



# HERSCHLER BUILDING

REMODEL

## DESIGN GUIDELINES AND IMPERATIVES

**MOCA**

WORKING DRAFT

## GLOSSARY OF TERMS



### Acanthus (a KAN this)

Small shrubs native to the Mediterranean having pinnately lobed basal leaves with spiny margins and showy spikes of white or purplish flowers. Leaf used in Corinthian column capitals.



### Architrave (AR ka trave)

The lowest of the three main parts of an entablature. The undecorated lintel resting on the columns.



### Baluster

One of a number of short members, often circular in section, used to support a handrail or guardrail.

### Balustrade

An entire railing system (as along the edge of a balcony) including a top rail and its balusters, and a bottom rail.



### Capital

The head or crowning feature of a column or pilaster

### Column

A supporting pillar consisting of a base, cylindrical shaft and capital

### Colonnade

A number of columns arranged at intervals, supporting an entablature and usually a roof.

### Corinthian Order

The most ornate of the five Classical Orders, characterized by a slender column having an ornate, bell shaped capital decorated with acanthus leaves.



### Dentil

A small rectangular block used in a series forming a molding under a cornice



### Entablature

The upper part of an order consisting of architrave, frieze and cornice



### Entasis (en TAY sis)

The very slight convex curve used by Greek and later columns to correct the optical illusion of concavity which would result if the sides were straight.

### Frieze

The plain or decorated horizontal part of an entablature between the cornice and the architrave.



### Pediment (PED a ment)

In classical architecture, a low pitched gable above a portico., formed by running the top member of an entablature along the sides of a gable



### Peristyle

A series of columns surrounding a building or enclosing a court.

### Pilaster

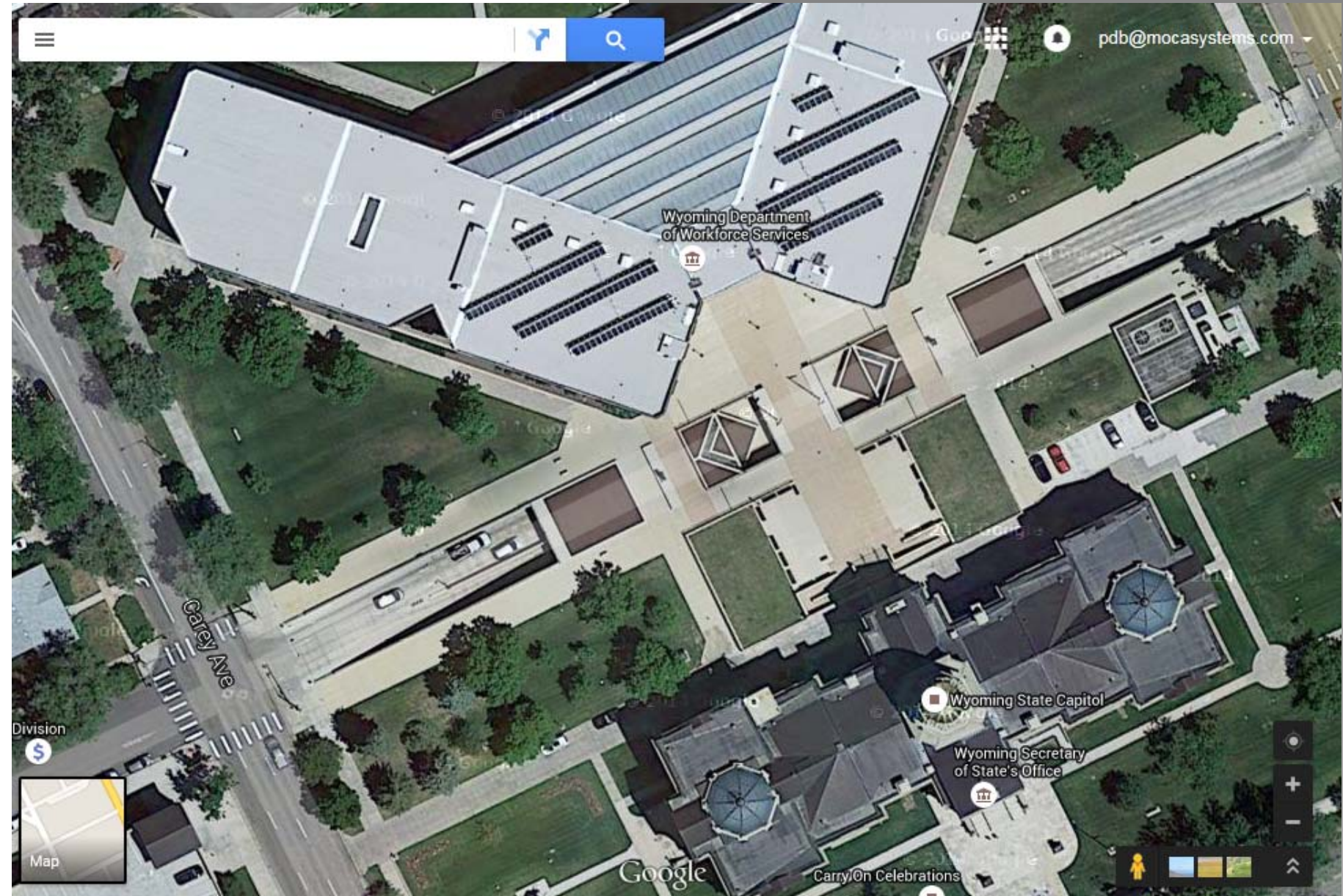
A shallow rectangular column projecting only slightly from a wall and conforming to one of the orders.



## THE HERSCHLER BUILDING IS A GREAT ASSET TO THE CAPITOL BUILDING

- Underground Parking in close proximity to the Capitol.
- Direct vehicle circulation from signaled intersections
- Large below grade connection to the Capitol
- Respect of Randall Avenue Axis
- Symmetry of Plan
- Symmetry of Elevation
- Axial relationship with the North Entry to the Capitol
- Long elevations of the building are oblique to the Capitol .
- Diminishing perspective from the Capitol North Elevation.
- Preserved large areas of green space from which to view the Capitol.
- Provides opportunities for supporting agencies to be near the Capitol.
- Two office wings
- Existing raft slab
- Functional square footage below grade— existing
- Elevator/Toilet Room cores located at center of each building

*Design Guideline:  
Maximize the existing investment in the  
Herschler Building by using existing assets*





## THE CAPITOL IS THE MOST SIGNIFICANT BUILDING

The State Capitol is the most significant building on the Capitol Campus. All other built elements surrounding the Capitol should support this hierarchy. Care must be taken to reinforce this dominance and strengthen the Capitol's presence.

### BUILDING HEIGHT

The Capitol Dome extends above the interior Rotunda and its height extends well above the enclosed volume of this space. This element was given height well beyond the functional need to mark a place of importance in the Capital City. It is the most prominent building element in all of Cheyenne and is visible wherever unobstructed vistas exist in the general direction of the Capitol Building.. It conveys a clear message about the function of building by following the form established for the nation's Capitol.

### ORDERS OF ARCHITECTURE

The Corinthian Order has been used for the exterior colonnade elements. This order is the most ornate and complex of the pure classical orders of architecture.

### PEDIMENTS

Pediments have been used to designate building entry points and significant spaces within the building such as the House, Senate and Supreme Court Chambers.

#### *.Guideline:*

*All other elements or buildings constructed on the Capitol Campus should be subordinate to the State Capitol Building.*



Corinthian Order for columns and proportions





## SYMMETRY IN CLASSICAL DESIGN

Classical design symmetry has roots in the symmetry of the human form as a standard of perfection in proportion and harmony. The body also created units of measure and proportions for columns and other building details.

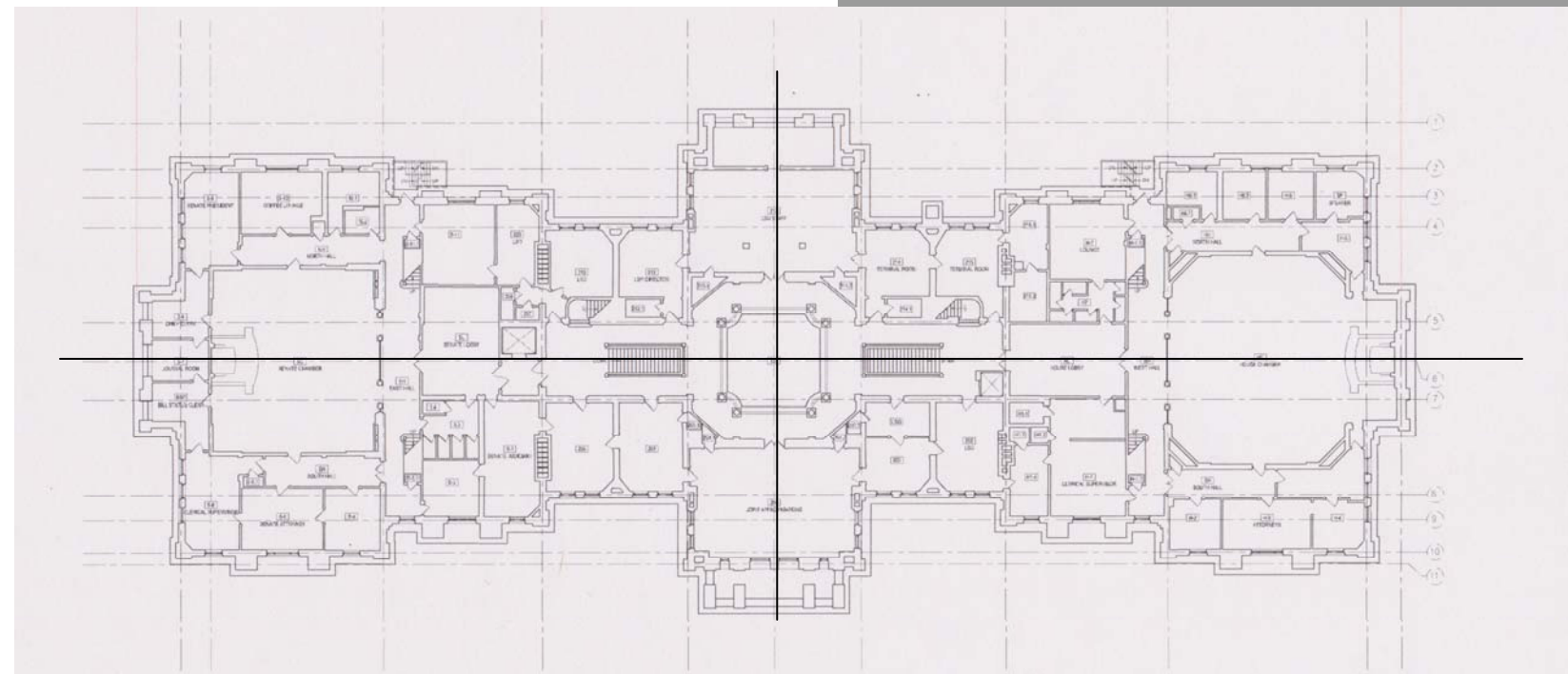
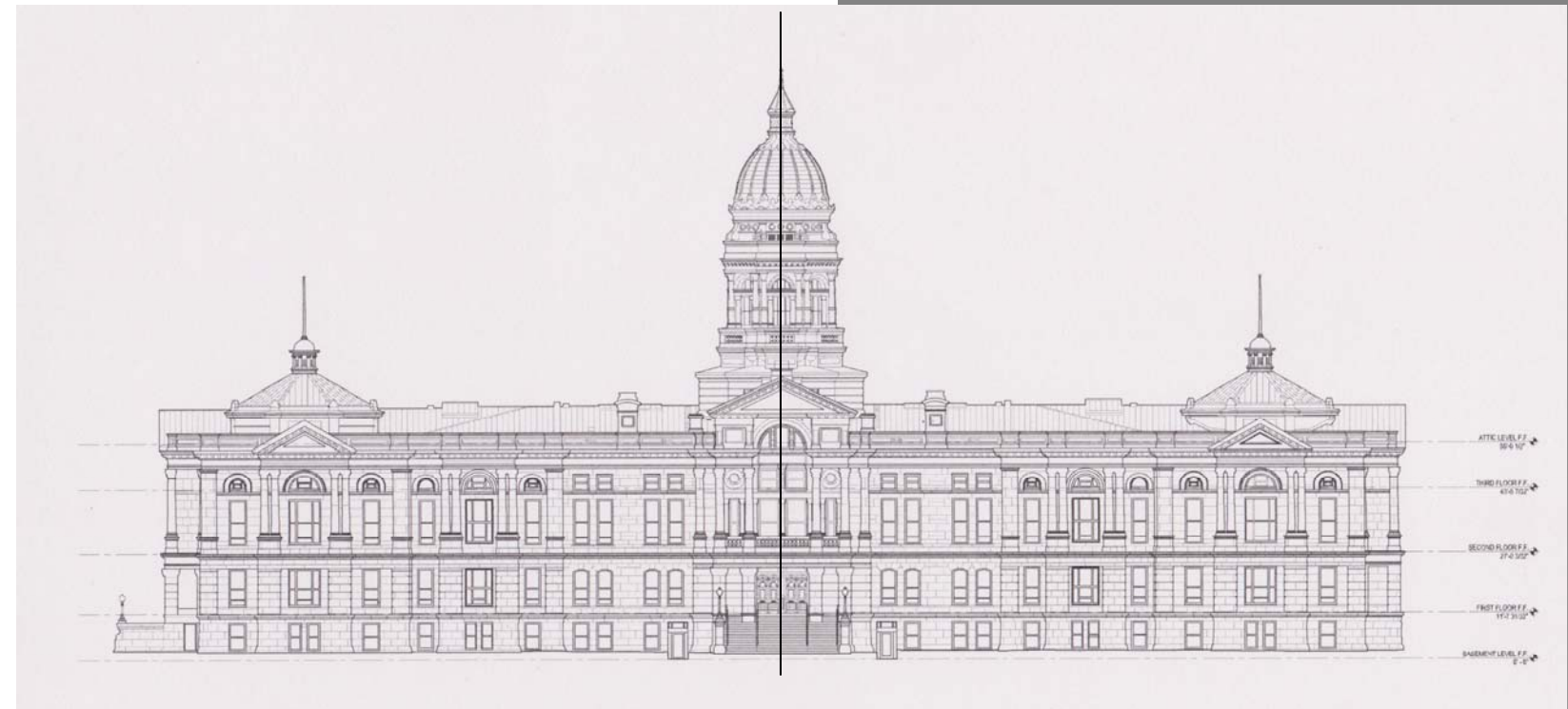
Most classical temples and buildings were designed with strict rules governing the symmetry of plan layout and room proportions.

## SYMMETRY OF PLAN IN THE CAPITOL

Evidence of this rigid discipline is clear in both the Gibb's and Dubois' designs for the Capitol Building in Wyoming. These architects designed the building using many Classical concepts of symmetry and order borrowed from Greek and Roman Architects. The work of Vitruvius, Vignola, Palladio and others in documenting Classical buildings provided a reference library for designers of Gibbs' time.

Considerable effort was made to organize the functional needs of the Capitol within the rigid symmetry of the exterior and interior volumes of the building.

**.Guideline:**  
*Symmetry should be used as a planning tool for organization of new buildings. Some variation for function is possible within the constraints of Classical design concepts.*



Plan Symmetry is evident in early floor plans and building elevations

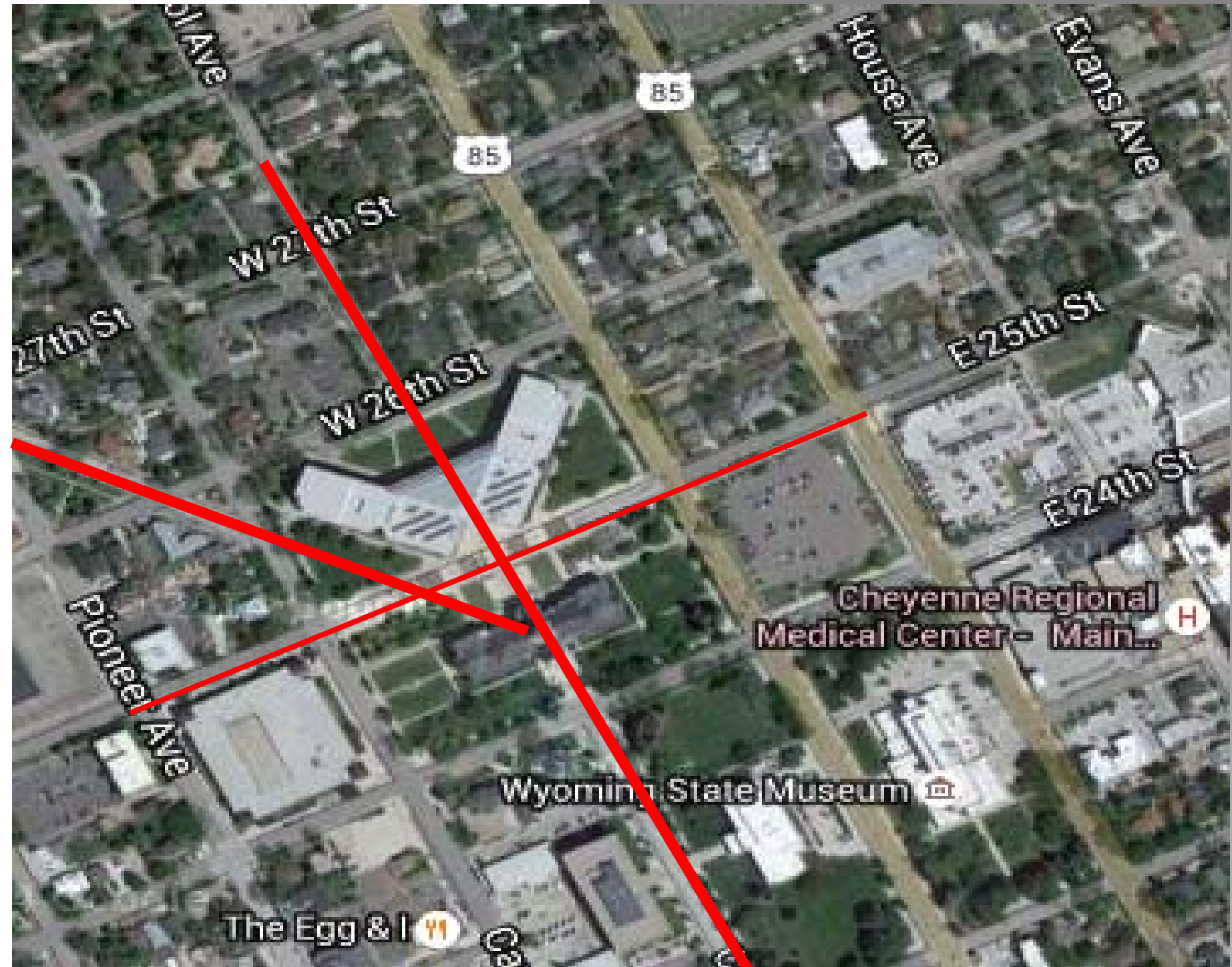
### THE AXIS SYSTEM OF THE CAPITOL

The grand entries and rotunda are placed at the center line of Capitol Avenue establishing a prominent north –south axis for the Capital City. This main axis terminates on the South with the Depot and has been obscured to the North by the construction of the Herschler Atrium. It is important to note that the office and core elements of the building are placed on either side of this axis to Capitol Avenue to the North.

A secondary axis within the city along Randall Avenue was carefully respected by the configuration of the Herschler Building.

The visual and pedestrian axis formed by E 25th Street is also important to the Capitol Complex. This area now forms a plaza between the Capitol and the Herschler Building that is very important connection between the two buildings. A minor axis at mid-block is supported on the west by the West Portico.

*Design Guideline:  
Important axial relationships between the Capitol and surrounding site and City of Cheyenne should be respected and restored.*





## CAPITOL INTERPRETIVE CENTER

Many elements relative to the history of Wyoming and the importance of the Capitol Building are placed throughout the building. An Exhibit Hall and Interpretive Center should be created to educate all visitors about the importance of State Government and the great history of the State of the Wyoming Capitol.

This Exhibit space should complement the State Museum located nearby. Visitors to the Capitol should be encouraged to attend the Museum as part of their visit. The exhibits at the Capitol should be more narrow in focus and not compete with the State Museum.

The Capitol Building should be reserved for the most significant messages about statehood and state government function. Care should be taken not to create excessive exhibits or interpretive messages within or attached to historic architectural materials in the Capitol building.

The below grade Capitol Extension and the garden Level of the Herschler offer ideal locations for these elements.

*Design Guideline:  
Museum space and Visitor Services should be located on the lower level of the Herschler building,*



Exhibits located in Capitol Extension and Herschler Exhibit Hall adjacent to Conference Center.



### VISITOR SERVICES

The Capitol is visited by nearly 53,000 people annually including attendance at public events, rallies, tourists, and those who come to actively participate in State Government.

School groups compose a large number of these visitors. Educational tours are provided by a State guide. Accommodating these large groups of children provides some logistical challenges. Organizing students into groups and storing coats and box lunches for these groups is difficult in the present configuration.

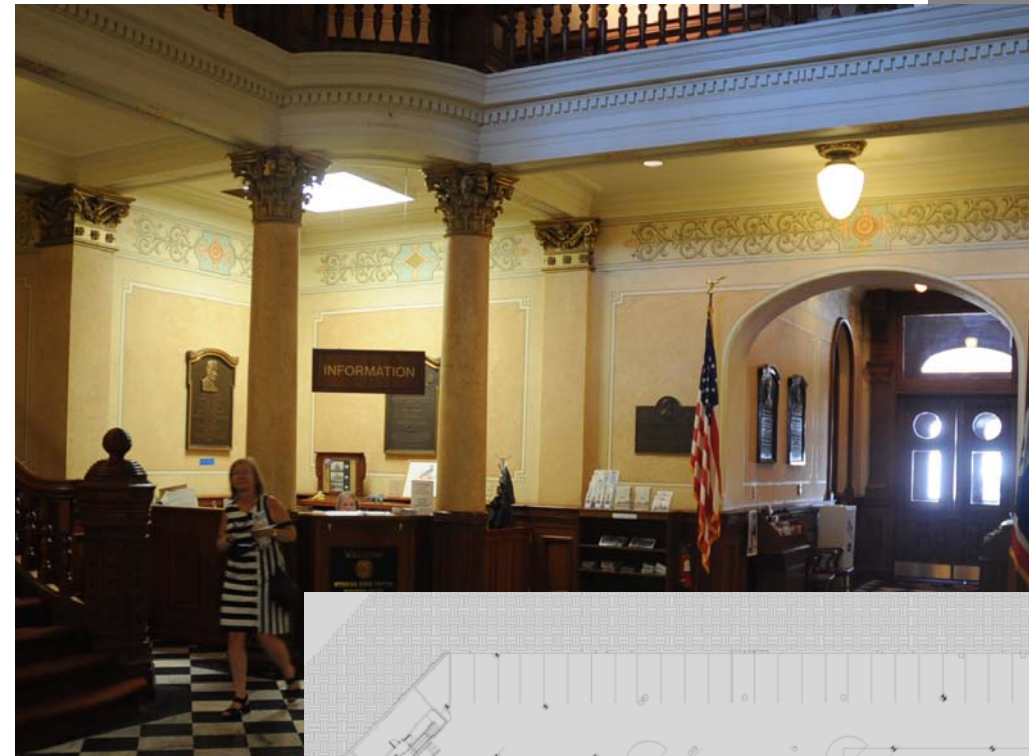
The current location of the Welcome Desk serves to greet groups but the area is small and does not accommodate large groups arriving for tours. Other functions that are complimentary to the Welcome Desk such as Gift Shop, cloak room, storage and tour organizing spaces are not possible in the limited space around the current desk.

Building accessibility for disabled visitors is also extremely difficult.

The Visitor Center should be located in Herschler Garden Level of the Complex.

### *Design Guideline:*

*Visitors to the Capitol should have ready access to information and guided tours. School groups should be accommodated and provisions made for gathering and storing essential items and materials to serve these large groups.. This function should be in Lower level of the Herschler Building.*





## SUSTAINABLE DESIGN

Wyoming is blessed with abundant energy resources. Wind and abundant solar energy are among these resources. Building energy efficiency is cost effective and saves the taxpayers money.

Many of the investments in energy efficient building systems and envelope design pay back first cost dollars in a very short period of time in energy saving.

The new central plant equipment should be selected to maximize energy efficiency.

The building envelope on the Herschler Building should be designed to maximize day lighting and conserve energy in the heating and cooling cycles of daily and yearly occupancy.

***Design Guideline: Upgrades to the Herschler Building Envelope and Building Systems should integrate sustainable design concepts and the design should investigate renewable energy generation***

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## PRIMARY VISTAS TO THE CAPITOL

Four primary vistas were planned to the State Capitol on axis with avenues in Cheyenne. From the South to the North along Capitol Avenue from the Depot to the South steps of the Capitol. From the North looking South to the North steps and entry to the Capitol. This vista is currently blocked by the Herschler Atrium. A diagonal axis toward the Capitol down Randall Avenue to the Rotunda and North Steps. This vista and axis was carefully preserved by the design of the Herschler Building. A proposed diagonal Avenue opposite Randall Avenue was never constructed.

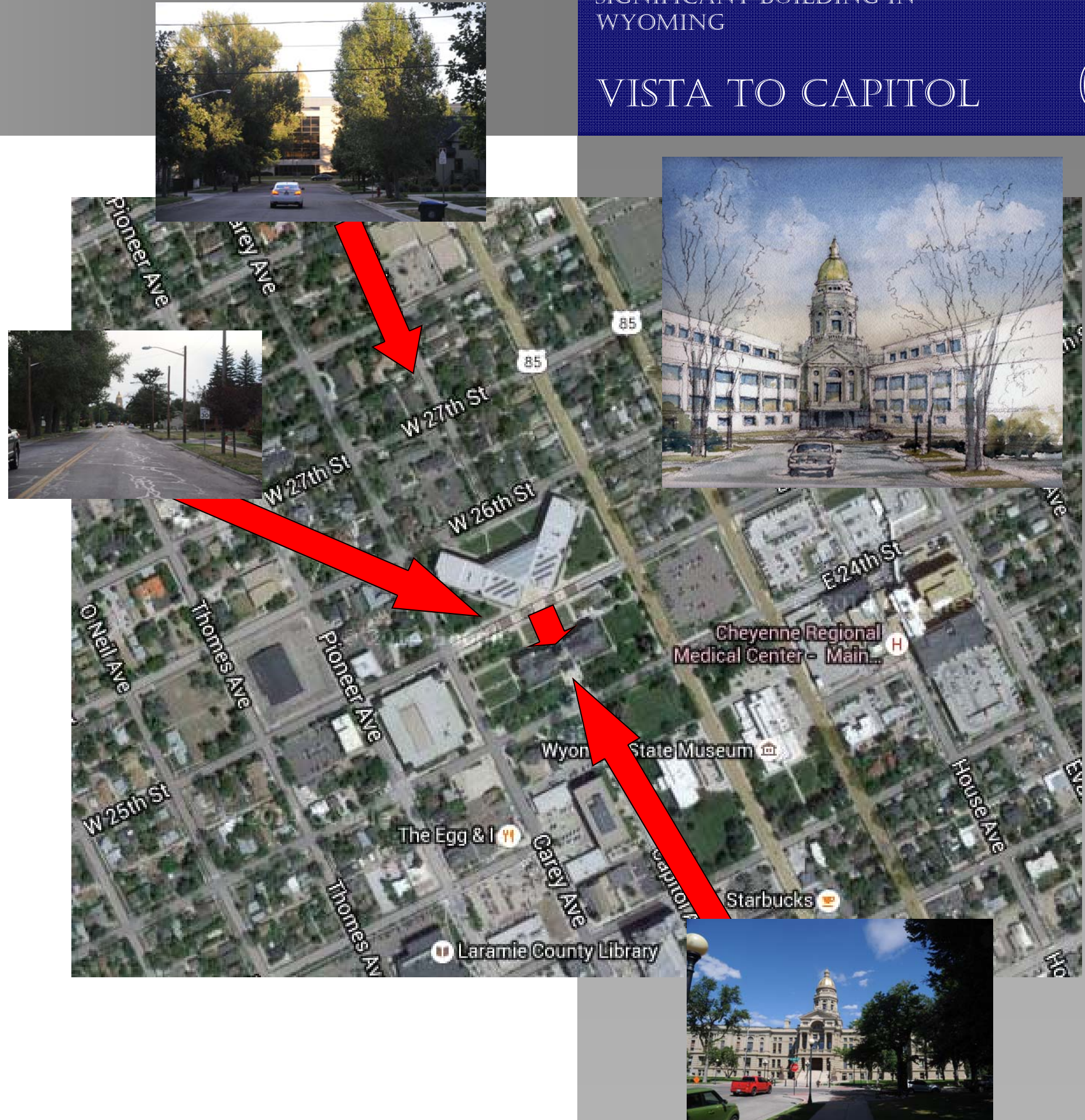
Vistas to the West steps occurred at mid-block and were not as important as other citywide vistas. Vistas to the East Façade (no planned entry) also occurred at midblock and is not as significant as the South and North vistas.

## VISTA TO CAPITOL FROM HERSCHLER

The vista from inside the Herschler Atrium is obstructed by the bridge elements connecting the East and West Wings of the building. The major façade that is closest to the Capitol is a large windowless expanse of limestone.

### *Design Guideline:*

*Vistas to the Capitol from the Herschler Building should be strengthened and reinforced. Capitol Avenue vista to the North Façade of the Capitol should be investigated.*





## CAPITOL BUILDING EFFICIENCY

The Capitol Building is designed with grand gathering and public circulation spaces. The Rotunda, Grand Stairs and Grand Corridors were designed to convey the great values held by the State of Wyoming.

Public hearing rooms and gathering spaces have only increased the need of this public circulation space.

Office spaces within the Capitol were never intended to function as modern efficient office systems. Adaptations over time have led to circulation within office suited that often passes through another room or links unconnected functions necessary but unusual configurations.

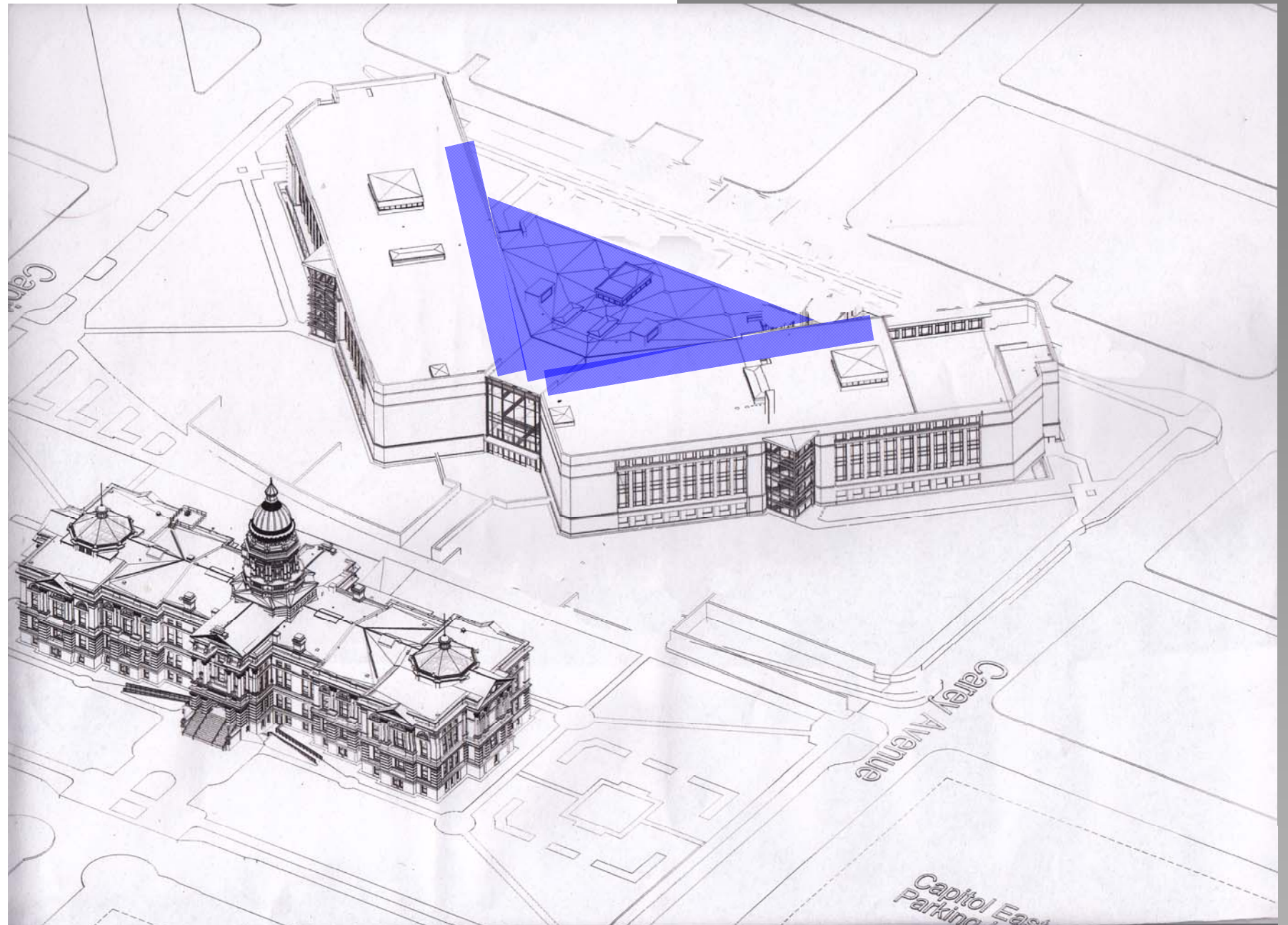
The conditions existing in the Capitol make it difficult to compare current space utilization within the Capitol with space utilization and circulation needs of modern office design.

## EFFICIENCY OF SPACE IN THE HERSCHLER BUILDING

The Herschler Building does not currently function as an efficient office building. The distance from building entry points to core circulation requires much more horizontal circulation than typical. The existing atrium does not function as originally designed in creates a large liability to efficiency. Vistas to the Capitol from the Atrium are very limited and do not form an effective connection to the Capitol.

*Design Guideline:*

*The Herschler should function as a very efficient office building. (80% +/-).*





## SCALE WITH CAPITOL

Building form, the relationship of solid surfaces to void elements, variation in horizontal projections, height, light and shadow, and many other building attributes contribute to the perceived human scale of a building or space.

Classical architectural design is organized around the concept of the relationship of building elements to the human form. The Capitol Building is scaled to monumental in stature but is broken into human scale [proportions by deep set porticoes, a variety of progressive stone coursing, window placements, textures of materials, colonnades, pediments, and many other building elements. The result is a wonderful play of light and shadow, solid and void, vertical and horizontal and a variety of interesting forms.

The exterior of the Herschler Building by contrast lacks the elements that relate to human form and vast expanses of planar stone and precast concrete stand in sharp contrast to the careful articulation of building elements on the façade of the Capitol.

### *Design Guideline:*

*The failing envelope of the Herschler Building should be replaced with a combination of building elements that relate to the scale of the Capitol. Large planar expanses of stone should be replaced with façade elements that relate to the Capitol.*



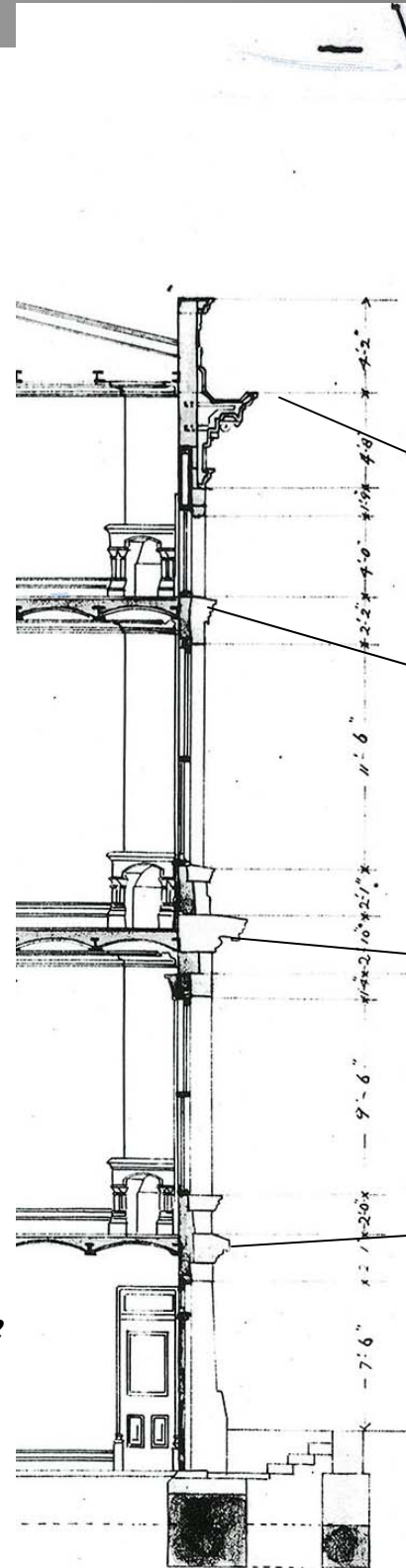


## HORIZONTAL STRING COURSE AND ENTABLATURE

The horizontal protruding courses of stone and the metal entablature that rest atop the columns define the floor lines for the stories in the building. They also create shadow lines of various strength throughout the day.

These nearly continuous horizontal courses provide starting and stopping lines for the various and carefully planned horizontal layering element of the building. The heavily rusticated and battered lower level acts as a base upon which the building rests. This horizontal layer represents the Basement or Garden Level. Level One is defined by a mixture of rusticated stone and large blocks of cut stone with artificially enlarged horizontal joints to emphasize the scale and weight of these stones. This is the layer of the Entrance and the heavy columns that create the Porticos at the South West and North are decorated with heavy Corinthian like capitols. The Second and Third floors are united with colonnade elements and pilasters that span both floors. Minor string courses fit between the large pilasters to define the location of the Third Floor. This expression is very intentional to express the two story chambers on three sides of the building.

***Design Guideline:***  
***Horizontal organization of the Capitol Façade should inform the design of facades of buildings adjacent to the Capitol.***





### EXISTING CORE LOCATION-HERSCHLER

Existing elevator and restroom core elements are located at about the center of each wing in the existing configuration of the Herschler Building.

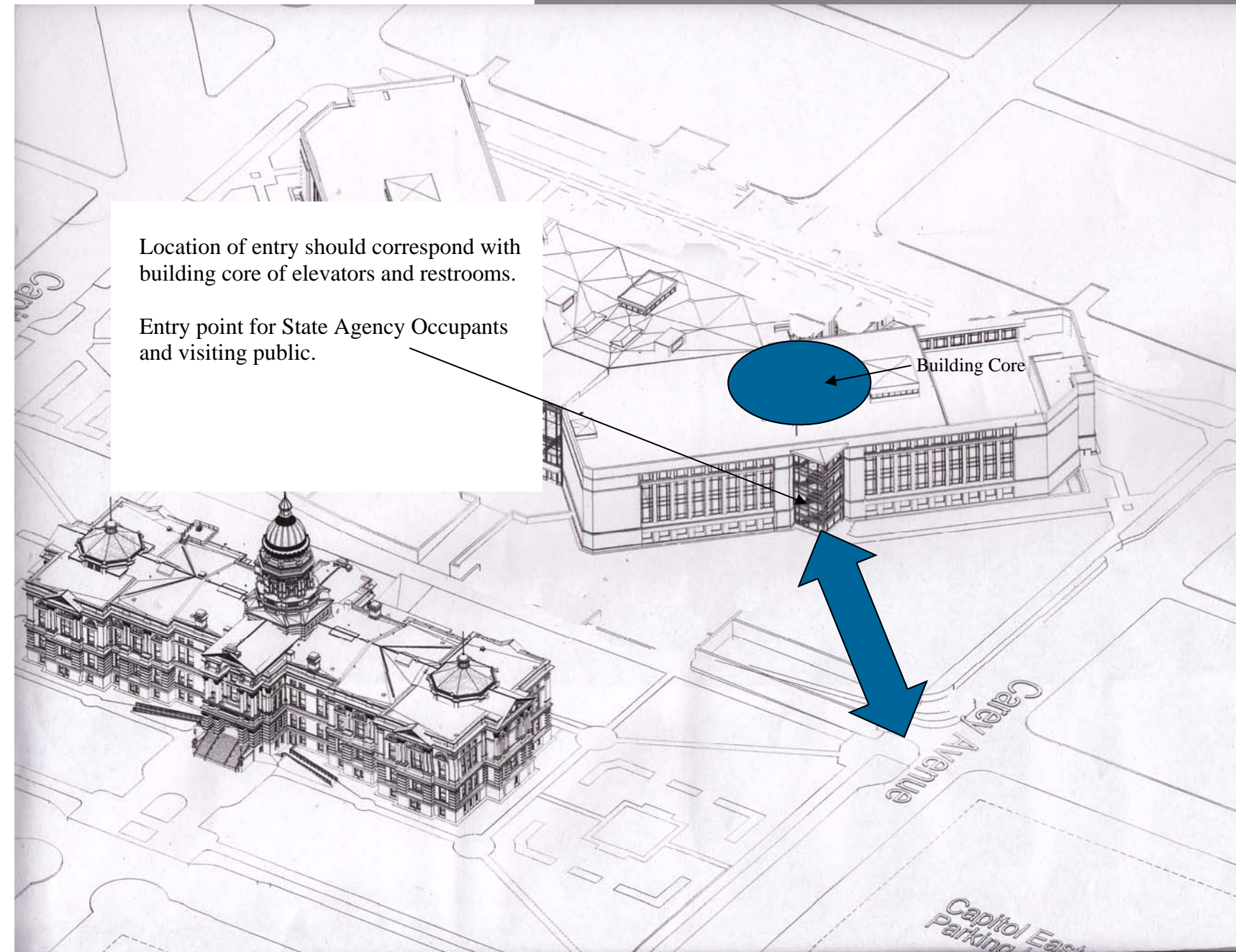
Typical efficient office building layout would place building entry and lobby space in close proximity to this core. The central location works well for internal circulation and minimizes travel distance for all occupants to elevators and restrooms.

In addition to these core elements, mechanical equipment is also located near the center of the building for efficient distribution of ducts and other services.

The Herschler wings are configured to create this efficiency however location of building entrances does not support this efficient model.

Building entrance locations should be adjusted to provide clear and efficient circulation paths.

***Design Guideline:***  
***Core location in the existing Herschler Building should not be changed. Building entrances should be located near the core to provide efficient circulation and minimize corri-***





### ADDITIONAL CORE LOCATION

Existing elevator and restroom core elements are located at about the center of each wing in the existing configuration of the Herschler Building.

New core elements should be located convenient to the location of the Executive functions that house the offices that support the State Elected Officials and the Legislature.

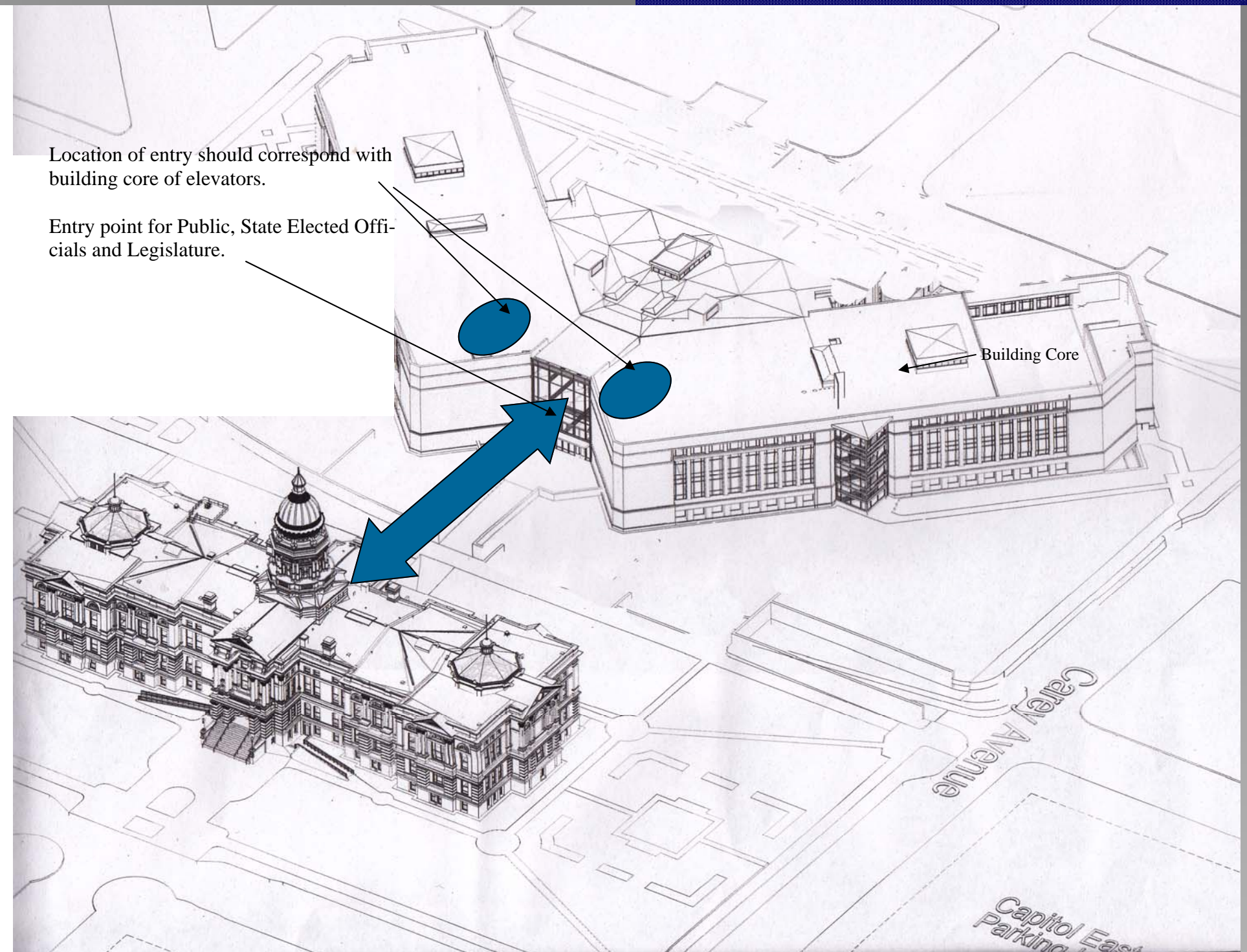
The Herschler addition should be configured to create this efficiency with new core elements to serve the public and the executive function to be included in the South end of the Herschler Building. The connection to the Capitol and proximity to the location of the supporting staff should indicate the location of the new core elements

Building entrance locations should be adjusted to provide clear and efficient circulation paths. Core elements should not block vista from Capitol Avenue.

Existing stairways, elevator shafts, freight elevator and other existing elements in these locations should be preserved to support the new core.

#### ***Design Guideline:***

***A new core location in the Herschler Building should support the Capitol Extension and should serve the Elected Officers and the Legislature in an efficient configuration.***





## BELOW GRADE CONNECTION TO CAPITOL BUILDING

A broad below grade connecting building exits between the Capitol Building and the Herschler Building. This space is very valuable because of its direct connection to the Capitol Building and its close proximity.

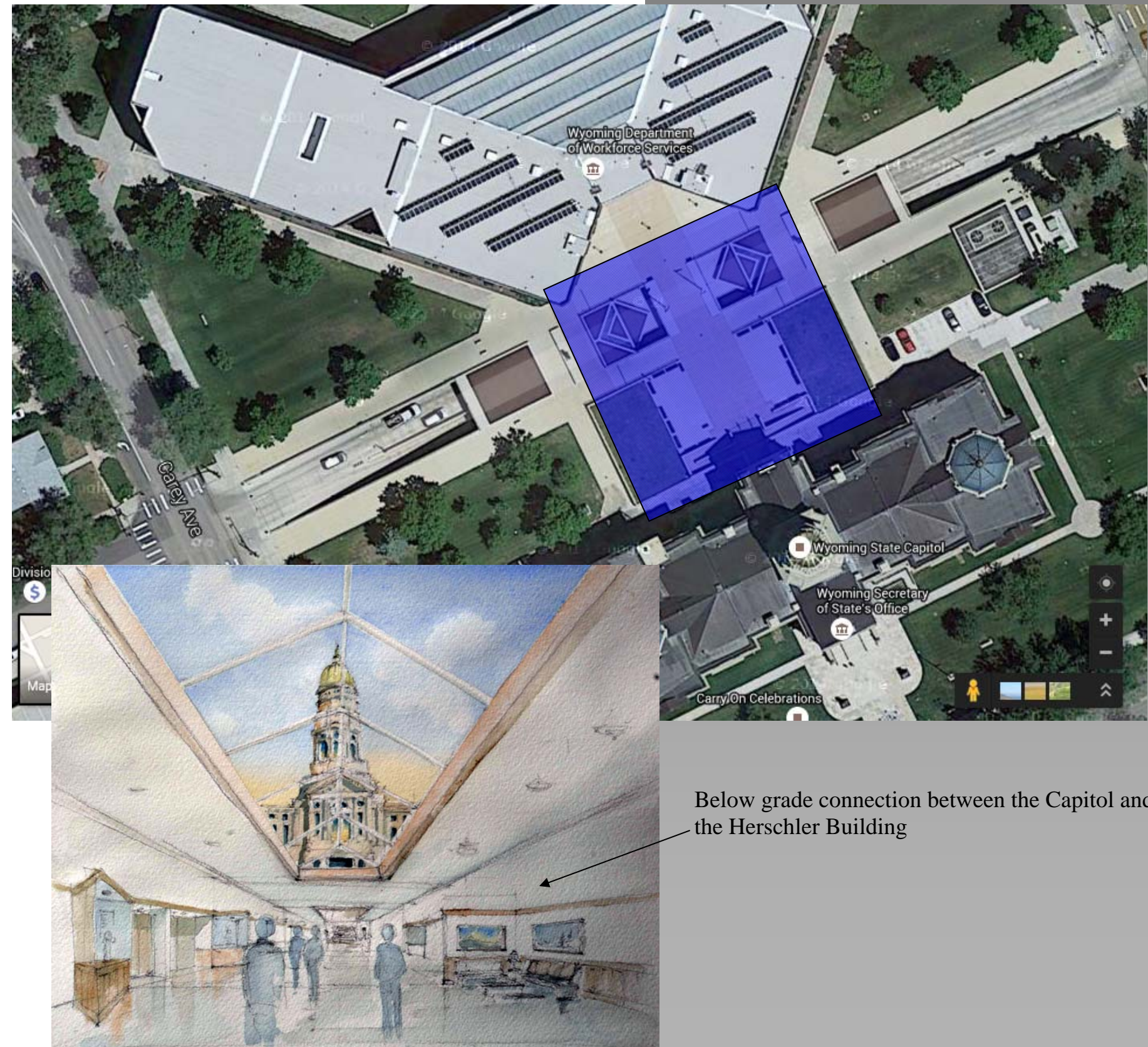
This area should be viewed as an underground extension of the Capitol and not just a corridor between the two buildings.

The Capitol Building is not large enough to provide space for all functions associated with the historic use. Space in the below grade portion of the connector should be used for functions that do not require full time occupancy. Committee Rooms and supporting spaces are ideal for this space. Other functions that directly support the Capitol such as Visitor Services and Interpretive Exhibits are also appropriate for this below grade space.

Natural lighting is very important to the common spaces in the extension of the Capitol in this space. Some rooms may benefit from skylight / lay light type day lighting. Other areas may provide a dramatic vista of the Capitol North Entry and Façade.

### *Design Guideline:*

*The below grade connection should act as an extension of the Capitol Building. Interior finishes should reflect this assumption.*





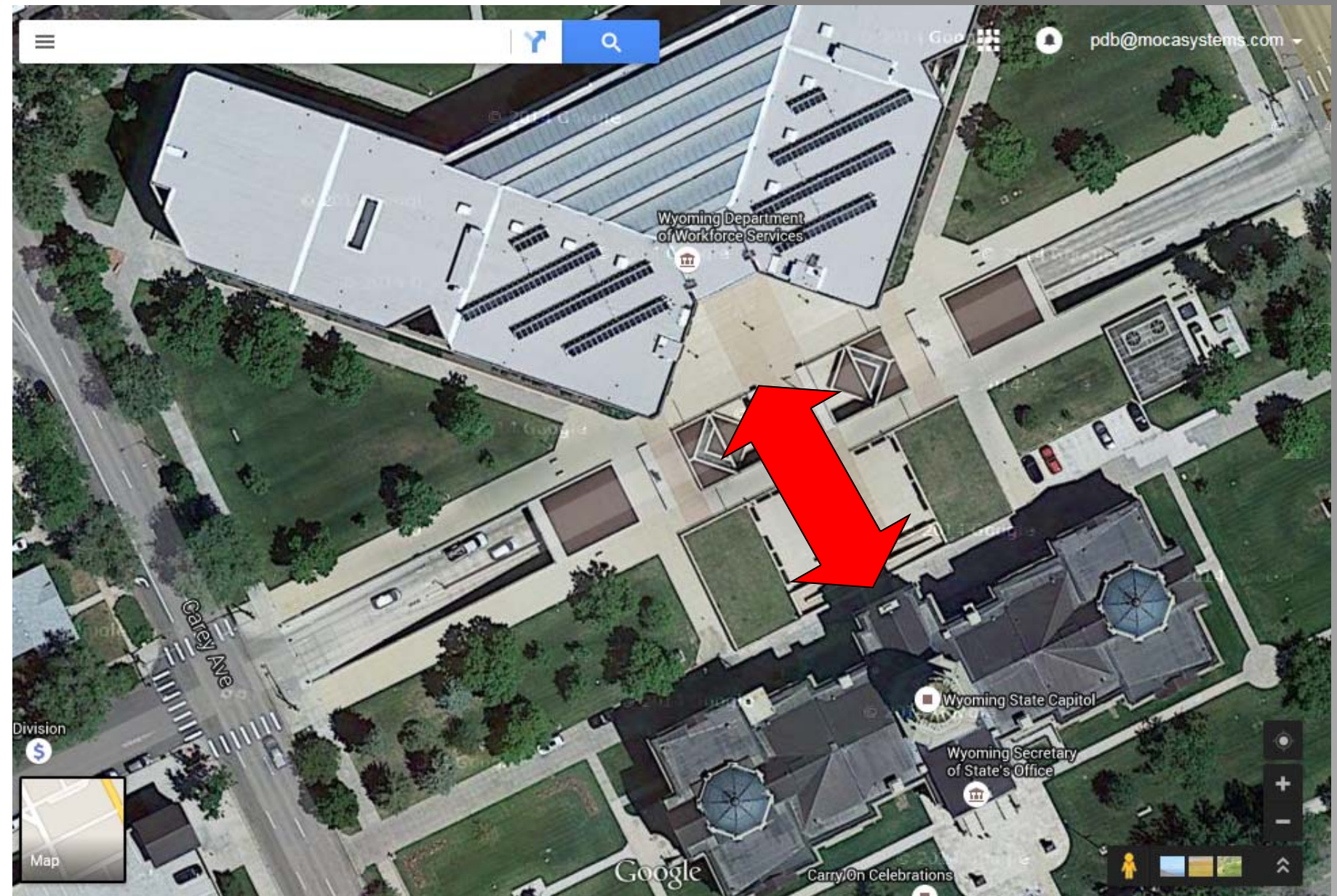
## PROXIMITY TO CAPITOL BUILDING

No other above grade building will likely be built in closer proximity to the Capitol Building than the Herschler Building. This close proximity provides many advantages for circulation and supporting functions for the highest level of government in Wyoming.

The State Elected Official's staff should be located in close proximity to the offices in the Capitol. Visitors to the Elected Officers should find easy access to supporting staff. It is appropriate that the Capitol be used for important public interface with Wyoming Government.

It is appropriate that the offices requiring the most interaction with permanent occupants of the Capitol be located in the closest proximity to the Capitol Building to support efficient operation of government and enhance public interface.

***Design Guideline:***  
***The close proximity of the Herschler Building provides a valuable asset to the Capitol that should be maximized***



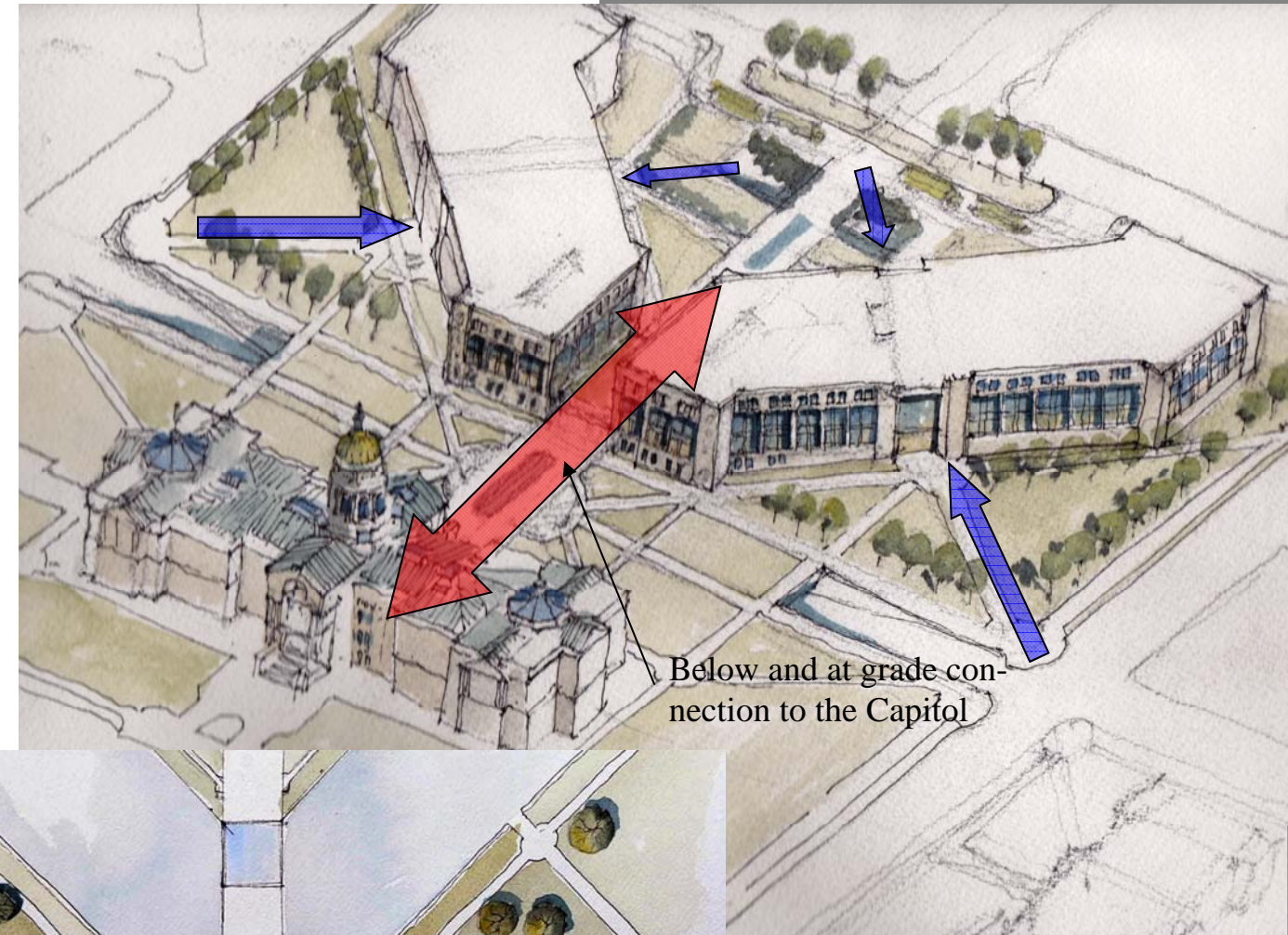


### ENTRY FROM CAPITOL BUILDING

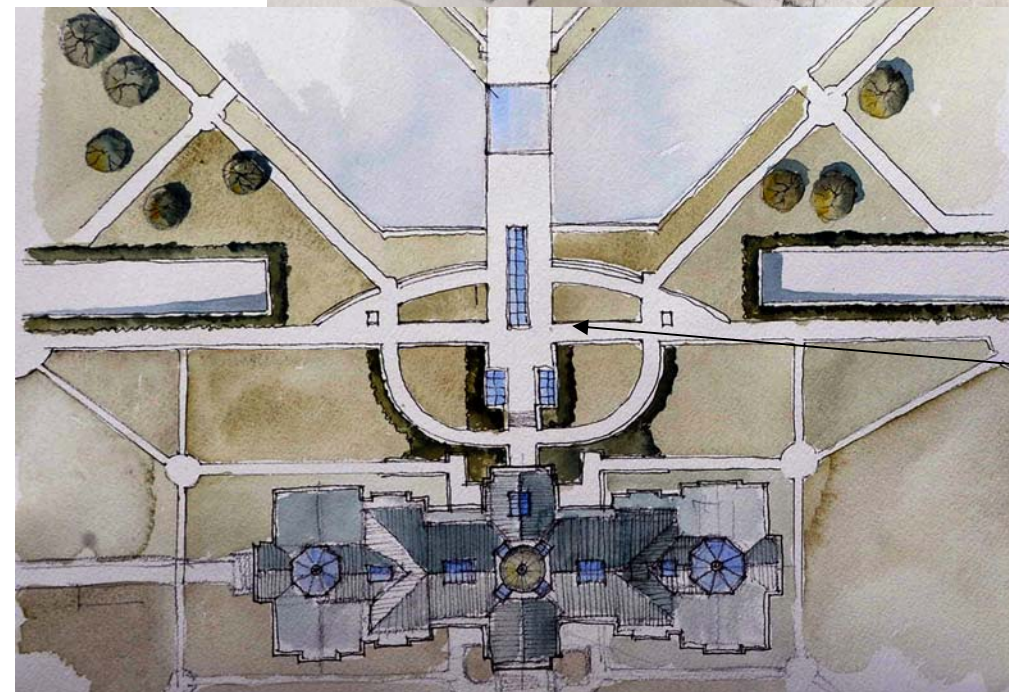
The most significant entry from the Capitol to the Herschler Complex is from the South. The Plaza Connection is on axis with the North steps and is viewed through the large two storey window arrangement in the Supreme Court Chamber.

The building is also accessed below grade through the Capitol Extension. This connection is important for the Hearing Rooms, Visitor Services, Security and all weather linkage to the building from the Capitol to the central cores of the Herschler Building.

Additional entry points to the Herschler should occur at the existing core for State Agencies



Below and at grade connection to the Capitol



Plaza Level connection to Herschler

**Design Guideline:**  
*Multiple Entry points to the building should be created to support the various functions and increase efficiency.,*



## **PRESS CENTER**

The press is an essential part of the government process. Ready access to press conferences requested by elected officials is important for the efficient operation of government. Press Room facilities should be included in the Capitol and the Herschler Remodel.

The press organizations representing local television, radio, and print media are should be accommodated. Proximity to the chambers and hearing rooms is very important during the legislative session.

Live feeds from House and Senate are not occurring at this time. Accommodation for future live feed should be made in the infrastructure of the Chambers and major Committee Rooms. In addition to these systems, mobile broadcasts are often used to cover various events in other parts of the building. Parking of media trucks and cable management to accommodate these events should be planned with the systems upgrade.

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***Design Guideline:  
Repairs and building systems improvements  
should include upgraded facilities for future  
House and Senate live broadcast. Press facilities  
should be included.***



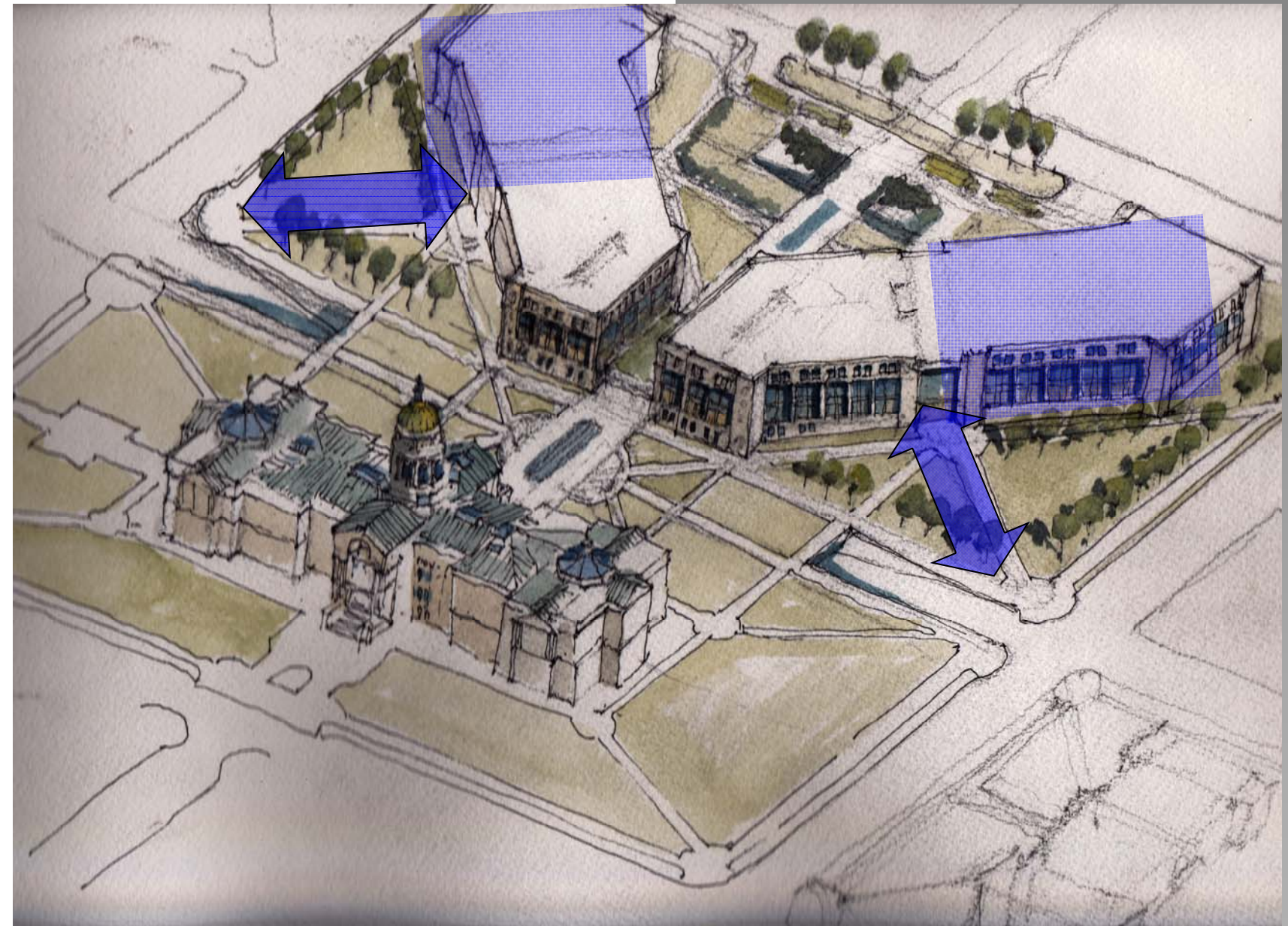
## OFFICE SPACE FOR STATE AGENCIES

Additional office space in the Herschler Building and appropriate additions should be occupied by efficient offices in flexible configurations to suit State Agencies that should be located on Capitol Square.

The overall long term planning goal is to reduce cost to taxpayers by occupying State owned property. This method is proven to be the most cost effective way to manage State Agency Occupied Space.

The addition of building entry points at the existing core of the Herschler wings reduces unnecessary pedestrian traffic through the space used for the Elected Officials and their staff for unrelated agency business. This strategy also reduces interior building circulation by allowing direct access to various agencies through the existing elevator core of the Herschler.

***Design Guideline:***  
***Additional remaining space in the Herschler Building should be used by State Agencies to reduce cost to taxpayers by occupying State owned space in very efficient layouts.***





## STATE ELECTED OFFICIALS

Office space in the Capitol Building is limited due to the size and configuration of Public Space and Chambers. Additional office space should be provided in close proximity to the Capitol Building for efficient function of staff and collaboration with the Legislature.

The South portion of the site occupied by the Herschler Building provides the closest proximity for these offices.

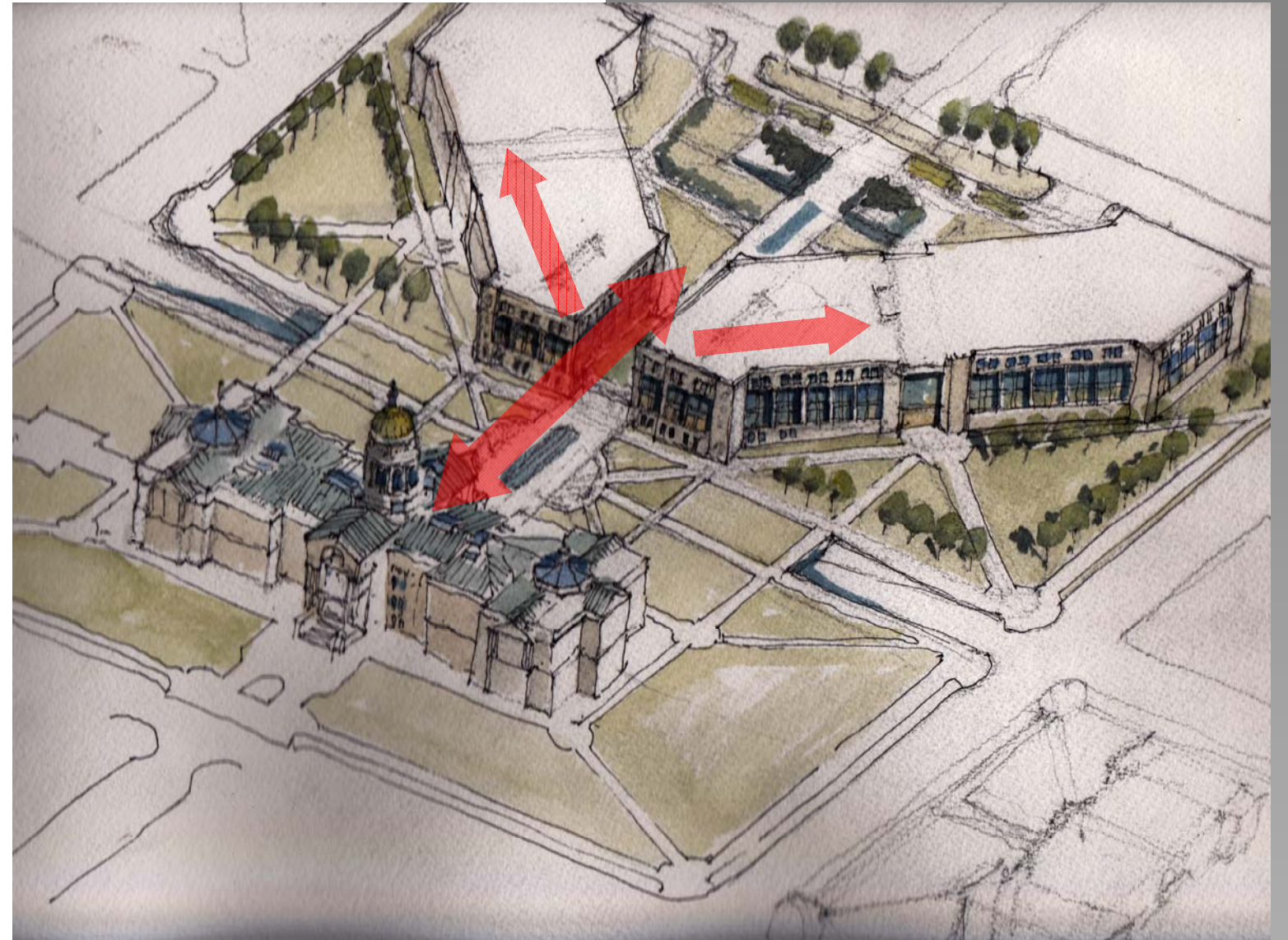
The character of this spaces should represent the stature of the government function occupying the space. Much has been said about Executive Space for these functions. The fit and finish of these spaces should be appropriate to this function and should include timeless finishes in designs that are compatible with the Capitol and the offices therein.

Public Lobbies and corridors should also reflect the dignity of the function but should not be of materials and detail that are considered more important than the Public Spaces in the Capitol.

## CONNECTION TO CAPITOL

Core elements and physical connection to the Capitol are of great importance for the function of these offices and the relationships that exist between the Capitol and the offices in the closest proximity.

***Design Guideline:***  
***Statewide Elected Officials should have space in the Herschler Building that reflects the dignity of the Office.***





### NATURAL LIGHT IN BELOW GRADE SPACES

The original design of the Capitol Building provided for natural light into the interior spaces of the building that did not have ready access to windows by using skylights and lay-lights. This method was used extensively by the Gibbs and Dubois in the Rotunda, Grand Hallways, Lobbies, Stairs and Chambers.

Similar concepts should ne used to provide for natural light in areas of the below grade Capitol Extension and the below grade areas of the Herschler Building where access to windows is not possible.

These skylights should also be located over Gallery Space and major circulation elements such as stairs and grand corridors.

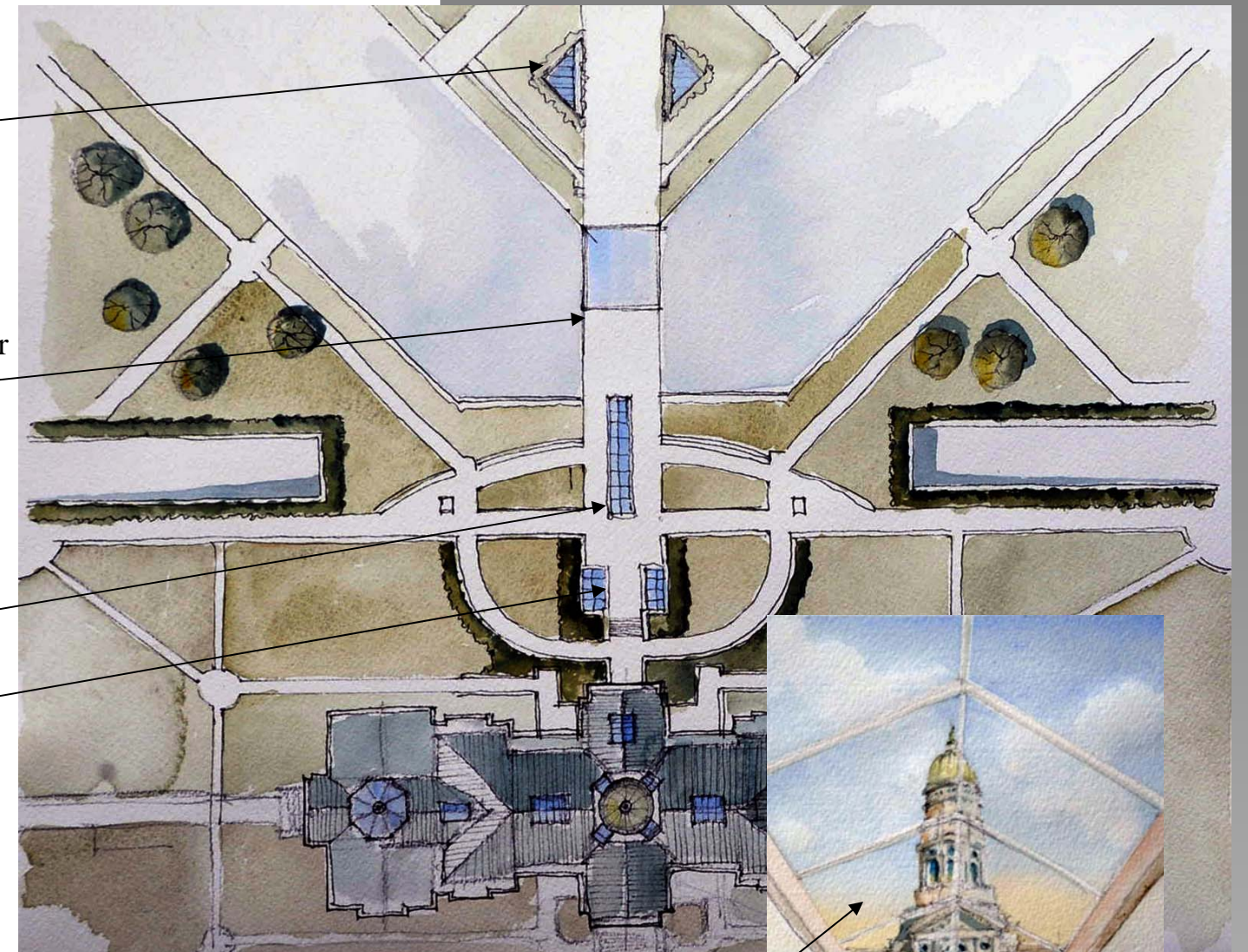
***Design Guideline:***  
***Natural Light should be used to enhance the below grade spaces in the Capitol Extension and the Herschler Building***

Skylights in the Exhibit  
Gallery space

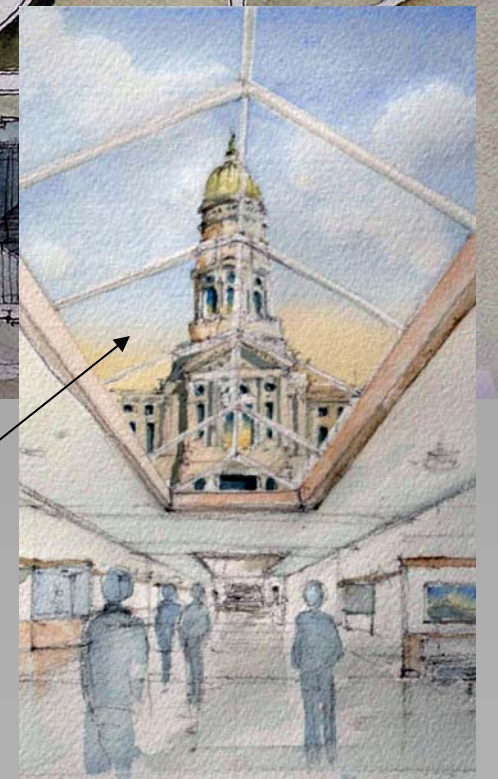
Natural light above grand stair  
at Herschler Building

Skylights in the Grand  
Corridor

Natural light near  
stairs



Skylight at Grand Corridor





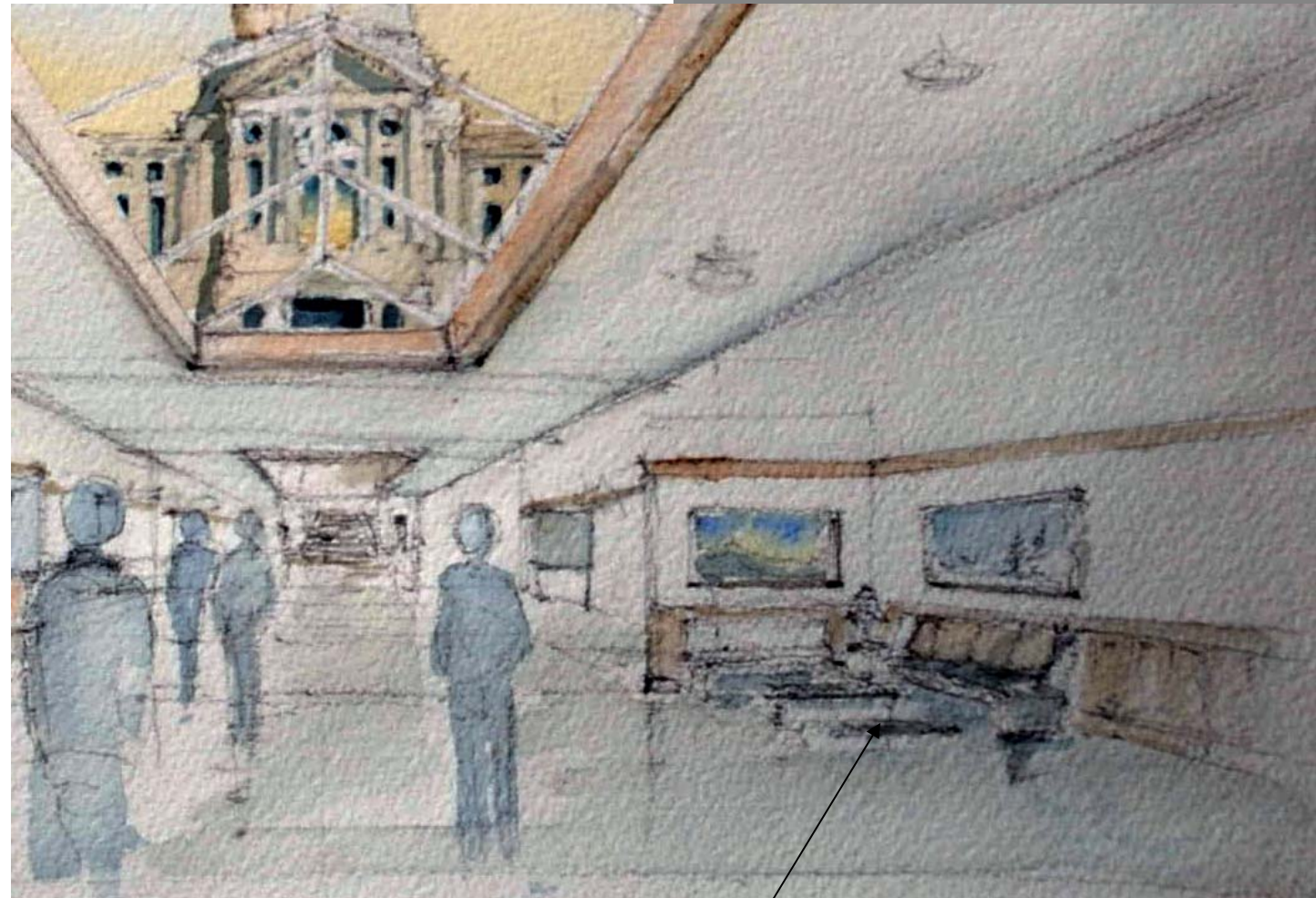
## INFORMAL MEETING SPACES

Many discussions regarding input from constituents happen in informal settings and brief conversations between formal meetings. These brief meetings are very important to the political process and provide a significant opportunity for public interaction with Elected State Leaders.

Spaces for these encounters should be provided in a variety of locations throughout the Capitol Complex. Many of these conversations are often held in public circulation spaces in the Capitol like the Rotunda, Chamber and Gallery Lobbies and Grand Hallways.

The Herschler Extension of the Capitol where new public hearing rooms are planned should also provide these informal meeting areas.

***Design Guideline:***  
***Circulation space and break out space should include casual “collision Space “ as well as formal collaboration space.***



Informal meeting spaces adjacent to Public Hearing Rooms in the Capitol Extension within the Herschler Building