Defining the Role of the 21st Century Public Library in Madison

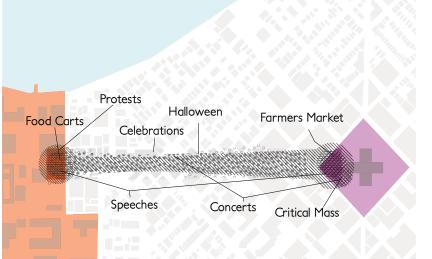
Madison, Wisconsin is dominated by two main forces; the state government in the center of the isthmus, and the University of Wisconsin to the west. These two institutions are linked by State Street, a pedestrian and bike corridor. State Street serves as the main public gathering space for the city. Celebrations, protests, and gatherings form and travel along its length between the University and Capital.

While these two institutions represent Madison, neither one are truly public. The placement of the new Central Public Library along this strip will provide a free, democratic space for all Madison citizens. Beyond collecting books and storing media, the Madison Library offers opportunities for gatherings and informational exchanges 24 hours a day.

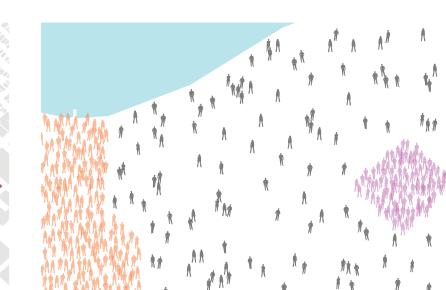


Current Condition

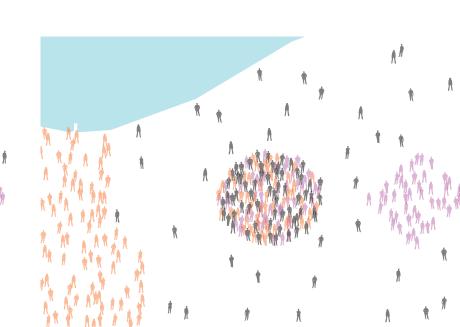
State Street



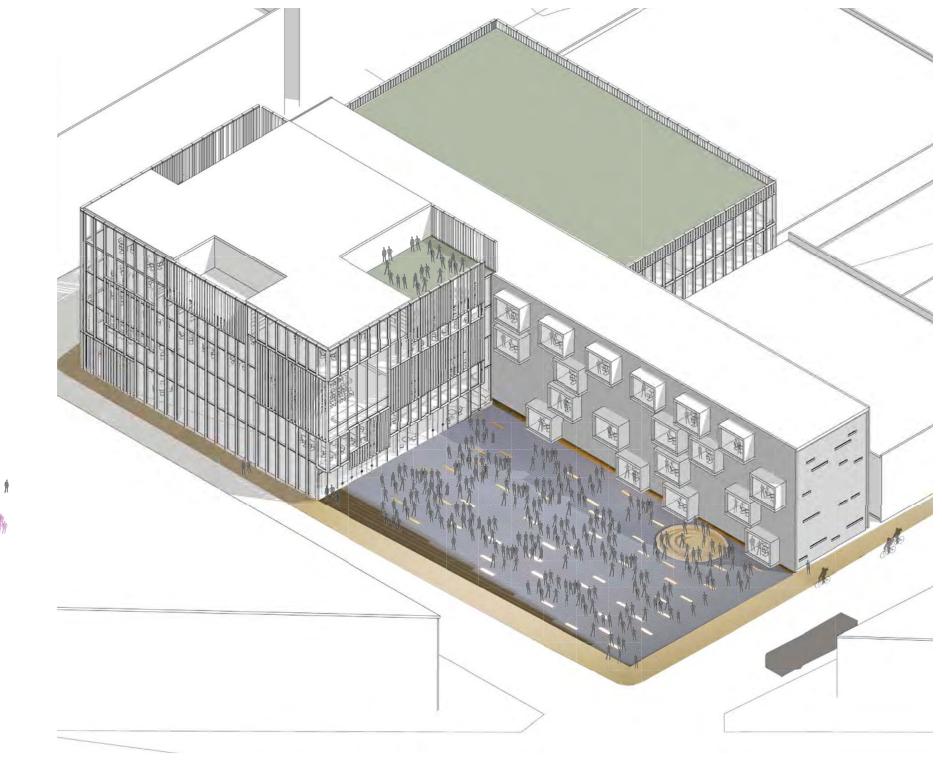
University and Capital



Current Grouping



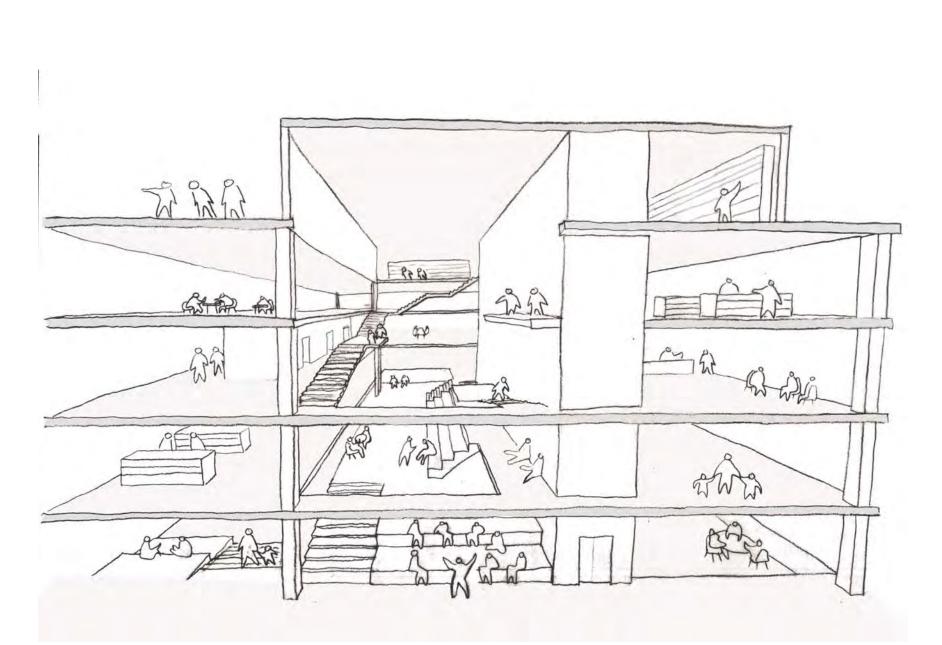
Library as New Node



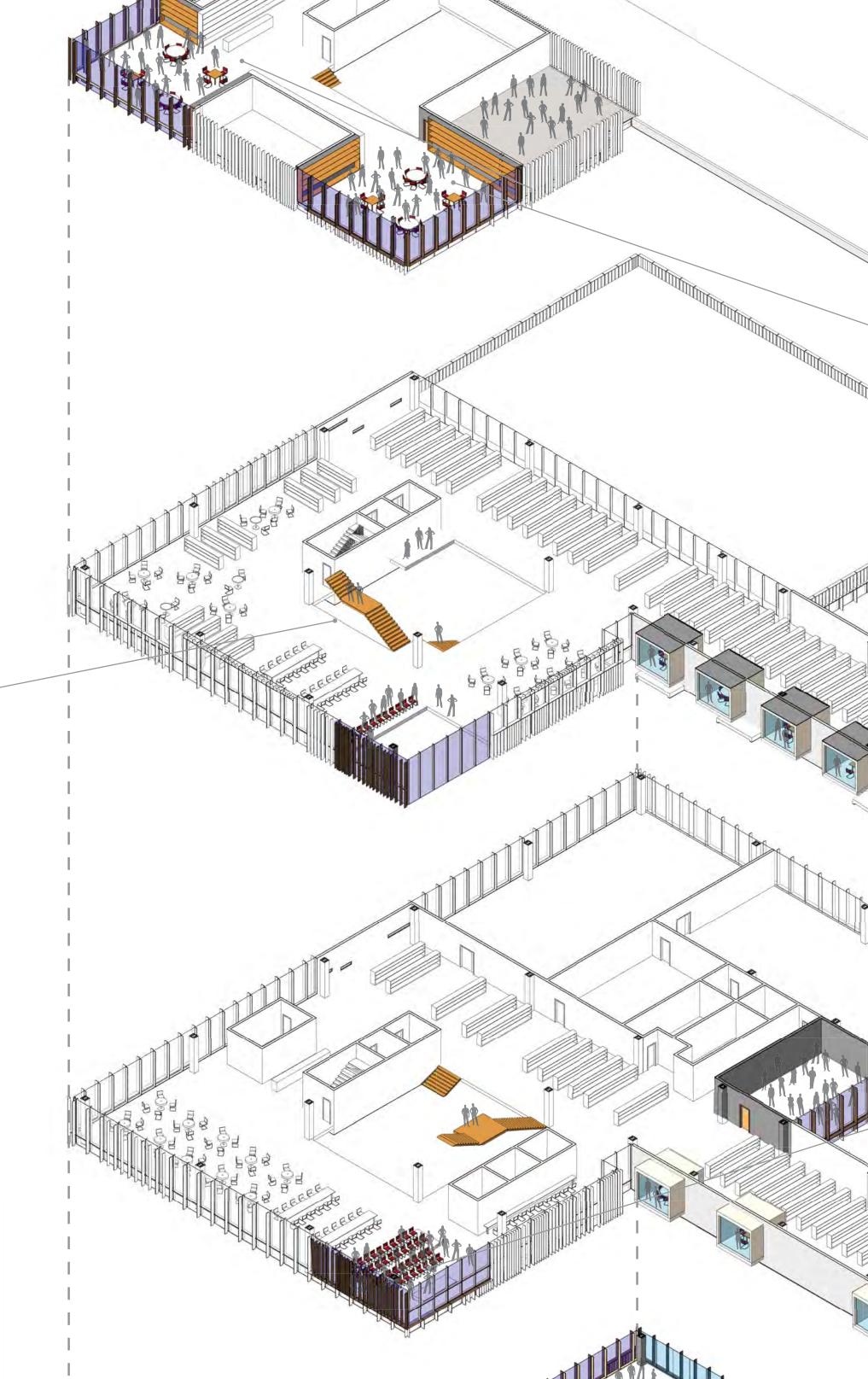
State Street Plaza

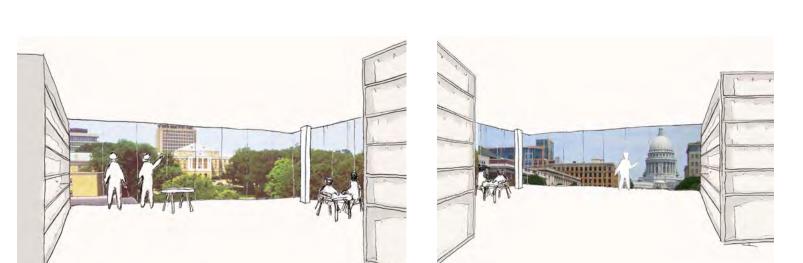


Main Circulation / Meeting



Main Circulation / Meeting



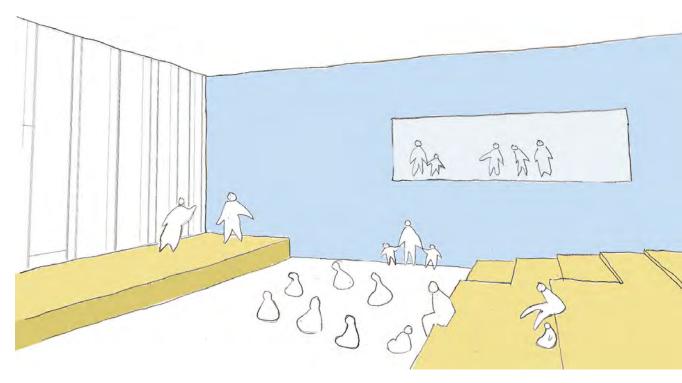


View out of University Madison Room

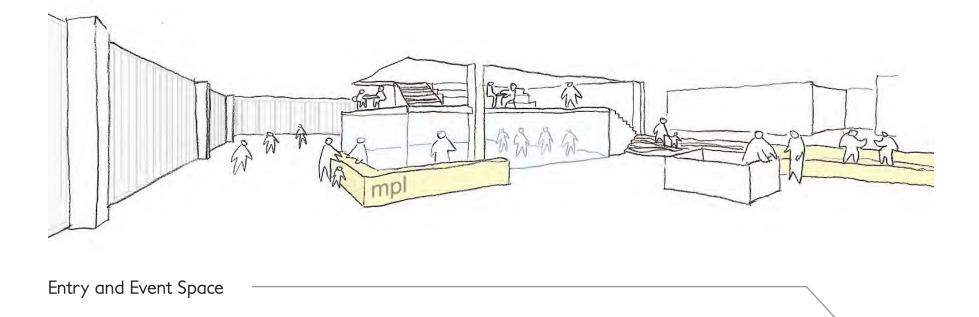
View out of State Capital



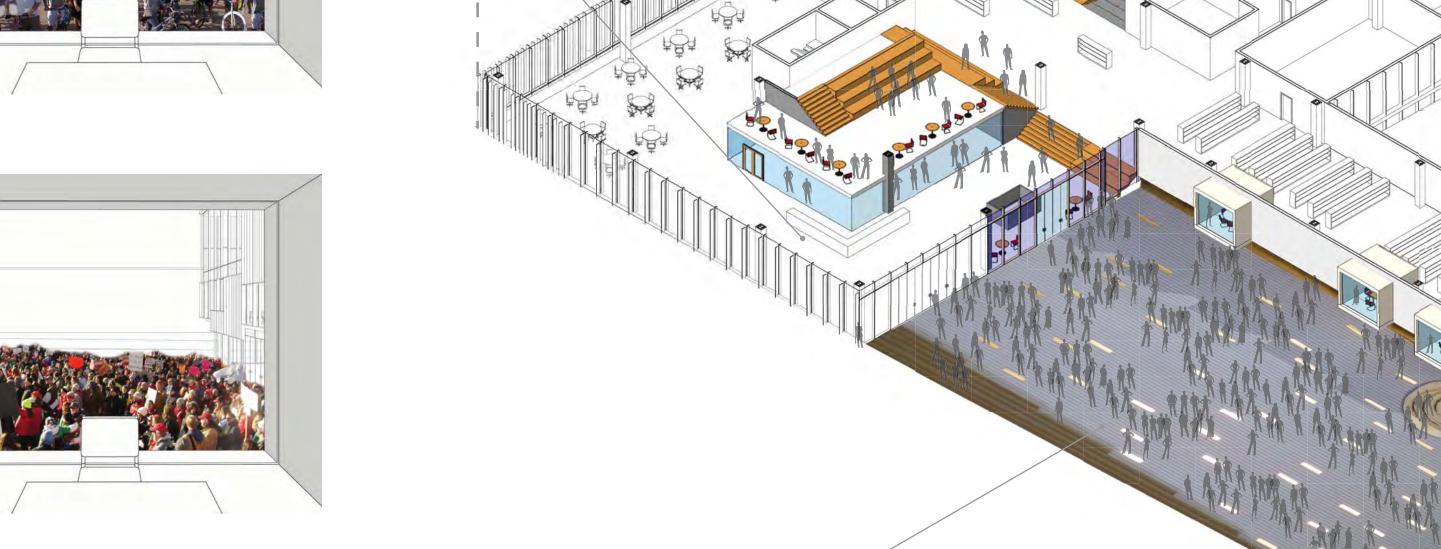
Presentation Area

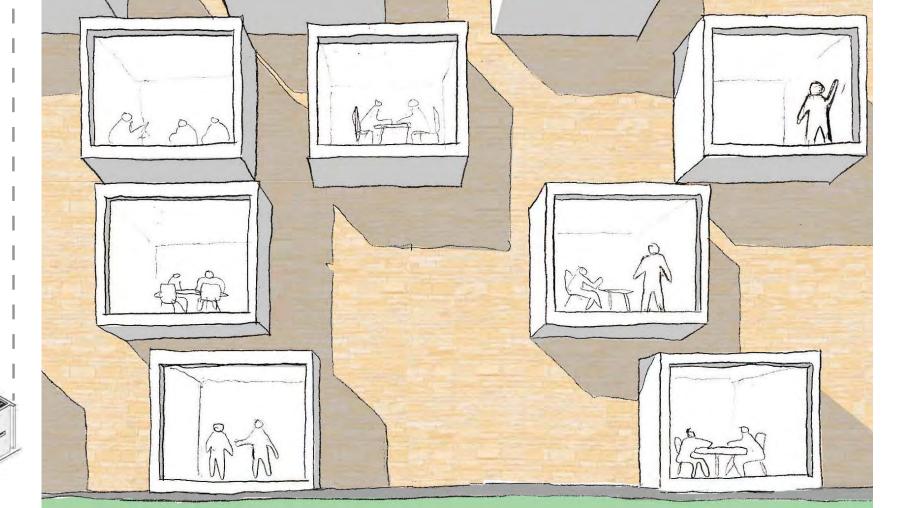


Auditorium









View of Small Group Study Rooms

Summer