5100 Trinity: Reargarde Principles of Bad Mais, Bad Facade and Bad Brick

IHESIS IIILE

A Thesis Submitted to the Department of Architecture Harvard University Graduate School of Design, by

Igsung So AUTHORNAME

In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of [Masterof Architecture]

Jan. 25, 2019

(Month and Year Thesis Submitted)

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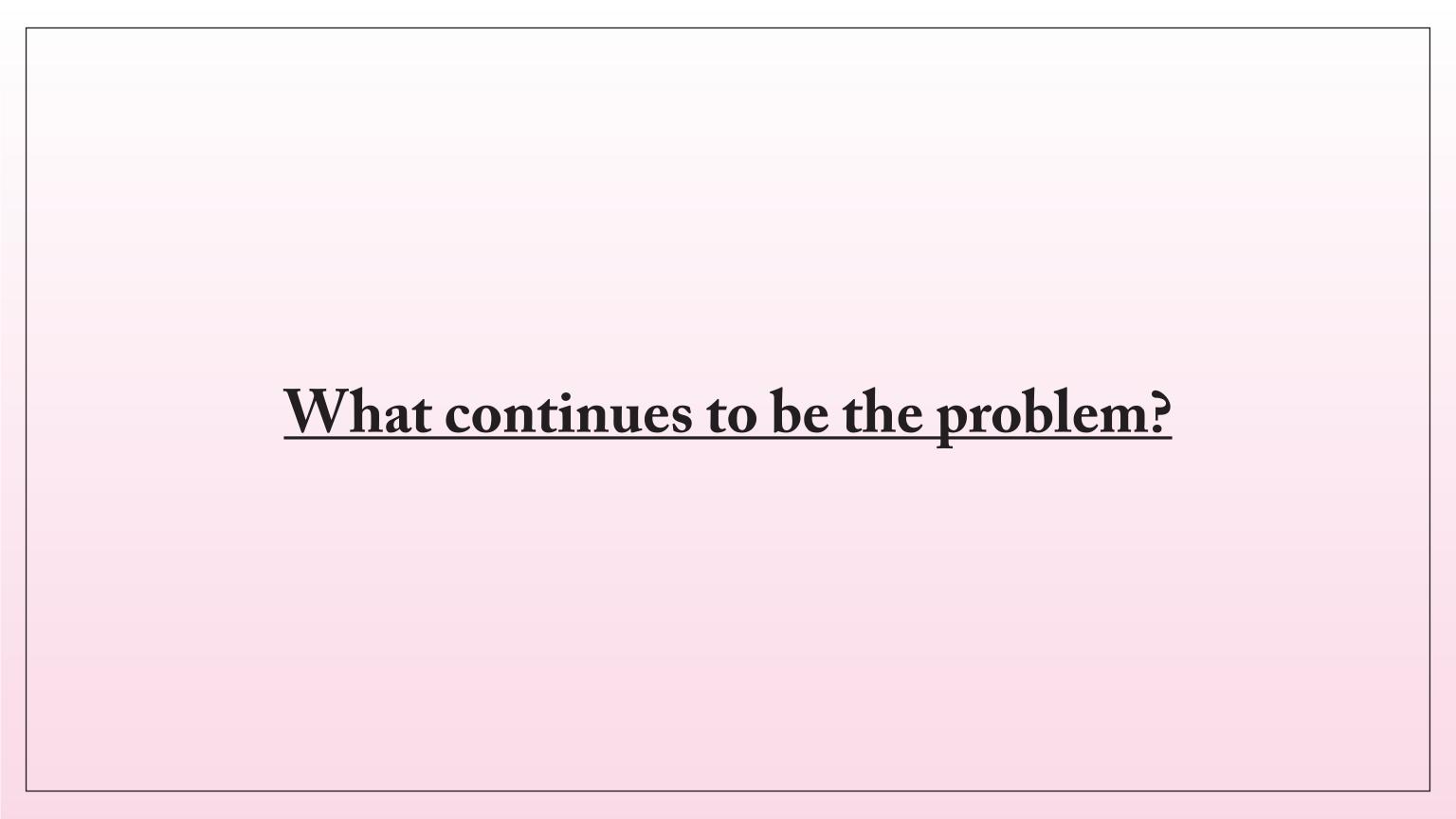
Igsung [Student Name]

(signature)

[Thesis Advisor Name]



Slow Trinity: Reargarde Principles of Bad Mass, Bad Facade and Bad Brick



Fall 2018

Advisor: Andrew Holder Context: Boston, MA

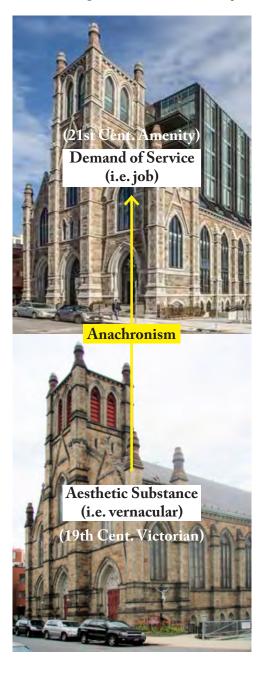
The current state of architecture has much in common with the crisis of style/values faced by late 19th century architects. Just as they struggled to identify historicist aesthetics to associate with emerging social ambitions, we are now simultaneously overwhelmed by the range of disciplinary freedom while incessantly questioning the appropriateness of our designs within the present context. Plurality of styles may have been replaced by freedom of expression, nonetheless an inevitable tension between contemporary demands and the disciplinary history remains a fundamental architectural paradox; thus an enduring design problem specific to our medium. It is our regular practice to mobilize disciplinary knowledge and conventions to animate new imaginations and spatial possibilities.

In so doing, architecture has and will always be already-too-late. Under a constant spell of general anachronism, all that is available in architecture is its historical reservoir of aesthetic effects to wrangle and rush out to appear in context, in service of the changing demands of each contemporary occasioning. But as the rush continued to madly accelerate into the avant-garde culture of radical individuality and fast consumption, productions of architectural forms and discourse reached record speeds so as to mitigate all anachronistic effects inherent to architecture itself. Novelty and originality became the measure of architectural success, even as architects continued to draw from and argue with the disciplinary history. Thus the same paradox quietly persists to this day, simply less visible for discourse and patiently waiting to be re-engaged as a viable architectural strategy.

In recognizing its inevitability, what are the good effects of pursuing architecture that is hopelessly, yet affirmatively anachronistic? This thesis investigates and instrumentalizes architecture's perennial source of awkwardness, so as to productively control the specifics of its anachronistic misfits and continue to meet the current and future demands of the architect.

A. Discipline of Slow Consumption

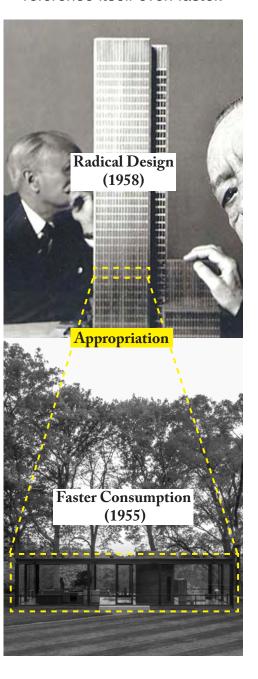
Architecture must build by referencing its existing body of knoweldge. At times, literarlly.



Disciplinary Conditions

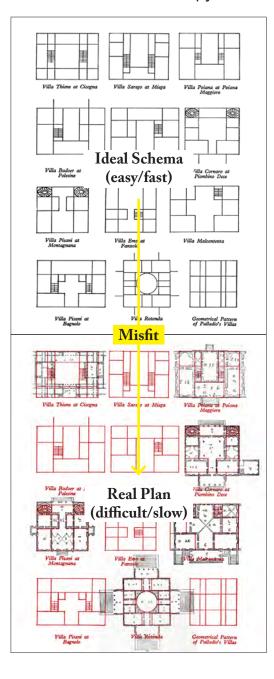
B. Fast Consuming Avant-Gardes

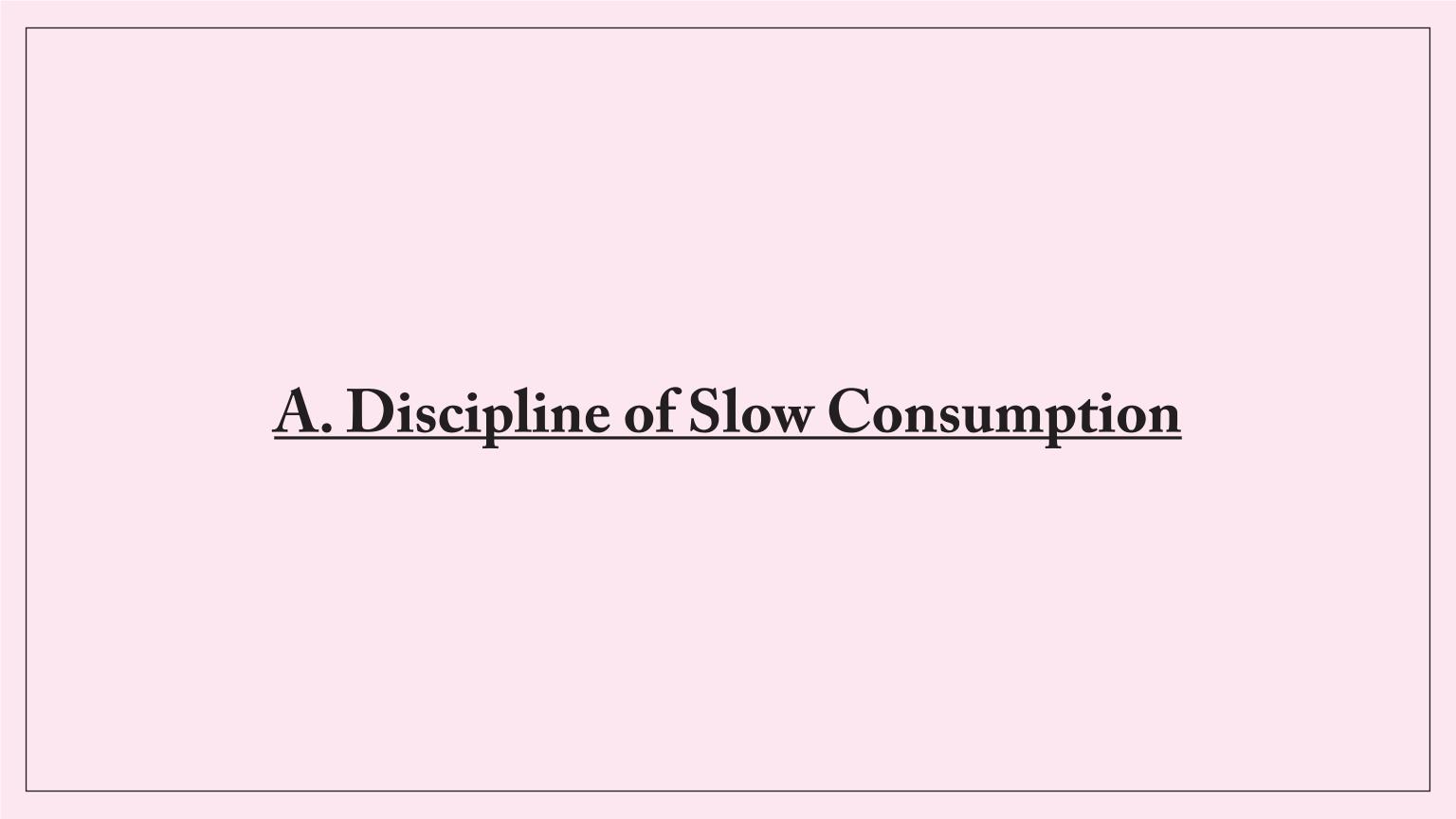
Through accelerated discourse, it is possible for architecture to reference itself even faster.



C. Badness in all Consumptions

In referencing any architecture, there is a misfit between the referent and its copy.





NEWS BUSINESS

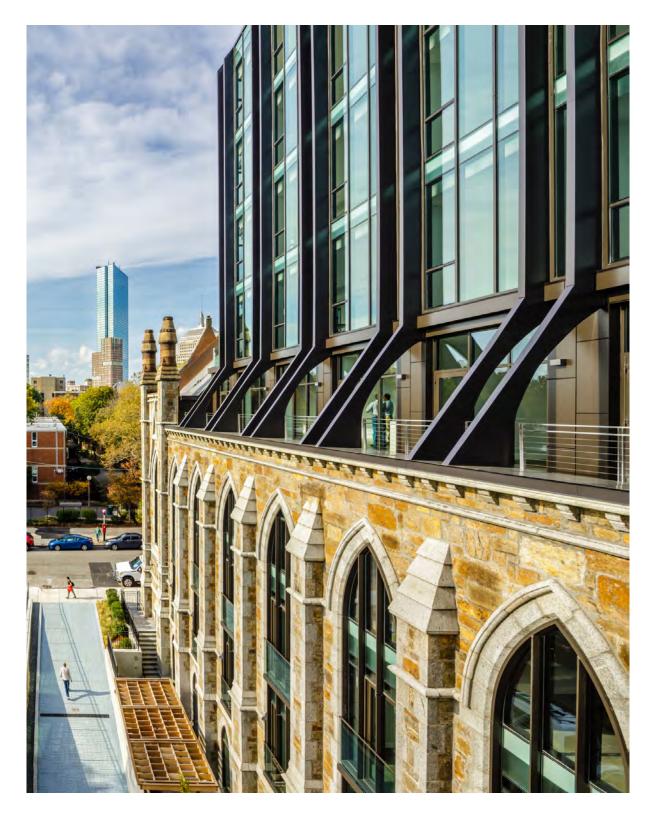
Hot Property: Luxury condo a holy experience



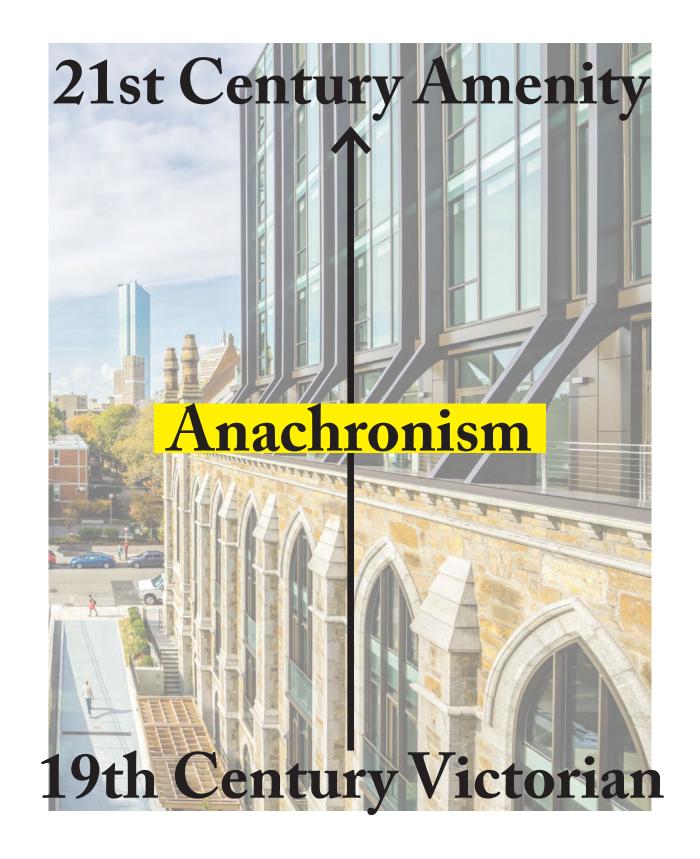
2 of 16 Exterior of The Lucas.



"... to marry the old and new, the existing Victorian Gothic features are seamlessly blended with contemporary glass and steel."



"The building offers 21st century amenities, including concierge services, gas fireplaces, a gym, a lounge, exterior decks, garage parking, integrated high-tech home systems, and a pet spa..."

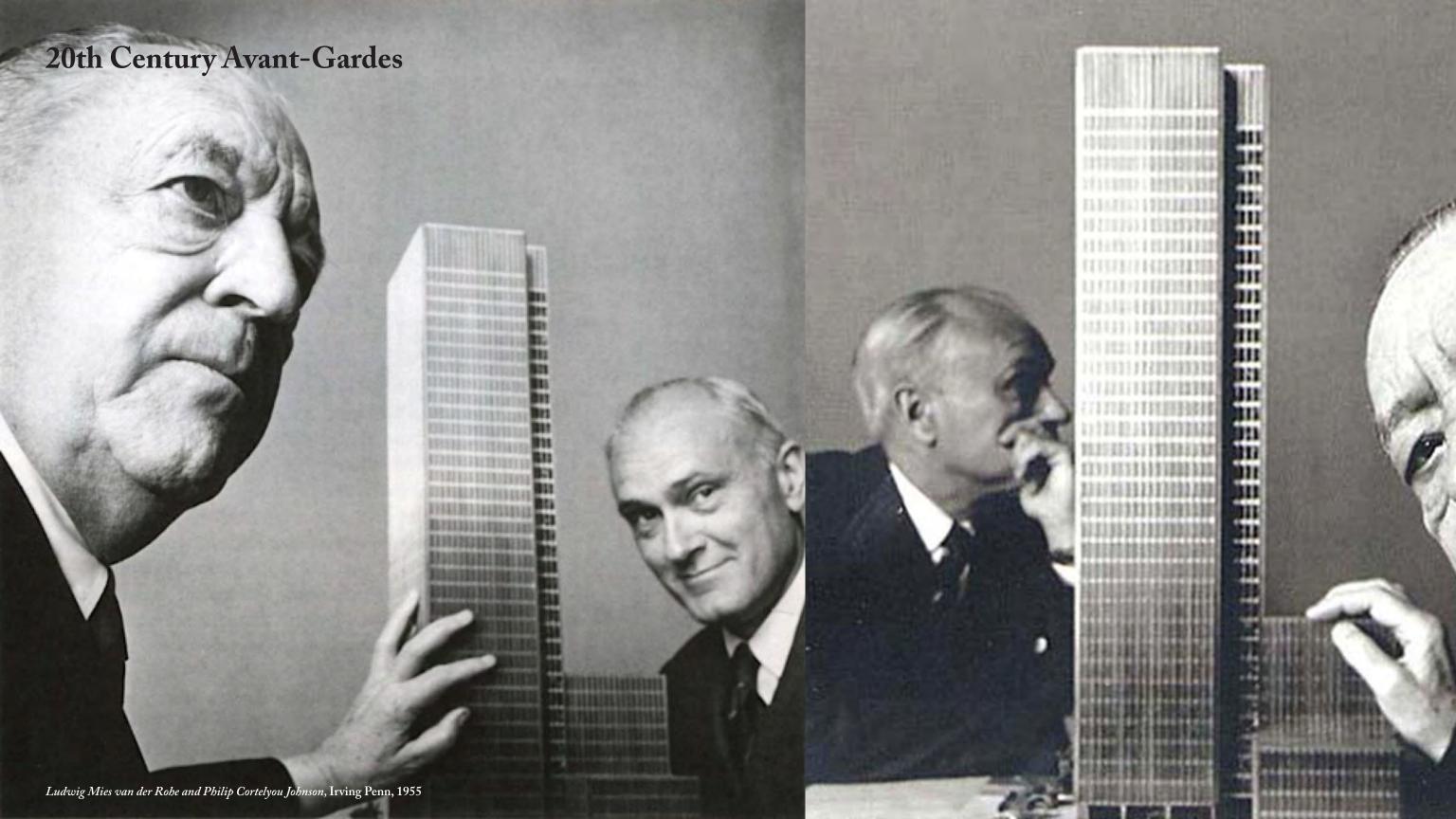


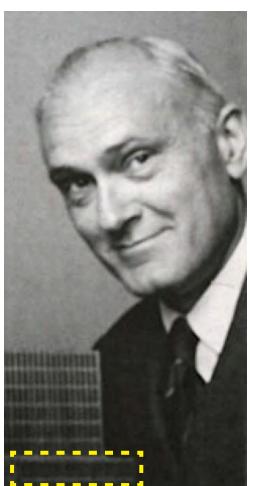


B. Fast Consuming Avant-Gardes

20th Century Avant-Gardes







for one Philip Johnson to live in.

One unit of commercial Mies...

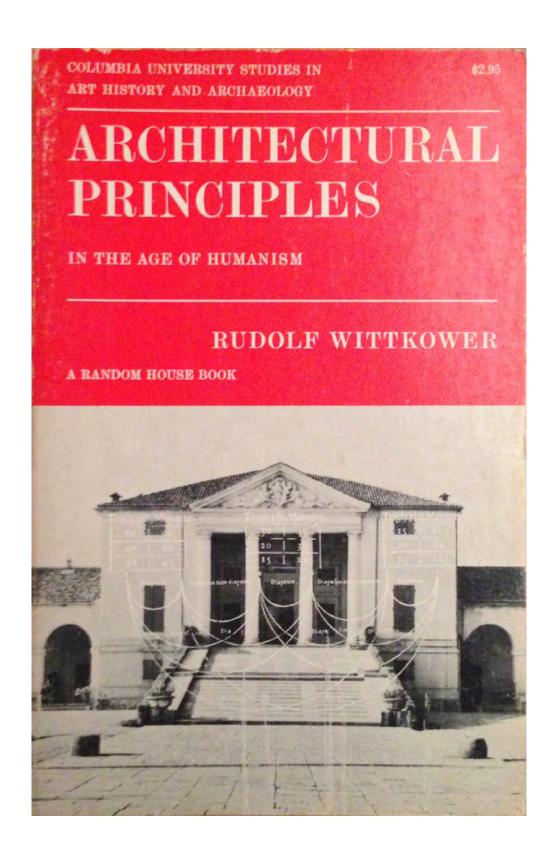


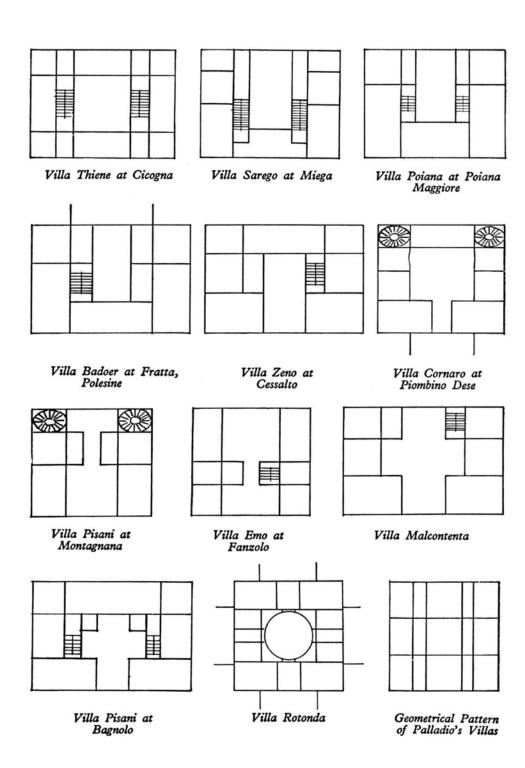
"I never was a member of the avant-garde... No, I am just <u>addicted to the new...</u> the avant-garde gave way to the shock of the new, to the tradition of the new."



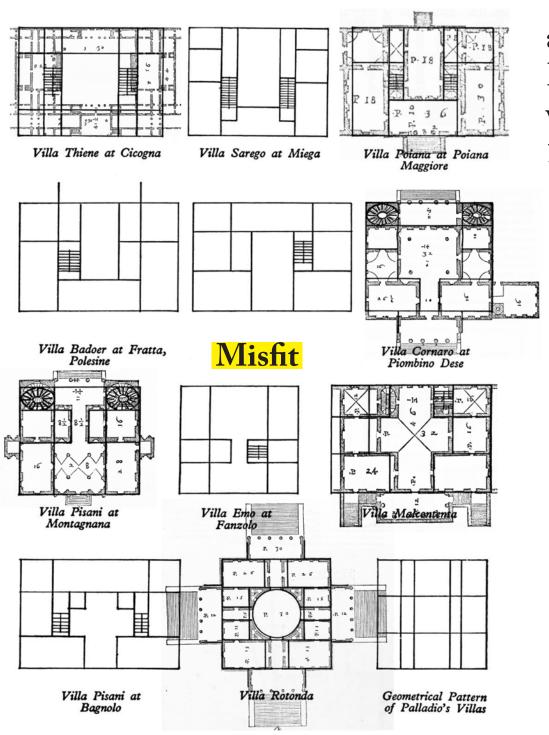
"For instance, I have just built that crazy building out in the country, the Gate House... The building is entirely rear-garde, harkening back to German expressionism. But to me it is something novel. What was the avant-garde has become a frantic search for novelty."

C. Badness in all Consumption Myth of the First Vernacular. Disciplinary history from the Old World.





"...the classical forms were adapted for different purposes without any gradation of meaning... If this customary interpretation of Renaissance architecture as a profane style is correct, then what would be the essential different between the eclecticism of the 15th and 16th century and that of the 19th century?"



"...the classical forms were adapted for different purposes without any gradation of meaning... If this customary interpretation of Renaissance architecture as a profane style is correct, then what would be the essential different between the eclecticism of the 15th and 16th century and that of the 19th century?"

...switching context... from old to new

The American Vernacular Projective model of architecture in the New World

"...very simple and economic mode of **conferring ornament** on such a cottage, is by disguising its roof with a second trellis roof, supported on a screen front...The construction of this trellis roof will easily be understoof from the section."

AN

ENCYCLOPÆDIA

ΟF

COTTAGE, FARM, AND VILLA
ARCHITECTURE

AND

FURNITURE;

CONTAINING

NUMEROUS DESIGNS FOR DWELLINGS,
FROM THE VILLA TO THE COTTAGE AND THE FARM,

NCLUDING

FARM HOUSES, FARMERIES, AND OTHER AGRICULTURAL BUILDINGS;

COUNTRY INNS, PUBLIC HOUSES, AND PAROCHIAL SCHOOLS:

WITH THE REQUISITE FITTINGS-UP, FIXTURES, AND FURNITURE;

AND

APPROPRIATE OFFICES, GARDENS, AND GARDEN SCENERY

EACH DESIGN ACCOMPANIED BY

Analytical and Critical Remarks.

BY THE LATE J. C. LOUDON, F.L.S. H.S. G.S. Z.S.

ETC.

ILLUSTRATED BY

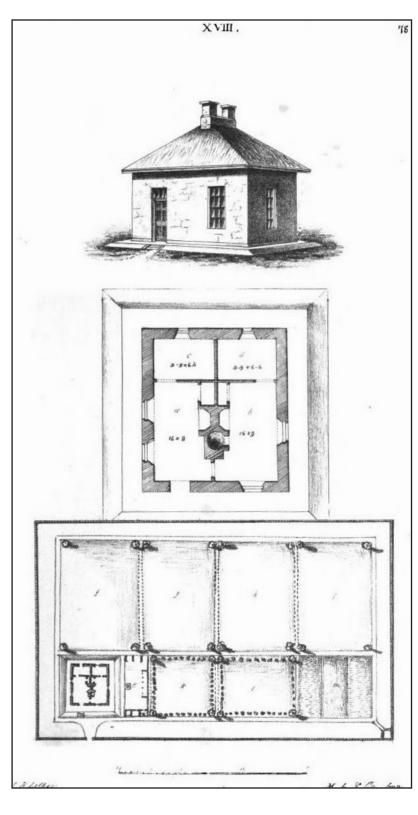
MORE THAN TWO THOUSAND ENGRAVINGS

A NEW EDITION, EDITED BY MRS. LOUDON.

LONGMAN, BROWN, GREEN, AND LONGMANS,

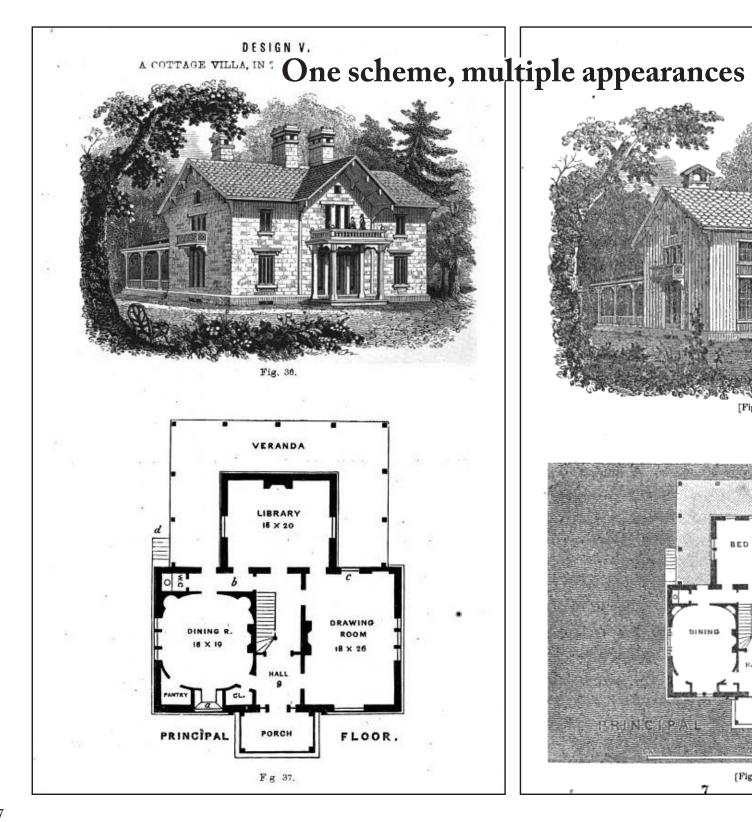
PATERNOSTER-ROW.

1846.



"...The great art in building an economical cottage, is to employ the kind of materials and labour which are cheapest in the given locality."

Rendered in Stone



Rendered in Wood

97

[Fig. 41.]

Same plan

Same plan

48

COTTAGE RESIDENCES.

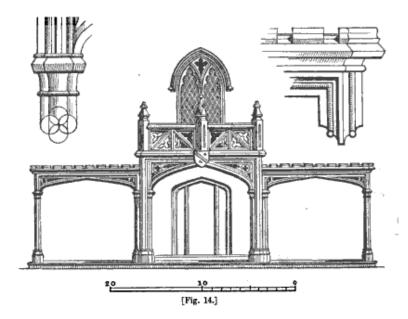
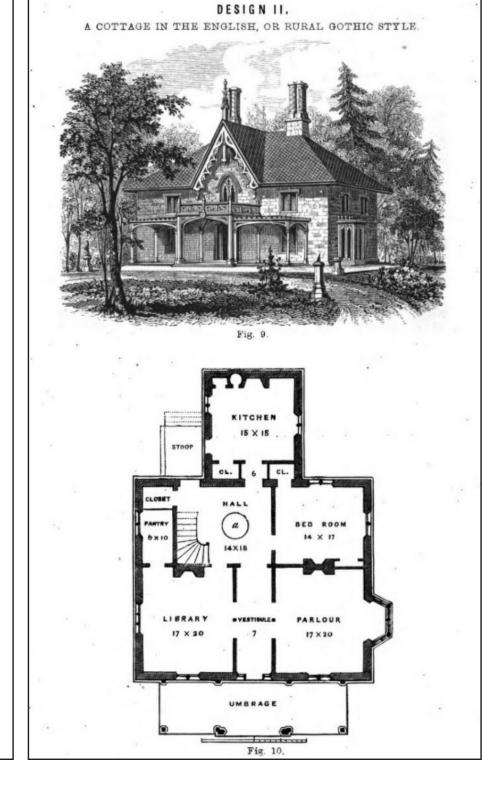


Fig. 15 shows a pair of chimney shafts in the old English style, which may be had in artificial stone, or cast iron. A great variety of forms are frequently collected together in the same stack.

The shutters should be inside box shutters, or shutter-blinds, painted and grained in imitation of oak.

Estimate. The cost of this cottage in brickand-stucco (bricks at \$4) would be \$4500.

[Fig. 15] [This design has been executed in various parts of the country—sometimes for a trifle more, but in several instances for less than this estimate. It has lately been very carefully carried out in a residence on Staten Island, N. Y., with elaborate details, for \$4800.—4th Edition.]





COTTAGE RESIDENCES.

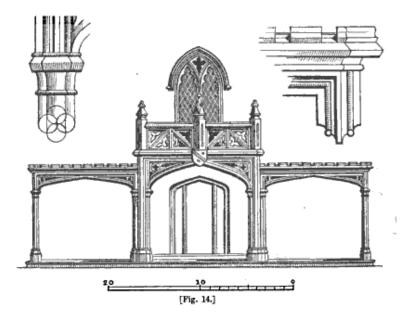


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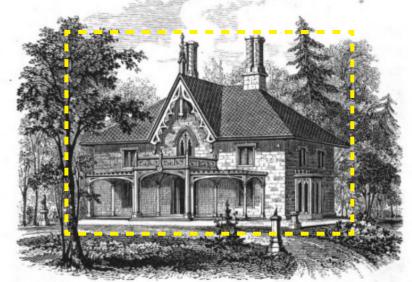
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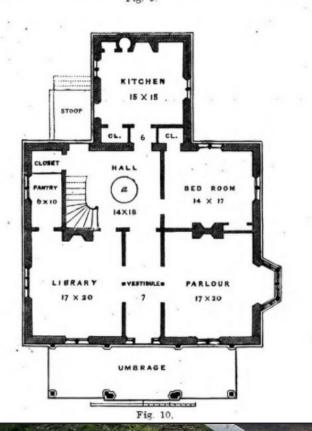
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A COTTAGE IN THE ENGLISH, OR RURAL GOTHIC STYLE.



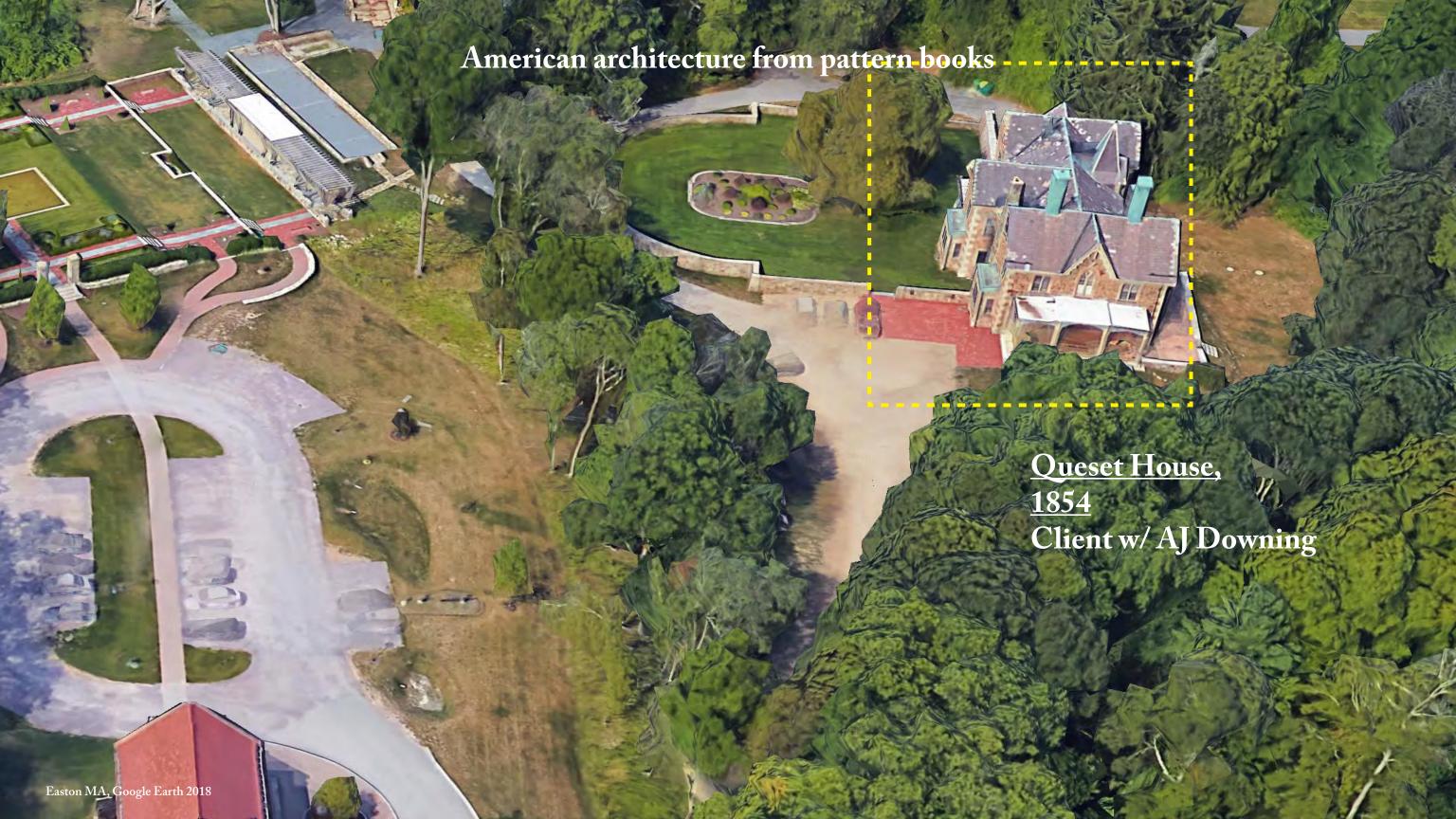
Pio O

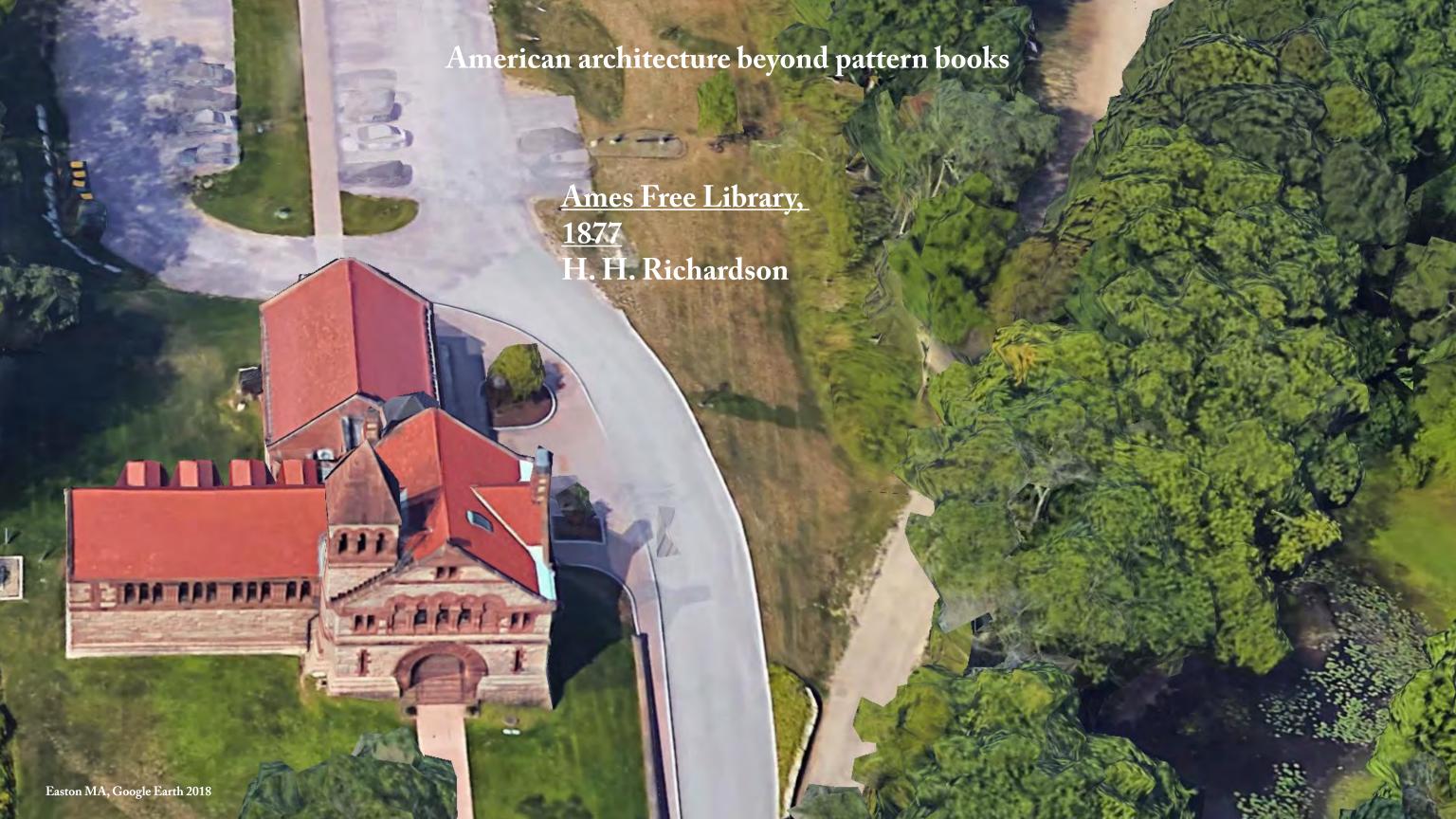


One unit of residential Downing...









Possibilities for a Reargarde Project

American architecture beyond pattern books

A) Bad Mass_H.H. Richardson (1838-1886)

B) Bad Facades_McKim Mead White (1847-1909)

C) Bad Bricks_Philip Johnson (1906-2005)

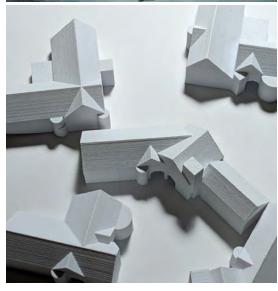
Reargarde Responses

#1 Bad Mass

Architecture must build by referencing its existing body of knoweldge. At times, literarlly.







#2 Bad Facade

Through accelerated discourse, it is possible for architecture to reference itself even faster.







#3 Bad Brick

In referencing any architecture, there is a misfit between the referent and its copy.







1	Bad	Mass	H.H.	Richardson	(1838-1886)

Possibilities for a Reargarde Project

American architecture beyond the pattern book #1 Bad Mass_H.H. Richardson (1838-1886)

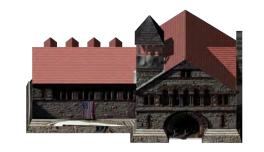
#2 Bad Facades_McKim Mead White (1847-1909) #3 Bad Bricks_Philip Johnson (1906-2005)

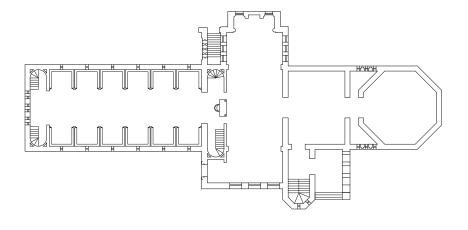
	#1	Bad	Mass	H.H.	Richardson	(1838-1886
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By extracting a schema from a library plan, it is then easy to extend its organizational logic to create further derivative library massings.

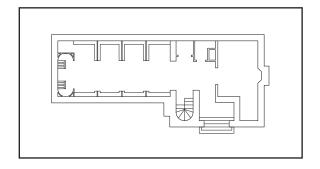
Test: H. H. Richardson Ames Free Library, 1877



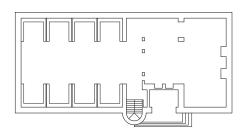




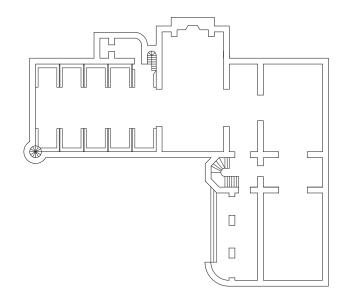
Winn Memorial
Library, 1879
H. H. Richardson



Ames Free
Library, 1877
H. H. Richardson



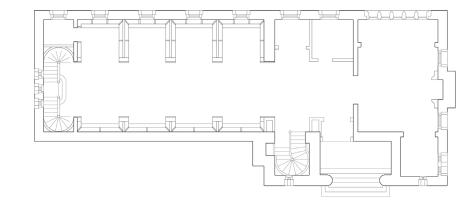
Crane Memorial
Library, 1881
H. H. Richardson

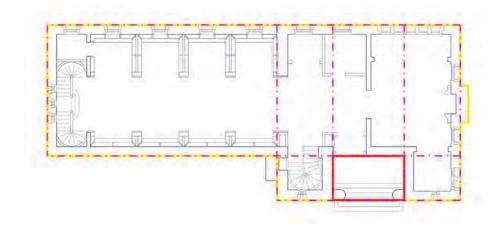


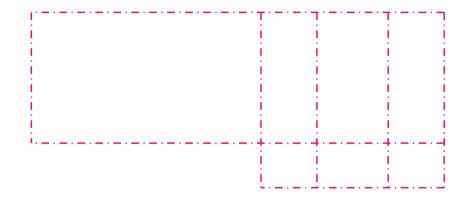
Converse Memorial
Library, 1885
H. H. Richardson











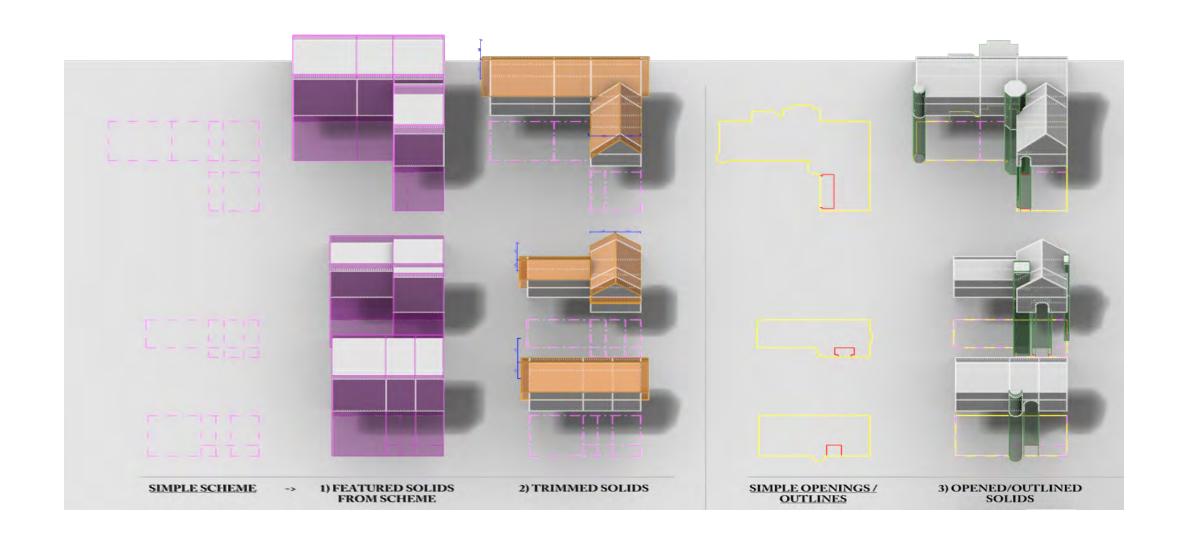
Plan

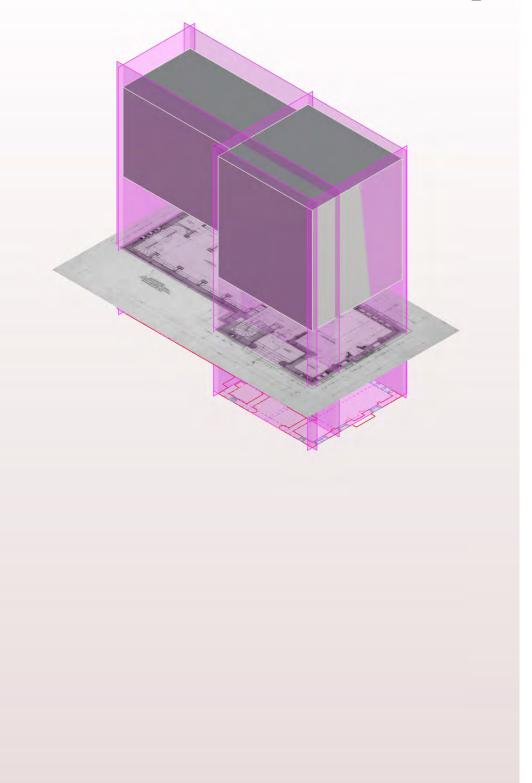


Schema, Opening, Outline



Schema

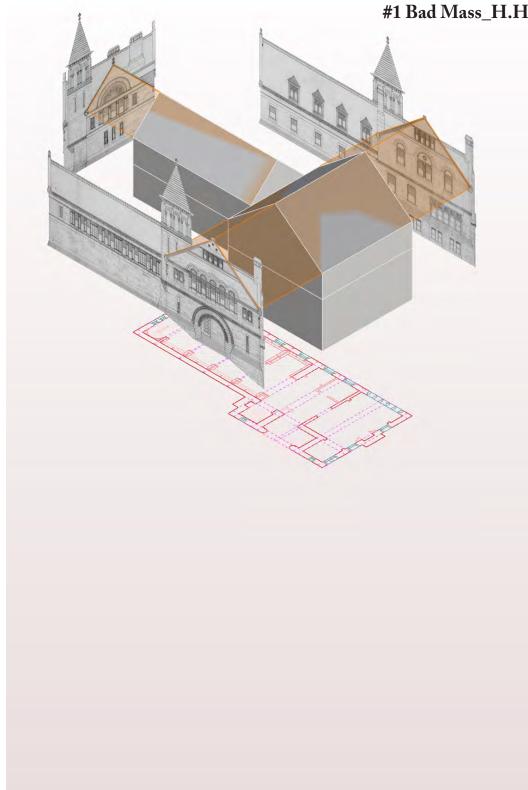




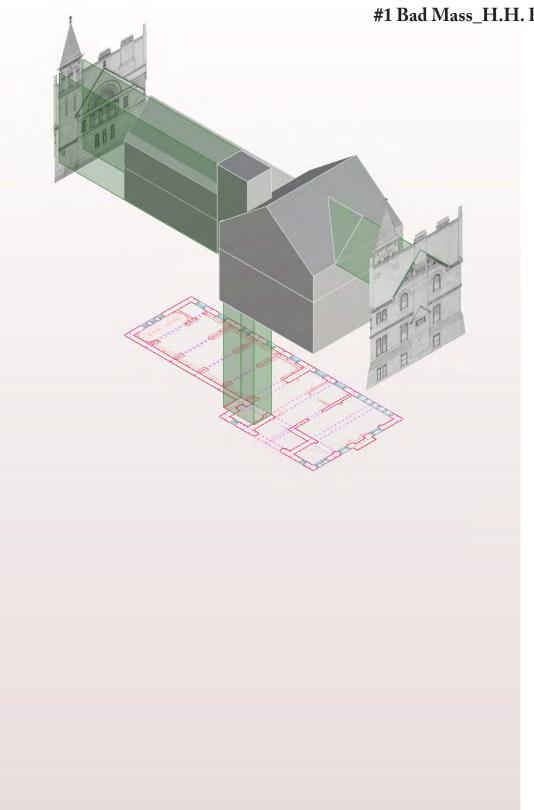
1) Schemed Solids

Ames Free Library, H. H. Richardson, Easton MA, 1877



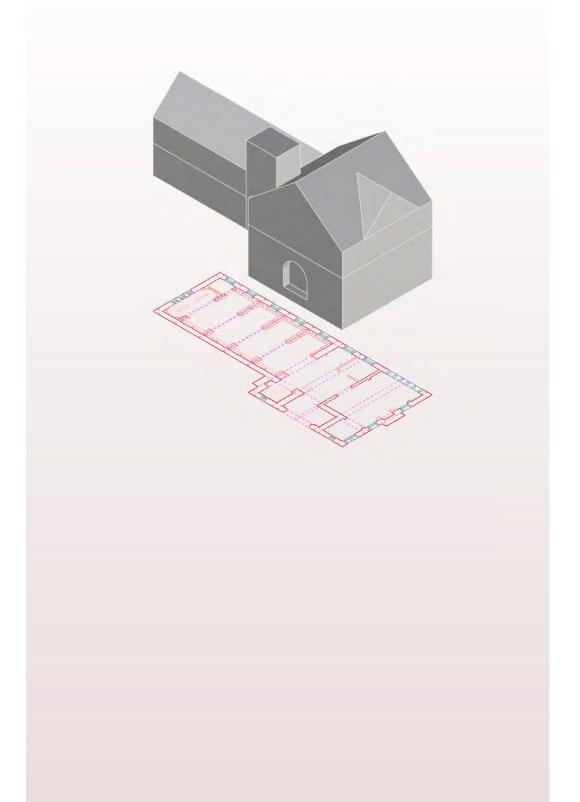


2) Trimmed Solids Ames Free Library, H. H. Richardson, Easton MA, 1877

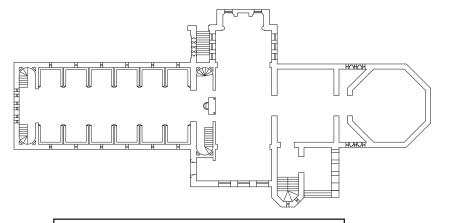


3) Boolean Added Solids

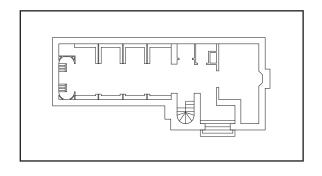
Ames Free Library, H. H. Richardson, Easton MA, 1877



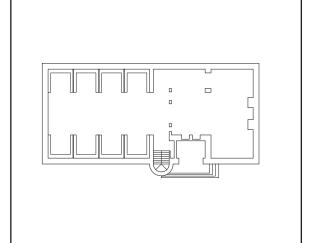
4) Opening into Mass Ames Free Library, H. H. Richardson, Easton MA, 1877



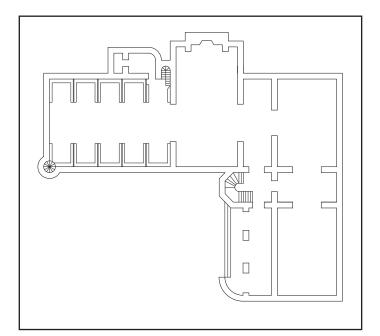
Winn Memorial
Library, 1879
H. H. Richardson



Ames Free
Library, 1877
H. H. Richardson



Crane Memorial
Library, 1881
H. H. Richardson



Converse Memorial
Library, 1885
H. H. Richardson



#1 Bad Mass_H.H. Richardson (1838-1886)









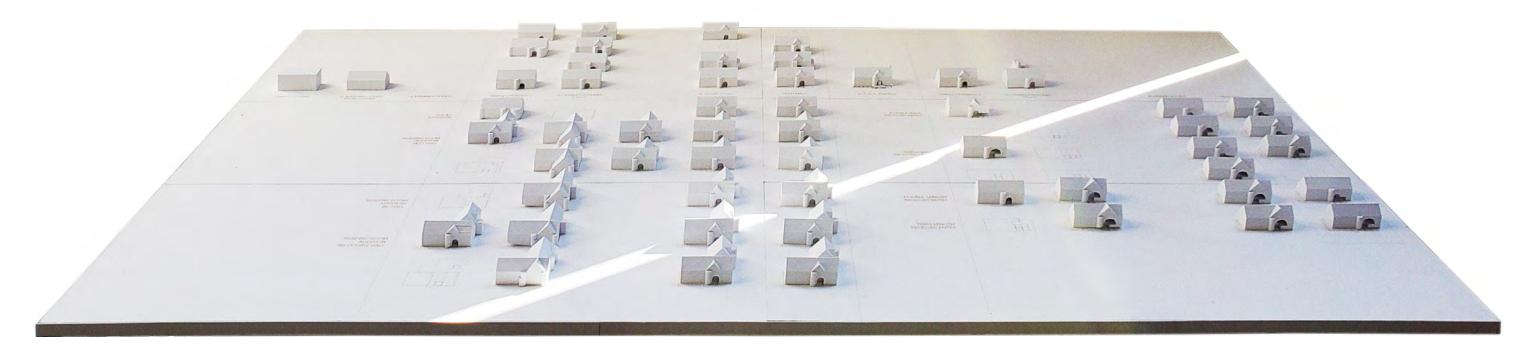


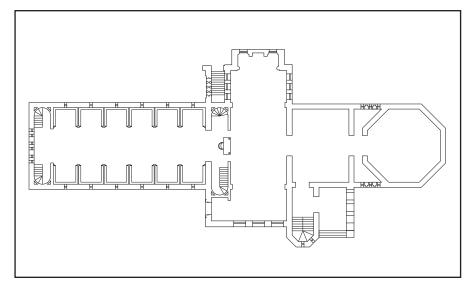




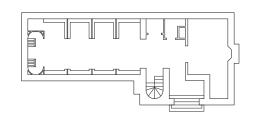
#1 Bad Mass_H.H. Richardson (1838-1886)



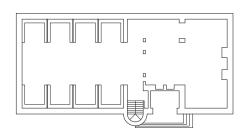




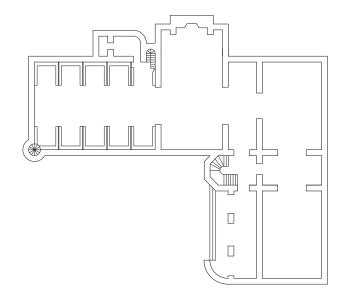
Winn Memorial Library, 1879 H. H. Richardson



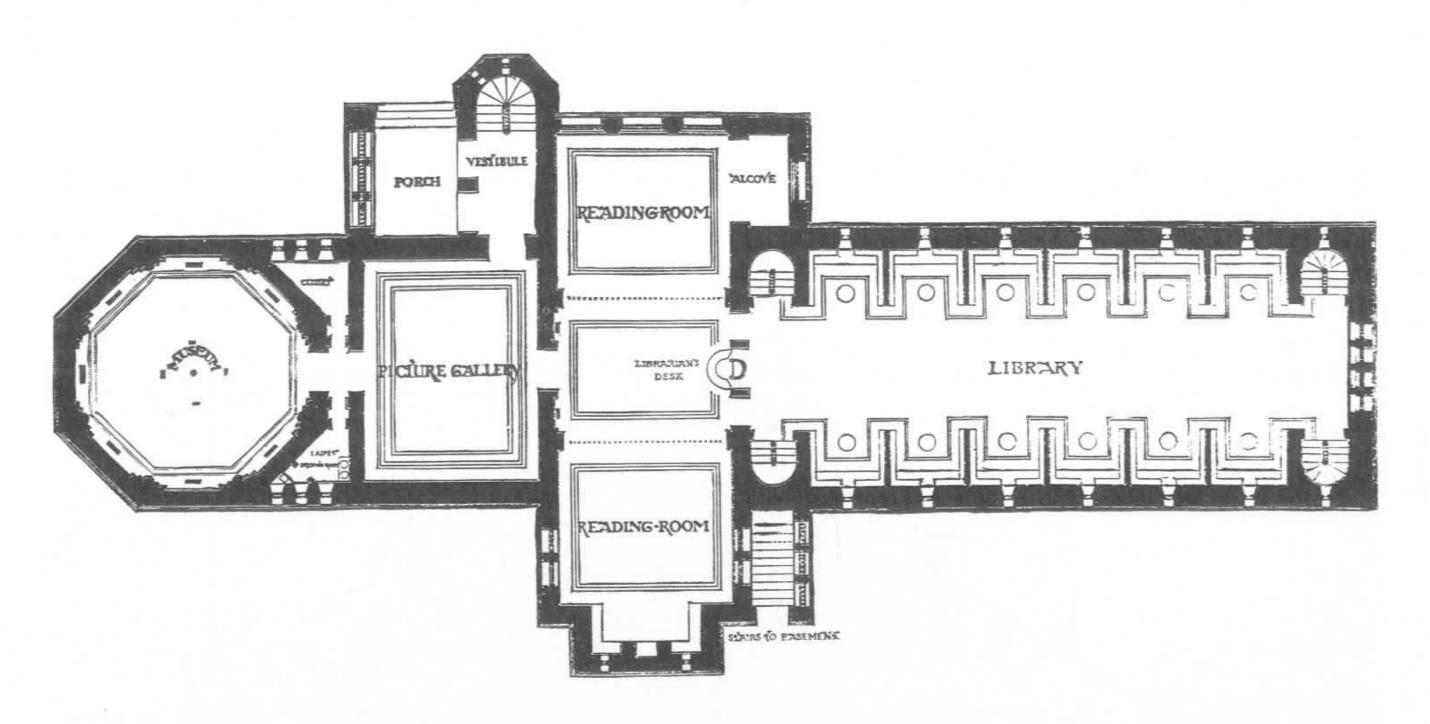
Ames Free
Library, 1877
H. H. Richardson

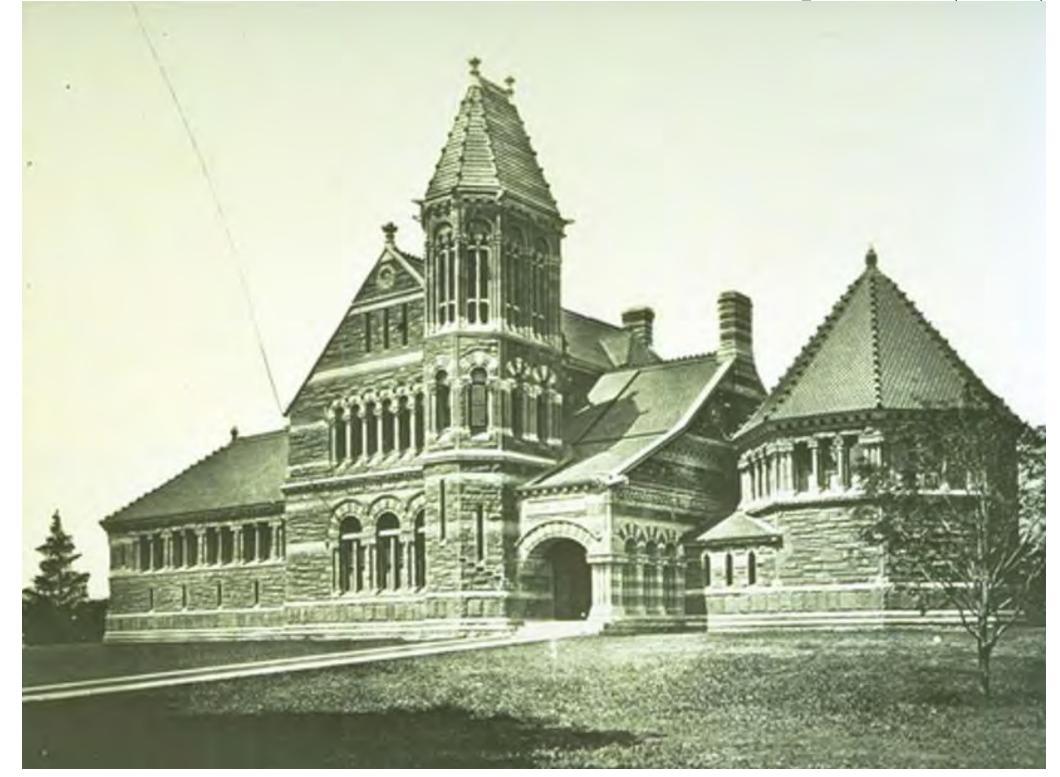


Crane Memorial
Library, 1881
H. H. Richardson

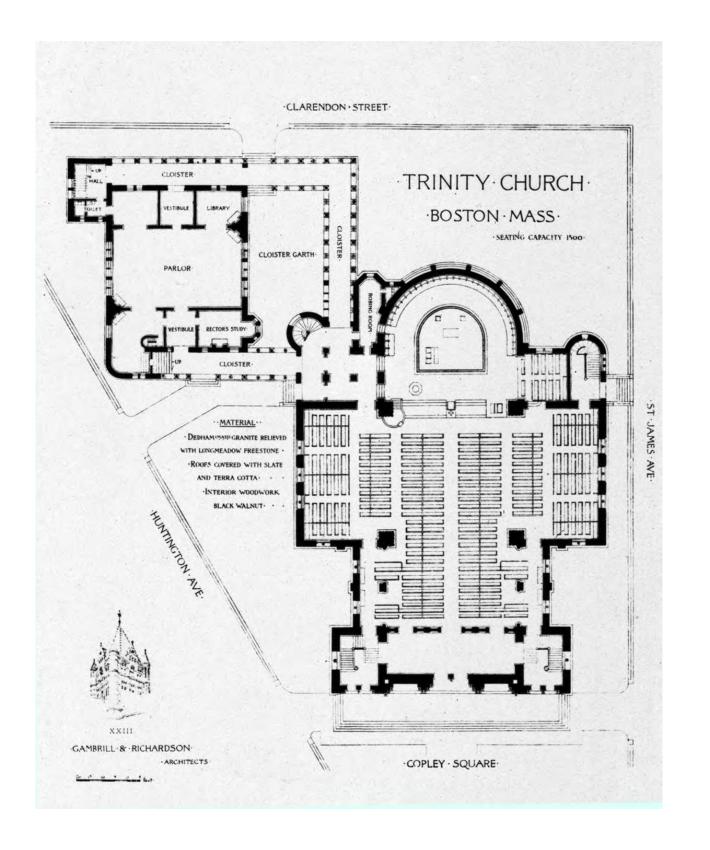


Converse Memorial
Library, 1885
H. H. Richardson

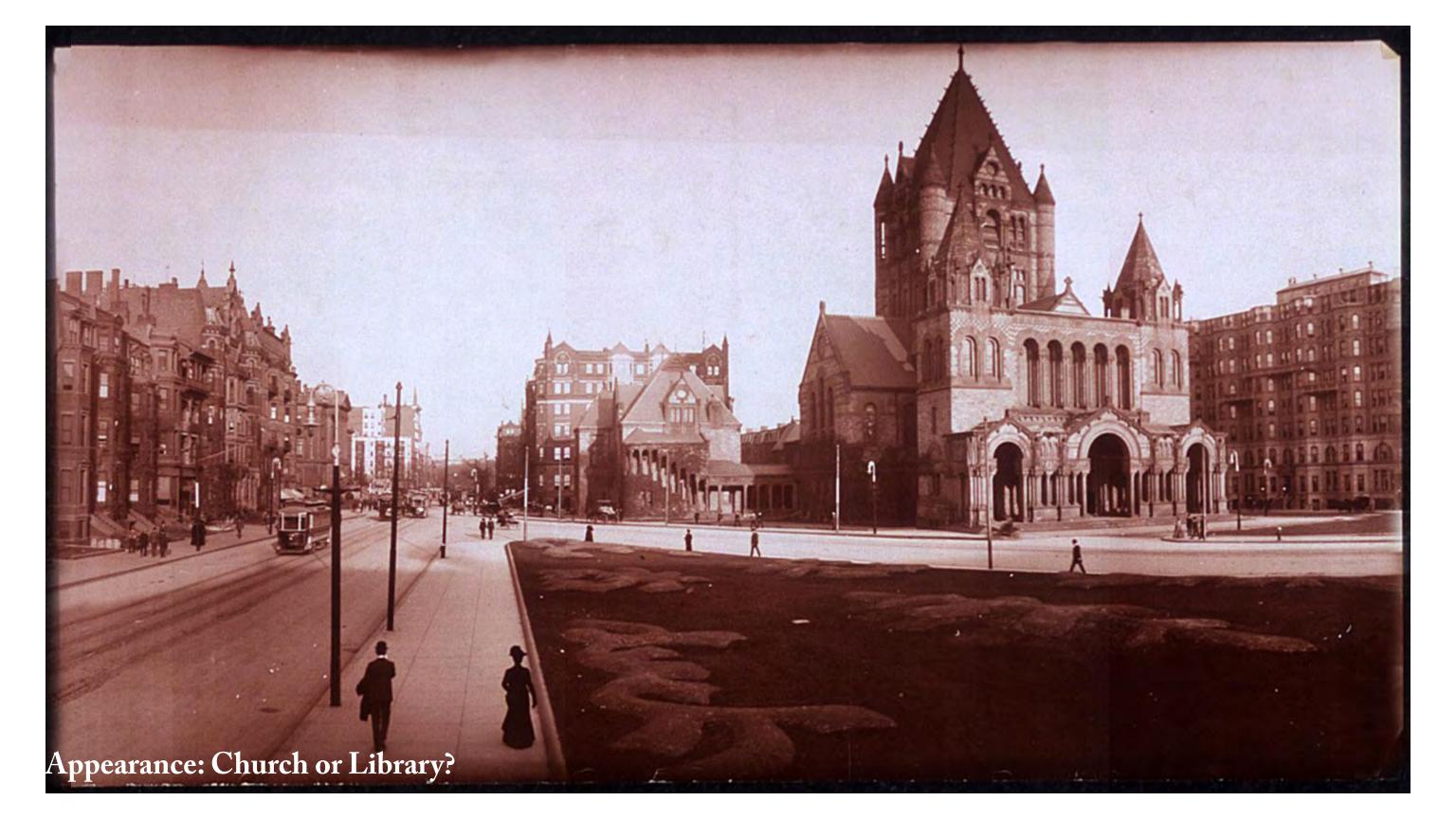


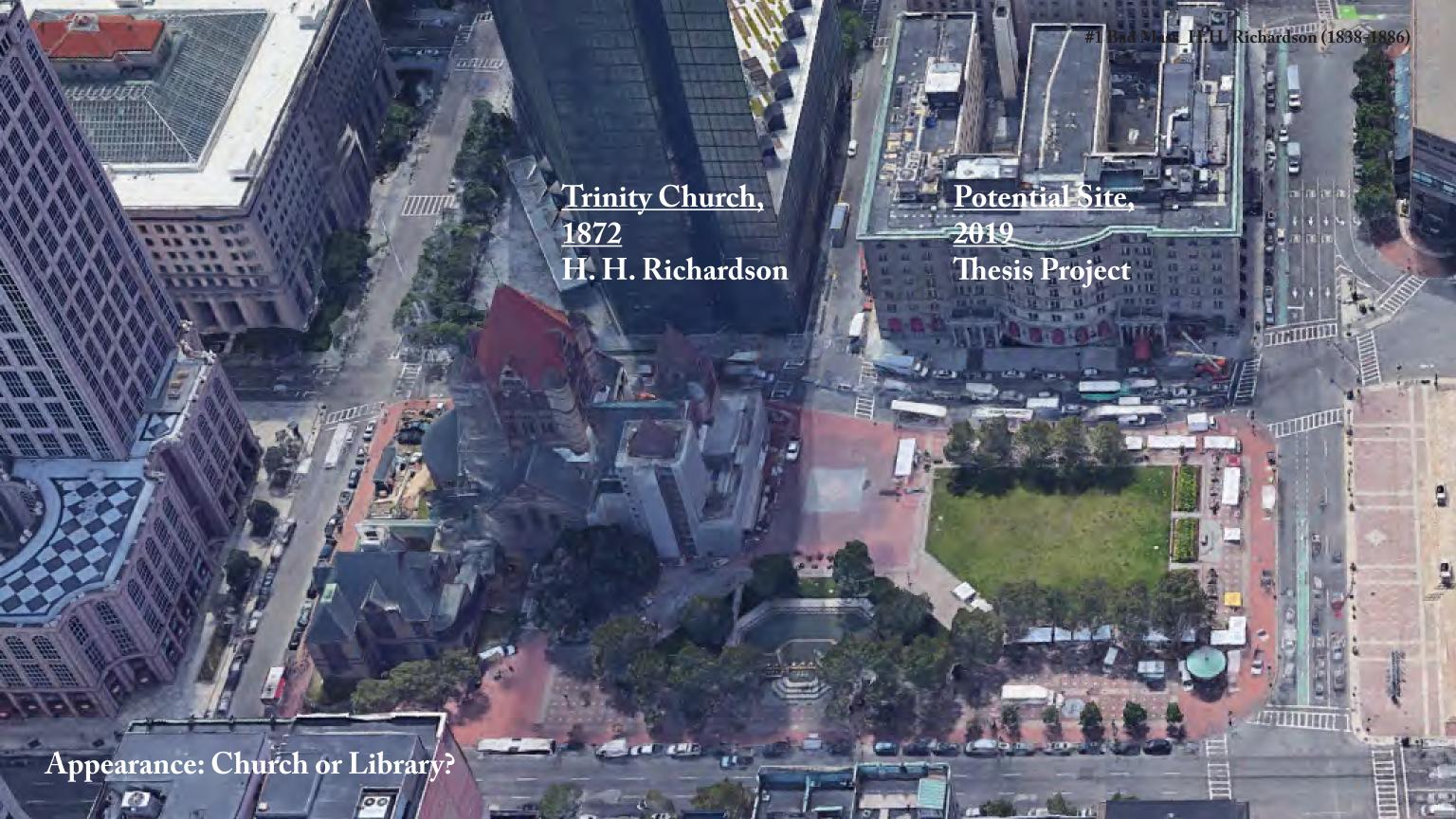


Appearance: Church Winn Memorial Library, H. H. Richardson, Woburn MA, 1879



Program: Church





#2 Bad Facades_I	McKim Mead	White ((1847-1909)
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Possibilities for a Reargarde Project

American architecture beyond pattern books

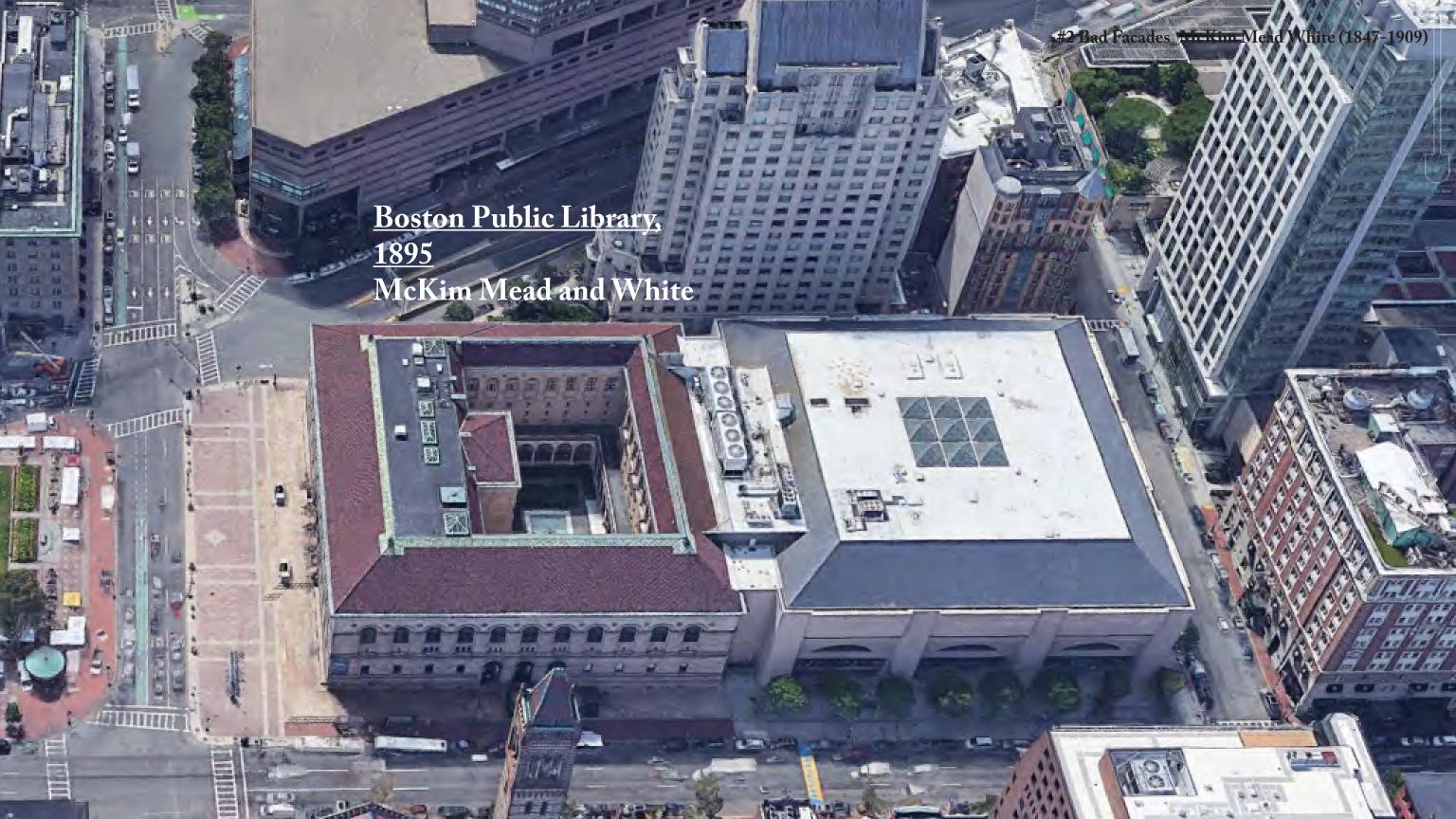
A) Bad Mass_H.H. Richardson (1838-1886)

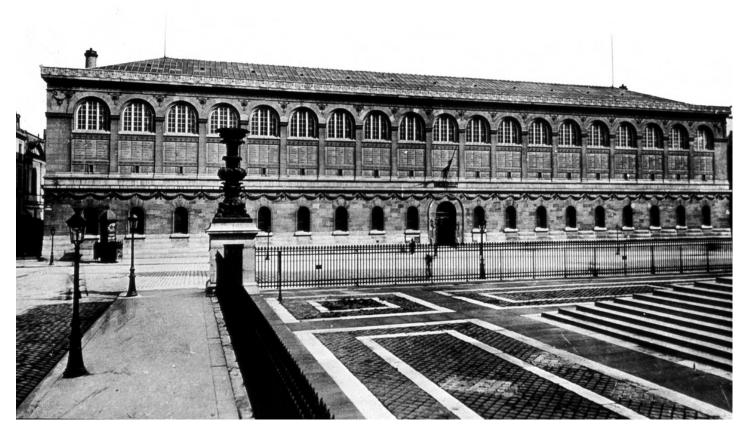
B) Bad Facades_McKim Mead White (1847-1909)

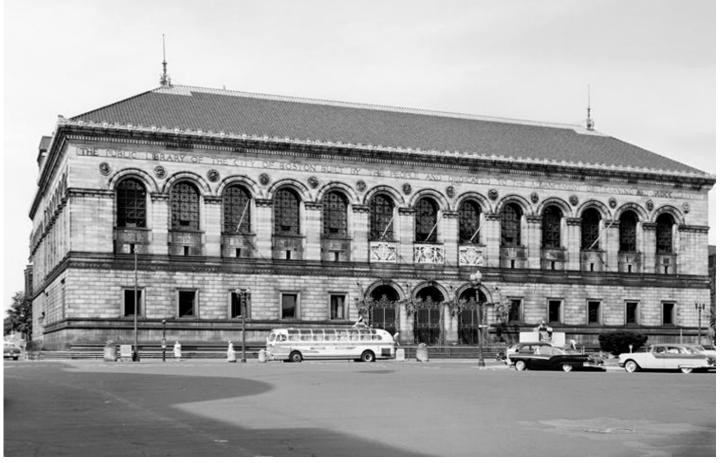
C) Bad Bricks_Philip Johnson (1906-2005)

Graphic effects of tectonic systems can be converted to hatch drawings.

Test: Henri Labrouste
St. Genevieve Library, 1850
to McKim Mead White
Boston Public Library, 1895





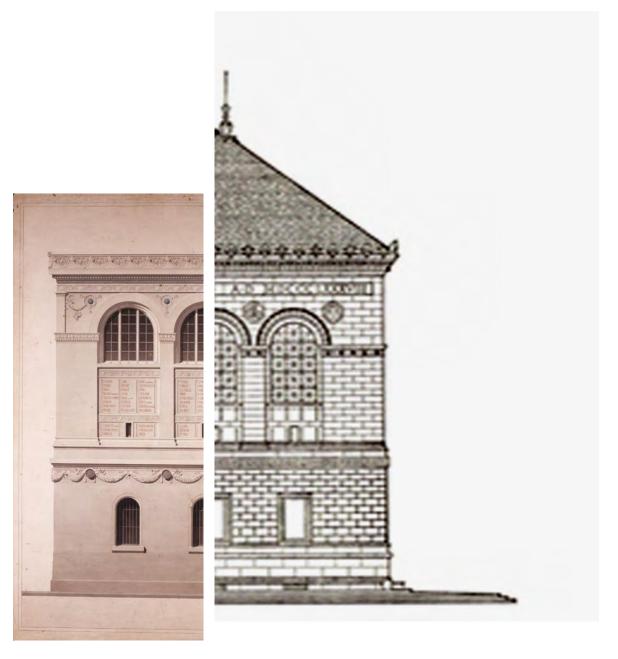


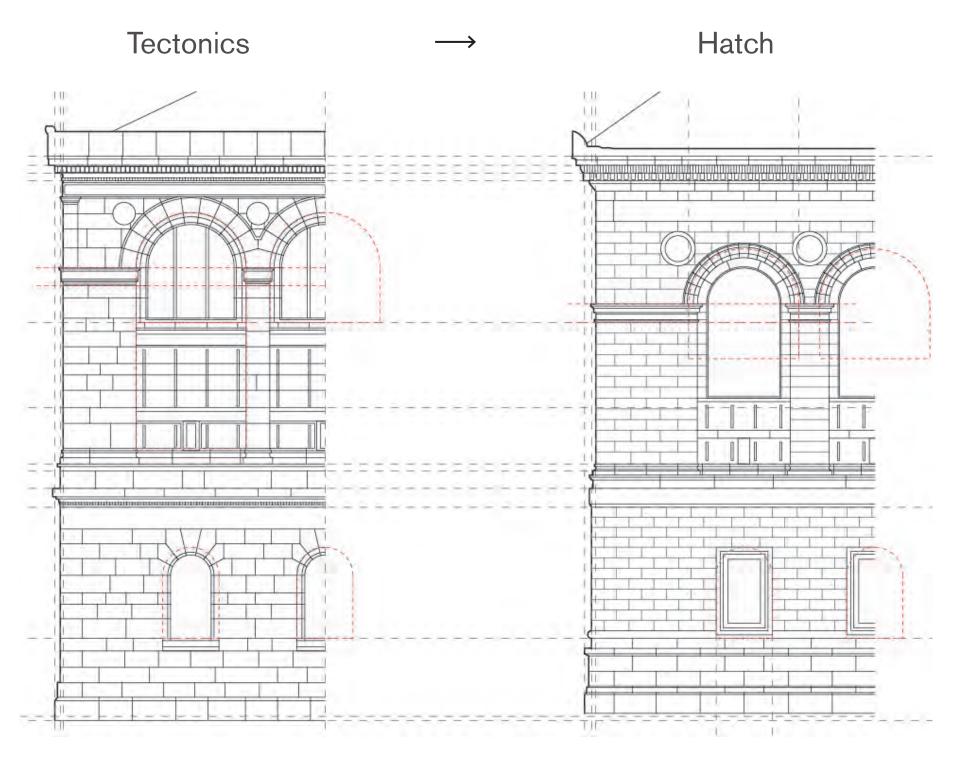
Boston Public Library, McKim Mead and White, Boston MA, 1895

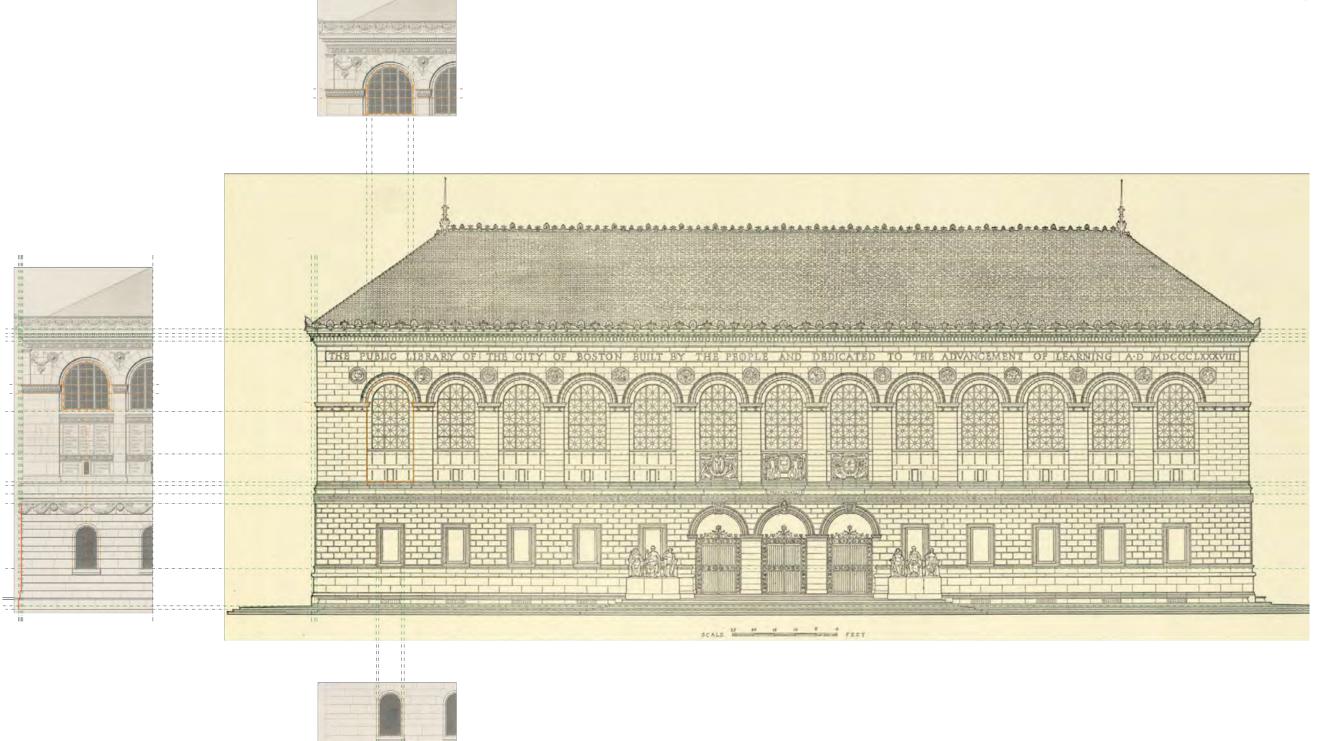


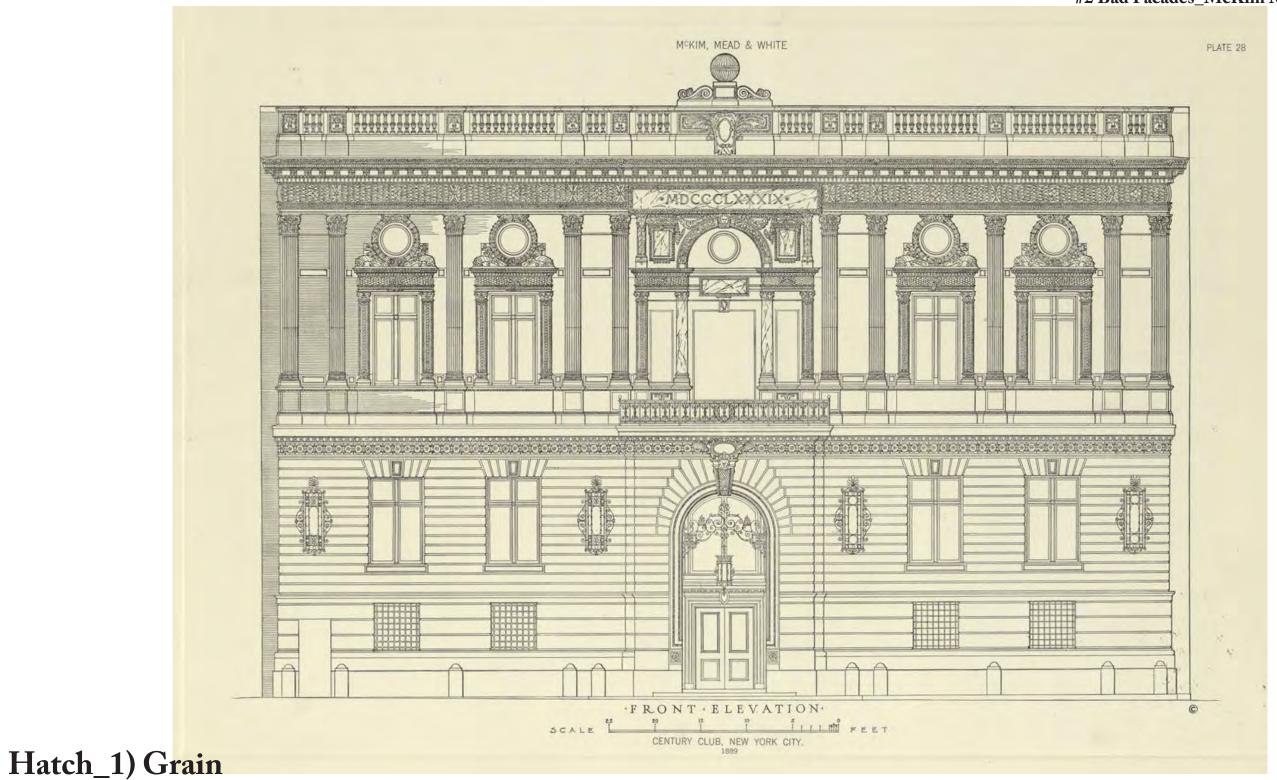


Boston Public Library, McKim Mead and White, Boston MA, 1895



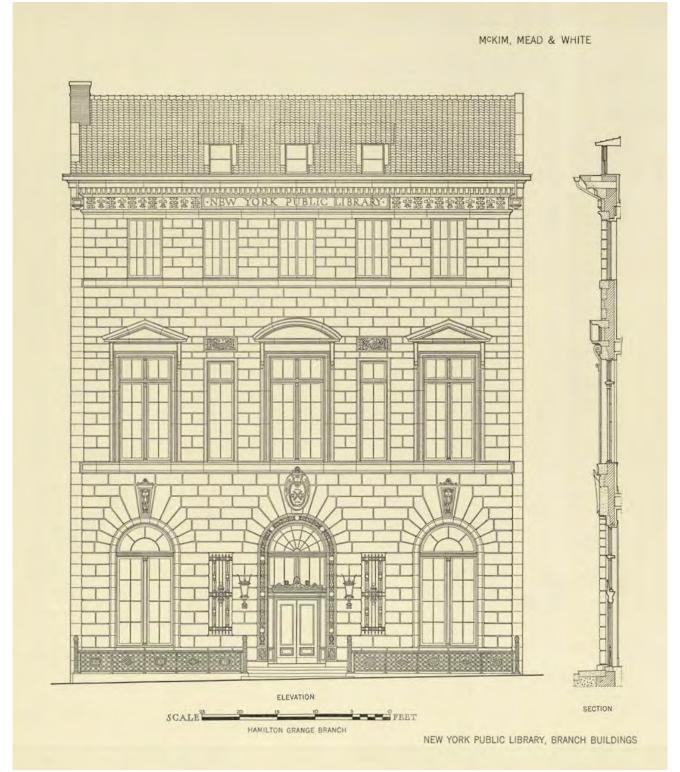


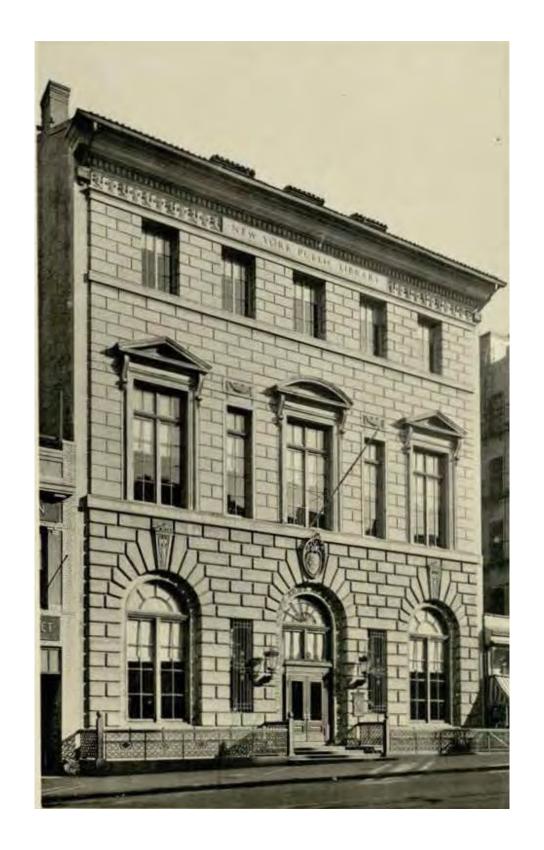




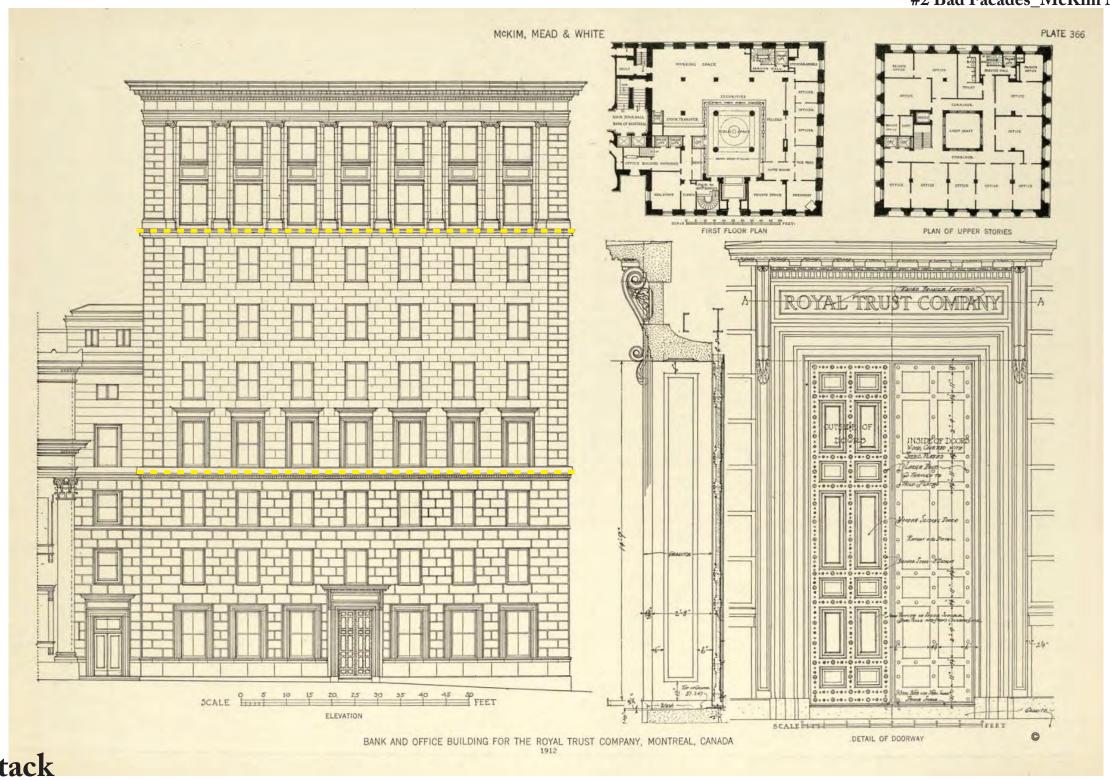


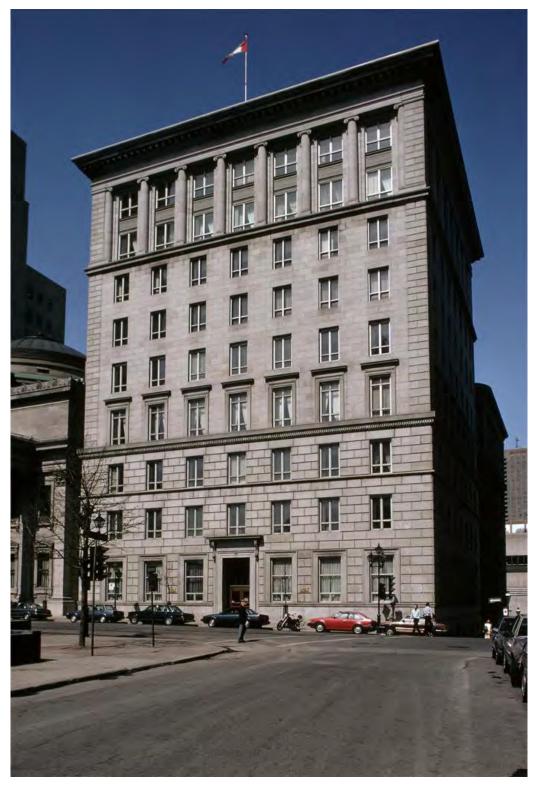
Hatch_1) Grain





Hatch_2) Scale

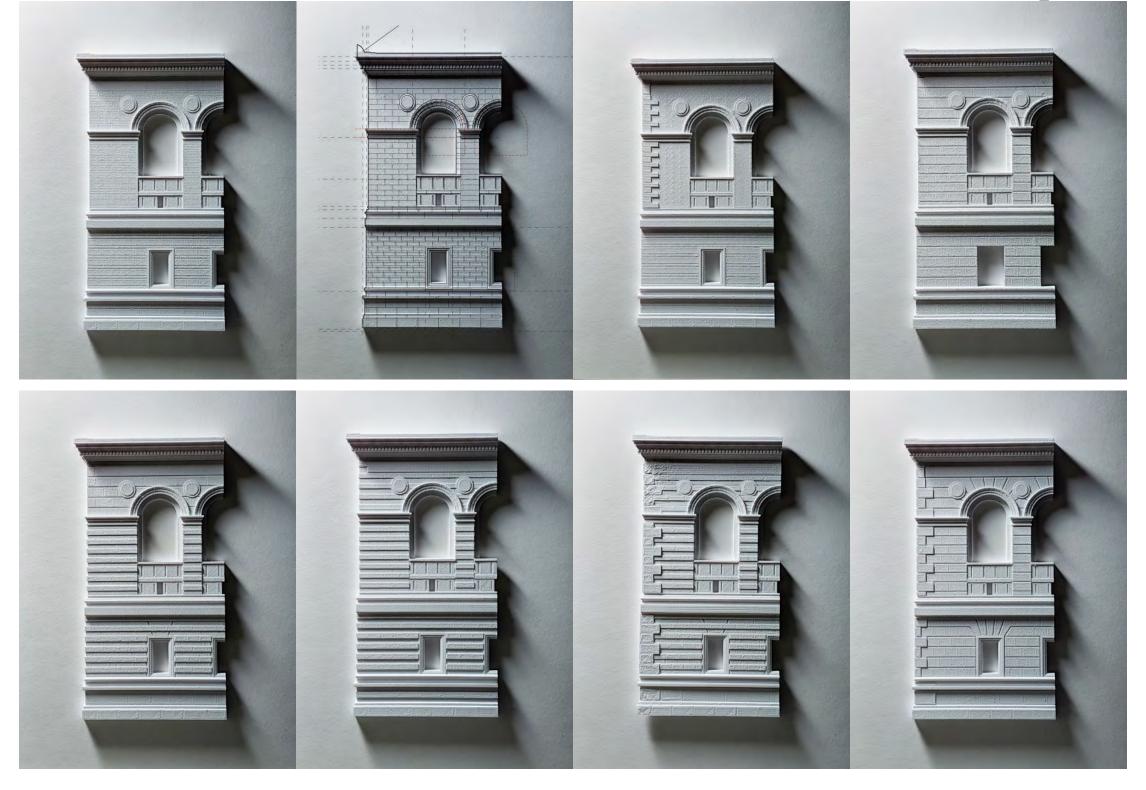




Hatch_3) Stack



#2 Bad Facades_McKim Mead White (1847-1909)





Possibilities for a Reargarde Project

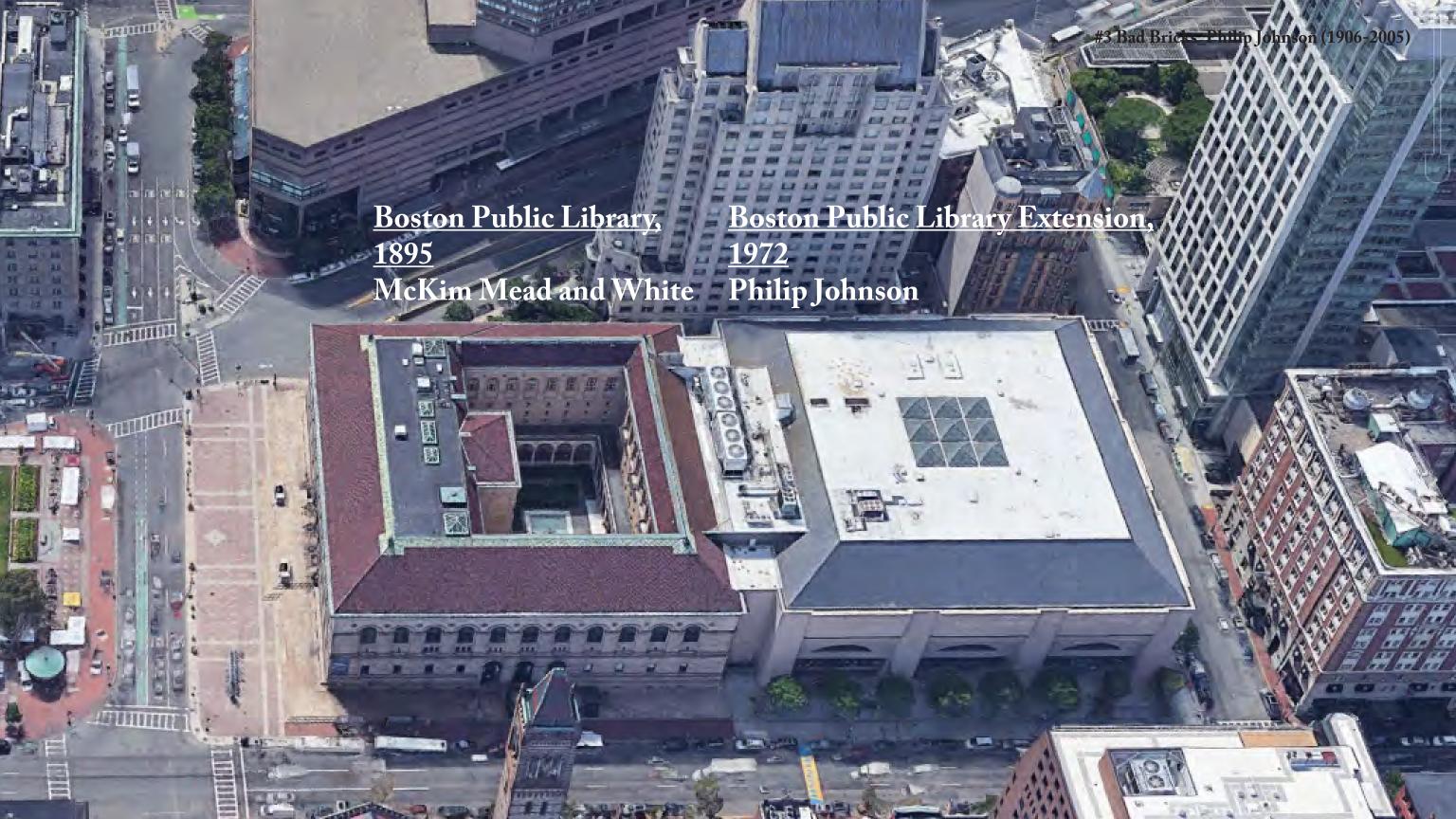
American architecture beyond the pattern book

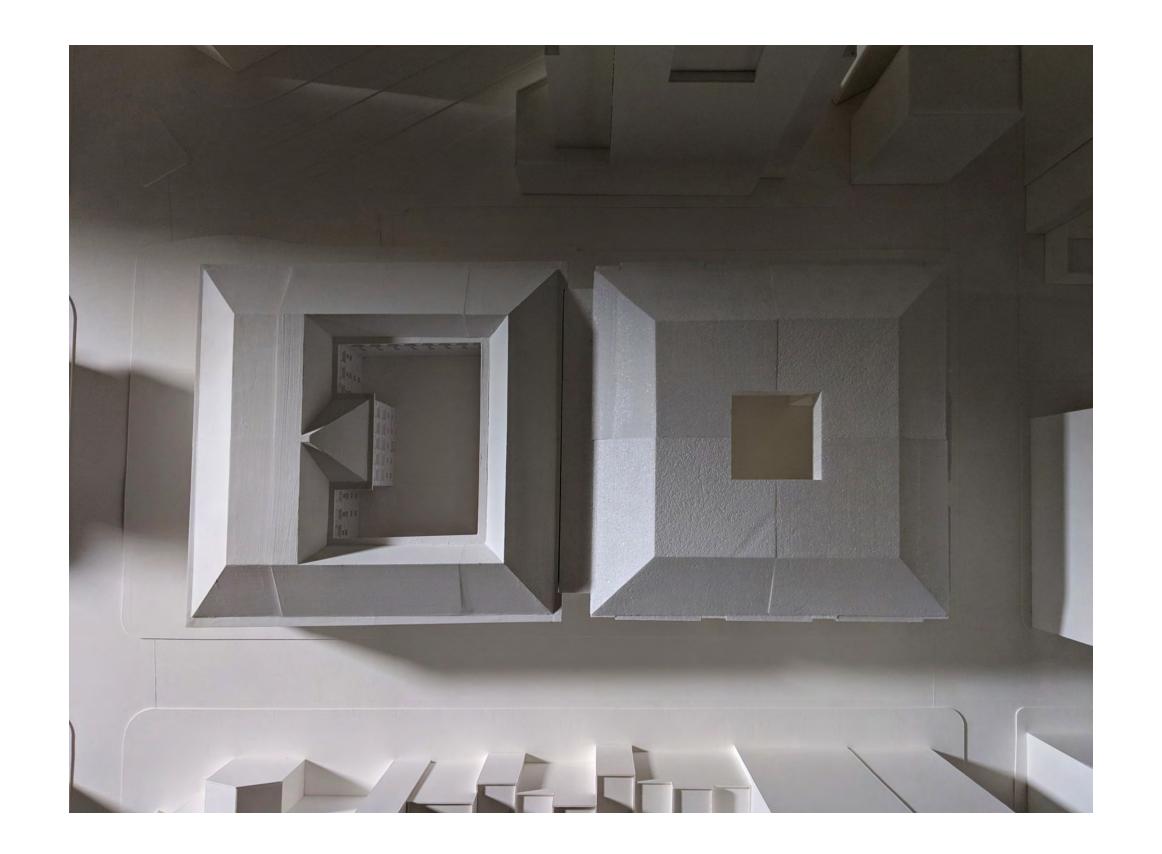
- A) Bad Mass_H.H. Richardson (1838-1886)
- B) Bad Facades_McKim Mead White (1847-1909)
 - C) Bad Bricks_Philip Johnson (1906-2005)

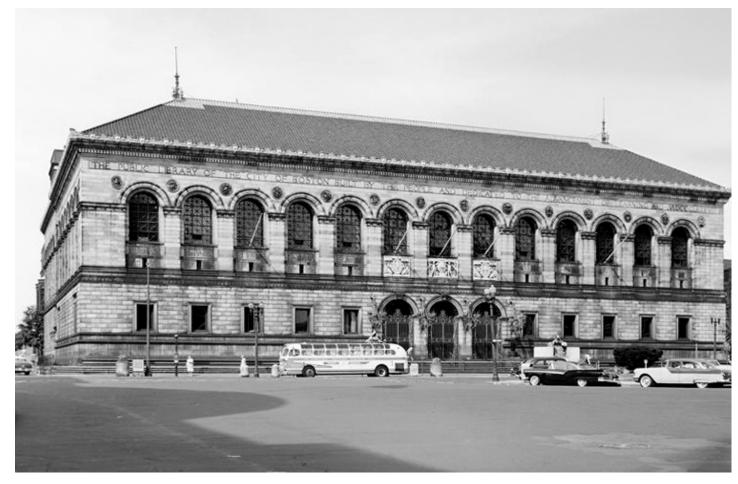
A new base unit of architecture, "brick", can be invented to approximate the referent form; inevitably creating misfits.

Test 1: McKim Mead White Boston Public Library, 1895 to Philip Johnson Boston Public Library Ext, 1972

Test 2: H. H. Richardson Ames Free Library, 1877 to other approximate library massings



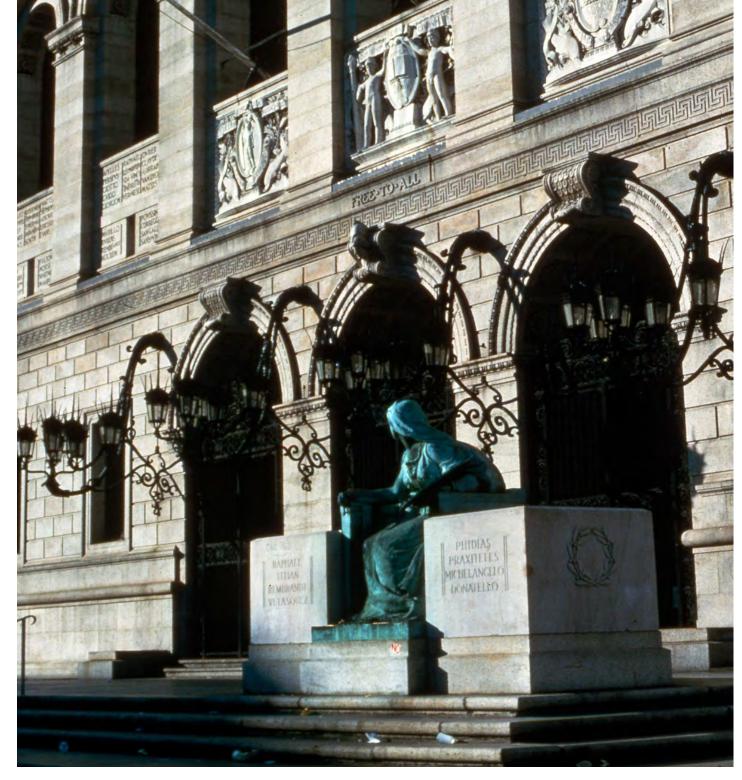


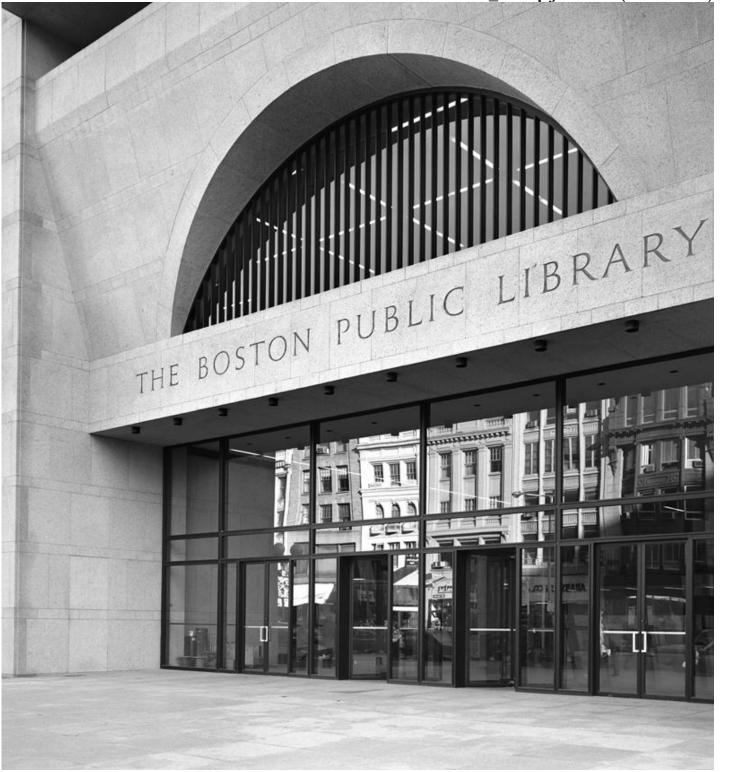




Boston Public Library Extension, Philip Johnson, Boston, 1972

#3 Bad Bricks_Philip Johnson (1906-2005)





Boston Public Library, McKim Mead and White, Boston, 1895

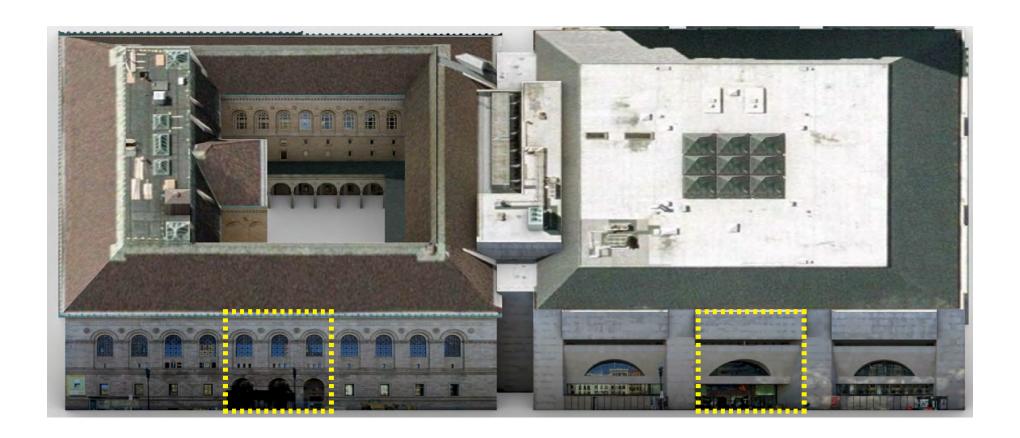
Boston Public Library Extension, Philip Johnson, Boston, 1972

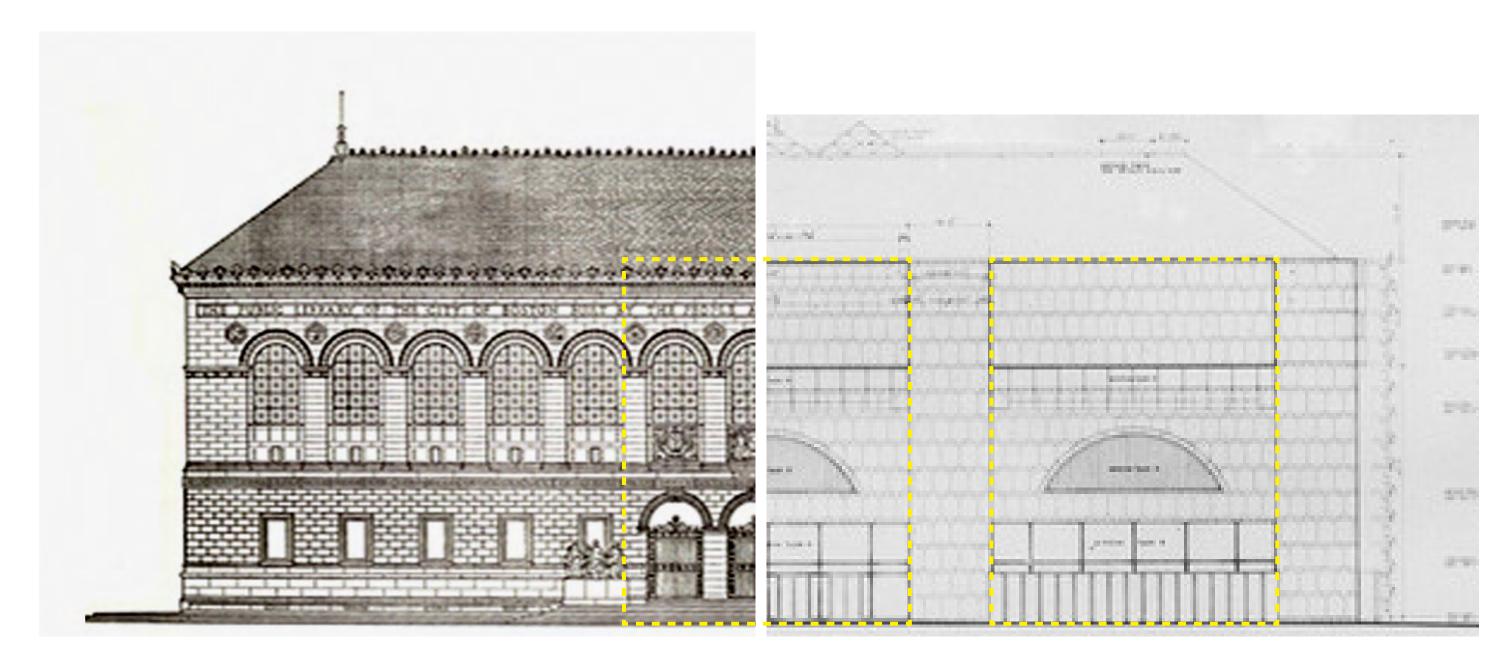


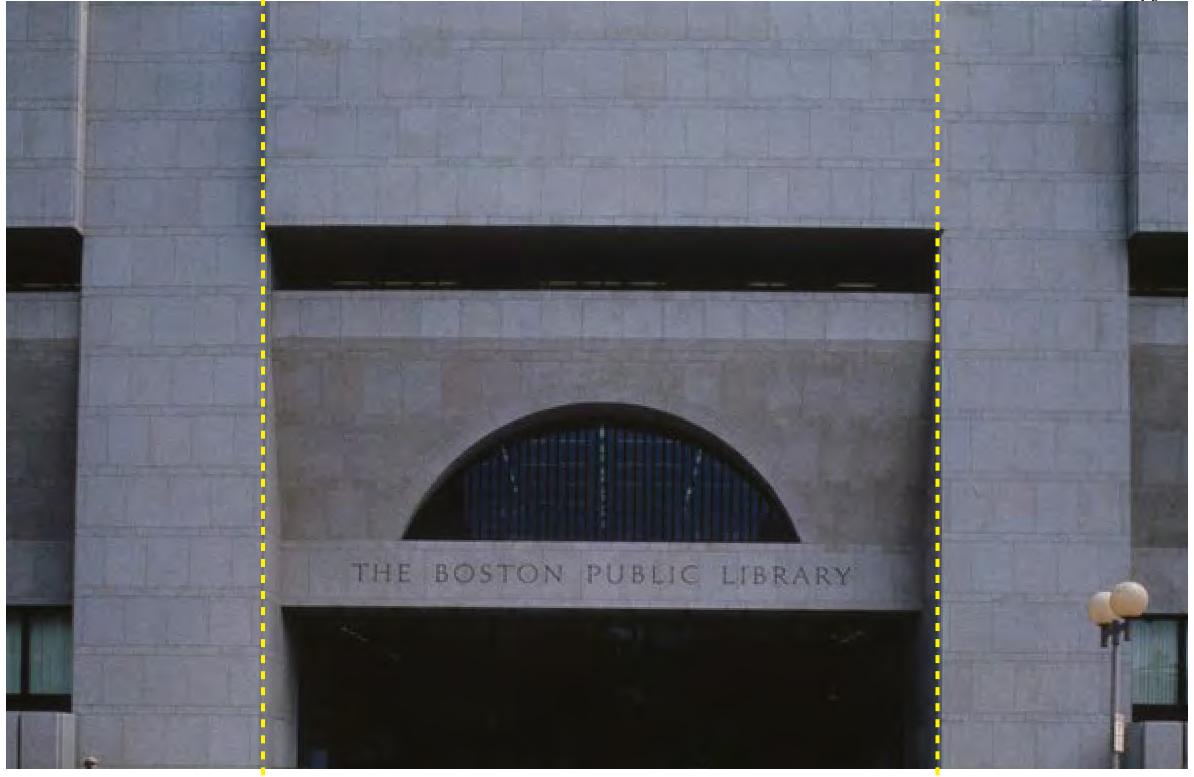
Referent Building



"Brick" Substitution







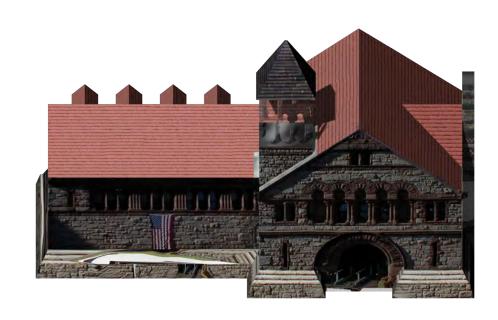
A new base unit of architecture, "brick", can be invented to approximate the referent form; inevitably creating misfits.

Test 1: McKim Mead White Boston Public Library, 1895 to Philip Johnson Boston Public Library Ext, 1972

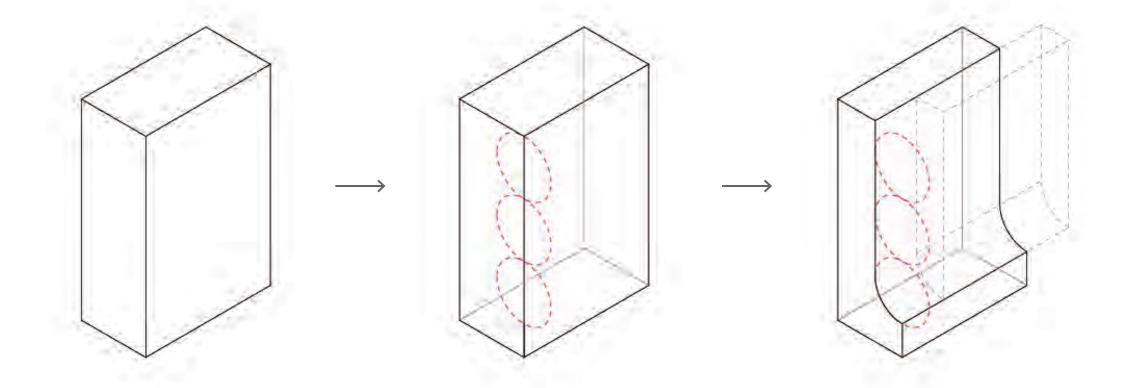
Test 2: H. H. Richardson Ames Free Library, 1877 to other approximate library massings

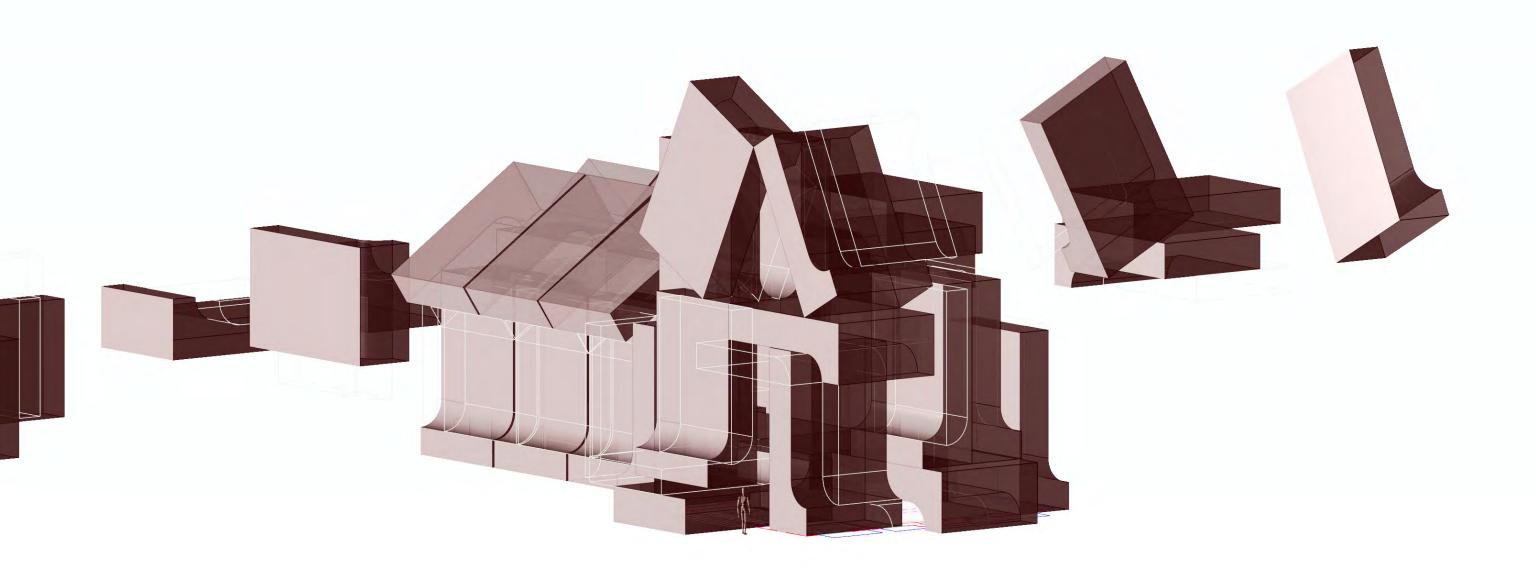
Referent Building

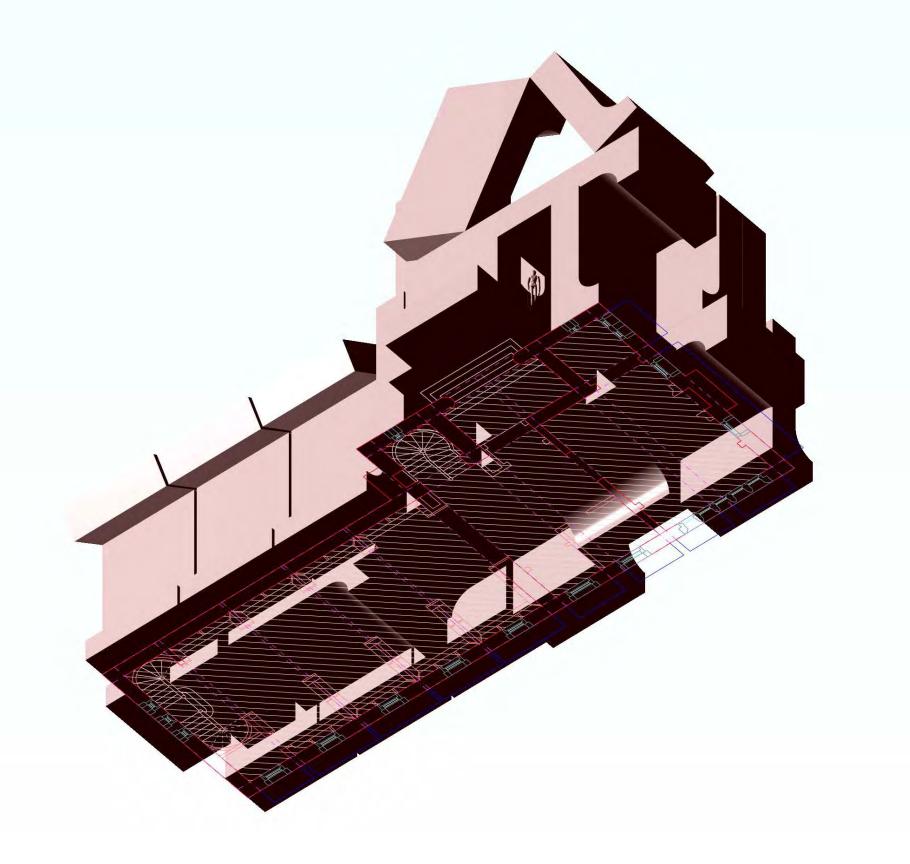
"Brick" Substitution



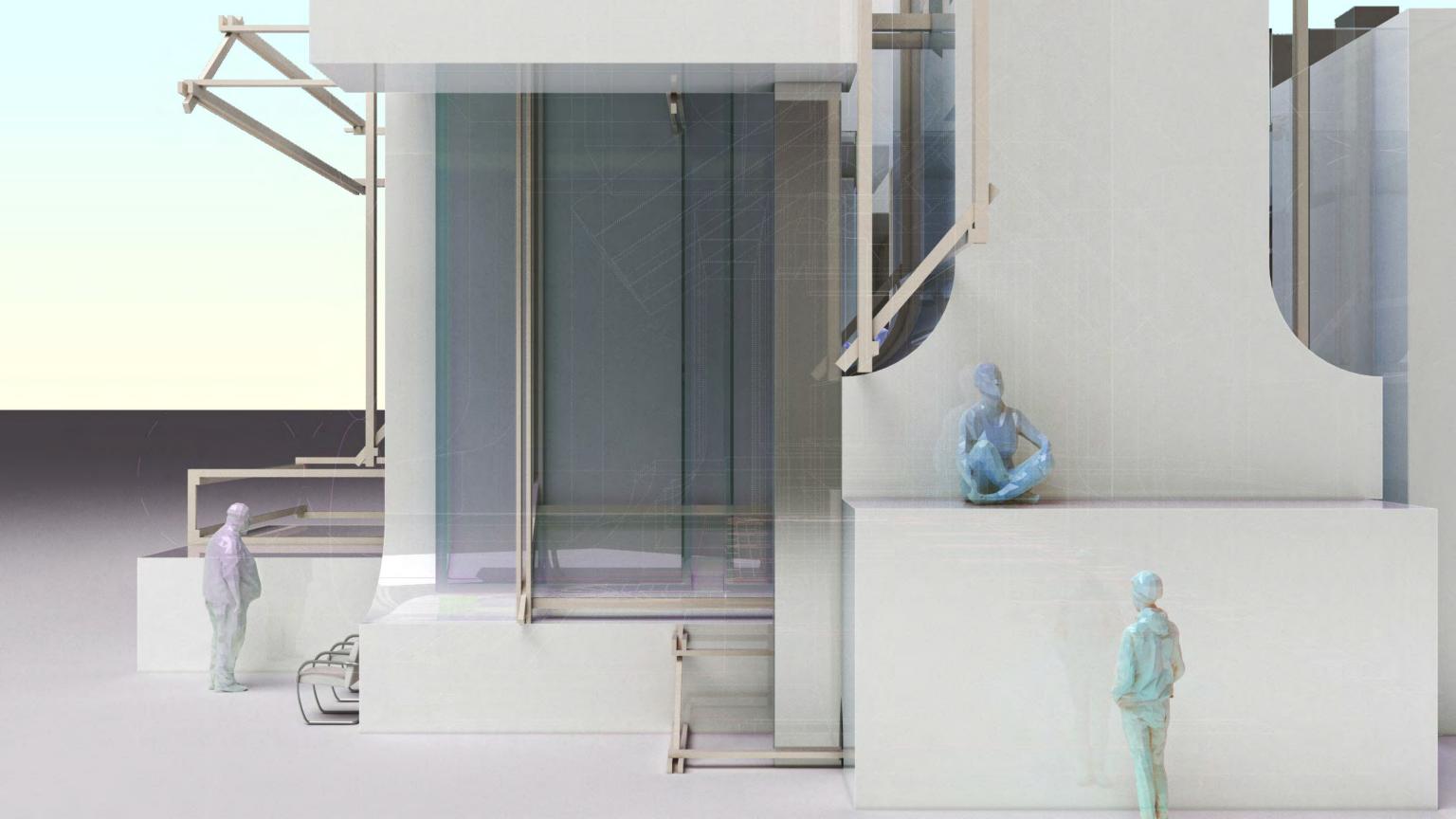




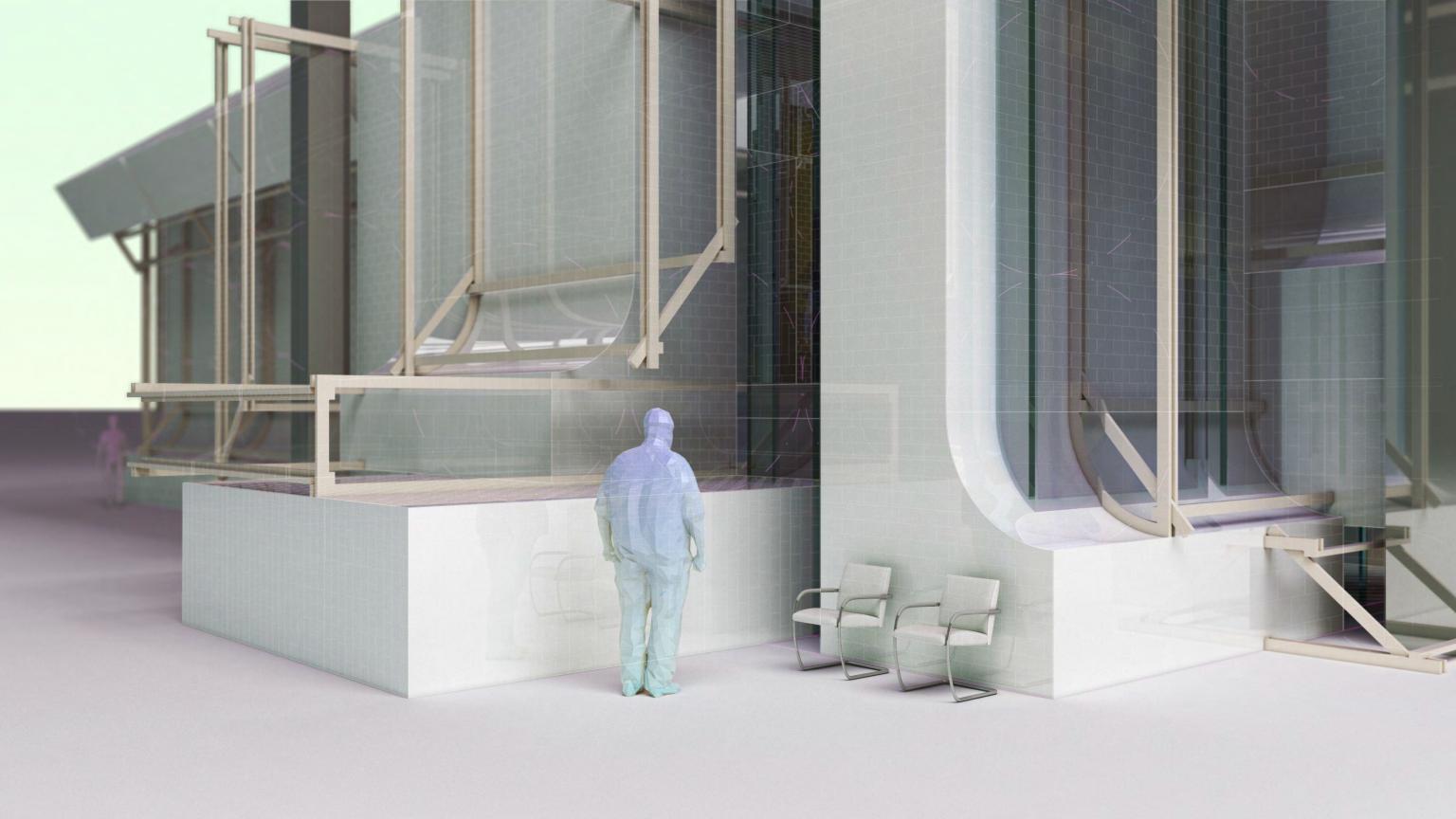


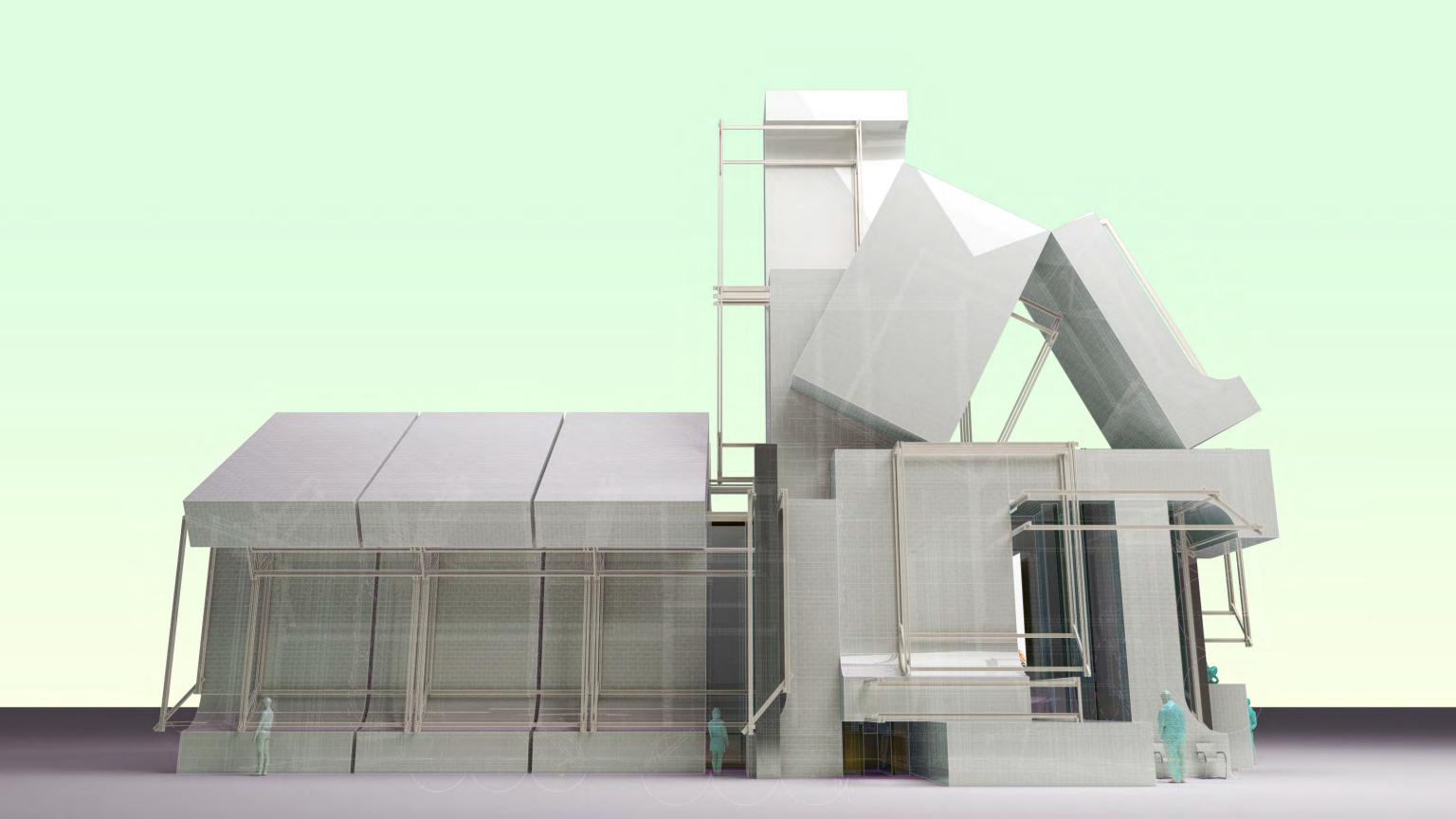


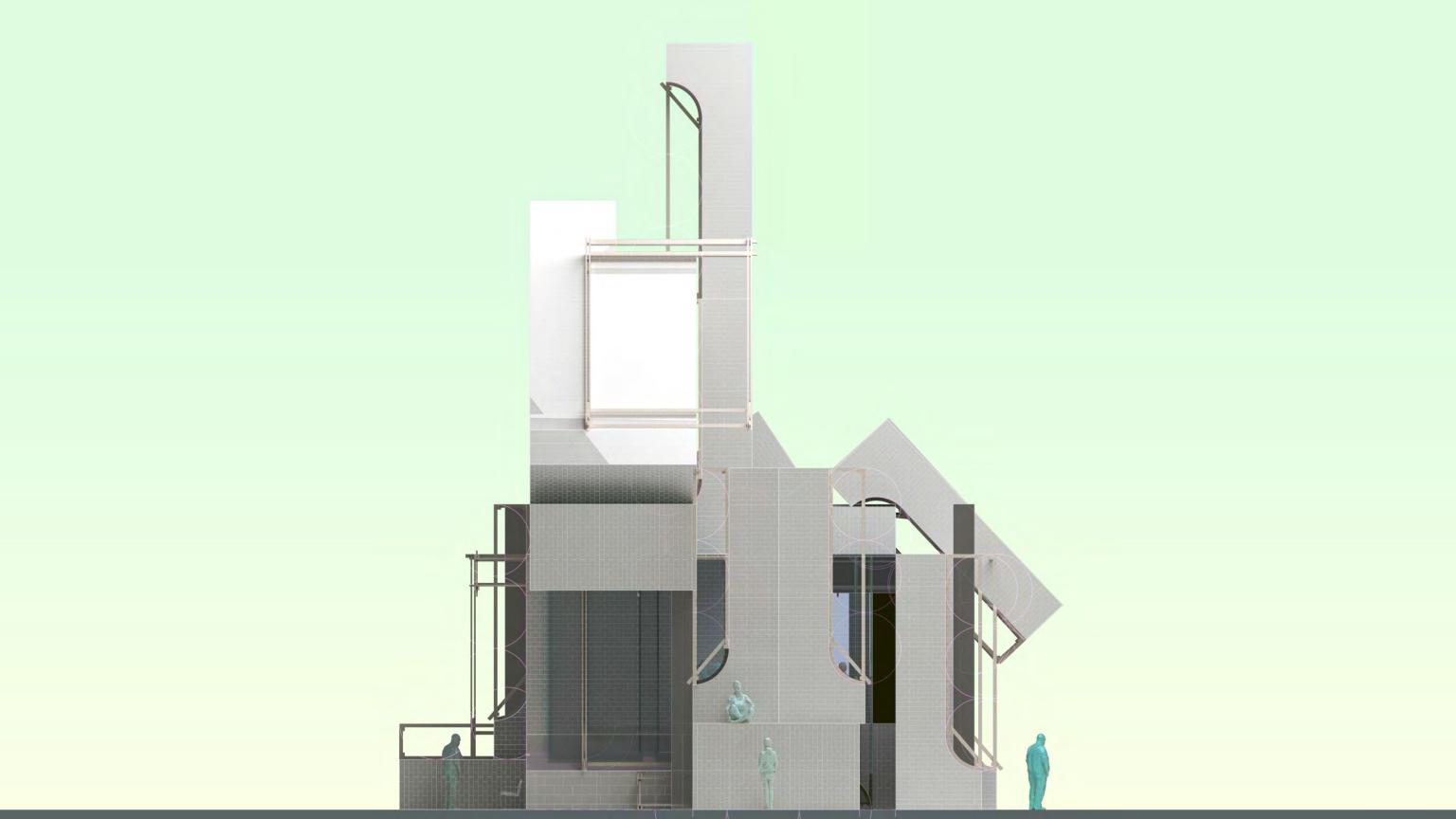




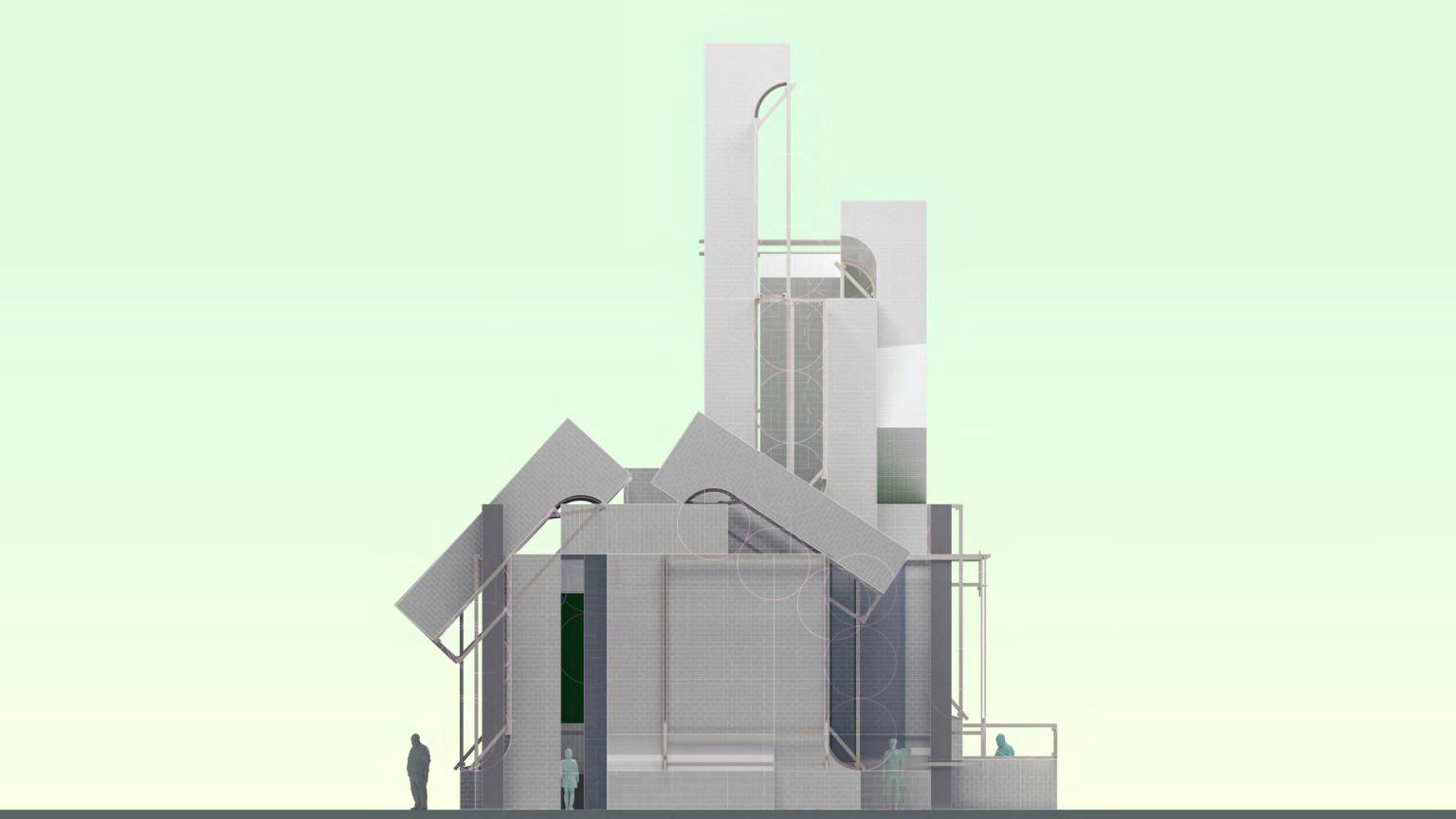


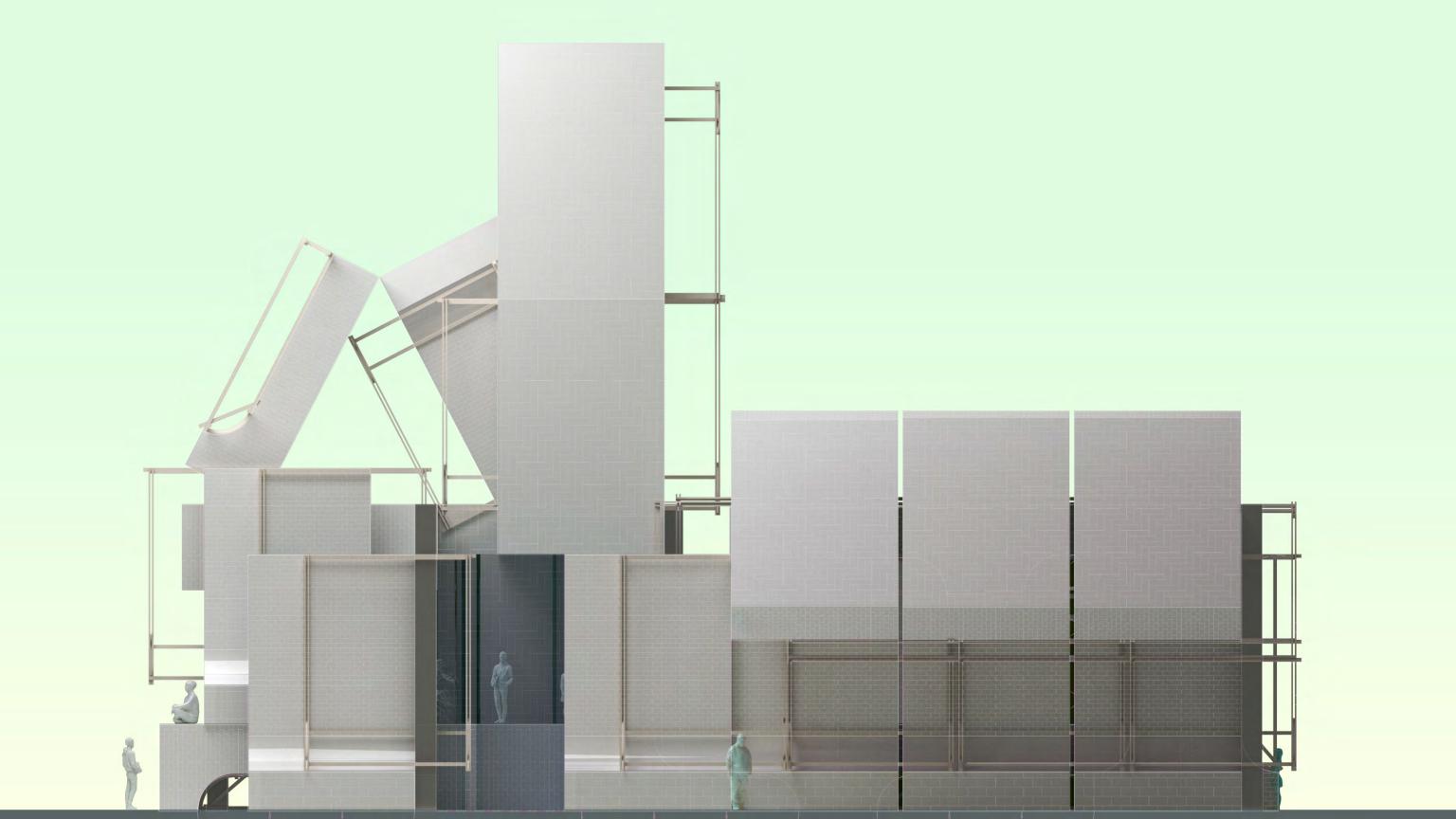


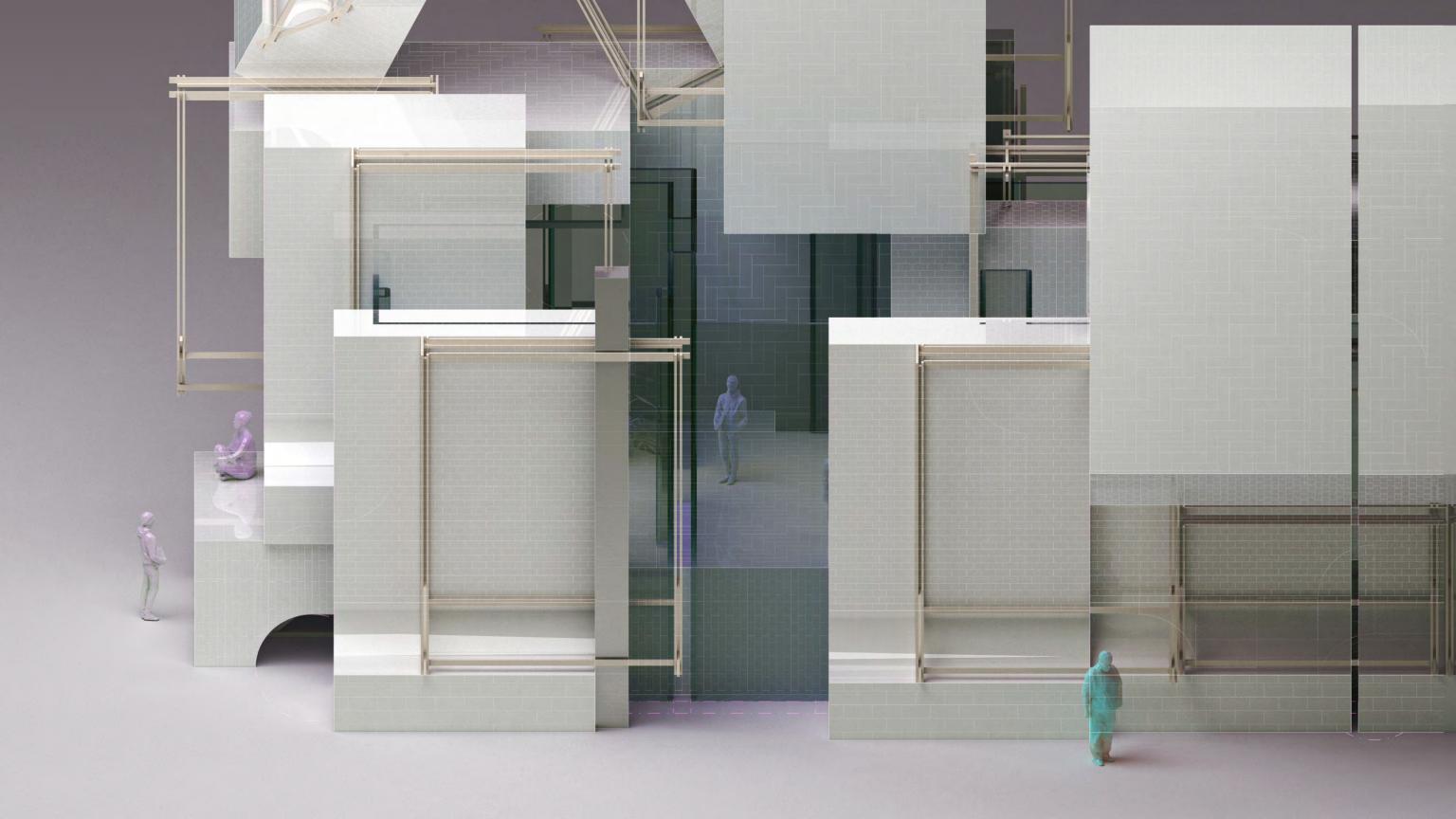




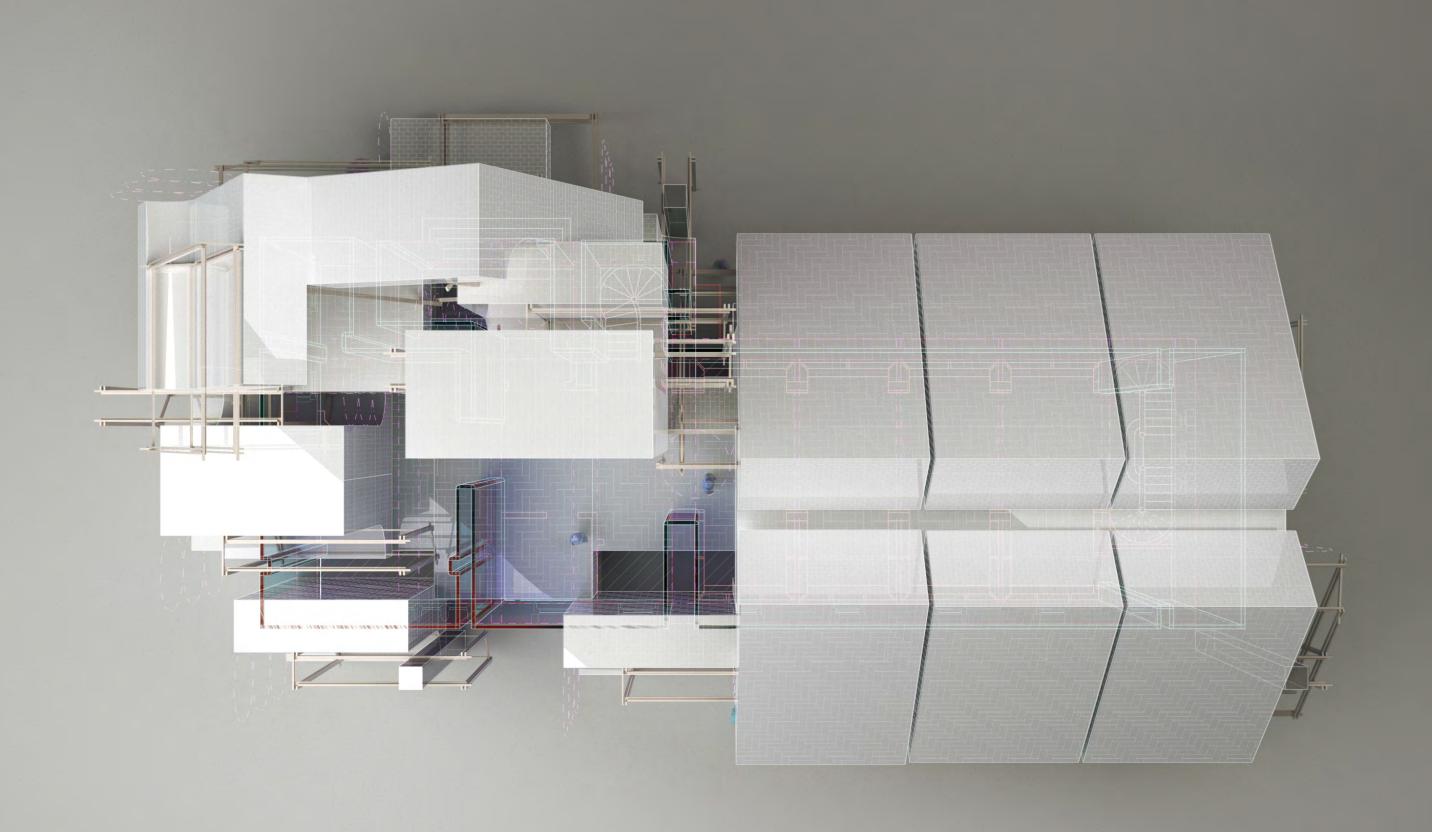






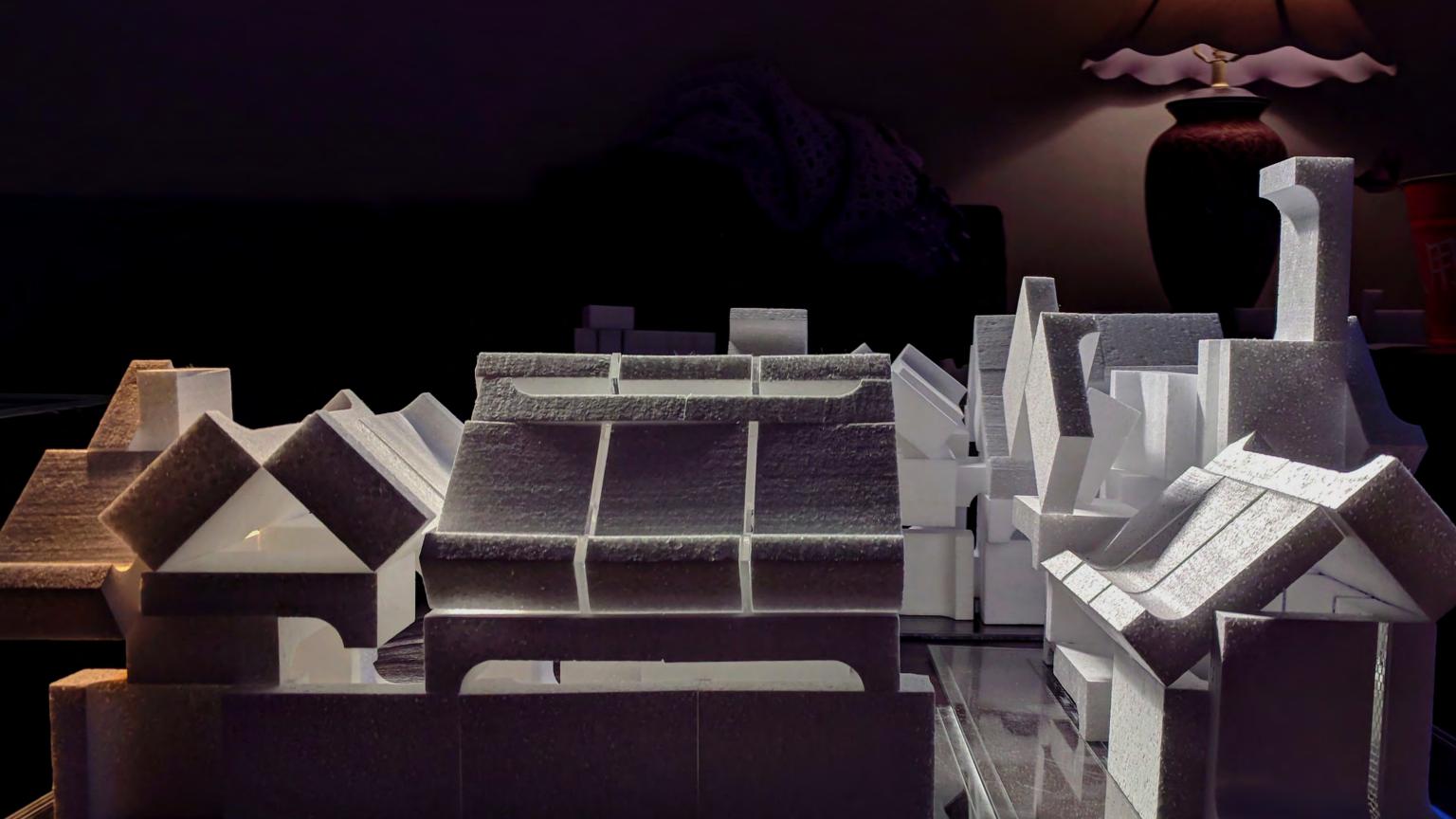




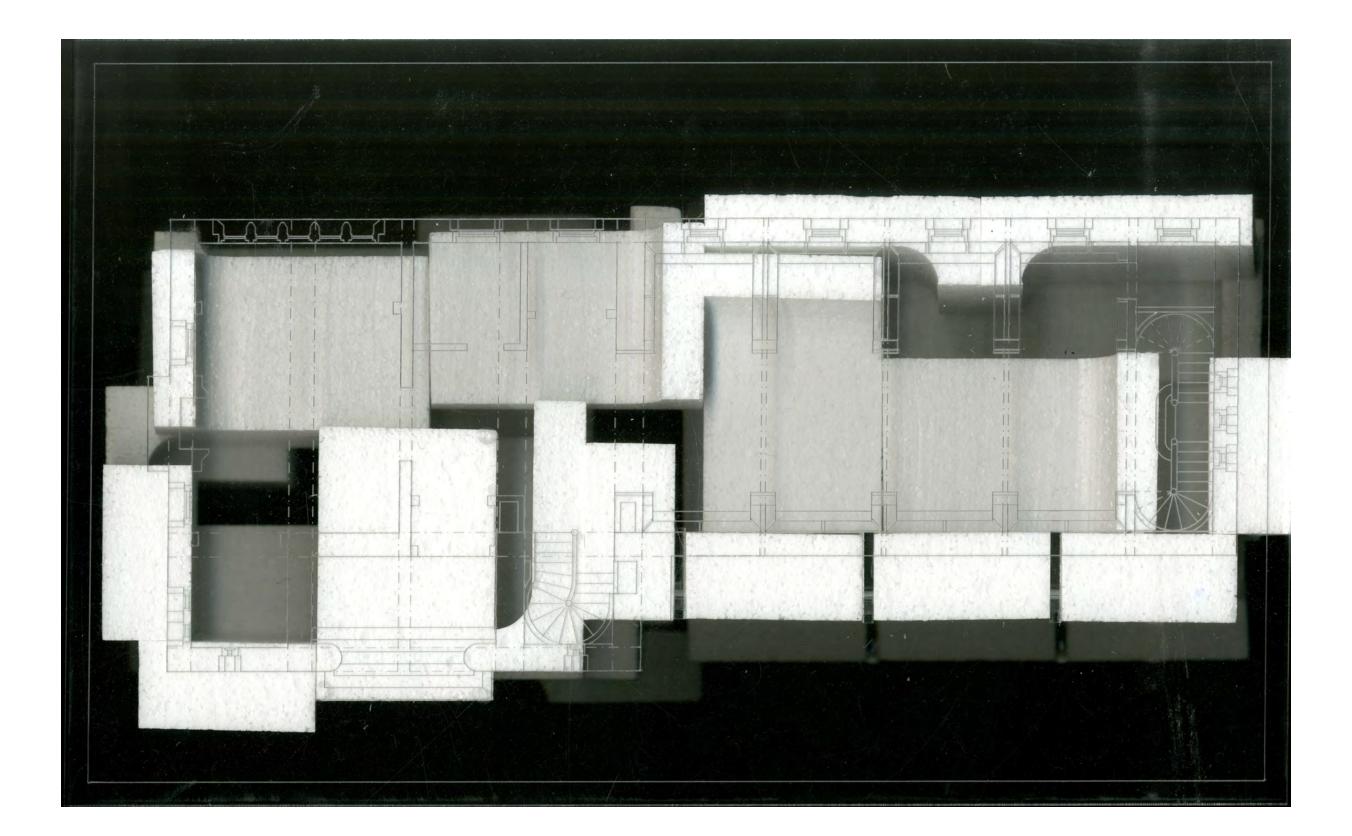


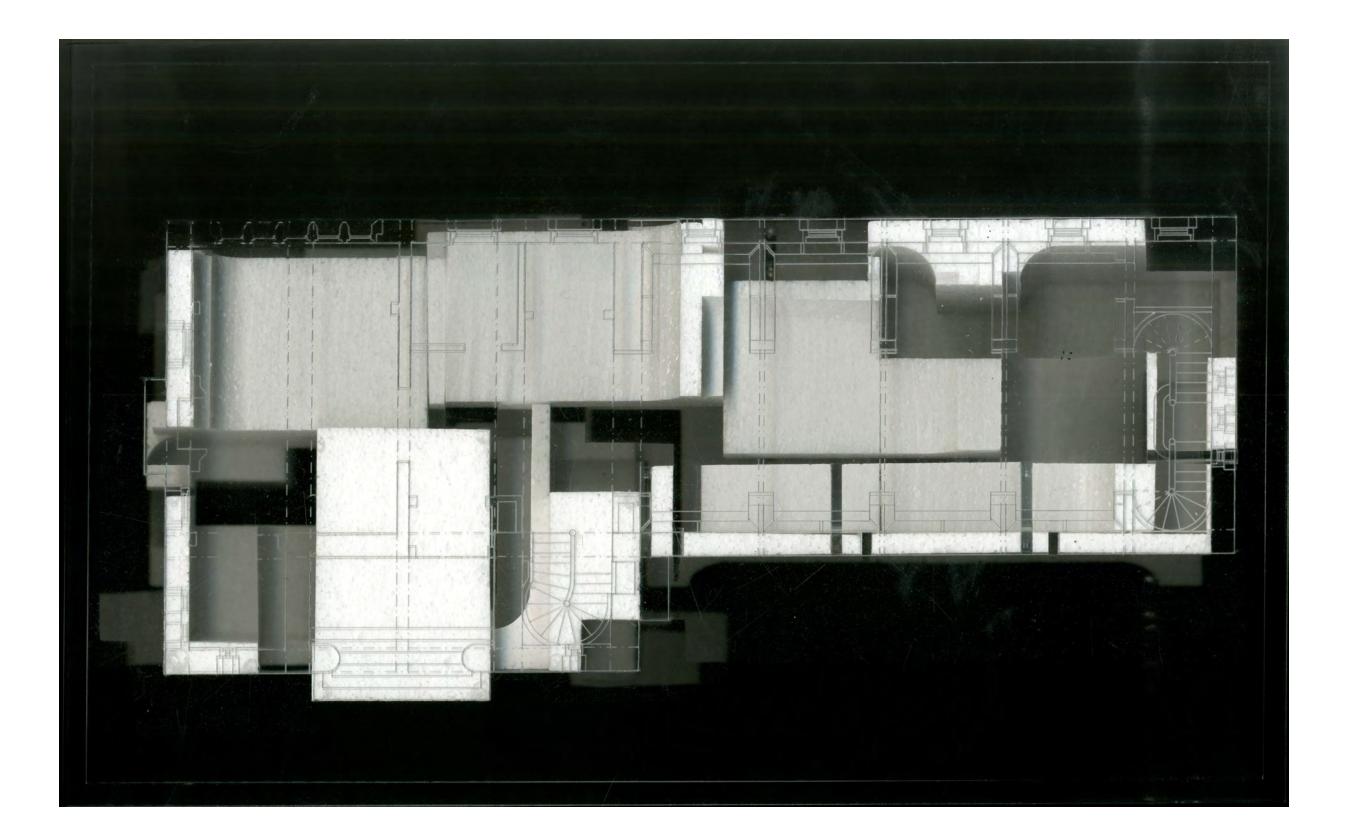


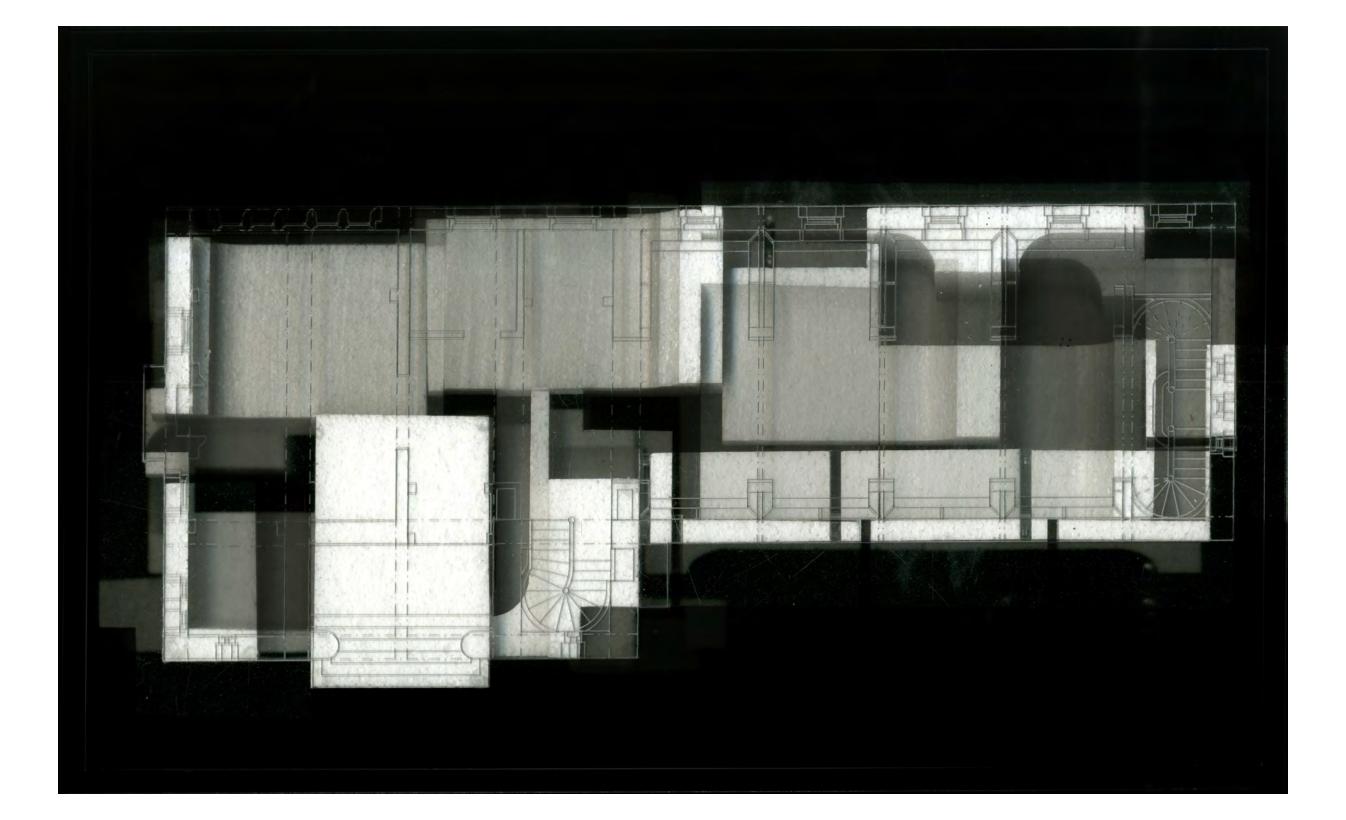


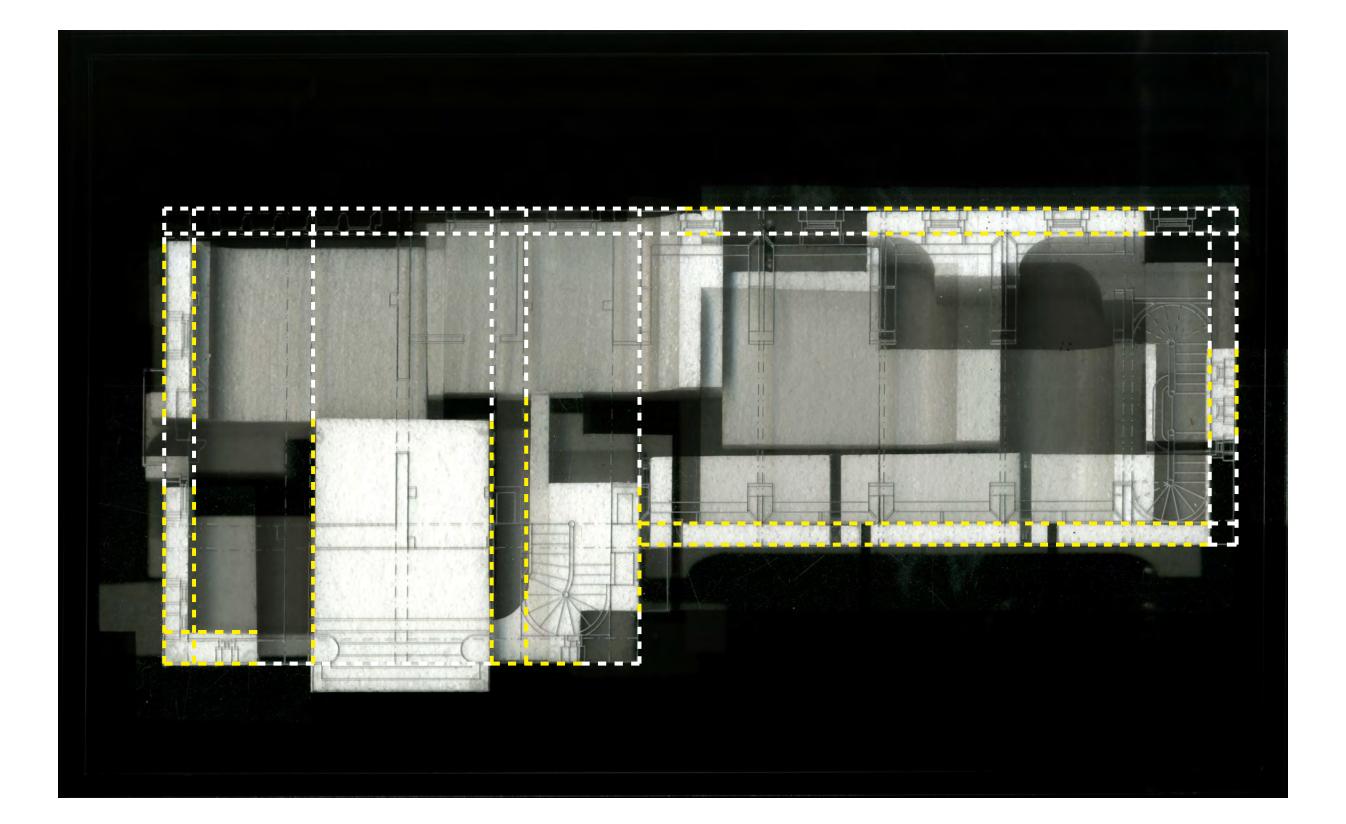












Brief Proposal

Site: Boston, MA

Scheme: Richardson Trinity Church

Program: 21st Century Rare Books Library



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Have a Question?

Rare Books Department

3rd Floor, McKim Building, Central Library 617-859-2225

Rare Books & Manuscripts Department Closed for Inventory & Capital Improvements through 2020

Thank you for your interest in using collections held in the Boston Public Library's Rare Books & Manuscripts Department.

The department is currently closed to all in-person public service to accommodate a major construction project to ensure the long-term preservation of its historic rare books and manuscript collections. This City of Boston-funded capital project includes substantial environmental and mechanical improvements to the Department's collection storage areas, staff spaces, conservation lab, and public reading room.

Current projections indicate that the Rare Books & Manuscripts Department will remain closed to in-person public service through 2020.

Limited remote reference service is available via email at rare_books@bpl.org.

Patrons may visit the Internet Archive and Digital Commonwealth to view a portion of the Library's special collections online. Information about individual collections can also be found on the Special Collections page. Please note that we are not able to fulfill custom digitization requests.

We deeply apologize for the inconvenience.

Please direct any questions regarding collections or the closure to Head of Special Collections Beth Prindle (617.859.2379, bprindle@bpl.org).



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News

Mayor Walsh Announces \$15.7 Million Capital Investment for Preservation of Boston's Rare Books and Manuscripts

Renovation and preservation project includes inventory, environmental, mechanical, and service improvements April 12, 2017

Mayor Martin J. Walsh today announced the launch of a major capital project at the Boston Public Library to help preserve its historic rare books and manuscripts collections, as outlined in Mayor Walsh's Fiscal Year 2018 - Fiscal Year 2022 (FY18-FY22) Capital Plan being released tomorrow.

"The Boston Public Library has the distinct honor of serving as the steward of some of our nation's finest and most historic collections," said Mayor Walsh. "I am proud that through this Capital Plan, we are able to invest in the preservation and care of these collections to ensure their longevity and increase public access to these cherished items."

The first phase of the project commenced in February 2017 with an inventory of the Rare Books & Manuscripts Department's nearly 250,000 rare books and one million manuscripts, in preparation for the second and major phase of the project: substantial renovation with a focus on environmental and mechanical improvements to better regulate temperature and humidity control of the department's collection storage areas, staff spaces, conservation lab, and public reading room. The project will be managed by the City of Boston's Public Facility Department, and the total project is estimated to cost approximately \$15.7 million between FY18-FY20.

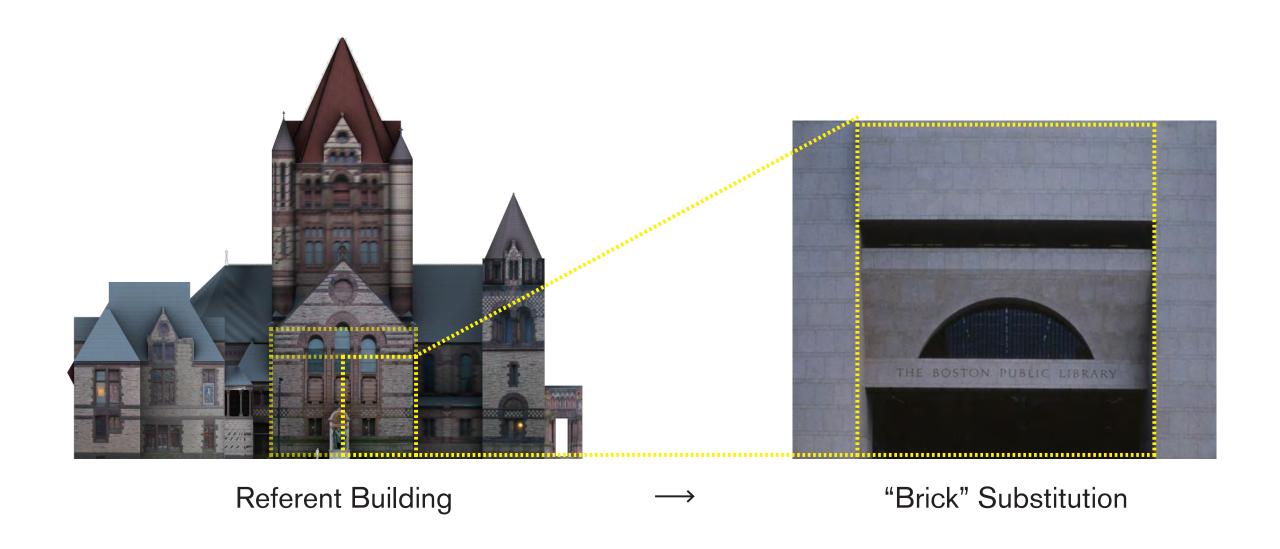
This capital project continues the Boston Public Library's renewed commitment to improve intellectual control and custodianship of all its special collections that began with the Print Department inventory launched in 2015.

The Rare Books & Manuscripts Department serves as the Boston Public Library's principal repository of rare books, manuscripts, and artifacts of permanent or enduring value collected for their intellectual content and historical significance. Highlights of the library's extraordinary holdings-one of the largest in the United States-include medieval manuscripts dating from as early as the 10th century; Colonial and Revolutionary War letters and documents; early printed books; and President John Adams's personal library.

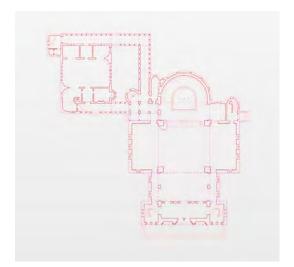
Test: H. H. Richardson Trinity Church, 1872

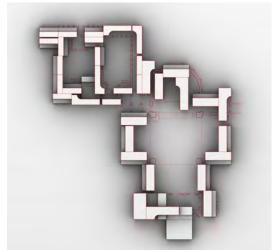
Step 1: apply Bad Brick
Invent a brick with respect to referent
Step 2: apply Bad Mass
Approximate referent massing by deploying brick according to schema
Step 3: apply Bad Facade
Rationalize elevation by translating referent tectonic systems into hatches.

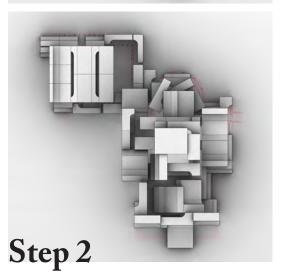
Proposal: Igsung So Rare Book Library, 20



Step 1



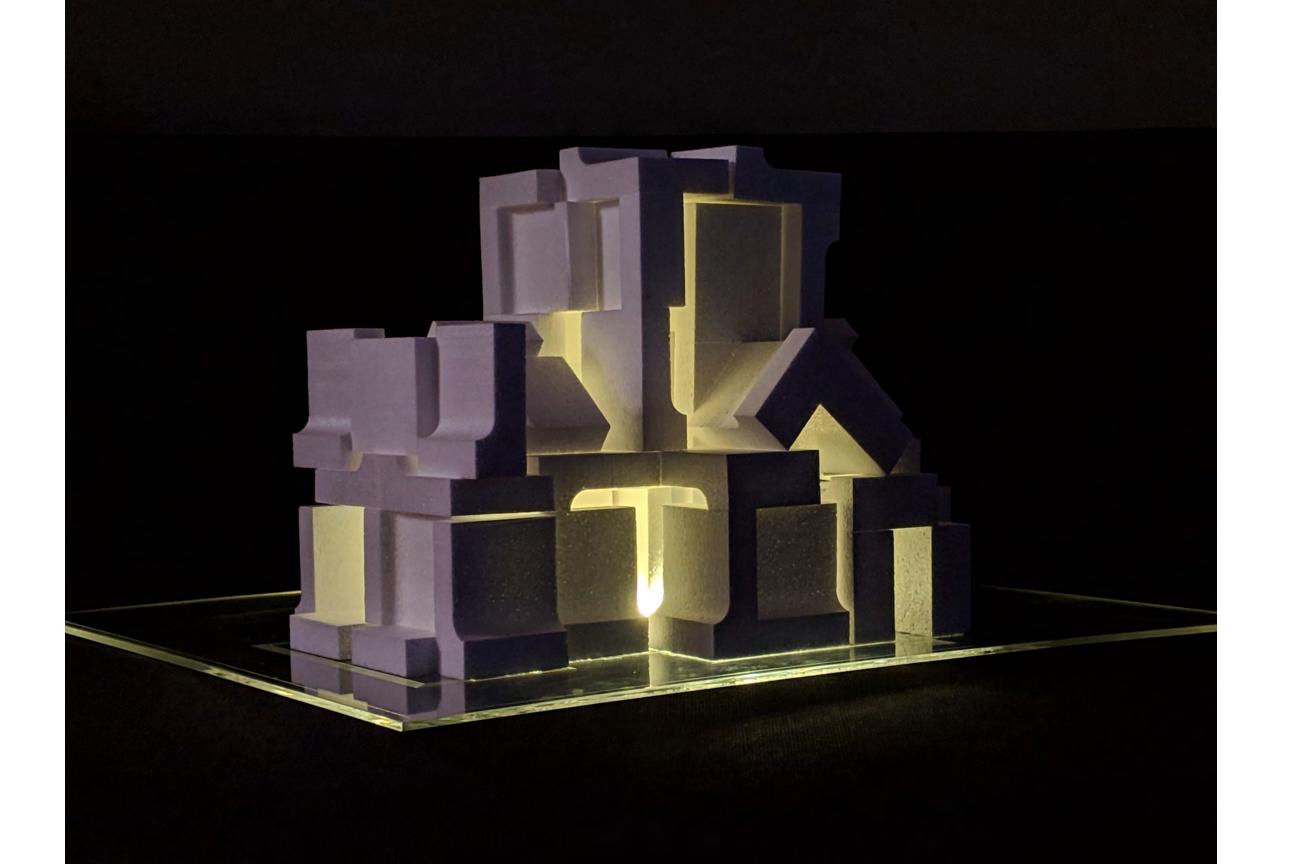


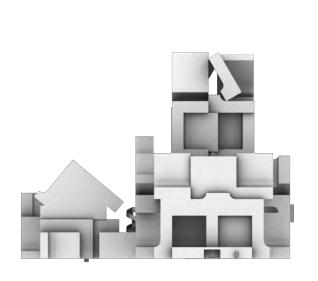




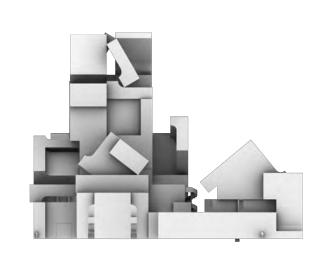








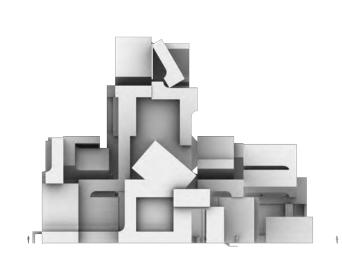














Step 3















