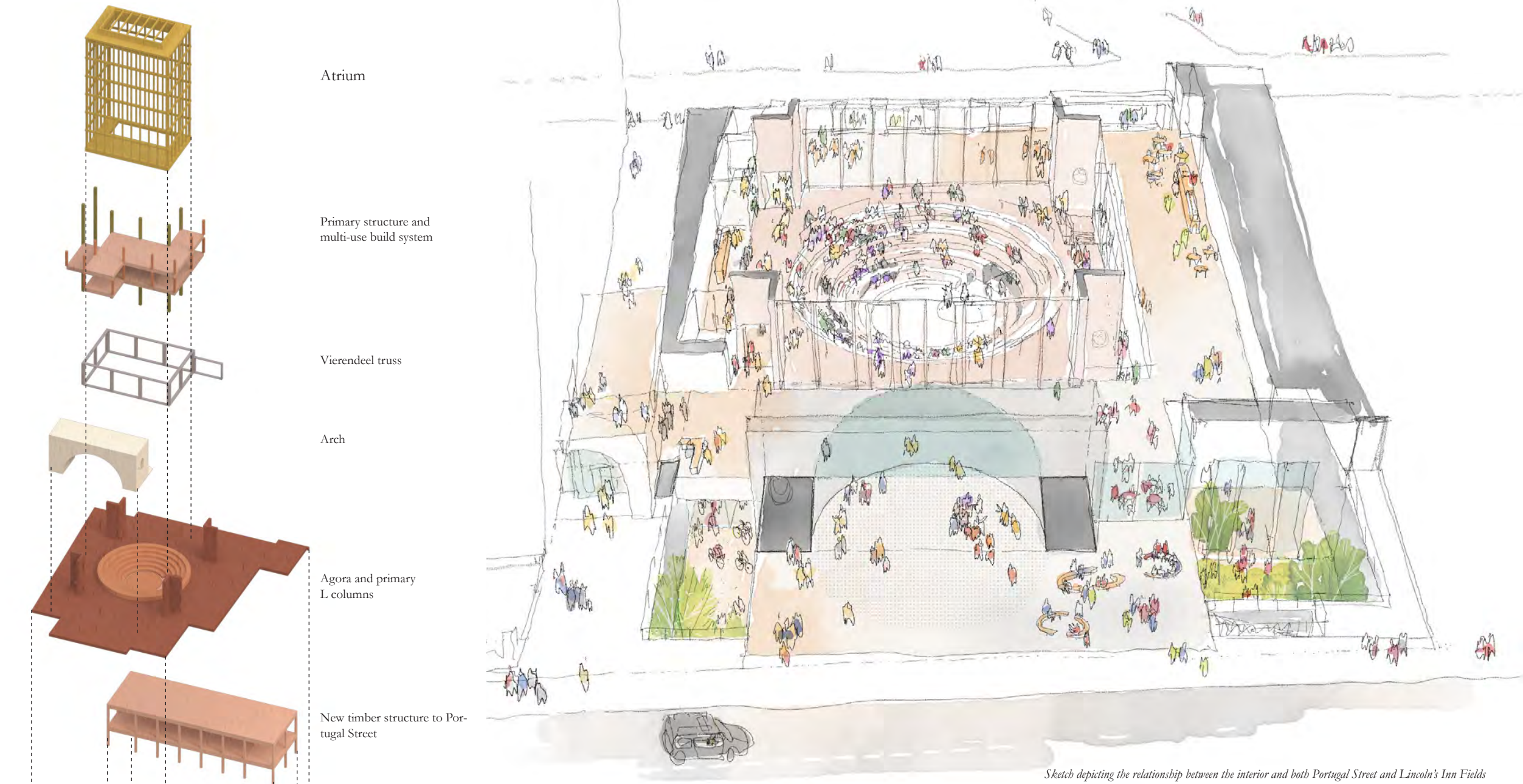




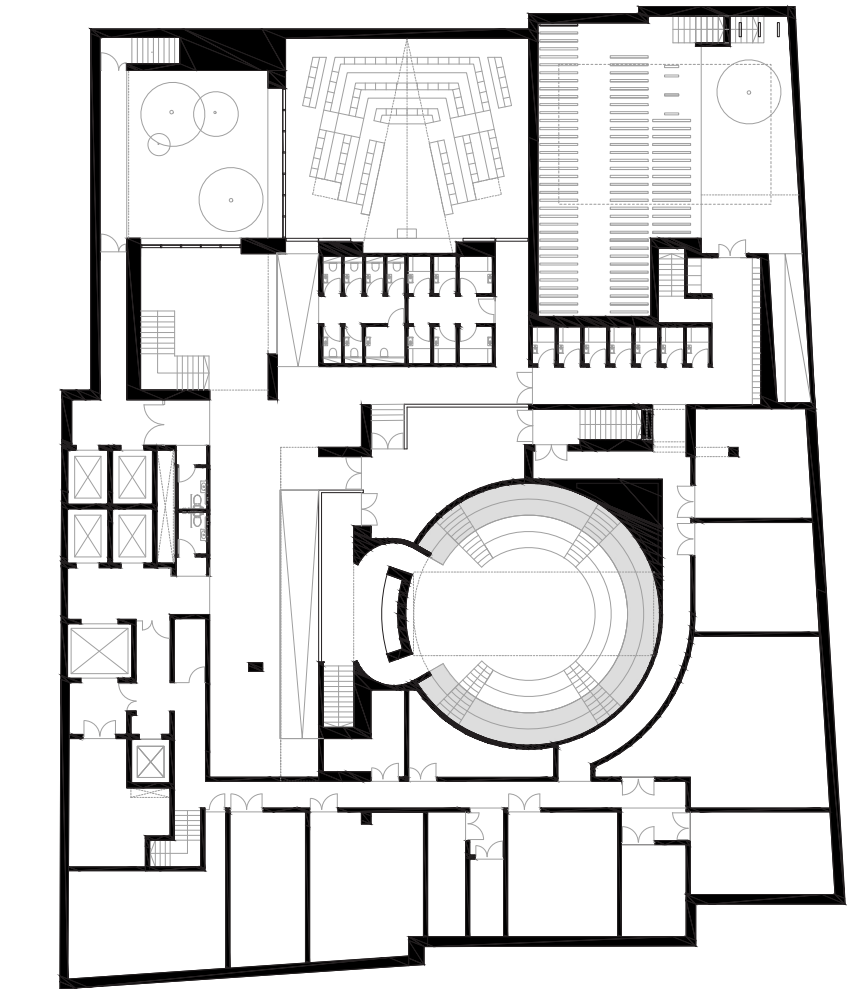
View of the Agora as the attendees begin to gather – the eastern buttress of the entrance arch can be seen to the left. To the top left the stair connects the Firsiroti Institute for Africa (at first floor) to the floor or the Atrium (at second floor)



Sketch depicting the relationship between the interior and both Portugal Street and Lincoln's Inn Fields



The Entrance Arch – framing a view through to the Agora and beyond to Portugal St in the background (a visually permeable condition). At first floor level, the collection of African Art (within the Firsiroti Institute for Africa) is visible as part of the arrival experience. The arch is an almost universal indicator of passage/transition – a place to be gathered and be welcomed.

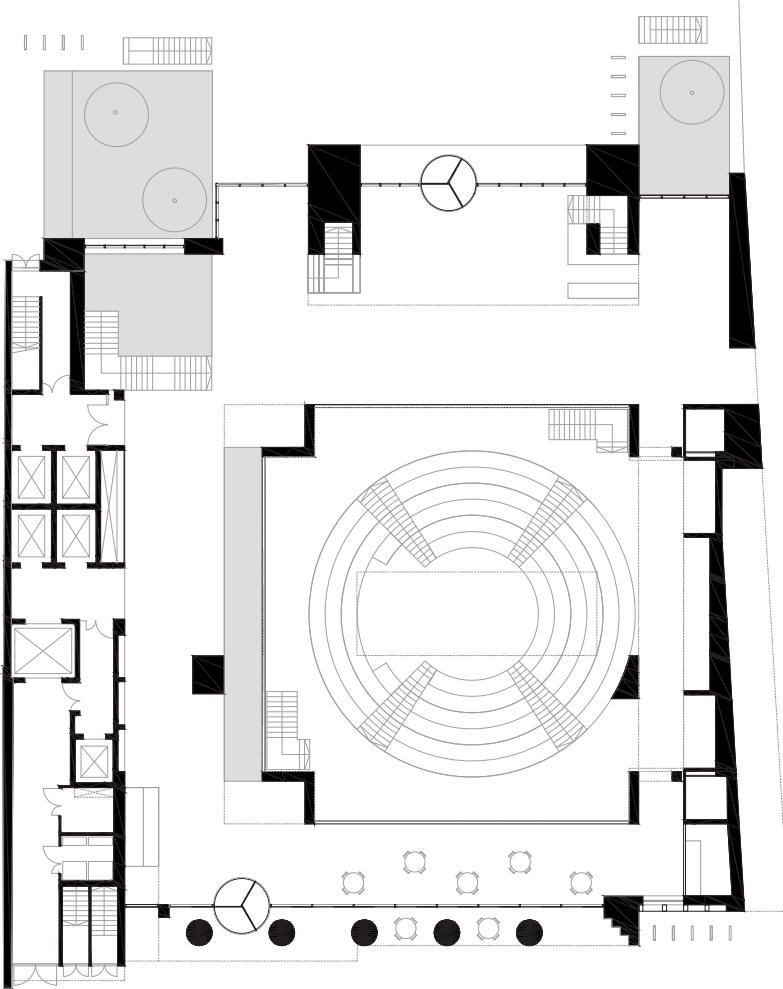


1:400 Basement Floor Plan

**Ground Floor – Order and Organisation – Formality and Informality**  
The entrance arch and Agora are held by a shared axis – the primary structural elements around the Agora also adhere to this axis – as does the east-west alignment of the Atrium above. This axis is fixed more closely to the east side of the site – facilitating a generous north-south route through the ground floor between Portugal St and Lincoln's Inn Fields.

The Agora can operate independently of the general foyer areas – the spaces directly to its south and east can be closed to form a dedicated foyer and breakout area that wraps around these two sides of the Agora. The Agora is therefore held within the plan as a primary formal element directly corresponding to the entrance arch – this formal order is extended through the section of the building through the Atrium whose east-west axis is also aligned to the entrance arch and Agora.

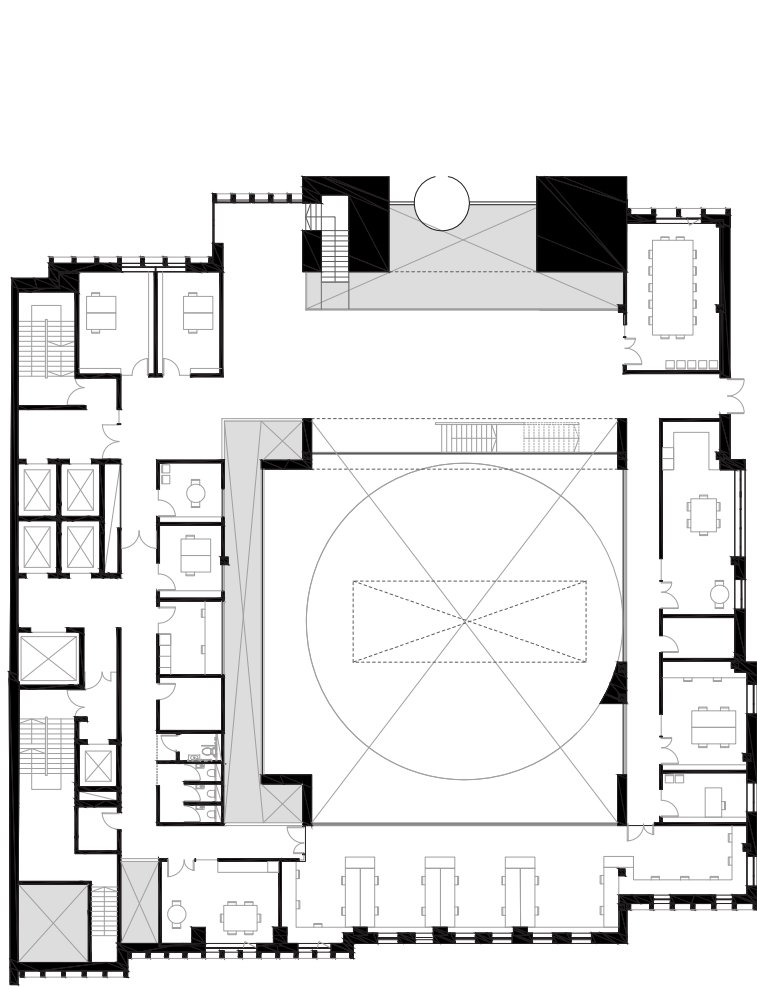
The massing of the building is arranged informally – responding to contextual conditions of scale etc. The massing of our building has been derived from careful study of accurate street



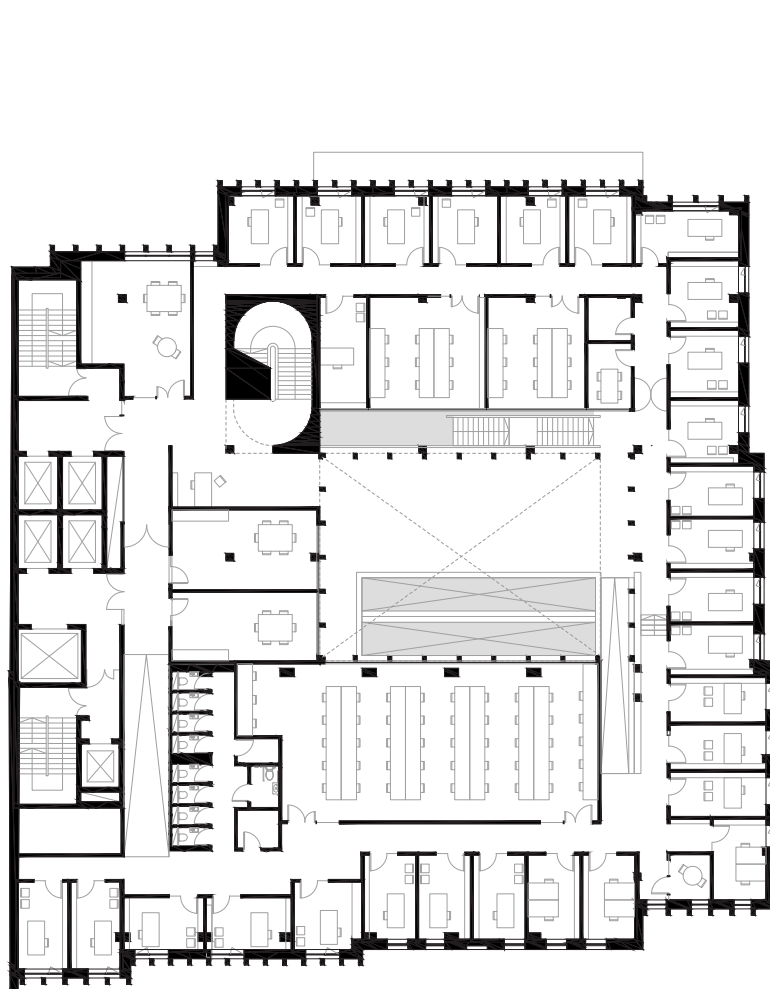
1:400 Ground Floor Plan

level viewpoints.

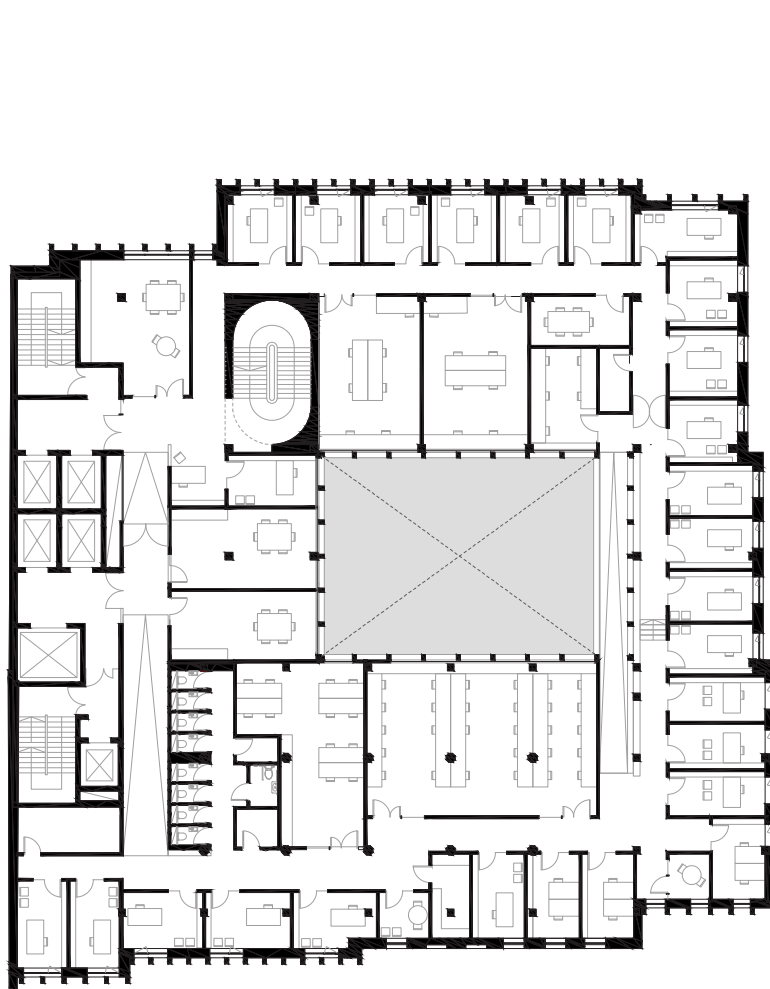
Our proposal might therefore be understood as a collection of elements (Entrance Arch, Agora, Atrium) arranged and ordered formally on axis – with this arrangement being embedded within a more informal massing that responds to contextual parameters.



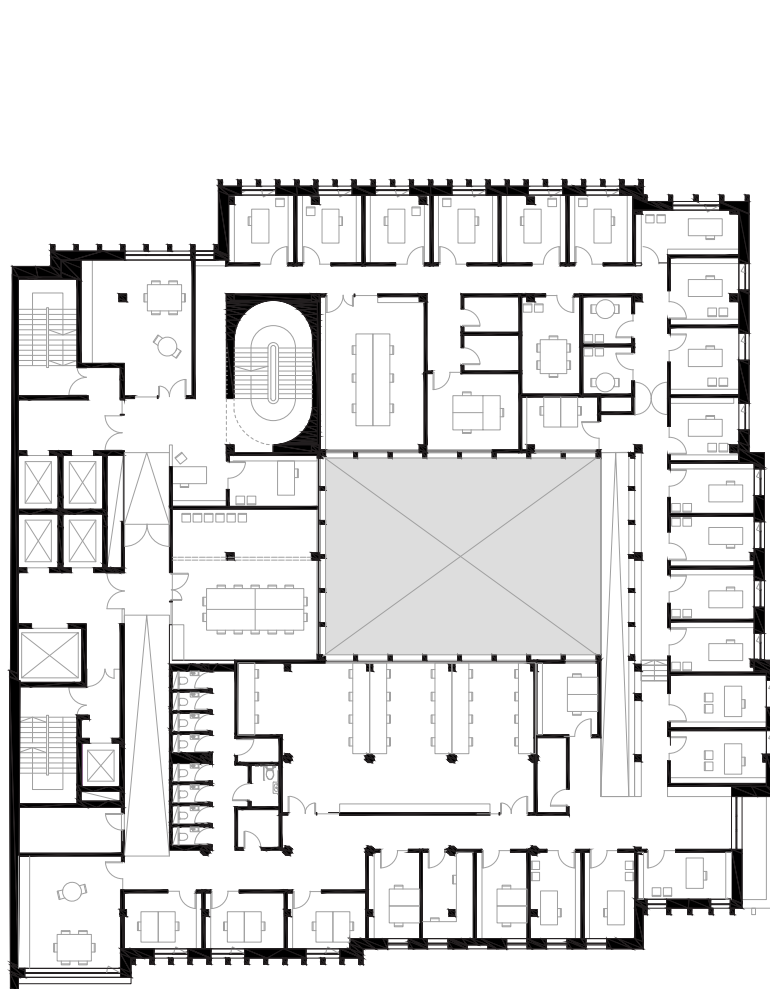
1:400 First Floor Plan



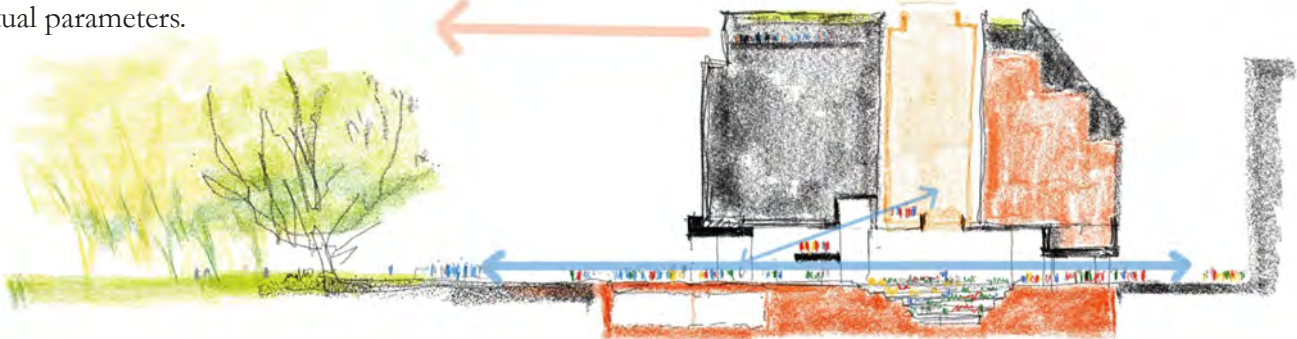
1:400 Second Floor Plan



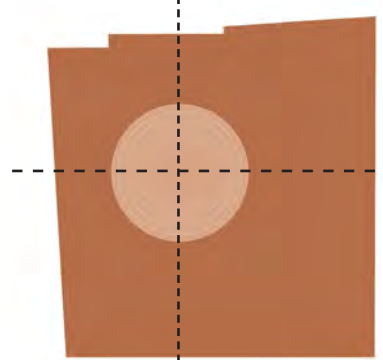
1:400 Third Floor Plan



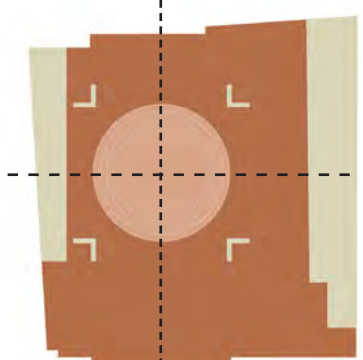
1:400 Fourth Floor Plan



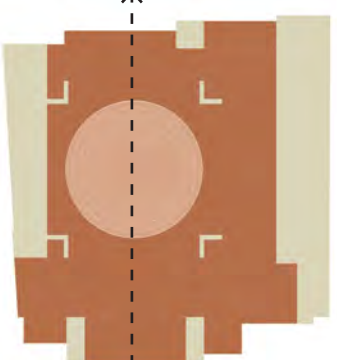
Sketch section illustrating the visual permeability of the ground floor. A restaurant (within the Executive Training Suite) enjoys views over Lincoln's Inn Fields and over the rooftop of No32 to the east



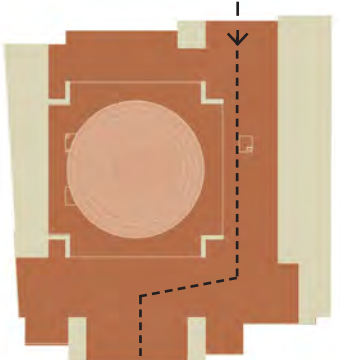
Agora



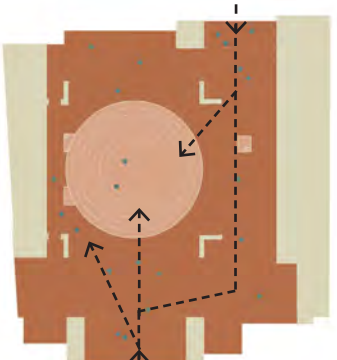
Axial Arrangement



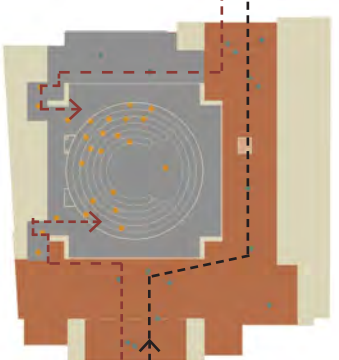
Permeability



Route through building



Ground floor open to public



Agora in use