In 2004, the lives of 141 people were cut tragically short by the 11-M train bombings in Madrid, Spain. This building is a public memorial in their honour. The bottom two floors are solely dedicated to this function with prime pedestrian access leading to the Plaza Mayor. The highly public ground floor and level one spaces are contrasted to the above vertically separated counter terrorism facility. The conversation between these spaces is strong and ongoing and the story of the building has been created and developed through vertical elevation and facade details. The combination of these buildings was to immediately and visually reassure the visitors of the memorial and similarly passers by that there are people at work ‘watching over’ the city to prevent any future similar events. The facade detail on the ground floor is an important component of the building as the glass increases the permeability of the space between the street and the interior space, whilst the soft blinds on the inside of the glass reassure the public the wrong individuals are still being screened out of circulation. The changing relationship of surveillance has also been explored through the exterior mounted curtains on the upper floors whereby the occupants are in control and can open up to increase the transparency of the organisation when appropriate.