

Historic Hohokam Canals
The canal system around Hohokam irrigates systems, which sustained life in the desert and shaped early settlement in the Salt River Valley and the establishment of Tempe. This centers the building and site.

Framing Views
To connect views to the sky via rivers to the canal, framed openings throughout the building offer moments to look both upward and down toward the shifting earth, growing relation in the cycles of the landscape.

"Mediating Sky and Earth"
After visiting RUST Architects, a quote was written stating that the architecture of houses should "mediate sky and earth". This was used as inspiration for the remainder of the project.

The ecology center sits just east of the airport, where migrating birds, flight paths, and seasonal floods converge.

By creating a micro-climate within the riverbed, native and new species can come and enhance the riparian atmosphere.

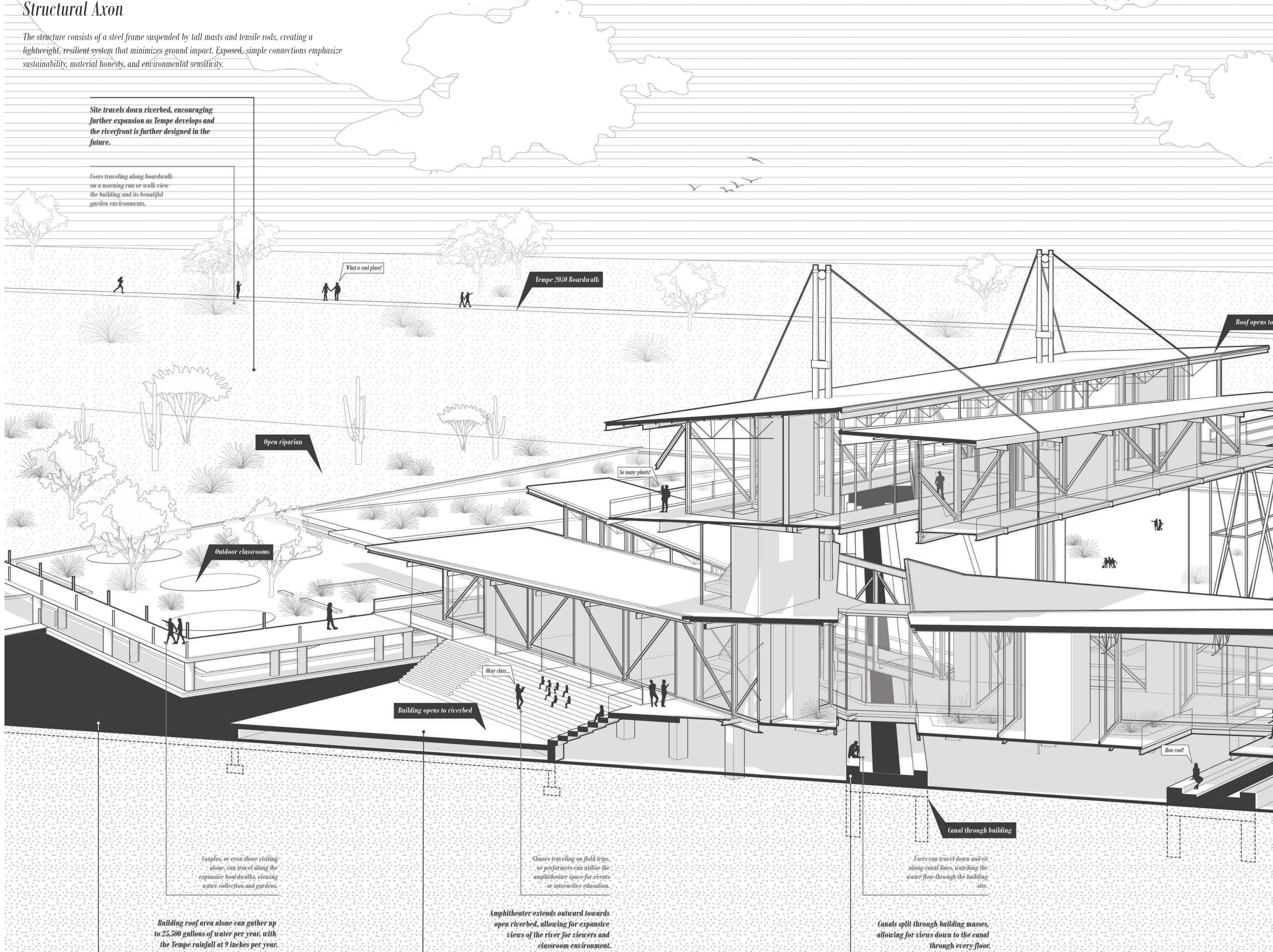
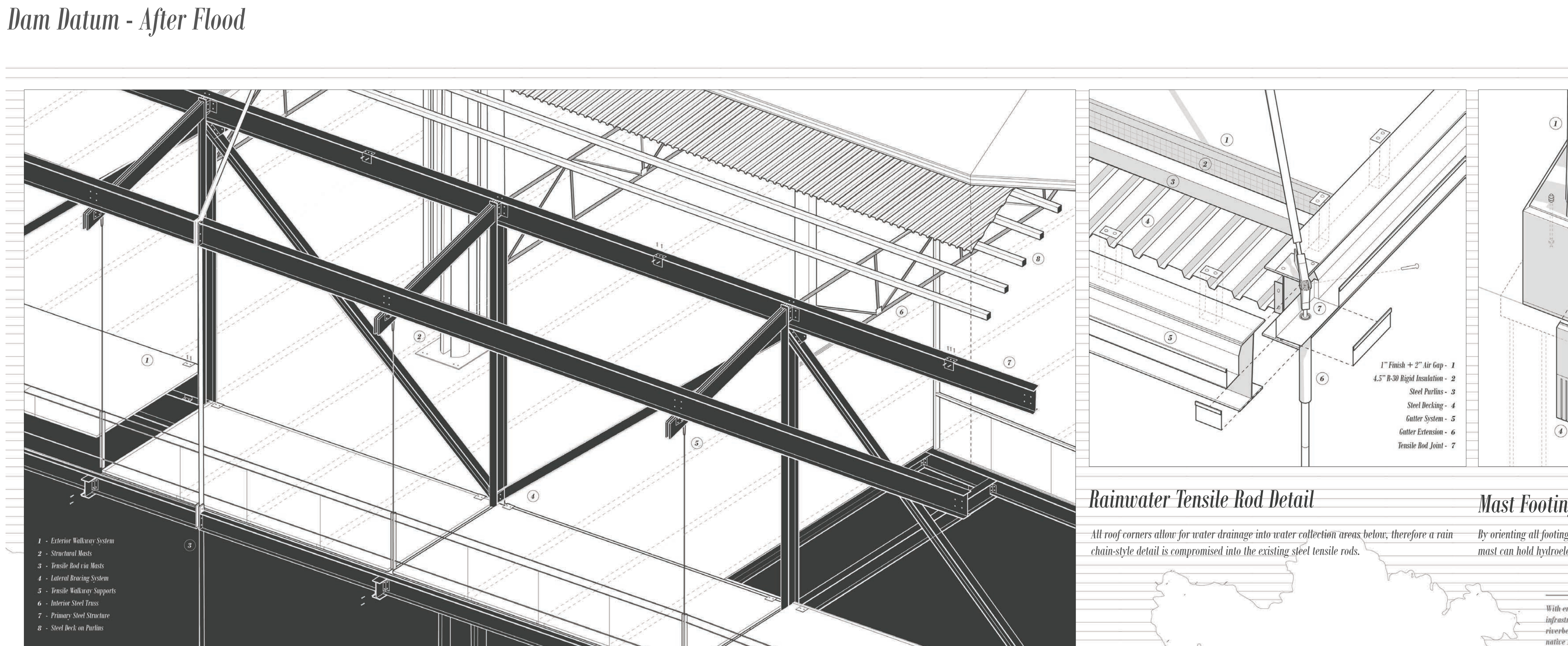
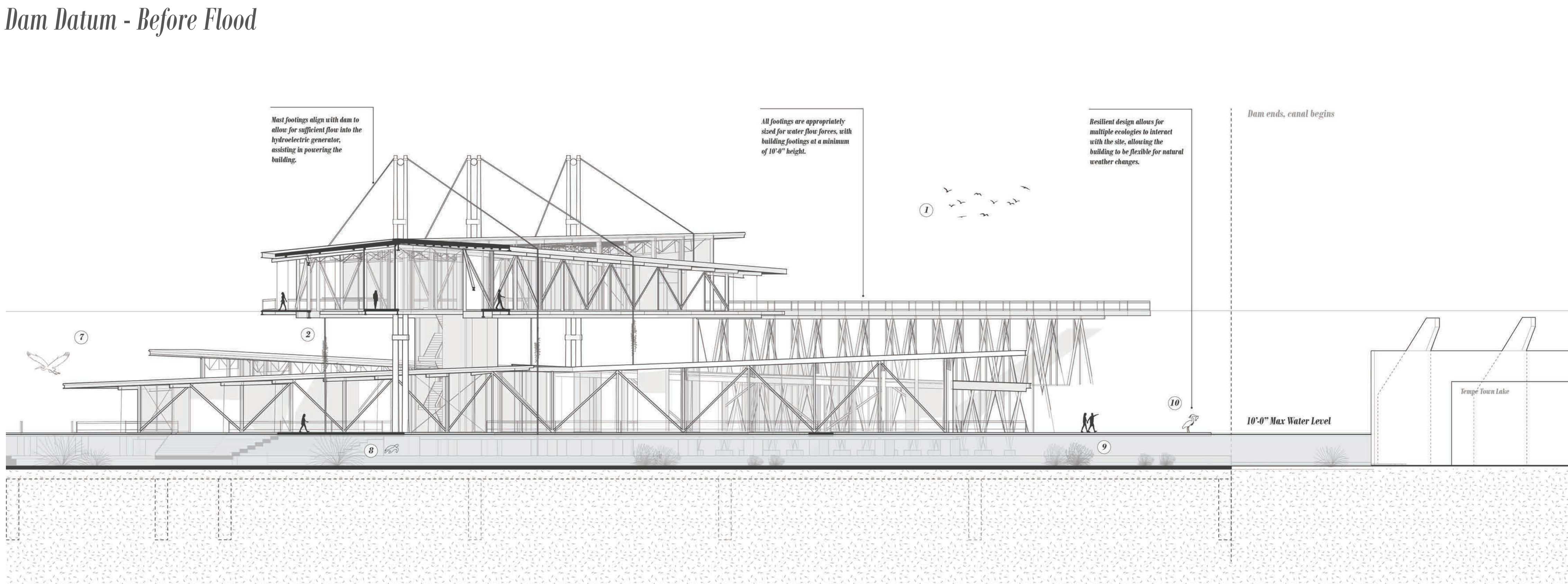
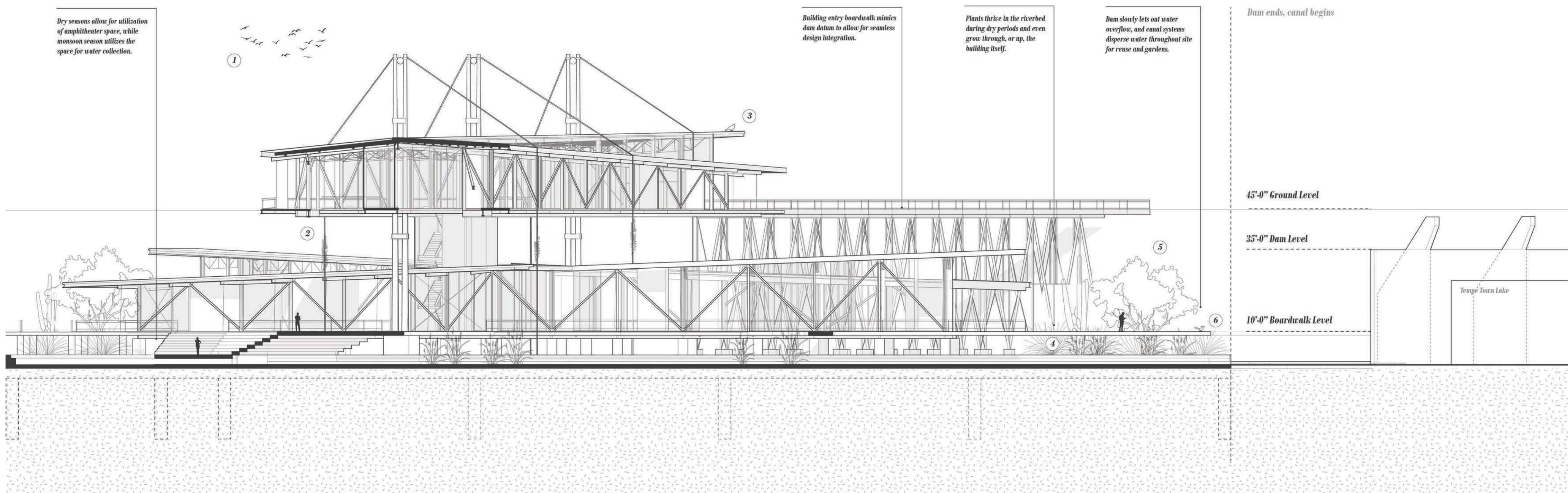
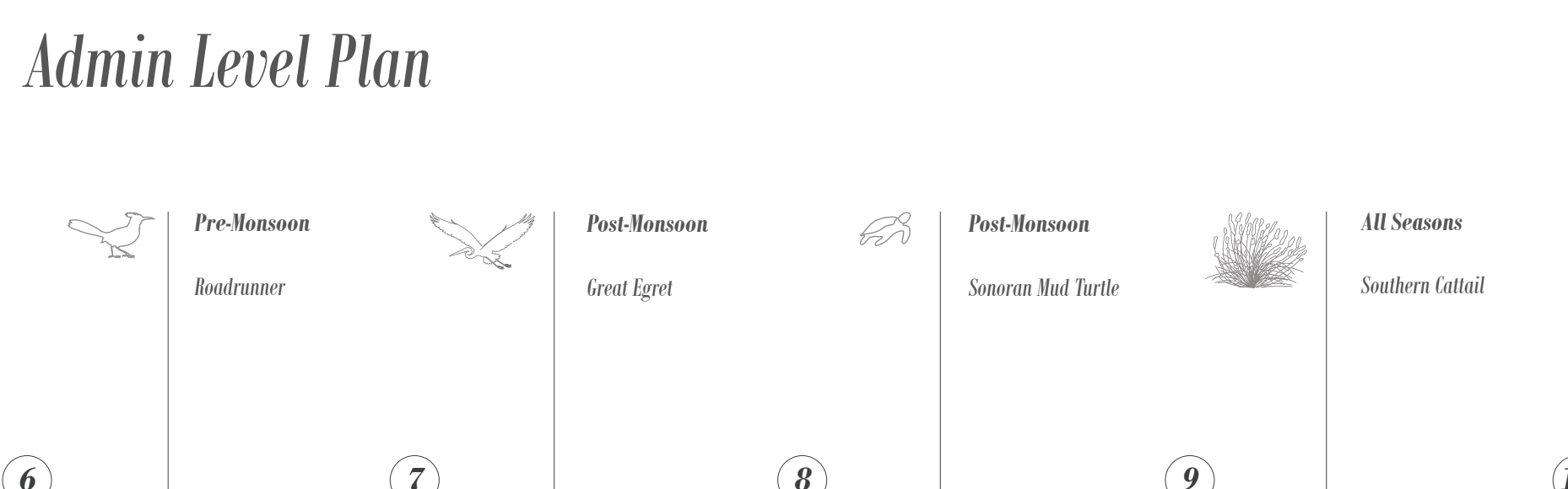
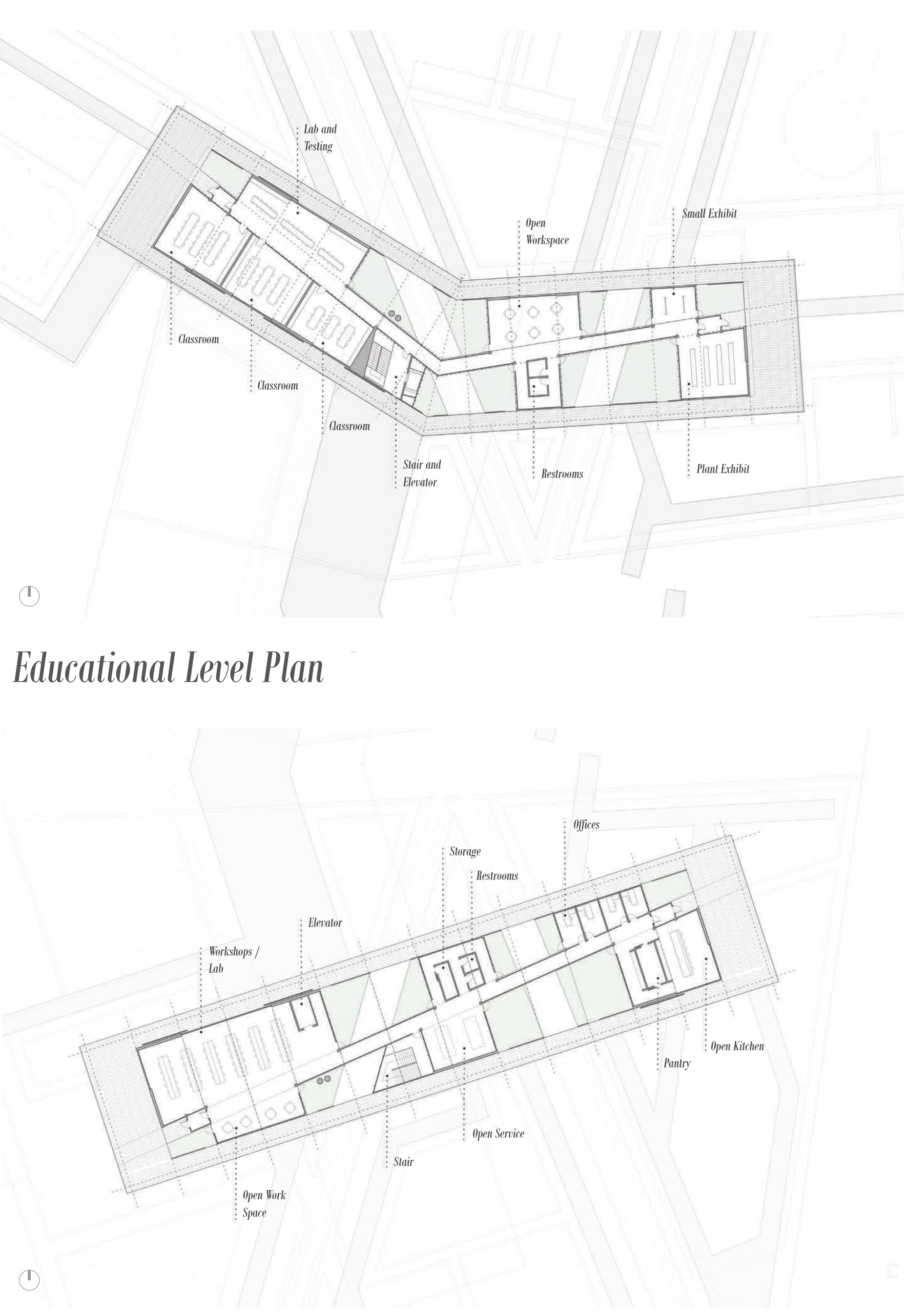
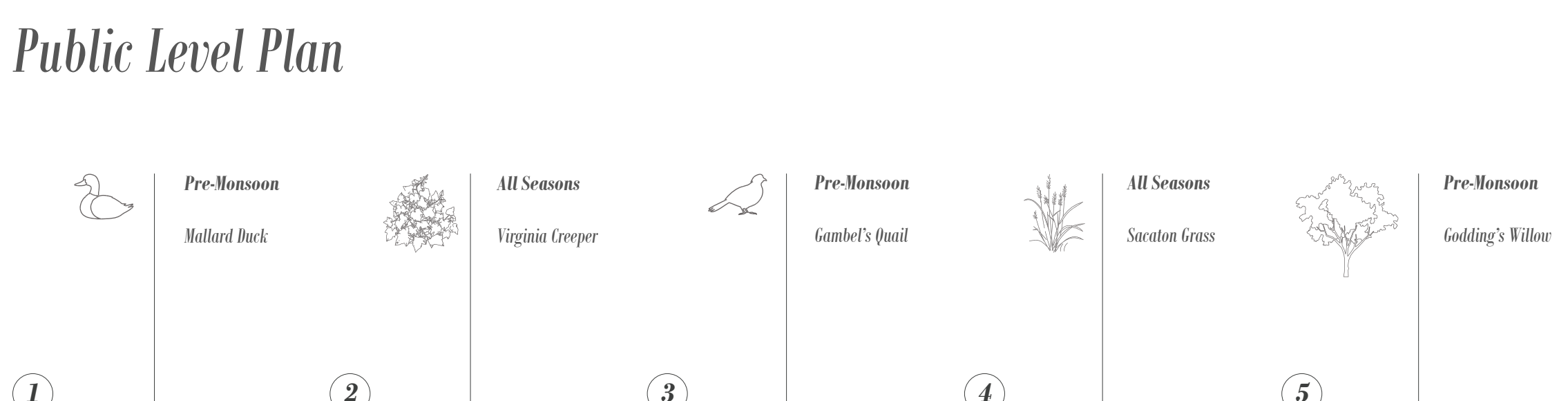
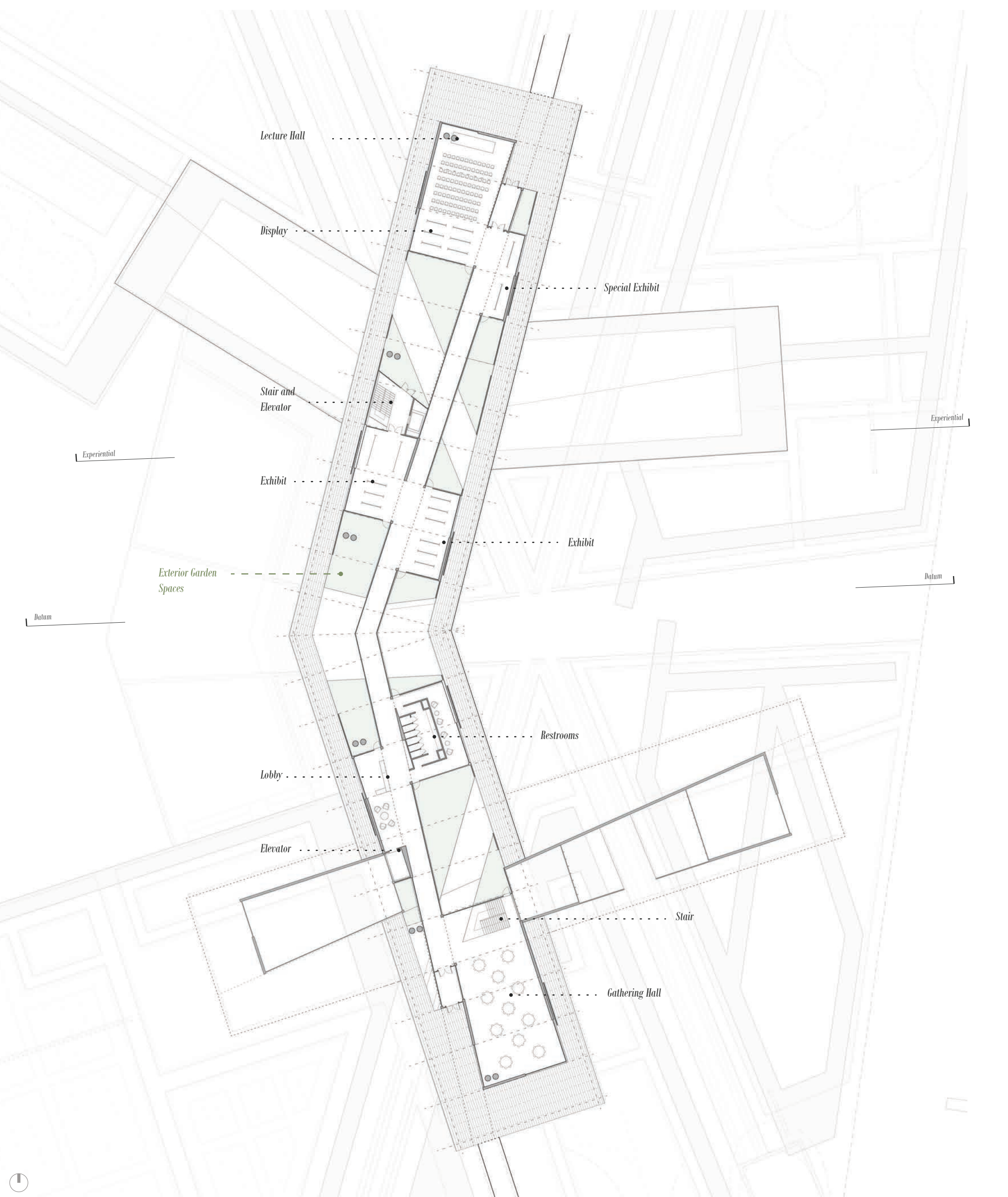
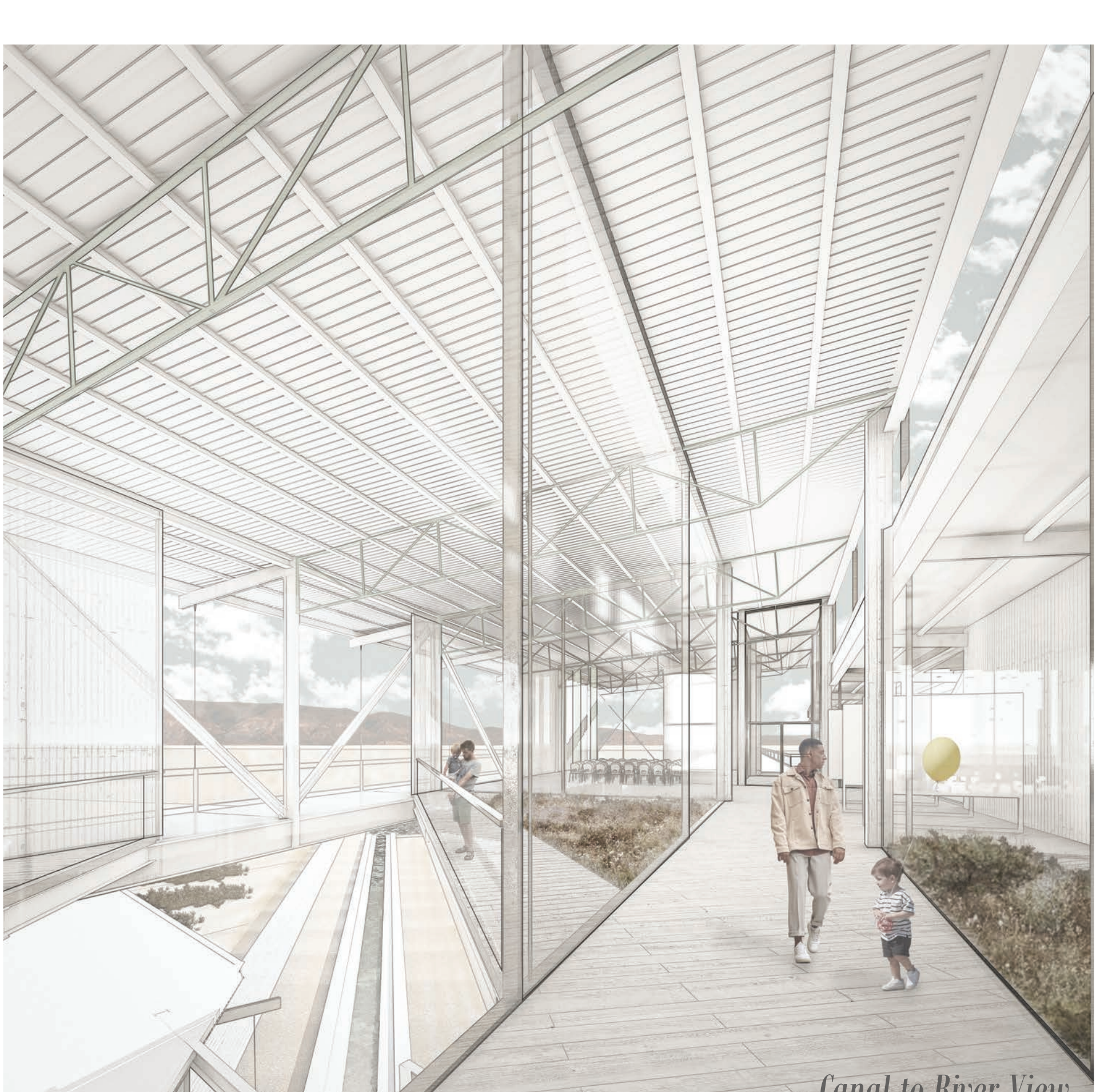
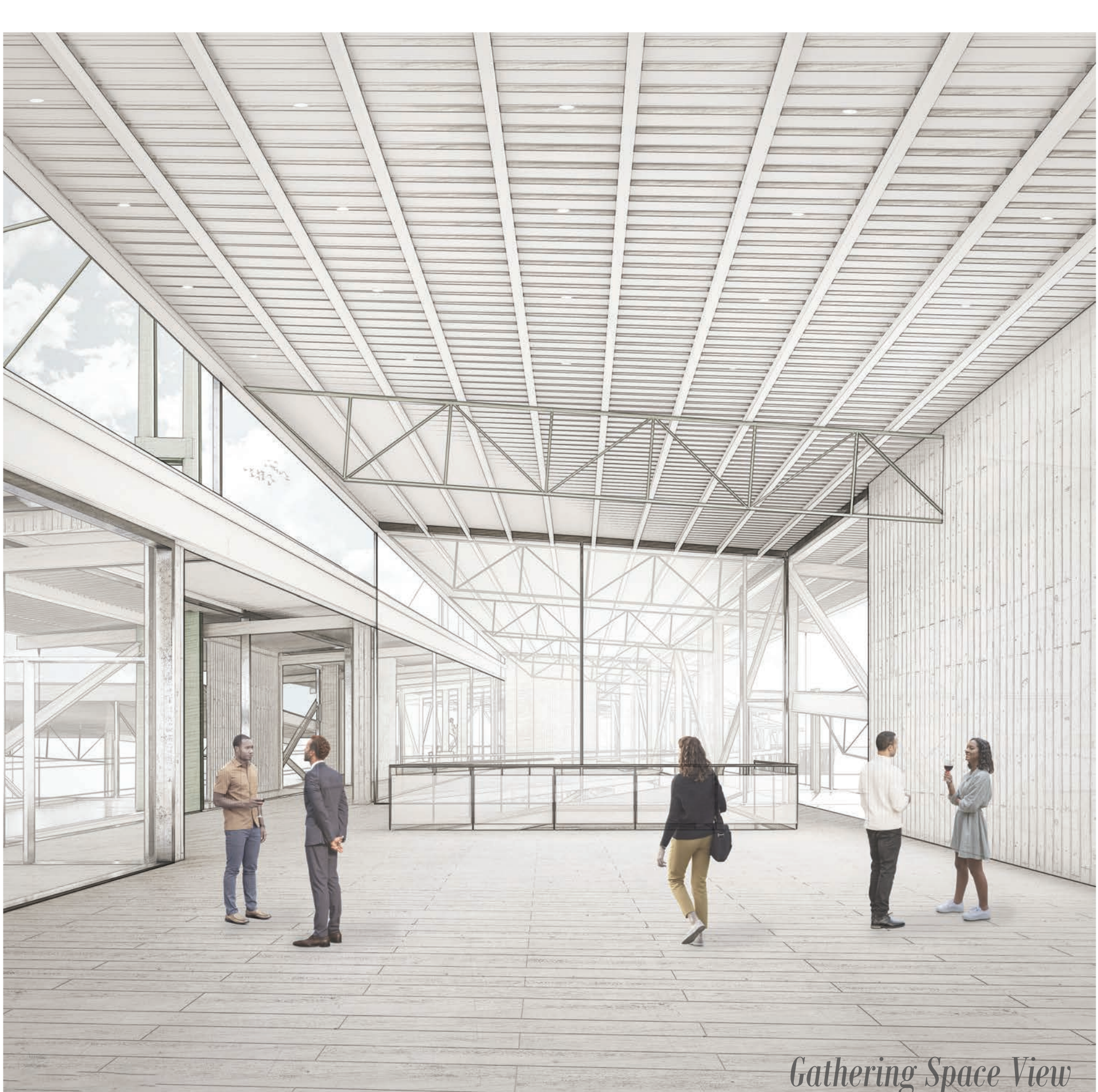
Rusts hold the structural form above ground, allowing for natural structural emergence into the riverbed.

Regulatory waterfowl orders with the avian, nesting in restored riparian zones.

A light steel frame and post materials create contrast with the natural environment, further emphasizing the life of the riverbed.

Glass corridors expose interior and exterior gardens, exposing water, sky, and vegetation.

Canals cut through curves through the building, allowing water, light, and vegetation to move freely through the architecture.



Experiential Section

Rainwater Tensile Rod Detail
All roof corners allow for water drainage into water collection areas below; therefore a rain chain-style detail is incorporated into the existing steel tensile rods.

Mast Footing and Hydroelectric Detail
By orienting all footings to be perpendicular to flow of water from the dam, the footings of the mast can hold hydroelectric equipment, utilizing some of the water for power in the building.

Steel Connections Detail
Basic steel connections reduce construction complexity and allow for durability and transparency.

Site travels down riverbed, encouraging further expansion as Tempe develops and the riverfront is further designed in the future.

Green traveling along riverbeds as a traveling river can with cover the building and its landscape garden environment.

Building roof area above can gather up to 15,000 gallons of water per year, with the Tempe rainfall at 9 inches per year.

Amphitheater extends outward, open riverbed, allowing for expansive views of the river for viewers and classroom environment.

Canals travel on both sides, as a traveling river can with cover the building and its landscape garden environment.

Canals split through building masses, allowing for views down in the canal through every floor.

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With environmentally sensitive infrastructure, the riverbed is elevated and water can move and utilize water quality.

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