PROJECT NAME

Naval Academy Center for Cyber Security Studies Building

PROJECT LOCATION

Annapolis, MD

PROJECT CATEGORY

Unbuilt Architecture

RENDERING CREDIT

Renderings by Crystal CG

As the institution charged with developing our nation's professional Naval and Marine Corps officers, it is paramount that the US Naval Academy (the Academy) has the ability to continue to offer the most state-of-the art academic and professional training available in the world. The new Center for Cyber Security Studies (CCSS) building will be a technologically robust learning facility that integrates architecturally into one of our country's most important and historic institutions.

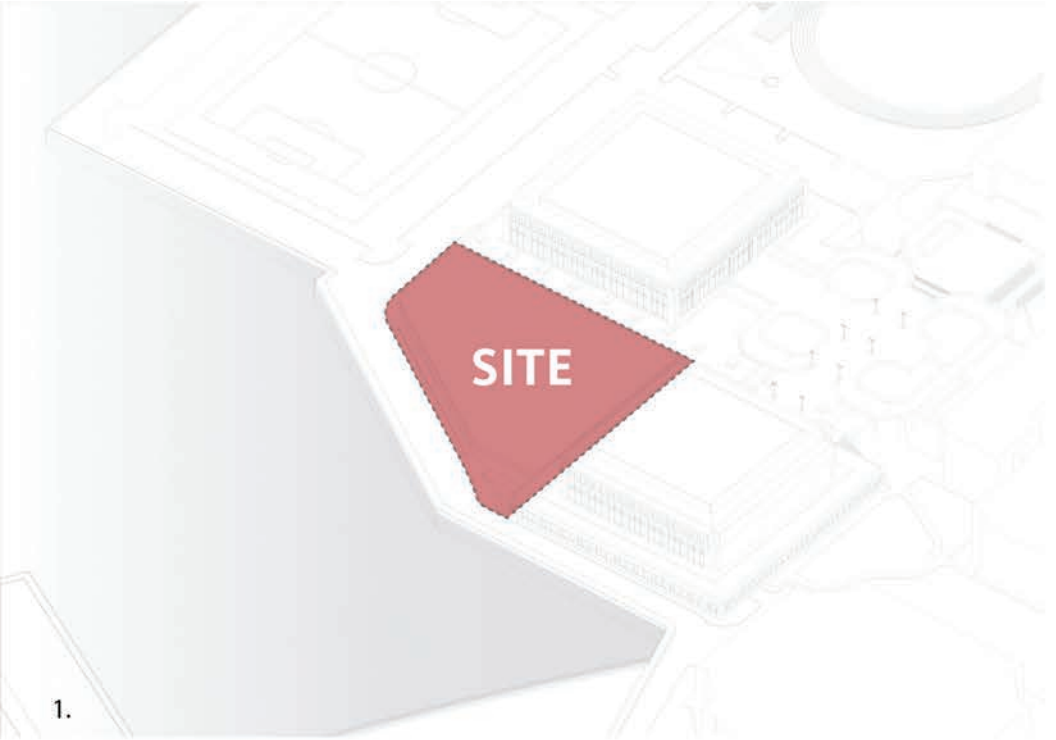
The building site is a small triangular plot tucked away on the far north corner of the Academy. The building will be the only structure on the Yard that does not adhere to the formal grid and orientation established by Bancroft Hall, Main Chapel, and Mahan Hall. There is an implied diagonal axis from the new building to the Mexican Monument, the central point of the Yard. This axis line is an important visual reference to establish a connection with the existing campus. The team studied the design vocabulary of the Academy and concluded that a vertical element similar to the dome of Main Chapel and tower of Mahan Hall would present a compelling terminus point for the CCSS building.

A vertical focal point was created by incorporating the main stair, building entry, and observatory support structure and dome into a tower element at the primary corner of the building. This element marks the corner with a glass-enclosed stair that dramatically wraps around the telescope vibration isolation tower. This observatory tower will be connected by views into and from the center of campus.

The visual language of the design concept draws from the dynamic expression in the reflection of water that border the Academy. The Severn River and Dorsey Creek produce an array of colors as the sun moves across the sky, while the surface of the water reflects the surrounding environment in a slightly distorted manner. The North Dorsey Creek building façade was conceived of as flowing water. The overall "s" curved bar portrays a wave appearance at a large scale when seen from a distance. At a medium scale, the undulating slab edges create shadow lines at the floor slabs, creating abstracted troughs and crests on the water. Then a fine scale diaphanous screen of metal panel overlays catch the western sun and reflect back, creating a ripple effect. These screen panels also serve to partially block glare heavy western light from the classrooms.

The new CCSS building design is an extension of the striking material palette that is utilized across the Academy to add continuity. The materials and detailing provide a bridge back to Bancroft Hall and the Main Chapel, utilizing modern fabrication techniques for a more refined façade. The buildings that surround the Rickover Terrace have a simplified material pallet of precast walls, flat veneer limestone walls, dark tinted glass and metal panel mansard roofs/ screen walls. The historic campus core uses a more traditional articulated stone wall and copper roofs/ details. The CCSS building design is a blend of these material pallets.

CAMPUS VIEW DIAGRAM



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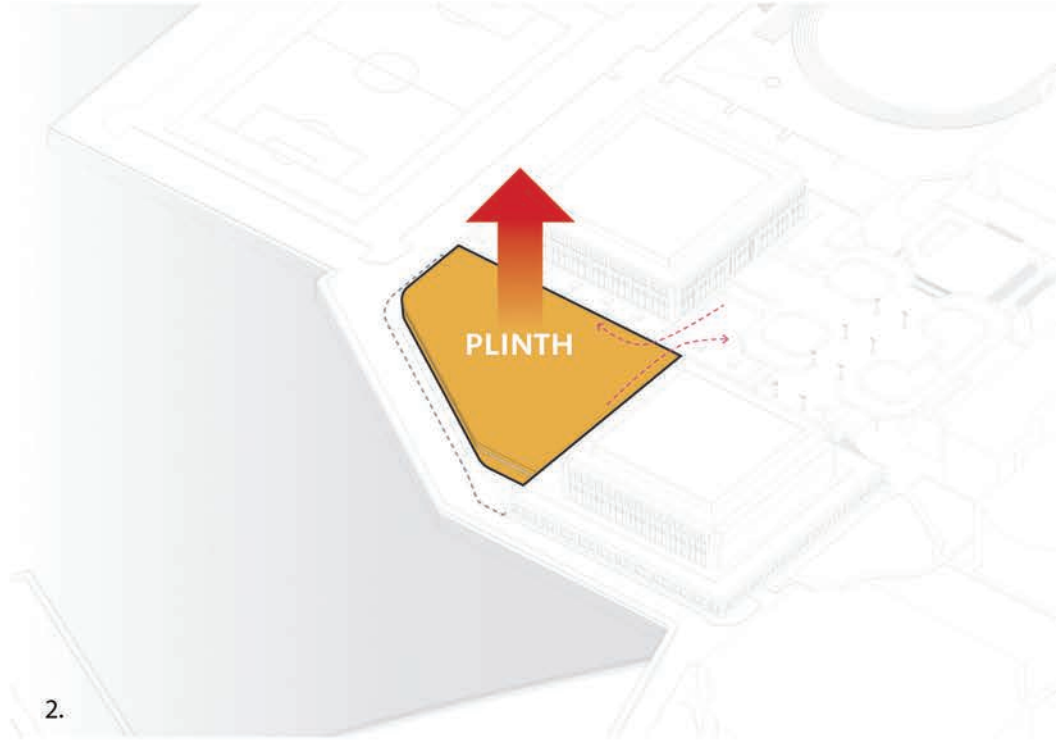

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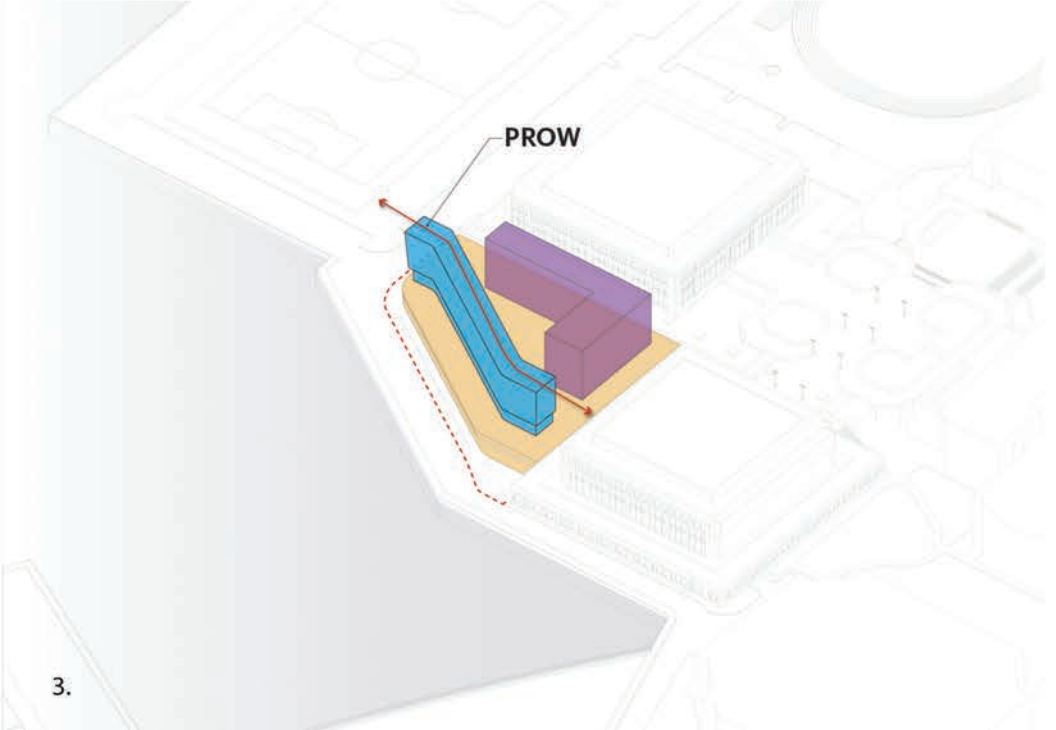

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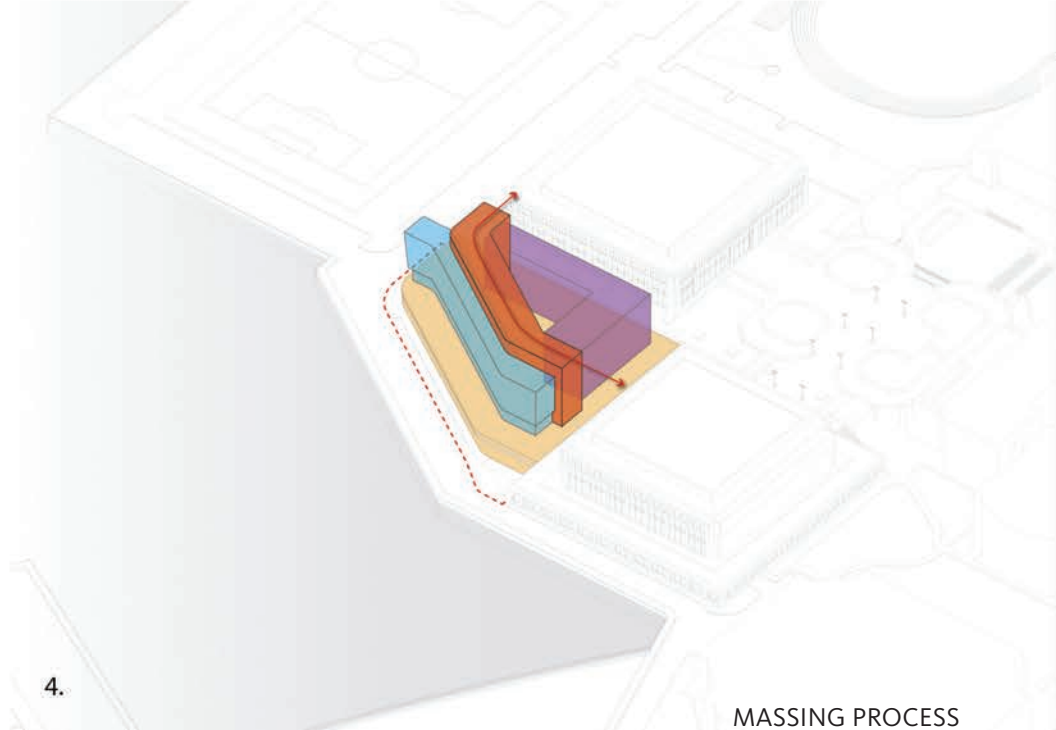

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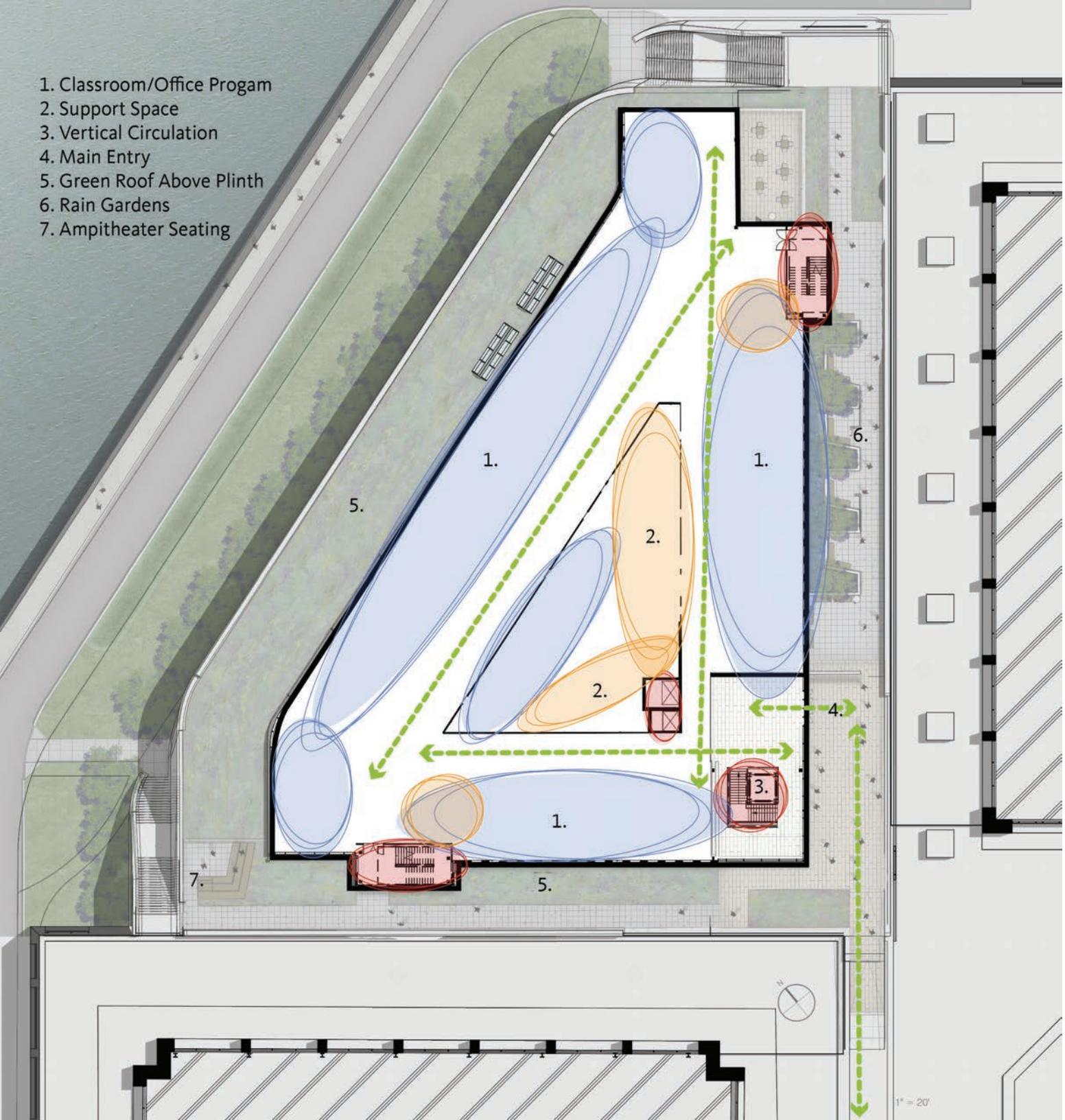
MASSING PROCESS



PLAN LEVEL 1 DIAGRAM

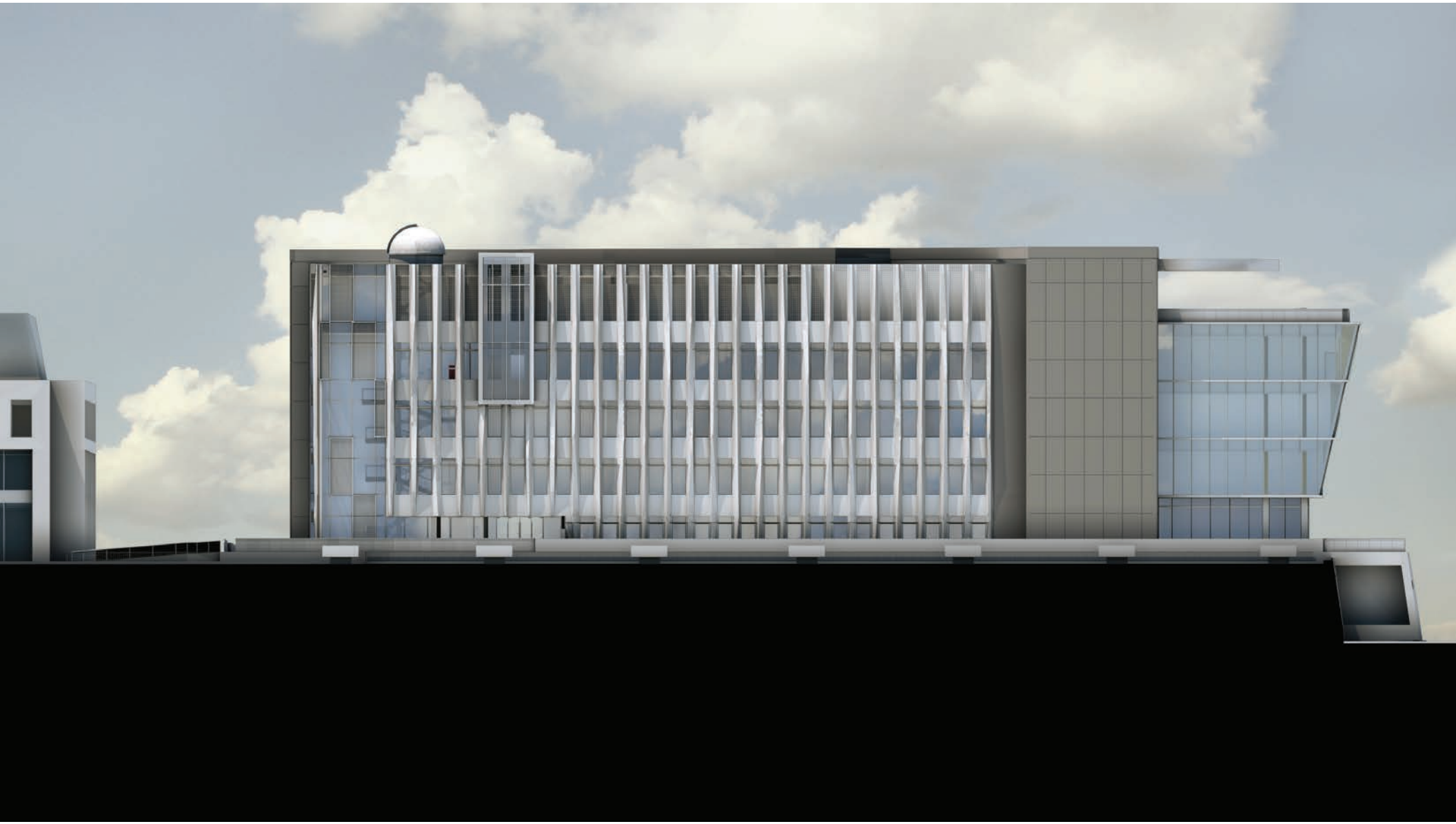
EXTERIOR VIEW, DORSEY CREEK FACADE

MULTIPURPOSE ROOM TERRACE

RICKOVER VIEW TERRACE

LOBBY SECTION

LONGITUDINAL SECTION



RICKOVER ELEVATION