The staircase is the most important architectural element. The stairs’ hierarchy in this project emphasizes the circulation, and the steps not only provides a means of accessing the mid-levels, but also forms a linking structure from park and business district. They tie the program of internal and external functions together.

For example, there is activity along the water-front leading to the building and through to the market entrance. The common element linking these areas both internally and externally is the grand stair. The staircase does not form a straight line, because the site is too steep for a straight run of stairs. With all of the appropriate landings the staircase would be much too long to accommodate the overall organization and tightly spaced structure.
The stairs allow some landing spaces to become more formal entrances to each level. This is the place to watch and be watched. It permits one to participate or to avoid participation safely. It is a focus and change of pace to create a point of emphasis. There are the tangible and intangible elements in travel through a space. Mystery of lighting, the pull of the waterfront, the excitement of the path, the appeal of people watching, the surfaces and objects of the environment, all lend a hand in this focal point.

The staircase became the generator of an architectural hierarchy of elements that included the site, stairs, columns and roof. In conclusion, the stair itself acts as a diachronic element or thread through the architecture linking all facets of the work. Each kind of movement has its own characteristics and a particular relationship potential with its immediate surroundings. The vertical thrust of the elevator is incorporated by making the lift and shaft visible so that they cut through the horizontal layers of landings which look into the atrium space. This allows each participating element to work in a harmonic balance.
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REFERENCES

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