

KENTUCKY PROMISE

A **LIVING LAB** for Louisville | A **CATALYST** for Healthy and Thriving Urban Living

CATEGORY: CONCEPT

CONTACT

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ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

Data Collection: to understand the existing building and surrounding neighborhood; monitoring will continue post-occupancy

Business Plan: creating sustainable workspace for entrepreneurs and innovators

Architecture: renovation and update of existing building is more sustainable than leveling it; preserves history and resources

Brand: the neighborhood currently has no clear name or identity; #1 GGB park will define the identity of the district



MKThink is the IDEAS company for the built environment. We integrate expertise in Strategy, Architecture, and Innovation to achieve alignment between the built environment and human performance. We do this as an interdisciplinary team of consultants, professionals, and entrepreneurs. Our end-goal is to create healthful and high-performance places for high-performance people.

The Living Labs are a series of interactive, experimental zones that showcase the advanced building systems at work on site, as well as the relationship between the building and its surroundings. Through various interactive features, the Living Labs encourage both users and visitors of the building, #1GGB (George Garvin Brown), to more closely examine the dynamics at play between the built environment and nature. The overarching aim is to simultaneously increase interest in—and furthering understanding of—new sustainable technologies.

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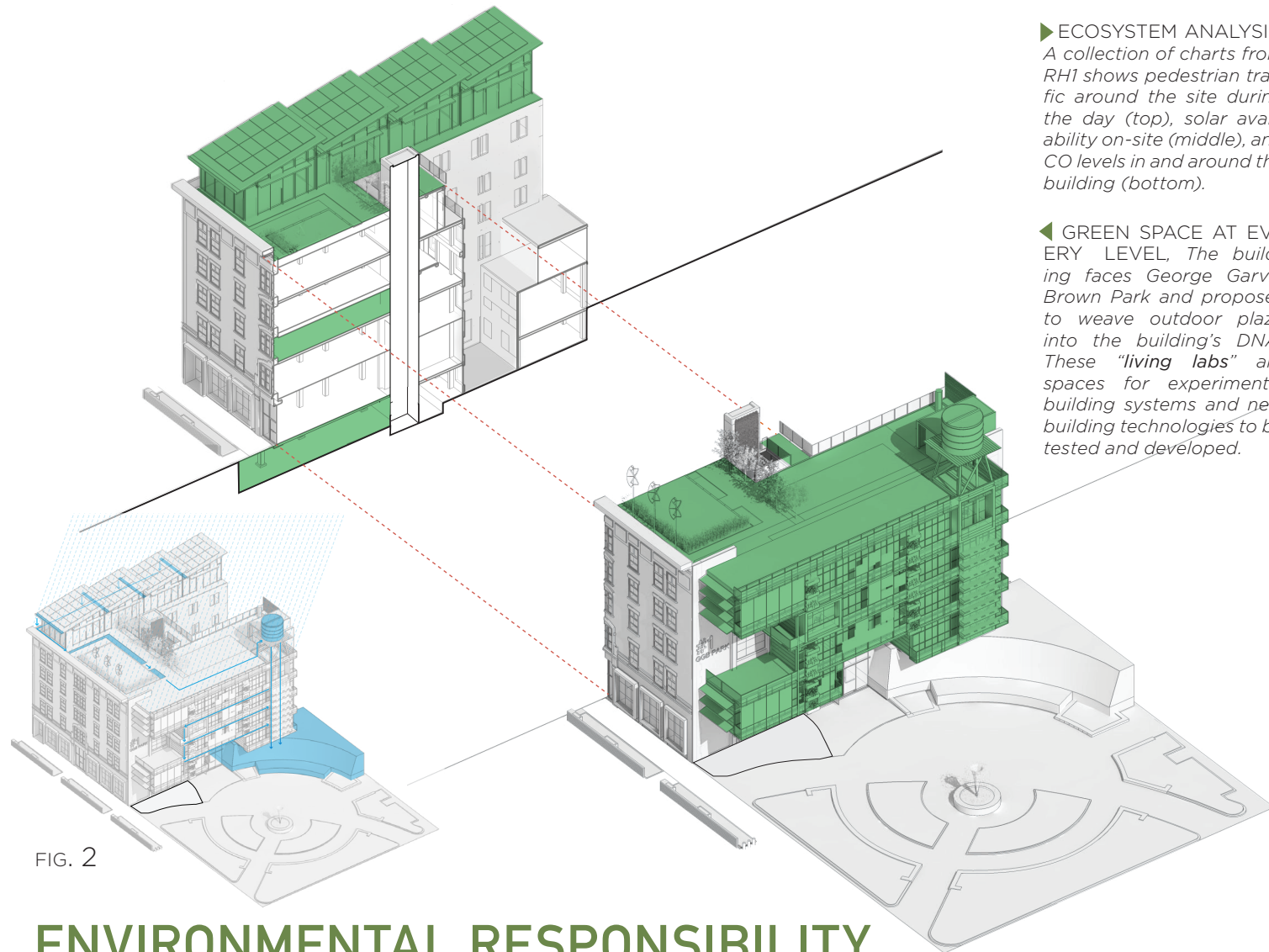


FIG. 2

ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

This project actively tests and works to improve environmental conditions. Its concept began with a focus on Water, Air, Earth, and Energy.

The MKThink team has already installed a series of sensors, monitoring environmental factors such as Air Temperature, Relative Humidity, Mean Radiant Temperature, Carbon Dioxide, Carbon Monoxide, Water Quality, Solar Radiation, Wind Speed, Average Rainfall, Wi-Fi Device Traffic, Population Demographics, and Building Assets to create a holistic picture of the capabilities of the site (fig. 1). Once the building is inhabited, this dynamic building system

will continue to test and improve its environmental conditions, and will be a core component of how the more experimental building systems are evaluated.

The proposed schematic incorporates various environmentally conscious building systems, including rainwater collection (fig. 2), responsive heating and cooling, solar panels, vegetation to provide thermal insulation, and will simultaneously teach the public about living systems and healthy buildings through a series of interactive displays and labs. As a catalyst for Louisville, it will spur renewed interest and vitality in the city center.

► **ECOSYSTEM ANALYSIS.** A collection of charts from RH1 shows pedestrian traffic around the site during the day (top), solar availability on-site (middle), and CO levels in and around the building (bottom).

◀ **GREEN SPACE AT EVERY LEVEL.** The building faces George Garvin Brown Park and proposes to weave outdoor plaza into the building's DNA. These "living labs" are spaces for experimental building systems and new building technologies to be tested and developed.

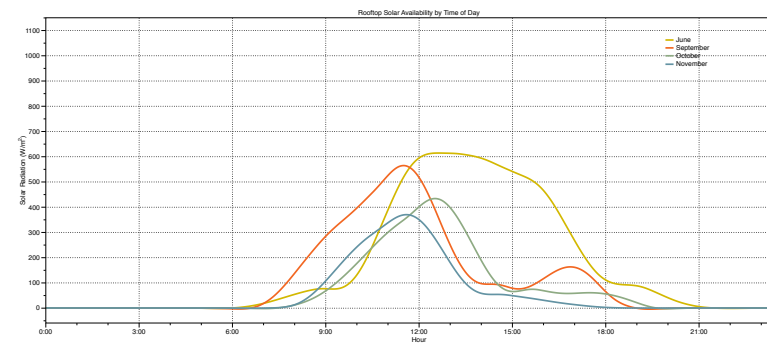
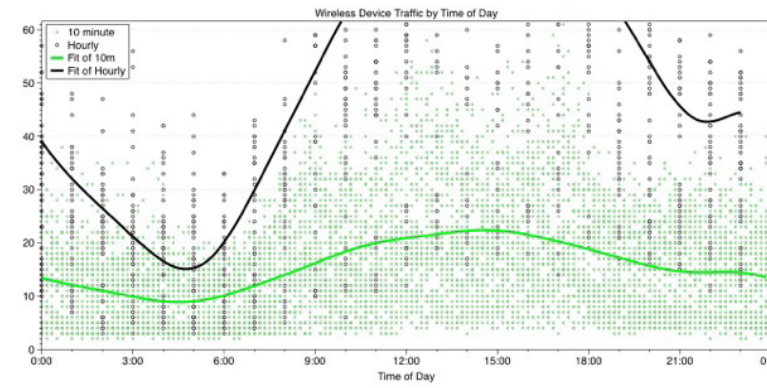
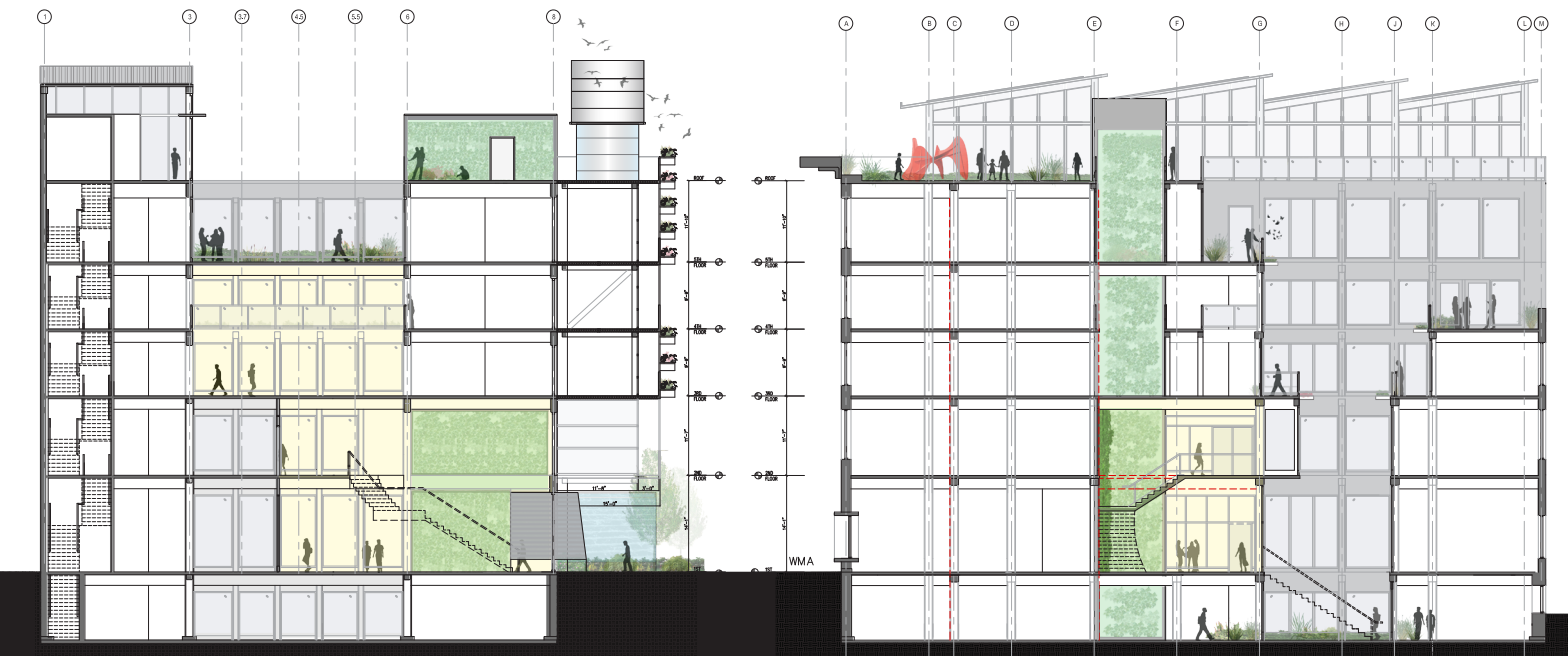
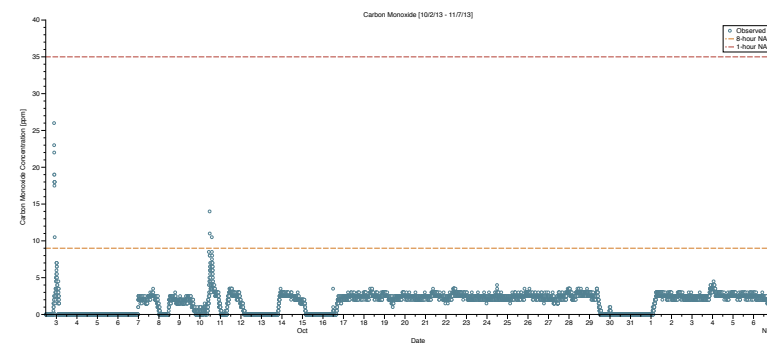


FIG. 1



WHAT IS IT?

CHALLENGE: Develop a catalyst for healthy and thriving urban revitalization in downtown Louisville beginning with the renovation of an existing—and historically significant—building.

APPROACH: RoundhouseOne (RH1, our in-house data management team) data analysis began with the existing building and extended to the surrounding city. These studies generated environmental and user pattern baselines and established key findings about the local environment and microclimate, which led to a design concept, business plan, and brand positioning.

SOLUTION: Integrating a "Living Lab" into the building program that combines collaborative work and research spaces, small grocery, and rooftop dining, to engage the community, scientists, engineers, children, and tourists in a dialogue of health.

DELIVERY

The project is still in its schematic design phase, pending review with the client during an upcoming concept review. The project has thus been delivered as a schematic design package, outlining, illustrating, and narrating how environmental data will be implemented to create a vibrant, innovative space for the people of Louisville.

▼ **CONCEPT DESIGN.** A connection to the outdoors provides an enhanced work environment. A series of terraced courtyards provide natural light and exterior space to all levels of the building.