

EXAMINING CIVIC PRESENCE:
A CITY HALL
IN SURREY

by

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B.A., The University of Alberta, 1993

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in

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School of Architecture

We accept this thesis as conforming to the required standard

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

MAY 1997

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Department of School of ARCHITECTURE

The University of British Columbia
Vancouver, Canada

Date 1997 05 12 (MAY)

ABSTRACT

...architecture has been defined as environmental communication, a network of interaction: (a) between designers and the users, through the designer's "intended messages", (b) between [human] and the material world through the observation of messages read in similarities and differences structured in matter either in the form of "object systems of "behaviour patterns", and finally (c) between [humans] and [their] past and future through [their] association with all of the above forms and functions in immediate and distant space and time, and memories and their compilation in culture.¹

Asghar Talaye Minai 1984

Culture plays an integral part in the expression of human abstract meaning. With architecture as the experiential expression of these meanings, human cultures have recorded hopes, desires, aspirations, and political and cultural ideologies in their built structures. Thus city and town halls have always promoted community image through the structure of the hall. The purpose of the city hall has remained relatively unchanged, however, form has evolved with changing behaviour patterns relating to culture and architectural 'styles'.

A new city hall for Surrey is necessary to symbolize their new status as a city and the importance they place on their future plans and aspirations. With this in mind a look at North American Postmodern culture and values is used to evaluate the history and symbolism of past town halls. Research uncovered an office concept design used in Europe and Japan that is both democratic and humane. Using this as a base for the administrative legacy of Surrey municipality and the planning concepts targeting the area surrounding the chosen site the design incorporates public accessibility to create presence. The location depicts a suburban legacy progressing towards an urban future connected by a pedestrian oriented plaza with the building split into public and administrative functions flanking the plaza.

¹ Asghar T. Minai, Architecture as Environmental Communication (Berlin: Walter de Gruyter & Co., 1984), p335.

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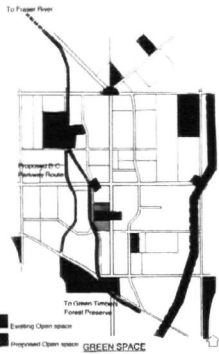
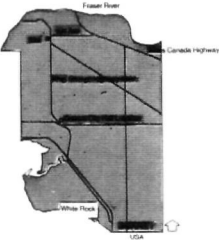
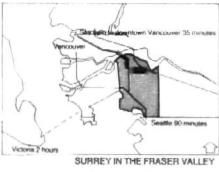
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ACKNOWLEDGMENT

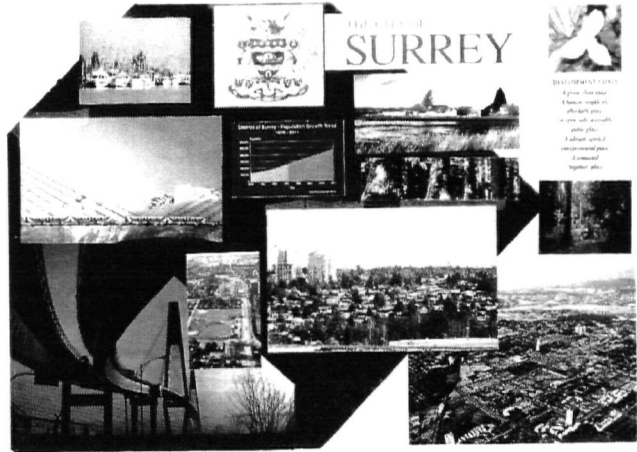
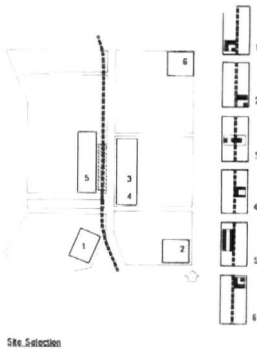
I would like to sincerely thank my committee members for an enjoyable learning experience. The discussions surrounding my thesis were informative, and although answers may not have been formulated, possibilities were explored.

I extend profound thanks to Jim Hepper whose support and understanding during this undertaking are above and beyond what I can reciprocate.

The Surrey Planning department was very helpful in providing all the research material used in formulating a design. I also wish to thank Surrey Facilities Management department for their helpfulness.



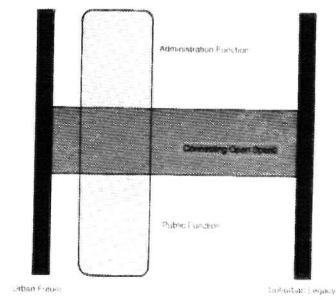
- Must be adjacent to Skytrain station to promote best automobile commuting. Future consideration to have satellite City Hall offices along the Skytrain. Promotes fast access to Vancouver for cultural functions.
- Must be visible as a regional landmark by nature as well as an urban landmark and residents of the city. Location as a major corridor is important for "Presence".
- Should incorporate the open space concept prominently into the design. Must be integral to the open space, not apart from it.
- 1. #102 and City Parkway, City Hall site set off highway
- 2. #102 Avenue and King George, significance is only for traffic
- 3. Envelopes Skytrain into City Hall. Very urban but many transportation and public access elements
- 4. Recent Arts Council's future plans
- 5. City Parkway, incorporates City Hall into Parkway corridor. Path runs between buildings. Set off highway: very suburban, no regional recreation zones
- 6. #102 and King George, geographically the centre of downtown. Presence for auto traffic only



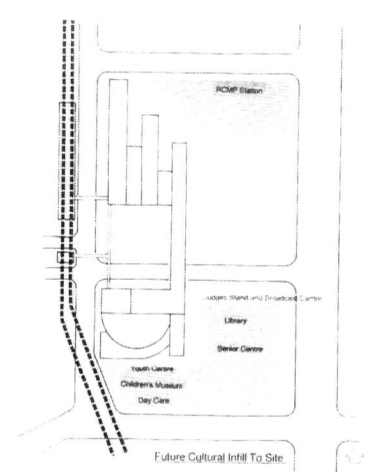
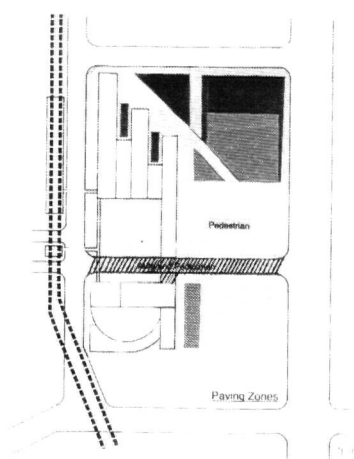
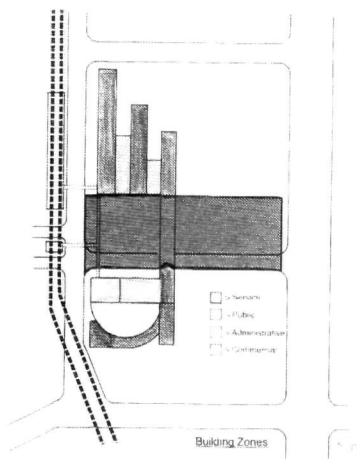
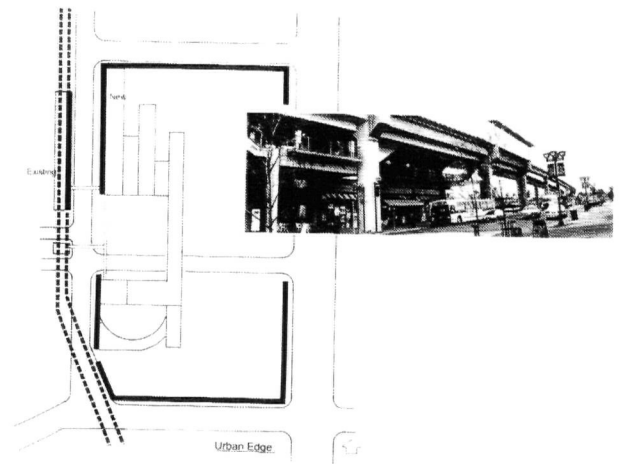
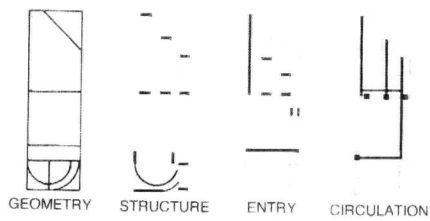
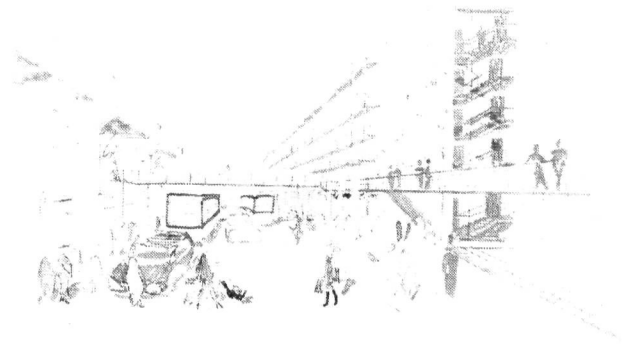
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Laurel Delaney Hopper
Spring 1997 Graduate Project
Coordinator: Hoyt Wabnitz, Doug Patterson, Ray Pradinski

CONTEXT & CONCEPTS

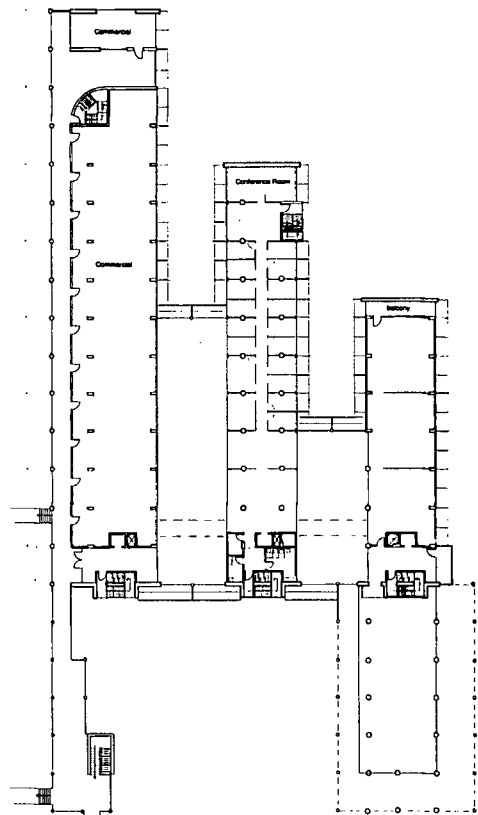
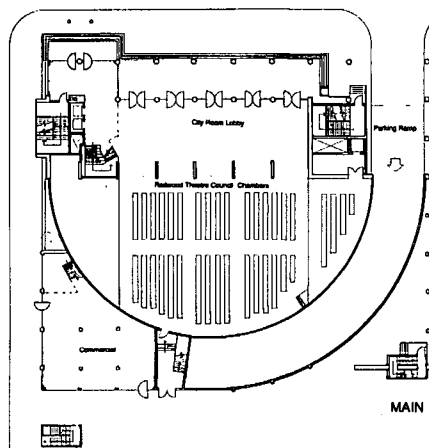
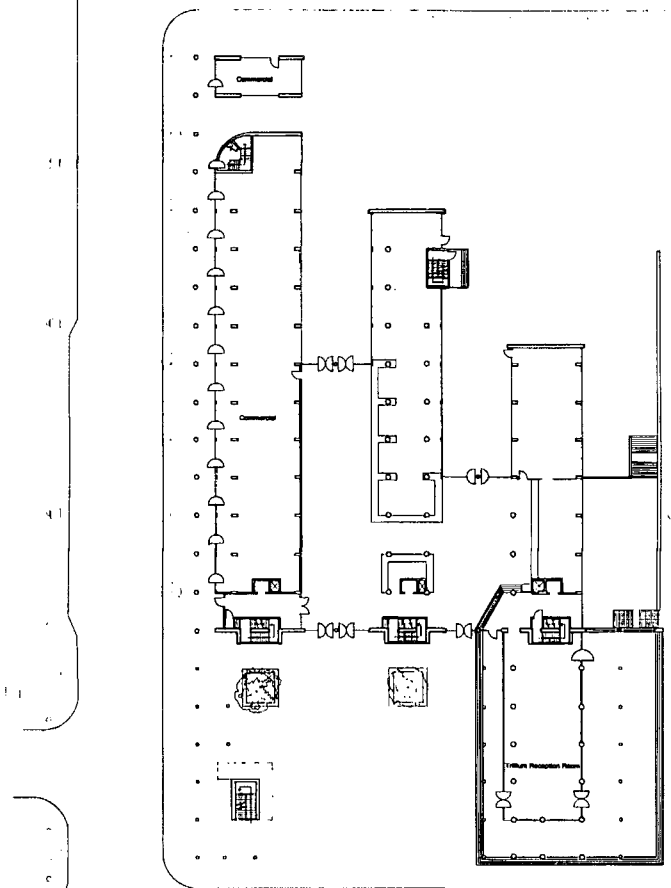


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CONCEPTS



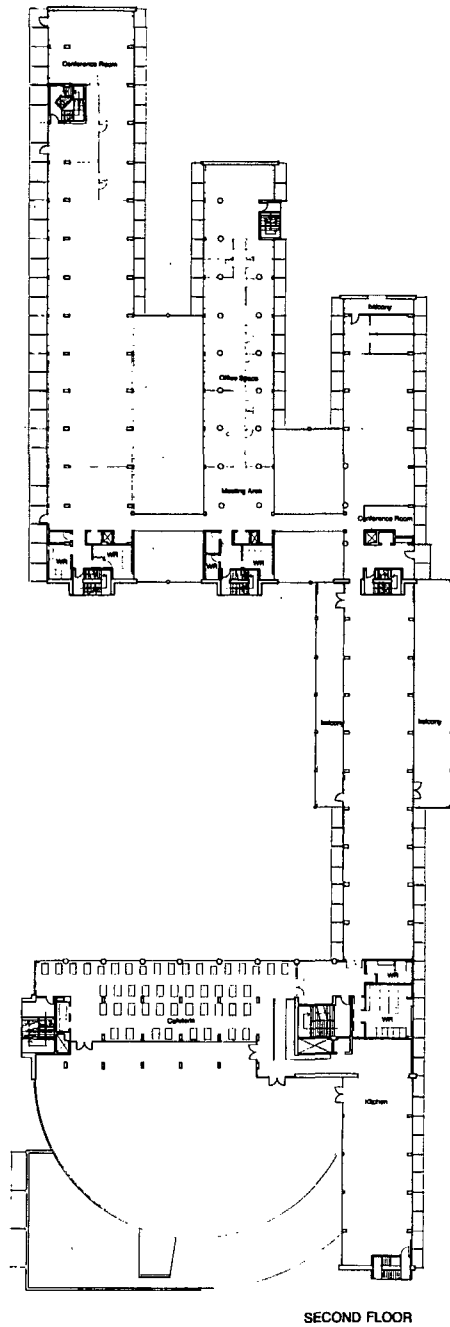
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Laurel O'Leary Hopper
Spring 1997 Circulation Project
Commission: Ron Walker Group Patterson Ray Prud'homme

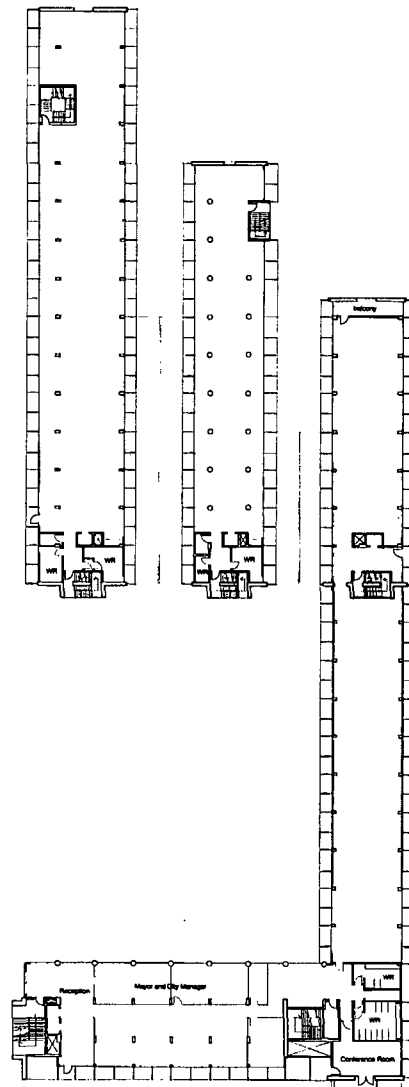
PLANS:
Main and Mezzanine
Levels

1/8" = 1'-0"

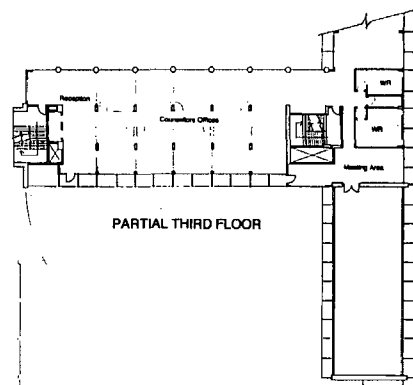




SECOND FLOOR



FOURTH FLOOR



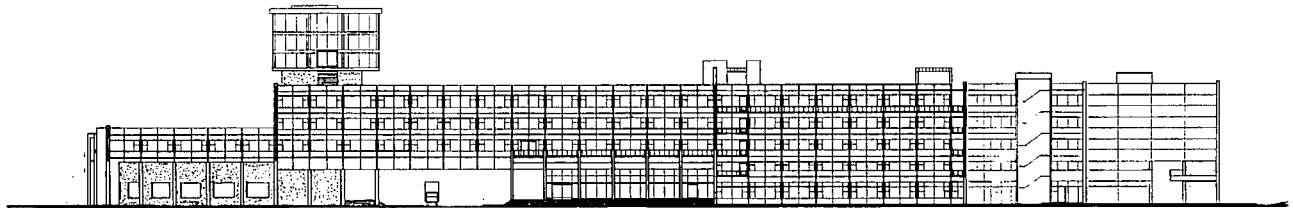
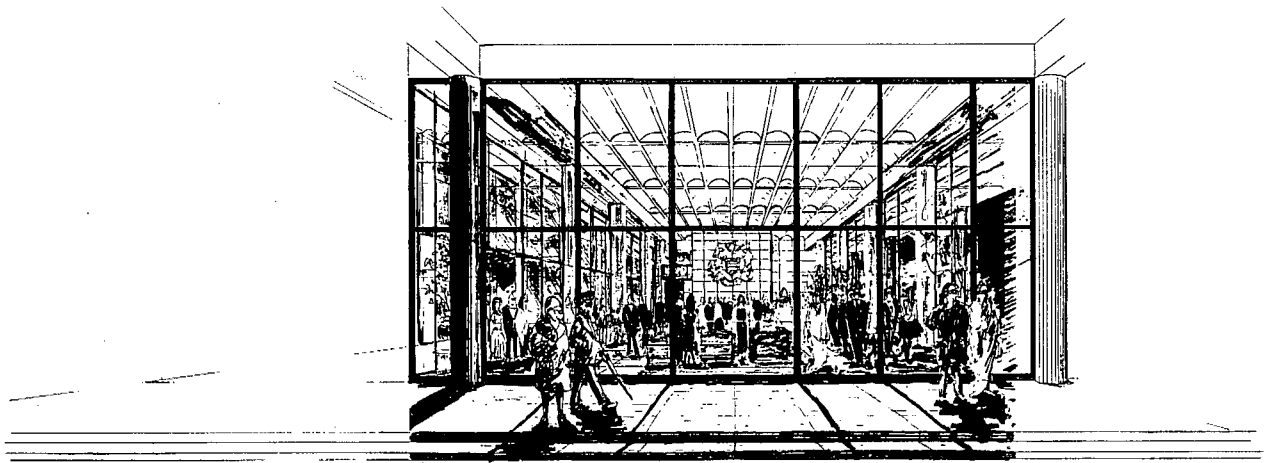
PARTIAL THIRD FLOOR

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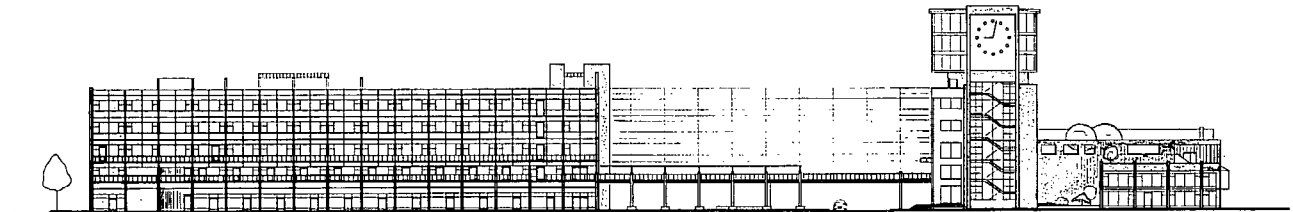
Laurie Delane Hepper
Spring 1987 Circulation Project
Committee: Ron Watley, Doug Patterson, Ray Prodnur

PLANS:
Second, Partial
Third and Fourth
Levels

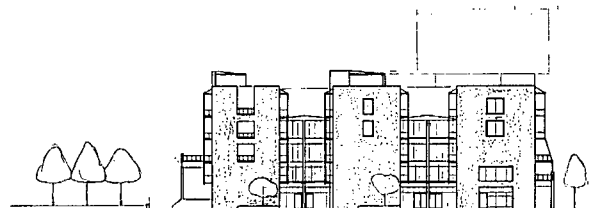




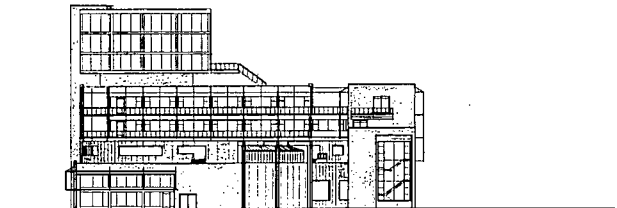
ELEVATION FROM KING GEORGE HIGHWAY



ELEVATION FROM CITY PARKWAY



ELEVATION FROM 103 AVE



ELEVATION FROM 102 AVE

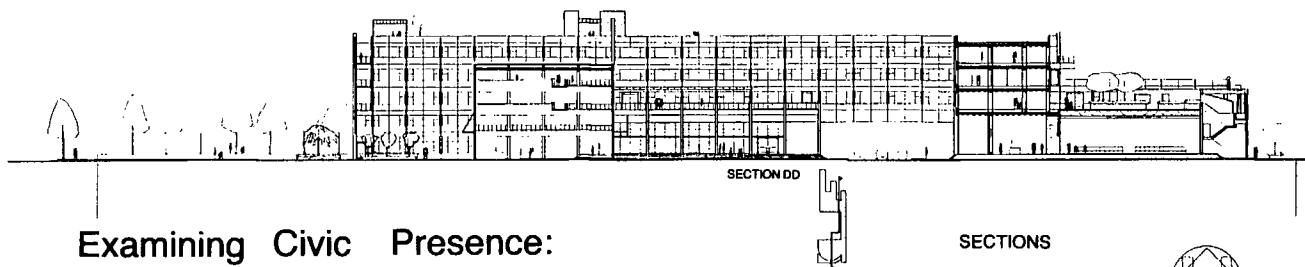
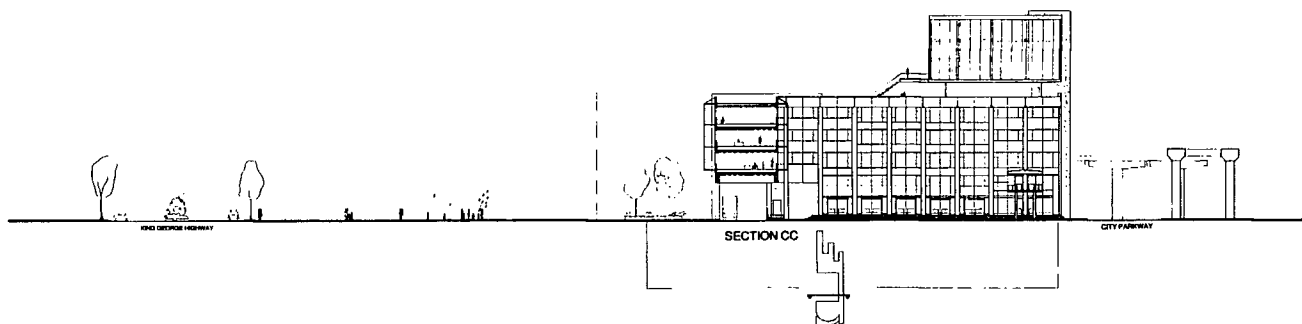
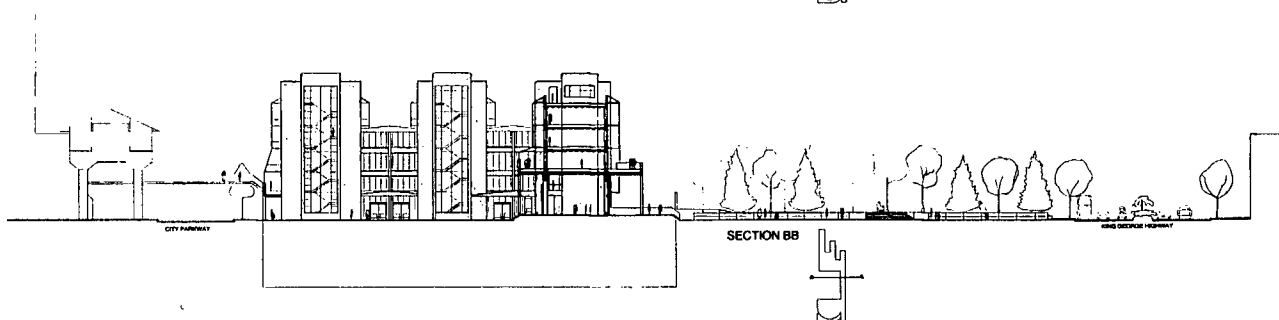
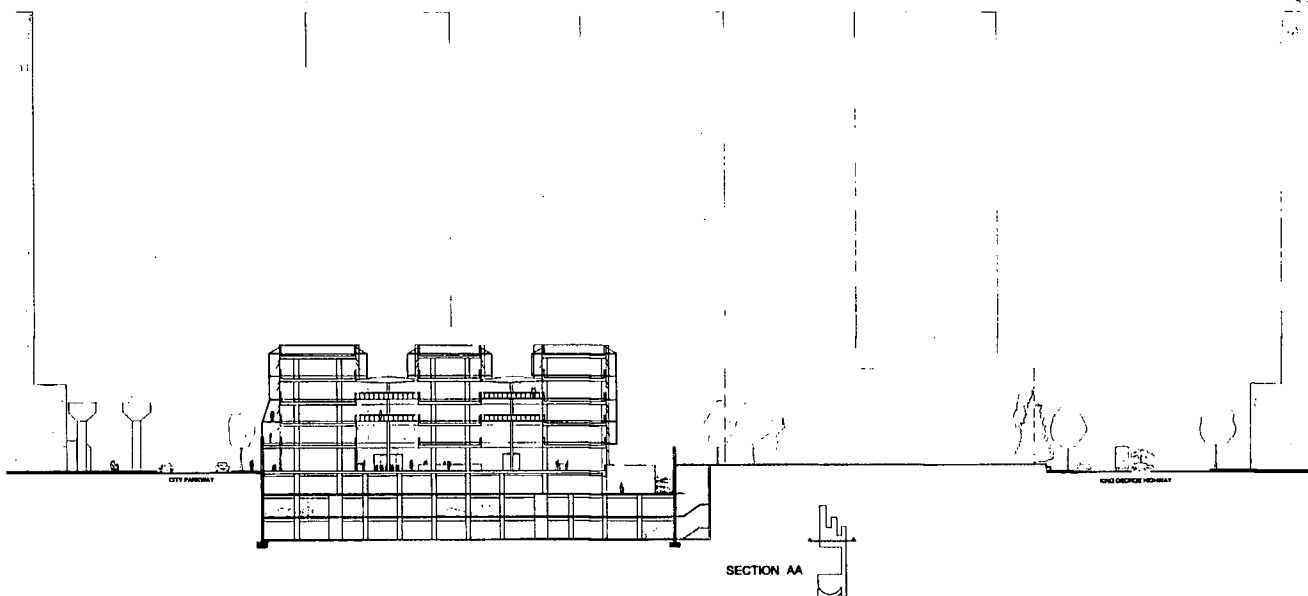


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Lead Architect: [illegible]
 Design: [illegible]
 Construction: [illegible]

ELEVATIONS





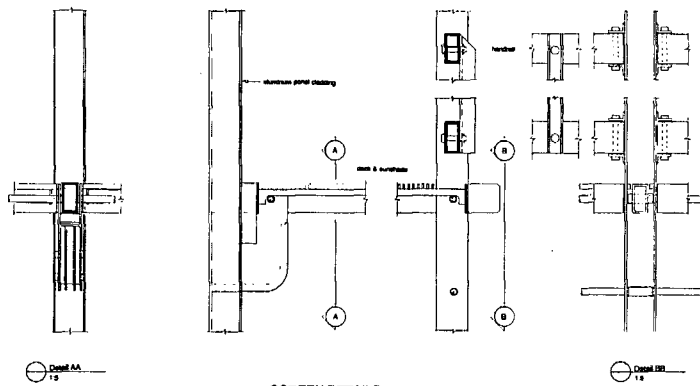
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Lauren O'Brien, Designer
Surrey 1987 Development Project
Consultants: Ron Wootley, Craig Patterson, Ray Proulx

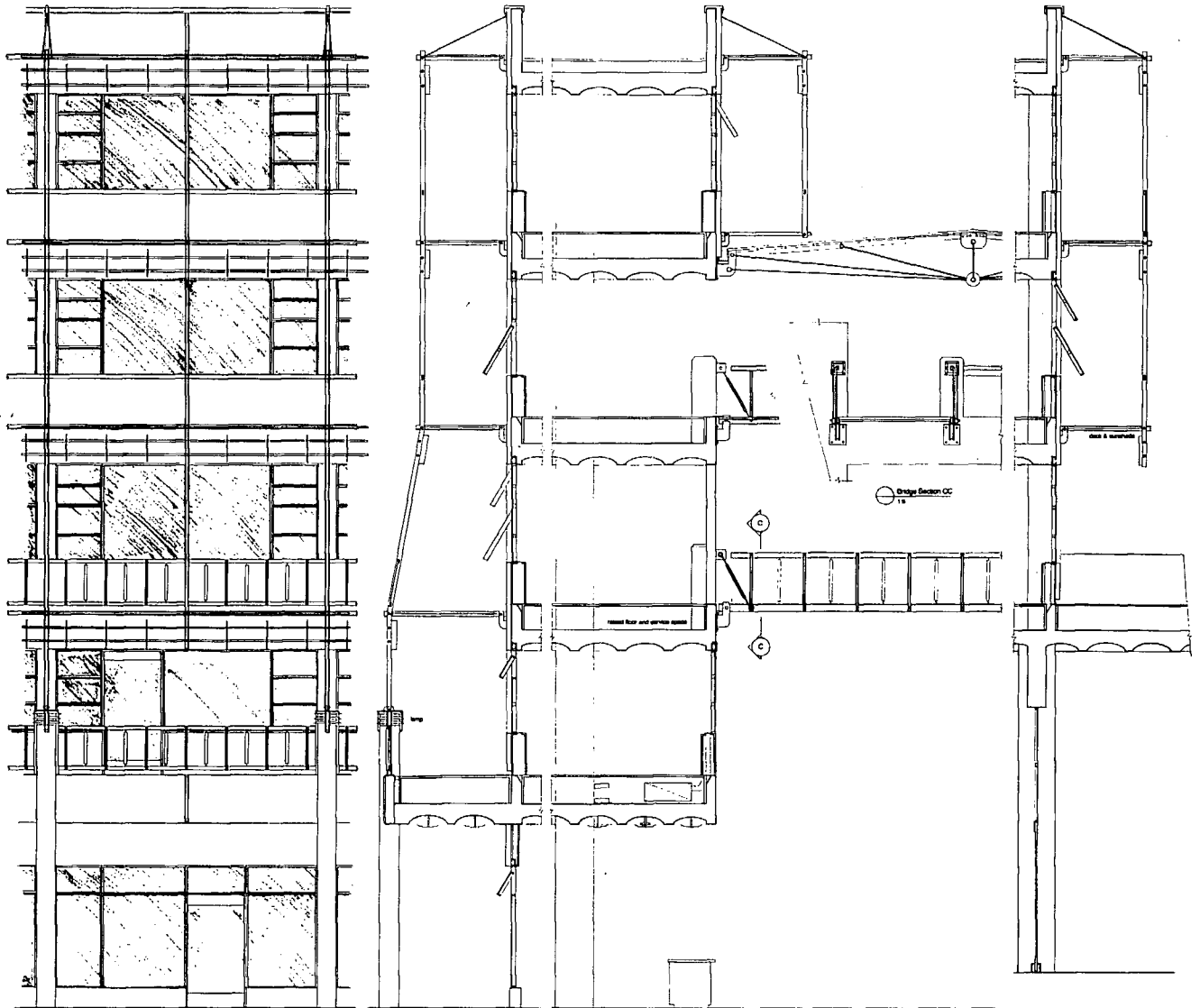
SECTIONS



0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100



SCREEN DETAILS



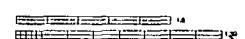
DETAIL ELEVATION

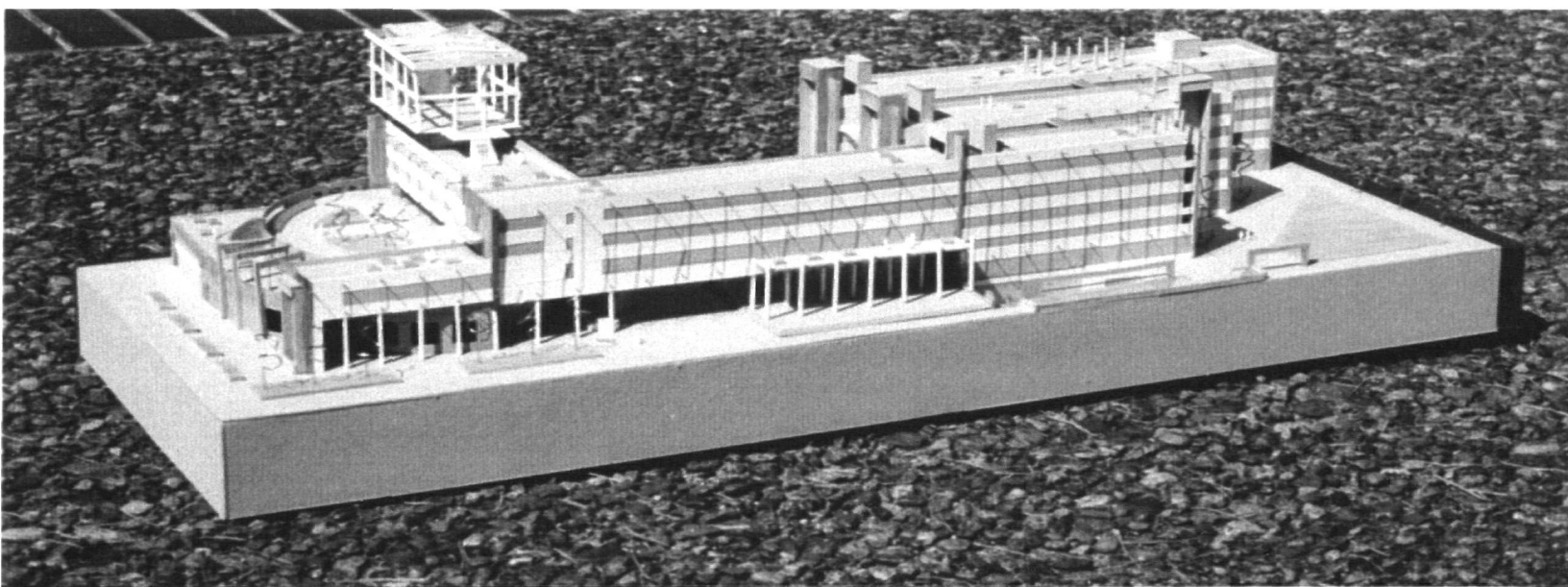
DETAIL OF SECTION AA

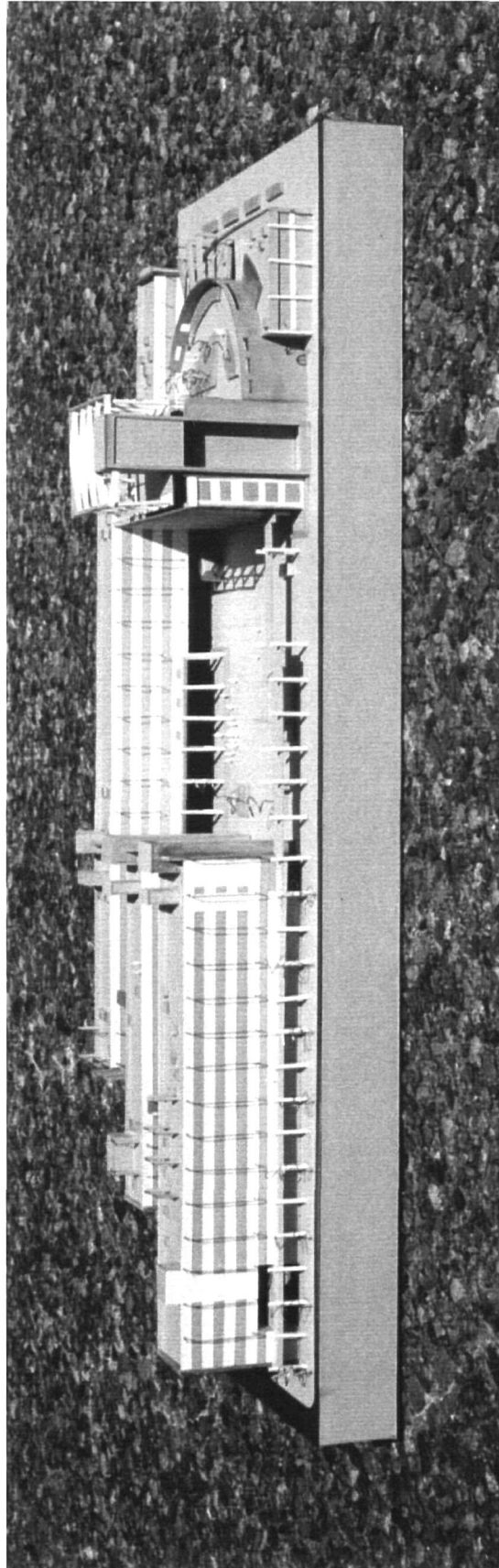
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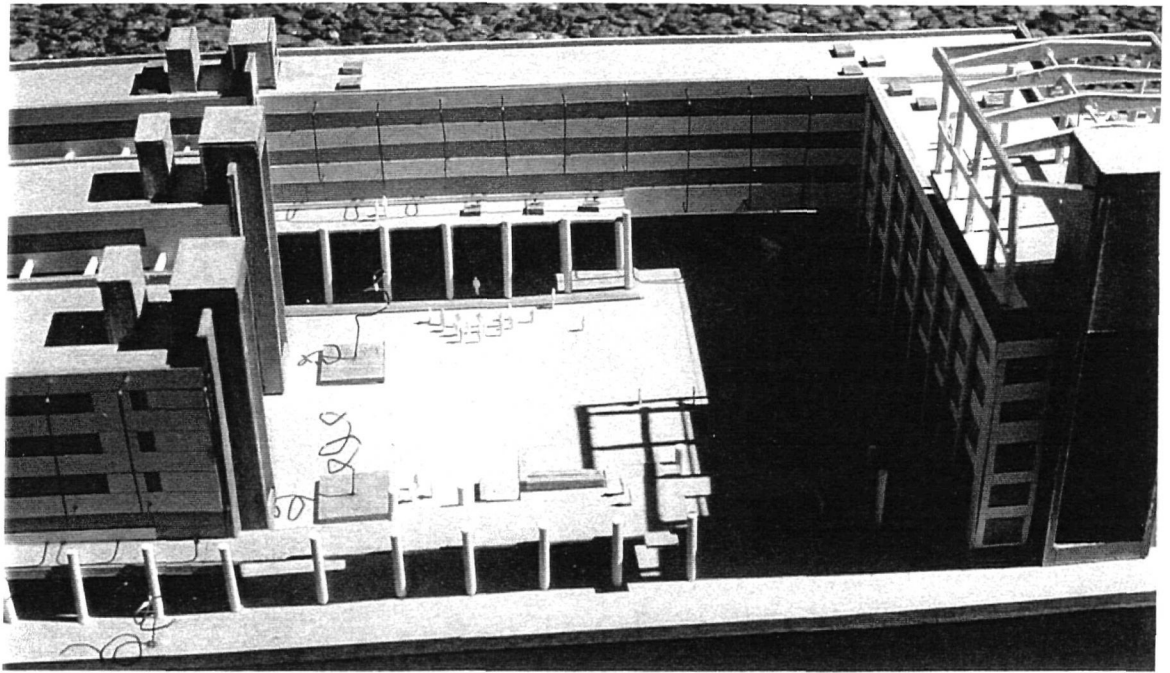
LAURENCE DESIGN GROUP
Surrey 1987/1988/1989 Project
Commissioned by: Rick Walcott Doug Patterson Ray Prosser

DETAILS

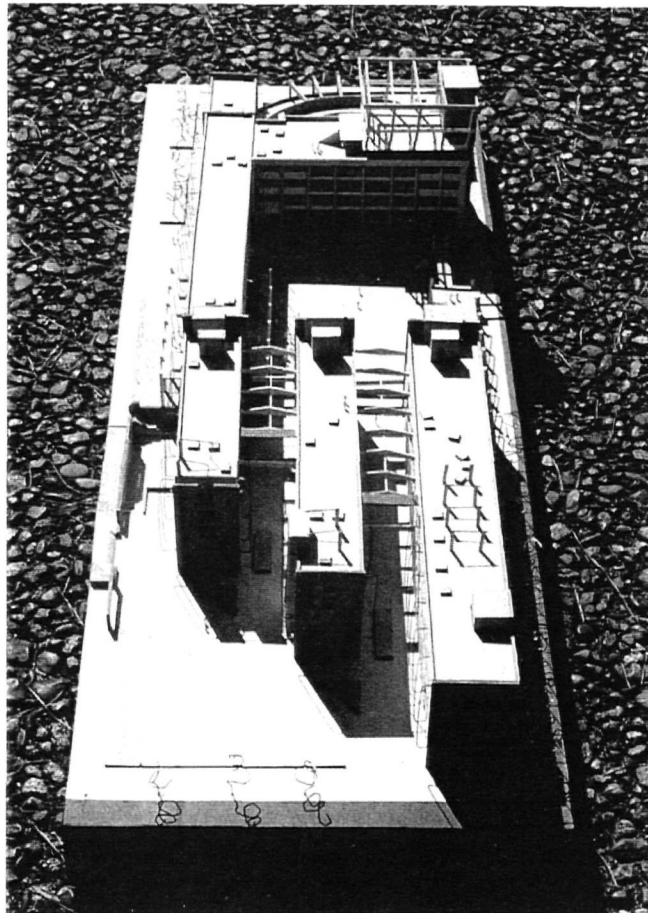








A



B