After several weeks of immersing ourselves into the Soulsville community, I began to notice that there was a common thread through the stories that people told. Everyone in the community wanted something better for the because they had great hopes in their neighborhood. Even with all the struggles that the community has gone through over several years there is still love and compassion for the neighborhood. This positive response from interviews, casual conversations, celebrations at the Soulsville festival and simply being in the community, I began to question if there was an underlying beauty in the community that ought to be celebrated that is completely contrary to the blight in the community, empty lots and lots of people leaving. Out of this passion to celebrate the community, the design takes inspiration from a crushed yet beautiful aluminum can that is a metaphor for the beauty beneath the foundations of Soulsville.

The can tells a story to someone who looks at it. Even without notice it is already engaging. Random selected can with prospected to be turned into an architectural translation. Abstraction of the shape. Just like the opening of the can, The glass opening on the North facade wraps around the corner to engage both McLamore and College St. The void then becomes translated into the main entrance that would connect the building to the termination of McLamore street - The building becomes part of the McLamore street experince.
Approach
The facade blends with the site by taking on the very open nature of the adjacent lot.
The "Ribbon" ties the street, building and site together as well as creating spacial experiences in the interior.
Experience through the “RIBBON”

As the Ribbon penetrates through the interior, it folds to create different experiences. It later becomes a sculpture at the termination of College St.
View from College St.

White Brick

Perforated metal panel

CMU Block

East Elevation

South Elevation

Scale 1/8" = 1'0"