

**WEST 111th
STREET
PEOPLE'S
GARDEN**





Riverside Park

Avery Hall

Morningside Park

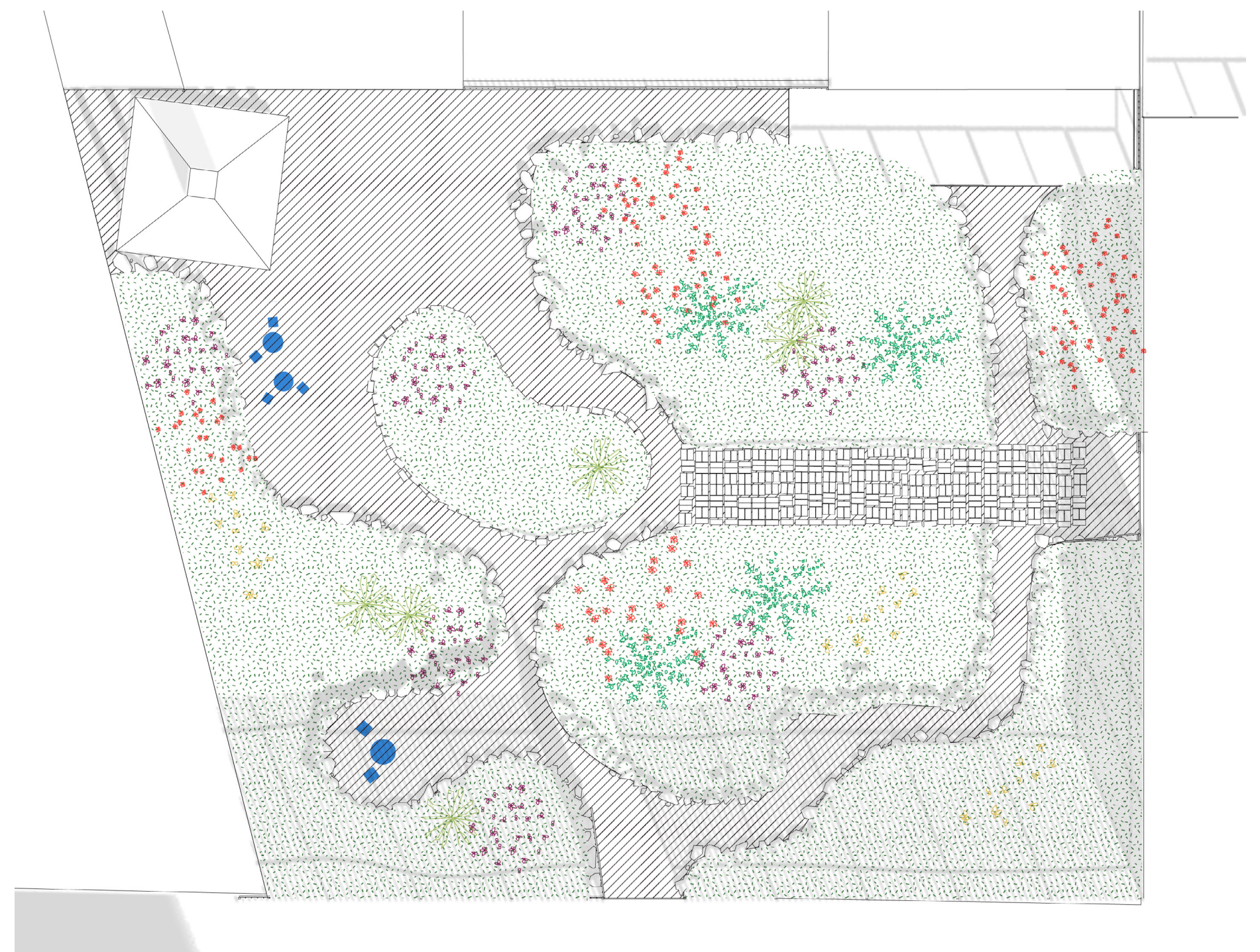
Julia's Garden

1

B

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Julia's Garden



Objects in Garden

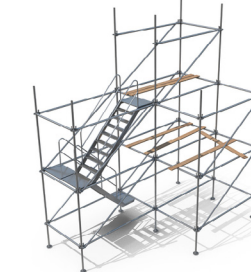
An important element within the site, the scaffolding is also an important element in New York

1



wood pavilion

2



Scaffolding

3



Tall trees

People's Activity

According to the research, people often stay alone in the garden and there is not enough connection

1



wondering

2



viewing phone

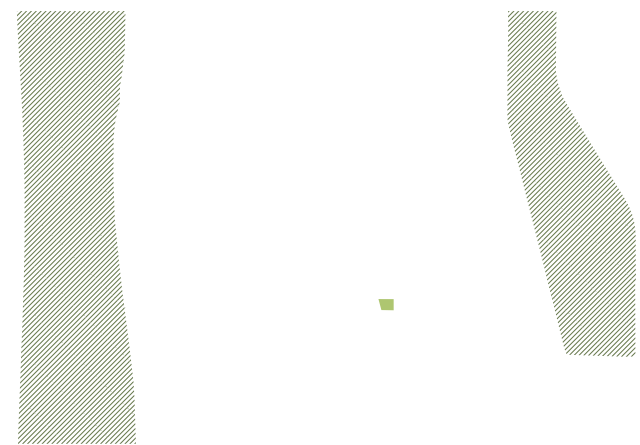
3



viewing phone

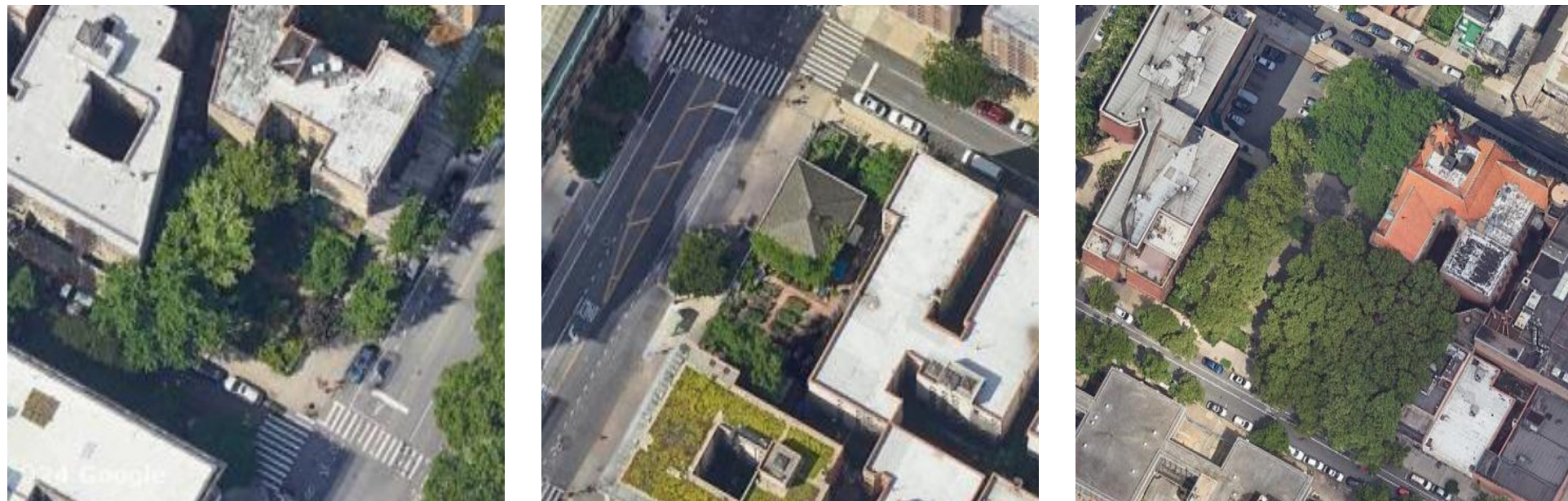
Julia's Garden is named in memory of Julia George - a longtime neighborhood resident. It is a NYC Parks GreenThumb Garden located at West 111th Street and Amsterdam Avenue, on the NORTHWEST corner. The Garden is NOT the Peace Fountain site, which is across the street, next to the Cathedral of St. John the Divine.

Location Characteristics



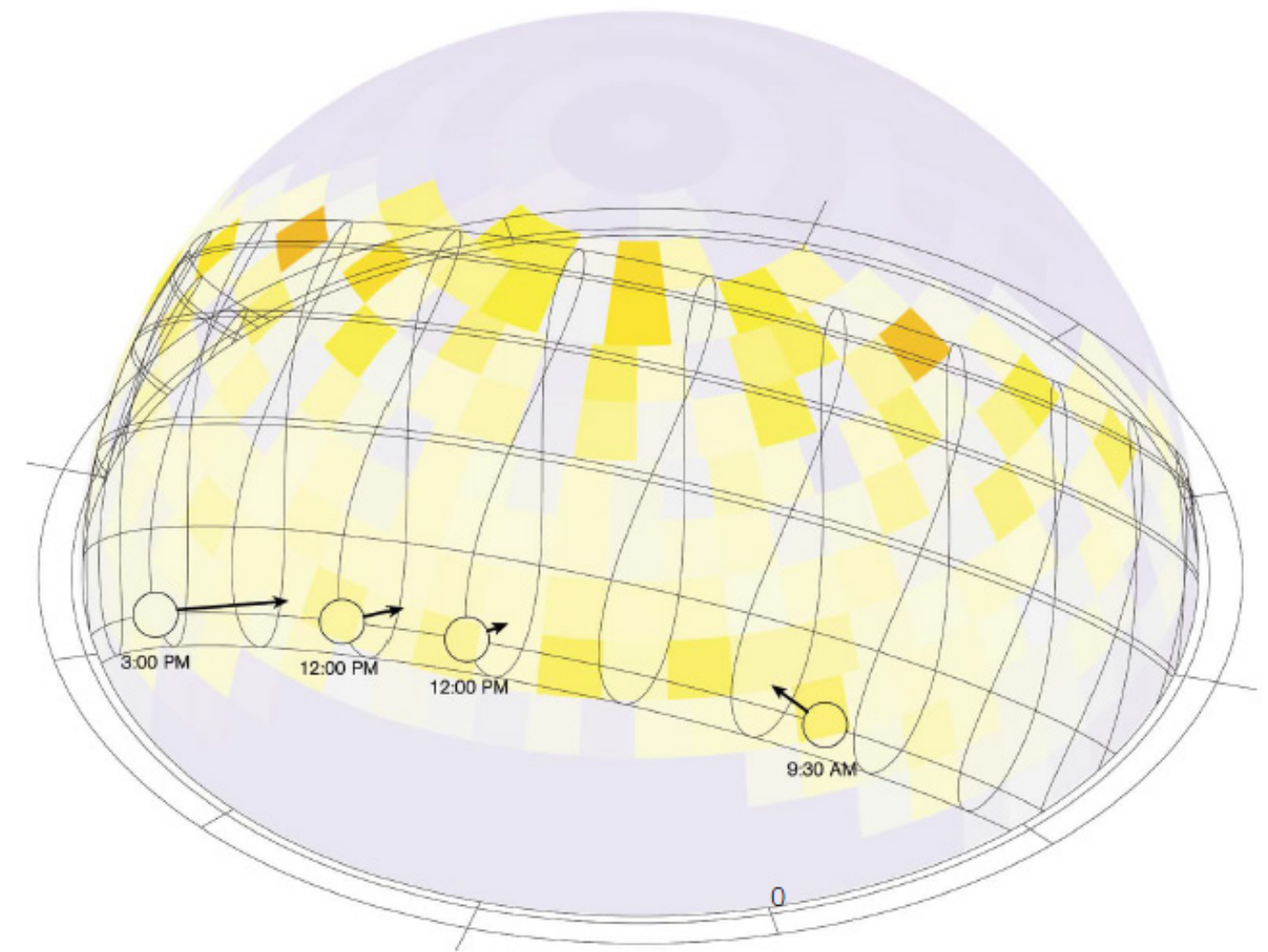
The garden is located between two huge parks on the upper westside. Therefore, the function of the garden should not just be a simple garden, but should also play a role in promoting community connection.

Area comparison with the neighboring community gardens



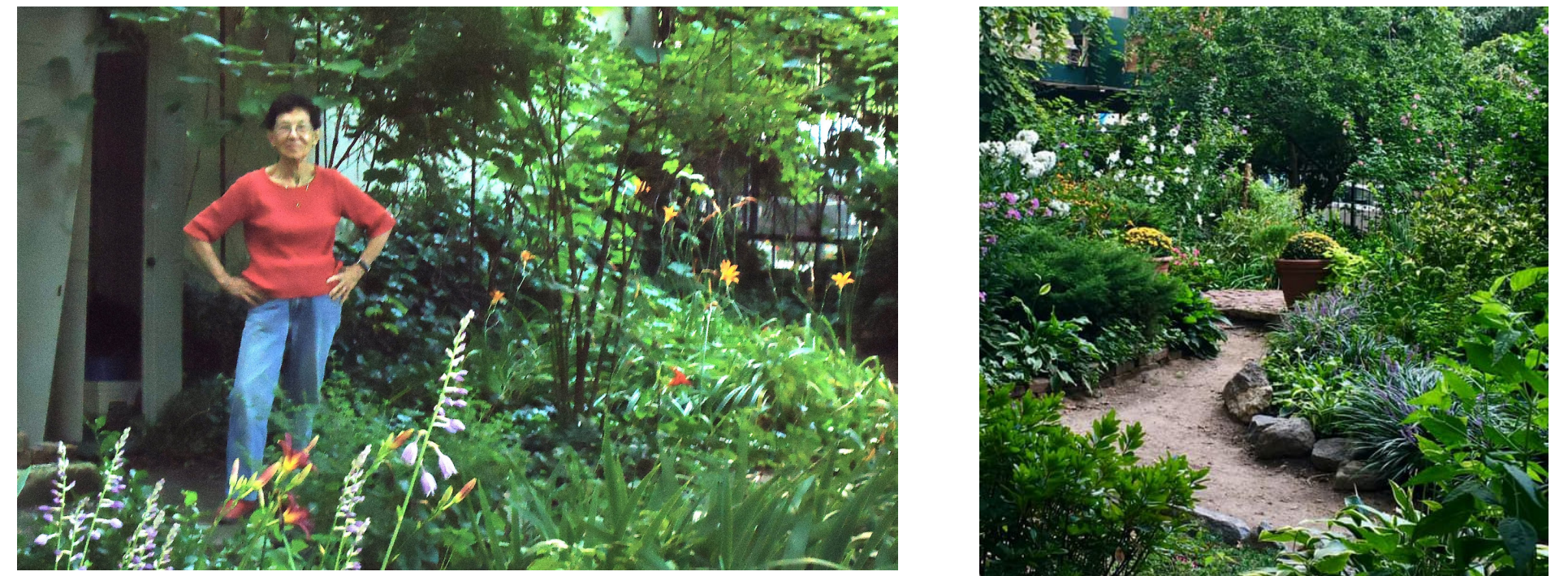
The overall area of the garden is relatively small among community gardens, and because of this, finding additional space upwards has become an inevitable move.

Daylight Daigram



Because the entire site is surrounded by buildings, the lighting conditions are poor. Therefore, looking for space upwards can reasonably avoid the surrounding blockage, and at the same time, the bottom space is divided into community theaters that do not require too much sunlight.

History of the Garden

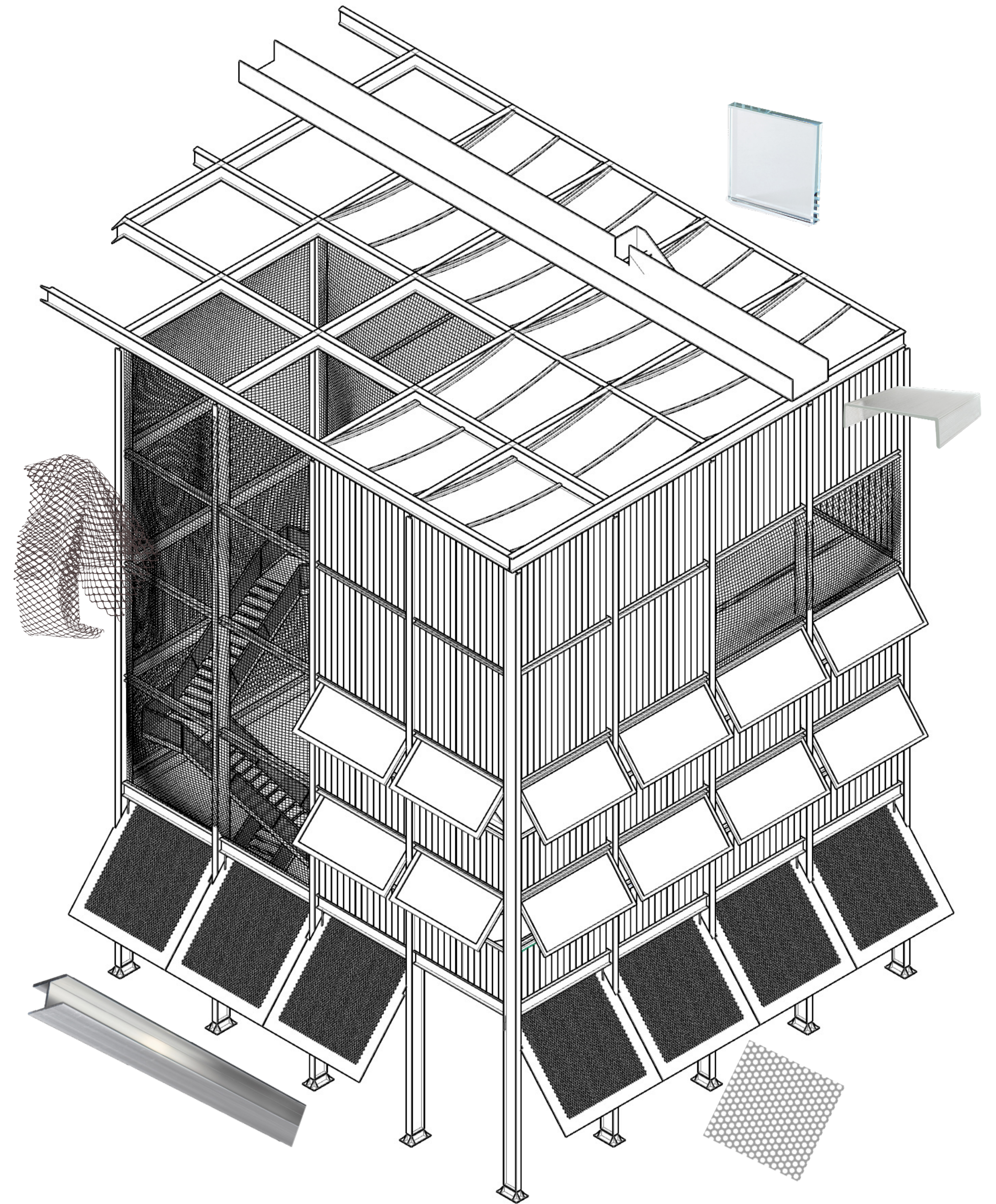
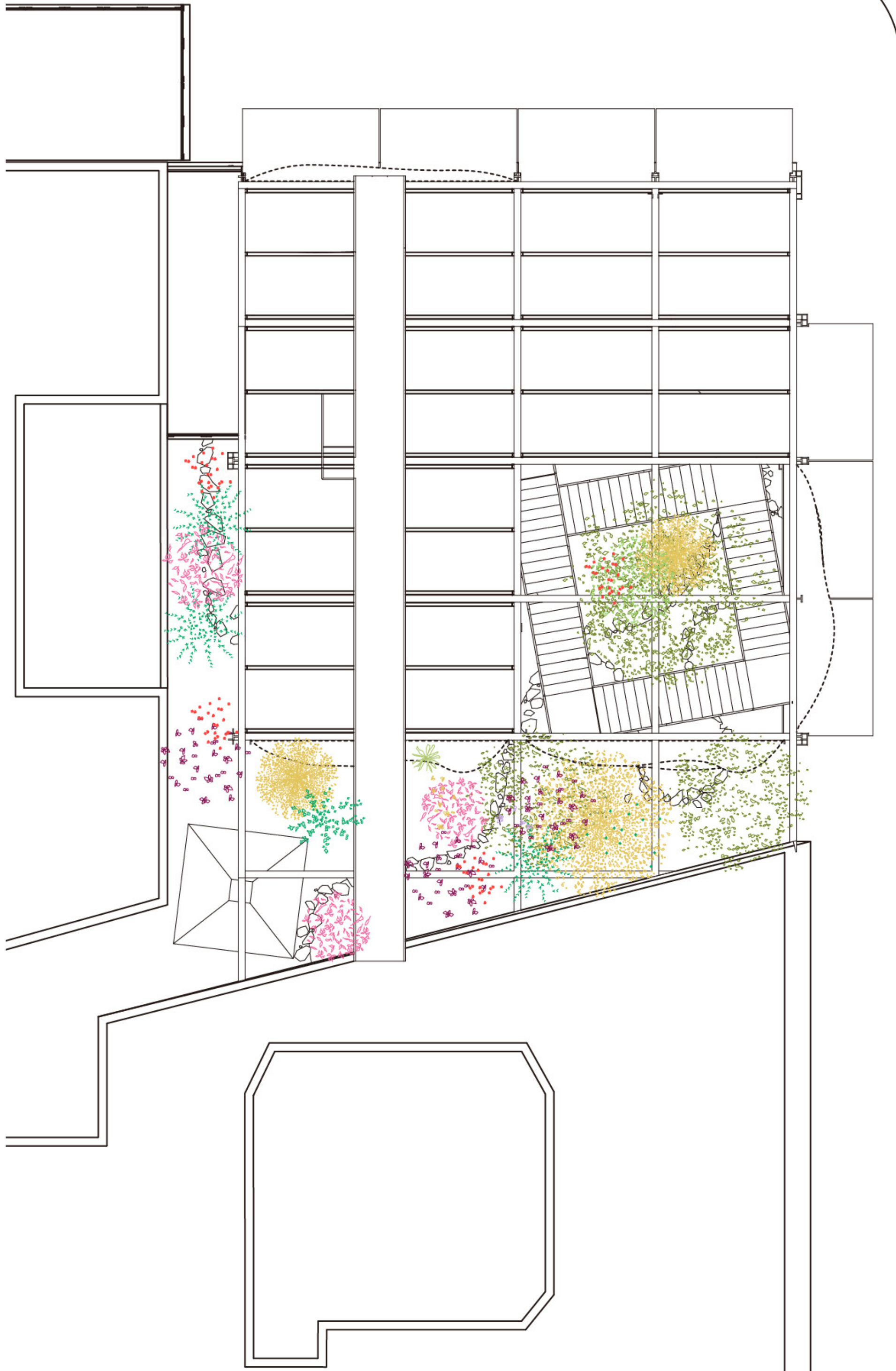


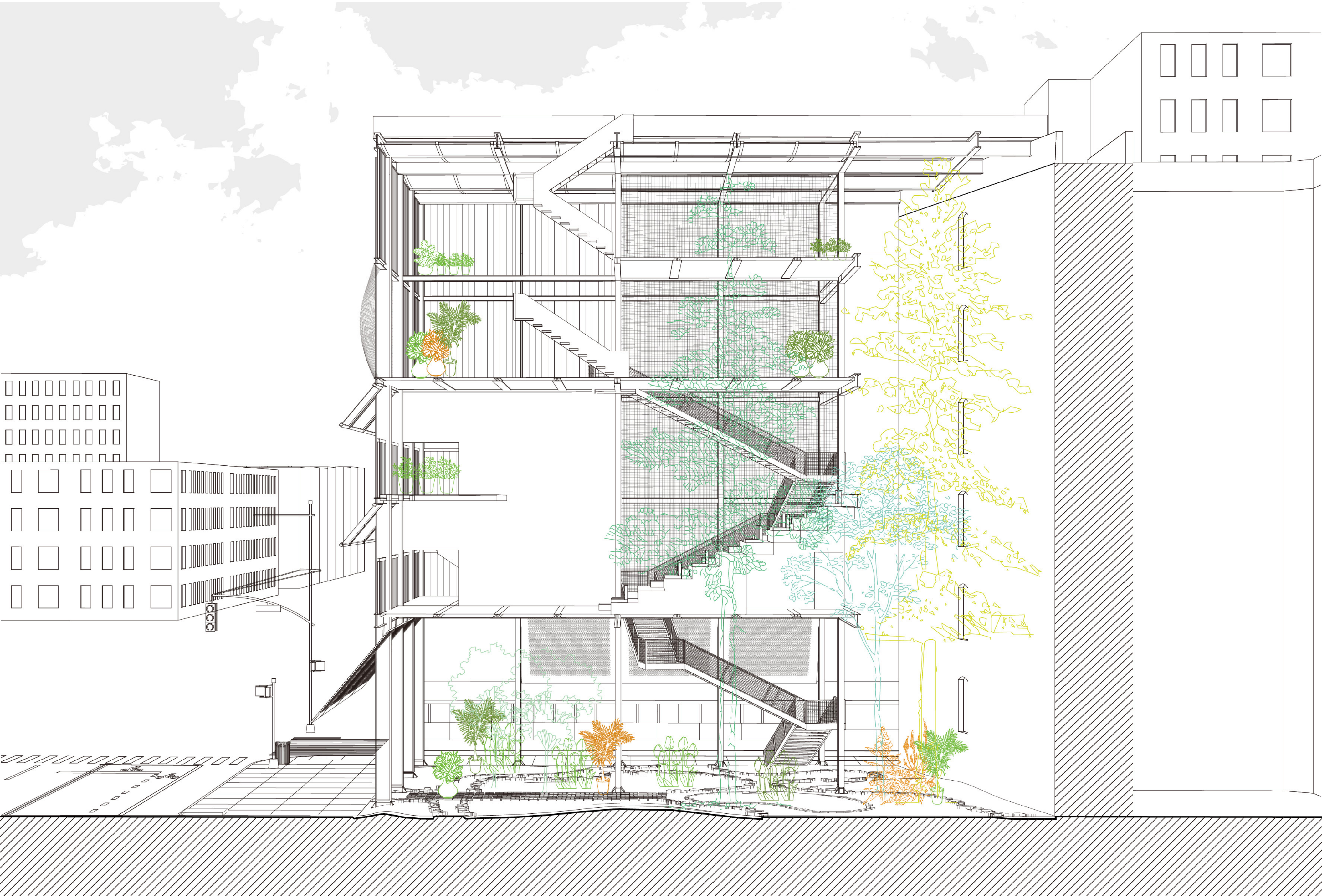
Judy Elster is the secretary of the garden's steering committee and a stalwart of the institution in her own right. After a long Saturday of planting echinacea, doing battle with slugs, and trimming overgrown weeds from the garden paths, she sat on the garden's benches and told me the reason she thought the new name was so apt: "The garden wasn't named for Julia because she was a donor, or a hotshot. It was because she was someone we could relate to. She was defending her home," she told me, referring to Julia's work to prevent the garden and its adjoining apartments from being demolished and their tenants evicted. "They were going to knock down 100-year-old buildings to make a nursing home." Turning her head to view the garden around us, she said "You and I would have been sitting in a nursing home. And people like her, they got the developers out – peacefully."

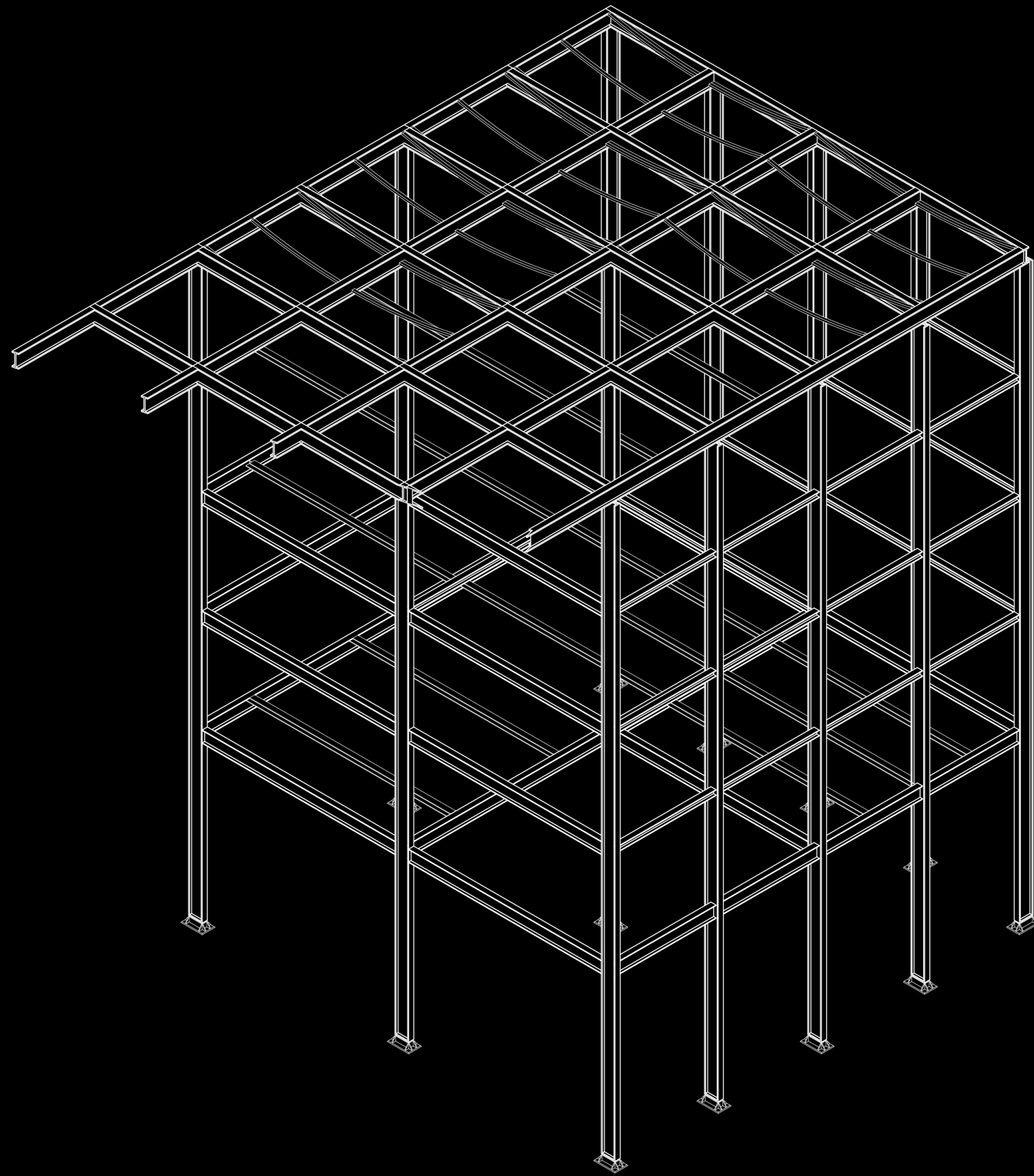


Materials Analysis

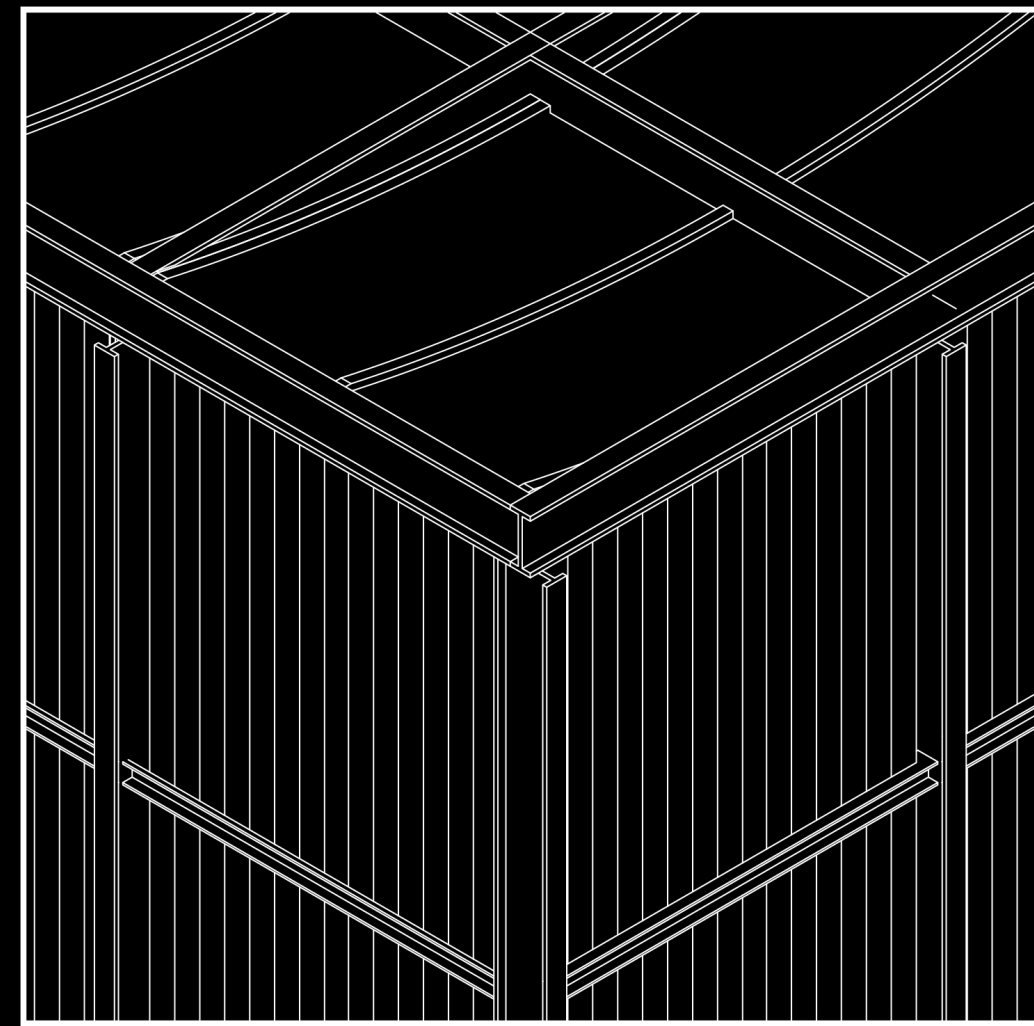
For a new community garden system that requires privacy and light, the choice of materials is particularly critical. Through different penetrating materials such as glass, mesh, and perforated aluminum panels with different transparency, the building's facades in all directions form a unique system.



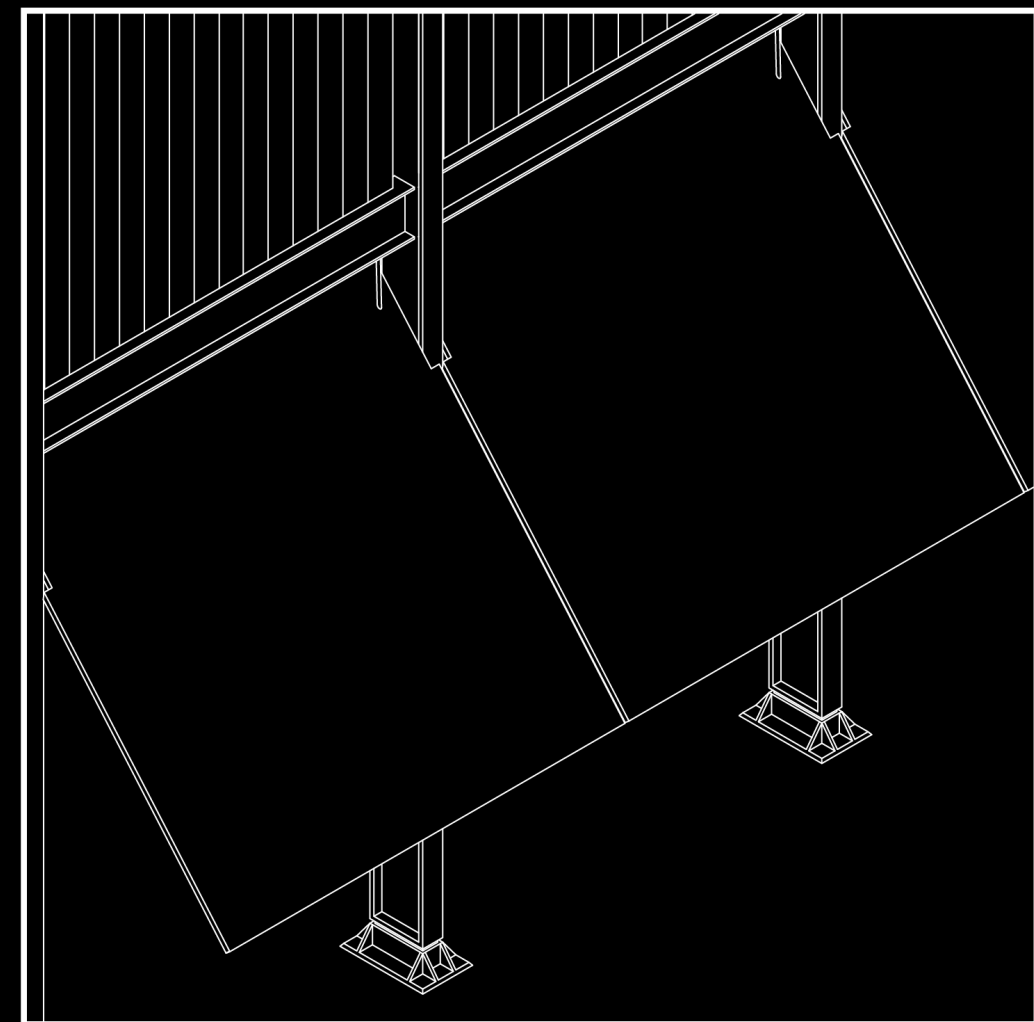




Structurally, the columns on the inside of the building are sparser than on the outside, aiming to make the internal space more open. At the same time, the beams at corresponding positions are also thickened



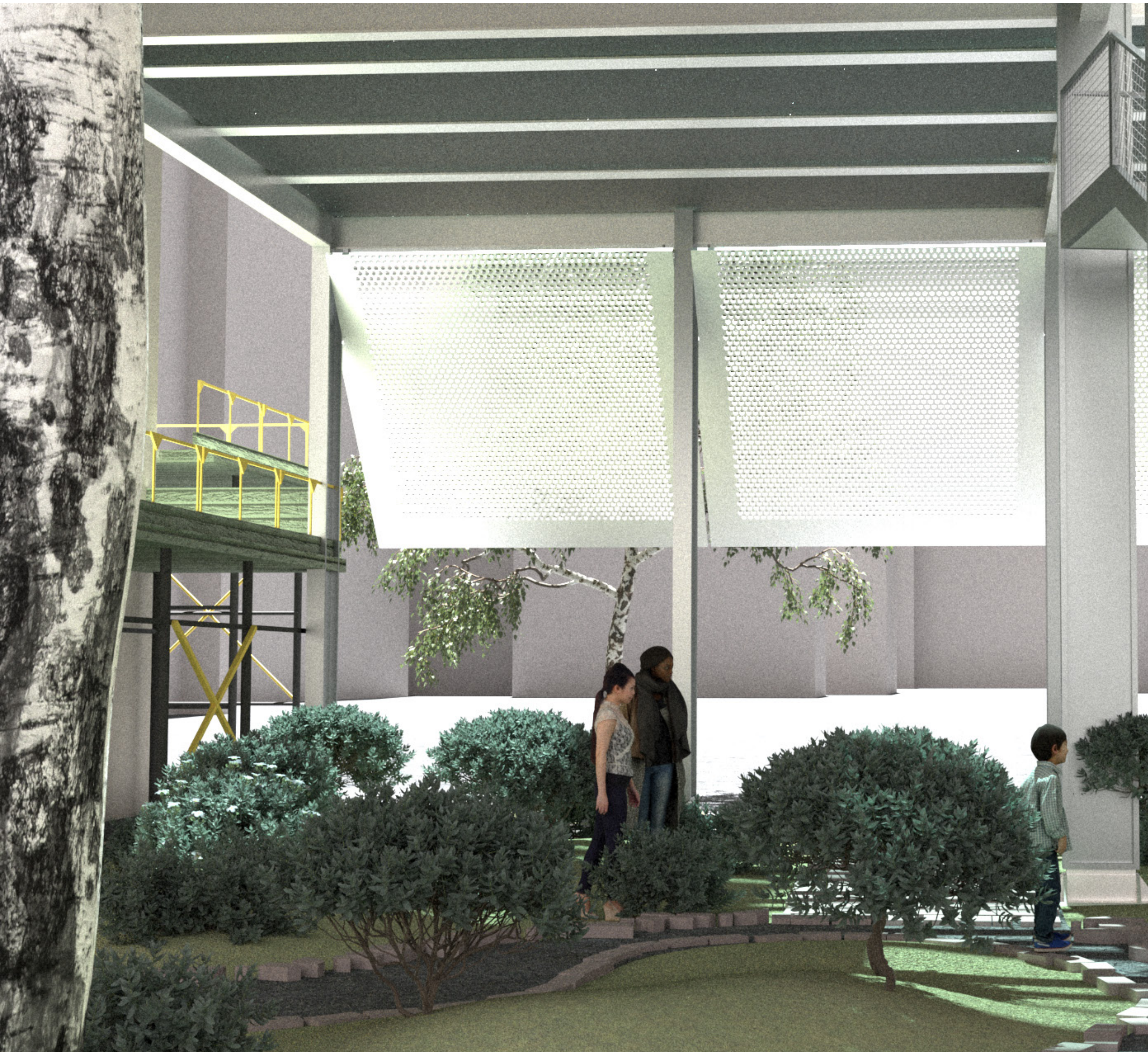
The rainwater collection system on the roof uses curved glass to facilitate collecting



The perforated plate plays a role in reducing barriers and welcoming by imitating the storefront



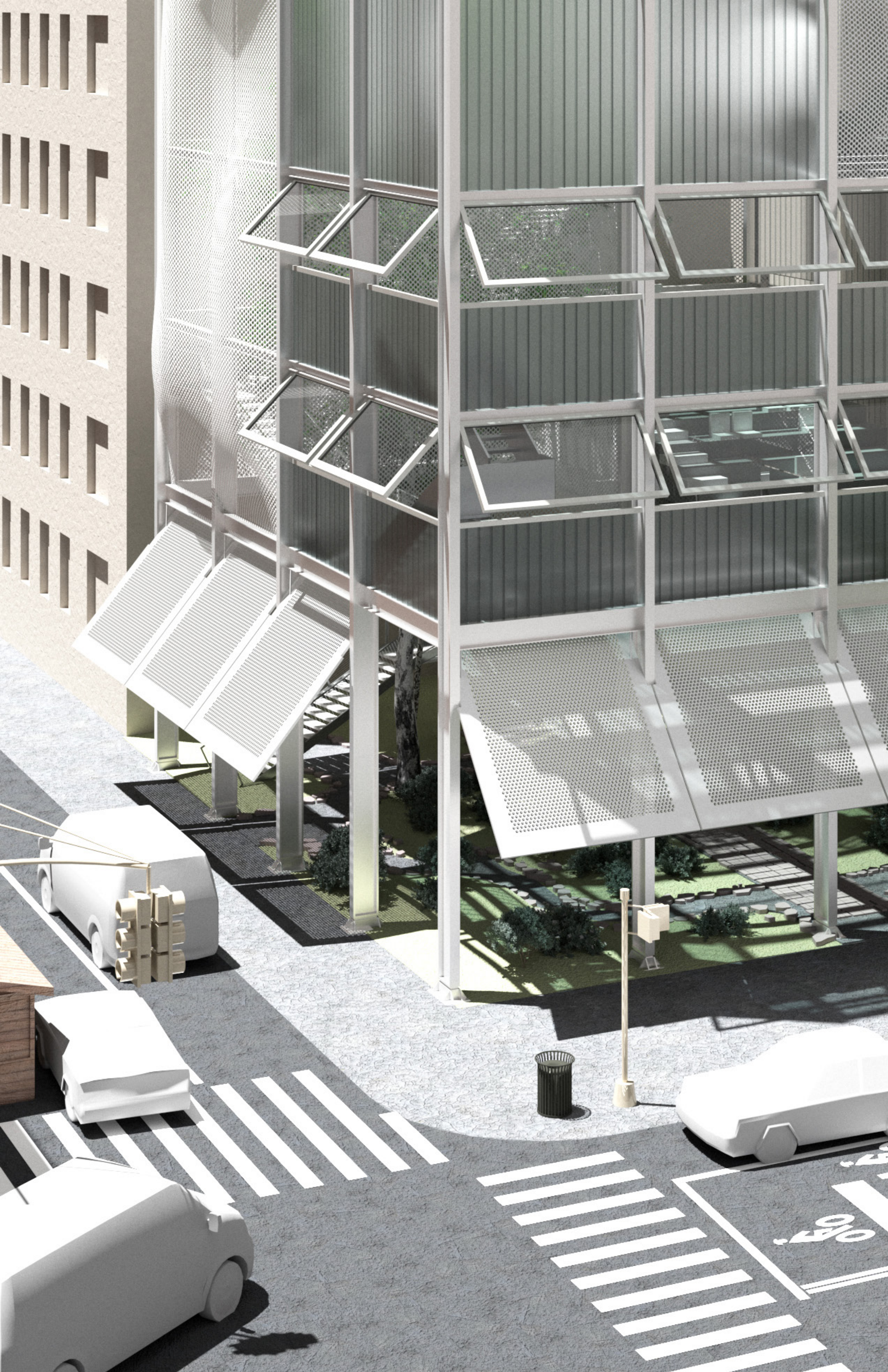
Given to the transparent facade, the original tall trees inside the site can be seen from the street



Columns integrate with the existing garden space and can be used as a community exhibition space



The building floors are all made of glass to ensure the lighting of the bottom garden



Community Garden History

By 1985, there was an estimated 1,000 gardens in New York City

In 1984, GreenThumb established the Garden Preservation Program and introduced ten-year leases. In 1989, a "preservation site" designation was introduced, whereby the City Land Committee conferred a special status to sites for permanent use as community gardens as long as they were actively maintained. That designation became unnecessary in 1995 when GreenThumb fell under the jurisdiction of the Parks Department, further solidifying the permanent status of community garden sites; GreenThumb now licenses parcels to groups and works with them to ensure that standards are met and the gardens are open to the communities in which they are sited. Julia's work to prevent the garden and its adjoining apartments from being demolished and their tenants evicted. "They were going to knock down 100-year-old buildings to make a nursing home." Turning her head to view the garden around us, she said "You and I would have been sitting in a nursing home. And people like her, they got the developers out — peacefully."

In the 1990s, the City indicated that it was looking at selling many of the community garden sites to developers for housing and commercial opportunities. The battle between development and preserving open space, a perennial tension in cities across the world and not limited just to community gardens in New York, culminated in an agreement brokered by then-Attorney General Eliot Spitzer and the City to preserve more than 400 sites across the five boroughs, either leaving them under the jurisdiction of City agencies or transferring them to the Parks Department. (That left approximately 150 parcels open to eventual development for New York's housing needs.) The nonprofit New York Restoration Project (NYRP) was instrumental in preserving these sites, organizing in 1999 to protect gardens across the city, and in more than 50 instances buying the parcels to preserve them in perpetuity. Entertainer Bette Midler helped found NYRP in 1995 and has brought together neighborhood groups, city agencies, and even noted landscape architects to highlight the importance of open space in communities. The group works to remove debris from sites (especially in Northern Manhattan) and restore parcels of land, assist community gardens and gardeners, and raise funds to support these goals. The Trust for Public Land, a national organization devoted to preserving open spaces, is another outside group that works to assist community gardens in the city.