

Architectural Design that Saves Birds' Lives



DEPARTMENT
OF ENERGY &
ENVIRONMENT



AGENDA

6:00 pm

Mary Lynn Wilhere, Urban Sustainability Administration, Department of Energy and Environment (DOEE)

6:05 pm

Tommy Wells, Director, Department of Energy and Environment (DOEE)

6:15 pm

Claire Cahan, Studio Design Director, Studio Gang, Chicago, IL -- "Building Habitat"

6:45 pm

Dan Piselli, Senior Associate, FxCollaborative Architects, LLP, New York, NY -- "Examples from NYC"

7:15 pm

Christine Sheppard, Ph.D., Director, Glass Collisions Program, American Bird Conservancy -- "The Nuts and Bolts of Bird Collisions"

7:35 pm

Anne Lewis, President, City Wildlife

Bird-Friendly Design in DC:

Architectural Design that Saves Birds' Lives

Examples from NYC

Daniel Piselli AIA, LEED, CPHD

FXCollaborative

March 13, 2018

CASE STUDIES



CASE STUDIES



CASE STUDIES



The Javits Center Renovation



Statue of Liberty Museum



Center for Global Conservation



Columbia University School of Nursing



Columbia University Business School



New York Times Building

CASE STUDIES



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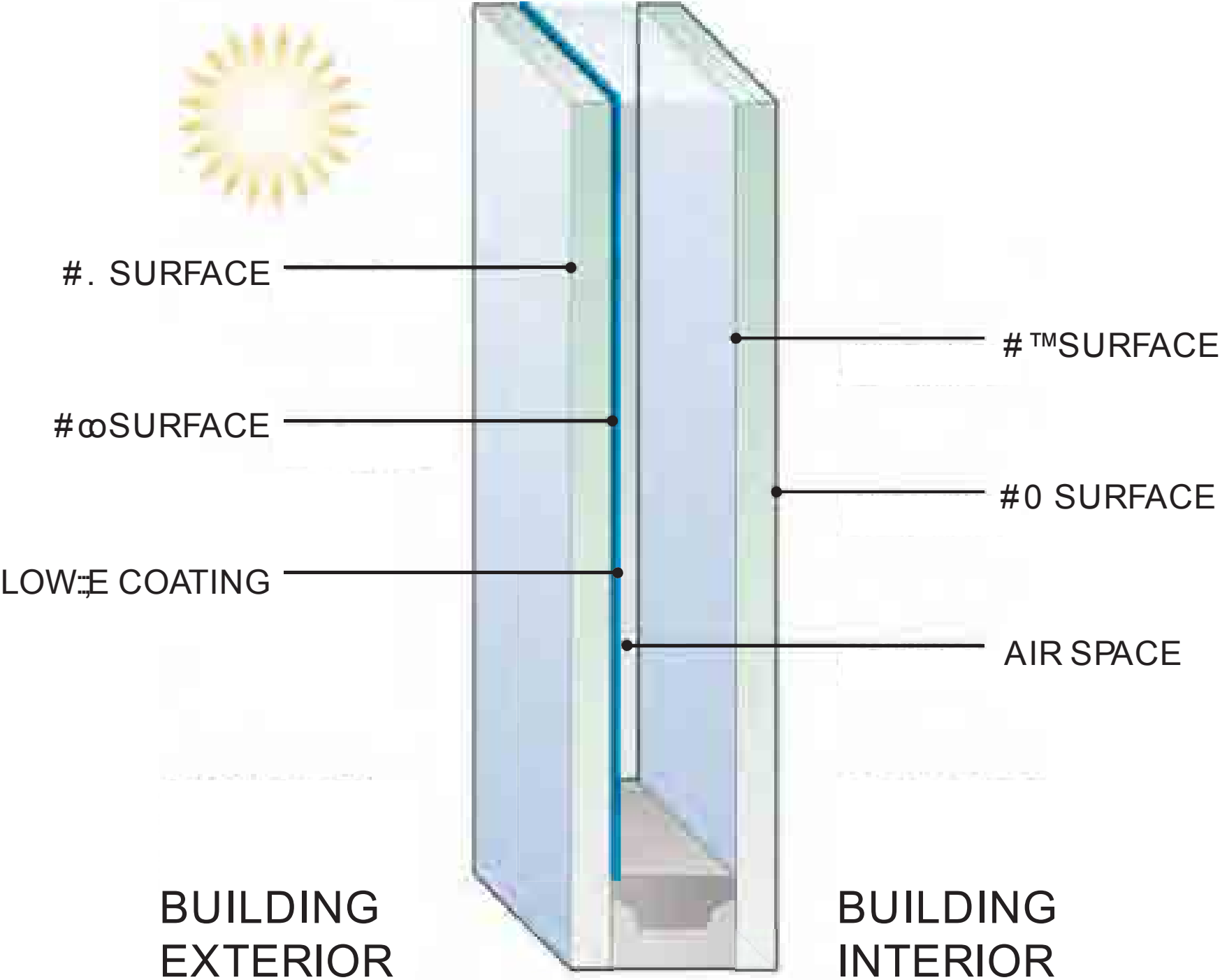


Columbia University Business School

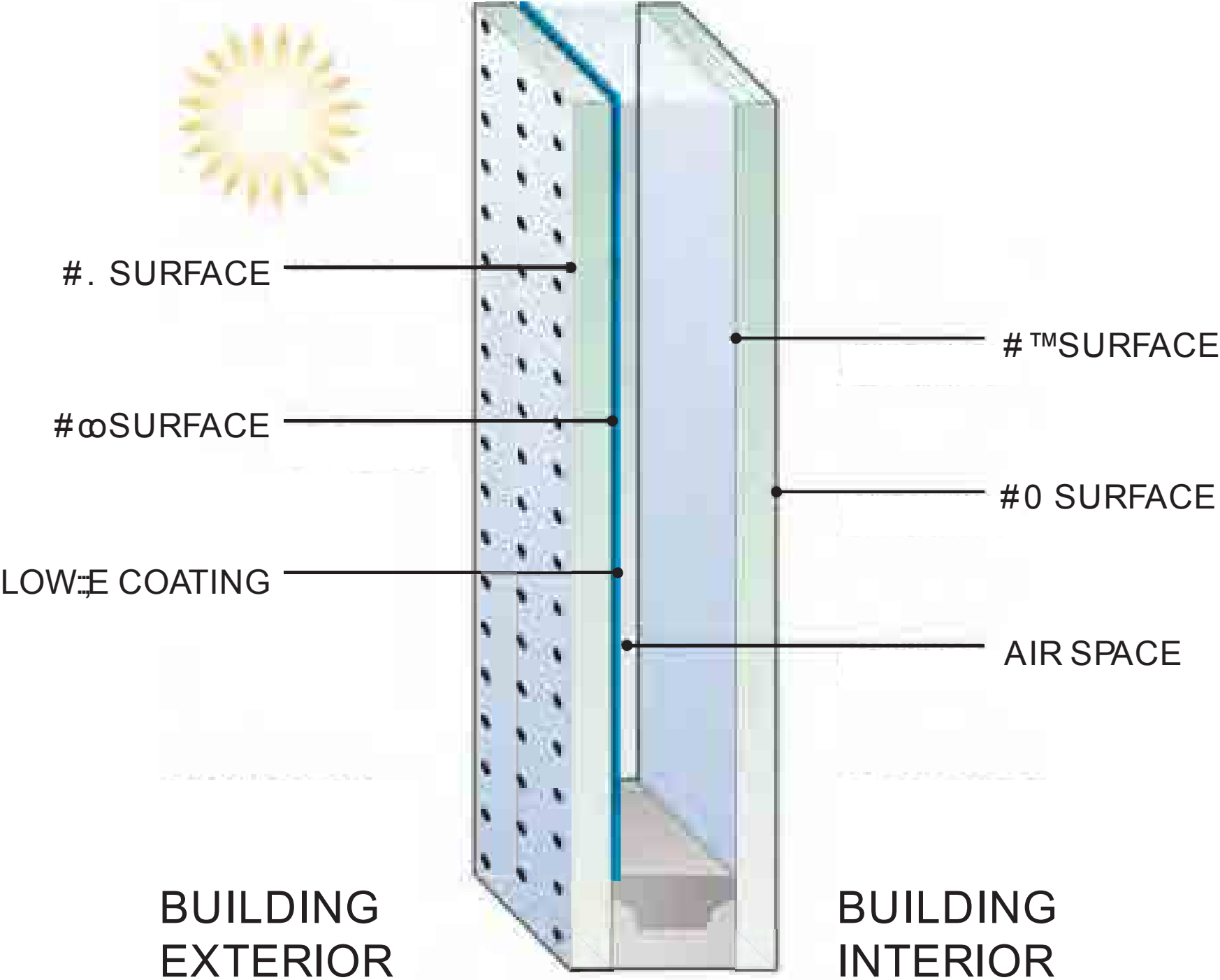


New York Times Building

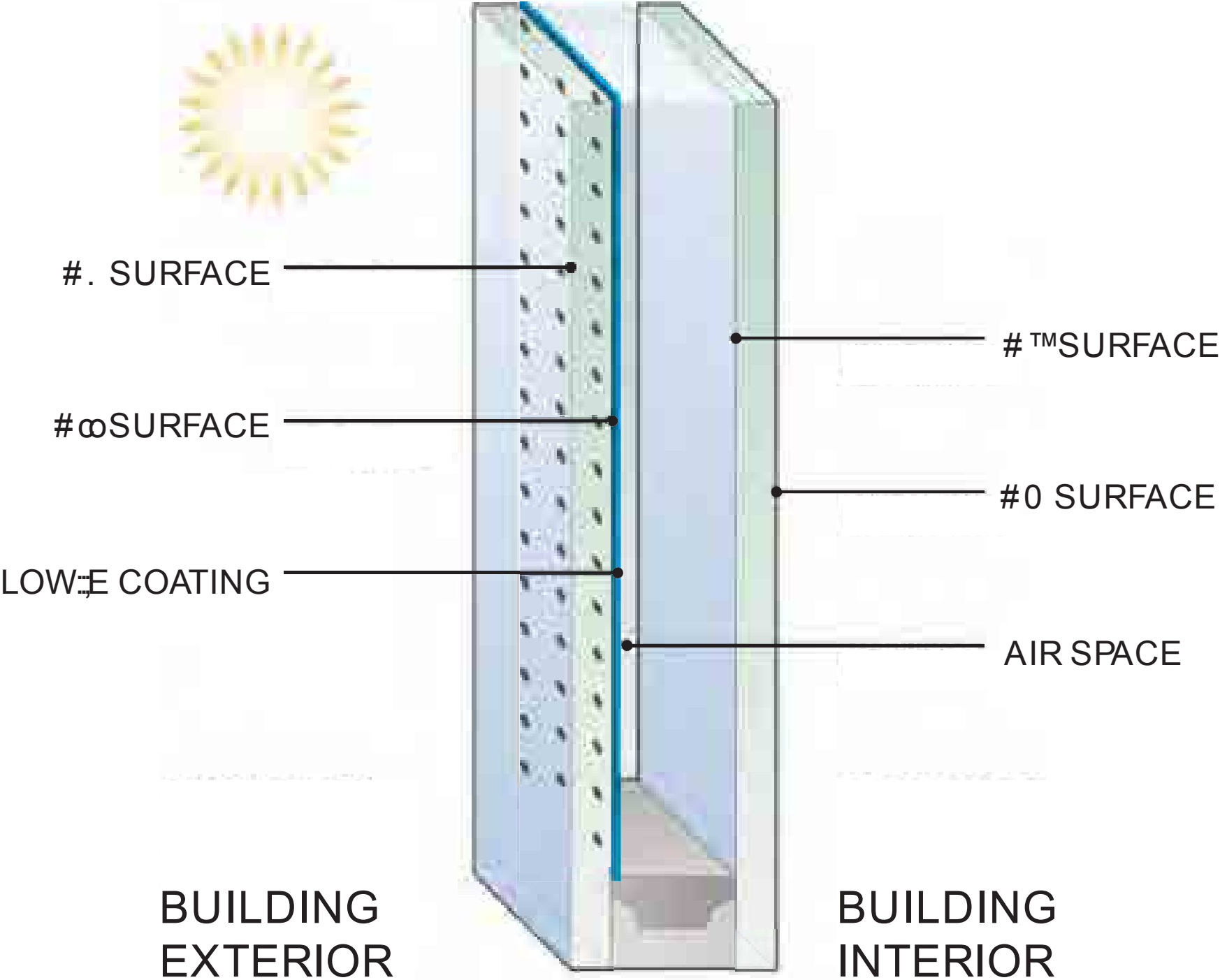
INSULATING GLASS



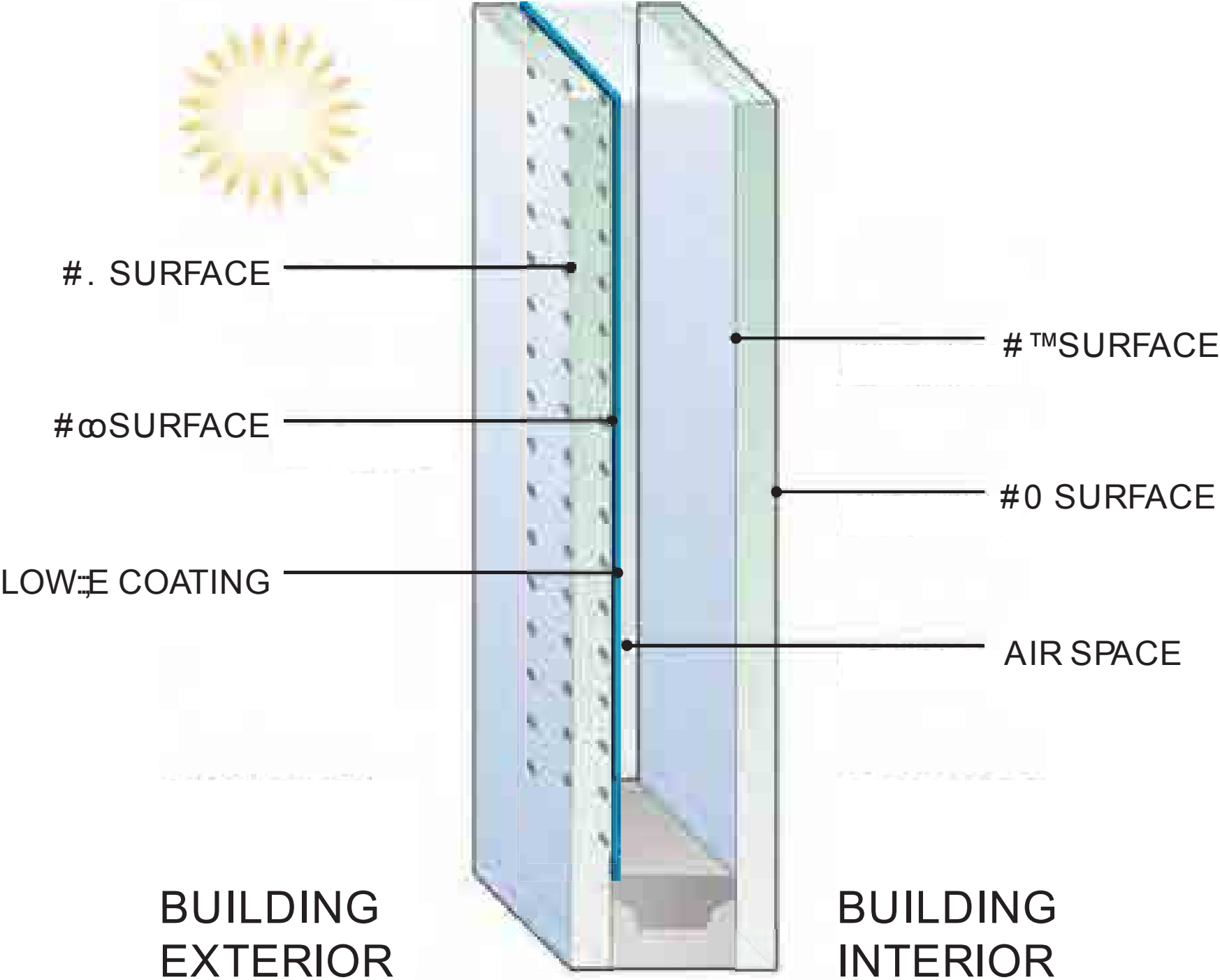
INSULATING GLASS: Frit on #1 Surface



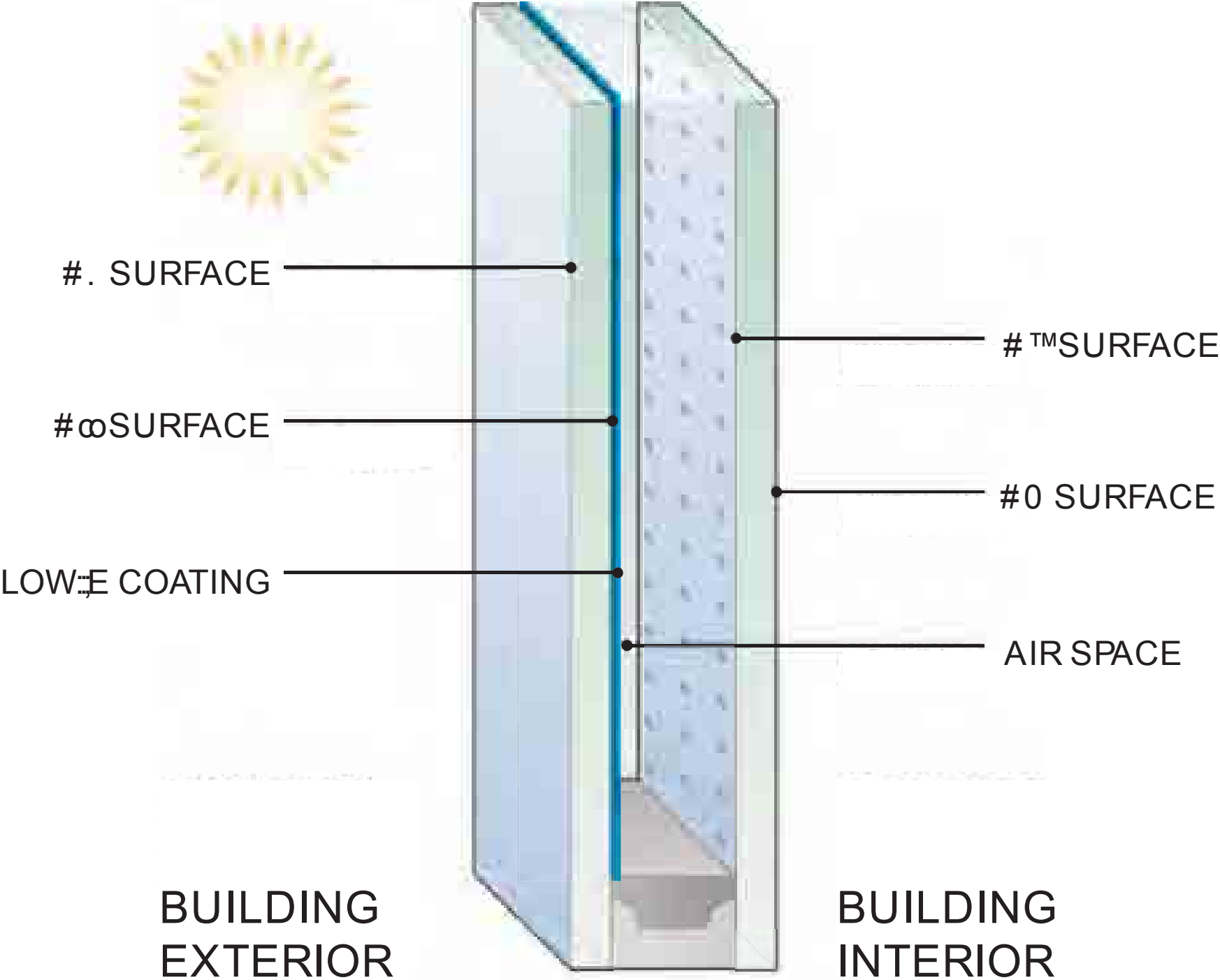
INSULATING GLASS: Frit on #2 Surface External to Coating



INSULATING GLASS: Frit on #2 Surface Internal to Coating



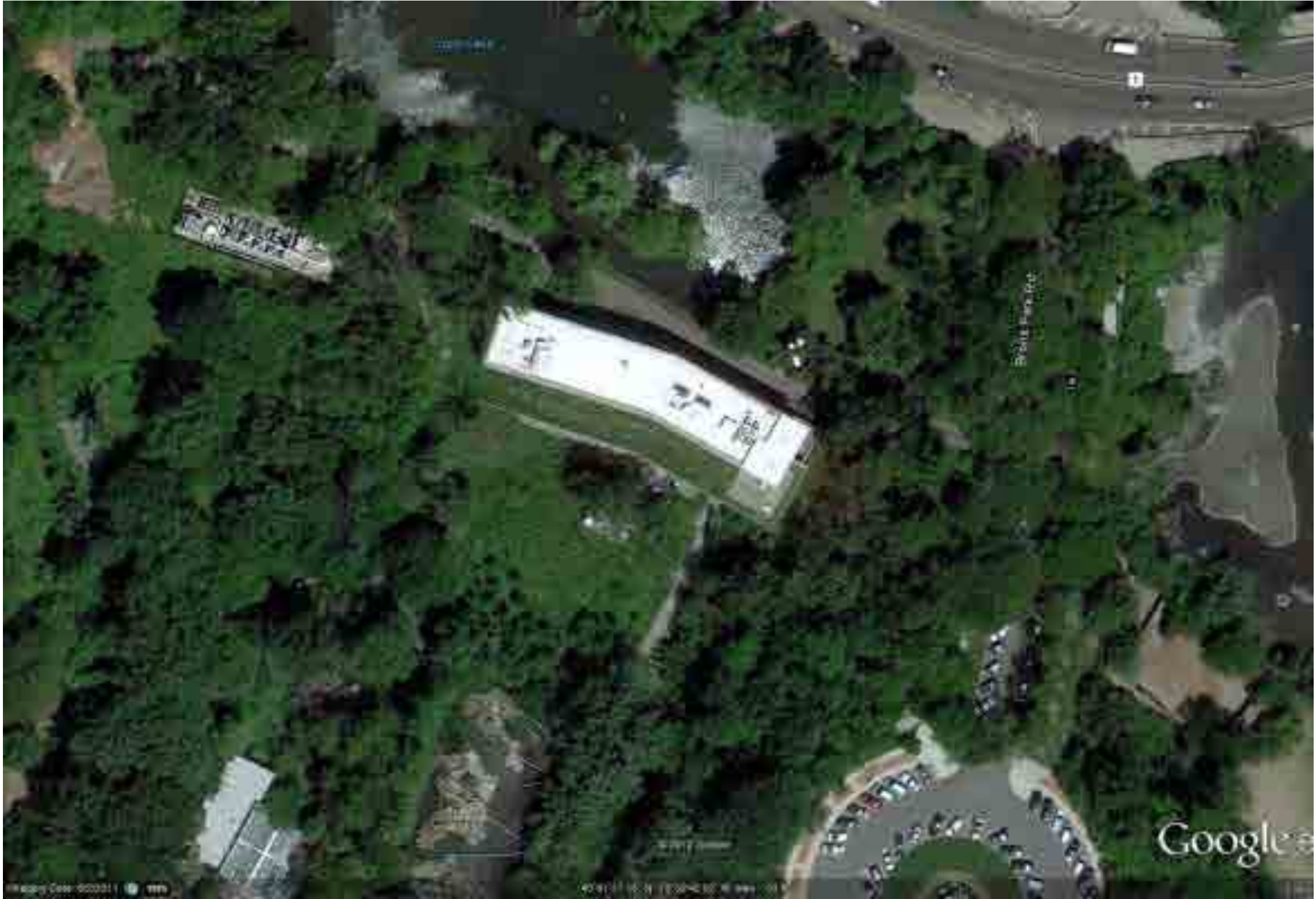
INSULATING GLASS: Frit on #3 Surface



CENTER FOR GLOBAL CONSERVATION



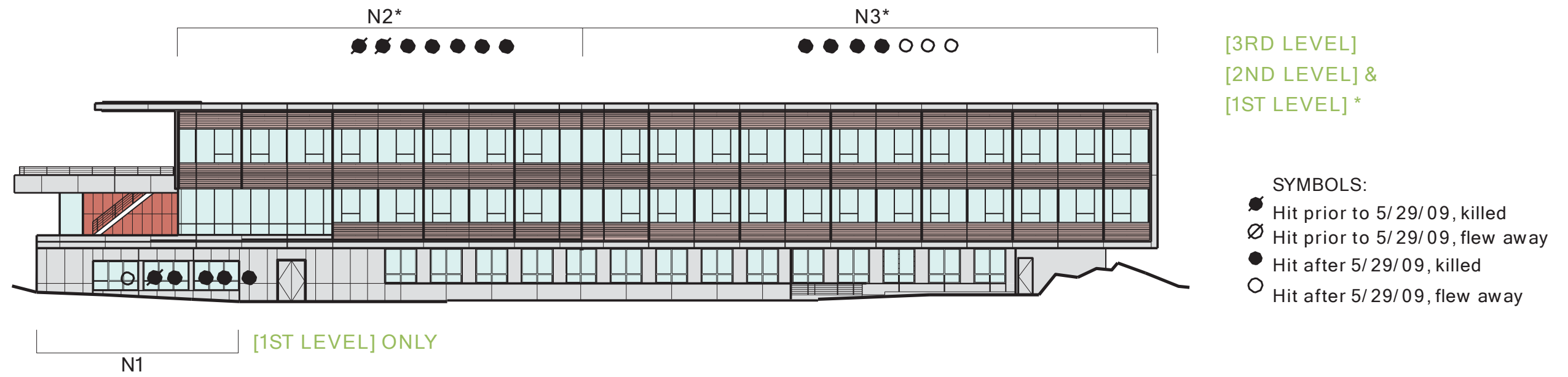
CENTER FOR GLOBAL CONSERVATION



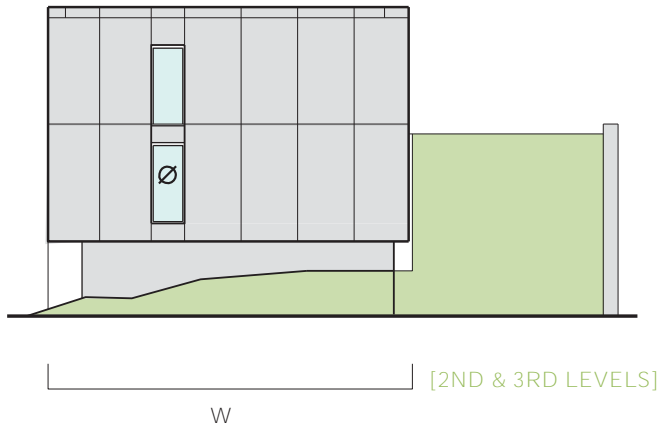
CENTER FOR GLOBAL CONSERVATION: UV Reflective Pattern



CENTER FOR GLOBAL CONSERVATION: Strategies & Monitoring - North Facade



CENTER FOR GLOBAL CONSERVATION: Strategies & Monitoring - West Facade



- SYMBOLS:
- Hit prior to 5/29/09, killed
 - Ø Hit prior to 5/29/09, flew away
 - Hit after 5/29/09, killed
 - Hit after 5/29/09, flew away

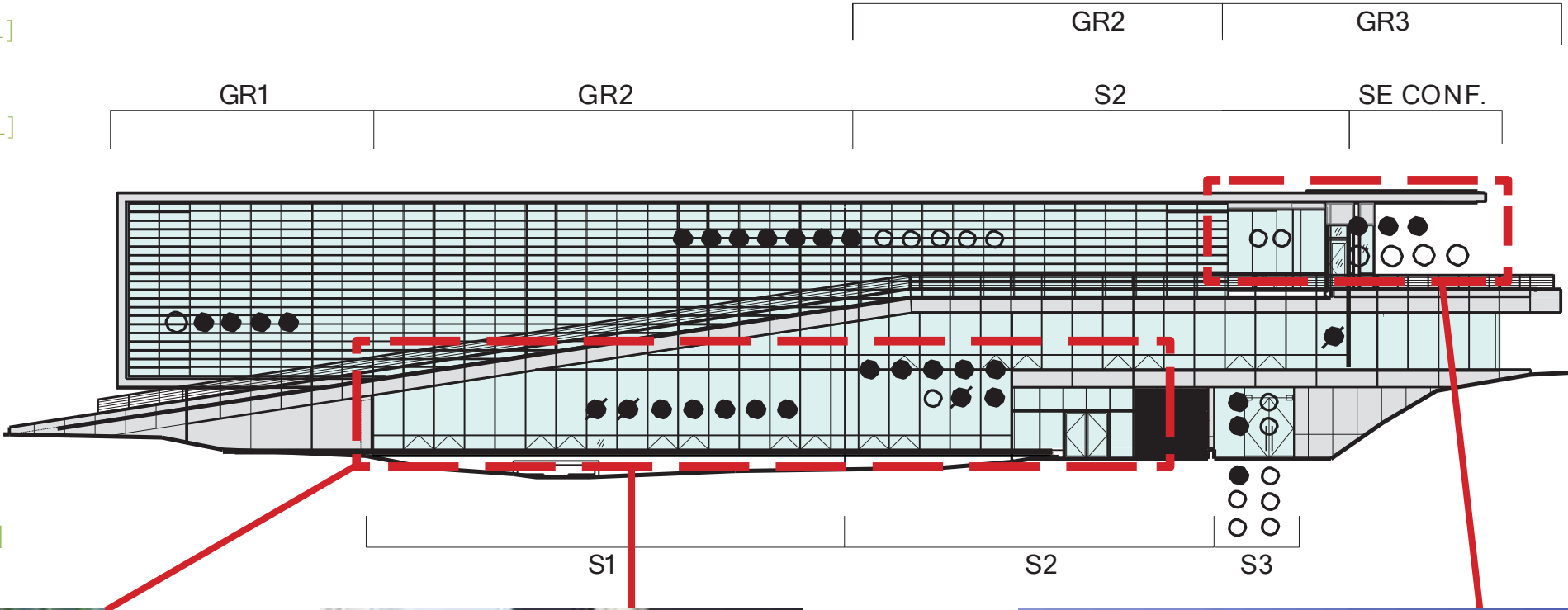


CENTER FOR GLOBAL CONSERVATION: Strategies & Monitoring - South Facade

[3RD LEVEL]

[2ND LEVEL]

[1ST LEVEL]



- SYMBOLS:
- Hit prior to 5/29/09, killed
 - Hit prior to 5/29/09, flew away
 - Hit after 5/29/09, killed
 - Hit after 5/29/09, flew away

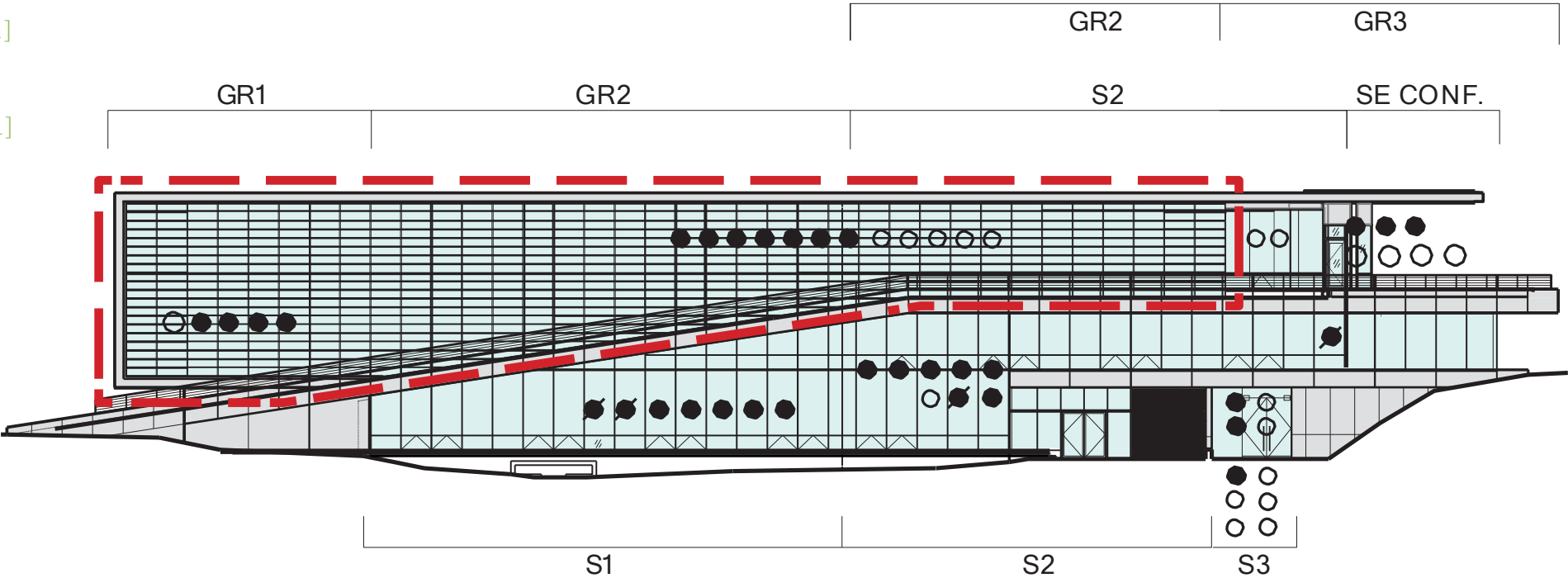


CENTER FOR GLOBAL CONSERVATION: Strategies & Monitoring - South Facade

[3RD LEVEL]

[2ND LEVEL]

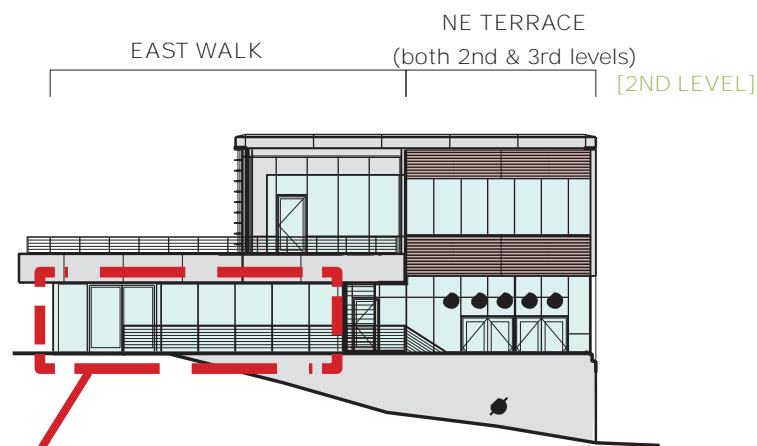
[1ST LEVEL]



- SYMBOLS:
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 - Hit prior to 5/29/09, flew away
 - Hit after 5/29/09, killed
 - Hit after 5/29/09, flew away



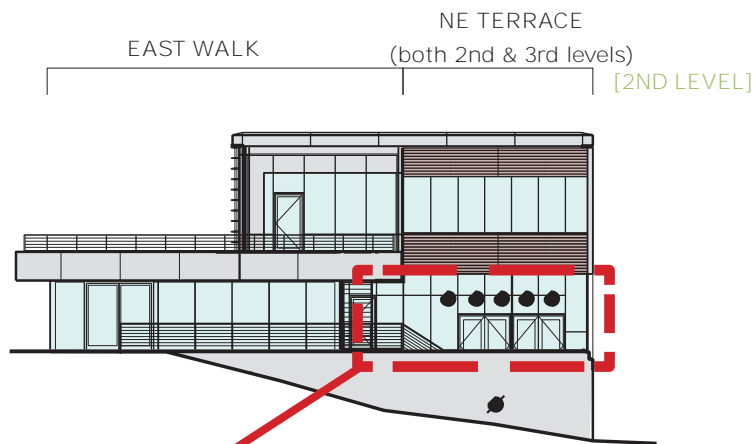
CENTER FOR GLOBAL CONSERVATION: Strategies & Monitoring - East Facade



- SYMBOLS:
- Hit prior to 5/29/09, killed
 - Hit prior to 5/29/09, flew away
 - Hit after 5/29/09, killed
 - Hit after 5/29/09, flew away



CENTER FOR GLOBAL CONSERVATION: Strategies & Monitoring - East Facade



- SYMBOLS:
- Hit prior to 5/29/09, killed
 - Hit prior to 5/29/09, flew away
 - Hit after 5/29/09, killed
 - Hit after 5/29/09, flew away



JAVITS CENTER RENOVATION

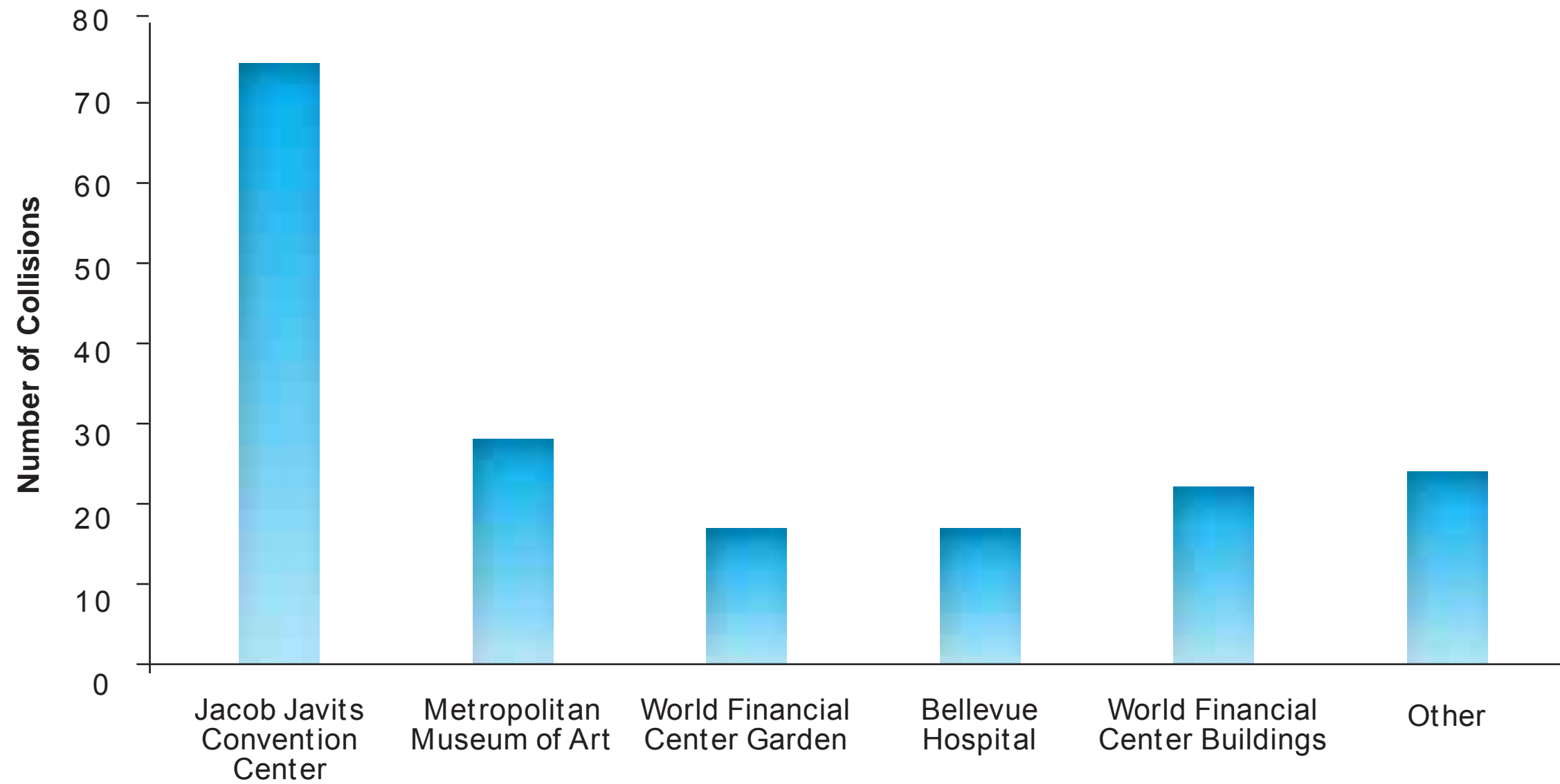
Pre-Existing Aerial View



JAVITS CENTER RENOVATION: Pre-Existing Façade Condition

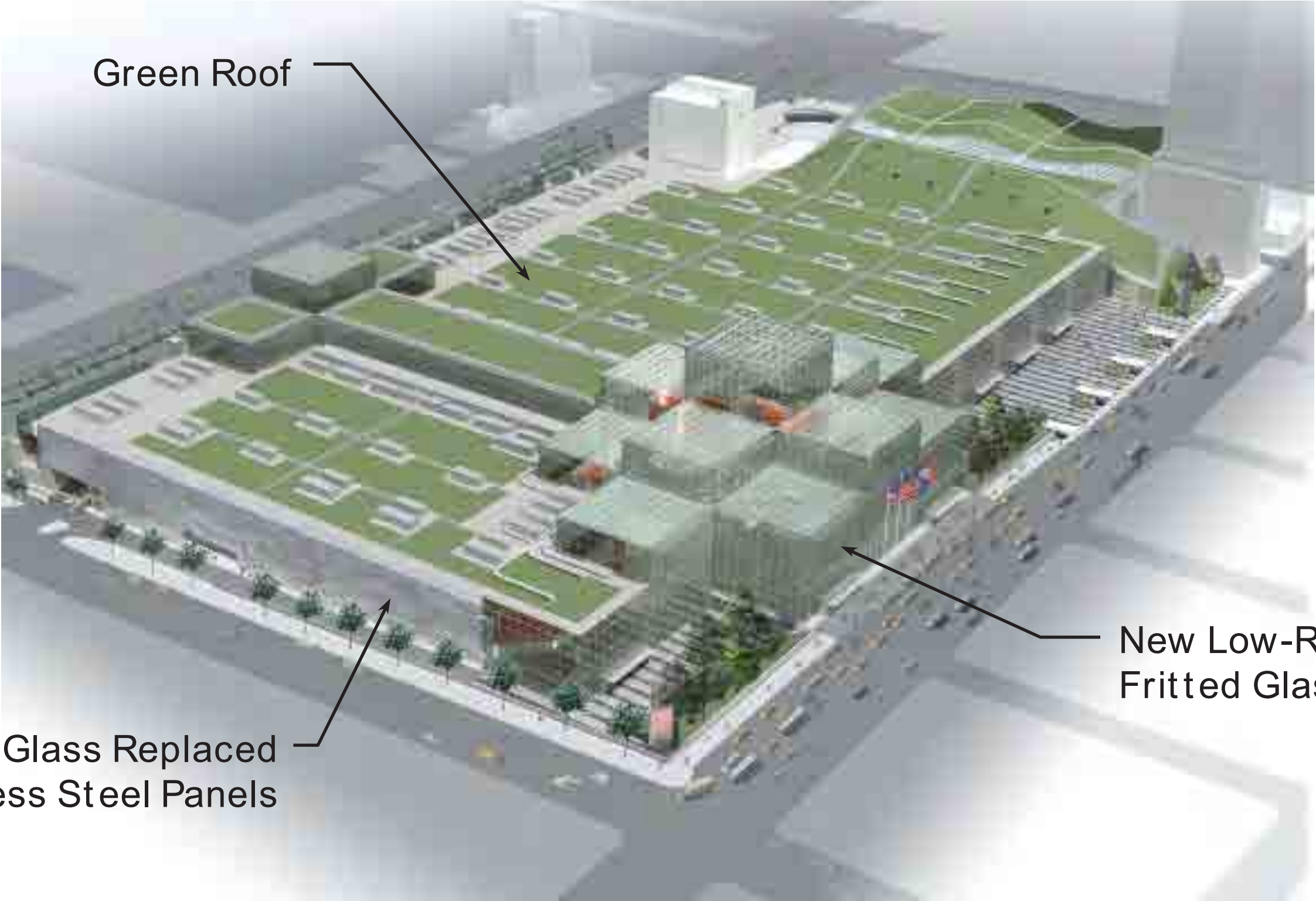


JAVITS CENTER RENOVATION: Bird Collision Location and Frequency - Fall 2007



Source: Project Safe Flight - New York City Audubon

JAVITS CENTER RENOVATION: Overview



Green Roof

New Low-Reflectance
Fritted Glass

Opaque Glass Replaced
with Stainless Steel Panels

JAVITS CENTER RENOVATION: Green Roof, Urban Habitat



JAVITS CENTER RENOVATION: Green Roof, Urban Habitat



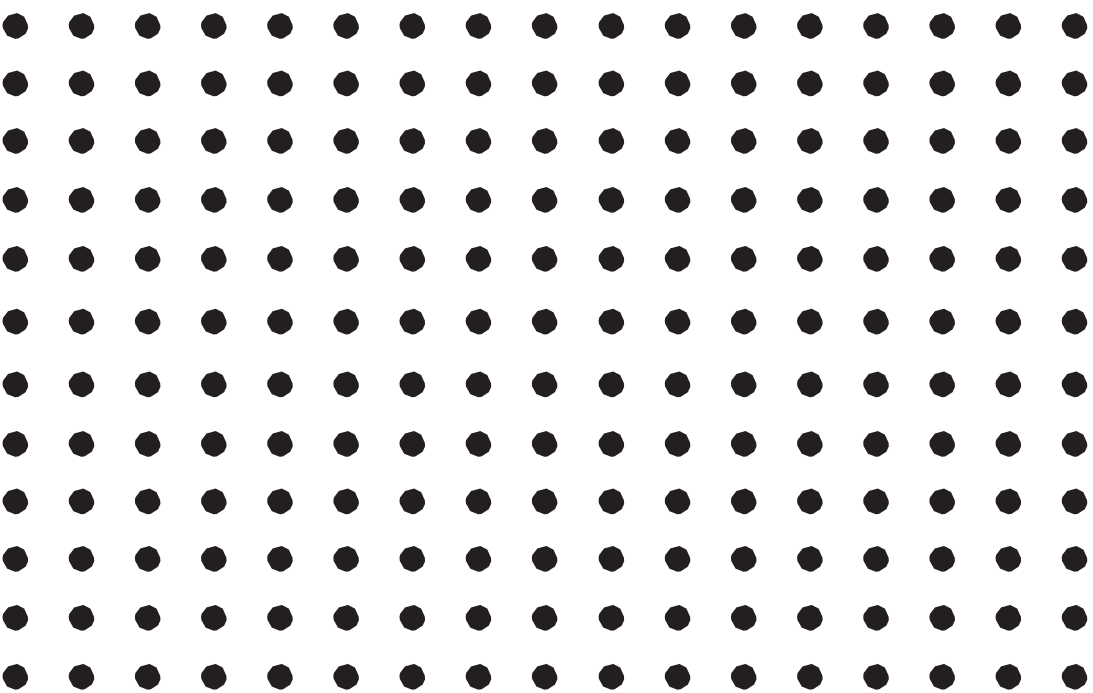
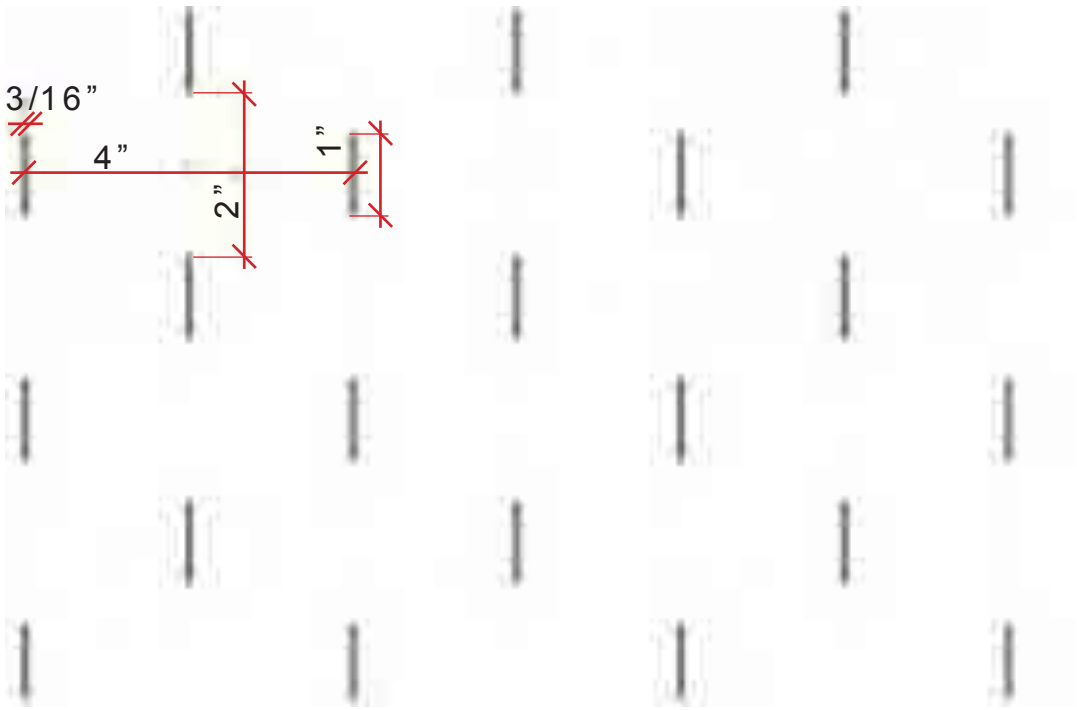
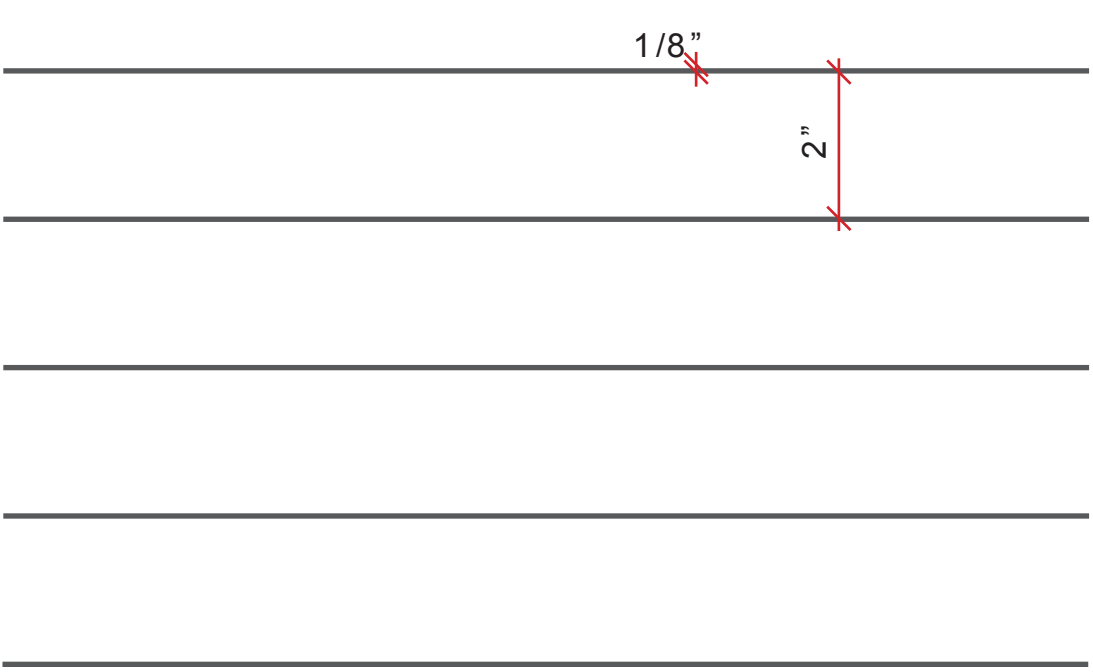
JAVITS CENTER RENOVATION: Replacement of Spandrel Glass with Metal Panel



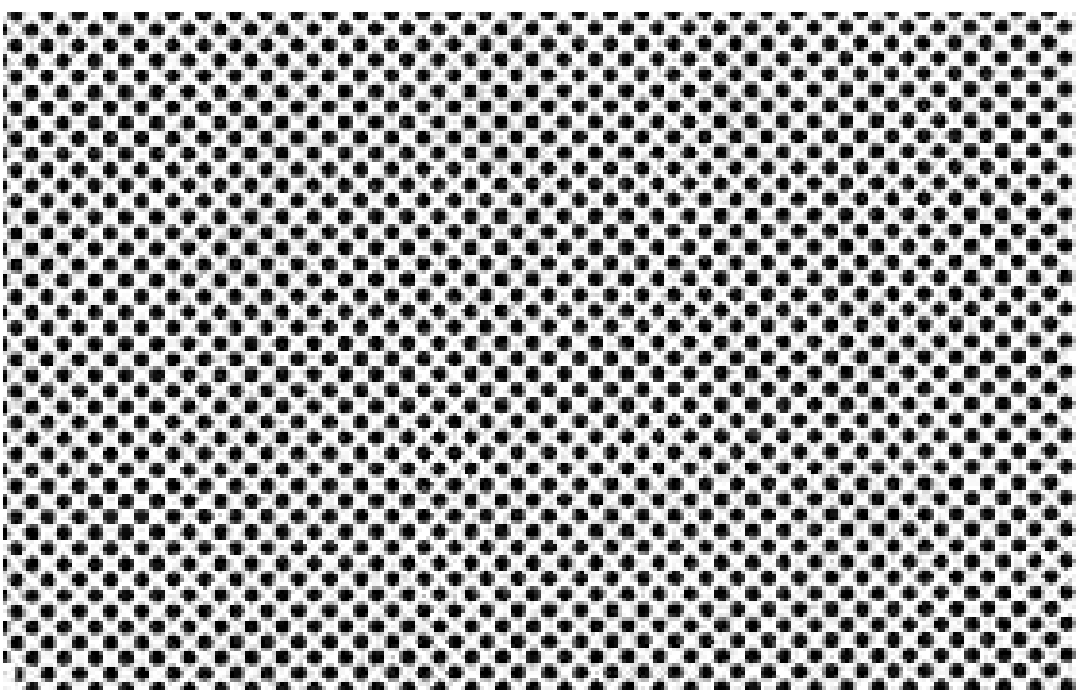
JAVITS CENTER RENOVATION: Interior View



JAVITS CENTER RENOVATION: Frit Pattern Studies



15 % Opacity 3/8" Round Dot



30 % Opacity 1/8" Round Dot

JAVITS CENTER RENOVATION: Proposed Pattern for Bird Collision Reduction



JAVITS CENTER RENOVATION: Selected Frit Pattern for Reduction of Solar Heat Gain



JAVITS CENTER RENOVATION: Glass Coating & Frit Color Selection Process



JAVITS CENTER RENOVATION: Glass Before & After



JAVITS CENTER RENOVATION: Frit From Exterior



JAVITS CENTER RENOVATION: Frit from Interior



JAVITS CENTER RENOVATION: Results

Results:

- Increased Performance
- Increased Daylight
- Increased Transparency

Spring Migration 2013:

Total of 4 Birds Found

>90% Reduction!

THE NEW YORK TIMES BUILDING



Design Architect: Renzo Piano Building Workshop
Executive Architect: FXCollaborative

THE NEW YORK TIMES BUILDING: Terra Cotta Screen



Design Architect: Renzo Piano Building Workshop
Executive Architect: FXCollaborative

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THE NEW YORK TIMES BUILDING: Terra Cotta Screen



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COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF NURSING: Side 1 Frit



COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF NURSING: Side 1 Frit



COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF NURSING: Side 1 Frit



COLUMBIA BUSINESS SCHOOL: Frit to Emphasize Shapes



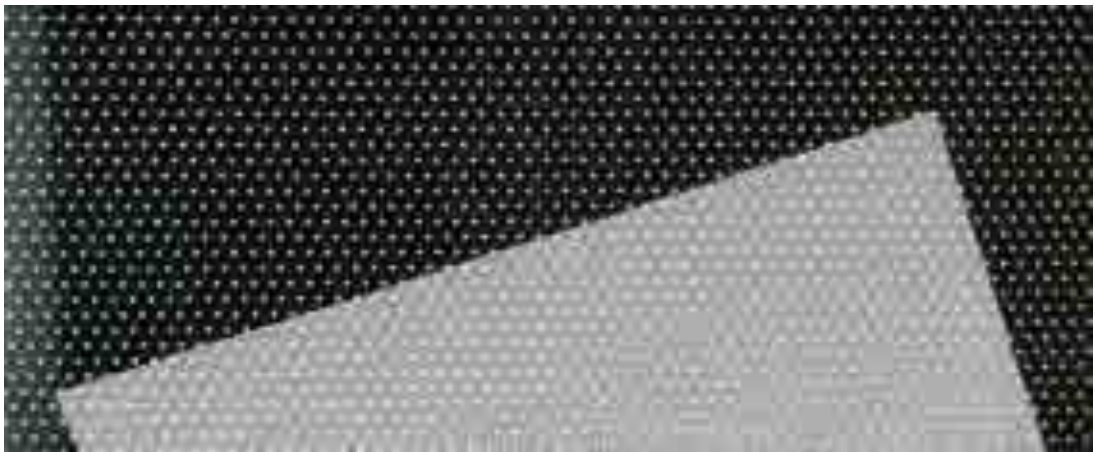
Design Architect: Diller Scofidio + Renfro
Executive Architect: FXCollaborative
Source: <https://www8.gsb.columbia.edu/manhattanville/design/slideshow?nid:33=32>



COLUMBIA BUSINESS SCHOOL: Frit to Emphasize Shapes



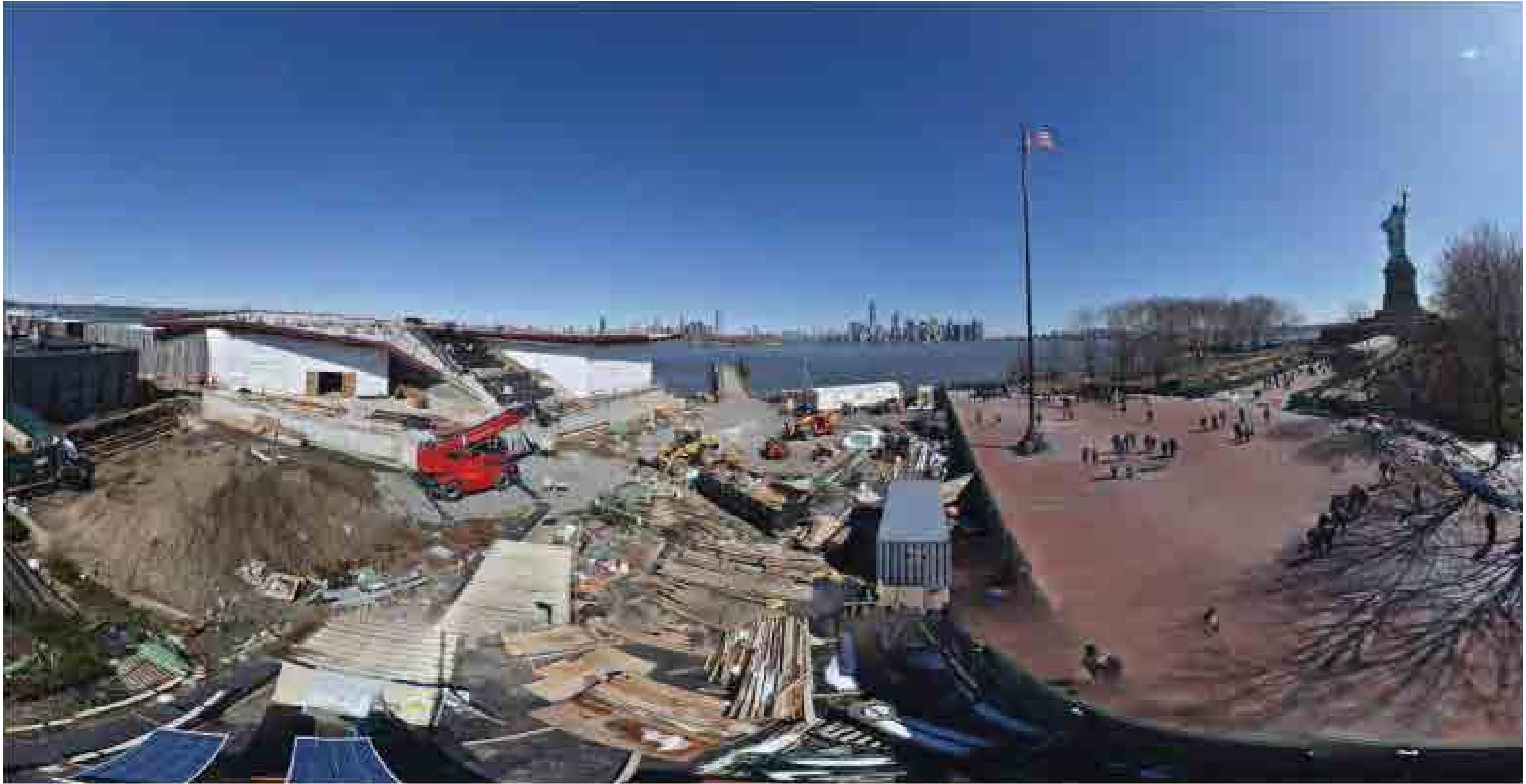
Design Architect: Diller Scofidio + Renfro
Executive Architect: FXCollaborative
Source: <https://www8.gsb.columbia.edu/manhattanville/design/slideshow?nid:33=32>



THE STATUE OF LIBERTY MUSEUM



THE STATUE OF LIBERTY MUSEUM: Construction



THE STATUE OF LIBERTY MUSEUM: Architecture Integrated with Landscape



THE STATUE OF LIBERTY MUSEUM: Interior View



THE STATUE OF LIBERTY MUSEUM: Frit Design



THE STATUE OF LIBERTY MUSEUM: LEED Pilot Credit 55

BUILDING DATA	
Number of Stories	1
Building Height	36'
Total Façade Area	20890
Façade Zone 1 Area	20890
Façade Zone 2 Area	NA
Adjusted Building Façade Area ³	NA

ZONE 1 HIGH RISK FACTOR CALCULATION (HRF)	
Material Type with Threat Factor >75	HR Material Area (HRA)
material 1	0
material 2	0
Windows & Revolvers with Clear Glass	480
High Risk Area (HRA) Totals =	480
HRF= (HRA/Z1 Area) <15%	2.3%

THE STATUE OF LIBERTY MUSEUM: LEED Pilot Credit 55

Zone 1 ONLY	Zone 1 (Z1) ONLY CALCULATION GRADE TO 36 FT ¹ & 12 FT ABOVE GREEN ROOF ²		
Z1 Material Type	Threat Factor	Material Area (A)	Factored Area (FA)
Precast Concrete & Opaque Materials	0	15270	0
Curtain Wall with Fritted Glass	20	4940	98800
Windows & Revolvers with Clear Glass	100	200	20000
Elevator Fritted Glass at Roof	20	480	9600
	Z1 Area Totals=	20890	128400

Total Zone 1 ONLY Building BCTR =	6.14648157
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≤15 = BIRD-SAFE

DESIGN OPTIONS



Medium Frit



Light Frit



Linear Frit



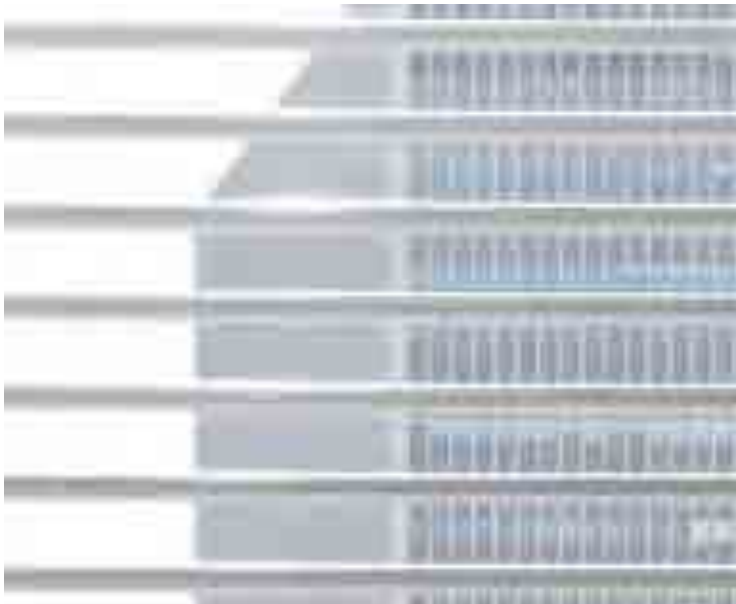
Side 1 Frit



UV Patterning



Thin Screening



Solar Screening



Solar Shading

Daniel Piselli AIA, LEED, CPHD

Senior Associate

FXCollaborative

dpiselli@fxcollaborative.com







Christine Sheppard, Ph.D.
Director, Glass Collisions Program
American Bird Conservancy

Comparative Mortality

Collisions with:	Date of reference	Mortality estimate
Wind turbines	2012	573,000
Cell towers	2012	6,800,000
Power lines	2005	175,000,000
Buildings/glass	2013	1 billion
Cats	2013	1.5—3 billion

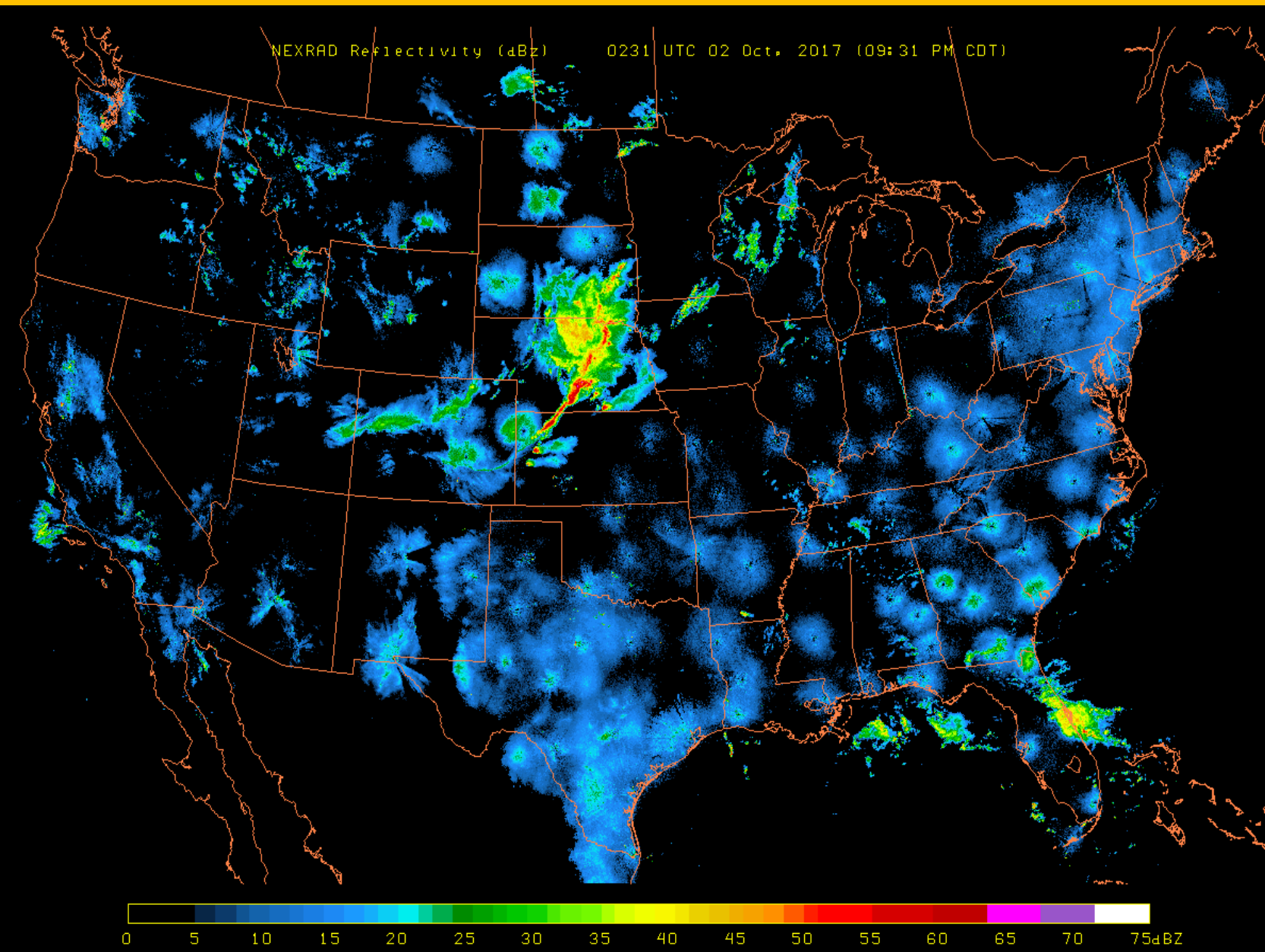
Links to sources at: <http://www.abcbirds.org/abcprograms/policy/collisions/index.html>

**Most, but not all, victims are songbirds,
...especially warblers**



**Migrating at night,
Colliding by day,
Why don't we see more of
them?**

Photo: Lynne Parks



Radar can be used to follow birds migrating at night.

Bright Light, Dark Background = Circling



Urban lighting increase: birds attracted everywhere into built environment



Houston 1873:
twenty streets



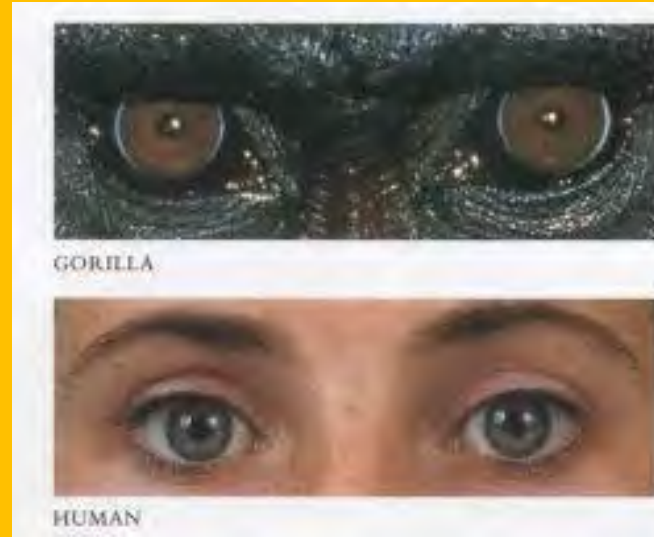
People think they can see glass...



Birds don't speak architecture



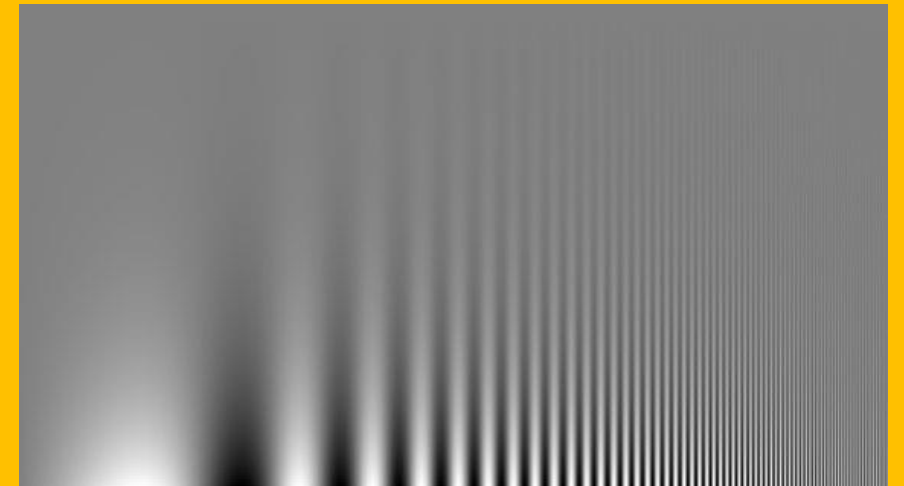
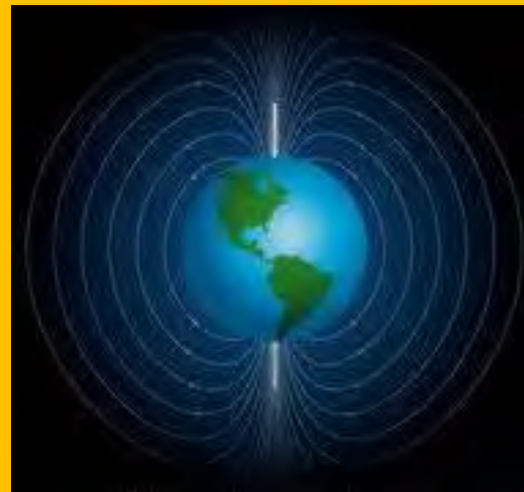
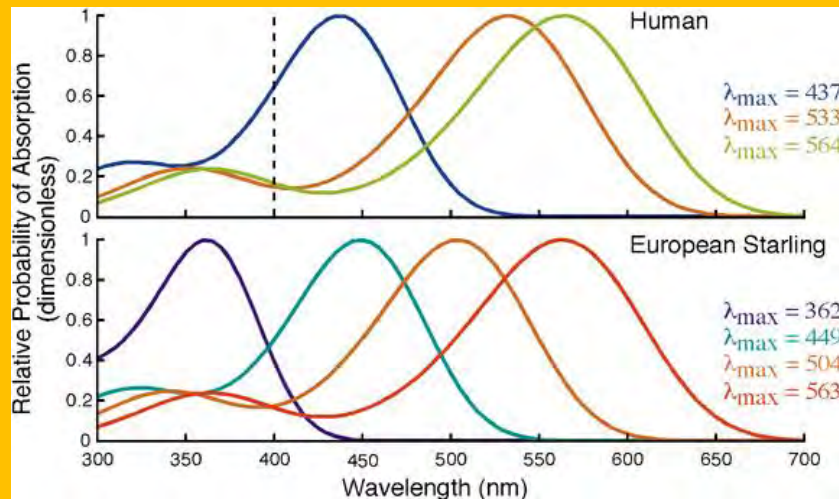
Bird's Eye viewing



Birds have little depth perception, extensive peripheral vision, other senses to determine speed

Birds see more colors, magnetic field, many don't see UV

Birds' resolution < human



Birds often don't expect a barrier ahead...



not looking where you're going

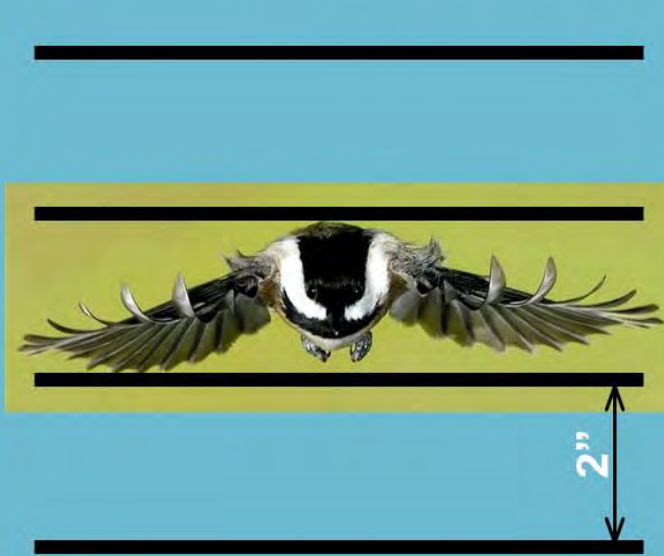


What stops collisions?

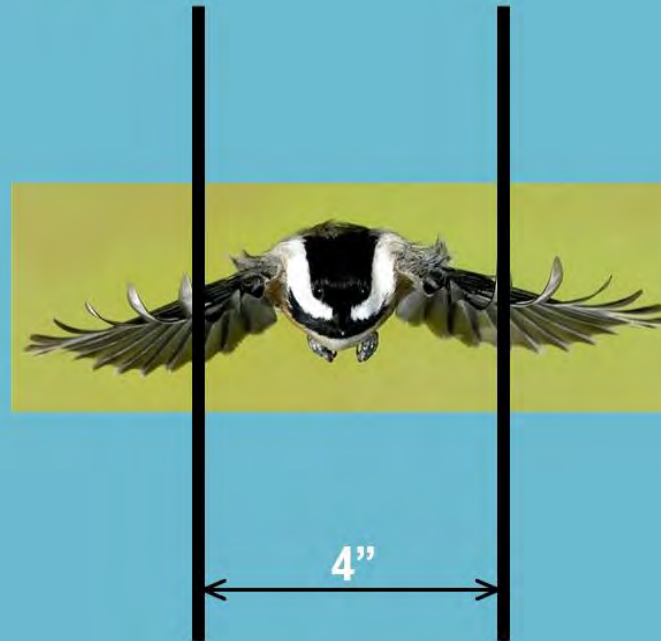
Patterns that act as visual barriers

Birds have a very accurate sense of body shape and size

SOLUTIONS - 2" / 4" RULE



Horizontal lines with a maximum spacing of 2"



Vertical lines with a maximum spacing of 4"

Dots:

at least $\frac{3}{8}$ " diameter

Lines: at least $\frac{1}{8}$ " wide

Irregular shapes and spacing fine!

Legislation, Ordinances and Guidelines

MANDATORY

- Minnesota: Buildings, Benchmarks and Beyond
- San Francisco, CA: Standards for Bird-safe Buildings
- Oakland, CA: Bird Safety Measures
- Highland Park, IL new public buildings
- Cook County, IL (unincorporated)
- Toronto, Canada: Bird-friendly Development Standards
- Ontario, Canada: Environmental Protection Act, Species at Risk Act

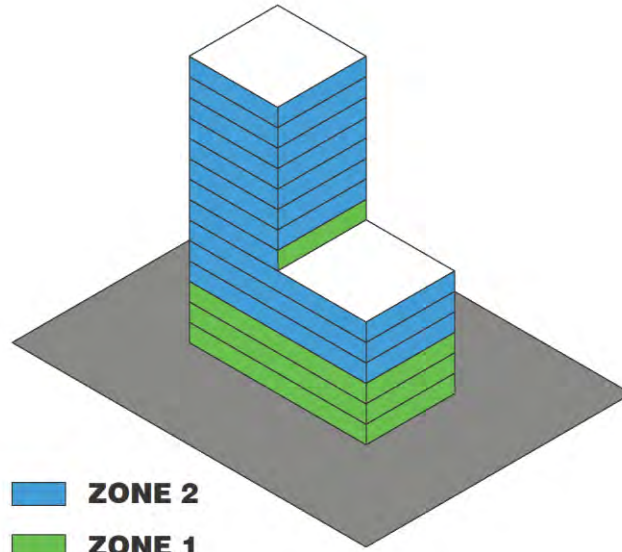
VOLUNTARY

- Sunnyvale, CA: Standards for Bird-safe Buildings
- Palo Alto , CA
- California: CALGreen
- Calgary, Canada
- Barrington

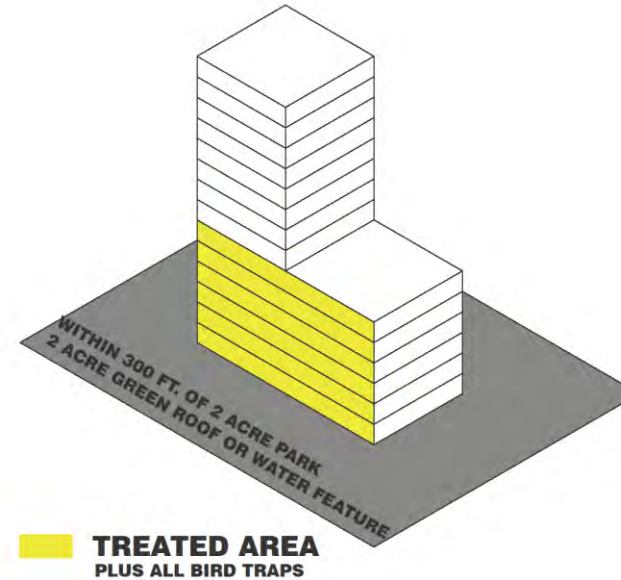
IN PROGRESS

- Federal Bird-safe Buildings Act
- Portland, OR
- San Jose, CA
- Washington, DC
- Maryland

LEED Pilot Credit #55



LEED PILOT CREDIT # 55



**SAN FRANCISCO BIRD-SAFE
BUILDING STANDARD**

What is a bird-friendly building?





More glass = more collisions

Low rise buildings kill more birds than high rise – more of them, often in suburban habitat

Cardinal directions vs reflected vegetation



Prioritize lower floors!

How to design a bird-friendly building:

Incorporate solutions from the beginning to eliminate added extra costs.

Strategies:

- Reduce exposure of glass
- Incorporate signals in / on glass
- Minimize use of glass

Bird friendly design overlaps with solar shading, glare control, security, thermal control, energy efficiency, and can be part of a distinctive design aesthetic.

Fritted glass



Intuit HQ, WRNS Studio



Fritted glass



**Anchorage Museum,
David Chipperfield**

Reduced exposure of glass

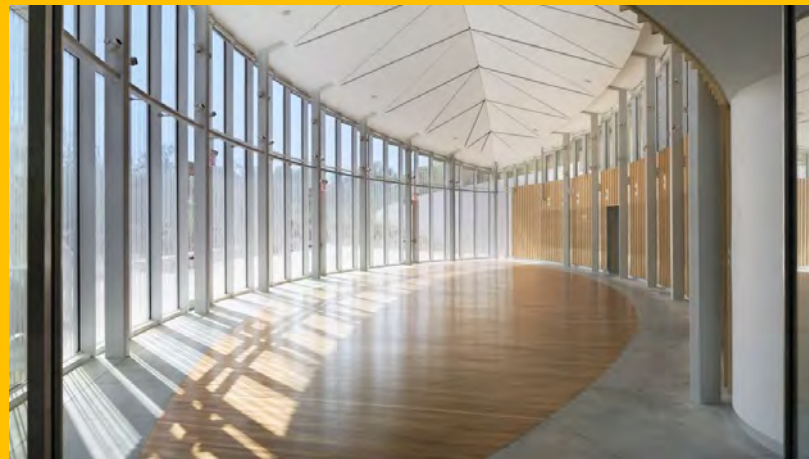


Cooper Union, NYC Morphosis

Bird-friendly glass



**Brooklyn Botanical Garden,
Weiss Manfredi**

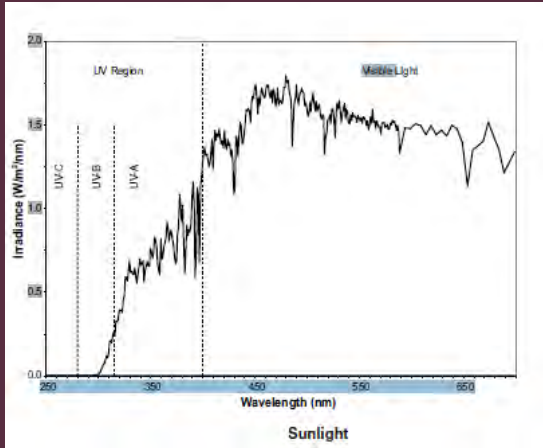


Reduced glass



**Bronx Emergency Call Center,
SOM**

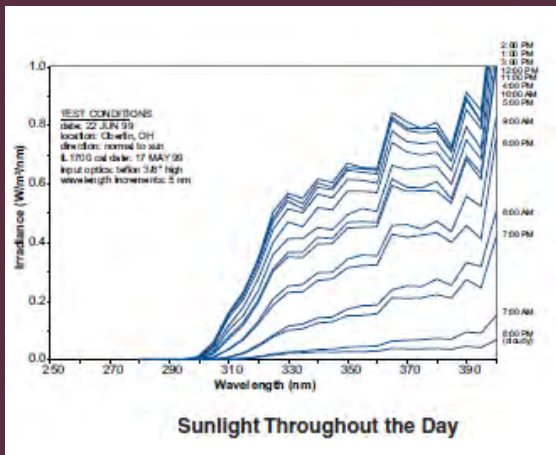
What About UV Patterns?



Arnold Glas
Ornilux Mikado



Glas-pro
Bird Safe Glass



Glastroesch
Silverstar Birdprotect Glass

Retrofit: film



Northwestern University
Solyx Bird Safety Film



Retrofit: Solyx Bird-safety Film



Left: Key West Airport

Above: Bronx Zoo



Retrofit: Feather Friendly

U of Pennsylvania Vet School



U of Guelph Arboretum



Pan American Sports Centre



Retrofit: Collidescape

National Renewable Energy Lab



Cape May Community College



Retrofit: Acopian BirdSavers

University of Florida



Private Home, Michigan



Retrofit: Home solutions



Resources



YOU CAN SAVE BIRDS
from flying into windows!

Millions of birds die every year, because they can't tell reflections from reality. *Almost half hit home windows.*

Black-and-white Warbler by Laura Erickson



Never had a bird hit your window? More likely, you haven't been there when it happened. **But the odds are that sooner or later, your windows will kill a bird.**

Even small windows can be dangerous, as many birds fly into small spaces.

CSheppard@abcbirds.org



Bird-Friendly Building Design



Download at ABCBirds.org

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Learning Objectives

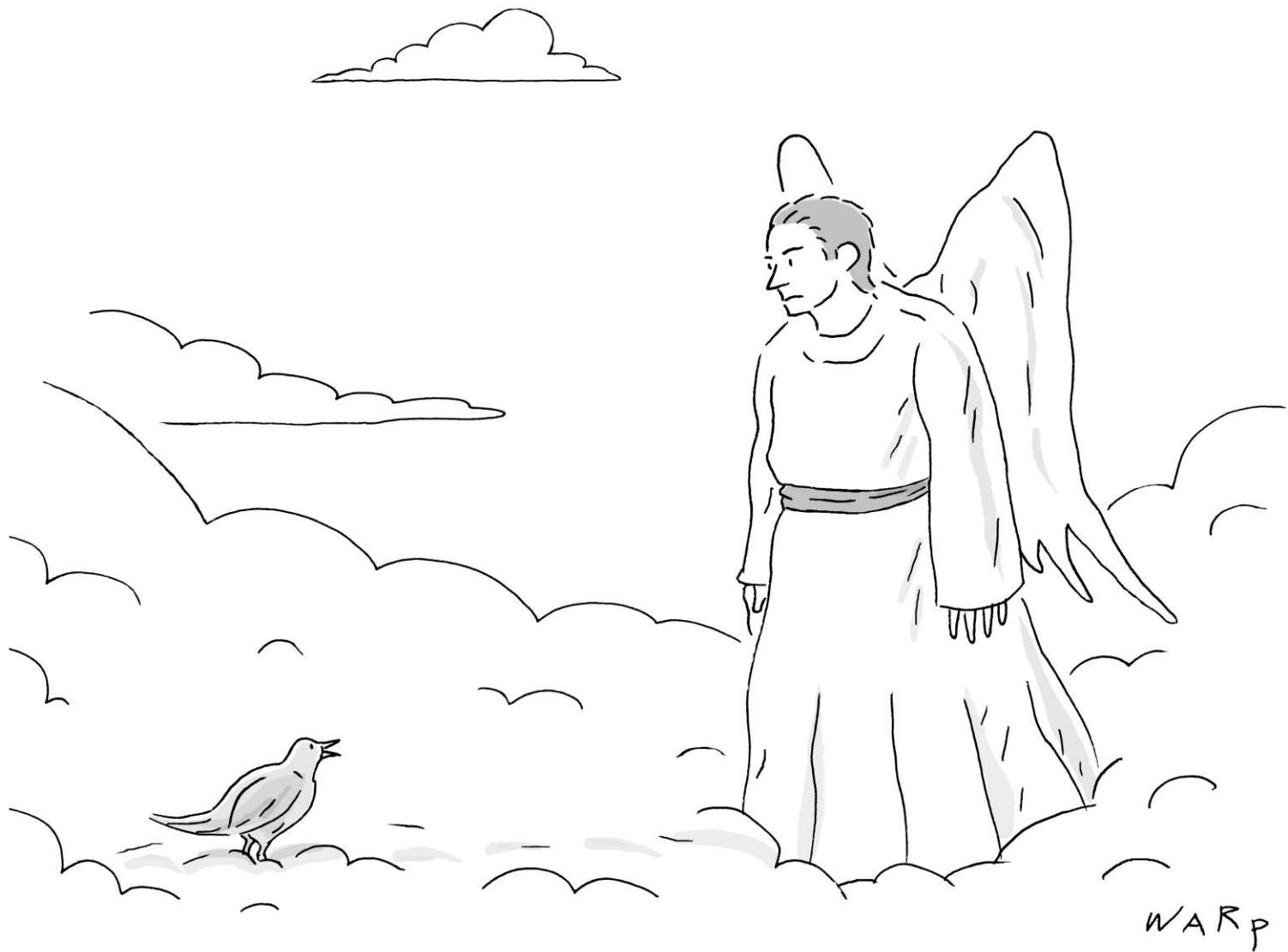
1. Identify factors leading to bird-glass collisions
2. Specify building design and lighting techniques to reduce these collisions
3. Assess success of current case studies relating to bird/glass safety
4. Follow up on recent code and advocacy developments relating to bird-friendly design

Bird-friendly Buildings in an Urban Setting

*District Department of Energy and Environment (DOEE) Presentation
March 13, 2018*



Anne Lewis, FAIA,
President
City Wildlife, Inc.



"You run into a window, too?"

Yellowthroats – a mated pair

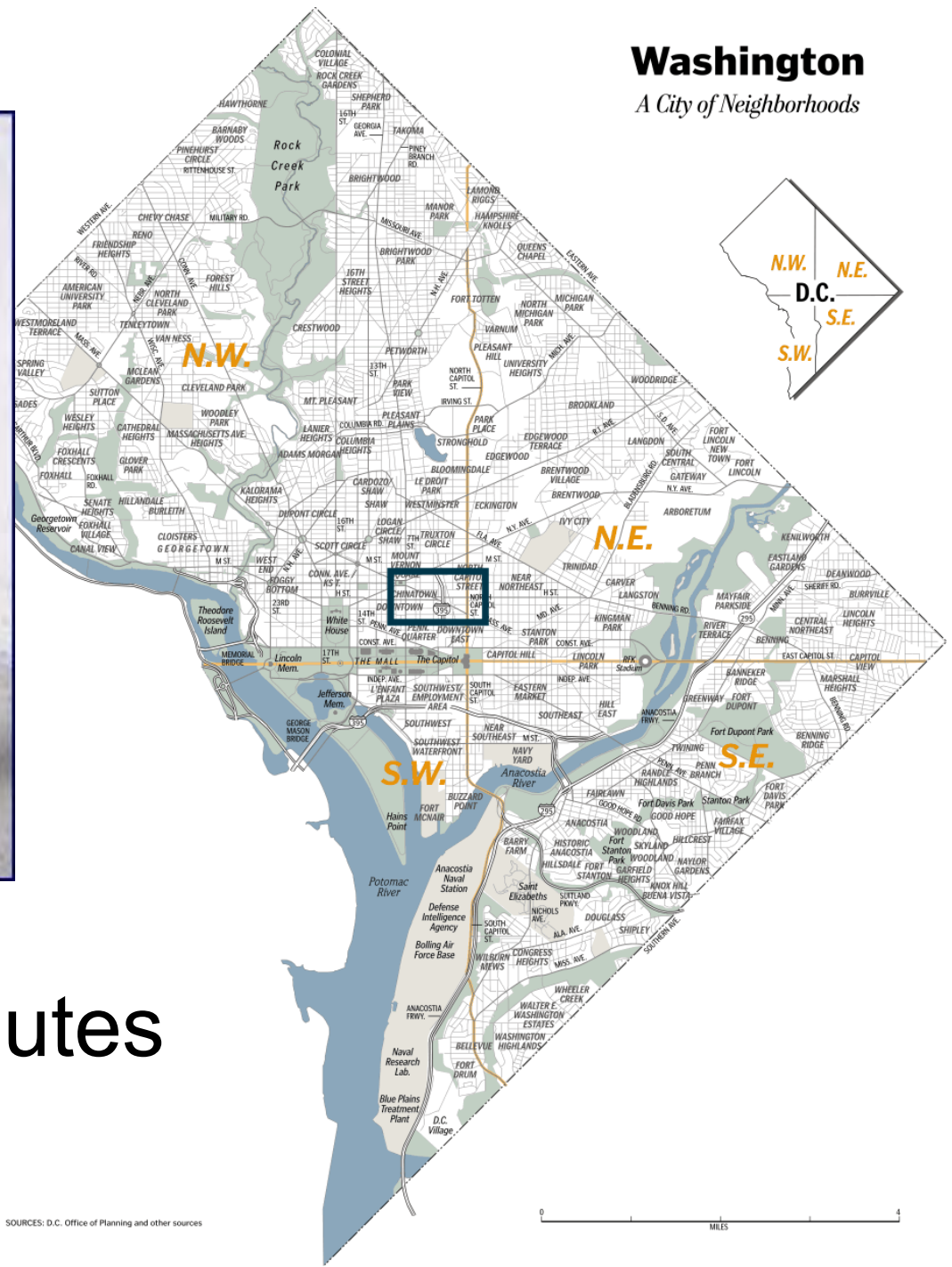




Photo: NYC Audubon Project Safe Flight

Washington

A City of Neighborhoods



Walking the Routes

Sorting the birds



Some *Lights Out DC* birds



2010 Lights Out DC Birds, City Wildlife, Inc.

More every year...



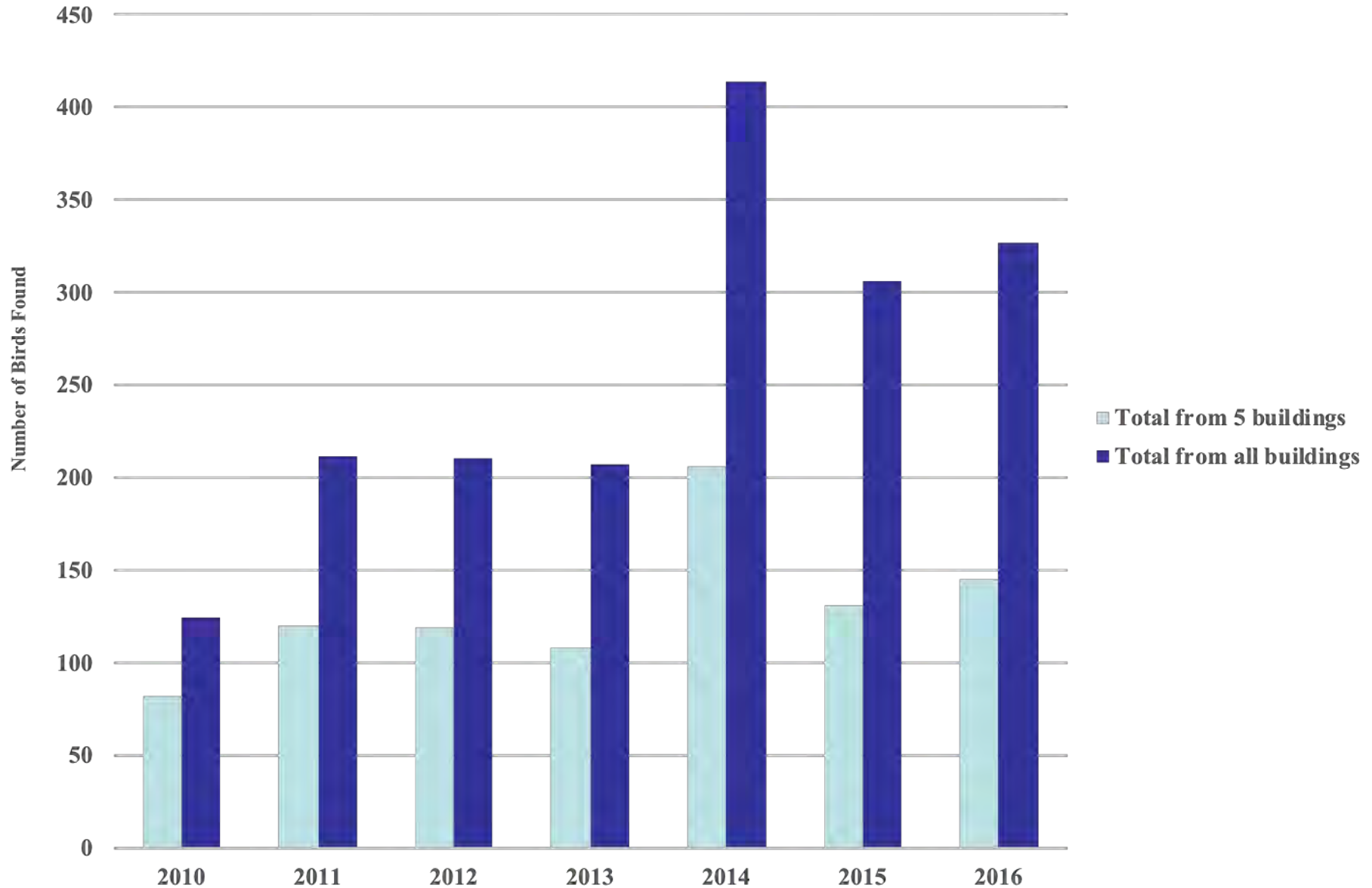
2016 Lights Out DC birds

1 billion birds a year



Source: FLAP, Toronto, 2009

Lights Out DC Bird Strikes





A dangerous situation...



Reflections in the morning



Transparency at night



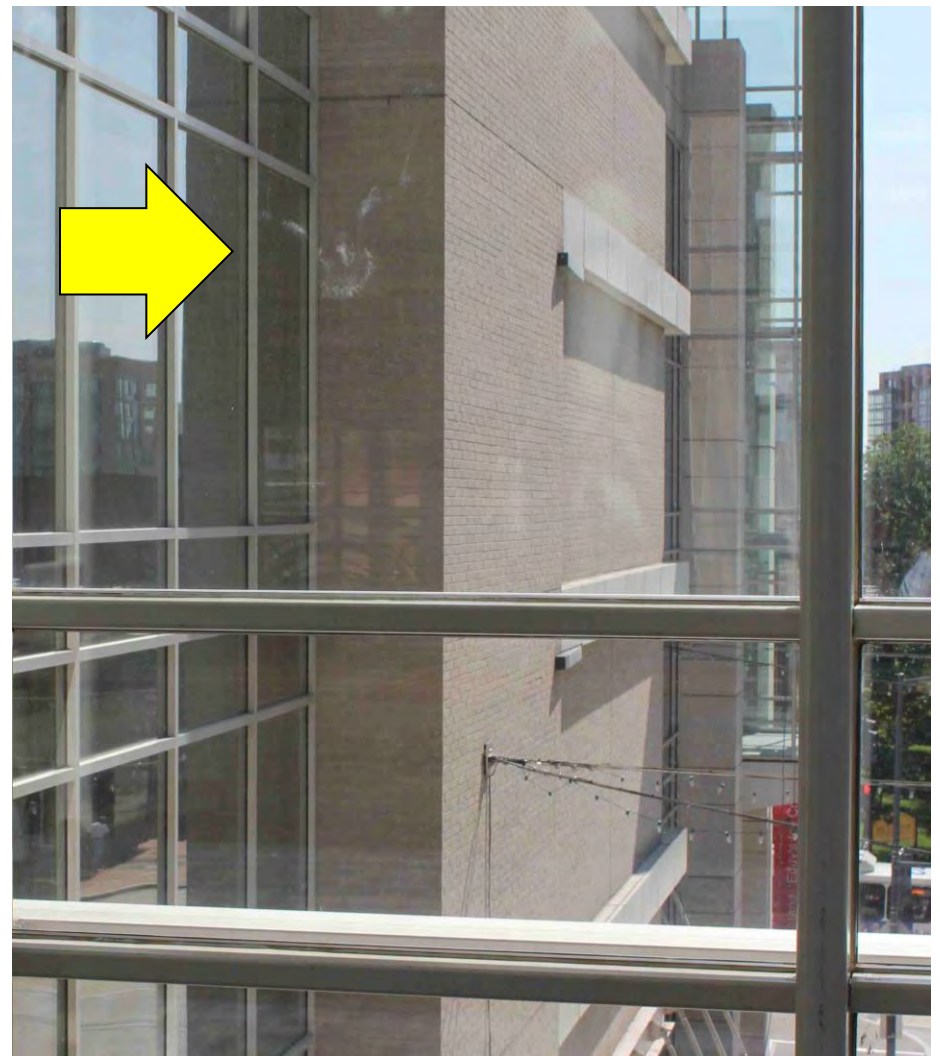
Transparency



Reflectivity



Transparent overpass



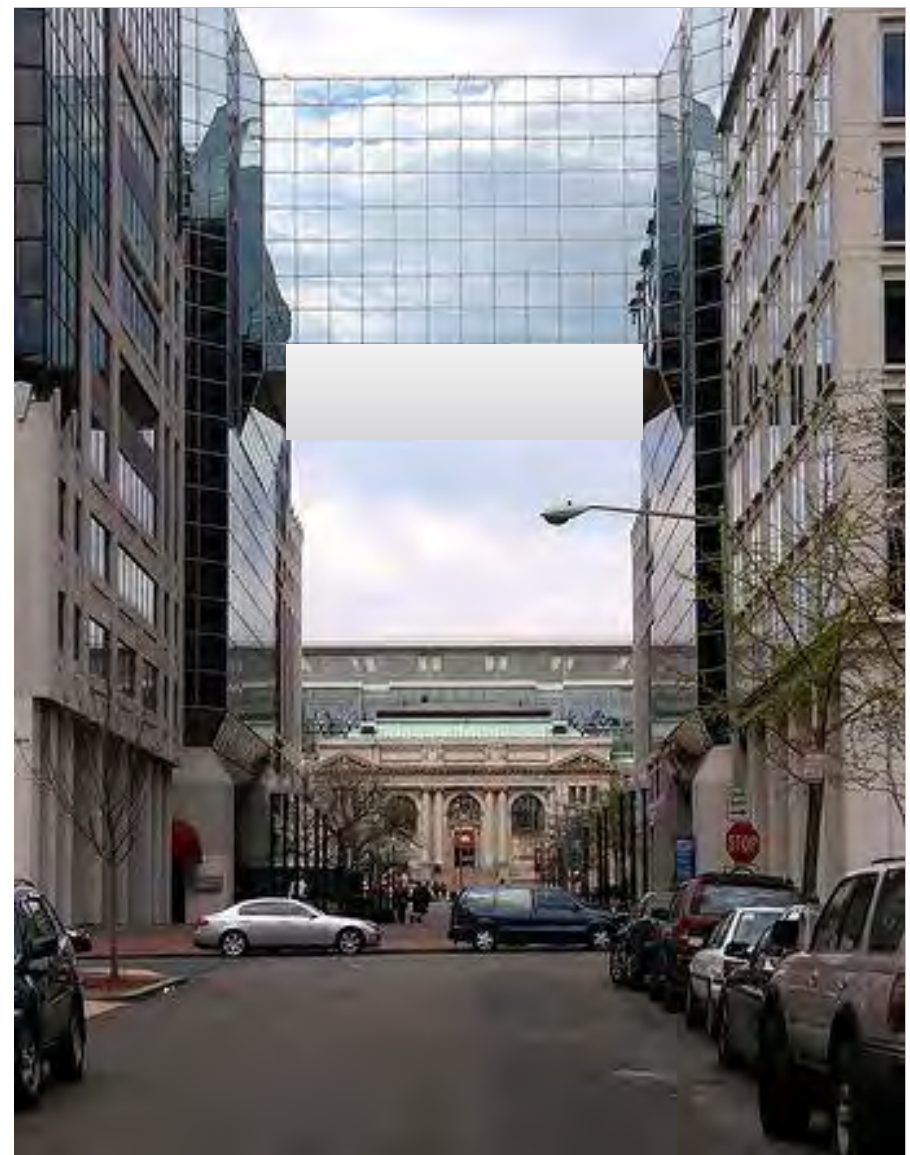
Imprint of a collision

Bird-safe film, exterior application





What we see.



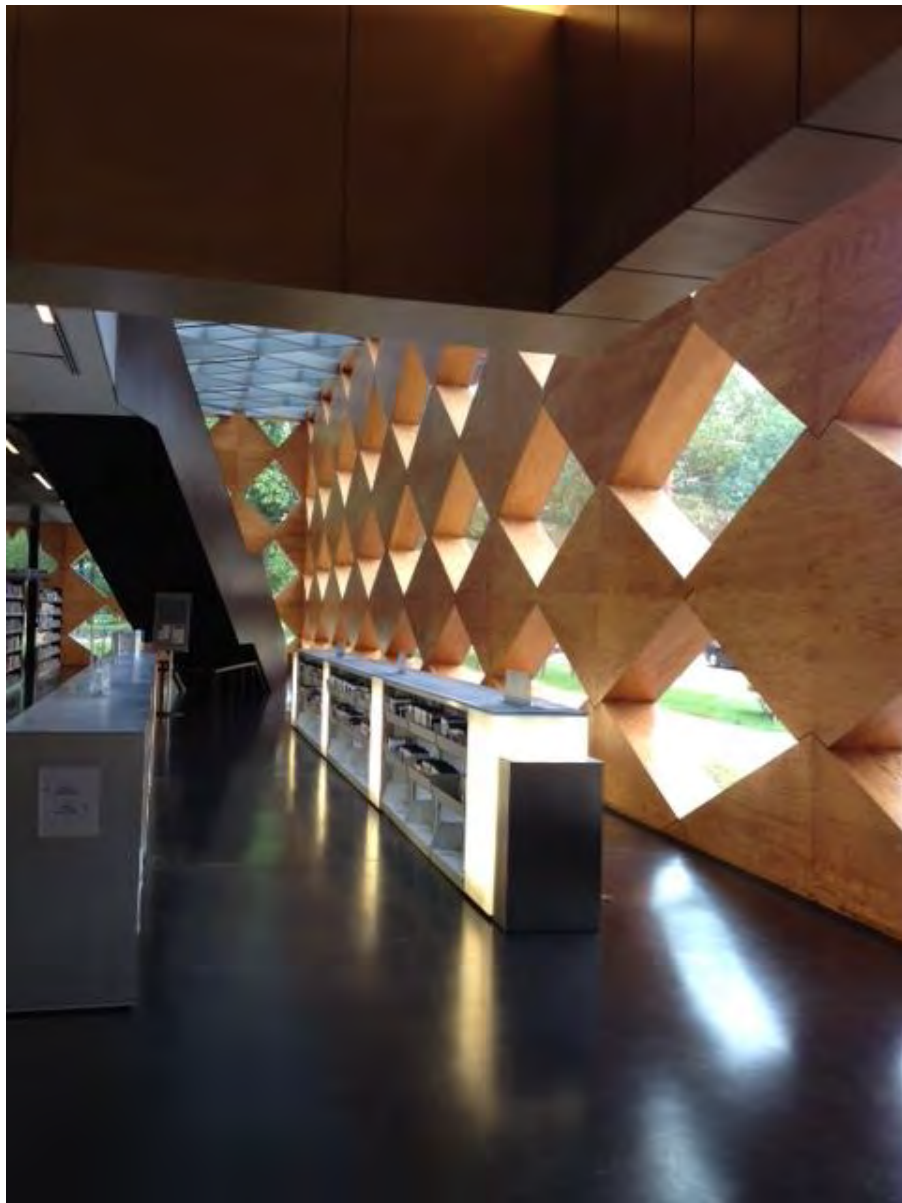
What they see.



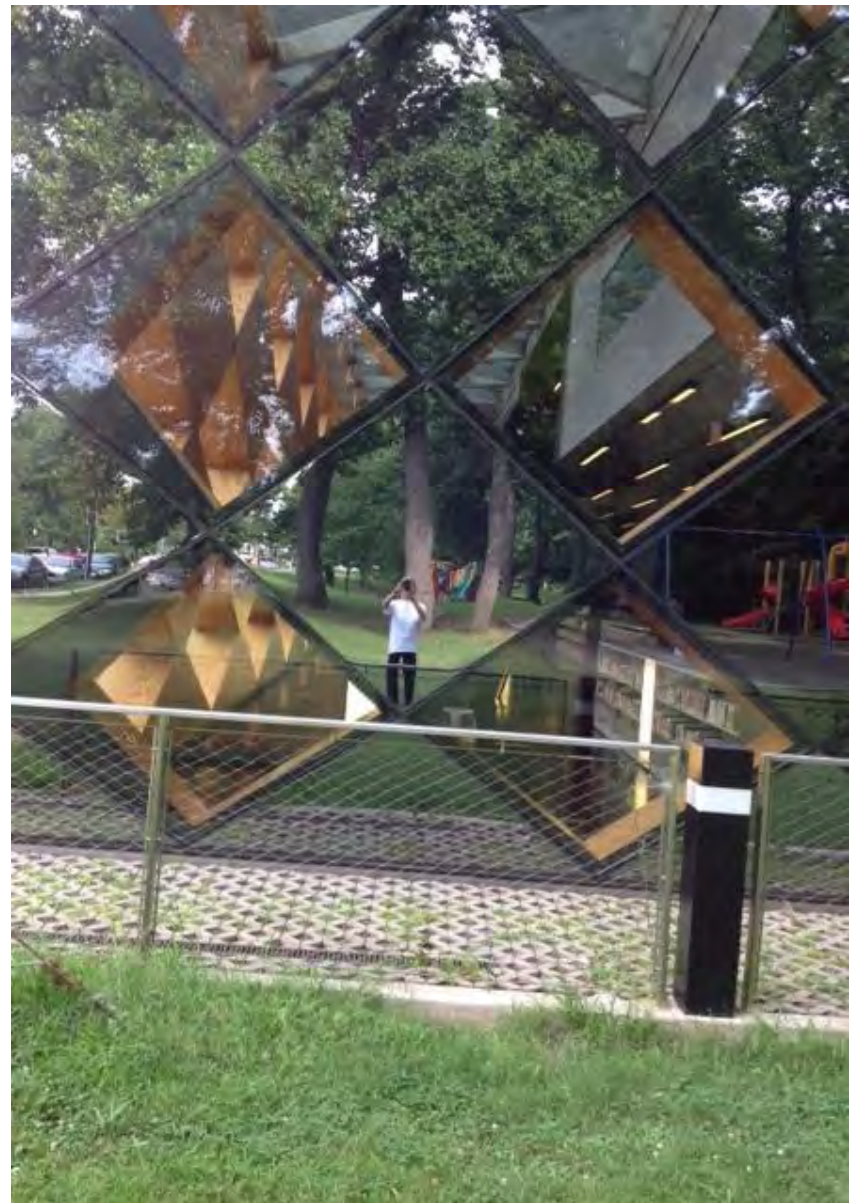
A fly-through situation



A runner - up



Nice on the inside...



a hazard outside



Anacostia Library
Architects: The Freelon Group



Bird Friendly Design



Shaw Library
Architect: Davis Brody Bond Aedas



Bird Friendly Design



Consolidated Forensic Laboratory Project
District of Columbia Department of General Services

Bird Friendly Design



What Can Architects Do to Help?



Wood Thrush
Official Bird of DC

- Reduce Lighting
- Follow Bird-Safe Design Guidelines
- Use and Test Bird Safe Products
- Document and Report
- Spread the word

Lack of public awareness is the greatest threat.

Reduced Lighting Saves Energy:

Thurgood Marshall Building Atrium

- Atrium lighting reduced from 11pm-6am year-round
- Savings: 28%

DC Court of Appeals Pavilion

- Pavilion lighting reduced from 11pm-6am during migration
- Savings: 15%



LEED Pilot Credit 55: Bird Collision Deterrence

- Bird Collision Threat Rating: less than 15
- Building separated into Zones 1 and 2
- All materials assigned a Threat Factor
- Interior and Exterior Lighting Requirements
- Post construction monitoring and plan for corrective action

Green Buildings Shouldn't Kill Birds



Photo: Matt Reinbold

A proposal for DC's Green Construction Code

- An elective under Appendix A
- Incorporates LEED Pilot Credit 55
- Provides one extra credit for buildings that remediate more glass (> 40% glass overall, or > 75% glass on any two facades)
- Lighting reduced until 7 am

Green Buildings Shouldn't Kill Birds



Photo: Matt Reinbold

Contact us for help.



info@citywildlife.org
anne.lewis@citywildlife.org