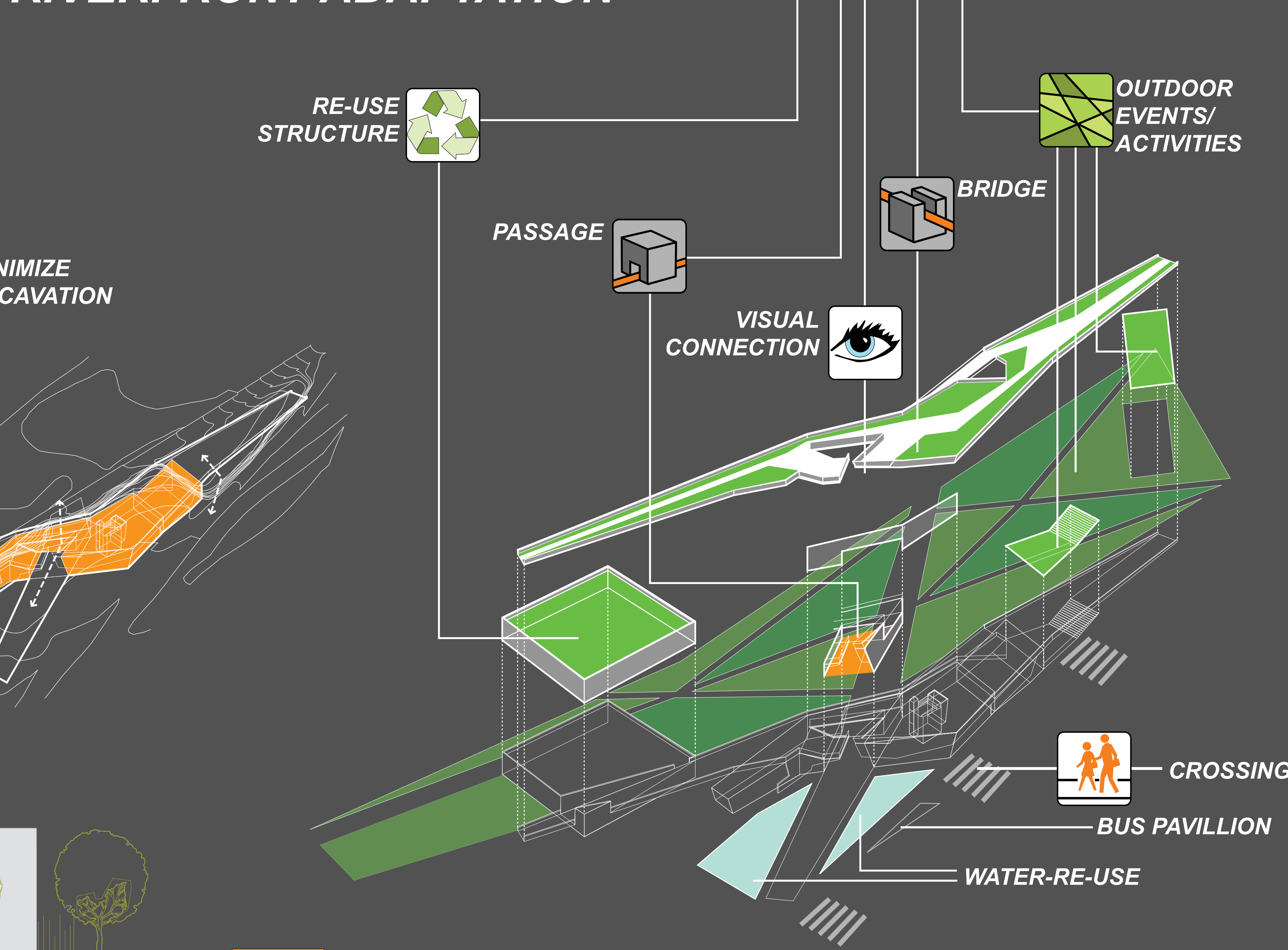
ACTIVITY FIELDS

RIVERFRONT MASTERPLAN

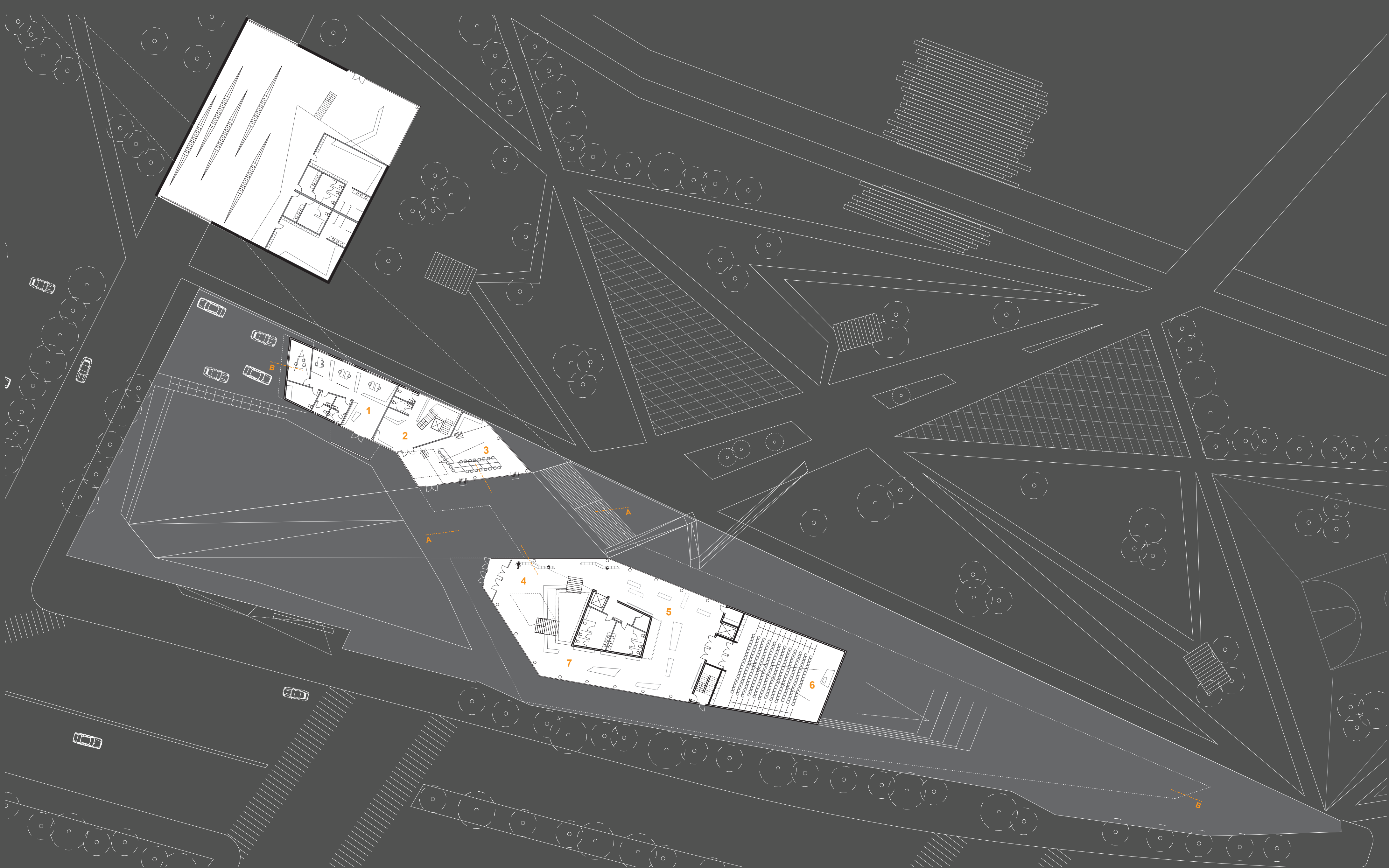
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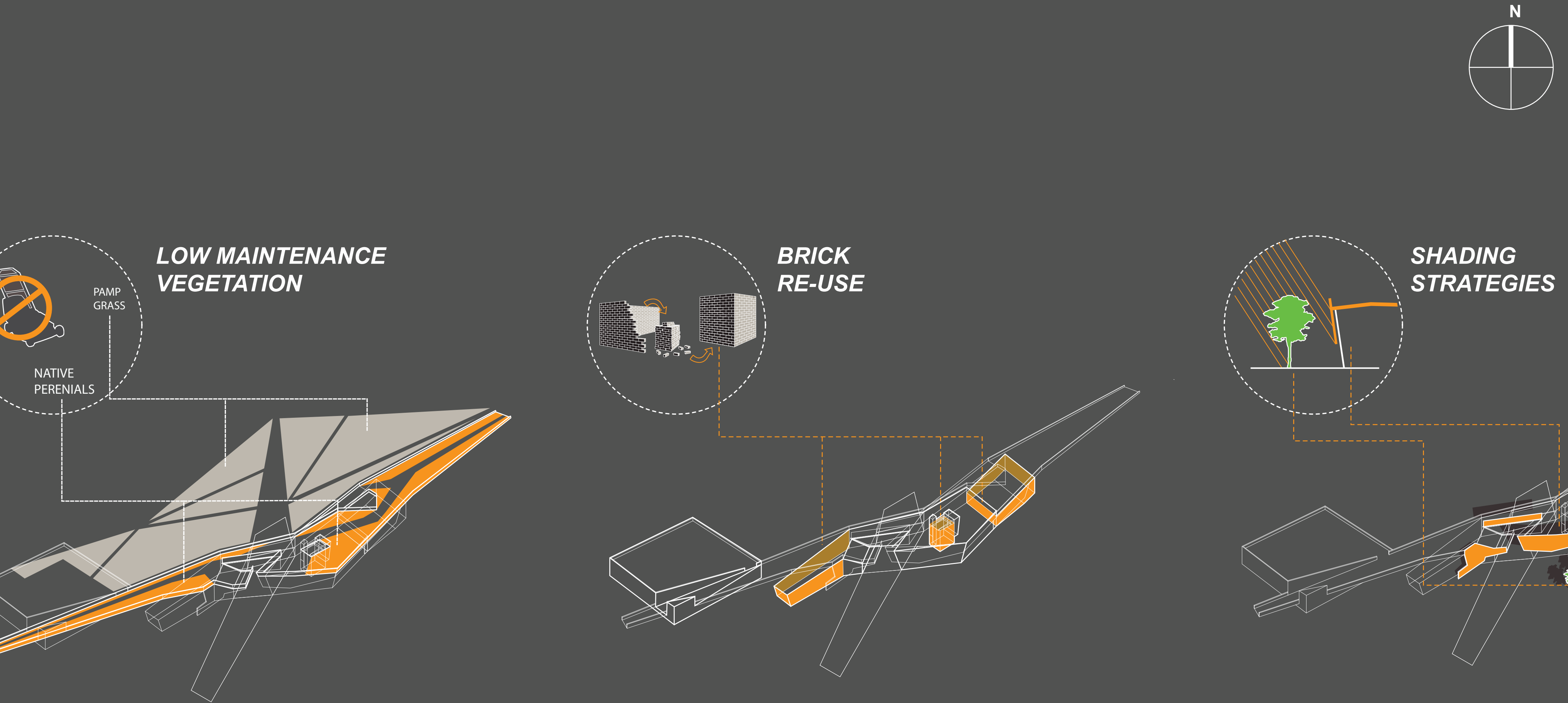
RIVERFRONT ADAPTATION



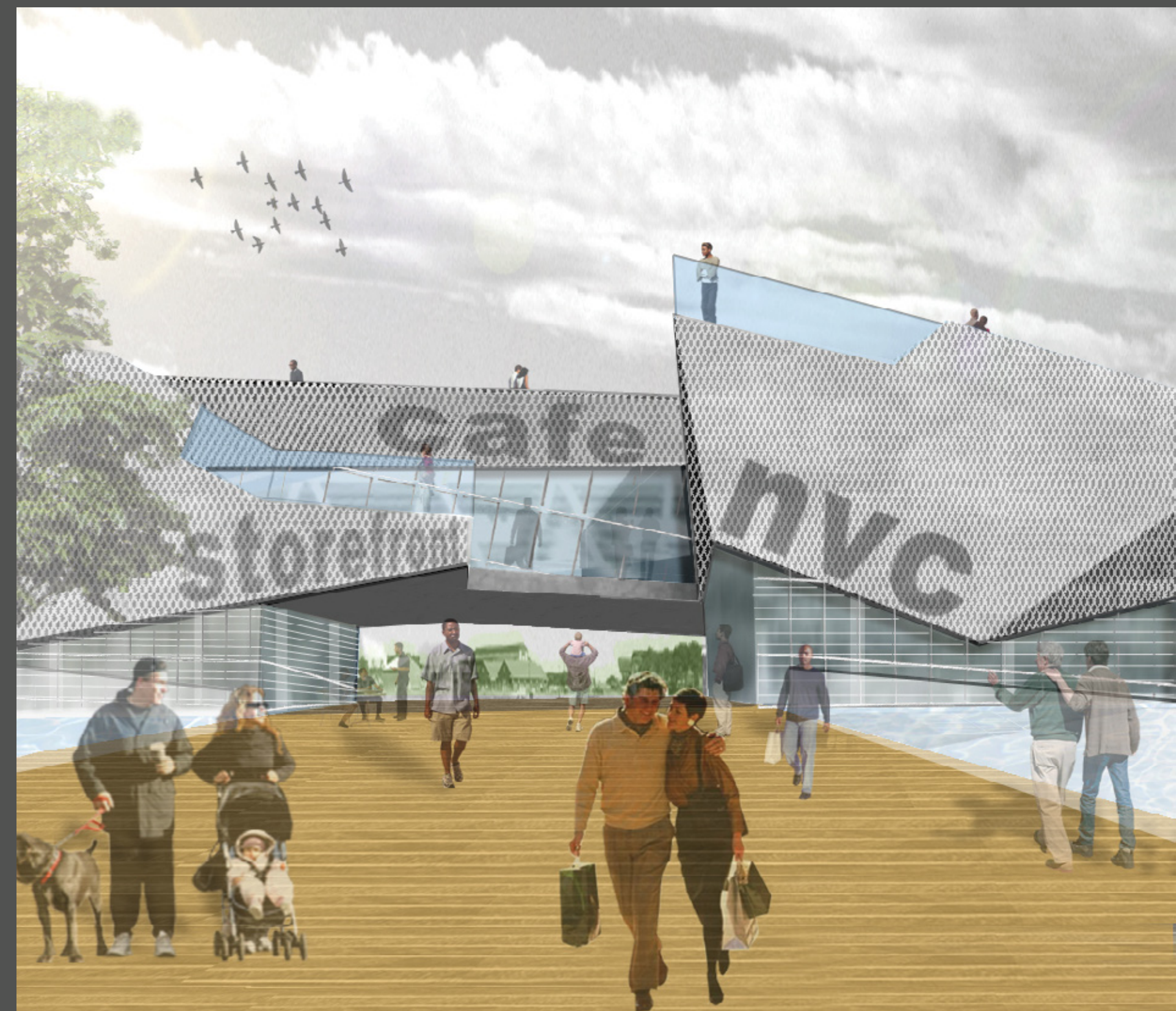
SECOND LEVEL FLOOR PLAN



ENTRY LEVEL FLOOR PLAN



- 1 SECURITY/POLICE CENTER**
OFFICES
225 sq feet ea.
WAITING AREA
300 sq feet
HOLDING CELL
175 sq feet
INTERROGATION ROOM
250 sq feet
BREAK ROOM
120 sq feet
FIRST AID ROOM
100 sq feet
STAFF RESTROOMS
110 sq feet ea.
- 2 EMPLOYEE ZONE**
FRONT DESK
500 sq feet
OFFICES
250 sq feet ea.
BREAK/WORKROOM
450 sq feet
KITCHEN
165 sq feet
STAFF RESTROOMS
80 sq feet ea.
STORAGE/FLEX SPACE
250 sq feet ea.
JANITOR CLOSET
45 sq feet
- 3 CONFERENCE ROOM/STOREFRONT GALLERY**
1,200 sq feet
- 4 LOBBY**
INFORMATION CENTER
200 sq feet
COAT CHECK
300 sq feet
SEATING
500 sq feet
- 5 PERMANENT DISPLAY AREA**
700 sq feet
- 6 AUDITORIUM**
2,500 sq feet
- 7 NEWARK CITY GIFT SHOP**
500 sq feet
- 8 CAFE/KITCHEN**
2,500 sq feet
- 9 FLEX / INTERACTIVE DISPLAY AREA**
400 sq feet
- 10 GALLERY / INSTALLATION SPACE WITH RECEPTION AREA**
1,500 sq feet
- 11 SCULPTURE GARDEN**
2,500 sq feet
- RESTROOMS
300 sq feet ea.
JANITOR CLOSET
60 sq feet
BUS DISPATCH
80 sq feet
UTILITY ZONE (BASEMENT)
I.T. ROOM
200 sq feet
BATTERY ROOM
200 sq feet
RECYCLING
270 sq feet
WORKROOM
200 sq feet
MECHANICAL ROOM
500 sq feet
WATER SUPPLY ROOM
220 sq feet
STORAGE
450 sq feet



VIEW TOWARD ENTRANCE...



FROM CAFE TO GALLERIES...



FROM RIVERFRONT TOWARDS CITY.

SECTION B-B

RE-USED STRUCTURE (NJIT ROWING CLUB) PARKING/ SERVICE ENTRY NVC & SECURITY OFFICES CAFE AND PASSAGE TO PARK ENTRY ATRIUM GIFT SHOP NVC GALLERIES THEATER OUTDOOR THEATER/EVENTS TO IRONBOUND & RIVERBANK PARK