



THE RAVINE

Rooted in history. Spiraling upwards.



SITE INVENTORY: BUILT ENVIRONMENT

CONCRETE PLANTER

STRIP DRAIN

6" ROUND DRAIN

TREE GRATE / TREE PIT

SPRINKLER VALVES

WATER VALVEGAS VALVEELECTRICAL OUTLETELECTRIC BOX+ H.P HIGH POINT+ LP LOW POINTADA ACCESS RAMPLIGHT BOLLARD

SITE INVENTORY: NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

SUMMER SUN

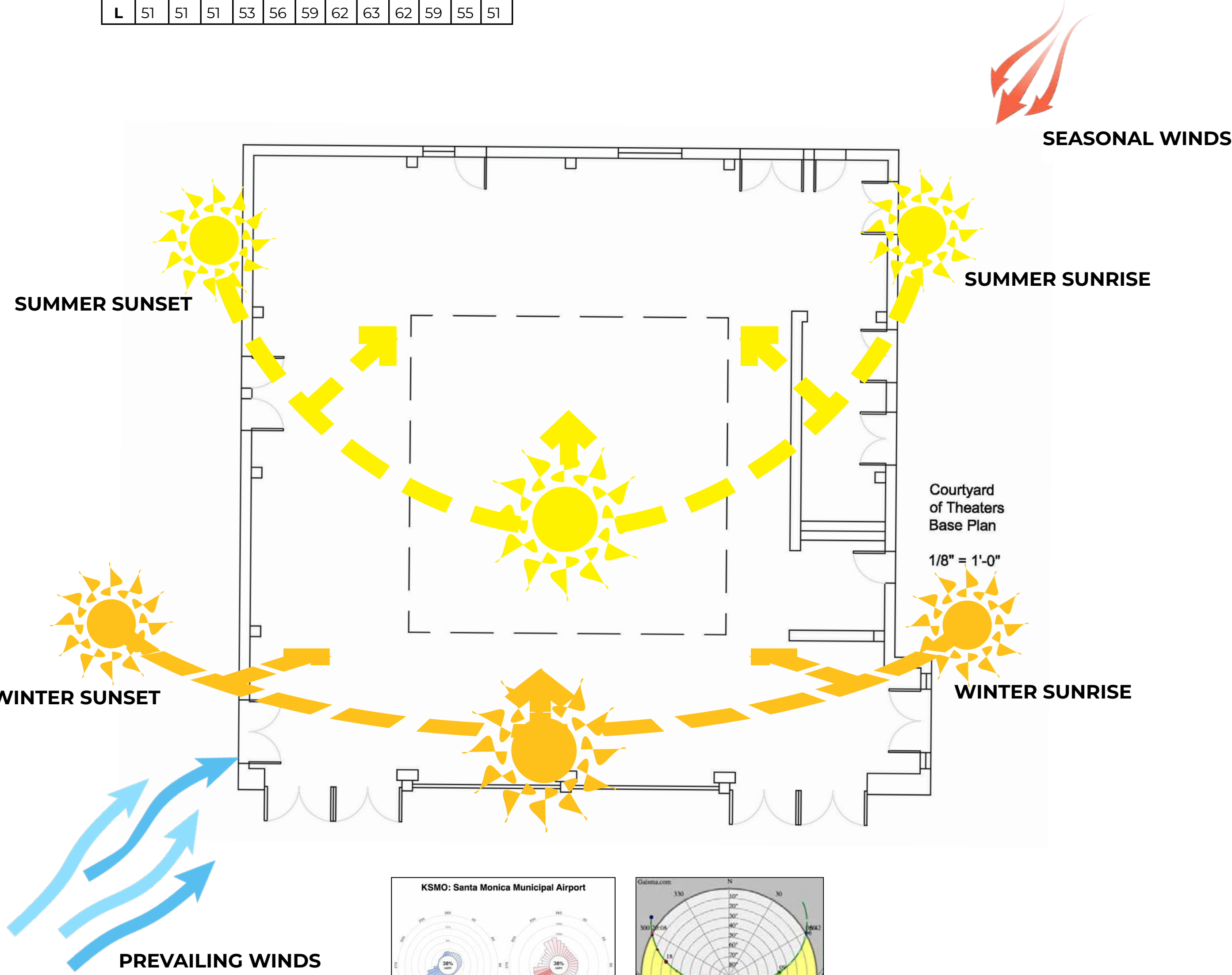
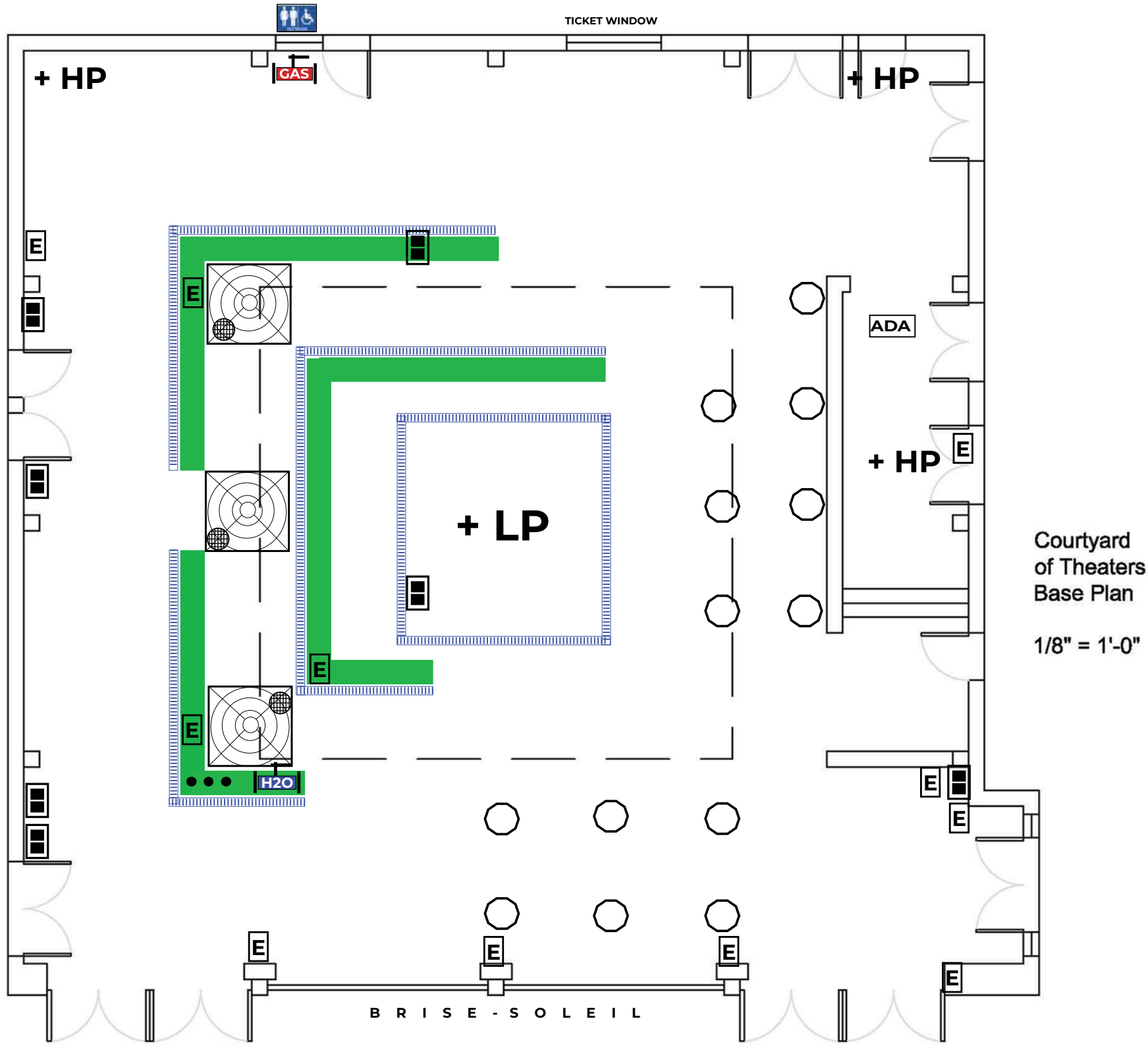
WINTER SUN

23 SUNSET CLIMATE ZONE

PREVAILING WINDSSEASONAL WINDS10b USDA HARDINESS ZONE

AVERAGE ANNUAL TEMPERATURE (F°)												
	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
H	69	67	67	69	70	73	77	78	79	76	72	67
L	51	51	51	53	56	59	62	63	62	59	55	51

AVERAGE ANNUAL RAINFALL (INCHES)												
J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	
3.7	4.8	3.0	0.8	0.4	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.3	0.6	1.1	2.6	



STUDENT NAME:
TOM GALASSI

COURSE:
LANDSCAPE DESIGN 1
FALL 2025

INSTRUCTOR:
STEVEN CHAVEZ, PLA

SITE NAME AND ADDRESS:
UCLA CAMPUS
COURTYARD OF THEATRES
MACGOWAN HALL
245 CHARLES E YOUNG DR E
LOS ANGELES, CA 90024

DRAWING TITLE:
SITE ANALYSIS AND
INVENTORY

AERIAL IMAGE:

DRAWING NOTES:

Positioning of elements are approximate.

Courtyard is surrounded on 3 sides by 30' walls.

Vestibule along East wall covers ADA Ramp.

Tree Pits are empty. There are no trees on the site.

Square wooden bench located in center of courtyard.

Brise-Soleil runs along entire front(south) end of courtyard with 2 entrances (1 entrance at either side).

UCLA Little Theatre is on west side of courtyard.

Ralph Freud Playhouse is on the East Side fo the courtyard.

NORTH ARROW:

SCALE BAR:
0' 1' 2' 4' 8'

DRAWING SCALE:
1/8" = 1'-0"

SHEET NUMBER:
L-1

SHEET NUMBER IN SET:
1 of 5



SITE INVENTORY: CONSTRAINTS

- 1

SMALL SPACE (SPACE IS LIMITED - THREE SURROUNDING WALLS ARE SOLID CONCRETE)

.....➔
- 2

DOORS SWING OUT (PEDESTRIAN FLOW IMPEDED)

.....➔
- 3

VESTIBULE (REQUIRED TO MITIGATE FOR LIGHT AND SOUND IN THEATRE BUT AWKWARD DESIGN)

.....➔
- 4

POOR SOUND QUALITY / ECHO (ECHO THROUGHOUT SPACE DUE TO "EMPTINESS")

.....➔
- 5

NO FOYER / LIMITED ENTRYWAY (ENTRY WAY OPENS DIRECTLY INTO THE SPACE)

.....➔
- 6

PLANTERS POORLY PLACED (BREAK UP FLOW OF AN ALREADY SMALL SPACE)

.....➔
- 7

LACK OF MAINTENANCE (GROUNDS NOT MAINTAINED WELL)

.....➔

SITE INVENTORY: OPPORTUNITIES

- 1

INCREASE SQUARE FOOTAGE (CREATE ATRIUM WITH 2nd LEVEL FOR ADDITIONAL SQUARE FOOTAGE)
- 2

REDUCE PEDESTRIAN TRAFFIC AROUND DOORS (FUNNEL PEDESTRIAN FLOW TOWARD CENTER OF SPACE)
- 3

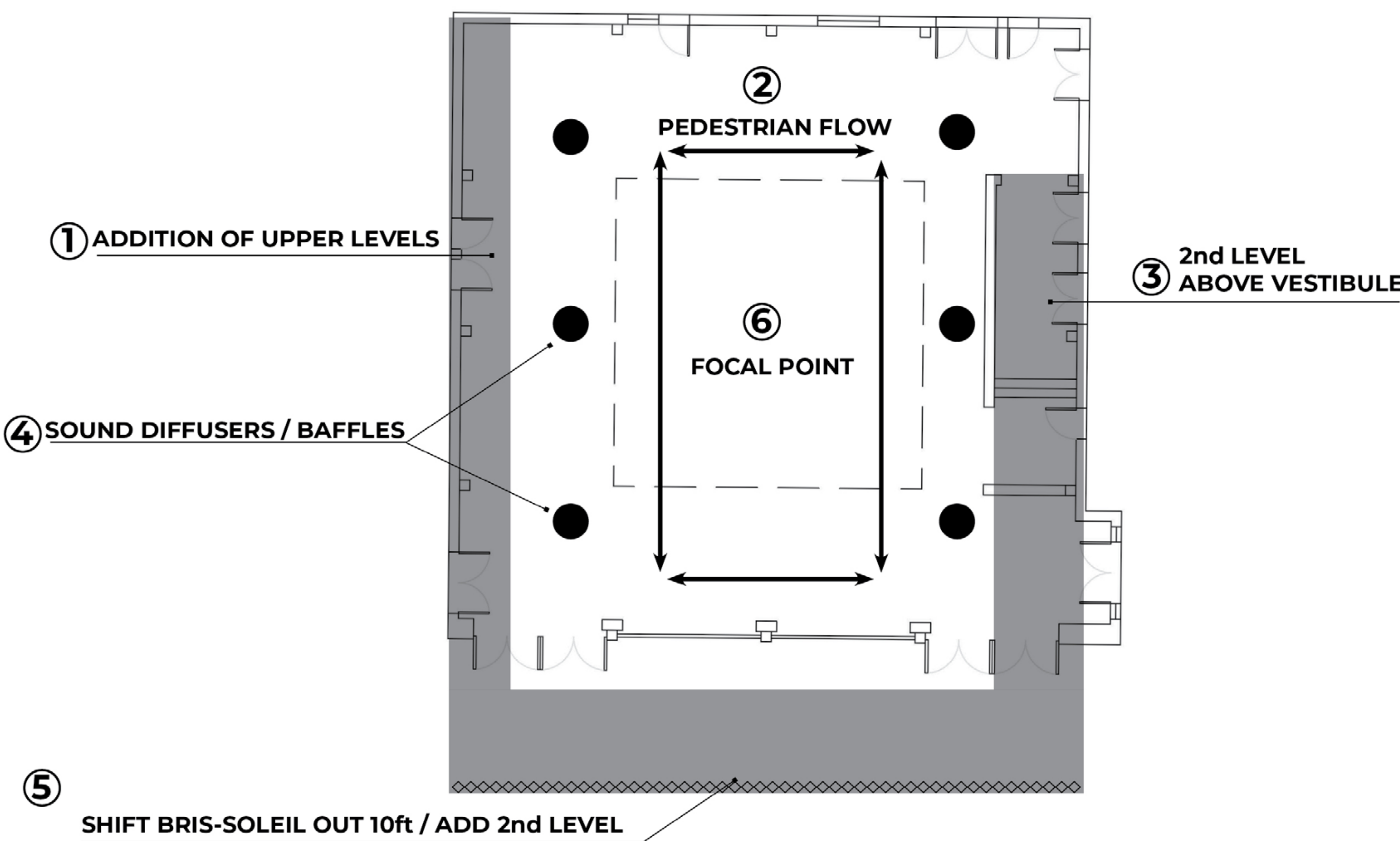
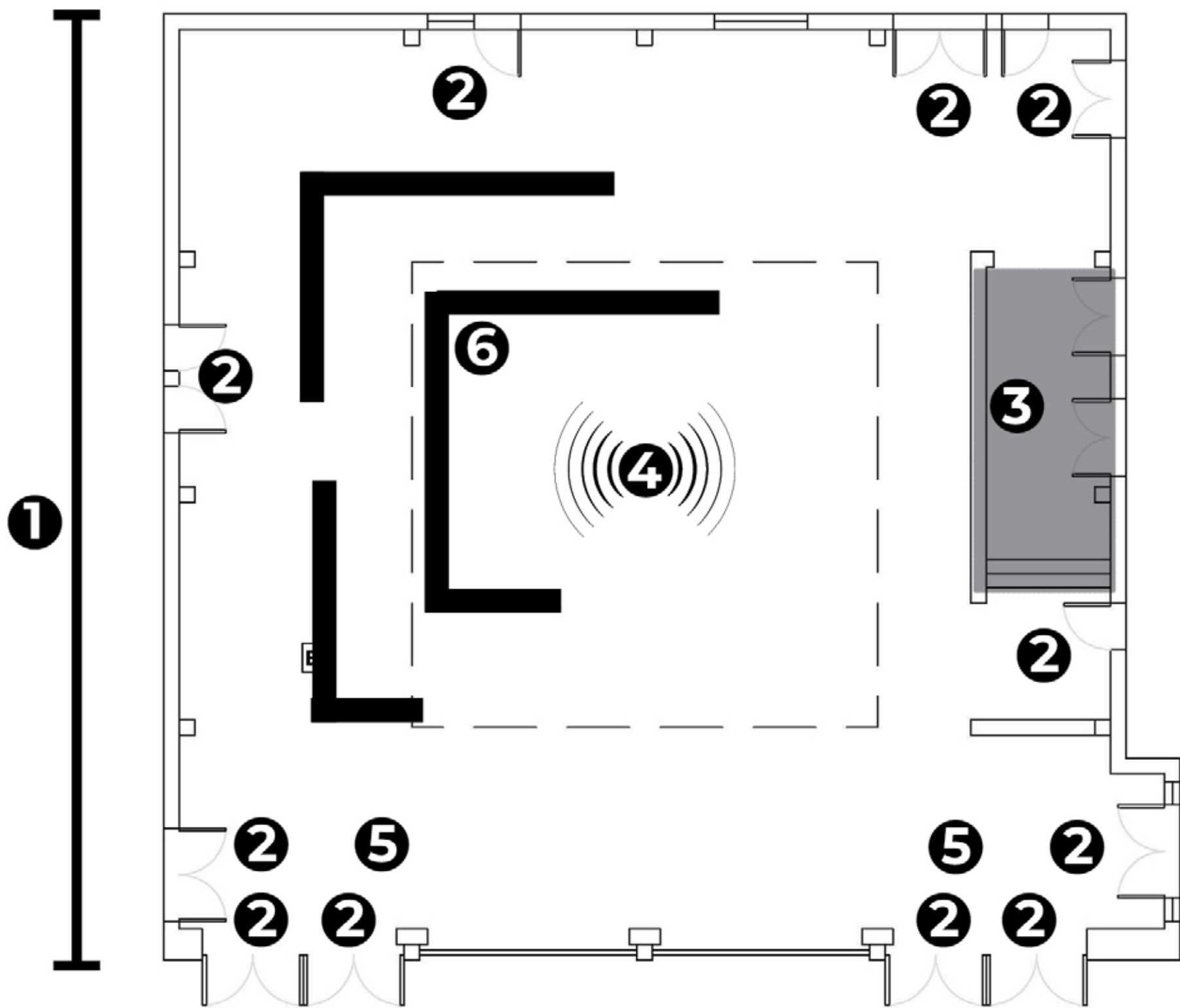
IMPROVE VESTIBULE DESIGN (REDESIGN VESTIBULE WITH FUNCTIONAL 2nd LEVEL ON TOP)
- 4

REDUCE ECHO (MITIGATE ECHO WITH HANGING SOUND DIFFUSERS / BAFFLES / ACOUSTIC PANELS)
- 5

CREATE MORE SPACE (EXPAND SOUTH OPENING OUTWARDS 10ft / UPWARDS - ADD 2nd LEVEL / MOVE BRIS-SOLEIL OUT)
- 6

REMOVE PLANTERS (CREATE A FOCAL POINT IN CENTER OF SPACE- ORIGINAL "TOWER OF MASKS" SCULPTURE / TREE)
- 7

REDUCE NEED FOR MAINTENANCE (DESIGN WITH MINIMAL / NO MAINTENANCE OR VEGETATION)



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TOM GALASSI

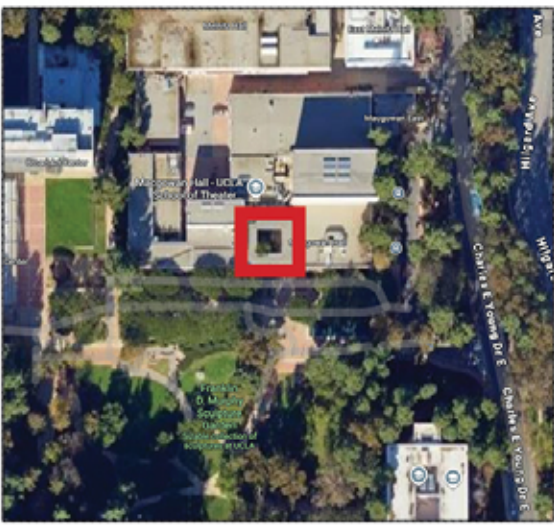
COURSE:
LANDSCAPE DESIGN 1
FALL 2025

INSTRUCTOR:
STEVEN CHAVEZ, PLA

SITE NAME AND ADDRESS:
UCLA CAMPUS
COURTYARD OF THEATRES
MACGOWAN HALL

245 CHARLES E YOUNG DR E
LOS ANGELES, CA 90024

DRAWING TITLE:
SITE CONSTRAINTS AND
OPPORTUNITIES

AERIAL IMAGE: 

DRAWING NOTES:

NOTES

MAINTENANCE AROUND
CAMPUS IS LACKING. DESIGN
SHOULD TAKE THAT INTO
ACCOUNT.

ORIGINAL DESIGN FROM 1960'S
WAS AN IDEAL DESIGN BASIS
FOR THIS SPACE.

RAMP TO SECOND LEVEL
MUST BE ADA COMPLAINT.
HEIGHT OF SECOND LEVEL
DEPENDENT ON SLOPE OF
RAMP.

BRISE-SOLEIL TO BE MOVED
OUT 10FT. MAY ONLY BE ABLE
TO MOVE OUT LOWER HALF
BELOW 2ND LEVEL.

NORTH ARROW:


SCALE BAR:
0 2 4 8 16


DRAWING SCALE:
1/8" = 1'-0"

SHEET NUMBER:
L-2

SHEET NUMBER IN SET:
2 OF 5

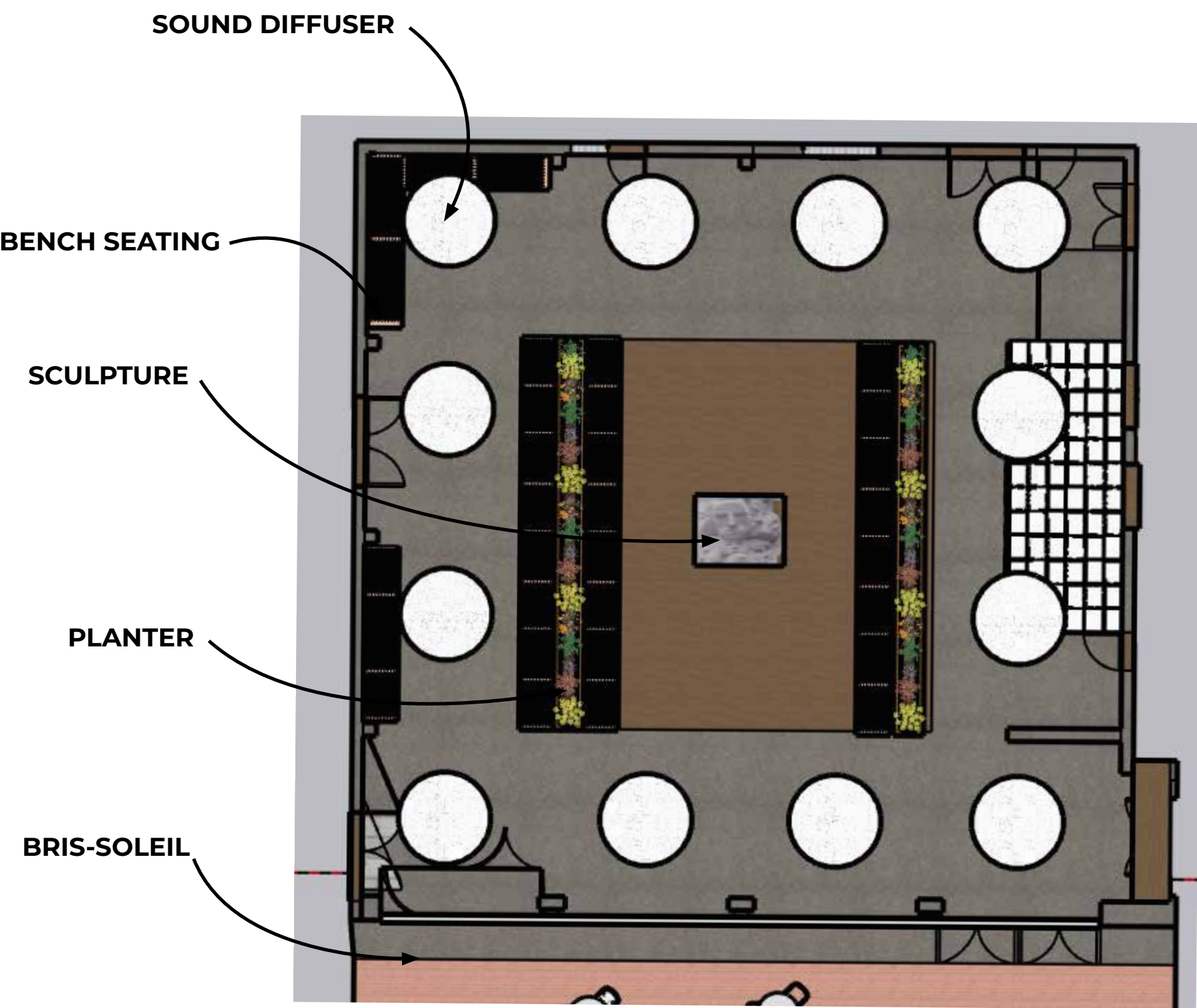
BACK TO BASICS

RESTORING AN ORIGINAL
BUDGET: LEAN AND MEAN

This design pays homage to Anna Mahler, the artist behind the Tower of Masks sculpture. Originally installed in this courtyard in MacGowan Hall in 1961, the Tower served as the focal point of a minimalist, mid-century modern space. Over the years, the sculpture was relocated to its current position just outside Macgowan Hall.

This proposal brings the Tower of Masks back to its original home, restoring the mid-century character and intentional simplicity of the courtyard while introducing thoughtfully integrated seating that enhances usability without overwhelming the space.

A section of the bris-soleil was removed along the lower third to open up the entrance. Sound was a considerable issue, so sound diffusers were placed hanging from the ceiling, as well as covering the vestibule.



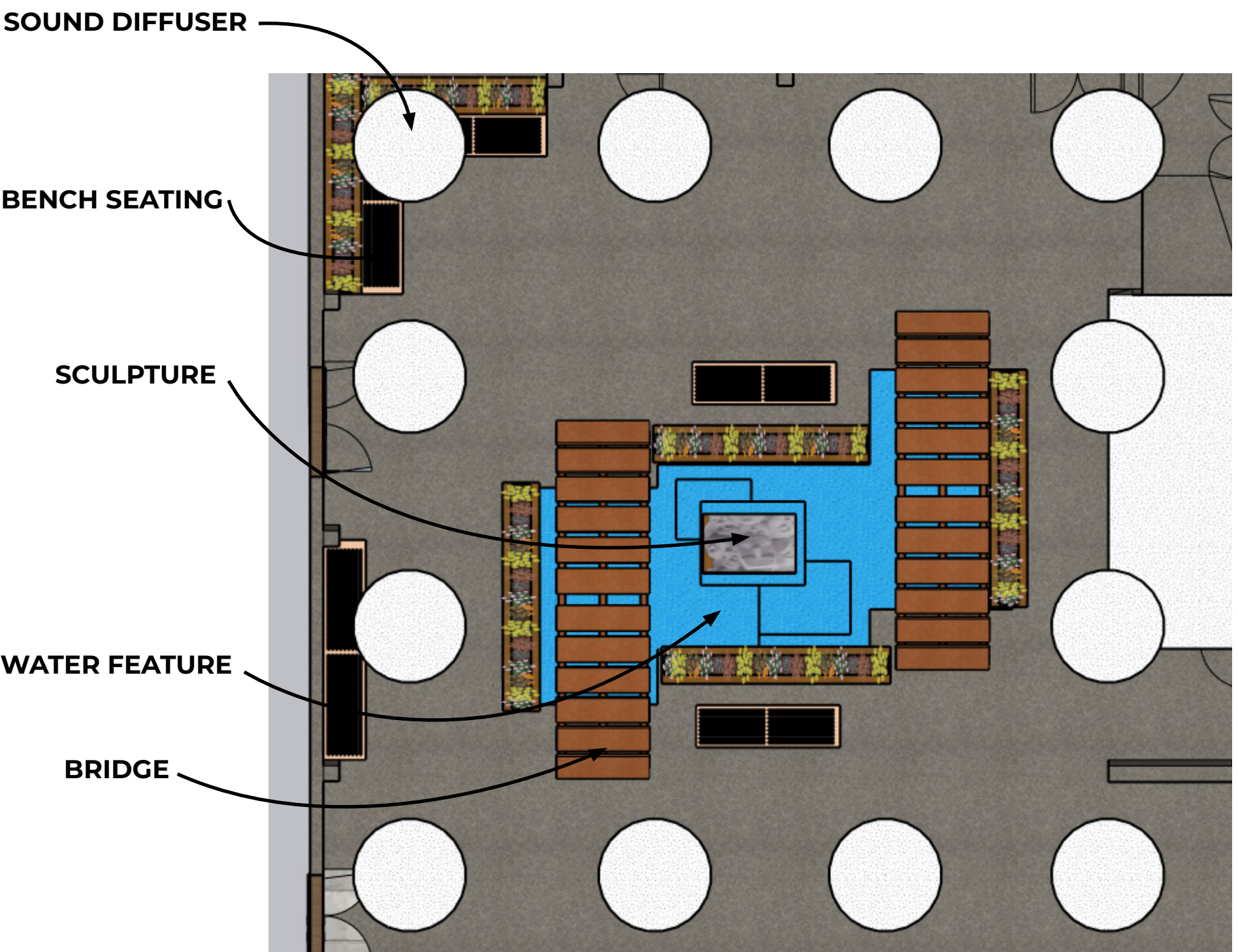
BRIDGING THE GAP

A HINT OF HISTORY
BUDGET: NOT SO LEAN BUT JUST AS MEAN

While maintaining the Tower of Masks as its central focal point, this design introduces a water feature that enhances the sensory experience of the space.

Two small bridges cross the water, inviting visitors to engage with the sculpture from a closer, more intimate perspective. The water and the bridges represent the ravine and bridge that existed before MacGowan Hall was constructed.

Seating is thoughtfully integrated to address existing design requirements, and sound challenges are mitigated through the continued use of sound diffusers hanging from the ceiling and covering the vestibule.



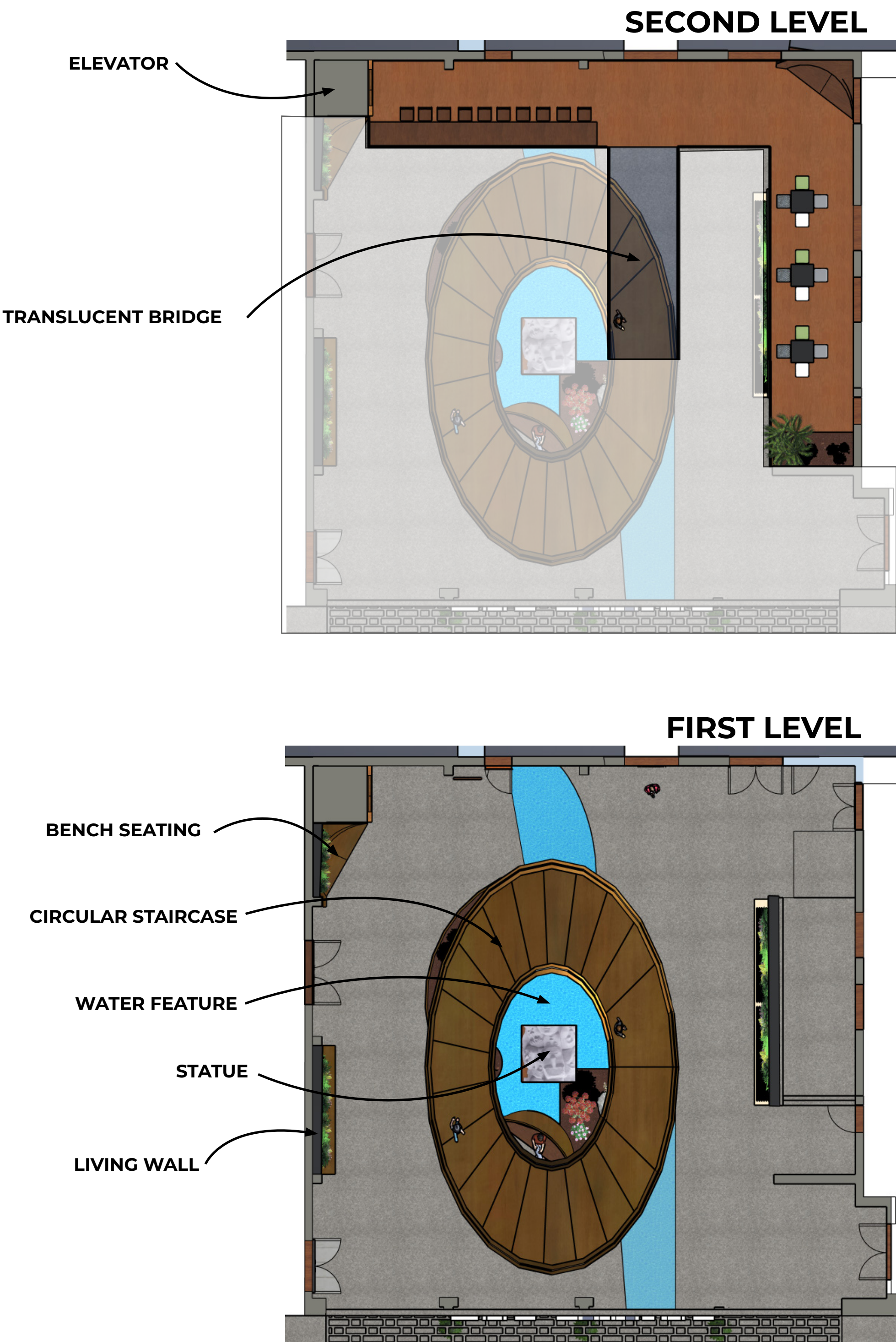
THE RAVINE

HONORING THE RAVINE
BUDGET: "WE DON'T NEED NO STINKIN' BUDGET"

Historically, this section of the UCLA campus was defined by a substantial ravine, once crossed by a prominent bridge that connected students and faculty to the heart of campus. As the university expanded, the ravine was gradually filled in, and new facilities were constructed atop the reclaimed land.

The water feature symbolizes the original ravine, while the circular staircase recalls the bridge that once spanned it. The Tower of Masks remains the central design objective—elevated as the true focal point of the space. The circular stair wraps around the sculpture, offering visitors an intimate, immersive encounter with the artwork.

A newly added second level, complete with an elevator for full ADA accessibility, expands the experiential possibilities of the courtyard while honoring its layered history.



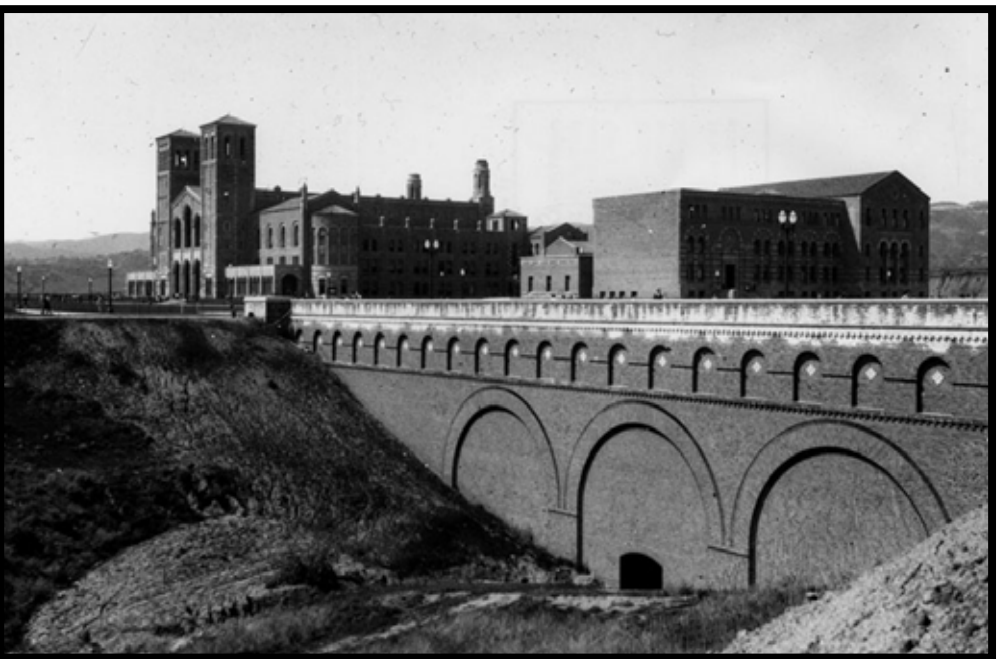
HISTORICAL SITE IMAGES



TOWER OF MASKS SCULPTURE
WITH ARTIST ANNA MAHLER



MACGOWAN HALL ATRIUM
AN EVENT CIRCA 1960's



THE RAVINE
AREA WHERE MACGOWAN HALL
NOW RESIDES

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LOS ANGELES, CA 90024**

DRAWING TITLE:
3 DESIGN OPTIONS

AERIAL IMAGE: ☐ SITE LOCATION

DRAWING NOTES:

NOTES

MAINTENANCE AROUND CAMPUS IS LACKING. DESIGN SHOULD TAKE THAT INTO ACCOUNT FOR LOWER COST DESIGNS.

ORIGINAL DESIGN FROM 1960'S WAS AN IDEAL LOW MAINTENANCE DESIGN FOR THIS SPACE.

SPACE IS 60' SQUARE WITH 30' WALLS. CEILING HAS A 30' SQUARE OPENING IN THE CENTER TO ALLOW IN LIGHT AND OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS.

NORTH ARROW:

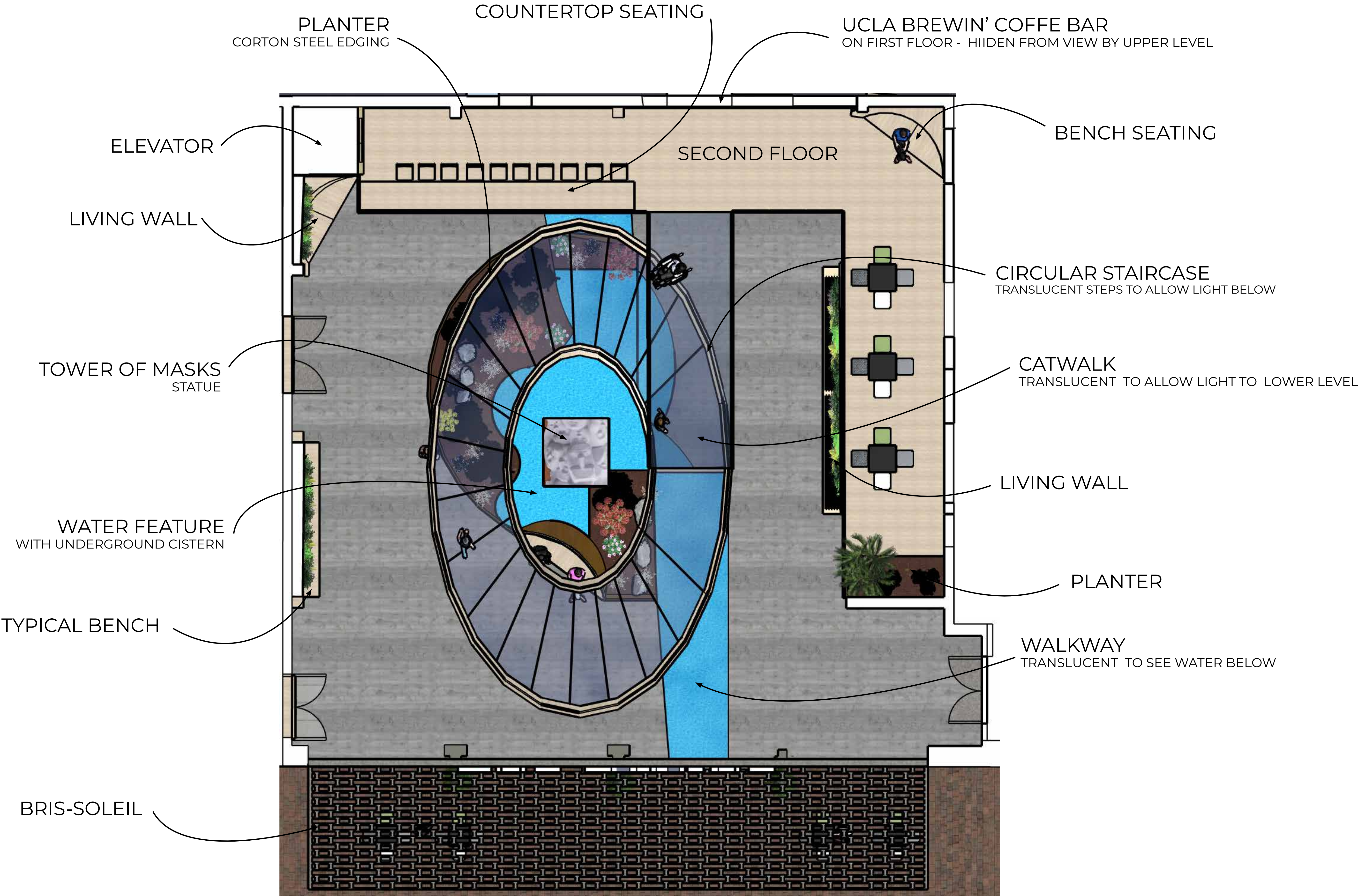
SCALE BAR:
0 2 4 8 16

DRAWING SCALE:
1/8" = 1'-0"

SHEET NUMBER:
L-3

SHEET NUMBER IN SET:
3 OF 5

THE RAVINE



STUDENT NAME:
TOM GALASSI

COURSE:
**LANDSCAPE DESIGN 1
FALL 2025**

INSTRUCTOR:
STEVEN CHAVEZ, PLA

SITE NAME AND ADDRESS:
**UCLA CAMPUS
COURTYARD OF THEATRES
MACGOWAN HALL**

**245 CHARLES E YOUNG DR E
LOS ANGELES, CA 90024**

DRAWING TITLE:
**THE RAVINE
FINAL DESIGN**

AERIAL IMAGE: ☐ SITE LOCATION

DESIGN STATEMENT

The Ravine draws its inspiration from two key sources: the site's original topography and the historic presence of the Tower of Masks within this courtyard.

This part of UCLA once featured a deep natural ravine, traversed by a significant bridge that helped students and faculty move between campus areas. Over time, as the university grew, the ravine was filled and new structures were built over the transformed landscape.

In the redesign, the water element reinterprets the former ravine, while the sweeping circular stair gestures toward the bridge that once crossed it. The Tower of Masks is reintroduced as the anchor of the space, positioned to command attention and encourage close interaction as the stair curves around it.

A new upper level—paired with an elevator for full ADA access—enhances circulation and opens additional vantage points, allowing visitors to experience the courtyard's evolution and its layered past in a more engaging way.

NORTH ARROW:

SCALE BAR:
0' 1' 2' 4' 8'

DRAWING SCALE:
1/4" = 1'-0"

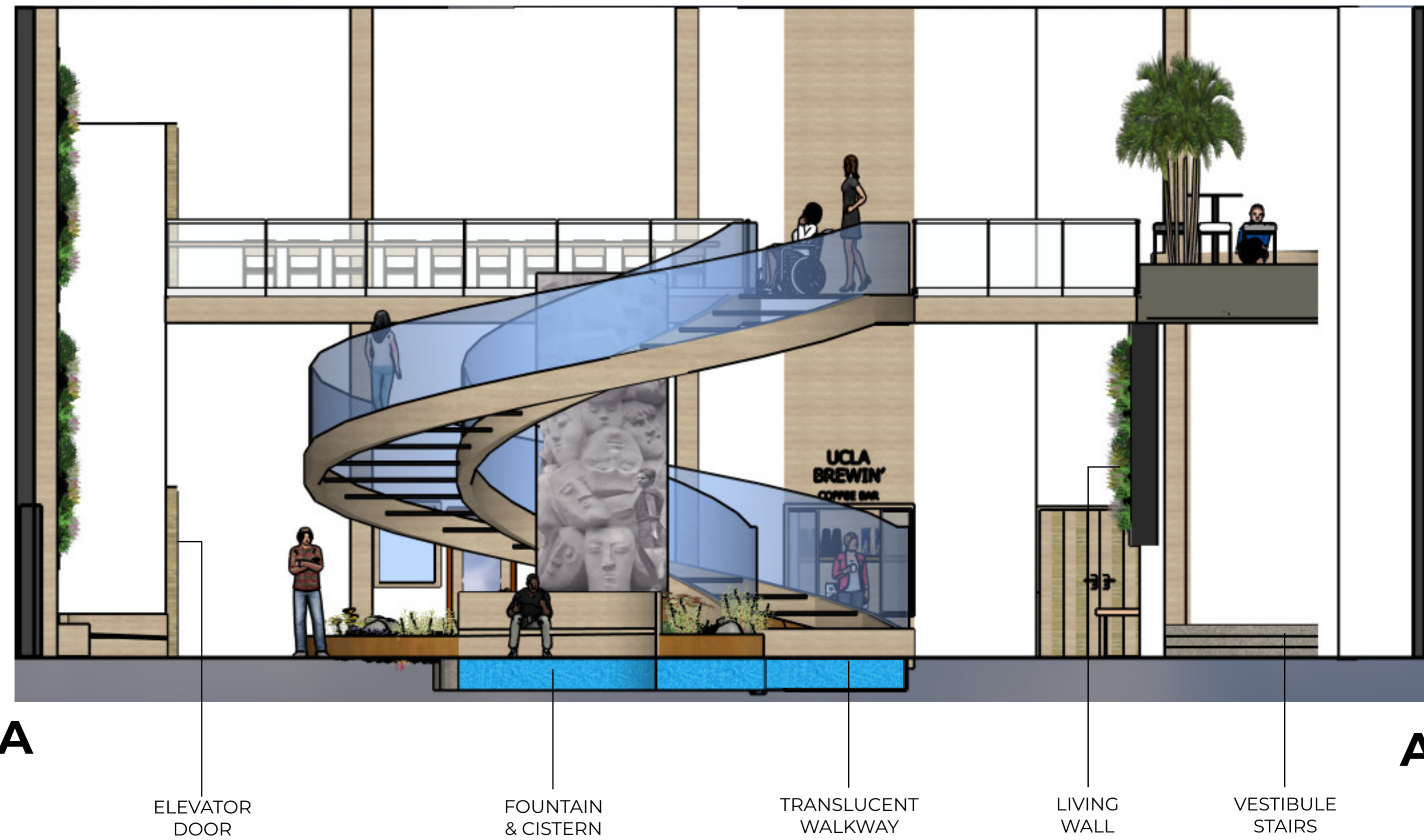
SHEET NUMBER:
L-4

SHEET NUMBER IN SET:
4 OF 5

THE RAVINE @ UCLA

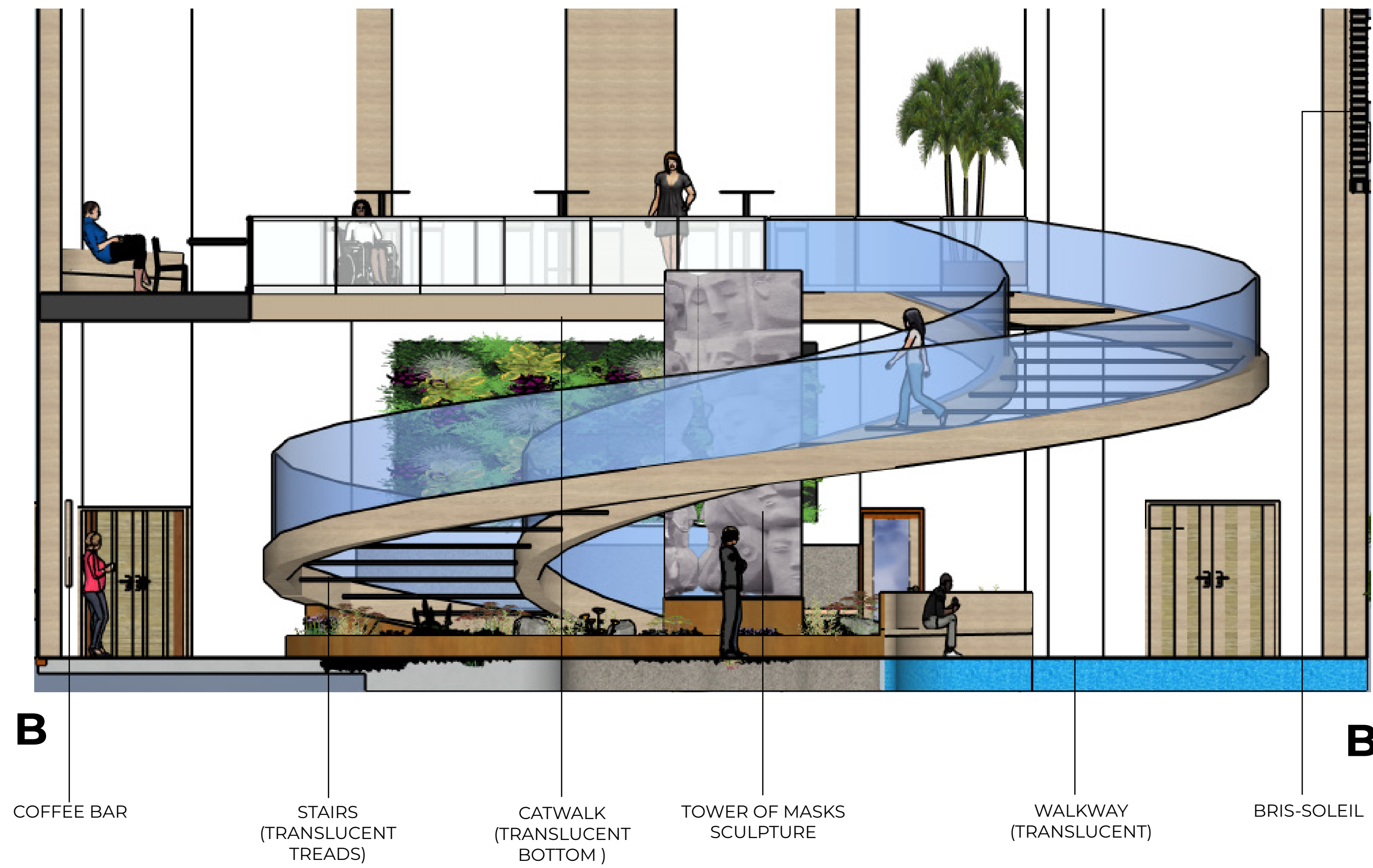
SECTION ELEVATION A-A'

VIEW FACING NORTH



SECTION ELEVATION B-B'

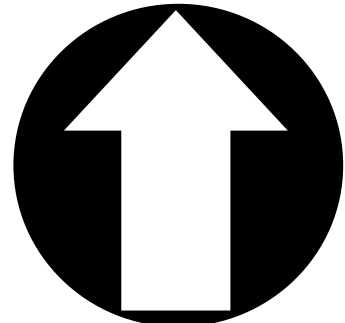
VIEW FACING EAST



PERSPECTIVE

VIEW FROM FRONT OF COURTYARD



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COURSE: LANDSCAPE DESIGN 1 FALL 2025	
INSTRUCTOR: STEVEN CHAVEZ, PLA	
SITE NAME AND ADDRESS: UCLA CAMPUS COURTYARD OF THEATRES MACGOWAN HALL 245 CHARLES E YOUNG DR E LOS ANGELES, CA 90024	
DRAWING TITLE: THE RAVINE SECTION & PERSPECTIVES	
AERIAL IMAGE: ☐ SITE LOCATION 	
DRAWING NOTES: PLEASE NOTE: The section elevations appear similar at first glance, even though they are taken 90 degrees apart. Because both views include the upper levels and the staircase is highly symmetrical, the differences between the two are not immediately obvious.	
NORTH ARROW: 	
SCALE BAR: 0' 1' 2' 4' 8' 	
DRAWING SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"	
SHEET NUMBER: L-5	SHEET NUMBER IN SET: 5 OF 5

