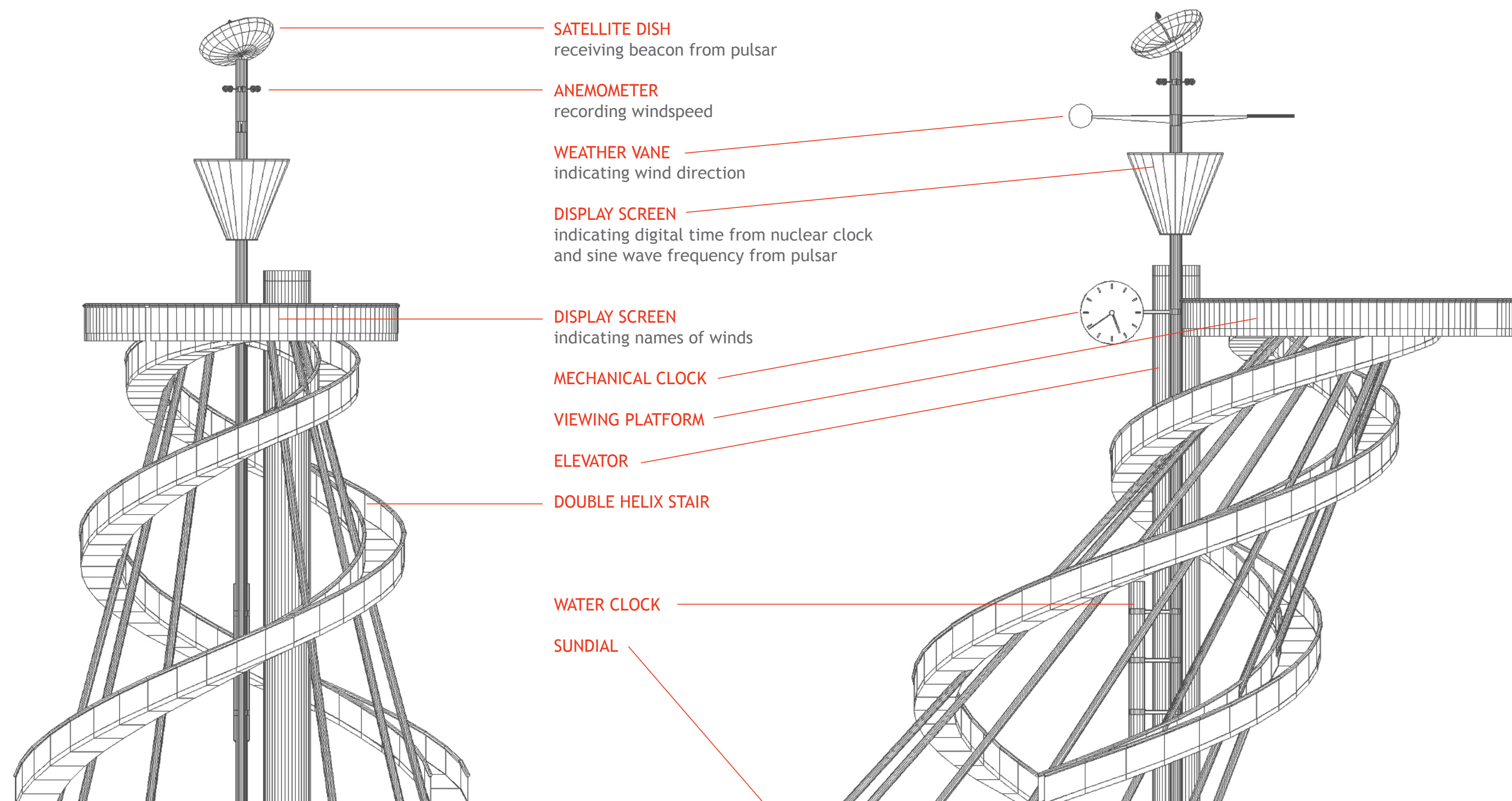
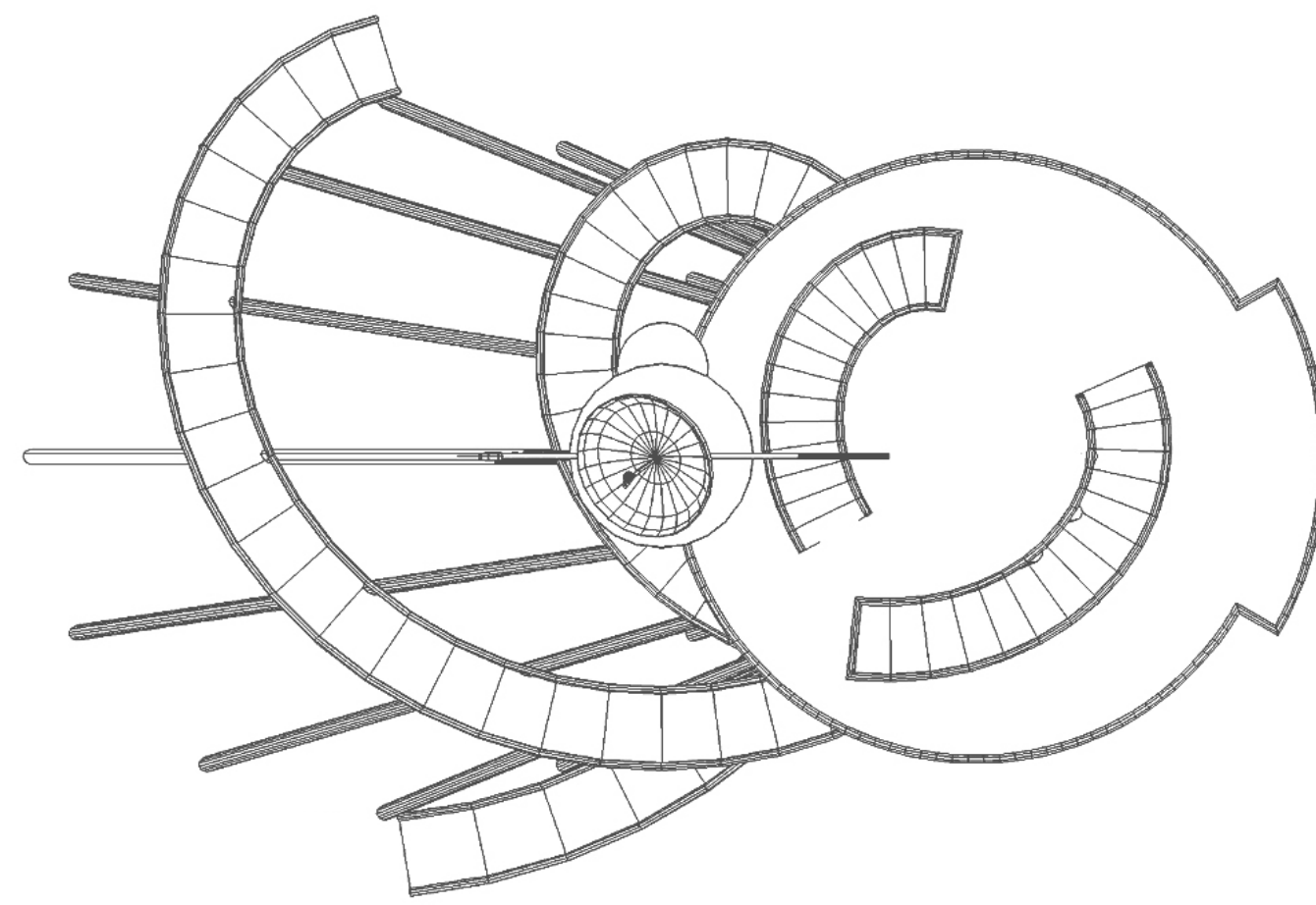


The Tower of the Winds



THE TOWER OF THE WINDS A Belvedere for Boston

CONCEPT

There are two motivating ideas behind this proposal for the Tower of the Winds to be sited at the end of Long Wharf. Firstly, now that the Rose Fitzgerald Greenway is nearing completion it is time to extend State Street to the end of Long Wharf. A “high reader” destination point visible from the Old State House would define the axis of this historic link between the waterfront and the city. Secondly, there are few high points in the city open and accessible to the public. A viewing platform overlooking the harbor and the city would provide just such an advantageous ‘belvedere’ for Boston and at the same time create a learning venue for area schools.

There are three key elements to the structure:

- The Tower will incorporate a **viewing platform** offering a view of the harbor and the city. The platform will be accessible by a **double helix stair** (allowing ascent and descent in a single direction) and a glass elevator. It will be a beacon in the harbor and a focal point leading visitors from the Old State House down State Street to the water’s edge.
- It will be a **Tower of the Winds** accommodating a weather vane, an electronic display panel showing names of the winds (in Chinese, Greek and Italian), and an anemometer.
- It will be a **Tower of Time** including a sundial, a water clock, a mechanical clock, a cesium clock, and the reception of the beam from a pulsar (the most regular beat in the universe, therefore the best timekeeper).

EDUCATIONAL SITE

The Tower of the Winds will be a field site for schools. Situated at Long Wharf next to the Aquarium and immediately adjacent to the boat landings for the Harbor Islands, there are opportunities for developing curriculum in the following fields:

- **Science and Math** - a location to demonstrate the measurement of time, the longitude problem, navigational methods and astronomy.
- **Environmental Science** - the Tower will be first base in an appreciation of Boston Harbor and the Harbor Islands covering geography, topography, the maritime environment and urban history.
- **History and Culture** - derived from multidisciplinary studies this will be a place to develop an understanding of maritime history, the founding of the colony, the Boston link in the slave trade and immigration.

FEASIBILITY

This proposal has been developed with science and arts teachers in the Boston school system and with input from specialists in mechanical and electronic time keeping. A full budget incorporating capital and operating costs has been established. The project as proposed could be realized with a capital endowment of less than \$6 million (excluding the cost of the land).

