

# Topographic Terrain

The intervention consists of a large overhead condition whose form follows the natural topographic contour of the site. This emphasizes the characteristic of the site, which is a reclaimed marsh land that was drained in the late 1800's. The structure extends below the ground level to the underground parking to accentuate the idea that the site was built up from a void of natural land. This gives visitors a sense of the characteristic of the site from the parking level. From there, visitors ascend to the main level, where they can observe the site and surrounding context from a glass cavern embedded into

the topographic shift of the terrain as they approach the intervention. The conditioned second level is constructed from tallowwood, an Australian native hardwood that is durable and can withstand damp environments. The ground condition below consists of piezoelectric panels that generate energy from the frictional movement of people walking on them. The energy produced by the visitors is used to illuminate the facade of the cultural center and which be manipulated for exhibits and events. The overhead condition is joined by a large orthogonal cultural center with a glass curtain-wall facade and a photovoltaic roof. The overhead condition bleeds into the structure to become the floor of the second level. Its natural contour juxtaposes the rigid edges of the transparent building envelope.

