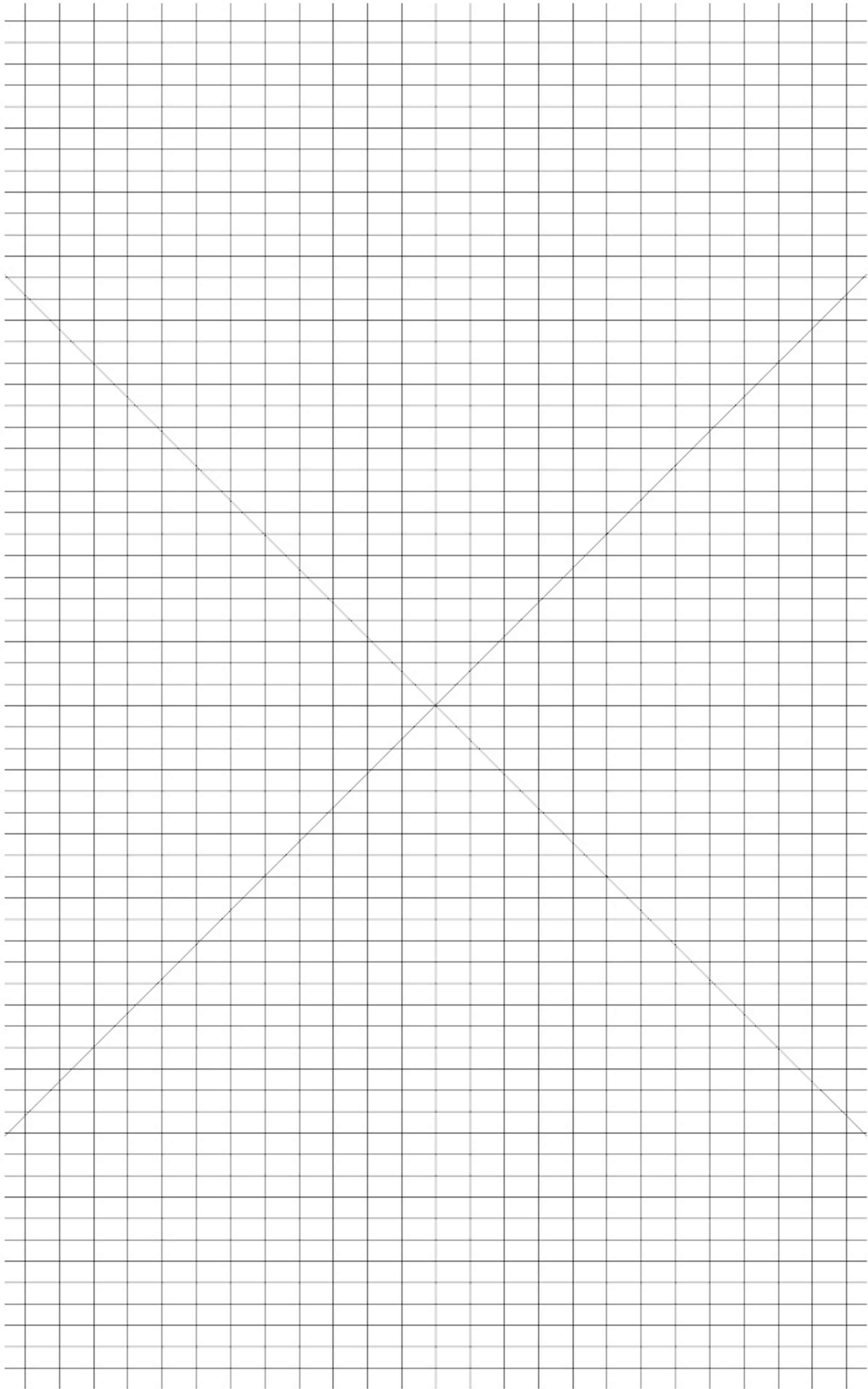
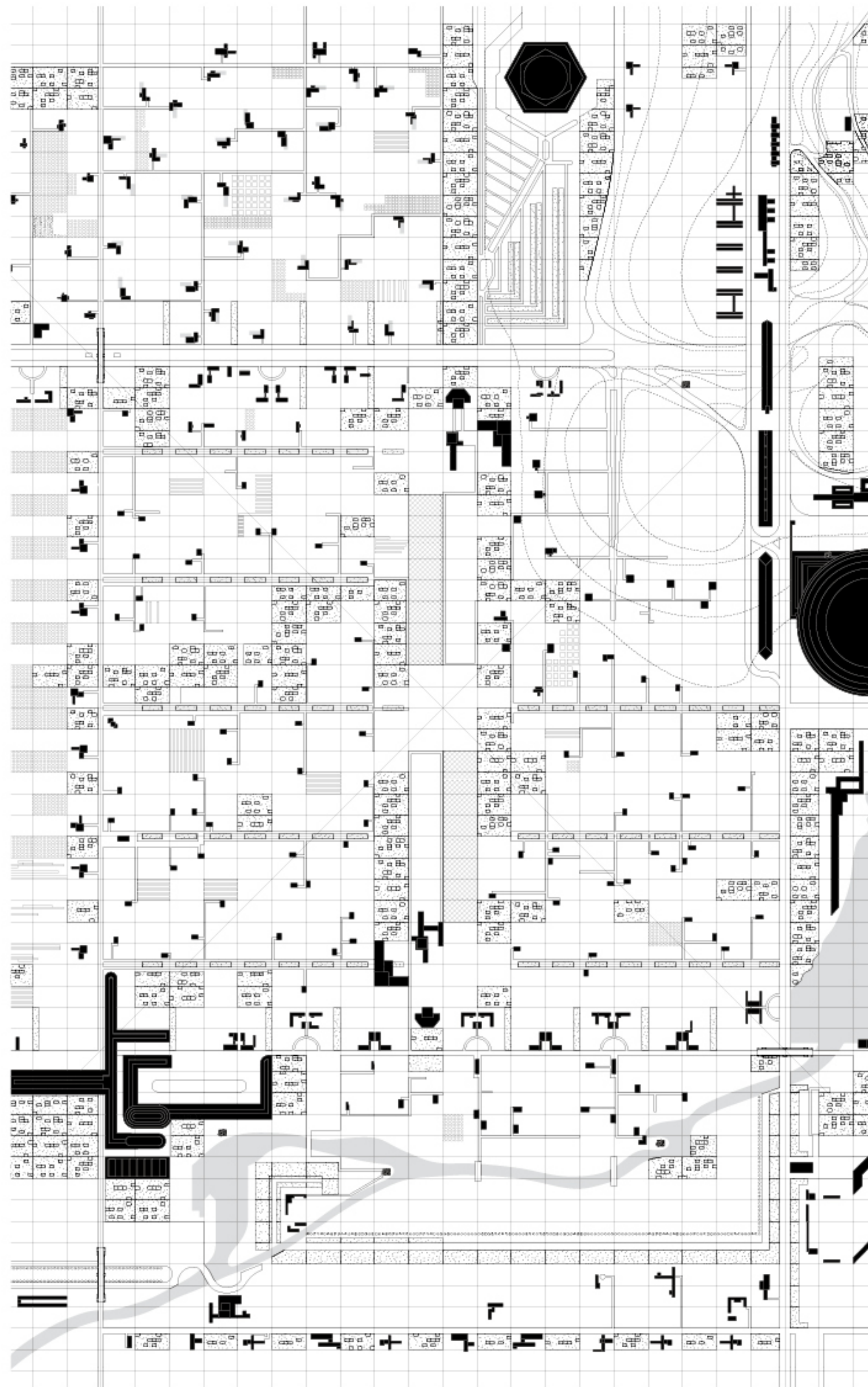


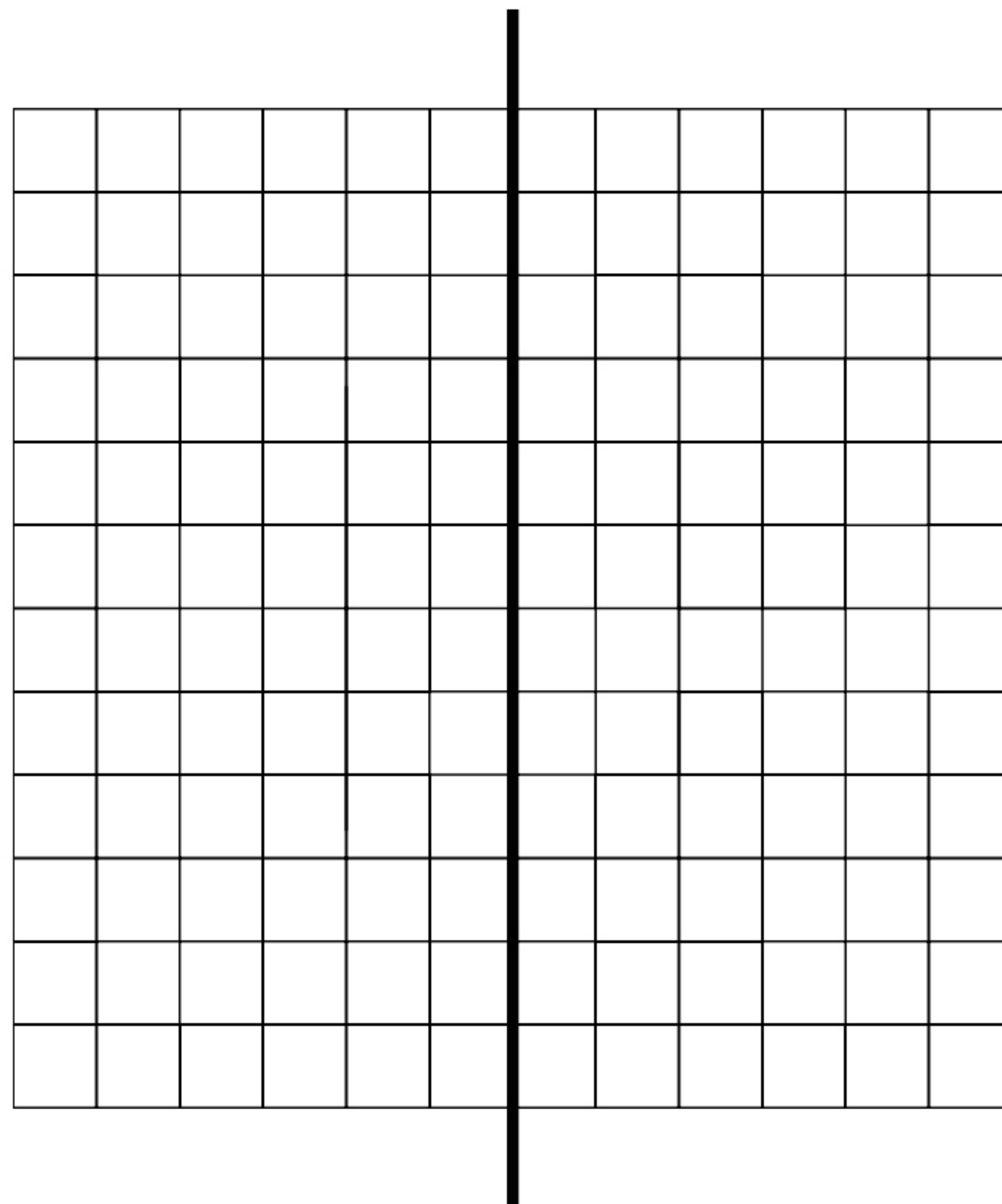




Analysis

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Form, Contingency, Agency: Introduction to Urbanism
 University of Toronto: Daniels Faculty
 Professor Roberto Damiani
 Michael Angelo DeGirolamo



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Introducing

Initial Understanding

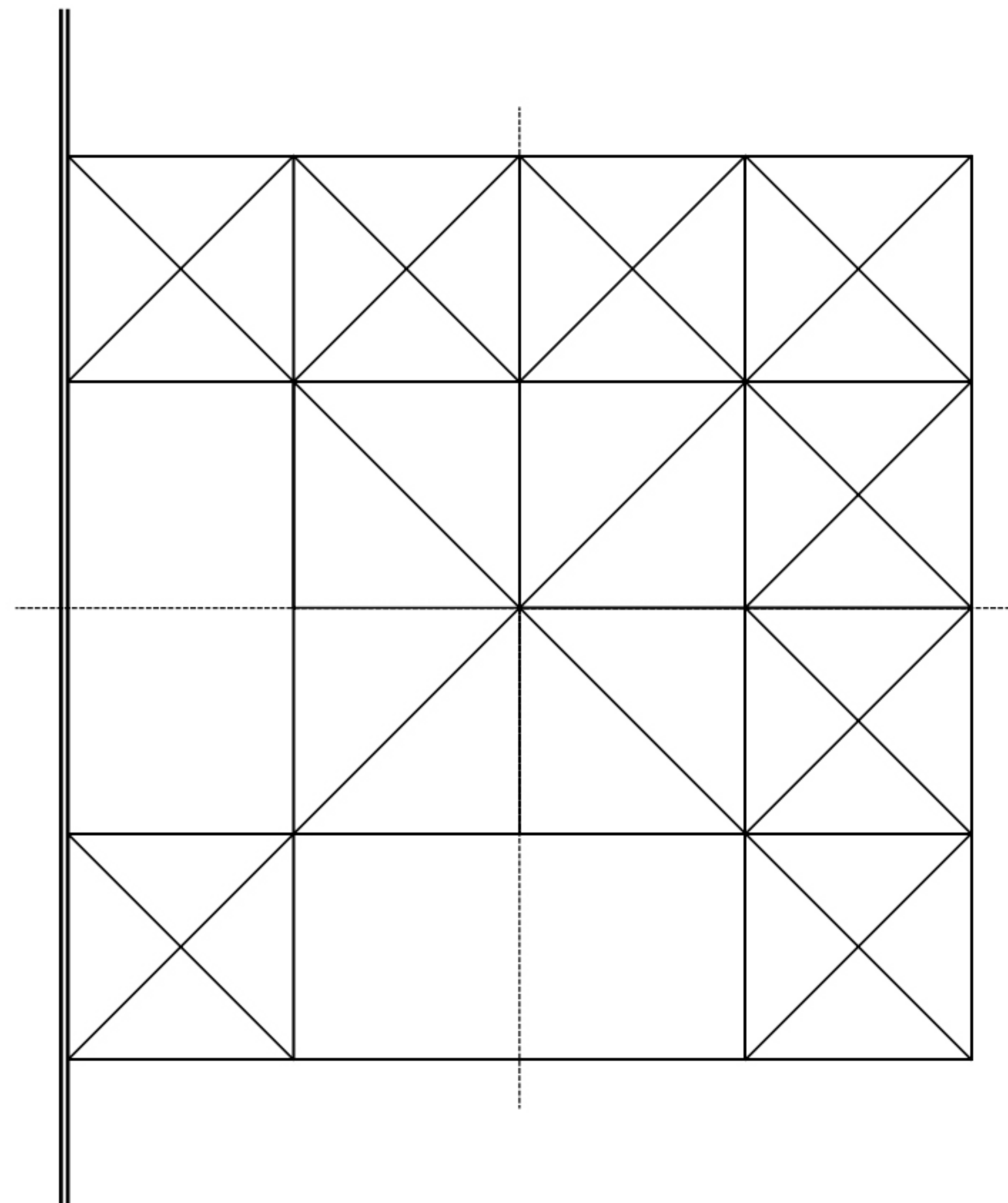
With respect to Form, Contingency, and Agency, Frank Lloyd Wright's conception of Broadacre City establishes a role in which we define the city's function today. Emerging from the great depression and war, Broadacre is a schematic structure in a society for self-sustainment, which is easily spread across any and all surfaces formalizing itself from the broadacre grid (Steffensen, 2015)(Twombly, 1972).

Basing the discourse on Wright's 1934 (12' x 12') model of Broadacre City, it provides the best and most notable 'credence' to his socio-political dialogue (Lapping, 1979). The model exemplifies the inclusivity of social and economic support surrounding Wright's vision of an agrarian standardized society where people are afforded freedom and creativity across all masses via the combination of 'manual' and 'intellectual work' as daily occurrences (Lapping, 1979) (Steffensen, 2015)(Wright, 1935).

As landscape and form, the grid "serves people... rather than being a force that rules over him" in order to enter a higher level 'atomized society' (Dehaene, 2002). Wright established the ideology of Broadacre as a way to program future development and the design of urban forms. Coming from a war-torn era during the great depression, Wright envisioned a utopian city for the 'artistic'/flexible person, with the ability to sustain while maintaining itself within the period, or introduction, of mass production, telecommunication, and the automobile, all to which he projected as being integral parts of future society (Alofsin, 2011) (Lapping, 1979)(Nelson, 1995).

The very idea of Broadacre City was not of a City itself but as a suggestive ideal or solution of providing democracy, which, for intensive purposes, creates the new distinction of Broadacres, losing the title of City (Dehaene, 2002)(Twombly, 1972).

"Democracy means just that freedom for the citizen. Monarchy was the ideal of centralization - the unit compelled to revolve around about a common centre. Democracy is the ideal of integration, many units free in themselves functioning together in freedom " (Wright, 1932).



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Understanding Wright's Vision

Grid Within The Grid

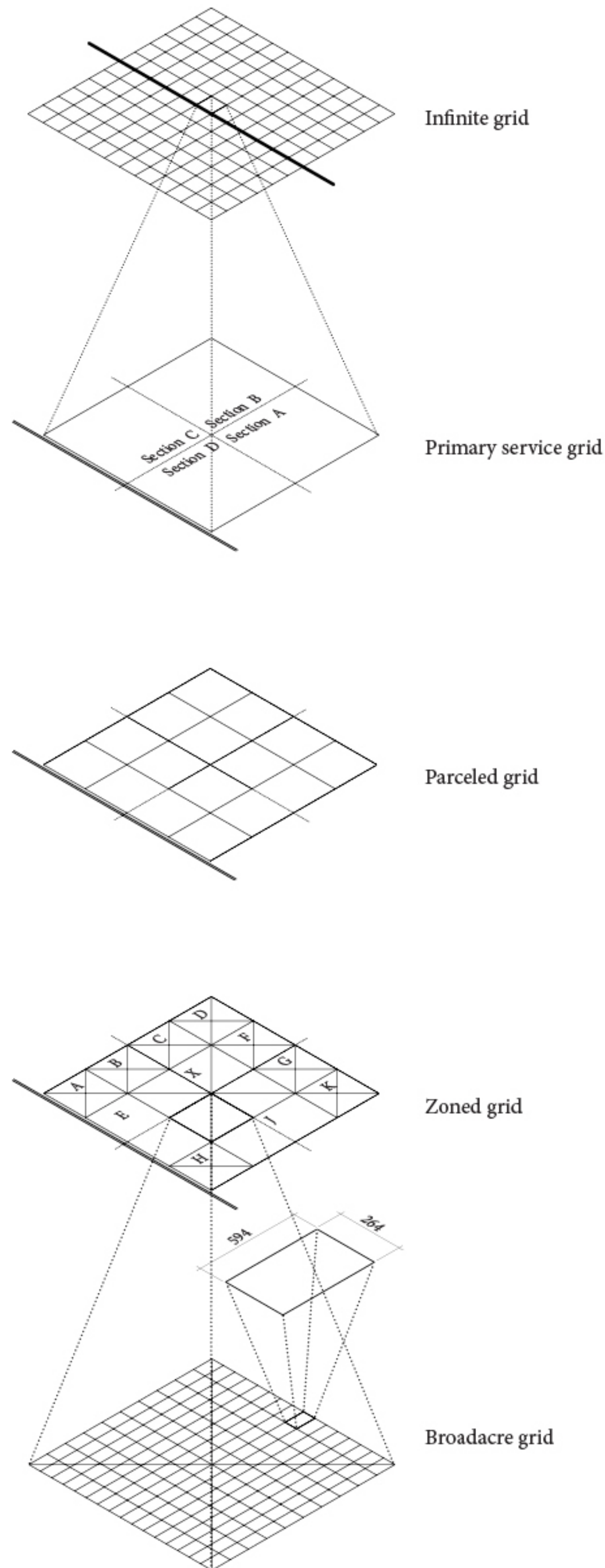
Wright saw the city as the 'individual' (the person), thus the city to him evolved not around the urban centre but around the person, which re-affirms the 'individual-freedoms' and 'self-reliance' sought by Wright (Wright, 1935). Arthur P. Nelson states that the 'individualism' critical to Broadacres stems from the "Jeffersonian ideal of rural self-reliance" that embeds its principles and programmatic nature, or physical features, on the "independence of its citizens" (1995).

In addition, the city was seen as a machine that functioned for the people as an attempt at the divine movement of living, providing "emancipatory potential, [which] this ideal would become accessible to all" creating a democratic system that's principles relied on freedom and independence (Dehaene, 2002). This independence was governed by one having their birthright tied to independence and the given right to a minimum of one-acre of land, which can be compared to the contemporary understanding of land, ownership, and occupation of space to date.

Wright's standpoint of land and ownership argued the societal conditions of 'individual proprietors' and the idea of ownership and renting. Formally, Wright suggested that land was to be distributed equally as "life of man on earth to his birthright - the ground itself" (Wright, 1935).

Three inherent rights proposed by Wright:

- "1 His social right to a direct medium of exchange in place of gold as a commodity: some form of social credit
- 2 His social right to his place on the ground as he has had it in the sun and air: land to be held only by use and improvements.
- 3 His social right to the ideas by which and for which he lives: public ownership of invention and scientific discoveries that concern the life of the people (Wright, 1935)."



The Grid As Definition of Space

Breaking Down

Infinite grid:

Ever-expandable space, creating a form that can be utilized widely across and into the landscape. Used as a form to attach itself to adjacent Broadacres and communities in the place of anywhere U.S.A.

Primary service grid:

Both, the later mentioned and the primary grid, stem from the Jeffersonian grid, which are established to create a general way of interpreting the expansion of cities and how they can be broken down. This allows cities to expand exponentially into the agrarian landscape.

Parceled grid:

The totality of the overall grid breaks down into smaller portions to provide smaller zones of inhabitants. One can see this as a hierarchy of the site, moving people, families, and workers around the site in an organized and hierarchical manner.

Zoned grid:

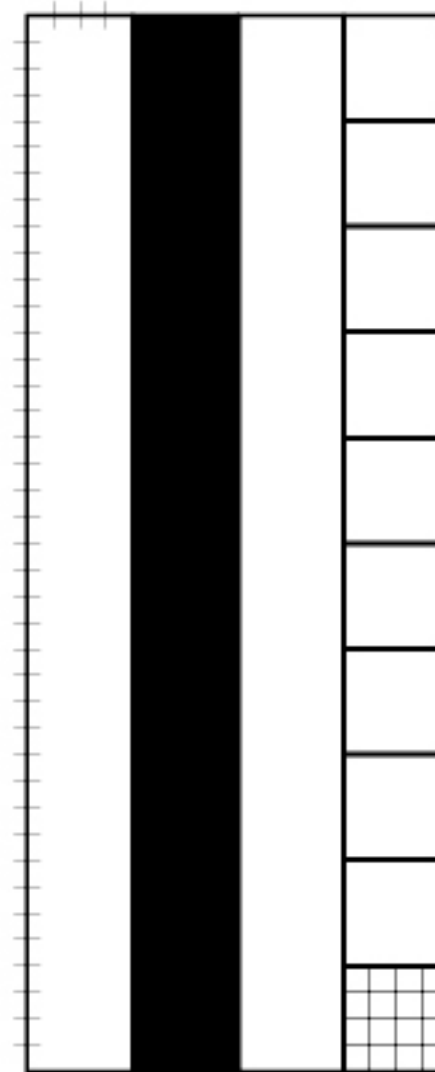
Further breakdown of provide services to the rest of the site and adjacent neighbourhoods based on specific programmatic functions as listed below.

Zoned Grid Breakdown

A: Little Farms / Industry	G: Small industry / Civic
B: Medium Houses	H: Tourists / Industry
C: Community / University	J: Market / Recreation / Farms
D: Large Houses	K: Games / Airport
E: Vineyards / Orchards	X: Minimum Houses / Schools
F: Sporting / Recreational	



1 Square rod (16'-6" x 16'-6")



4 Acres:

Composition
4 x 1 Acre
4 x 1 x (4 x 40) square rods

Note: 1 Acre can be formed in any orientation and geometry given any type of form in typical cases.



4 Broad Acres"

Composition
4 x 1 Broad Acre
4 x 1 x (10 x 16) square rods

1:4,000

Broad(Acre)

Dimension and Use

Literal definition of Broadacre per Oxford Dictionary:

Of farming practices or equipment used in or suitable for large-scale production (most commonly used within Australian English).

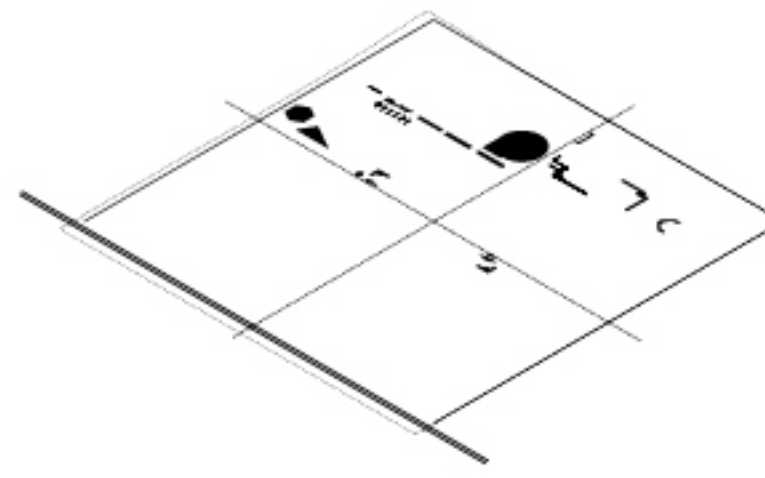
While the term defines Broadacre in its literal use of the agrarian, Wright's intent or use of the Broadacre grid responds to a deeper meaning and purpose for the landscape and occupants role as multi-purpose facilities and facilitators, in other words, providing for people to return too a highly enlightened state of thinkers and do-ers (Johnson, 1988).

In addition, Wright uses Broadacres as a way to define regions and specific functions (schools, storage facilities, housing, etc.) via amalgamation of 40 broadacre blocks as demonstrated within the previously mentioned diagram, *Zoned grid* (page 6) (Johnson, 1988). This allows the generic "formal grid-iron structure" to remain intact (Twombly, 1972). Furthermore, Anthony Alofsin states that the "design unity was achieved by the use of a geometric rationale [, the formal grid structure]" (2011). A grid was, of course, "the pattern of North American expansion from East to West," which in my opinion denotes a hidden meaning to Wright's use of broadacres as they, as well, run East-West promoting its ever expandable capacity (Johnson, 1988).

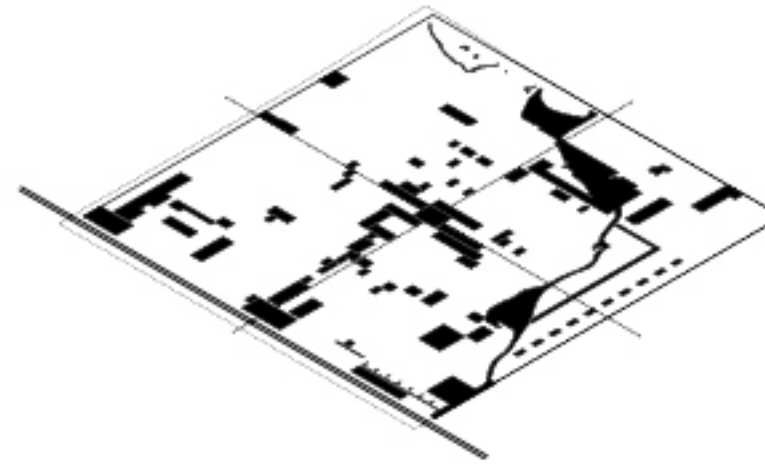
While the site uses the grid to formally arrange every region, repetition is not apart of the overall intent. Nature is depicted as to interpret reality fracturing the site via architecture (built structures, 'thoroughfares', sporting facilities, etc.) and landscape elements ('cultivations', forests, streams and water bodies, etc.) as a relationship to the necessary humanistic values for a democratic society (Twombly, 1972) (Wright, 1935).

Site Metrics

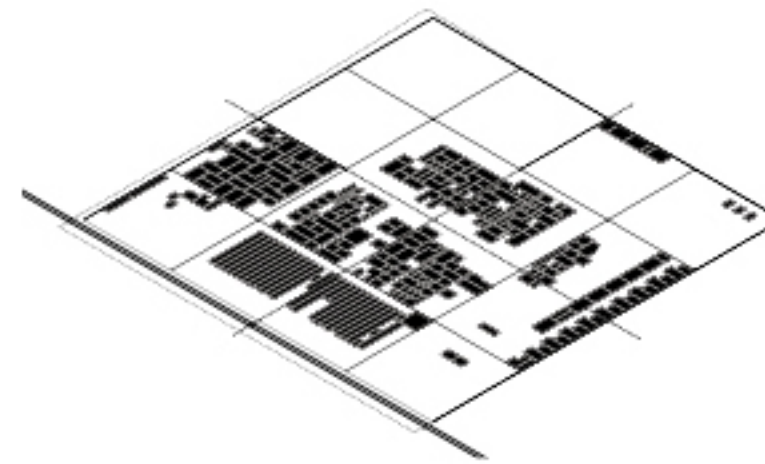
4 square miles
2560 acres
4 zones
1400 families
4200 - 5000 occupants approximately



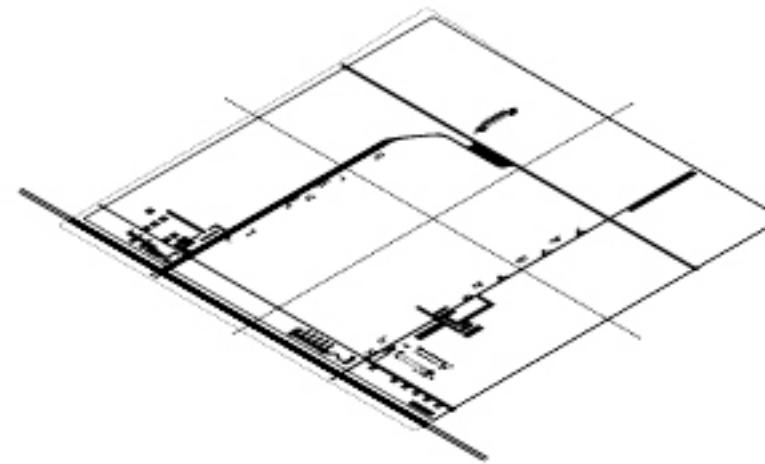
Institution \ education \ sporting



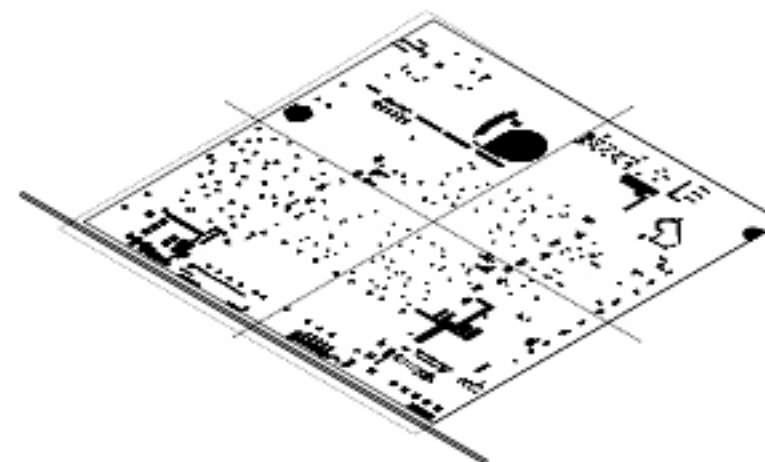
Open-space network



Agriculture



Major infrastructure



Built forms

n.t.s.

Programmatic Pieces

Underlying Form

Institution \ education \ sporting:

Found at the core of the site, schools function metaphorically as the brain/processor, expanding and generating knowledge.

Open-space network:

Green space, accessible to the general public, is located within the landscaped and flat regions. Note the connection of roads and other services.

Agriculture:

Raising the connection to goods and there exportation along the grid. Agriculture is formed around the transportation and commercial corridor found in the *Major infrastructure* diagram.

Major infrastructure:

Vehicles and pedestrians use the constant network to easily move around the site while goods and services are all connected via first or second tier systems of networks. The industrial network becomes the system that works for the users relaying all goods and services to the outlying systems in an efficient manner.

Built forms:

Built structures on site follow a scale reference, to push larger forms to the fringe/outer bounds providing a comfortable interior that houses civil-functions that greatly increase the central educational hub idea. The outer rim, as scaled buildings, acts as a bowl that dips down in the centre as protection for the occupancies held within.

In addition, while residents are allocated a minimum of one-acre, some, if not majority have varying quantities of land in varying orientations. The quantity of land and landscape can be interpreted in a hierarchal manner where the wealthier residences are located on the hill, above the pedestrian class having large plots of land that are used as buffers between them and everyone else.

* Note, some information may be overlapping within sources, specific information will be cited via the applicable source and an additional reference guide will be supplied separately.

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Figures

Page 8: 40.media.tumblr.com/5b831eb2f88183385bbc577bffa604ed/tumblr_n3nui9xgRk1rruc14o1_1280.jpg (information to create graphic take from)

