

UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE  
STEVEN L ANDERSON DESIGN CENTER & RENOVATION OF VOL WALKER HALL





# PROJECT NARRATIVE

The 35,000 square foot addition and 60,000 square foot renovation to the Fay Jones School of Architecture in Vol Walker Hall at the University of Arkansas will respond to urgent needs while also supporting the vision for the future.

Once completed, the building will be a complex but resolute hybrid of a beautifully restored historical building, and a modern addition and insertion. Great care will be taken in preserving the historic aspects of Vol Walker Hall, while instilling new life. Needed for many years, the library stack spaces on the west side of the existing building will be removed to make room for new spaces and allow for a proper west entry and circulation through the building on the main campus axis. Removal of the stacks will eliminate a large amount of useless and troublesome space, though they currently support the floor of the main gallery. While beloved, the main gallery does not currently function well as a critique or gallery space due to poor light and acoustic quality. By reconsidering the main gallery, a central space will be created to unite old and new.

The main body of the proposed addition will be located on the west side of Vol Walker Hall, facing Mullins Library. The ground floor will provide a new entry and will feature secure gallery space, as well as a cafe and critique space. Spaces at the ground level are conceived as being more figural and transparent, creating an inviting entry for both students and faculty of other disciplines who regularly pass through on the main axis of the University. A 200 seat lecture hall occupies part of the second level, descending to become visible from the sidewalks nearby.

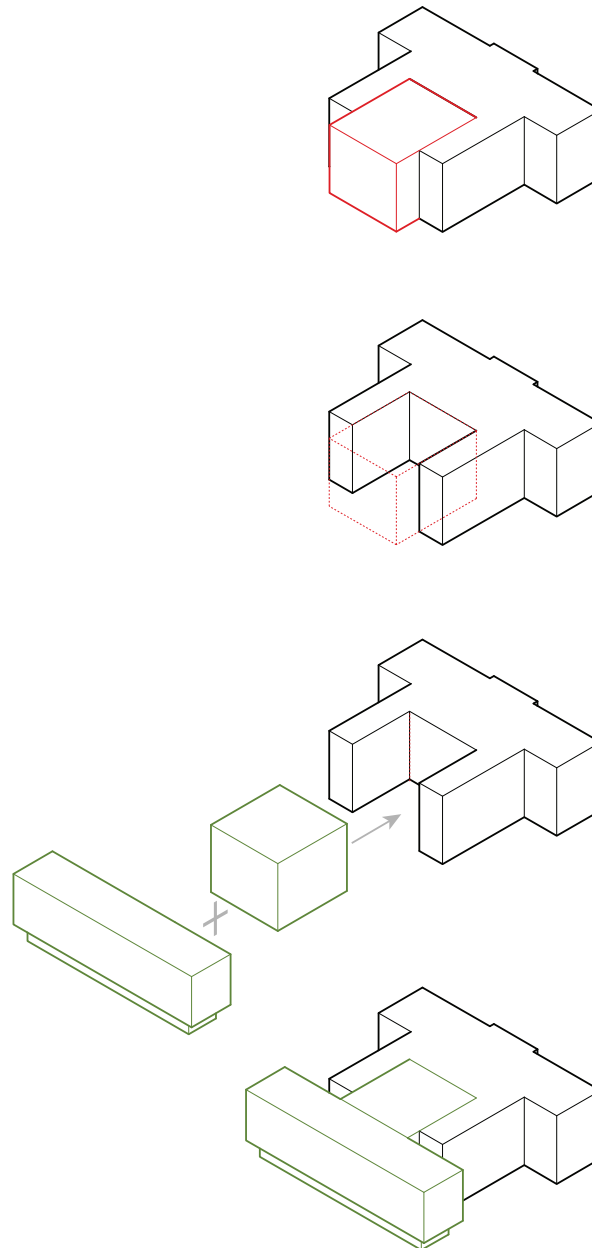
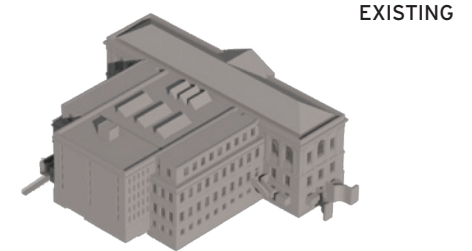
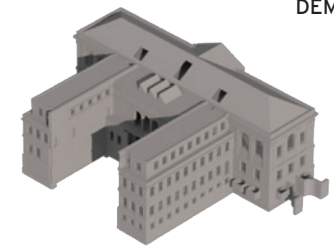


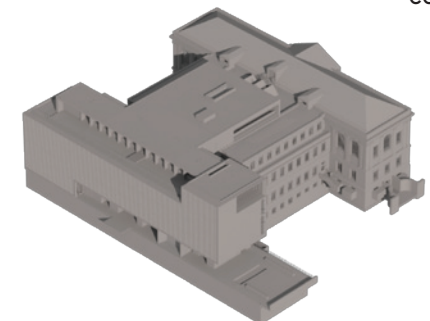
DIAGRAM OF DEMOLITION AND CONSTRUCTION ▲  
PHASED CONSTRUCTION MODEL ►



EXISTING



DEMOLITION



COMPLETE



RENDERING OF THE SOUTH WEST CORNER OF THE ADDITION

Additional studio space and critique spaces are urgent needs, even more so with the incorporation of the Landscape Architecture and Interior Design programs. The proposed addition will provide three floors with studios, two of which equal in size to the existing main studio space in Vol Walker Hall. These new studios will be limited in height by comparison, limiting the overall volume required. Access between each floor and between the new portion of the building and the old will be completely accessible, featuring

centrally-located elevators. Two stairwells will flank each studio, helping to connect each studio and encourage collaboration while distributing natural light. Studio levels will be expressive of structure and systems in order to limit the overall height required, while also serving as a teaching tool. The broad western facade will incorporate a fritted glass *brise soleil* to screen the intense late-day sunlight and a custom curtain wall, used to illustrate construction methods, detailing, and environmental strategies.

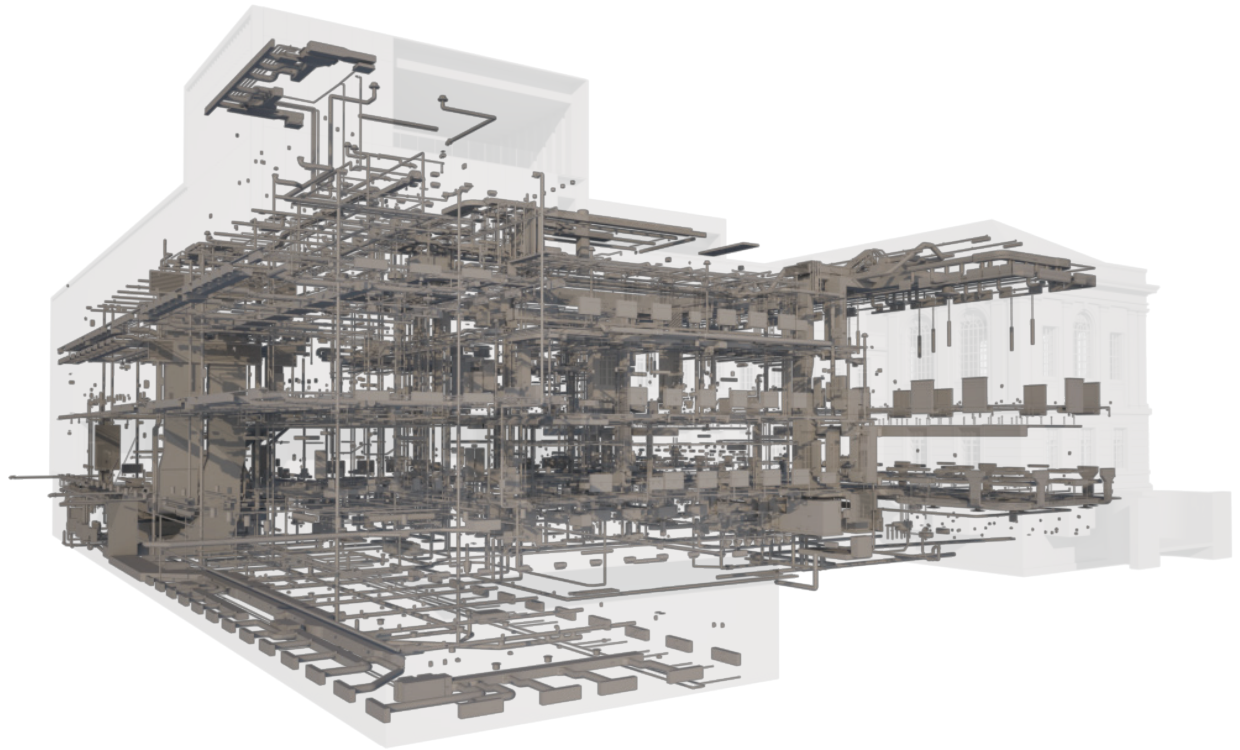
The top floor above the studios will be set back from the perimeter of the studio spaces, respectful of the height of adjacent buildings but allowing views to the Boston Mountains to the south. A critique space and a conference room will be located here, opening to a roof terrace acting as a laboratory for the study of green roofs.



# BIM IMPLEMENTATION

This project will be the first Integrated Project Delivery for both the architects and the client, the University of Arkansas. It is also the first IPD project in the state of Arkansas. This innovation in delivery methods required the architects and consultants to work closely together to ensure that these new processes would successfully deliver the project. Clear understanding of the responsibilities for each of the stakeholders in the project was the initial step in the IPD method. The project had a lead and associate architect in charge of the final deliverables; supporting the deliverables on the project was a MEP, structural, and lighting consultant. All consultants were involved in the “construction” of their own building information model, which was then integrated into the architectural model.

Throughout the design process the integrated model was used for many different purposes across the various design phases. In the schematic design phase the model was used for initial massing of the design, and as a underlay for the construction of physical models that were produced via manual and laser cut processes. In the design development phase the model facilitated solar studies of the addition's long west façade, mechanical simulation for sizing of mechanical units, visualization of the lighting scenarios, and animations and renderings of the design. Finally in the construction document phase the model was used for coordination of construction documents between consultants, collision detection, visual timeline of construction process, and material quantities. The model also continued to be useful moving forward into the construction administration phase serving as an underlay for shop drawings and coordination of design intent and field verification of the on site demolition.



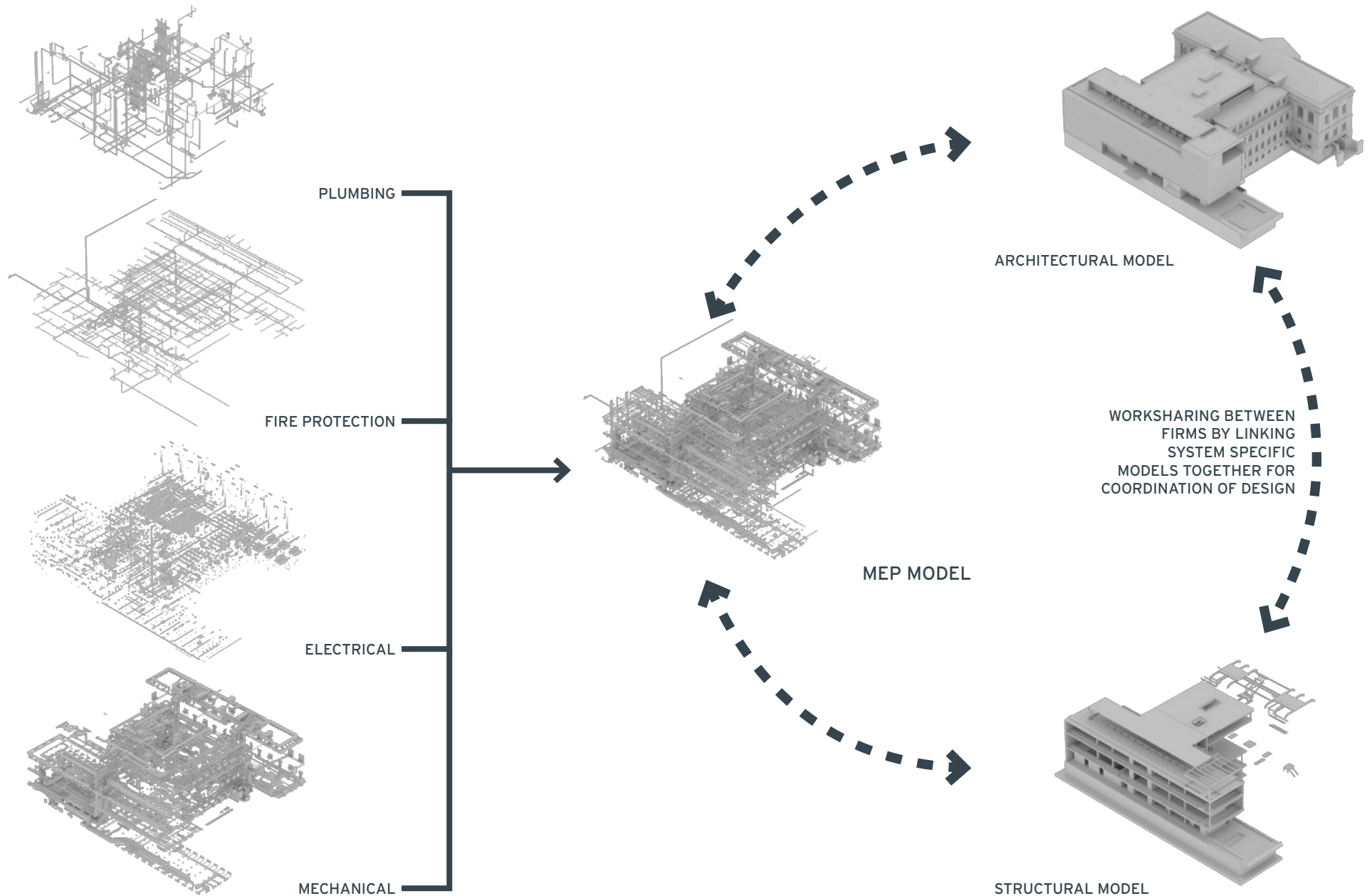
COMBINED MECHANICAL, ELECTRICAL, PLUMBING MODEL

All these various needs were filled through the detailed construction of a building information model that represented the design successfully at all scales. The design team was able to use this model to break down the project into all the subsystems making comprehension of the overall project much easier. The understanding among the design team is that integrated project delivery removes any surprises from the design and

documentation process. The extreme clarity that the practice brought to the design process lowers uncertainty in the bidding and estimating phases. The process also ensures that the final product will reflect the true design intent as crafted by the design team.



# BIM WORKFLOW

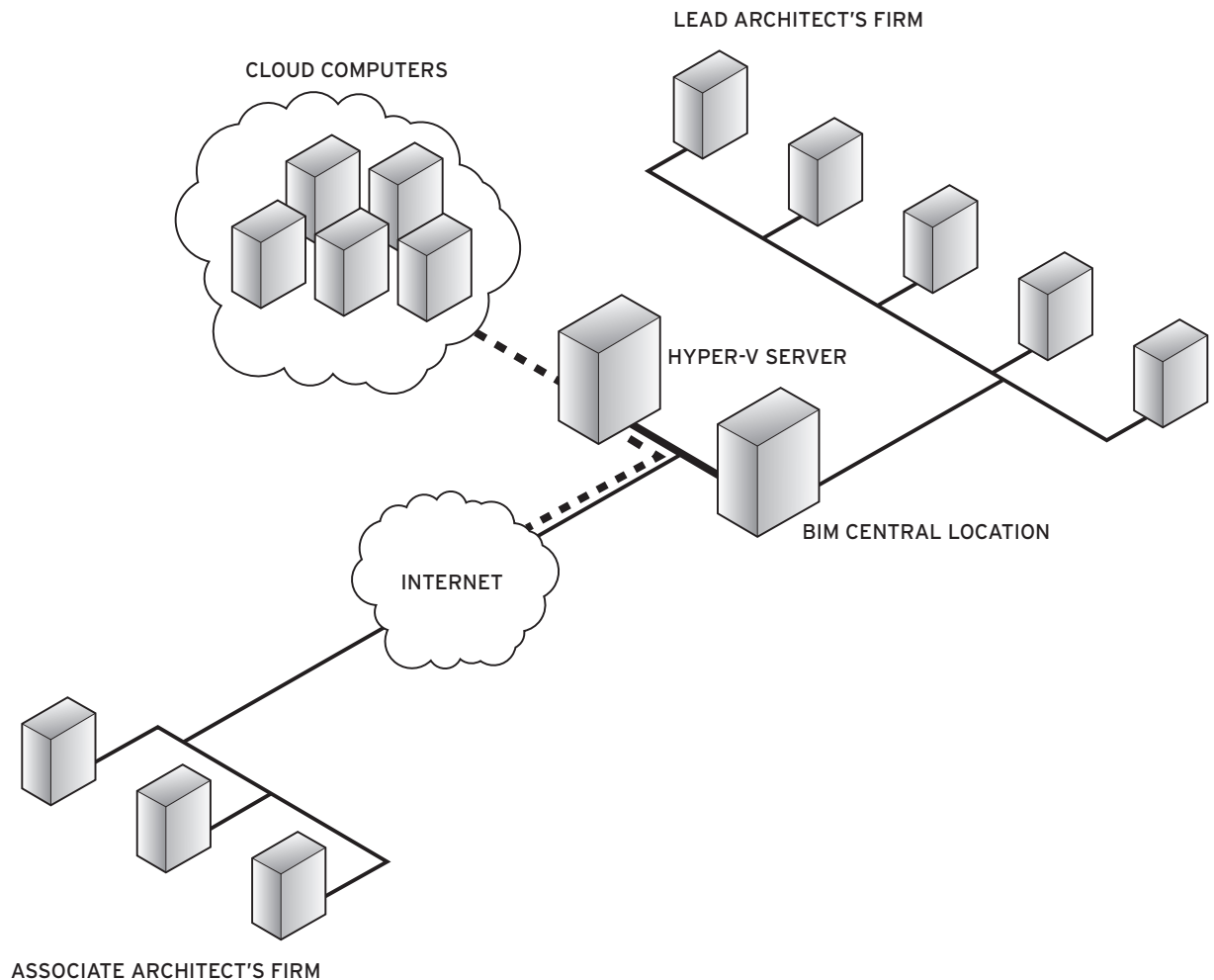




# INNOVATIONS IN PROCESS

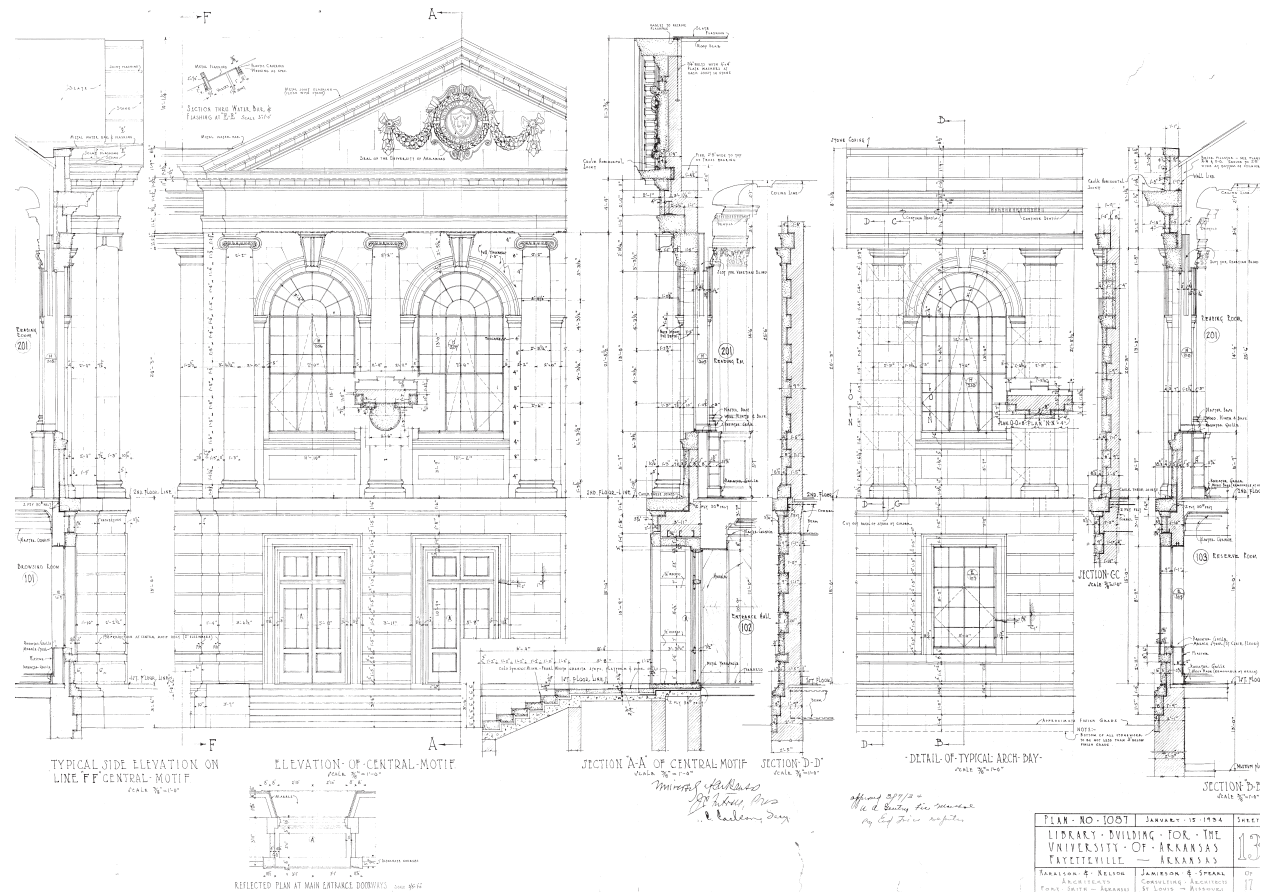
Several different processes of communication between architects and consultants had to be established to facilitate the completion of the design and documentation process. The architect of record was selected for its design expertise and history with adaptive reuse projects, but had a staff of 8 employees limiting its ability to complete the documentation of a 90,000 square foot project in a timely manner. An associate architectural firm was brought into the project to aid in the delivery of the construction documents and construction administration. A method for collaboration between the different architectural firms so that they could work cooperatively on the same BIM model had not been developed in an affordable format at the time of the design phase. Out of necessity the lead architect built a cloud computing solution using Windows Hyper V server so that the associate architect could work remotely from their office. This solution essentially allowed designers at the satellite offices for the associate architect work on the project as if they were sitting in the lead architect's office. This cloud computing solution is currently being used in the construction administration phase. It allows for the flexibility of viewing the model in multiple contexts across multiple platforms live on site.

This method allowed seamless collaboration between the architects on the project. The lead architect took charge of modeling standards, file linking, model review, content creation, and model maintenance while the associate architect took on a majority of the detail documentation, LEED documentation, construction administration, and specification writing.





# FIDELITY TO ORIGINAL DETAIL



The Integrated Model was constructed largely from the original construction drawings, done by hand in the early 1930's. In an effort to restore its original glory, great care was taken to construct a building information model with as much detail as possible, including complex column capitals, fluting, cornices and entablature. These details became the basis for the renovation and restoration effort.





# FIDELITY TO ORIGINAL DETAIL



THE INTEGRATED MODEL ▲

THE EXISTING BUILDING ►





◀ THE INTEGRATED MODEL

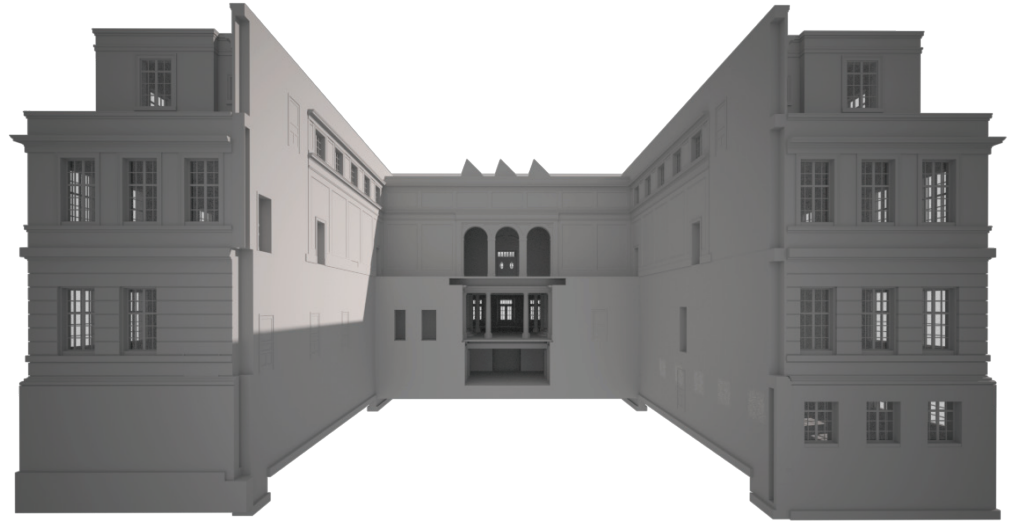


◀ THE EXISTING BUILDING

# BIM IN ACTION: CONSTRUCTION PHASING

Construction phasing was one of the more powerful tools used throughout the development of the project. The design team was able to develop the model with all the geometry tied to a schedulable project timeline. This allowed the design team to visually see how the project would look as it moved through its construction phases. In order to accomplish this task the architectural firms had to take the original 1935 construction drawings of Vol Walker and convert them into a building information model. Once that was accomplished the design team was able to virtually demolish pieces of the building. As a result the architects were able to precisely design the interface between the existing building and the addition.

From this demolition model the architectural firms were able to add and renovate the existing spaces in the model. The architects were essentially building the project in the computer before the contractor even stepped foot on the site. This phased model filled other needs than visualizing the effect demolition would have on the project. It also allowed the architect to have close estimates on demolition quantities and accurate drawings for instructing the demolition of the existing building.

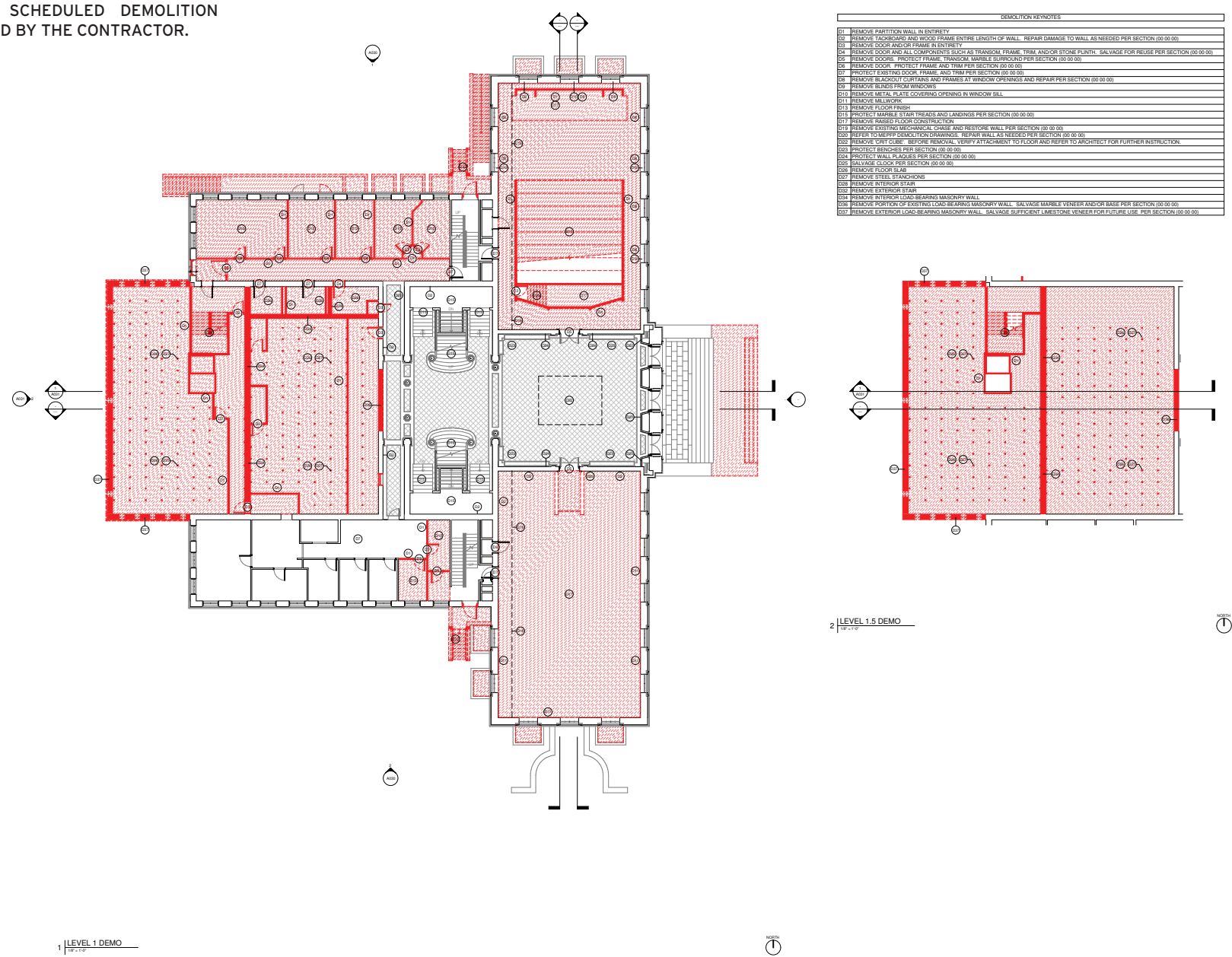


THE INTEGRATED MODEL PHASED FOR DEMOLITION ▲  
COMPLETED DEMOLITION ►

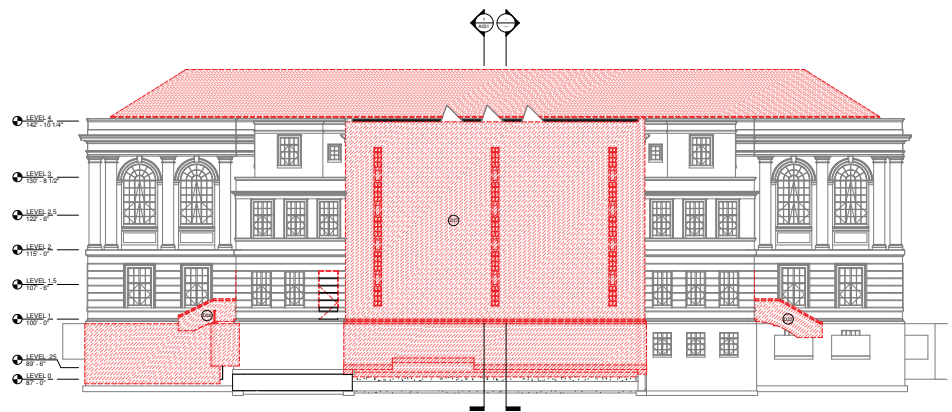


# BIM IN ACTION: CONSTRUCTION PHASING

EXAMPLE OF THE PROVIDED TWO DIMENSIONAL FLOOR PLANS WITH SCHEDULED DEMOLITION NOTES THAT WERE USED BY THE CONTRACTOR.

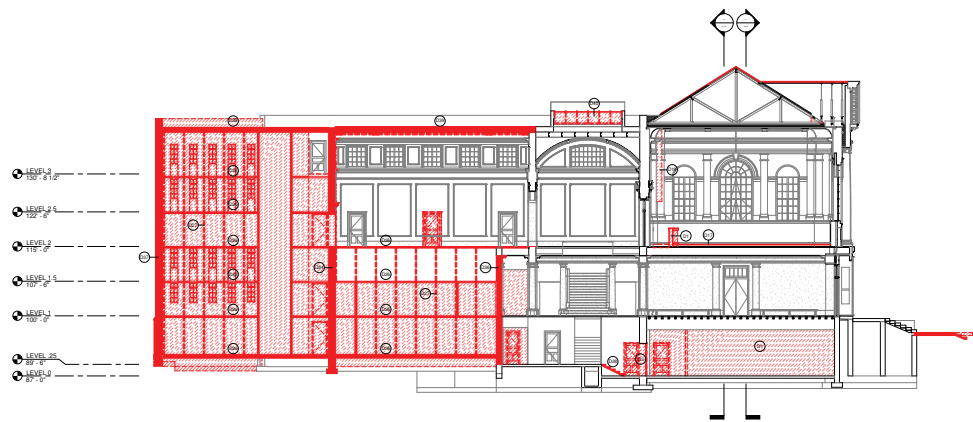


# BIM IN ACTION: CONSTRUCTION PHASING



2 | WEST ELEVATION DEMO  
1/8" = 1'-0"

DEMOLITION KEYNOTES	
01	REMOVE PARTITION WALL IN ENTIRETY
02	REMOVE DOOR AND/OR FRAME TO ENTIRETY
03	REMOVE RAISED FLOOR CONSTRUCTION
04	REMOVE EXISTING MECHANICAL CHASE AND RESTORE WALL PER SECTION (05 00 00)
05	REMOVE FLOOR SLAB
06	REMOVE STEEL STANCHIONS
07	REMOVE INTERIOR STAIR
08	REMOVE EXTERIOR STAIR
09	REMOVE PORTION OF EXISTING LOAD-BEARING MASONRY WALL
10	REMOVE PORTION OF EXISTING LOAD-BEARING MASONRY WALL - SALVAGE MARBLE VENEER AND/OR BASE PER SECTION (05 00 00)
11	REMOVE EXTERIOR LOAD-BEARING MASONRY WALL - SALVAGE SUFFICIENT LIMESTONE VENEER FOR FUTURE USE - PER SECTION (05 00 00)
12	REMOVE ROOF CONSTRUCTION
13	REMOVE EXISTING CLADDING

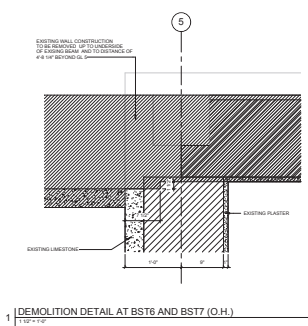
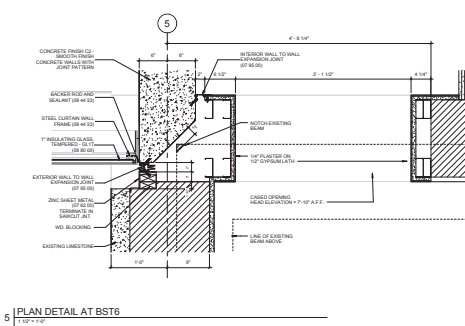
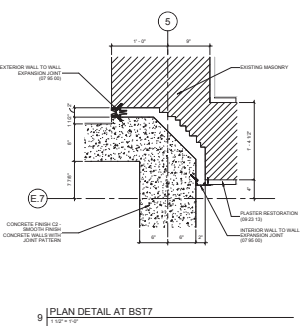
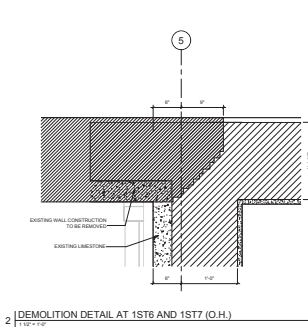
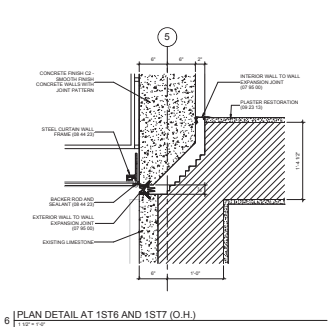
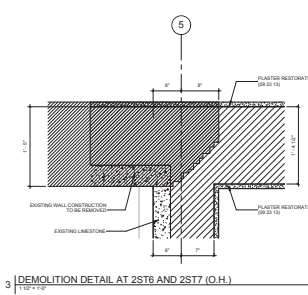
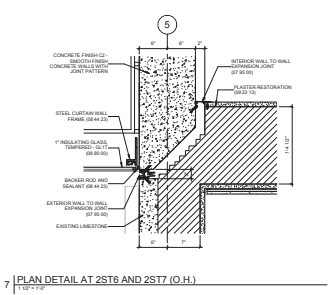
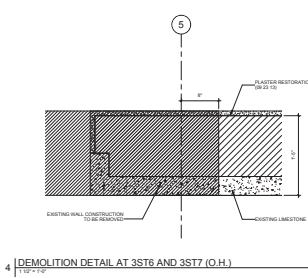
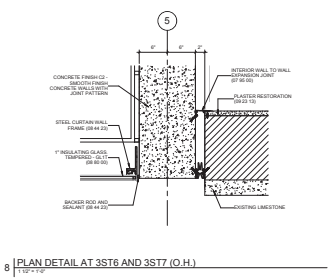


1 | BUILDING SECTION NORTH DEMO  
1/8" = 1'-0"



# BIM IN ACTION: CONSTRUCTION PHASING

CONSTRUCTION DRAWINGS ILLUSTRATING THE DEMOLITION DETAIL AND DESIGNED EXPANSION JOINT WHERE THE ADDITION AND EXISTING BUILDING CONNECT.



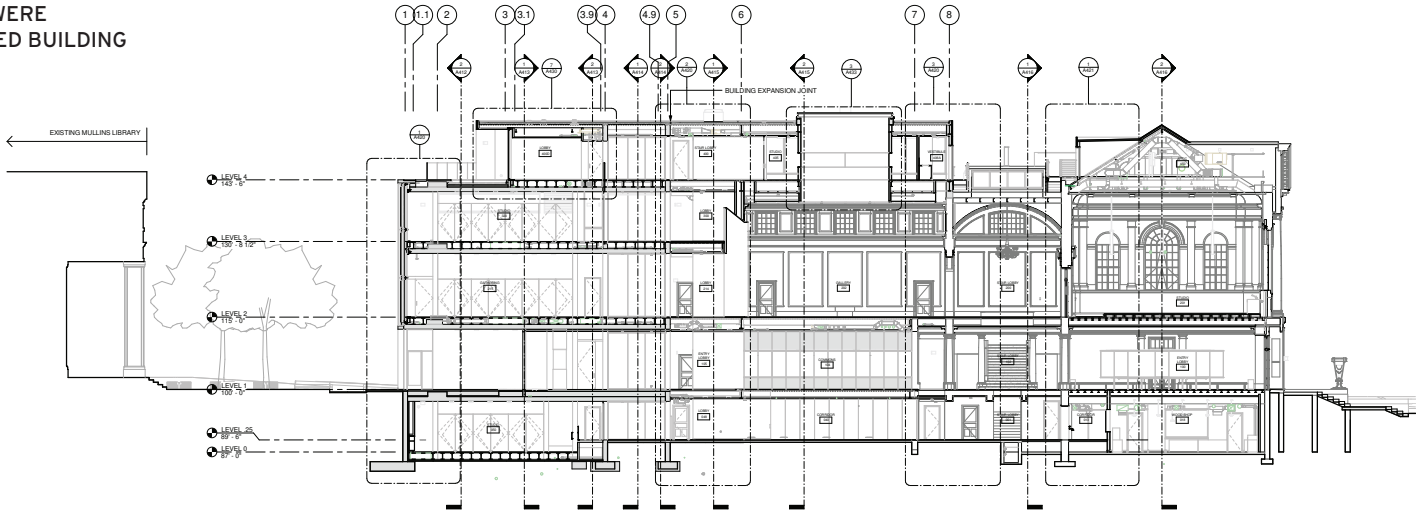
ALL THE DRAWINGS CREATED THROUGHOUT THE PROJECT DEVELOPMENT WERE CREATED FROM THE INTEGRATED BUILDING MODEL.

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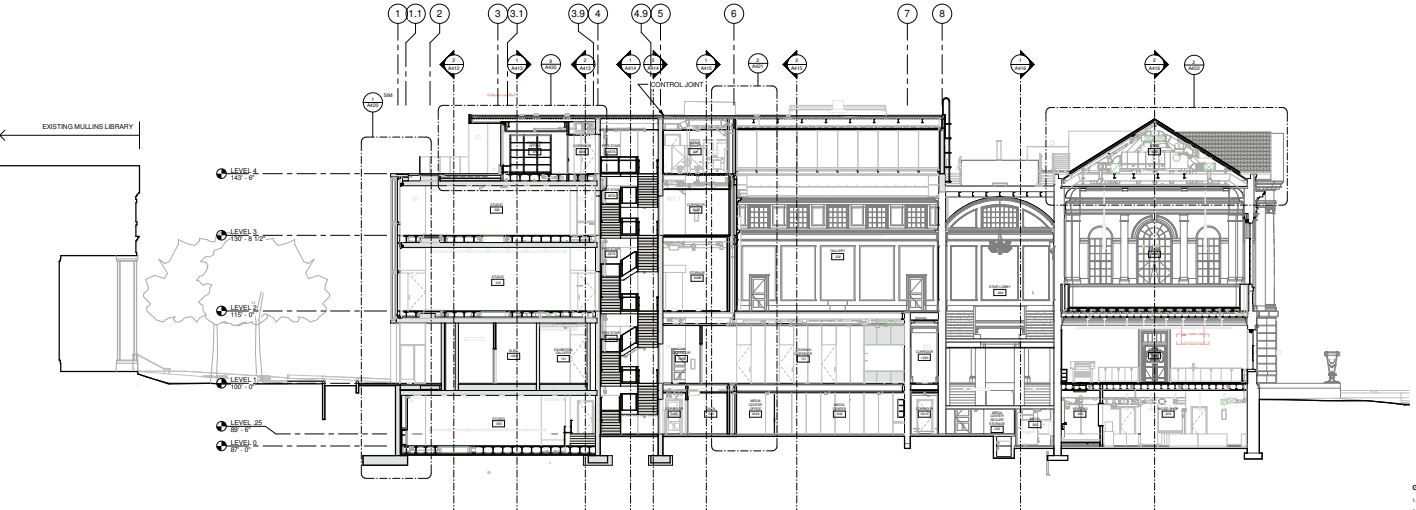


# BIM IN ACTION: CONSTRUCTION DRAWINGS

ALL THE DRAWINGS CREATED THROUGHOUT THE PROJECT DEVELOPMENT WERE CREATED FROM THE INTEGRATED BUILDING MODEL.



1 | GALLERY SECTION LOOKING NORTH  
1/8" = 1'-0"



2 | EAST WEST SECTION FACING NORTH  
1/8" = 1'-0"

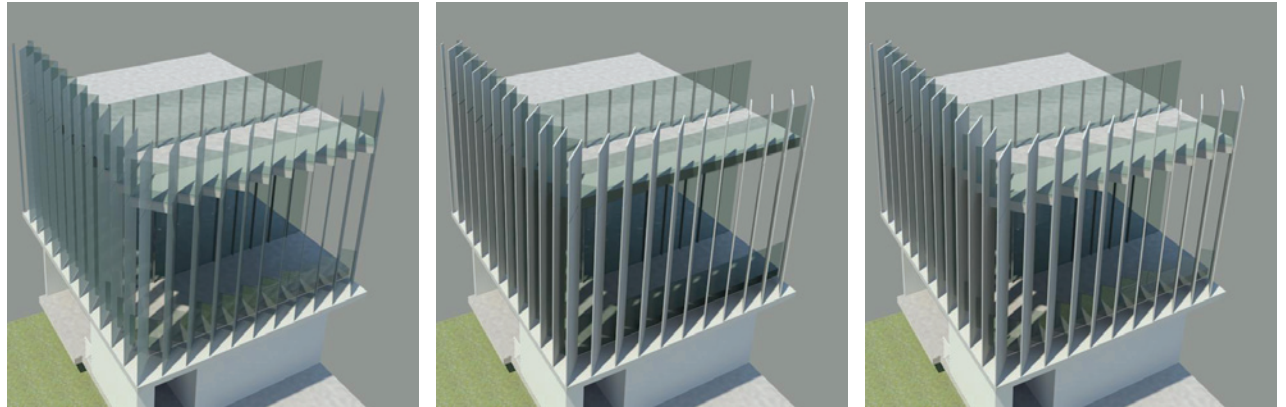
- GENERAL NOTES:
1. DIMENSIONS SHOWN ARE TO FACE OF STUD. FACE OF MEMBERS UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED TO THE CONTRARY.
  2. DIMENSIONS SHOWN ARE TO FACE OF STUD. FACE OF MEMBERS UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED TO THE CONTRARY.
  3. DIMENSIONS SHOWN ARE TO FACE OF STUD. FACE OF MEMBERS UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED TO THE CONTRARY.
  4. DIMENSIONS SHOWN ARE TO FACE OF STUD. FACE OF MEMBERS UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED TO THE CONTRARY.

NEW CONSTRUCTION  
EXISTING CONSTRUCTION

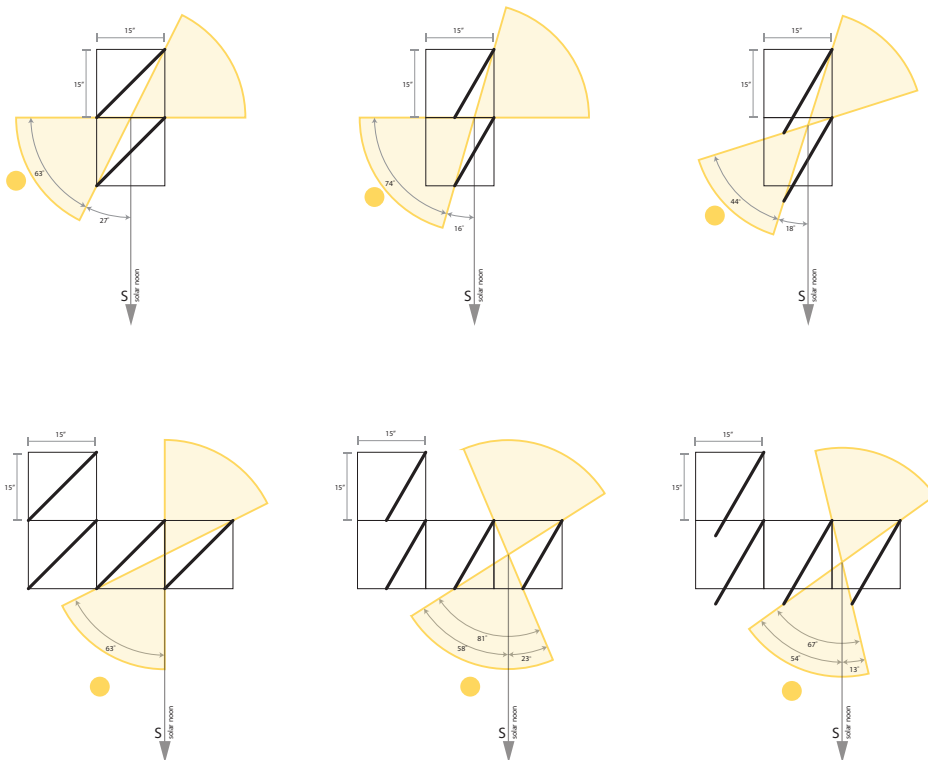
BUILDING SECTION LEGEND

# BIM IN ACTION: DETAIL DEVELOPMENT

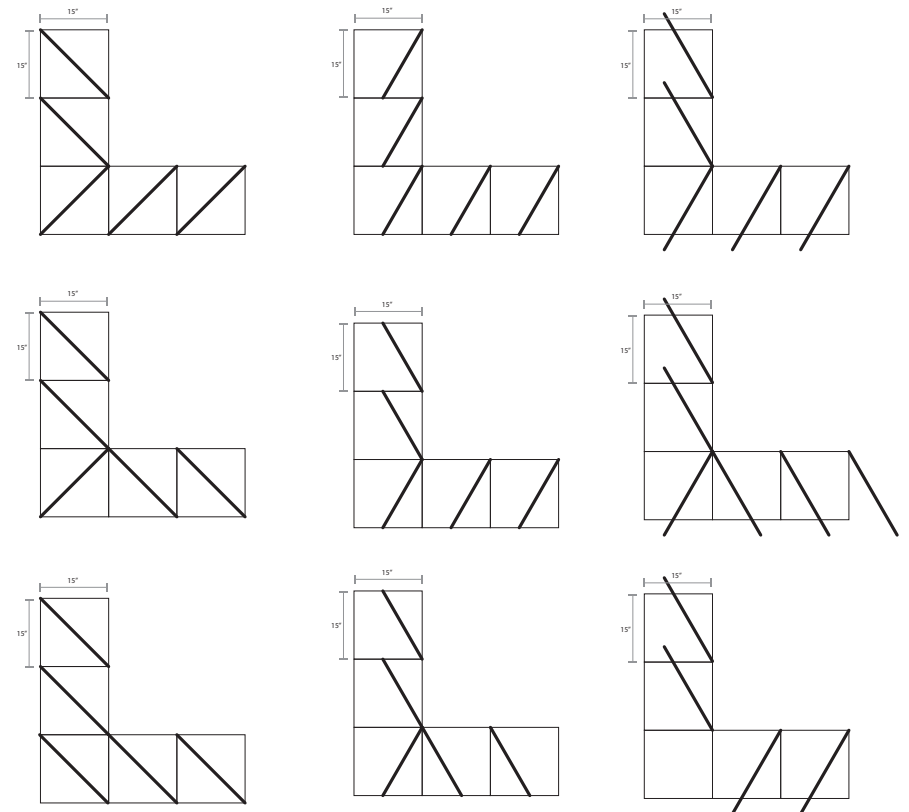
One of the key design features of the project is the long west façade and its custom steel curtain wall. There was a concern regarding the system and how well the fritted glass fins would perform in bringing down the sun's intensity in the afternoon. The model was used to test and verify the solar angles relative to the direction of the fins. This tool gave the design team the ability to find and use the ideal angle for mitigating the solar impact along the west façade.



SUN STUDIES OF THE SOUTHEAST CORNER



BRISE SOLEIL FIN ORIENTATION SUN STUDIES





THE FINAL CURTAIN WALL DETAILS DEVELOPED FROM  
THE INTEGRATED MODEL REPRESENTED HERE IN THE  
CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENT SET



# VISUALIZATION

The BIM processes allowed the architects to represent all aspects of the model from the holistic highly refined renderings to very specific three dimensional details.



MAIN GALLERY



SOUTHWEST CORNER OF THE ADDITION



ROOF TERRACE WITH VIEW OF BOSTON MOUNTAINS





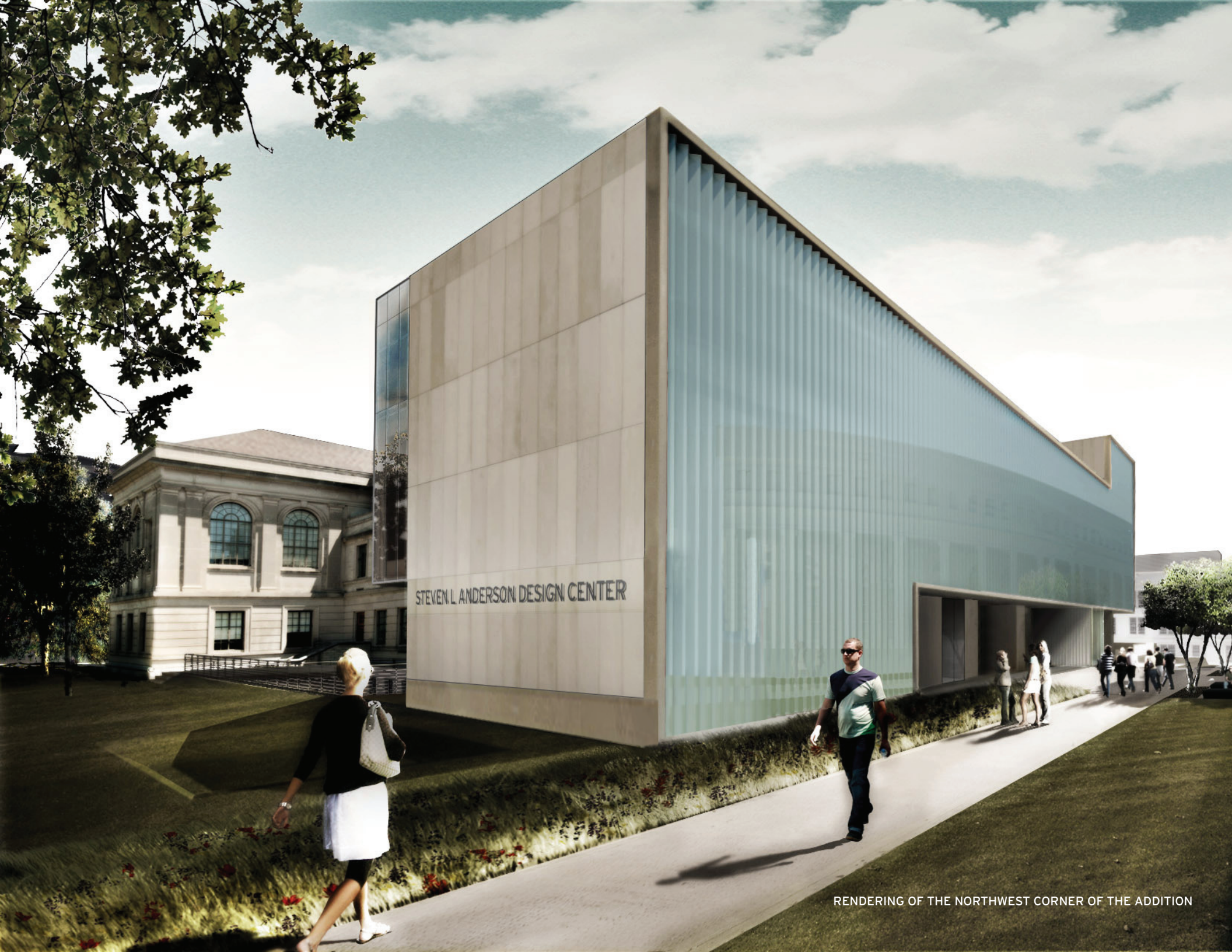
RENDERING OF THE RENOVATED READING ROOM IN THE EXISTING BUILDING



RENDERING OF THE AUDITORIUM IN THE ADDITION







STEVEN L. ANDERSON DESIGN CENTER

RENDERING OF THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF THE ADDITION



It seems only fitting to use a school of architecture to demonstrate the remarkable evolution project delivery technology that BIM provides. Given the complexity and detail of the original Beaux Arts structure and the complementary modern addition, BIM allowed an unprecedented ability to explore the relationship between the two structures in order to create an ordered and unified whole. In this way, the Integrated Model itself becomes representative of the values of the school itself, committed to architecture that is of its time and place, but respectful of history.

