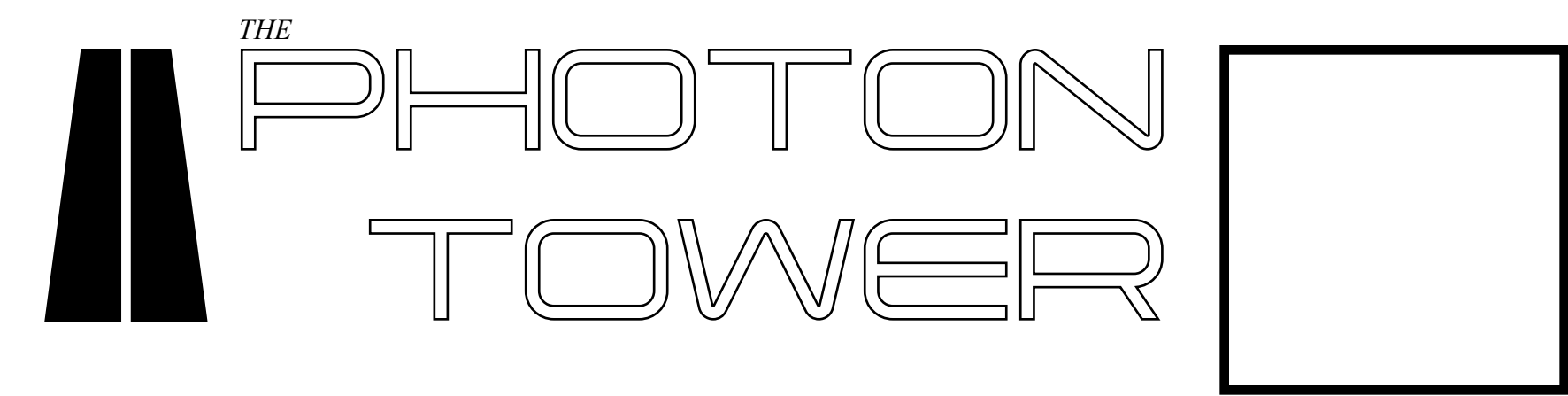
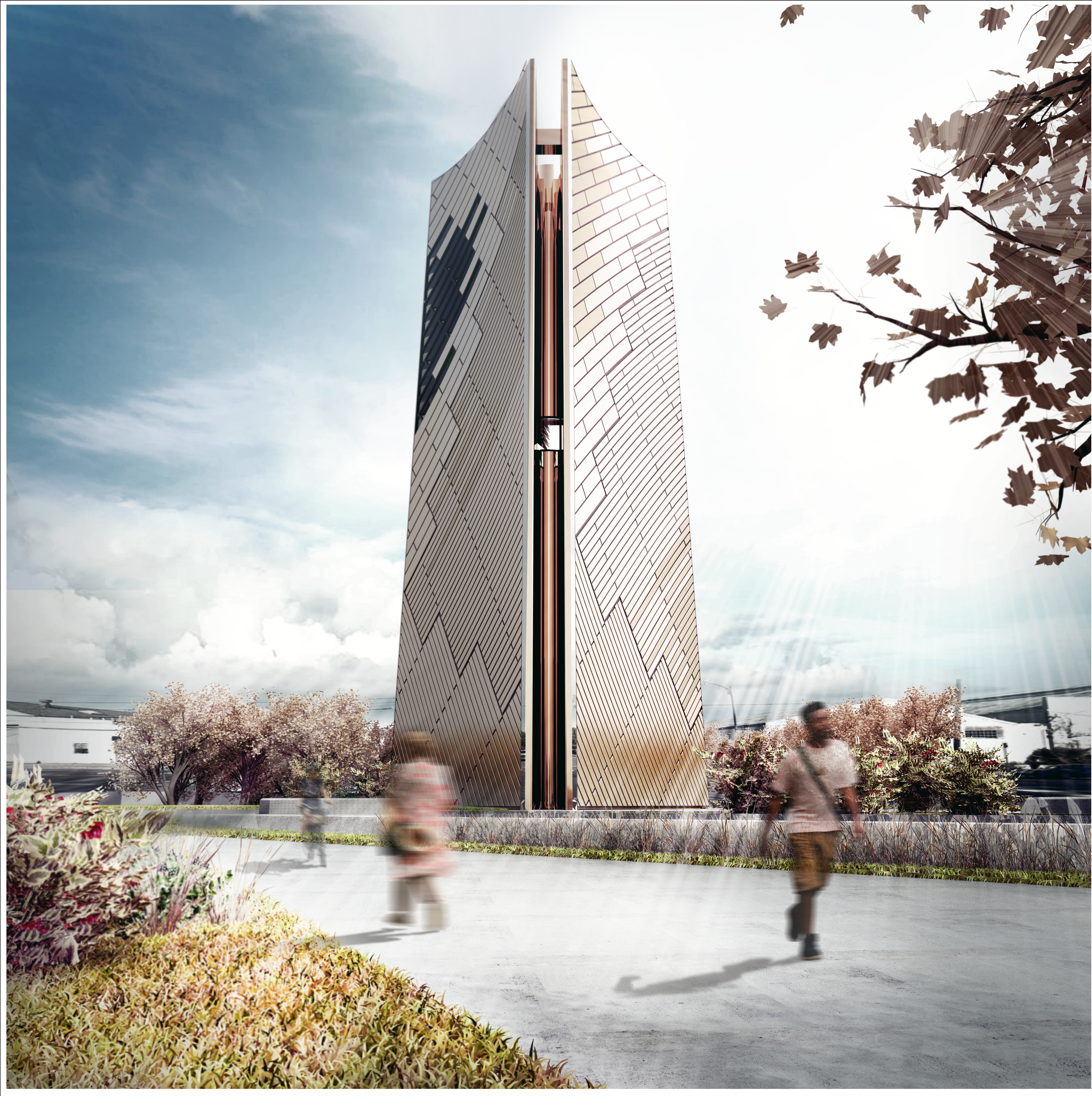




pho·ton

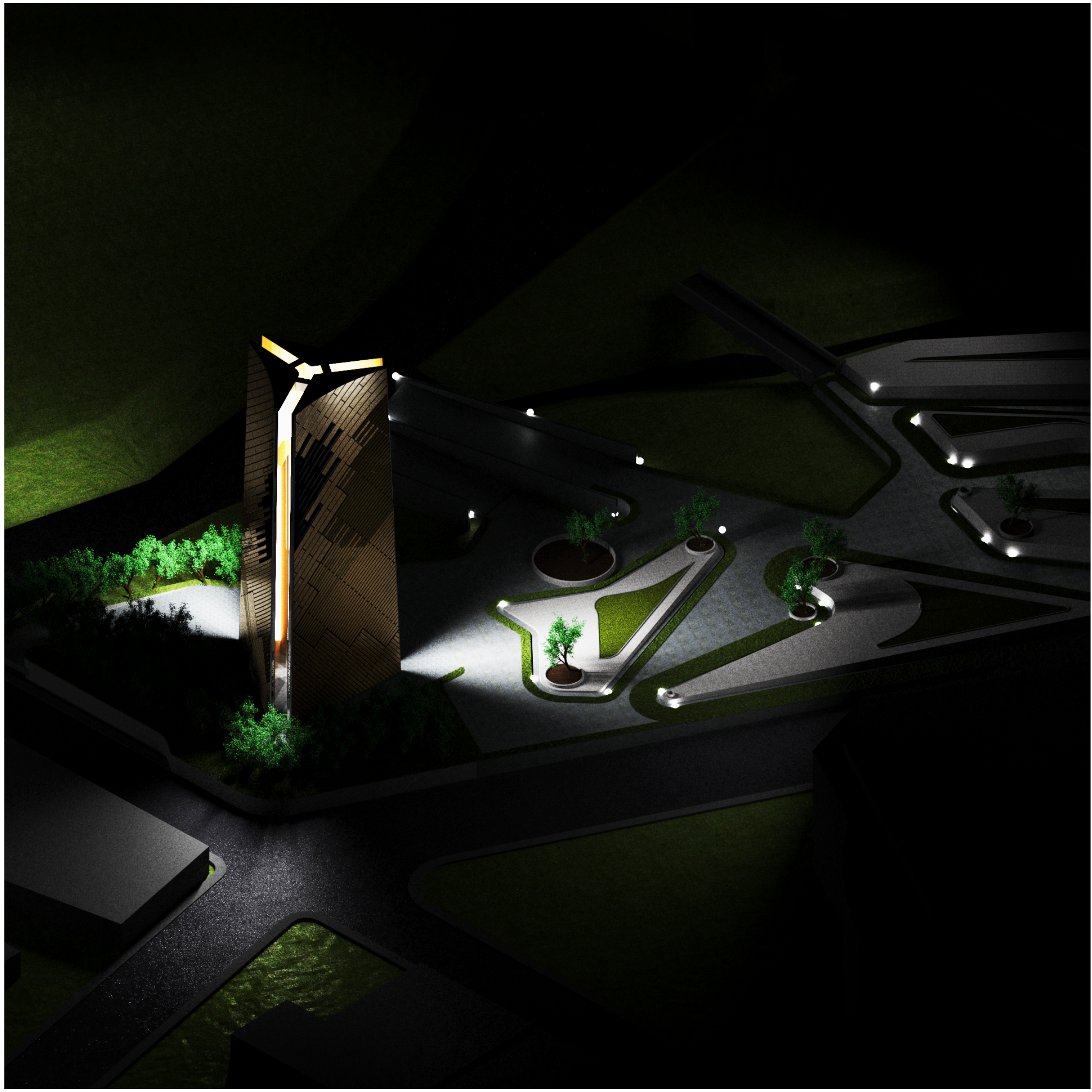
noun:
a particle representing a quantum of light or other electromagnetic radiation.
A photon carries energy proportional to the radiation frequency but has zero rest mass.

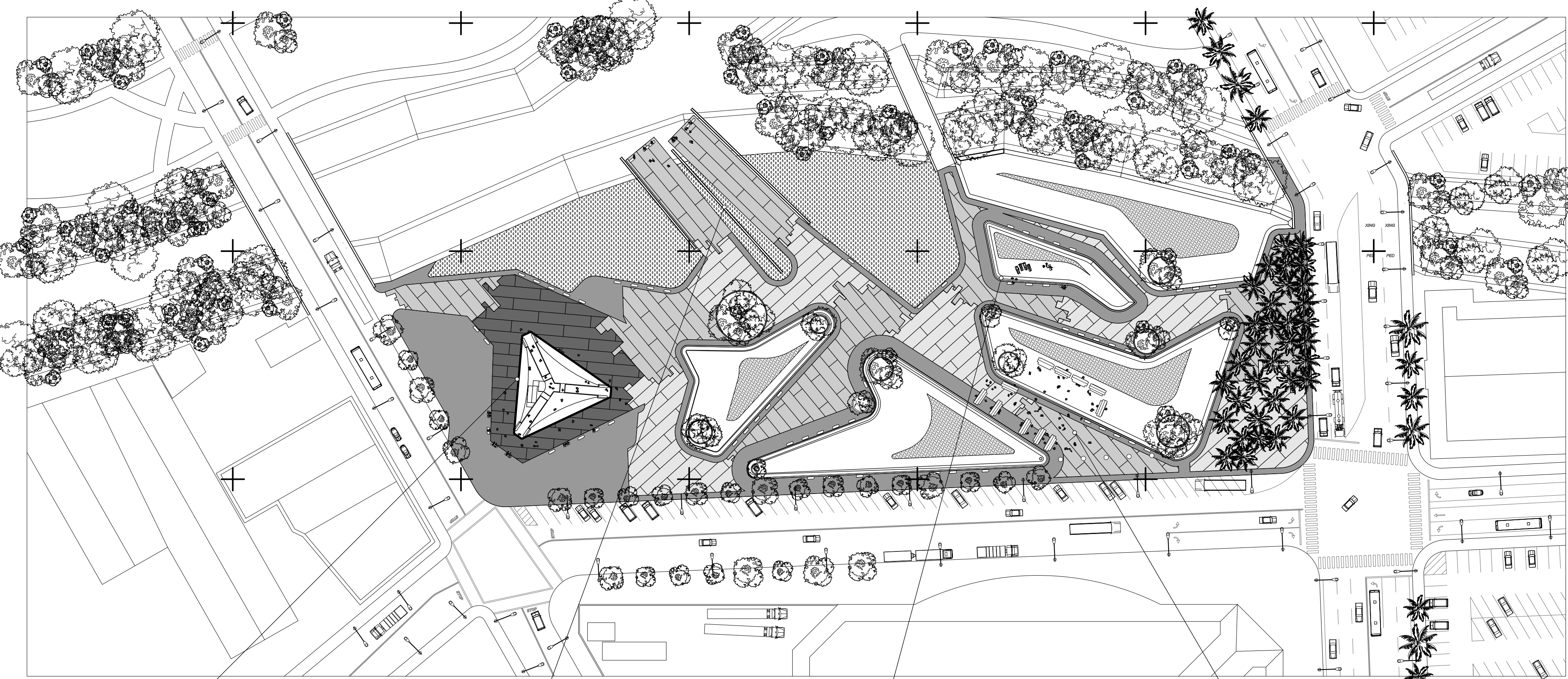
Contemporary monuments serve as cultural destination icons but lack substance beyond cultural use. The Photon Tower holds iconicism, innovation, and sustainable energy resource practices at its core. This structure capitalizes on the environmental conditions of the open site by capturing solar and wind energy. By focusing on energy generation, the tower pays tribute to technology with the use of solar panel cladding and VAWT turbine technology baked into the architectural tectonics. Within the landscape, large forms serve as water collection and retention ponds, pushing the tower and urban park to a net-zero icon.

Pockets for activities, events, and gatherings are produced by the relationship between the elevated forms and hardscape. Community farmers markets, street artists, and family can engage with these spaces resulting in a stronger sense of community and gathering. Positioned on the northern bank of the park, two overlook platforms capture views of Area Green East, while respecting the riparian zone. The Photon Tower hosts one elevator to lift visitors to its 200-foot overlook. This experience begins with a tailored view of the park as one rises and finishes with a 360 degree of San Jose and offers a one of a kind view over Area Green and over the freeway down Santa Clara street.

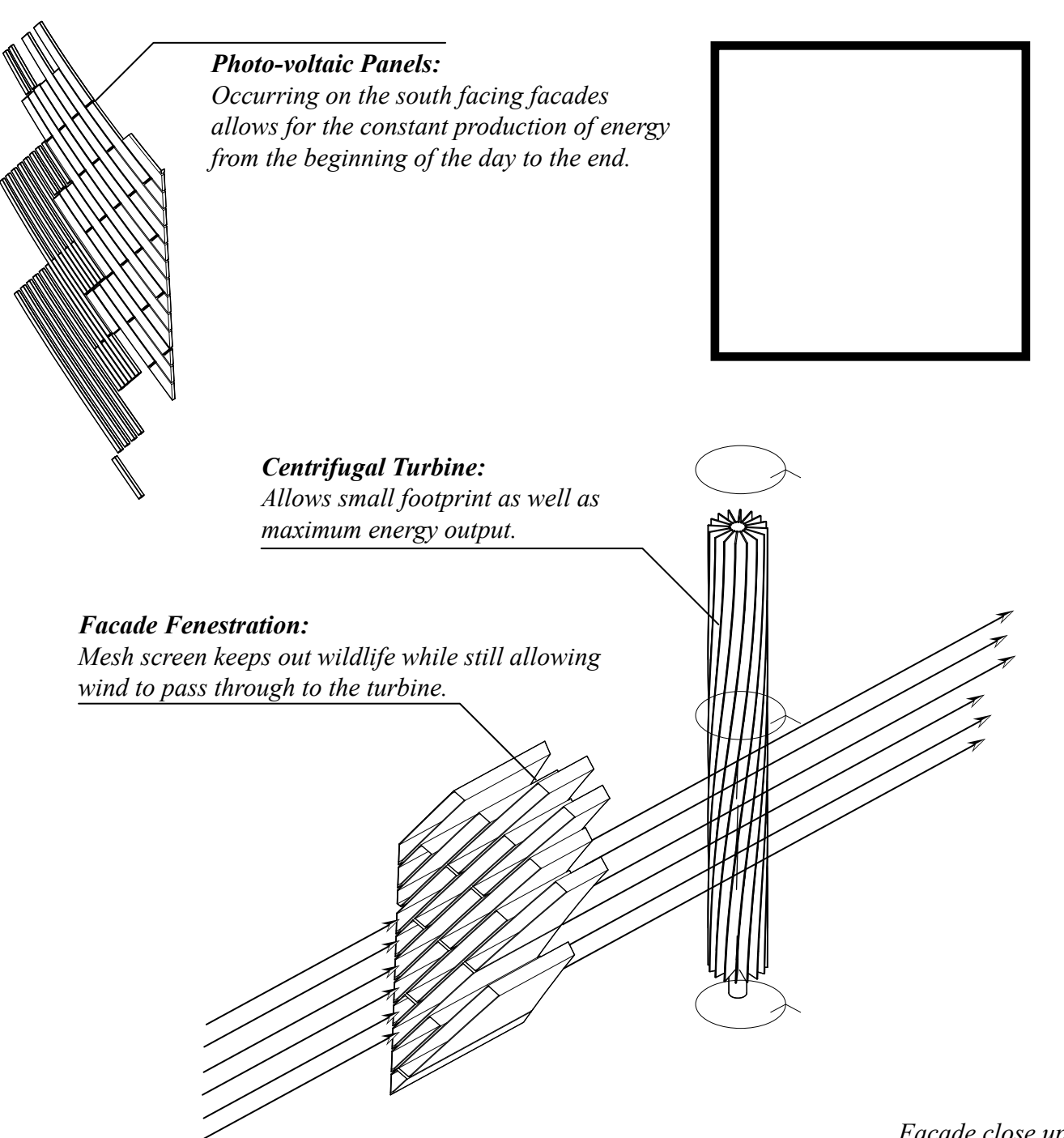
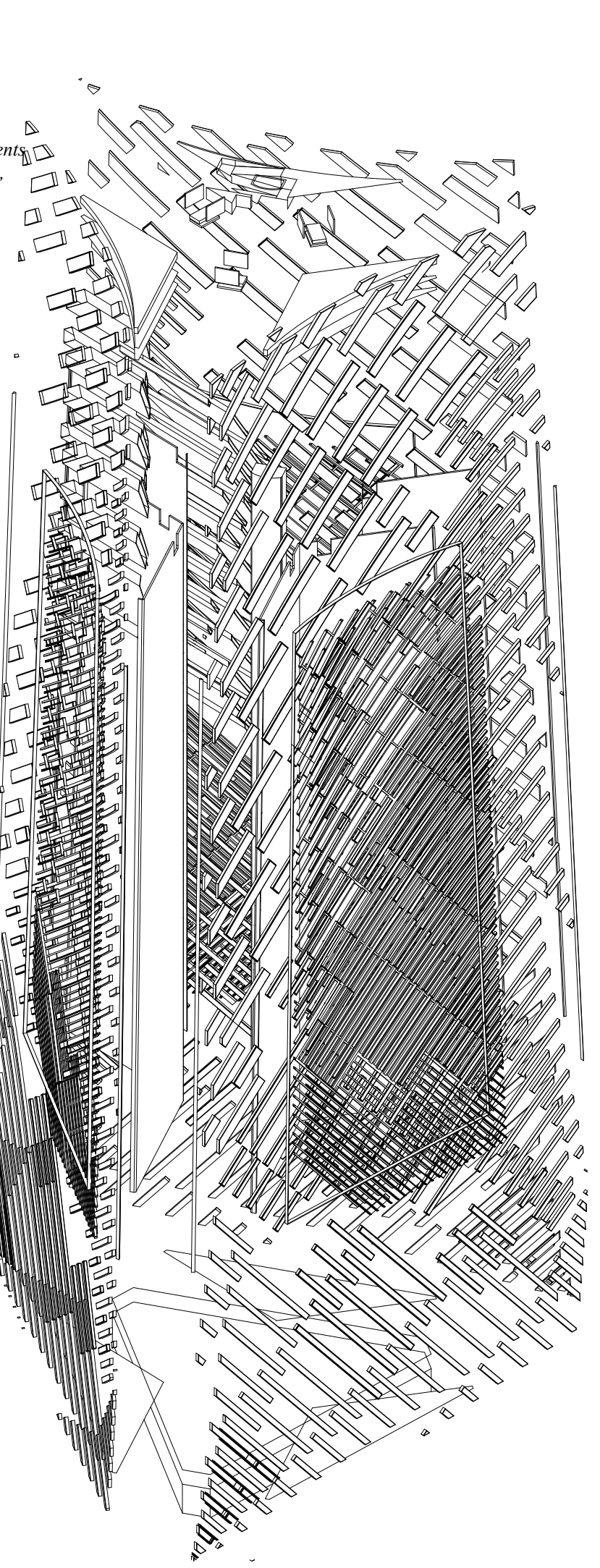
The strong geometric form of the tower and landscape set the site apart from the typical built environment. This difference plays to the desire for flashy backdrops and Instagram-able space that we all know and love. By combining sustainable energy resource practices, innovation, and iconicism, The Photo Tower pays homage to San Jose, the capitol of Silicon Valley, and will serve as a fountain of inspiration, culture, and innovation just as the city itself does.

1:100 scale model





Mereological configuration of components exploded in a part to whole relationship, resembling that while our technological devices (i.e. cellphones) appear monolithic, they are in fact a result of many components.

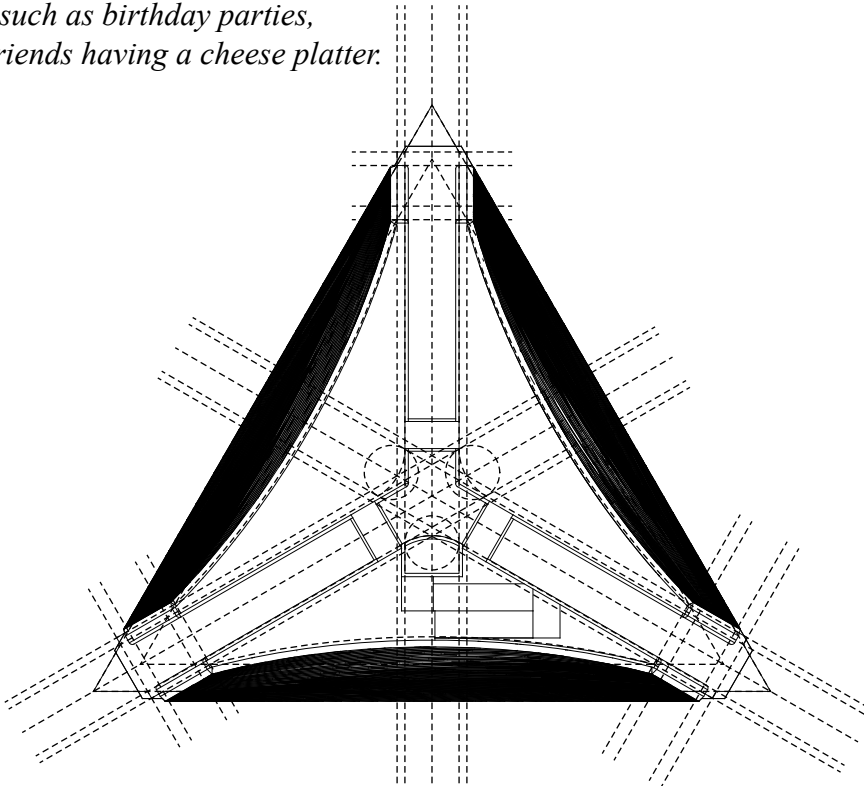
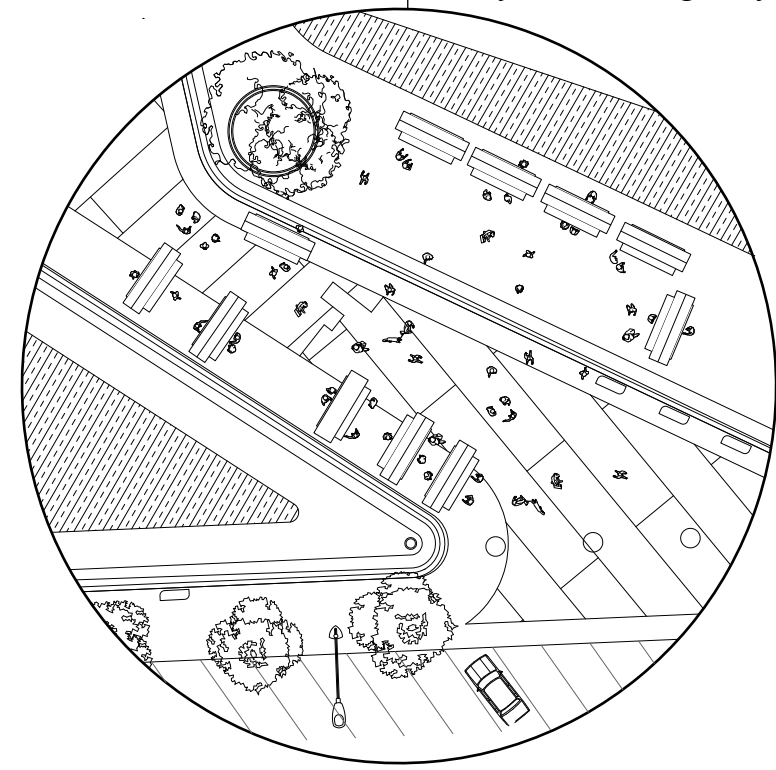
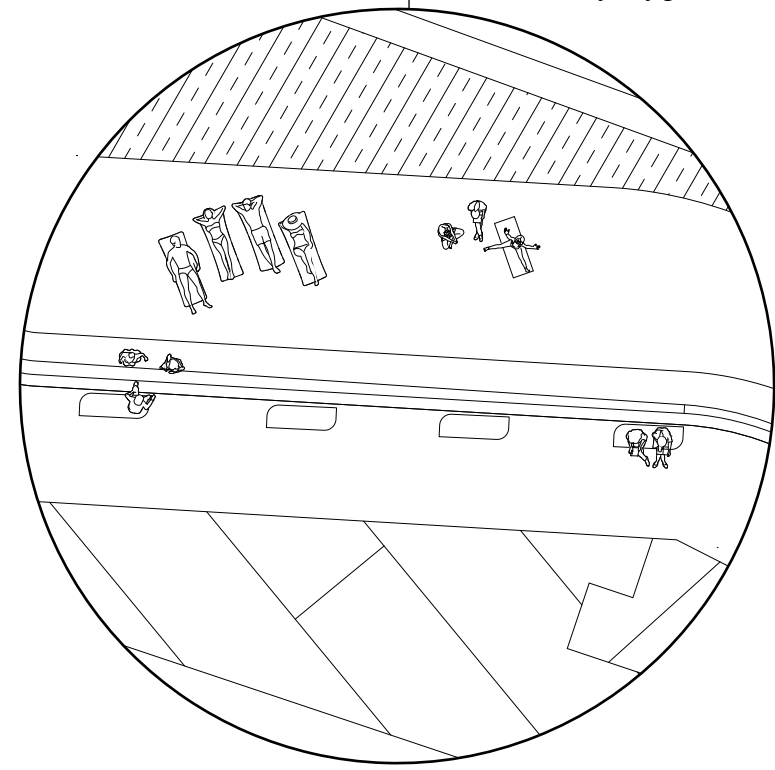
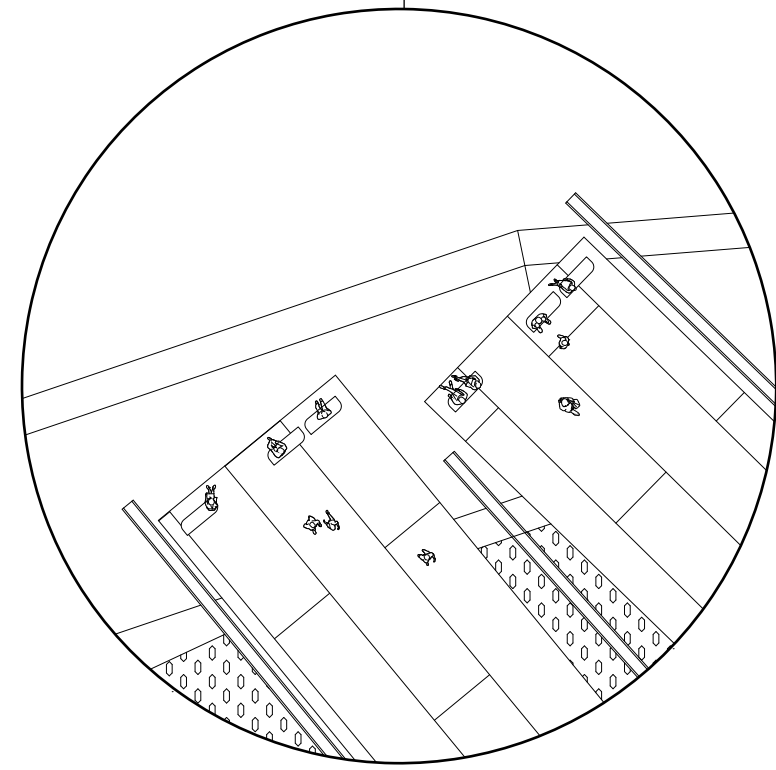
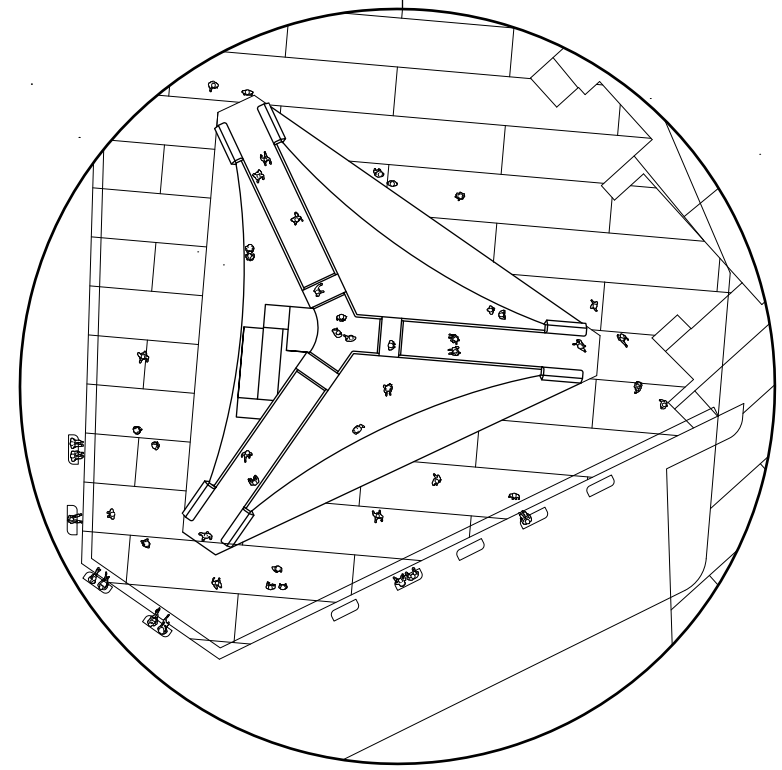


End of procession resulting in social gathering on and around the Photon Tower

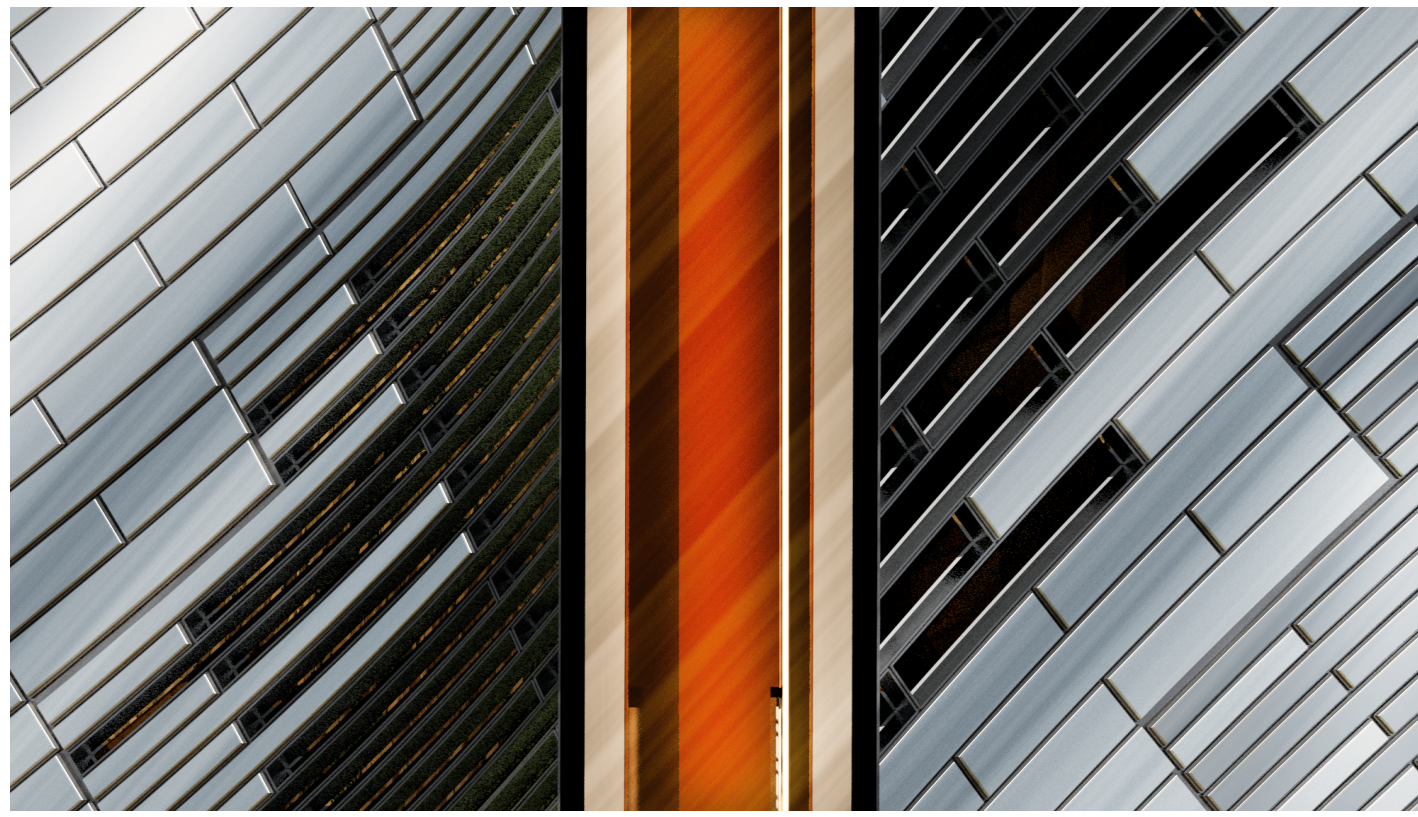
Area Green Overlook Piers allow for the observation of the Guadalupe River and the Area Green East landscape.

Elevated plinths allow for the vertical separation of park goers, to allow for seclusion while included in the social life of parks.

Alleys between th elevated plinths can allow larger gatherings to take place, such as birthday parties, social justice meetings, or just friends having a cheese platter.



Geometrical purity of organization, paying tribute to the control of design San Jose has offered to the advancement of technology.

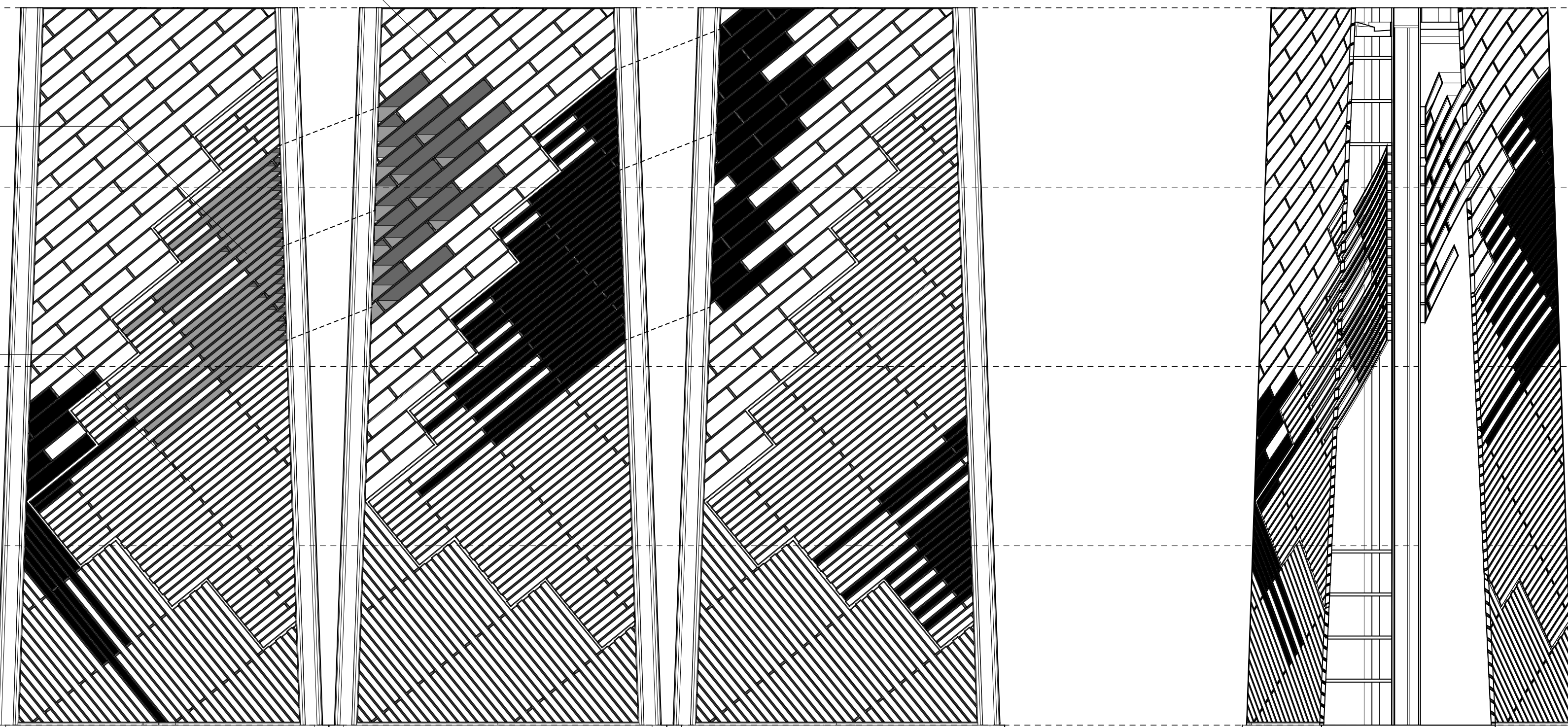


Facade close up

Integrated solar clad paneling system:
SE & SW facing facade facilitates efficient solar energy production

Vent capturing system:
NW facing facade facilitates efficient wind energy production

Reflective anti-glare panels:
homage to technological advancements



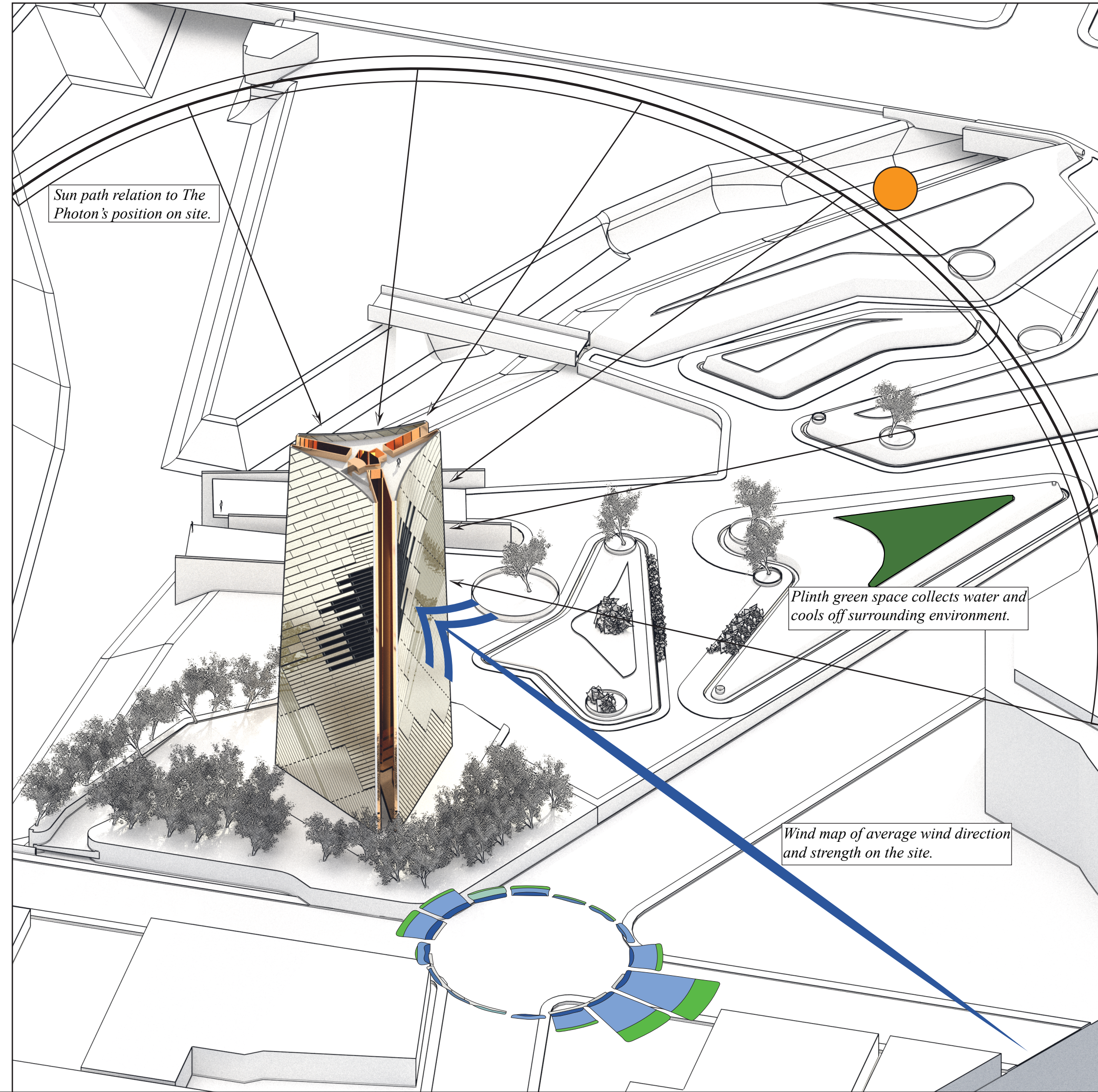
Observation Deck 200' 0"

NW Wind Vent 150' 0"

Mid Level Service Room 100' 0"

End of Commercial 50' 0"

0' 0"



Sun path relation to The Photon's position on site.

Plinth green space collects water and cools off surrounding environment.

Wind map of average wind direction and strength on the site.