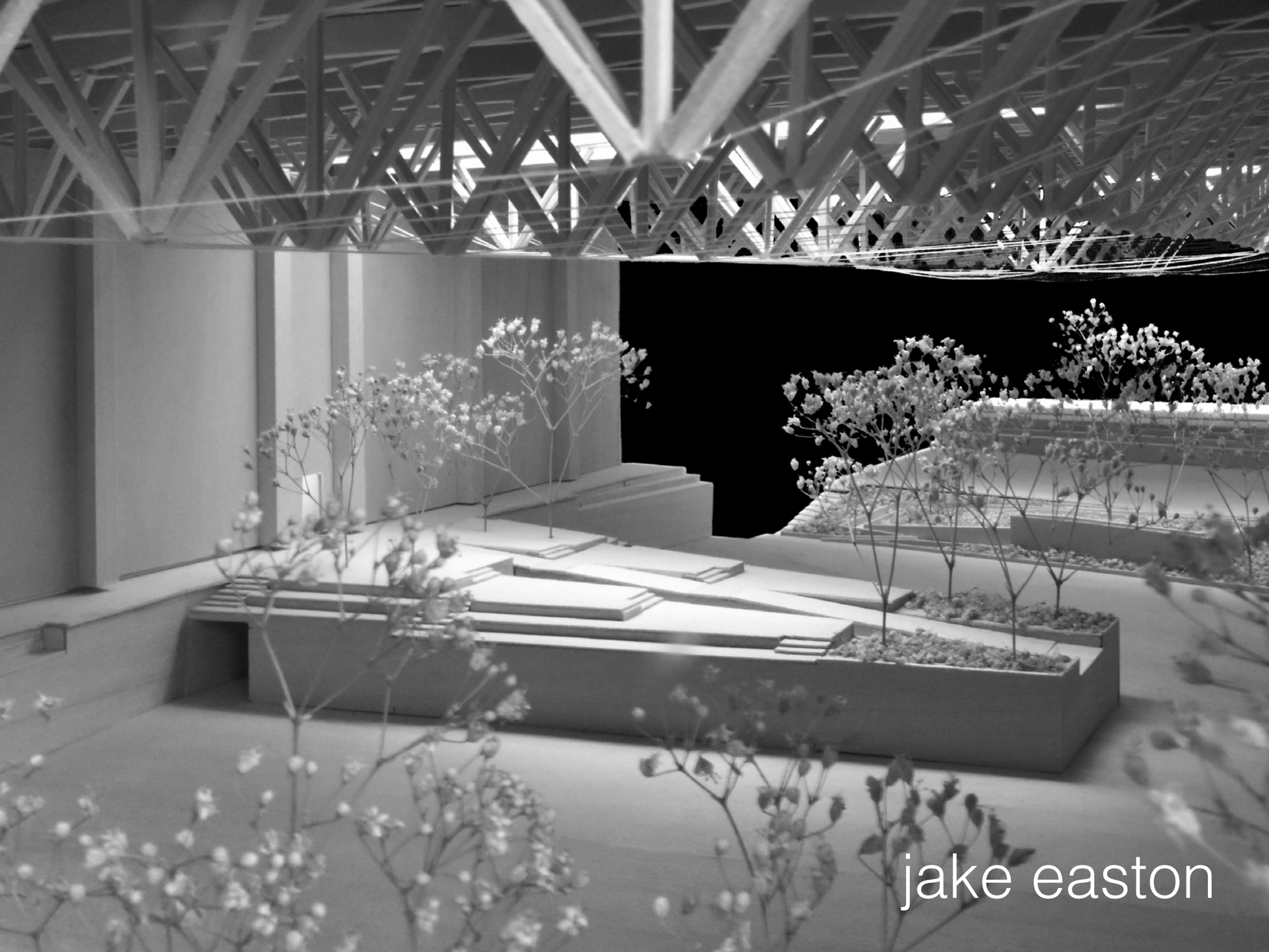

jake easton

Selected Works

1. Blacksburg Tennis Park

2. Selected Professional Work

3. Research

4. Europe Study Abroad

5. Blacksburg Guest House

Professional Profile

Jake Easton's design work reflects his interdisciplinary educational experiences studying architecture, economics and politics. Through these lenses, he explores unique opportunities to address larger societal issues. This frequently leads to an atypical combination of programs, creating novel design challenges and benefits for the various users.

Education

Virginia Tech [MArch expected 2024]
School of Architecture
Master of Architecture Candidate

Washington-Alexandria Architecture Center [Spring 2024]

Steger Center for International Scholarship [Fall 2023]
Semester abroad in Riva San Vitale, Switzerland

Connecticut College [BA May 2020]
Majors: Government, Economics
Minor: Architectural Studies

Upper Dublin High School [June 2016]
Fort Washington, PA

Penn State Architecture Camp [July 2015]

Relevant Experience

Graduate Research Assistant
Prof. Elizabeth Keslacey [Spring 2024]
Prof. Joseph Bedford [Fall 2023]
Prof. Brook Kennedy [Fall 2021-Spring 2022]

Graduate Teaching Assistant
Prof. Donna Dunay [Fall 2022-Spring 2023]

Architectural Intern
TKA Architects | Blacksburg, VA [Summer 2022]

Architectural Drafter
Mitchell Studio | New Haven, CT [Summer 2021]

Legislative Intern, US House of Representatives [Summer 2019]

Recognition

- AIA|DC Summer 2023 Exhibition: "Small Objects, Big Ideas: The Architect's Model"
- 2023 William "Bill" Brown Scholarship Recipient
- Virginia Tech's 39th Graduate School Research Symposium, Presenter: "Communal Housing for Interns + Students: A Case Study" 2023

Blacksburg Tennis Park

Spring 2023 Studio Project, Virginia Tech

Selected for AIA|DC Summer 2023 Exhibition:
“Small Objects, Big Ideas: The Architect’s Model”

This studio project posed an opportunity to investigate the qualities of indoor space while utilizing both physical and digital modes of exploration and representation. The layout of courts allows slight elevation changes, a reference to the rolling hills outside the facility.

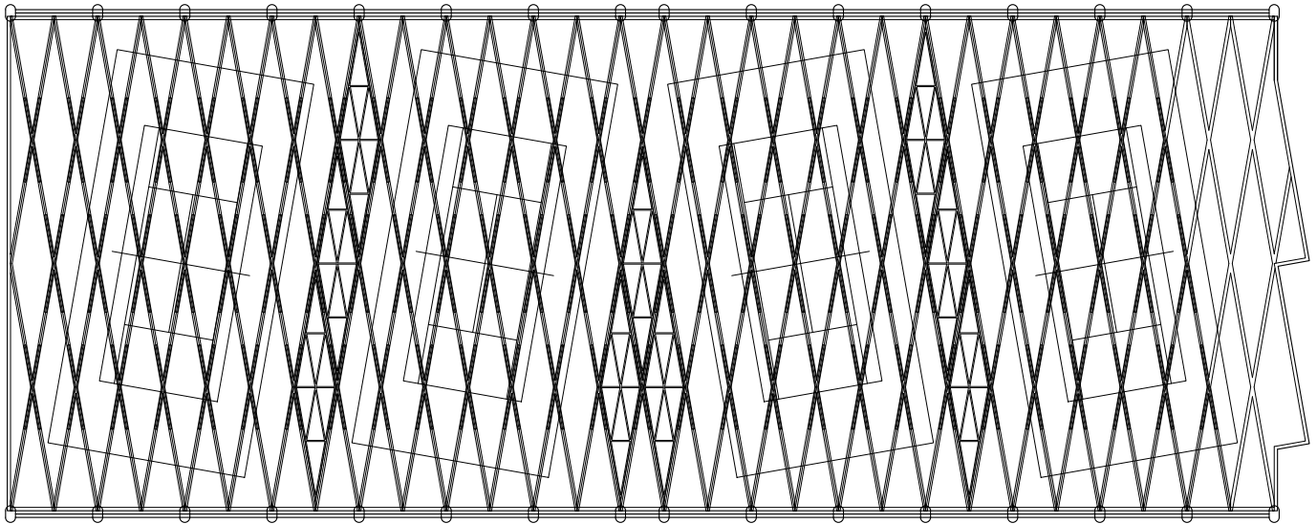
prompt: redesign Virginia Tech’s indoor varsity tennis facility within the existing footprint

goal: democratize the space to users beyond tennis players and enthusiasts

solution: expand the program to include a park

View from mezzanine

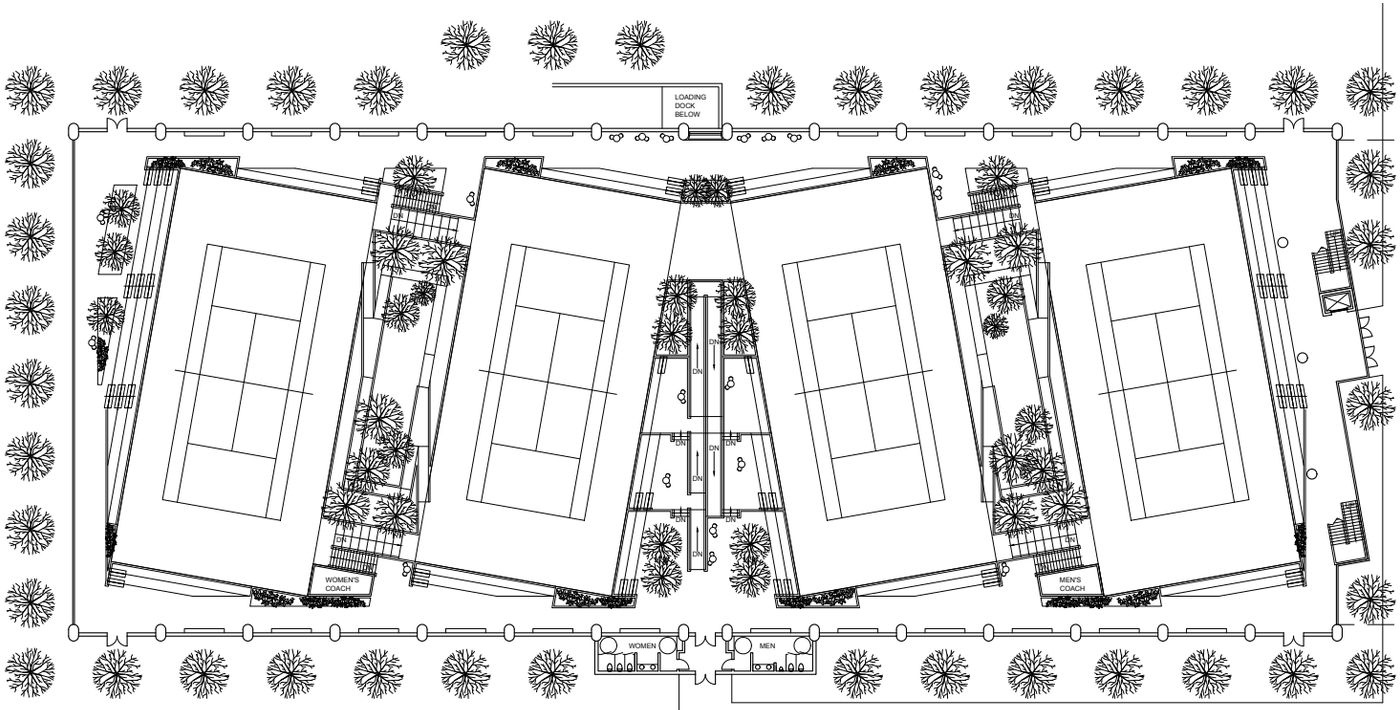
View of buffer gardens



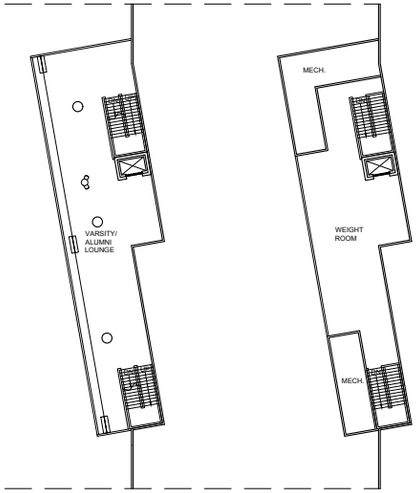
Reflected Ceiling Plan

In plan, the courts are angled and offset creating space for various peninsulas overlooking the courts below. Groves of native trees and shrubs act as buffers between the courts, giving players the feeling of playing in a forest.

Around the perimeter of the building, a subtle rhythm of green space and seating promenades visitors along. A lounge and weight room on the second and third levels provide views of the trees and courts below. The roof structure, comprised of wooden spider trusses in a hammock of steel cables, mimicks the angle of the courts.



Main Level Plan



Second Level Plan

Third Level Plan

View of perimeter walkway

View of buffer gardens

Professional Work

Commercial

TKA Architects

Blacksburg, VA
Summer 2022

Under the direction of Architects Tom Koontz and Dewayne Jennings, I designed a ~50,000 SF research and manufacturing facility to house a biotech company at Virginia Tech's Corporate Research Center.

Design work included schematic design, space planning, design development, and contract documents. Work included direct collaboration with various members of the project team including the clients, client representative, and engineers.

Residential

Mitchell Studio

New Haven, CT
Summer 2021

Under the direction of Principal Architect Sam Mitchell and Studio Director Bill Pollack, I was involved in the design development, contract documents, and construction administration phases of a new ~20,000 SF beach house in Westport, CT. Design work was primarily executed using AutoCAD. Primary responsibilities included drafting interior elevations and details, and exectuing various updates to the drawing set as needed.

Research

Communal Housing for Interns + Students: A Case Study

Fall 2022 Studio Project, Virginia Tech

Selected to present at Virginia Tech's Graduate School Research Symposium

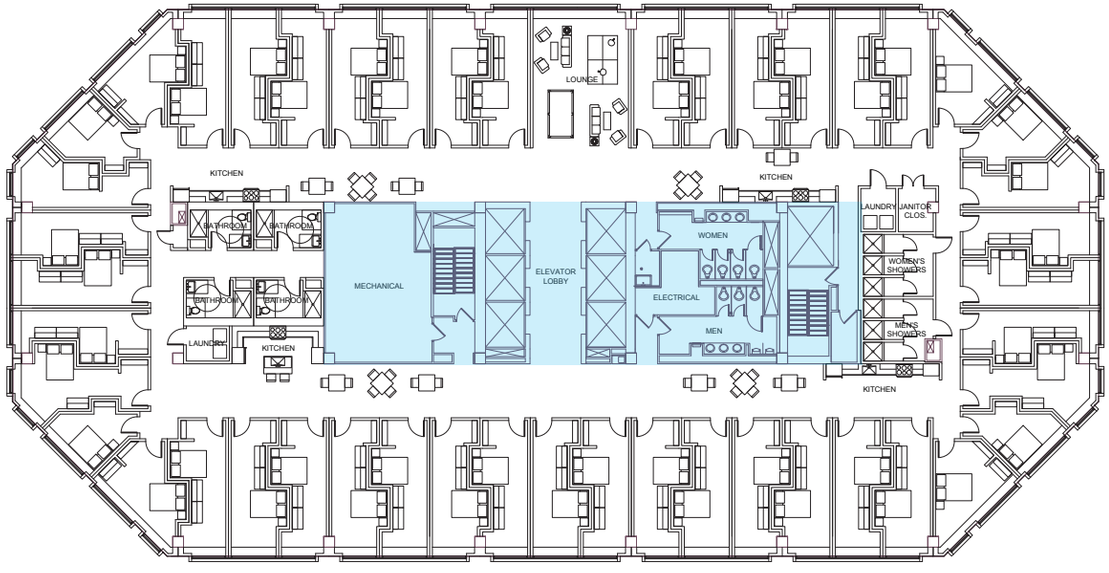
A largely vacant office tower in Rosslyn, VA, was tested as a case study to show how traditional tenant improvement can be applied to renovate select floors of buildings creating affordable dorm style housing for students and interns. An efficient floor plan divides the 18,000 SF plan into 46 bedrooms.

Rudimentary economic analysis finds that units in this building could be rented for ~$1,200-$1,600 per month, significantly less than private bedroom options through WISH or WIHN.

prompt: uncover new affordable housing opportunities in the DMV area

goal: reimagine traditional office to residential conversions which often fail

solution: use the "plug-and-play" model to create dorm style housing with communal bathrooms and kitchens utilizing existing MEP cores



Floor plan highlighting building's existing core

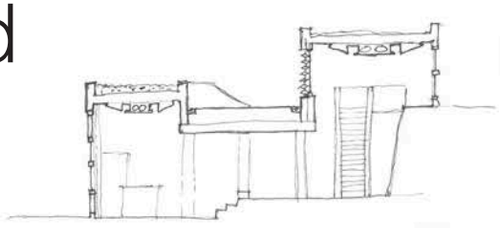
View of common areas

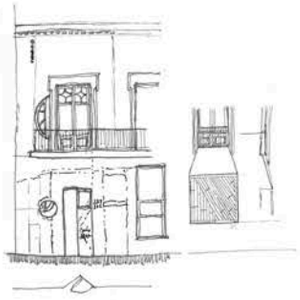
View of typical bedroom

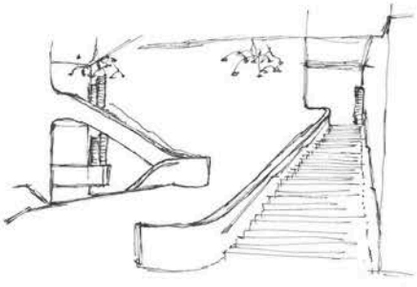
Europe Study Abroad

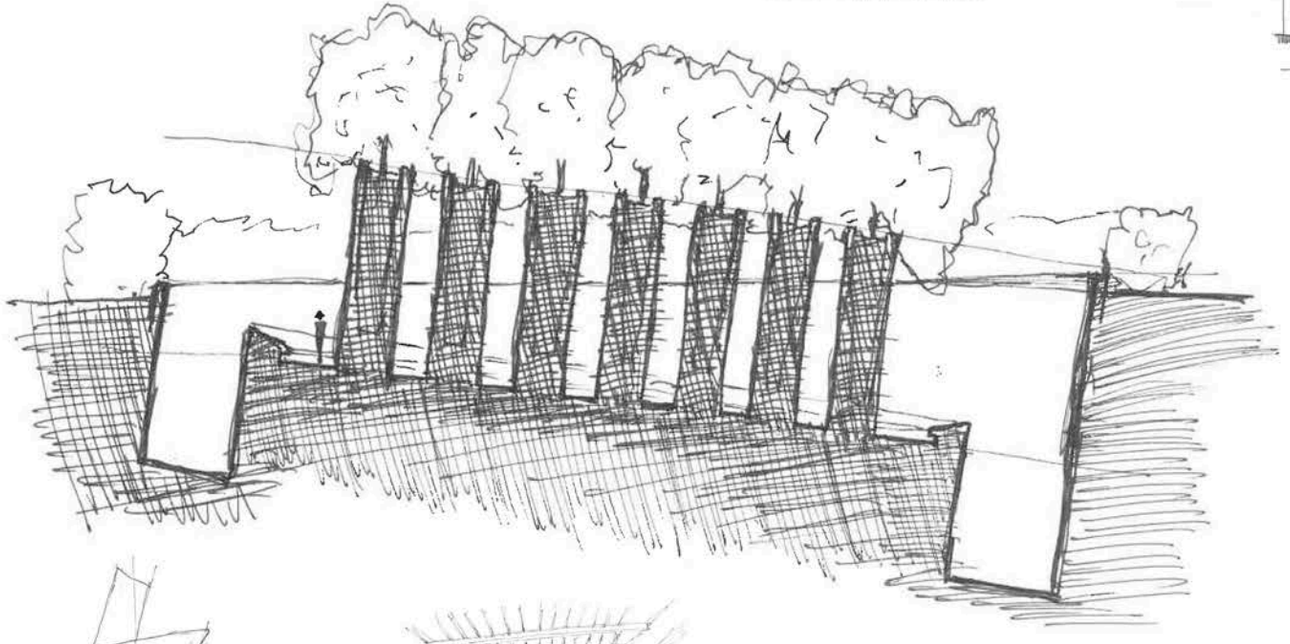
Steger Center for International Scholarship, Virginia Tech

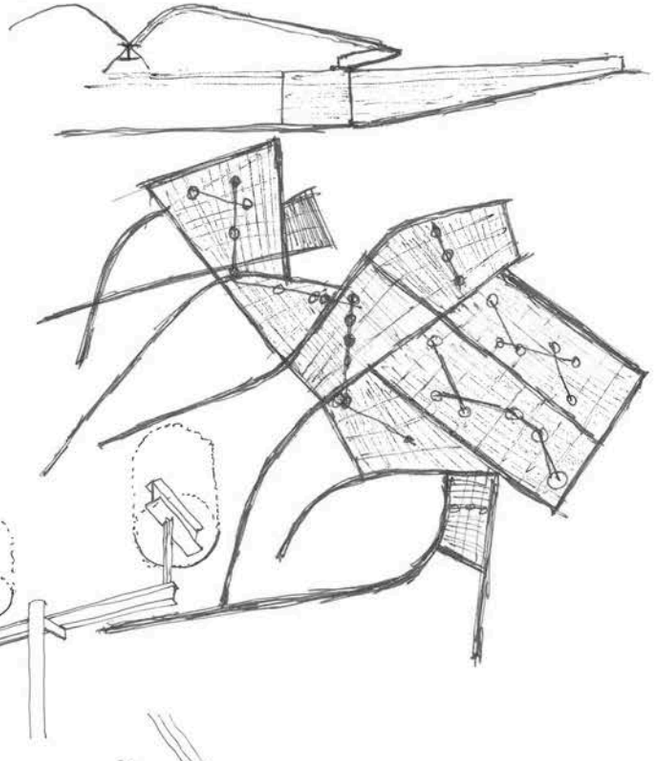
Fall 2023 Semester based in Riva San Vitale, Switzerland

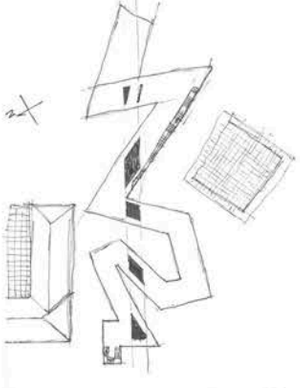


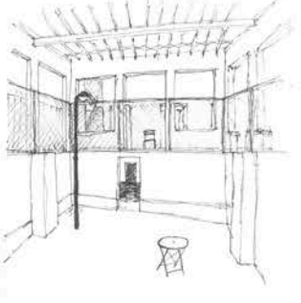


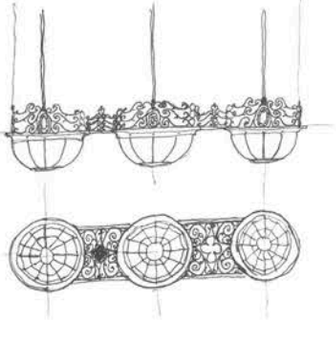


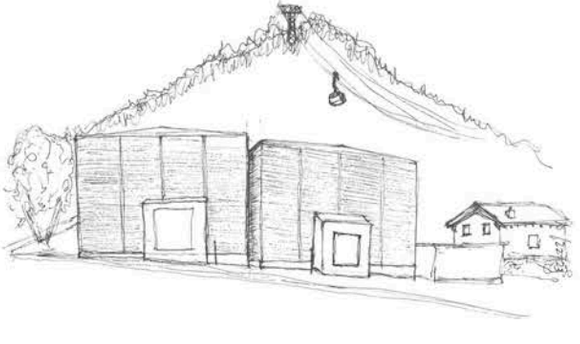


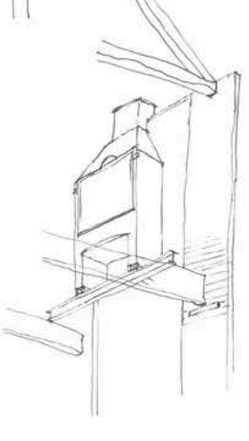


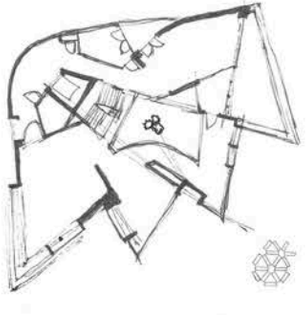












Blacksburg Guest House

Summer 2023 Integrative Studio Project, Virginia Tech

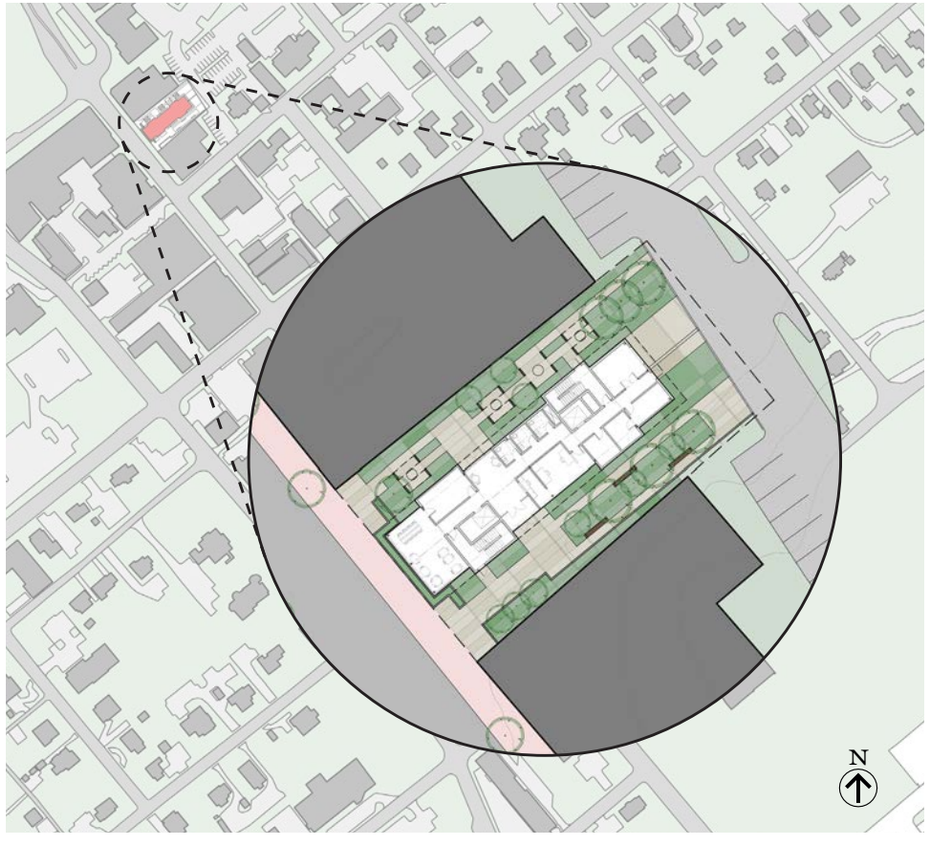
The Blacksburg Guest House re-engages an underutilized site in the heart of the downtown neighborhood of Blacksburg, VA with a boutique hotel oriented in a public garden.

The plan utilizes a double loaded corridor to maximize rooms' external A ground floor cafe and a rooftop bar and restaurant give community members an intimate gathering place.

prompt: design a 17 room boutique hotel within strict setbacks

goal: develop an architectural aesthetic that provides direct access to nature for each guest room

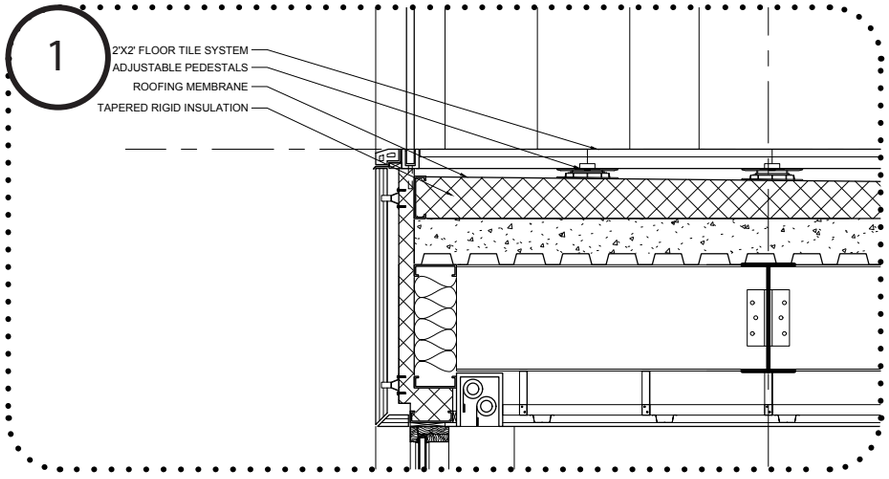
solution: utilizing the structural grid, garden terraces are scattered and inlaid within the facade

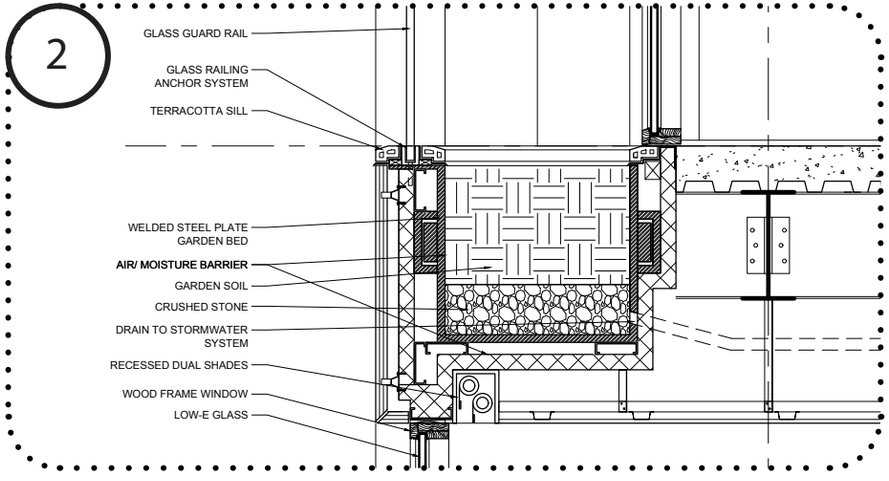


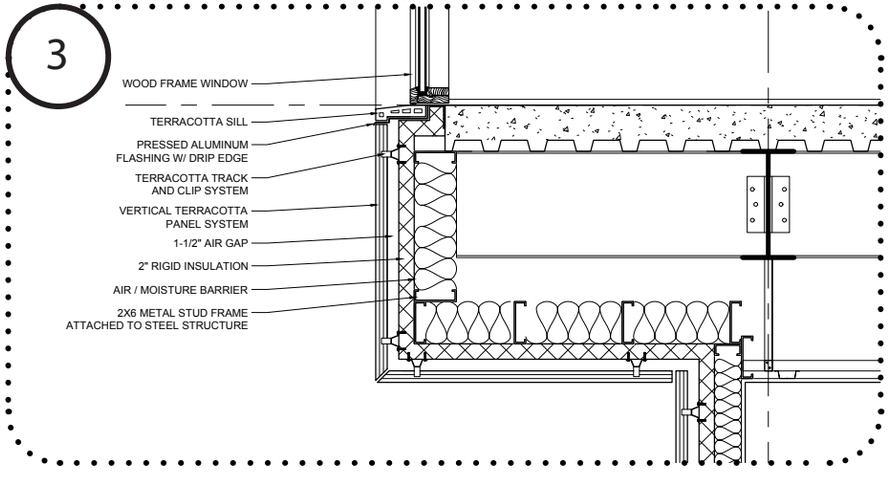
Site Plan

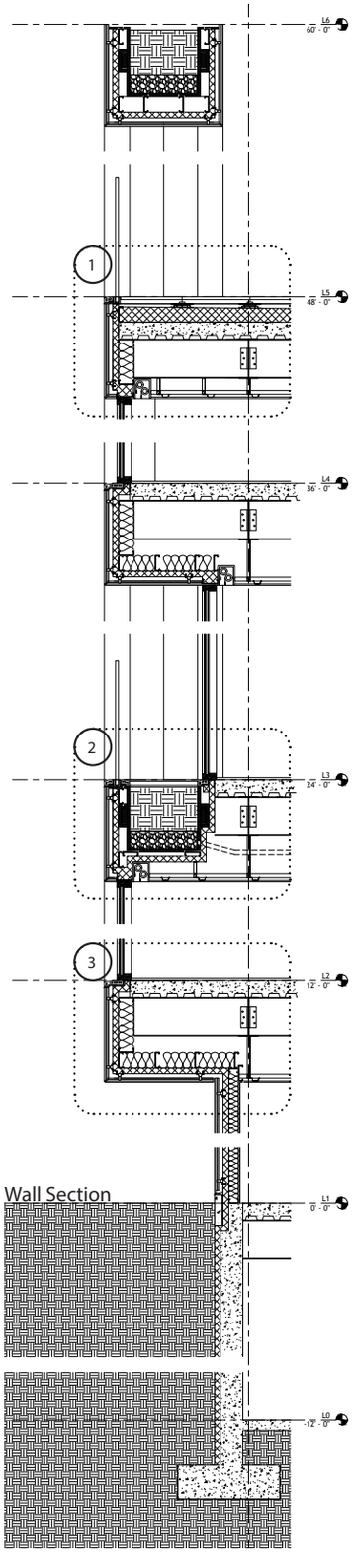
Southwest Elevation

Southeast Elevation









Wall Section

Hotel and garden entrance

Typical guest room