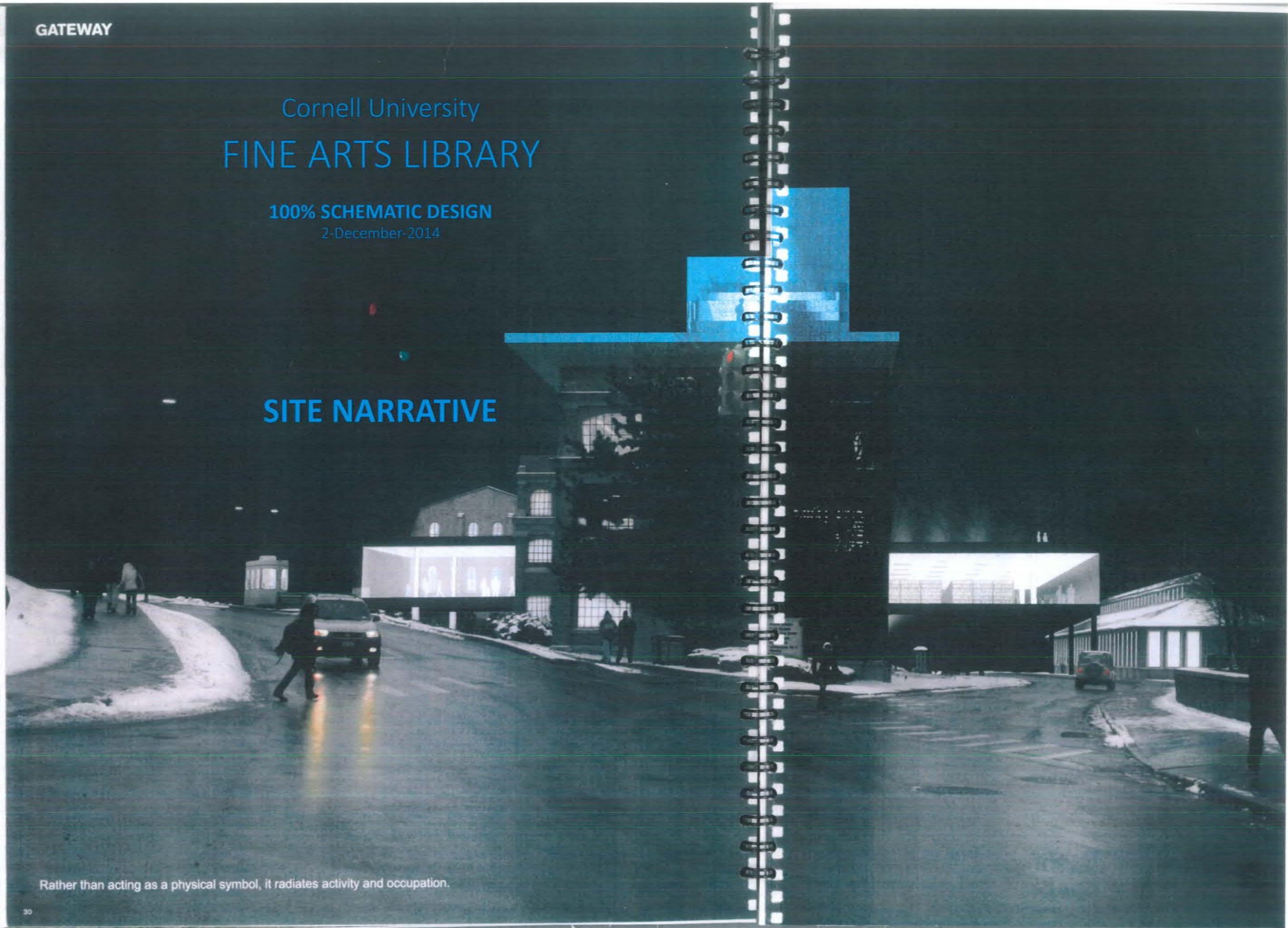


Cornell University  
**FINE ARTS LIBRARY**

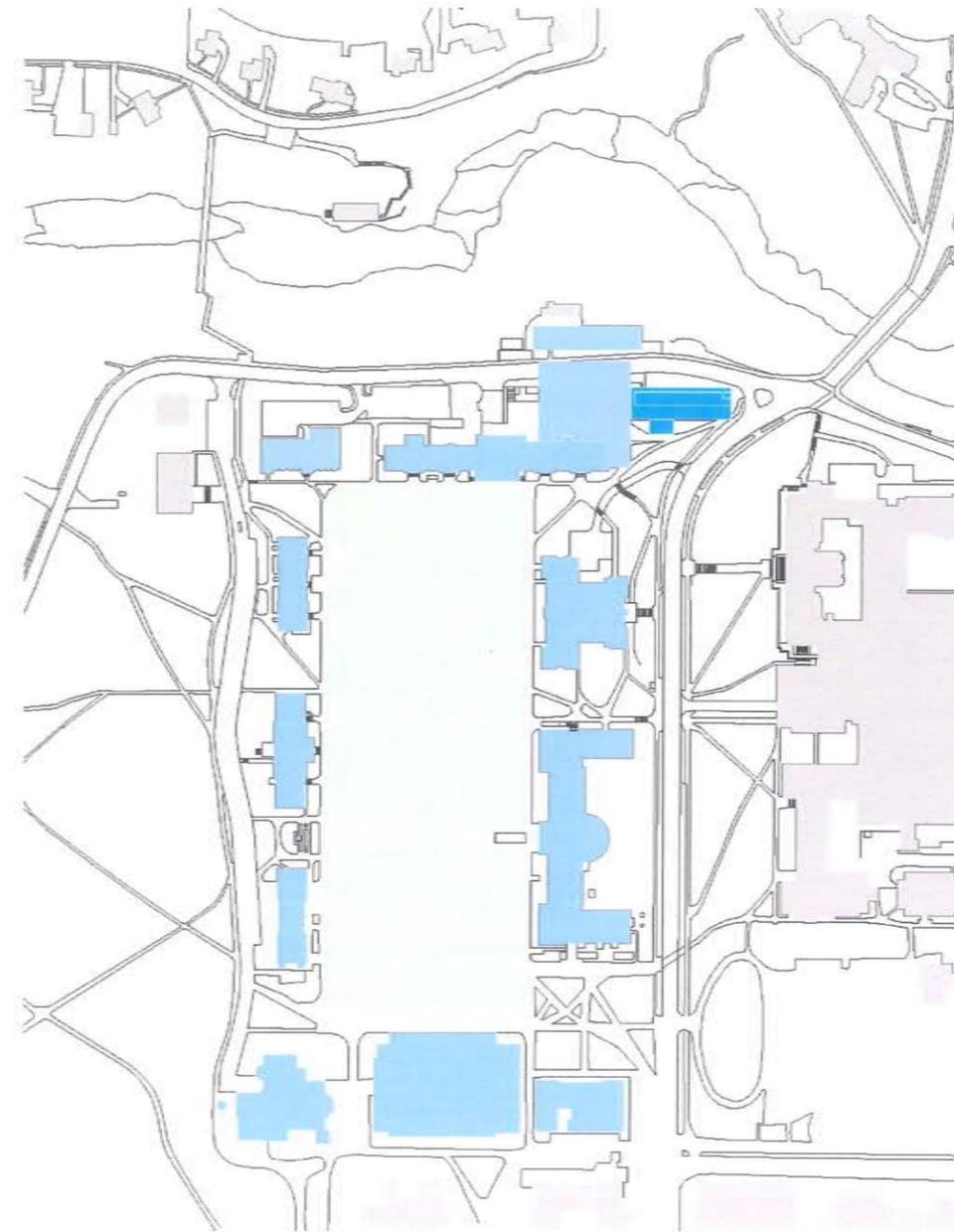
**100% SCHEMATIC DESIGN**  
2-December-2014

**SITE NARRATIVE**



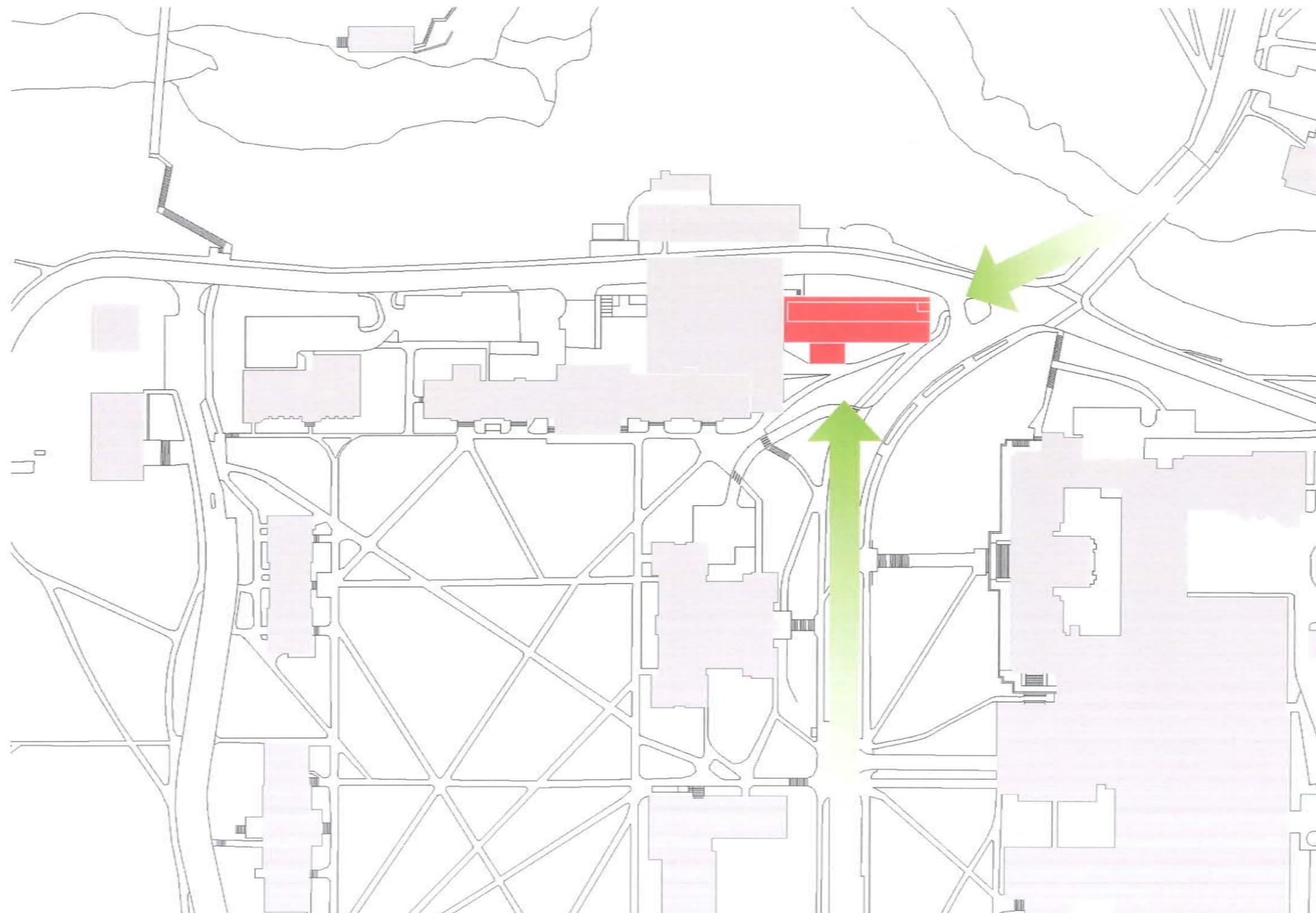
Rather than acting as a physical symbol, it radiates activity and occupation.

## 1 SITE ANALYSIS: ARTS QUAD

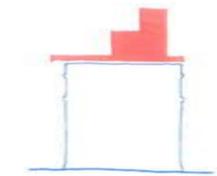


The perimeter of the Arts Quad is clearly defined, with Rand Hall being the single exception that protrudes outwards at the Northern termination point of East Avenue.

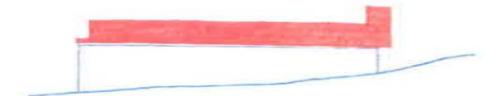
## 2 SITE ANALYSIS: APPROACH AND VISIBILITY



Strong presence and strong visibility by entering the campus

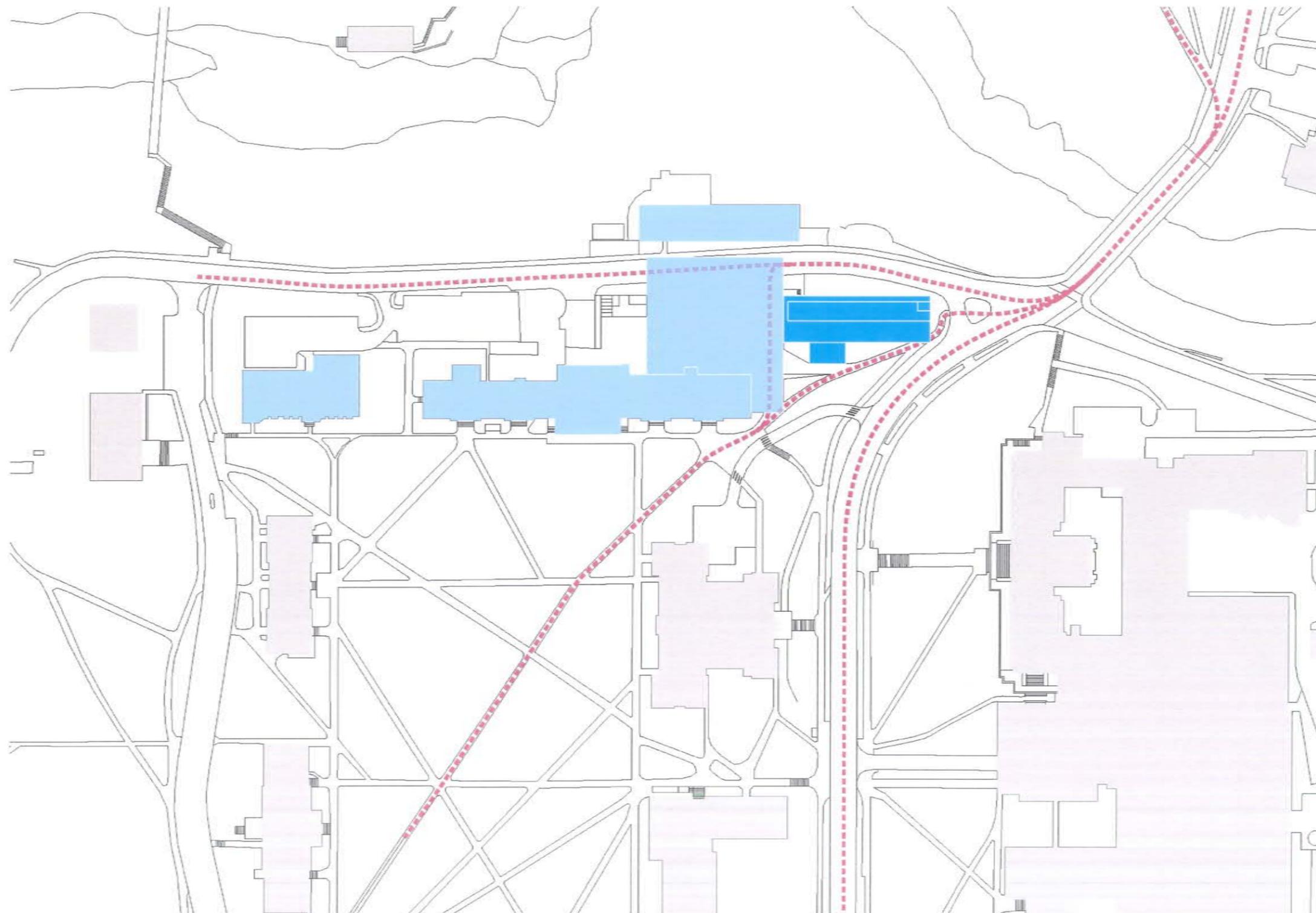


Rand Hall + new superstructure on top contribute to the idea of an entry gate to the central campus



Rand Hall + new superstructure on top have the potential to act as a focal point for East Avenue

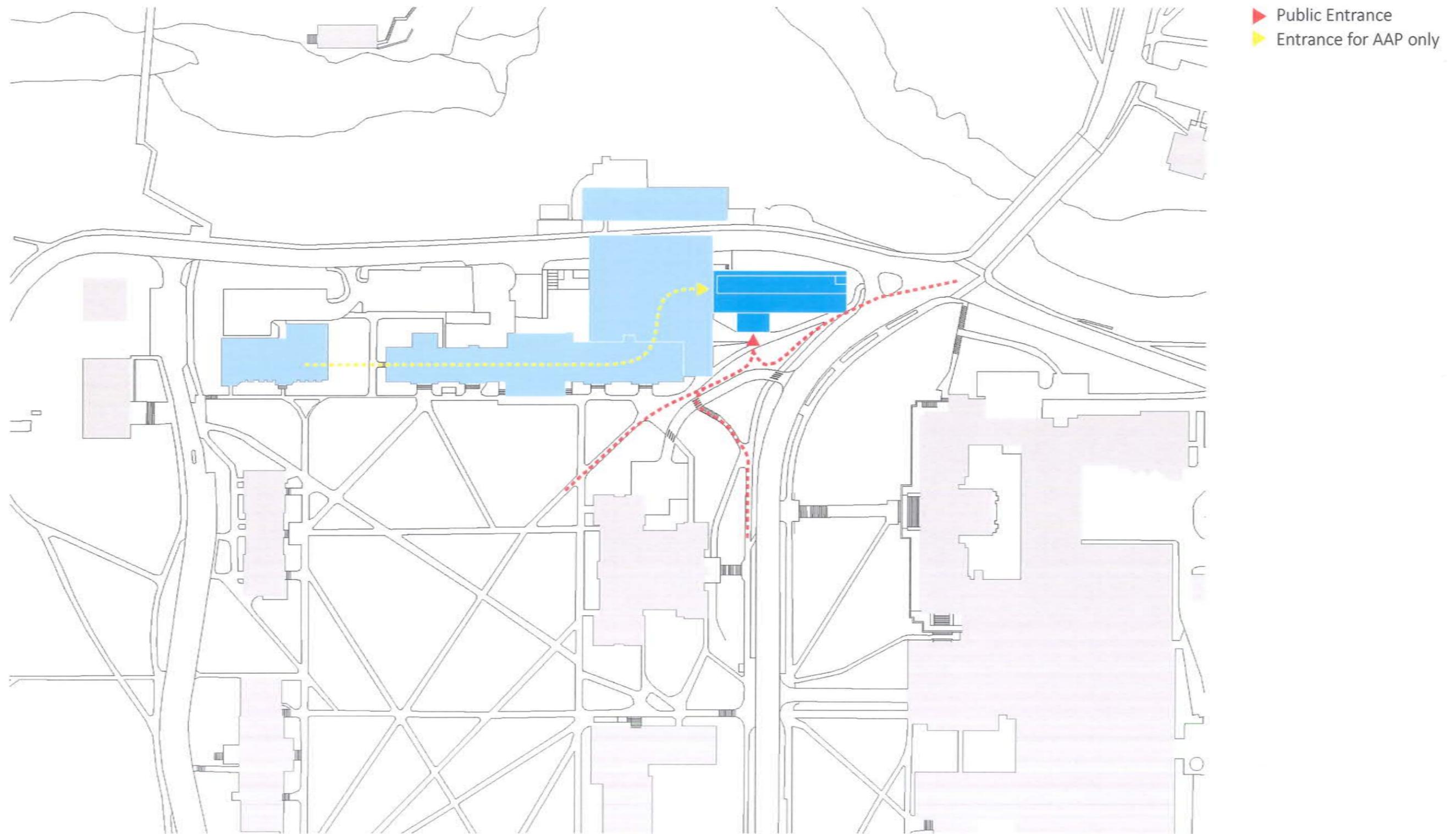
### 3 SITE ANALYSIS: CAMPUS IMPACT, NEW SIGN TO THE AAP



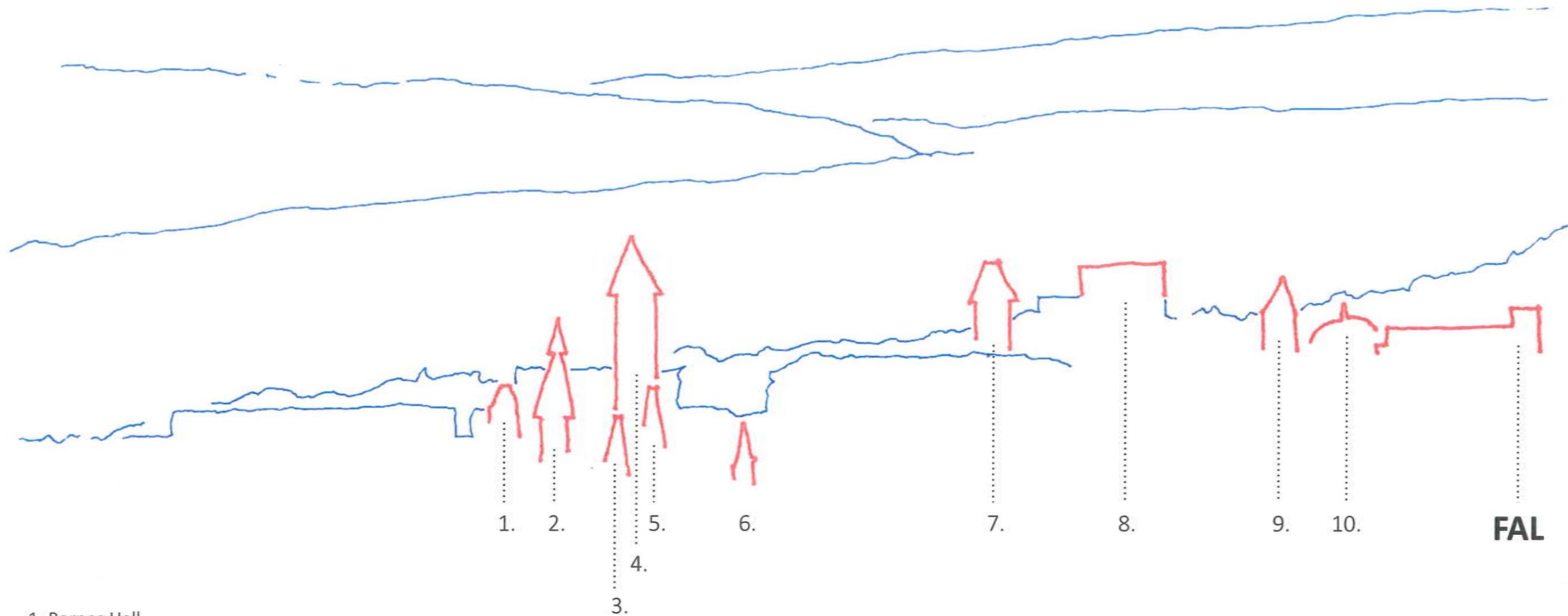
FAL scheme has the potential for adding another piece of contemporary architecture of high quality to the AAP College and to Cornell University, bringing distinction and excellence to the campus

The FAL is used by patrons university-wide. At the moment one of the most important functions of the AAP College - the FAL Library - has no visibility and no presence on Campus. In earlier times, Sibley dome was signal for the FAL Library. The newly renovated Rand Hall together with the new superstructure on top has the potential to mark Rand Hall as a new University destination, signaling the FAL as a university asset.

#### 4 SITE ANALYSIS: ENTRY

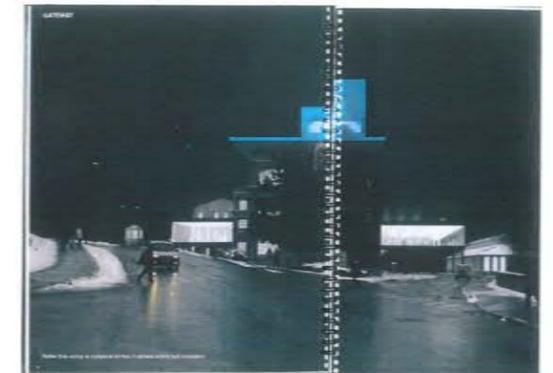
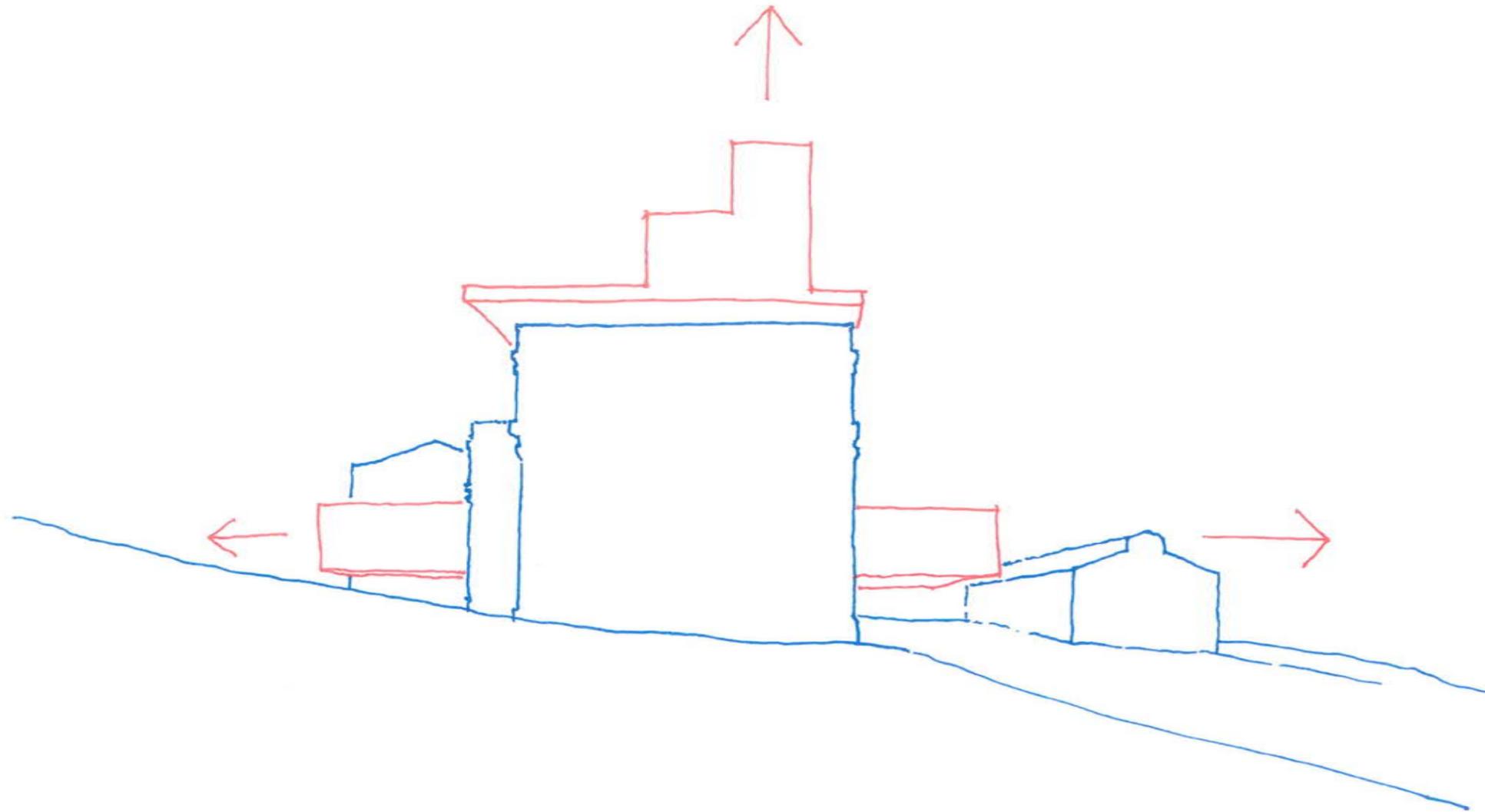


## 5 ARTICULATED SKYLINE OF CORNELL CAMPUS



1. Barnes Hall
2. Sage Hall, main tower
3. Sage Hall, tower south-west
4. McGraw Tower
5. Sage Hall, tower north
6. Sage Hall, tower south-east
7. McGraw Hall
8. Johnson Museum of Art
9. Olive Tjaden Hall
10. Sibley Hall

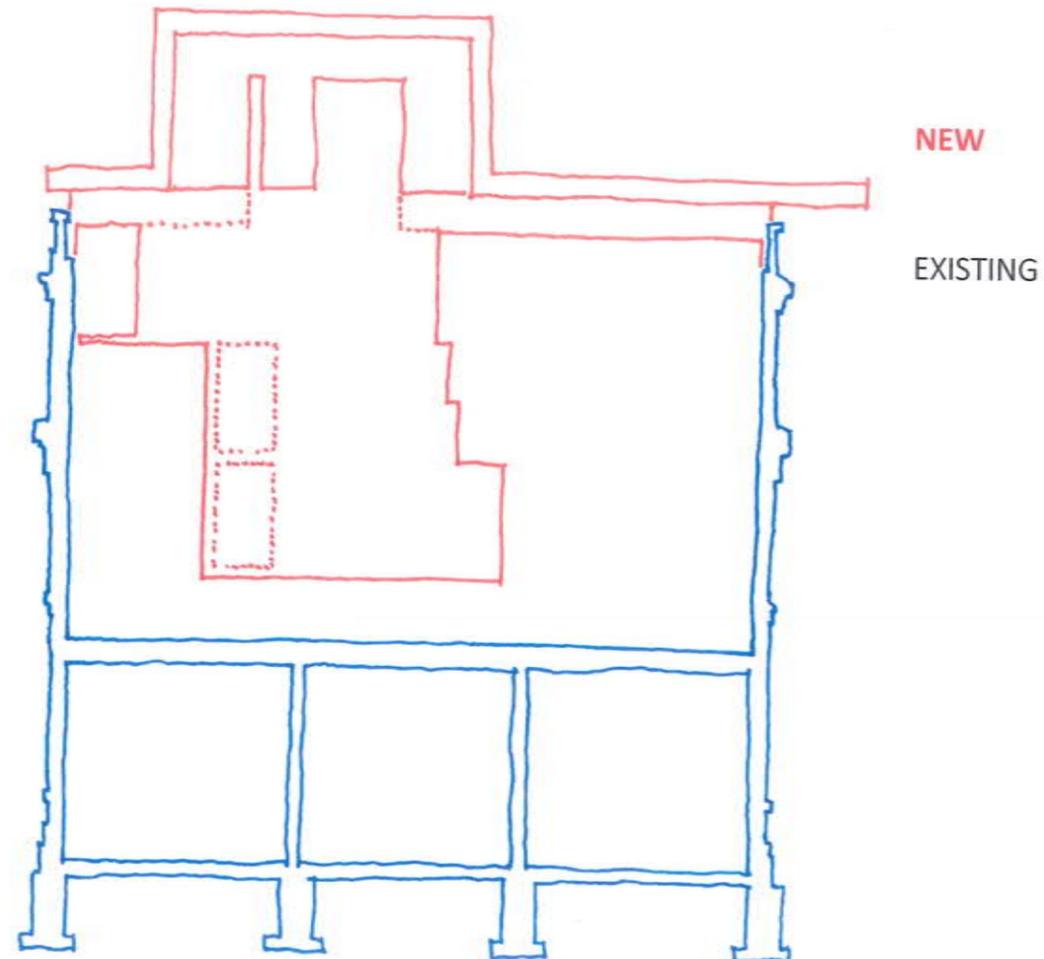
## 6 FAL AND MILSTEIN HALL IN RELATIONSHIP TO RAND HALL



Lantern as part of the new super-structure will serve both, as an urban marker and a means of adequately presenting the volumes of books

Adaptive reuse of an existing university facility creates a high quality environment for one of the most important functions of the AAP College

## 7 MEZZANINE SHELVING

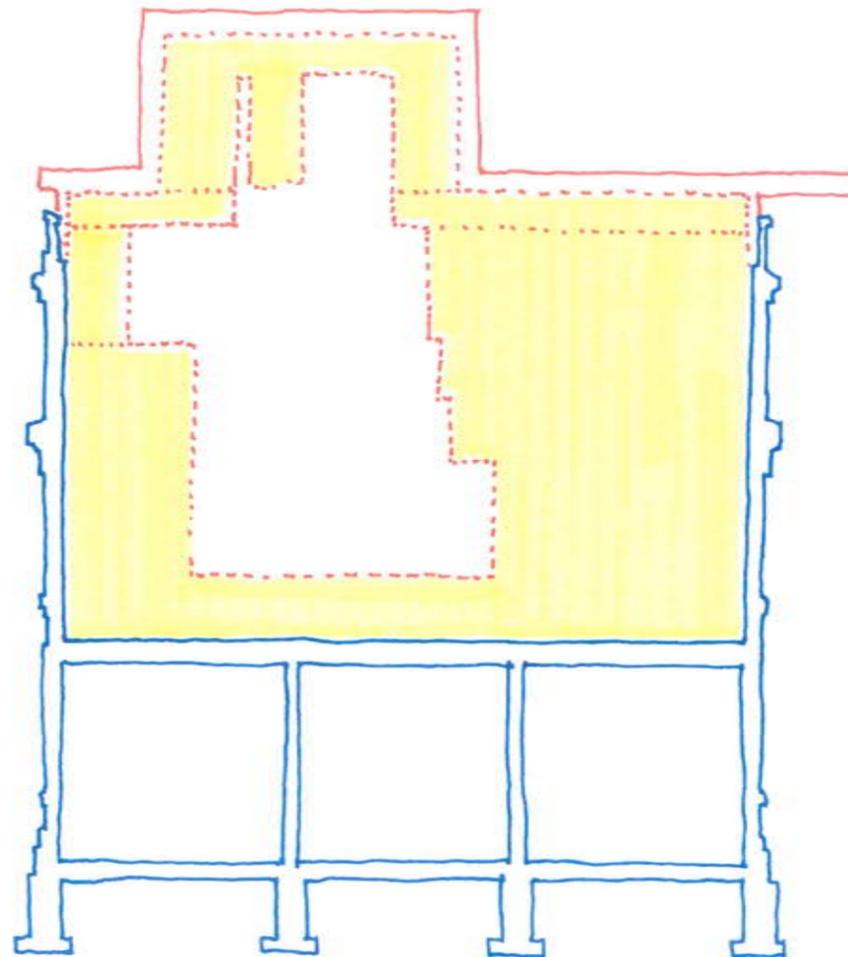


4 levels of mezzanine shelving house the entire FAL collection, leaving generous spaces for reading and working.

Upon entering immediate and clear overview of FAL- Collection

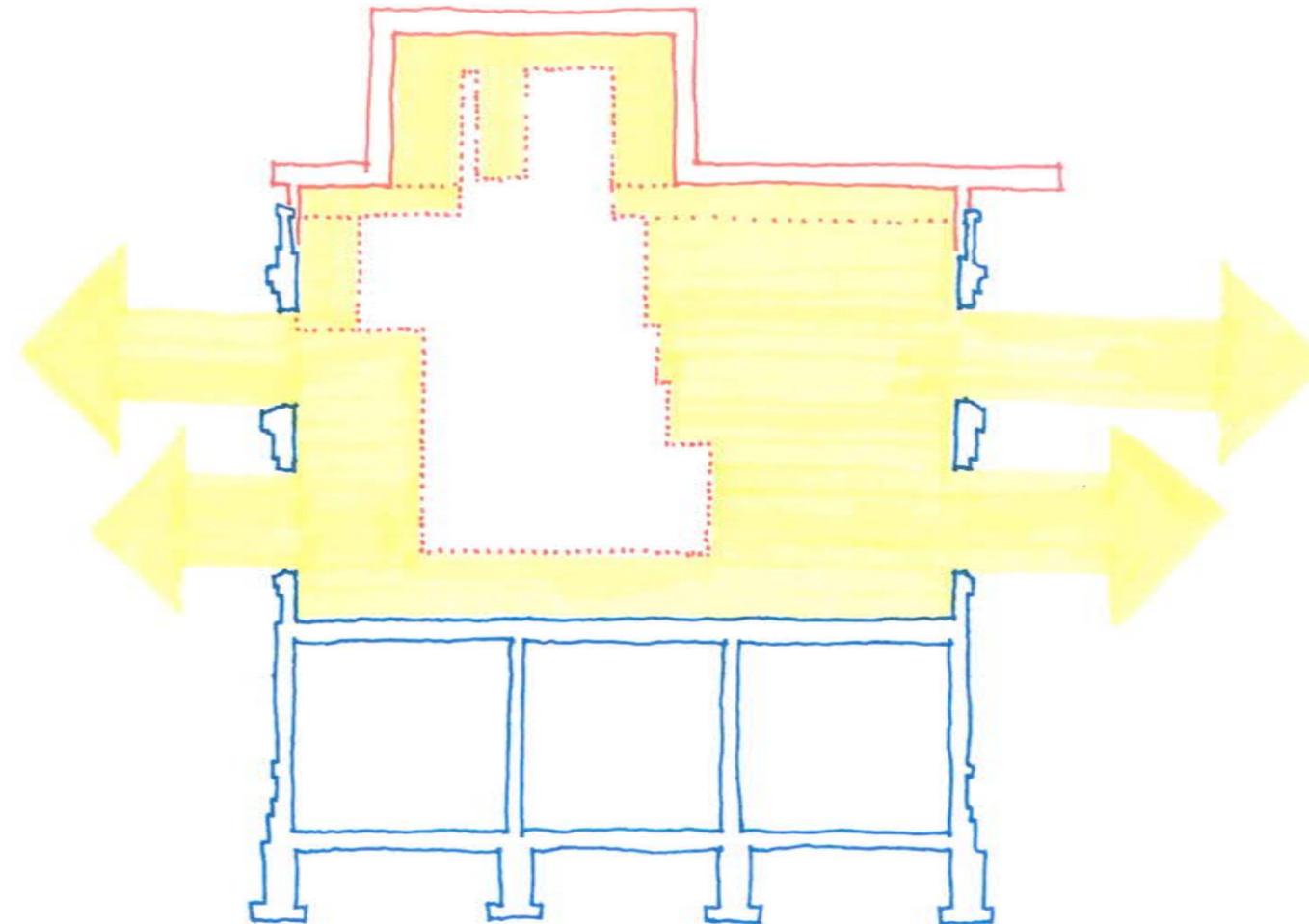
Dignified, double-height reading room, similar to iconic historic and contemporary library buildings i.e. Bibliotheque St. Genevieve, new and old National Library in Paris, Academy of Fine Arts in Vienna....

## 8 ADAPTIVE REUSE



FAL concept is referring to the mezzanine shelving as applied, e. g., at the Cornell Library Annex, the Cornell A.D. White Room, the Pratt Institute Architecture Library in Brooklyn and the Avery Library at Columbia University to name only a few. The mezzanine shelving, mainly used in book storages is a very economic means of storing books. A fusion of the economy of object defined book storages and generous user defined library spaces is proposed.

## 9 READING AND WORKING SPACES



High spatial quality

Variety of spatial conditions ranging from a maximum height of 48 feet at north side of the reading room to 29 feet at the south side of the reading room to compressed, very compact floors in the stacks with a height of 7,5 feet

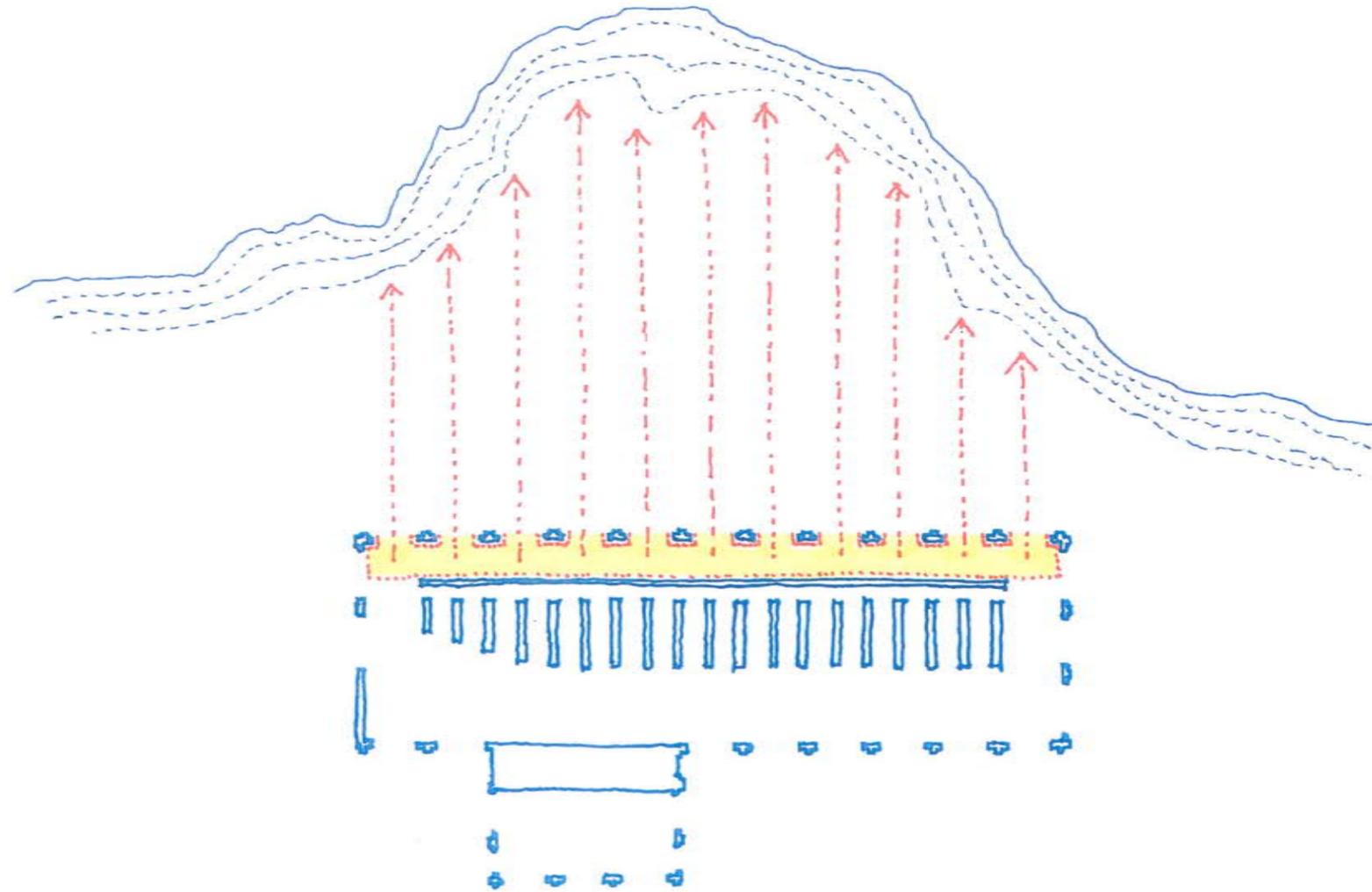
Long interior vistas using the entire length of Rand Hall

Distinctively different spatial atmospheres:

- Reading space, oriented towards campus
- Working space, oriented towards the gorge
- Vertical Stacks,
- Space in lantern,
- Spaces in entry wing

Variety of spaces appropriate to both a public statement about books and the private engagement of students and faculty with books

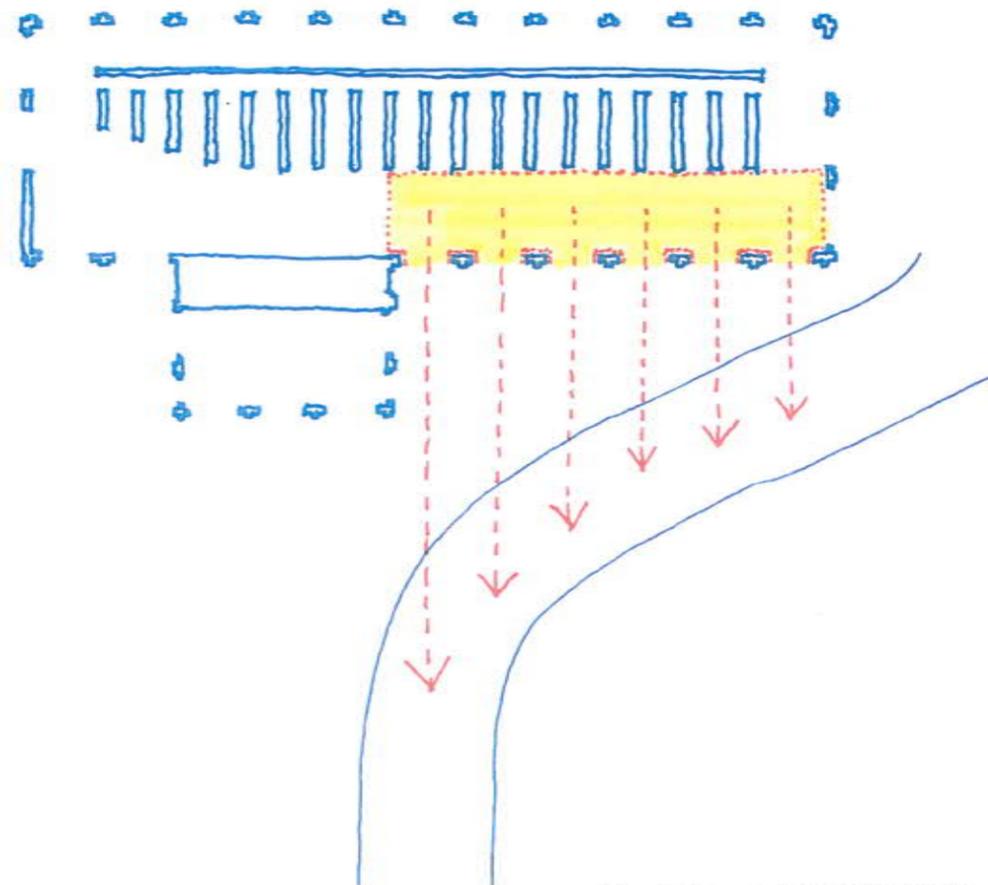
## 10 NORTH WORKING SPACE



Generous North working space on Level 2 benefits from diffused natural daylight conditions and long views towards the gorge.

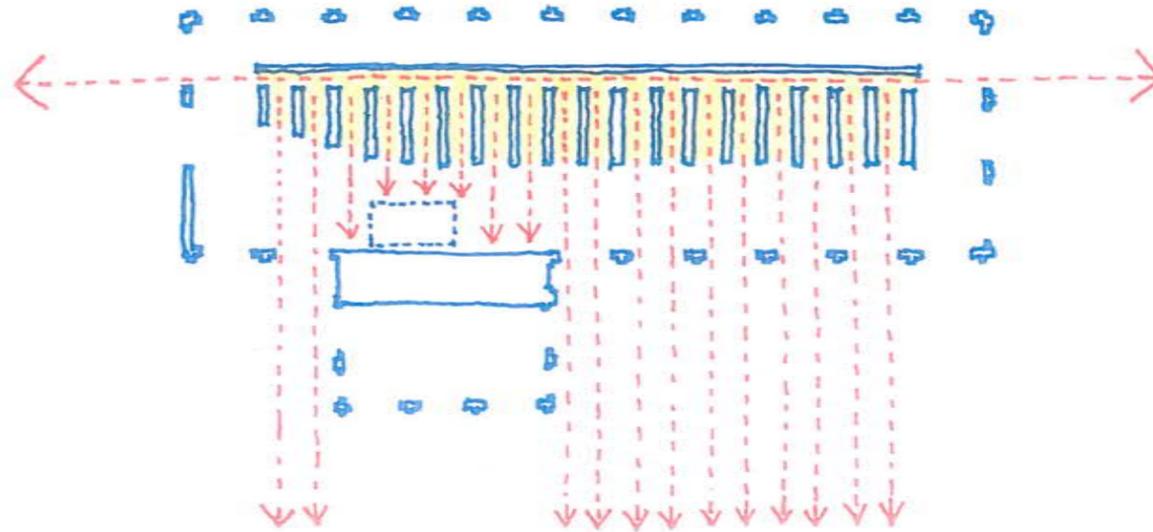
## 11 SOUTH READING SPACE

Lavish South reading space on Level 2 has abundance of natural daylight and establishes a strong bond between FAL and the campus along the East Avenue.



## 12 STACKS

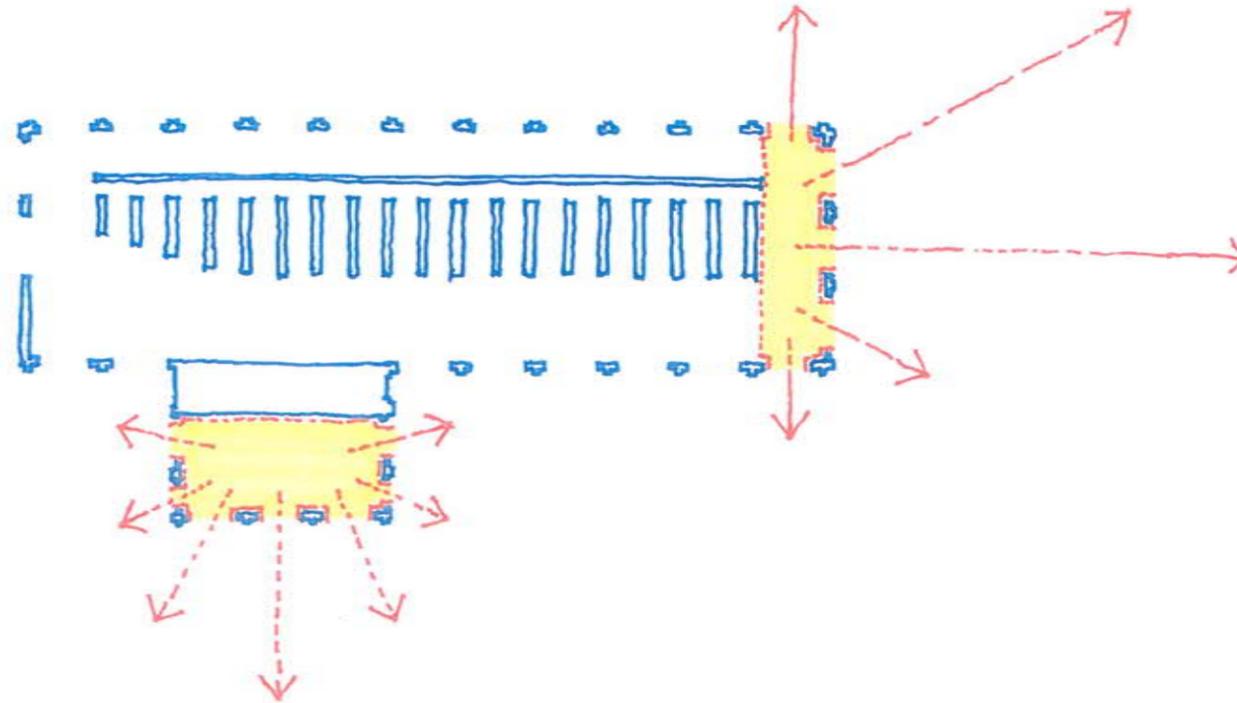
Mezzanine shelving galleries are always open-ended, providing long perspective views South across the campus and librarians offices, West- into the Milstein Hall Studio space and East- towards the Thurston bridge.



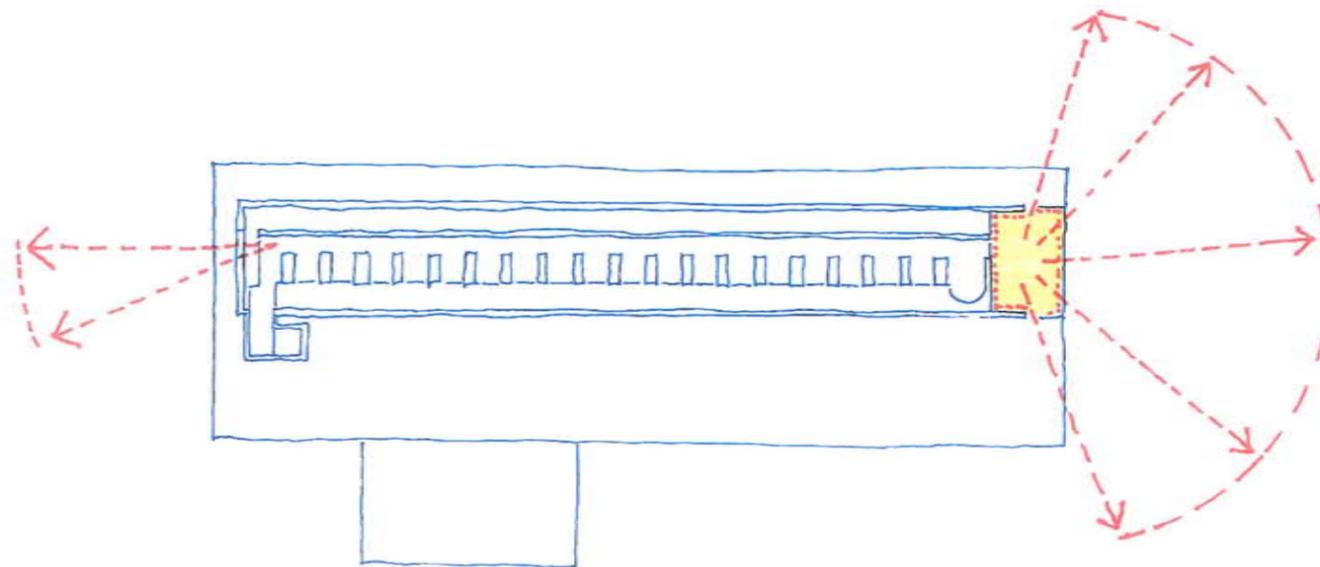
## 13 COLLABORATIVE SPACES

Collaborative space on Mezzanine Level 2.1 benefits from wide panoramic views towards Milstein Hall, Campus and Arts Quad.

Eastern portion of the reading and working spaces have access to 180 degree panoramic view towards East: Campus gateway over the Thurston bridge



## 14 LANTERN



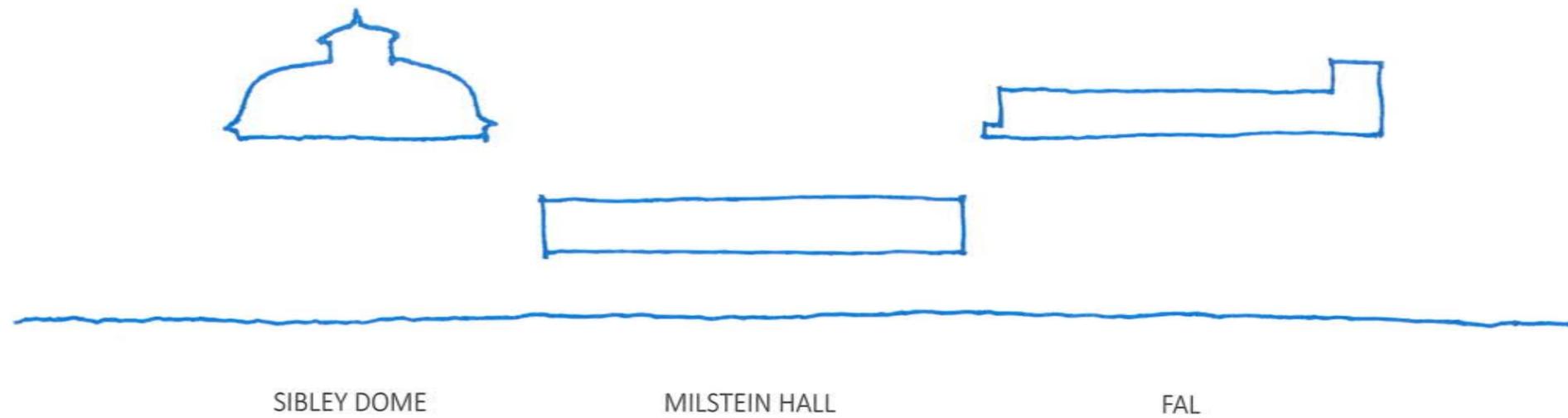
Collaborative space at the top of the lantern offers an intriguing filtered panoramic view over the Bebee lake.

Strategic position of collaborative working space in relation to the urban context, directly at the North-East gateway into the campus.

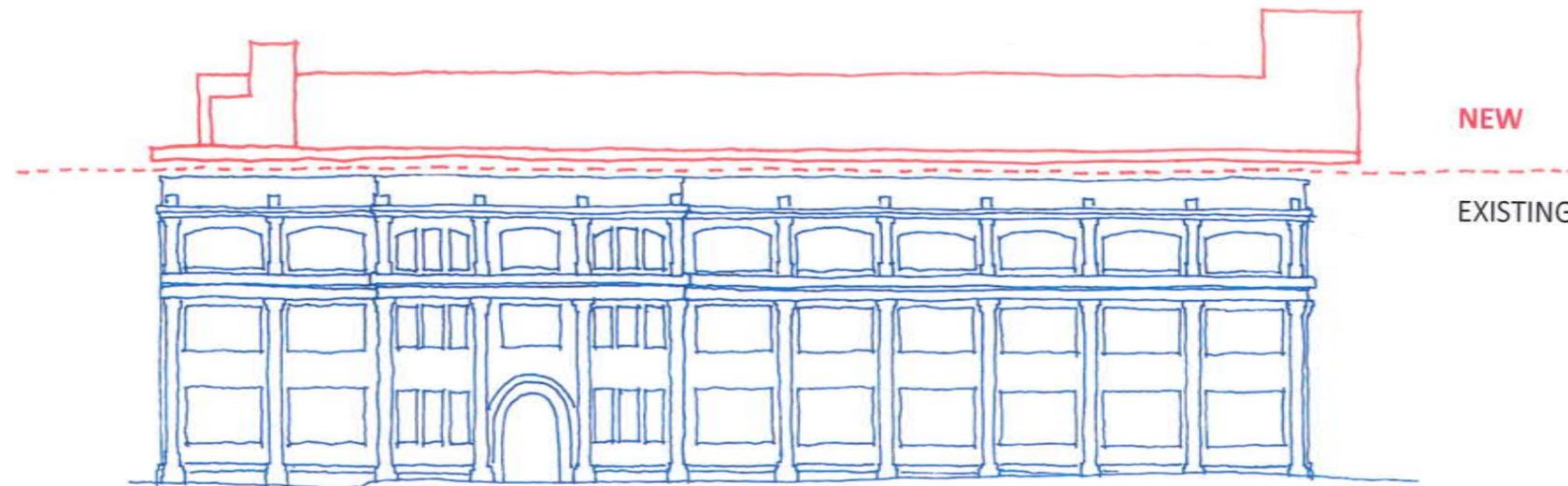
Towards West, Sibley dome is framed as the centrepiece of the longitudinal catwalk between the stacks.

## 15 AAP VOLUMETRIC RELATIONSHIP

AAP cluster can be characterised by an assembly of special volumes, related to one another in scale, position and visibility: The Dome of Sibley Hall, the floating volume of Milstein Hall, and the superstructure of FAL.



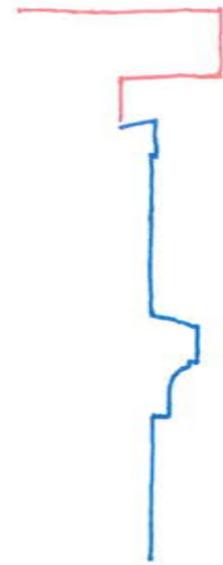
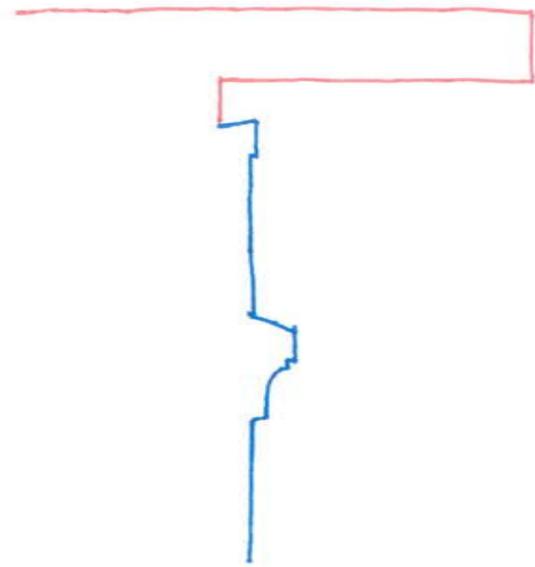
## 16 THE EXISTING VERSUS THE NEW



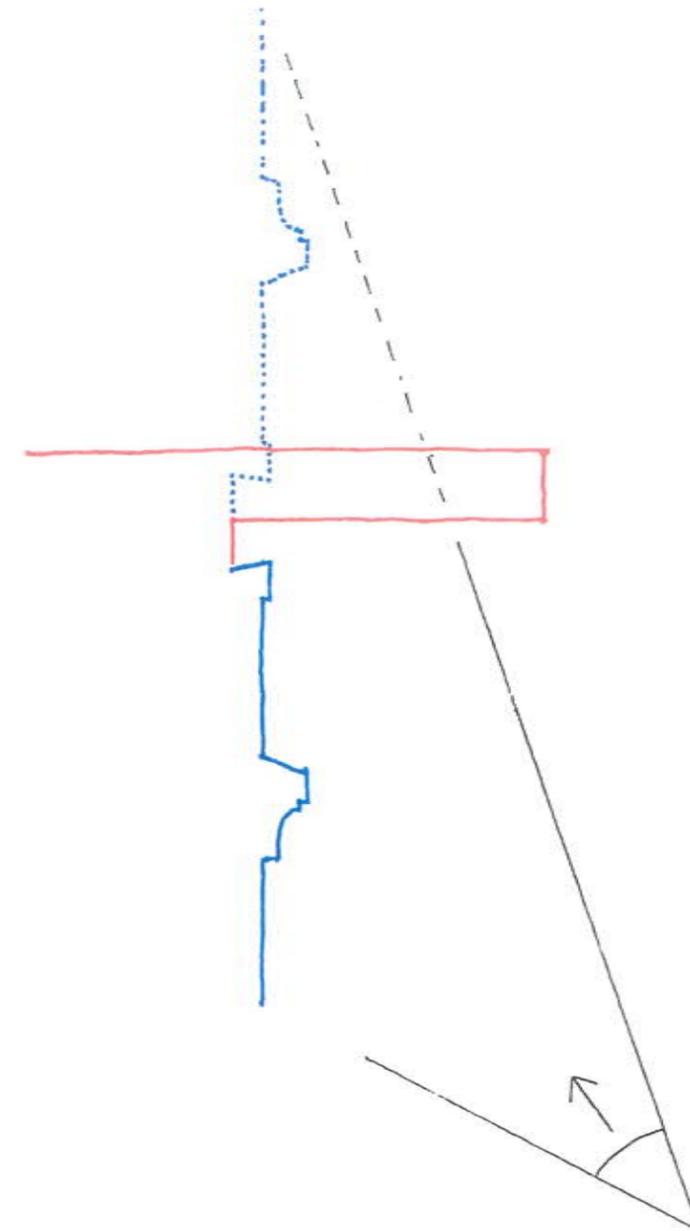
A new superstructure on top of a newly renovated old building allows for a clear distinction line between the existing and the new.

That newly established distinction-line is the gap between the parapet of the existing building and the canopy of the new superstructure.

## 17 READING OF THE CANOPY AS PART OF THE CORNICE

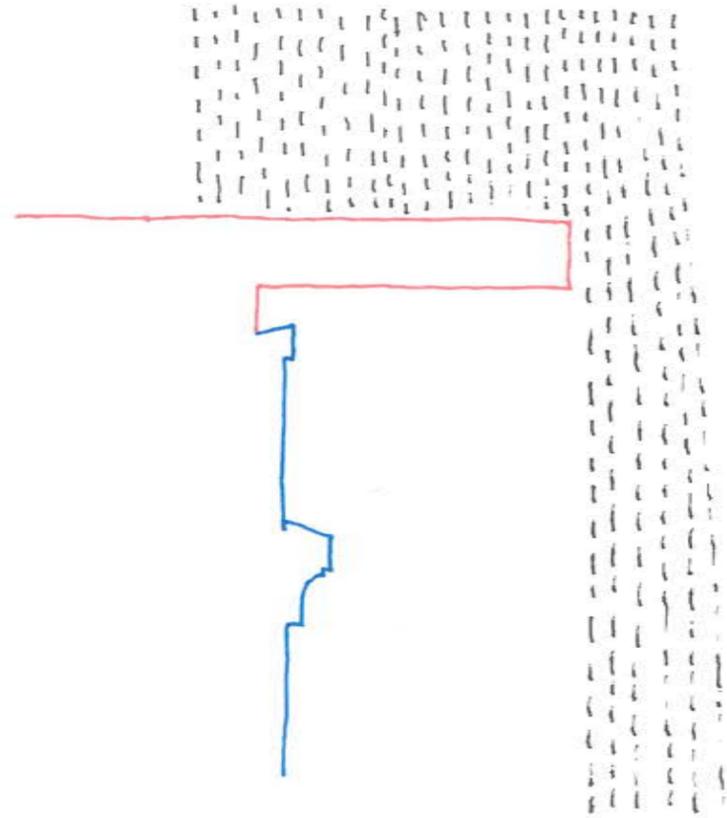


Canopy reads as part of the cornice.

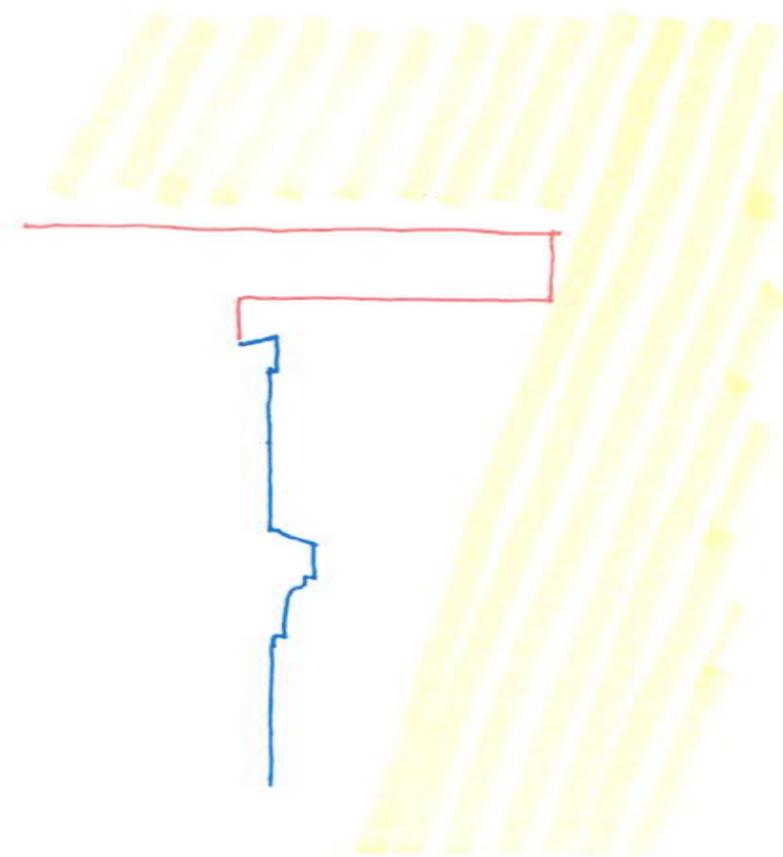


Reflective quality of the cladding material (polished stainless steel) produces a mirror image of the brick facade, suggesting its continuity.

18 CANOPY: A TECHNICAL NECESSITY.



Canopy helps to protect the existing facade by reducing the exposure to moisture runoff on the brick masonry.



Canopy helps to shade the large scale windows.

19 IN 1968, STAIR TOWER EAST WAS ADDED



With the addition of stair tower East, urban relationship of the building, architectural integrity as well as orientation of spaces in Rand Hall were destroyed.

## 20 REMOVAL OF STAIR TOWER EAST



FAL project, with the removal of stair tower East, is re-establishing the urban relationship of Rand Hall in its setting, as well as the architectural integrity of the building.