Important Modification for Homework Assignment #5

Recognizing the shortness of time, with only one week between the end of Thanksgiving vacation and the end of class, the last homework assignment is being modified. I wish this was not necessary, but I would rather have excellent examples of a limited scope than weaker submissions for a larger project. There are several reasons for this, as listed below (not necessarily in order of importance):

1. The arts quadrangle is not flat nor horizontal, and for complete realism we would need to model the terrain.
2. For better realism, we would also have to model at least the nearby surroundings, the existing buildings of the quadrangle, but again, we do not have the time or the personnel to perform this task. We have actually experimented with this approach and have a coarse model which you could use.
3. As an alternative, we have chosen a simpler solution called “environment mapping”, which allows scenery at a reasonable distance from the observer to render environments using photographic techniques as contrasted to three dimensional geometries. In a sense, we have taken a high resolution video from the center of the site and mapped the resulting scenery to the inside of a hemisphere of large radius.
4. Since either approach will not change your model parameters, you may choose either option.
5. To prevent distortions using the techniques mentioned above, we have “bounded” the space in which an observer can move. This is depicted by a relatively transparent enclosure which also then limits the access to your structures.
6. The exact dimensions (20 meters by 15 meters) and the site location have been added to the assignment today.

Recognizing this shortness of time, you need to only model the aboveground structure and the exhibit, but nothing for the subterranean portion. (If you wish, this may be optional, as we have provided the ramp and the bounding box if necessary).

-Uncle Don