Since the erection of the first bridge to span the Mississippi River, the crossings of people and goods over the river has shaped the landscape of the city. The Watershed Research Facility creates an additional but vital connection between the river and those living among its watershed. Rather than connecting the two coasts, the research center reconnects the people of St. Louis to the waterways that define the city and provide a deep understanding of the river through research and education. Through this revitalization of the St. Louis waterfront, the city and the wider watershed will experience a cultural revival and scientific advancement.