

Architecture and Society

"Architecture is definitely a political act." - **Peter Eisenman** in [Haaretz](#)

"Architecture is always dream and function, expression of a utopia and instrument of a convenience."
- **Roland Barthes** in ["Semiology and Urbanism"](#)

"Architecture is an act of optimism." - **Nicolai Ouroussoff** in [The LA Times](#)

"Architecture is more about ideas than materials." - **Qingyun Ma** in [Los Angeles Times](#)

"Architecture is only as great as the aspirations of its society." - **Lisa Rochon** in [Globe and Mail](#)

"Architecture is a very dangerous job. If a writer makes a bad book, eh, people don't read it. But if you make bad architecture, you impose ugliness on a place for a hundred years." - **Renzo Piano** in [Time](#)

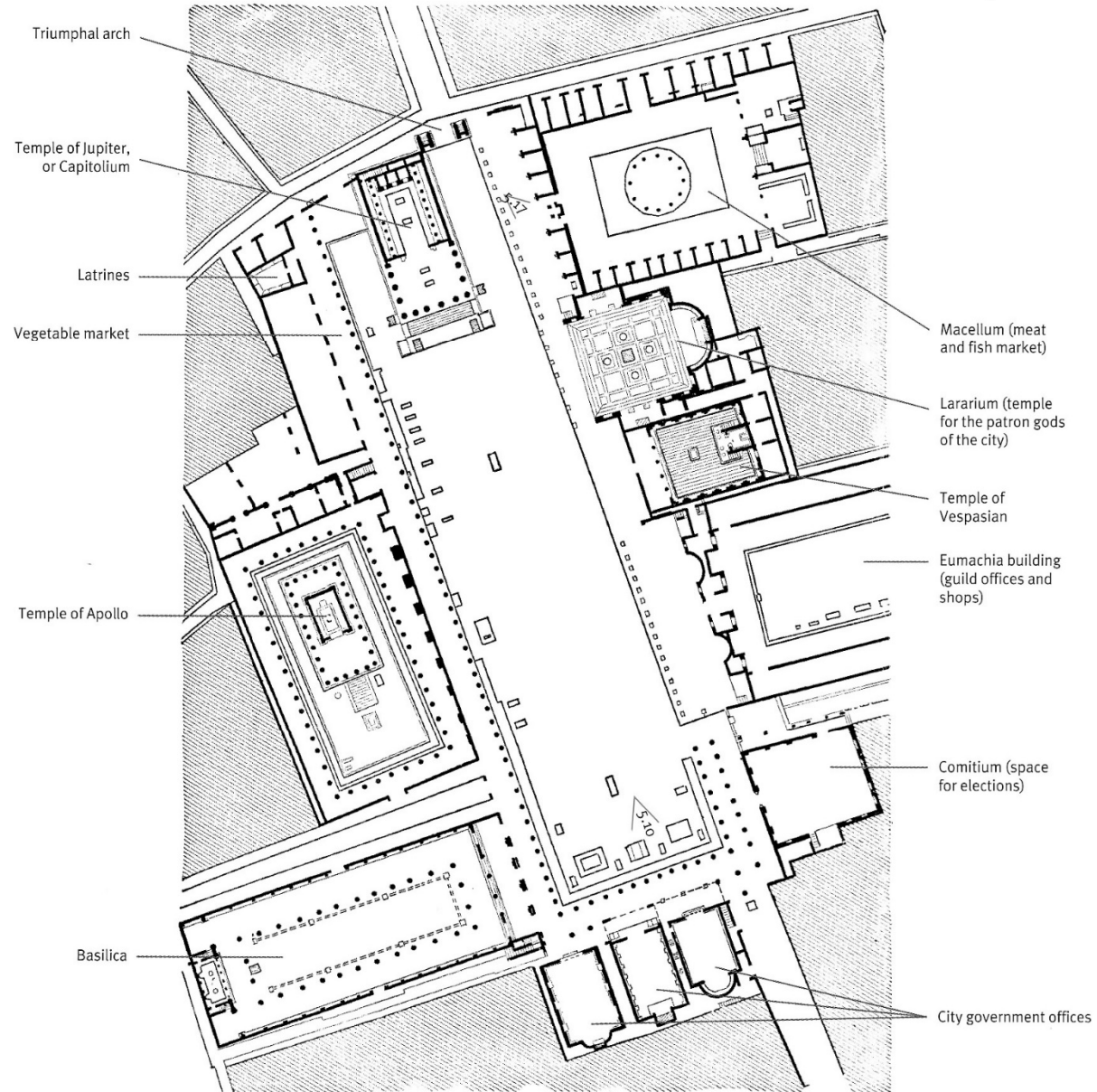
"Architecture is interesting, but by itself it means nothing." - **Massimiliano Fuksas** in [New York Times](#)

"Architecture is used by political leaders to seduce, to impress, and to intimidate." - **Deyan Sudjic** in [The Washington Post](#)

"Architecture is about giving form to the places where people live. It is not more complicated than that but also not simpler than that. - **Alejandro Aravena** in his 2016 [Pritzker Prize acceptance speech](#)

"Architecture is more than just buildings; these structures can inspire and motivate people to do great things." **Fisk Johnson** for the 2017 [Chicago Architecture Biennial](#)

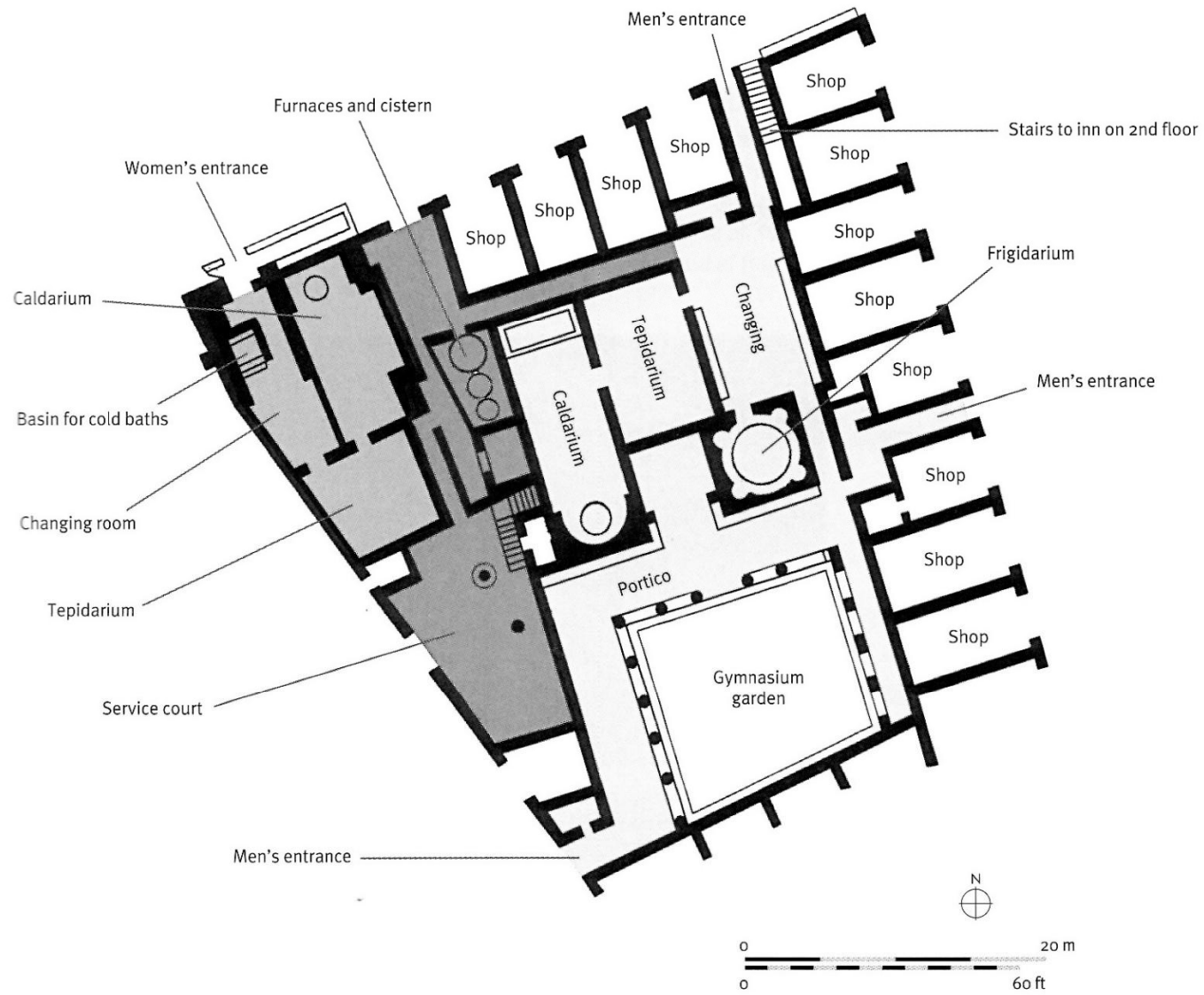
Architecture and *Politics*



Politics



Architecture and *Politics*



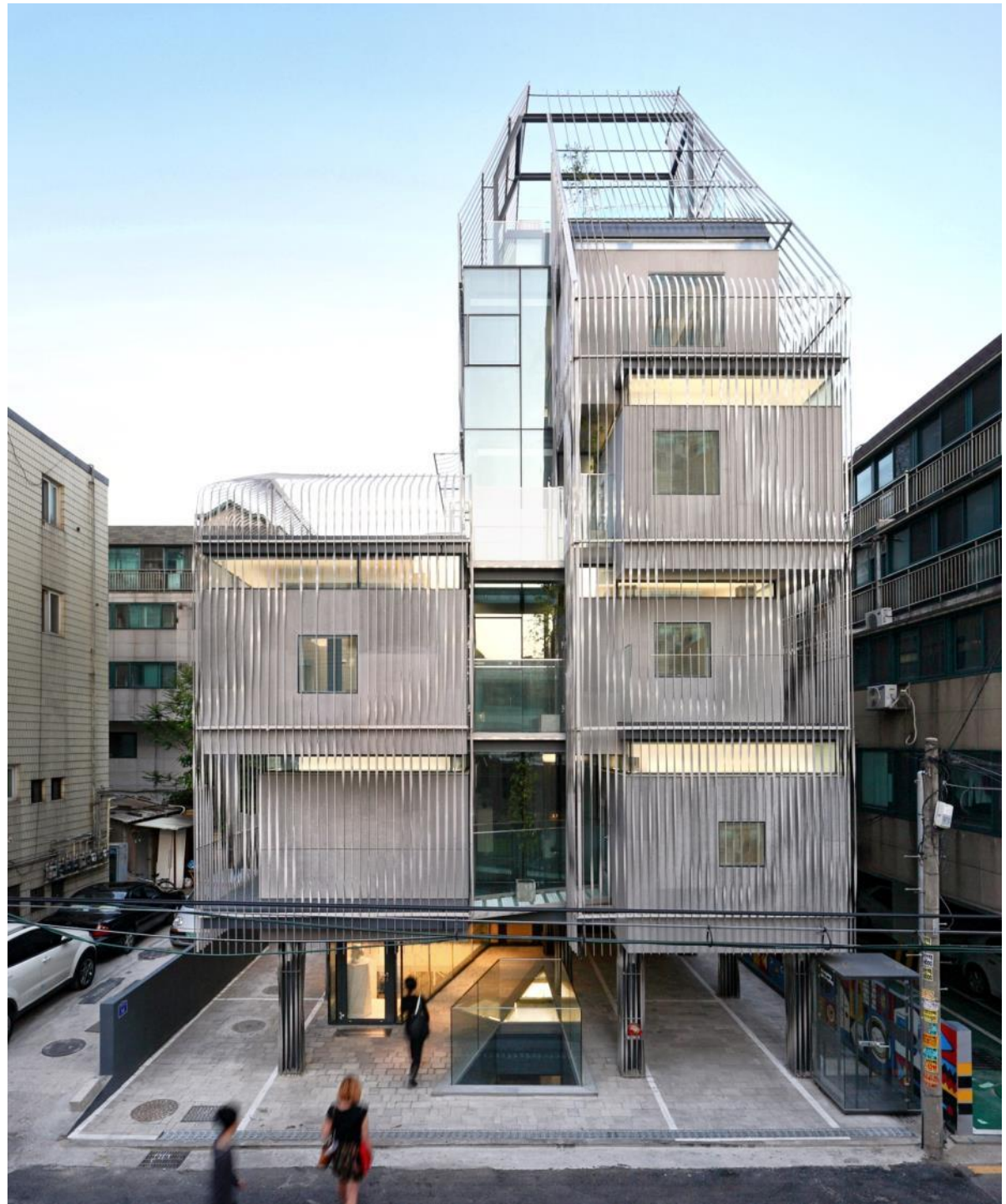
Pompeii 'Public' Bath 72AD

Architecture and *Housing*



San Gimignano c. 1350

Architecture and *Housing*































Architecture and *Work*



Taylorism, the division of labor, and women entering the workforce

Architecture and *Work*



CIAM 2: 1929
Ernst May, City Architect
Minimum Dwelling Unit
Die Wohnung für das Existenz
minimum (Siedlungen)



Architecture and *Work*



Google offices



Segovia Aqueduct, 1st c. AD



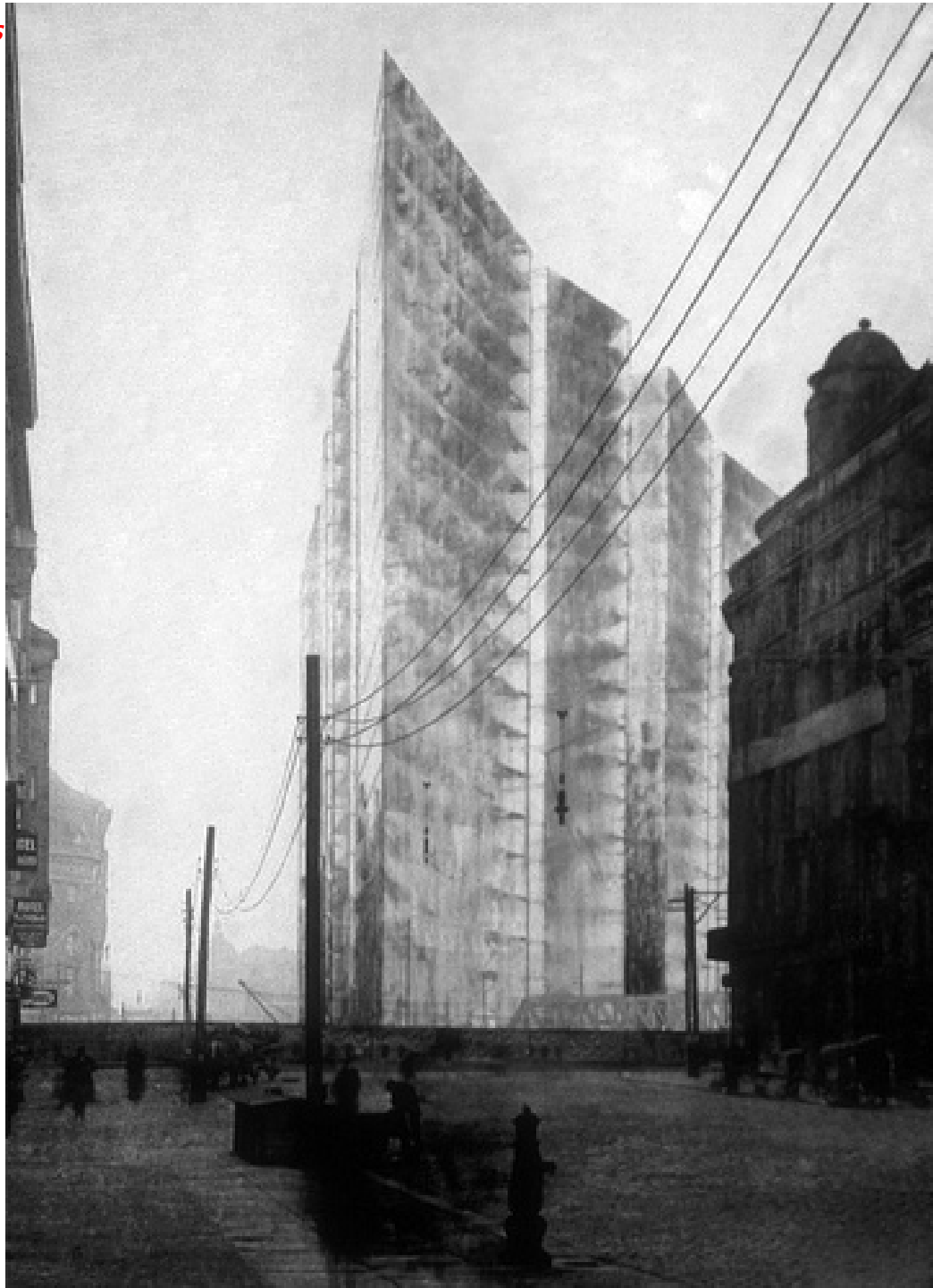
Calatrava Transportation HUB, New York 2016



Toulou Houses, 18thc. China



Bukchon Hanok Village



Friedrich Strasses Skyscraper, Mies Van der Rohe 1921

Drawings





Haussmann's Paris, 1853-70



Architecture and *Cities*



Insadong, Seoul pedestrianized in 1996 under Kang Hong-bin, HURPI graduate and vice-mayor of Seoul

Architecture and *Cities*

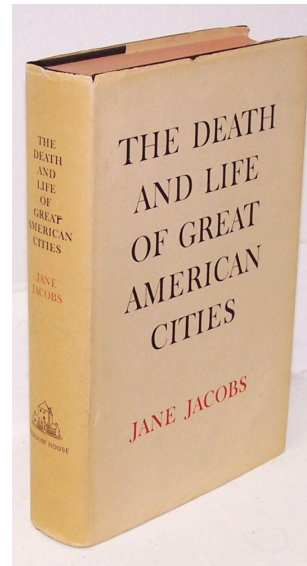


Seoullo 7017, 2017

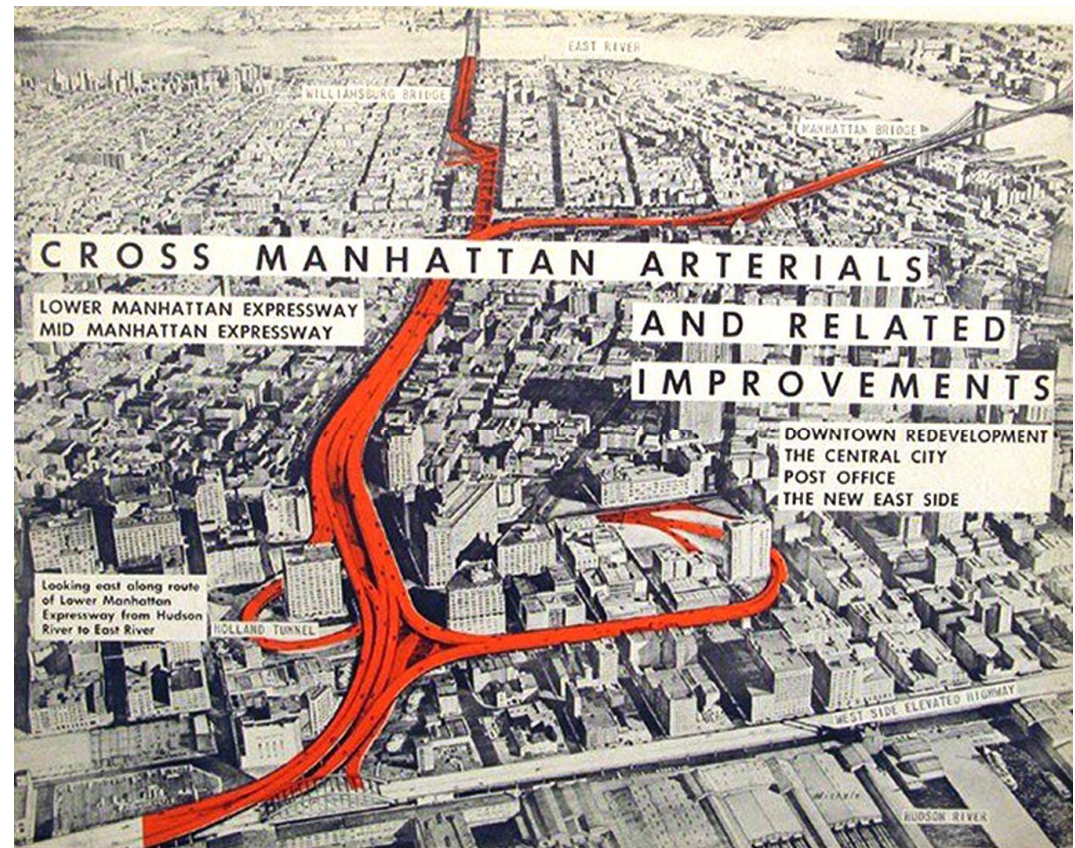


Cheonggyecheon 2012

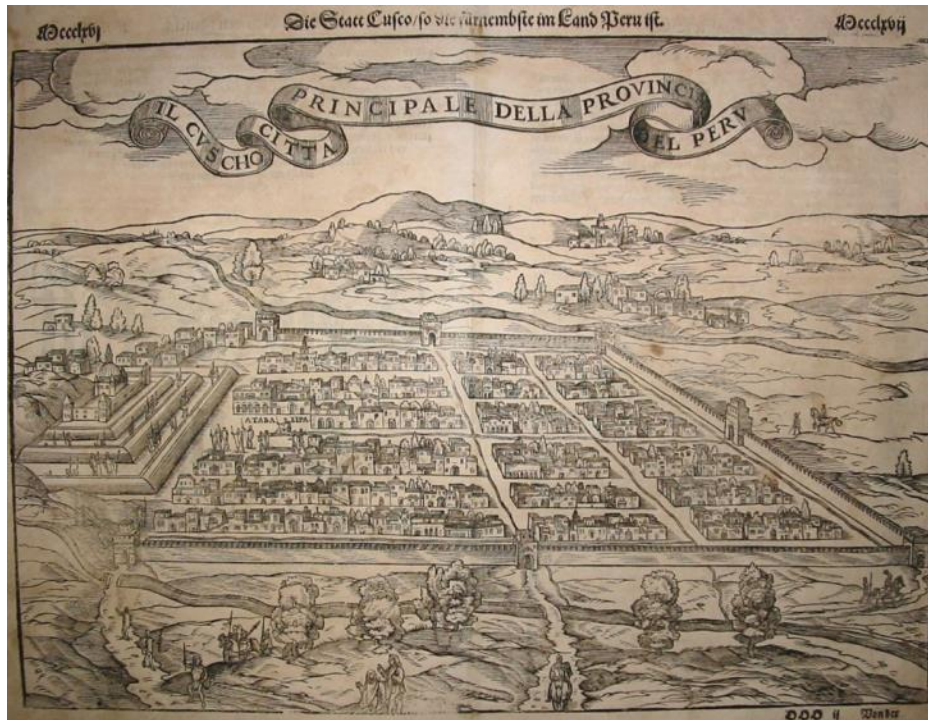
Architecture and *Writing*



Jane Jacobs, Washington Square Park protest 1953: Importance of street life



Architecture and *Utopia*



Utopia, Sir Thomas More, 1516



Masdar, 2006-2025

Architecture and *Celebrities*



Kanye West Harvard GSD



Brad Pitt and Rem Koolhaas

Architecture and *Celebrities*

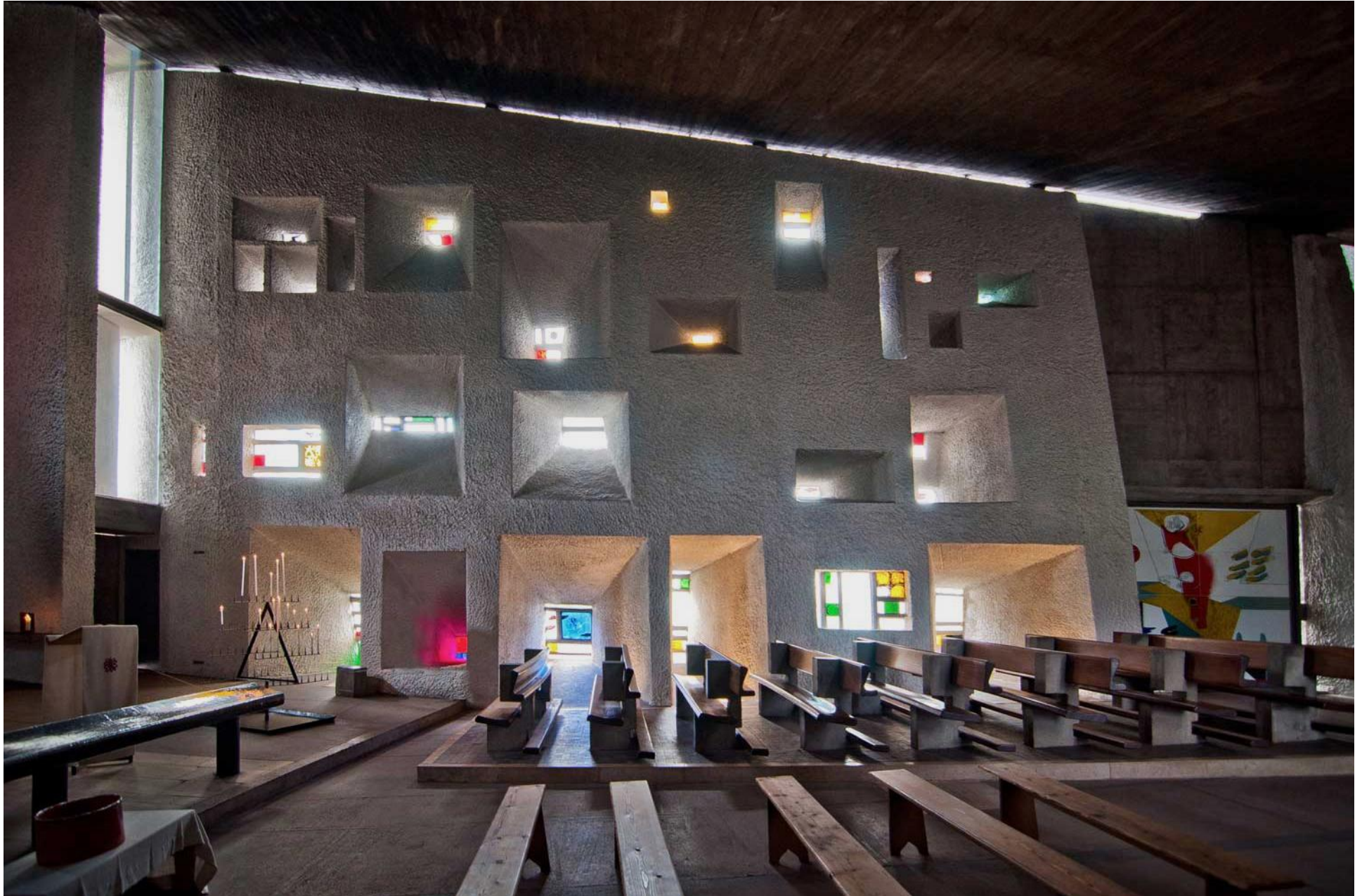


Brad Pitt 'Make it Right' New Orleans

Architecture and *Religion*



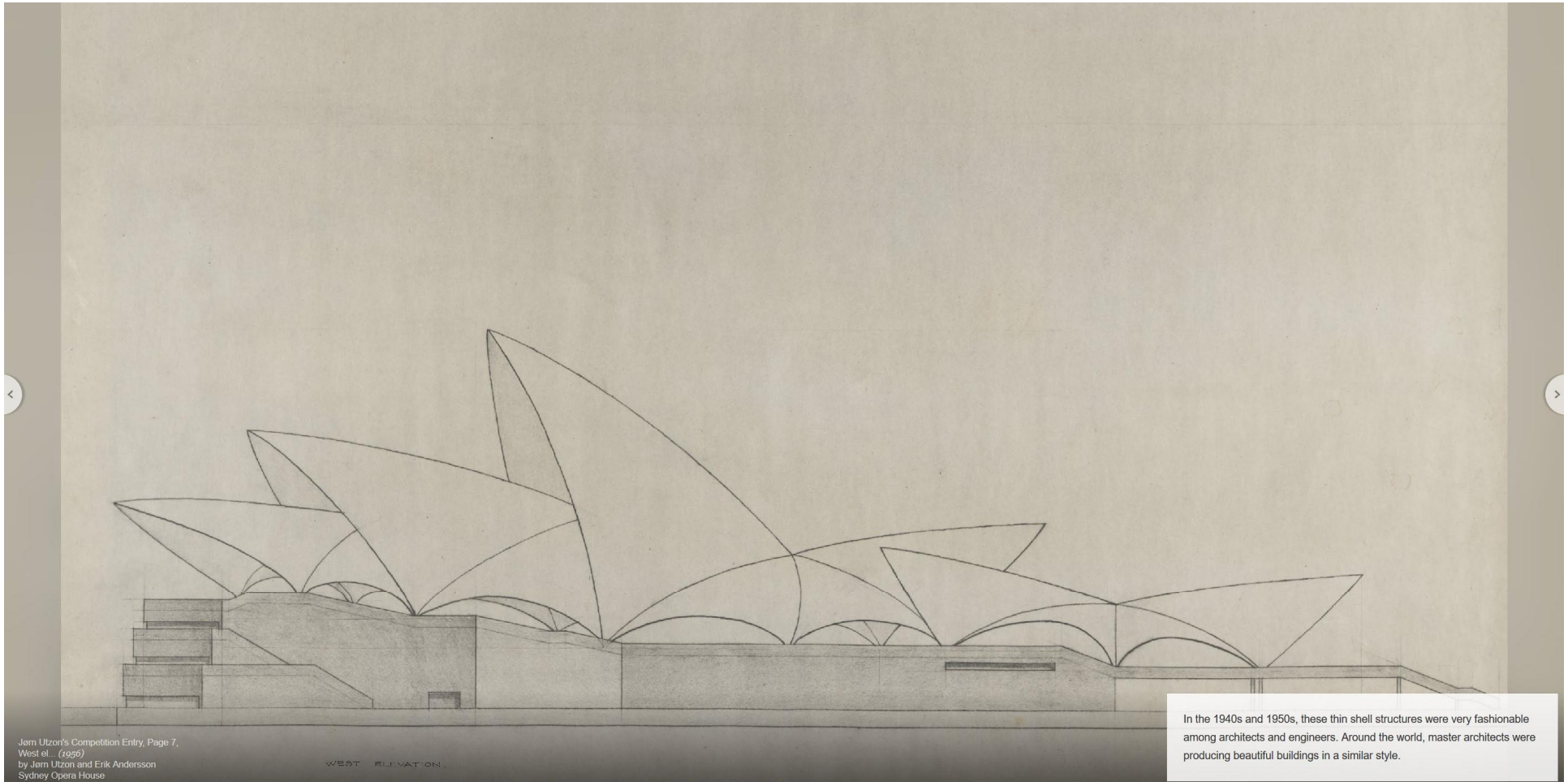
Lincoln Cathedral, London, begun 1072



Notre Dame Du Haut, Ronchamp, 2955



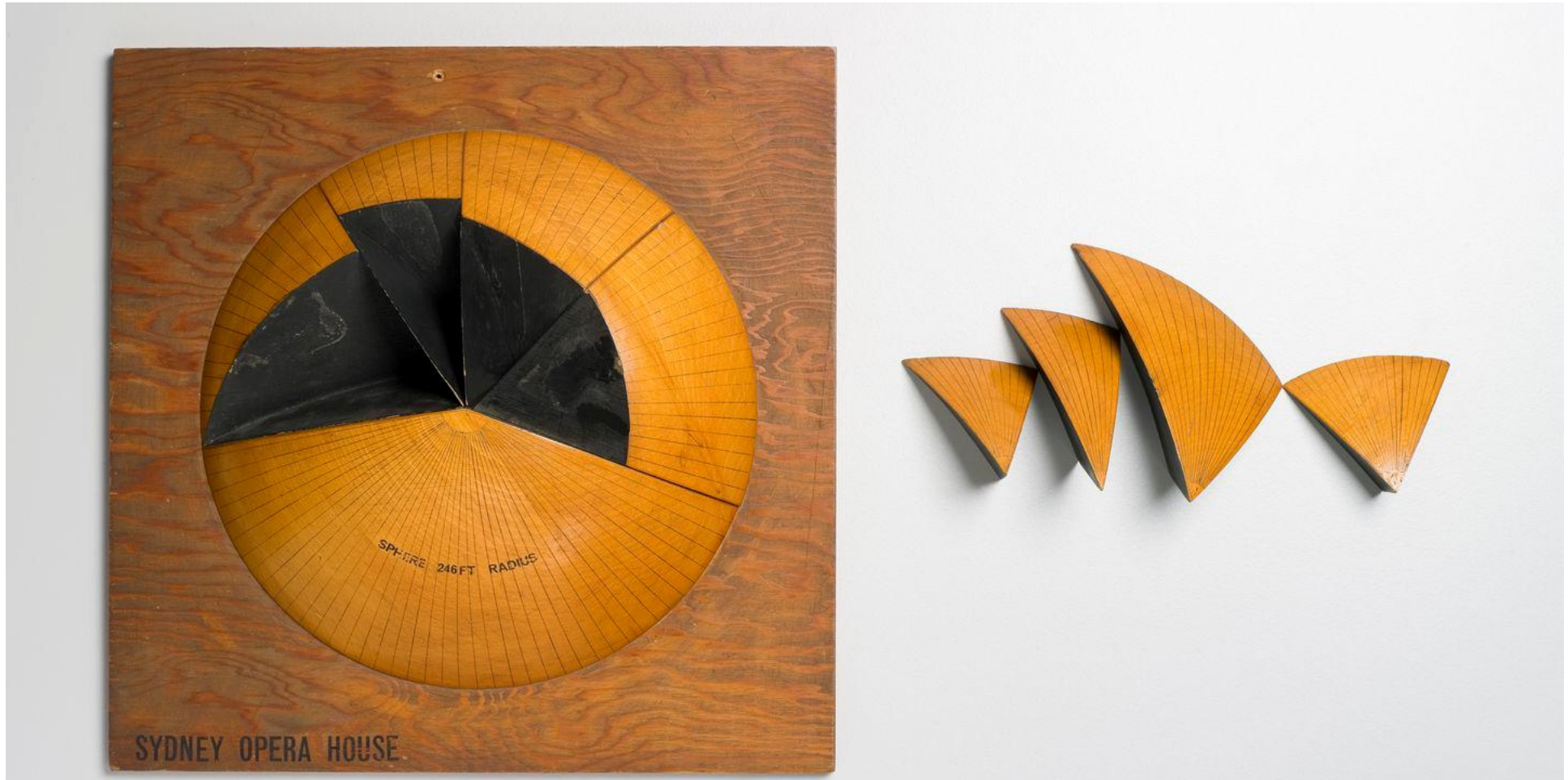
Sydney Opera House, 1973



Jørn Utzon's Competition Entry, Page 7,
West et al. (1959)
by Jørn Utzon and Erik Andersson
Sydney Opera House

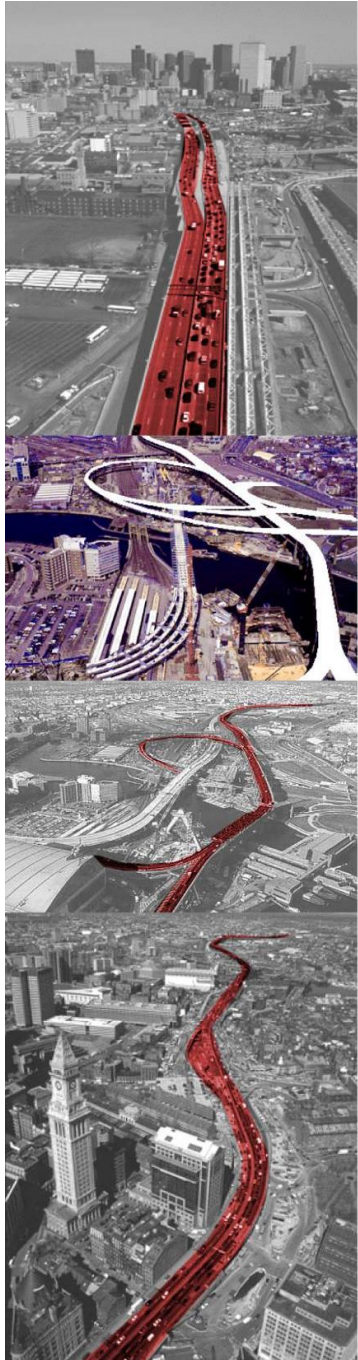
WEST ELEVATION

In the 1940s and 1950s, these thin shell structures were very fashionable among architects and engineers. Around the world, master architects were producing beautiful buildings in a similar style.



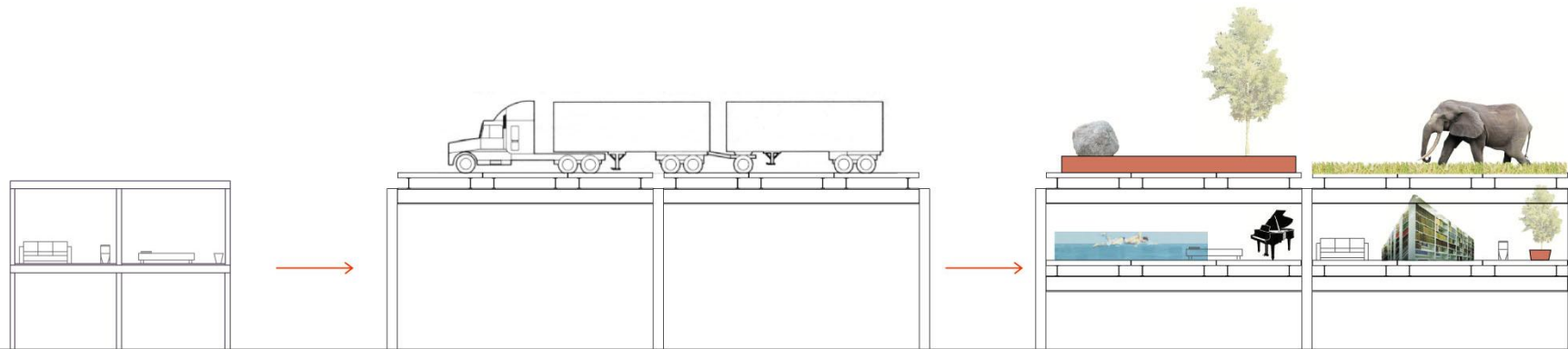
Sydney Opera House, Over Arup Concept
1960

Architecture × *Materials* × *Recycling* × *Infrastructure* × *Labor*





LOAD COMPARISONS:



Standard Framing:
40 psf living / 50 psf

Existing Inverted Overpass:
Interstate-93 designed for HS20-44
military loading: 250 psf

Recycled Big Dig Building:
200psf

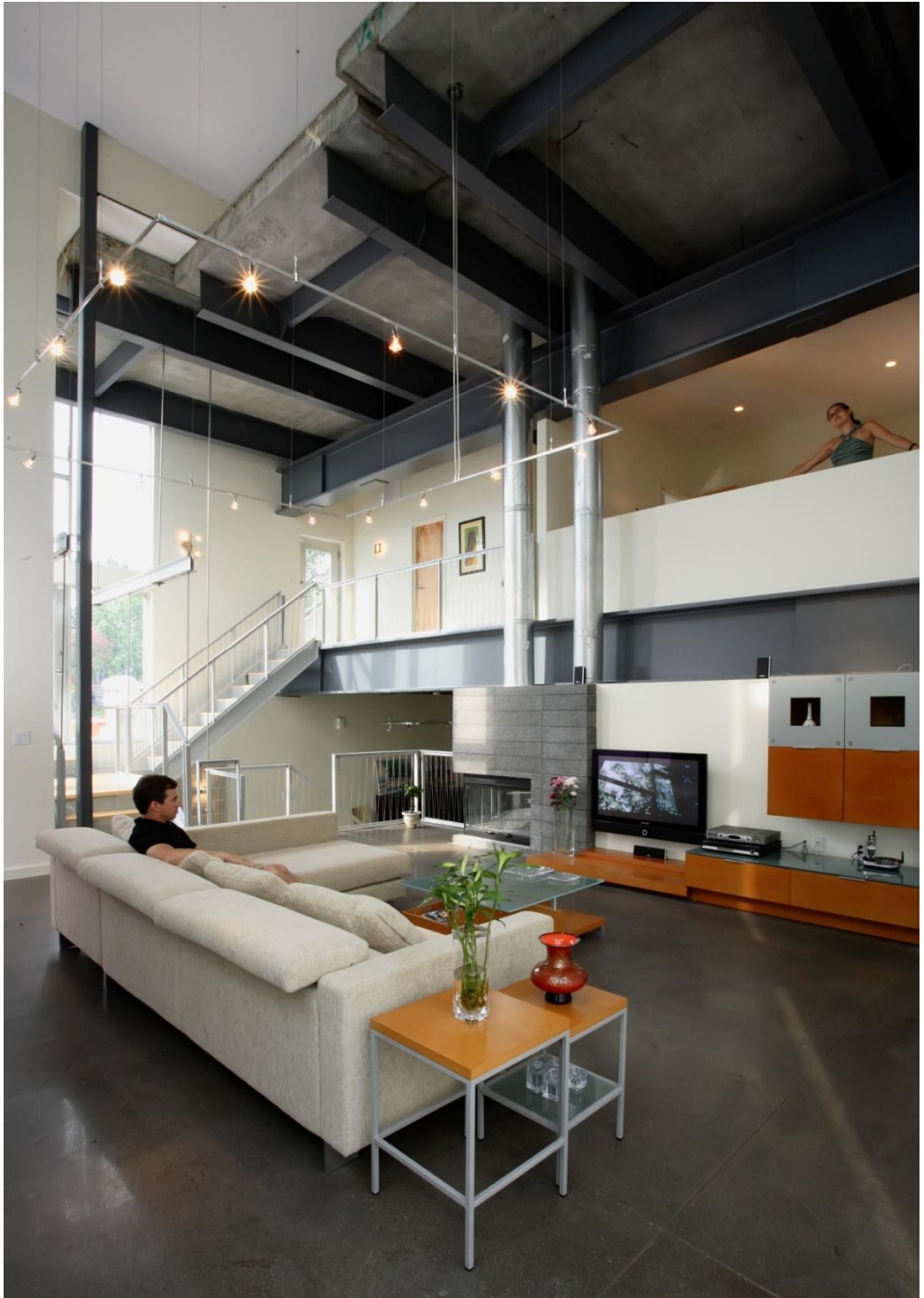


Big Dig House
Lexington, MA
[AIA/BSA Housing Design Award, Metropolis Magazine, Boston Globe Magazine Feature]



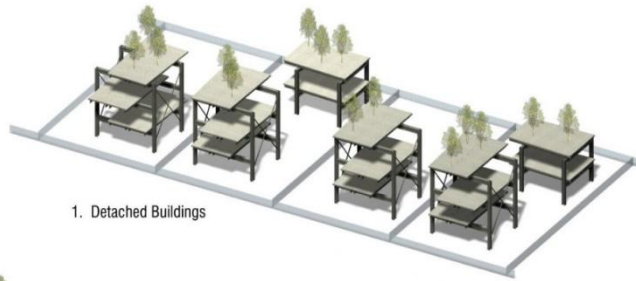




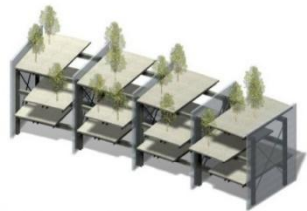




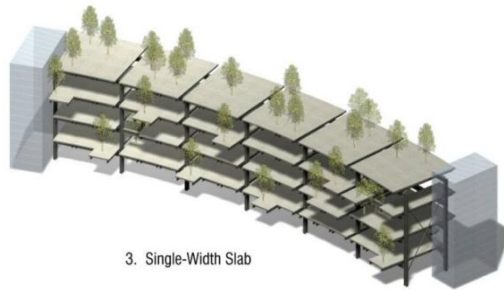
G DIG TYPOLOGIES



1. Detached Buildings



2. Party-Wall Townhouse



3. Single-Width Slab

BIG DIG TYPOLOGIES



4. Double-Width Slab



5. Cluster Buildings



6. Mid-Rise Block

Architecture × *Learning* × *Ecosystems* × *Recycling*



















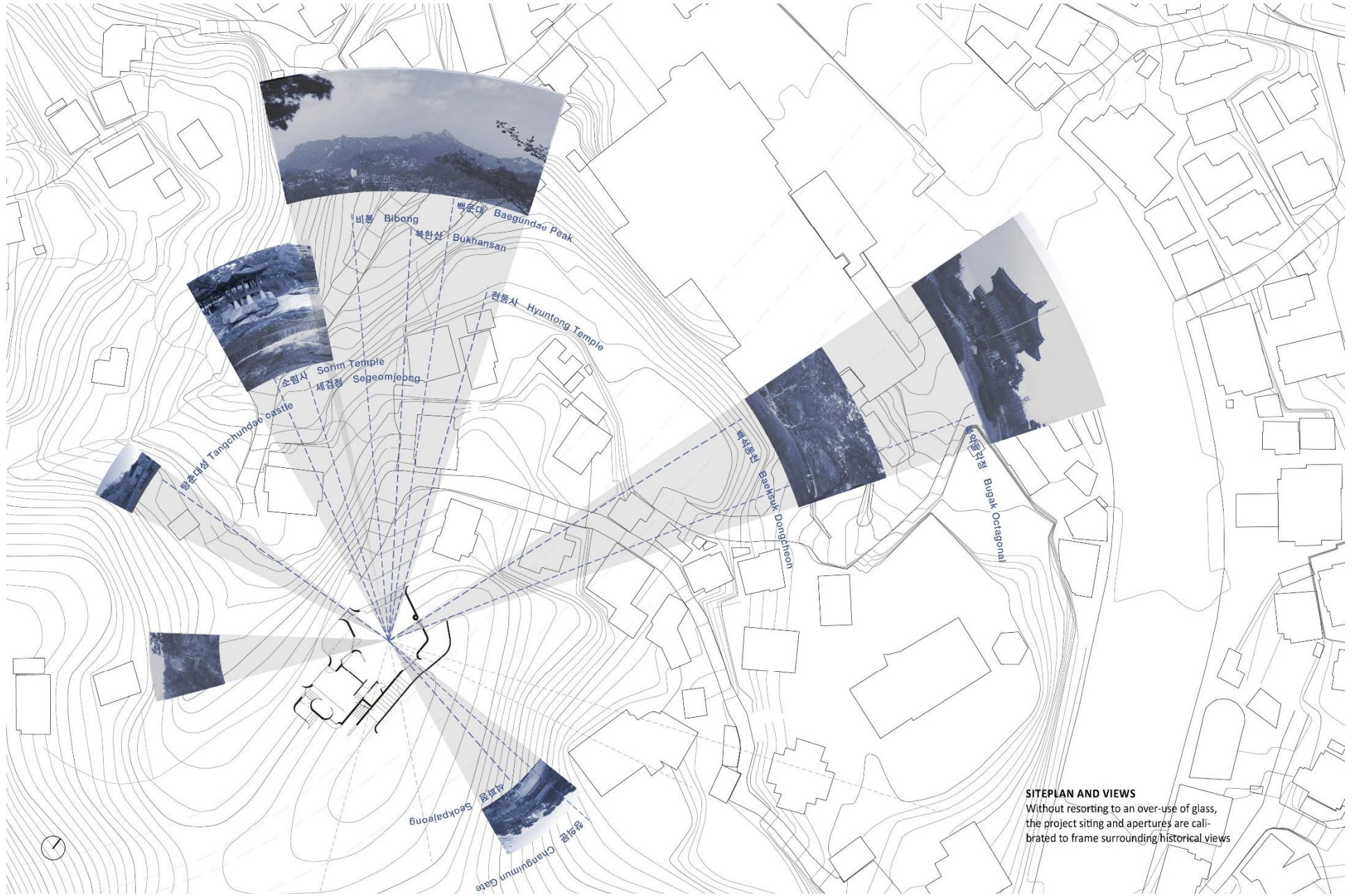






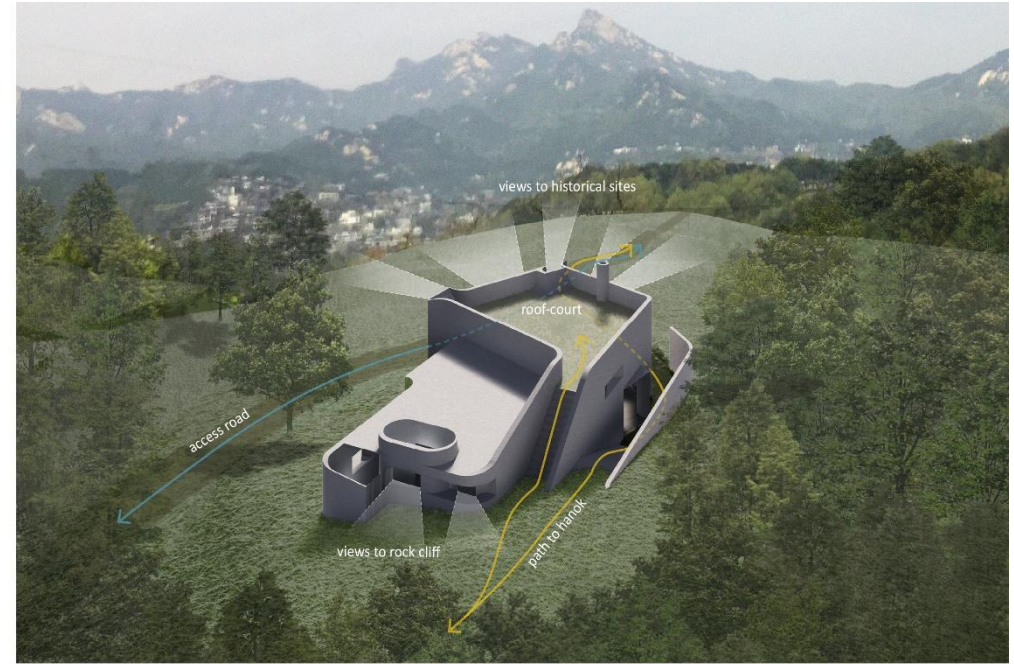
CONTEMPORARY JEONGJA
Seoul, Korea | 2020 projected

The historical 'Jeongja', a type of minimal pavilion in the landscape, still has powerful relevance today. Its proximity to urban life allowed it to be a place of intense gathering where poetry and music was shared. Like its predecessors, this contemporary version within the hills of Buam-dong Seoul is witness to diverse vistas that highlight the city's ancient and modern culture. Its apertures are apparatuses to visually frame the collection of sites that surround it. Their curvature diffuses light to minimize the contrast between inside and outside so that one's eyes can comfortably experience both distant exterior and close interior. The curvatures also set up a semantic game making the building appear both thick and thin.



SITEPLAN AND VIEWS
 Without resorting to an over-use of glass,
 the project siting and apertures are cali-
 brated to frame surrounding historical views

Architecture × *History*



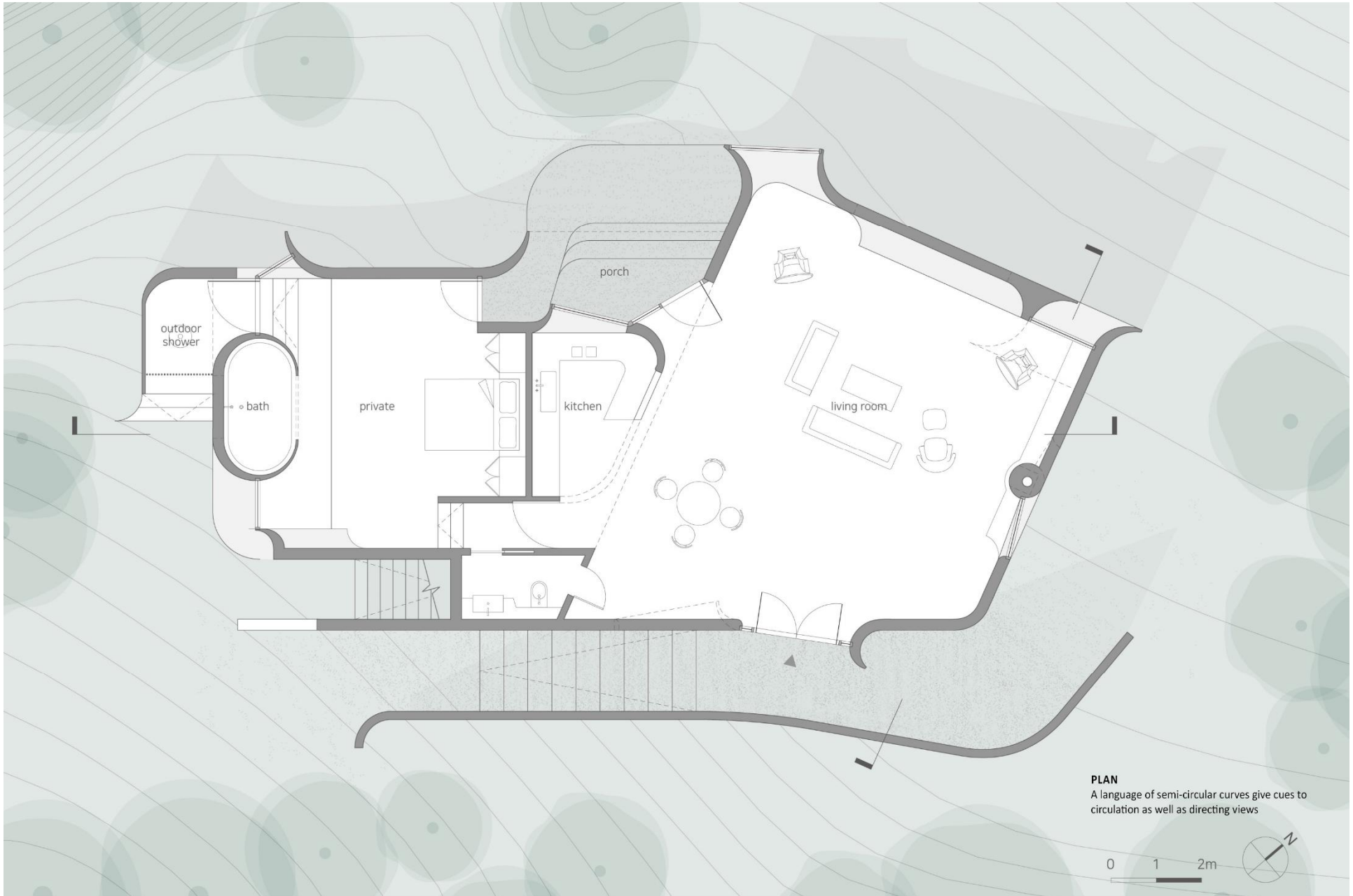
CONTEMPORARY TRADITION

The traditional Korean Jeongja pavilion (left) was placed in the landscape in close proximity to the city and included a forecourt. Our contemporary version similarly maximizes views back to historical sites while placing the forecourt on the roof.

GRADATION WINDOWS

Traditional pavilions, such as the ones in the Suzhou gardens in China, use decorative patterns around windows to create a gradation between inside and outside alleviating eye strain (left). Similarly our version (right) uses deep, curved windows to manage contrast and merge the exterior scene with the interior.





PLAN
A language of semi-circular curves give cues to circulation as well as directing views





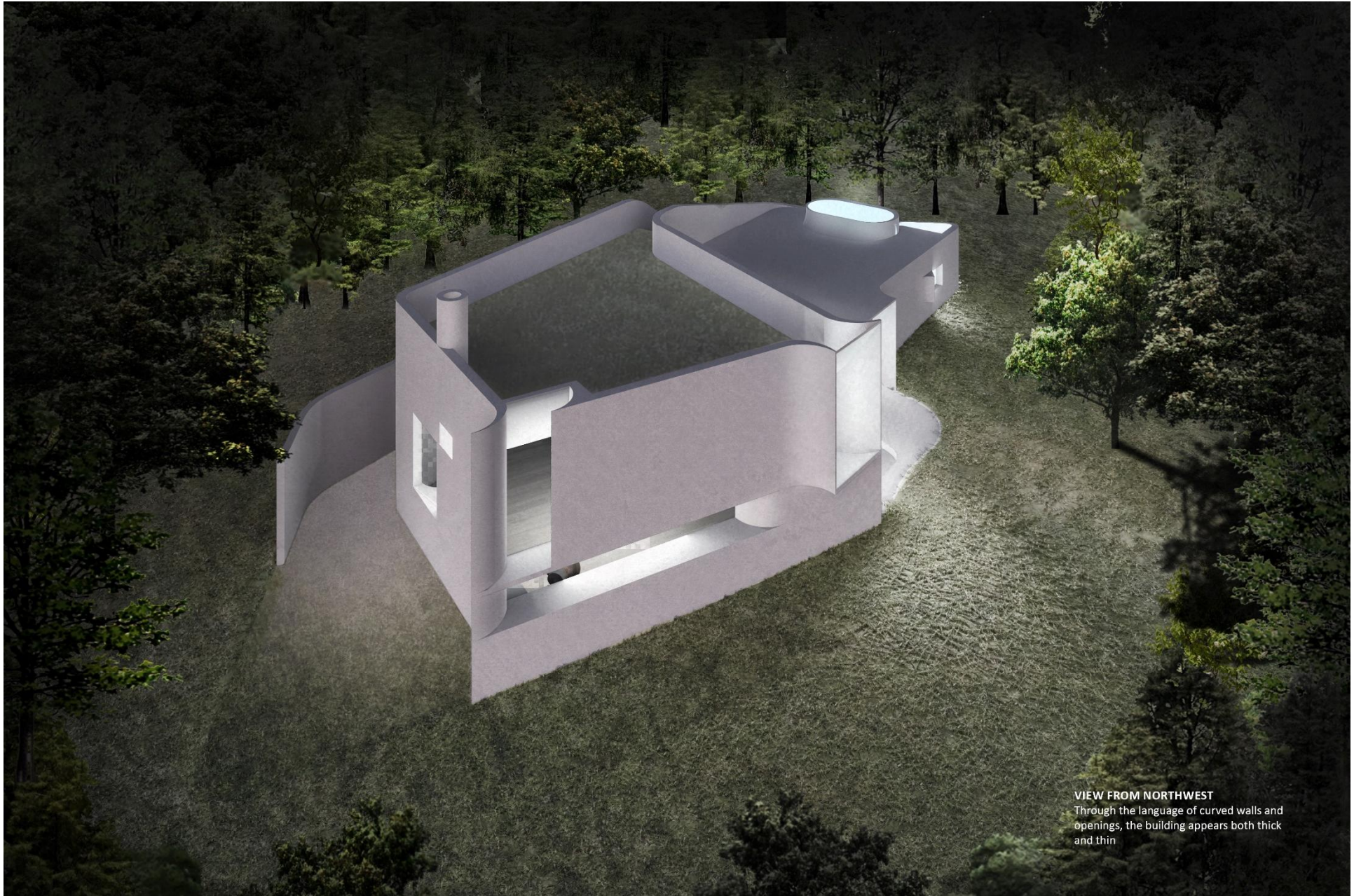
VIEW OF LIVING ROOM As a place to enjoy cultural and social events, the room's apertures frame historically significant sites and landscapes. The apertures also diffusely reflect environmental sounds inward to mix with music and conversation.

Architecture and *History*

VIEW OF BEDROOM

The half-submerged bedroom receives natural light from above into the pool-like bath while glimpses of the cliff wall beyond become part of the interior scene





VIEW FROM NORTHWEST
Through the language of curved walls and openings, the building appears both thick and thin