

BASIC 5 Ways to See the Architecture of Complex Systems

*Here, then, is what I wanted to tell you of my architecture.
I created it with courage and idealism, but also with an awareness of the fact that
what is important is life, friends, and attempting to make this unjust world a better place in which to live.*

—Oscar Niemeyer

Boundaries

WHAT THINGS ARE

Absence
Border
Collision
Edge
Gap
Graft
Joint
Rift
Seam
Transition

Associations

HOW THINGS CONNECT

Allusion
Antecedence
Connotation
Entailment
Hetero/Homogeneity
Metaphor
Progenesis

Situations

WHERE THINGS ARE

Adjacency
Down-ness
Emplacement
Juxtaposition
Nesting
Up-ness

Invariants

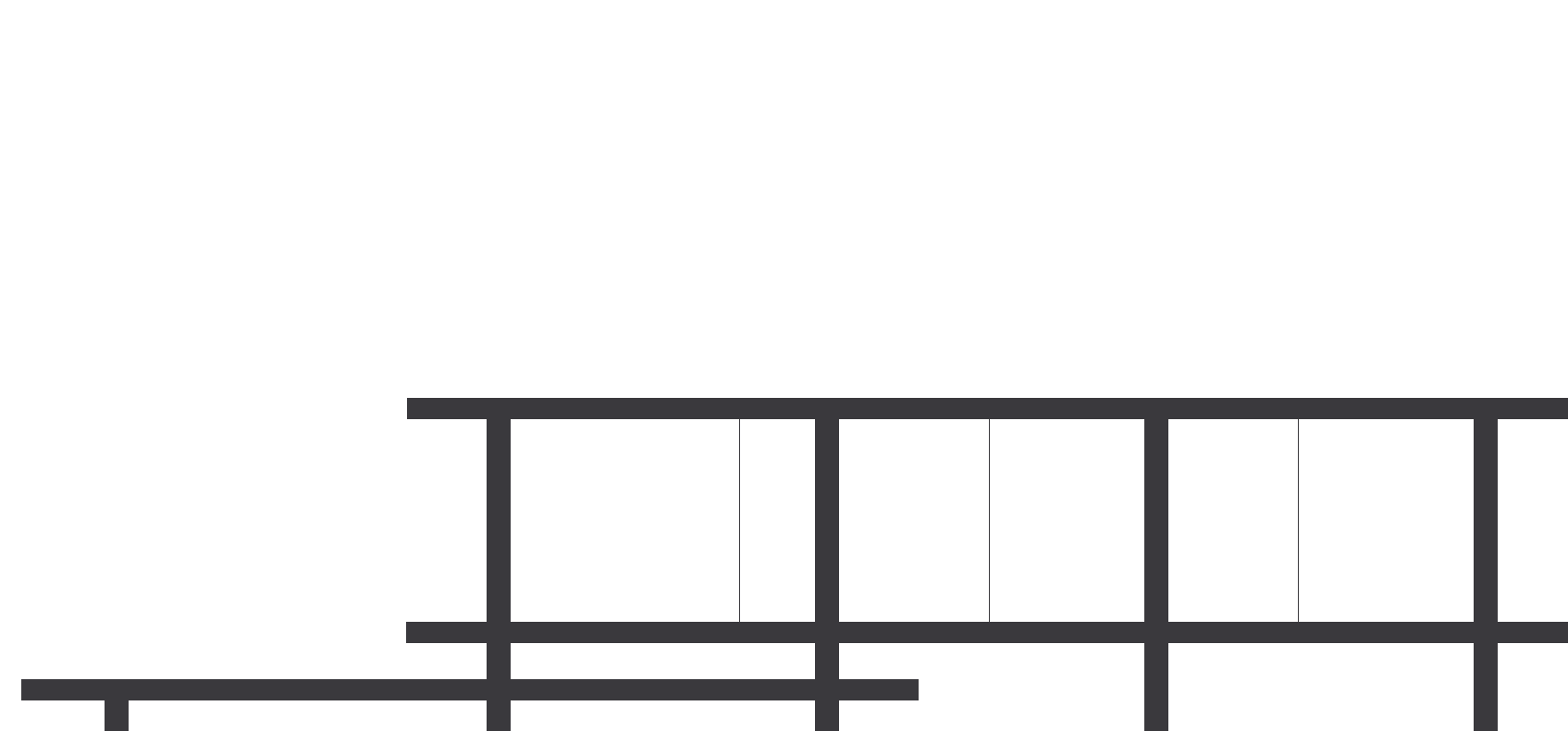
CONSTANT FORCES

Entropy
Friction
Gravity
History

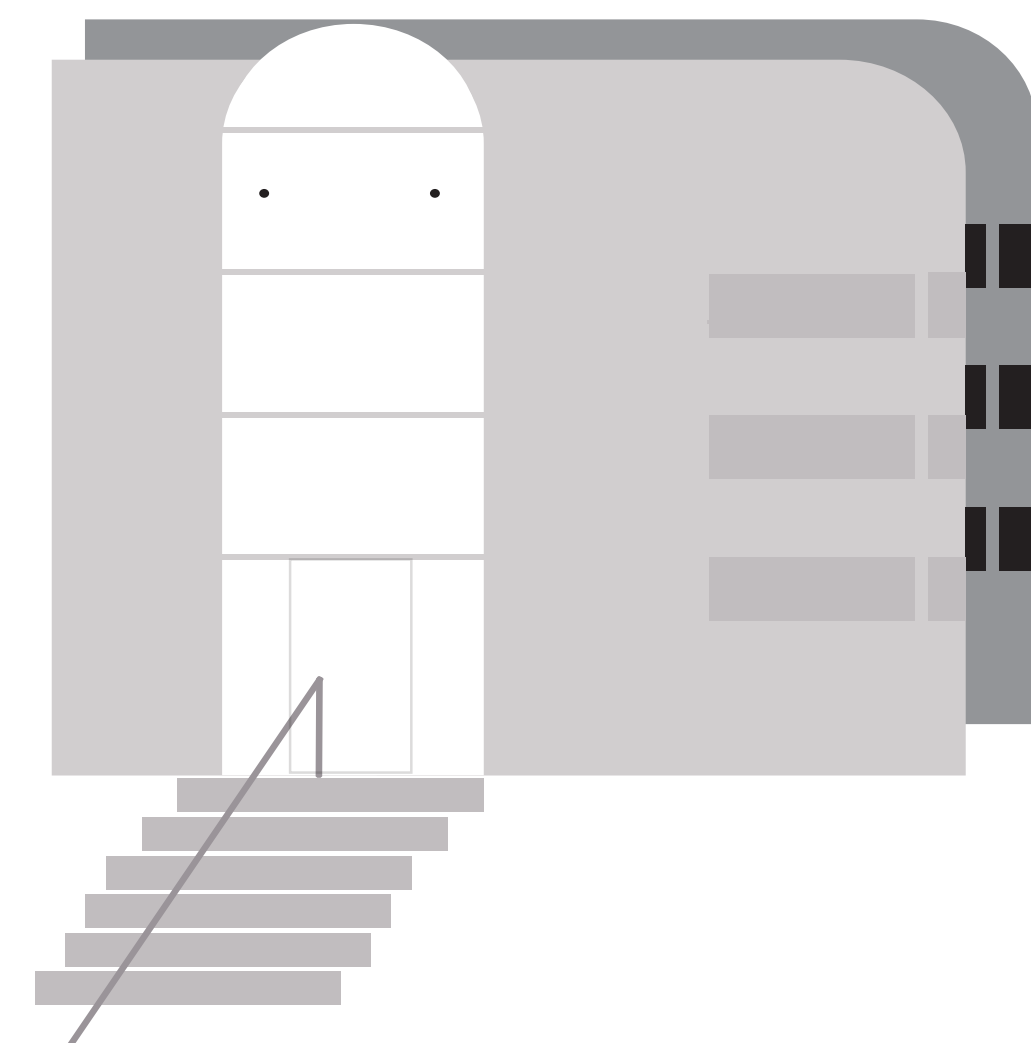
Cycles

VARIABLE FORCES

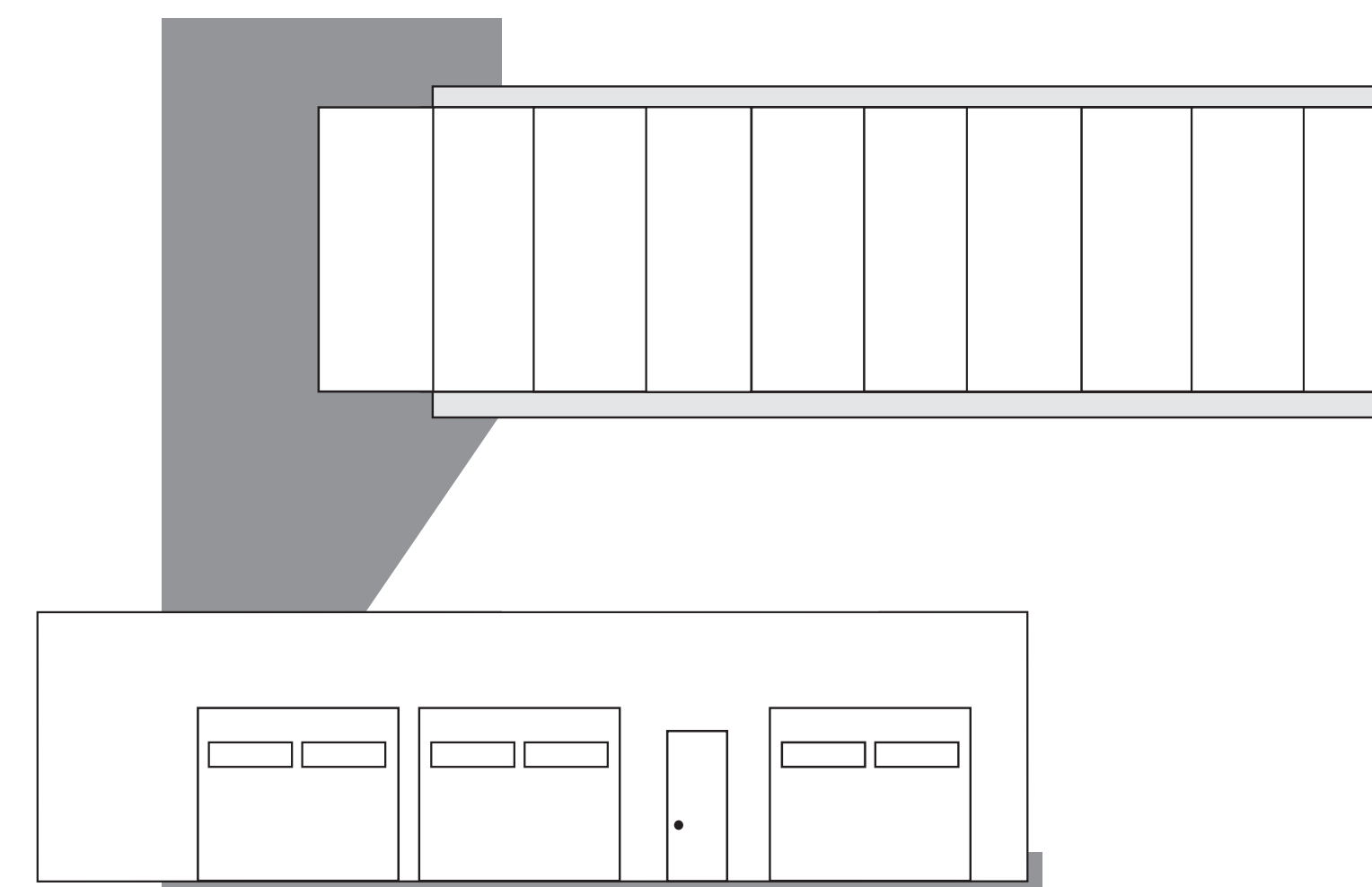
Demand
Fashion
Season
Supply



Edith Farnsworth House 1951



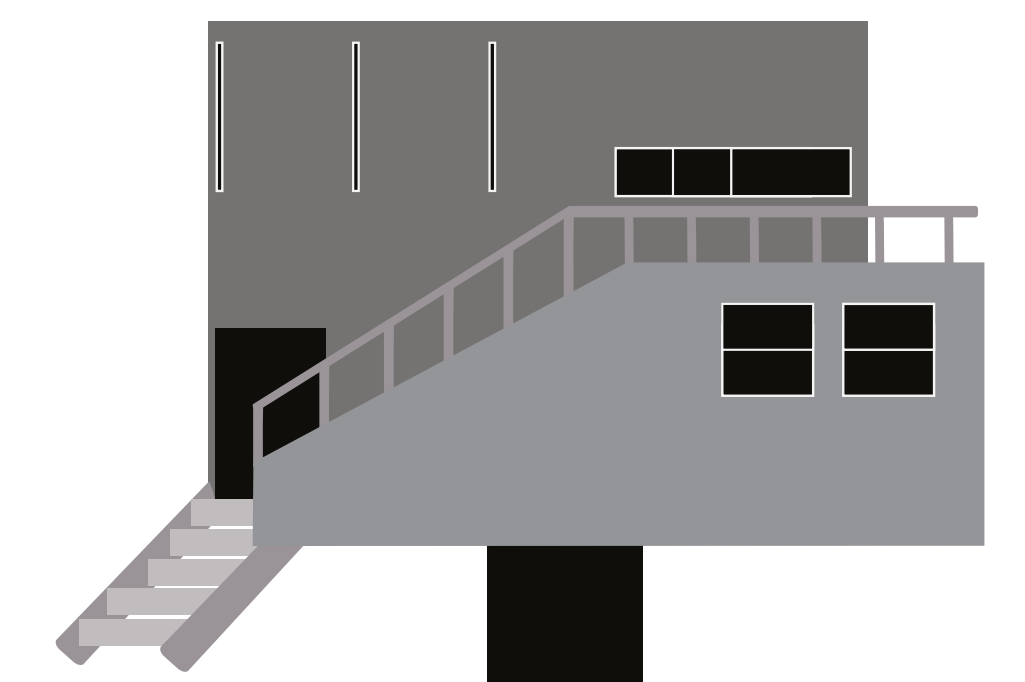
Howard Miller Clock Company 1992



Lamar Construction 2006



Seattle Garage circa 2000



Sandcastles 1966