

Living Kopli Kaubajaam

Reclaiming the Indeterminate: Terrain Vague, and the dynamic community

Graduation P5 Presentation

A Matter of Scale–Method of analysis and imagination

Zhang Shuyu

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An exploration of how urban voids can be activated as dynamic, undefined spaces that foster community involvement and co-creation

01 Introduction

An Abandoned Railway Area

25/06/2025



01 Introduction

25/06/2025

A blank space in the city center



The site is surrounded by vibrant cityscape, yet remains an empty void

01 Introduction

An Abandoned Railway Area

25/06/2025

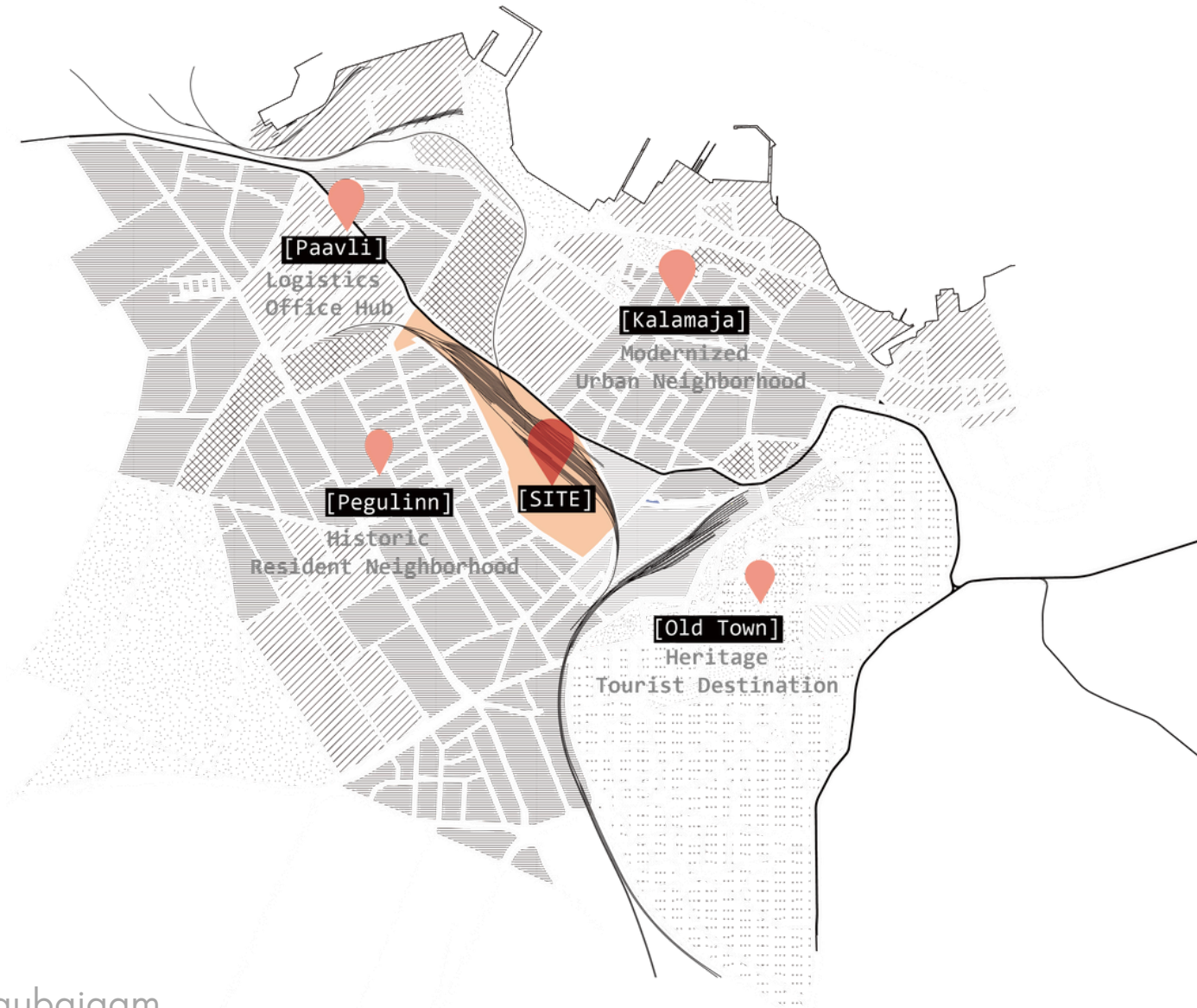


The site is surrounded by vibrant cityscape, yet remains an empty void

02 Analysis

25/06/2025

Situated at the boundary between two neighborhoods



02 Analysis

Tallinn's Central Railway Transport Node during the Soviet Era

25/06/2025



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02 Analysis

25/06/2025

Industrial Remnants Complicate Redevelopment



Existing industrial infrastructure remnants increased the cost of redevelopment

02 Analysis

The obstructed boundary

25/06/2025

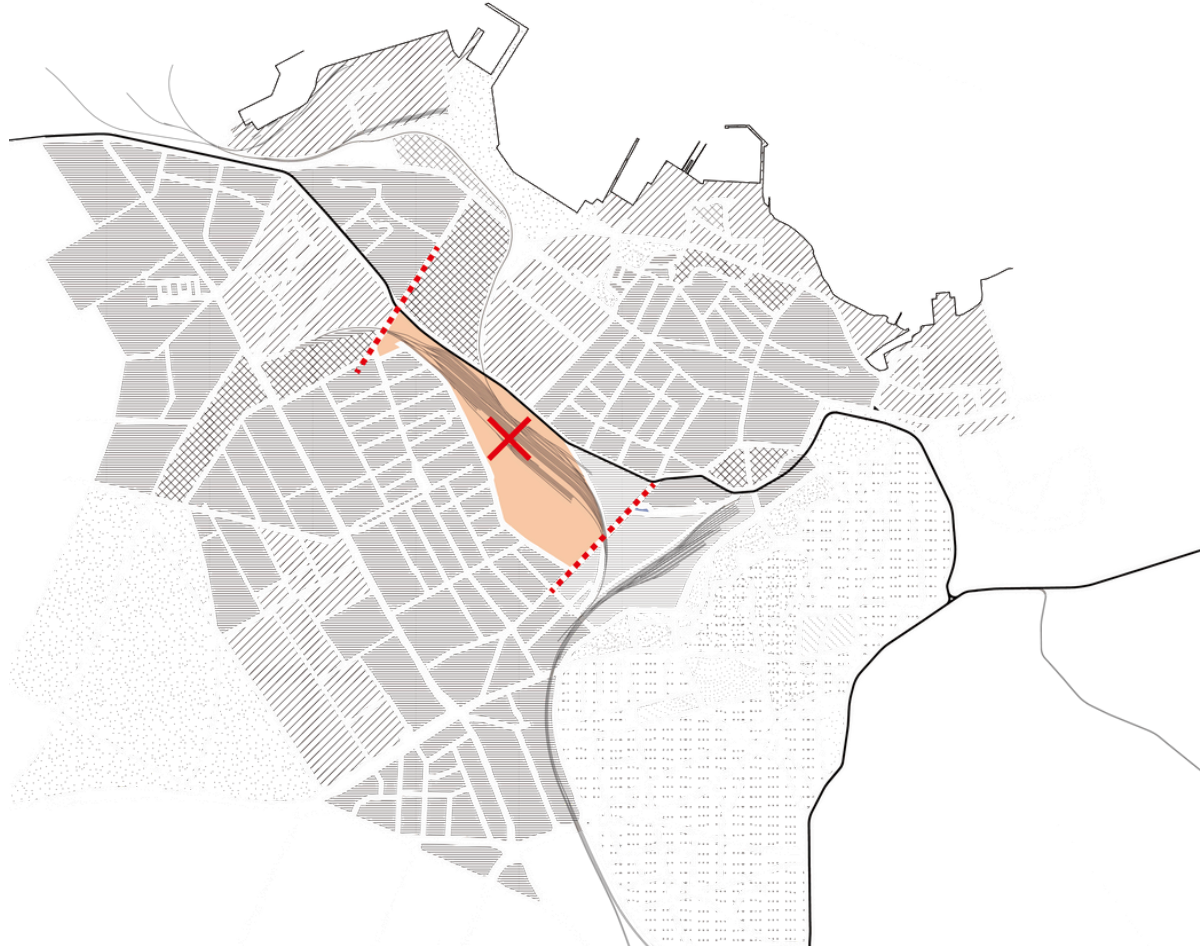


The site is invisible by layers of "fences" — houses, trees, barriers, and waste.

02 Analysis

Lack of connectivity in space

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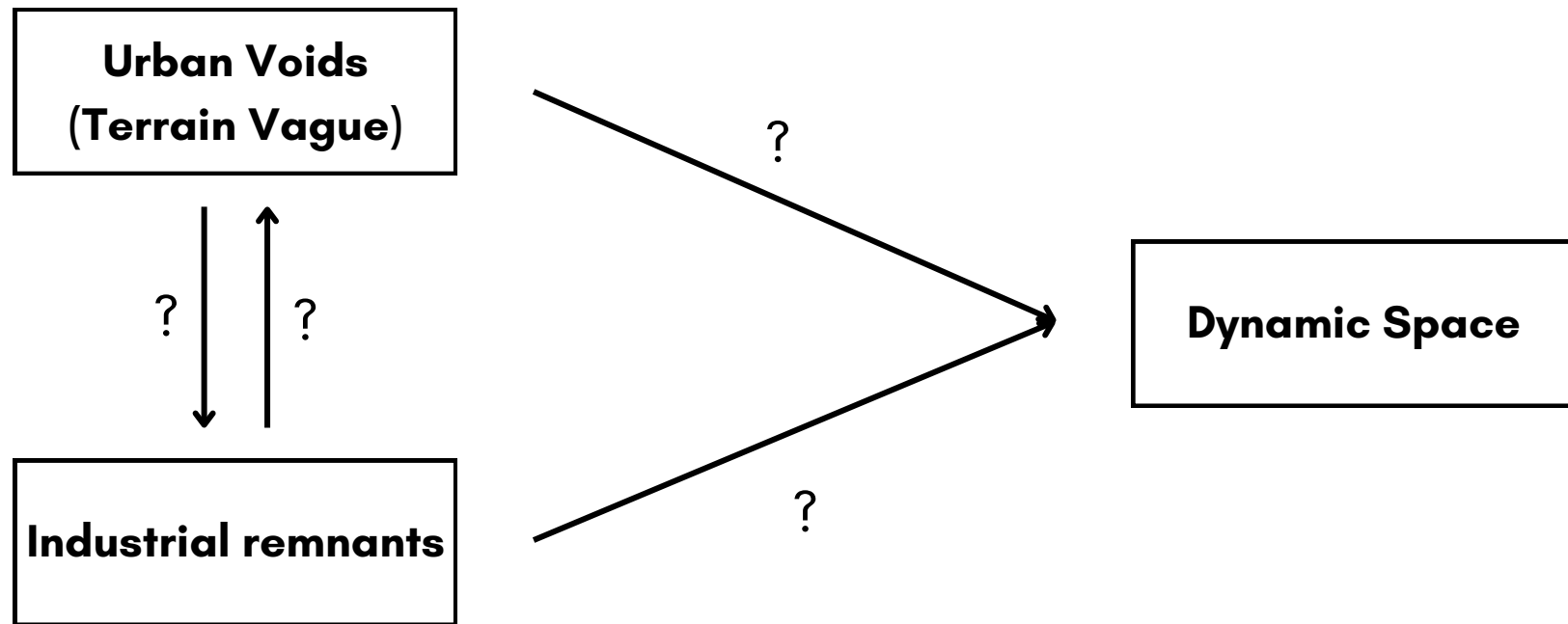


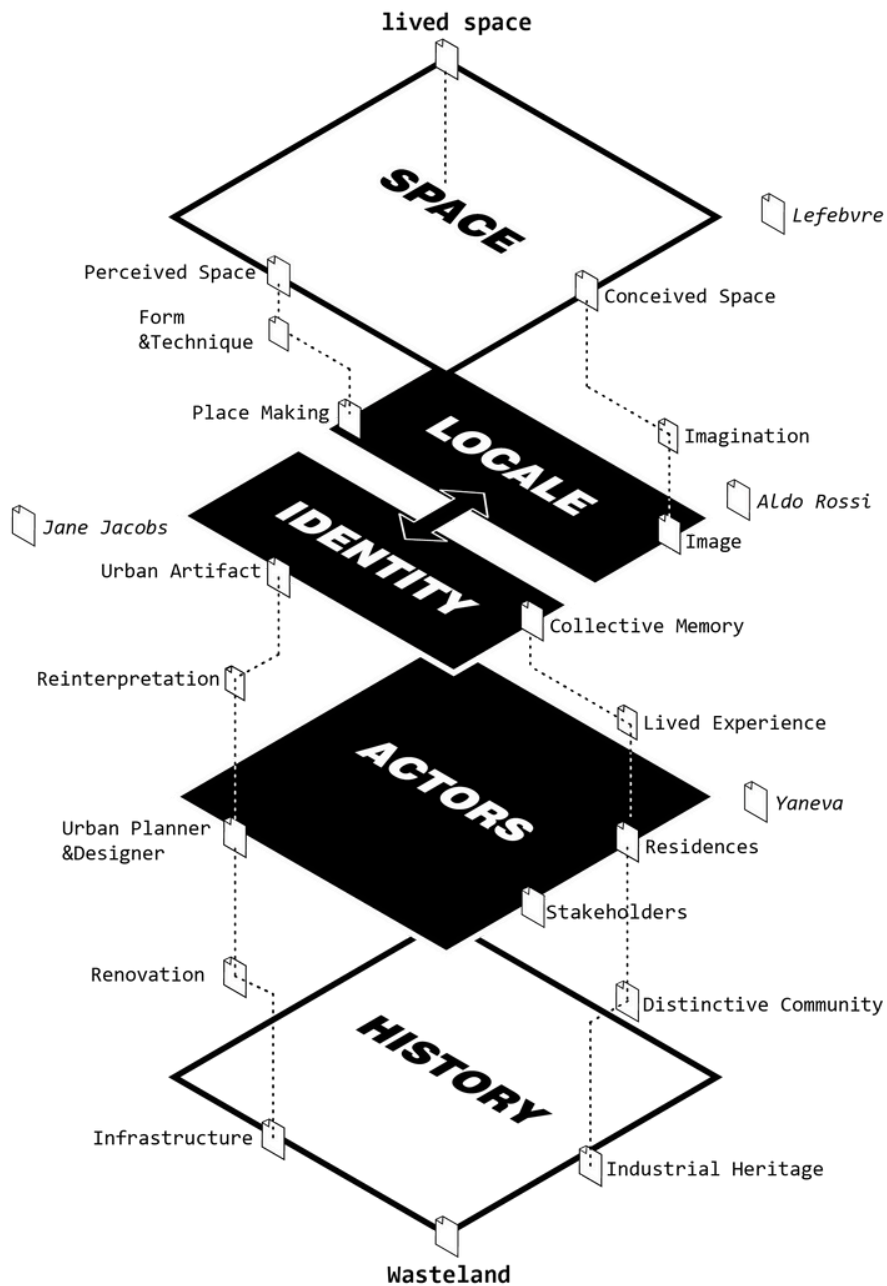
The 1.2-kilometer site is devoid of any road connections in the middle

02 Analysis

Main topics

25/06/2025





1. Introduction
2. Analysis
- 3. Research Phase**
4. Project
5. Refelction

03 Research Phase

25/06/2025

Problem to Research Question

How to address **urban voids**—large, blank spaces that often seem **out of scale** with the surrounding?

*"These spaces of absence require interventions that respect their indeterminate and ambiguous condition, maintaining their **openness to future possibilities.**"*

Ignasi de Solà-Morales, Terrain Vague

"A community space is not something you impose — it's something that grows from shared experience"

Lina Bo Bardi

03 Research Phase

Shared Public Space

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Teatro Oficina, Lina Bo Bardi

The stage as a street, the theater as a city

03 Research Phase

Reborn of the industrial building

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SESC SESC Pompéia, Lina Bo Bardi

Transformation into a place of leisure, without erasing its history

03 Research Phase

Terrain Vague

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Who can define Kopli Kaubajaam

03 Research Phase

25/06/2025

Self-Making City/NDSM Amsterdam

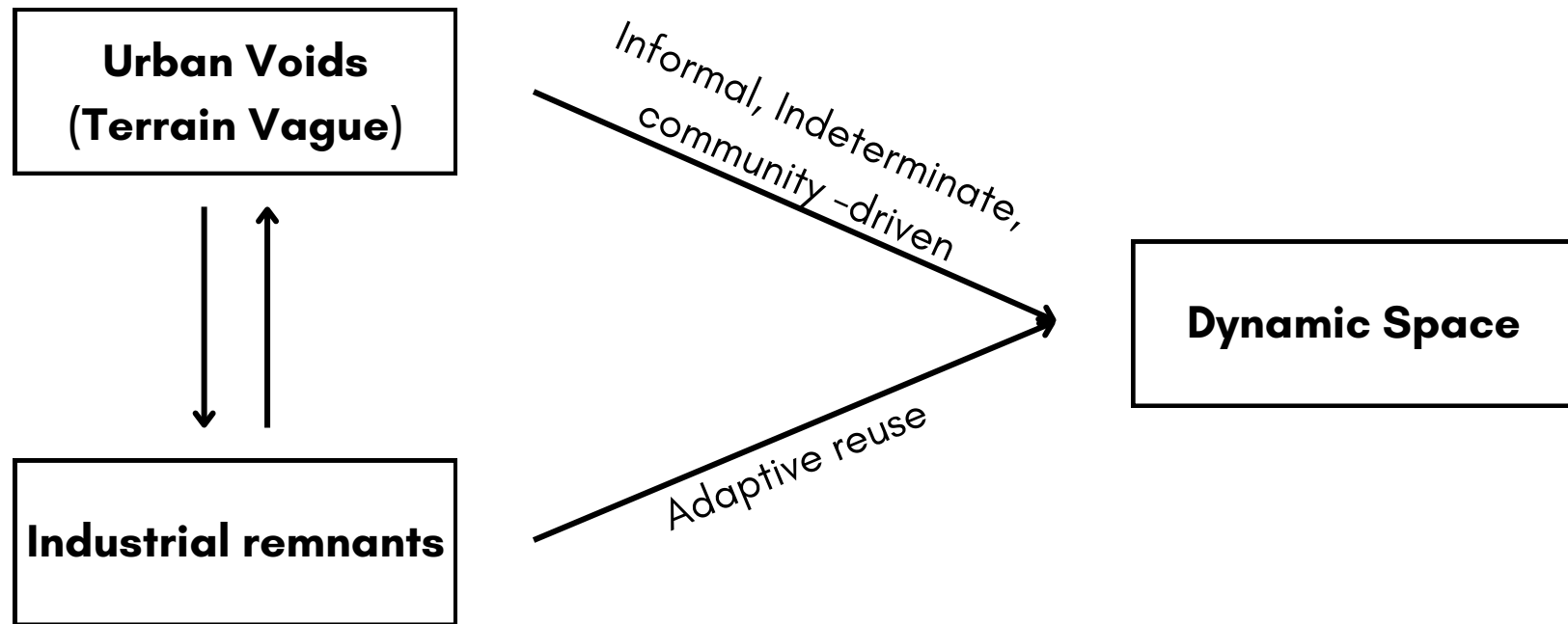


The original dock building serves as the shell for the new structure, allowing various types of public activities to take place here.

03 Research Phase

Research Theoretical Framework

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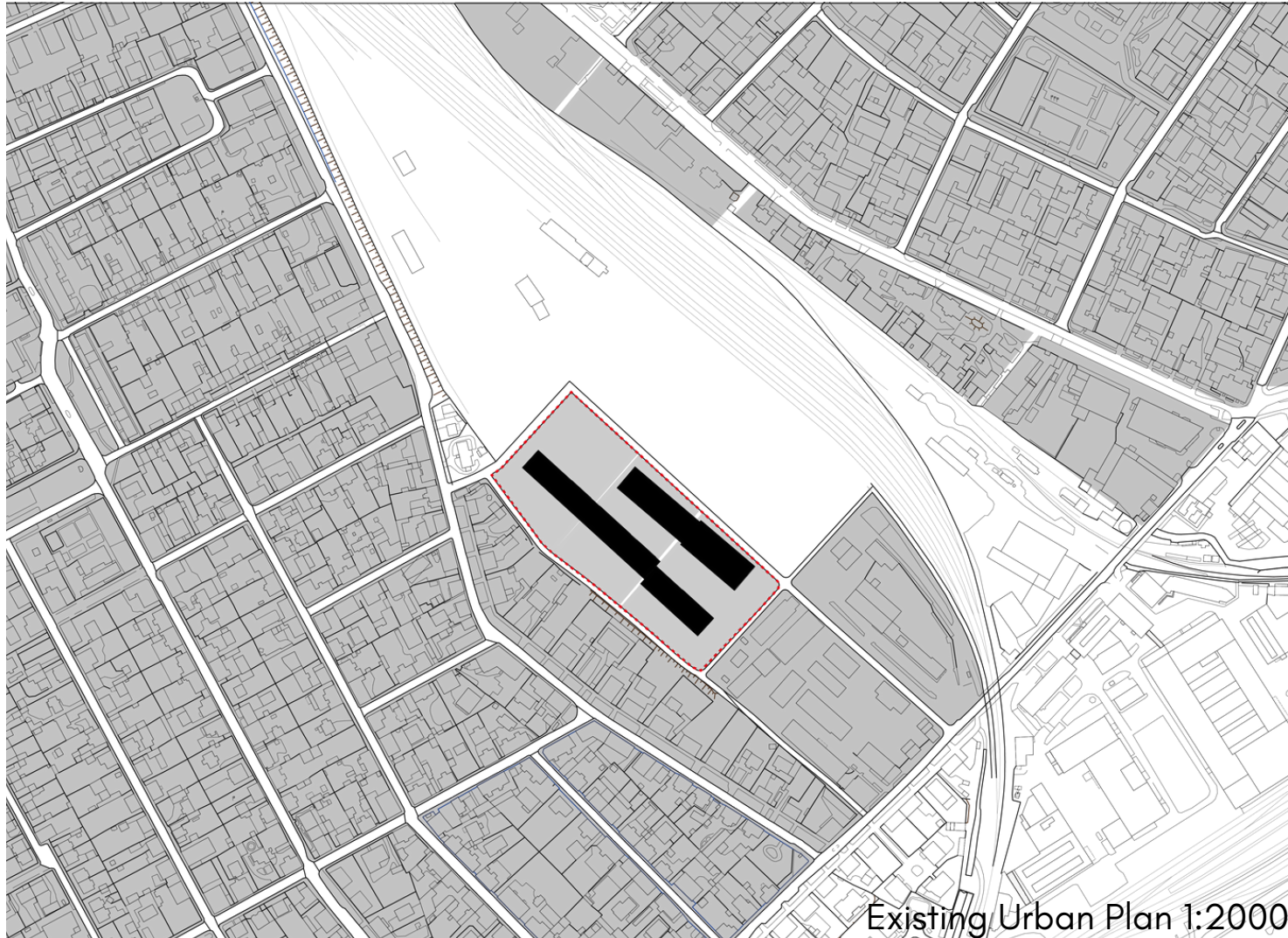


1. Introduction
2. Analysis
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- 4. Project**
5. Refelction

04 Project--Urban Scale

25/06/2025

Bring the neighbourhood fabric into the site



200-meter-long, large-scale volume stands in stark contrast to the surrounding urban fabric

04 Project--Site

Warehouse Complex

25/06/2025



Large-scale spaces and distinctive industrial remnants can serve as an example for handling the site's industrial heritage.

04 Project--Urban Scale

25/06/2025

Bring the neighbourhood fabric into the site



Warehouse South Elevation

04 Project--Urban Scale

25/06/2025

Culturally Reflective Neighborhood Form.

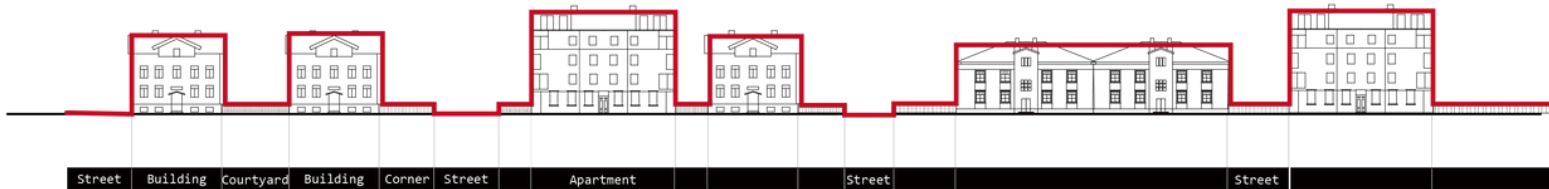


The traditional houses in the Pelgulinn and Kalamaja areas feature a unique front-and-backyard system

04 Project--Urban Scale

25/06/2025

Bring the neighbourhood fabric into the site

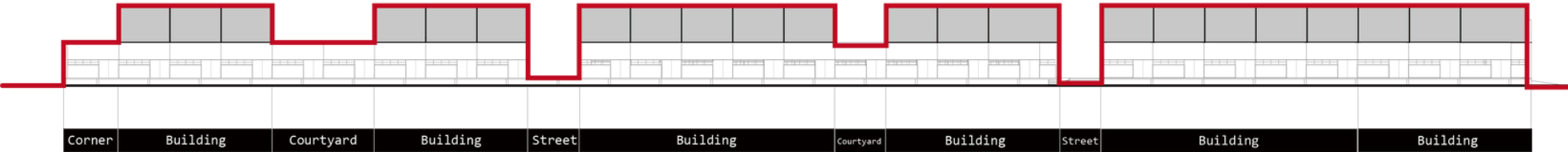


Residential Street Facade

04 Project--Urban Scale

25/06/2025

Bring the neighbourhood fabric into the site



New South Elevation

04 Project--Urban Scale

25/06/2025

Bring the neighbourhood fabric into the site

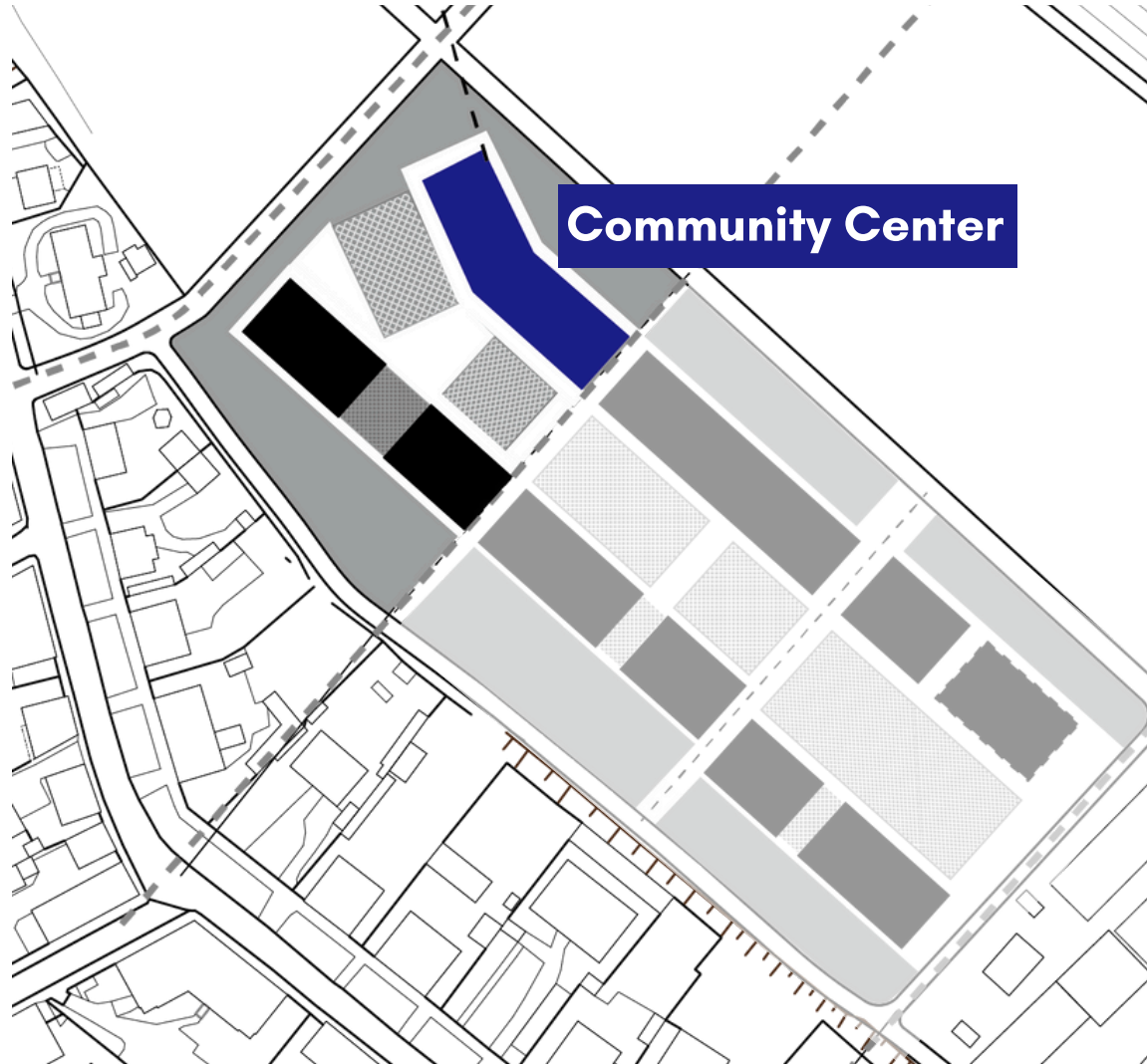


Creating paths that intersects the lot and connects its surrounding streets

04 Project--Urban Scale

Use & Program

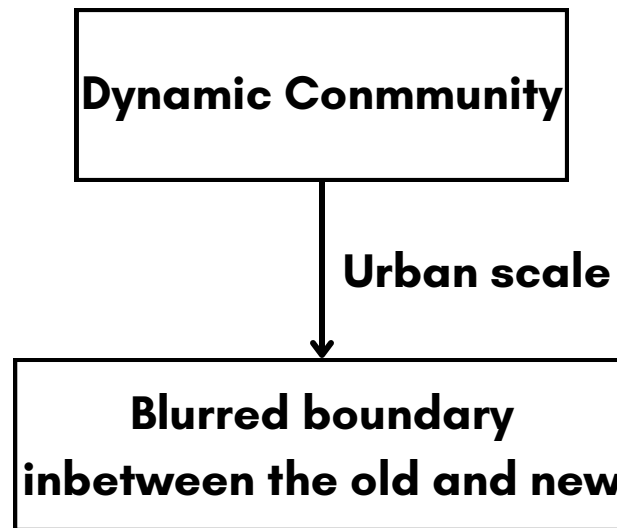
25/06/2025



04 Project--Urban Scale

Blurred boundray

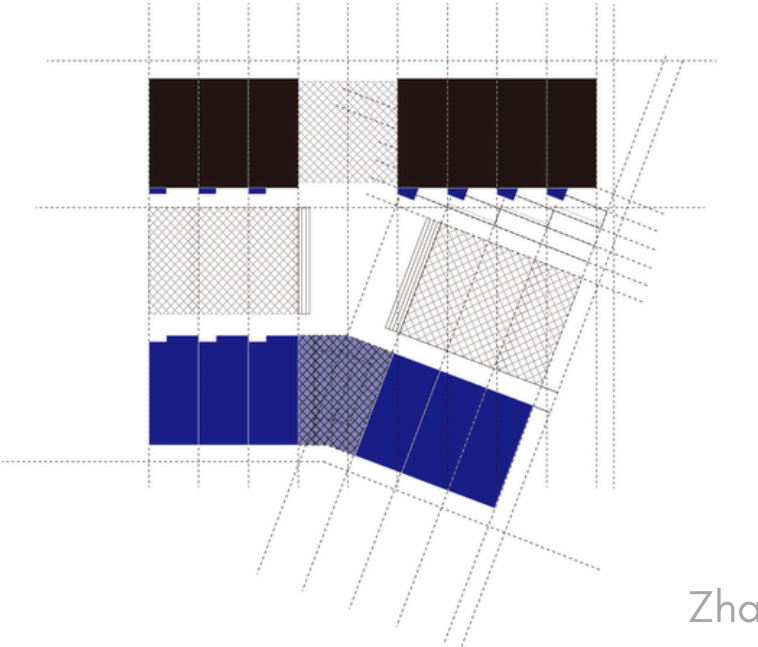
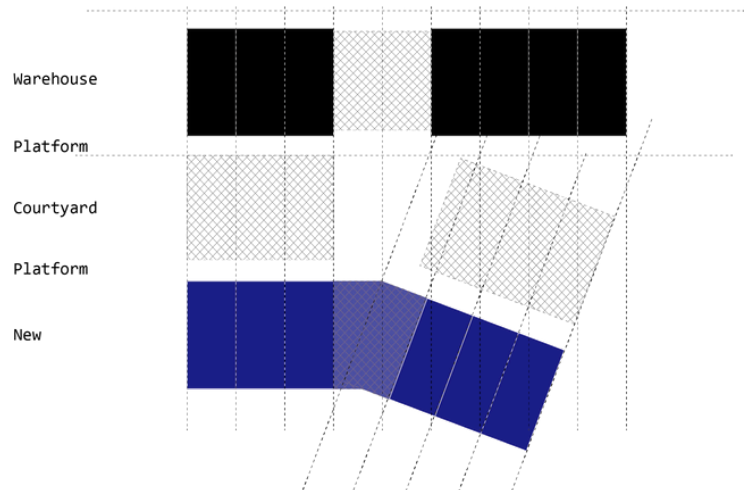
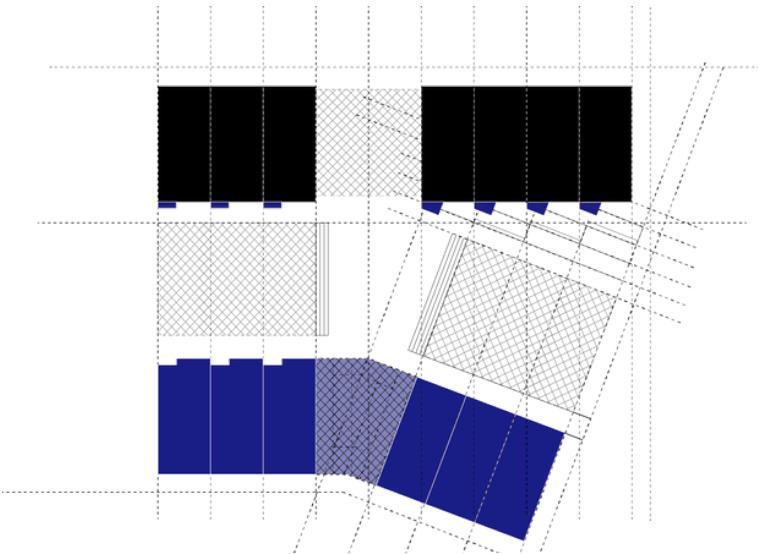
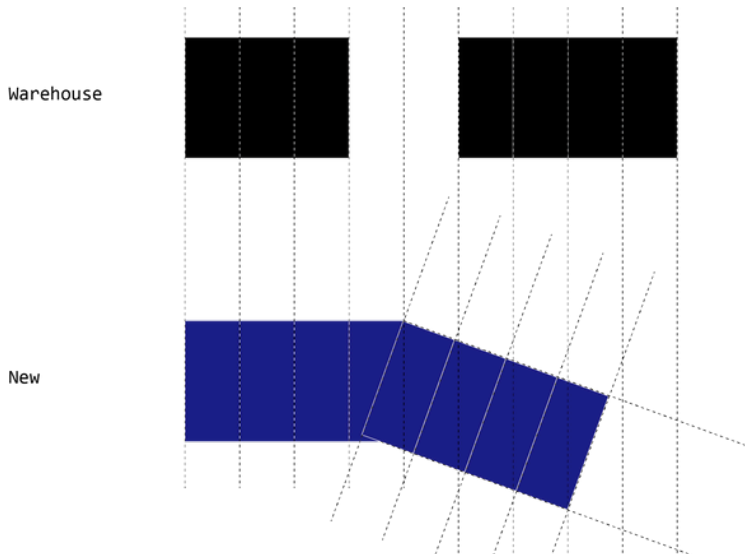
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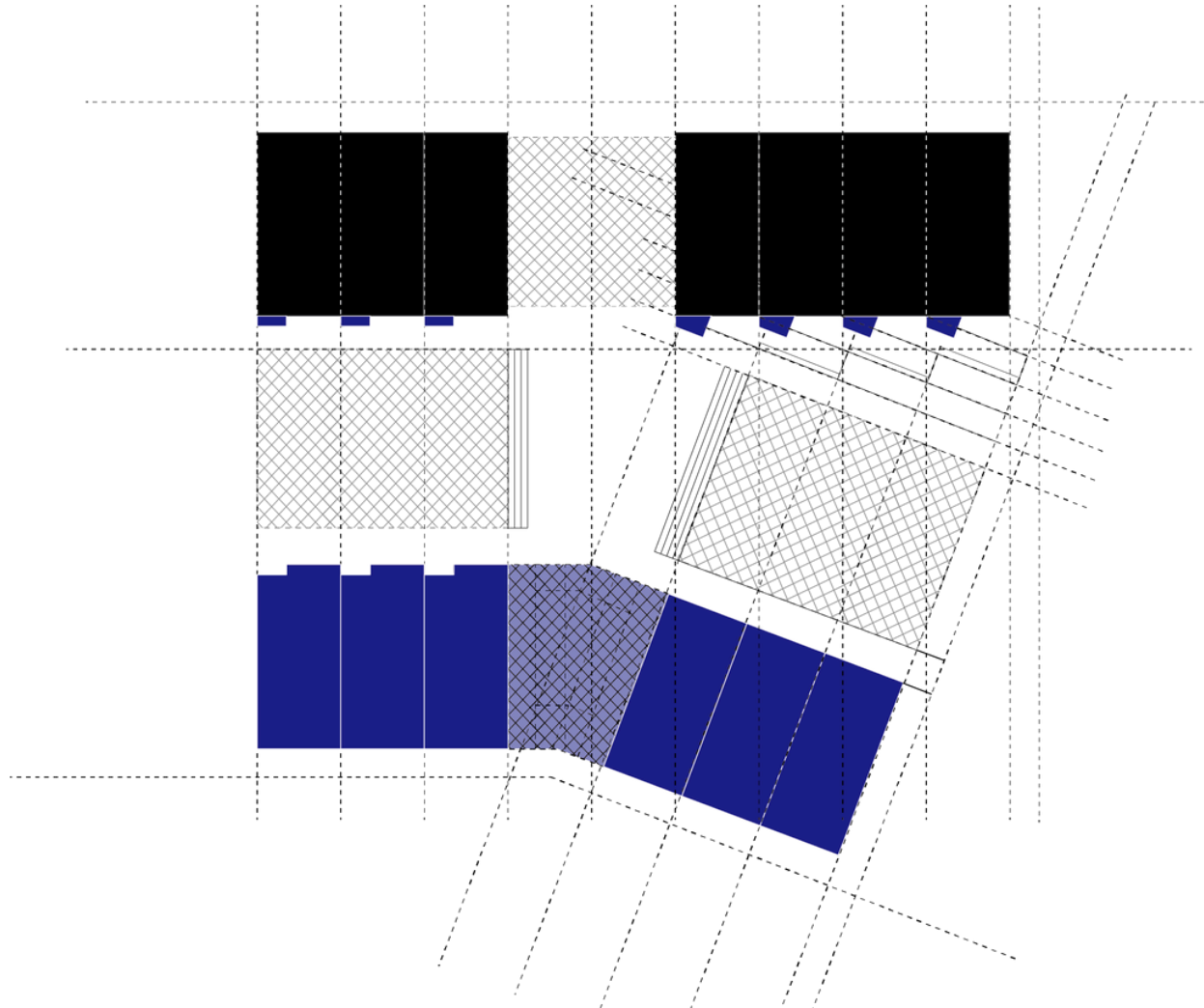
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04 Project--Urban Scale

Blurred boundray

25/06/2025



04 Project--Urban Scale

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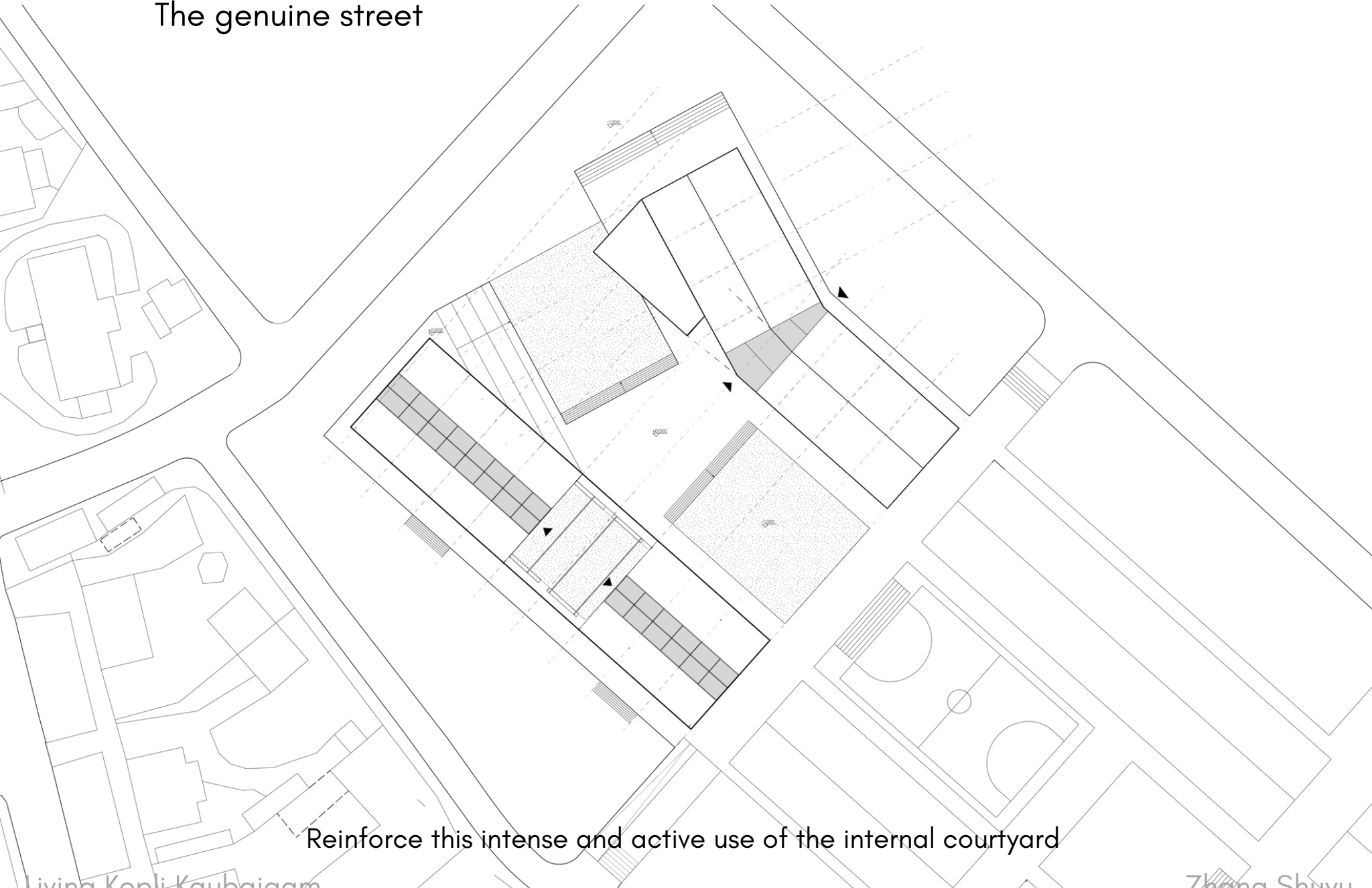
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04 Project--Urban Scale

The genuine street

25/06/2025



Reinforce this intense and active use of the internal courtyard

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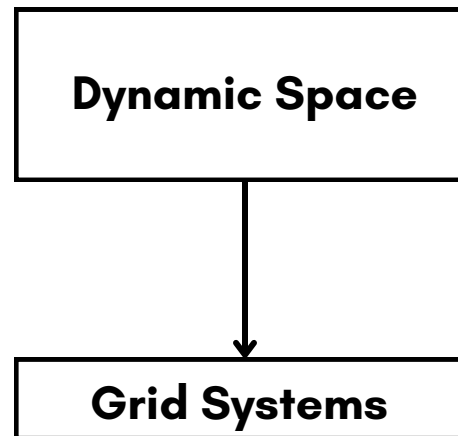
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04 Project--Architectural Scale

Grid System from the warehouse

25/06/2025



04 Project--Architectural Scale

Grid System from the warehouse

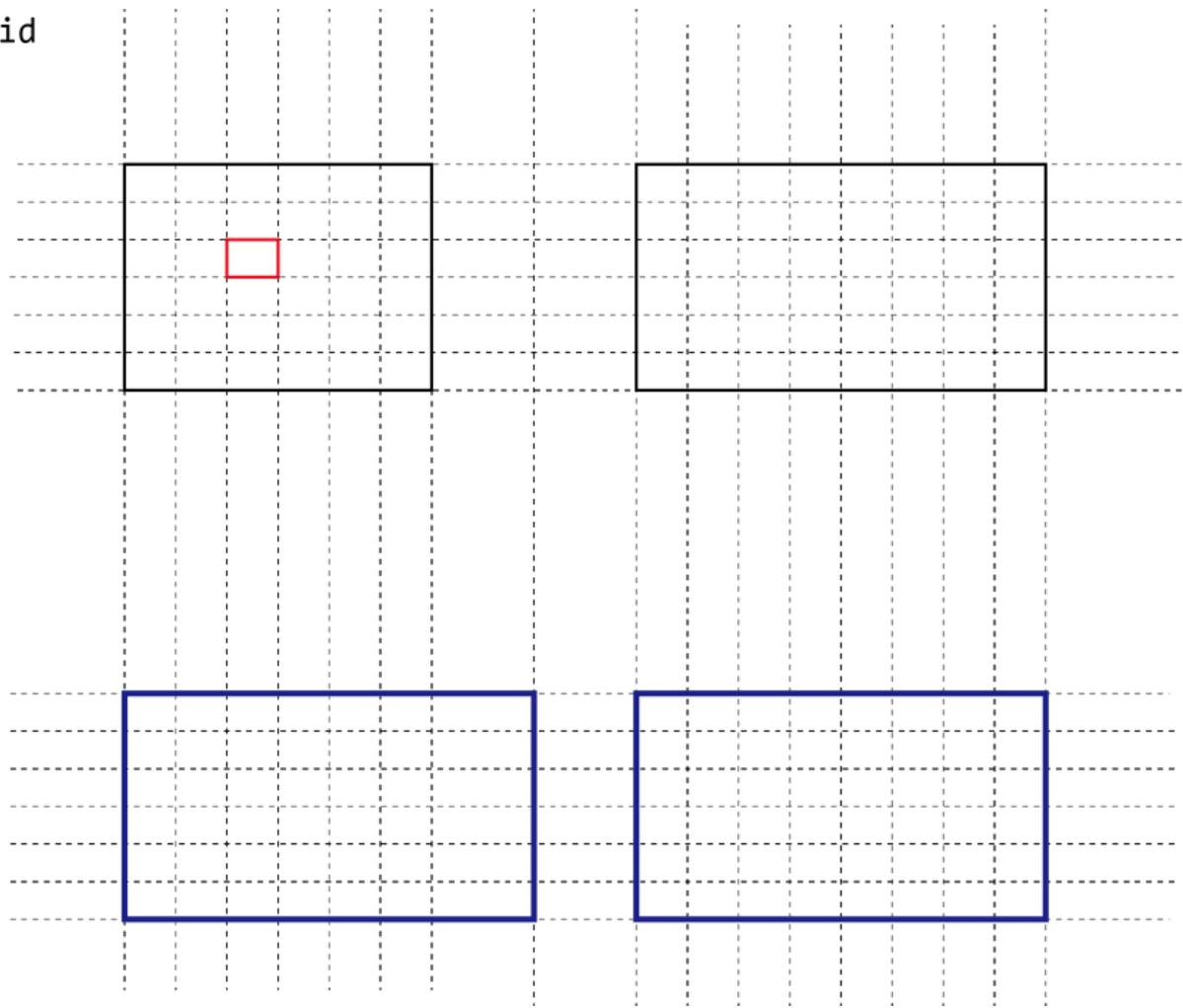
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Old Structure Grid

 3.6*2.5m

Warehouse

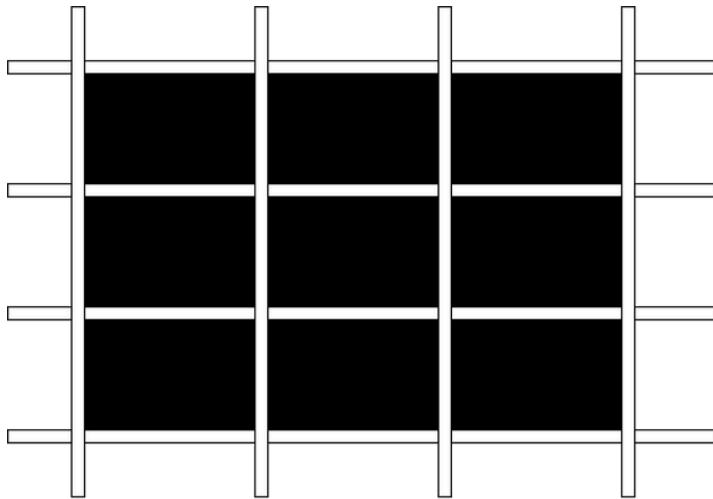
New



04 Project--Architectural Scale

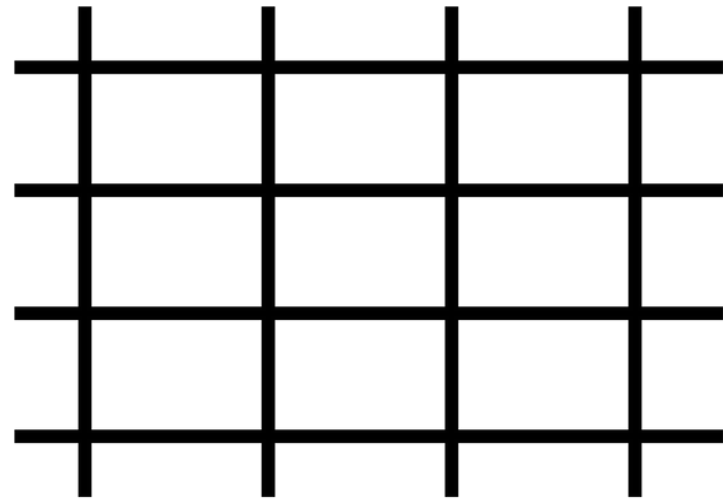
The Figure-ground relationship

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Box-insertion

Old warehouse:
Modules within the existing structure



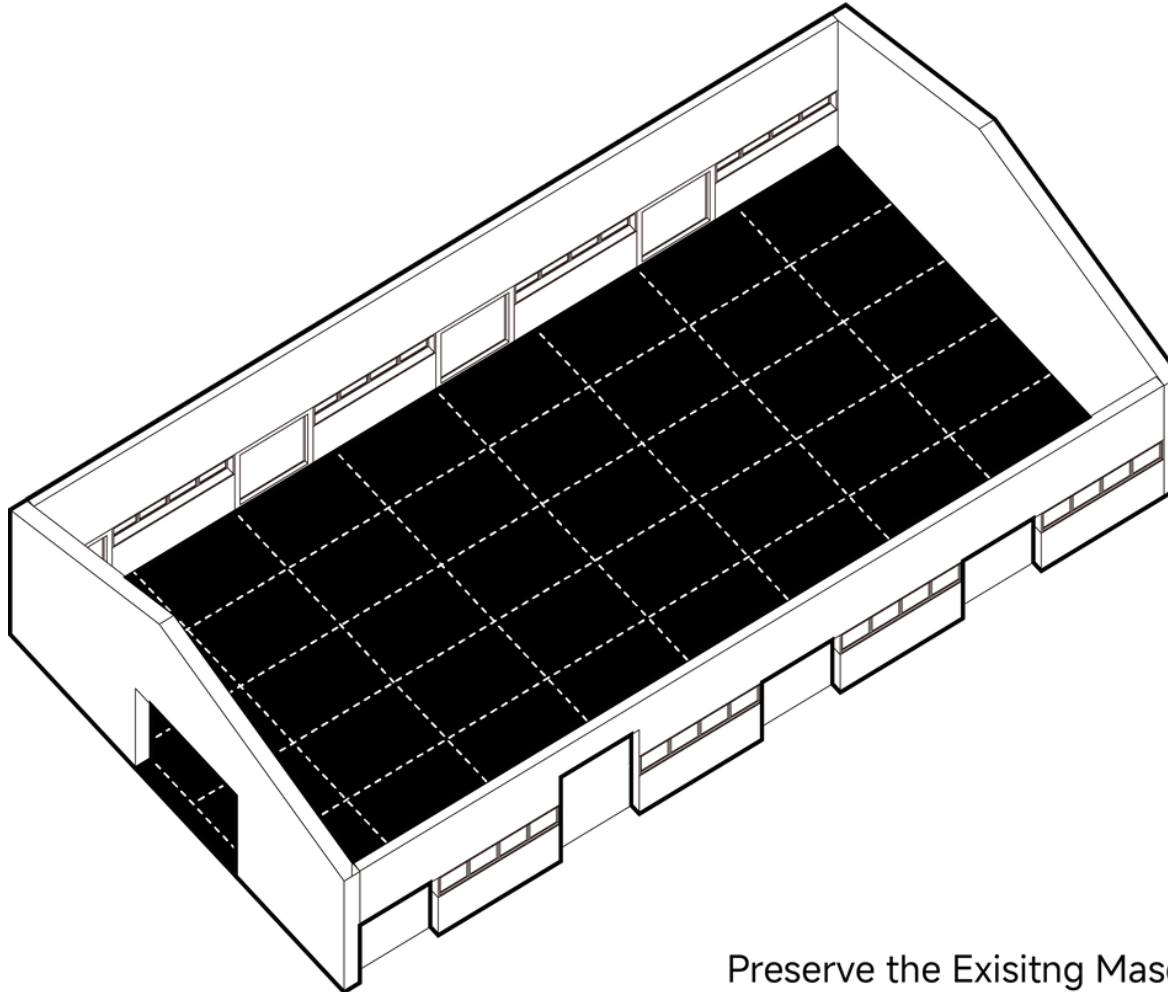
Space generating

New building:
Flexible framework from the grid

04 Project--Architectural Scale

Grid in the Existing Structure

25/06/2025

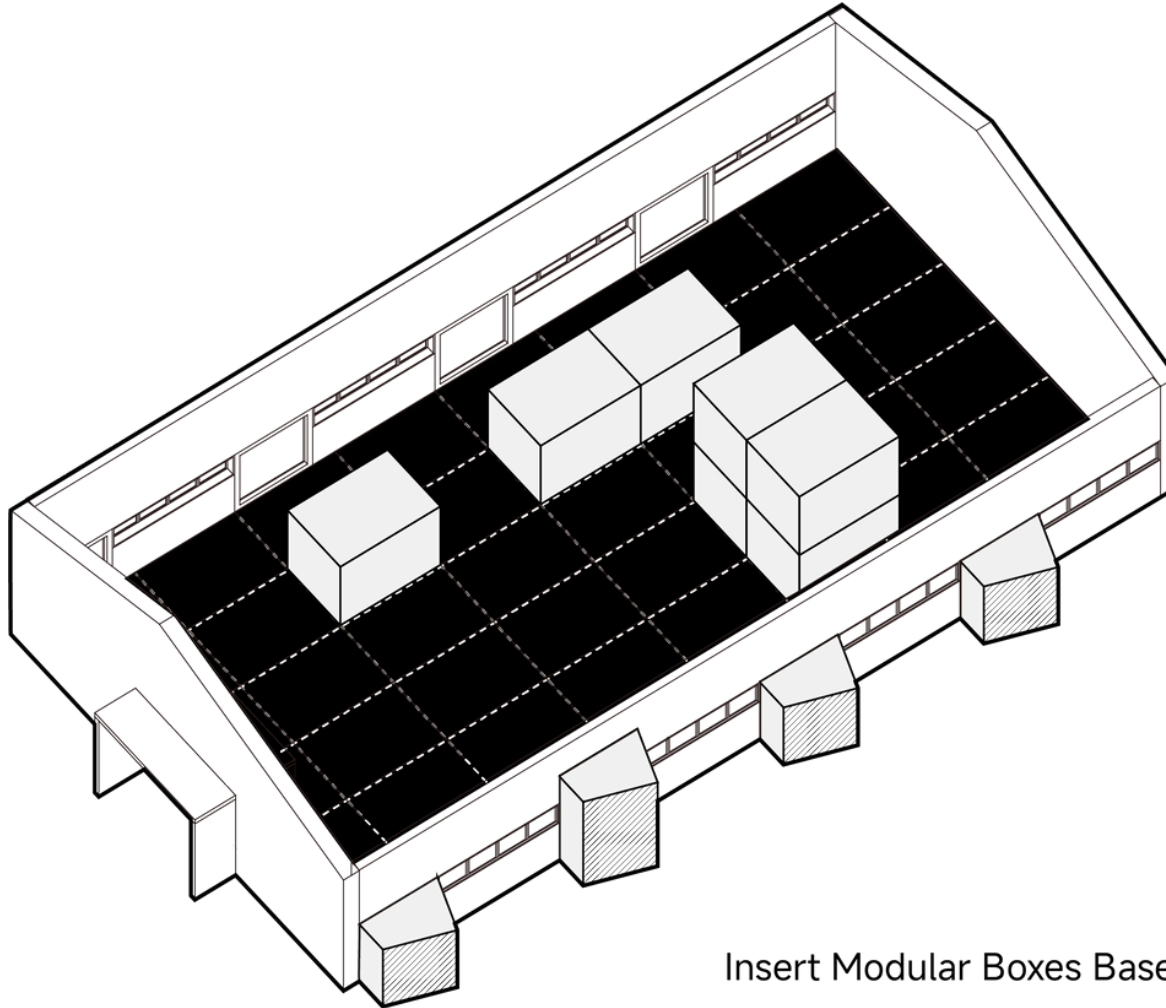


Preserve the Existing Masonry Shell

04 Project--Architectural Scale

Grid in the Existing Structure

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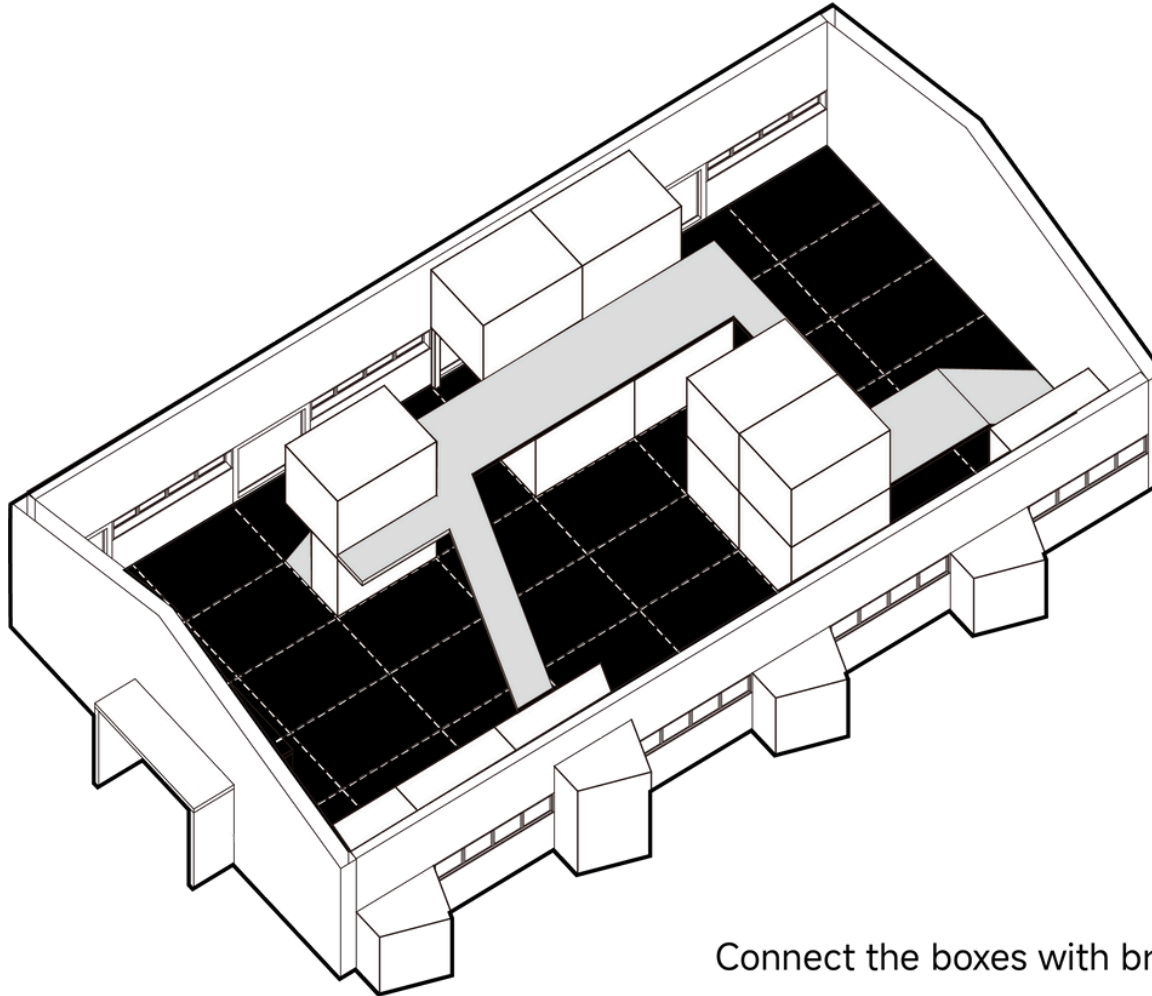


Insert Modular Boxes Based on the Grid

04 Project--Architectural Scale

Grid in the Existing Structure

25/06/2025

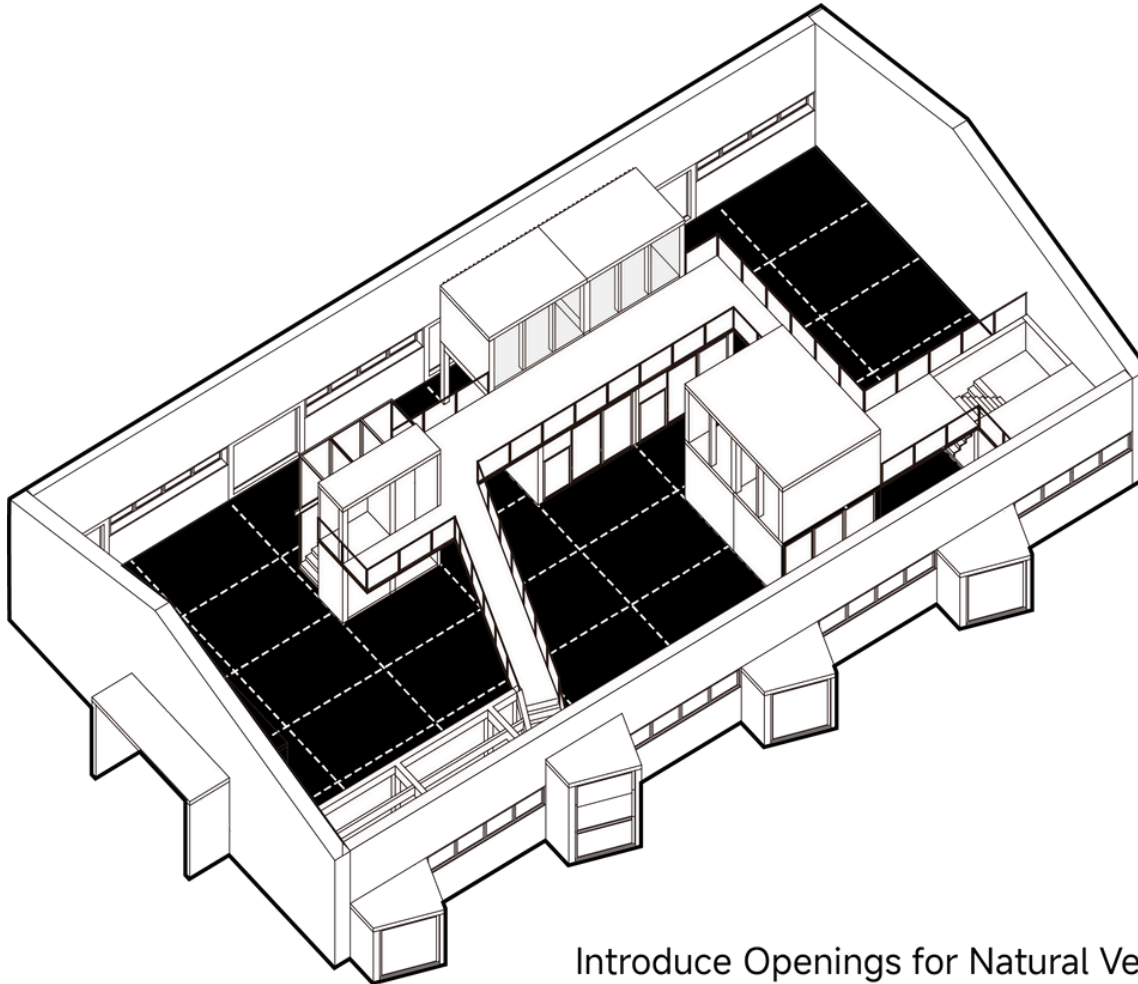


Connect the boxes with bridge

04 Project--Architectural Scale

Grid in the Existing Structure

25/06/2025



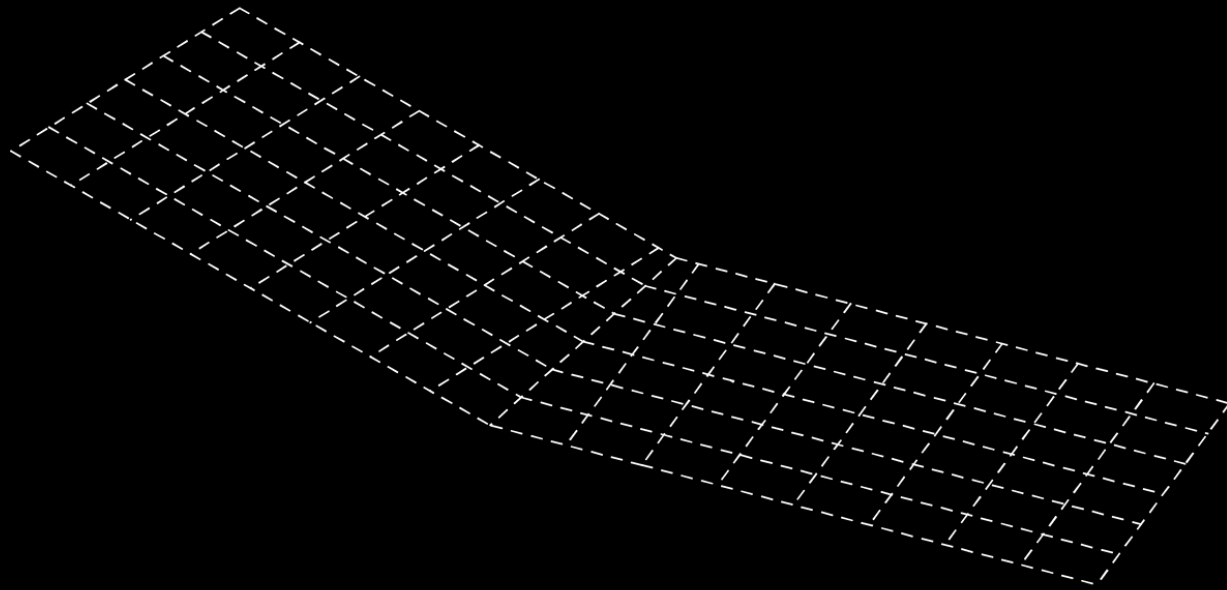
Introduce Openings for Natural Ventilation and Daylight.



04 Project--Architectural Scale

Grid in the New

25/06/2025

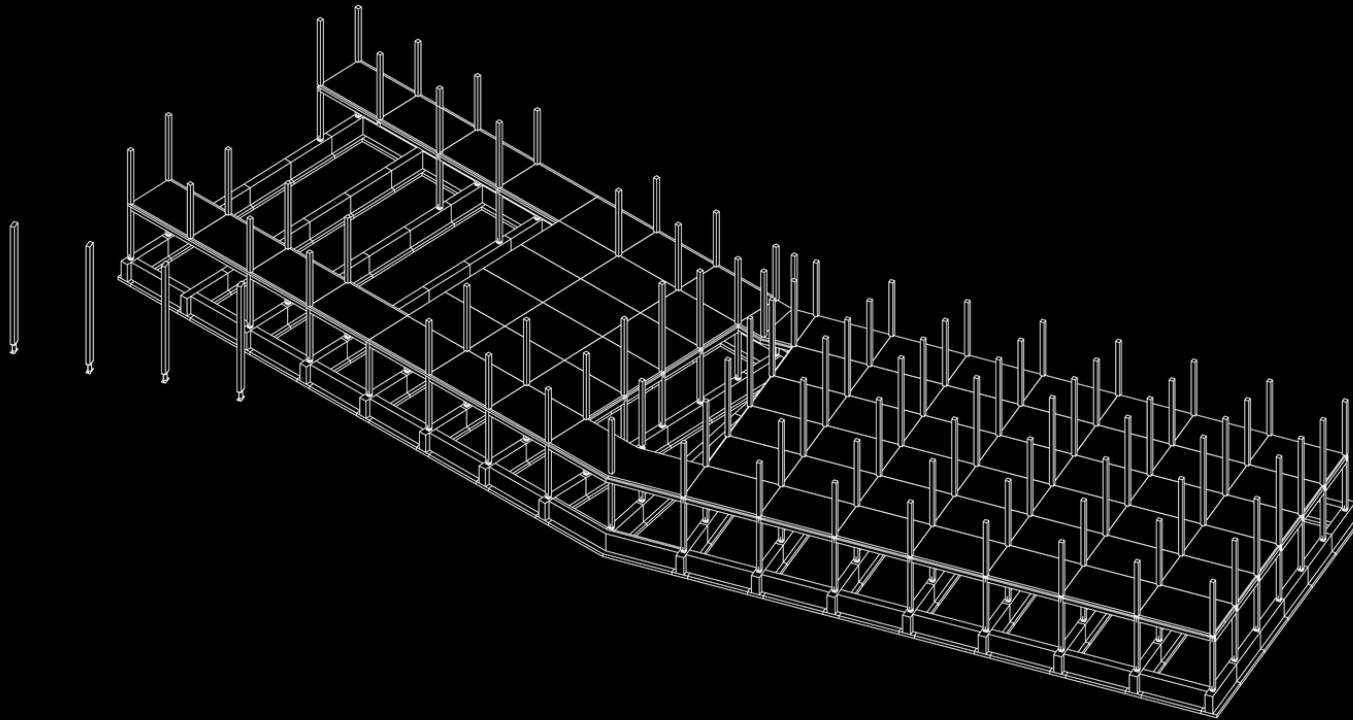


Establish the structural grid derived from the old warehouse's geometry

04 Project--Architectural Scale

Grid in the New

25/06/2025

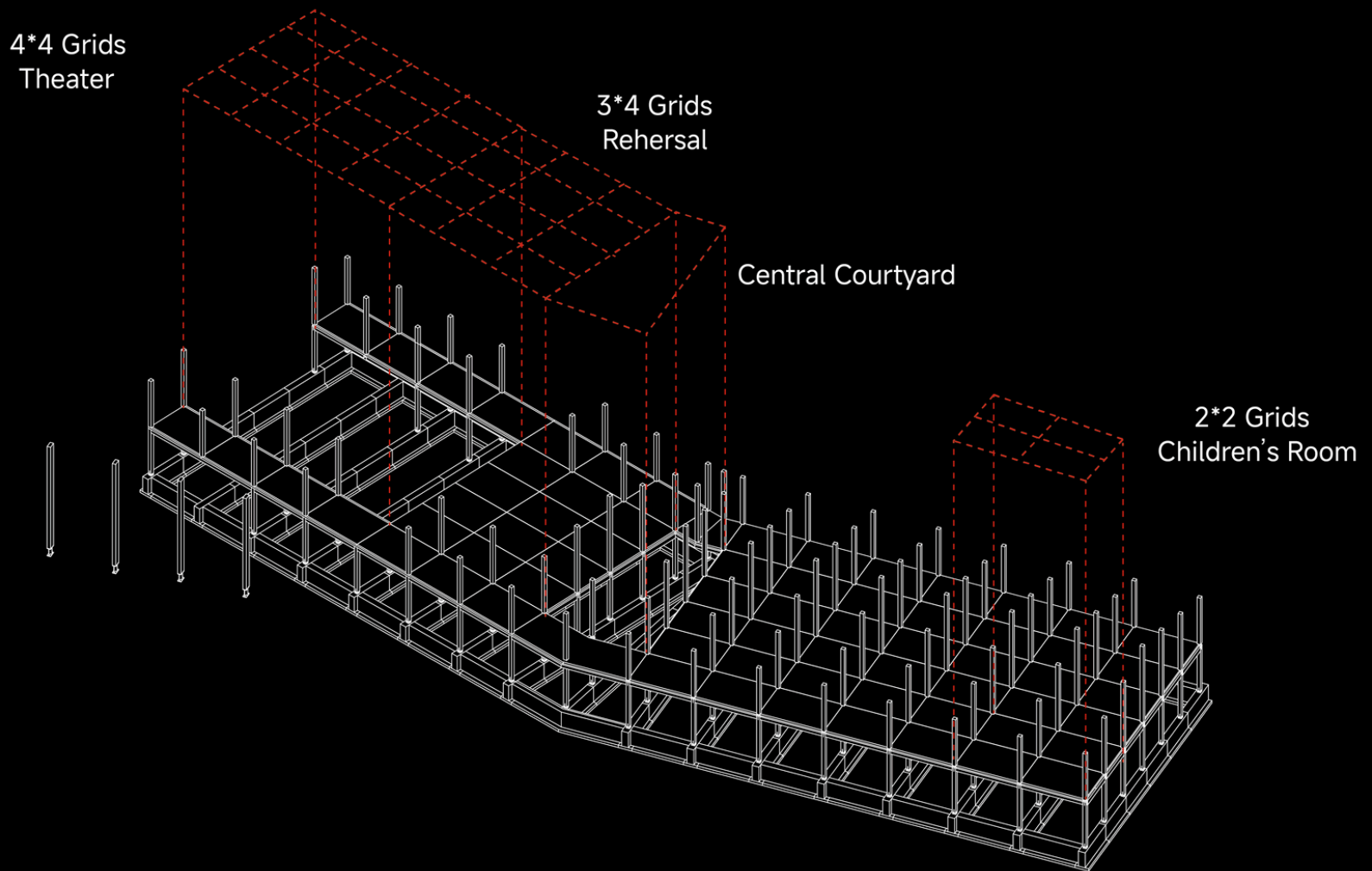


Generate a flexible layout using a post-and-plate timber system

04 Project--Architectural Scale

Grid in the New

25/06/2025

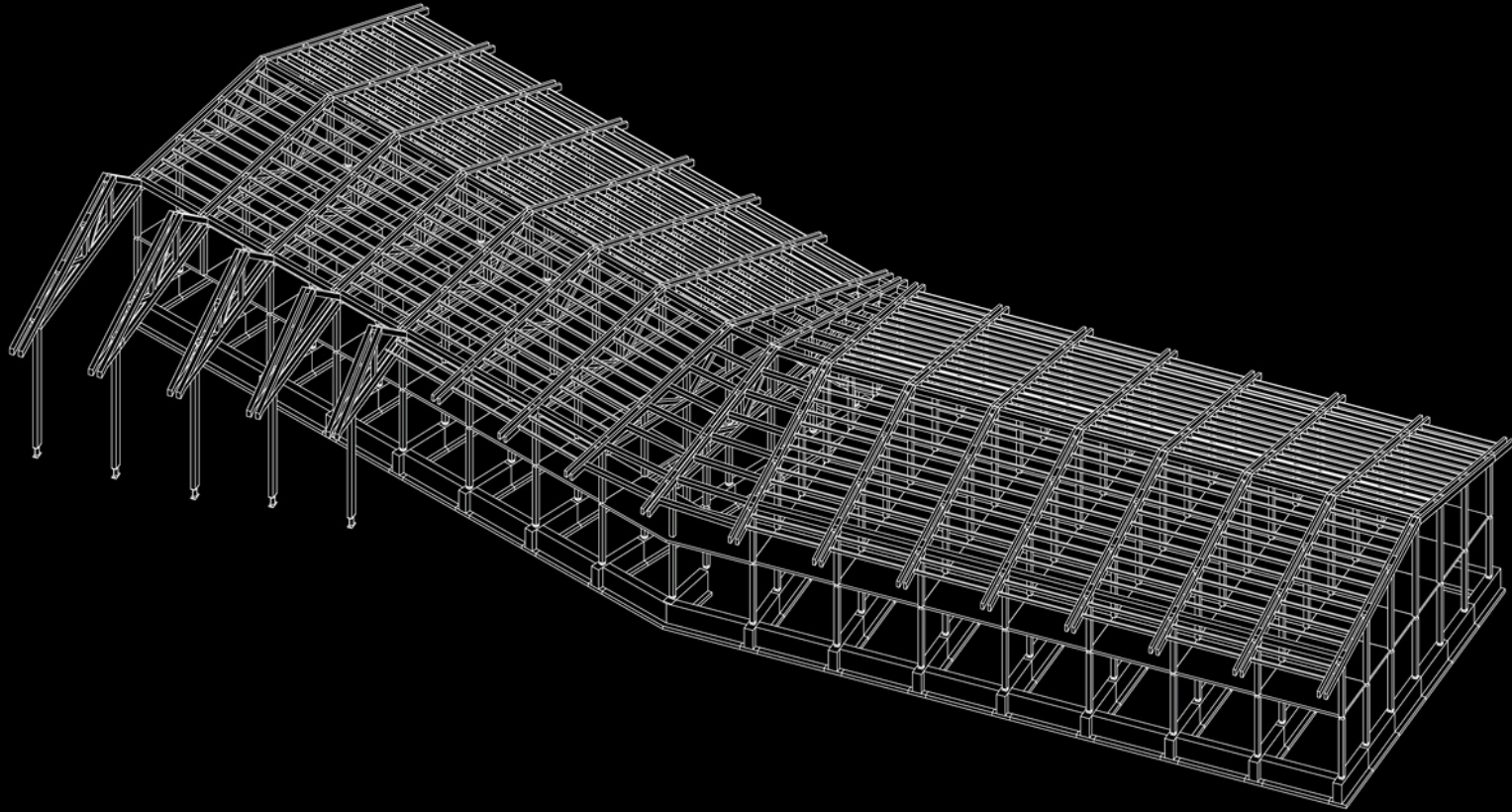


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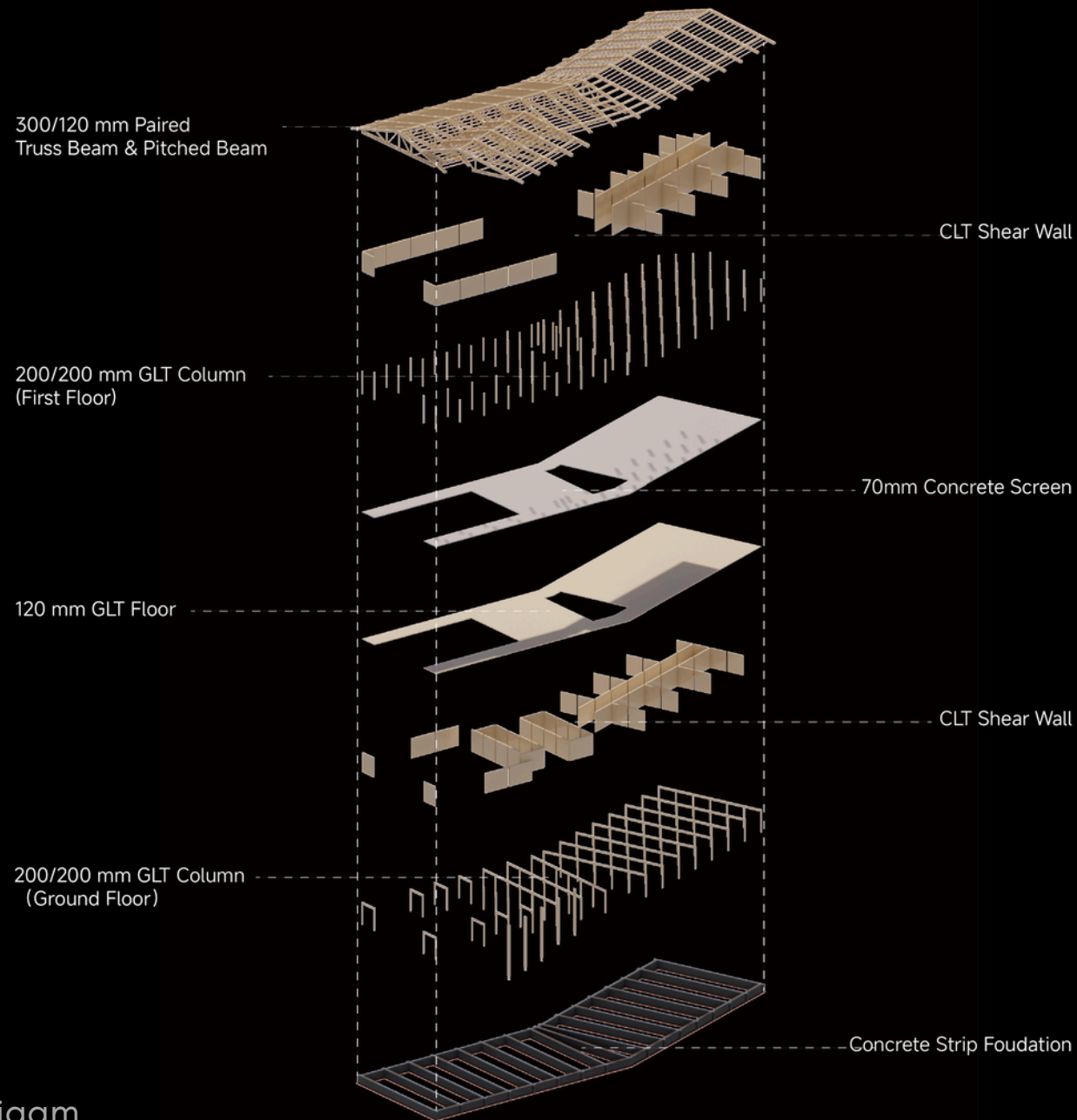
04 Project--Architectural Scale

Grid in the New

25/06/2025



Create spatial variation through pitched beams and timber trusses



04 Project--Climate Design

Climate Zone

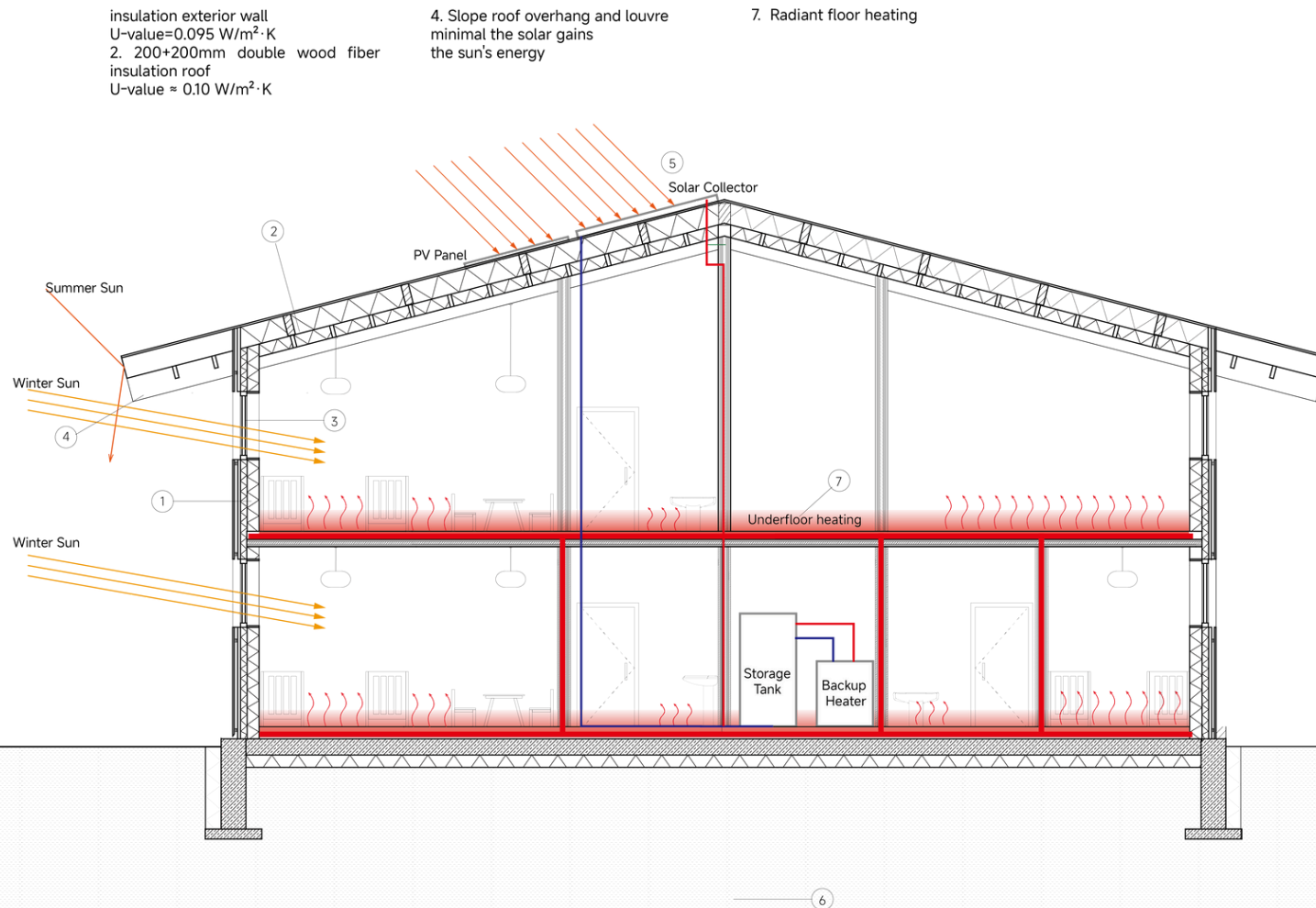
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04 Project--Climate Design

Passive Thermal Strategies

25/06/2025



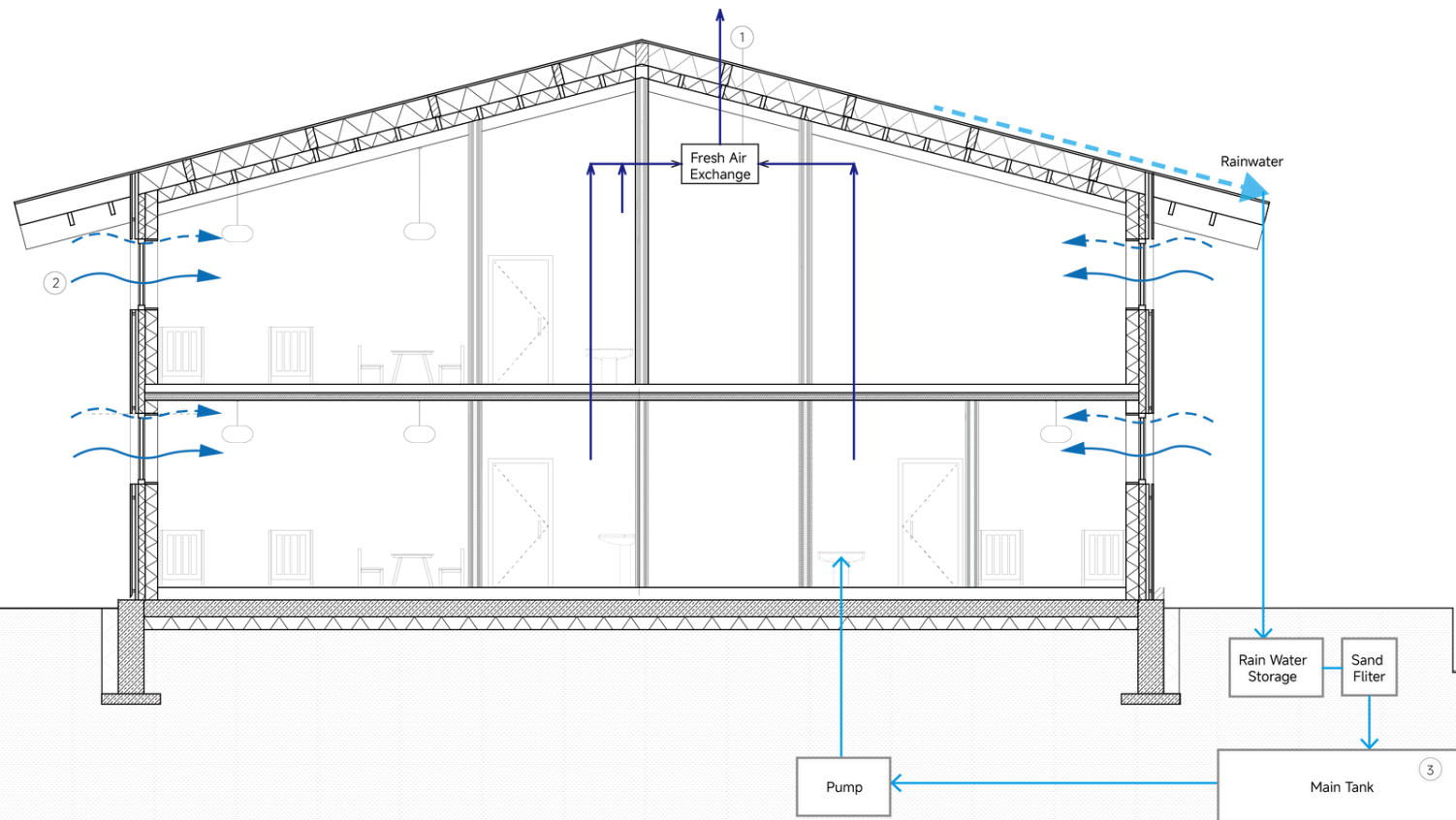
04 Project--Climate Design

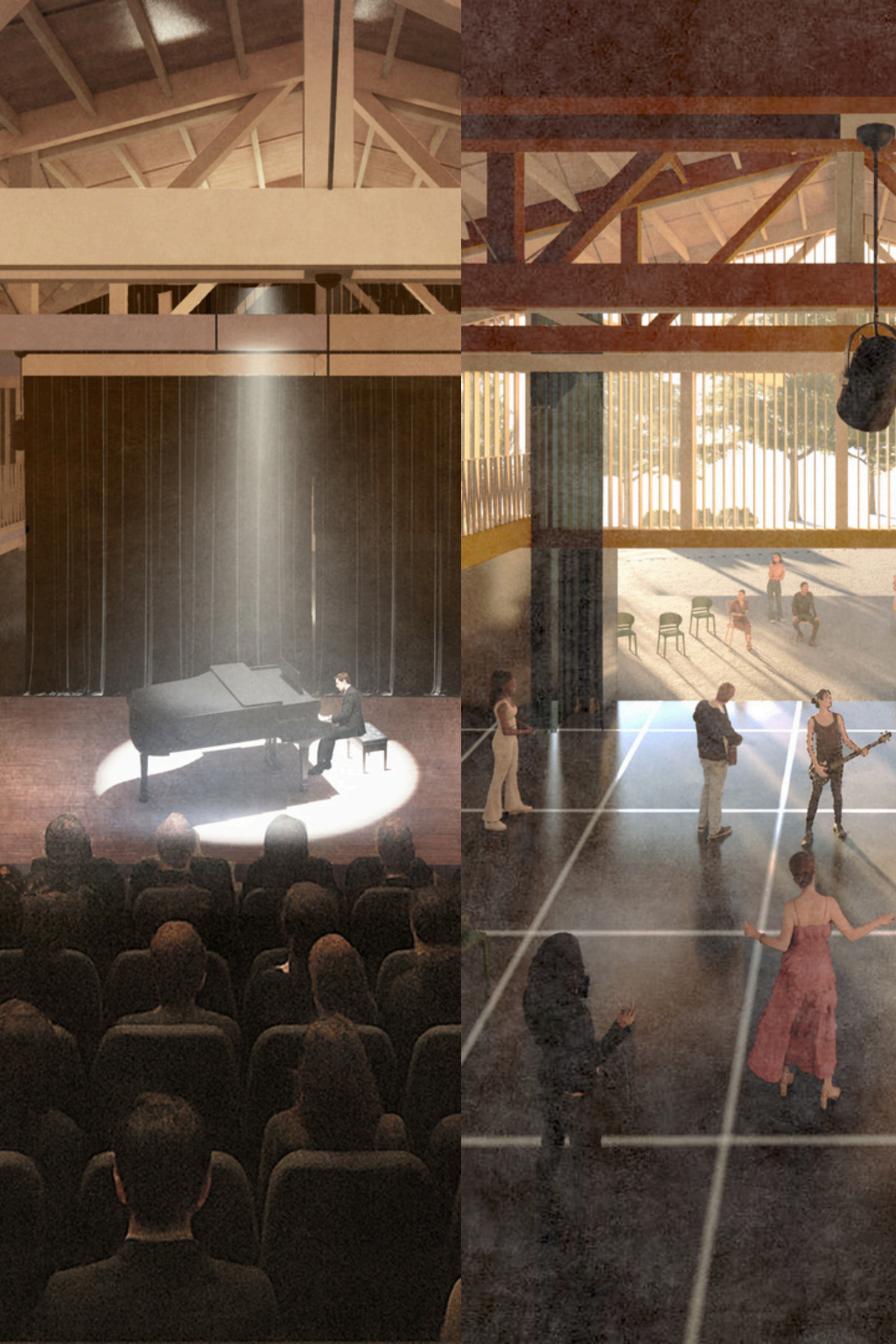
Water and Air Management Strategies

25/06/2025

Air & Moisture Control:
Balanced Ventilation with heat and
moisture Recovery
1. Mechanical exhaust ventilation
2. Natural supply with trickle vent

3. Rainwater reuse



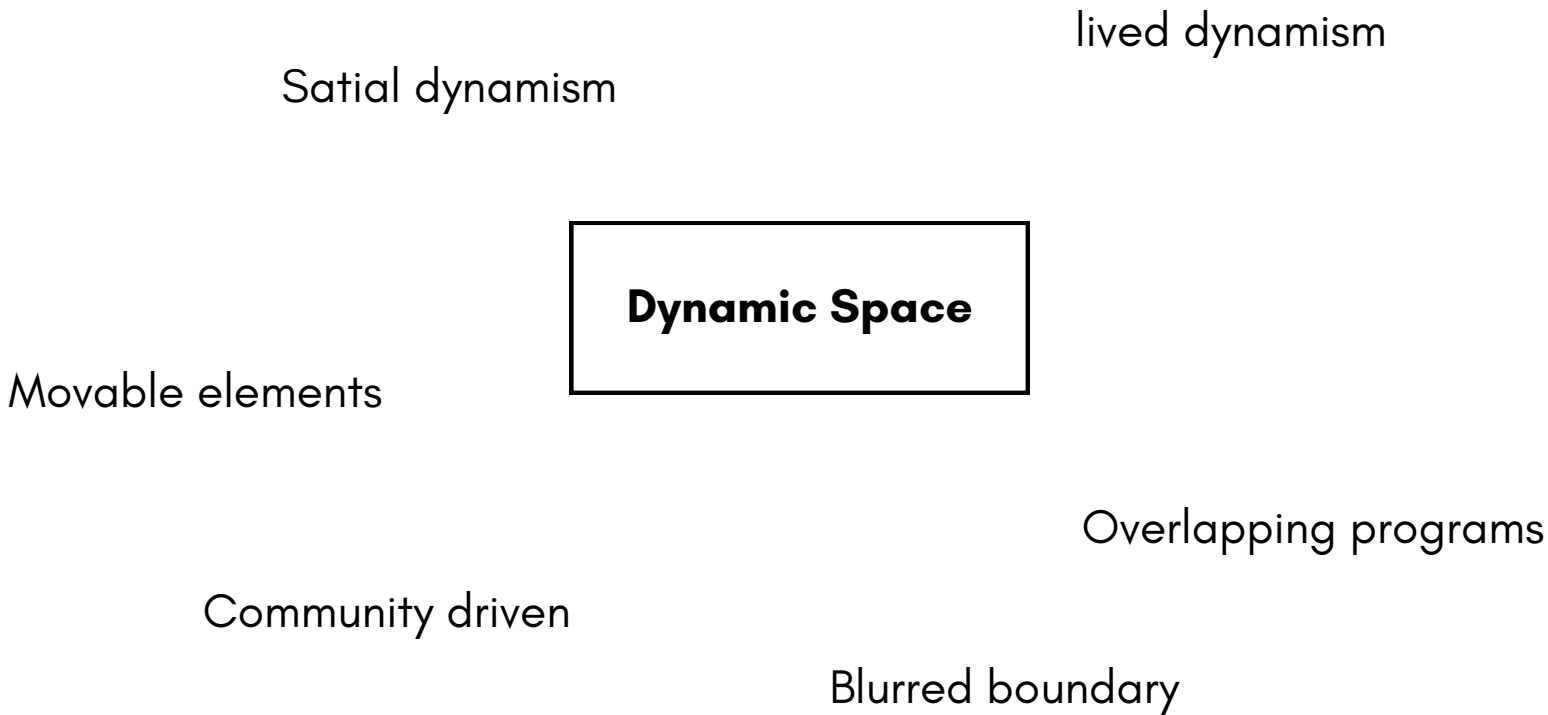


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Research Question

How to address **urban voids**—large, blank spaces that often seem **out of scale** with the surrounding?

Dynamic Space





THANK YOU

