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University Avenue Residences is a design for a half million square foot housing development for this Bronx, New York site. Approval was sought through an application filed with the New York City Department of City Planning for the de-mapping of an un-built city street that was to cut through the site. The city agency was concerned that the de-mapping of the street would allow the resulting 800 foot long site to house a single unarticulated building which they adamantly opposed. In response to this, we proposed a series of five distinct but similar buildings with six story bases which addressed the surrounding context in scale and materiality. The drastically sloping site across the East River from Manhattan offered both the potential for spectacular views out and presence from the East River and Manhattan. To address this, each of the five buildings is capped in a six story upper register which playfully rotate as they terrace down University Avenue presenting a crystalline series of forms to enhance and differentiate views while asserting an iconic presence.

