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Cleveland Circle mixed-use building is part of a new gateway to the city of St. Paul, Minnesota. In an approach by automobile from Minneapolis, the building creates a striking image to vehicular traffic emerging from the tunnel leading into the St. Paul city center. Above a base of big box retail, parking and public space, three vertical bars rise to accommodate seniors housing, triplex residential units and a commercial office building. Each programmatic bar is bisected by a stack of multiple story voids with bridges connecting the two sides of each bar. The voids are planted and become communal space with the effect of dividing each programmatic bar into a collection of vertically stacked communities. The interlocking circulation through the voids in turn has the effect of visually linking each program to the others. While each program has its own vertical circulation and communal space, the bridges linking the two sides of each bar fly through each other program. This organizational strategy breaks down this two million square foot building while creating an opportunity for naturally ventilated micro-climates in this irregular six-pointed star shaped icon. The David Adjaye masterplan to establish a vibrant 40 story gateway to St. Paul, MN. includes this contribution as well as buildings by David Adjaye, Toshiko Mori, Nikolaus Hirsch and a sculpture by the artist Matthew Ritchie.

