

Spaces of Justice

by

James Addison

B.S. Architectural Studies
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 2014

and

Olivia Huang

B.A. Architecture
Princeton University, 2014

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Signature of Authors: _____

Department of Architecture

January 11, 2018

Certified by: _____

Arindam Dutta

Associate Professor of Architectural History

Director of the History, Theory, Criticism Program in Art and Architecture

Thesis Supervisor

Accepted by: _____

Sheila Kennedy

Chair of the Department Committee on Graduate Students

Professor of Architecture

THESIS COMMITTEE

Thesis Supervisor:

Arindam Dutta
Associate Professor of the History of Architecture
Director of the History, Theory, Criticism Program in Art and Architecture;

Thesis Readers:

Yolande Daniels
Visiting Lecturer

Justin Steil
Assistant Professor of Law and Urban Planning
Spaulding Career Development Professor

Meejin Yoon
Professor of Architecture
Head, Department of Architecture

Spaces of Justice

by

James Addison and Olivia Huang

Submitted to the Department of Architecture on January 11, 2018 in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of Master of Architecture

ABSTRACT

The US has the highest incarceration rate in the world by far. Premised on punishment and isolation, incarceration most heavily affects vulnerable neighborhoods and individuals and creates a system of disenfranchised citizens. Incarceration makes it difficult for these individuals to earn jobs and income, receive necessary healthcare, and maintain social ties. In a move towards reform, the Massachusetts state legislature is currently proposing bills for the implementation of restorative justice and justice reinvestment practices. Restorative justice offers an opportunity for the offender, victim, and other affected parties to engage in a mediated discussion to understand and agree on how the harm done can be repaired. It promotes a healing rather than punitive response to crime. Justice reinvestment reassesses how funds spent on incarceration can be diverted to help vulnerable individuals and neighborhoods, through beneficial programs such as youth crime prevention and education.

This thesis, *Spaces of Justice*, adopts these strategies of reform to propose a new place of community corrections that offers vocational training and restorative justice practices for minor offenders and returning citizens. Community corrections is where convicted individuals serve their sentence in society, such as probation, rather than locked in a facility. However, a report in Massachusetts found that, because judges lack faith in current community corrections programs, they choose to incarcerate people 85% of the time, even when community corrections would be a more appropriate sentence. Indeed, in Boston, the current facility that provides services to probationers is located across from the city prison, in an inaccessible area near the highway. As an inhospitable place, it discourages use by both judges and probationers, and thus detracts from the potential that community corrections has in decreasing incarceration and lifting neighborhoods out of the incarceration cycle.

This thesis proposes an alternative model that, first and foremost, is actually located within the community it serves. In doing so, it reduces isolation and stigma associated with those involved in the criminal justice system by creating new relationships among spaces of justice, public space, and the neighborhood.

THESIS SUPERVISOR

Arindam Dutta

Associate Professor of the History of Architecture

Director of the History, Theory, Criticism Program in Art and Architecture;

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INTRODUCTION · SPACES OF JUSTICE

INTRODUCTION · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Statement of Collaboration

The work of this thesis was created as a collaboration between the two authors. The intention of the collaboration was to capitalize on the author's shared interests in socially-engaged architecture and to better leverage the individual experiences and skills each author brought to the partnership. The collaboration also allowed the thesis to reach a greater depth of research, particularly given the complexity of the thesis' topic, mass incarceration.

The research portion of the thesis was done in full collaboration, whereas the two design responses were completed individually by each author. In the design phase, this organizational structure created a small studio environment, where each author could work independently, while still providing and receiving feedback from the other. Although the designs were completed independently, both of the two design propositions were intentionally in dialogue with the other, sharing the same set of design values that were established in tandem.

Why Mass Incarceration? Why Now?

Mass incarceration is an immense problem in the United States, and it can be difficult to identify architecture's role in a system that is so heavily shaped by economics, policy, societal norms, media, and histories of discrimination. However, this is one of the most crucial social issues facing American society today, and the way that the discipline of architecture reacts to this challenge NOW, could shape our country for generations. The field of architecture has an important role to play in steering the country away from its history of mass incarceration.

The correctional system, which includes various forms of community corrections in addition to incarceration in prisons, is an inherently physical and designed system. Regardless of an architect's moral stance on whether they should participate in the design of prisons in their current form, there are many opportunities for architecture to intervene within this system through the design of alternative forms of justice. These alternative spaces of justices are the topic of this thesis research, and an important design opportunity that the field of architecture has yet to adequately address.

There is significant debate between the reformist and abolitionist approaches to the prison system, and whether the current injustices within the prison system can ever be solved through an approach of reform. With that being said, there is still significant social change that can occur from within the existing prison system as a transitional measure towards abolition. Although there is ample work to be done by architects in designing this prison-less future, the authors of this thesis chose to situate their work within the legal, economic, and political realities of the present moment. This approach allows architecture's failures and opportunities within the prison system to be identified, and for practical design strategies to be proposed that can create sustainable social impact within the realm of mass incarceration.

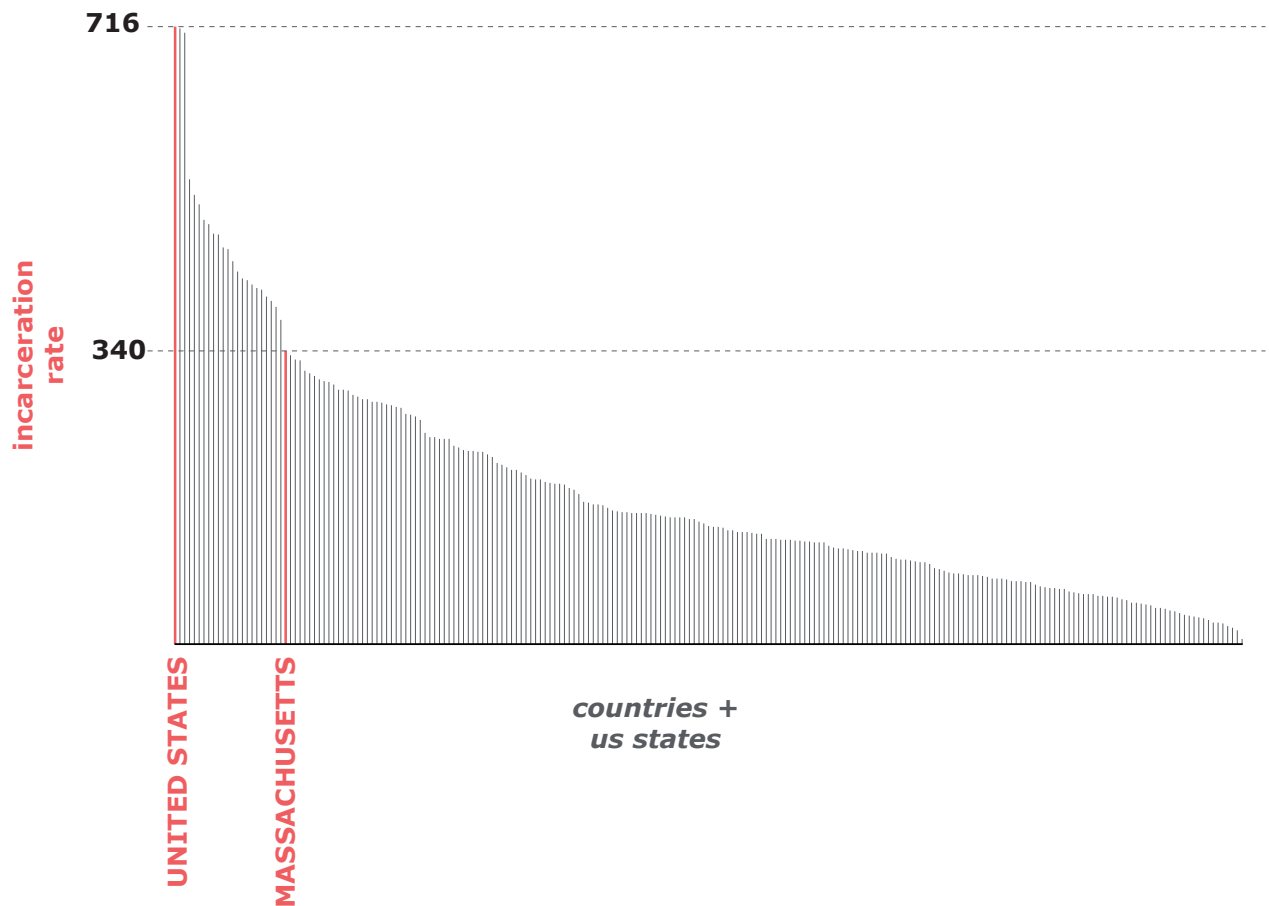
RESEARCH · SPACES OF JUSTICE

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State of Incarceration

The US incarcerates more people than any other country, at a rate of 693 per every 100,000 residents. For reference, the next leading countries are Turkmenistan at a rate of 583 per 100,000 and El Salvador at 517. Massachusetts, although it has the lowest incarceration rate among the US states at 330, is still higher than all but eight countries in the world. For reference, peer countries to the US have substantially lower rates; United Kingdom (147), Canada (114), Germany (76), Sweden (53).¹

Despite these numbers, the US has not shown increased public safety in correlation with increased imprisonment. Instead, the effect of incarceration has been to limit vulnerable poor and minority communities socially, financially, and physically.



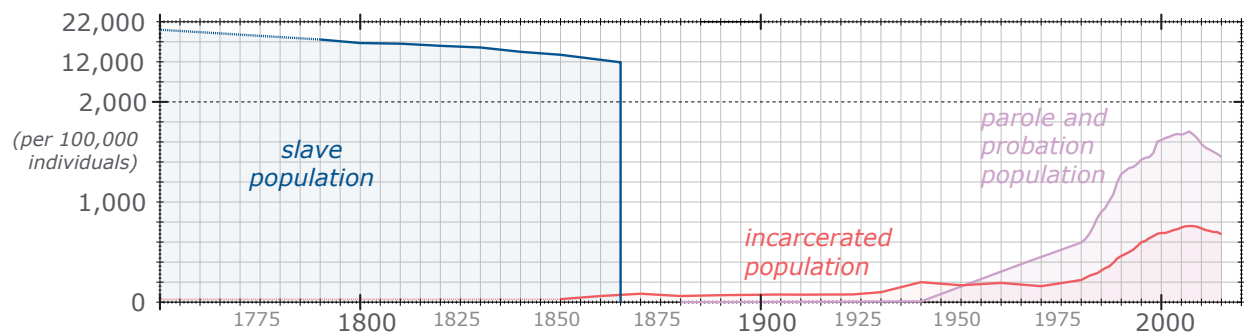
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History of Incarceration in the US

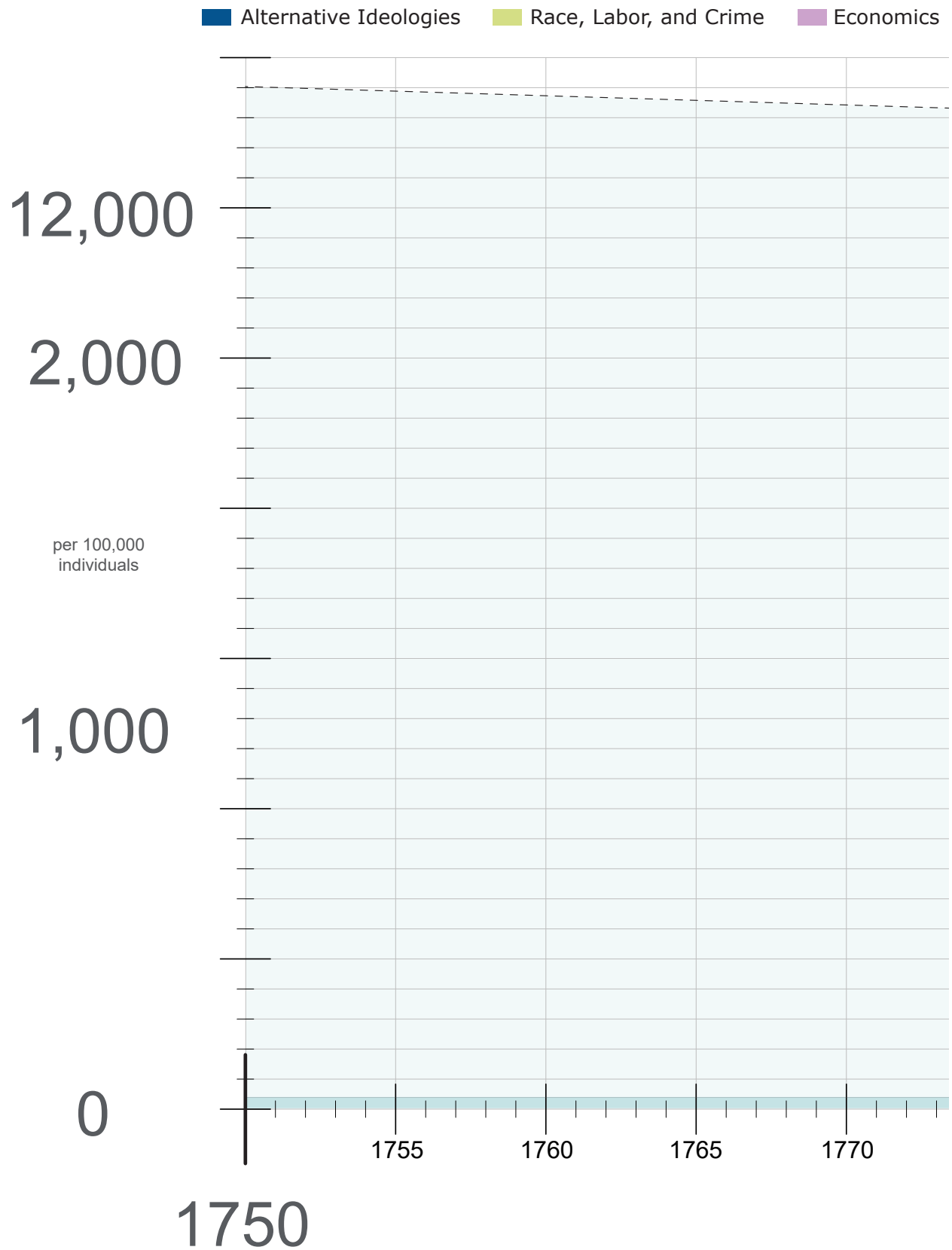
Mass incarceration in the US is the result of a complex historical web of economics, labor and education policy, racial discrimination, and ideologies of crime and punishment. This history begins with slavery: the first form of mass incarceration in the US. Although slavery was abolished in 1865 with the passing of the 13th amendment, the institution of incarceration and its systemic racial discrimination continued through various forms of punishment, such as convict leasing, “Black Codes,” The Vagrancy Act, chain gangs and Jim Crow laws.

In the mid-1960s, as a part of the Civil Rights movement, Jim Crow Laws were finally abolished. At the same time, however, “tough on crime” rhetoric emerged that would eventually result in the US’s largest increase in incarceration. In the early 1970’s, the media popularized the term “War on Drugs” after Richard Nixon declared drug abuse as “public enemy number one.” This same rhetoric was picked up by Ronald Reagan in 1982, when he officially declared America’s “War on Drugs.” At the time of this declaration, less than 2 percent of the American public viewed drugs as the most important issue facing the country. ² This moment marked the beginning of a two-decade spike in incarceration as funding drastically increased for both policing and imprisonment.

As incarceration rates and new prison construction both rose dramatically in the 1980’s, several alternative ideologies of community corrections began to emerge in contrast with the typical prison model. From the 1960’s to the present day, forms of community corrections that emerged were community service, restorative justice, house arrest, drug courts, and justice reinvestment, to name a few. The following timeline lays out notable events in history and policy alongside prison and probation population numbers to reveal the confluence of factors leading to the current state of incarceration.

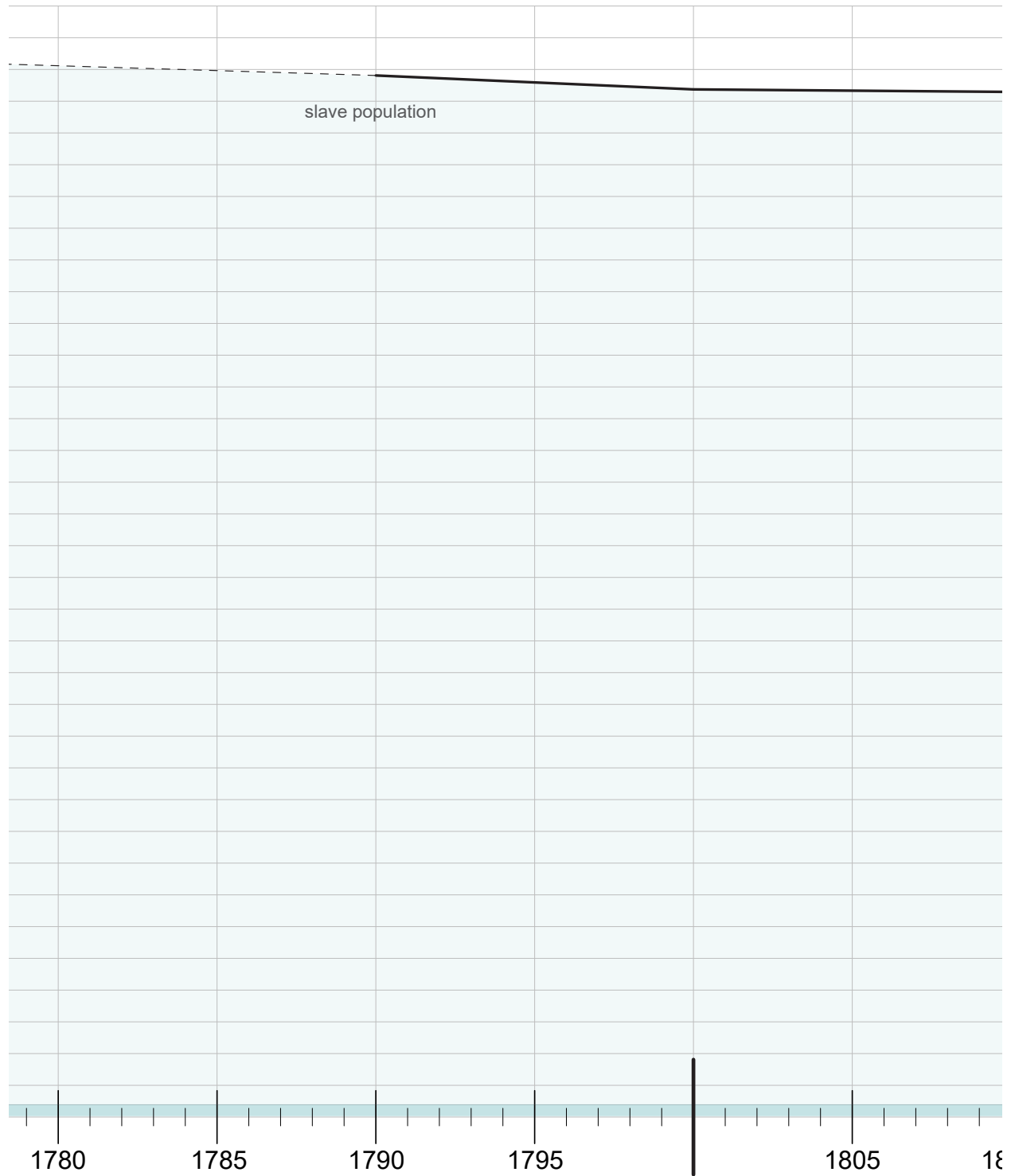


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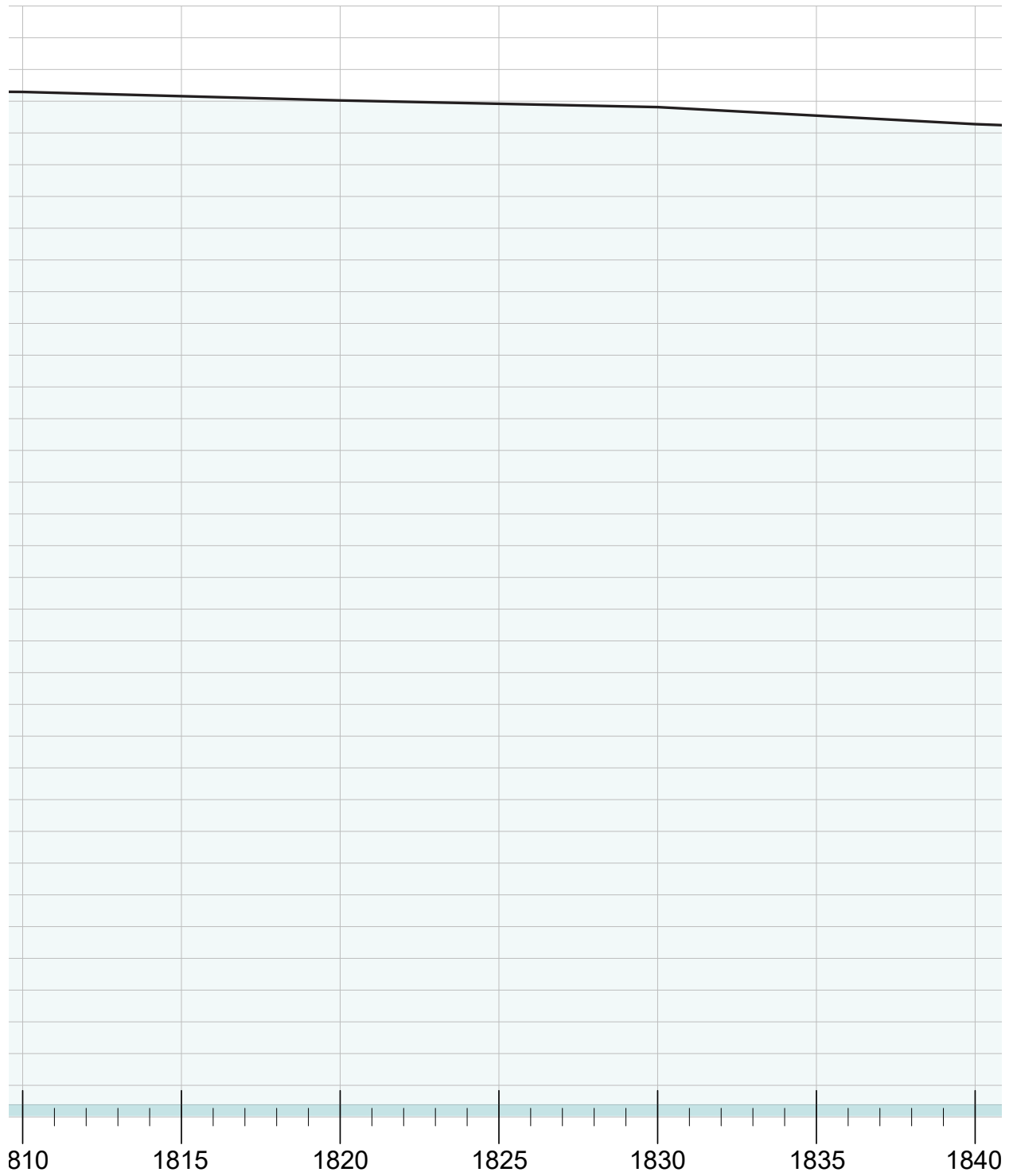
Alternative Ideologies Race, Labor, and Crime Economics



1800

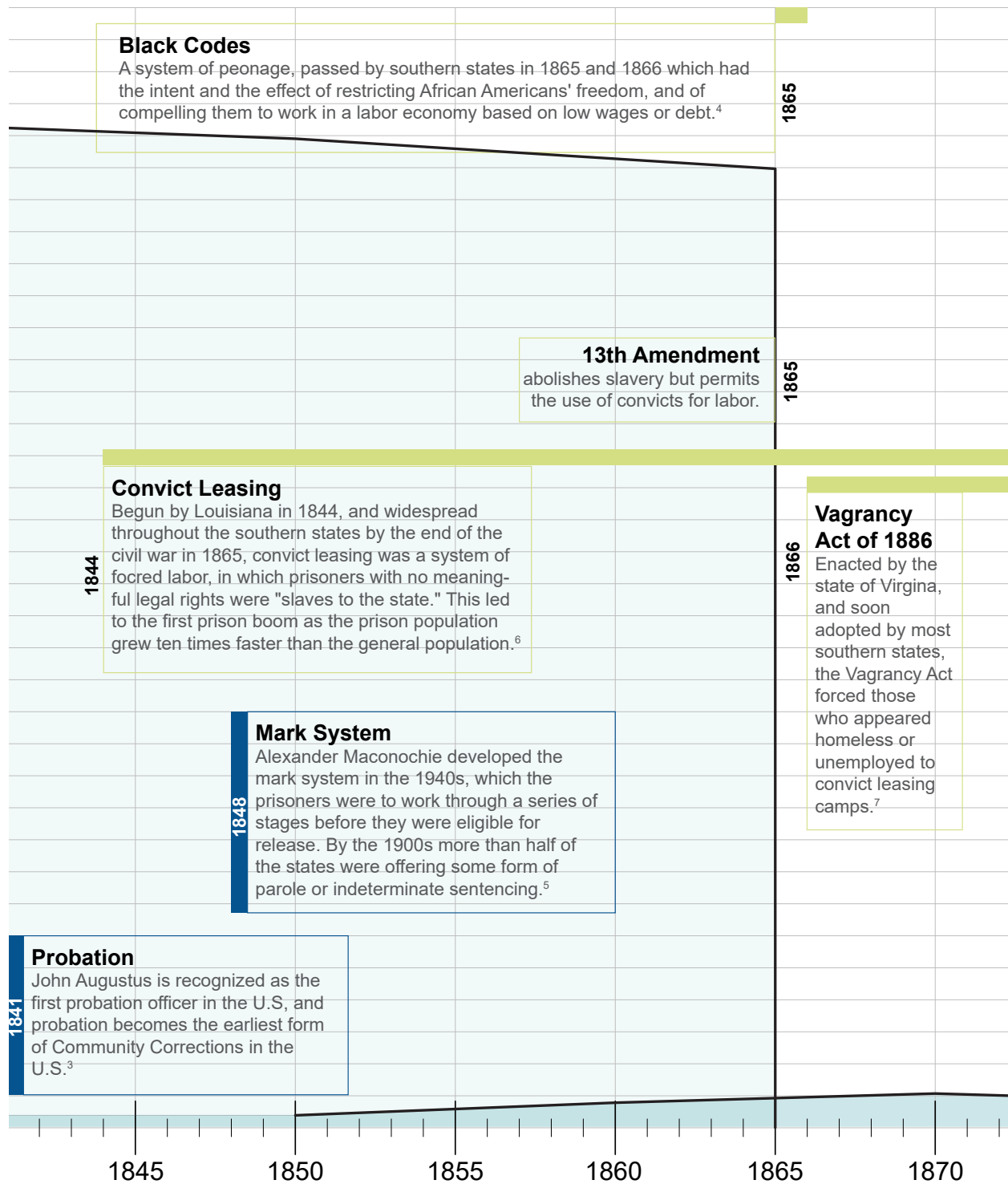
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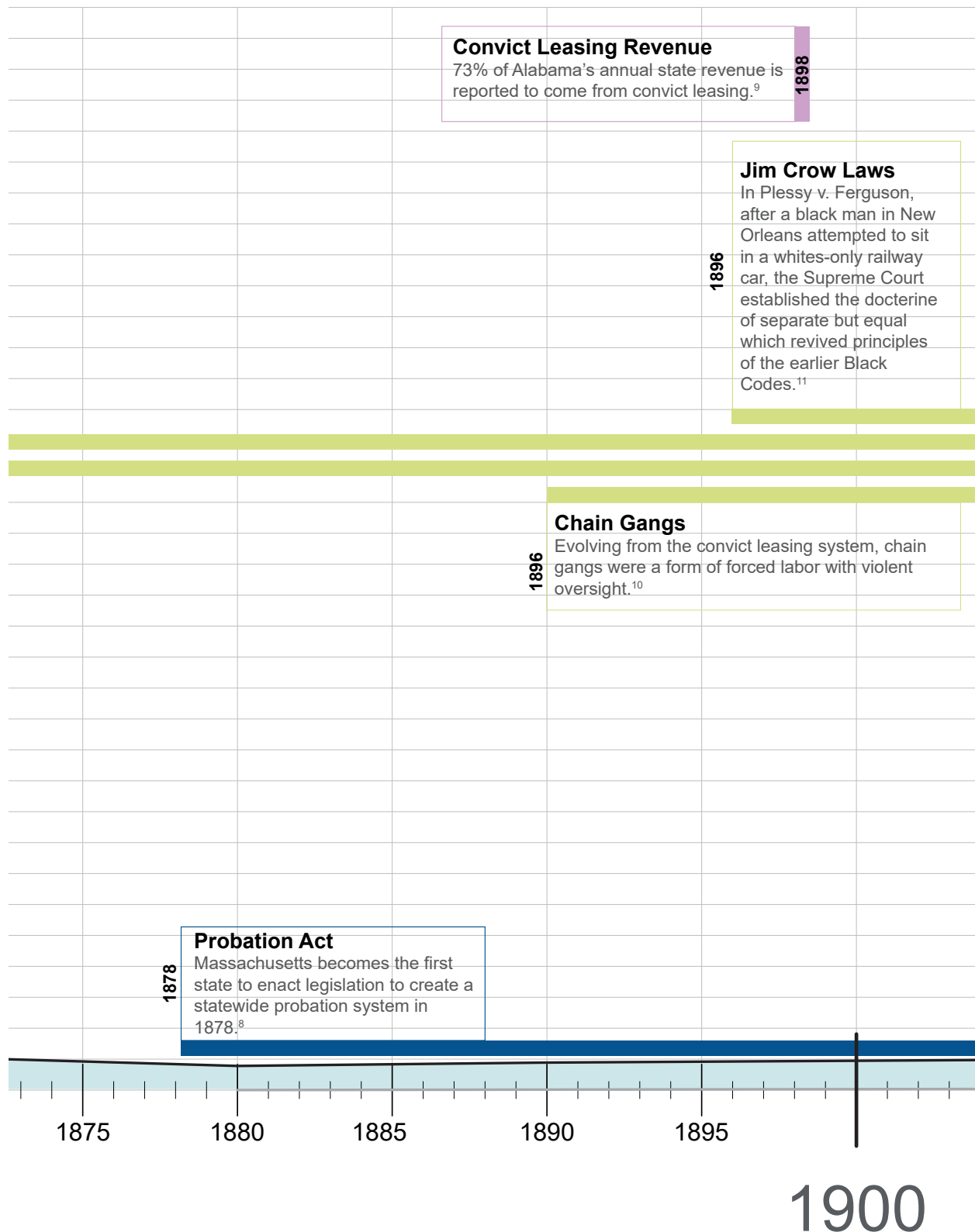
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■ Alternative Ideologies
 ■ Race, Labor, and Crime
 ■ Economics



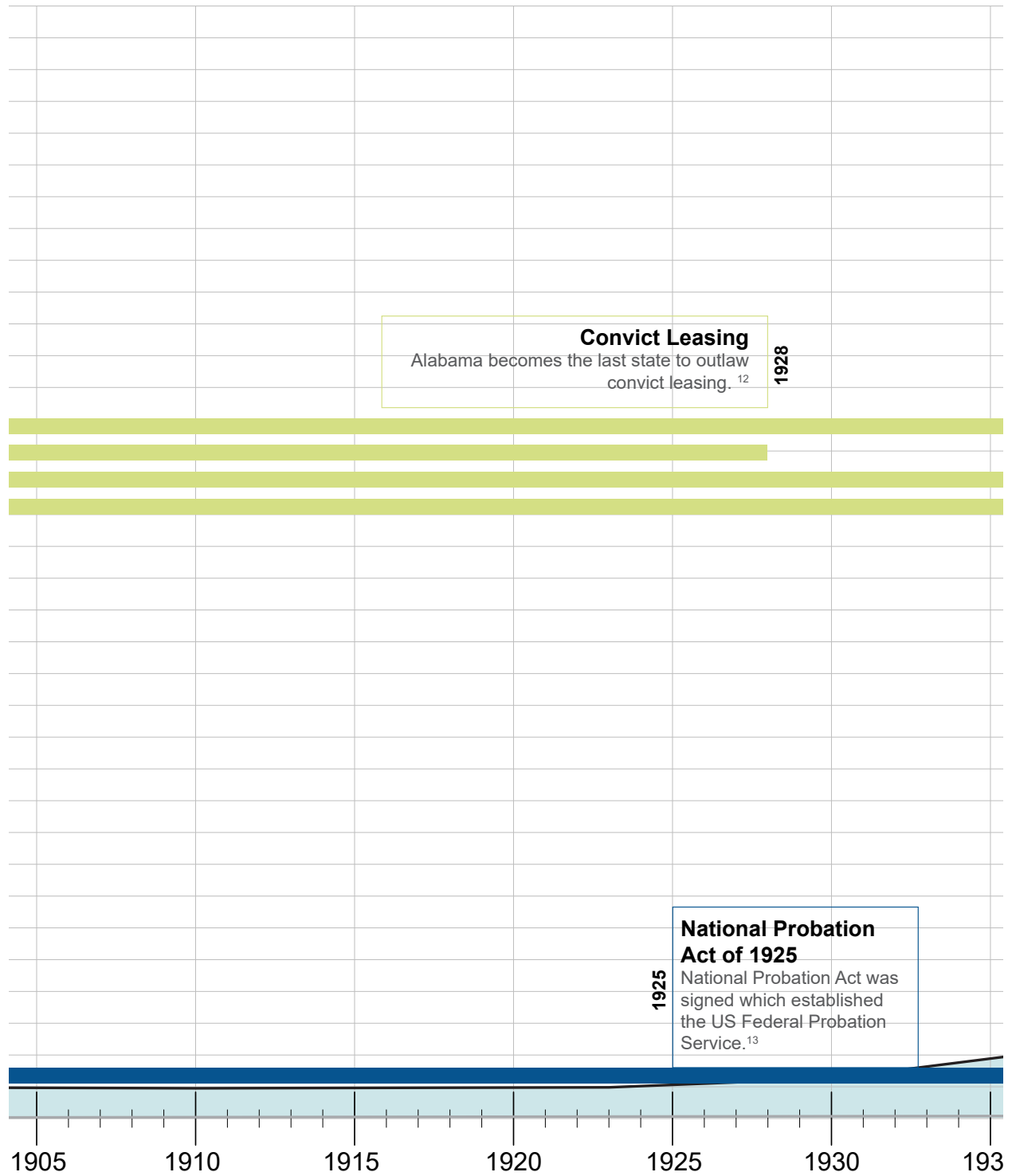
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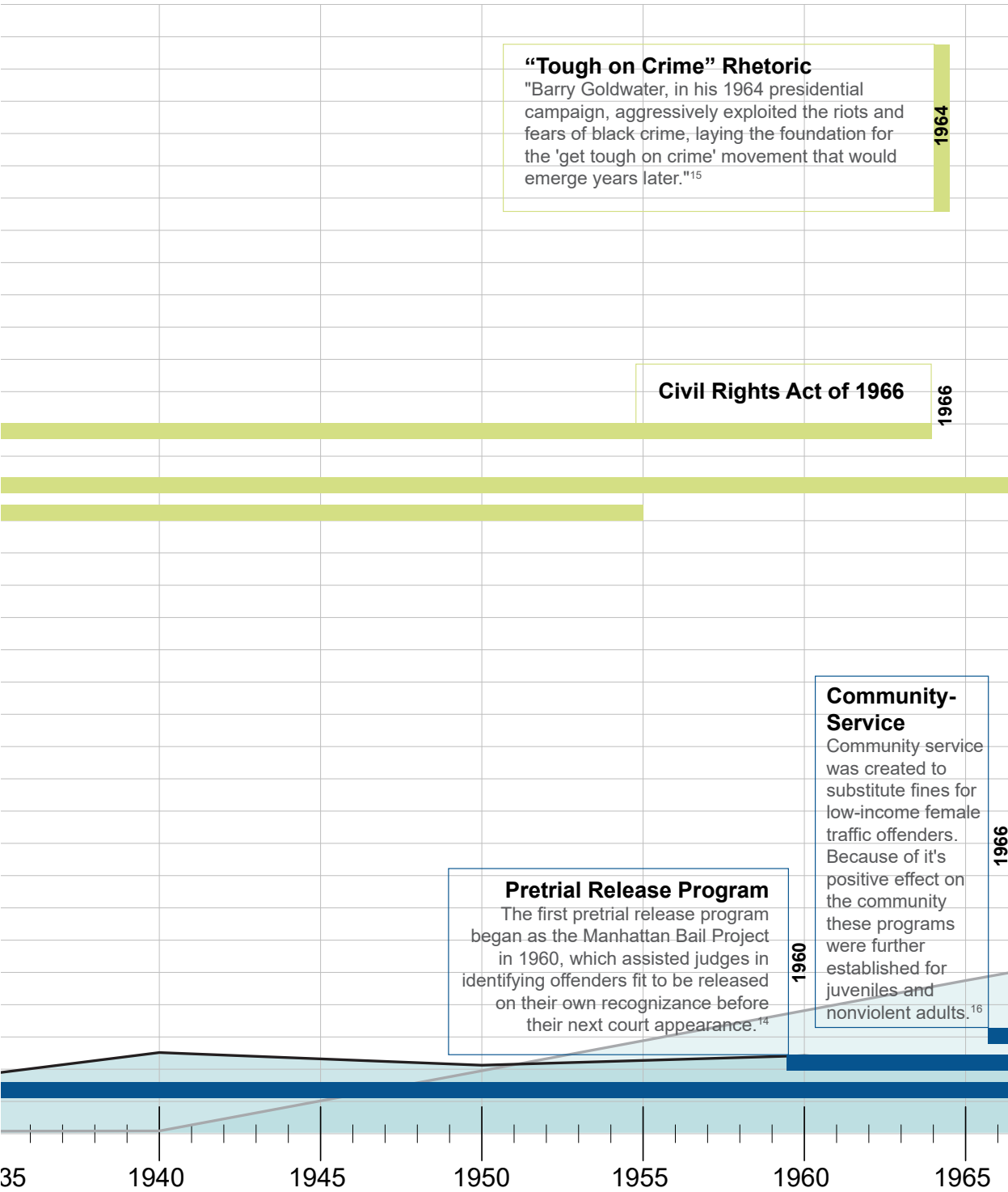
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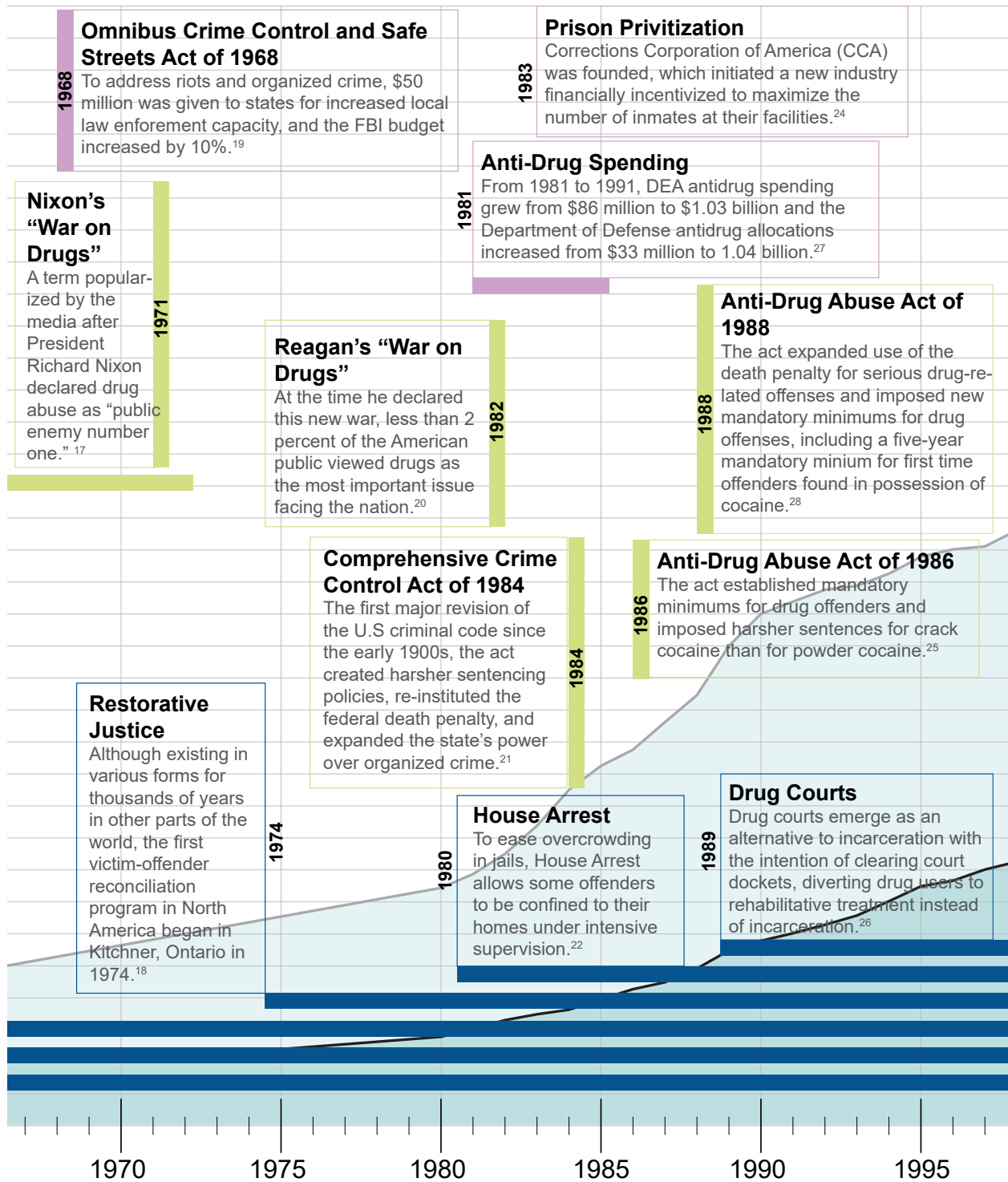
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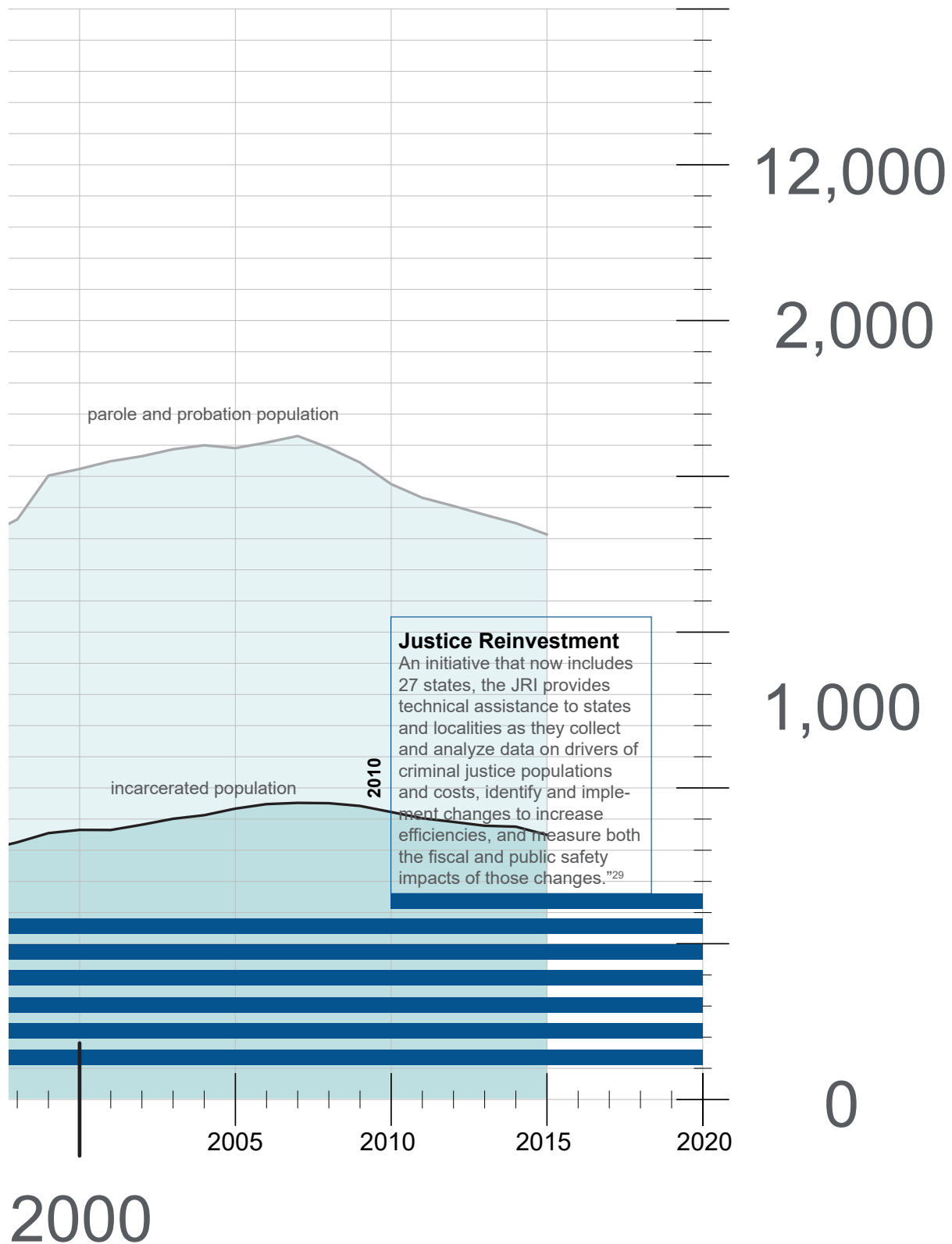
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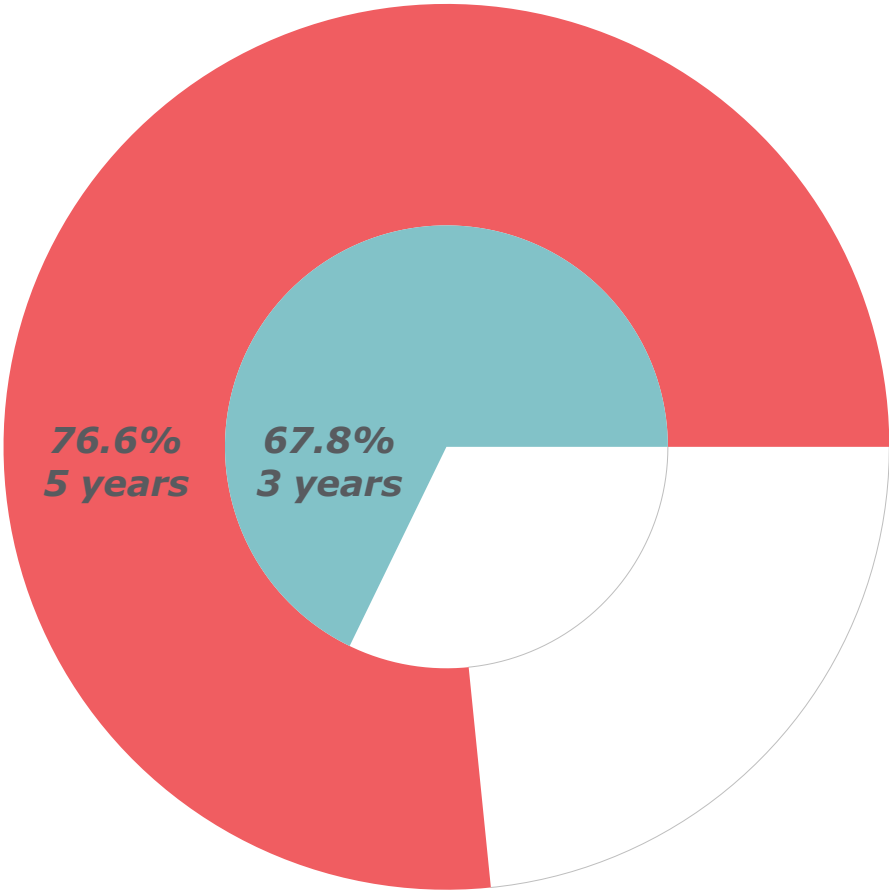
Alternative Ideologies Race, Labor, and Crime Economics



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Recidivism and the Cycle of Incarceration

One of the influencing factors to these numbers is the high rate of recidivism in the US, which is when an individual that has been released from prison re-offends and returns to prison. In the US, over 75% of returning citizens end up back in prison within 5 years of release.³⁰

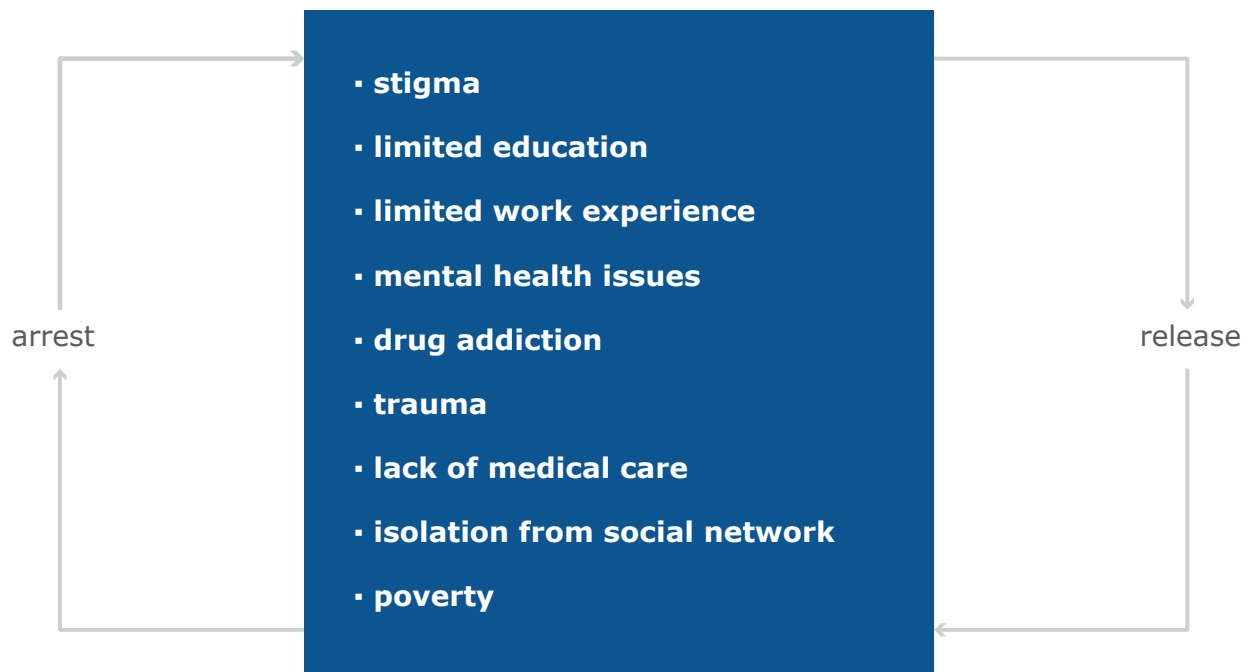


% of returning citizens re-arrested

RESEARCH · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Challenges of Returning Citizens

There are a number of challenges that contribute to this high rate of recidivism, and continue the cycle of incarceration. Someone in the incarceration system may be affected by one of these challenges, but more often than not, many or all of these factors contribute to someone re-offending. These factors include societal stigma, limited education, difficulties finding work, mental health issues, drug addiction, trauma, lack of medical care, isolation from their social network, and poverty.



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Challenges of Returning Citizens

To address the challenge of recidivism, Boston launched the Office of Returning Citizens in October of 2017. ³¹ This office connects returning citizens with resources throughout the city to specifically support returning citizens overcome the numerous challenge associated with reintegration. The Office is intentionally designed to work across agencies such as public safety, housing, and workforce development, which reveals the complexity and necessity of a multifaceted approach.

CITY of BOSTON | Mayor Martin J. Walsh



PAY AND APPLY PUBLIC NOTICES

HOME › LATEST CITY OF BOSTON NEWS › CITY LAUNCHES OFFICE OF RETURNING CITIZENS

CITY LAUNCHES OFFICE OF RETURNING CITIZENS

The office will support the nearly 3,000 individuals who return to Boston each year from incarceration.

October 27, 2017



PUBLISHED BY:
PUBLIC SAFETY

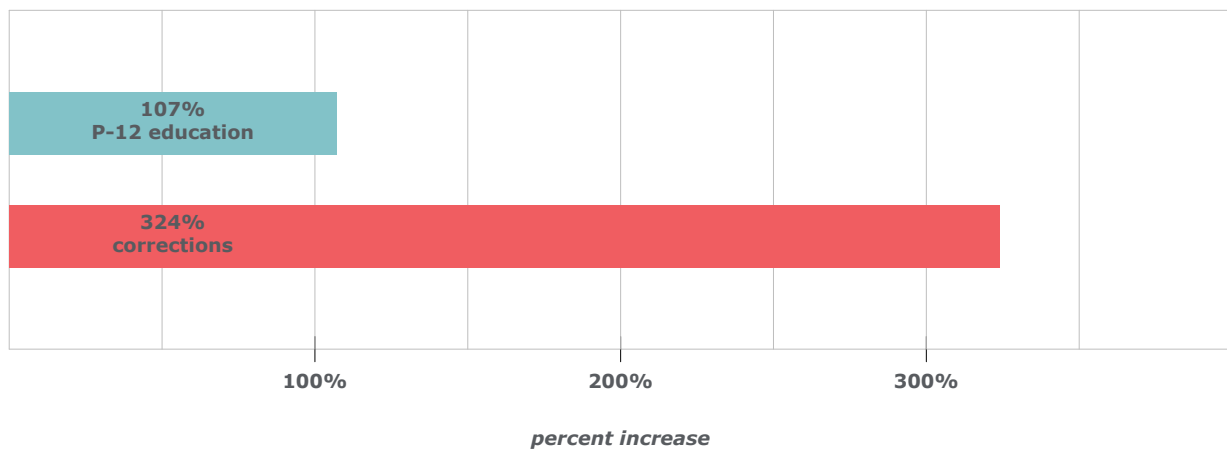
Building on Boston's commitment to creating opportunities for all residents, Mayor Martin J. Walsh today launched the Office of Returning Citizens, a newly formed office that will support the nearly 3,000 individuals who return to Boston after being released from state, federal and county facilities each year, as well as others who were previously

RESEARCH · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Redirecting Investment

Massachusetts currently spends over \$55,000 per year on each incarcerated individual, while less than \$15,000 per year is spent on each student.³² Even as the incarcerated population declines, correctional costs continue to rise. This is a missed opportunity to redirect investment to education and stop the cycle of incarceration before it begins.

increase in educational and correctional spending 1980 - 2013



student



\$14,521

MA public school system per year

incarcerated individual



\$55,752

MA corrections system per year

RESEARCH · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Redirecting Investment

The annual cost per year for an individual under supervision by probation officers is \$3,347, and given that the cost per year for an incarcerated individual is \$55,752, Massachusetts could save approximately \$52,000 per individual per year that is sentenced to community corrections instead of incarceration.³³ With 14,443 individuals in county-level facilities in 2014, who all would have been eligible for community corrections given their sentences of three years or less, and 343 eligible individuals in 2016 from state-level facilities, the state could save approximately \$770 million per year to keep all eligible individuals in the community corrections system.³⁴

individual on probation  **\$3,347**
supervision costs per year

incarcerated individual  **\$55,752**
MA corrections system per year

14,786  **\$774 million**
incarcerated individuals who were eligible for probation per year savings per year to move all eligible individuals to community corrections

64.6% % of savings per year from the MA state budget for corrections

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Community Corrections

Community corrections describes correctional programs that allow offenders to remain in the community rather than lock people away in prison. Probation (supervision in the community) and parole (supervision in the community following early release from prison) are the most commonly known forms, but other community-based sanctions include house arrest, bootcamp, community service, and fines.³⁵ The premise of community corrections is that only certain crimes necessitate incarceration for public safety. Most offenses are minor or non-violent and can be managed through effective community supervision and programs, thereby reducing the cost that incarceration causes to both individuals and society.

A report from MassINC published this summer states that “judges are opting for incarceration because they lack faith in the community corrections system as an alternative.... only 15 percent actually received community corrections as an alternative to incarceration.”³⁶ This lack of faith from judges represents a failure of architecture, and an opportunity that this thesis addresses. For example, one of the reasons that judges may lack faith is due these institutions lack of visibility, presence, and trust from their communities, and architecture can play a role in building that presence.

“

Judges are opting for incarceration because **they lack faith in the community corrections** system as an alternative. Among all individuals convicted for offenses where community corrections may have been appropriate... only 15 percent actually received community corrections as an alternative to incarceration.

”

-MASS INC, Getting Tough on Spending

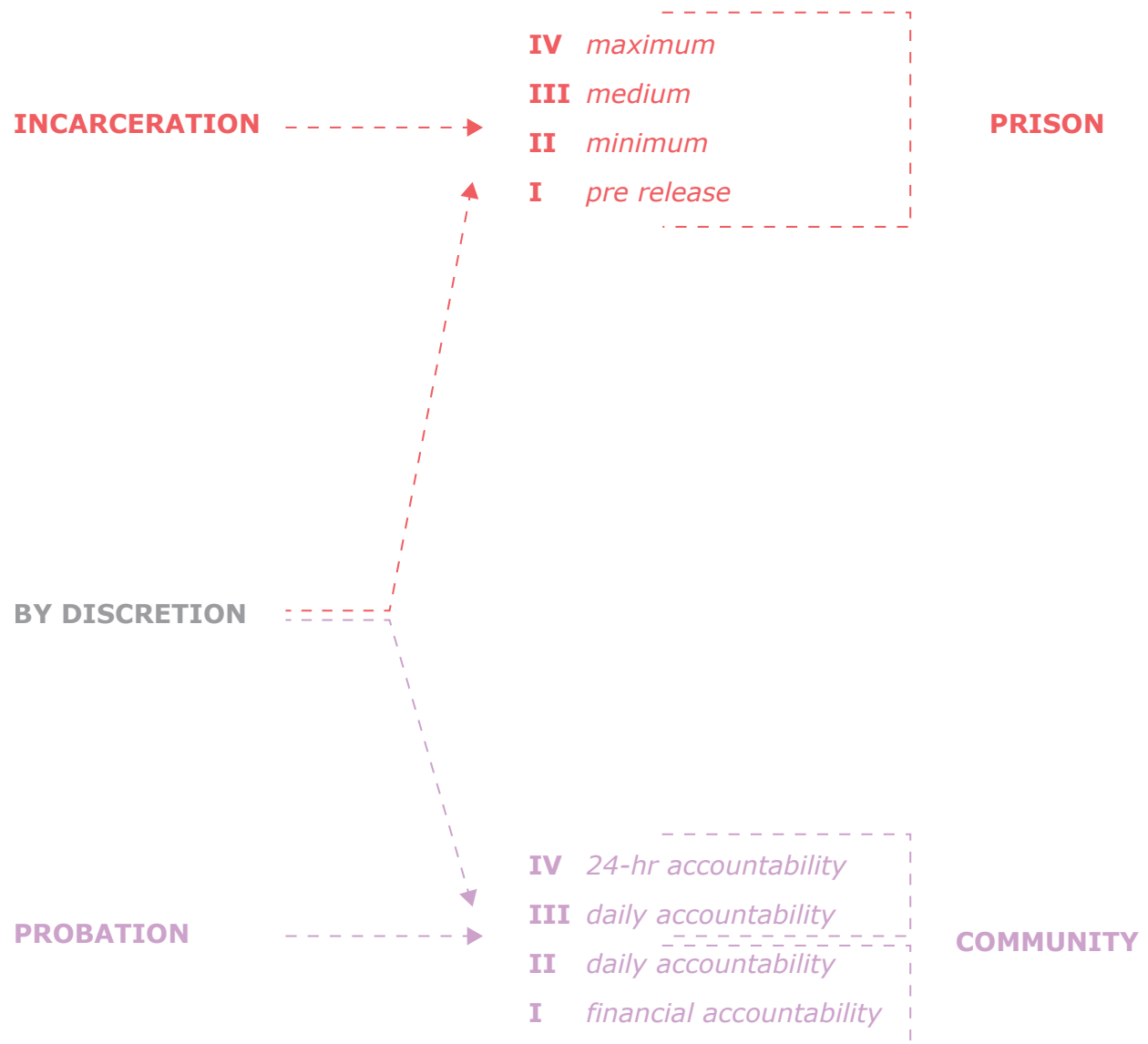
RESEARCH · SPACES OF JUSTICE

| Level | Illustrative Offenses | Sentence Range | | | | |
|------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| | | A | B | C | D | E |
| 9 | Murder | Life | Life | Life | Life | Life |
| 8 | Manslaughter (Voluntary) | 96-144 Mos. | 108-162 Mos. | 120-180 Mos. | 144-216 Mos. | 204-306 Mos. |
| | Rape of a Child with Force | | | | | |
| | Aggravated Rape | | | | | |
| | Armed Burglary | | | | | |
| 7 | Armed Robbery | 60-90 Mos. | 68-102 Mos. | 84-126 Mos. | 108-162 Mos. | 160-240 Mos. |
| | Rape | | | | | |
| | Mayhem | | | | | |
| 6 | Manslaughter (Involuntary) | 40-60 Mos. | 45-67 Mos. | 50-75 Mos. | 60-90 Mos. | 80-120 Mos. |
| | Armed Robbery (No gun) | | | | | |
| | A&B DW (Significant Injury) | | | | | |
| 5 | Unarmed Robbery | 12-36 Mos. | 24-36 Mos. | 36-54 Mos. | 48-72 Mos. | 60-90 Mos. |
| | Stalking in Violation of Order | IS-IV | IS-IV | | | |
| | Unarmed Burglary | IS-III | IS-III | | | |
| | Larceny (\$50,000 and over) | IS-II | IS-II | | | |
| 4 | Larceny From a Person | 0-24Mos. | 3-30 Mos. | 6-30 Mos. | 20-30 Mos. | 24-36 Mos. |
| | A&B DW (Moderate Injury) | IS-IV | IS-IV | IS-IV | | |
| | B&E (Dwelling) | IS-III | IS-III | IS-III | | |
| | Larceny (\$10,000 to \$50,000) | IS-II | IS-II | IS-II | | |
| 3 | A&B DW (No or minor injury) | 0-12 Mos. | 0-15 Mos. | 0-18 Mos. | 0-24 Mos. | 6-24 Mos. |
| | B&E (Not dwelling) | IS-IV | IS-IV | IS-IV | IS-IV | IS-IV |
| | Larceny (\$250 to \$10,000) | IS-III | IS-III | IS-III | IS-III | IS-III |
| | | IS-II | IS-II | IS-II | IS-II | IS-II |
| 2 | Assault | IS-III IS-II IS-I | 0-6 Mos. | 0-6 Mos. | 0-9 Mos. | 0-12 Mos. |
| | Larceny Under \$250 | | IS-III | IS-III | IS-IV | IS-IV |
| | | | IS-II | IS-II | IS-III | IS-III |
| | | | IS-I | IS-I | IS-II | IS-II |
| 1 | Operating Aft. Suspended License | IS-II IS-I | IS-III | IS-III | 0-3 Mos. | 0-6 Mos. |
| | Disorderly Conduct | | IS-II | IS-II | IS-IV | IS-IV |
| | | | IS-I | IS-I | IS-III | IS-III |
| | Vandalism | | | | IS-II | IS-II |
| | | | | IS-I | IS-I | |
| Criminal History Scale | | A No/Minor Record | B Moderate Record | C Serious Record | D Violent or Repetitive | E Serious Violent |

RESEARCH · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Sentencing Grid

Individuals in MA arrive at prison or remain in their community based on a sentencing grid, which breaks down which crimes lead to which space.³⁷ The red area shows crimes that lead to prison, and purple to probation. The grey area is a discretionary zone that judges decide lead to either prison or some form of community corrections. It is this population that our thesis seeks to capture, those who would otherwise end up in prison.



RESEARCH · SPACES OF JUSTICE

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| ORDER OF PROBATION CONDITIONS | | Trial Court of Massachusetts District Court Department |
| UPON FINDING OF GUILTY OR SUFFICIENT FACTS | | |
| PROBATIONER'S NAME & ADDRESS | <input type="checkbox"/> RISK/NEED OR OUI SUPERVISION <input type="checkbox"/> ADMINISTRATIVE SUPERVISION | PROBATION START DATE: PROBATION START DATE: |
| <p>TO THE ABOVE-NAMED PROBATIONER You are hereby placed on probation by this Court. Unless you are excused by your probation officer, you must appear in court on the probation end date indicated, at which time a report on your probation progress will be made. If you fail to appear on that date or any other date required a warrant may be issued for your arrest.</p> | | |
| <p>GENERAL CONDITIONS OF PROBATION (You must comply with items 1-6 unless struck out by judge.)</p> | | |
| <p>1. Obey all court orders and all local, state and federal laws, including any support order, as defined in G.L. c. 119A S1A. 2. Report to your probation officer at such times and places as he or she requires, and make no false statements to your probation officer. 3. Notify your probation office within 48 hours if you change residence or employment. 4. Pay any ordered Probation Supervision Fees monthly or, if permitted by the court, perform community service monthly. 5. Submit a DNA sample to the State Police, if required to do so by law. Register with the Sex Offender Registry, if required to do so by law. 6. Sign all releases necessary for supervision and verification of compliance.</p> | | |
| <p>You must also comply with items 7-9 if "RISK/NEED OR OUI SUPERVISION" is checked above.)</p> | | |
| <p>7. Allow the probation office to visit you in your home with or without notice. 8. Report to your probation officer within 48 hours after you are released from any incarceration. 9. Do not leave Massachusetts unless you get the express permission of your probation officer and sign a waiver of rendition.</p> | | |
| <p>SPECIAL CONDITIONS OF PROBATION (You must also comply with all items checked below and all payments ordered.)</p> | | |
| <p>10. <input type="checkbox"/> EMPLOYMENT/SCHOOL: Remain employed or make reasonable efforts to obtain employment or attend school, and provide verification as required.</p> <p>11. <input type="checkbox"/> WORK/SCHOOL VISITS: Allow the probation officer to visit your place of employment or school with or without notice.</p> <p>12. <input type="checkbox"/> SUBSTANCE ABUSE EVALUATION TREATMENT: As directed by the probation officer, and subject to review by a judge on request, submit to and successfully complete an substance abuse evaluation, treatment and aftercare at a non-residential program. <input type="checkbox"/> and/or a residential program.</p> <p>13. <input type="checkbox"/> DRUG/ALCOHOL TESTING: Remain <input type="checkbox"/> drug free <input type="checkbox"/> alcohol free. Submit to random testing as required.</p> <p>14. <input type="checkbox"/> MENTAL HEALTH EVALUATION/TREATMENT: Submit to evaluation. Complete treatment and take medications as prescribed.</p> <p>15. <input type="checkbox"/> SPECIFIC PROGRAMS: Complete the following program(s), including any aftercare: <input type="checkbox"/> Driver's Alcohol Education <input type="checkbox"/> 14-Day Residential Driver Alcohol Education <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Batterer's Intervention <input type="checkbox"/> Anger Management Treatment <input type="checkbox"/> Other:</p> <p>16. <input type="checkbox"/> HAVE NO CONTACT WITH <input type="checkbox"/> and STAY (distance) _____ AWAY FROM (name(s)) _____</p> <p>17. <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY SERVICE: Perform _____ hours of community service as directed by probation.</p> <p>18. <input type="checkbox"/> HOME CONFINEMENT: Submit to home confinement and electronic monitoring until _____ pursuant to the schedule approved by the Court.</p> <p>19. <input type="checkbox"/> RESTORATIVE JUSTICE: Complete a community-based restorative justice program and fulfill agreed-upon reparations.</p> <p>20. <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER CONDITIONS:</p> | | |
| PROBATIONER'S ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF ORDER | | PROBATION OFFICER'S SIGNATURE |
| SIGNATURE OF PROBATIONER: I have read and understand the above conditions of probation and I agree to observe them. I understand that if I violate any such condition it may result in my arrest, revocation of probation, the entry of a guilty finding (if not already entered), and the imposition of execution of sentence. I have received a copy of this Order. X _____ DATE: _____ | | SIGNATURE OF WITNESSING PROBATION OFFICER X _____ DATE: _____ |
| | | JUDGE'S SIGNATURE |
| | | SIGNATURE OF JUDGE X _____ DATE: _____ |

RESEARCH · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Ideologies of Reform

There are numerous ideas for criminal justice reform tackling areas from prevention to prosecution to complete prison abolishment. Within the Massachusetts State legislature, *An Act Relative to Criminal Justice Reform* is passing favorably through both the Senate and House to bring sweeping changes to the state's system.³⁸ This project adopts two components of the bill; restorative justice as a new means of adjudicating crimes and justice reinvestment as a means of funding the proposed alternative reform programs.

THE 190TH GENERAL COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Bills & Laws

Budget

Legislators

Hearings & Events

★ BILL S.791
190th (Current)

AN ACT FOR JUSTICE REINVESTMENT

By Ms. Chang-Diaz, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 791) of Sonia Chang-Diaz, Chris Walsh, Marjorie C. Decker, Carmine L. Gentile and other members of the General Court for legislation to increase neighborhood safety and opportunity. The Judiciary.

THE 190TH GENERAL COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Bills & Laws

Budget

Legislators

Hearings & Events

★ BILL S.847
190th (Current)

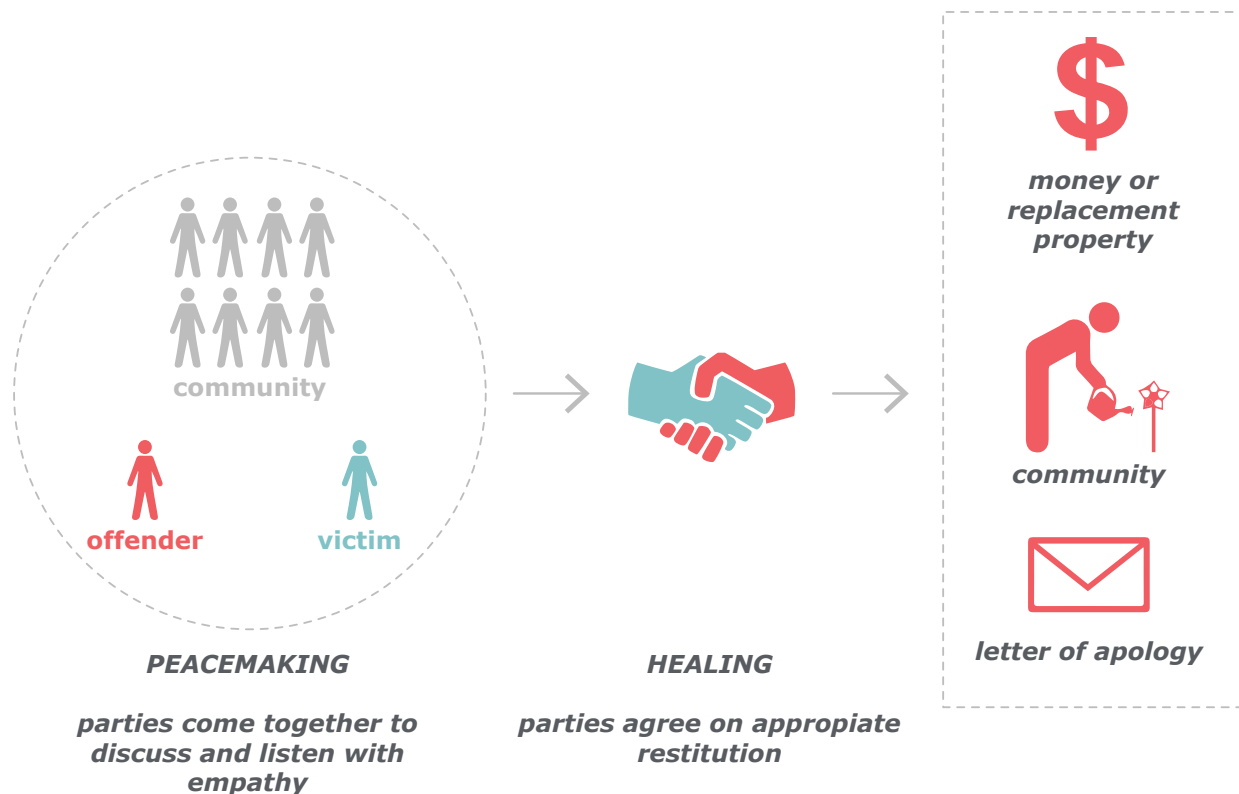
AN ACT PROMOTING RESTORATIVE JUSTICE PRACTICES

By Mr. Eldridge, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 847) of James B. Eldridge, Sean Garballey, Jason M. Lewis, Ruth B. Balsler and other members of the General Court for legislation to promote restorative justice practices for juveniles and adults. The Judiciary.

RESEARCH · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Restorative Justice

Restorative justice emphasizes repairing the harm caused by a crime. Offenders, victims, other stakeholders and mediators come together to discuss what happened and how reparations can be made.³⁹ It promotes a healing, recuperative response to crime rather than one of punishment and isolation. In the current system, a third party, the judge, determines the offender's fate and the victim's compensation. The offender has no agency in a crime's aftermath. Restorative justice requires offenders to take responsibility for their actions, allowing them to proactively make retributions.



RESEARCH · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Justice Reinvestment

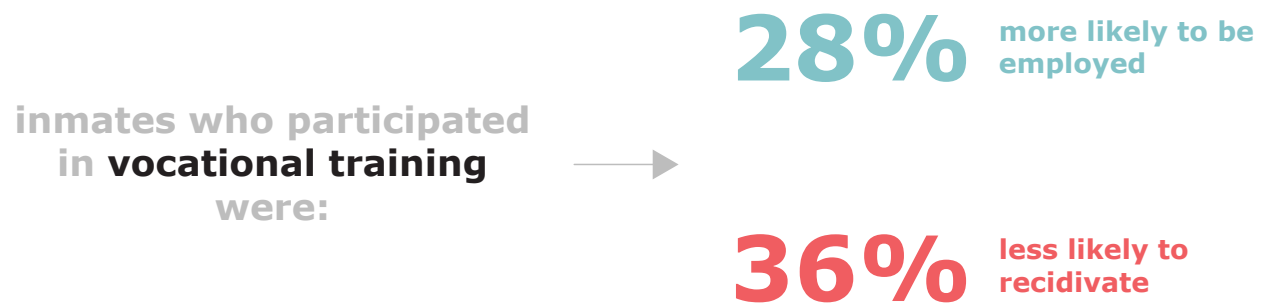
Justice reinvestment recognizes that a significant amount of money is spent towards incarceration and proposes instead using the funds for programs and practices that empirically prove crime reduction, prevention, and recidivism. Massachusetts conducted a policy study and suggests that, by 2024, the state could redirect a total of \$34.4 million towards programs like recidivism reduction and youth intervention.⁴⁰ By investing in more effective programs, the policy represents a budgetary incentive for better use of public money.



RESEARCH · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Vocational Education

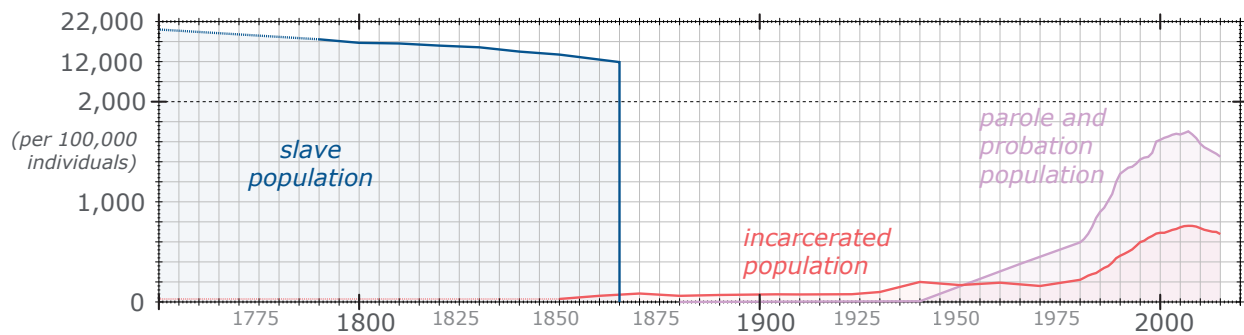
One effective program is vocational training, which provides job and income opportunities that can help intervene in the incarceration cycle. A report by the RAND Corporation showed that inmates who participate in vocational training are more likely to be employed and less likely to recidivate.⁴¹



RESEARCH · SPACES OF JUSTICE

History of Correctional and Justice Spaces shaped by Ideology

There is a history of ideologies directly shaping corrections environments, and this thesis seeks to design an architecture based on two particular current and emerging ideologies: restorative justice and justice reinvestment. This relationship between an ideology of justice and its resultant architecture is evident through a series of historical and contemporary precedents, beginning with early carceral environments, and moving towards current, post-carceral designs, with which the work of this thesis is aligned. This section presents the plans of notable prison and alternative precedents in chronological order, along with a program diagram illustrating the connections between internal programs such as inmate housing and administration, as well as the relationships between facility and the external city.

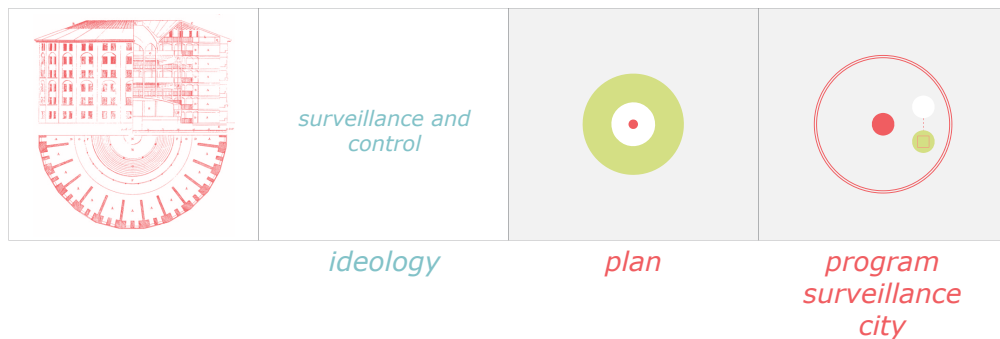
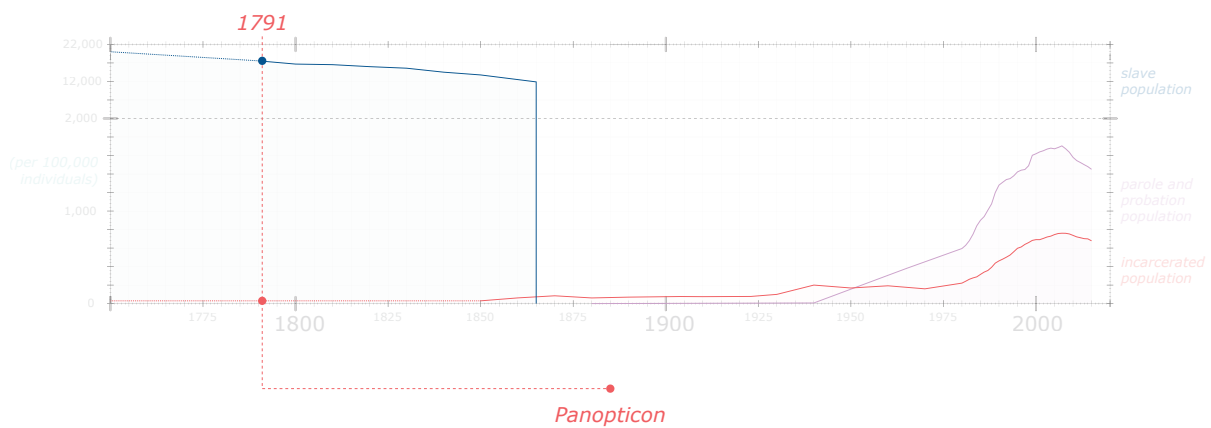


- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| □ inhabitants | ■ public |
| ● housing | ● administration |
| ● religious | ● workshops |
| ● recreation | ● programs |
| ● legal | ● medical |
| ● visitation | ● education |
| == surveilled boundary | — physical boundary |
| access | surveilled access |

RESEARCH · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Panopticon, 1791, Surveillance and Control

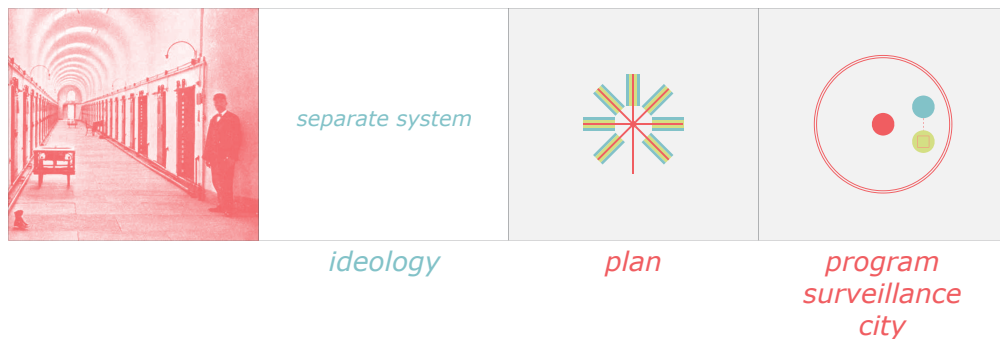
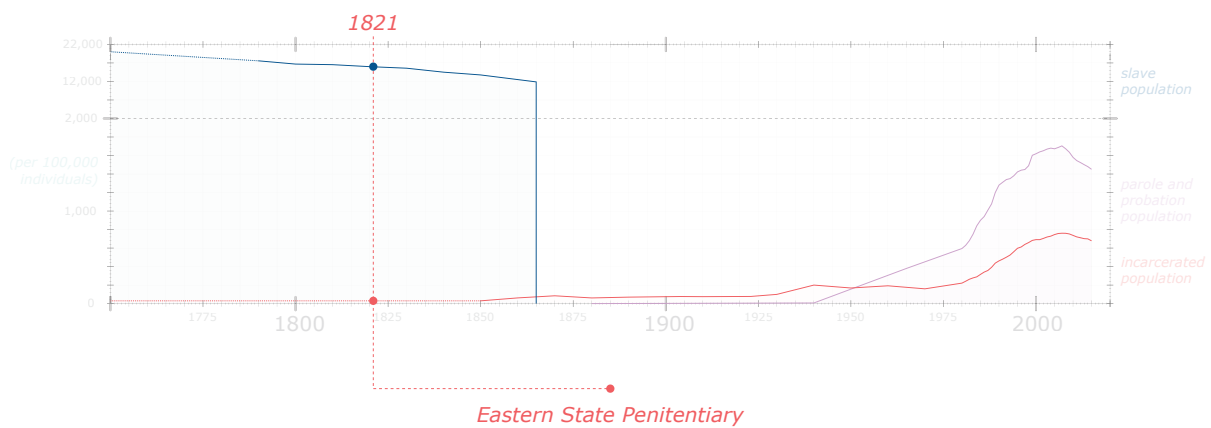
The design of the Panopticon in 1791 was based on an ideology of surveillance and control. The surveillance tower was centrally located with cells organized radially around the tower. This created a system of self-surveillance, as the prisoners felt perpetually watched by the tower, but had no way of knowing whether they were being watched at a given time. ⁴²



RESEARCH · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Eastern State Penitentiary, 1821, Separate System

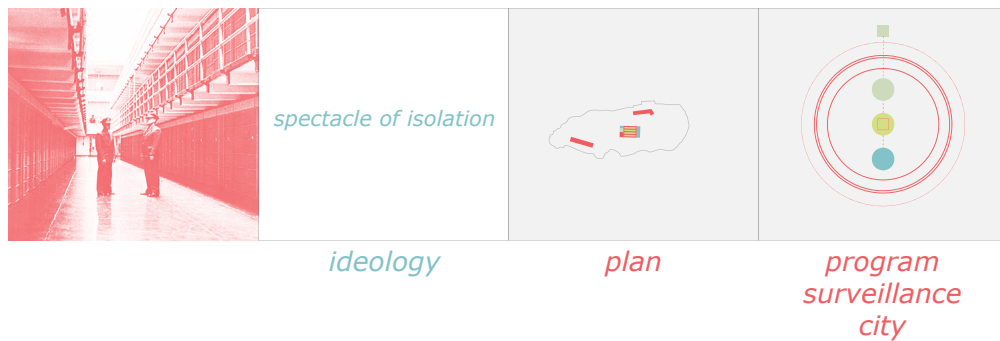
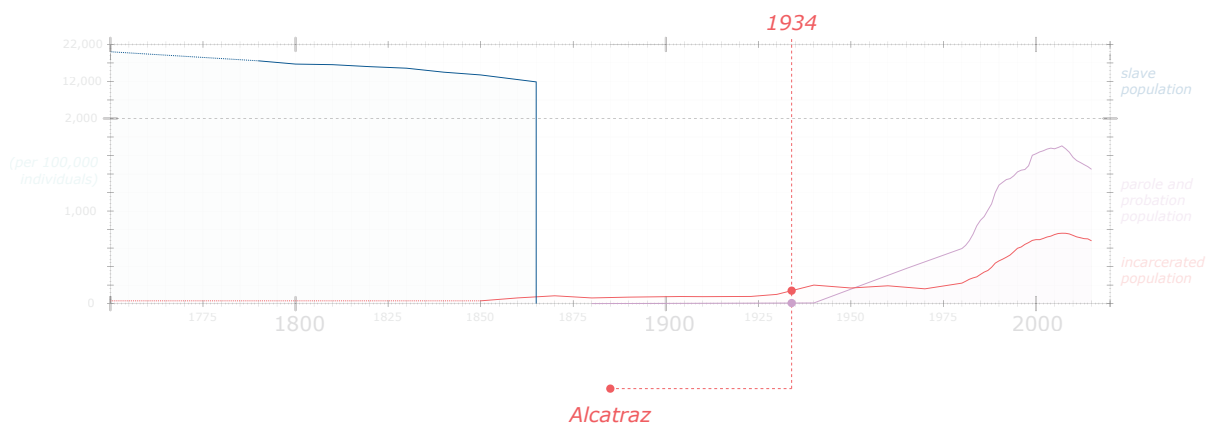
Eastern State Penitentiary was the first prison to use the “Separate System” of management, which isolated inmates from each other to encourage rehabilitation through silent reflection.⁴³



RESEARCH · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Alcatraz, 1934, Spectacle of Isolation

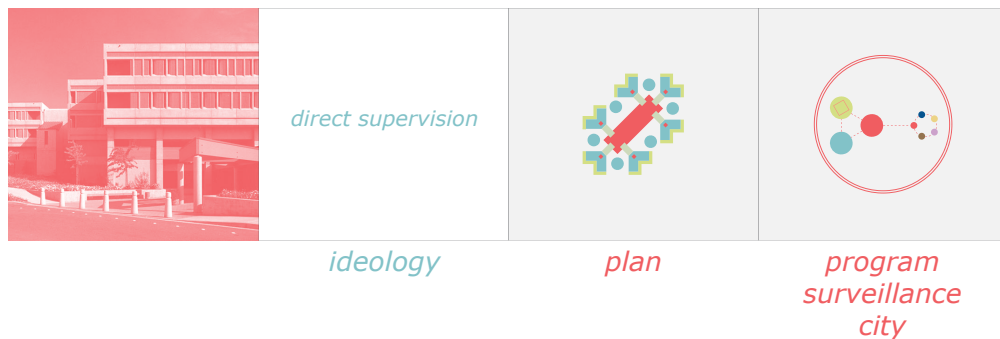
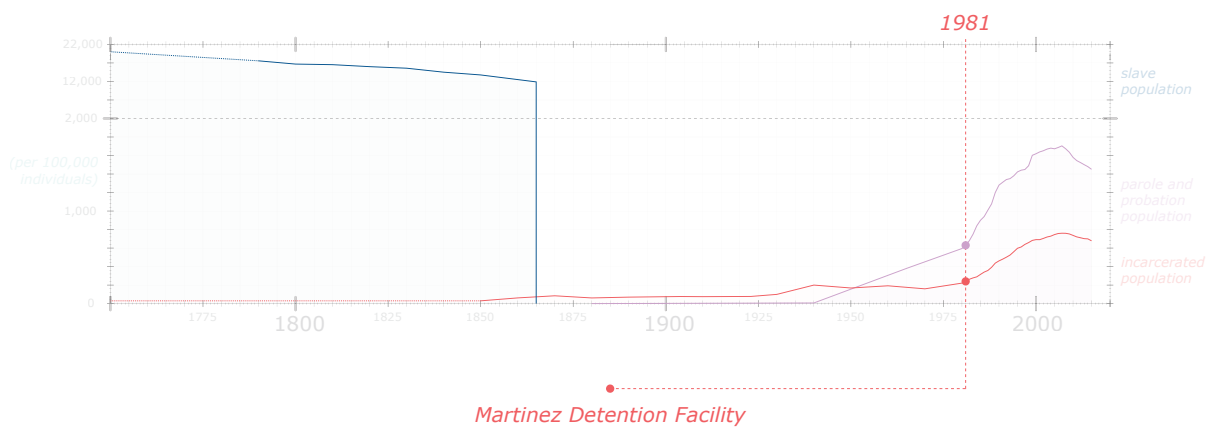
Alcatraz pushes the ideology of isolation to the scale of the city, as it not only physically removes inmates from society, but also creates a spectacle of isolation as the prison is located on an island.



RESEARCH · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Martinez Detention Facility, 1981, Direct Supervision

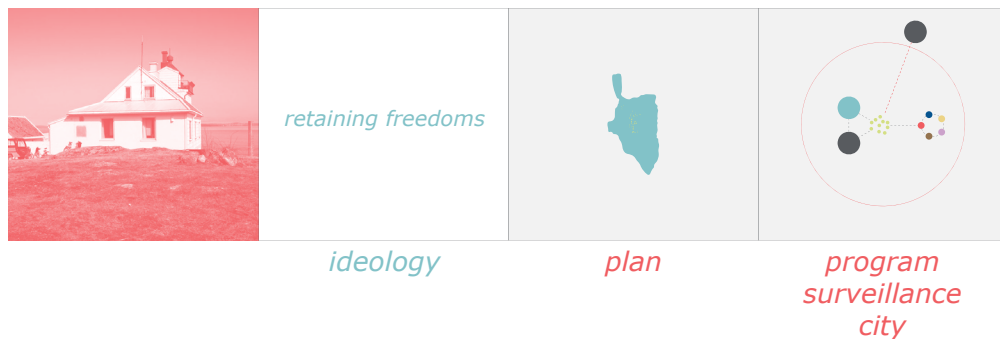
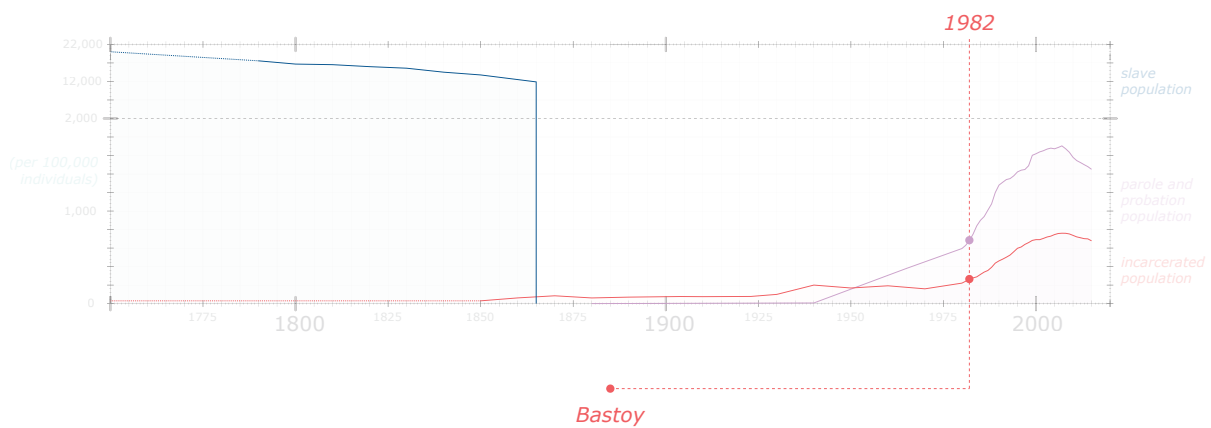
The Martinez Detention Facility was one of the first prisons to incorporate the idea of Direct Supervision. In contrast to the Separate System with cells organized linearly, cells are organized in clusters around a common space with a central monitoring station, which allows inmates to spend more time in the common space, and less time isolated in their cells.⁴⁴



RESEARCH · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Bastoy, 1982, Retaining Freedoms

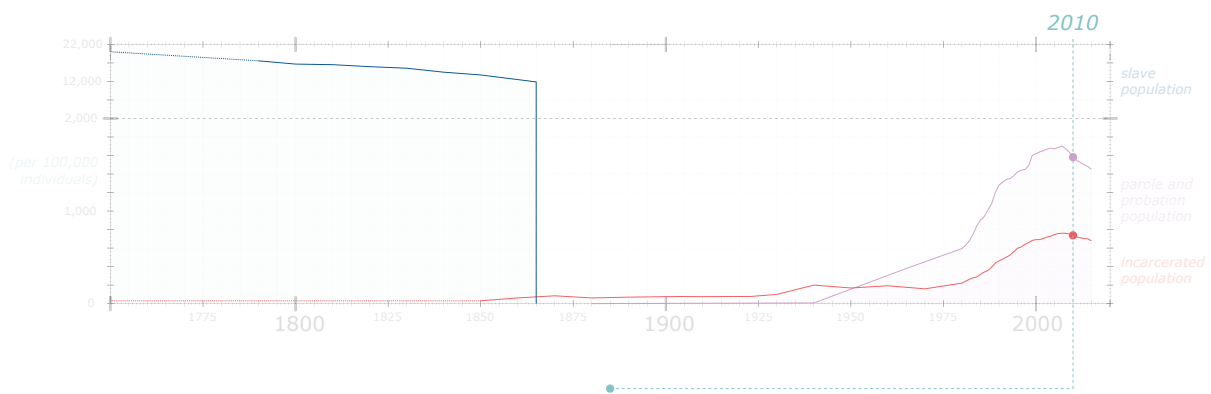
Located in Norway, Bastoy is organized as campus of individual cottages, where inmates hold keys to their rooms and there are no armed guards or fences. Bastoy is designed on the premise that “the only punishment is to take away the inmate’s right to be a free member of society.”⁴⁵ Compared to the US’s 3-year recidivism rate of almost 70%, the rate at Bastoy is about 16%.



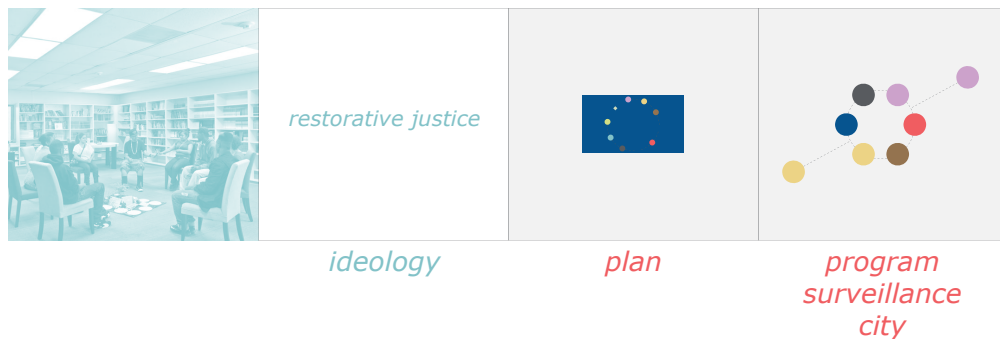
RESEARCH · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Castlemont Peacemaking Room, 2010, Restorative Justice

This thesis also identified architectural spaces that sit outside of the typical system of incarceration but provide insight into how alternative spaces of justice could be designed. The first is Castlemont Peacemaking Room in Oakland, which is based on the ideology of restorative justice, and is sited within a high school complex.⁴⁶



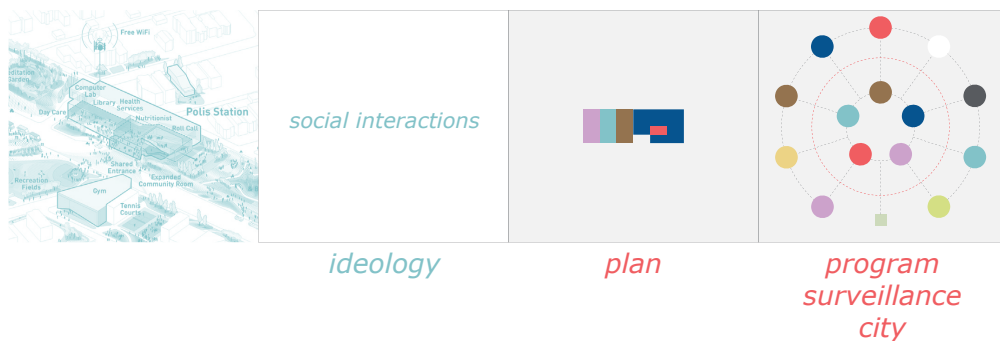
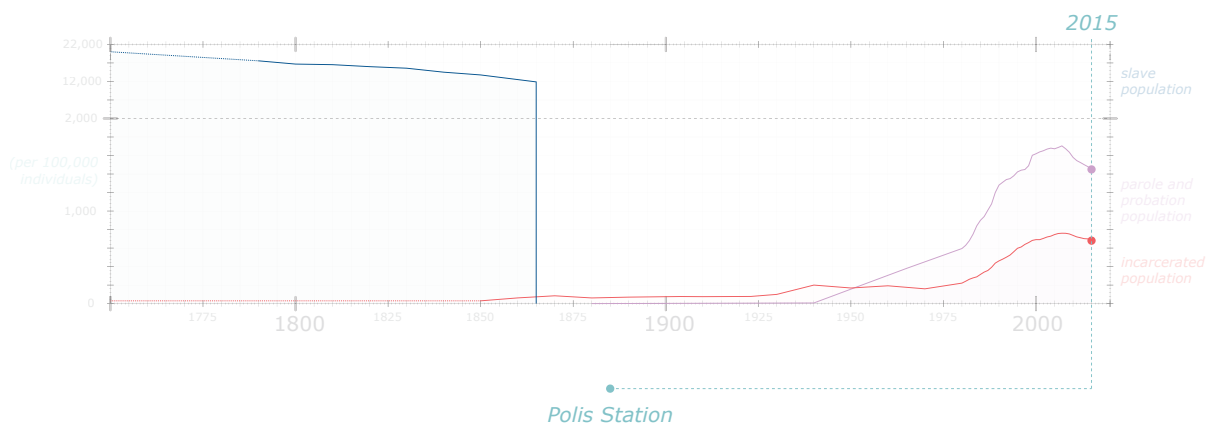
Castlemont Peacemaking Room



RESEARCH · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Polis Station, 2015, Social Interactions

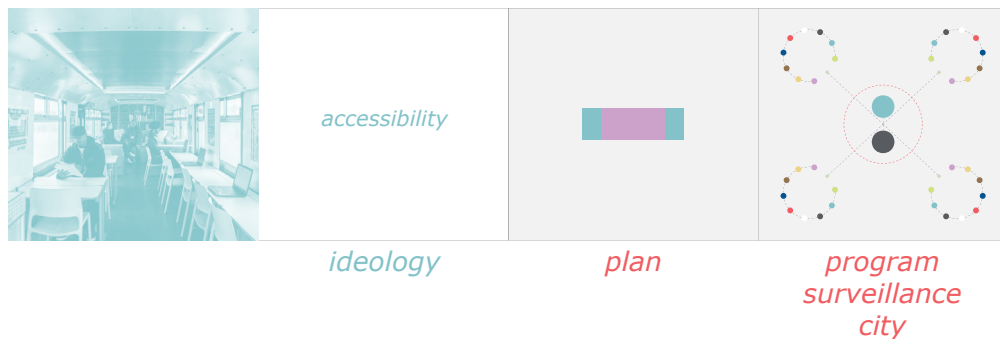
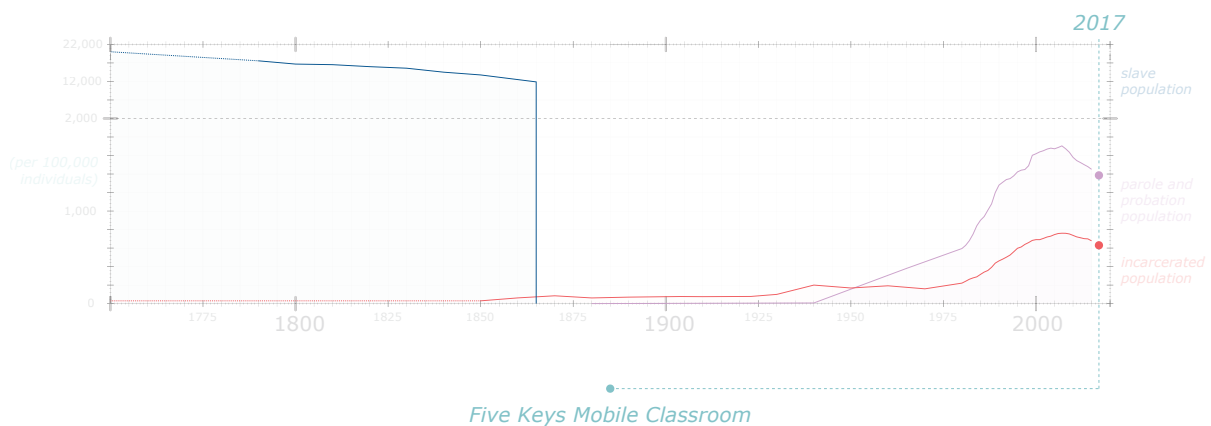
The design of Polis Station in Chicago, reimagines the police station's relationship to the city as a space for bringing people together for positive interactions and social gatherings.⁴⁷ By redesigning the physical space, the architects are also able to shape the social dynamic between police officers and community members.



RESEARCH · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Five Keys Mobile Classroom, 2017, Accessibility

The Five Keys Mobile Classroom brings education opportunities to vulnerable neighborhoods in San Francisco where accessing schools can be difficult due to gang territories.⁴⁸ The classroom rethinks how and where services can be delivered and suggests an adaptable landscape of educational spaces.



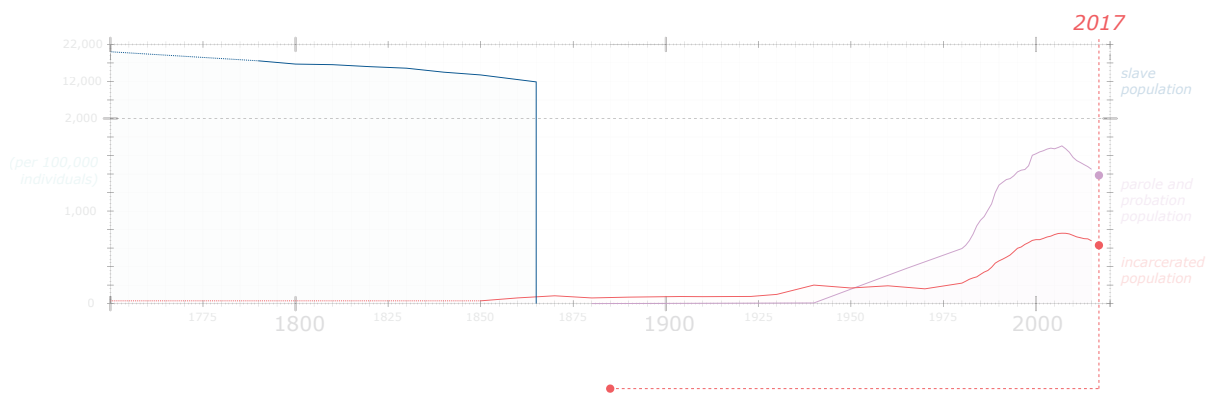
RESEARCH · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Justice Hub, 2017, Urban Connections

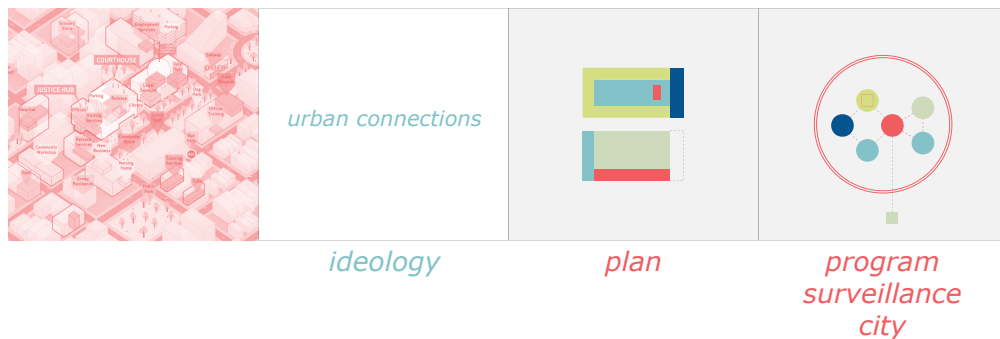
In response to the closure of Rikers Island in New York City, the Justice Hub proposal reimagines the prison system as a series of smaller corrections institutions located in per borough.⁴⁹ Instead of an isolated, hermetic facility, it presents a place of corrections that is networked and integrated with the surrounding city and its services.

Trend Toward Community Corrections

The contemporary precedents demonstrate a shift from the historic carceral model of isolation towards community-based corrections that increase connections to the city and its resources



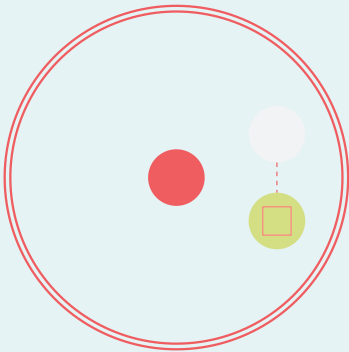
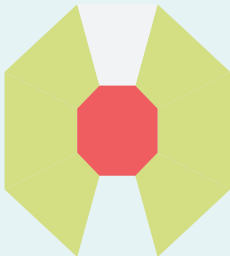
Justice Hub, 2017



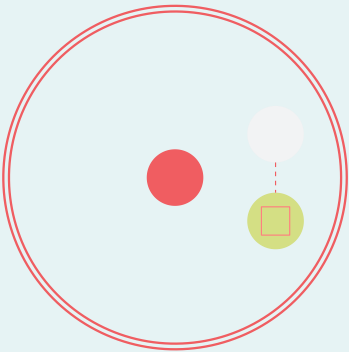
RESEARCH · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Precedent Program Analysis

Ghent, 1772



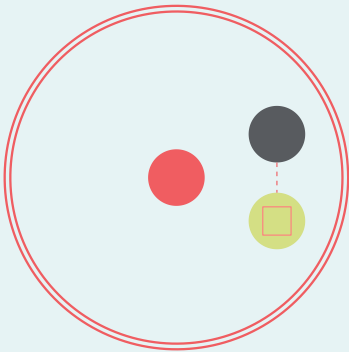
Panopticon, 1791



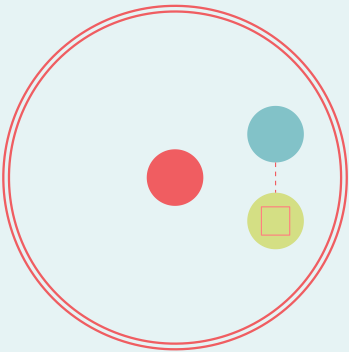
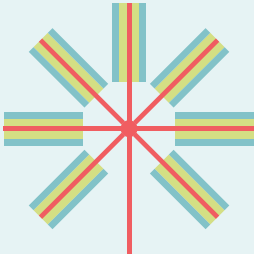
RESEARCH · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Precedent Program Analysis

Auburn, 1818



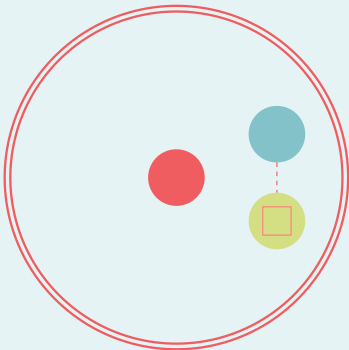
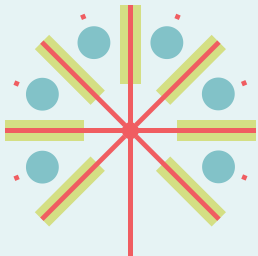
Eastern State Penitentiary, 1821



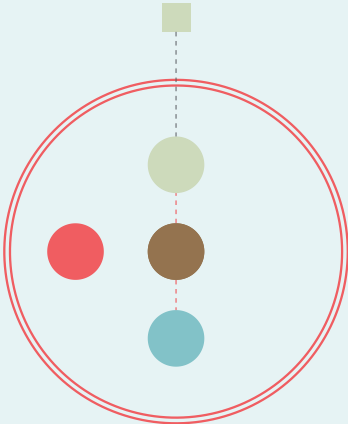
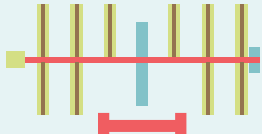
RESEARCH · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Precedent Program Analysis

Pentonville Prison, 1840



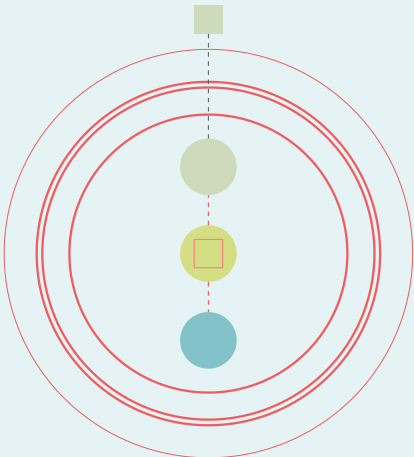
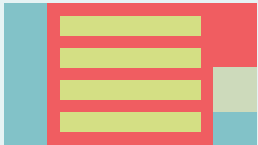
Herbert Hospital, 1866



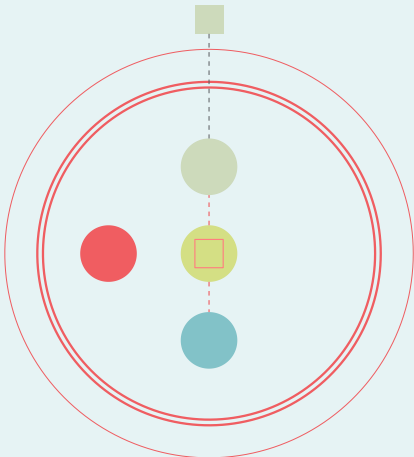
RESEARCH · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Precedent Program Analysis

Alcatraz, 1934



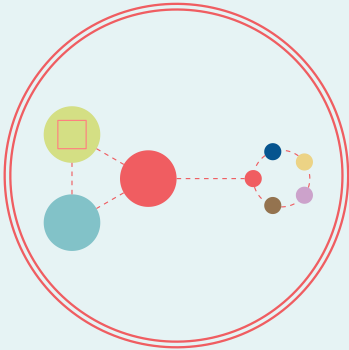
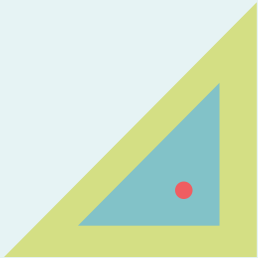
Rikers, 1963



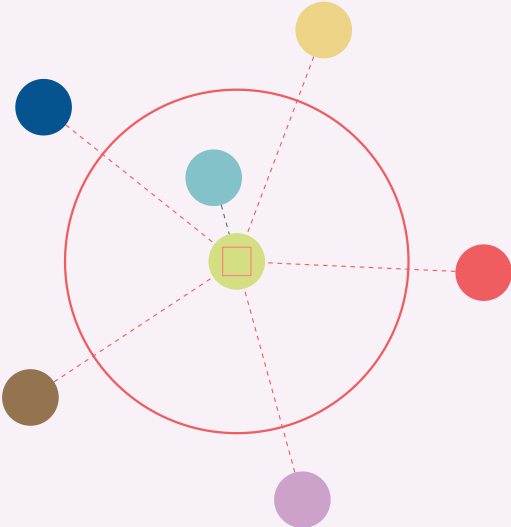
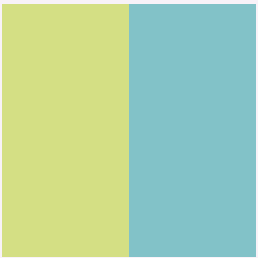
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Precedent Program Analysis

MCC Chicago, 1977



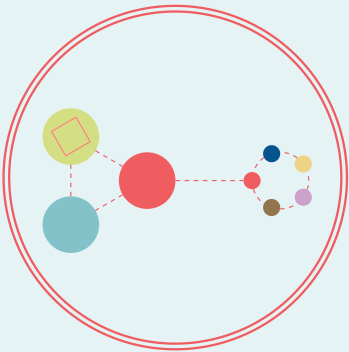
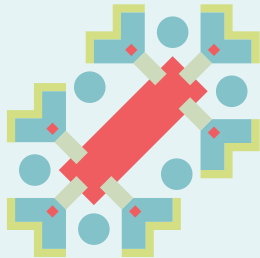
House Arrest, 1980



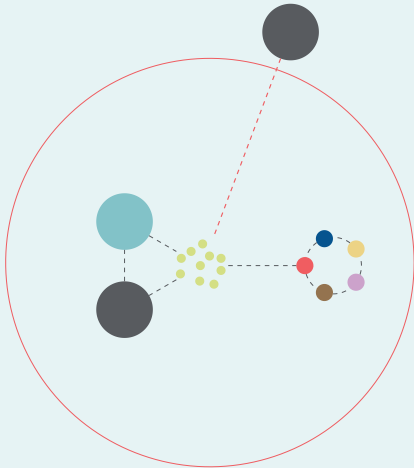
RESEARCH · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Precedent Program Analysis

Martinez Detention Facility, 1981



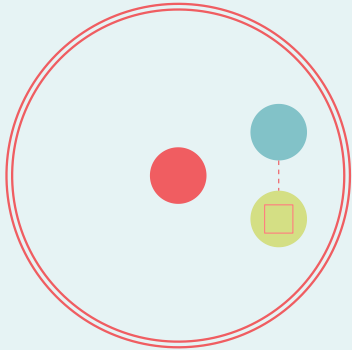
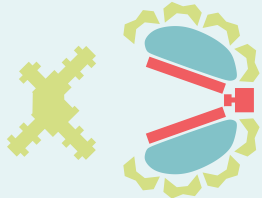
Bastoy, 1982



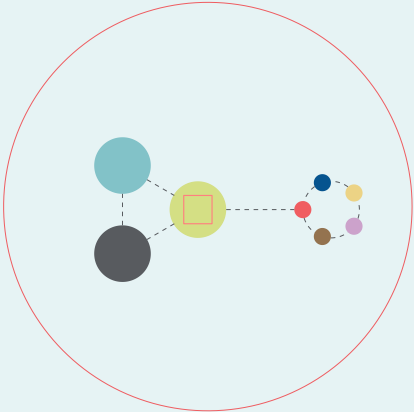
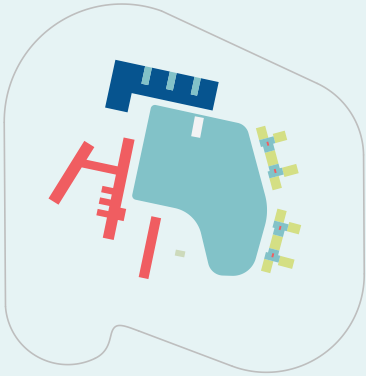
RESEARCH · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Precedent Program Analysis

Pelican Bay State Prison, 1989



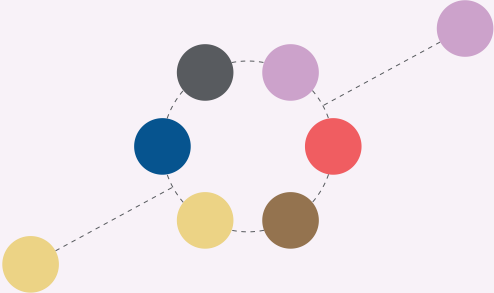
Halden, 2010



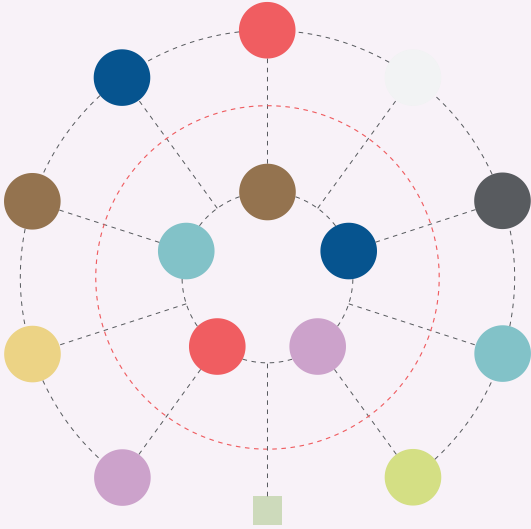
RESEARCH · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Precedent Program Analysis

Castlemont Peacemaking Room, 2010



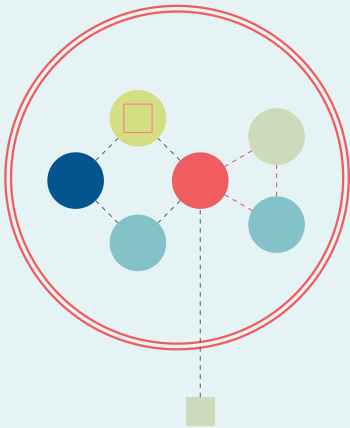
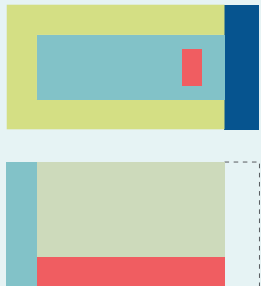
Polis Station, 2015



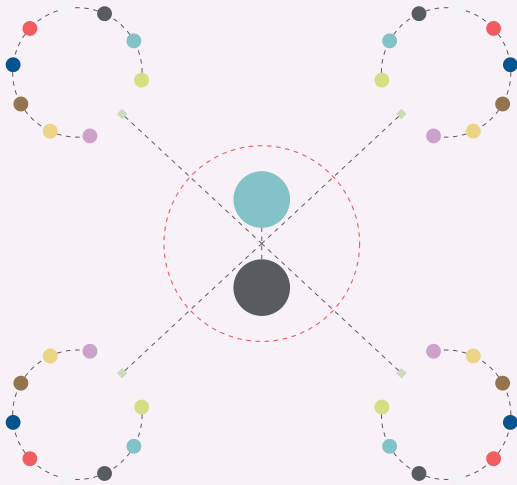
RESEARCH · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Precedent Program Analysis

Justice Hub, 2017



Five Keys Mobile Classroom, 2017



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⁴⁵ FOURM design build, *Restorative Justice for Oakland Youth*, (Oakland, CA : FOURM design build, 2010), <http://designingjustice.org/restorative-justice-for-oakland-youth/>.

⁴⁶ Studio Gang, *Polis Station* (Chicago : Studio Gang, 2015), <http://studiogang.com/project/polis-station>.

RESEARCH NOTES - SPACES OF JUSTICE

⁴⁷ Parsigian, Zoe, Julia Grinkrug, Deanna Van Buren, Sudie Wentling, Sabrina Fair, *A School on Wheels* (San Francisco, 2017), <http://designingjustice.org/five-keys-mobile-classroom/>.

⁴⁸ Sutter, John, *Welcome to the World's Nicest Prison* (CNN, 2012), <http://www.cnn.com/2012/05/24/world/europe/norway-prison-bastoy-nicest/index.html>

⁴⁹ Gallagher, Dan, Nader Tehrani, Susan Gottesfeld, Karen Kubey, Susan Opatow, and Jayne Mooney, *Justice in Design* (New York : Van Alen Institute, 2017).

PROPOSAL · SPACES OF JUSTICE

PROPOSAL · SPACES OF JUSTICE

A New Form of Community Corrections

The research points to a need for a place for restorative justice as well as a place community corrections that instills faith in the system. Community corrections is an existing viable means of keeping people away from prison and its deleterious effects. Creating a proper place of community corrections that visually and physically moves away from the prison helps to redefine and re-establish community corrections as an effective alternative in the justice system. Judges feel confident enough in community corrections to use it instead of incarceration, and the public feels confident enough in it to accept it as a means of justice and corrections. Thus, this thesis proposes an Act for an alternative to community corrections.

SENATE DOCKET, NO. 1797 FILED ON: 9/25/2017

SENATE No. 848

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

James Addison and Olivia Huang

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act promoting an alternative to community corrections.

PROPOSAL · SPACES OF JUSTICE

OBJECTIVE 1. It is the policy of this Commonwealth that *Spaces of Justice* be established in place of existing community corrections, to provide restorative justice practices and vocational training to the community. It is the goal that such centers mend and strengthen the social fabric, increase the safety, security and wellbeing of communities, and reduce recidivism and the risk of more serious crimes that would require a more intensive and costly response from the legal system, such as prosecution and incarceration.

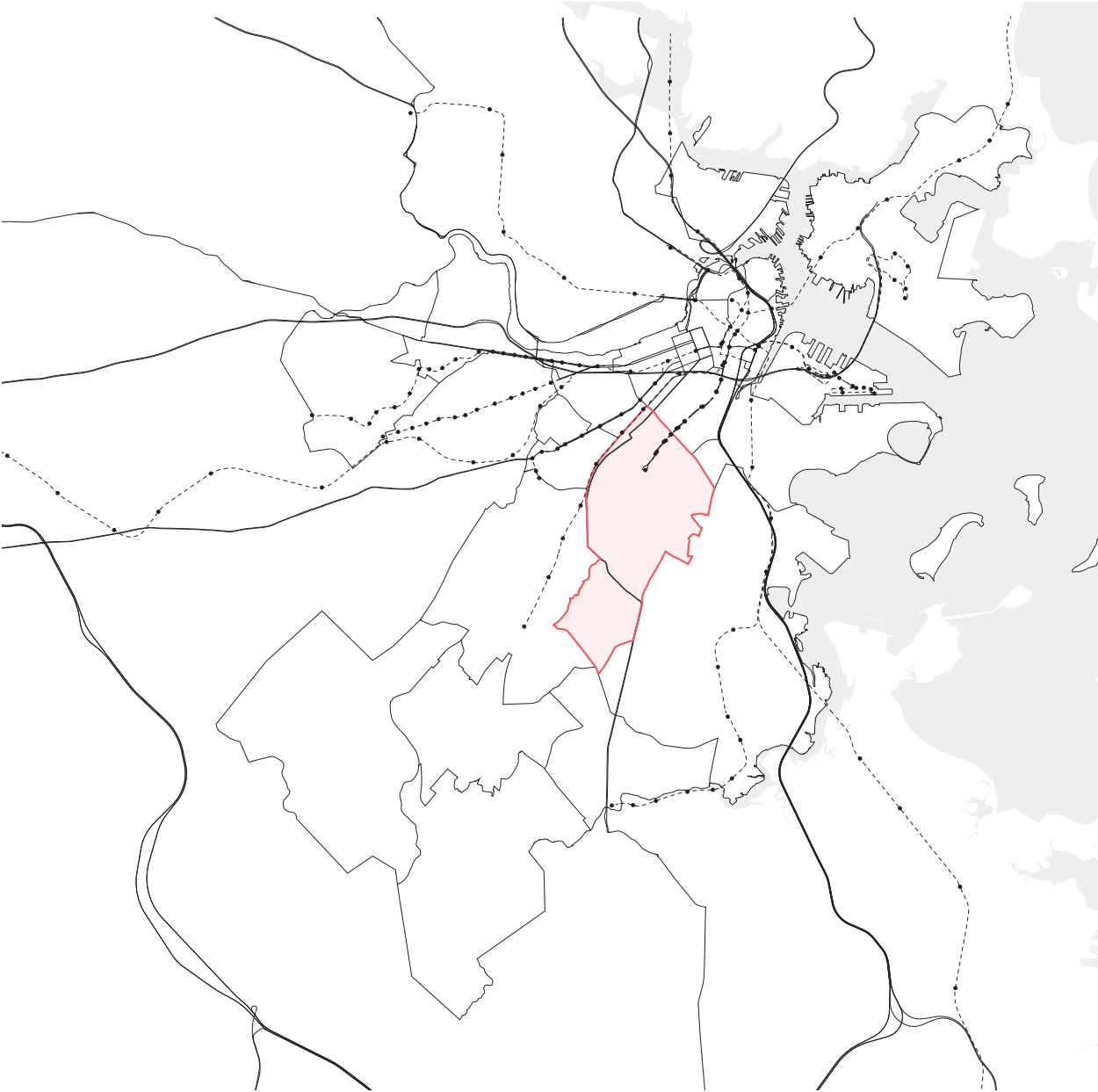
OBJECTIVE 2. Such *Spaces of Justice* shall be designed to maximize opportunities for interaction between all members of the community, with the intention of reducing stigma for returning citizens, widening perspectives, and offering all members a role and responsibility to maintaining a safe community.

OBJECTIVE 3. *Spaces of Justice* shall be designed to be a positive emblem with a strong presence in the community, visually and functionally. The centers represent and act as places of community support for each of its members.

PROPOSAL · SPACES OF JUSTICE

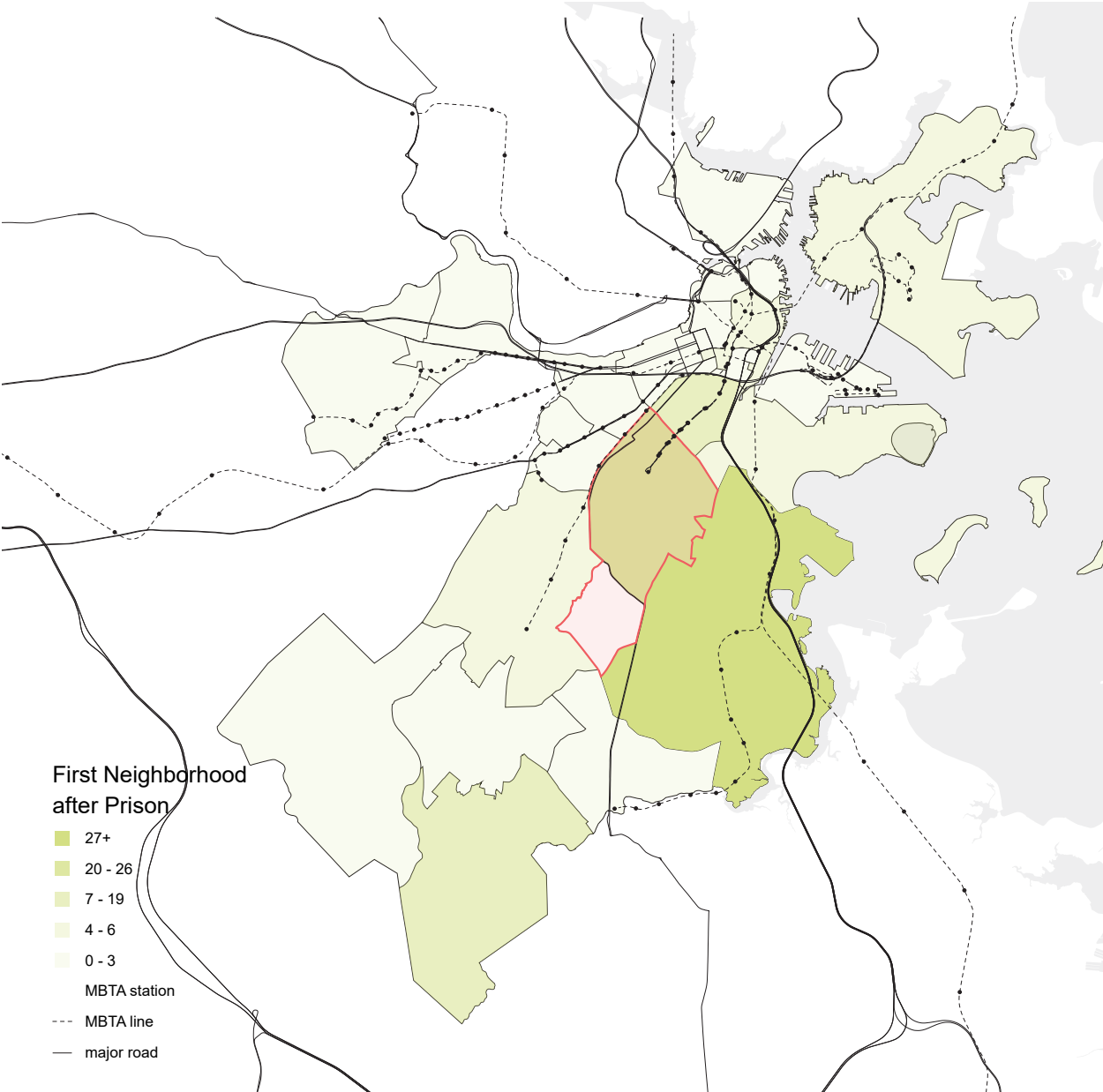
Site, Roxbury

The selected project site is Roxbury, one of Boston’s neighborhoods that people are most likely to return to after release from prison.⁵⁰ This alone suggests Roxbury and its citizens are systematically entrenched in the cycle of incarceration and indeed research into the neighborhood reveals many vulnerability indicators. Historically, the neighborhood has been a predominately African American community. Roxbury has faced economic divestment and inequity from the city, struggling with issues such as urban renewal and bussing students for racial integration. However, strong community activism and organization persist.⁵¹



PROPOSAL · SPACES OF JUSTICE

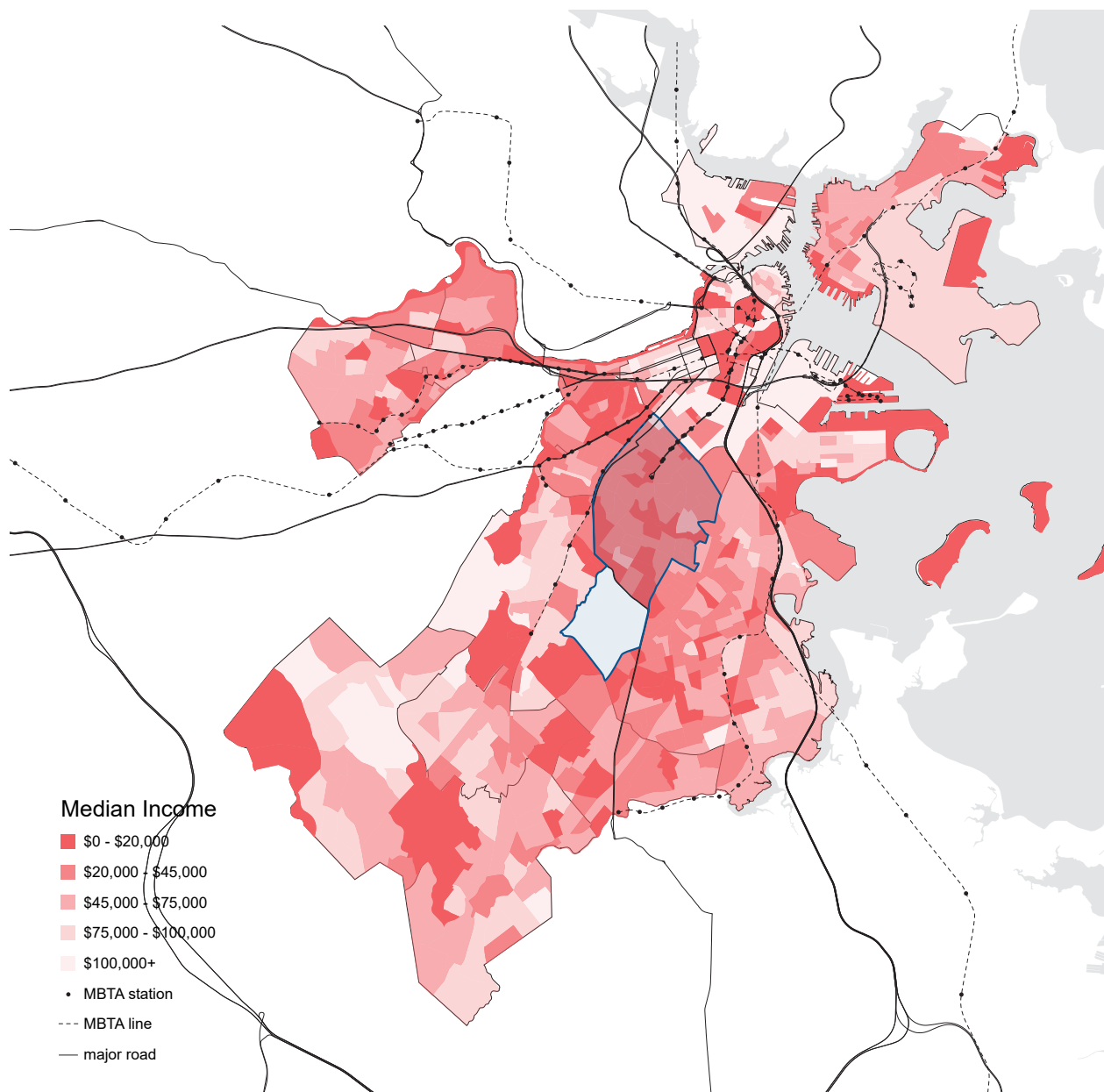
First Neighborhood



PROPOSAL · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Income

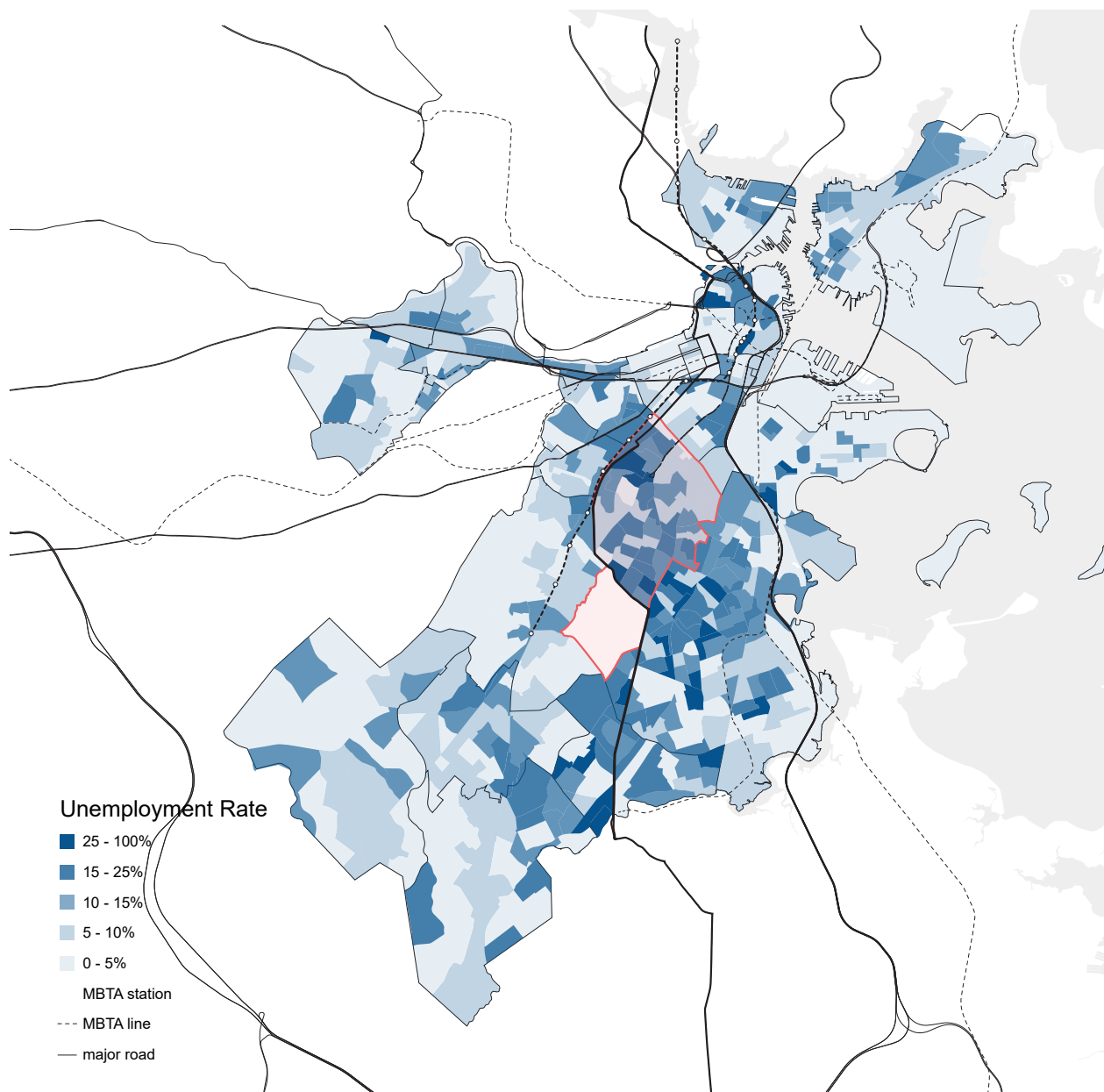
Roxbury bears many indicators for recidivism. The median household income in Roxbury is \$40k compared to \$78.8k in all of Boston. In Jamaica Plain, the adjacent neighborhood to the west, has a median household income of \$98k.⁵²



PROPOSAL · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Unemployment

With the low income we also find a shockingly high unemployment rate - 16% is Roxbury compared to just 3.4% in Boston. ⁵³

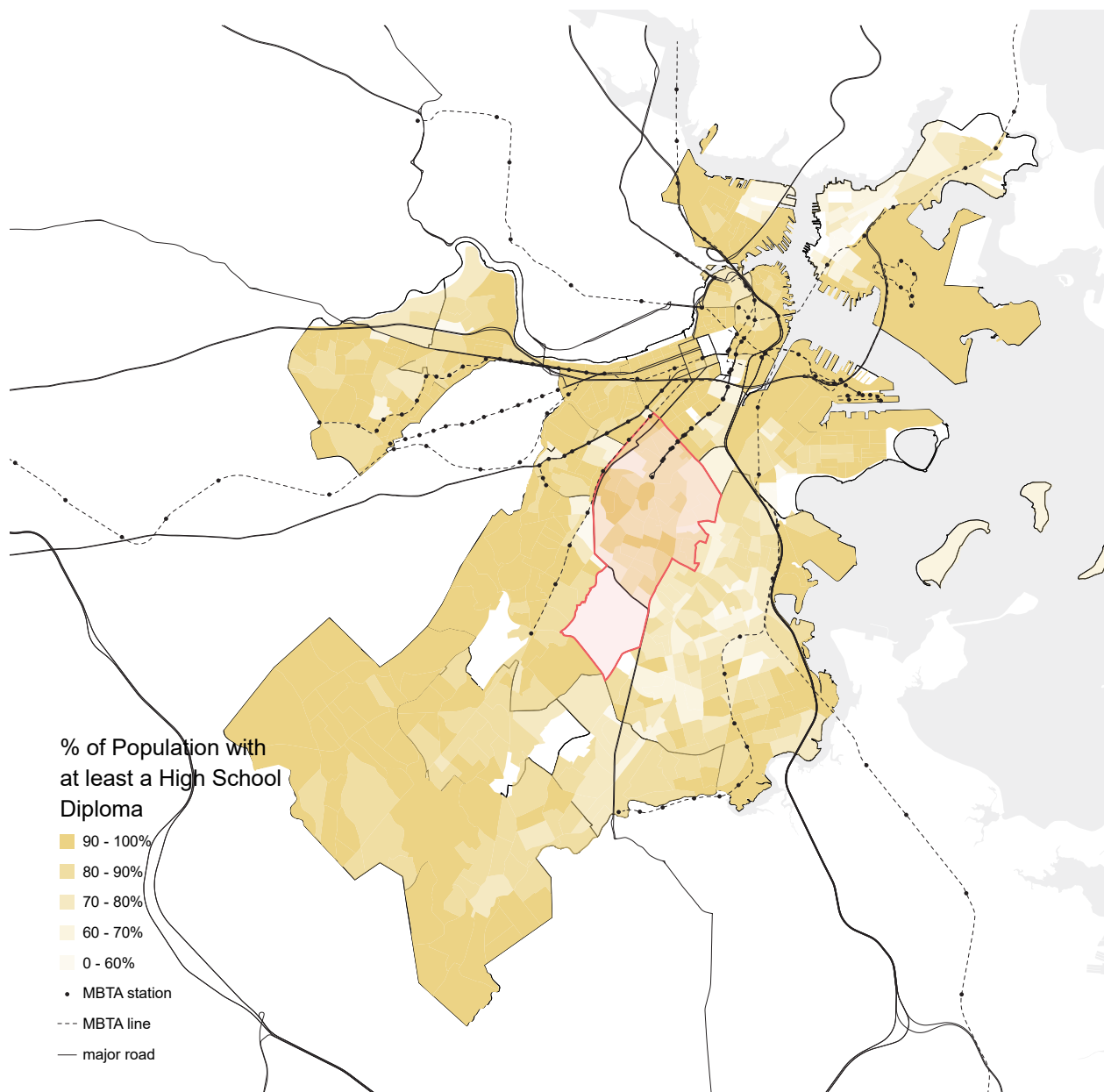


PROPOSAL - SPACES OF JUSTICE

Education

25% of Roxbury residents do not have a high school diploma, compared to 15% for Boston. ⁵⁴

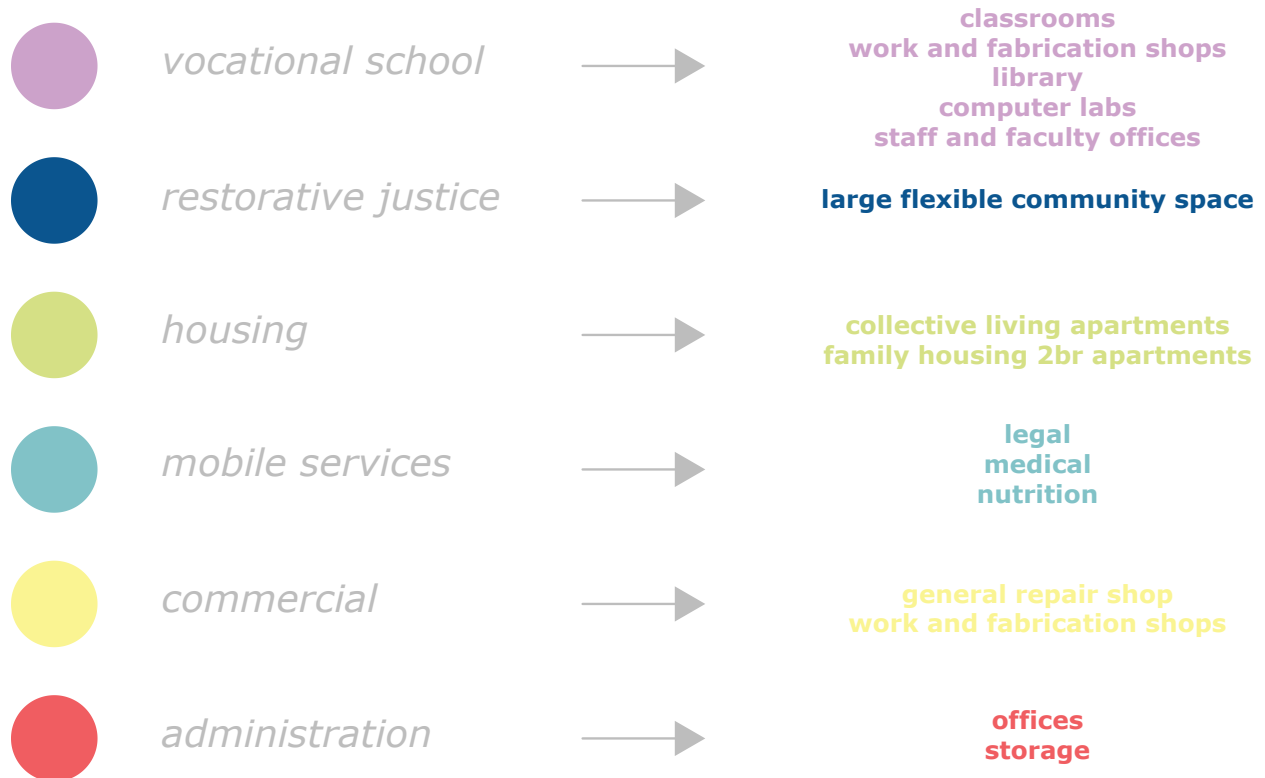
Additionally, Roxbury is 80% renter occupied rather than owner occupied - quite high for an area of Boston that doesn't support a university. ⁵⁵ All these suggest economic stagnation and barriers to mobility for its population, leaving them vulnerable to becoming trapped in the incarceration cycle.



PROPOSAL · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Program

The project consists of the following programs, each of which are integral to addressing an aspect of the challenges returning citizens face and fulfilling the objectives as laid out by the Act.



PROPOSAL · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Restorative Justice

The restorative justice space is the central program of the project, as it represents the shift in how society deals with crime and criminals. This space is where the justice system says communities and individuals can heal from crimes. It is a space that currently does not exist, a typology that has yet to be established. Unlike the courtroom, the restorative justice room is non-hierarchical and must be able to facilitate open conversations.

Vocational School

A vocational school better addresses the needs of this community where the traditional schooling system is failing. Traditional schooling focuses on preparing students for careers or academia, but the type of employment found in Roxbury is centered more around trades. In a visit of the area, the predominant businesses observed were car mechanics, used car dealers, other transportation-related services, salons and barbershops, and construction. A vocational school supports the type of economic activity already happening in the neighborhood, creating a local knowledge base and workforce.

Commercial Space

A commercial space supports the training component for inmates to gain work experience, serves as a place for public-inmate interaction, and bring economic activity and money to the neighborhood. As a precedent, Haley House in Roxbury is a bakery cafe that provides job training and placement for returning citizens and a great local food option for the neighborhood.

Transitional Residence

A transitional residence is included for those who require 24-hr surveillance during their sentence or whose circumstances prevent them from living at their own home. Existing living conditions might be counter to their program requirements; for example, an individual is undergoing drug treatment but their neighborhood is a hotspot for drug activity and thus poses a risk for their rehabilitation. Another common scenario is when an individual lives in public housing but is barred once they are convicted.

Mobility

Public transportation is key in socioeconomic mobility, increasing accessibility between labor markets and the workforce as well as population density for the spread of ideas and capital.⁵⁶ By connecting to the public transportation system, the project integrates with the city, maximizes accessibility, and encourages social connection. Unlike facilities that are cast to the outside edges of cities or rural areas, this center becomes a convenient and desirable place to work. Inmates have greater access to outside services and employment, and their friends and family can more easily visit and support without drastic time or financial burden.

PROPOSAL · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Two Project Sites

Two opposing sites in Roxbury were selected, each responding to and capitalizing on unique aspects of Roxbury. The first is located at Dudley Square, the heart and hub of Roxbury with a concentration of public transportation, business, services, and institutions. On this site, the project proposes a consolidated institutional model. The second is located in the residential area on the western side of Roxbury, near the border with Jamaica Plain. The area is riddled with overgrown, vacant lots and the project on this site offers a dispersed, campus model for the program.



PROPOSAL NOTES · SPACES OF JUSTICE

⁵⁰ Simes, Jessica T., *Neighborhood Attainment After Prison*. (Boston Reentry Study, March 2016).

⁵¹ Mahan, Leah, Mark Lipman, Jon Neuburger, and Claudio Ragazzi. *Holding ground: the rebirth of Dudley Street* (Boston: Holding Ground Productions, 1996).

⁵² Boston Redevelopment Authority Research Division Analysis, *Boston in Context: Neighborhoods: 2009-2013 American Community Survey, 2010 Census* (Boston Redevelopment Authority Research Division Analysis, August 2015).

⁵³ Ibid.

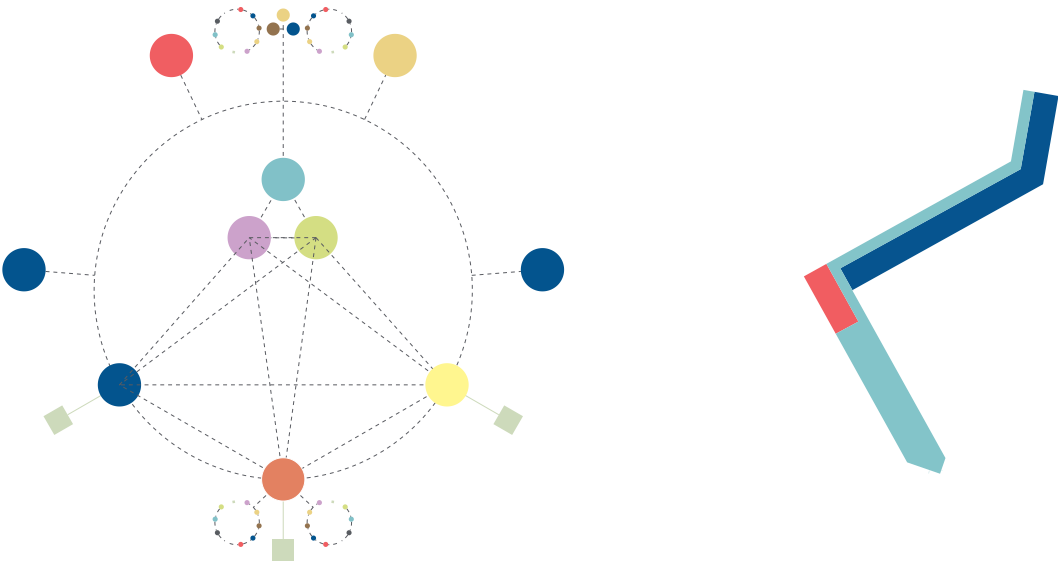
⁵⁴ Ibid.

⁵⁵ Ibid.

⁵⁶ Chatman, Daniel. G., and Robert B. Noland, *Transit Service, Physical Agglomeration and Productivity in US Metropolitan Areas* (Urban Studies, Volume 51, Issue 5, August 1, 2013), p 917-937, <http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/0042098013494426?papetoc=&>.

PROJECT 1 · PUBLIC, PATH, PLAZA · SPACES OF JUSTICE

PROJECT 1 · PUBLIC, PATH, PLAZA · SPACES OF JUSTICE



PROJECT 1 · PUBLIC, PATH, PLAZA · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Site

This site is a large block across from Dudley Station, a major bus terminal serving seventeen routes including the Silver Line and 30,000 passengers daily. The area is rich with nearby services - the Public Defenders office, Boston Career Link employment center, and the state Dept of Transitional Assistance. The block alone contains the district police station, the municipal court, the Dudley branch of the Boston Public Library, and the Boys and Girls Club, which provides after school programming for youth.

But despite the array of public amenities, the area is not inviting to the public. It is undefined open space blanketed with wide parking lots. People regularly jaywalk to cut their time passing through here short, and the crosswalks connect one empty street corner to another, leading nowhere in particular.

None of the institutions on the block engage with each other; they do not even share parking lots. One could easily imagine a shared space for family activities between the library and the youth club or a pleasant path between the police station and municipal court so pedestrians do not have to walk around the entire block perimeter. Yet the buildings have their backs turned to each other.

This undefined, open, no man's land with public institutions is a ripe opportunity to foster connections and activity between the community, existing services, and the bus station.



PROJECT 1 · PUBLIC, PATH, PLAZA · SPACES OF JUSTICE

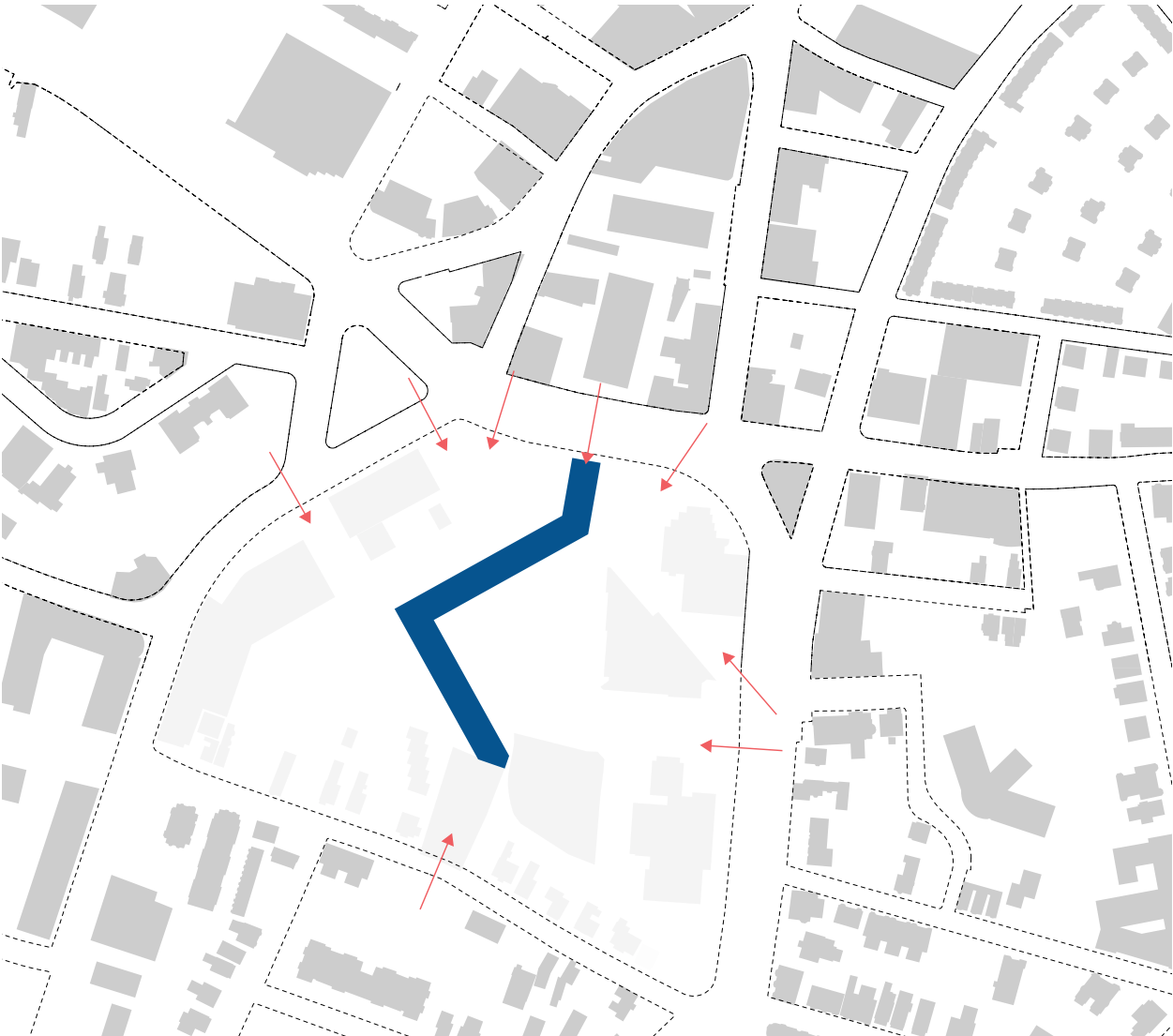


PROJECT 1 · PUBLIC, PATH, PLAZA · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Site Strategy

The strategy to define the site and link the institutions is to transform the block into a great communal backyard, to create shared public space in the center of the existing institutions. The site boundary is quite porous, with many ways in which one can enter. This feature is a detriment in the site's current indeterminate state, but by creating a place in the center and connecting civic destinations, the multiple entries onto the site becomes a benefit, maximizing the ways people and activity can flow into the site.

Site Access

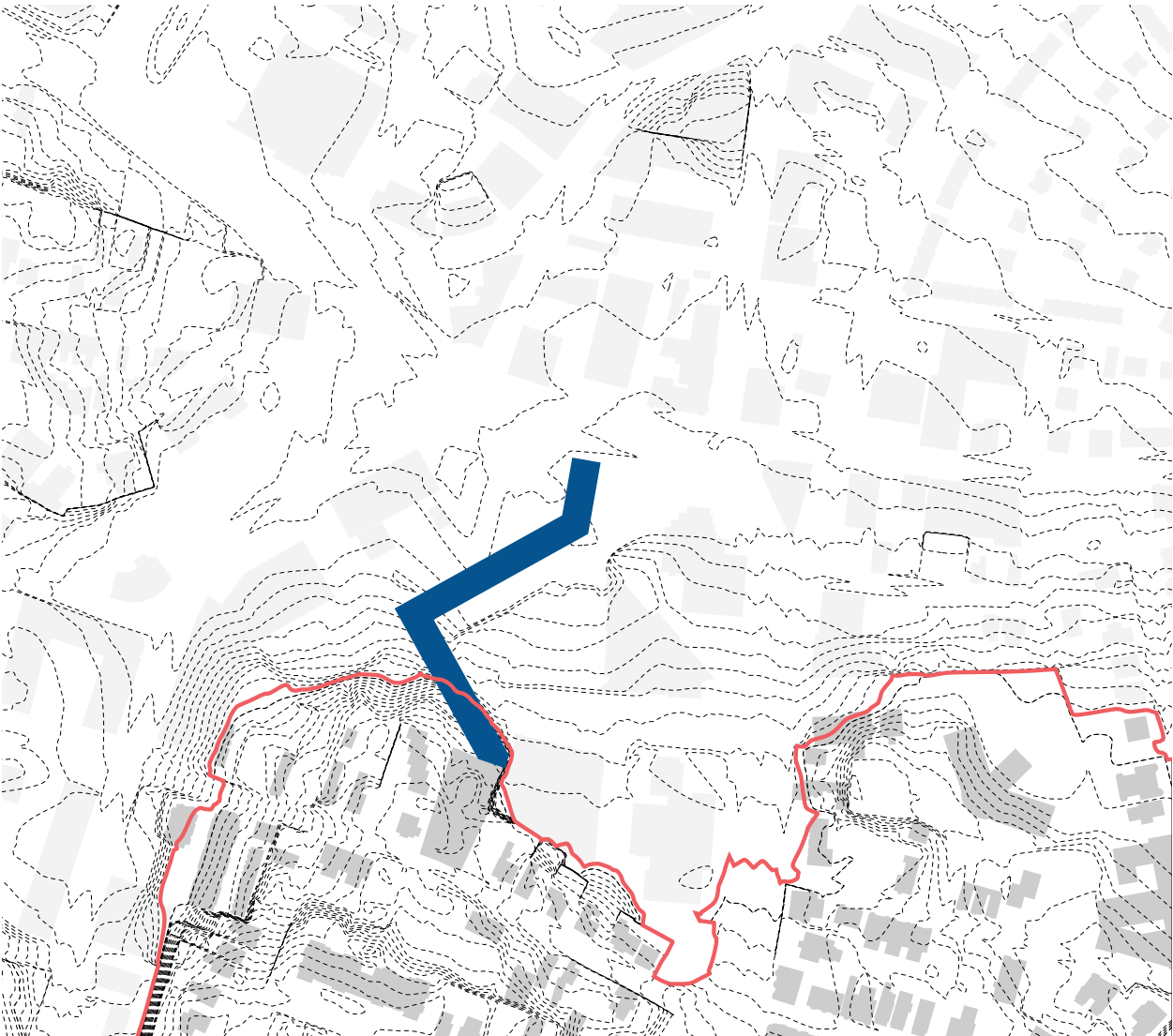


PROJECT 1 · PUBLIC, PATH, PLAZA · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Site Strategy

The south side of the site, however, is isolated by a cliff 45' ft in elevation, upon which is a residential neighborhood. The steep topography is a real and physical barrier in the community. This project literally bridges the cliff and links the community, while defining zones of public space within the block that are shaped by my building as well as the existing institutions. A public path that extends and connects an existing public park at the top down to the street and turns to define the zones and serves as the main circulation for the building.

Site Topography

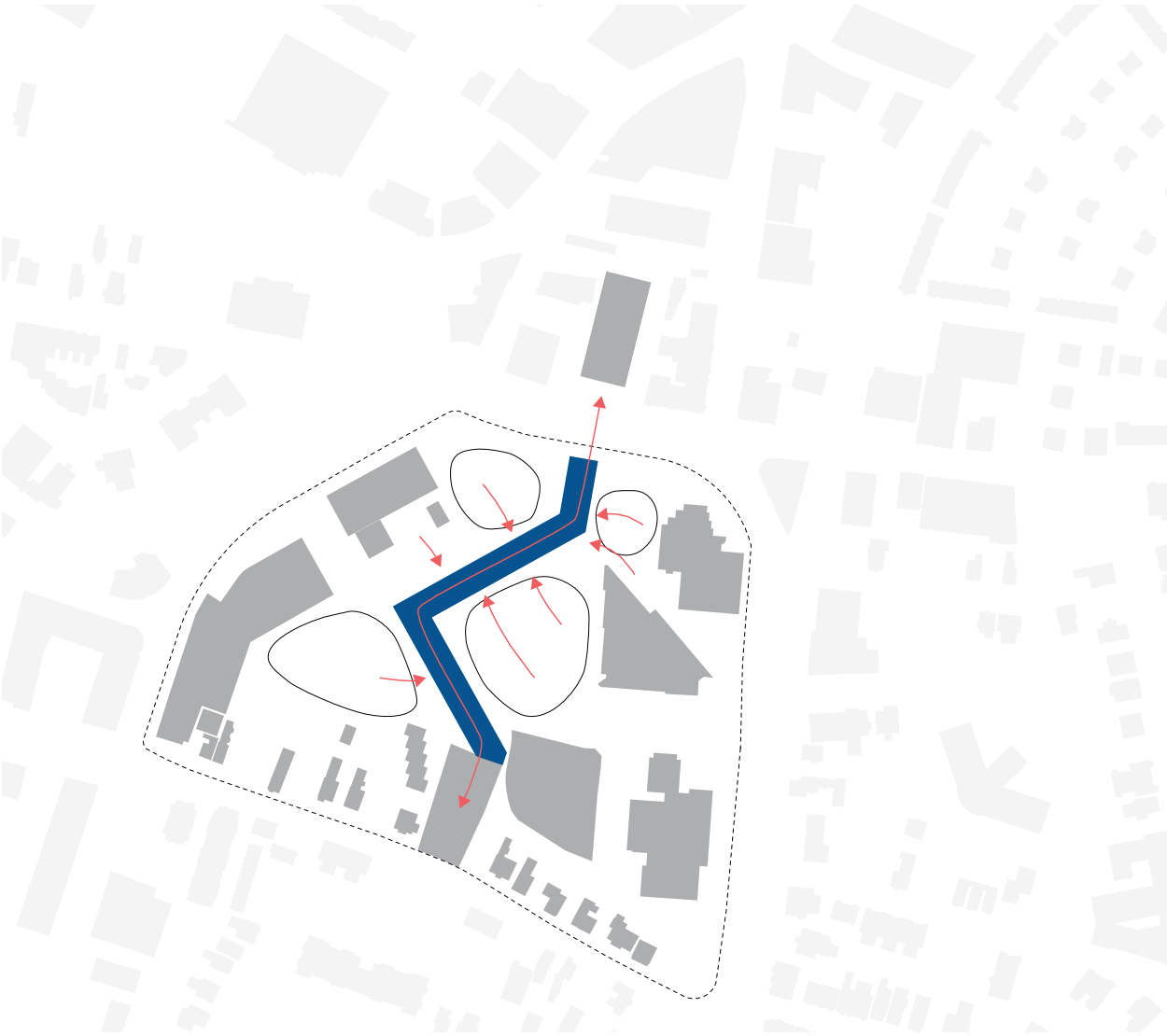


PROJECT 1 · PUBLIC, PATH, PLAZA · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Design Strategy

The ground level is open to allow flows of people, activity, and events to cross - the youth club now has a much-needed open green space and new sports and play spaces adjacent to the police who are ensuring their public safety. Proper passage between police and court ties together components of the justice system to strengthen cooperation and discourage silos. Nearby, some inmates learn the inner workings of an engine and some wooden benches are evidence of the previous carpentry class. Existing street vendors squatting along sidewalks now have a designated urban plaza and amphitheater from which to sell their ethnic foods and local crafts. The block becomes a public place of work and play, a live mixture of economic, social, recreational, and correctional activity.

Site Definition



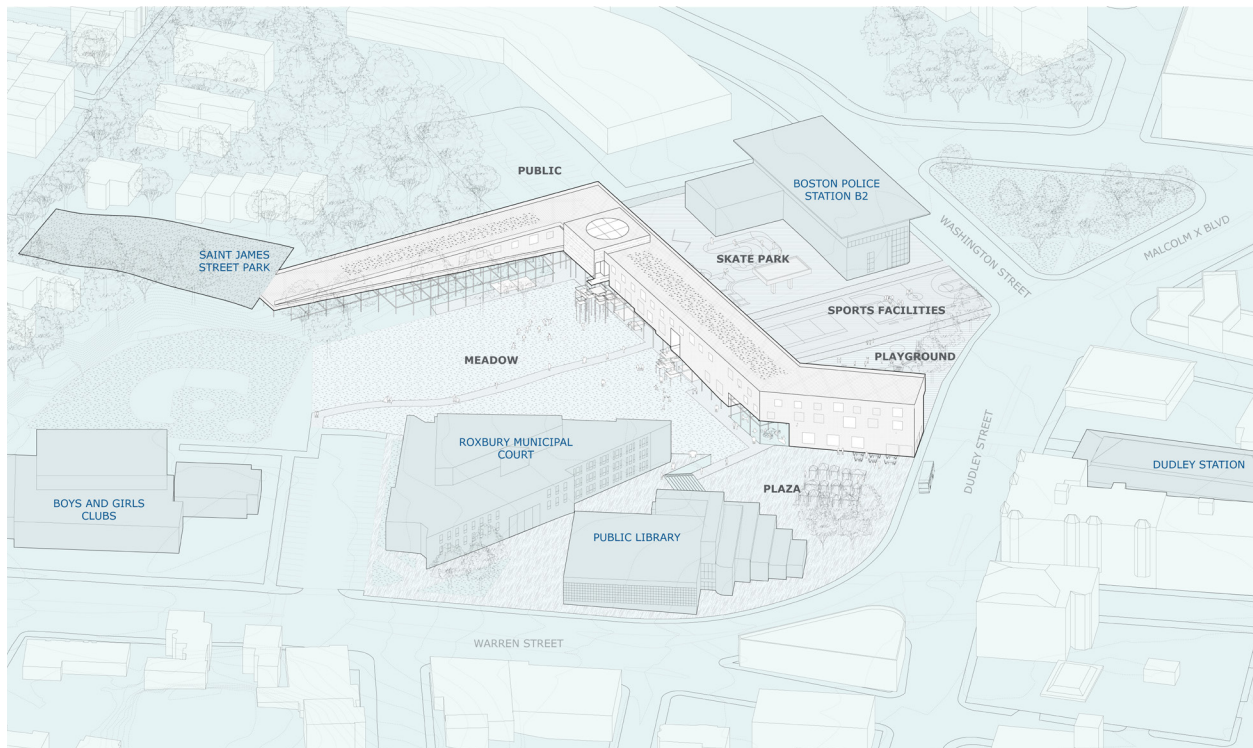
PROJECT 1 · PUBLIC, PATH, PLAZA · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Design Strategy

To create the openness, the building is set on thin steel columns. This also makes the project lighter and more porous, in contrast to its concrete, monolithic neighbors and the traditional institutional identity. To further this contrast, the building plays with porosity, transparency, and visibility using openings and a perforated rainscreen. In some instances, the wall has an opening but the rain screen does not so passersby cannot quite see in but can see the glow of light emitted from the interior. At other moments, both the screen and enclosure are open, showcasing the activity in the interior, or an opening punctures both walls of the building and one can see both into the room and through to the exterior on the other side.

The restorative justice center is the most important space of the whole project - defining the place as a new model of justice - and thus is a distinct volume from the building. While it is meant to be recognizable, it also must feel intimate and like a place away. This sanctuary from the 'outside world' allows people to be more open in their thoughts and discussions. Thus the solid facade calls out the volume but also creates privacy and intimacy. Natural light enters from the top through a sky light. To create an interior space without hierarchy, one enters the circular restorative justice room tangentially, through one of two entrances. This softens the typical directness of entering a room straight on and mitigates the power balance that exists between someone entering a room and someone who is facing or has their back turned to the door.

Axonometric

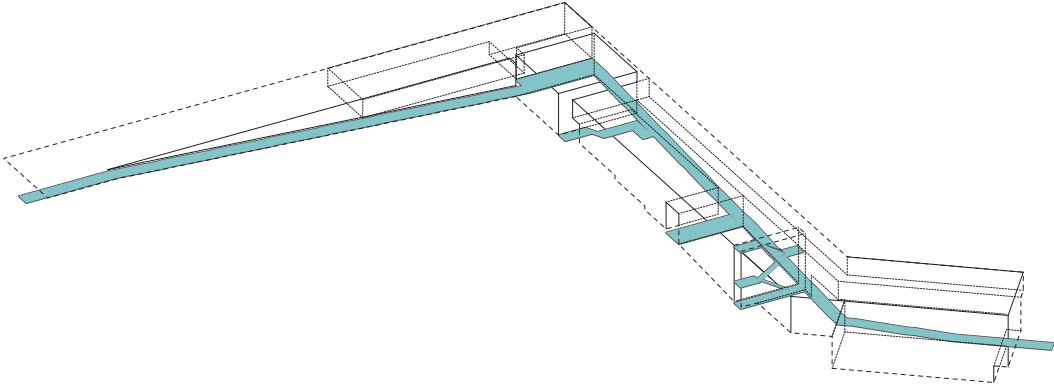
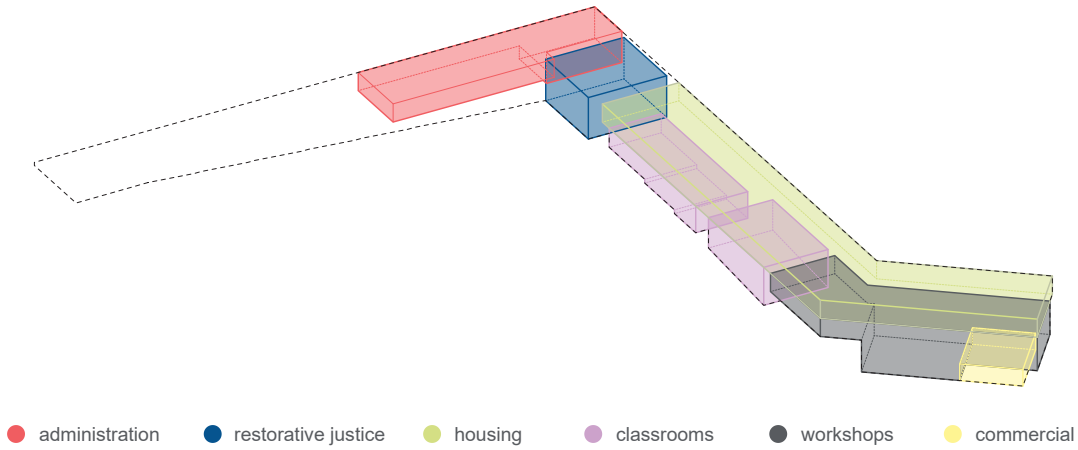


PROJECT 1 · PUBLIC, PATH, PLAZA · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Design Strategy

While the ground level is completely public and open, as one goes up the building becomes more enclosed to recognize the differing levels of privacy in the program. Housing is the uppermost level, offering inmates views out to the city, and interaction between the residences and the public path is minimal. As one passes by the classrooms and workshops on the level below, more moments of visual openness occur between the public path and the interior.

Program and Circulation



PROJECT 1 · PUBLIC, PATH, PLAZA · SPACES OF JUSTICE

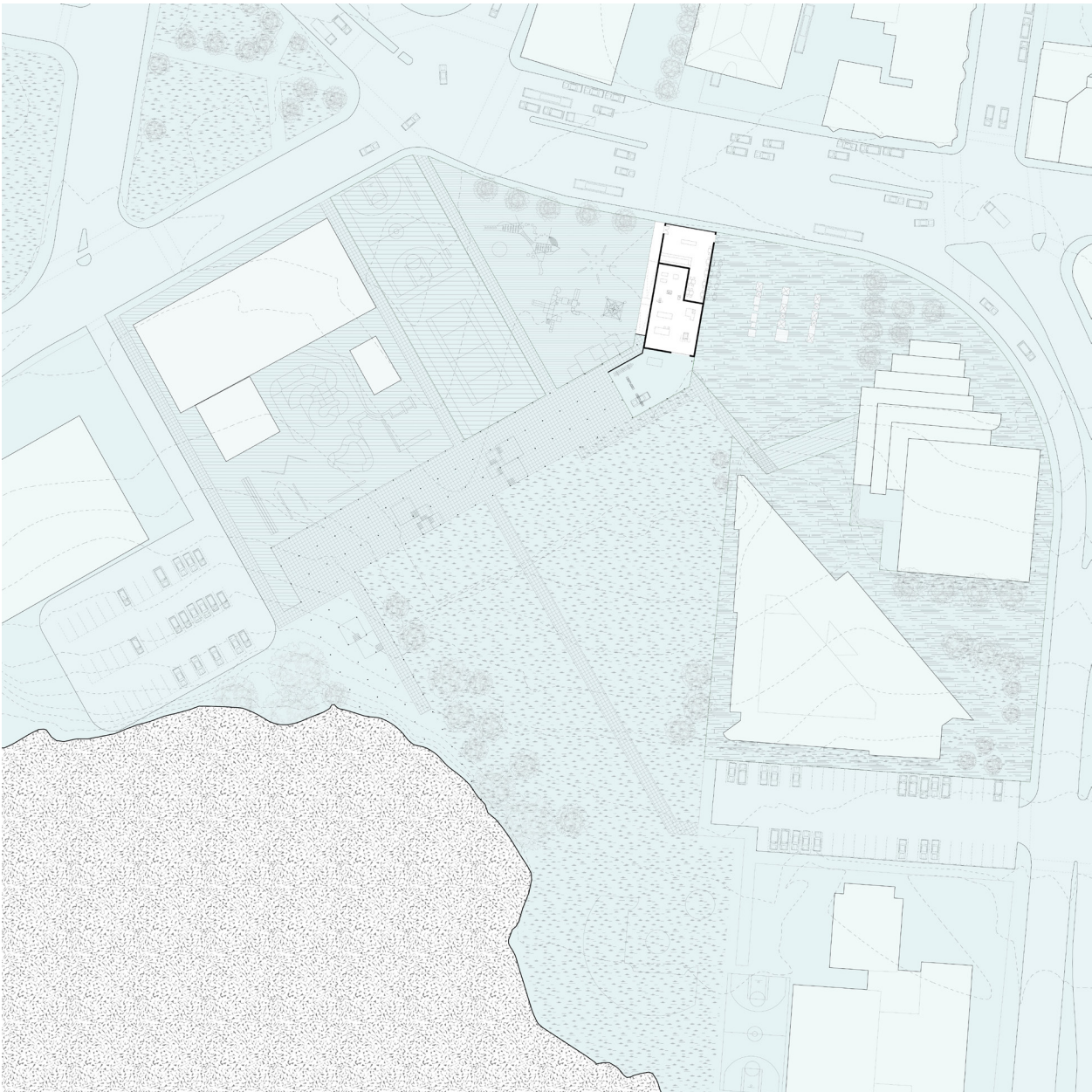
Design Strategy

Between the open plazas, porous building, and roof deck, views are open and the project adopts an “eyes on the street” approach to public safety and supervision on the site. The multitude of players and variety in section, however, generate an network of supervision; from court to inmate, general public to police, police to youth, from inmate to city, youth to street, and vice versa. The new building itself becomes a platform from which to observe the city and existing institutions while setting a stage for increased public activity. The building is also a means of creating public space, building relationships between the public, existing institutions, and the new institution of community corrections, physical and visual connection.



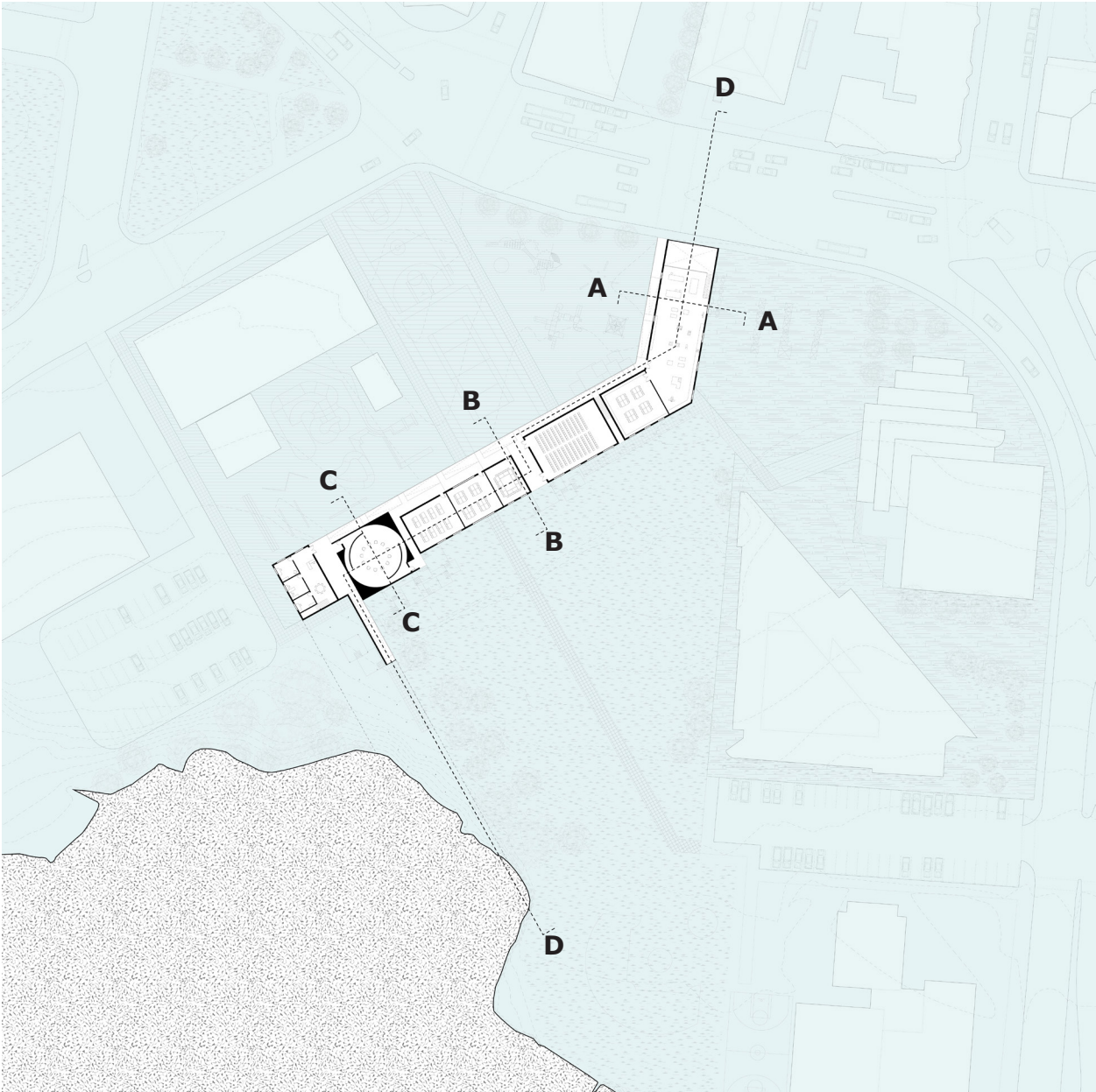
PROJECT 1 · PUBLIC, PATH, PLAZA · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Ground Floor Plan



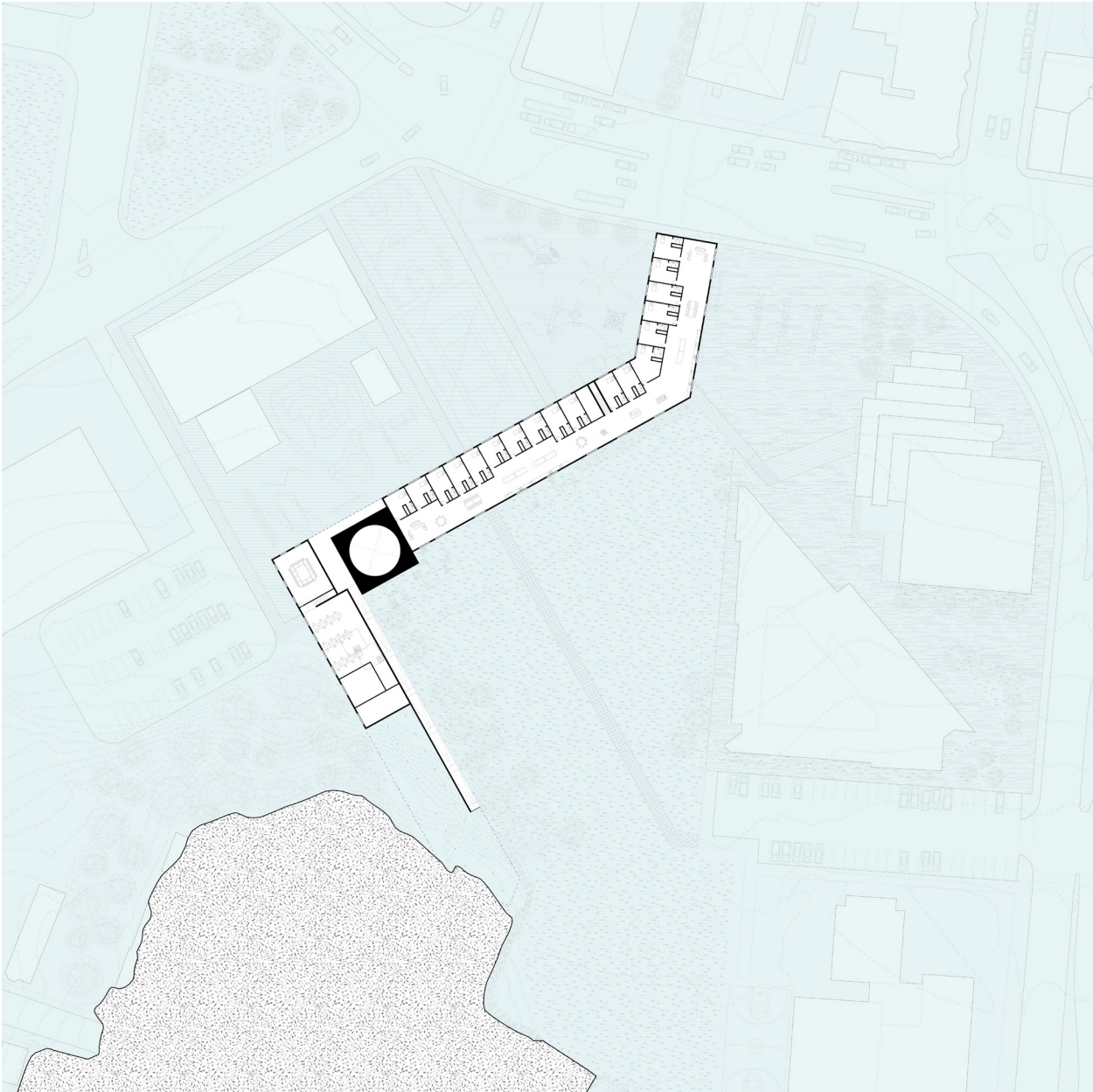
PROJECT 1 · PUBLIC, PATH, PLAZA · SPACES OF JUSTICE

2nd Floor Plan



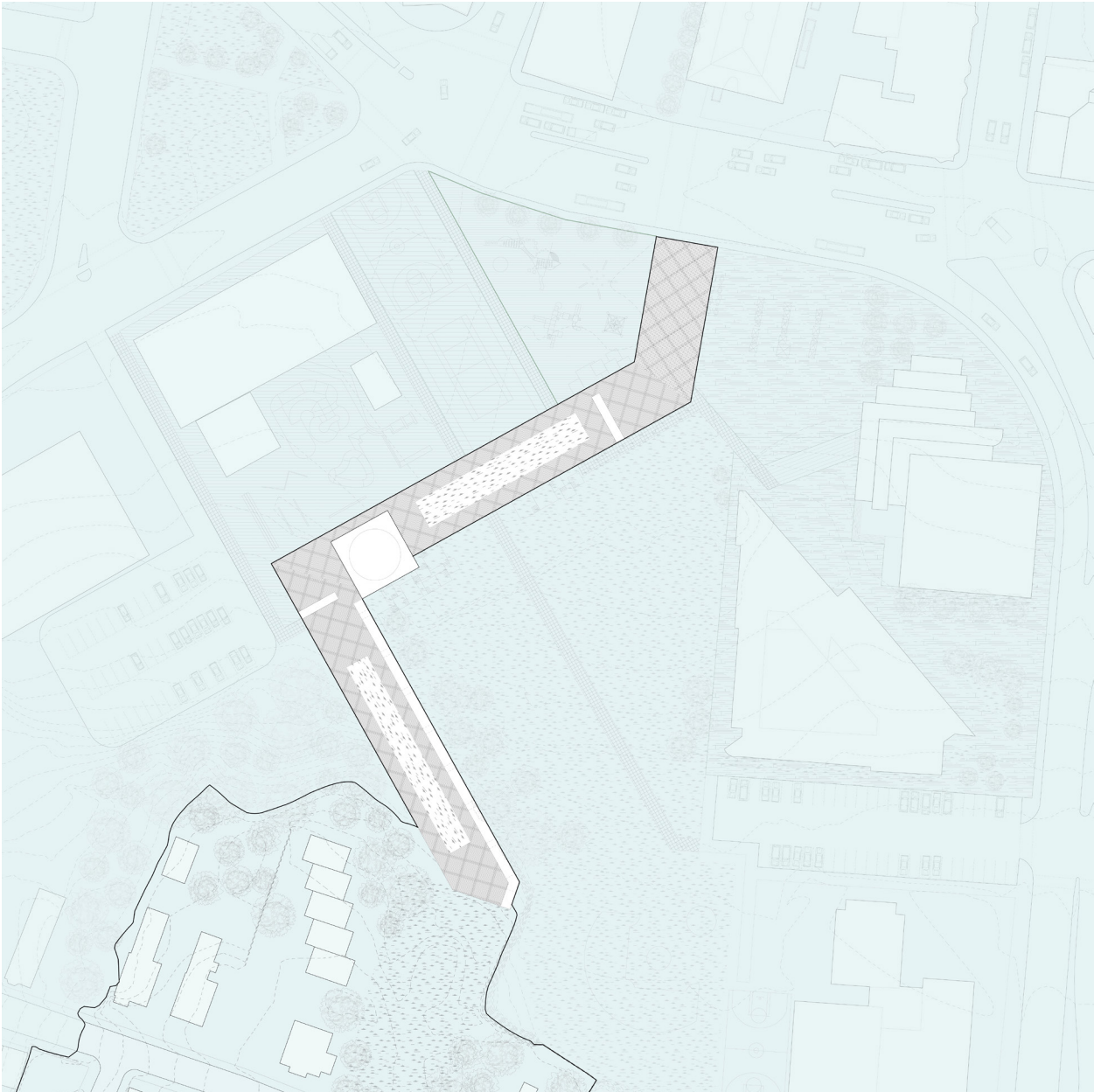
PROJECT 1 · PUBLIC, PATH, PLAZA · SPACES OF JUSTICE

3rd Floor Plan



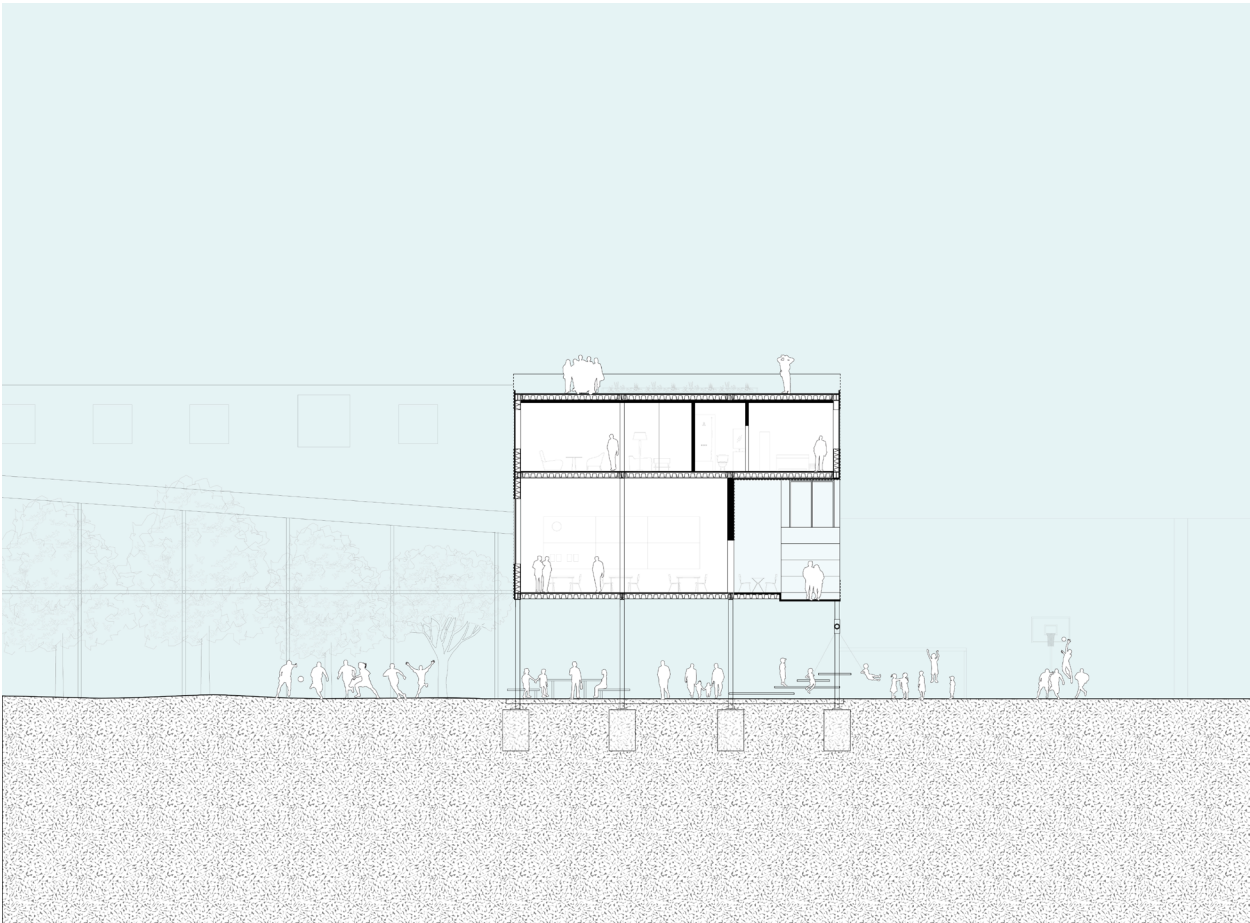
PROJECT 1 · PUBLIC, PATH, PLAZA · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Roof Plan



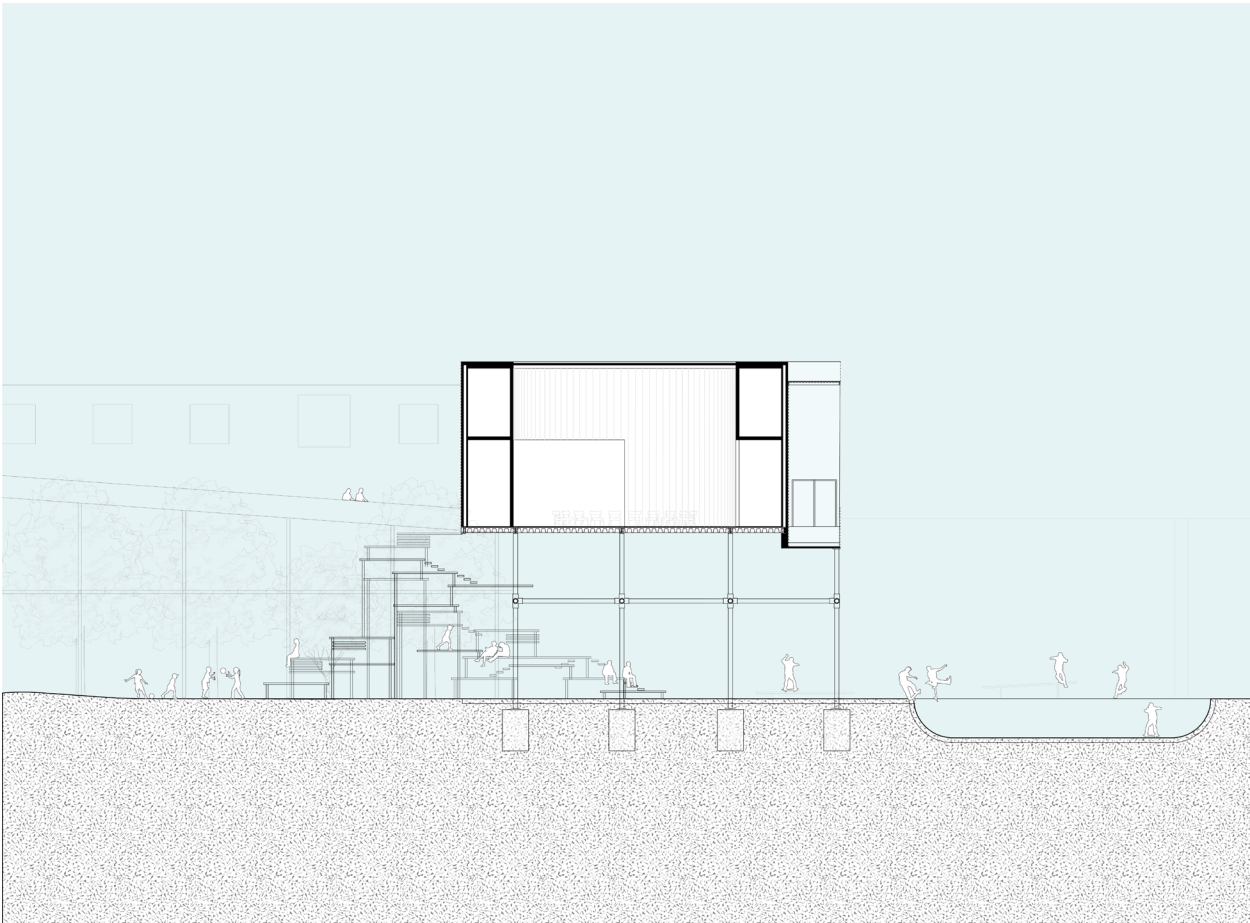
PROJECT 1 · PUBLIC, PATH, PLAZA · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Section B



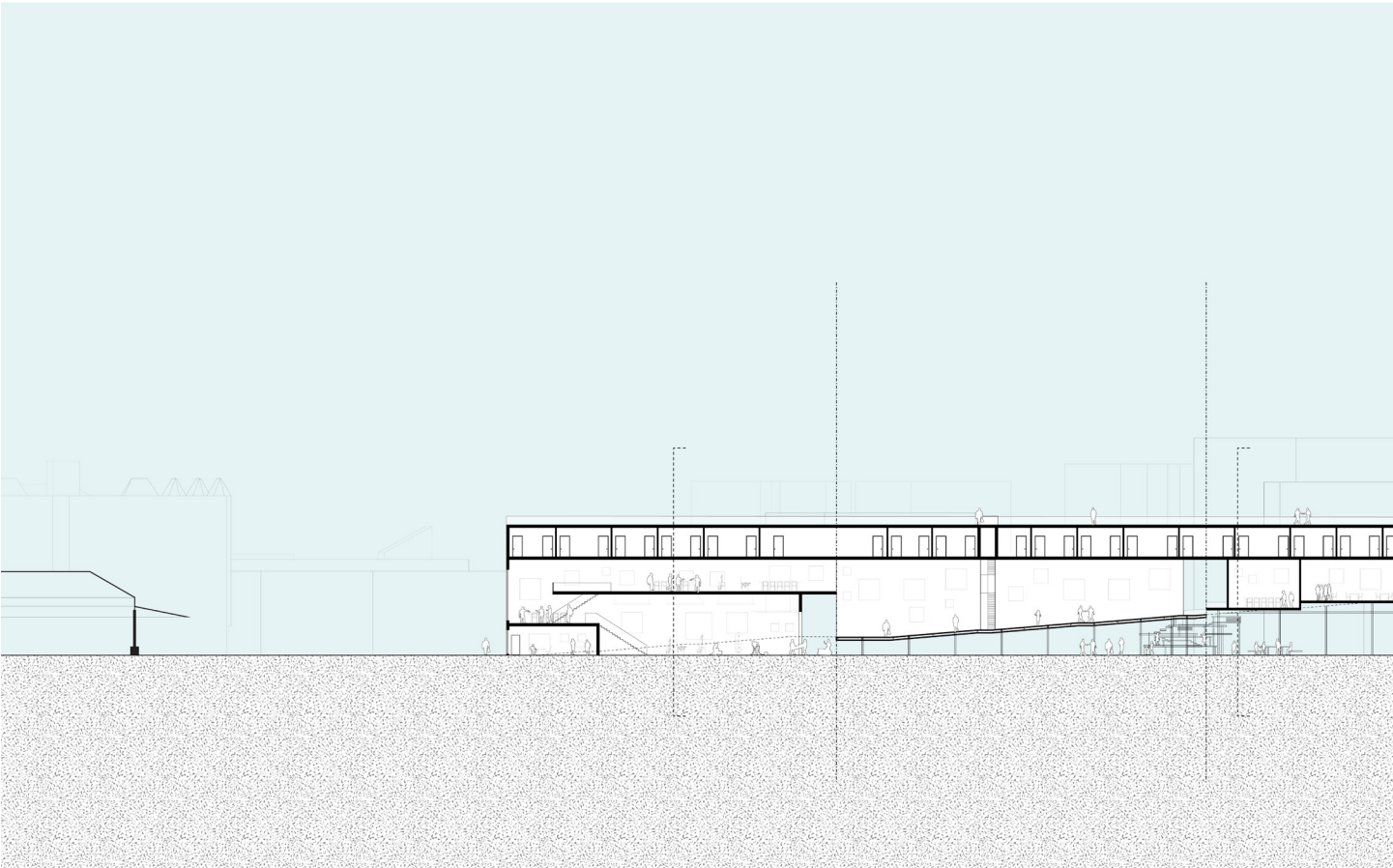
PROJECT 1 · PUBLIC, PATH, PLAZA · SPACES OF JUSTICE

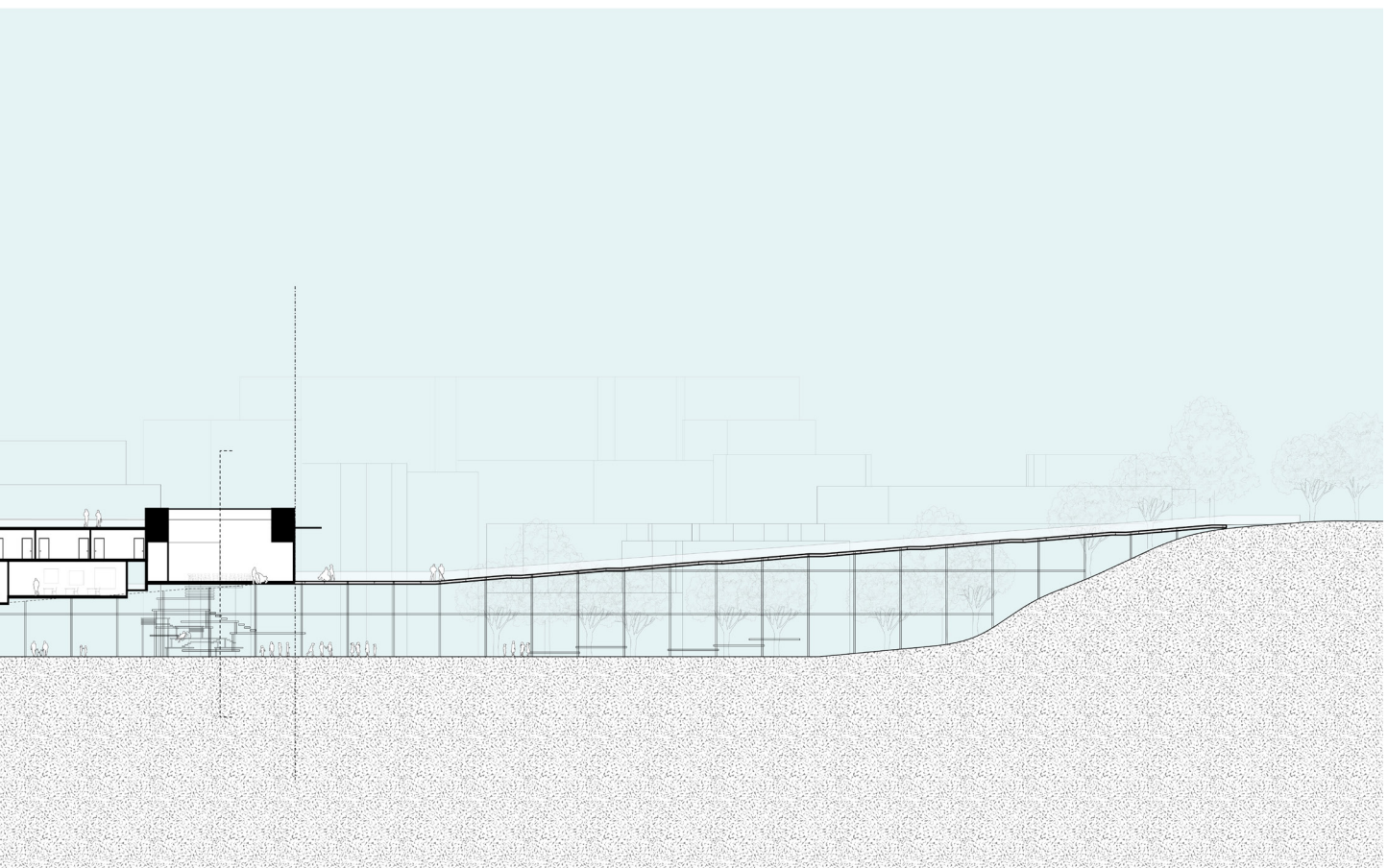
Section C



PROJECT 1 · PUBLIC, PATH, PLAZA · SPACES OF JUSTICE

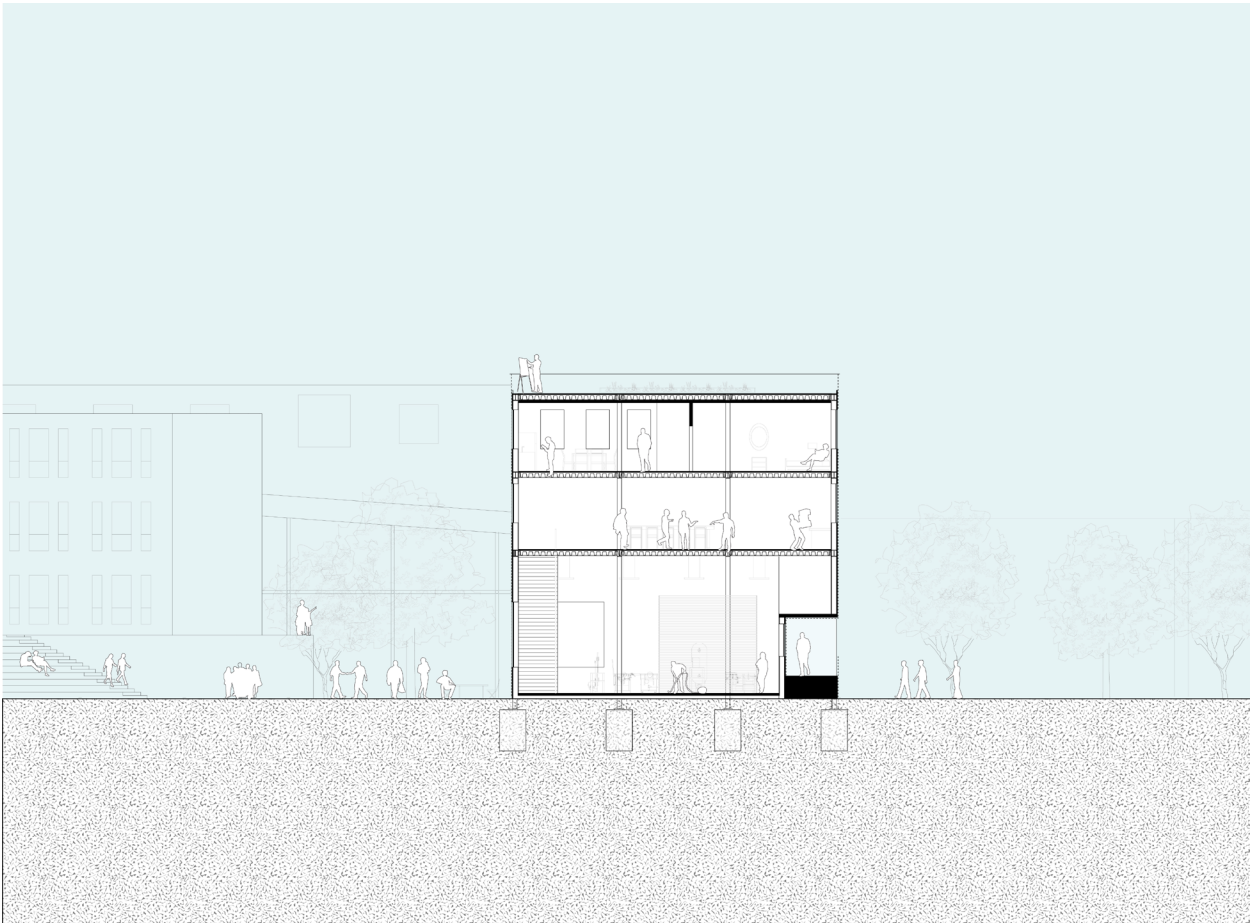
Section D





PROJECT 1 · PUBLIC, PATH, PLAZA · SPACES OF JUSTICE

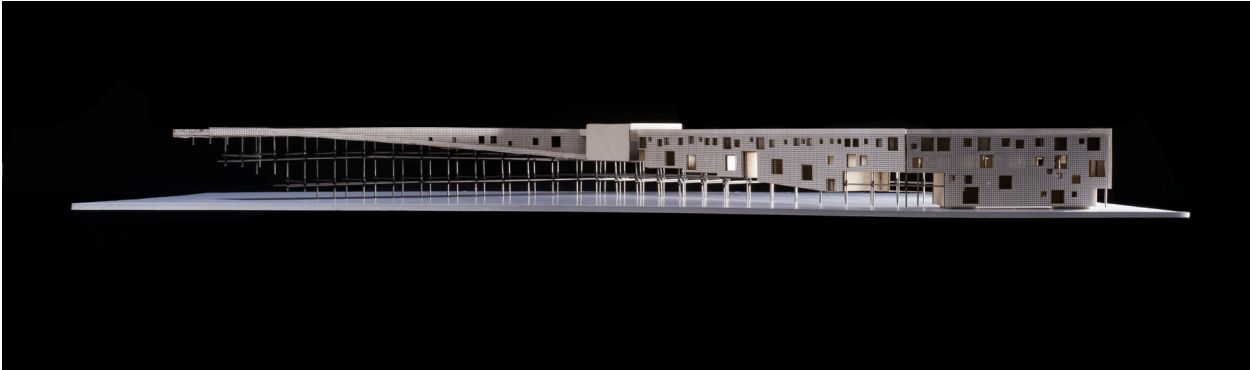
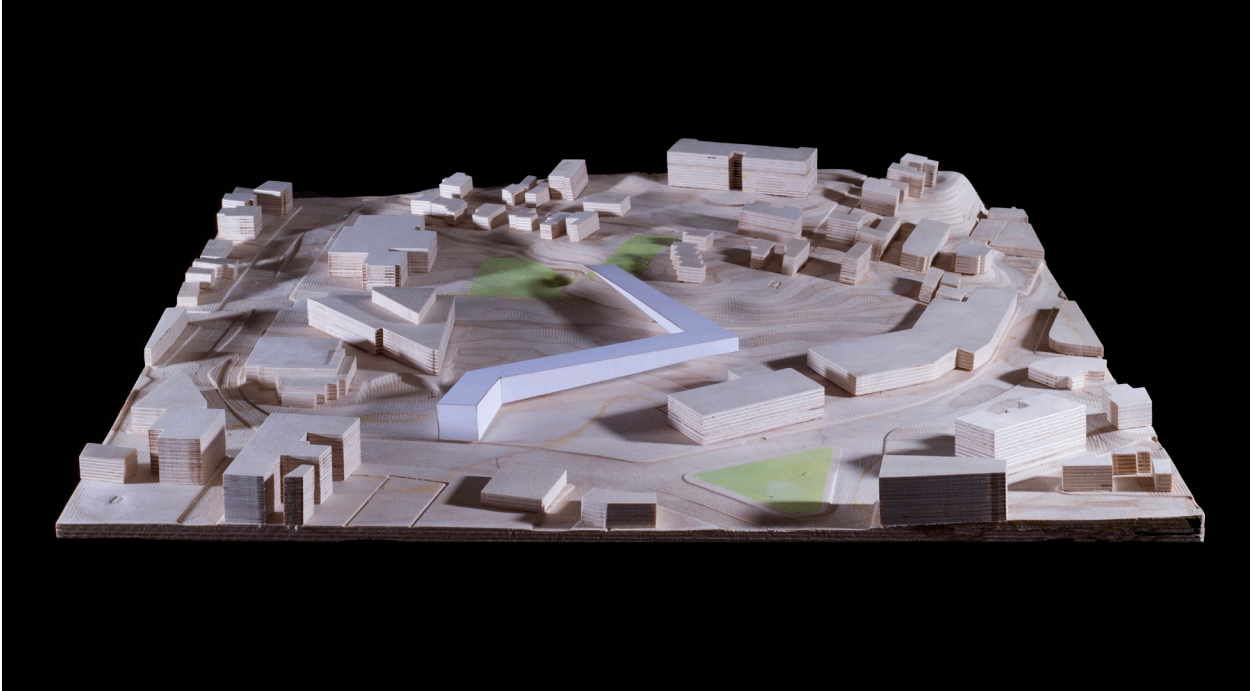
Section A



PROJECT 1 · PUBLIC, PATH, PLAZA · SPACES OF JUSTICE

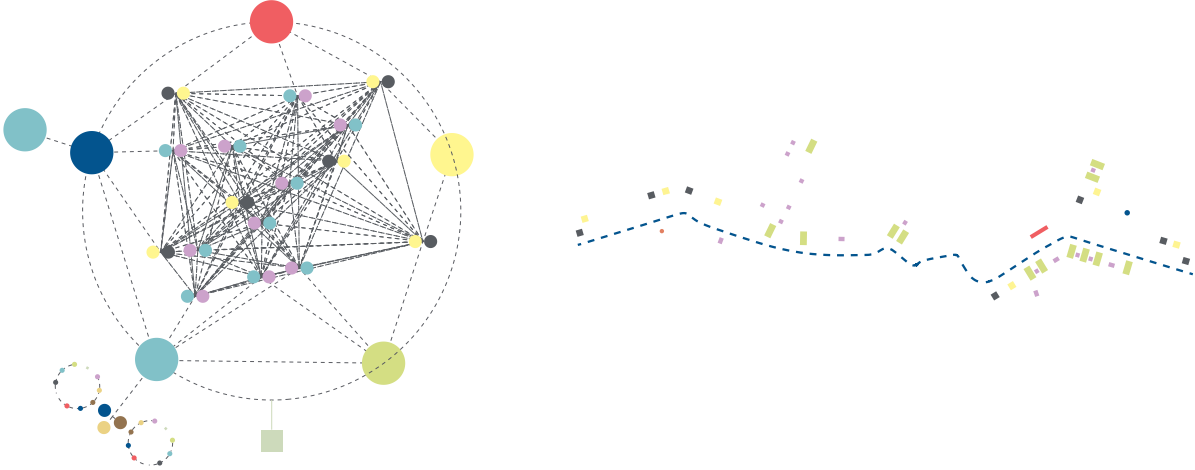


PROJECT 1 · PUBLIC, PATH, PLAZA · SPACES OF JUSTICE



PROJECT 2 · COMMUNITY, CORRIDOR, CAMPUS · SPACES OF JUSTICE

PROJECT 2 - COMMUNITY, CORRIDOR, CAMPUS - SPACES OF JUSTICE



PROJECT 2 - COMMUNITY, CORRIDOR, CAMPUS - SPACES OF JUSTICE

Site

This site is a residential area with a high percentage of vacant properties, which are overgrown and fenced off. This area is along the western edge of Roxbury at the boundary between Roxbury and Jamaica Plain. Physically, this boundary is designated by the rail line, Washington St, and Southwest Corridor Park, which runs from Copley Square in downtown Boston to Jackson Square, just south of Roxbury.



PROJECT 2 · COMMUNITY, CORRIDOR, CAMPUS · SPACES OF JUSTICE



PROJECT 2 · COMMUNITY, CORRIDOR, CAMPUS · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Site

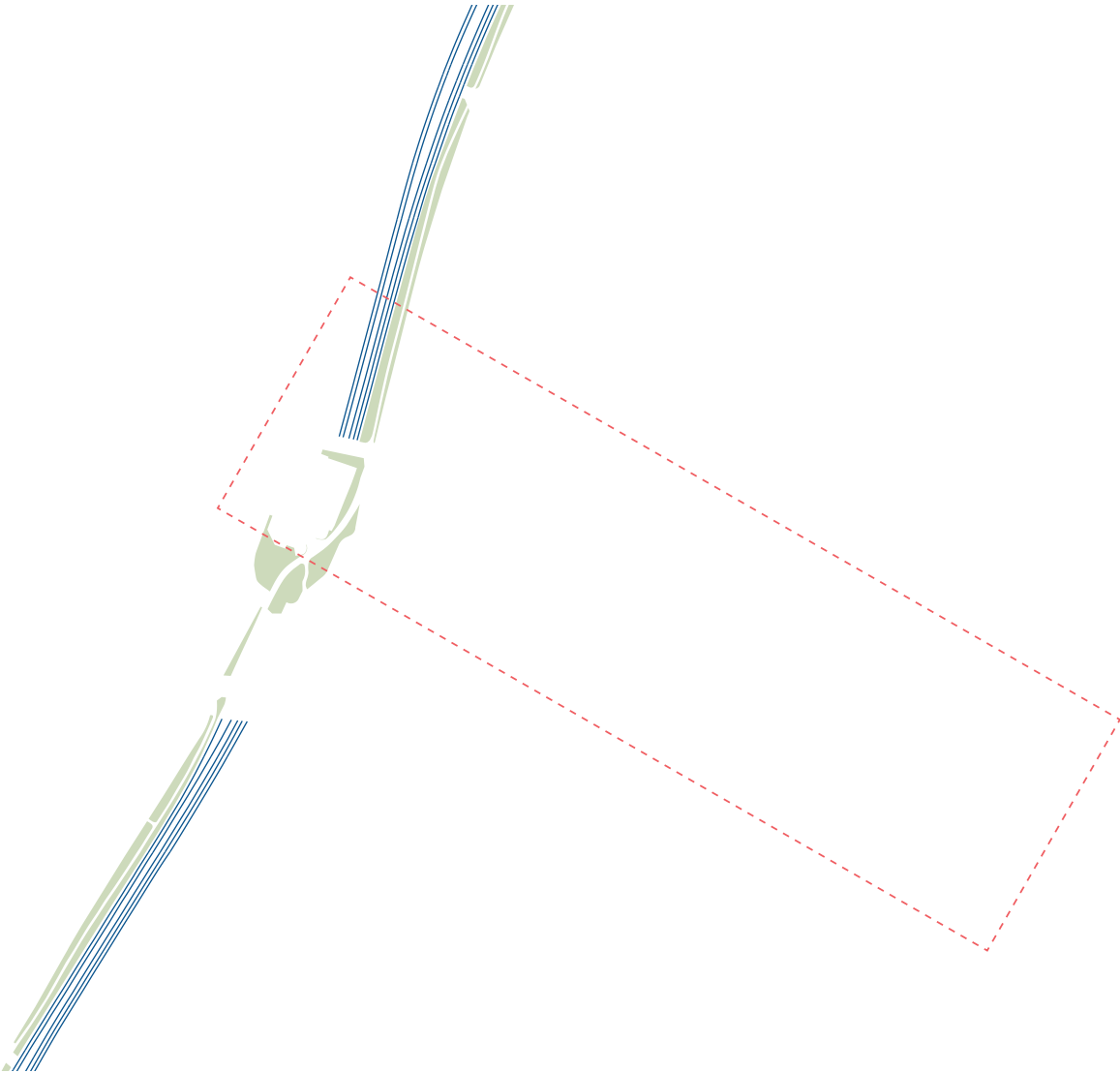
Urban Figure



PROJECT 2 · COMMUNITY, CORRIDOR, CAMPUS · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Site

Neighborhood Boundary

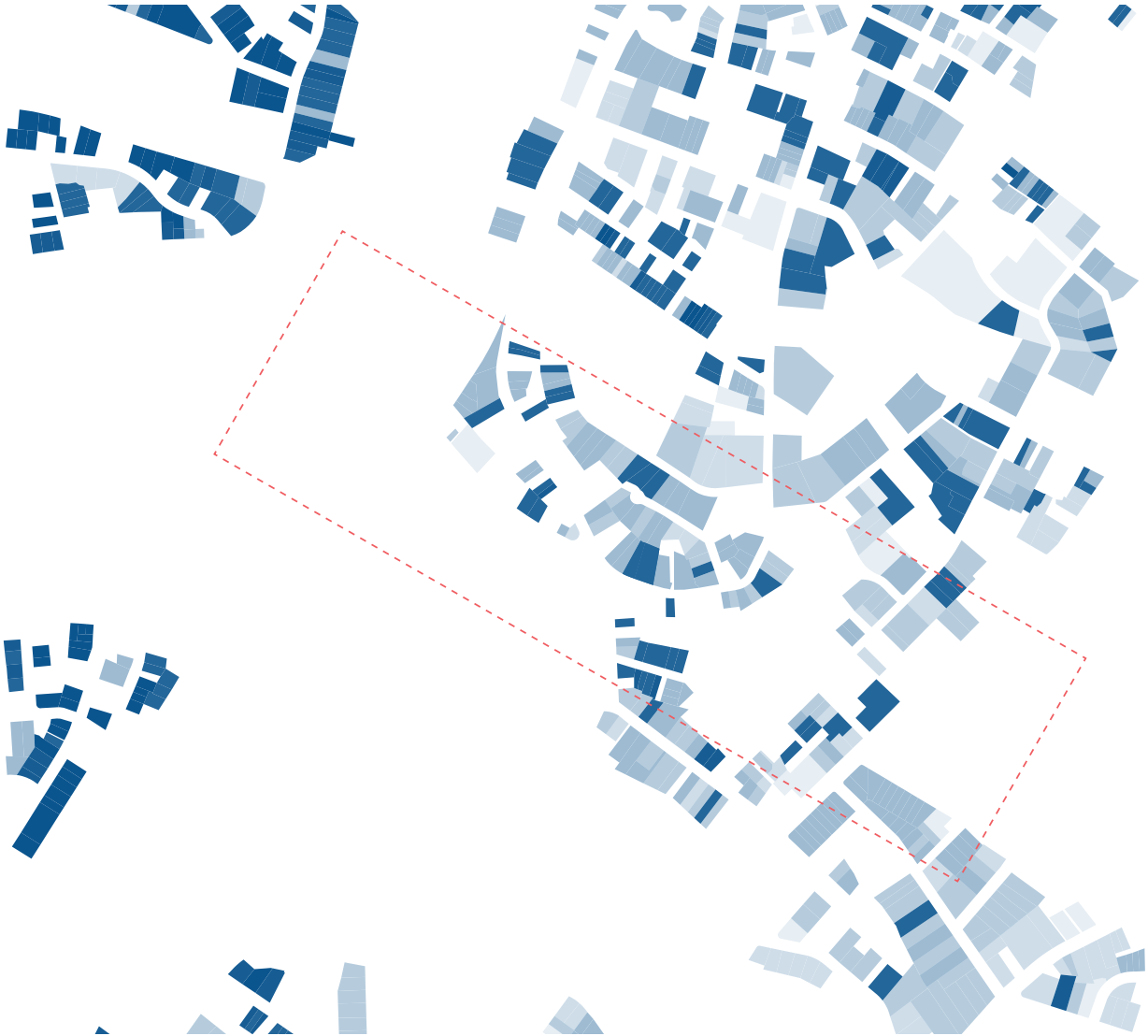


PROJECT 2 · COMMUNITY, CORRIDOR, CAMPUS · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Site

This boundary also represents a significant economic and social divide between neighborhoods. Properties on the Roxbury side are valued at approximately \$150 per built square foot, whereas on the Jamaica Plain side, that number is closer to \$450, only a few blocks from each other. The entry to Roxbury from the west is currently flanked by two large parking lots, which starts a long string of underused, or completely unused properties.

Built Value

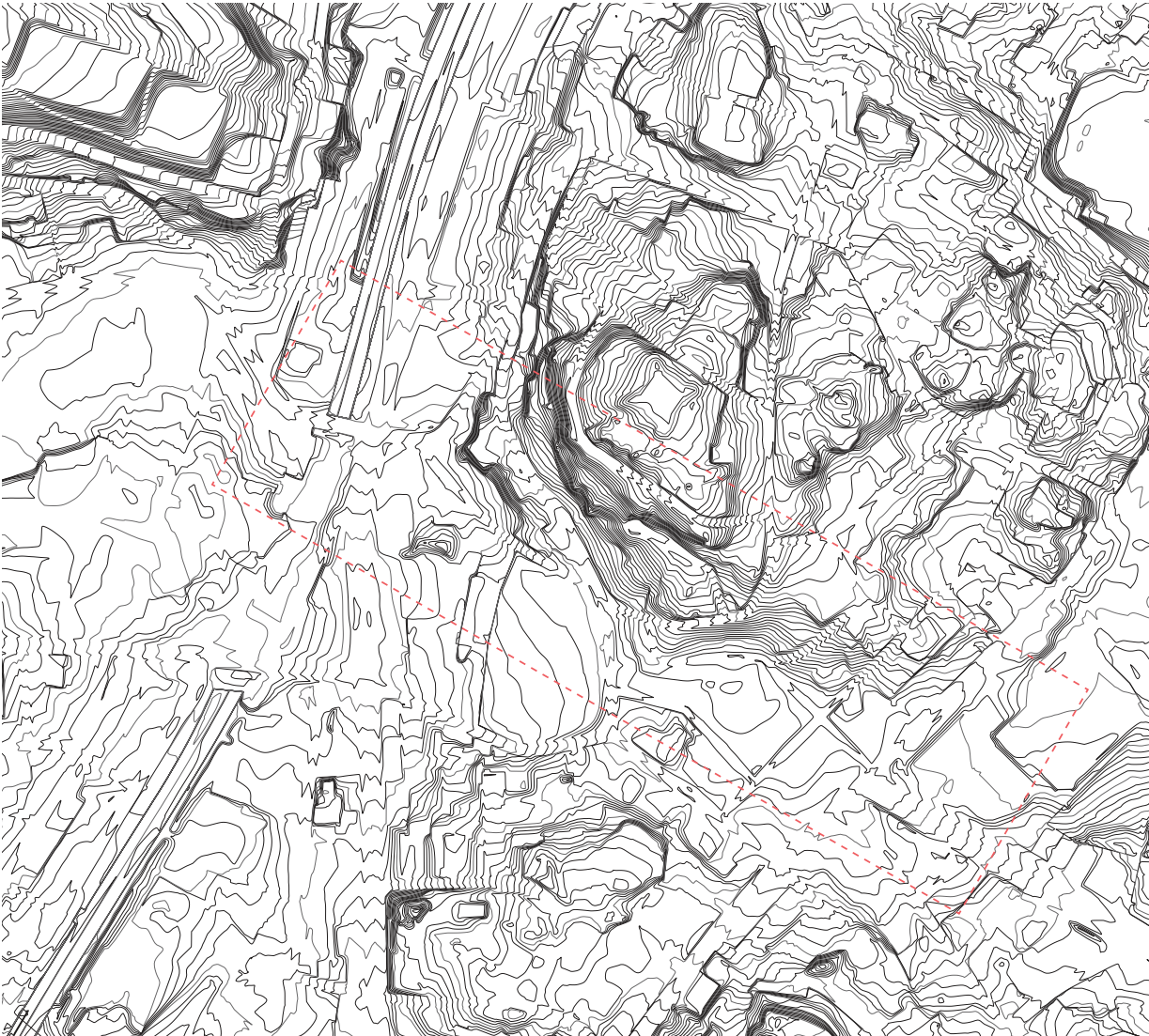


PROJECT 2 · COMMUNITY, CORRIDOR, CAMPUS · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Site

This area also has substantial typography changes, which cuts off access to neighborhood resources, such as access to Highland Park, which currently requires residents to take a long circuitous route to reach the entrance.

Topography

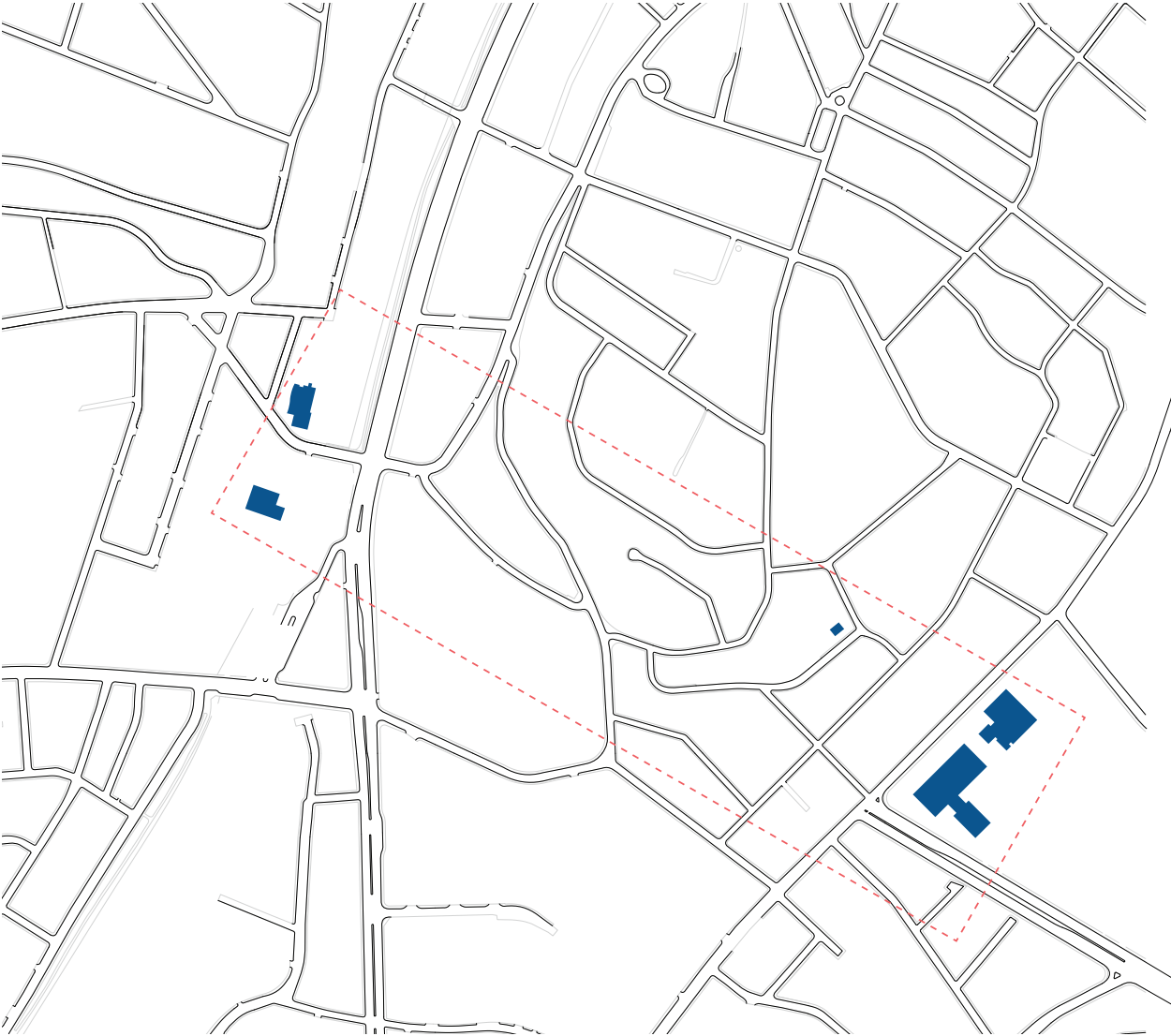


PROJECT 2 · COMMUNITY, CORRIDOR, CAMPUS · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Site

However, this area also has a high concentration of community resources, in the form of institutions and parks. The notable institutions include Shelburne Community Center, Melnea Cass Recreation Center, Hawthorne Youth Center, Family Service Center, and the Anna Cole Community Center.

Community Institutions

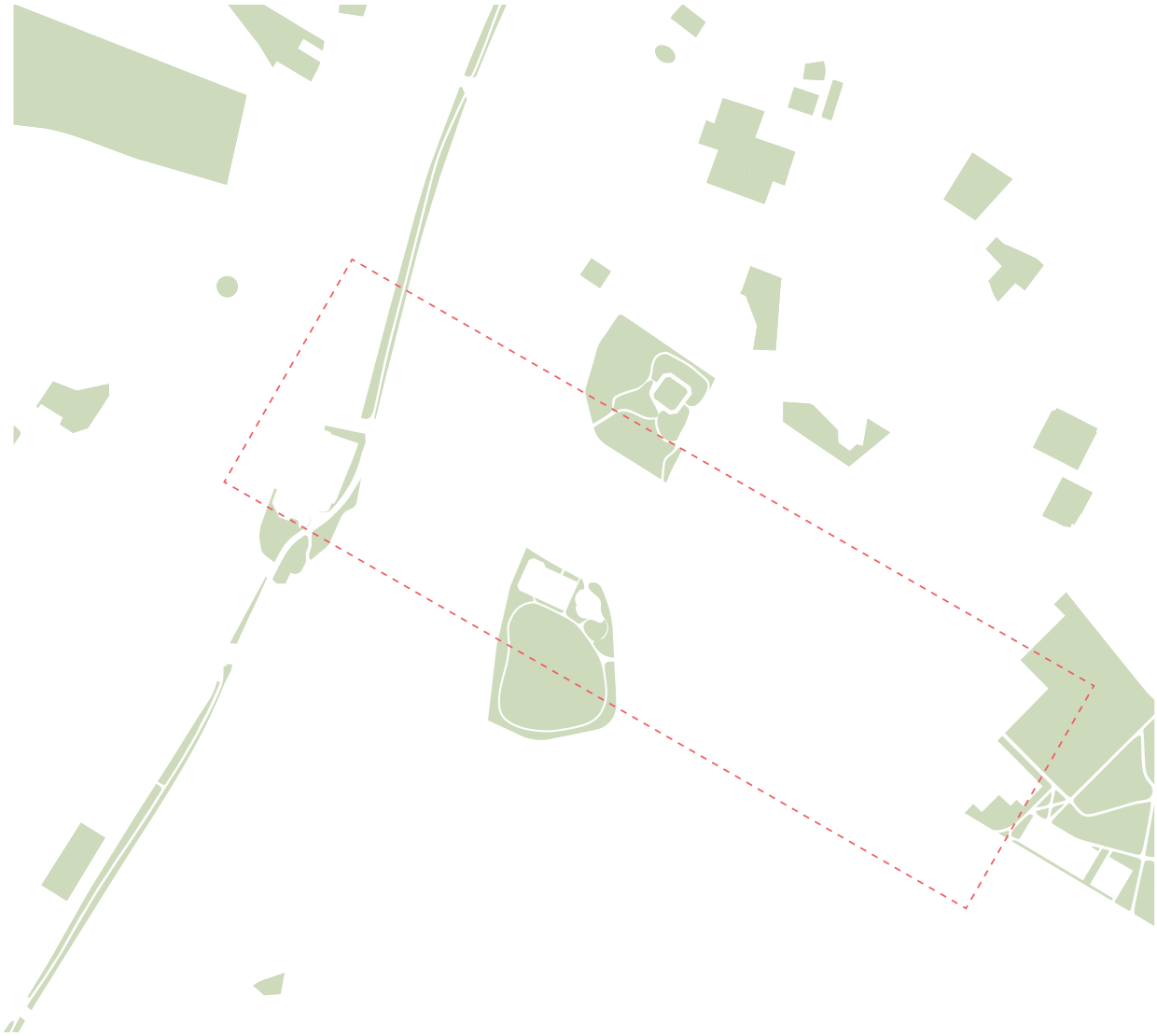


PROJECT 2 · COMMUNITY, CORRIDOR, CAMPUS · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Site

In addition to the network of community institutions, this area of Roxbury also has a substantial park network, which provides an opportunity to connect the proposed vocational school and its public resources to the existing resources in the area.

Park Network



PROJECT 2 · COMMUNITY, CORRIDOR, CAMPUS · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Site

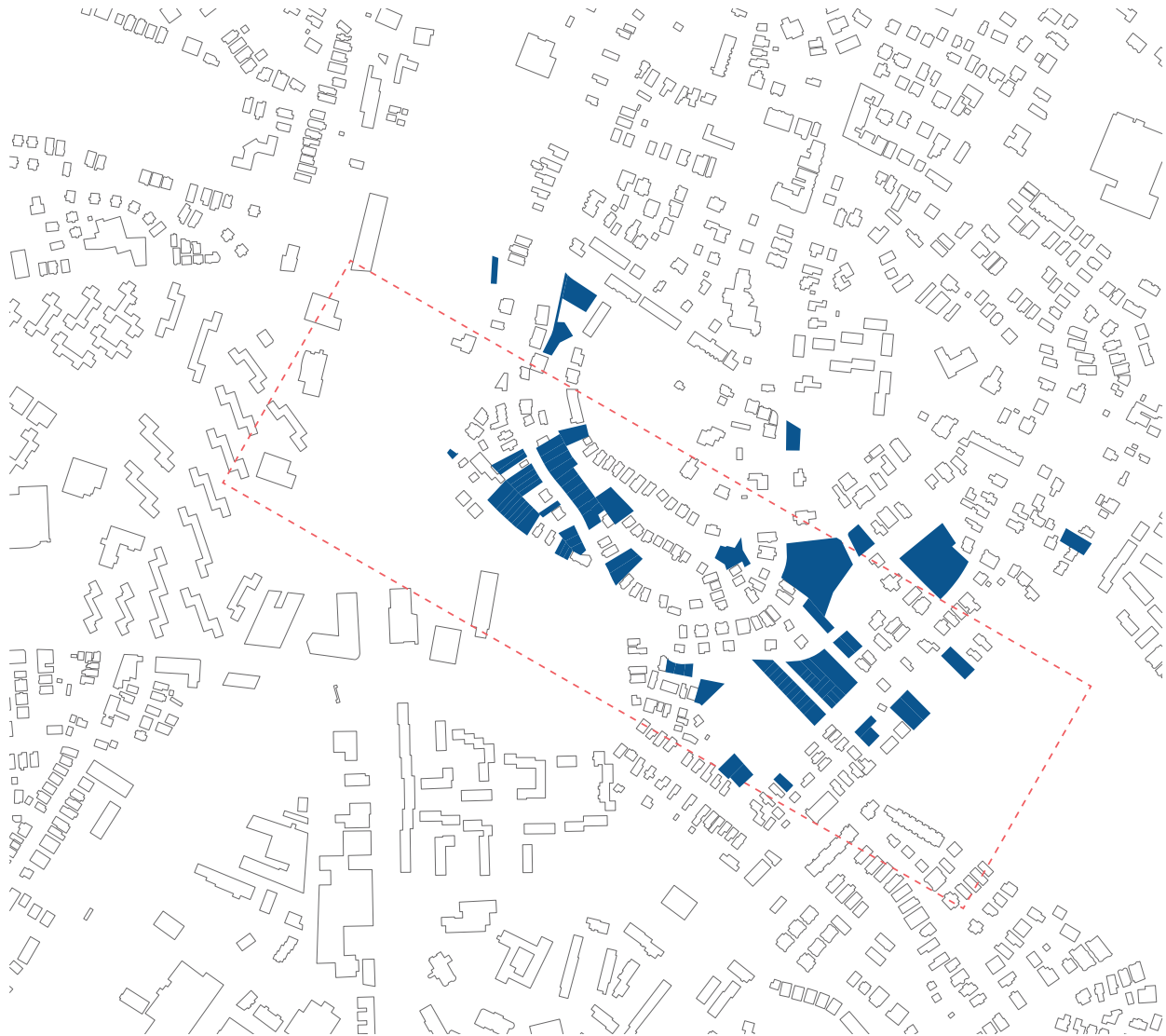
Bus Infrastructure



PROJECT 2 · COMMUNITY, CORRIDOR, CAMPUS · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Site

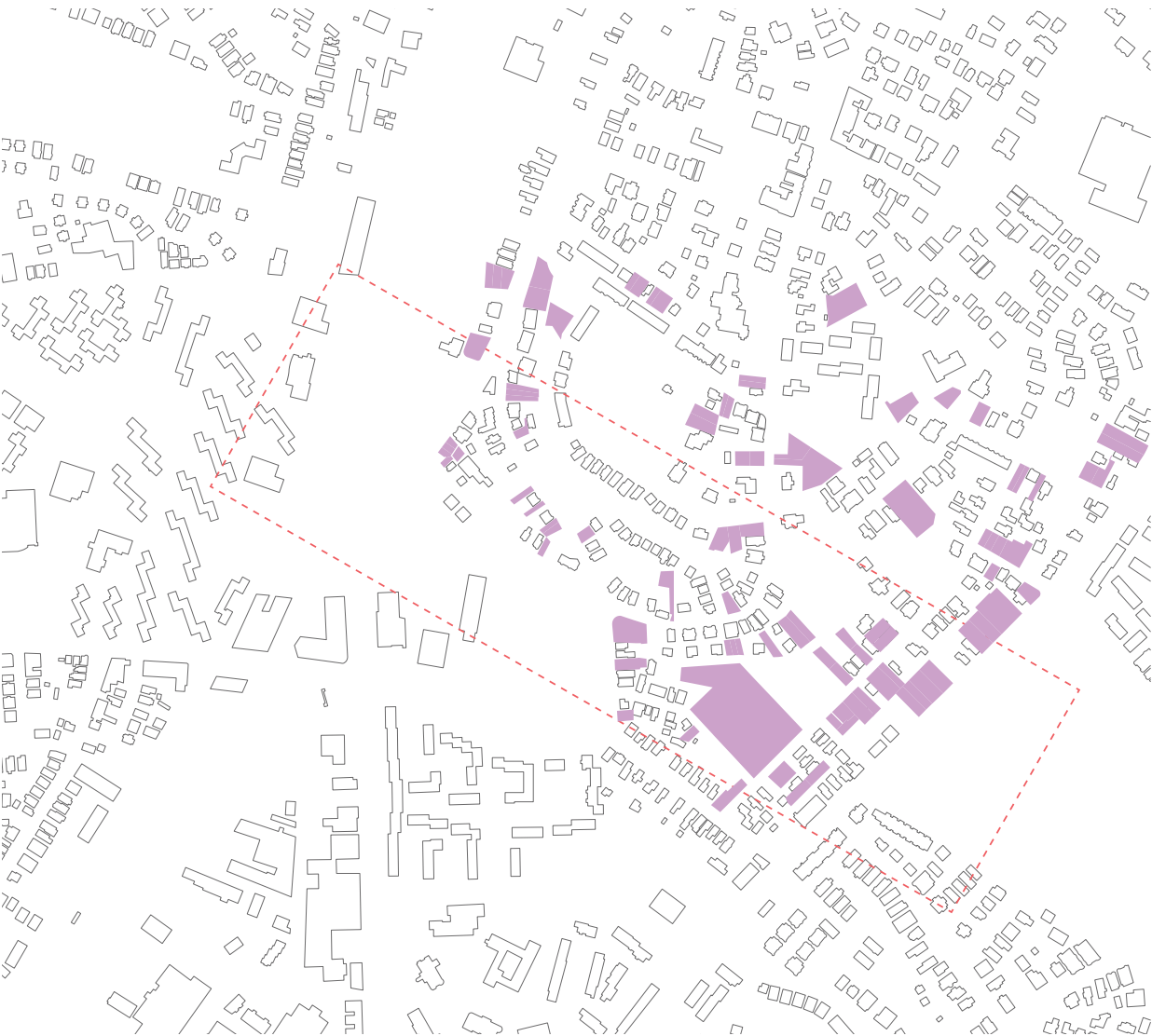
Publicly-Owned Parcels



PROJECT 2 · COMMUNITY, CORRIDOR, CAMPUS · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Site

Privately-Owned Parcels



PROJECT 2 · COMMUNITY, CORRIDOR, CAMPUS · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Architectural Analysis

At the architecture scale, because the site is predominantly a residential area, most of the surrounding context is a variety of balloon frame style constructions. The design attempts to both fit in with the existing residential types, but also stand apart as something new, to begin to build a new institutional presence for the community corrections system.

Existing Typologies

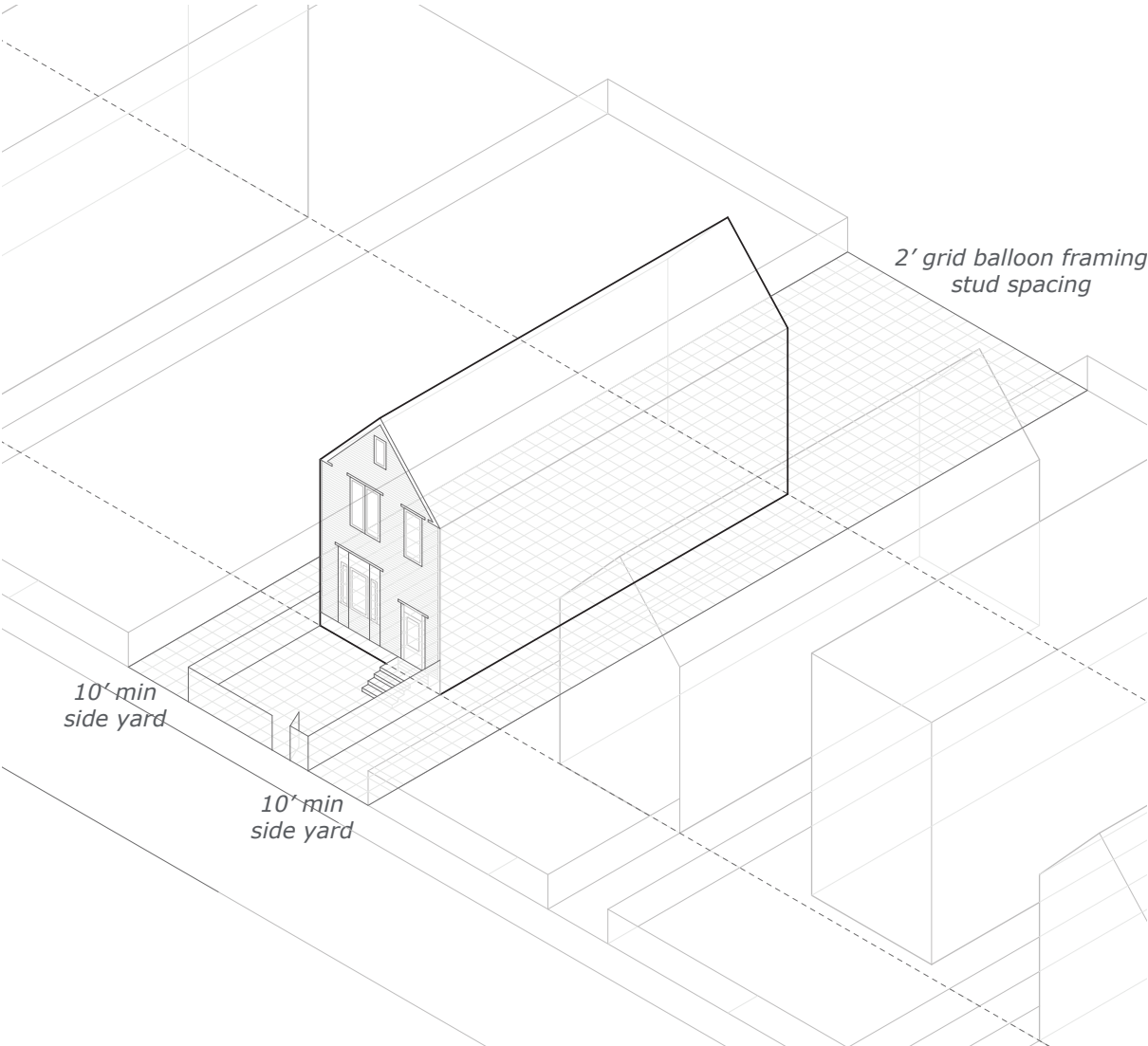


PROJECT 2 · COMMUNITY, CORRIDOR, CAMPUS · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Architectural Analysis

To do this, existing residential typologies were analyzed to understand zoning patterns and how the buildings operate on an urban scale, façade design to understand factors like window placement and materials, the balloon frame construction system itself to understand typical grids and structural spacing, and the relationship each residential unit has with the street and sidewalk. This relationship between the building and the street is particularly important because the vocational school has both public and private spaces. How these spaces interact allows for new social interactions between those in the corrections school and the public.

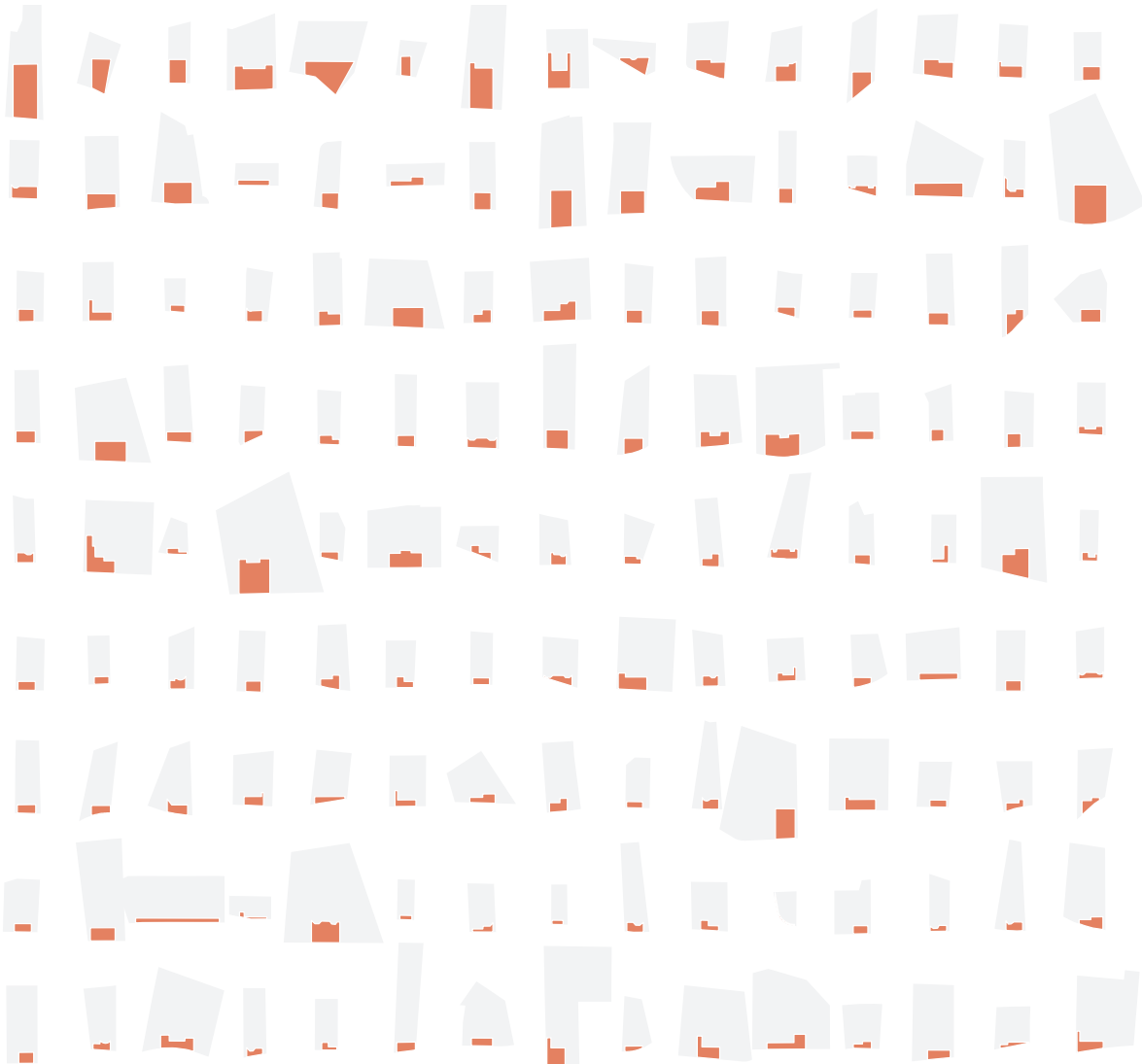
Zoning



PROJECT 2 · COMMUNITY, CORRIDOR, CAMPUS · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Architectural Analysis

Lot Frontage



PROJECT 2 · COMMUNITY, CORRIDOR, CAMPUS · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Architectural Analysis

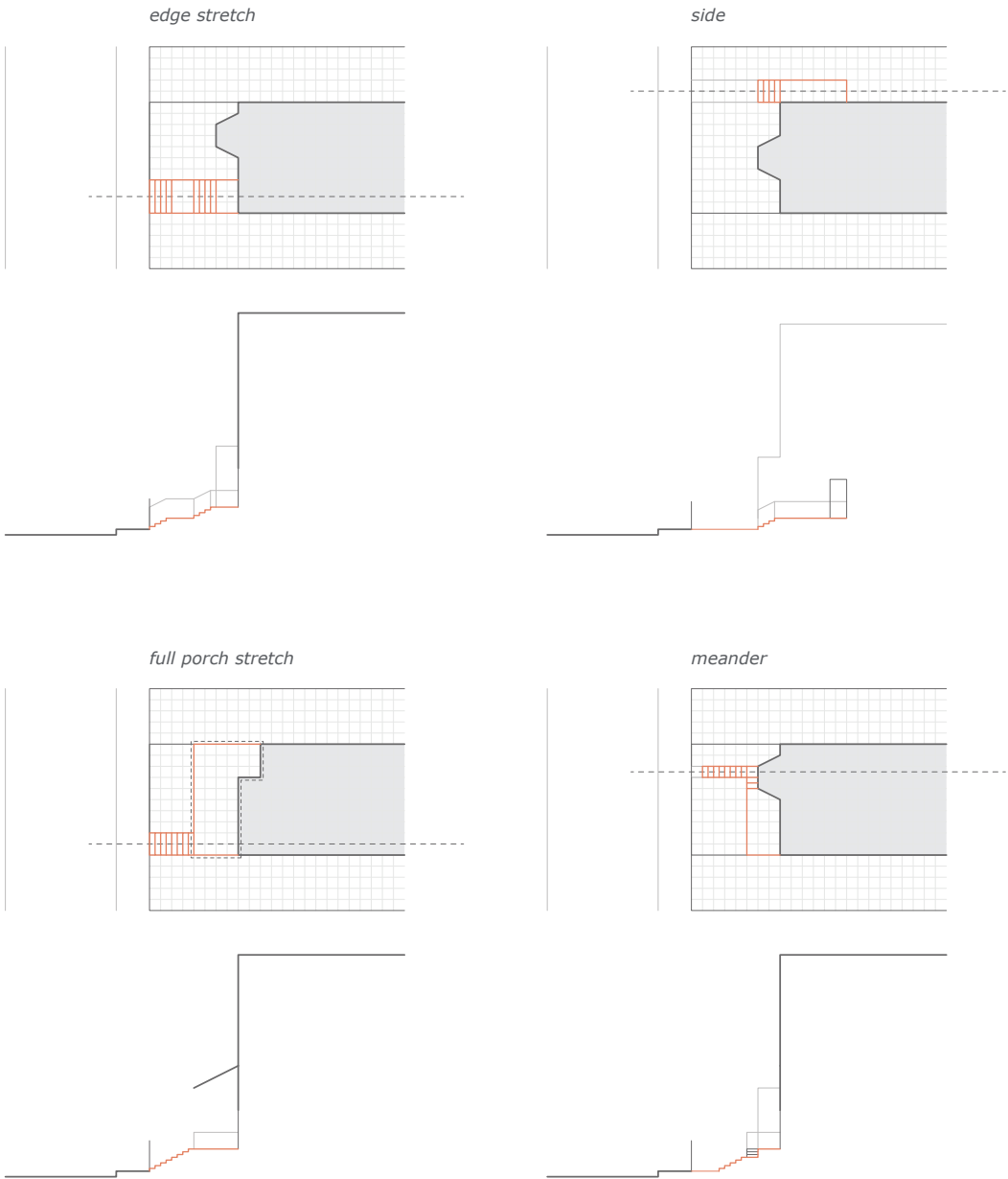
Footprint



PROJECT 2 · COMMUNITY, CORRIDOR, CAMPUS · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Architectural Analysis

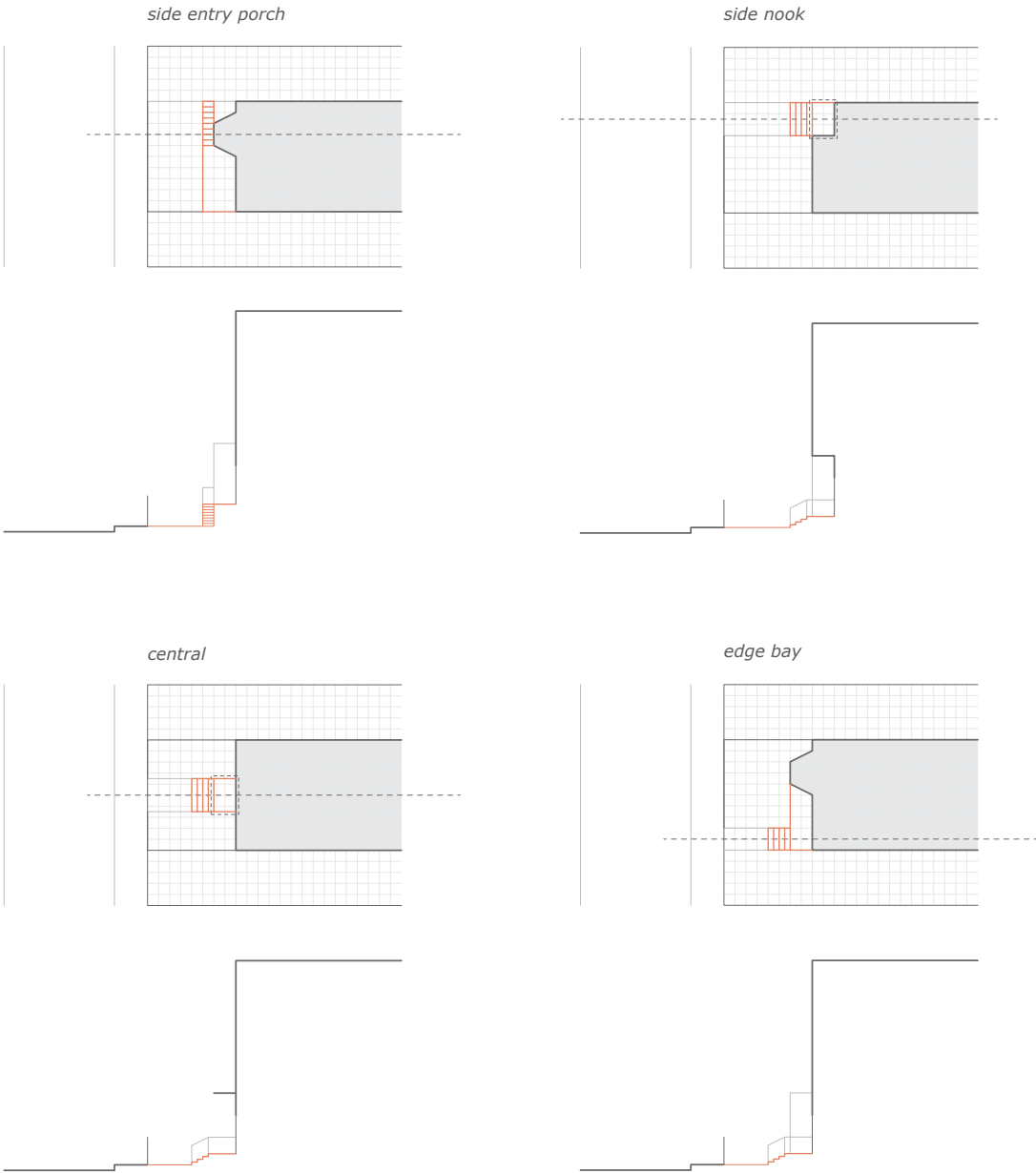
Street, Sidewalk, Porch, House



PROJECT 2 · COMMUNITY, CORRIDOR, CAMPUS · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Architectural Analysis

Street, Sidewalk, Porch, House



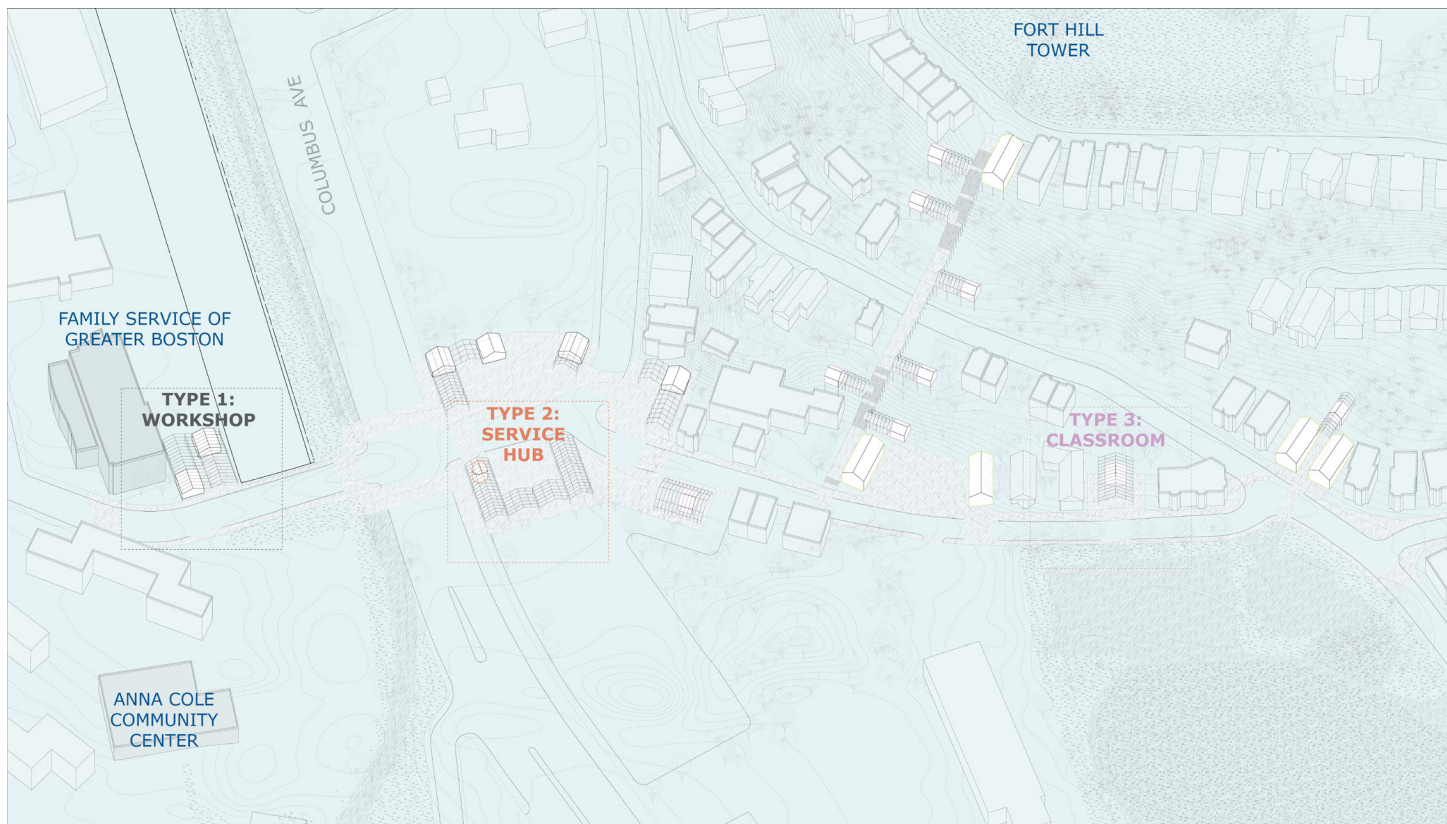
PROJECT 2 · COMMUNITY, CORRIDOR, CAMPUS · SPACES OF JUSTICE

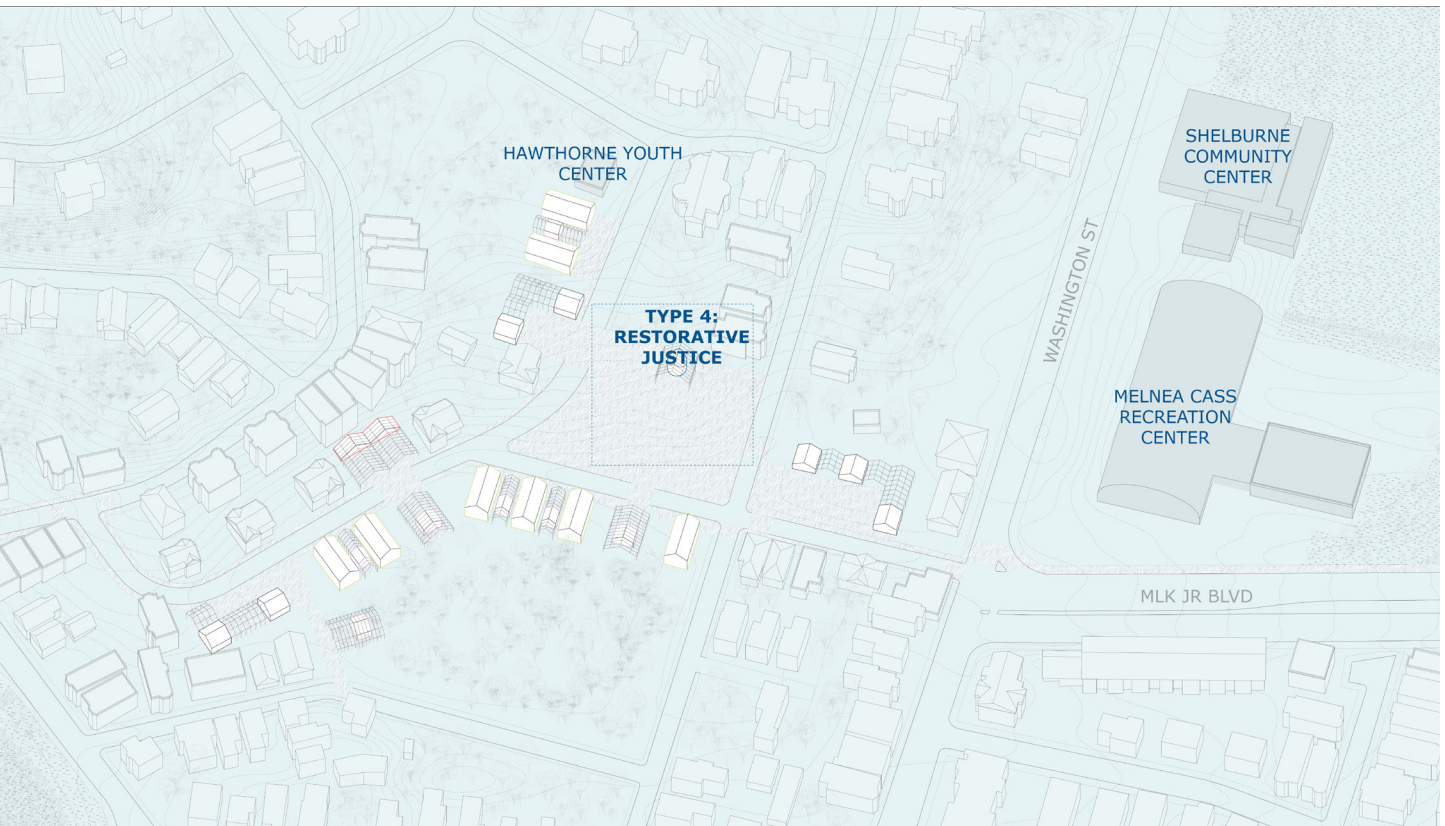
Urban Design Strategy

At the urban scale, the design addresses challenges of flows and access, the lack of a presence at the entry to Roxbury, and the disconnect between Roxbury and Jamaica Plain. To do this, the proposition creates a distributed vocational school as a community corridor that connects the neighborhood's existing resources of parks and institutions with additional public amenities and spaces.

The design connects to the larger city network through the extension of the Southwest Corridor Park, and existing bus stops at each end of the intervention. The vocational school also traverses the boundary between Roxbury and JP, allowing access to a wider audience and allowing for economic benefits to reach Roxbury.

Urban Axonometric





PROJECT 2 · COMMUNITY, CORRIDOR, CAMPUS · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Architectural Design Strategy

The architectural proposal is to create a family of types, based on each program, that both align with the existing context, and stand apart. To illustrate this, four key typologies are designed that make up the vocational school: the workshop, the service hub, the classroom, and the restorative justice space, which also have variations that are distributed throughout the campus. Each typology contains a few key architectural elements that vary depending on the program and the site of each building: The Path, The Canopy Structure, The Screen, The Building, and The Public Space.

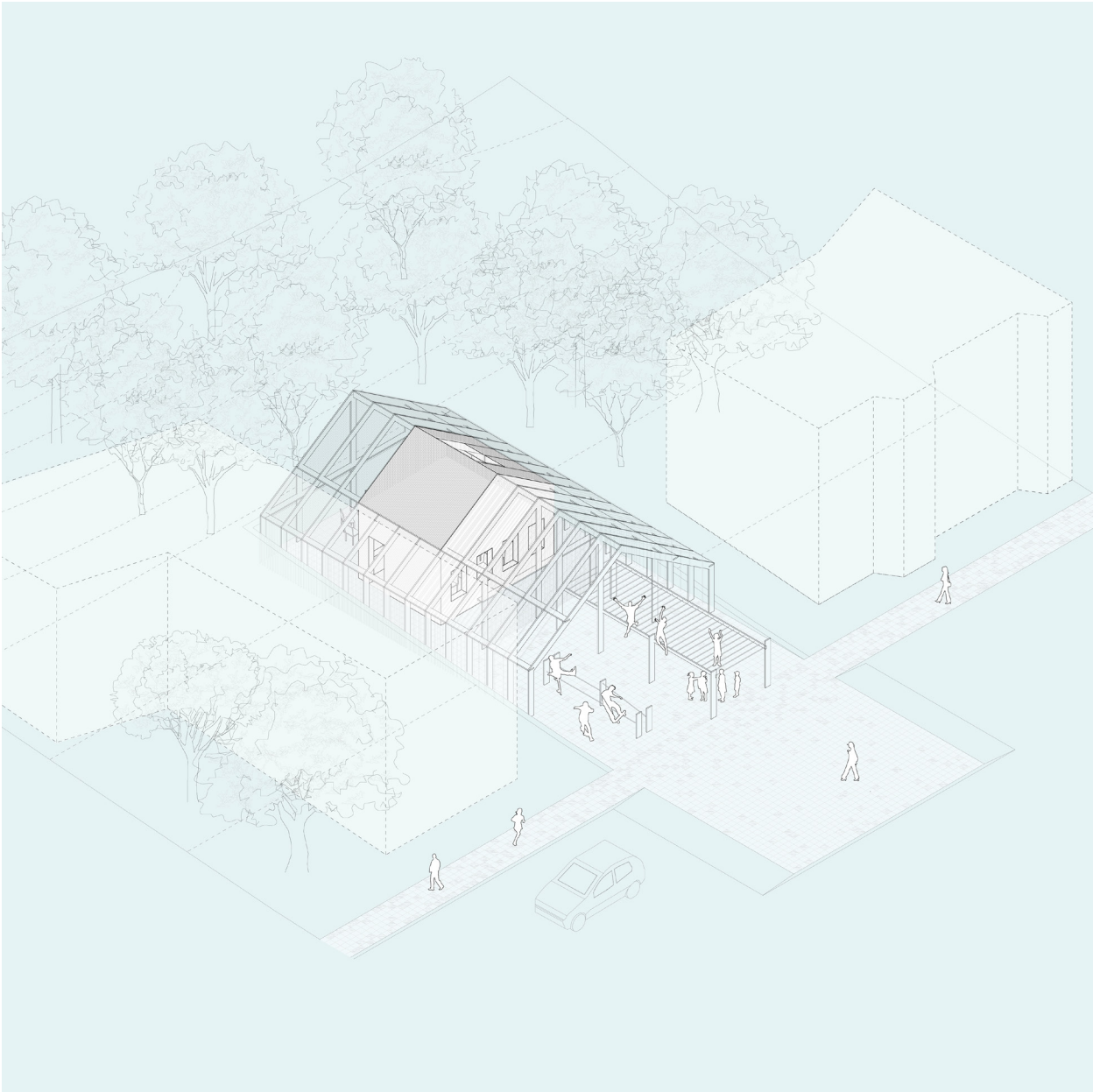


PROJECT 2 · COMMUNITY, CORRIDOR, CAMPUS · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Classroom Type

In the classroom type, the path, which is made from tiles painted by local residents cues the public to the public space. As opposed to the harsh concrete walls and chain link fences of adjacent properties, the path continues directly into each intervention. The gradient of the tiles, in combination with the gradient of the screen above, distinguishes how public spaces are. The public space, in this case an outdoor gym with jumbo monkey bars, interlocks with the architecture, to create a closer relationship between public and private spaces, while still maintaining privacy within the building.

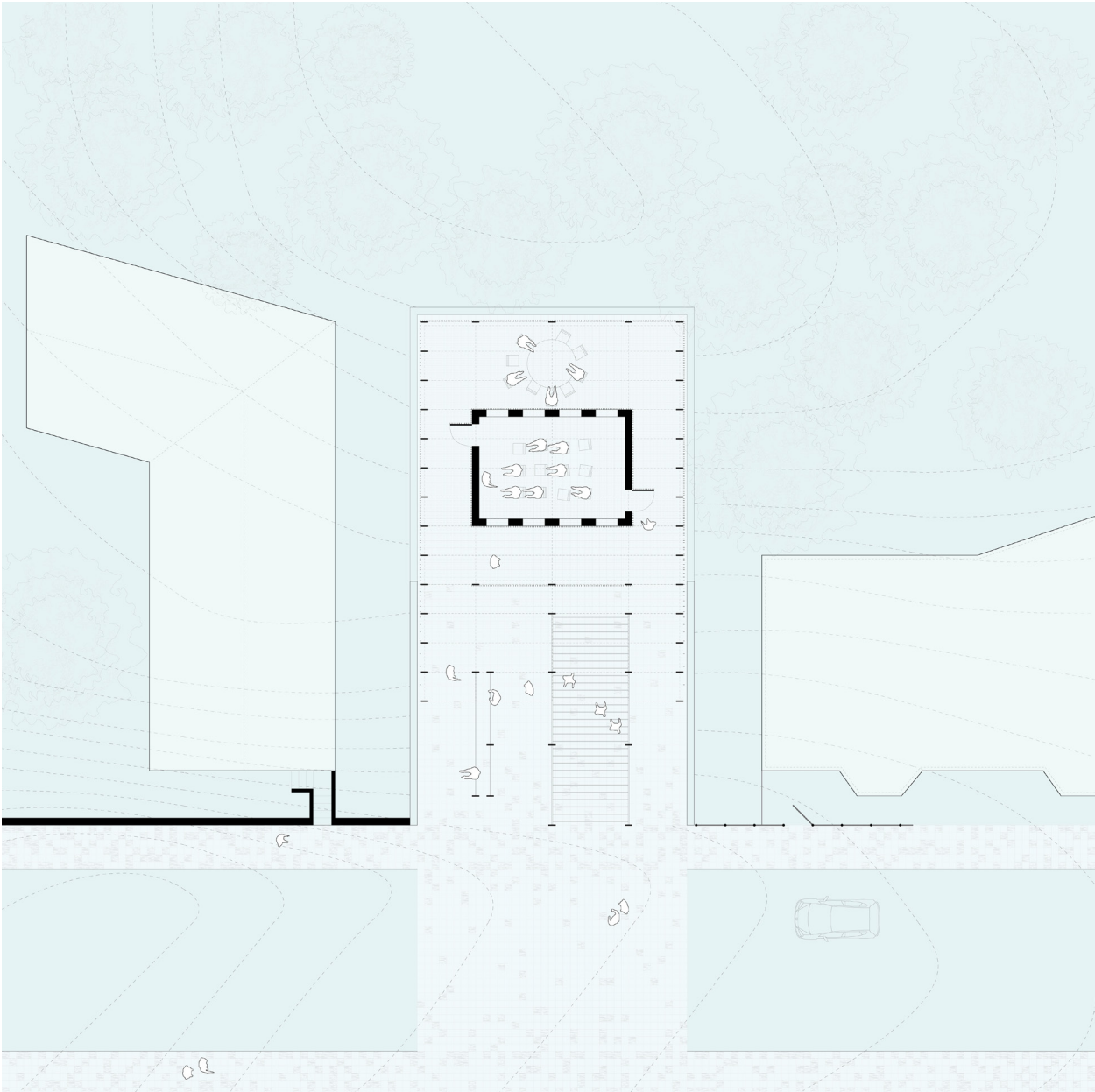
Axonometric



PROJECT 2 · COMMUNITY, CORRIDOR, CAMPUS · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Classroom Type

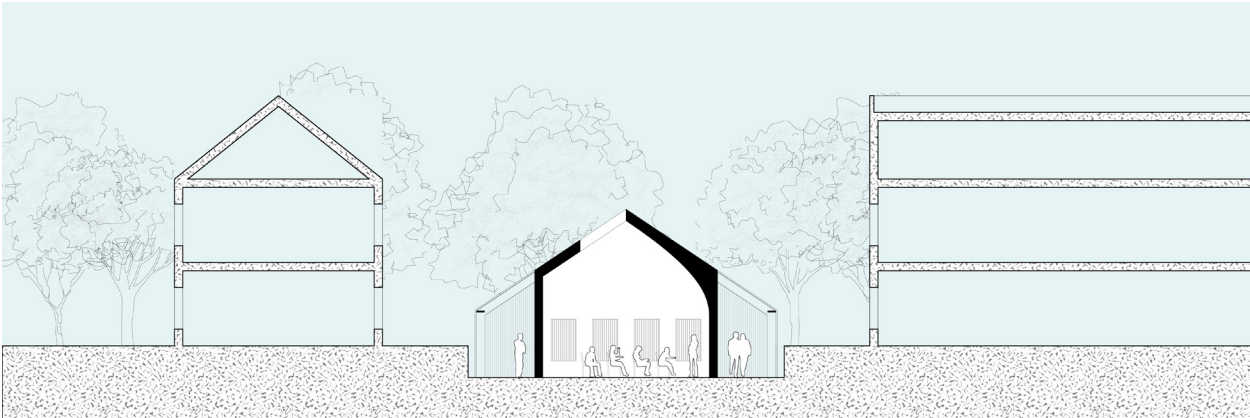
Ground Floor Plan



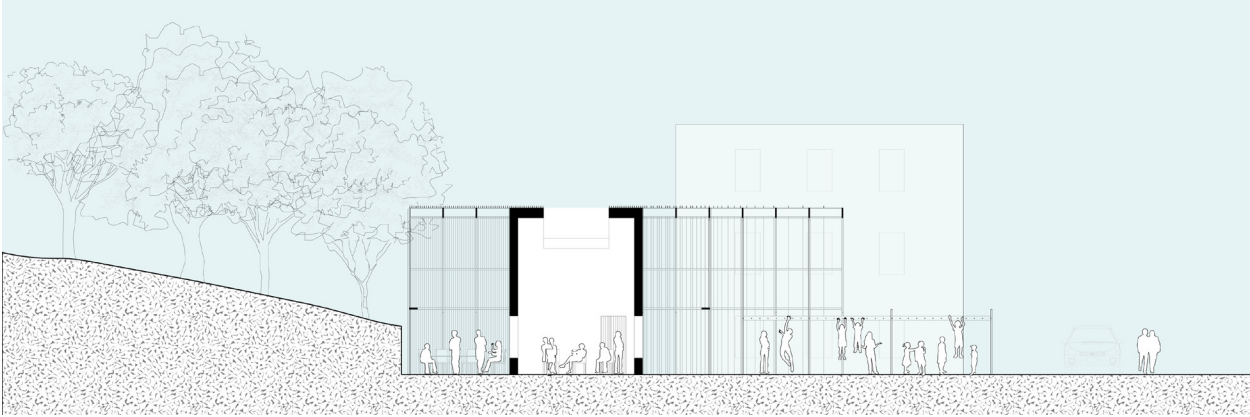
PROJECT 2 · COMMUNITY, CORRIDOR, CAMPUS · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Classroom Type

Section A



Section B



PROJECT 2 - COMMUNITY, CORRIDOR, CAMPUS - SPACES OF JUSTICE

Workshop Type

The workshop type is made up of a workshop, an outdoor work-yard, a commercial space, and a public space. In this case, the woodshop provides technical training in machinery and woodworking, while creating furniture to be sold in the commercial space, and to populate the public seating space.



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Workshop Type

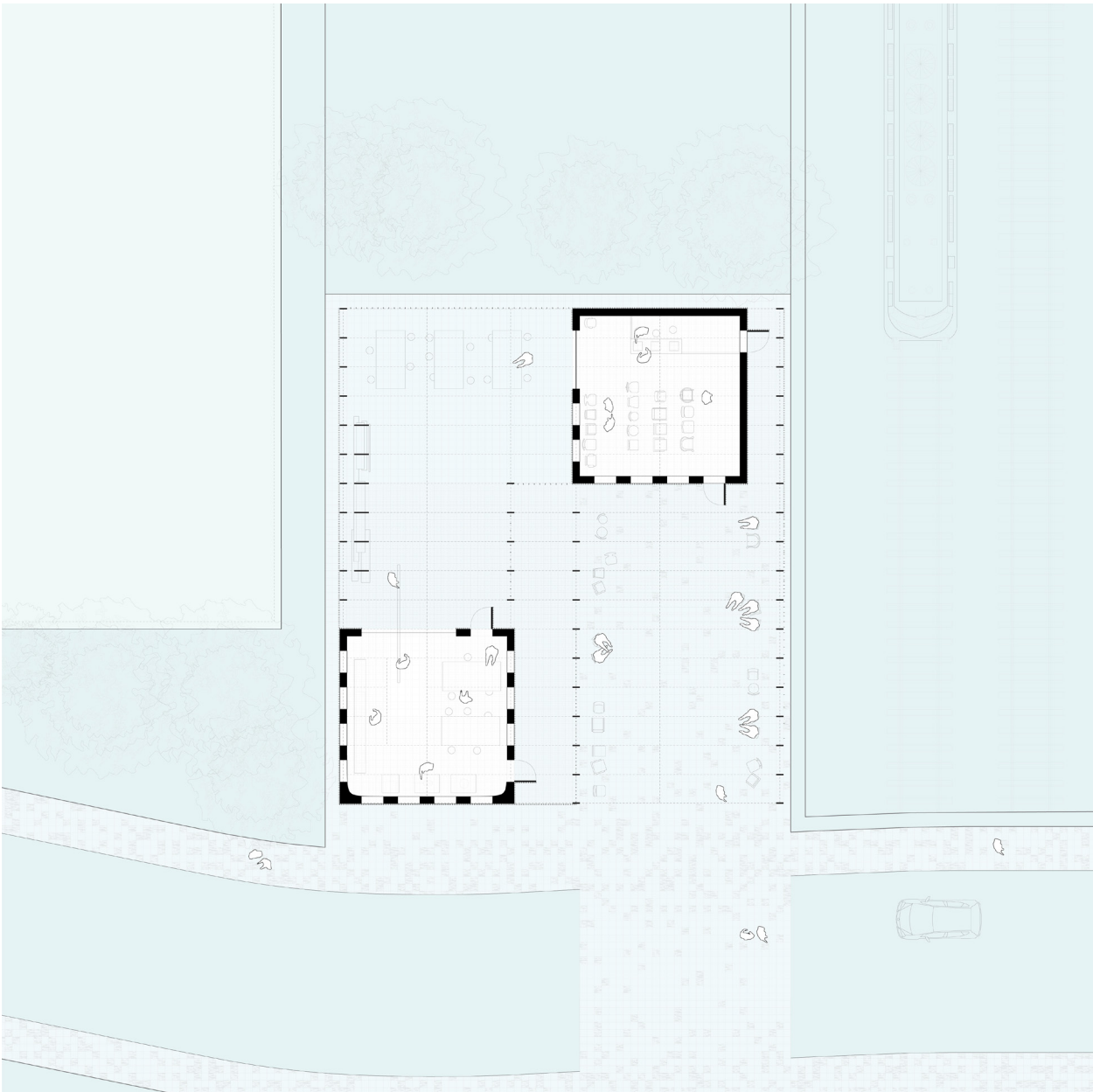
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PROJECT 2 · COMMUNITY, CORRIDOR, CAMPUS · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Workshop Type

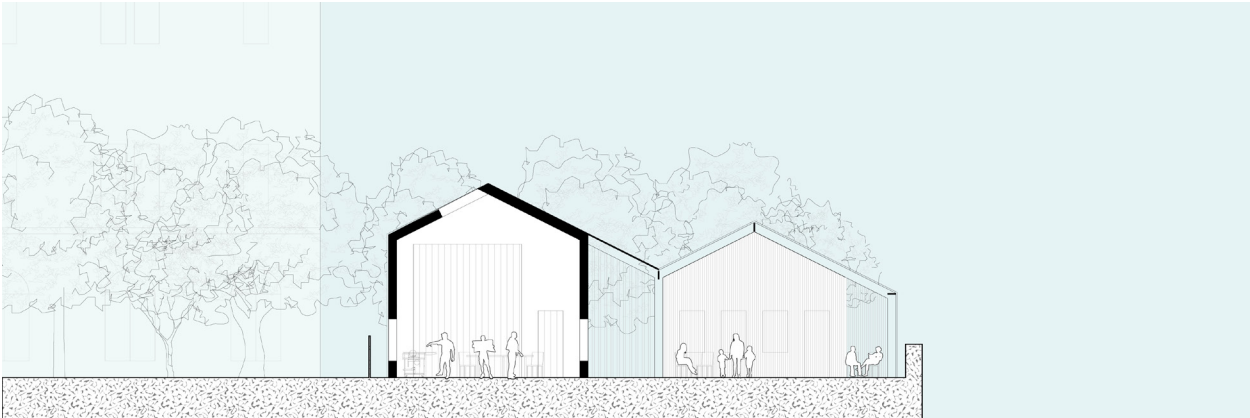
Ground Floor Plan



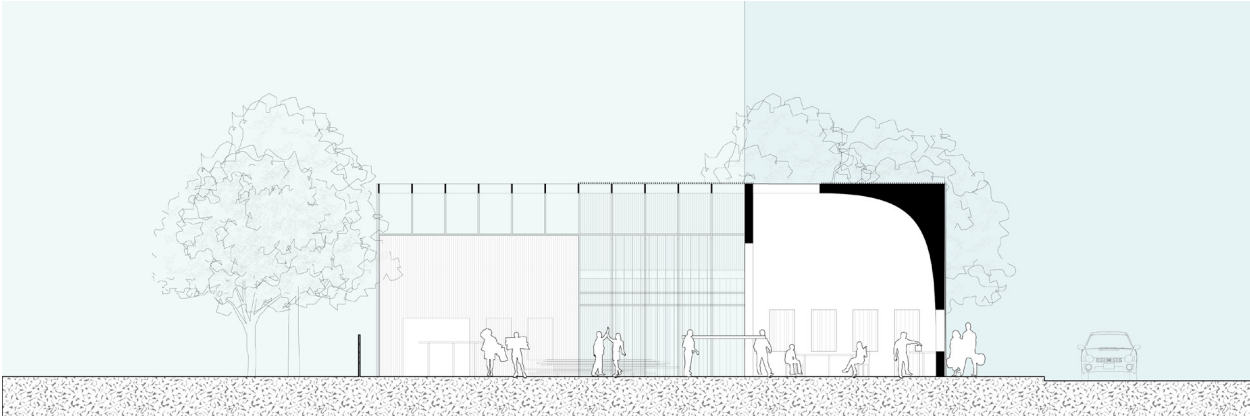
PROJECT 2 · COMMUNITY, CORRIDOR, CAMPUS · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Workshop Type

Section A



Section B



PROJECT 2 · COMMUNITY, CORRIDOR, CAMPUS · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Service Hub Type

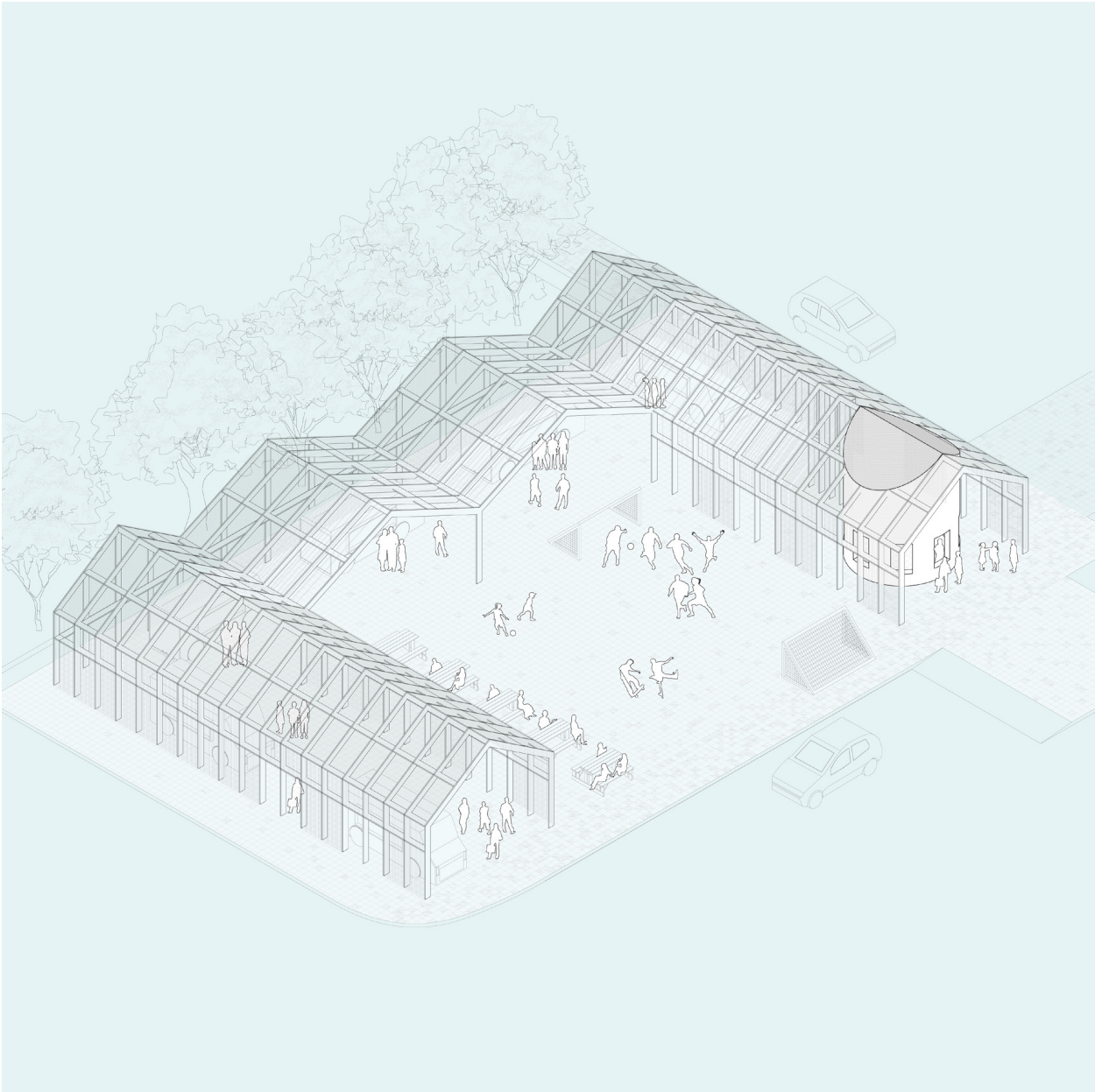
The service hub is light architecturally, and creates a space for mobile services, such as food, health care, legal, as well as mandatory drug testing. Located at the edge of Roxbury, this service hub also anchors the campus on the urban scale.



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Service Hub Type

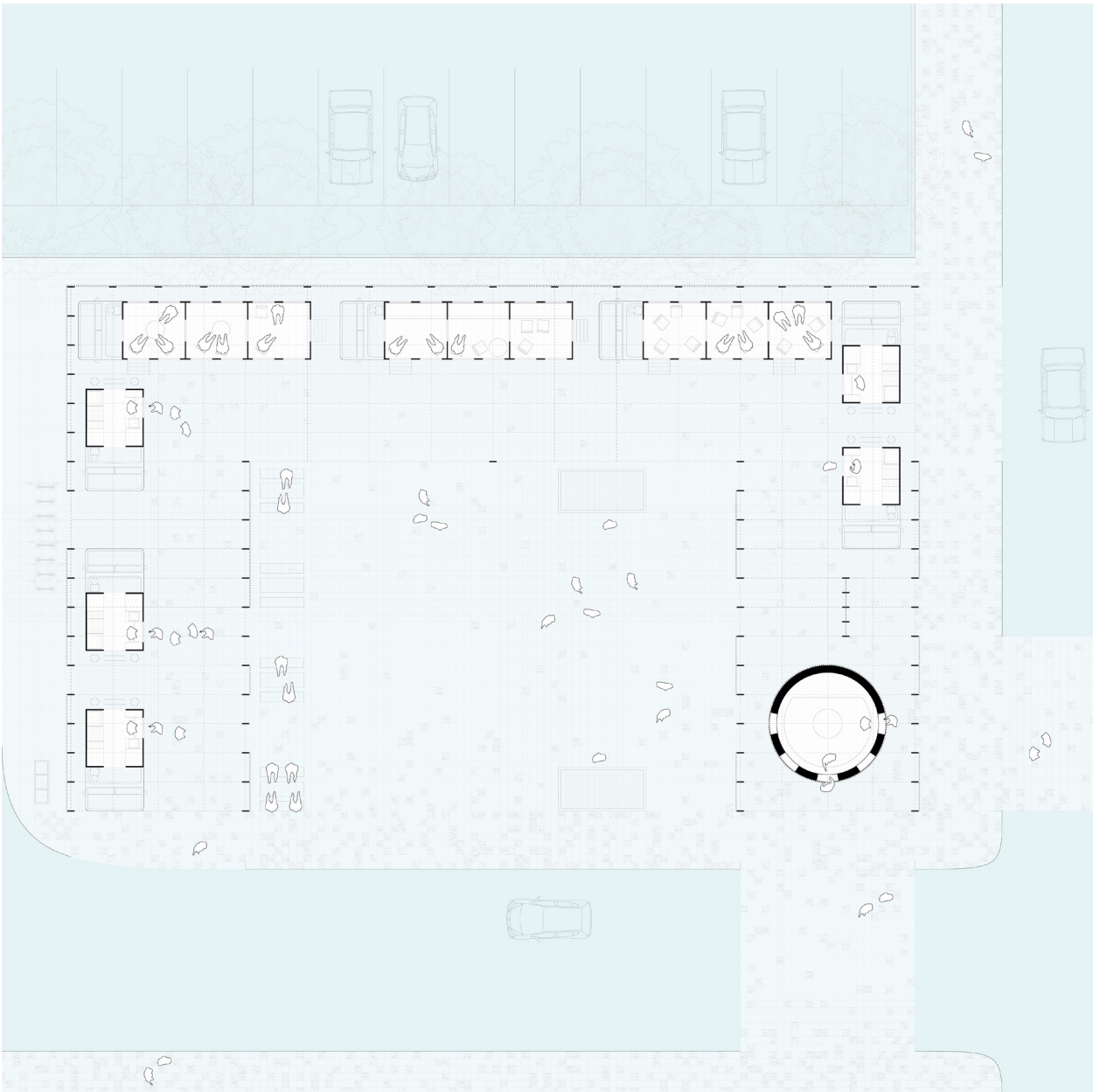
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PROJECT 2 · COMMUNITY, CORRIDOR, CAMPUS · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Service Hub Type

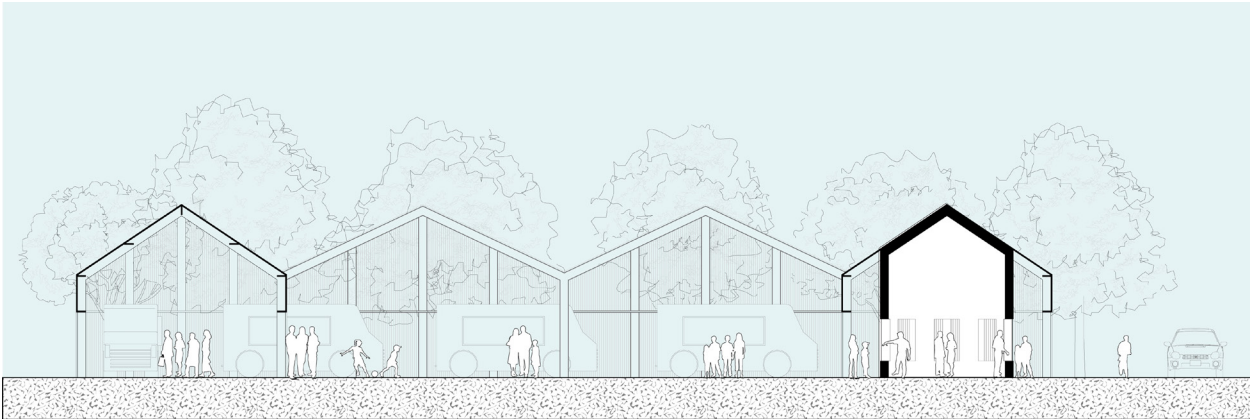
Ground Floor Plan



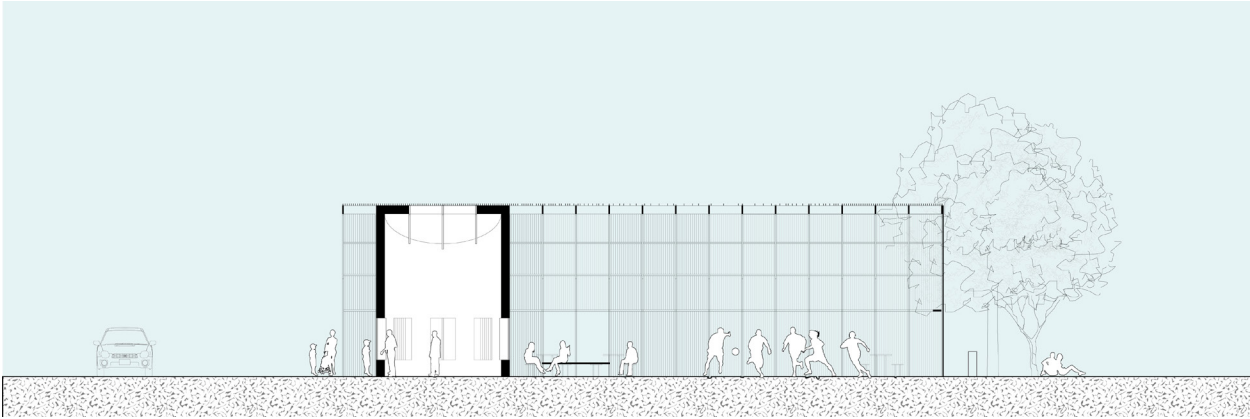
PROJECT 2 · COMMUNITY, CORRIDOR, CAMPUS · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Service Hub Type

Section A



Section B



PROJECT 2 - COMMUNITY, CORRIDOR, CAMPUS - SPACES OF JUSTICE

Restorative Justice Type

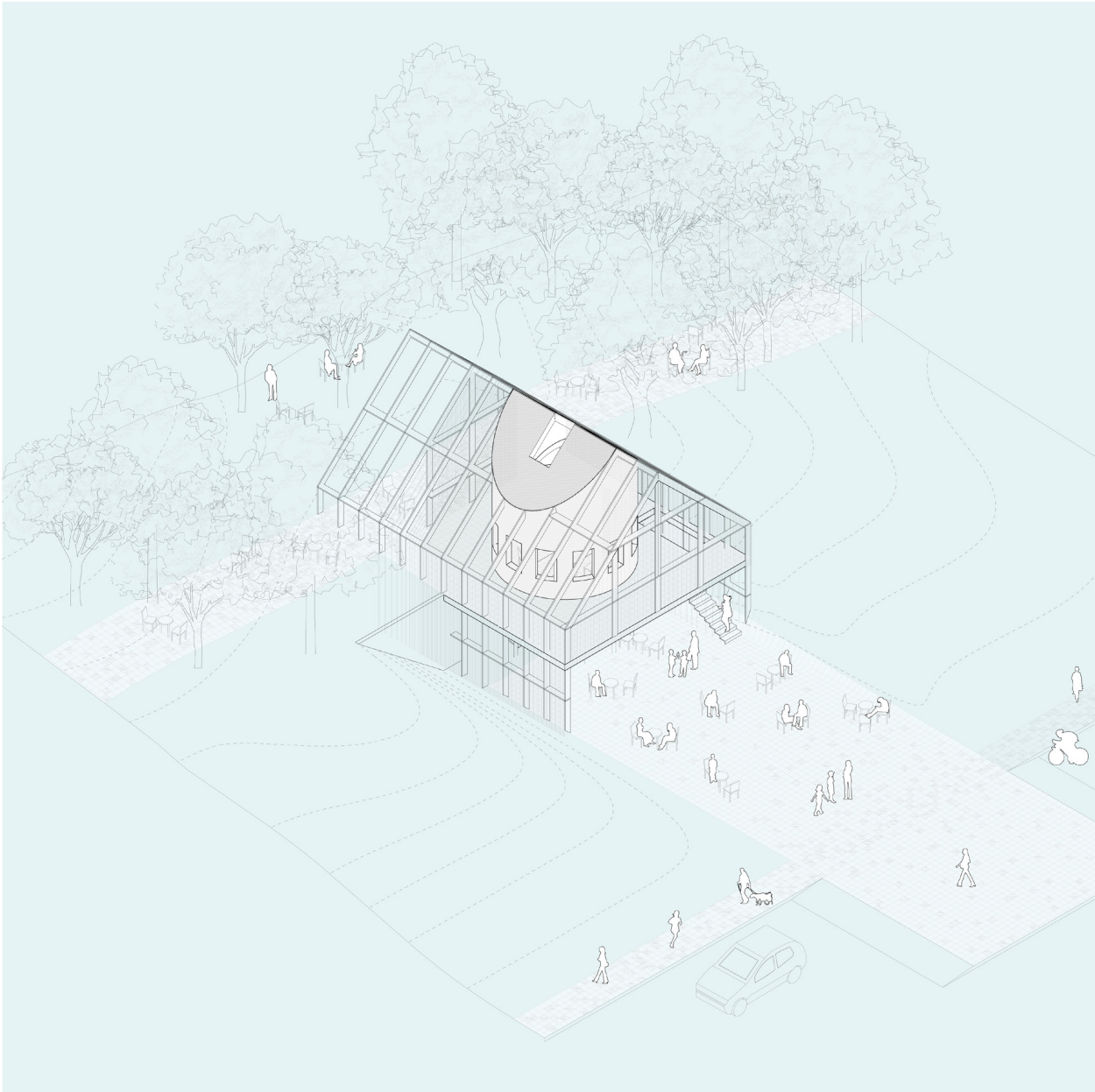
The restorative justice space is elevated above the ground, to allow privacy for those in the space, while simultaneously providing views outward to the park, which is designed as a series of small intimate spaces.



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Restorative Justice Type

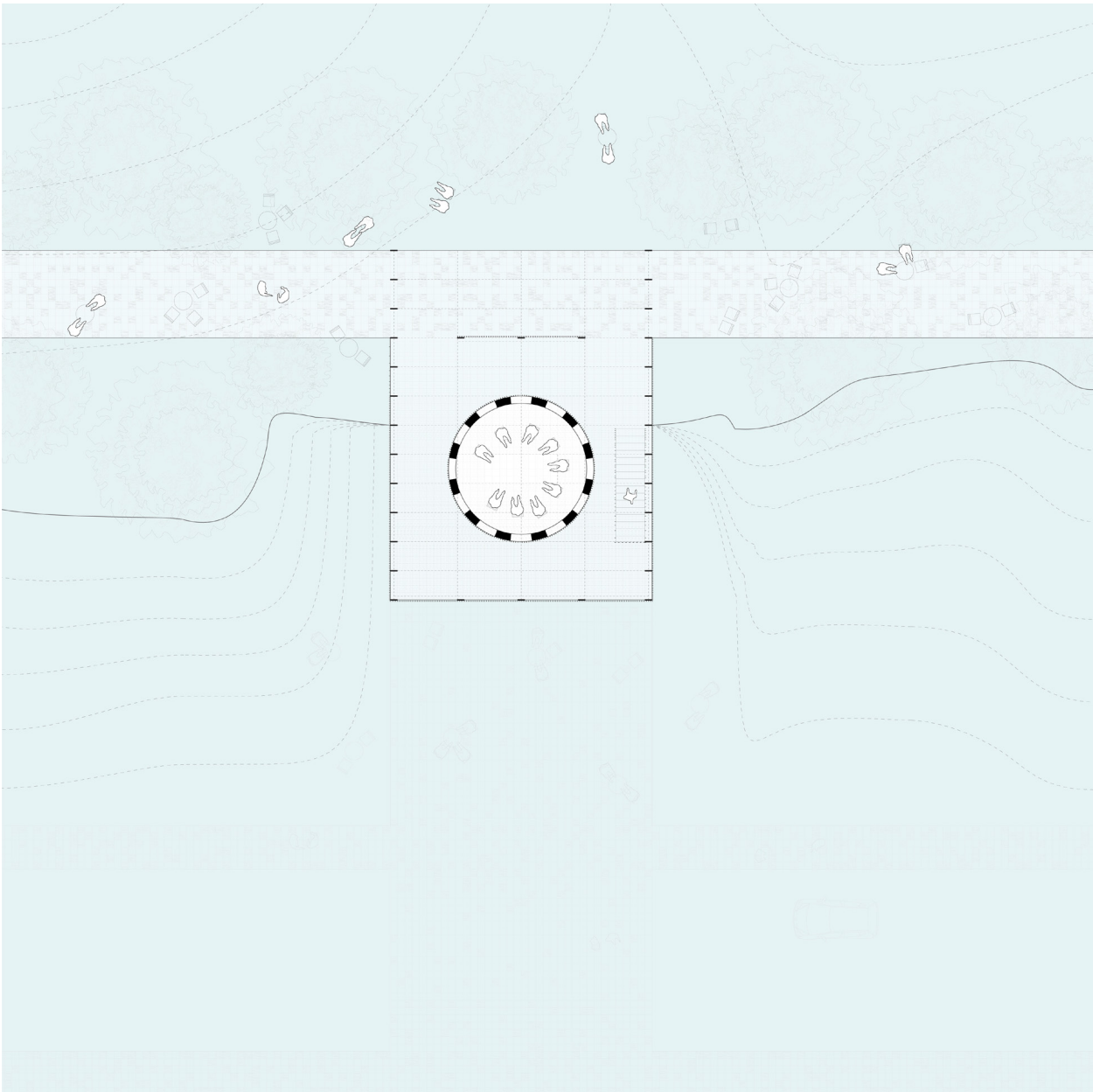
Axonometric



PROJECT 2 · COMMUNITY, CORRIDOR, CAMPUS · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Restorative Justice Type

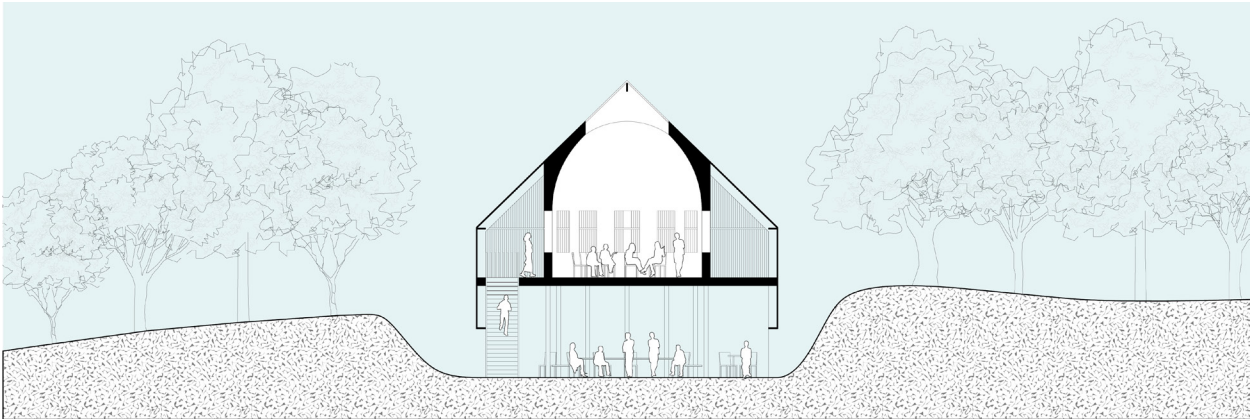
Ground Floor Plan



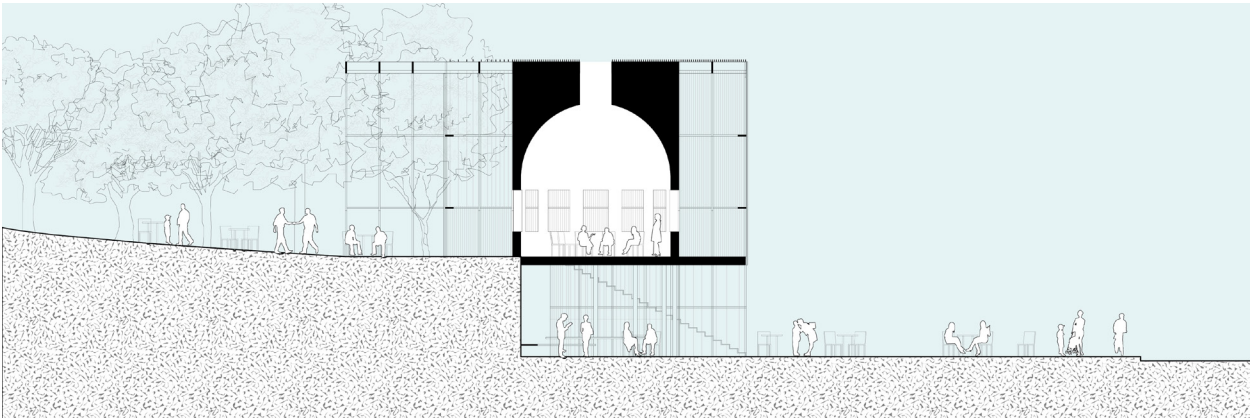
PROJECT 2 · COMMUNITY, CORRIDOR, CAMPUS · SPACES OF JUSTICE

Restorative Justice Type

Section A



Section B



PROJECT 2 · COMMUNITY, CORRIDOR, CAMPUS · SPACES OF JUSTICE



CONCLUSION · SPACES OF JUSTICE

CONCLUSION - SPACES OF JUSTICE

This thesis does not portend that architecture alone can solve the incarceration issue or lay down a new system of justice. It does declare, however, that architecture must engage with issues social, political, and economic and has a part to play in shaping those areas as well as the built environment. Architecture here can help create and define what an alternative space of justice looks like and give presence and physicality for a new ideologies and practices.

Because of the intricacy of the topic, it is hard to pinpoint the “right” actions to take. Questions of the appropriate amount of visibility, standing with or against institutionalization, alienation versus integration, and more have always been present and the answers have not necessarily been found. However, the projects are prototypes for how architecture can address these questions. The projects propose that stigma can be combated by normalizing and centralizing places that were once cast outside of sight. Conversations around a once-invisible issue can begin to take place, and the projects shape the restorative justice room as a place to have those challenging conversations. It contrasts a vernacular disaggregated approach with a neo-institutional one to reflect on whether the best way to intervene in a system is by designing against or within it. By producing two possible architectural responses, this thesis begins to create a dialogue on possibilities.

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