THE BUILDING PROGRAM

The building consists of five main areas of concern.

General public areas.

Auditorium and related Facilities.

Archives and Library.

Offices.

Garden.

The auditorium consists of a lecture hall which seats 150 people and 2 smaller seminar rooms. These spaces will facilitate guest lectures and educational medias of varying types.

The archives and library will be an invaluable resource for those visitors and residents whose interest goes deeper than a bus tour or filmstrip.

Office space is provided to assist in the coordination and administration of visitor services, research and programming, publications, exhibitions, and arts related organizations.

A garden is to be used for lectures, community activities, and other functions in good weather.

The general public areas consist of the main entry (in which visitors are oriented and services are accommodated), a gallery (for both permanent and temporary exhibits) and a dining facility (for visitors and staff).
### SPACE ALLOCATION SCHEDULE

#### I. GENERAL PUBLIC AREAS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Sq ft</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lobby, visitor orientation</td>
<td>750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bookstore/Gallery Shop</td>
<td>400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shop manager and storage</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coatcheck</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toilets</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### B. Exhibition Space/Gallery

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Sq ft</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Permanent exhibition</td>
<td>1500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporary exhibition</td>
<td>750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Model room</td>
<td>450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exhibition prep/storage</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### C. Dining area

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Sq ft</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dining room</td>
<td>1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kitchen and support</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### II. AUDITORIUM AND RELATED FACILITIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Sq ft</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lecture hall (150 seats)</td>
<td>3100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seminar rooms 2 @ 300</td>
<td>600</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### III. ARCHIVES AND LIBRARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Sq ft</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading Room(s)</td>
<td>1500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stacks</td>
<td>750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archival collections</td>
<td>750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cataloging/workroom/storage</td>
<td>1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library administration</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service/toilets</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### IV. OFFICE

##### A. Administration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Sq ft</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Director</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretarial 3 @ 100</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

##### B. Research and programming

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Sq ft</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research and development</td>
<td>450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education 2 @ 150</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exhibition staff 3 @ 150</td>
<td>450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publications staff 3 @ 150</td>
<td>450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unassigned offices 5 @ 150</td>
<td>750</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### V. GARDEN

| Net total sq. ft.             | 19250|
| Gross sq. ft. (inc. mechanical, circulation, etc.) | 24000 |
BUILDING PIECES AND THEIR WATER RELATIONSHIP

There are more various and differing needs or requirements within the program for public spaces than private spaces. Unlike the office spaces, where the amount of users and times for/of occupation can be anticipated, the public spaces can experience a wide fluctuation of the amount of users and in the times in which they are being used.

The office spaces are open 9-5 Monday through Friday while the public spaces will range into the night and on weekends. The garden space will be open all the time adding further to the complexity of site and building planning.

backdrop to the garden spaces within.

The exhibit space, auditorium, and archives spaces have little need for exterior views thus eliminating their need for adjacency to valued garden spaces.

There massive brutal quality will aid in the feeling of transition from the city into the contrasting garden environment which has a markedly different character (in terms of architecture and landscape).

The building pieces are reflected into a pool which enhances or deepens the meaning of communicating "urbaness."

The office, cafeteria and

PUBLIC

The public building spaces are organized about a circulation spine running north to south from the tower bounding the east side of the site. Confronting and recognizing the city edge while acting as a

library all benefit from views into the garden and are thusly oriented. They are open, with large amounts of fenestration which allow views into the site.

The library, archives and kitchen are located on the southern most side of the site allowing for occasional
deliveries of food and materials without disrupting or distracting from the main activity area or entrance. Provision for egress and secondary of service entry.

Provisions have been made for the overflowing of space from the auditorium to exterior and interior spaces allowing for flexibility of use during winter and summer months.
The circulation spine is a glass atrium structure which allows for the infiltration of light into the walkway and is in contrast to the massive concrete structures to which it is connected. This space is energized by the exposed piping and duct work which flows like a network of life giving veins into the waiting building organs. The water pipes come streaming down from the tower and supply all the water functions and experiences within the interior of the building.

The cafeteria and library are bounded by a small body of water which actually penetrates into and transcends the barrier of the structure thus allowing a feeling of free flowing space from inside to outside. Use of water in the library is justifiable as a space definer and as a producer of white noise to drown out distracting occurrences. A dining deck allows for the overflowing of space into the water as the library allowed for the space to be brought into the building. The use of water at this area of design also allows for the clear distinction of entry into the site from the garden side and discourages vandalism of heavily glazed areas.

The office is located in a strategic location on the northern most part of the circulation system. It allows for the manager of the facilities to have visual and audible control over the entire complex. He or she will be able to watch and monitor the garden and exhibit spaces as well as provide help to wandering visitors.

The exhibit spaces are interconnected and facilitate both permanent and temporary exhibitions. They start on the main level and move their way up to a space that connects both the public and tower pieces of the building. At one level the exhibit is always the same. As you move up vertically to the next level, the exhibit is changing by the month or week. As you get to the top of the tower and experience the city as an exhibit it is changing daily and instantaneously.

The private offices are segregated from the rest of the complex. They compose an entire wing which attaches to the tower. It's arrangement is linear and acts as a buffer to the exciting traffic of the city. It defines and encloses
the limits of the site on the northern edge.

Buttressing is used to allow for the placing of precast office units into the hill, allowing for circulation through the berm and become water channels and waterfalls on the exterior, leading you along the strolling walkway. The buttressing becomes dominant visual elements and a scale reference for the site order is contrasted within a spontaneous landscape.

In order to enhance the feeling of arrival into the city I believe that there also needs to be a strong sense of leaving the city.

The characters should and are markedly different from each other. As you enter the site it opens to you exposing the external workings of the environment. The garden is exposed and the buildings are a backdrop (or interface) for the activities which take place in the garden.

As you exit however, the environment closes down. An existing berm which blocks visual and physical access to a parking area on the northern side of Third Street is reflected on the other side to greatly enhance your leaving of the city limits. It is the berm in which the offices are tucked securely into.
the space as you continue, changing the quality of light and sound, and changing your relationship to the circulation path. This technique helps people easily identify where they are located along that path.

Light streams over the top of the office pieces illuminating the wall and pools creating interesting visual experiences.

The interconnected pools of water create interior lounges and gathering spaces by their varying width. Reflecting the rhythmic placement of the office pieces enhances the idea of setting them into the berm and varies the exterior relationship to the site creating a more dynamic or fluid space. The interior pools start at a shoulder elevation and gradually fall to the floor in the succession of bays opening
TOWER SIGNIFICANCE

The tower is the source which supplies water to all the interior water experiences which ultimately supplies the exteriors.

The water flows from this point, the highest and furthest point from the river.

The tower is a connection (hub or joint) to which the two major building pieces, private and public, are joined.

It is located on an axis as you approach it from across the river on the bridge and as you exit the city.

It is also visible from the interstate and points out in the countryside as you approach Columbus.

It acts as a landmark to designate entry into the city and to associate the visitor's center.

The tower is the entrance into the visitor's center. The tower provides an opportunity for people to observe the architecture within it's context orienting themselves within the city.

The collection of towers within Columbus is interesting. The old City Hall tower marks a place in time for Columbus when government was perhaps the most important community focus of attention. The old city hall is a large structure anchoring a historic business district. Saarinen's church marks the birth of modern architecture.
Within the city. Its tower has become a symbol of this birth. The new water tower will celebrate the building of a special center for the education of visitors and residents about Columbus architecture. It marks a time when architecture has become the focus of the community. They can no longer escape its influence.

Point in the scheme of things to welcome the traveler or journeyer from the city into the visitor center complex. It is a transition point and a point of arrival. The visitor is brought down off of the street level and into an environment of urban character tamed by water's presence. From this point the water, which is pouring into and all around him, leads him through into the garden.

**URBAN PLAZA**

The urban plaza exists at a
environment. The transition takes place while crossing under a pedestrian footbridge which connects the lobby in the tower to the public spaces. The bridge is actually a part of the circulation spine.

The urban plaza is a place where interaction is encouraged in a tactile sense. The water is perhaps the cleanest here and seems to be an appropriate gesture in which to acquaint people with water. This urban environment would be able to handle the abuse and heavy usage which would be accompanied by physical interaction with water.

**REFLECTION POND/MOAT**

The pond need not be long in its length because you cannot experience or see the buildings' pieces reflected until you cross the street and are directly upon them.

The urban edge is hard and brutal, with the buildings of that edge having little or no openings as well as articulation. The pond provides for a heightened visual experience to enhance this feeling.

The pond is slowly moving towards the tower plaza directing the flow of pedestrians to the entrance of the center. It acts as a barrier to prevent access into the center other than those desired or designated.

Water fills out the grid of the city and diffuses into a more natural organic edge expression as you pass out of the city environment and into the garden.

**THE GARDEN**

The garden is a linkage between the city and the river and is in response to many factors. One idea that occurs throughout the entire project is the idea of creating contrast and vividness in the environment. This idea can be seen especially within the garden where not only is it a response to the building environment but is in response to itself. The use of water in the environment has naturally led to the development of the edges and has divided the garden into two distinctively different sides. This has allowed for and enabled the treatment of these sides to contrast each other enriching the entire environment. One side has become a stiff linear strolling walkway which leads you directly to the river, while the opposite edge has become a highly articulated exploratory pathway in which many experiences can be taken part of as you move to the river.
The same notion of vividness and contrast actually (developed further) was applied to water itself. By recognizing the active and placid characters of water, the garden leads you along by alternating the experience from the vibrant to calm to vibrant to calm, etc. The use of differing levels of water bodies brings you gently down from the street level to the river’s edges.

The garden is sunken below street level and actually carved out of the site. This allows for a stronger linkage between the city and the river. Currently, the city seems to be turning its back to the river dividing it by vehicular circulation and massive amounts of paved parking. The sunken garden allows for even more isolation from the busy streets which carry most of the traffic in and out of Columbus making the river more accessible to pedestrians. The carved out site is a dramatic eye catcher which makes the visitors center even more visible as you enter the city.

The site will be connected to Mill Race Park (located only a 1/2 mile north) through the use and development of a river pathway. This will allow for the continuous circulation of pedestrians to take place throughout the city. The river will become a vital component of the touring of Columbus. The development of the site will promote city activity and energy and encourage use of the river’s edge.
SITE SECTION-EAST/WEST
BUILDING SECTION-PRIVATE WING
CONCLUSION

I personally would not feel the need or necessity to incorporate all the pieces of the water program or range of water experiences within the a single building program. I certainly don't want to imply that through the writing of this thesis. I believe that a designer risks loosing the "balance" that he/she should be striving for when incorporating water into the environment, if he/she should (pardon the pun) flood the environment with water experiences. An initial design concept may indeed require a more restricted use of water in cooperation with the structure.

I however, feel obligated to explore and demonstrate a wide range of usages within this project. After all, this project is a tool for the exploration of my thesis. If I could critique my thesis project of one thing, it would be the attempted application of to many experiences within one environment. The clarity with which the design reads suffers in this regard. Perhaps a better way of exploring my thesis ideas would be to generate a variety of solutions through the use of dissimilar projects which range from a larger contextual scale to a smaller detail scale. By doing this, I could concentrate or emphasize one or two main aspects of water with each project, making it clearer the objectives and goals which were envisioned at the beginning.
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