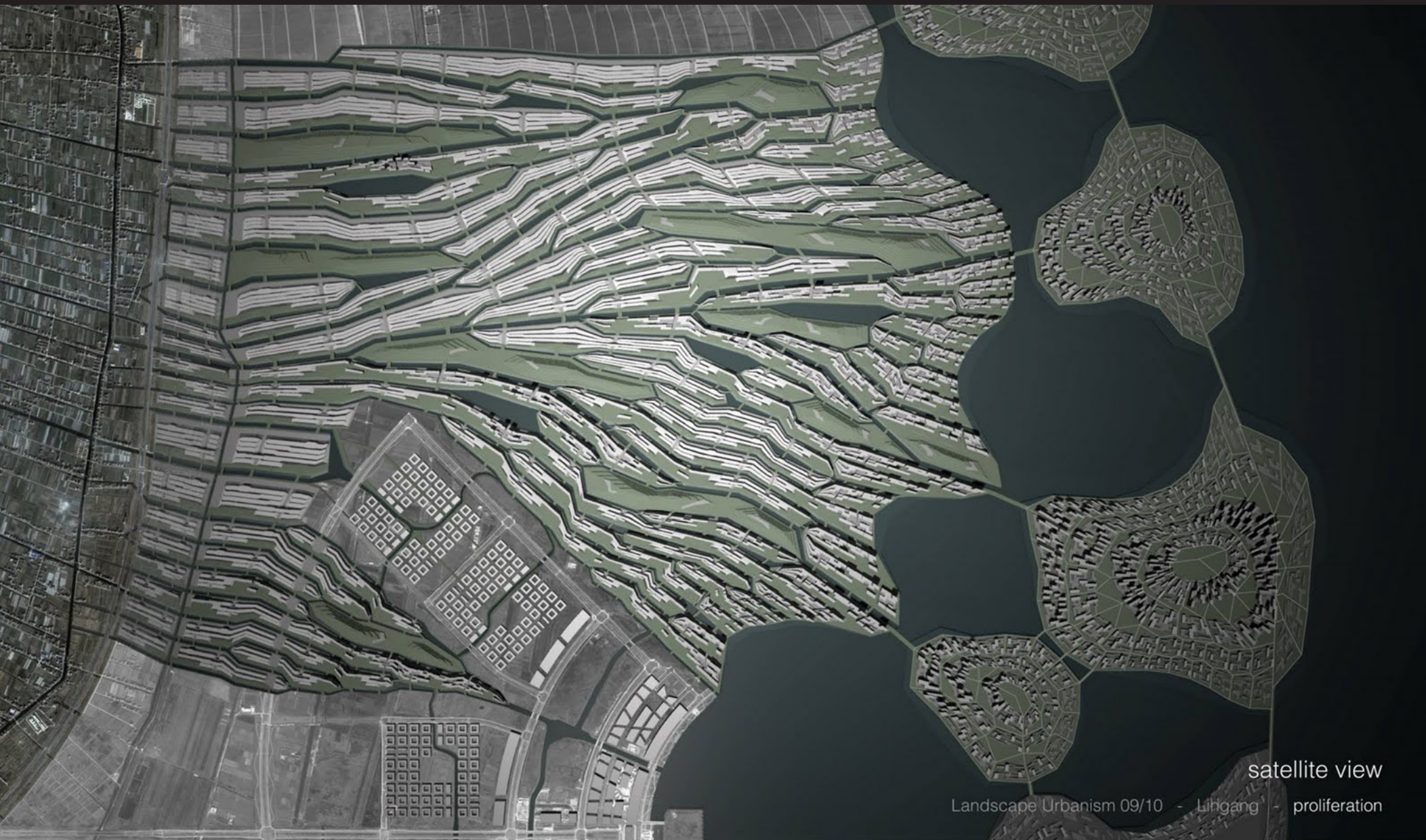
A topographic map of the Fargo City Center area, showing contour lines in yellow and green. The map is set against a black background. The text "Fargo City Center" and "John Nelson" is overlaid in white at the bottom left.

Fargo City Center
John Nelson



Project Premise:

To develop a city center at the parking lot of 3rd St N and 1st ave N. To begin I started the project by researching Landscape Urbanism. Taking the theory into consideration in the development of this unique site and its relation to the Red River.



Landscape Urbanism:

Is a theory of urbanism arguing that landscape, rather than architecture, is more capable of organizing the city and enhancing the urban experience.

- Landscape Urbanism Wikipedia

Design Characteristics

Framed nature

Finger like forms

Beautiful & Expressive
forms

Horizontally inclined

Expensive Projects

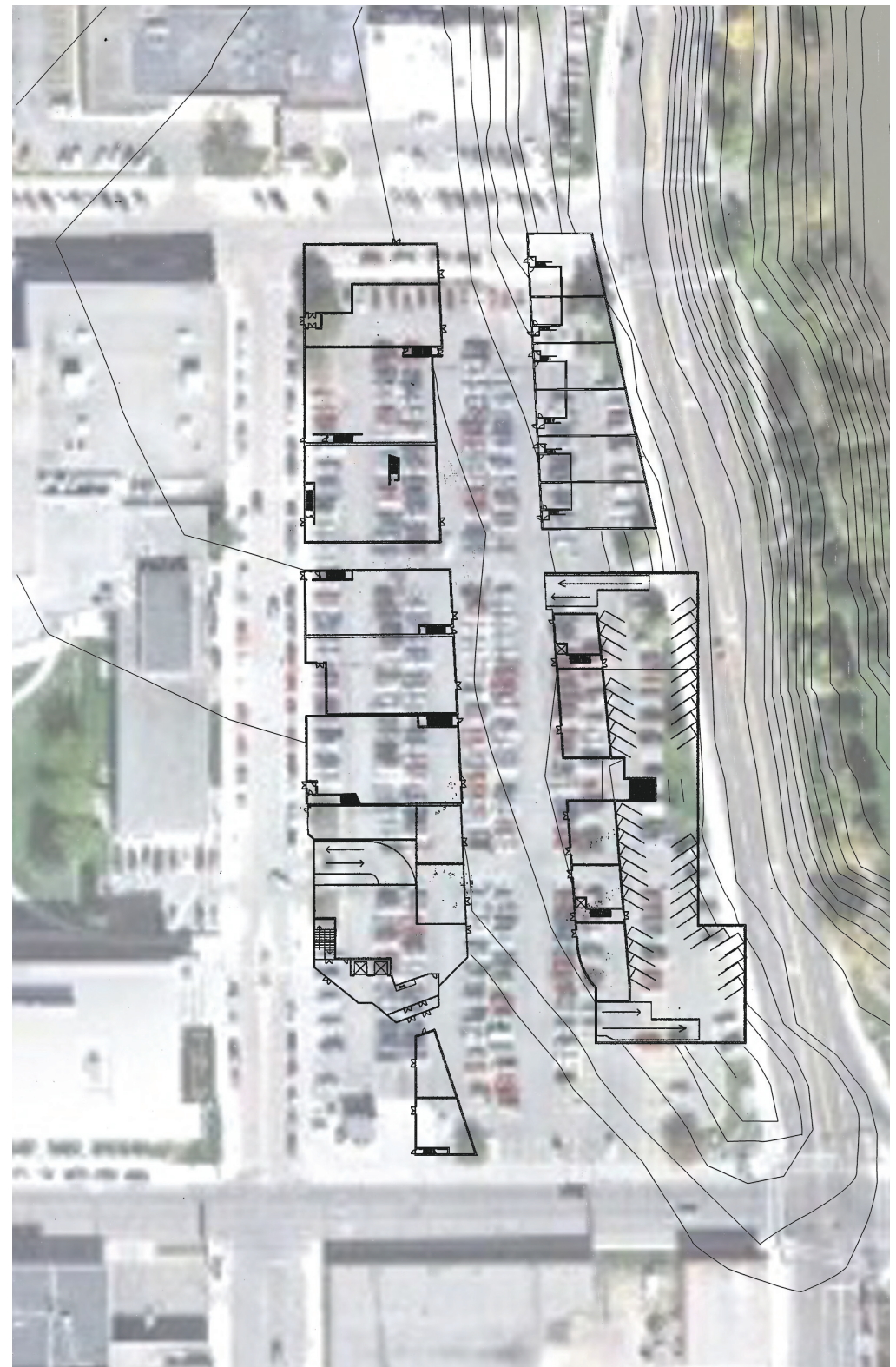
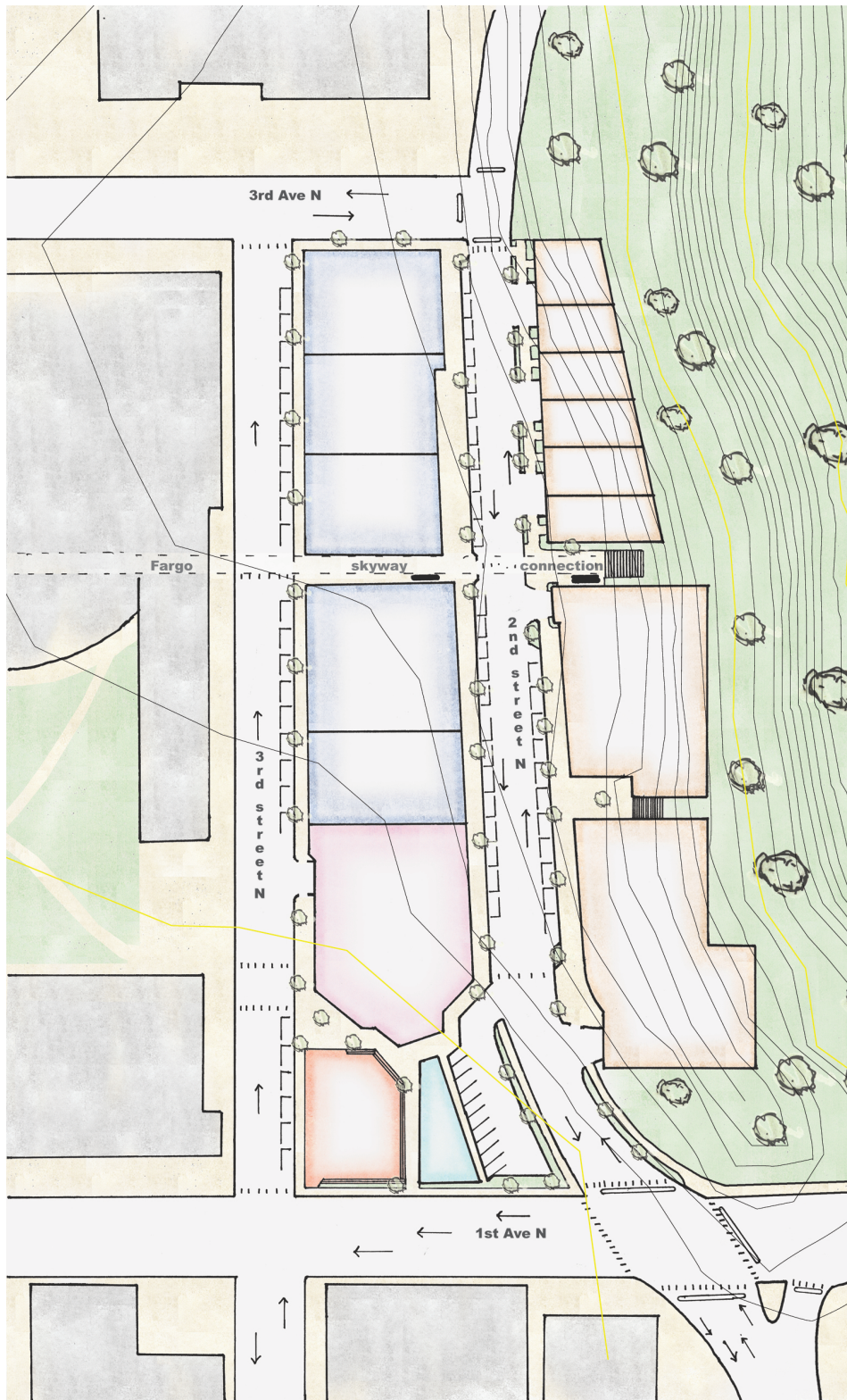
Thoughts

When researching the theory I found a number of unique project examples but many being based in academics. Though in this situation I feel it only makes sense to consider the landscape before the built form since I have the opportunity of a clean slate. As well the habits of the Red River shut down 2nd st almost annually because of the flooding. Making this my prime focus in the development of the plan.



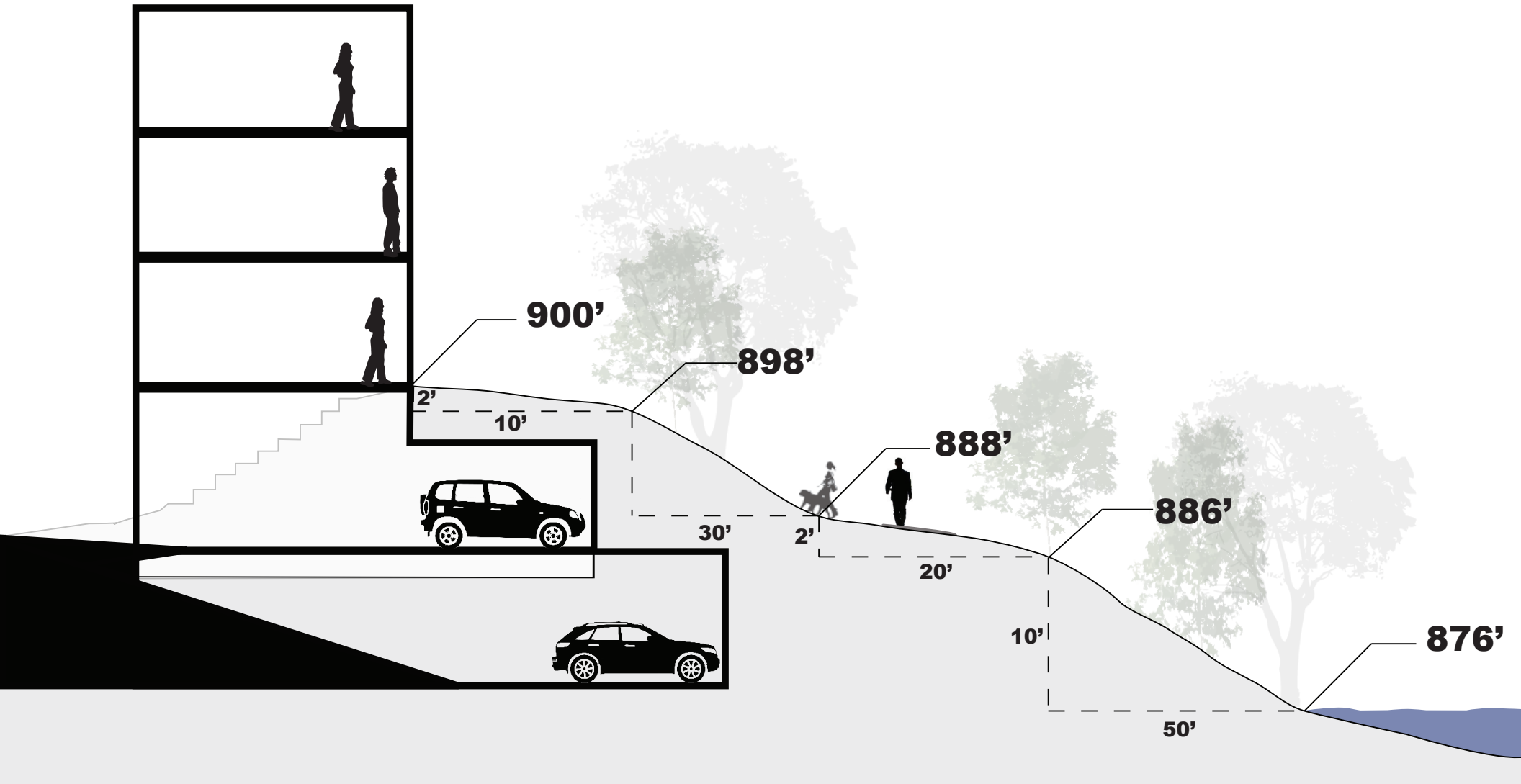


Urban Development



Topo Analysis

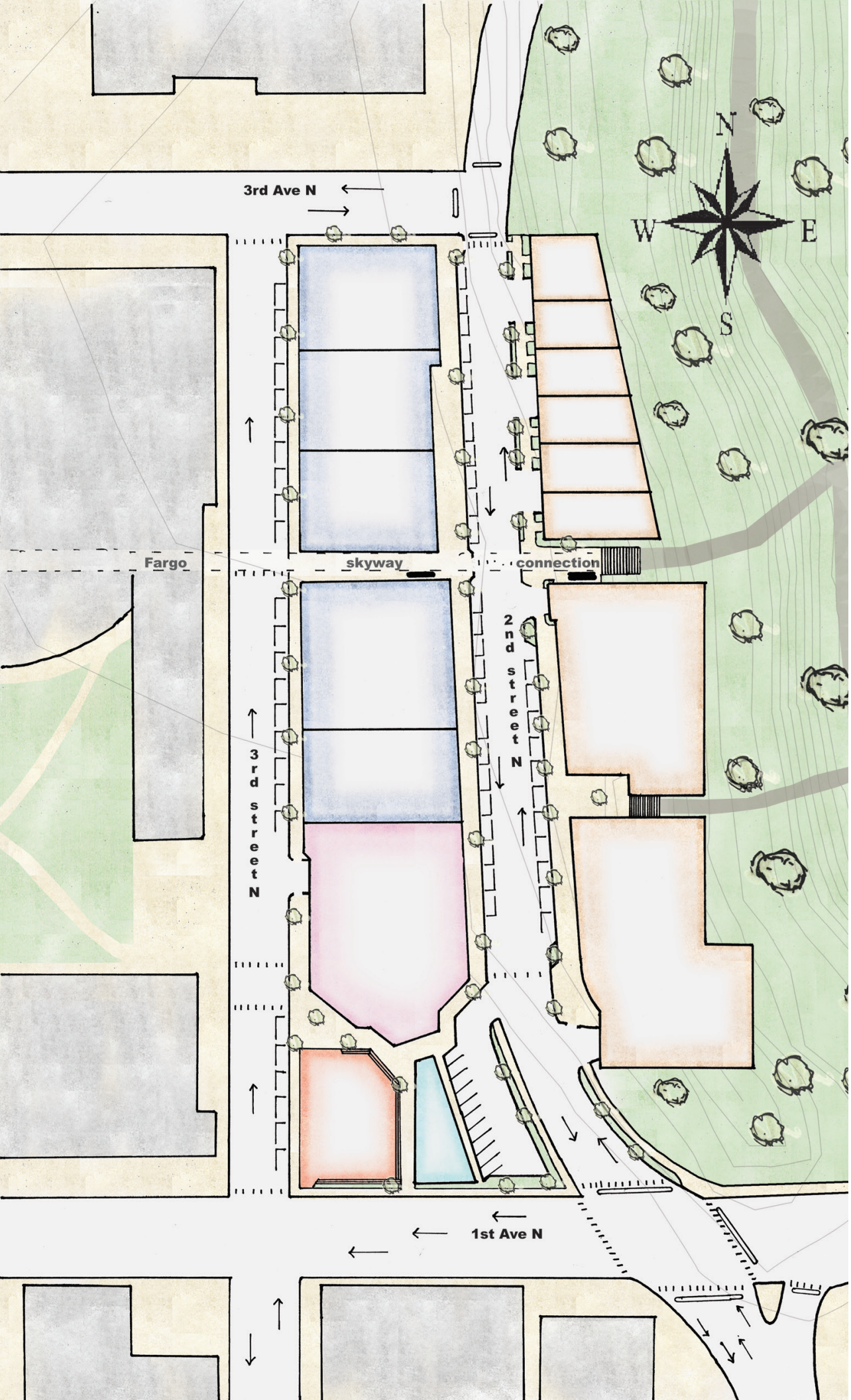
In the development of the plan I first looked at the topography and what would need to be done to prevent the annual flooding of the site as well as maintain the park features near the river.


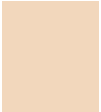

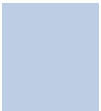


Section Analysis

Developing a dike system built into housing buildings, creating a 14' rise from the dike to ground level while also maintaining and creating more park space. With breaks between the buildings allowing for connections between the developed city and natural environment.

Site Plan



-  **Civic Plaza**
-  **Residential**
-  **Office**
-  **Commercial / Cultural**

All districts are expected to be zoned multi-use with their focus being in the marked area



Building Development

In the process we where asked to develop a building important to our site. I choose and developed the multi-use housing buildings which where also incorporated into the dike system. Spending time developing the building as well as its relation to the city, the pic above being a piece of process in developing space.



Parti

My building was developed around the barriers formed between developments and the surrounding environment. With us as people all having our own barriers as to what is too much of one or the other. I wanted the building to be a place which could relate to each of these edges and cultivate the residents' relation to them as well. Doing this by working to maintain views from one edge to the other as well by developing the faces in manners which relate to their edges. The west being developed to reflect the historic style of downtown Fargo. While the back mimics the Red River with the balconies and windows extruding to catch sunlight and views. Much in the way the river cuts out and forms its banks so that it might flow with more ease. The following slides explain my building through elevation, plan, section, and perspective.



West



North



South



East

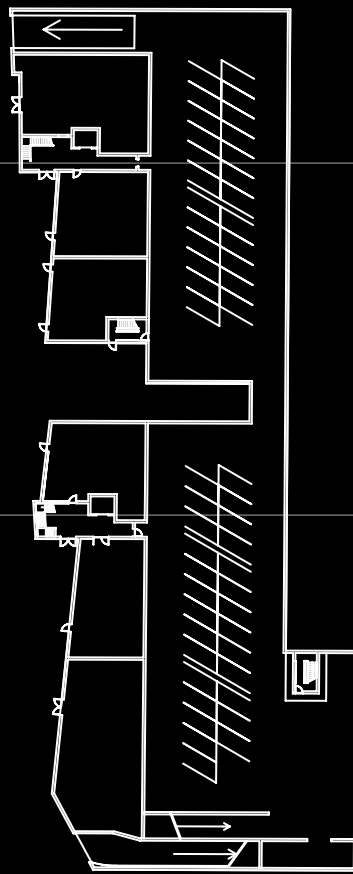
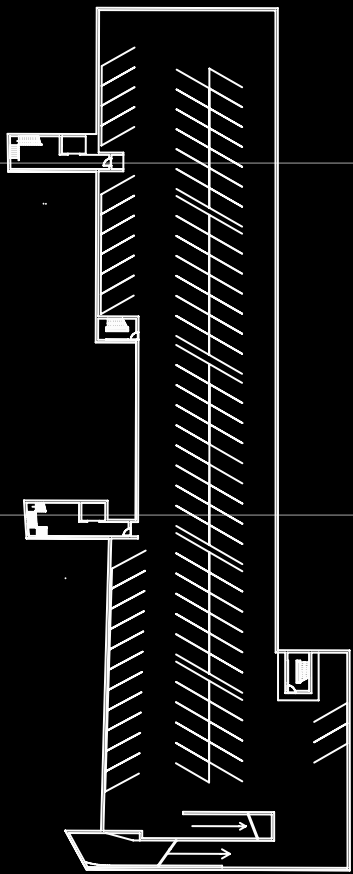
Sub level

Floor 1

Floor 2 & 4

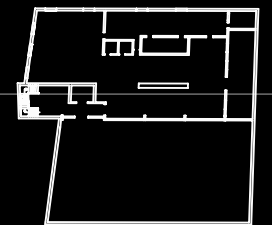
Floor 3 & 5

Floor 6



Section B

Section A



Section A

Section B

