

on the threshold of identity

Bowling Buikslotermeerplein

Hoe kunnen wij het weten
Als langzaam verdringen
Niet tot onze grenzen behoort
Hoe kunnen wij het vertellen
Als de bruggen die we proberen te
bouwen
Niet worden gehoord

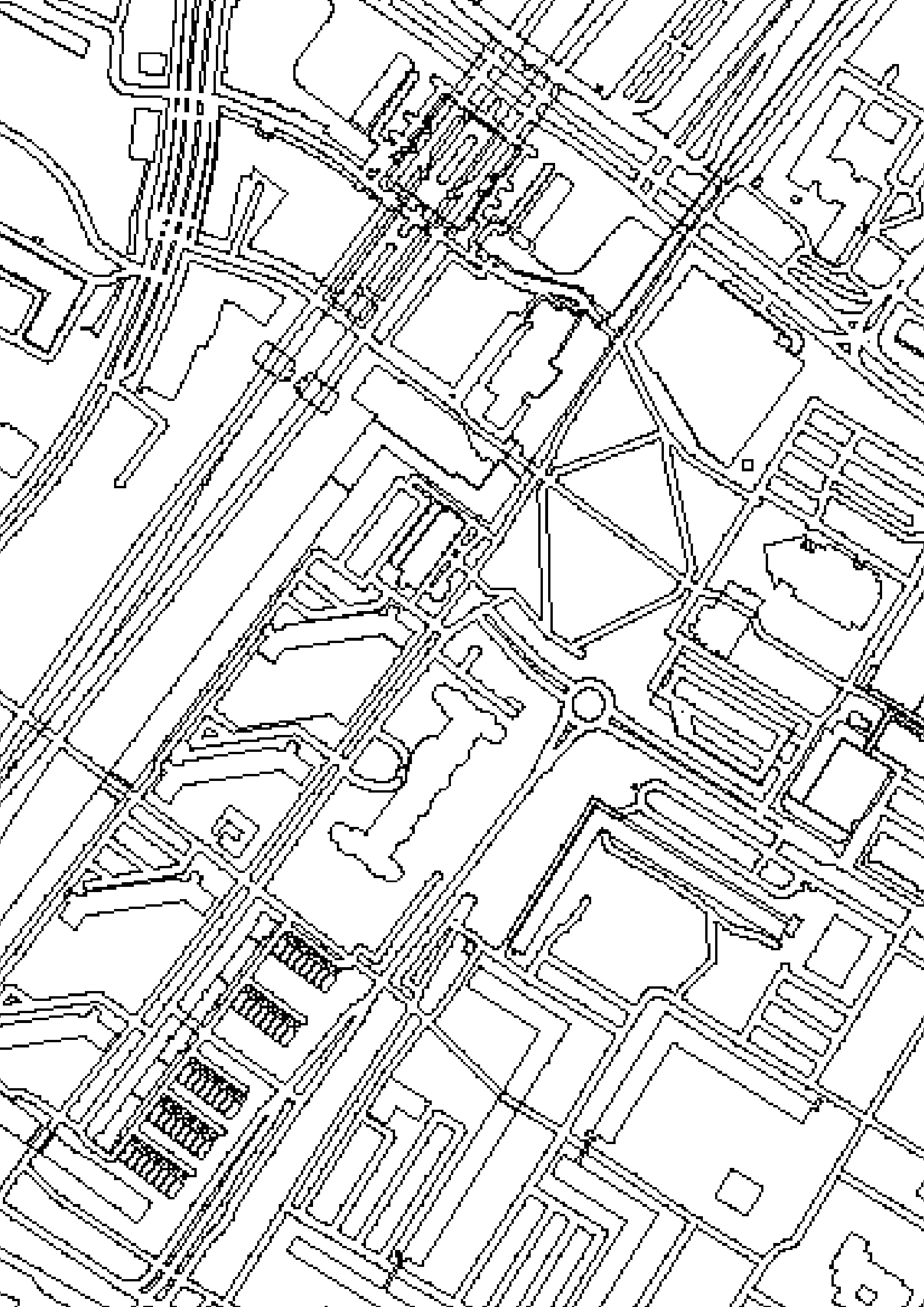
Hoe kunnen wij het begrijpen
Als onze ogen focussen op
dat wat wij niet anders kennen
Hoe kunnen wij het zien
Als het verschil net zo zichtbaar is als
twee druppels water
Dan valt er niets te ontwennen
Want wij kennen
De eensgezindheid
Van de bubbel die als een dun vlies
Niet open, vast en precies
De eensgezindheid boven alles ver-
kiest

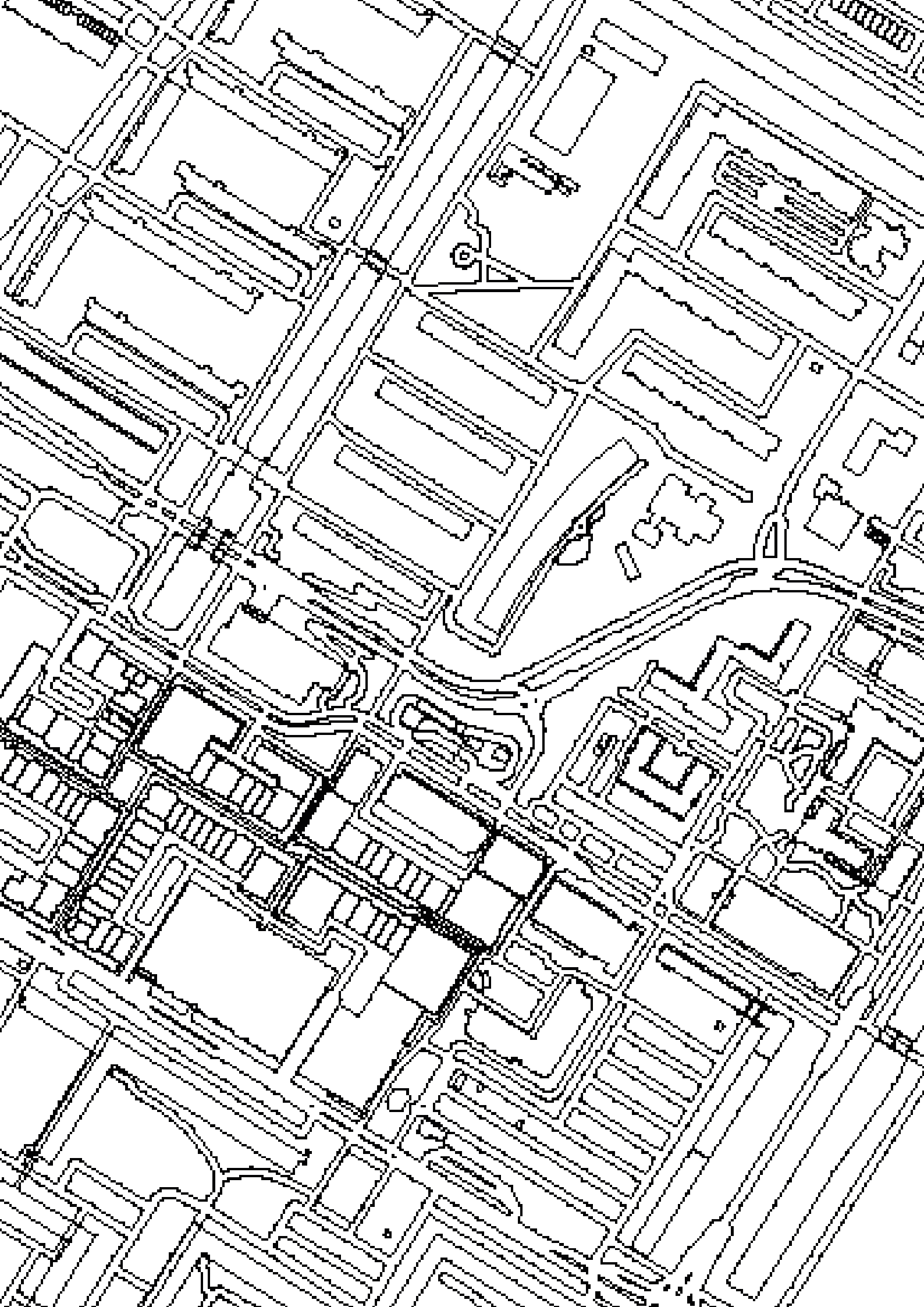
Hoe kunnen wij leren
Om ons te verhouden
de ander te onthouden
Waar de wortels lagen en die verdra-
gen
Hoe kunnen wij omarmen
Het proces van verschuiven
'een ongepolijst stukje Amsterdam'

Is net zo waar als dat gentrificatie
niet gebeurd
En de plekken
Van der Pek
Mosveld
Waddeweg
Noorderpark
Meeuwenlaan
Niet verder kleurt

Hoe kunnen wij zorgen
Als dat wat ons vertelt wordt
In kleine puzzelstukjes instort
Hoe kunnen wij lijmen
Om de canta en de bakfiets
Niet verder te verdrijven
En om te omschrijven
Wat soms al onomkeerbaar is
Amsterdam-noord
Wordt geen stukje erfenis

Verhoud je,
Als je massih hutak vraagt
Zou de oplossing kunnen zijn in een
woord
Maar op welke plekken verhouden
we ons
Als de straat, de pleinen en de ge-
bouwen
Onze bubbel niet verder verstoort?





“To be modern is to find ourselves in an environment that promises us adventure, power, joy, growth, transformation of ourselves, and the world...”

Marcuse, H. (1964)

Walking through Amsterdam, my home, I see a streetscape that is starting to look more and more alike. Especially in and around the center but also neighborhoods like the Jordaan and the Pijp, I see the same kind of monotonous facades popping up where the old wooden window frames are polished up with a pastel color paint, texts are depicted on the windows telling me what I can find in the space behind or who I should be. Looking around me, I also see a monotonous image of people wearing the same kind of shoes, jackets and caps. Despite the monotonous image, I hear different languages, which is what allows me to still make a distinction that people are coming from a different place. Furthermore, these people hardly make contact with each other, almost everyone walks past each other in a hurry, and there are few moments of encounter or friction. In Marcuse's words quoted earlier, I try to find adventure, transformation or the stimulation of the unknown in the streets and places around me. It seems like the rough edges of the city are becoming more and more lost. I wonder if those rough edges of the city can also serve as a catalyst for friction that creates a dialogue? And isn't dialogue what seems to be important in this increasingly polarizing society? A conversation with someone who thinks and feels differently could lead to greater understanding and coming together. But how do we still find each other when the places around us are driven from a capitalist perspective?

Perhaps the rough edges of the city are the places where genuine conversations can still take root. While architecture cannot guarantee that we approach others with openness and compassion—that responsibility ultimately lies within ourselves—it can create opportunities for dialogue. These moments of conversation, encounters,

and productive friction may unfold in the so-called thresholds, spaces that are further examined and defined in this research 2 . This exploration has inspired me to dive deeper into these thresholds, as they hold the potential to foster cross-pollination among diverse users. The upcoming project investigates how such thresholds might be designed.

Urban environments like Amsterdam Noord provide a fitting context to test, explore, describe, and better understand these thresholds. The current urban transformations in Amsterdam Noord aim to preserve its original character while simultaneously refining and perfecting the district. However, this dual approach may result in spaces that generate productive friction, while others gradually succumb to monotony. Buikslotermeerplein serves as a striking example of a district where these changes are both palpable and visible. The following section delves deeper into the plans and transformations shaping this area.

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introduction

Site

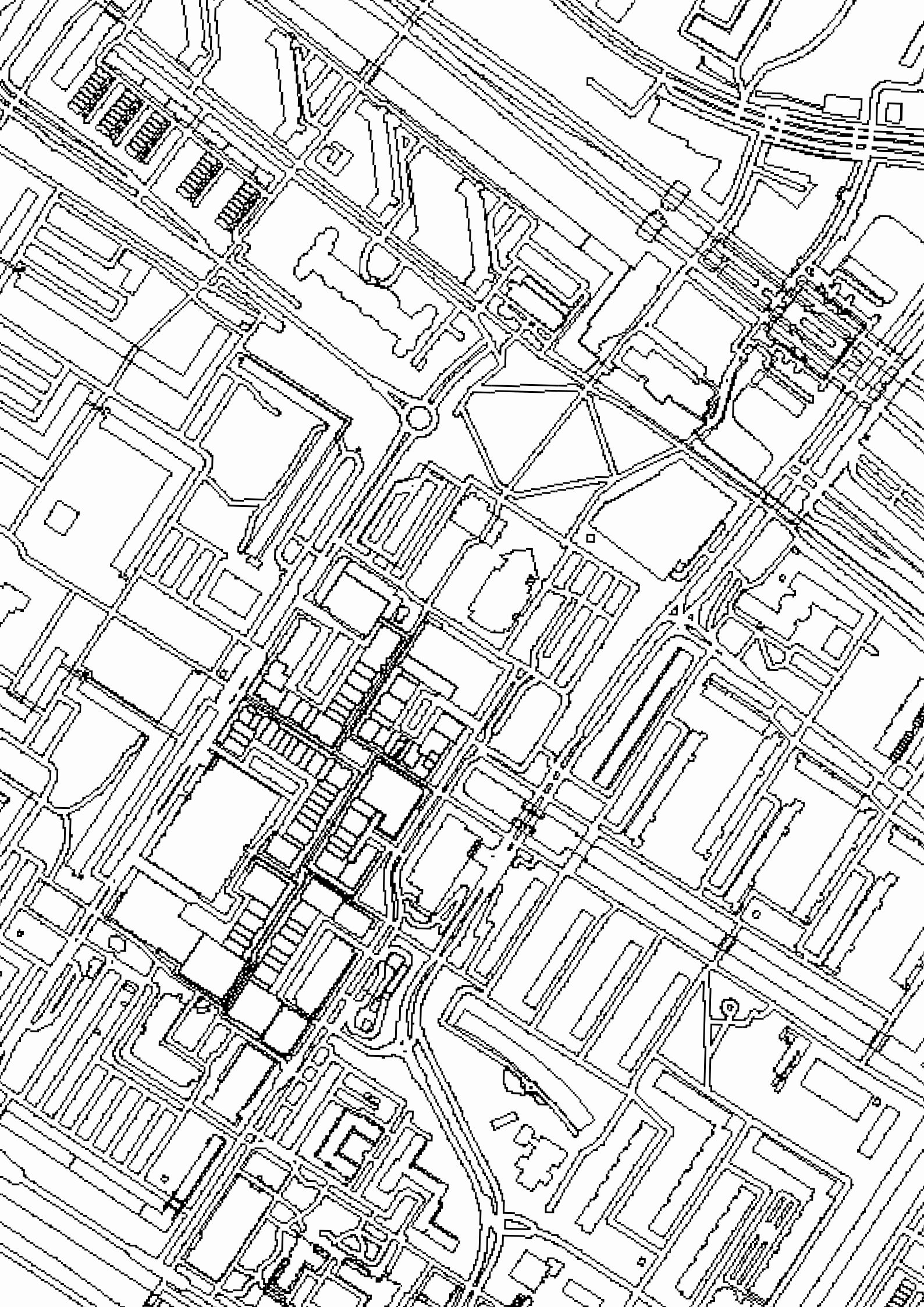
towards a project - research by design

thresholds through different scales
by models, sketches, drawings & photos

proposed design

urban sections
site 1:2000
ground level plan 1:500
ground level plan 1:50
floorplans 1:100
sections 1:100
facades 1:100
climate
structure
fragments 1:20
details 1:5

Site



Various aspects emerged from the interviews. The tables show that a threshold can arise when people see a specific, non-familiar community present. Additionally, it can be a barrier for some individuals to enter a community center when the building appears closed and large, solid elements are placed in front of the entrance. In contrast, some interviewees mentioned that they would find it more inviting if it were clear what is happening inside and if there were a clearly visible entrance. Regarding the appearance of the building, interviewees noted that it would be a deterrent if the building looked old and dirty. At the same time, a building that appears too rigid, cold, or overly modern could also act as a barrier for visitors.

The interviewees often indirectly described what they would find appealing in a community center. Various programs were mentioned, such as a library, creative activities, a supermarket, and a place to eat. Coffee was the most frequently mentioned activity, as noted in the interviews in the appendix. Some elements, such as flower pots, benches, and signs, were suggested by interviewees as welcome additions that could lower the threshold for entry. Other mentioned terms primarily reflected a reaction to what interviewees found unappealing, such as large windows, visibility, and the opportunity to see people from their own community.

To conclude, thresholds for community centers can include physical barriers like closed-off entrances or outdated and unwelcoming designs, as well as social factors such as unfamiliar groups occupying the space. Addressing these issues by incorporating open and transparent layouts, inviting entrances, and relatable design elements can significantly reduce these thresholds.

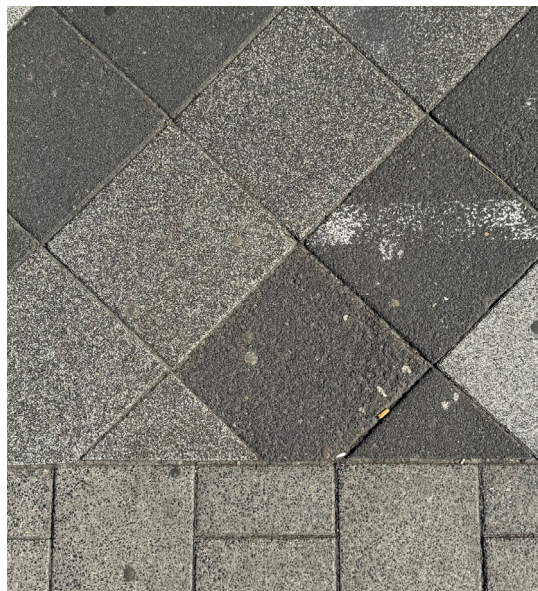
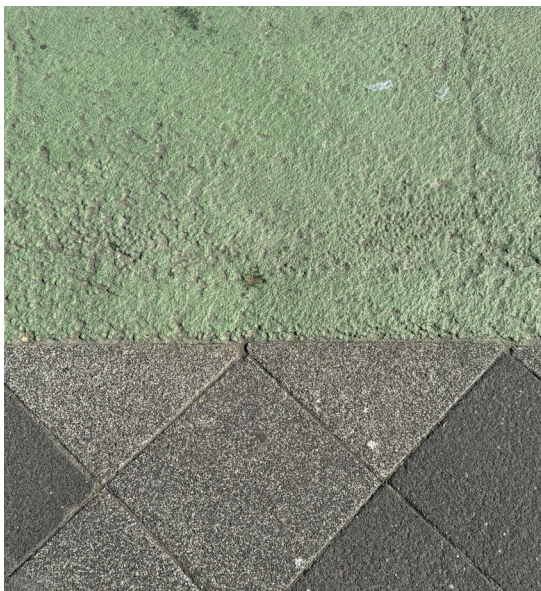


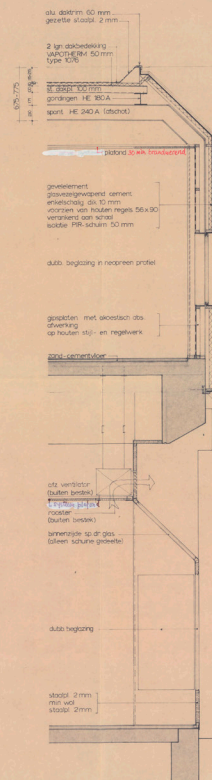




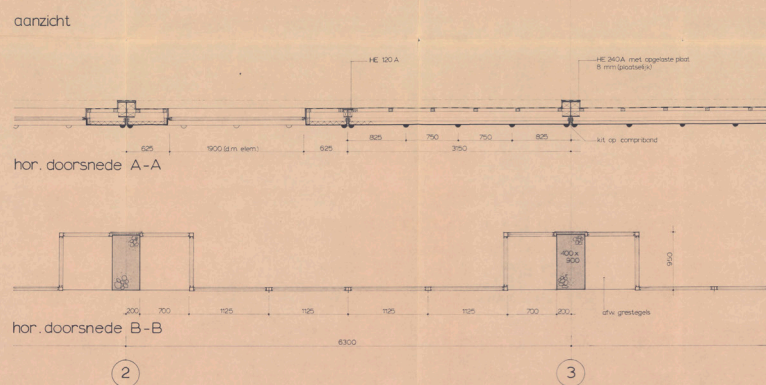


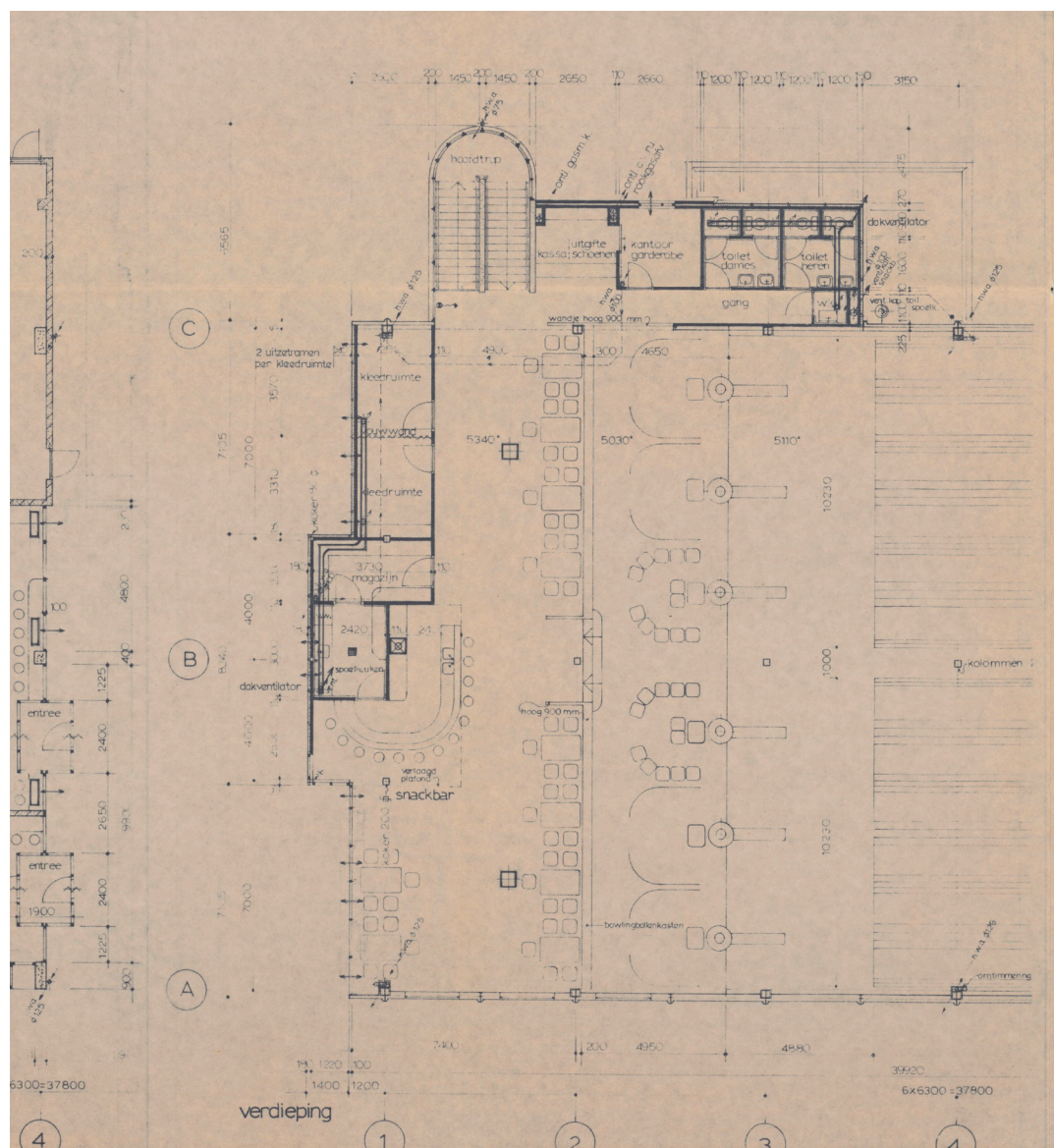


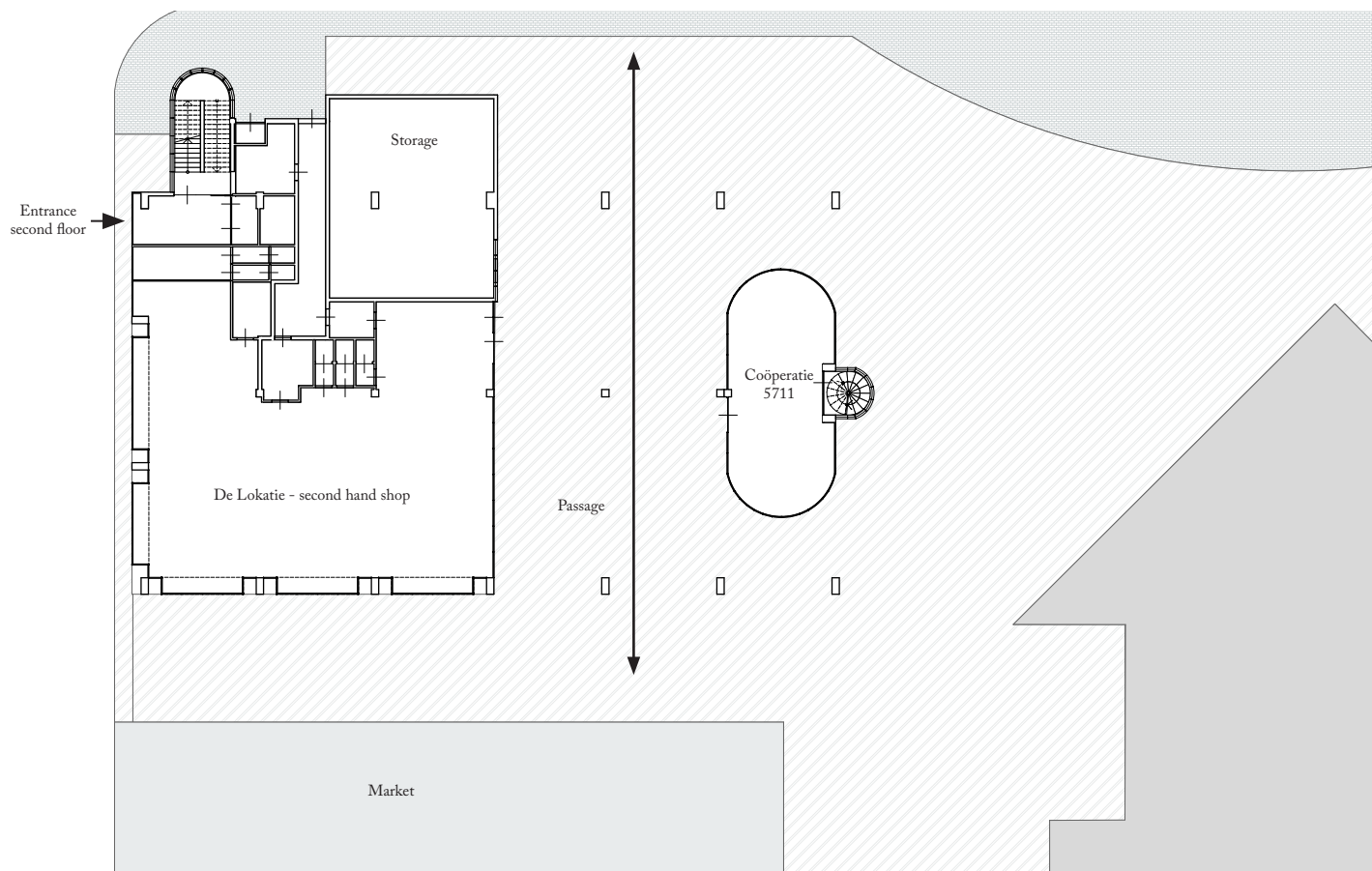




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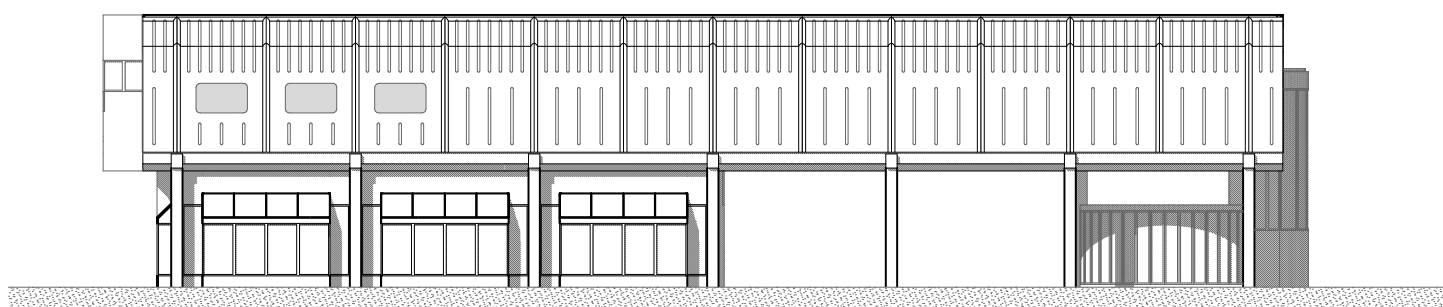


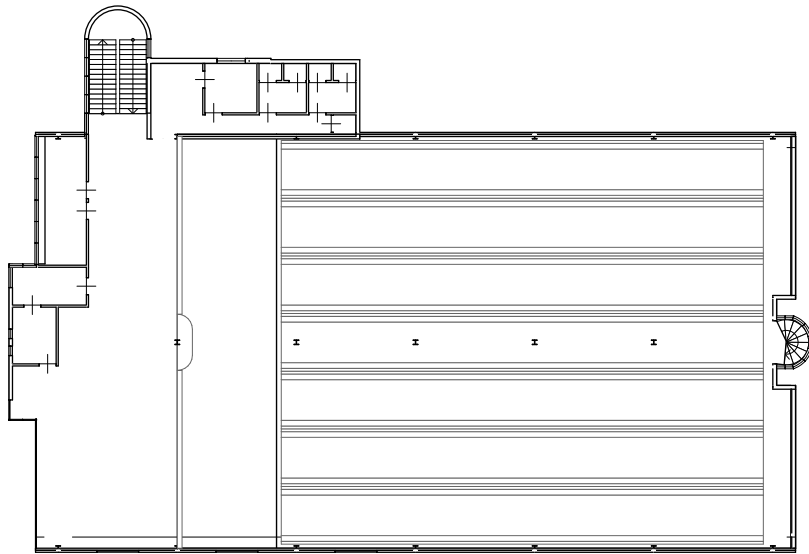


Existing first floor 1:200



Existing east facade 1:200

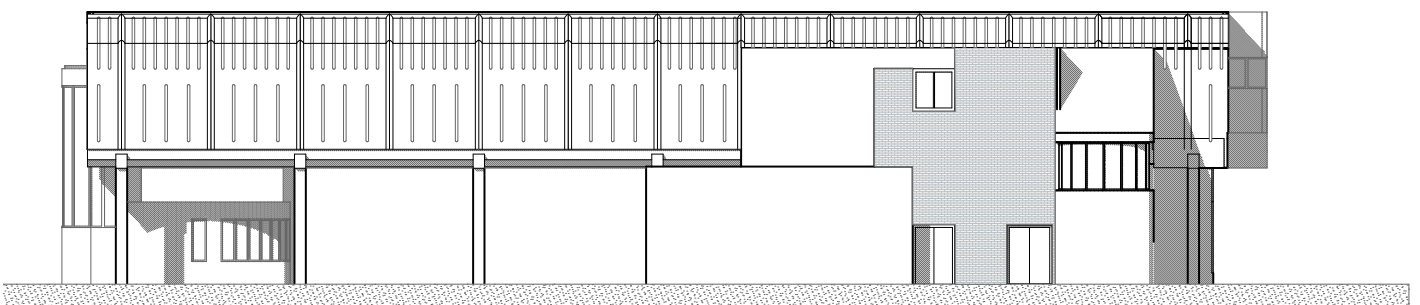


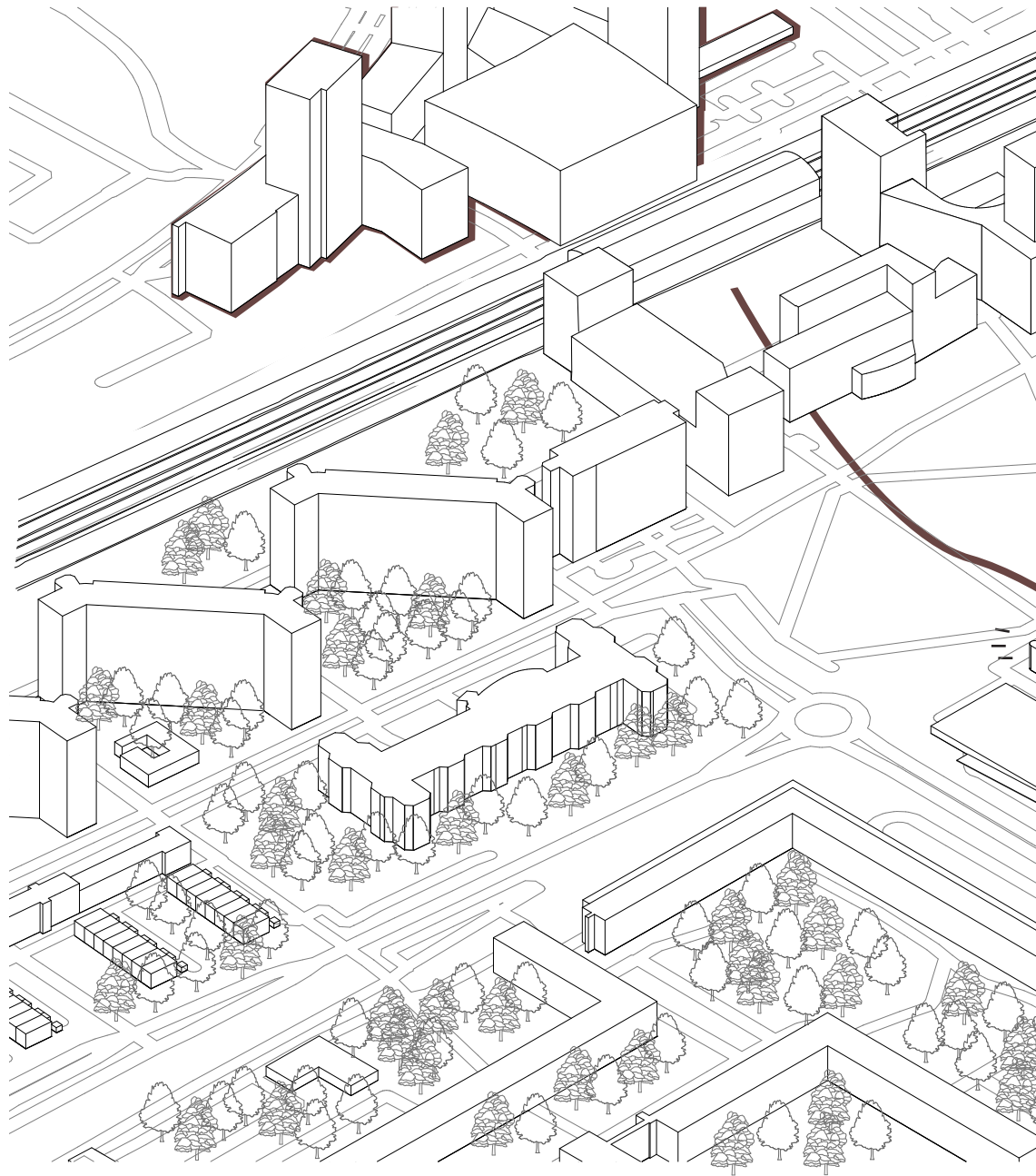


Existing second floor 1:200

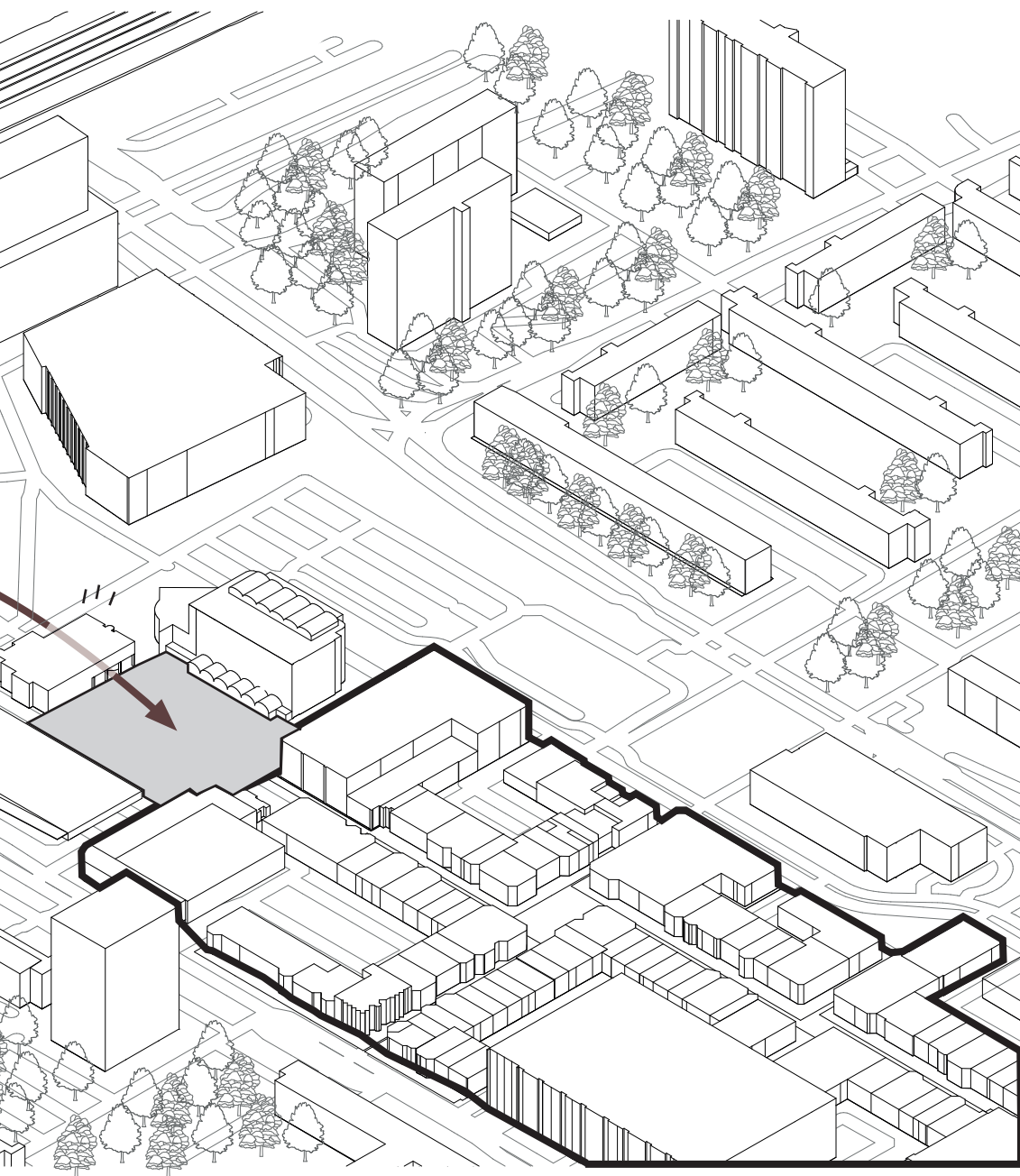


Existing west facade 1:200

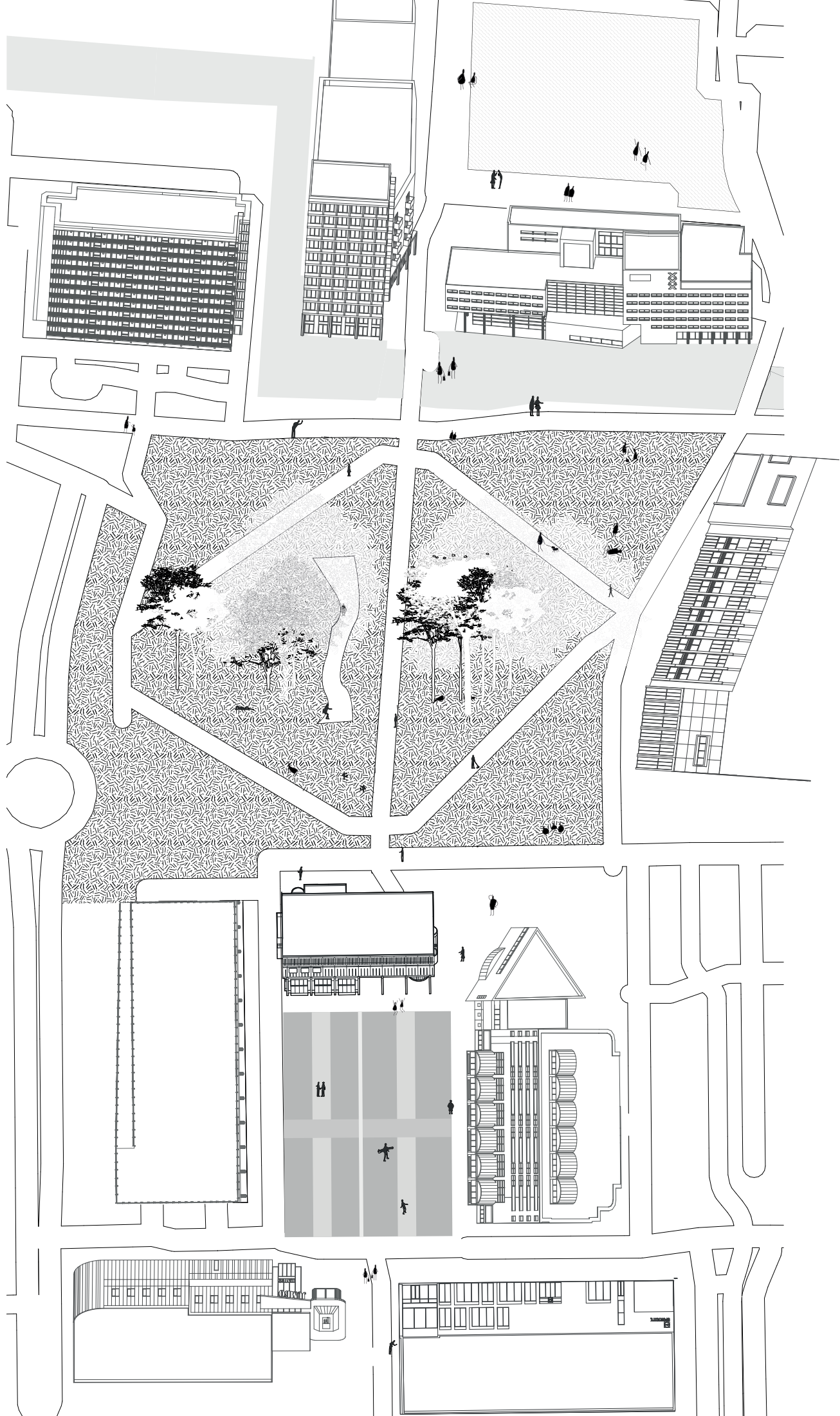


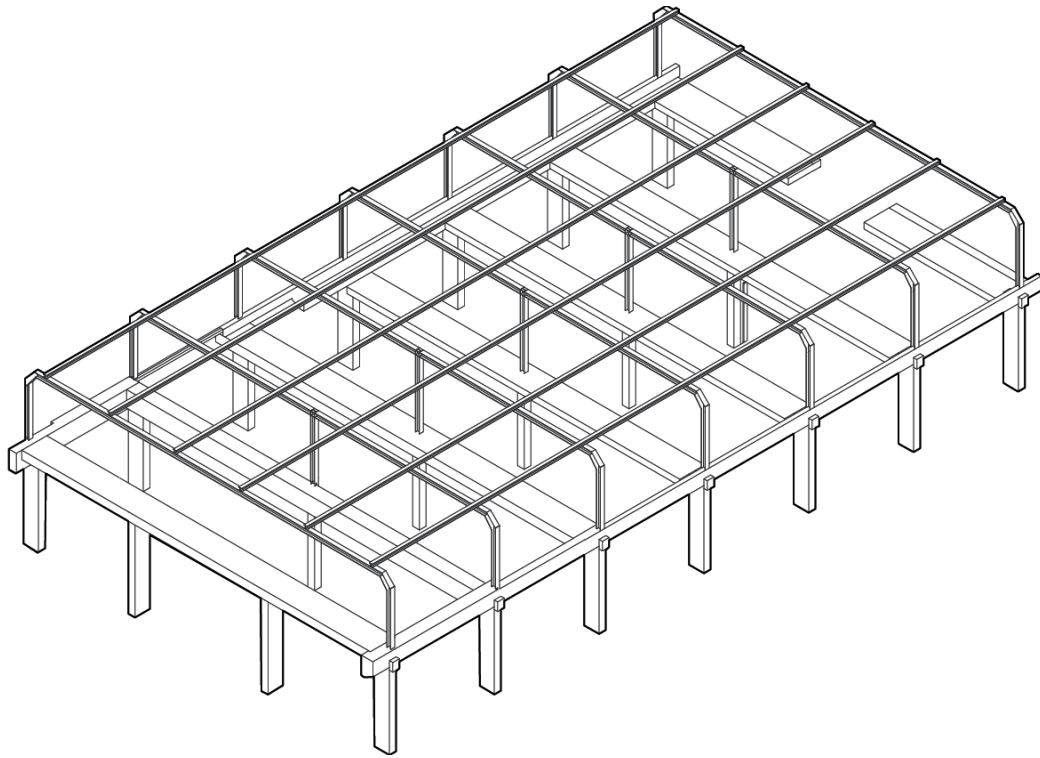


The Bowling in relation to



the existing Urban Fabric

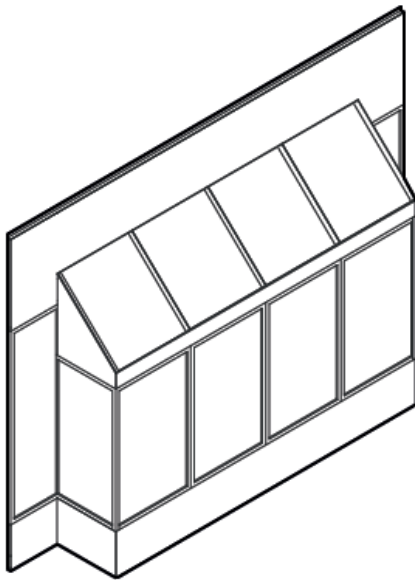




Construction

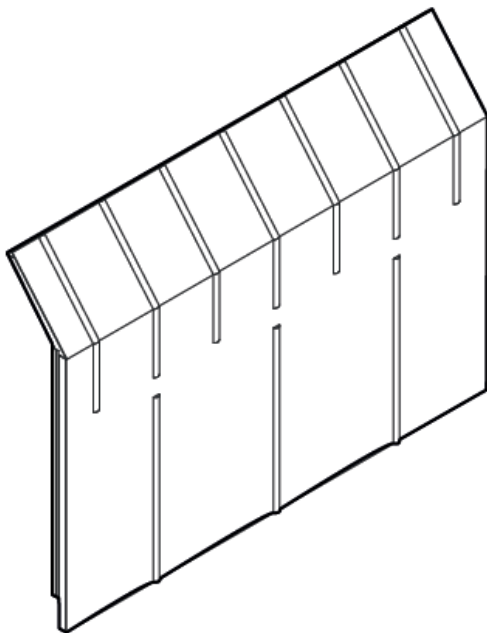
concrete first floor
900x400mm

second floor
HEA 240



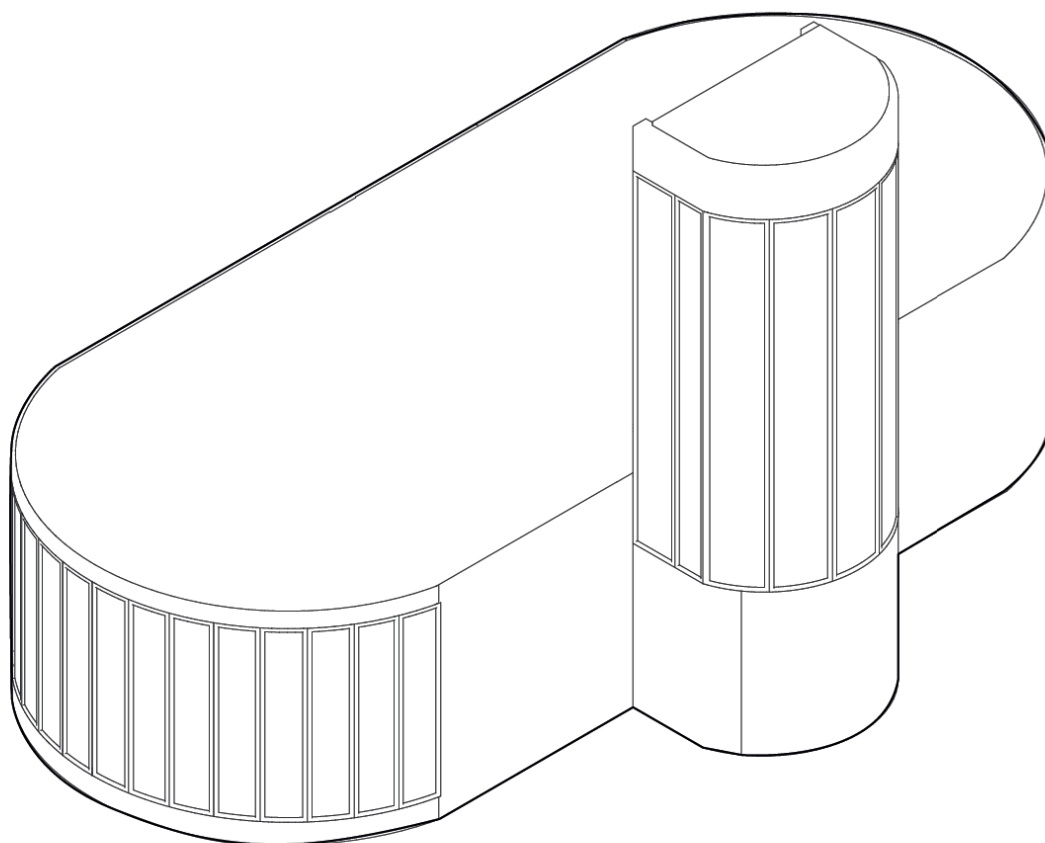
Plinth facade

double glazing
50 mm steel frame window
openings



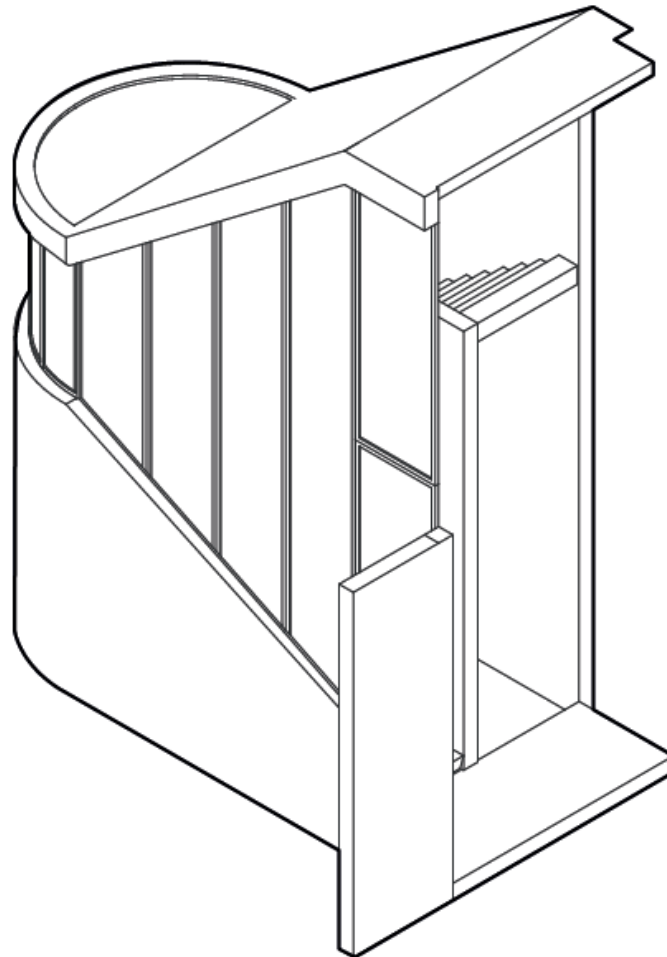
Cement fiber elements

Cementfiber panels
40mm insulation
double glazing
50 mm steel frame window
openings



The Kiosk

Cementfiber panels
40mm insulation
double glazing
50 mm steel frame window openings



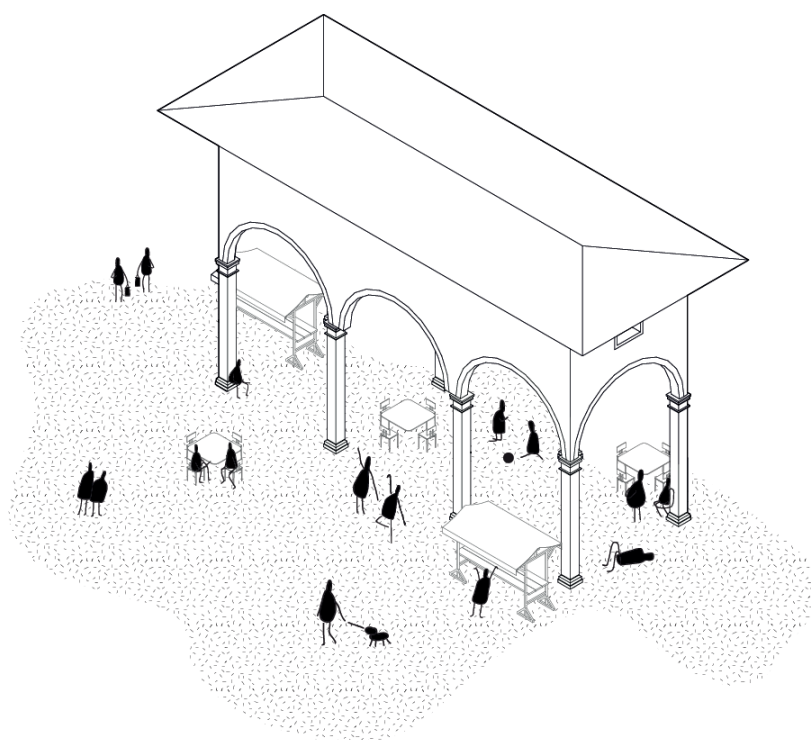
Entrance Bowling

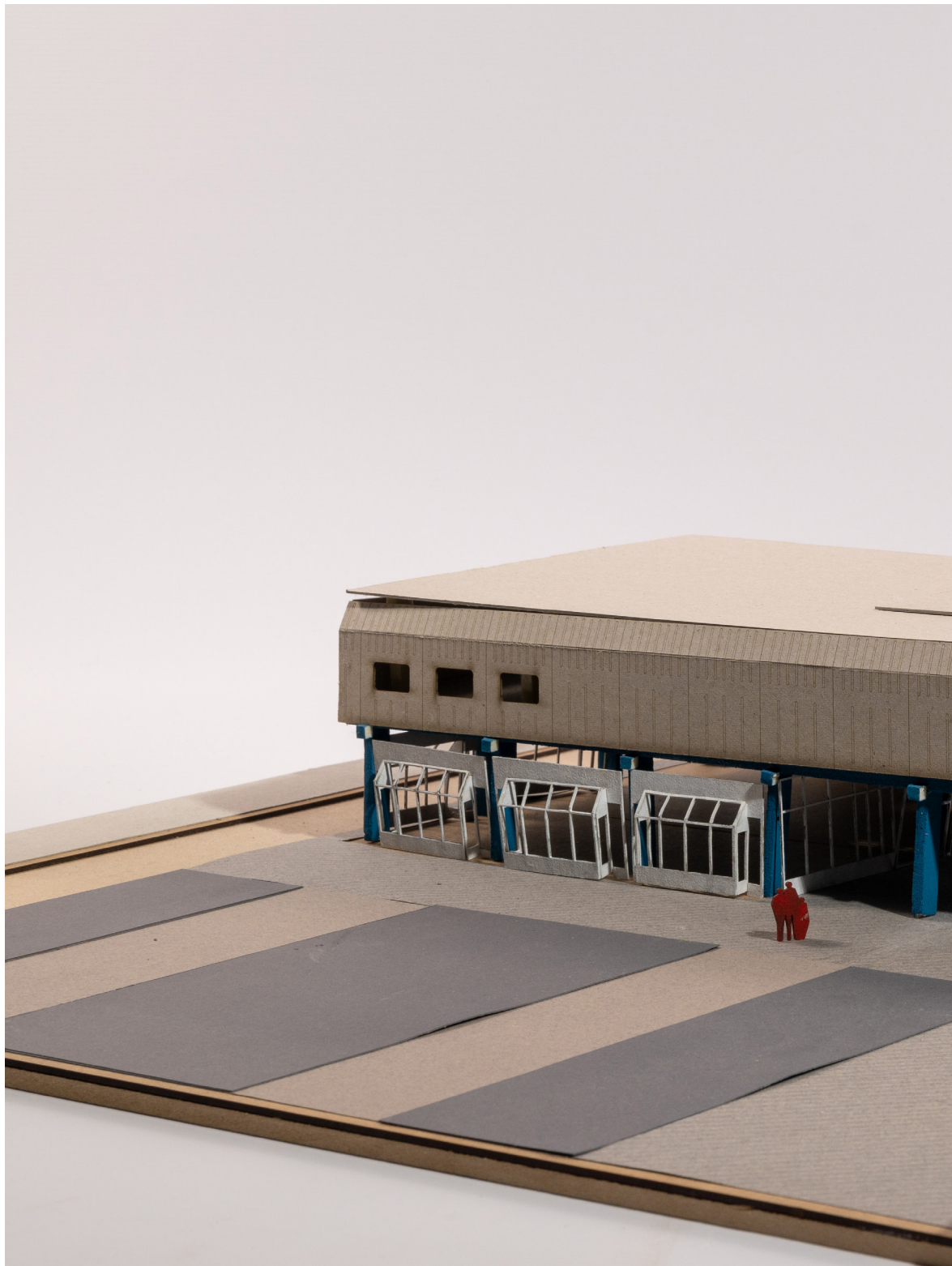
Cement blocks 200mm
brick 110 mm
double glazing
50 mm steel frame window openings

towards a project

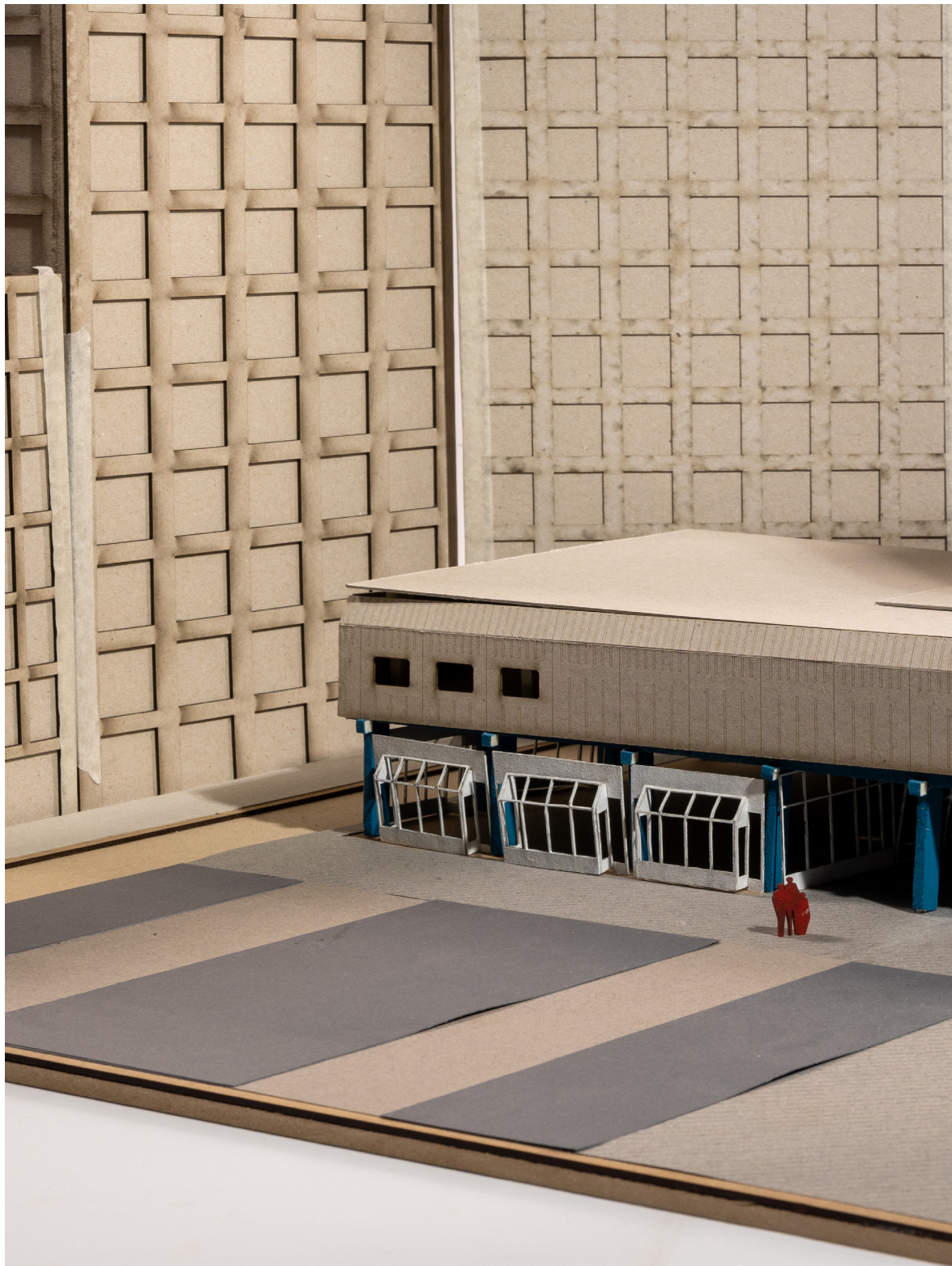


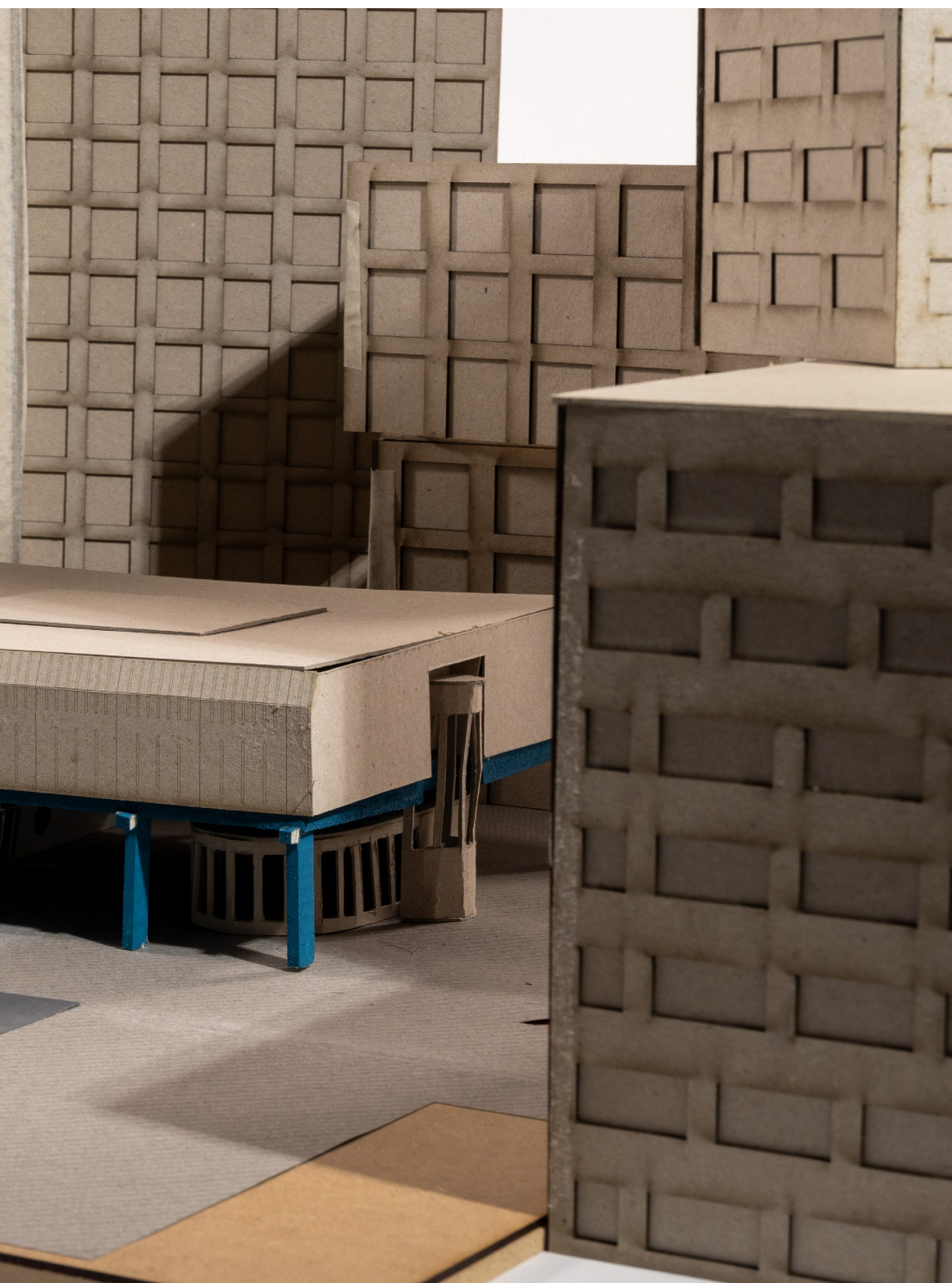




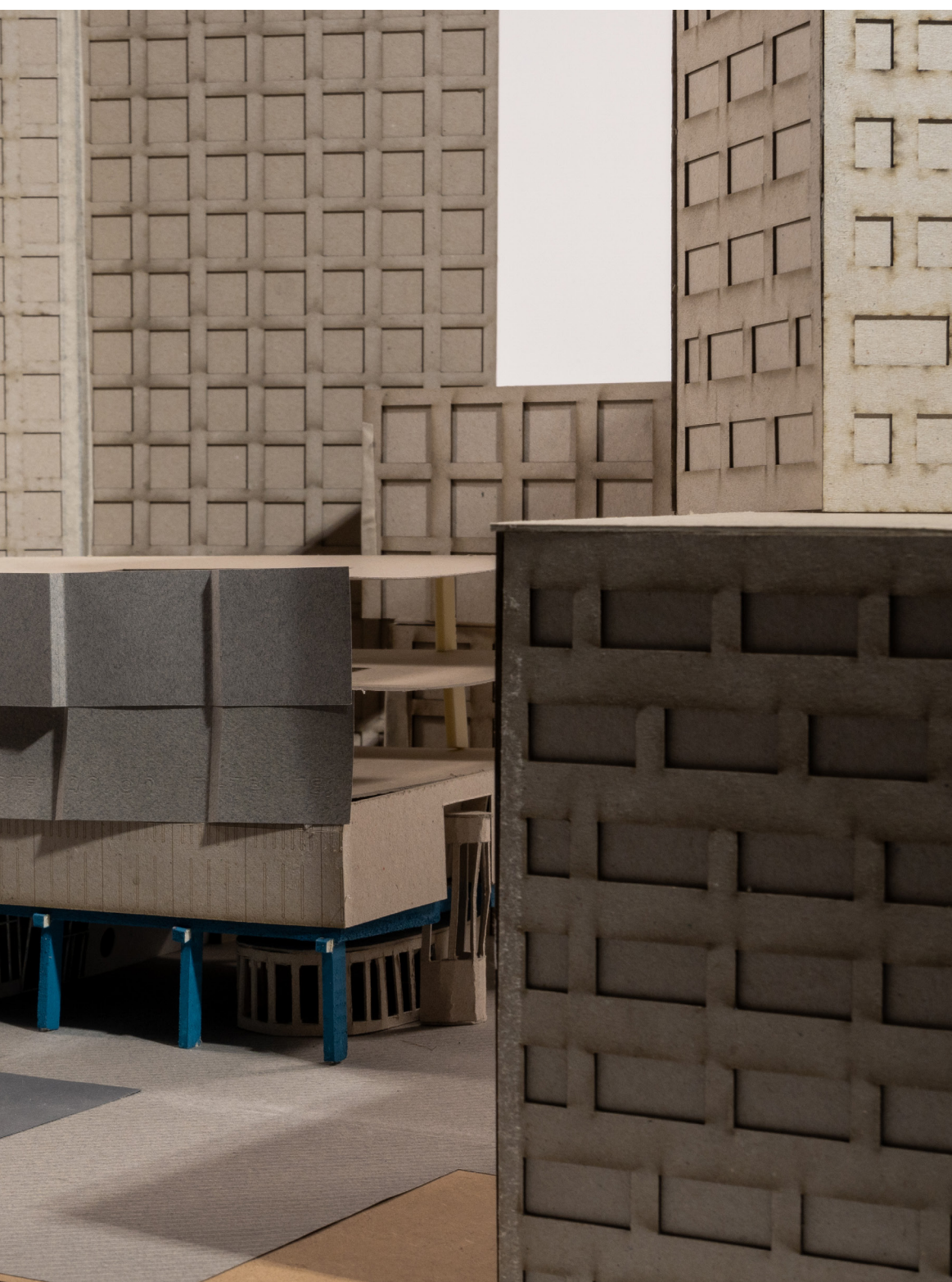




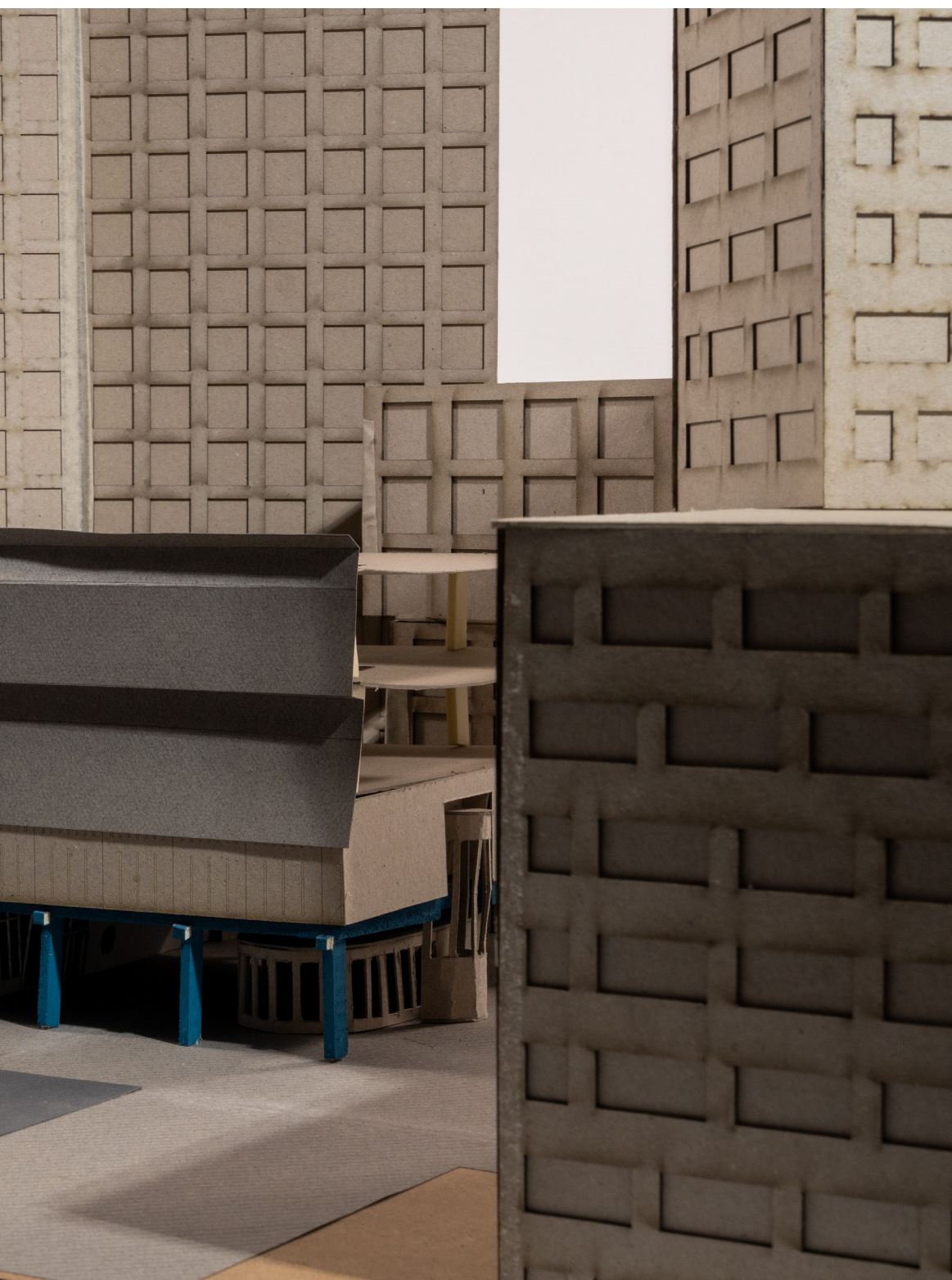








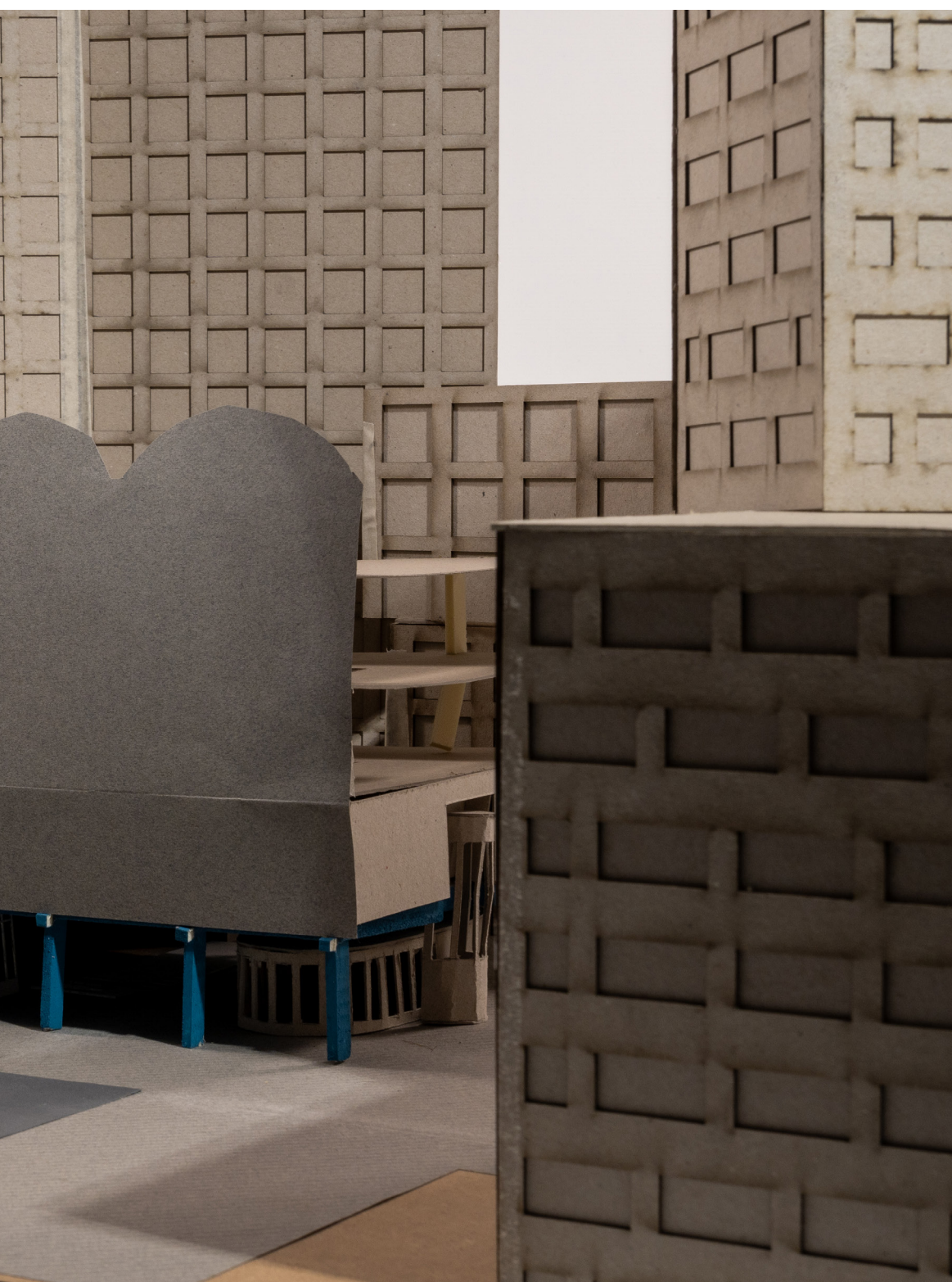




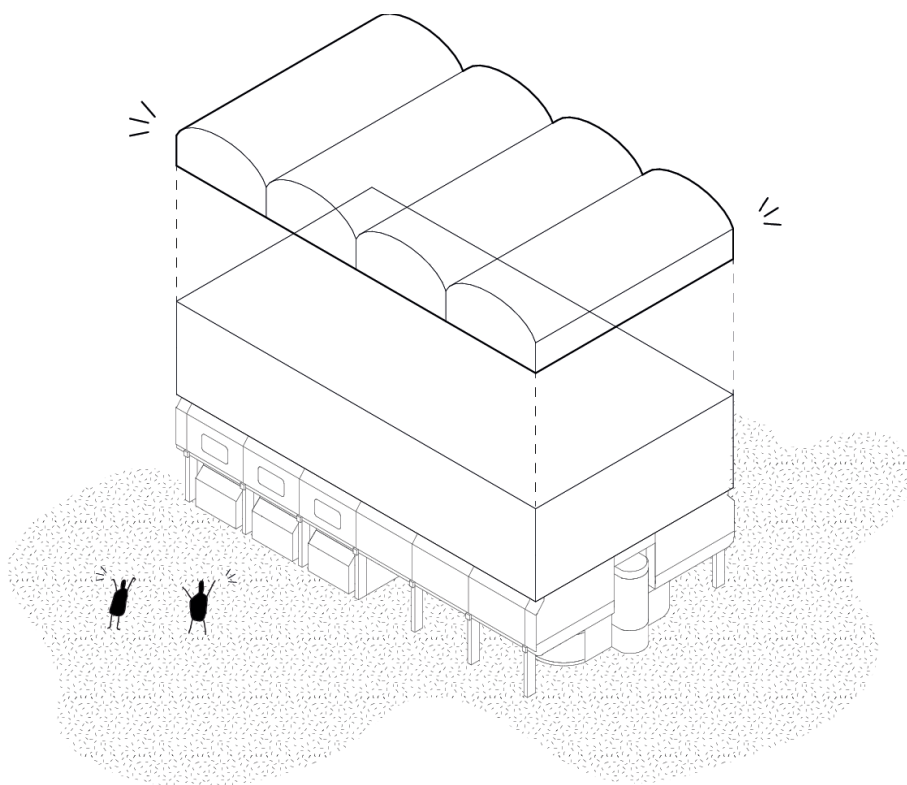




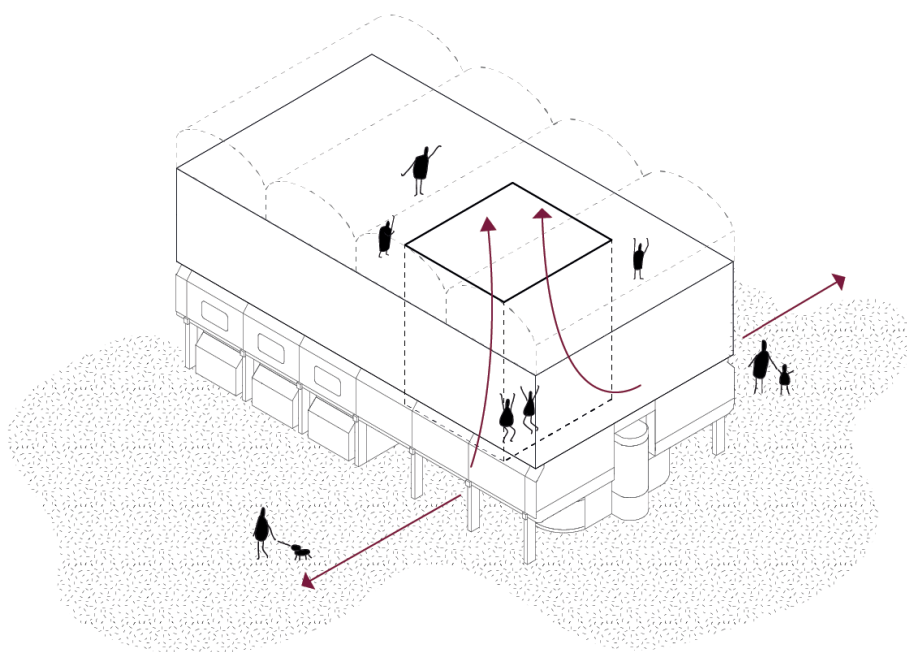


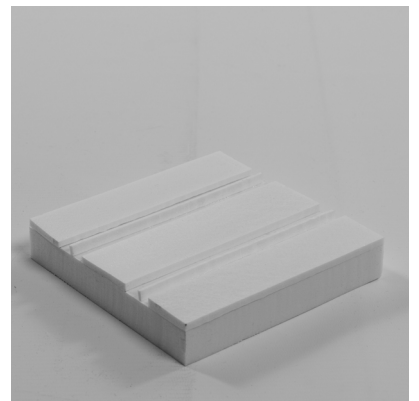
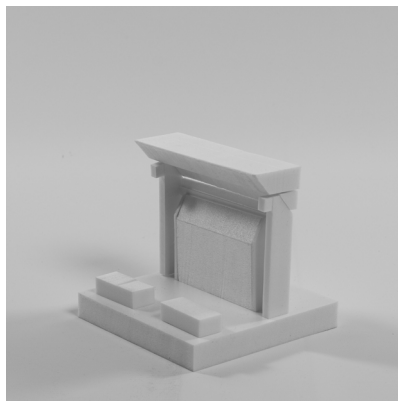
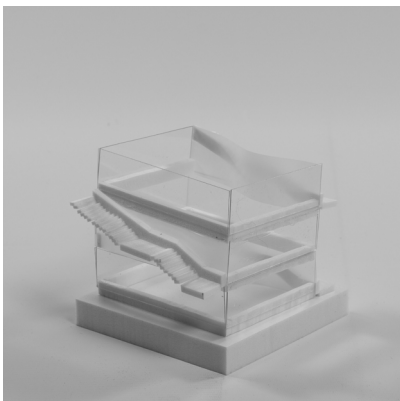
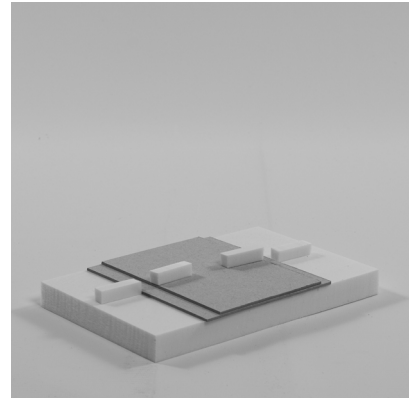
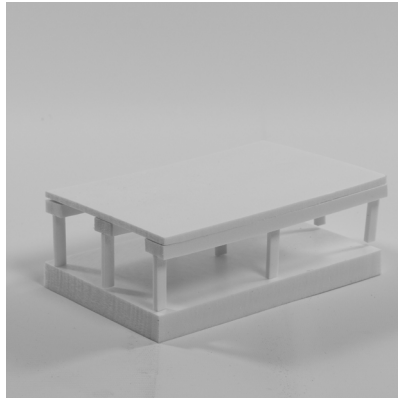
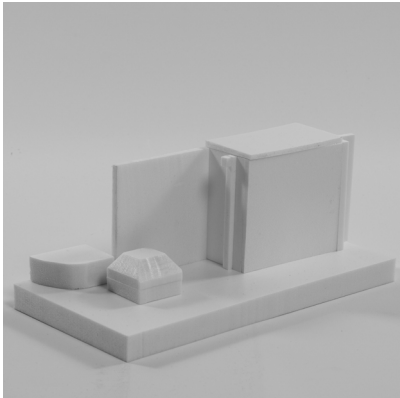
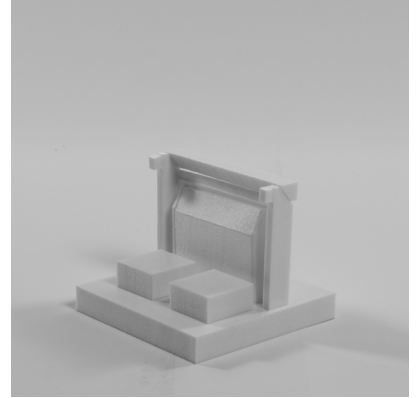
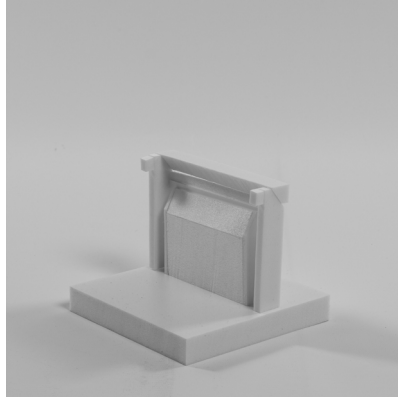
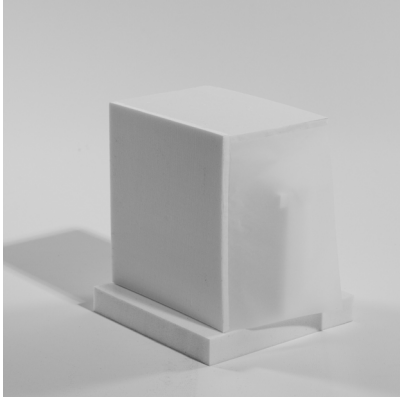


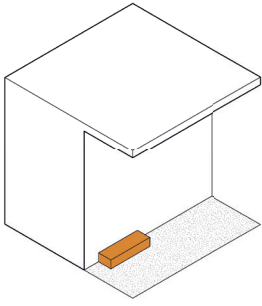




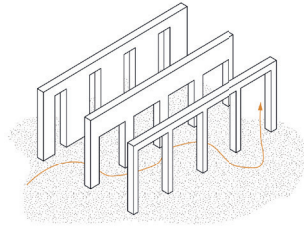




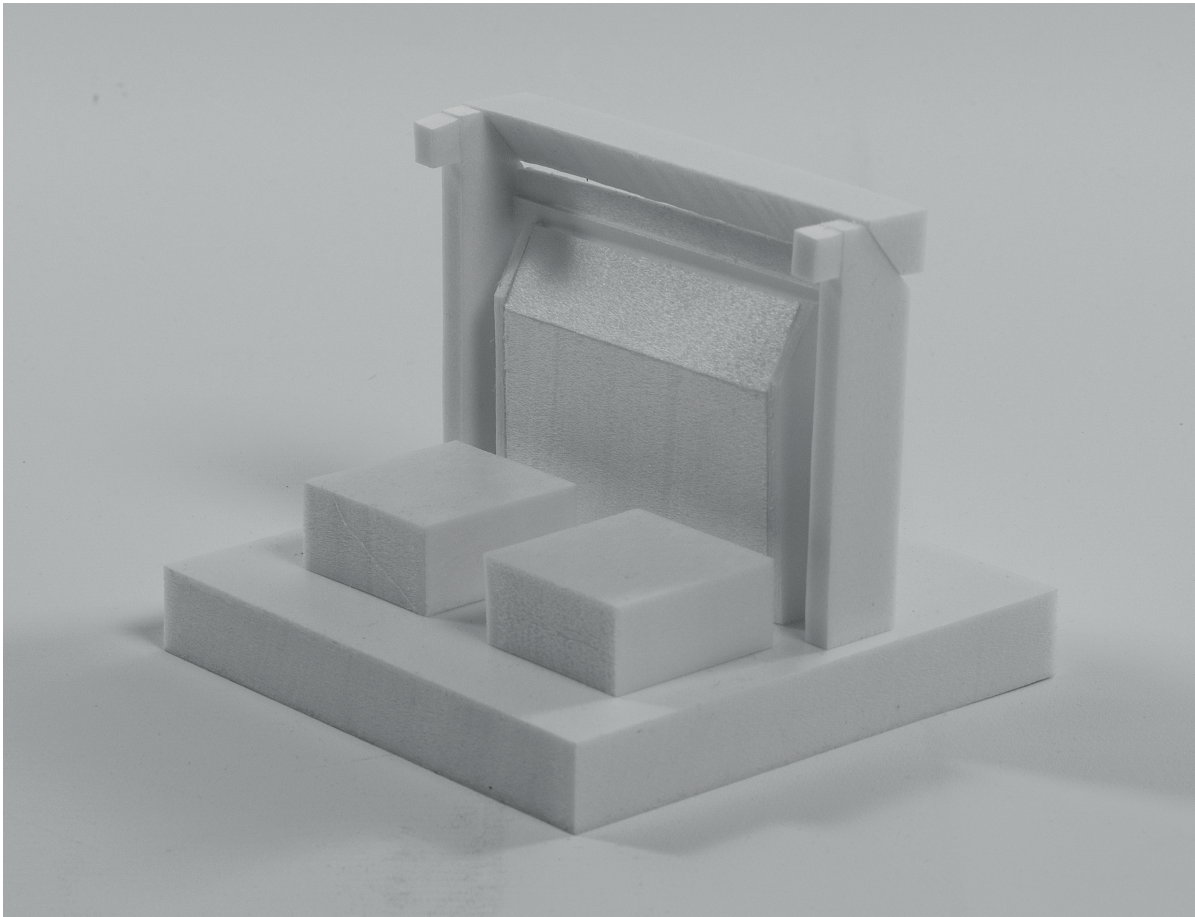


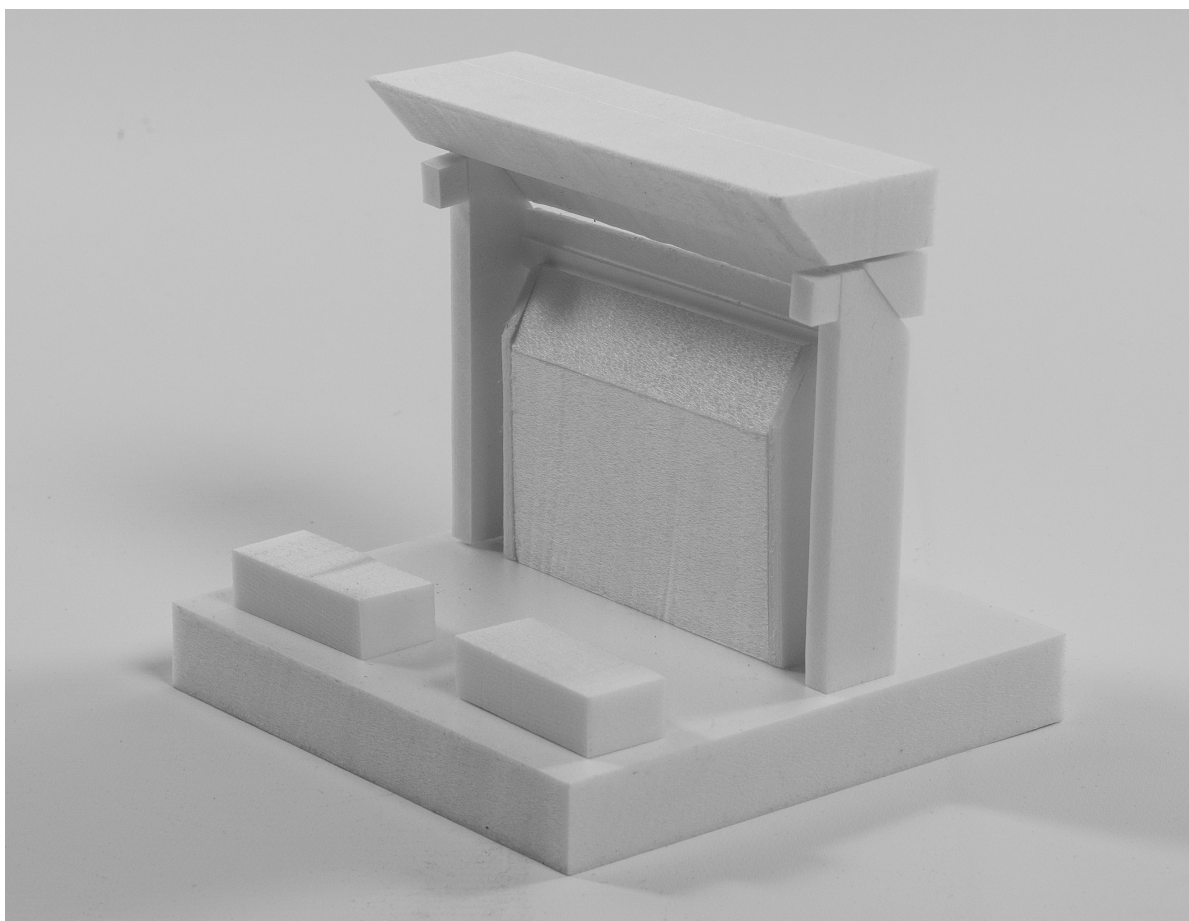


The canopy



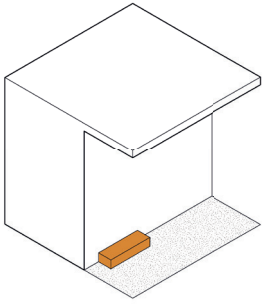
The liminal space



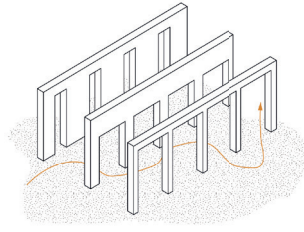




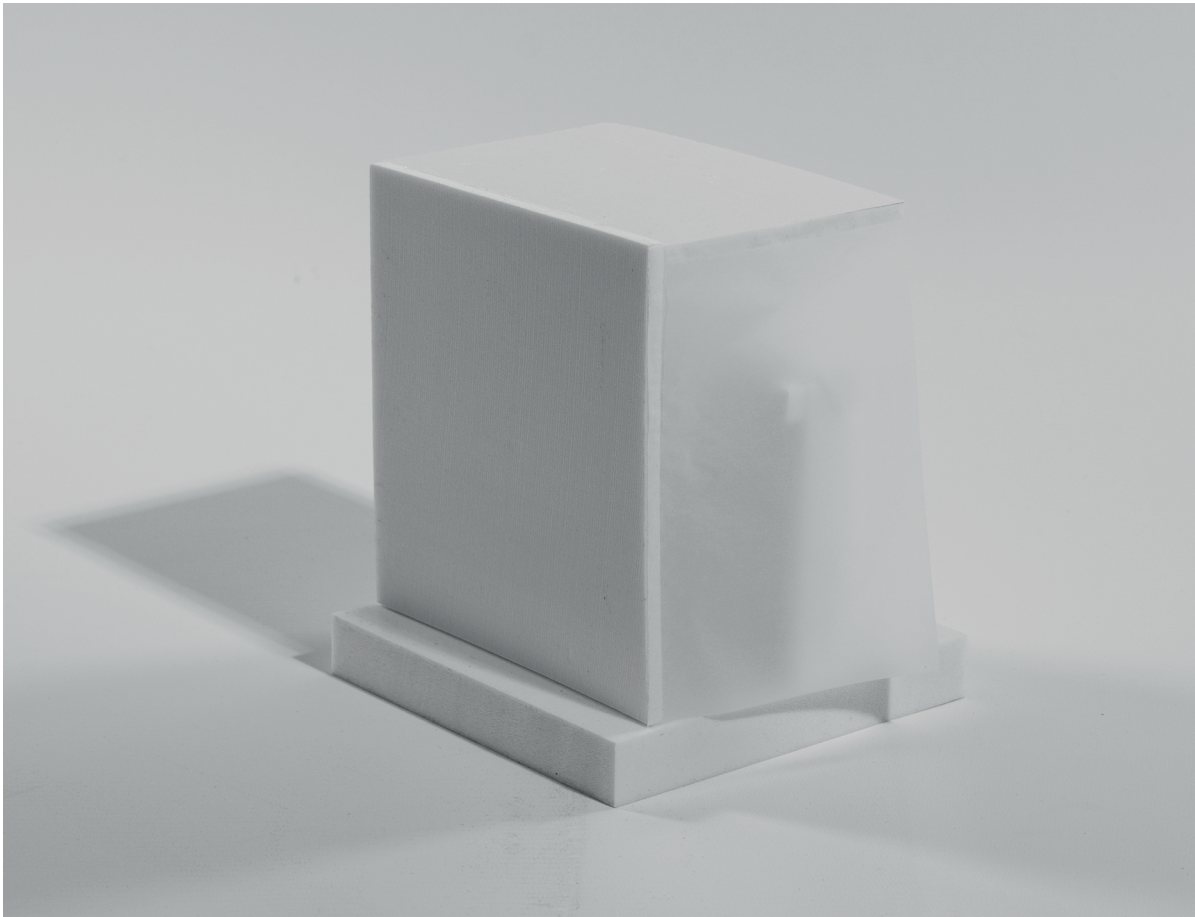


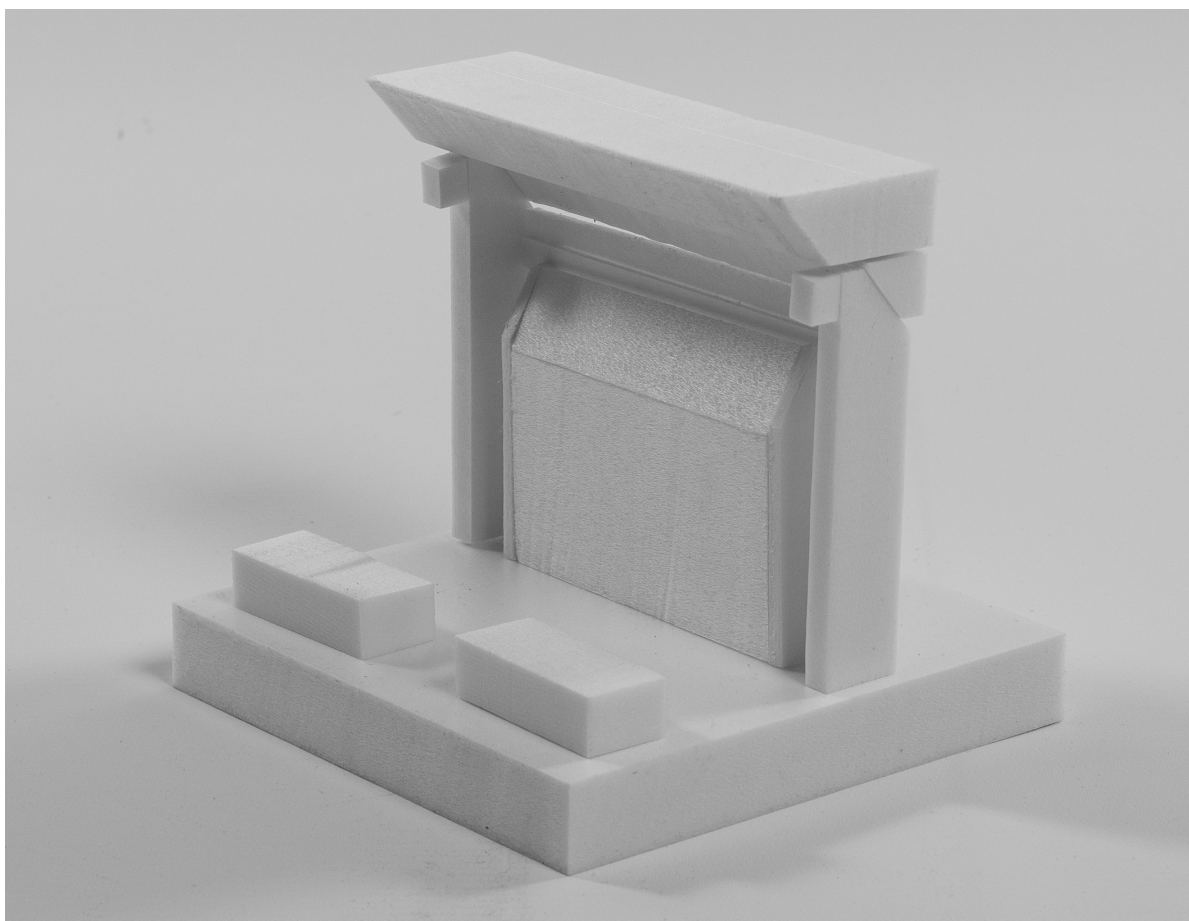


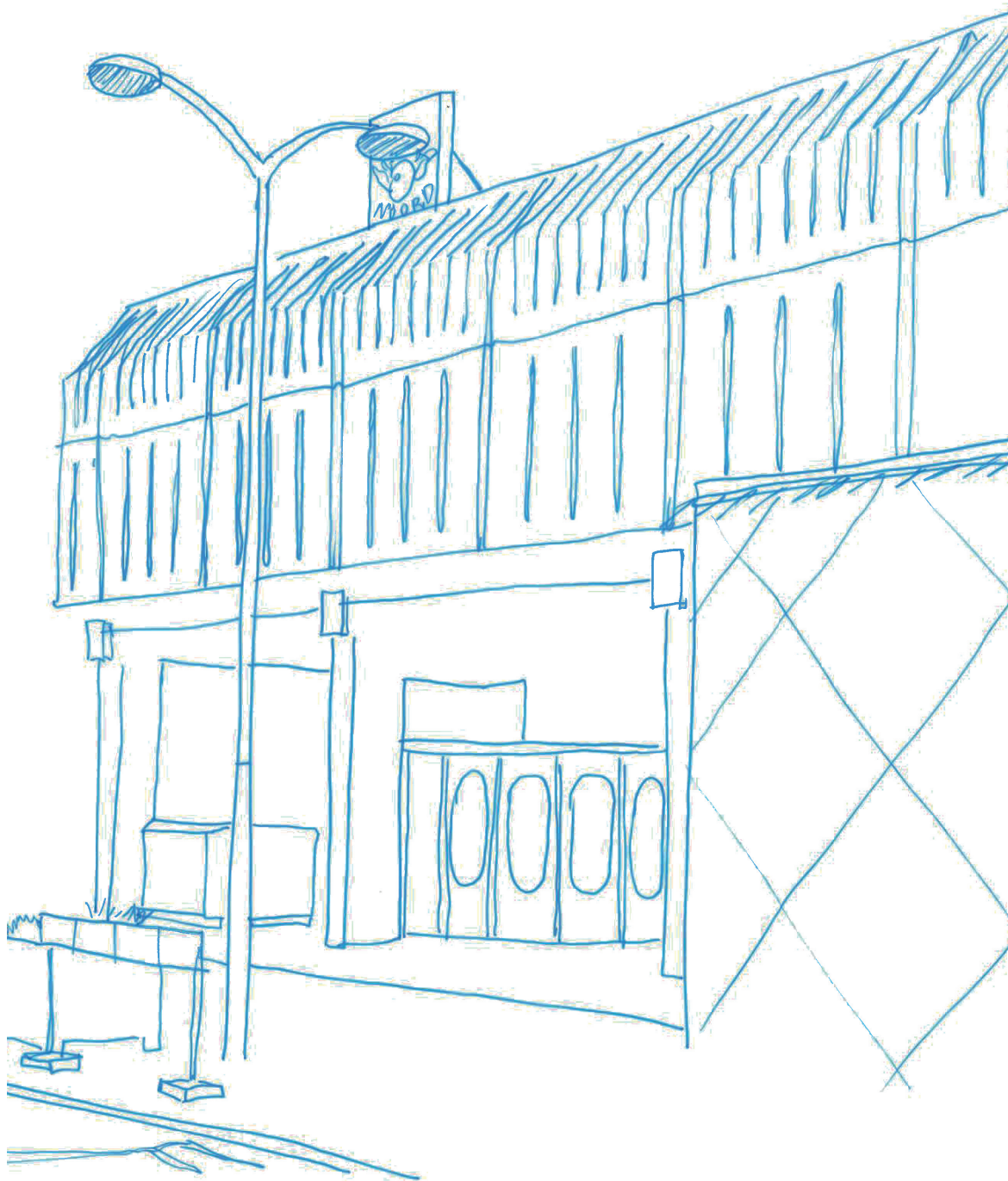
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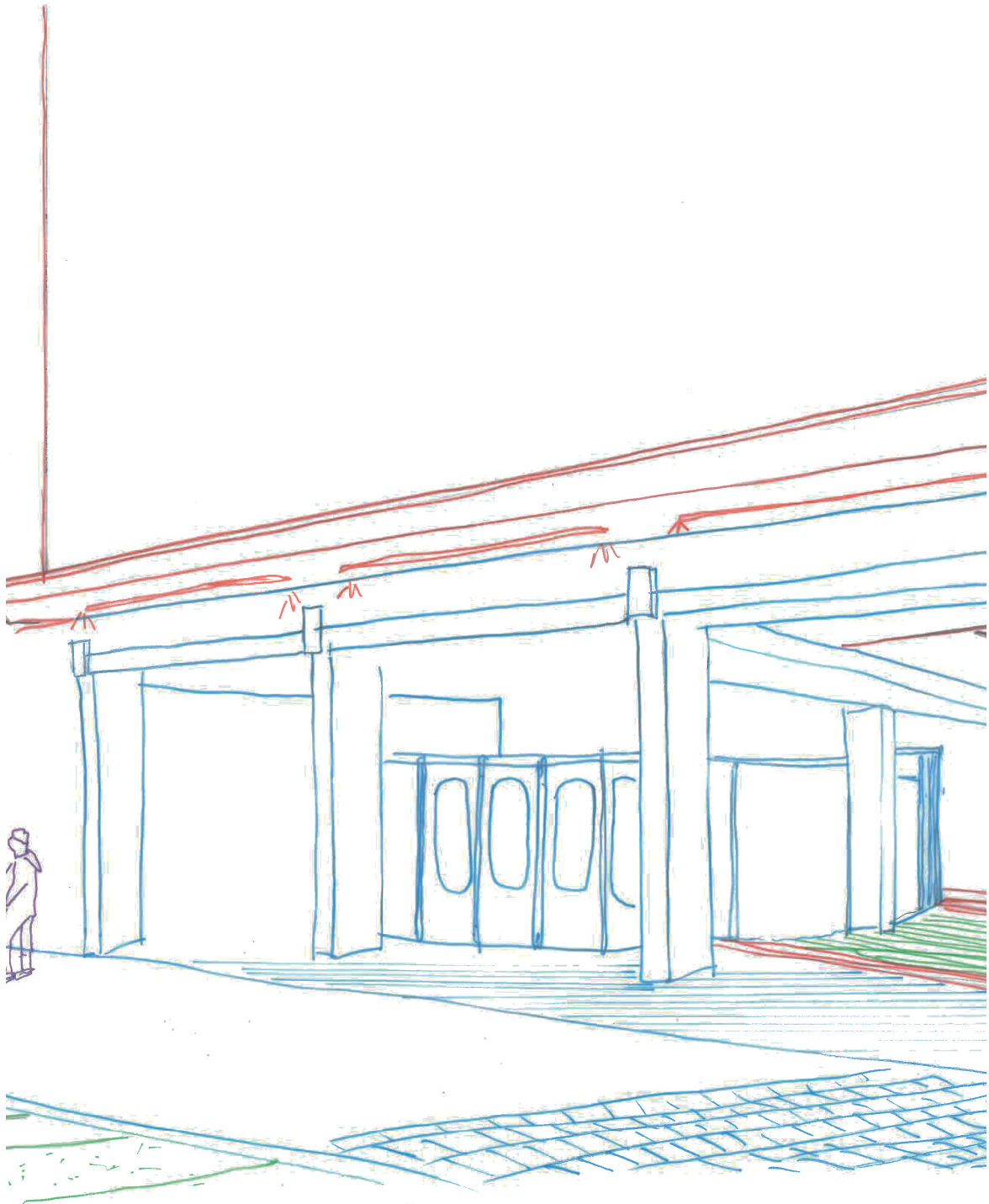


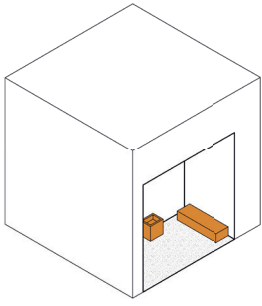
The liminal space



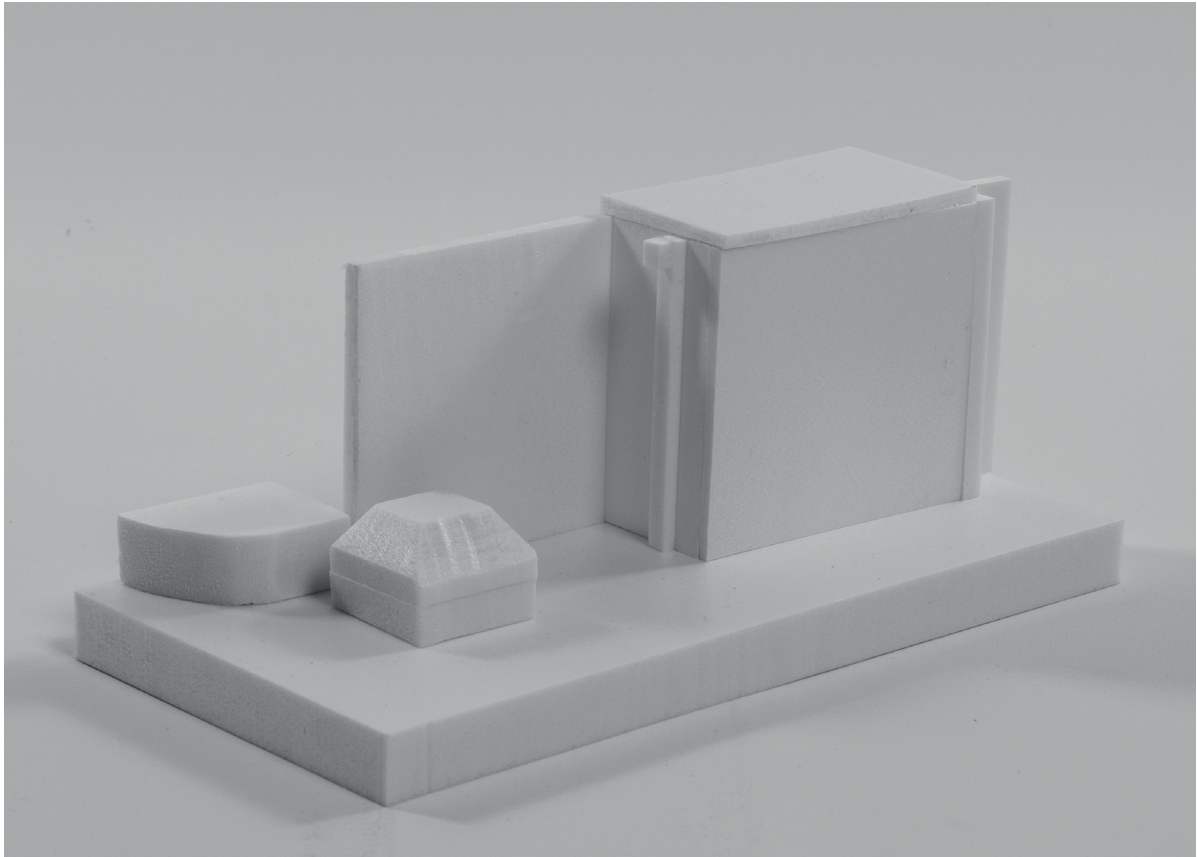


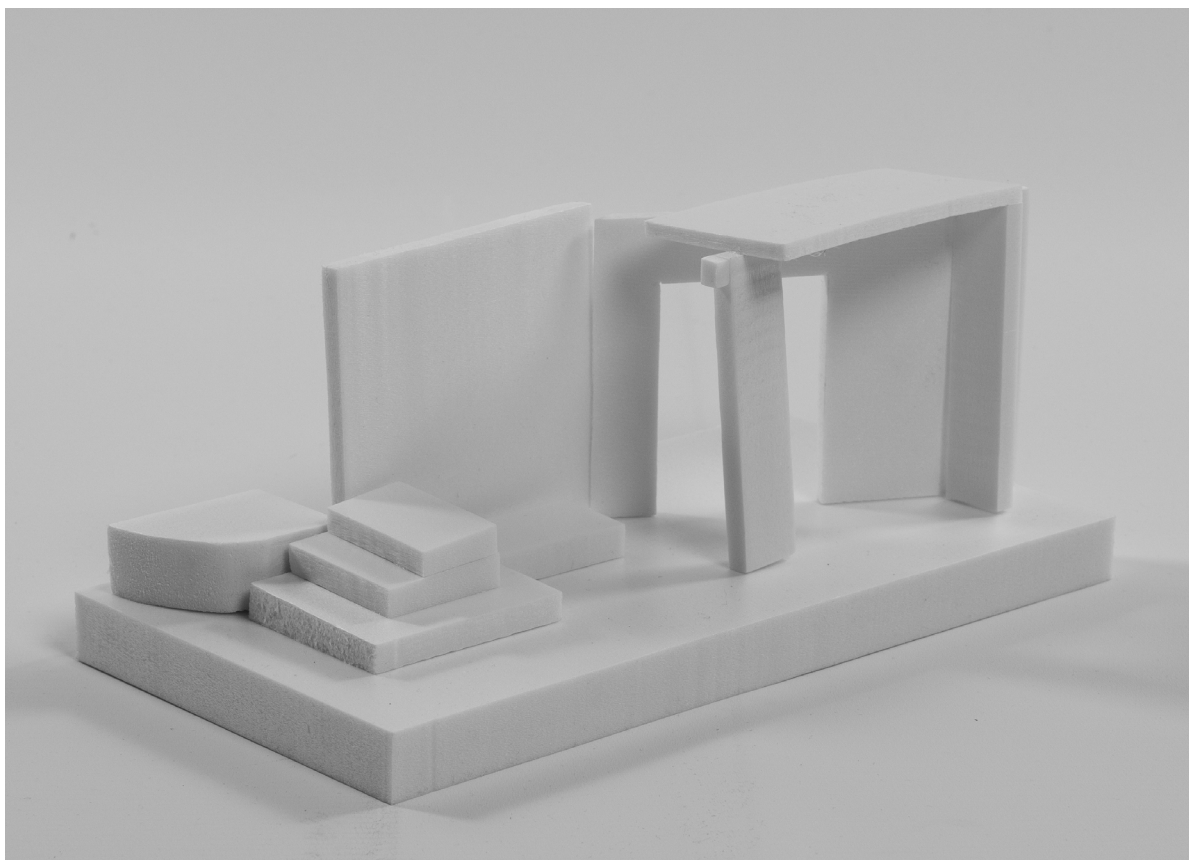




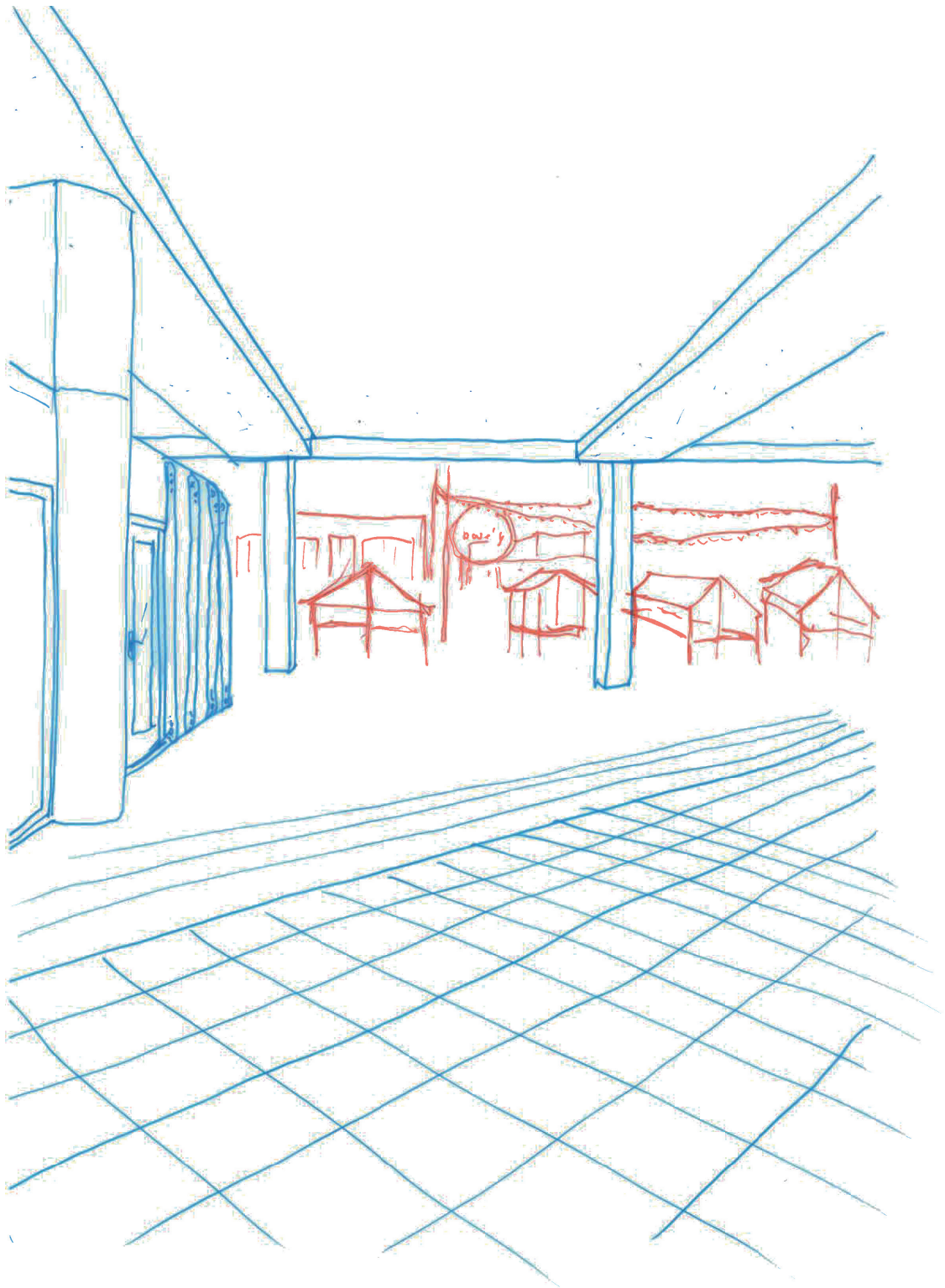


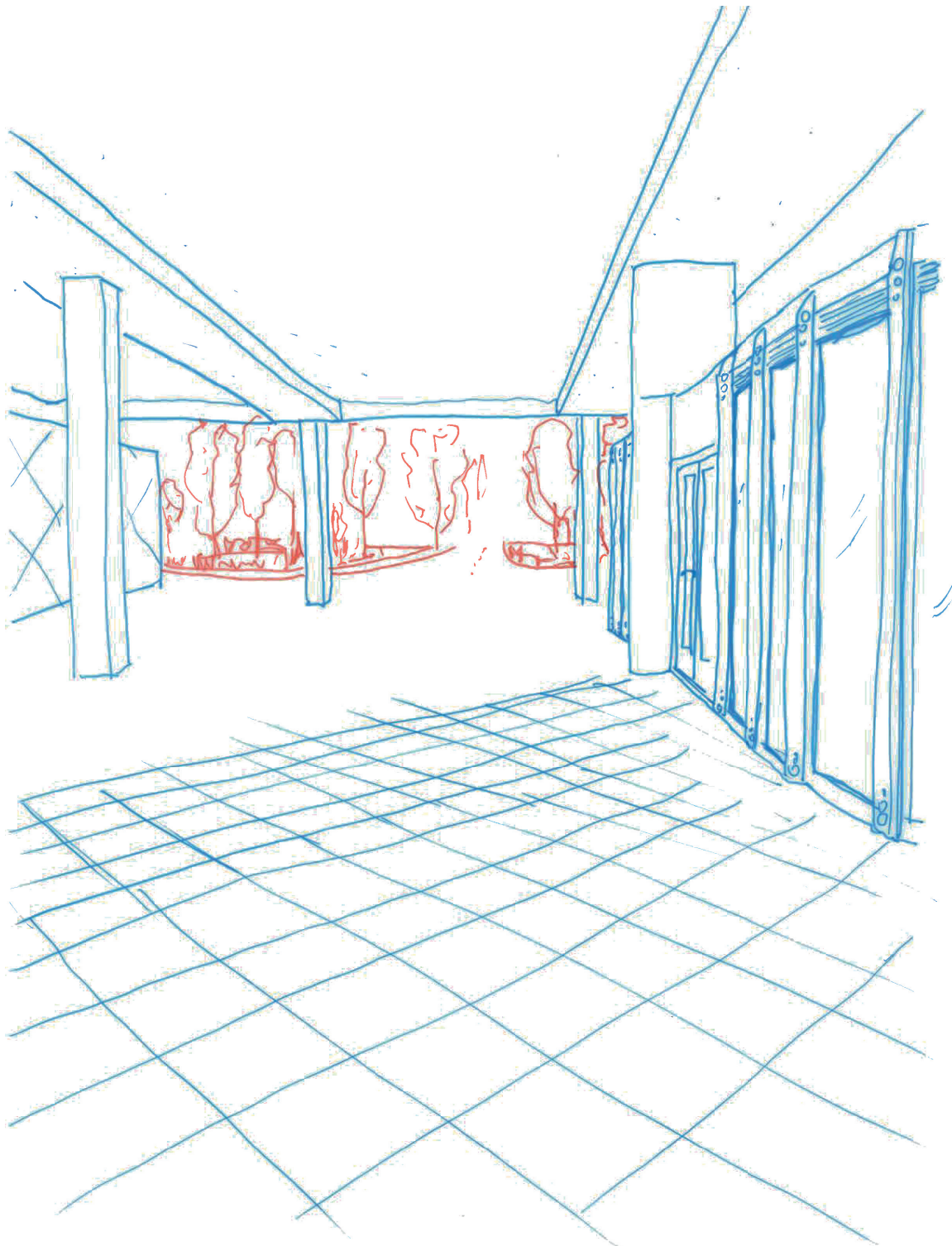
The niche

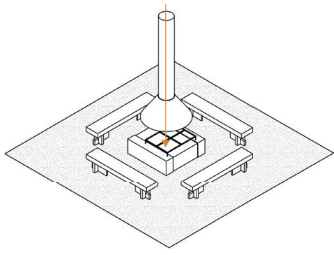




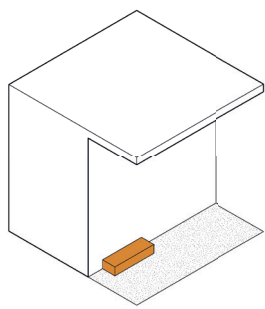




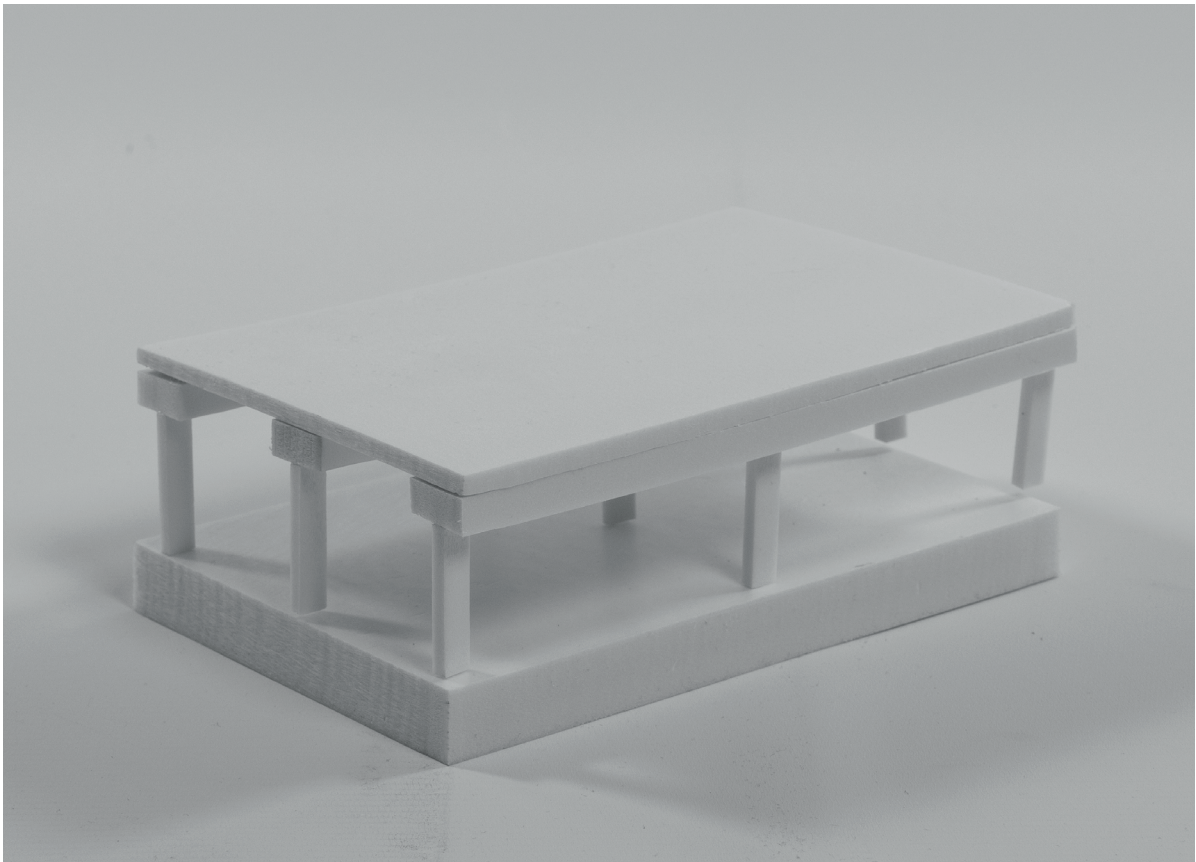


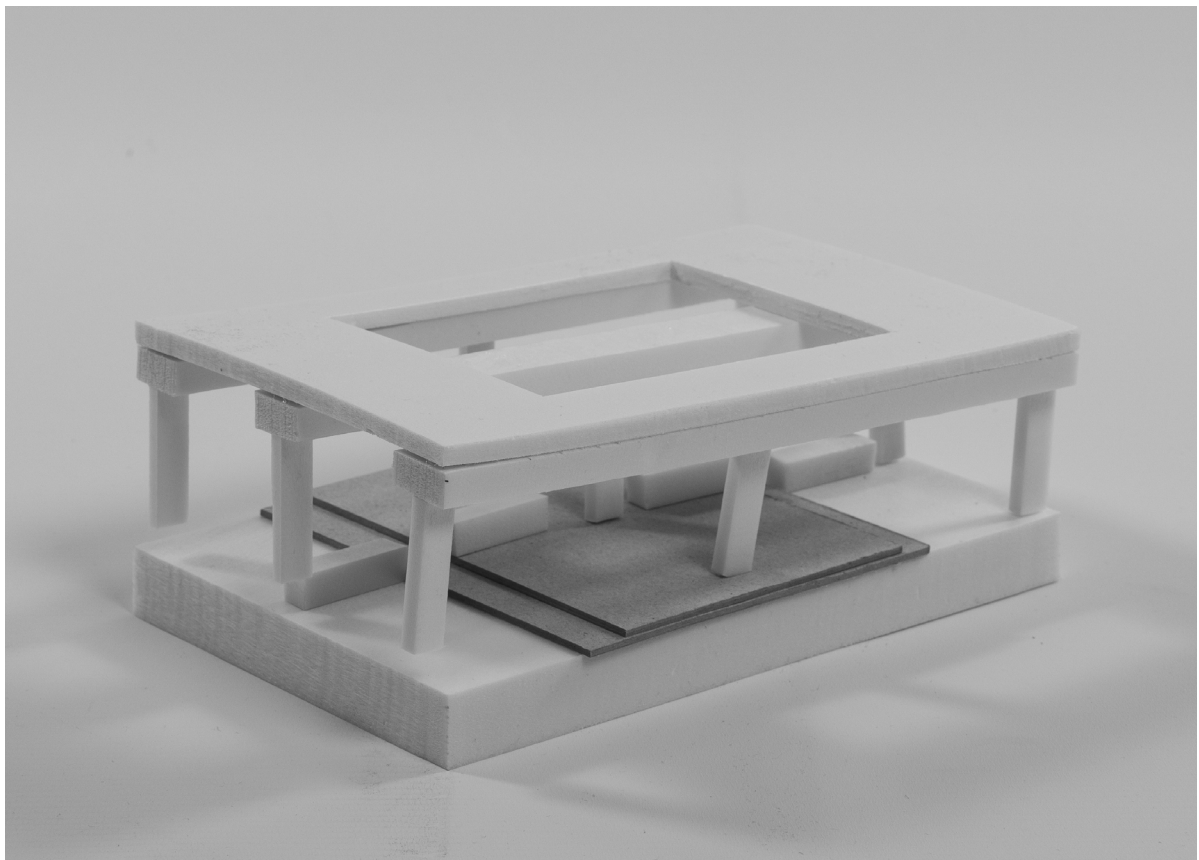


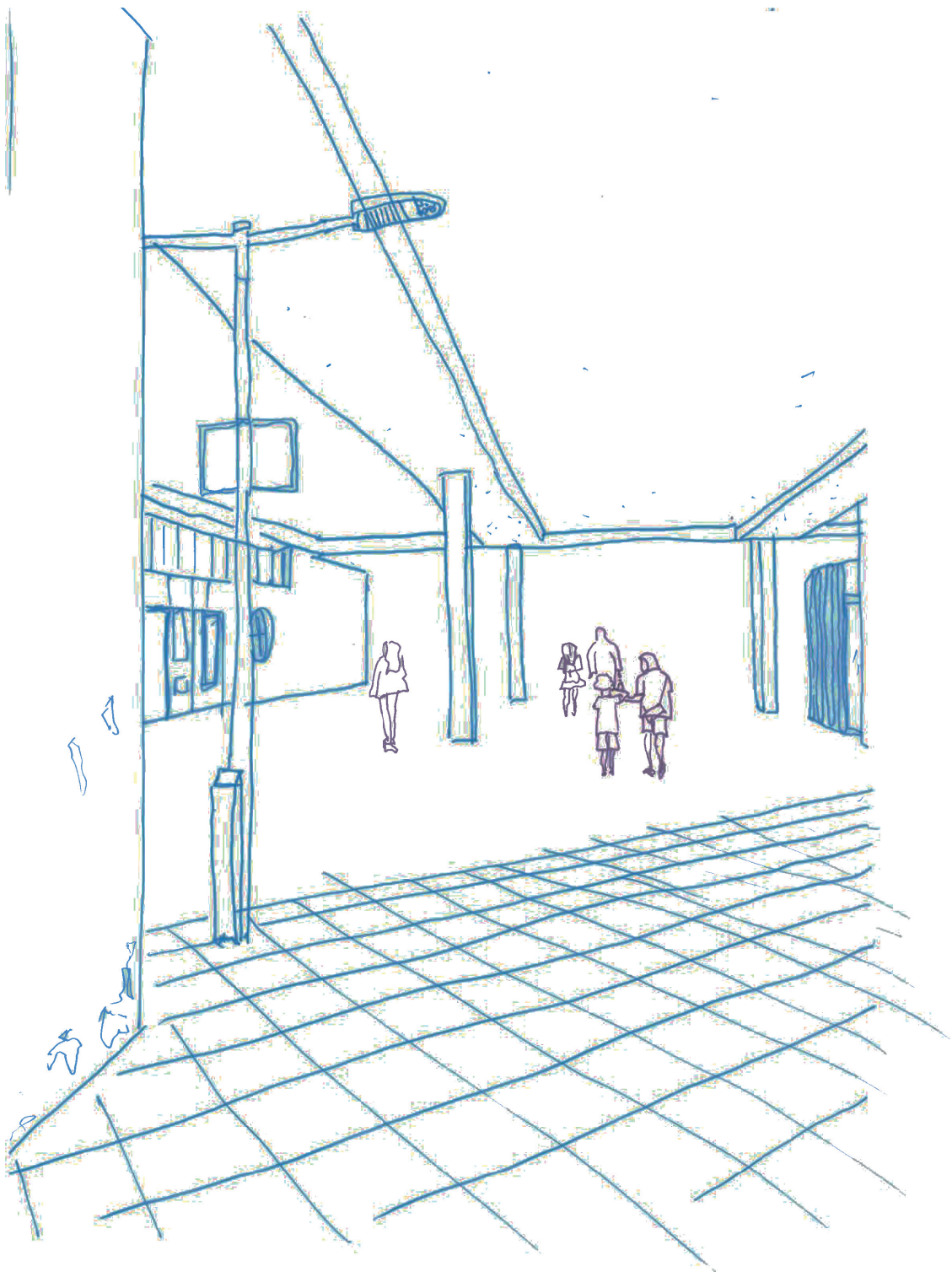
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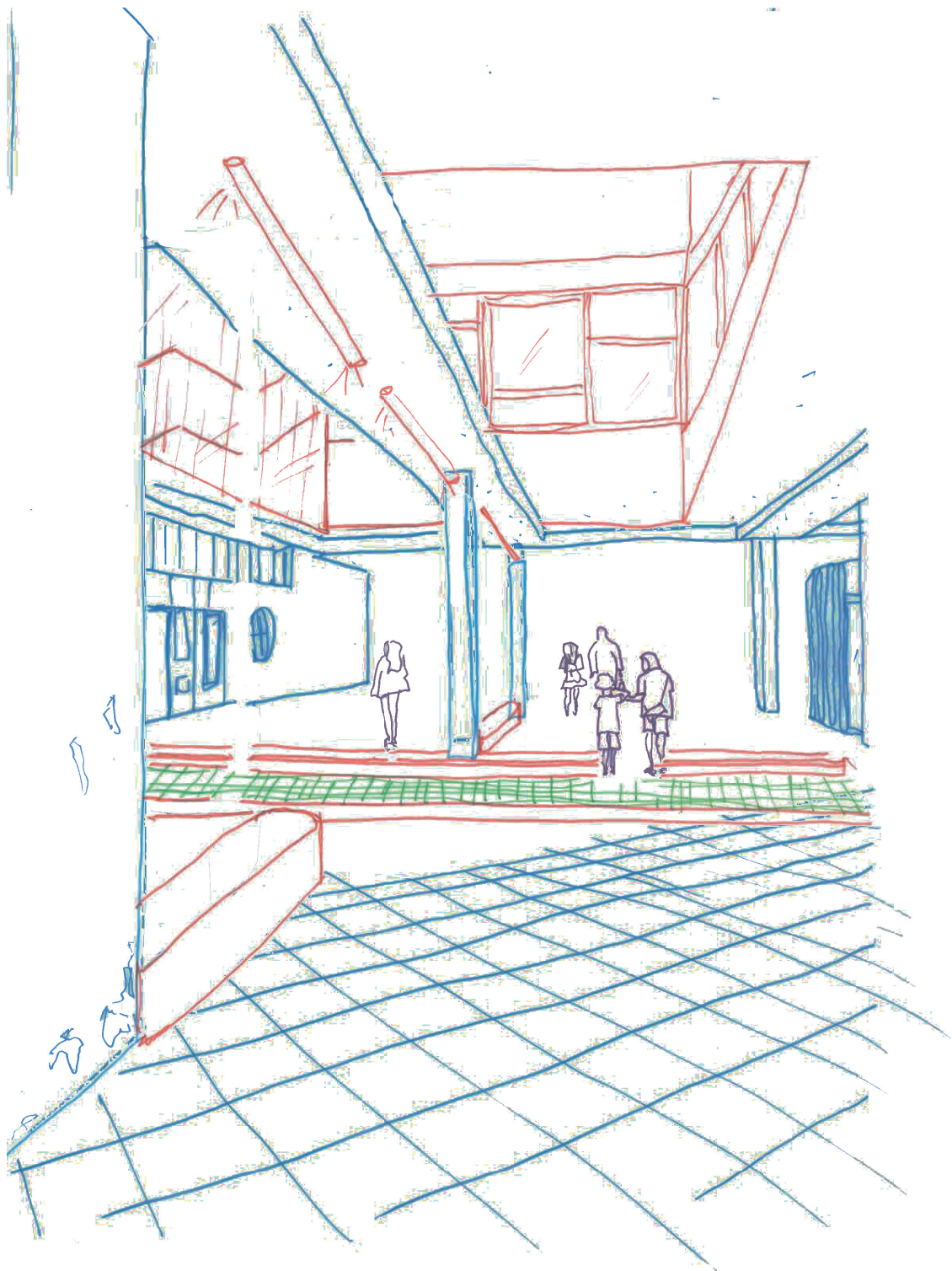


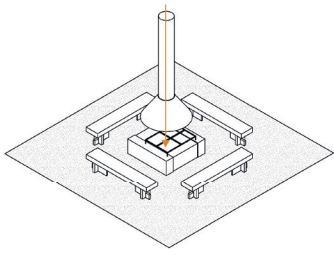
The canopy



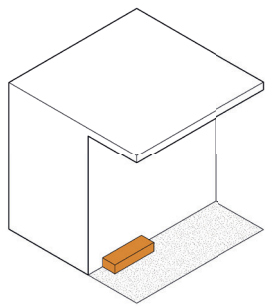




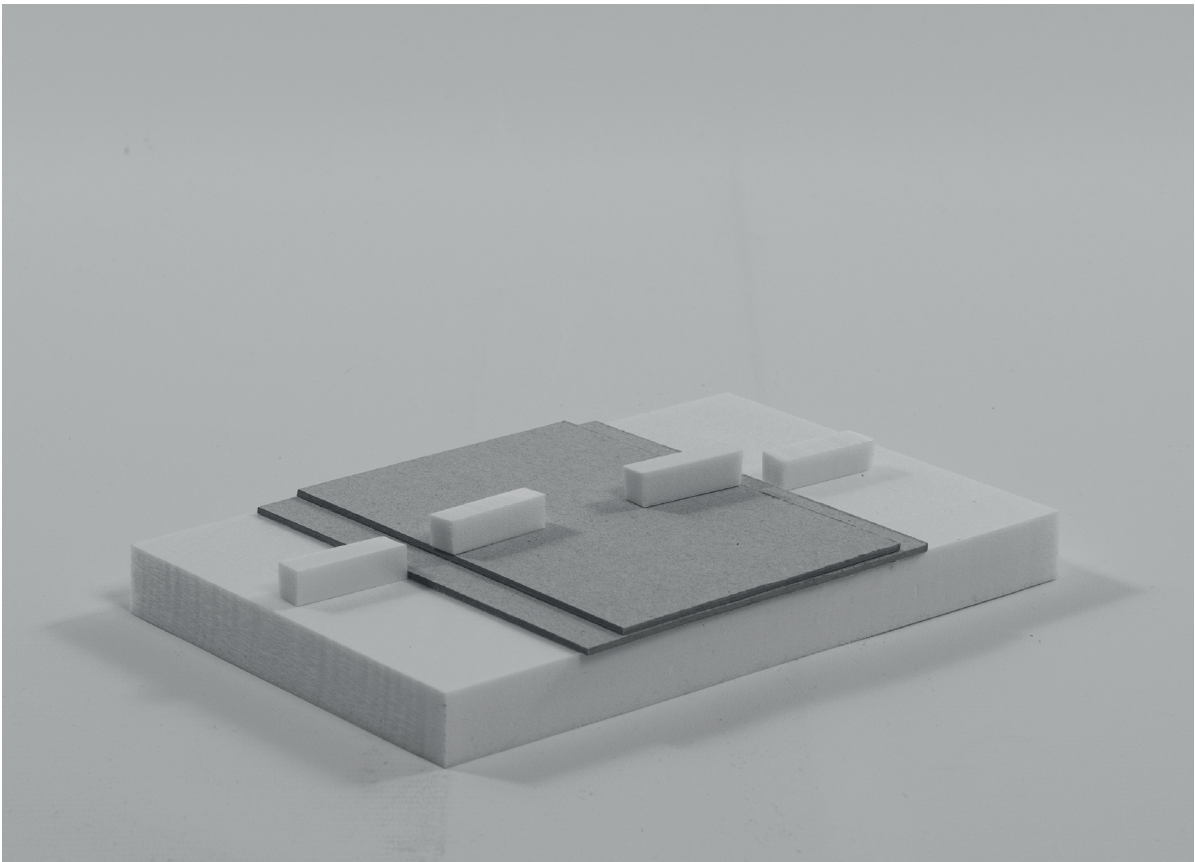


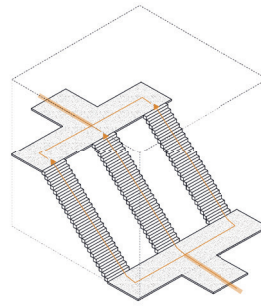


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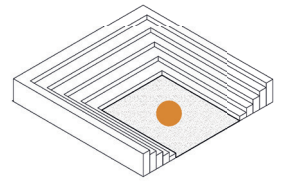


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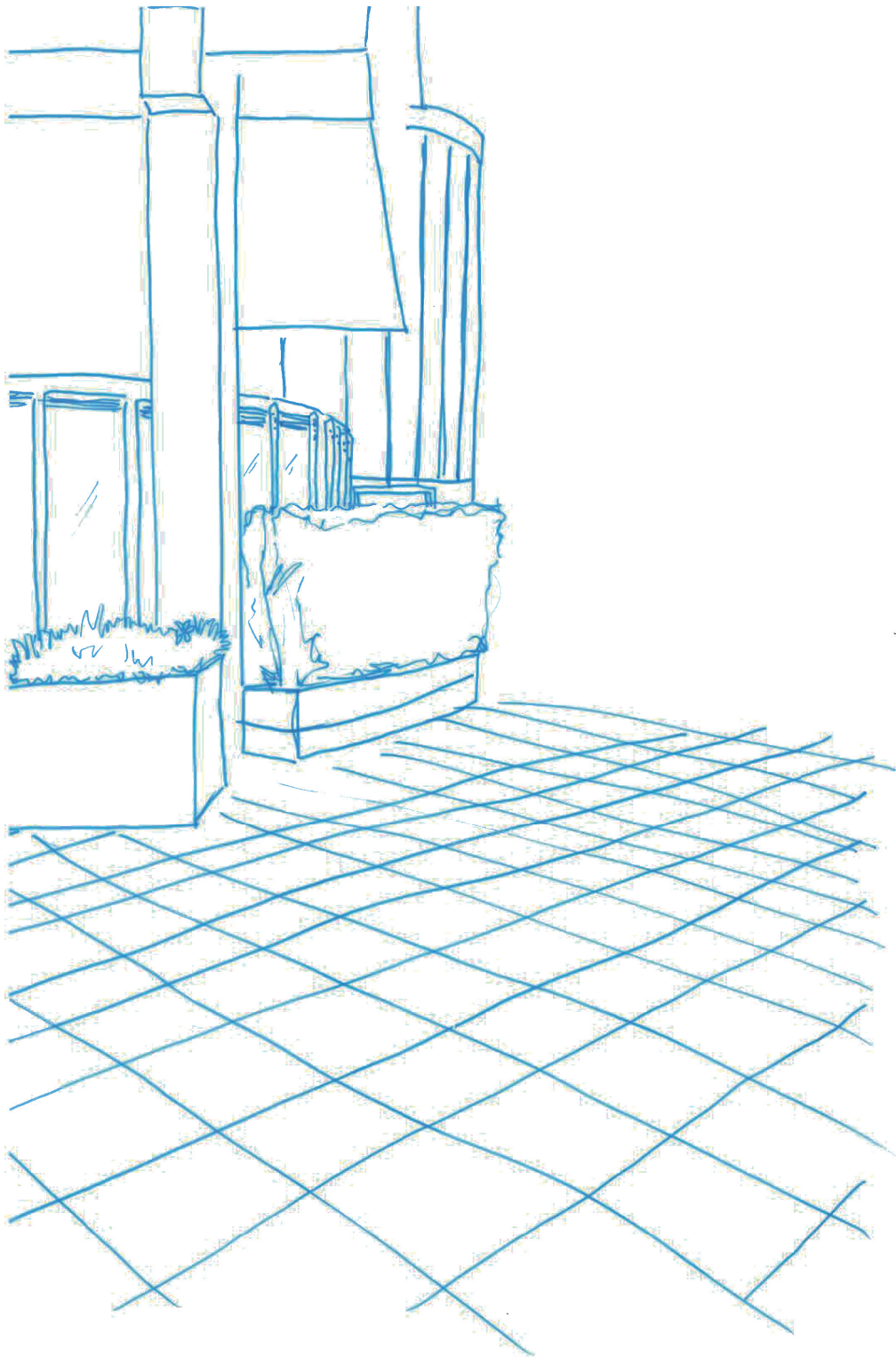


Non hierarchy routes



The stage





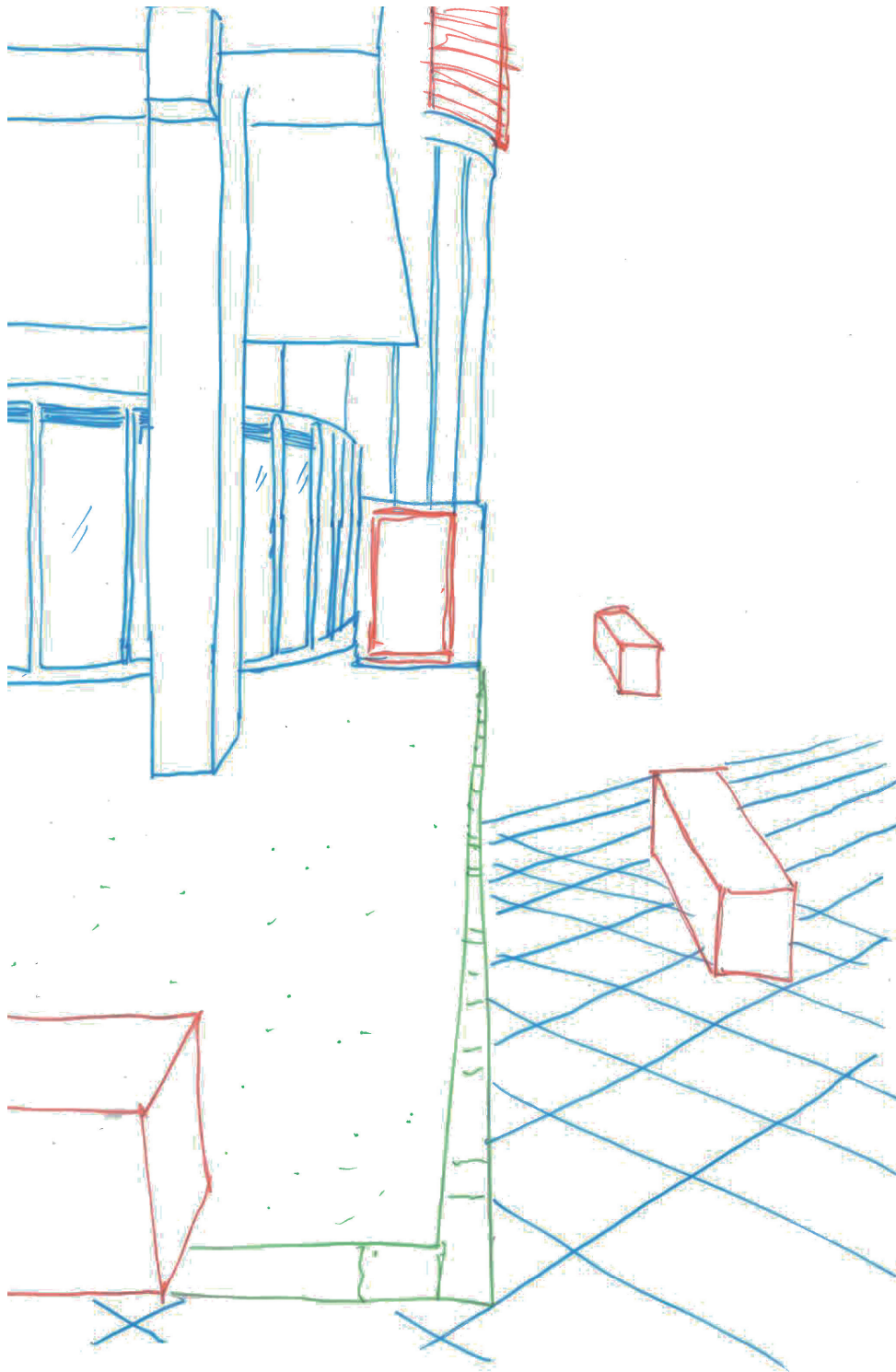




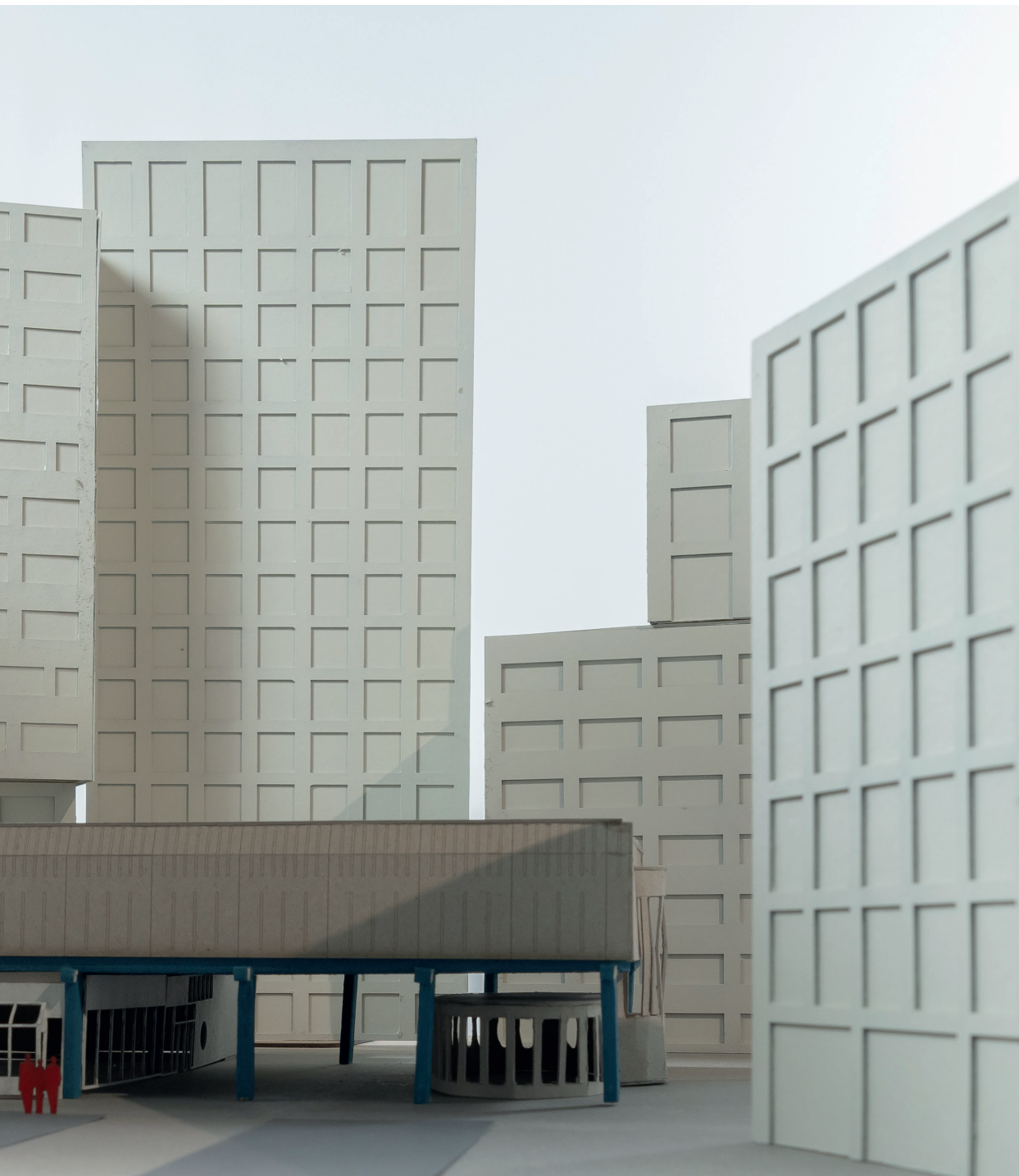
Photo and model by M



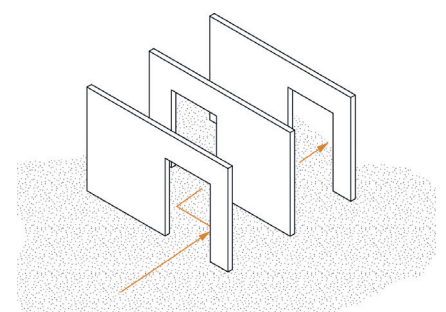
Marcella Heijink, 2025



Photo and model by M



Marcella Heijink, 2025



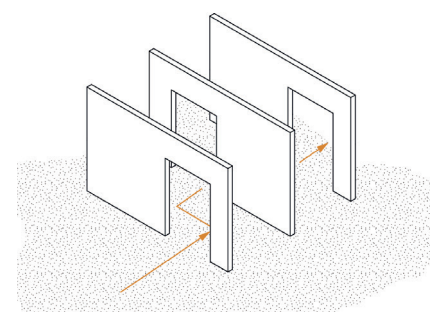
Discontinuity
Collective memory



Photo and model by M



Marcella Heijink, 2025



Discontinuity



Photo and model by M



Marcella Heijink, 2025

Discontinuity
Collective memory

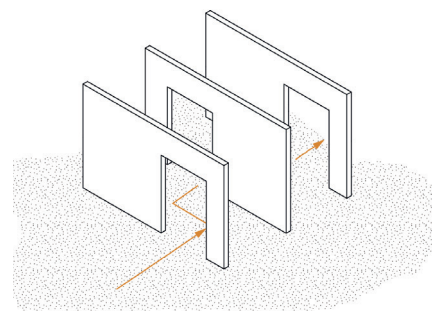
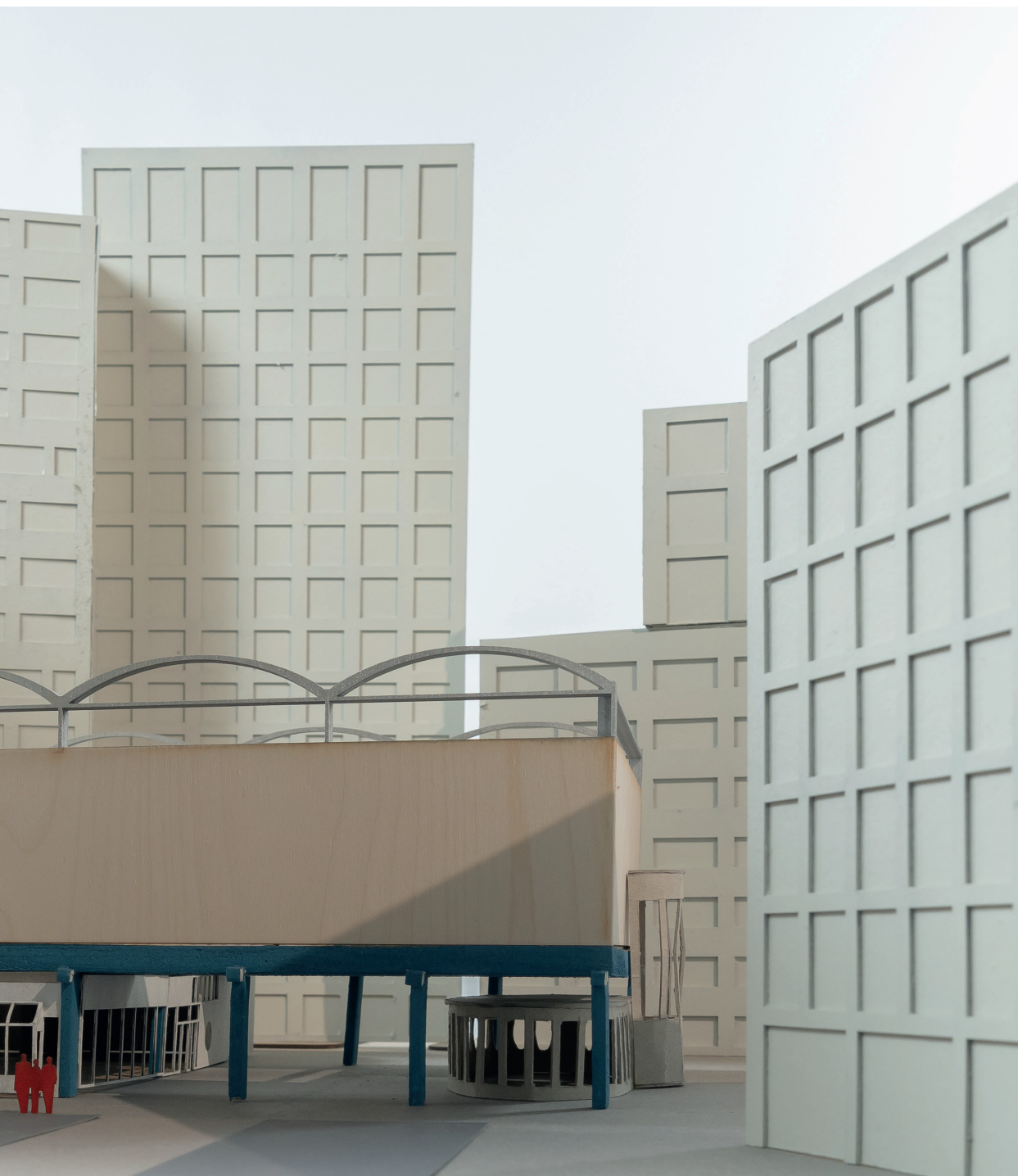
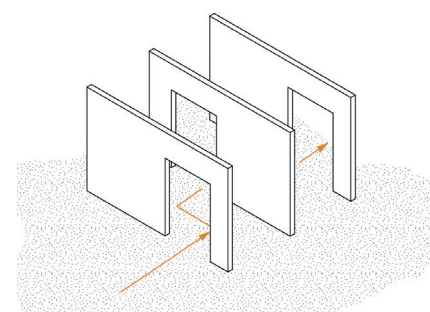




Photo and model by M



Marcella Heijink, 2025



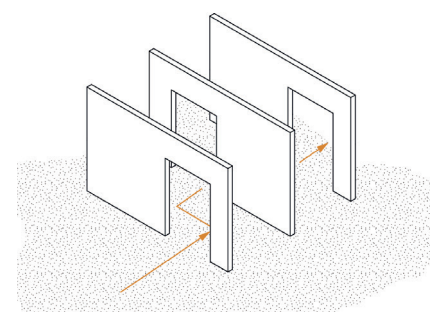
Discontinuity
Collective memory



Photo and model by M



Marcella Heijink, 2025



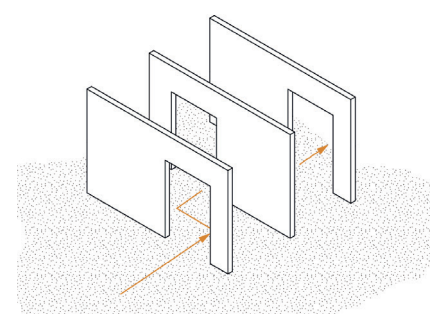
*Discontinuity
Collective memory*



Photo and model by M

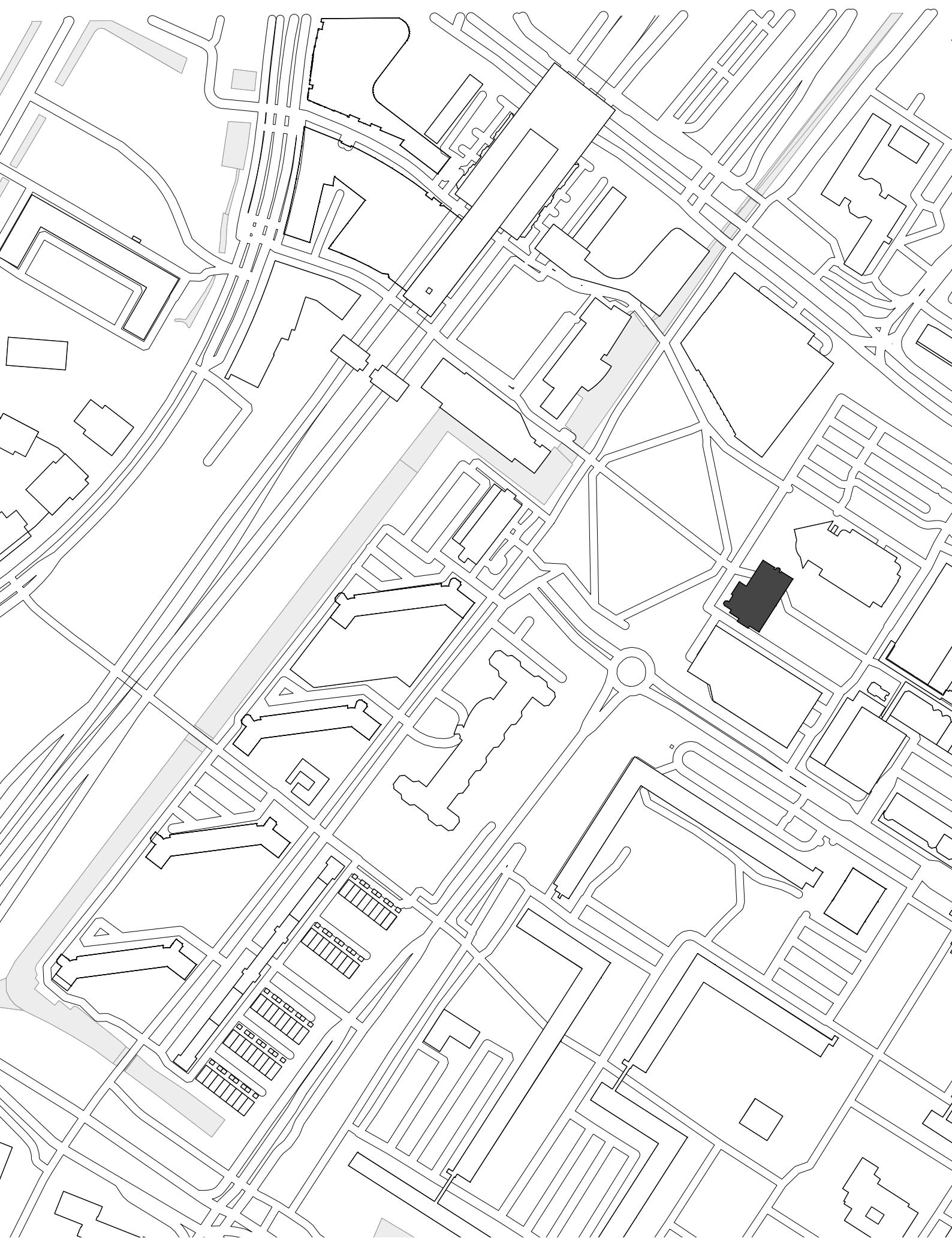


Marcella Heijink, 2025

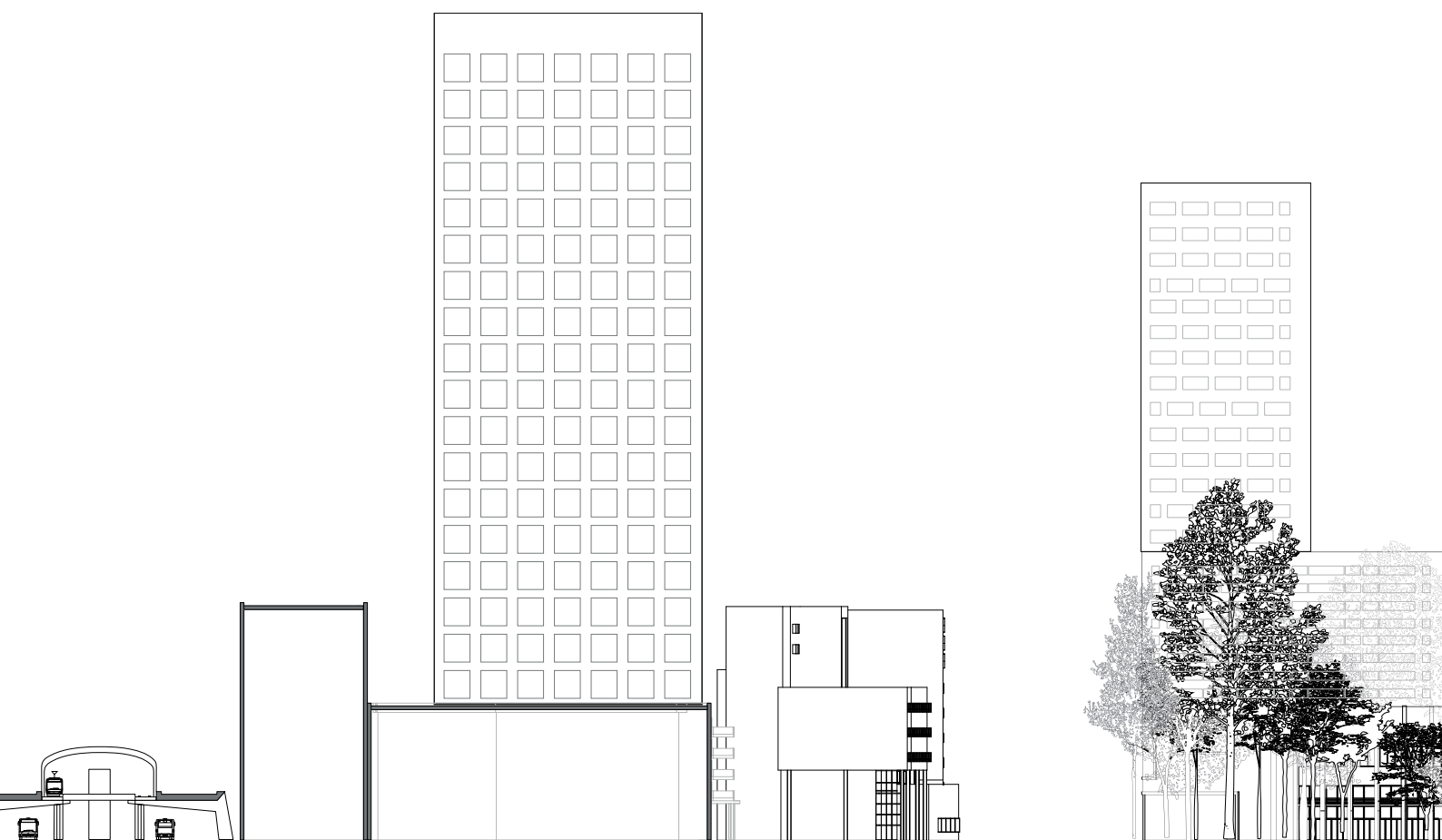
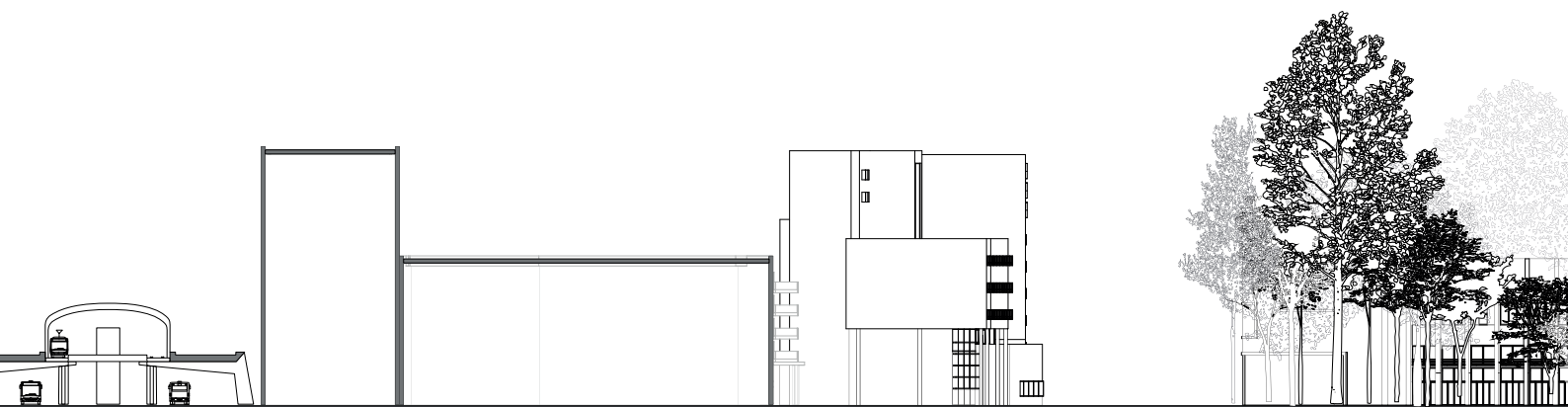


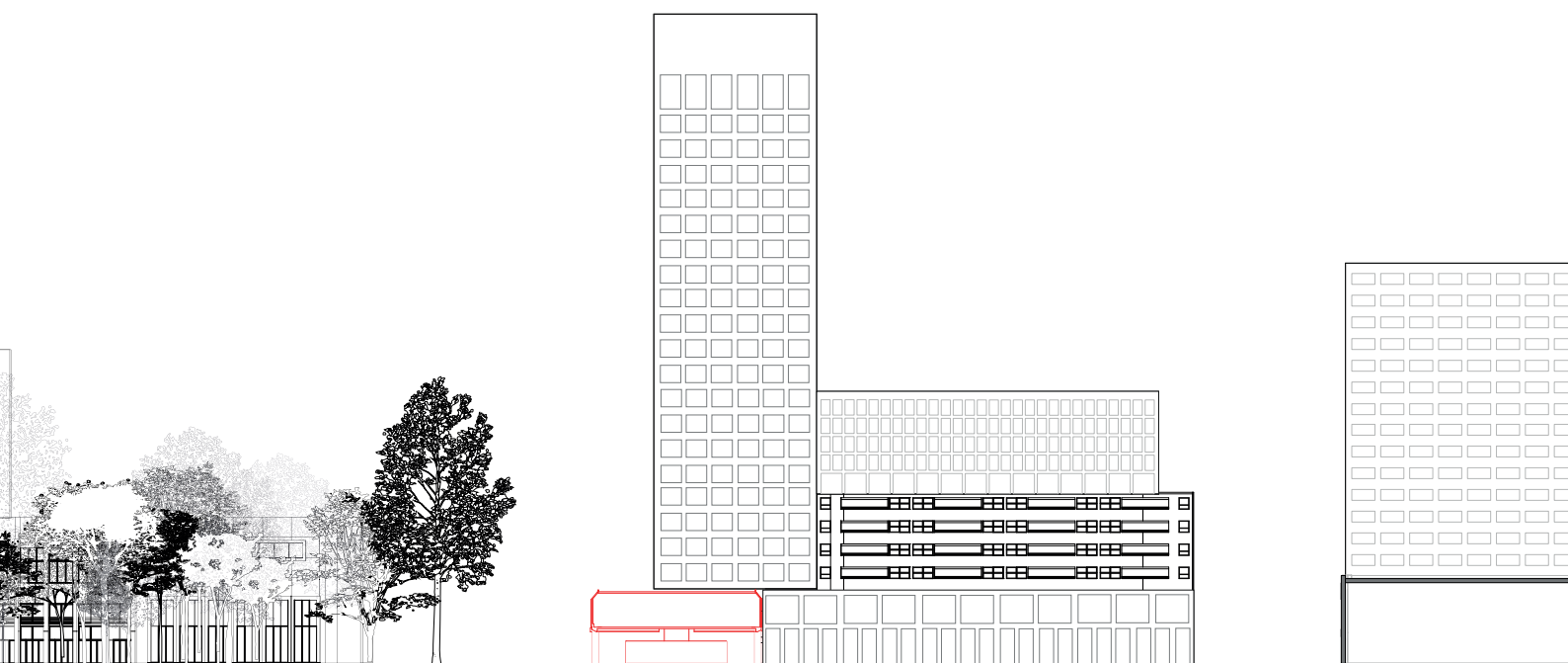
*Discontinuity
Collective memory*

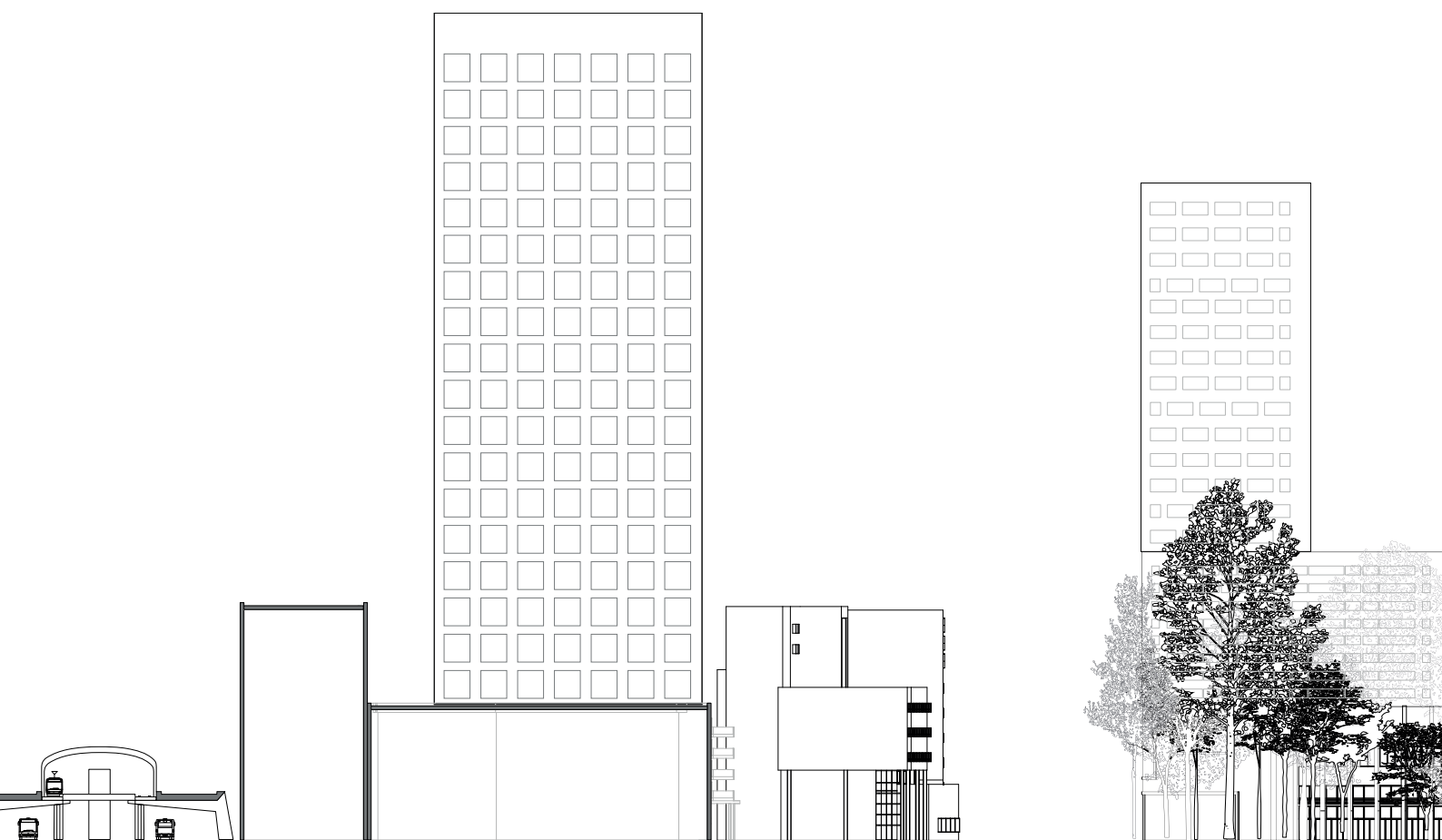
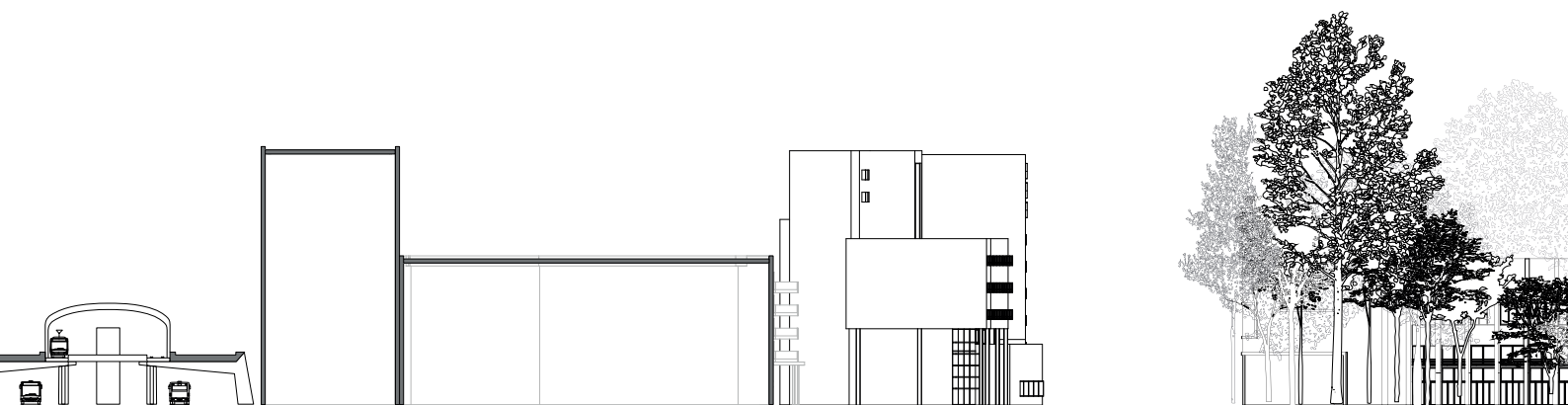
proposed design

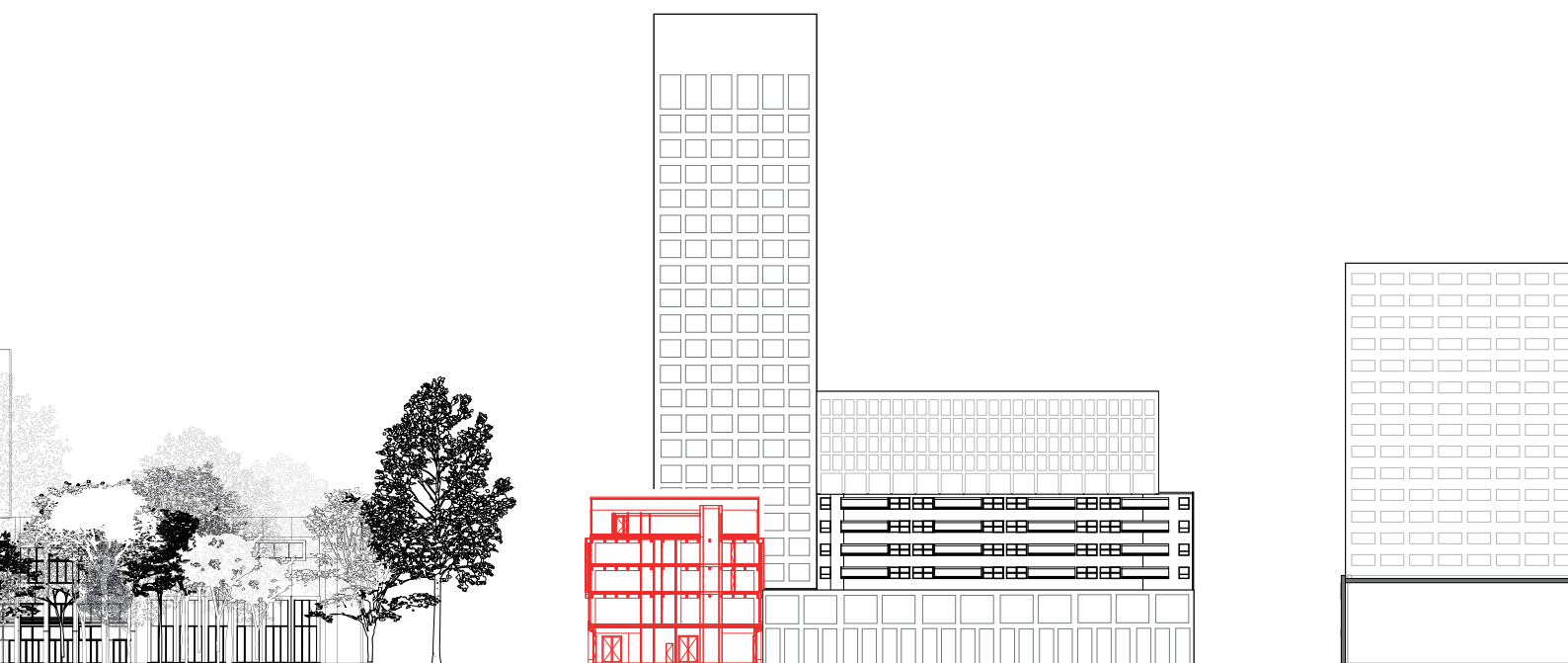


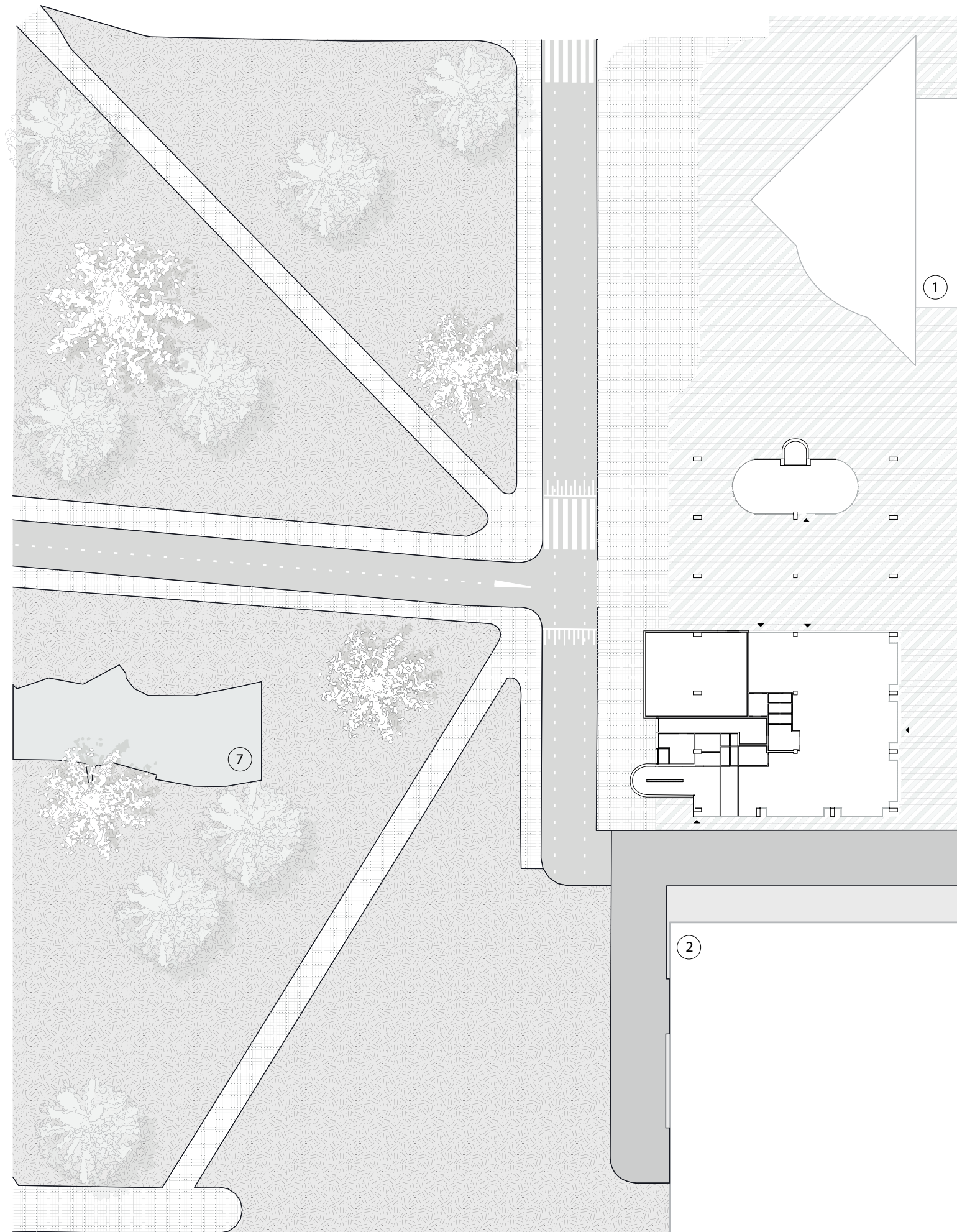


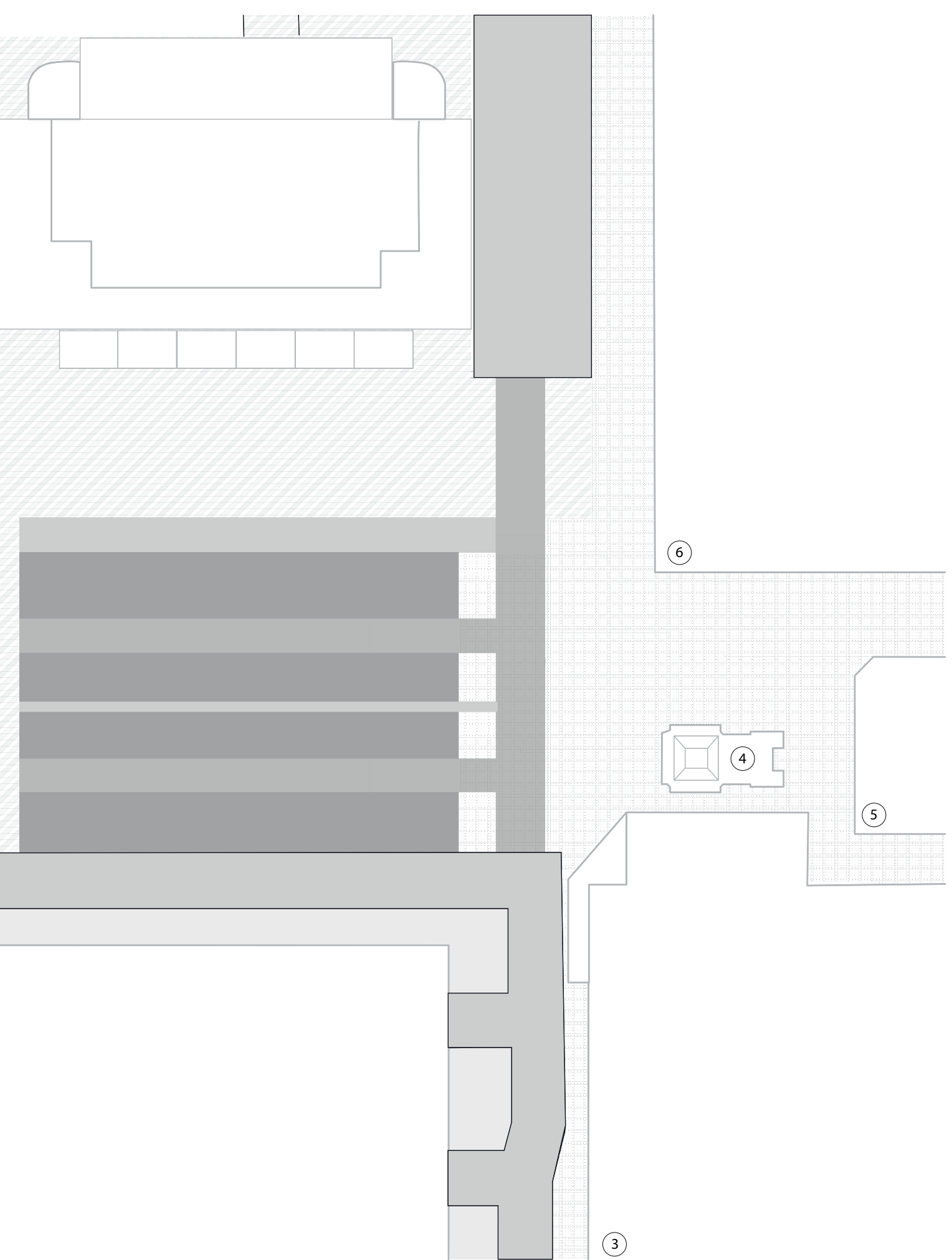




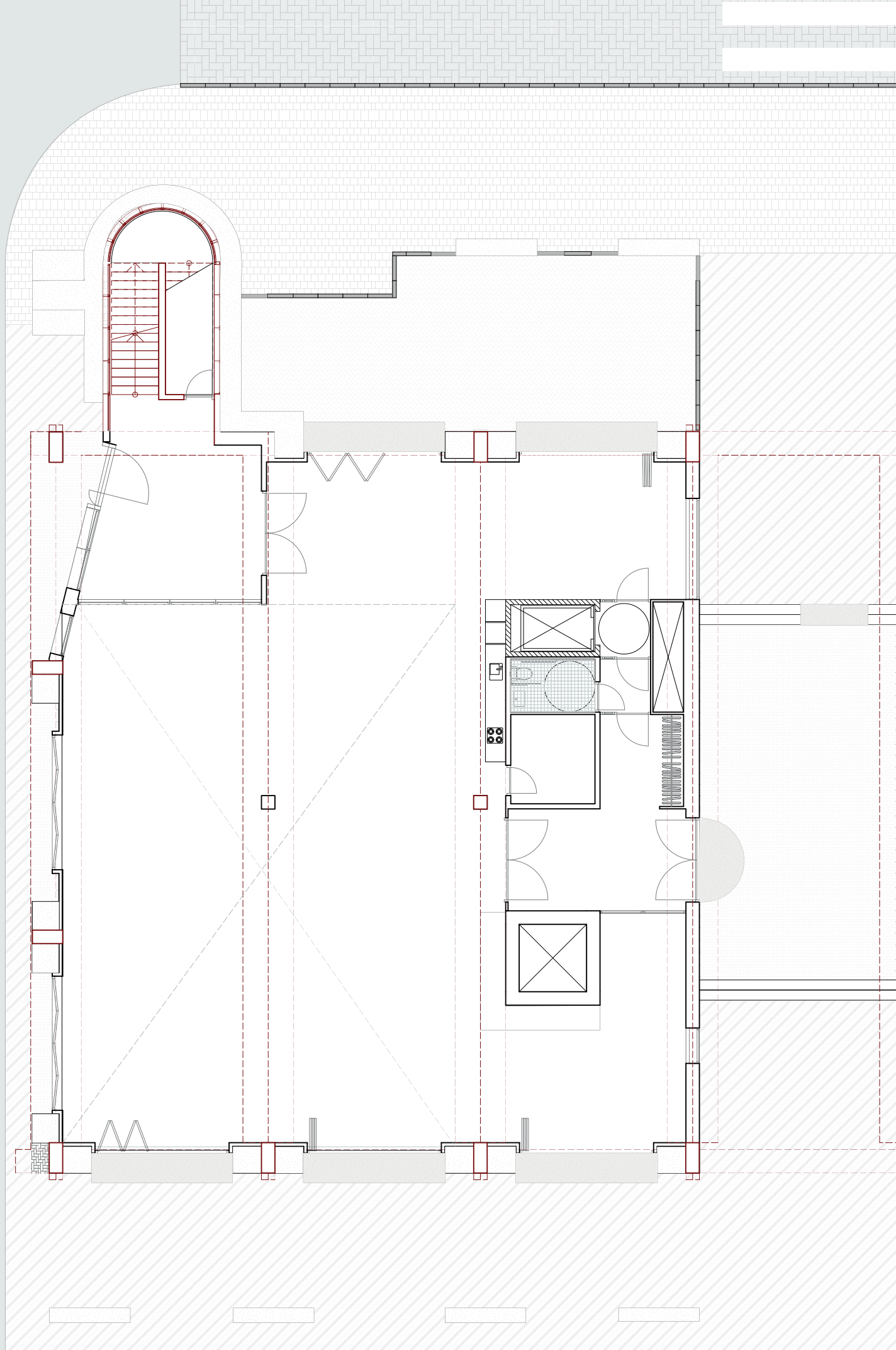


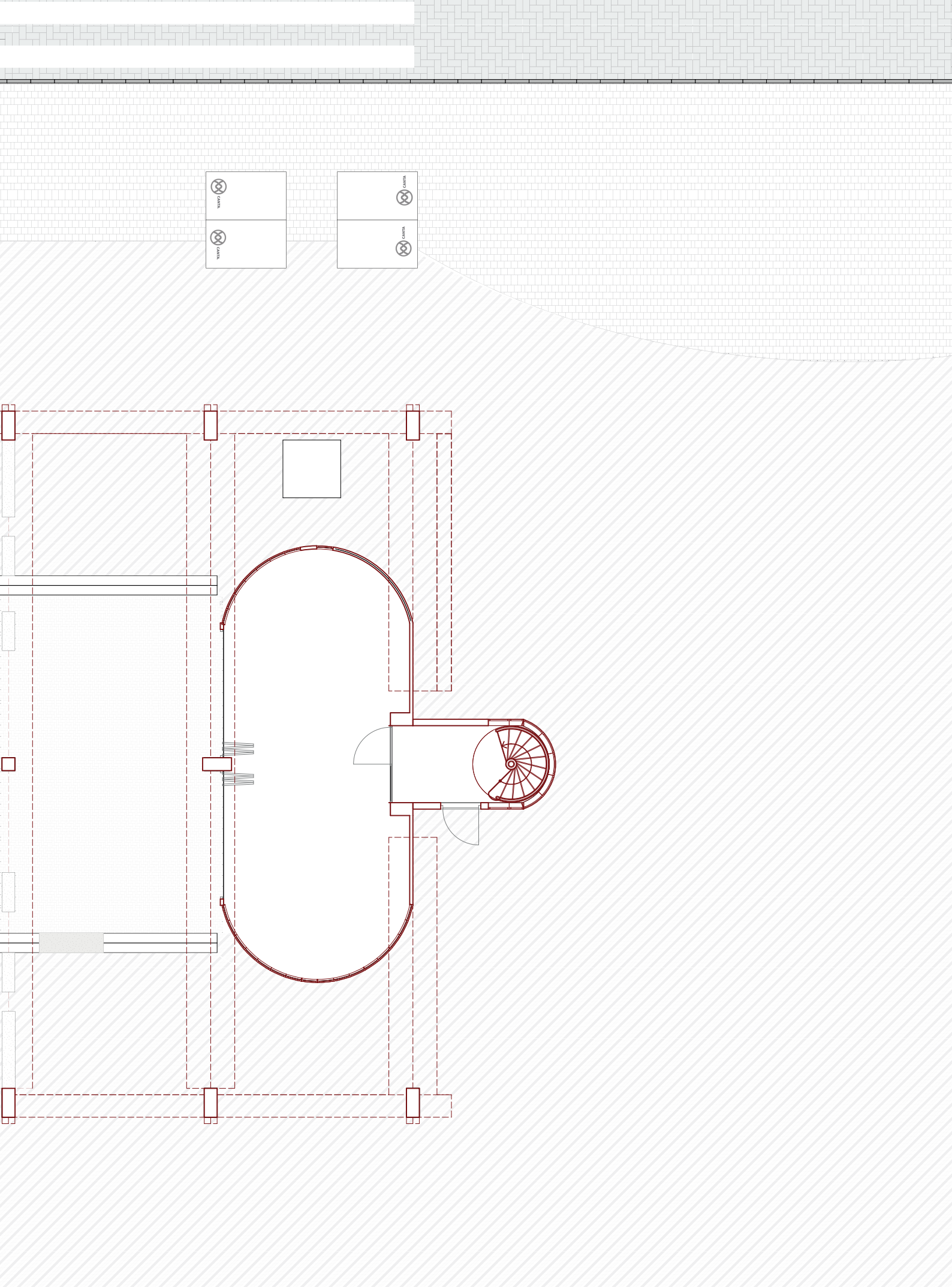


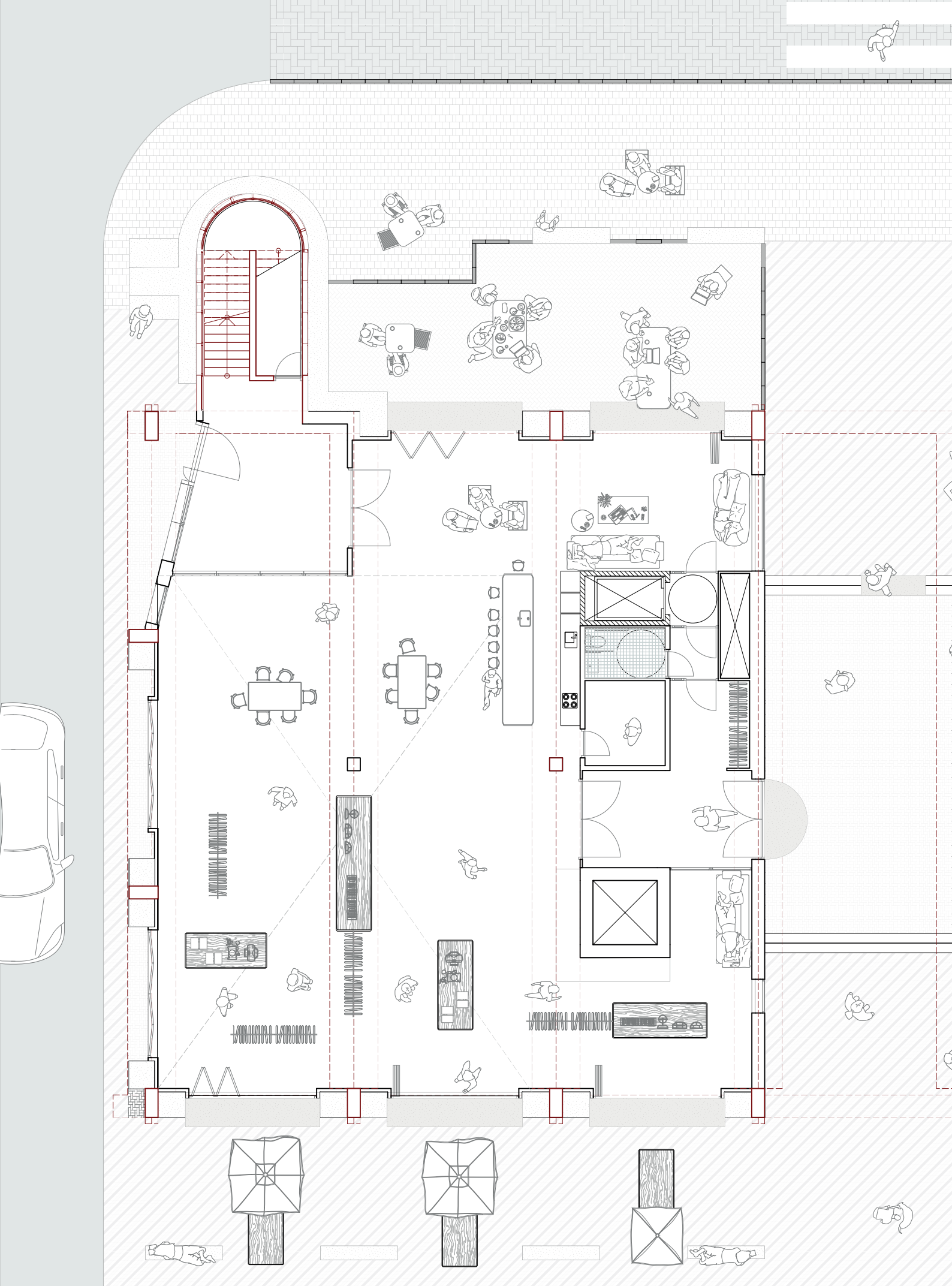


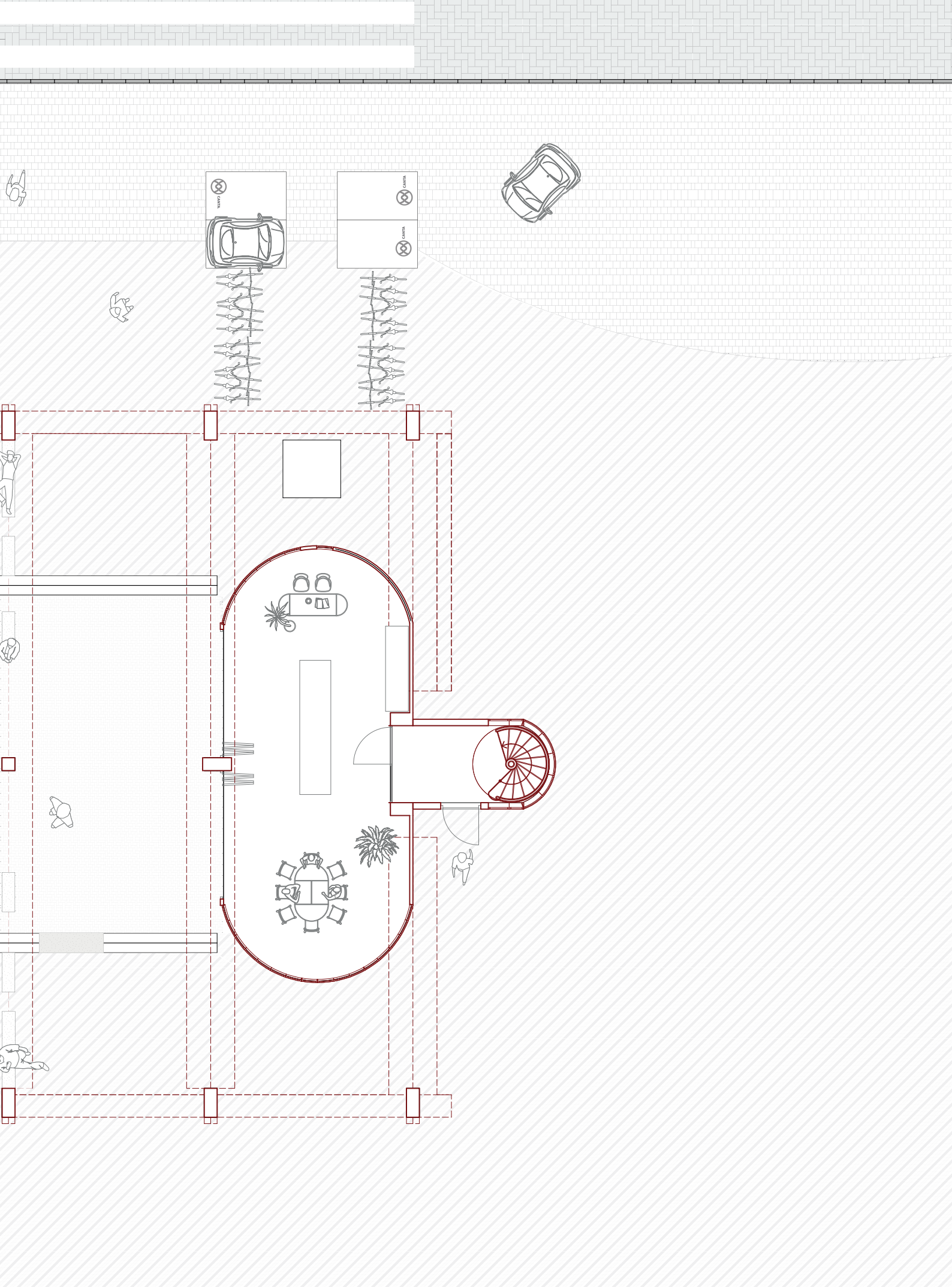


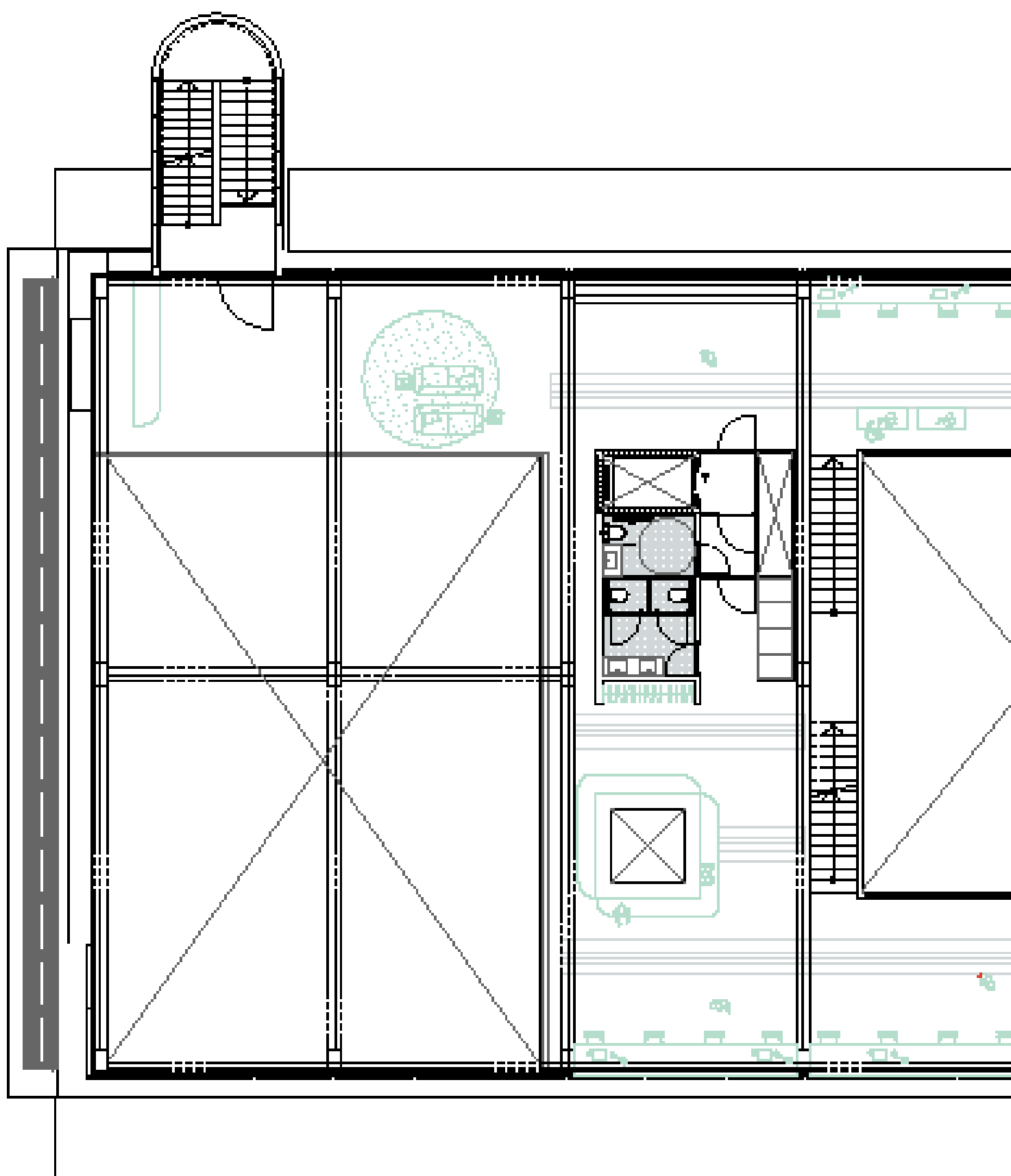
floorplans

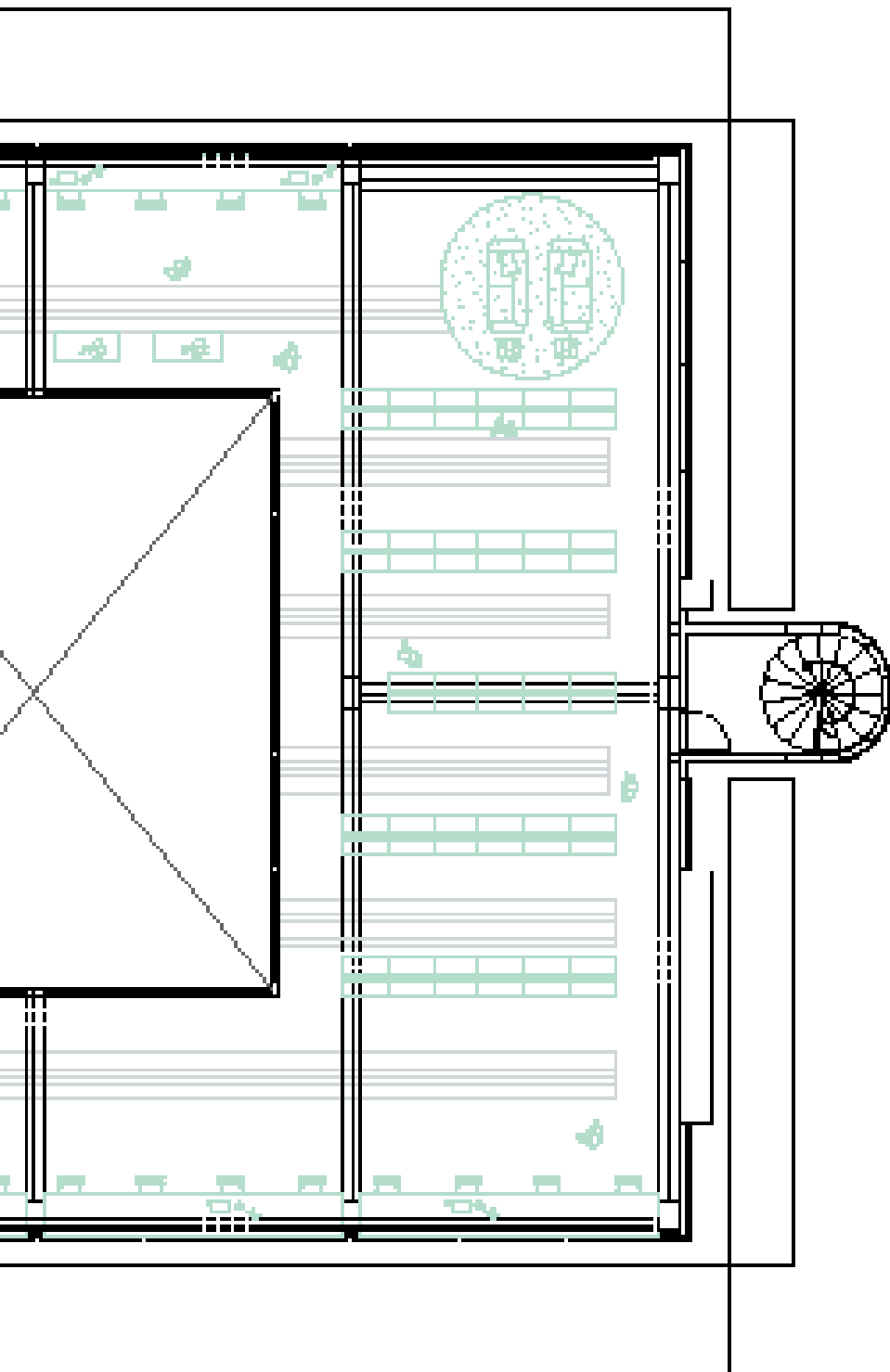


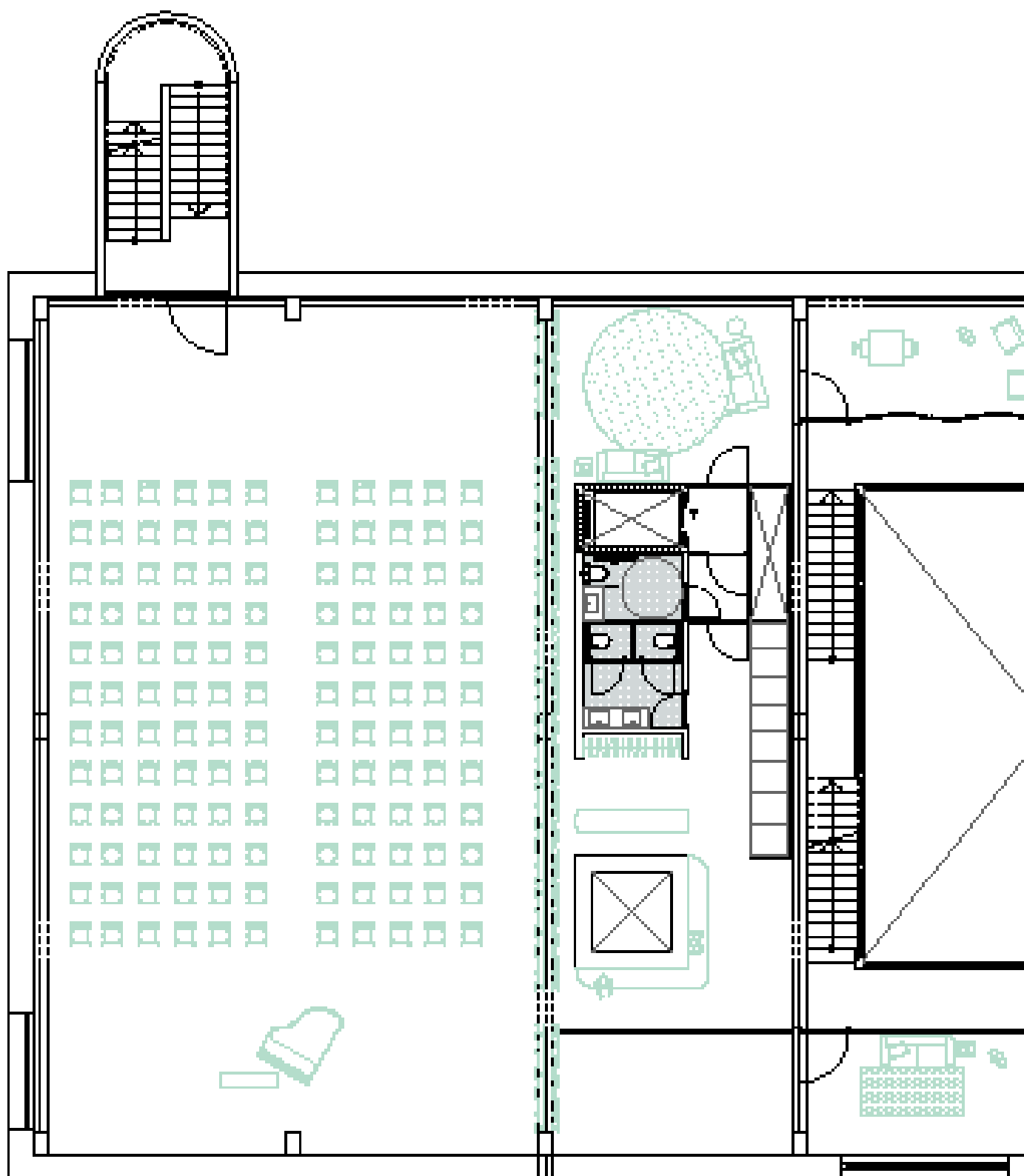


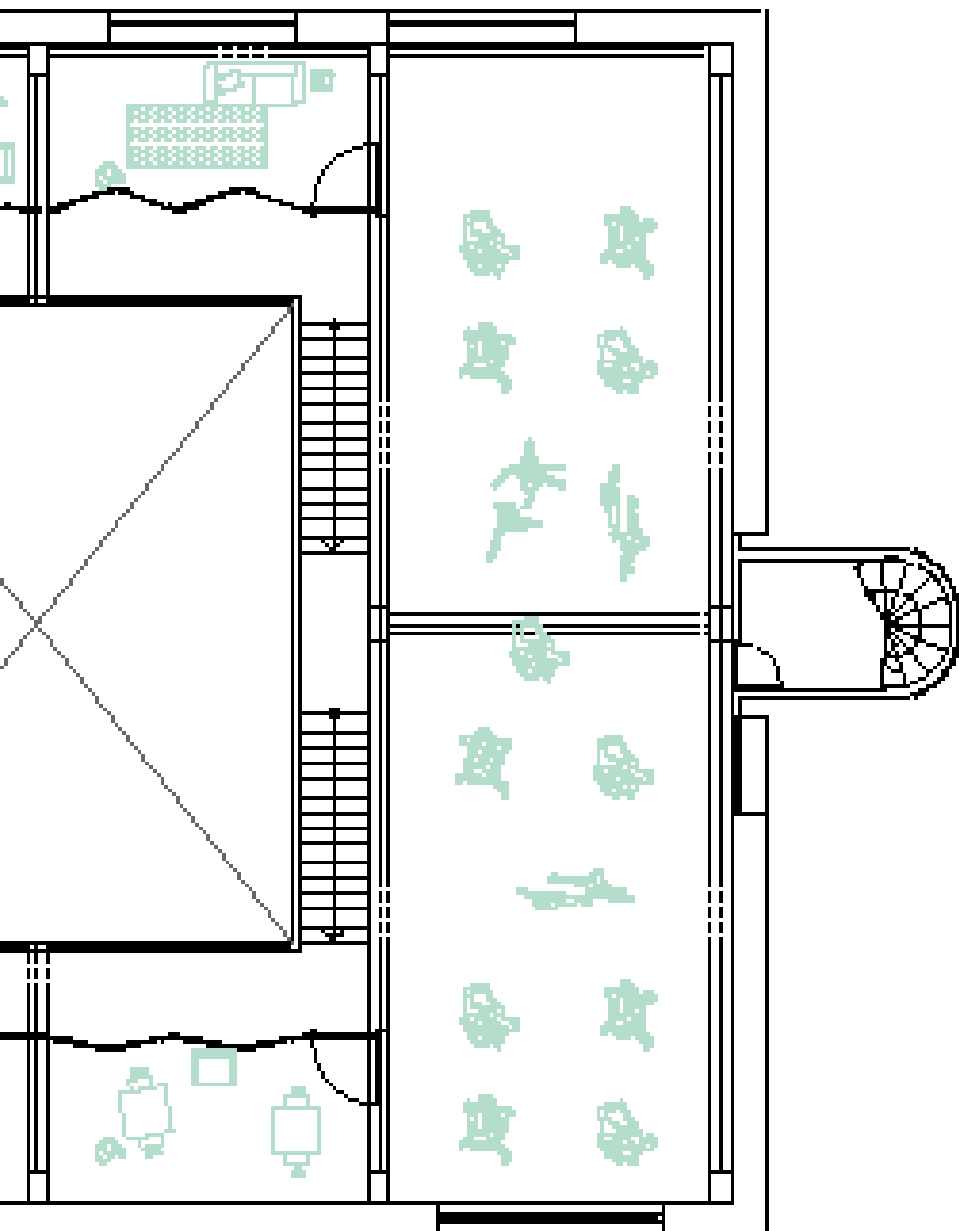


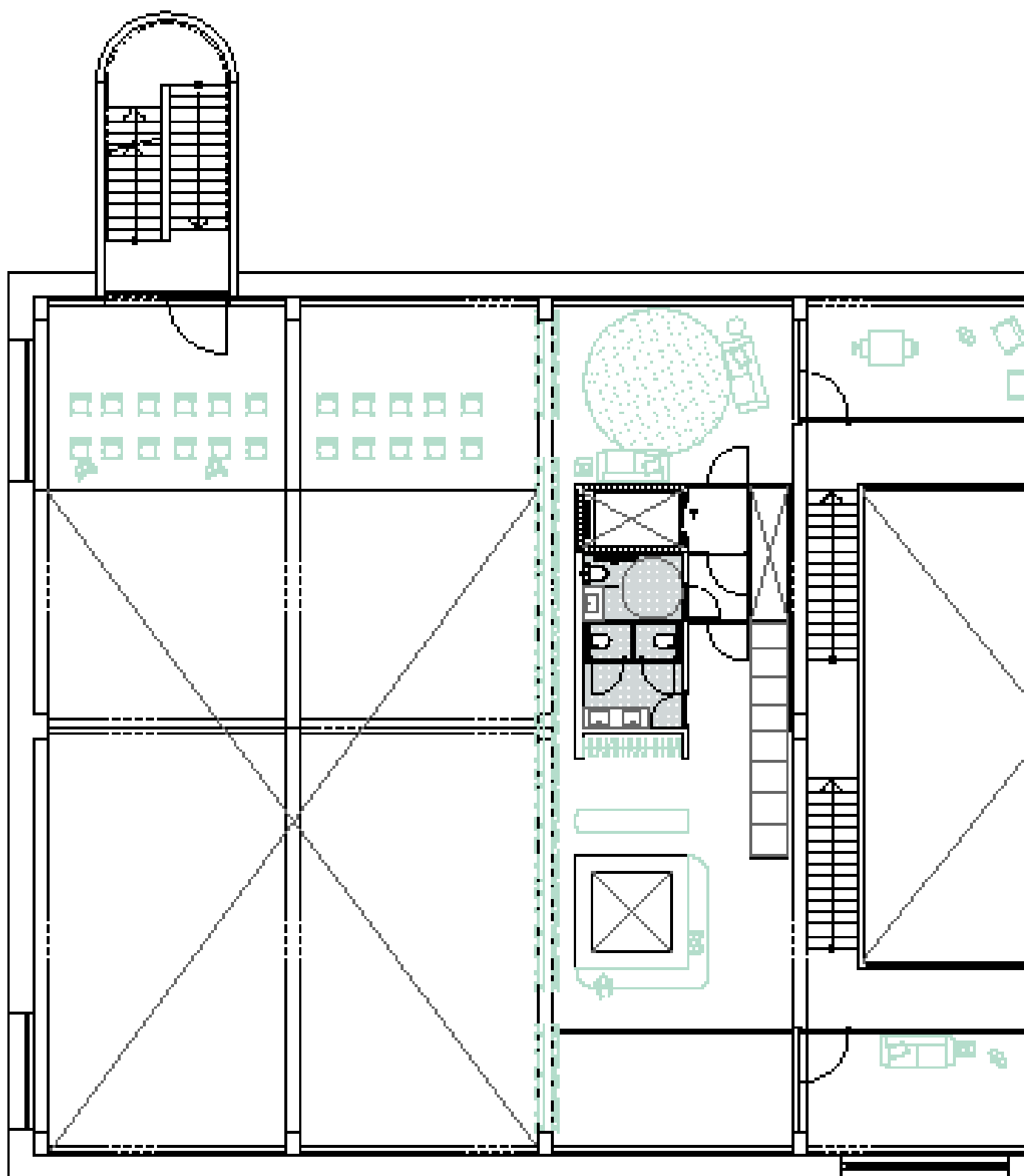


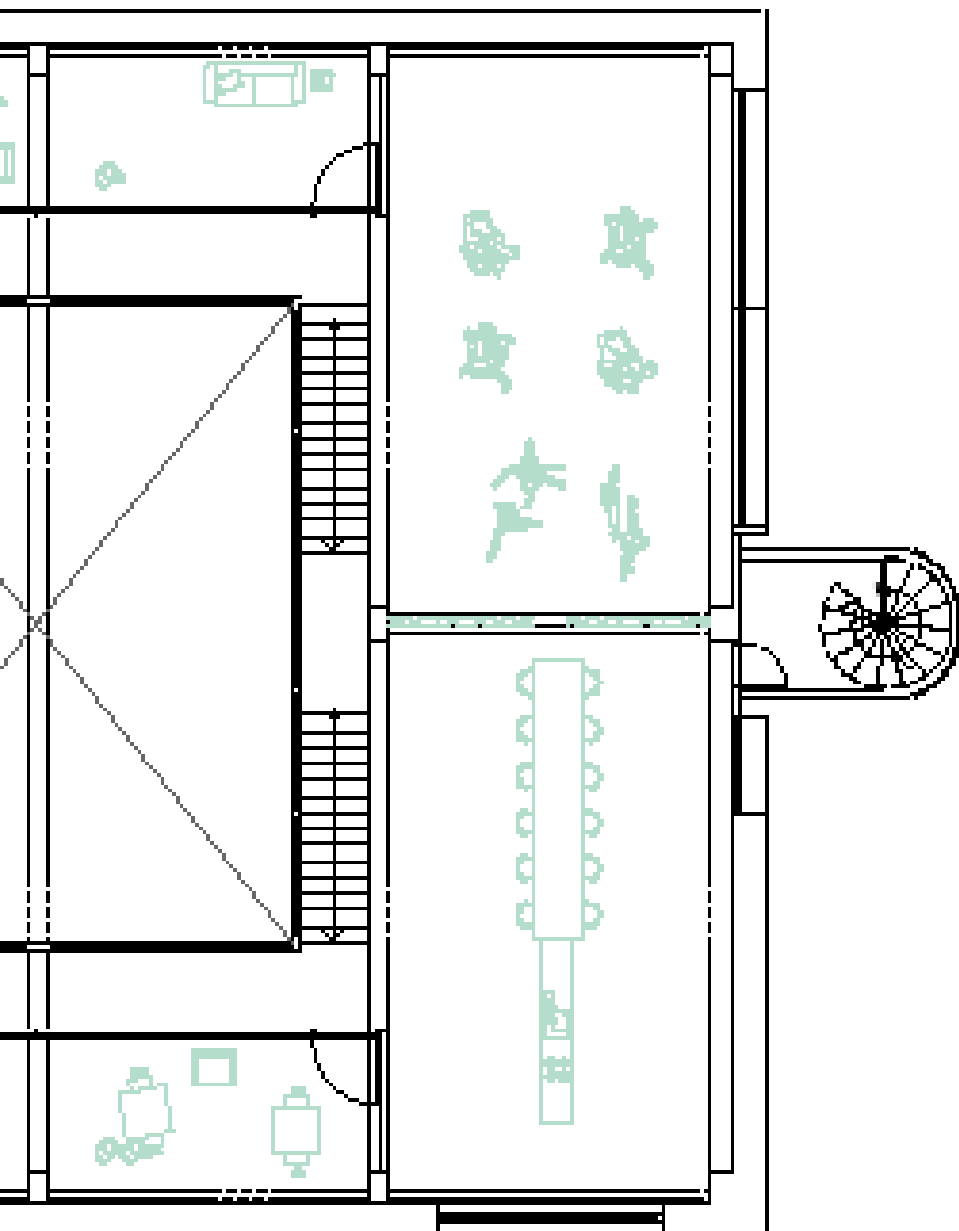


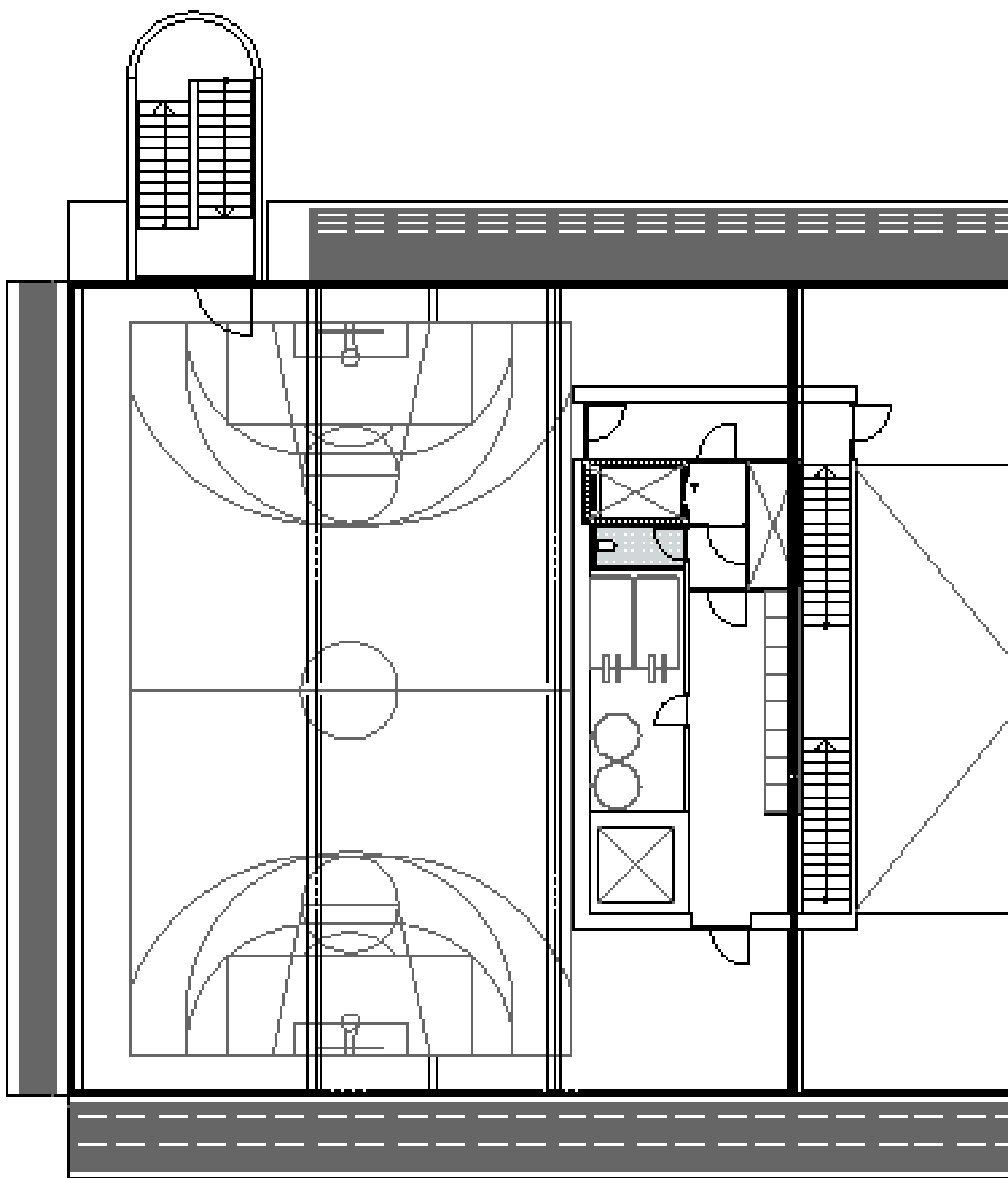


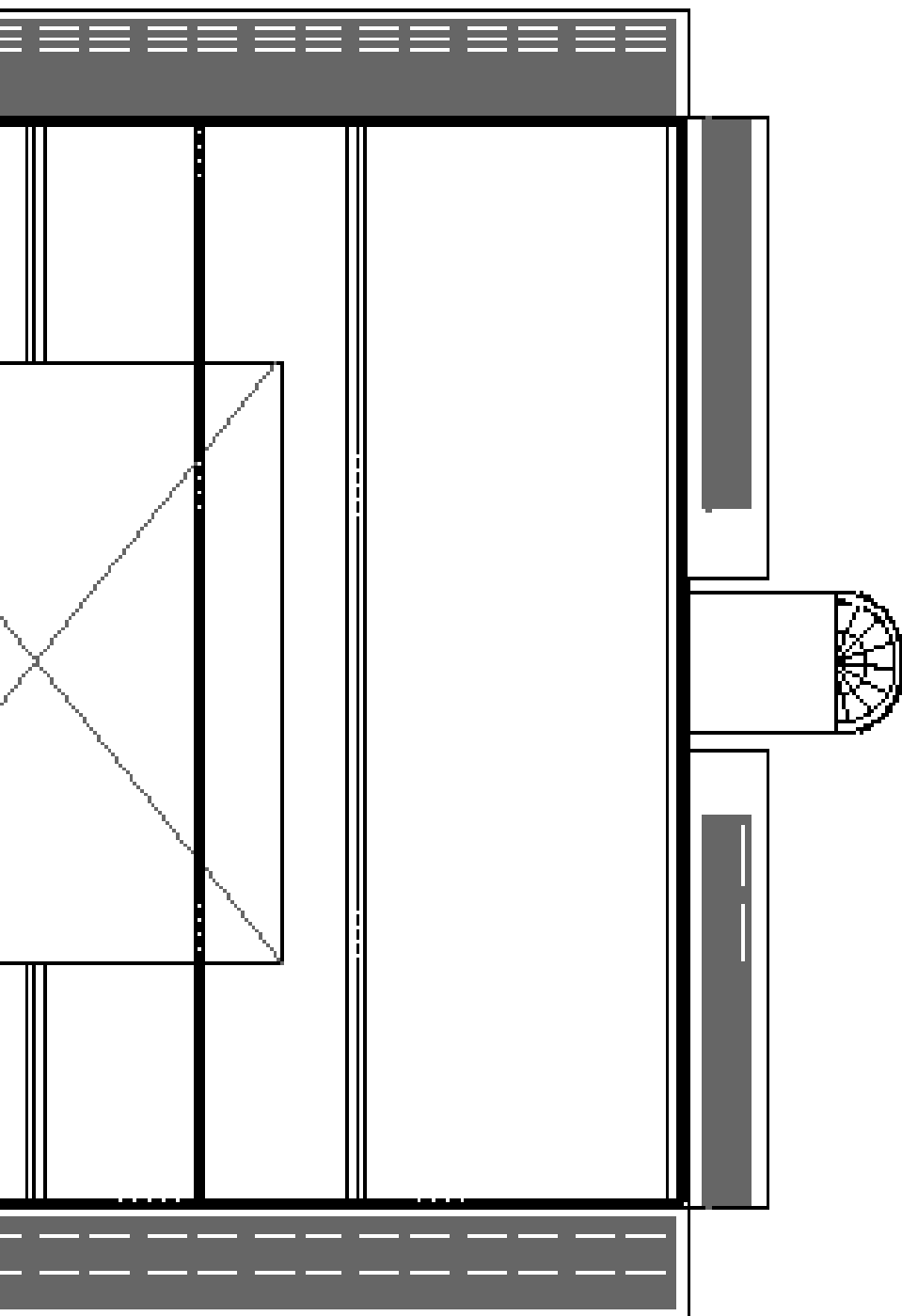




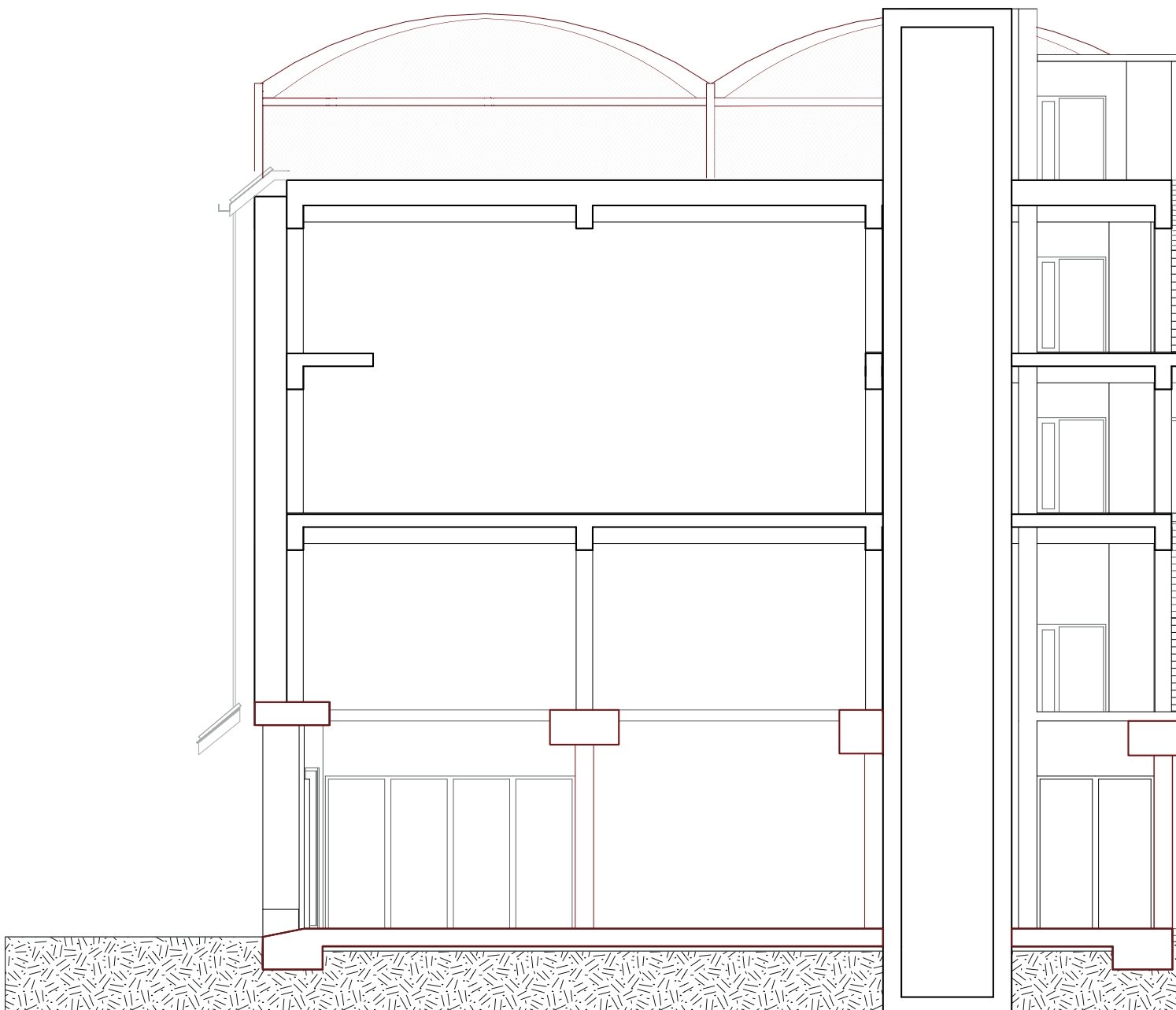


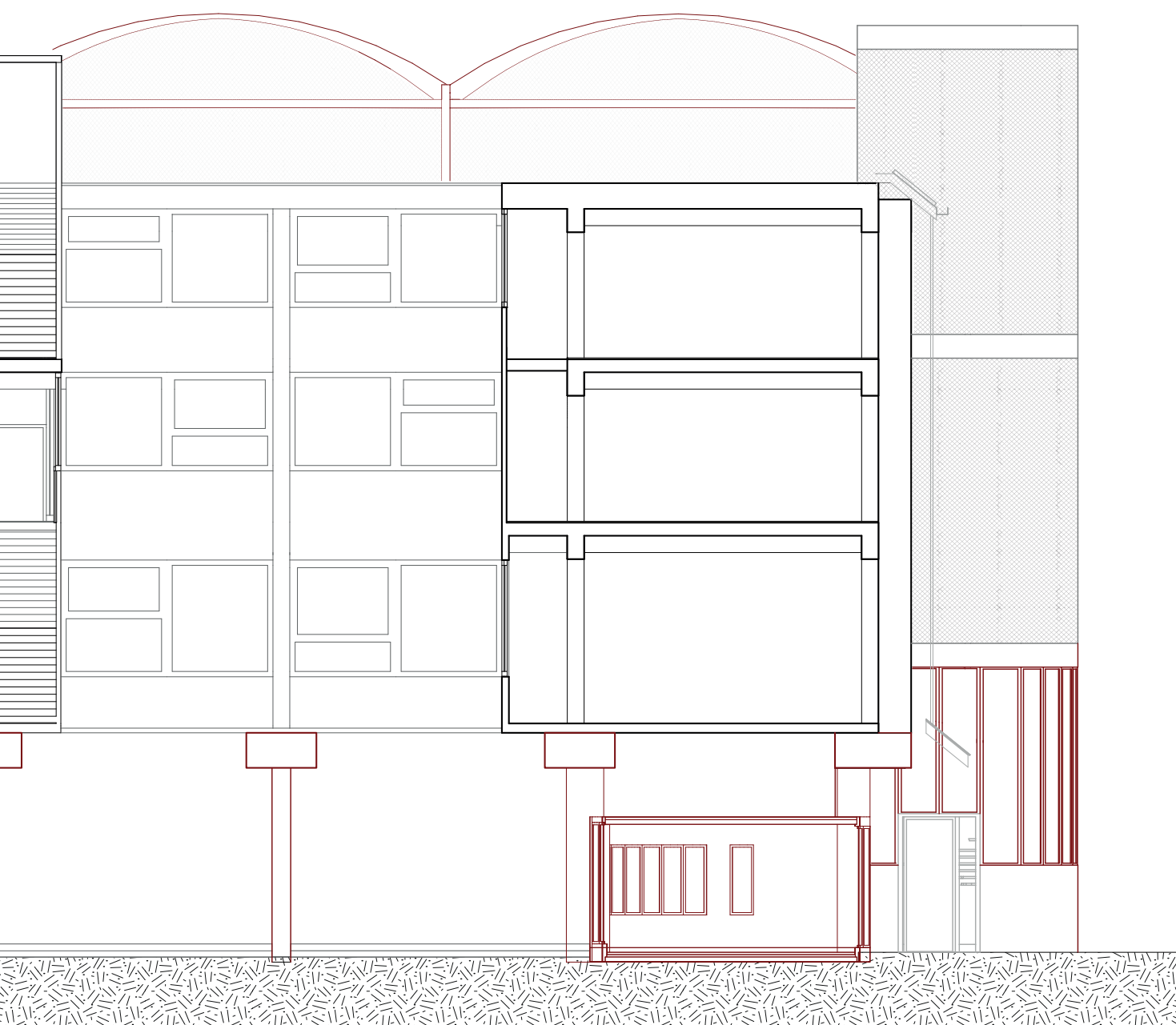


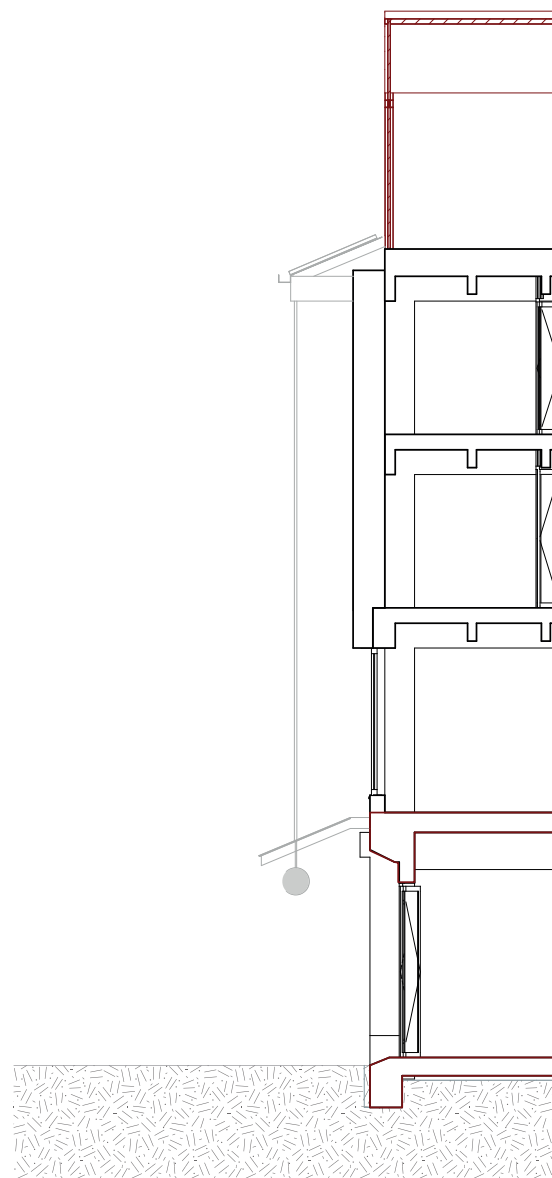


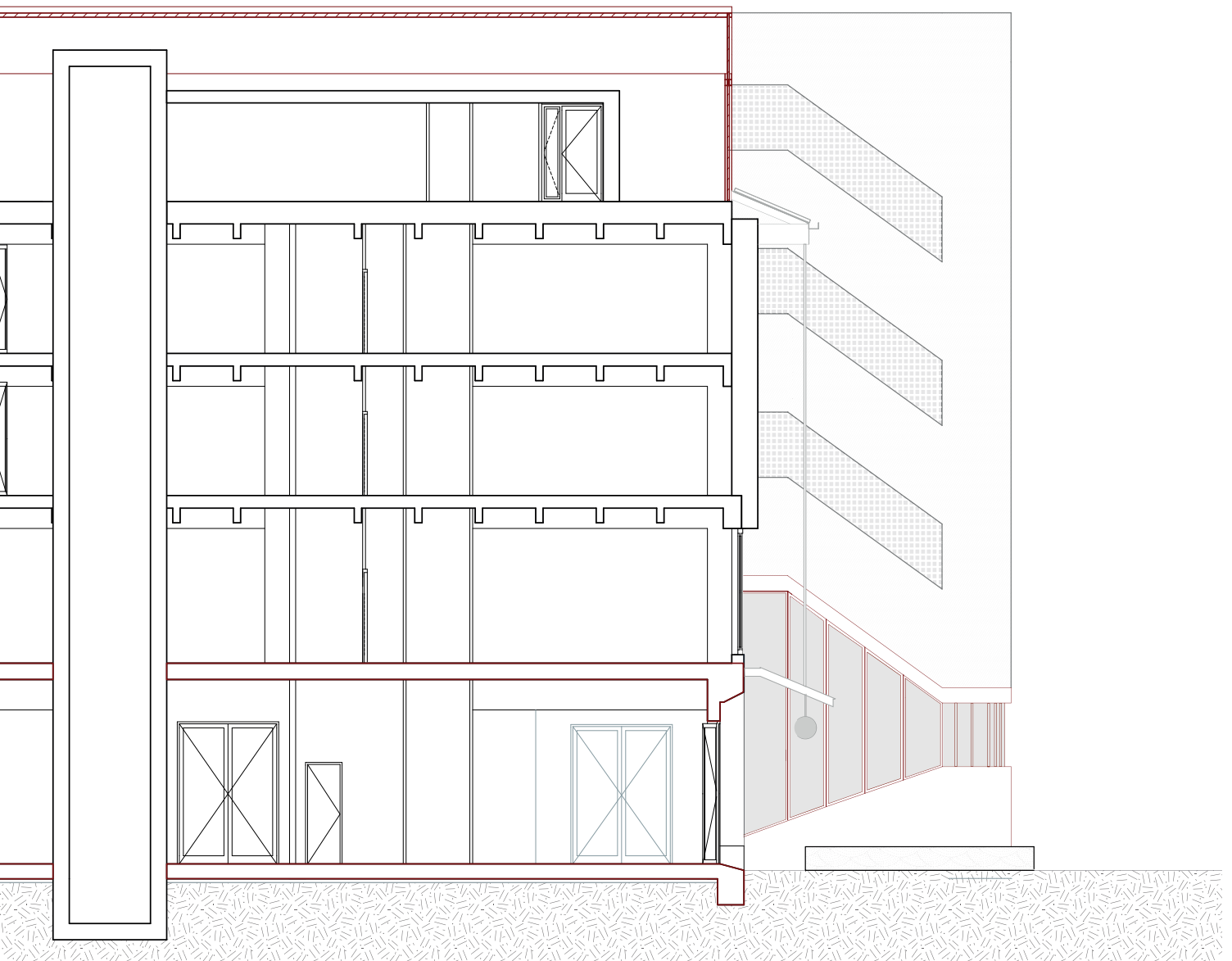


sections

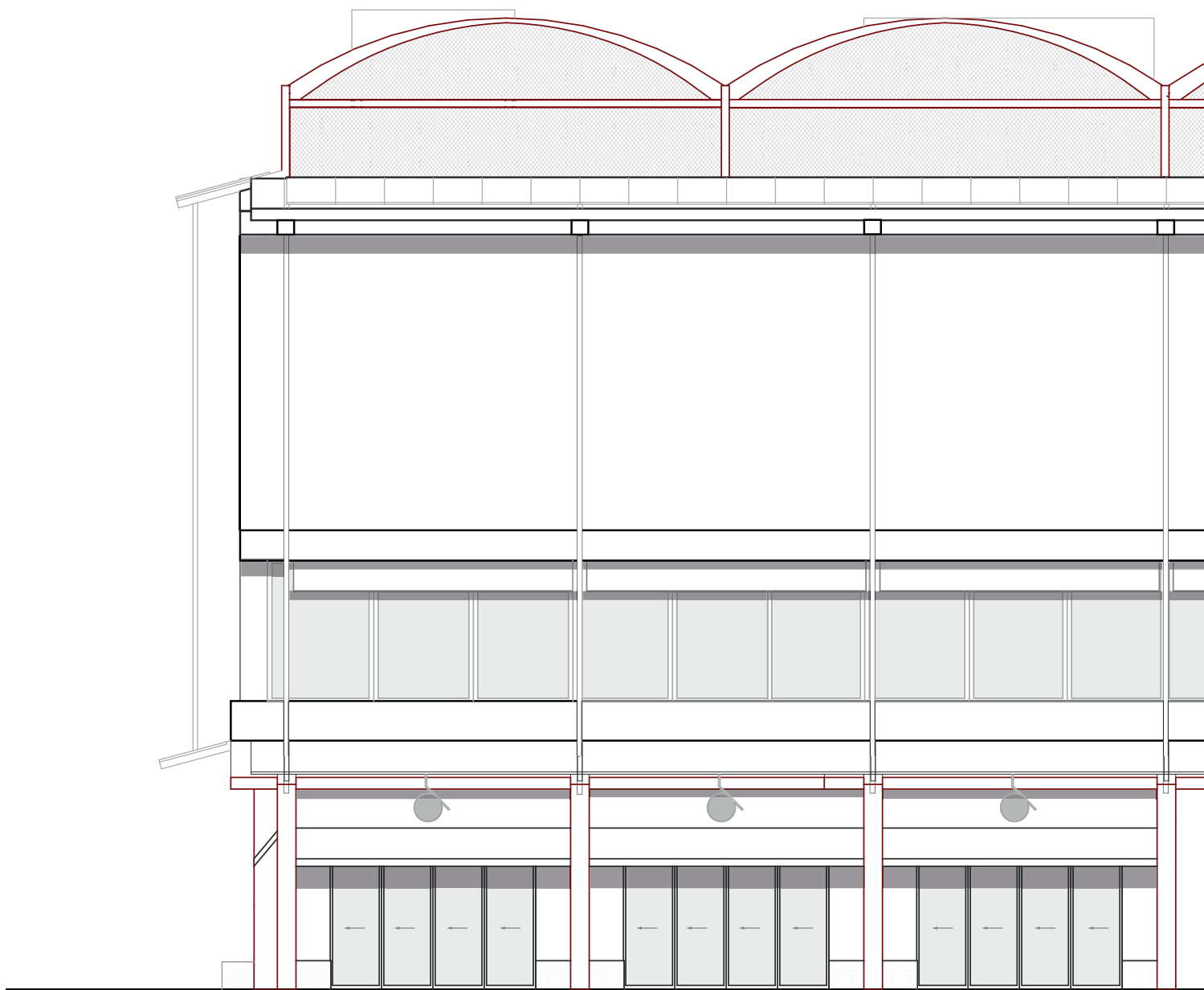


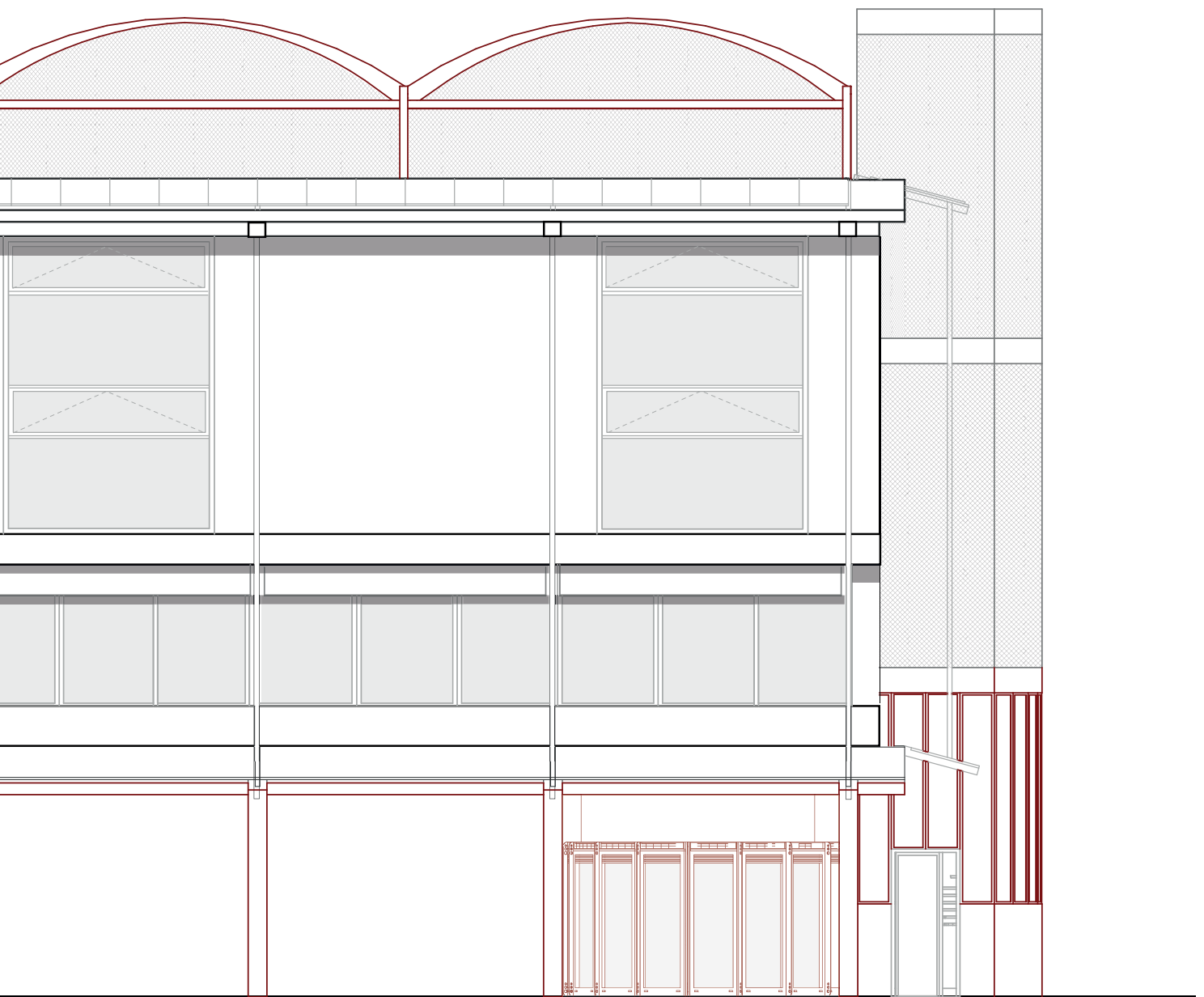






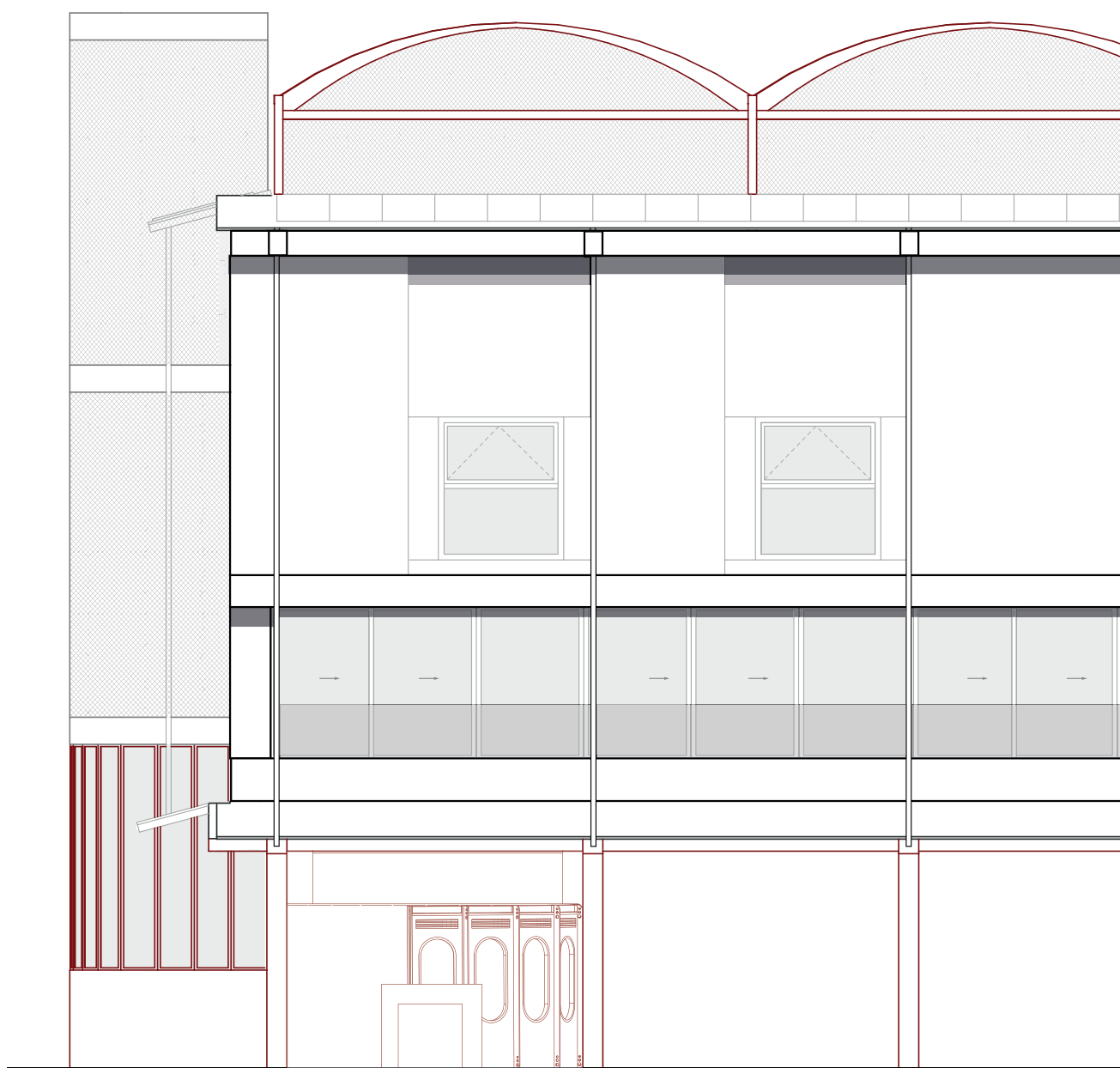
facades

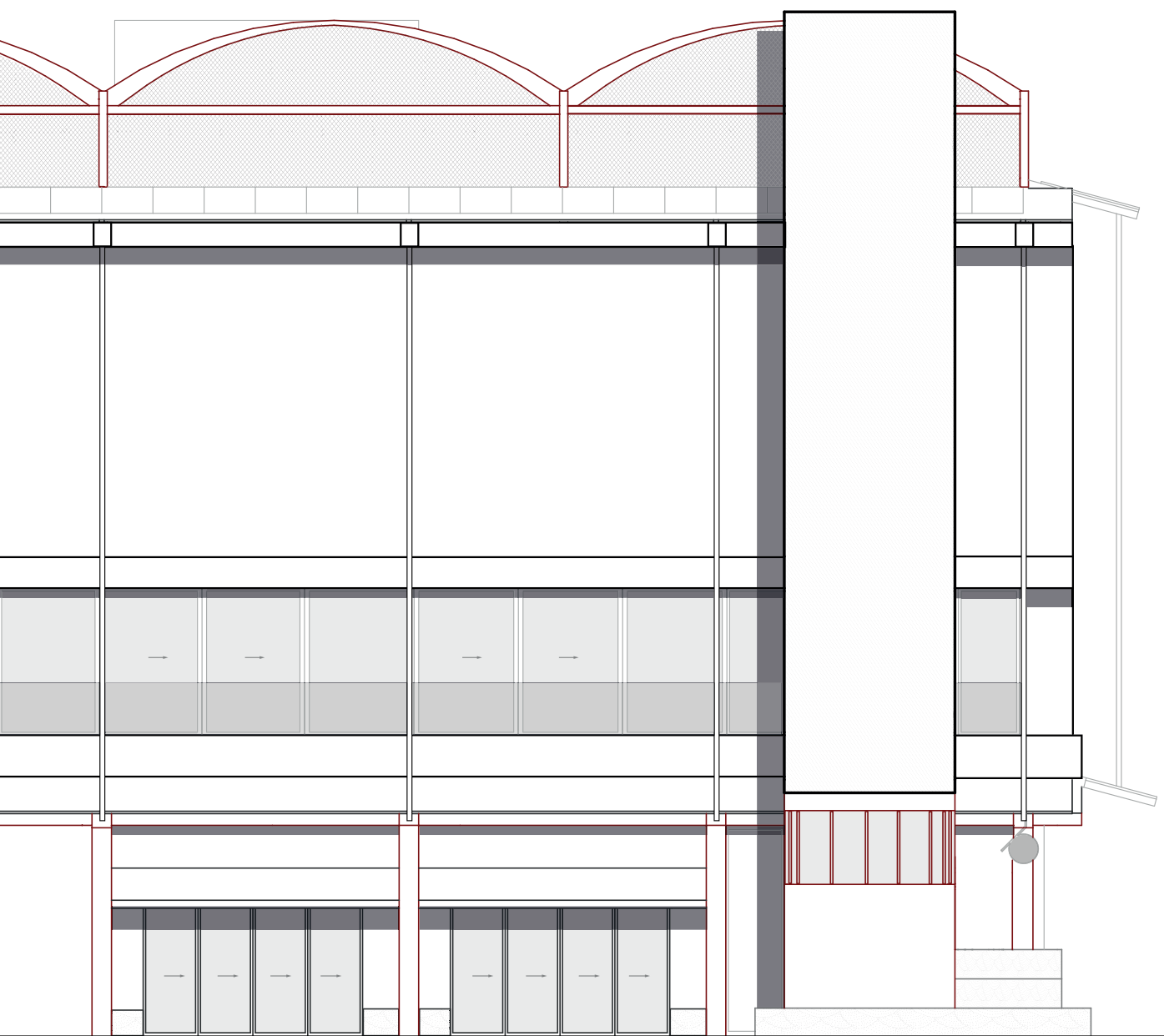


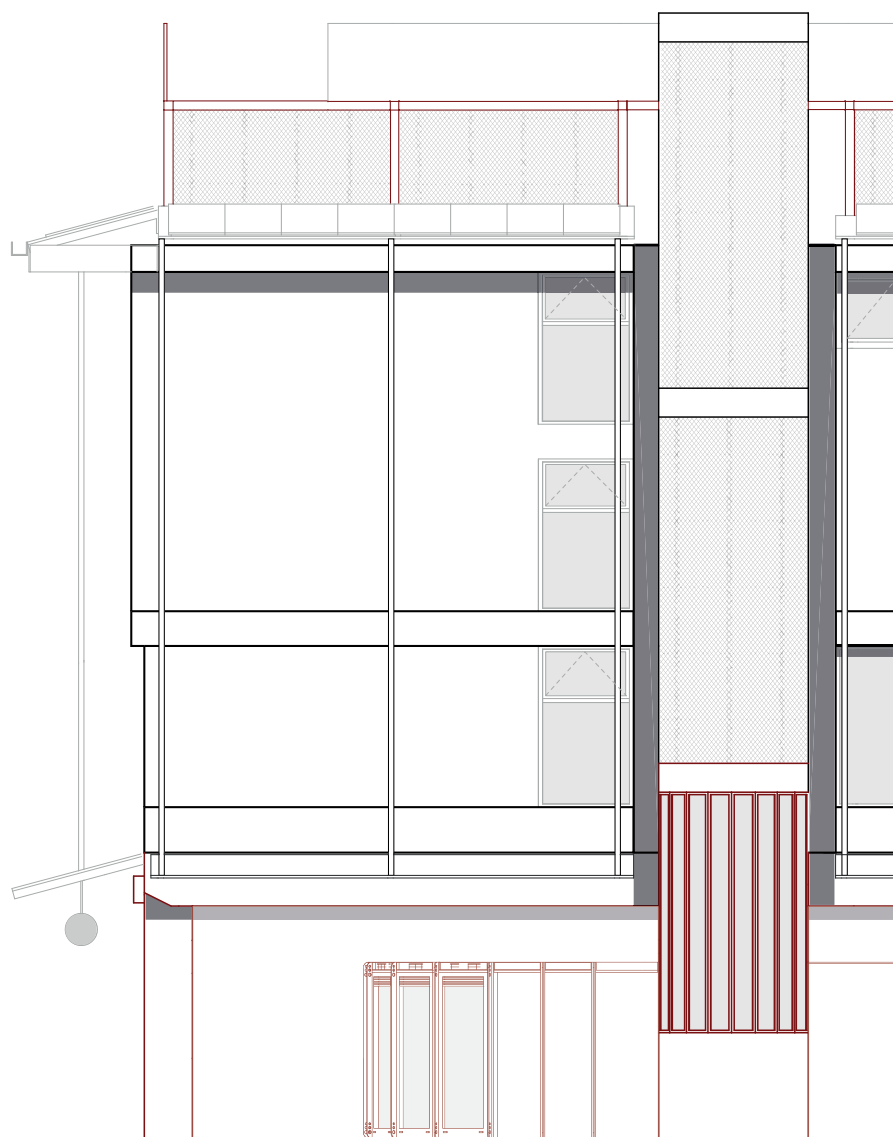


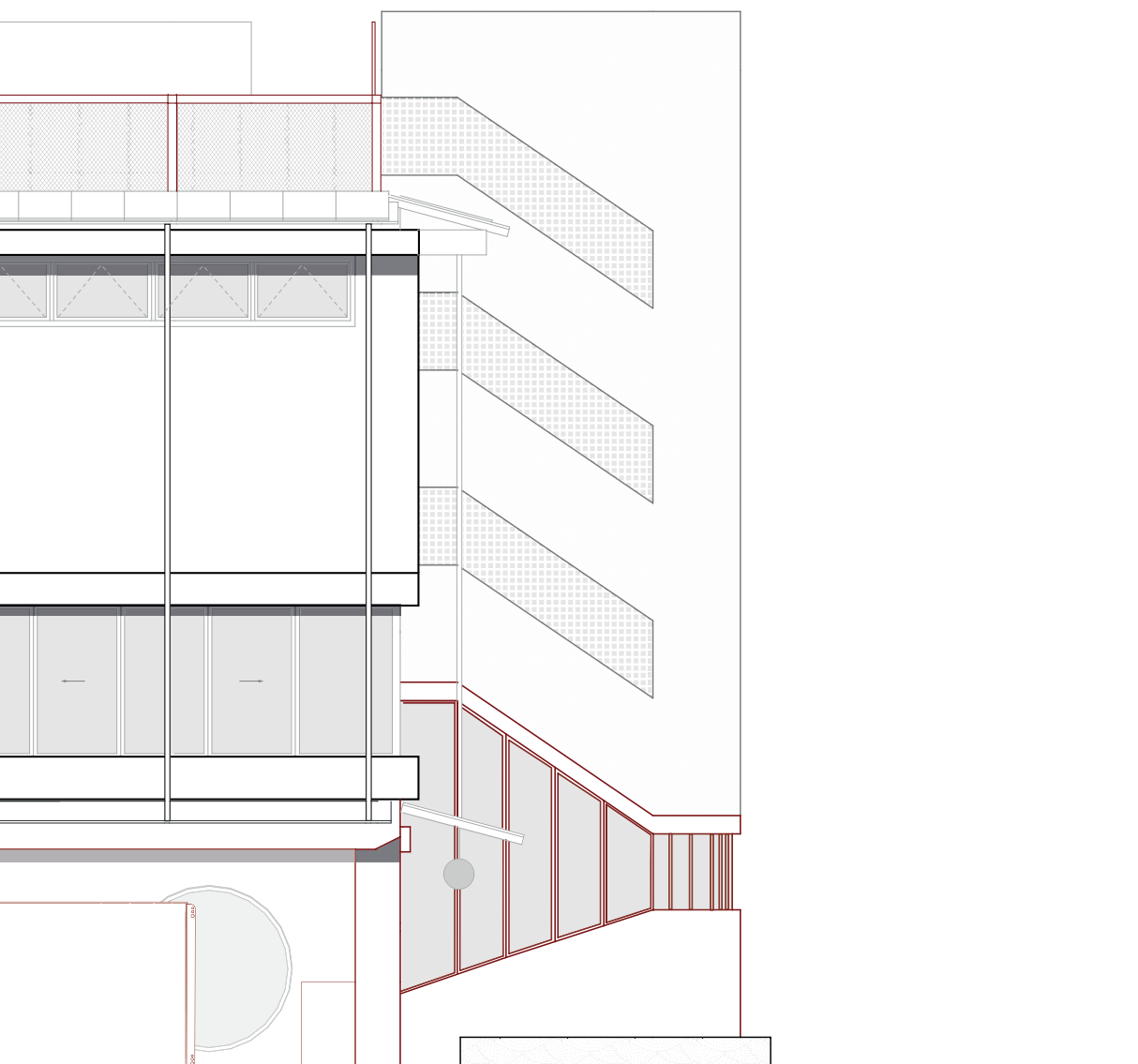




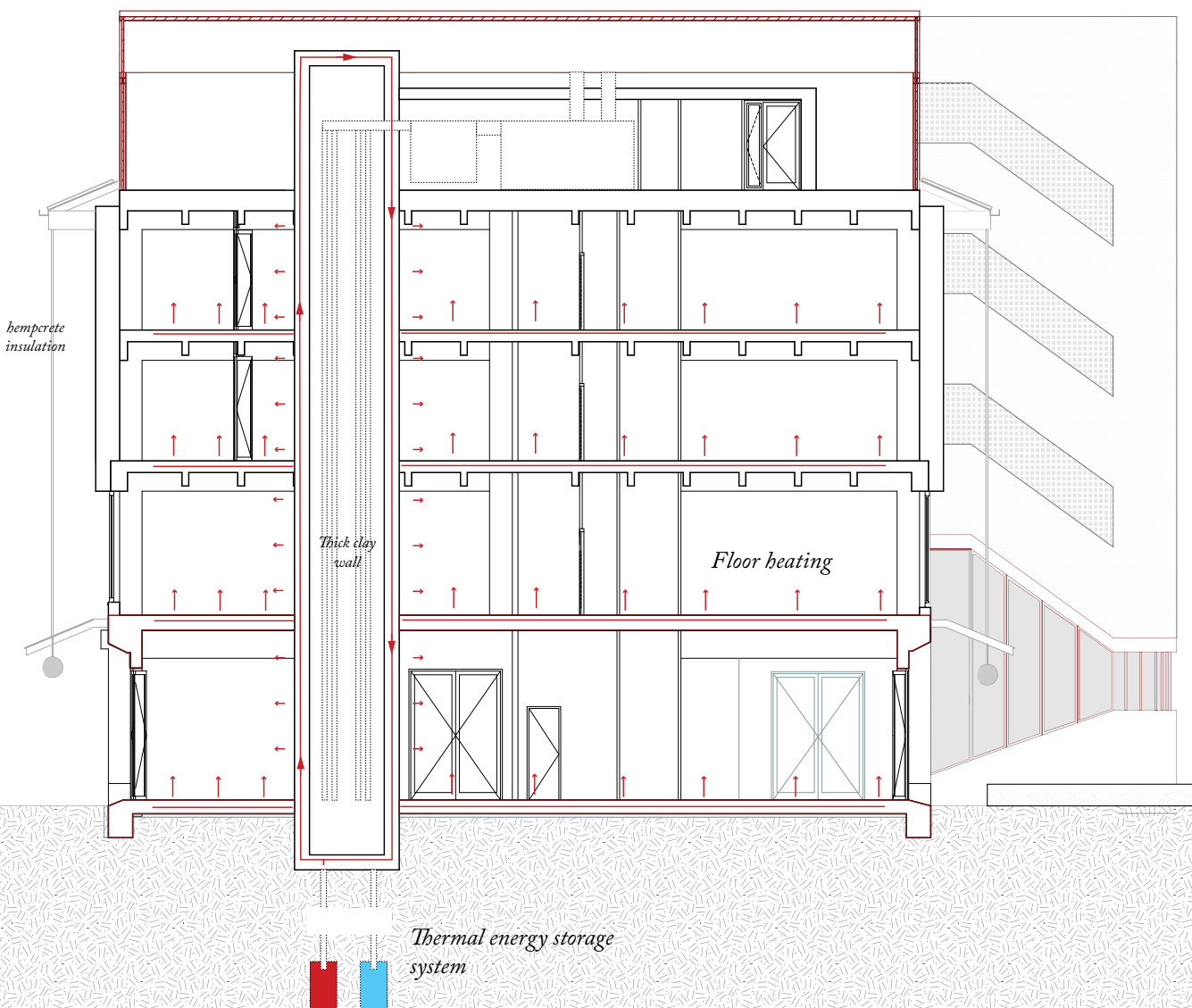


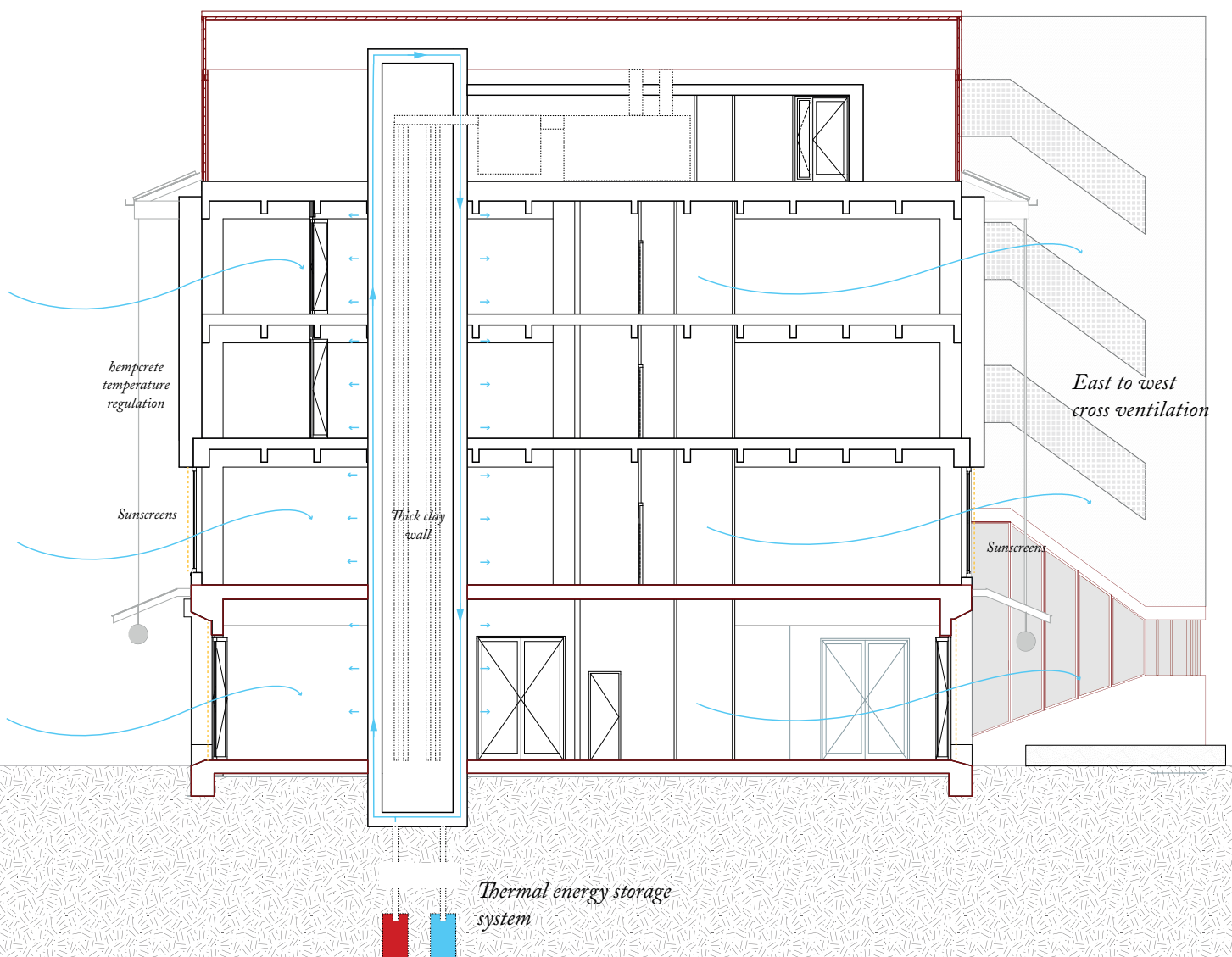


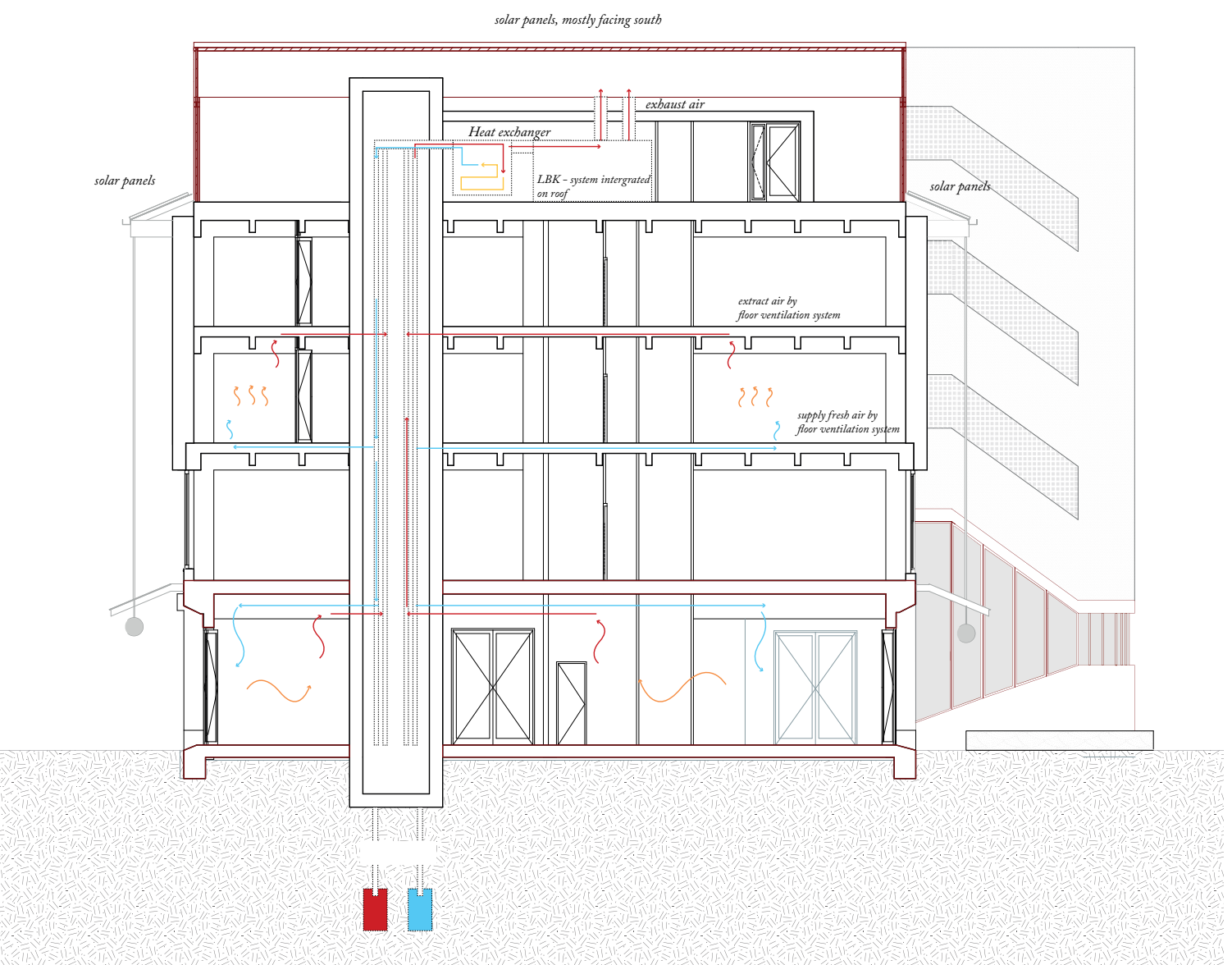


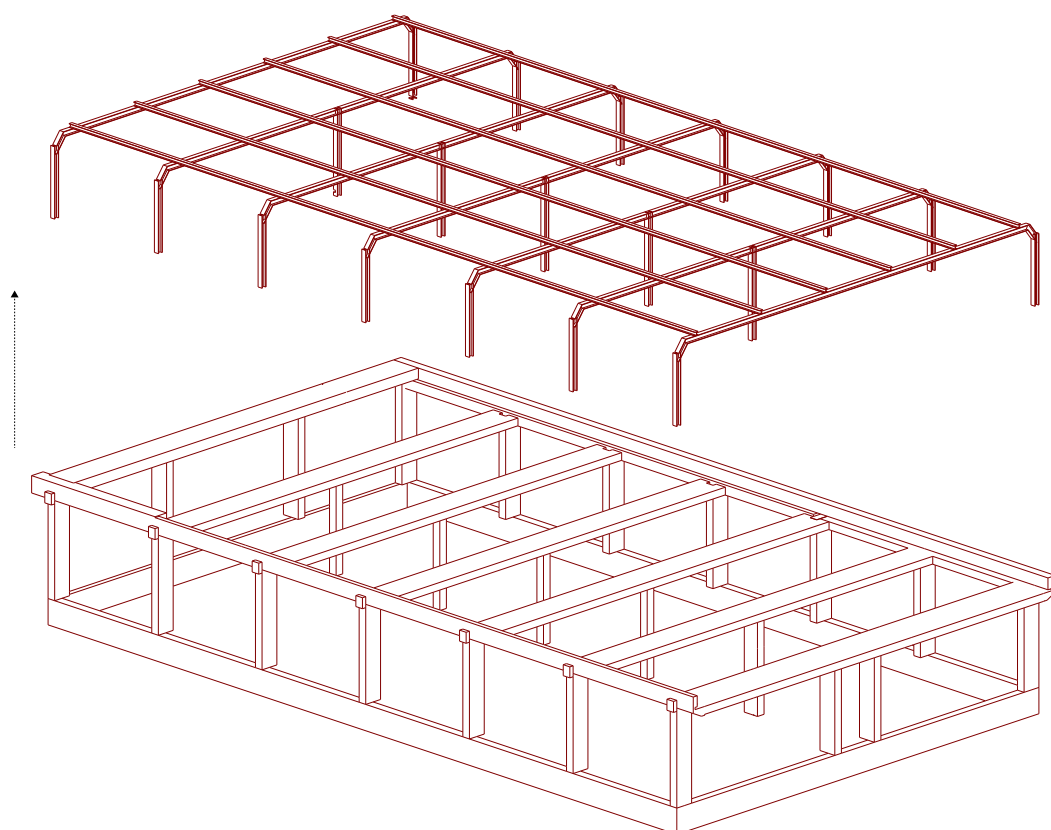
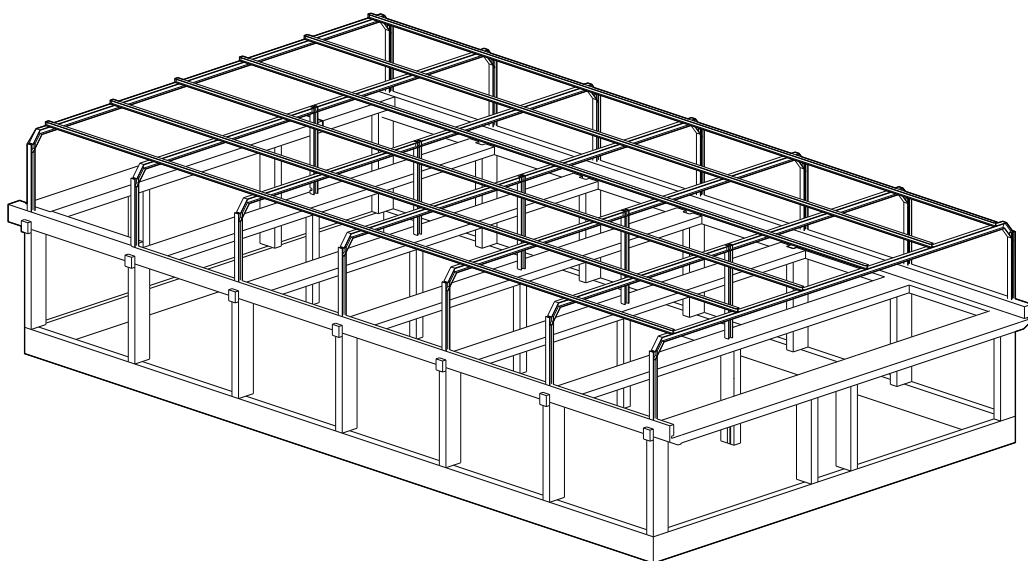


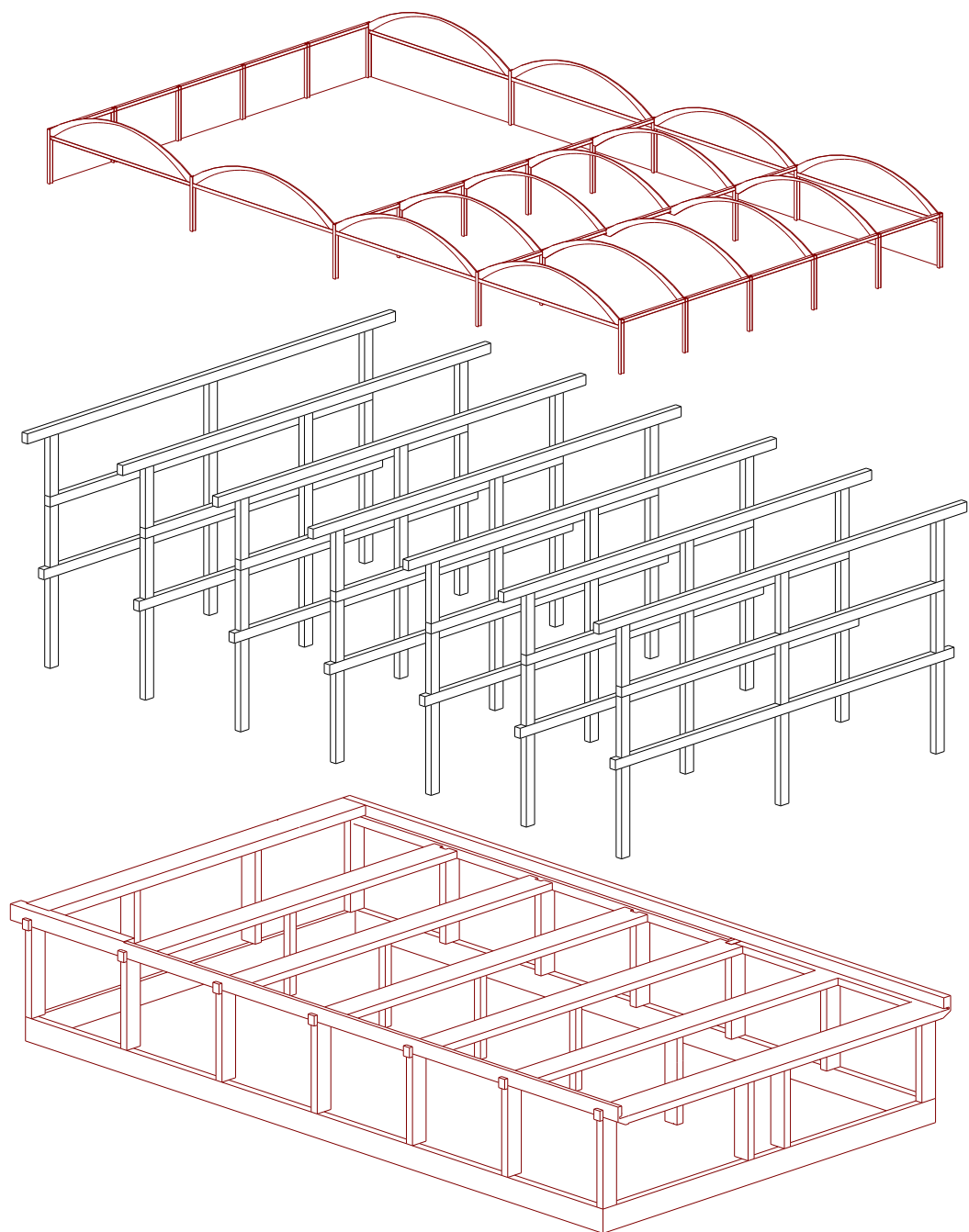
climate & structure

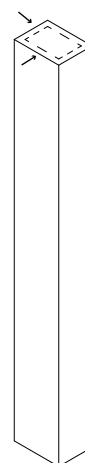
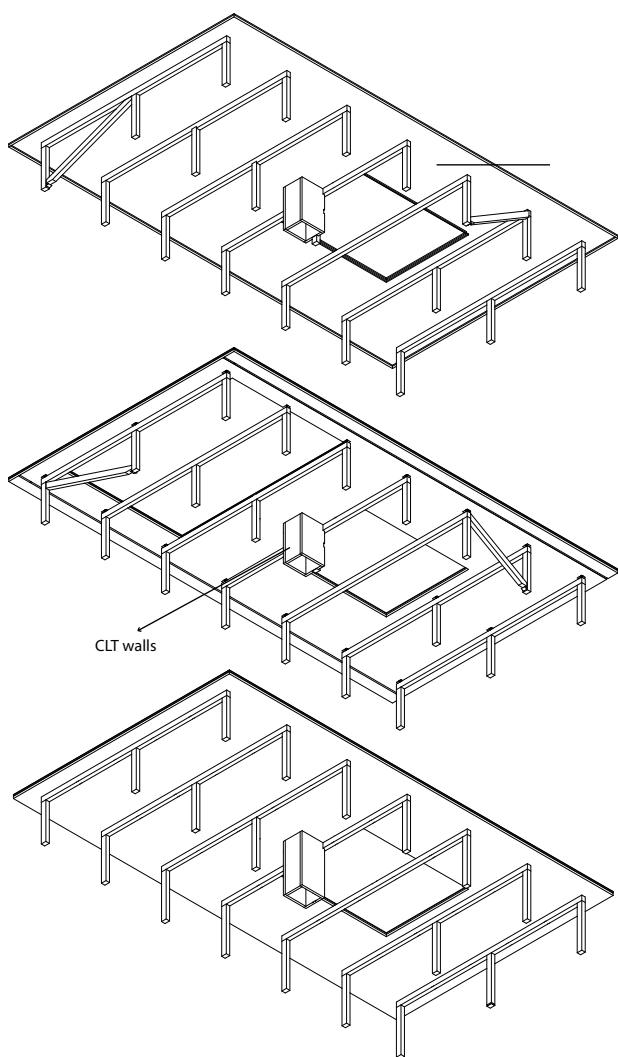












1 mm per min fire safety
120mm for 120 min

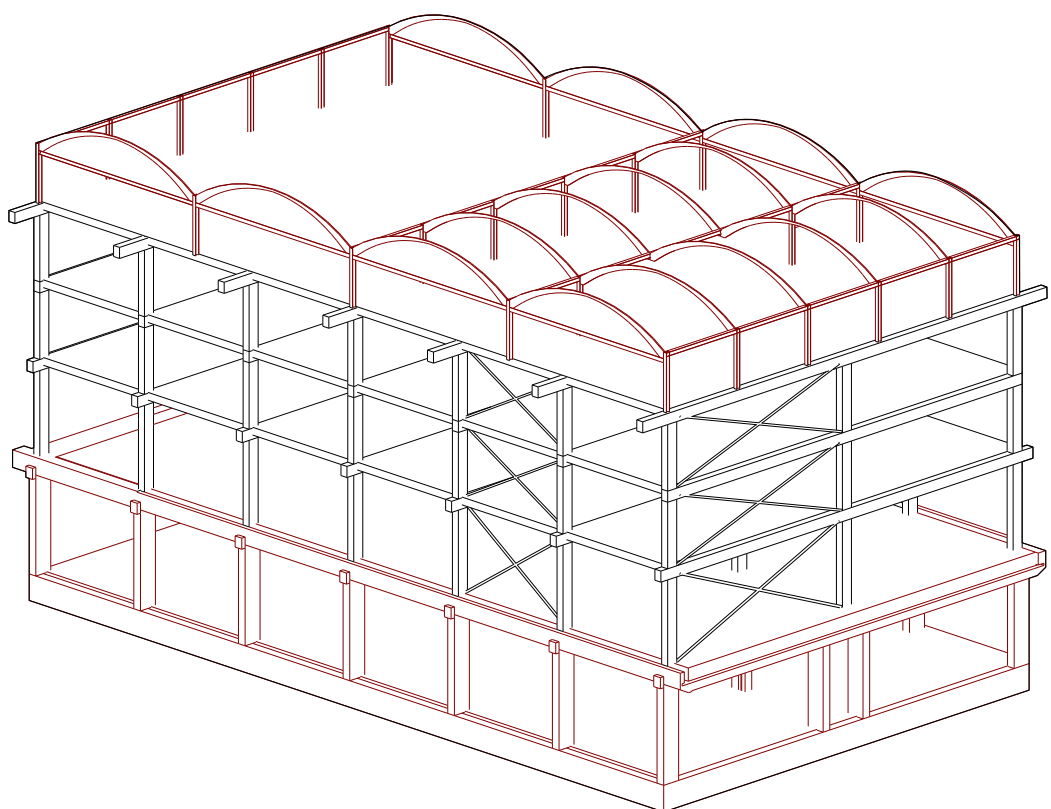
breedte = $l/20$

$4700/20 = 235 + 120 \text{ mm} = 355$

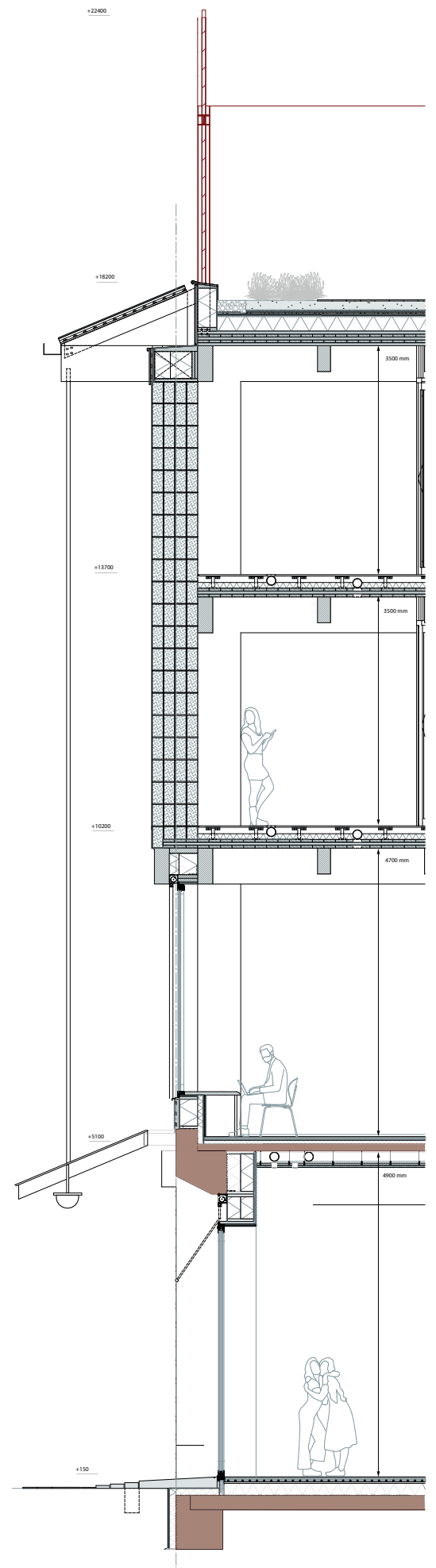
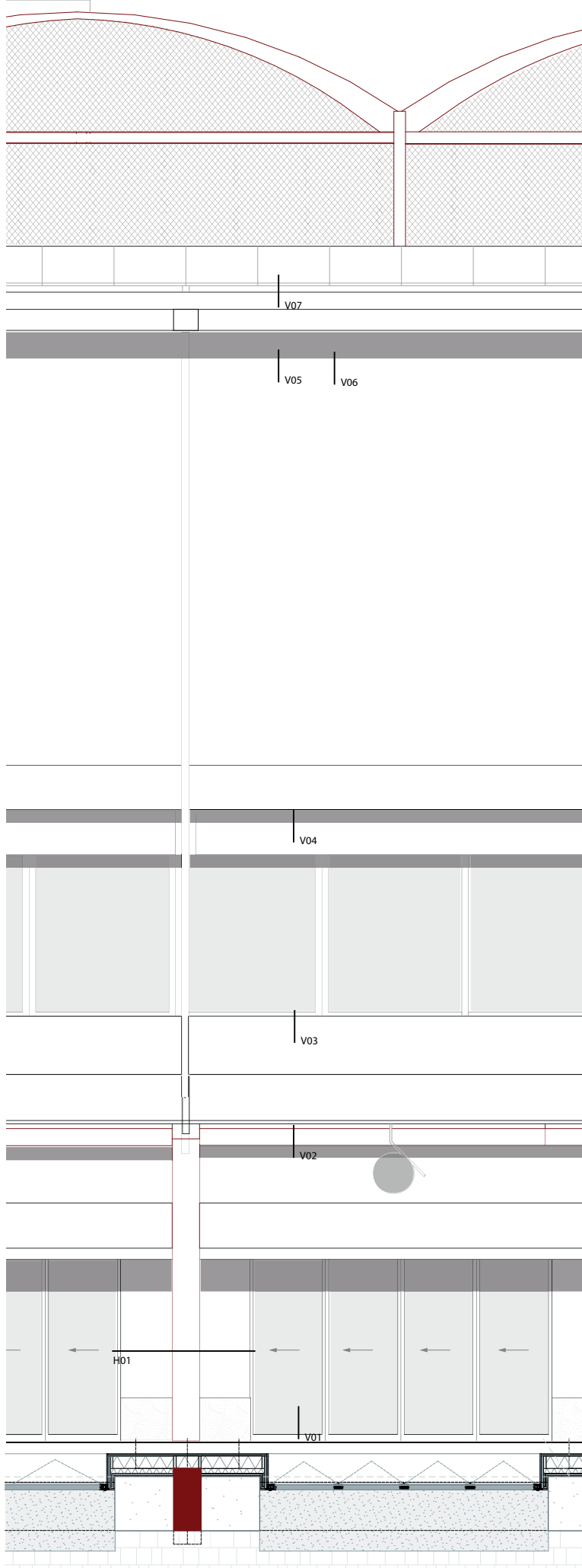
Standaard houtmaat 360 / 480 mm

gelamineerde ligger = 8500mm

$1/17 * \text{lengte} = 500\text{mm}$



Fragments



+22400

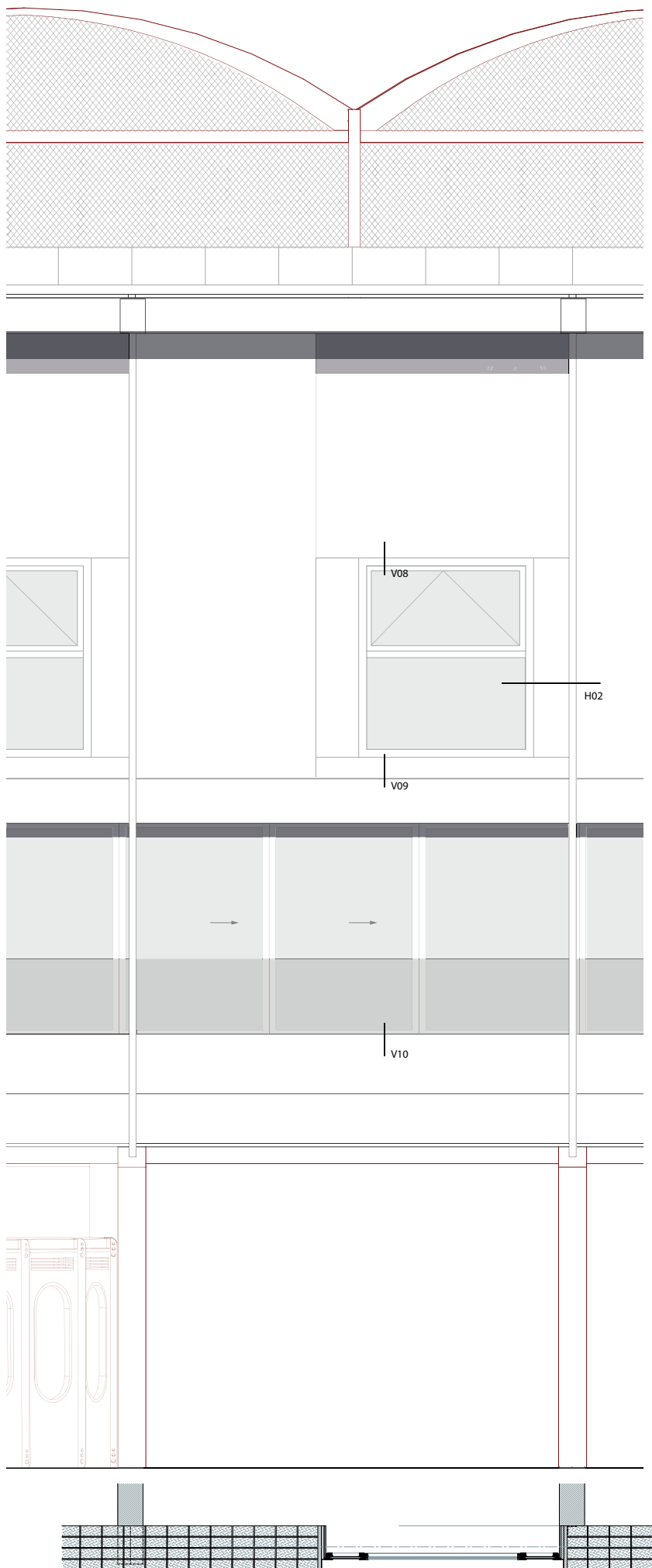
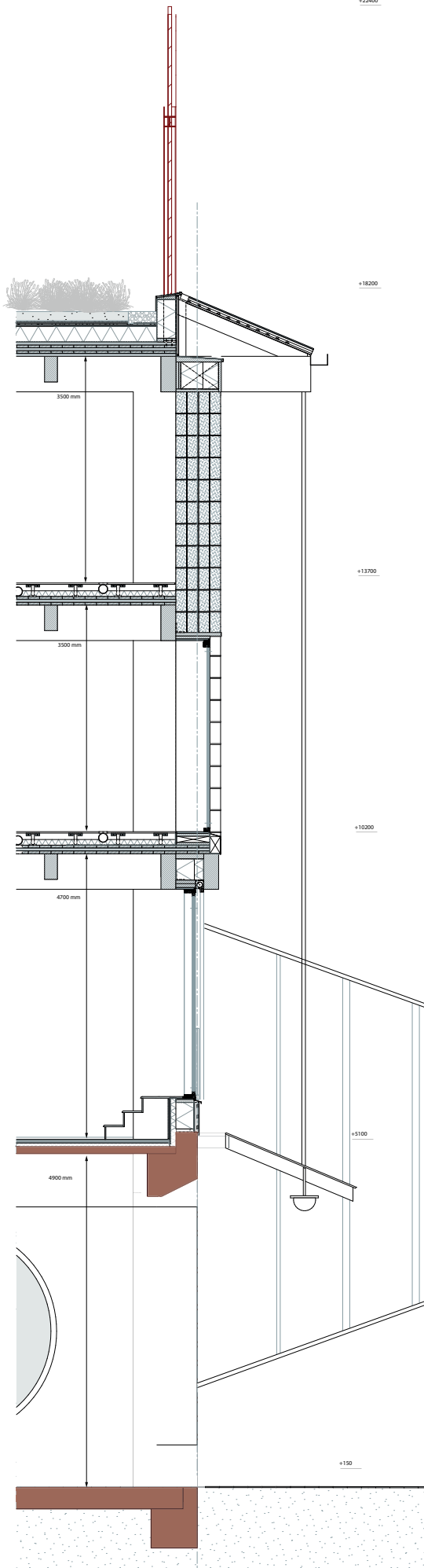
+18200

+13700

+10200

+5100

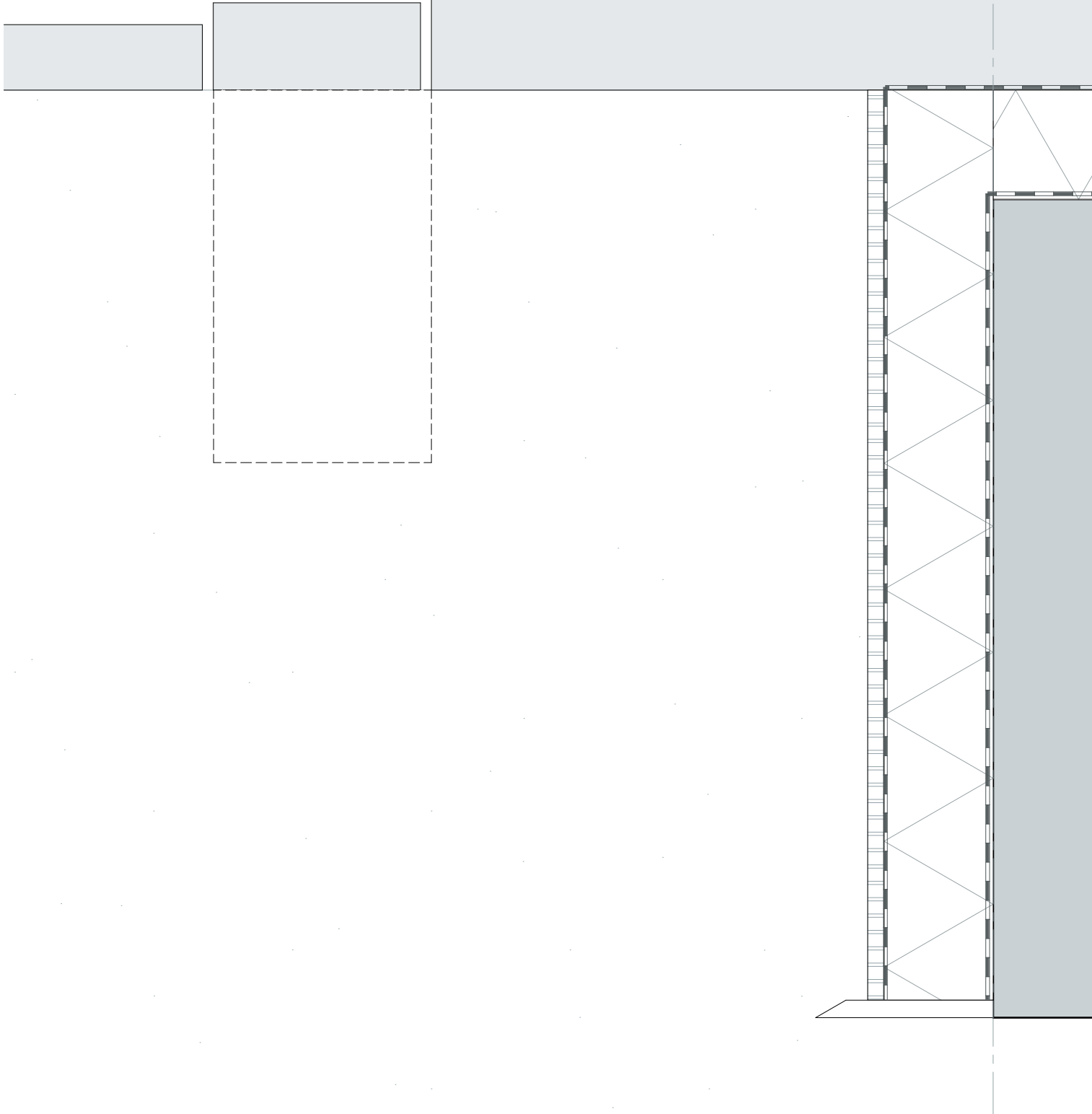
+150

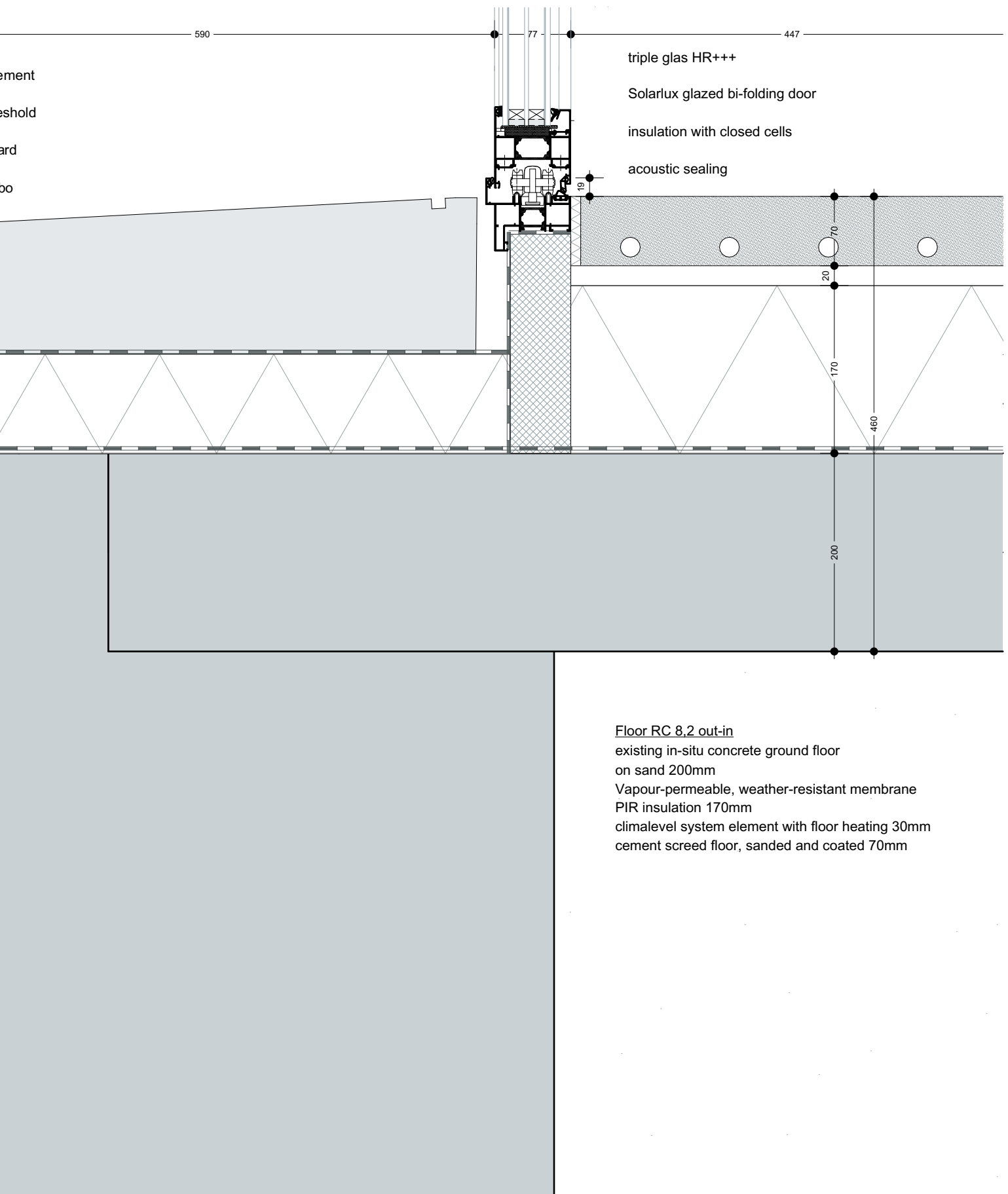


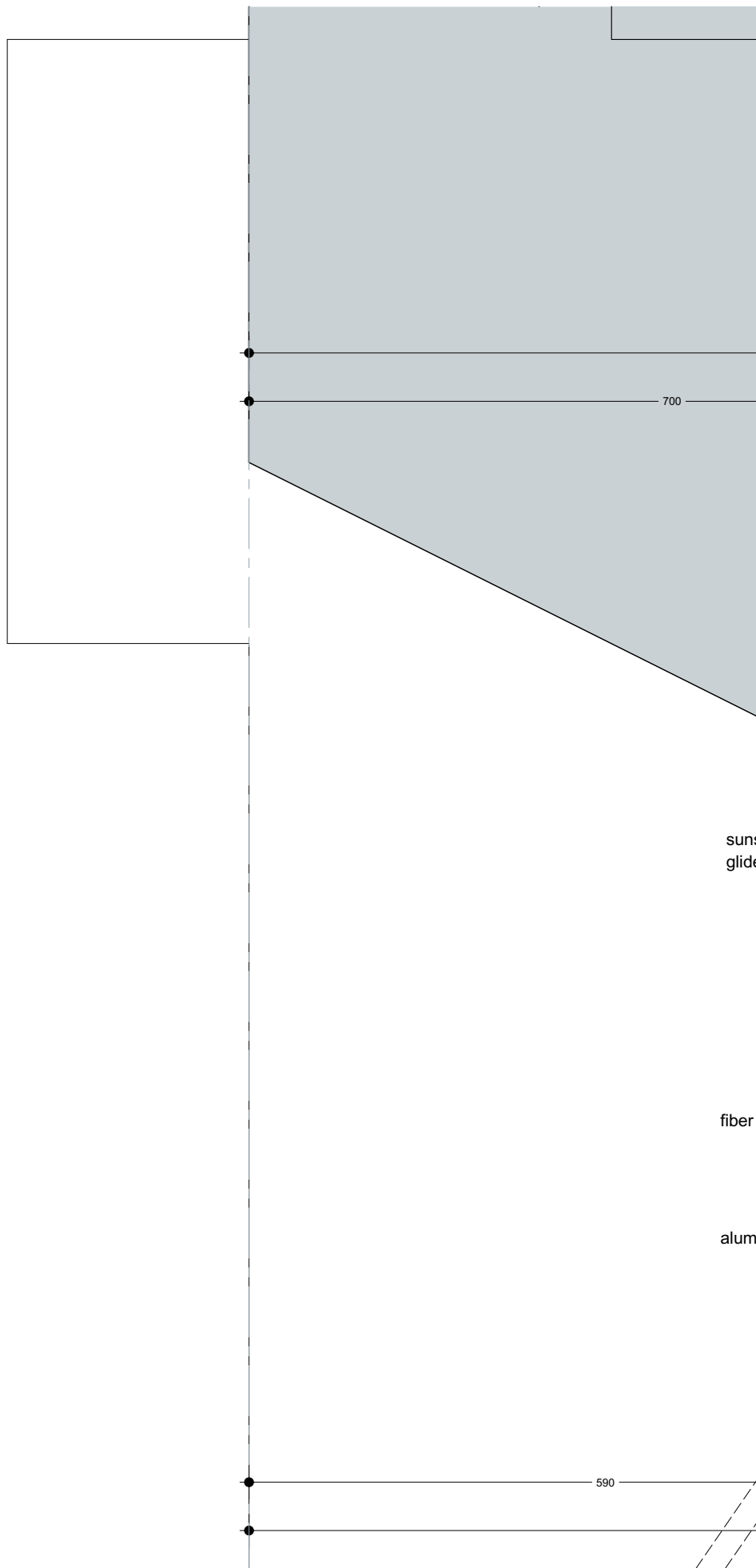
Details

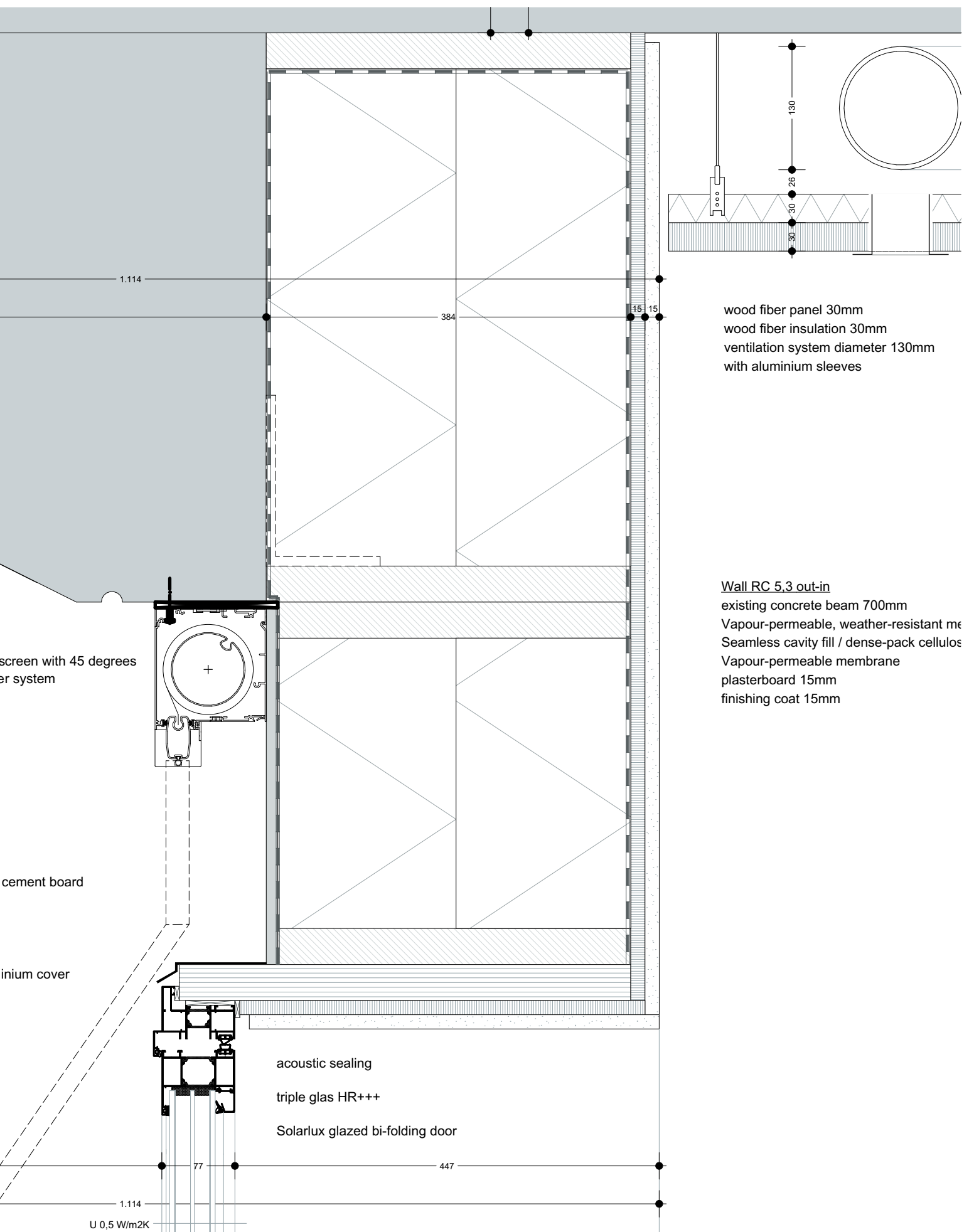
wooden case
concrete thre
insulated bo
foam glas fel

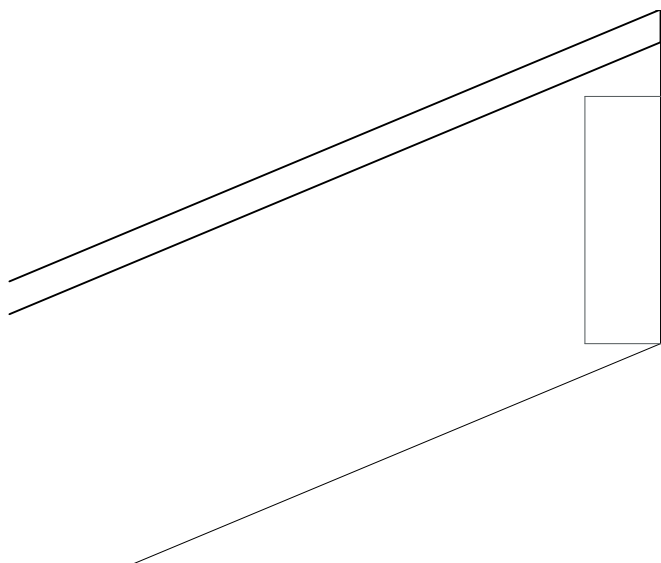
New pavement for transition zones with water drainage











glider for sunscreen

acoustic sealing

triple glas HR+++

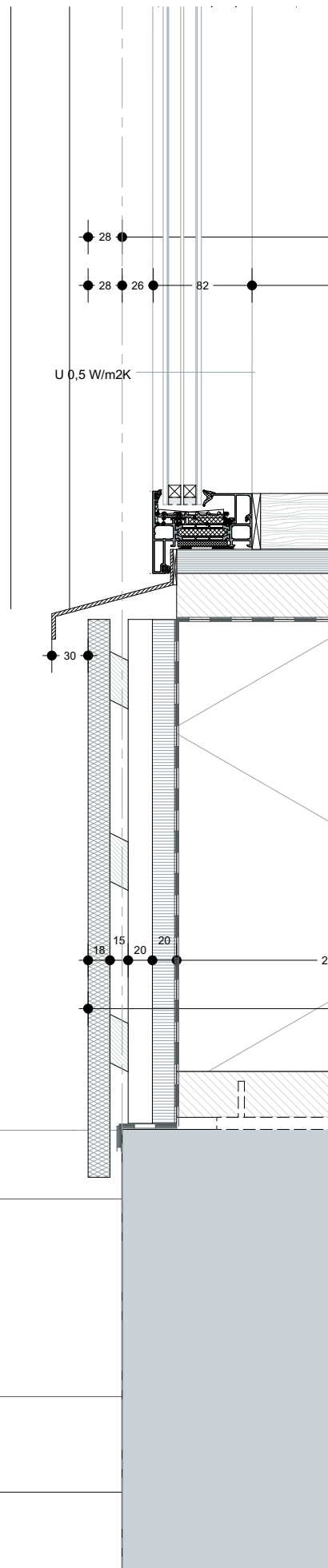
aluminium window frame,
Kawneer RT82

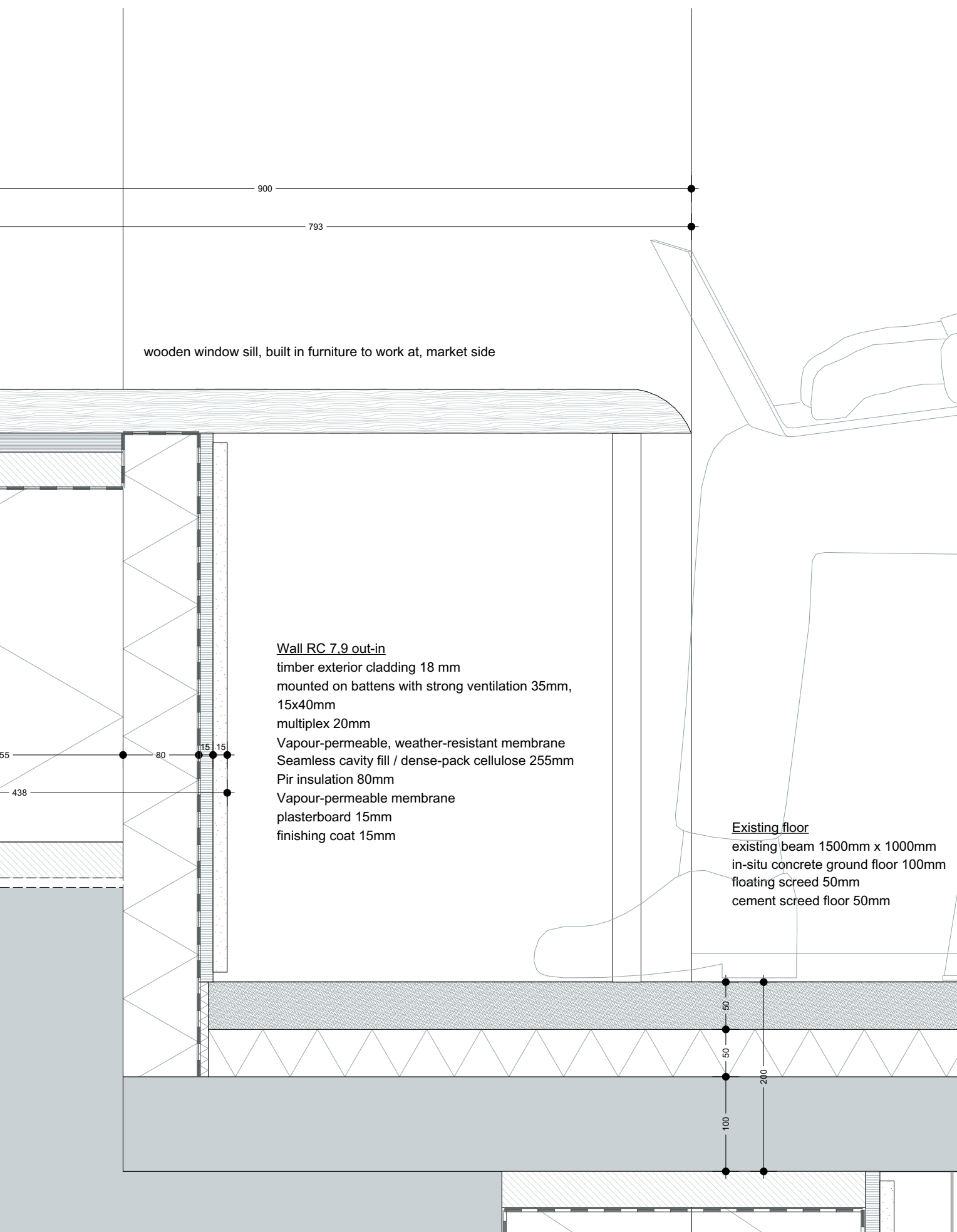
aluminium water sill

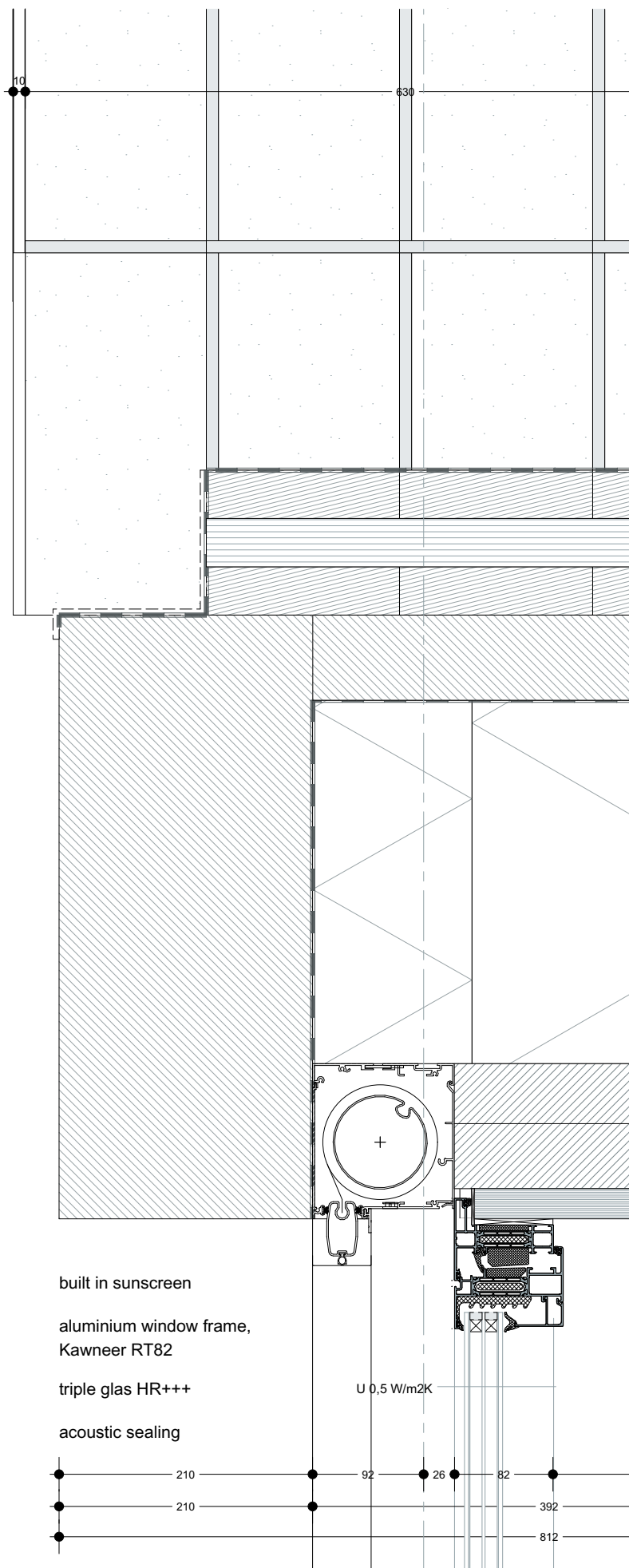
tie rod for canopy structure

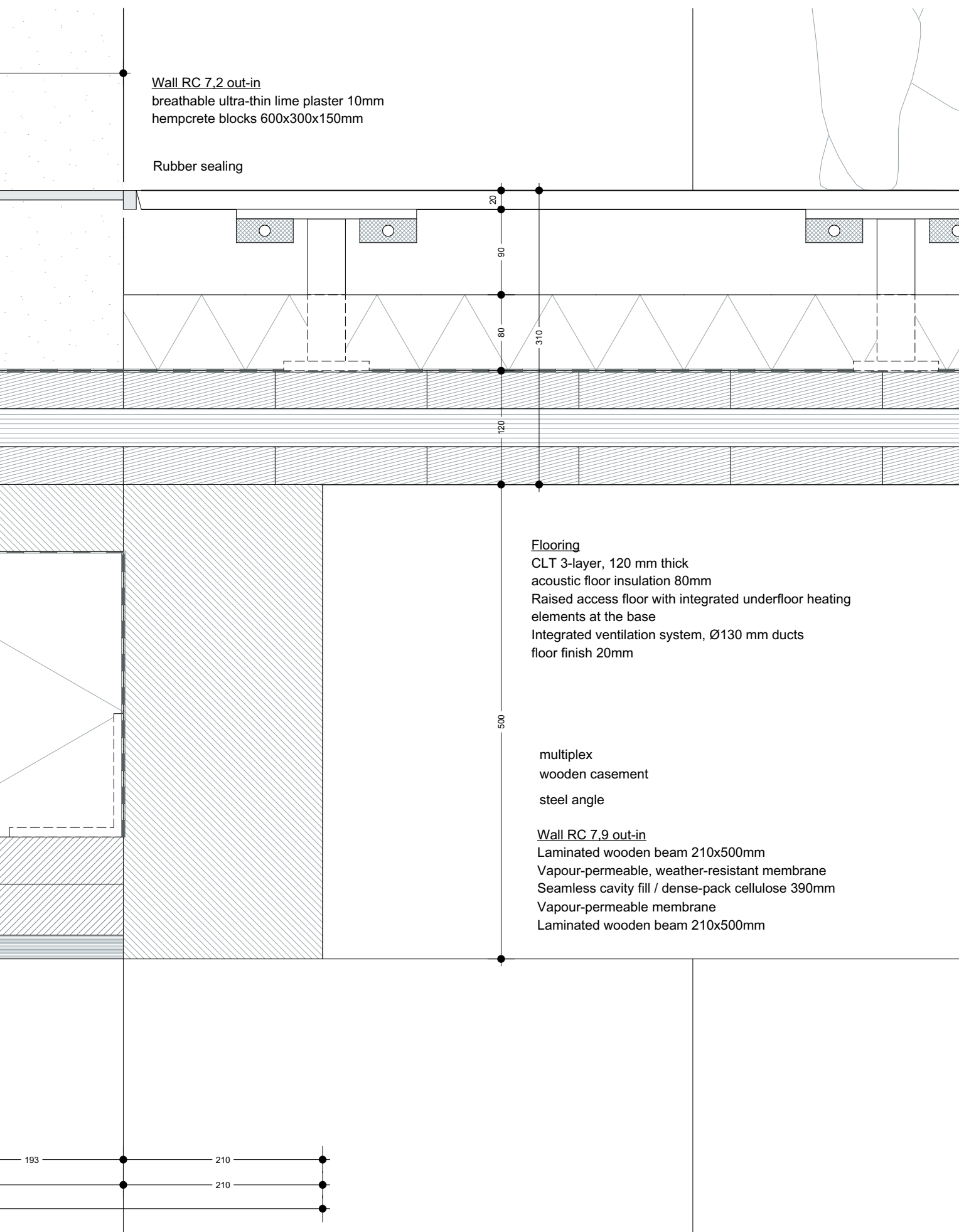
canopy with integrated lighting

steel beam construction

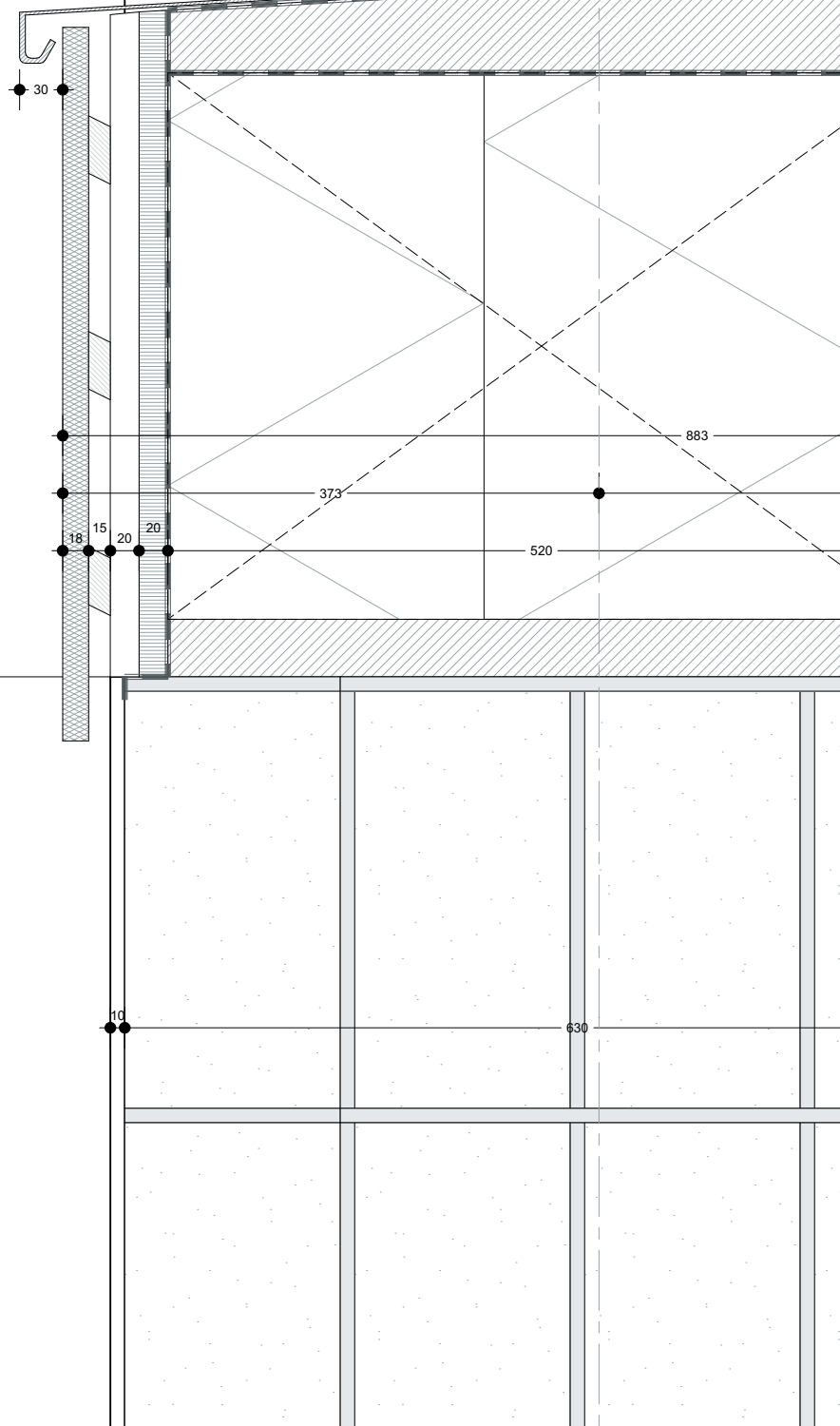


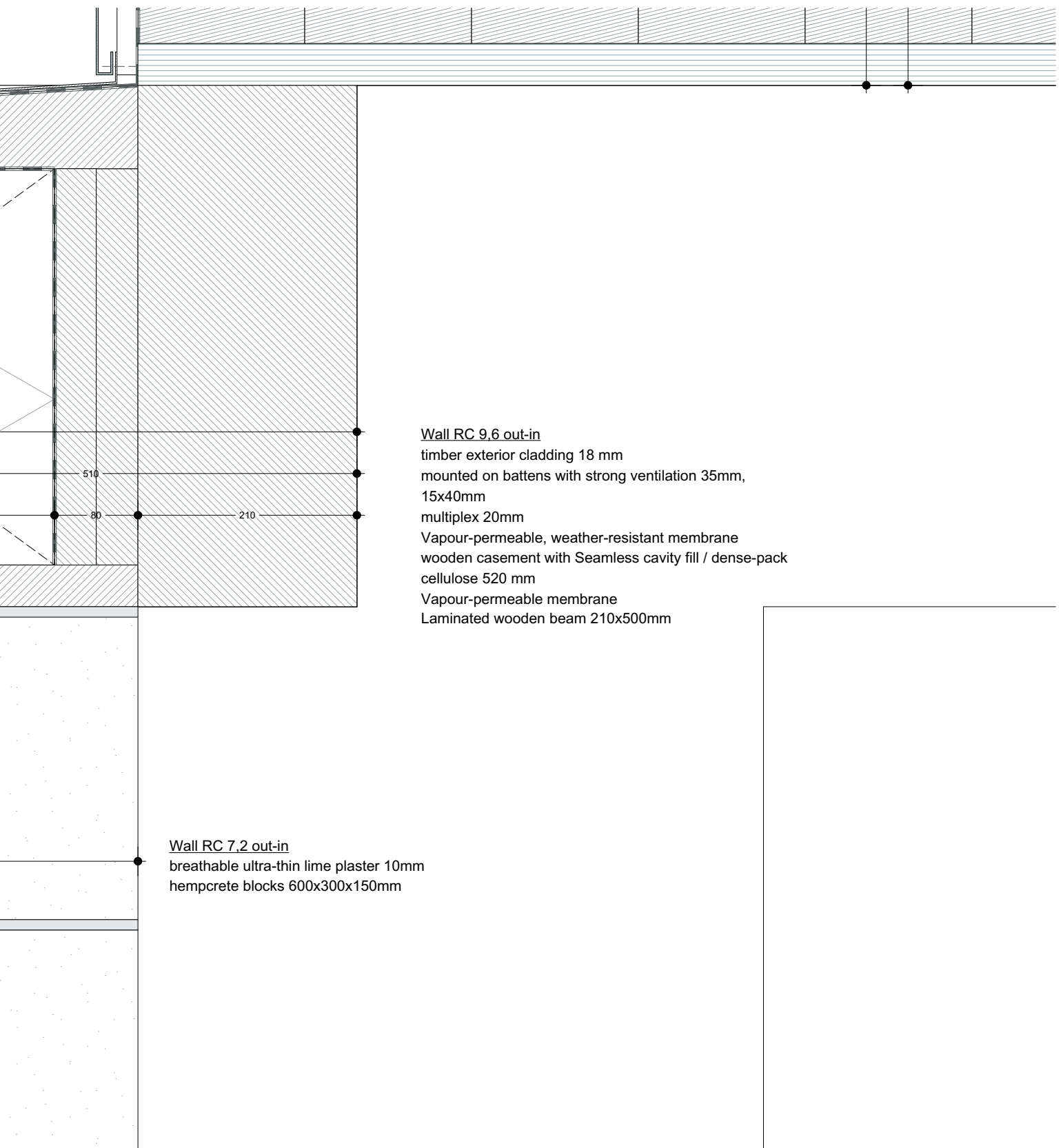






folded aluminium for water protection



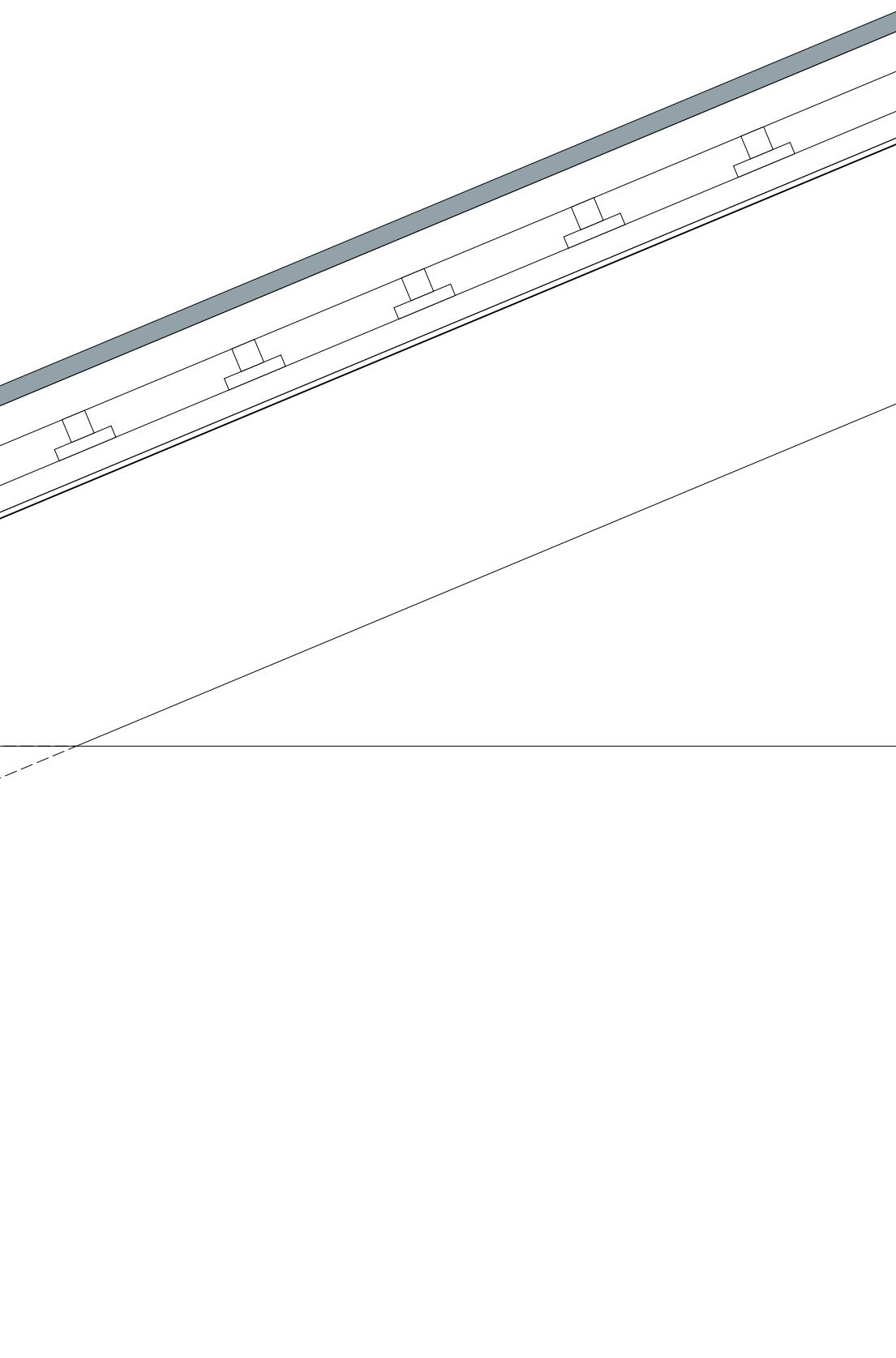


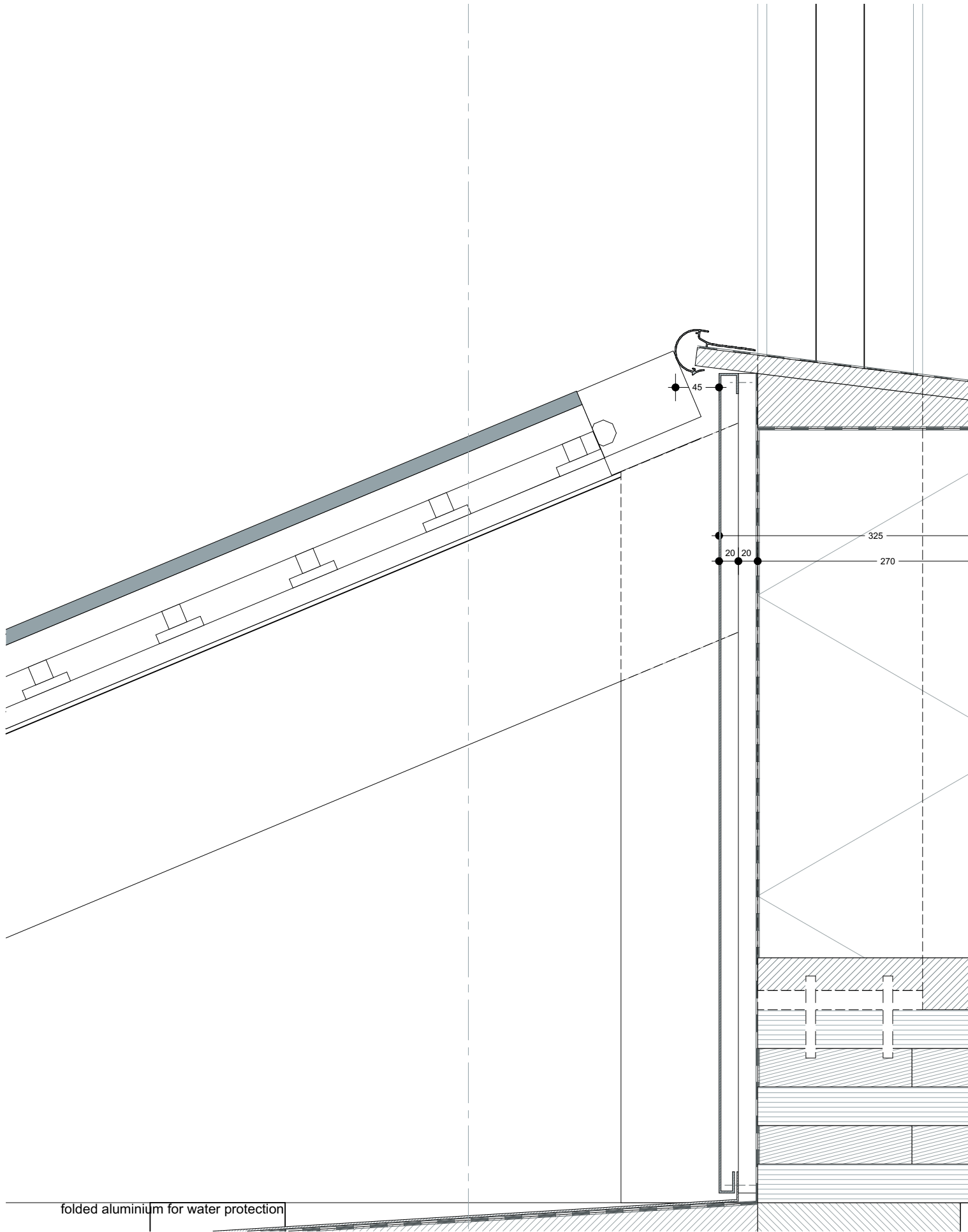
solar panel
on recycled steel framework
aluminium gutter

overhang for waterprotection
hemcrete blocks

glued laminated timber
beam 500x360mm

tie rod for canopy structure





Recycled steelframe connected to CLT flooring

Solarpanel on recycled steel construction connected to
the roof steelframe

zinc drip edge with rounded profile

Wall out-in

Alucobond aluminium cladding 20mm

ventilation and support structure 20mm

Vapour-permeable water resistant membrane

wooden casement with insulation 270mm

Vapour-permeable membrane

fiber cement panel 20mm

Roof RC 6.3

CLT 5-layer, 200 mm thick

Vapour-permeable membrane

stonewool inclined insulation, 220mm

root-resistant waterproof membrane

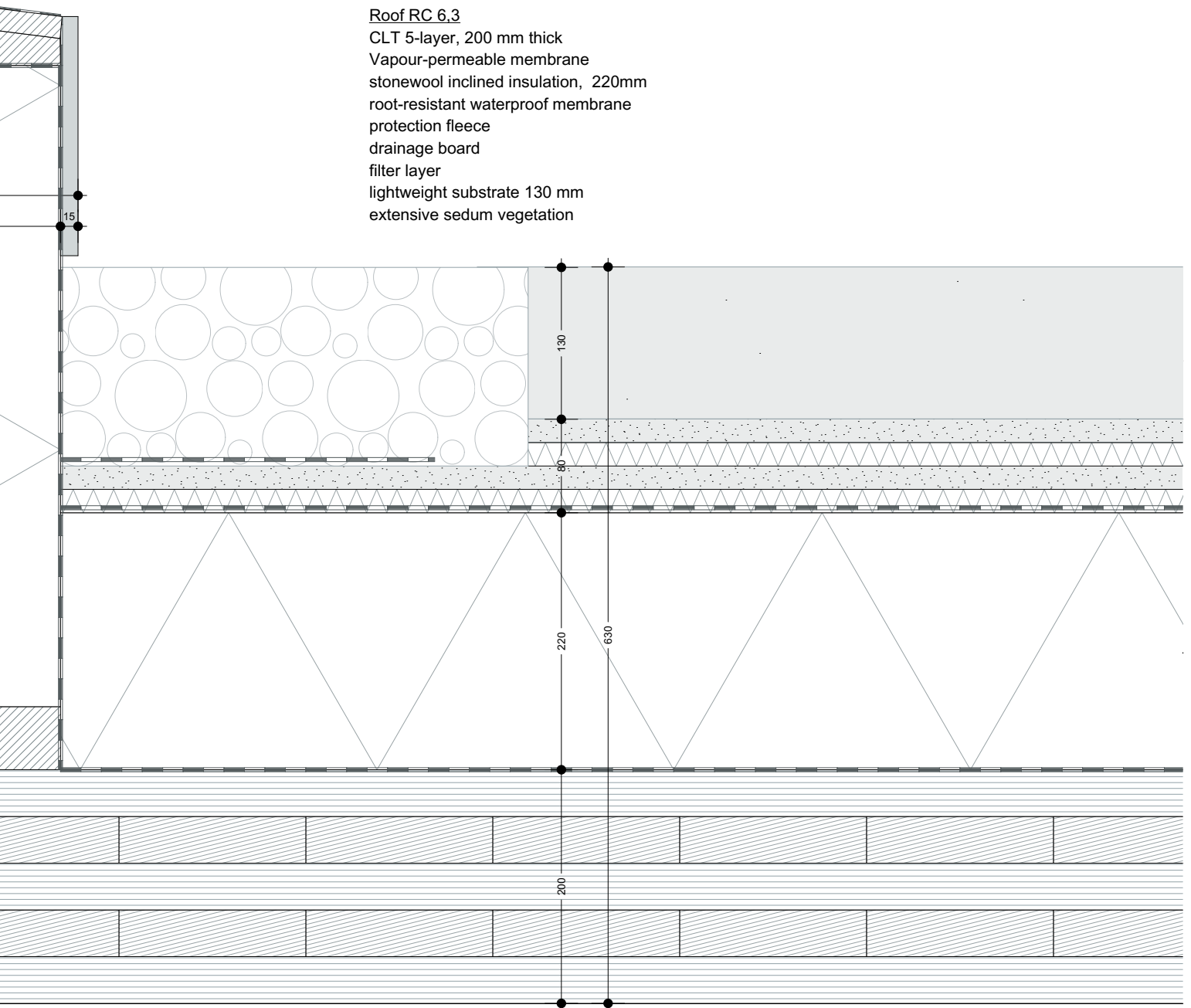
protection fleece

drainage board

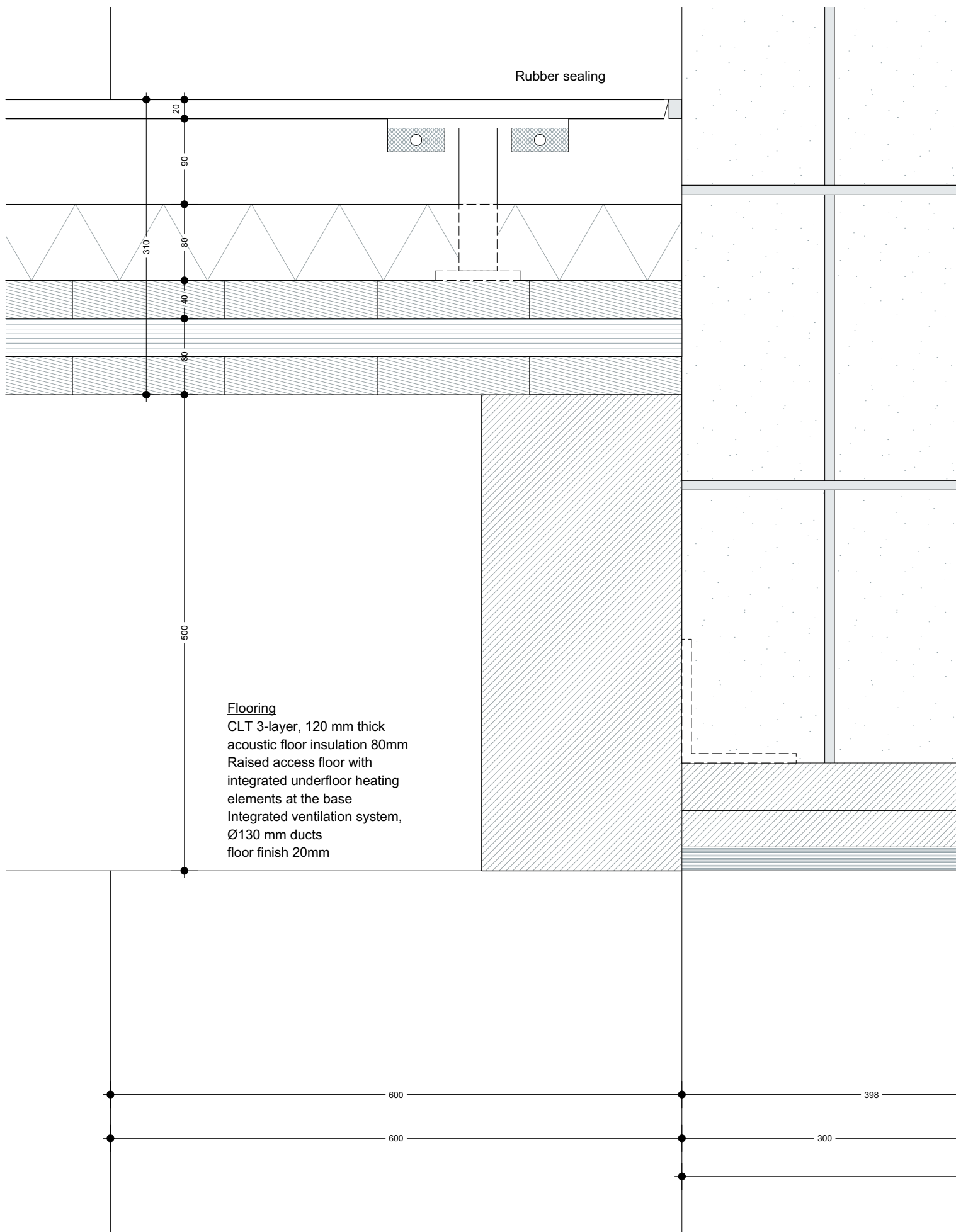
filter layer

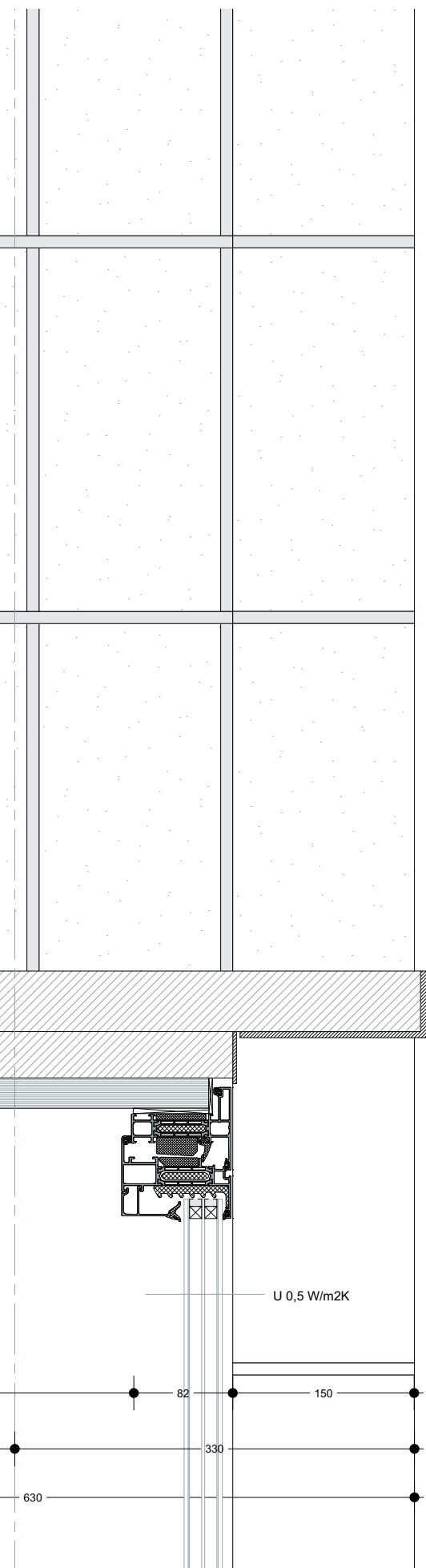
lightweight substrate 130 mm

extensive sedum vegetation



schaal 1:5





Wall RC 7.2 out-in

breathable ultra-thin lime plaster 10mm
hempcrete blocks 600x300x150mm

Wooden casement for hempcrete blocks

steel angle

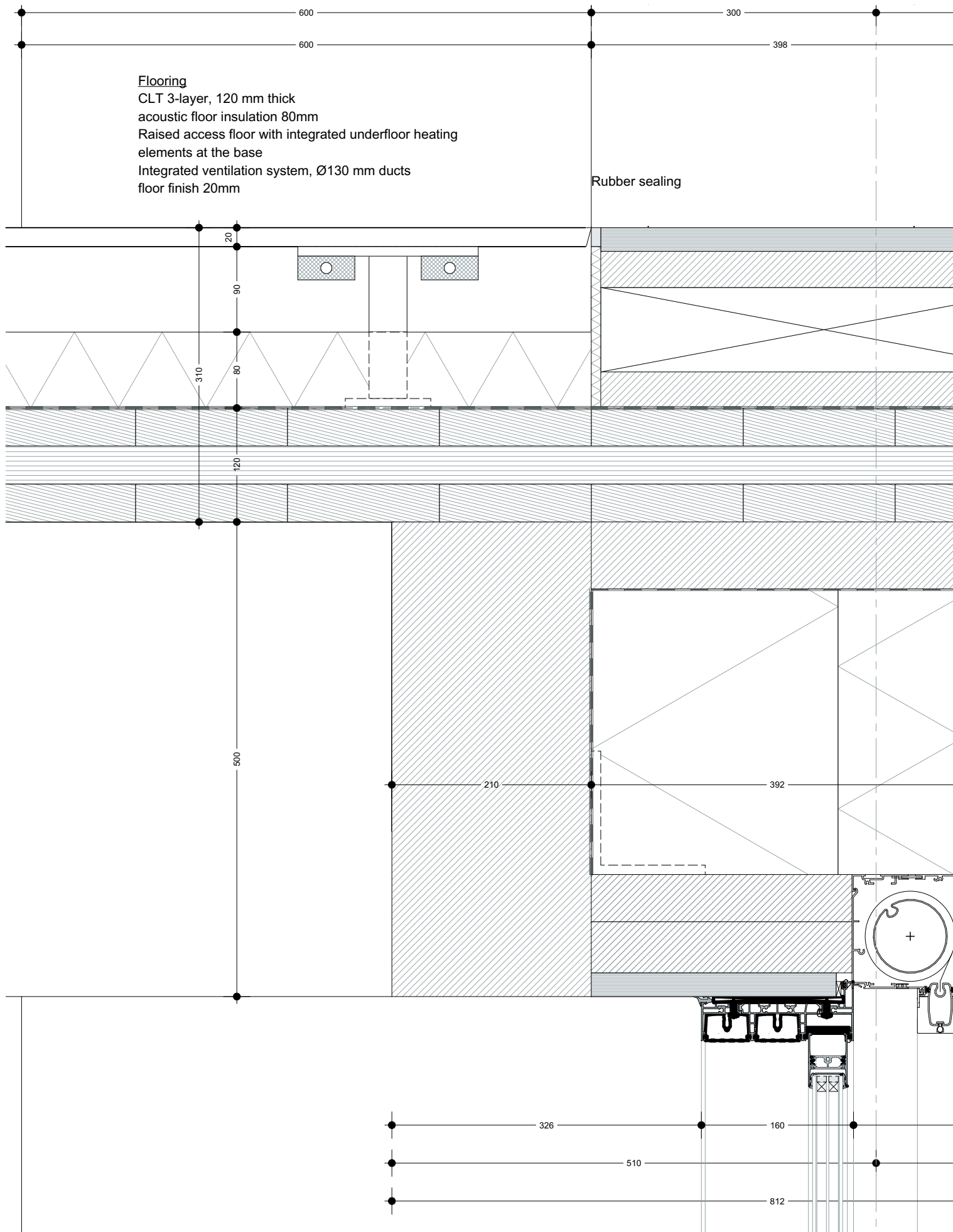
Aluminium covering

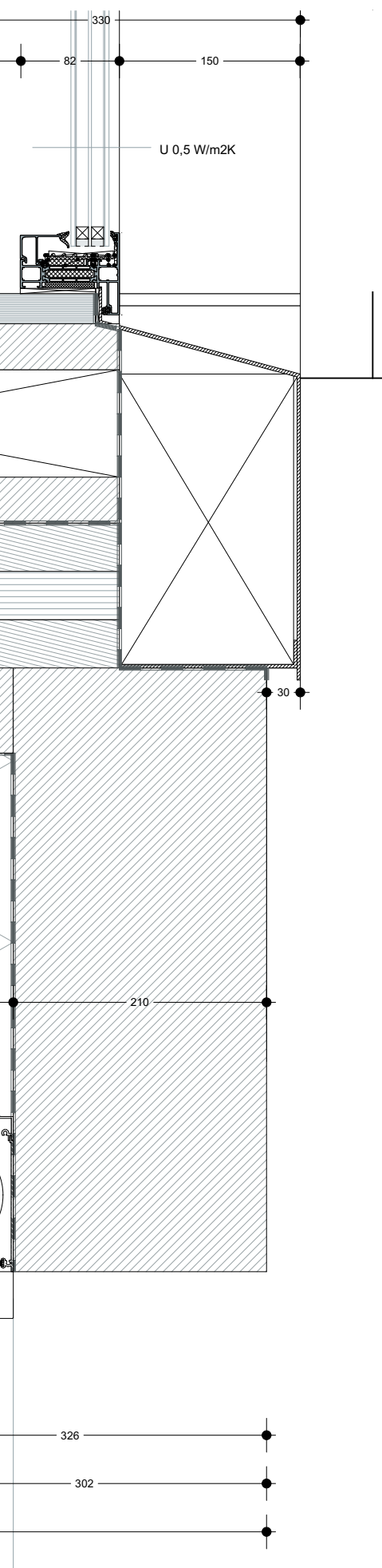
multiplex

aluminium window frame,
Kawneer RT82

triple glas HR+++

acoustic sealing





aluminium window frame,
Kawneer RT82

triple glas HR+++

acoustic sealing

multiplex
 wooden casement
 multiplex
 multiplex

multiplex
 wooden casement
 steel angle

Wall RC 7,9 out-in

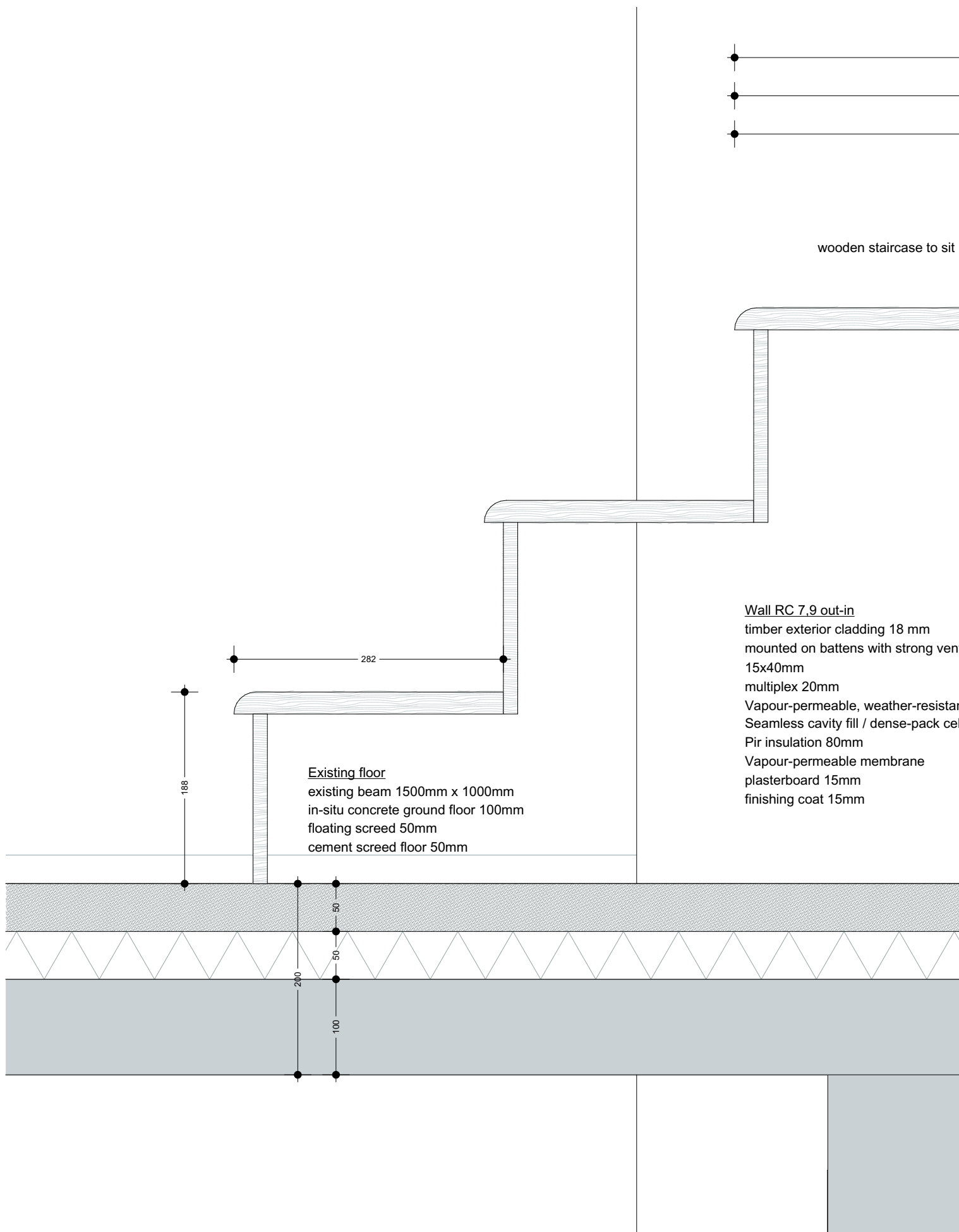
Laminated wooden beam 210x500mm
Vapour-permeable, weather-resistant membrane
Seamless cavity fill / dense-pack cellulose 390mm
Vapour-permeable membrane
Laminated wooden beam 210x500mm

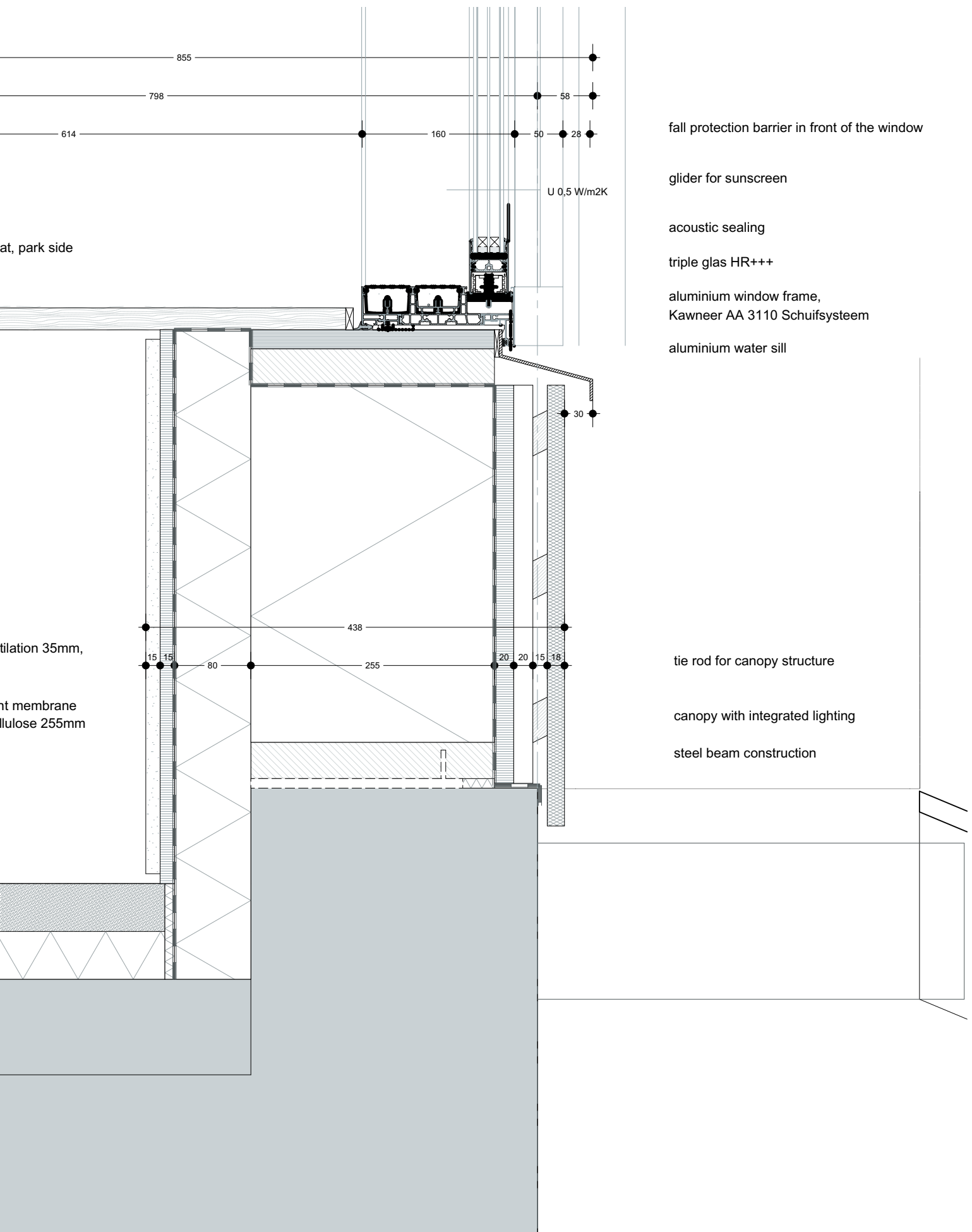
built in sunscreen

aluminium window frame,
Kawneer AA 3110 Schuifstelsel

triple glas HR+++

acoustic sealing





school 1:5

Wall RC 5.3 out-in

Fiber cement boarding 20mm
supported construction 30mm
Vapour-permeable, weather-resistant membrane
PIR insulation 80mm
Seamless cavity fill / dense-pack cellulose 200mm
Vapour-permeable membrane
plasterboard 15mm
finishing coat 15mm

447

77

U 0,5 W/m2K

triple glas HR+++

Solarlux glazed bi-folding door

acoustic sealing

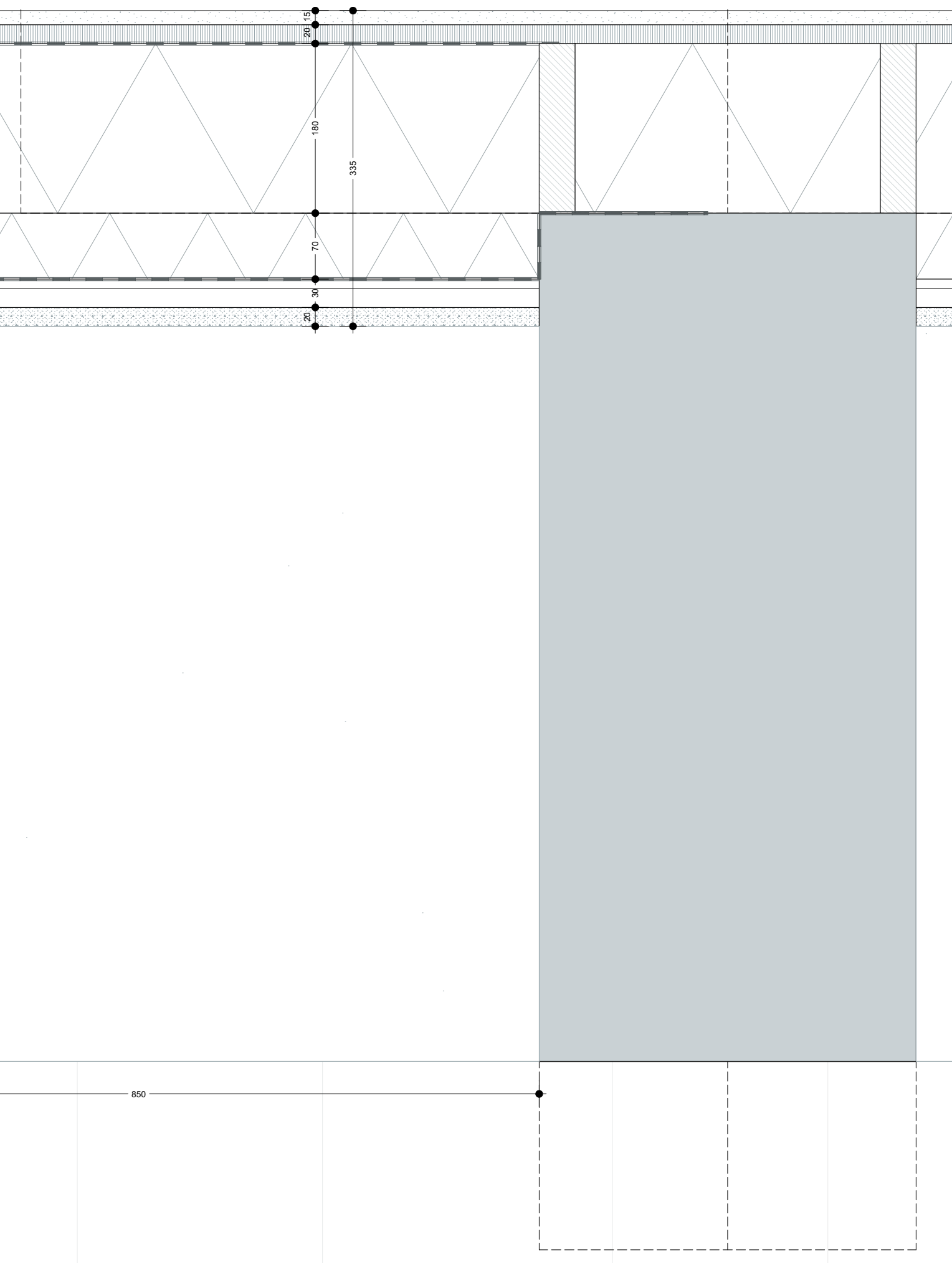
concrete built in bench

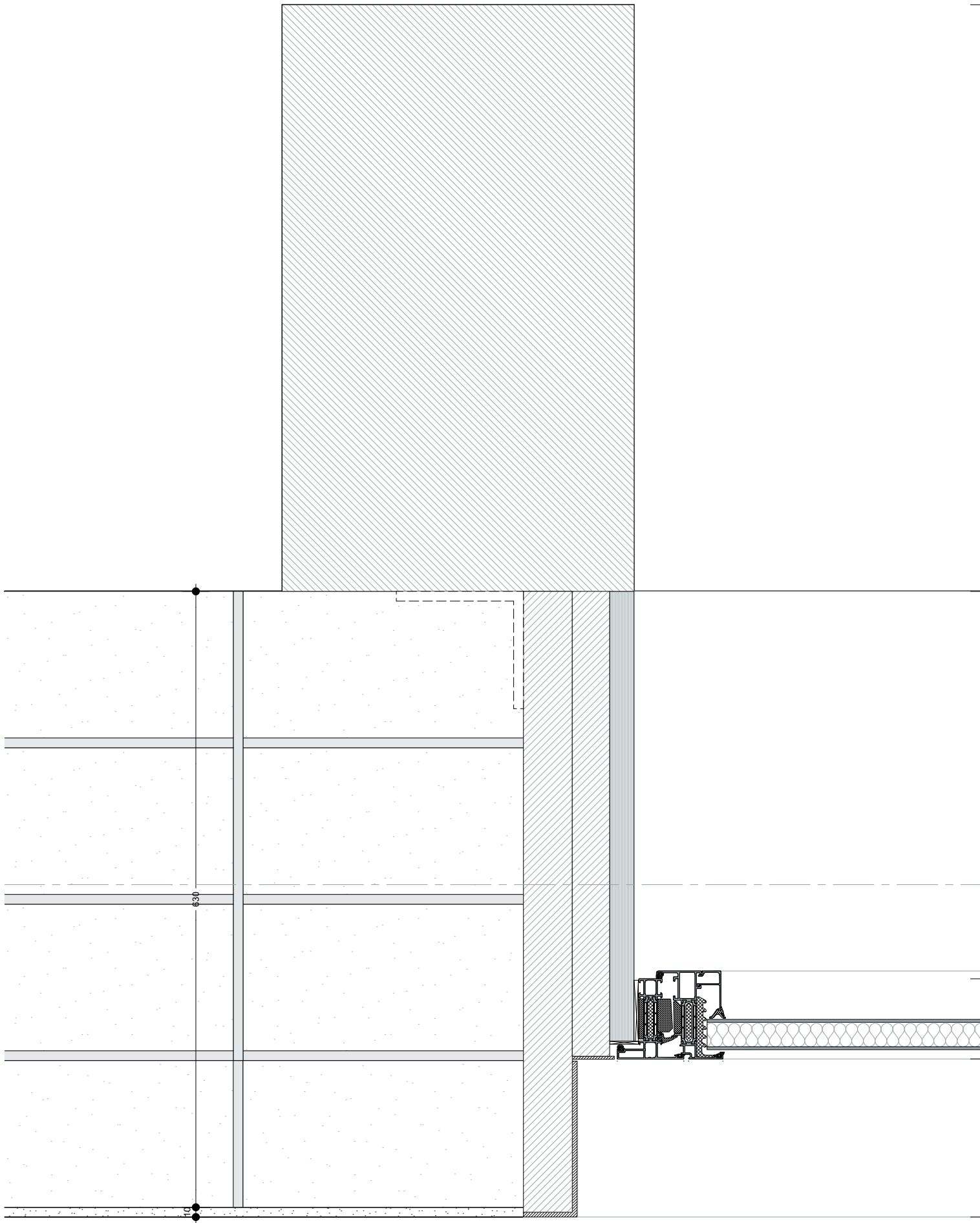
existing concrete column 900x400mm

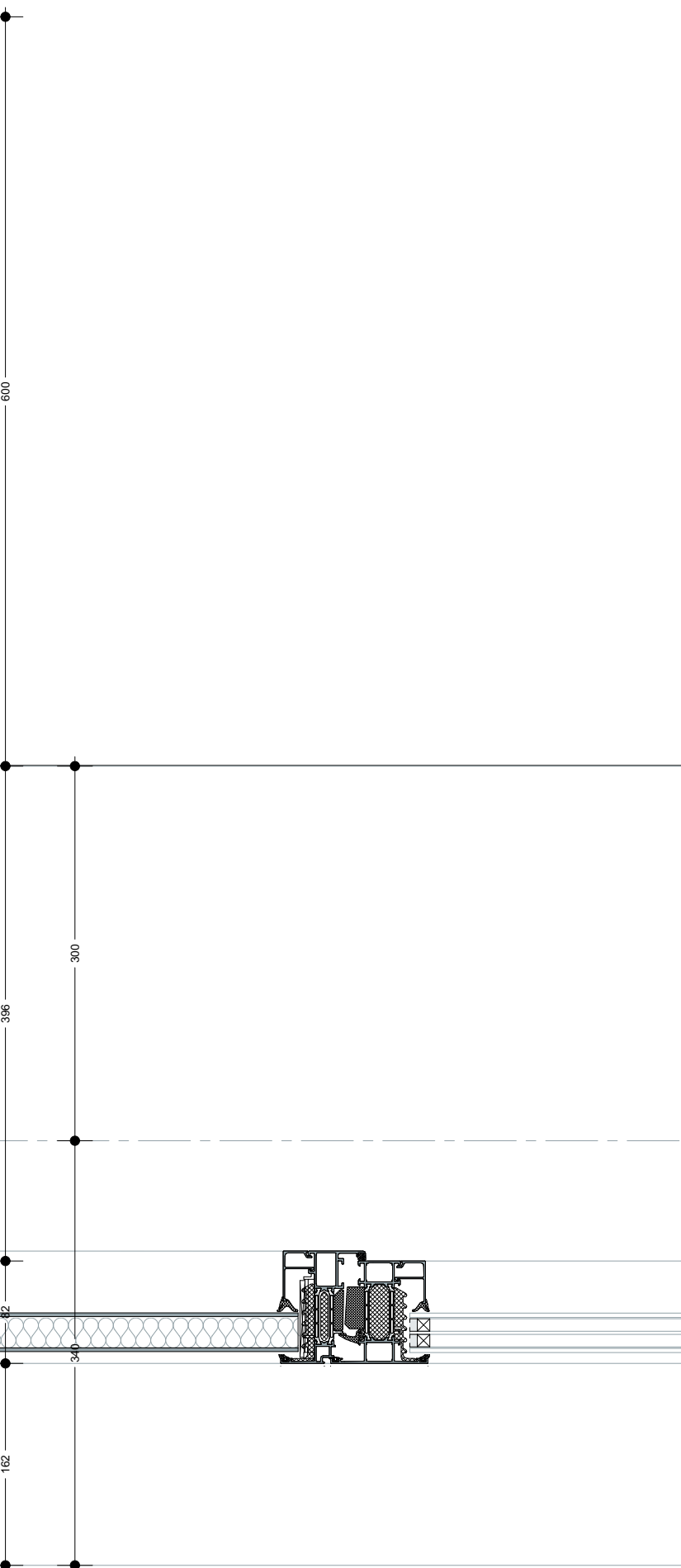
concrete inclanated threshold

New pavement

780







glued laminated wooden colum 500x360mm

Wall RC 7.2 out-in
breathable ultra-thin lime plaster 10mm
hempcrete blocks 600x300x150mm

steel angle

Wooden casement for hempcrete blocks

multiplex

aluminium window frame,
Kawneer RT82

acoustic sealing

Sandwichpanel alucobond 50mm

triple glas HR+++

Aluminium covering

conclusion

