

LIBRARY BUILDERS





SCOGIN, ELAM AND BRAY CLAYTON COUNTY HEADQUARTERS LIBRARY

Jonesboro, Georgia, USA

Jonesboro, Georgia, is wedged in between the south-east end of Hartsfield International, one of the busiest airports in the world and Tara, the mythical home of Scarlet O'Hara. The strip between the two is folksy, hand-painted (not at all mass-produced), a place where one is apt to pull up alongside a pick-up truck with a gun rack and ZZ Top blaring out through the open windows. It is a place where information is sought for practical reasons and history is personal. Scholars will not seek out obscure dissertation-supporting materials here. This library is more like a filling-station, purveying information for living life: a puppet show, a cooking class, a seed catalogue, easy parking – all on offer here. A hypermarket of information . . .

The site is bounded on the north by

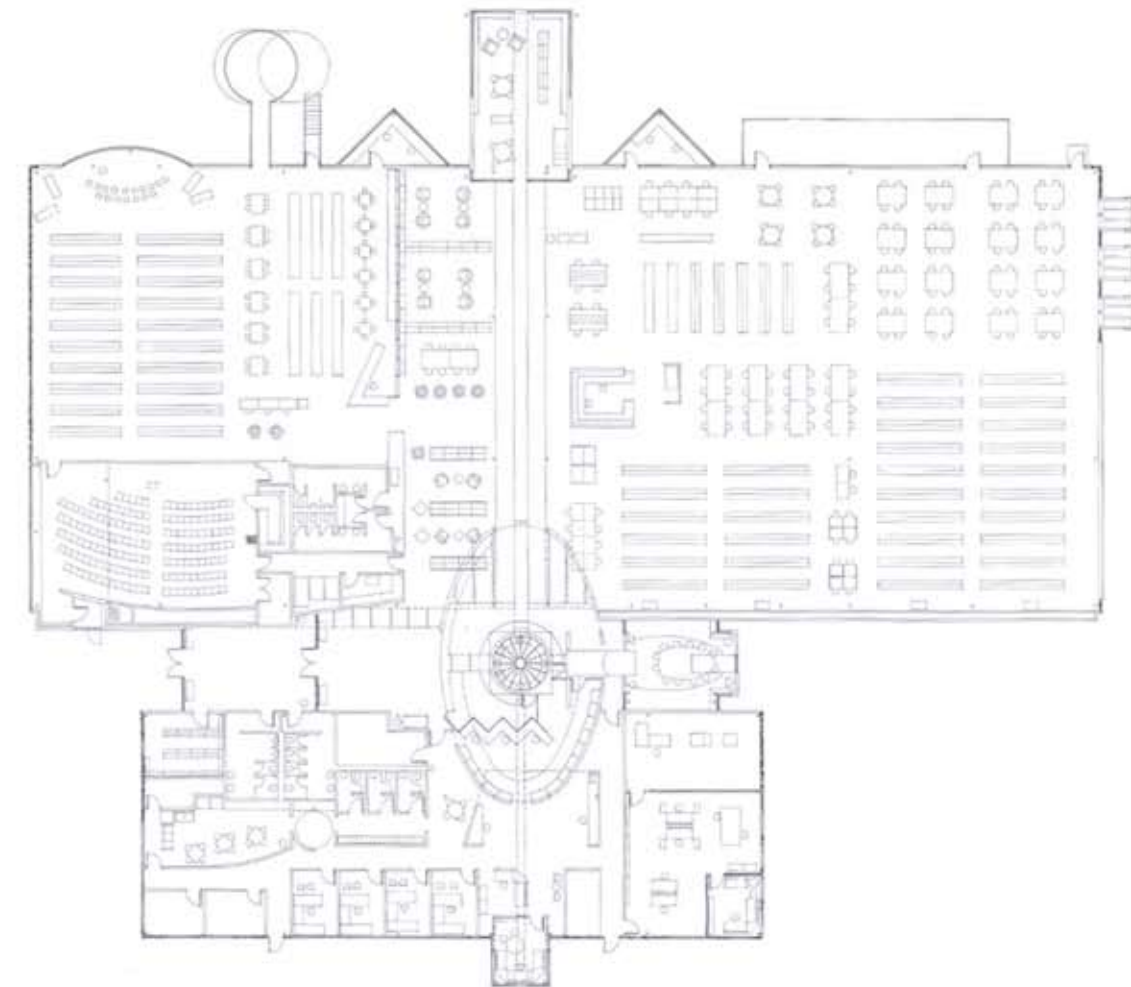
Battlecreek Road; on the east by Jester's Creek and its associated flood plain, a wooded area lush with hardwoods and pine; and on the south and west by other county facilities. The building is located on the southern part of the site, and is elevated above the car park which is directly in front of the building. The entrance elevation is at the eye level of a seated driver travelling along Battlecreek Road.

The plan is organised on two axes. The north-south axis provides a connecting link between the car park, the entrance, the circulation desk and the board room. The transverse axis, also through the circulation desk, connects the woods and flood plain east of the site, the genealogy collection and a director's office.

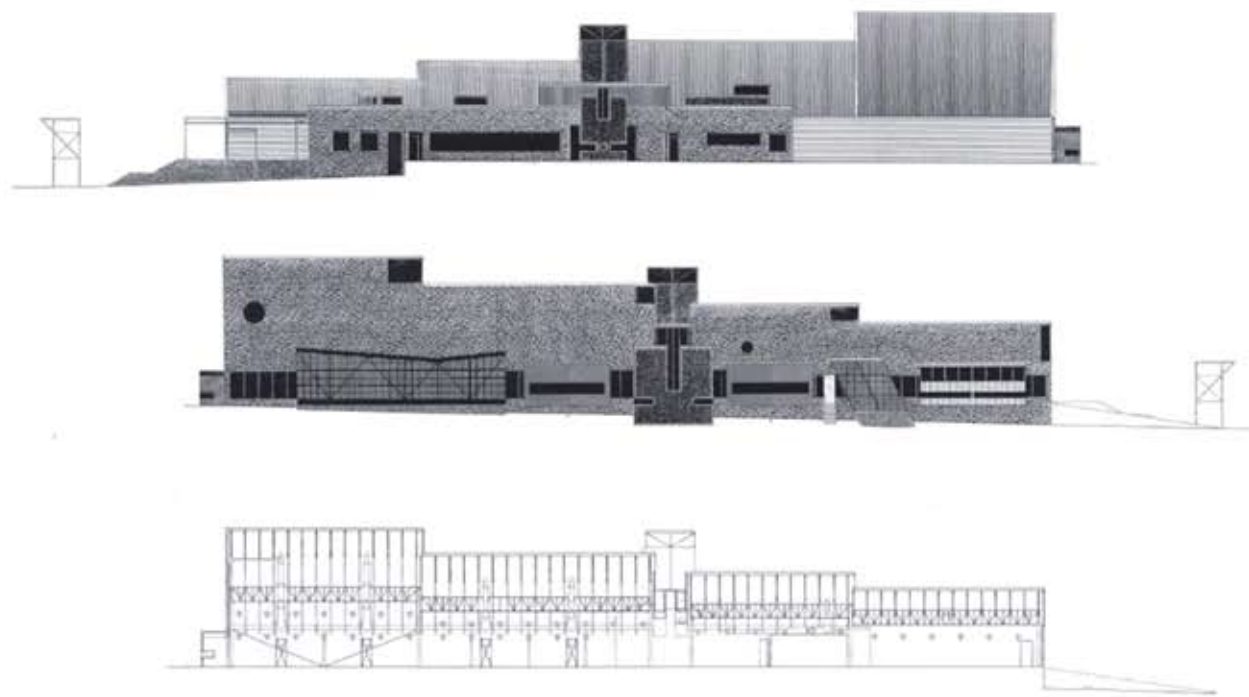
The functions are also split into two: the

administration facilities and the public areas. The public areas occupy a large open room which is oriented to the woods and creek. A monitor divides the space, emphasising the line of travel to, and the position of, the genealogy collection. The roofs of this space tilt towards the east and the woods. They are arranged so that they fan up towards the south, allowing north light to enter at each 'step'. The children's services are located in the lower space, while the general collection with the tallest stacks is located where the roof is highest.

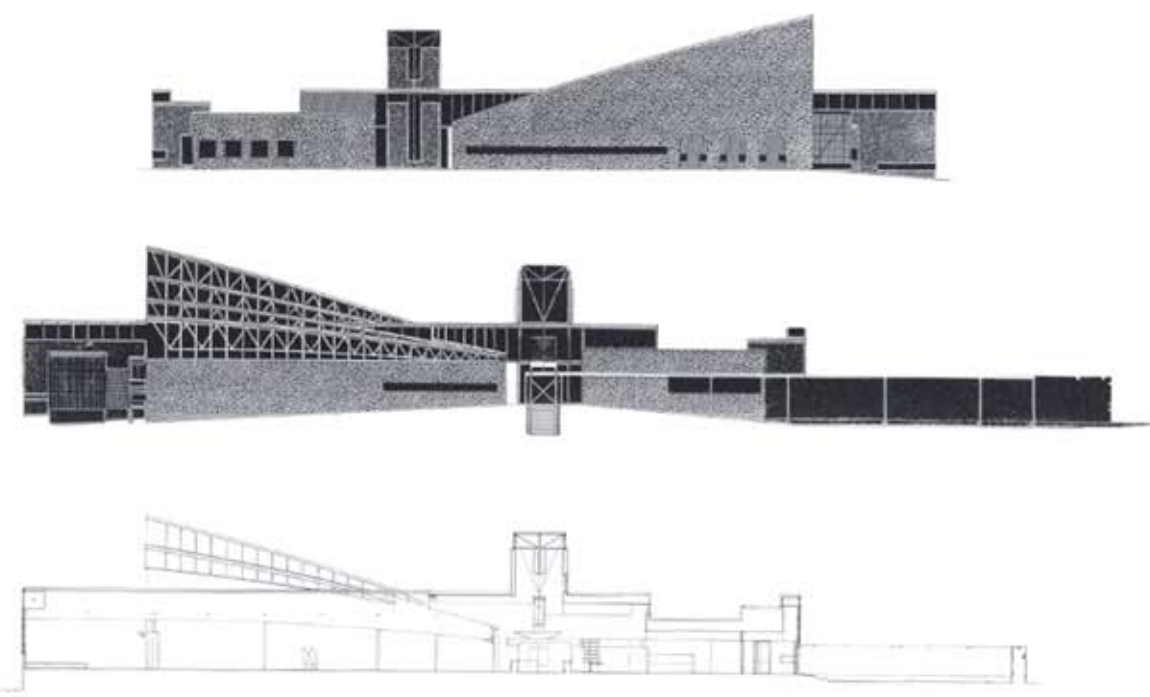
The structure is steel frame with long span truss joists of wood and galvanised steel, supported on concrete footings. The exterior skin is a combination of metal sidings with a variety of textures and patterns. The general aesthetic is industrial.



Ground floor plan



FROM ABOVE: West elevation; east elevation; longitudinal section through public room, looking west



FROM ABOVE: South elevation; north elevation; cross section through light monitor, looking south

SCOGIN, ELAM AND BRAY

JOHN J ROSS – WILLIAM C BLAKELY LAW LIBRARY

Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona, USA

The Arizona desert landscape provokes misreadings. Plants look like animals, animals look like rocks, rocks look like animals, plants look like rocks, animals look like plants, tricking and teasing the eyes. The sun bursts over the horizon, unfiltered by East Coast greenery, immediately filling an enormous sky with incredible light. Textures and colours vibrate. On the ground plane and along the horizon, every form is to excess, incredibly legible and overly important.

The library, which commemorates two prominent Phoenix attorneys, is one of the finest law libraries in the Southwest with a collection of over three hundred and ten thousand volumes and microfilm volume equivalents. The collection includes a broad selection of Anglo-American case reports and statutes, as well as legal treatises, periodicals, encyclopedias, digests, citations and administrative materials. The collection also has growing special

collections in the areas of international law, Native American law, Mexican law, and law and technology. The library is furthermore a selective US Government repository.

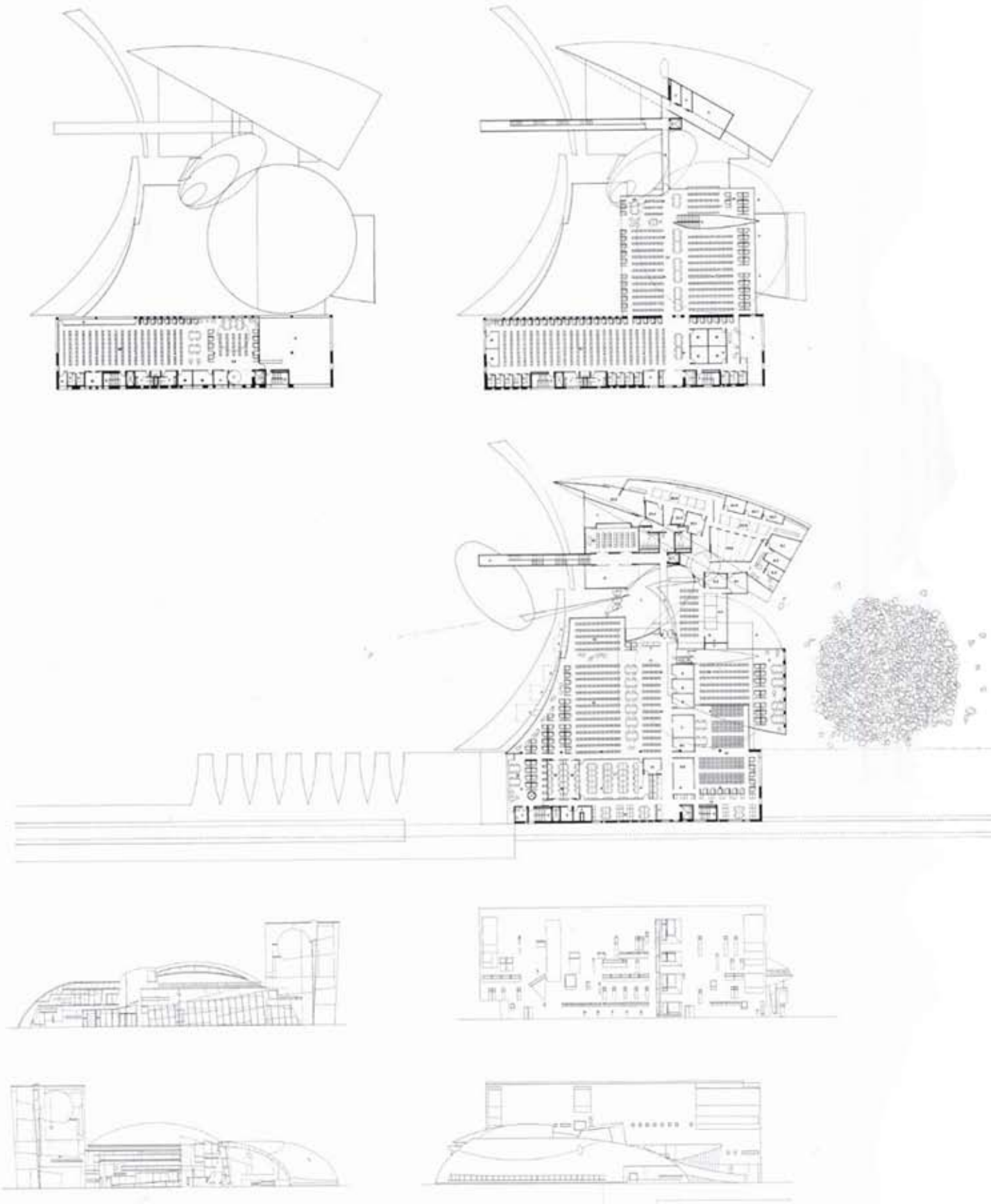
The site of the law library addition is on the fringe of Arizona State University's orthogonal campus. The multiplicity of the context – the landscape, the curve of the east property line, the geometrical determinism of the existing law school building and a number of other buildings scattered on the campus fringe – encourages exuberant form-making. The dynamic forms of the new law library building both contrast and complement the existing building, Armstrong Hall. When seen together, neither building dominates the other; rather the two are harmonious, if unconventional, forming a College of Law campus within the greater university campus.

An 'oasis-like' plaza mediates between the existing building and the new building. The forms and spaces of the scheme are

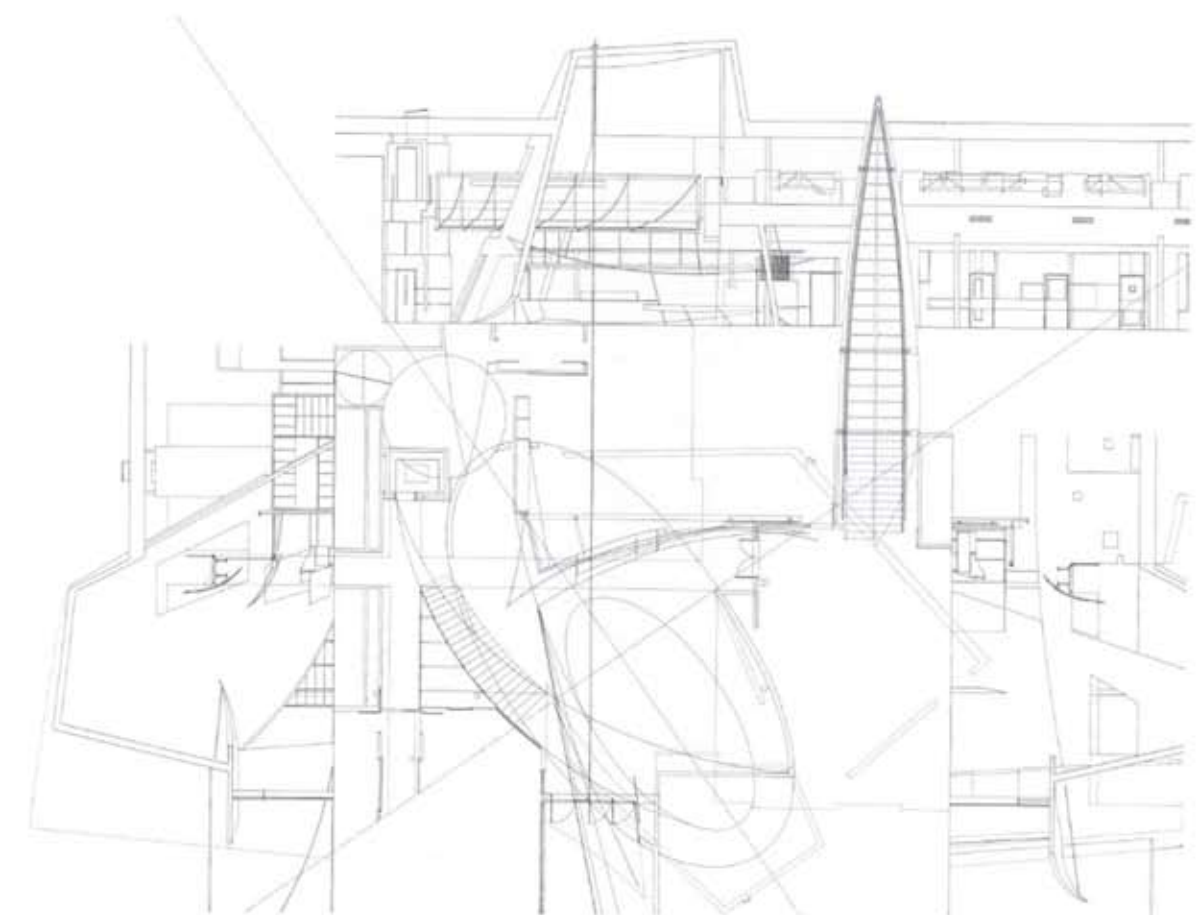
organised over and around the distinct functions of the library: technical services, circulation services, the core collection and the other discrete collections. The collection of exterior forms and interior spaces work in concert to modulate the intense desert sunlight and provide varying architectural experiences.

Accessible shelving for the library's expanding collections and study space at carrels, tables and lounge seating are located throughout the library. It also has a thirty-station computer lab as well as Lexis and Westlaw rooms each containing ten stations, in addition to twenty-seven meeting and study rooms, a microfilm facility and a classroom.

The building's structure is steel frame on concrete foundations. Exterior materials include synthetic stucco, metal roofing and insulating glazing. Interior materials include concrete paint on plaster wall boards and carpets.



FROM ABOVE, LEFT TO RIGHT: Second floor plan; first floor plan; ground floor plan; north elevation; west elevation; south elevation; east elevation



Plan and section projections



SCOGIN, ELAM AND BRAY

CAROL COBB TURNER BRANCH LIBRARY

Morrow, Georgia, USA

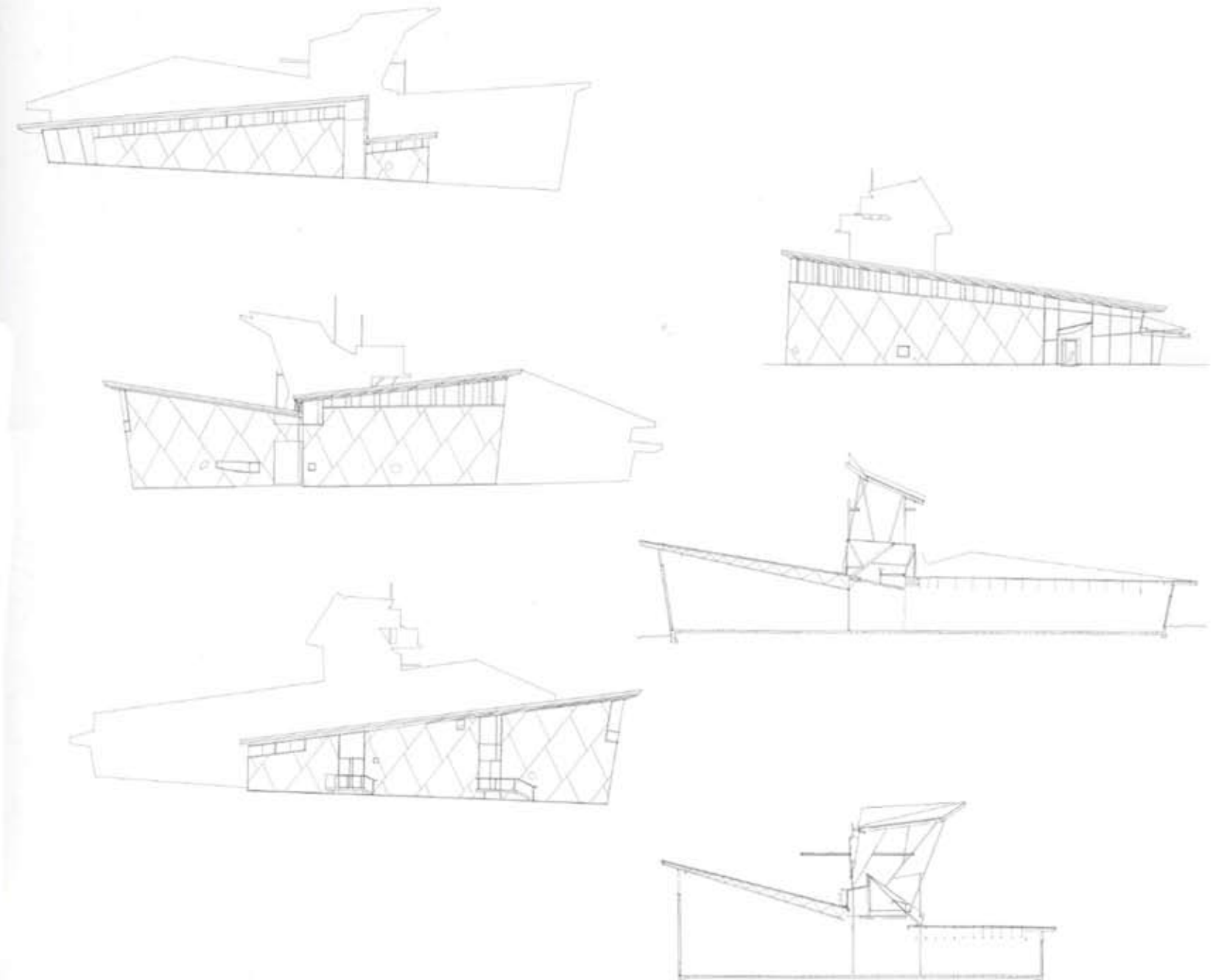
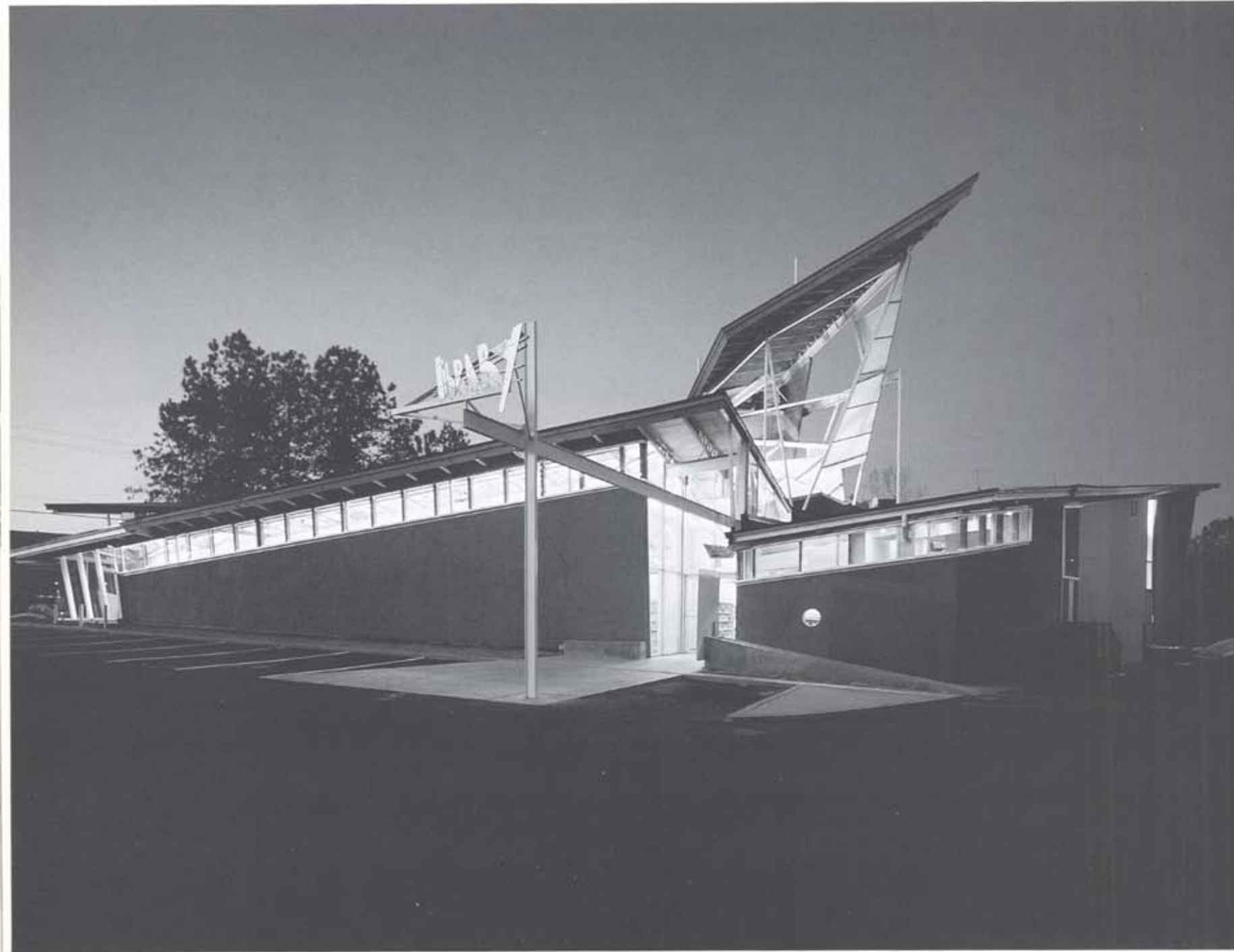
The 900-square-metre Morrow Branch library, a fifty-nine thousand volume community facility, is an institutional loner. Set in a horse pasture, it is bounded by a linear shopping centre (which always draws in wet weather crowds), a busy county road and subdivision housing which is sideways-facing and self-contained that refuses to acknowledge the road's existence. Its site is flat, filled with yellow-topped bitter weeds, loblolly pines

and june bug beetles. Its most extraordinary feature is its ceiling of blue sky and bright clouds brushed by pine needles.

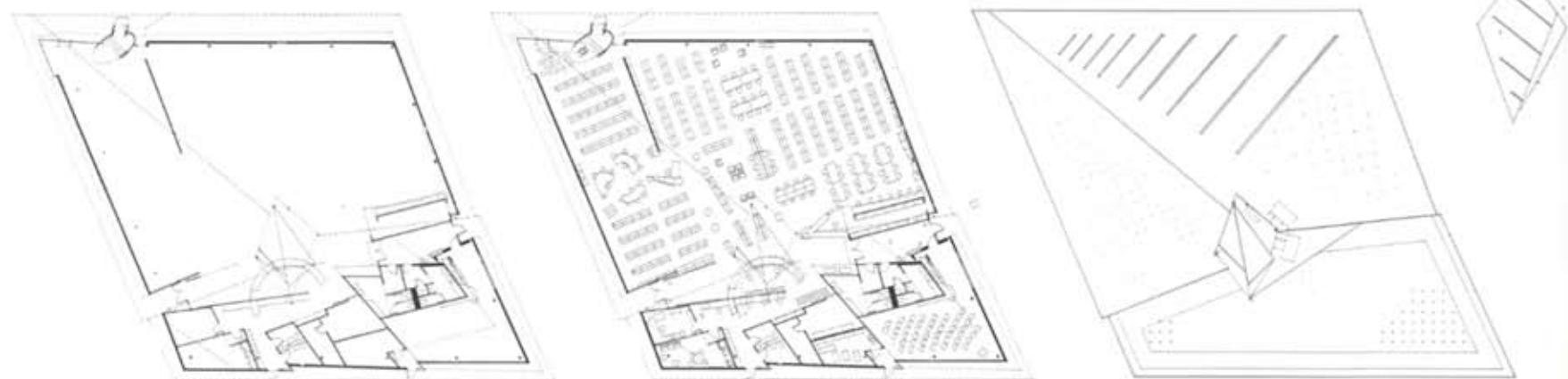
The one-acre site is consumed by the programme of building and parking and the best view is upwards. The scheme reflects this, with glass and views high up and enclosing walls down low. Other influences are more abstract, distant connections, such as the headquarters library, the

county courthouse, the nearby neighbourhoods Rex and Ellenwood, and the cardinal points of the compass. Along with the property lines, the lines of influence from these entities give form to the building.

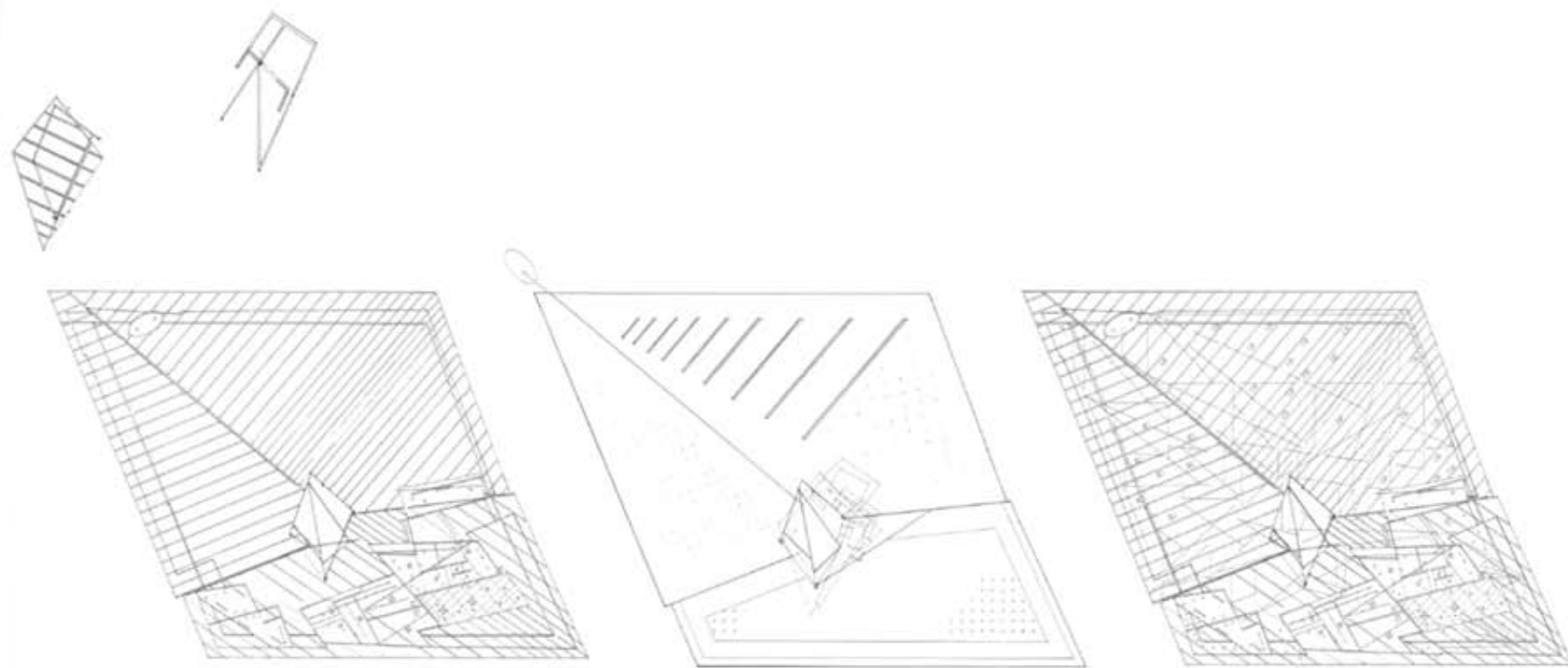
The building plan is an asymmetrical skewed dogleg with a dividing breezeway/corridor with rooms off both sides. To the north of the corridor are the public meeting room, toilets and administrative services.



LEFT, FROM ABOVE: East elevation; west elevation; north elevation, RIGHT, FROM ABOVE: South elevation; longitudinal section; cross section



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Ground floor plan; ground floor plan with furniture; roof plan



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Reflected ceiling plan; roof plan indicating tower; lighting diagram