THE CRYSTAL GATEWAY

GOOSE ISLAND - CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

PROJECT SCOPE

Crystal Gateway is an experiment in using the idea of a "gateway" to both encourage urban exploration into a repurposed area, and generate efficient and sustainable daylighting opportunities. The building sits along the North Branch of the Chicago River. The building form comes from the initial idea of the "gateway" not only as an icon to lead visitors through the pedestrian bridge to Goose Island, but also to seize passive daylighting opportunities for the office tower as required for this project. Building upward was key to capturing these opportunities while taking advantage of the 360 degree views that Chicago has to offer. The public realm is enhanced through the building's structural system, in which the office floors are hung from a large truss supported at the building's cores, creating an open column-free public realm at the base which uses a monumental staircase to promote public interaction, and encourage new relationships.