CALCULATION TOWER

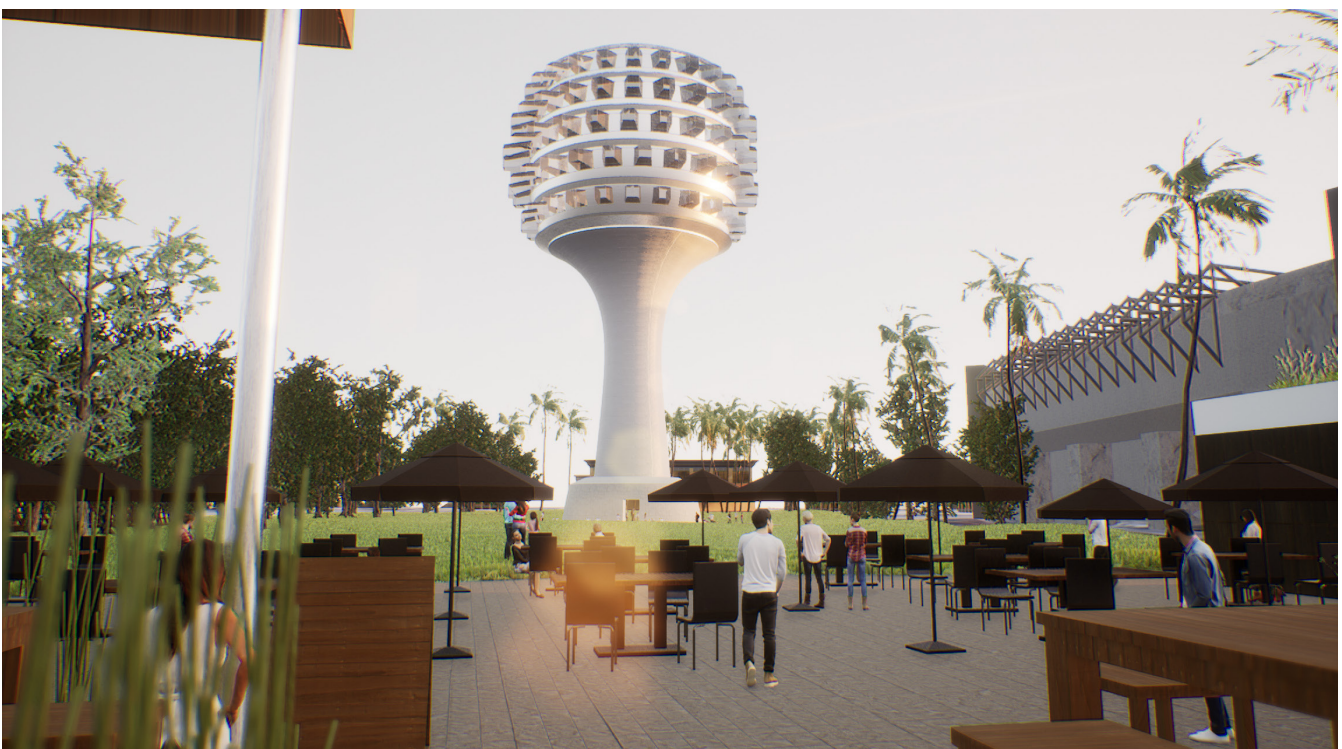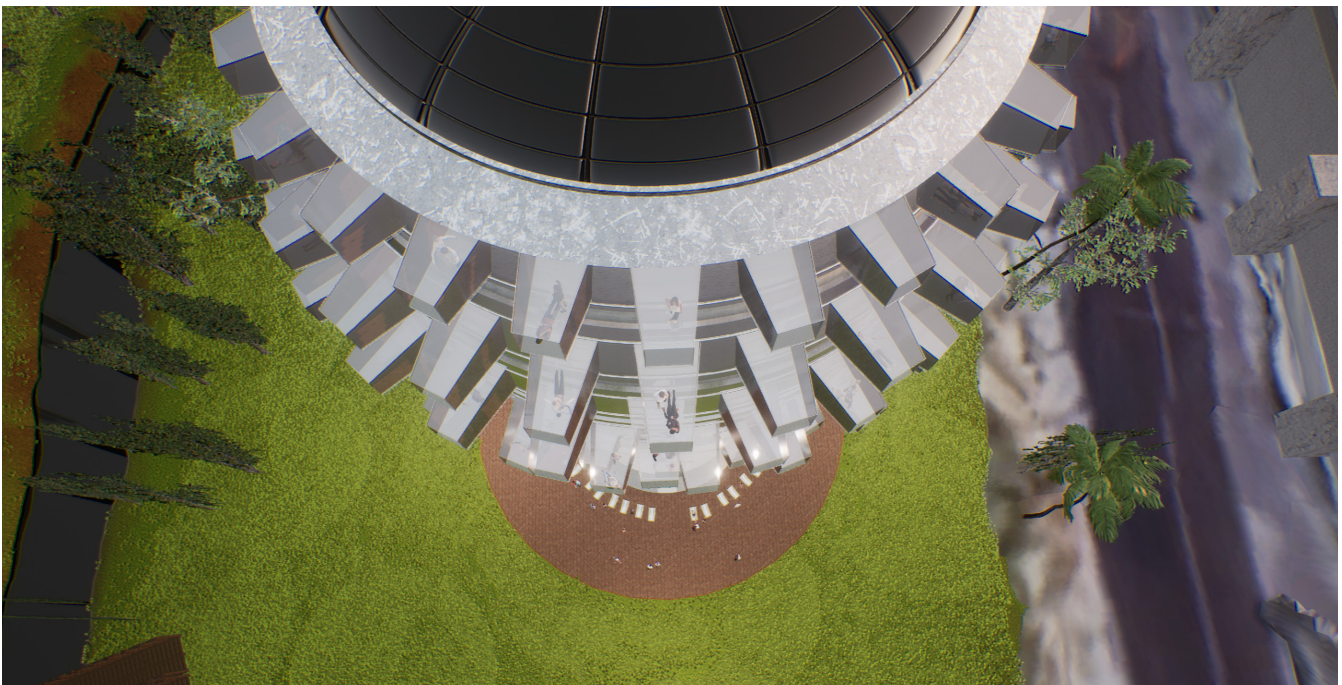A colossal, rotating, mechanical computer for San Jose

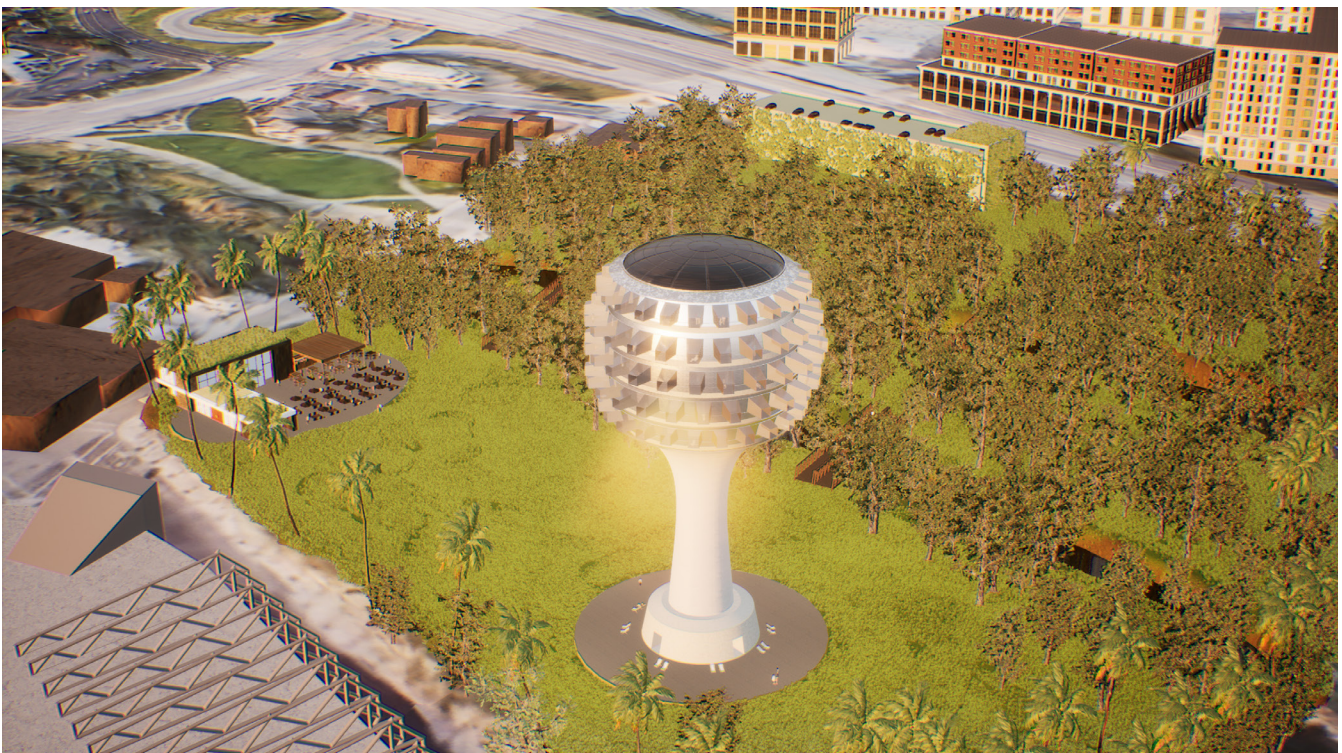View from Guadalupe River

View from Park Cafe

Cantilevered glass rooms protrude from the rotating platforms, suspending people in mid-air

Visitors inside cantilevered glass rooms can make eye-contact with other rooms or people standing at ground level, 200ft below

When people lie down in the prisms they become "human gargoyles"

Site Overview: Park Cafe on the left
Welcome building on top center right

The tower is inspired by the cogged-wheel columns of Charles Babbage's programmable computer for which Ada Lovelace wrote software

The tower has five levels that rotate independently. The "cogs" recursively calculate pi using Ramanujan's algorithms

Individual glass rooms are tapered and truncated and can fit multiple visitors
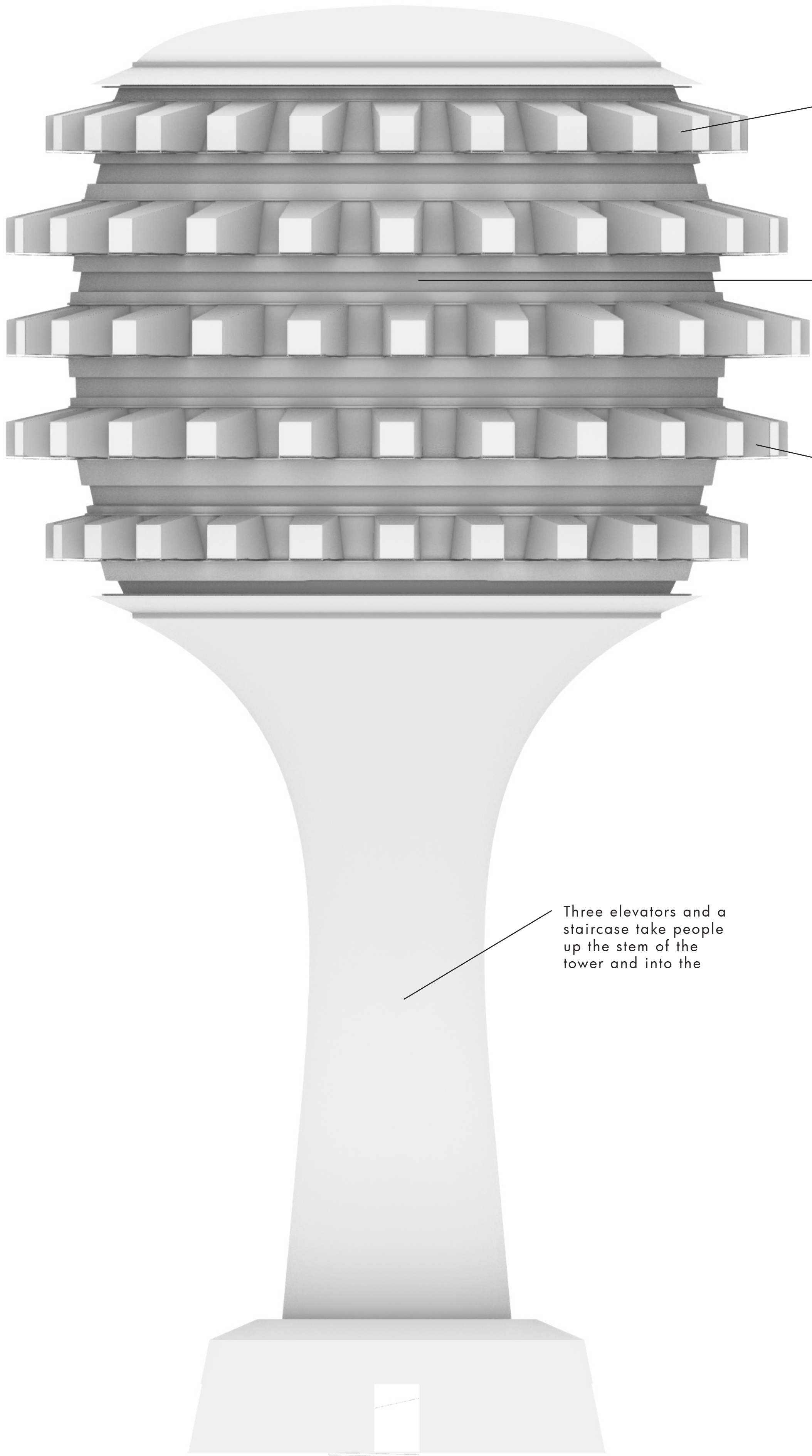
Five platforms rotate at different speeds and directions. They move slowly with a maximum speed of one 360 rotatation every 30 minutes

A vast spherical interior space interconnects by ramps and stairs so that visitors can go to any of the five different rotating levels

Each level has 24 cantilevered glass prisms each measuring x by x where up to 3 people can see San Jose pass by

Three elevators and a staircase take people up the stem of the tower and into the

Tower dimensions: 200' high, 60' diameter footprint
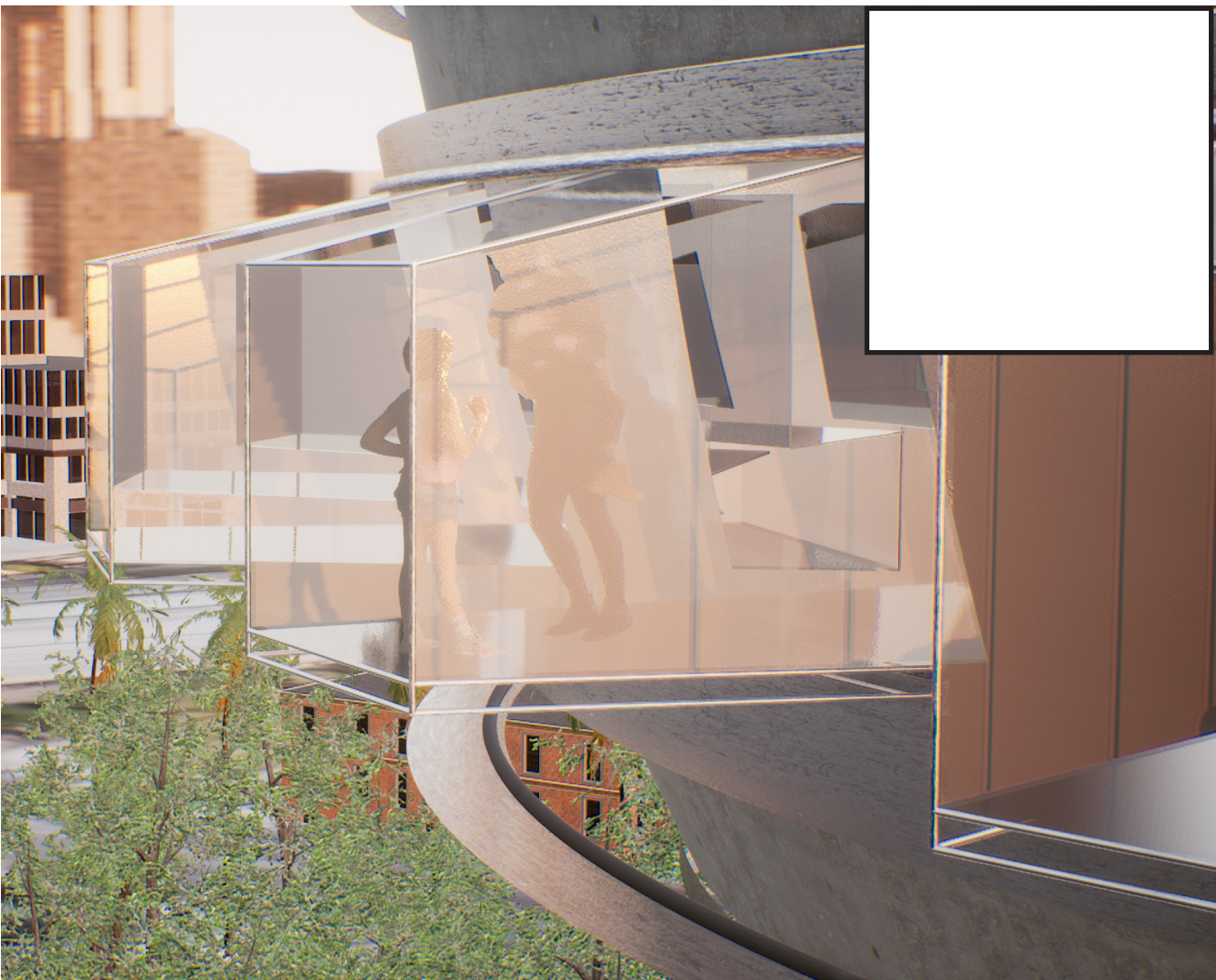
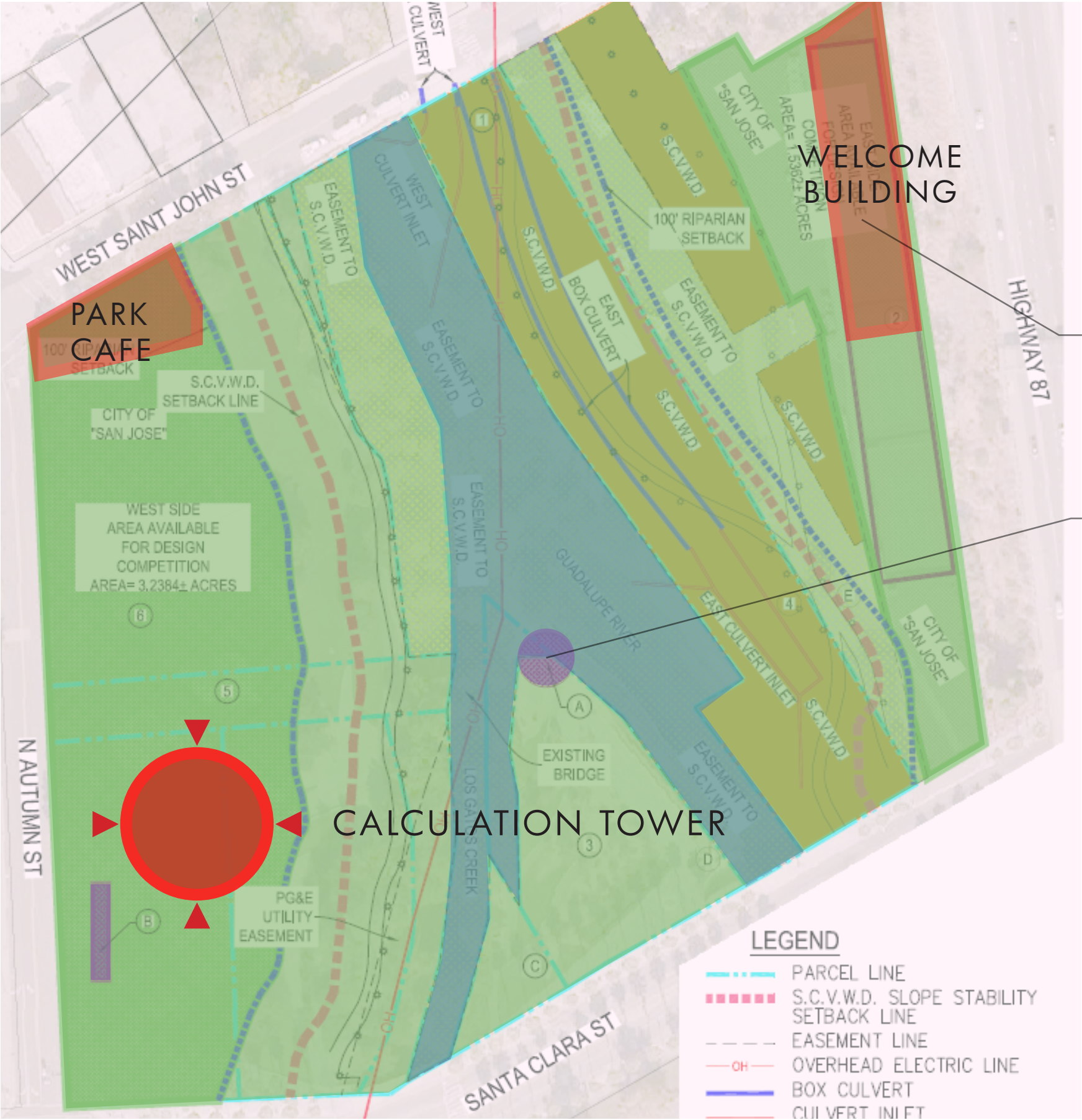Close-up of cantilevered glass volumes

Inside one of the glass volumes looking west

Lounge seating at the base of the tower lets visitors observe others in the rings above as they slowly rotate around
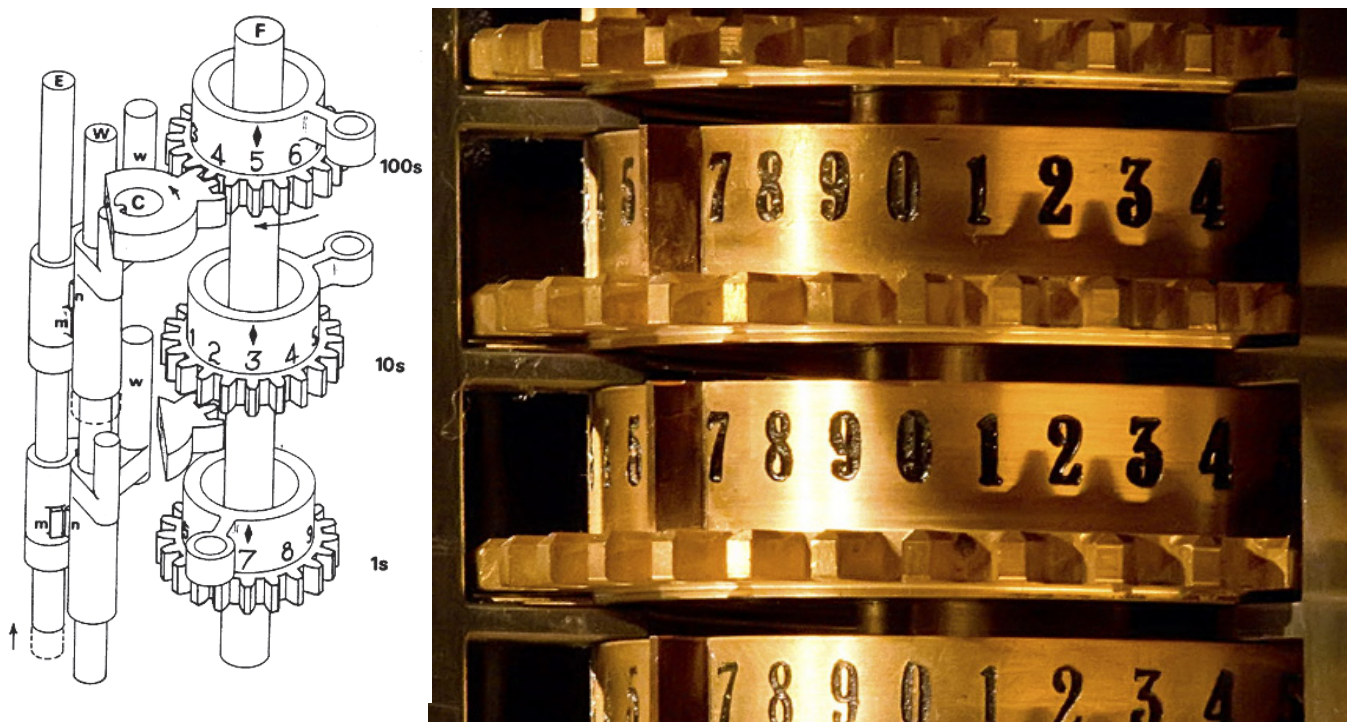

Inspired by the California state flower, the California Poppy

Cogged wheels in Charles Babbage's XIX Century mechanical computer, the "Analytical Engine"

BALERO   MOLINILLO   SONAJA   MARACA

The shape is inspired by Mexican instruments and toys

PARK CAFE

WELCOME BUILDING

Parking, information, ticket sales, lost and found, first aid

New and existing bridges take people from Welcome building to tower across the river

CALCULATION TOWER

LEGEND
PARCEL LINE
S.C.V.W.D. SLOPE STABILITY SETBACK LINE
EASEMENT LINE
OVERHEAD ELECTRIC LINE
BOX CULVERT
CULVERT INLET

400'

200'

0'