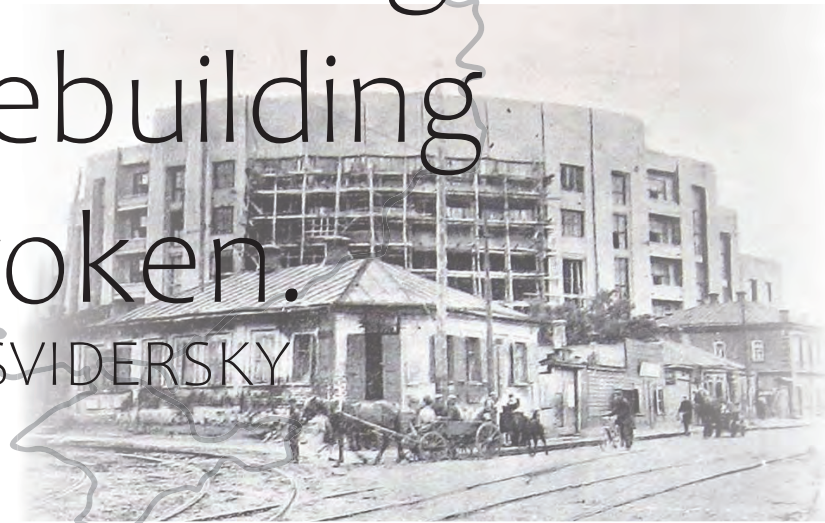


Remembering  
and Rebuilding  
the Broken.

ALYSSA SVIDERSKY





Can a city be killed?



"If people have lived in a place for decades or even centuries, then there's something that has drawn people to it—a purpose. In order to kill it, that purpose needs to be removed." -Melissa Salyk-Virk (International Policy Analyst)





# the Idea





the Idea





# the Idea

What is the most appropriate way to respond to the destruction of the war in Ukraine, while remaining sensitive to its history and culture?





госназначения

RESEARCH



# Belchite, Spain

- City dates back to 75 AD
- Destroyed during the country's civil war in 1937
- It now acts as a reminder
- Down the street there is a Spanish Civil War Museum for visitors to learn more



“...a warning to those people who think there is such thing as a winning side”  
-Neil C., Visitor





# Hiroshima, Japan

- The first city to be hit by an atomic bomb
- Reinvented itself as a “Peace City”
- Developed a Peace Center Plaza at the hypocenter of the explosion
- International interest



“... the main sightseeing spots in the city are related to its painful past.”  
-Raina Ong





# Rotterdam, Netherlands

- Destruction turned Opportunity
- The city without a heart.
- Had plans of modernizing well before the war
- Successfully elevated the reputation of the city and country



“According to [Lewis] Mumford, Rotterdam was the most successful example of postwar reconstruction, an enlightened model of Western urbanism”-Out of Ground Zero





# Frankfurt, Germany

- Bulldoze the remains of their gothic, wood-timber city center
- Replace it with a post-war automobile-focused city.
- 2005 'return to glory'
- DomRomer Quarter



“...feels like taking a stroll through the set of a medieval village or even the set of the wizardly world of Harry Potter’s Hogsmeade” -Paul Biasco





# Warsaw, Poland

- 85% of their city was destroyed
- Citizens rebuilt their city brick by brick.
- Surviving construction documents, blueprints, photographs, paintings, and memory.
- Symbol of rebuilding the Polish identity and defying the Nazis' attempts to eradicate their culture.
- Shift in styles after 1950



“Of the 780 buildings on the historic registrar, only 35 survived intact.” -The Resilient City





# Budapest, Hungary

- Statues not destroyed
- Moved out of town
- Szoborpark (Memento Park)
- Part of their History
- Controlling public access to information is an authoritarian act



“[It was a] Paradox, because these statues are both the reminders of an anti-democratic society and at the same time pieces of our history...I deemed it important to avoid the possibility that they would become anti-propaganda, which would have been no more than a continuation of dictatorship mentality.”  
-Ákos Eleőd, Architect.





# Prague, Czech Republic

- Melted down statues
- Destroying Brutalist icons
- Trade Fair Palace of the National Gallery Prague exhibition ‘NO DEMOLITIONS! Forms of Brutalism in Prague,’
- Unjustified attacks on Brutalist buildings from the 60s & 70s



“Prague is losing a layer of its cultural and architectural memory” -Helena Doudová Museum Curator





# New York, United States of America

- Micro example of how these same principals can be applied
- New York faced the issue of how to move forward, address the broken, and rebuild.
- Memorialized the event and preserved the destruction
- Negative preservation.



“... memorial expression helps people to transform bereavement, anger, fear, and resolve into an active communal grief that mournfully celebrates ongoing life, albeit transformed.” -The Resilient City



# How do you rebuild a city?





Kharkiv,  
Ukraine





Мій проєкт

MY PROJECT

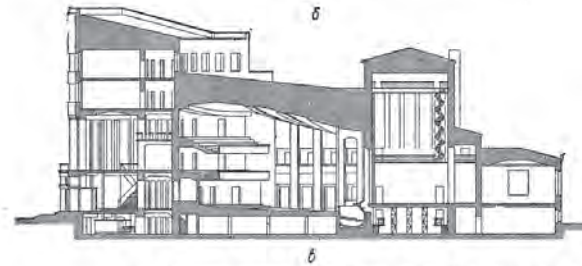
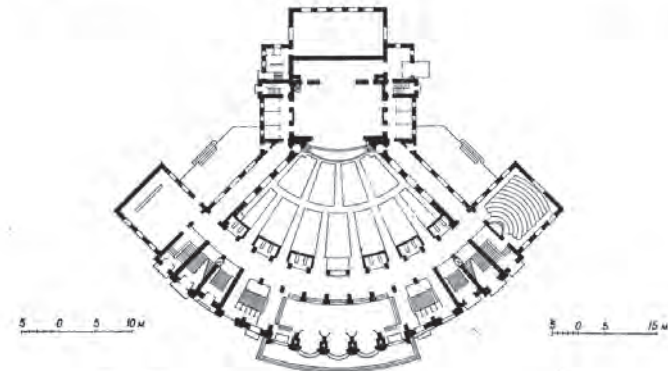
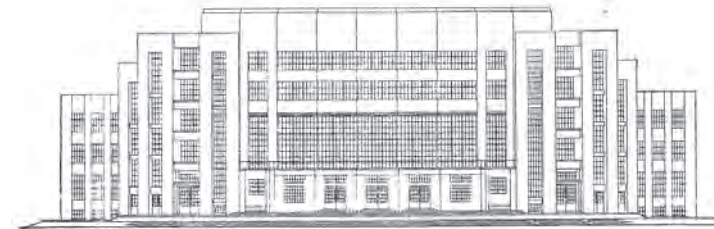


# the original building

- **палац залізничник**
- Roughly translates to, the Cultural Palace for Railway Workers.
- Aleksandr Dmitriev
- Constructivist, Soviet, Art Deco
- 
- 1932 Built
- 1987 Significant cultural heritage site by UNESCO
- 2022 Partially destroyed by Russian shelling on August 18th



Form inspired by an open accordion

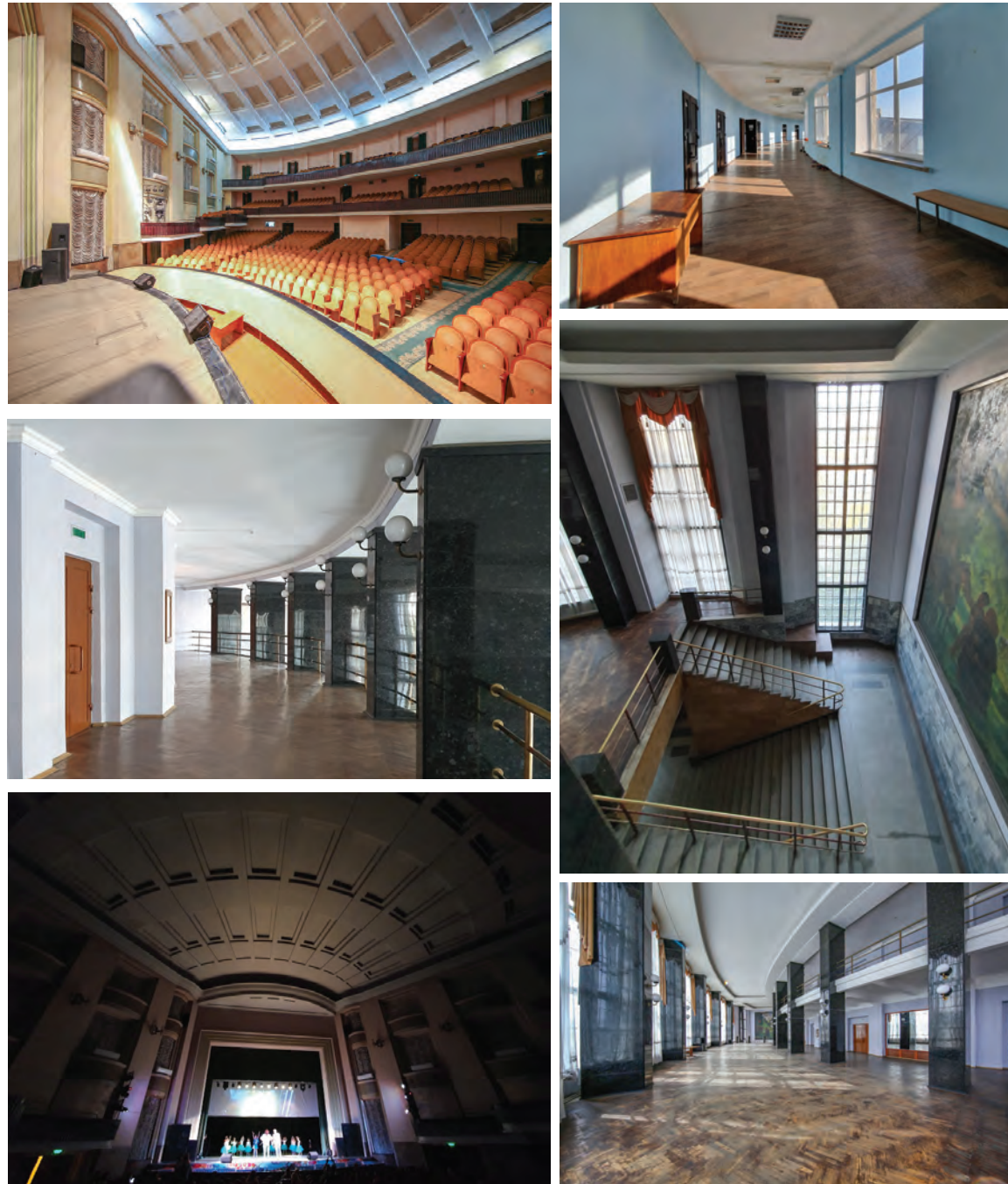


Палац культури залізничників у Харкові. 1928—1932 рр. Архіт. О. І. Дмитрієв. а—головний фасад; б—план поверху; в—розріз. Масштаби: ліворуч—фасаду та розрізу, праворуч—плану.





the original building



the survived building





UKRAINE



KHARKIV OBLAST



KHARKIV



Kharkiv Railroad



Lopah River

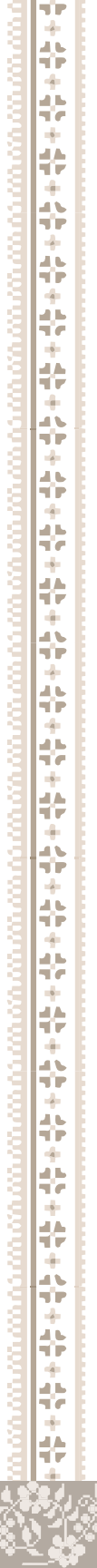


1 Square Mile

Museum of Railroad Engineers



Field Stadium

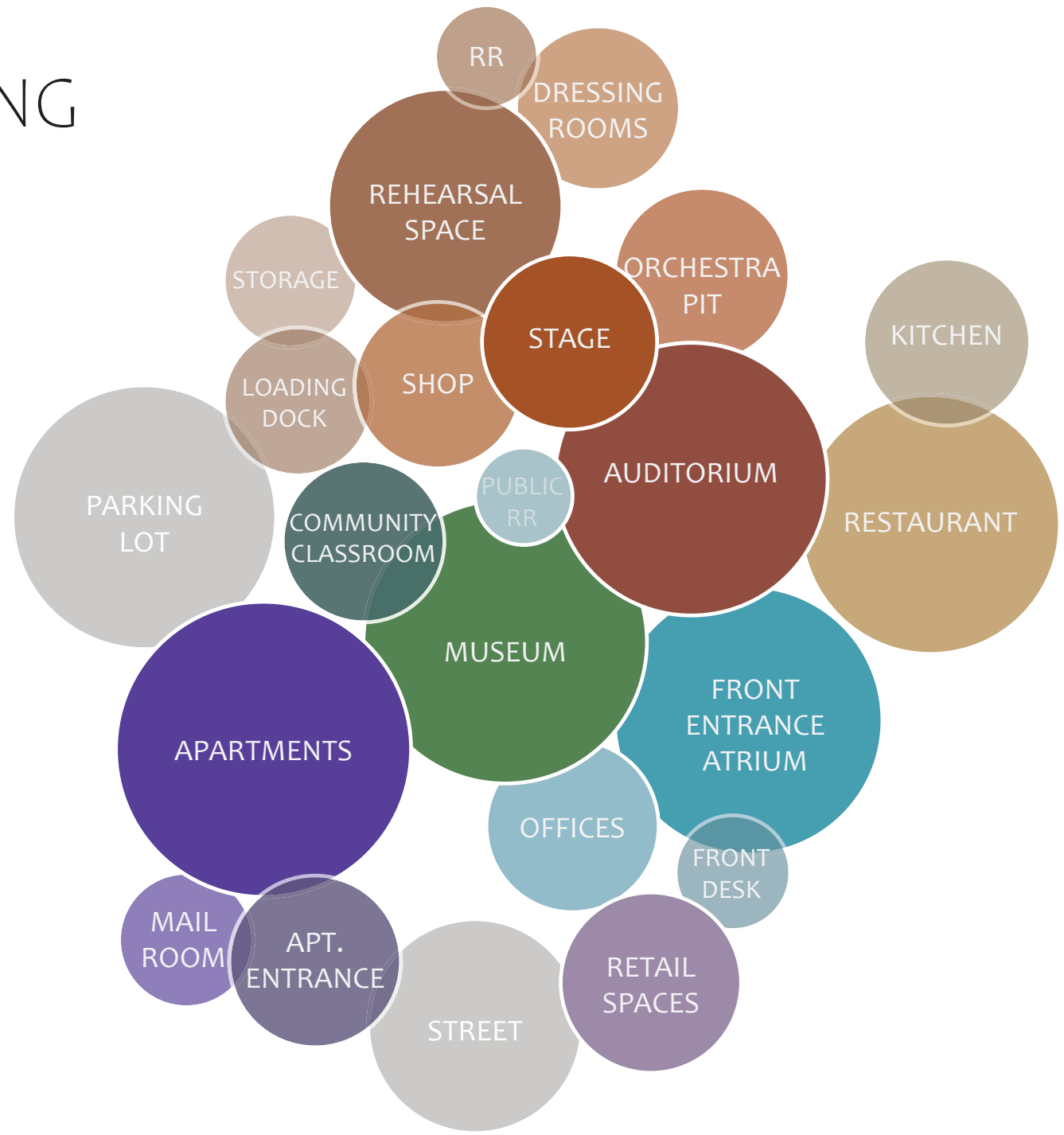




*процесс проектирования*  
DESIGN PROCESS

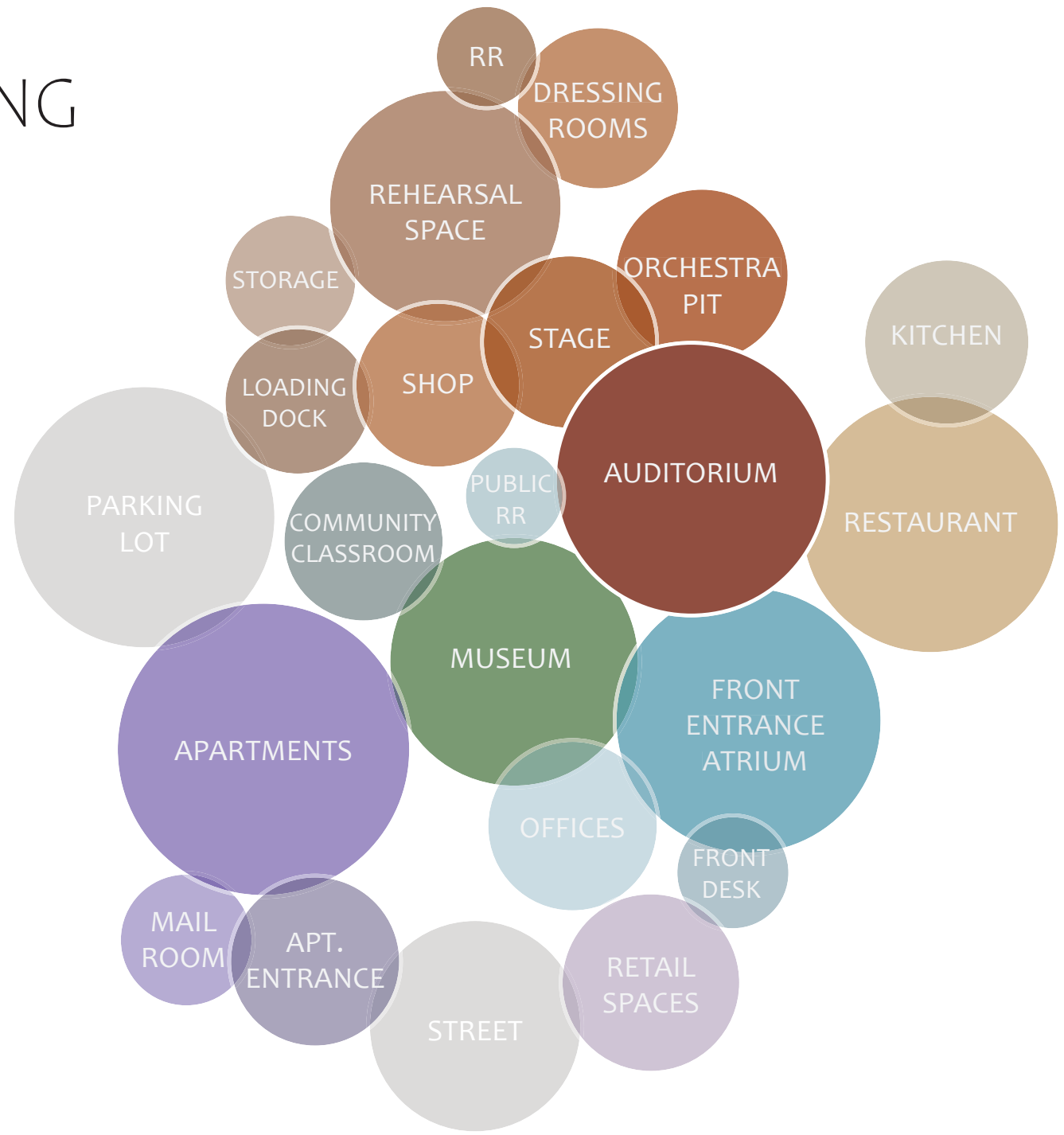


# SPACIAL PROGRAMING



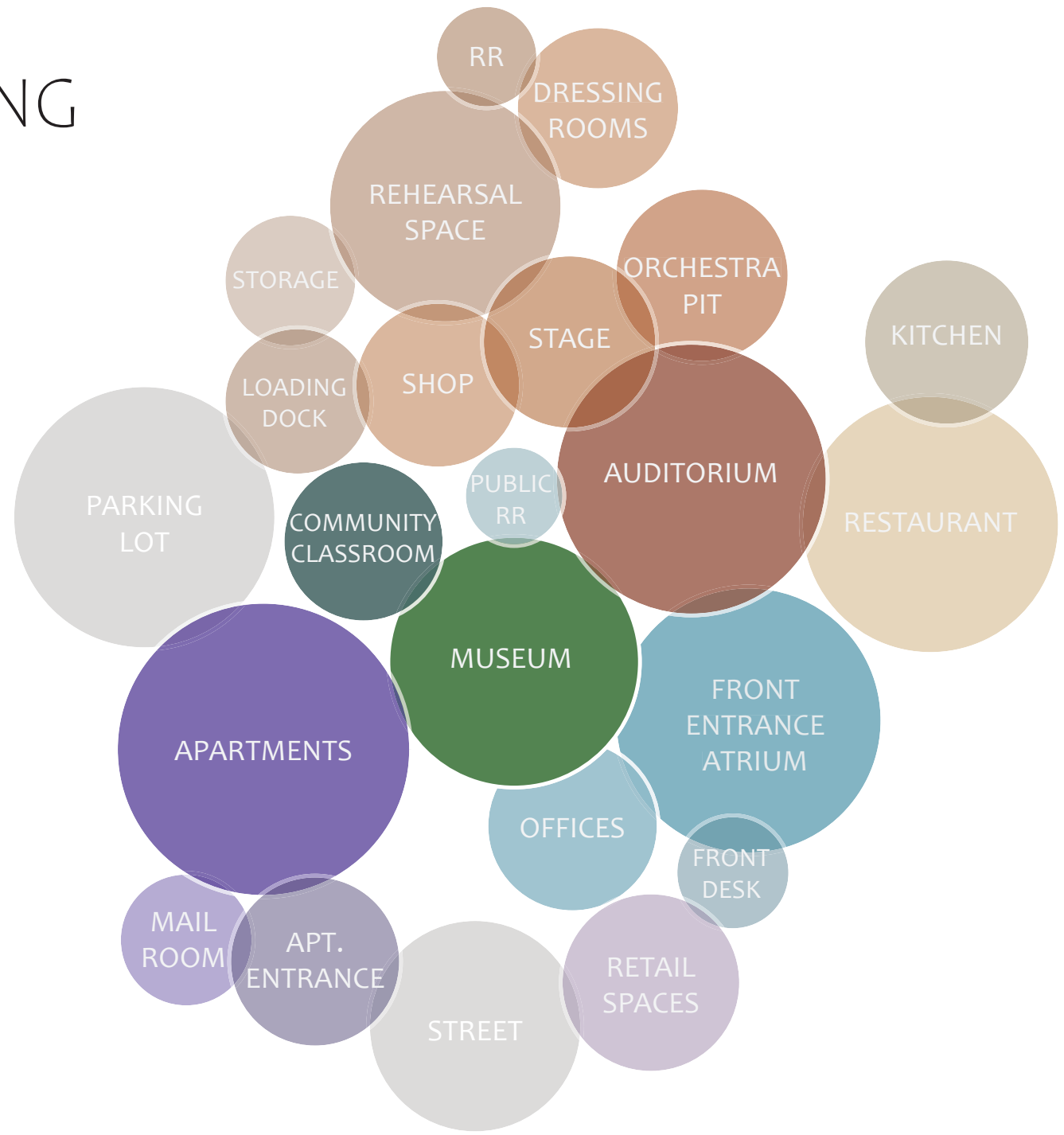


# SPACIAL PROGRAMING



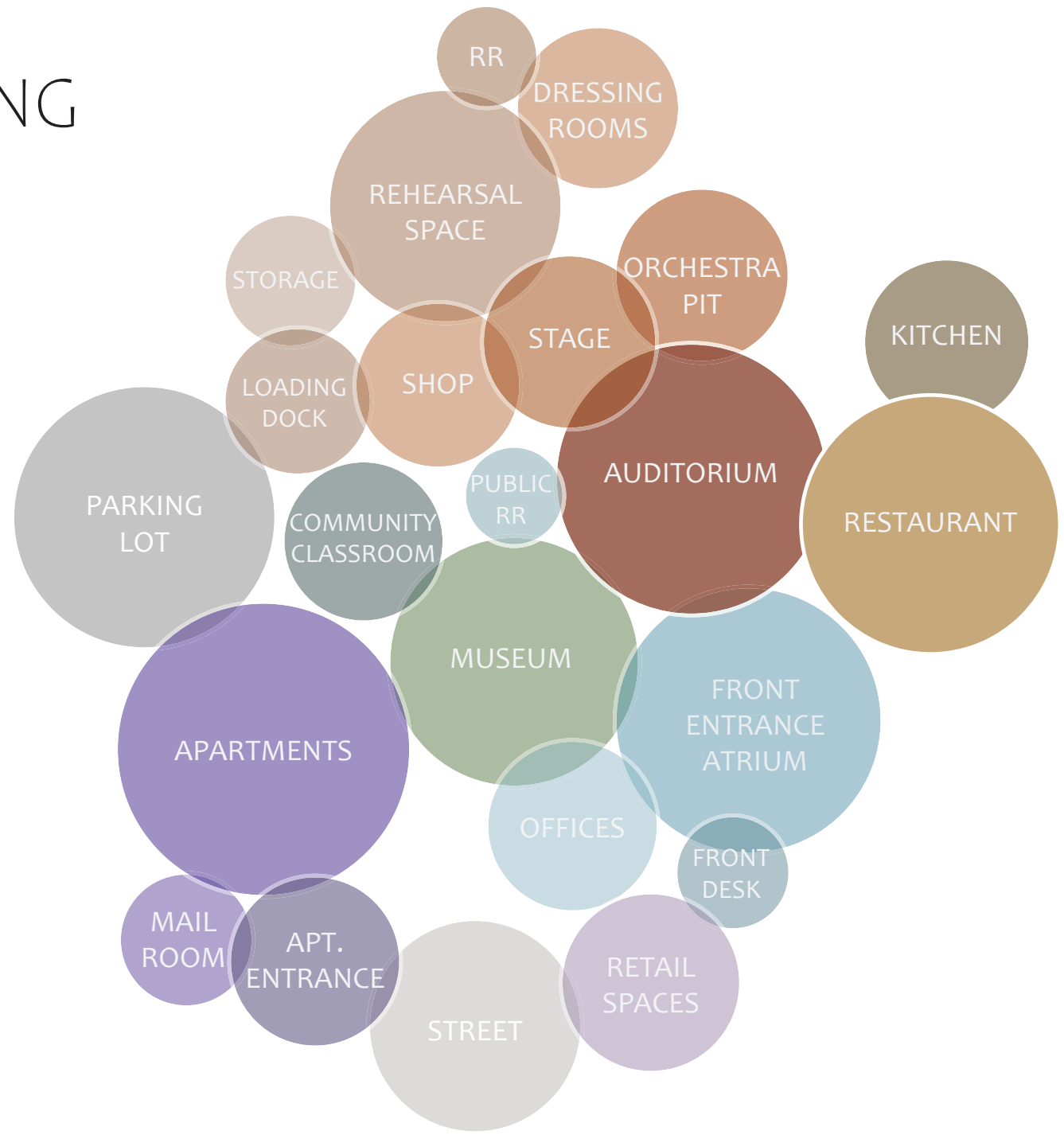


# SPACIAL PROGRAMING



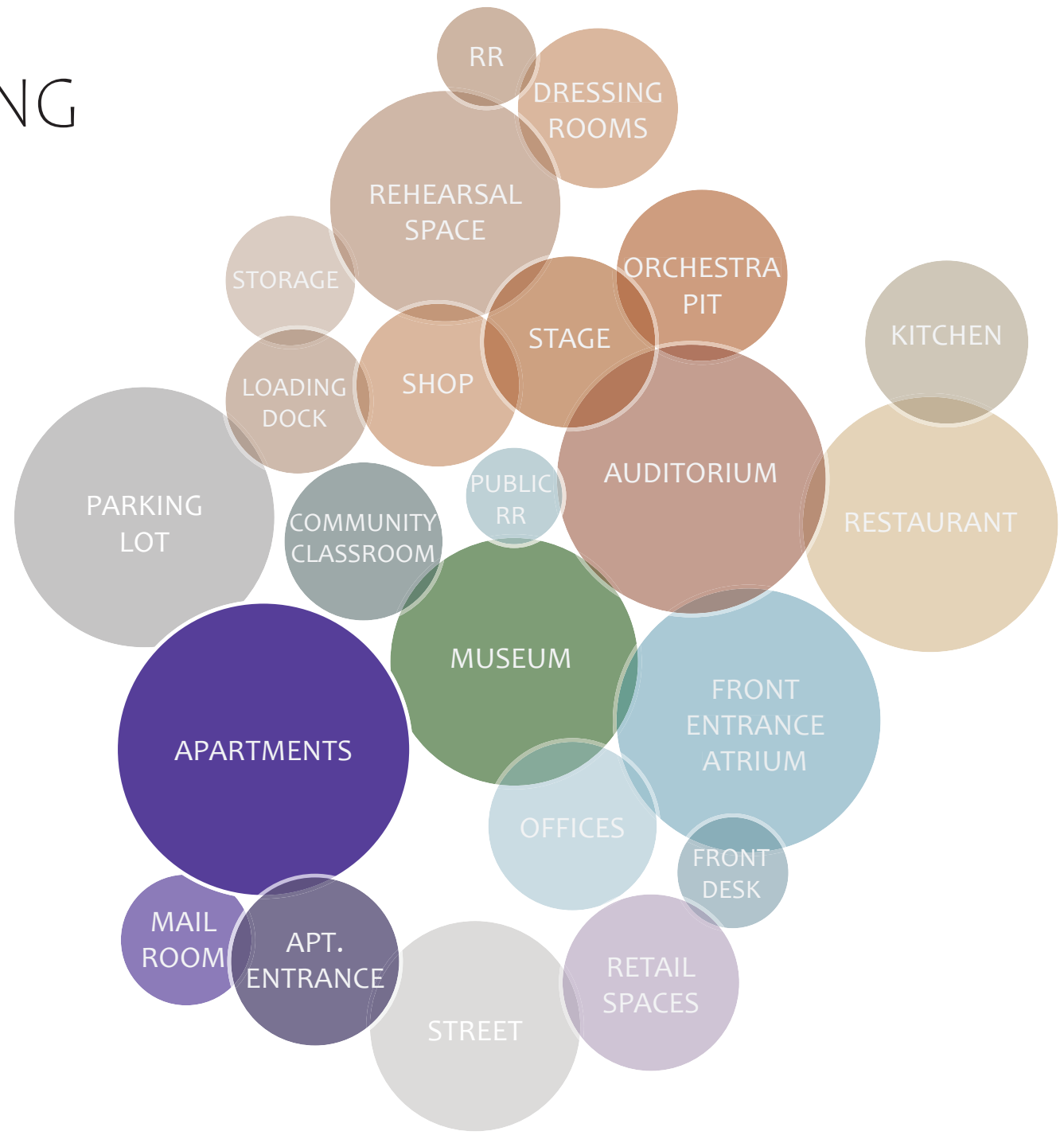


# SPACIAL PROGRAMING



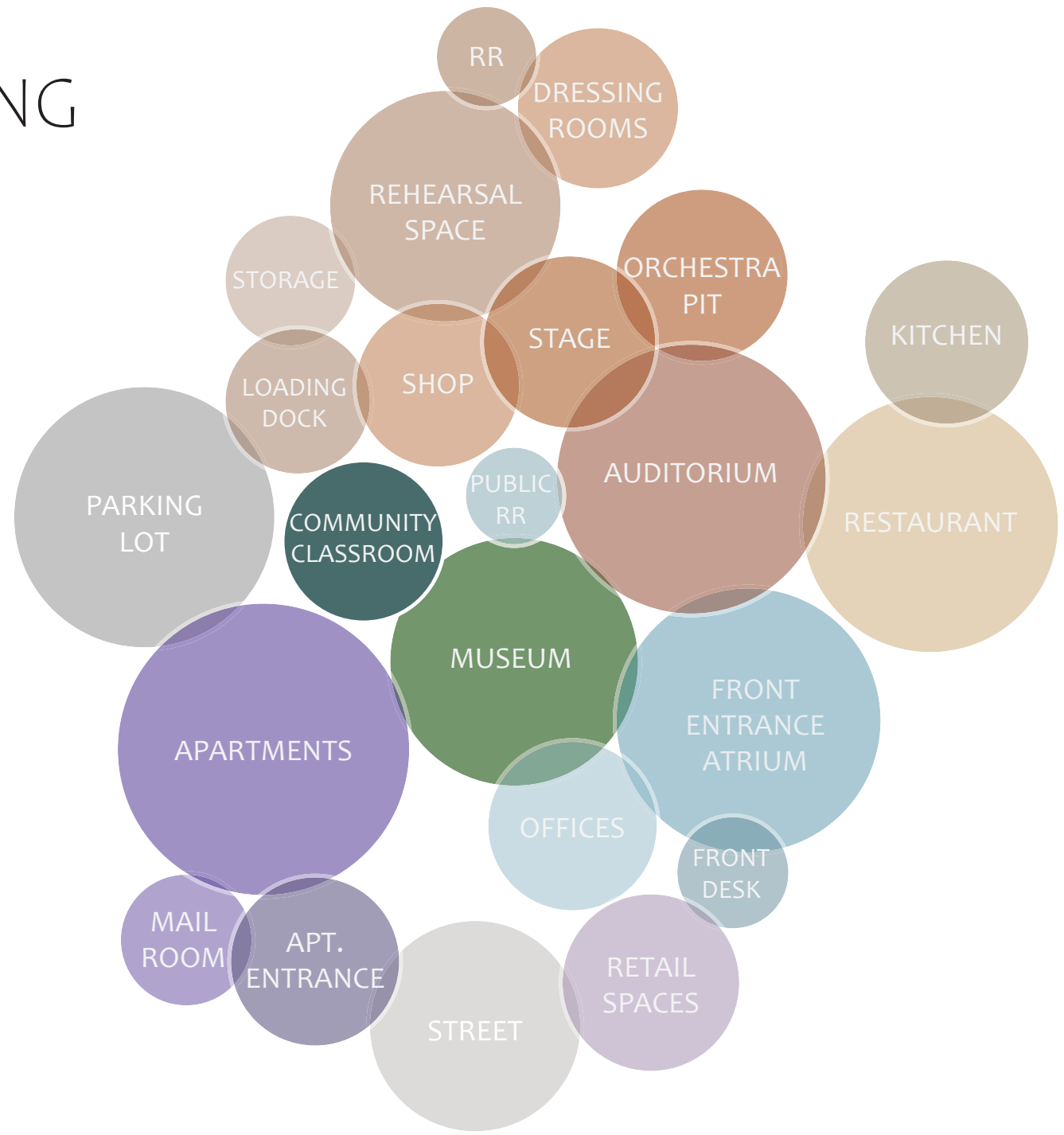


# SPACIAL PROGRAMING





# SPACIAL PROGRAMING





# Form Development



Auditorium & Theater Support Spaces

Museum of Ukrainian Culture and History

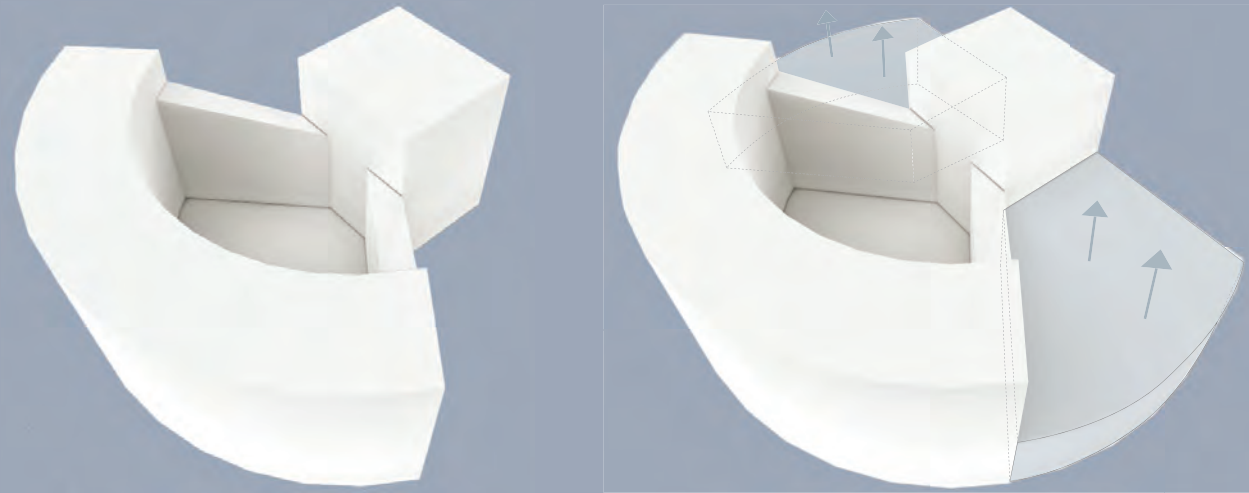
Restaurant

Apartments

Community Classroom



# Form development



Auditorium & Theater Support Spaces

Museum of Ukrainian Culture and History

Restaurant

Apartments

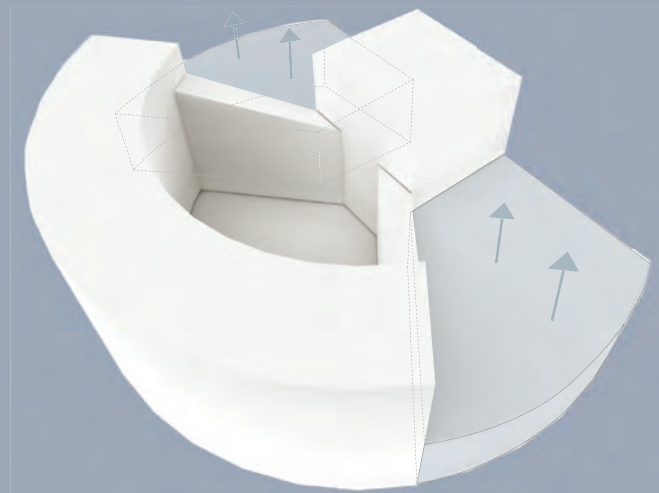
Community Classroom



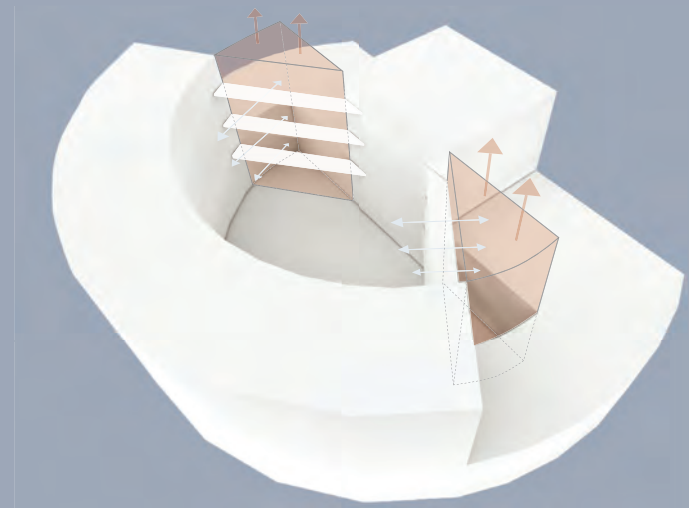
# Form Development



Auditorium & Theater Support Spaces



Museum of Ukrainian Culture and History



Restaurant

Apartments

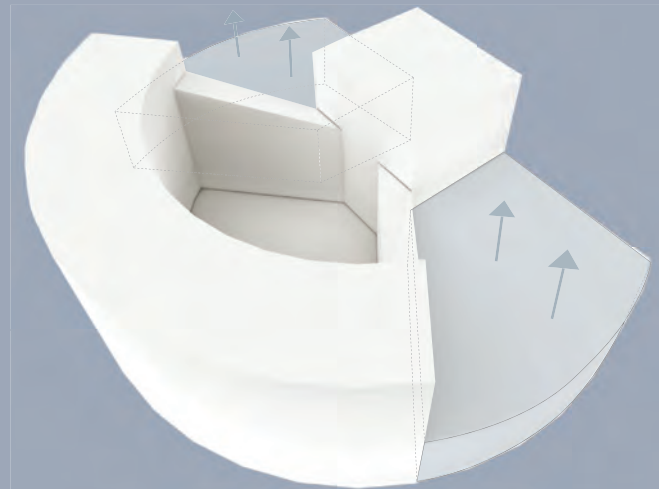
Community Classroom



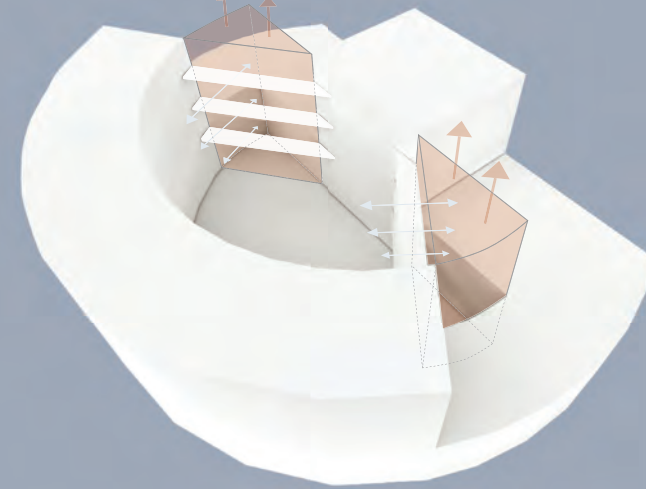
# Form Development



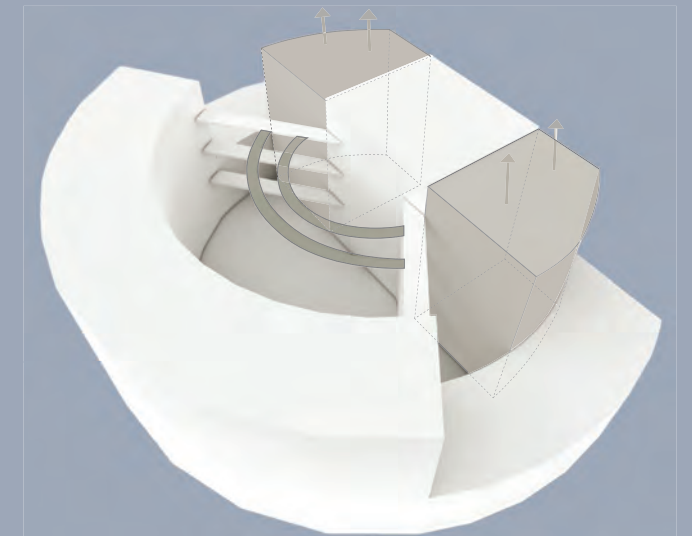
Auditorium & Theater Support Spaces



Museum of Ukrainian Culture and History



Restaurant



Apartments

Community Classroom





# Stylistic Case Studies

CONTRASTING MATERIALS

WARM WOODS

MIX OF OLD & NEW

CURVES

LIGHT COLORS

REFLECTION

CONNECTION TO NATURE





решения

SOLUTION







CONNECTION  
TO NATURE



*restore* *preserve*

MIX OF OLD & NEW  
LIGHT COLORS



REFLECTION

*modernize*

*memorialize*



CONTRASTING  
MATERIALS

CURVES WARM WOODS

CONNECTION  
TO NATURE





WARM WOODS



*restore*

CONTRASTING MATERIALS

CURVES

*modernize*

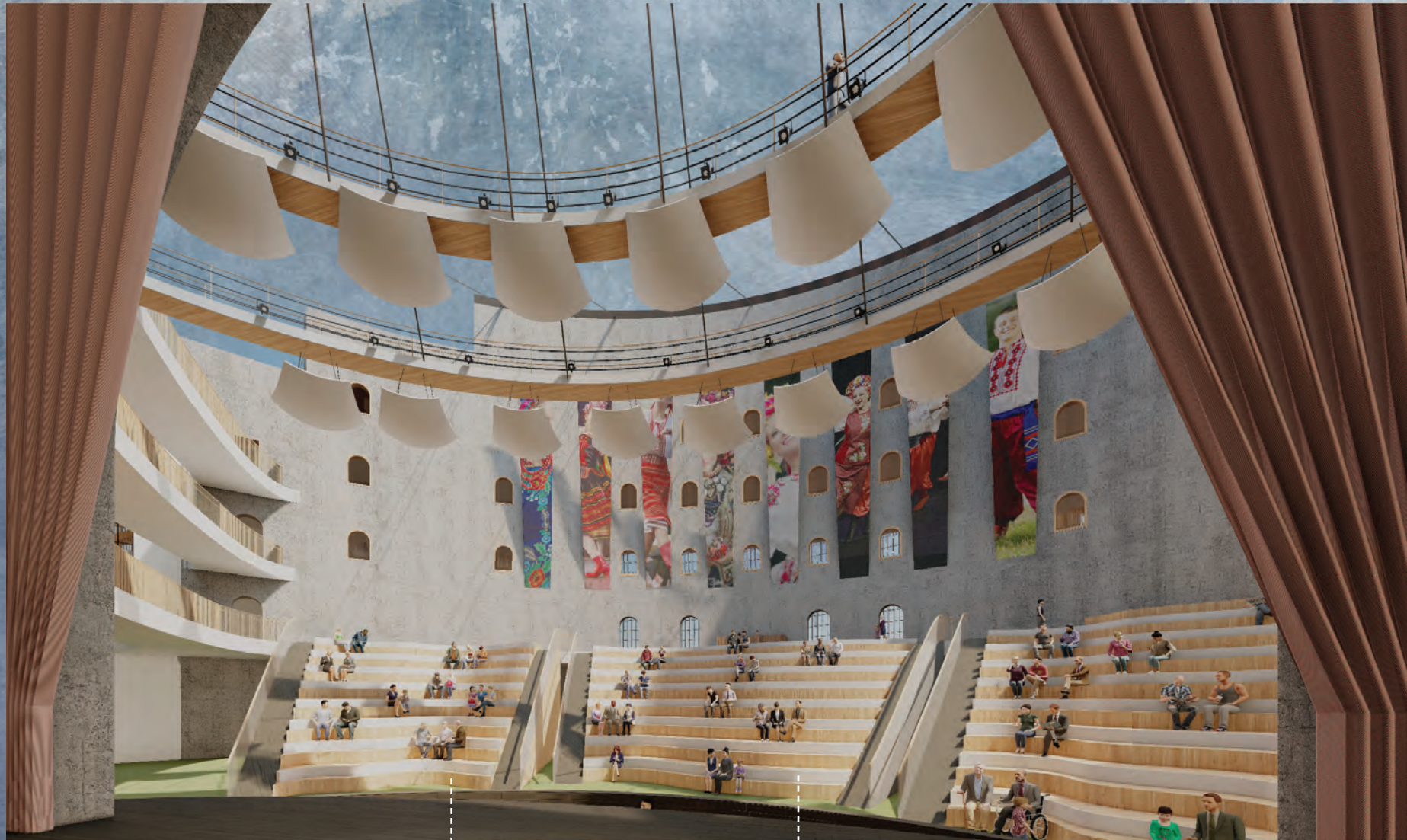
MIX OF OLD & NEW

LIGHT COLORS

*memorialize*







WARM WOODS

CURVES



CONNECTION  
TO NATURE

*memorialize*





restore

preserve

modernize

memorialize



Reflection Pools

Museum

Theater Lobby

Retail Space

Community Learning Space

Sound Booth  
Acoustic Panels

Auditorium

Cat Walks  
Acoustic Panels

Stage  
Fly Tower

Rehearsal Spaces  
Cat Walks

Backstage Circulation

Loading Zone

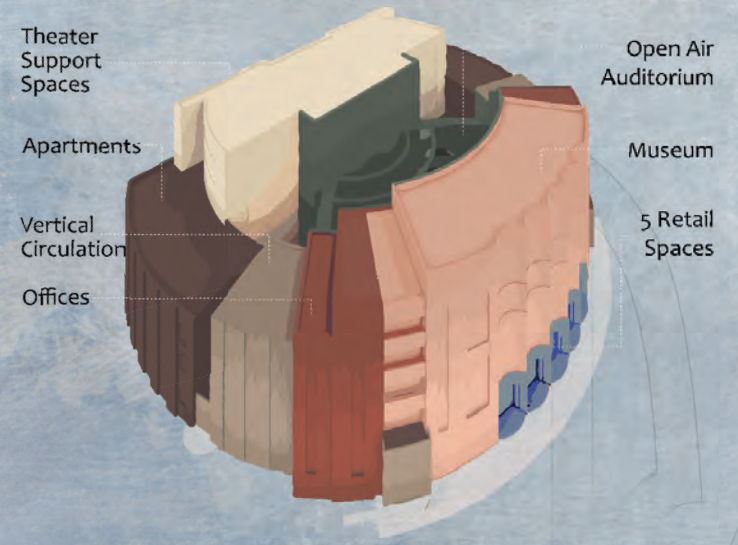
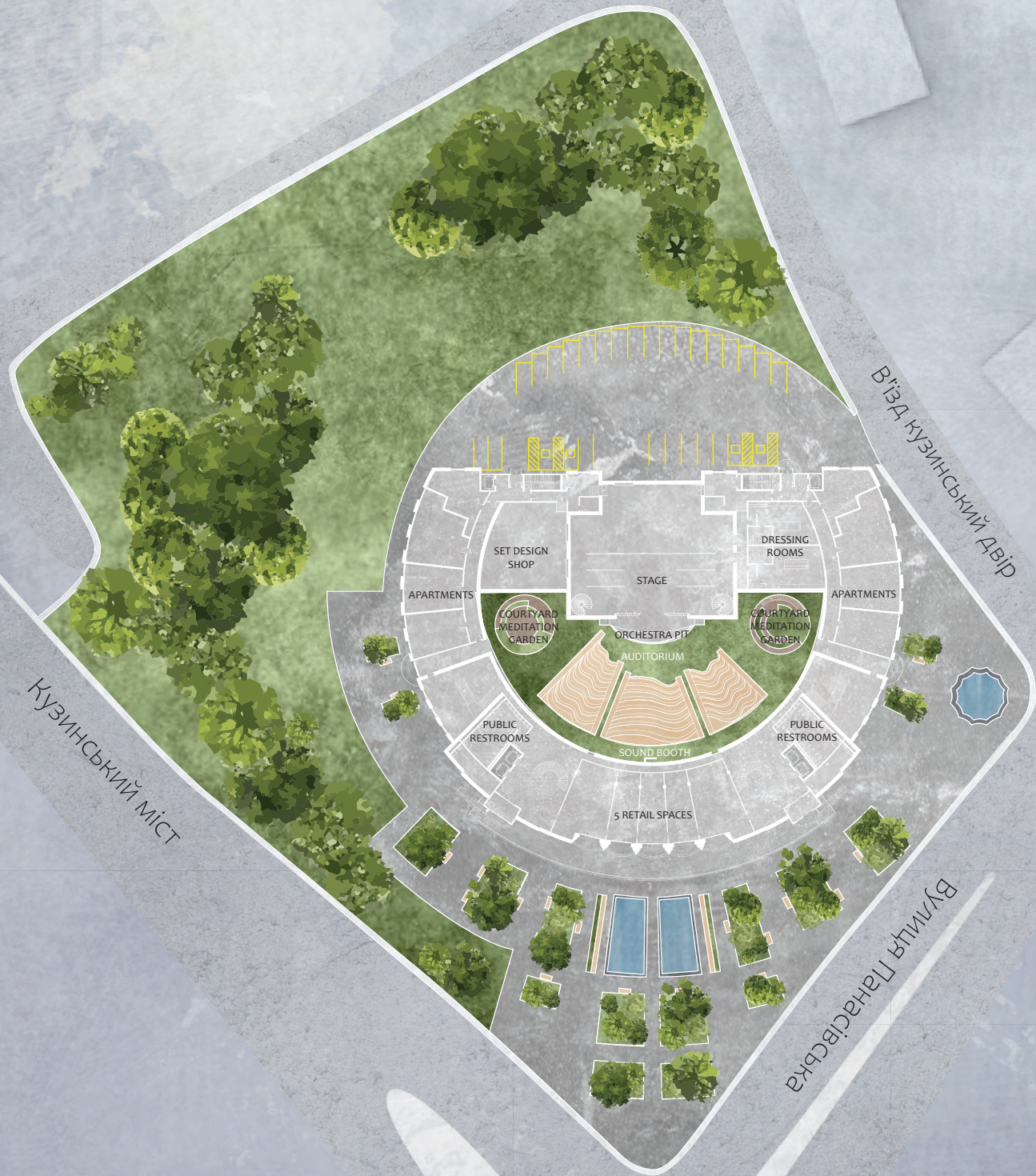
Parking Lot

Basement Storage & Bomb Shelter

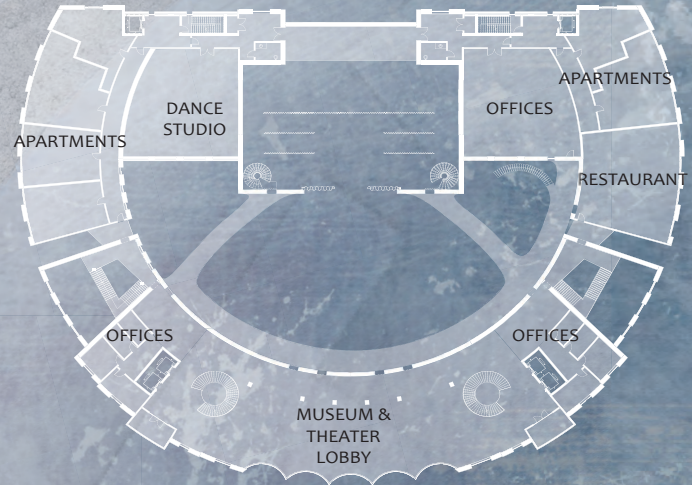
Orchestra Pit

Trap Room

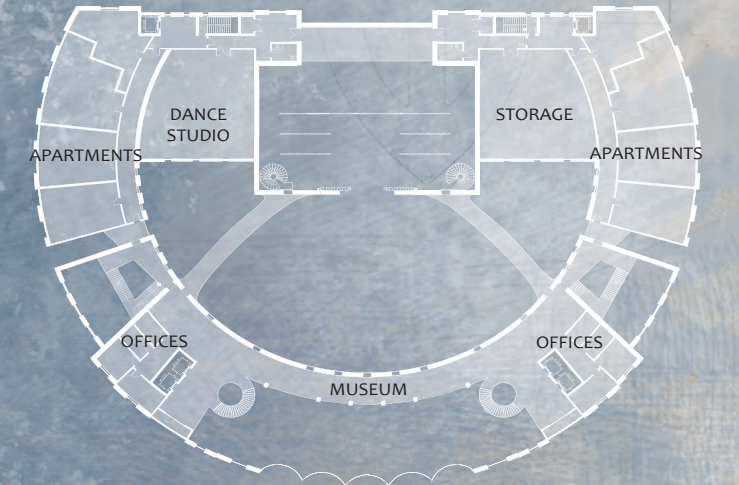




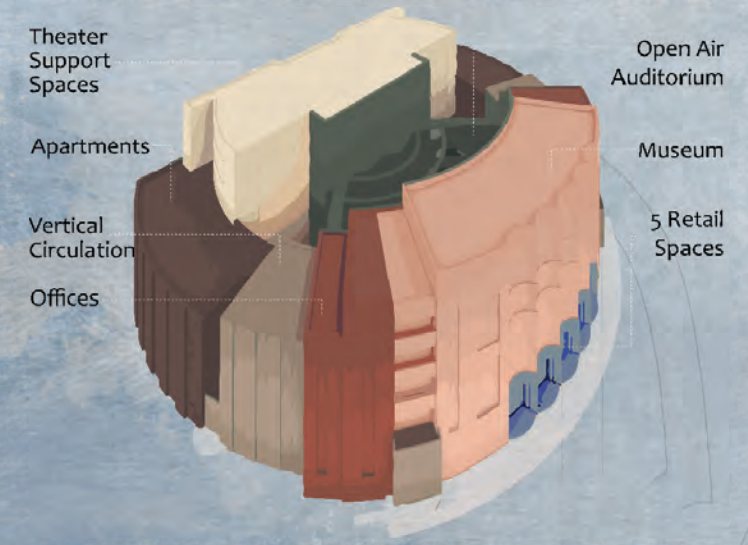
2nd floor



3rd floor







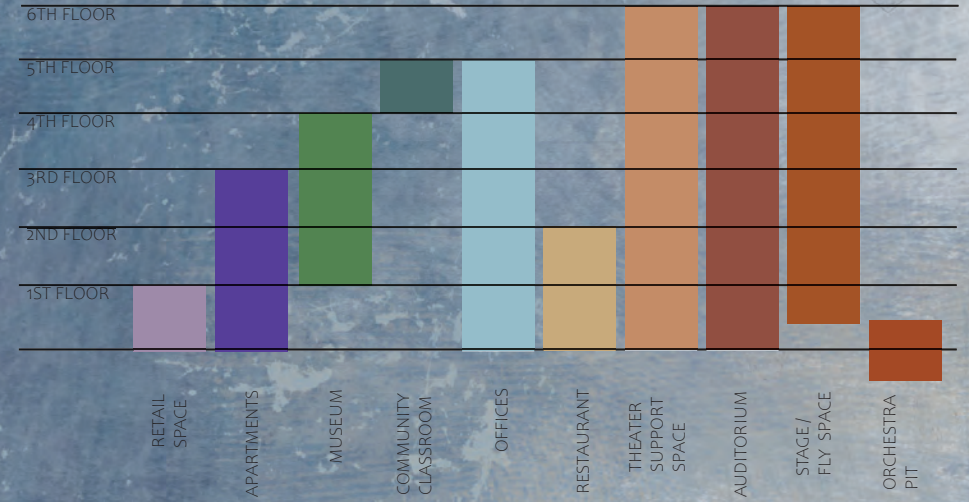
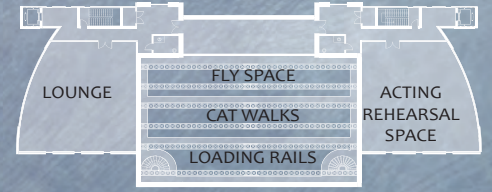
4th floor



5th floor



6th floor

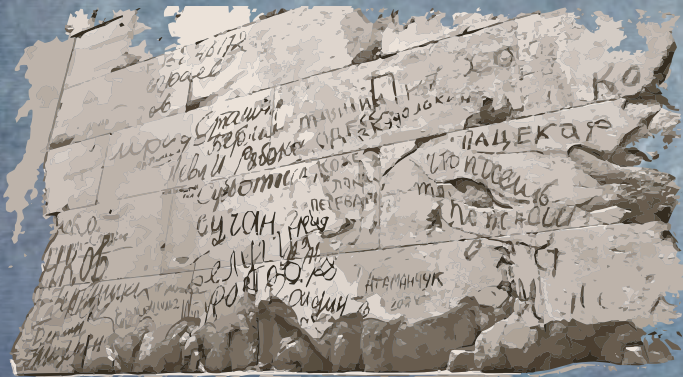








What is the most appropriate way to respond to the destruction of the war in Ukraine, while remaining sensitive to its history and culture?



## preserve

- Removing history from the built environment is also an act of editing the collective memory, which should be done with extreme caution
- Seeing true destruction in person can serve as a warning to others



## restore

- We can learn from our past mistakes, but we can also learn from our past successes
- Restoring the built environment can have a uplifting effect on the citizens, as a way of erasing the destruction



## memorialize

- Provide a space to remember, reflect and learn
- Our best lessons come from our own history



## modernize

- If cities stop evolving, they start dying and while destruction hurts, it always provides an opportunity to update and improve
- Rejecting this opportunity is senseless
- It can mean adjusting to the new needs of the current population and looking towards the future





Thank you.



# Remembering and Rebuilding the Broken.

ALYSSA SVIDERSKY