

ARRANGE- MENTS

**Negotiating an Archive in DeSingel
Cultural Campus**

arrangement noun [C] (POSITION)

* a particular way in which things are put together or placed

arrangement noun [C] (PLAN)

* a plan or preparation for something, esp. for something to happen in a particular way

1. RESEARCH

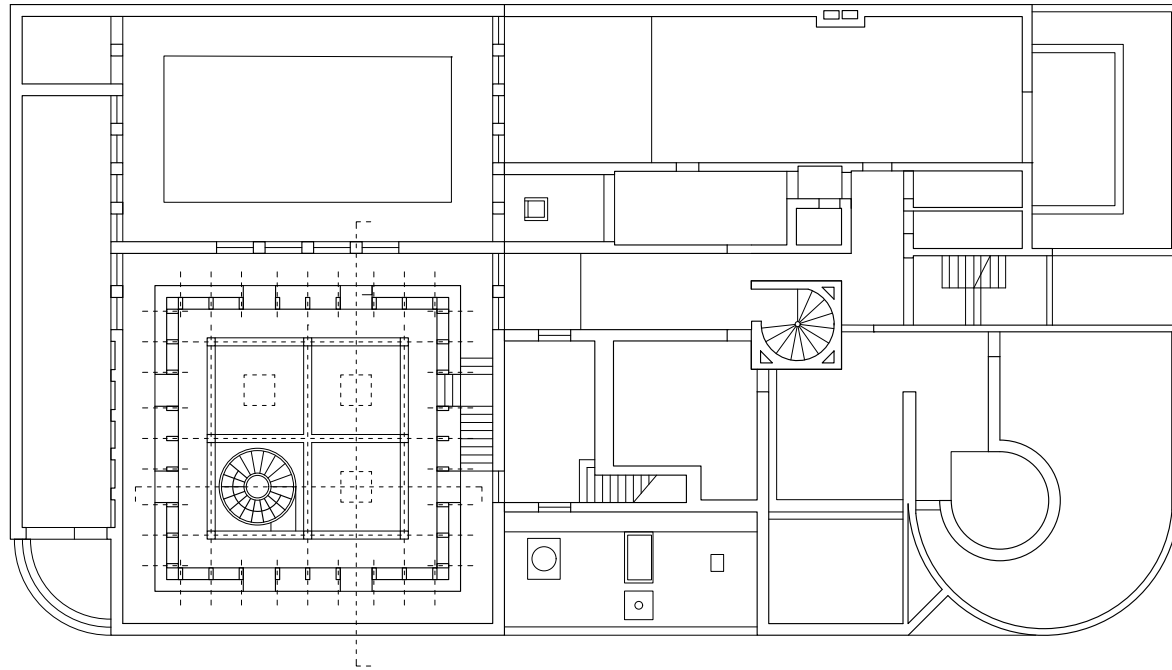
Notion of an archive
Room for an archive
VAi's position and circumstances

2. ANALYSIS

De Singel as cultural campus
Interrogative approach
Archival study

3. PROPOSAL

Situating
Strategy
Design



Haus Belvederestraße 60, Oswald Mathias Ungers

An archive as a compositional piece situated as part of private residence. Combining range of private to semi-private functions, brings to mind a more humanist public way of living, with Jasper Cepl comparing it to Villa Adriane. With services and complementary functions shared, the archive is free to remain an abstract container for the collection, as a formally solitary volume.



Fig.1. Ungers archive

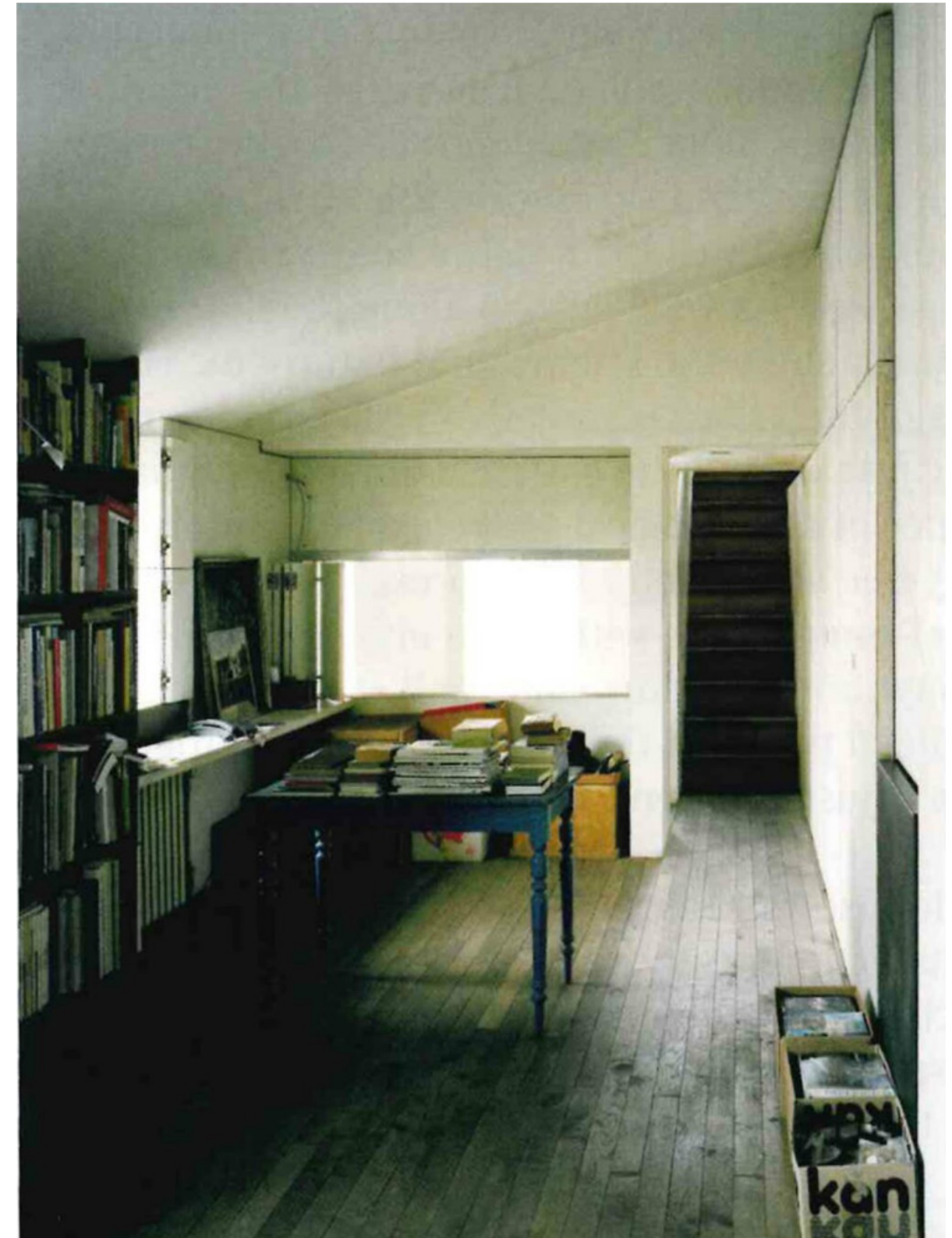
Notion of an archive

The archive as a result of experimental approach, containing inside it all the references and knowledge that nourished way of thinking and making which materialized it. In that sense the building is not considered as a vessel, but engages in reciprocal relation with that which it holds.



Room for an archive

Looking into the artifacts of Marie Jose van Hee to store, present and research in a “room for an archive” led me to consider the space of the archive using consideration of domestic condition to achieve programmatic uncertainty, displacing institutional modes of inhabiting a space.

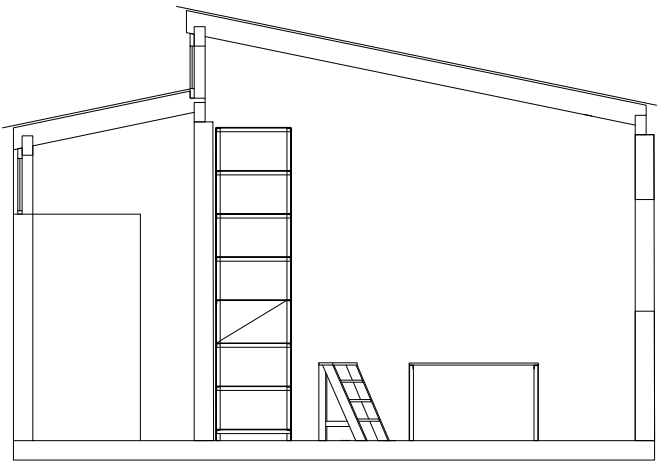
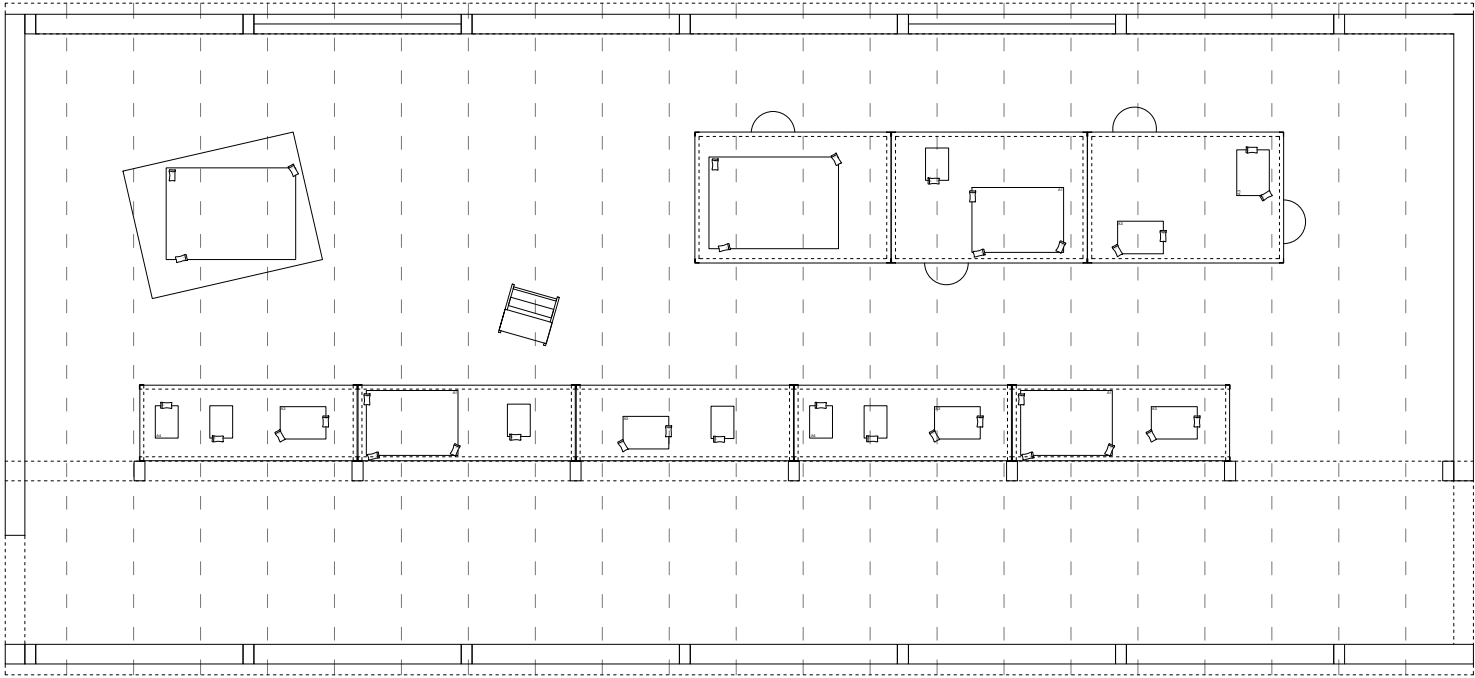


“The activity of packaging conceals a very human need and passion for storage, isolation, survival, transmission, also a taste for the unknown and mystery. Its multiplying and complicating ceremony has every chance of becoming a gratuitous, often obsessive process..”

Tadeusz Kantor, 2005, Pisma, t. I. Metamorfozy. Teksty o latach 1934 – 1974













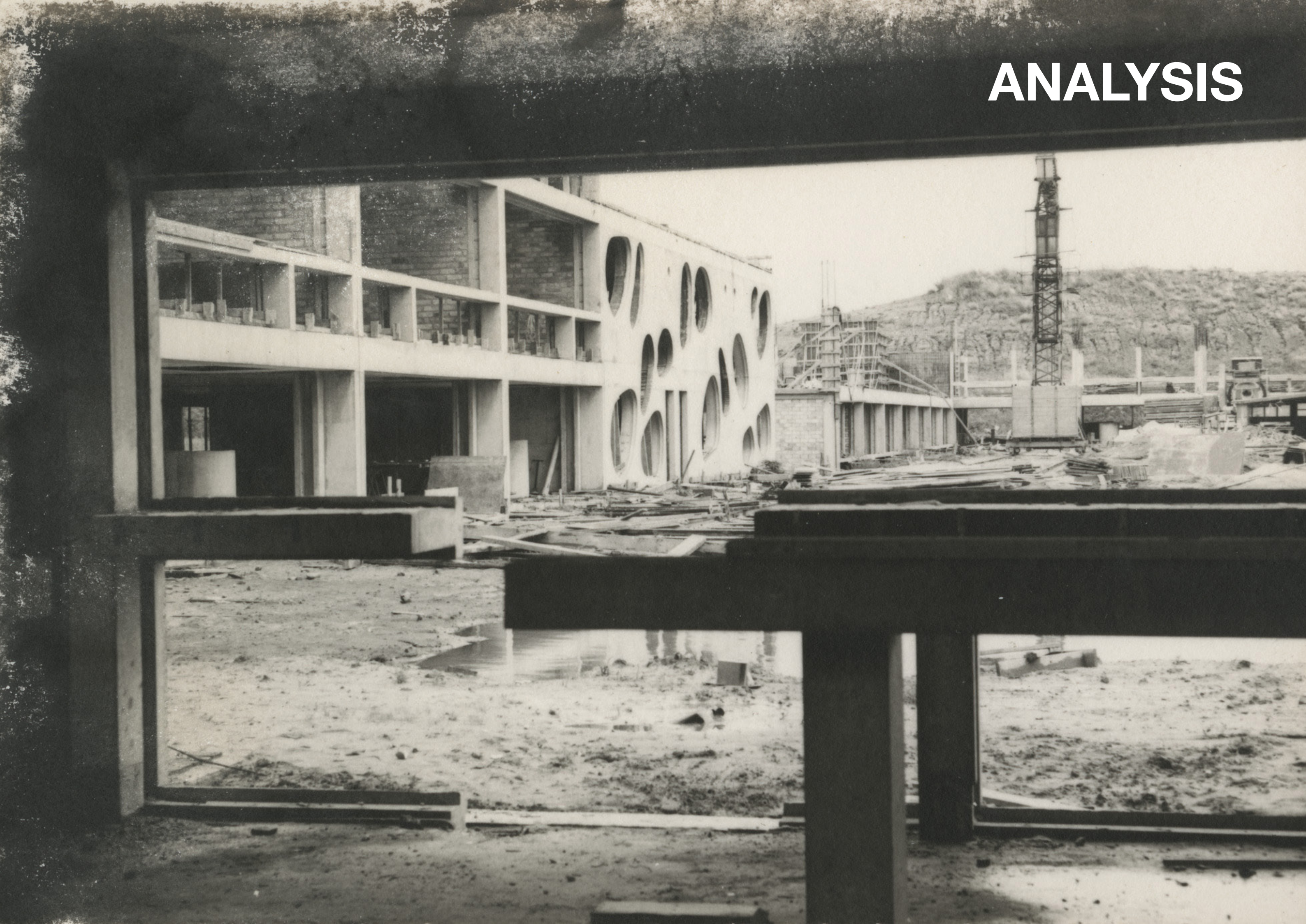
VAi intentions and position

The archive extends far beyond a mere repository of buildings. It gives access to ideas, positions, education, knowledge and images, and that across generations. It gives insight into the social context in which designs were created. At the same time, the archive shows alternatives. Archives are not repositories of truths but places of research. They are incubators of new ideas, breeding grounds for speculation about the future, ... Without research or interpretation, the archive has little meaning.

Sofie de Caigny, former director, Flemish Architecture Institute | VAI

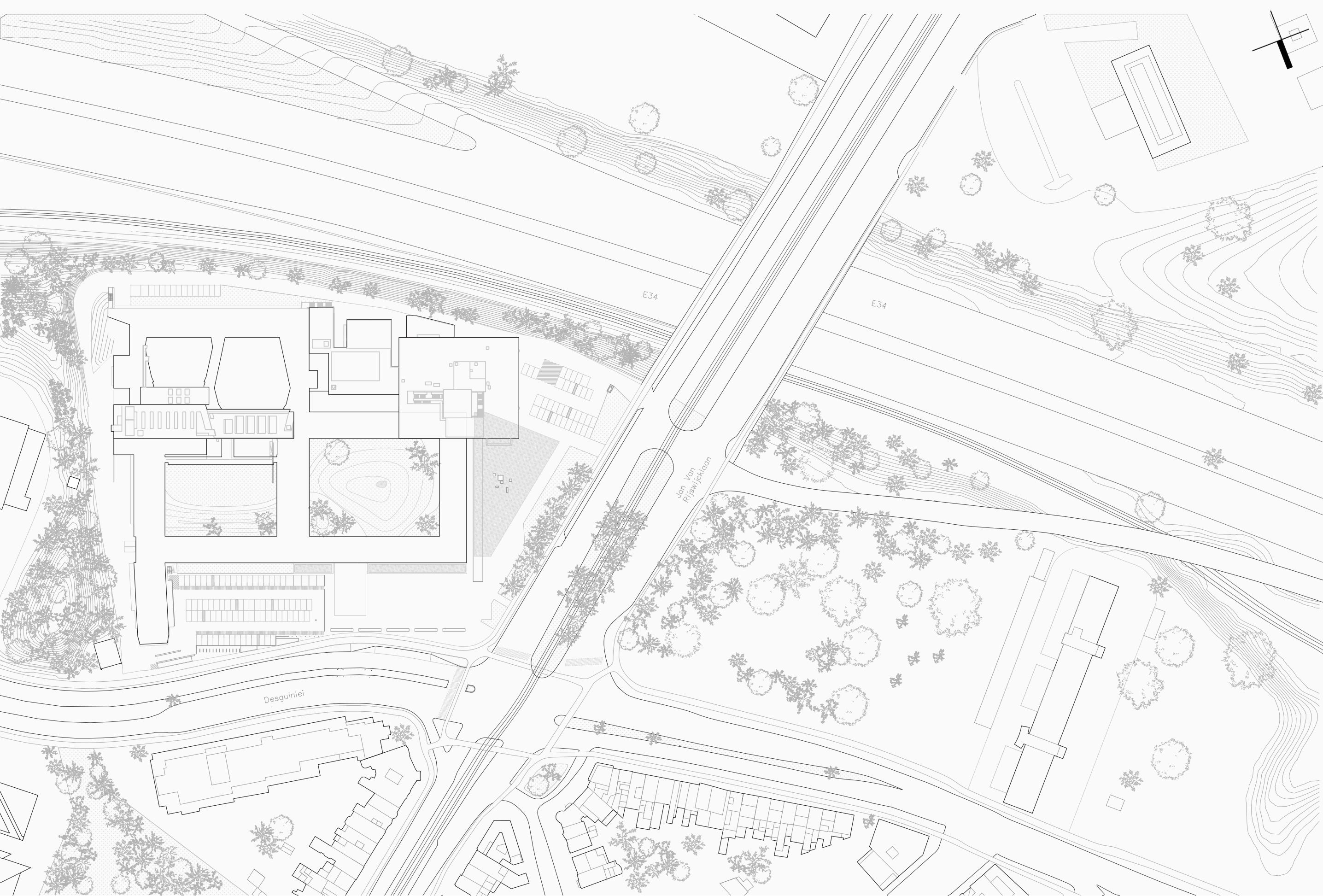


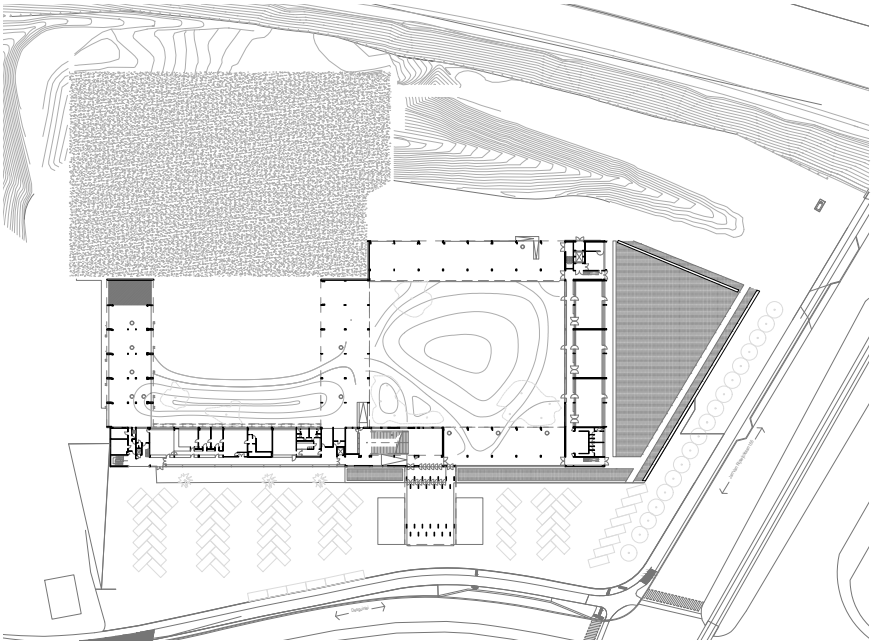
ANALYSIS



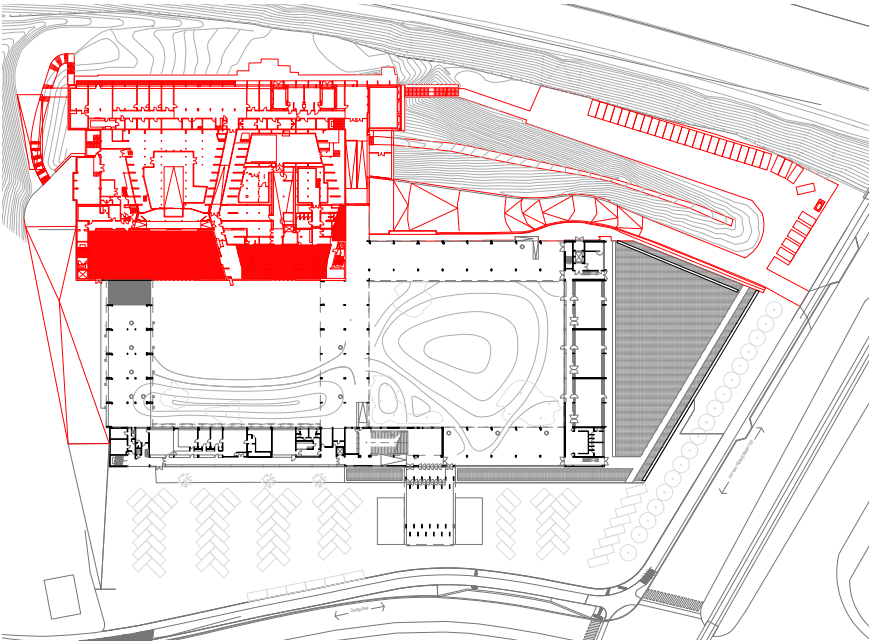




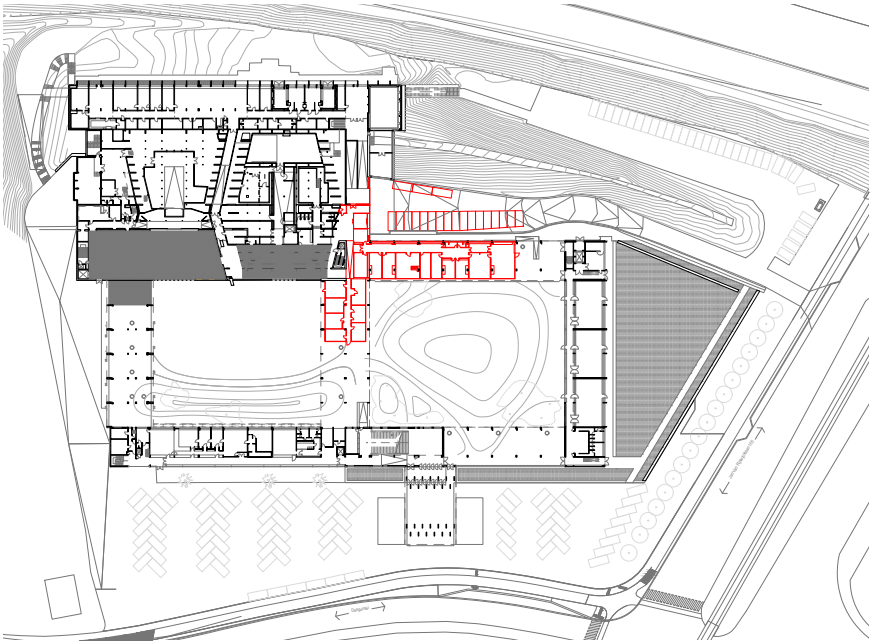




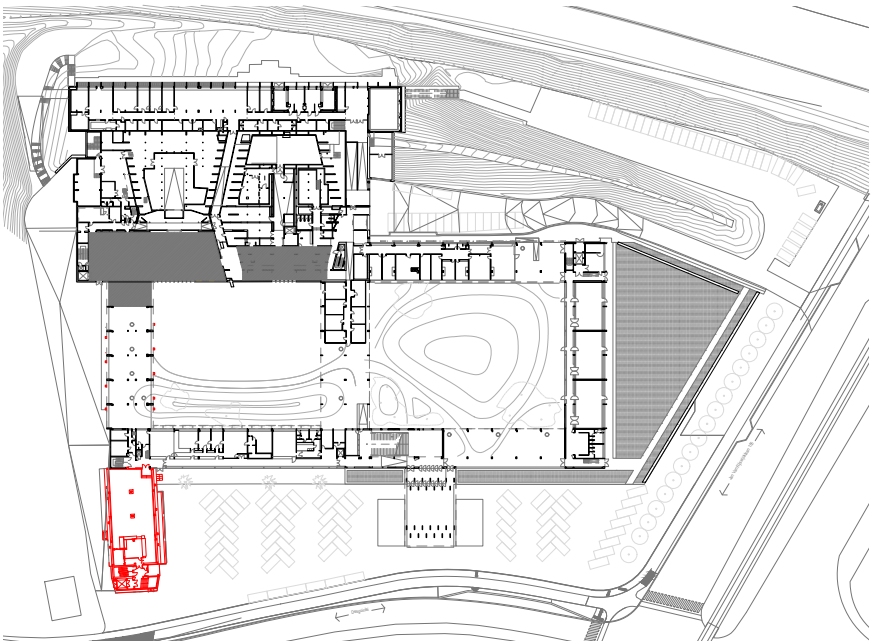
Stynen 1963-1967



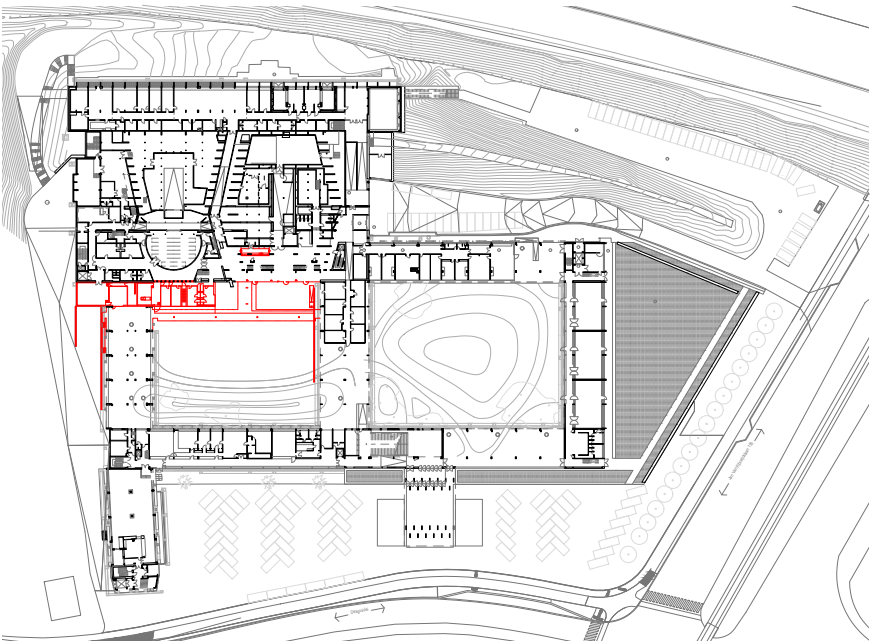
Stynen 1973-1980



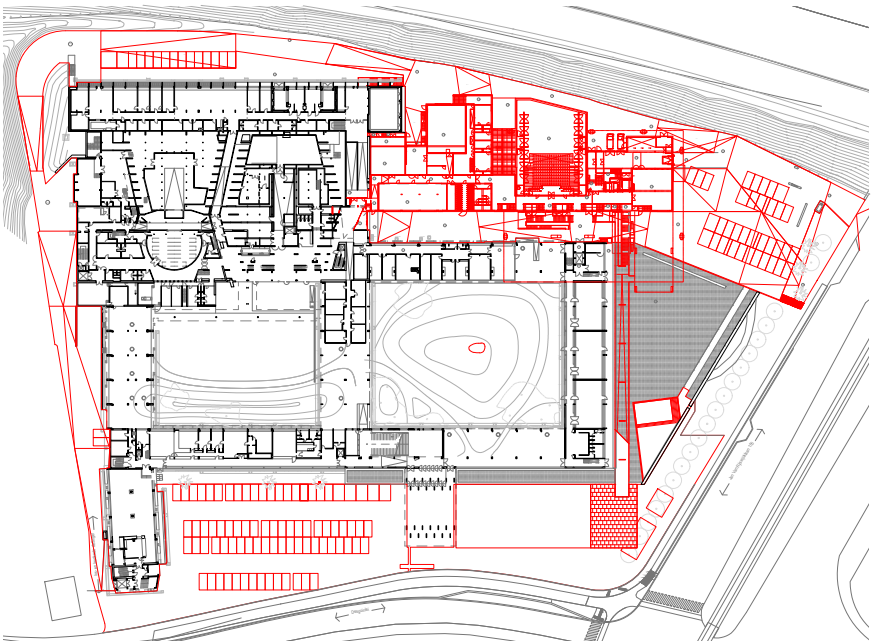
Stynen 1983



De Meyer 1985-1987

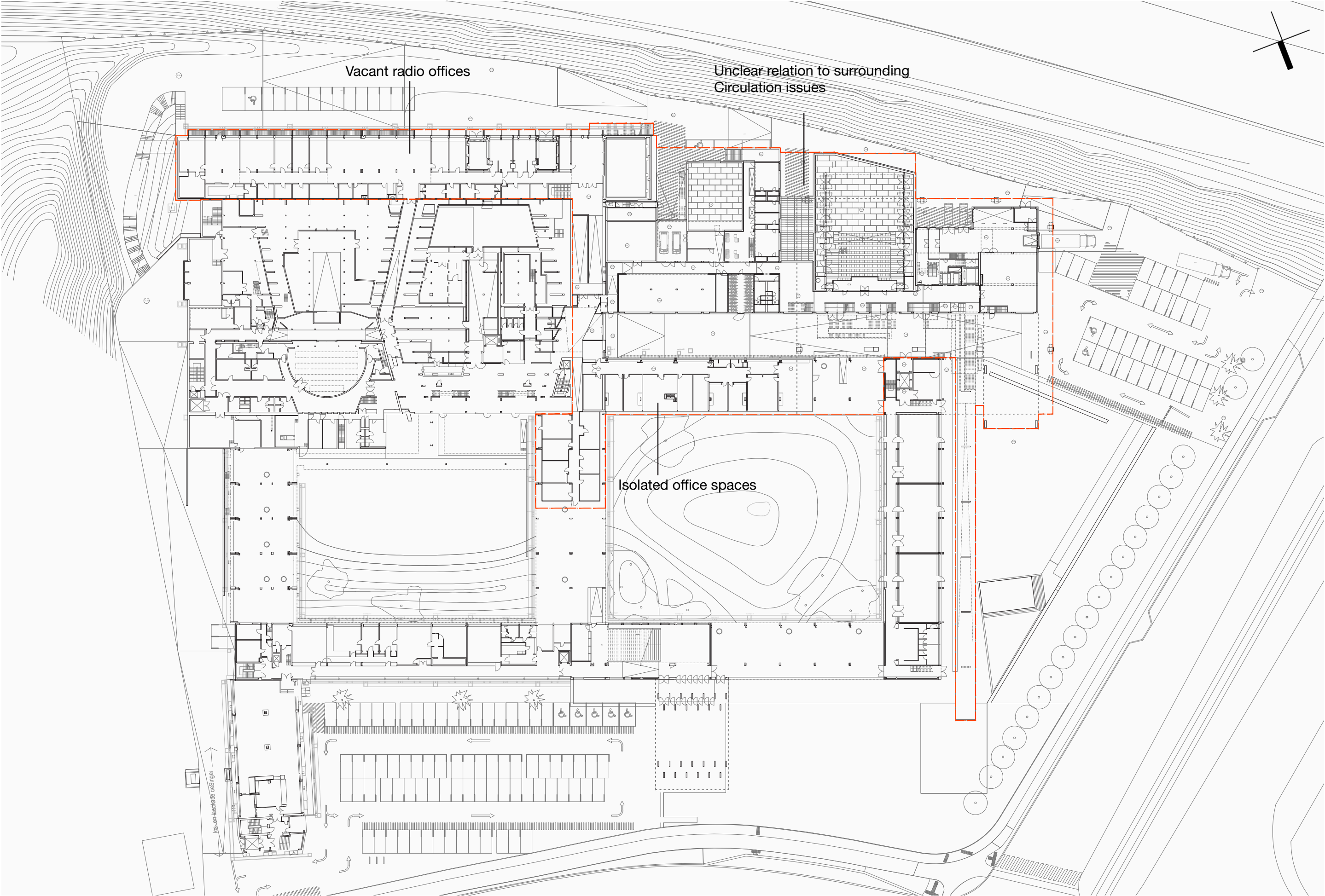


Beel 1996-2000

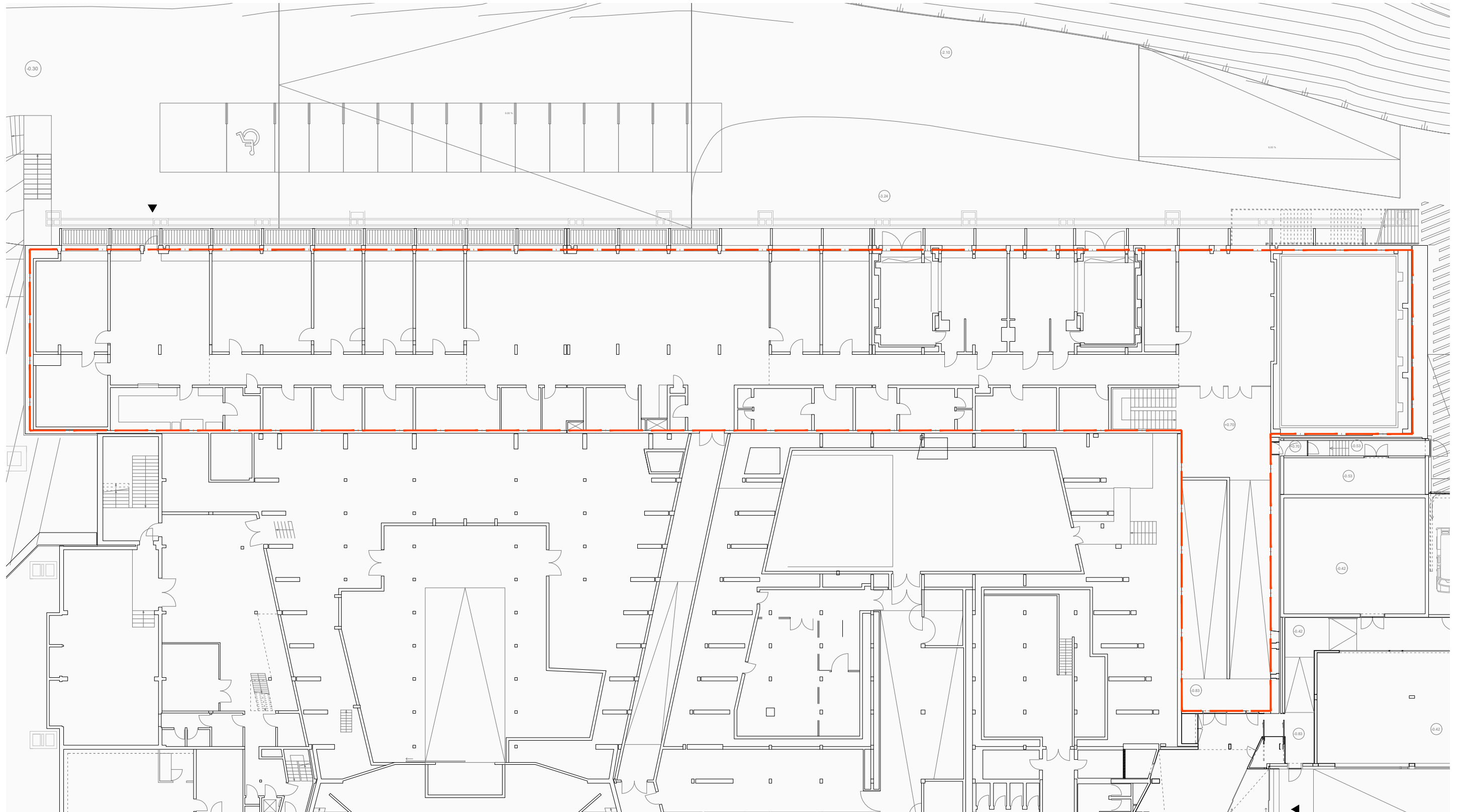


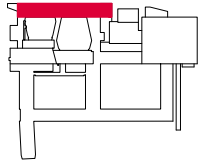
Beel 2007-2010



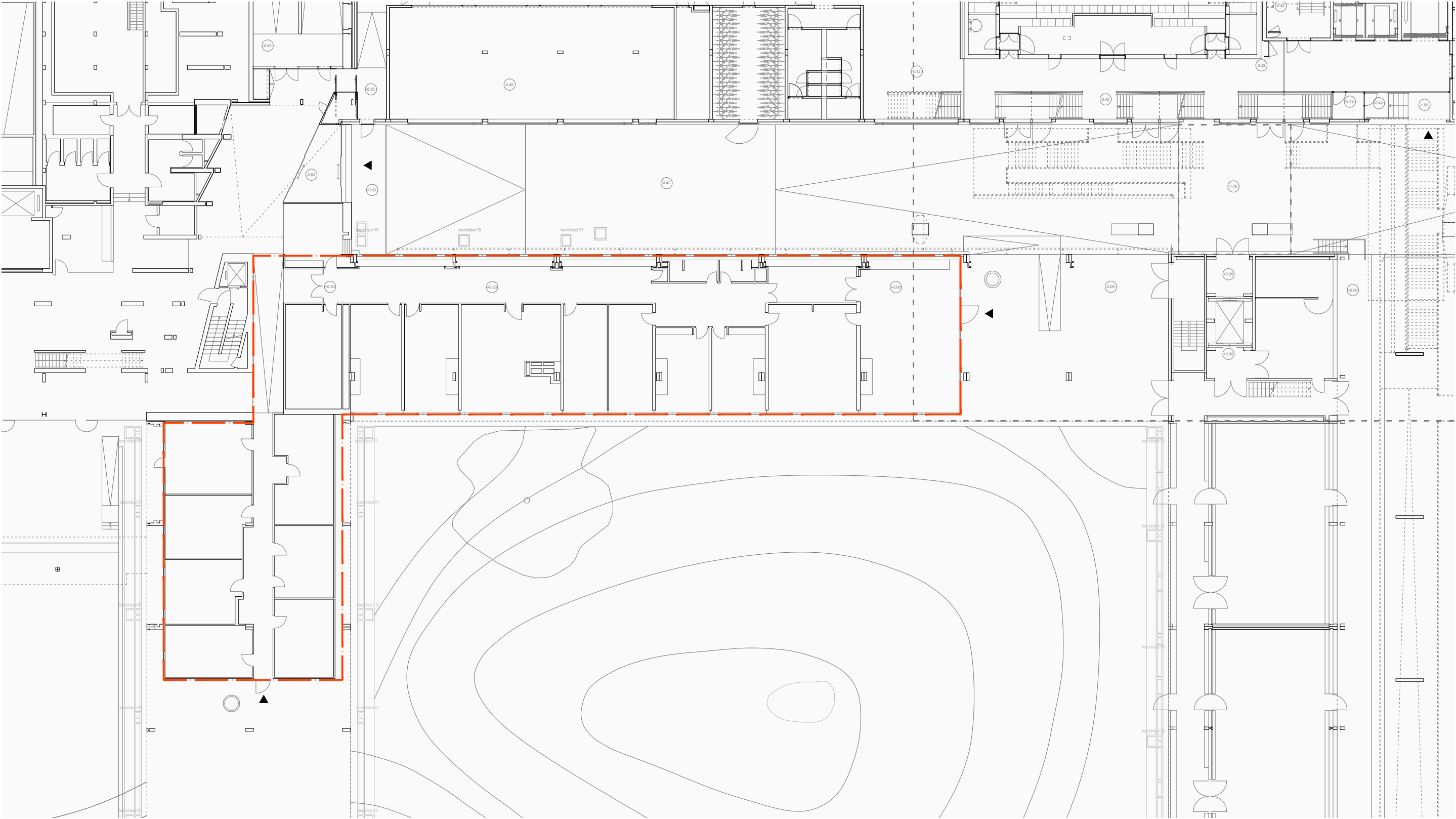
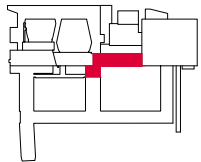


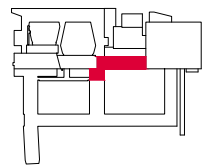
Name	Size m ²	Description
Total	5157,25	
Public	700	
Reception and counter	100	incl. separate sanitary facilities and seating
Exhibition space/multifunctional space	200	cf. current reading room 96m2, is too small; keep reading room and library separate; small separate group study room
Reading room	200	
Library	200	Books and visitors' workstations
Additional	872,25	
Staff workspace	300	
Large workplace for archive employees	300	12.5 m2 per employee (+/-30 employees, including interns, temporary employees, etc.)
Large workstation with archives	12,25	3.5x3.5m
Standard office space		
Focus Spots		
1 large meeting room	80	
1 small meeting room	30	
kitchen, bathroom, dressing room	150	
Archive	3585	
Storage packaging material	120	near archive depot, office
Loading and unloading space	150	
Waiting depot	100	emergency depot, storage of non-exclusive archives, bulk pallets
Tirage space correct - contaminated material	60	
Quarantine	120	Storage of containment material =
Cleaning	60	Processing of containment material
pre-depot	60	Storage of own material
processing	60	processing of own material
Digitization space	60	own material
Restoration studio	60	own material
Depot storage	2500	Currently 1500, growth in recent years 470m in 5-7 yrs > per 5yr 400m with extensive storage system, paper climate class
Climate class photo storage	100	
Bulk storage		
Storage in racks and planning cabinets		
View depot	125	visually attractive, desire to collect more 3D objects, this could be a regular depot box with a transparent wall in front
Server space	10	not on functional schedule

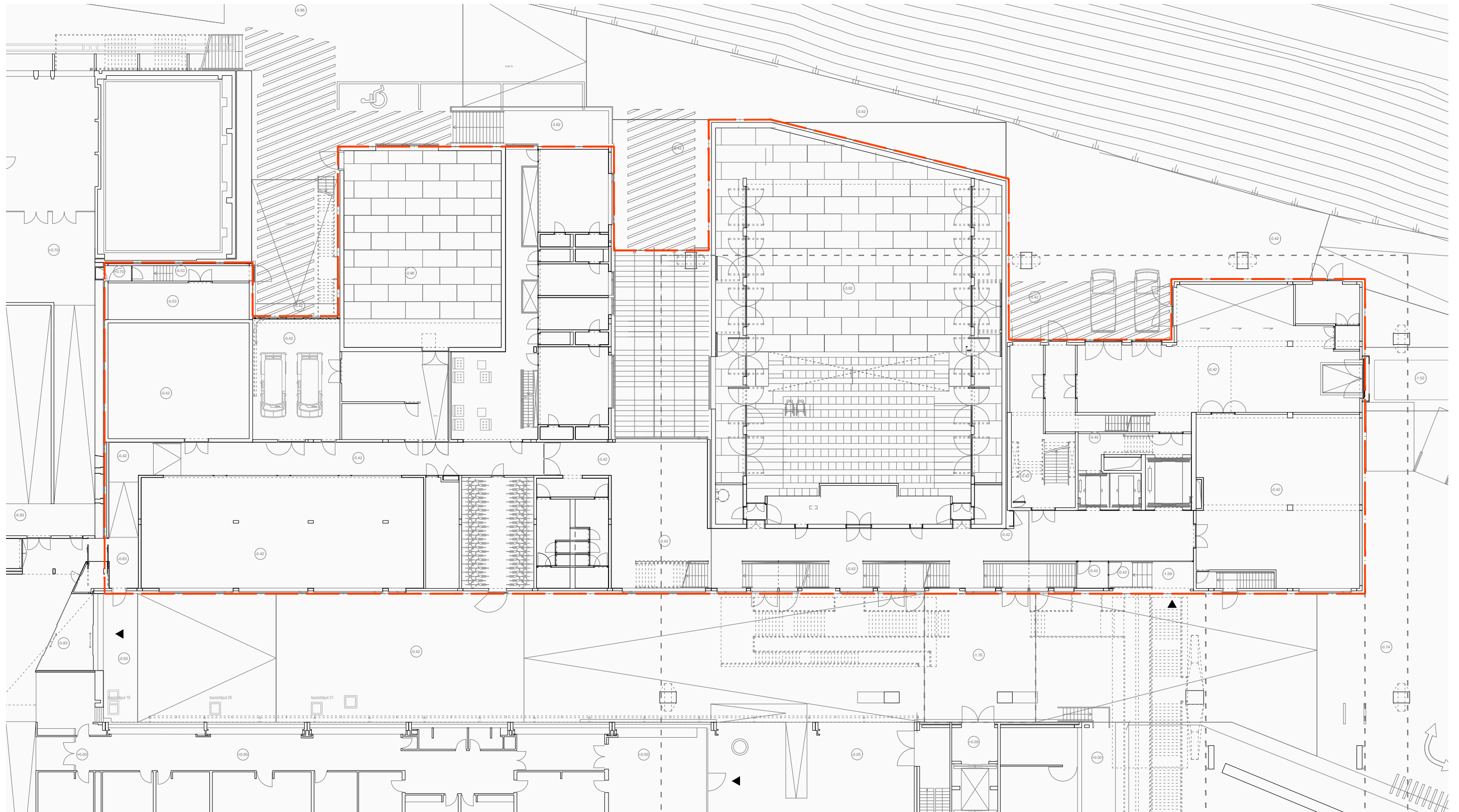
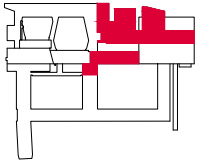


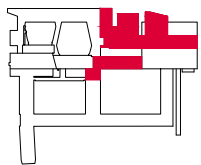


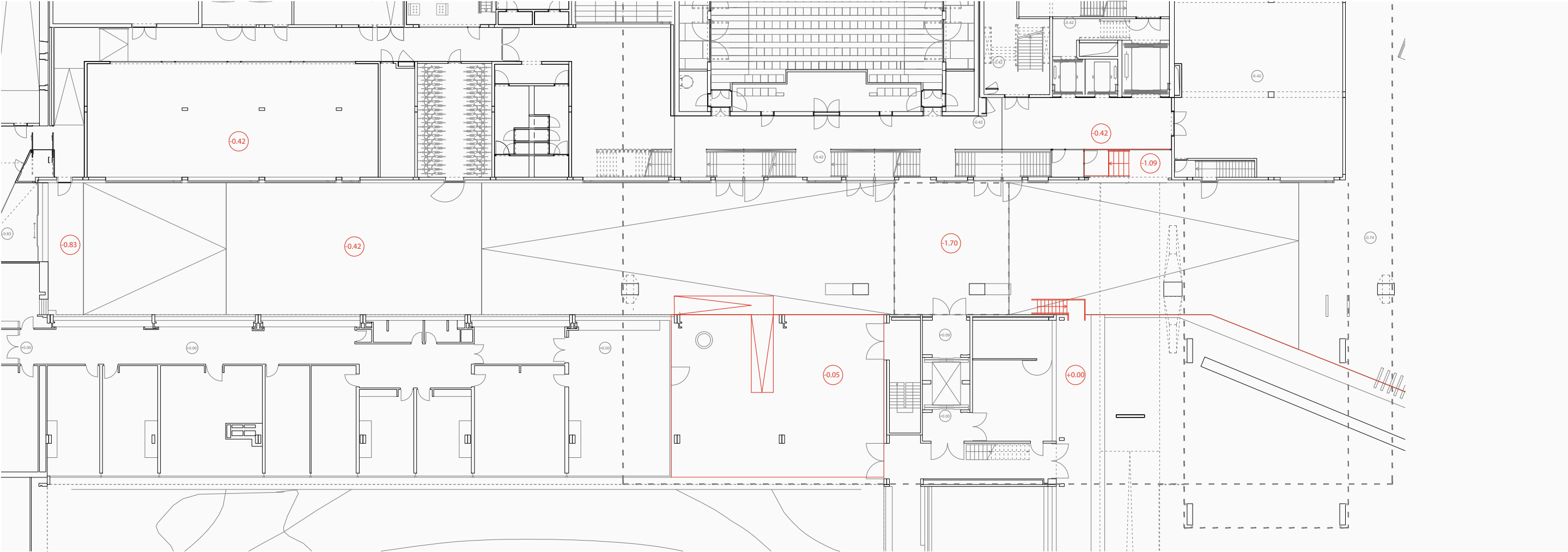
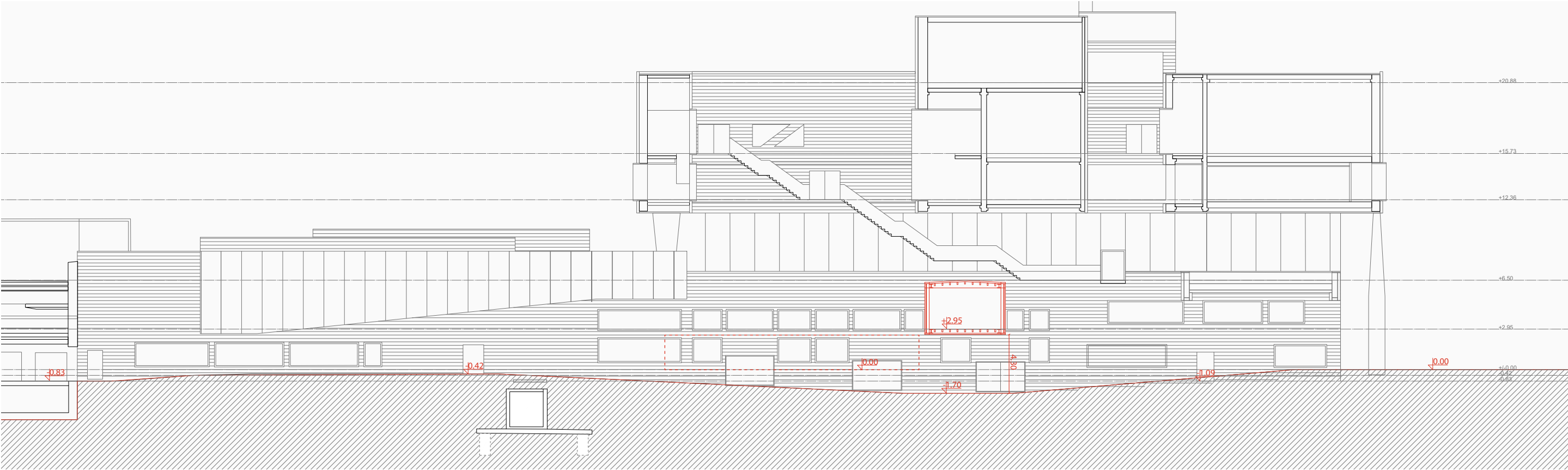
Total area 825m²



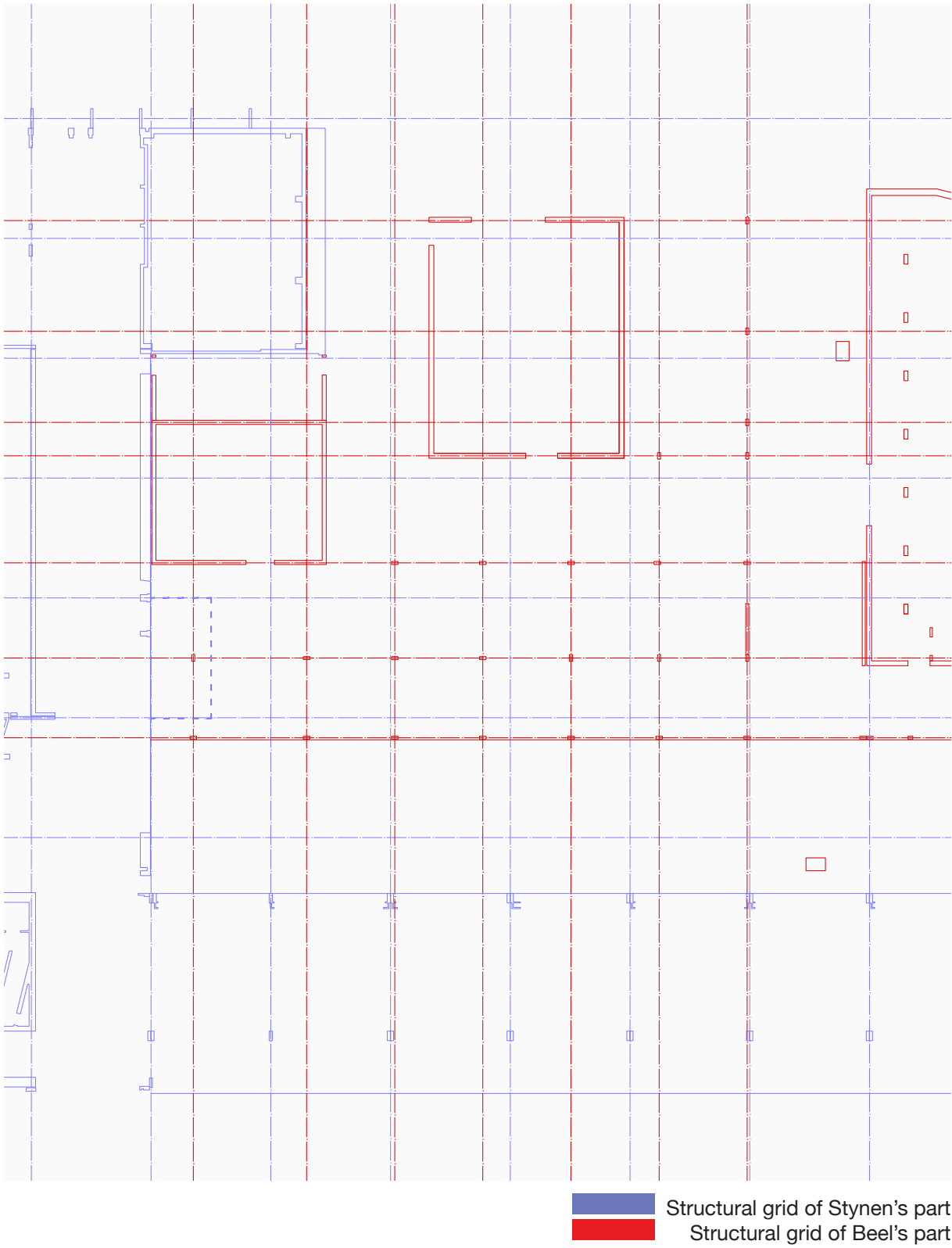
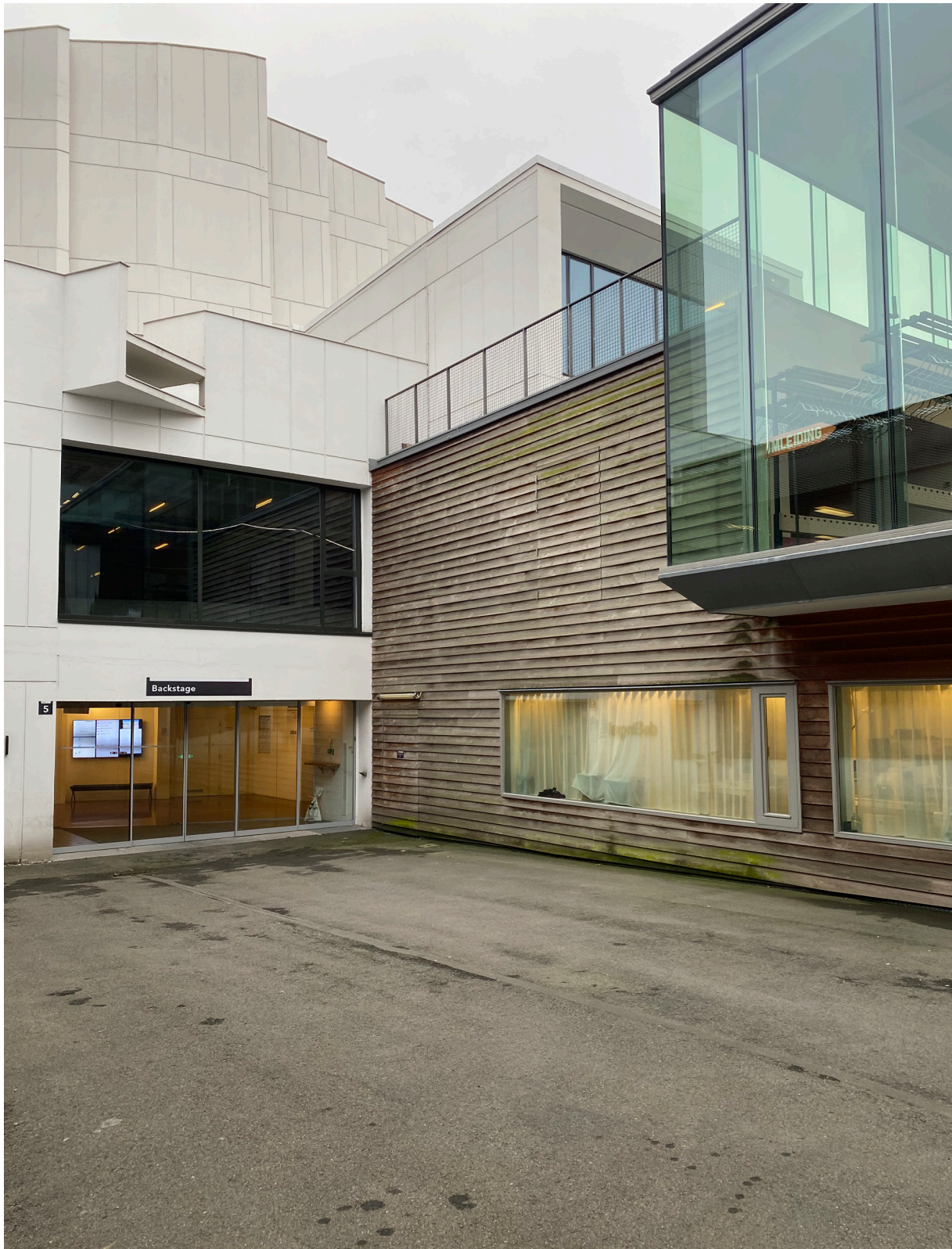


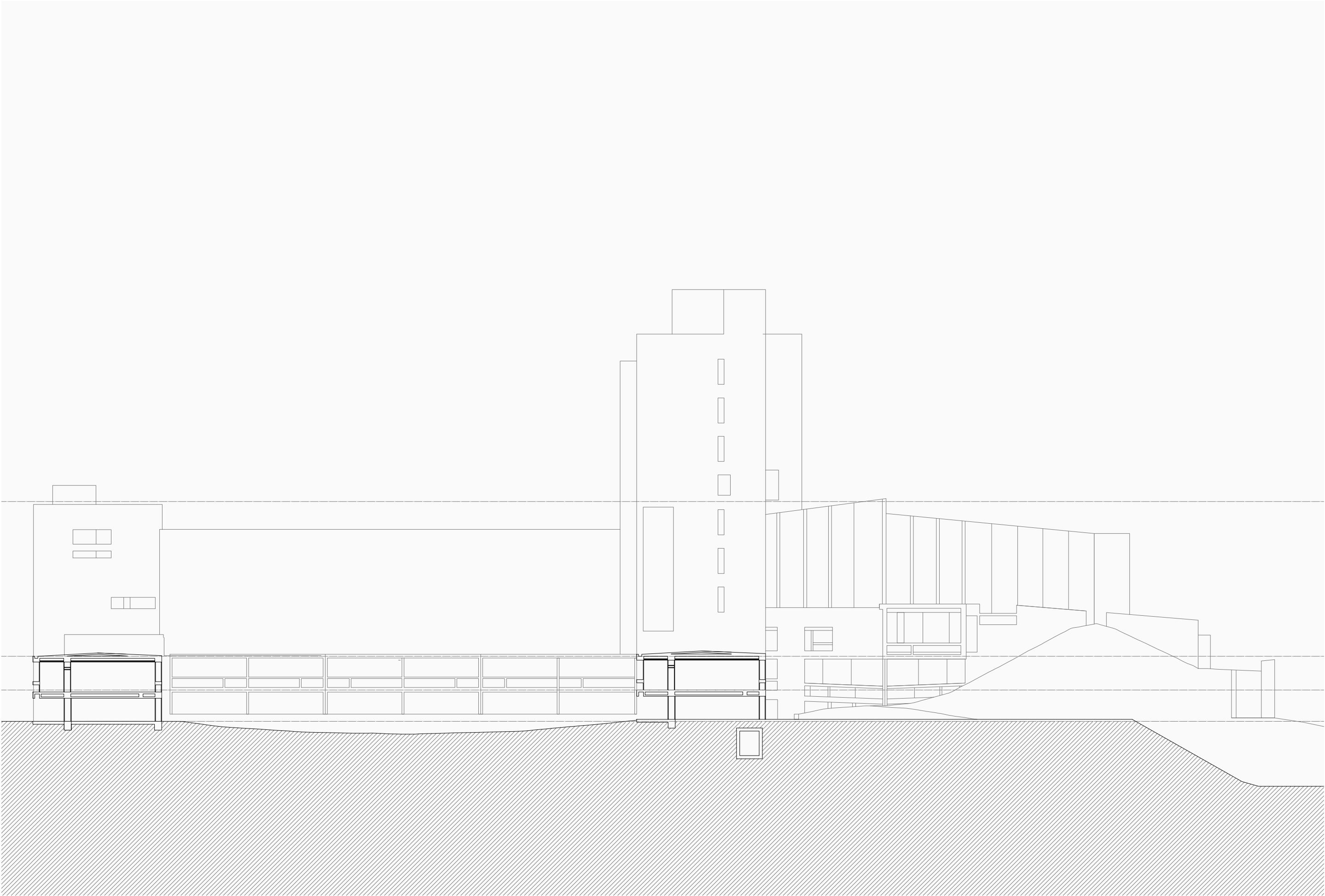


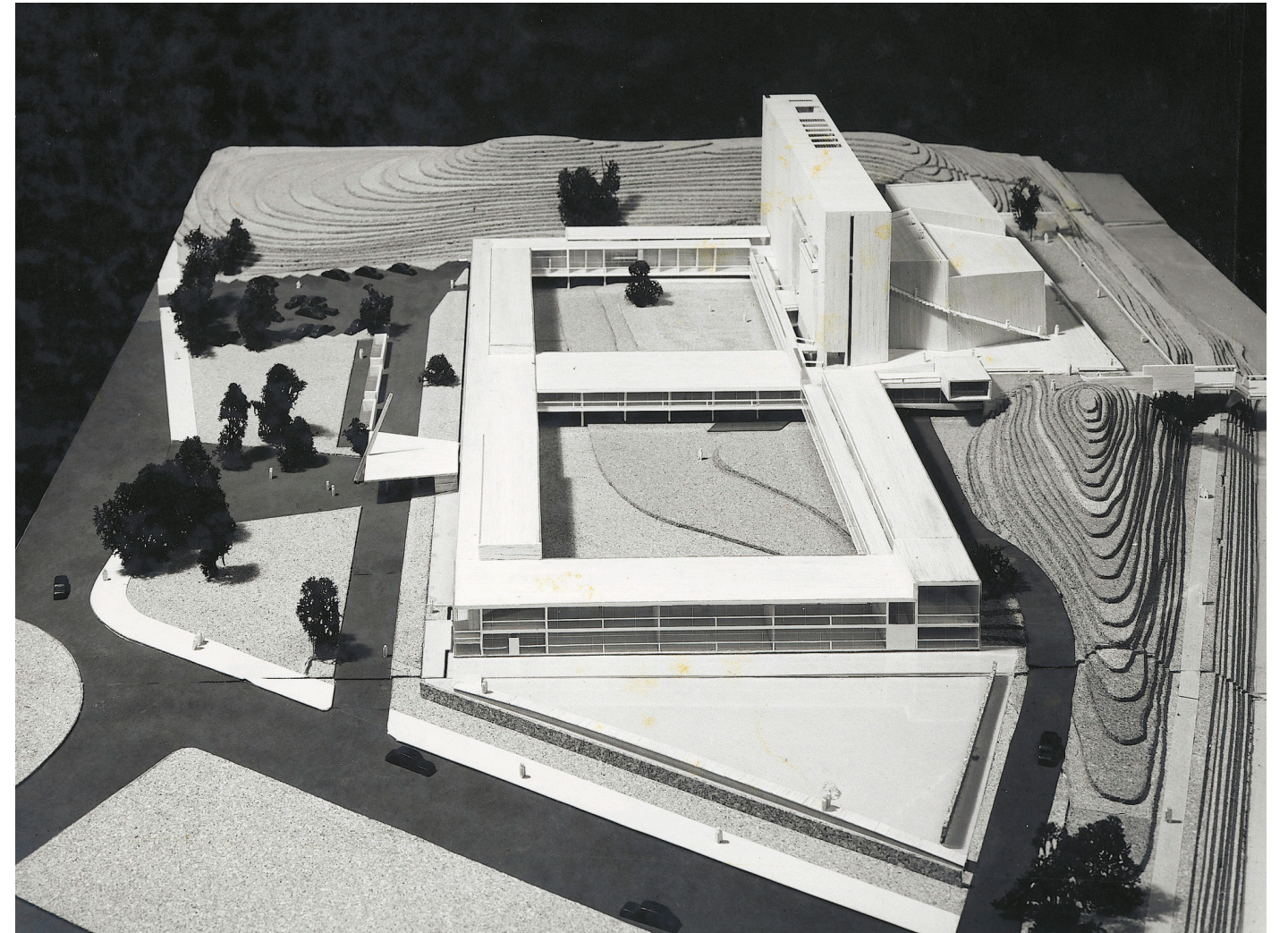
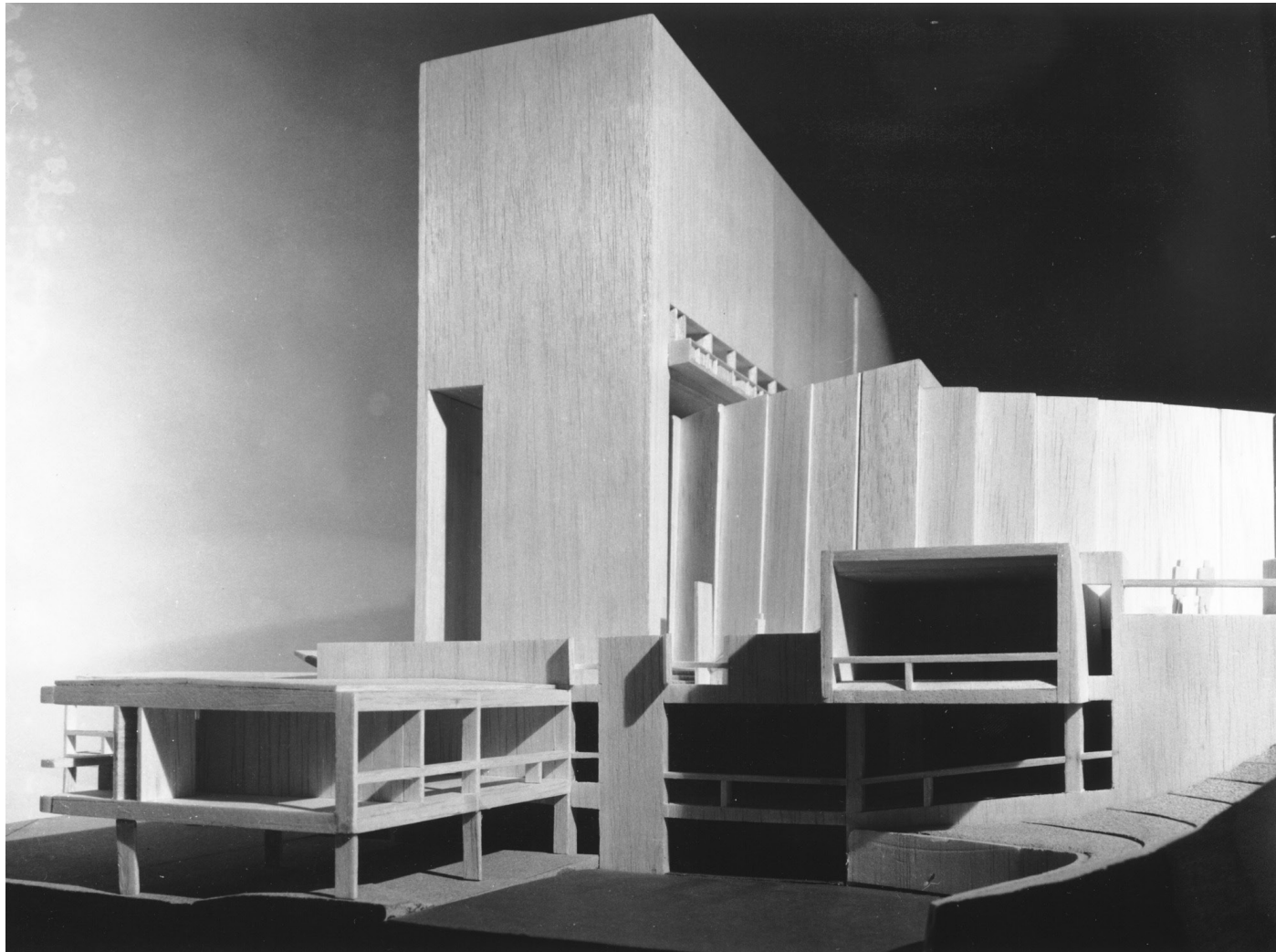












Research questions

How can relationships between different institutions in De Singel cultural complex be shaped? How to negotiate and share common spaces?

What role can an archive serve in context of public responsibility of the VAI?

How to proceed with architectural intervention in context of 20th century modernist heritage and the site as a complex whole? What is essential, what is emphasized?

Personal position

VAi should become a part of DeSingel Cultural Campus, with its functions spread throughout the existing spaces, keeping the added volume to the minimum which the typology of archive necessitates

Through engagement and sharing spaces with institutions operating within DeSingel, VAI can realise its public responsibilities. Becoming more receptive of contemporary cultural discourse and striving for interdisciplinary collaborative approach

The proposal should engage the existing condition with care towards the modernist sensibility and later interventions, taking in the existing as it is. Fostering an image based not in aesthetics but relations, affordance and material culture of the site. Striving to restore and emphasize the original intentions of both Stynen's and Beel proposals.

Expo

PROPOSAL

DOGMA

STADSVILLA

Van speculatie naar samenwerking

In deze tentoonstelling onderzoekt het Brussels Instituut Dogma de stadsvilla als het beste voorbeeld van een stedelijke vorm die gemeenschappelijkheid mogelijk maakt. De stadsvilla is een woonvorm die voortvloeit uit de behoefte aan een woonruimte die niet alleen geschikt is voor een gezin, maar ook voor een groep mensen. De stadsvilla is een woonvorm die voortvloeit uit de behoefte aan een woonruimte die niet alleen geschikt is voor een gezin, maar ook voor een groep mensen.

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URBANVILLA

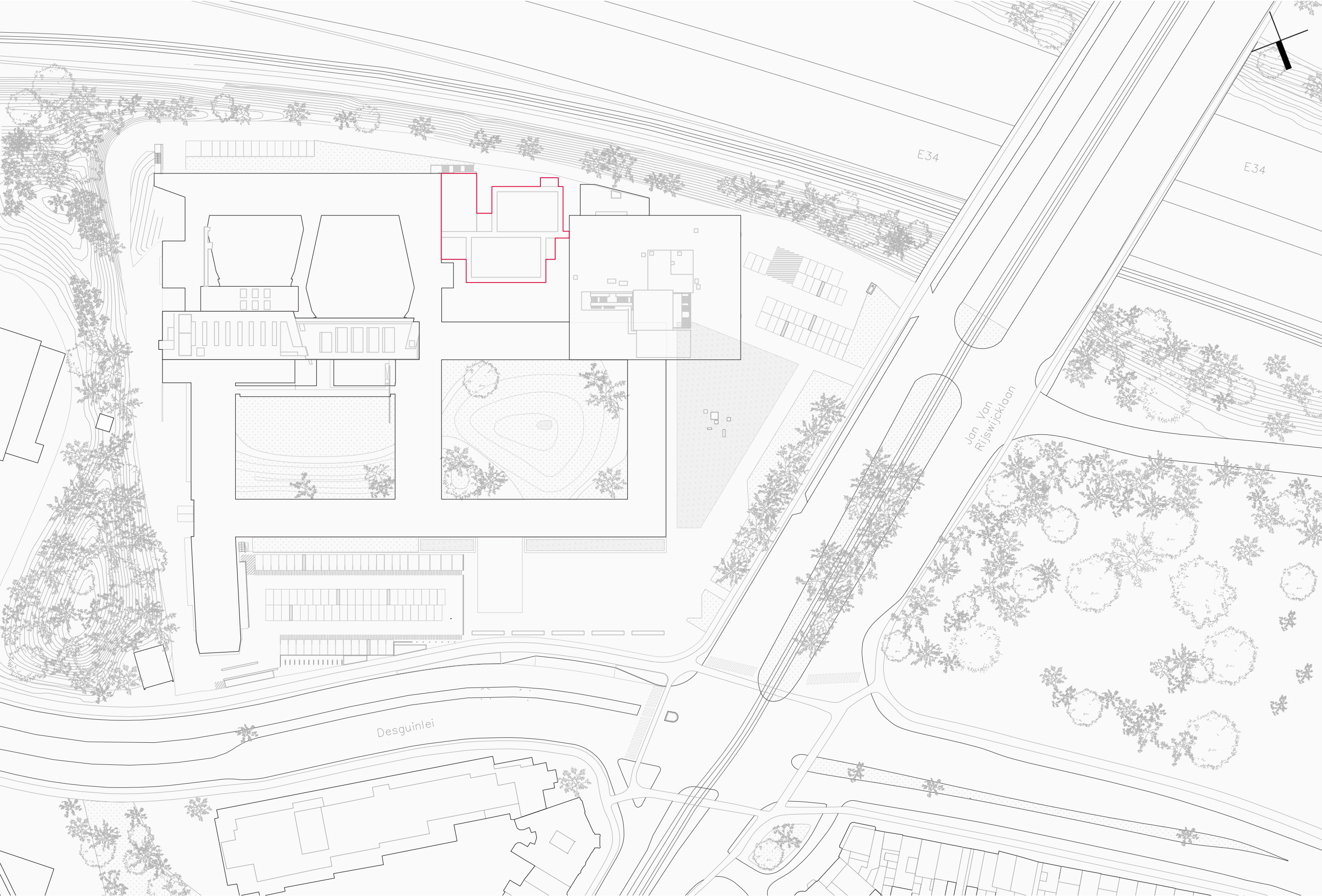
From Speculation to Cooperation

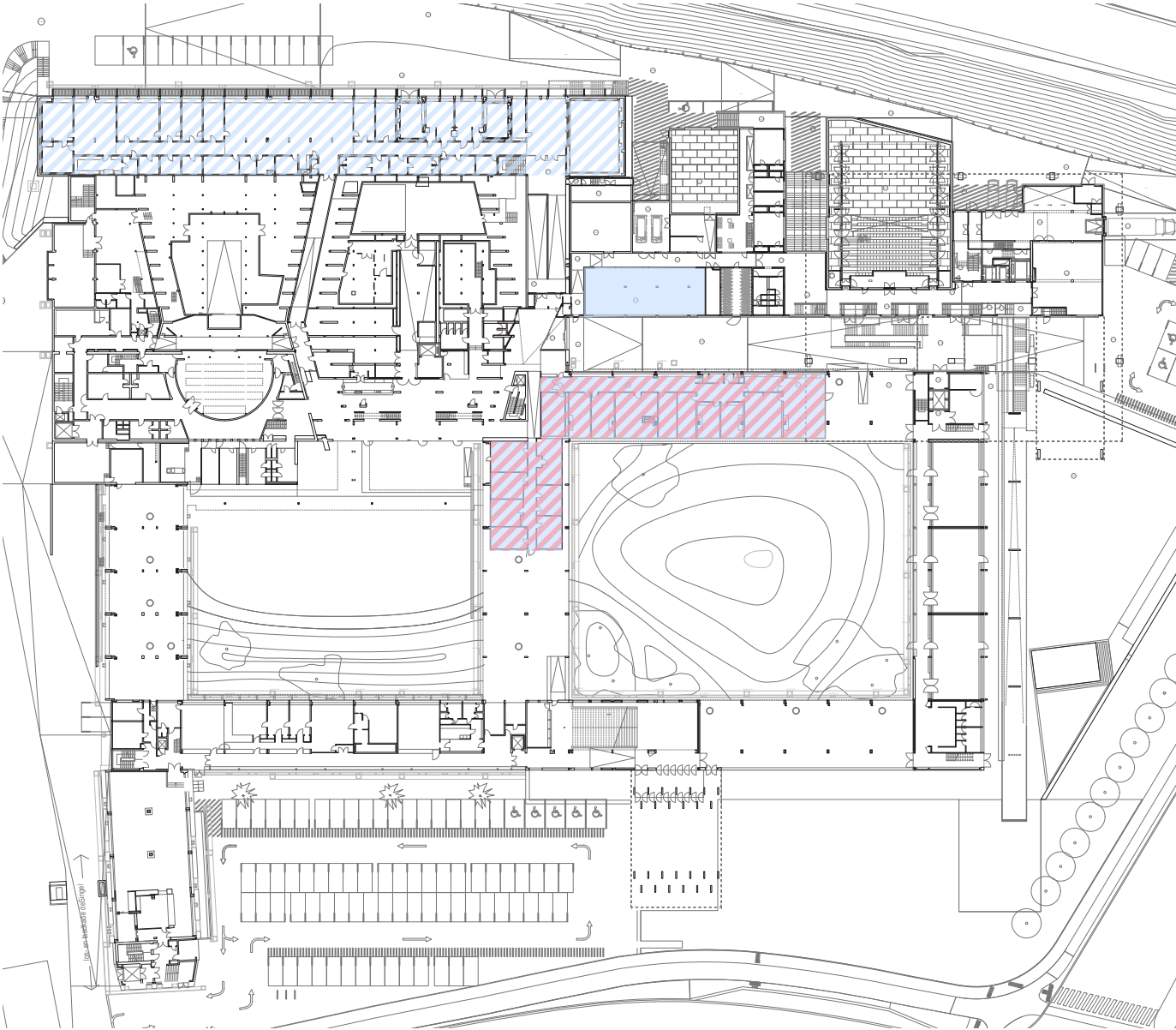
In this exhibition, Brussels-based office Dogma explores the urban villa as the best form for a housing type in which many functions are combined in one building. The urban villa is a housing type that emerged in the 19th century in Europe and beyond. It is a housing type that emerged in the 19th century in Europe and beyond. It is a housing type that emerged in the 19th century in Europe and beyond.

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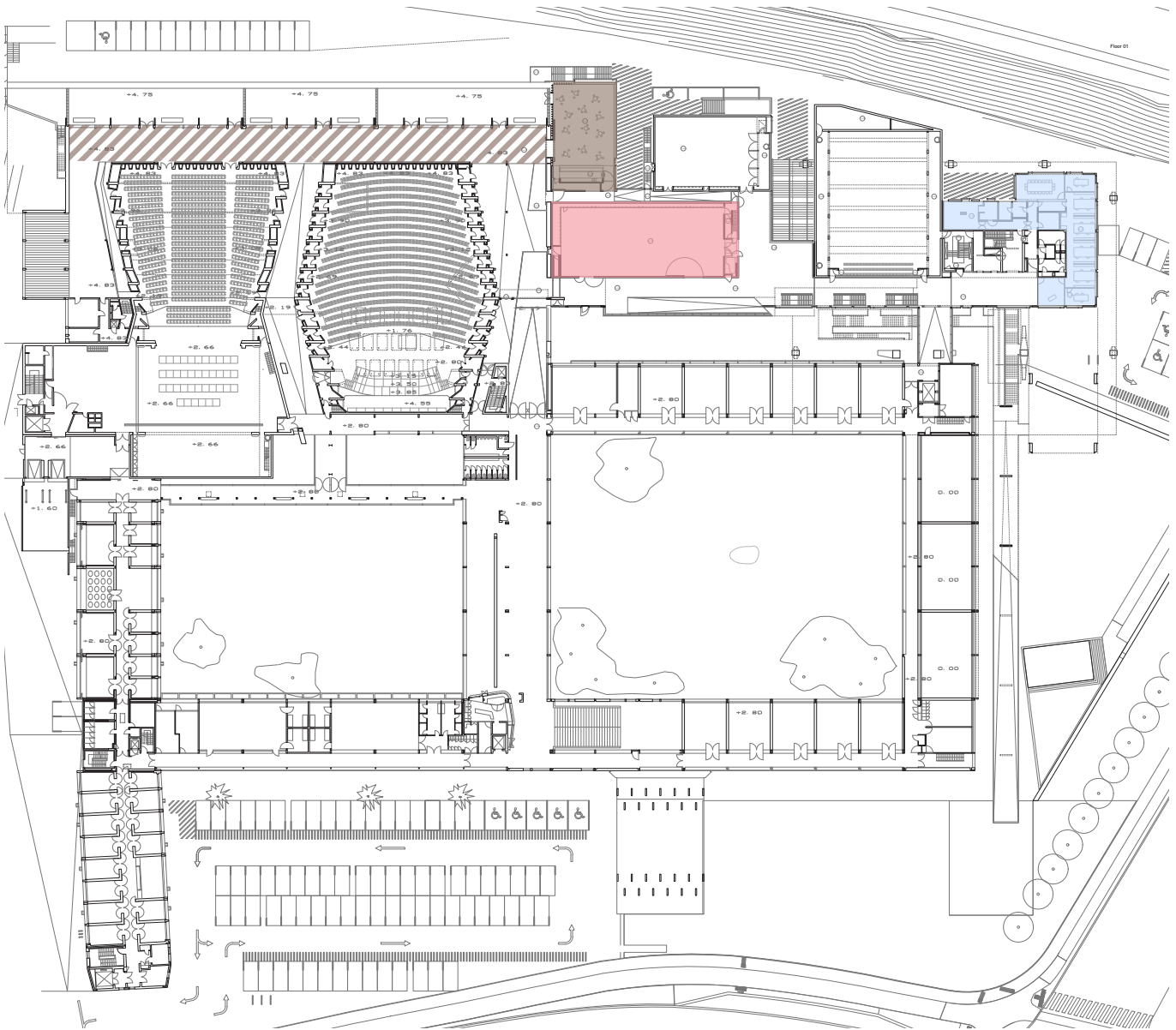
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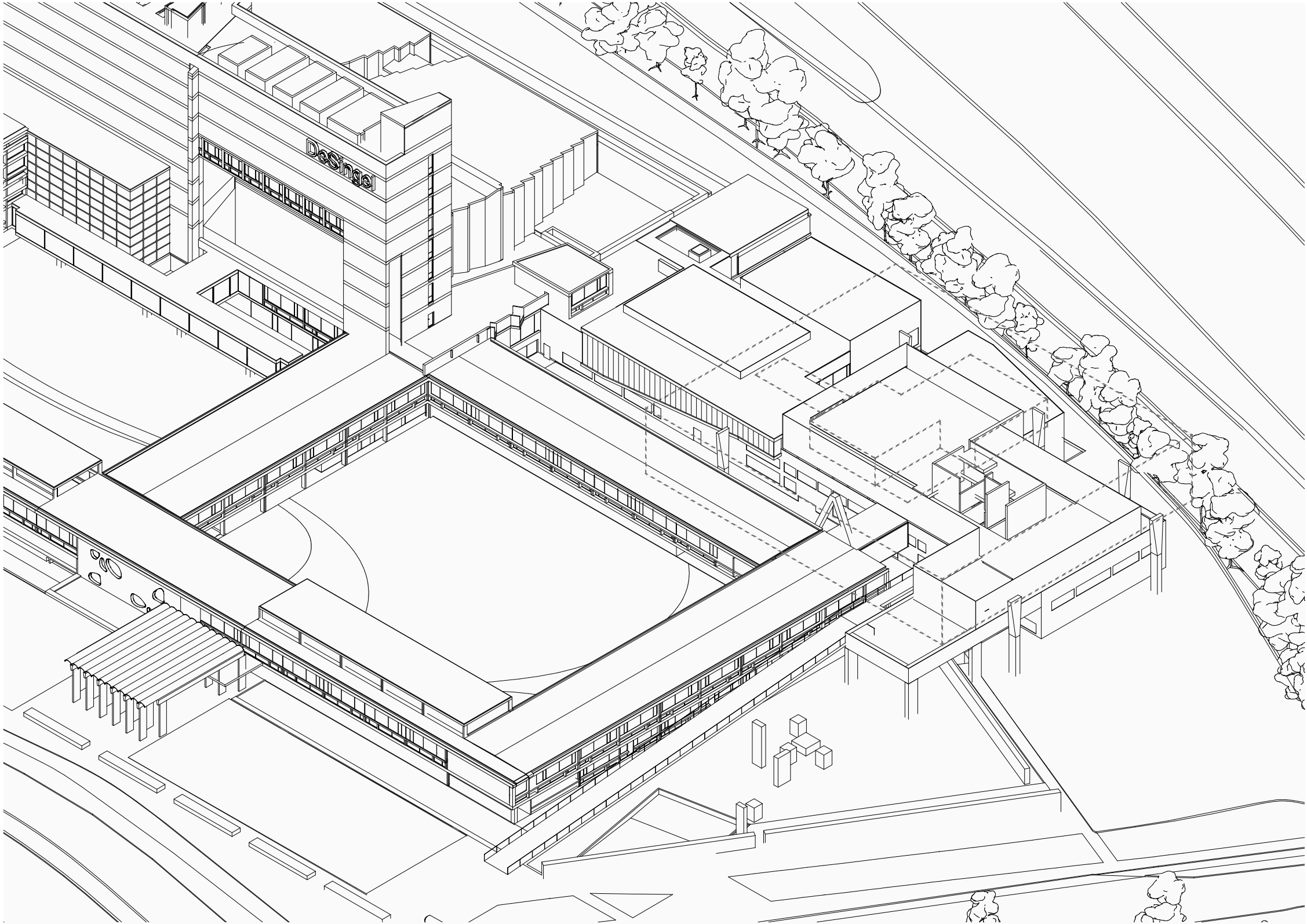
Floor 00

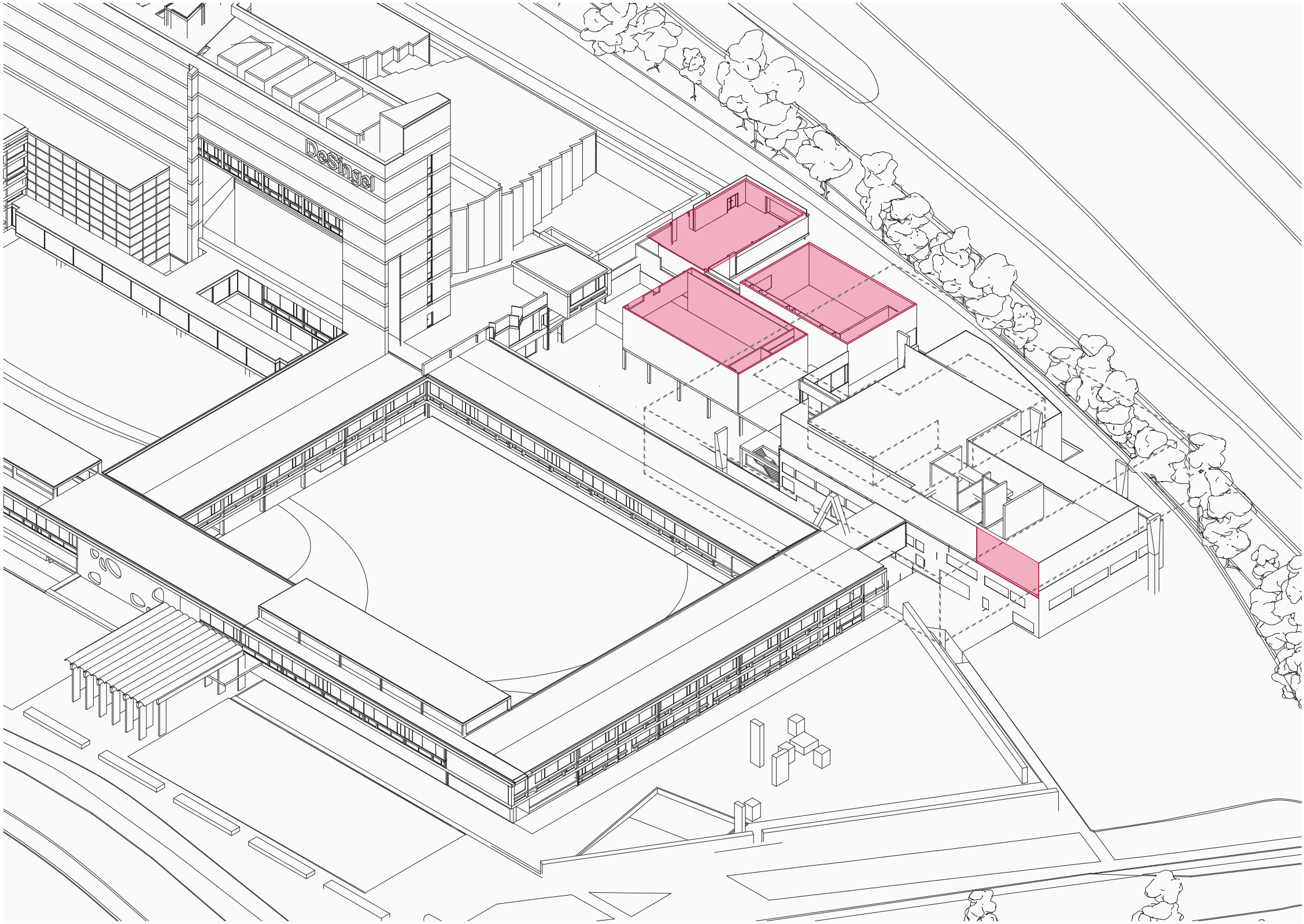


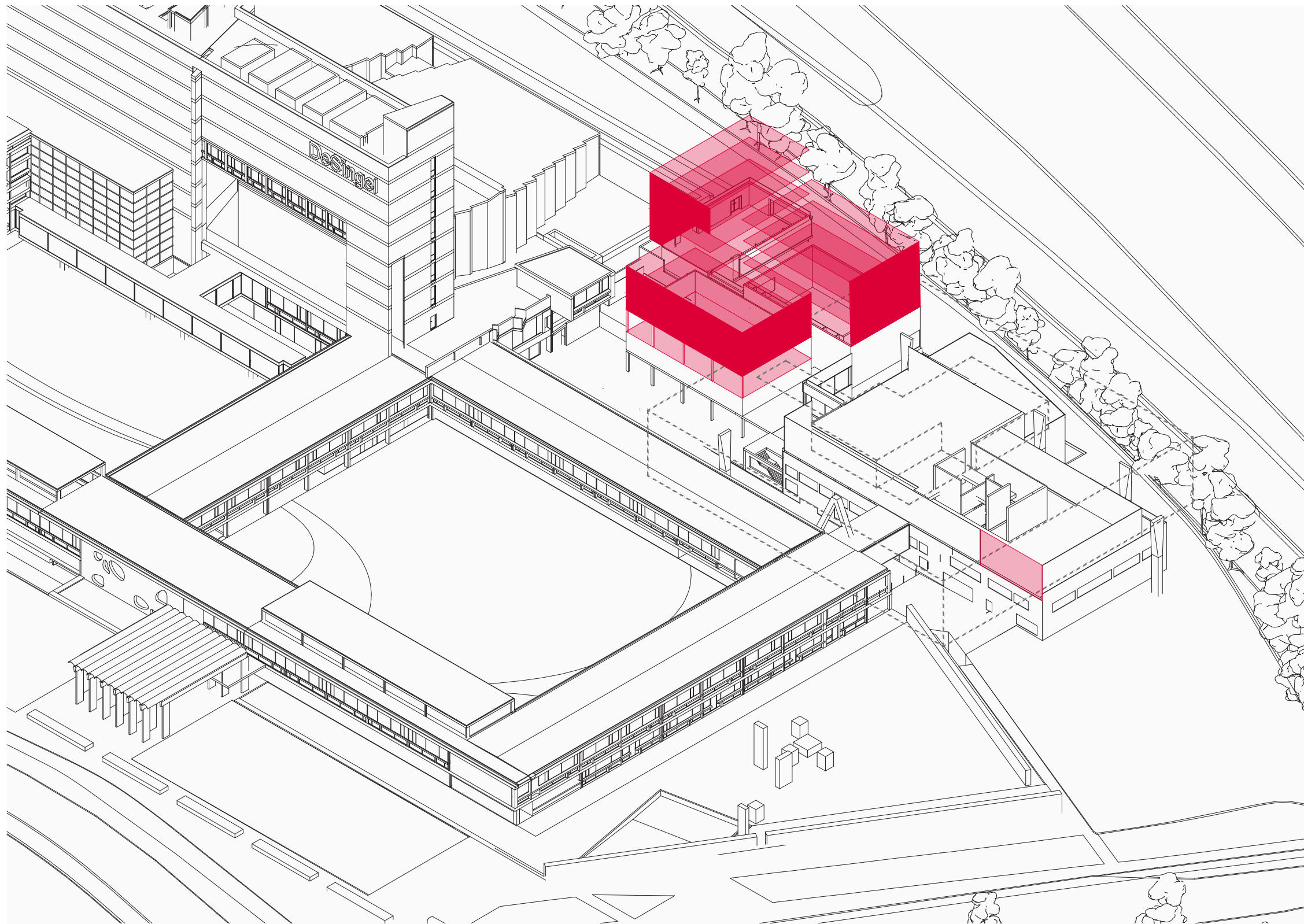
Floor 01

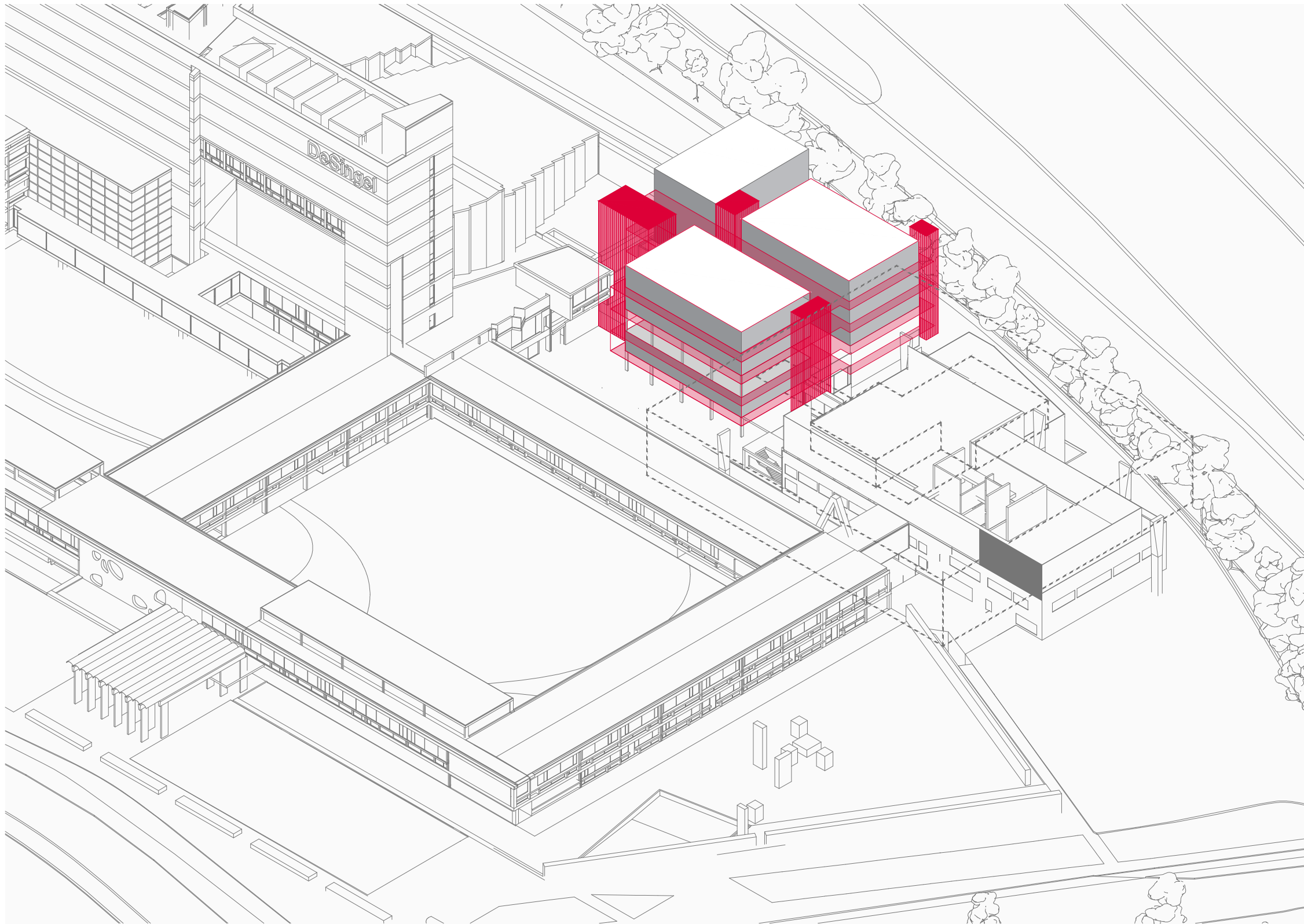
Expo
Offices
Foyer

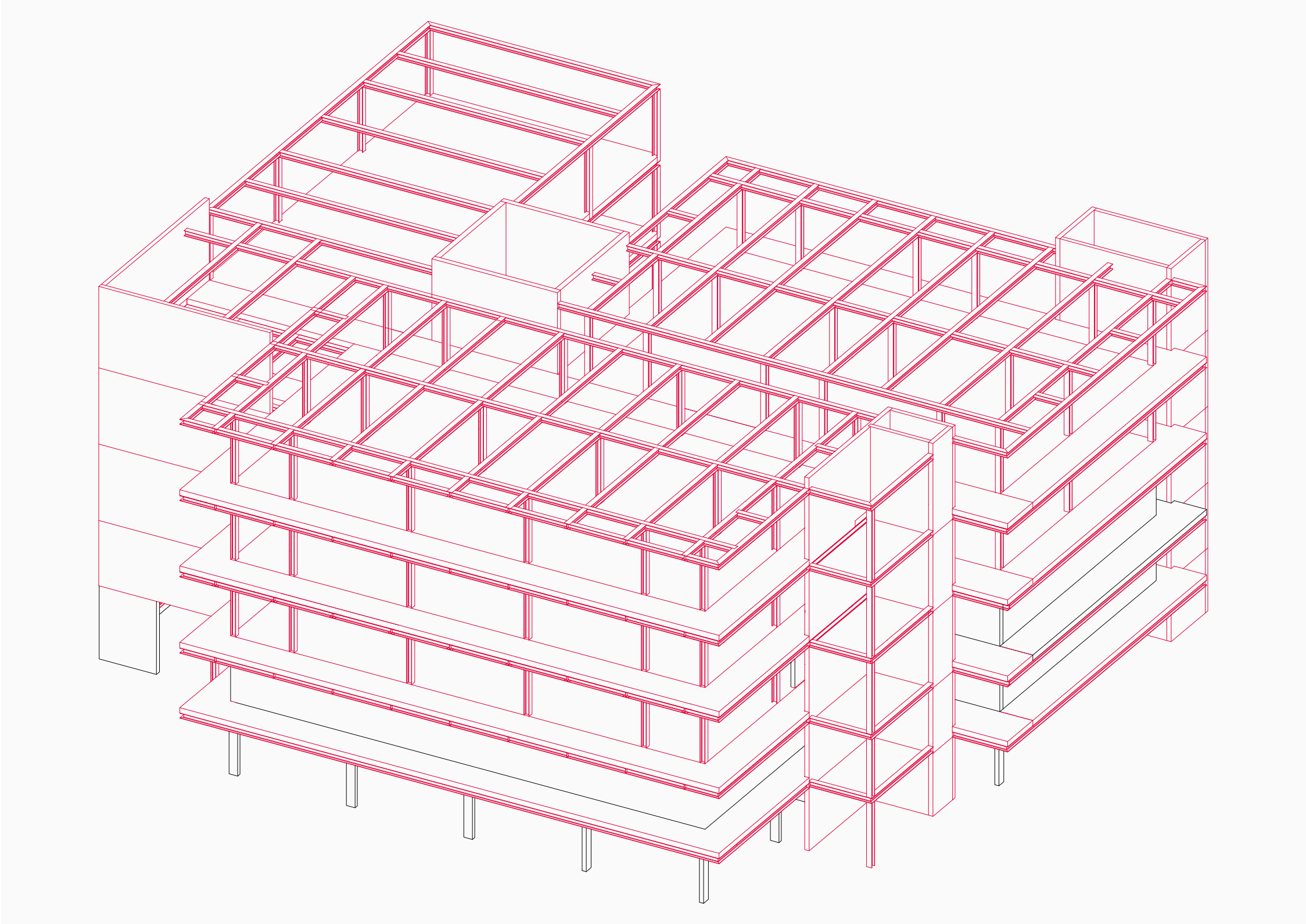


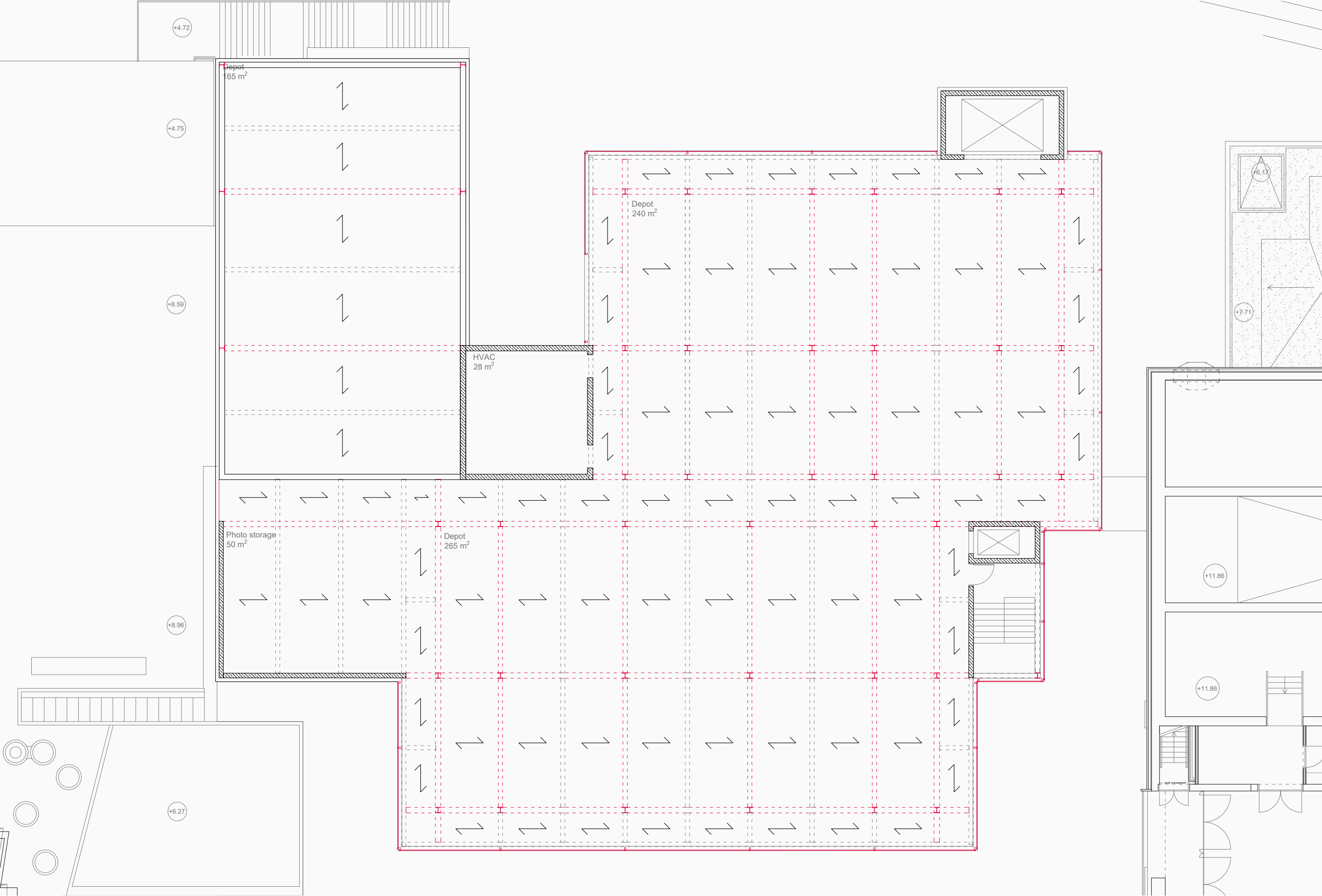


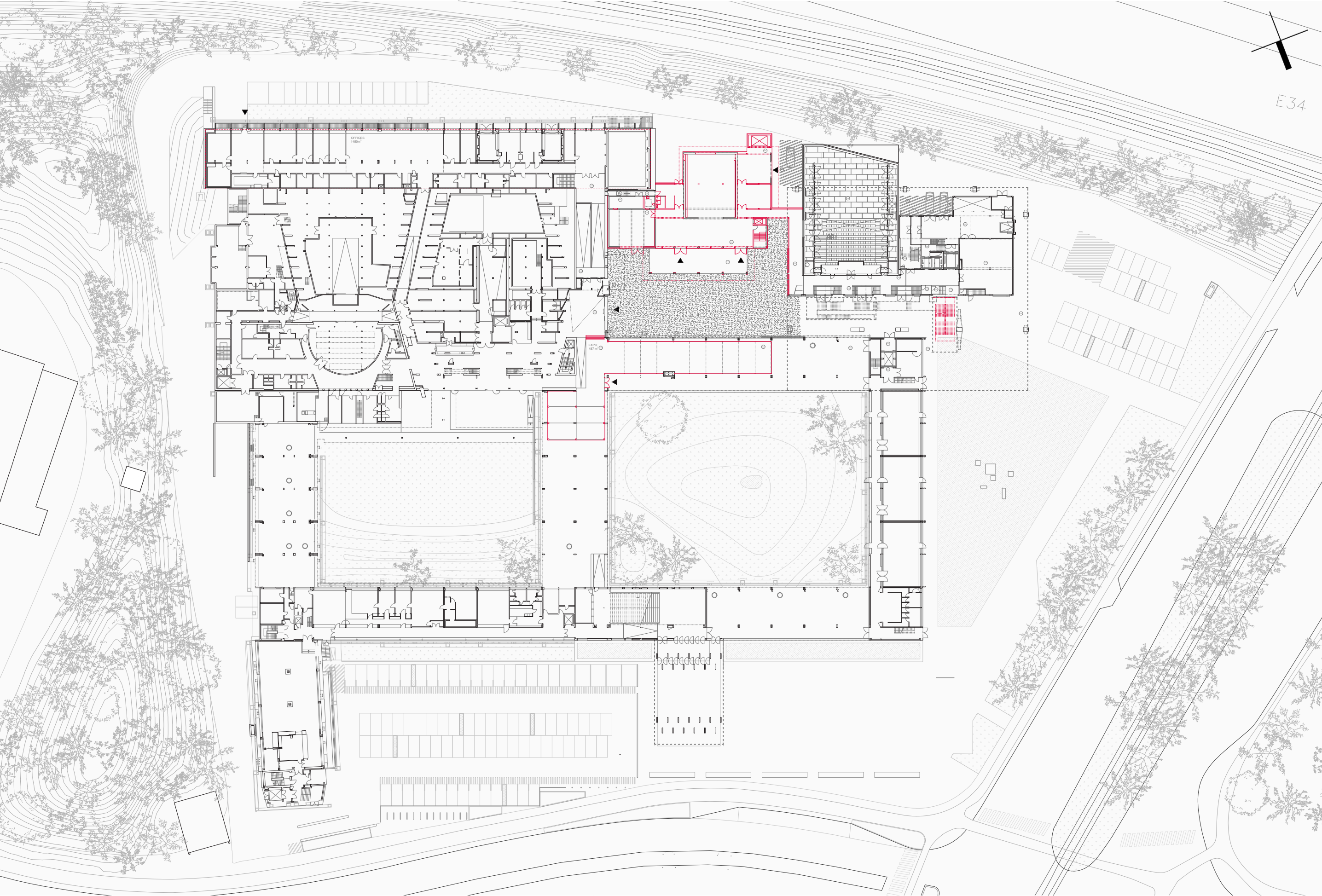


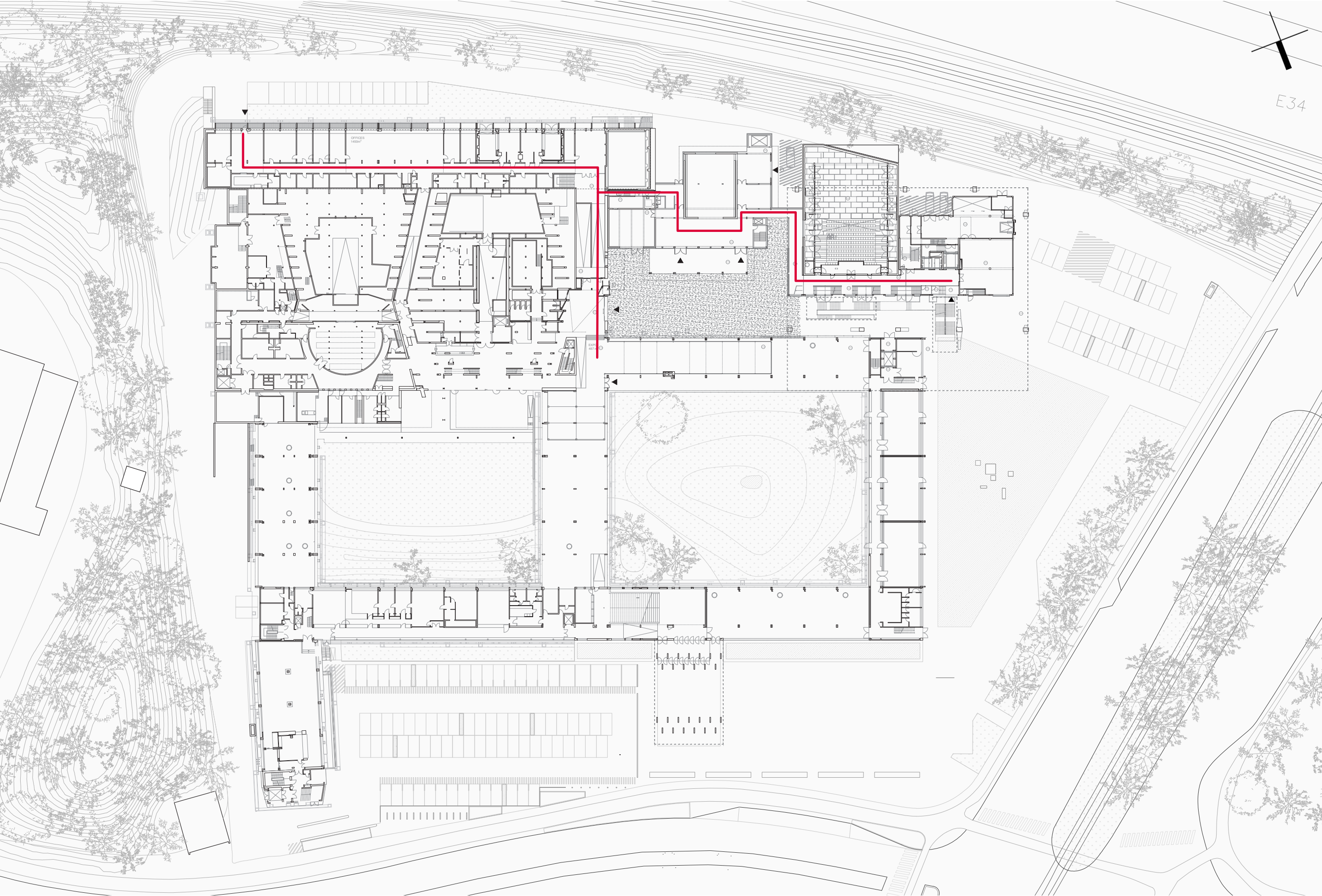




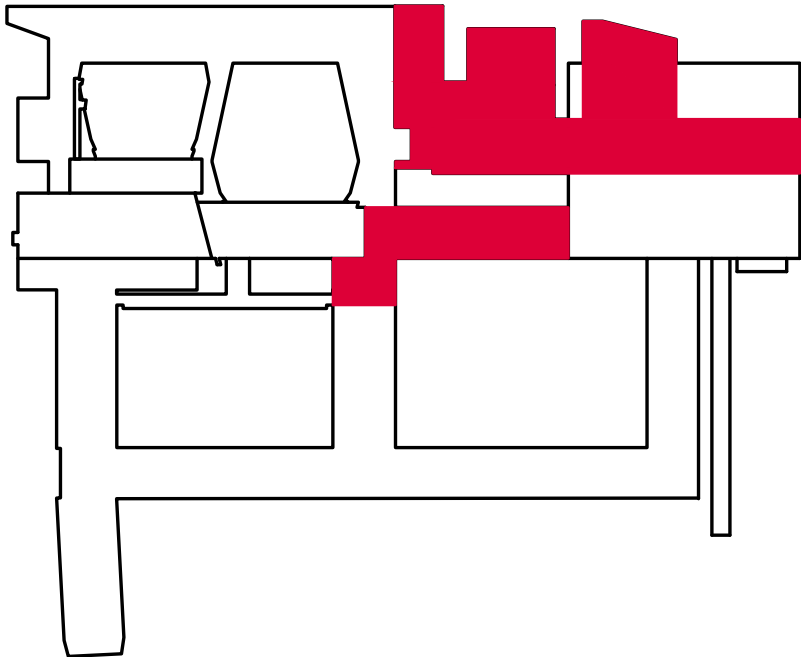


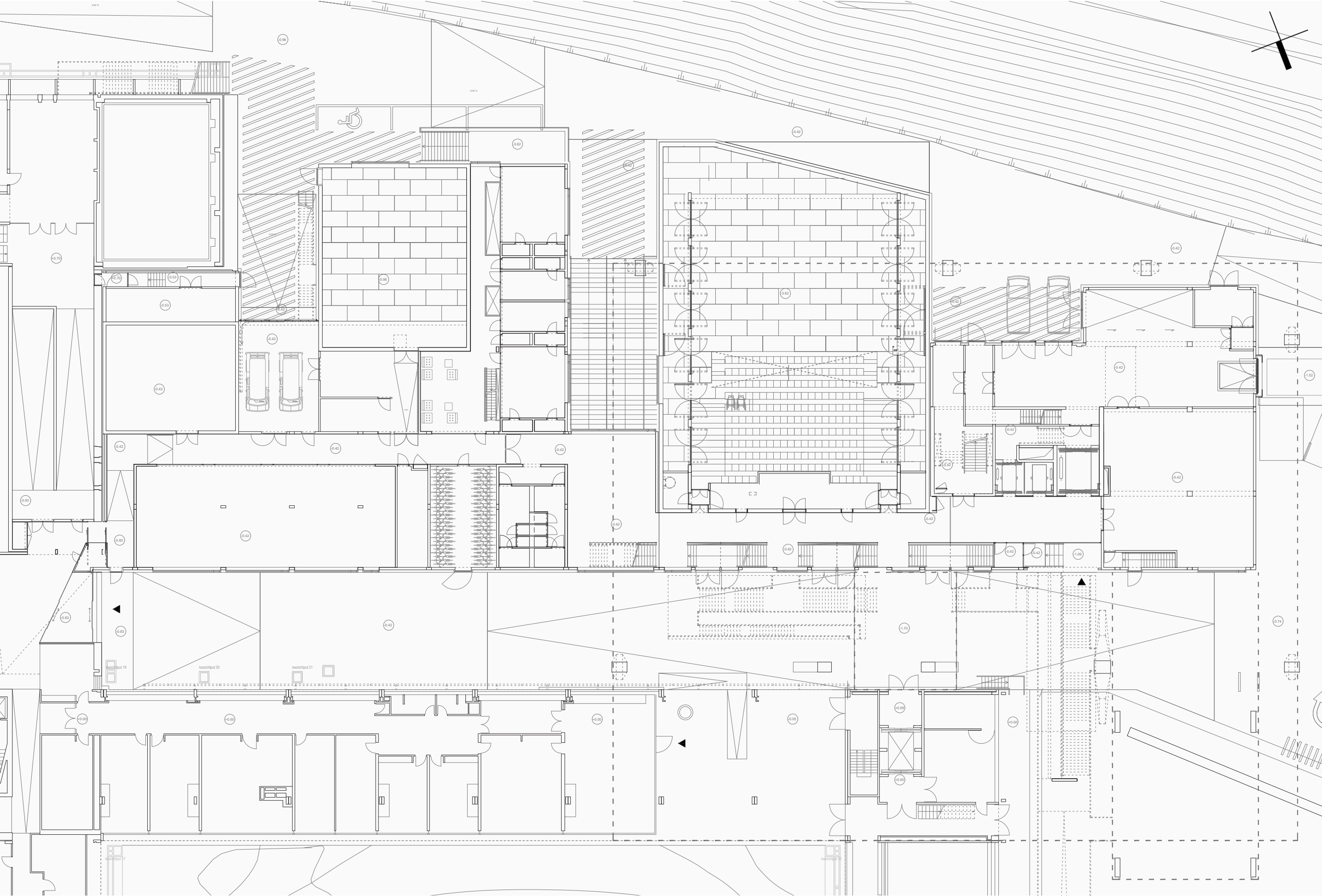


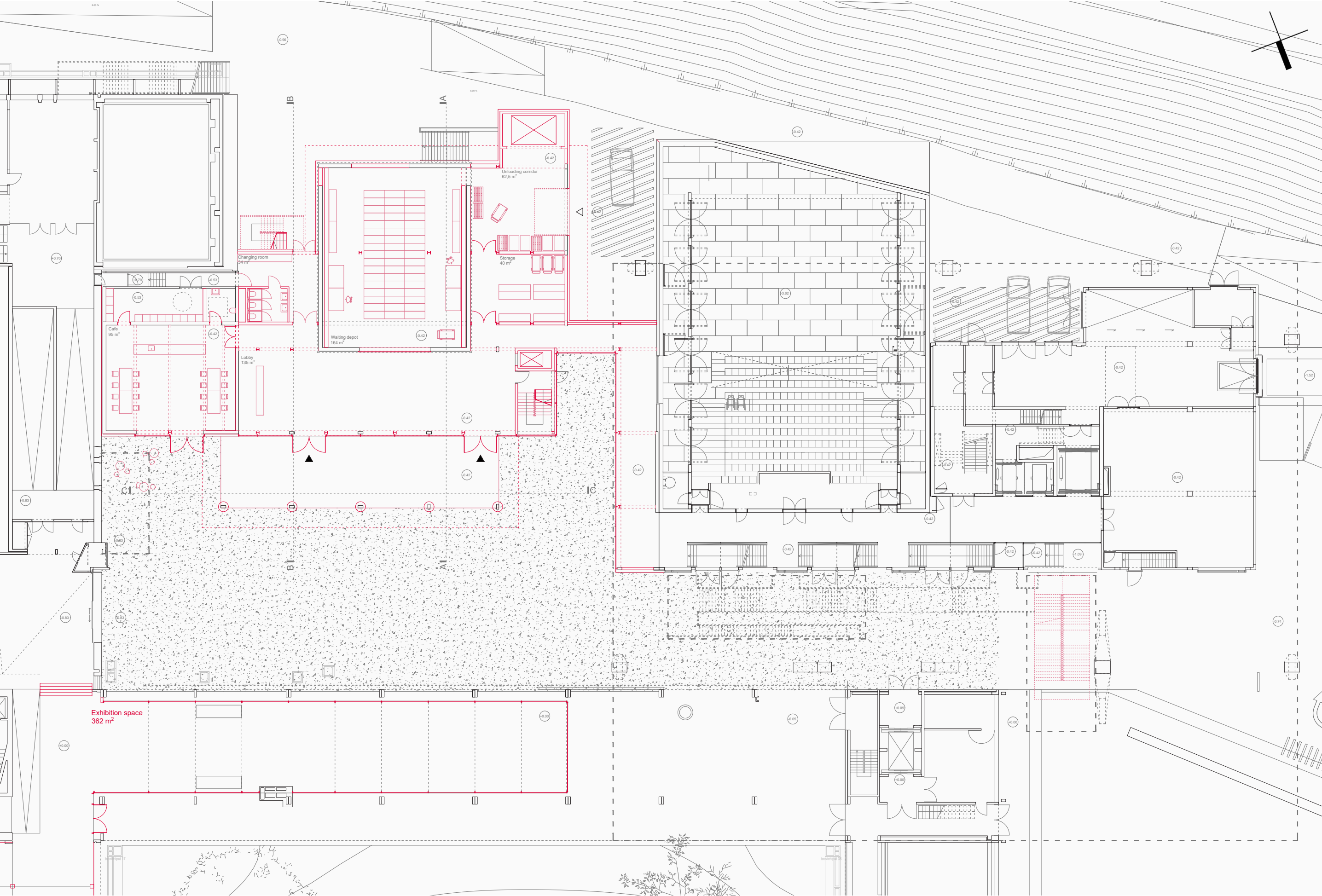




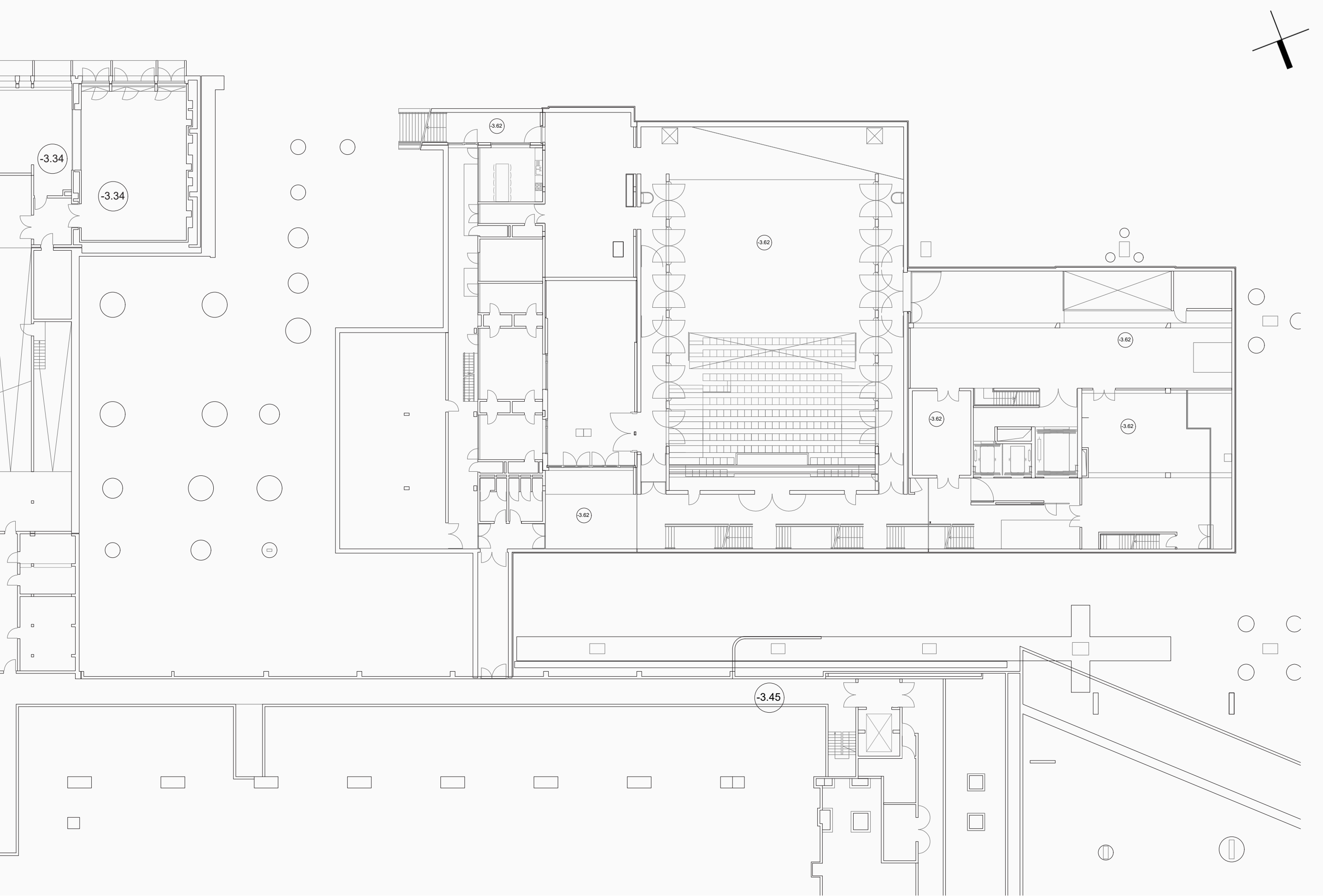


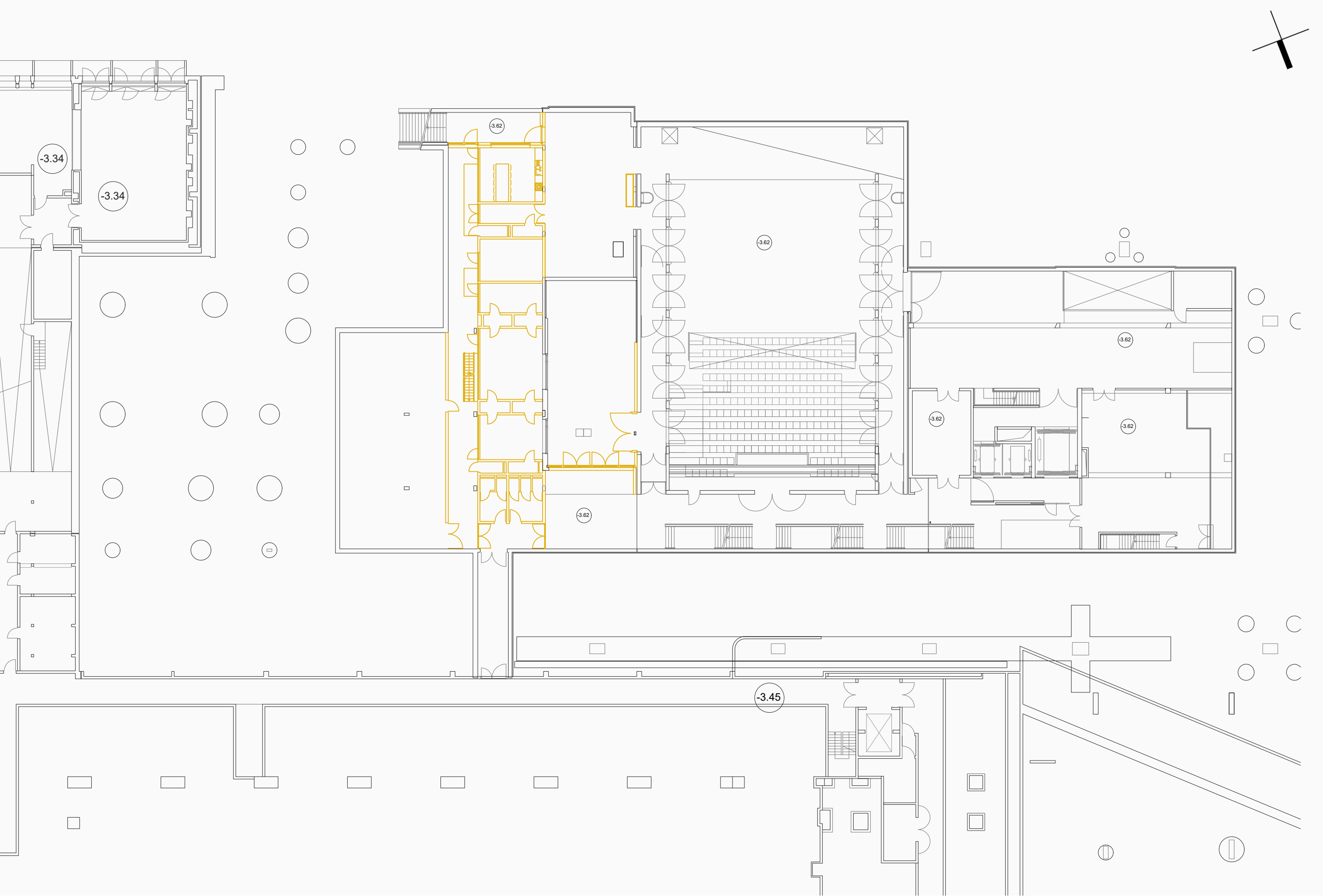


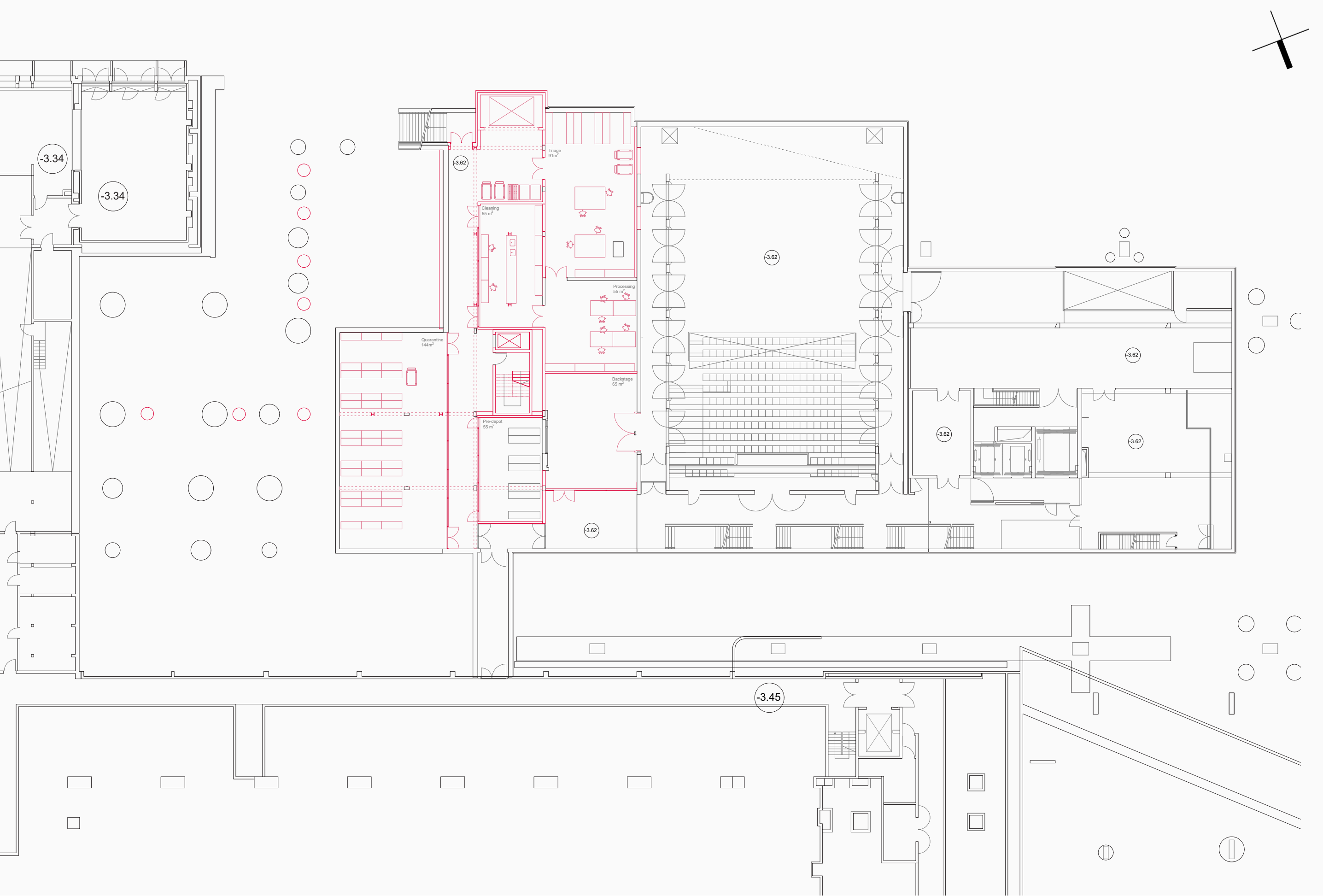


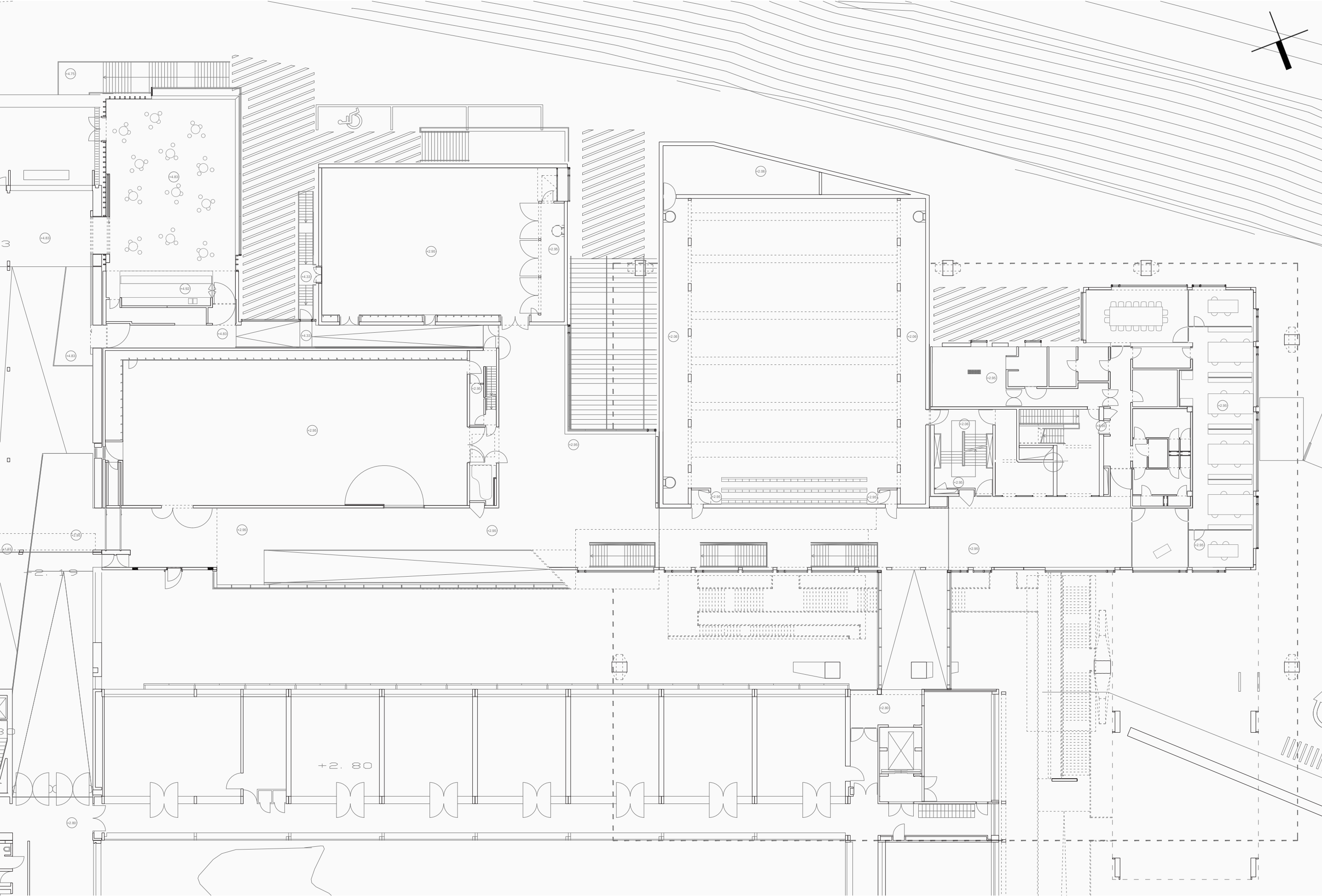


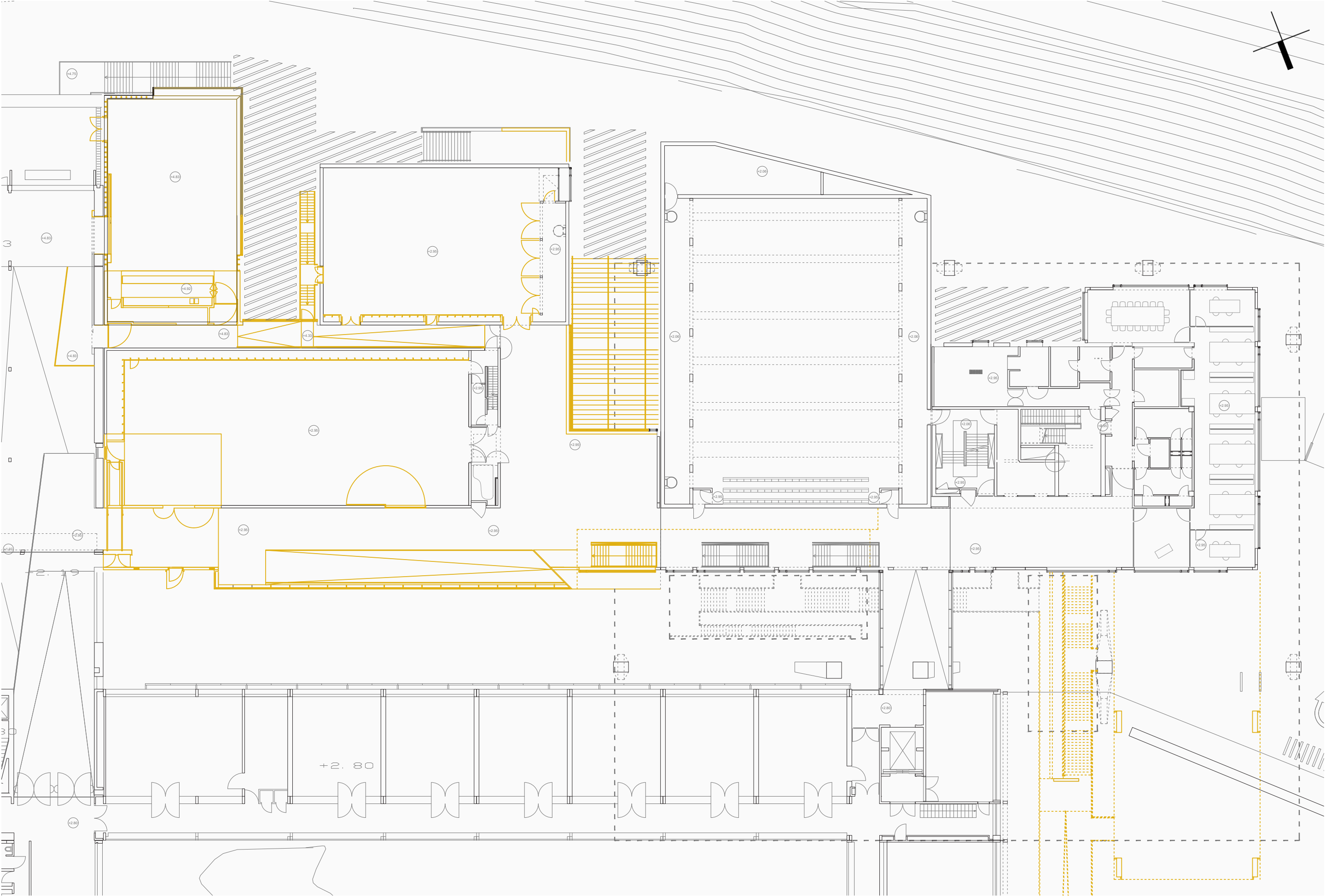


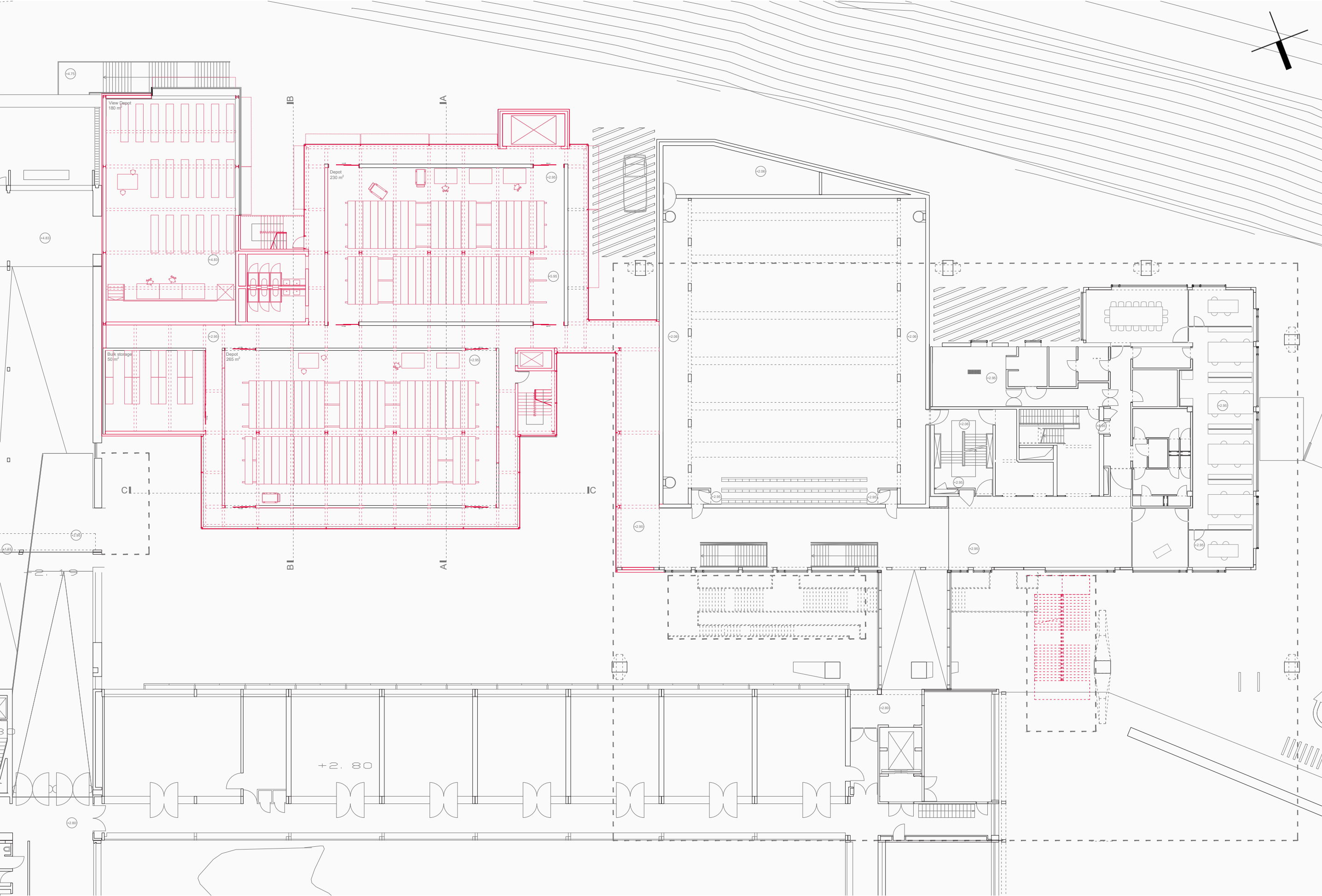






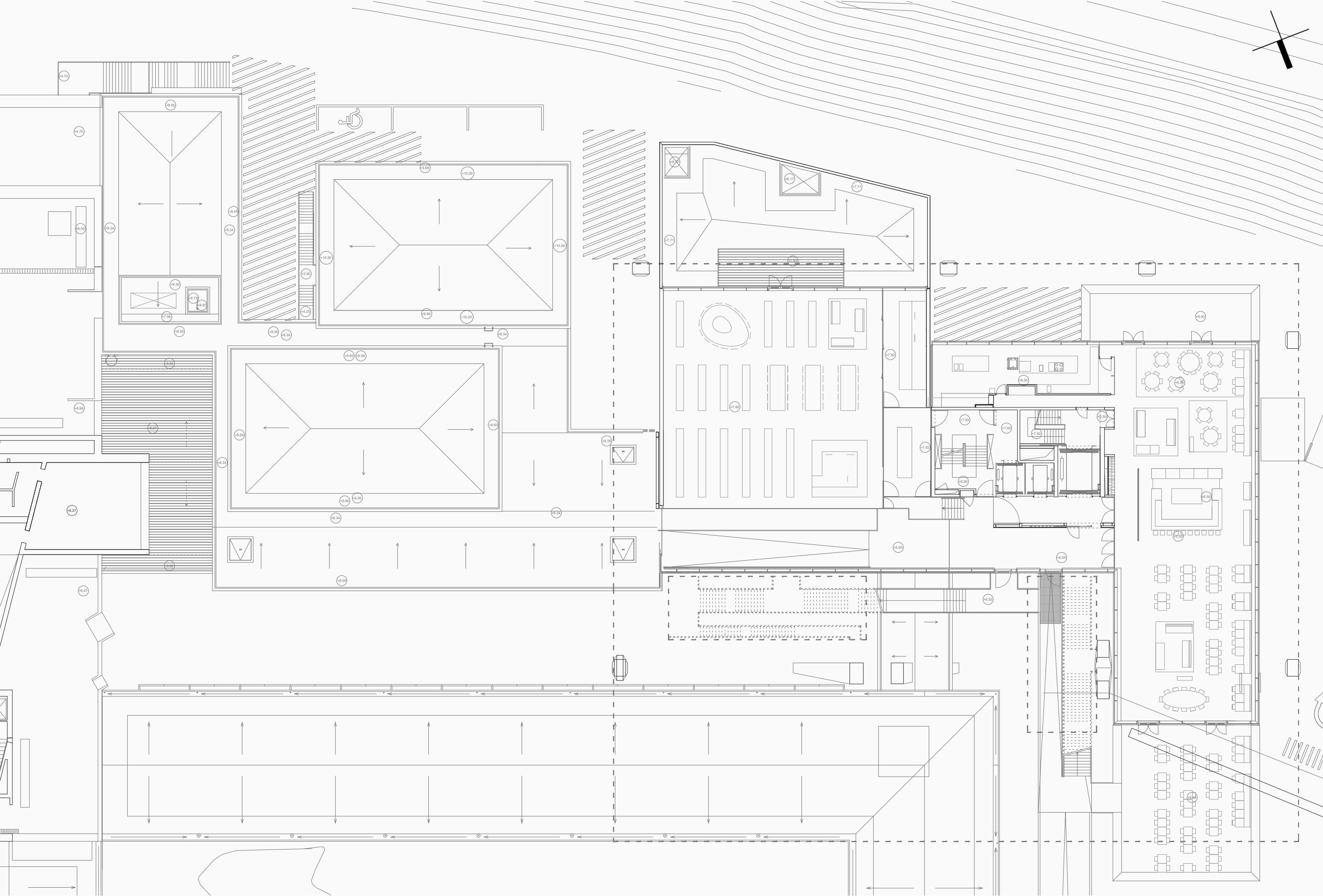


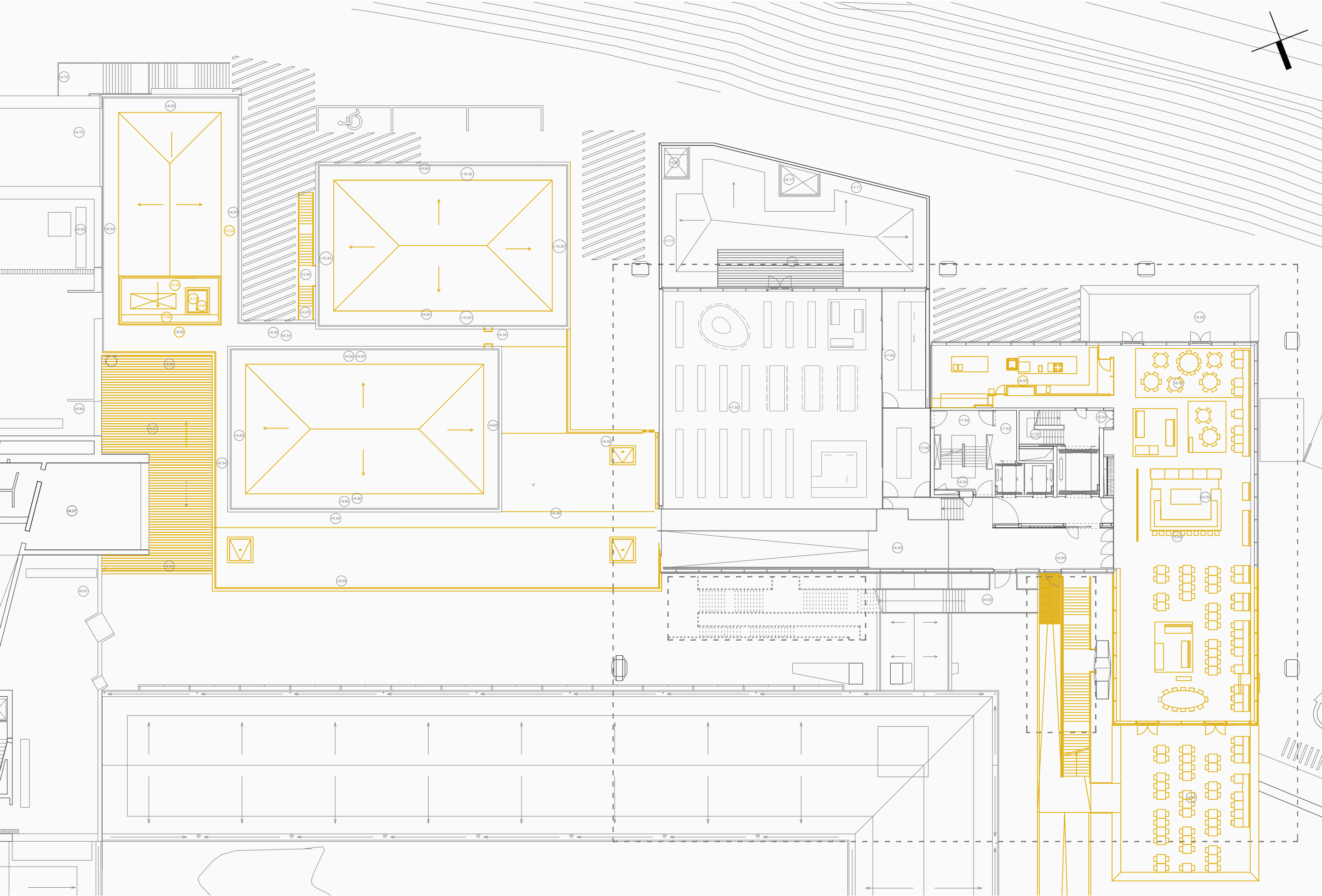




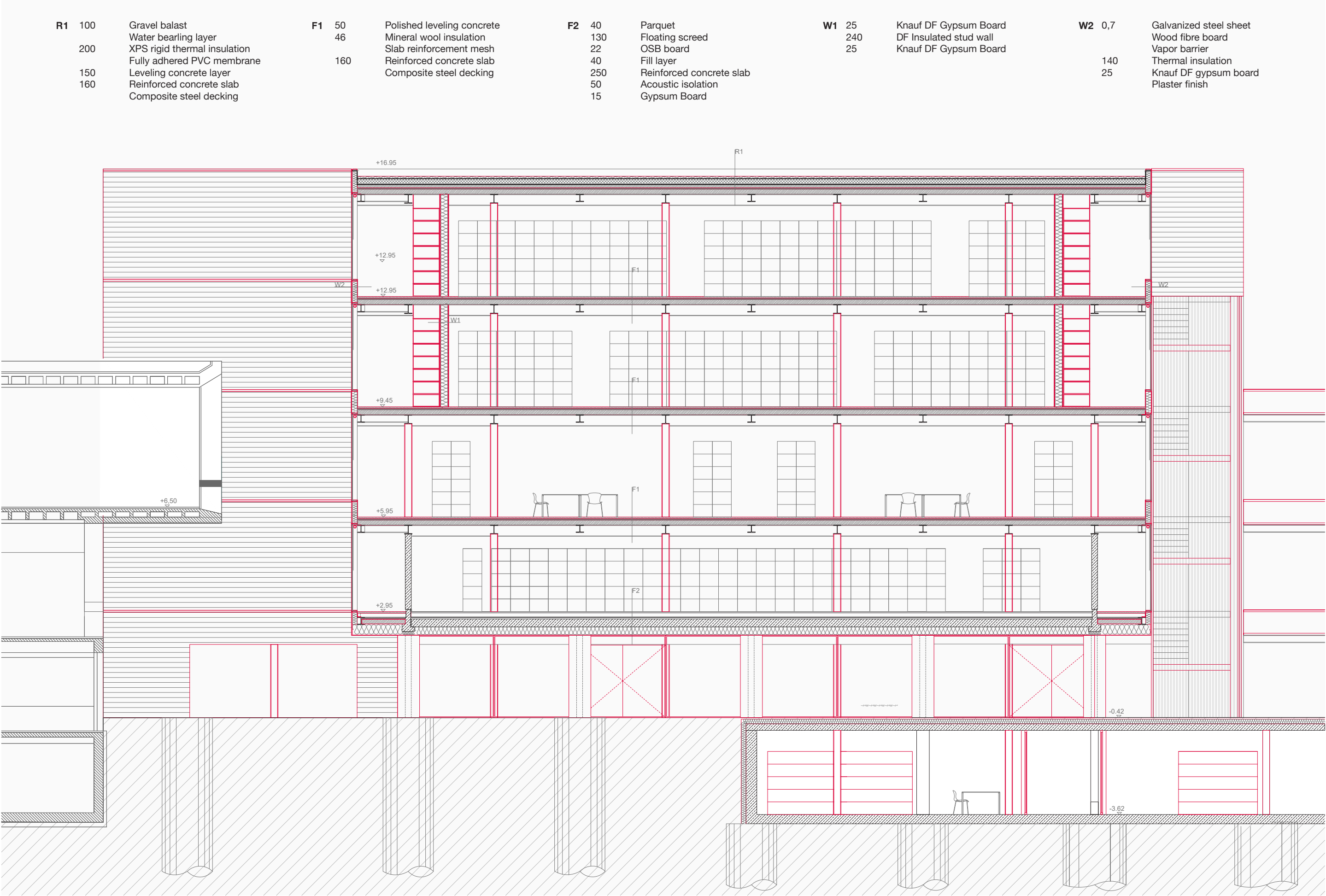




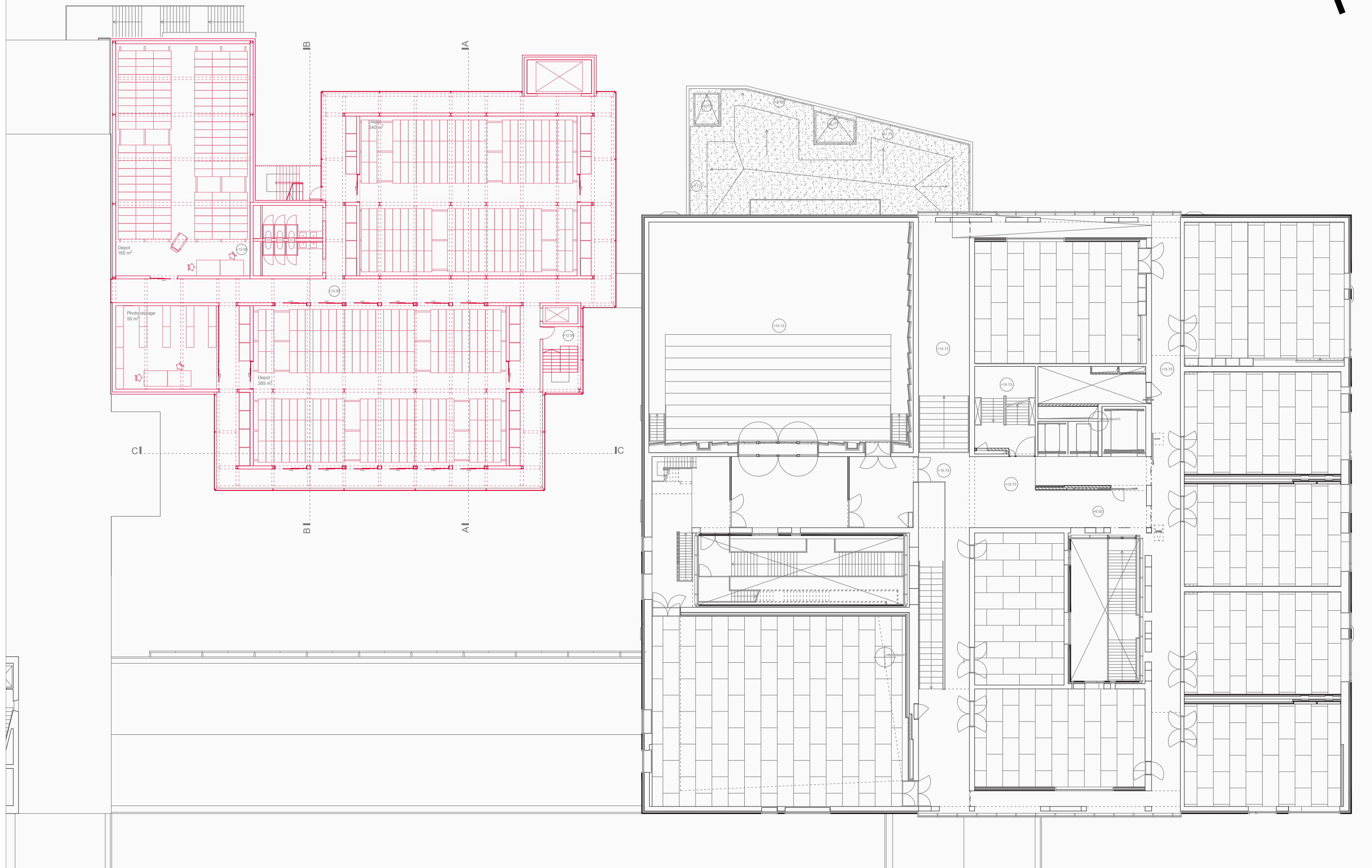


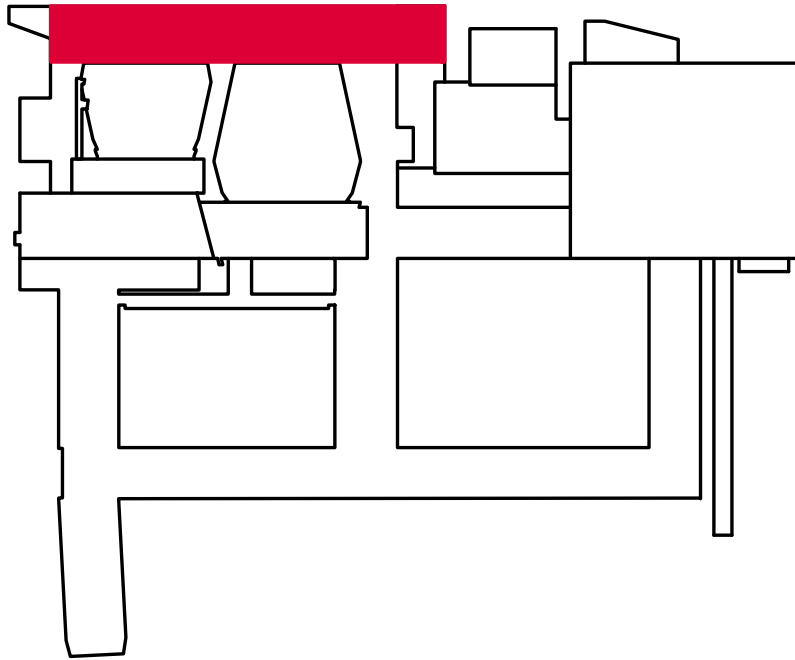


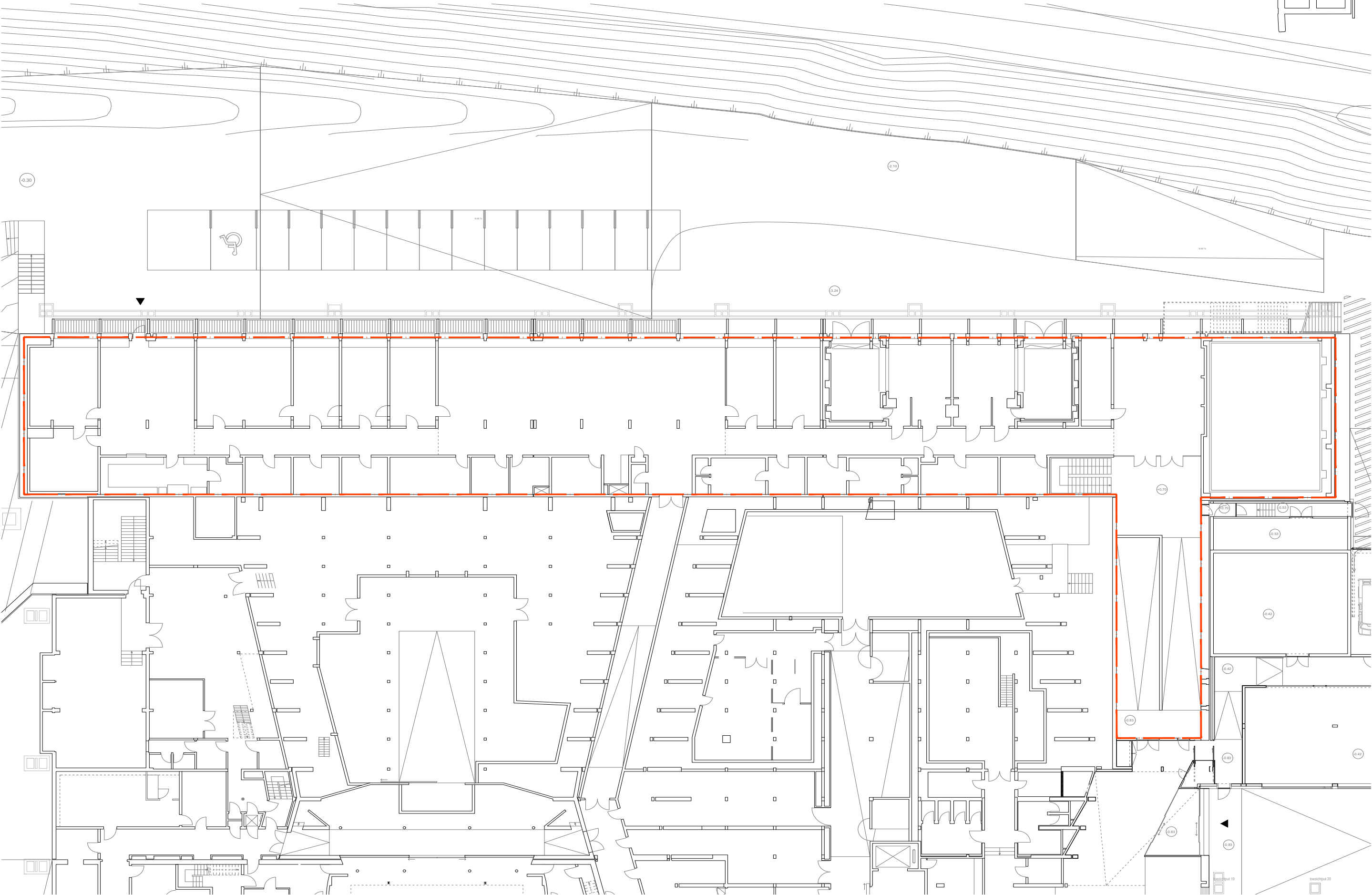
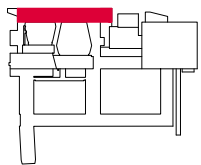
Proposal

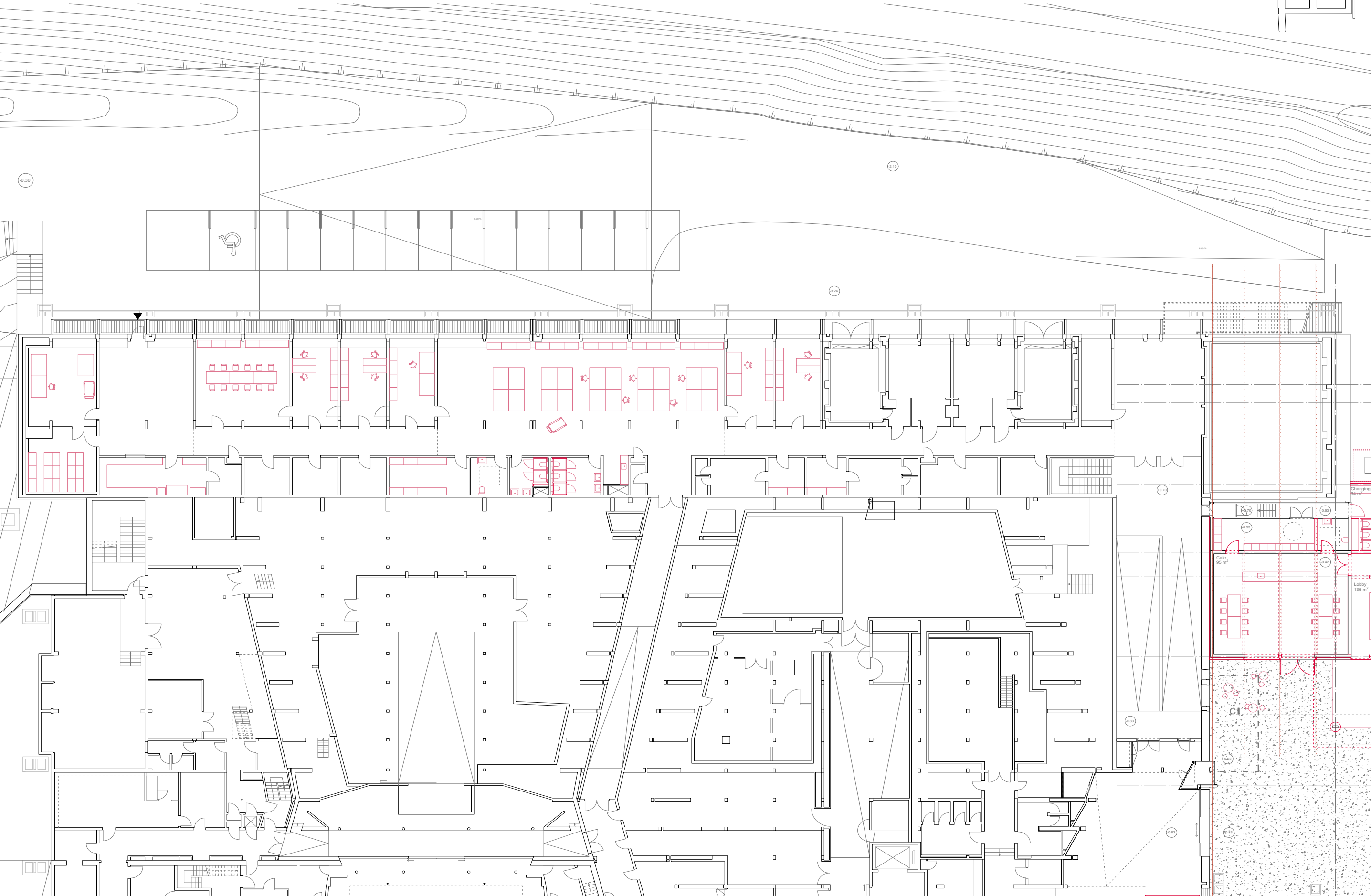
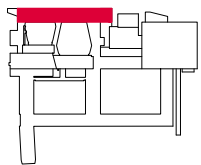










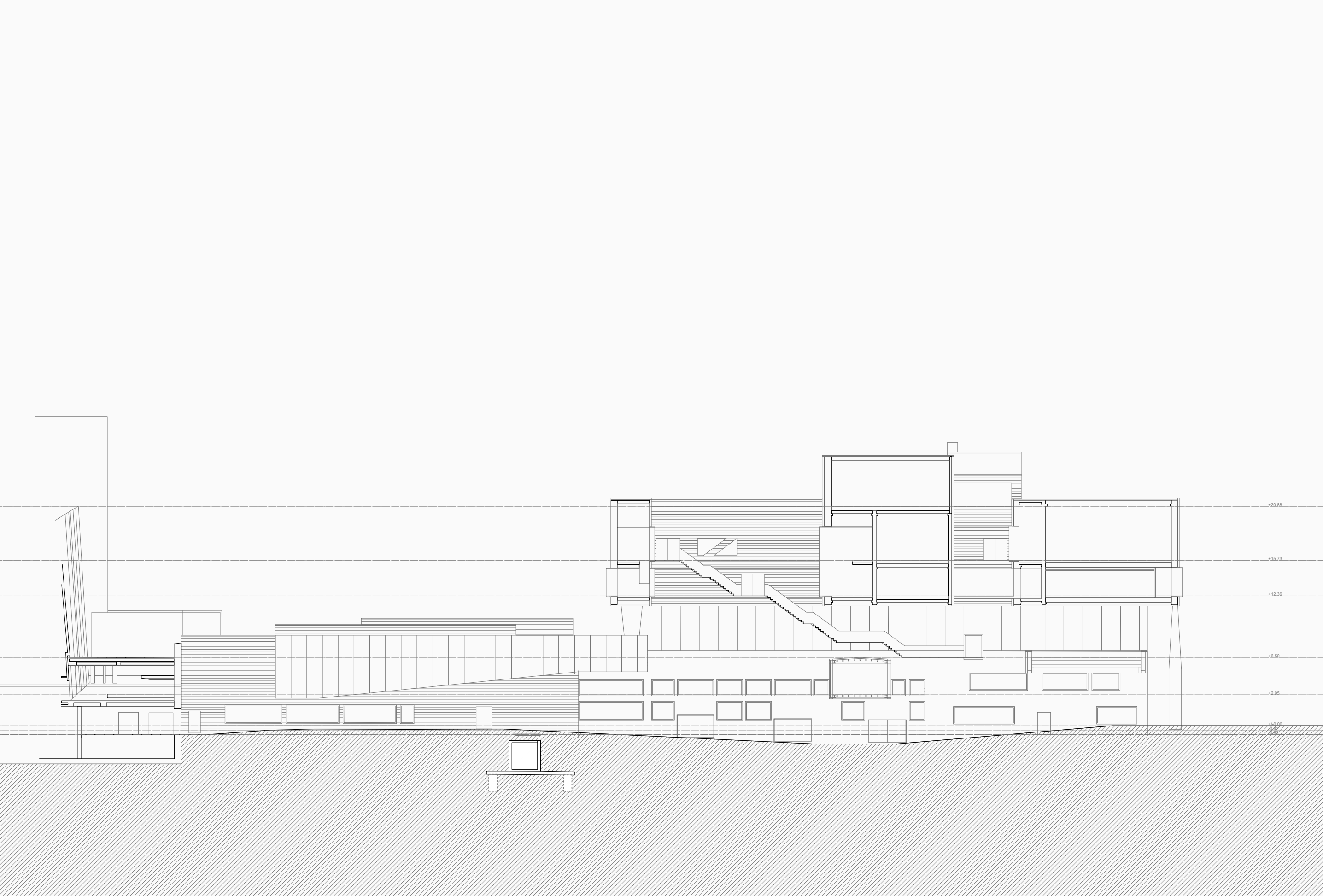


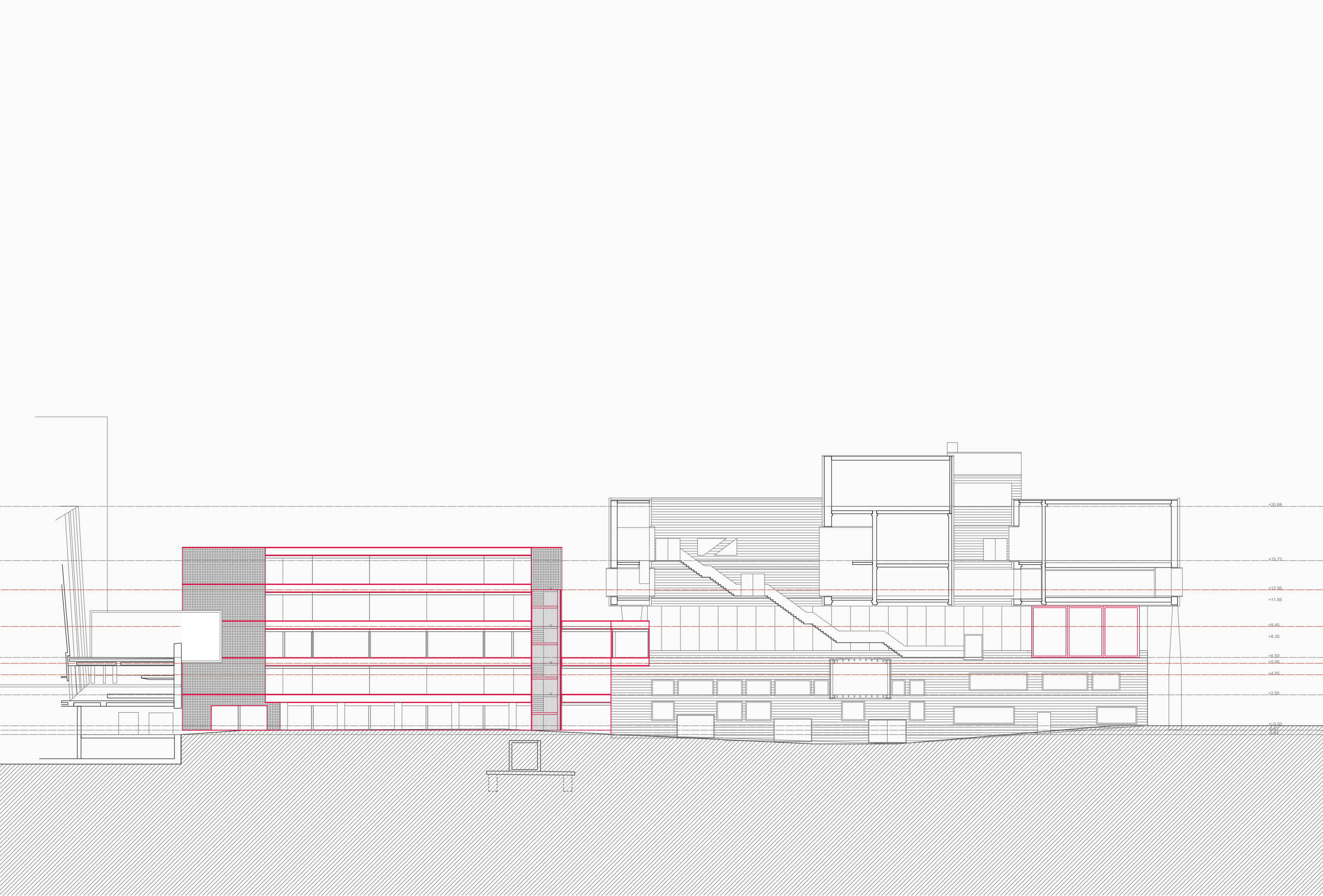




Name	Size m ²	Description
Total	5157,25	
Public	700	
Reception and counter	100	incl. separate sanitary facilities and seating
Exhibition space/multifunctional space	200	cf. current reading room 96m2, is too small; keep reading room and library separate; small separate group study room
Reading room	200	
Library	200	Books and visitors' workstations
Additional	872,25	
Staff workspace	300	
Large workplace for archive employees	300	12.5 m2 per employee (+/-30 employeeed, including interns, temporary employees, etc.)
Large workstation with archives	12,25	3.5x3.5m
Standard office space		
Focus Spots		
1 large meeting room	80	
1 small meeting room	30	
kitchen, bathroom, dressing room	150	
Archive	3585	
Storage packaging material	120	near archive depot, office
Loading and unloading space	150	
Waiting depot	100	emergency depot, storage of non-exclusive archives, bulk pallets
Triage space correct - contaminated material	60	
Quarantine	120	Storage of containment material =
Cleaning	60	Processing of containment material
pre-depot	60	Storage of own material
processing	60	processing of own material
Digitization space	60	own material
Restoration studio	60	own material
Depot storage	2500	Currently 1500, growth in recent years 470m in 5-7 yrs > per 5yr 400m with extensive storage system, paper climate class
Climate class photo storage	100	
Bulk storage		
Storage in racks and planning cabinets		
View depot	125	visually attractive, desire to collect more 3D objects, this could be a regular depot box with a transparent wall in front
Server space	10	not on functional schedual

Name	Size m ²	Description
Total	5649	
Public	1050	additional 377m2
Reception and counter	135	incl. separate sanitary facilities and seating
Exhibition space/multifunctional space	362	Exhibition space realized as pavilion between existing courtyard and new one
Reading room	290	In place of current VAI offices
Library	263	Extension to existing library
Bookstore	148	Extension of exhibition space
Additional	950	
Staff workspace	300	
Large workplace for archive employees	390	Realized on 2nd floor in former expo space
Large workstation with archives		Part of the large workplace above
Standard office space		
Focus Spots		
1 large meeting room	80	
1 small meeting room	30	
kitchen, bathroom, dressing room	150	
Recording studio	110	Existing part of unused Stynen wing
Archive	3649	
Storage packaging material	40	near archive depot, office
Loading and unloading space	80	
Waiting depot	164	emergency depot, storage of non-exclusive archives, bulk pallets
Triage space correct - contaminated material	91	
Quarantine	144	Storage of containment material =
Cleaning	55	Processing of containment material
pre-depot	55	Storage of own material
processing	55	processing of own material
Digitization space	60	Part of office wing
Restoration studio	60	Part of office wing
Depot storage	1775	High density depots
Depot storage	730	Depots realized in existing spaces
Climate class photo storage	100	
Bulk storage	50	
Storage in racks and planning cabinets		
View depot	180	In place of current foyer
Server space	10	not on functional schedual
		Function within new structure
		Function within existing structure
		Function added to the brief





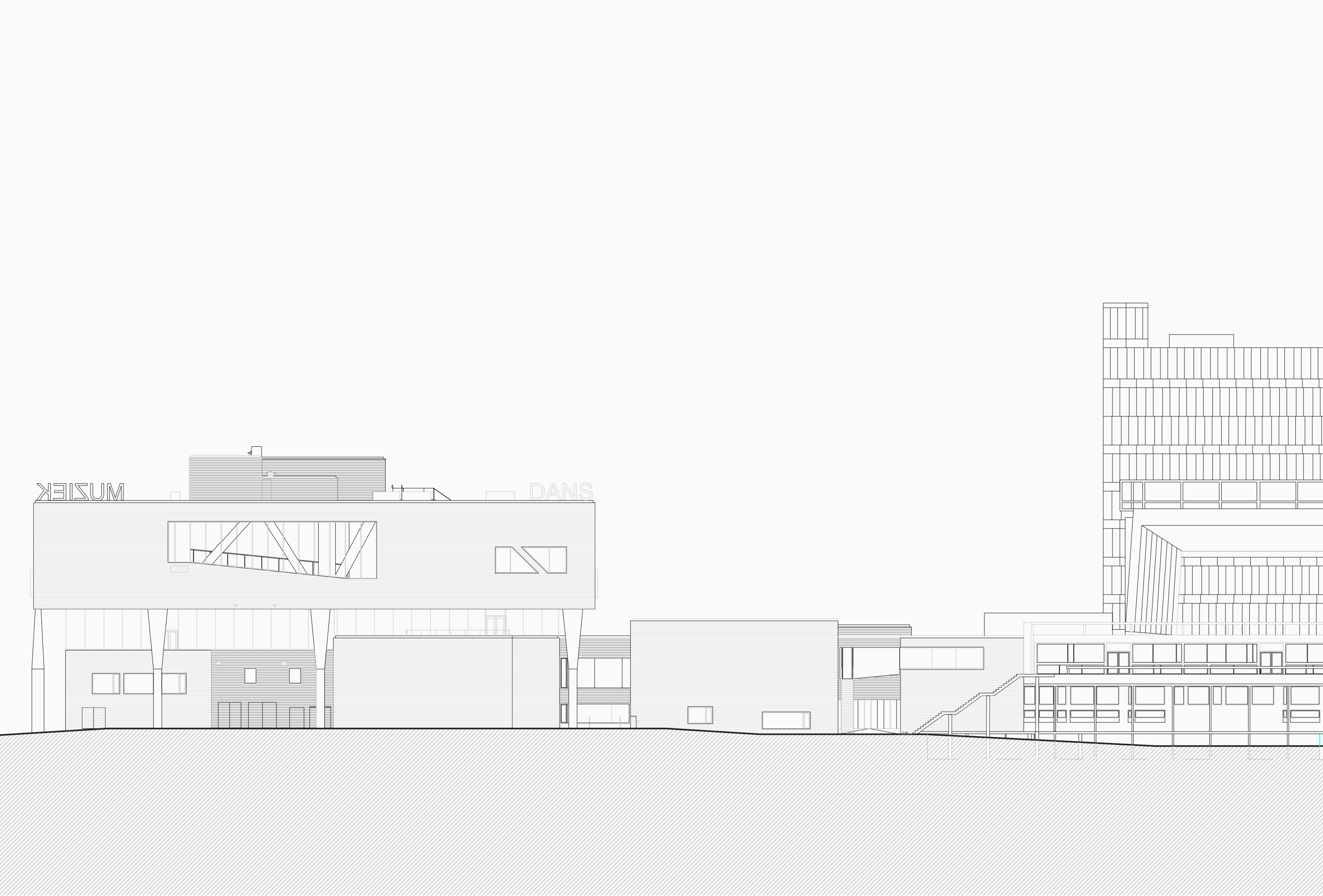


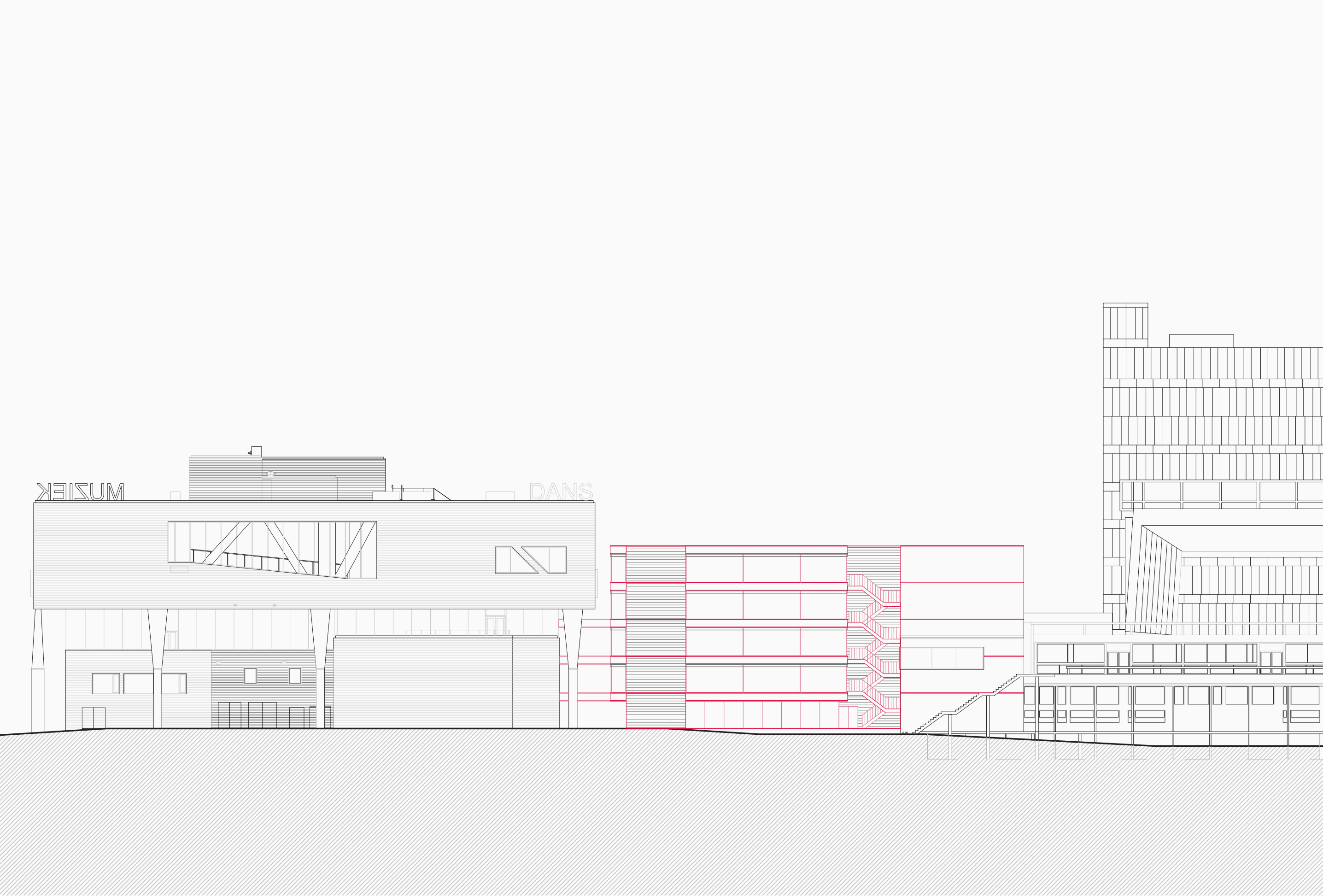








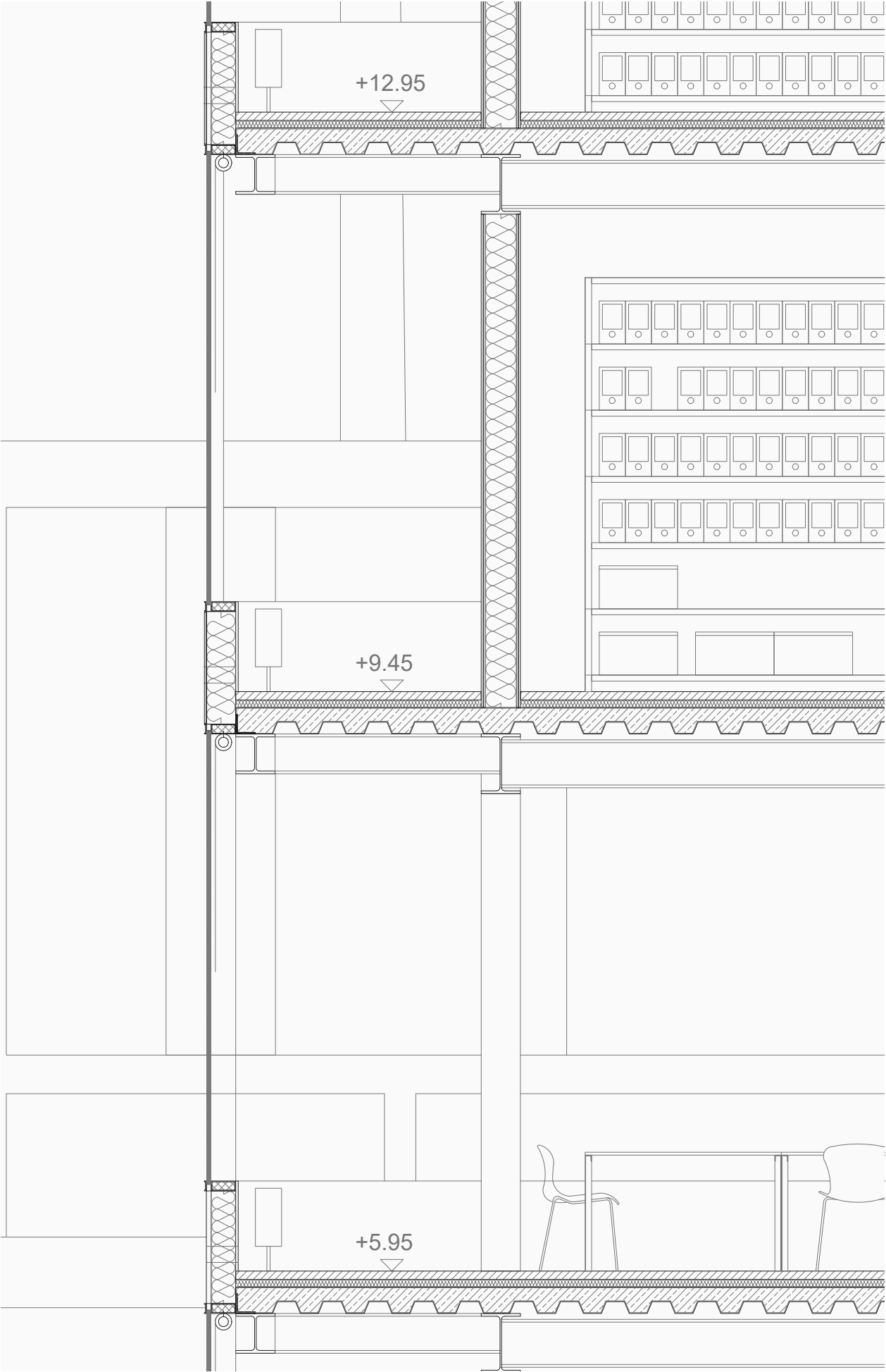


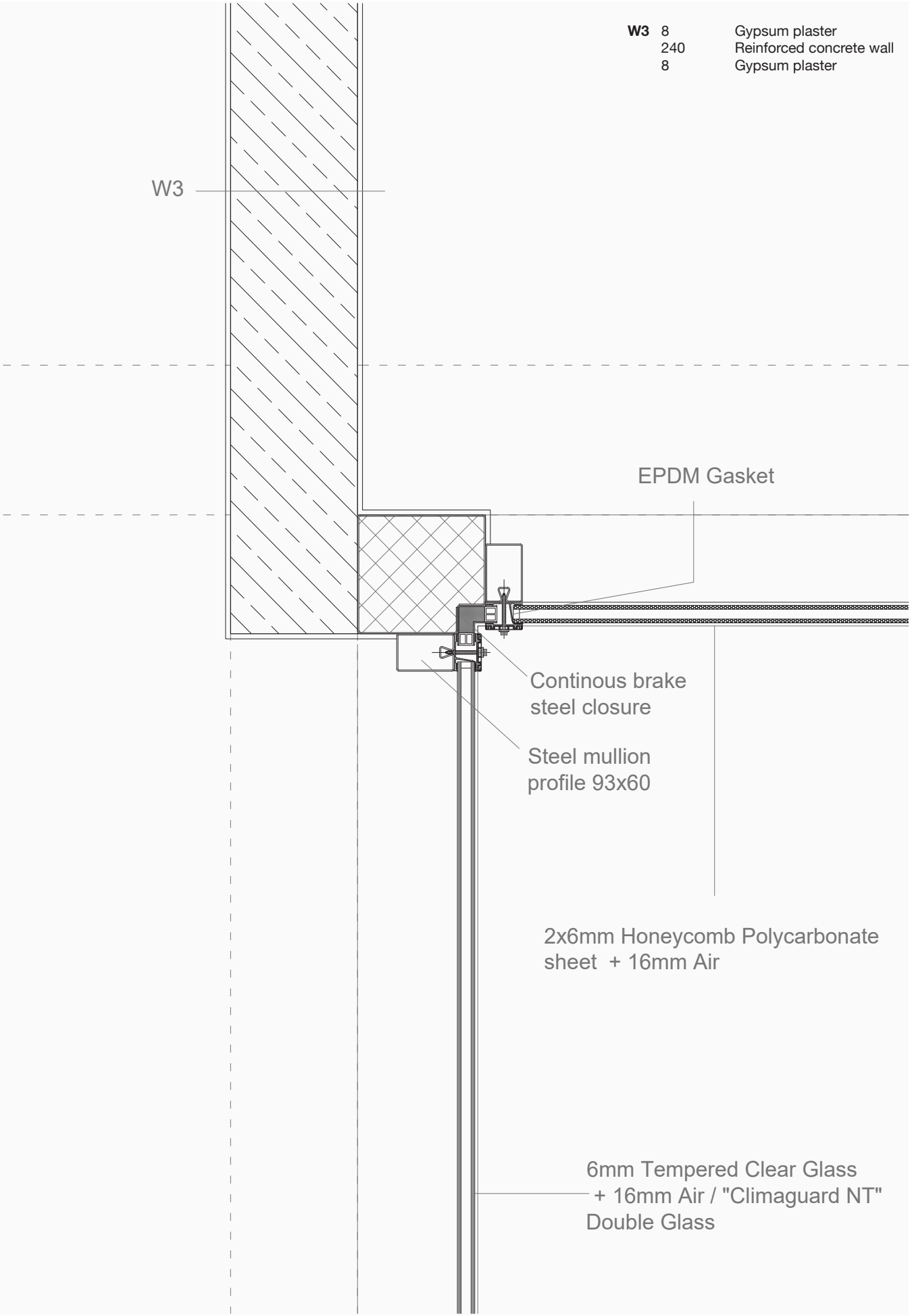


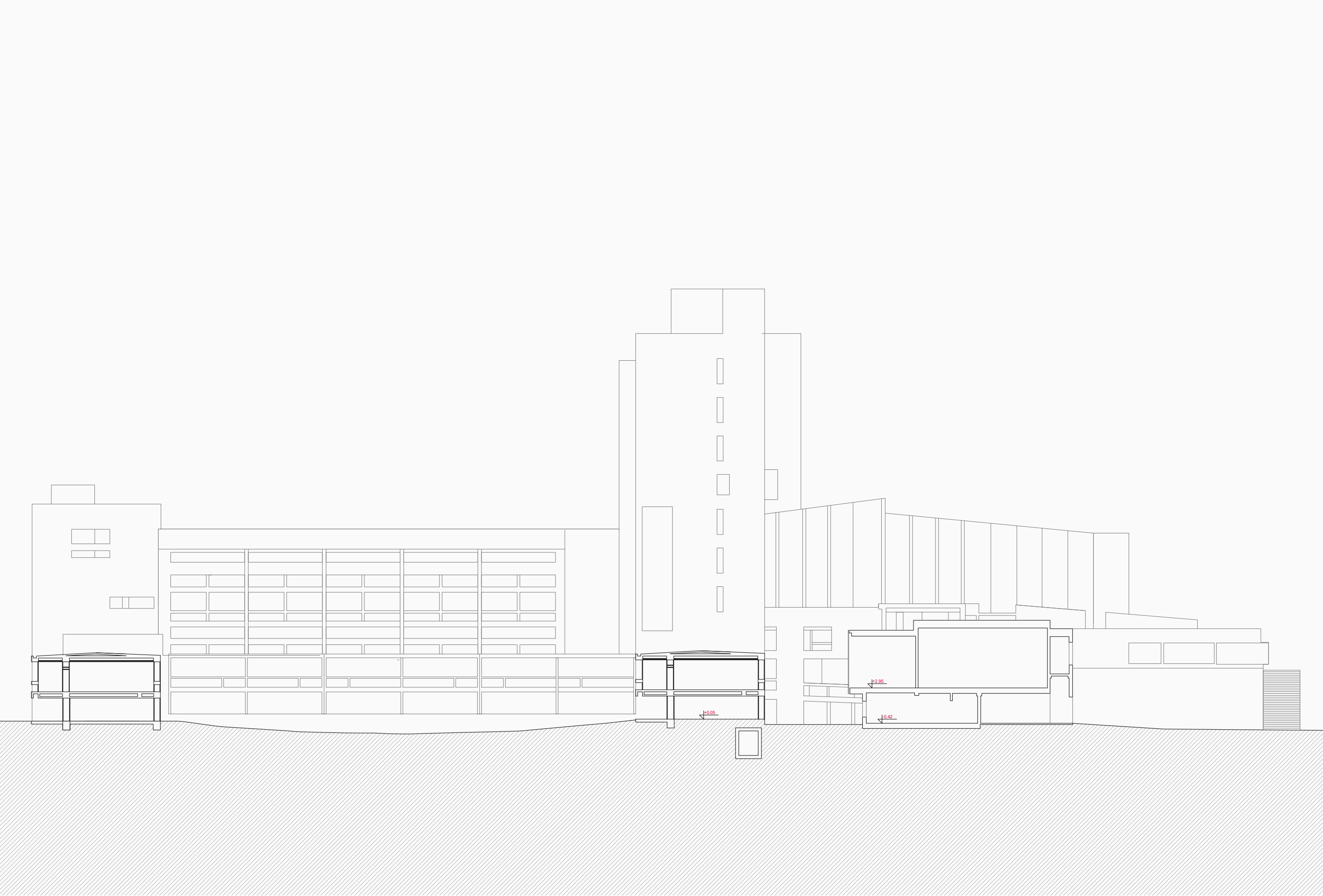


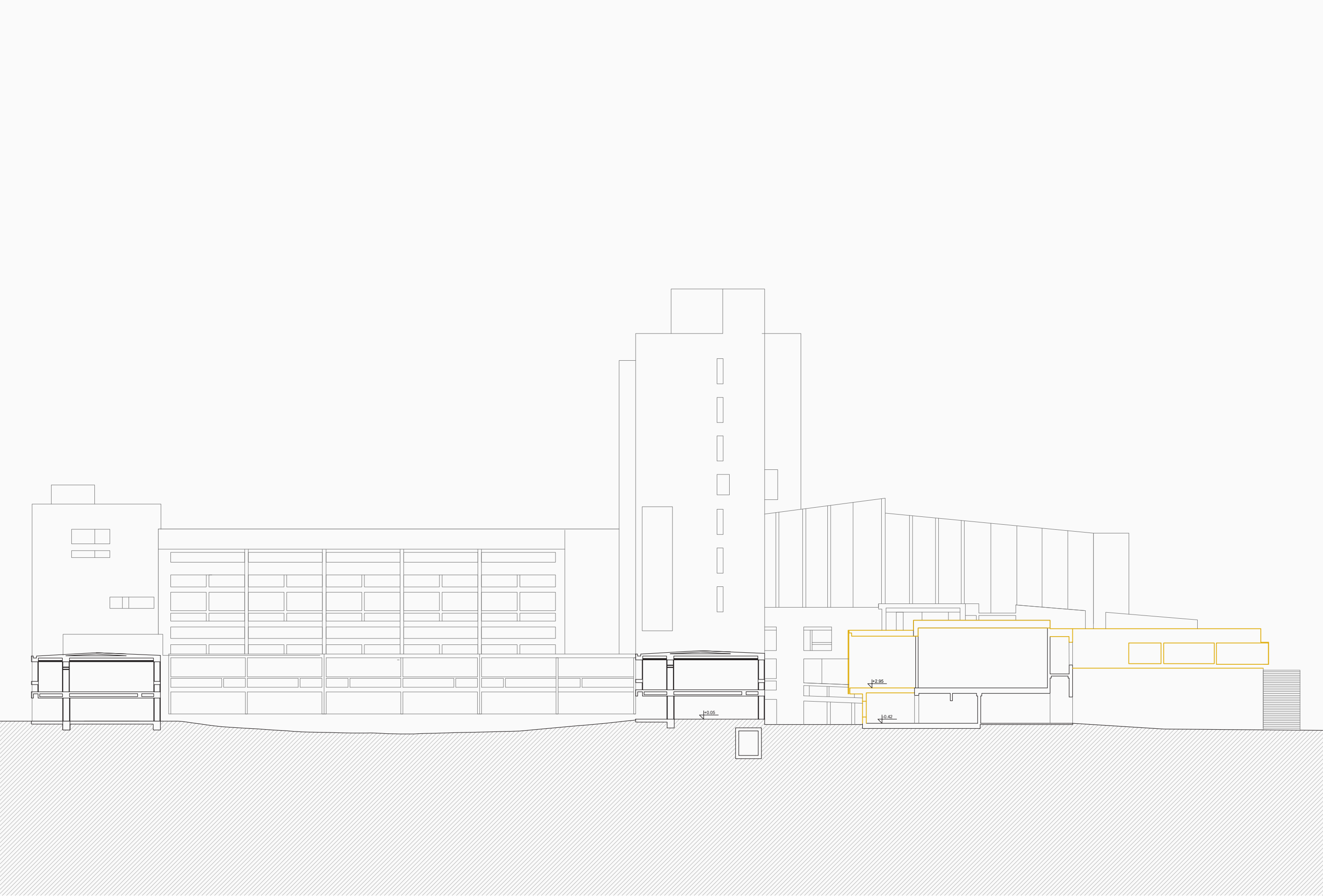


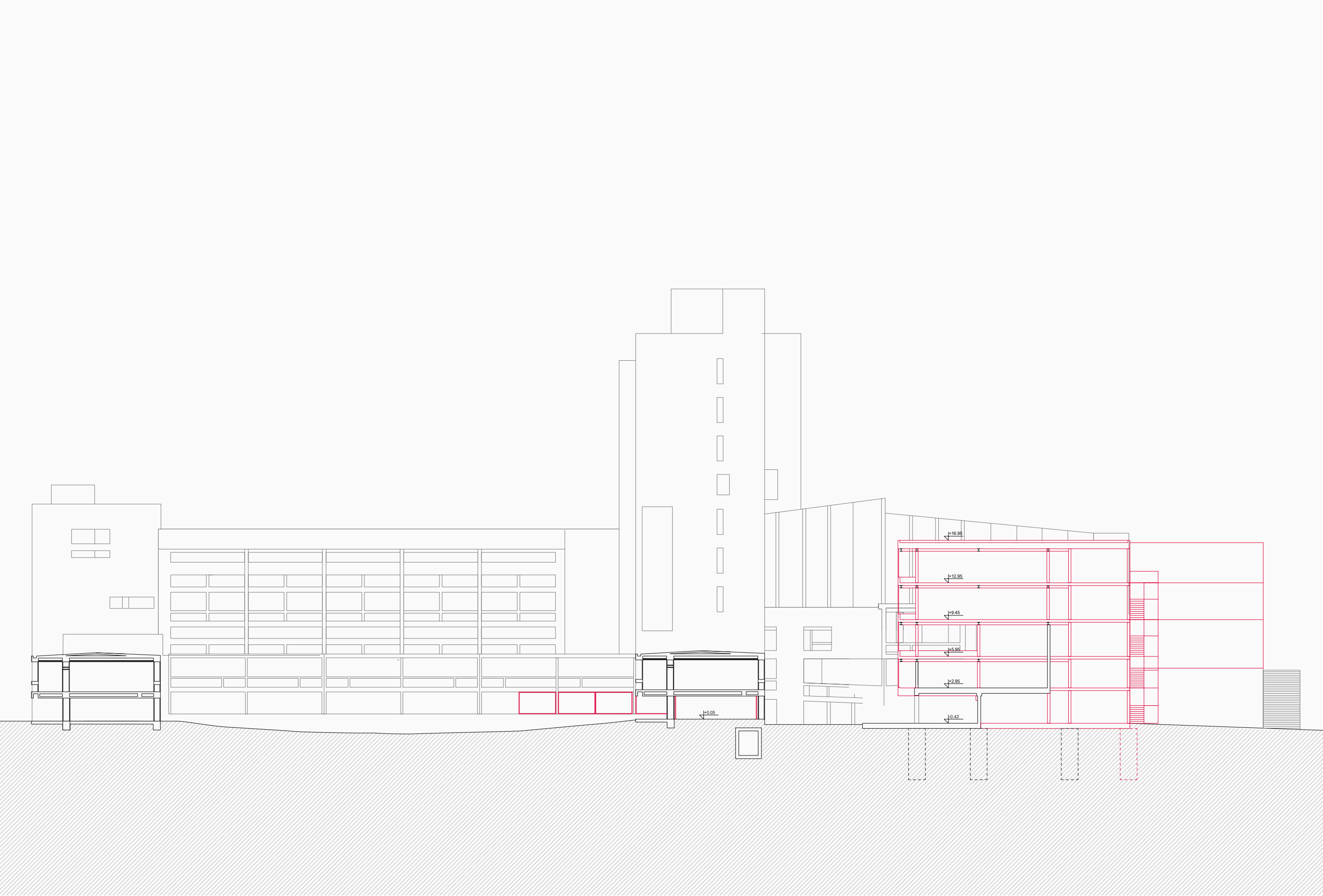






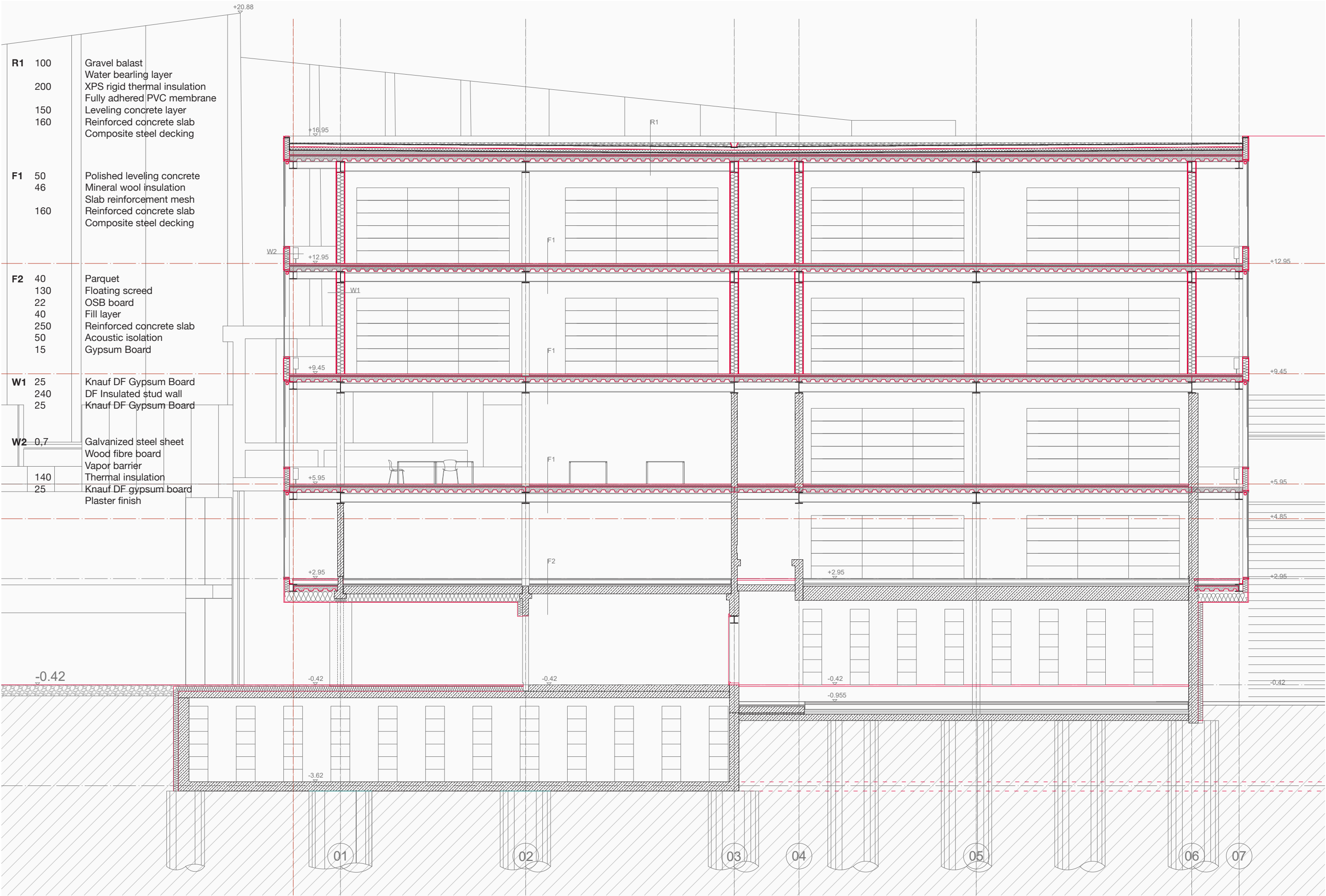


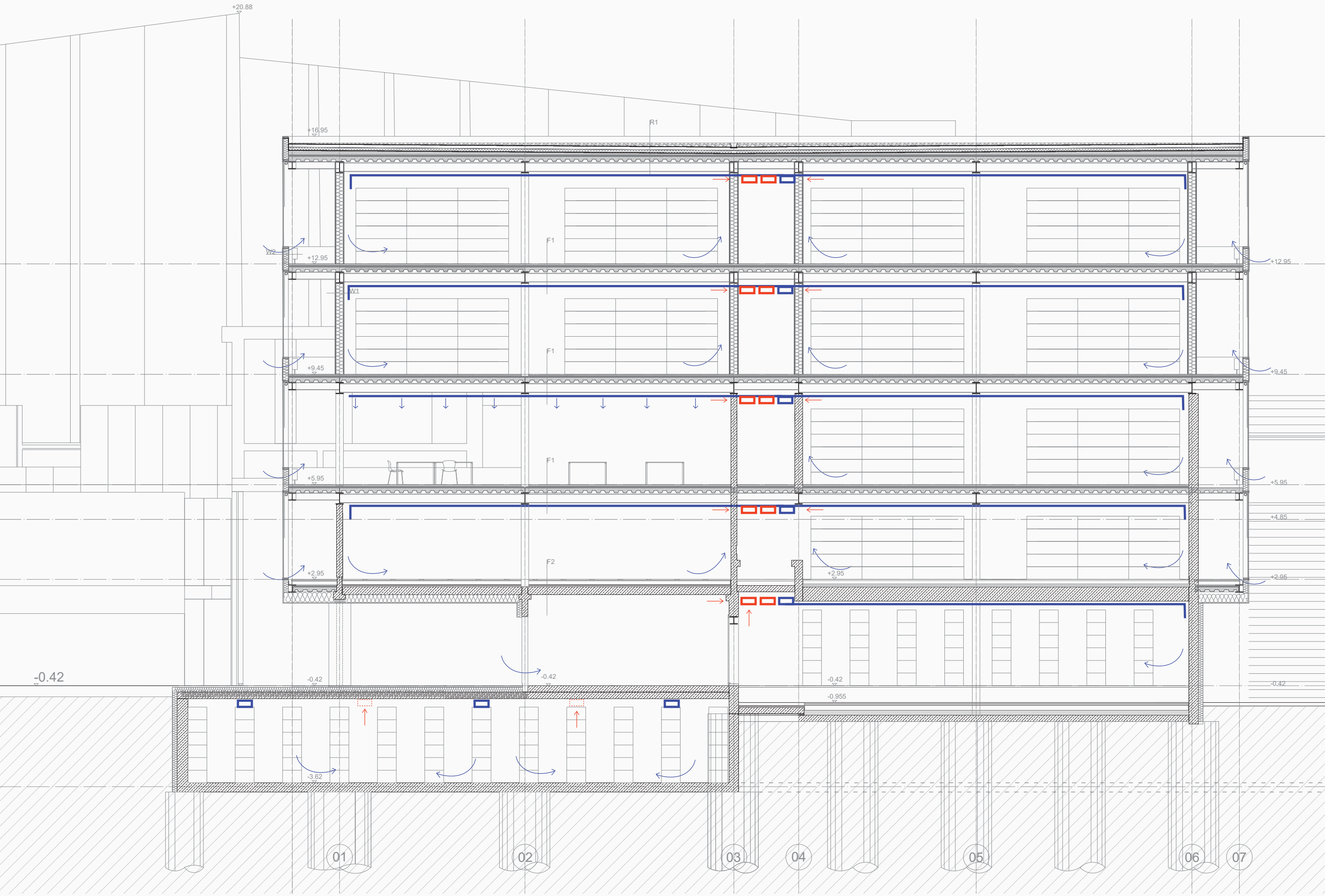


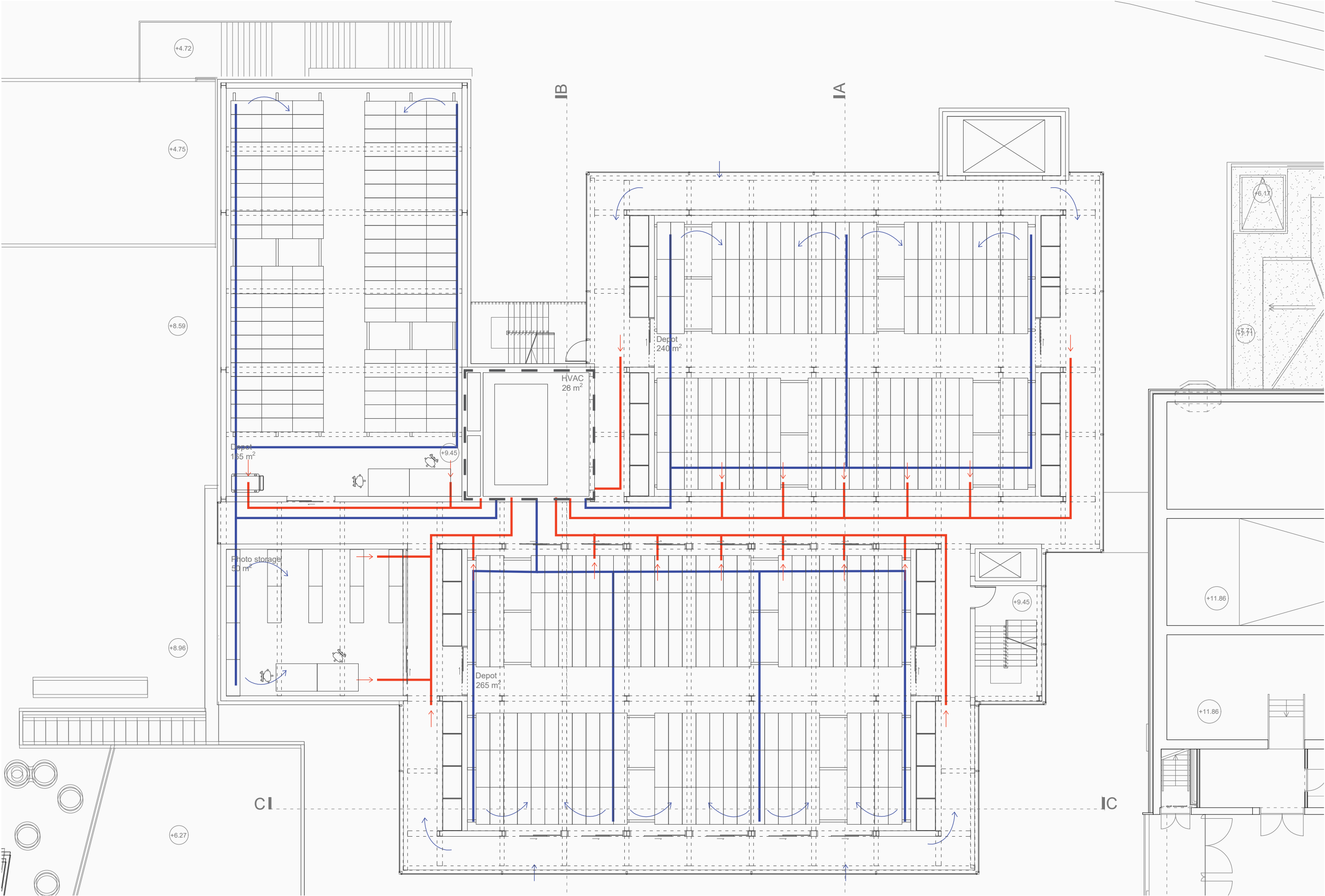


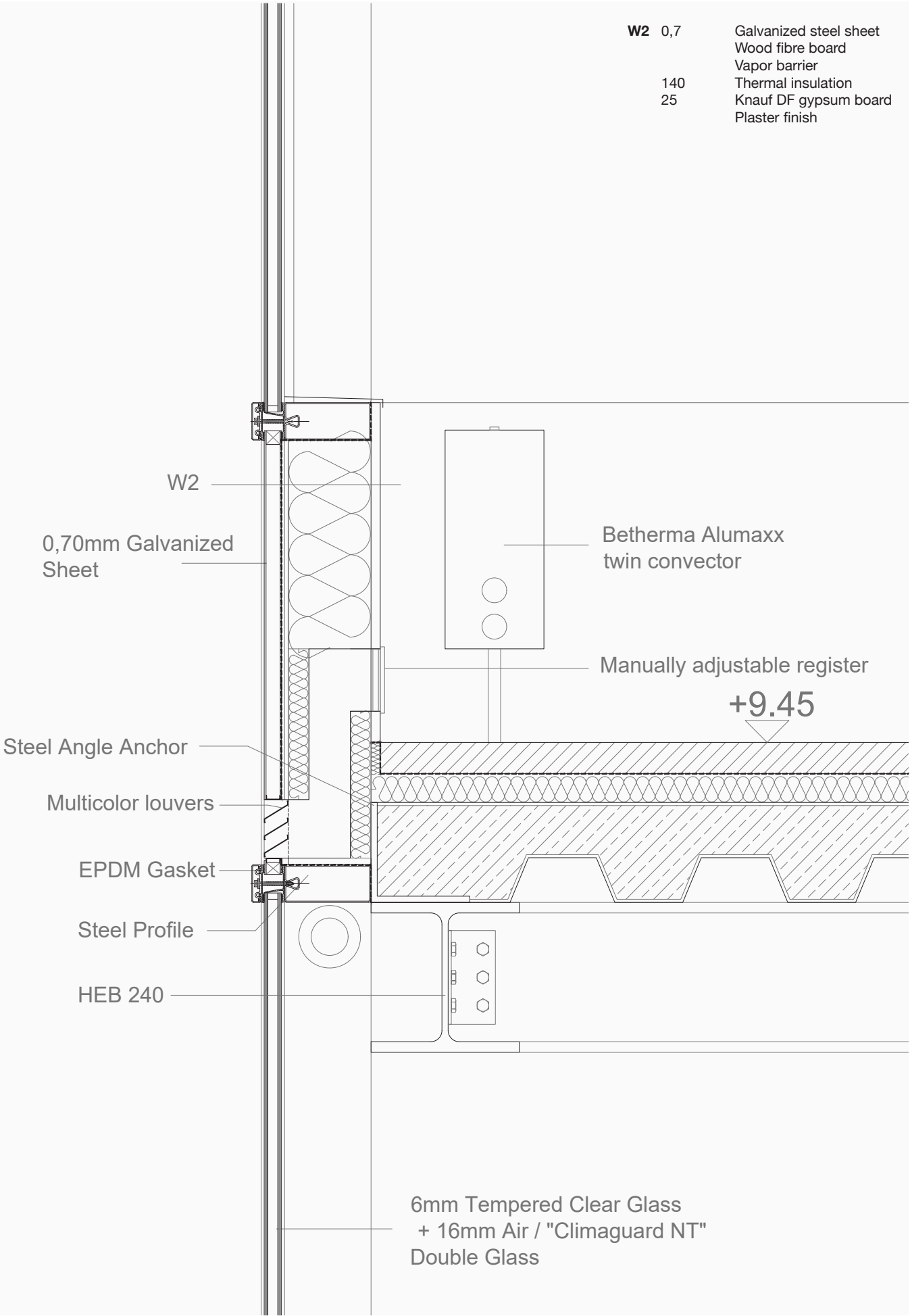




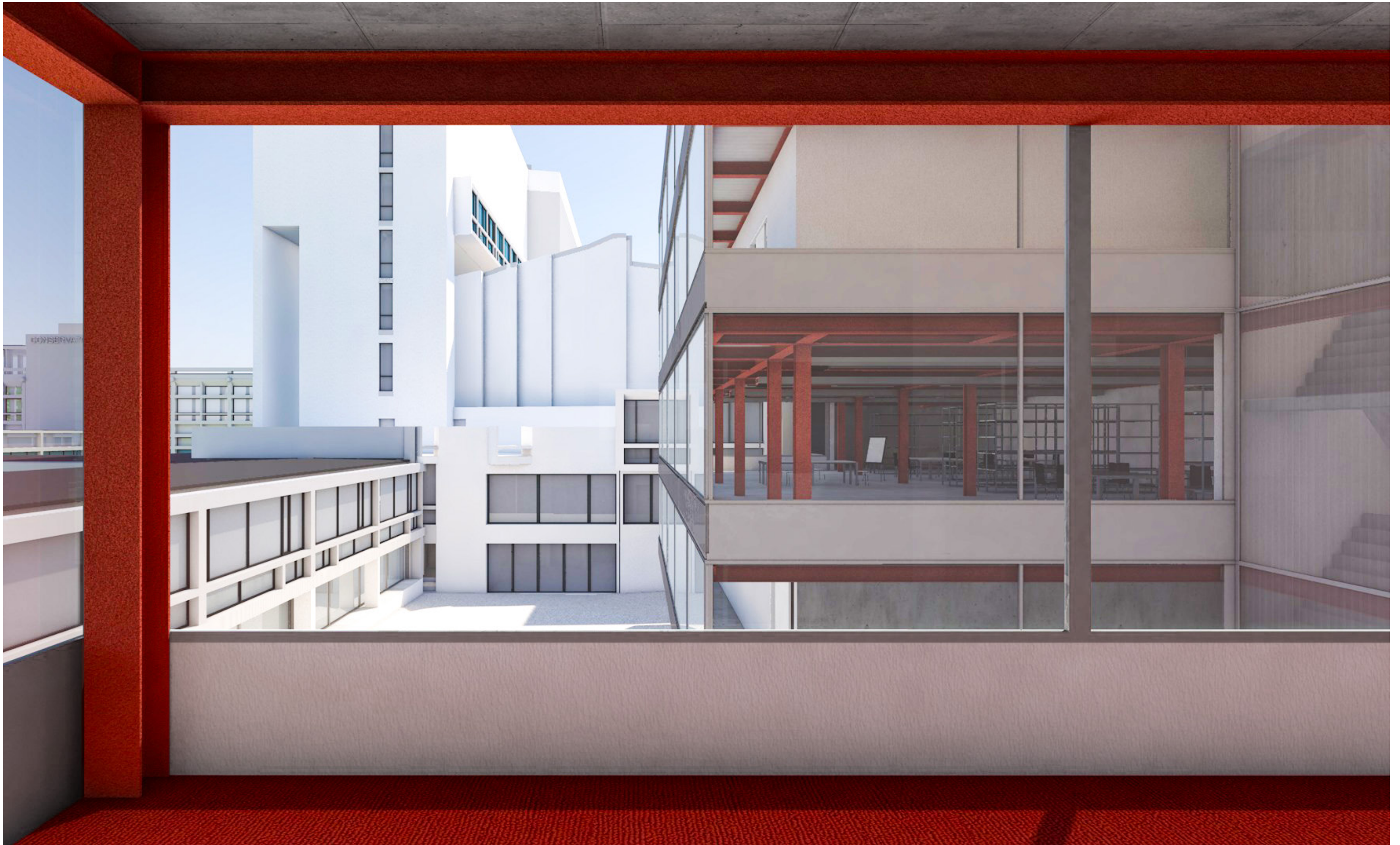














Illustrations:

Fig.1 Oswald Mathias Ungers archive, author: Awut Atak 2020, source: <https://www.presidentsmedals.com/Entry-17180>

Fig.2 Marie Jose van Hee library, author: David Grandorge 1990, source: <https://www.archaic-studio.com/journal/2019/9/9/house-van-hee-marie-jos-van-hee-architecten>

Fig.3. Christo in his seventh floor studio at 14, rue de Saint-Sénoc 1964 author: Enzo Sellerio, source: <https://christojeanneclaude.net/artworks/packages-and-wrapped-objects/>

Fig.4. Sittewerk foundation, St.Gallen, source: <https://www.sitterwerk.ch/en/Stiftung>

Fig.5. Beel's extension from the Antwerp ring, source: <https://beelarchitecten.com/nl/projecten/desingel>

Fig.6. Radio Twee, author: Patrick Vincent 2019, source: <https://www.gva.be/media-en-cultuur/tv-en-radio/radio-2-neemt-afscheid-van-de-singel-na-41-jaar-radiogeschiedenis/39794333.html>