

Restore

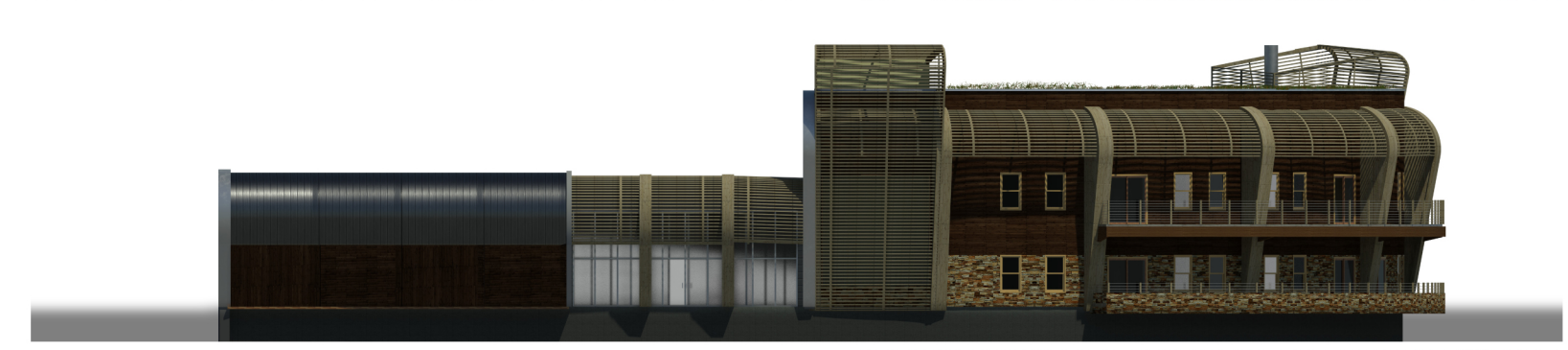
The design of the building is meant to make users feel comfortable and welcome. The hope is that this facility will encourage users to talk about their experiences and socialize with people who may be experiencing similar struggles.



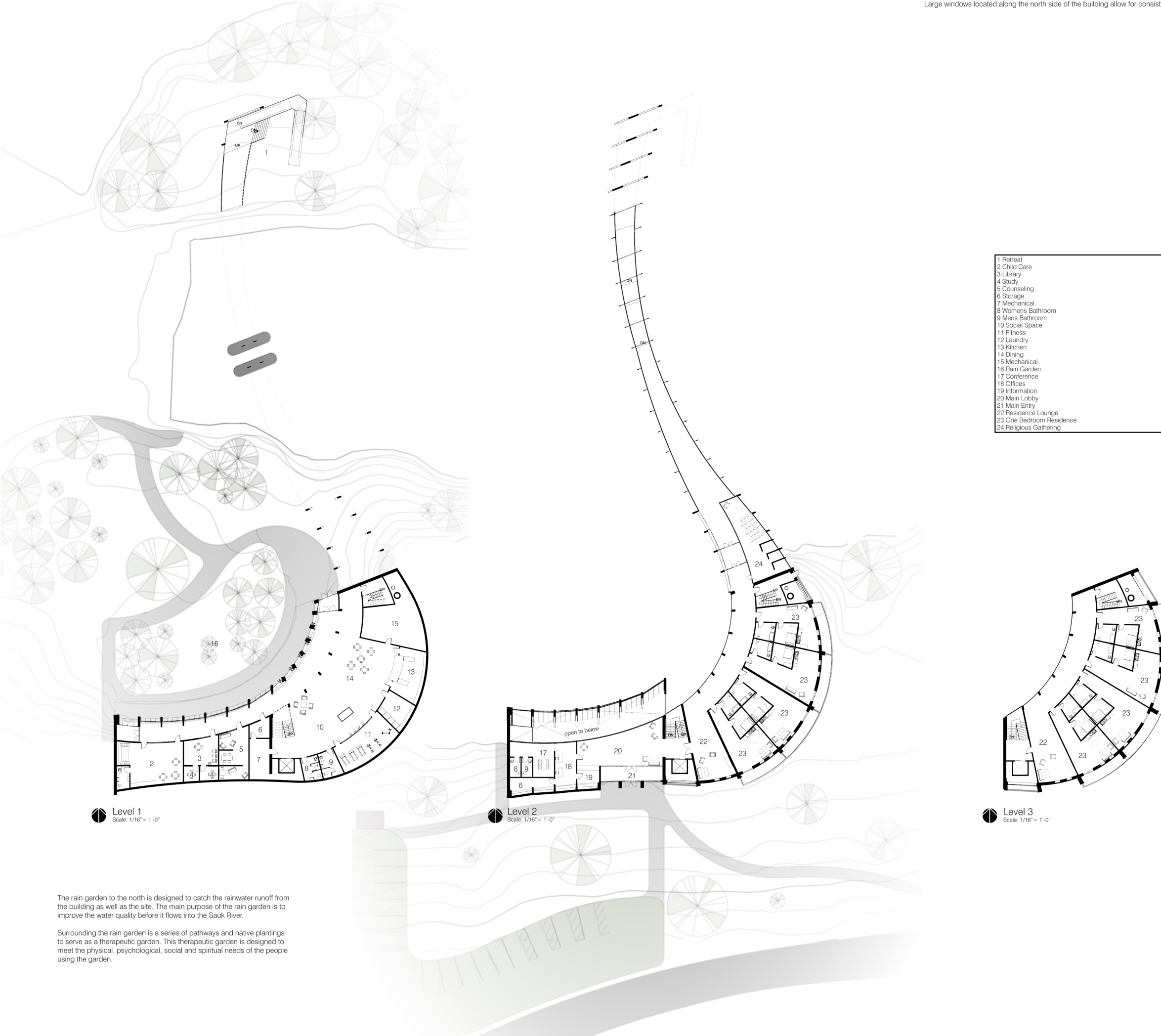
The natural landscape and meandering pathways allow the user to experience the beauty of the site, the river, and the surrounding environment.



Large windows located along the north side of the building allow for consistent natural light throughout the year.



The warm material palette composed of mainly wood, stone and glass suggests a "home-like", comfortable feeling.



The rain garden to the north is designed to catch the rainwater runoff from the building as well as the site. The main purpose of the rain garden is to improve the water quality before it flows into the Sauk River.

Surrounding the rain garden is a series of pathways and native plantings to serve as a therapeutic garden. This therapeutic garden is designed to meet the physical, psychological, social and spiritual needs of the people using the garden.

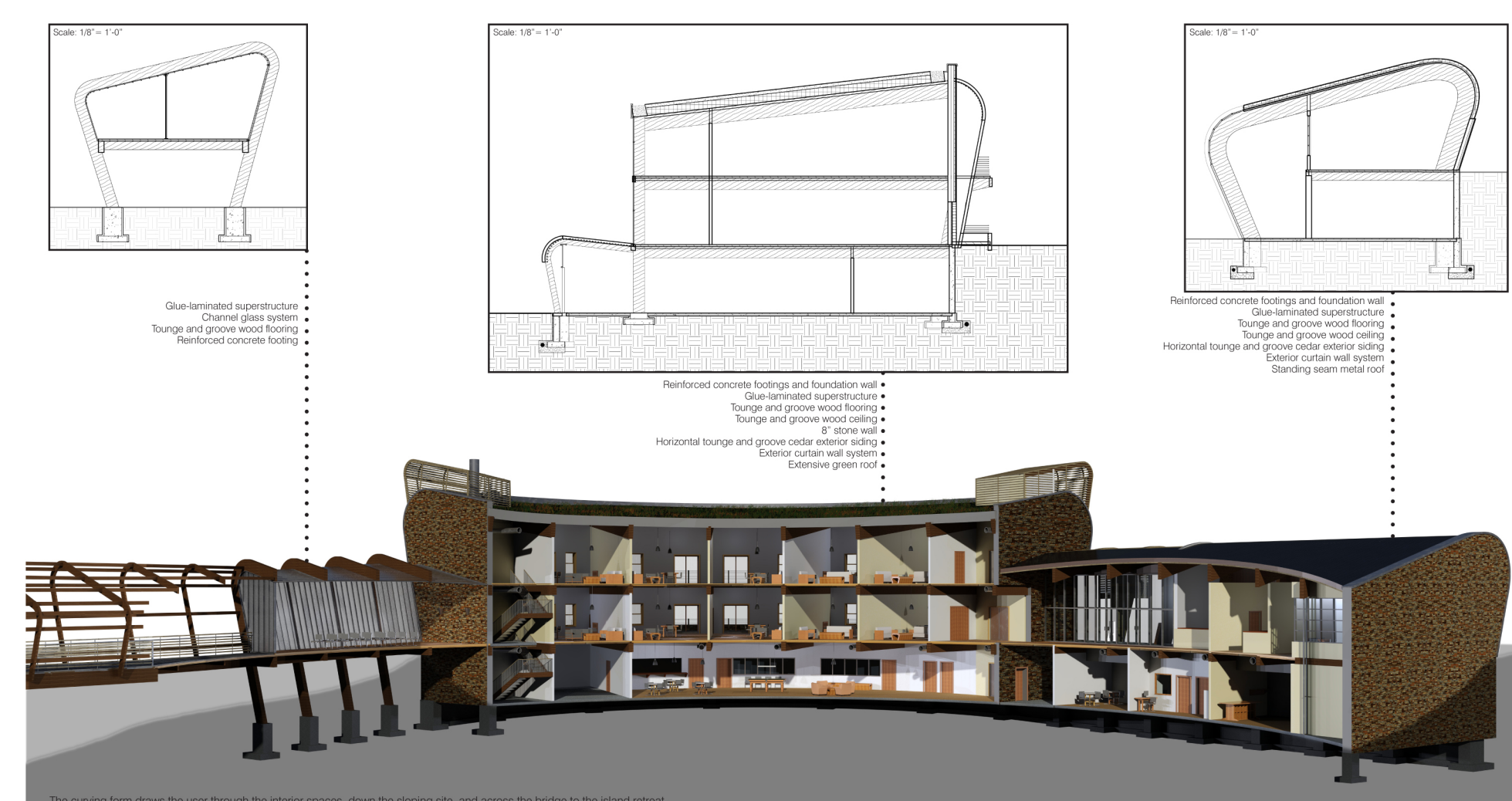


People are affected everyday by traumatic events such as war. Service members who are returning from war find themselves in a very difficult situation. They are left to deal with many issues mentally, physically and emotionally. Architectural experience can influence a positive change in service members and their families who have been affected by the repercussions of war and deployment.

By creating an environment where users feel safe, welcome and can get access to the help they need is a step toward restoring psychological well-being, re-establishing a sense of belonging and improving quality of life in the future.

The typology for this thesis is a veteran support facility located in St. Cloud, Minnesota for service members returning from deployment and for their families.

In order for positive change to occur, it is important to provide a facility where the user feels safe and welcome. The goal for this design was to provide the proper spaces necessary for many different types of social engagement as well as spaces for private reflection to accommodate each user's different needs.



The curving form draws the user through the interior spaces, down the sloping site, and across the bridge to the island retreat.



This gathering space is designed to be flexible and accommodate to many different religions at any given time to meet the needs of all of its users. It can also be an escape for meditation or reflection when the weather permits users to stay indoors.

Religious Gathering Space



The design of multiple, smaller, gathering spaces throughout the facility gives an intimate feeling where users can feel safe. It also gives users options depending on their specific wants and needs.

Social Gathering Space



A bridge over moving water signifies overcoming obstacles. Families are able to cross over the bridge together and spend time outside on the privacy of the island strengthening their relationships.

Outdoor Gathering Space