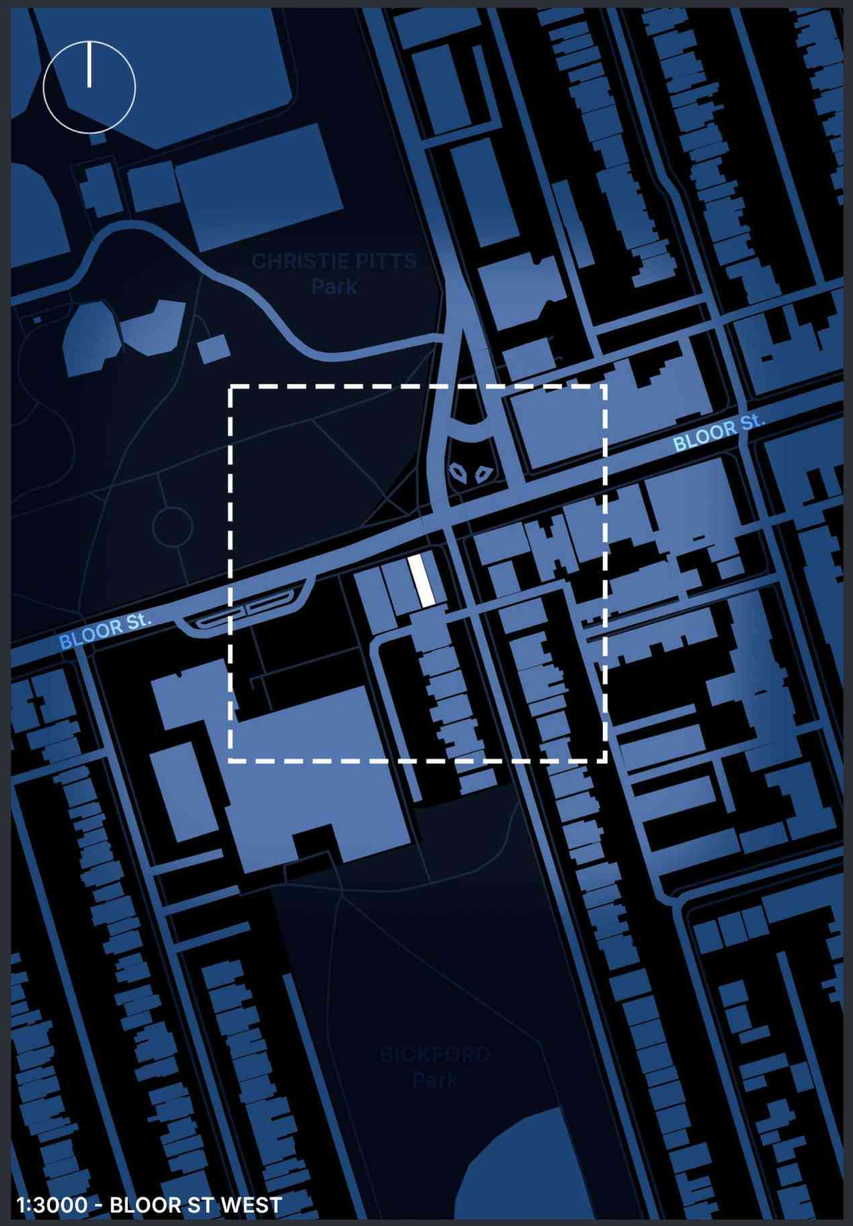
BLOOR BEANS

An urban infill project on Bloor St, Toronto.

This was the first building that I designed. Students were asked to design an urban infill building which would be situated along Bloor Street. I was assigned 739 Bloor Street which faces the large Christie Pitts Park. I decided that the building must make an effort to stay grounded in the urban context of the site. We had to create a coffee shop and also one residential unit. I thought that the coffee shop deserved a double height space and a double height window which would invite people into the building. The coffee shop has an eco-brutalist aesthetic mirroring the street and the park outside.



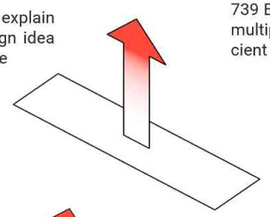
1:3000 - BLOOR ST WEST

739 Bloor St

Location: 739 Bloor Street West, Toronto, Ontario.
Purpose: Coffee Shop + Single Residence Unit
Floors: 3 Story Elevation
Height: 40′ 6″ (12.3m)
Length: 76′ 6″ (23.3m)
Bedrooms: 2 Bedrooms + 1

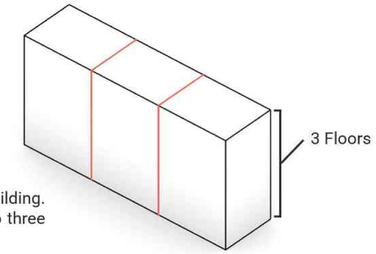
Design Process

These diagrams explain how the initial design idea of Bloor Beans came about.



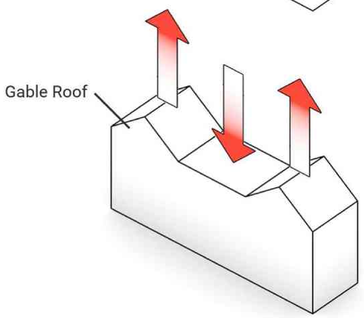
Initial Plot

739 Bloor St. is a narrow long space and multiple floors are required to have sufficient space.



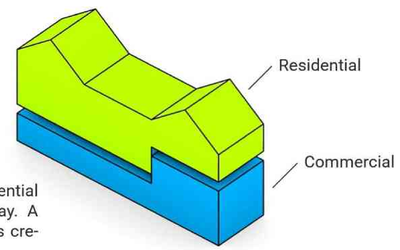
Subdivision

The idea was to have a three story building. The building was further divided into three parts.



Roof Structure

The roof was lowered and raised at selected locations which created two gable roofs at both ends.



Program

The building was divided into residential and commercial in the following way. A large double height cieling space was created at the front.

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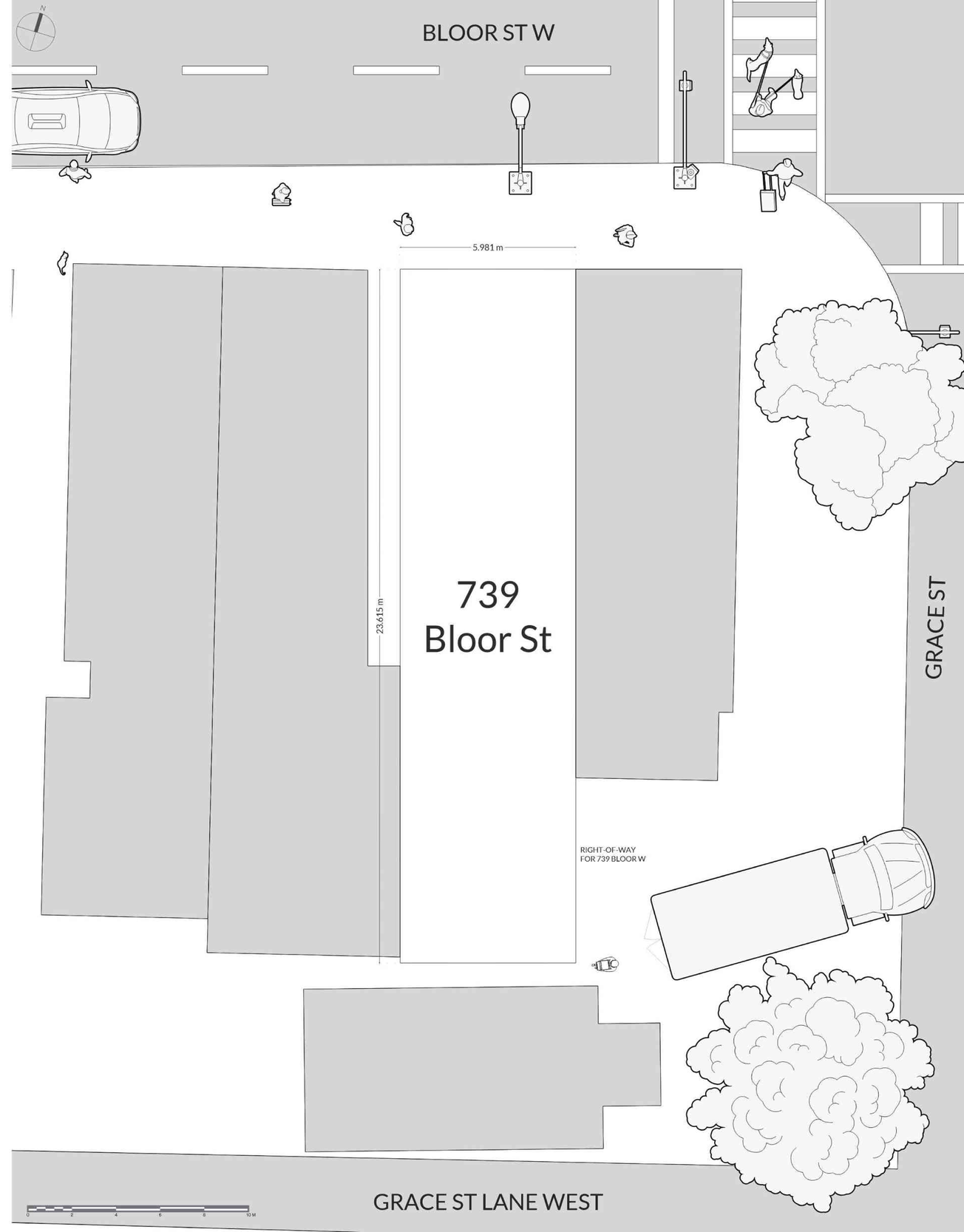
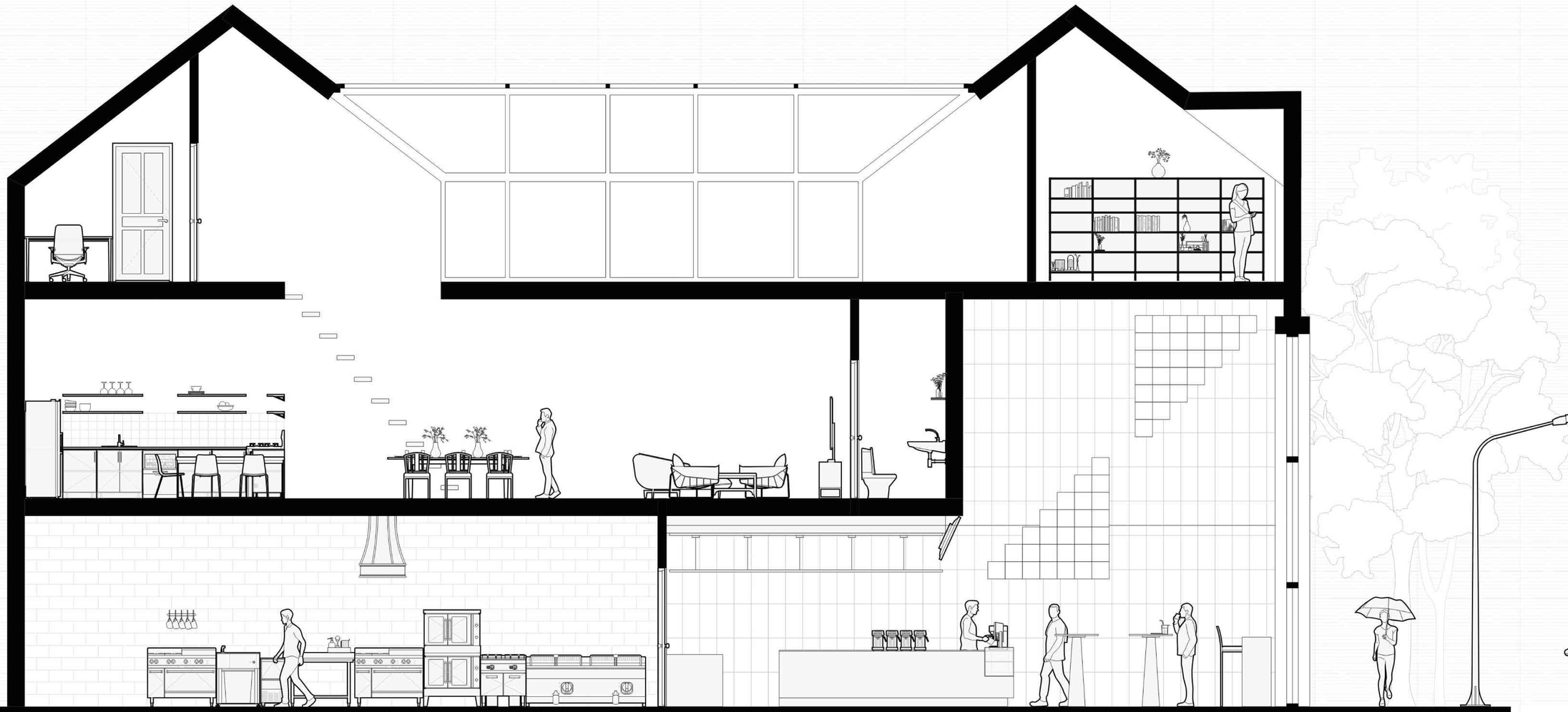
A coffee shop + residence right in downtown Toronto. The facade aims to blend into its brick surroundings. The tall double height window added with the concrete interior seeks to give the impression that the coffee shop is an extension of the street itself.





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RIGHT-OF-WAY
FOR 739 BLOOR W
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Bloor
Beans
ESPRESSO
PUMPKIN SPICE LATTE
Bloor
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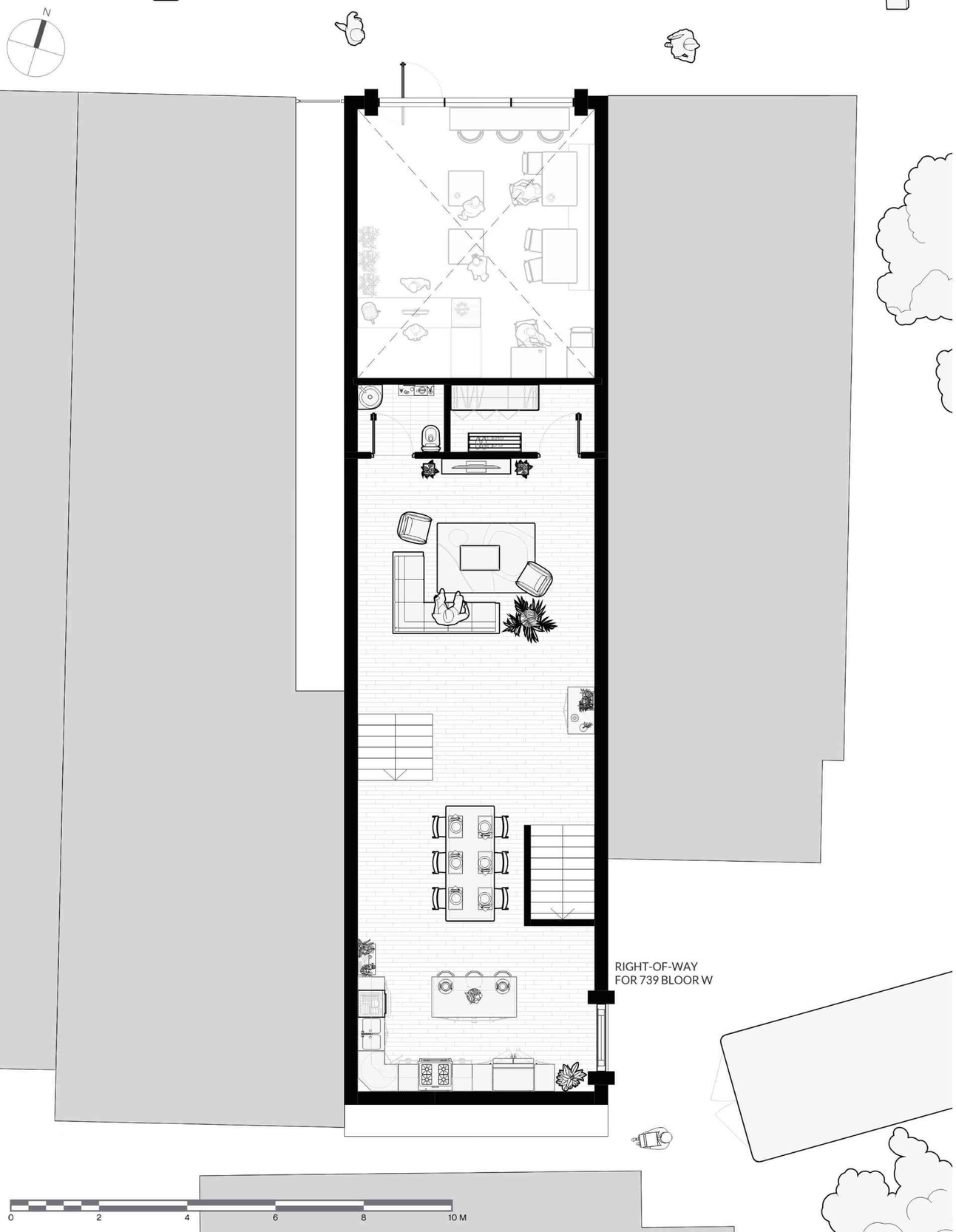
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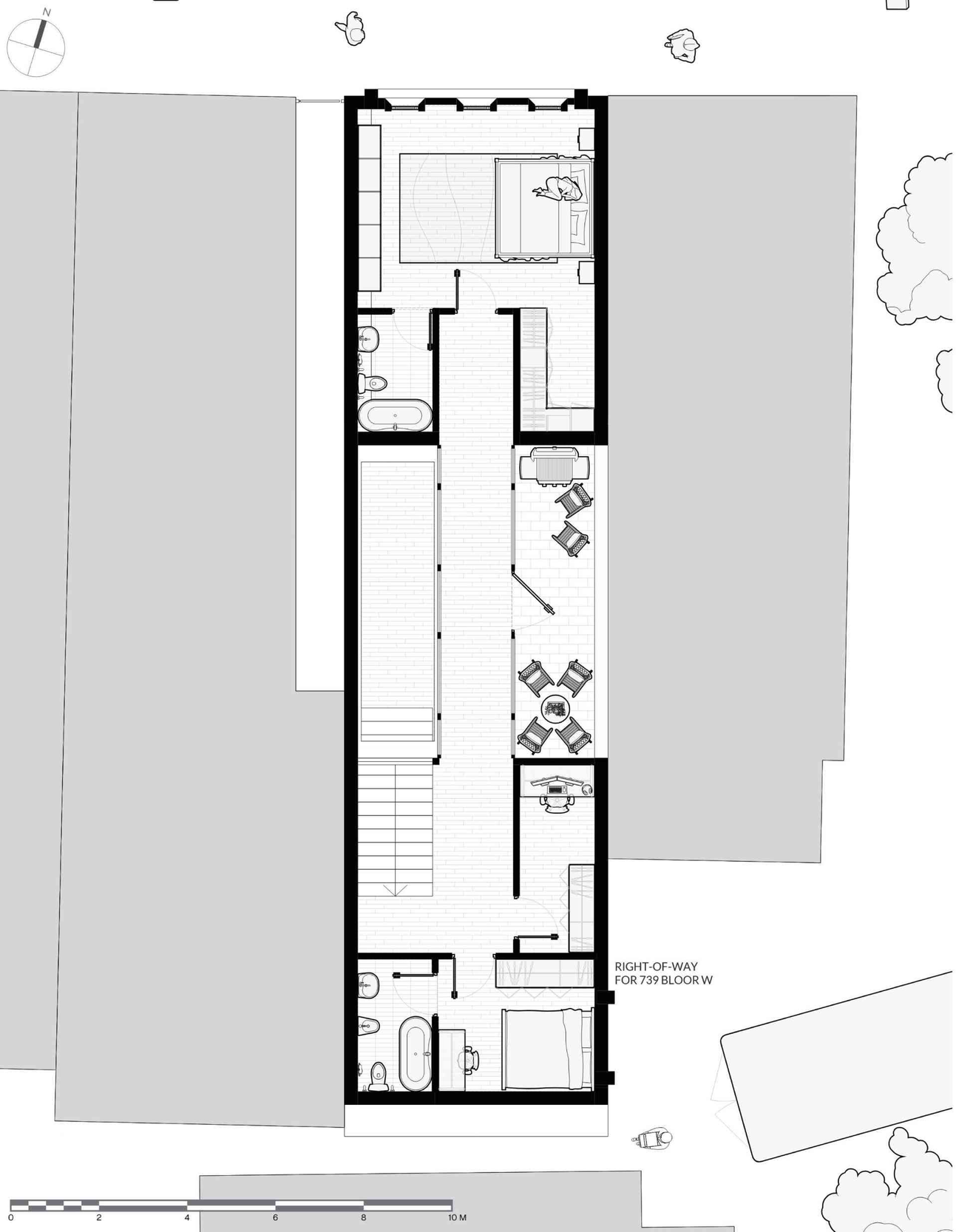
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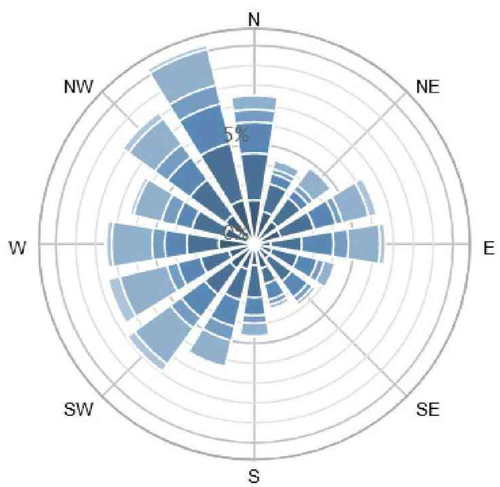
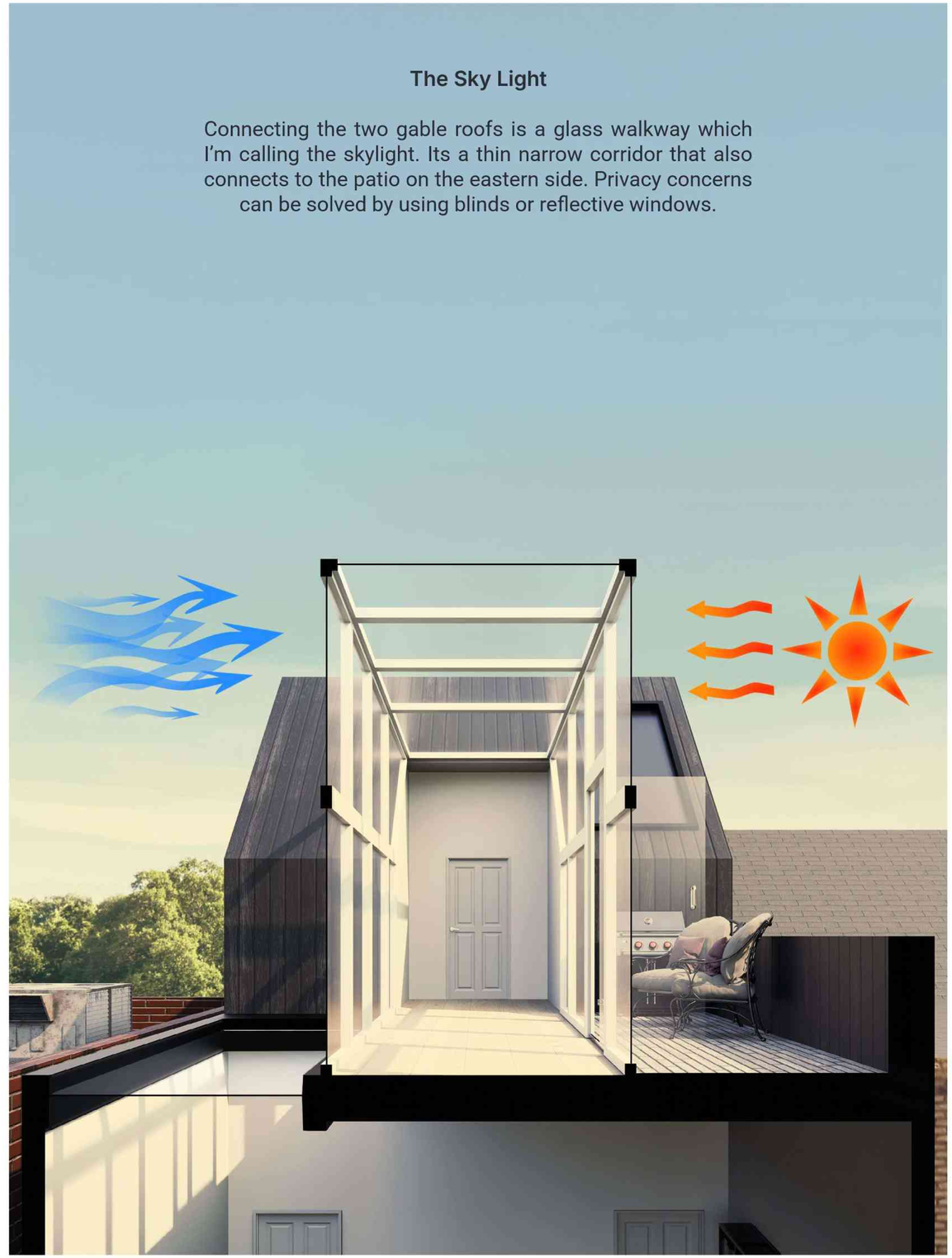
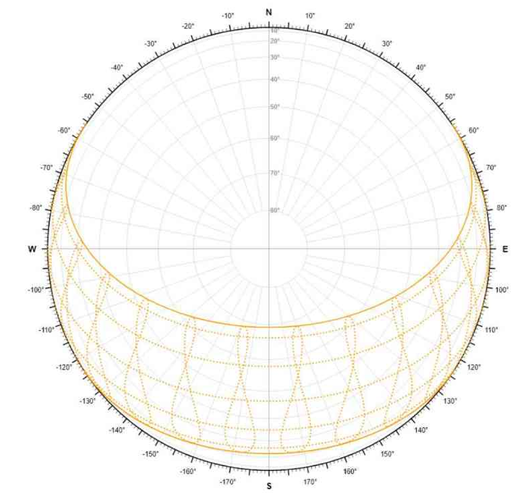


Wind mostly comes from the west and therefore, I placed the patio on the right. This means that the skybridge will act as a barrier from strong winds for people sitting on the patio.



The Sky Light

Connecting the two gable roofs is a glass walkway which I'm calling the skylight. Its a thin narrow corridor that also connects to the patio on the eastern side. Privacy concerns can be solved by using blinds or reflective windows.



Since Toronto is located in the Northern Hemisphere, the sun is always in the south. Because of this, I made the South-facing windows and the skylight much larger without worrying about privacy.