Digital Urban Park

Social Networks
have an active population over double the size of the U.S.

Urban Parks
are analog social condensers that have existed since the late 1800's.

Integrate
the analog park with the new digital forms of socialization.

Federal Center

Jackson Blvd.

State St.

Wabash Ave.

Van Buren St.

East Section

South Section
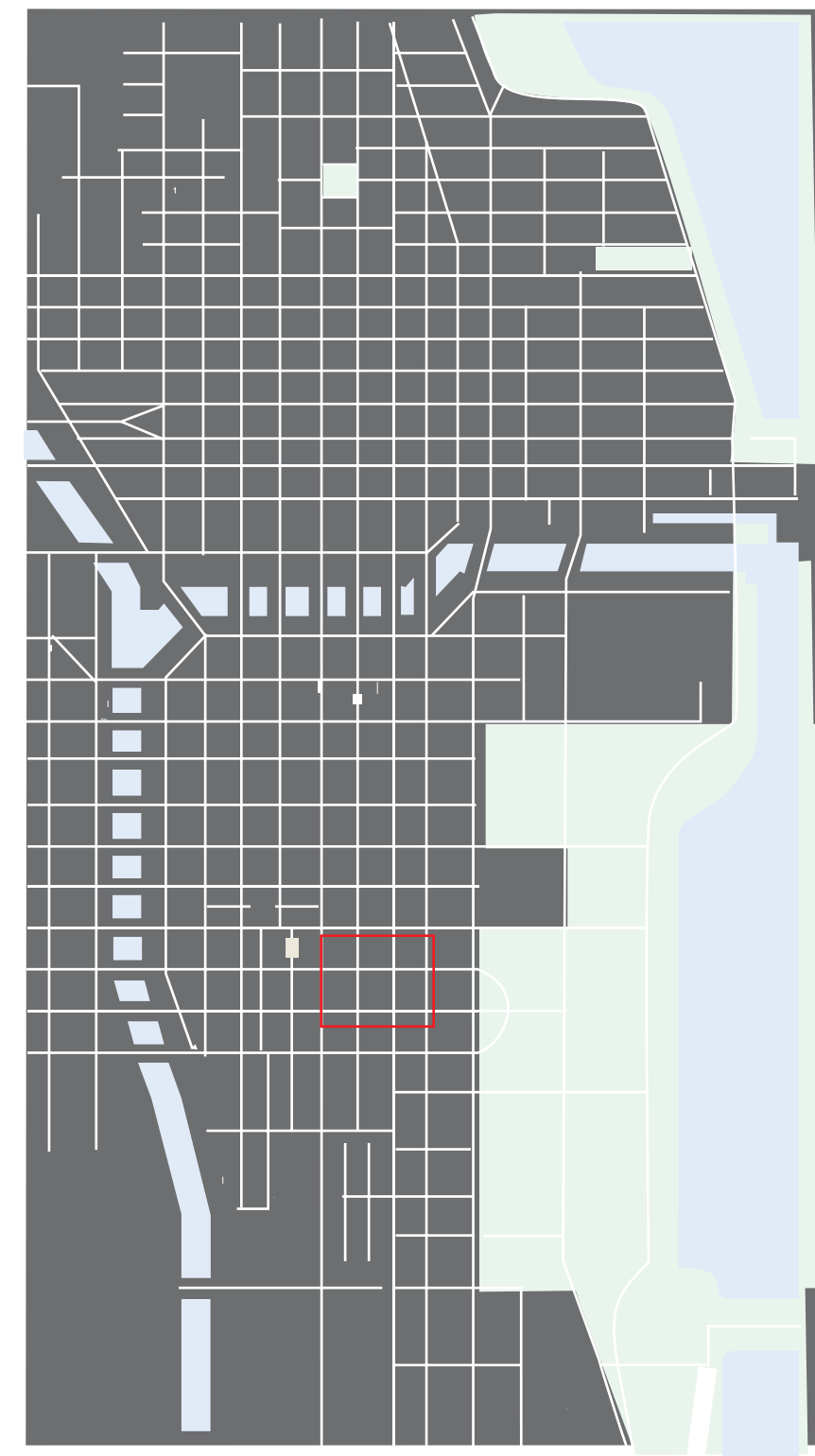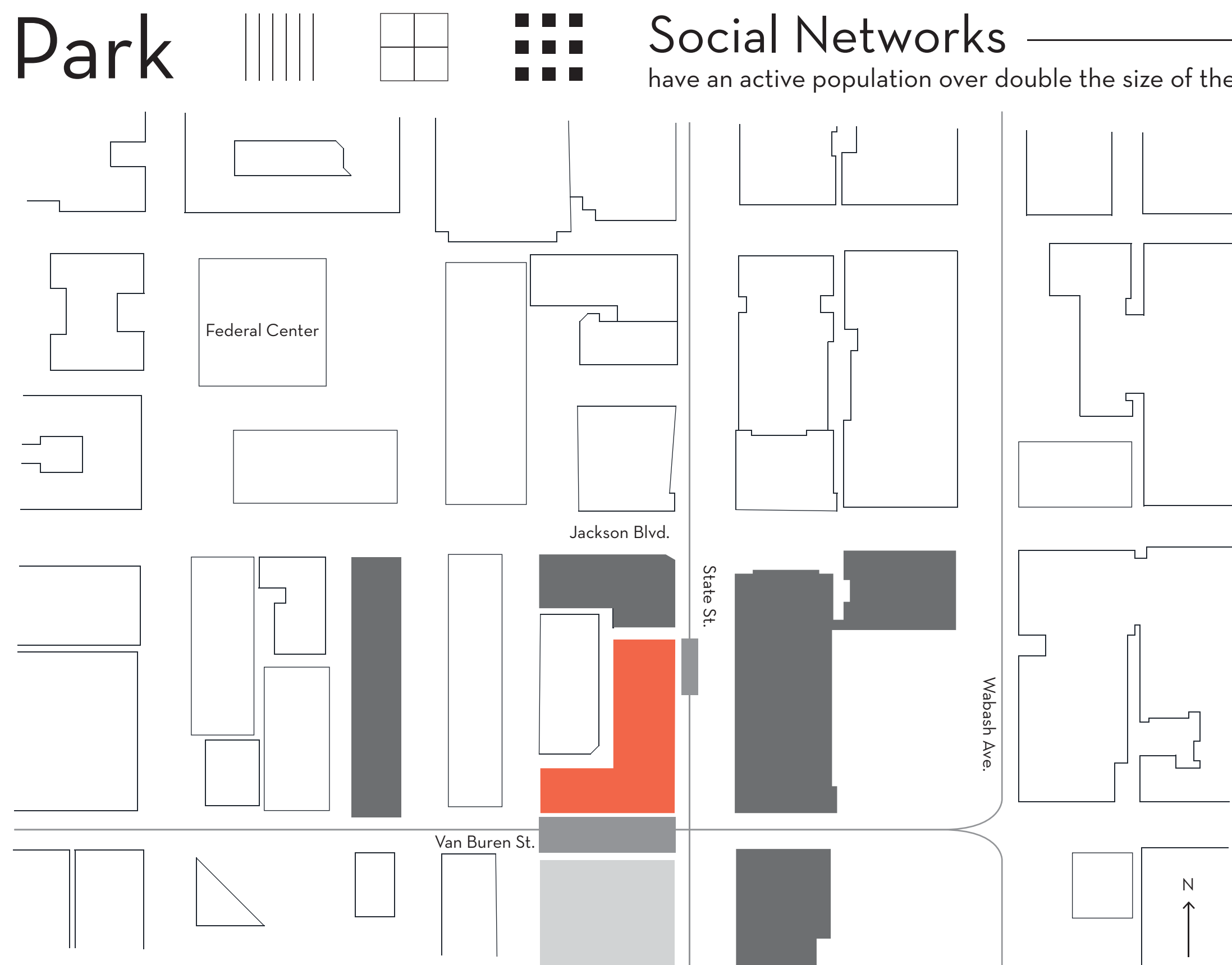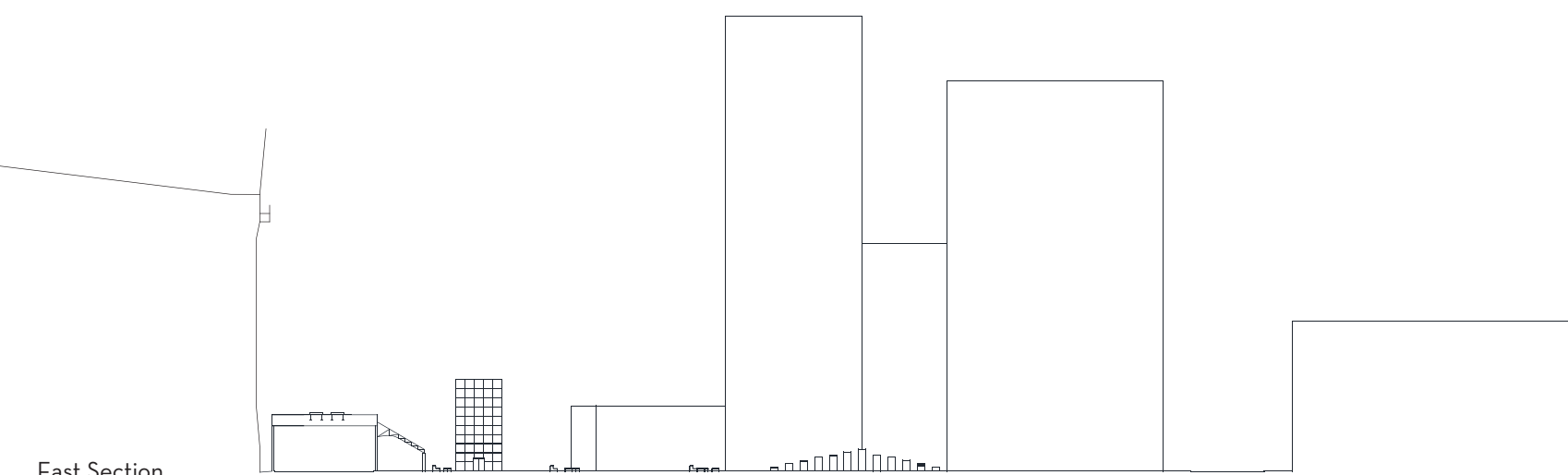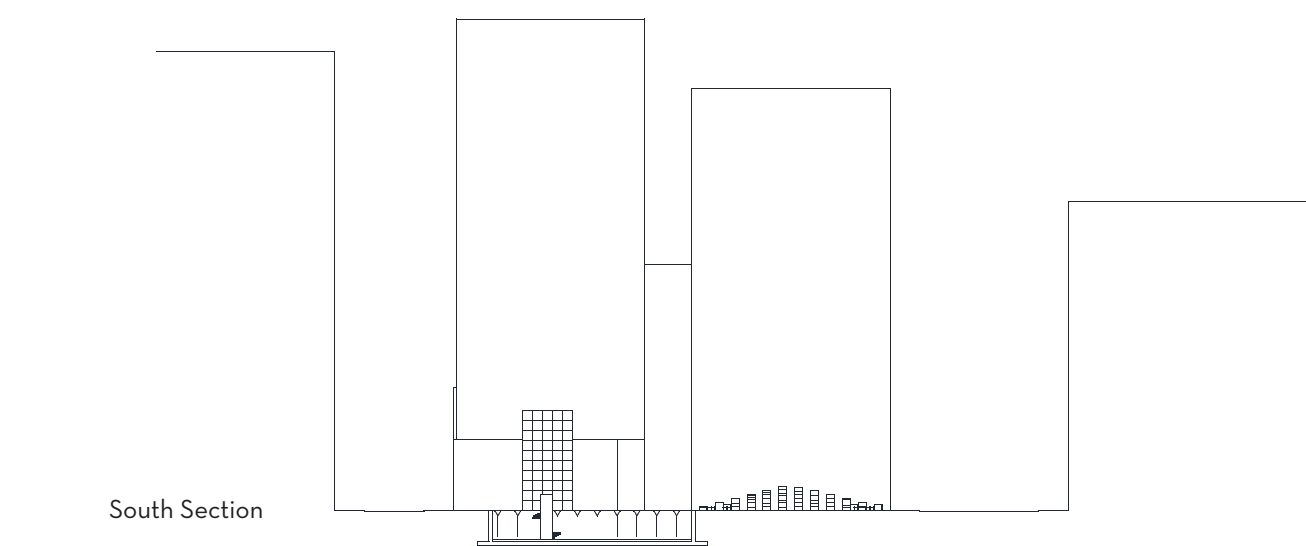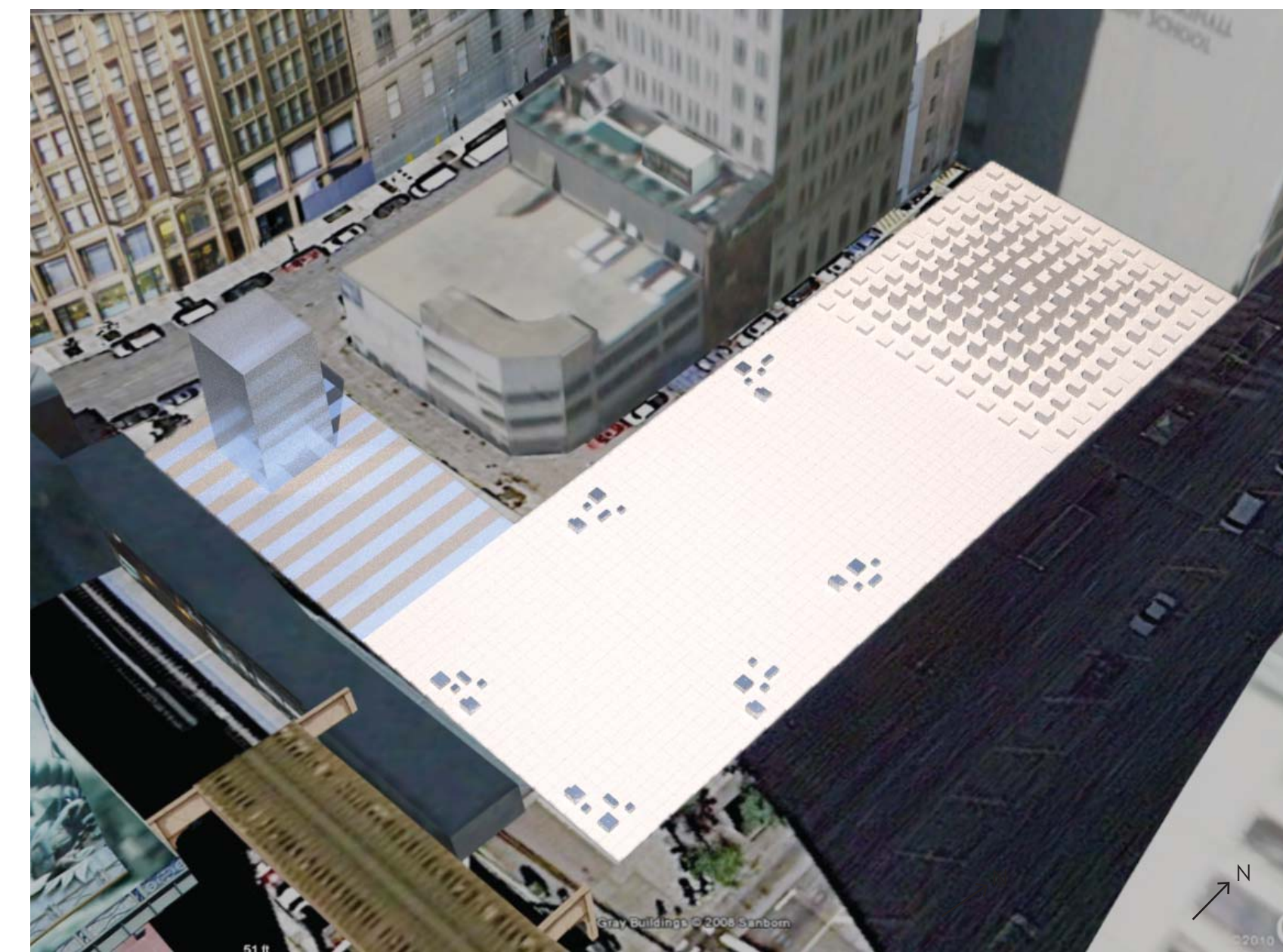
Site: Pritzker Park
is a small urban park on the southern edge of the Loop that is just north of the library and is adjacent to several mass transit stops along with numerous academic buildings.

■ (orange)	Site
■ (light gray)	Harold Washington Library
■ (dark gray)	CTA Jackson Stop

■	CTA Library Stop
	-Brown Line
	-Orange Line
	-Pink Line
	-Purple Line

|	
■	Academic Buildings
	-DePaul University
	-John Marshall Law School
	-Robert Morris University
	-Lasalle Extension
	-Roosevelt
	-Jones College Prep

CTA Jackson Stop
-Red Line

"The social bonds built in the virtual world can spill over into the physical world--and with such seismic force that they can topple an autocrat."   -Blair Kamin
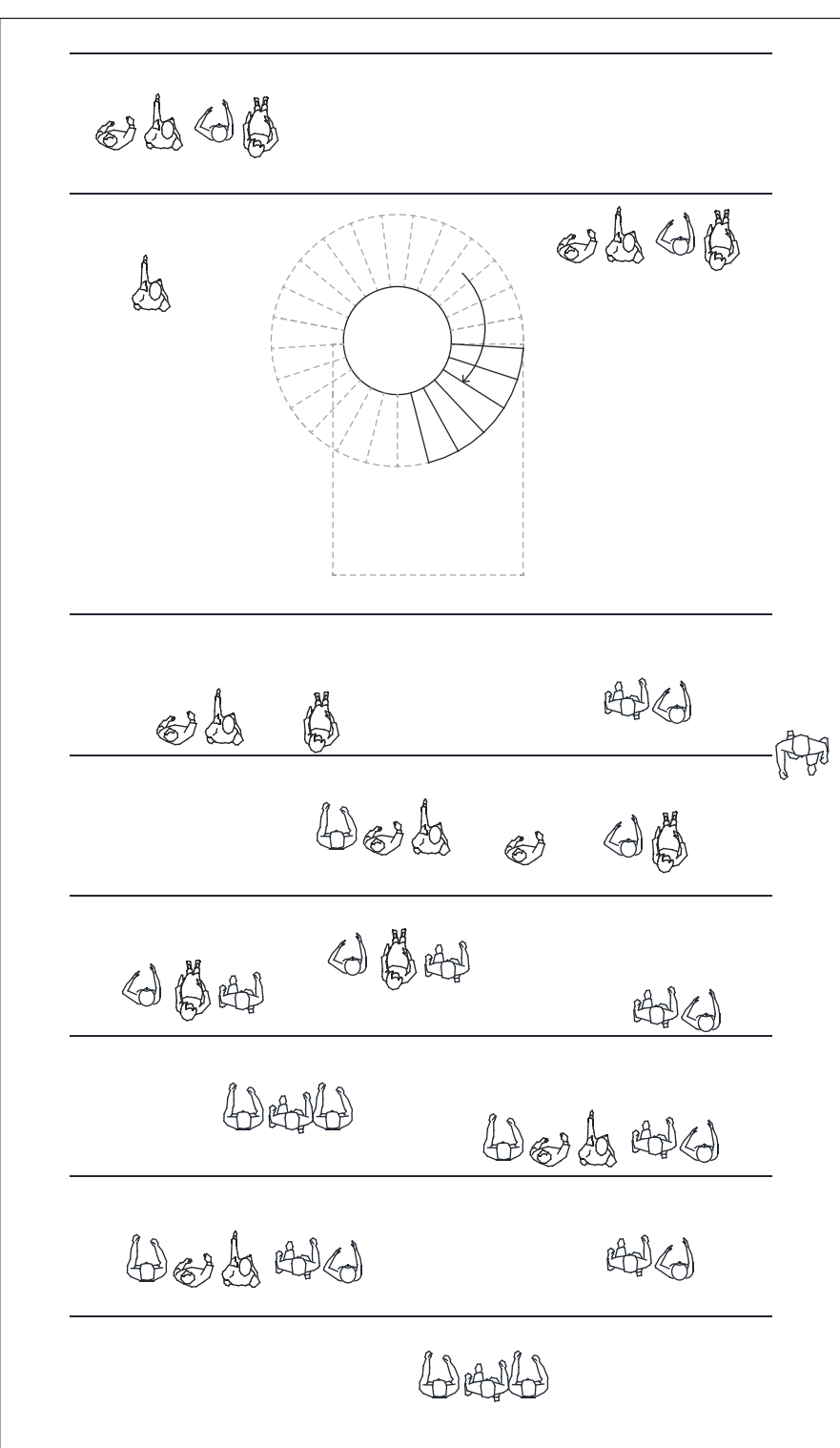
by Alastair Thornton

The Line
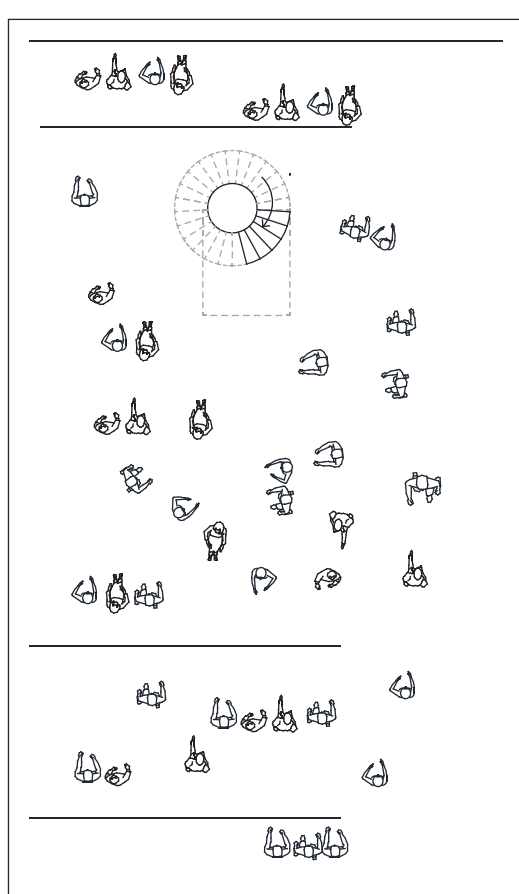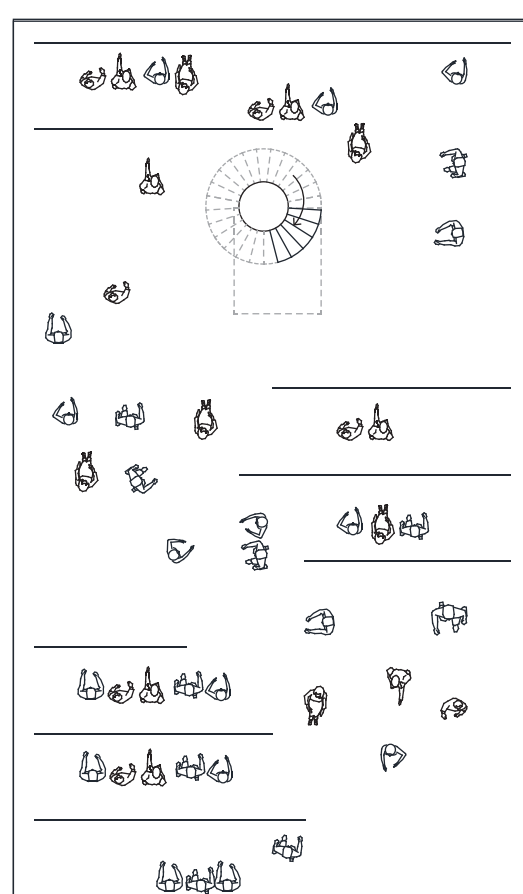## *Group interaction & play*
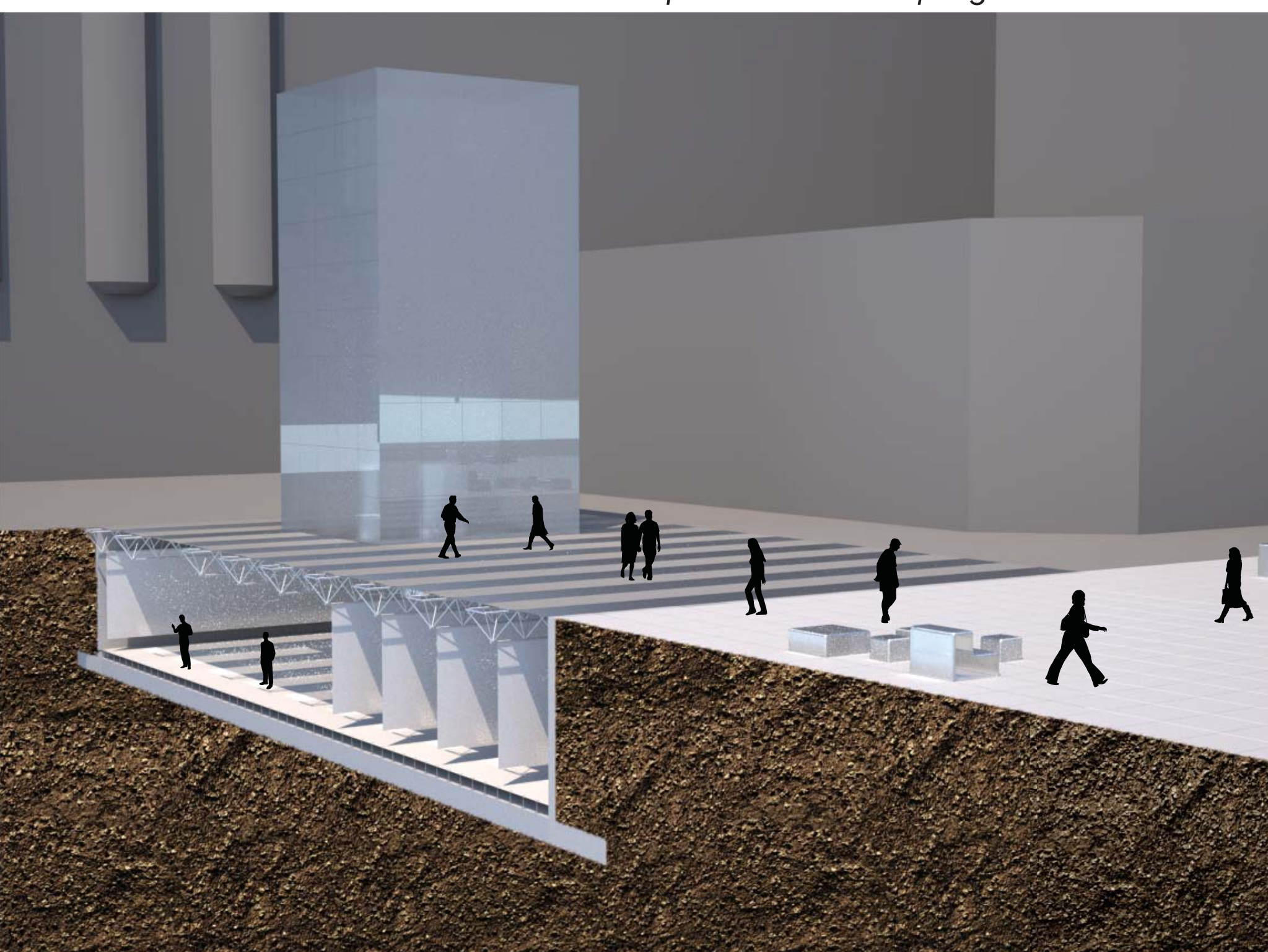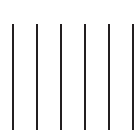
Universal Space

Screens hang along regular points in the ceiling and create different types of space to allow different interactions to occur among users. The space is a media exploration tool for the library across the street.
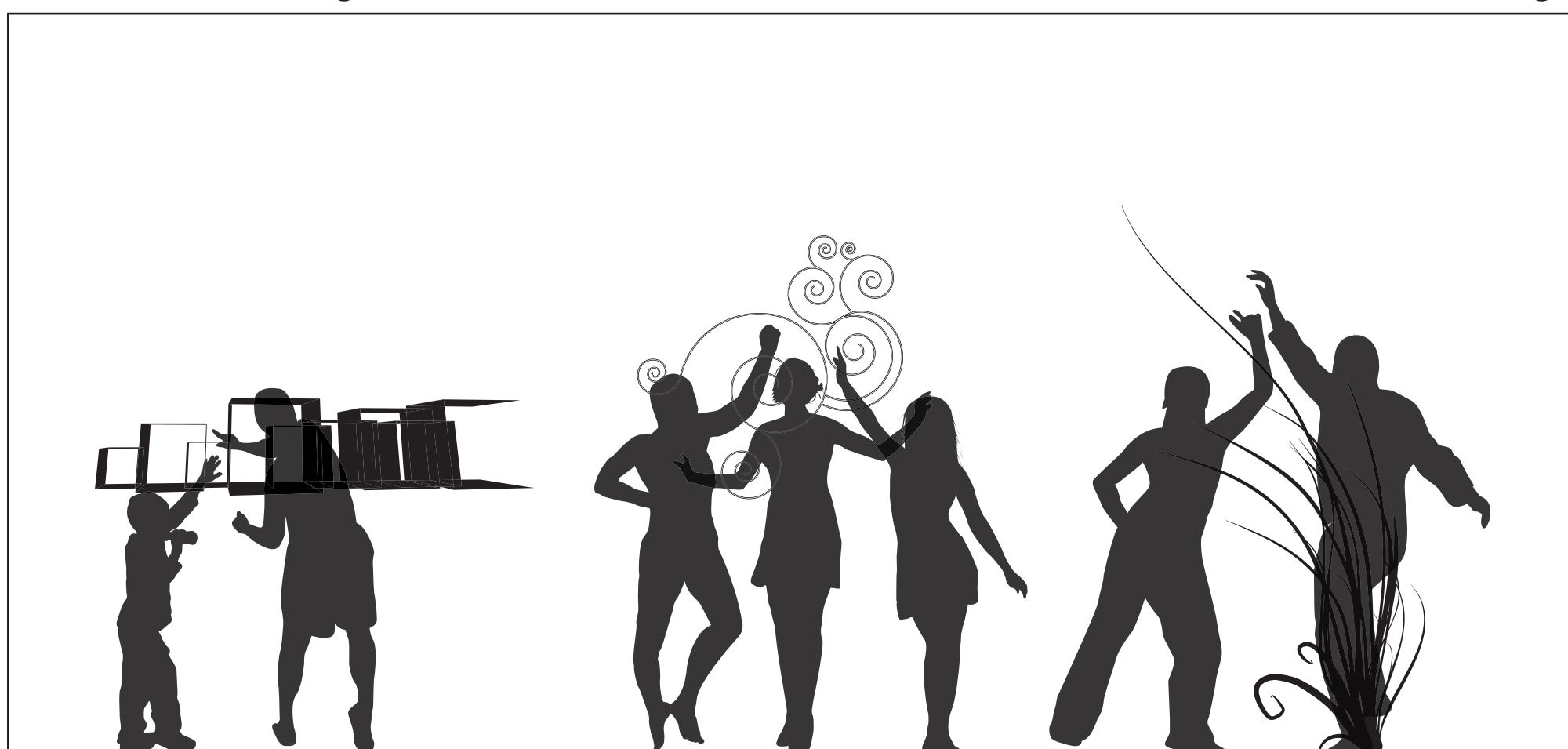

All screens down

Exhibition Space

Gallery Space

Projected Interaction

Different types of interaction within the group will cause different forms to generate from the projector. Individual forms can also be created by touching the screen itself.

Kiss   Hug   Touch   Move   Talk   Laugh

Raised Floor

Exhibits or events put on by the city or library will have access to all the space's systems in order to fully utilize the interactive space.
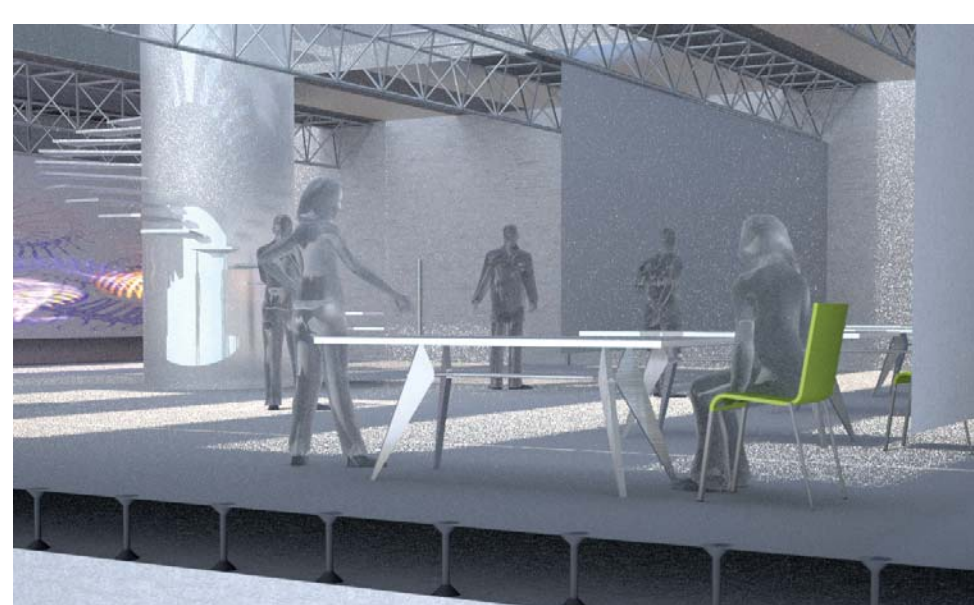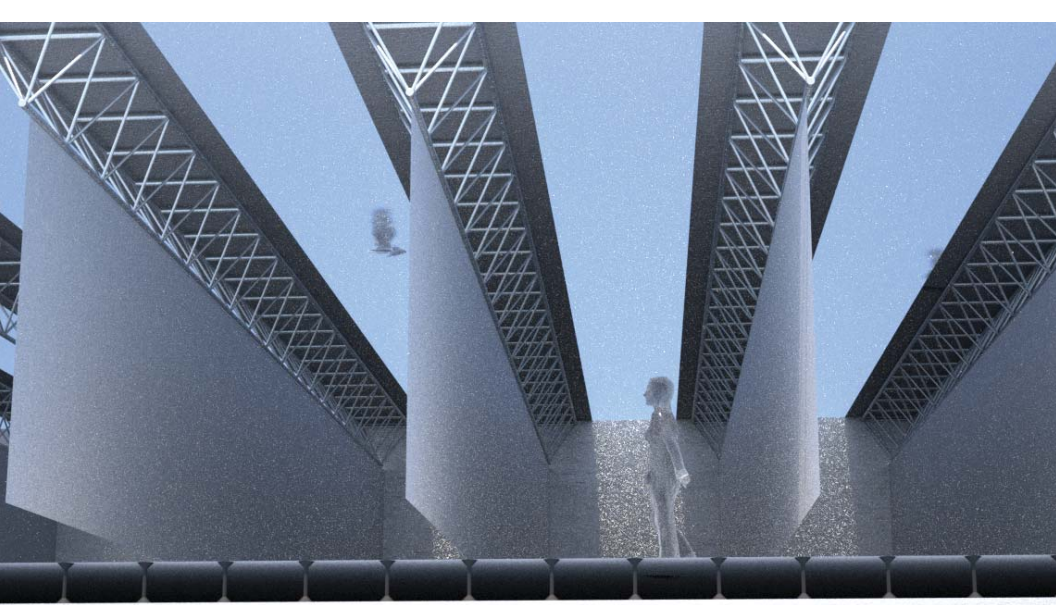
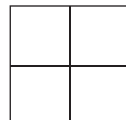

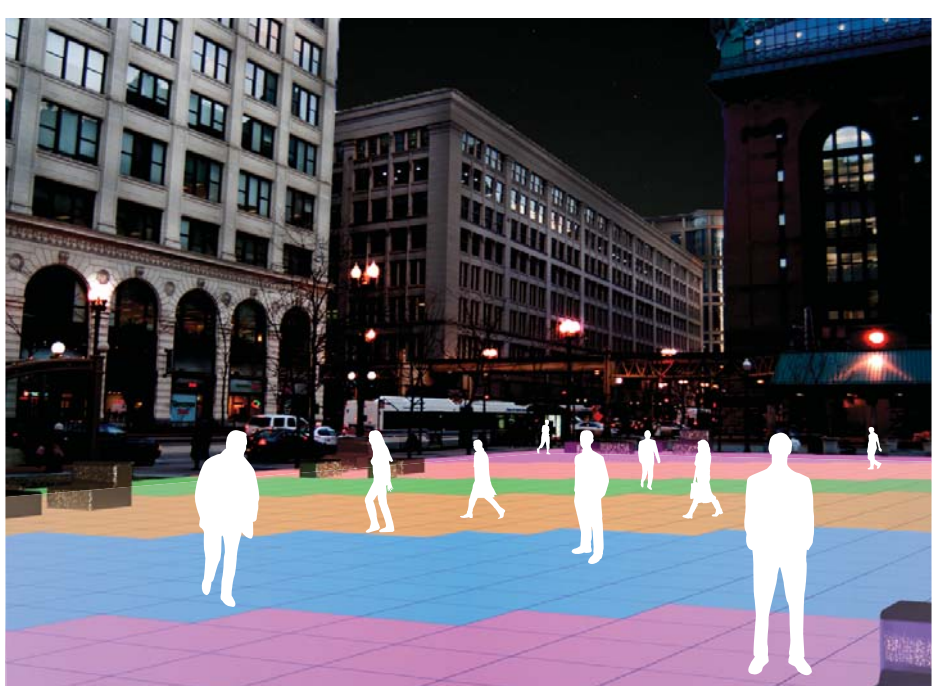HVAC   Electricity   Network   Visual   Audio

The Plane

Personal interaction & mood

The social network "mood ring"

Chicago status updates

↓

Subdued — Clarity
Relaxed — Excited
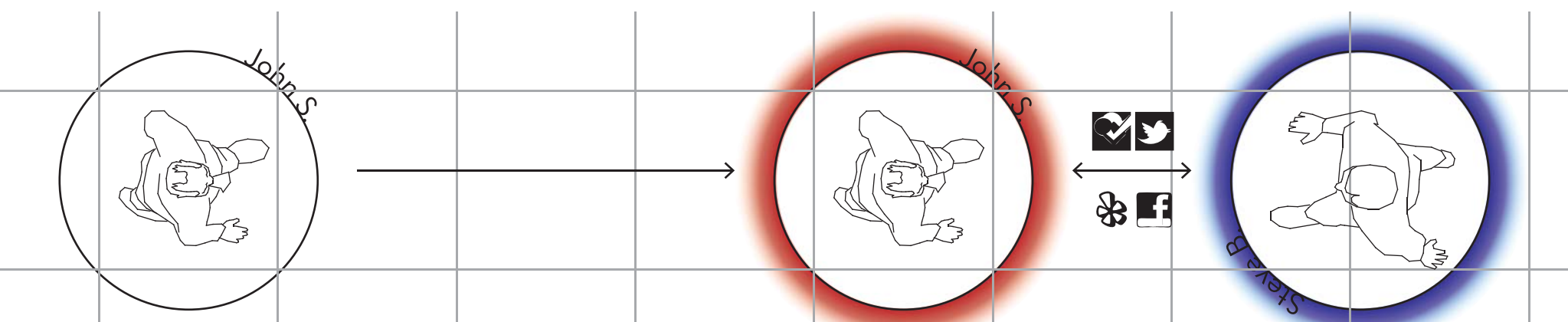Normal — Imaginative

LED tiles →
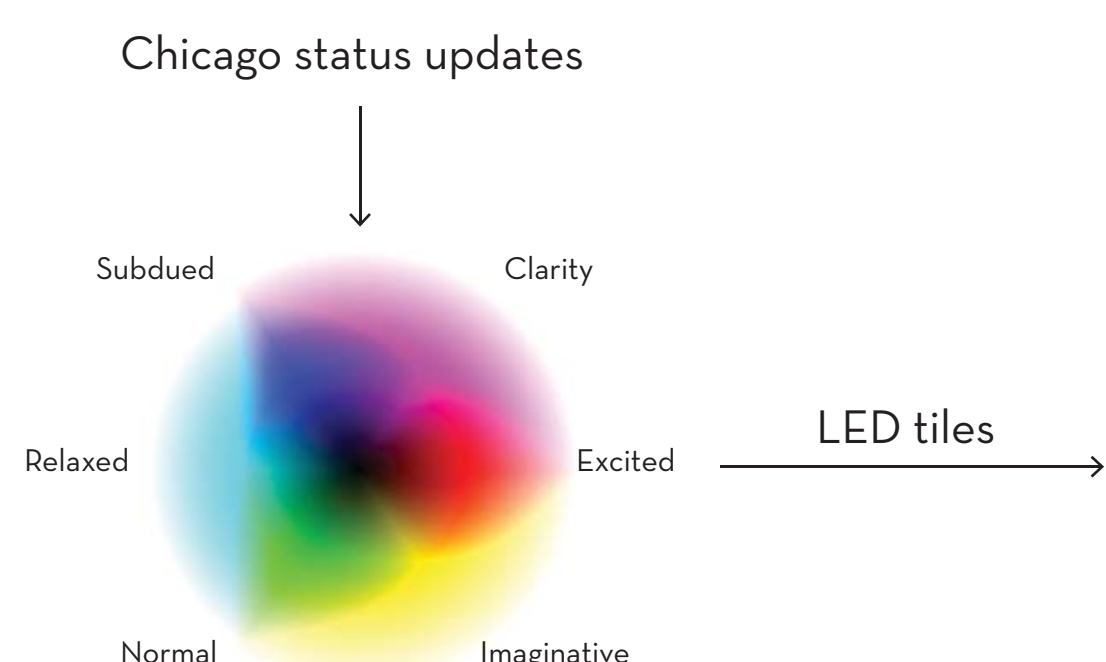
Areas of intelligence

Around sets of benches, the tiles will be made of high resolution screen and information such as names and social networks are shown based on user preference.

When two users approach one another and stand next to each other, the circles will activate and ask what information they would like to share.

Users can choose to activate different forms of interaction: games, videos, local attractions. This activation can occur through a smartphone or directly with the surface.

Users can also program their own games and upload them to the surface to play.
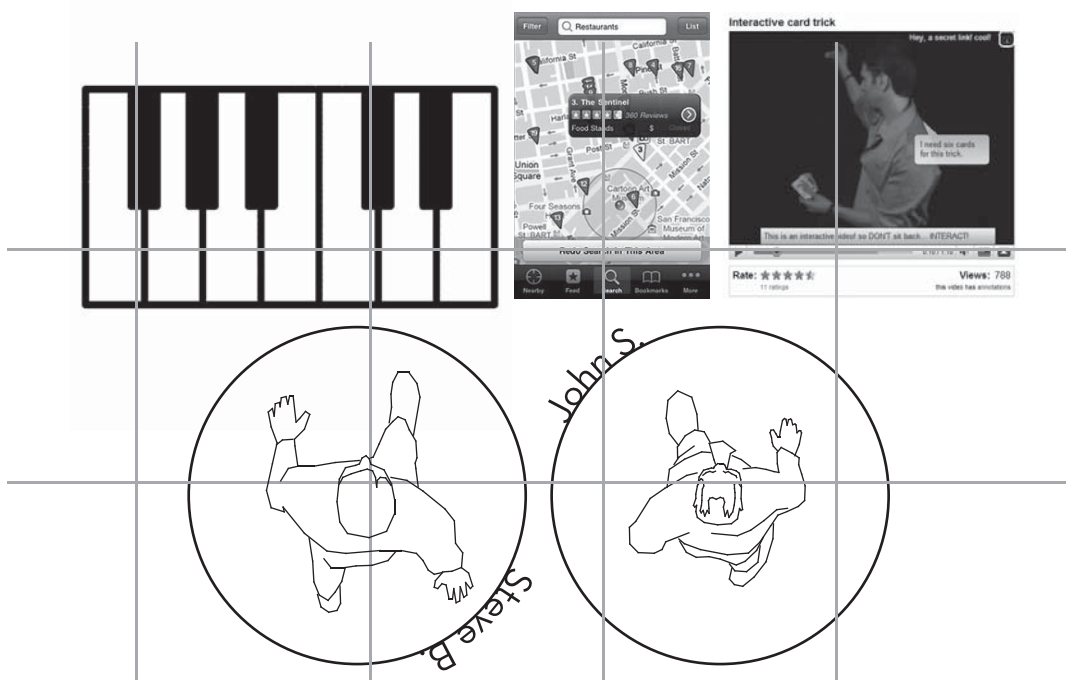
The plane can also tie into dating sites, when two people with compatible profiles are on the plane, their circles will activate and glow pink. The plane can then suggest an activity they would both enjoy and provide directions to that activity.

A special time could also be arranged for the entire plane to glow pink to allow for more spontaneous interactions to occur.
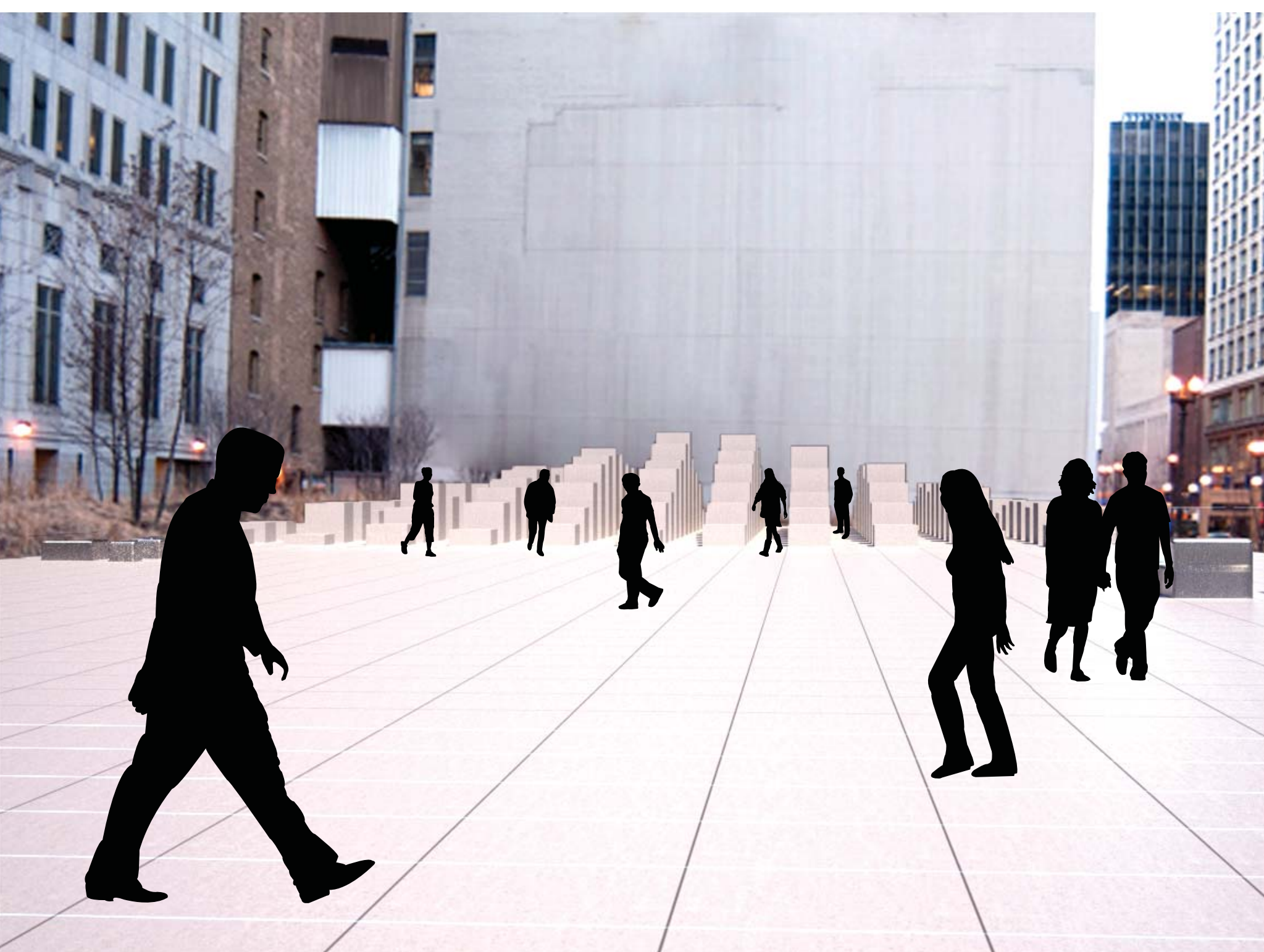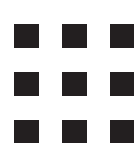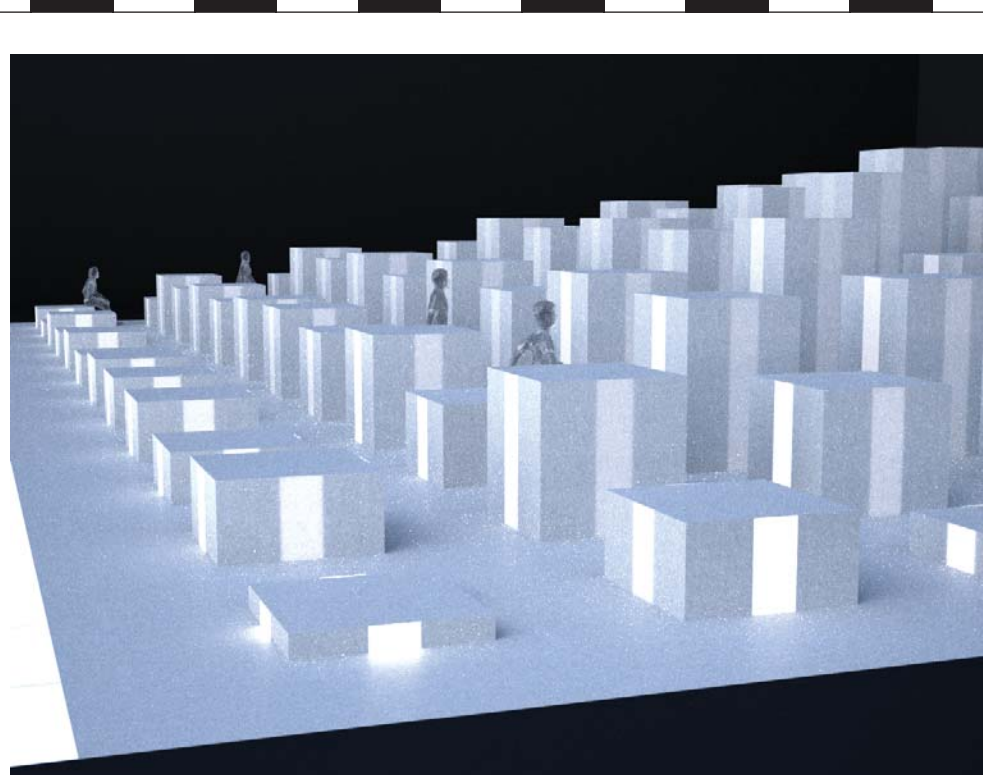

Micro-Climates
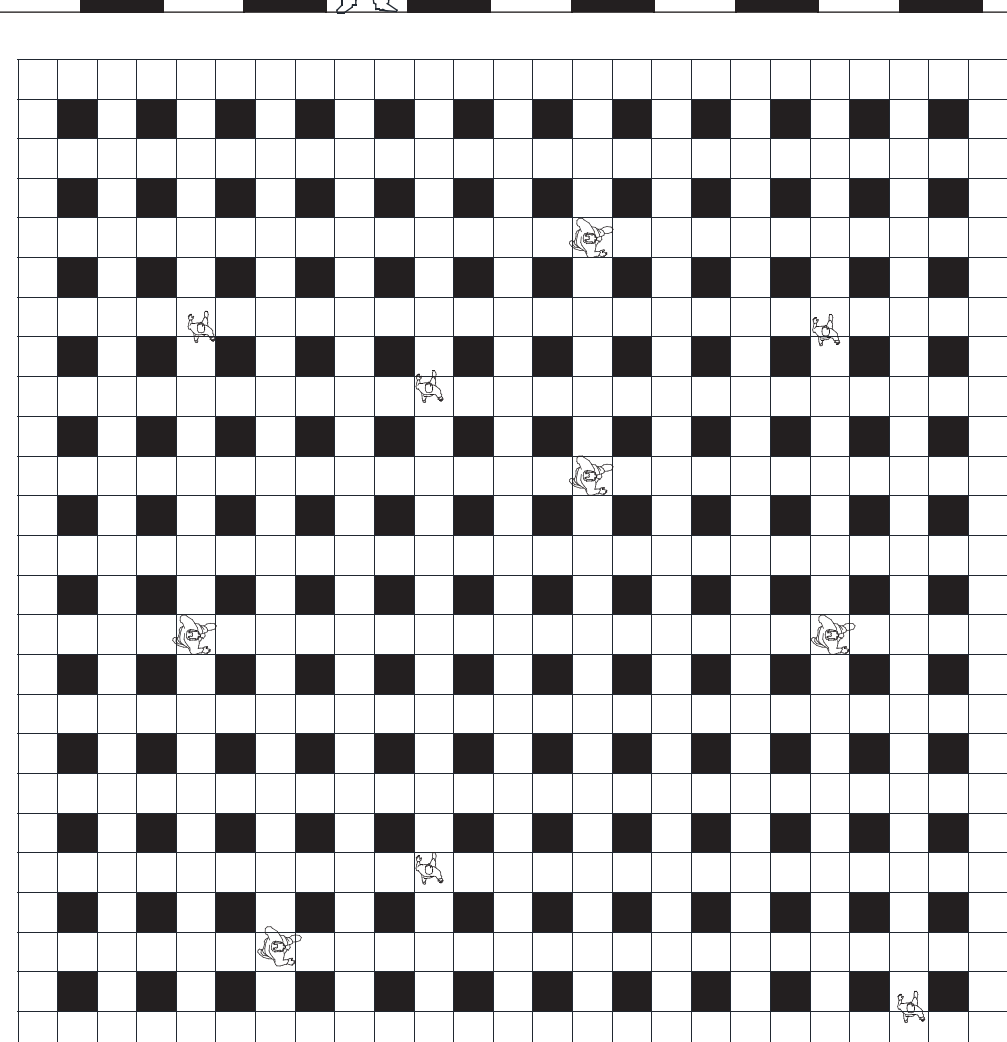
J F M A M J J A S O N D

Expanded Usage

Typical Usage

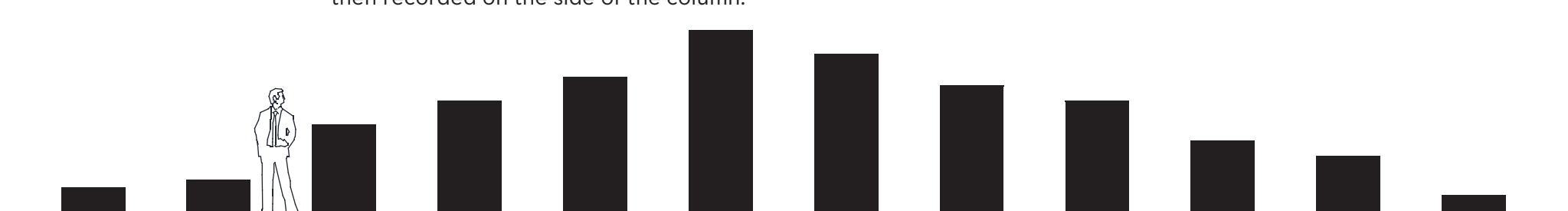Expanded Usage

Heated Exhaust Air
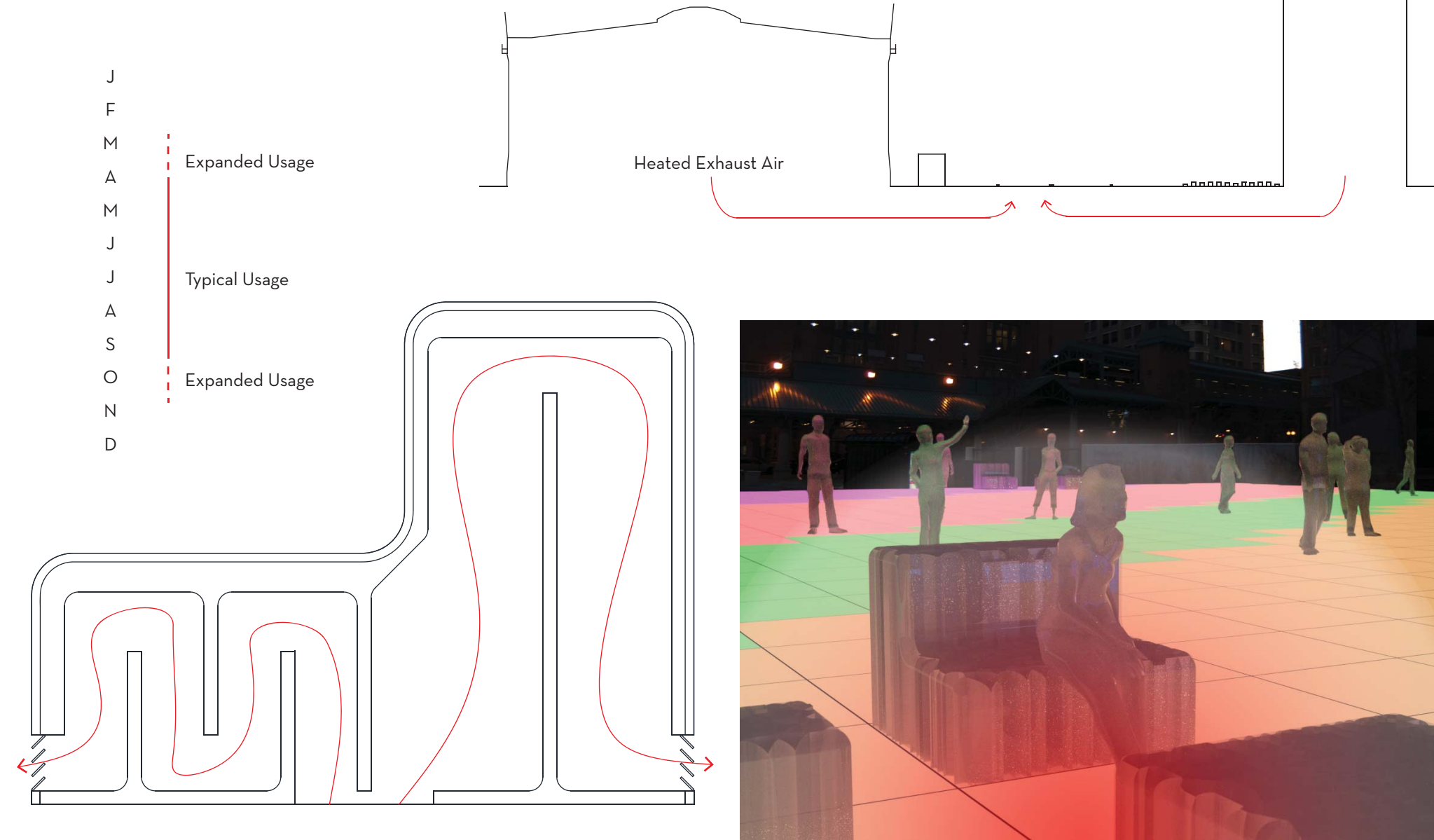
The Point

Audience interaction & theatre

Geo-columns

Columns are tied to a particular location. Social network activity within that area increases its height. This activity is then recorded on the side of the column.


Column heights range from 0-20 feet and are 4 foot square.

Columns are touchscreens on all four sides and allow a user to scroll through the history of a column.
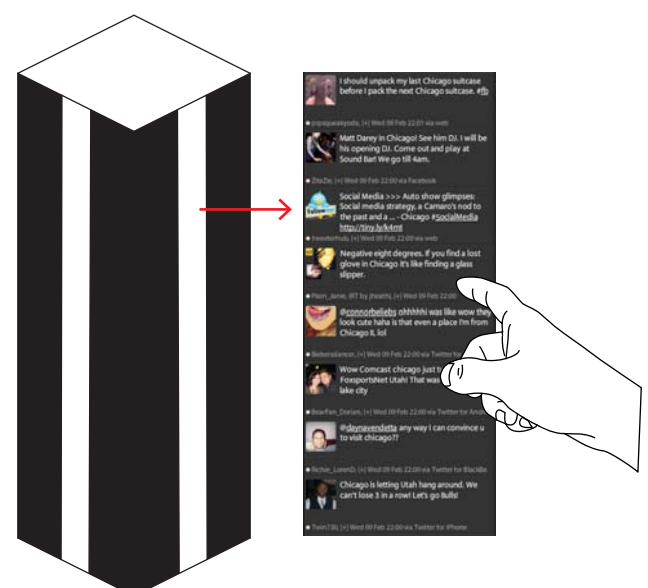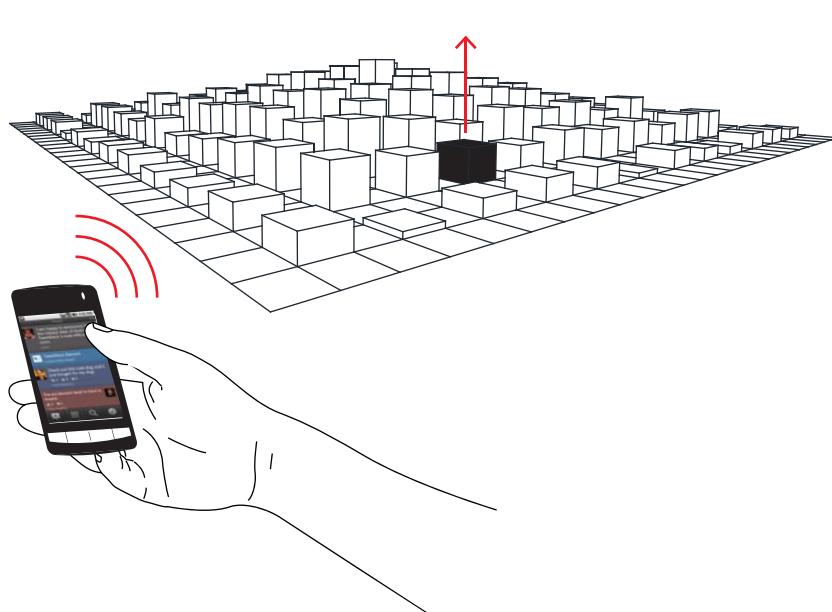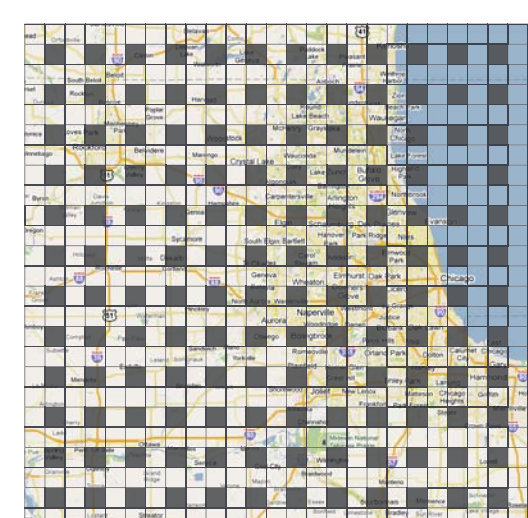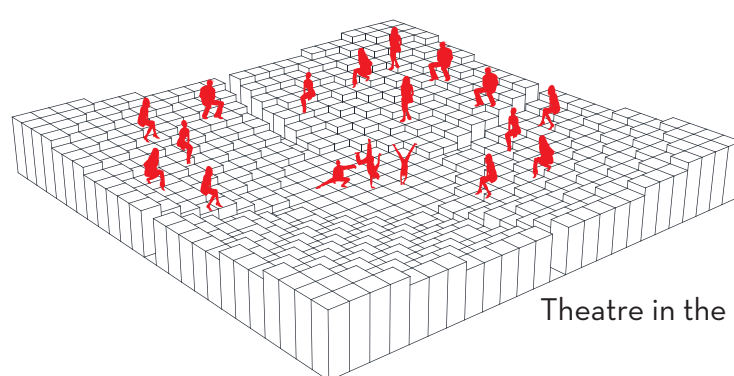

Multi-form stage

Columns can also be arranged to create different outdoor spaces. This allows the grid to be both a venue for physical and virtual interaction.
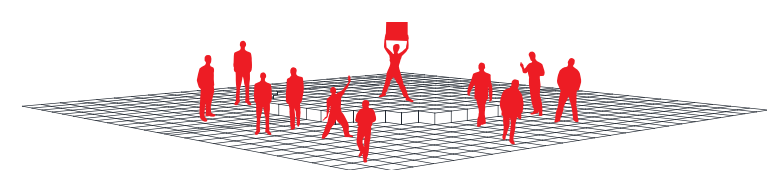
The columns will be computer controlled. Users can create a configuration of their choosing on a website and schedule a day and time for when the columns will enter that configuration.
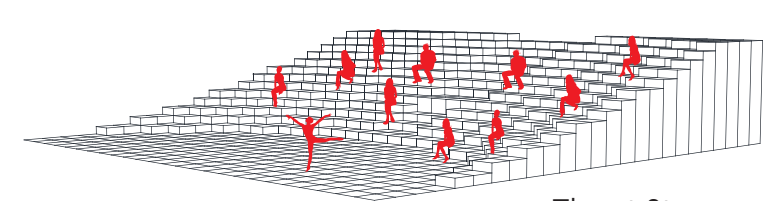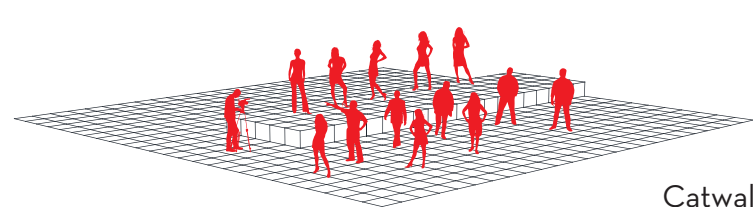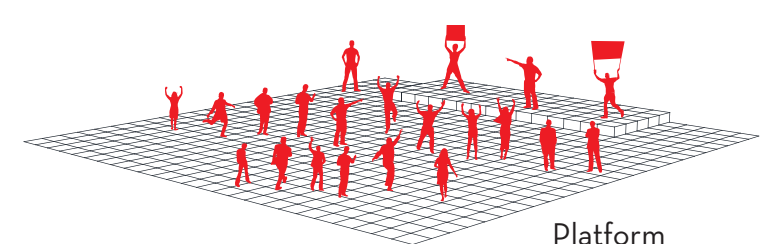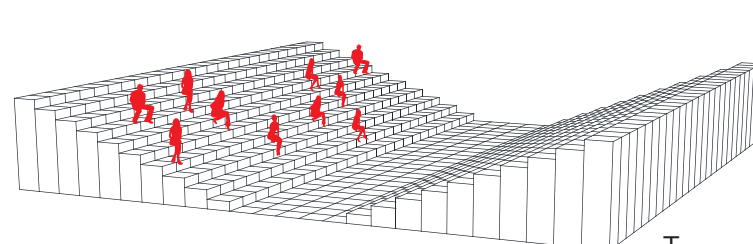

Thrust Stage

Theatre in the Round

Soapbox

Catwalk

Platform

Traverse Stage