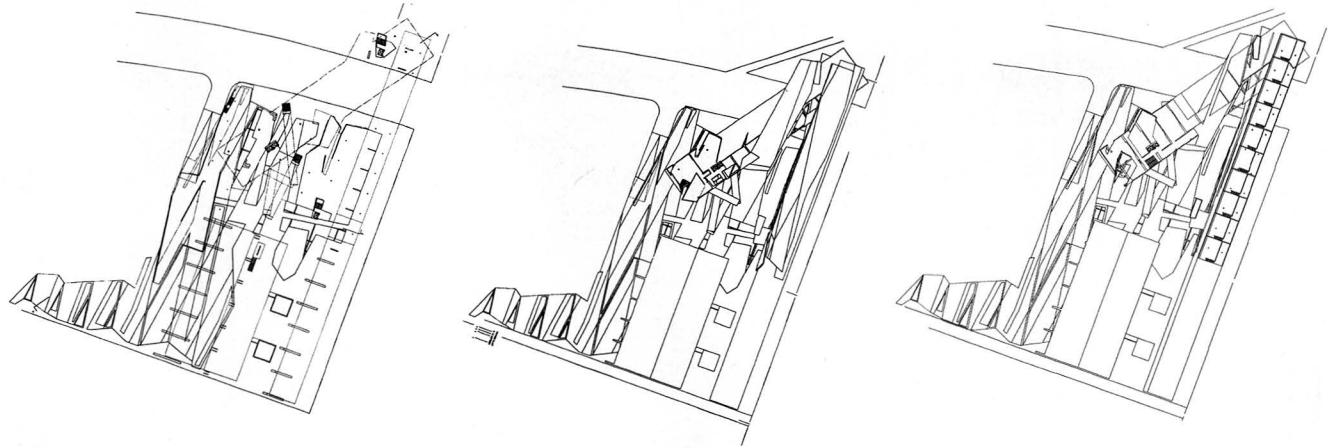


Vienna Housing

Morphosis

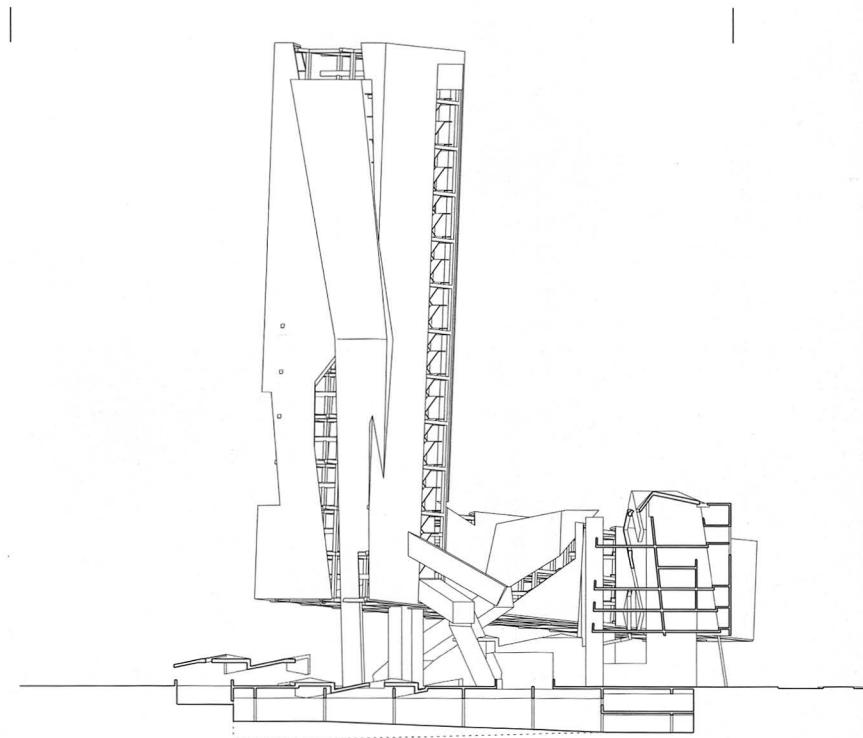


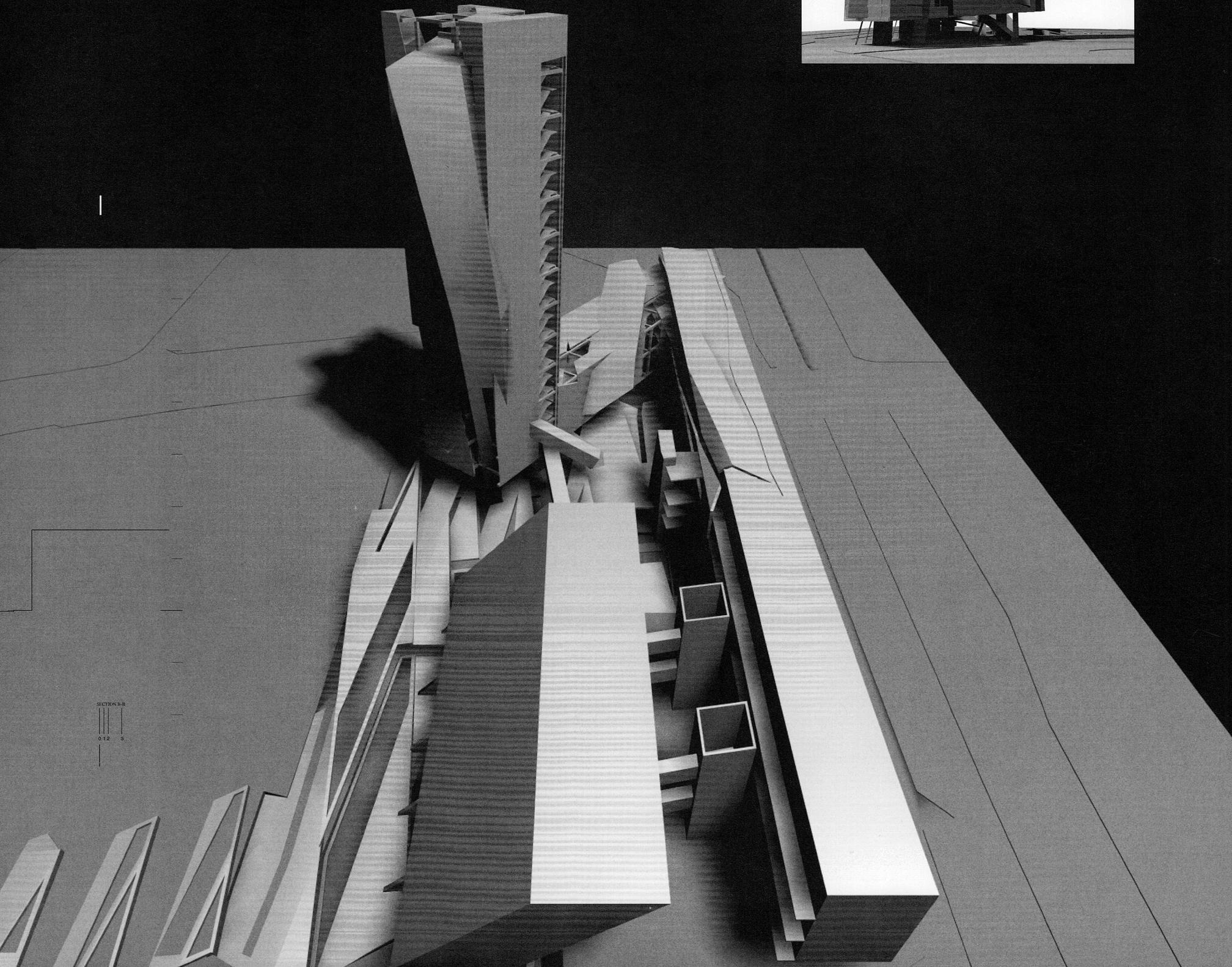
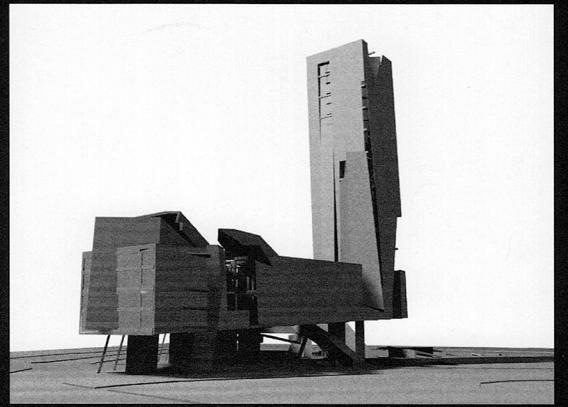
This project was conceived as a collaboration among seven international architects. It is located on a 70,000 square meter site in suburban Vienna. A fundamental pragmatic constraint of the program dictated that 500 housing units be provided for within the project. In addition to this housing, the program required a variety of commercial and retail facilities to be located at street level.

Our scheme is a response to the collective nature and collaborative dynamic of this group project. It was realized that the “tail” position of our site provided a unique opportunity to create homeostasis. Located at the north edge, this site is optimally configured to allow for additional vertical mass, because it would not cast shadows on the other housing areas, allowing for increased density. This shift in spatial density creates diversity in density (from homogeneity to a heterotopic scape). The revised condition is resolved through three different housing strategies which provide alternative ways of living and means of connection to the ground—(1) conventional (towards the street), (2) hybrid “bridge” consisting of the connecting piece between tower and grid-pieces derived from artificial landscape, and (3) the tower, which is about living in the air.

The ground level plane of artificial landscape is the departure point of our geometric spatial strategy. An artificial “landscape” is a mimetic device that describes the interstitial “sub-urban” condition. The artificial landscape is folded and cut so that the interwoven horizontal planes are in flux. The main pedestrian entrance into the court is through a “bridge” that is a presence in a void created by cut-outs. These cut-outs allow natural light to penetrate into the subterranean parking structure. As well as enhancing the spatial and light quality of subterranean spaces, the lattice of the artificial landscape frames civic open spaces for community functions and is also a transitional element to the adjacent scheme. Vertical movement via tower elevators is accessed through this court.

The entire scheme is connected underground with a vehicular entrance accessed via Eipeldauerstraße. A subterranean street parallel to Wagramerstraße services the retail spaces and provides access to parking spaces. The parking areas are organized in a helix configuration of shifting planes. These produce alternating levels of natural light, and thus are idiosyncratic, identifiable and individualized spaces.





SECTION B-B

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