

Re:generation

Remedying significant generational change in Houtwijk's built environment through the lens of designing-out youth antisocial behaviour

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Reform the environment — not man…

Don't attempt to reform man. An adequately organized environment will permit humanity's original, innate capabilities to become successful. Politics and conventionalized education have sought erroneously to mould or reform humanity, i.e., the collective individual.

My philosophy and strategy confine the design initiative to reforming only the environment in contradistinction to the almost universal attempts of humans to reform and restrain other humans by political actions, laws, and codes. This restraining begins with the earliest parental attempts to reform their children's spontaneous behaviours in order to conform them to "accepted" standards and codes. The reforming of others is subsequently manifest in attempts of grownups to reform other grown ups' patterns through politically enacted law.

Richard Buckminster Fuller (1963/2008, pp. 392–394), in Utopia or Oblivion and referenced at the beginning of C. Ray Jeffery's (1971) seminal work Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design

1 | Introduction

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1 | Introduction

Challenge statement

Significant generational change

The Houtwijk neighbourhood in The Hague transformed significantly from 1800s farm/green-house 'horticulture' into a 1970/80s 'major expansion' of suburban parks, blocks and allotments (Gemeente Den Haag, 2023; Oorschot, 2014, pp. 359, 465). Rapid urbanisation like this creates 'underlying risks' (Crowe & Fennelly, 2013, pp. 220–221) in accommodating many 'new [residents]' following the 'social powder keg' of inner-city decline (Dekker et al., 2012, pp. 211–212) and 'housing shortage[s]' (Oorschot, 2014, p. 359; RDMZ & DSO 1990, p. 131; van Hoogdalem & Koopmans, 2019, p. 4)

Antisocial behaviour (ASB)

Subsequently, Houtwijk's disproportionate ASB (equating total crime, illegal; and nuisance, subjective) is considered symptomatic of diminishing social 'coherence', 'control' and 'networks' from high 'degrees of urbanisation' (CBS, 2024; CEN, 2022, pp. 6, 10, 13; Tollenaar et al., 2022, p. 14; Leidelmeijer et al., 2010, p. 19). Houtwijk itself considered 'extremely urbanised' (> 2,500 address /km2 in CBS, 2025a; Tollenaar et al., 2022, pp. 43, 90, 94). Today, fear of ASB has become 'one of the most significant' impacts (Cozens, 2014, p. 72; GOV.UK, 2023; Putrik et al., 2019) on people's 'quality of life' and 'health' ('physical, mental and social well-being', WHO, 2025; Putrik et al., 2019), with youth being the '[most] adversely affected'/impactful among 'vulnerable groups' (Crowe & Fennelly, 2013, p. 221; Kesteren et al., 2014, p. 53; M. S. Scott, 2011, p. 7)

An outlier

Talking with residents, they described the undeniability of and difficulty determining why Houtwijk presents an outlier for youth ASB (anonymous group 1, personal communication, 15 April 2026; anonymous group 2, personal communication, 29 May 2026; DHC25/26, 2025). BPT Houtwijk, a 25-year, voluntary watch recently disbanded after dwindling local support and 'increasing verbal aggression and intimidation' from 'harden[ed] people on the streets' (former coordinator Marcel 2025, p. 3; anonymous individual 1, personal communication, 23 November 2025). Consistent with cities 'hardening', despite a 'spectacular decrease' nationally over ten years (-50%, Weijers et al., 2021, p. 264), there's been a significant increase in general/'youth nuisance' (+451%/+1283%) between 2012 – 2024 in Houtwijk, resulting in its position as the 19th highest neighbourhood (/121) for ASB in The Hague (DHIC & Politie-eenheid Den Haag, 2025; Laan et al., 2024, pp. 40–41, 47, 56; Tollenaar et al., 2022, p. 6).

Correlation aside, 'underreport[ing]' means 'record[s] don't fully capture' its impact, quantitatively or qualitatively (Mandemakers et al., 2021, p. 46; M. S. Scott, 2011, p. 13).

Young people

'Significant concerns' about the 'increasing' frequency (i.e. 'signs [of] tipping-point', de Mos & Roopram, 2020; Uduba, 2024, p. 1)[1] and 'severity' (Beeloo-Planken in Koopen, 2024; Roopram, 2021, pp. 1–2) of youth ASB in Houtwijk and wider Loosduinen is raised repeatedly by stakeholders over time, though it remains unresolved. Categorised as 'youth nuisance' ('Jeugdoverlast'/code: E35) by the police, this includes anything illegal (assault) or 'perceived as unacceptable' (loitering), that is intentionally/unintentionally caused by 10 – 23-year-olds (Leidelmeijer et al., 2010, pp. 13–14; van Mook, 2025). Globally and nationally, youths are 'overrepresented' (Cozens, 2014, pp. 32, 95; Crowe & Fennelly, 2013, p. 115) as perpetrators/victims of ASB and is 'highly concentrated' (25% of crime, 14% of suspects) in a 'limited number ("top 1%")' of Dutch neighbourhoods, including Houtwijk (Kesteren et al., 2014, pp. 53–54, 64, 66; Tollenaar et al., 2022, pp. 7–8, 2024, p. 13).

Socio-spatial

'Characteristic' of 1% neighbourhoods, Houtwijk experienced 'little' change in 2012 –2024 figures (2012: 795, 2024: 613, DHIC & Politie-eenheid Den Haag, 2025; Tollenaar et al., 2022, p. 7), however, a pervasive fear is felt with the cafeteria owner's murder by three teenagers (Femke Beeloo-Planken, neighbourhood councillor in Koopen, 2024; NL Times, 2023; van der Kaay & Meeder, 2025, p. 75). Leading to numerous, self-coined "socio-spatial" issues such as the anxiety of vulnerable groups (youth, women, elderly, etc.) through Bokkefort Park, 'mistrust' of young people in the centre, complete 'spatial avoidance' of playgrounds, 'social isolation' at home in the evenings and so on (Cozens, 2014, pp. 74, 158; DHC, 2025; GOV.UK, 2023; Putrik et al., 2019; van der Kaay & Meeder, 2025, pp. 39, 75). This is reinforced by social media and persistent images of vandalised playgrounds, bikes speeding through the centre and threatening nightlife — signalling the need for regeneration (anonymous group 1, personal communication, 15 April 2026; DSP-groep et al., 2011, p. 16; Innes, 2004, p. 352).

Regeneration

Inherent of the 'strong relationship' (Ceccato & Brantingham, 2024; Colquhoun, 2012, p. 2; MacDonald, 2015) between ASB and Houtwijk's socio-spatial environment, this need is epitomised by the lack of places for young people (van Zanen, 2025 in response to; councillor and chair Sluijs, 2025; Gemeente Den Haag, 2021; M. S. Scott, 2011, p. 11; anonymous group 1, personal communication, 15 April 2026). Founded in the theory that 'proper design and effective use of the built environment can "design-out" 'fear', 'opportunity' and 'incidence' of ASB and 'improve public health, quality of life and sustainability' (CEN, 2025, p. 11; Crowe & Fennelly, 2013, pp. 4, 7–9; ISO, 2021, p. 1), the following question is asked…

Note

1.1.1 | Points made by politicians are always presented alongside those from differing political parties to minimise accusations of bias or hyperbole

1.1.2 | This theory is known as Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design or CPTED and was first coined by C. Ray Jeffery, 1971; see also Cozens, 2014; Crowe & Fennelly, 2013; Fennelly & Perry, 2018; Colquhoun, 2012; ISO, 2021; CEN, 2022, etc.

Research question

relevance (1.3) scope (1.4)

How can townscape regeneration around Houtwijk's centre and two parks remedy significant generational change through the lens of "designing-out" youth antisocial behaviour?[1]

objective (1.5)

Keywords
townscape regeneration, Houtwijk's centre and two parks, remedy, generational, "designing-out", youth, antisocial behaviour

Note

1.2.1 | For subquestions, see framework.

1 | Introduction

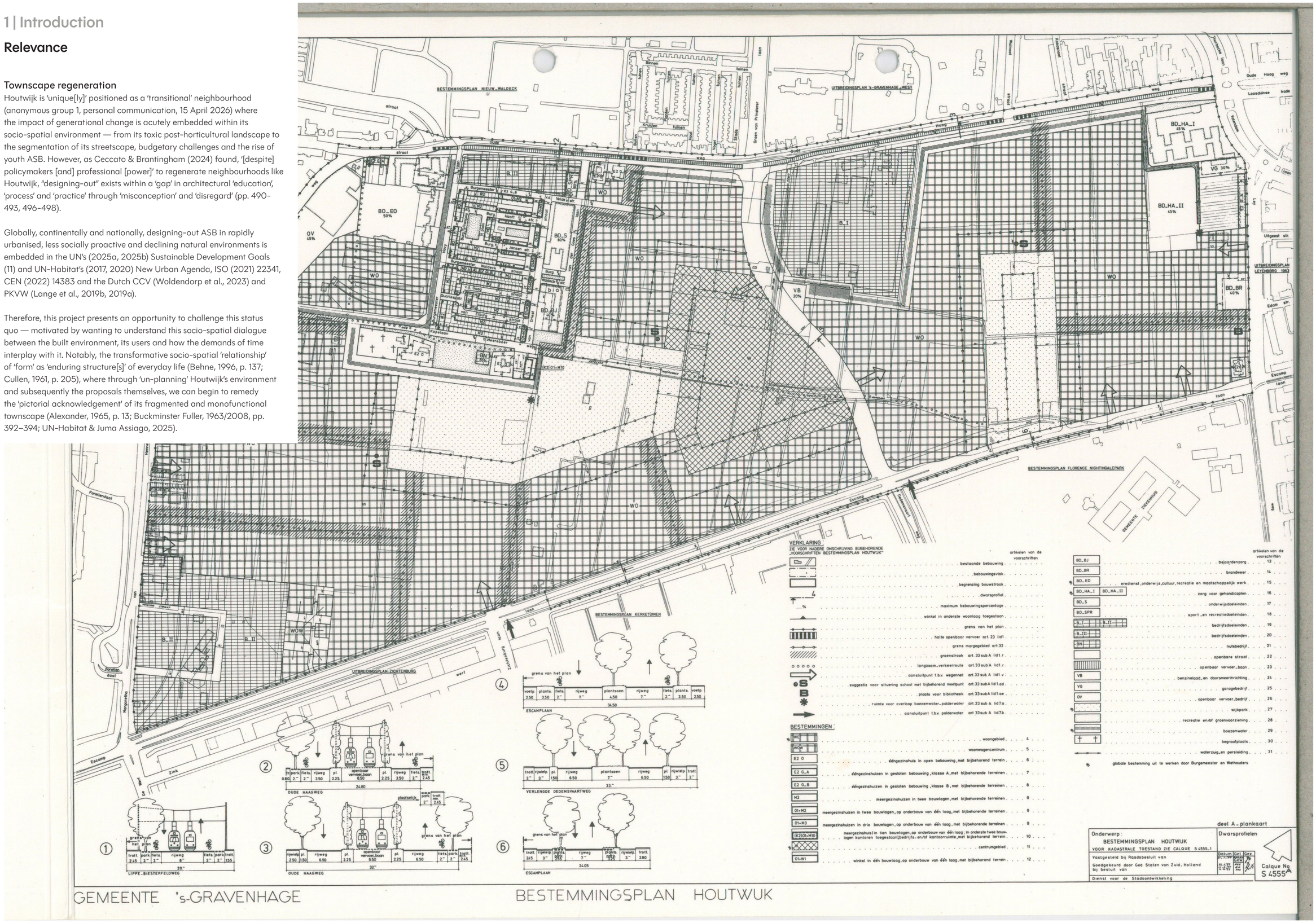
Relevance

Townscape regeneration

Houtwijk is ‘unique[ly]’ positioned as a ‘transitional’ neighbourhood (anonymous group 1, personal communication, 15 April 2026) where the impact of generational change is acutely embedded within its socio-spatial environment — from its toxic post-horticultural landscape to the segmentation of its streetscape, budgetary challenges and the rise of youth ASB. However, as Ceccato & Brantingham (2024) found, ‘[despite] policymakers [and] professional [power]’ to regenerate neighbourhoods like Houtwijk, “designing-out” exists within a ‘gap’ in architectural ‘education’, ‘process’ and ‘practice’ through ‘misconception’ and ‘disregard’ (pp. 490–493, 496-498).

Globally, continentally and nationally, designing-out ASB in rapidly urbanised, less socially proactive and declining natural environments is embedded in the UN’s (2025a, 2025b) Sustainable Development Goals (11) and UN-Habitat’s (2017, 2020) New Urban Agenda, ISO (2021) 22341, CEN (2022) 14383 and the Dutch CCV (Woldendorp et al., 2023) and PKVW (Lange et al., 2019b, 2019a).

Therefore, this project presents an opportunity to challenge this status quo — motivated by wanting to understand this socio-spatial dialogue between the built environment, its users and how the demands of time interplay with it. Notably, the transformative socio-spatial ‘relationship’ of ‘form’ as ‘enduring structure[s]’ of everyday life (Behne, 1996, p. 137; Cullen, 1961, p. 205), where through ‘un-planning’ Houtwijk’s environment and subsequently the proposals themselves, we can begin to remedy the ‘pictorial acknowledgement’ of its fragmented and monofunctional townscape (Alexander, 1965, p. 13; Buckminster Fuller, 1963/2008, pp. 392–394; UN-Habitat & Juma Assiago, 2025).



Partially approved Houtwijk zoning plan, 1977
From Gemeente ‘s-Gravenhage (1977, p. 101). Houtwijk is a late-modernist reaction to 1970s ‘cauliflower urbanism’ (e.g. neighbouring Nieuw Waldeck, 1972, RDMZ, 1990, p. 119).

1.4 | Scope

Houtwijk's centre and the two parks

Scope was defined by The Hague police's Pareto Principle/80–20 rule that a majority of 'consequences stem from a small portion [of] causes' and so 'focusing' the project where youth ASB is most 'concentrated' will 'yield' the 'greatest' impact (Clarke & Eck, 2009/2016, pp. 46–47; Colquhoun, 2012, pp. 1, 5; DSP-groep et al., 2011, pp. 21–22, 75; Scott, 2011, p. 10). Through scanning, youth ASB was prioritised and the area around Houtwijk's centre and the two parks was identified as a hotspot.

Due to its scale, Gemeente Den Haag will be the client for this project.



Legend

Youth nuisance from 2020–25/ Site boundary

High

Low

P Picture location

Houtwijk

Kom Loosduinen

hotspot study area
190 m radius

Site boundary
fr. management areas

Youth nuisance, adaption of Politie Basisteam Loosduinen (2025b)

BK Bokkefort park

KH Kleine Hout park

Management areas, based on Gemeente Den Haag (2025a)

0 100 200 400 m 1:10,000 N

1



2



3



4



5



6



1 | Introduction

Objectives

Designing-out youth antisocial behaviour

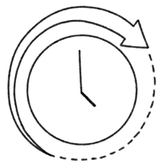
At the project's beginning, four objectives were formed from the UN's SDG 11/New Urban Agenda, ASB-prevention theory and elaborated by participatory research.

These objectives ultimately informed the ambitions of the project, as outlined in the four themes of the Re:generative toolkit — Activity, Temporality, Visibility and Responsibility.



Balanced

Designing-out youth ASB equally means "designing-in" 'prosocial' behaviour (Colquhoun, 2012, p. 17; CEN, 2022, p. 11; Mihinjac & Saville, 2022, pp. 30, 41) in a 'balance' between the 'needs and desires' of young people and wider neighbourhood (M. S. Scott, 2011, pp. 7, 9, 17; Woldendorp et al., 2023, p. 5). 'Countering the stigmatisation' created through socio-spatial design, i.e. "fortresses" and "hostile" architecture (Colquhoun, 2012, p. xvi; CEN, 2022, pp. 52, 54; 97., 103. and 106. in UN-Habitat, 2017, p. 27).



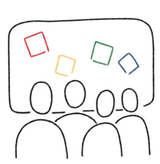
Phased

Interventions for regeneration should be 'prioritis[ed]' and phased for the 'immediate-' (months), 'short-' (years) and 'long-term' (decades) (Fennelly & Perry, 2018, p. 59; Zahm, 2007, p. 13) aims of residents and wider socio-economic 'transitions', 'soften[ing its] impact' (AGIS, 2007, p. 14; Crowe & Fennelly, 2013, p. 221; 94. and 97. in UN-Habitat, 2017, pp. 24–25).



Taking care

'On-site' (Colquhoun, 2012, pp. 179, 303) facilitation of neighbourhood caretakers and volunteers throughout Houtwijk (AGIS, 2007, pp. 41–43; CEN, 2022, pp. 48, 49; Crowe & Fennelly, 2013, p. 275; Poyner, 1983). Caretakers' responsibilities range from maintenance (groundskeeper, organiser, etc.) to mentorship (coach, counsellor, etc.) and presents a familiar face that oversees, supports and connects young people, other vulnerable residents, spaces and places (Mihinjac & Saville, 2022, pp. 44–46; 100. in UN-Habitat, 2017, p. 25, 2020, pp. 122–123).



Houtwijk-style

Forming a Houtwijk-'style' solution (Weijers et al., 2021, p. 272) to designing-out youth ASB, in line with its 'cultural heritage', 'characteristics', etc. (Colquhoun, 2012, p. xvii; 97. in UN-Habitat, 2017, p. 25). Raising the 'potential' for the project's 'success' (Zahm, 2007, p. 25) through support from the 'Haagse Kracht' (aka. local 'power', in Gemeente Den Haag, 2015, p. 6), e.g. 'experience', site understanding, 'programming [and] design' needs, etc. (AGIS, 2007, pp. 50–51; Derr et al., 2018, p. 11).

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2 | Approach
Framework

A multi-layered research and design strategy

SARA

A theoretical and practical guide

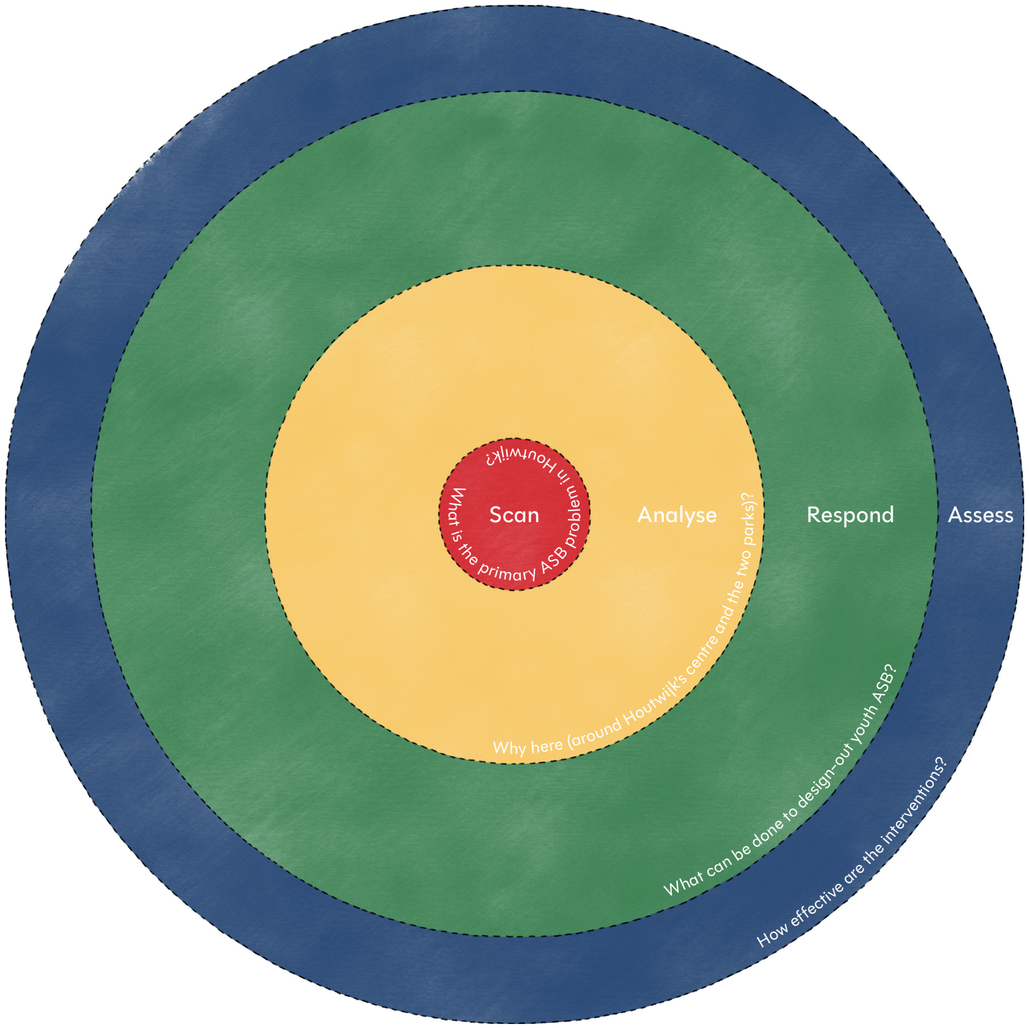
Used globally (ISO, 2021, p. 8; Scott & Clarke, 2020), continentally (CEN, 2022, pp. 12, 17) and locally in The Hague police's 'hotspot approach' (DSP-groep et al., 2011, pp. 10, 13, 75), SARA was developed by Eck & Spelman (1987) as an, 'iterative' structure for 'Problem-Oriented Policing (POP)' (originally termed by Goldstein, 1979; Laycock, 2007, pp. 674, 683). Strategically used as an objective, layered approach in this architecture project, SARA performs as a guide to structuring it, understanding theory and practically designing-out ASB at neighbourhood- to building-scale (Goldstein, 1990, pp. 66–67; Zahm, 2007, pp. 11–12).

Four subquestions

Research is simplified into four subquestions (see table below, derived from Zahm, 2007, p. 11), relating to SARA's universally-recognised steps:

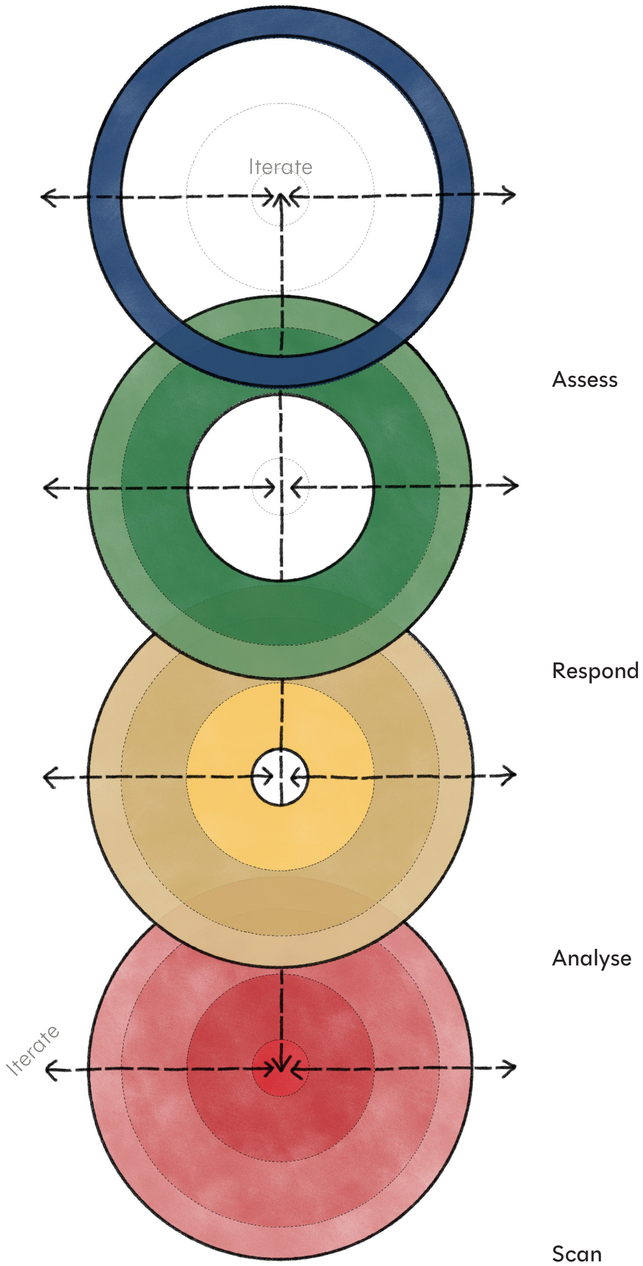
How can townscape regeneration around Houtwijk's centre and two parks remedy significant generational change through the lens of "designing-out" youth antisocial behaviour?

S	A	R	A
Scan	Analyse	Respond	Assess
What is the primary ASB problem in Houtwijk?	Why here?	What can be done to design-out youth ASB?	How effective are the interventions?



SARA visualised

Reimagined as radiating circles, aligning it with the Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) model, where each concentric ring corresponds to a new 'generation' of it (depicted by Cozens et al., 2005, p. 339, though adapted from; Moffait, 1983, see also; Cozens, 2014, p. 98; Cozens and Love, 2015, pp. 4–6)

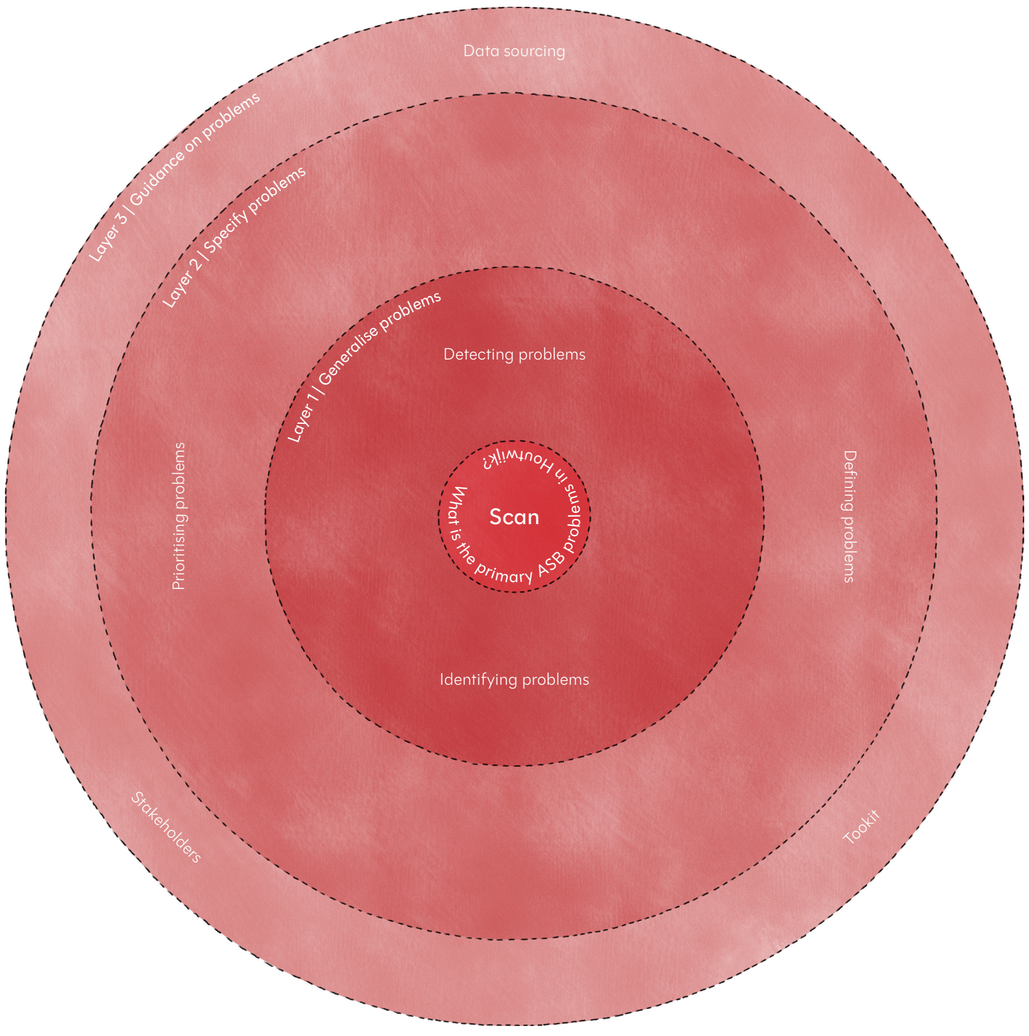


A multi-layered, iterative approach

Scan

Identifying and positioning ASB problems

Supporting the problem statement's and proceeding research question's formulation, scan begins from national-scale preliminary findings (see Bullock et al., 2013) identifying, defining and '[prioritising] existing', 'recurring' and 'emerging' ASB problems 'amenable' to 'realistic solution[s]' (Braga, 2008, p. 16; DSP-groep et al., 2011, pp. 13, 22–23; Eck & Spelman, 1987, p. 43; Fennelly & Perry, 2018, p. 309). This is through replicable, 'transparent [benchmarking]' of aggregated and recategorised data from generic-to-specific on ASB — illustrated in tables, maps, etc.



Scan's layers of study

1 | First impressions of 'existing and emerging' issues within Houtwijk (Fennelly & Perry, 2018, p. 59; Zahm, 2007, p. 13)

2 | Refining between neighbourhood- to almost 'individual'-scale, through a 'critical' assessment of the information available 'against other priorities' (Bullock et al., 2013; Burton & McGregor, 2018, p. 3)

3 | Data collection and management from site to stakeholders, creating a toolkit (measures, case studies, etc.) for analysing and responding to youth ASB in Houtwijk

layer	foci	explanation
1 Generalise problems	Detecting problems	Preliminary investigation to find potential problems within an area, including observations, interviews, etc. Undertaken as part of a research study group in the AR4AD300 Designing for Health and Care Graduation Studio (see DHC25/26, 2025)
	Identifying problems	'Find[ing]', 'recognis[ing]' and 'describ[ing]' the 'most important' existing and emerging problems from generic to specific in scope (national-to-neighbourhood) (Bullock et al., 2013; CEN, 2022, p. 23; DSP-groep et al., 2011, p. 13)
2 Specify problems	Defining problems	Beginning of an 'environmental evaluation' process that acts 'simultaneous[ly]' to later analysis, answering the 'what, where, when and who questions', quantitively (time, magnitude etc.) and qualitatively (observations, interviews, etc.) (Braga, 2008, p. 15; Bullock et al., 2013; Zahm, 2007, p. 15). Issues become defined and redefined in scope, (i.e. 'not restricted by preconceived typologies', Braga, 2008, p. 16; in reference to Goldstein, 1990, p. 68) through iterative study at the neighbourhood-, street- and building-scale, e.g. as an 'array of problems' in a location, a 'specific [problem]' in a 'defined' location or area, etc. (Zahm, 2007, p. 16)
	Prioritising problems	Measure the problem's 'impact on other [problems]', 'prevalence', 'amenab[ility]' to a solution, and 'current [and] future situation[s]', etc. (Braga, 2008, p. 16; Bullock et al., 2013; Burton & McGregor, 2018, p. 3). Objectives of the prioritised problem should attempt to align with 'municipal', 'regional', national and 'global [goals]', helping to 'contribute' to their 'realisation' (Woldendorp et al., 2023, p. 17)
3 Guidance on problems	Data sourcing	'Collect as [much]' information 'as possible' from a 'variety of sources' at all scales of stakeholders, i.e. local-to-national (Bullock et al., 2013; Woldendorp et al., 2023, p. 19; Zahm, 2007, p. 13)
	Tookit	Develop a toolkit of examples, measures, etc., positioning theory (e.g. study and analysis) and practical exercises (e.g. participatory research) in a communicable way for the project's design
	Stakeholders	As defined in EN 14383-1, stakeholders are a 'person or organisation' that can 'affect, be affected by, or perceive themselves to be affected by' the process of "designing-out" youth ASB in Houtwijk (CEN, 2025, p. 50). At these 'early' stages, the 'identif[ied]' stakeholders (Zahm, 2007, pp. 13, 17, 25) form a '[multidisciplinary] Working group' (WG) to 'represent' them and help 'define' and 'prioritise' the problem and objectives through 'analysing' the environment and ultimately 'support' its 'implement[ation]' (AGIS, 2007, pp. 50–51; CEN, 2022, pp. 20–21, 2025, p. 51; Woldendorp et al., 2023)

Scan's foci explained

Analyse

Why the site experiences youth ASB

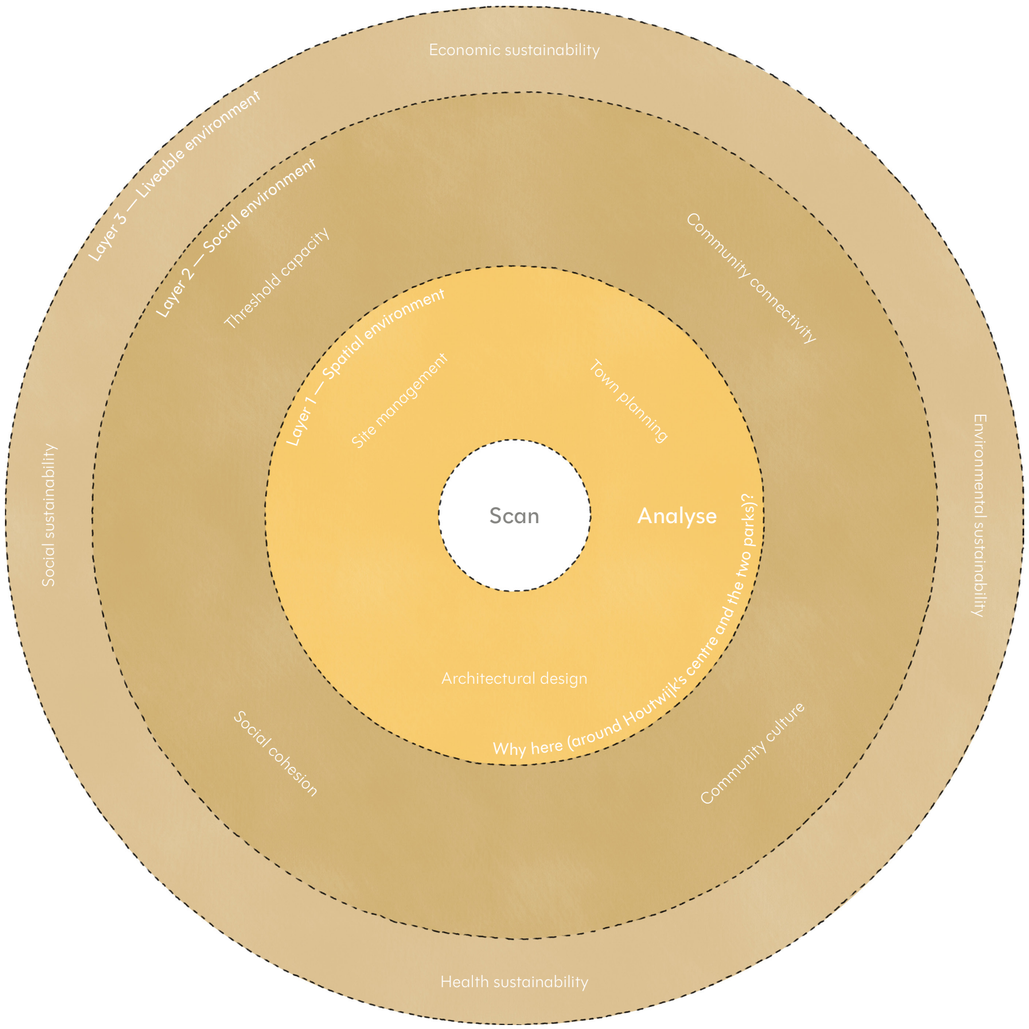
How socio-spatial 'relationships' (Fennelly & Perry, 2018, p. 59; Zahm, 2007, p. 13) contribute to youth ASB around Houtwijk's centre and two parks — guiding its regeneration (Braga, 2008, p. 20). Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) is a flexible model adaptable within SARA and other methods (PKVW by Lange et al., 2019a, 2019b; VER by Woldendorp et al., 2023, etc.) that 'uses' town 'planning', architectural 'design' and site 'management' across three layers of study (CEN, 2022, pp. 6, 11–12, 22, 60; ISO, 2021, p. 1).

Analyses' layers will be supported by a mix of references to stakeholders' views from research and participatory research, alongside theoretical work that mirrors CPTED generations and so 50-years of cross-disciplinary study.

This includes:

- Jacob's Eyes on the Street (1961)
- Newman's Defensible Spaces (1973)
- Alexander's Pattern Language (1977)
- Brantingham's Crime Pattern Theory (1981)
- Hillier's and Hanson's Space Syntax (1984; 2007)
- Oldenburg's Third Places (1989/1999, 2001)

Since these seminal works, numerous projects have been developed into further literature, toolkits and buildings — analyses' foci represents a glossary of theory to consider throughout the project.



Analyse's layers of study

1 | Overlapping concepts of 1st gen. CPTED are summarised into three foci by international (22341, ISO, 2025) and European (EN14383, CEN, 2022, 2025) standards

2 | 'Softer' studies supporting layer 1 (CEN, 2022, p. 14; Fennelly & Perry, 2018, p. 30) in Saville & Cleveland's (1998) expansion on Dutch CPTED (PKVW) and Alexander's PL (1977) (Calquhoun, 2012, p. 62)

3 | 'Holistic' overview of 'complementing outcomes', safety and quality of life, through 'liveability metrics' and key socio-economic dimensions (Mihinjac & Saville, 2019, pp. 5, 7, 9–13)

layer	foci	explanation
1 Spatial environment	Town planning	Understanding the 'local context, cultural tradition[s] and past experience[s]' (ISO, 2025, p. 4) of Houtwijk residents and how different typologies (buildings, public spaces, etc.) and their uses related to ASB over time (daily, weekly, seasonally, etc.), aka. 'geographical juxtaposition' (Colquhoun, 2012; CEN, 2022; Cozens, 2014; Crowe & Fennelly, 2013; Fennelly & Perry, 2018; Newman, 1973)
	Architectural design	Grounded in 'opportunity-based theories' (Cozens, 2014, pp. 22, 55), analysis of architectural design explores the capability of Houtwijk's centre and two parks' planning and design to observe, identify, dissuade and prevent youth ASB through concepts such as 'surveillance', 'access control', etc. (Colquhoun, 2012; CEN, 2022; Crowe & Fennelly, 2013; Fennelly & Perry, 2018; ISO, 2025; Newman, 1973)
	Site management	People's involvement and perception of the area around Houtwijk's centre and the two parks (i.e. the site) and its effect on resident's feelings, behaviours and activities, e.g. illegality, investment, isolation, etc. (Colquhoun, 2012; CEN, 2022; Crowe & Fennelly, 2013; ISO, 2025; Newman, 1973). This goes beyond broken windows theory's (Kelling & Wilson, 1982) contentiousness (Lanfear et al., 2020) and instead focuses on the reflective relationship between people and their environment or 'milieu' (Cozens, 2014, pp. 23, 64; Fennelly & Perry, 2018, pp. 14–16; Newman, 1973, pp. 102–117)
2 Social environment	Community connectivity	Understanding of the informal and formal 'networks' ('transport', 'websites', 'activities', etc.) within Houtwijk and their 'ability' to 'create', 'strengthen', maintain and be extended e.g. to the 'municipal[ity]', 'agencies', etc. (CEN, 2025, p. 16; Cozens, 2014, p. 86; Fennelly & Perry, 2018, pp. 29, 307). Aspiring for a 'stronger sense of place' through 'self-policing', 'discourag[ing and] deter[ing]' ASB
	Community culture	Extent to which people are brought 'together' for a 'common purpose' in Houtwijk, creating a 'sense of community (watchers)', without leading to the 'exclusion and disadvantage of other[s]'. (Cozens, 2014, pp. 86–87; Fennelly & Perry, 2018, pp. 29, 307, 320). This can be provided through 'clubs', 'events', 'traditions', etc.
	Social cohesion	A 'broad concept' that forms the 'bedrock of 2nd generation CPTED' and focuses on measures to 'recognis[e]', 'support' and 'celebrat[e] the 'inclusion' (poverty, inequality, etc.), 'capital' (belonging, engagement, etc.) and 'mobility' (capability, opportunity, etc.) of Houtwijk's residents (Cozens, 2014, p. 86; OECD, 2011, pp. 53–54). Solutions include: 'participation in local events and organisations', 'presence' of community caretakers, etc. (Crowe & Fennelly, 2013, pp. 29, 306)
	Threshold capacity	Threshold capacity describes the 'limits' before "tipping-point" to ASB and the substantial 'fear' it brings, caused by 'elements such as land-use, scale/size, density, diversity (socially, culturally and in land uses), and available resources (economic, natural, common facilities, etc.)' resulting in 'anonymity', a 'transient neighbourhood' etc. (CEN, 2025, p. 17; Cozens, 2014, p. 87; Fennelly & Perry, 2018, p. 30). Solutions include: improved maintenance, 'balance of social stabilisers' e.g. dwellings to entertainment, etc.
3 Liveable environment	Economic sustainability	Understanding and finding opportunities for 'locally viable means of economic production for current and future generations', in order to prevent 'decline' and a subsequent 'vicious cycle' of 'limited [opportunities]' and 'basic needs' (Mihinjac & Saville, 2019, p. 8, 2022, pp. 43–45). Solutions include: 'support[ing] small business [and] temporary retail [infrastructure]' (pop-up shops, creative ventures, etc.), '[affordable] mixed land use' townscape regeneration, 'mentorship programmes' (youths, former criminals, etc.), and so on
	Environmental sustainability	'Greening' of the site as a metric of ASB, e.g. 'heat-violence' from 'psychological stress' in 'low-income communities' rising from'[excessive] artificial materials', provision of safe public spaces, air quality, etc. (Mihinjac & Saville, 2019, pp. 8–9, 2022, pp. 39–41). Solutions include: 'increas[ning] greenery' ('rooftop gardens', 'community gardens', etc.), 'placemaking in poor environmental areas' ('abandoned' spaces, '"no man's land" areas', etc.), and so on
	Health sustainability	Measuring the relationship of the site's capacity to improve the 'health' (i.e. 'physical, mental and social well-being', WHO, 2025), with health and experiencing ASB being 'positve[ly] correlated', notably in 'disadvantage[d]' areas and from 'childhood traumas'. (Mihinjac & Saville, 2019, pp. 7–8, 2022, pp. 45–47). Solutions primarily involve 'activating' spaces and places through 'physical and social means', e.g. facilitating 'pro-social activity', 'restorative justice' and 'conflict [resolution]' and education through neighbourhood hubs, exercise equipment, walkable spaces and schools
	Social sustainability	'Overlaps with' 2nd generation CPTED's 'social cohesion' and positions the site through a socio-political lens, looking at aspects such as 'democracy and [rules-based] decision making' — 'relat[ing]' it to the 'regeneration and development [of] balanced neighbourhood' infrastructure and 'mitigat[ing] future problems' e.g. 'pandemics', which was a period of substantially greater nuisance in the Netherlands (followed pre-covid trend in Houtwijk, highest post-pandemic in 2021 DHIC & Politie-eenheid Den Haag, 2025; CBS, 2023; Mihinjac & Saville, 2019, p. 9, 2022, pp. 41–43). Solutions include: 'human-scale' development of 'third places' in '"social deserts"', 'participatory practice', neighbourhood hub[s as] "command centre[s]" [for] decision-making', etc.

Analyse's foci explained

Respond

Plan development for "designing-out"

Respond's levels are adopted from SARA's expanded form, SPATIAL (see diagram, right, by Burton & McGregor, 2018; CEN, 2022, p. 12) and represents the project's design phase (Bullock et al., 2013; Zahm, 2007, pp. 13, 25–27). These foci provide an outline for implementing evidence-based, multi-scale socio-spatial solution from previous analysis and precedent research — concluding as a thematic toolkit to explain the design.

S		A	R		A	
Scan		Analyse	Respond		Assess	
S	P	A	T	I	A	L
Scan	Prioritise	Analyse	Task	Intervene	Assess	Learn

SPATIAL

Table illustrating SARA to SPATIAL framework, by Burton & McGregor (2018, p. 4)



Respond's layers of study

1 | Exploring possible design solutions throughout the site, supported by comparable case studies and 'research-by-design' (Hauberg, 2011, pp. 51–53; Verbeke, 1991/2016, pp. 150–151, 154).

2 | Proposals 'prioritised' according to 'feasibility' and through phased interventions (Burton & McGregor, 2018, p. 3; CEN, 2022, pp. 47–49; Fennelly & Perry, 2018, p. 59)

layer	foci	explanation
1 Opportunities	Buildings	Comparable precedent research and explorations on "designing-out" youth ASB, resulting in (CEN, 2022, p. 31): • Improved support (equipment, services) • Redesigned existing buildings • New buildings
	Public spaces	(CEN, 2022, pp. 31–32): • Improved support (equipment, services) • Redesigned existing layouts • New layouts
	Neighbourhood	(CEN, 2022, pp. 32–33): • Improved support (equipment, services) • Redesigned existing developments and infrastructure • New developments and infrastructure
2 Interventions	Town planning	Recomposition of Houtwijk's centre and two parks as part of the neighbourhood (and surrounding) townscape, where through the rebalancing of aspects such as 'scale', 'density', 'function', etc., youth ASB is "designed-out" (AGIS, 2007, p. 13; CEN, 2022, pp. 47–48; 2021, p. 5). Resulting from 'strategies' that 'aim' to: improve existing and enable new informal and formal 'social networks', activate streetscapes and protect places and spaces that would previously have been 'vulnerable' because of its planning, e.g. shops, playgrounds, etc.
	Architectural design	'Complementary' to town 'planning', architectural design concerns the "designing-out" of youth ASB, through the form, programming, detailing, etc., of places and spaces at and below the building-scale, i.e. from street furniture to façades (CEN, 2022, p. 48; ISO, 2021, pp. 5–6). 'Creat[ing] conditions' for 'informal social control [and] surveillance', 'care for the environment', etc.
	Site management	Projects that 'organise', 'support' and 'encourage' the management (including 'maintenance') of the site by stakeholders, 'residents and visitors' and 'professional assistance' — enabled by and 'complement[ing] existing' and new 'planning and design' interventions, most notably in 'providing infrastructure' for 'vulnerable groups' such as young people (playgrounds, skate parks, etc.) (CEN, 2022, pp. 48, 49; ISO, 2021, pp. 6–7). The 'quality' of a site management intervention is measured by 'its ability to facilitate' caretakers in its planning and design, who are able to 'reduce' the fear of ASB by being able to 'act' on its 'consequences' (AGIS, 2007, p. 41)

Respond's foci explained

Assess

Learning from the project

As elaborated in assess' foci, '[regular] peer-'assessment within the design studio and presentations constitute assessment's primary form to be reflected upon (known as EMMA in M. Hoekstra et al., 2025). SARA's 'evidence-based' studies can 'self-validat[e]' on-going progress, alongside developed material like toolkits (Burton & McGregor, 2018, p. 1; Franke & van Soomeren, 2021, p. 18; Hauberg, 2011, pp. 51–53; Verbeke, 1991/2016, pp. 150–151, 154).



Assess' layers of study
1 | Reflective design practices

layer	foci	explanation
1 Learning	Peer-assessment	External, expert parties to the project, including tutors, colleagues, etc., providing feedback through formative and summative assessment and general discussions, such as in tutorials, design studios, etc. EMMA is an 'holistic' feedback form prepared by tutors within a 'supervisory team', which measures the 'significance', 'coherence', 'correctness' and 'elaboration' of an architectural project (M. Hoekstra et al., 2025, p. 12)
	Self-validation	Examples of using the SAR(A) framework for self-validation include using respond-stage's case studies or toolkit, or analyse's foci to reassess aspects of the project (CEN, 2022, pp. 24–25; ISO, 2021, p. 17)

Assess' foci explained

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3 | Scan

Identifying and positioning

What is the primary ASB problem in Houtwijk?

The Hague

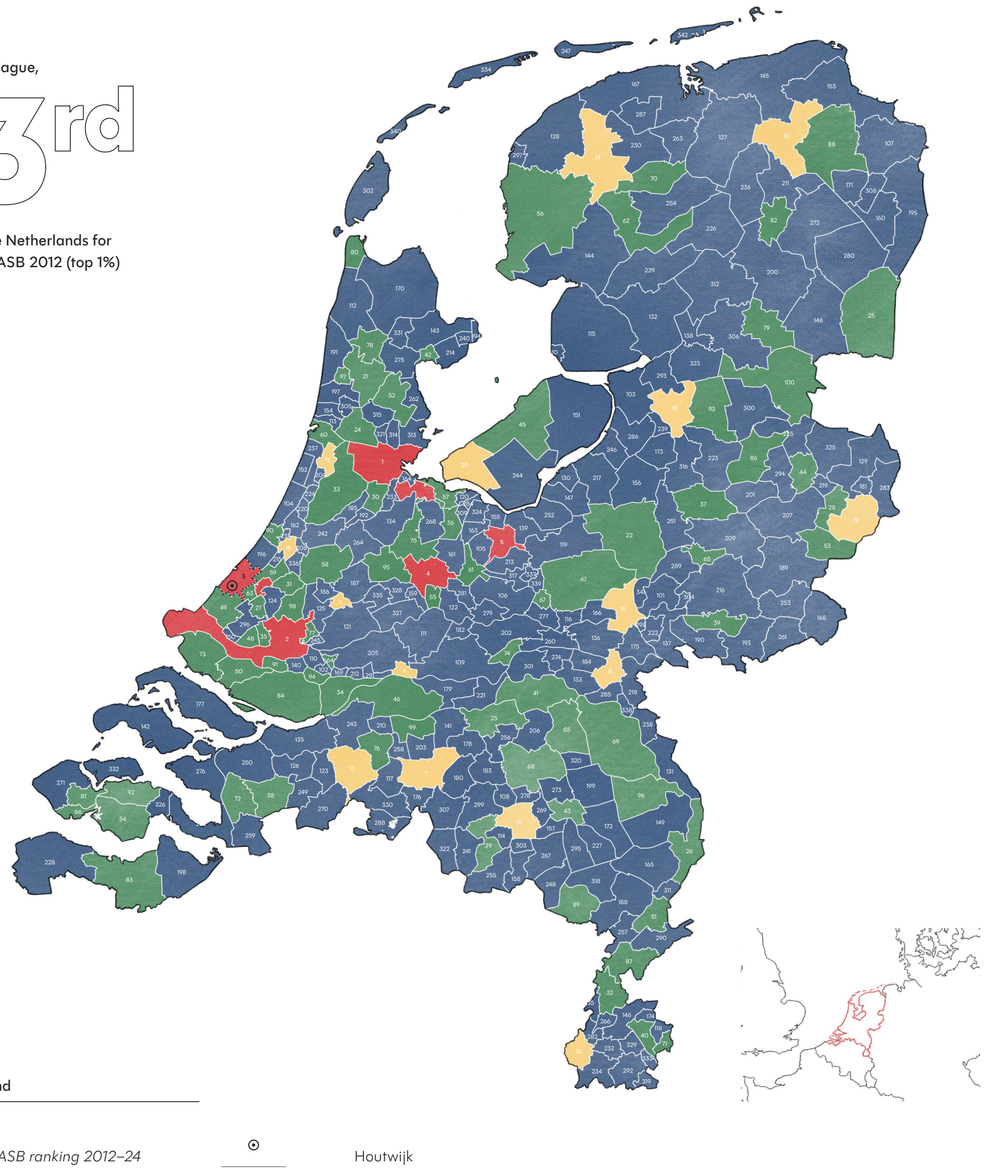
A municipality of The Netherlands

Houtwijk's antisocial behaviour, as a sum of all crime and nuisance (see Politie, 2014), is pictured from a national-to-neighbourhood context, beginning with its municipality.

The Hague,

3rd

in The Netherlands for
total ASB 2012 (top 1%)



ranking	municipalities	total ASB
1	Amsterdam	1182096
2	Rotterdam	999754
3	The Hague	538456
4	Utrecht	538233
5	Amersfoort	360699
6	Eindhoven	297281
7	Tilburg	262727
8	Nijmegen	242919
9	Gorinchem	221382
10	Groningen	200967
11	Gouda	187304
12	Maastricht	168073
13	Breda	163688
14	Leeuwarden	160230
15	Leiden	160182
16	Arnhem	159339
17	Haarlem	158445
18	Zwolle	148919
19	Enschede	145150
20	Almere	143056
21	Alkmaar	135980
22	Apeldoorn	135616
23	Den Bosch	135436
24	Zaanstad	135394
25	Emmen	127173
26	Venlo	125142
27	Delft	117693
28	Hengelo	112648
29	Eersel	109484
30	Amstelveen	107629
31	Zoetermeer	106692
32	Sittard-Geleen	103864
33	Haarlemmermeer	102004
34	Dordrecht	97661
35	Schiedam	96130
36	Hilversum	93570
37	Deventer	92106
38	Roosendaal	89976
39	Doetinchem	89311
40	Heerlen	85980
41	Oss	85752
42	Hoorn	82759
43	Helmond	81480
44	Almelo	80860
45	Lelystad	80414
46	Altena	79726
47	Ede	78992
48	Vlaardingen	78748
49	Westland	75276
50	Nissewaard	73467
...		
333	Simpelveld	5223
334	Terschelling	4902
335	Oudewater	4751
336	Zoeterwoude	4714
337	Scherpenzeel	4595
338	Mook en Middelaar	4510
339	Renswoude	2463
340	Vlieland	1754
341	Rozendaal	1280
342	Schiermonnikoog	1110

Total ASB ranking 2012–24, municipality, from Politie (2025a, 2025c)

Loosduinen

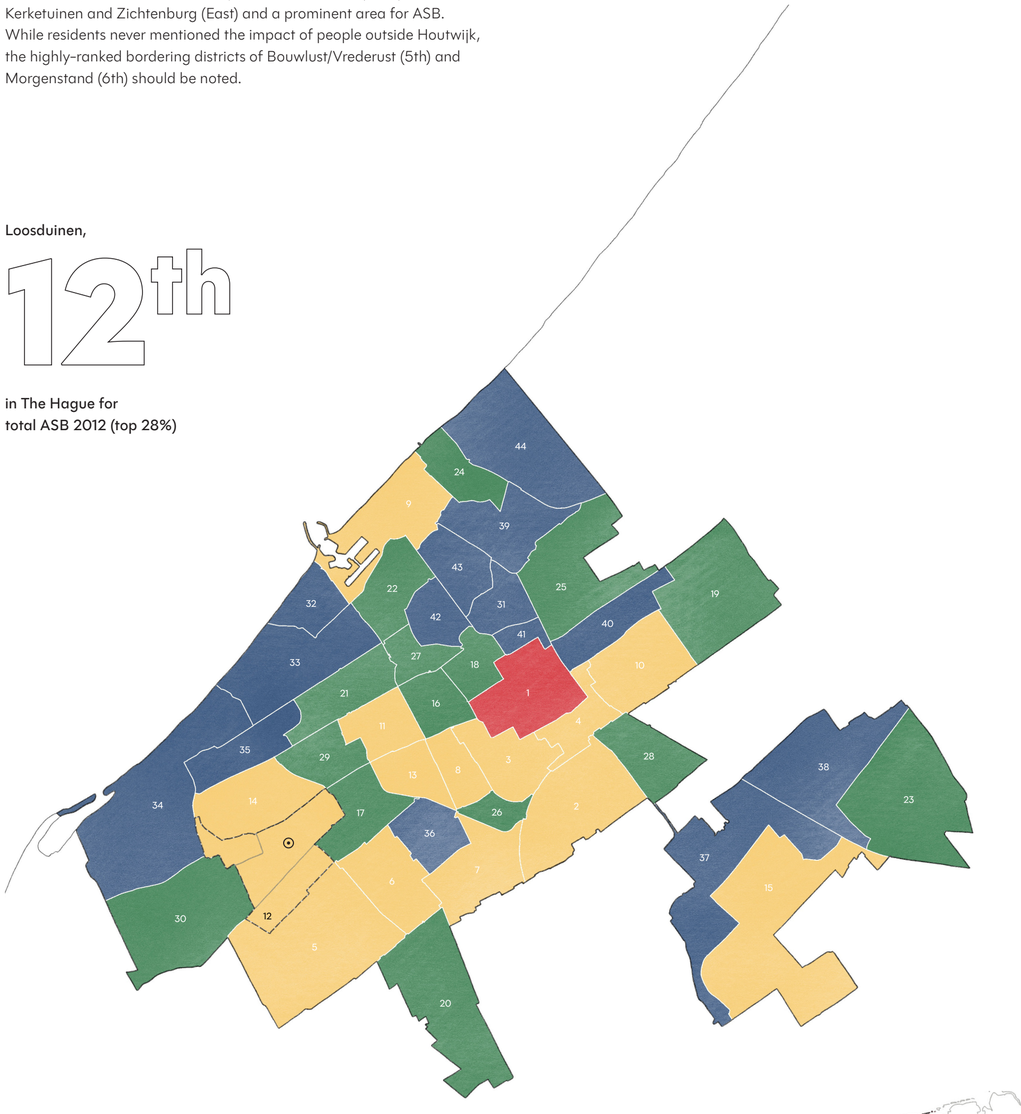
A district of The Hague

Loosduinen, the district of Houtwijk, Kom Loosduinen (West) and Kerketuinen and Zichtenburg (East) and a prominent area for ASB. While residents never mentioned the impact of people outside Houtwijk, the highly-ranked bordering districts of Bouwlust/Vrederust (5th) and Morgenstand (6th) should be noted.

Loosduinen,

12th

in The Hague for
total ASB 2012 (top 28%)





Legend

Total ASB ranking 2012–24

- 1
- 2 – 15
- 16 – 30
- 30 – 44

- Houtwijk
- The Hague
- study area Loosduinen
- boundaries

Data mapped from DHIC & Politie-eenheid Den Haag (2025)

1:75,000
0 1.5 km
N

ranking	districts	total ASB
1	Centrum	97732
2	Laakkwartier en Spoorwijk	60000
3	Schildersbuurt	46613
4	Stationsbuurt	36521
5	Bouwlust/Vrederust	36162
6	Morgenstond	30844
7	Moerwijk	28998
8	Transvaalkwartier	28068
9	Scheveningen	26641
10	Bezuidenhout	22455
11	Valkenboskwartier	21860
12	Loosduinen	21804
13	Rustenburg en Oostbroek	21381
14	Waldeck	18033
15	Ypenburg	17361
16	Regentessekwartier	17051
17	Leyenburg	16230
18	Zeeheldenkwartier	15220
19	Mariahoeve en Marlot	15148
20	Wateringse Veld	13601
21	Bomen- en Bloemenbuurt	13257
22	Geuzen- en Statenkwartier	11528
23	Leidschenveen	10734
24	Belgisch Park	9994
25	Benoordenhout	9910
26	Groente- en Fruitmarkt	7848
27	Duinoord	7313
28	Binckhorst	6946
29	Vruchtenbuurt	6808
30	Kraayenstein en Vroondaal	6146
31	Archipelbuurt	5882
32	Duindorp	5460
33	Vogelwijk	5074
34	Kijkduin en Ockenburgh	4413
35	Bohemen, Meer en Bos	4374
36	Zuiderpark	3940
37	Hoornwijck	3378
38	Forepark	3249
39	Westbroekpark/Duttendel	3245
40	Haagse Bos	2765
41	Willemspark	2321
42	Zorgvliet	1829
43	Van Stolkpark en Schev. Bos	1782
44	Oostduinen	777

Total ASB ranking 2012–24, districts, from DHIC & Politie-eenheid Den Haag (2025)

Houtwijk

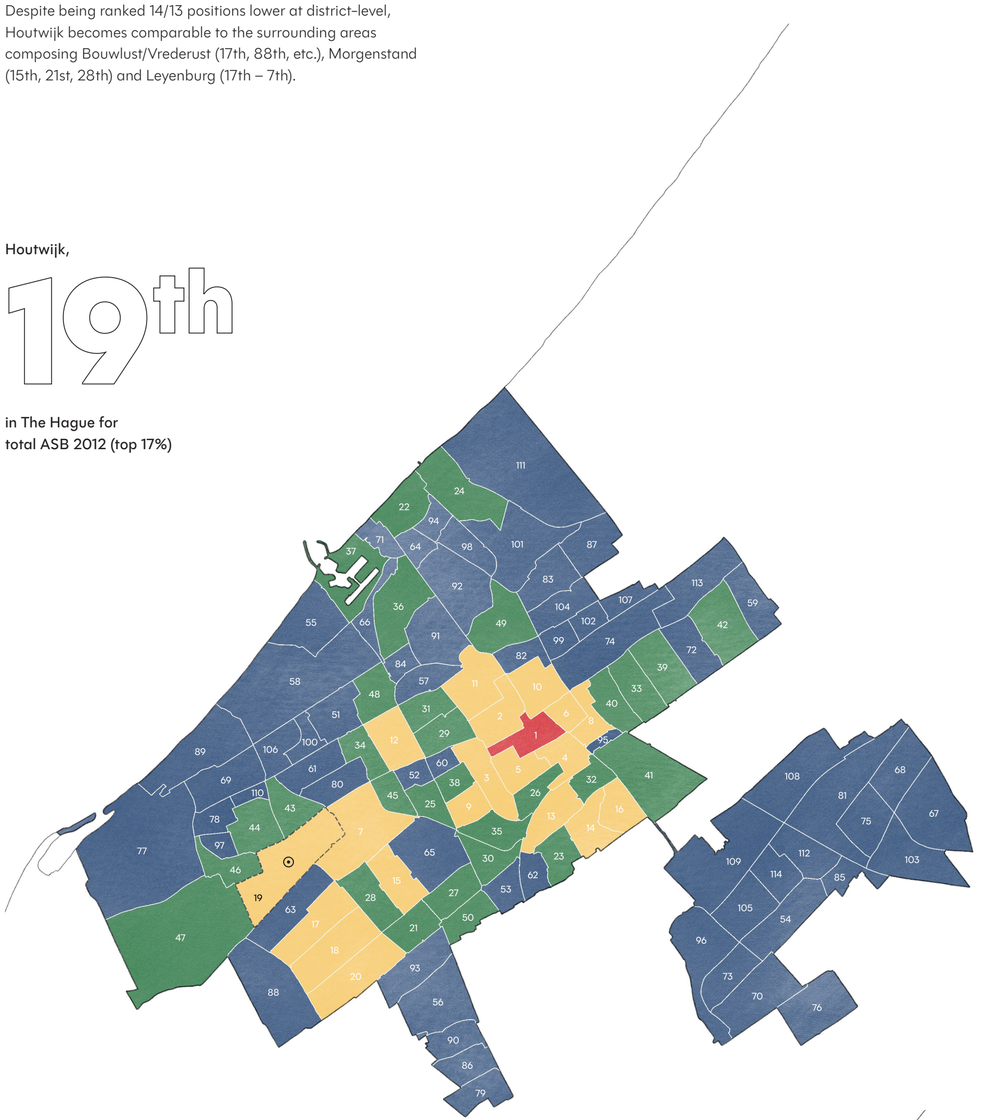
A neighbourhood amongst neighbourhoods

Despite being ranked 14/13 positions lower at district-level, Houtwijk becomes comparable to the surrounding areas composing Bouwlust/Vrederust (17th, 88th, etc.), Morgenstand (15th, 21st, 28th) and Leyenburg (17th – 7th).

Houtwijk,

19th

in The Hague for
total ASB 2012 (top 17%)





Legend

Total ASB ranking 2012–24

- 1
- 2 – 20
- 21 – 50
- 51 – 114

Houtwijk

The Hague

study area
The Hague

boundaries

Data mapped from DHIC & Politie-eenheid Den Haag (2025)

1:75,000
0 1.5 km N

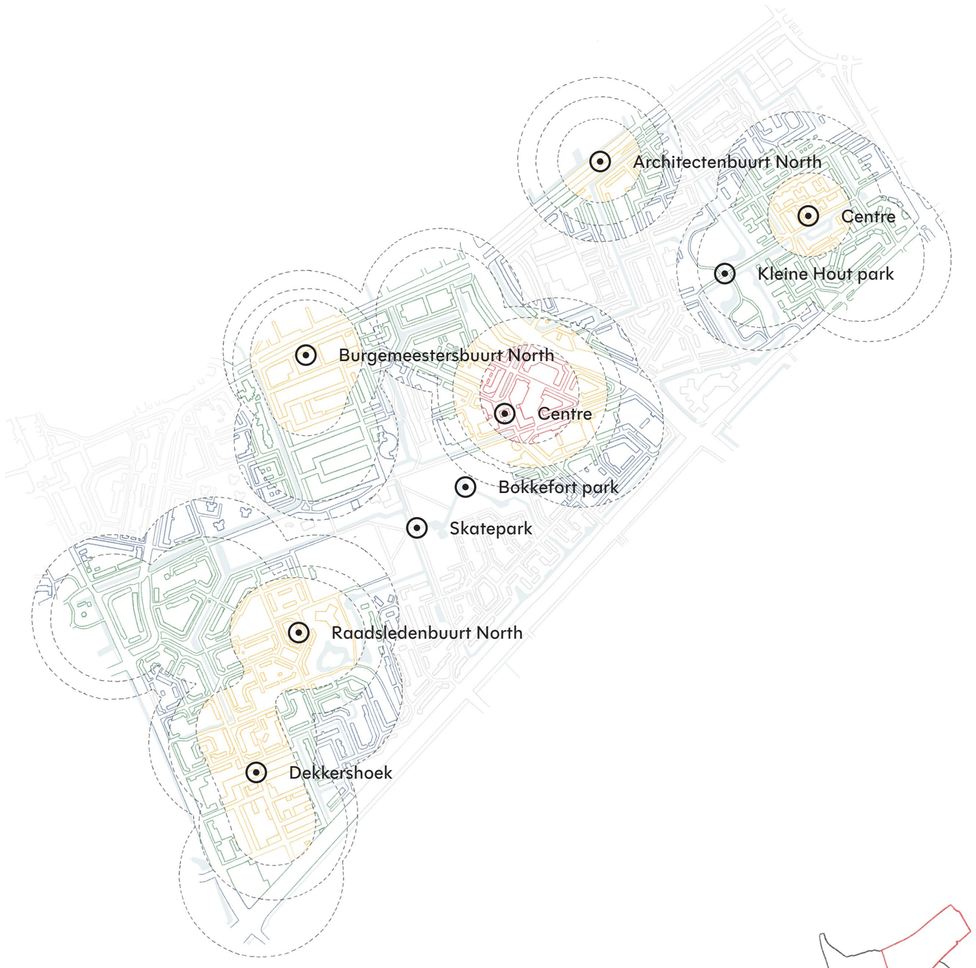
ranking	neighbourhoods	total ASB
1	Zuidwal	44340
2	Kortenbos	21371
3	Schildersbuurt-West	20443
4	Huygenspark	19095
5	Schildersbuurt-Noord	16752
6	Uilebomen	16568
7	Leyenburg	16230
8	Rivierenbuurt-Noord	15668
9	Transvaalkwartier-Zuid	15639
10	Voorhout	15453
11	Zeeheldenkwartier	15220
12	Valkenboskwartier	13947
13	Laakhaven-West	12941
14	Laakkwartier-Oost	12637
15	Morgenstond-Oost	11861
16	Noordpolderbuurt	11773
17	Venen, Oorden en Raden	11529
18	Zijden, Steden en Zichten	11418
19	Houtwijk	11275
20	Dreven en Gaarden	11193
21	Morgenstond-Zuid	10150
22	Scheveningen Badplaats	10126
23	Laakkwartier-West	10038
24	Belgisch Park	9994
25	Oostbroek-Zuid	9613
26	Schildersbuurt-Oost	9418
27	Moerwijk-West	9226
28	Morgenstond-West	8833
29	Rond de Energiecentrale	8757
30	Moerwijk-Noord	8662
31	Koningsplein e.o.	8294
32	Laakhaven-Oost	8287
33	Bezuidenhout-Midden	8002
34	Heesterbuurt	7913
35	Groente- en Fruitmarkt	7848
36	Statenkwartier	7679
37	Vissershaven	7617
38	Transvaalkwartier-Midden	7500
39	Bezuidenhout-Oost	7407
40	Bezuidenhout-West	7046
41	Binckhorst	6946
42	Burgen en Horsten	6651
43	Rosenburg	6569
44	Nieuw Waldeck	6357
45	Rustenburg	6260
46	Kom Loosduinen	6235
47	Kraayenstein en Vroondaal	6146
48	Bomenbuurt	6086
49	Archipelbuurt	5882
50	Moerwijk-Zuid	5611
...		
105	Bosweide	1205
106	Bosjes van Pex	1181
107	Uilennest	1102
108	Vlietzoom-Oost	924
109	Vlietzoom-West	910
110	Componistenbuurt	892
111	Oostduinen	777
112	De Reef	723
113	Marlot	668
114	Tedingerbroek	76

Total ASB ranking 2012–24, neighbourhoods from DHIC & Politie-eenheid Den Haag (2025)

Streets

Into the woods

Spatially, ASB can be mapped as hotspots across Houtwijk. Notably, Bokkefort park, an area known for youth ASB is not highlighted, whereas the centre and Kleine Hout park is. Therefore, how any interventions here responds to more general ASB, additionally to youth, should be considered.



Legend

Total ASB ranking from 2020–25

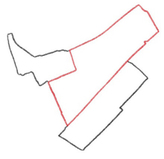
High

Low

Houtwijk

Kom Loosduinen

hotspot study area
190 m radius



ASB (crime + nuisance), adaption of Politie Basisteam Loosduinen (2025a)

1:10,000

0 200 m

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Types of ASB

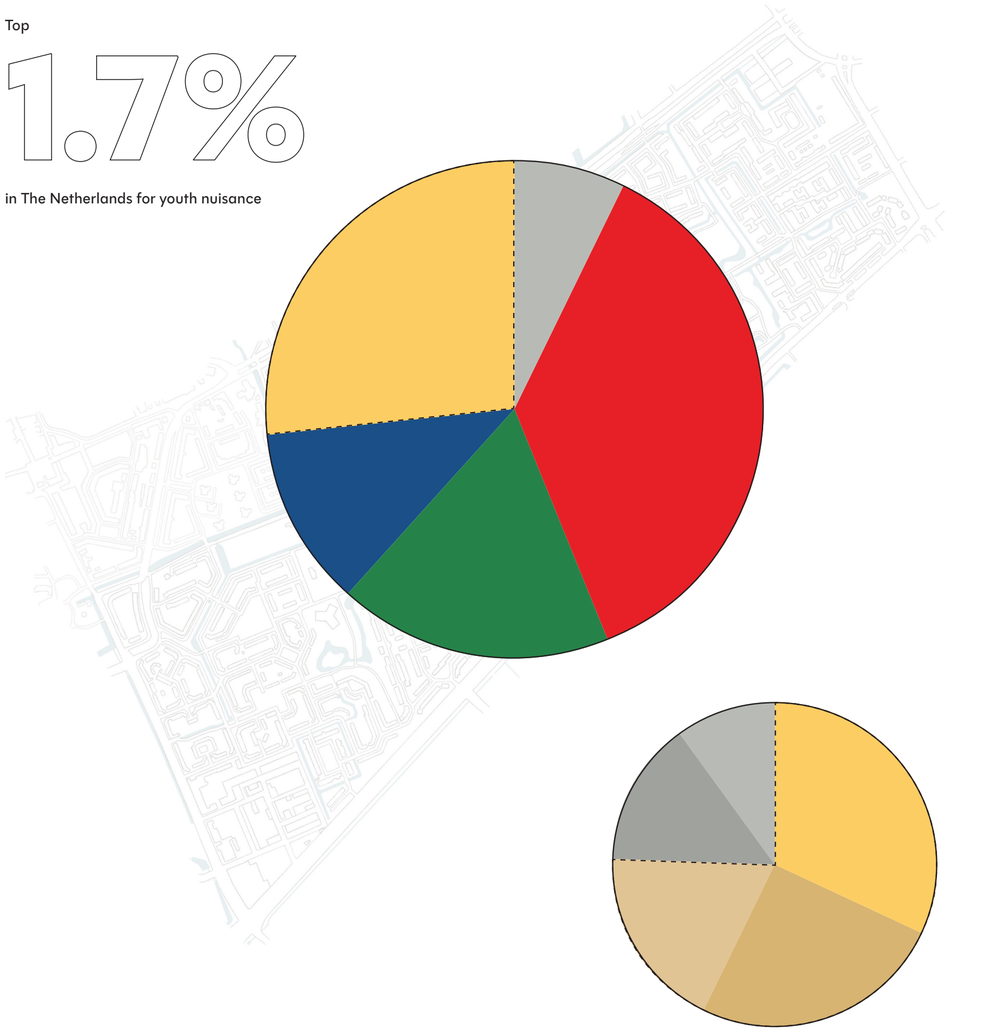
In perspective

While only 1 in 20 (4.9%) of reports concern youth nuisance, its significance is exemplified by Houtwijk's national position — top 1.7% for youth nuisance (CBS, 2025b) and 'top 1%' for 'juvenile suspects' (2014 – 2019, Tollenaar et al., 2022). Youth ASB is also often 'underreported' through: lacking 'police presence', '[un]willingness to report', 'no suspects' or 'victimless crimes' (Leidelmeijer et al., 2010, p. 17; Mandemakers et al., 2021, p. 46; Scott, 2011, p. 13). Moreover, vandalism (17.7%), a criminal offence primarily by 10 – 20-year-olds would not be included as nuisance (Politie, 2025d, 2025e, 2026).

Top

1.7%

in The Netherlands for youth nuisance



ranking	ASB types	total (%)
1	stealing	4092 (36.8)
2	public disturbance	2943 (26.5)
3	vandalism	1972 (17.7)
4	traffic misconduct	1302 (11.7)
5	abuse	806 (7.3)

Total ASB ranking by type 2012–24 from CBS (2025b)

ranking	public disturbance	total (% Pd / ASB)
1	nuisance from a confused person	948 (32.2 / 8.5)
2	noise pollution	740 (25.1 / 6.7)
3	youth nuisance	543 (18.5 / 4.9)
4	nuisance from drugs/alcohol	423 (14.4 / 3.8)
5	other	289 (9.8 / 2.6)

Total public disturbance by type 2012–24 from CBS (2025b)

Conclusion

What is the primary ASB problem in Houtwijk?

By these metrics, youth in Houtwijk are a 'promising' and underrepresented 'target' (Crowe & Fennelly, 2013, pp. 221, 226, 240) for long-term investment — curtailing 'debut crime' and 'negative role models' (Kesteren et al., 2014, p. 56; Weijers et al., 2021, p. 271). Mainly by groups (75%, Politie, 2025f), in Houtwijk there's around 'five' of them 'up to mischief' (75 youths total), 4.7 % of 12 – 22-year-olds (1600 in 2019, in Tollenaar et al., 2022, p. 43; Femke Beeloo-Planken of Wijkberaad Houtwijk in Koopen, 2024).

Groups vary by impact and are called (Ferwerda et al., 2010, p. 12; Leidelmeijer et al., 2010, p. 13; Politie, 2025g, 2025f):

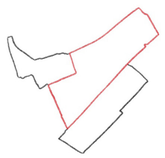
Acceptable — push limits, minimal impact, 'sensitive to authority'
Disruptive — 'minor [crime]', 'avoid [authority]', 'vandalise', 'harass'
Criminal — 'partly [youth]', 'financial gain', 'violence'

In summary of a previously carried out CHEERs test (Community, Harm, Expectation, Events, Recurrence and Similarity) examples of problems caused by young individual and groups include:

- Arson (fireworks, bins, buildings, vehicles)
- Graffitiing (lampposts, walls, bins)
- Drugs (alcohol and nitrous oxide)
- Noise (fireworks, vehicles, music)
- General loitering
- Littering (bushes, grass, waterways, ditches, benches)
- Abandoned vehicles (bikes, scooters, cars)
- Verbal abuse (harassment, threat, aggression)
- Speeding and racing (bikes, scooters and cars)

Moving forward, there is an expectation that these issues are addressed. This expectation is exemplified by previous measures undertaken within Houtwijk and The Hague.





Legend

Youth nuisance from 2020–25

High

Low

Houtwijk

Kom Loosduinen

hotspot study area
190 m radius

Youth nuisance, adaption of Politie Basisteam Loosduinen (2025b)

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0 200 m
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The Haagse Kracht as architecture

Youth work

In the Gemeente Den Haag's (2015) Neighbourhood Program Loosduinen 2016–2019, 'youth work' via Centrum Bokkefort (Wijkz) in Houtwijk, as well as Centrum voor Jeugd en Gezin, Loosduinen (Centre for Youth and Families, CJG) and the Sociaal Wijkteam (Neighbourhood Social Support Team), is cited to have 'prov[ed] successful' in 'approach[ing]', 'guid[ing]' and stopping disruptive youth groups 'under 12' but 'efforts', e.g. 'monitor[ing]' and 'intervention', remain necessary' to stop them forming (pp. 7, 11–12).

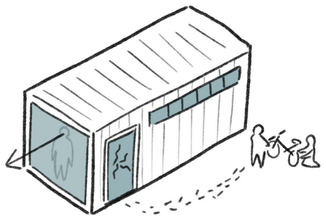
While in 2021–2022, Stichting Meion's 'Street Coaches' reduced youth ASB by 25% in Houtwijk's neighbourhood parks (Piepers & Oberon Nauta, 2022, p. 29).

The Haagse Hopje

Haagse Hopjes are a unique Hague-based architecture that arose in 1996 to minimise youth ASB in squares and parks around the Transvaal neighbourhood, off the principle that 'good behaviour' was rewarded with access to its toy/equipment library (Stichting Haagse Hopjes Transvaal, 2017; atelier PRO, 2025). Consequently, 'more reasons to play' and 'get[ting] bored less' improved behaviour in both 'younger and older children'— reducing vandalism and drugs and creating safer parks/playgrounds.

Buurtbakkie

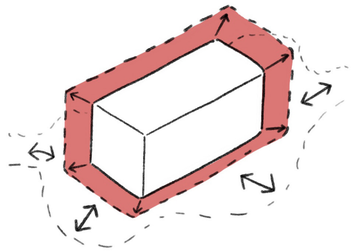
Wijkberaad Houtwijk and Loosduinen's Community Builder (Nasir Refa) host "buurtbakkie" (neighbourhood coffee) alongside the Wijkagent, Wijks and (previously) the BPT in Bokkefort park — facilitated out of a monthly mobile café (koffiekar) at Houtwijk's centre (Mayor van Zanen in response to Uduba 2024, p. 2). This involved conversations, 'idea [sharing]', problem-solving (e.g. 'cleaner neighbourhood', 'safety surveys', etc.), Q&As, 'plan[ning]' for 'safety and liveability' and 'development' discussions (Gemeente Den Haag, 2026a).



Why are Haagse Hopjes needed?

To target and address youth ASB challenges.
Real-world examples include: '[youths] driving their scooters around square[s]', 'cracked windows', 'drug deal[ing]' and 'unemployment' (Lageman, 2017 in discussion with Runaldo Overman, 62-year-old HH caretaker).

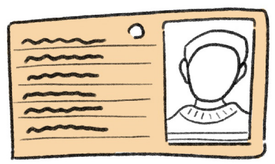
Caretakers of HHs oversee the toys/equipment, provide '[safe] supervision' (atelier PRO, 2025) to parks and playgrounds, and offer support to struggling youths through consulting parents, participating in activities and guidance to 'other organisations' (Lageman, 2017).



What are Haagse Hopjes?

Begin as a 'temporary [pavilion]', typically through retrofitting a shipping container because of its lower cost and ease of installation, they provide anything from a toy and equipment library (balls, bicycles, go-karts, jump ropes, etc.) to food and drink, classroom or an indoor playroom (especially for wet-weather days) (atelier PRO, 2025; Redactie Architectuurnl, 2010).

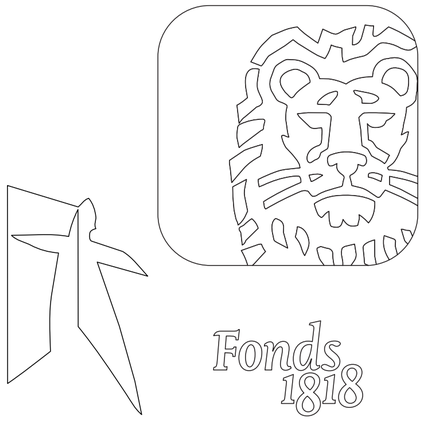
Replaced in place with a permanent building, they form a greater 'site-defining' and 'unifying structure' within the wider neighbourhood landscape. HHs can vary in size from 10 m^2 (temporary container) to 100 m^2 (permanent building) (atelier PRO, 2025; Redactie Architectuurnl, 2010).



How do Haagse Hopjes work?

New members have to bring a parent along on their first visit to a HH where the process and 'rules [are] explain[ed]'. These rules include parent participation, no fighting, tidying up before leaving, maintaining the environment around the HH and looking after equipment. Breaking these rules result in the membership ending.

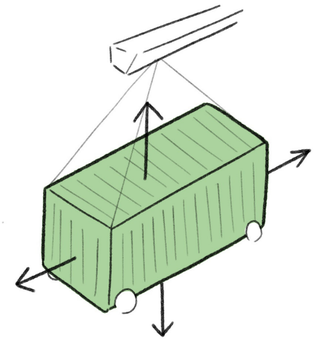
As a member you receive a card known as a Haagse Hop-pas, which provides access to all HHs within the network. Ages range from 4 up to 12, though memberships are available for those up to 18-years-old.



Who funds and manages them?

Haagse Hopjes are 'sponsored' by a range of stakeholders, examples include (Stichting Haagse Hopjes Transvaal, 2017):

Gemeente Den Haag (municipality), Staedion (housing association), Fonds 1818 (non-profit for social projects), ING Nederland (bank), Nationaal Jeugdfonds Jantje Beton (non-profit for youth spaces) and so on. Employees or volunteer caretakers from 'welfare organisations', involved in the funding or not, manage the Haagse Hopjes (Lageman, 2017), e.g. Stichting Haagse Hopjes Transvaal or Wijkz.



When do they become permanent?

Permanence is determined 'over time' by the HH's 'proven [demand]' at its location, funding, support, and the 'concept' that their temporary form, i.e. as a converted container, can be moved and 'implemented elsewhere' (atelier PRO, 2025; Redactie Architectuurnl, 2010).

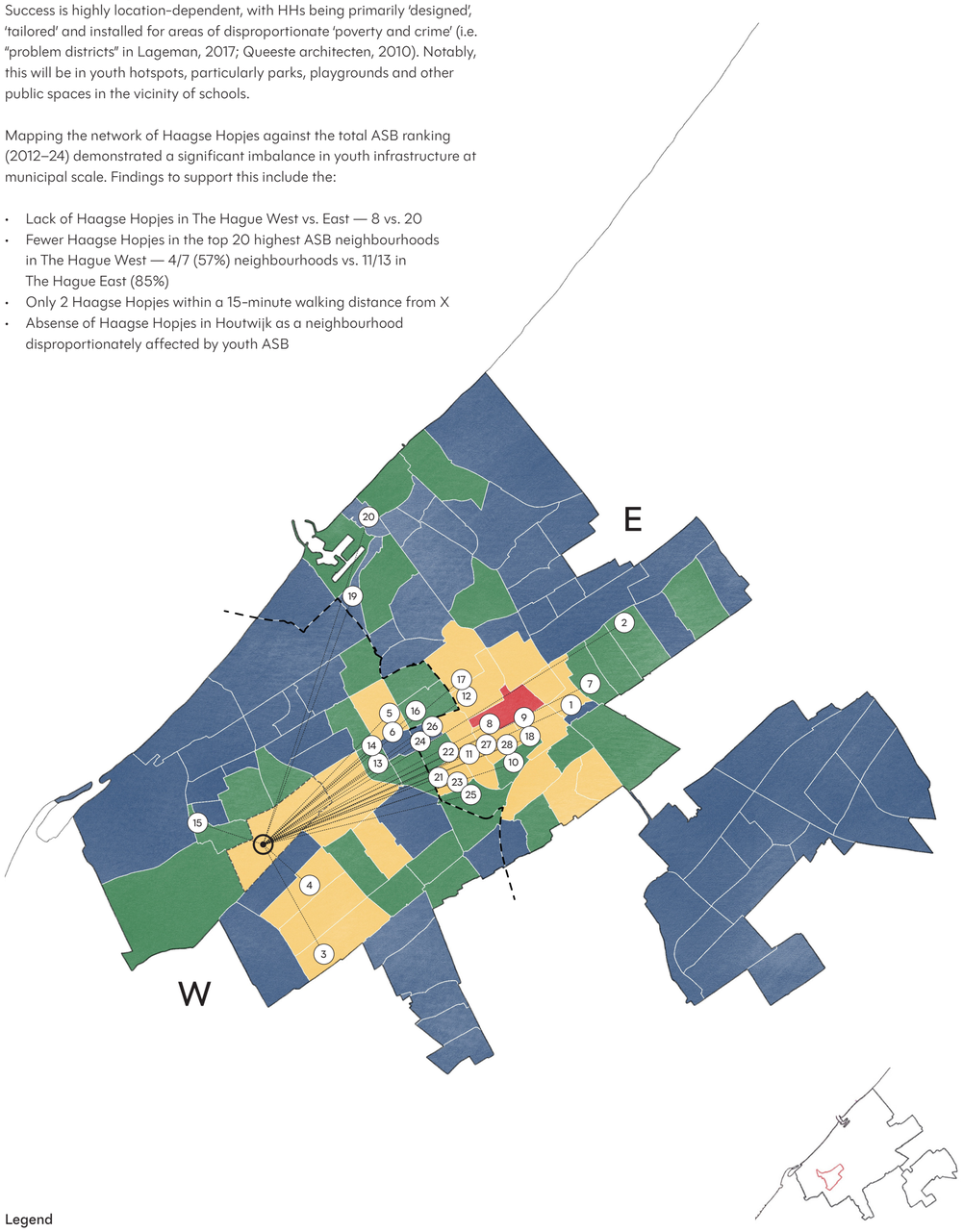
The Hague's Haagse Hopje Network

Where do they go?

Success is highly location-dependent, with HHs being primarily 'designed', 'tailored' and installed for areas of disproportionate 'poverty and crime' (i.e. "problem districts" in Lageman, 2017; Queeste architecten, 2010). Notably, this will be in youth hotspots, particularly parks, playgrounds and other public spaces in the vicinity of schools.

Mapping the network of Haagse Hopjes against the total ASB ranking (2012–24) demonstrated a significant imbalance in youth infrastructure at municipal scale. Findings to support this include the:

- Lack of Haagse Hopjes in The Hague West vs. East — 8 vs. 20
- Fewer Haagse Hopjes in the top 20 highest ASB neighbourhoods in The Hague West — 4/7 (57%) neighbourhoods vs. 11/13 in The Hague East (85%)
- Only 2 Haagse Hopjes within a 15-minute walking distance from X
- Absense of Haagse Hopjes in Houtwijk as a neighbourhood disproportionately affected by youth ASB



Legend

Total ASB ranking 2012–24

1

2 – 20

21 – 50

51 – 114

Bokkefort skatepark

The Hague

study area
The Hague

boundaries

Haagse Hopje

Network

E-W border

Data mapped from DHIC & Politie-eenheid Den Haag (2025)

1:75,000

0 1.5 km

N

no.	name	neighbourhood, district in The Hague	caretakers
1	Hopje Deltaplantsoen	Rivierenbuurt, Stationsbuurt	W
2	Hopje Spaarwaterstraat	Bezuidenhout-Oost, Bezuidenhout	W
3	Hopje Pachtersdreef	Dreven en Gaarden, Bouwlust en Vrederust	W
4	Hopje Eekhoornrade	Venen Oorden en Raden, Bouwlust en Vrederust	W
5	Hopje Newtonplein	Valkenboskwartier, Segbroek	W
6	Hopje Vlindertuin	Valkenboskwartier, Segbroek	W
7	Hopje Hendrik Hamelplantsoen	Bezuidenhout-West, Bezuidenhout	W
8	Hopje Paulus	Schildersbuurt-Noord, Schildersbuurt	W
9	Hopje Fakonahof	Huygenspark, Stationsbuurt	W
10	Hopje Jacob van Campenplein	Schildersbuurt-Oost, Schildersbuurt	W
11	Hopje Van der Vennepark	Schildersbuurt-West, Schildersbuurt	W
12	Hopje Kortenbos	Kortenbos, Centrum	W
13	Hopje Escampade	Rustenburg, Rustenburg en Oostbroek	W
14	Hopje Gooilaan	Rustenburg, Rustenburg en Oostbroek	W
15	Hopje Cantateplein	Kom Loosduinen, Loosduinen	W
16	Hopje Hondiusstraat	Rond de Energiecentrale, Regentessekwartier	W
17	Hopje Jennyplantsoen	Zeeheldenkwartier, Centrum	W
18	Hopje Oranjeplein	Huygenspark, Stationsbuurt	W
19	Hopje Allegondeplein	Geuzenkwartier, Geuzen- en Statenkwartier	WS
20	Hopje Dr. de Visserplein	Oud-Scheveningen, Scheveningen	WS
21	Hopje Viljoenplein	Transvaalkwartier-Zuid, Transvaalkwartier	SH
22	Hopje Wijkpark Transvaal	Transvaalkwartier-Midden, Transvaalkwartier	SH
23	Hopje Kaapseplein	Transvaalkwartier-Zuid, Transvaalkwartier	SH
24	Hopje Ruth Firstplein	Transvaalkwartier-Noord, Transvaalkwartier	SH
25	Haags Hopje Anna Blamanplein	Groente- en Fruitmarkt, Centrum	SH
26	Hopje Joubertplantsoen	Transvaalkwartier-Noord, Transvaalkwartier	SH
27	Hopje Tenierplantsoen	Schildersbuurt-Noord, Schildersbuurt	SJ
28	Hopje Hannemanplantsoen	Schildersbuurt-Noord, Schildersbuurt	SJ

W Wijkz

WS Welzijn Scheveningen

SH Stichting Haagse Hopje Tranvaal

SJ Stichting Jeugdwerk

The list of Haagse Hopjes were sourced from Gemeente Den Haag's (2026b) Sociale Kaart (Social Services Directory)

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4 | Analyse

A | A picture of Houtwijk

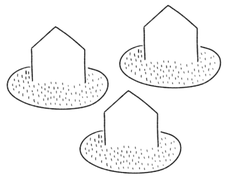
Why here, around Houtwijk's centre and the two parks?
Tracing Houtwijk's generational change and rise of ASB

4A | A picture of Houtwijk

1800 – 1900

Country estates and farmhouses

Houtwijk is a 'horticultural [village]' named after the wooded path crossing it, Houtweg (Gemeente Den Haag, 2023). Orchards and pastures, and setback, standalone 'estates' (e.g. West Kamp) and 'farm[houses]' are parcelled by '[parallel] ditches' running perpendicular into 'watercourses' and Loosduinsevaart (Bobbink & Loen, 2013, pp. 40, 43; Wijkberaad Houtwijk, 2025a). Thresholds of this layered water network and landownership are shaped by the Houtweg, branching transversely to this 'artery' (Gemeente Den Haag, 2023; Wijkberaad Houtwijk, 2025a).



Patterns
Set back and standalone



An artery and its branches

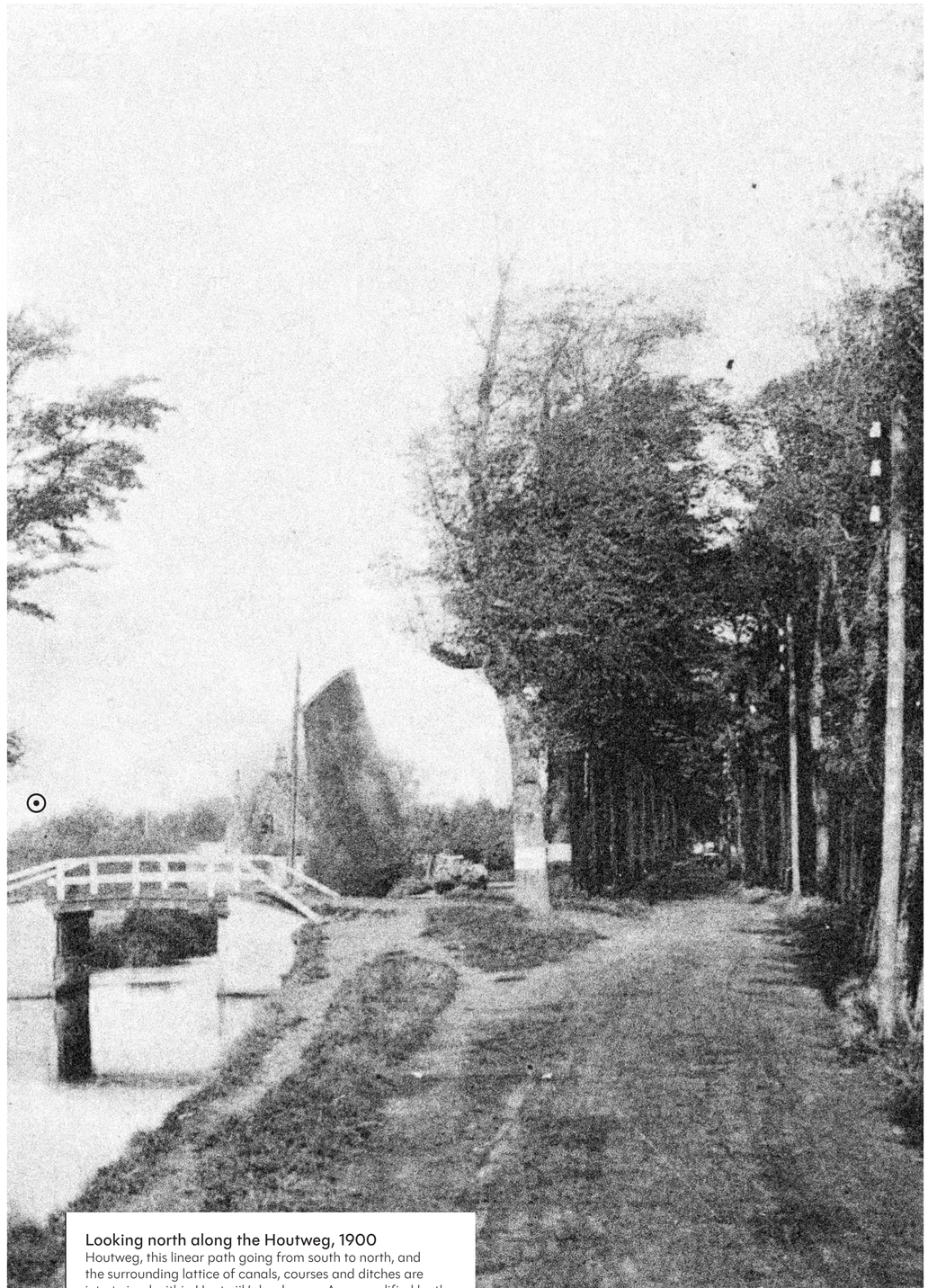
Legend

Houtwijk, 1832

- Enduring structures
- Houtweg
- Connecting paths
- Water network
- Picture location
- Reference point
- Buildings
- Land
- Water
- Ditches
- L — Leyweg
- N — Nieuwe weg (Margaretha van Hennebergweg)
- V — Vinkenlaantje
- W — Witweg (Burgemeester Hovylaan)
- L — Loosduinsevaart
- West Kamp estate

Kadaster 1832, adapted from HisGis, 2026 (https://hisgis.nl/kaartviewer/zuid-holland/)

1:10,000 △
0 200 m N



Looking north along the Houtweg, 1900
Houtweg, this linear path going from south to north, and the surrounding lattice of canals, courses and ditches are intertwined within Houtwijk's landscape. As exemplified by the rural infrastructure spanning from it: earthen embankments, footbridges and tunnel-like, tree-lined edges.

Adapted from Hendrik van Noort, 1900, Haags Gemeentearchief (https://hdl.handle.net/21.12124/42945ECD14BF4060A5473200AC55BF92)

4A | A picture of Houtwijk

1900 – 1960

Greenhouses and endless fields

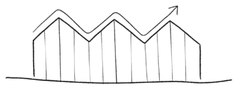
Providing 'productivity', greenhouses first built in Loosduinen (city district, Bieleman, 2010, pp. 232, 307) 'expanded' Houtwijk's horticulture 'considerably' along centuries-old ditches/watercourses in a rhythm of gabled roofs and panelled glass accessed by boat for transportation to 'vegetable auctions' (Bieleman, 2010, p. 295; Gemeente Den Haag, 2023). Houtwijk's 'rural character [quickly] disappear[ed]' with Loosduinen's 'incorporat[ion]' into The Hague (1923), Burgemeestersbuurt's construction and 'expansion' (ATV Houtwijk de Noord, 2014; Gemeente Den Haag, 2023).

"Back then, Loosduinen was still all greenhouses and endless green fields; there was much more space to hang out without people being bothered by it"

Carla, resident, in van der Kaay & Meeder (2025, p. 29)

"Former market gardens have disappeared, and apartment buildings have taken their place"

Wietske Verkuyl, pastor, in HSC et al. (2017, p. 16)



Patterns
Gabled, panelled and repeating



A continuing rhythm

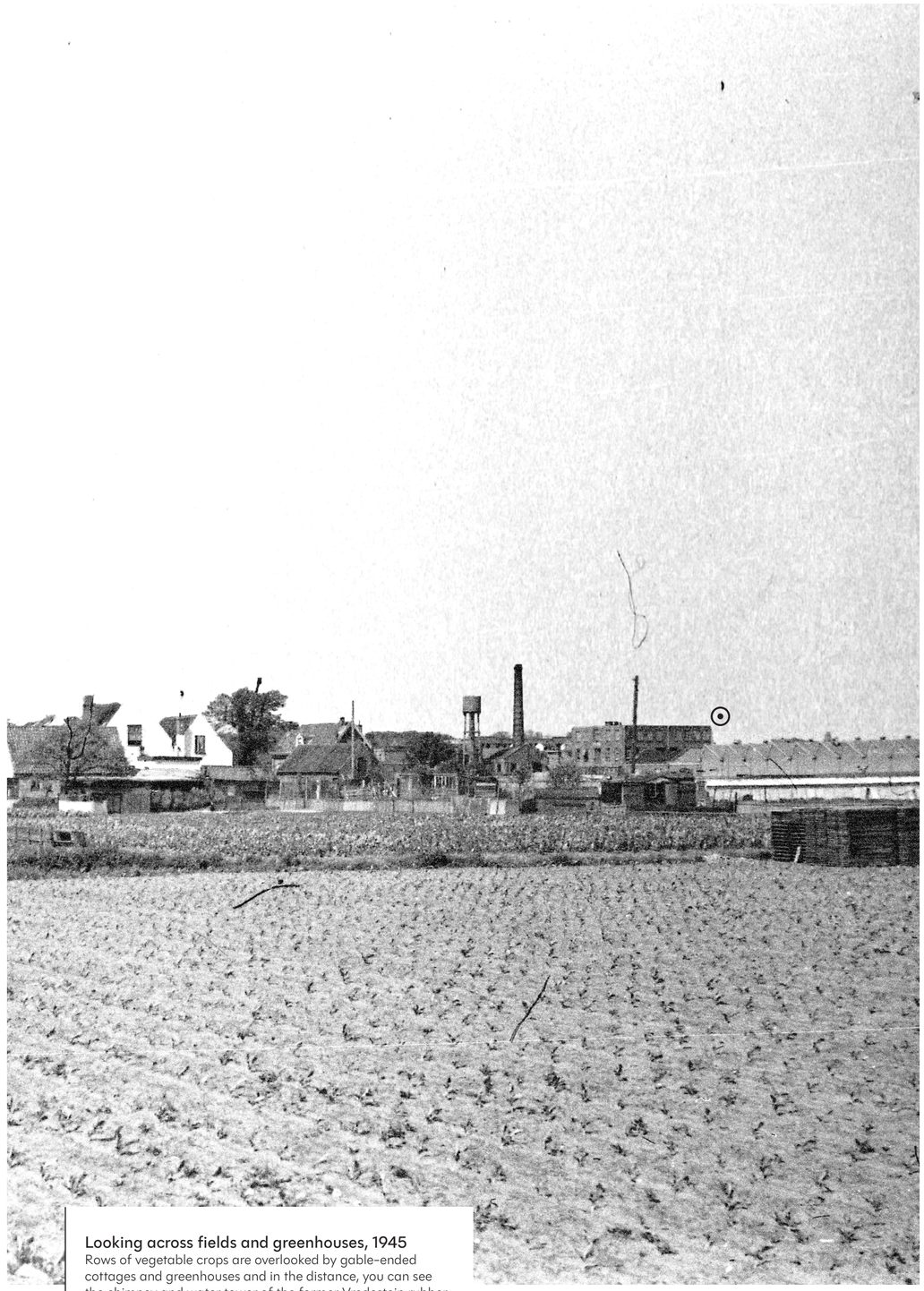
Legend

Houtwijk, 1950

- Enduring structures
- Houtweg
- Connecting paths
- Water network
- Picture location
- Reference point
- Buildings
- Land
- Water
- Greenhouses
- (B) Burgemeestersbuur
- (C) Cooperative vegetable auction (LGV)
- (L) Loosduinen vegetable auction (LGV)
- (V) Vredestein factory

Top25 1950, adapted from Topotijkdreis, 1950 (https://www.topotijdreis.nl/kaart/1950)

1:10,000 △
0 200 m N



Looking across fields and greenhouses, 1945
Rows of vegetable crops are overlooked by gable-ended cottages and greenhouses and in the distance, you can see the chimney and water tower of the former Vredestein rubber factory on Oude Haagweg.

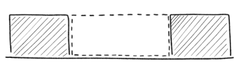
Adapted from Emo Jurjen Rentema, 1945, Haags Gemeentearchief (https://hdl.handle.net/21.12124/91C2B0D3EC06407CB31C85C57F87D898)

4A | A picture of Houtwijk

1960 – 2000

Suburban neighbourhood

Post-WWII, 'horticultur[al] land' was targeted for 'major expansion' — migrating residents of 'substandard' inner-city housing to 'new neighbourhoods' (Oorschot, 2014, pp. 359, 464; Gemeente Den Haag, 2023; van Hoogdalem & Koopmans, 2019, p. 4). 'Horticulturalists' were 'relocated' and a zoning plan was drafted (1973, by R.P. Voskuil and K.Y. Neef of the Urban Development Department; see RDMZ & DSO 1990, pp. 123, 131; Gemeente Den Haag, 2023; Oorschot, 2014, p. 465).



Patterns

Solid and void

A fragmented structure

Legend

Houtwijk zoning plan, 1977

- Enduring structures
- Houtweg
- Connecting paths
- Water network
- Picture location
- Reference point
- Buildings
- Land
- Water
- Development
- Open space
- Buildings (1950)
- Land (1950)
- Water (1950)
- Greenhouses (1950)

Adapted from Gemeente 's-Gravenhage, 1977, Haags Gemeentearchief (https://hdl.handle.net/21.12124/5C347C8C43BD4078B2B9C4583539A543)

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Construction begins, aerial of Houtwijk, 1977

Houtweg can be seen going from left to right in the centre of the image, passing through trees and behind the tower (see reference point). The lines of its horticultural past can still be read across the landscape. Also note the amount of black (green space) and white (buildings) areas.

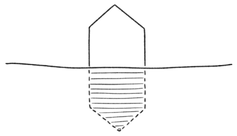
Adapted from Dienst voor de Stadsontwikkeling, 1977, Haags Gemeentearchief (https://hdl.handle.net/21.12124/9AC3E2B38F0D4E429FD3462F4B104479)

4A | A picture of Houtwijk

2000s – Today

Resulting from rapid change

Houtwijk appears a picturesque, quiet, tree-lined neighbourhood with parks and playgrounds. However, rapid change from horticulture to suburbculture has significantly affected its socio-spatial environment — transforming from open and connected to compact and zoned, young people compete for space to grow in a layered landscape marked by remnants of its past.



Patterns
A layered landscape

Remnants of its past

Legend

Houtwijk, today

- Enduring structures
- Houtweg
- Connecting paths
- Water network
- Picture location (P)
- Reference point
- Buildings
- Land
- Water

Basemap adapted from Top10NL, Kadaster, 2025, pdok (https://www.pdok.nl/introductie/-/article/basisregistratie-topografie-brt-topnl)

1:10,000 △
0 200 m N



Seven years later, aerial of Houtwijk, 1984
'Litle remains' of Houtwijk's horticultural past besides the watercourses and traces of 'ditches' within its streetscape (Gemeente Den Haag, 2023). In seven years, a densely filled suburb emerged, as highlighted by the black (green space) areas against white (buildings).

Adapted from Haags Gemeentearchief, 1984 (https://hdl.handle.net/21.12124/986825E41F3143BD9D086E871F05C81B)

4A | A picture of Houtwijk

Isolation

Out of sight, out of mind

In 1970, youth spaces were 'idealis[ed]' for their 'emancipat[ory]' role over 'service' (Pietsch et al., 2015, p. 19). A 'pictorial acknowledgement' (Alexander, 1965, p. 13), young people were provided patches of quarter-by-quarter playgrounds, a community centre and 'small', shared 'neighbourhood parks' — located away from 'residential areas' to prevent ASB (Gemeente 's-Gravenhage, 1977, pp. 6, 14, 21, 29, 32, 38, 69).

Socio-spatially 'isolated' (AGIS, 2007, pp. 16–17), these densely-wooded areas create islands in Houtwijk's halves, divided by the Houtwijklaan, where young people compete with each other, i.e. teens and pre-teens in Bokkefort and Kleine Hout respectively, and the neighbourhood for room (anonymous group 2, personal communication, 29 May 2026). Colloquially, these halves are ranked -1 and -2 for socio-economic and physical divide by the Houtwijklaan (DHC25/26, 2025; Gemeente Den Haag, 2015, p. 7).



Patterns
Islands within islands



Looking across the Houtwijklaan
Opposite is the former Houtweg and the layers of roads and verges that compose the Houtwijklaan. Photographed by author.

4A | A picture of Houtwijk

Searching

No place for young people

A 'minim[al]' solution for a 'densely populated' neighbourhood (Bakker, 1977, pp. 830–831; Gemeente 's-Gravenhage, 1977, p. 69), with 'too few [services]' for young people (DHC25/26, 2025; Sluijs, 2025, p. 1; van Zanen, 2025, p. 1), they're 'forced' to 'search' for 'spots' to hang out —as observed and discussed with residents (anonymous group 2, personal communication, 29 May 2026; van der Kaay & Meeder, 2025, p. 9; Woldendorp et al., 2023, pp. 5–6, 8, 28, 46).

Drawn to food, stops, schools and shops, alongside the community centre, parks and playgrounds they form an 'overlap[ping] system', anchored by the "slackline" of Houtweg (Alexander, 1965, pp. 13–14; Leidelmeijer et al., 2010, pp. 25–26, 51–53; M. S. Scott, 2011, p. 10).



Legend

Youth spaces

- Youth spaces (catering, playgrounds, schools, shops, etc.).
- Transit stops
- Parks
- Picture location
- Reference point
- Buildings
- Land
- Water
- C — Centrum Bokkefort
- M — Montessorischool Houtwijk
- S — SV clubhouse

Patterns

The slackline

Basemap adapted from Top10NL, Kadaster, 2025, pdok (https://www.pdok.nl/introductie/-/article/basisregistratie-topografie-brt-topnl)

1:10,000 △ N

0 200 m



Centrum Bokkefort on fire

The covered storage area of Centrum Bokkefort was set on fire by 'youths' (District8, 2025)— the aftermath was photographed by the author.

4A | A picture of Houtwijk

Accessibility

Street network

Part of this system is the street network. In a 'street-based' layout, highly-accessible (i.e. high-integration) routes correlate with ASB 'pushed out' to the 'edges' of residential areas because of its 'constitutedness' and '[pedestrian] presence' (Friedrich et al., 2009, pp. 8–9, 13–14). Subsequently, the more explorative, low-integration routes between parks and playgrounds behave differently, creating an informal network for 'youngsters' just off Houtweg, the 'most integrated [route]' (van Nes & de Rooij, 2015, p. 13).



Legend

Space syntax

> 66th percentile

< 66th percentile

Buildings

Land

Water

P Picture location

Patterns
Formal and informal network

Visualised in QGIS using PST plug-in by KTH et al. (2025)

0 200 m 1:10,000 N



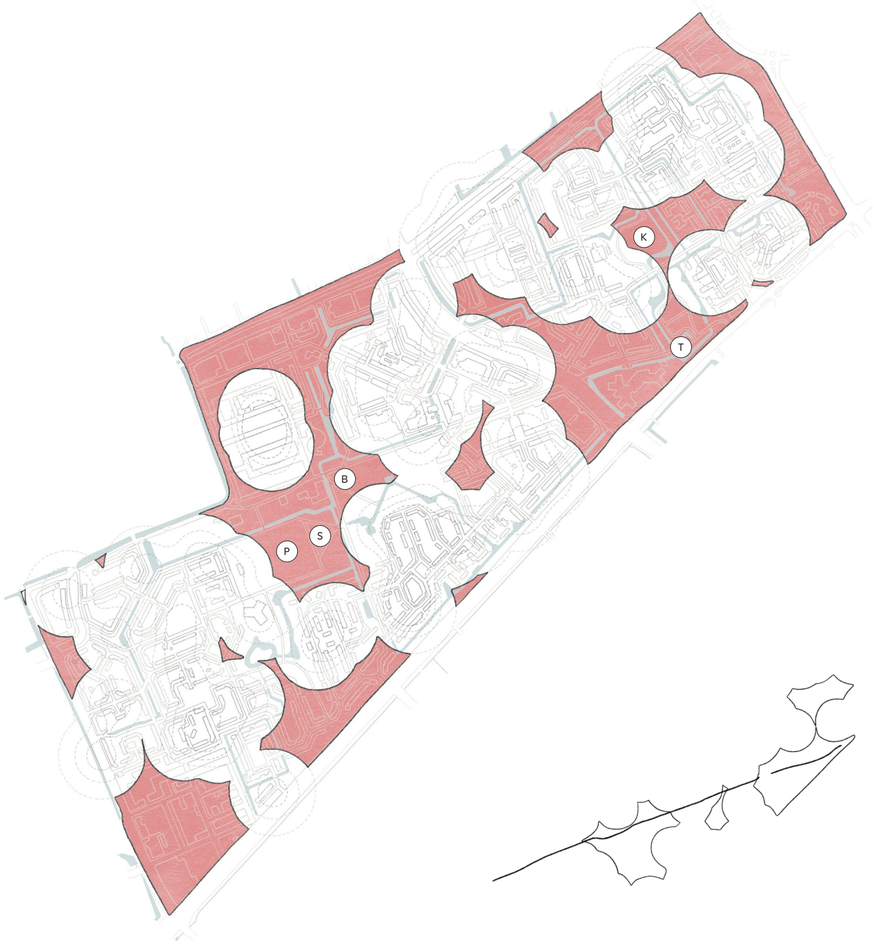
Dead walls
Past the park-fronted houses to the southern edge of Bokkefort park, dead walls at the end of Johan Huizingastraat are regularly vandalised. Photographed by author.

Surveillance

From watchers to Whatsapp

'Visib[le]' surveillance disappeared with the neighbourhood watch's disbandment due to rising ASB and replacement with 'safety apps' (former coordinator Marcel 2025, p. 3). Though apps are 'beneficial' for 'social cohesion', its 'influence' on the 'sense' of 'security' is 'limited', reducing tolerance (Dalmeijer & Niculescu-Dincă, 2019) and tightening this threshold between residential and non-residential areas.

This intolerance reflects more controlling parents, potential overreporting and young people's disproportionately negative image (anonymous group 2, personal communication, 29 May 2026; Wijkberaad Houtwijk, 2025c, p. 4). Conversely, all stakeholders, from SV Houtwijk to the municipality, want the fields open to more young people for longer but this requires more resources to enable oversight (volunteers, facilities, etc.).



Legend

Presence of safety apps

High
Low
Deadspots

Buildings
Land
Water

B Bokkefort park
P Pitches
S Skatepark
T Tulapad (Houtweg)

Patterns
Deadspots

Using data from AlerteBuren.nl (2025), Kernal Density Estimation (KDE) calculated the extent of the informal surveillance network at a radius of 100 m from its points (the centre of a watch's area) to encompass the footprint of a neighbourhood block, illustrating deadspots.

1:10,000
0 200 m
N



Territoriality
Stickers of "Hier Actief, Whatsapp-groep Veiligheid" (Active here, Safety Whatsapp group) can be found throughout Houtwijk on bins, lampposts and electricity boxes — resident's want passersby to know when and where they're being watched. Photographed by author.

4A | A picture of Houtwijk

Safety

Puchs to fatbikes

At this threshold, youth ASB becomes concentrated by limited support and space. Puchs of the past are the fat bikes of today but without the 'endless fields' to ride across (van der Kaay & Meeder, 2025, pp. 29, 31) and so 'young people' cause great 'stress' speeding through Houtweg to the centre and parks — 'endangering' others (de Mos & Roopram, 2020, p. 1; Haagse VVD, 2024; Uduba, 2024, p. 1; Wijkberaad Houtwijk, 2025c, p. 3). By its width, the former Houtweg has a high probability for 'dangerous collisions' (NDW verkeersveiligheid, 2024). These socio-spatial signals form hotspots throughout Houtwijk.



Legend

Probability of dangerous encounters

High

Connecting paths

Houtweg

Picture location

Reference point

Buildings

Land

Water

Patterns

Contact points

Data mapped from NDW verkeersveiligheid (2024)

1:10,000

0 200 m

N



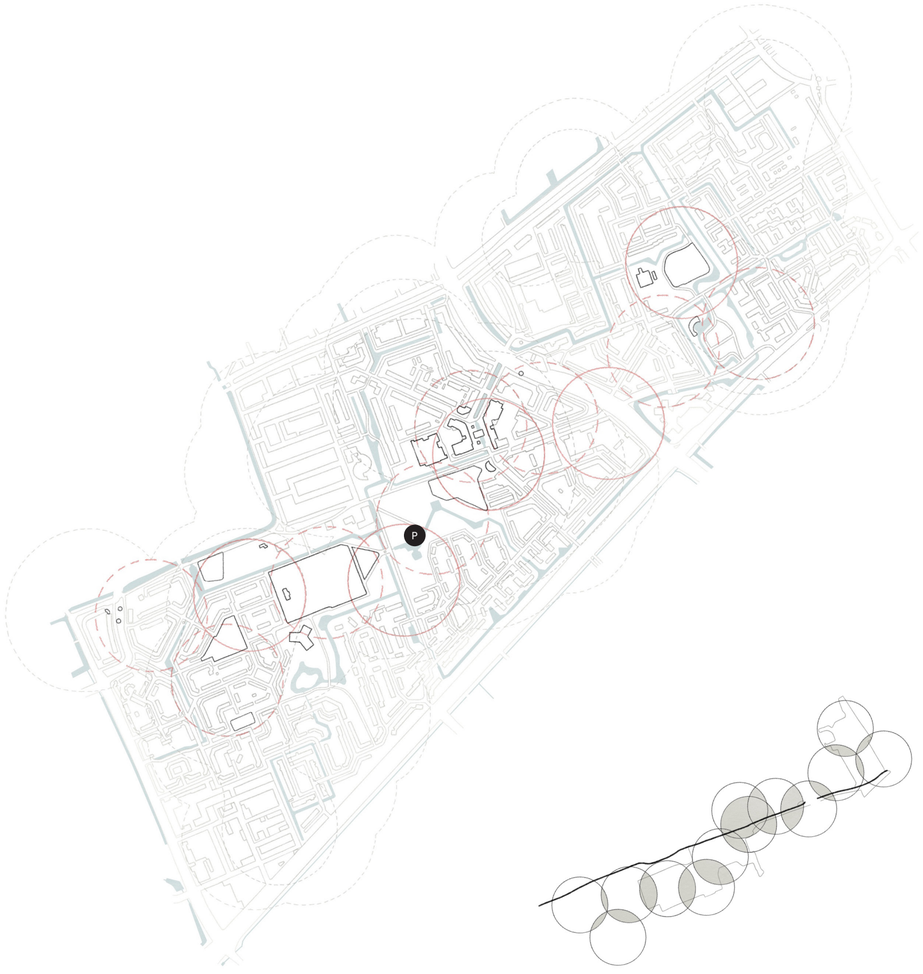
Houtweg today

A young person can be seen mounting the area towards Centrum Bokkefort's storage. In the distance someone walks along the long, narrow footpath beneath its deciduous trees. Photographed by author.

Hotspots

Weighing the issue

Where pro-social becomes antisocial behaviour and acceptable groups become disruptive, primary and secondary hotspots are formed along the Houtweg, weighted by their accessibility, youth-function, magnitude, and surveillability.



Legend

Weighting the hotspots

- Youth spaces (catering, playgrounds, schools, shops, etc.).
- Primary
- Secondary
- P — Picture location
- High youth ASB
- Low youth ASB

Socio-spatial system

Heatmap adapted from Politie Basisteam Loosduinen (2025b)

0 — 200 m — 1:10,000 — N



Burnt out fat bikes in the big city
Found in Bokkefort park, photographed by author.

4A | A picture of Houtwijk

Project opportunities

Along the slackline

Following from the analysis, five types of interventions are proposed along Houtweg, a reimagined "slackline" (aka. 'necklace') of 'community projects' (Alexander, 1977, point 45.) with 'small [outdoor rooms] for loitering' between them (JOPs).



Legend

Masterplan

	Proposals		Youth spaces	Y	Youth centre	H	Haagse Hopje
	Houtweg		Primary hotspots	C	Caretaker's house	J	Youth meeting point (JOP)
	Informal network		Secondary hotspots	B	Centrum Bokkefort+		

0 200 m 1:10,000 N

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4 | Analyse

B | Participatory research

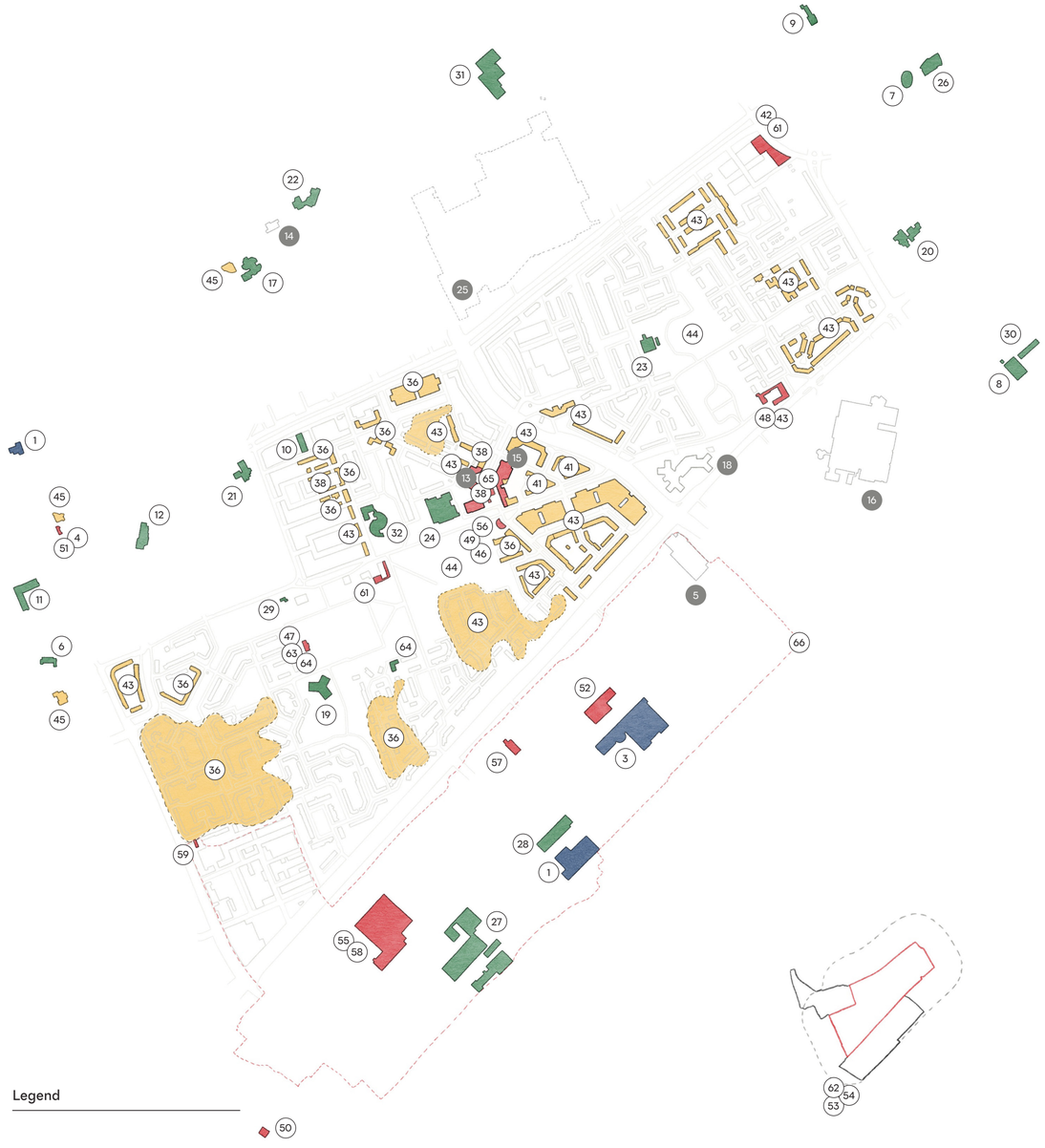
Why here, around Houtwijk's centre and the two parks?
Discussing findings and proposals with stakeholders

Stakeholder analysis

Levels of agency

Potential stakeholders were 'identified' within 500 m (walking distance) to Houtwijk, assessed for appropriateness, then divided into 4 types (CEN, 2025, p. 50; Derr et al., 2018, pp. 7–8, 19–20; see Fennelly & Perry, 2018, pp. 391–392; Zahm, 2007, p. 39)

Reflecting simultaneous, top-down and bottom-up 'levels' of local agency, these types are: government, institutions, organisations and community groups.



The table headings and method for this exercise are derived from Derr et al. (2018, p. 20) and Ferguson & Candy (2014, pp. 16–17)

Key

How are they connected to the project?
B. Businesses, permanently based there or renting a space (artists, sports clubs, etc.)
M. Mentors, a member of staff (manager, therapist, etc.)
R. Residents, occasional visitors from the neighbourhood (parent, volunteer, etc.)
Y. Young people, regular users of the space between 10 – 23-years-old

How can they contribute to the project?
Br. Business representation
G. Generating ideas
I. Involving young people
P. Professional expertise
Rr. Residential representation

Government

	name	description	connect	contribute
1	Basisteam Loosduinen	Local police force, part of the Politie Eenheid Den Haag (Police Unit The Hague), including the Police Station (N) and the Vehicle Investigation Office (S)	B, M, R, Y	G, I, P, Rr
2	Politicians	Unelected and elected representatives	B, M, R, Y	Br, G, I, P, Rr
3	Gemeente Den Haag	Municipality, administration office	B, M, R, Y	Br, G, I, P, Rr
4	Loosduinen	District authority, administration office	B, M, R	Br, G, I, P, Rr
5	Veiligheidsregio Haaglanden	The Hague Safety Region, including the fire department and GHOR (regional medical assistance organisation)	B, R	Br, G, P, Rr

Institutions

	name	description	connect	contribute
6	Abdijkerk	Church	M, R, Y	G, I, P, Rr
7	Dak Den Helder	Afterschool care	M, R, Y	Br, G, I, P, Rr
8	Dalton KC Helen Parkhurst	Pre- to primary school and after-school care (incl. JL, GU)	M, R, Y	G, I, P
9	De Bosbeskapel	Chapel	M, R, Y	G, I, P, Rr
10	De Deur Den Haag (to be removed in the Oude Haagweg development)	Church	M, R, Y	G, I, P, Rr
11	De Kleine Keizer	Pre- to primary school and after-school care (incl. 2S)	M, R, Y	G, I, P
12	Ds. W.E. den Hertogschool	Pre- to primary school and after-school care (incl. 2S)	M, R, Y	G, I, P
13	Gezondheidscentrum Houtwijk	Health centre		
14	Gezondheidscentrum Nieuw Waldeck	Health centre		
15	Florence Woonzorgcentrum Houthaghe	Residential care centre		
16	HagaZiekenhuis	Hospital		
17	Het Lichtbaken	Pre- to primary school (incl. 2S and JL)	M, R, Y	G, I, P
18	HWW Zorg	Care home		
19	KC Koos Meinderts	Pre- to primary school and after-school care (incl. 2S)	M, R, Y	G, I, P
20	KC Leyenburg	Pre- to primary school and after-school care (incl. 2S)	M, R, Y	G, I, P
21	Maria van Eik en Duinen	Church	M, R, Y	G, I, P, Rr
22	Maris College Waldeck	Secondary school	M, R, Y	G, I, P
23	Montessorischool Houtwijk	Primary school	M, R, Y	G, I, P
24	OBS Houtwijk	Primary school (incl. JL)	M, R, Y	G, I, P
25	Parnassia Centrum	Psychiatric care for adults and elderly		
26	R.K. Basisschool De Jonge Wereld	Primary school	M, R, Y	G, I, P
27	ROC Mondriaan	Secondary school	M, R, Y	G, I, P
28	Stichting Haagbouw	Training programmes in construction	M, Y	G, I, P
29	St. Jozef	Cemetery	R	Rr
30	The Church of Pentecost	Church	M, R, Y	G, I, P, Rr
31	YES College	Secondary school	M, R, Y	G, I, P
32	WZH Nieuw Berken-dael	Care centre for acquired brain injury (ABI)	B, R, Y	Br, I, P, Rr

Organisations

	name	description	connect	contribute
33	2Samen (2S)	Pre- to afterschool care	M, R, Y	I, G, P, Rr
34	Centrum Groepswonen	Cohousing organisation	R	G, Rr
35	Gro-up	Pre- to afterschool care (incl. in Wiekslag Wijkz and Dalton)	M, R, Y	I, G, P, Rr
36	Haag Wonen	Housing association	R	G, Rr
37	Haags Verhaal	Community integration initiative	M, R, Y	I, G, p
38	Hof Wonen	Housing association	R	G, Rr
39	JongLeren (JL)	Preschool group (0 – 4-years-old)	M, R, Y	I, G, P, Rr
40	Kinderraad	Children's council	R, Y	I, G, P, Rr
41	Mooiland	Housing association	R	G, Rr
42	Saffier	Specialised care for elderly	M, R	Br, Rr
43	Staedion	Housing associaion	R	G, Rr
44	Stichting MEION	Youth social welfare organisation (patrol the parks)	M, Y	I, G, P
45	Wijkz	Social welfare organisation	M, R, Y	I, G, P, Rr
46	WSDH	Werken aan sportstad Den Haag, Working on the Sports City Den Haag	M, Y	I, G, P

Community groups

	name	description	connect	contribute
47	BPT Houtwijk (disbanded)	Buurtpreventie Houtwijk, neighbourhood watch, formerly based in SV Clubhouse (known as Buurthuis Houtwijk)	M, R, Y	I, P, Rr
48	Centraal Wonen Houtwijk	Multigeneration co-housing, part of Haag Wonen	R	G, Rr
49	Centrum Bokkefort	Neighbourhood centre, part of Wijkz	M, R, Y	G, I, P, Rr
50	Centrum Siena	Art therapy for young people and artistic social skills training for antisocial behaviour and personal development	M, Y	G, I, P
51	Commissie Loosduinen	Representatives of residents and business groups	B, R	G, Br
52	Dolores fitness	Gym	B, M, R, Y	Br, G, I, P
53	De Klimmuur Den Haag	Rock climbing centre, based in De Uithof	B, M, R, Y	Br, G, I, P
54	De Uithof	Sports centre	B, M, R, Y	Br, G, I, P
55	Health & Fit de Werf	Gym (within the Martial Arts Center Den Haag)	B, M, R, Y	Br, G, I, P
56	Jongerenpunt 070	Life coaches for 16 – 27-year-olds, based in Centrum Bokkefort	M, Y	G, I, P
57	Marris Gym	Mixed martial arts	B, M, R, Y	Br, G, I, P
58	Martial Arts Center Den Haag	Sports centre	B, M, R, Y	Br, G, I, P
59	MisetArt Studio	Creative classes for children, teenagers and adults	B, M, R, Y	Br, G, I
60	O2 Fitness	Gym	B, M, R, Y	Br, G, I, P
61	Ontmoetingscentrum Volendamlaan	Community centre for elderly residents, part of wijkz Haagse Senioren (Hague Seniors) and the Saffier organisation	M, R	Br, Rr
62	SportCity De Uithof	Sport centre in De Uithof. Works with the MIND Us foundation to sup-port young people's (12 – 27-year olds) mental health	B, M, R, Y	Br, G, I, P
63	SV Houtwijk	Local football club, based in the SV Clubhouse	M, R, Y	Br, G, I, P
64	Wijkberaad Houtwijk	Neighbourhood council, based in the SV Clubhouse (known as Buurthuis Houtwijk)	M, R	G, I, Rr
65	Winkelcentrum Houtwijk	Mix of businesses	B, R	Br, G, Rr
66	Zichtenburg Kerketuinen Dekkershoek (ZKD)	Business group	B, R	Br, G, Rr

4B | Participatory research

Planning

Overview

As stakeholder engagement is not guaranteed through one method, a range of approaches were explored to involve residents.

Stakeholder introduction booklet	Distributed to stakeholders. Resulted in discussions with them and led to the resident's annual meeting invitation.
Neighbourhood newsletter	Advertised the resident's annual meeting presentation and workshop, information was sent out in the neighbourhood newsletter and online.
Resident's Annual Meeting (Jaarvergadering) 2026	A presentation and Q&A (with adjacent survey) with residents about the research and design progress.
Co-design workshop	Seven exercises that could be catered by group size, type, etc. This included: **1. Favourite places** Icebreaker activity, residents reminisce about their childhood, 'connect[ing]' them and thinking about why these places are successful (de Sousa et al., 2023, pp. 43–44; Derr et al., 2018, pp. 69, 73; Hwang & Fellow, 2012, pp. 12, 18) **2. Hopes and fears** Understanding 'motivations' and 'priorities' for the project proposals, informing the vision statement (Archio, 2020, pp. 3–5, 2023, pp. 18, 28–29) **3. Skatepark** 'Resident experience mapping' forms a unique picture of the site through the perception and use of it by its stakeholders (Archio, 2020, pp. 3, 6–7, 2023, pp. 17, 24; Derr et al., 2018, p. 203). **4. Case studies** Initiating imagination and conversation through exemplary participants, illustrating their architectural qualities (Ferguson & Candy, 2014, pp. 40–41; Hwang & Fellow, 2012, p. 21). **5. Mood board** Collaging a range of categories like activities, materials, spaces, etc. — surveying people's 'design preferences' to inform aesthetic and programmatic decisions (McKercher, 2023, pp. 48, 56). **6. Vision statement** 'Articulate [a] shared' approach to the proposal's design (Archio, 2023, p. 19; de Sousa, 2021, pp. 6–7, 19). **7. Co-design** Adapted from de Sousa's (2021) Design by Consensus guide for multilingual planning, involves cut-out colourful block plans alongside a guide to programme dimensions and examples.

To develop these materials, the following resources were used:

Workshop

- Co-creation toolkit by Archio (2023)
- Participatory design toolkit by Hwang & Fellow (2012) on behalf of Enterprise and the Homes Support Success Skid Row Housing Trust
- Ways to engage consumers, carers and communities by Kelly Ann McKercher (2023) on behalf of NSW Health
- Participatory Design Handbook by Ferguson & Candy (2014) of codesign studio
- The facilitation of The Glass-House Community Led Design, notably the Design by Consensus guide to running a multilingual, co-design workshop (see de Sousa, 2021)
- The facilitation guides of Centre d'ecologie urbaine de Montreal (e.g. Centre d'ecologie urbaine de Montreal, 2024a)
- Cross-pollination Resource Pack by de Sousa et al.

Programme

- HM Government's Approved Document's B (2025), M (2015) and T (2024)
- Bielefeld's (2019) Spaces in Architecture
- Buxton's (2021) Metric Handbook
- DCSF's (2007) Building Bulletin 100: Design for fire safety in schools
- DfE's (2014) Building Bulletin 103: Area guidelines for mainstream schools
- Neufert's (2012) Architects' data
- RVO's (2025) Requirements on safety, space, and construction for childcare centres
- Sport England's Affordable Sports Halls guide (2015), Village and Community Halls guide (2001) and Sport Space Size Guide (2025)
- The US Army Corps of Engineers' (2020) Standard Design Criteria Youth Centers

Favoriete plekken | Favourite places

17/02/2026

Instructies
Deze oefening bestaat uit 2 vragen en een kleine tekening die je op een post-it kunt plakken (bij voorkeur in het Engels).

Wat waren, toen je opgroeide in jouw buurt, of dat nu Houtwijk was of ergens anders, je favoriete plekken om naartoe te gaan buiten je huis, school, etc.? Dit kan een park zijn, een speeltuin, een club, het huis van een vriend, eigenlijk alles.

En waarom waren dit je favoriete plekken? Was het een plek om te ontspannen, een plek om te ontdekken, een plek om creatief bezig te zijn?

Schrijf deze antwoorden op een post-it en teken het vervolgens op een volgende post-it. Je mag zo abstract of gedetailleerd zijn als je wilt en als je het lastig vindt om te tekenen, vraag dan gerust om hulp! Plak de post-its tot slot op het bijbehorende vak (1) en als je klaar bent, zullen we onze antwoorden delen en toelichten.

Instructions
This exercise is made up of 2 questions and a small drawing to add onto a post-it note (preferably in English if you can).

Growing up in your neighbourhood, be that Houtwijk or elsewhere, what were your favourite places to go to outside of home, school, etc.? This could be a park, a playground, a club, a friend's house, anywhere.

And why were these your favourite places? Was it somewhere to relax, somewhere to explore, somewhere to be creative?

Add these answers to a post-it note and then on another try to draw it. Be as abstract or precise as you want and if you are uncomfortable drawing, please don't hesitate to ask for help! Finally, stick these post-it notes to the corresponding section (1) and once complete, we will then share and explain our answers.



Materialen Materials

Poster 1 | Poster 1 **Post-its** | Post-its **Kantoorartikelen** | Stationary

Skatepark | Skatepark

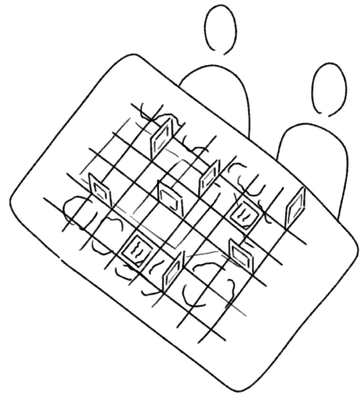
17/02/2026

Instructies
Omdat dit project qua tijd en omvang beperkt is, richten we ons op de locatie van het nieuwe jongerencentrum: het skatepark van Bokkefort Park en de omgeving. Of je de locatie nu goed kent, gedeeltelijk kent of er nog nooit van gehoord hebt, jouw mening en ervaringen met Houtwijk zijn van grote waarde.

Bekijk samen de plattegrond en de foto's en noteer je gedachten en ervaringen over de locatie, evenals alles wat je verder belangrijk vindt, op de post-it notes. Plak ze op de bijbehorende afbeelding of ergens anders op de plattegrond. Bijvoorbeeld: waarom ga je erheen? Wat vind je van de apparatuur? Hoe voelt het als ruimte? We bespreken vervolgens onze bevindingen.

Instructions
As this project is limited in time and scope, we will be focusing on the site of the new youth centre — the skatepark of Bokkefort park and its surrounding area. Whether you know the site intimately, partially or never realised it was there, your views and experiences of Houtwijk are invaluable in informing us.

Talking together, please take a look at the site plan and photographs, record on the post-it notes your thoughts and experiences of the site, as well as anything else you think we should know. Place them on the corresponding image or anywhere on the plan. For example: why do you go there? What do you think of the equipment? How does it feel as a space? We will then talk through our findings.



Materialen Materials

Poster 3 | Poster 3 **Post-its** | Post-its **Kantoorartikelen** | Stationary

4B | Participatory research

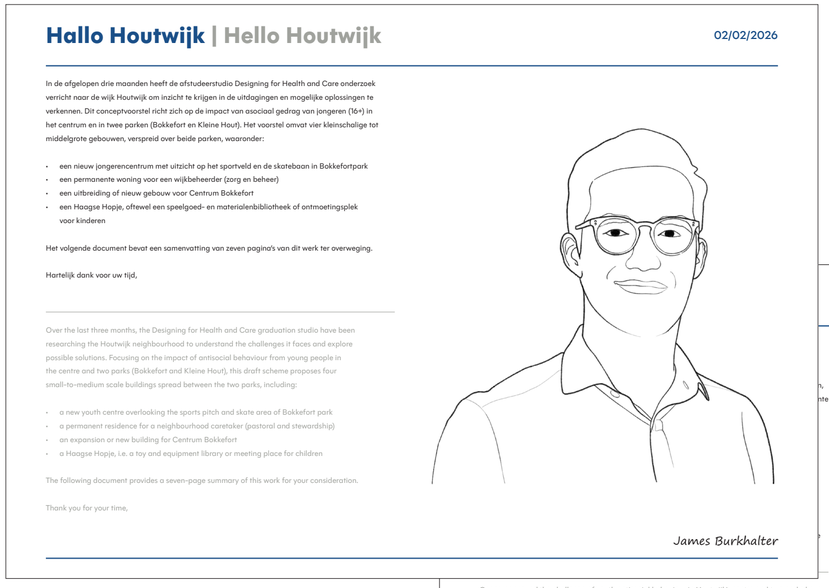
Stakeholder introduction booklet

Registering interest

A seven-page summary (in Dutch | English) was sent out, illustrating the issue of youth ASB, the draft scheme and its four initial proposals.

Hallo Houtwijk | Hello Houtwijk

Introduction to the purpose of the project and what is being proposed



Hallo Houtwijk | Hello Houtwijk

02/02/2026

In de afgelopen drie maanden heeft de afstudeerstudio Designing for Health and Care onderzoek verricht naar de wijk Houtwijk om inzicht te krijgen in de uitdagingen en mogelijke oplossingen te verkennen. Dit conceptvoorstel richt zich op de impact van asociaal gedrag van jongeren (16+) in het centrum en in twee parken (Bokkefort en Kleine Hout). Het voorstel omvat vier kleinschalige tot middelgrote gebouwen, verspreid over beide parken, waaronder:

- een nieuw jongerencentrum met uitzicht op het sportveld en de skatebaan in Bokkefortpark
- een permanente woning voor een wijkbeheerder (zorg en beheer)
- een uitbreiding of nieuw gebouw voor Centrum Bokkefort
- een Haagse Hopje, oftewel een speelgoed- en materialenbibliotheek of ontmoetingsplek voor kinderen

Het volgende document bevat een samenvatting van zeven pagina's van dit werk ter overweging.

Hartelijk dank voor uw tijd,

Over the last three months, the Designing for Health and Care graduation studio have been researching the Houtwijk neighbourhood to understand the challenges it faces and explore possible solutions. Focusing on the impact of antisocial behaviour from young people in the centre and two parks (Bokkefort and Kleine Hout), this draft scheme proposes four small-to-medium scale buildings spread between the two parks, including:

- a new youth centre overlooking the sports pitch and skate area of Bokkefort park
- a permanent residence for a neighbourhood caretaker (pastoral and stewardship)
- an expansion or new building for Centrum Bokkefort
- a Haagse Hopje, i.e. a toy and equipment library or meeting place for children

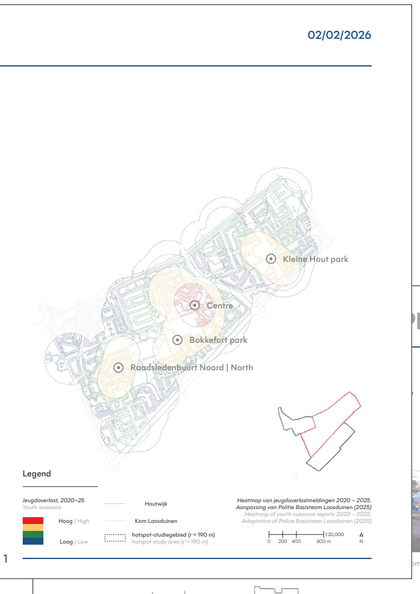
The following document provides a seven-page summary of this work for your consideration.

Thank you for your time,

James Burkhalter

We begrijpen je | We hear you

Background to youth antisocial behaviour in Houtwijk



02/02/2026

Concerns around the challenge of youth antisocial behaviour in Houtwijk's centre and two parks have been repeatedly raised over time by stakeholders from government- to community-scale. Two notable studies include a 2022 report by Tollenaar et al. (2022), ranking Houtwijk in the top 1% for youth antisocial behaviour nationally, and Ode Aan Het Hangen (Ode to Hanging Out) by Noa van der Kaay & Pien Meeder (2025) and supported by Gemeente Den Haag, Haags Verhaal and Staedion.

From loitering and graffiti to the disbandment of the neighbourhood watch and recent fire at Wijkcentrum Bokkefort, these picture a need for considered, locally supported solutions. Therefore, we are now beginning stakeholder reviews with government representatives, institutions, organisations and community groups within 500 m of Houtwijk. We believe that environmental change to Houtwijk's planning, design and management in the immediate- (months), short- (years) and long-term (decades) can reduce the effect of antisocial behaviour and improve quality of life. Overall, in a balance between the needs and desires of young people and wider neighbourhood.

1

C

TNG Jeugdcentrum | Youth centre
Sydenham, Lewisham, London
RCKa
jongerengeleid, asociaal gedrag, context
youth-led, antisocial behavior, context

Link to TNG Youth Centre case study

Wij doen u een voorstel | We propose to you

Overview and perspectives of the proposals. Included are links to case studies of similar projects in scale, context, etc.



pose to you

02/02/2026

Draft scheme overview

From Bokkefort to Kleine Hout park, this draft scheme sets out 4 responses that we believe could reduce antisocial behaviour in Houtwijk and subsequently improve the quality of life for its residents over the immediate to long-term, these include:

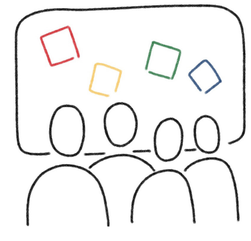
2

We hebben jou nodig | We need you

A call for stakeholder's involvement in the project to create a "Houtwijk-style" solution

you

02/02/2026



behaviour. This raises the potential for the project's success and will hopefully demonstrate your enthusiasm to the municipality, local institutions and organisations, as well as your wider community, in wanting to make a change to your neighbourhood.

Thank you for reading the email and document provided, if you are interested in getting involved with this university project (participatory design workshops, interviews, surveys, etc.), please let us know and we will follow up with the relevant information. Equally, you are free to opt out of any further inquiries at any time by replying with "opt-out".

Contact information
M: +31 6 25 31 56 96
E: jburkhalter@tudelft.nl

7

Front cover



Een Foto van Houtwijk | A Picture of Houtwijk

Vernieuwing van het stadsbeeld rondom Houtwijks centrum, Bokkefort en Kleine Hout park
Townscape regeneration around Houtwijk's centre, and Bokkefort and Kleine Hout park

Conceptual masterplan

Outline

Setting out 4 responses to designing-out youth ASB.

1. Youth centre 10 – 25-year-olds / 300 – 1800 m2

Creating a complex with the SV clubhouse to improve oversight and variety and availability of activities.

2. Caretaker's house Public + caretaker / 120 m2

Permanent on-site pastoral and physical care for the people and streets of Houtwijk.

3. Centrum Bokkefort+ All age ranges / 380 – 680 m2

Rennovation or expansion of the existing community centre.

4. Haagse Hopje 4 – 12-year-olds / ~100 m2

Meeting place and toy and equipment library, managed by welfare organisations.



Initial proposals

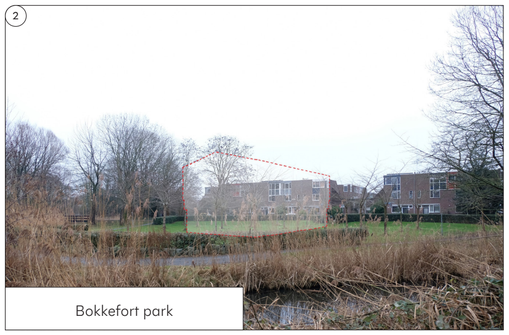
First impressions
Conveying the conceptual design to residents.

Existing

Proposed

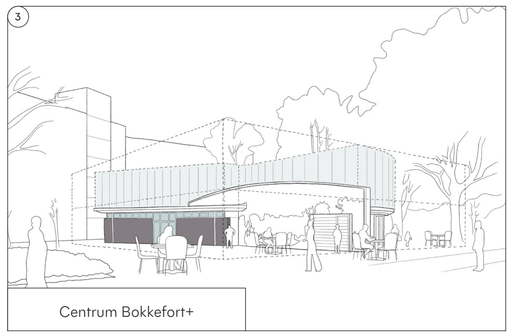




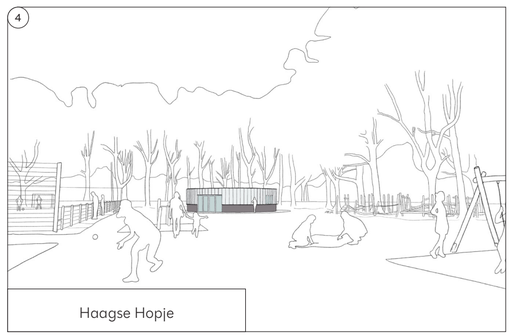












HOUTWIJK

Onderzoek wijkverbetering door Ramon Meesters

Architectuurstudie Houtwijk



Sinds een aantal maanden is een groep van acht master studenten architectuur van de TU Delft druk in de weer met het uitvoeren van een studieopdracht in Houtwijk. De studenten zijn begonnen met een analyse van de wijk en zijn bewoners. Echt veldwerk hoort daar ook bij. Zo zijn zij in gesprek gegaan met Houtwijkbewoners om hun specifieke behoeften in kaart te brengen. Daarnaast hebben ze hier veel tijd doorgebracht om zelf aan te voelen hoe het is om in Houtwijk te wonen.

De conclusie van deze eerste onderzoeksfase is dat Houtwijk zich presenteert als een rustige, groene en ordelijke wijk. Maar onder dit beeld schuilen verschillende structurele uitdagingen die het dagelijks leven en de toekomstige ontwikkeling beïnvloeden.
Sociaal gezien kenmerkt de wijk zich door een vergrijzende bevolking. Veel bewoners wonen hier sinds de bouw. Dit zorgt voor stabiliteit en vertrouwdheid, maar beperkt ook vernieuwing en doorstroming. Jongeren en jongvolwassenen vinden in Houtwijk weinig plekken om samen te komen, te studeren of tijd door te brengen. Daarom trekken velen naar elders. Hierdoor mist de wijk juist de leeftijdsgroep die levendigheid, activiteit en sociale vernieuwing kan brengen.
Het voorzieningenaanbod versterkt dit patroon. De basisvoorzieningen zijn niet uitnodigend. Het winkelcentrum fungeert niet als een echt hart van de wijk, indoor sportvoorzieningen zijn schaars en informele ontmoetingsplekken ontbreken grotendeels. Veel bewoners blijven daardoor thuis of gaan de wijk uit voor recreatie en sociale interactie. Dit draagt bij aan het gevoel dat Houtwijk geen samenhangende wijk is, maar eerder een verzameling kleinere werelden die naast elkaar bestaan zonder echt verbonden te zijn.
Veiligheidsbeleving speelt eveneens een belangrijke rol. Veel bewoners voelen zich onveilig in parken en dichtbegroeide paden, vooral in het donker. Veiligheid wordt daarmee meer dan een fysiek vraagstuk. Het beïnvloedt direct sociale cohesie en vertrouwen in de leefomgeving.
Het versterken van gemeenschapsleven, het verbeteren van uitnodigende en veilige openbare ruimtes, het creëren van meer kansen voor jongeren en het vergroten van toegankelijkheid kunnen Houtwijk transformeren tot een wijk die niet alleen rustig en groen is, maar ook verbonden, veilig en levendig.
De studenten hebben als onderdeel van een tweede fase van hun onderzoek ieder een uniek project op zich genomen om Houtwijk te verbeteren. De opdrachten zijn nog niet afgerond en de studenten vragen Houtwijkers nadrukkelijk om met ze mee te denken in een workshop. U zult hiervoor uitnodigen vinden op www.wijkberaadhoutwijk.nl. Ook kunt u meepraten met de studenten tijdens onze bewonersavond van 15 april, waar het project op de agenda staat.

De resultaten van dit professioneel en grondig uitgevoerde onderzoek kunnen dienen als onderlegger voor verbeteringen die we samen met het stadsbestuur willen doorvoeren in onze wijk.

De onderzoeken in de tweede fase:

- het stadsbeeld nabij Bokkefort
- parkeeroplossingen en een levendigere omgeving in de Dr. J. Presserstraat
- verbeteren van sociale cohesie door herinrichting in de Historicibuurt
- creatie van gemeenschappelijke werkplekken voor bewoners
- leeftijdsbestendige (gelijkvloerse) woonoplossingen om gezond oud te worden in Houtwijk
- doorstroom mogelijkheden en re-integratie oplossingen voor voormalige GGZ-cliënten die weer moeten landen in hun wijk
- een wijkgebouw voor zowel jongeren én ouderen, waar activiteiten en kennis met elkaar worden gedeeld.

Neighbourhood newsletter
Organised with Ramon Meesters, chair of Wijkberaad Houtwijk, an overview of the course and invitations to the presentation and workshop were sent out as part of Houtwijk's quarterly newsletter.

From Houtwijkblad maart 2026, by R. Meesters, 2026, (https://wijkberaadhoutwijk.nl/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/houtwijk_opmaak_1_2026_v2-1.pdf).



A productive afternoon
Working through four of the seven exercises, residents reminisced about theirs and their children's childhood, how it's changed, what they hope the project can solve and the look and feel of the design

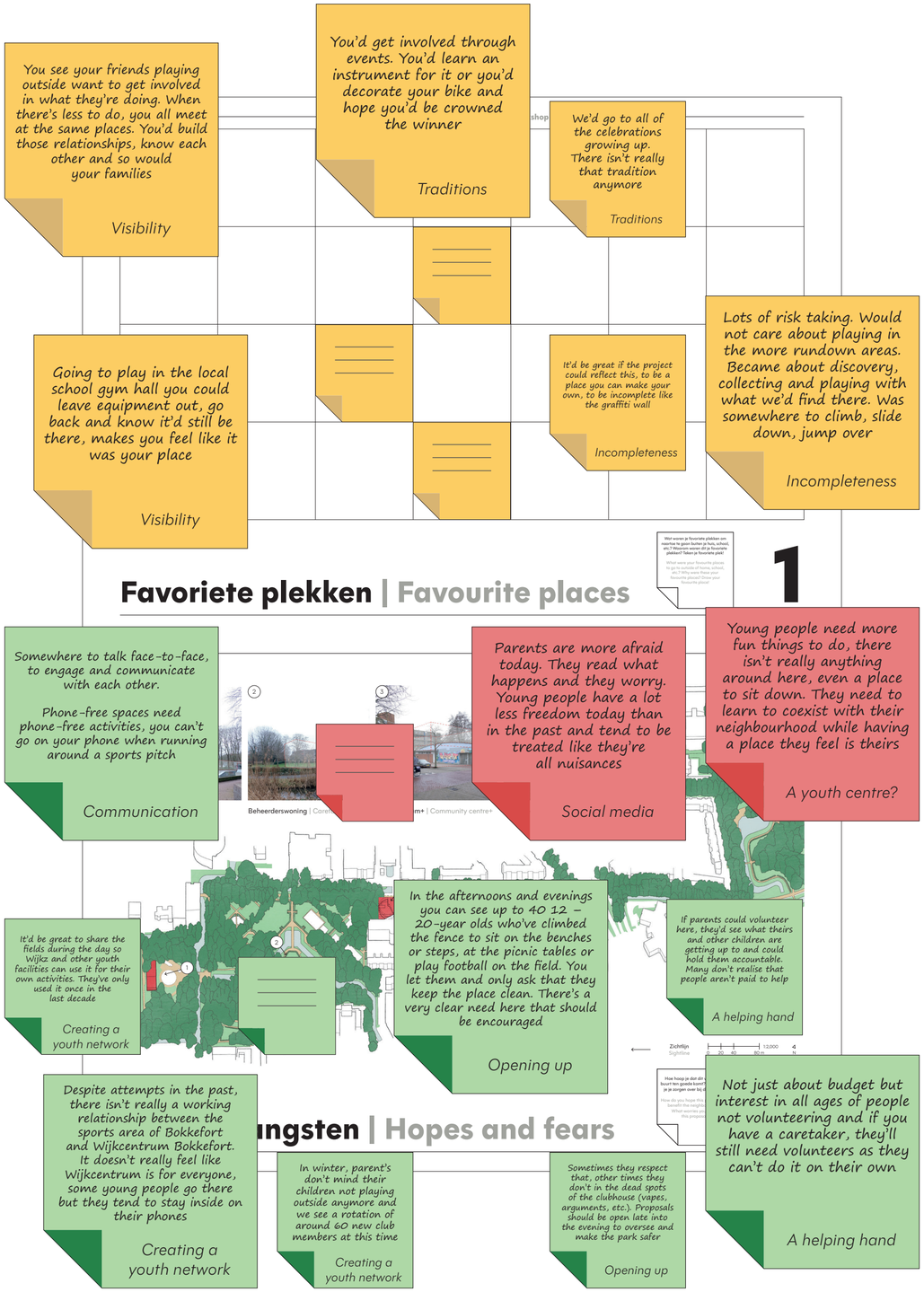
Image by anonymous participant, with permission given for use in this publication

4B | Participatory research

Co-design workshop

Findings

A summary of the co-design workshop, used to inform the project's research, programme and toolkit. Refer to full workshop material.





Resident's Annual Meeting (Jaarvergadering) 2026

Summary

Presented research on Houtwijk's history, rise of ASB and progress in the project's design to residents, followed by a Q&A and adjacent survey.
Translated by Ramon Meesters, Wijkberaad Houtwijk's Chair.

It's not as safe as it used to be here in the 80s and early 90s playing on doorsteps and young people need a place for them to hang around without creating insecurity also.

Do you see any conflicts with existing youth services like De Plek or Centrum Jeugd & Gezin?

I'd like to imagine that the project can absorb the neighbourhood's generational change, contracting and expanding with these initiatives and being a platform for them. By managing this ambition and designed to be recoverable from losses, it should be seen more as opportunity- than conflict-creating.

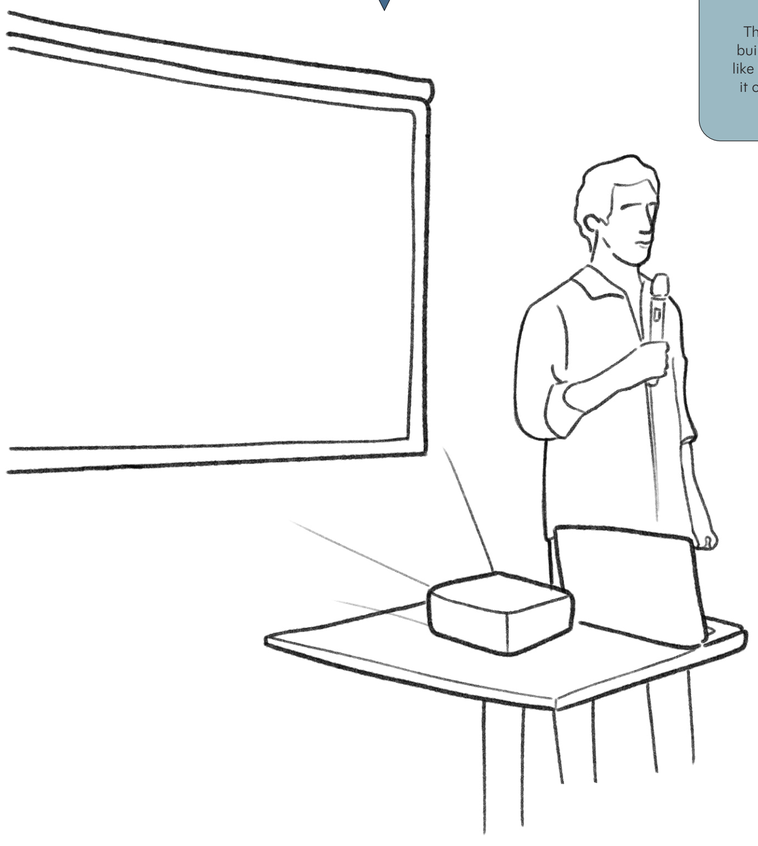
How would you reconnect Houtwijk-North to-South? Have you considered looking East and West instead? Sometimes they don't feel like the same neighbourhood

It's such a difficult divide that really continues around the entirety of the neighbourhood, some solutions looked at building over, under or pedestrianising.

It's great to see the ambition but we don't have enough of a budget for this? How would you deal with this issue?

The proposal can be designed to be built in phases to respond to demands like budget, space, etc. If it's successful, it could generate its own income and become self-supporting.

Though Wijkcentrum Bokkefort is an "ugly" building, unfortunately the aim is to manage the existing building instead of replacing



Conclusion

Why here (around Houtwijk's centre and the two parks)?

As illustrated, youth ASB's socio-spatial system was shaped across Houtweg's enduring structure, expanding into isolated neighbourhood parks, playgrounds and Centrum Bokkefort — forming hotspots between recreational and residential. Induced by a lack of youth spaces, a cycle arises:



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5 | Respond

A | Youth centre case studies

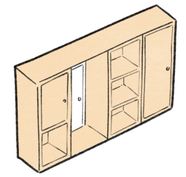
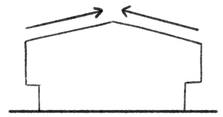
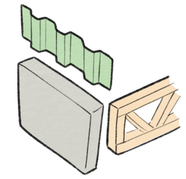
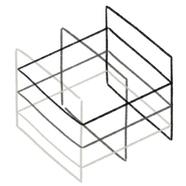
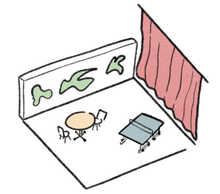
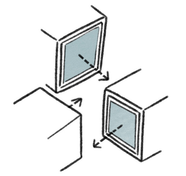
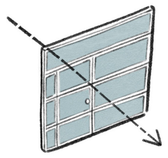
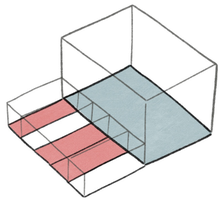
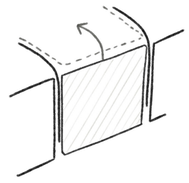
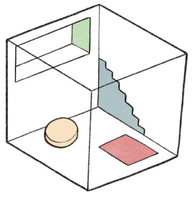
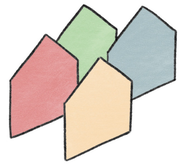
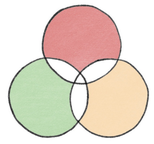
What can be done to design-out youth ASB?
Youth infrastructure, a study of youth centres

5A | Youth centre case studies

Overview

Projects

Centres represent one type of activity support to counteract youth ASB (caretakers houses, toy libraries, etc.), varying in scale from converted containers to permanent buildings. The following chapter catalogues four exemplary cases in similar contexts.

	Picture	Summary year / location / architect / storeys / footprint	Description Why was it built?	Houtwijk relevance How does it compare to Houtwijk?	Elements Characteristic to their design
Youth Club NW80		2018 / Neukölln, Berlin (Germany) / AFF architekten / 2-storey / 374.1 m²	Began as a 'container' (1985), was 'too small', received 'social integration' funding to become permanent (Bezirksamt Neukölln, 2024)	Historical, 'suburban' village context. 'Real place' replacing the digital' (AFF, 2023, 2024)	 Storage becomes counters, doors, walls  Mirroring gable-fronted hall houses  Robust industrial construction (recycled concrete, prefabricated timber, sheet clad)
TNG Youth Centre		2014 / Lewisham, London (UK) / RCKa / 3-storey / 747.2 m²	Response to 'ASB' rise after a youth centre's closure, became 'disenfranchised' without 'outlet or support' — addressing 'socio-economic' and 'policy' issues with stakeholders (RCKa, 2026).	'High-density [ASB] neighbourhood'. 95 people/ha, Lewisham (Lewisham Council, 2022) vs. 92 people/ha., Houtwijk (Gemeente Den Haag, 2025b).	 Multi-layered through-spaces (horizontally and vertically)  Responsive spaces (murals, movable furniture, curtains)  Boxed cross-openings for rooms
House of the (Young) People (M(J)P)		2018 / Differdange, Esch-sur-Alzette (Luxembourg) / 2001 architects / 1-storey / 1087.1 m²	'Respon[se to youth] demographic growth' (2001 architects, 2026)	Limited budget (2001 architects, 2026)	 Totally visible (transparent materials, windows in doorways)  Seasonal planning (open sprint–autumn, space-heated)  Openable and closable
Gersonsvej Youth Centre		2008 / Gersonsvej, Gentofte (Denmark) / CEBRA, Dorte Mandrup / 3-storey / 1790.4 m²	Multi-use hall and sports centre located on a 'long and narrow [urban] site' (CEBRA & Dorte Mandrup, 2009)	Suburban, single-family area (CEBRA, 2009; CEBRA & Dorte Mandrup, 2009).	 Colour, light and surfaces to use  A series of homes away from home in form  Mixing sports, culture and recreation

5A | Youth centre case studies

Uses

Planning

Categorised by space-types, dimensions and proportions informed the proposal's programme/adjacencies and were developed from workshop materials (see de Sousa, 2021).

Specific space
designated use

Public space
fully accessible

Flexible space
changeable use

Private space
limited access

Support space
additional

Required space
operational

Ground floor
Primarily flexible and public space

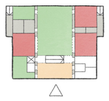
First floor
Space becomes more specific and private

Second floor
Continues to becomes more specific and private

Activities
A list of examples

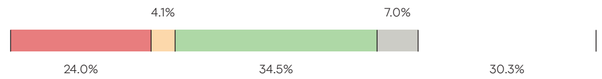
Proportions
Comparable specific and flexible, and public and required space

Youth Club NW80





workshop, communal kitchen, studio, foyer, multi-use hall, multi-use rooms (see NW80, 2026)



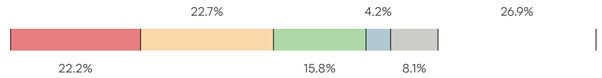
TNG Youth Centre



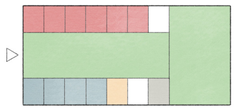




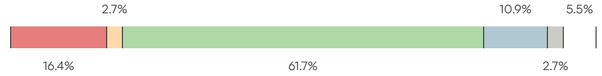
recording studio, youth forum, winter garden, multi-use hall, multi-use rooms, meeting room, consultancy room (see Brampton-Greene, 2023; Quarcoo, 2025; Swaray, 2026)



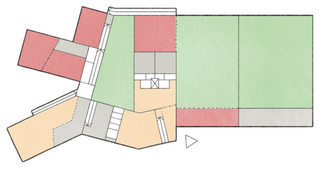
House of the (Young) People (M(J)P)

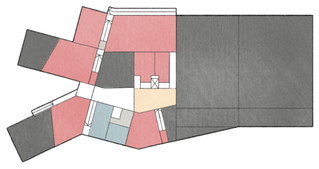


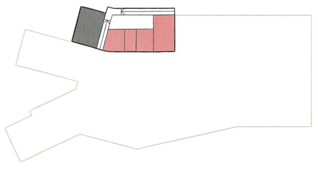
communal kitchen, communal dining, games room (aka. activity), foyer, multi-use hall, admin (see JuDIFF, 2025a)



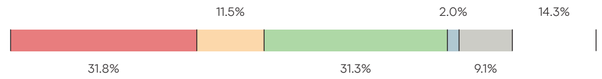
Gersonsvej Youth Centre







children's play area, studios, lounge, wellness room, dance hall, café, foyer, multi-use halls, multi-use room, office, meeting room



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5A | Youth centre case studies

Design

Patterns

'Formative' aspects were analysed to develop a 'pattern' language archetypal of successful contemporary youth centres for the proposal to build from (based on Clark & Pause, 2012).

Courtyard
Organised around a multi-use hall

Compact
Singular buildings with few corridor-only spaces

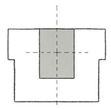
Linear
Small–large longitudinal volumes

Repetitive
From rooms to halls

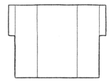
Permeable
Inside-outside circulation, centred around the hall

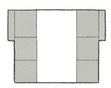
Parti
Sum of patterns

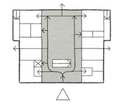
Youth Club NW80





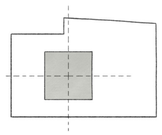


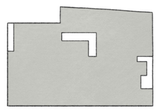


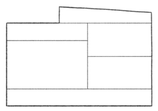


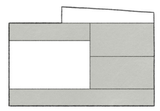


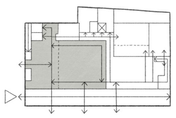
TNG Youth Centre

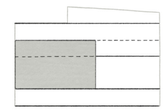




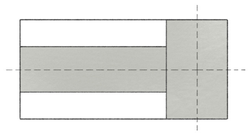




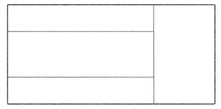


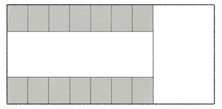


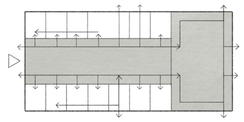
House of the (Young) People (M(J)P)

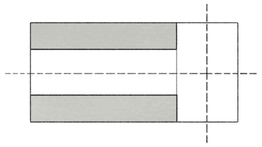




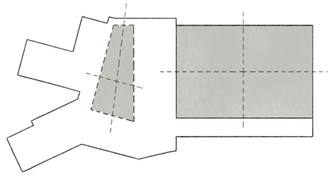


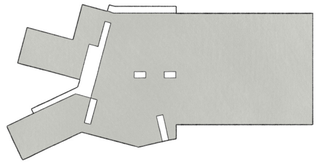


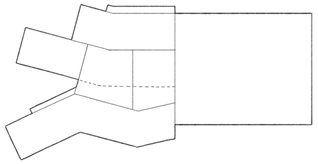


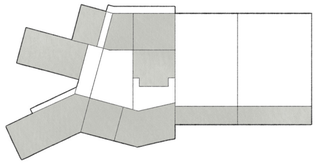


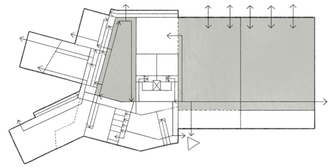
Gersonsvej Youth Centre

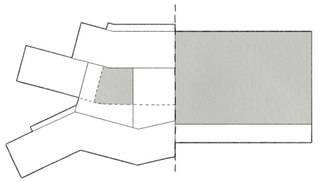












The toolkit

Moving forward, a toolkit summarising the CPTED framework, literature on youth architecture, ASB's socio-spatial relationships and Houtwijk research (observations, stakeholder involvement, etc.). was produced. Moreover, as highlighted by case studies, no single element can provide a total solution across time and so a toolkit of direct and indirect measures was developed, e.g. needs for oversight, employment, indoor and outdoor play, and so forth.

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5 | Respond

B | Re:generative toolkit

What can be done to design-out youth ASB?
Research results as a toolkit for Houtwijk's youth architecture

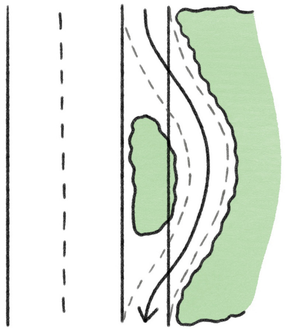
1. Activity

'Alternative' affordances as a scalable, Dutch '[pro-social] pedagogical tool' (2001 architects, 2026; Saville & Cleveland, 1998, p. 6; M. S. Scott, 2011, p. 18; Ziaesaeidi, 2025, pp. 123–124, 164).

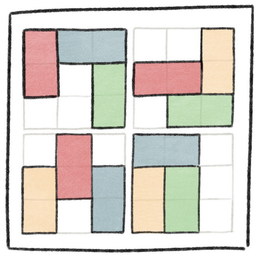
Town planning
Neighbourhood integration

Architectural design
Building-scale interventions

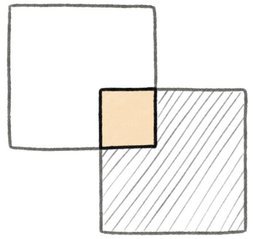
Site management
Perception and involvement



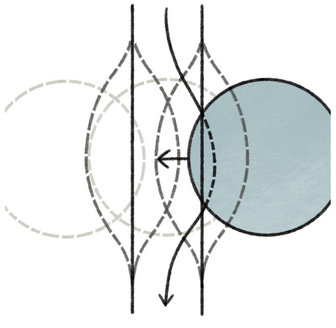
1.1 Managing movement
Widened routes improve pedestrian/vehicle safety, access and oversight through hotspots (Woldendorp et al., 2023, pp. 6, 28, 33, 46; Ziaesaeidi, 2025, pp. 112, 134). Softer landscaping (trees, planting, unbound surfaces) and spaces integrated within footpaths prevent vehicle appropriation.



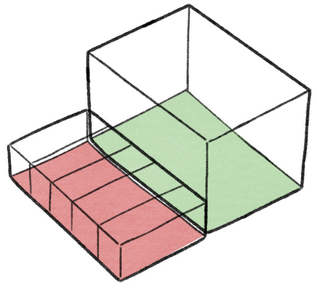
1.3 Flexible
'Afford[ed]' by 'adaptable' elements, flexibility 'encourage[s] autonomy, pro-social interactions' and 'imagination' (Ziaesaeidi, 2025, p. 135). Equipment can be borrowed; furniture can be moved and left, programmes change use and structures frame it between multi-use halls, rooms and activity spaces within '[design] guidelines' (S. Scott, 2010, pp. 48, 92).



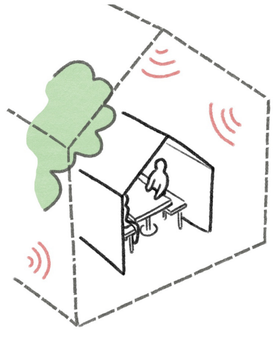
1.5 Mixed-age public spaces
'Passiv[e] supervis[ion]' from older users in 'mixed-age public spaces' reduces ASB, e.g. cafés, gardens, libraries, neighbourhood events, sports (Ziaesaeidi, 2025, pp. 114–115, 134, 138–139, 149).



1.2 Spontaneous structures
Diversified areas/paths connecting youth spaces 'legitimise' loitering and foster 'independen[ce]'/'cohesion' through 'spontaneous [contact]', and 'surveillance' (Torres, 2020, pp. 56–63). 'Colourful', 'covered' and planted meeting points must minimise impact to housing, passersby and youth's privacy hanging out (Colquhoun, 2012, p. 174; Ziaesaeidi, 2025, pp. 61, 165).



1.4 Proportional
Human-scaled public space is 'likely' to be adopted and cared-for by residents (AGIS, 2007, p. 37). Internally, vastness creates 'confusion' and minuteness raises 'anxiety' — requiring a balance of open multi-use spaces, activity-'rich' rooms and 'smaller structures' (4.0 – 5.0 sqm per youth, S. Scott, 2010, p. 37).



1.6 Active vs. quiet
Balance of active and quiet spaces for conversation. Natural surrounds provide scenery and acoustic buffers while internally semi-private nooks use 'absorption material [and] insulation' (Bishop & Corkery, 2017, p. 70; S. Scott, 2010, p. 54; Ziaesaeidi, 2025, pp. 66, 69, 114).

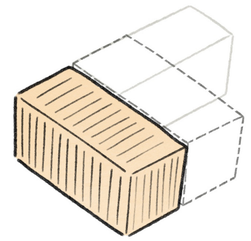
2. Temporality

Responding to scales of change from hourly, daily, weekly, monthly, seasonally to generational.

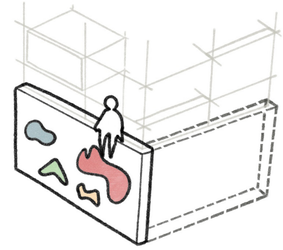
Town planning
Neighbourhood integration

Architectural design
Building-scale interventions

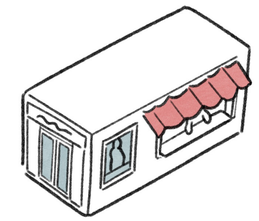
Site management
Perception and involvement



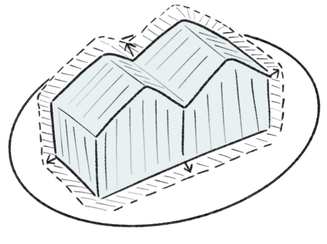
2.1 Responsive
With limited funding and significant delays (Gemeente Den Haag, 2025a; Youth and Participation officer, F. Groenendijk, personal communication, 2026; Wijkberaad Houtwijk, 2025), Haagse Hopjes symbolise municipality-wide, low-budget architectural interventions. As "pop-up", and so permanent or recoverable investments, they 'invigorate space', 'trial' proposals, 'reduce ASB' and respond to socio-economic change (Orbasli & Vellinga, 2020).



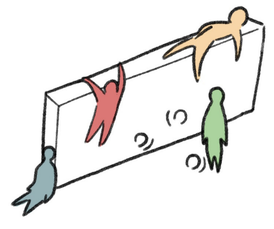
2.3 Incompleteness
After the graffiti wall's success, the building provides a permanently-impermanent canvas for youth-led projects in murals, greenhouses and its construction (Melcher, 2020, pp. 101, 112–116; Woldendorp et al., 2023, p. 46; Ziaesaeidi, 2025, pp. 134–135, 165). 'Empower[ed]' to enact 'accepted', 'visible', 'physical [change]' in their socio-spatial environment, youth can 'identify' and take 'responsibility [for its] care'.



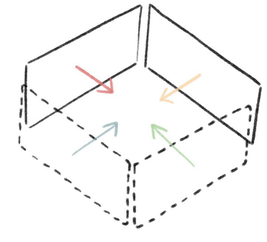
2.5 Opportunity
'Temporary' spaces provide business growth and youth-employment opportunities in its operation, construction and maintenance (AGIS, 2007, p. 50; Mihinjac & Saville, 2022, p. 44; M. S. Scott, 2011, p. 18). Supported by apprenticeship programmes such as Stichting Haagbouw, Kerketuinen en Zichtenburg (like YouthBuild, UK) and 'food and [drink] vans' (Colquhoun, 2012, p. 22; Ziaesaeidi, 2025, p. 112).



2.2 Identity
'Integral' in its complimentary/contrasting 'dialogue' with Houtwijk's 'character' in its 'views', 'sightlines', 'access', 'scale', 'material[ity]' and 'form', a 'sense of belonging' builds 'respect'/'protection' (AGIS, 2007, pp. 21, 27; CEN, 2022, pp. 52–53; S. Scott, 2010, pp. 25, 28). A "transitional neighbourhood", its identity is simultaneously anchored and asserted by each generation — patterns are noted in the analysis.



2.4 Curiosity
Climbing, sliding and jumping over the environment, collecting and playing with what you find, creates interest through its dynamic structures (built, planted, etc.). Walls becomes something to sit atop, kick a ball against, lean-to, paint on, open/close and so designed to afford this.



2.6 Continuity
Proposals and spaces are organised to oversee and compliment gaps in surrounding activities (daily, weekly, etc.), particularly 'vulnerable spaces at vulnerable times' (AGIS, 2007, pp. 19, 30–31; Cozens, 2014, p. 25). For example, after SV Houtwijk closes at 22:00, many teenagers continue playing — relying on them to be sensible.

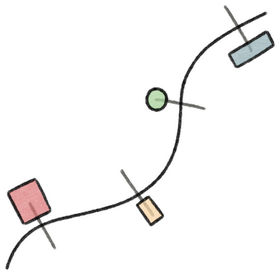
3. Visibility

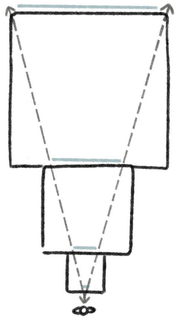
Scales of socio-spatial transparency and permeability as a measure of connectivity in oversight and use.

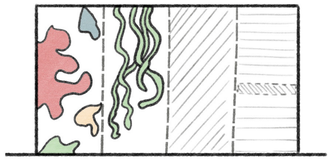
Town planning
Neighbourhood integration

Architectural design
Building-scale interventions

Site management
Involvement of and perception by people



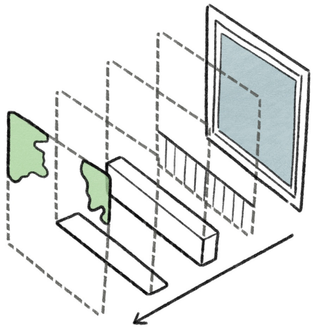


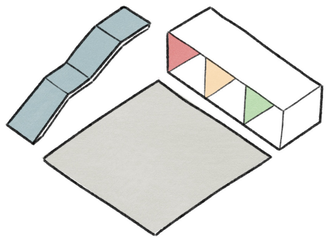


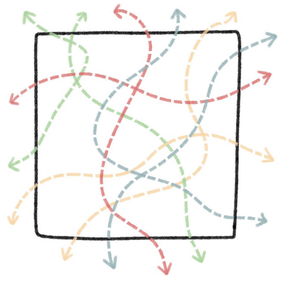
3.1 Orientation
Proposals should 'connect', 'continue' and 'clari[fy]' Houtweg and adjacent routes 'enhanc[ing]' its use by residents and surveillance — orientating youth spaces along these 'axes' and emphasising their 'public presence' (AGIS, 2007, pp. 15–16, 26–28)..

3.3 Sightlines
'Stimulate' by 'spatial[ly] extending' through openings, 'emulat[ing]' outdoor views/access/daylight and using 'central communal' spaces to see others and activities in adjacent/'transitory spaces' (S. Scott, 2010, pp. 20, 37, 40).
Ensure 'long' unobstructed sightlines through open balconies, glazed doors, etc. for oversight (AGIS, 2007, p. 32; Fennelly & Perry, 2018, p. 38; Woldendorp et al., 2023, p. 43).

3.5 Proactive
Visibly-maintained space, 'dissuade[s antisocial] behaviour' through caretaker's/volunteers 'quick response' (AGIS, 2007, pp. 42–43, 45; Woldendorp et al., 2023, pp. 33, 42–43, 46; see Fennelly & Perry, 2018). Design-out element's vandalism susceptibility, e.g. climbing plants, coatings, and cleanable, replaceable and robust materials, etc.







3.2 Permeable
To not limit visibility, use: large openings and open balustrades, low walls, fencing, planting (<600 mm, 900 mm maximum) and defined threshold materials, alongside tall, wide tree canopies (> 2.1 m) to symbolise public-semi-public-and-private boundaries at sites/routes (Fennelly & Perry, 2018, pp. 38, 223; Lange et al., 2019b, 2019a; Woldendorp et al., 2023).

3.4 Readable
Colour, light, transparency and surfaces 'playful[ly] delineate' circulation and activities — bringing '[multi-sensory] significance' to spaces (Bruce Mau Design et al., 2010; S. Scott, 2010, p. 54). 'Lighter, warm, [neutral] tones' in halls reflect light without 'overwhelm[ing]' and adjacent rooms use brighter colours as highlights. Externally, façades can express use throughout the day.

3.6 Networking
Furthering semi-formal surveillance from employees/volunteers, facilitate existing 'informal social control' through teachers, coaches, parents and organisations like Wijkz and Stichting Meion (AGIS, 2007, p. 44; M. S. Scott, 2011, pp. 18, 22, 24). Opening up spaces for sports, performances and opportunities to volunteer, e.g. so parents/older people can understand what they're doing and hold accountable.

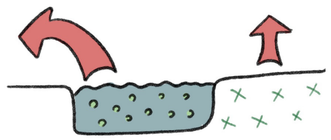
4. Responsibility

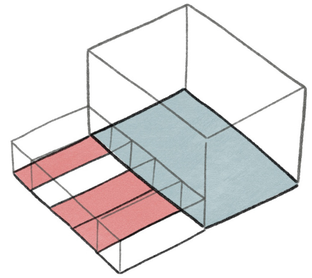
Environmental stewardship as a regenerative social and climate strategy, scalable to town planning, architectural design and site management.

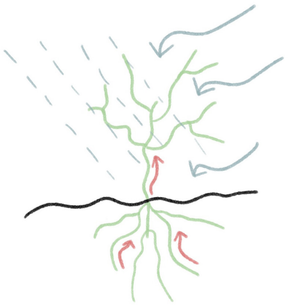
Systems (Town planning)
Managing flows of energy/water/materials

Habitats (Architectural design)
Environmental conditioning of biodiverse systems

Species (Site management)
Remedying generational impact on inhabitants







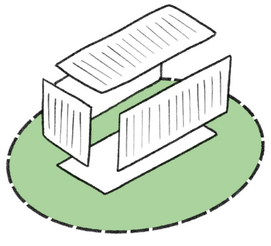
4.1 Harvesting
Detoxification of the surrounding soils and waterways through active filtration measures such as the expansion of pumping stations around the parks or in the proposal's plants.

As well as through improved drainage, which also minimises flooding potential and impact of increased hard landscaping from building development within Houtwijk.

4.3 Seasonal planning
Organisation of spaces to minimise the impact on heating and cooling loads, e.g. surrounding atrium spaces with thermal buffers, orientating cafés to the South-East, locating façades to encourage wind-assisted extract of internal air flow.

4.5 Phytoremediation
Specifying planting adept at passive purification (air, soil and water) through phytoremediation — absorbing toxic pollutants from the site's past and any future construction.







4.2 Aquathermal energy
Integration of a closed-loop watersource heat pump (WSHP) to utilise the surrounding latent heat stored within the abundant waterways of Houtwijk — housed within the proposal or existing pumps. Moreover, tapping into the surrounding fields, e.g. SV fields in Bokkefort park, as potential heat collectors.

4.4 On-site construction
Localised manufacturing reduces carbon impact through improved logistics of material transport, processing and construction cost and speed. Moreover, integrating neighbourhood workforces grows 'community acceptance', minimises ASB through inspiring the 'socially disengaged' in 'regeneneration' and subsequent 'long-term [economic and] viability [benefits]' (Colquhoun, 2012, p. 22; Maurice et al., 2025, p. 1370; Ofori-Kuragu & Osei-Kyei, 2021, p. 11; RIBA, 2016, p. 30). An example of this is flying (or field) factories, a temporary facility for the manufacture of modules for on-site assembly.

4.6 Stewardship
Led by caretakers/volunteers, communal planting provides 'interactive' learning about horticulture and Houtwijk's history for interested young people. Harvesting, disposal and replacement of phytoremediating plants creates responsible stewards of their past, present and future environment (S. Scott, 2010, p. 53; Ziaesaeidi, 2025, pp. 63, 81).

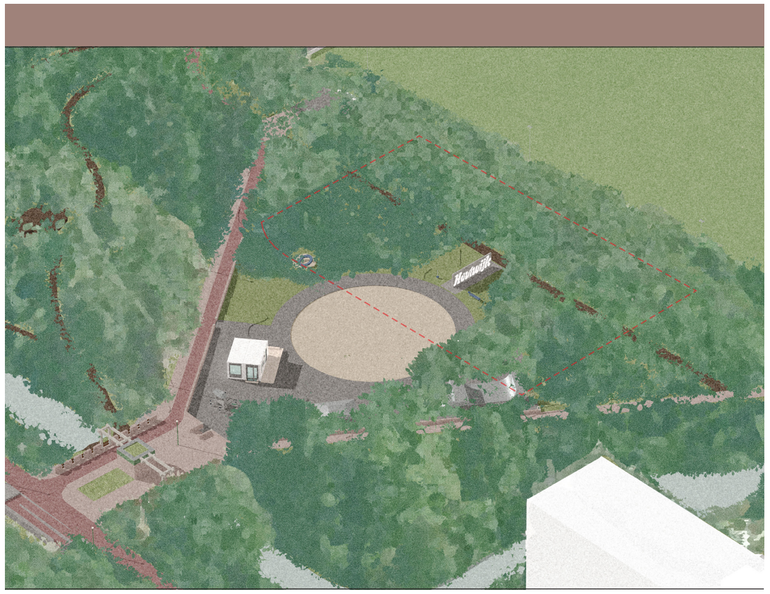
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5 | Respond

The Haagse Hopjes,

The Depot & The Storehouse

What I propose to design-out youth ASB in Houtwijk



Phase 0 | The Haagse Hopjes

Year 0 | 2x GF / 0x 1F HHs

Bokkefort park planned to have a HH by 2025 — 'social service'-ran with resident's 'support' (Gemeente Den Haag, 2025a, p. 2) — however presumed budgetary constraints prevented it. Phase 0 adopts this idea, locating the first in the skatepark.



Phase 1 – 4 | The Depot

Year 1 – 15 | 4 – 9x GF / 2 – 9x 1F HHs

Imagined like a bookshelf for the library of Haagse Hopje types, The Depot presents a new typology that stands between an archive and an activity centre for young people.



Phase 5 | The Storehouse

Year 20 | 10x GF / 0x 1F HHs

At maximum capacity, The Depot reaches a defining moment with three routes of development — to contract (redistribute containers), expand (build more frames elsewhere) or solidify (become permanent). The Storehouse explores this final option.

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Phase 0 | Year 0

The Haagse Hopjes

Bokkefort park planned to have a HH by 2025 — 'social service'-ran with resident's 'support' (Gemeente Den Haag, 2025a, p. 2) — however presumed budgetary constraints prevented it. Phase 0 adopts this idea, locating the first in the skatepark.



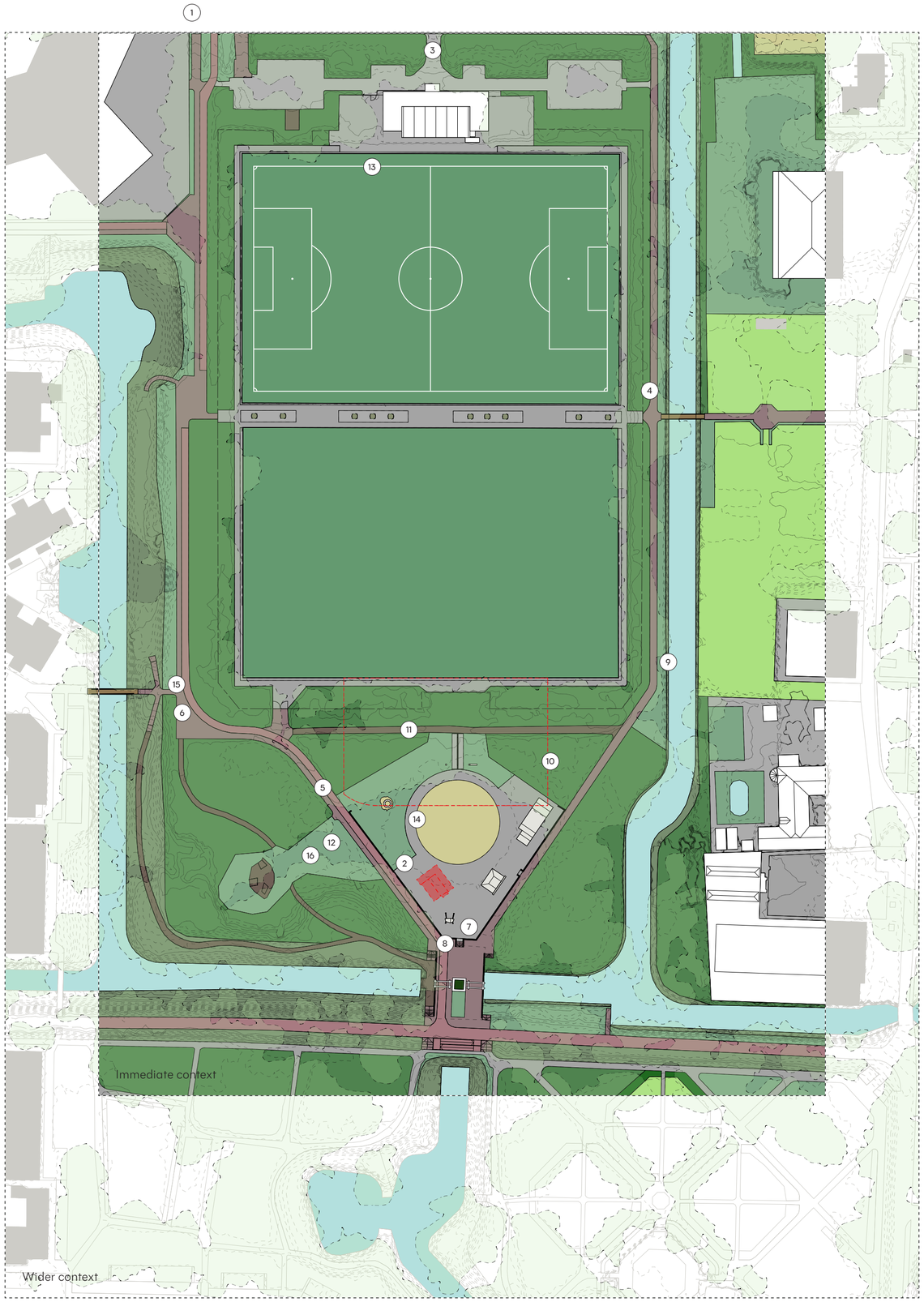
The Haagse Hopjes

Year 0 | 2x GF / 0x 1F HHs

1:2000

0 40 m N

James Burkhalter



Site overview

Year 0 | 2x GF HHs / 0x 1F HHs

0 20 m 1:1000 N

James Burkhalter

Phase 0 | The Haagse Hopjes

Hard groundscape



Concrete pavers 1

Pavers or slabs, permeable joints, light grey, darkens in rain (absorbent). Used for sidewalks in residential areas or at the edge of other materials, e.g. brick, asphalt, etc.



Grey asphalt 2

Reflective, smooth finish, robust, contrast to greenery, non-permeable. As observed, it supports rollerblading, skateboarding, scootering, etc.



Grey brick pavers 3

Set in herringbone and running bond patterns with permeable joints.
Used for roads



Galvanised steel fixings 4

Most elements in the skatepark are made from galvanised steel, these include: equipment, fences, gates, goals, lampposts, etc.



Red-purple asphalt 5

Same colour as brick paving.
Used to indicate cycleways throughout the park, municipality and country



Red-purple brick pavers 6

Set in herringbone and running bond patterns with permeable joints. Cambered and often displaced by roots with weeds growing in between



Red-purple brick steps 7

Composed of red-purple brick pavers as treads with concrete nosings at their edge



Red-purple brick wall 8

1.5 thick brick wall, stretcher bond, capped with rowlock courses and concrete blocks at ends. Chipped, green algae, whitened surface (efflorescence, washing, etc.)

Soft groundscape



Canal banks 9

Gradual, earthen, canal embankment, open on the skatepark-side, planted at the edge of residential areas. Acts as a visual and audible buffer to the sports pitches



November *January*

Decidious trees 10

Preferred for improved surveillance in darker months. Fallen winter foliage makes the skatepark feel more open, though leaf-covered paths need to be brushed aside



Loose earth 11

Compacted dirt and gravel.
Used for non-primary paths and planting



Natural grass 12

Found in areas to provide summer leisure space around the hard landscaping and at site edges. Interrupts the movement of rollerblades, skateboards, etc.



Pitches 13

Two, full-sized, artificial, grass (3g) football pitches (64 x 100.6 m) in front of SV Houtwijk. Equipped with advertising boards, audience areas, barriers, dugouts, etc



Sand 14

Fills the circular pit at the skatepark's centre.



Timber bridges 15

Small, repeated footbridges branch off the skatepark and into the neighbouring residential areas



Woods 16

A fairly dense treescape borders the pitches and skatepark, forming clusters of wooded areas

Types of Haagse Hopjes

Variations
Types vary in their mix of fenestration and internally their highlight colour — which relates to the project's hotspot approach. Higher youth ASB hotspots should implement the Library, i.e. the "typical" HH, first before introducing others from red to blue (black/white provide generic support).

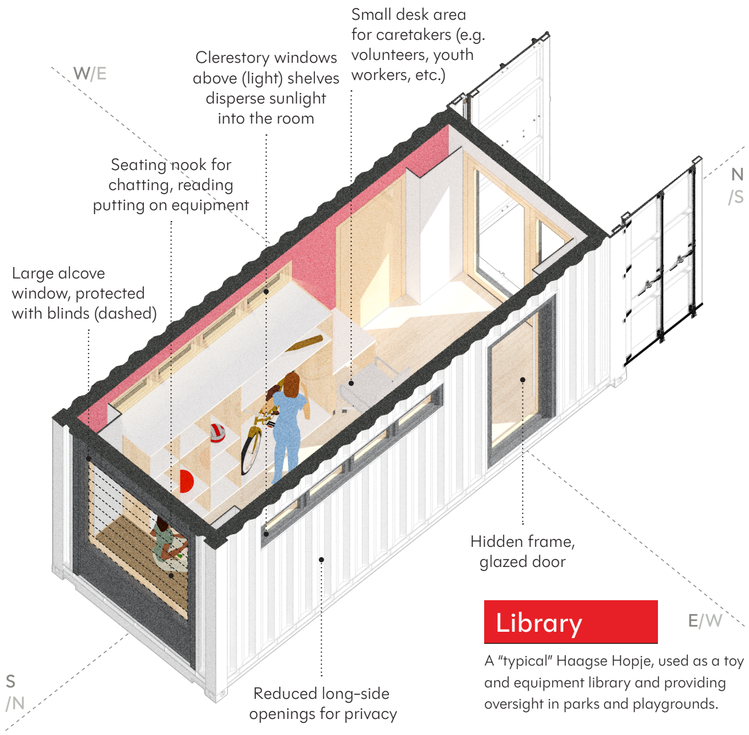
Cost
Between $10,000 – $50,000 /HH, typology-depending (Cabin Depot, 2026; Flexicube, 2026; Schoenborn, 2024)

Funding
Continual funding is sourced from municipality social initiative subsidies ($35,000), youth participation ($75,000 – $186,000) and prevention ($400,000), non-profits (Stichting Meion, Wijkz) and appropriate private investment — non-office spaces like studios, shops, etc. (Gemeente Den Haag, 2026c, 2026e, 2026d).

Legend

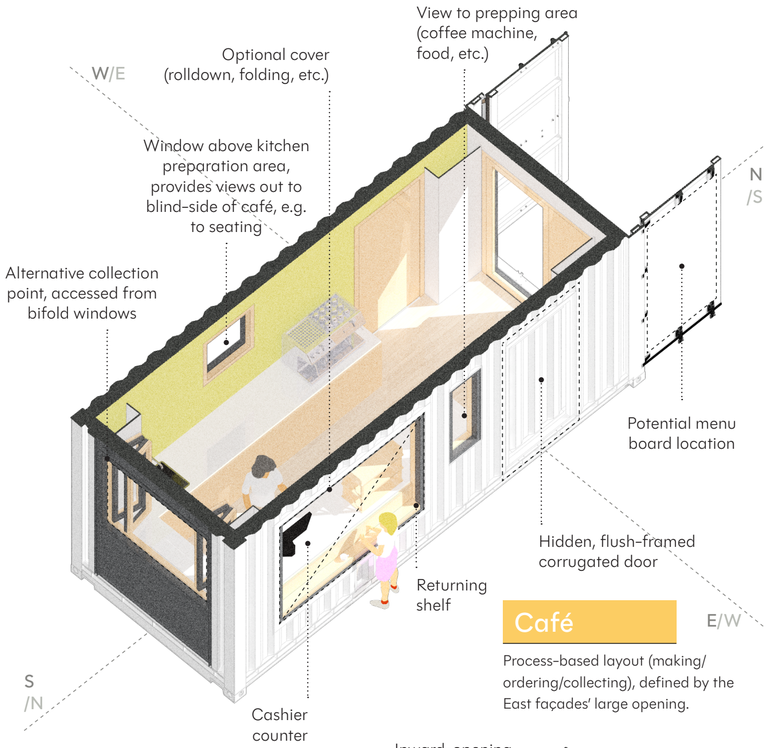
Relation to youth ASB level





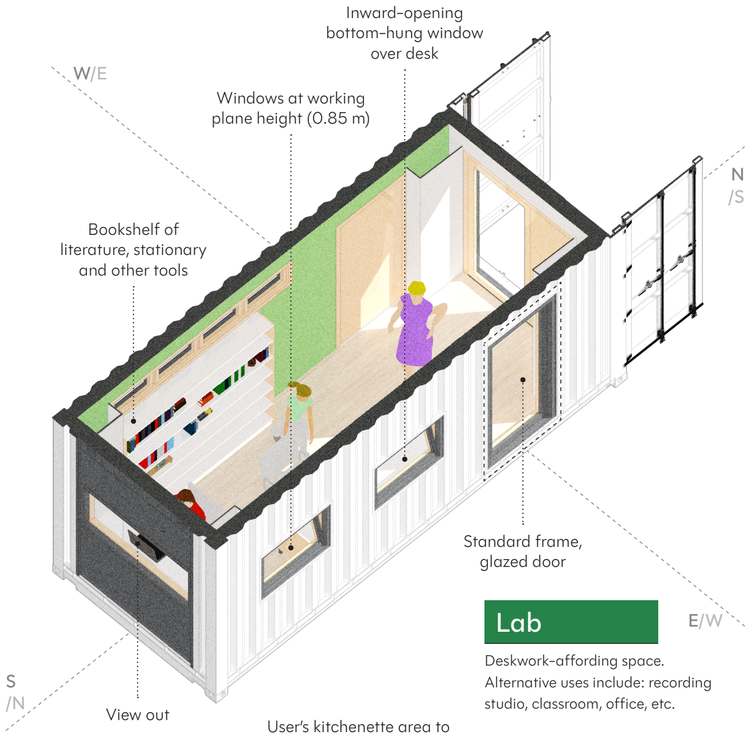
Library

A "typical" Haagse Hopje, used as a toy and equipment library and providing oversight in parks and playgrounds.



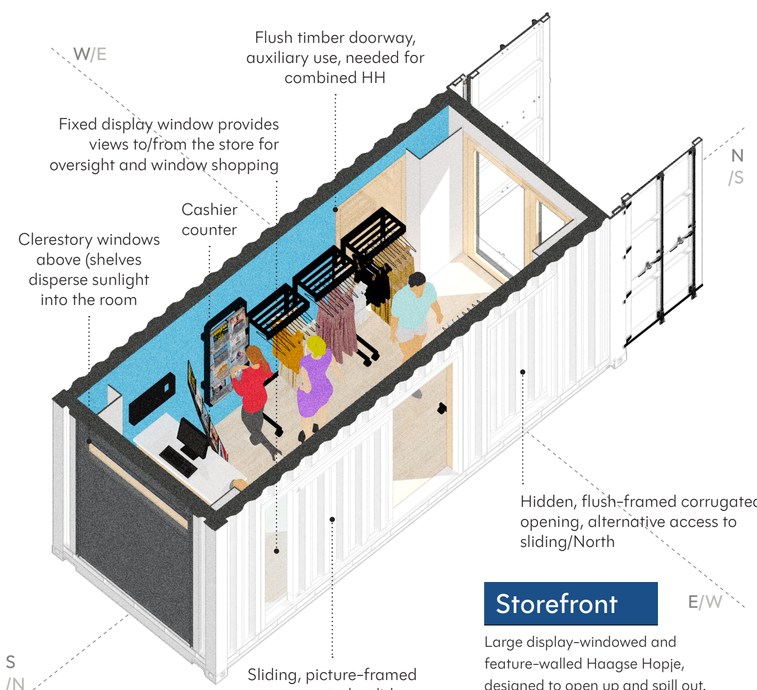
Café

Process-based layout (making/ ordering/collecting), defined by the East façades' large opening.



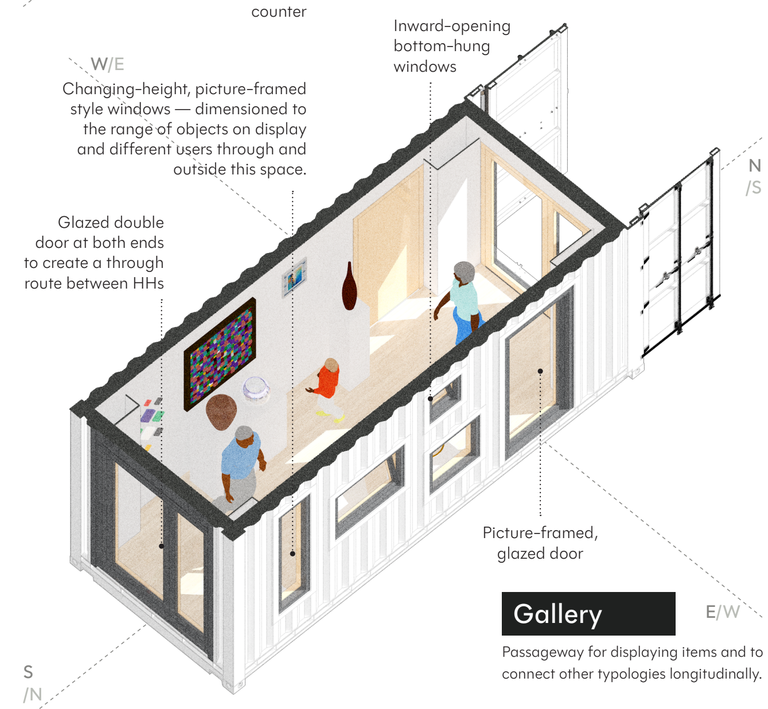
Lab

Deskwork-affording space. Alternative uses include: recording studio, classroom, office, etc.



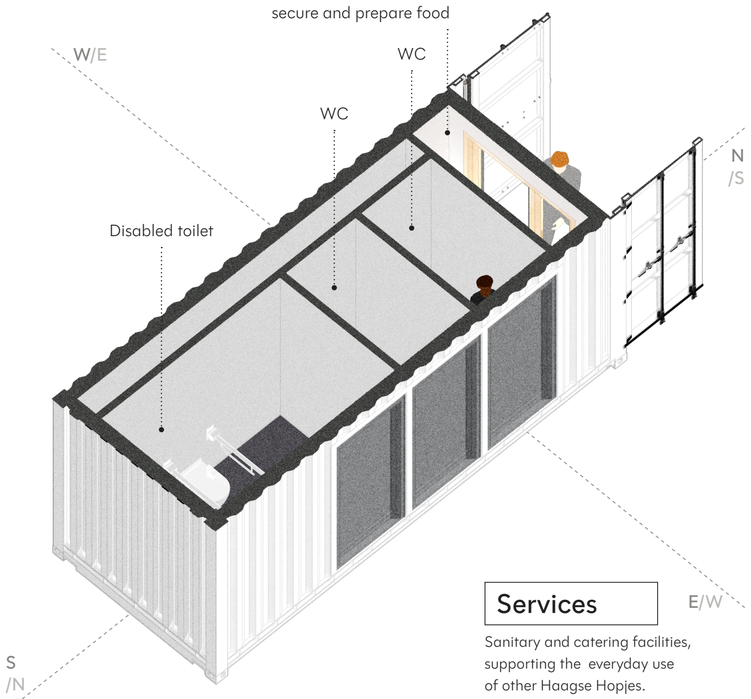
Storefront

Large display-windowed and feature-walled Haagse Hopje, designed to open up and spill out.



Gallery

Passageway for displaying items and to connect other typologies longitudinally.



Services

Sanitary and catering facilities, supporting the everyday use of other Haagse Hopjes.

Phase 0 | The Haagse Hopjes

Library

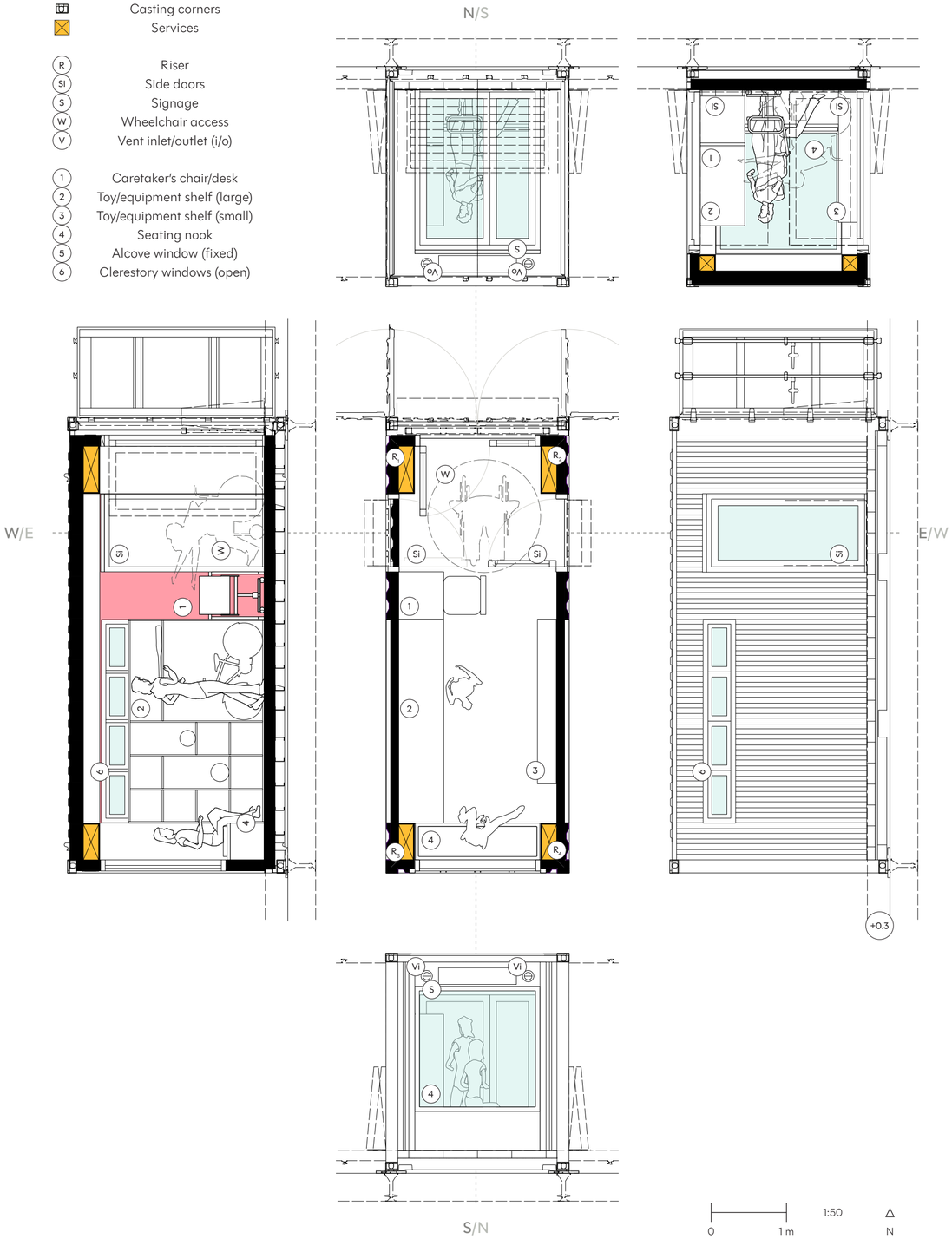
A "typical" Haagse Hopje, used as a toy and equipment library and providing oversight in parks and playgrounds.

Openings are a key part of discerning the composition of HH types and their specific use in its façade (i.e. to be expressed or hidden, to see through or block views, etc.).

- Casting corners
- Services

- R Riser
- Si Side doors
- S Signage
- W Wheelchair access
- V Vent inlet/outlet (i/o)

- 1 Caretaker's chair/desk
- 2 Toy/equipment shelf (large)
- 3 Toy/equipment shelf (small)
- 4 Seating nook
- 5 Alcove window (fixed)
- 6 Clerestory windows (open)



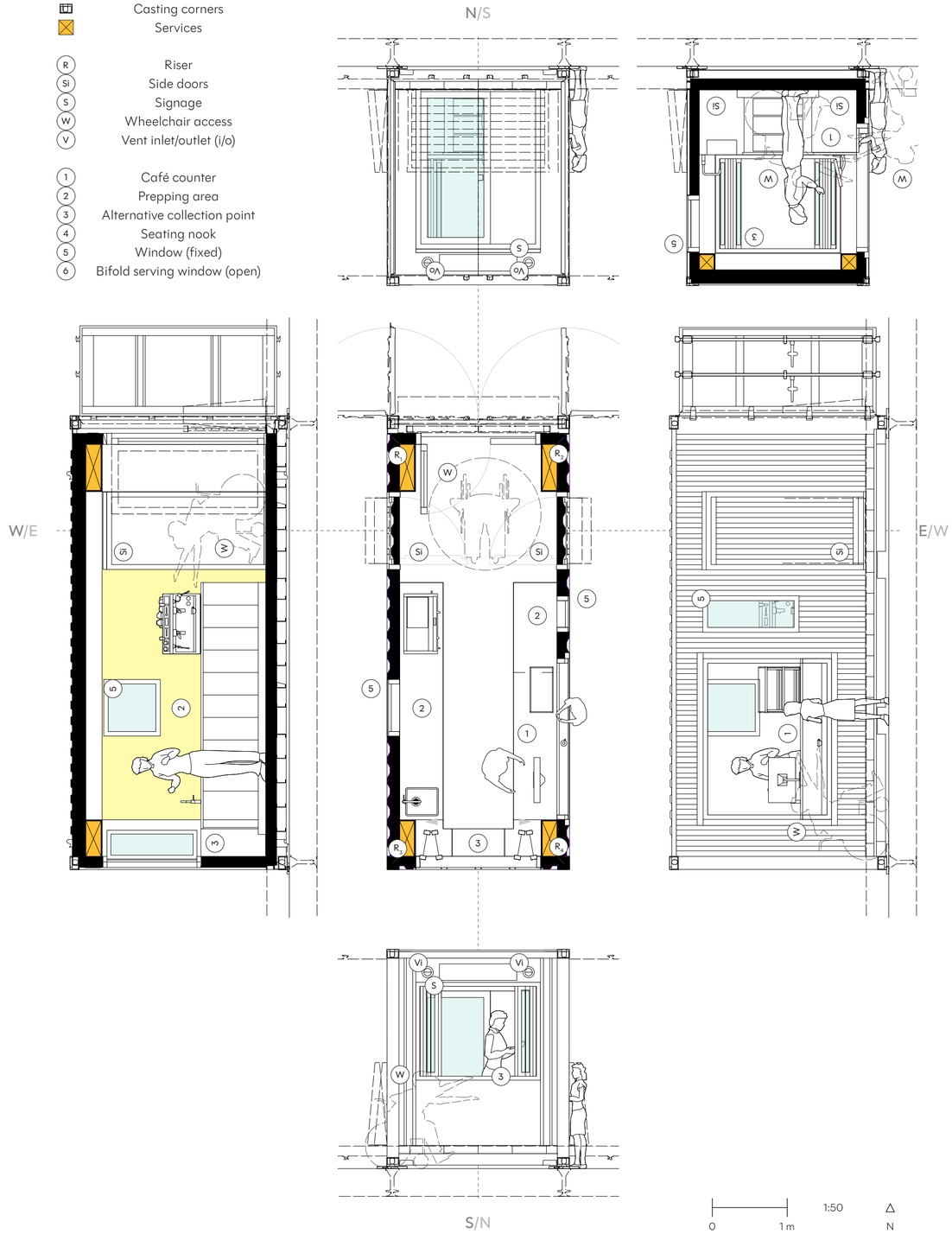
Café

Process-based layout (making/ordering/collecting), defined by the East façades' large opening.

- Casting corners
- Services

- R Riser
- Si Side doors
- S Signage
- W Wheelchair access
- V Vent inlet/outlet (i/o)

- 1 Café counter
- 2 Prepping area
- 3 Alternative collection point
- 4 Seating nook
- 5 Window (fixed)
- 6 Bifold serving window (open)



Phase 0 | The Haagse Hopjes

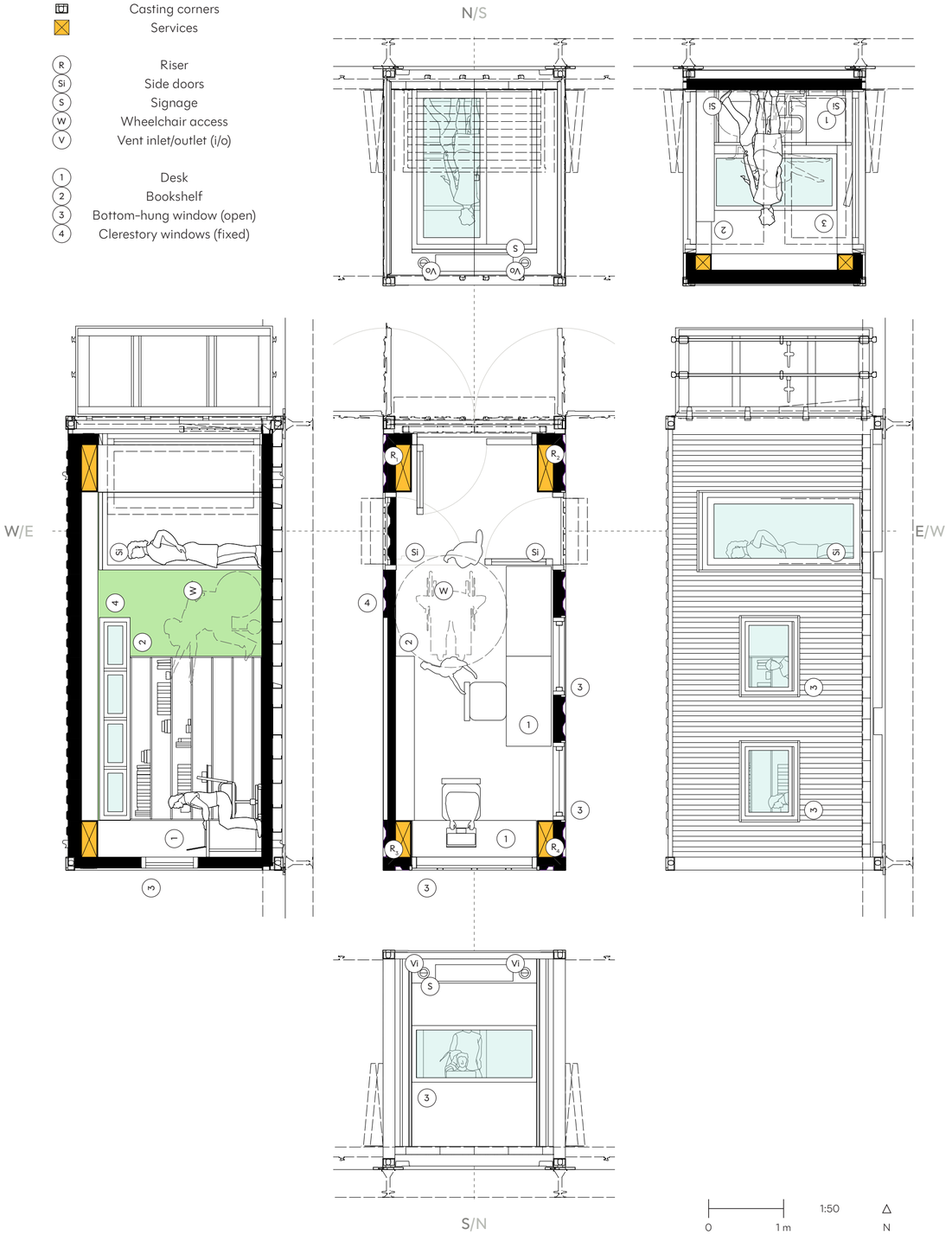
Lab

Deskwork-affording space. Alternative uses include: recording studio, classroom, office, etc.

Casting corners
Services

R Riser
Si Side doors
S Signage
W Wheelchair access
V Vent inlet/outlet (i/o)

1 Desk
2 Bookshelf
3 Bottom-hung window (open)
4 Clerestory windows (fixed)



James Burkhalter

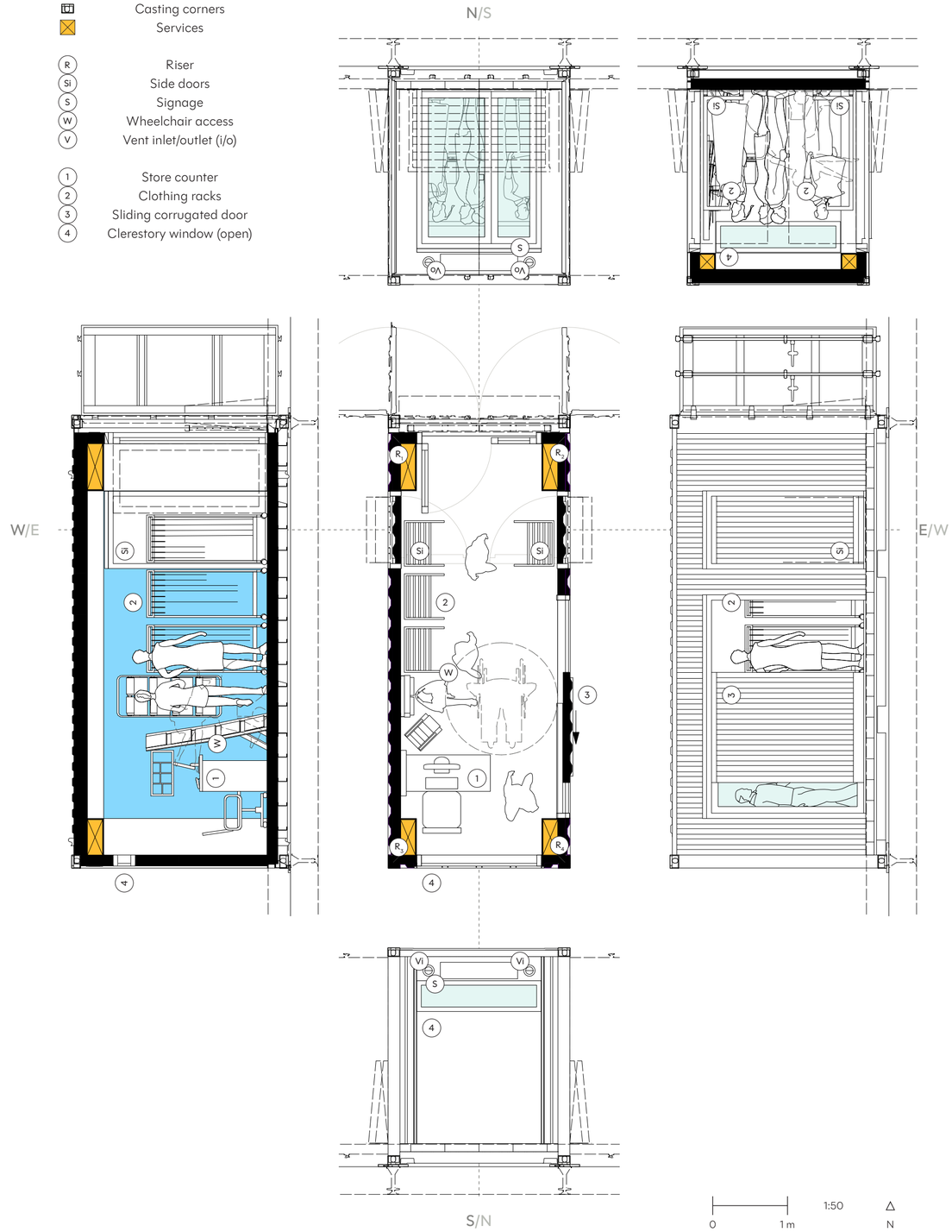
Storefront

Large display-windowed and feature-walled Haagse Hopje, designed to open up and spill out.

Casting corners
Services

R Riser
Si Side doors
S Signage
W Wheelchair access
V Vent inlet/outlet (i/o)

1 Store counter
2 Clothing racks
3 Sliding corrugated door
4 Clerestory window (open)



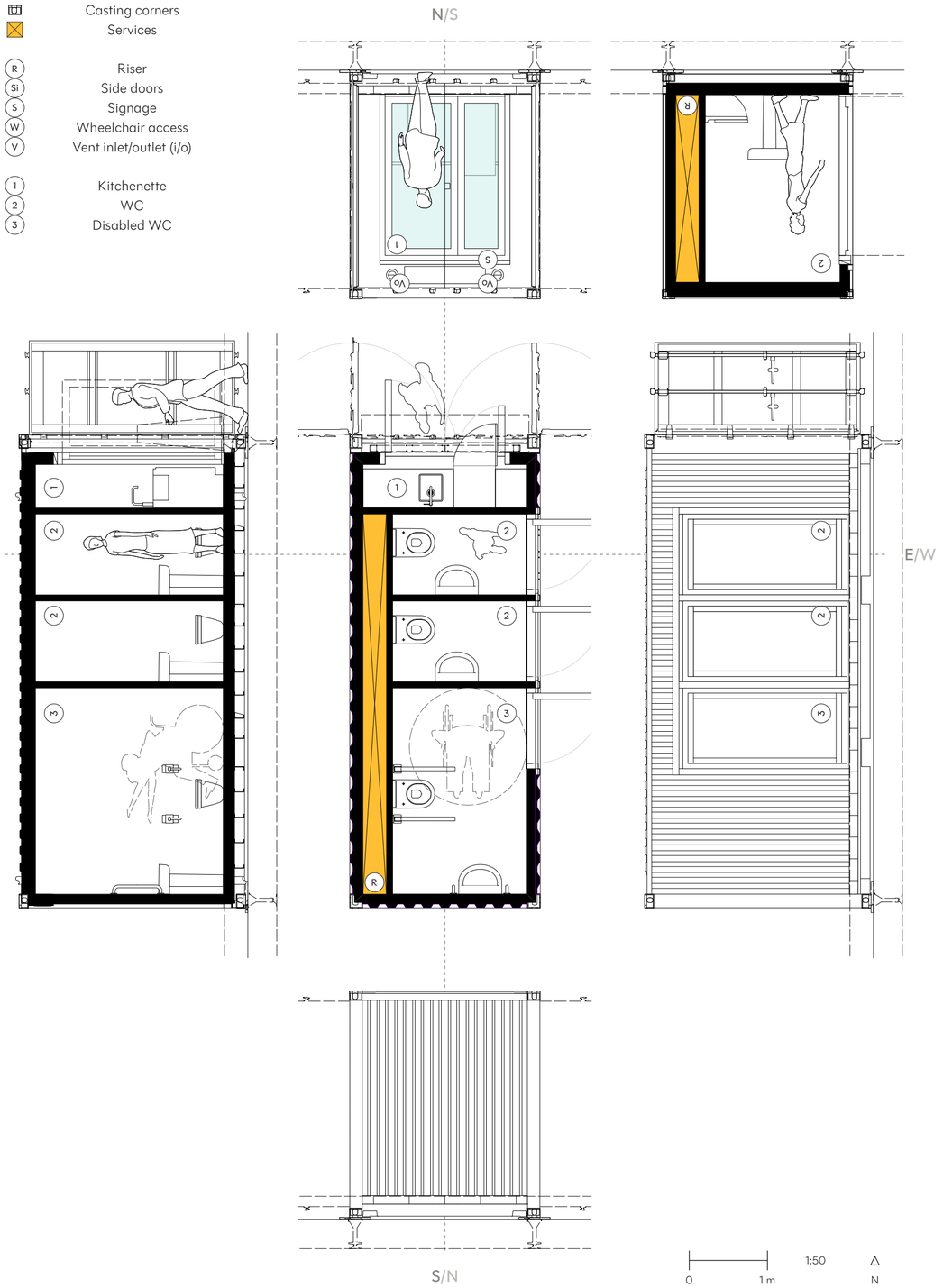
Services

Sanitary and catering facilities, supporting the everyday use of other Haagse Hopjes.

Casting corners
Services

R Riser
Si Side doors
S Signage
W Wheelchair access
V Vent inlet/outlet (i/o)

1 Kitchenette
2 WC
3 Disabled WC



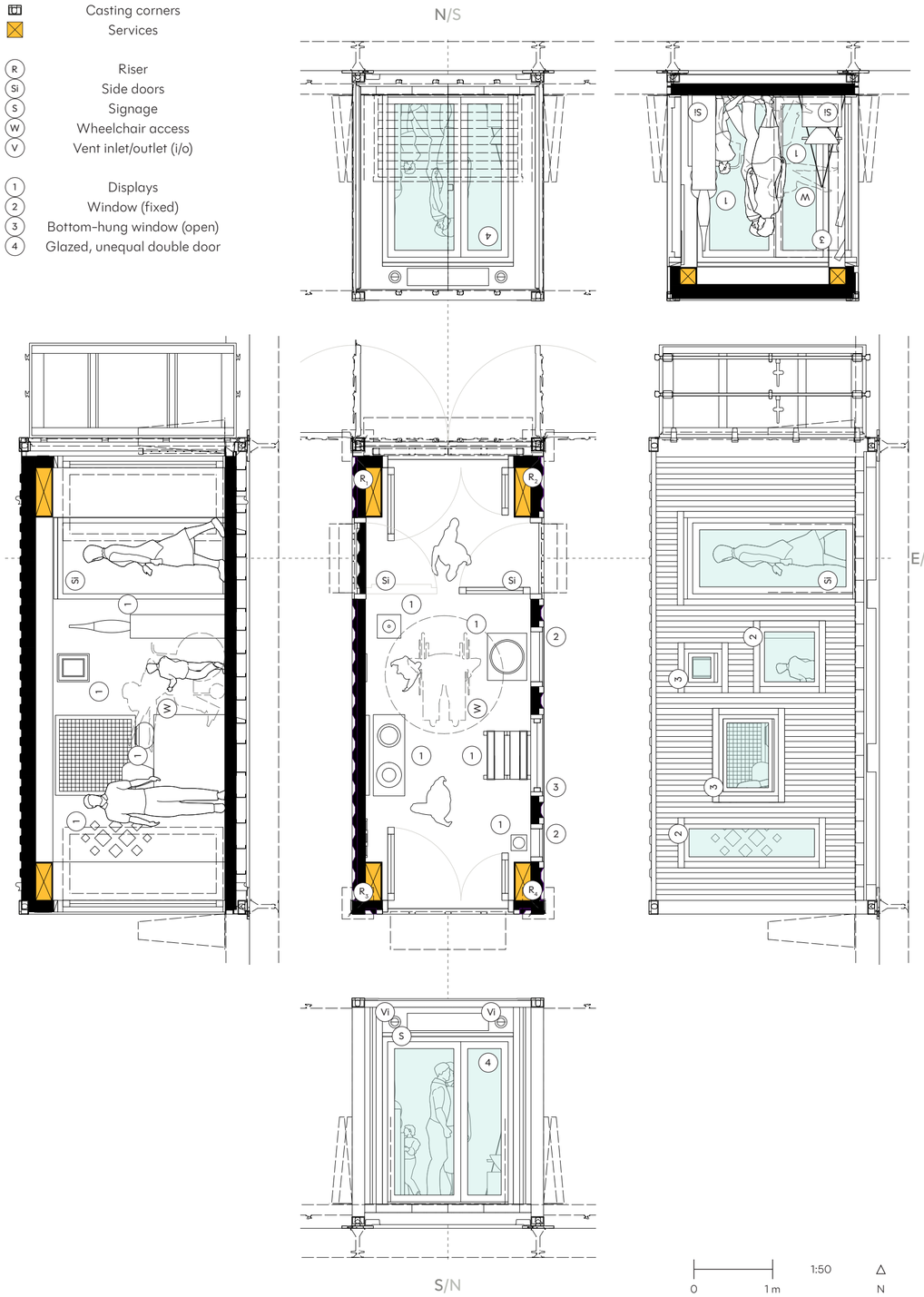
Gallery

Passageway for displaying items and to connect other typologies longitudinally.

Casting corners
Services

R Riser
Si Side doors
S Signage
W Wheelchair access
V Vent inlet/outlet (i/o)

1 Displays
2 Window (fixed)
3 Bottom-hung window (open)
4 Glazed, unequal double door



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+ | Detailing

How to build a Haagse Hopje Gallery

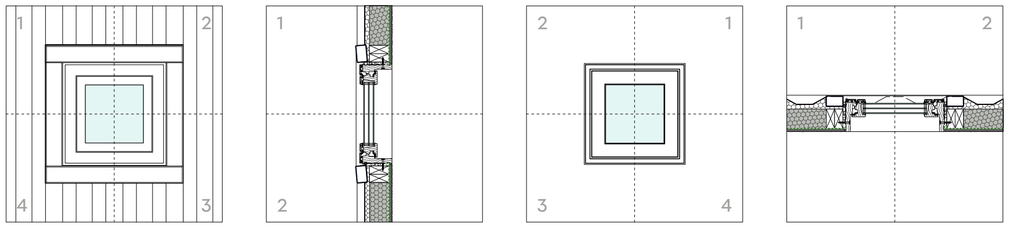
1:20 construction details for the retrofit of a standard, high cube, 20ft shipping container

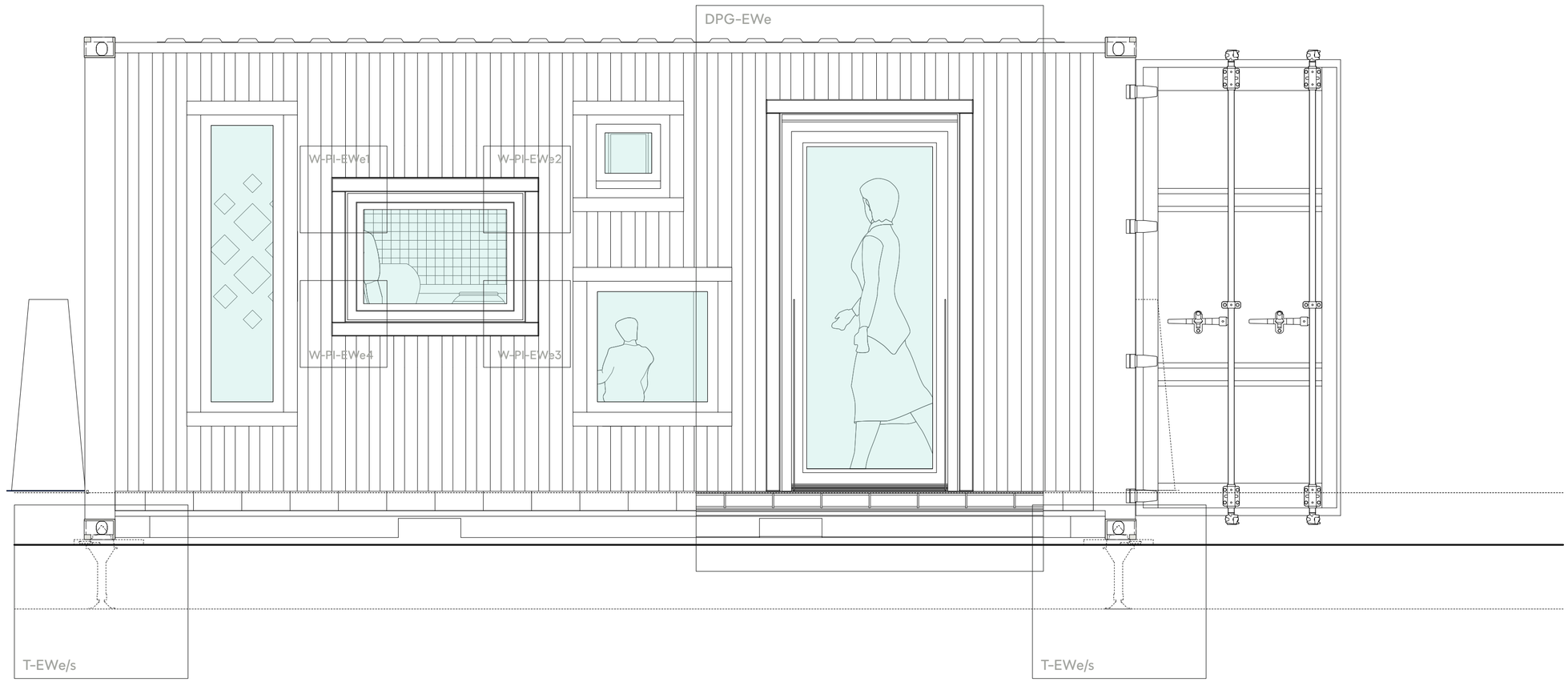
Gallery

0 0.4 m 1:20

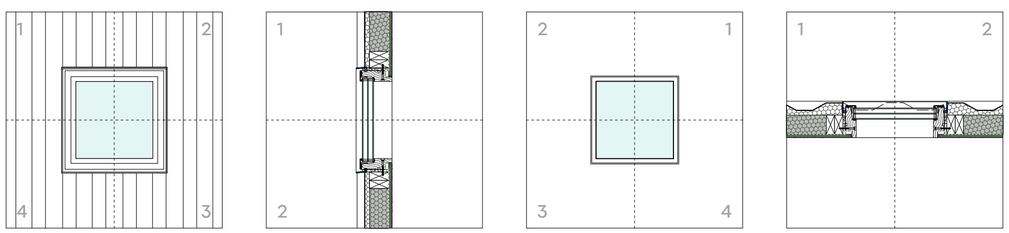
East/West **elevations, plans and sections (EWe/p/s)**

Window details (W)
Picture-Inward (W-PI)

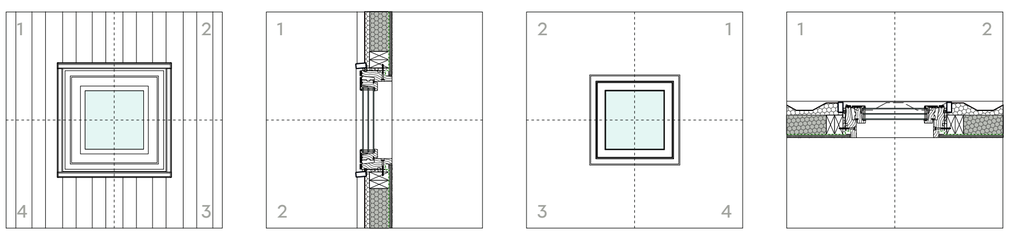




Window details (W)
Flush-Fixed (W-FF)



Window details (W)
Standard-Outward (W-SO)



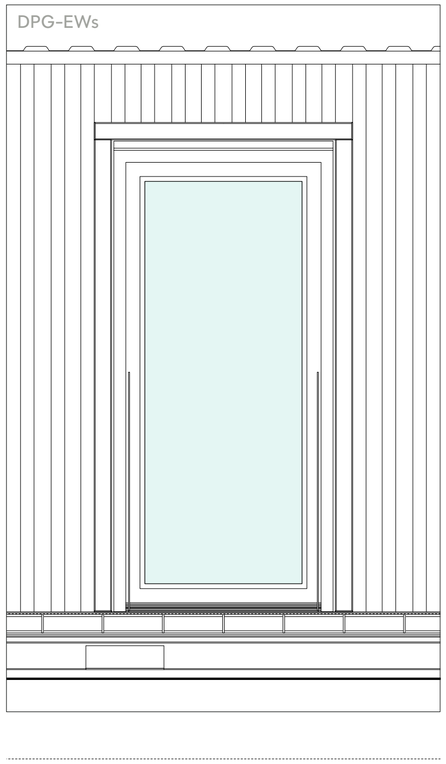
Gallery

0 0.4 m 1:20

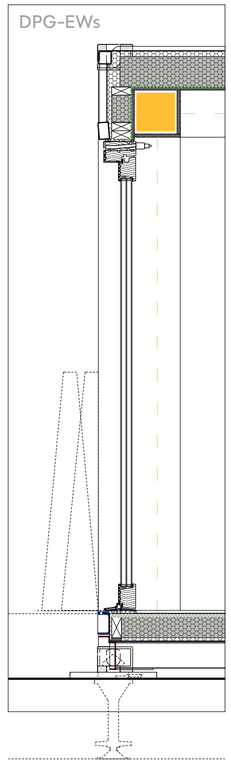
Door details (D)

Existing metalwork
New metalwork
Services
Vapour barrier
Ground
Other conditions

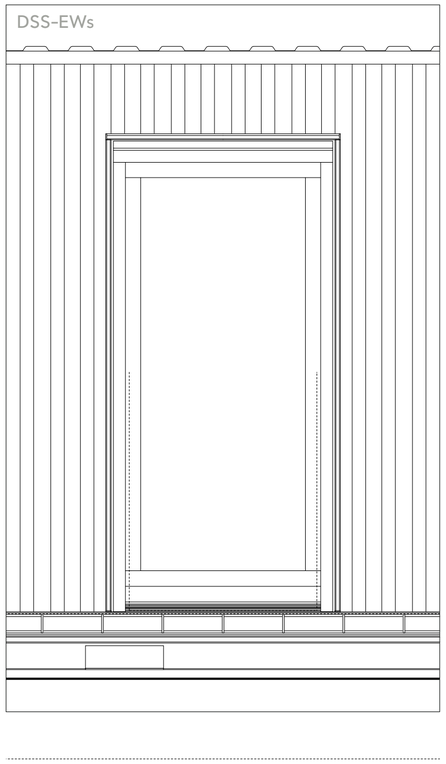
DPG-EWs



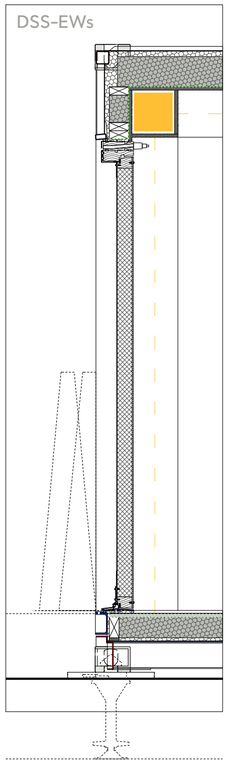
DPG-EWs



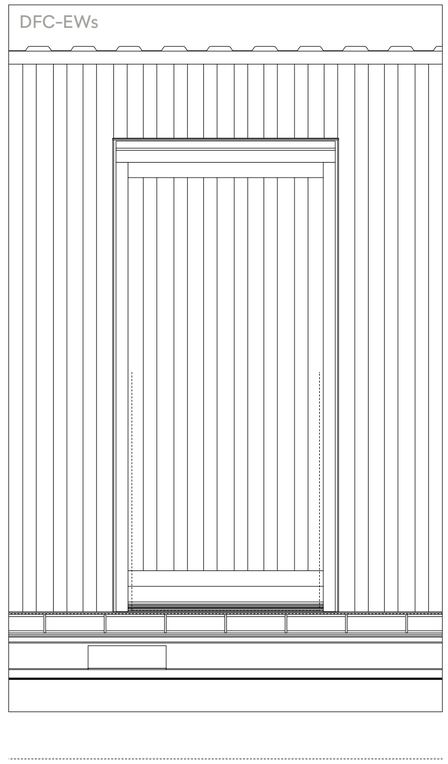
DSS-EWs



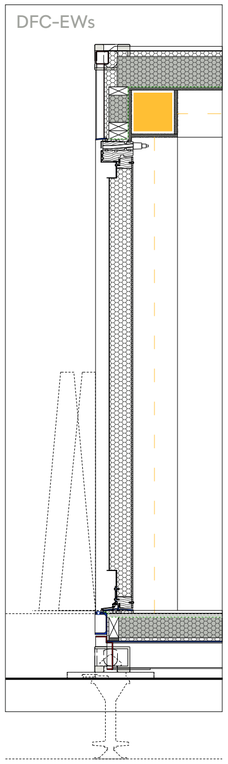
DSS-EWs



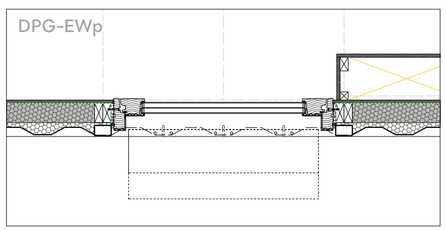
DFC-EWs



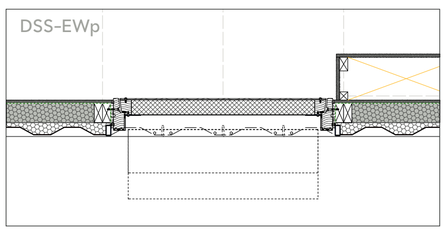
DFC-EWs



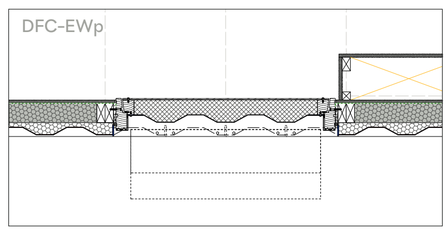
DPG-EWp



DSS-EWp



DFC-EWp



Door details (D)
Picture-Glazed (DPG)

Door details (D)
Standard-Solid (DSS)

Door details (D)
Flush-Corrugated (DFC)

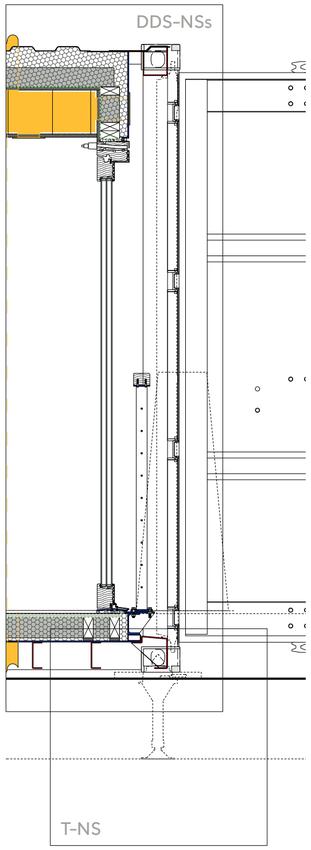
Gallery

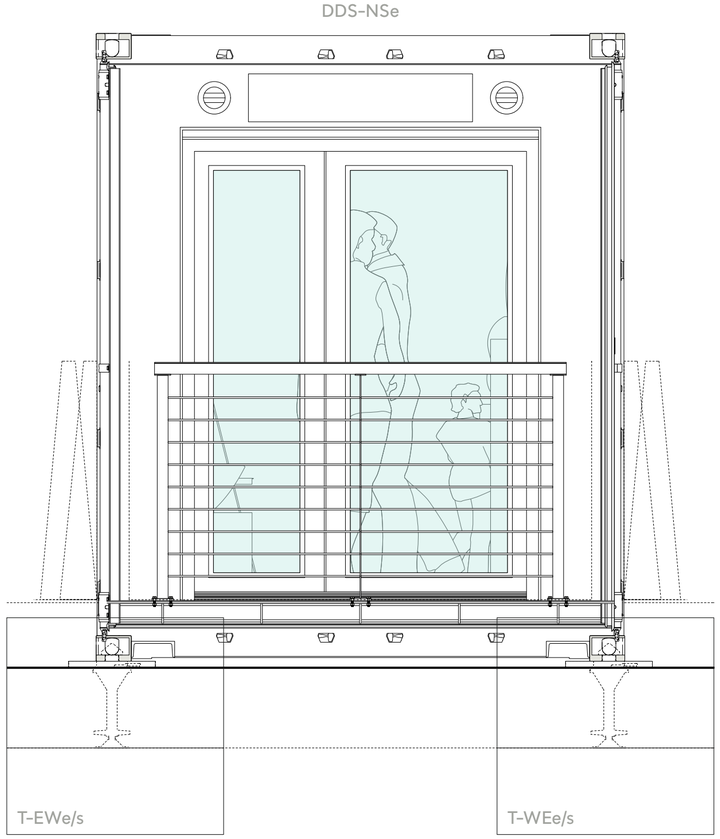
1:20

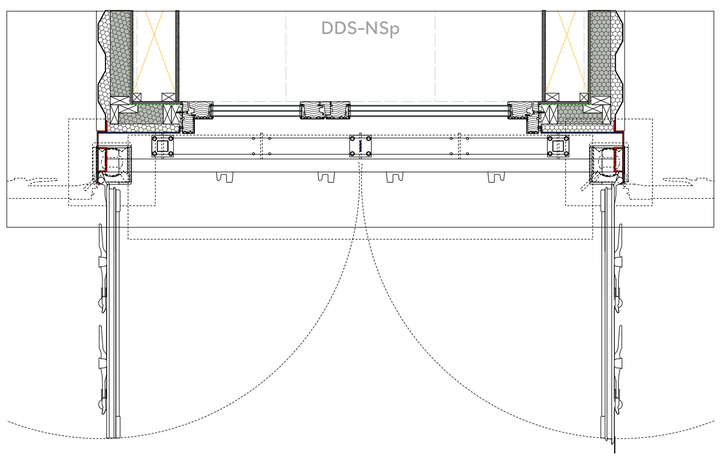
0 0.4 m

North/South **elevations, plans and sections (NSe/p/s)**

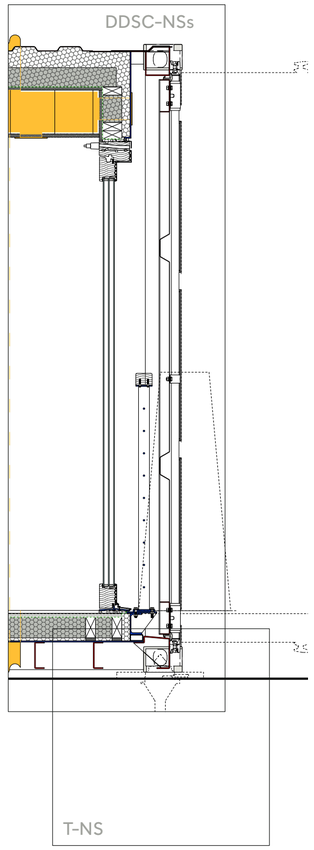
Existing metalwork
New metalwork
Services
Vapour barrier
Ground
Other conditions

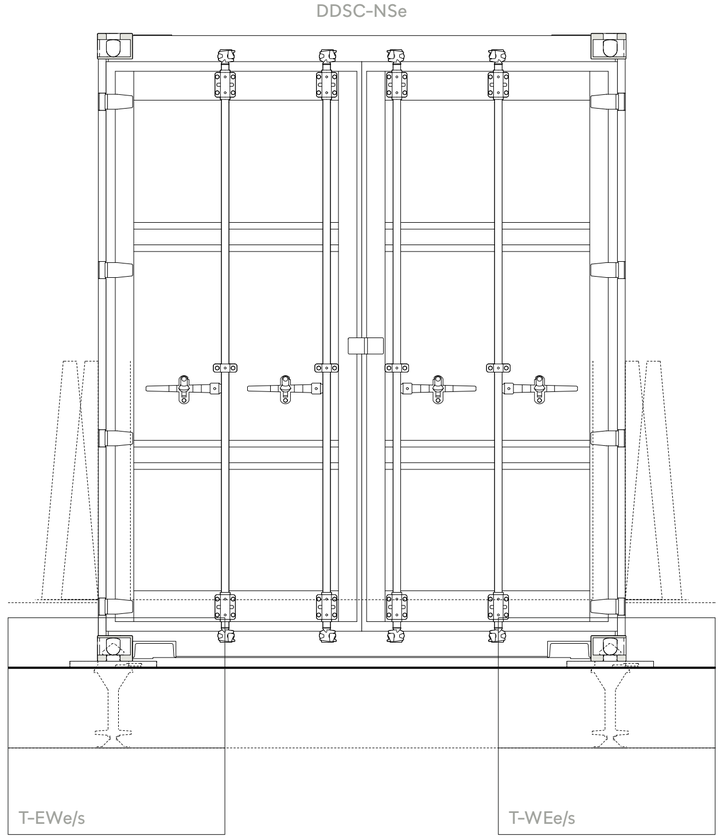


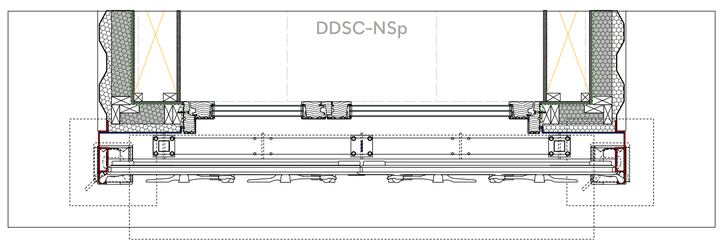




Door details (D)
Double Door-Standard (DDS)







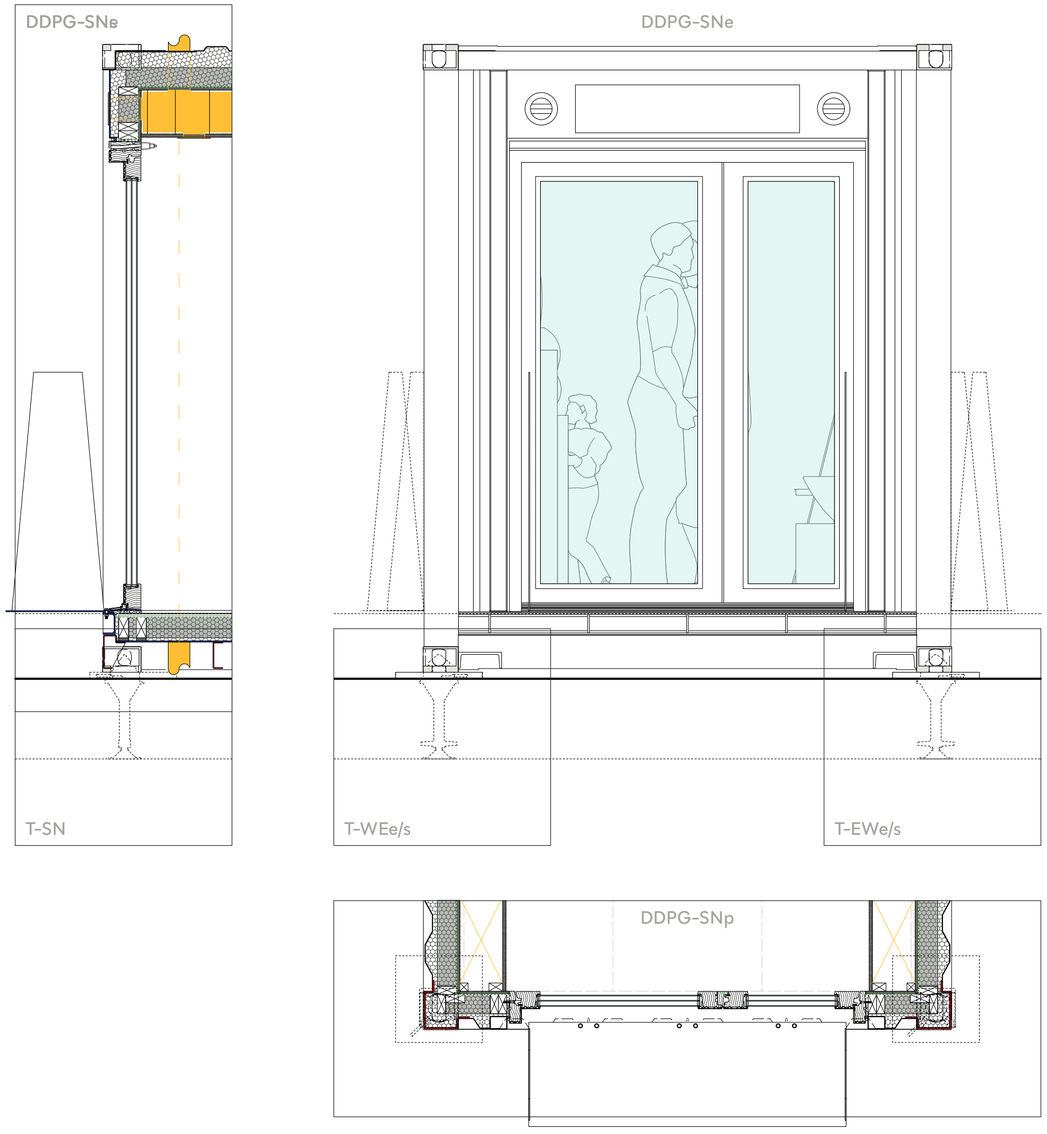
Door details (D)
Double Door-Standard-Closed (DDSC)

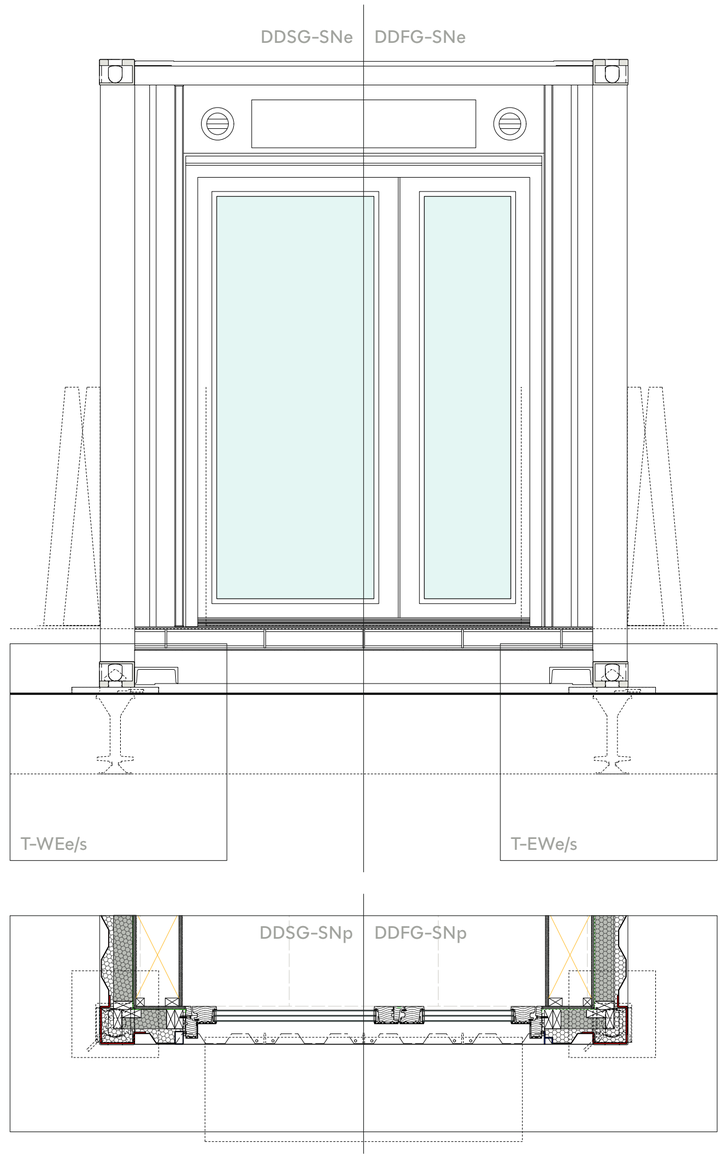
Gallery

0 0.4 m 1:20 N

South/North elevations, plans and sections (SNe/p/s)

Existing metalwork
New metalwork
Services
Vapour barrier
Ground
Other conditions





Door details (D)
Double Door-Picture-Glazed (DDPG)

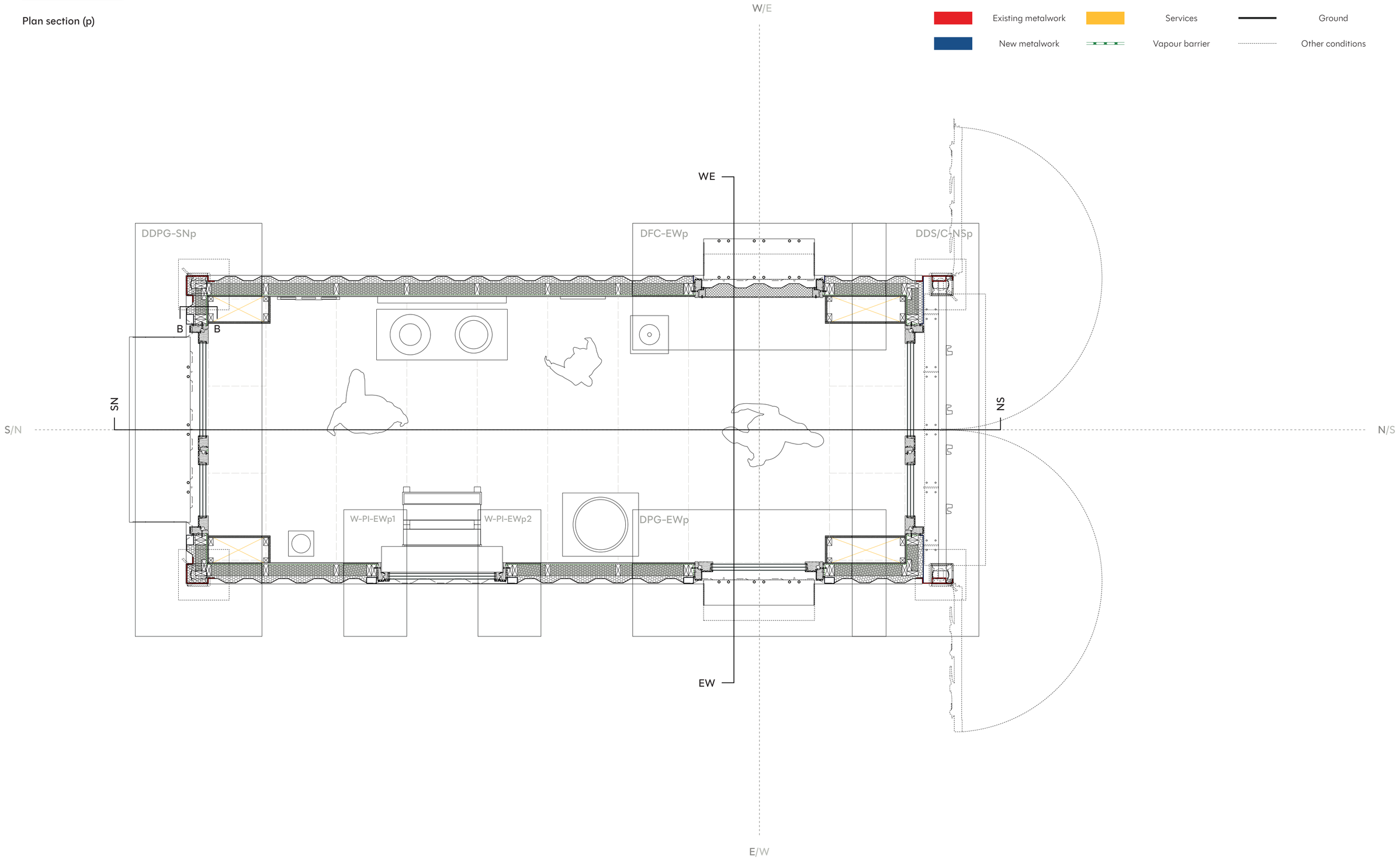
Door details (D)
Double Door-Standard-Glazed (DDSG)

Door details (D)
Double Door-Flush-Glazed (DDFG)

Gallery

0 0.4 m 1:20

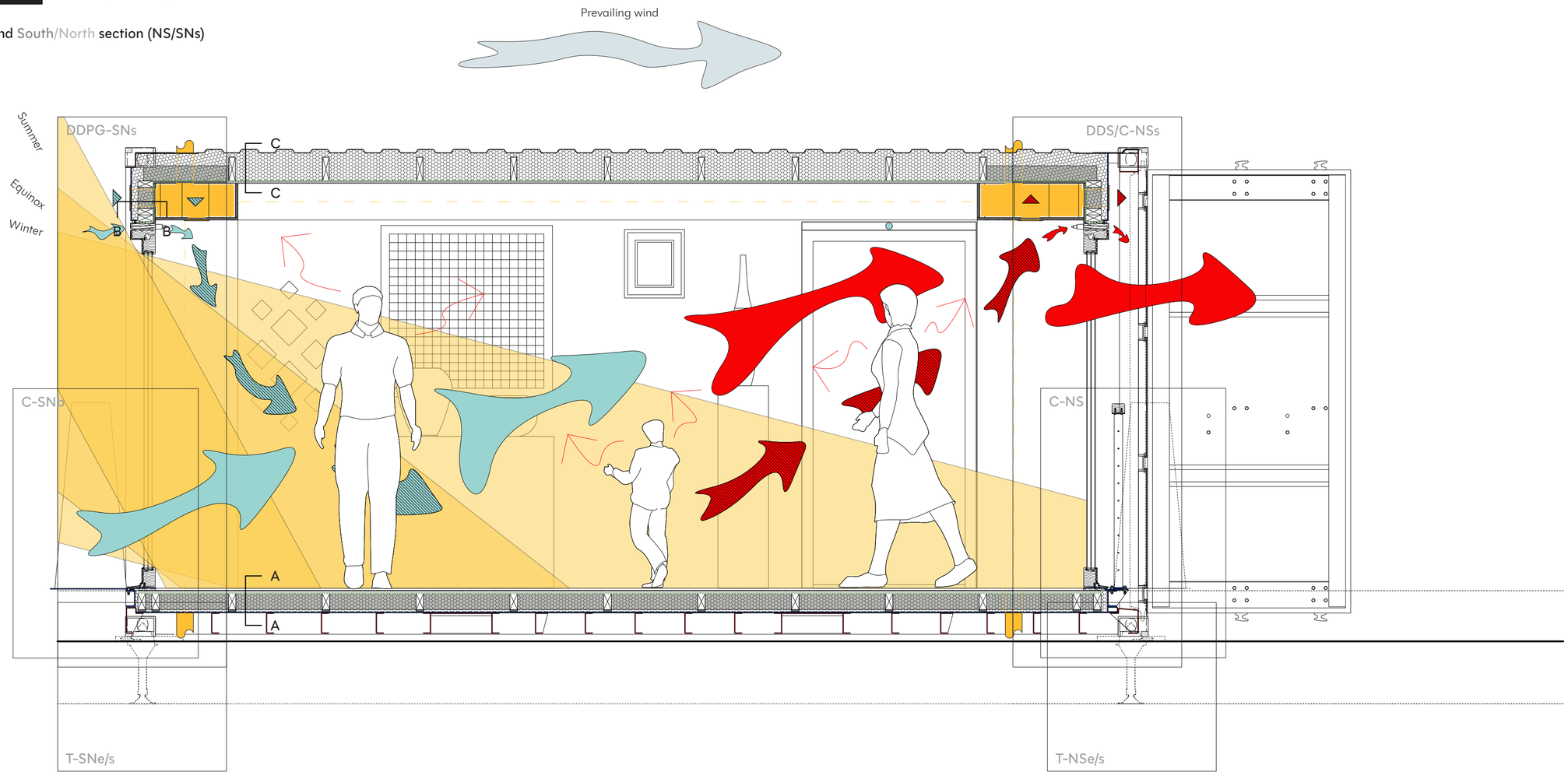
Plan section (p)



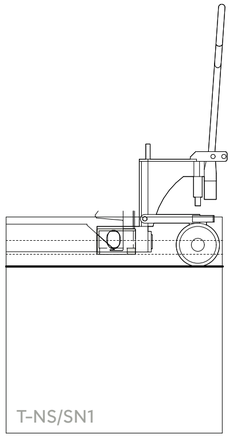
Gallery

1:20
0 0.4 m

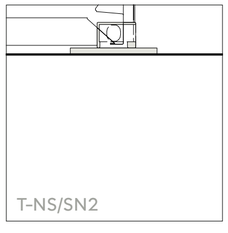
North/South and South/North section (NS/SNs)



Transport details (T)
Ground floor

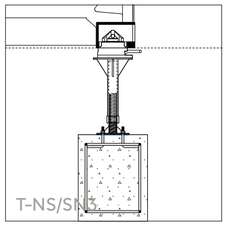


Hydraulic lifting jack

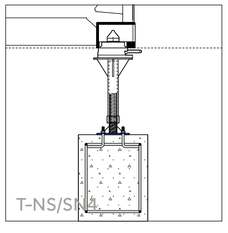


Levelling pad (30 mm)

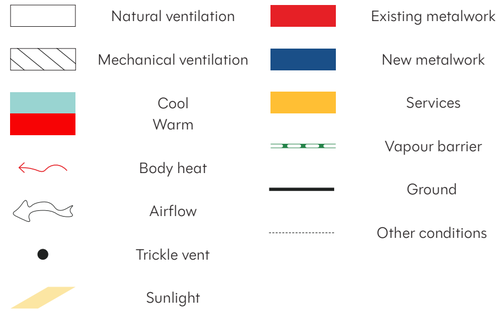
Transport details (T)
First floor



Twistlock (open)



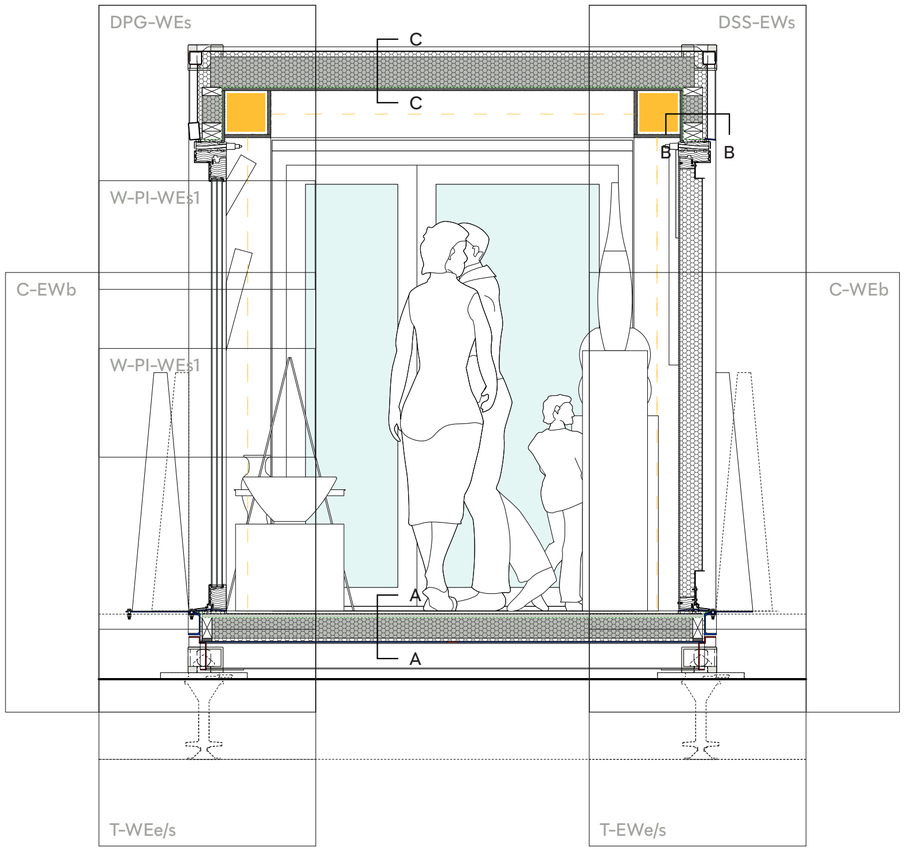
Twistlock (closed)



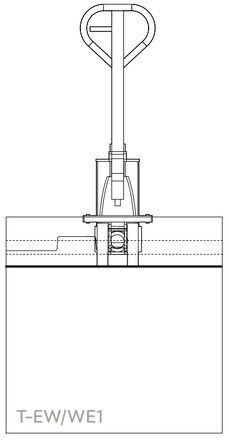
Gallery

1:20
0 0.4 m

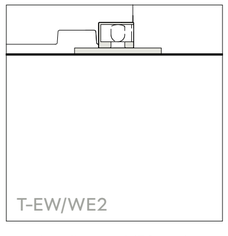
East/West or West/East section (EW/WEs)



Transport details
Ground floor

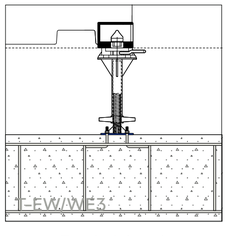


Hydraulic lifting jack

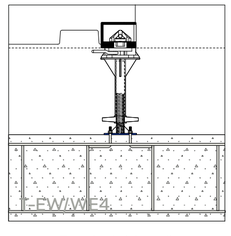


Levelling pad (30 mm)

Transport details
First floor



Twistlock (open)



Twistlock (closed)

Existing metalwork | Services | Ground
New metalwork | Vapour barrier | Other conditions

Floor details

A–A	Buildup (internal-external)	
-	*External surface resistance (R_{so})*	0.04
5 mm	*New welded steel sheet (replaces existing plywood flooring)*	-
15 mm	*Rigid PIR insulation (prevent cold bridging)*	0.75
45/95 mm	*Timber floor joists*	0.79
110 mm	*Closed-cell, PIR spray insulation (acts as a surface-bonded vapour and air control layer)*	5.5
-	*Vapour barrier (mitigate interstitial condensation)*	-
18 mm	*Plywood subfloor (or OSB, budget-depending, with plywood being more use-resistant)*	0.14
~ 13 mm	*Finish floor allowance (varies, 13 mm achieves 2.4 m height)*	-
-	*Internal surface resistance (R_{si})*	0.10
	Lower limit of resistance (R_{lower})	4.32
	Upper limit of resistance (R_{upper})	4.45
	Total resistance (R_{total})	4.38
	Target Total resistance (R_{total})	4.38

Wall details

B–B	Buildup (internal-external)	
-	*External surface resistance (R_{so})*	0.04
5 mm	*New steel (North) (white powder coated)*	-
2 mm	*Existing corrugated steel (South) (white powder coated)*	-
130 mm	*Closed-cell, PIR spray insulation (acts as a surface-bonded vapour and air control layer)*	6.5
38/89 mm	*Timber wall studs*	0.79
-	*Vapour barrier (mitigate interstitial condensation)*	-
15 mm	*Plasterboard*	0.08
-	*Internal surface resistance (R_{si})*	0.10
	Lower limit of resistance (R_{lower})	5.58
	Upper limit of resistance (R_{upper})	5.62
	Total resistance (R_{total})	5.60
	Target Total resistance (R_{total})	5.60

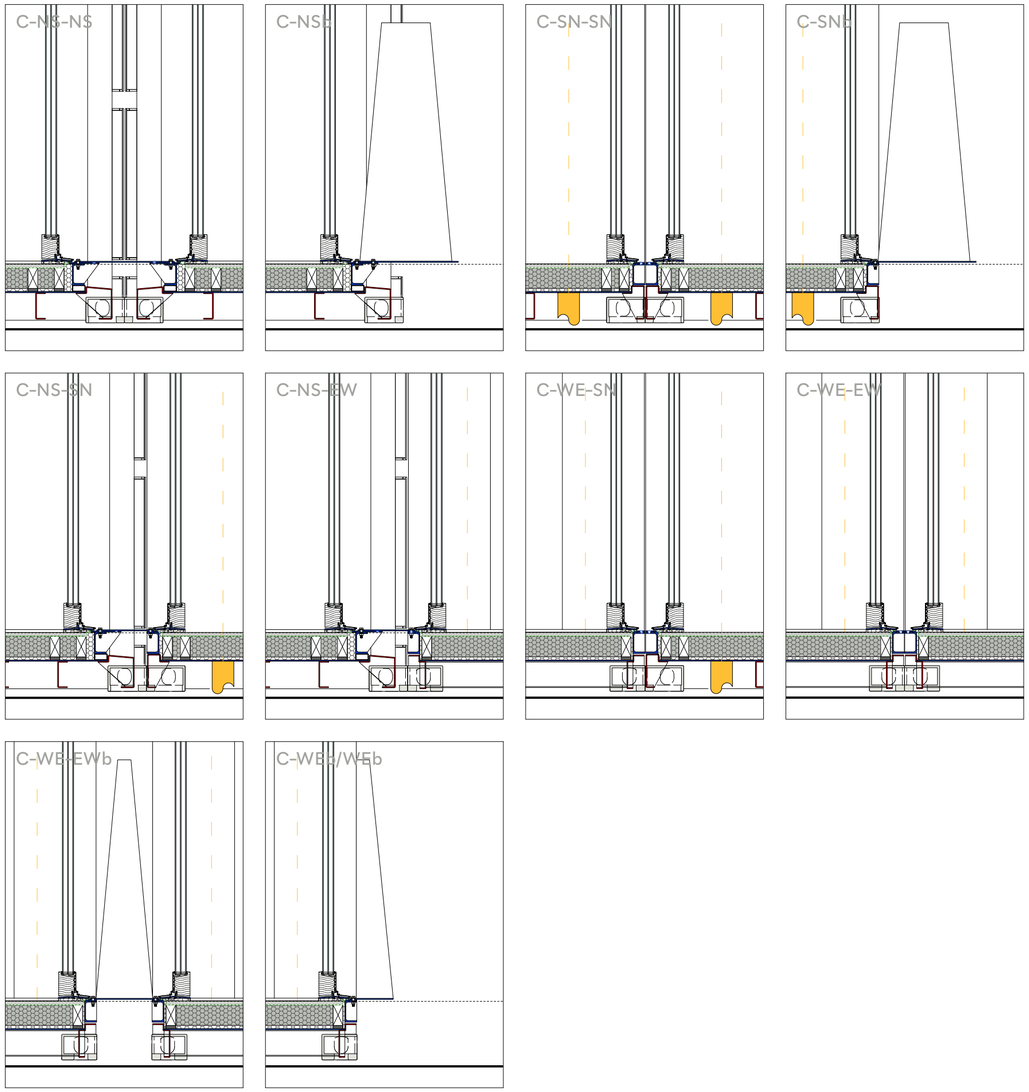
Roof details

C–C	Buildup (internal-external)	
-	*External surface resistance (R_{so})*	0.04
2 mm	*Existing corrugated steel (dark grey powder coated to cont...)*	-
165 mm	*Closed-cell, PIR spray insulation (acts as a surface-bonded vapour and air control layer)*	5.5
38/140 mm	*Timber ceiling joists*	1.17
-	*Vapour barrier (mitigate interstitial condensation)*	-
15 mm	*Plasterboard*	0.08
-	*Internal surface resistance (R_{si})*	0.10
	Lower limit of resistance (R_{lower})	6.28
	Upper limit of resistance (R_{upper})	6.36
	Total resistance (R_{total})	6.32
	Target Total resistance (R_{total})	6.32

Gallery

0 0.4 m 1:20

Connections (C)



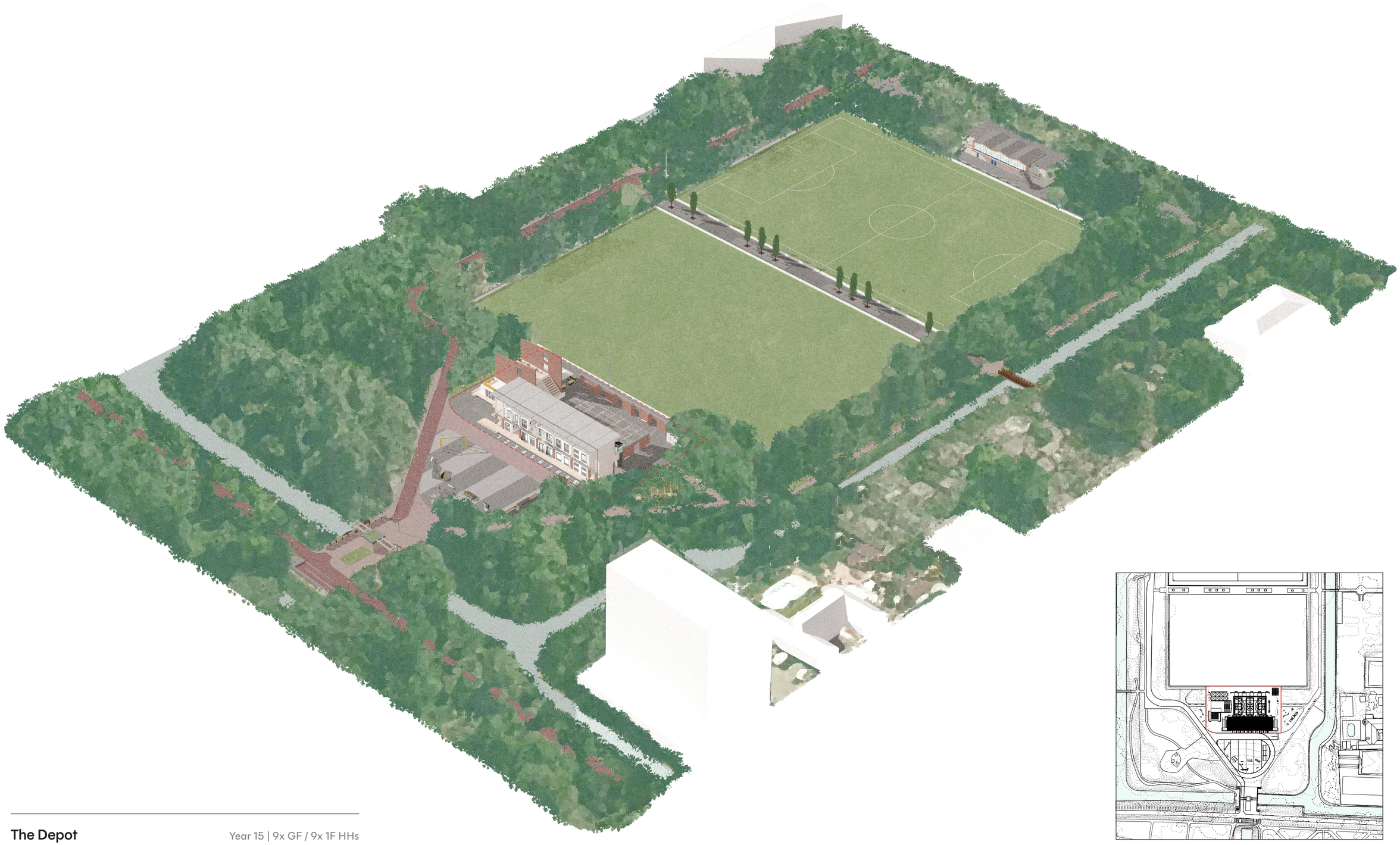
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Phase 1 – 4 | Year 1 – 15

The Depot

Imagined like a bookshelf for the library of Haagse Hopje types, The Depot presents a new typology that stands between an archive and an activity centre for young people.



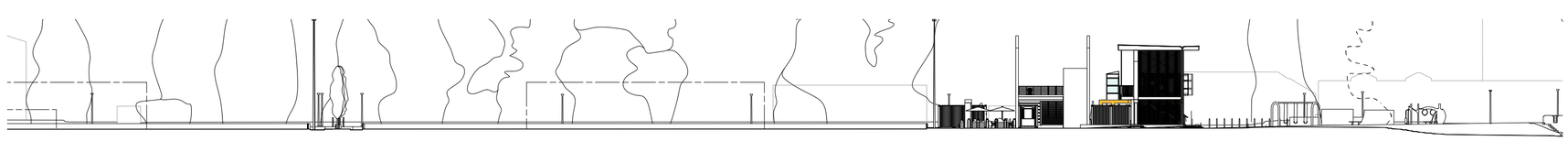
The Depot

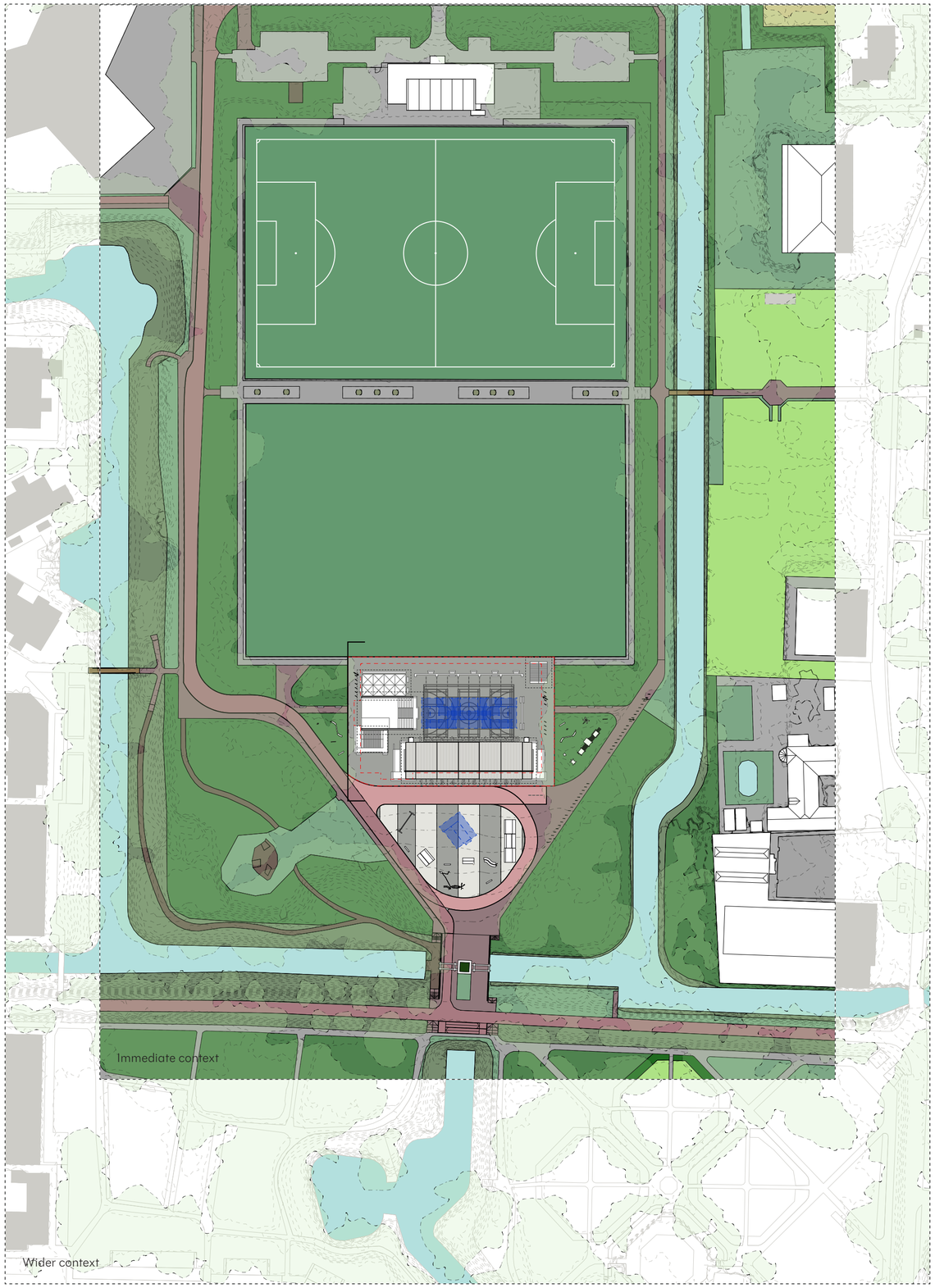
Year 15 | 9x GF / 9x 1F HHs



From Jan Willem Kempffpad to The Depot

Appearing like a pavilion in the park, The Depot's mix of materials is grounded into its landscape through the use of brick, timber and expressive yellow fixings to contrast.





Site overview

Year 15 | 9x GF / 9x 1F HHs

1:1000
0 20 m
N

Phase 4 | The Depot

Jan Willem Kempffpad elevation



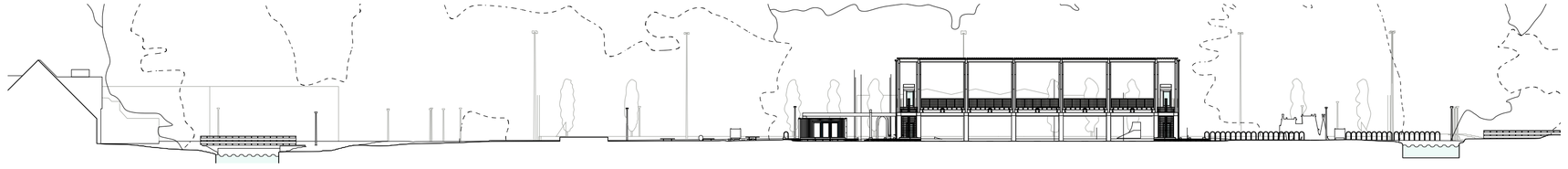
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0 4 m

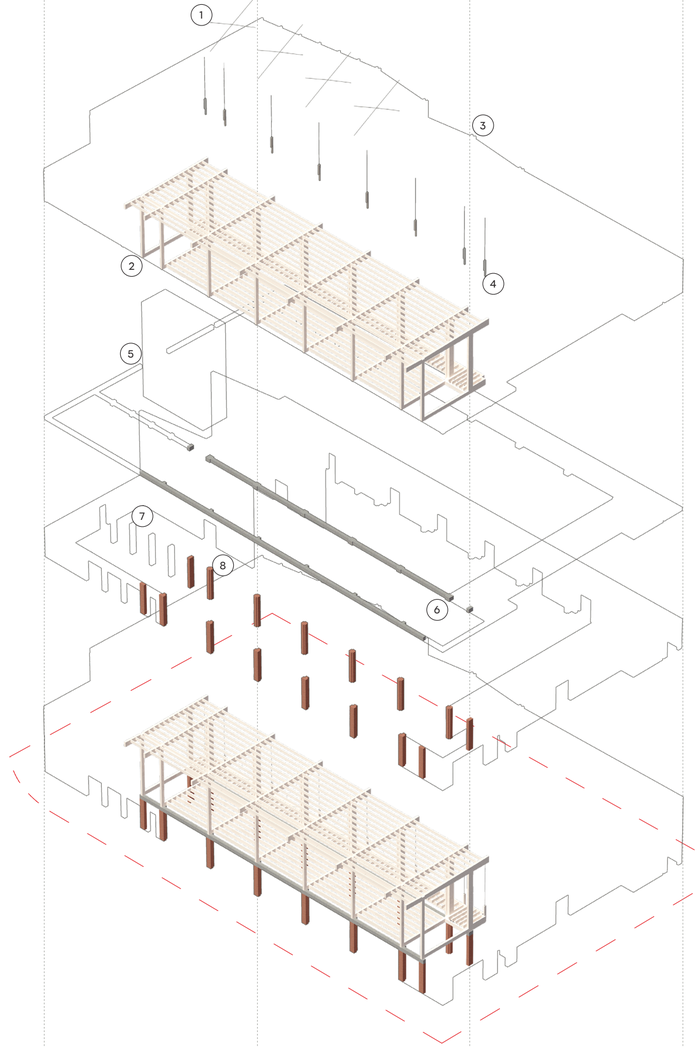


Phase 1 | Frame

Year 1 | 2x GF HHs / 0x 1F HHs

The Depot works as both a flying factory and "climbing frame" for the curious youth — looking from its balcony, scaling piers, or going to the café.





Legend

Exploded construction axonometric of The Storehouse

Reference area

Phases 5 (Year 20)

1 **Cabled cross bracing**

Half-height cross bracing joined at the junction between phases in the structure

2 **Glulam frame**

Bays are made up of glulam portal frames that repeat along the length of The Depot and connected together by a secondary structure of joists

3 **Cantilevered roof beams**

Extending beyond the column, the cantilevered roof beam provides support to the balcony below and creates an overhang to protect from the sun and rain

4 **Suspension cable**

The balcony is suspended from the cantilevered roof beams

5 **Concrete core**

Added during phases 3 – 4 (Y10 – 15), with The Depot's structural expansion

6 **Concrete ring beam**

Transfers loads from the first floor HHs and from the glulam to brick structure. The ring beam also provides lateral stability to the floors and longitudinal stability to the glulam portal frame. In addition to a strong datum (3.2 m) that visually breaks up the structure in form and materiality

7 **Brick shear walls**

Phases 3 – 4 (Y10 – 15), piers and glulam portal frames are laterally reinforced by brick shear walls

8 **Brick piers**

Concrete-reinforced, engineered brick piers, 3 forms (T, Cross and Mixed, see icons above)

Construction

Hybrid construction to optimise the material's structural performance under load (tension, compression, etc.) and for the potential of The Depot's permanence.



Building a Haagse Hopje in the flying factory
Sunlight overhead is shaded by the joists of the Veranda bay type, as a mentor and their apprentice work together on a HH's stud-walled frames — a single HH taking 4 – 12 weeks (depending on type, see mobilemodularcontainers, 2026; portable space, 2026; S Jones Containers, 2026).

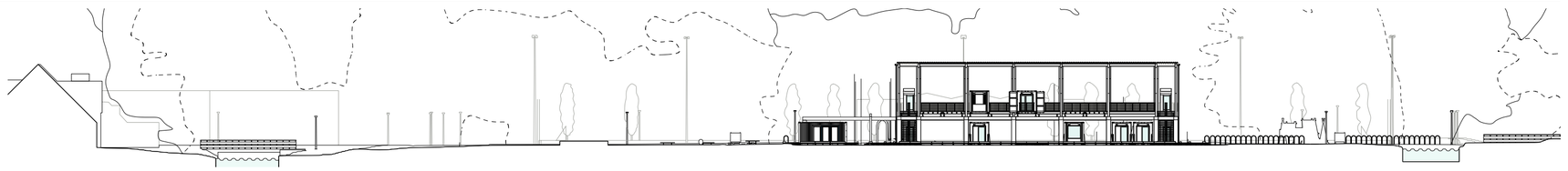


1:500
0 10 m N

Phase 2 | Minimum

Year 5 | 4x GF HHs / 2x 1F HHs

4x GF HHs support daily, weekly and seasonal activities in The Forecourt, The Courtyard and fields. Voids in The Depot optimise their minimum HHs through bay design.

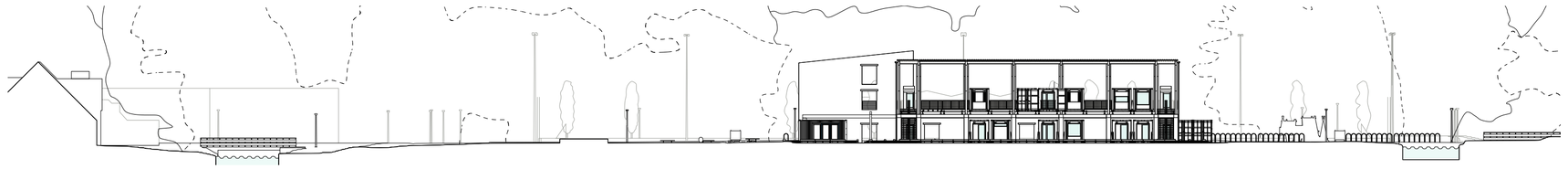




Phase 3 | Target

Year 10 | 6x GF HHs / 6x 1F HHs

Equal GF/1F HHs and sufficient voids for using all bay types. Construction is expanded to support the café, The Courtyard and its activities through seating, cover and graffiti walls.



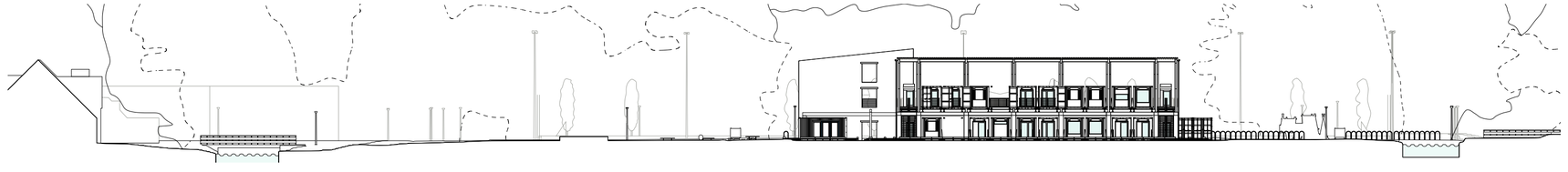
James Burkhalter



Phase 4 | Maximum

Year 15 | 9x GF / 9x 1F HHs

Year 15 presents a significant shift in the life of The Depot with Houtwijk's next generation of teenagers starting to use it.





Approaching The Depot from Bokkefort park
Walking across the bridge from Bokkefort park, the everchanging (daily, weekly, seasonal), animated façade of HHs that fill The Depot is framed beneath the industrial, brick block and concrete structure of the Vinkenlaantje pump and the verdant canopy that surround it.

Phase 4 | The Depot

Distribution

0 2 m 1:100 N

GF **GF planning** 6x B, 2x R, 2x P

A greater number of ground floor bookable spaces than rentable/purchasable (6 vs. 4) ensures access to enough HHs by The Depot's organisation for both:

- the redistribution of Haagse Hopjes for hotspot-guided response to youth ASB
- for events, such as food markets, art exhibitions and music performances

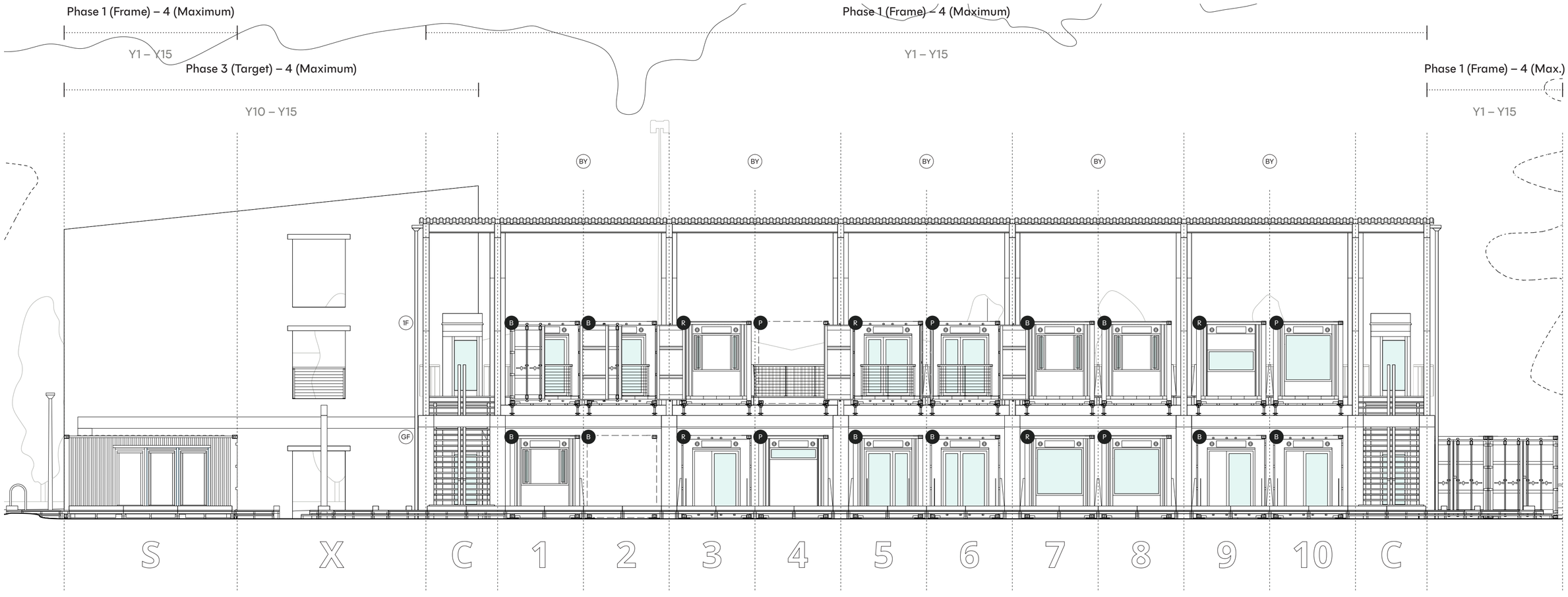
The ground floor of 10 HHs also roughly corresponds to the maximum size of a single permanent HH at 100 m²

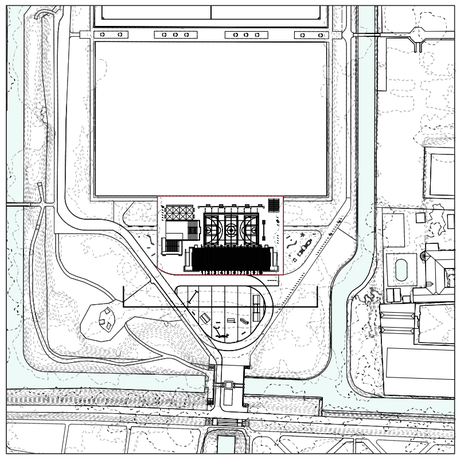
1F **1F planning** 4x B, 3x R, 3x P

Inverting the ground floor's distribution, the first floor is more fixed as rentable/purchasable HHs to mitigate the excessive use of the HIAB (impacts day-to-day operations) and the imbalanced redistribution of HHs (resulting in the loss of non-organisation driven activity within The Depot, e.g. food vendors, shops, etc.)

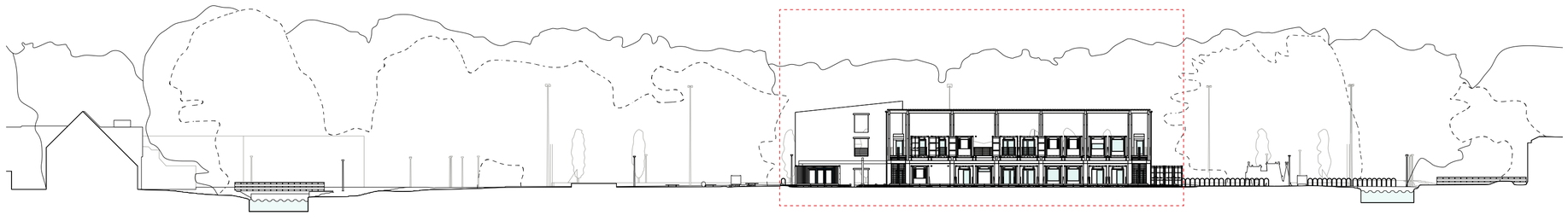
BY **Bay design**

Each bay is organised in pairs (Bookable and Rentable/Purchasable) to afford the use of adjacent spaces for outdoor seating, shop displays, etc.





0 40 m 1:2000 N



B Bookable (hourly, daily, managed by The Depot)

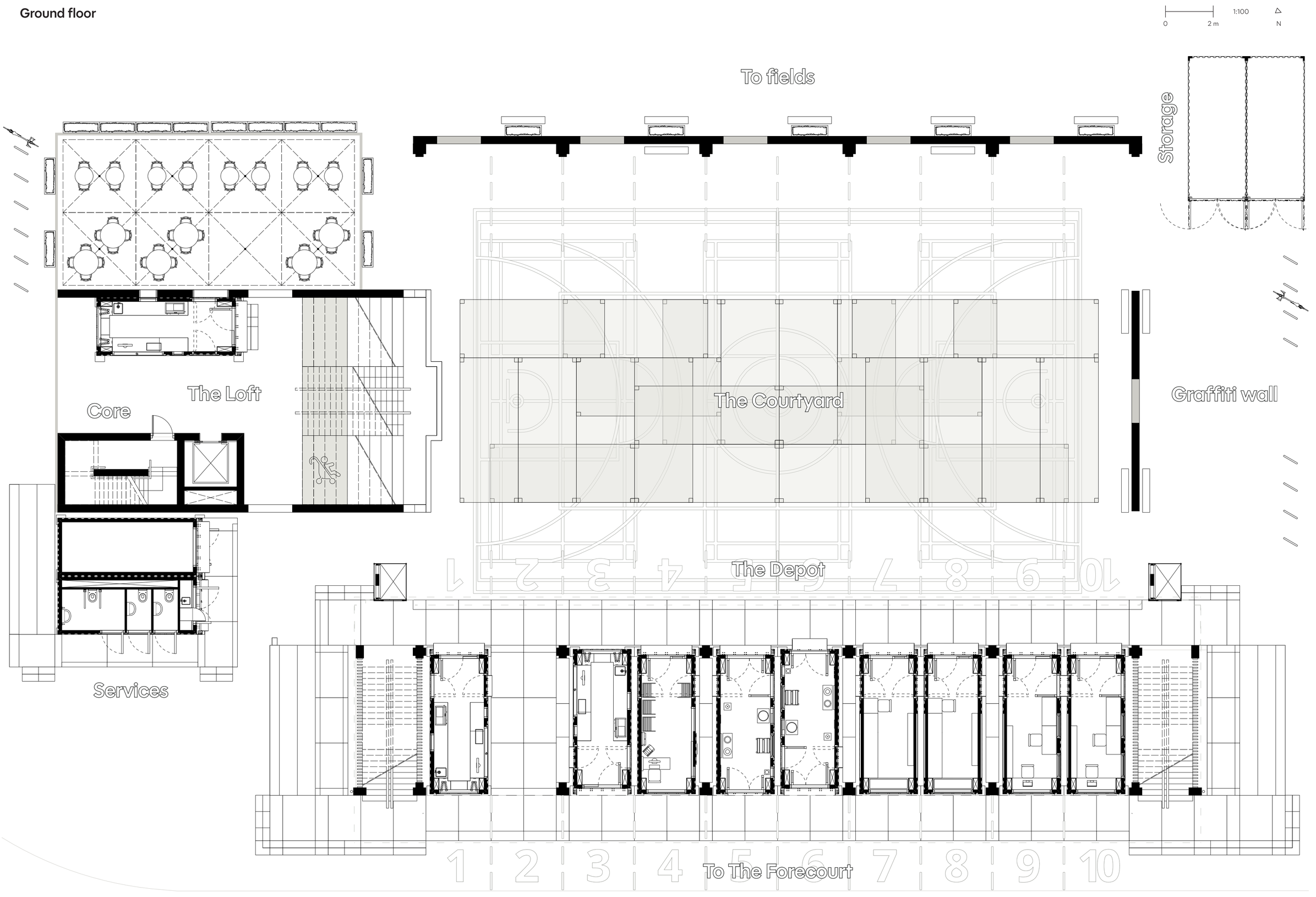
R Rentable (6 month or 1-year periods)

P Purchasable (pay for pitch and utilities)

0 40 m 1:2000 N

Phase 4 | The Depot

Ground floor



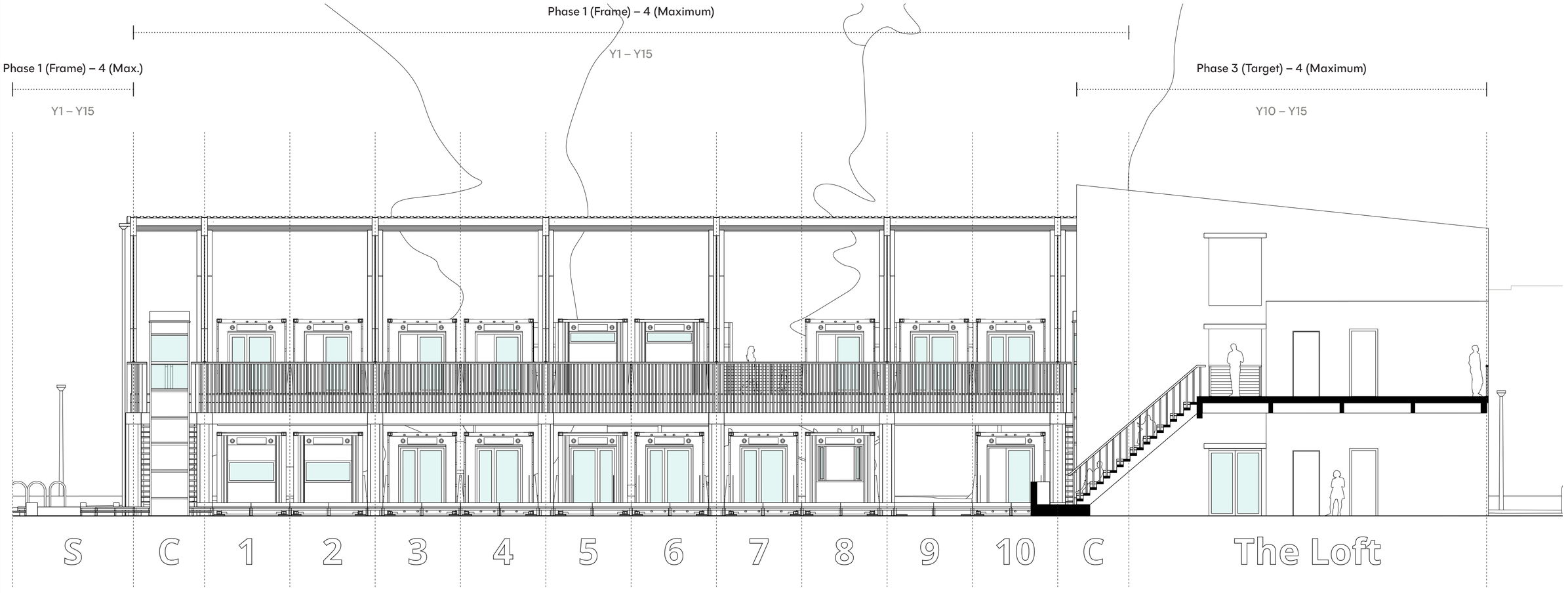


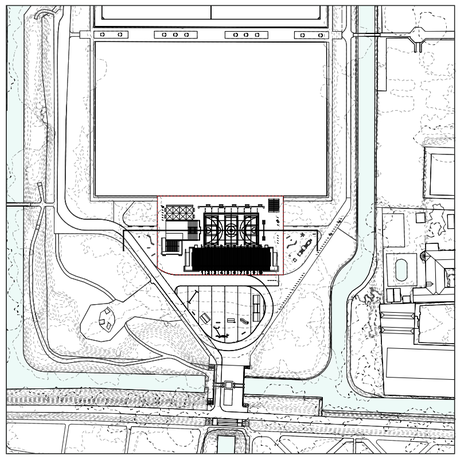
Market day at The Depot, view from boardwalk
HHs are wheeled out using jacks from the ground floor bays and arranged with the use of moveable podiums (steps, walkways and ramps housed in the storage containers) to host intergenerational opportunities like markets, sports competitons and holiday celebrations.

Phase 4 | The Depot

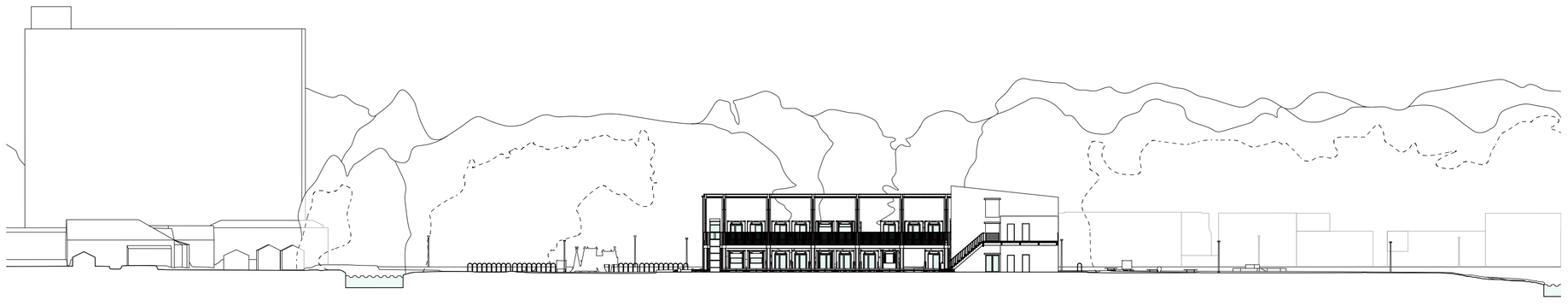
The Courtyard

1:100
0 2 m
N





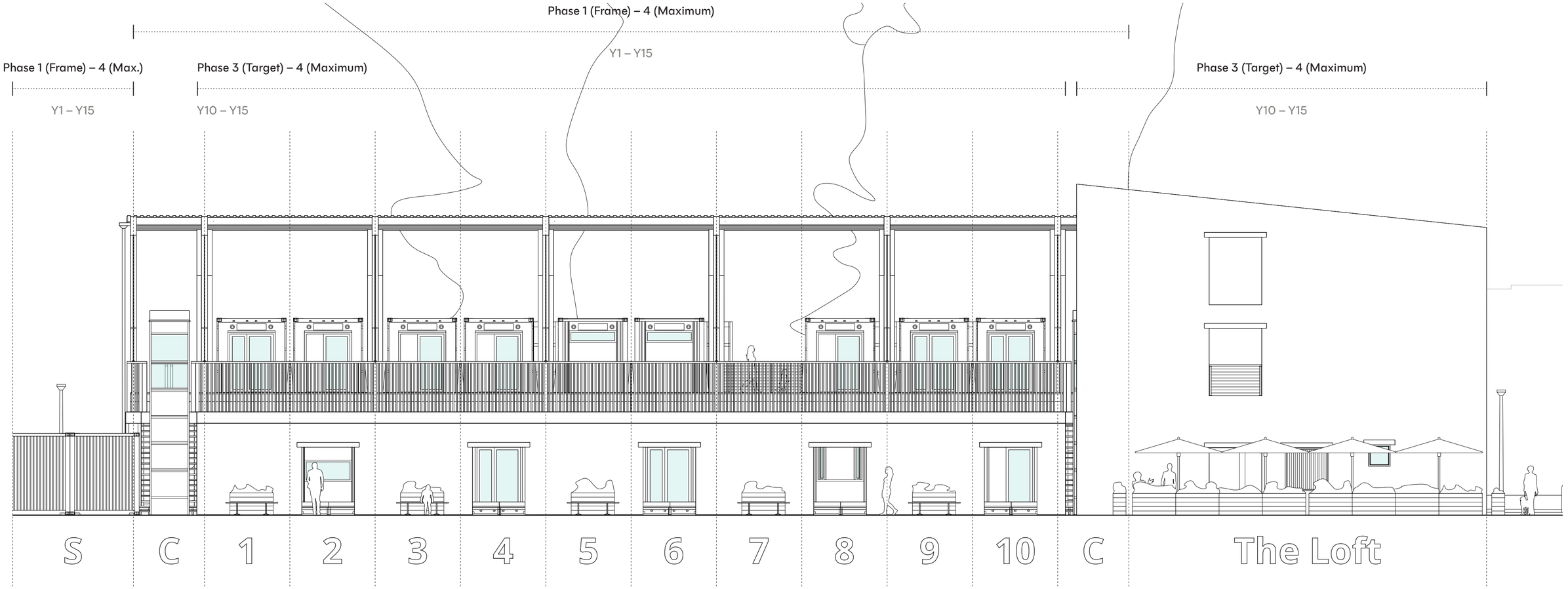
1:2000
0 40 m
N

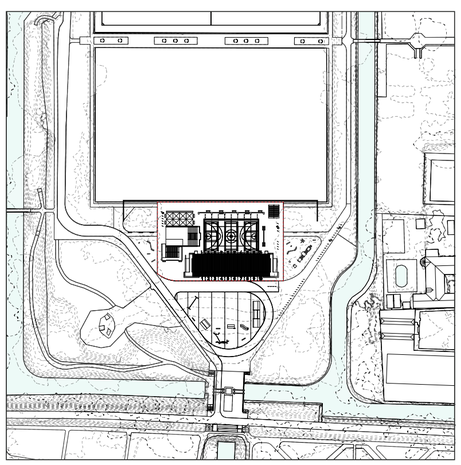


Phase 4 | The Depot

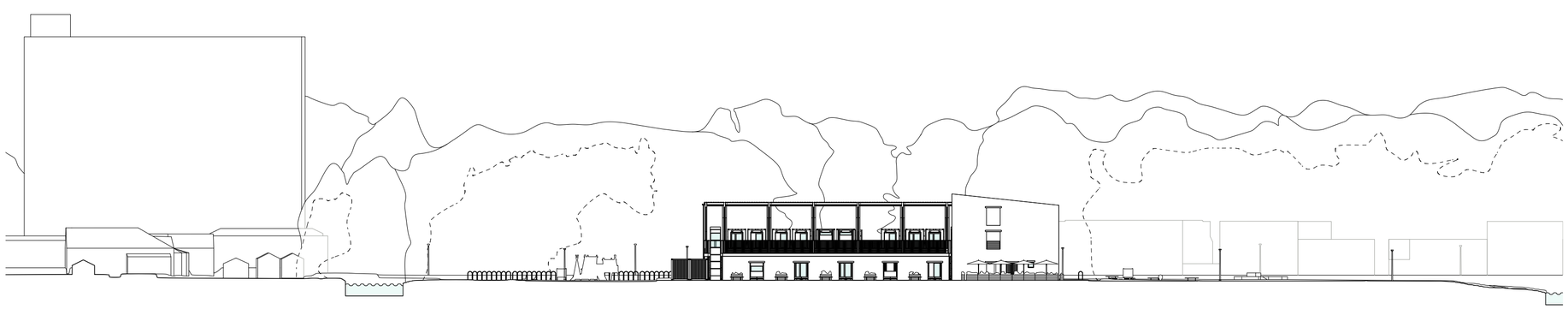
Back elevation

0 2 m 1:100 N





0 40 m 1:2000 N

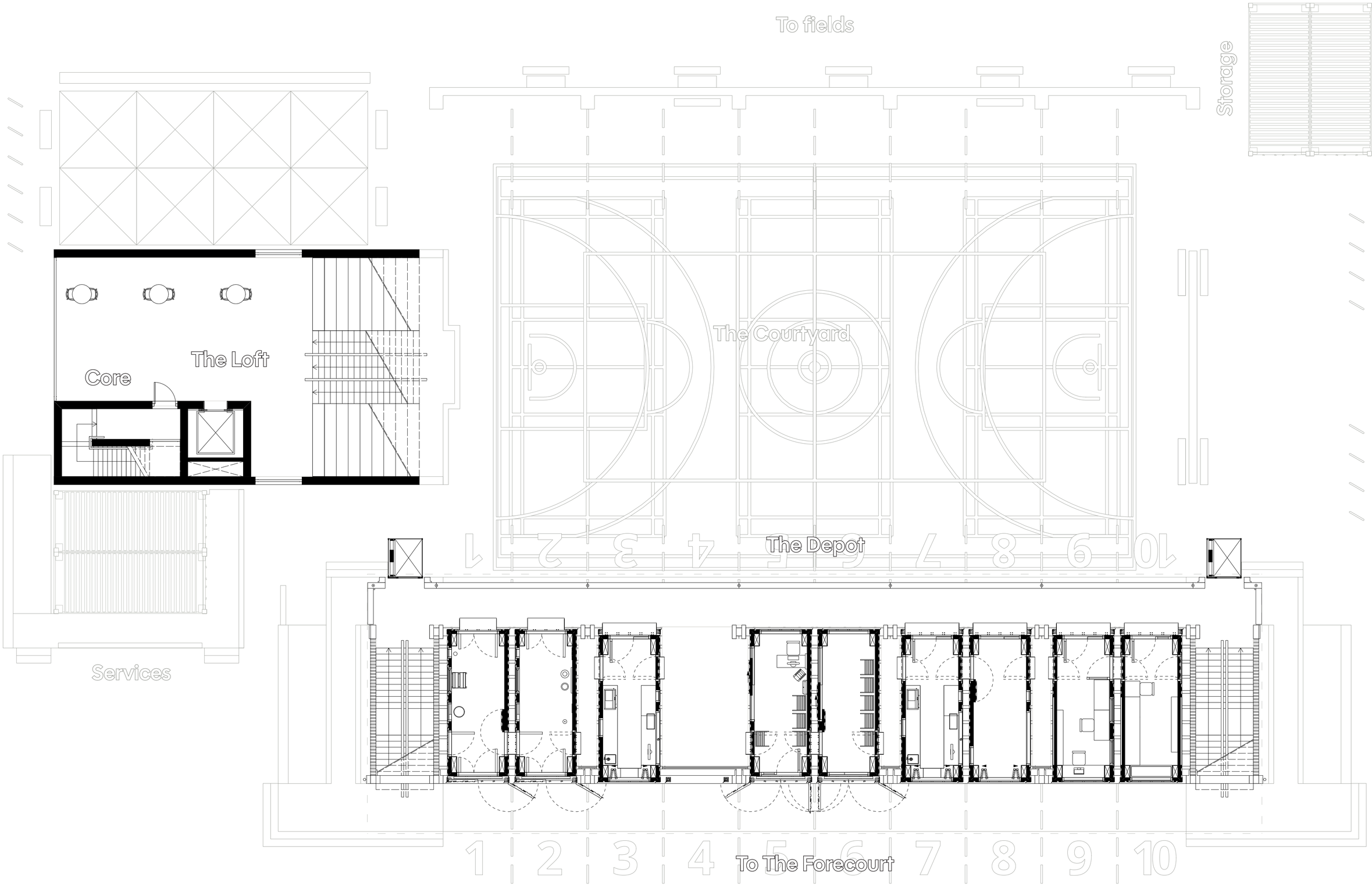


Phase 4 | The Depot

First floor

1:100

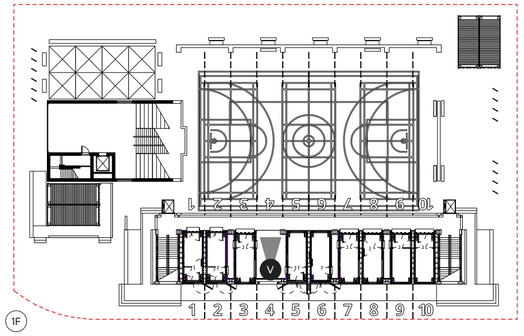
0 2 m N

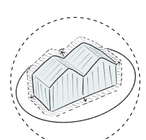




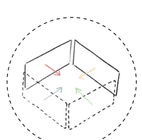
Creating a leisure complex with the SV Clubhouse
Overlooked from the bays and balcony, the two fields and surrounding border of trees visually create an identifiable leisure complex between The Depot and the SV Clubhouse through their mirrored form.

James Burkhalter

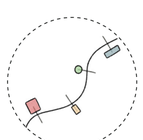




2.2 Identity



2.6 Continuity



3.1 Orientation

Phase 4 | The Depot

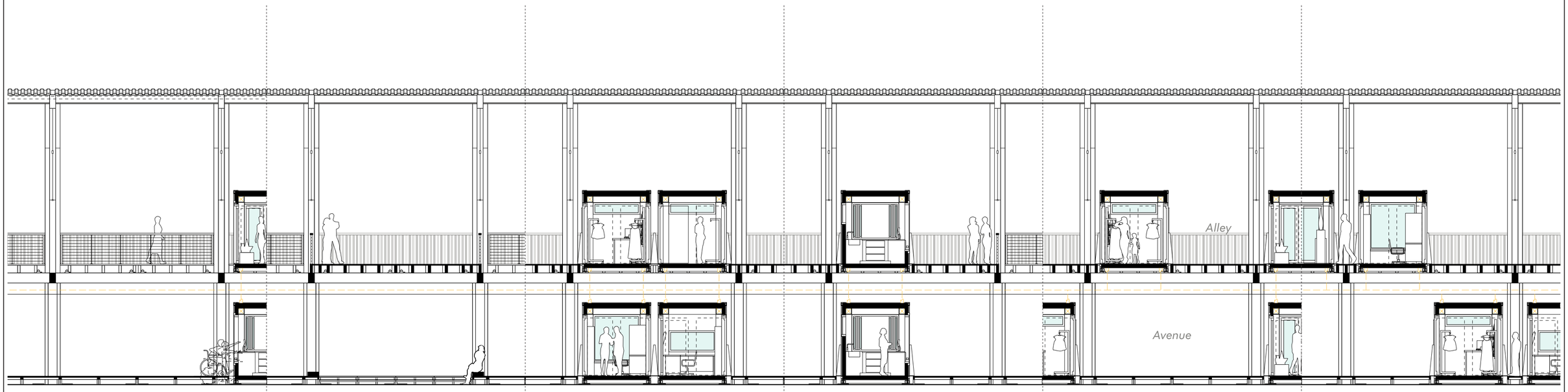
Bay types

1:100

0 2 m N

Dynamics in section

Solid-void, contracted-expanded, open-closed — visualising the flexibility of The Depot as a tapestry of complete incompleteness shaped by its users within the brick and timber portal frames of its structure. To enable this, a deck-styled, interlocked double joist system is proposed to allow for the flexible addition and removal of different first floor bay types.



services

Veranda

Using only the first layer of joists within The Depot creates a pergola for filtered shade and a trellis to hang plants and lighting from.

Hangout

Formed from full-width balconies and empty podium space with seating/barrier blocks. This is the lowest-scale and -cost alternative to HHs within The Depot.

Expansion

When orientated the same way, or located between pillars using the accessway, same or different HH types can be connected to form a larger room, accessed through aligned doorways.

Examples include: library + lab as an office, 2 x cafés as a larger communal kitchen and larger shop floors.

Balcony

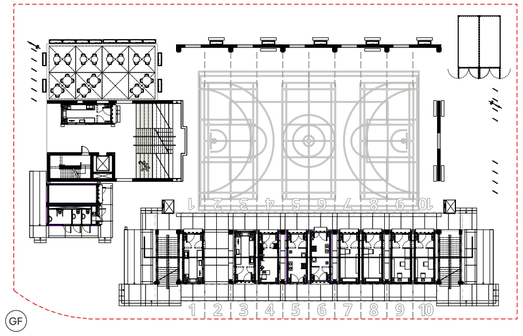
Overlooking the ground floor, balcony spaces open up the HHs to the outside, affording the spill-out of people and products as well as cross-floor interaction and oversight through balustrades, joists, etc.

Street

Avenue- (upper, HH-width) and courtyard-styled (lower, bay-width) layout. The feeling of this can be reinforced by doubling-up these layouts across floors, as indicated.

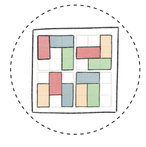
Access

Between pillars there is sufficient space to provide service access for the containers. Service access runs in line with the parallel concrete ring beams.

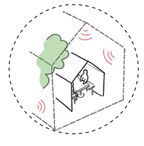


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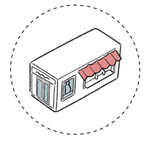
0 10 m N



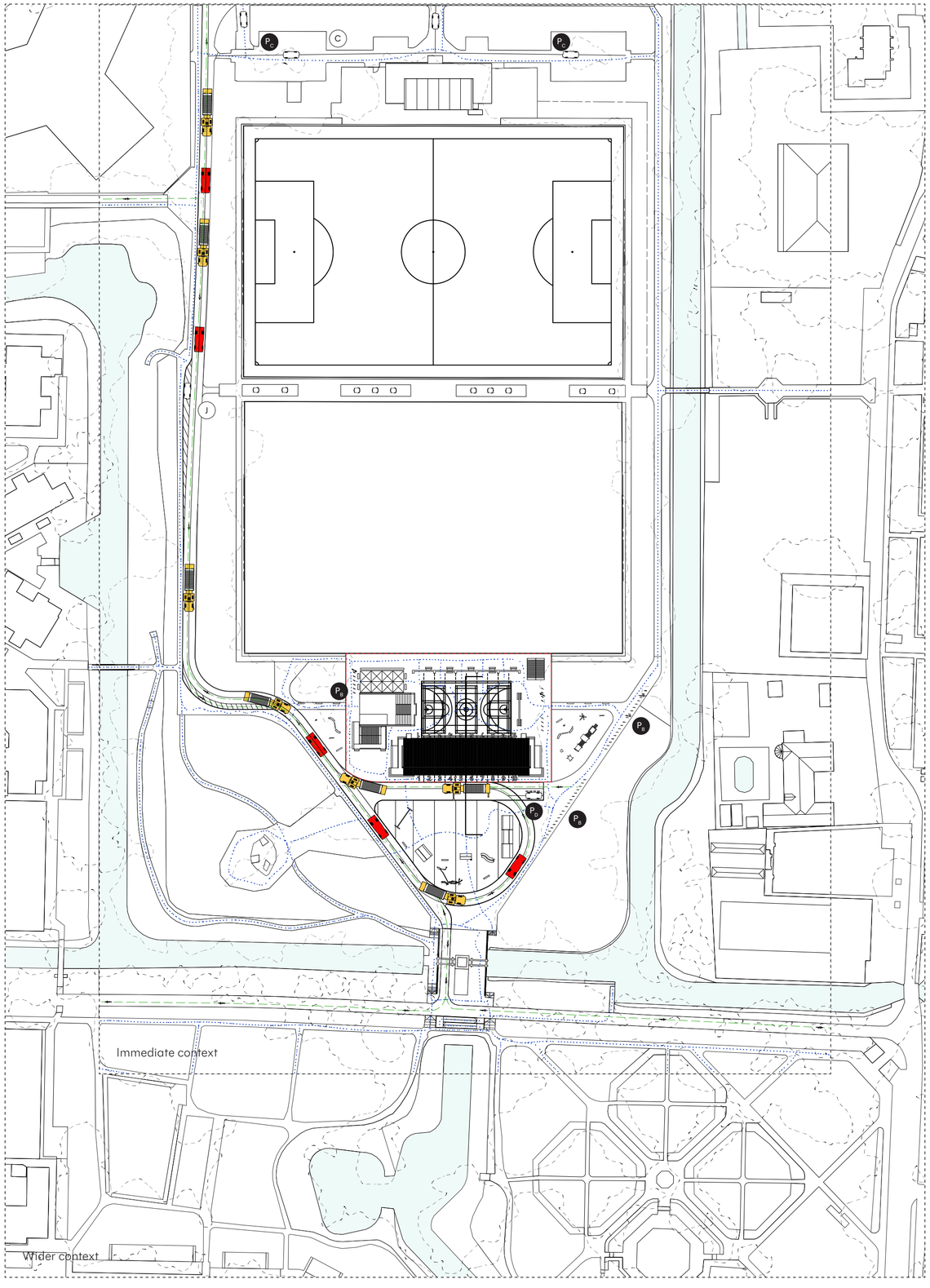
1.3 Flexible



1.6 Active vs. quiet



2.5 Opportunity



Accessing The Depot

Access design plan for managing the constrained park landscape of the site, for all scales of vehicles and type of user.

1:1000

0 20 m N

Legend

Logistics in plan

- The Depot
- Emergency
- Pick-up and delivery
- Cycling
- Pedestrian
- Permitted
- Water
- Fire truck
- HIAB
- HH container
- HIAB w/ container
- HIAB w/ stabiliser legs
- Car
- Motor vehicle routes
- Car parking
- Pick-up and drop-off
- Passing place
- Cyclists
- Bike routes
- Pedestrian routes
- Bike parking

(J) **Jan Willem Kempffpad**

Redesigned as a partial Fietsstraat (bicycle street)/service road for authorised personnel (staff, emergency services, deliveries and disabled visitors)

(C) **SV Clubhouse carpark**

Space for parking and drop-off/pick-up is supported primarily by the clubhouse — an underutilised access point into Bokkefort park that doesn't reach full capacity during the day

Phase 4 | The Depot

Hauling the Haagse Hopjes

Logistics in section

Illustration to visualise the practicalities involved in the addition, removal and moving of Haagse Hopjes within The Depot in response to hotspot mobilisation, owner discretion, events or up/down-scaling.

(H) **HIAB (truck-mounted crane)**

Transports and lifts the Haagse Hopjes to/ from the ground and first floor at The Depot and at further hotspots.

(J) **Hydraulic, self-lifting jacks**

Enable 2–4 people to move Haagse Hopjes from The Depot into The Courtyard (/The Hall in The Storehouse), as well as the wider fields and forecourt

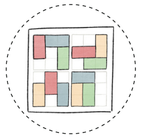
Legend

Logistics section

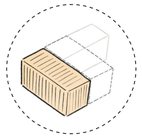
Container in motion

Clearance

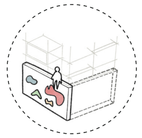
Services



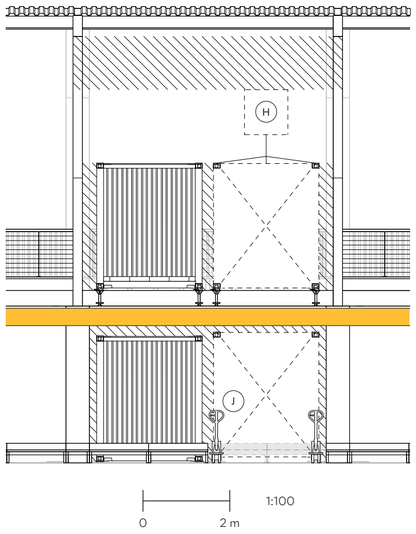
1.3 Flexible

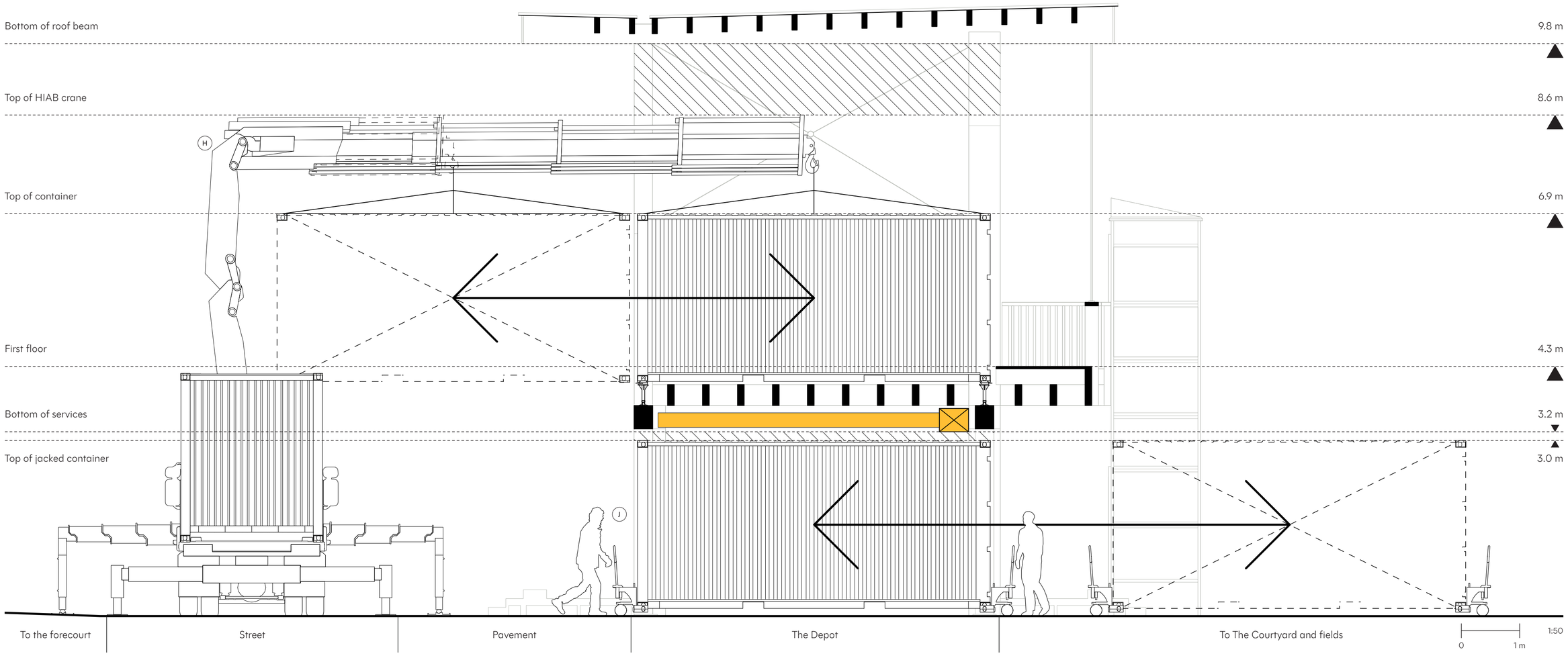


2.1 Responsive



2.3 Incompleteness

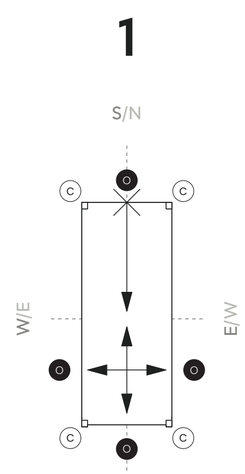






Market day at The Depot, view from the balcony
It is a busy day in The Depot's courtyard, Haagse Hopjes have been wheeled out and arranged into a weekend market where local sellers can exhibit their goods under the cover of either canopy or container. Meanwhile, visitors, relaxing on the amphitheatre steps or café's seating look out onto it.

James Burkhalter



Gallery

Other typologies

Module

Mapping

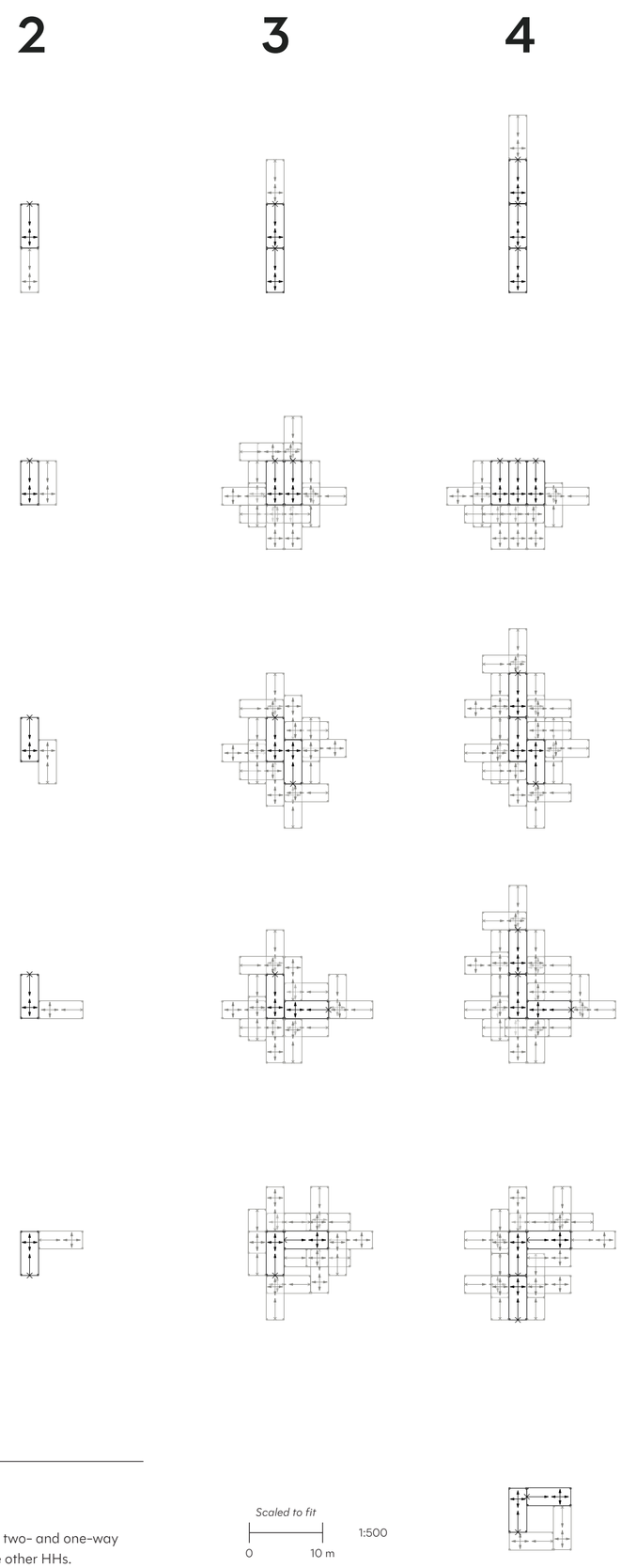
Two-way

One-way

Crossway

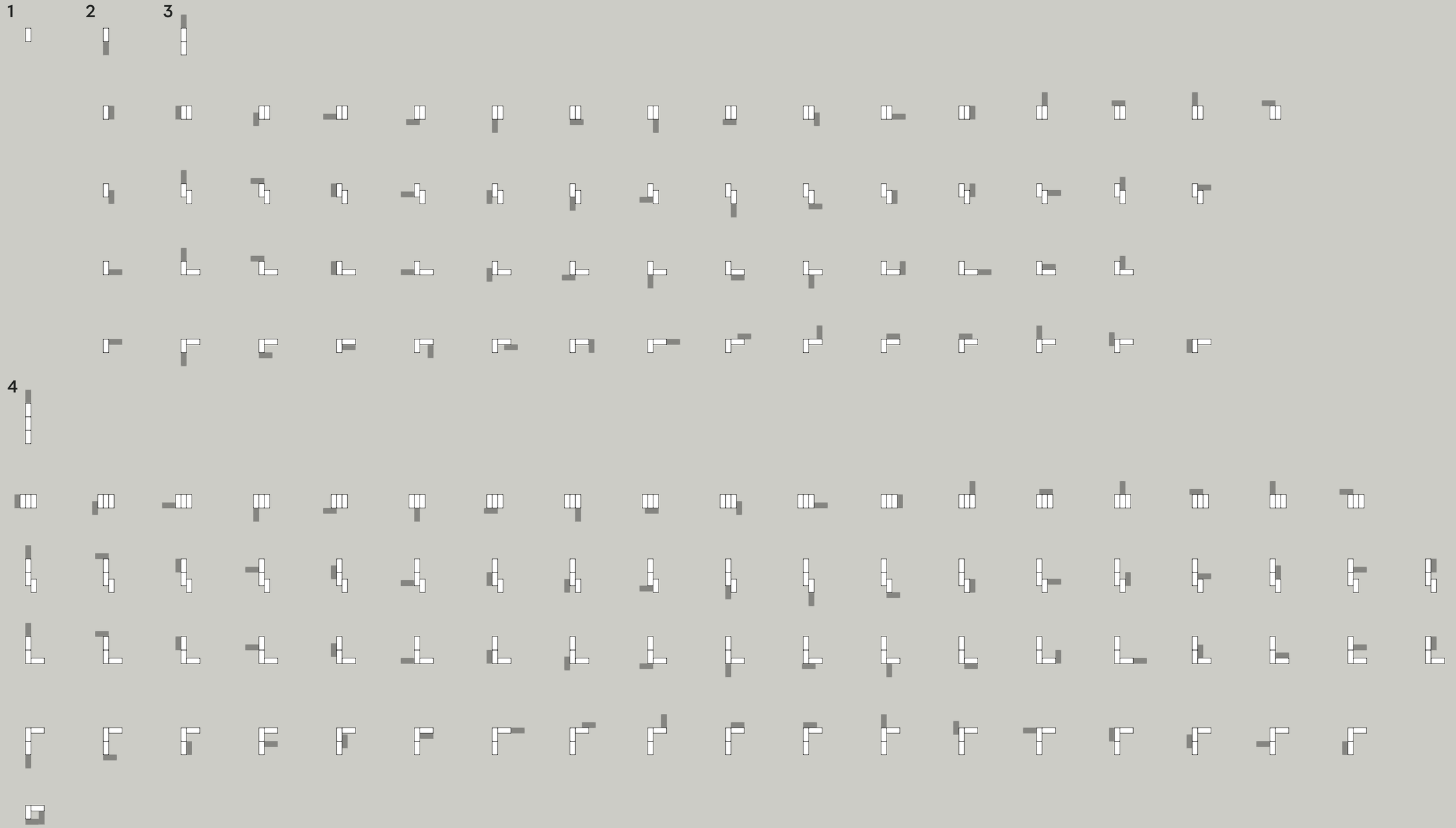
Opening

Corner casting



Mapping modules in motion

A mix of layouts are aligned by the HH's castings and presence of two- and one-way openings. The gallery, as the only two-way typology, connects the other HHs.



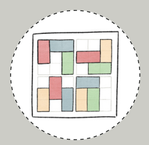
Cataloguing the configurations

100+ configurations are catalogued to create a selection of types (i.e. a 1, 2, 3 and 4) that can be mapped as illustrated previously. Examples of use include pop-ups such as bakeries, restaurants, showrooms and workshops, as well as events like sports competitions and national holiday celebrations.

0 25 m 1:1250

What could it be used for?

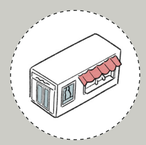
- Performances (drama, music, etc.)
- Markets (food, repair and crafts)
- Sports competitions (football, basketball, etc.)
- Clinics (youth, elderly, etc.)
- Exhibitions (art, trade, etc.)
- Holiday celebrations (King's Day, Family Day, etc.)
- Businesses (pop-ups, storage, etc.)



1.3 Flexible



2.1 Responsive

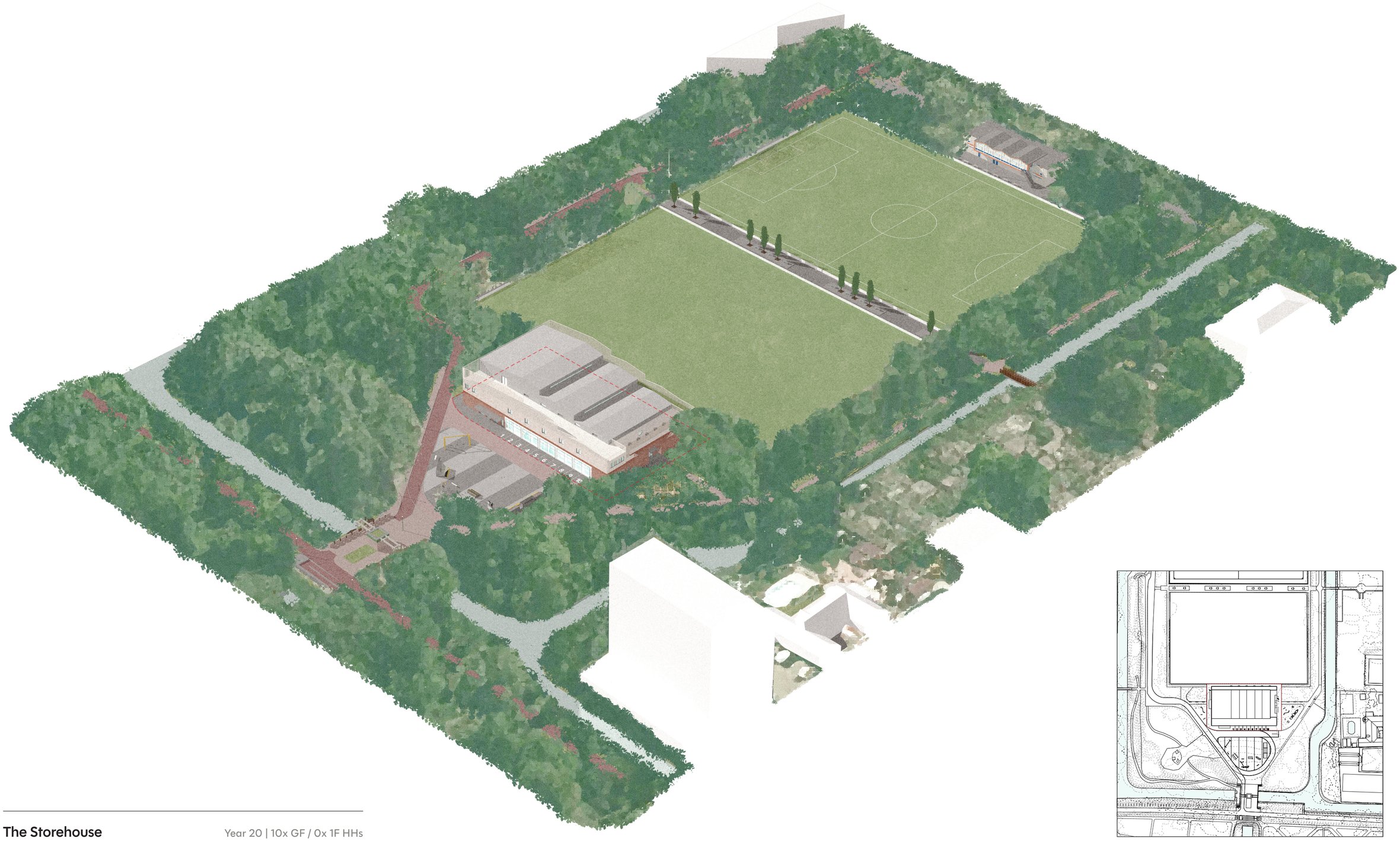


2.5 Opportunity

Phase 5 | Year 20

The Storehouse

At maximum capacity, The Depot reaches a defining moment with three routes of development — to contract (redistribute containers), expand (build more frames elsewhere) or solidify (become permanent). The Storehouse explores this final option.



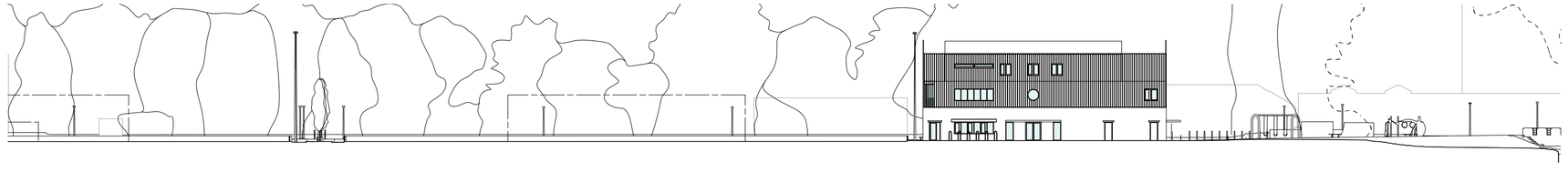
The Storehouse

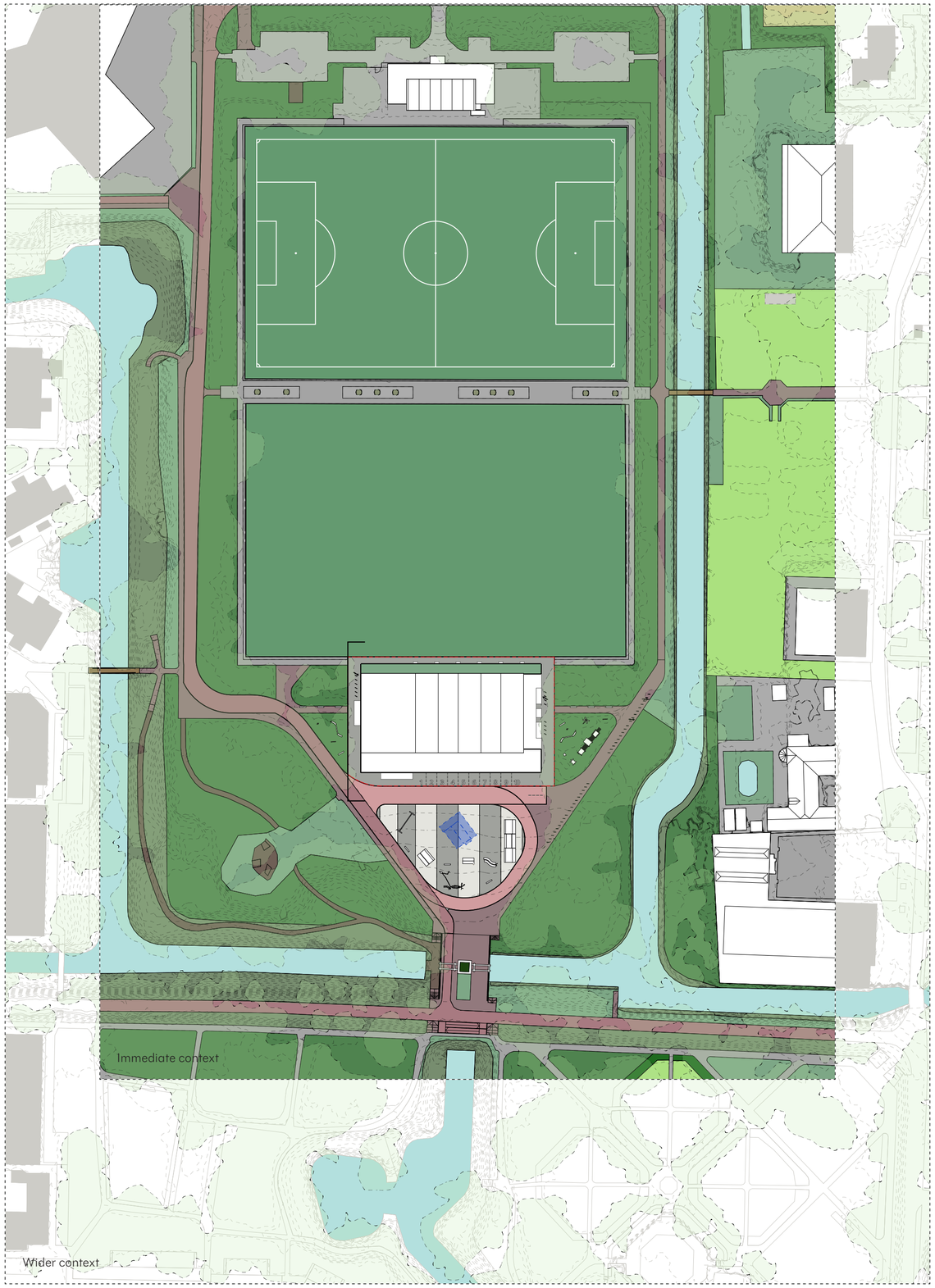
Year 20 | 10x GF / 0x 1F HHs



From Jan Willem Kempffpad to The Storehouse

Greeted by The Loft café frontage/ "secondary" entrance to The Storehouse — separates youth centre-specific access and connects to known routes, The Skatepark Path.





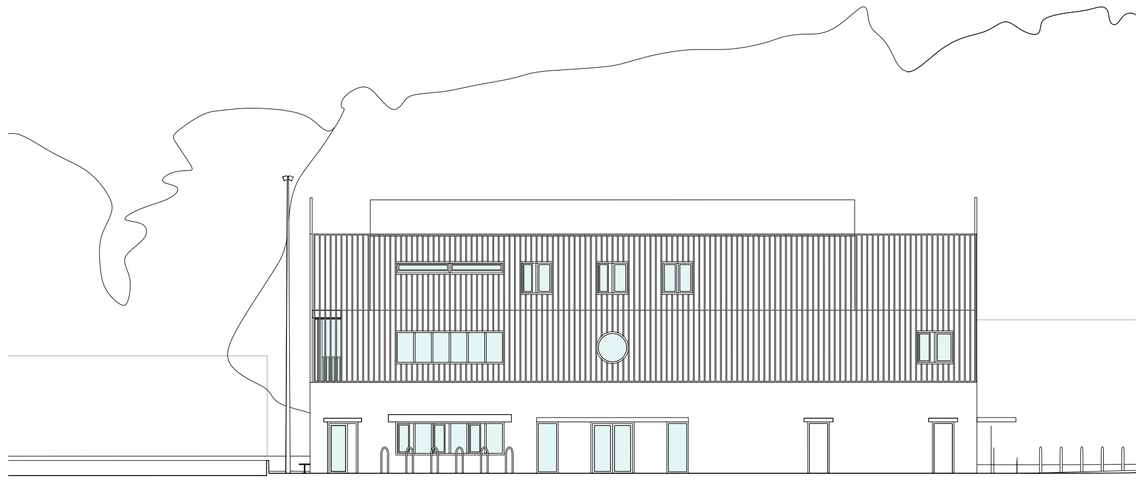
Site overview

Year 20 | 10x GF HHs

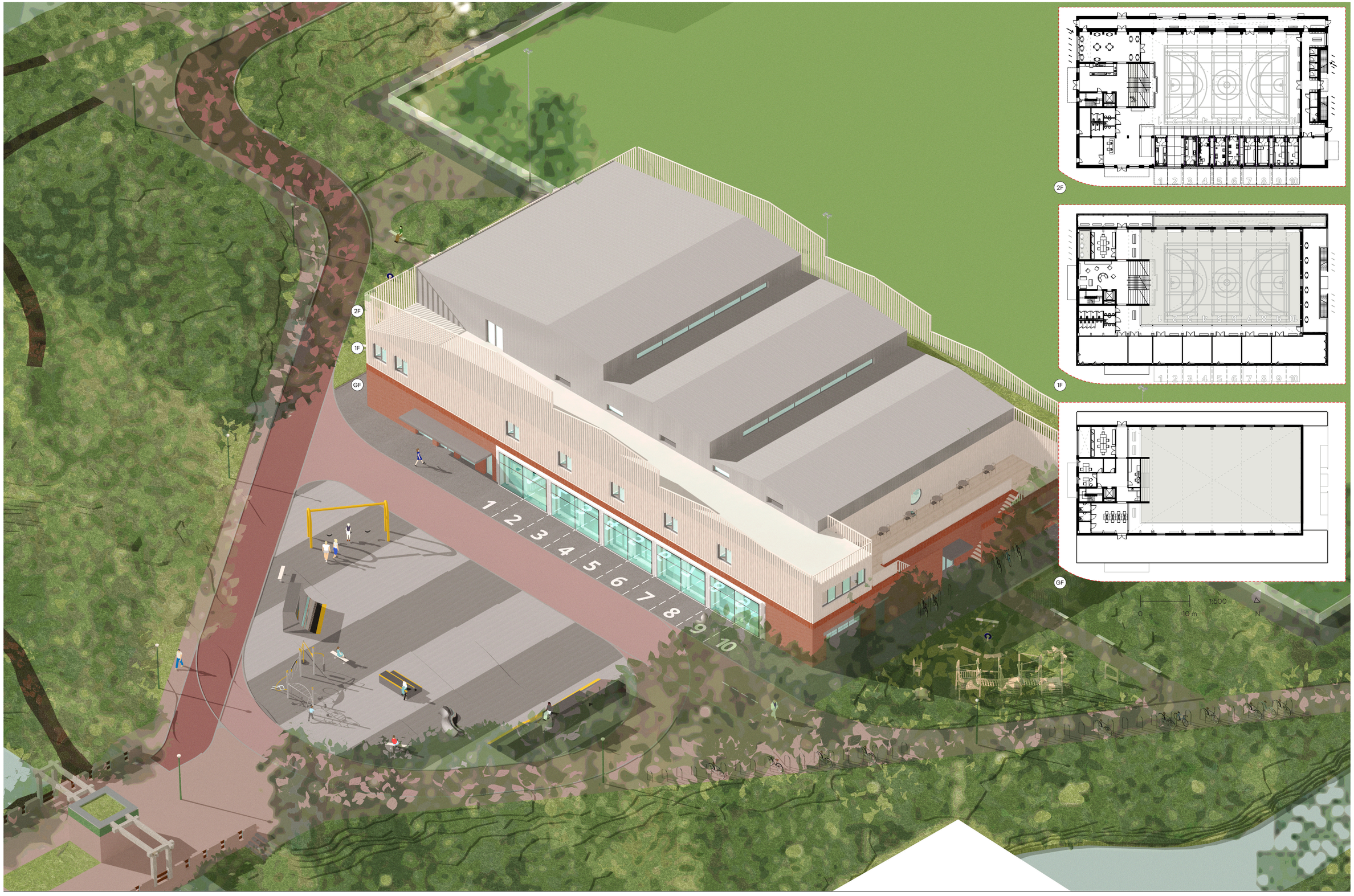
0 20 m 1:1000 N

Phase 5 | The Storehouse

Jan Willem Kempffpad elevation



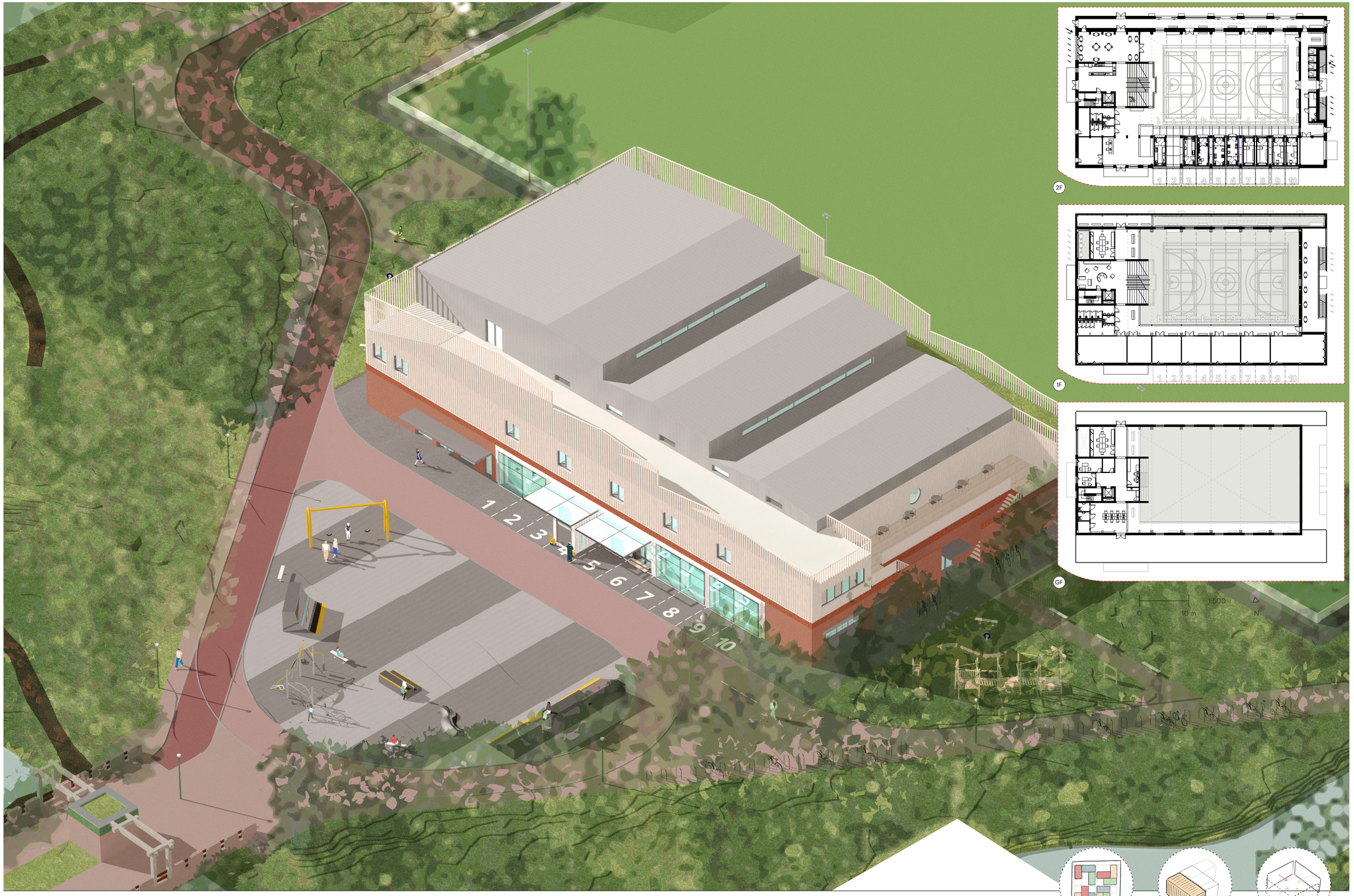
0 4 m 1:200



A HH depot and youth centre

Year 20 | 10x GF HHs

Though there are fewer available HHs within The Storehouse, the new permanent building performs as a local youth centre and infrastructure for the management and distribution of HHs throughout The Hague and its hotspots beyond Houtwijk — moving new types in/out in response to social demands.



Opening The Storehouse

Year 20 | 10x GF HHs

Though there are fewer available HHs within The Storehouse, the new permanent building performs as a local youth centre and infrastructure for the management and distribution of HHs throughout The Hague and its hotspots beyond Houtwijk — moving new types in/out in response to social demands.

1.3 Flexible | 2.1 Responsive | 2.6 Continuity



Aproaching The Storehouse from Bokkefort park
Though overseeing Bokkefort park and the SV fields, the perceived scale of the three-storey structure is reduced by the recessed and stepped roof of The Hall and its size relevant to the surrounding trees. Its industrial, front-facing, brick plinth opens up to fully reveal the small HHs and their bays.

Phase 5 | The Storehouse

Front elevation



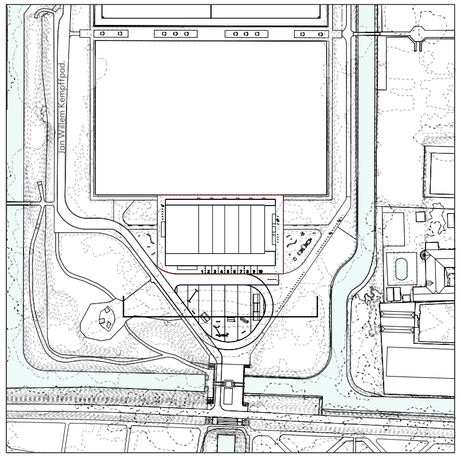
2.2 Identity

0 2 m 1:100 N

Phase 5 (The Storehouse)

Y20



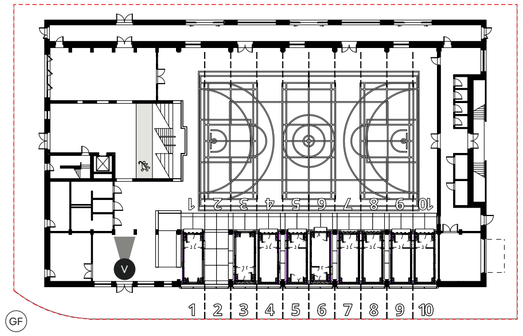


0 40 m 1:2000 N



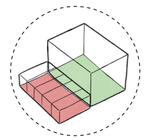


The Storehouse's front entrance (primary)
The structural language of the previous phases is expressed by a brick colonnade that opens the view through The Loft Café to The Winter Garden (left), and The Hall and The Depot (right). While leading into the wood-floored hall from the smaller, carpeted lobby balances and delineates these spaces.



1:500

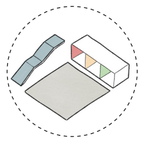
0 10 m N



1.4 Proportional



2.2 Identity



3.4 Readable

Phase 5 | The Storehouse

Ground floor

A	Auditorium seats	C_S	Café seating	Li	Lift	HH	Haagse Hopje	S_F	Fire stair	T_D	Toilet, disabled
AS	Auditorium steps	Ch	Changing cubicle	L	Lobby	P	Plant	Sh	HH shelf	T_M	Toilet, men's
B	Bench	Ch_D	Changing cubicle, disabled	Lo	Lockers	Re	Reception	St	Storage	T_W	Toilet, women's
Bi	Bicycle parking	Cle	Clerestory	M_H	Multi-use hall	R	Riser	St_S	Stroller storage	W	Winter garden

1:100

0 2 m

N

To fields

The Winter Garden

The Loft

Core

Secondary entrance

Services

Back of house

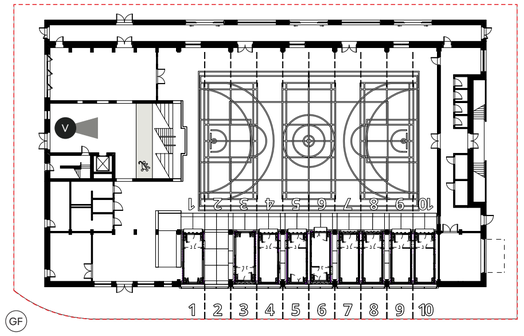
The Hall

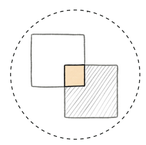
The Depot

Primary entrance

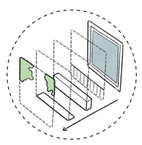


The Loft Café entrance (secondary)
Located in The Loft, the brick-walled heart of the Haagse Hopje depot and youth centre that comprises The Storehouse. Entering, you immediately look across and hear The Hall — bringing you into contact with others and the controlled chaos or welcomed silence of the youth centre (time-use depending).

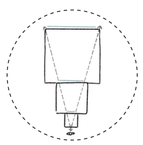




1.5 Mixed-age public spaces



3.2 Permeable



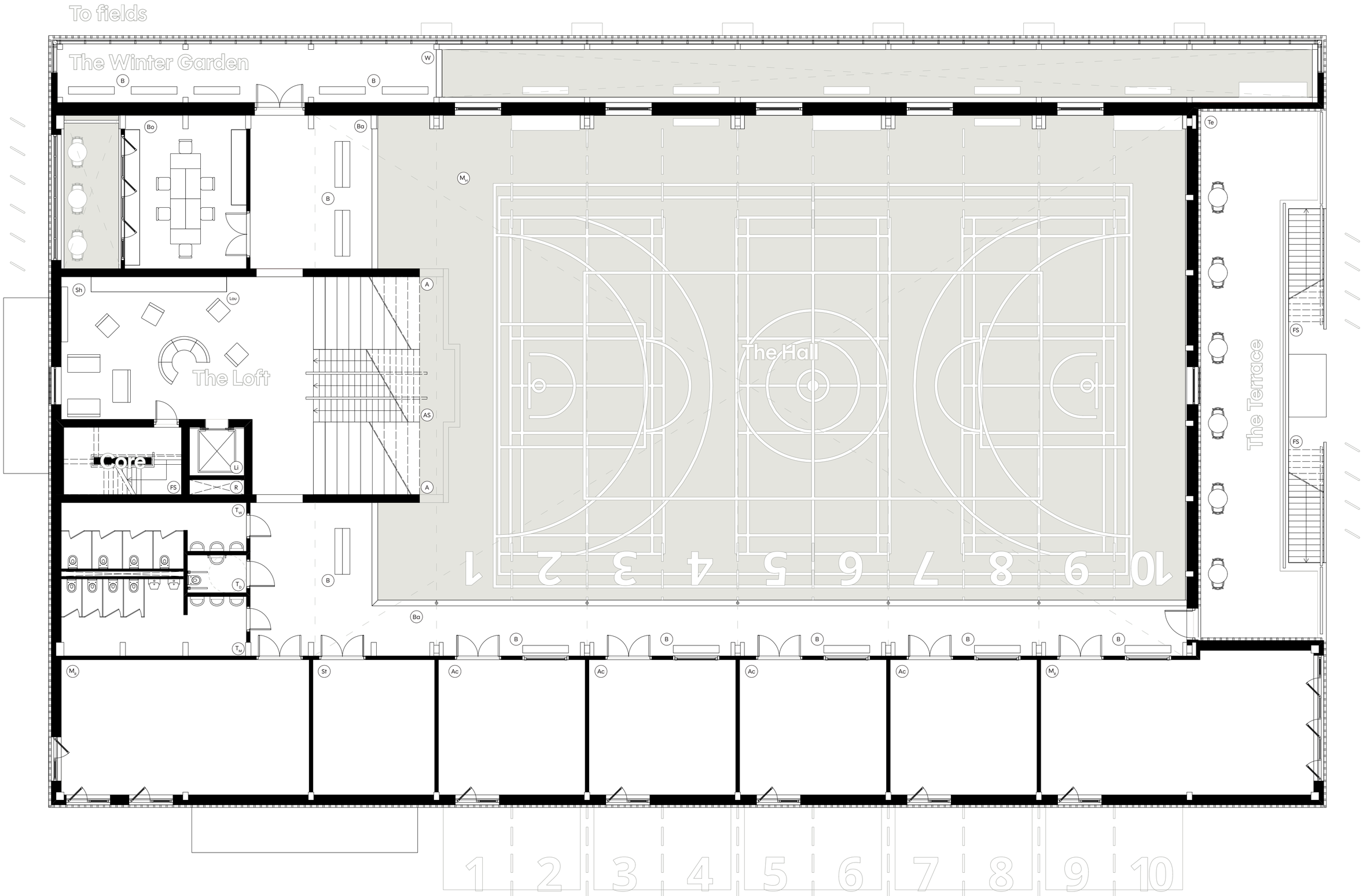
3.3 Sightlines

Phase 5 | The Storehouse

First floor

Ac	Activity room (various)	B	Bench	M_R	Multi-use room	Sh	HH shelf	T_W	Toilet, women's
A	Auditorium seats	Bo	Bookable room	R	Riser	Te	Terrace	W	Winter garden
AS	Auditorium steps	LI	Lift	FS	Fire stair	T_D	Toilet, disabled		
Ba	Balcony	Lou	Lounge	St	Storage	T_M	Toilet, men's		

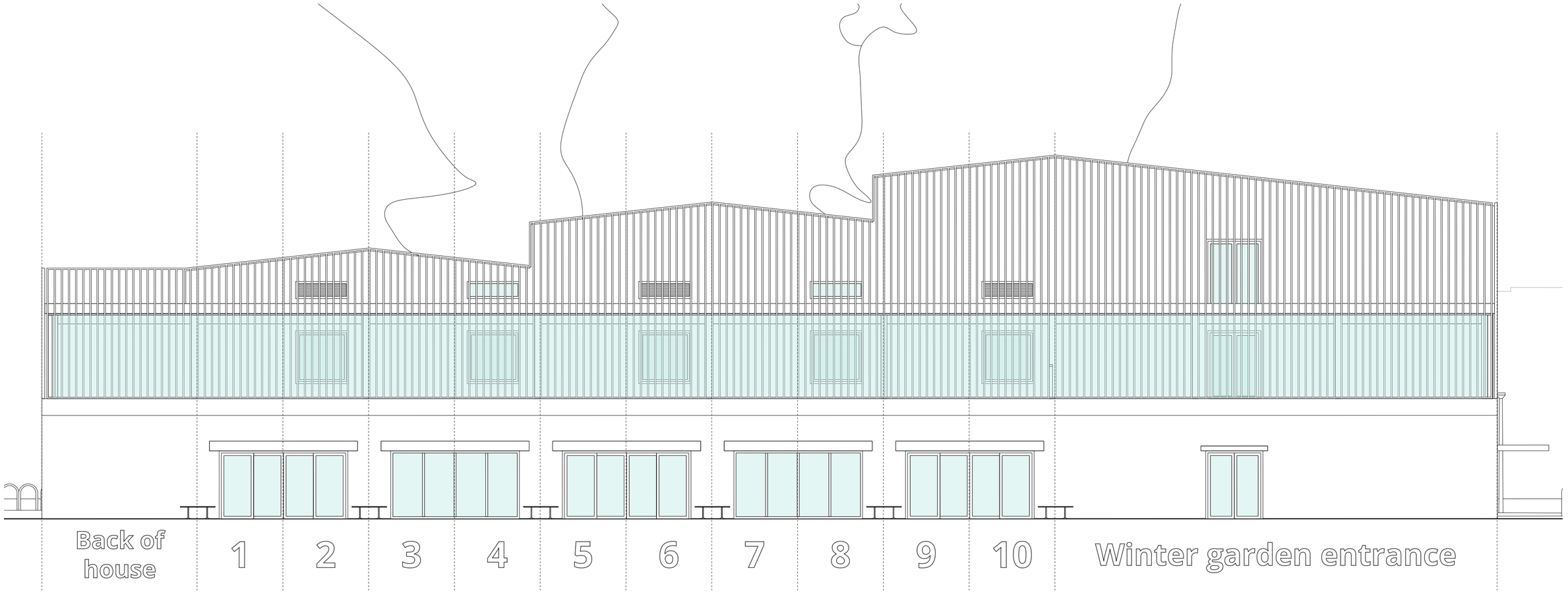
0 2 m 1:100 N

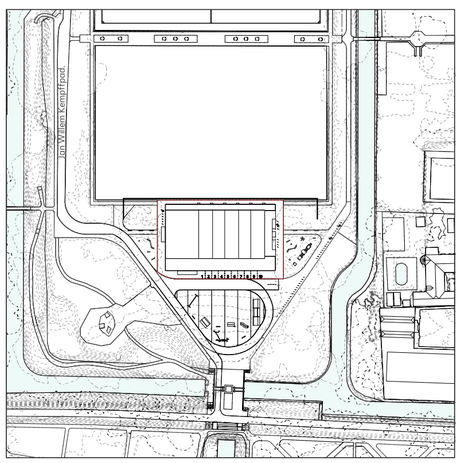


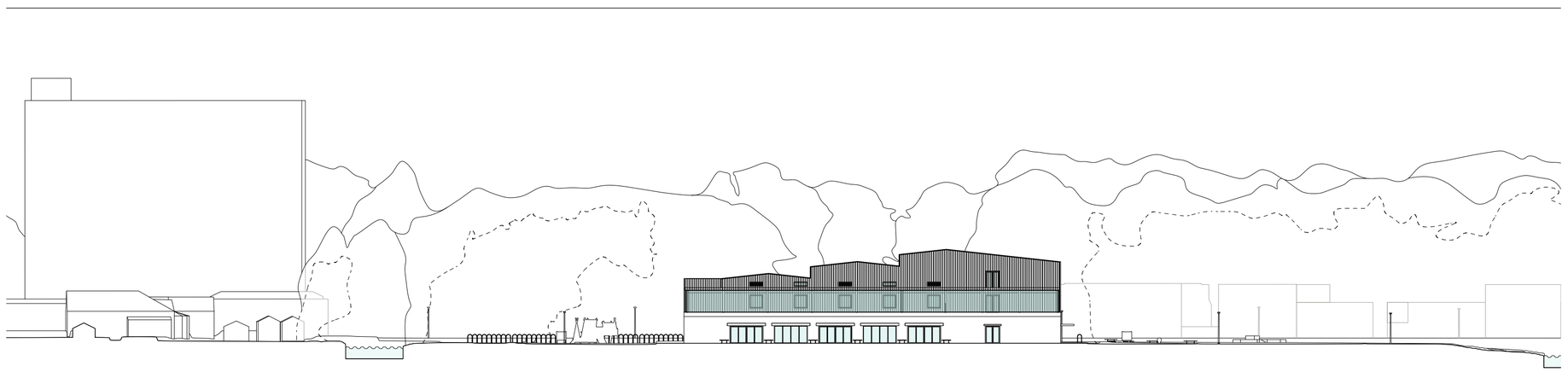
Phase 5 | The Storehouse

Back elevation

1:100
0 2 m
N









The Hall
A warmly coloured space for mixed indoor play and networking — complementing the smaller, brightly coloured HHs/activity rooms. The Hall hosts a variety of competitions from 5-a-side football to volleyball and badminton (marked) and is overlooked by steps, balconies, café and podiums.

The Hall

1:100

0 2 m N

(Ac) Activity rooms (various)

Reflect the former location of the first floor HHs through the position of its openings.

(AV) Audio Visual (AV) control room

Looks out into The Hall and manages the broadcasting of sound/images (presentations, performances, etc.), CCTV and the internal environment (lighting and temperature).

(Lou) Lounge space

Equipped with moveable furniture to create a dynamic hangout spot that moves after each use

(Ro) Rooflights

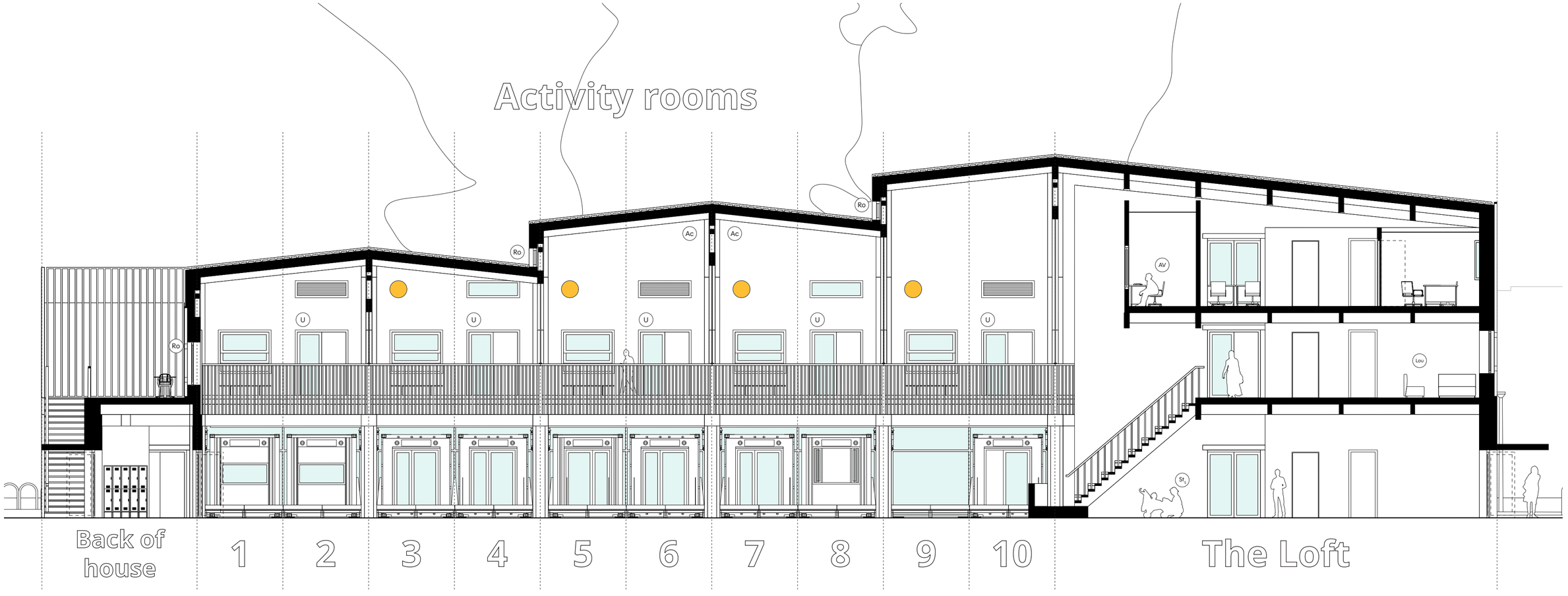
The rooflight brings daylight into the large hall space, overlapped by the crossmembers of the flat truss.

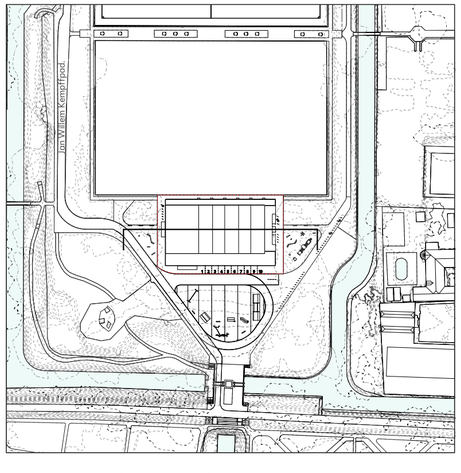
(U) Unequal double doors

Glazing allows users to see inside, with blinds providing privacy. The solid half can be used for notices, branding, etc.

(St$_L$) Stroller storage

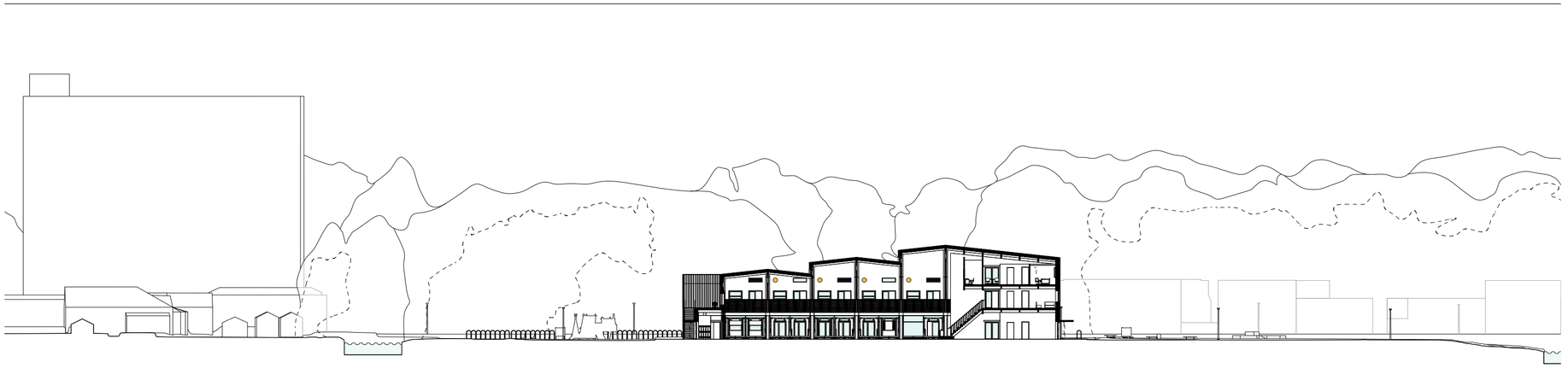
For parents, the space under the stair provides a secure, constantly overlooked space to store their stroller

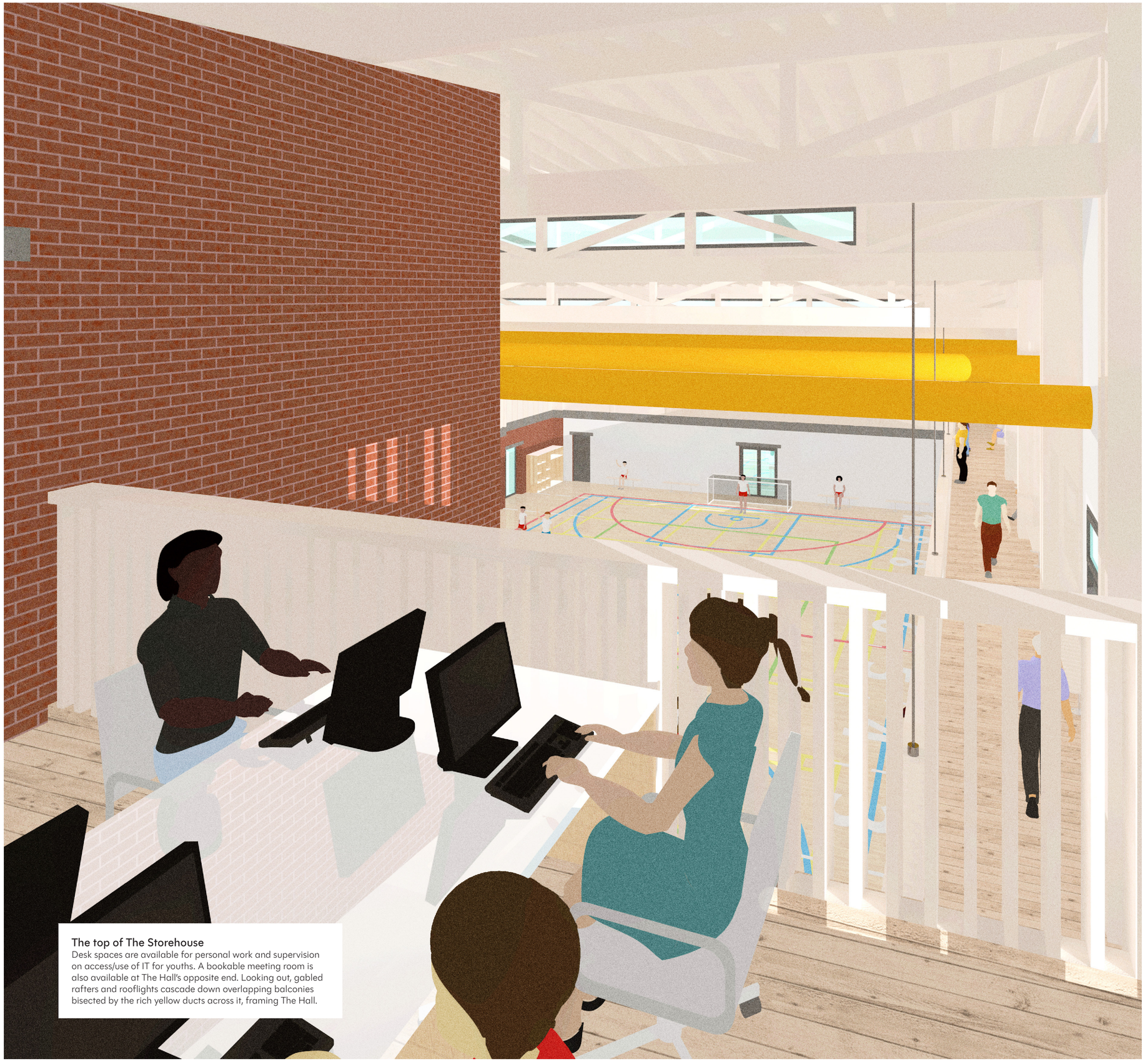




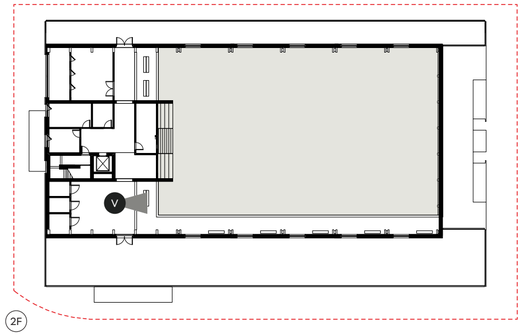
1:2000

0 40 m N





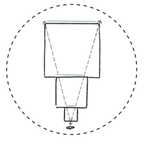
The top of The Storehouse
Desk spaces are available for personal work and supervision on access/use of IT for youths. A bookable meeting room is also available at The Hall's opposite end. Looking out, gabled rafters and rooflights cascade down overlapping balconies bisected by the rich yellow ducts across it, framing The Hall.



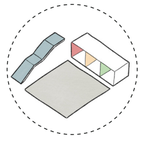
0 10 m 1:500 N



1.6 Active vs. quiet



3.3 Sightlines



3.4 Readable

Phase 5 | The Storehouse

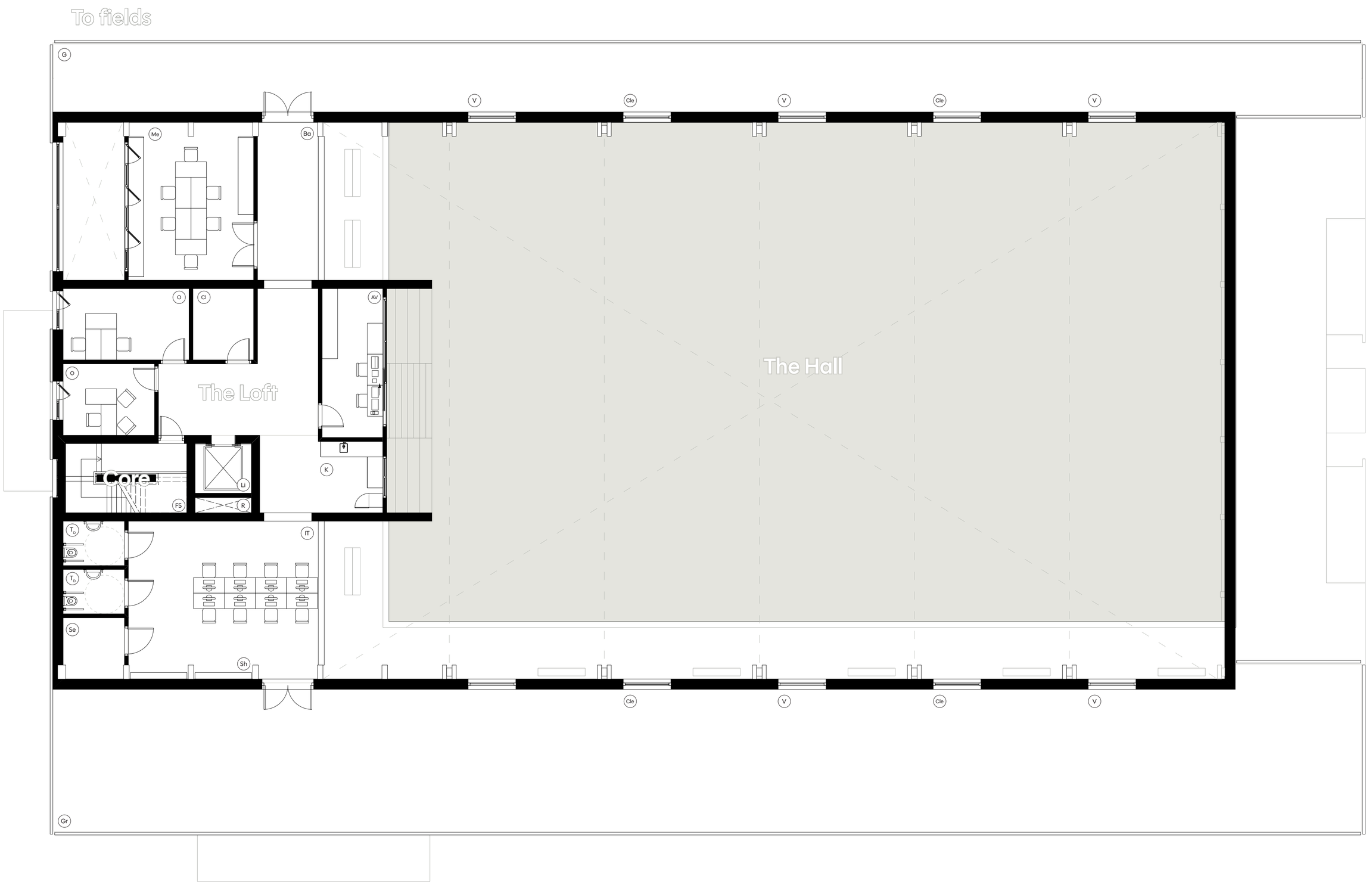
Second floor

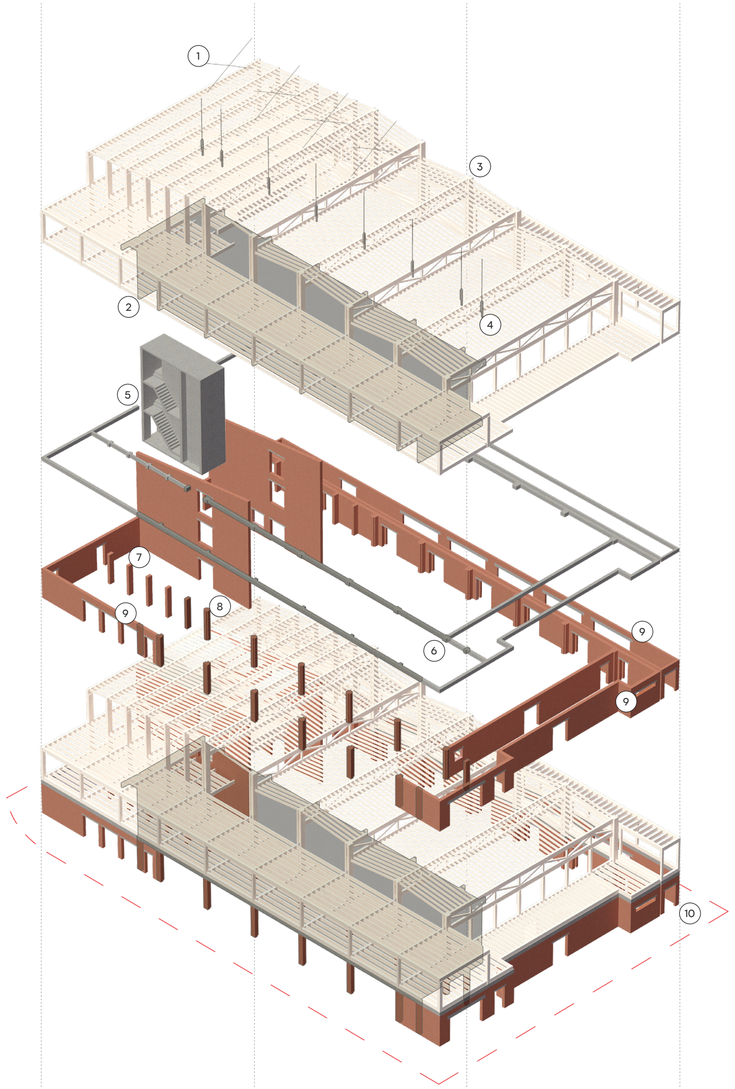
AV	AV control	Cle	Clerestory	Gr	Grey roof (plant)	O	Office	T_D	Toilet, disabled
Ba	Balcony	IT	IT	K	Kitchenette	R	Riser	V	Vent
B	Bench	FS	Fire stair	Li	Lift	Se	Server room		
Cl	Cleaning closet	G	Green roof	Me	Meeting room	Sh	HH shelf		

1:100

0 2 m

N





Legend

Exploded construction axonometric of The Storehouse

Reference area

Phases 1 – 4
(Year 1 – 15)

1 Cabled cross bracing

Retained and used where required within infilled partition walls

2 Glulam frame

Large spanning primary and secondary glulam members make up the upper floors structures

3 Glulam flat truss

Spans the 21m wide hall. Its vertical web members align to the structural sub-grid/ the rooflights' mullions to prevent it from blocking natural light

4 Suspension cable

The balcony is suspended from the roof truss structure

5 Concrete core

Lateral stability to the shear walls, supporting its role as a diaphragm

6 Concrete ring beam

Transfers loads from the glulam to brick structure, providing lateral stability to the floors and longitudinal stability to the glulam portal frame. As well as a strong datum (3.2 m) that visually breaks up the structure in form and materiality

7 Brick shear walls

Diaphragm for lateral forces in the building plane

8 Brick piers

Concrete-reinforced, engineered brick piers, 3 forms (T, Cross and Mixed, see icons above)

9 Concrete lintels

Define openings on a lower datum (2.4 m) to the brick-timber structural change

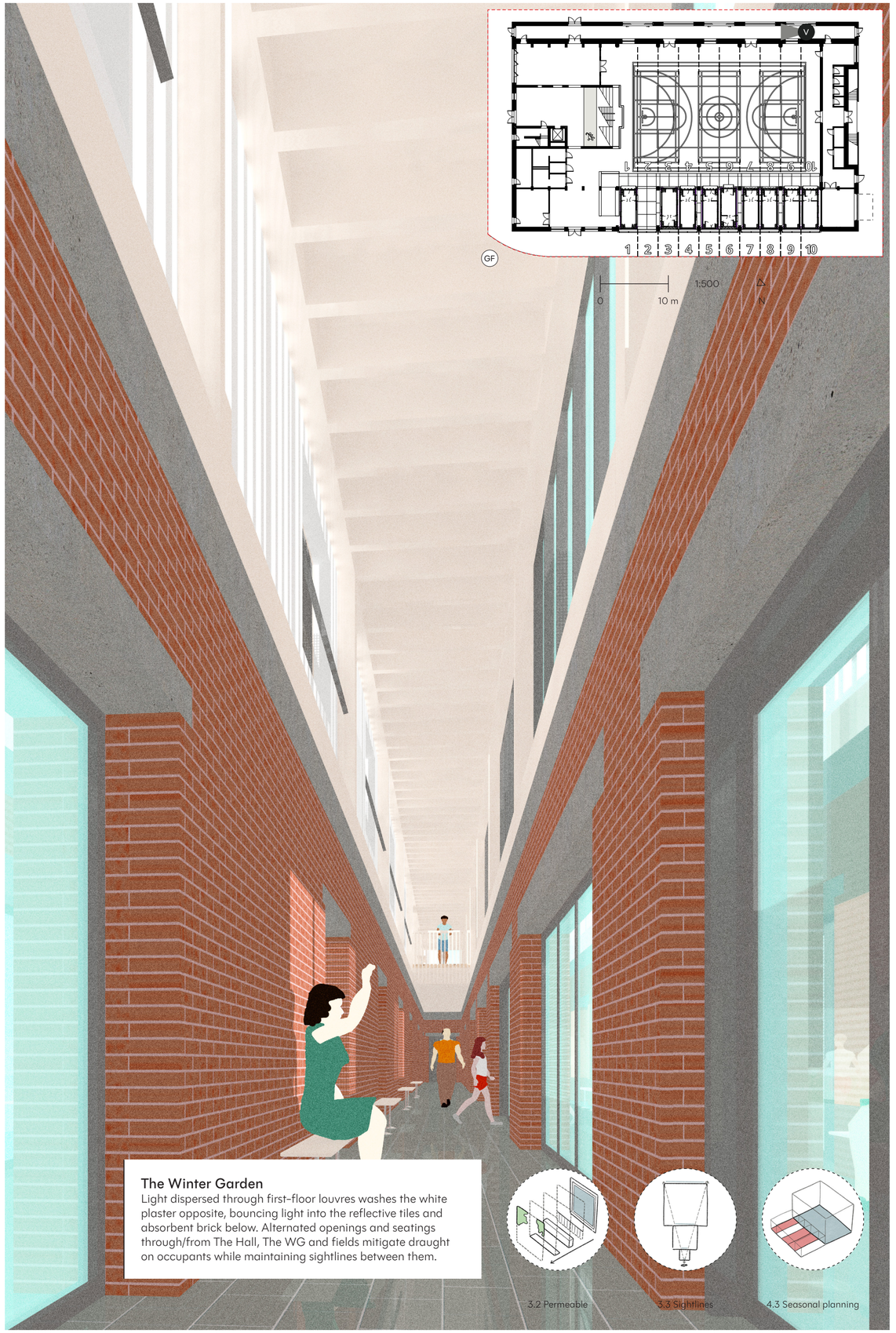
10 Thermally-isolated structure

The WG uses a thermally-isolated brick wall and glulam frame construction to The Hall. Additional stability could be provided through thermally broken structural connections between them

Construction

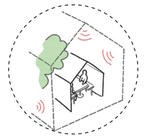
Envisioned to expand from the existing brick and glulam portal frame bays of The Depot, the units of the HHs inform the lateral gridwork.

James Burkhalter

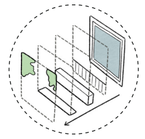


Seasonal strategy: Summer

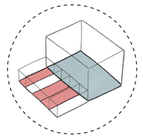
Open house



1.6 Active vs. quiet



3.2 Permeable



4.3 Seasonal planning

1 Summer sun

The WG acts as a large, horizontal louvre, blocking high-angle midday sun and limiting contact to only thermally massive materials, i.e. tiled flooring and brick walls.

2 Vertical louvres

Minimises glare from morning (East) and afternoon (West) sunlight.

3 Acoustic buffer

The WG and adjacent activity rooms provide an acoustic buffer to The Hall from noise in the field and forecourt respectively. This is most important when evening events occur simultaneously — e.g. a football game out in the field and a dramatic performance within the auditorium.

4 Thermal mass (TM)

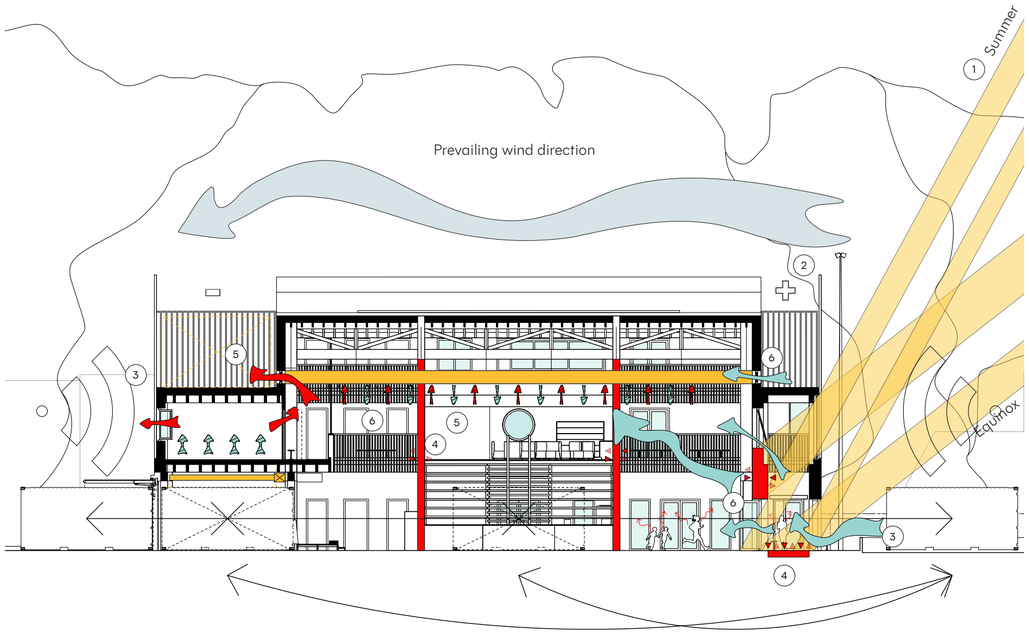
Tiled flooring and masonry walls absorb heat from direct sunlight, warm incoming air and people using it as circulation. Night purging releases this heat in the evenings.

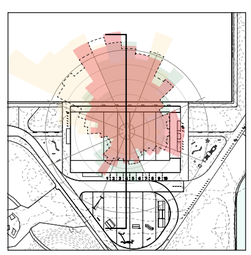
5 Night purging

Passive (cross/stack) and active (mechanical) ventilation discharges heat into surrounds, returning TM to a "coolth" state for use the next morning. Examples include: opening the WG in the evenings when sports are played, Building Management Systems (BMS), etc.

6 Wind-driven ventilation

Cool air diffuses through fabric ducts, sinking to the central hall space.
While induced pressure-differences from prevailing wind acting against the hall's stepped gabled roof assists in drawing air out through metal ducts and clerestory openings (vents and windows).





Legend

The Storehouse, climate section, summer

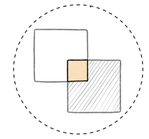
- Natural ventilation
- Mechanical ventilation
- Cool / Warm
- Body heat
- Thermal mass
- Sensible heat in (morning)
- Sensible heat out (evening)
- Airflow
- Optional airflow
- Services
- Off season location
- In season location
- HH relocation
- Sunlight
- Rain
- Summer windrose
- Autumn windrose
- Spring windrose

1:100 — 0 — 2 m — N

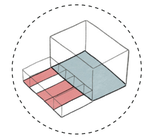
Seasonal strategy: Winter

Warm bank

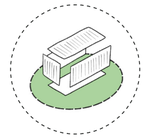
A place for those looking for warmth through necessity (cost of living demands for young and old) or the comfort of playing indoors (on a rainy winter day or through the demands of the activity).



1.5 Mixed-age public spaces



4.3 Seasonal planning



4.4 On-site construction

1 Winter sun

Sunlight reaches deeply into The Depot's hall through the winter garden, clerestory and rooflights (late afternoon/evening), washing it in a warm, comforting light (apricity).

2 Buoyancy-driven ventilation

Warm air rises and gathers in the void created by the halls' stepped gabled roof and is exhausted through a mix of clerestory openings (vents and window) and metal ducts. A stack-effect is then induced with the cooler outdoor air, drawing it in from ground and first floor openings and heating it within the winter garden and through sports hall activity. When needed, warm air is also expelled downwards from the fabric ducts through high-velocity nozzles.

3 Thermal buffer

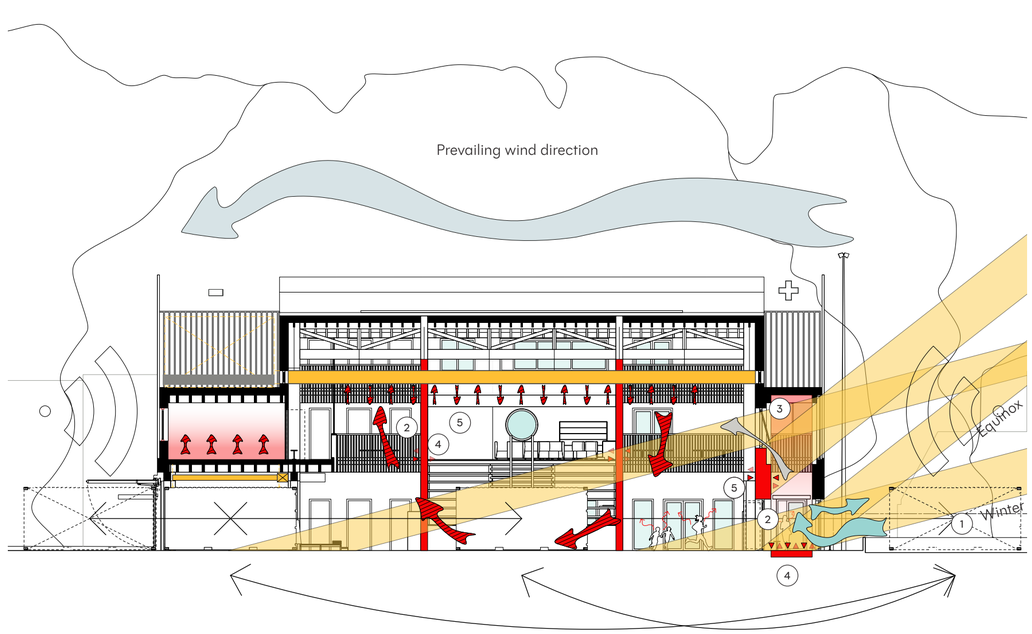
Insulates the large, more difficult to heat, sports hall by trapping heat in this space. Infiltration is minimised by using automatic sliding doors — work as an airlock.

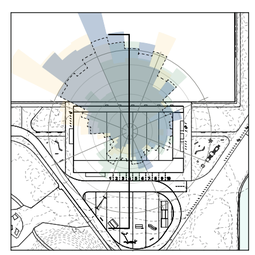
4 Thermal mass (TM)

Tiled flooring and masonry walls act absorb heat from direct sunlight and people using it as circulation. Following a diurnal thermal lag, energy released from this mass provides passive heating.

5 Passive heating

Sensible heat from thermally massive materials is dispersed into surrounding evening spaces. Examples of this include: from The Loft to the surrounding evening-use spaces such as the café, bookable room, lounge, meeting room and offices.





Legend

The Storehouse, climate section, winter

- Natural ventilation
- Mechanical ventilation
- Cool / Warm
- Body heat
- Thermal mass
- Sensible heat in (morning)
- Sensible heat out (evening)
- Airflow
- Optional airflow
- Services
- Off season location
- In season location
- HH relocation
- Sunlight
- Rain
- Green roof
- Hard roof
- Winter windrose
- Autumn windrose
- Spring windrose

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6 | Conclusion

Conclusion

Answering How can townscape regeneration around Houtwijk's centre and two parks remedy significant generational change through the lens of "designing-out" youth antisocial behaviour became about (1) understanding architecture's multi-scalar and -temporal role in affecting the behaviour of young people beyond the physicality of the redline-bounded site, (2) the socio-economic challenge generational change creates against the dynamics of permanence and profit and (3) the mark this has on the landscape of our neighbourhoods as a direct or indirect consequence of townscape.

1. Architecture's multi-scalar and -temporal role in affecting young people's behaviour beyond the physicality of the redline-bounded site

Tackling youth ASB demonstrated how temporality can only be tackled through targeted and responsive designs that are flexible to unexpected change at its multiple scales. To visualise this, a Re:generation toolkit was created that separates the interaction of designing-in/out on the built environment into three principles: town planning (neighbourhood integration), architectural design (building-scale integration) and site management (perception and involvement). Included in this Re:generation toolkit was: Activity, Temporality, Visibility and Responsibility, and it is through the interaction of these themes (across scale) that the plurality of architecture's intergenerational impact on young people's behaviour can be fully remedied.

2, The socio-economic challenge generational change creates against the dynamics of permanence and profit

Designing-out youth ASB presents an everchanging challenge where in inevitably aiming to react to contemporary conditions of a site (these "hotspots") the proposal continues to allow the neighbourhood to suffer in that present state (declination, stagnation, transition, etc.). Houtwijk, as this research/study has found, was a neighbourhood of transition, troubled by budget and now in a stagnation/decline. Subsequently, immediate, or equally incremental, introductions to its townscape become absorbed within its unreformed environment. Therefore, the solution is to design-in infrastructures that go beyond the static principles of local party policy and instead formulate quantum systems of planning that explore to the extremes of possibility, from discrete units (Haagse Hopje) to variations on the sum of its parts (The Depot and The Storehouse). Overall, leading to the exercise positioned by the framework that asks the question What if? (Respond/ What can be done to design-out youth ASB?) in order to get to the How? (Assess in the framework/How effective are the interventions).

For example:

What if architecture embodied the principles of CPTED, as practiced by The Hague police?
What if a Haagse Hopje could respond directly to hotspots?
What if you could house these Haagse Hopjes?

Then by asking How?, i.e. the research question of this report, the form of The Depot and The Storehouse is realised as a practical answer through imagining — as Behne (1996, p. 137) termed it — the 'consequence of establishing a relationship between [people]' within these What if? scenarios.

3. The mark this has on the landscape of our neighbourhoods as a direct or indirect consequence of townscape

Architecture has a life, it goes through an adolescence and matures into the physical and figurative vistas of our own experiences within the places and spaces of our neighbourhood as do the young people we interact with. Tracing the life of Houtwijk's landscape revealed the opportunities that it's unplanning would present and in this "unplanned" space, The Haagse Hopje, The Depot and The Storehouse became the answer to the question: How can townscape regeneration around Houtwijk's centre and two parks remedy significant generational change through the lens of "designing-out" youth antisocial behaviour?

Implications and/or recommendations

Two important implications of the research project: the creation of a Re:generation toolkit for "designing-out" youth ASB and the development of a new responsive typology that embodies it, The Depot and The Strorehouse. The toolkit clearly consolidates a unique canon of architectural theory in the principle of "designing-out" and the wider study of CPTED, while The Depot and The Storehouse demonstrate a theoretical and practical strategy for evolving the Haagse Hopjes beyond its position as a shipping container "placeholder" for 100m2 permanent pavilions. In its place, proposing a dynamic youth infrastructure that responds to daily, weekly, monthly, seasonal, yearly and generational change in its composition — both on site and beyond, i.e. other hotspots. Moving forward, I'd recommend that Houtwijk and similar neighbourhoods in The Hague seriously consider the impact their 1970s planning has had on past, present and future generations and to consider The Haagse Hopje as the way ahead.

Reflection

In reflection, the project struggled at times to stay within varying degrees of scope, from small-scale interventions to masterplans to phased buildings. Unfortunately, the framework did not manage to perform as a total guide for the project in this regard, with the separation of town planning, architectural design and site management though opening it up to multi-disciplinary thinking (sociology, criminology, etc.), the time available did not justify this methodology. In addition, the challenge of composing booklets and organising presentations and hosting workshops outside of your native language added a unique dimension that was pursued independently for the most part. In planning the project, public participation was initially seen as secondary to theoretical justification because of the plurality of the subject — however, upon discussions with the tutors, the scope was further widened to include this practice. Though incredibly useful as a way of justifying particular design decisions, I do believe conclusions made from theory and practice often find a way to overlap with one another. Therefore, this should not discourage one technique over the other and instead open the debate wider to the need of balanced, multi-disciplinary understanding that is platformed, as mentioned at the beginning of the report, within educational environments.

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