

Complex Projects Graduation Studio - P 5.0

# THE GRAND THEATRE QUARTER

EXPERIENCING PUBLIC SPACE, BEING INSPIRED BY CULTURE

Matteo Tiraboschi  
June 15, 2022

INTRODUCTION  
THESIS TOPIC RESEARCH  
SITE APPROACH  
PROJECT DESIGN BRIEF  
IMPLEMENTATION AND DEVELOPMENT  
CONCLUSIONS

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# INSPIRATION VISION



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Thesis topic research

# LEBANESE CIVIL WAR





Thesis topic research

# LEBANESE CIVIL WAR



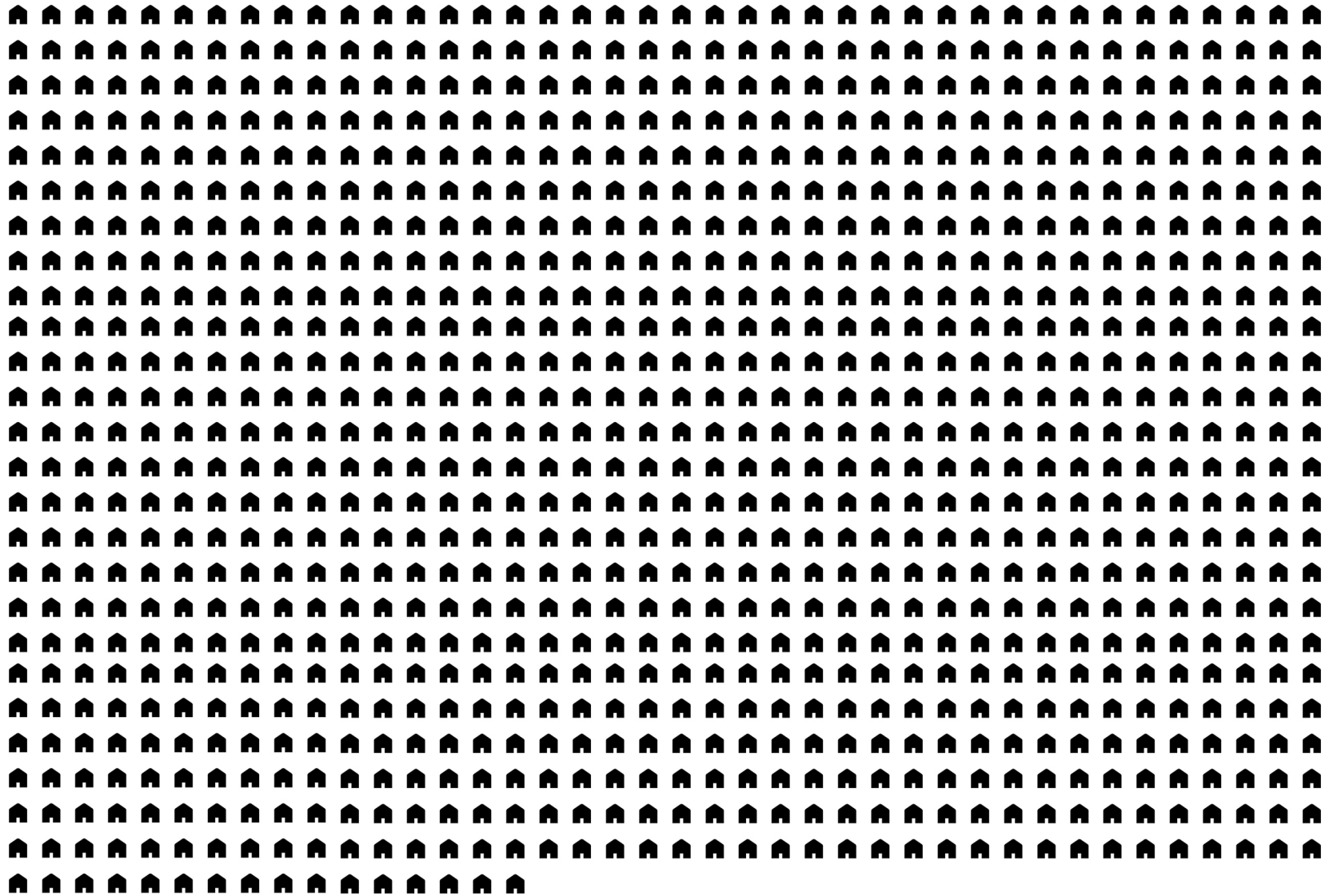


Thesis topic research

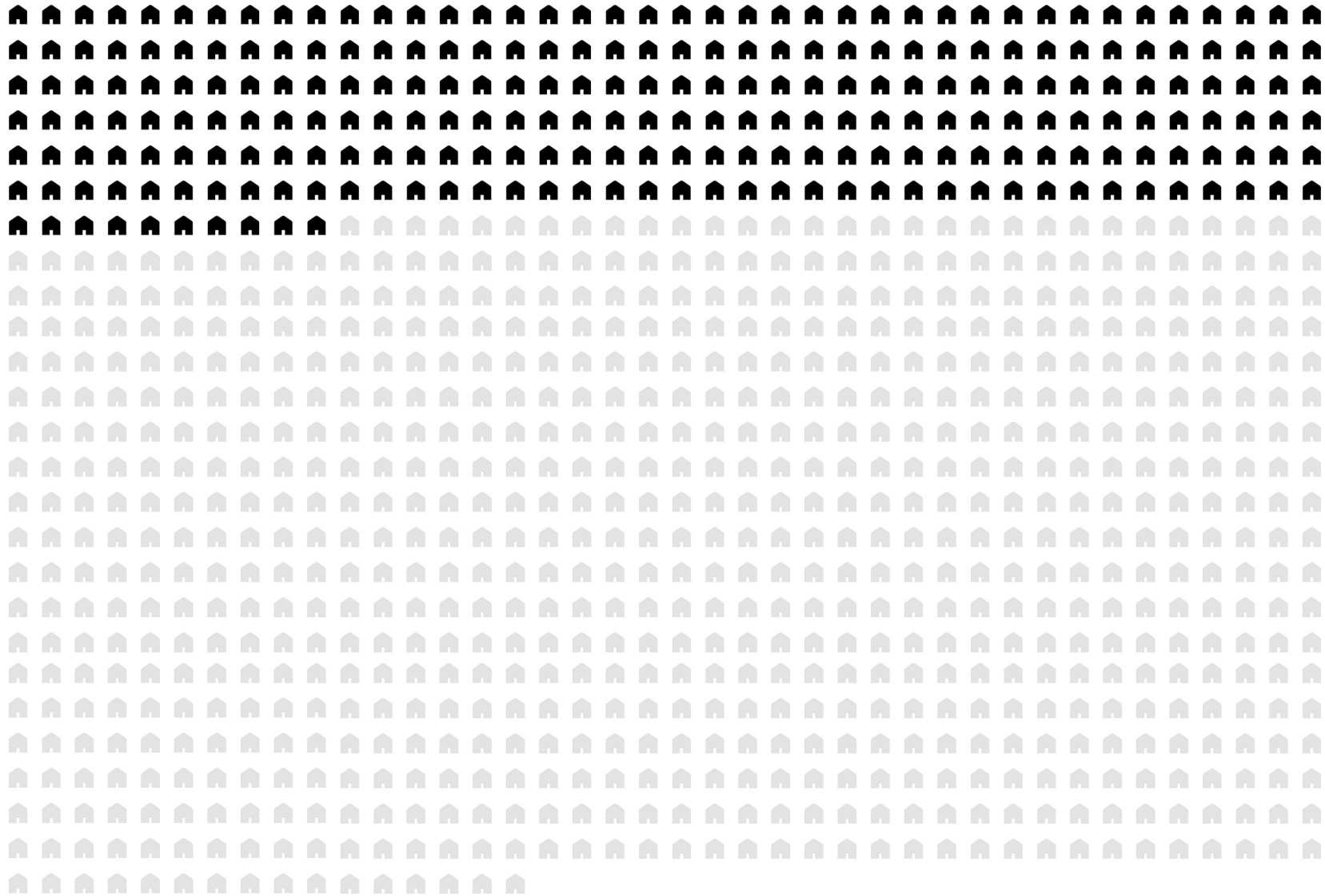
# CONSTRUCTION BOOM



# PROTECTED BUILDINGS LIST

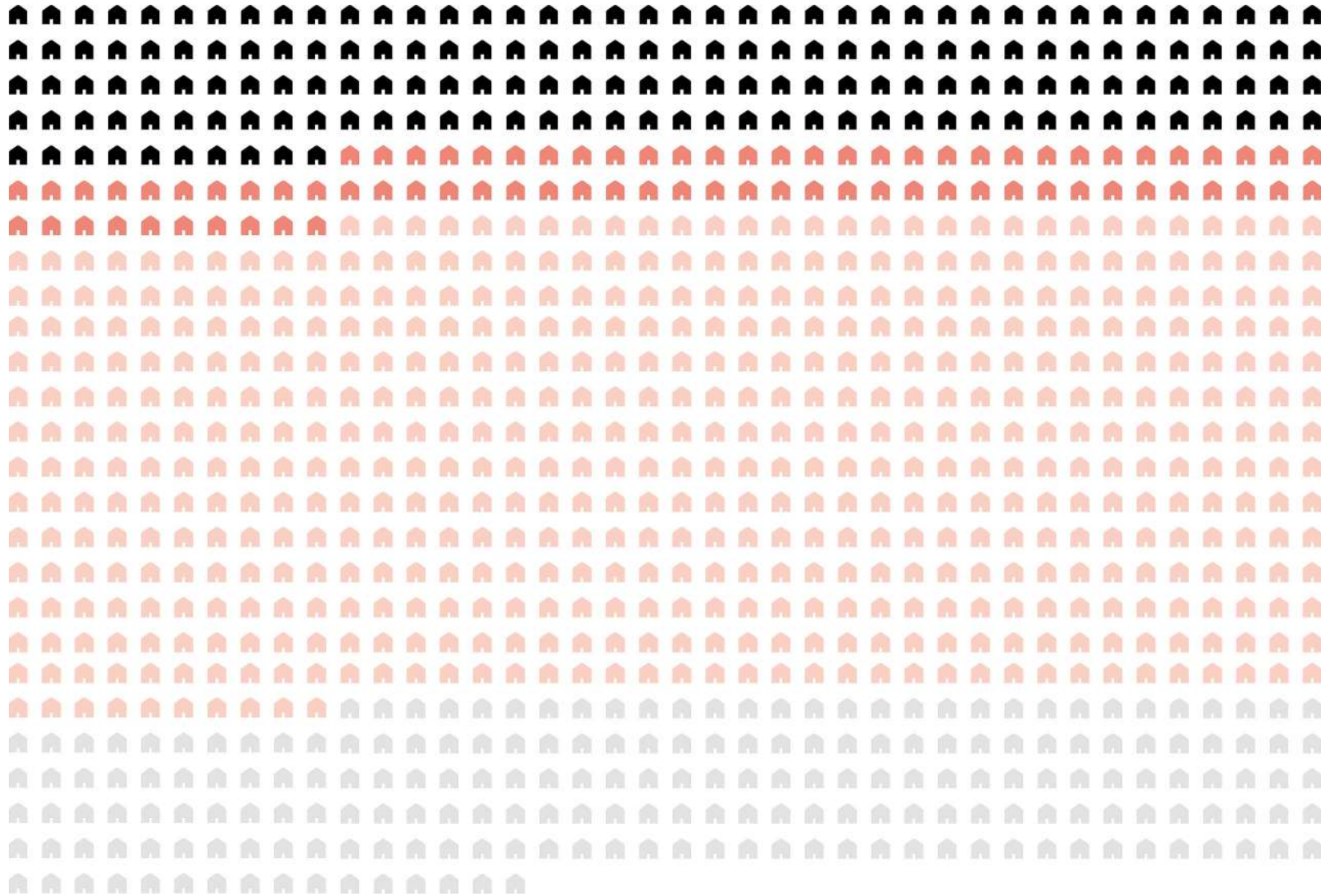


# PROTECTED BUILDINGS LIST





# PROTECTED BUILDINGS LIST



Thesis topic research

# BEIRUT EXPLOSION



# PROBLEM STATEMENT

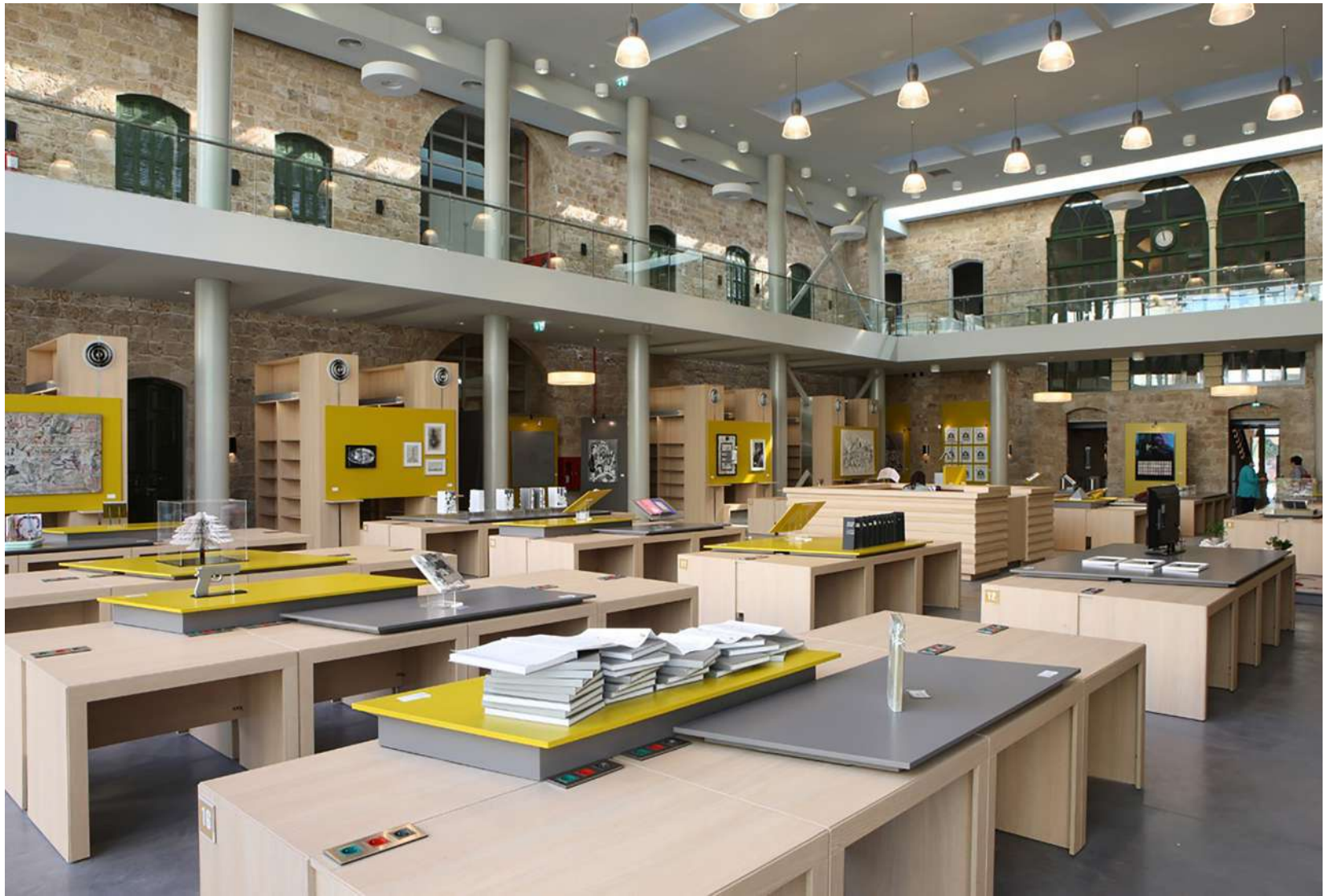
'Heritage represent the possibility of what Beirut can still be.  
These buildings give us hope and remind us of a thriving Beirut.'

Stoughton, I. (2020). 'The battle to save Beirut's beautiful buildings'.



Thesis topic research

# NEED FOR RECOGNITION



Thesis topic research

# NEED FOR REAPPROPRIATION





# AMBITIONS AND TOPICS

first ambition and topic



second ambition and topic

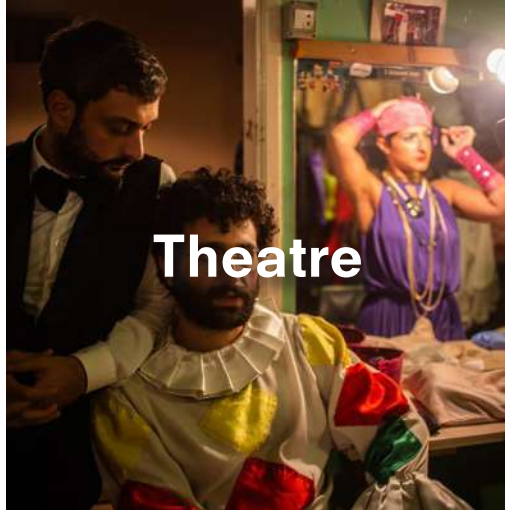


third ambition and topic



# AMBITIONS AND TOPICS

first ambition and topic



second ambition and topic



third ambition and topic





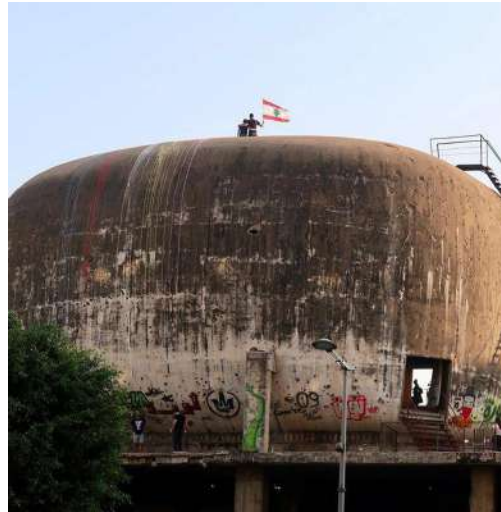
Thesis topic research

# THEATRE AND CINEMA

absolute number



finances



taxation



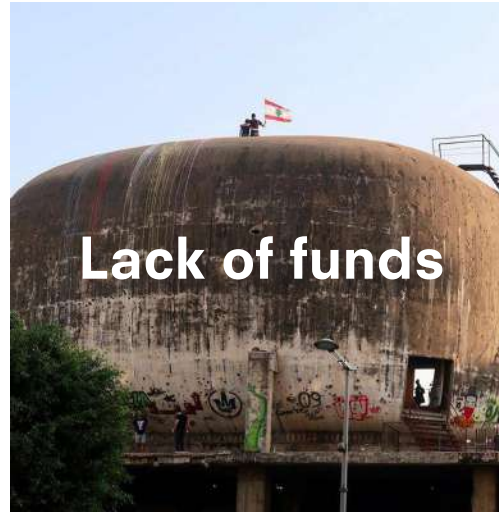


# THEATRE AND CINEMA

absolute number



finances



taxation

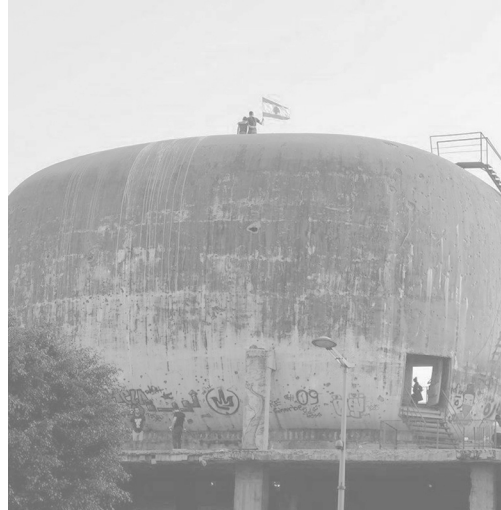


# THEATRE AND CINEMA

absolute number



finances



taxation



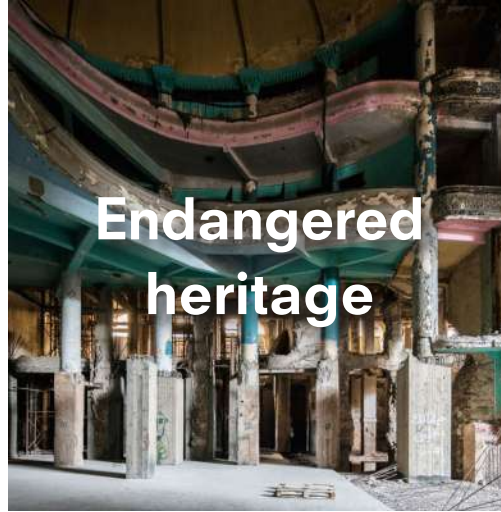


# AMBITIONS AND TOPICS

first ambition and topic



second ambition and topic



third ambition and topic



# THEATRE TYPOLOGIES

## Spaces for drama

Small drama theatres

Arena theatre

Thrust theatre

Endstage theatre

Flexible theatres

Environmental theatre

Promenade theatre

Black-box theatre

Studio theatre

Courtyard theatre

Large drama theatres

Proscenium theatre

Thrust and open stage

## Spaces for acoustic music

Recital halls

Concert halls

Shoebox concert hall

Vineyard concert hall

## Spaces for opera and dance

Opera houses

Dance theatres

## Spaces for multiple uses

Multi-purpose theatres

Multi-form theatres

## Spaces for entertainment

Multi-use commercial theatres

Showrooms

## Spaces for media interaction

4D theatres

## Spaces for meeting

Conference centres

Houses of worship

## Spaces for teaching

Single-purpose spaces

Instructional spaces

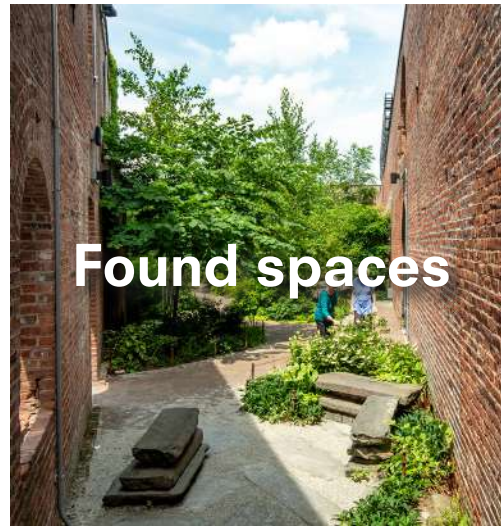
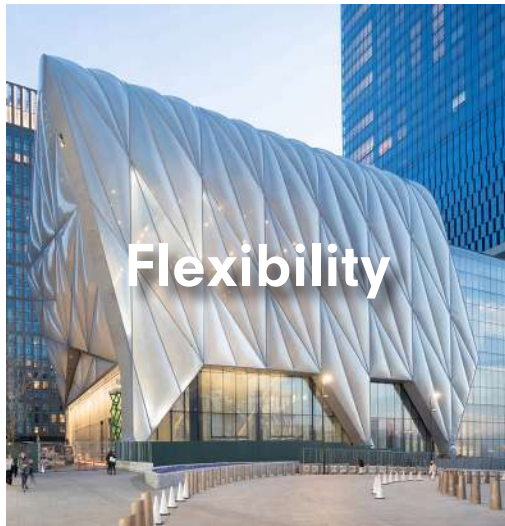
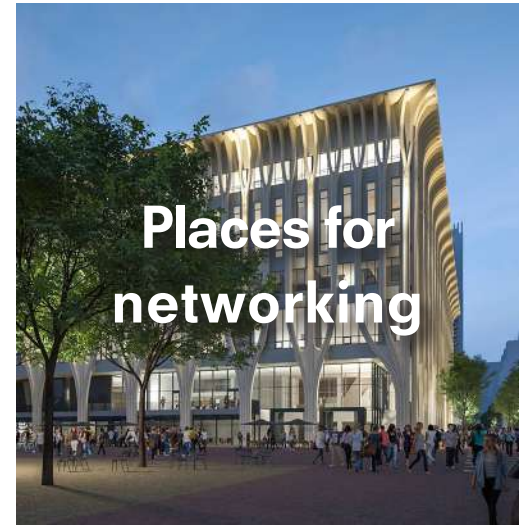
Stage technology

# SPATIAL AND FUNCTIONAL TRENDS





# SPATIAL AND FUNCTIONAL TRENDS



# AMBITIONS AND TOPICS

first ambition and topic



second ambition and topic



third ambition and topic



# CULTURE 3.0

‘By active cultural participation we mean a situation in which individuals do not limit themselves to absorb passively the cultural stimuli, but are motivated to put their skills at work.’

Sacco, P. (2011). ‘Culture 3.0: a new perspective for the EU’.



# THEATRICAL PUBLIC SPACE

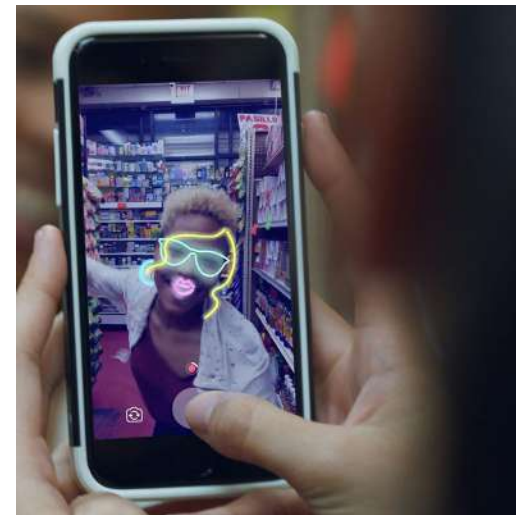
where



when



how

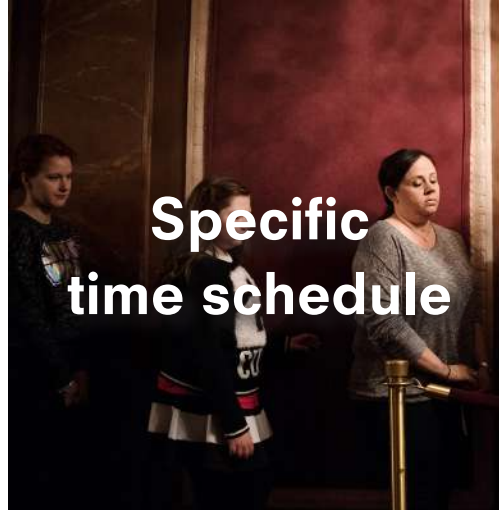


# THEATRICAL PUBLIC SPACE

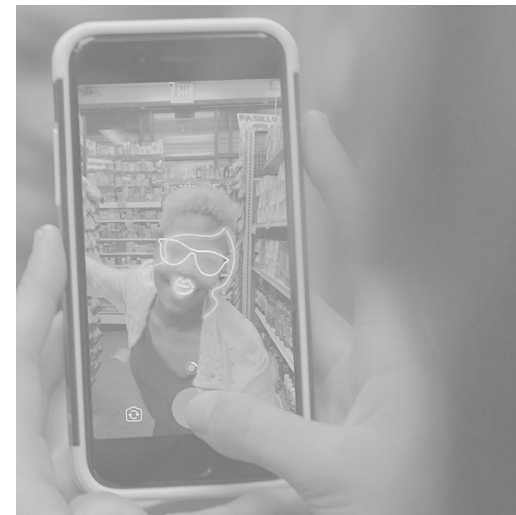
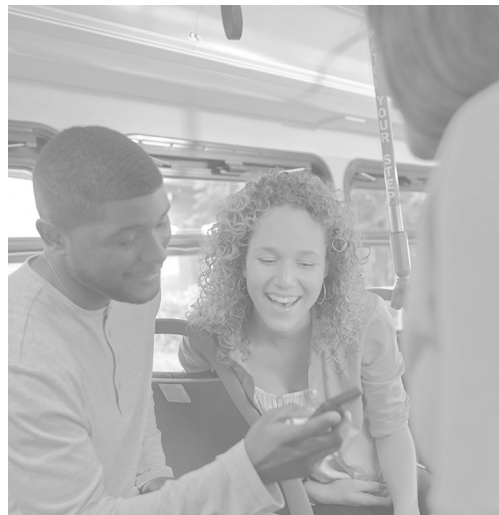
where



when



how





# THEATRICAL PUBLIC SPACE

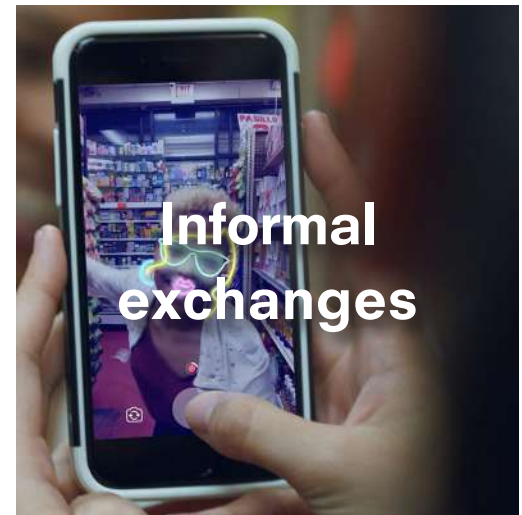
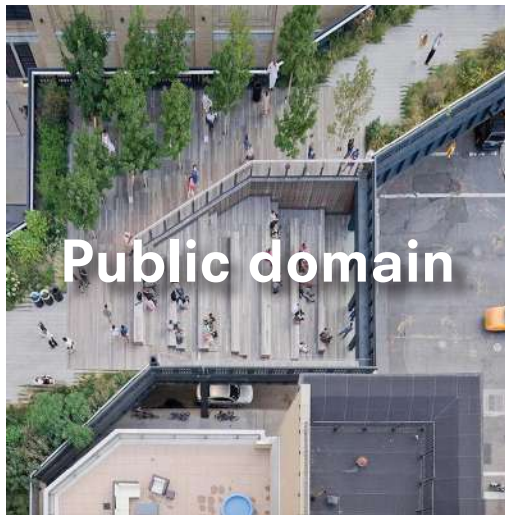
where



when



how



# RESEARCH QUESTION

‘How a new architectural development centred around the Grand Theatre building can help re-establishing a cultural presence in Central Beirut?’

Thesis topic research

# THE GRAND THEATRE QUARTER

first ambition and topic



second ambition and topic



third ambition and topic



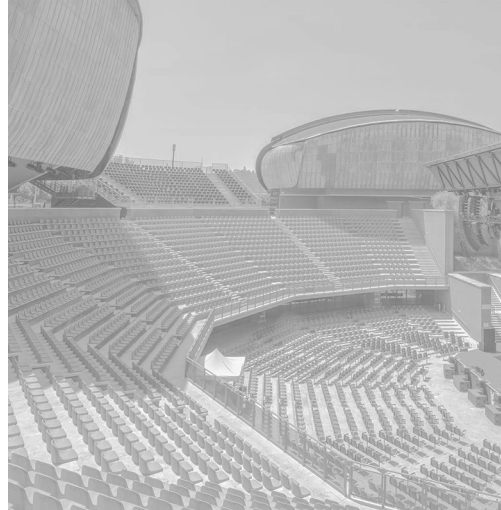


# THE GRAND THEATRE QUARTER

first ambition and topic



second ambition and topic



third ambition and topic



Thesis topic research

# THE GRAND THEATRE QUARTER

first ambition and topic



second ambition and topic



third ambition and topic





# THE GRAND THEATRE QUARTER

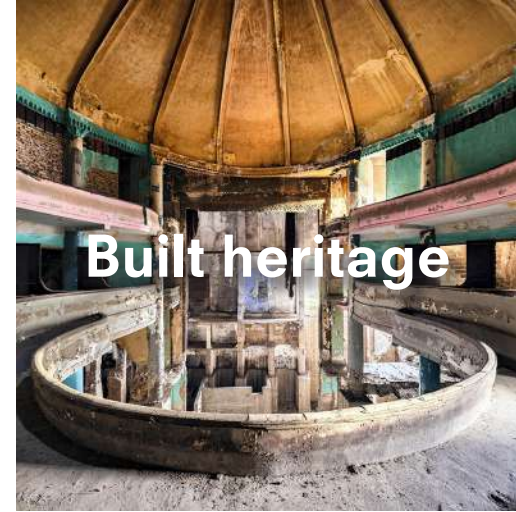
first ambition and topic



second ambition and topic



third ambition and topic





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**SITE APPROACH**  
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Site approach

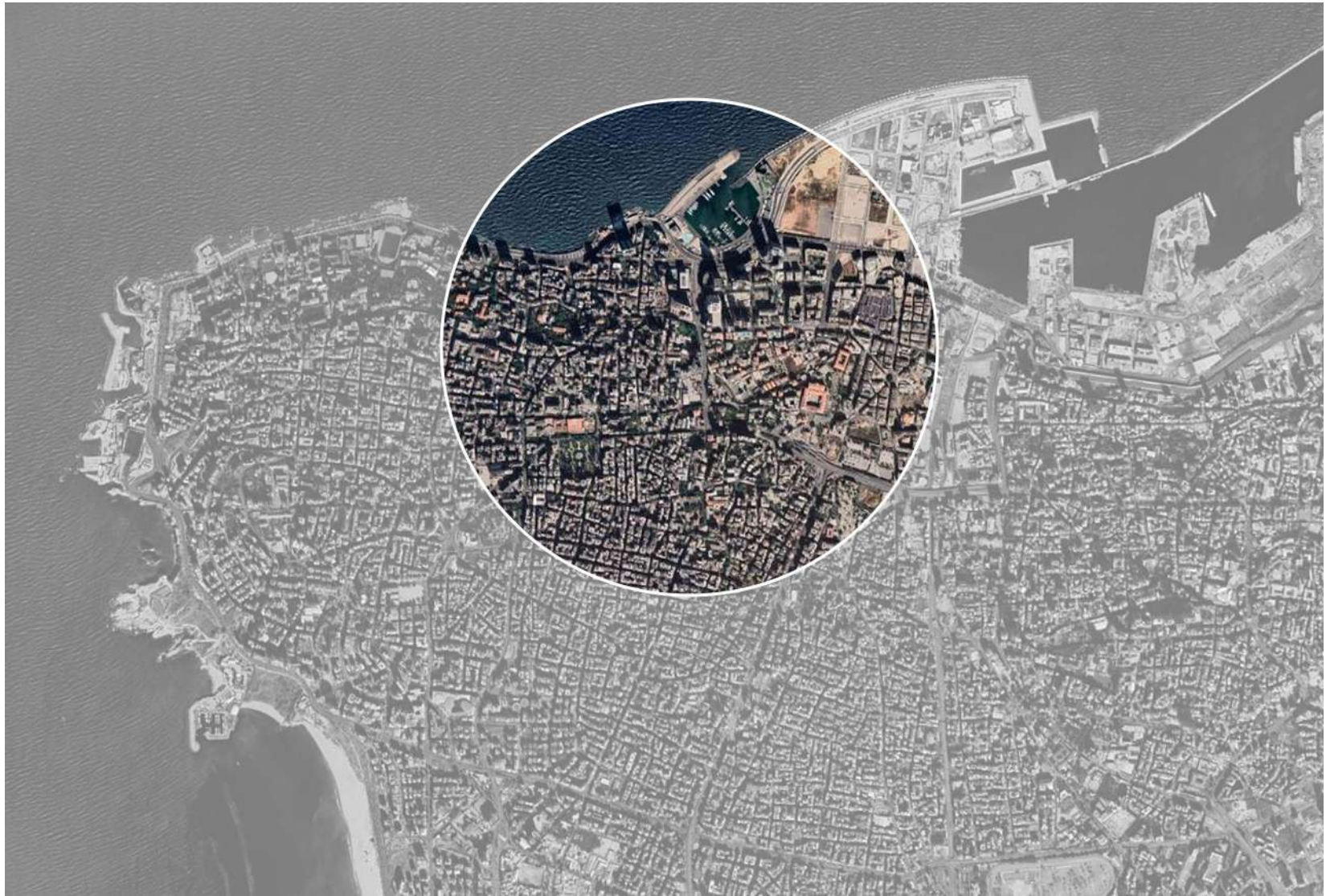
# BIDHARA'L BEIRUT





Site approach

# BIDHARA'L BEIRUT





Site approach

# URBAN PROBLEMS



Site approach

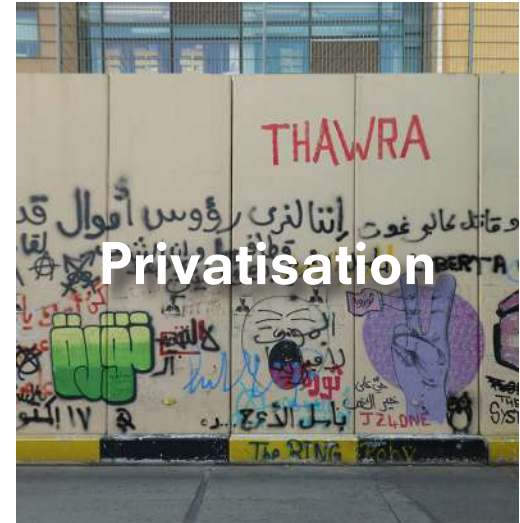
# URBAN PROBLEMS



# URBAN PROBLEMS



Vacancy



Privatisation



Site approach

# SITE LOCATION



Site approach

# PLOT DEFINITION





Site approach

# SURROUNDING FUNCTIONS



Site approach

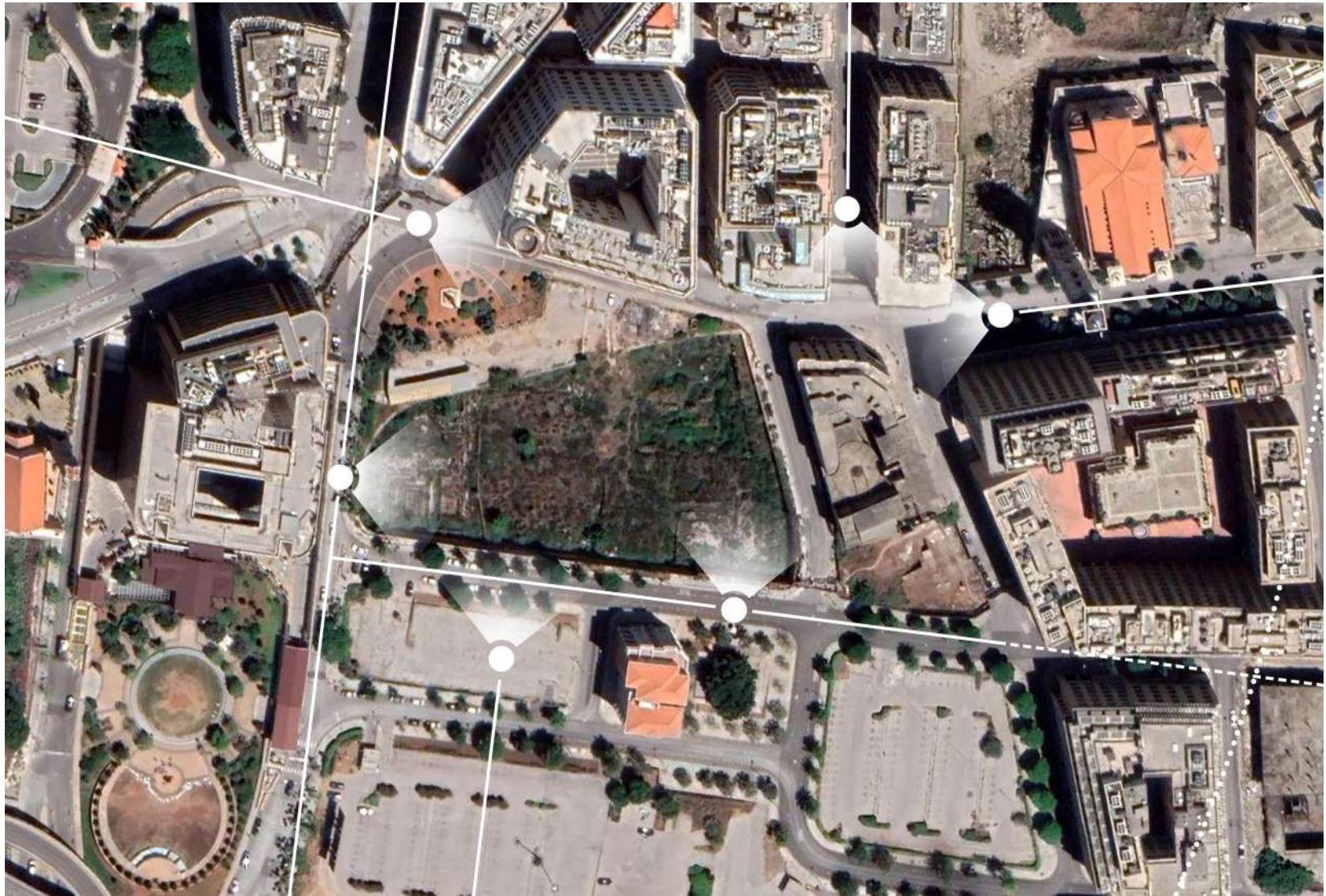
# SITE CIRCULATION





Site approach

# AXES AND VIEWS





Site approach

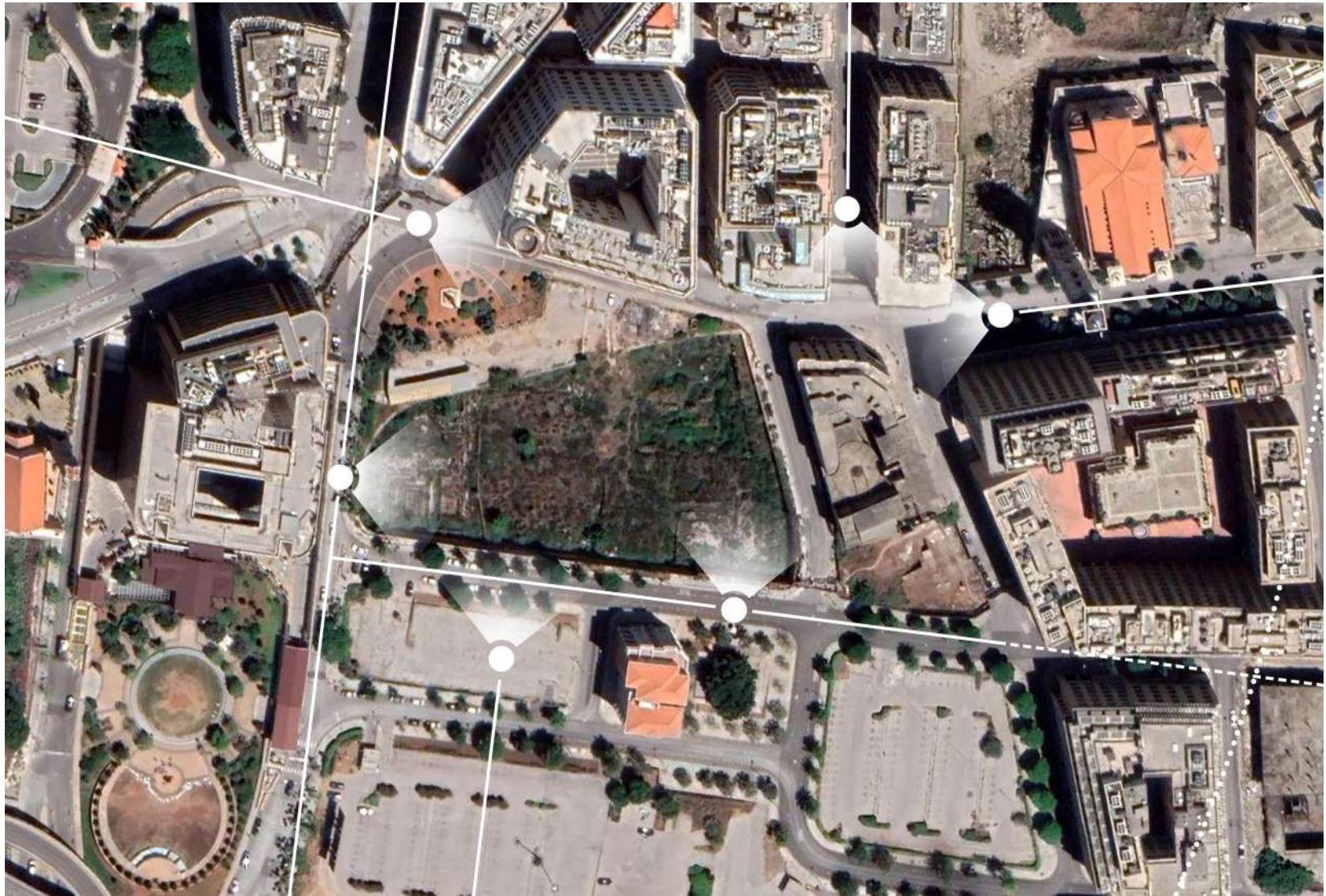
# AXES AND VIEWS





Site approach

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Site approach

# AXES AND VIEWS





Site approach

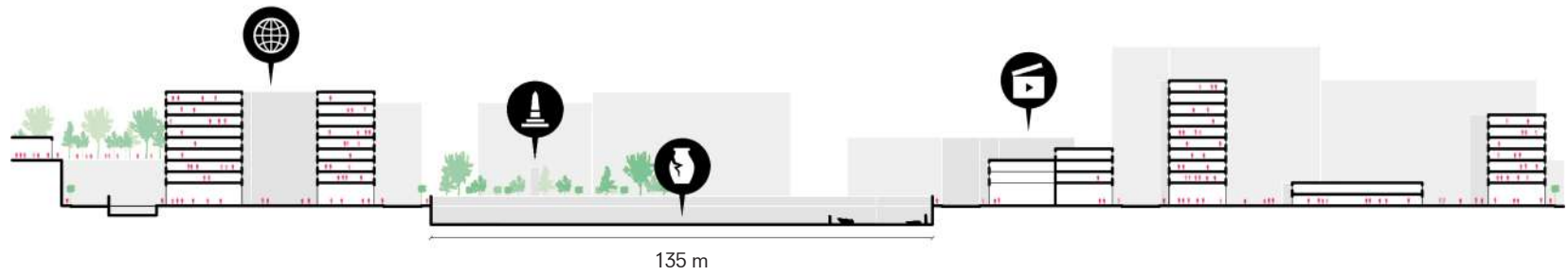
# SITE SECTIONS





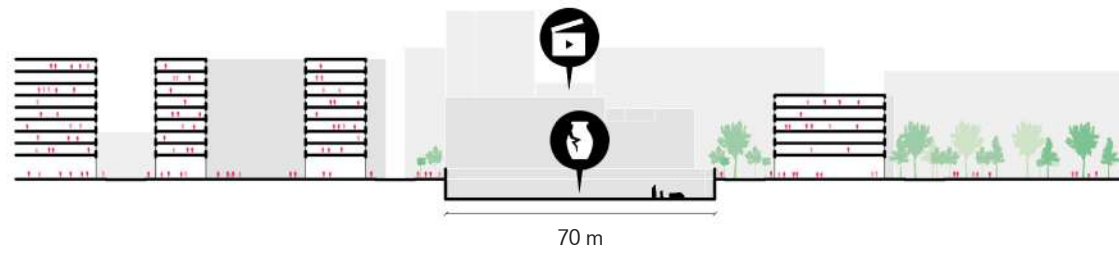
Site approach

# EAST-WEST SECTION



Site approach

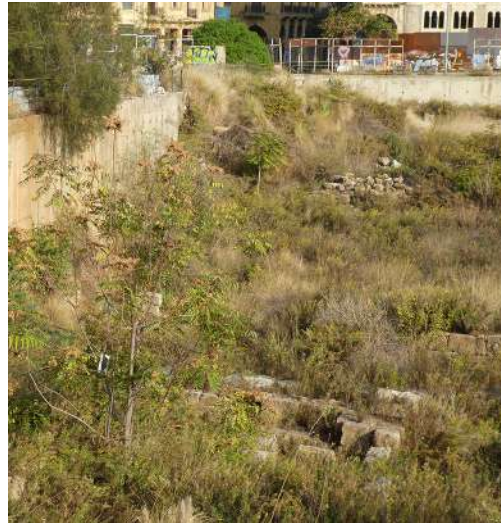
# NORTH-SOUTH SECTION





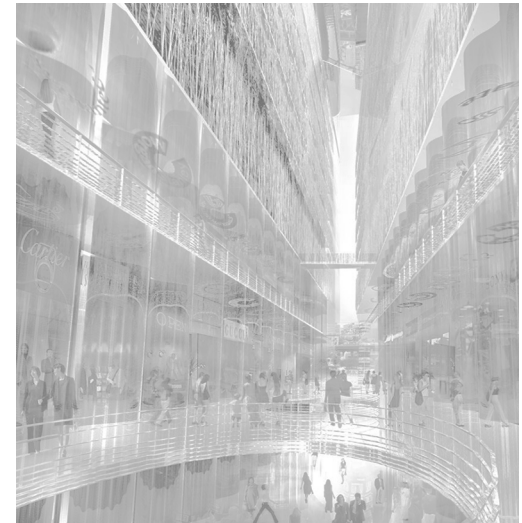
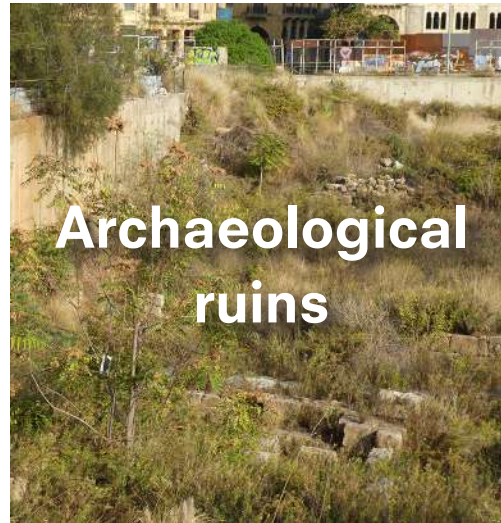
Site approach

# SITE LEADING ASSETS



Site approach

# SITE LEADING ASSETS





# GRAND THEATRE TIMELINE



**1929**  
French theatre

**1960**  
Cinema

**1975**  
Lebanese Civil War

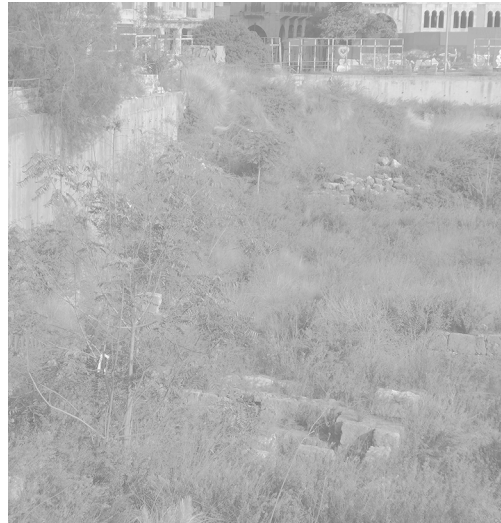
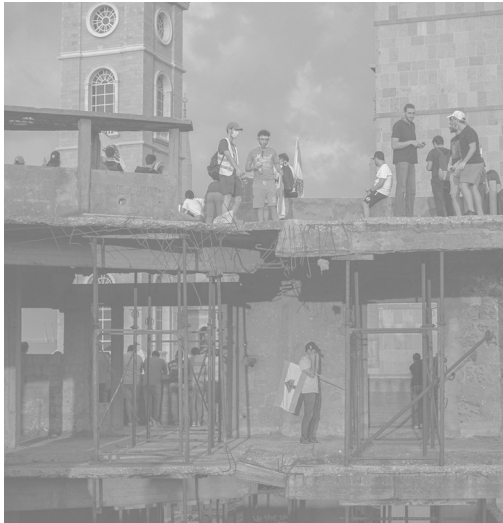
**1990**  
Solidere

**2020**  
Protests

**2022**  
Bidhara'l Beirut

Site approach

# SITE LEADING ASSETS





Site approach

# THE LANDMARK



Site approach

# HOUSE OF ARTS AND CULTURE





# WRITING WAS ON THE WALL

The two projects did not consider public space, thus they failed.

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# PUBLIC SPACE CHALLENGE



# PUBLIC SPACE CHALLENGE





Project design brief

# KENNEDY CENTRE



Project design brief

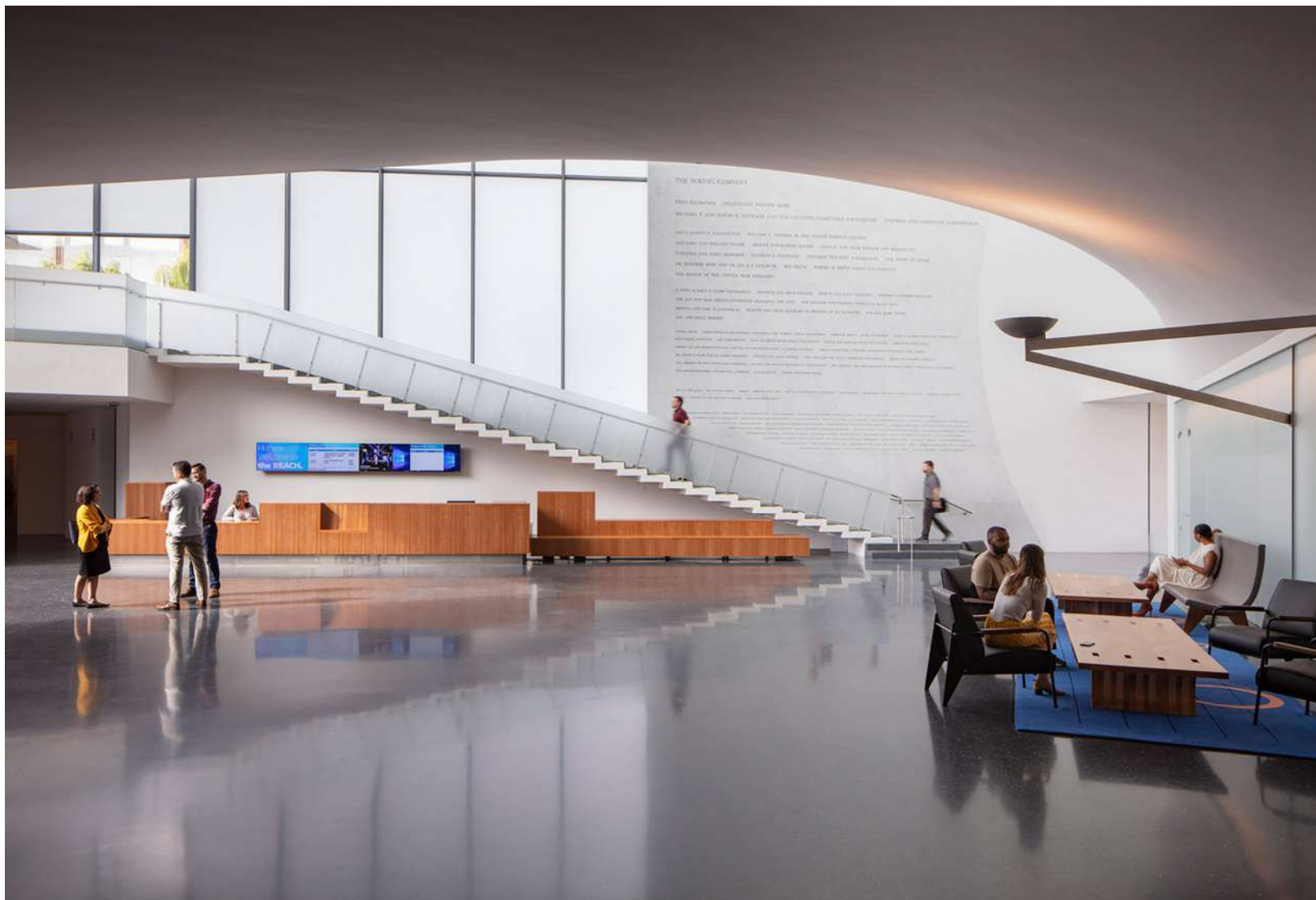
# KENNEDY CENTRE



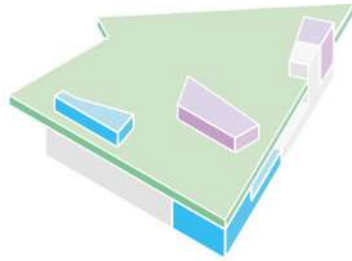


Project design brief

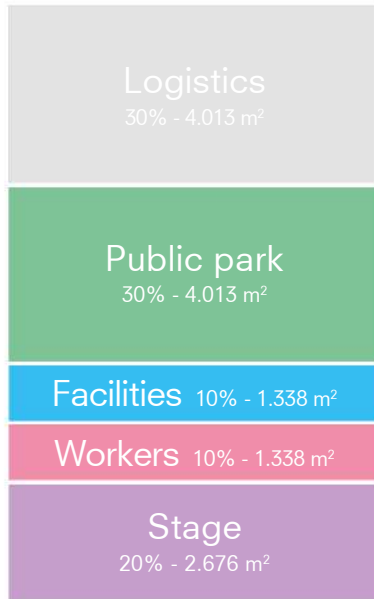
# KENNEDY CENTRE



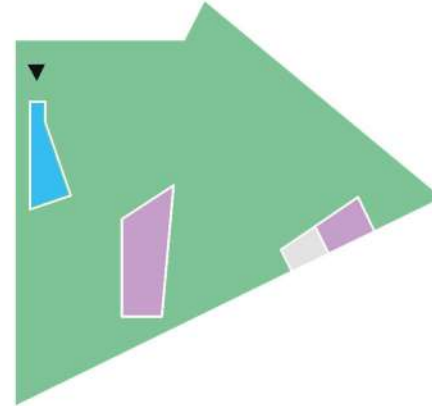
# KENNEDY CENTER ANALYSIS



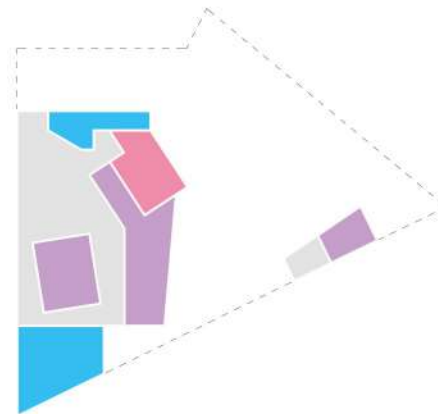
13.378 m<sup>2</sup>



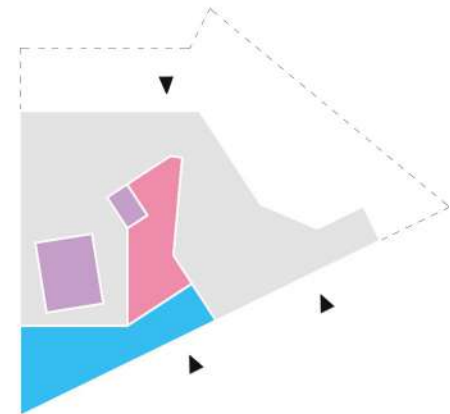
**Kennedy Centre**  
Steven Holl Architects



ground floor plan



first underground floor plan



second underground floor plan



Project design brief

# GREEN SQUARE LIBRARY



Project design brief

# GREEN SQUARE LIBRARY



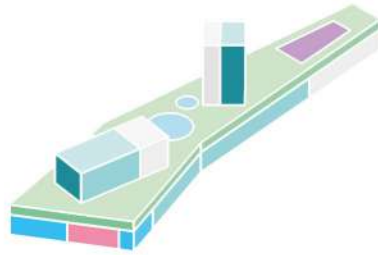


Project design brief

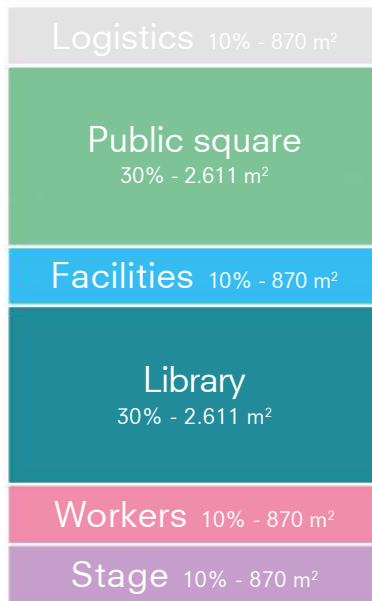
# GREEN SQUARE LIBRARY



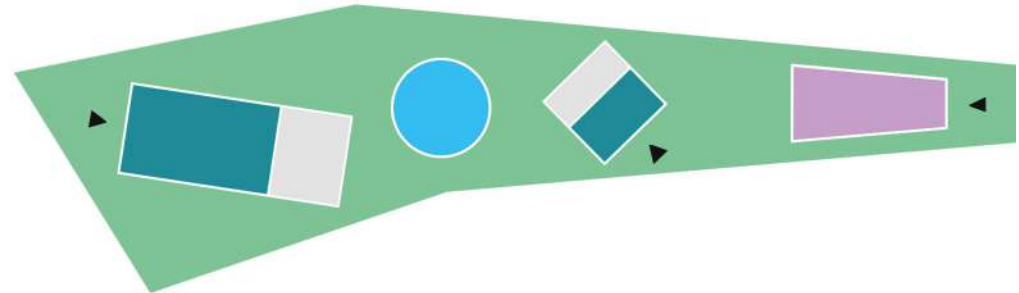
# GREEN SQUARE LIBRARY ANALYSIS



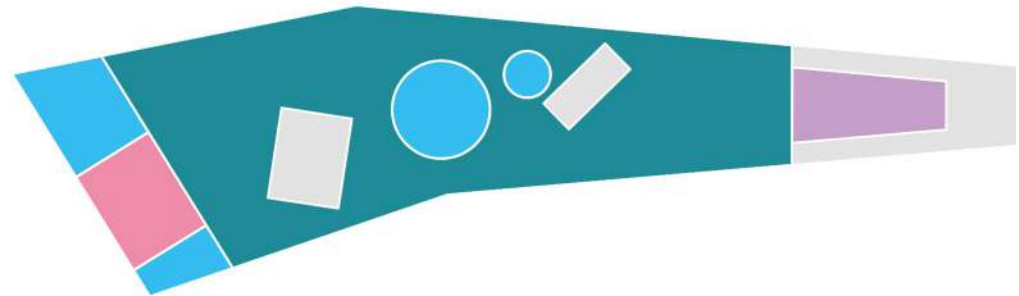
8.702 m<sup>2</sup>



**Green Square Library**  
Studio Hollenstein



ground floor plan



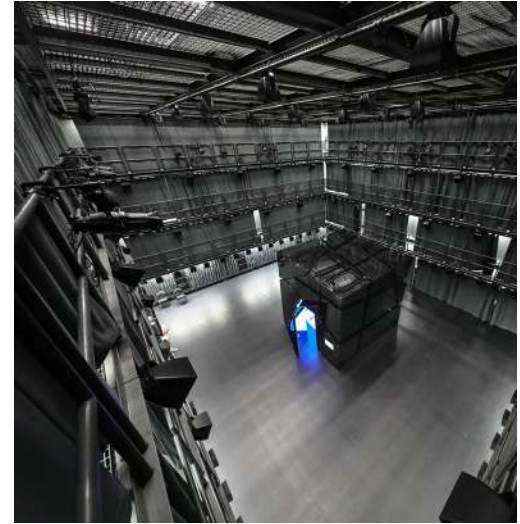
underground floor plan



# PROGRAMME PROPOSAL

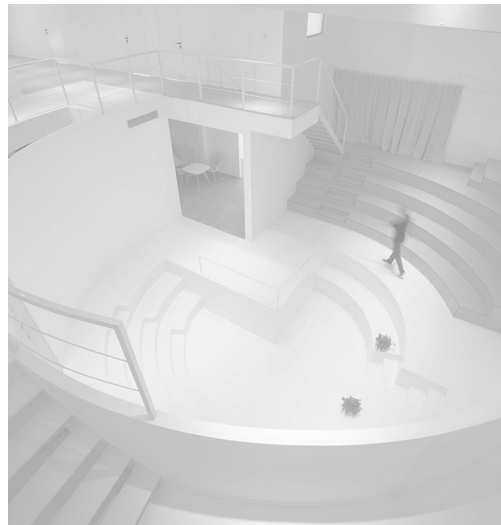
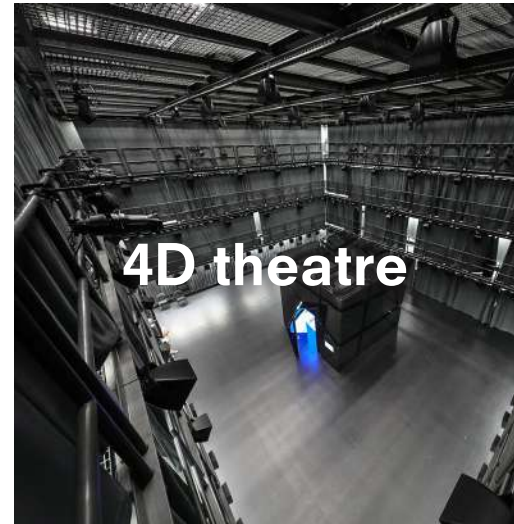
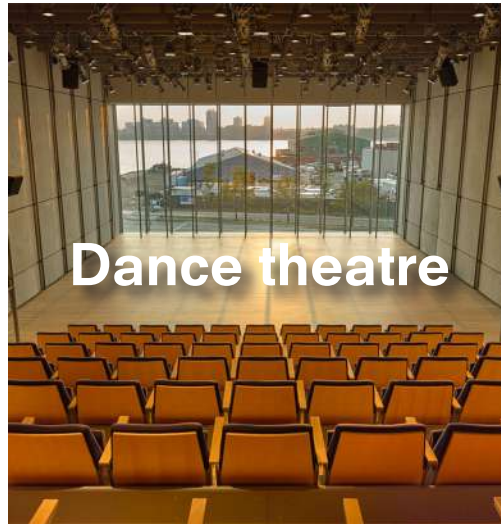
What is the best programme for The Grand Theatre Quarter?

Project design brief  
**PROGRAMME**

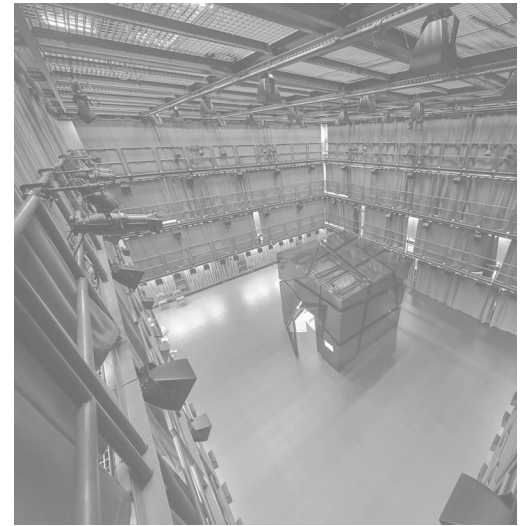
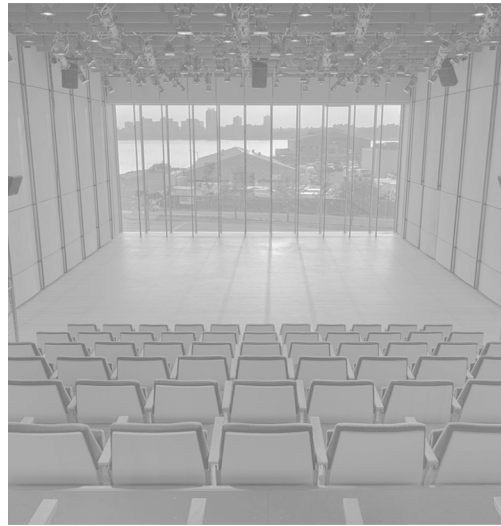




Project design brief  
**PROGRAMME**

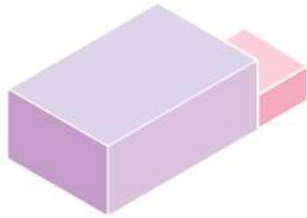


Project design brief  
**PROGRAMME**

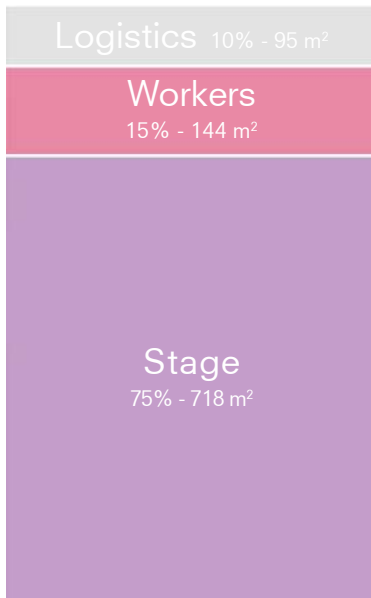




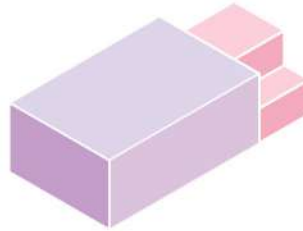
# VENUES BENCHMARKING



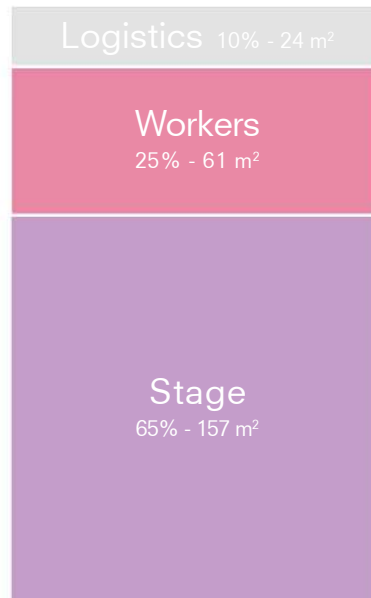
957 m<sup>2</sup>



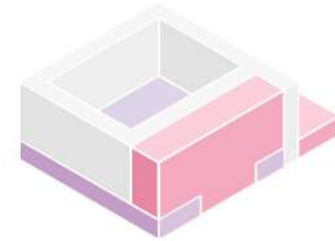
**Environmental theatre**  
Daryl Roth Theatre



242 m<sup>2</sup>



**Dance theatre**  
Hess Dance Theatre

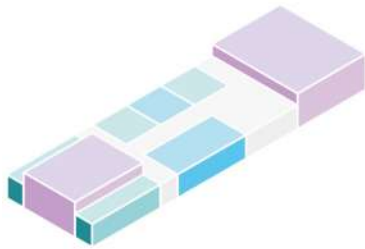


1.266 m<sup>2</sup>

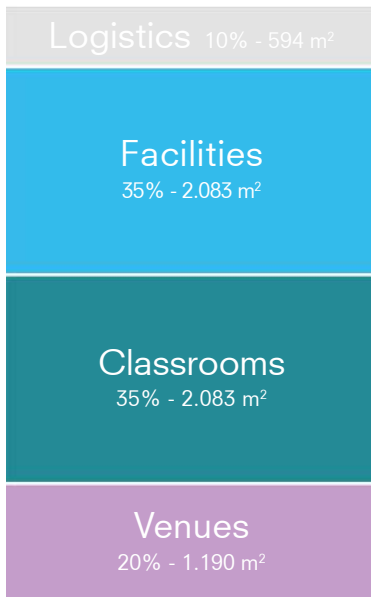


**4D theatre**  
The Cube Virginia Tech

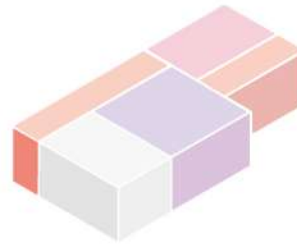
# OTHER ACTIVITIES BENCHMARKING



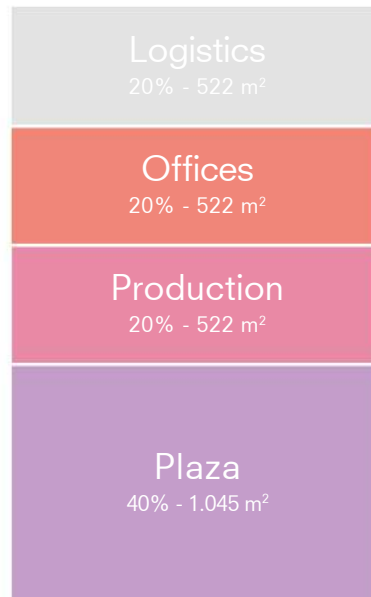
5.950 m<sup>2</sup>



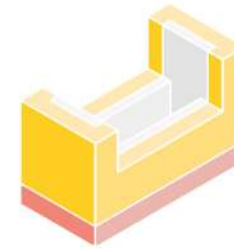
**Theatrical education**  
Kensington High School



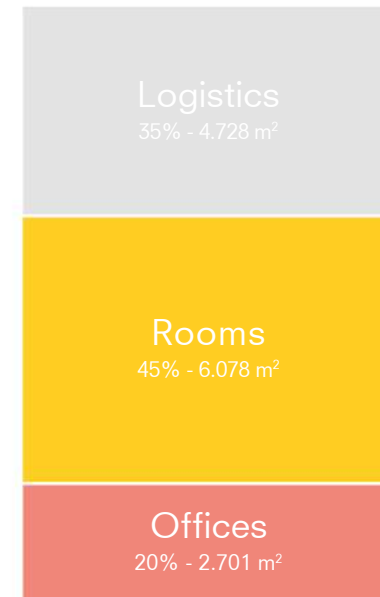
2.611 m<sup>2</sup>



**Film production**  
Big Fish & Begonia Studio



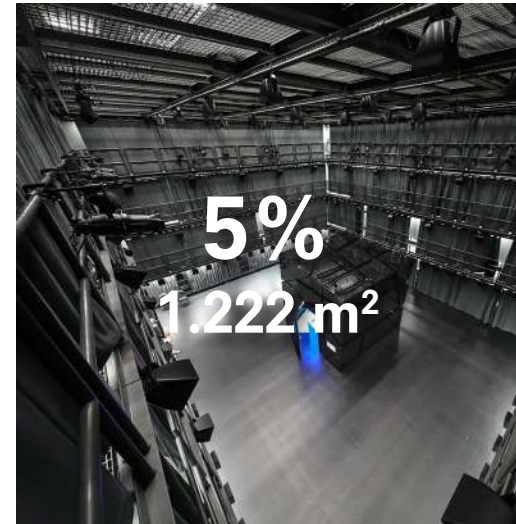
13.507 m<sup>2</sup>



**Administration & hotel**  
The Student Hotel Delft

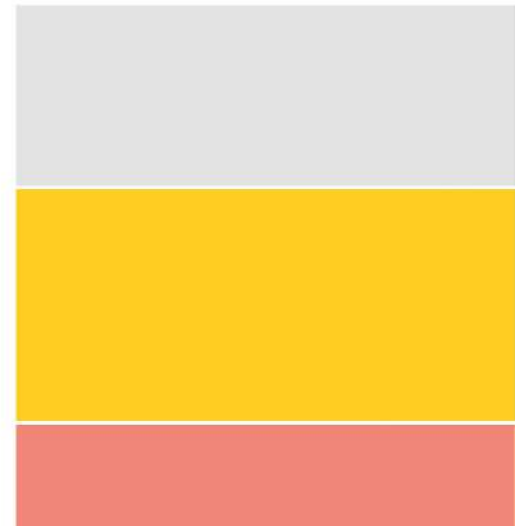
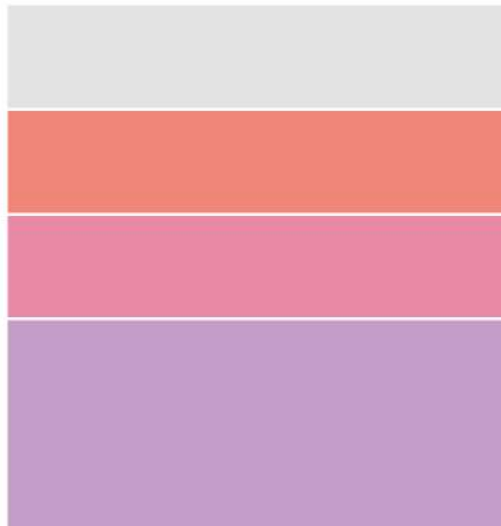
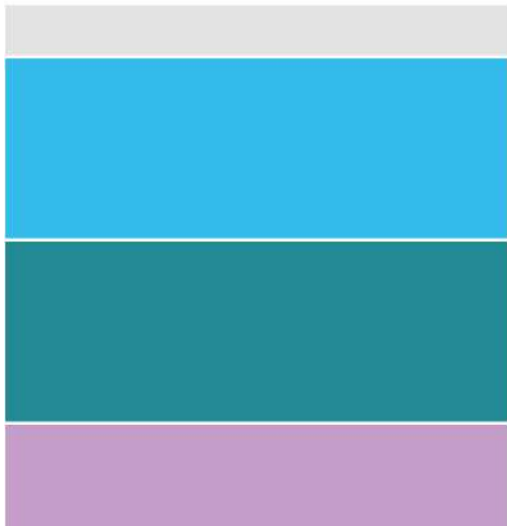
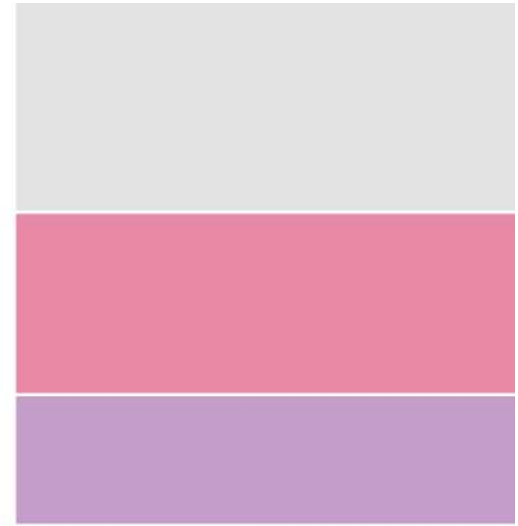
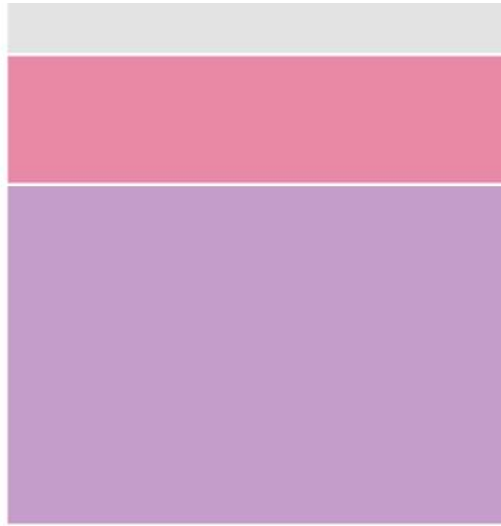
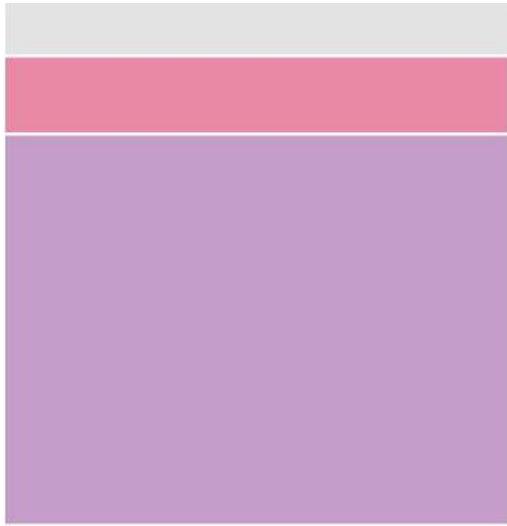


Project design brief  
**PROGRAMME**



Project design brief

# PROGRAMME



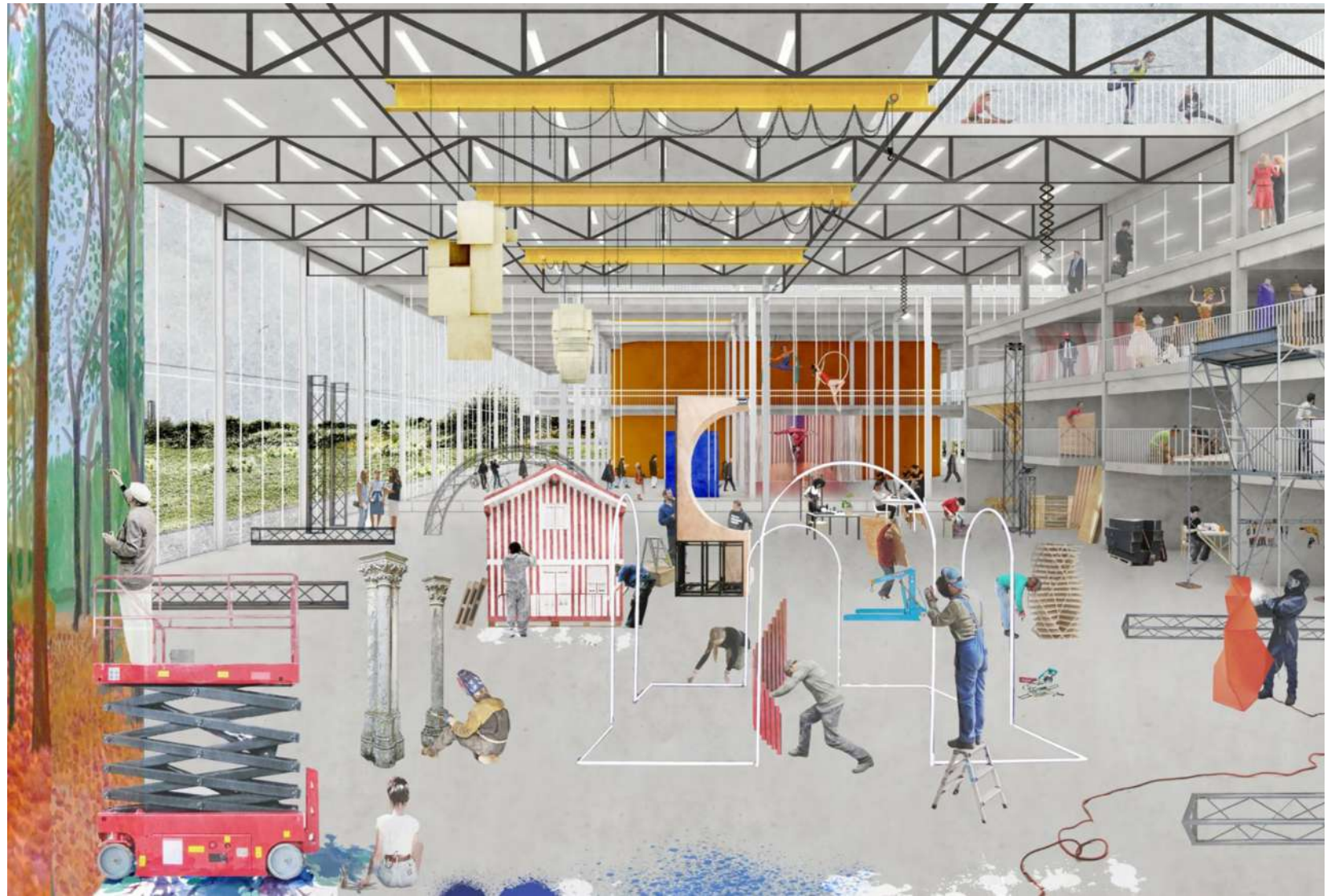
# PROGRAMME DIAGRAM





Site approach

# VISION INSPIRATION



Site approach

# VISION INSPIRATION

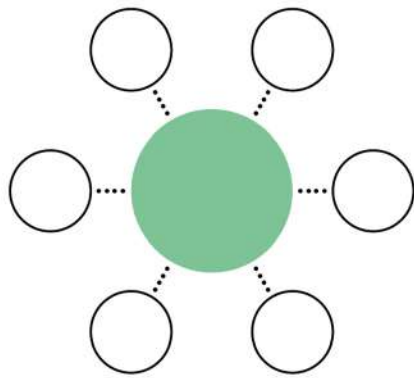


# PROGRAMME RELATIONSHIP PROPOSAL

What is the best relationship between the programme parts?

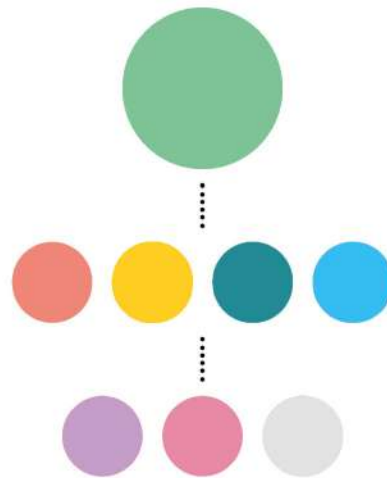


# PROGRAMME RELATIONSHIP STUDIES



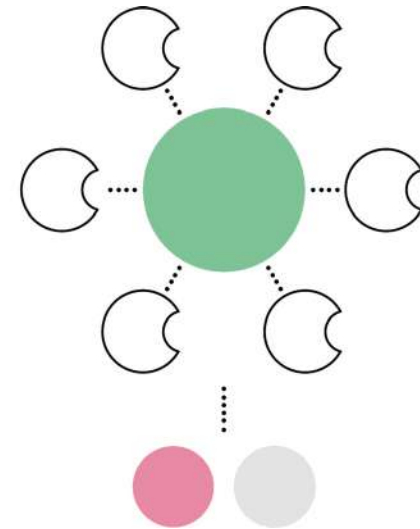
## Central distribution

Public space distributes the individual activities



## Linear distribution

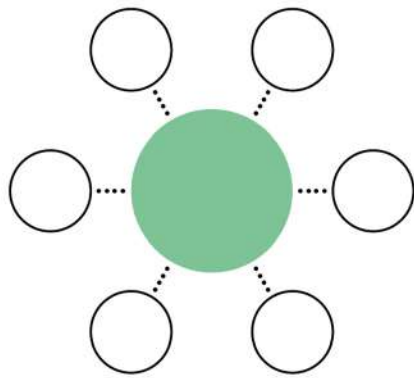
Traditional theatre distribution scaled to the Quarter



## Combined distribution

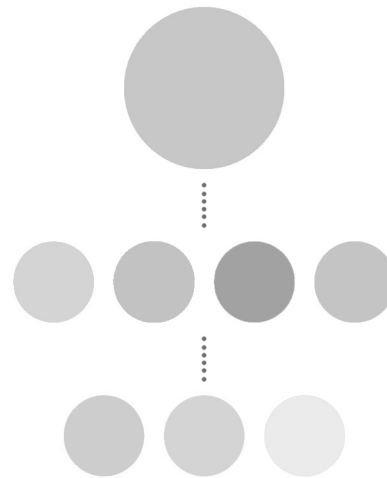
Individual activities and a logistic core

# PROGRAMME RELATIONSHIP STUDIES



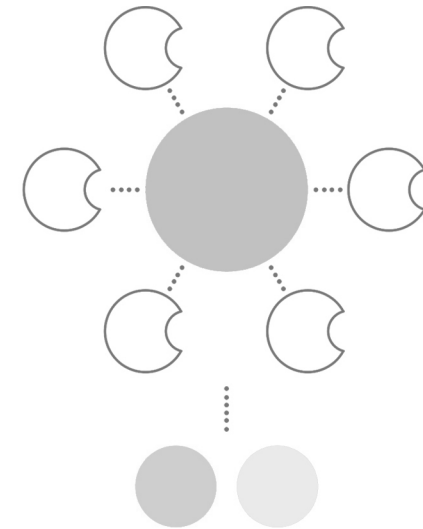
## Central distribution

Public space distributes the individual activities



## Linear distribution

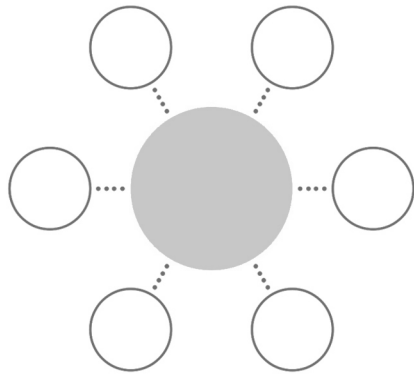
Traditional theatre distribution scaled to the Quarter



## Combined distribution

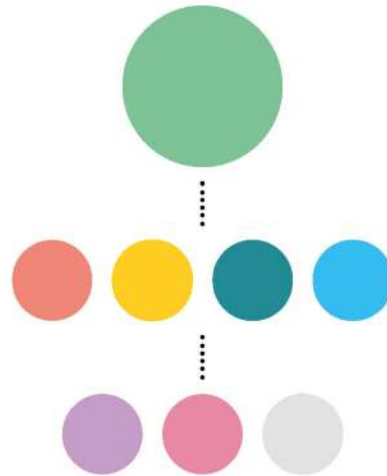
Individual activities and a logistic core

# PROGRAMME RELATIONSHIP STUDIES



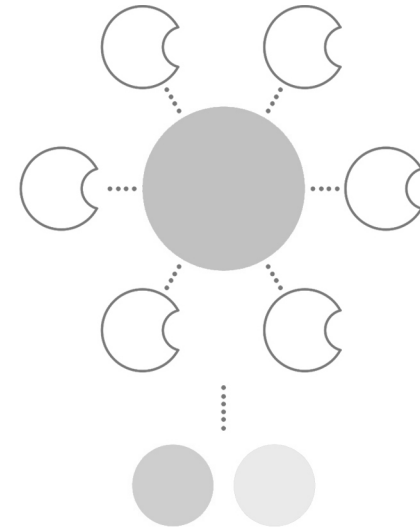
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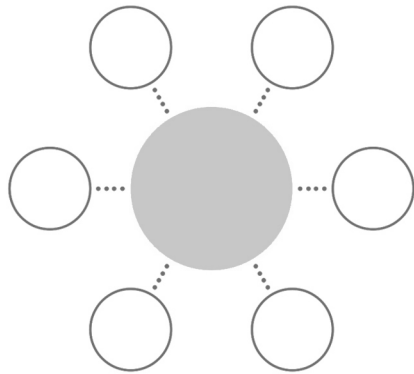


## Combined distribution

Individual activities and a logistic core

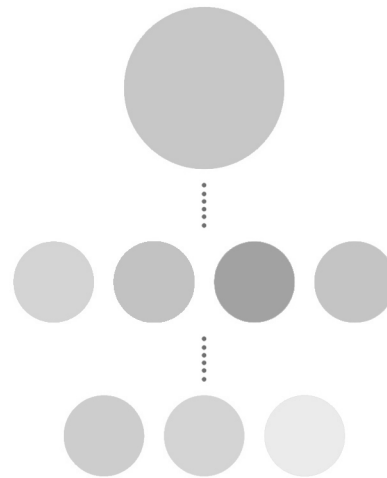


# PROGRAMME RELATIONSHIP STUDIES



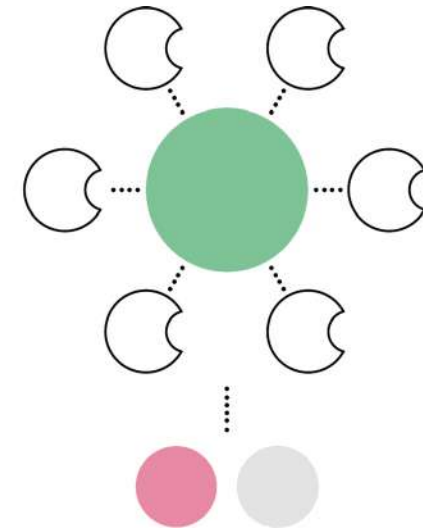
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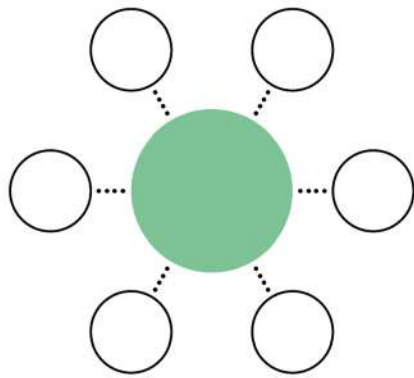
## Combined distribution

Individual activities and a logistic core

# MASSING PROPOSAL

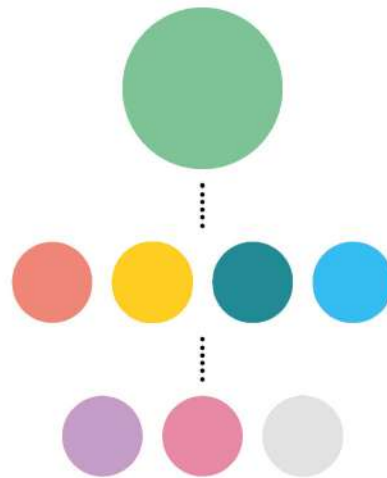
What is the best massing layout for the chosen site?

# PROGRAMME RELATIONSHIP STUDIES



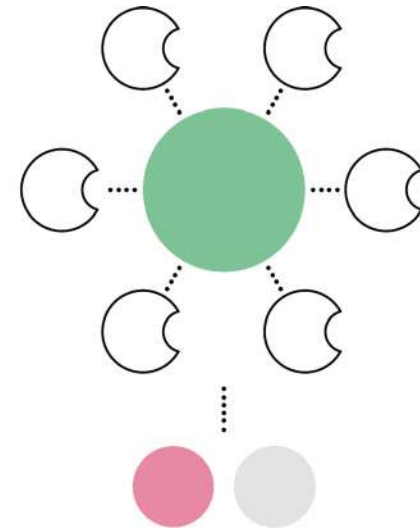
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Public space distributes the individual activities



## Linear distribution

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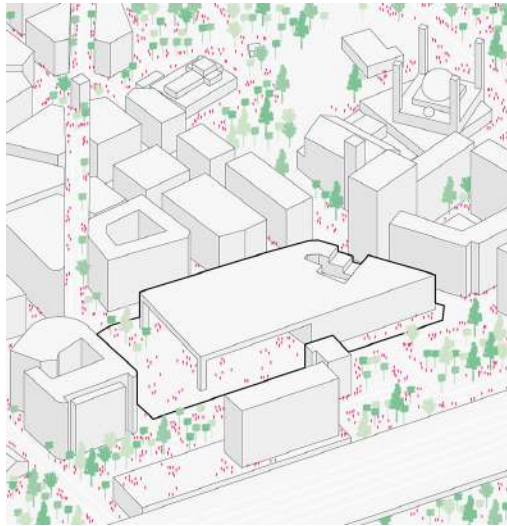


## Combined distribution

Individual activities and a logistic core



# MASSING STUDIES



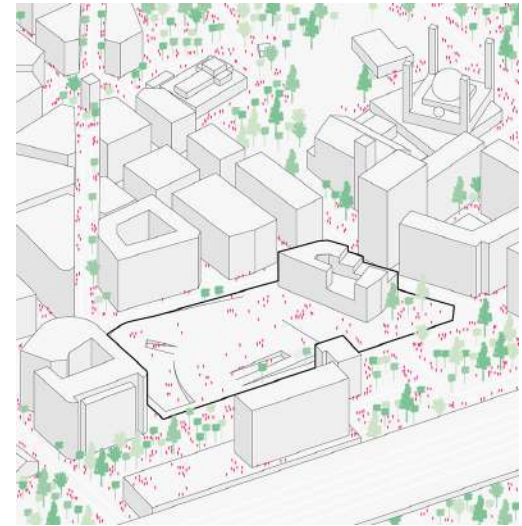
## The covered plaza

Pavilions under an urban parasol



## The enlargement

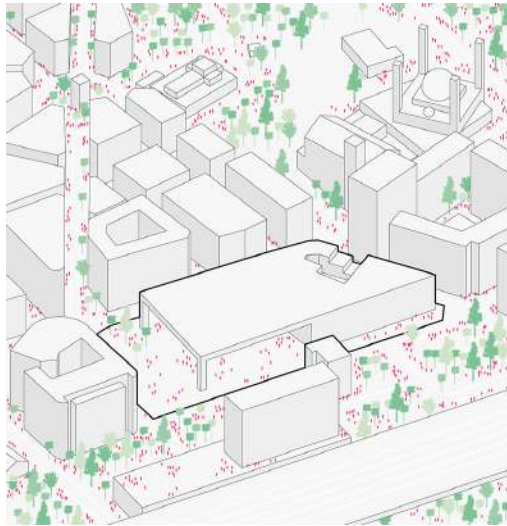
The programme is condensed in one single building



## Basement and more

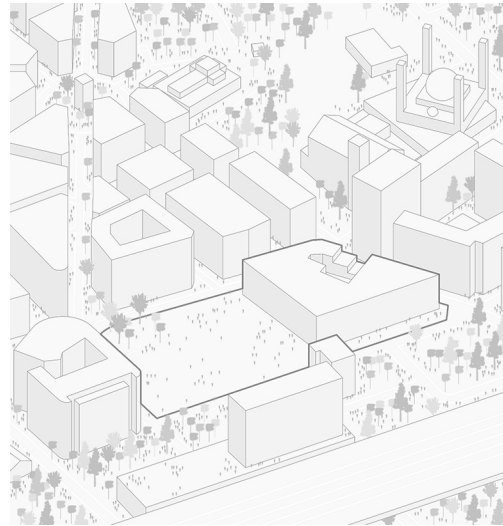
Underground building with emerging volumes

# MASSING STUDIES



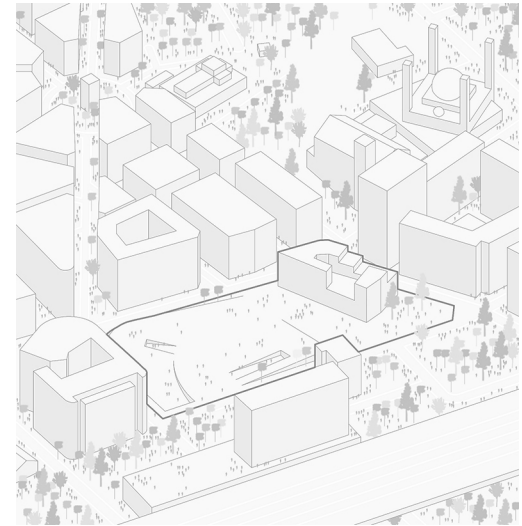
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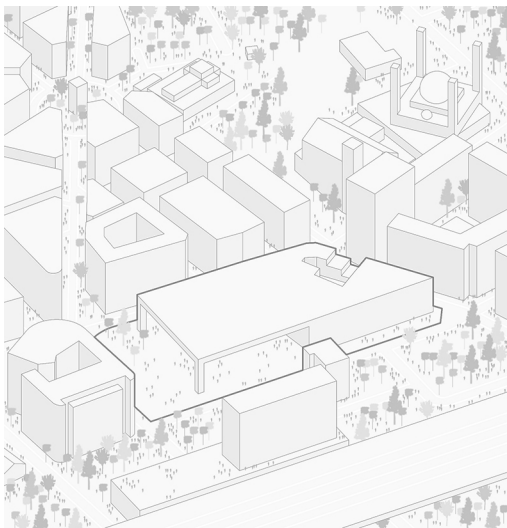


## Basement and more

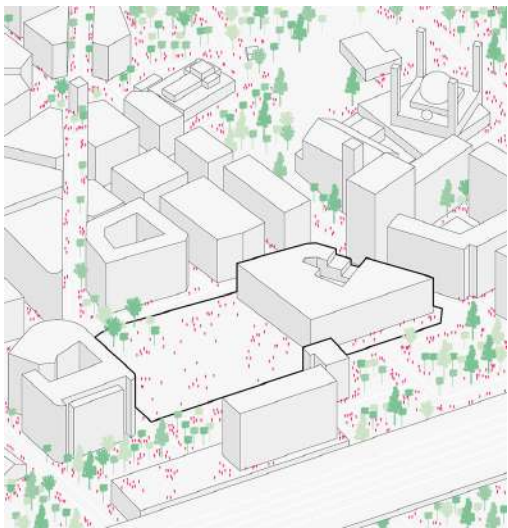
Underground building with emerging volumes

Project design brief

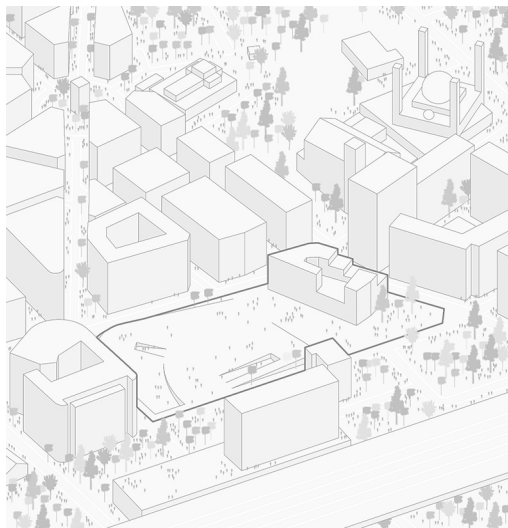
# MASSING STUDIES



**The covered plaza**  
Pavilions under an urban parasol



**The enlargement**  
The programme is condensed in one single building

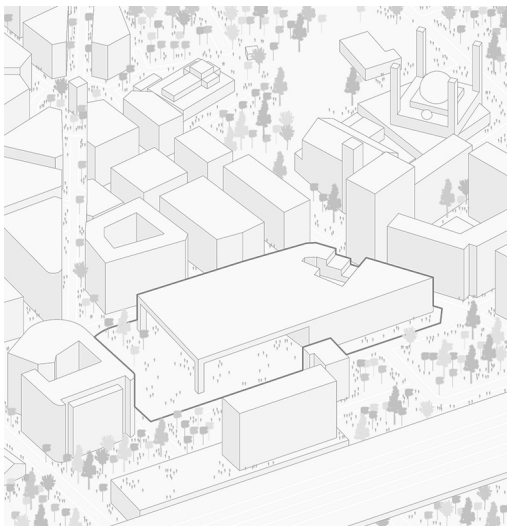


**Basement and more**  
Underground building with emerging volumes

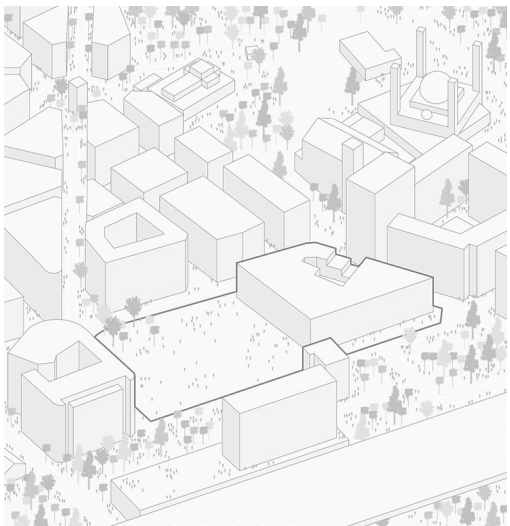


Project design brief

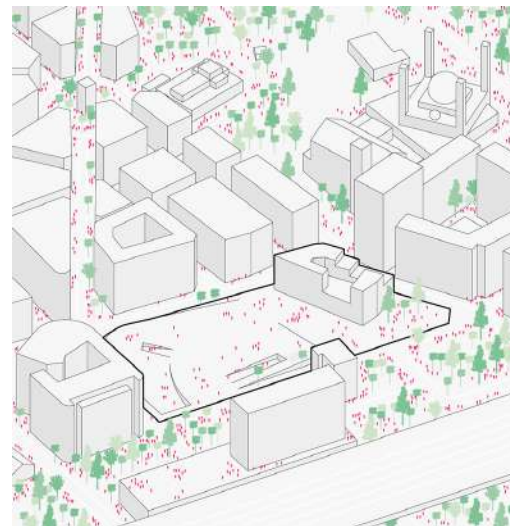
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**The covered plaza**  
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Underground building with emerging volumes

Project design brief

# SPATIAL AMBITIONS

thesis topic research



site approach



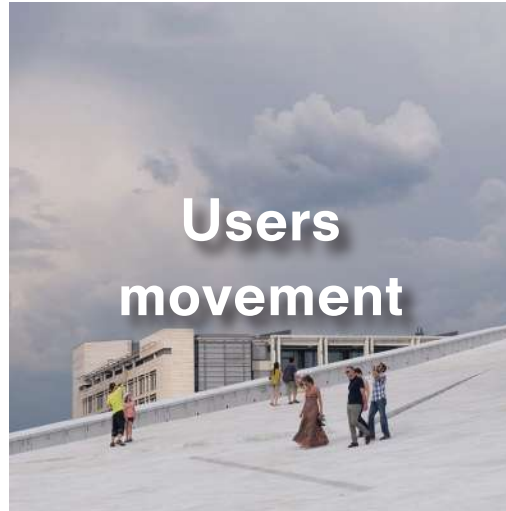
programme relationship studies



Project design brief

# SPATIAL AMBITIONS

thesis topic research



site approach



programme relationship studies





Project design brief

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Project design brief

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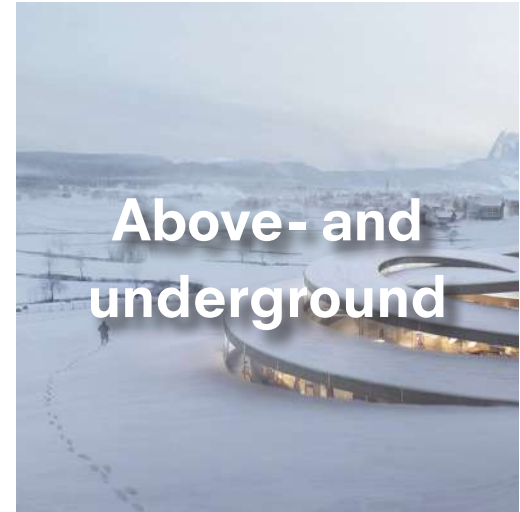
thesis topic research



site approach

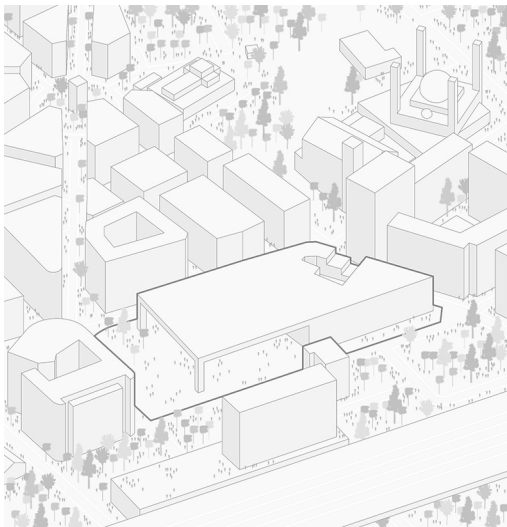


programme relationship studies

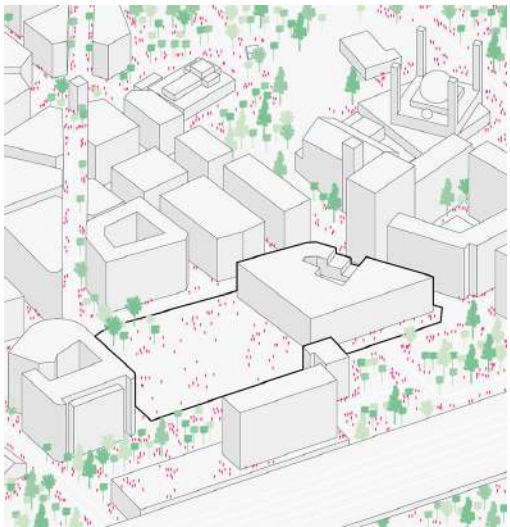


Project design brief

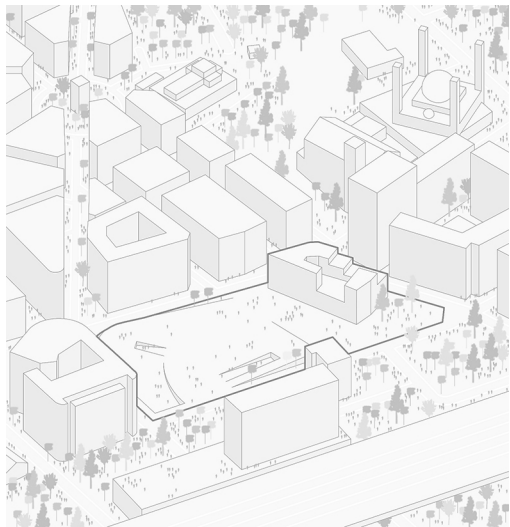
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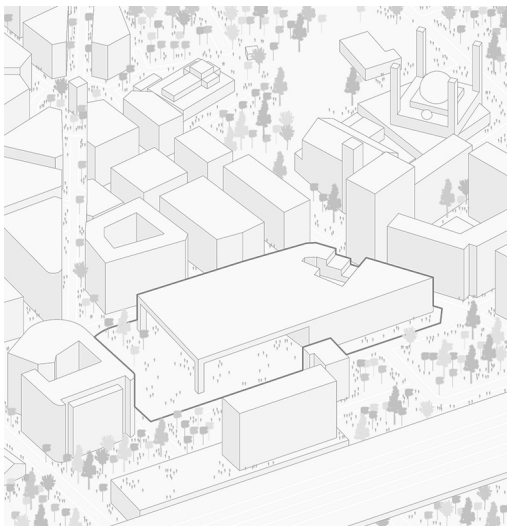


**Basement and more**  
Underground building with emerging volumes

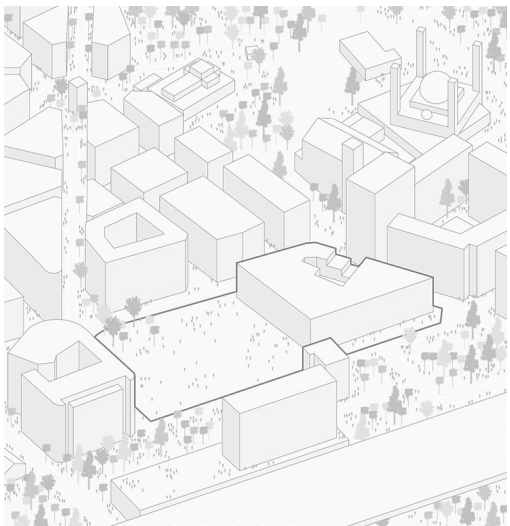


Project design brief

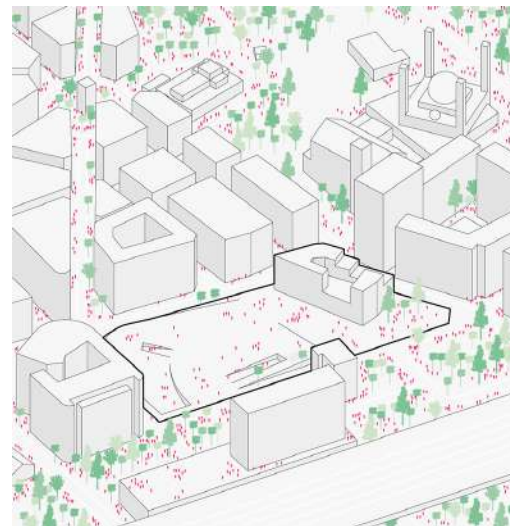
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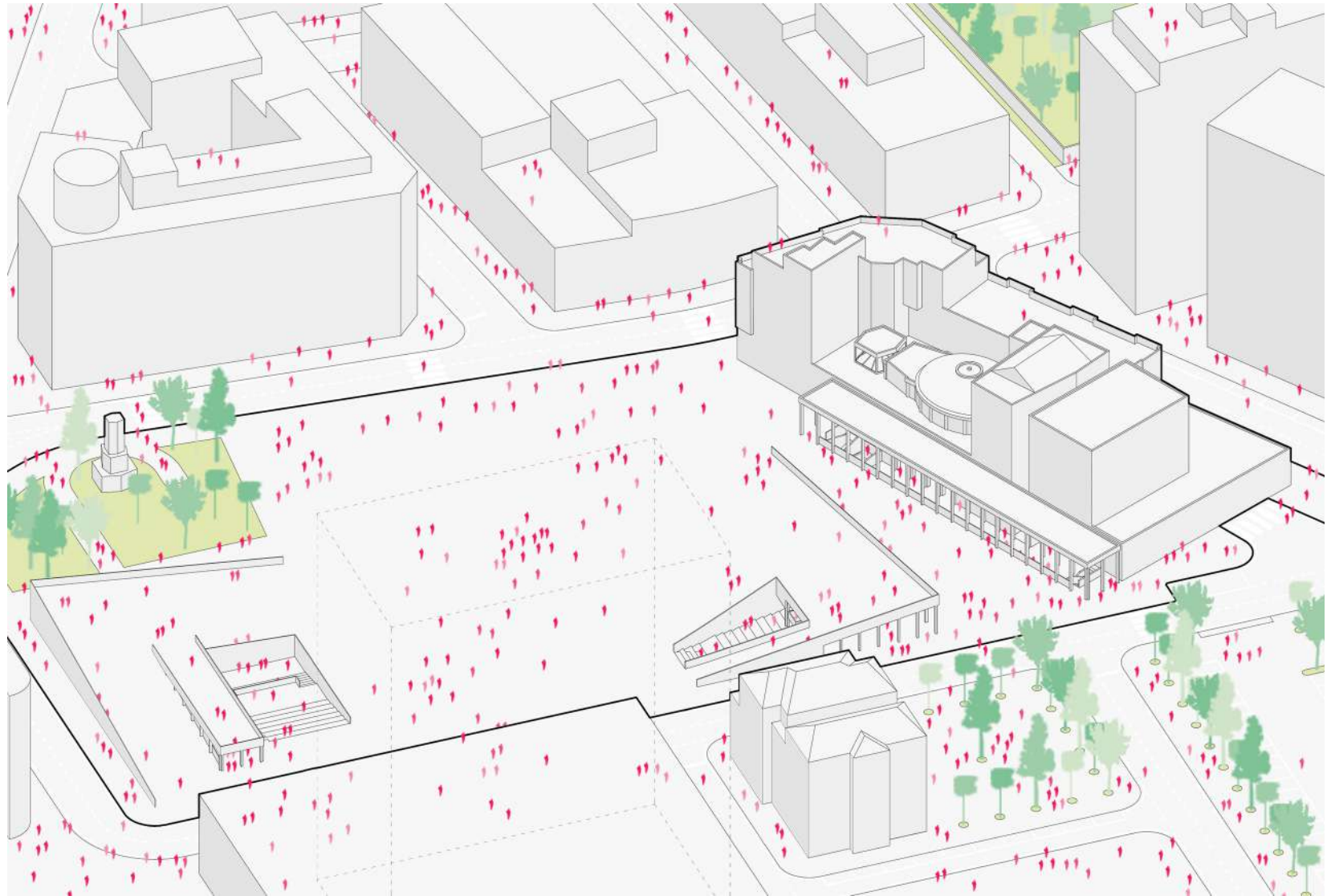


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**Basement and more**  
Underground building with emerging volumes

# CHOSEN APPROACH



INTRODUCTION  
THESIS TOPIC RESEARCH  
SITE APPROACH  
PROJECT DESIGN BRIEF

IMPLEMENTATION AND DEVELOPMENT

CONCLUSIONS

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Implementation and development  
**VISION INSPIRATION**



# DESIGN ASSETS



# DESIGN ASSETS

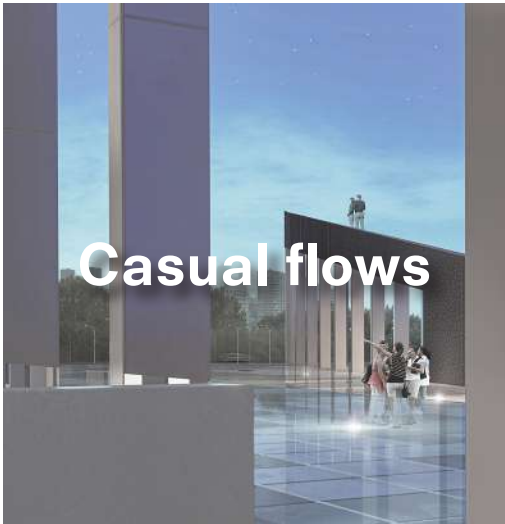




# DESIGN ASSETS



# DESIGN ASSETS



# LEITMOTIF

These assets lead the composition of the whole complex  
and link its various pieces to each other.



Implementation and development

# CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT



Implementation and development

# CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT





Implementation and development

# CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT





Implementation and development

# CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT



Implementation and development

# CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT





Implementation and development

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Implementation and development

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Implementation and development

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Implementation and development

# CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT



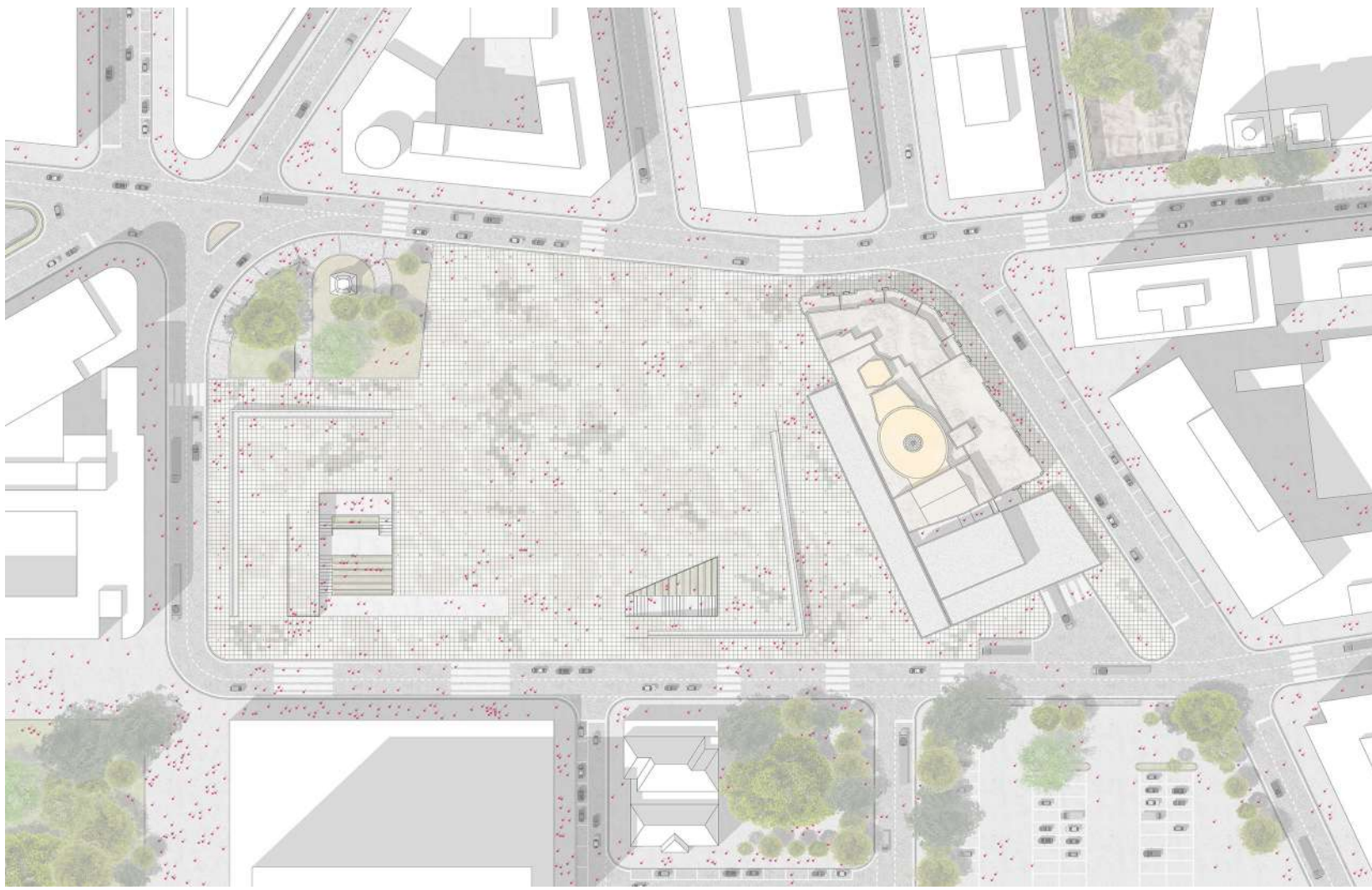
Implementation and development

# CONCEPT IMPLEMENTATION

How this concept is actually implemented?

Implementation and development

# PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

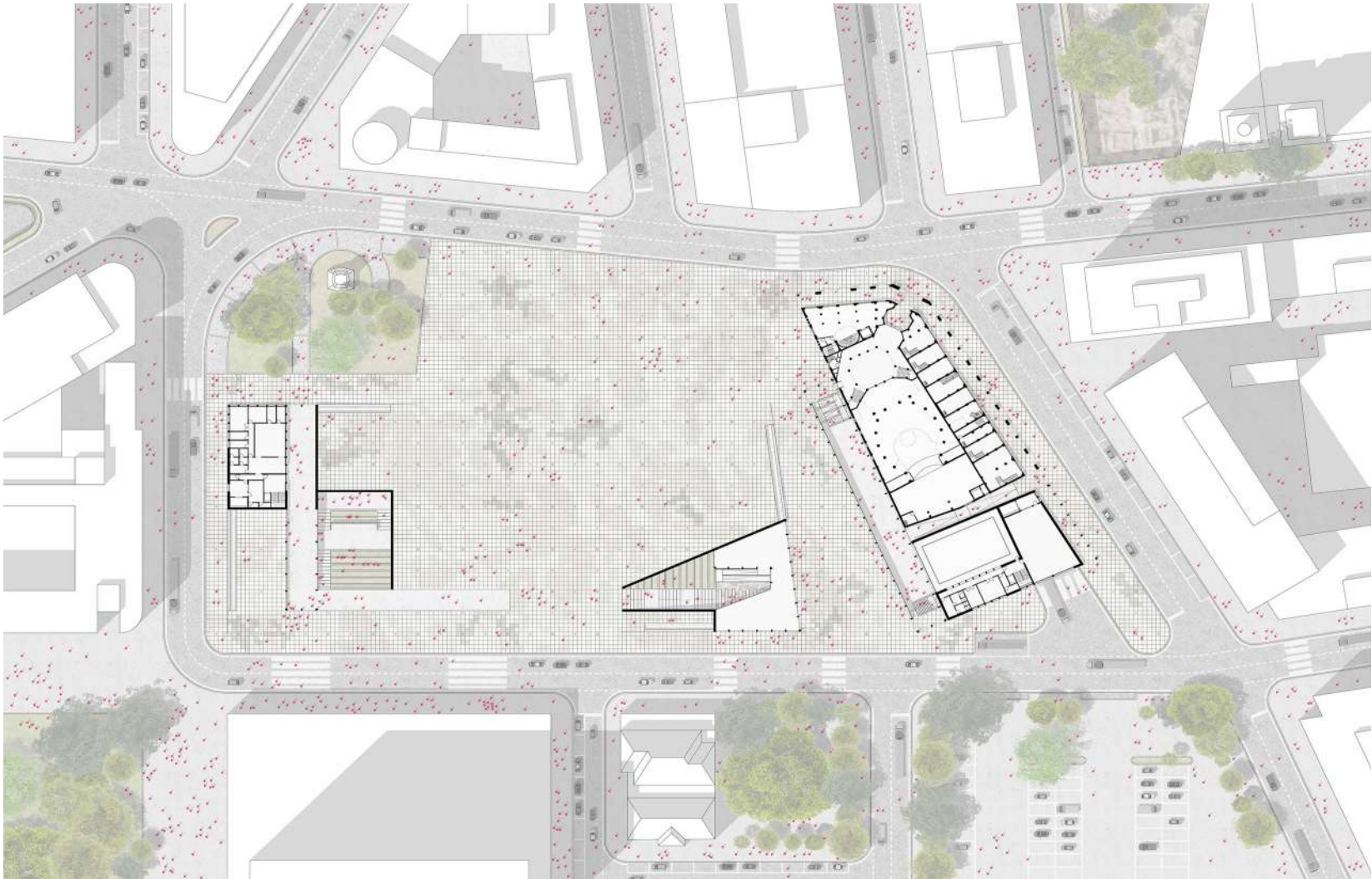


roof floor plan



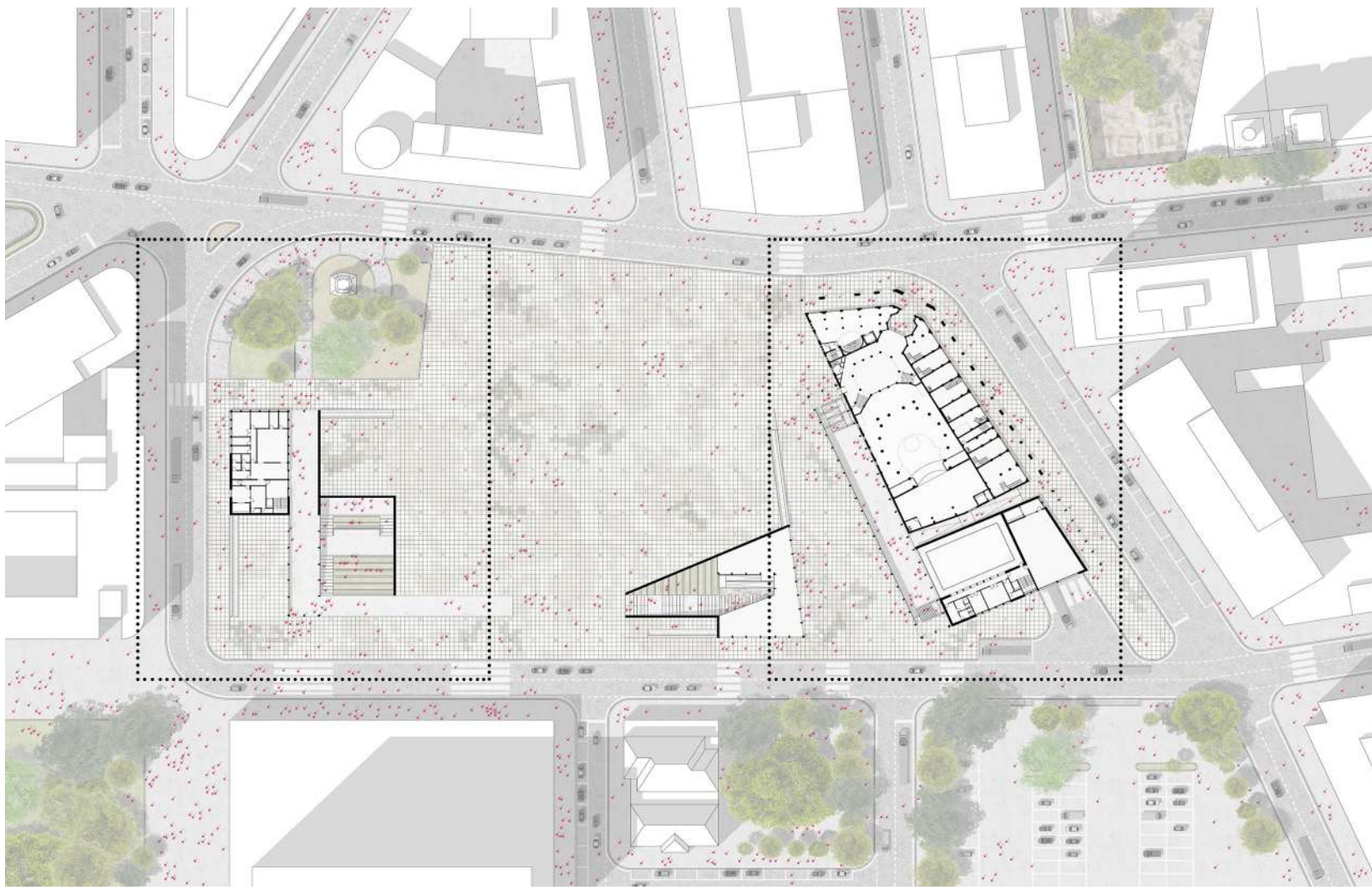
Implementation and development

# PROJECT DEVELOPMENT



ground floor plan

Implementation and development  
**PROJECT DEVELOPMENT**

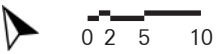
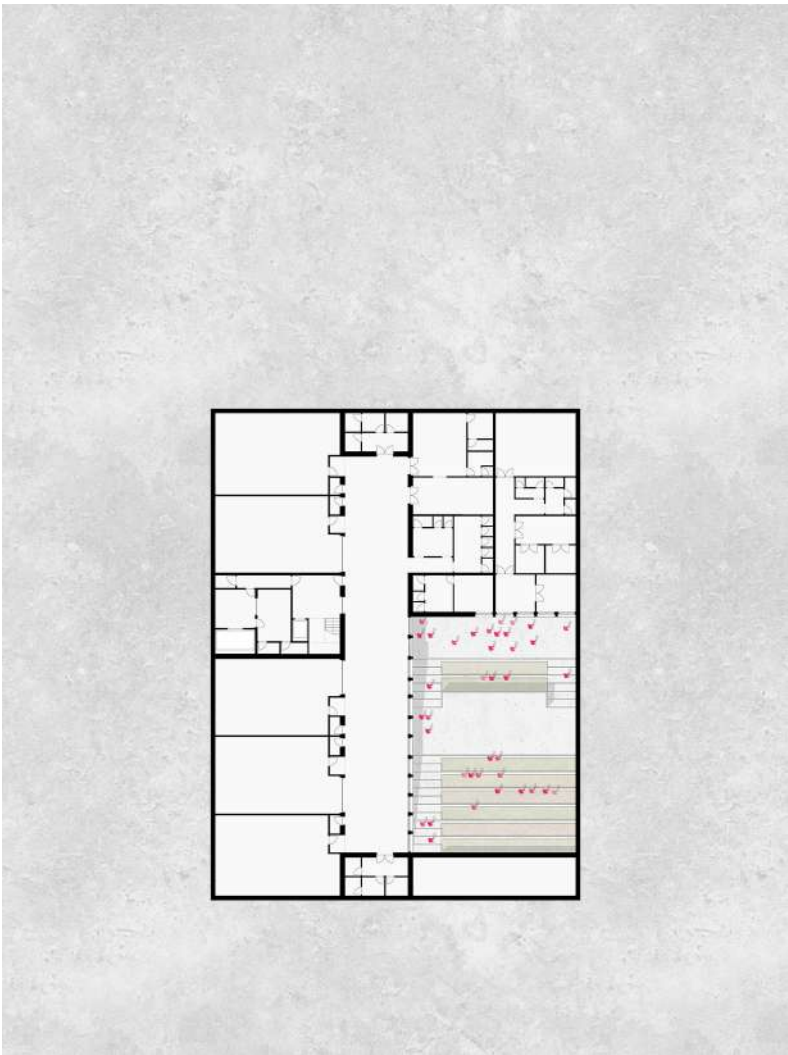


ground floor plan

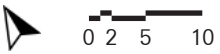
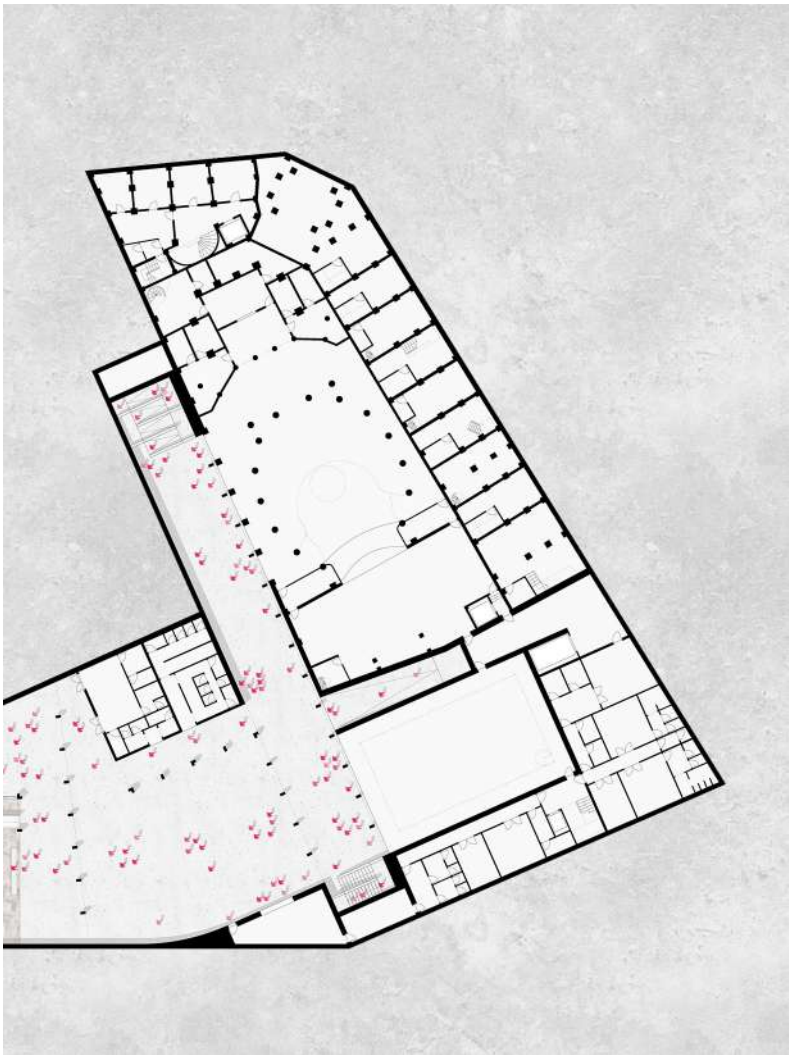


Implementation and development

# PROJECT DEVELOPMENT



first underground floor plan

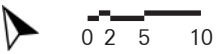
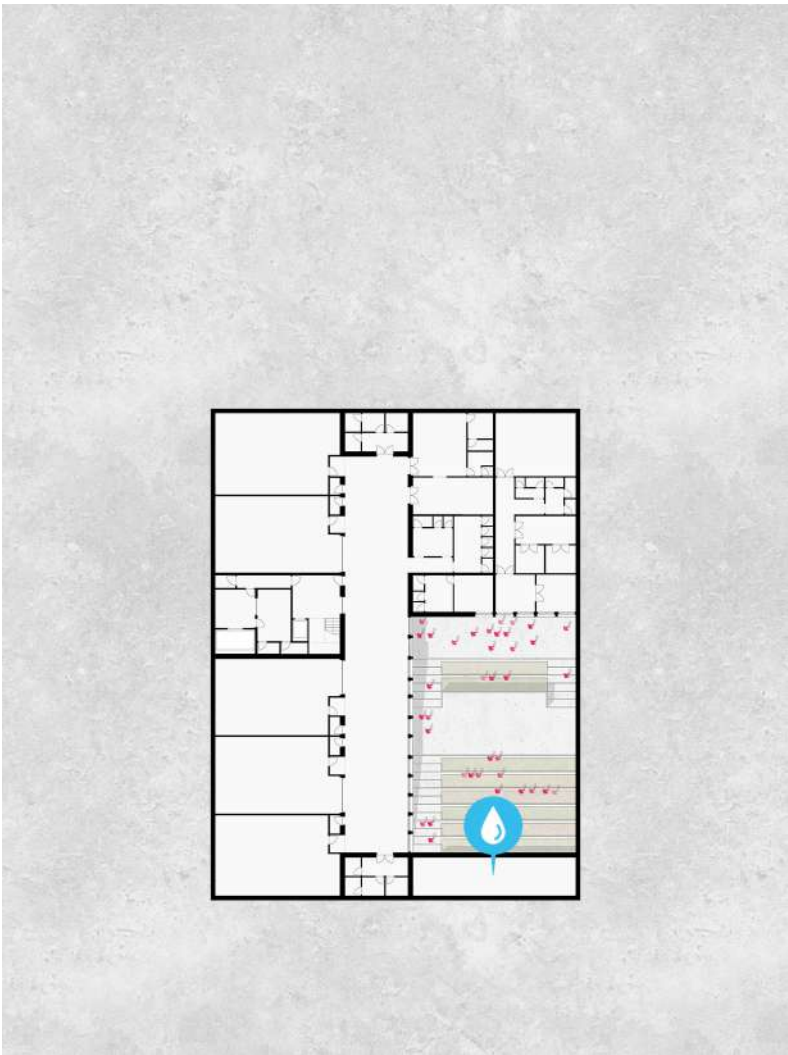


first underground floor plan

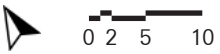
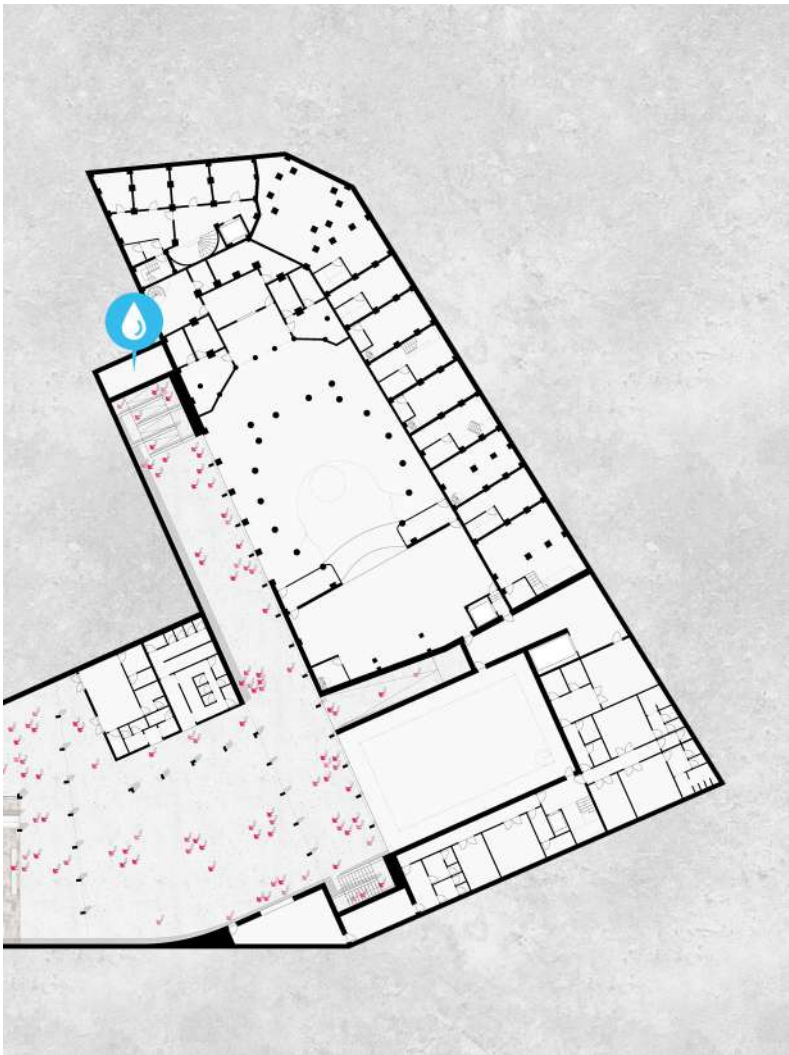


Implementation and development

# PROJECT DEVELOPMENT



first underground floor plan



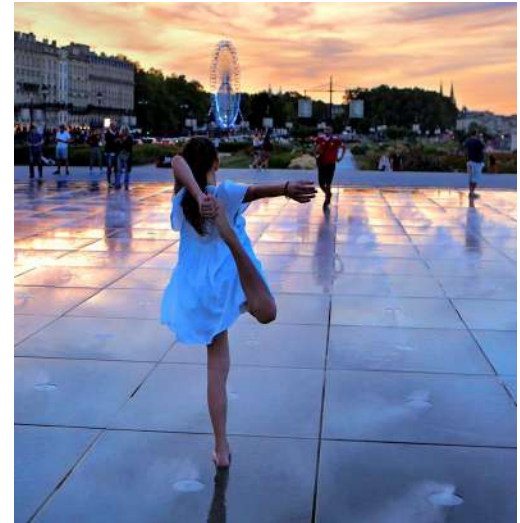
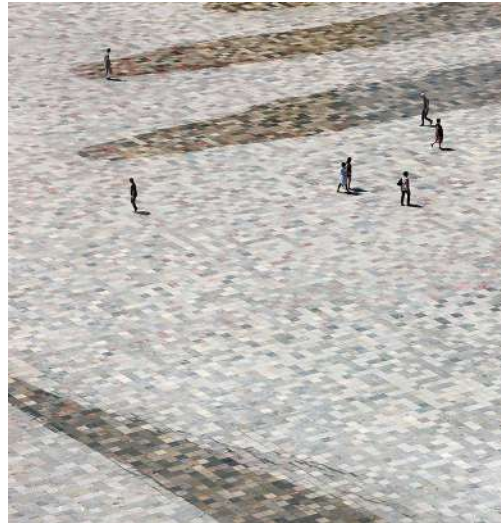
first underground floor plan

# CONCEPT IMPLEMENTATION

How casual flows do happen in the adjacent square?

Implementation and development

# TEMPORARY NATURE OF WATER





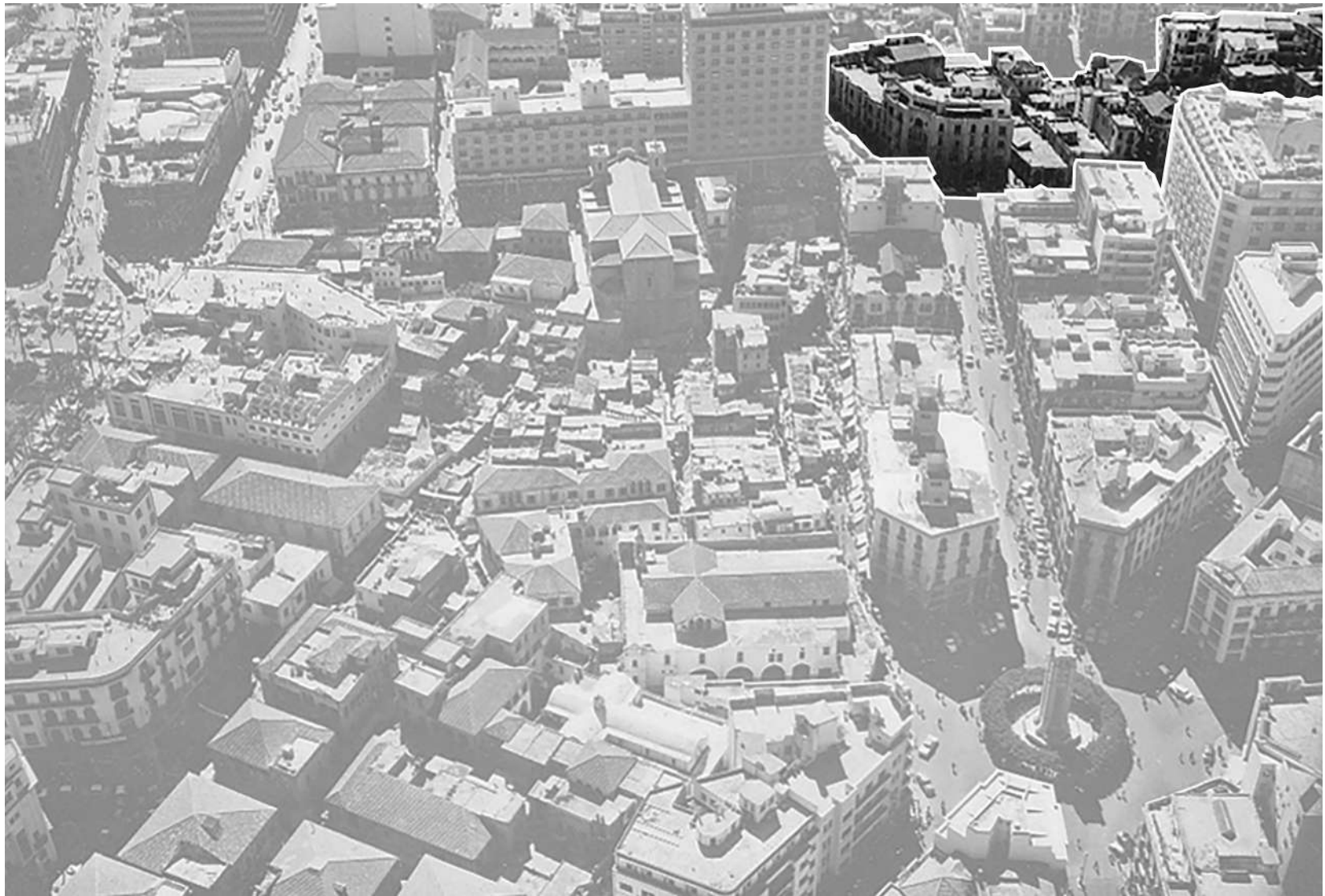
Implementation and development

# HISTORICAL TRACE



Implementation and development

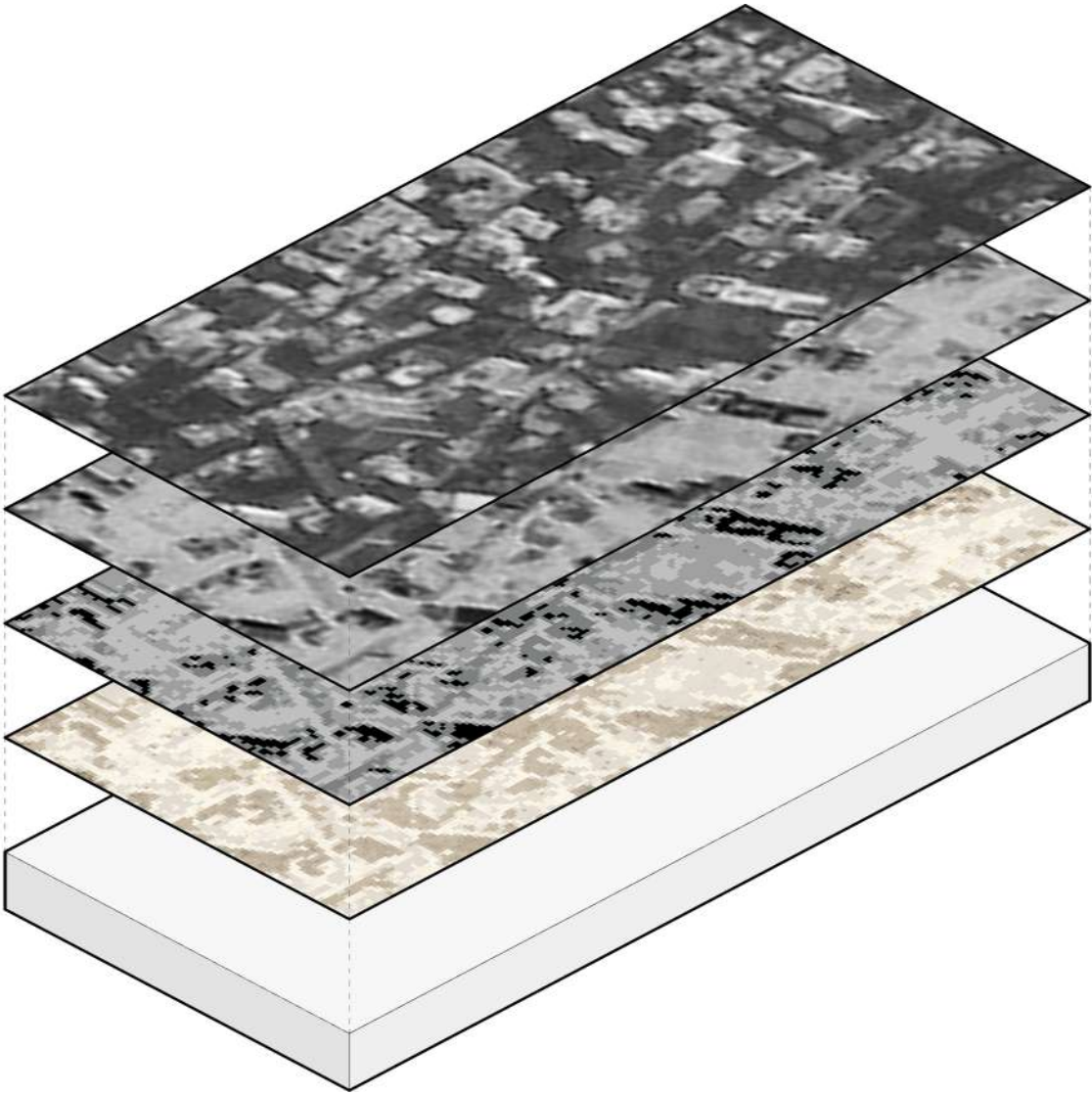
# HISTORICAL TRACE





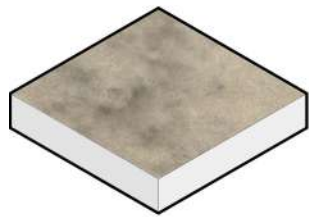
Implementation and development

# PIXELS CARPET





# TEXTURE MATERIALISATION



rough natural stone



dark limestone



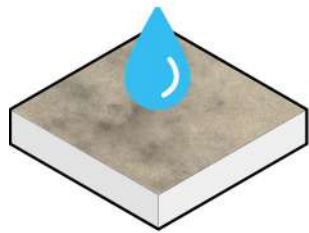
light limestone



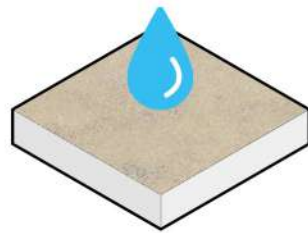
yellow-veins marble

Implementation and development

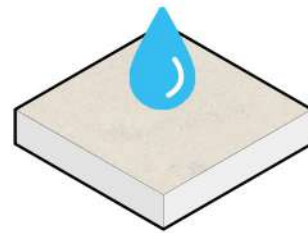
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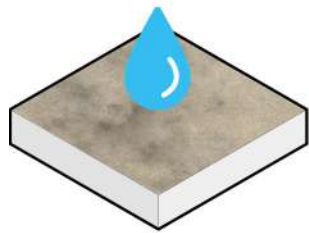
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Implementation and development

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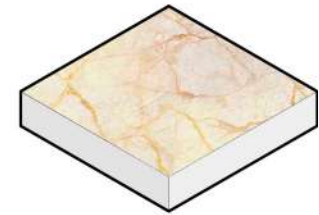
rough natural stone



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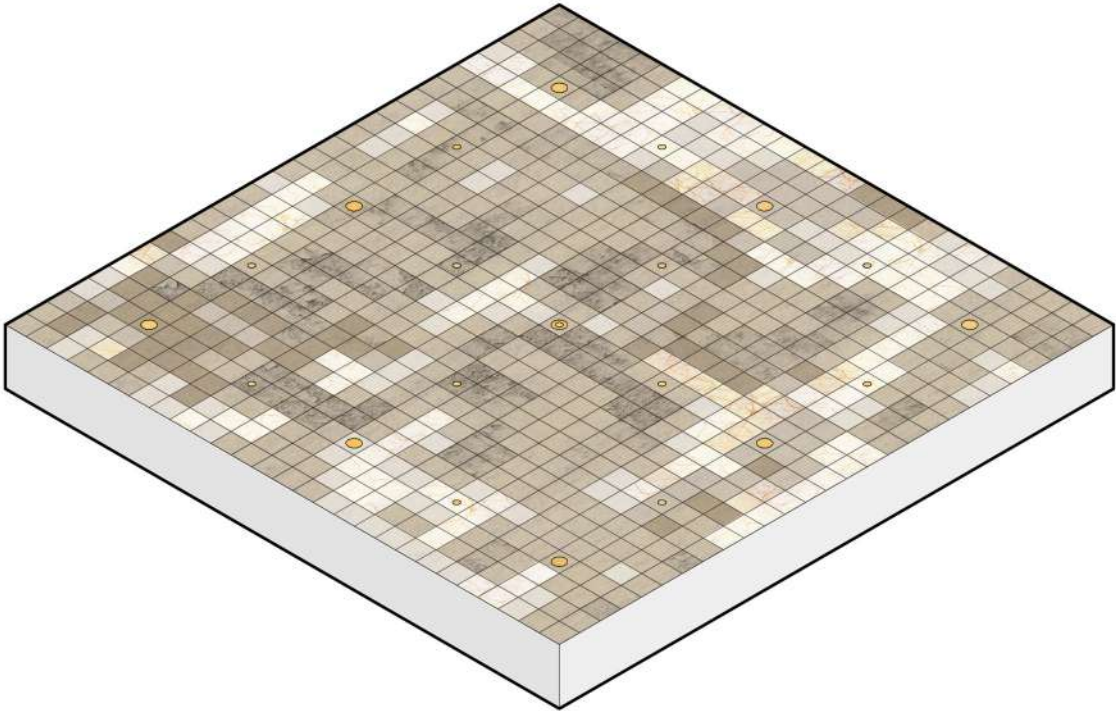


yellow-veins marble



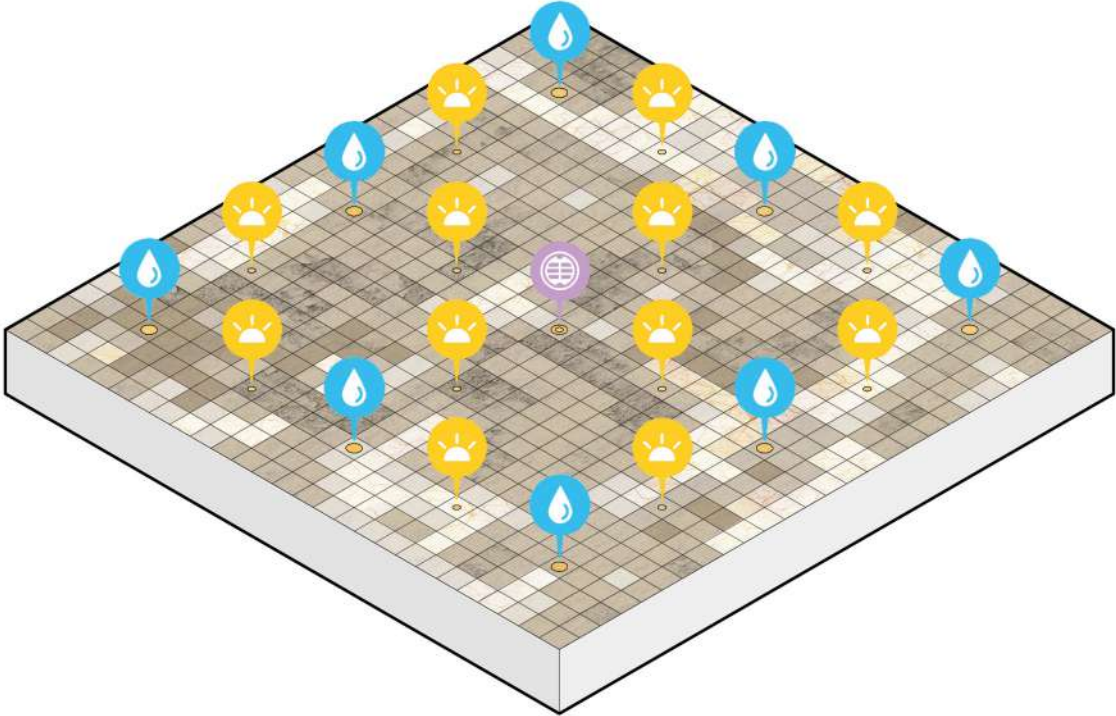
Implementation and development

# EVER-CHANGING HARDSCAPE



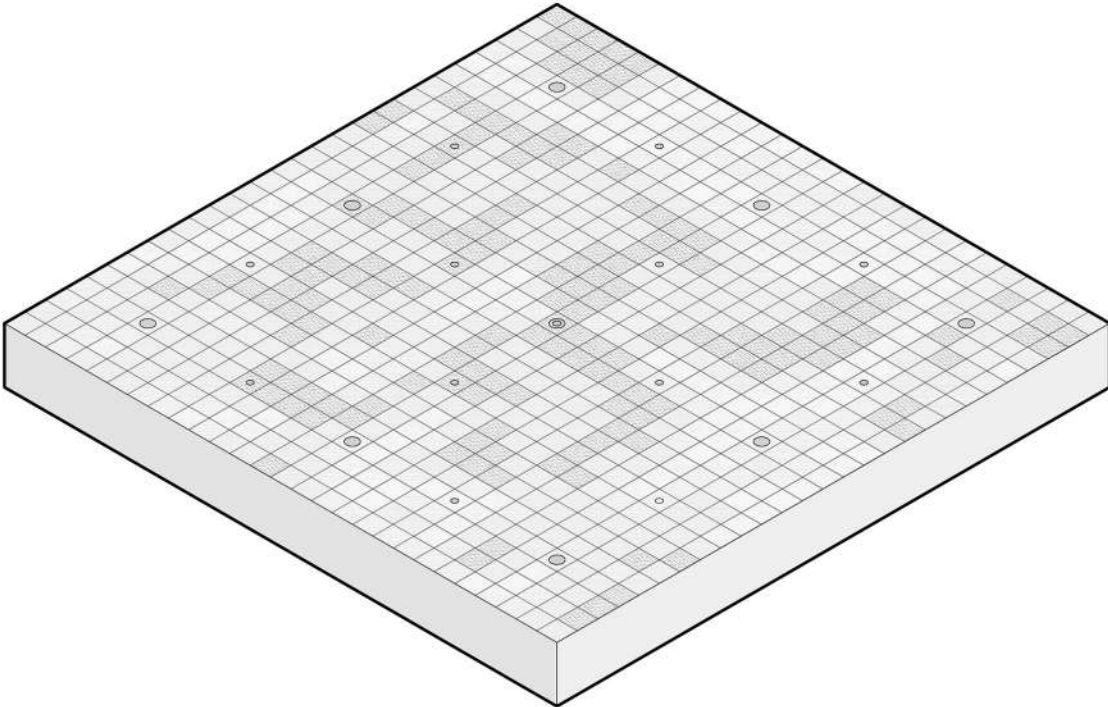
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# EVER-CHANGING HARDSCAPE



Implementation and development

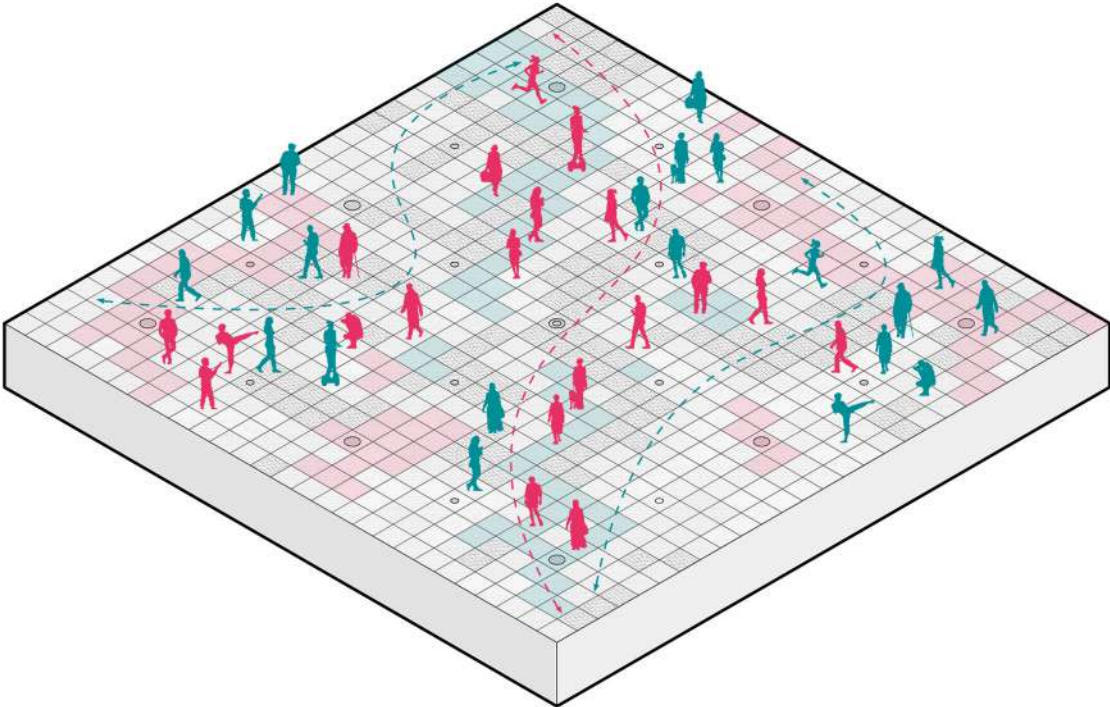
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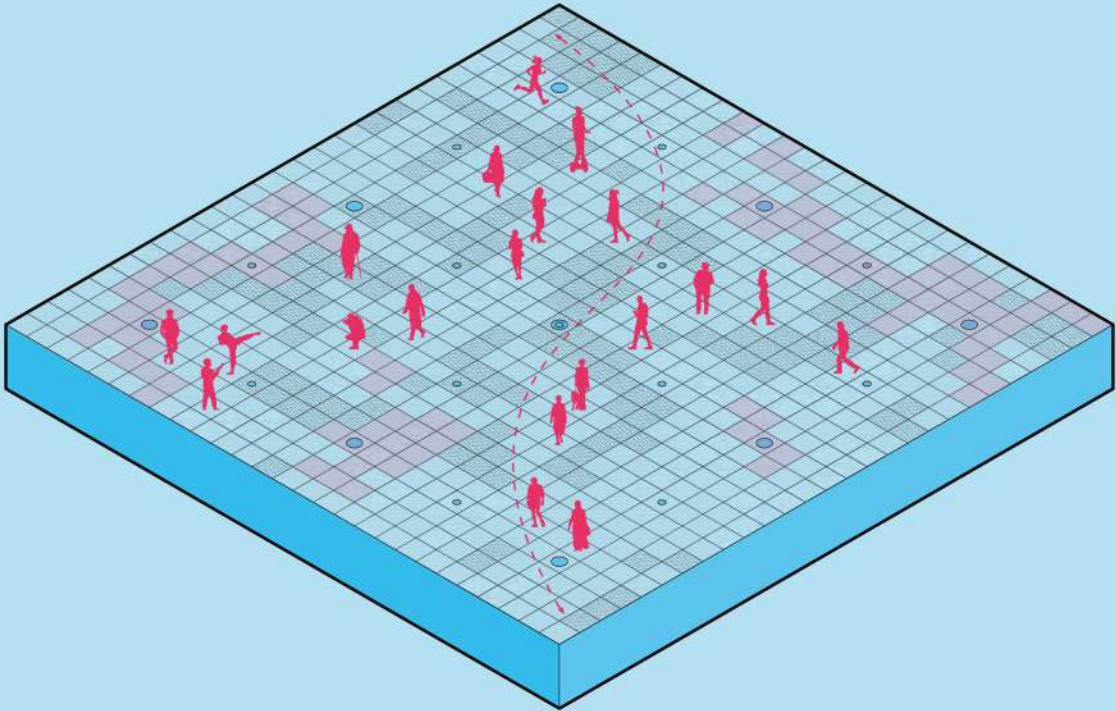
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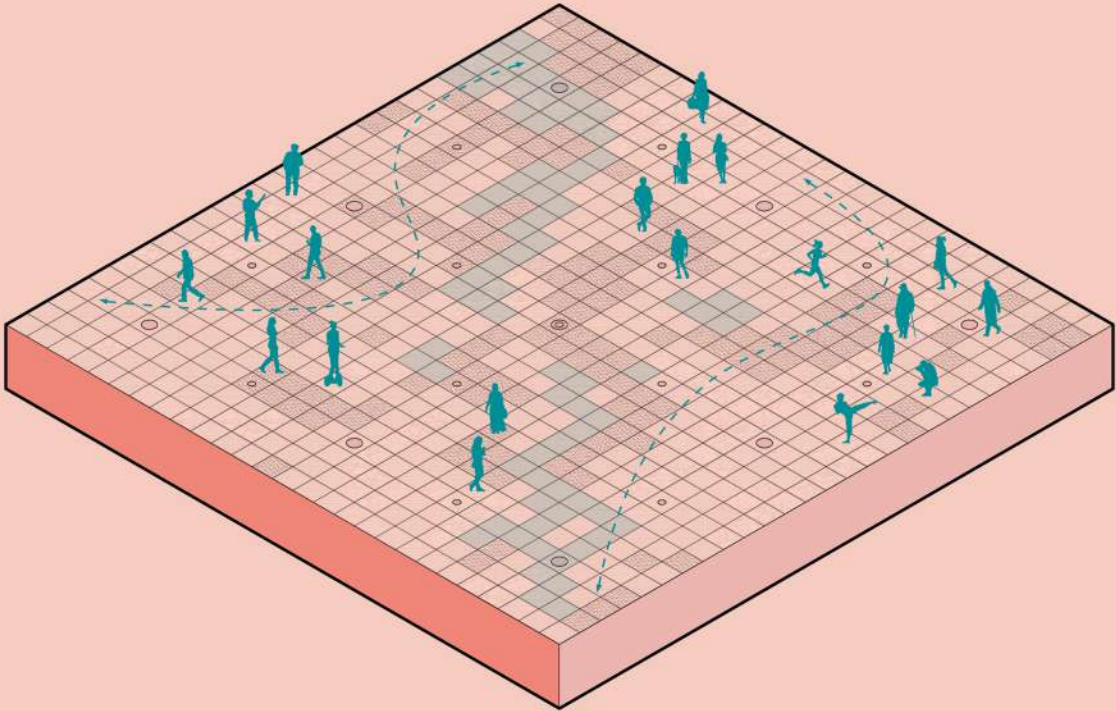
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# EVER-CHANGING HARDSCAPE



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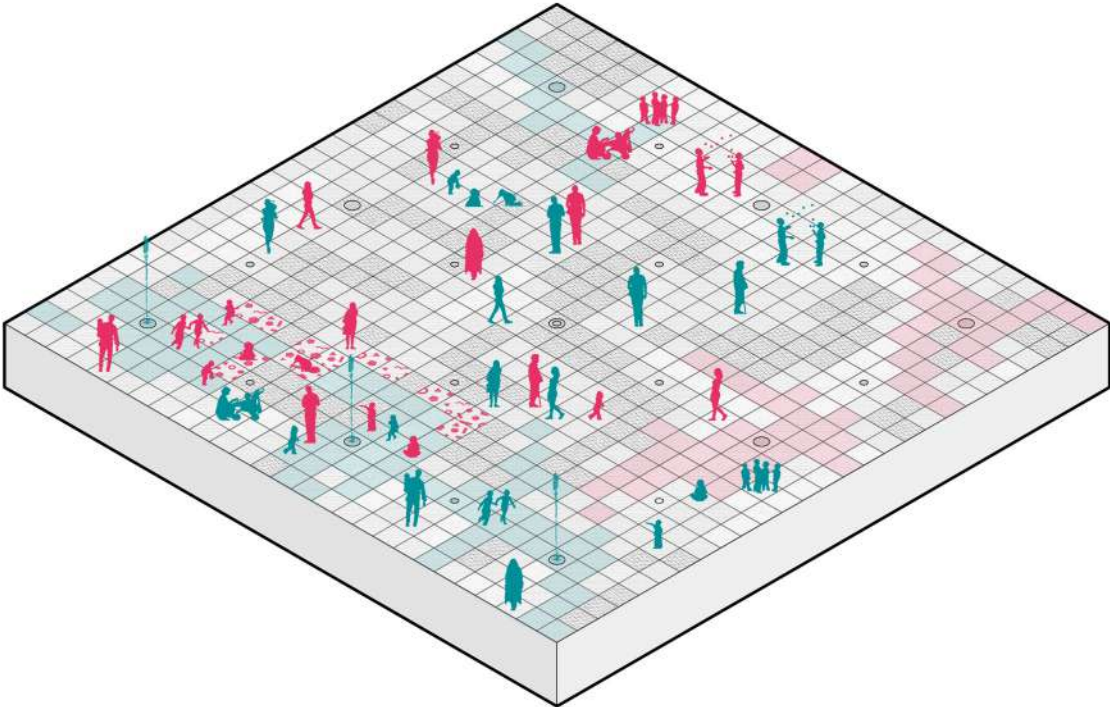
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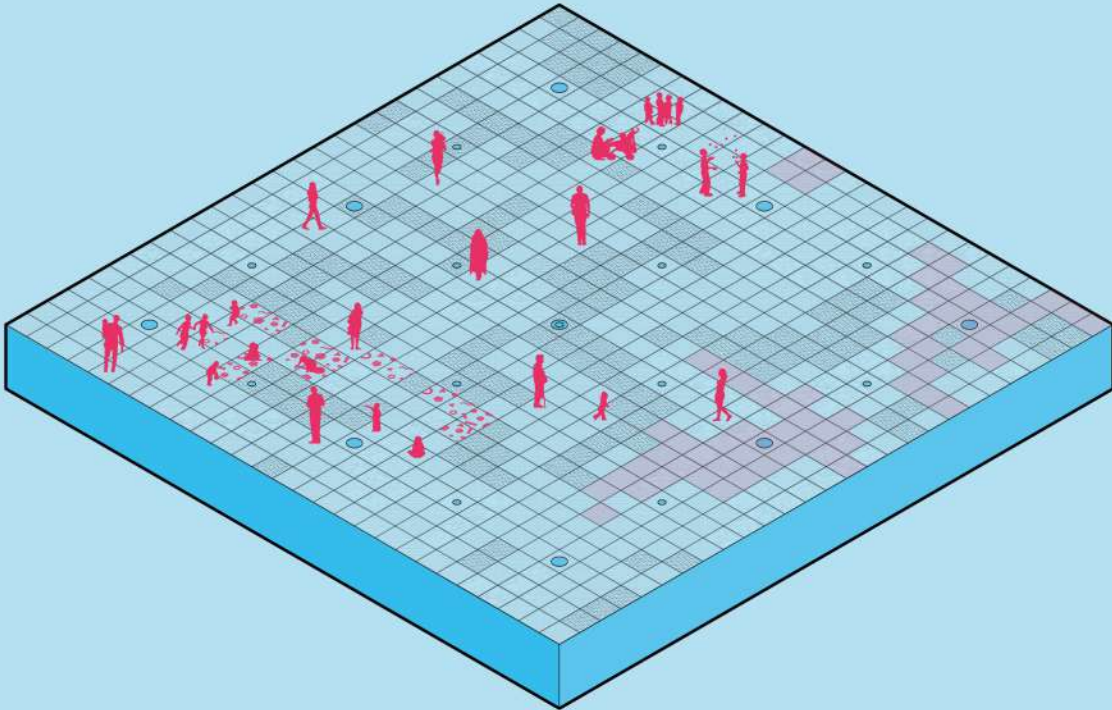
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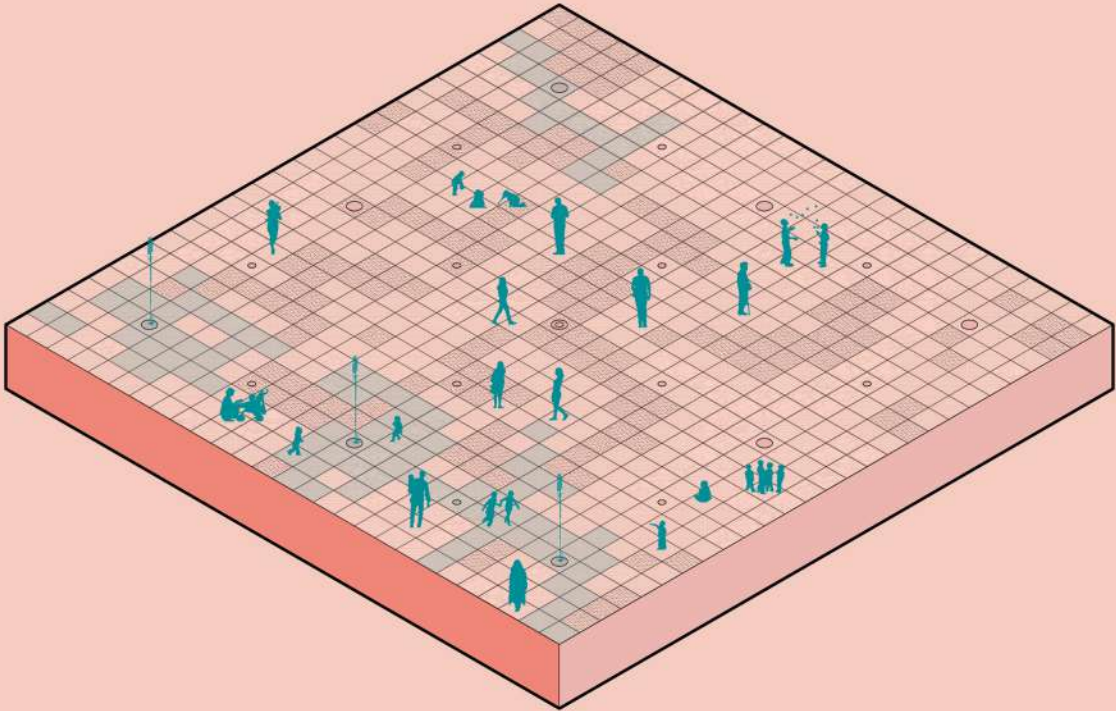
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Implementation and development

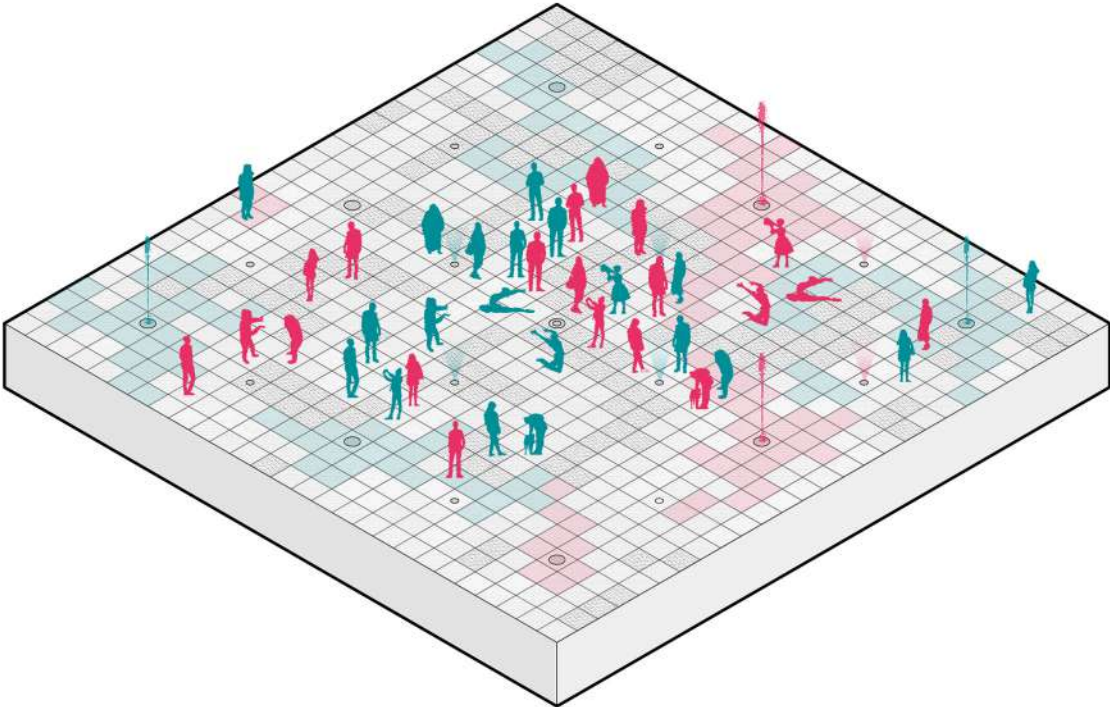
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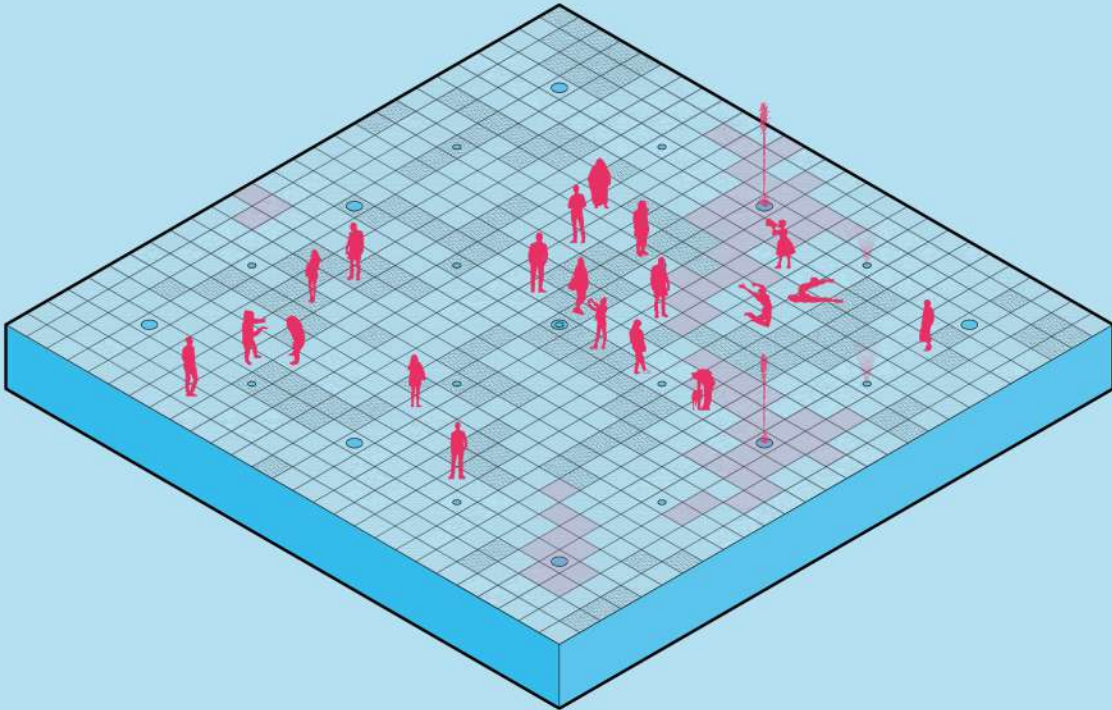
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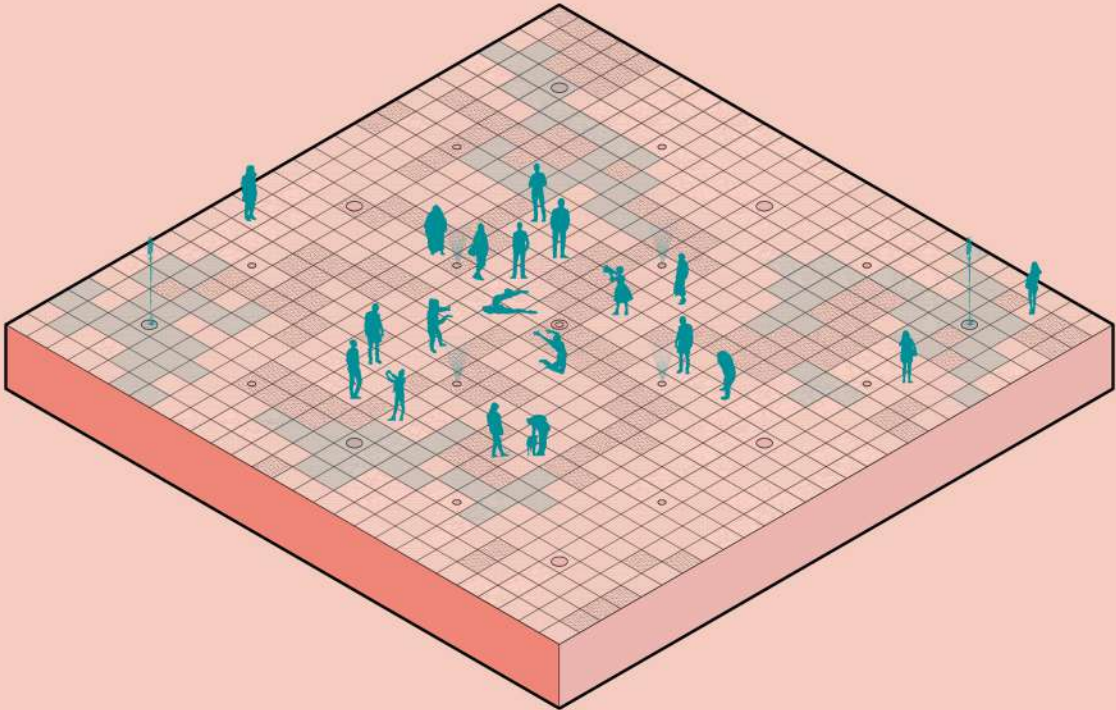
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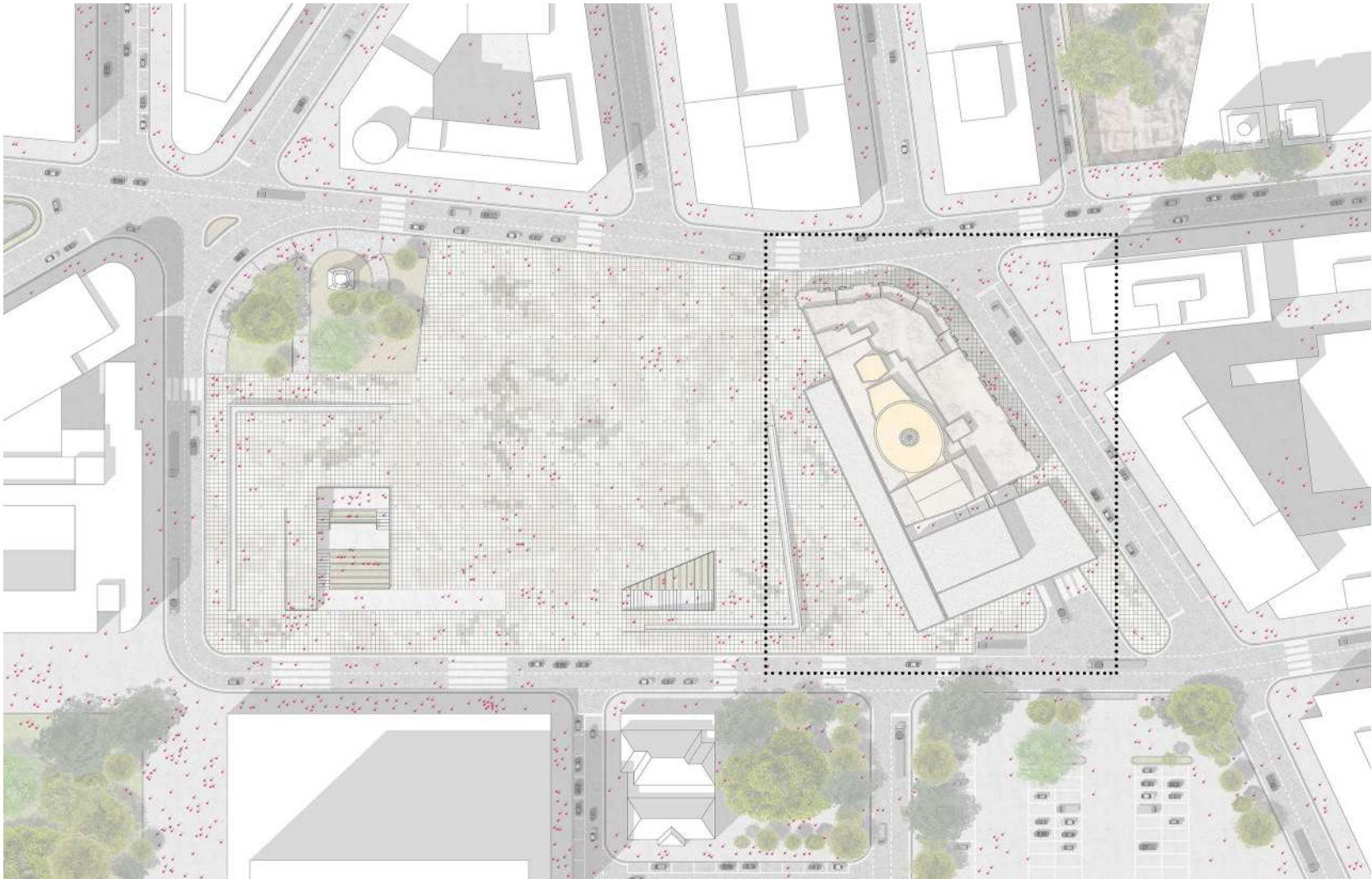
# EVER-CHANGING HARDSCAPE





Implementation and development

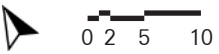
# PROJECT DEVELOPMENT



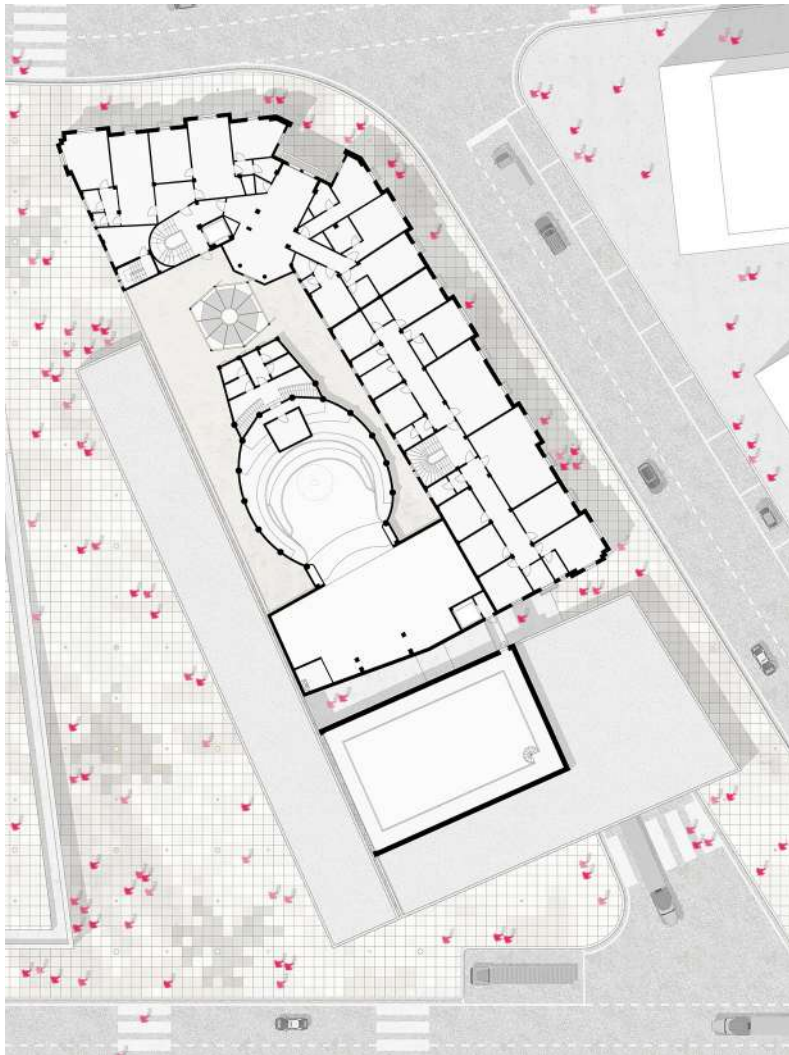
roof floor plan

Implementation and development

# PROJECT DEVELOPMENT



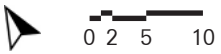
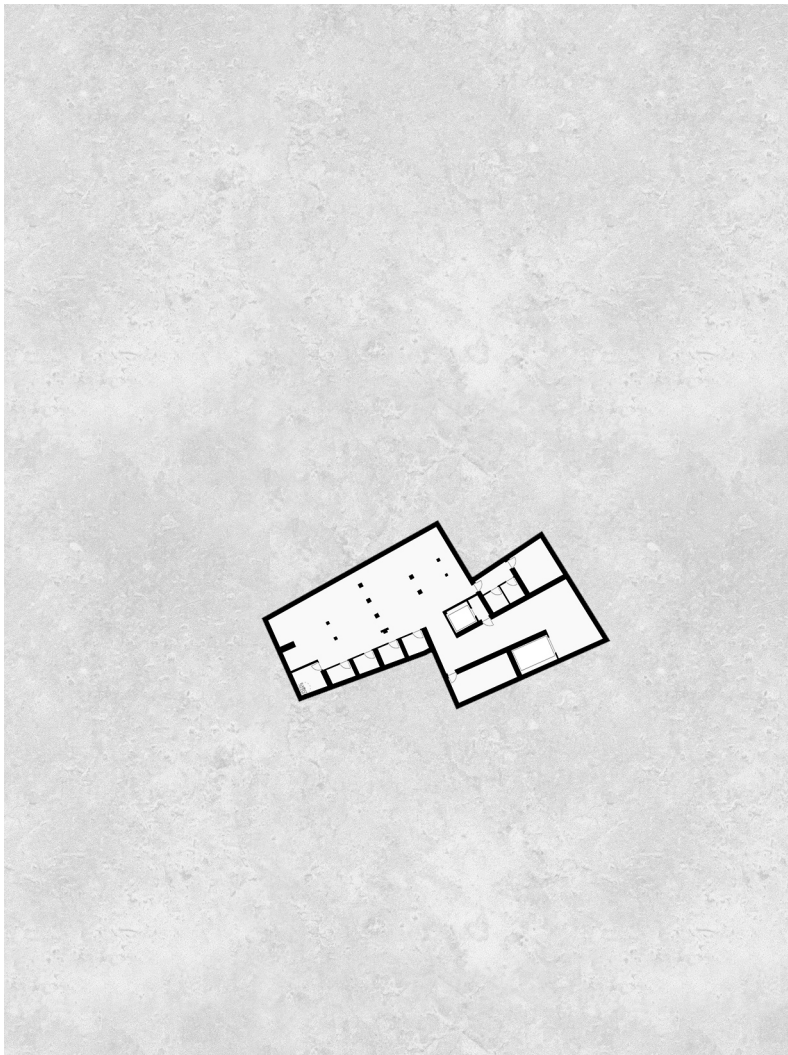
first floor plan



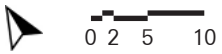
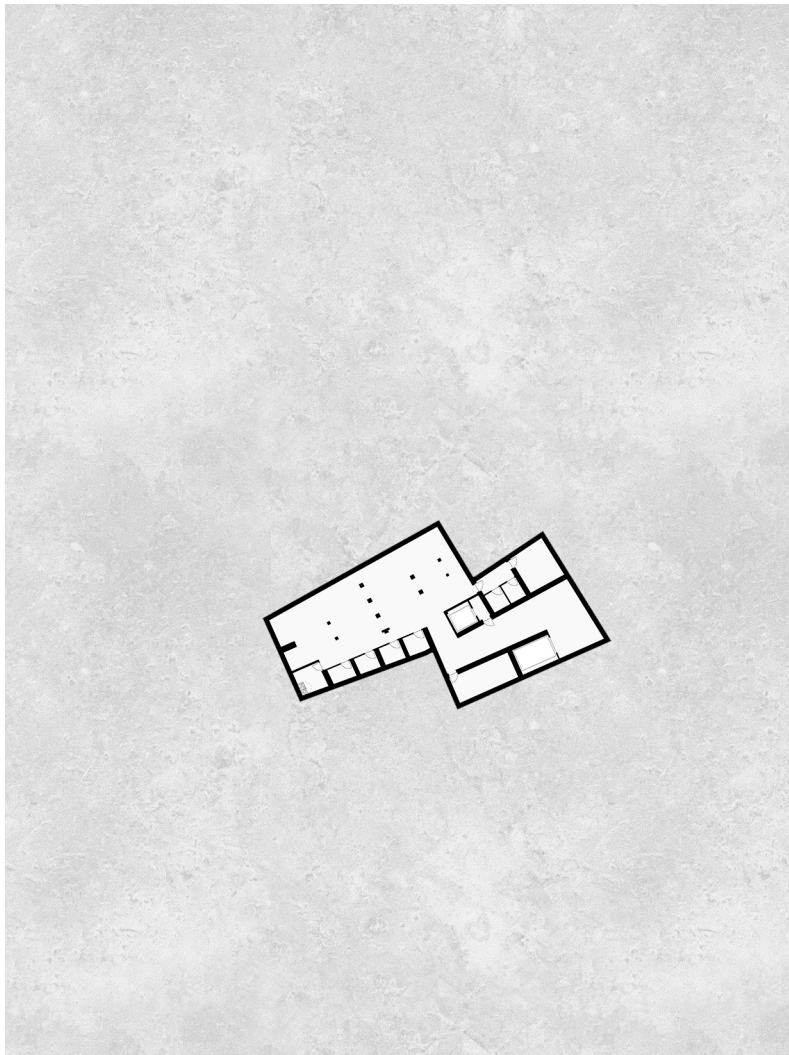
second floor plan



Implementation and development  
**PROJECT DEVELOPMENT**



second underground floor plan

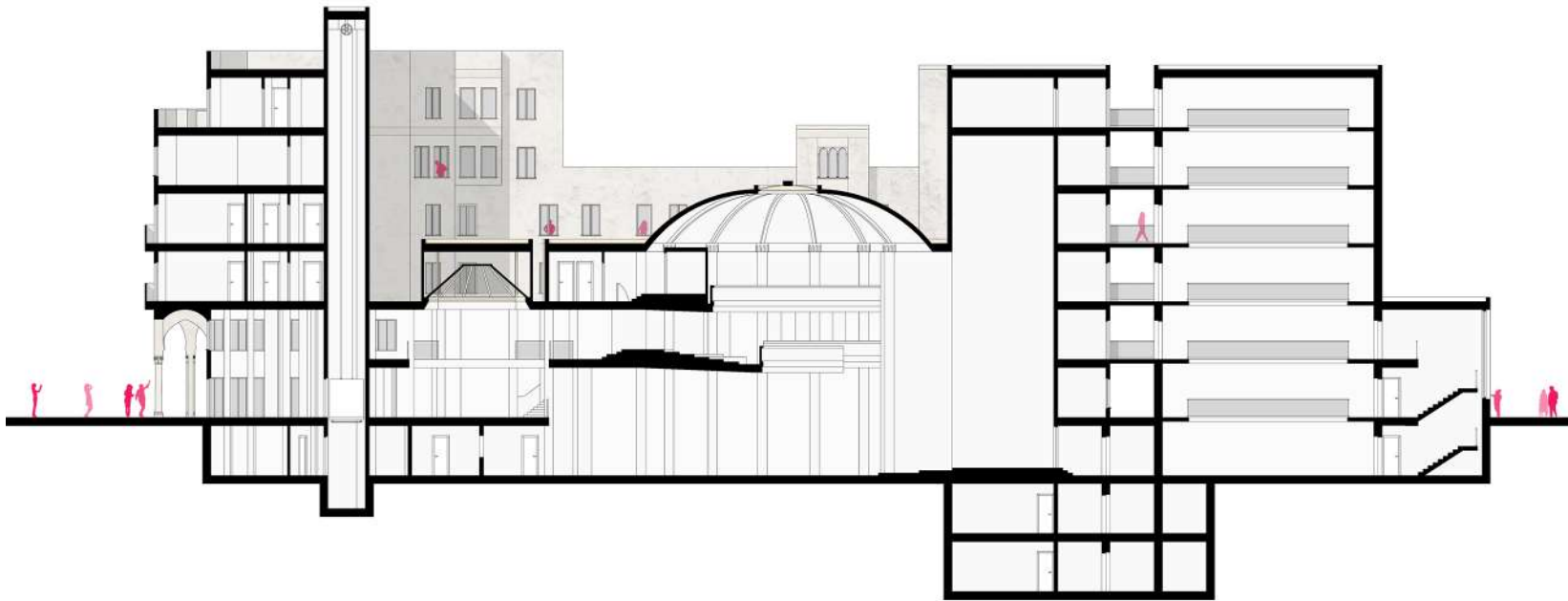


third underground floor plan



Implementation and development

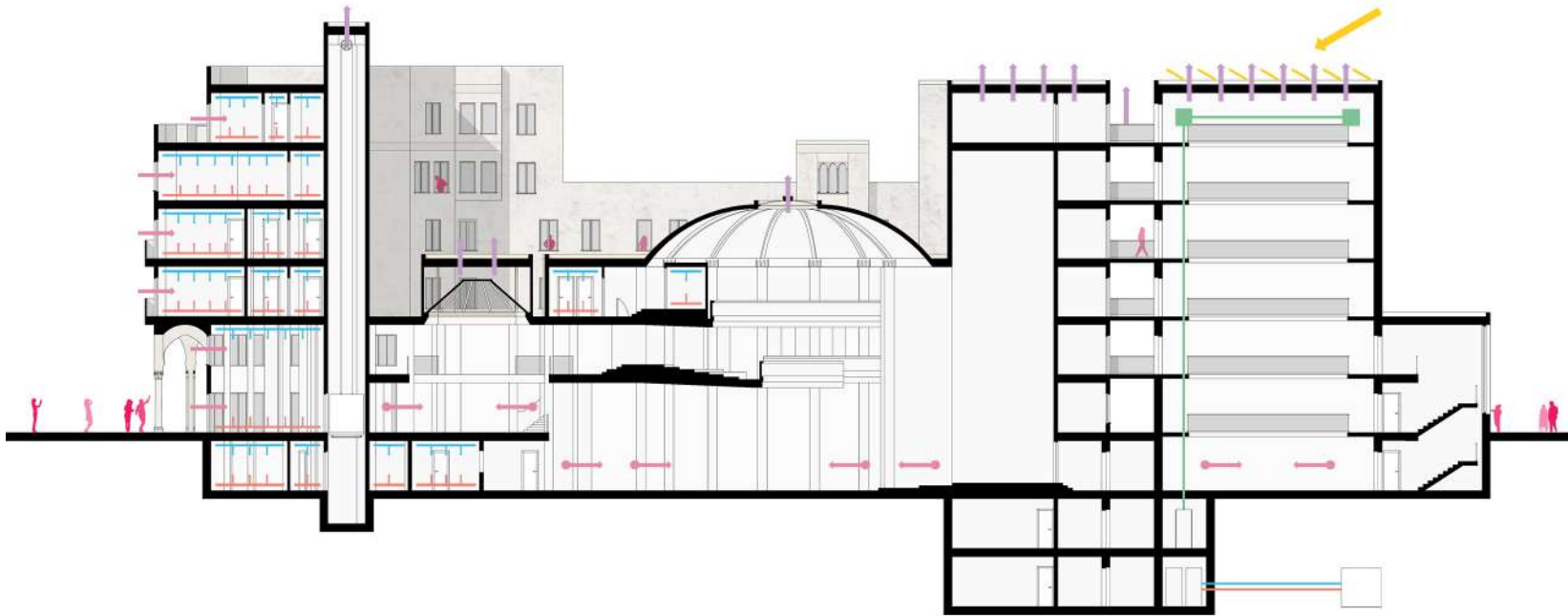
# PROJECT DEVELOPMENT



North-South section

Implementation and development

# PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

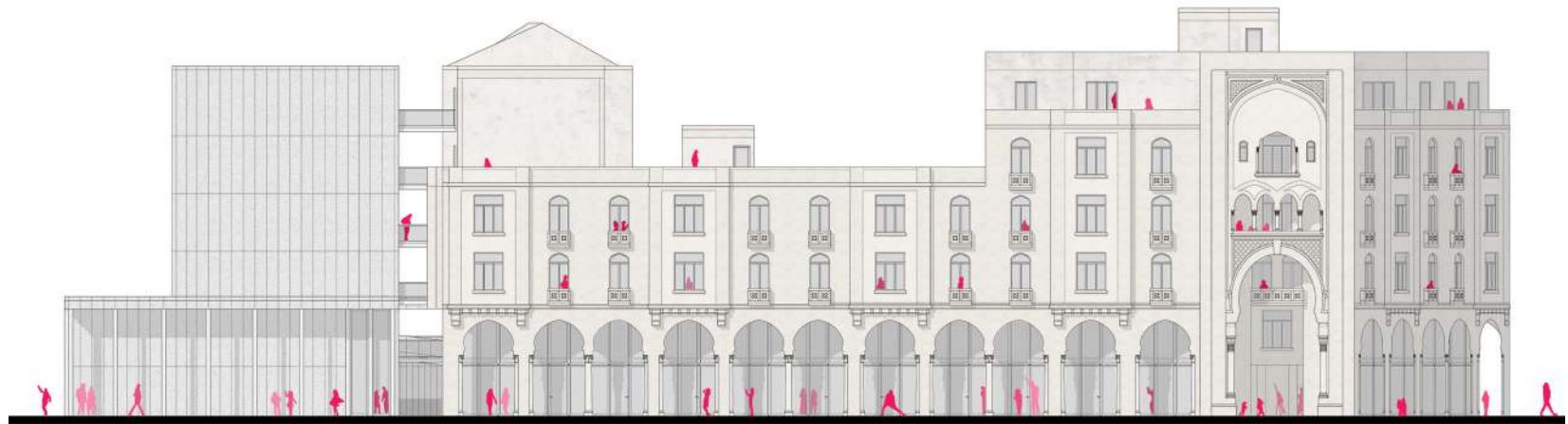


0 2 5 10

North-South section

Implementation and development

# PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

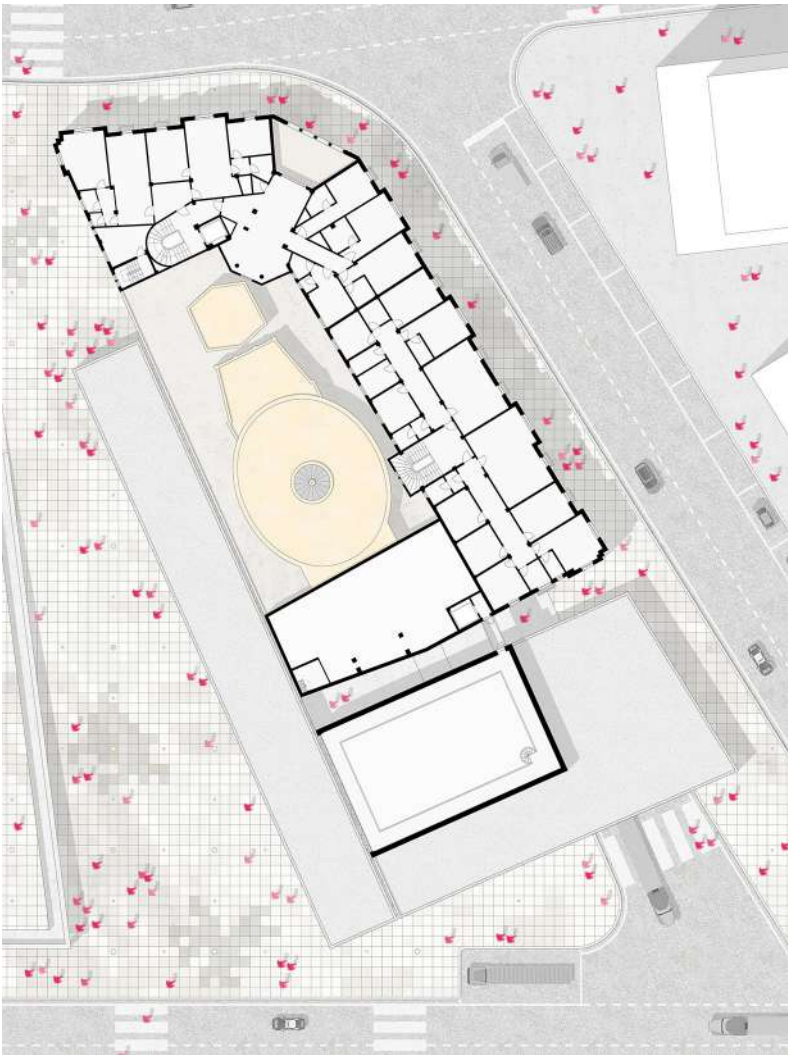


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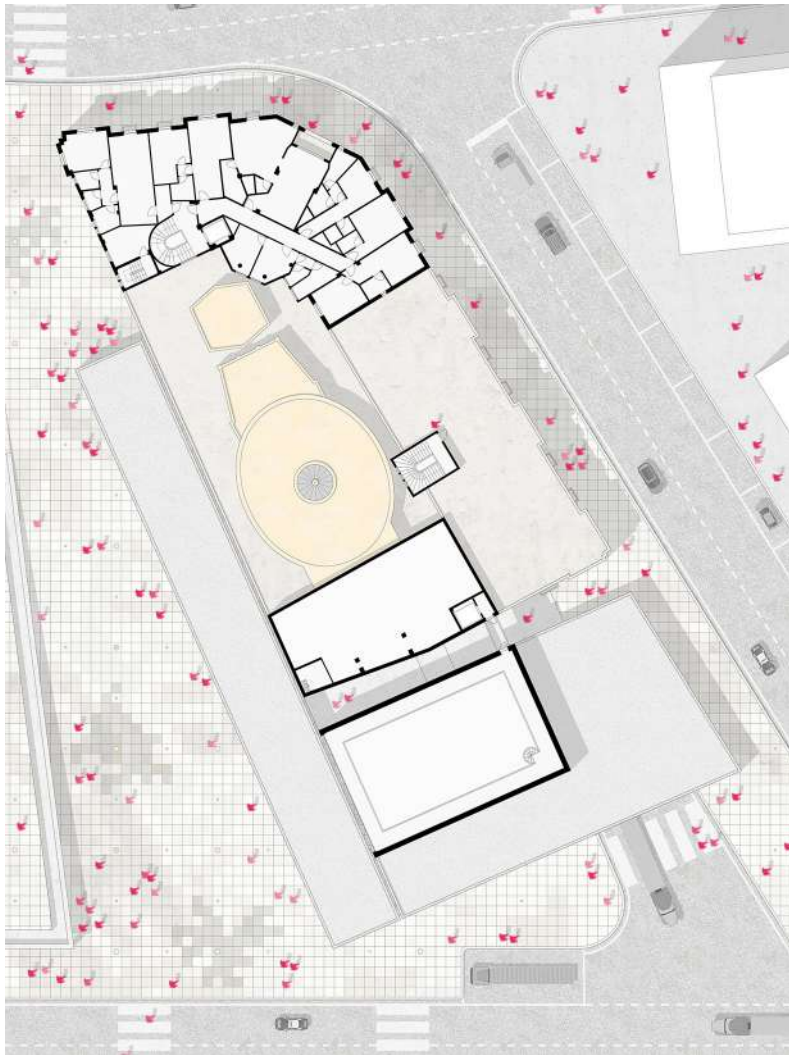
South-North section



Implementation and development  
**PROJECT DEVELOPMENT**



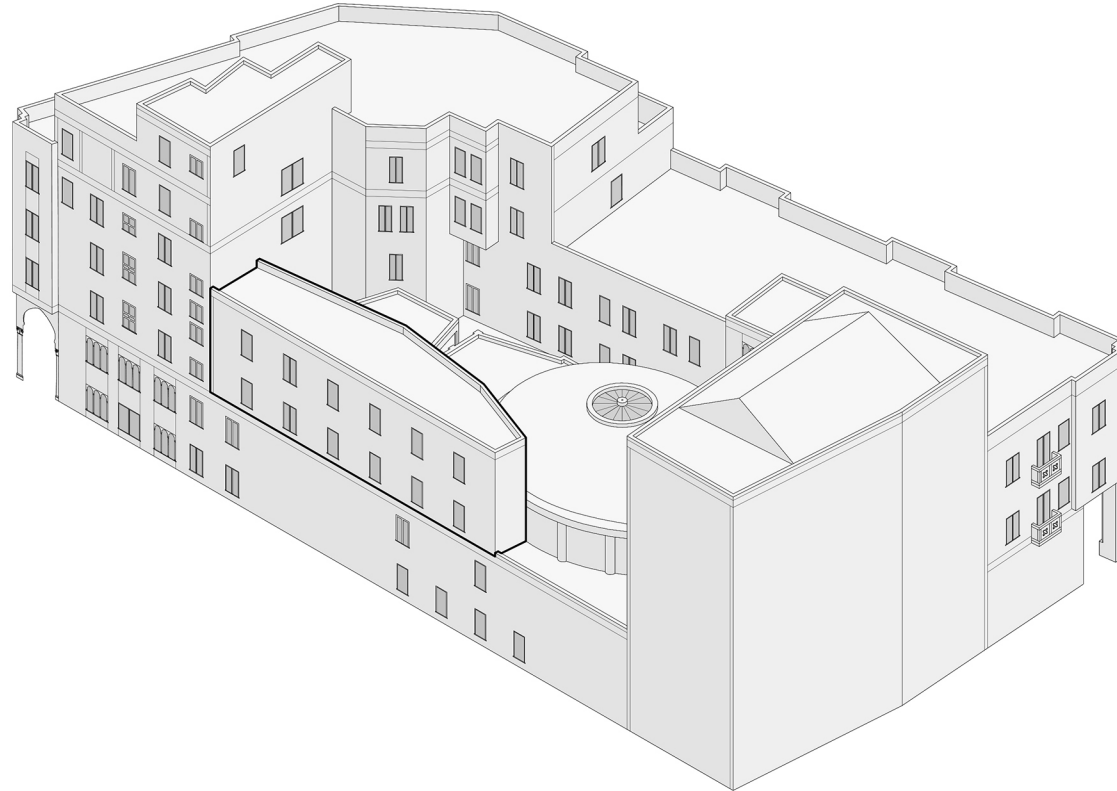
third floor plan



fourth floor plan

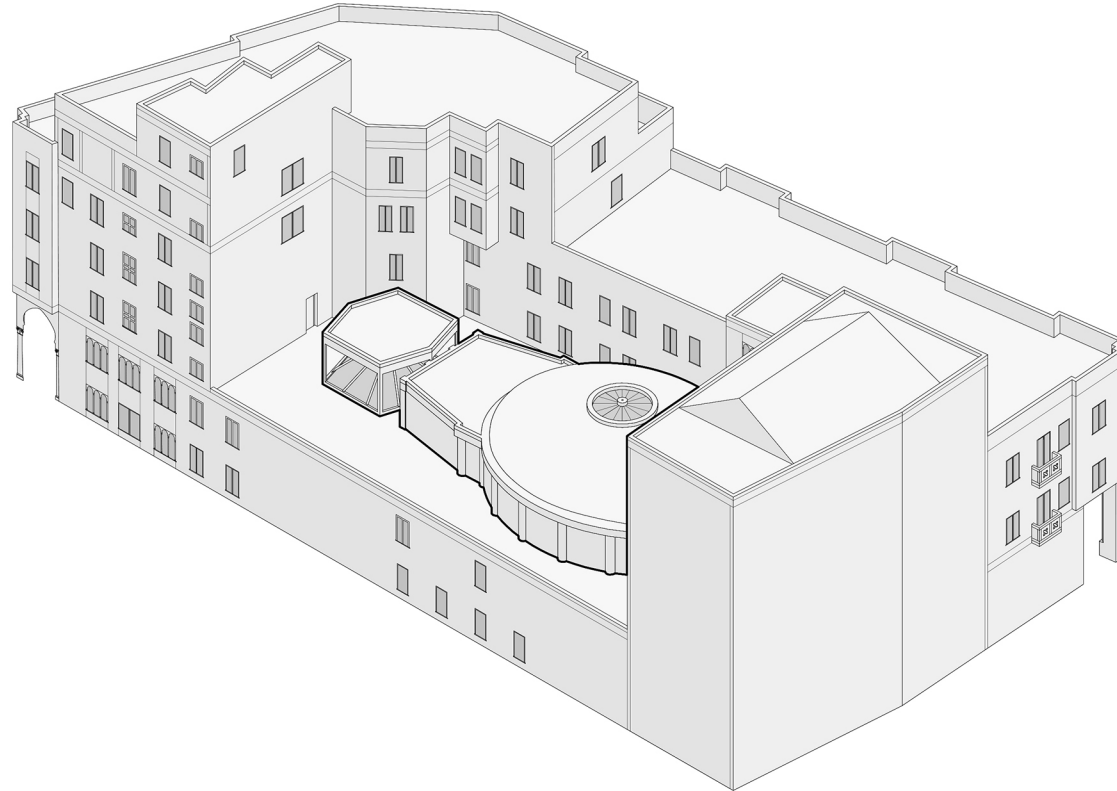
Implementation and development

# SHOWING-OFF THE THEATRE



Implementation and development

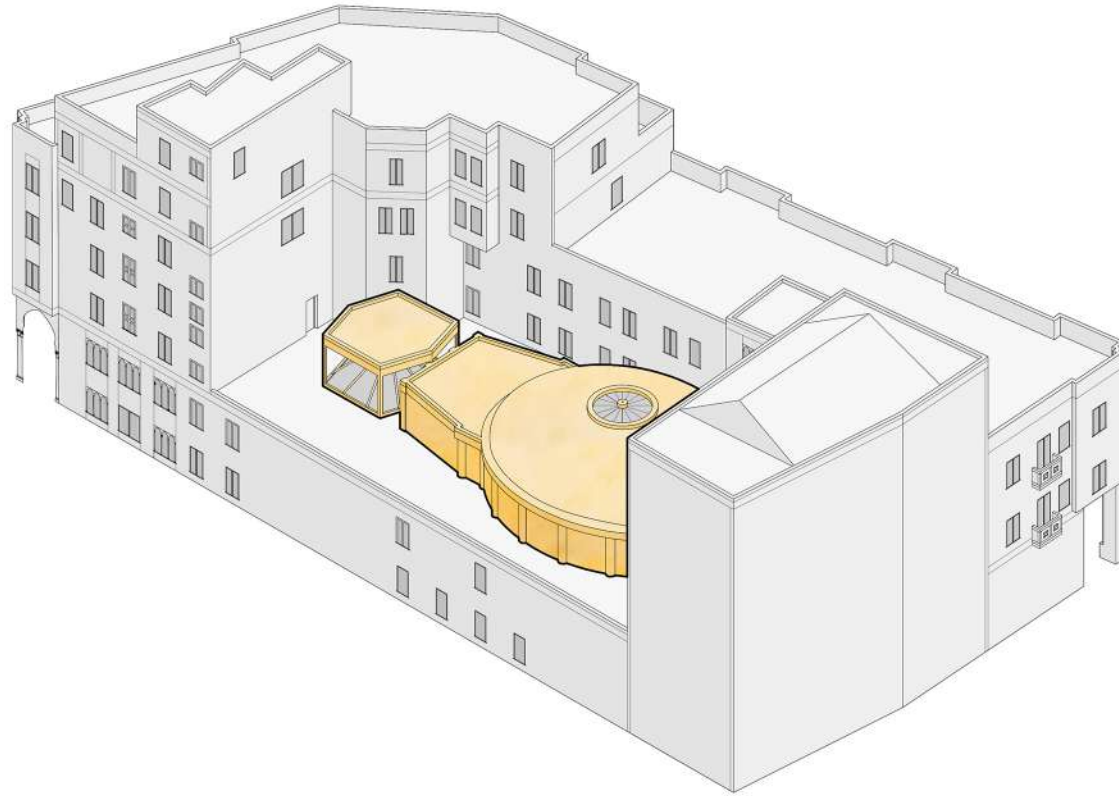
# SHOWING-OFF THE THEATRE





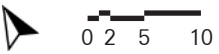
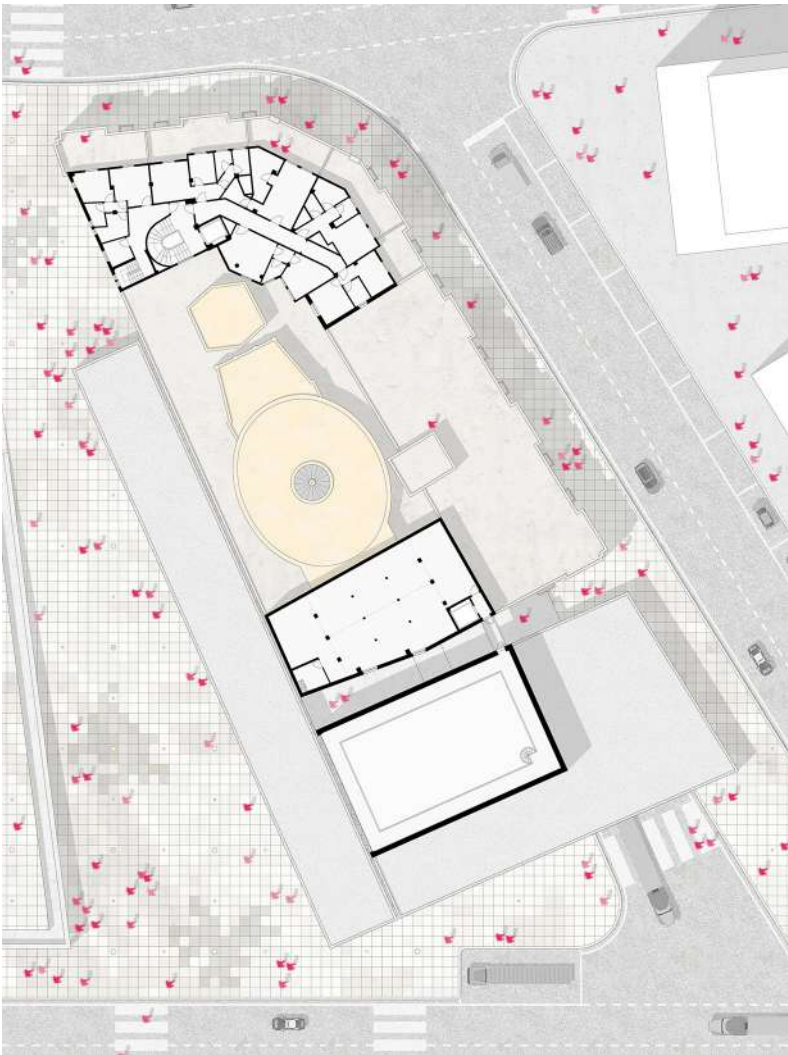
Implementation and development

# SHOWING-OFF THE THEATRE

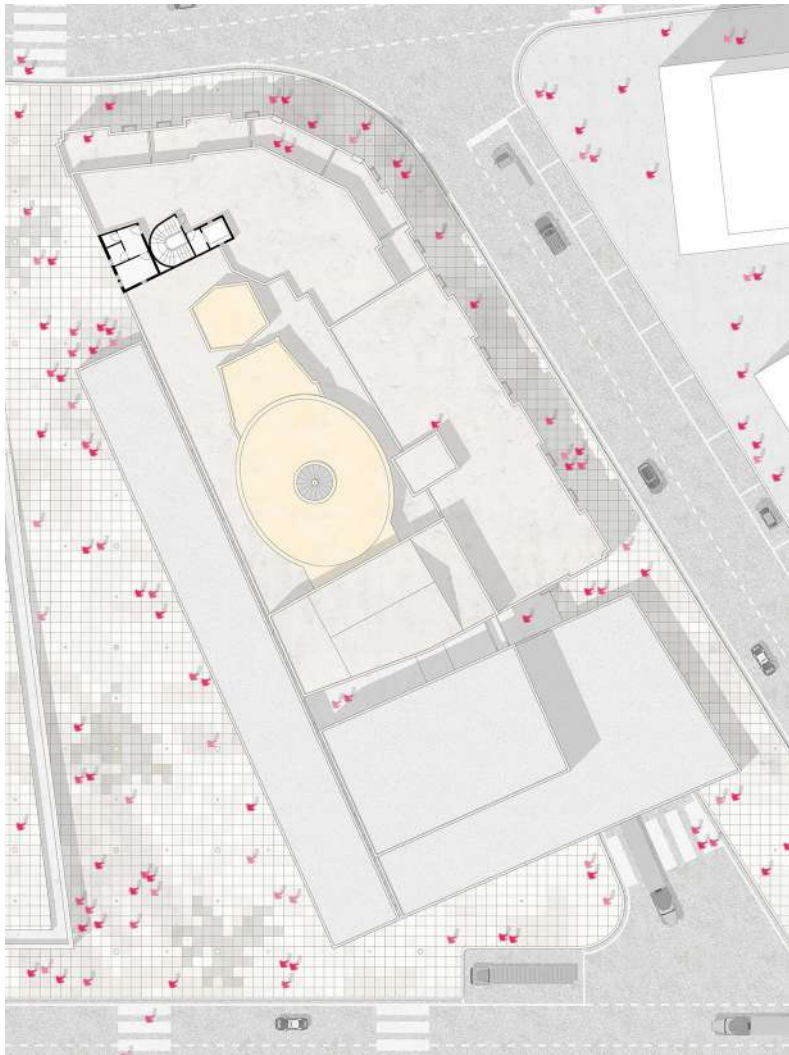


Implementation and development

# PROJECT DEVELOPMENT



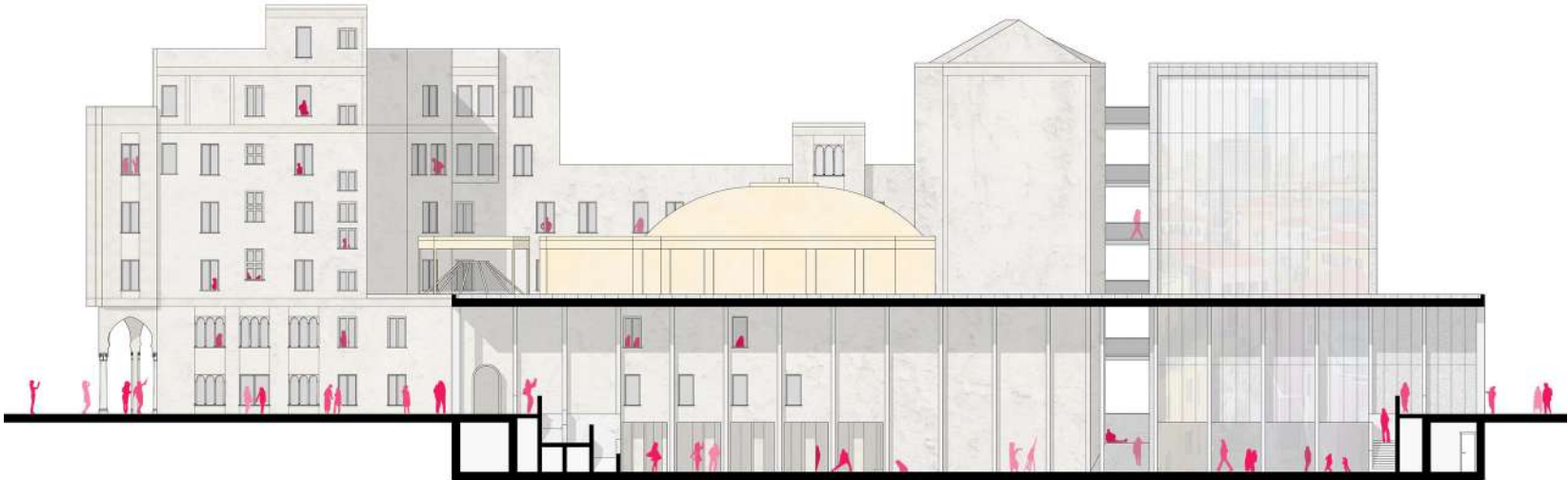
fifth floor plan



sixth floor plan

Implementation and development

# PROJECT DEVELOPMENT



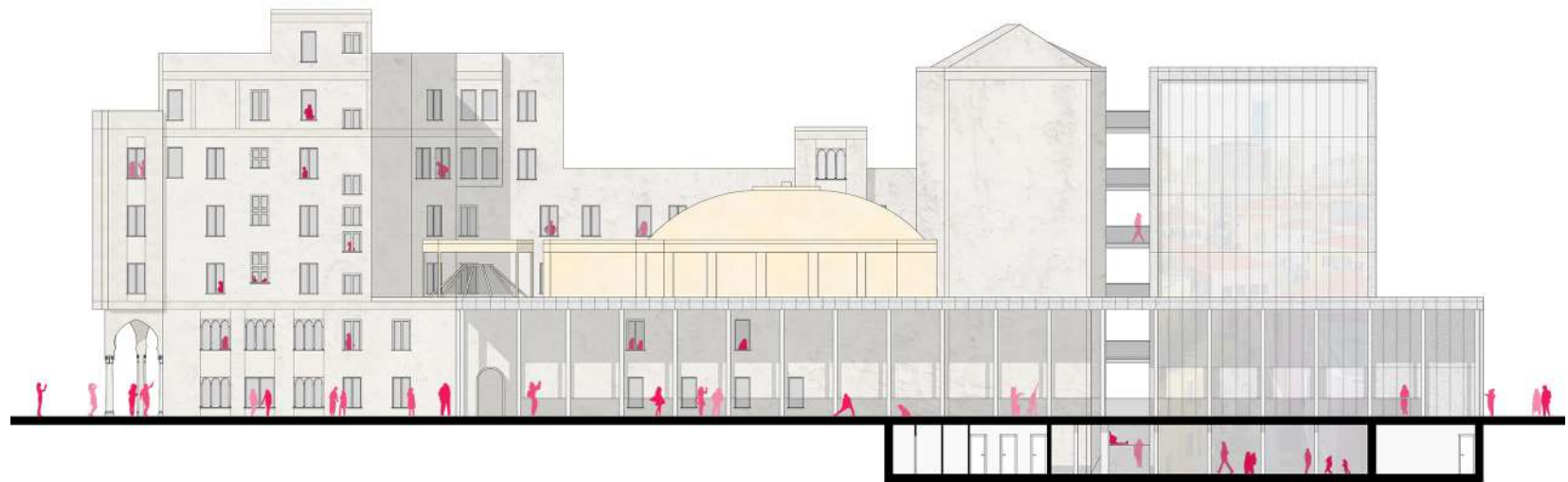
0 2 5 10

North-South section



Implementation and development

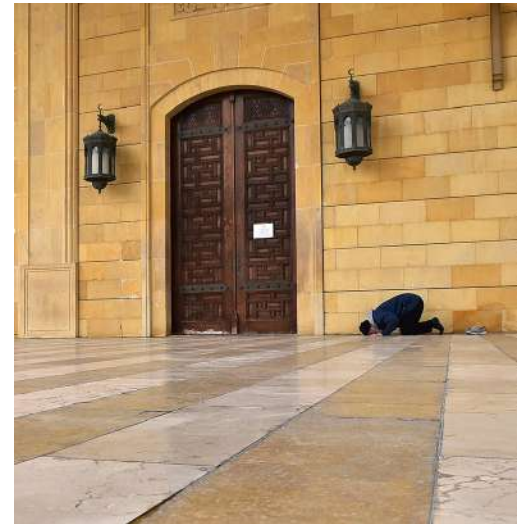
# PROJECT DEVELOPMENT



0 2 5 10

North-South section

Implementation and development  
**MATERIALS DESIGN**

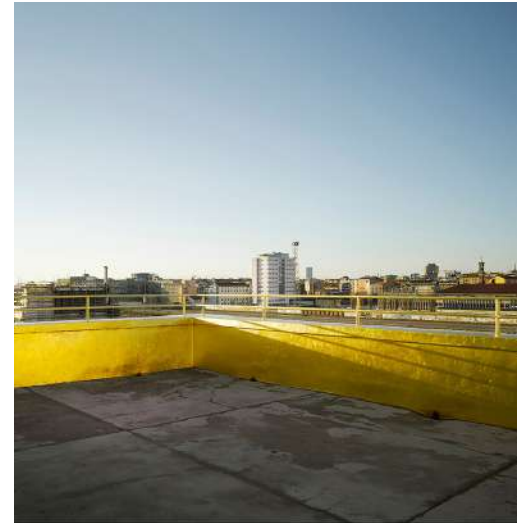


Implementation and development  
**MATERIALS DESIGN**





Implementation and development  
**MATERIALS DESIGN**



Implementation and development  
**MATERIALS DESIGN**



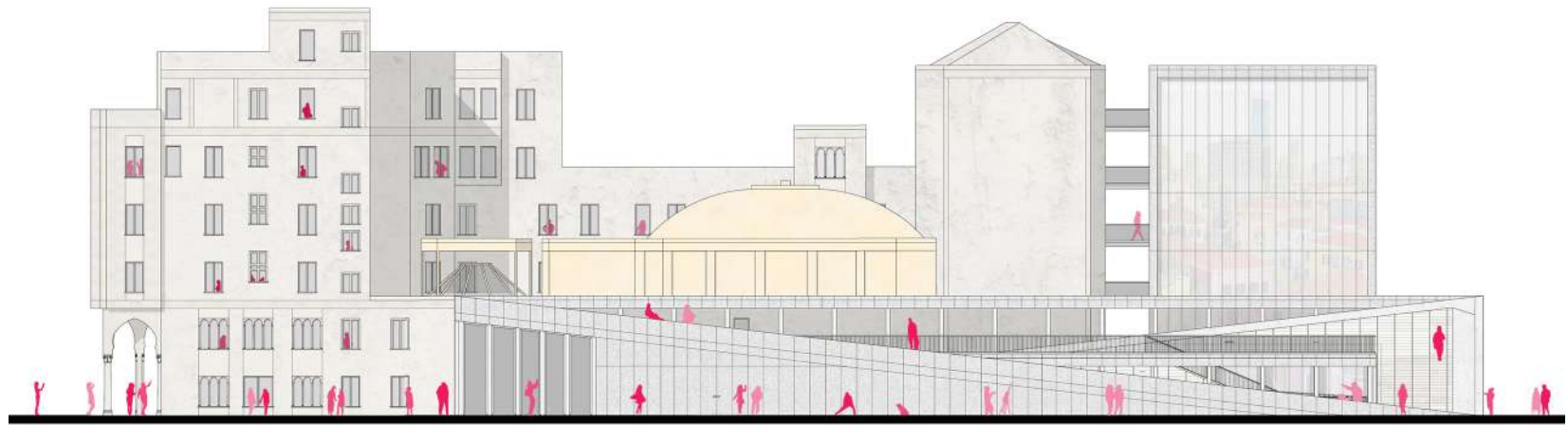
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**MATERIALS DESIGN**





Implementation and development

# PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

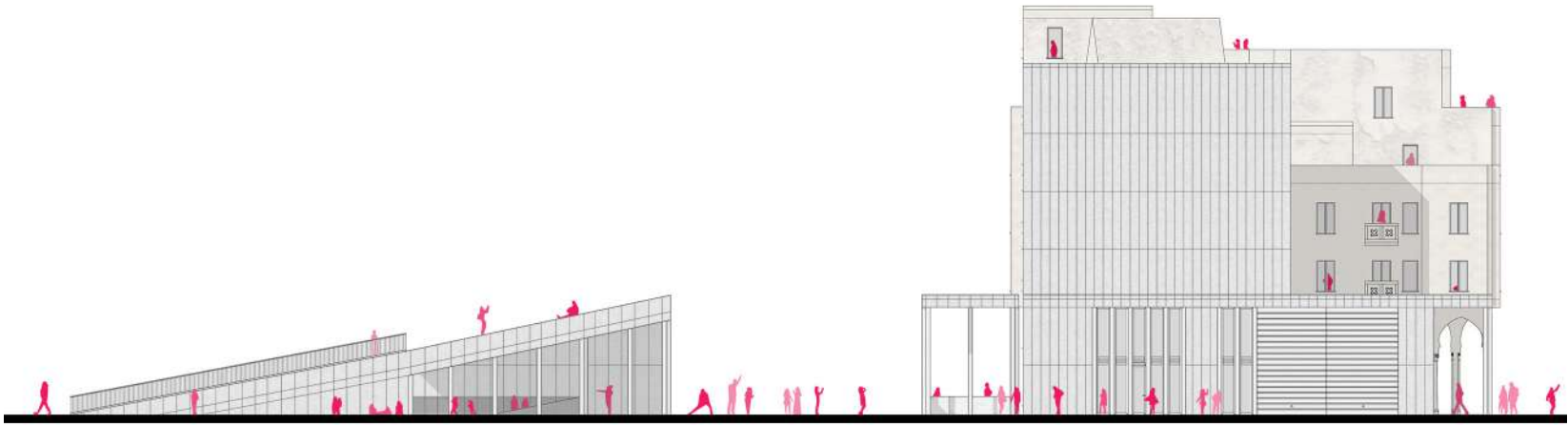


0 2 5 10

North-South section

Implementation and development

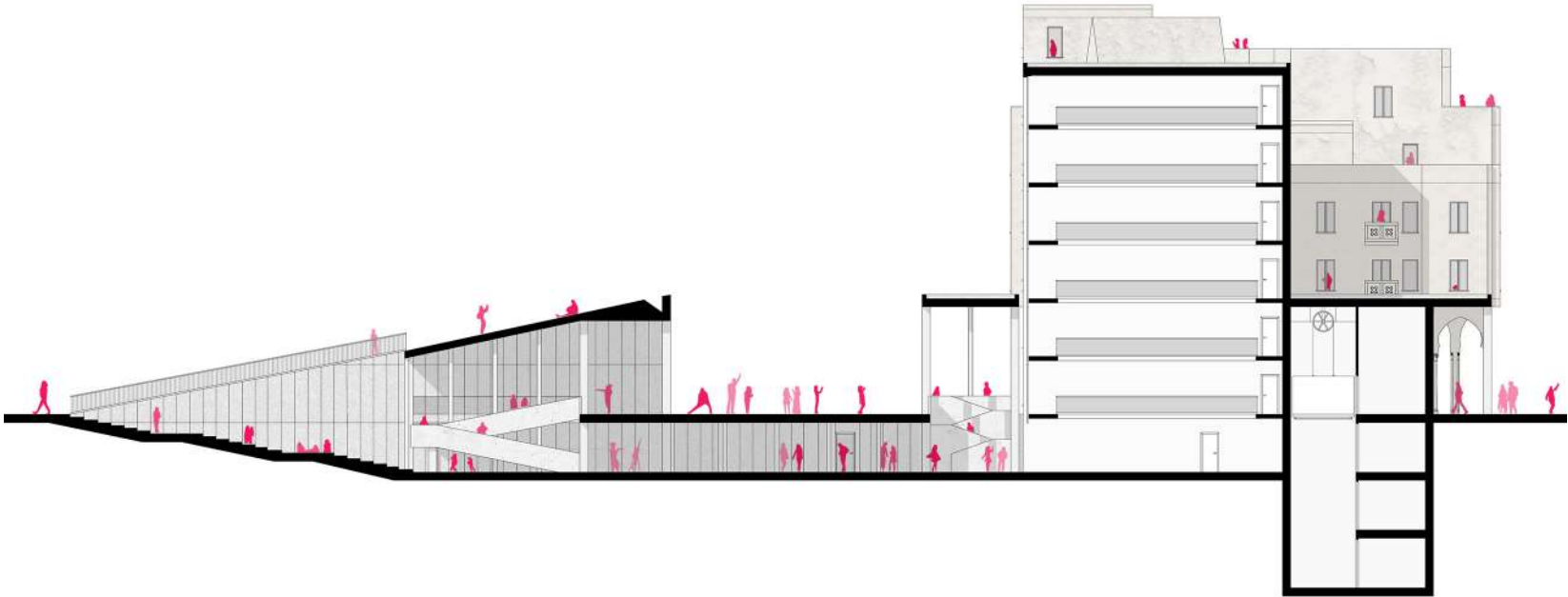
# PROJECT DEVELOPMENT



West-East section

Implementation and development

# PROJECT DEVELOPMENT



West-East section



Implementation and development

# PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

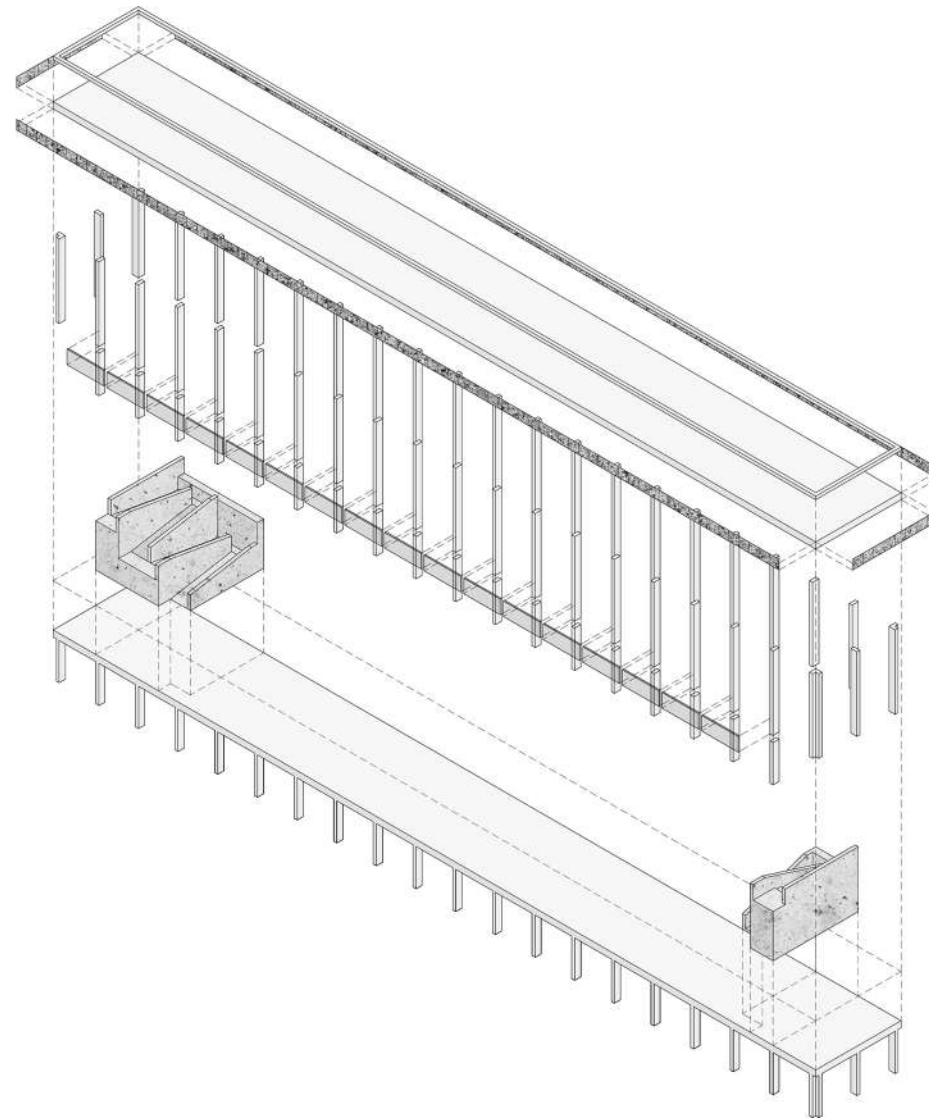


# HINGE ELEMENT

The new foyer is functioning as a hinge.  
Let's go into detail about how it is built.

Implementation and development

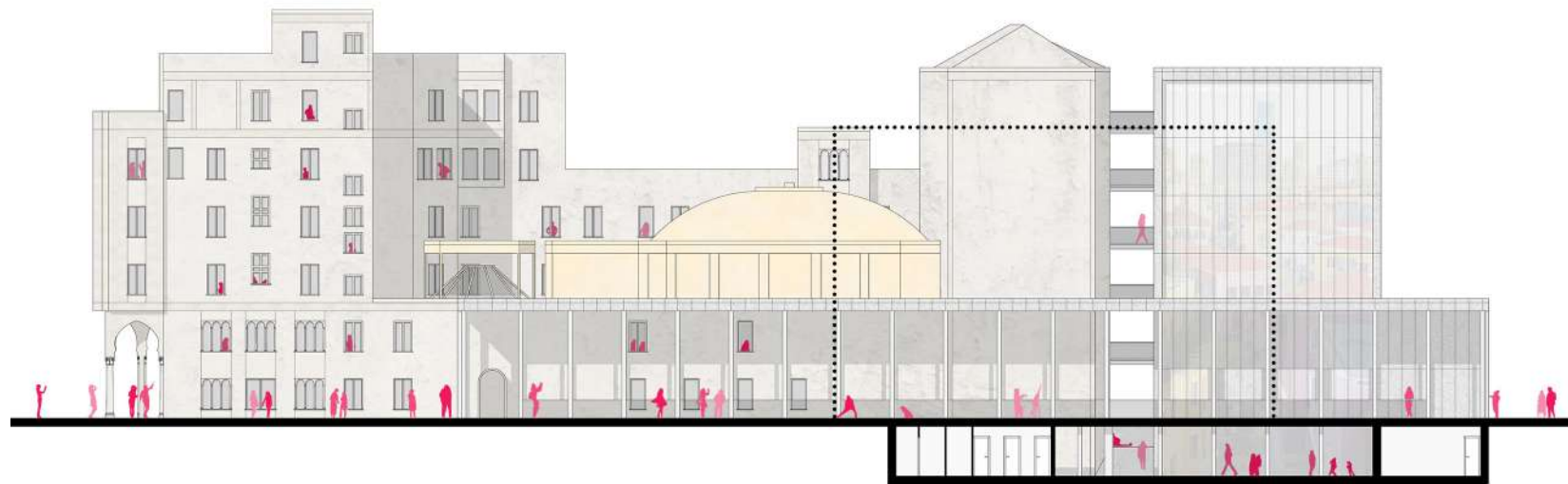
# STRUCTURAL SCHEME





Implementation and development

# PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

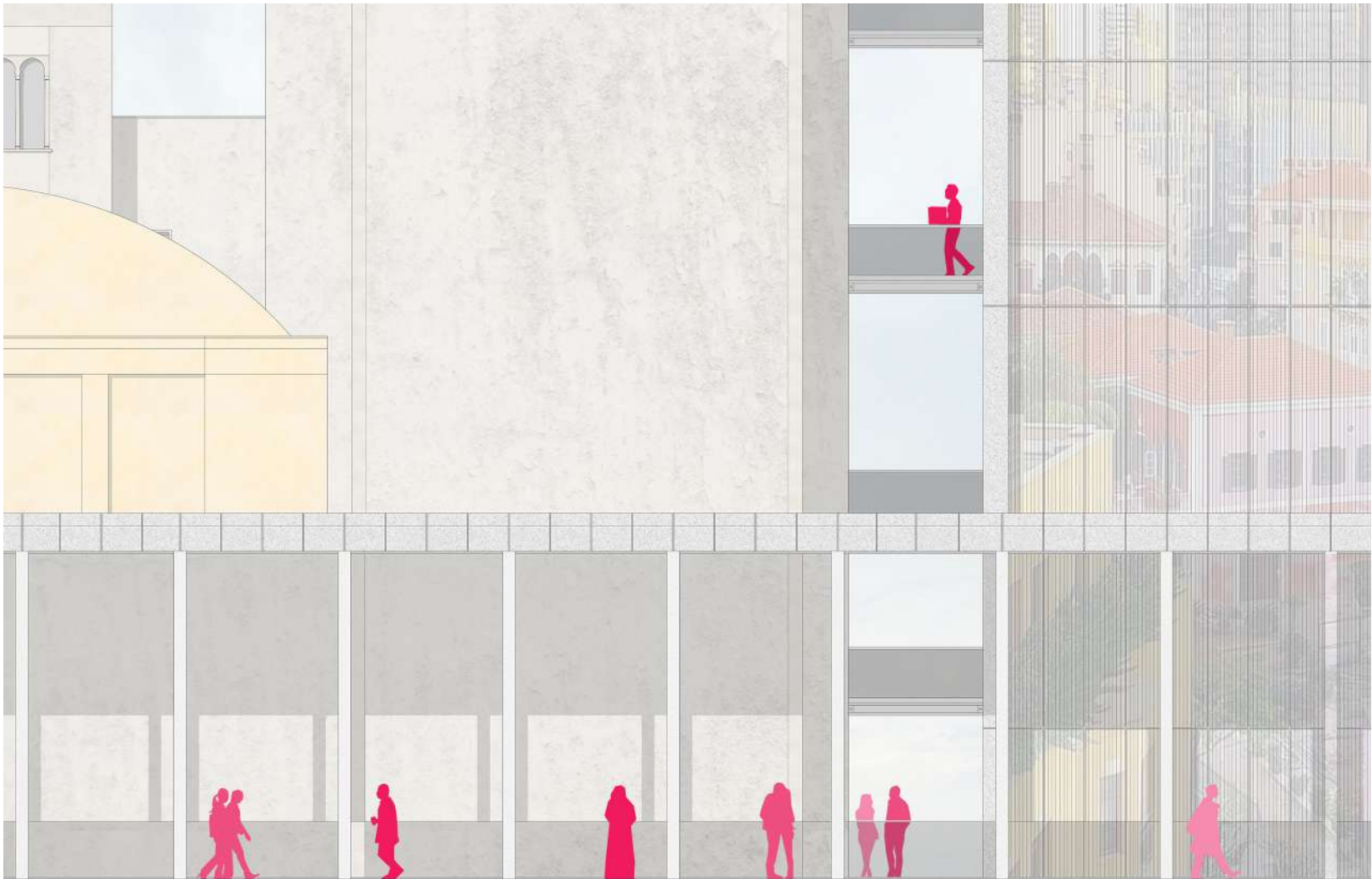


0 2 5 10

North-South section

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0 1 2 5

North-South section

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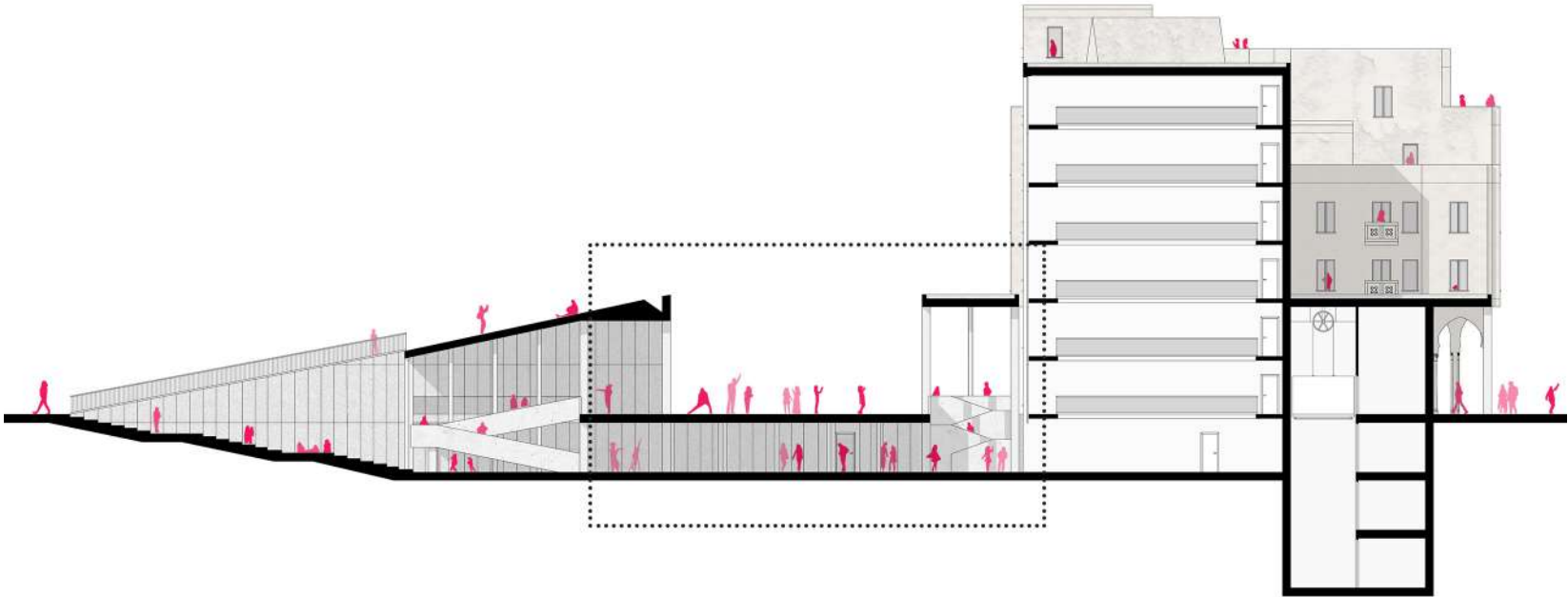
# PROJECT DEVELOPMENT





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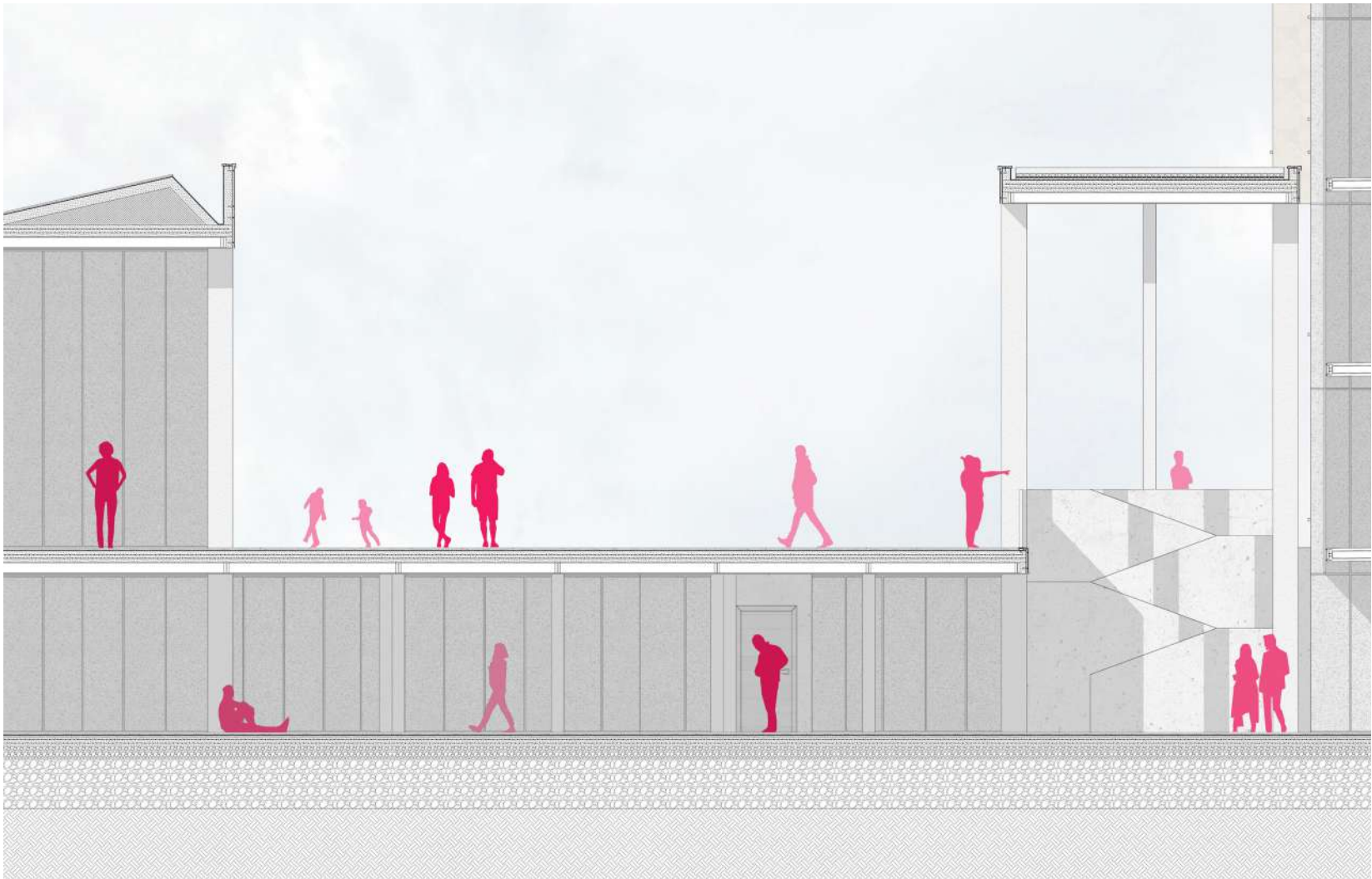
# PROJECT DEVELOPMENT



0 2 5 10

West-East section

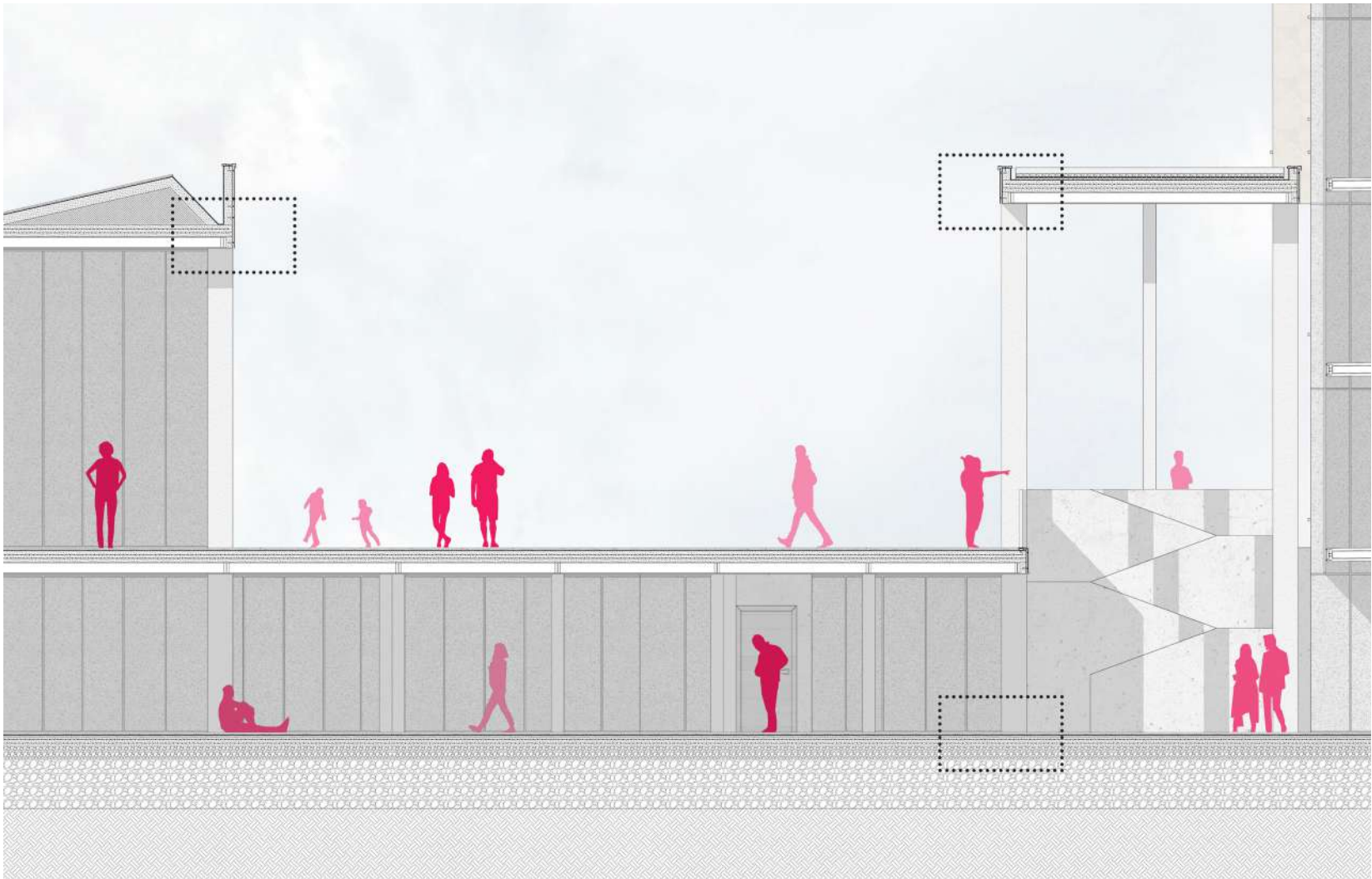
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**PROJECT DEVELOPMENT**



0 1 2 5

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**PROJECT DEVELOPMENT**

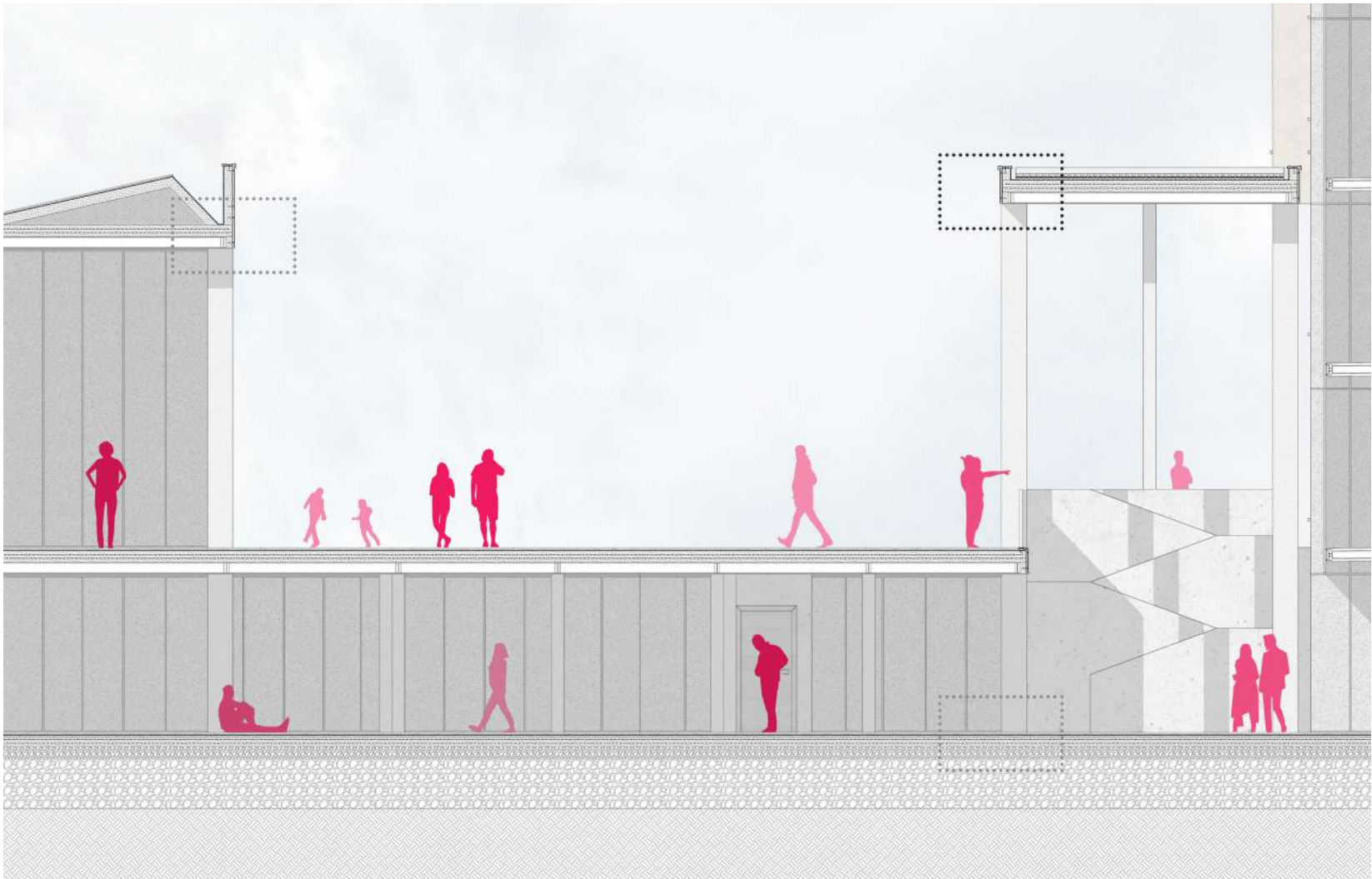


West-East section



Implementation and development

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0 1 2 5

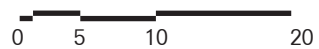
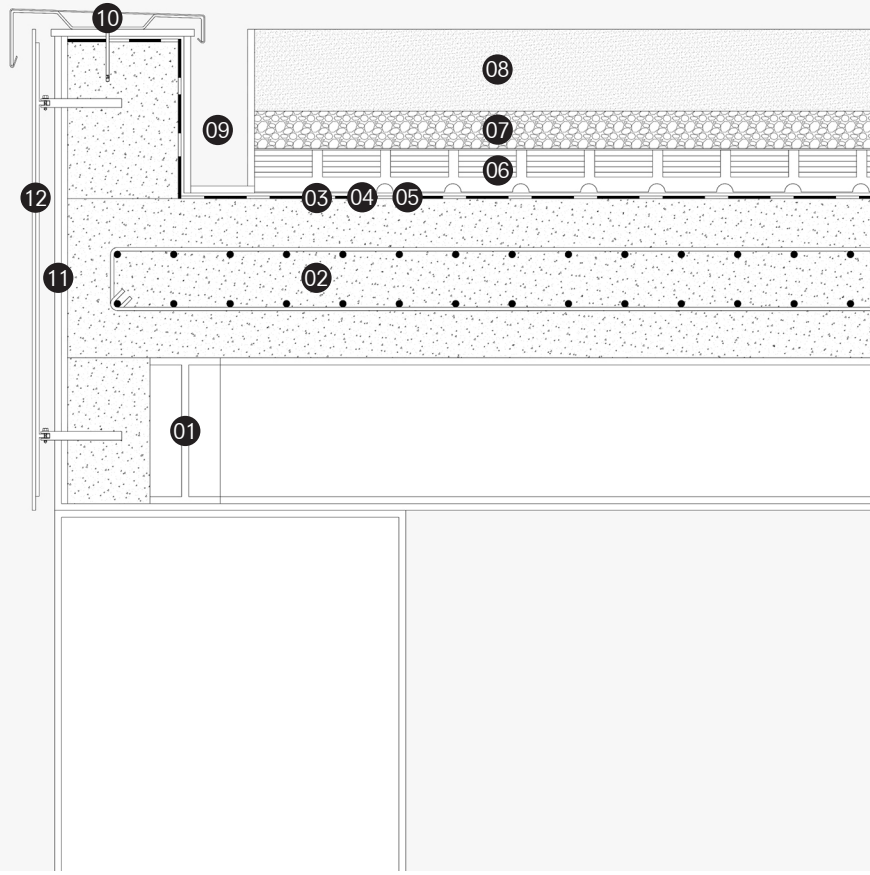
West-East section

Implementation and development

# PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

List of components:

- 01. Steel perimetral IPE beam
- 02. Concrete slab with electro-welded mesh
- 03. Water-proofing bituminous membrane
- 04. Resilient anti-impact layer
- 05. Protective felt VETROASFALTO GEOFELT 200
- 06. Rabbeted expanded polystyrene panels DAKU FSD
- 07. Thin gravel sub-base
- 08. Soil for roof-gardens
- 09. Water drainage gutter
- 10. Galvanised steel flashing REVOLT
- 11. Finishing plaster KNAUF VELVET
- 12. Stabilised aluminum foam large cell panel ALUSION



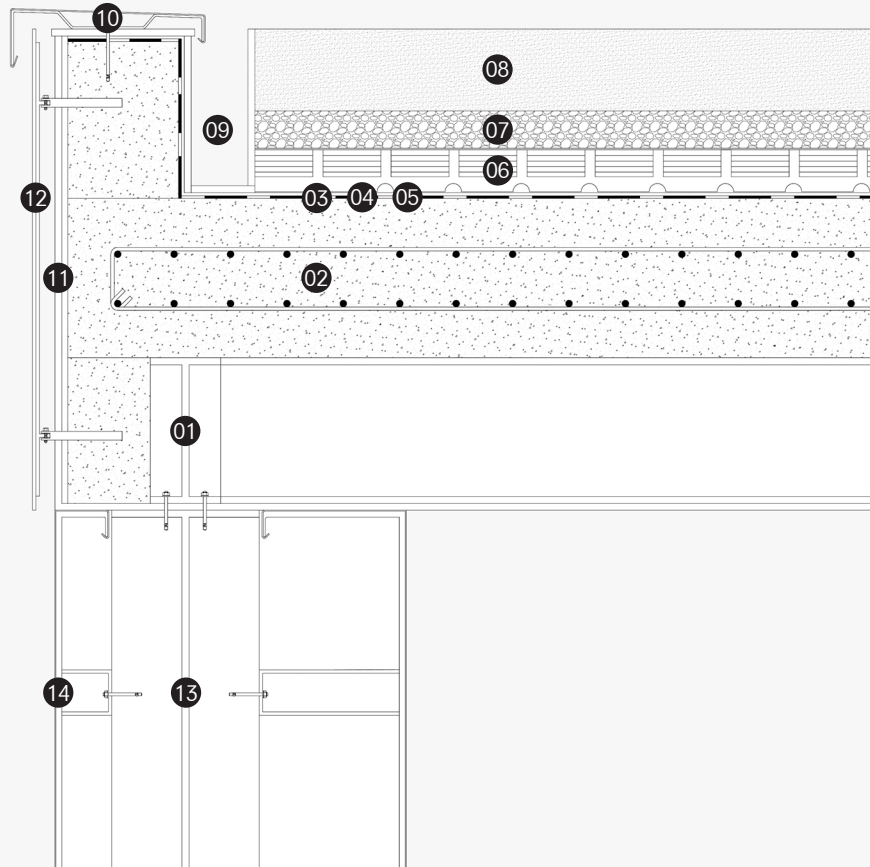
significant detail

Implementation and development

# PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

List of components:

- 01. Steel perimetral IPE beam
- 02. Concrete slab with electro-welded mesh
- 03. Water-proofing bituminous membrane
- 04. Resilient anti-impact layer
- 05. Protective felt VETROASFALTO GEOFELT 200
- 06. Rabbeted expanded polystyrene panels DAKU FSD
- 07. Thin gravel sub-base
- 08. Soil for roof-gardens
- 09. Water drainage gutter
- 10. Galvanised steel flashing REVOLT
- 11. Finishing plaster KNAUF VELVET
- 12. Stabilised aluminum foam large cell panel ALUSION
- 13. Steel load-bearing HE pillar
- 14. Steel cladding system



significant detail

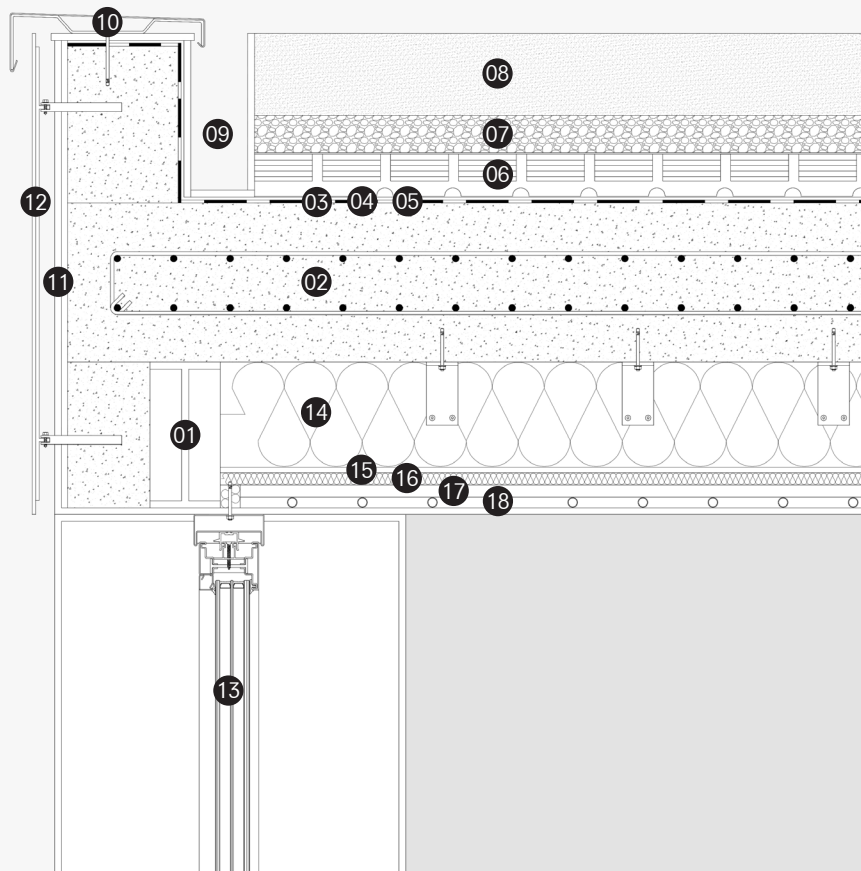


Implementation and development

# PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

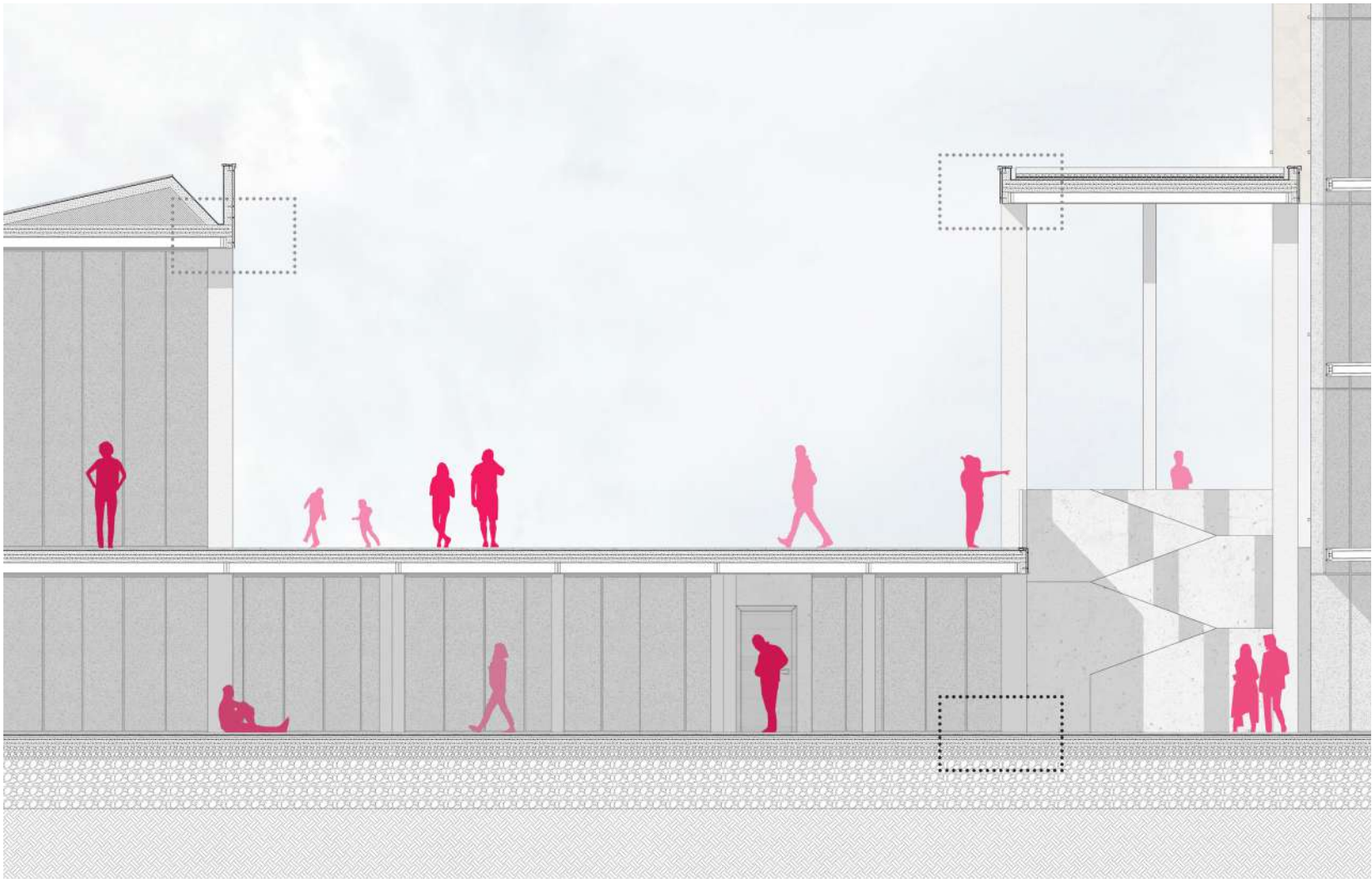
## List of components:

01. Steel perimetral IPE beam
02. Concrete slab with electro-welded mesh
03. Water-proofing bituminous membrane
04. Resilient anti-impact layer
05. Protective felt VETROASFALTO GEOFELT 200
06. Rabbeted expanded polystyrene panels DAKU FSD
07. Thin gravel sub-base
08. Soil for roof-gardens
09. Water drainage gutter
10. Galvanised steel flashing REVOLT
11. Finishing plaster KNAUF VELVET
12. Stabilised aluminum foam large cell panel ALUSION
13. Double-glazed window SECCO ABE 85
14. Insulating panel ROCKWOOL VENTIROCK DUO
15. Fiber-cement panel EQUITONE
16. Synthesised EPS insulating panel with graphite
17. Leveling layer
18. Radiant ceiling panel EURO THERM LEONARDO LUX



significant detail

Implementation and development  
**PROJECT DEVELOPMENT**



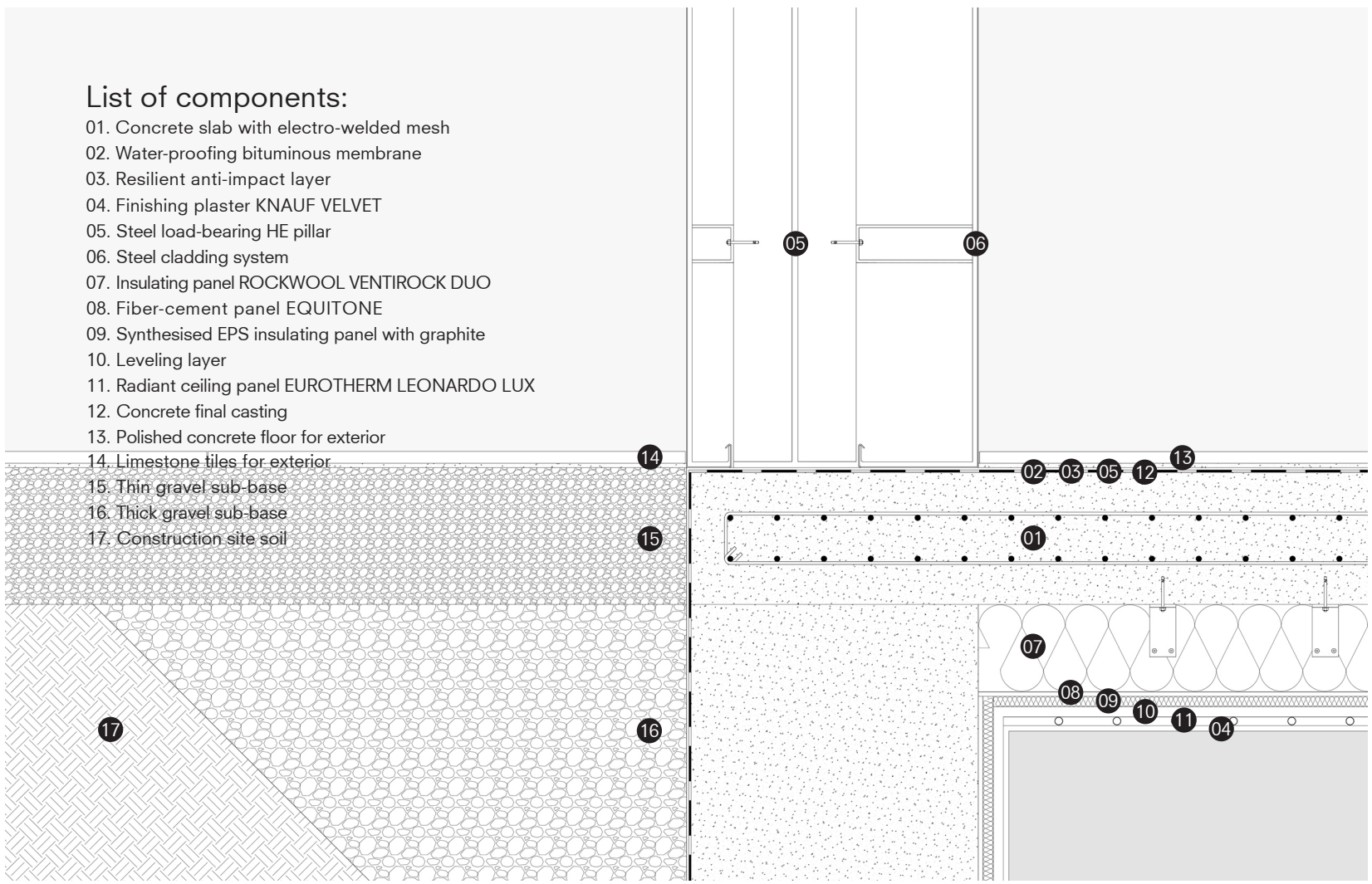
West-East section

Implementation and development

# PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

### List of components:

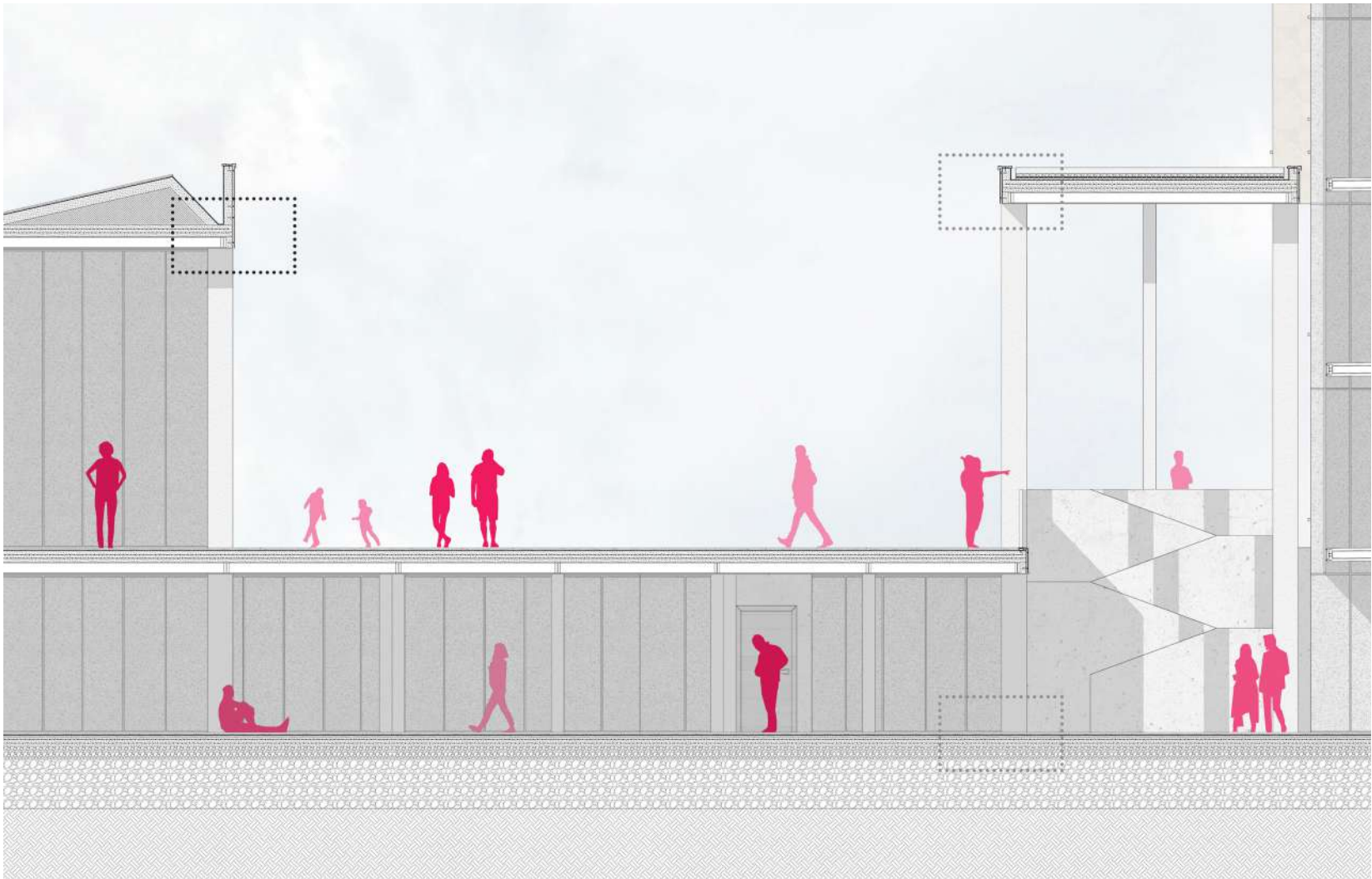
- 01. Concrete slab with electro-welded mesh
- 02. Water-proofing bituminous membrane
- 03. Resilient anti-impact layer
- 04. Finishing plaster KNAUF VELVET
- 05. Steel load-bearing HE pillar
- 06. Steel cladding system
- 07. Insulating panel ROCKWOOL VENTIROCK DUO
- 08. Fiber-cement panel EQUITONE
- 09. Synthesised EPS insulating panel with graphite
- 10. Leveling layer
- 11. Radiant ceiling panel EUROTHERM LEONARDO LUX
- 12. Concrete final casting
- 13. Polished concrete floor for exterior
- 14. Limestone tiles for exterior
- 15. Thin gravel sub-base
- 16. Thick gravel sub-base
- 17. Construction site soil



significant detail

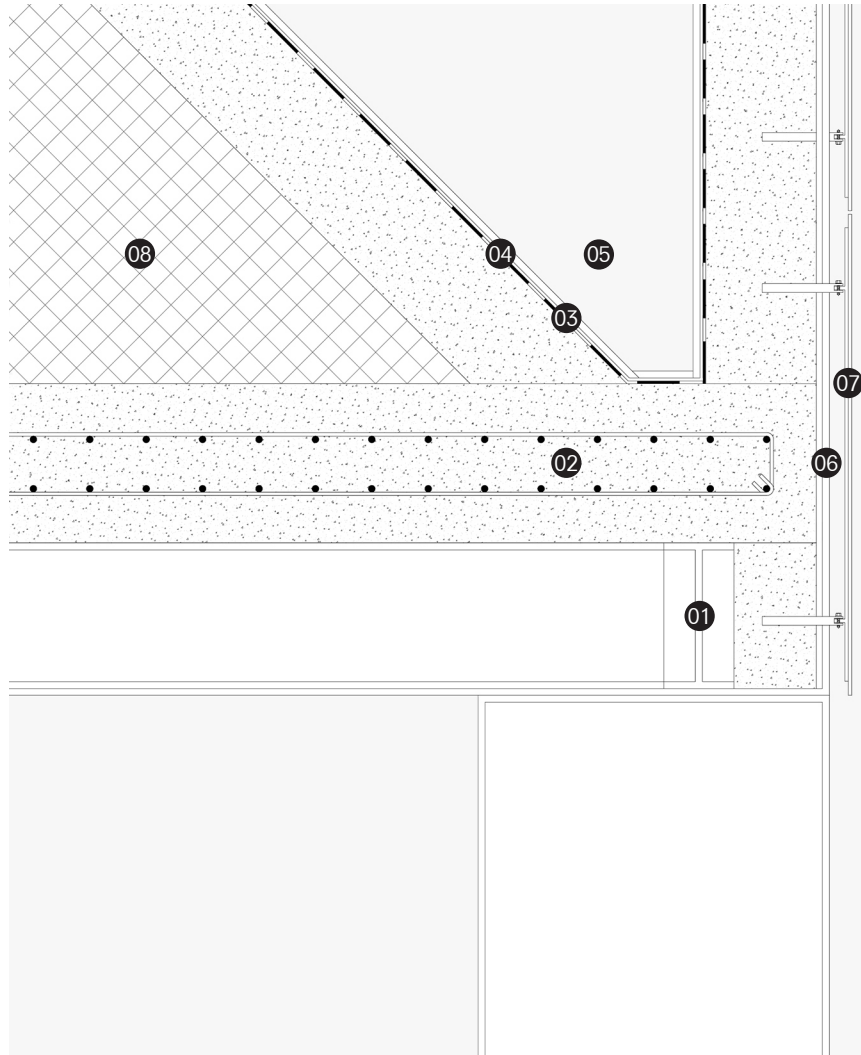


Implementation and development  
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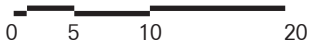


West-East section

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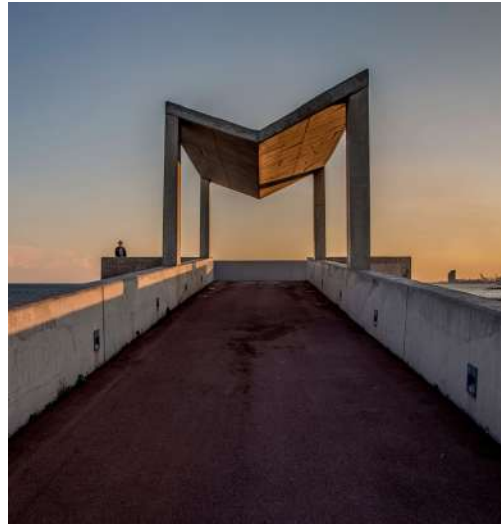
- List of components:**
- Steel perimetral IPE beam .01
  - Concrete slab with electro-welded mesh .02
  - Water-proofing bituminous membrane .03
  - Resilient anti-impact layer .04
  - Water drainage gutter .05
  - Finishing plaster KNAUF VELVET .06
  - Stabilised aluminum foam large cell panel ALUSION .07
  - Polyurethane foam MapePUR .08



significant detail

Implementation and development

# HIDDEN BALAUSTRADE





Implementation and development

# PROJECT DEVELOPMENT



INTRODUCTION  
THESIS TOPIC RESEARCH  
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IMPLEMENTATION AND DEVELOPMENT  
**CONCLUSIONS**

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## RESEARCH QUESTION

‘How a new architectural development centred around the Grand Theatre building can help re-establishing a cultural presence in Central Beirut?’



Conclusions  
**DESIGN ASSETS**



Conclusions  
**DESIGN ASSETS**



# WIDER RELEVANCE





Conclusions

# WIDER RELEVANCE



# PROJECT DEVELOPMENT





Conclusions

# DESIGN ASSETS





# WIDER RELEVANCE



# WIDER RELEVANCE





# PROJECT DEVELOPMENT





Conclusions  
**DESIGN ASSETS**



# WIDER RELEVANCE



# WIDER RELEVANCE





# PROJECT DEVELOPMENT



**THANK YOU!**