

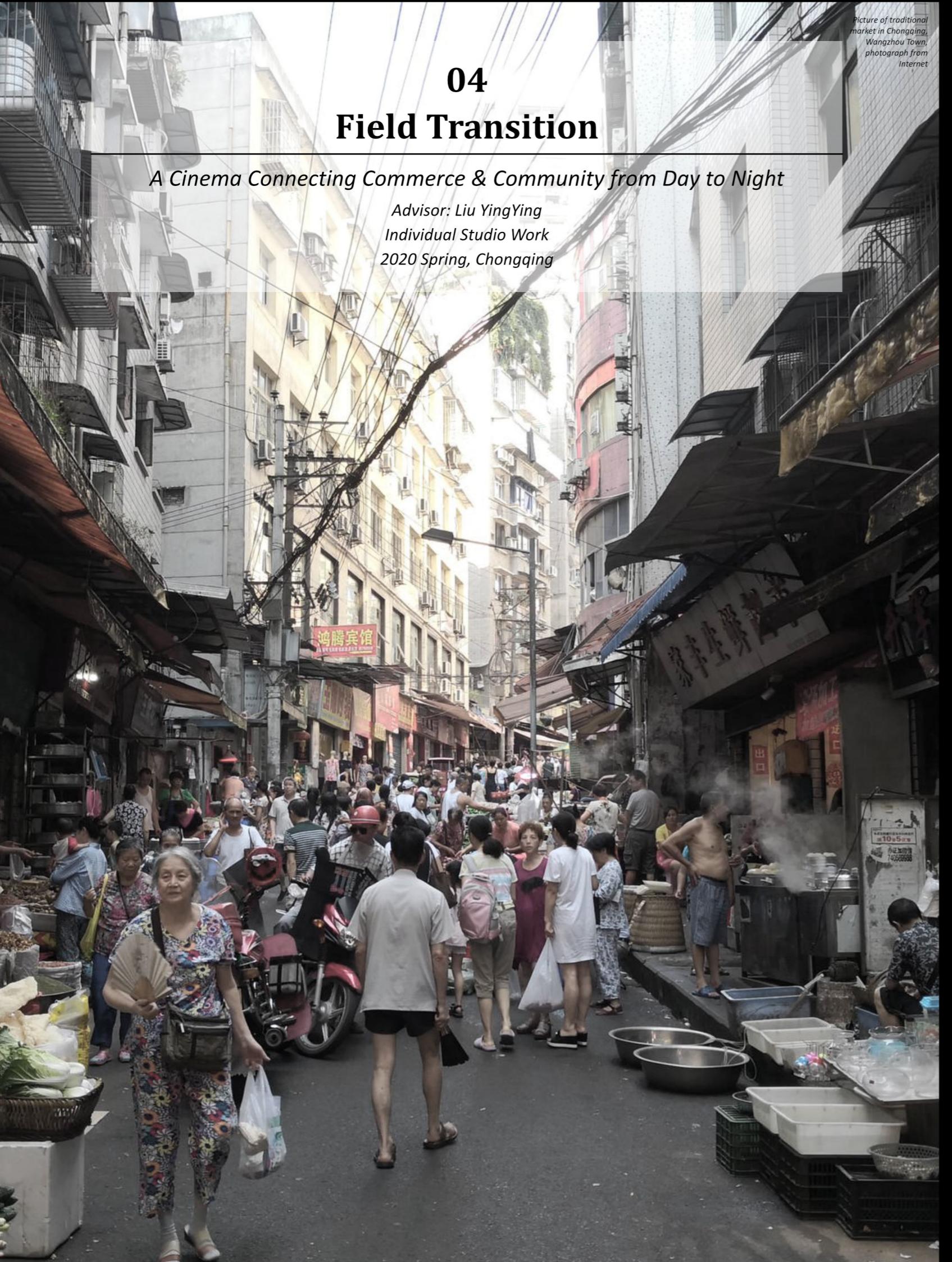
04

Field Transition

A Cinema Connecting Commerce & Community from Day to Night

Advisor: Liu YingYing
Individual Studio Work
2020 Spring, Chongqing

Picture of traditional market in Chongqing,
Wangzhou Town;
photograph from
Internet



"The Field describes a space of propagation, of effects. It contains no matter or material points, rather functions, vectors and speeds. It describes local relations of difference within fields of celerity, transmission or careering points, in a word, what Minikowski called the world."

Sanford Kwinter, 1986

"Field Condition are bottom-up phenomena, defined not by overarching geometrical schemas but by intricate local connections. Interval, repetition and seriality are key concepts. Form matters, but not so much the forms of things as the forms between things."

Stan Allen, Points + Lines, 1999

[1] Urban Condition in the Field - Deconstruct the Cultural Conflicts of Local Urbanism

As urban condition is one of the most complex systems in the physical world, hidden orders or rules exist under the surface of daily urban transitions. With the study of field, although it is hard to capture every detail elements affecting the urban condition, we can learn from certain urban elements which determine these orders systematically on the macro level. In a short-term behavior such as daily transition, physical built environment is the main factor to construct the urban field and groups of people are the units being affected. In a long-term development, these daily behaviors accumulate and finally turn into a culture, which is actually a field crossing spacetime.

Chinese traditional market is such a kind of fields crossing spacetime, and finally forms a urbanism culture. Along thousands of years, people in the living community have a habit to come to an open space and make trades with each other. Even in today's Chinese cities, such kinds of space exist in every living communities, keeping forming a field affecting people's daily life. However, new commercial system has come since the economy reform from the last century, leading by the supermarkets and retailers, which have their own field and affect the original traditional market field continuously.

Urban fields build people's daily behavior and life. As the modern field comes in and expand itself constantly, the traditional field, the traditional urbanism culture, is in danger during the urban development. While the modern commercial field is more systematical and efficient, the traditional field is more natural and tightly related to the construction of living community. It is the critical time to protect the old field from being replaced.

[2] Field as a Design Methodology - Reconstruct Transition between Fields in Reality

People don't feel the urban environment with the macro perspective. The elders in the living community have no experience of the nearby commercial complex and the young people have no idea what the traditional markets like. This project explores how to deconstruct the local condition in a field system, but also how to reconstruct the fields and the transition between fields, the hidden facts, in the reality.

In this process, field is a method both to investigate and design. After field condition is represented in a structural system, this system can be applied directly to the reconstruction design. Within the field system, relationships of the field are able to well reconstructed and showed with a obvious form in the reality, which can be easily perceived by people groups. At the same time, the design is also served as a way to ease the conflicts between two urbanism cultures and give the old field a strong stand to protect it from the new one.

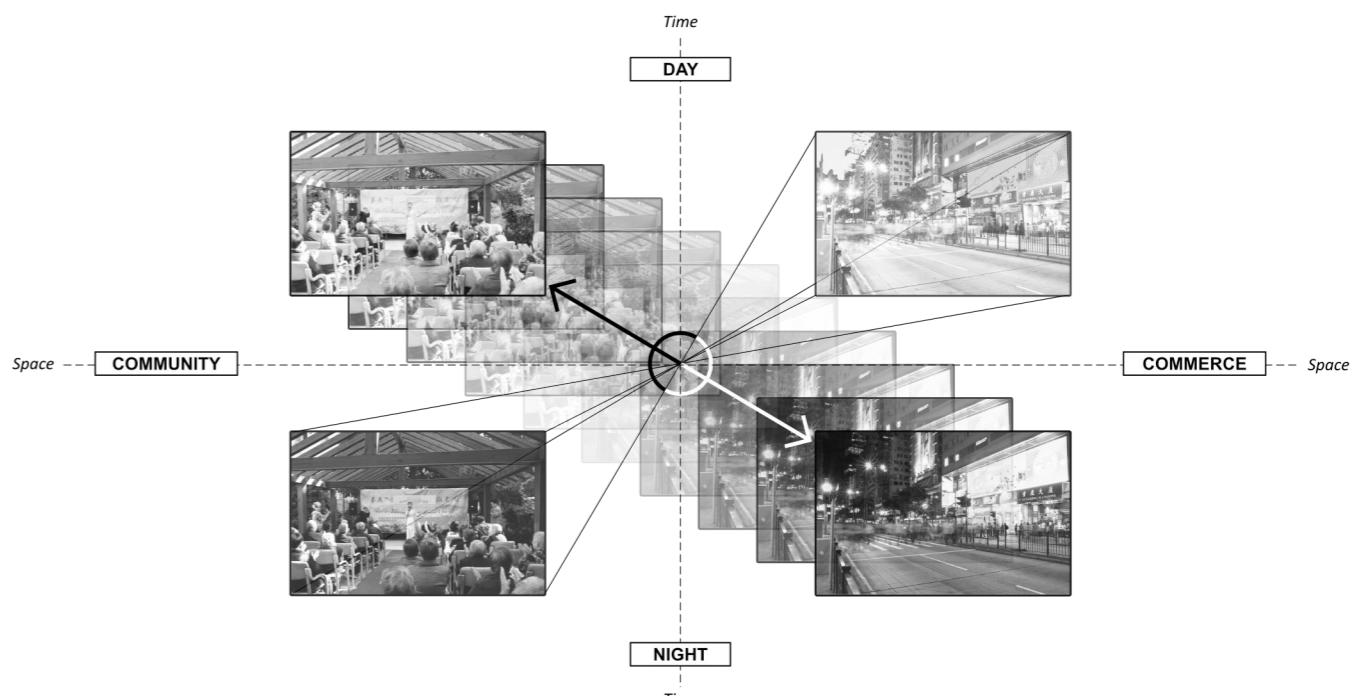
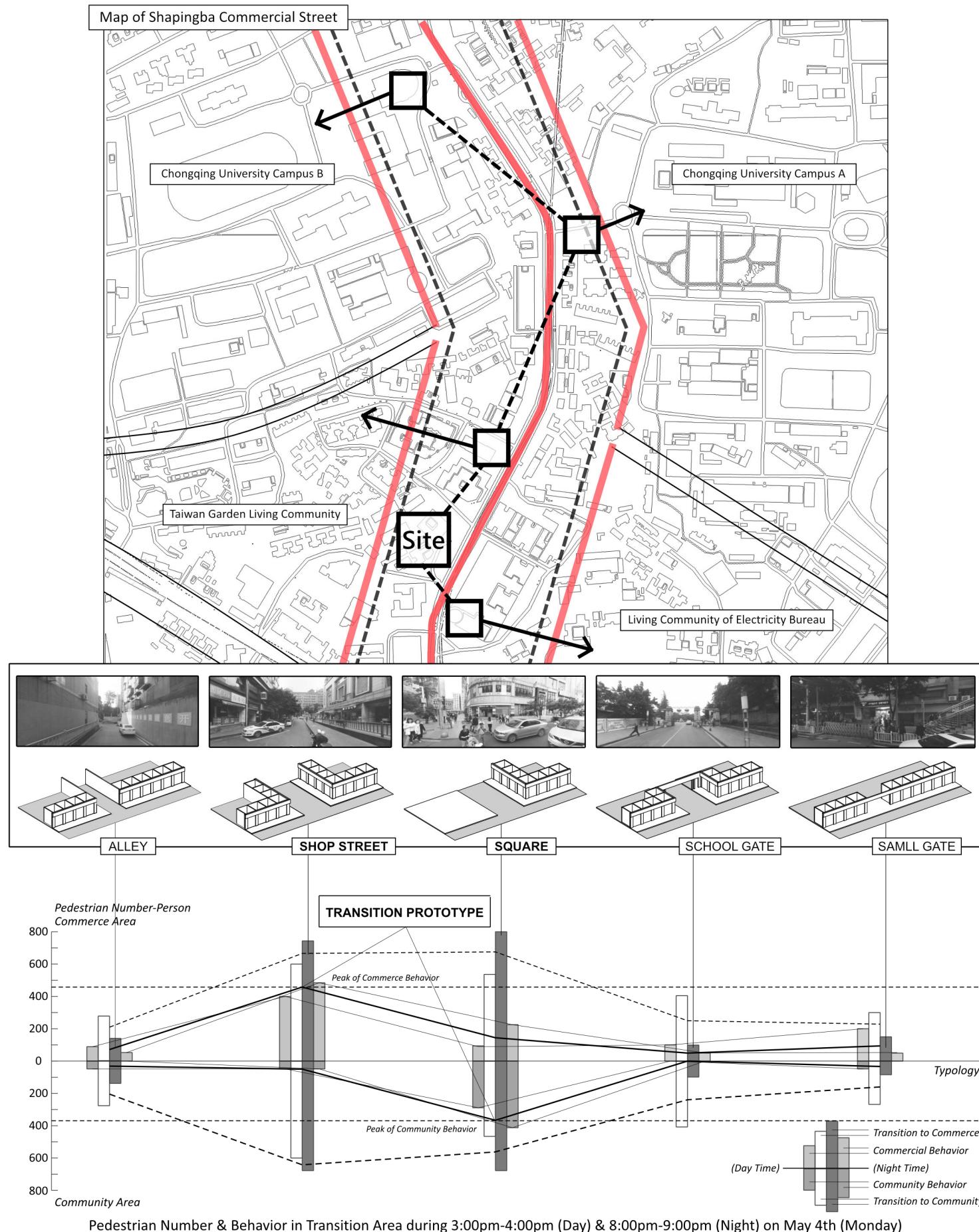


Figure. Hidden Transition between Different Fields of Different Urbanism in Shapingba Commercial Street, Chongqing

Daily Transition between Commercial Area and Community Area in Shapingba (Space-Time Reality)

Shapingba Commercial Street is surrounded by schools and several residential communities. As the only commercial street around this area, it has fuzzy boundaries with those nearby communities. Transitions happen daily between the commercial street and communities in certain transition zones, including alleys, school gates and some other types. In the site investigation, pedestrians' behavior in different areas was surveyed to evaluate the activity situation in different transition zones.



Field Condition in a Grid System - Cultural Conflicts of Urbanism (Deconstruction)

The daily transition is actually connected to two different urbanisms. As a spatial cultural relic, the life pattern of China's traditional market has a certain conflict with the modern commercial street model. Through grid system analysis, we can better understand how the two urbanism cultures coexist and maintain their independence in the urban spatial environment, just as they form unique fields and influence each other. And the site is in the key position of transition between the two urbanisms and has the potential for conflict mitigation.

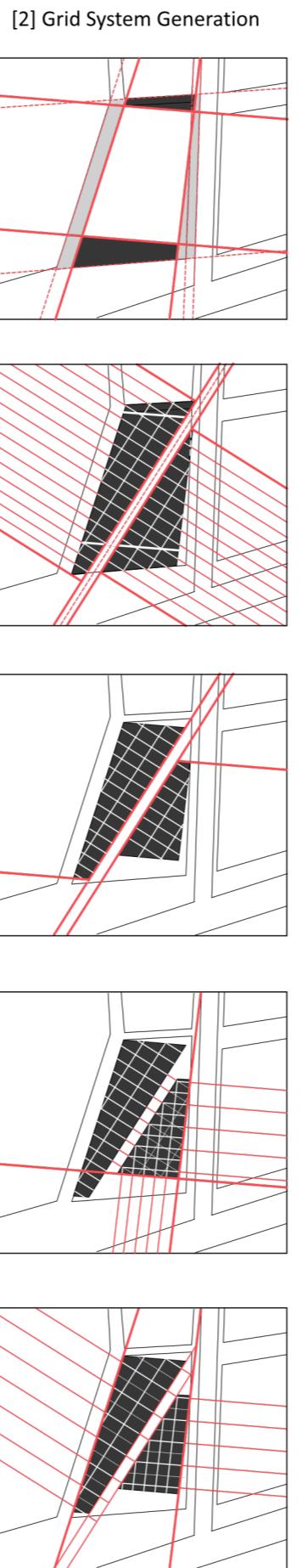
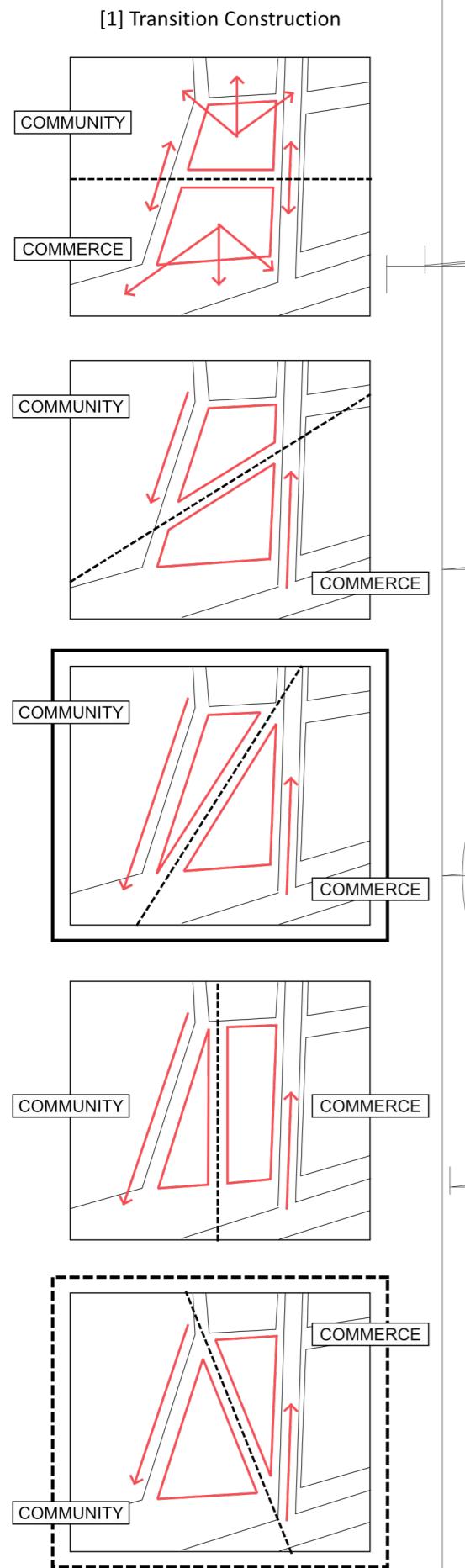
[1] Urbanism of Chinese Traditional Market / Community



[2] Urbanism of Modern Commercial Street

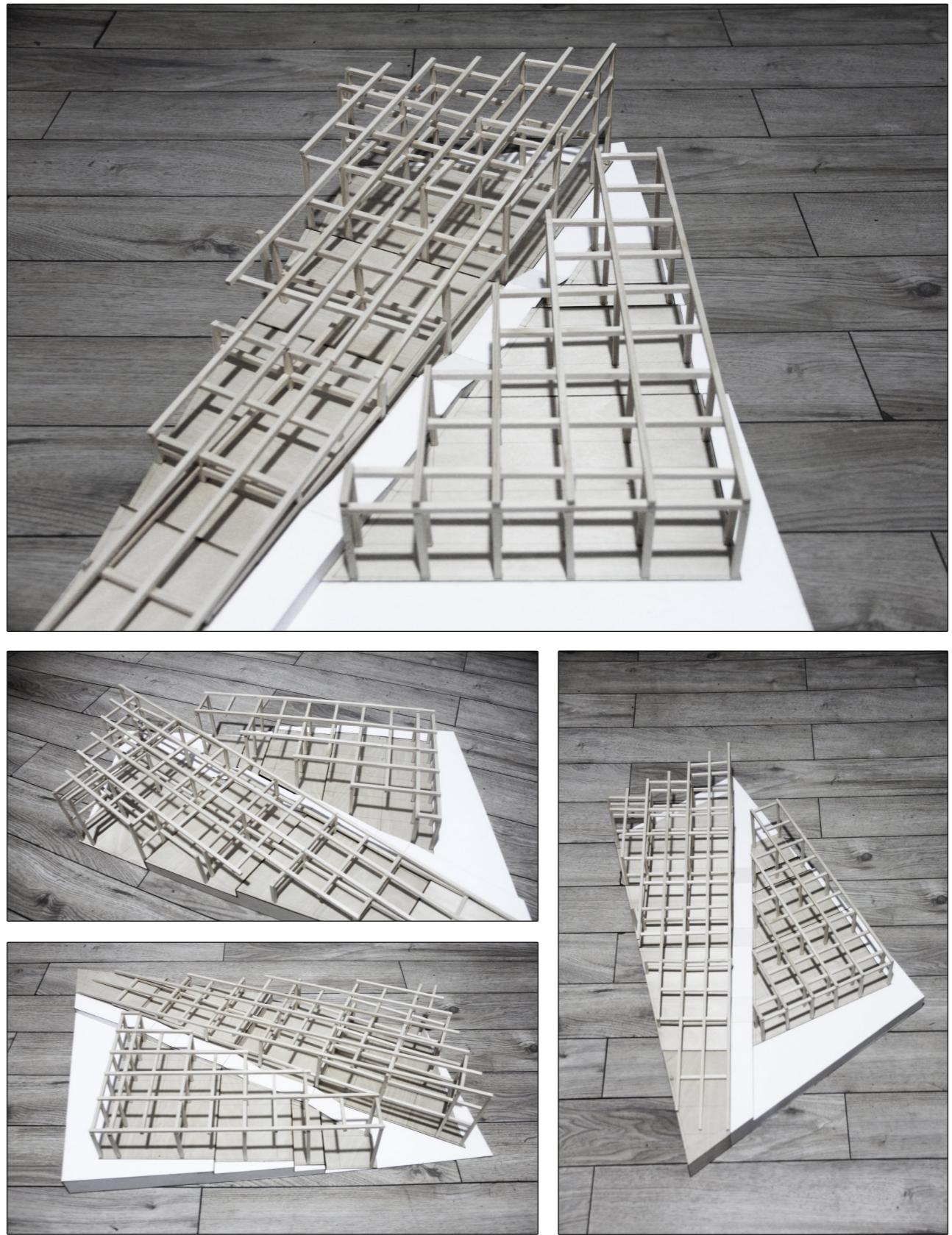
Transition Construction in the Grid System (Reconstruction)

According to the site status quo, design starts from site connectivity study. Better form of transition is chosen by geometry analysis based on graph theory. The site is divided into two parts by a path, responsible for community and commercial functions respectively. Then, based on the position of this transition in the grid system, a series of derivations of site grid system is carried out, and the basic form of site field is finally preliminarily determined. The whole building is embodied in the combination of two systems, including function and grid field form.



Site Model of Transition under the Grid System

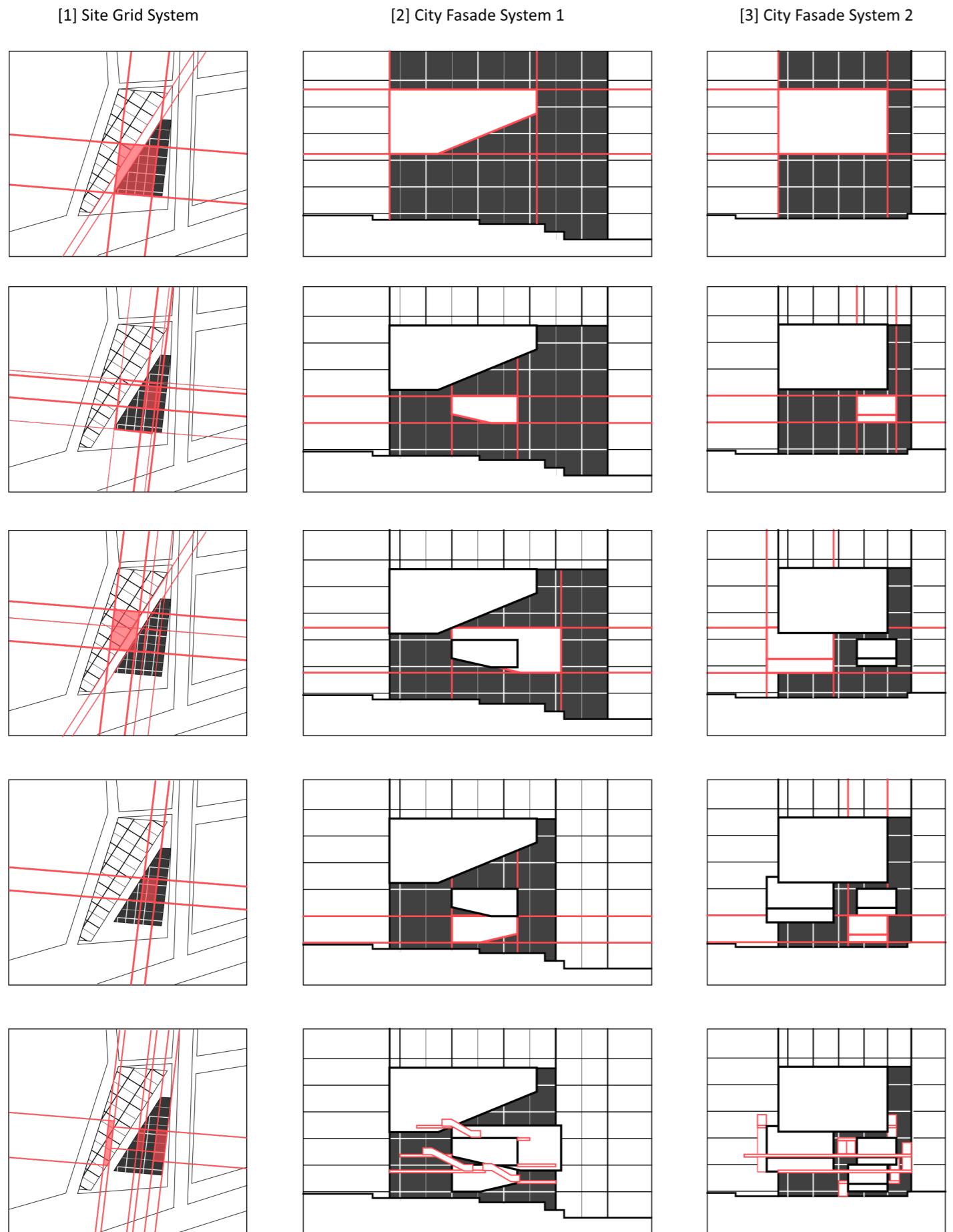
The basic grid framework is established and becomes the basis of field transition design. The community volume is constructed as a city square, while the commercial volume is constructed as a multi-storey commercial building. The whole site has obvious topographic elevation differences, which provides more diversified possibilities for the overall spatial transition form. This is a preliminary result of development of the site conditions, and further functional placement will generate the spontaneity of the site and influence these grid structures.



The site framework model based on the grid system well demonstrates the relationship between the two functional volumes and the Transition Path, as well as the overall terrain relationship. Such a site framework will further deepen the design as a whole system.

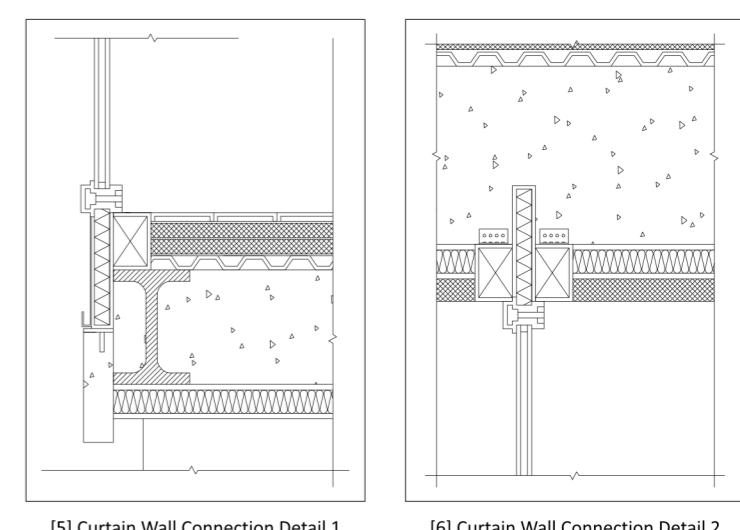
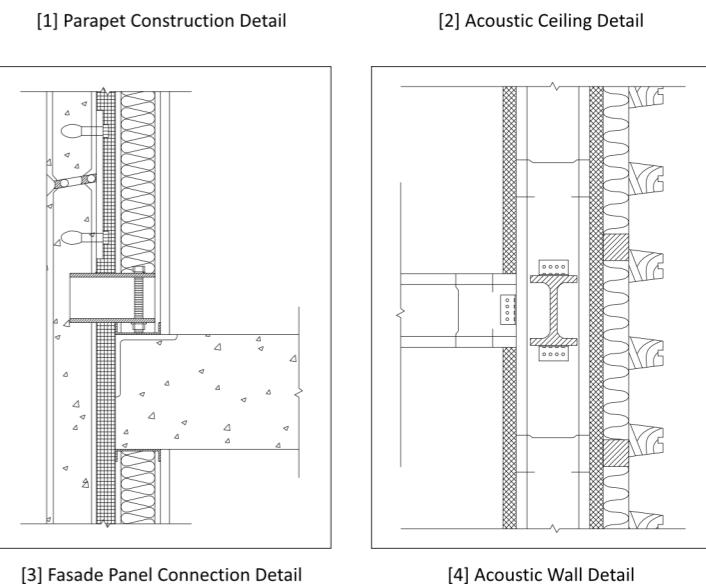
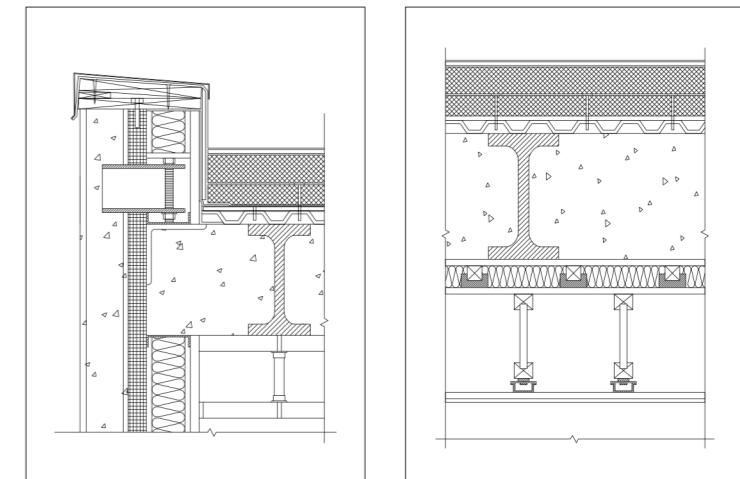
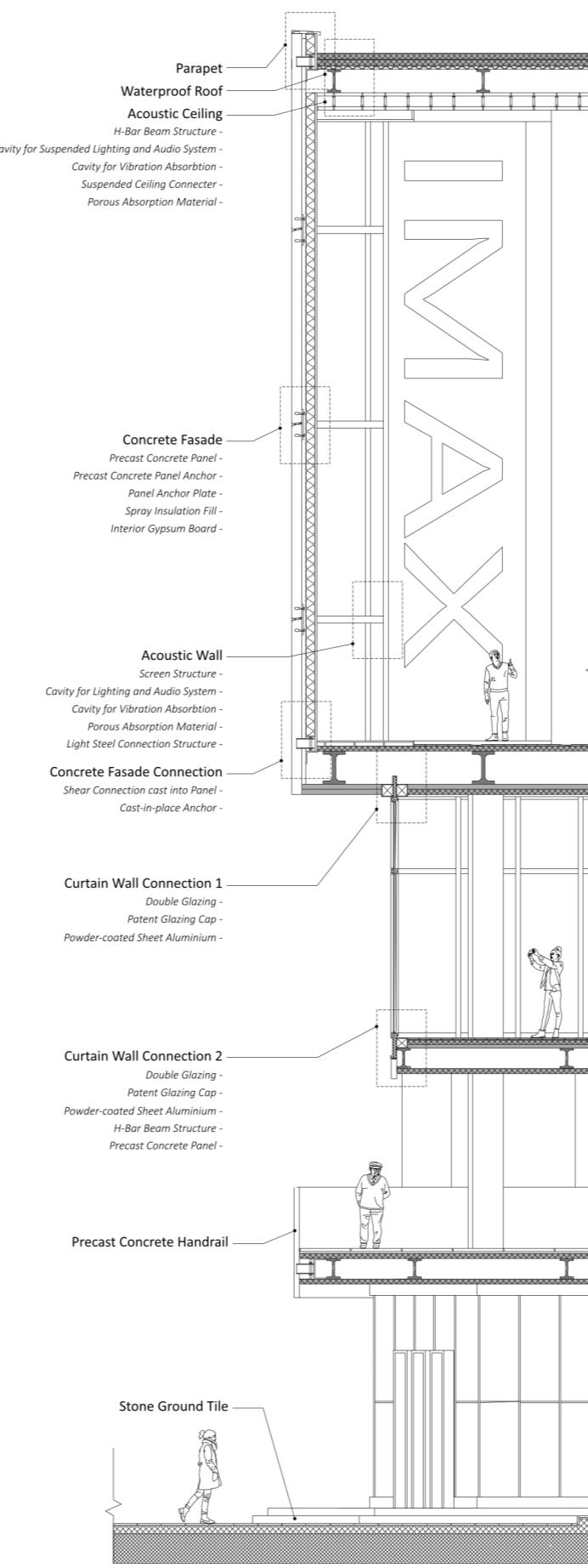
Commercial Part Construction in the Grid System (Reconstruction)

Based on the site grid system and considering the relationship of the form and function of the two urban facades, the multi-storey commercial section is designed. Cinema and building traffic is modularized and embedded into the grid system in a certain order. The layout of the grid system is very flexible, which provides a variety of possibilities for the design and makes it easy to compare the advantages and disadvantages of different layout schemes, leading to a design result which is able to fit the site field quite well.



Fasade Construction Detail

The facade construction is mainly presented by precast concrete panels and glass curtain walls, reflecting the changes in architectural functions. The inner wall and ceiling structure emphasizes sound absorption construction to ensure a good acoustic environment inside the cinema, including sound-absorbing material and cavity for vibration absorbtion, which could protect the cinema from urban noise and provide the customers a great movie experience.

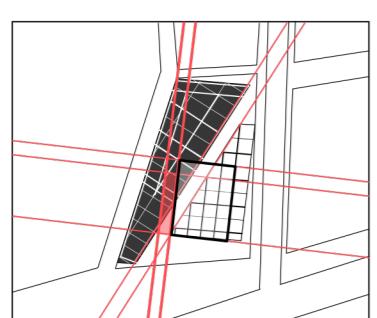
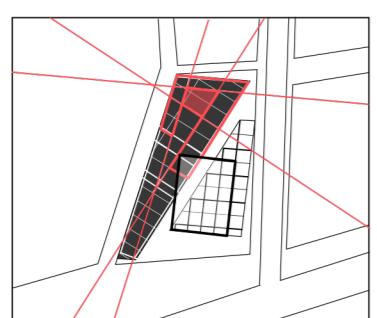
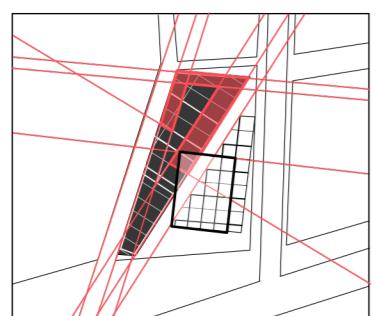
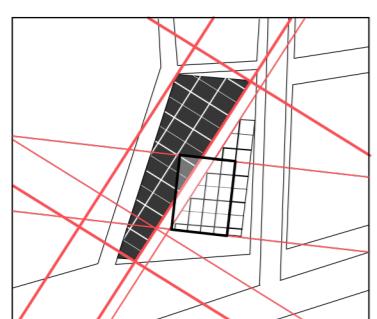
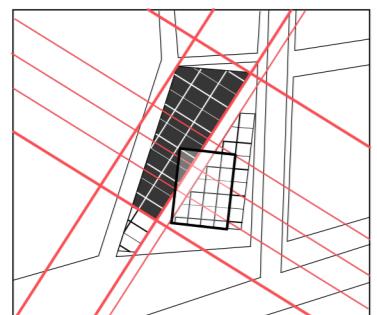


The accumulation of different functional spaces and corresponding constructions on the facade highlights the variety of space, including interior of auditoriums, indoor public space, open public space, etc, and also makes the facade have a good sense of space hierarchy.

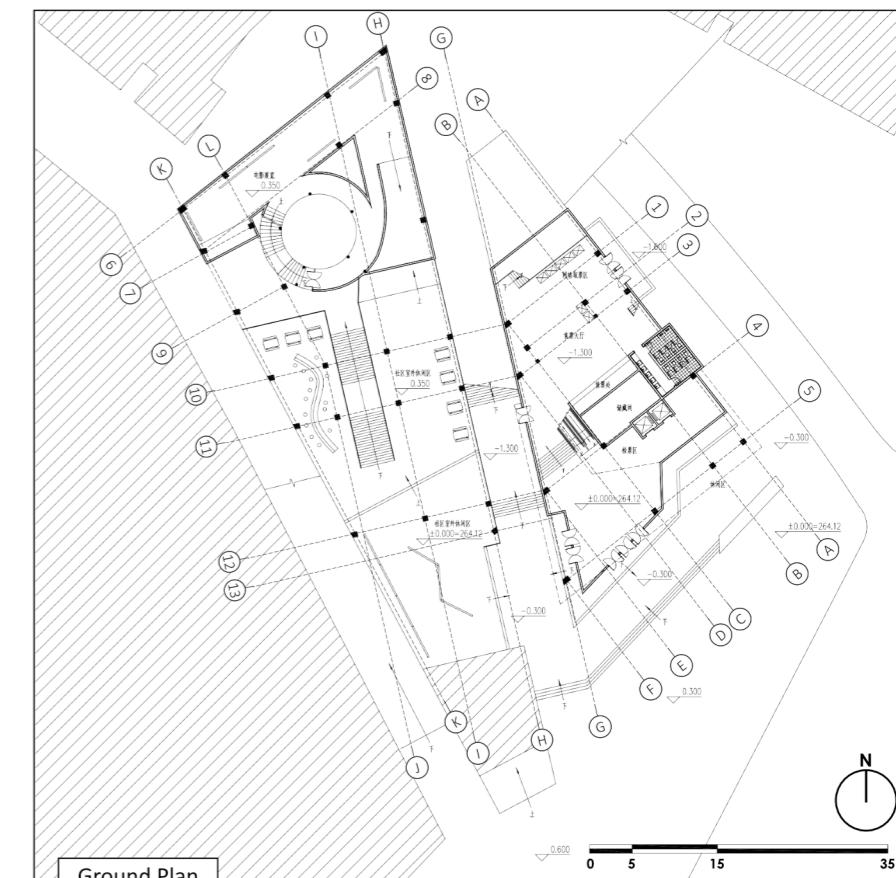
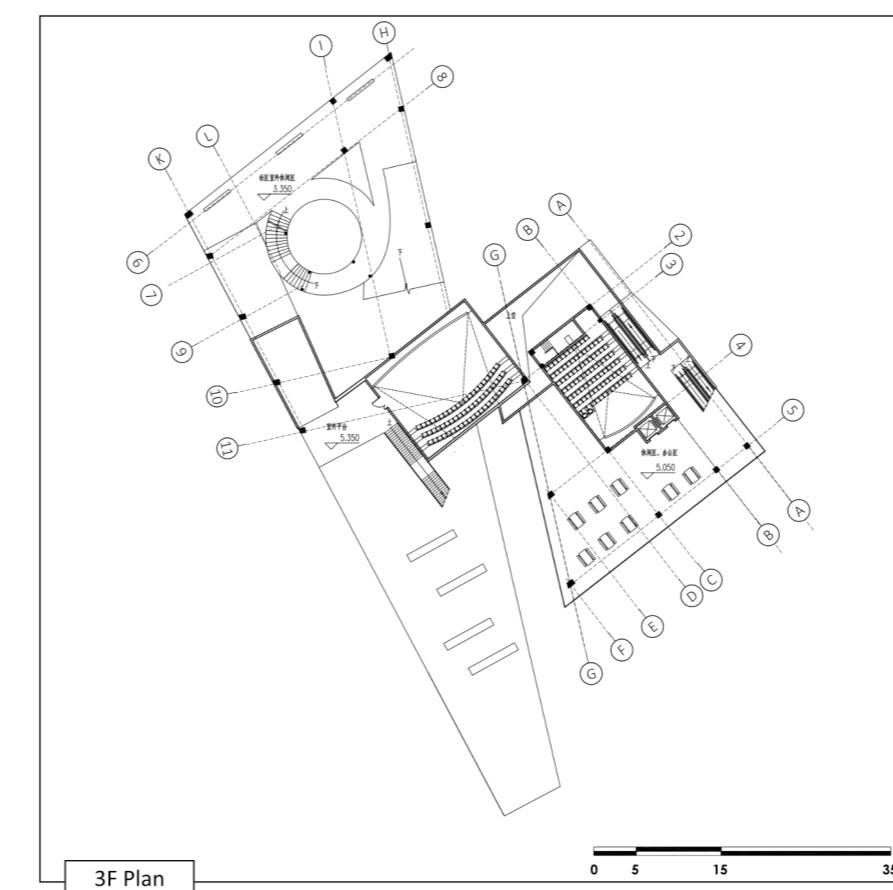
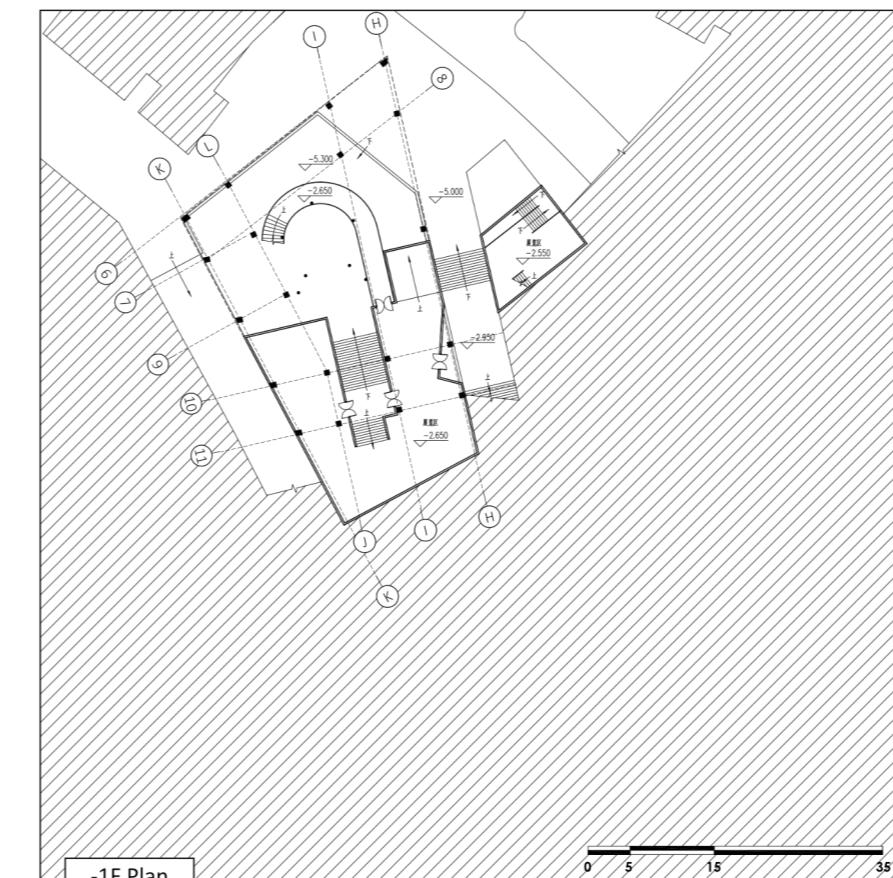
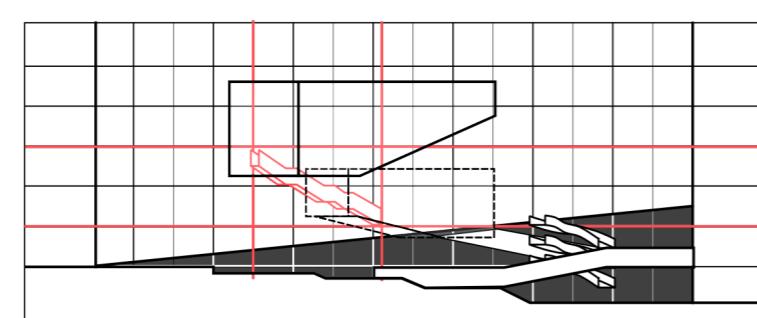
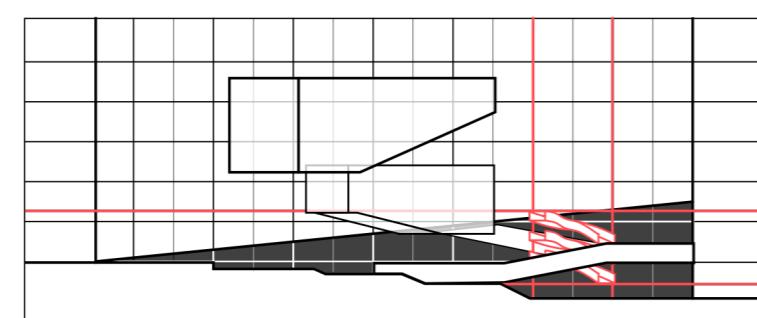
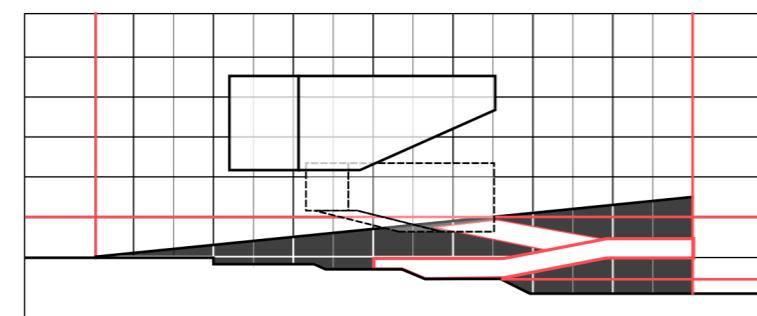
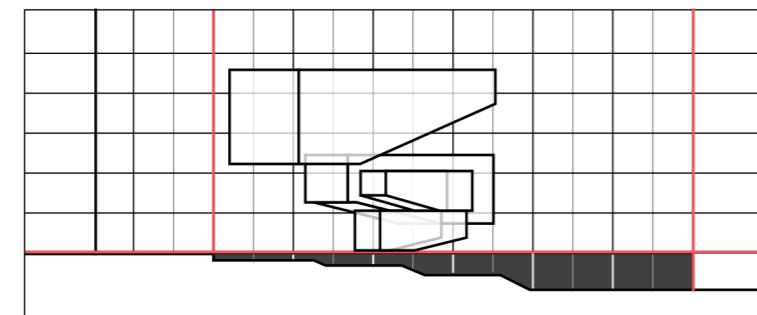
Community Part Construction in the Grid System (Reconstruction)

In the construction of the community section, the initial design framework of the site was changed to accommodate the new functional requirements in order to create ramps connecting different heights. The new grid system integrates with the original design framework and becomes the grid architecture of the final solution. This grid structure can be directly adopted by the architectural design.

[1] Site Grid System

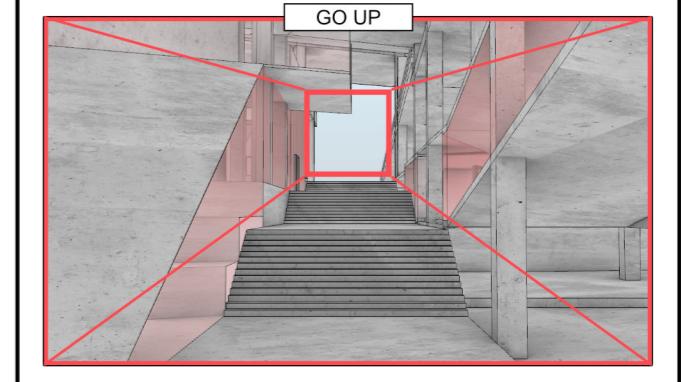
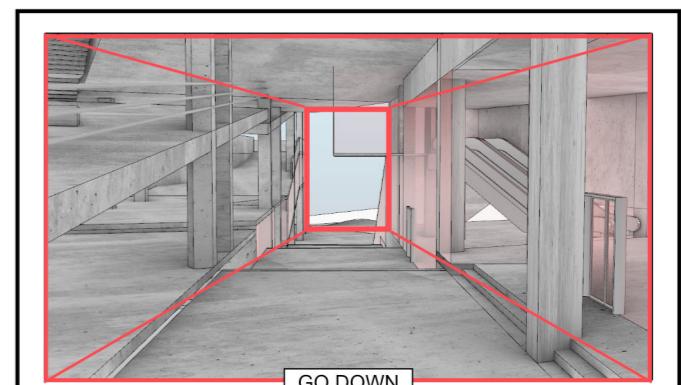
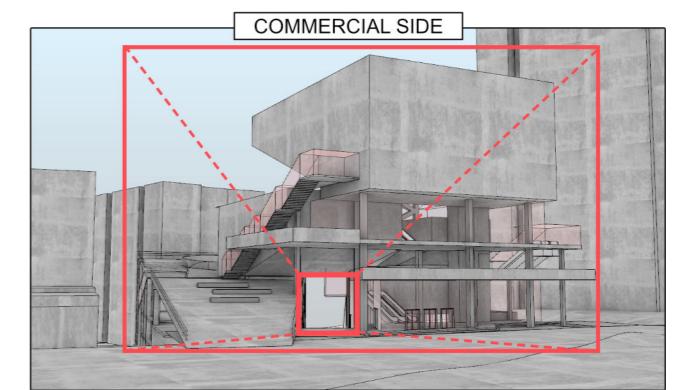
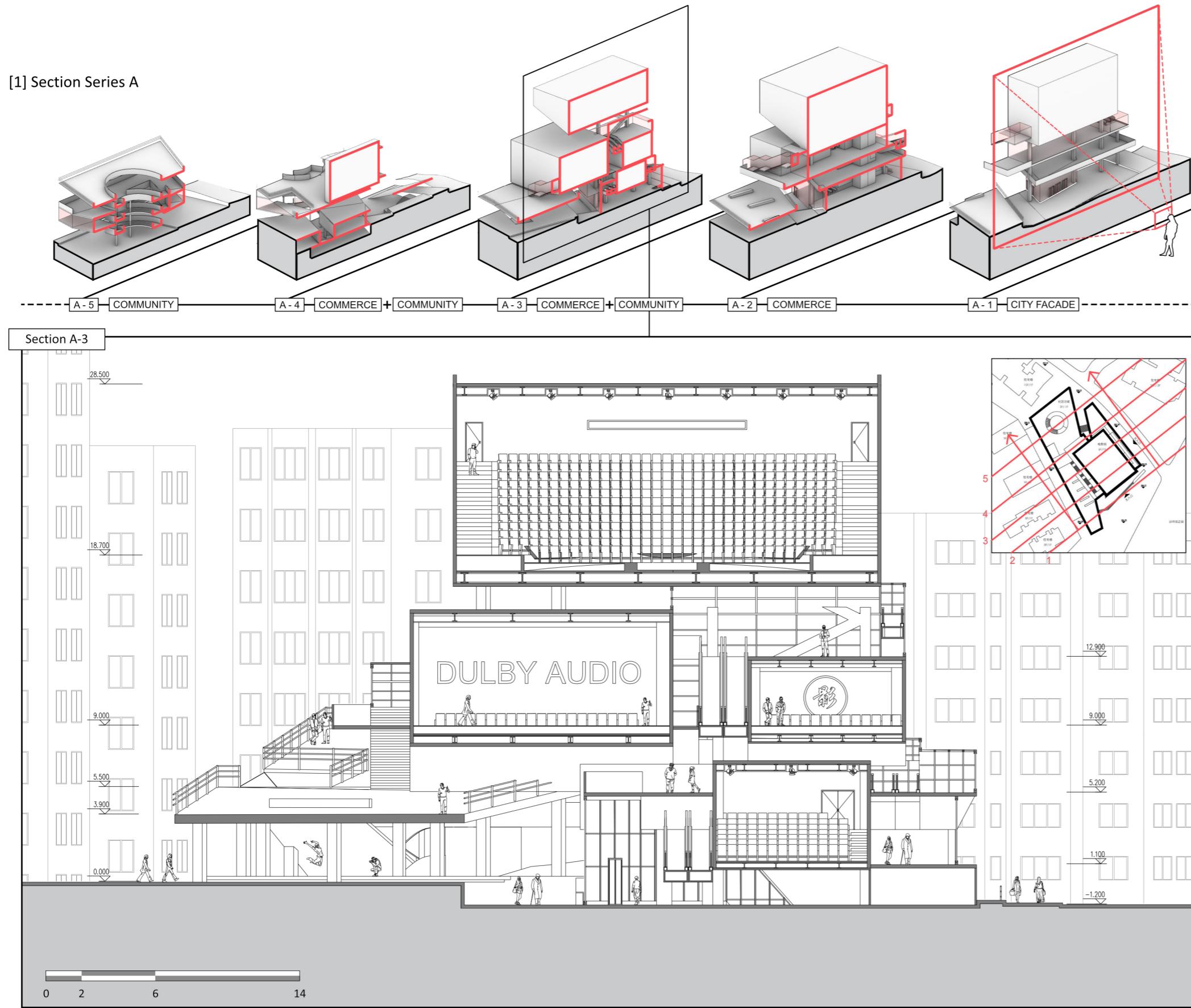


[2] Transition Fasade



Space Transition from Commercial Part to Community Part (1)

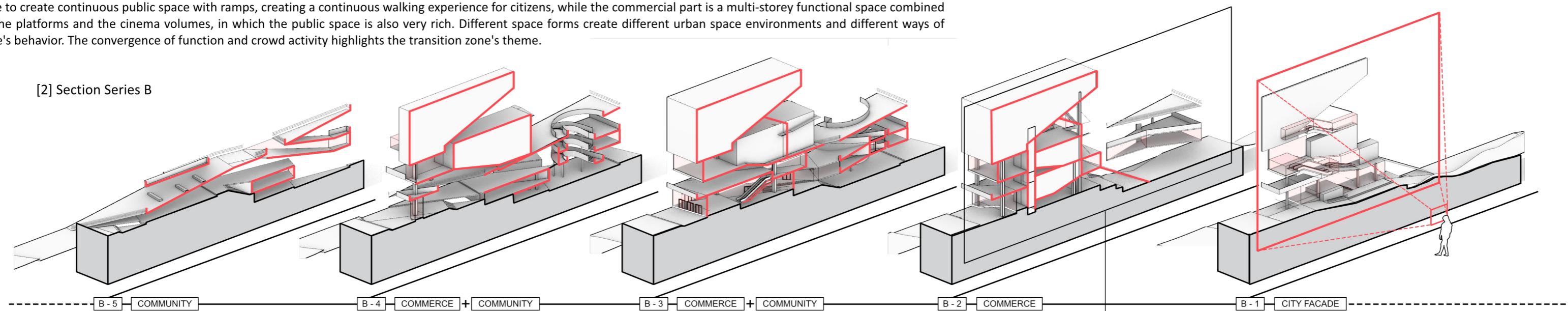
When people enter from the commercial street side to the community side, space keeps transform due to different functions and properties of these two sides. This process can be divided to several phases. On the commercial side, the space is a little more instructive with relatively complete city facade and descending path steps. On the community side, the space is much more diversified and open, and more public space can be used for community activities, which forms a three-dimensional facade.



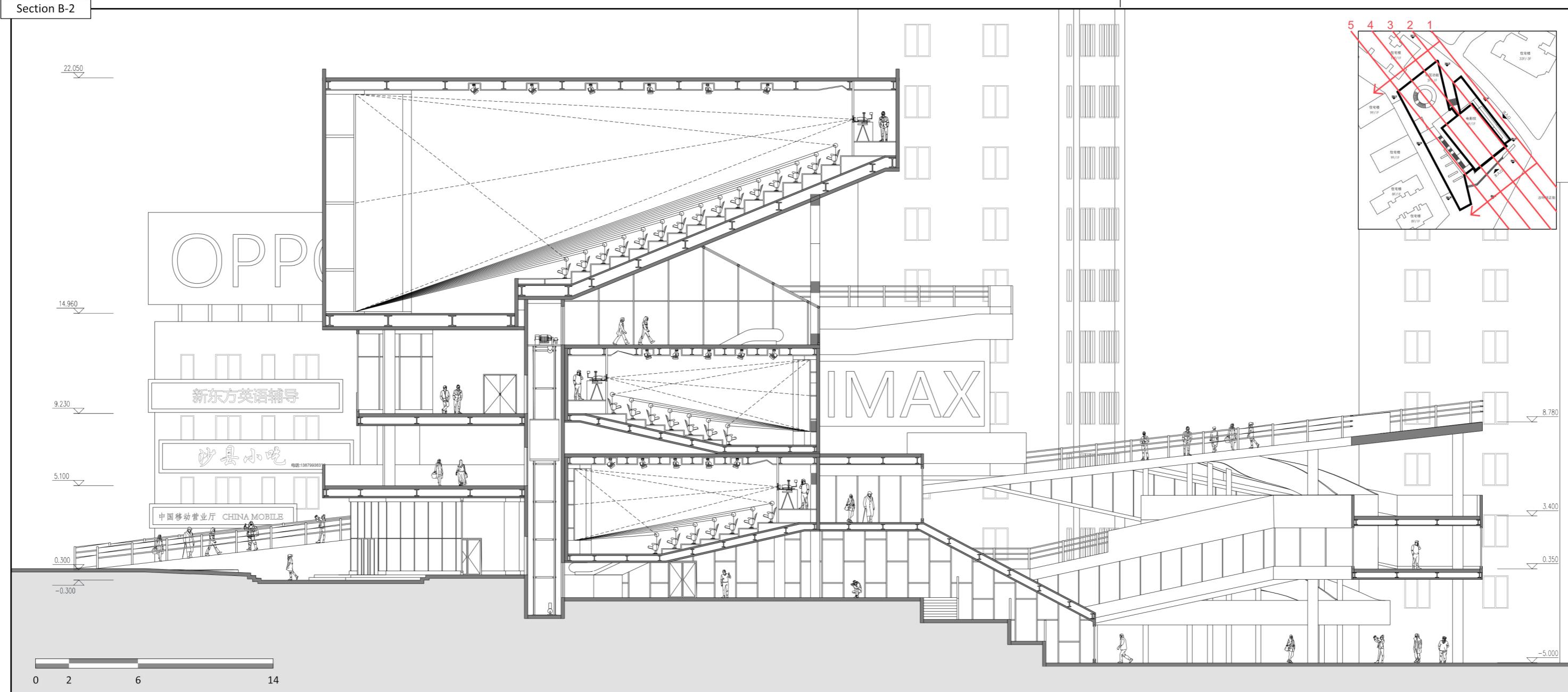
Space Transition from Commercial Part to Community Part (2)

From the long sections, we can also see the transition and change of functional space from the commercial part to the community part. The community part combines with the city square to create continuous public space with ramps, creating a continuous walking experience for citizens, while the commercial part is a multi-storey functional space combined with the platforms and the cinema volumes, in which the public space is also very rich. Different space forms create different urban space environments and different ways of people's behavior. The convergence of function and crowd activity highlights the transition zone's theme.

[2] Section Series B

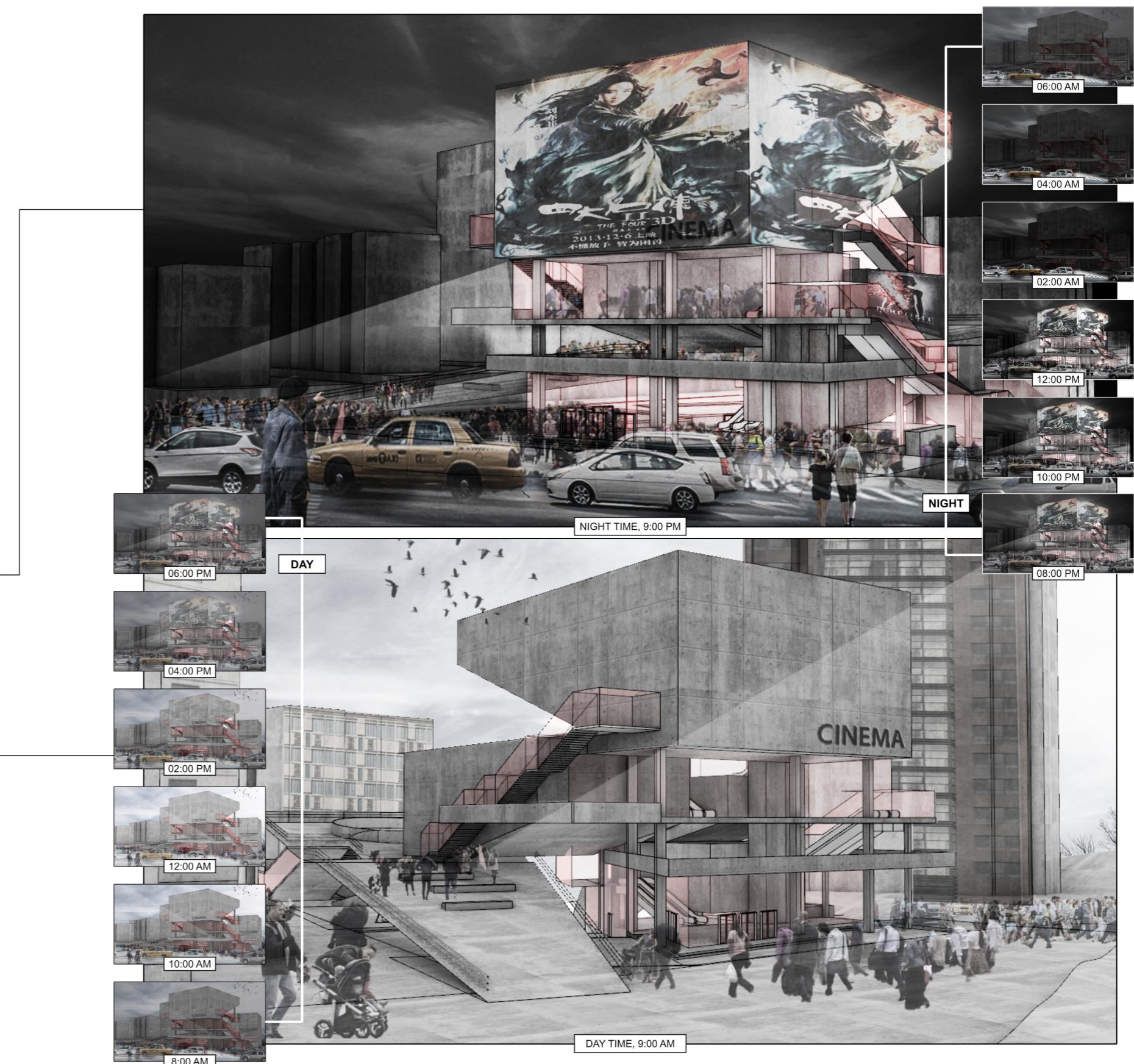
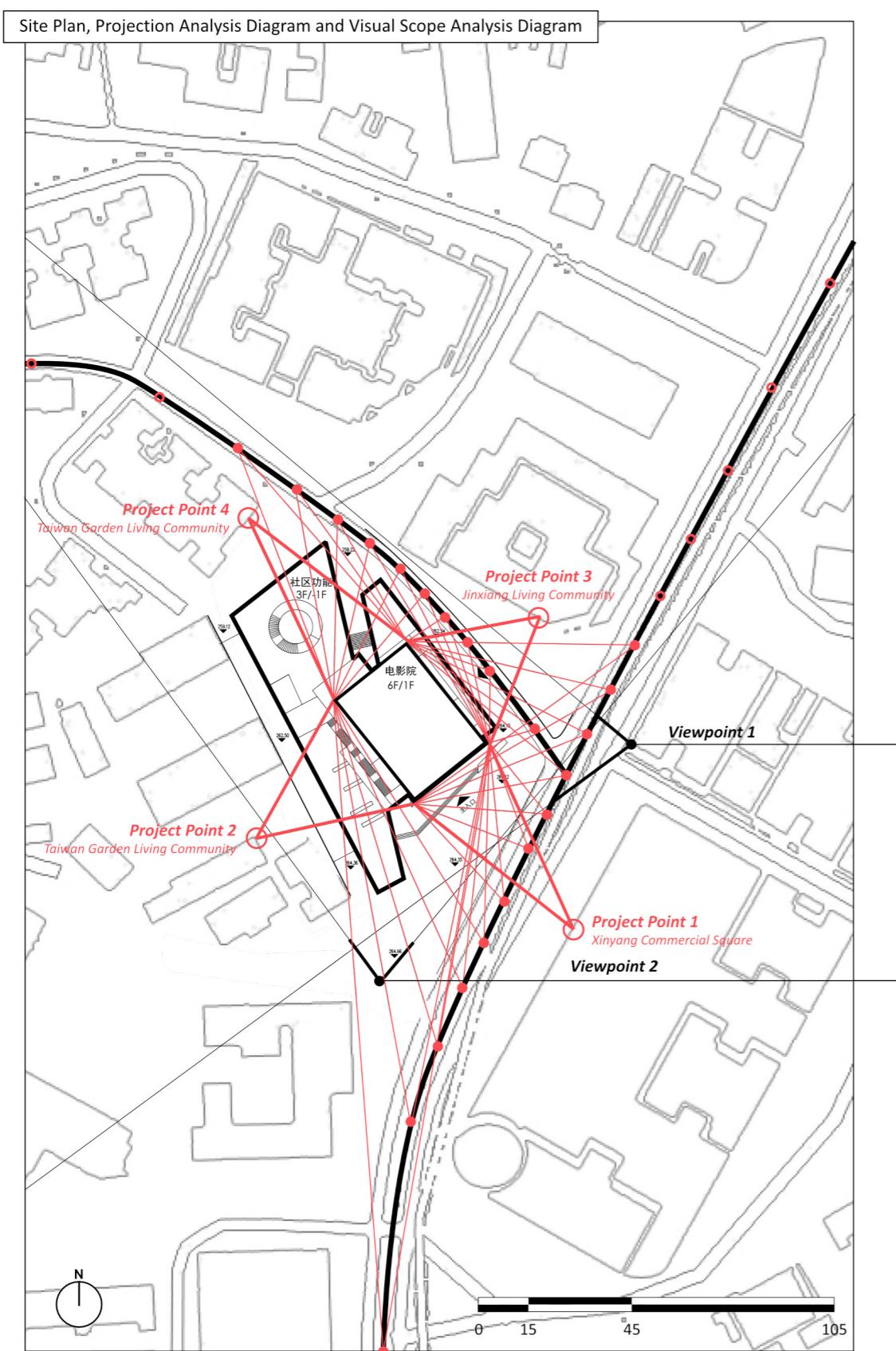


Section B-2



Time Transition from Day to Night

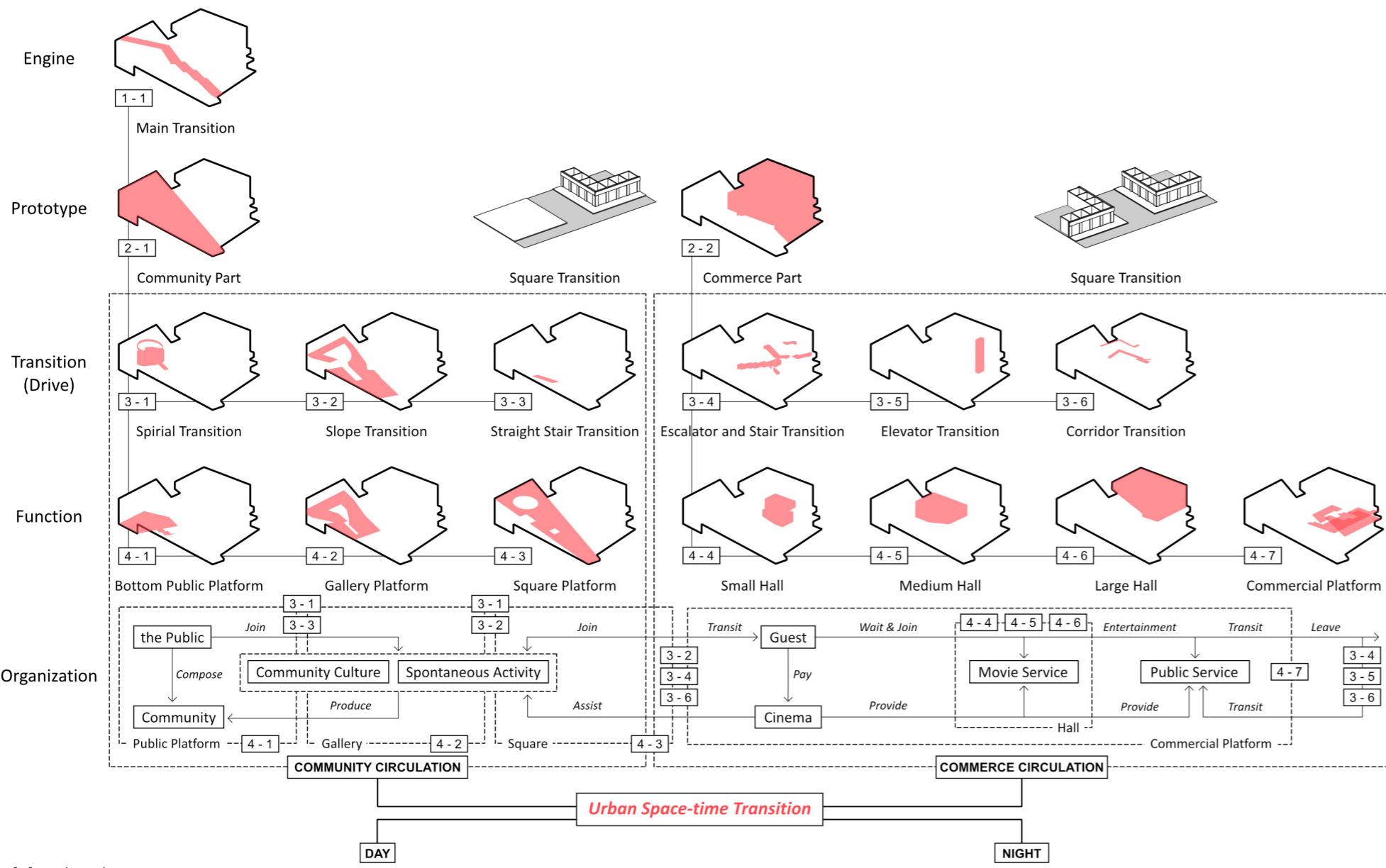
As a collection of commercial space and community space, the design provides space for two different kinds of activities that cover the whole day. Projectors around the site provide a different atmosphere for the two kinds of activities at different times. The site is dominated by commercial activities at night and community activities during the day. Such a device reinforces people's perception of two different urbanism fields



Urban Transition as a Complex System Powered by Daily People Flow

Two important transition prototypes which perform quite well in promote commercial activities and community activities relatively are transformed and applied to the community part and the commerce part. Components are created and composed following the system initiated from these two prototypes, combining with functional organizations. As the engine of the whole system, the main transition in the middle introduces people flow daily and tries to push the complex system into running.

[1] System Component Classification



[2] Daily Urban Space-time Transition

