



National Coast Guard Museum Project

New London, Connecticut

Prepared for the National Coast Guard Museum Association by Gauchat/Santos, January 2013



National Coast Guard Museum Association

Board of Directors

James J. Coleman, Jr., Chairman

The Hon. Catherine W. Cook

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MCPO Vincent W Patton, USCG (Ret.)



THE COMMANDANT OF THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20593-0001

National Coast Guard Museum Association



Dear Mr. Coleman,

On behalf of all Coast Guardsmen and those who served in our 223-year history, I extend to you and the members of the National Coast Guard Museum Association our deepest gratitude for your remarkable progress in establishing a National Coast Guard Museum in New London, Connecticut. The time, effort, and resources the Association is so selflessly dedicating to the museum project are a tribute to those in the "Long Blue Line" who sacrificed, during war and peace, since the founding of our Republic to protect and defend the United States of America.

The United States Coast Guard is the only branch of the armed forces without a national museum. The National Coast Guard Museum will remedy this oversight by honoring the rich history and heritage of the United States Coast Guard and its forebears. The Museum will provide an important venue to preserve and exhibit artifacts, documents, and fine art to make that history and heritage come alive. I can think of no better platform to honor our Coast Guard men and women than a national museum that allows the public to explore their lasting contributions and accomplishments.

Thank you again for your efforts, working with the State of Connecticut, the City of New London, and the local public, to establish a National Coast Guard Museum. You have my full support and commitment. As the 24th Commandant of the United States Coast Guard, it would be a high privilege to see our shared vision of the Museum come to life during my watch.

Semper Paratus!

Sincerely,

R. J. PAPP, JR.
Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard

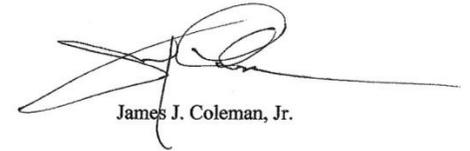
Thanks so much for the continuing effort!

James J. Coleman, Jr.
President
National Coast Guard Museum Association
321 St. Charles Ave., 10th Floor
New Orleans, LA 70130

President's Office:
321 St. Charles Avenue, 10th Fl.
New Orleans, LA 70130
Tel: 504-586-8300 — Fax: 504-568-9911

As the chair and president of the Coast Guard Museum Association I am delighted, after a 10 year Odyssey, to be able to present this proposal for the National Coast Guard Museum. The present site places the Museum directly on the Waterfront in the middle of downtown New London. I am convinced that this new location will make the Museum much more accessible because of the proximity of rail, bus, ferry and car transportation. Also in this location the Museum will be a significant economic engine for downtown New London. It will bring additional people to the existing restaurants and shops and enliven the Waterfront.

Together with my fellow board members I am enthused about this project and believe that it can provide an important building block in the transformation of New London.


James J. Coleman, Jr.



City of New London
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

March 19, 2013

Admiral Robert J. Papp, Jr.
Commandant, United States Coast Guard

Mr. James J. Coleman, Jr.
President, National Coast Guard Museum Association

Dear Sirs,

It is with great pride and honor that I write to you both on behalf of the City of New London to offer the United States Coast Guard use, and title to, a certain part and parcel of City owned land, subject to appropriate legal ratification, as delineated in the plans presented to my office by yourselves, for the permanent location of the national United States Coast Guard Museum in the City of New London.

This land would be donated by the City of New London to the United States Coast Guard upon final approvals for construction of the planned museum.

This museum will be a national treasure, a source of great pride for the Coast Guard and for the City of New London. This museum will serve as a significant economic driver for our community while it simultaneously inspires new generations of young Americans to join your service branch.

I have been in close contact with all of the necessary parties and stakeholders for this project here in New London, and in the State of Connecticut, and have secured preliminary approvals and endorsements that should allow us to publicly announce this project. Attached to this letter you will find letters of support from Cross Sound Ferry, The Blackwell Company, and the State of Connecticut.

These letters evidence that all parties approve of the site selection and agree to work together to finalize the project. Cross Sound Ferry acknowledges the land use parameters for the museum, The Blackwell Company acknowledges the need for a pedestrian bridge on their property, and the State of Connecticut commits up to \$20 million dollars for this project. I have briefed our City Council on this project and have secured solid support for it from them. I have spoken directly to all our regional State legislators, and the Governor, and they are enthusiastic

about this project. I have also spoken to Senators Blumenthal and Murphy, as well as Congressman Courtney, and they have pledged their full support to the project.

As you know, each of these parties will seek input, and may have concerns, as this project moves forward. Such a significant undertaking will have many moving pieces and will take time and effort to finalize. What is clear, at this point, is that all those who need to work together to get to the day of our grand opening are willing to work together, understand the moving parts of the project, and are committed to its success.

The City further offers to act as an on site project manager, acting through me and my office, to keep all those parties whose co-operation is necessary for success working together.

I thank you Admiral Papp for your commitment to this project, it will be an immeasurable legacy of your time as commandant and of your career in the Coast Guard. I thank you Mr. Coleman for your vision, your hard work, and your initial investment which has made this project possible. Of course, most importantly, I thank you both for choosing the City of New London as the site for the National Coast Guard Museum.

I look forward to seeing you both at a public announcement of this project, which I hope can be arranged as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Daryl Justin Finizio
Mayor of the City of New London



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

March 14, 2013

Daryl Justin Finizio
Mayor of the City of New London
City Hall
181 State Street
New London, CT 06320

Dear Mayor Finizio,

I am pleased to offer my support for the United States Coast Guard Museum project, as presented and approved by Admiral Robert Papp, Commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard, and as approved by the United States Coast Guard Museum Association.

It will be a high honor for the State of Connecticut to have such a national institution located in our State. This will be a great source of pride for our State and the Coast Guard and will serve as an economic driver for New London and all of Connecticut.

This administration will support state funding, not to exceed \$20 million dollars, to support this project. State support will include funding for a pedestrian bridge that is integral to the success of the project, access to the site, and overall improvement to New London's regional intermodal transportation center. These funds may also be used for ancillary work associated with this project, including but not limited to, property purchases, feasibility studies, traffic redesigns and other necessary project components. A final funding commitment will be dependent on a review of a detailed financing plan for the entire project.

I look forward to learning more about this project, and assure you that the State will be a ready partner with the City of New London in seeing this through to a successful completion.

I thank the Coast Guard, the Coast Guard Museum Association, the abutting property owners, and the City of New London for selecting this site.

Connecticut will be proud to be home to the national coast guard museum.

Ben Barnes
Secretary

UNION STATION

March 15, 2013

The Honorable Daryl J. Finizio
Mayor, City of New London
181 State St.
New London, CT 06320

Dear Mayor Finizio:

The US Coast Guard and National Coast Guard Museum Association are to be congratulated on selecting the City of New London as the site for the National Coast Guard Museum. It is a long awaited undertaking that will memorialize the rich history of the Coast Guard as well as provide an exciting venue highlighting the vibrant role it plays today, and will continue to play, in protecting our nation's waterways.

Locating the NCGM in downtown New London will provide a much needed economic boost to both the City as well as all of Southeastern Connecticut, further affirming our region as the tourism capital of Connecticut.

We look forward to the start of the detailed planning and design of the proposed NCGM complex. It will involve multiple stakeholders, and we welcome the opportunity to participate in this process in a constructive and integral manner.

As illustrated in the conceptual massing model provided by the NCGMA, Union Station will play a pivotal role in the \$100 million project. It appears that our property will serve as both the initial point of arrival as well as the primary means of access via the proposed bridge to the Museum. Obviously we need to gain a better understanding of the legal, economic, and historic preservation issues that will impact our property in order to determine Union Station's appropriate role in it and ensure the success of the project.

We look forward to working with you and others to create a museum that benefits all parties, educates and inspires visitors regarding the Coast Guard's role as one of our nation's five branches of the Armed Forces and honors its long association with the City of New London.

Sincerely,

Barbara C. Timken
Union Railroad Station

Todd O'Donnell
Union Railroad Station

Cc: Admiral Robert J. Papp, Jr., Commandant, USCG
Dannel P. Malloy, Governor, State of Connecticut
James Coleman, President, NCGMA

35 WATER STREET
NEW LONDON, CONNECTICUT 06320
TEL 860-442-1001 FAX 860-447-9983



Linking Long Island and New England for Over 35 Years

March 7, 2013

Hon. Daryl Justin Finizio
Mayor
City of New London
181 State Street
New London, CT 06320

Dear Mayor Finizio:

Cross Sound Ferry supports the location of the National Coast Guard Museum in downtown New London as it is currently being proposed by the Coast Guard Museum Foundation. This plan will be a springboard to economic development in the downtown and is consistent with the long term goals of the ferry services.

Cross Sound Ferry and its affiliates have served the region for more than three generations. Our ferry services to Long Island and Block Island transport over a million passengers annually. Our services are the cornerstone of New London's Intermodal Transportation Center for not only passengers but for almost a half million vehicles traveling in the Northeast between New England and Long Island.

We are pleased to be working with the Coast Guard Museum Association in coming up with a coordinated plan for a future new passenger terminal adjacent to the National Museum for the Coast Guard. Our facility is designed to provide comfortable waiting areas and other travel amenities for approximately 500 passengers using high-speed ferry services to various destinations from New London.

This is an important project for the future of ferry operations, a welcome boost to the Waterfront, the downtown area of the City of New London, the entire region and State.

Sincerely,

John Wronowski
President
Cross Sound Ferry Services, Inc.

2 Ferry Street, New London, CT 06320
Phone (860) 443-7394
Fax (860) 440-3492
www.longislandferry.com

An Affirmative Action / Equal Opportunity Employer

The National Coast Guard Museum

The National Coast Guard Museum is a long overdue idea. The Coast Guard is the only branch of the armed services that does not have a national museum to celebrate its role in the life of our nation and to honor the men and women who serve. Since its inception in 1790, the Coast Guard has established a proud and illustrious history which deserves recognition from the public.

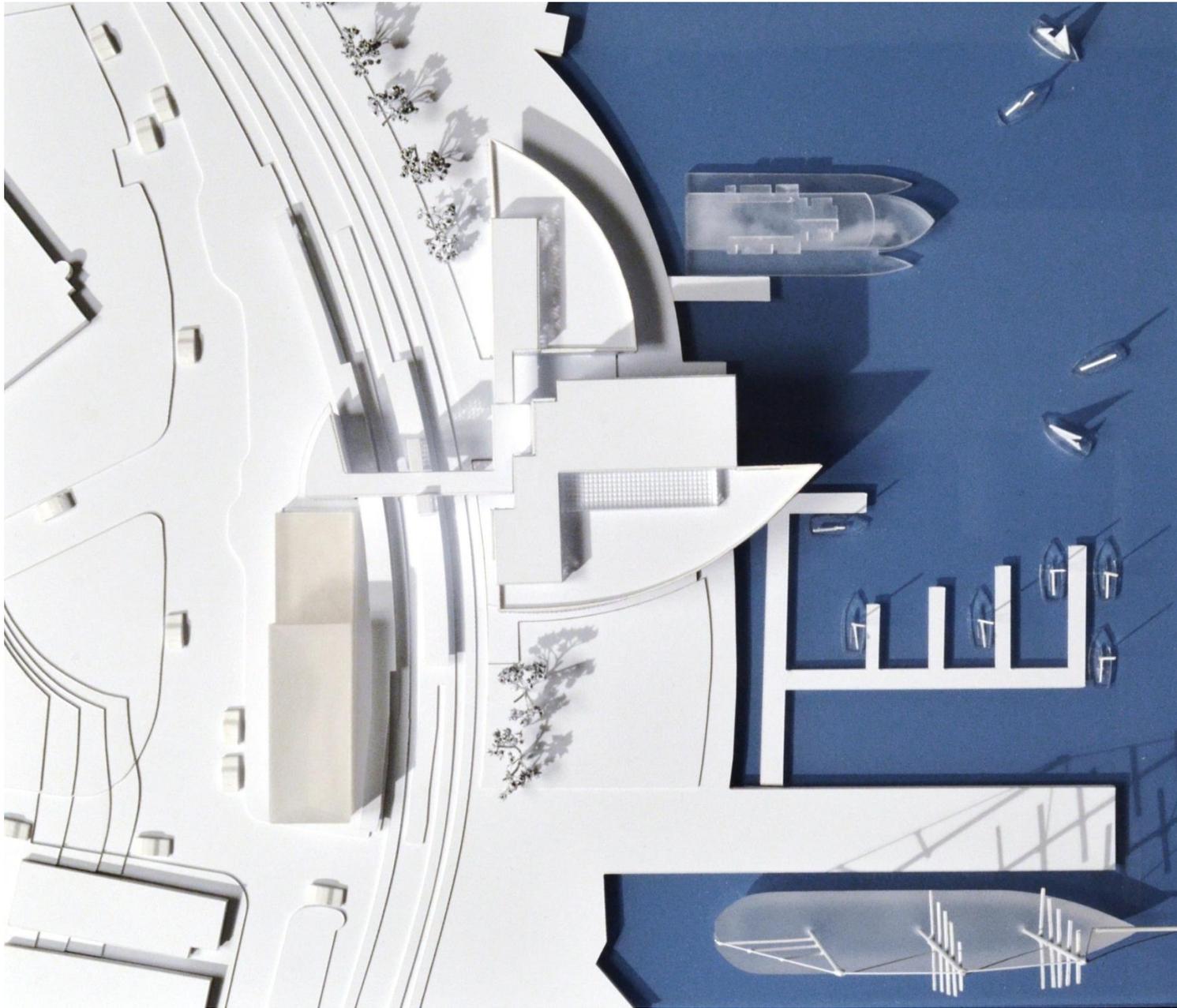
The Coast Guard, under the aegis of The Department of Homeland Security, has three major roles: Maritime Safety, Maritime Security, and Maritime Stewardship. These vital responsibilities are carried out by 48,000 highly trained men and women who perform these missions with integrity, dedication and honor to duty and country. The public is generally unaware of the scale and scope of the Coast Guard's operations. The Museum will send a clear message both through its exhibits and its iconic image: **Respect the past, engage the present and look to the future.** Permanent and revolving multi-media exhibits will tell compelling stories of its past, present and future as they evoke the Coast Guard's critical role and mission in maritime security, safety, protection of natural resources, and national defense. As a dynamic institution charged with these roles, the Museum will engage the public, veterans and present 'Coasties' in the dreams and goals for the future.

Interactive and innovative exhibits and displays will include realistic virtual environments in which the museum visitor participates in the action. The participatory nature of the activities and exhibits will encourage families and individuals to make multiple visits. The very nature of the Coast Guard's missions lend themselves to spectacular exhibits in a dynamic architectural space: simulation of helicopter rescues in force 10 storms saving lives at sea; rescue boats tossing and swaying in tumultuous seas; a ship's bridge on the "prow" of the building simulating a Captain's role; the building

and the sheer red atrium wall evoke the tall hull of a ship thrusting out to the water.

The adventure and the excitement of the museum experience will be both enlightening and inspirational to the public. The Museum will be a celebration of over two hundred years of service to the country, a salute to the courage and skill of the men and women of the Coast Guard, and a glimpse into an exciting and vital future.





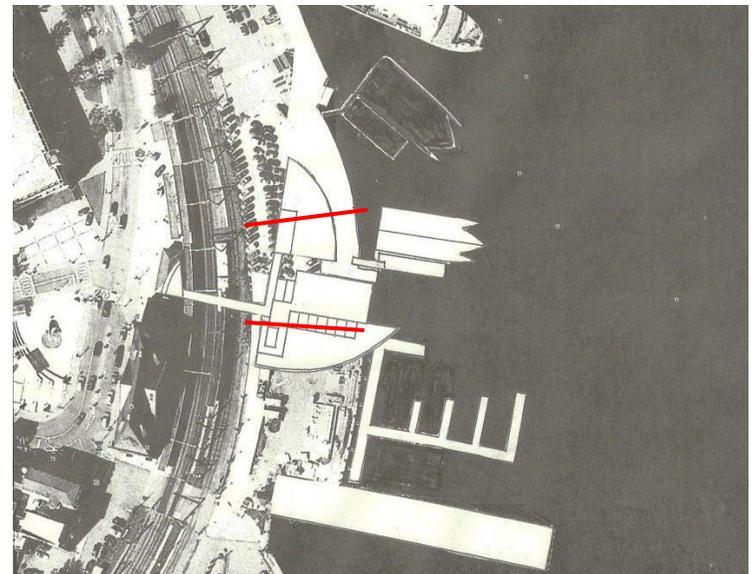
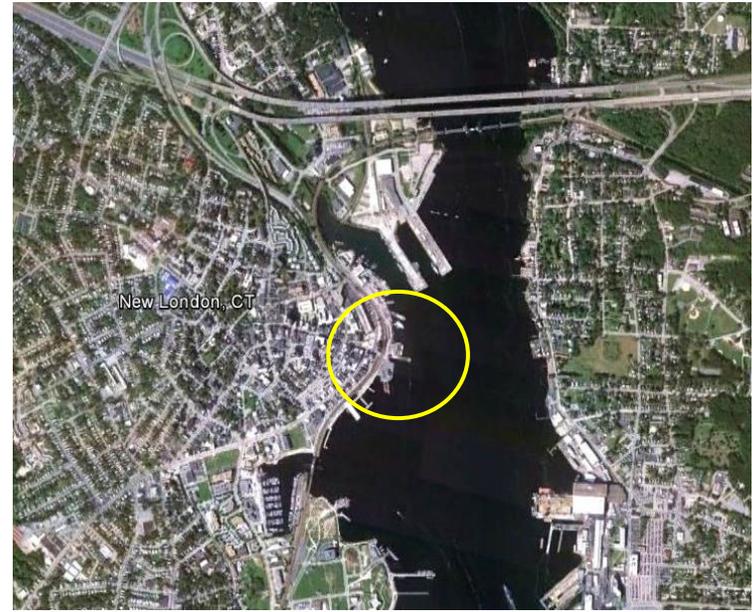
Site model of the Museum, the Ferry Terminal and the Pedestrian Overpass in context of the waterfront. The *Eagle* is shown docked at the City Pier across the Promenade from the Museum; State Street, Union Station and the parking garage are to west of railroad tracks.

The Site

The site, a city-owned parcel at the end of the Waterfront Park in downtown New London, is adjacent to the new City Pier and Promenade. Across from the historic Union Station and Amtrak, it faces south to the Promenade and the wide rail crossing at State Street. As part of a national and regional and tourist destination, the site is in close proximity to rail, bus, and ferry connections as well as a public parking garage. Among the waterfront amenities are the recreational boating facilities and the deep water dock at the City Pier which can accommodate the Coast Guard's *Eagle*. When in port, the *Eagle*, across the Promenade from the Museum, will act as a beacon visible from land and water.

As a focal attraction in this important regional and local location, the Coast Guard Museum will act as an economic boost to the waterfront and to downtown. As an icon of New London and a symbol of the Coast Guard, it will affirm the historic bond between the city and a venerable but dynamic national institution.

As part of the evolving waterfront complex of public open space, promenades, piers, docks, ferries, ships, boats, rail, recreation, and restaurants, the Museum will be a valuable asset that makes full use of existing infrastructure while attracting visitors and tourists. From up and down the Thames River waterway, the Groton shore line, and the Interstate 95 bridge, it will become a distinct landmark in the cityscape.



Museum Design Concept

The 21st century Museum is more than an archival repository. The contemporary public requires that the 'new museum' be a civic place; a symbol of its institutional purpose; and an exciting interactive environment for learning and enjoyment. The design concept of the National Coast Guard Museum is predicated on promoting these goals through its dynamic architecture and its compelling exhibits.

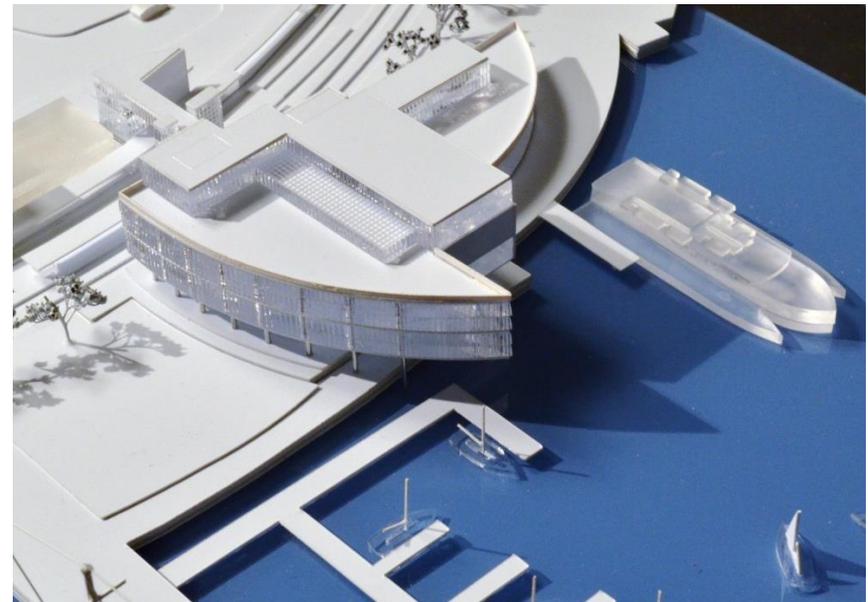
The museum building itself will be environmentally responsive; it will use advanced mechanical and structural systems; new materials and construction techniques; and incorporate energy conservation measures as visible building elements, thus evoking the Coast Guard's forward looking outlook and its role as steward of the natural environment.

The Museum's iconic presence and relationship to site, water, and sky will recall the Coast Guard's maritime imagery. The sweeping curve of the glass south façade and interior gallery spaces, hovering between shore and water, recalls a ship's hull and prow. The powerful atrium 'chasm' between the north and south wings, awash with light on the solid north wall, directs the view out to the Thames River and maritime traffic. The atrium space also contains the primary circulation elements of stairs and bridges that connect the exhibits and direct views upward to the exhibition galleries and the sky. The top floor 'deck' terrace and Event space command views to the horizon like those of a ship at sea. The flexible gallery spaces, with varied shapes, sizes and lighting conditions, are designed to accommodate an exciting sequence of memorable exhibits by the renowned firm Gallagher and Associates.

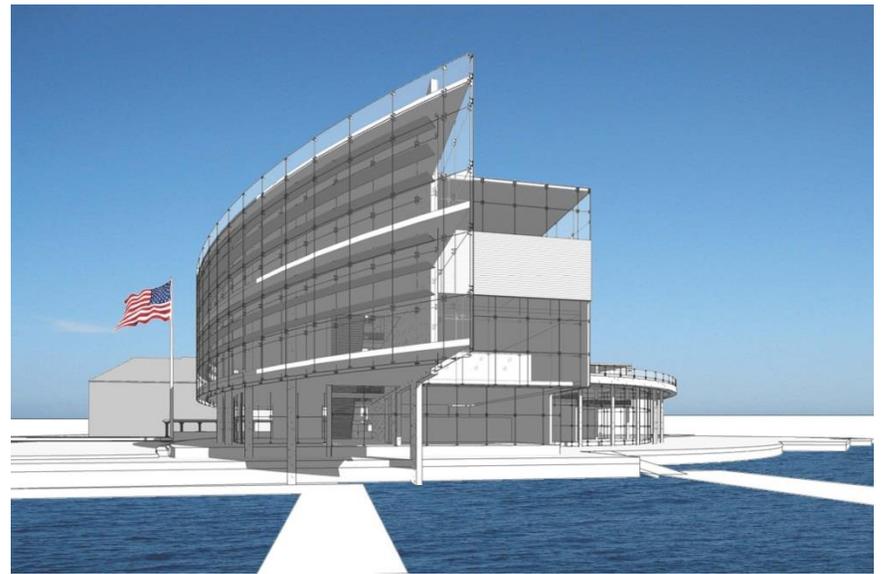
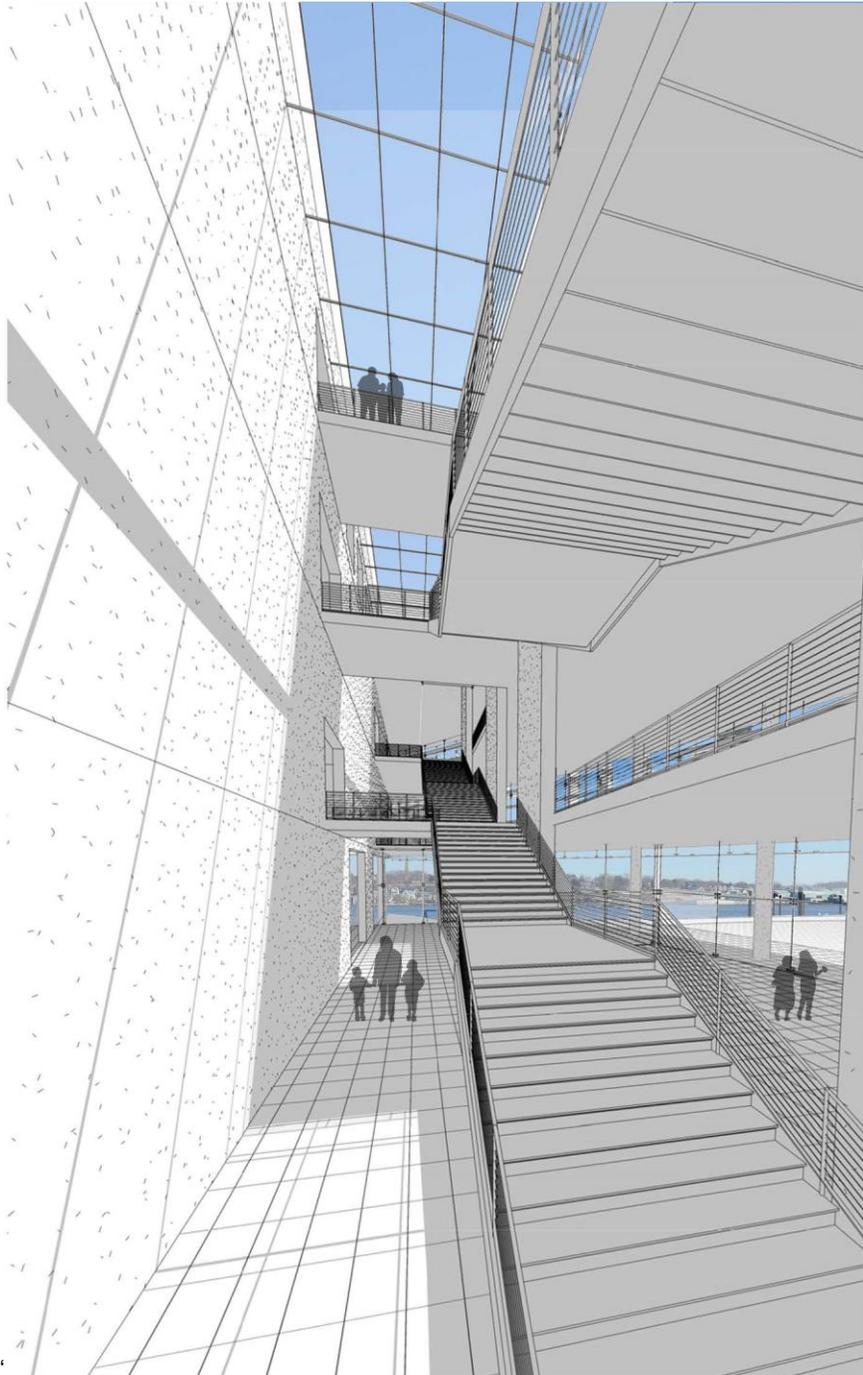
The building is built on a plinth above the storm tide levels. The approach is via a gentle ramp that provides continuity of circulation between the City Pier Promenade to the south and the ferry terminals to the north. Amphitheater-like steps rise up to the plinth

on the south side, providing informal seating for outdoor activities taking place in the Promenade. The south façade gives onto this public space and presents a striking image as the sweeping curved glass façade projects over the water, taking full advantage of the spectacular views to the east and, past the *Eagle*, towards the Sound.

The two wings of the building are connected by the multi story glass-roofed atrium. The north wing, conceived as a mostly solid mass, contains program elements, including a large proportion of exhibition space, that require controlled lighting and sensitive climatic conditions. The south wing, open and airy with a high performance glass façade, has exhibition spaces that benefit from natural light and the panorama of land, water, and maritime activity.



Bird's eye view from the southeast



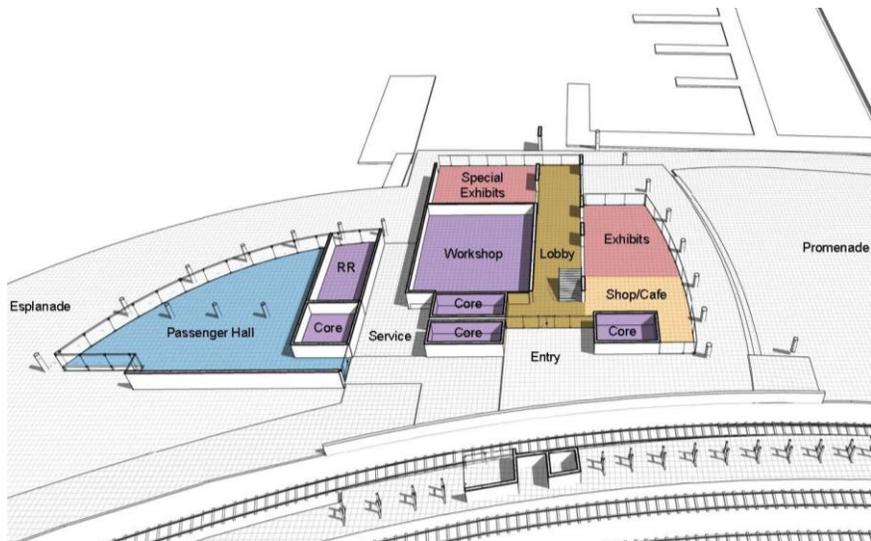
Left: view of four-story atrium from the lobby

Top: south glass façade and entry seen from the southwest

Bottom: water view from the east

First Floor

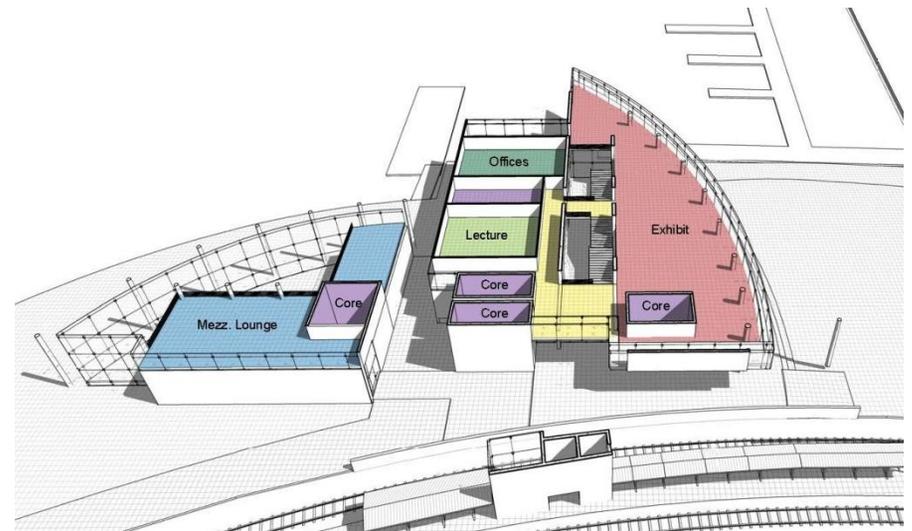
The entry lobby space is approached along a gentle ramp from the waterfront promenade or from a pedestrian overpass across the railroad tracks. This ramp is also used by emergency vehicles. Upon entering, a multi story naturally lit atrium opens up a vista to the water and across to the Groton shore while drawing the visitor forward and upward to the exhibition galleries on the floors above. It is flanked on the left (north) side by a sheer “Coast Guard red” wall, and on the right (south) side by the visitors’ circulation core, an open flight of stairs, and the introductory exhibit area protected by an exterior colonnade. A transparent space housing the gift shop and café is to the right of the entry, overlooking the Promenade. To the left is the building’s main service core. Most of the north wing on the ground floor is taken up by the workshop, service and receiving area with truck access from the north. Also on this side, there is an extension of the introductory exhibit facing the Esplanade and the water.



Second Floor

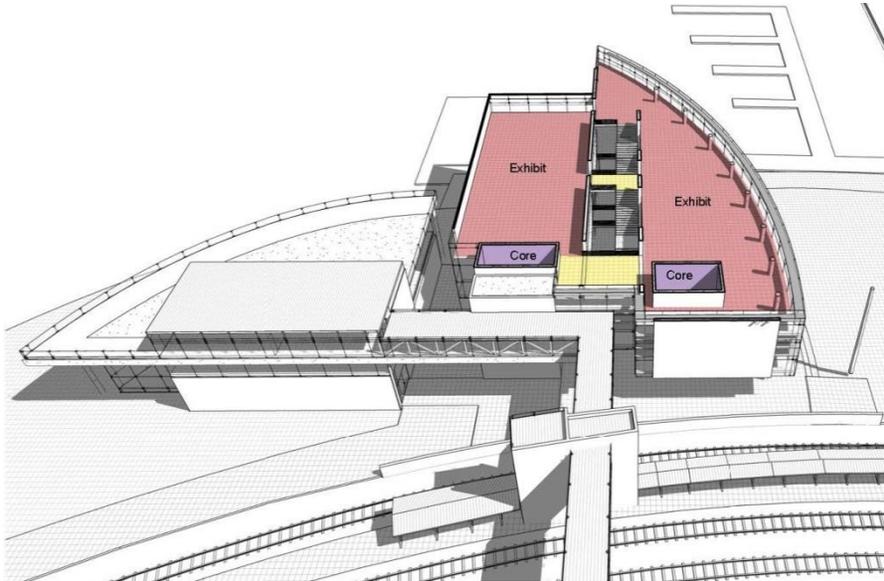
Ascending the atrium stairs to the second floor reveals the expansive exhibition space suffused with natural light filtered by the double glass wall. Across the bridges over the atrium to the north wing, the lecture space and restrooms are to be found. Also located in the north wing are the museum staff offices and a special exhibits area next to the elevators as well as rest rooms and a special exhibit area.

Note: Floor diagrams show both the Museum and the Ferry Terminal



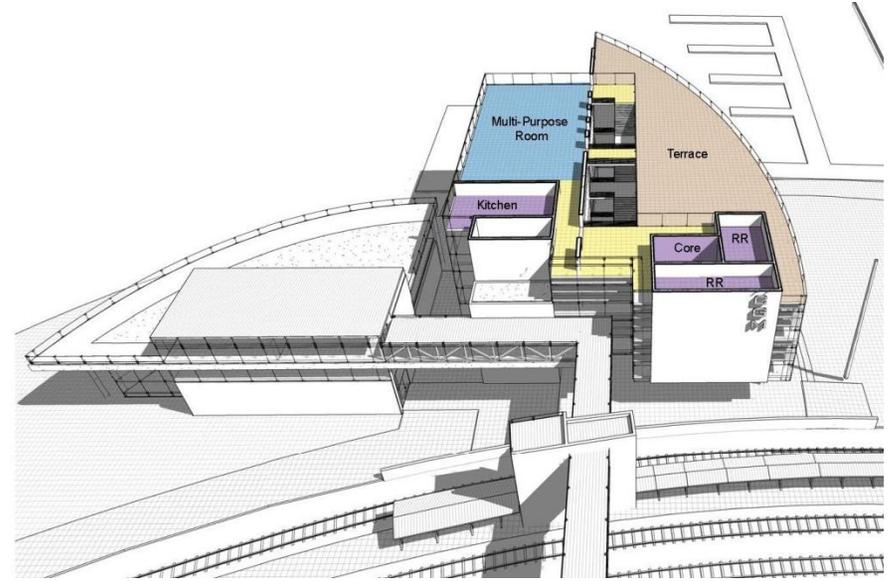
Third Floor

The third floor is taken up almost entirely by exhibition space, amounting to over 13,000 square feet or about half the museum's total area dedicated to exhibits. Exhibits requiring controlled lighting and special environmental conditions are located in the north wing. On the south side, the double glass façade encloses gallery space with sweeping views across the Thames River, the City Pier, Waterfront Park, and down-river towards Long Island Sound. Visitors can move freely between the two sides, experiencing the specially designed exhibit sequence in a dramatic architectural space that responds to the waterfront environment.

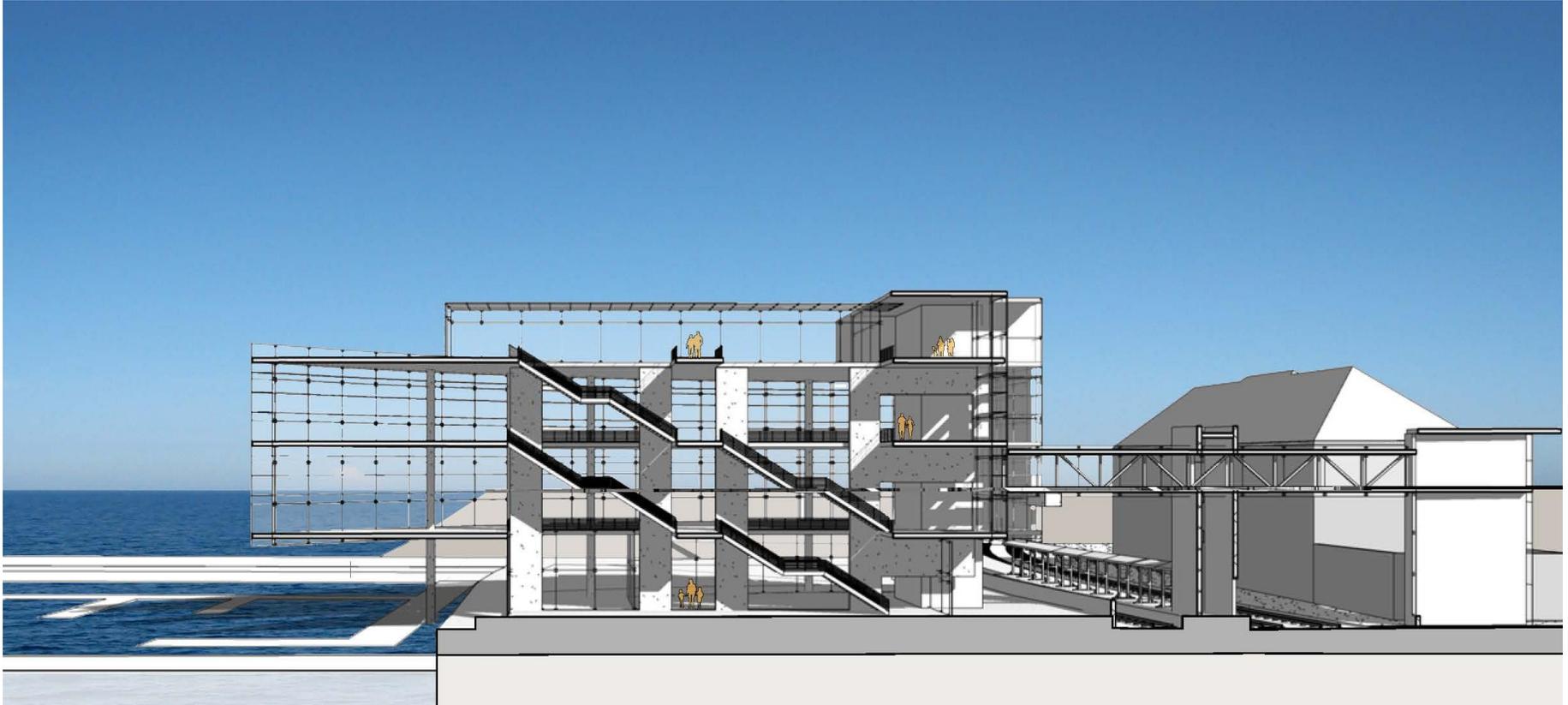


Fourth Floor and Roof Deck

Like the deck of a ship, the top floor is dominated by an open terrace with a commanding 180 degree views to the northeast, east, south and southwest. A large multi-purpose event space with a catering kitchen opens to the terrace across the glass roofed atrium. Receptions and special events for up to three hundred people can be held in this adaptable space. The roof terrace can hold hundreds more for outdoor events and exhibitions. On the top floor and roof, solar power generating equipment and other advanced sustainable systems will be further reminders of the Coast Guard's concern for the environment.



Section



Longitudinal section through the atrium looking south

The section is cut through the atrium from east to west and illustrates the vertical organization of the building. The sky lighted atrium is a constant reference as visitors move through the museum. The south wing galleries are spacious open lofts capable of being adapted for a wide range of exhibit types. A high performance glass wall controls light and ventilation and responds to daily and seasonal climate changes.

When docked at the City Pier across the Promenade, the Eagle will be a dramatic focal point from the south galleries. Cascading stairs

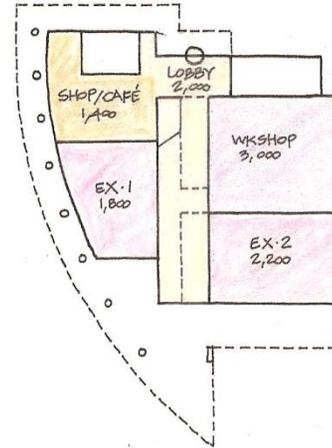
and bridges between the two wings serve as a visual guide to all the functions and activities of the museum.

The pedestrian overpass across the railroad tracks leads to an elevator and stair to and from the entry area of the Museum and to the Ferry Terminal to the north.

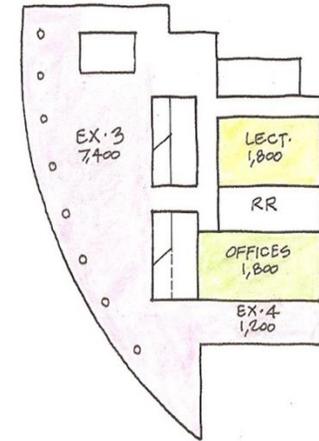
Program Areas

Function	Floor area (square feet)
Lobby, Reception	2,000
Gift Shop, Cafe	1,400
Event Space w/ Catering Kit. (for 250/300 people)	5,400
Total Exhibition Space	26,400
Ground Floor Ex. Space	4,000
Second Floor Ex. Space	8,700
Third Floor Ex. Space	13,800
Lecture (seating 120 people)	1,800
Museum Staff Offices	1,800
Workshop, Receiving, Loading Dock	3,000
<hr/>	
<u>Subtotal: Estimated Net Floor Area</u>	41,800
Circulation, Services, Mechanical (@ 30%)	12,500
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<u>Total Estimated Gross Floor Area</u>	54,300

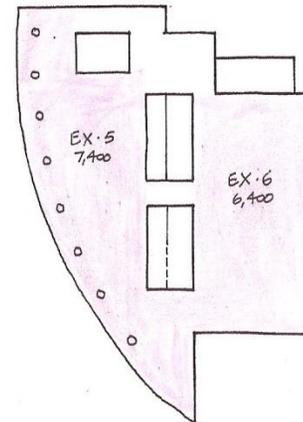
Ground Floor



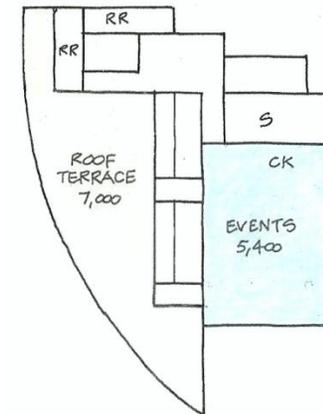
Second Floor



Third Floor



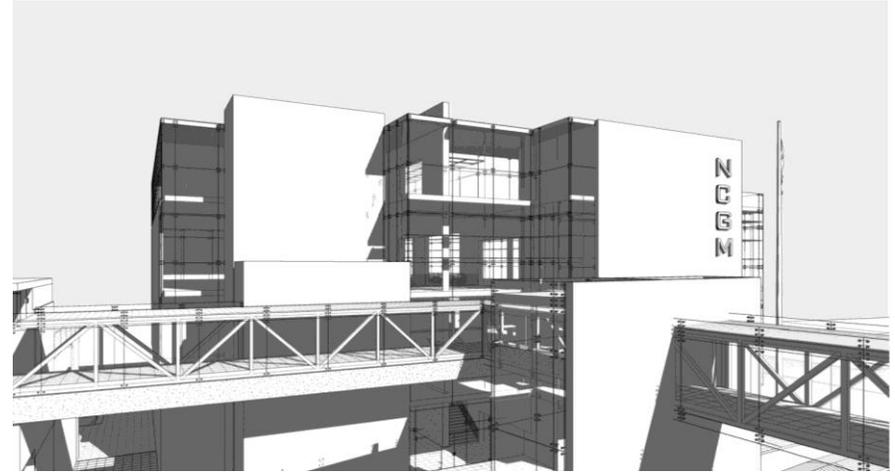
Fourth Floor



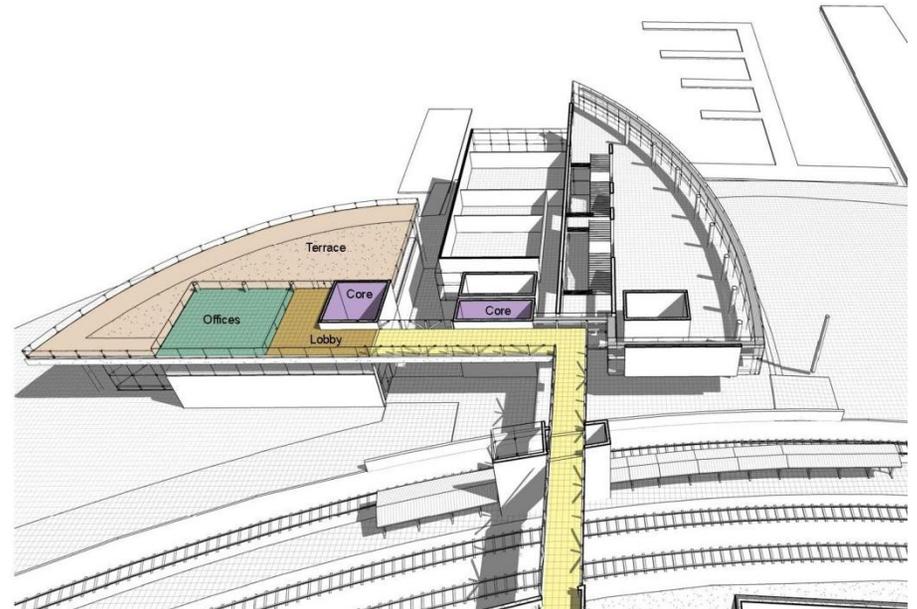
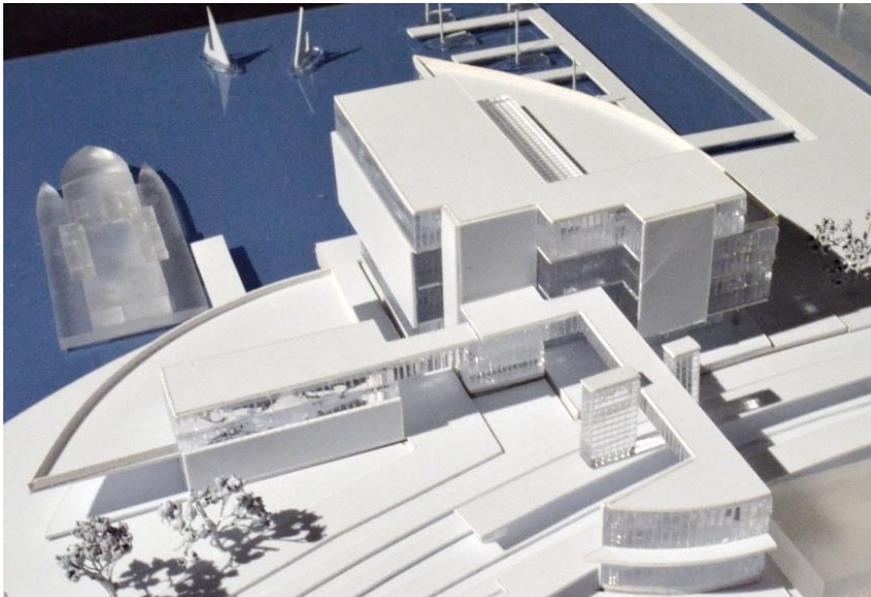
The Pedestrian Overpass

The pedestrian overpass provides a safe handicapped accessible connection between the Ferry Terminal and Museum on the waterfront and the public parking garage located to the west across the railroad tracks. It will be fully enclosed and have three access points: 1) adjacent to Union Station; 2) on the platform of the north-bound passenger track; and 3) between the Museum and the Ferry Terminal. The present rail crossing situation is less than satisfactory. When a train is in the station it is impossible to reach the other side of the tracks. Even when there is no train in the station, the route to the north-bound passenger platform (and to the water front) is circuitous.

The overpass will be enclosed and protected from the weather. The three access points will each have stairs and an elevator. The overpass will be ADA compliant and, in addition to serving the Museum, the Ferry Terminal, the waterfront Promenade, the recreational boating docks and the City Pier, it will provide AMTRAK with safe access to trains travelling in both directions.

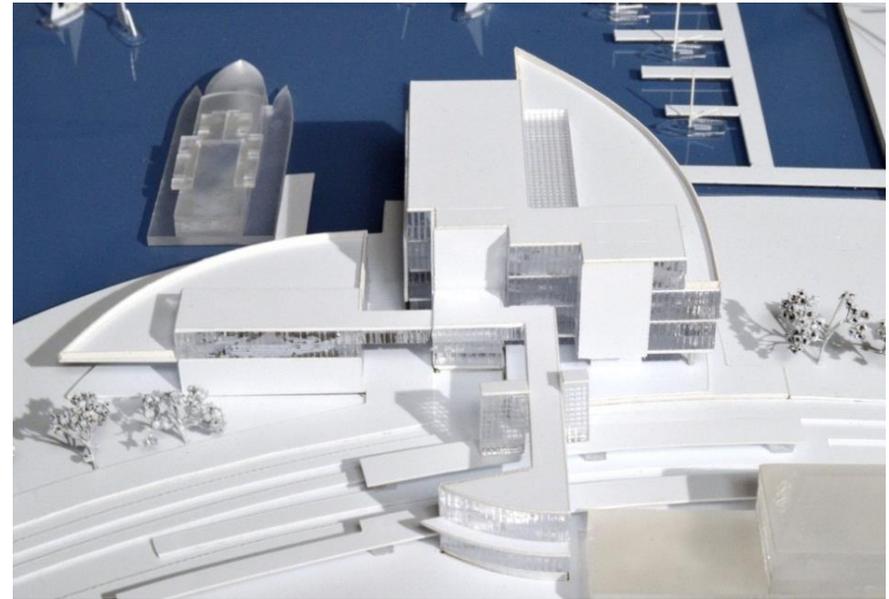


Views from the west of the pedestrian overpass connection from the Ferry Terminal, Museum, north-bound passenger platform, and Water Street.

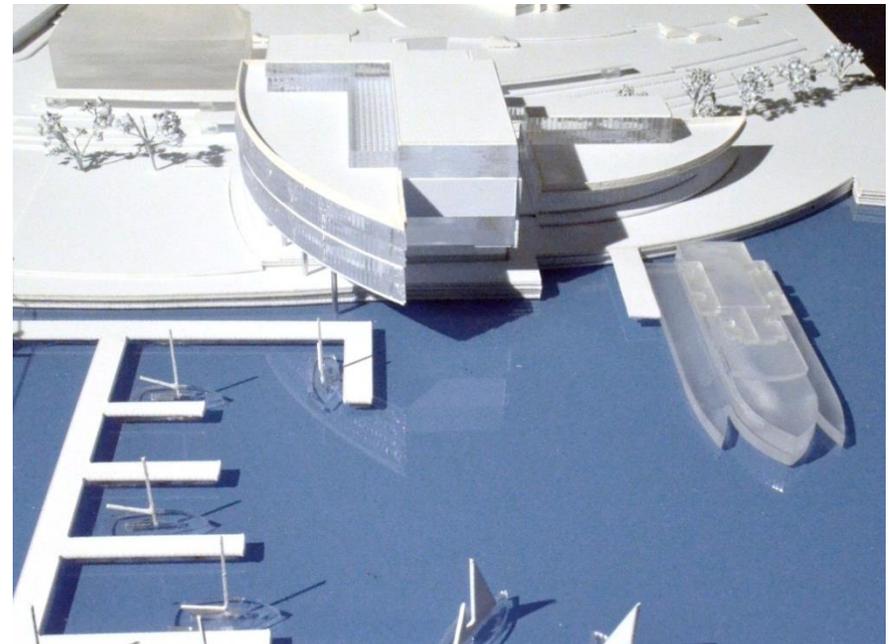
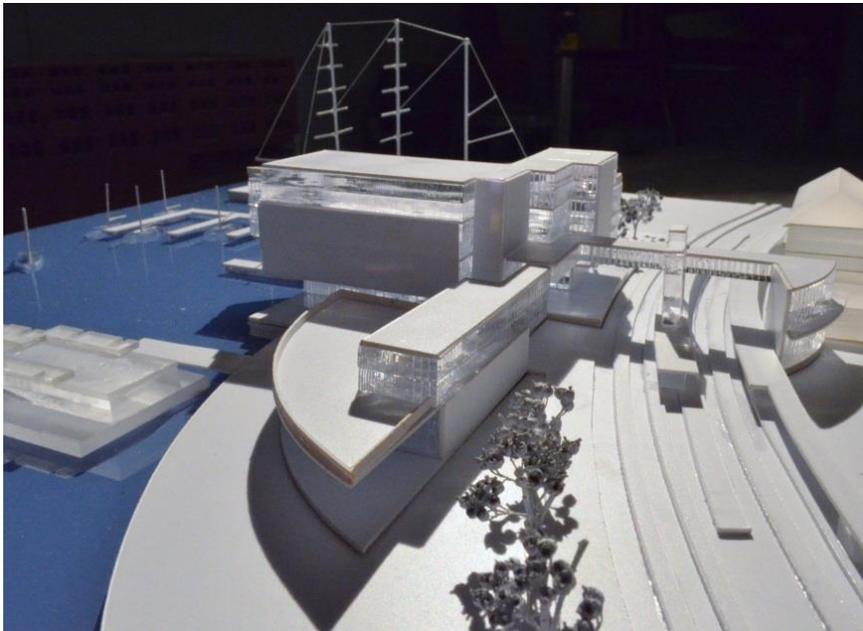


The Cross Island Ferry Terminal

The terminal building will be built as a discrete but integral part of the waterfront complex. It is intended to provide a waiting and ticketing area and to facilitate the rapid boarding of passengers using the high-speed catamarans. The facility can accommodate approximately 500 passengers and have a direct connection to the pedestrian overpass across the railroad tracks as well as the Coast Guard Museum and the Promenade to the south. The upper level will allow entry from the pedestrian overpass and accommodate office space; it will also provide a green outdoor terrace from which waiting passengers can enjoy a spectacular view and observe the river traffic. The lower level provides a large waiting area that can be opened up during the summer and enclosed in the winter. There will be ticketing counters, restrooms and other facilities. The terminal building is an elegant addition to the waterfront and enhances the ability of the Cross Island Ferry Company to transport passengers to and from New London in safety and comfort.

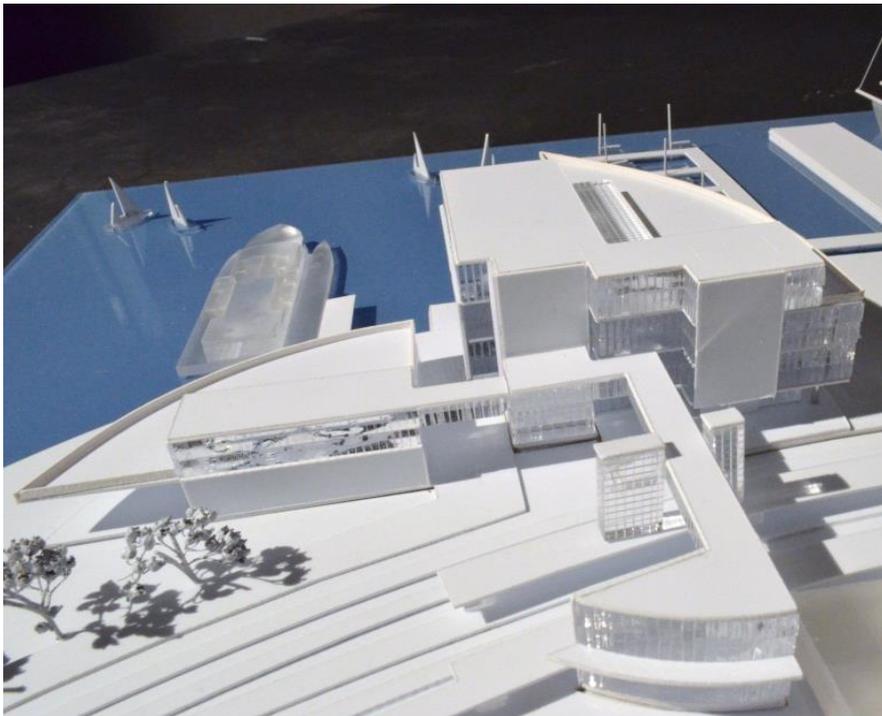
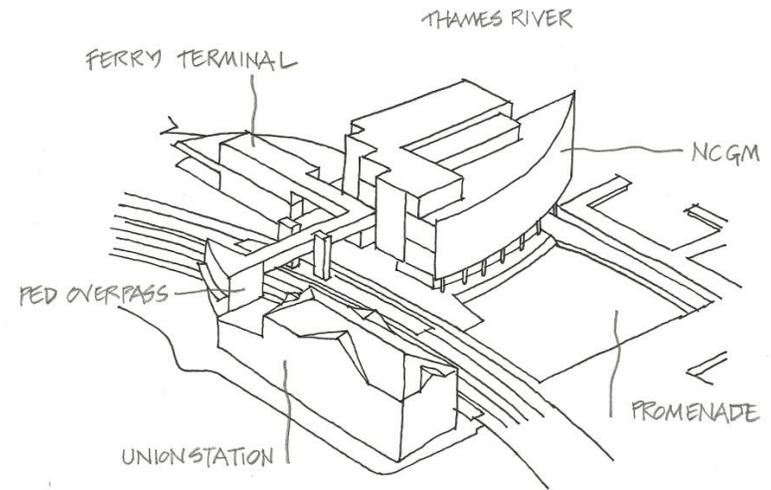


Relative position of the Ferry Terminal and the Museum in the context of the waterfront, railroad tracks, pedestrian overpass and Union Station.

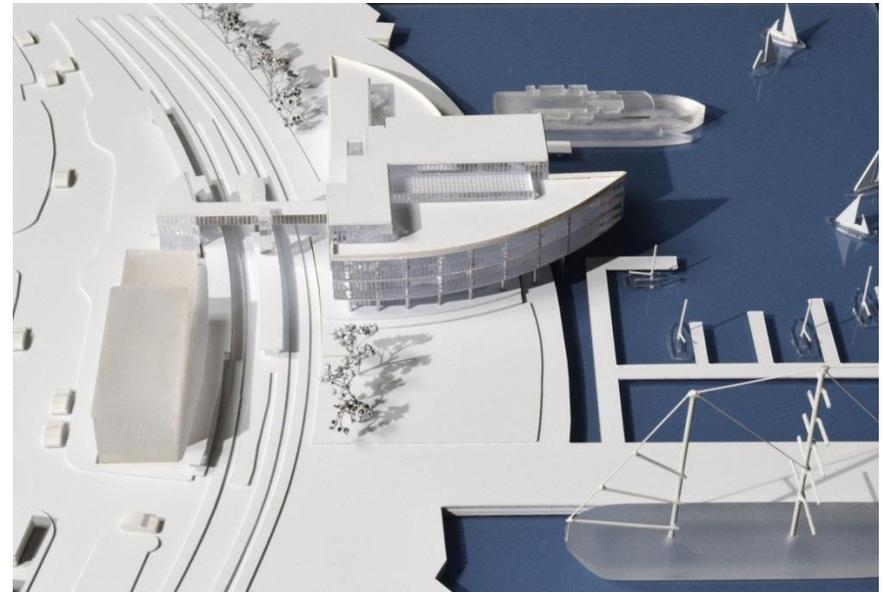


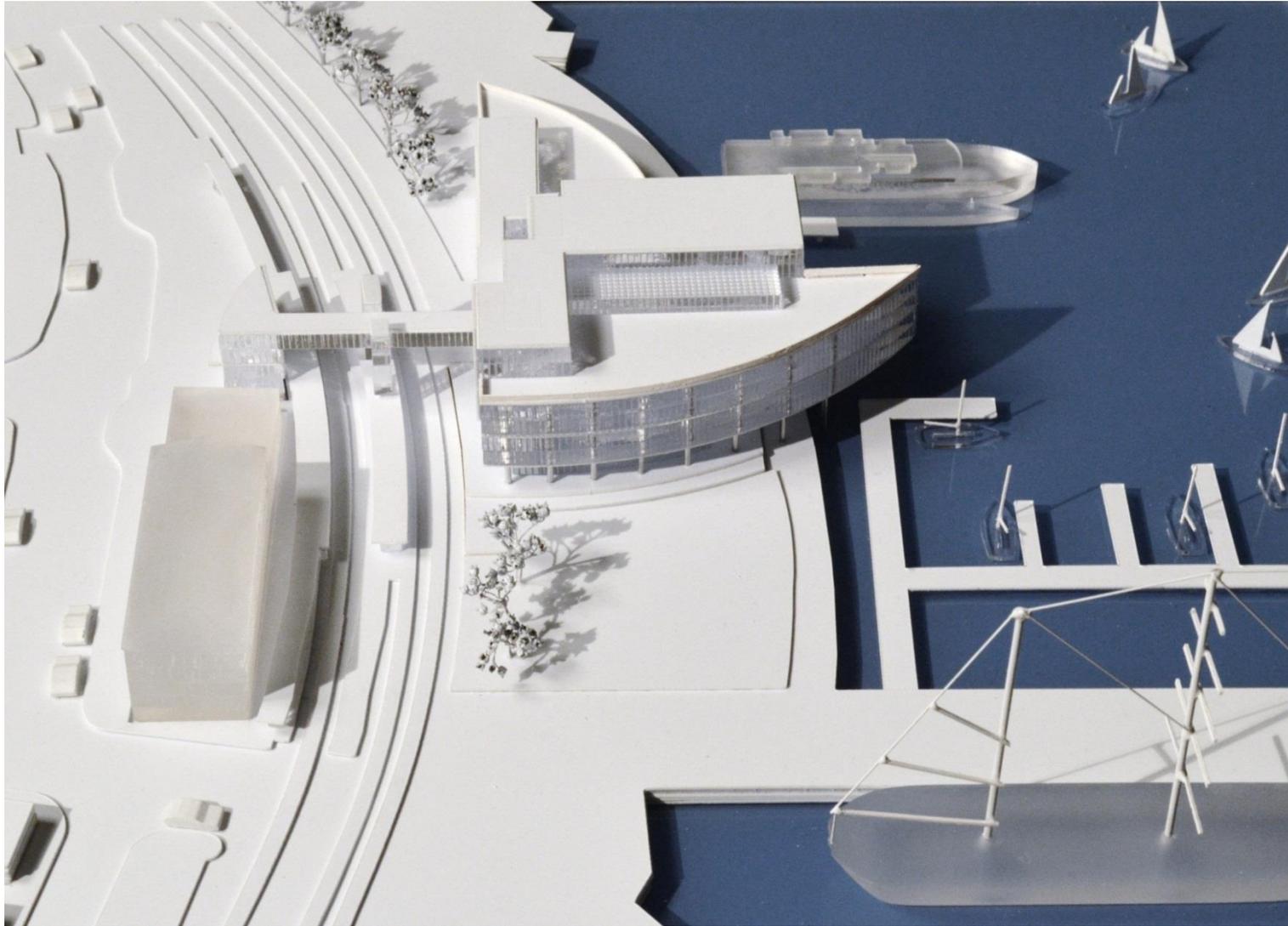
Design Strategy

While the three components of the complex are structurally independent and can be built as separate projects, there is a correspondence in the architectural design of the Coast Guard Museum, the Ferry Terminal, and the Pedestrian Overpass. The interests of all concerned with the improvement and development of the waterfront can be met through a coordinated design strategy that fulfills the functional, operational, and aesthetic potential of this important node of city. As an urban grouping, the complex establishes connections and relationships among the various active facilities in the area and incorporates them into a cohesive public space.



The complex in the context of the waterfront





National Coast Guard Museum Project

New London, Connecticut

Prepared for the National Coast Guard Museum Association by Gauchat/Santos January 2013