

GRADUATION REPORT

Bau(m) BERLIN

Building the Future Commons
Building Connections
Building Things

1. DESIGN JOURNAL

TABLE OF CONTENTS

P1		P2	
WEEK 01	01	WEEK 11	51
WEEK 02	03	WEEK 12	53
WEEK 03	05	WEEK 13	56
WEEK 04	07	WEEK 14	65
WEEK 05	09	WEEK 15	70
WEEK 06	13	WEEK 16	77
WEEK 07	18	WEEK 17	82
WEEK 08	23	WEEK 18	87
WEEK 09	30	WEEK 19	94
WEEK 10	34	WEEK 20	103
WEEK 11 (RESEARCH PLAN)	48	GRADUATION PLAN	123

TABLE OF CONTENTS

P3

WEEK 21

WEEK 22

WEEK 23

WEEK 24

WEEK 25

WEEK 26

WEEK 27 (P3)

P4

WEEK 28

WEEK 29

WEEK 30

WEEK 31 (KONINGSDAG)

WEEK 32

WEEK 33

WEEK 34 (P4)

P1

WEEK 01

TIMO VAN DALEN



Country of origin Netherlands
Student number 5199220

Motivation

Where in the first year of my Master's in Delft, I have been mostly focussing on sustainable design in architecture and perception of space, I have changed towards a more social and inclusive design approach during my studies in Sheffield about half a year ago. I believe that architectural projects should always be approached from an urban perspective in order to interact and add value to its surroundings, for it is part of an existing urban fabric. Buildings should be built for more than just the client and host uses for the public domain, of which nature, e.i. the flora and fauna, is part. For that reasons, architects should look outside the scope of projects in trying to implement the needs of surrounding peoples and animals.

It is my belief that such a stance can be achieved within the Public Building Graduation Studio by designing a building in which multiple urban actors are given usage of the building.

Education

Master of Architecture, Urbanism and Building Sciences - Delft University of Technology - 2020-present - Track Architecture

MSc1: Architectural Engineering (design studio)
 MSc2: Methods (design elective), Complex projects (design elective),
 Architecture Theory (design studio)

Exchange Semester Abroad - University of Sheffield (United Kingdom) - 2022 - Track Architecture

Live Project Dover Castle (design studio), Urban Ecologies (design studio), Participation in Architecture and Urban Design (Theory module)

Bridging Semester Architecture, Urbanism and Building Sciences - Delft University of Technology - 2020

Bachelor of Architecture and Construction Engineering - HZ University of Applied Sciences - 2015-2019

Exchange Semester Abroad - Chung-Ang University (South-Korea) - 2017 - Track Building Engineering

Experience

Spring Architecten (Rotterdam) - 2019-2022 - various positions

Some key-projects: IKC Heeswijk, Onderwijscluster Donker Curtius

In the first week, I explained my interest for participation in architectural design from the client as well as the role of architecture in its urban context. Namely, as being a place that adds value to its surroundings that go beyond (or expand) the scope of a brief.

For the latter, I selected the building beneath as building that shows a variety of public functions that are of interest to the community



BRICKS BERLIN SCHOENEBERG

Architect: GRAFT - Design/Construction: 2014-2021 - Address: Hauptstraße 27, 10827 Berlin, Germany

WEEK 02

A STAGE FOR THE COMMUNITY

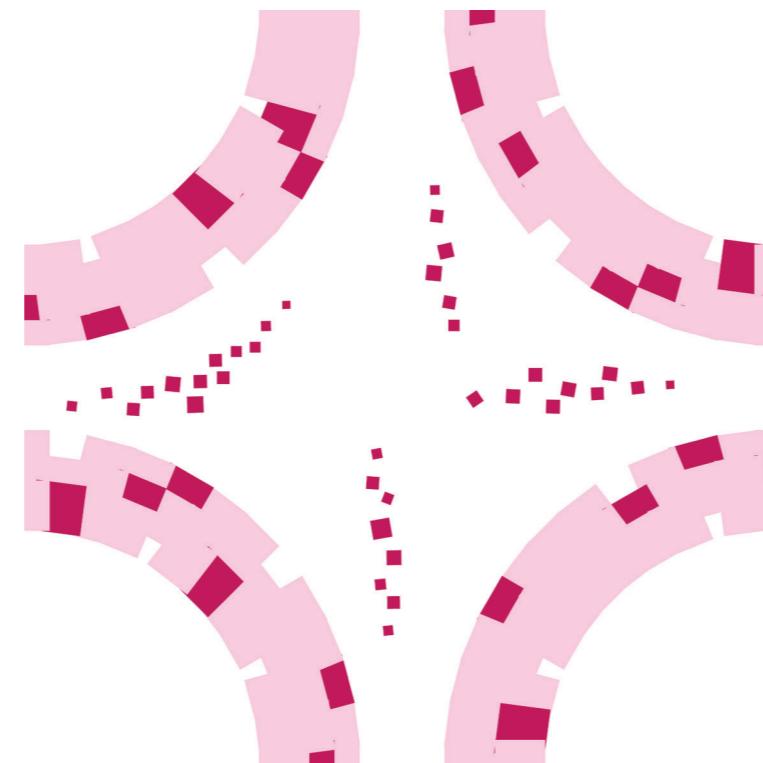
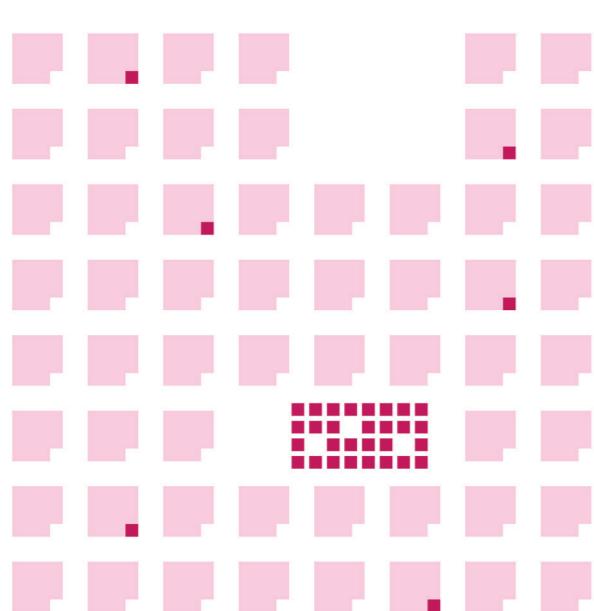
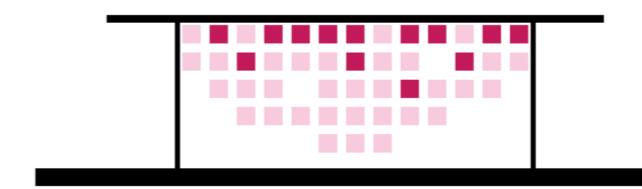
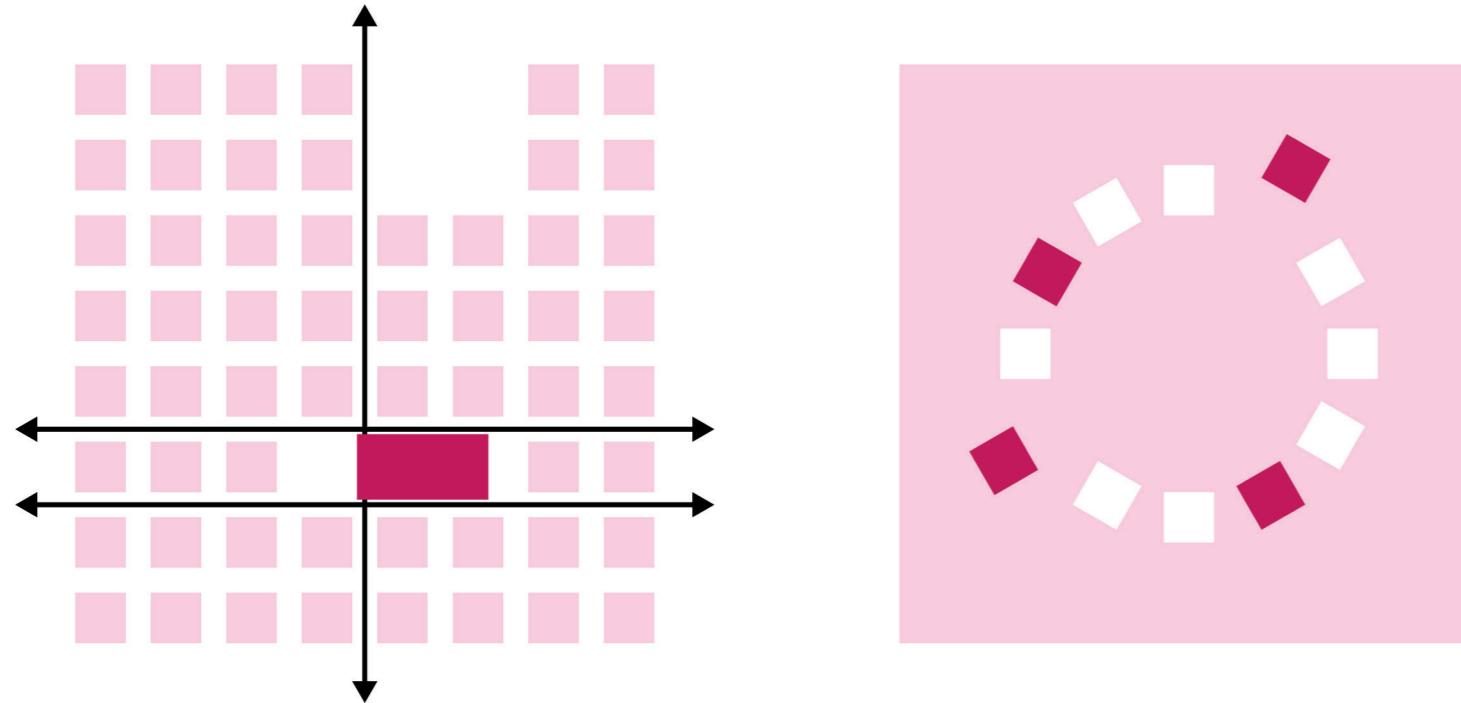


For the collage/montage I worked out what would/should represent the idea of my building in Berlin, a place where the identity of the people can be reflected by implementing a program that serves the needs of the people.

It should be an easily accessible space where people are motivated to participate. The building is shown here therefore as an open stage amidst a high-rise housing typology.

WEEK 03

COMING TOGETHER



For the diagrams in the third week, I translated the ideas from the collage into 5 different diagrams, each symbolising a different aspect of my the design concept/ theme

The first one signifies the position within the urban fabric, having to be along main axis, the secod shows how the building identiy is the sum of a part (each part) of the urban, e.i. people, identity. The third shows the coming together of these elements in a circle, in which everyone and everything is equal. Diagram four shows how people themselves might come together at the site of the building. The last shows all united under one roof/ everyone as part of a whole.

WEEK 04

BERLIN EXPLORATIONS



Berlin unexpectedly showed itself as a extremely diverse city with many contrasts. Throughout the city, pockets of interesting social occurrences could be found.

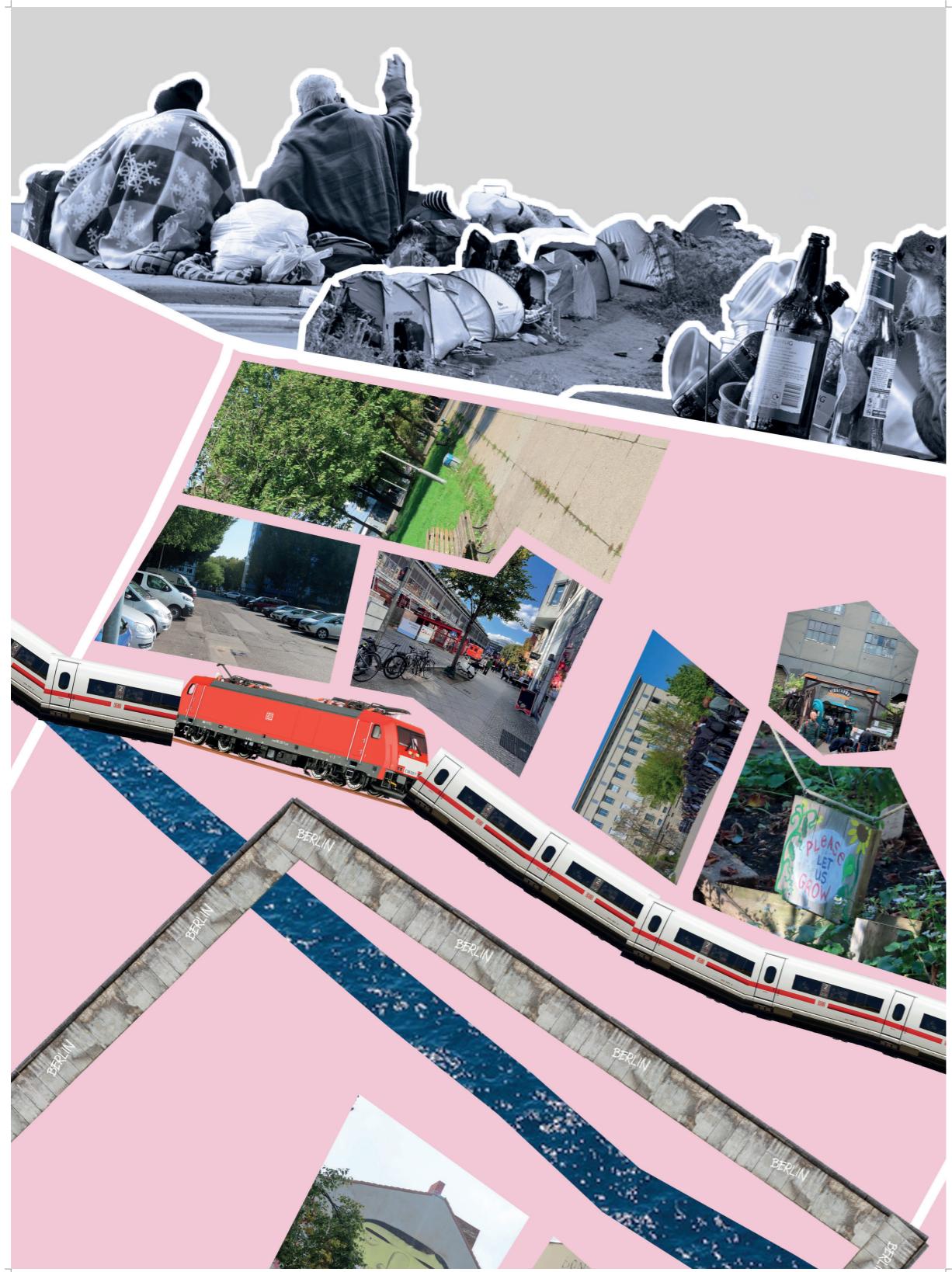
What struck me most in Berlin were the poorly designed in-between public spaces that often were supposed to be a park but didn't really function as such. Often they weren't active.

Also, in conversations with people in the neighbourhoods, I noticed a disconnection between peoples. Young families expressed they did not feel it was the best neighbourhood to live in for the many alcoholics on the streets and therefore even more for children as an environment to grow up.

There were some nice initiatives however, such as community garden that brought together different kinds of people from different ages.

WEEK 05

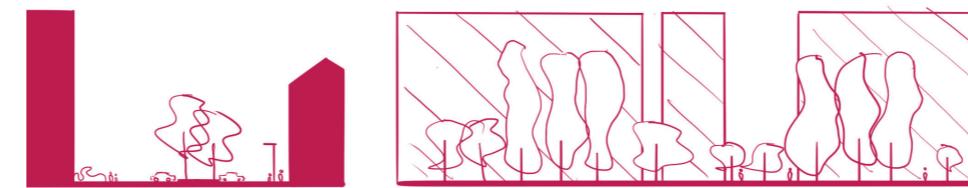
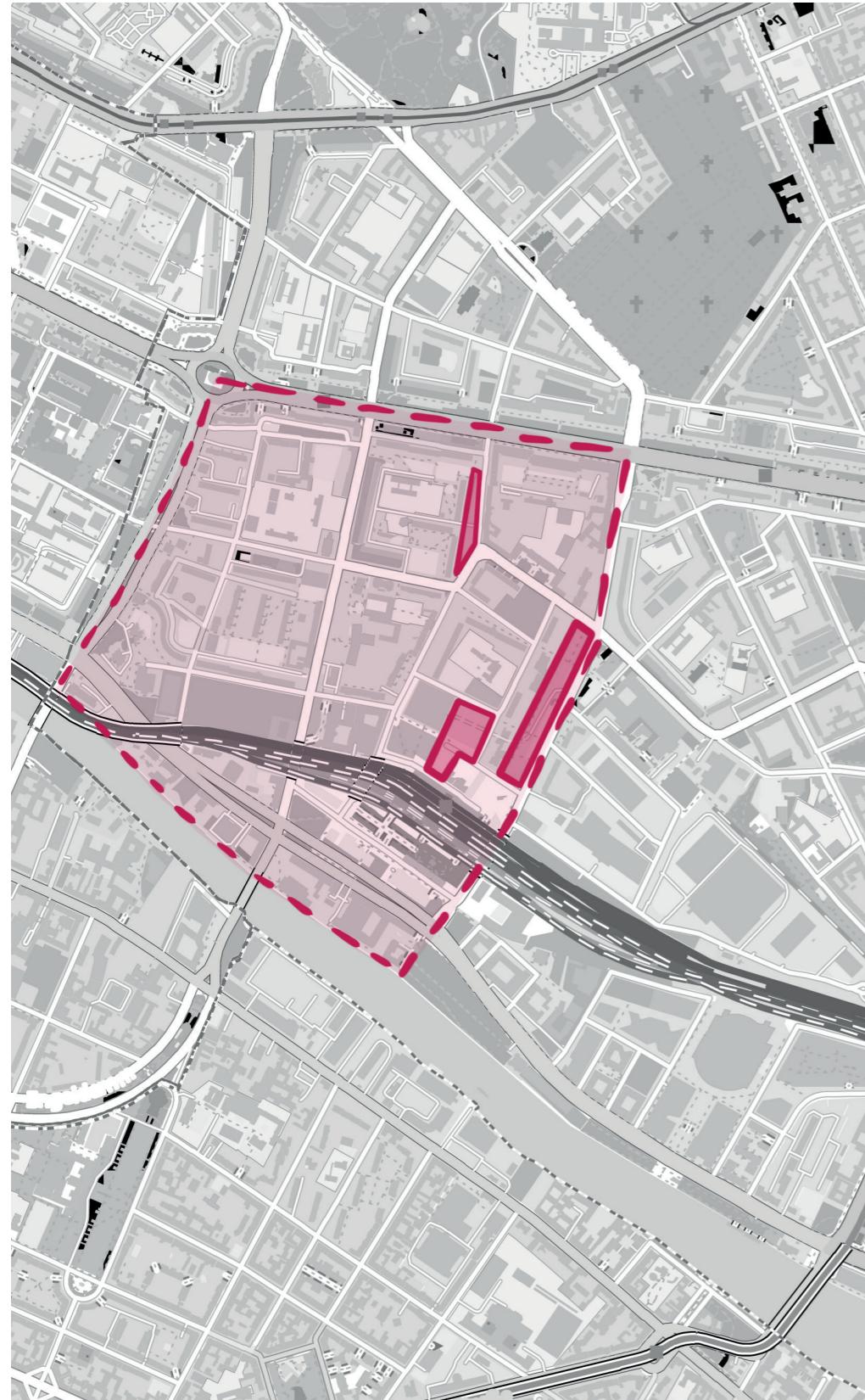
AFTER BERLIN FINDINGS



The findings as explained before I had condensed to a map as shown on the left. The map shows the homeless on the top as a somewhat negative side of the Friedrieschane area, with its negative habits (alcoholism adjoined) as this was the way people in Berlin saw it.

Other than that, the poor in between spaces are shown at around the area they were in and a few highlights suchs as the community garden en Berghain are shown on the right.

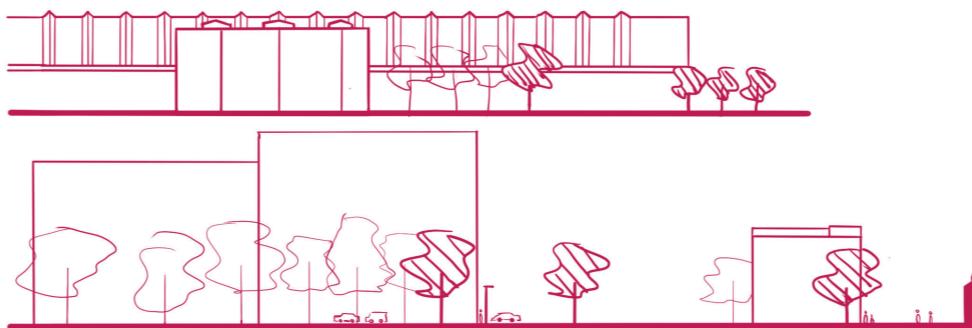
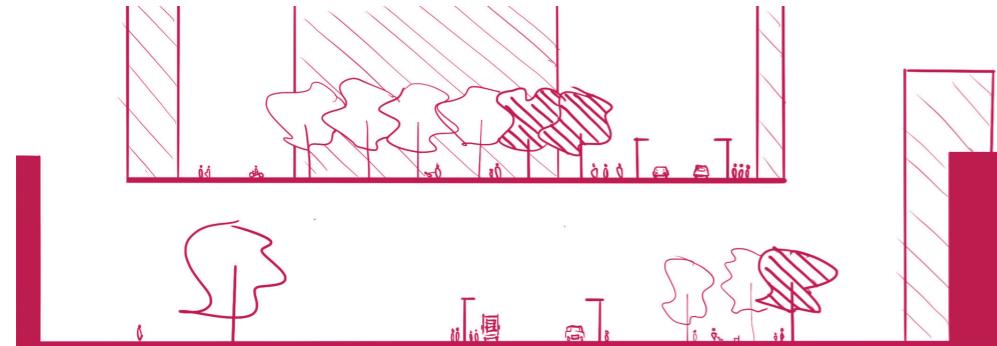
AFTER BERLIN FINDINGS



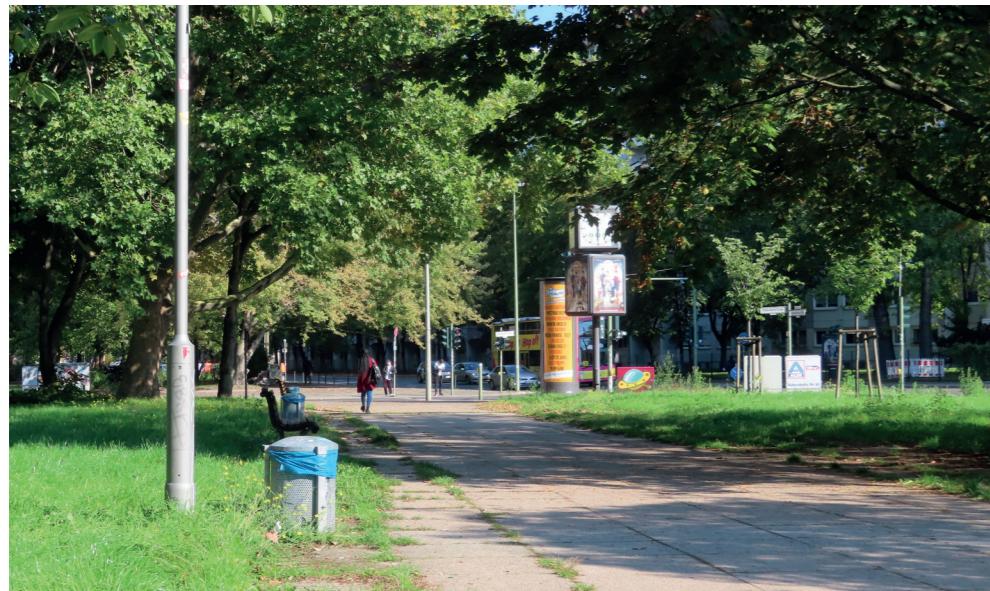
This week also allowed me to work on my first sites I found interesting, these are highlighted on the map.

The top site on the map shows a narrow patch of land in between a wider street. The sections shows how this patch divides the street into two roads, allowing access to their side of the street.

AFTER BERLIN FINDINGS



The second site, here on the left, shows a longer stretch park along the Straße der Pariser Kommune, the axis that separates Andreasviertel from the Wriezener Bhf and Weberwiese area.



The park is poorly designed and for a great part consists of a narrower carpark.



The last site directly adjoins the backside of the Ostbahnhof station. It surrounds the leftover row of buildings from a former building block and now functions as a (forgotten looking) carpark, a not so nice entrance to the neighbourhood.

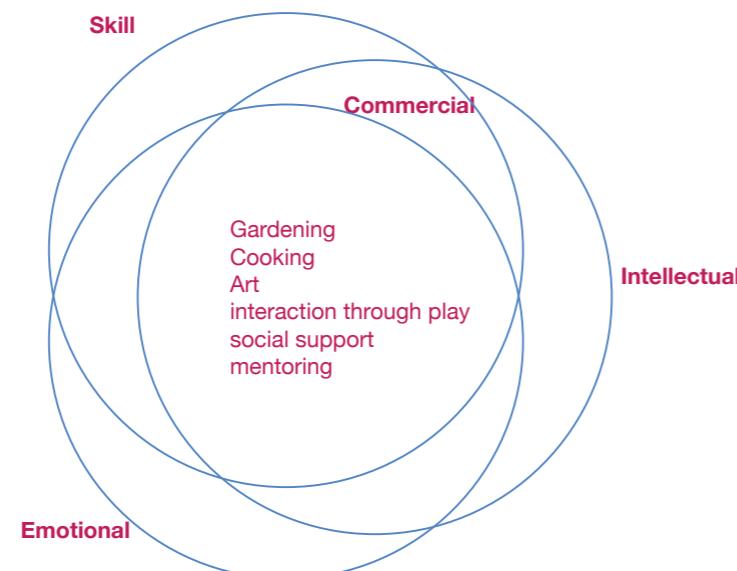
WEEK 06

FIRST PROGRAMMATIC STUDIES

PROGRAMMATIC STUDIES

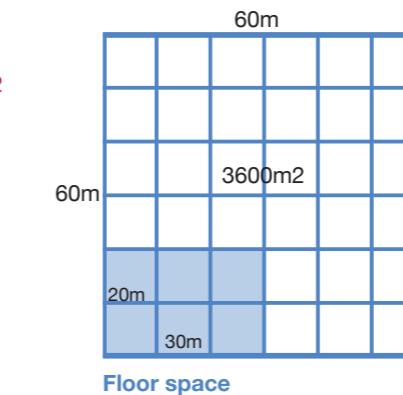
Activating underused (green) space through urban/ architectural reinforcement

Creating spaces of interaction, connection and inclusivity



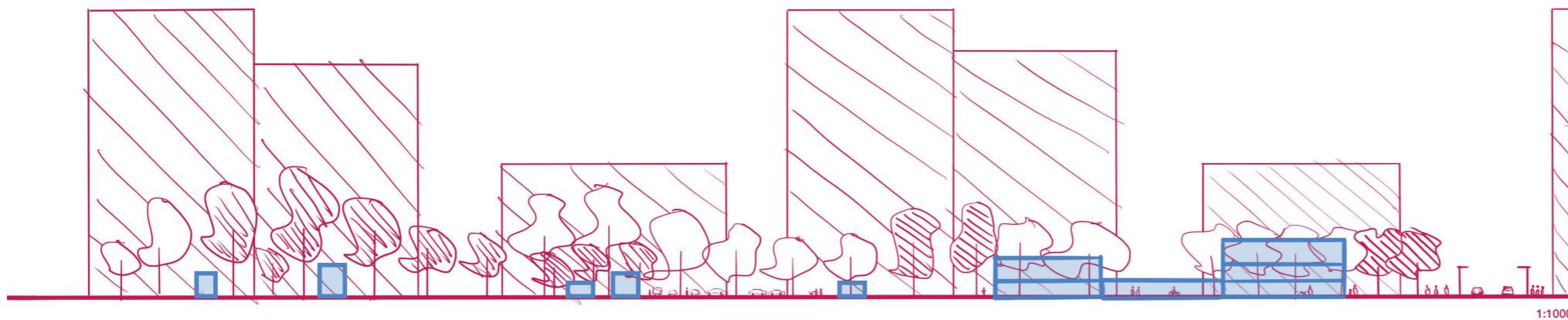
Spaces: 3600m²
Prerequisite spaces:
Utilities, circulation etc.
600m²
1000m²

Greenhouse+gardens
kitchen+ cafe
Workshop space
building interaction
900m²
500m²
500m²
100m²



For this study I used the sections to draw out an estimated distribution of the program.

The program itself is made very general still and 1600m² is reserved for utilities and circulation, in this case, the spaces as prescribed in the studio syllabus.



For the park option, seen here on the left, I applied a campus like structure so that the program is spread out on the site.

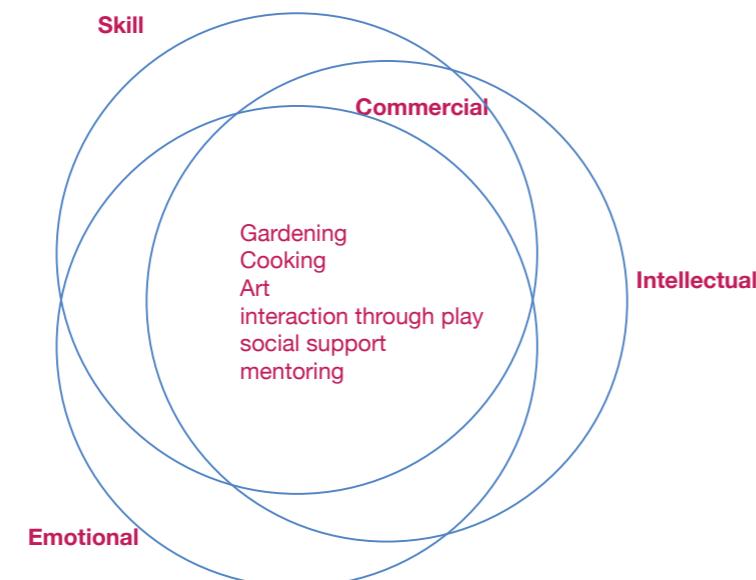


FIRST PROGRAMMATIC STUDIES

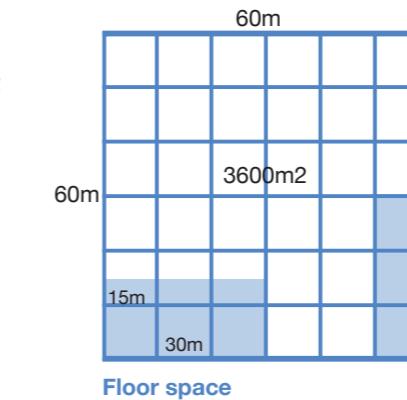
PROGRAMMATIC STUDIES

Activating underused (green) space through urban/ architectural interventions

Creating spaces of interaction, connection and inclusivity



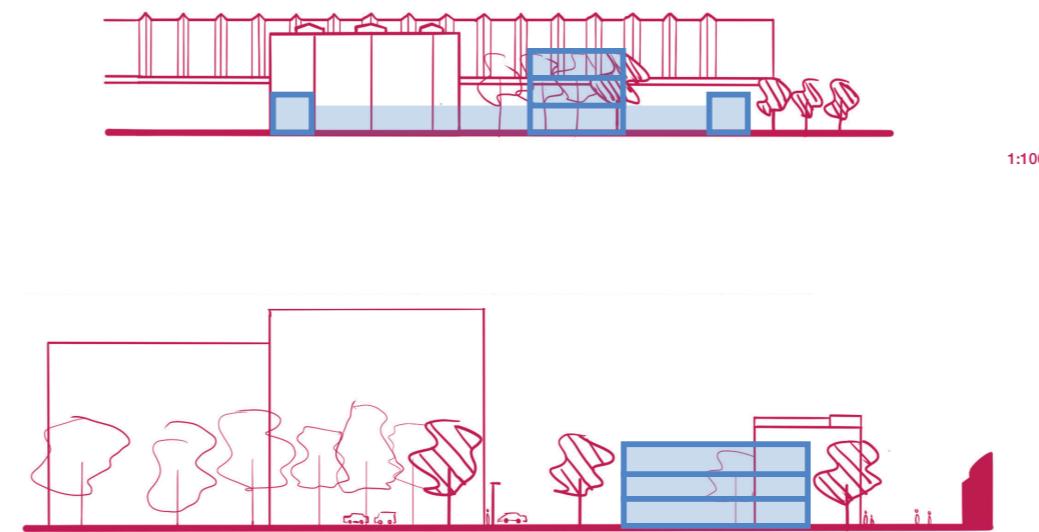
Spaces: 3600m²
Prerequisite spaces:
Utilities, circulation etc.
600m²
1000m²
Greenhouse+gardens
Food and culture
Workshop space
building interaction
900m²
500m²
500m²
100m²



For this study I used the sections to draw out an estimated distribution of the program.

The program itself is made very general still and 1600m² is reserved for utilities and circulation, in this case, the spaces as prescribed in the studio syllabus.

For the station option, I made a proposal that embraces the existing rowhouses and creates an inside courtyard where I could see shared spaces such as gardening emerge.



FIRST RESEARCH PLAN DRAFT

Activating/Enriching underdeveloped green space in the An-dreasviertel

When walking through our selected area in Friedrichshain, I found out very quickly there is, as was already visible on maps, a decent amount of 'green space' in and throughout the area. It could be said the Plattenbau fabric that is present in the neighbourhood allows for these areas as building blocks have to be placed decently apart from one another. However, much of this green space, how nice it may well be as a view from one's window, is not used greatly as a place for enjoyment, e.g., to picnic, relax, have lunch, do sports.

Another issue I've encountered through personal experience and interviews with residents of the area, is the disconnection from their own living area. People mostly talk to their neighbours only and some of the people told they don't feel it is the nicest area due to the issue of homelessness and alcoholism throughout the neighbourhood and especially closer to the station.

As there is great chance of these homeless people to stay, there has to be a way to find common ground and connect these people. As parks appear to be the spaces both residents from the neighbourhood and homeless people use, obviously due to their typology that allows for this, it seems to be the perfect space to try and create this space of connection.

The first question might be, what do these people, and actually all people, have in common? One of this is food, with that being, in its most pragmatic sense, the need to eat. It is therefore that food production, such as urban farming, might be a helpful way to do some-

thing both peoples can benefit from and something that is to be done together. In that way, the act of production creates a possibility for interaction. The goal here is for the homeless not to be seen as parasites of their environment, but as part of it. It would thus be interesting to research through what other means interaction between the different peoples can be enabled so that connections can be established. All this combined, the following question was formed:

How can architectural interventions activate and enrich existing green spaces and allow for/ensure/enable/develop/create interaction between peoples?

There would also be a need to have well-designed green space, green space that is fully public and thus not surrounded by a fence, and green space that allows for a variety of things to occur throughout the day. The selected site must be easy to access and not hidden away. It would help for this site to be located along somewhat busier axes so that many people are presented with this park and given opportunity to engage. By adding functions that are of interest to the community, another reason of attraction is consequently created.

For this project to work coherently, all functions must not be a standalone but in one way or another interact/connect with their surrounding environment. As part of the park design, they have to (inter)act and play a role as such. For example, with functions being (partly) distributed through the park and therefore become more in-touch with it.

PHYSICAL MODEL



A connection device,

For the model excercise, I created a rotatable connection device with images representing different kind of people on each side. With a top and a bottom layer, two groups of people can each time be put side by side.

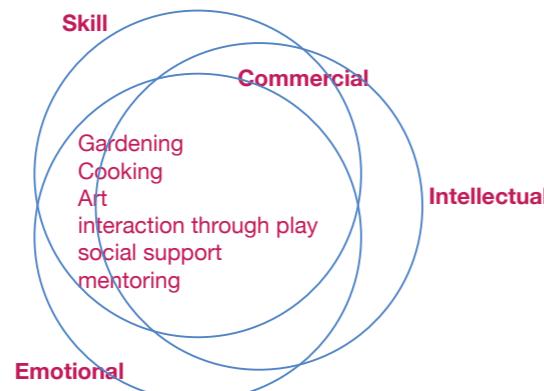
Even though this might not show or enable a connection, it does show perhaps the difficulties of these two groups and makes one think of what is needed to connect the two, should you want to.

WEEK 07

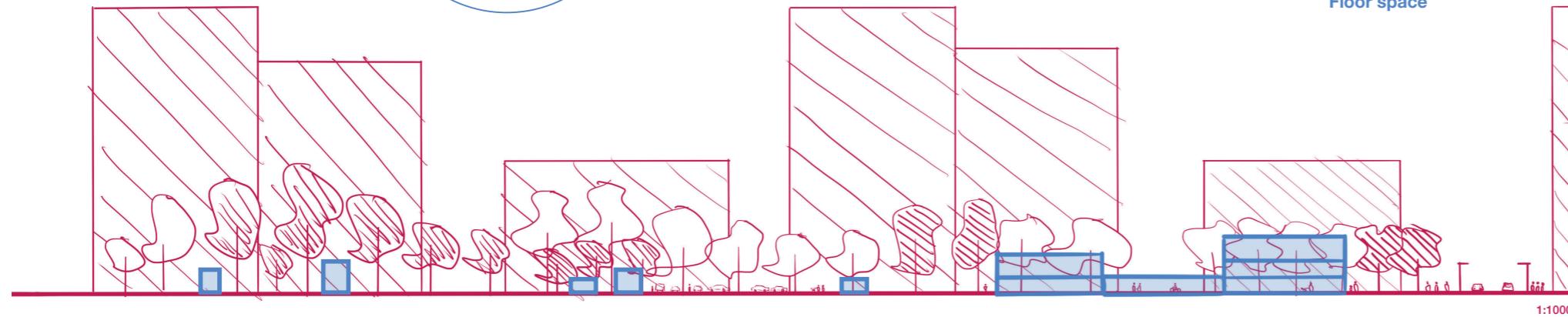
CONTINUING PROGRAMMATIC STUDIES

PROGRAMMATIC STUDIES

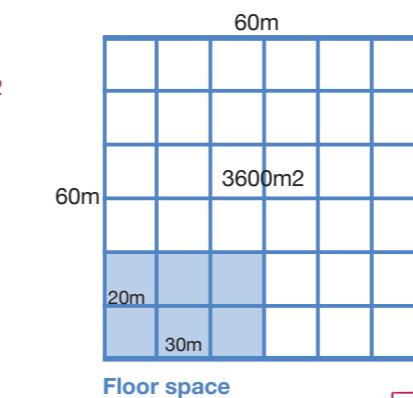
Activating underused (green) space through urban/ architectural reinforcement



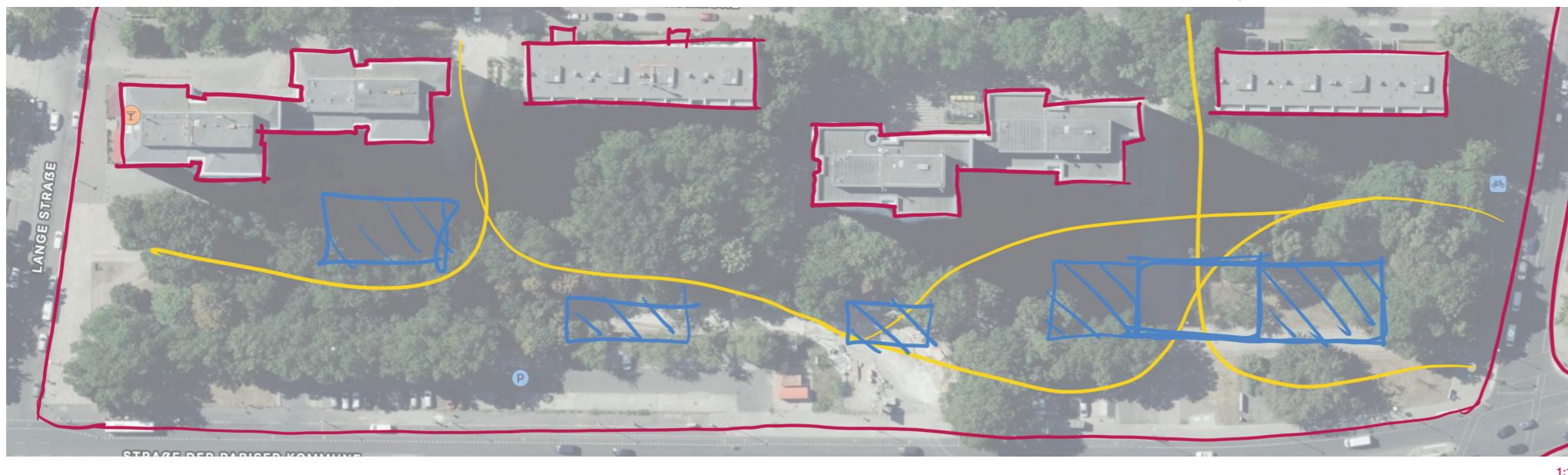
Creating spaces of interaction, connection and inclusivity



Spaces: 3600m²
Prerequisite spaces:
Utilities, circulation etc.
600m²
1000m²
Greenhouse+gardens
900m²
kitchen+ cafe
500m²
Workshop space
500m²
building interaction
100m²



For this study I expanded the studies from the week before by drawing it in plan

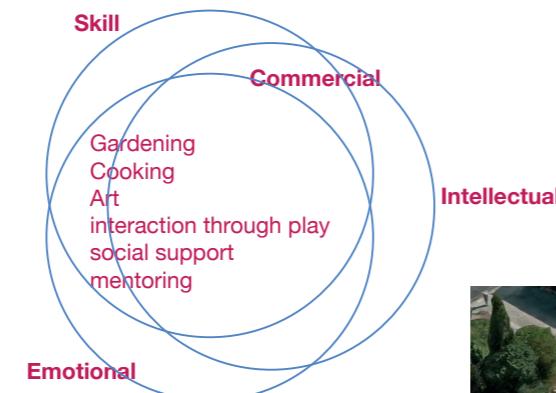


CONTINUING PROGRAMMATIC STUDIES

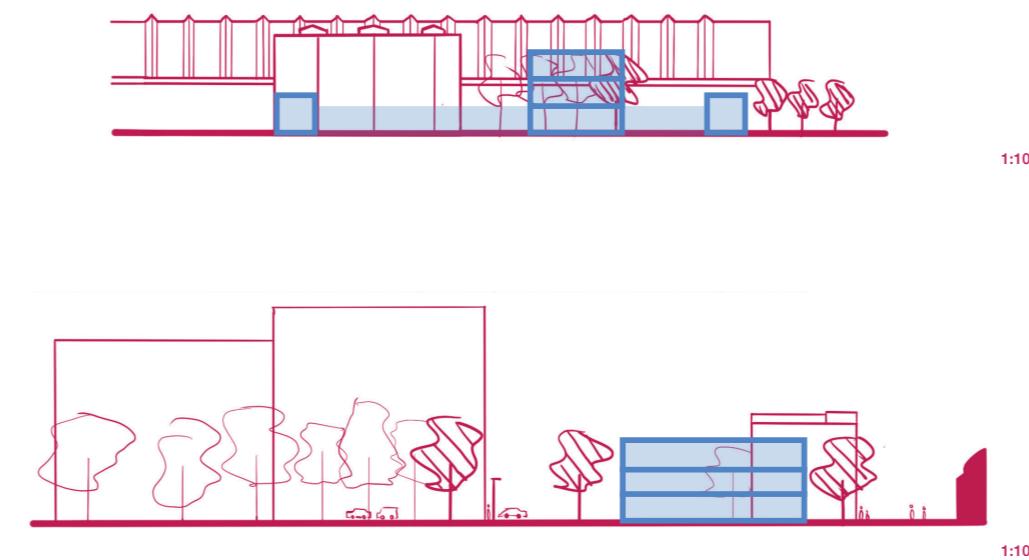
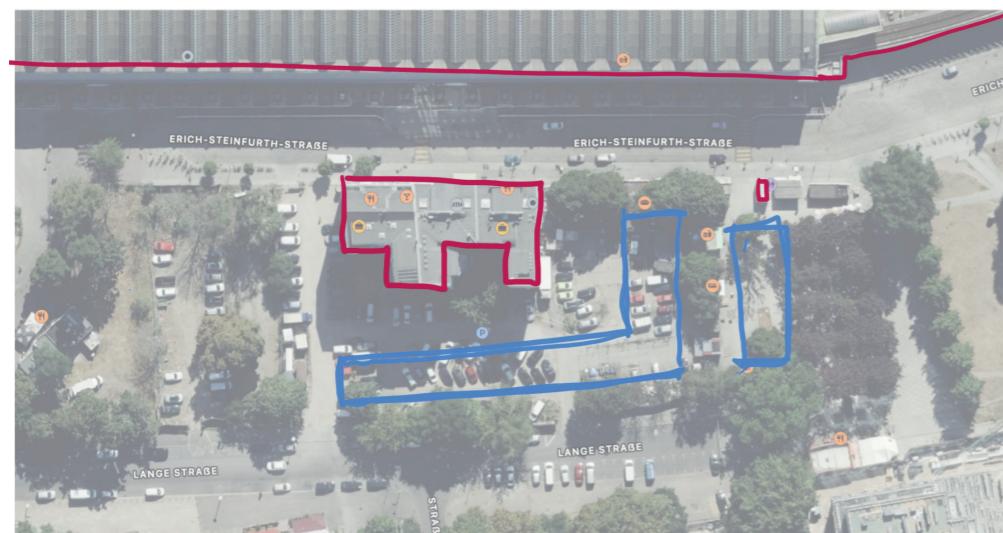
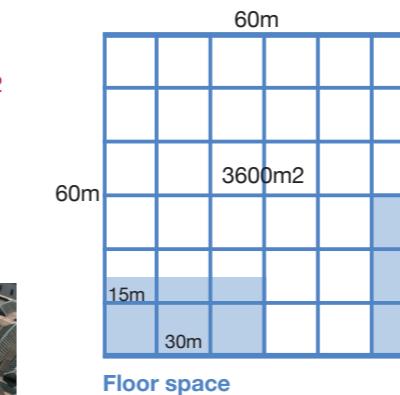
PROGRAMMATIC STUDIES

Activating underused (green) space through urban/ architectural interventions

Creating spaces of interaction, connection and inclusivity



Spaces: 3600m²
Prerequisite spaces:
Utilities, circulation etc. 600m²
Greenhouse+gardens 1000m²
Food and culture 900m²
Workshop space 500m²
building interaction 500m²
100m²



For this study I expanded the studies from the week before by drawing it in plan,

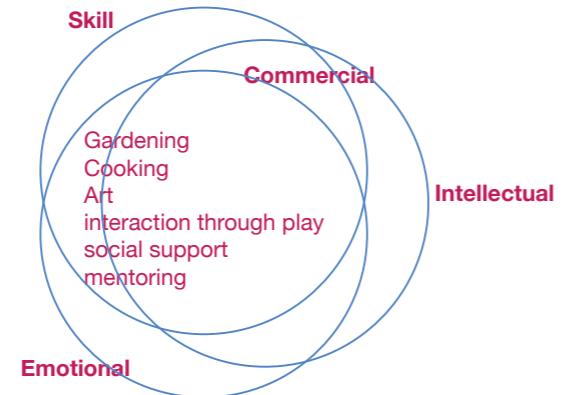
here for the site at the station, where it made slightly change the shapes from the week before.

CONTINUING PROGRAMMATIC STUDIES

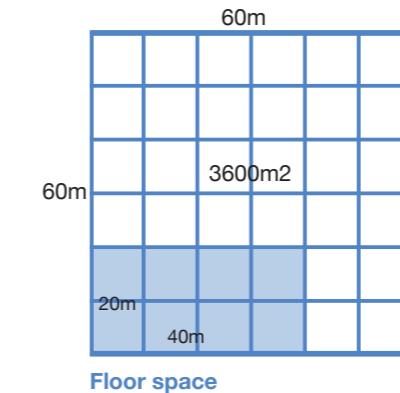
PROGRAMMATIC STUDIES

Activating underused (green) space through urban/ architectural reinforcement

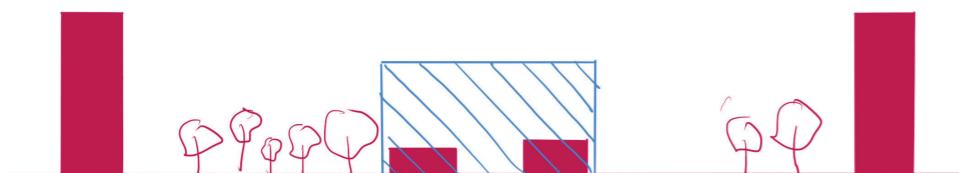
Creating spaces of interaction, connection and inclusivity



Spaces: 4400m ²	600m ²
Prerequisite spaces: Utilities, circulation etc.	1000m ²
Greenhouse+gardens	900m ²
kitchen+ cafe	500m ²
Workshop space	500m ²
building interaction	100m ²
Rebuilding Kindergarten	800m ²



Here I chose a new site as the former small site appeared to be too small and did not fit the program unless it would be really high, which I would not want for my specific program.

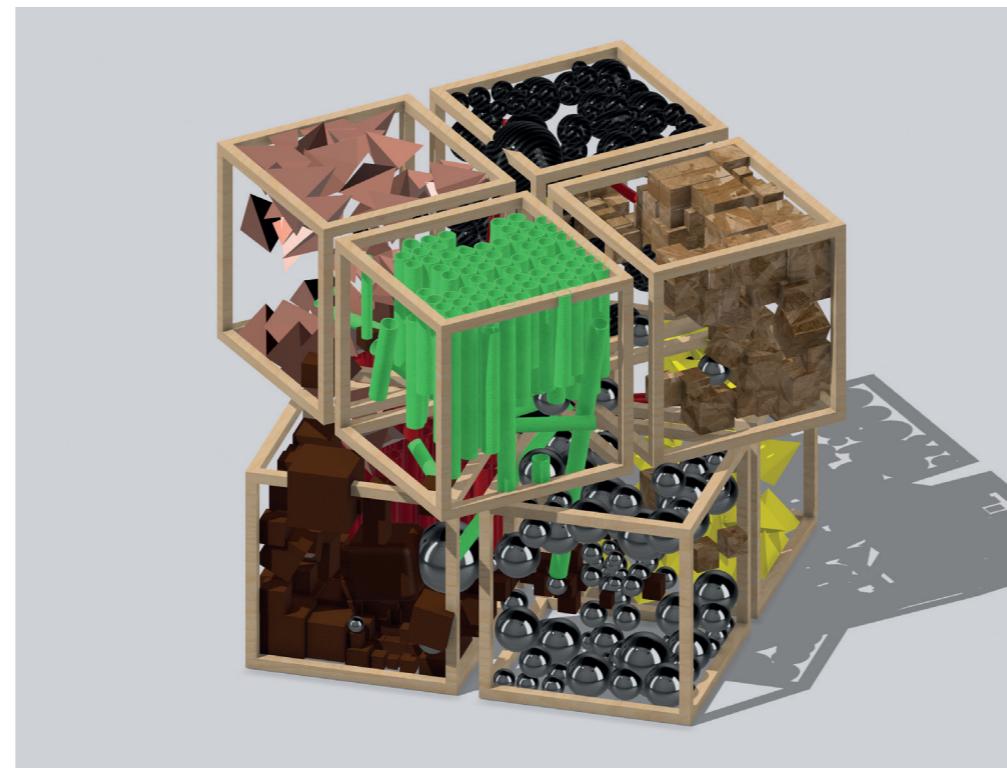
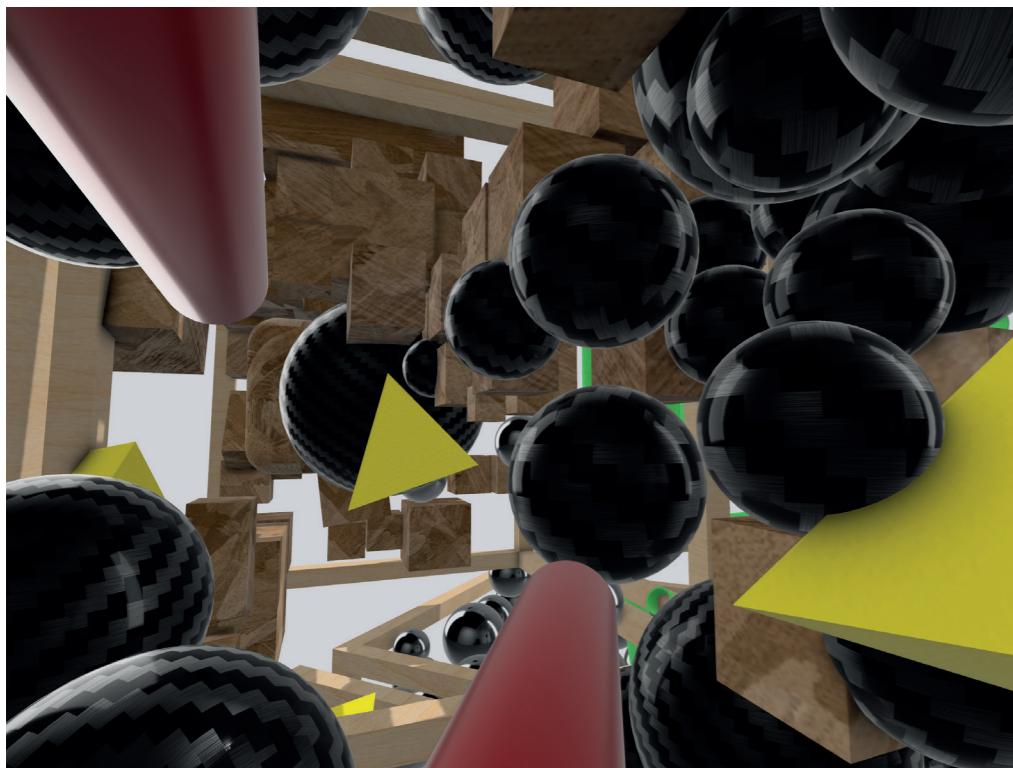
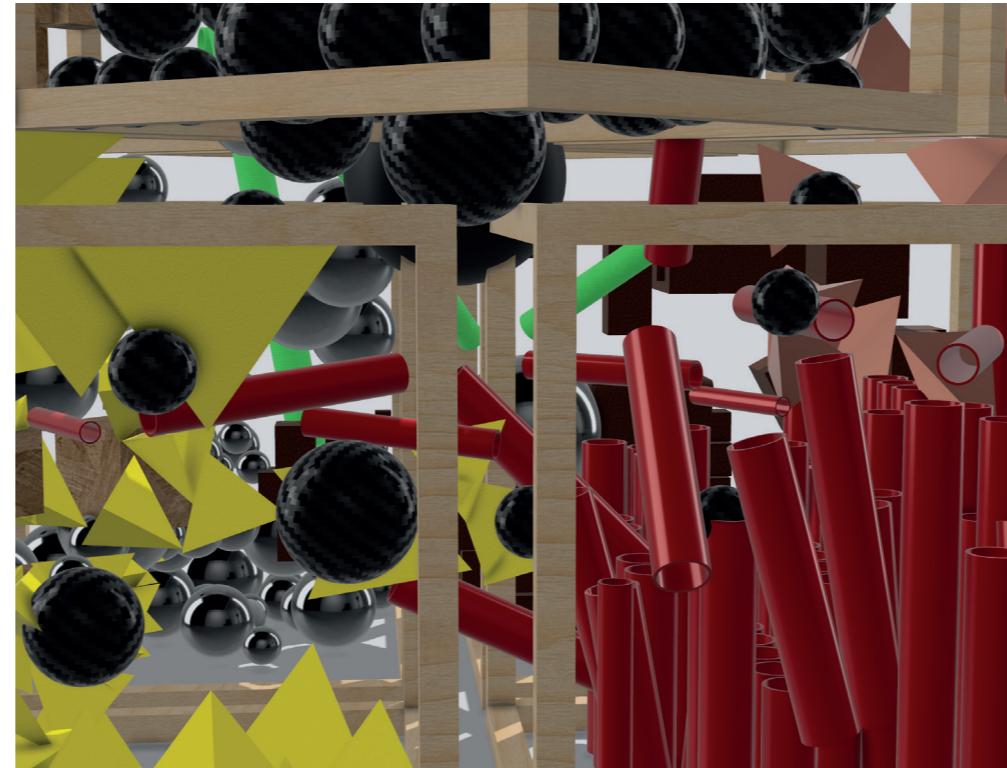
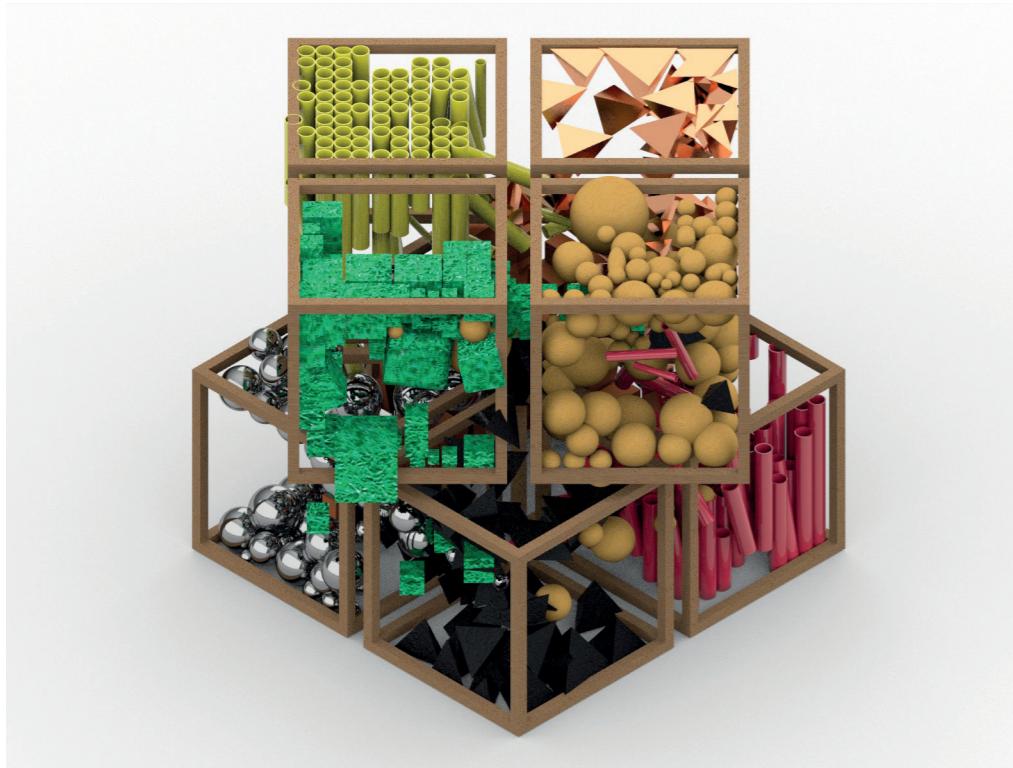


This site is located close to the previously chose site, but in between building blocks and not along the street.

On the site currently resides and Kindergarten that basically is also the only place a new building could be placed as taking down trees for me is something that should always be prevented.

I also don't want to demolish the kindergarten building for sustainability reason. For that reason I would like to see if I can build atop the kindergarten and test the program out that way.

3D MODEL



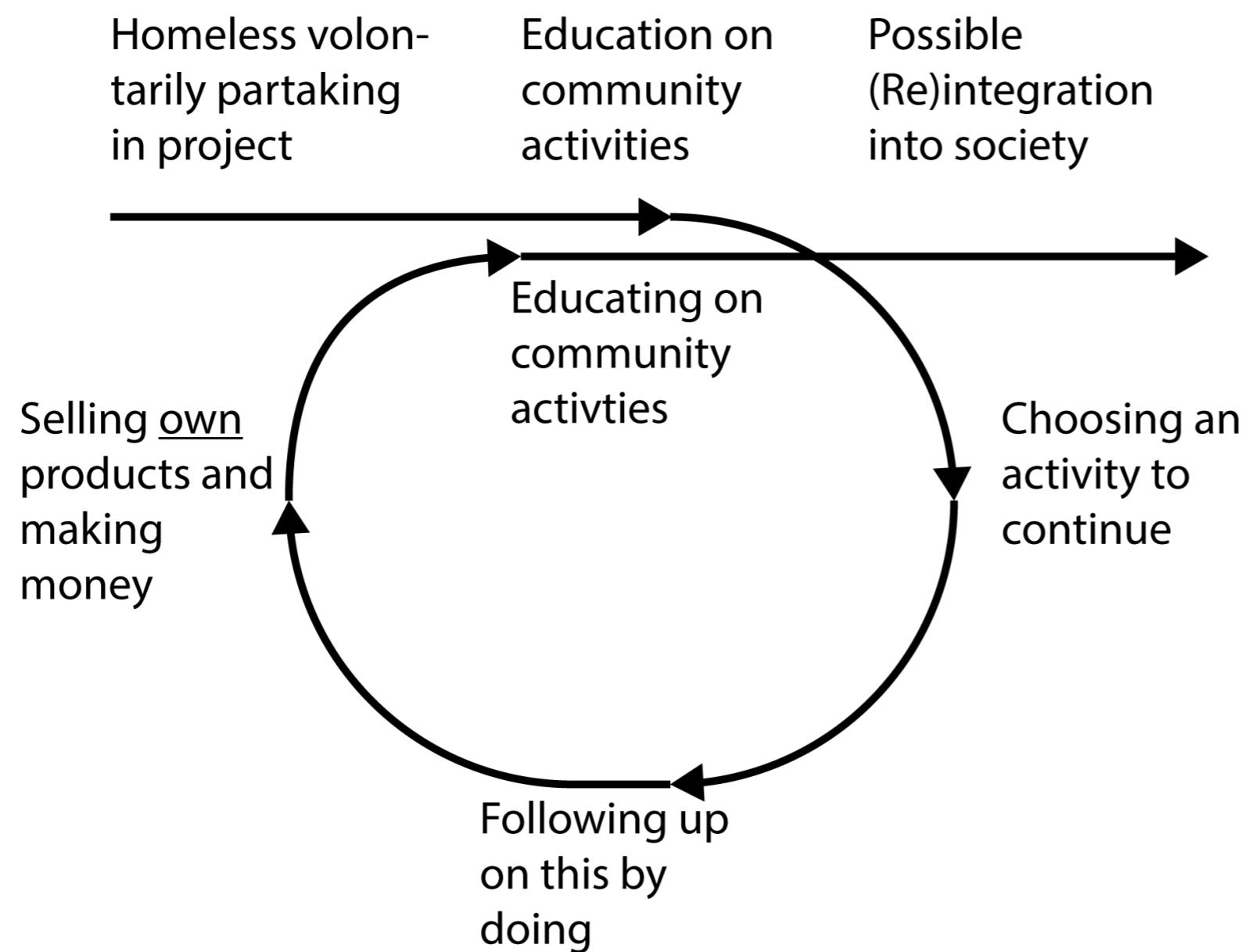
For the 3D-model, I translated the physical model from week 06 to a more elaborate rubix cube-like device in which all different actors would be metaphorically displayed as shapes with varying textures.

Through the open frames, the object are able to move toward (or away from) eachother so that they can interact. In the model I have made this happen

Trough the mixing of shapes, the shapes can also change form, depending on whom they meet.

WEEK 08

DIAGRAM ON INTEGRATION OF HOMELESS



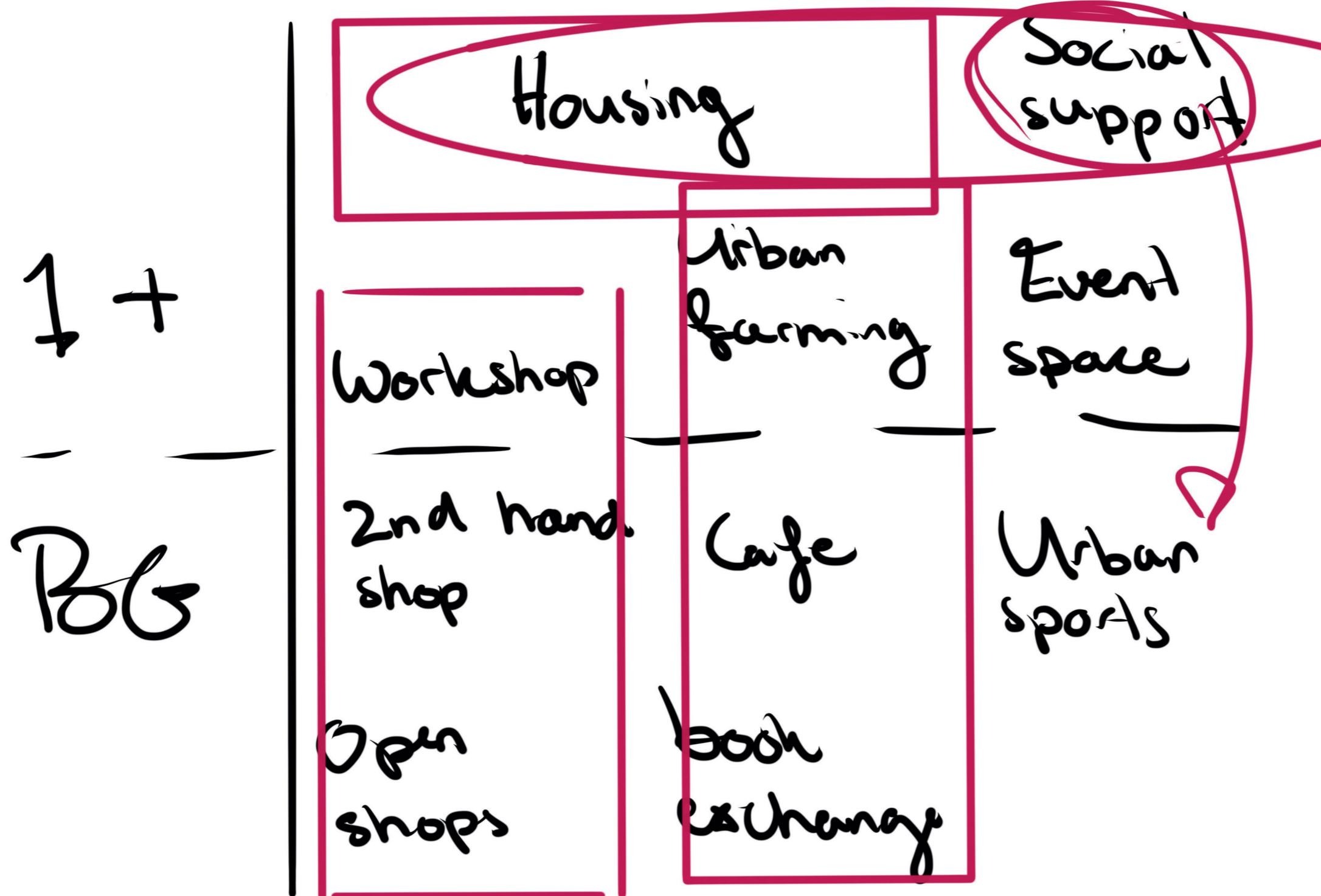
In my first ideas for the building and how it should work systematically it would allow for taking in people with social issues like homeless in trying to reintegrate those into society.

this diagram shows the process of this.

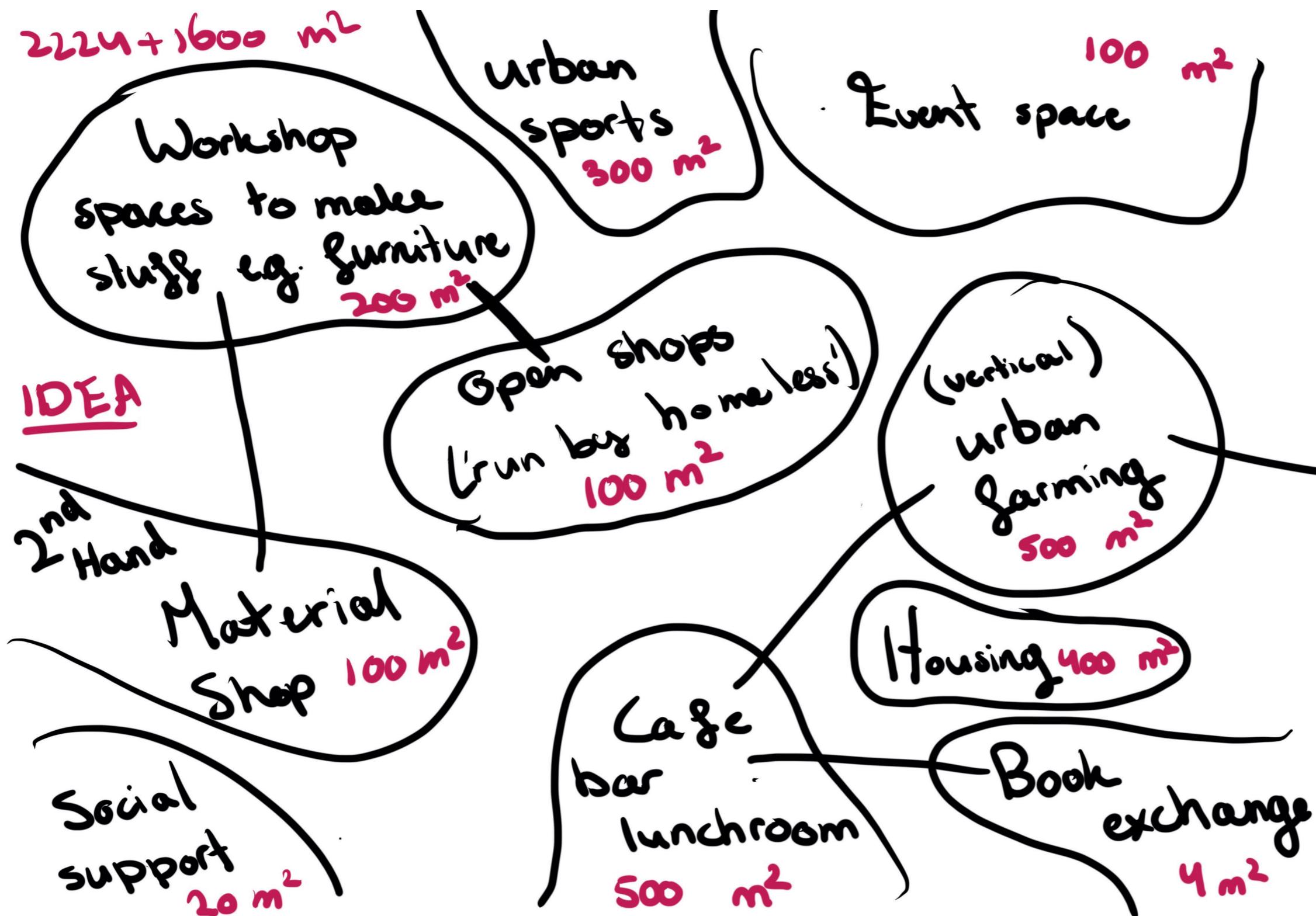
This week also consisted of some more reading.

on the next slides, I further developed the program and how it relates to the ground floor, so whether or not it should be part of the plinth

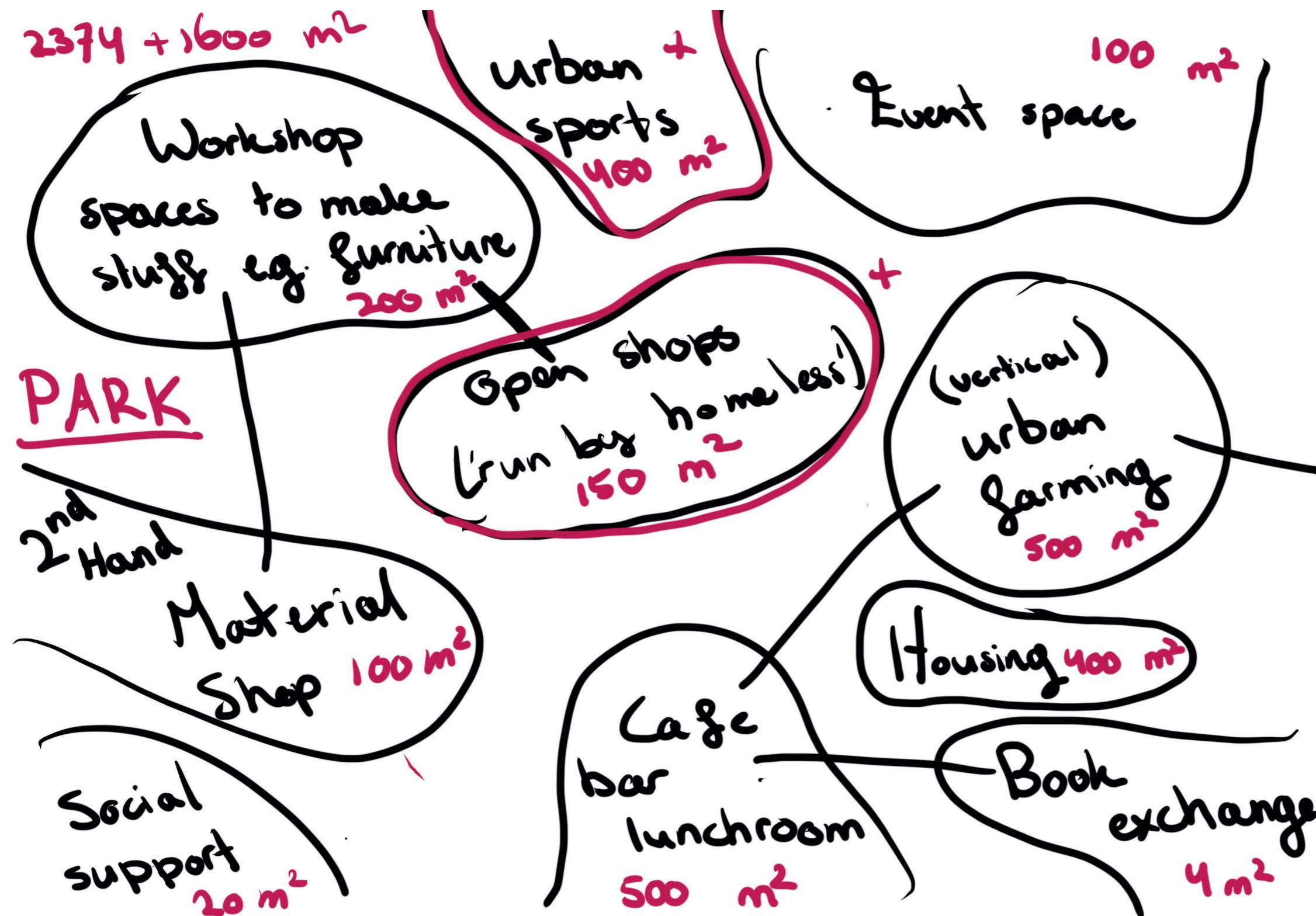
PROGRAM AND GROUND LEVEL (PLINTH)



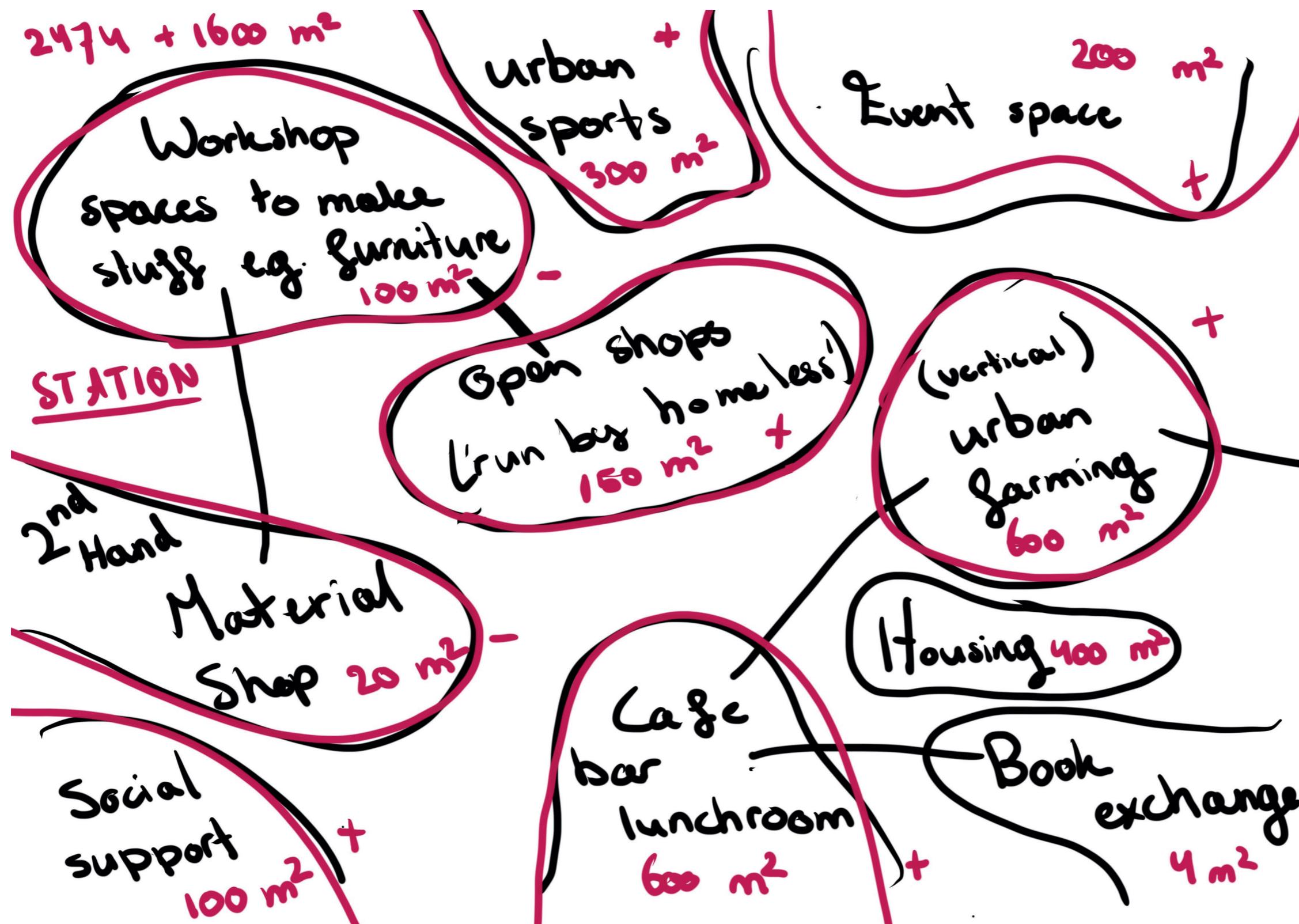
PROGRAM FOR ALL SITES (STARTING POINT)



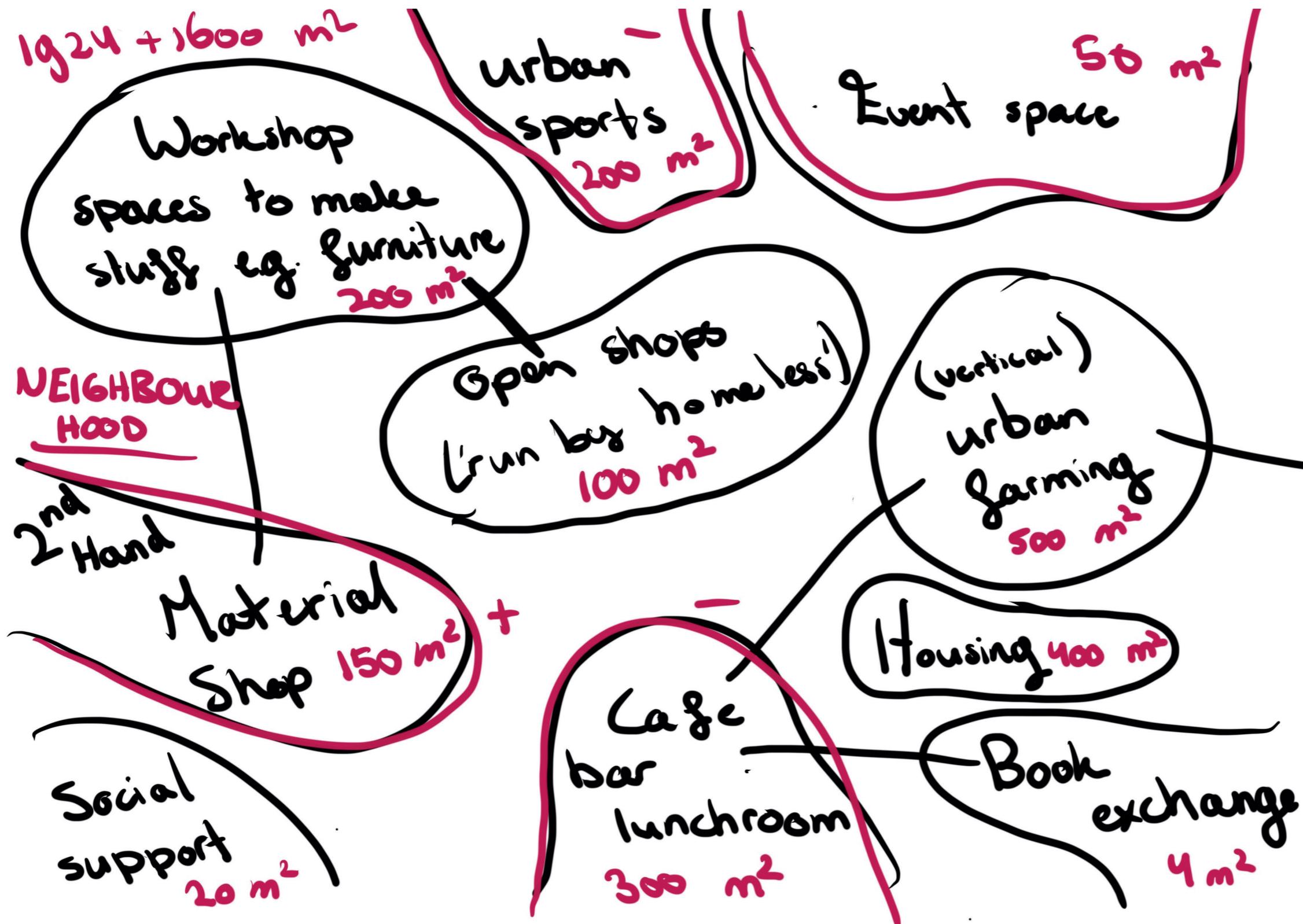
PROGRAM FOR SITE 1 (PARK)



PROGRAM FOR SITE 2 (STATION)

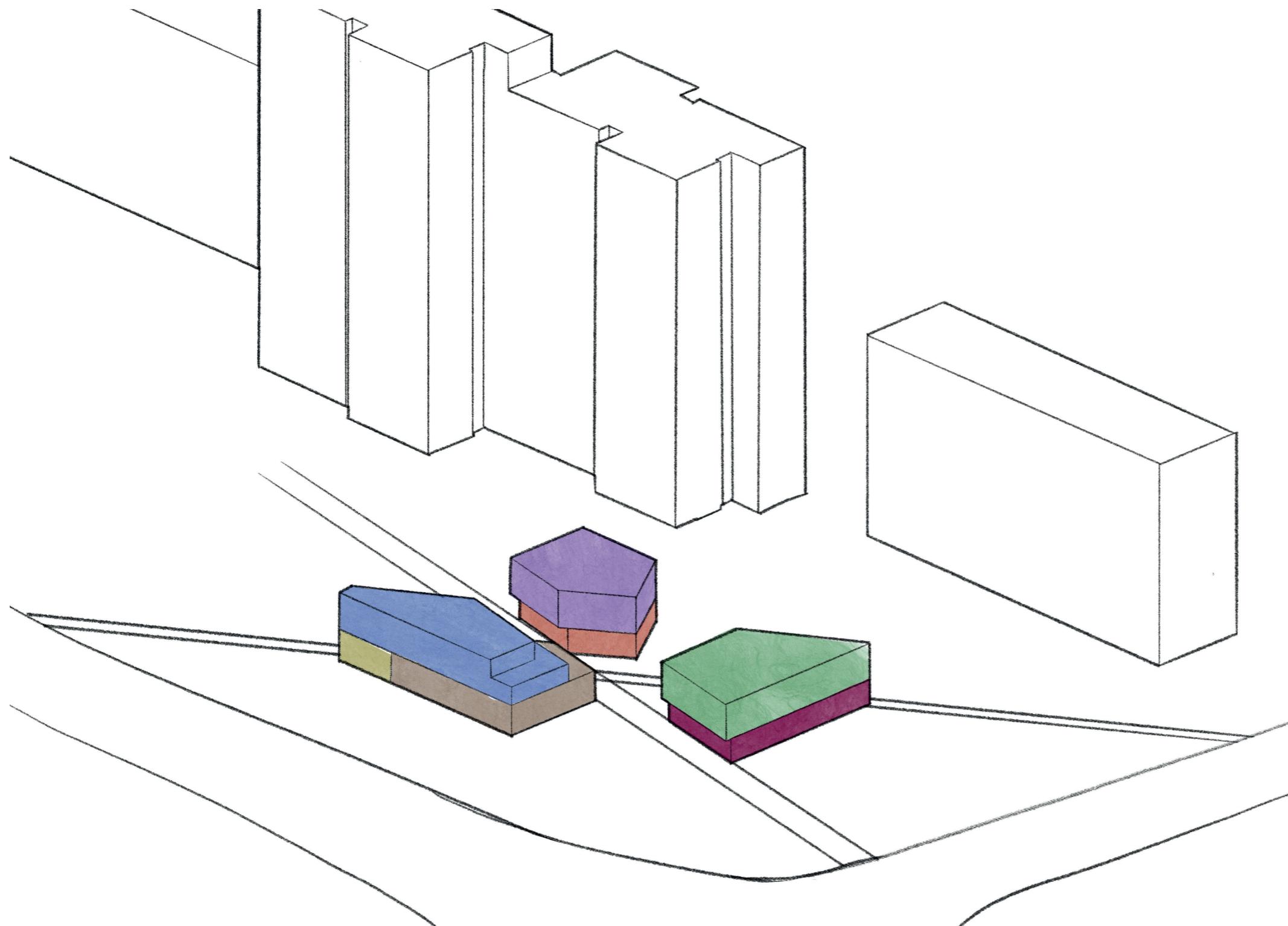


PROGRAM FOR SITE 3 (NEIGHBOURHOOD)



WEEK 09

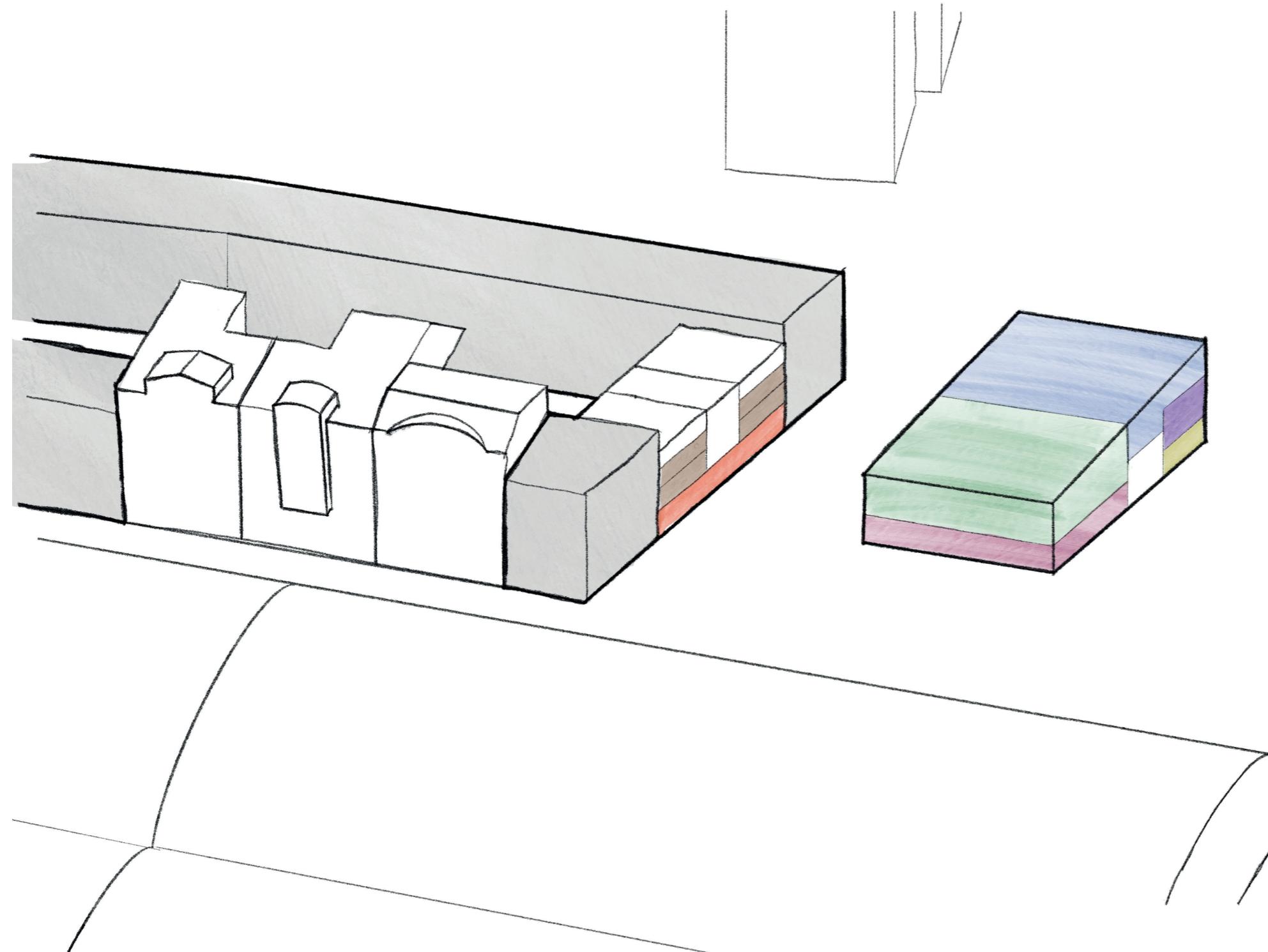
DEVELOPMENT SITES IN 3D - PARK



For this excercise, I colourcoded the different types of program and distributed them on site

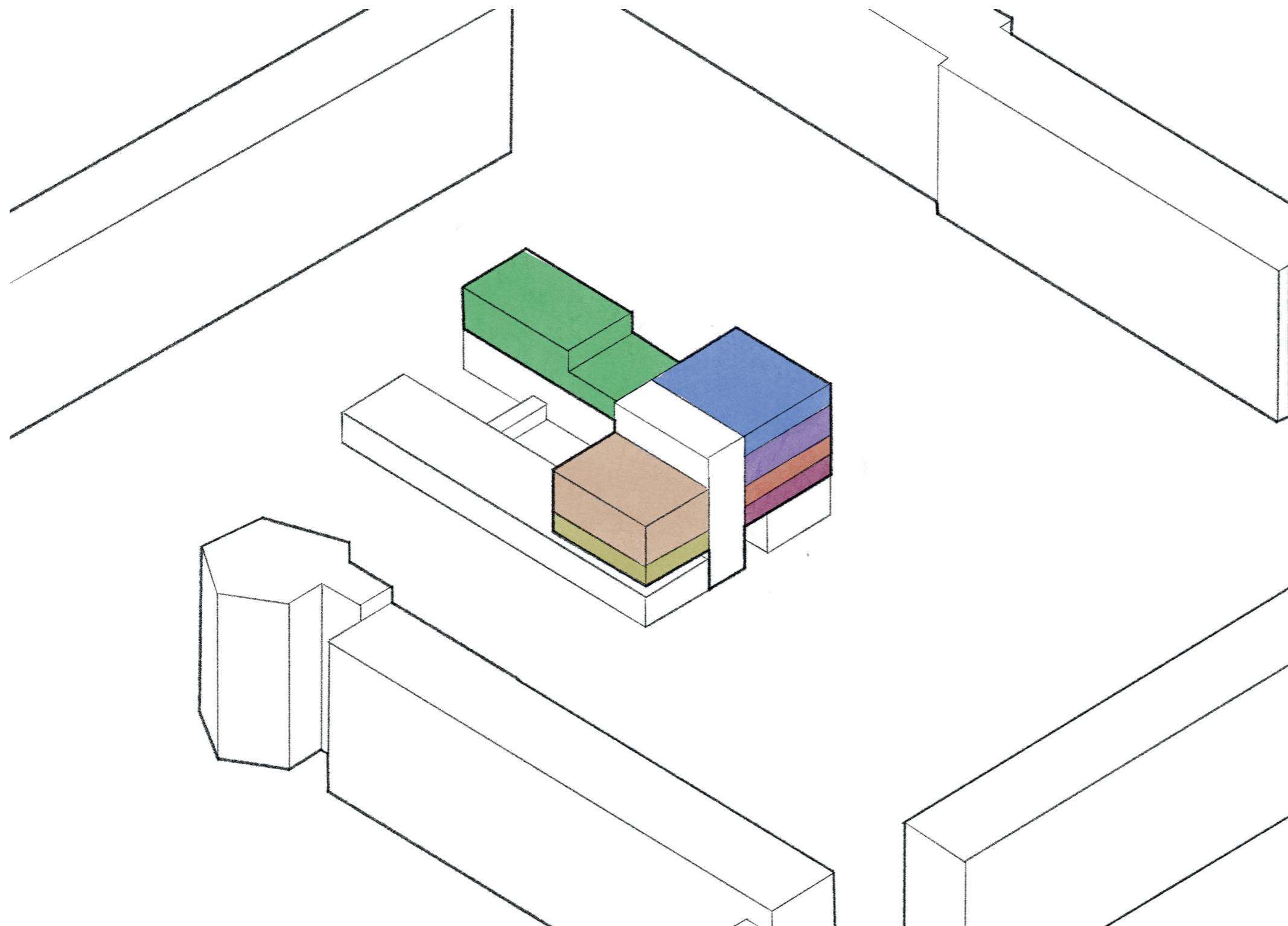
for this option, I created two axis along which three building are placed. In between the three, a little square emerges where interaction could take place

DEVELOPMENT SITES IN 3D - STATION



For the station option, I rebuild part of the historical building block and again created a new axis that connects to the park in the back.

DEVELOPMENT SITES IN 3D - NEIGHBOURHOOD



For option 3, I placed the functions on top of the building and created one core through which access would be made possible.

WEEK 10

RESEARCH PLAN DRAFT V2

Developing social connection through architectural interventions at in-between space

When walking through our selected area in Friedrichshain, I found out very quickly there is, as was already visible on maps, a decent amount of 'green space' in and throughout the area. The 'plattenbau' structure of the neighbourhood allows for these areas to exist due to the distance between each building block. However much of this 'green space', is not used greatly as a place where people go to or reside, mainly because the spaces often don't allow for this or appear uninviting.

Another issue I've encountered through personal experience and interviews with residents of the area, is the disconnection from their neighbours, a sense of community seems to be missing. People mostly talk to their direct neighbours only but it pretty much stops there. One couple living closer to Ostbahnhof explained they they don't feel it is the nicest area due to the issue of homelessness and alcoholism on the streets, especially with a small kid.

As there is great chance of these homeless people to stay, there has to be a way to find common ground and connect these people. As parks appear to be the spaces both residents from the neighbourhood and homeless people use, it appears to be an interesting typology on which a space for connection between peoples could be created.

The answer in finding a form of connection should lay in that which connects each group, in what they have in common, either as interest or as need. The goal here is for the homeless not to be seen as parasites of their environment, but as part of it. The homeless play a

specific role in this as they, first and foremost, lack of housing, or for the least, a proper place to sleep, making them most disconnected other peoples. All of this combined, the following question was formed:

How can architectural interventions activate and enrich existing green spaces with the aim to include different peoples and allow for interaction so that an inclusive sense of community can develop?

For doing so, I plan to focus on partly the homeless as a start as I would like to find a way that those homeless who partake can (re-)integrate in society. I here for plan to visit workshop places in Rotterdam that provide ways for those being behind on the job market and guide them practically, socially and mentally so that they can return the working field. Here I hope to speak to those managing the places as well as those being guided in trying to find out what kind of system might be applied and how such building might also still be attractive as a community space for the non-homeless. Other means of finding more information on the matter would be through literature.

CREATING A NEW COLLAGE THROUGH AI



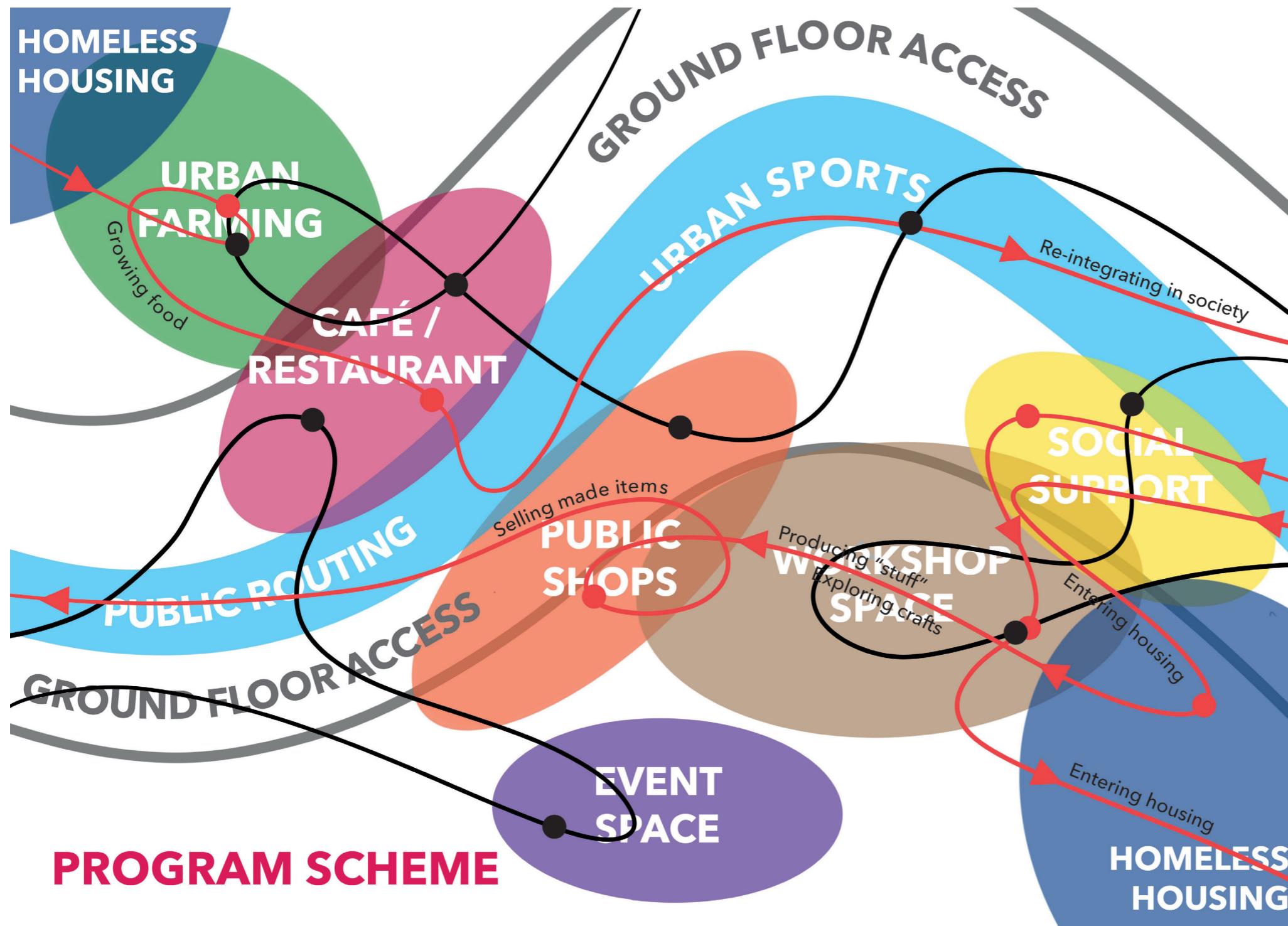
Here I chose to first create a new collage from by current theme, which differs from the one I made in the first week.

Instead of using traditional techniques such as layering images through photoshop I chose to explore the realm of AI.

PROMPTS:
 big public community building inside a park in Berlin, city background, people interacting, having fun, community centre, many trees, community gardening by homeless people, collage image, overlay, multi-layered

The images are produced with DALL-E AI engine

PROGRAM SCHEME



Here is a visual yet conceptual representation of my program, it is both a map aswell as a diagram.

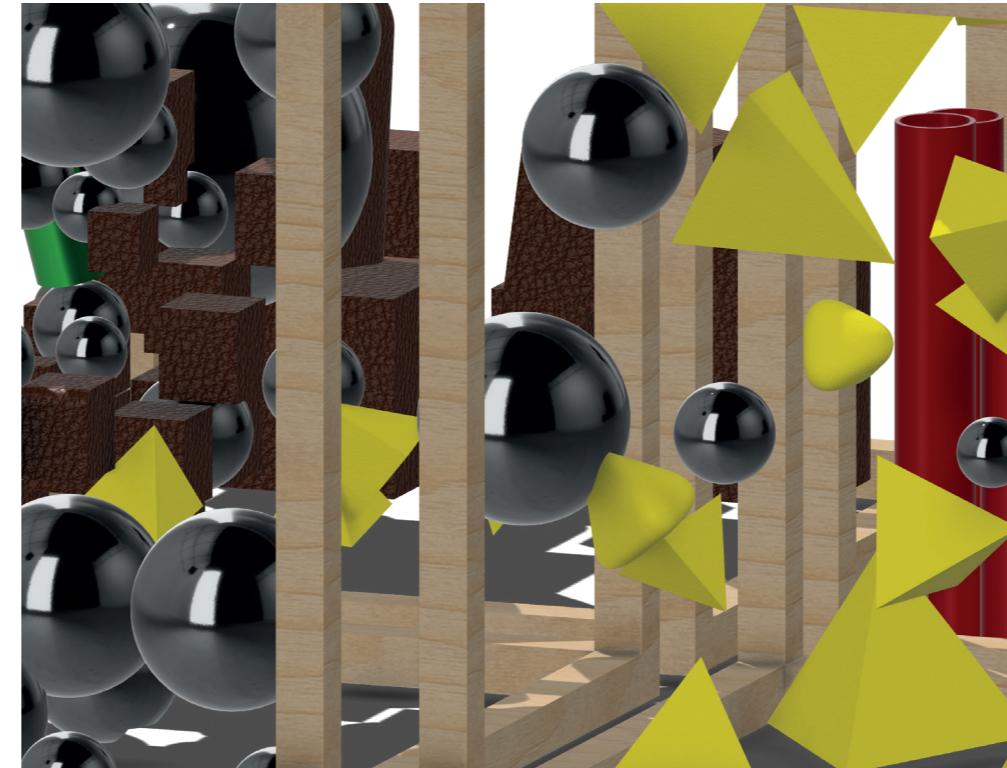
Now as a connector, public routing is placed, also a place where urban sports can occur.

Allong this line, three functions placed on ground level, so at the plinth. The other functions are above ground level and therefore not connected to the urban/ public routing.

The extra layers show routing of different people. In red the homeless with dots representing places to stay and the routing following the diagram presented earlier.

The black lines represent the non-homeless, the lines on purpose meet with the red lines. Thus allowing for interaction.

CHANGING 3D MODEL FOR CONCEPT

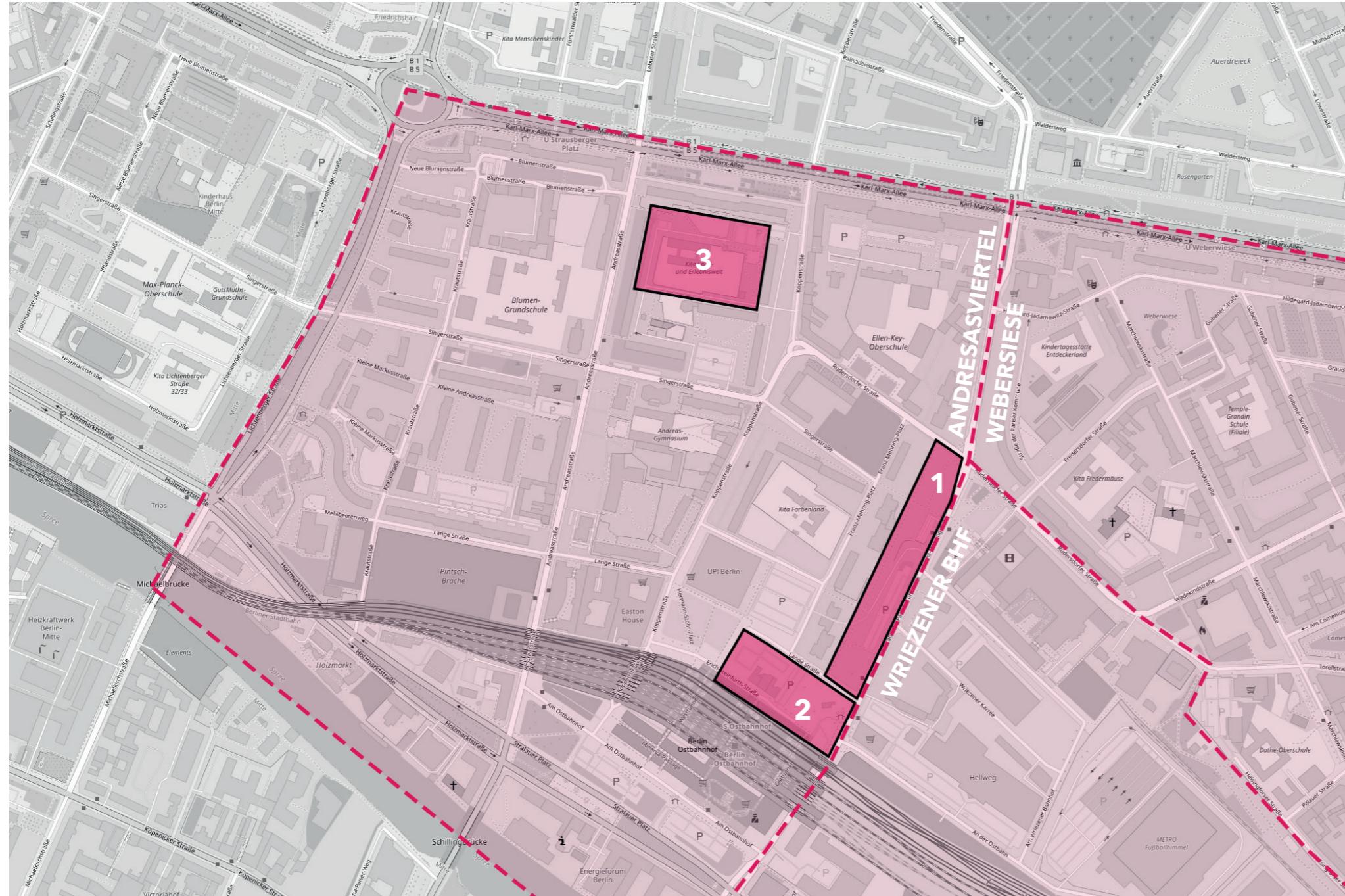


I slightly changed the box after earlier feedback. I now applied differences to the boxes too as presenting different requirements each person might have.

Also I made it a bit less dense and applied adaptations to the individual shapes (e.g. cubes getting rounded edges when in touch with spheres)



DRAWING A MAP

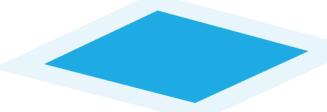
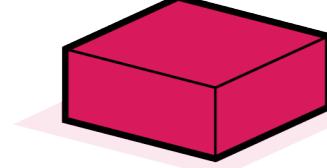
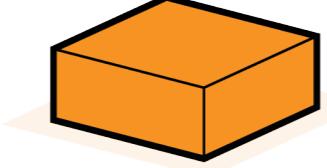
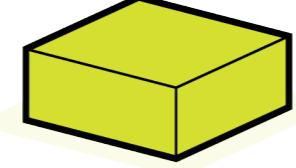
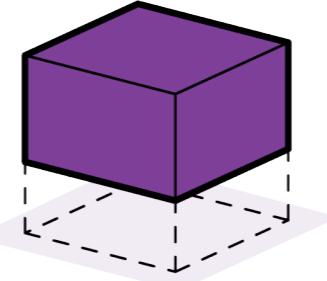
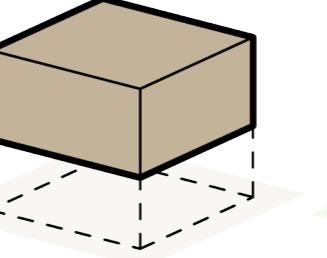
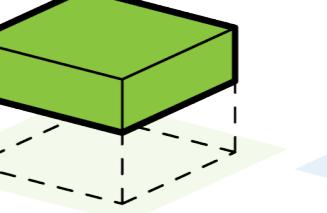
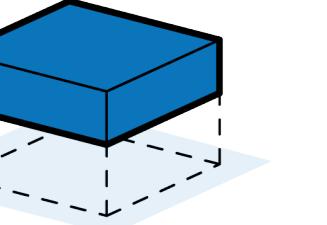


This map shows all 3 sites and its position within Friedrichshain

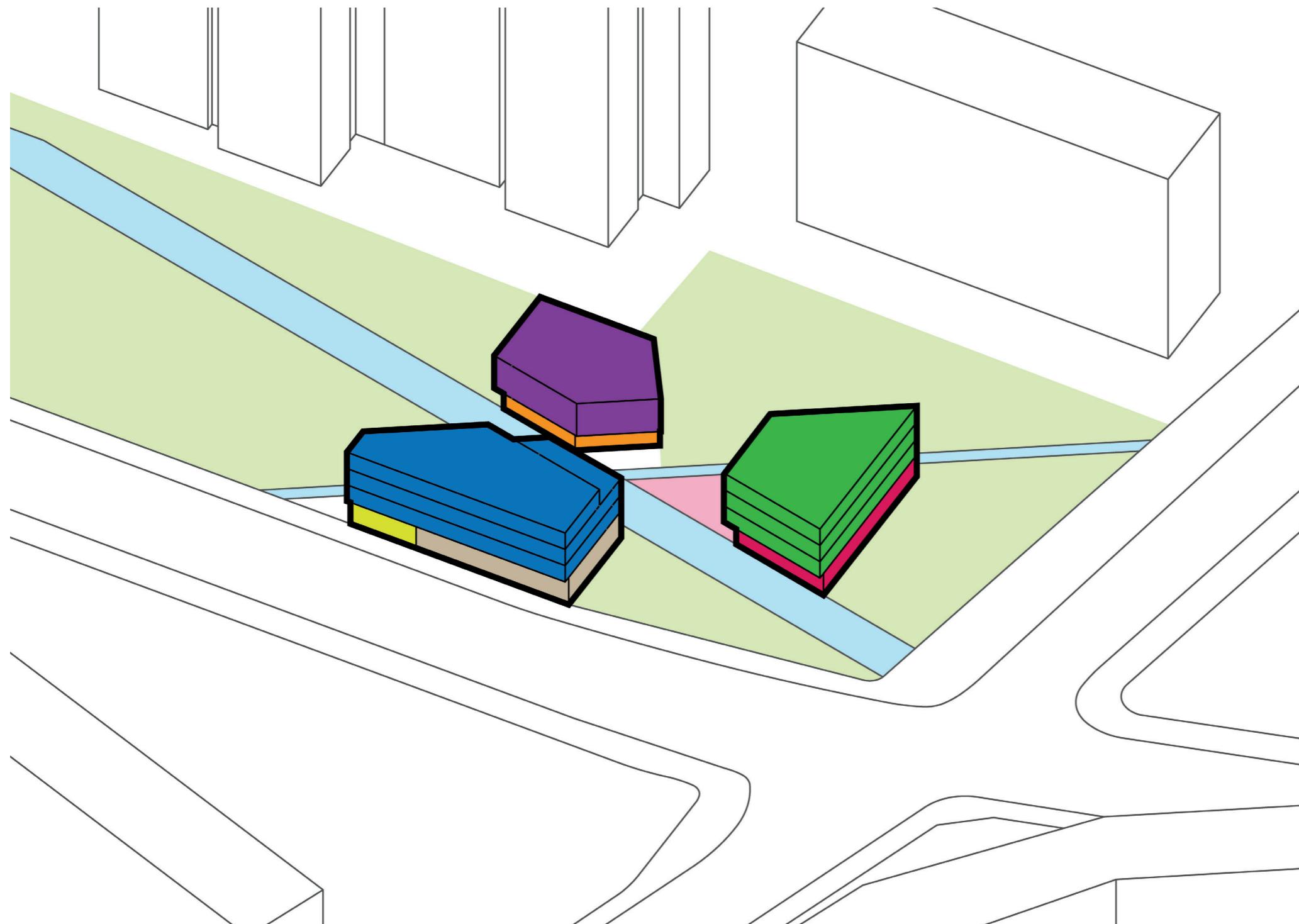
COLOUR CODING PROGRAM

Here the program is colour coded and also the functions are placed either on ground level or higher than that, stating their ideal place to be on.

It should especially be noted that it is most important for some functions to be in plinth, it is not so much an issue however when more functions than just those become part of the plinth too.

							
Routing/ Urban Sports	Café/ Restaurant	2nd hand shop/ Crafts shops	Social support	Event space	Workshop spaces	Urban farming	Housing (for the homeless)
GF	height \geq 4m	height \geq 4m	height \geq 4m	height \geq 6m	height \geq 5m	height \geq 3m	height \geq 3m

3D PROGRAM DEVELOPED - PARK

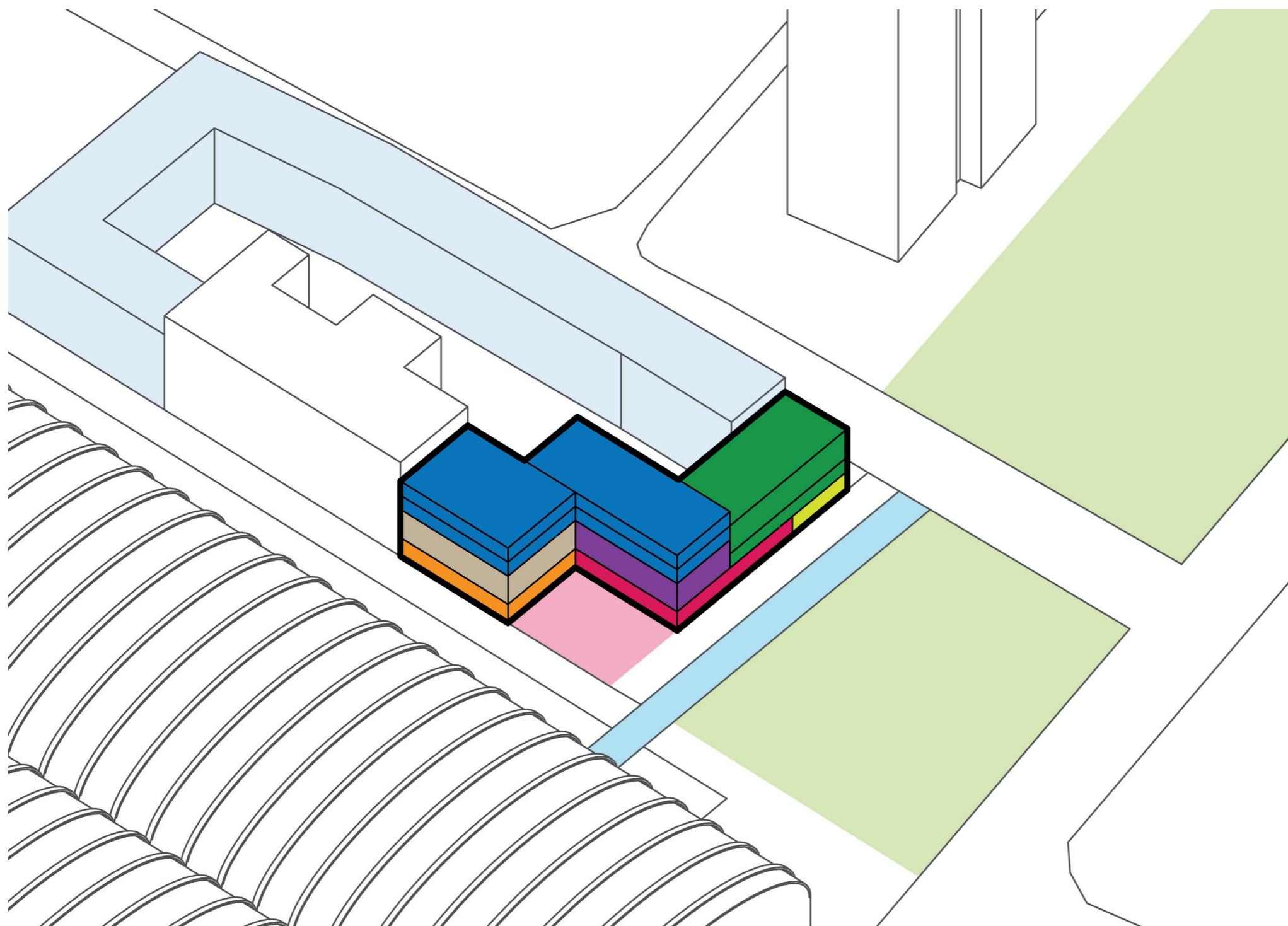


The same setup is used as last week, however the program has changed. Here it appears the building was on the small side and so more space for housing and urban farming was created. Also more space was given in front of the building that hosts the events space (purple)

SITE 1: PARK (3920 m²)

Urban sports:	400m ²
Café / restaurant:	300m ²
2nd hand/ crafts shops:	250m ²
Social support:	70m ²
Event space	300m ²
Workshop spaces:	350m ²
Housing:	1250m ²
Urban farming:	1000m ²

3D PROGRAM DEVELOPED - STATION



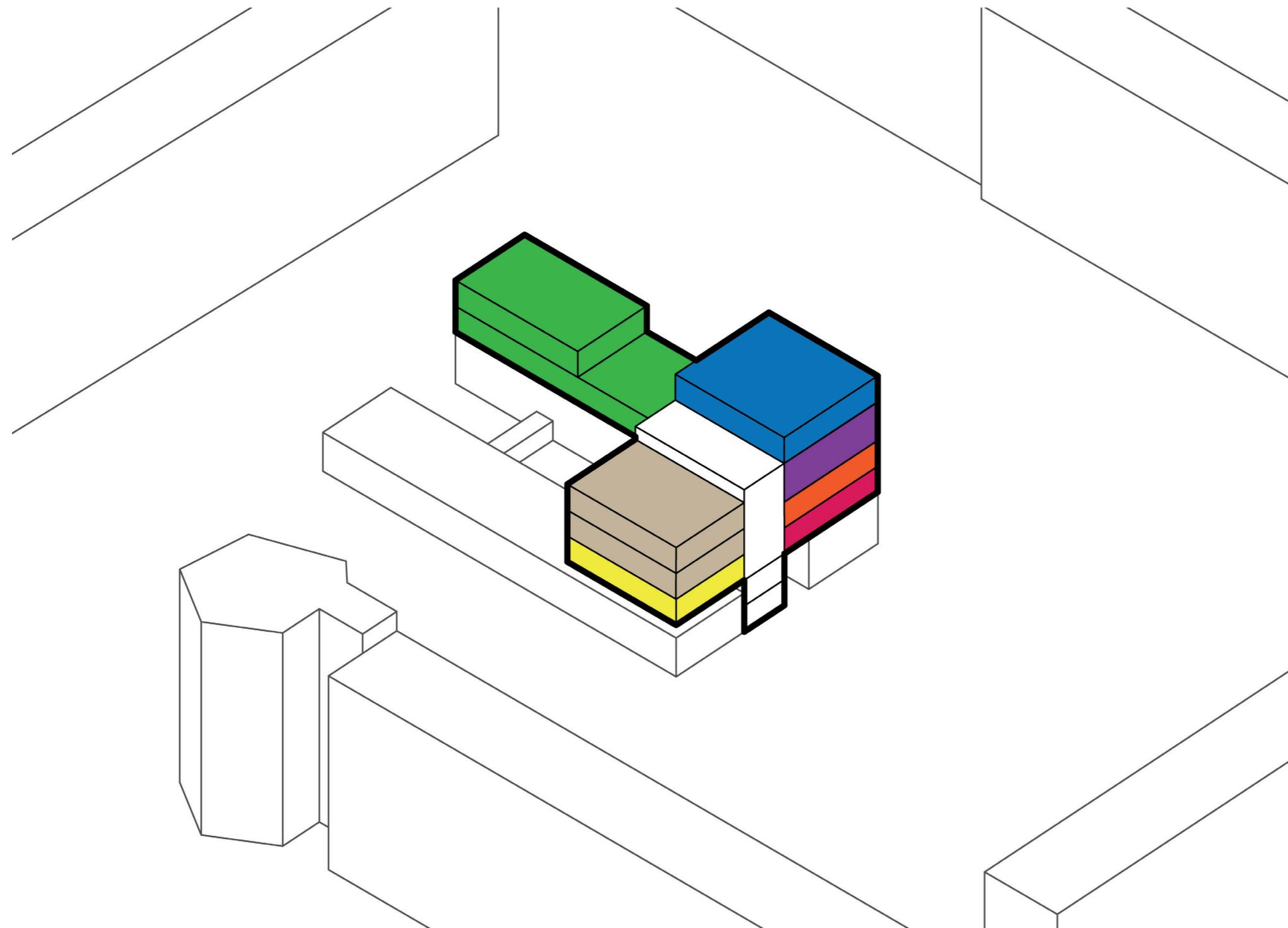
Here the axis from last week was moved a bit and the building block was made bigger.

Also the community buildin received the primary corner location to allow more attraction and visibility from the station side as well as the side facing the neighbourhood.

SITE 2: STATION (4090 m²)

Urban sports:	400m ²
Café / restaurant:	320m ²
2nd hand/ crafts shops:	530m ²
Social support:	150m ²
Event space	240m ²
Workshop spaces:	450m ²
Housing:	1360m ²
Urban farming:	640m ²

3D PROGRAM DEVELOPED - NEIGHBOURHOOD



Here not much was changed. After thorough investigation it simply appear a non viable option for my theme and program.

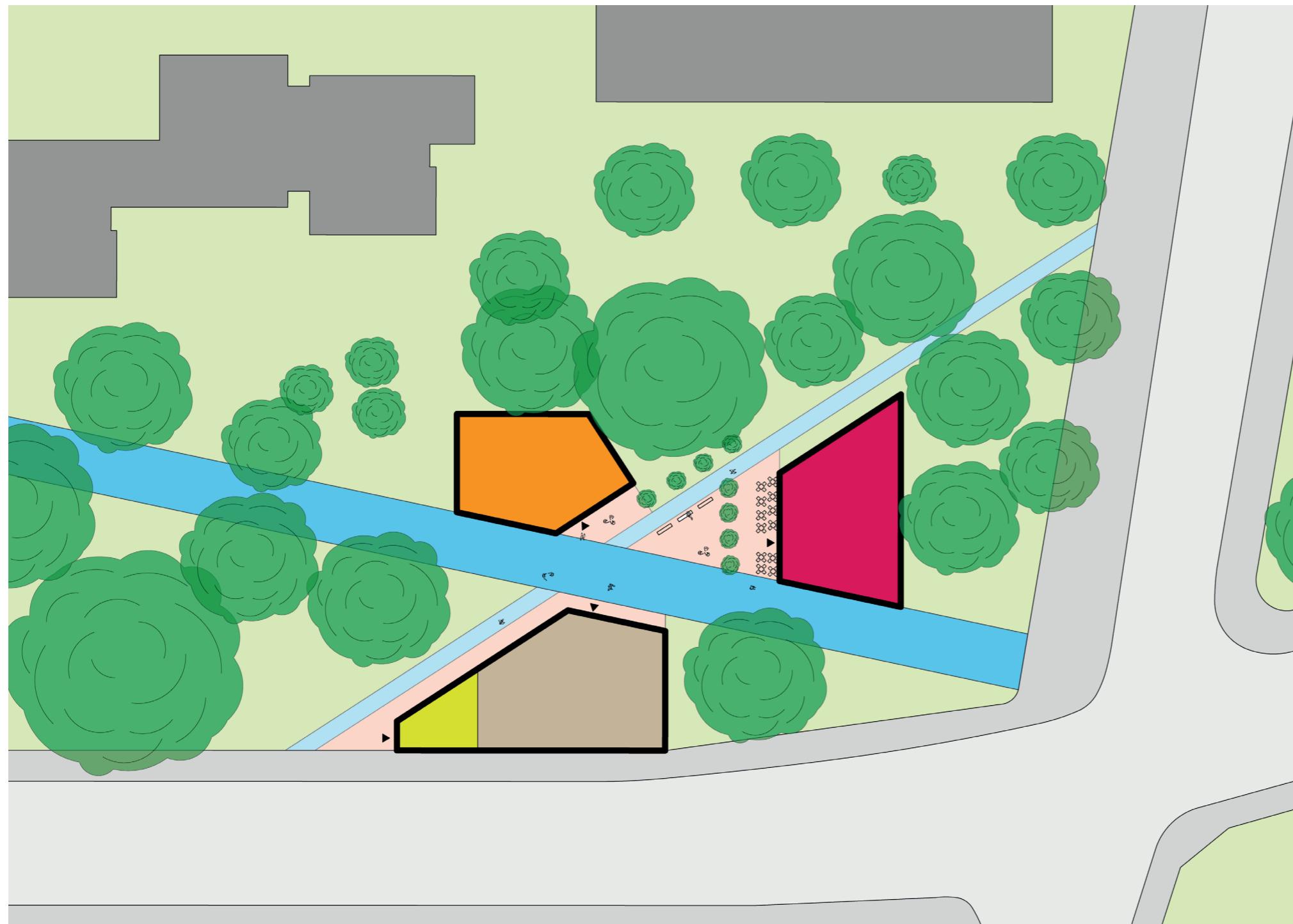
functions that should be at the plinth are now lifted up and also combining a Kindergarten with housing for the homeless might just be a bit too risky.

Also, the building would become a lot smaller.

SITE 3: NEIGHBOURHOOD (2340 m²)

Urban sports:	-
Café / restaurant:	300m ²
2nd hand/ crafts shops:	250m ²
Social support:	220m ²
Event space	300m ²
Workshop spaces:	220m ²
Housing:	300m ²
Urban farming:	750m ²

FLOOR PLAN SITE PARK



Here the floorplan on an urban level, also showing where to enter the building

SITE 1: PARK

FLOORPLAN SITE STATION



SITE 2: STATION

Here the floorplan on an urban level, also showing where to enter the building

VISITING PLUSPUNT ROTTERDAM



I visited Pluspunt in Rotterdam where I met with someone in charge who guides the people seen on the photos.

This place is open to everyone but specifically hosts daytime activities for people with social issues. Often former addicts, homeless, etc.

Through doing, they regain a sense of belonging. Also, they are stimulated to keep up a strict pattern, all with the aim to re-enter society.

This location is part of a bigger scheme of places alike, some of which I also intent to visit.

PROJECT PRECEDENT



FADURATEA - GEXTO (SPAIN)

I selected this project as a precedent as it also hosts a public function where people come together. On top of that, I quite like the street and the way it is very active.

This wider street might be an nice example to activate the street.

WEEK 11

RESEARCH PLAN

Developing social connection through architectural interventions at in-between space

When walking through our selected area in Friedrichshain, I found out very quickly there is, as was already visible on maps, a decent amount of 'green space' in and throughout the area. The 'plattenbau' structure of the neighbourhood allows for these areas to exist due to the distance between each building block. However, much of this 'green space', is not used greatly as a place where people go to or reside. Often, these spaces don't allow for this or appear uninviting.

An issue I've encountered through interviews with residents of the area, is the disconnection from their neighbours, a sense of community seems to be missing. One couple living closer to Ostbahnhof explained they don't feel it is the nicest area due to the issue of homelessness and alcoholism on the streets, especially with a small kid. They mostly just talk to their direct neighbours but that is about it.

A general space where everyone can come together and form connections seems to be lacking. As people with issues in social life, like homeless people, are just as much part of the community as everyone else living in the area, they too should be included. The spaces all people in Friedrichshain, regardless of their age or background seem to use, are parks. It is for this reason I choose the in-between green space that could function as parks as spaces where a public intervention could be placed.

The answer in finding a form of connection should lay in that which connects each group, in what they have in common, either as in-

terest or as need. The goal here is to create a place where those willing to become part of the community, and society as a whole, can find a meaning in life, feel that they matter, enjoy leisure time, socialise and connect. The question is therefore:

How can architectural interventions activate and enrich existing green spaces with the aim to create a sense of belonging for those who need it and allow for interaction so that a community can develop where everyone is welcome?

For doing so, I plan to do more research on connection, in-between space, commoning and spaces of social aid. Part of this will be literature, but for the latter I hope to find more information by visiting different spaces that have a program in place to integrate people into society or give aid in other ways. I already visited one place in Rotterdam where the re-integration into society is the aim. By giving participants meaningful exercises and structure they are stimulated to get their lives back on track. This place worked with people that were already part of a certain trajectory so that social workers knew who they were dealing with and through that this place hosted daytime activities as being a full- or part-time job. These activities were mainly different crafts like woodwork or metalwork, something I currently intent to do as well.

I plan to visit other places alike but also try to see night shelter places for the homeless and talk to the people there to get to know how a system of re-integration works. By combining literature and precedents I intent to find ways to integrate those in need whilst socially connecting and forming a community.

RESEARCH PLAN REFERENCES

Architecture for connection

- Christian Borch, Martin Kornberger, *Urban Commons. Rethinking the City* (London: Routledge, 2015).
- Urban Think Tank, Torre David. *Informal Vertical Communities* (Zurich: Lars Müller Publishers, 2012).
- Stavros Stavrides, *Common Space. The City as Commons* (London: Bloomsbury Publishing, 2016).
- Pier Vittorio Aureli, *Rituals and Walls. The Architecture of Sacred Space* (London: AA Publishing, 2016).

In-between space

- Jan Gehl, *Life Between Buildings. Using Public Space* (Washington, Covelo, London: Island Press, 2011; first published in Copenhagen: Arkitektens Forlag, 1971).
- Jan Gehl, *Cities for People* (Island Press, 2010).

Commoning

- Heidi Sohn, Stavros Kousoulas, Gerhard Bruyns, *Commoning as differentiated publicness: emerging concepts of the urban and other material realities* (Delft: Stichting Footprint, 2015).
- Anh-Linh Ngo et al. (eds.), *An Atlas of Commoning. Places of Collective Production* (Berlin, ARCH+, Verlag GmbH, 2018).

Social aid

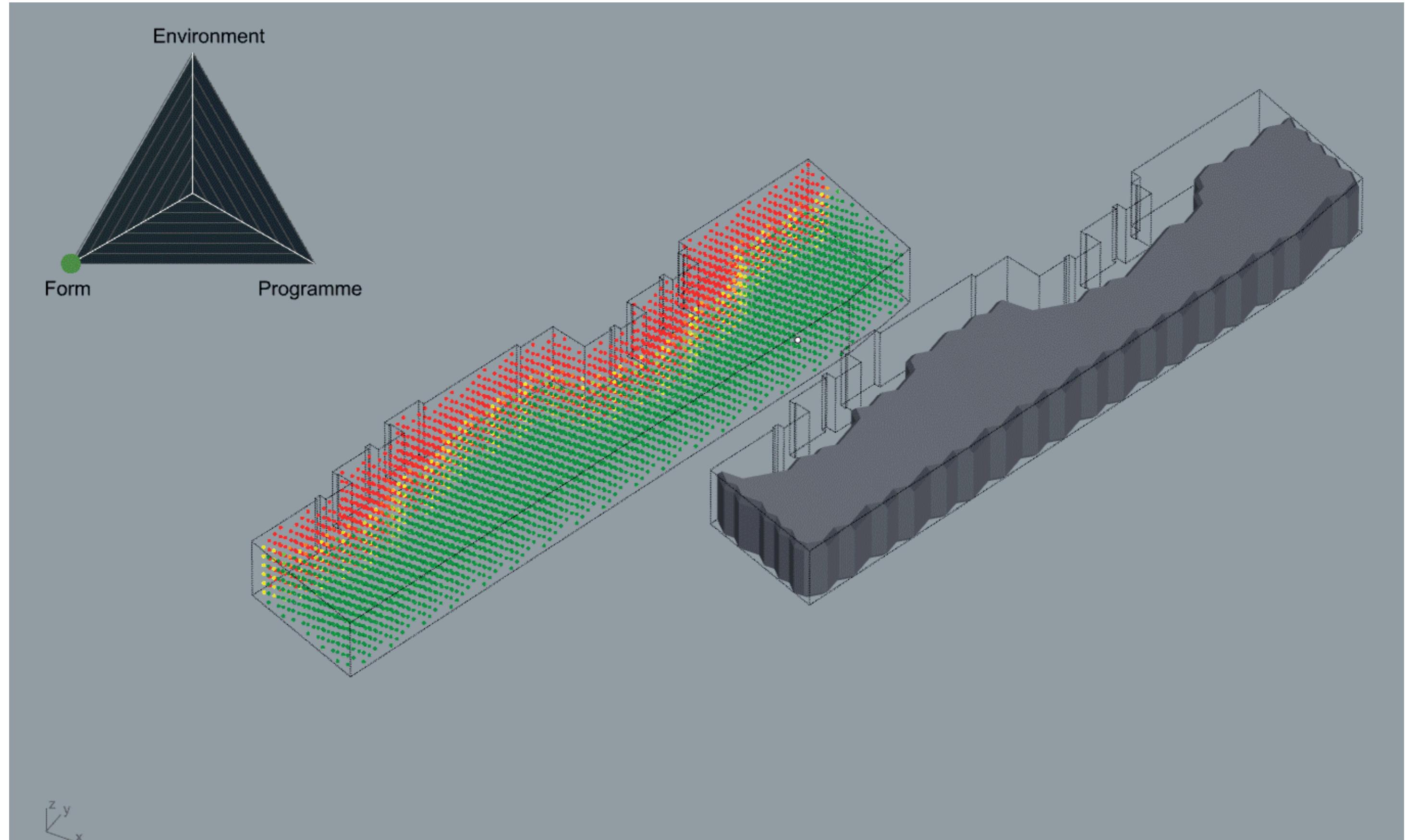
- Rae Bridgman, *The Architecture of Homelessness and Utopian Pragmatics* (Penn State University Press, 1998)
- Mary C. Comerio, *Design and Empowerment: 20 Years of Community Architecture* (Alexandrine Press, 1987)

Physical places to visit/ get in touch with

- Pluspunt Rotterdam West
- Pluspunt Rotterdam Noord
- Talentfabriek 010
- Pauluskerk Rotterdam
- NAS Rotterdam

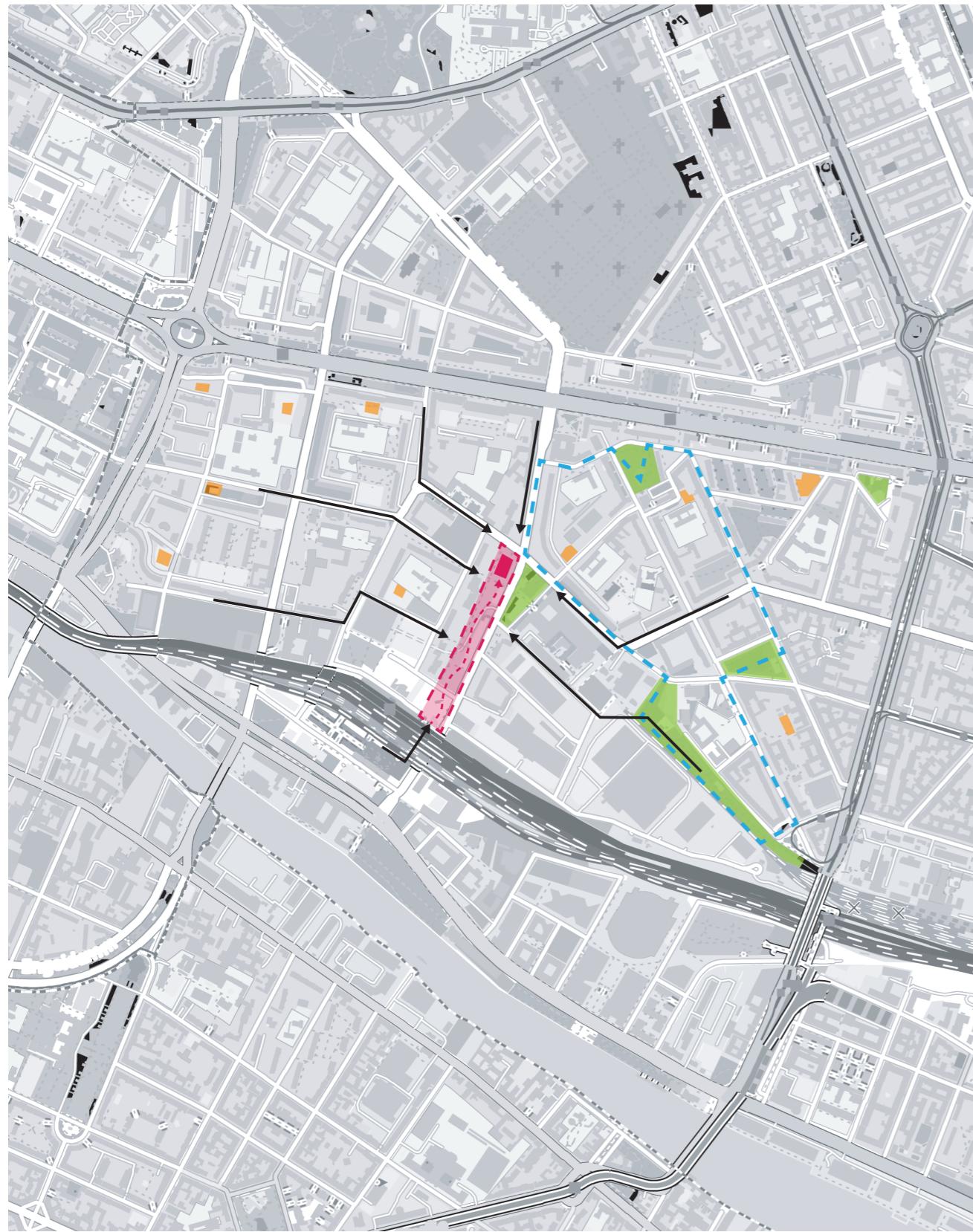
P2

PARAMETRIC DESIGN GRASSHOPPER GIF



WEEK 12

AREA STUDY - GREEN AREAS / PLAYGROUNDS



REDESIGNING CROSSING TO NEUES DEUTSCHLAND



WEEK 13

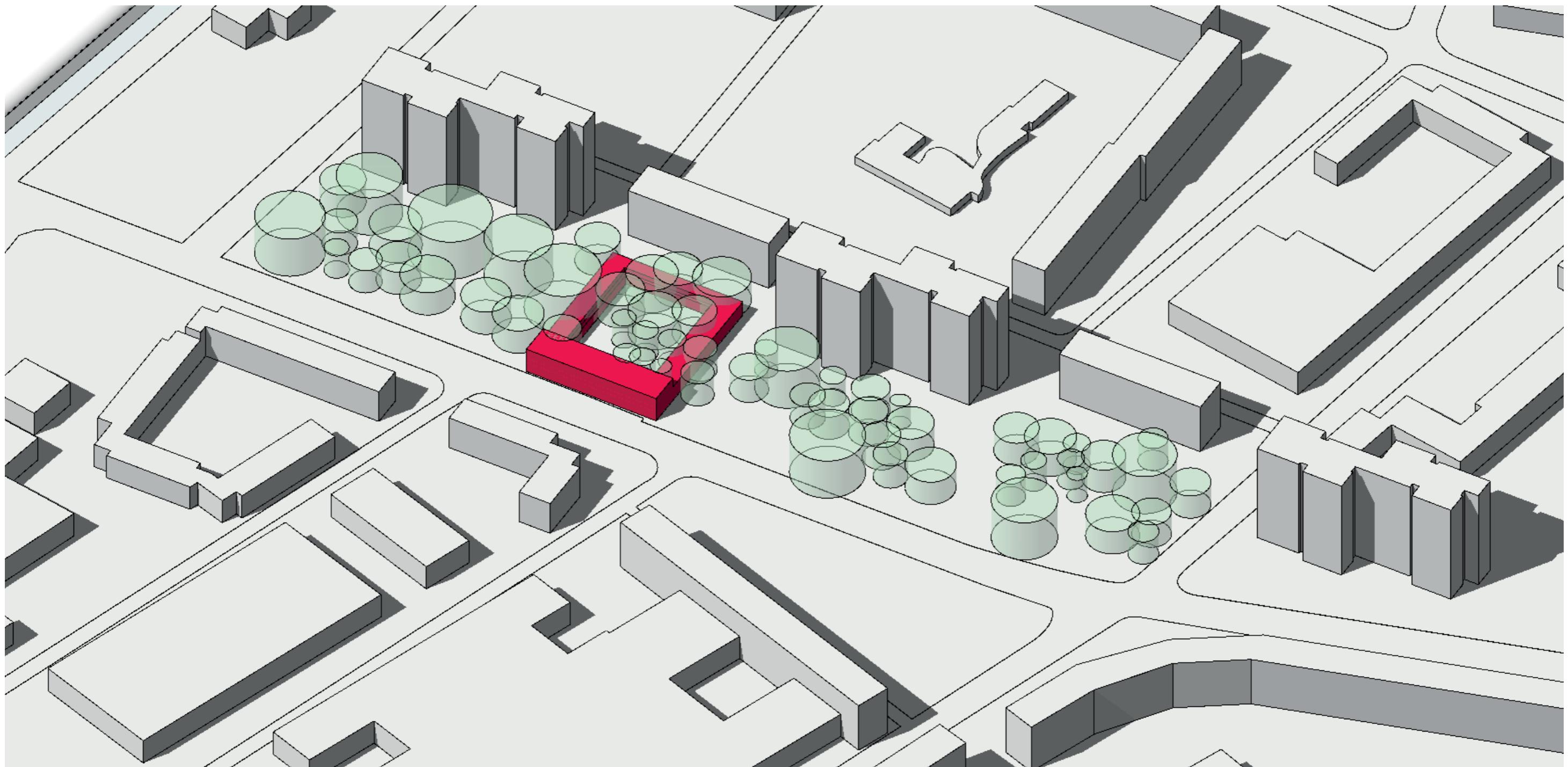
PLACES TO BUILDING POTENTIALLY



SPAARNDAMMERHART



SPAARNDAMMERHART ON SITE



SERPENTINE PAVILLION ZUMTHOR



SERPENTINE PAVILLION ZUMTHOR



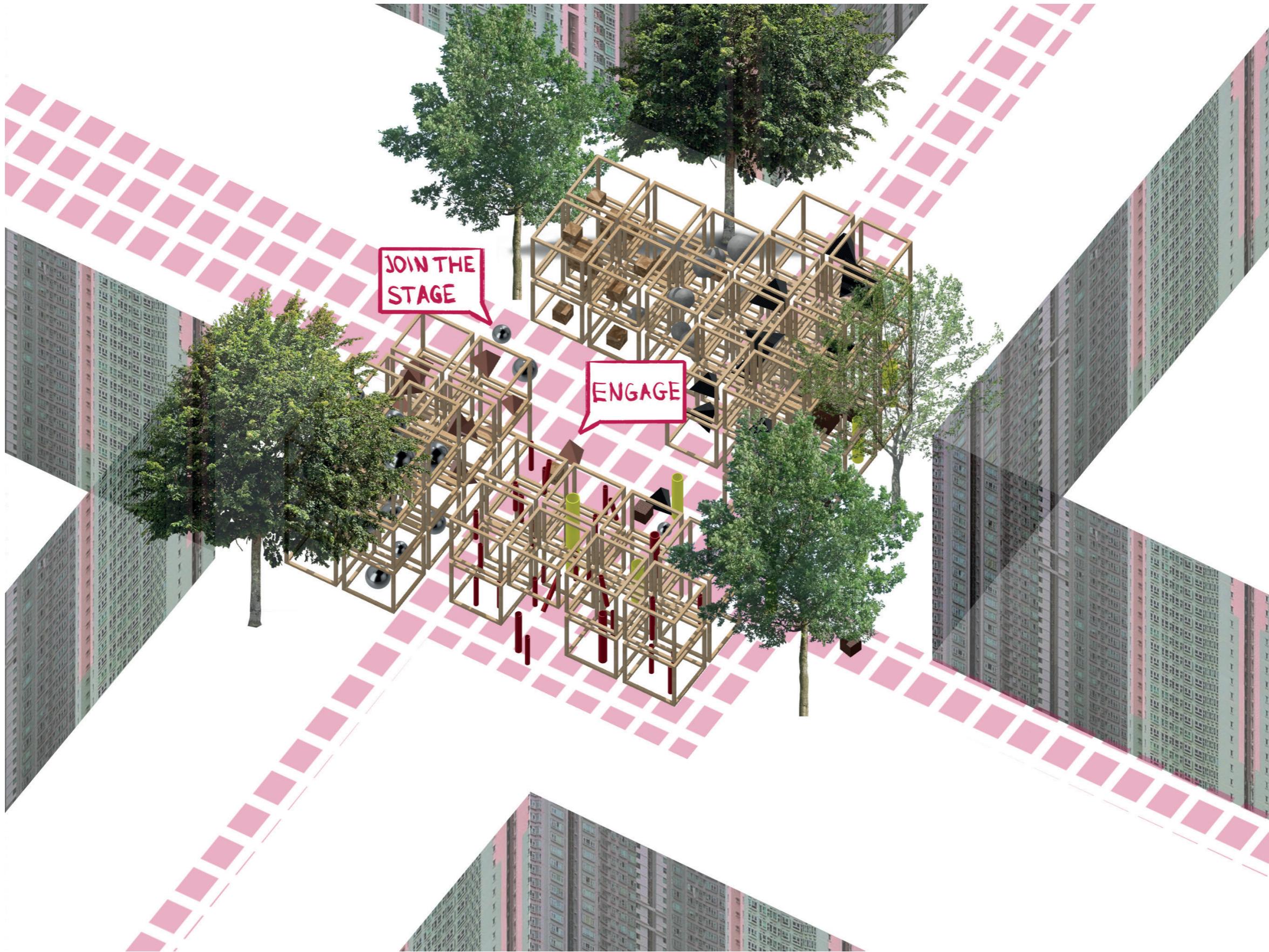
APOLLOSCHOLEN HERMAN HERTZBERGER



APOLLOSCHOLEN HERMAN HERTZBERGER ON SITE



TD: MIX (LIKE A DJ)



WEEK 14

PROJECT PROJECTS ON SITE SERPENTINE PAVILLION



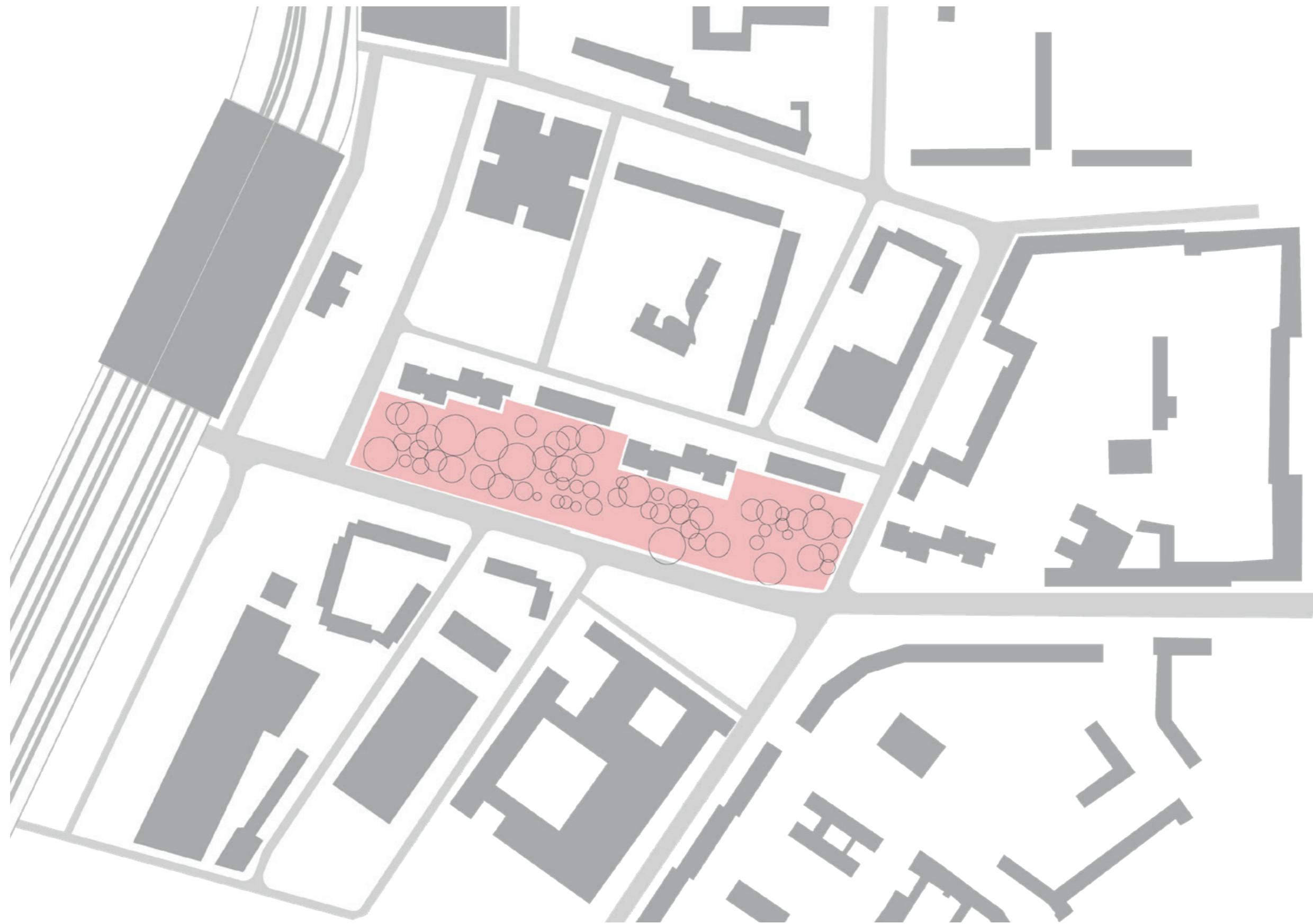
PROJECT PROJECTS ON SITE SPAARNDAMMERHART



PROJECT PROJECTS ON SITE APOLLOSCHOLEN



BASE DRAWING SITE

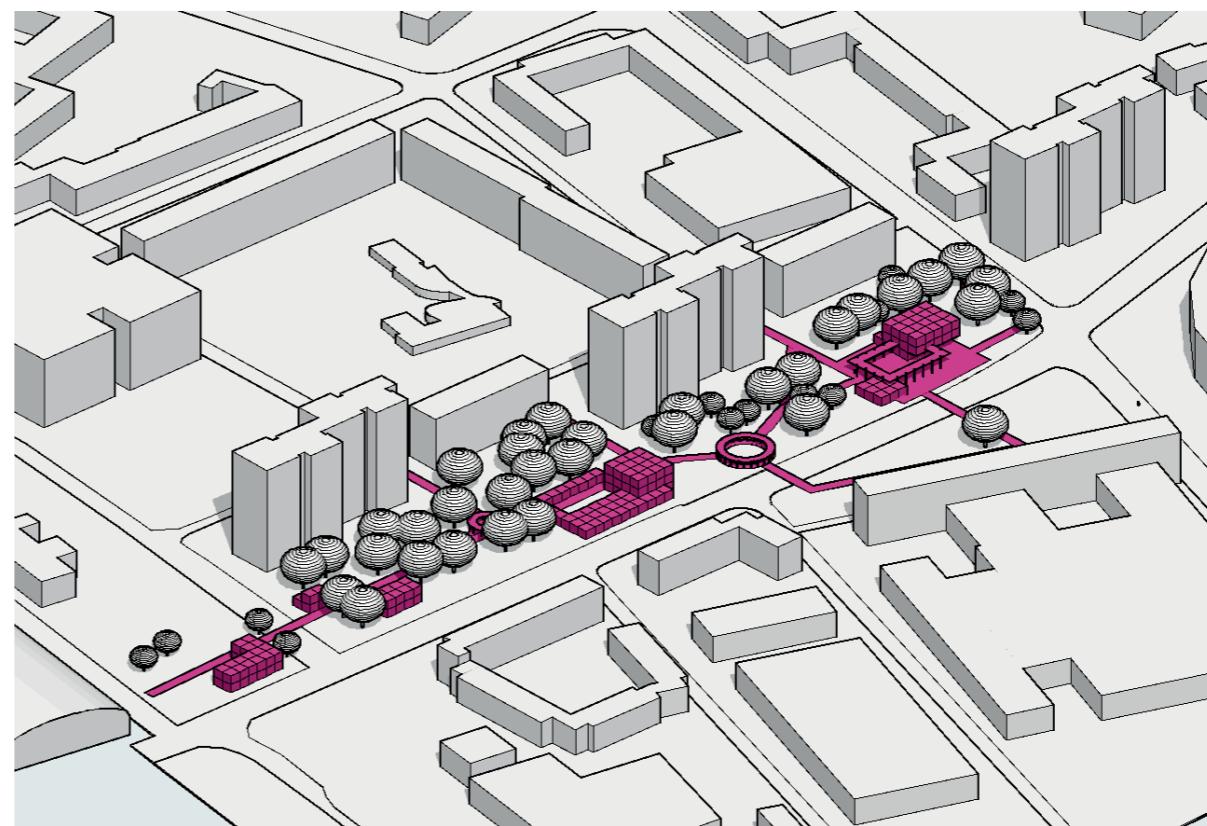
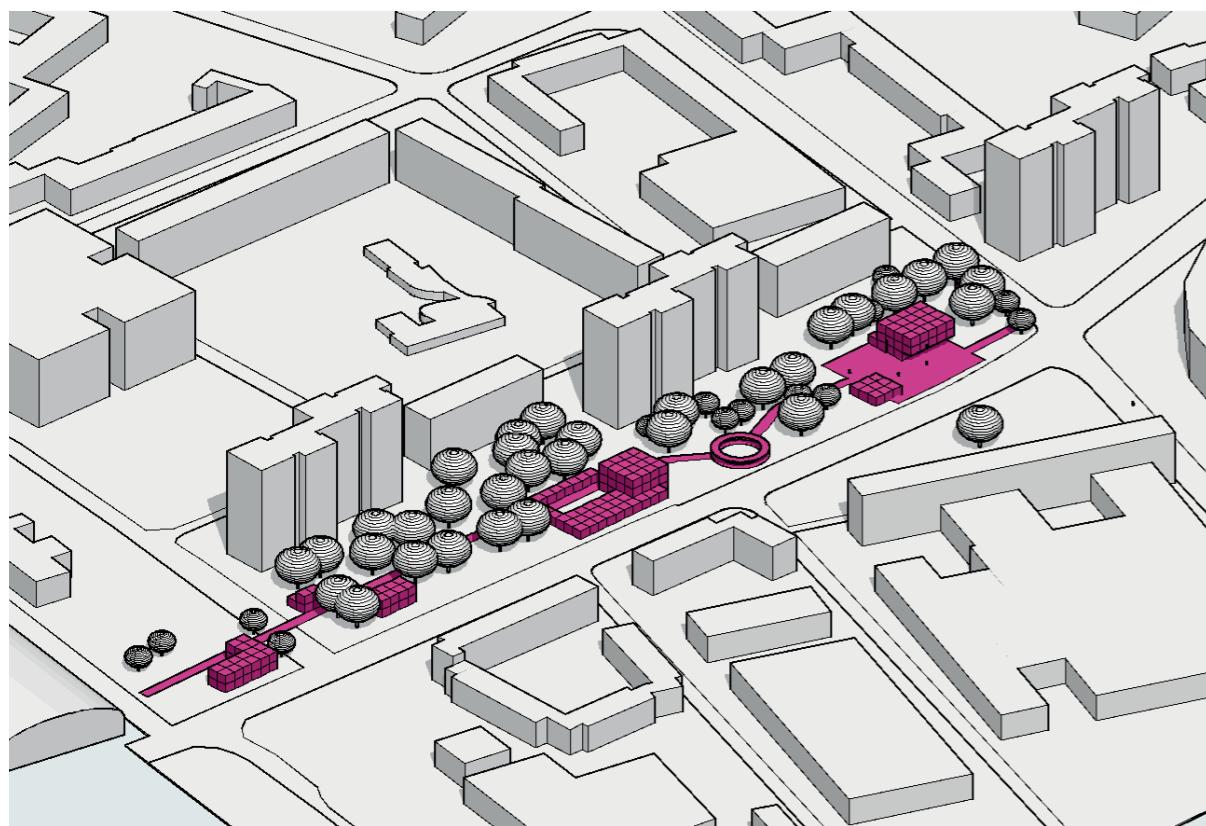
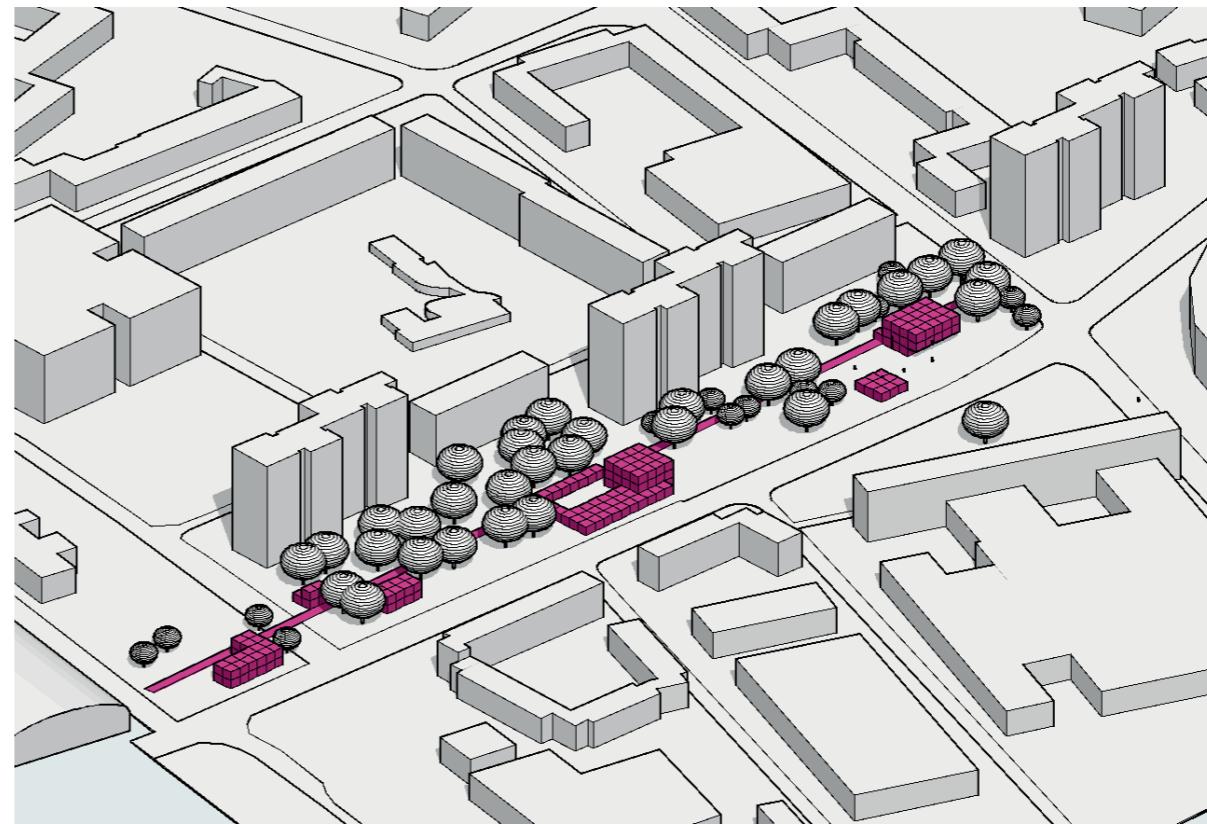
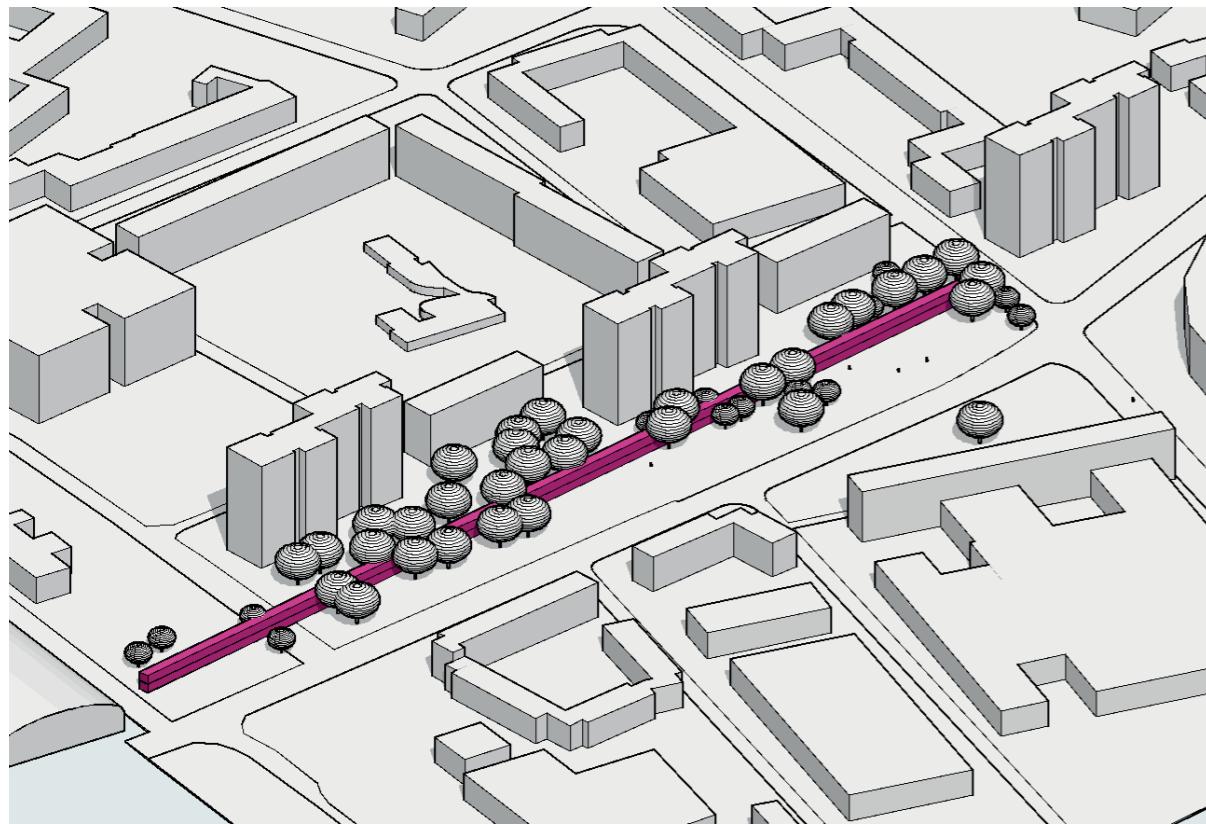


WEEK 15

PRECEDENTS PERGOLA 4000M2 OVER LINEAR ROUTE

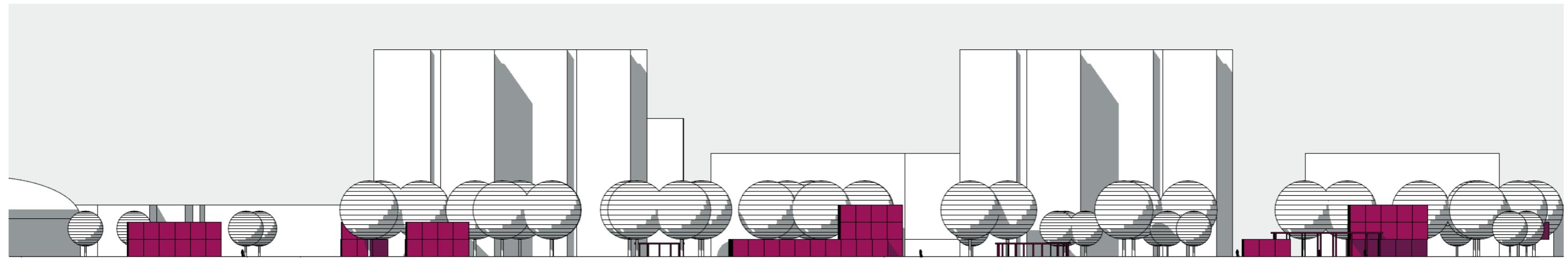


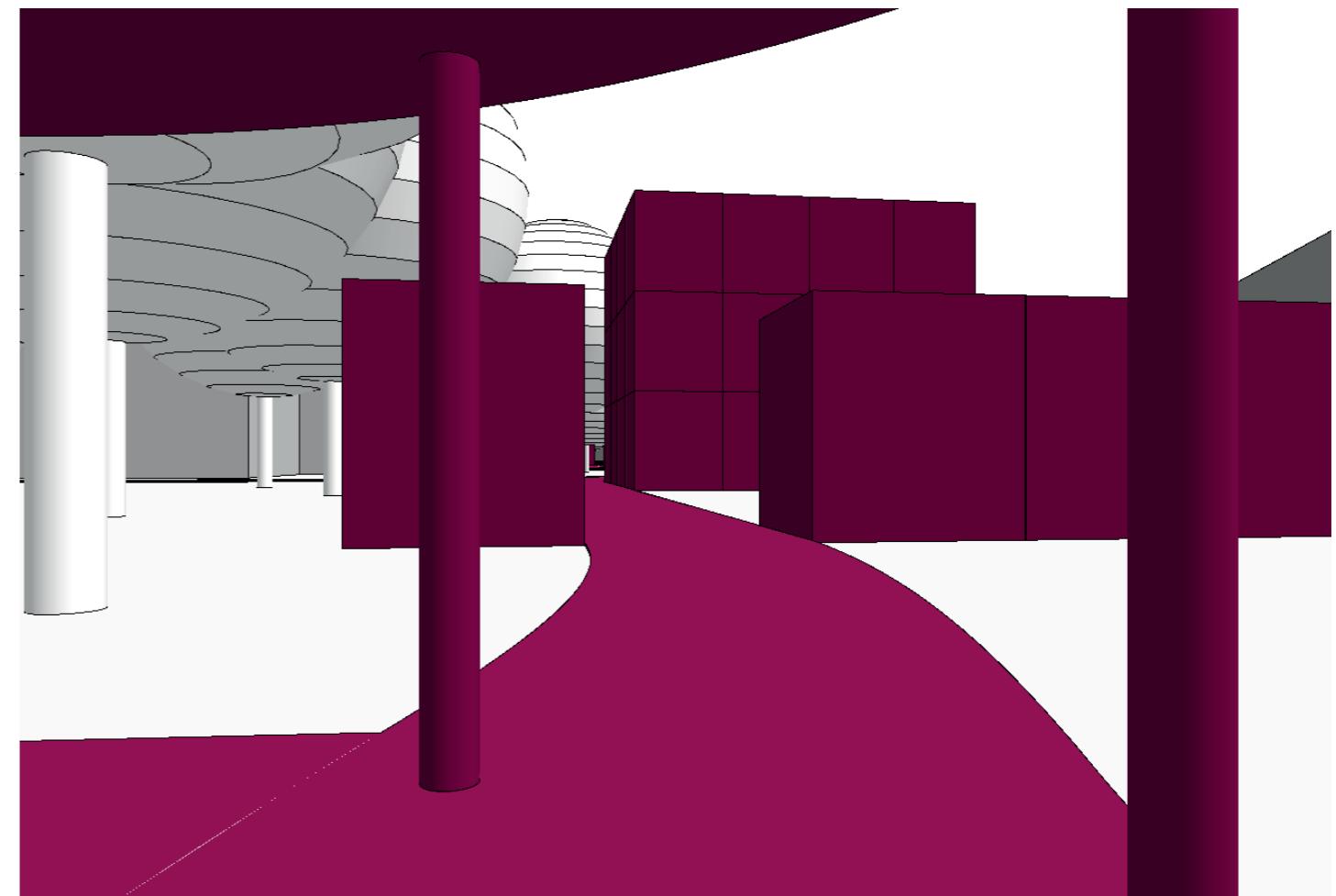
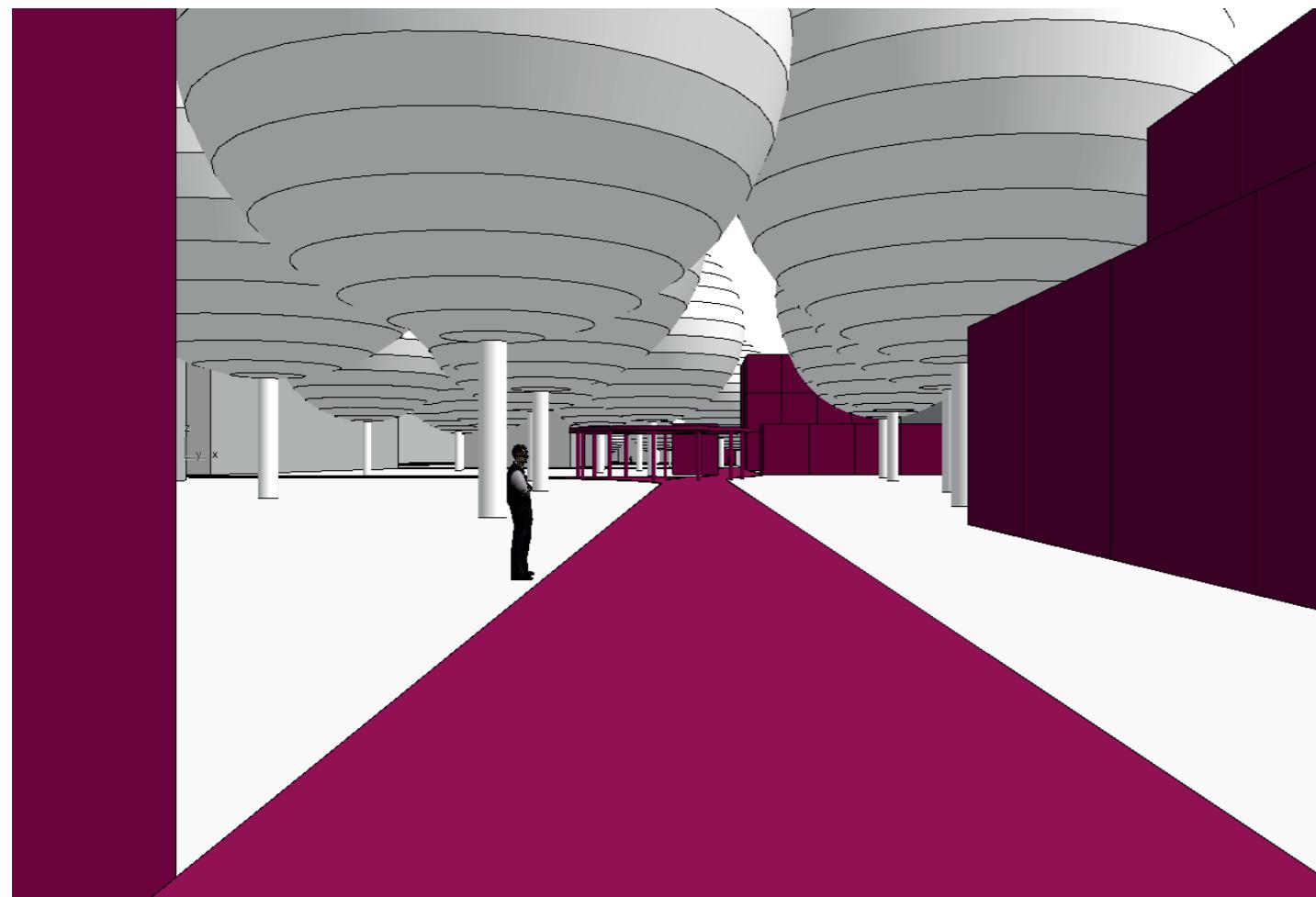
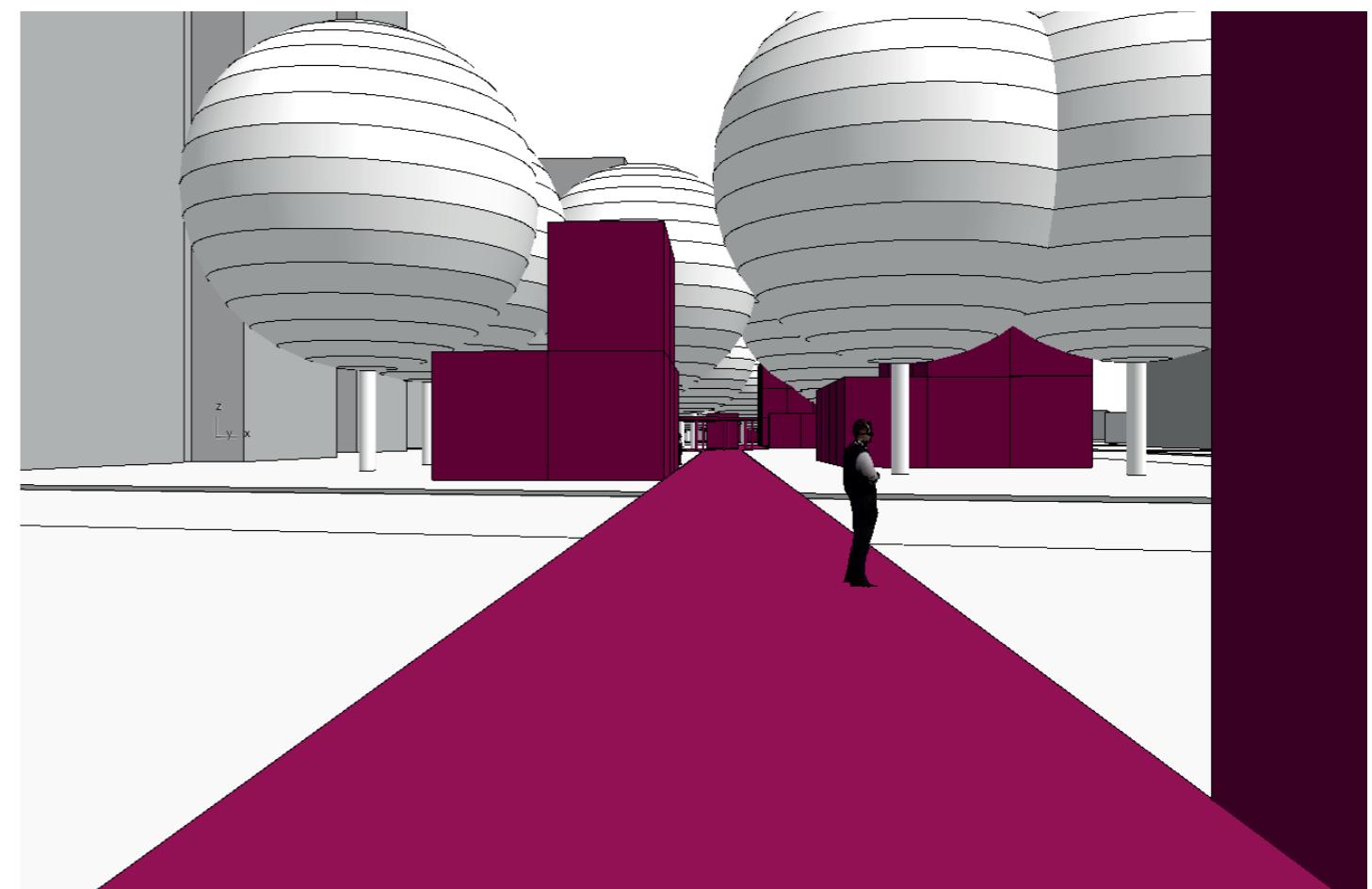
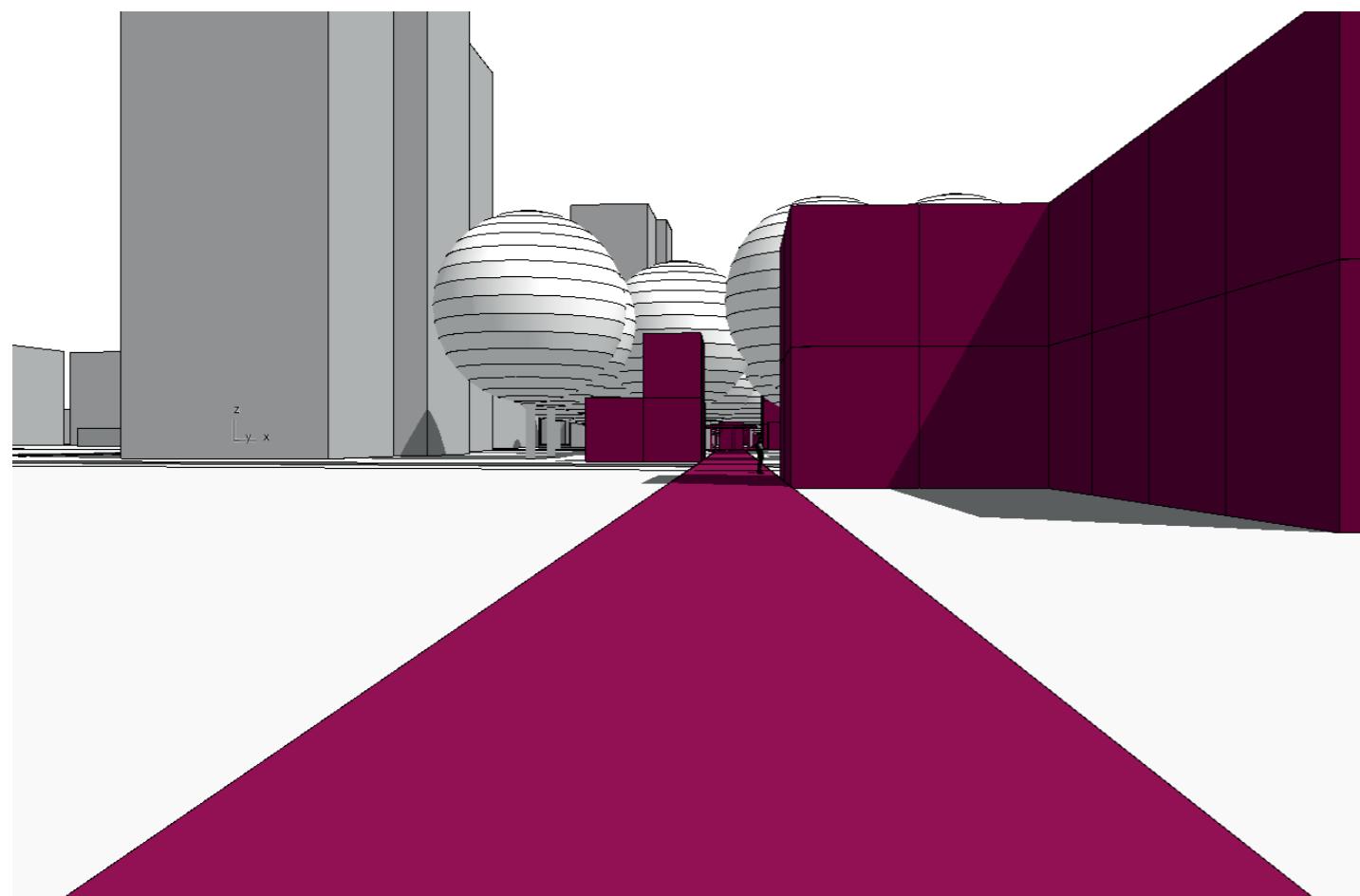
4000M2 OVER LINEAR ROUTE

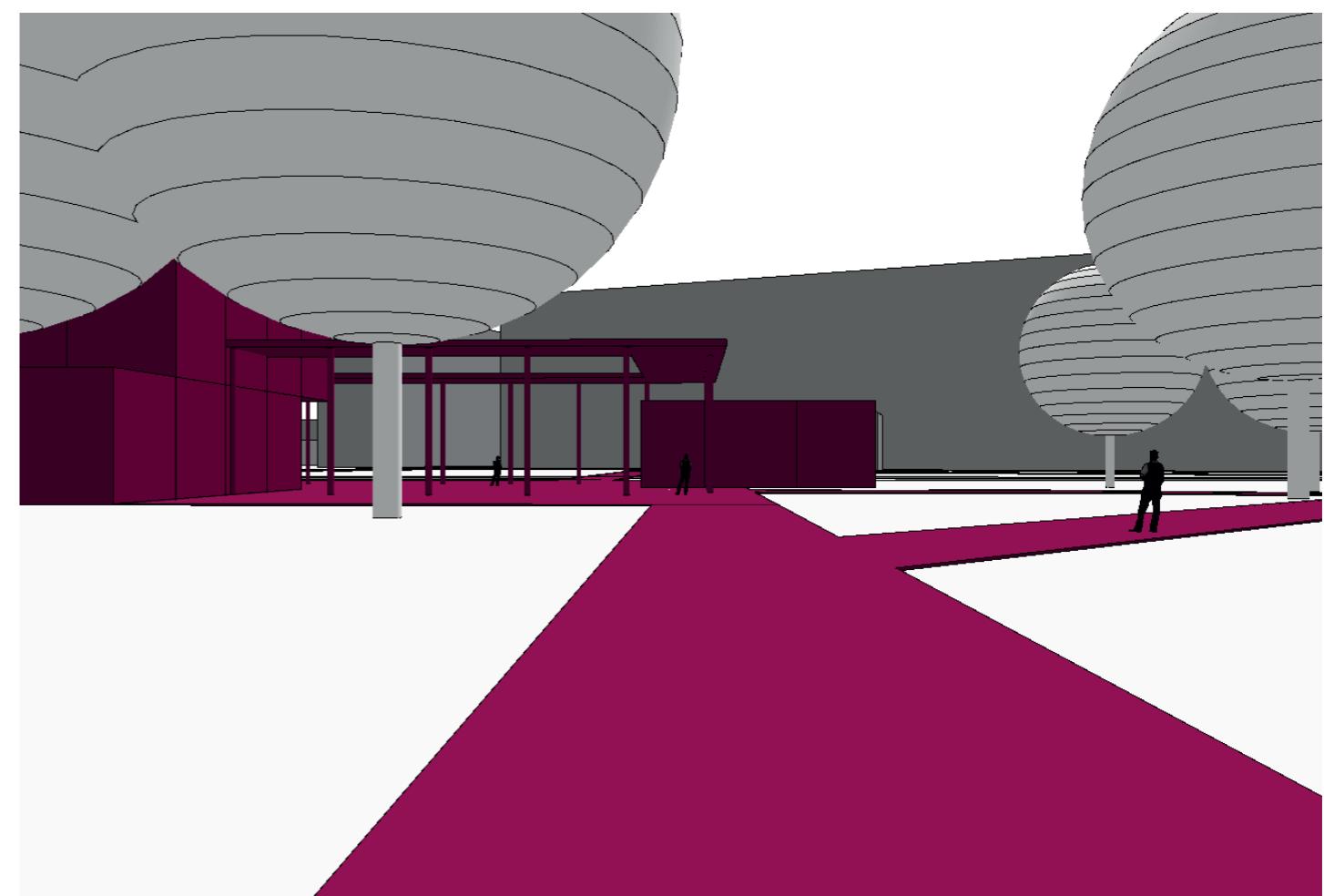
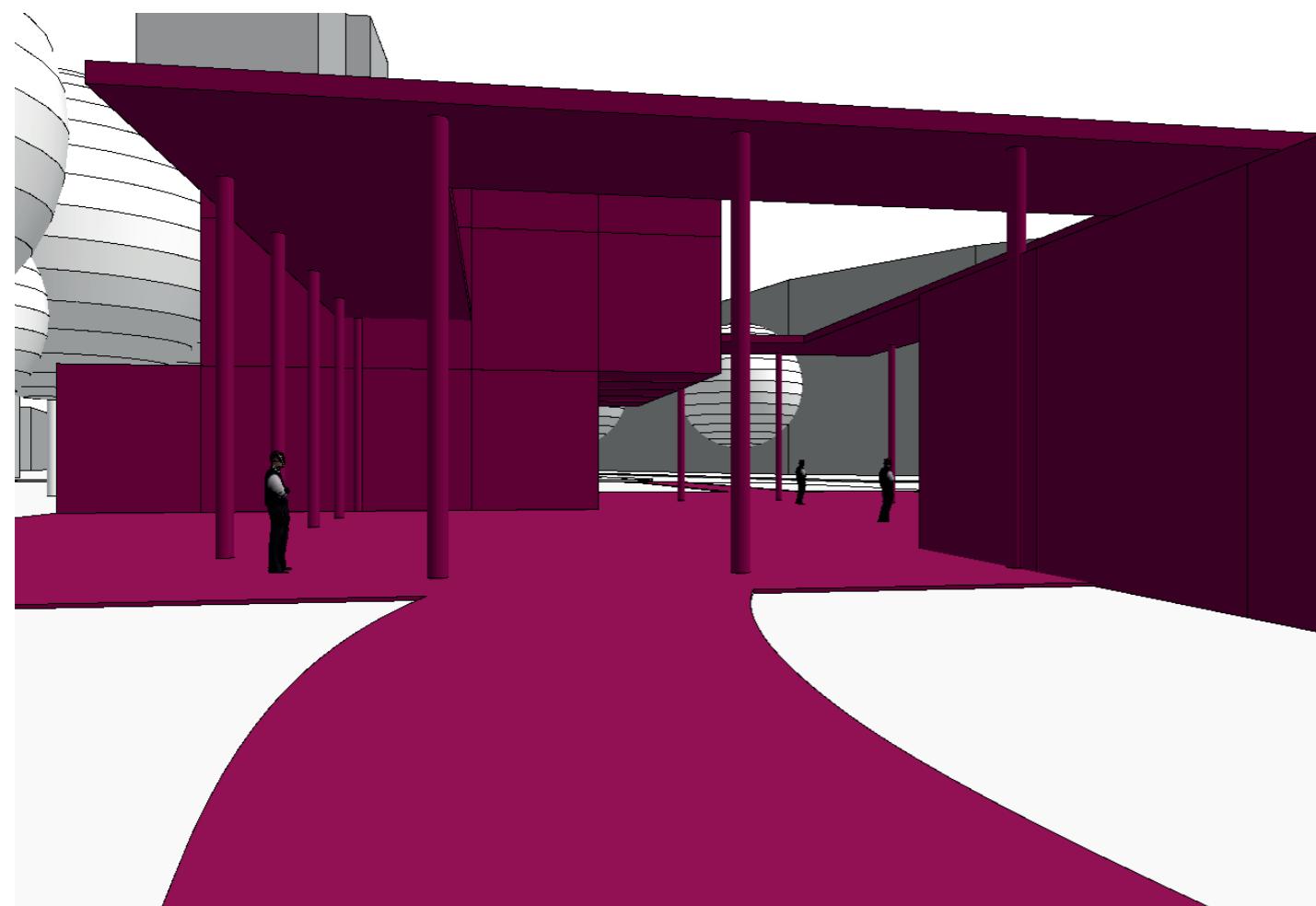
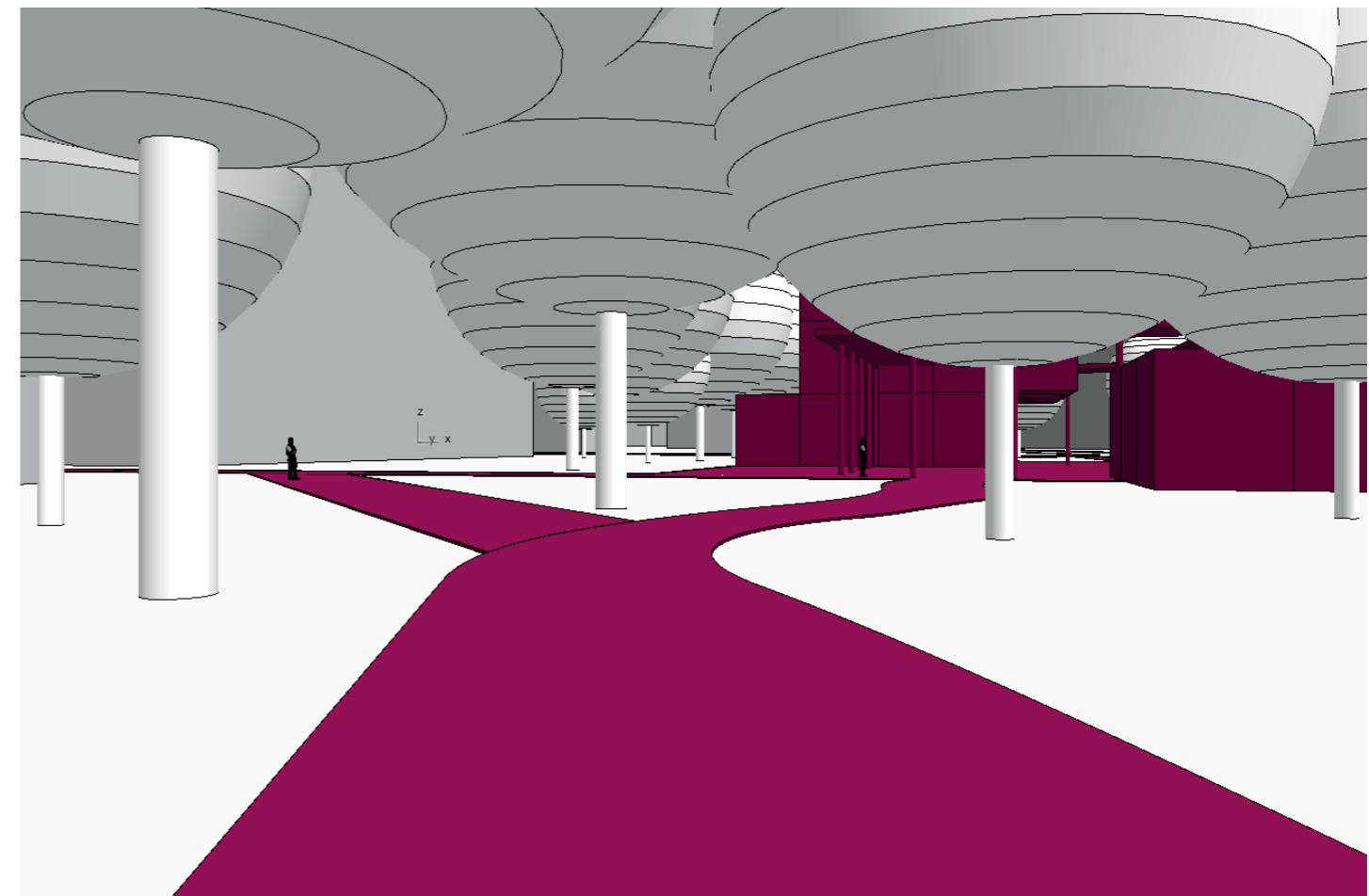
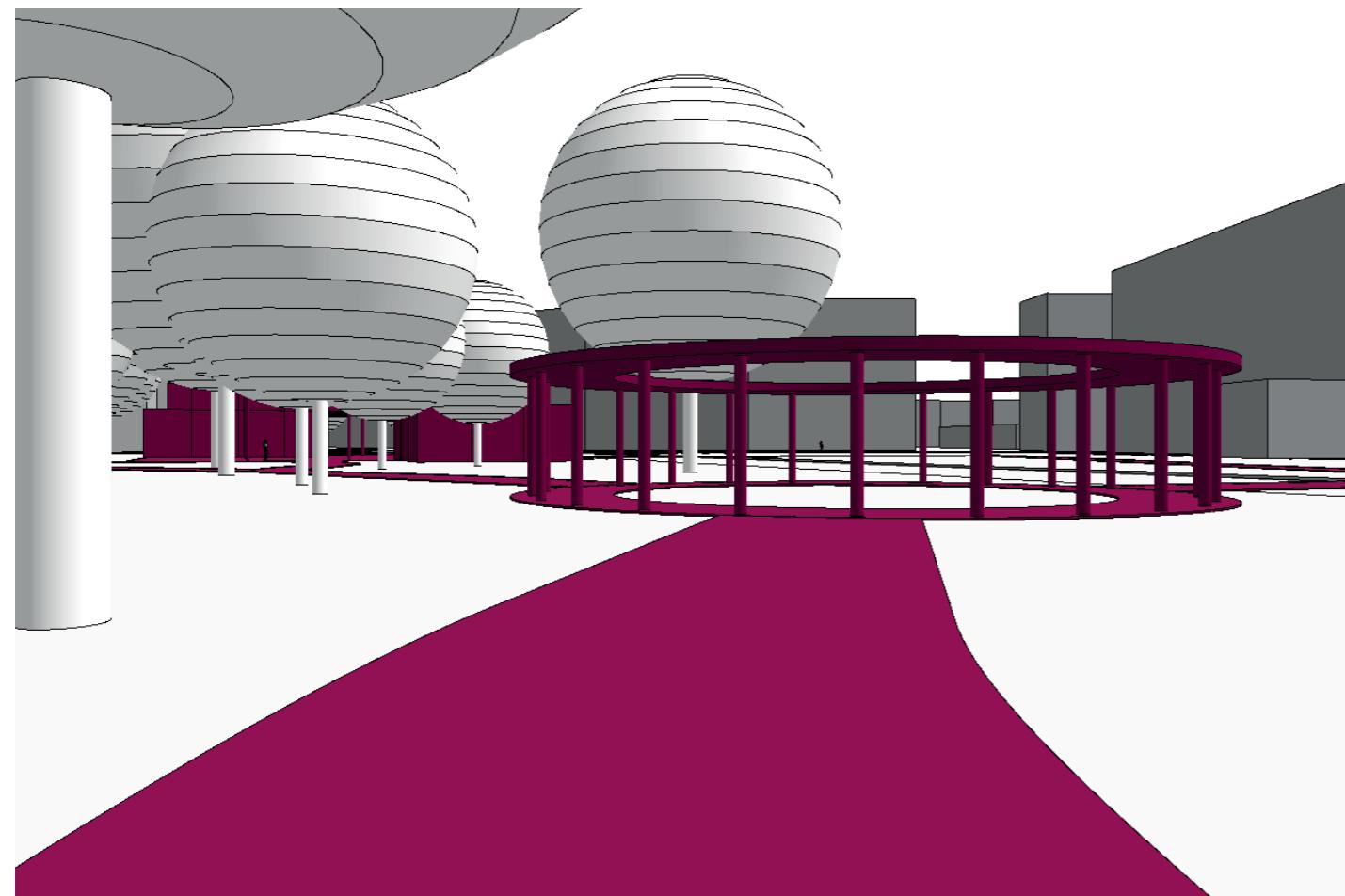


4000M2 OVER LINEAR ROUTE









WEEK 16

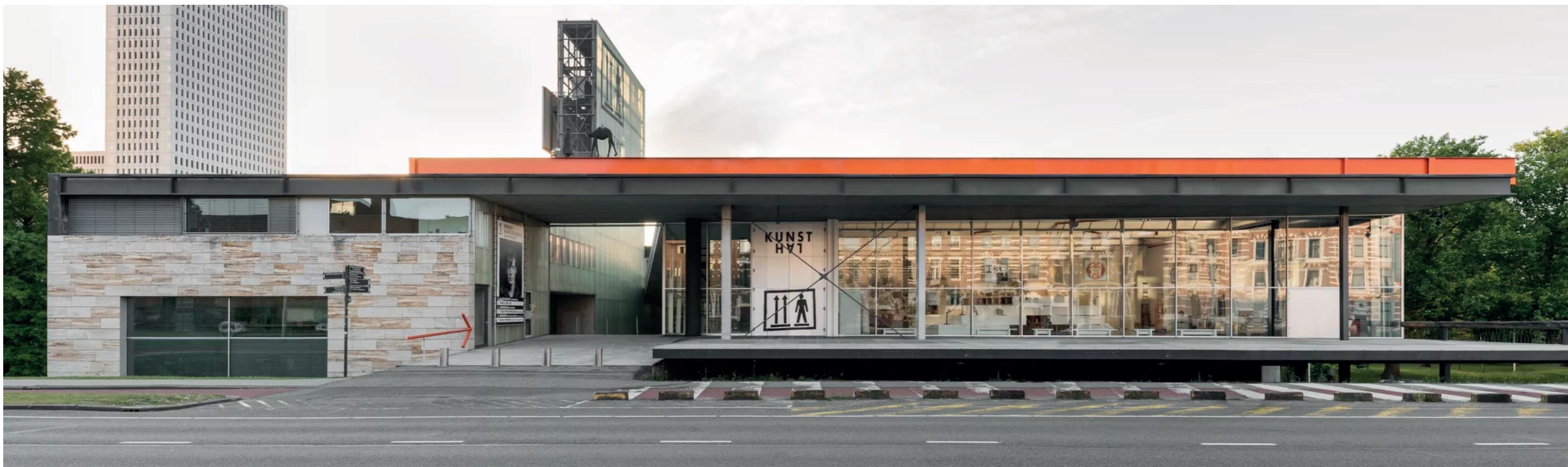
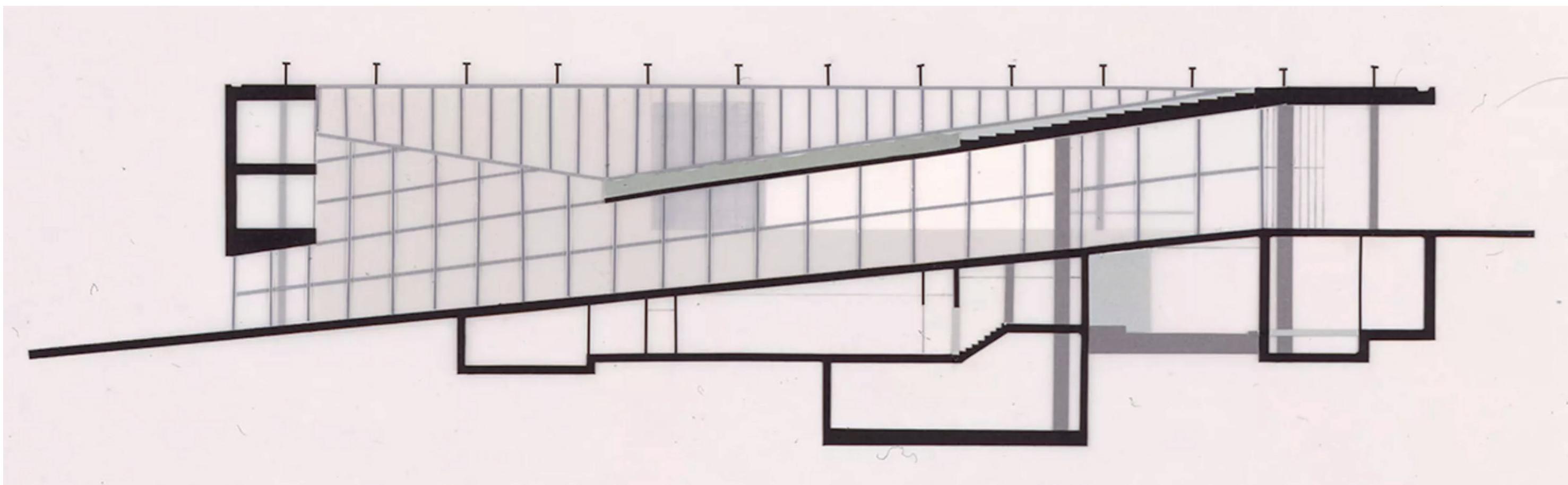
FIGURE - GROUND PLAN

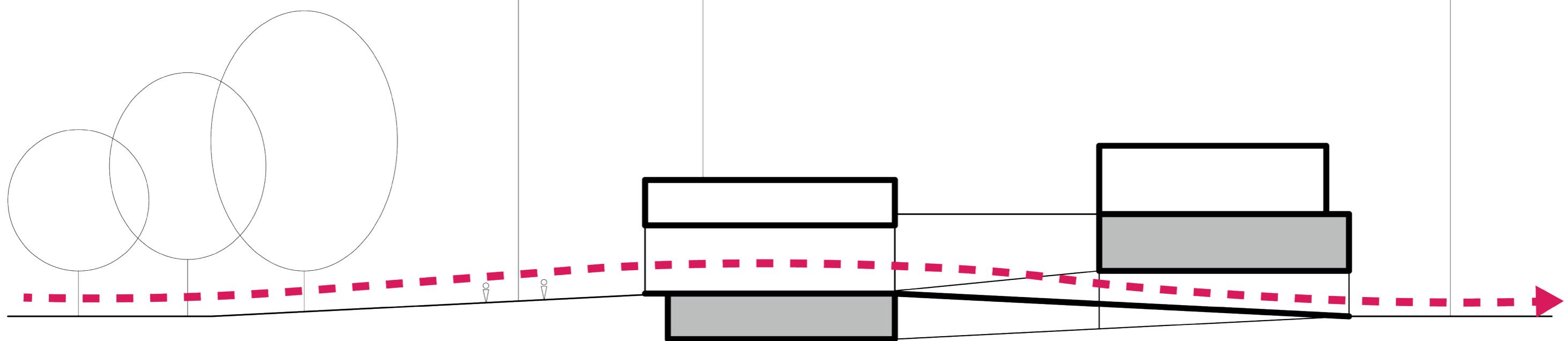
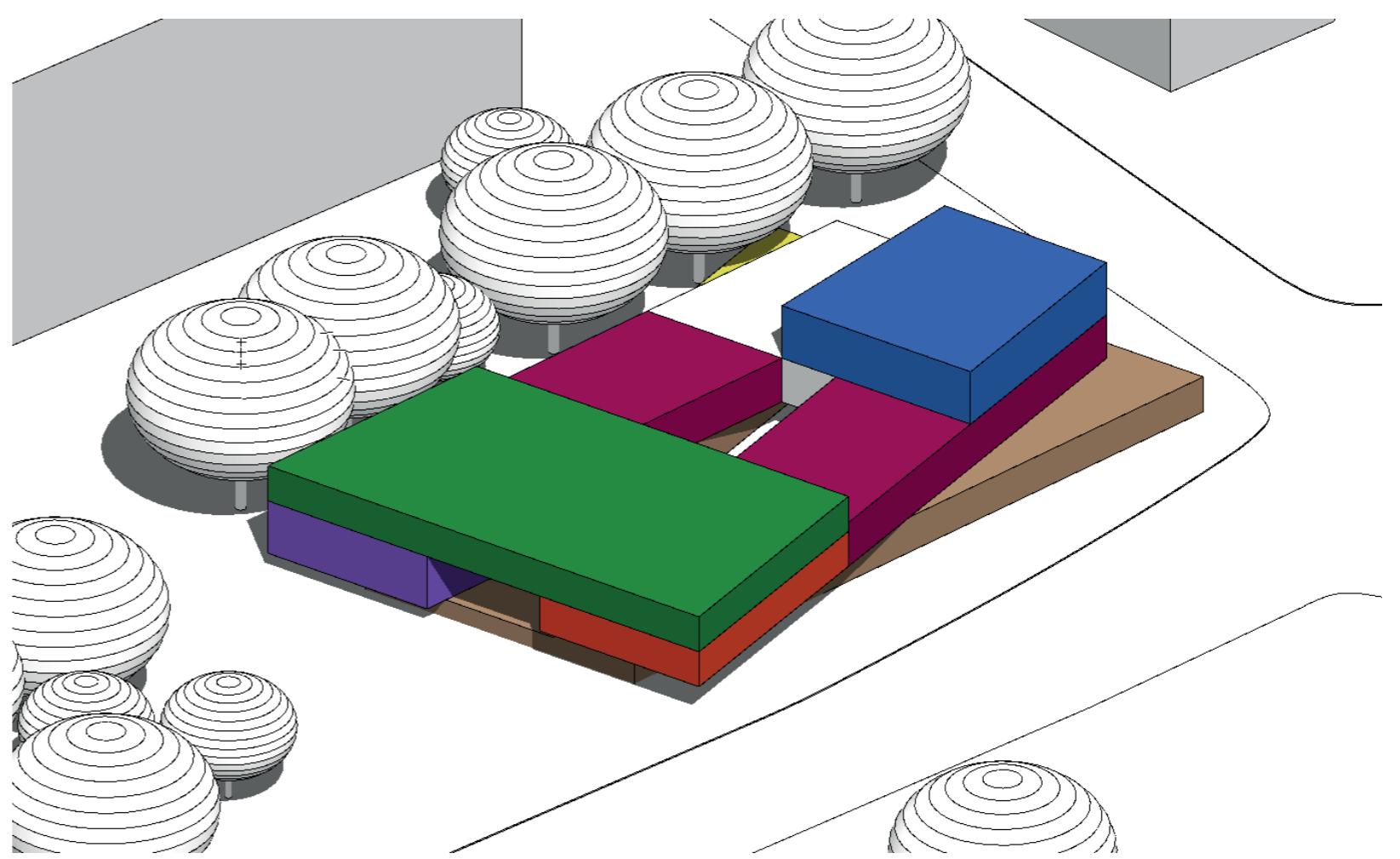


PROGRAM COLLAGE



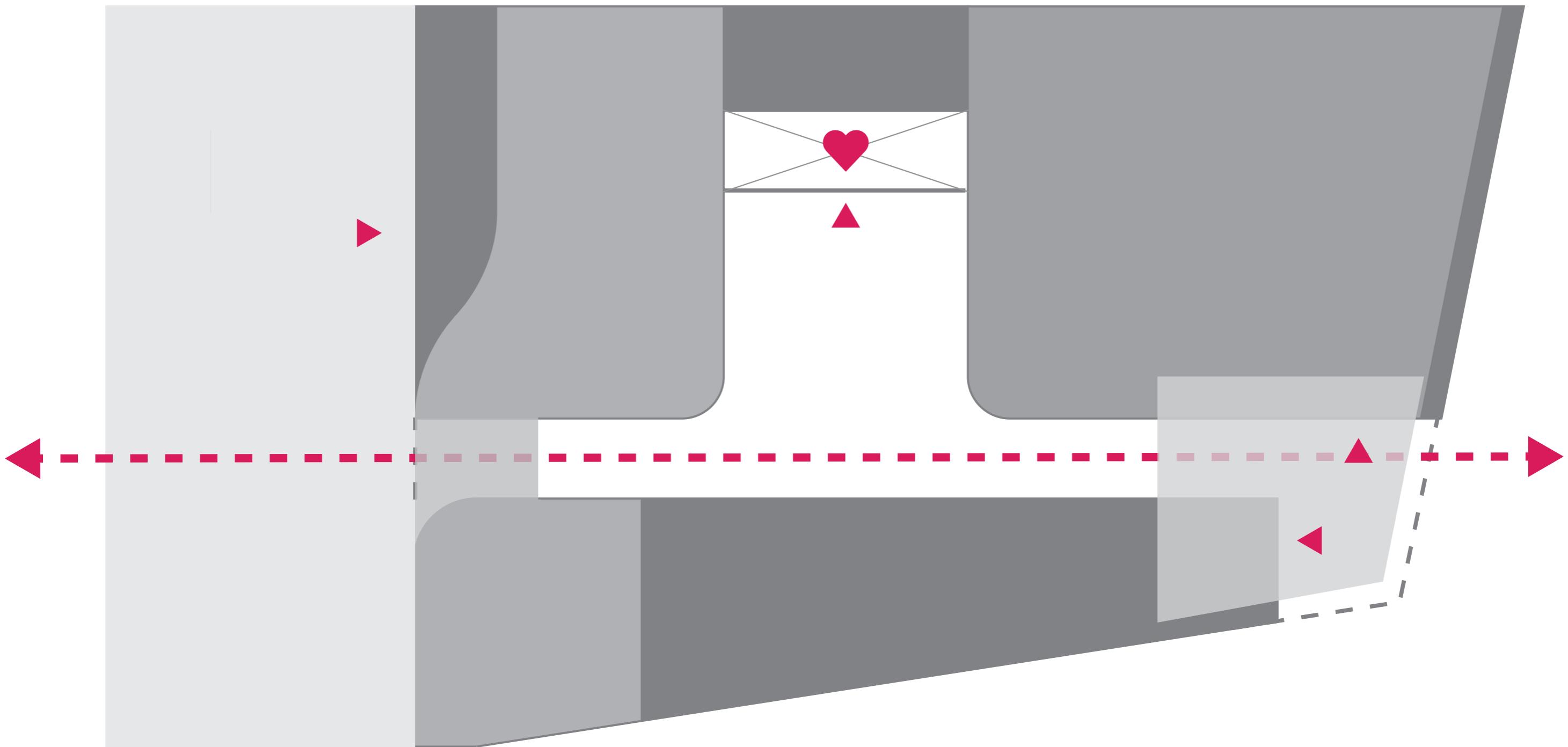
KUNSTHAL PASSAGE AS REFERENCE





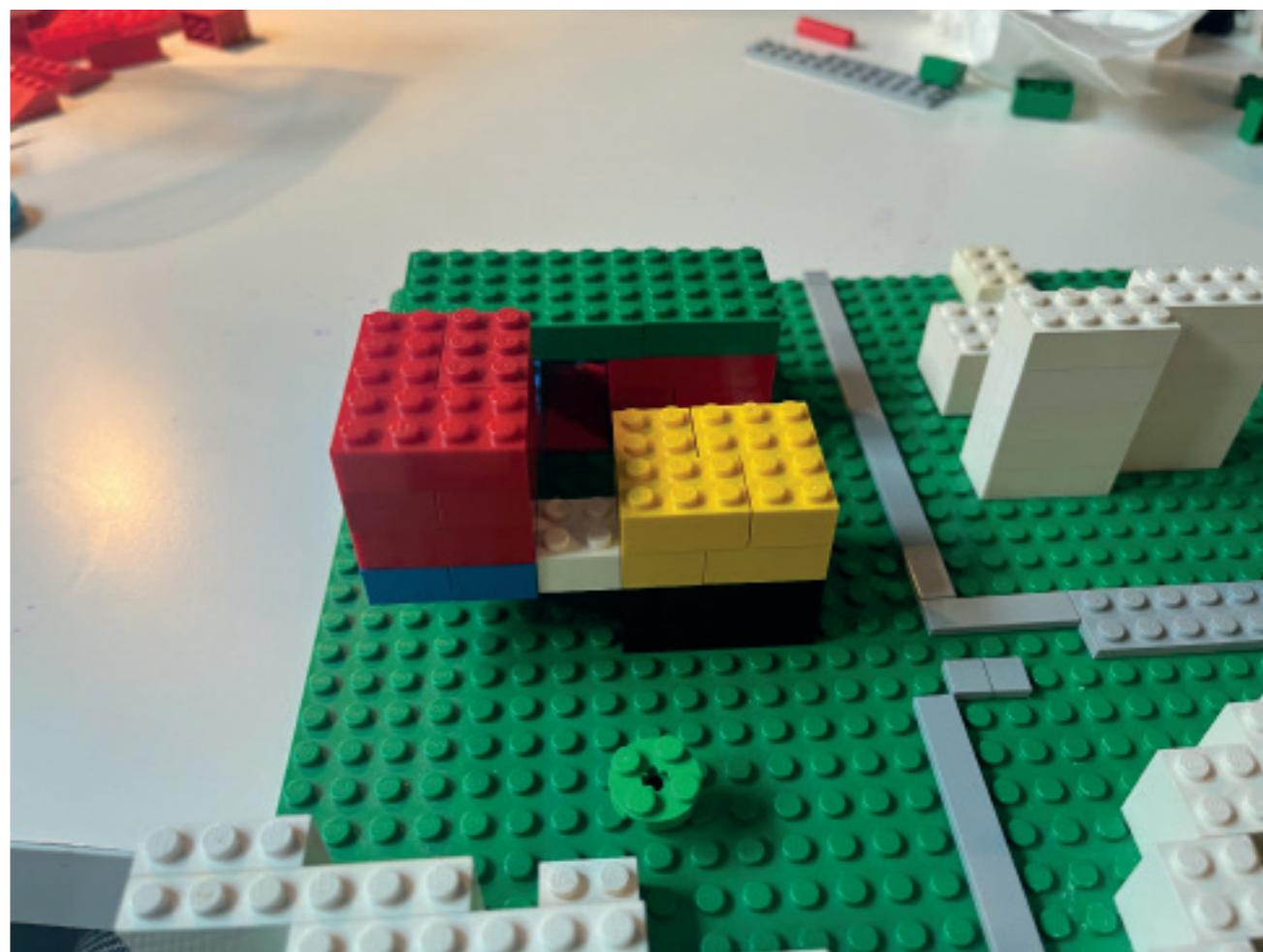
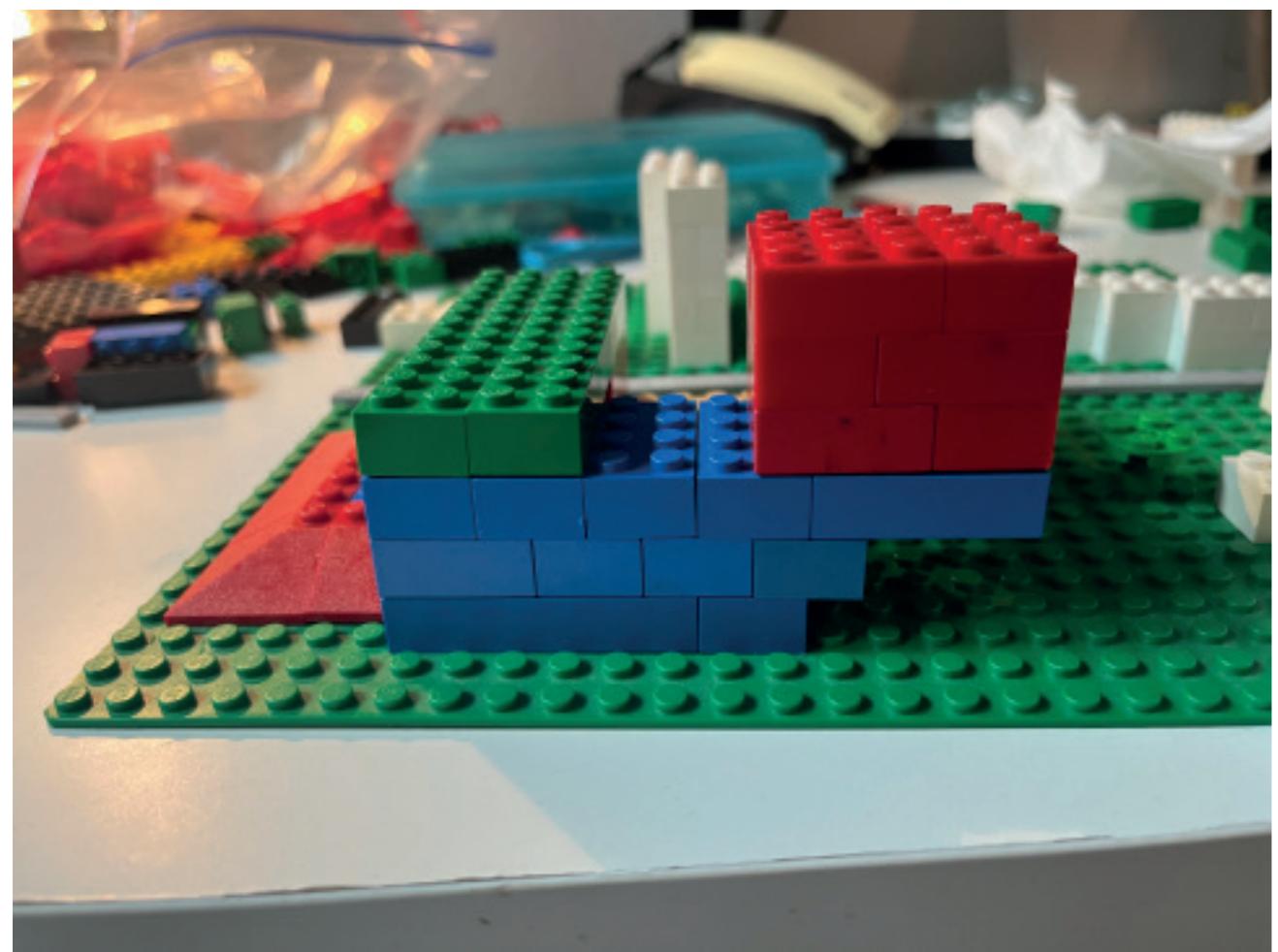
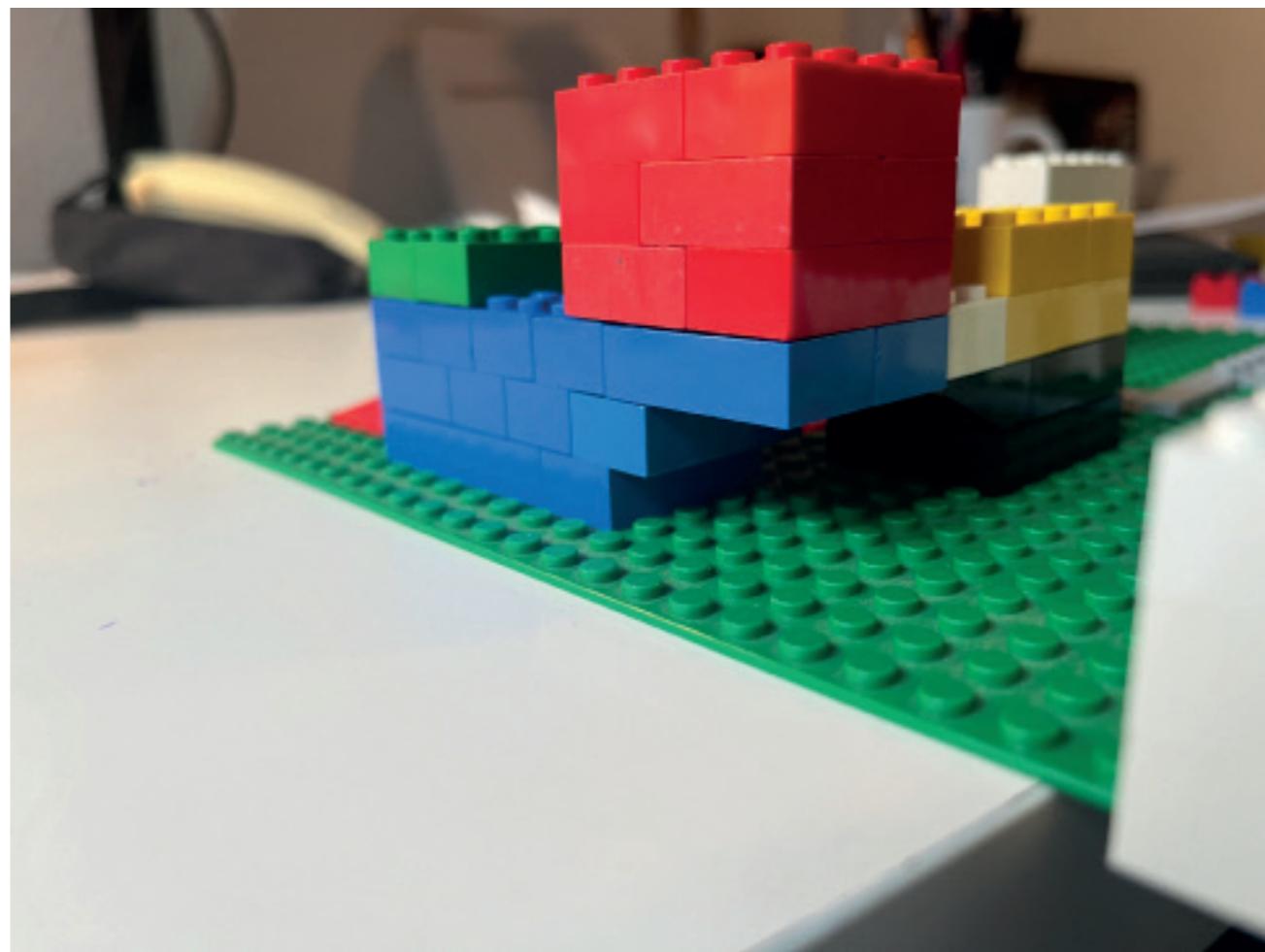
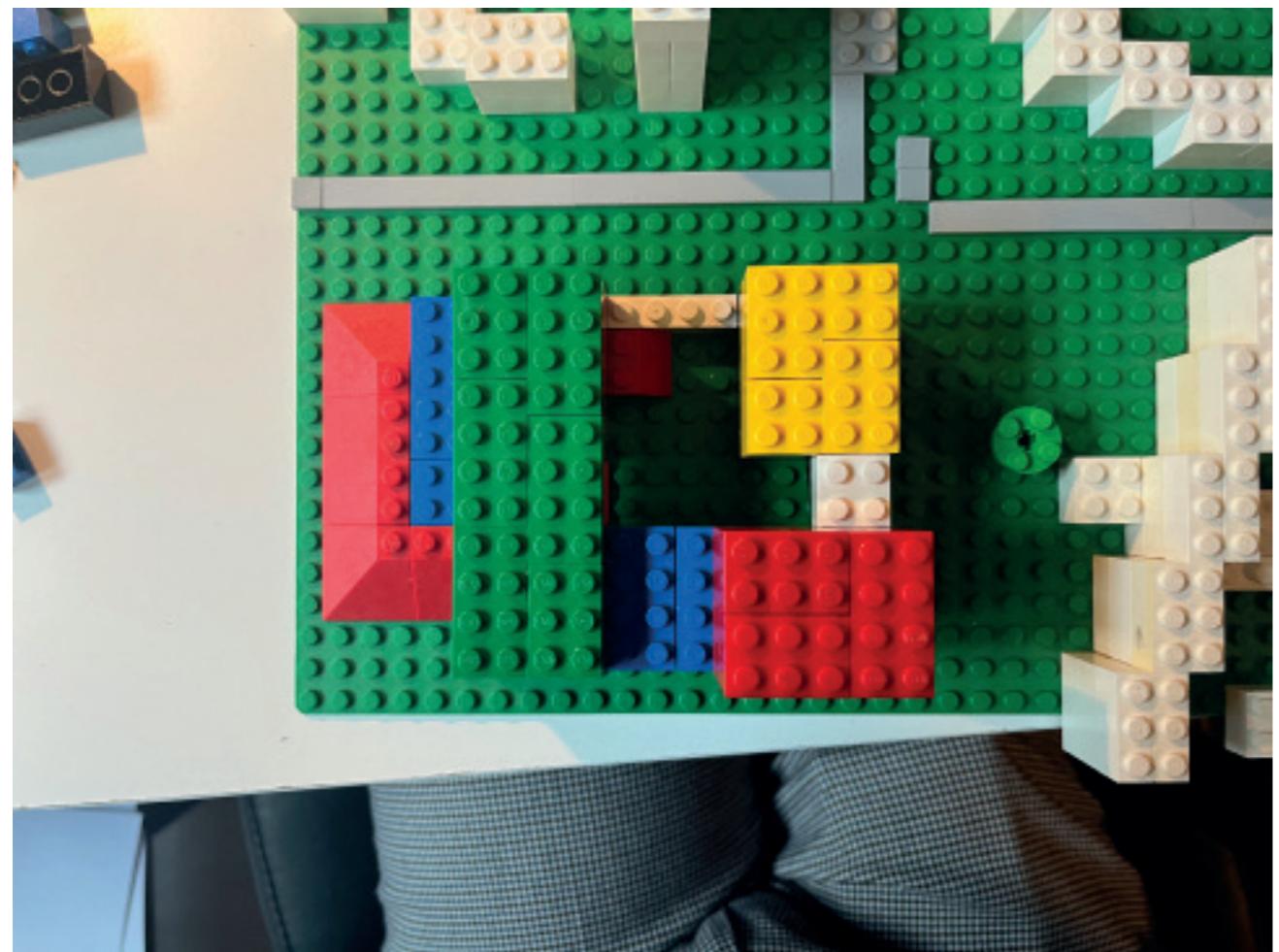
WEEK 17

DIAGRAMATIC PLAN

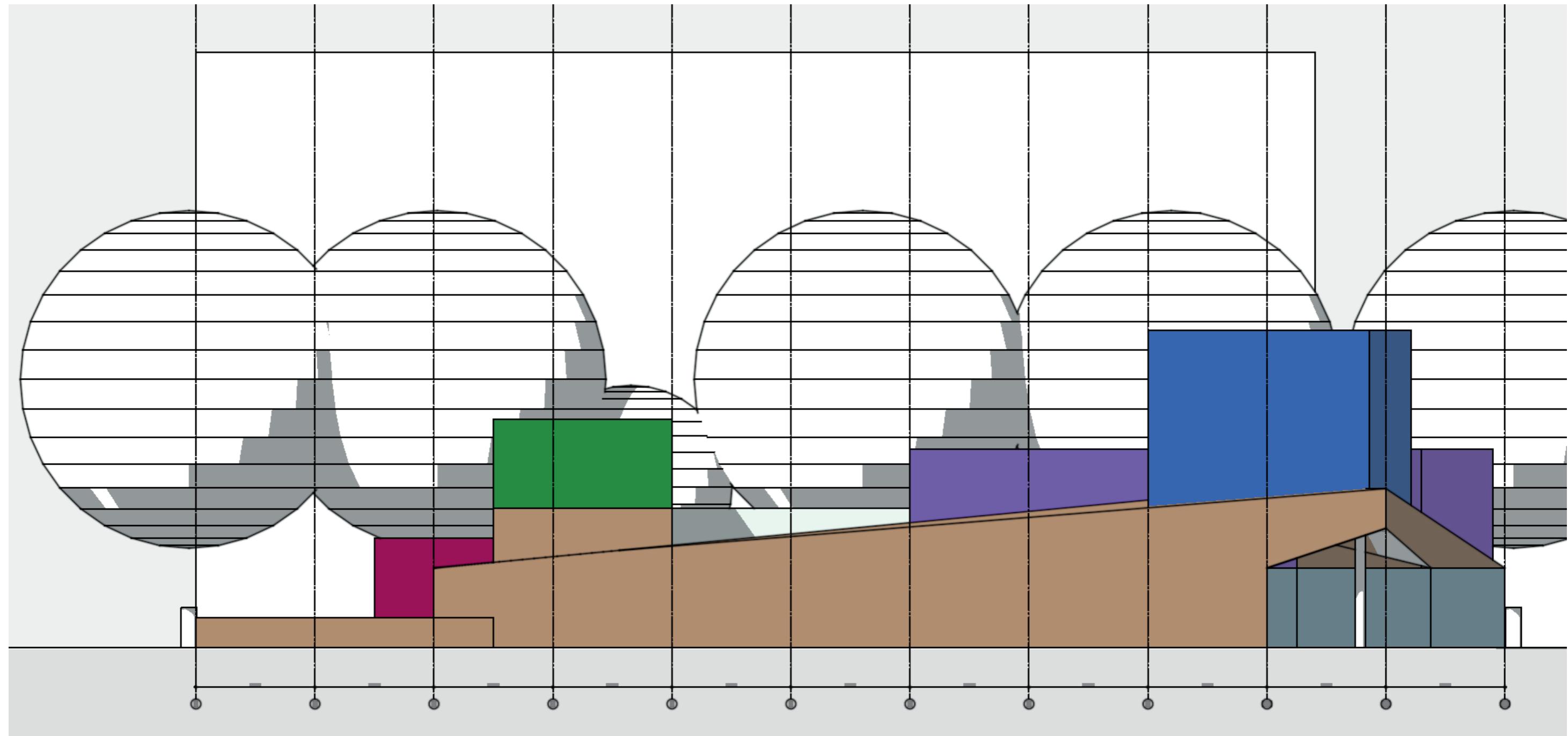


LEGO MODELLING



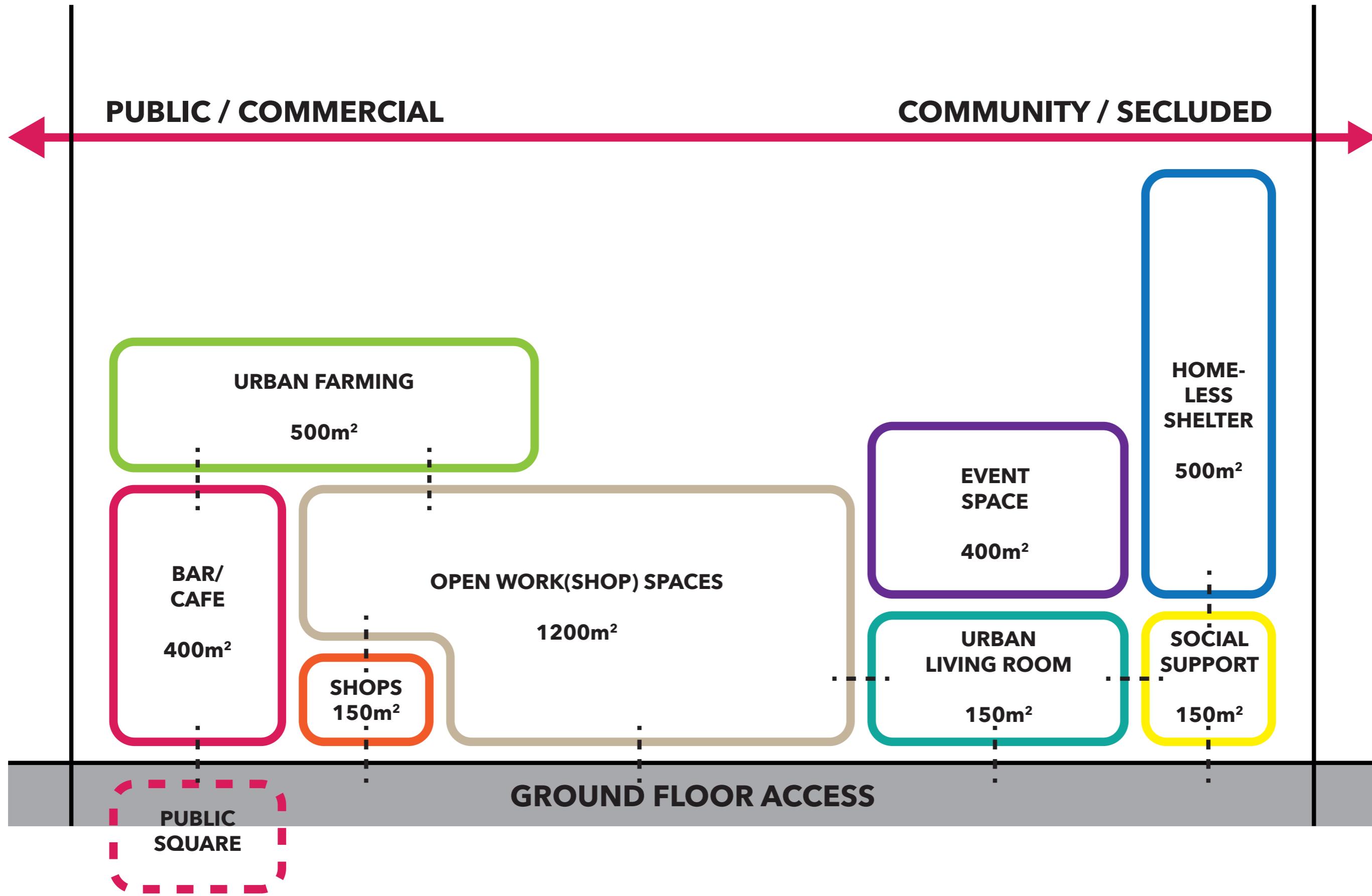


MODEL ELEVATION

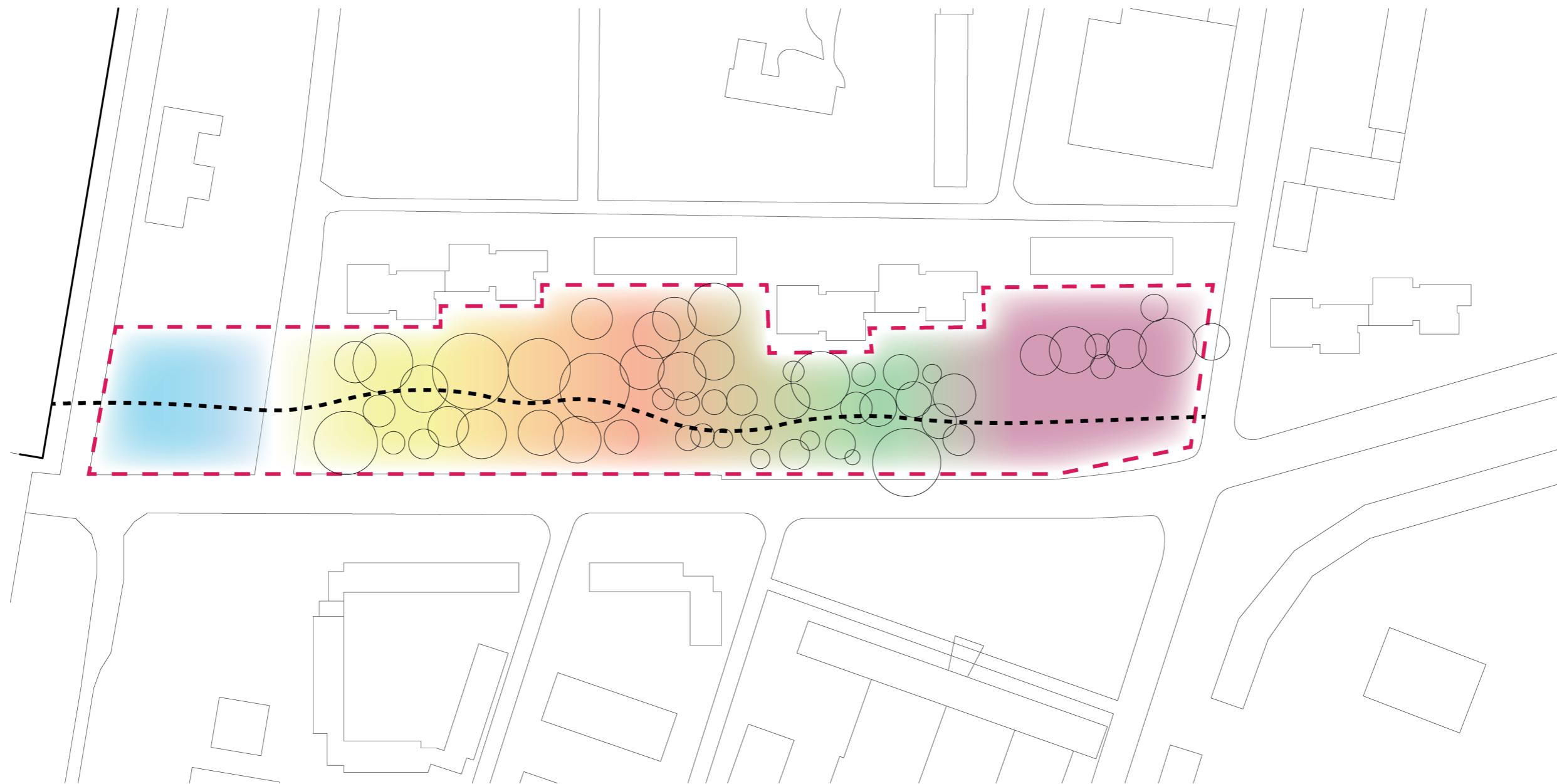


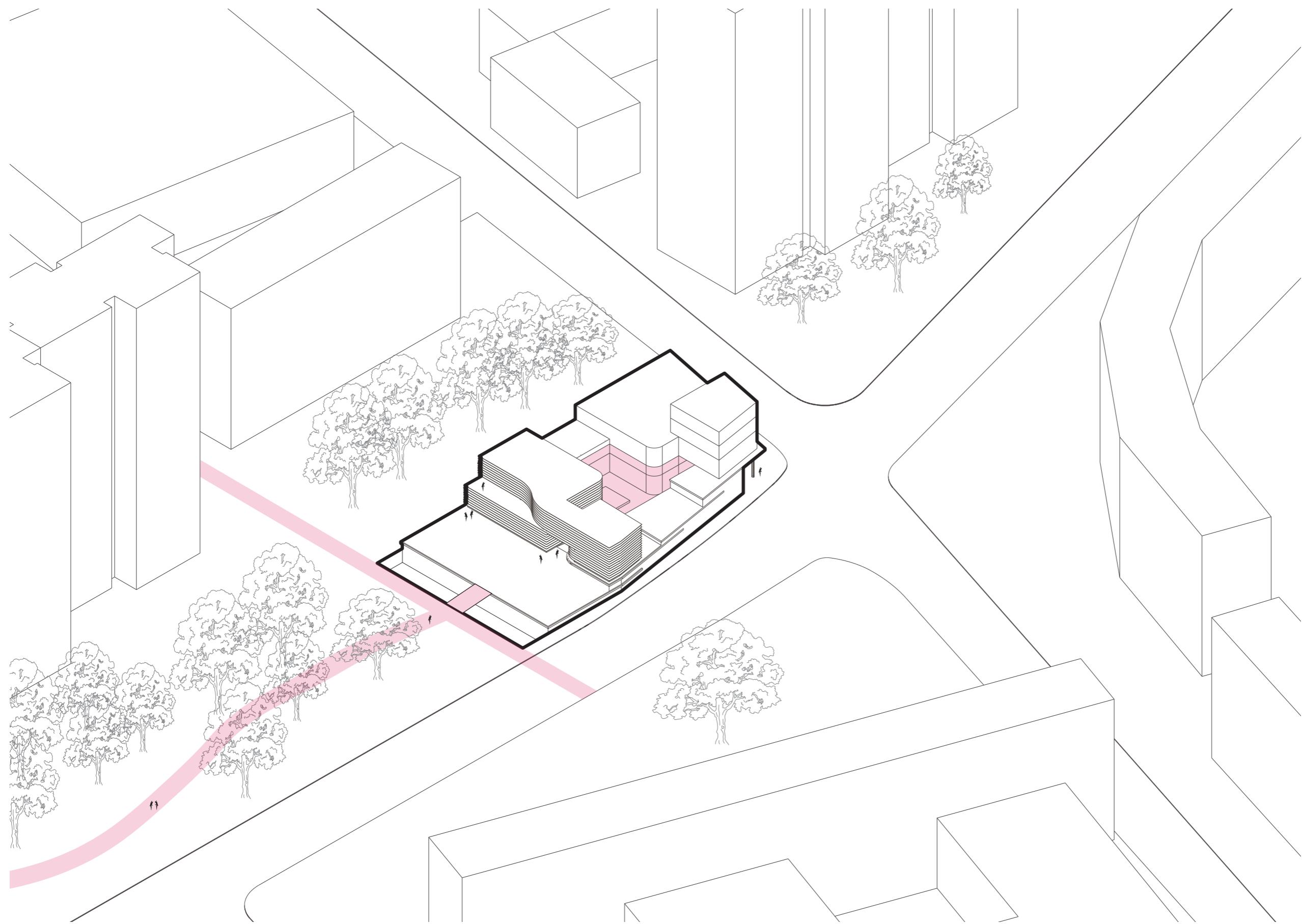
WEEK 18

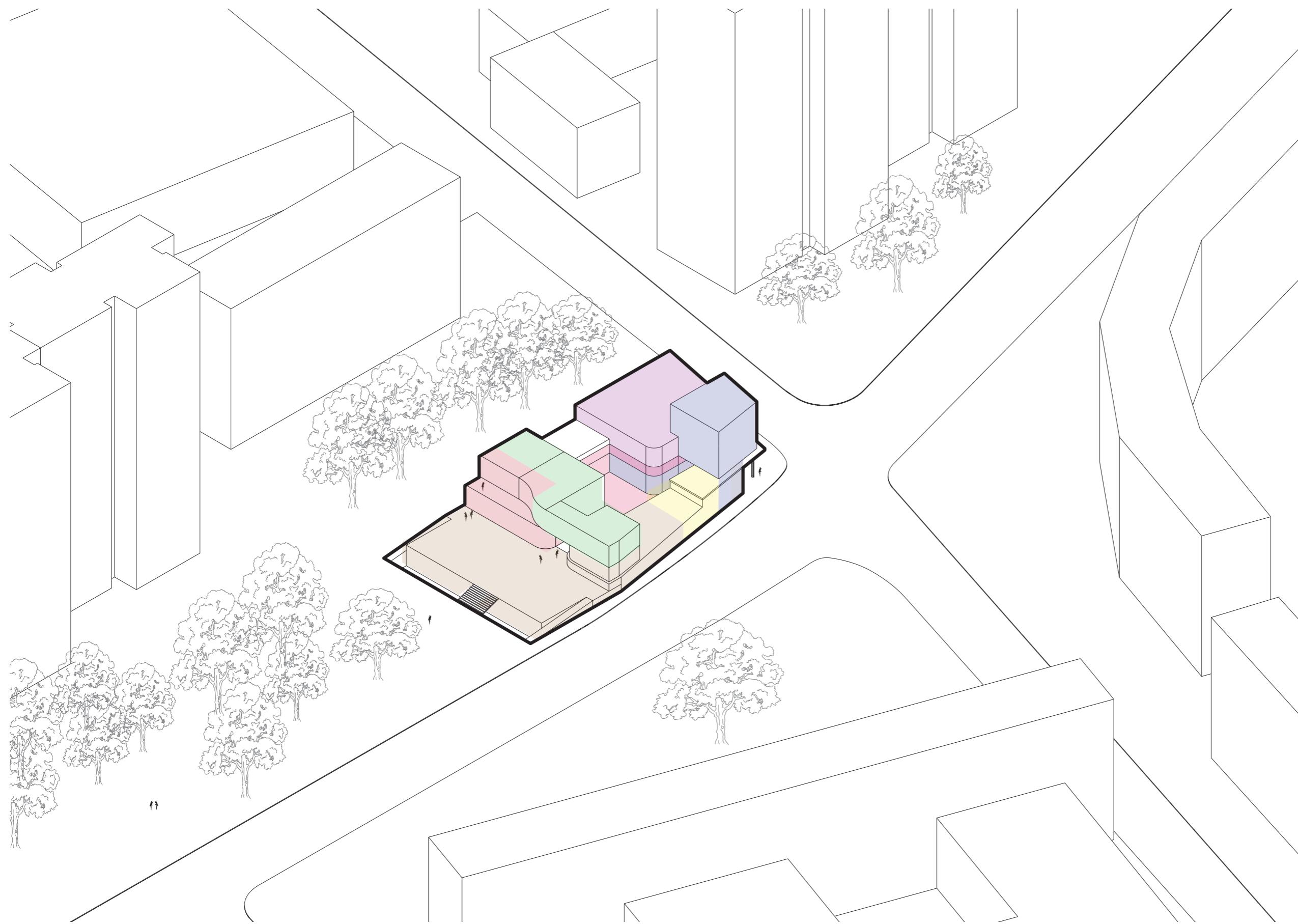
PROGRAM SCHEME



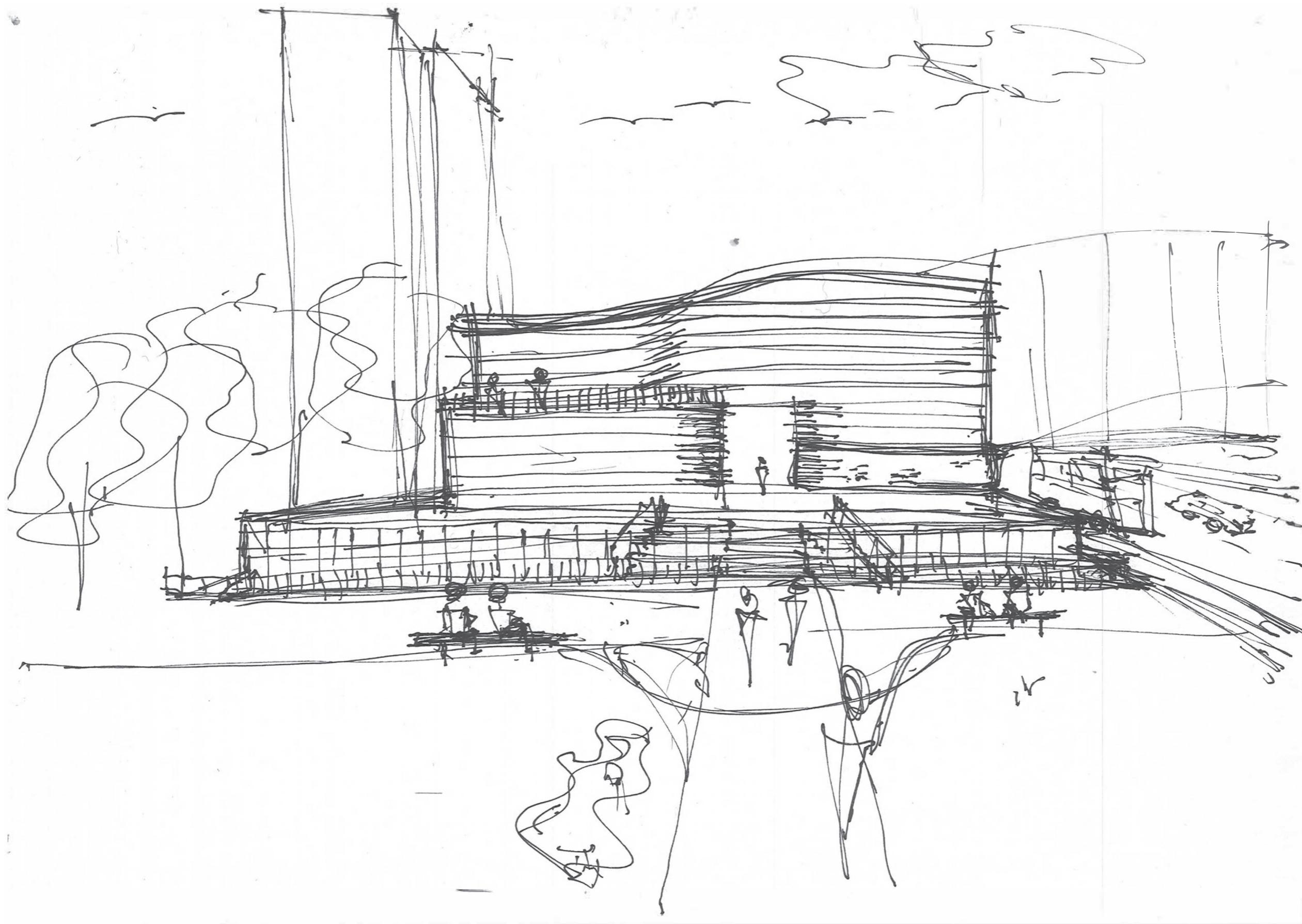
PARK DESIGN



AXO

AXO

VIEW FROM PARK



VIEW FROM PARK



WEEK 19

PLANS



PLANS



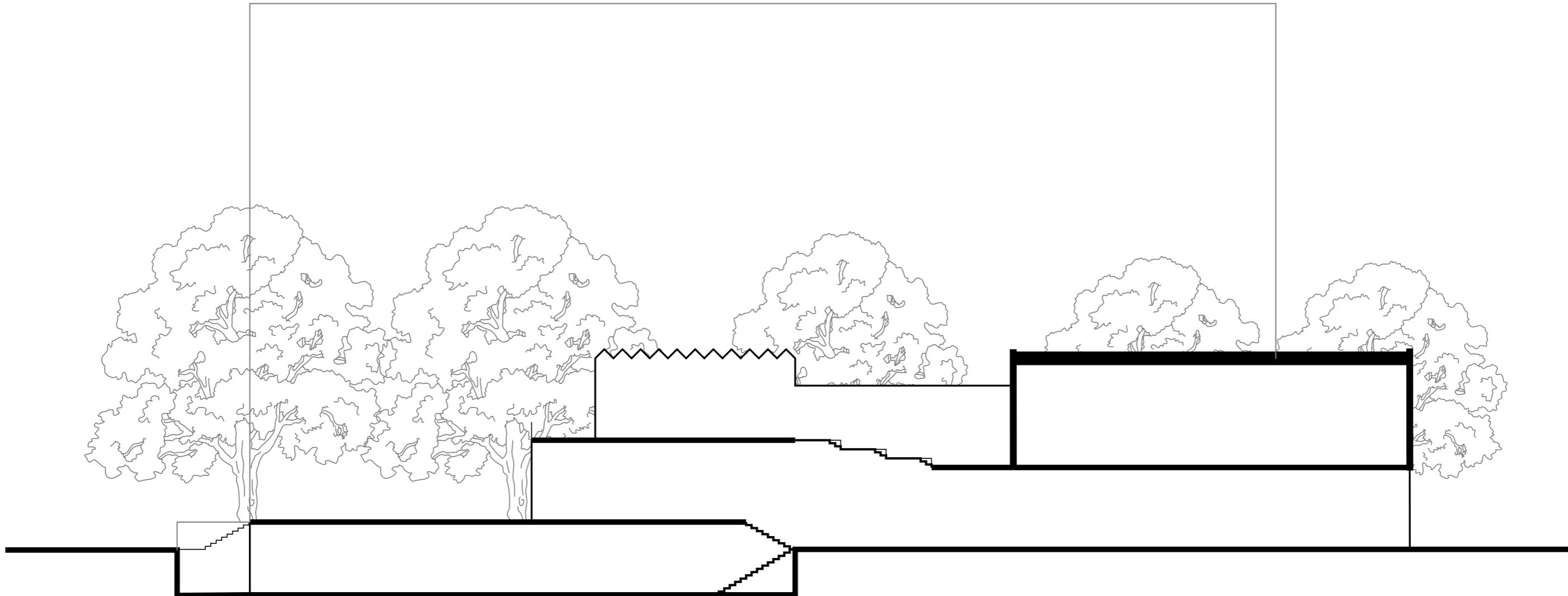
PLANS



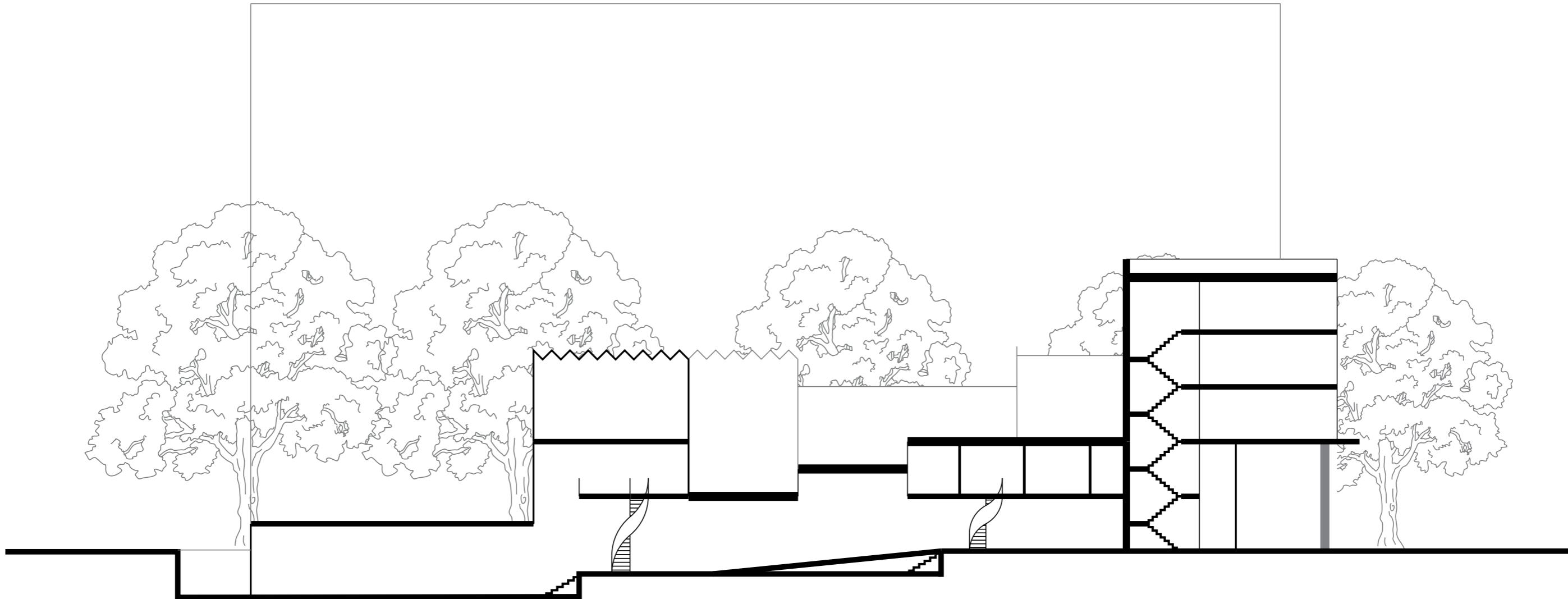
PLANS



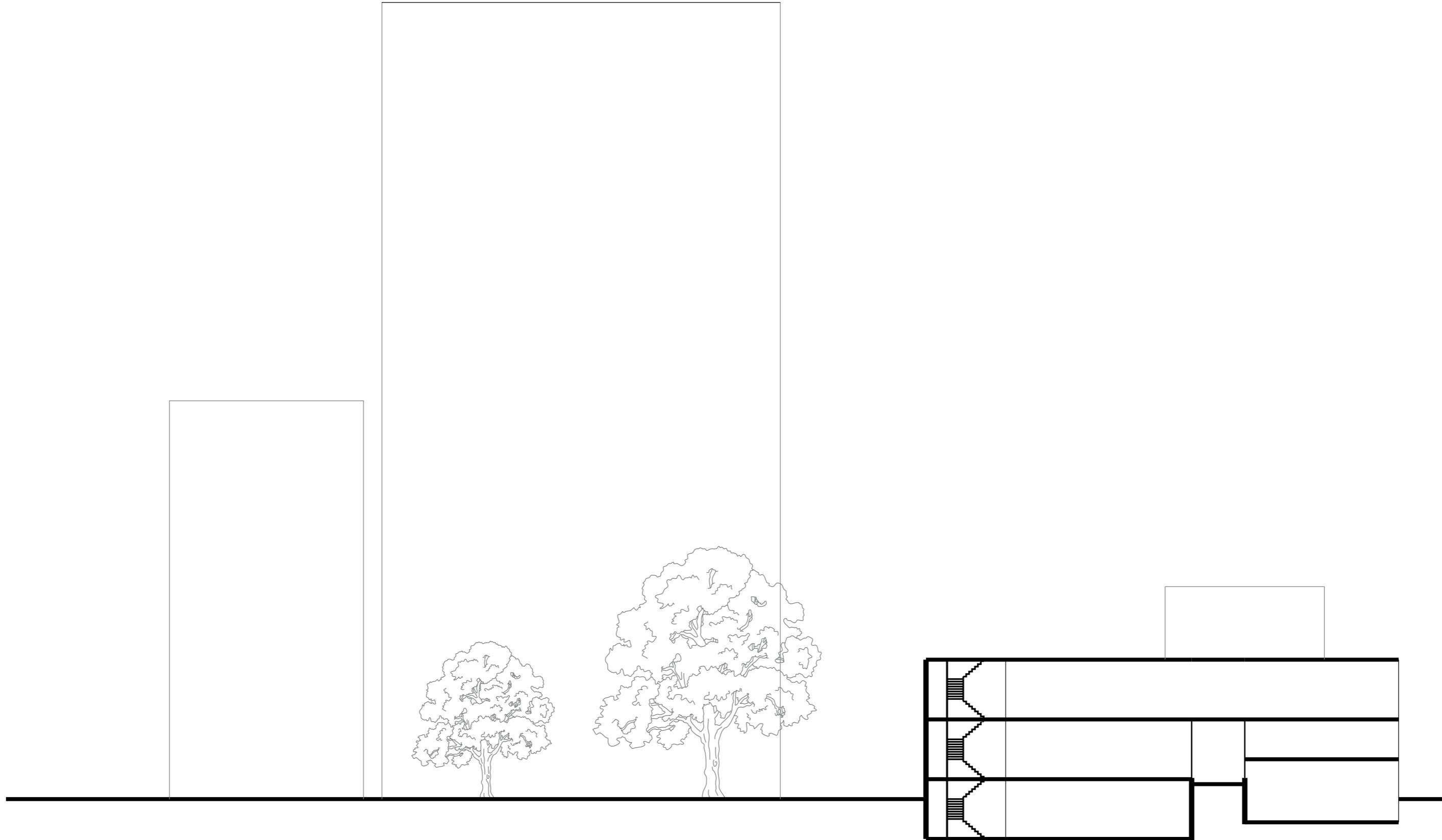
SECTIONS



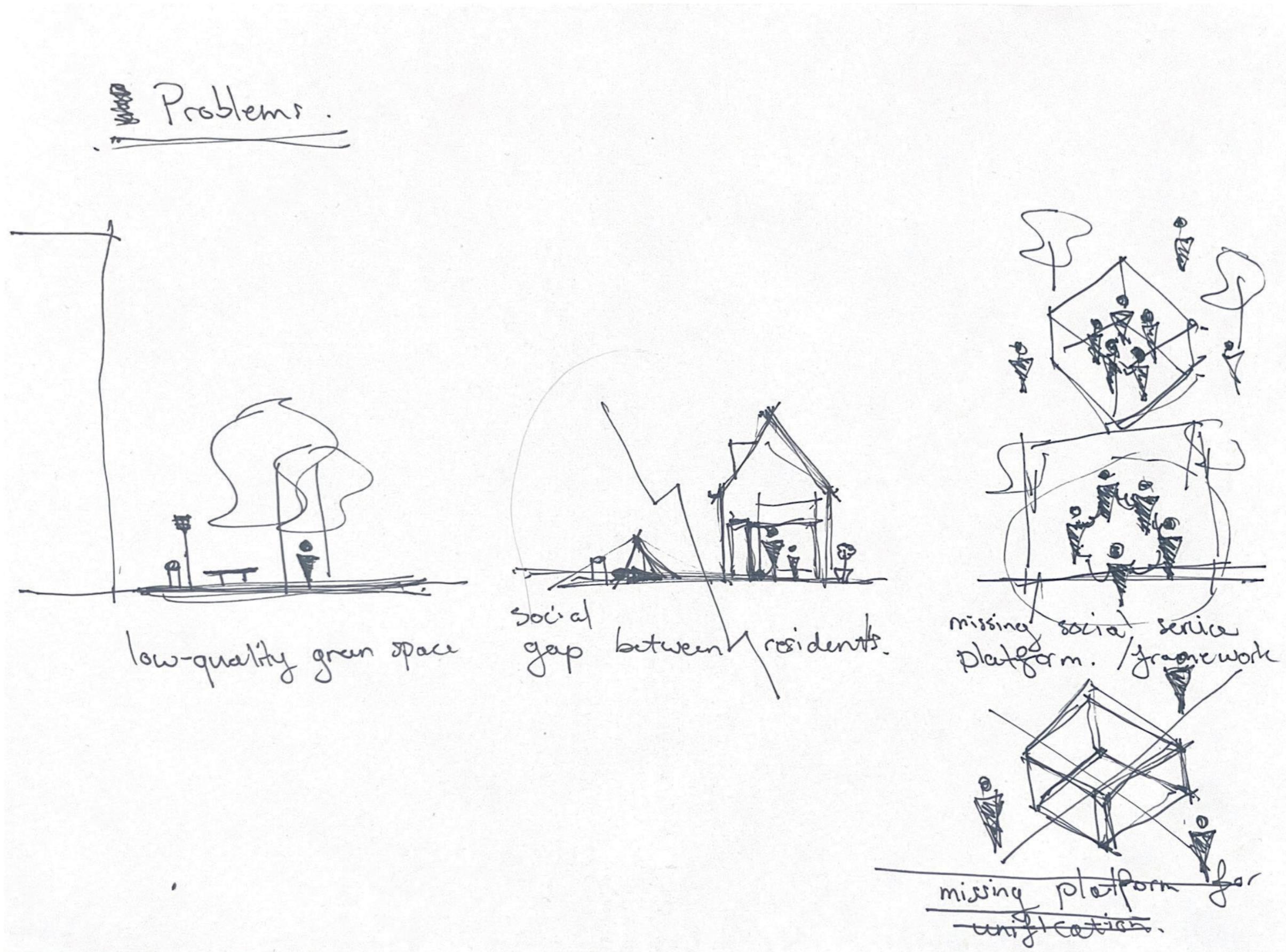
SECTIONS



SECTIONS

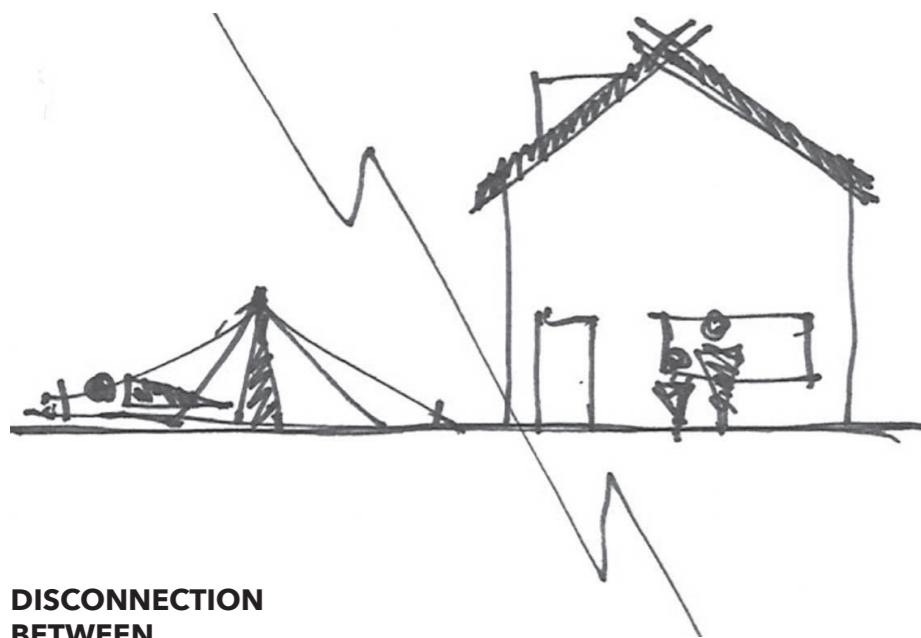


PROBLEM ICONS DRAFT

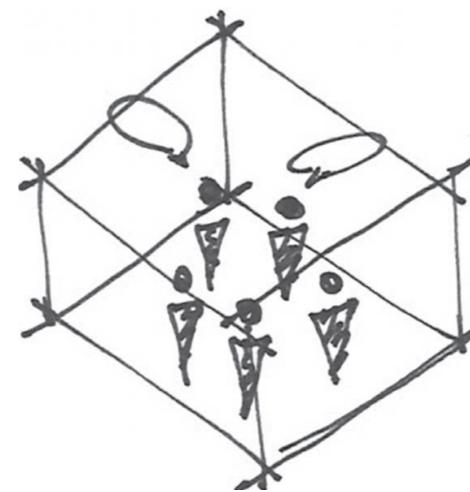


WEEK 20

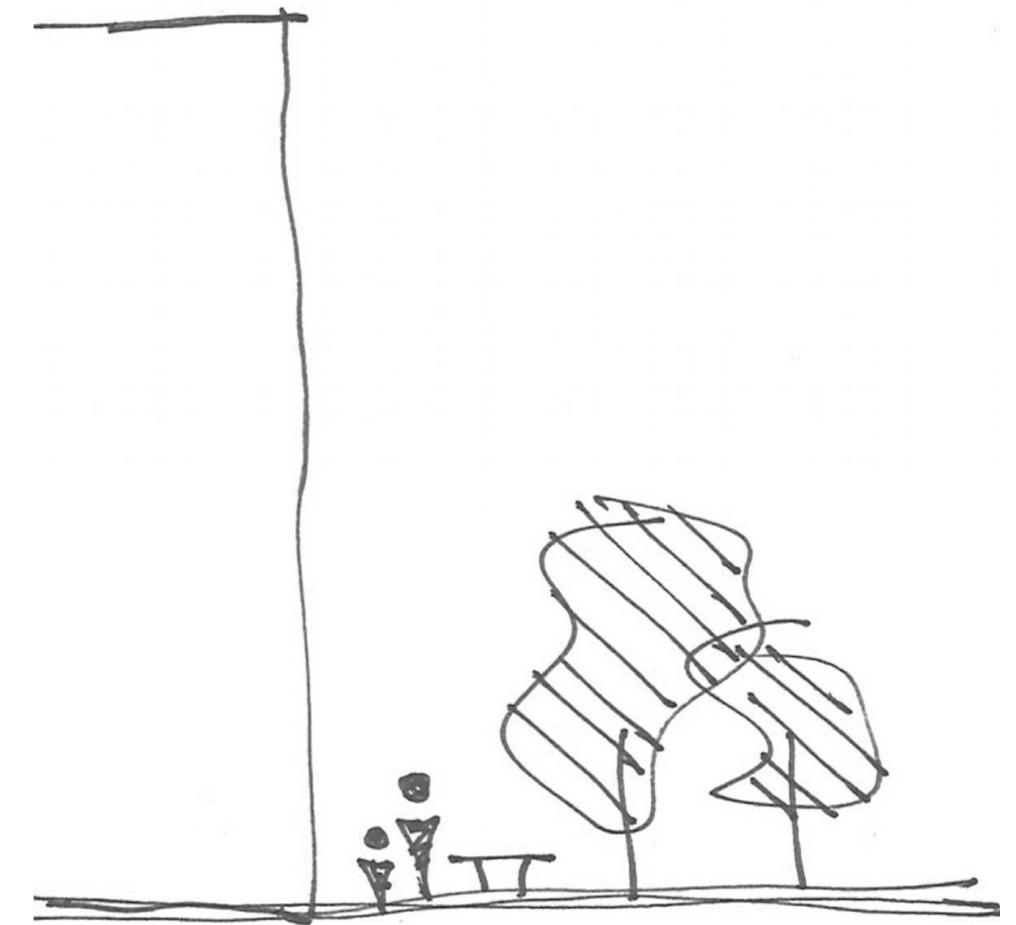
PROBLEM ICONS



DISCONNECTION
BETWEEN
RESIDENTS



MISSING FRAMEWORK
FOR SOCIAL
(RE-) INTEGRATION



LOW QUALITY
GREEN SPACE

DISCONNECTION PEOPLE



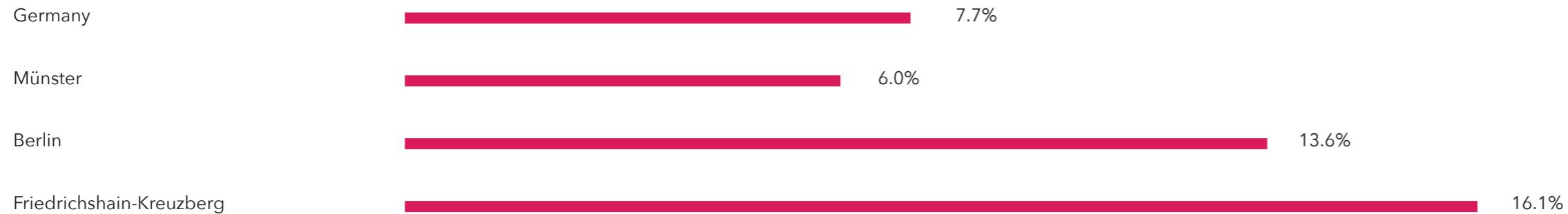
HOMELESS LIVING



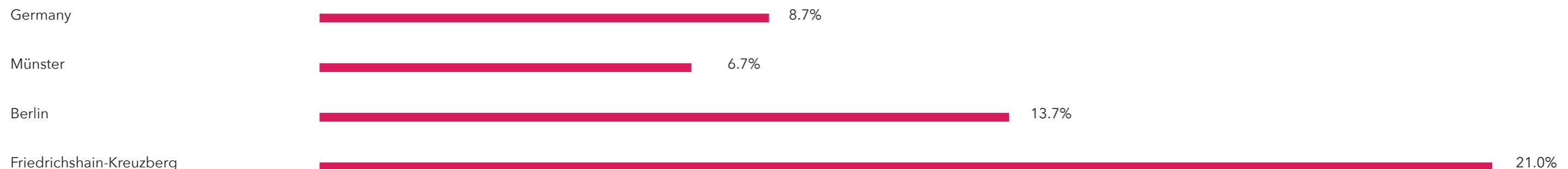
NON-HOMELESS SOCIALISING

MISSING FRAMEWORK FOR SOCIAL (RE-)INTEGRATION

Unemployment Rate (2010)



Percentage foreigners (2010)

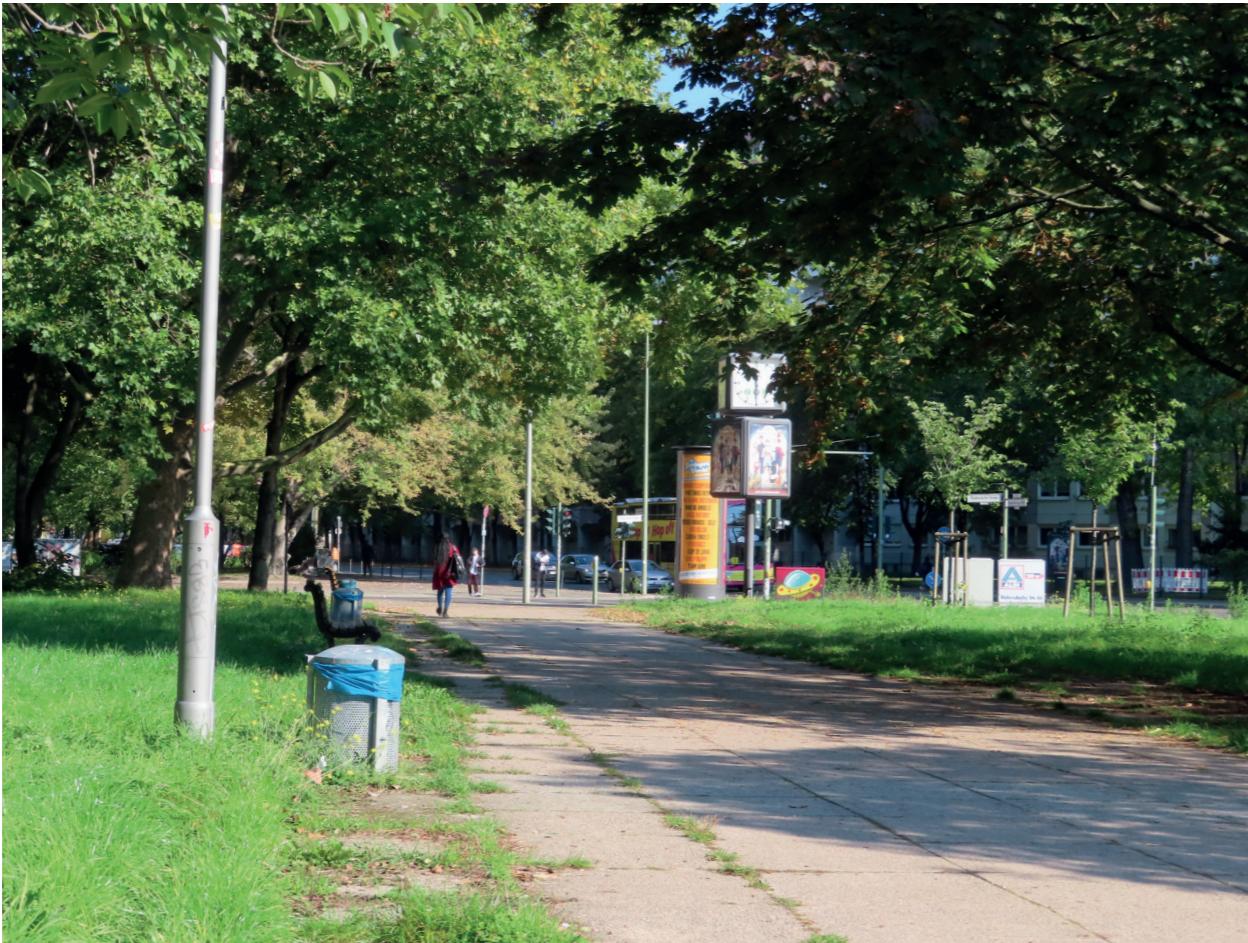


“These people are embedded in communities that lack role models for decent work.”

- Stephan Felisiak, Manager of local job centre

Source: Ewert, B.; Evers Adelbart. City Report: Berlin Friedrichshain Kreuzberg, Jus-tus-Liebig-Universität Giessen, 2013

LOW QUALITY GREEN SPACE

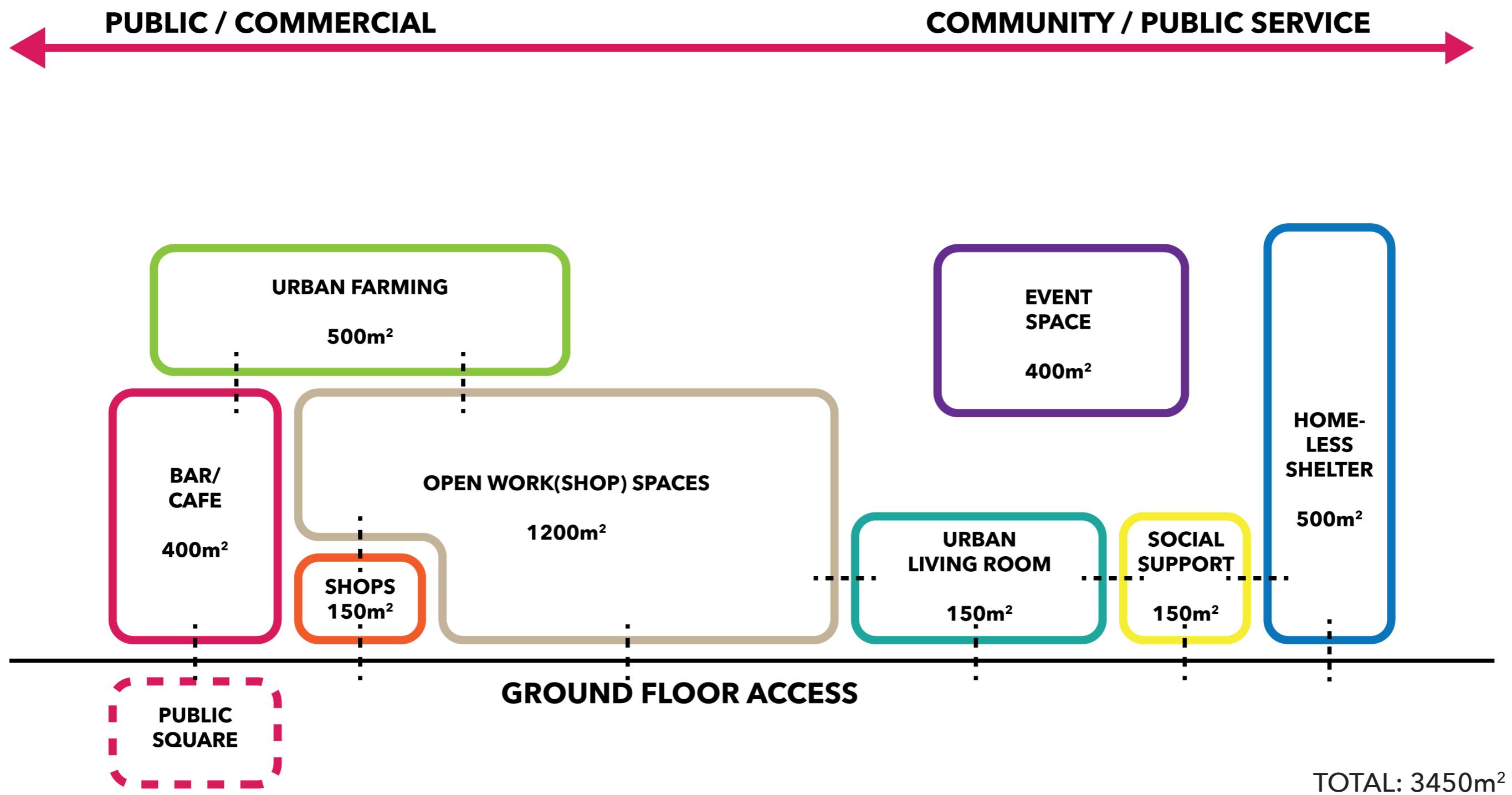


ANDREASVIERTEL



WEBERWIESE

PROGRAM COLLAGE



DISTRICT MAP



-  TRAIN STATION (S-BAHN)
-  TRAIN TRACKS (S-BAHN)
-  UNDERGROUND STATION (U-BAHN)
-  UNDERGROUND TRACKS (U-BAHN)
-  MAIN ROADS

DISTRICT MAP AND SITE

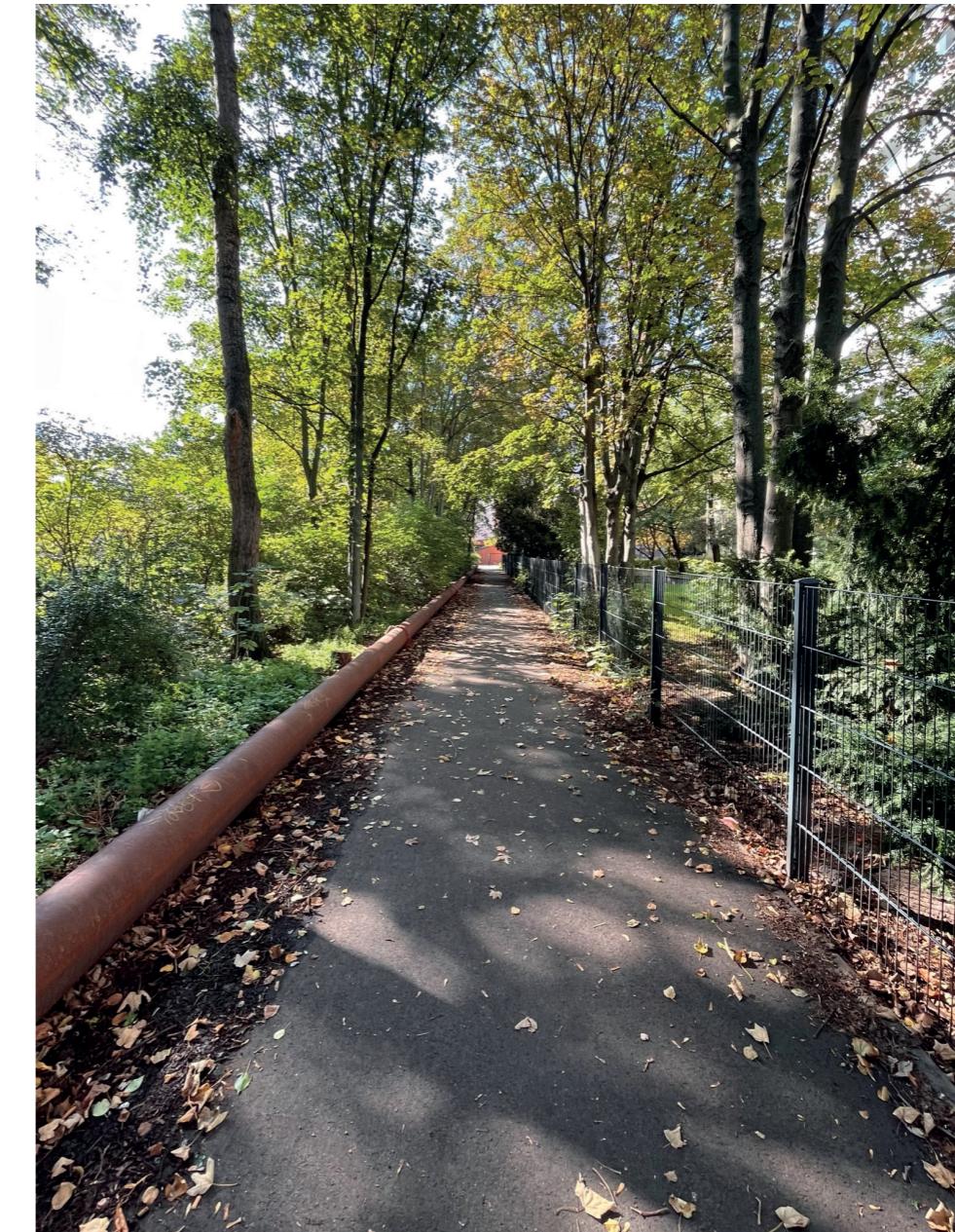


- TRAIN STATION (S-BAHN)
- TRAIN TRACKS (S-BAHN)
- UNDERGROUND STATION (U-BAHN)
- UNDERGROUND TRACKS (U-BAHN)
- PUBLIC PARKS
- ROUTES

SITE PHOTOS

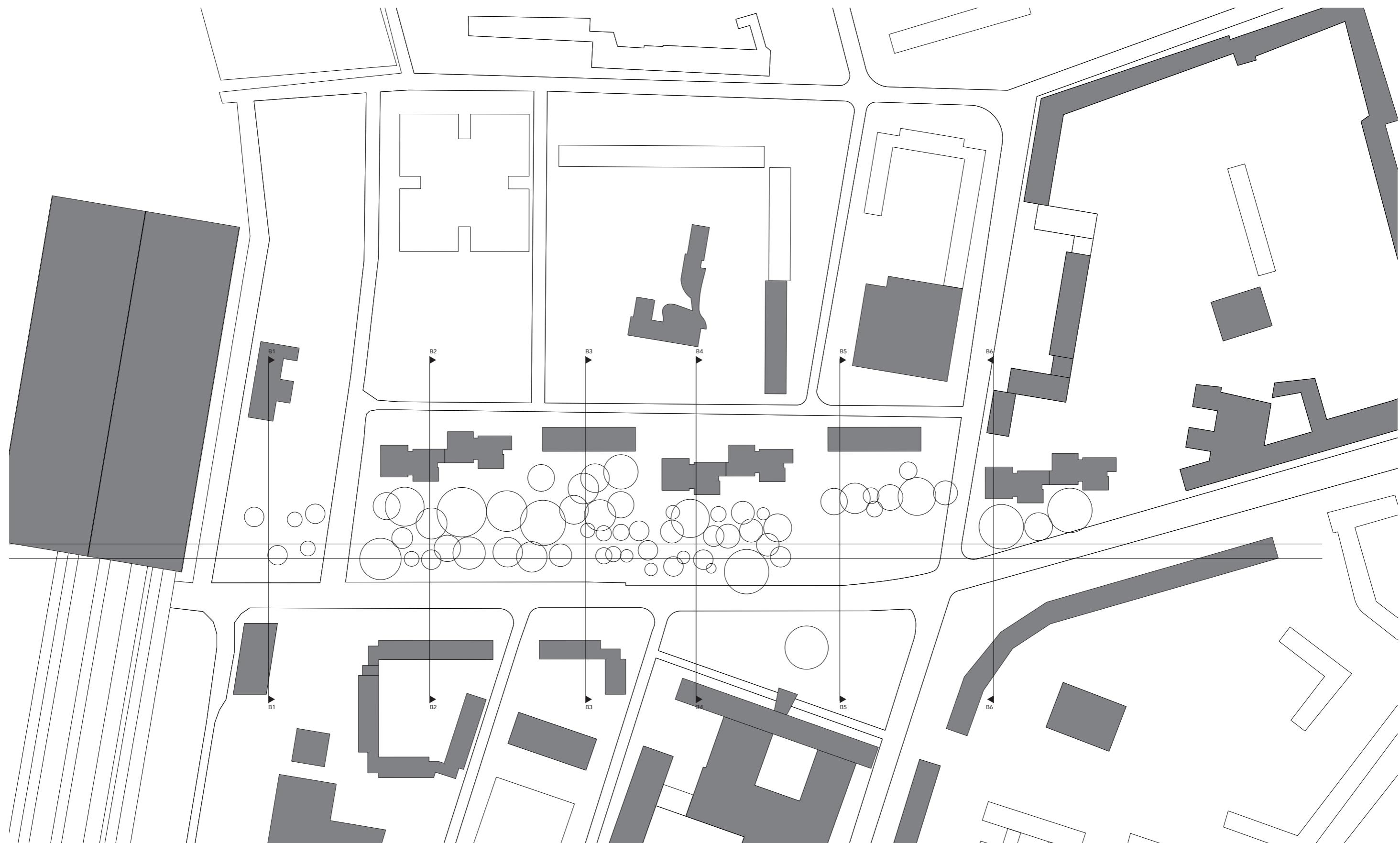


VIEW AT NEUES DEUTSCHLAND BUILDING

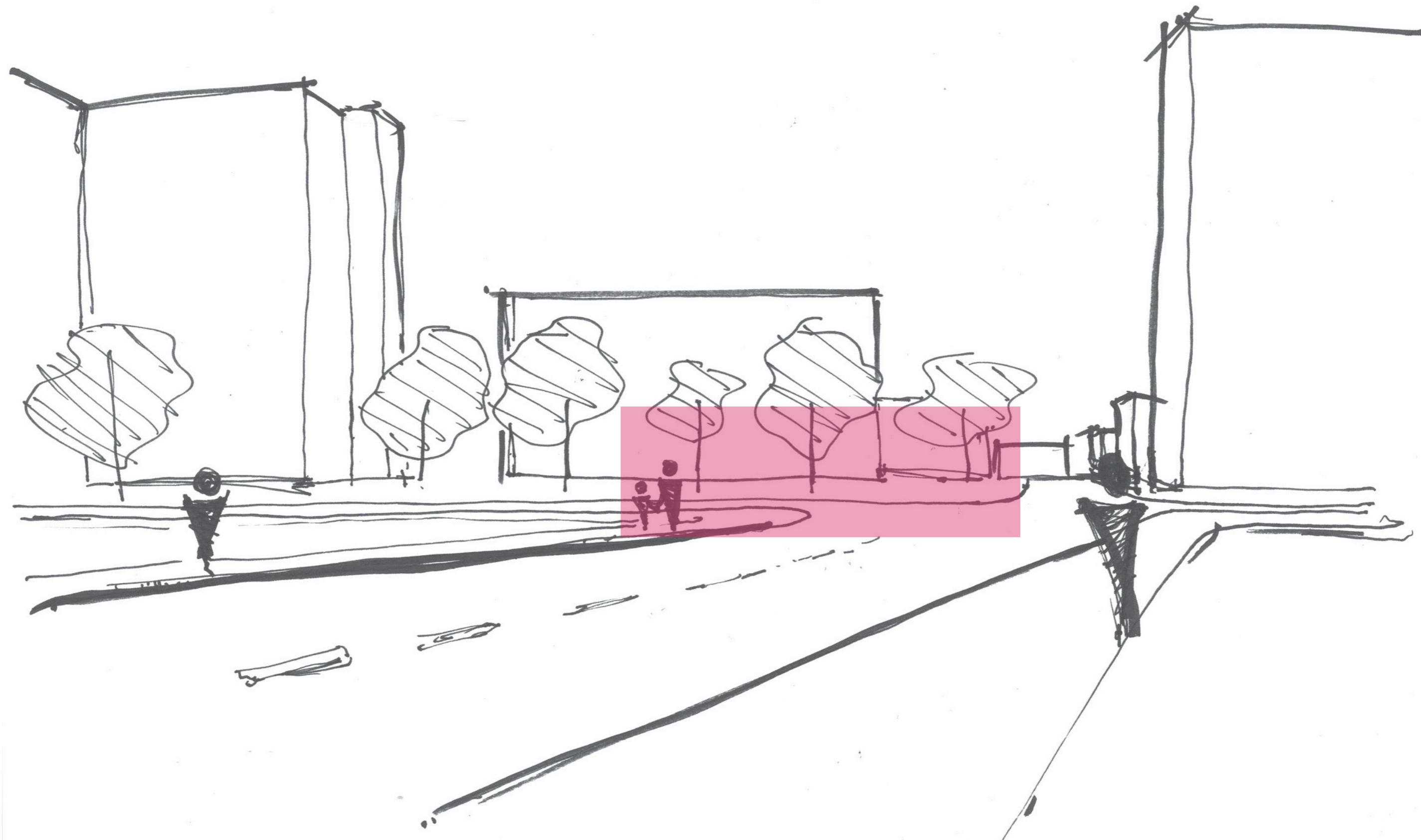


WALK ROUTE THROUGH PARK

GLOBAL IMPLEMENTATION SITE



MARK THE CORNER



PARK ZONES

Station Arrival



Park Activity



Walled Garden



Community Garden



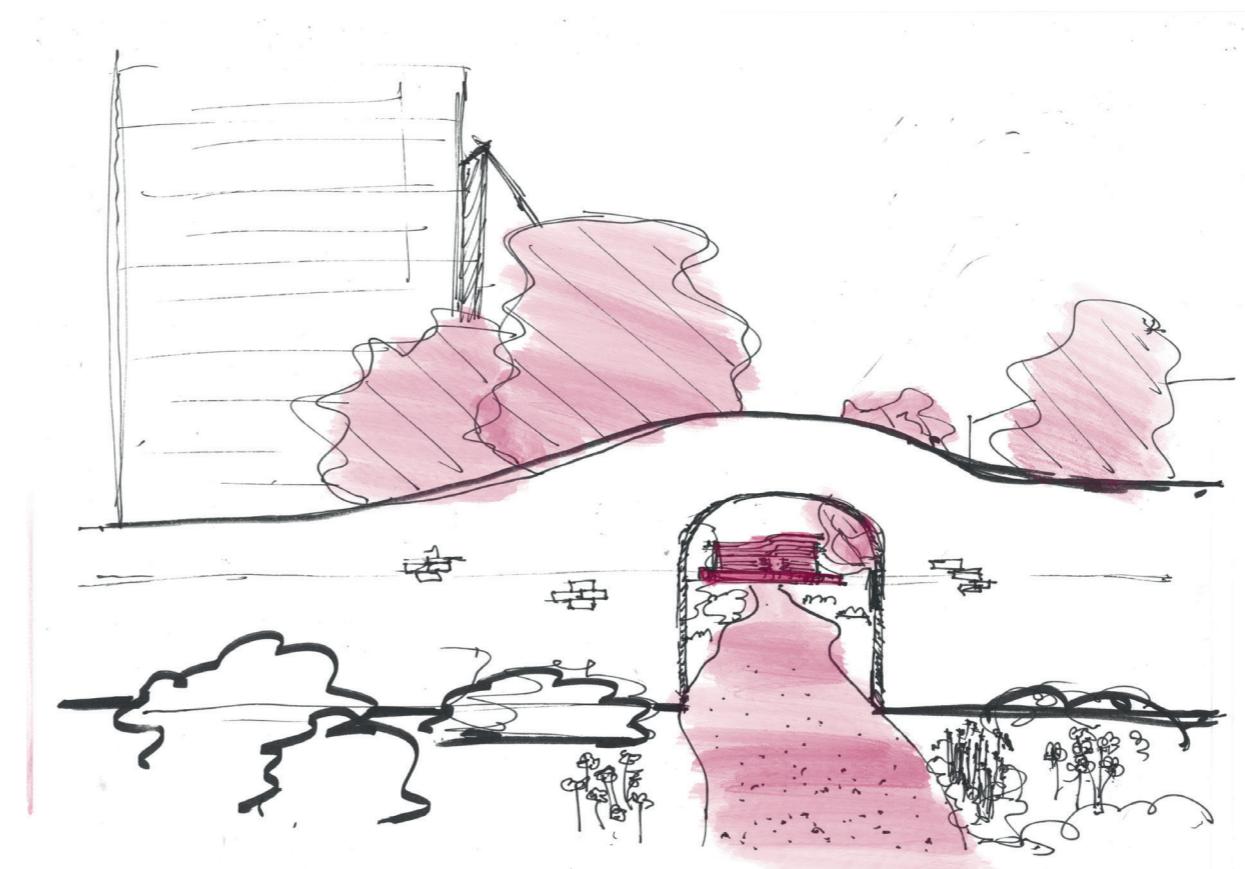
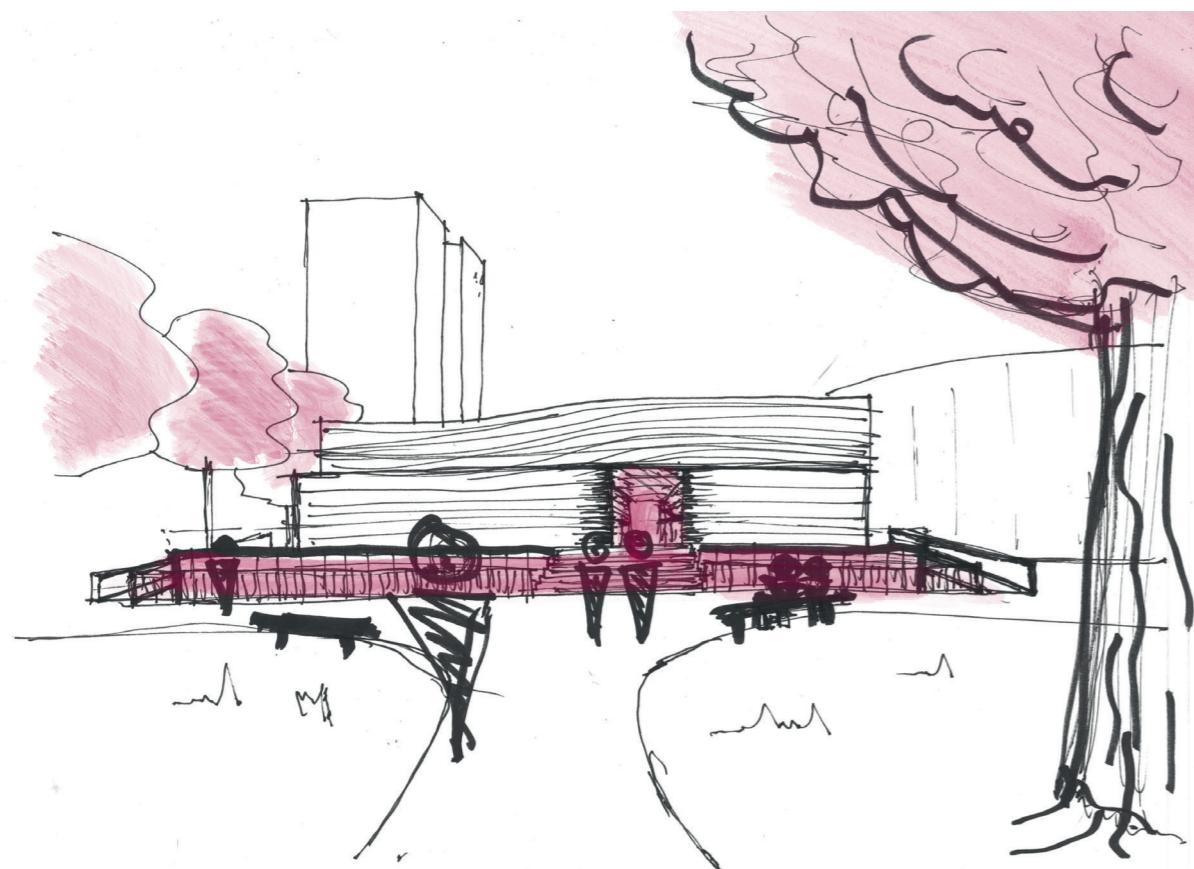
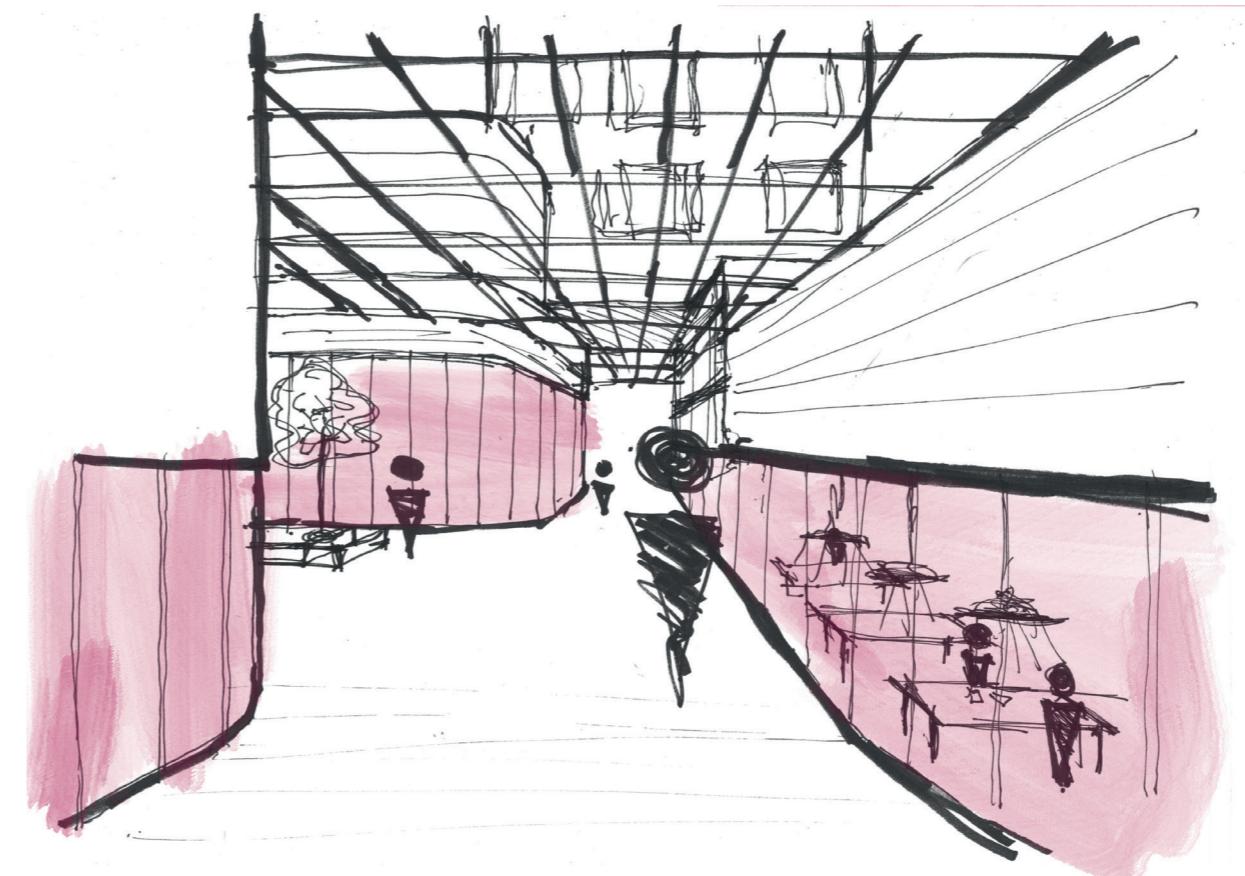
- Alexander Koll (pinterest)

Place Alsace-Lorraine,
La Compagnie du Paysage

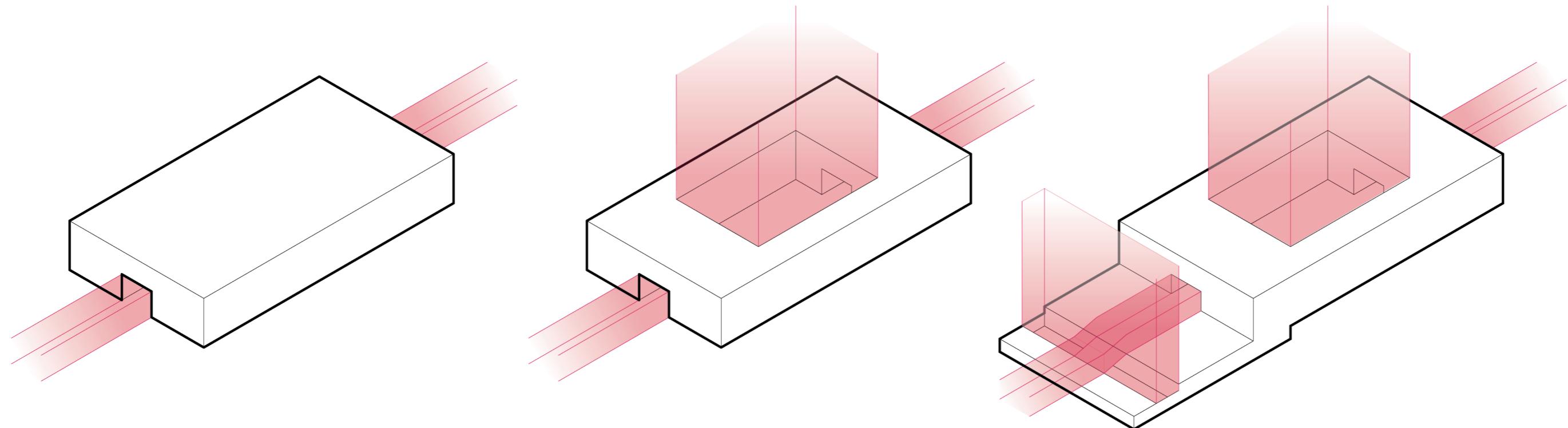
Buscot Park, Oxfordshire

103rd Street Community Garden,
SCAPE

SKETCHES



COMMUNITY CENTRE DESIGN ELEMENTS

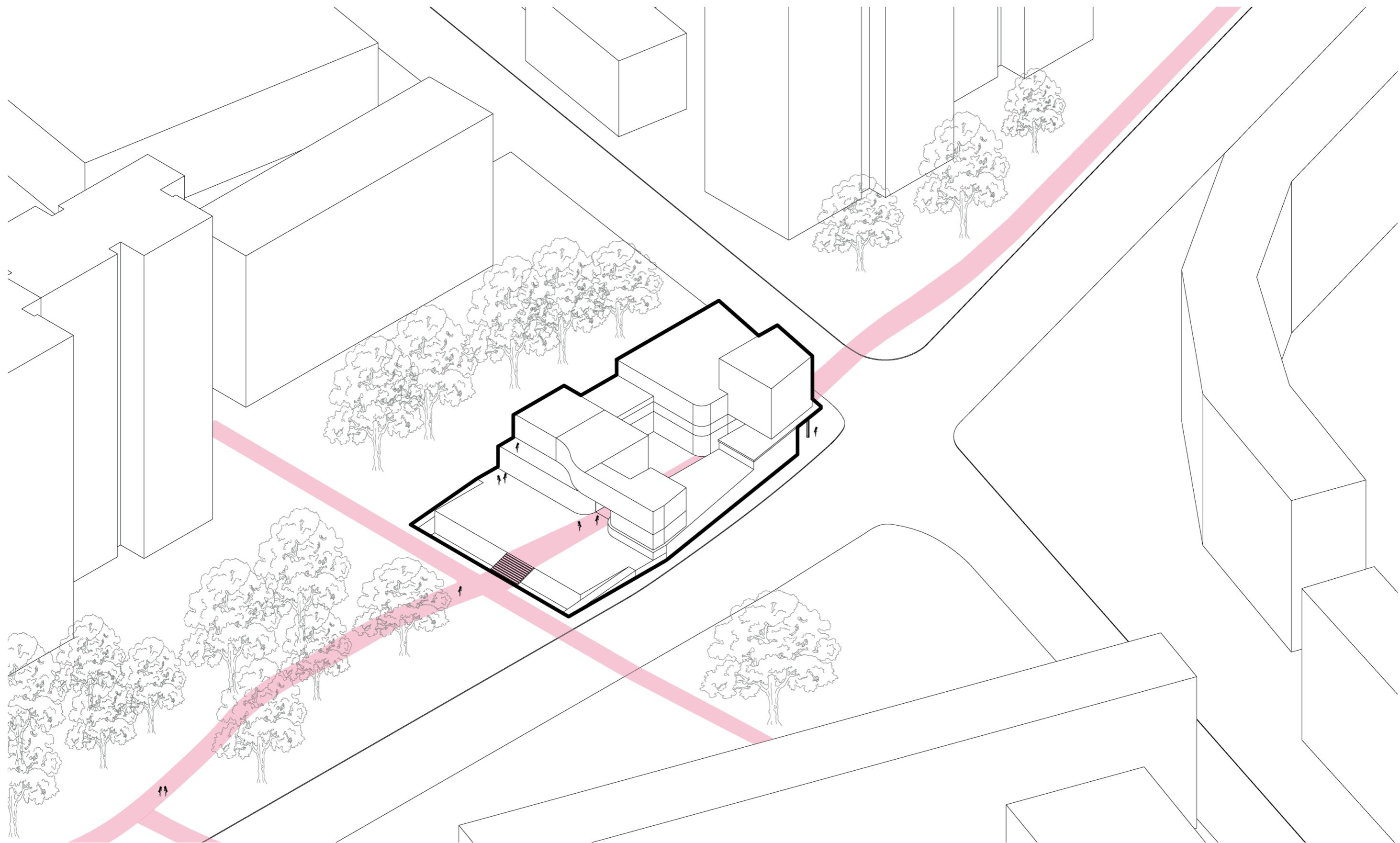


URBAN PASSAGE

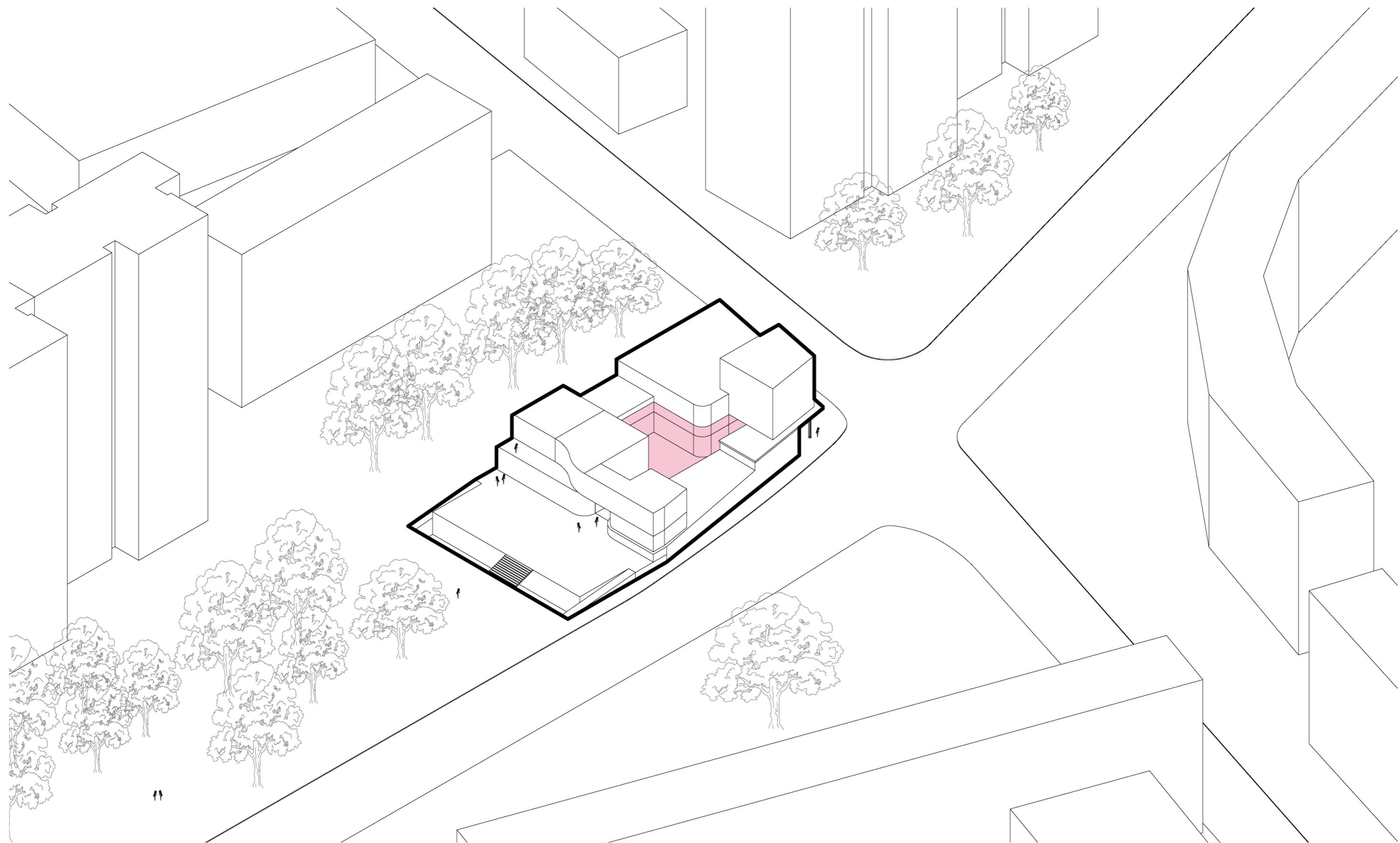
INNER COURTYARD

BASEMENT PASSAGE AND DAY LIGHT ACCESS

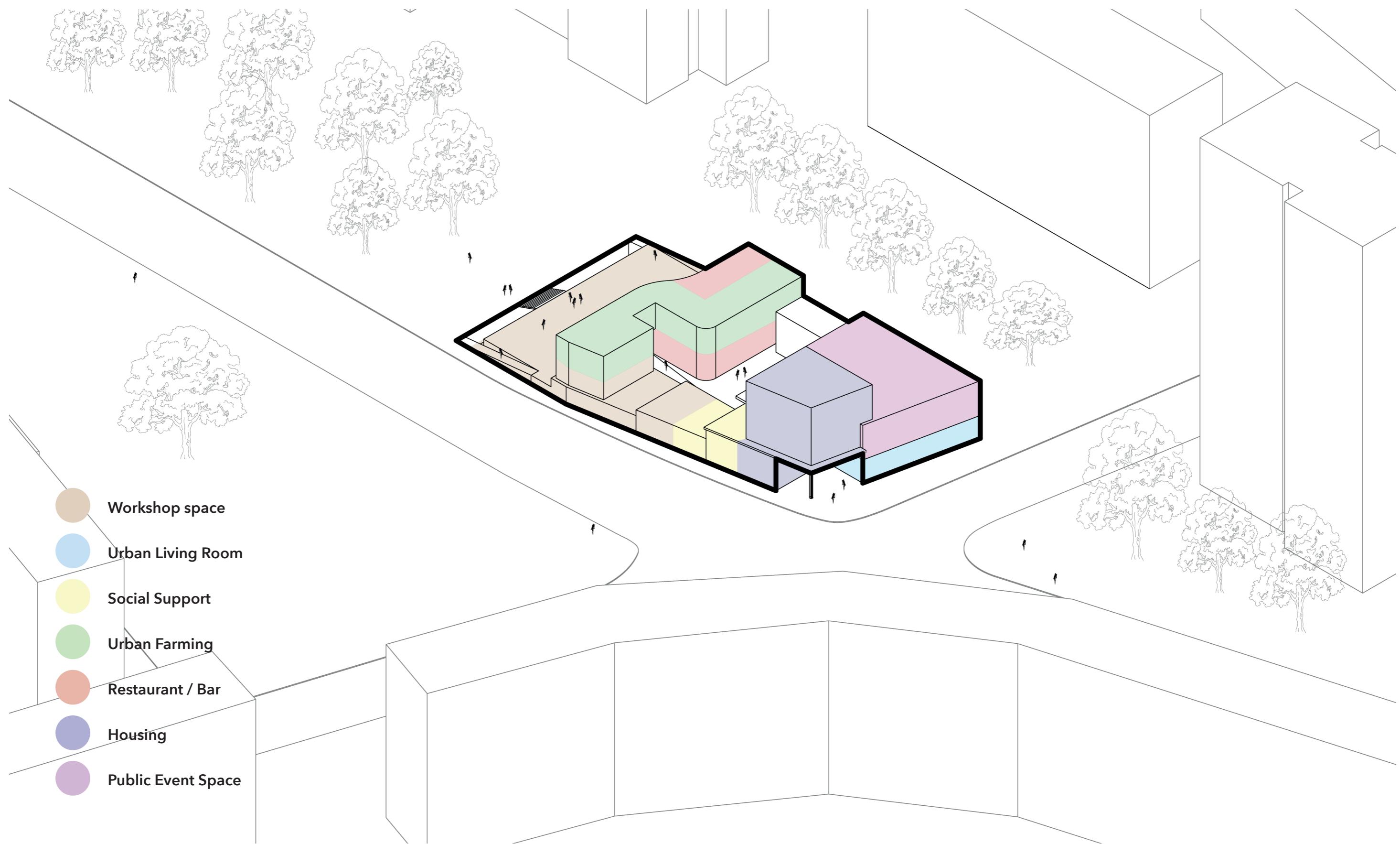
URBAN PASSAGE



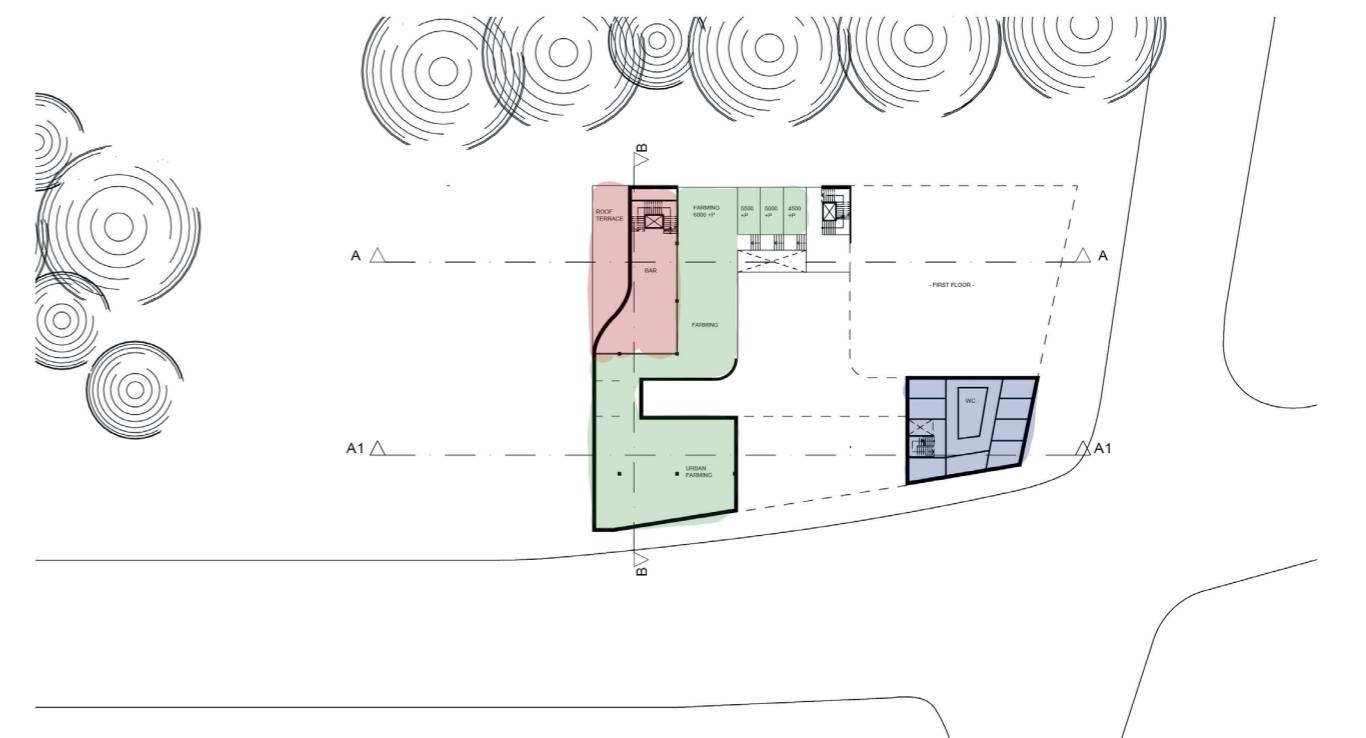
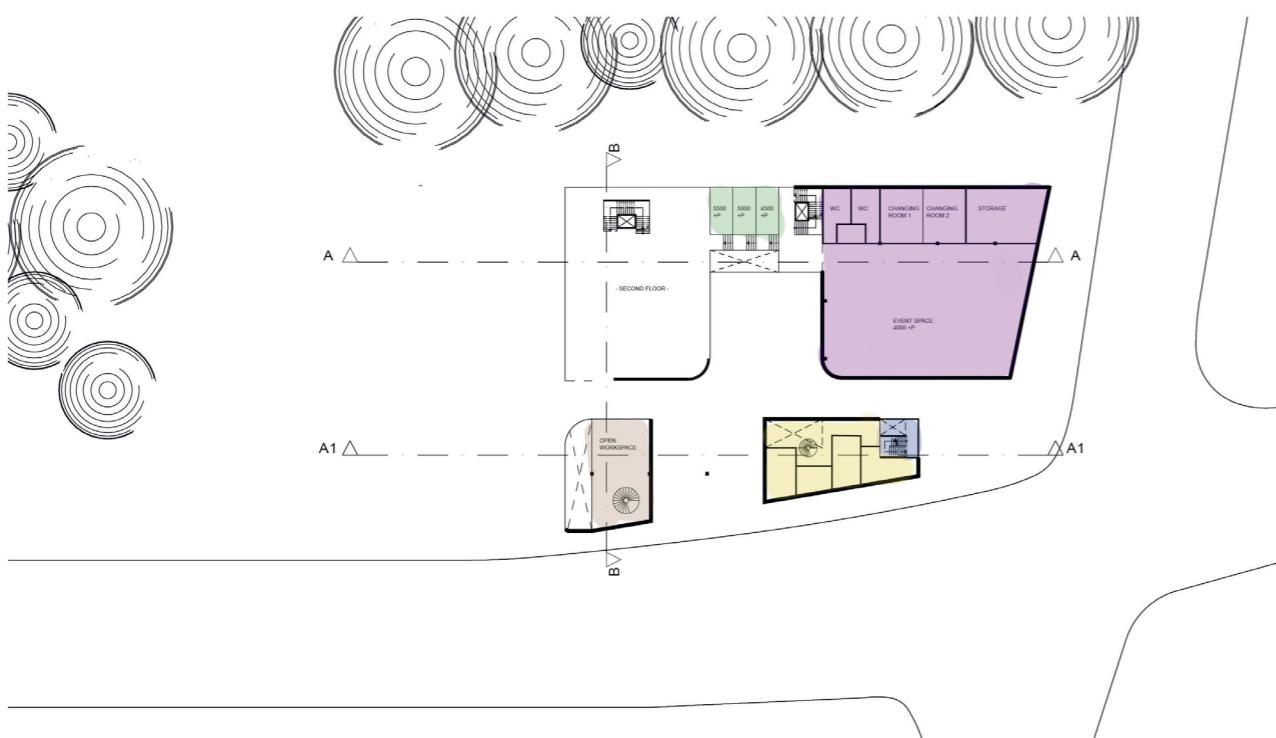
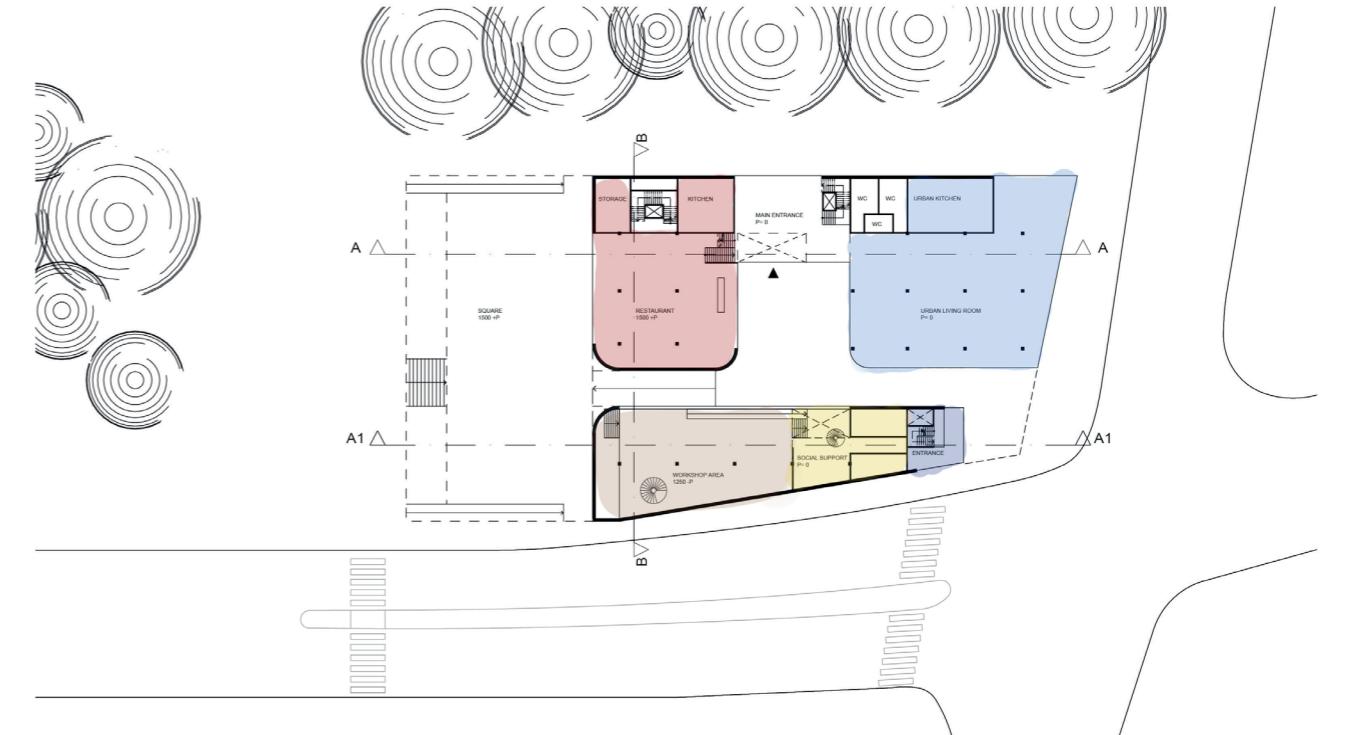
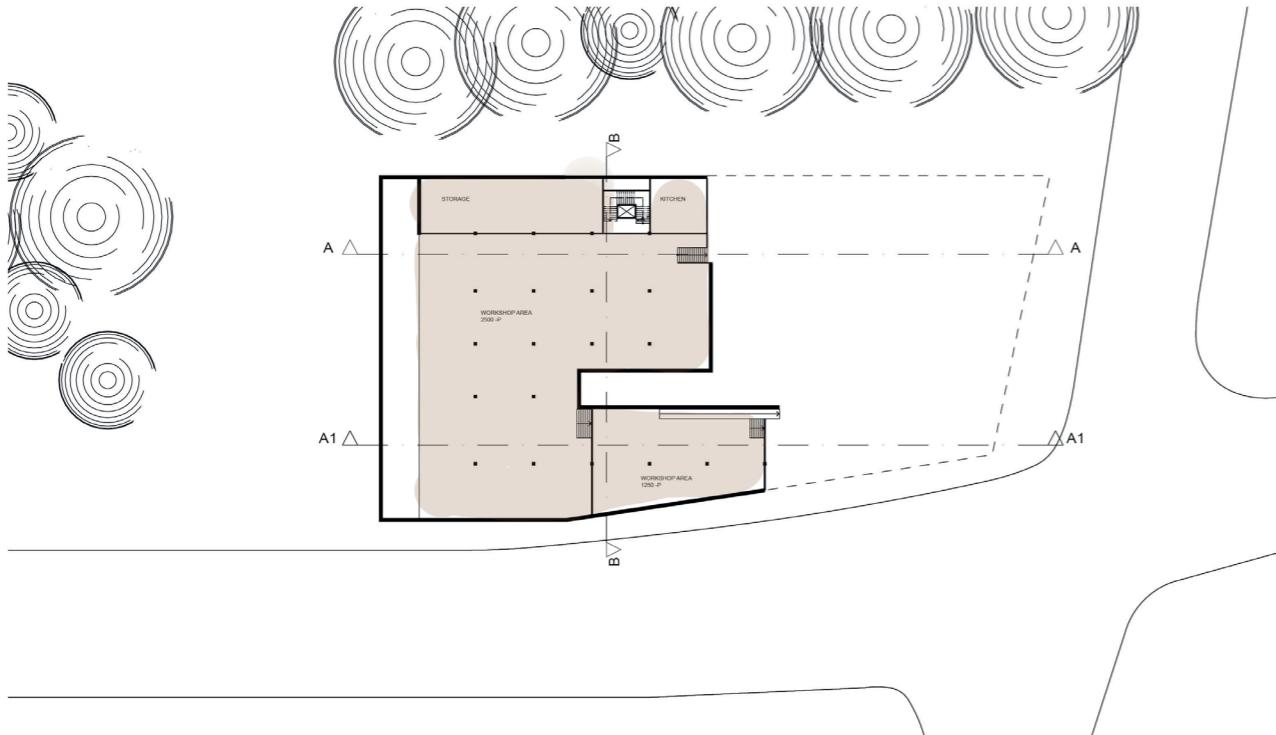
INNER COURTYARD



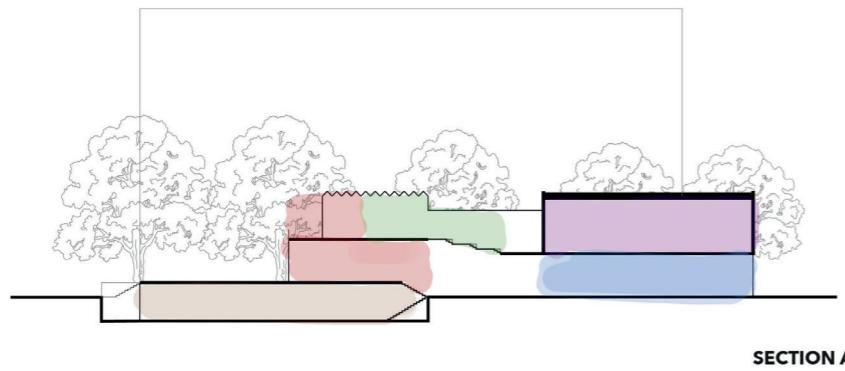
BUILDING PROGRAM



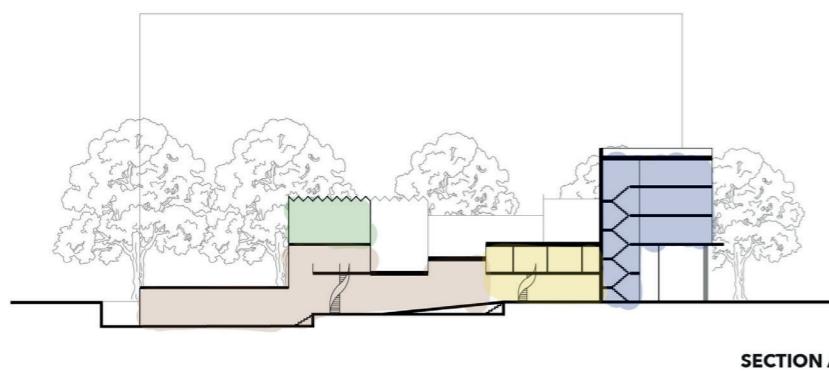
PLANS COLOURED



SECTIONS COLOURED



SECTION A



SECTION A1



PROFILE SECTION



GRADUATION PLAN

Graduation Plan: All tracks

Submit your Graduation Plan to the Board of Examiners (Examencommissie-BK@tudelft.nl), Mentors and Delegate of the Board of Examiners one week before P2 at the latest.

The graduation plan consists of at least the following data/segments:

Personal information	
Name	Timo van Dalen
Student number	5199220
Studio	
Name / Theme	Public Building Graduation Studio
Main mentor	Paul Kuitenbrouwer
Second mentor	Project Design
Third mentor	Ger Warries
Argumentation of choice of the studio	Theory and Delination
I chose the studio partly because of my interest in the site and my preference to work on a public building for my graduation as this allows me to deal with a multi-functional building in relation to its urban context.	
Graduation project	
Title of the graduation project	Connecting Friedrichshain
Goal	
Location:	Friedrichshain, border between Andreasviertel and Wriezener Bahnhof
The posed problem, research questions and design assignment in which these result.	See bigger box beneath
	See bigger box beneath
	See bigger box beneath
Problems:	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. By visiting the area and talking to residents, I noticed a disconnect between peoples. People didn't really know their neighbours and some were disturbed by the many homeless and alcoholics on the streets, especially those with kids. 2. I noticed there is loads of 'green space', yet it is of very low quality. It could more be seen as a leftover in between space with greenery rather than functional green spaces such as parks. 3. A third issue, somewhat related to the first, is the social gap between the homeless and the non-homeless on the streets of Friedrichshain. This issue is present throughout the city, but very much so in Friedrichshain. As various homeless people sometimes build big tents on the streets and in parks, they territorialise 'their' space and become further distanced from the non- 	

homeless. It would be better if both groups could be brought closer together and be seen as part of the neighbourhood.

4. Fourthly, it is seen that people with a history of addiction, homelessness or other social issues, have difficulties re-entering, so to speak, society. As I found out by interviewing day care centres in Rotterdam, people with a history of social issues find themselves unemployed whilst lacking a sense of belonging, responsibility, determinacy and motivation to, let's say, work from 9-5. One of the issues here is the missing help for integration in society. Basically help people to get their lives (back) on track.

It appears to me that an architecture, urban design, or platform that allows for people to connect is missing. As social issues such as poverty, unemployment, addiction, or homelessness are vastly bigger than the scope of this project, the project aims not to make these issues to go away. However, perhaps through an architectural/urban intervention, the social gap between the people of Friedrichshain could be decreased, and therefore pay a positive social contribution to Friedrichshain.

Site:

The site chosen for this project is 450m long and around 50-70m wide stretching park. It follows the Straße der Pariser Kommune from the back entrance of Ostbahnhof until the intersection dividing all three neighbourhoods, Andreasviertel, Weberwiese and Wriezener Bahnhof.

Even though the site is filled with trees and has pedestrian path with some benches, it is a poorly decorated site, making it a low-quality space with a backdrop of plattenbau architecture at the heart of the neighbourhood.

Research Questions:

1. How can an architectural/ urban intervention allow people to be brought together and get connected so that a better sense of 'a community' can be formed?
2. Questions relating the low quality 'green space':
 - 2.1. What if existing low quality green spaces are transformed/ redesigned to become richer and more diverse?
 - 2.2. What if these spaces could function as high valued parks and public spaces at the heart of the neighbourhood?
3. How can the gap between the homeless and the non-homeless be bridged?
4. How can people with social histories of addiction, homelessness, etc. regain their sense of belonging and have a platform to help entering society?
5. What program/ system could help tackle the various social issues in Friedrichshain and allow for connections?

<p>Design assignment: In order to get people together and connect, the programmatic functions have to attract people from all / multiple backgrounds. With that, the architectural intervention has to be positioned in such a way that people will make use of the architecture, the space it creates and its functions. This means that the access road of the building from the station side should be easily accessible and open to give access to the more public functions of the building. From the neighbourhood side, the building should be equally inviting whilst also providing privacy so that the building can deal with the various social issues of its users and form connections in a safe, undisturbed manner. The design of the park as part of the urban intervention should be a pedestrian access road to the building and also provide various spaces of, for example, rest, joy, exercise and culture. In other words, it should cater a wide array of needs a person might come to a park for whilst relating to the community centre.</p>	<p>Literature and general practical preference</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Christian Borch, Martin Kornberger, <i>Urban Commons. Rethinking the City</i> (London: Routledge, 2015). - Urban Think Tank, Torre David. <i>Informal Vertical Communities</i> (Zurich: Lars Müller Publishers, 2012). - Stavros Stavrides, <i>Common Space. The City as Commons</i> (London: Bloomsbury Publishing, 2016). - Pier Vittorio Aureli. <i>Rituals and Walls. The Architecture of Sacred Space</i> (London: AA Publishing, 2016). - Herman Hertzberger. <i>Lessons for Students in Architecture</i>. (Nijmegen: 010 Publishers, 2005). - The Museum of Modern Art, New York. <i>Small Scale, Big Change: New Architectures of Social Engagement</i>. (New York, The Museum of Modern Art, 2010)
<p>Process</p> <p>Method description The method I use partly consist of field research for the element of social issues. By visiting and talking to people at various places in Rotterdam such as workshops in which people can learn different crafts or places of shelter for homeless people so that I have an idea of what process people go through to reintegrate in society. On top of that, theory on the topic of in-between space, connection and communiting, will be used to get a more elaborate idea on how this can be achieved. Subsequently, as the studio is based around research by design, this method will be used to enhance and build up the design itself.</p>	<p>Reference Projects/ Precedents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Kunsthall Rotterdam (OMA) - Apolloscholen (Herman Hertzberger) - Neue National Galerie (Mies van der Rohe) <p>Reflection</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the relation between your graduation (project) topic, the studio topic (if applicable), your master track (A,U,BT,LA,MBE), and your master programme (MSc AUBS)? The project sees the studio concept of urban commoning (or an urban commons as being a place) as a way to allow for interaction and thus create connection between peoples. So the urban common is the place, the architecture in that sense, providing the platform for interaction to take place 2. What is the relevance of your graduation work in the larger social, professional and scientific framework. The idea is for this building to become an archetype and therefor it might present a way to create a more inclusive neighbourhood through architectural intervention.

WEEK 21 P2 RESIT PREP

Unfortunately, I did not pass my p2 assesment due to an incomplete urban vision. Also, my drawings and other images were not very convincing for my story. so I had to do a P2 RESIT in two weeks after P1.

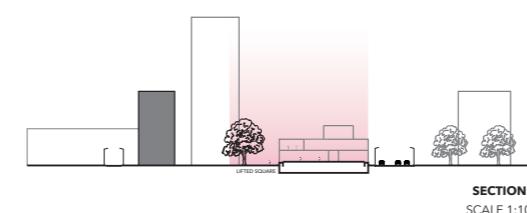
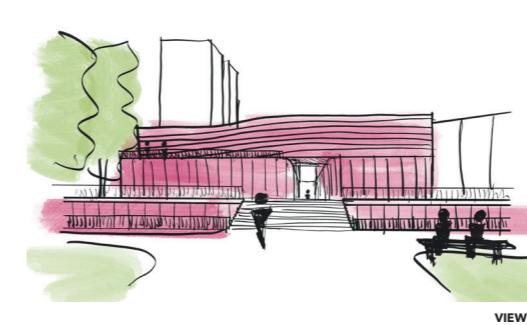
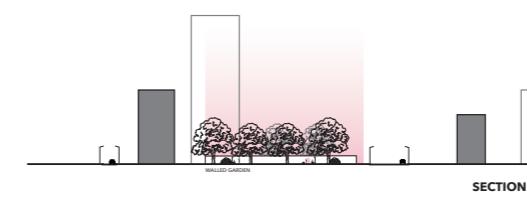
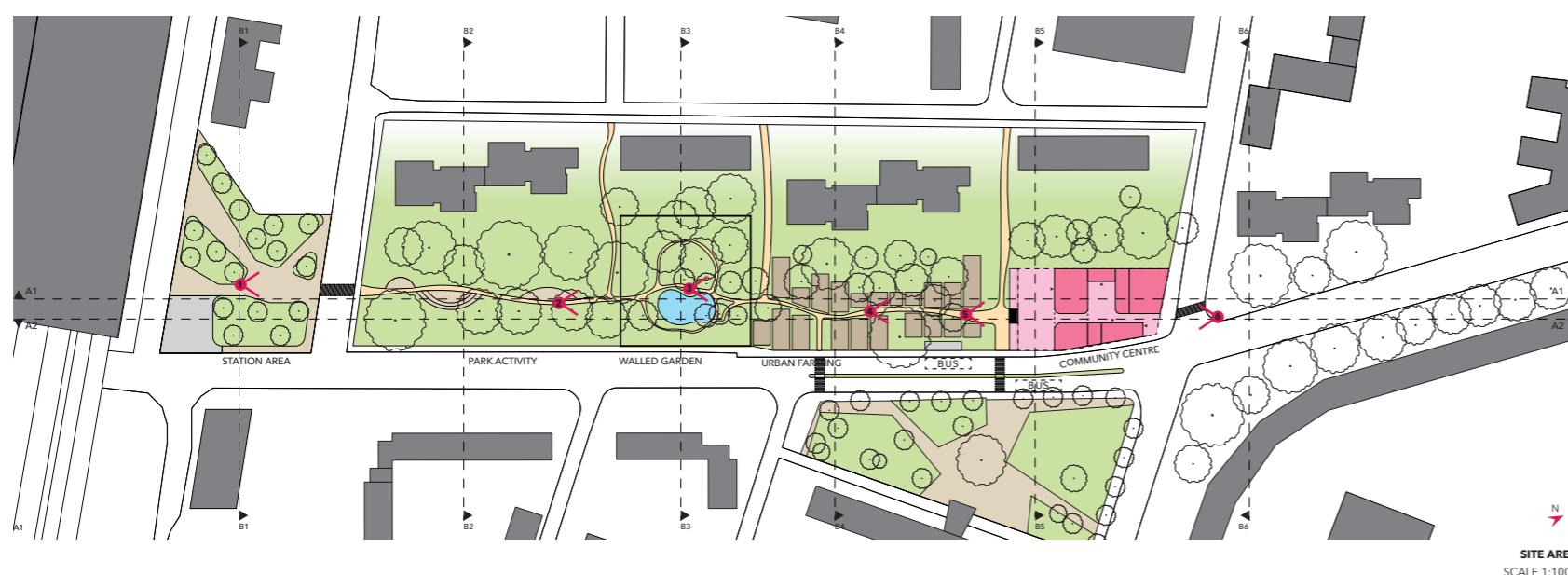
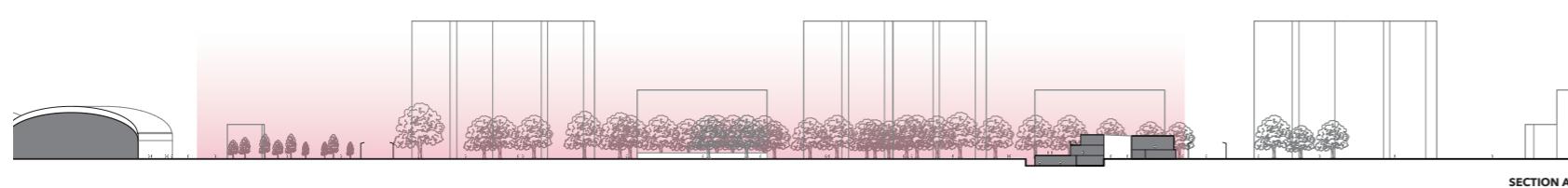
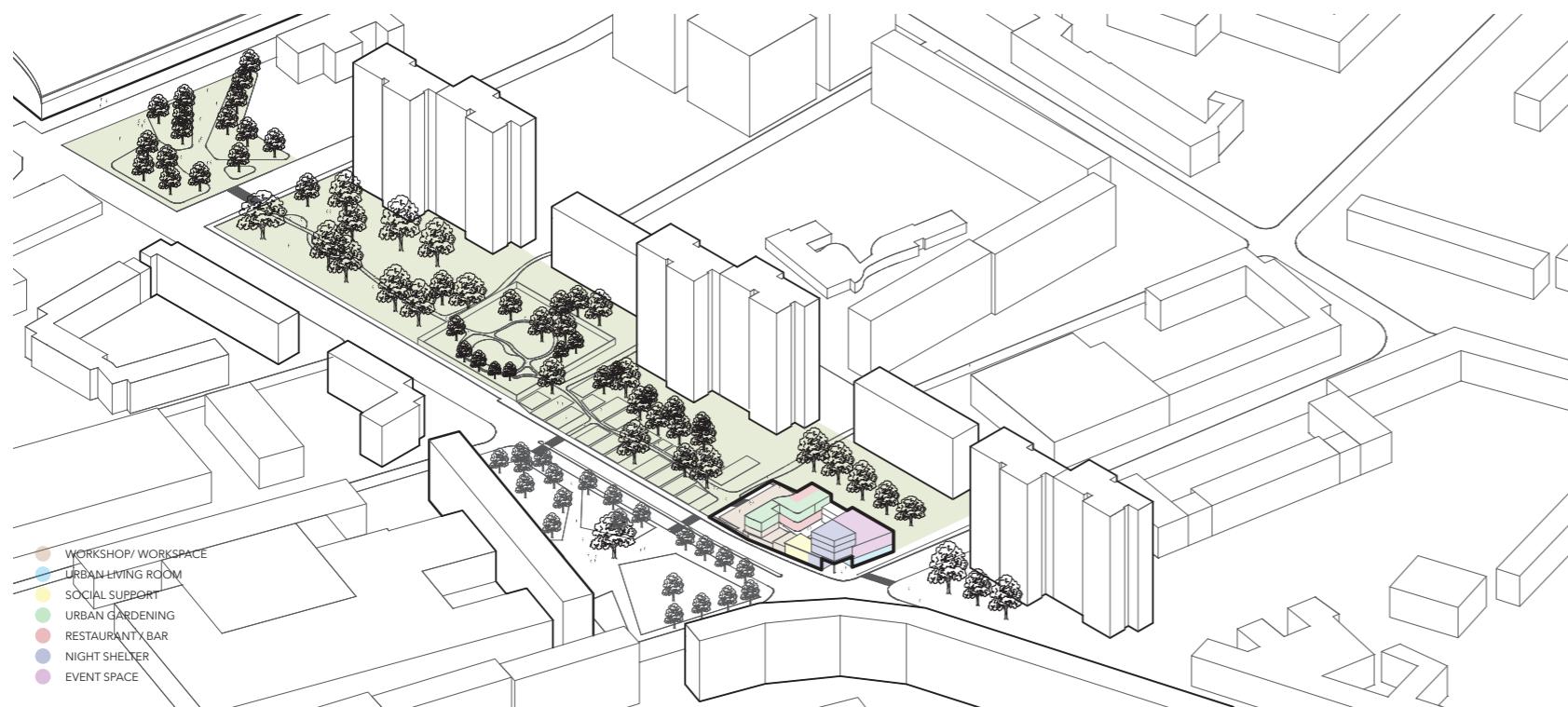
This excercise was then specifically focused on the urban plan with various sections showing and explaing the site in relation to its surroundings.

I did go skiing this week, but still menaged to get a bit done in France.

5199220 - TIMO VAN DALEN - AR3AP100 PUBLIC BUILDING
GRADUATION STUDIO - P2 PRESENTATION - 16.02.2023

CONNECTING FRIEDRICHSHAIN

BRIDGING THE SOCIAL GAP



The P2 gave a good image of my urban plan but also showed its weak spots, which was a good thing.

It became clear that my position was too close to the street and the closed wall I had envisioned might not work so well in this spot.

P3

WEEK 23

Started to work on the comments from the resit

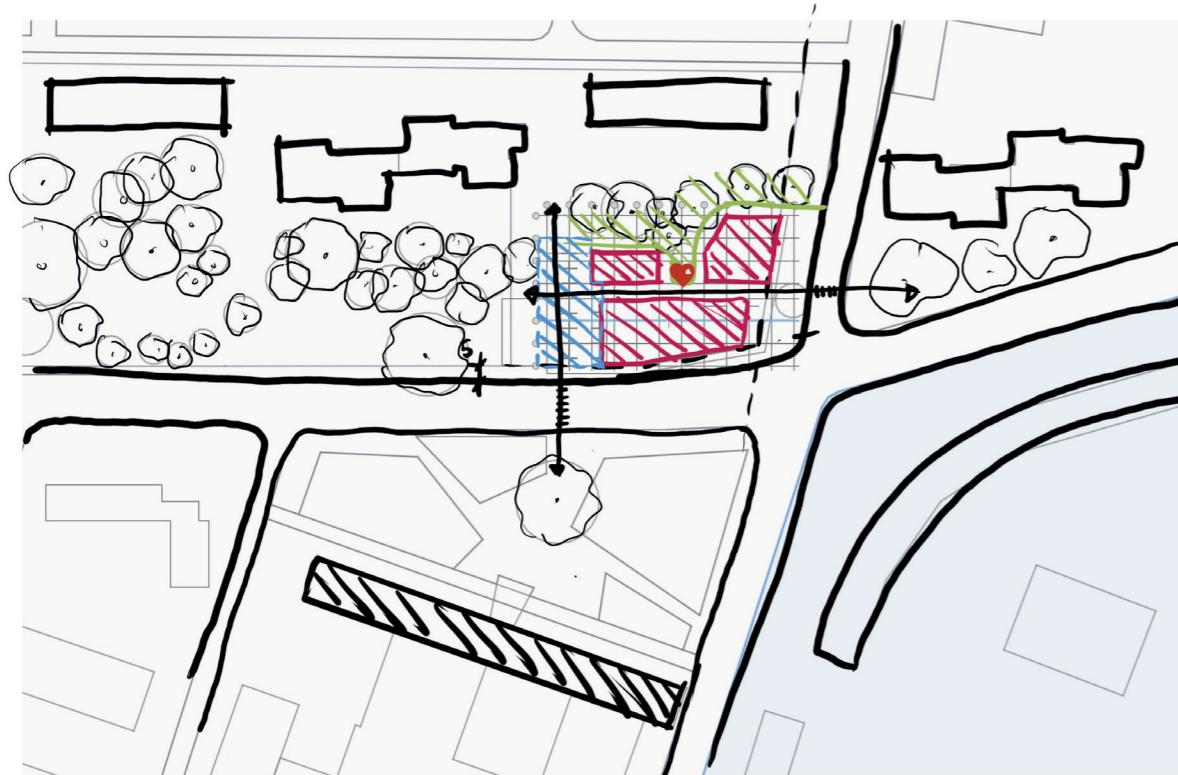
some notes from that week here.

TBD

- research connection and ground floor building blocks
- what do to do with the existing underground carpark (and tunnel)
- inclusion ecology in park design
- building system
 - o concrete basement levels
 - o grid-based wooden columns and CLT slabs
 - o demountable building structure
 - o separated shearing layers
- façade

Architecture/ Urbanism

- Do more practical research to go more in depth on the program, especially for the functions that focus on the social issues, make contact with daycare and homeless facilities
- Create a more visually coherent design, visual (glass) connection on ground level, more closed slab on top floors
- How to resolve the parking issue?
- Safe street corner (move building further away from corner)
- Closed garden, what is it I want to accomplish with this? Try to rethink that in other ways that literally closing of the garden by a wall



SuperHub Meerstad, De Zwarde Hond

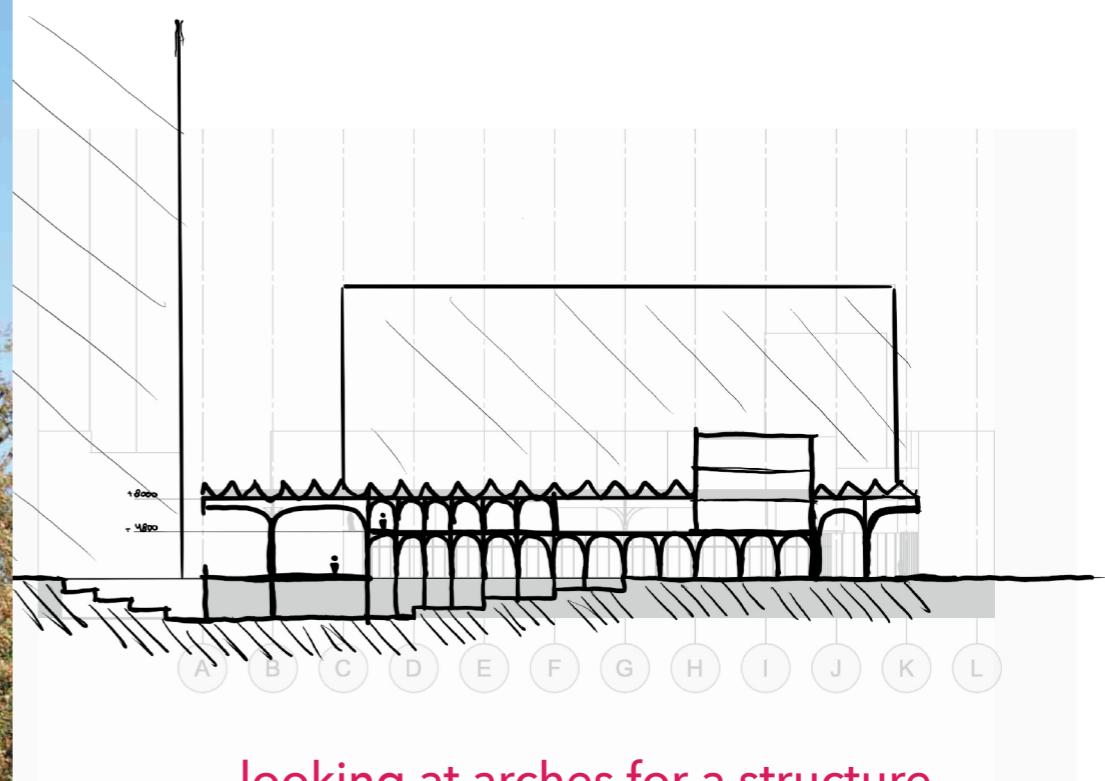


Station Assen, De Zwarde Hond

looking at references and making sketches.

what can you design with wood?

WEEK 24



looking at arches for a structure

Wilderness Cafe, Wales



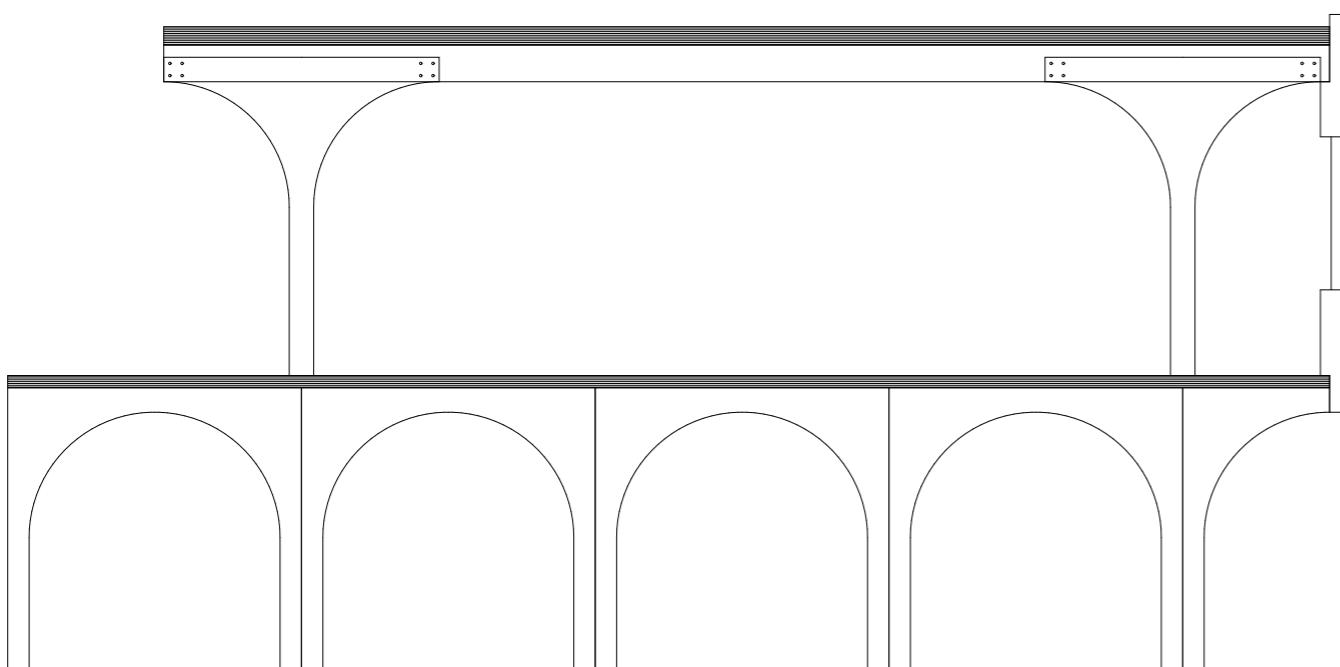
services ideas

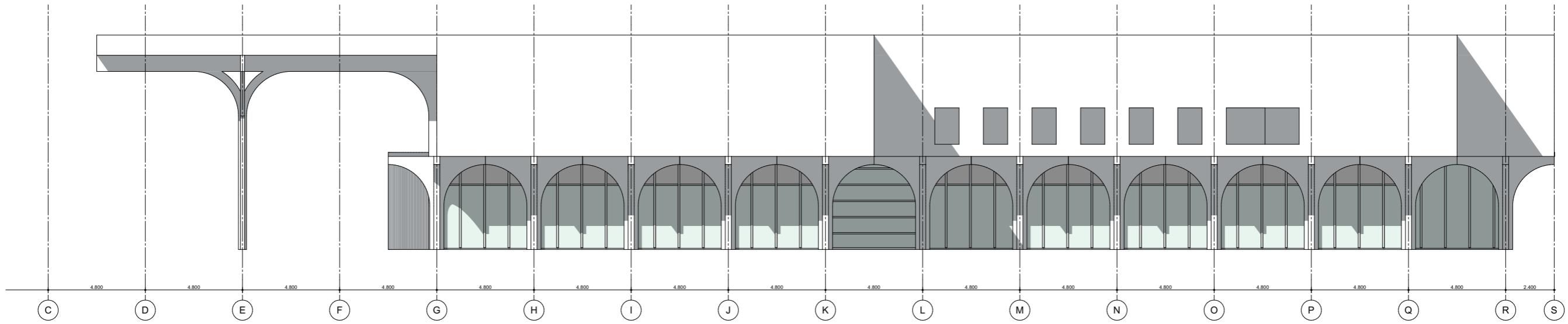
Het Predikheren, Mechelen, Korteknie Stuhlmacher

WEEK 25



Bezena Cultural Centre - CLK

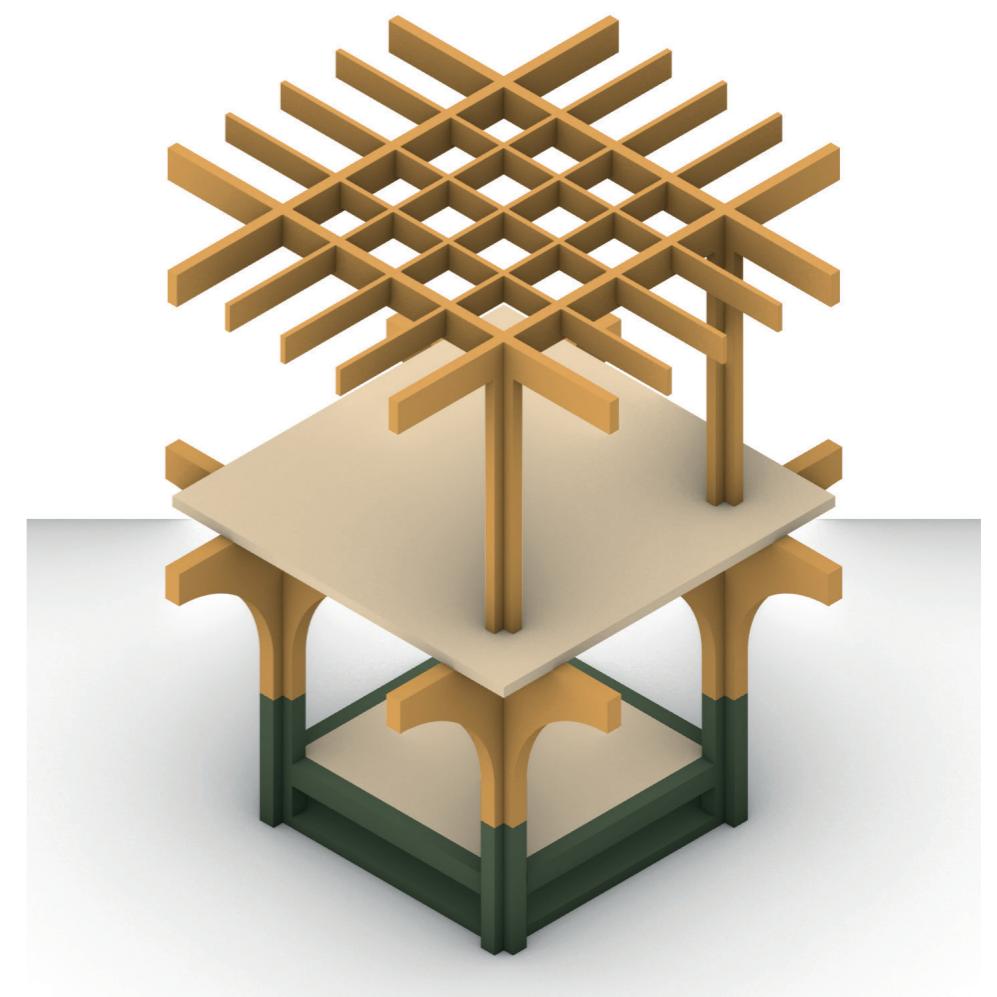
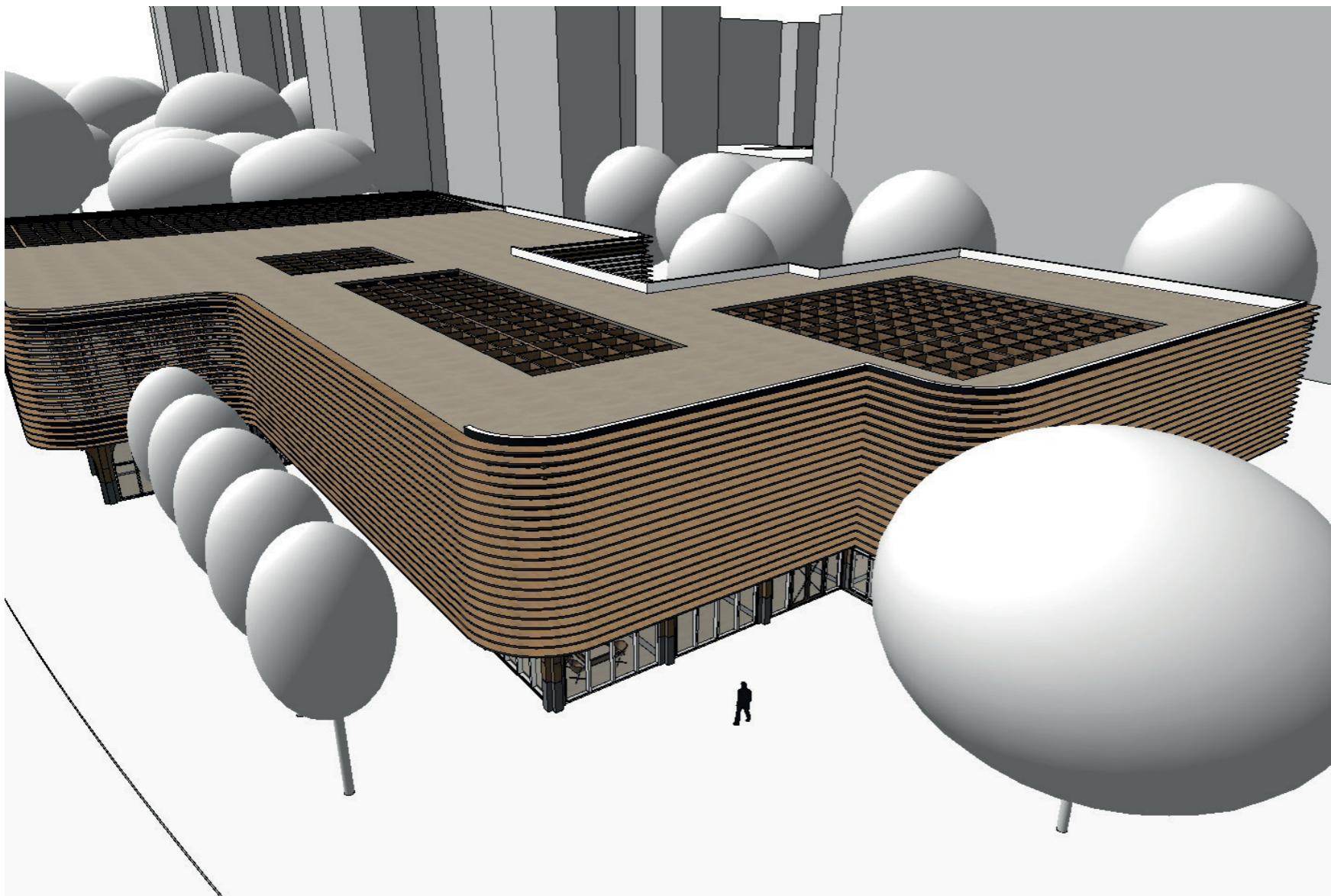




testing, how could thatt look

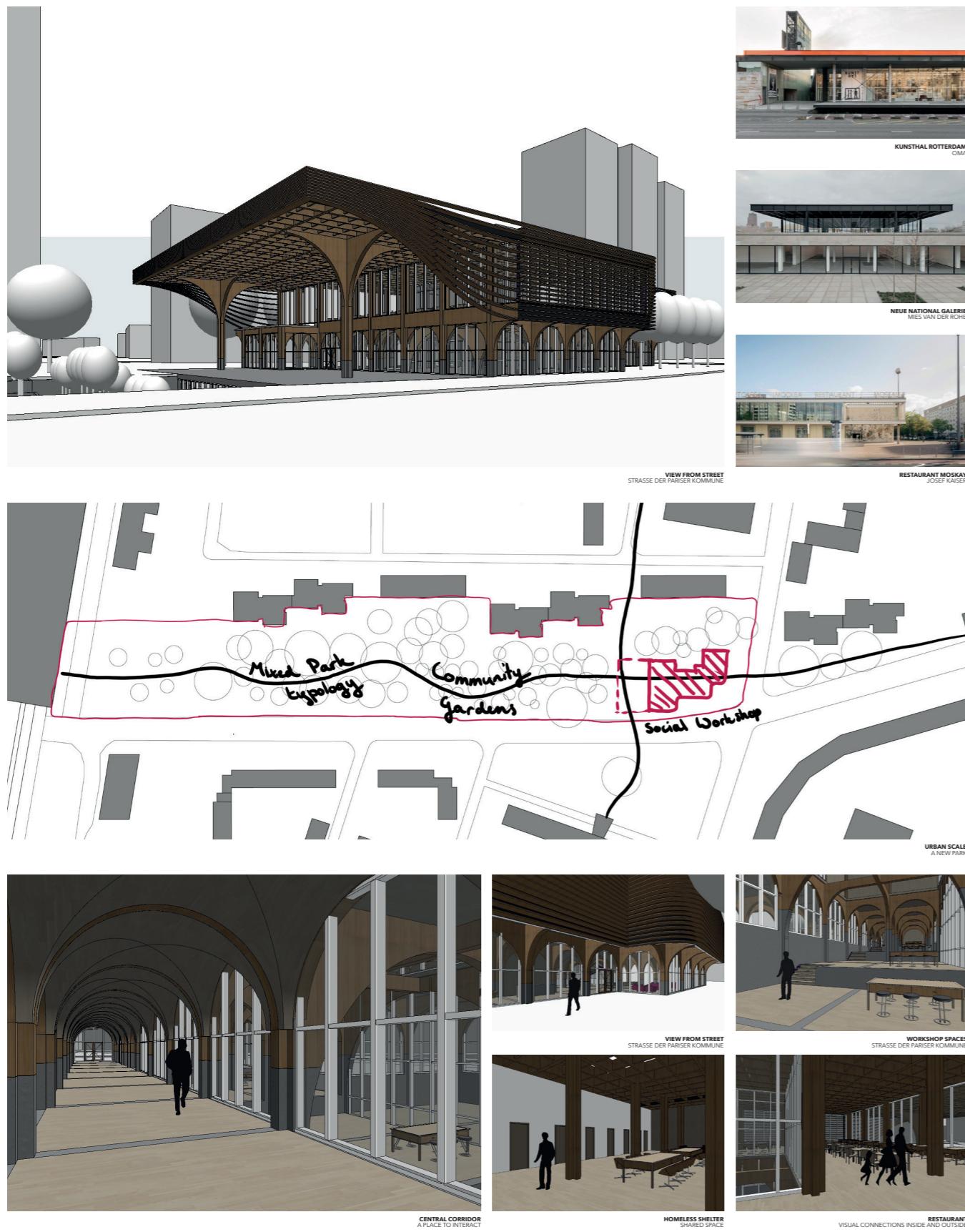


WEEK 26

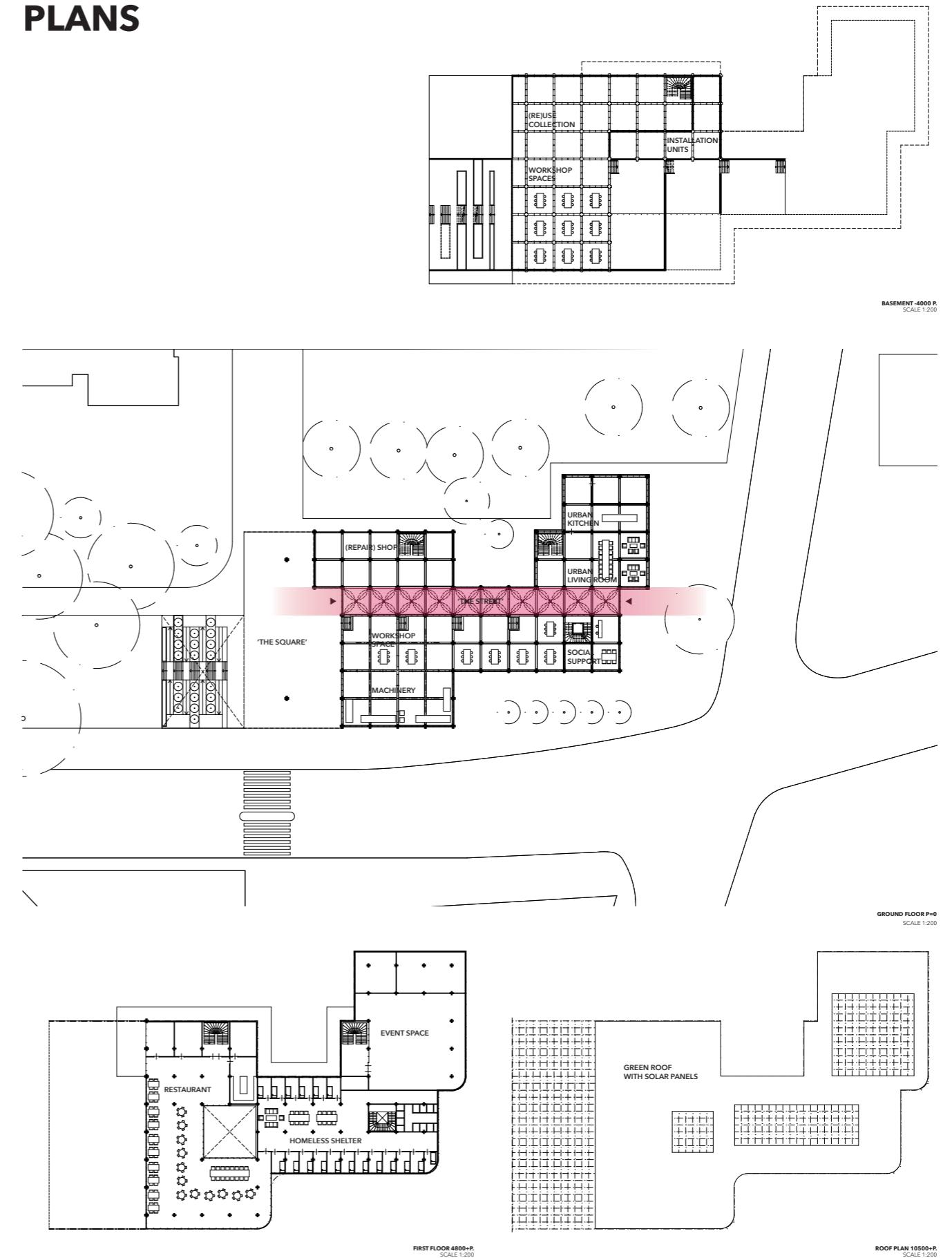


CONNECTING FRIEDRICHSHAIN

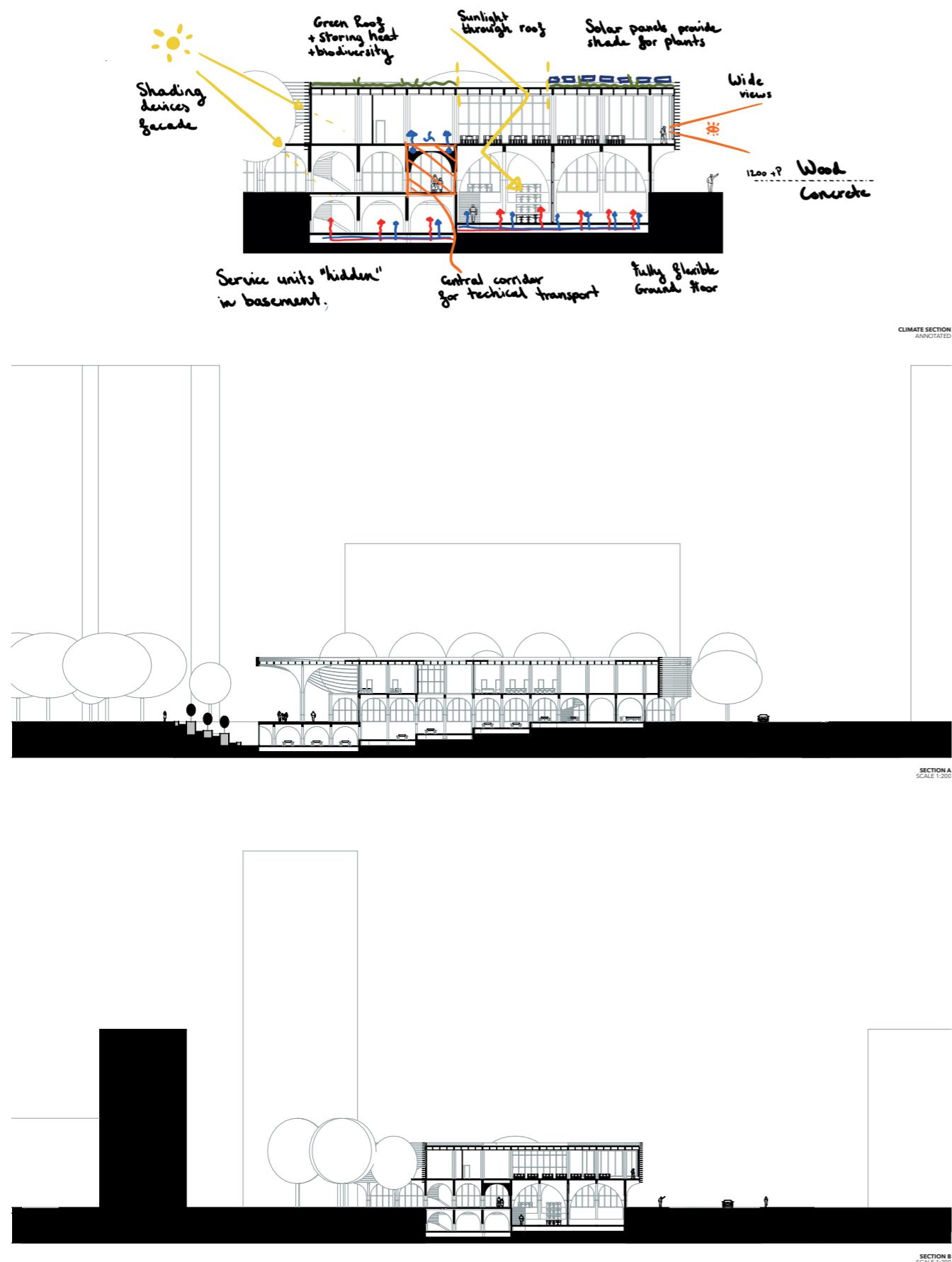
BRIDGING THE SOCIAL GAP



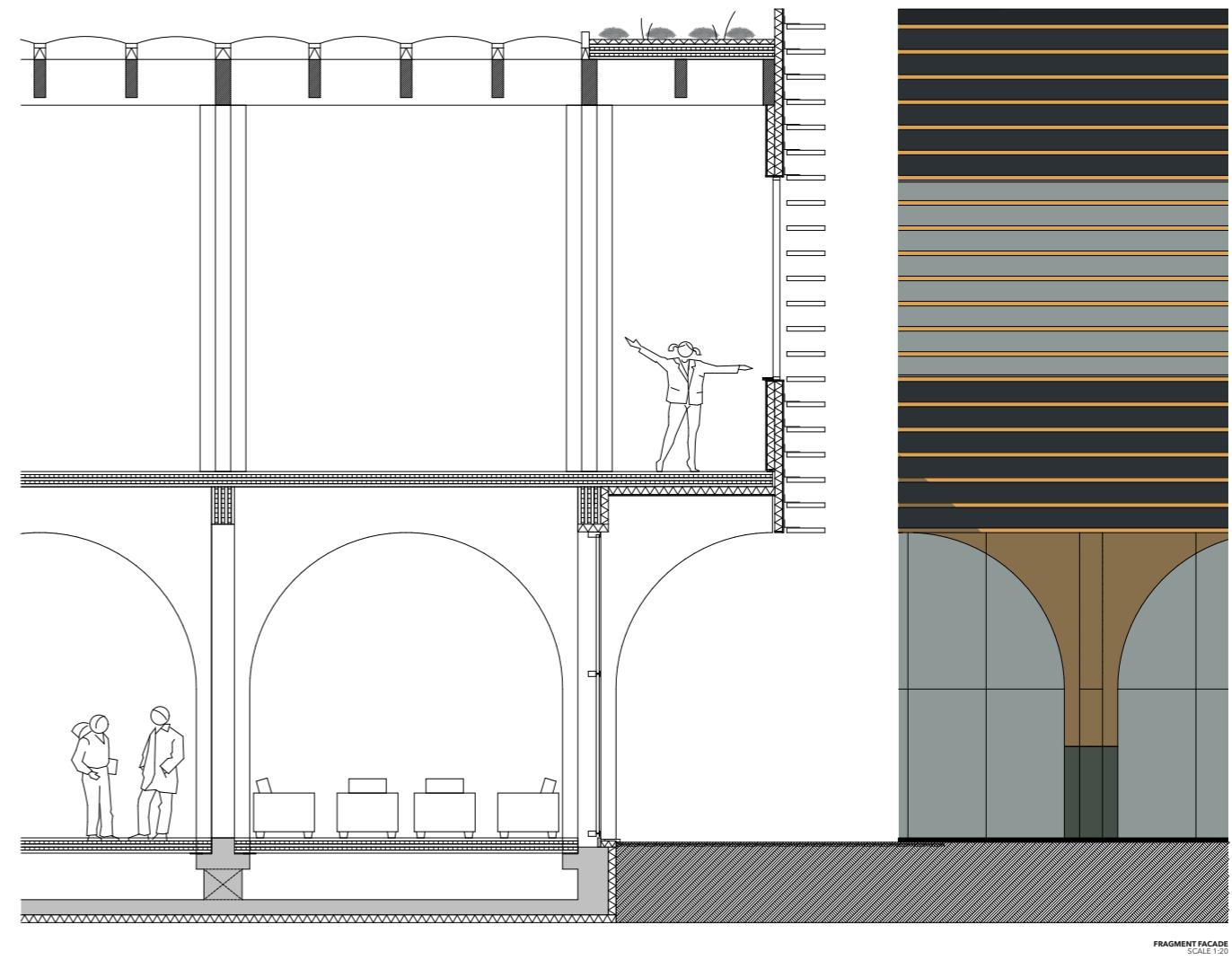
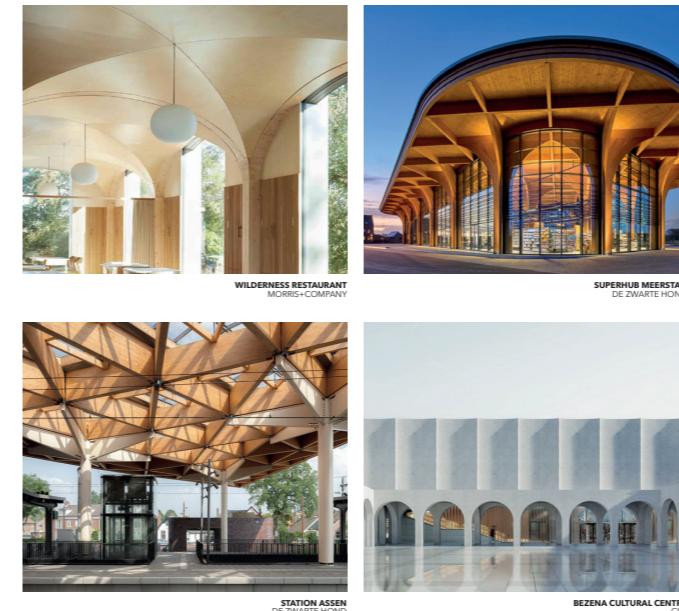
PLANS



SECTIONS



CLOSE UP



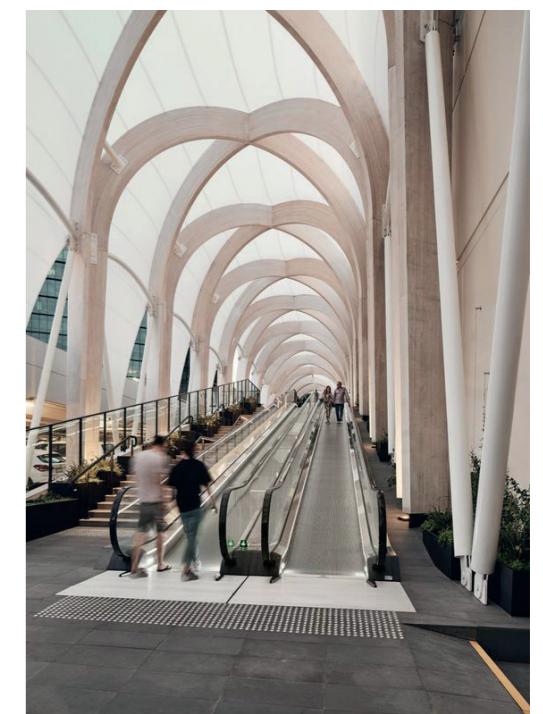
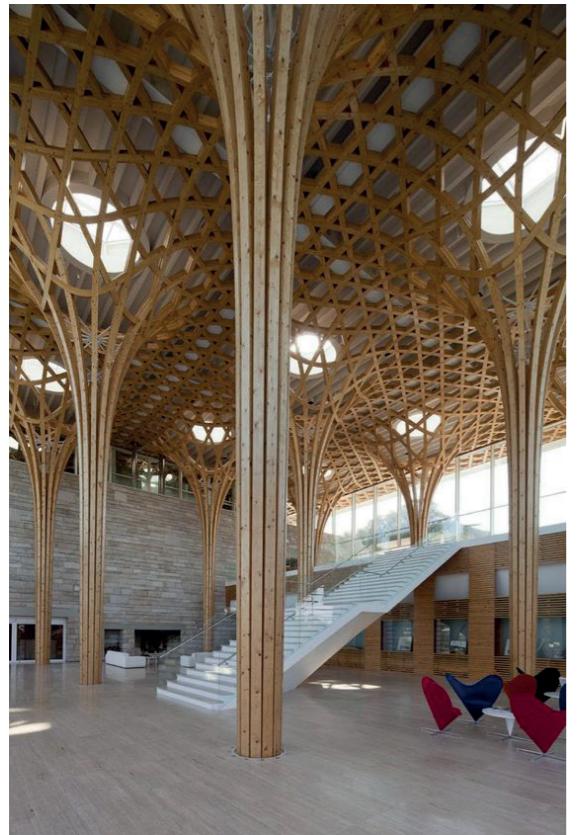
COMMENTS WERE GENERAL-
LY ALL RIGHT, BUT ALSO SOME
THINGS TO CHANGE AND RE-
THINK.

ONE IN PARTICULAR WAS FO-
CUSSING ON THE STRUCTURE
AND THE USE OF WOOD IN AN
ARCH SHAPE THAT IS CUT OUT
INSTEAD OF BENT.

WEEK 27 P3

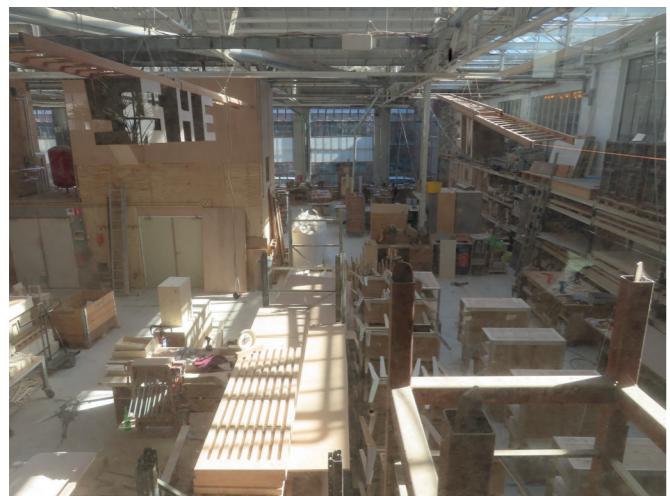
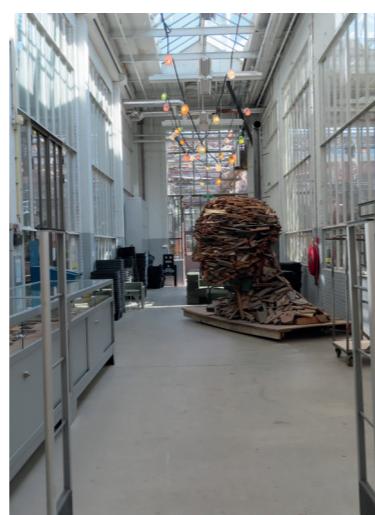
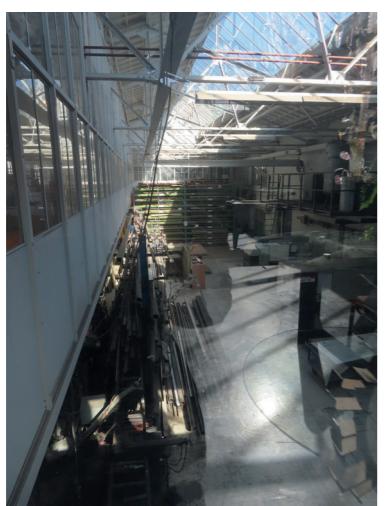
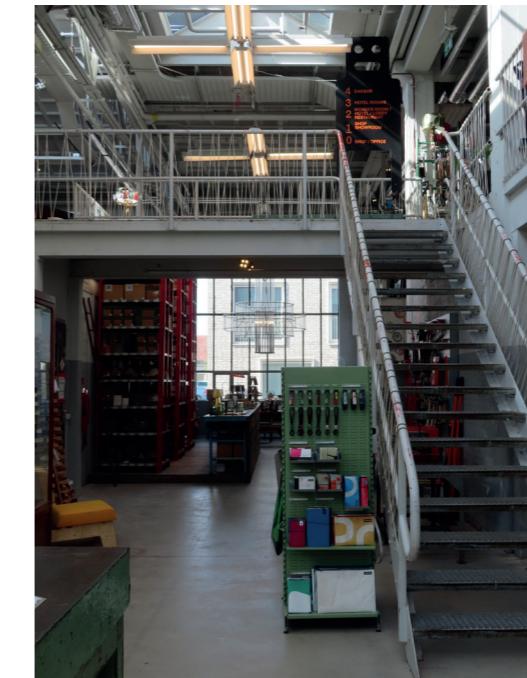
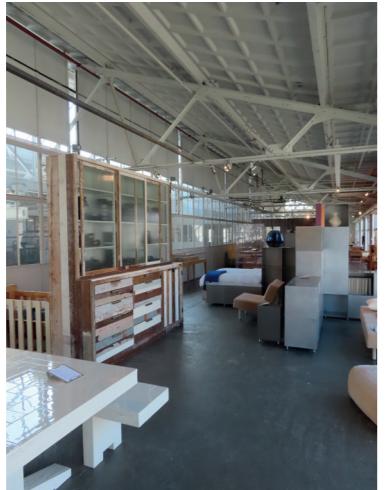
P4

WEEK 28



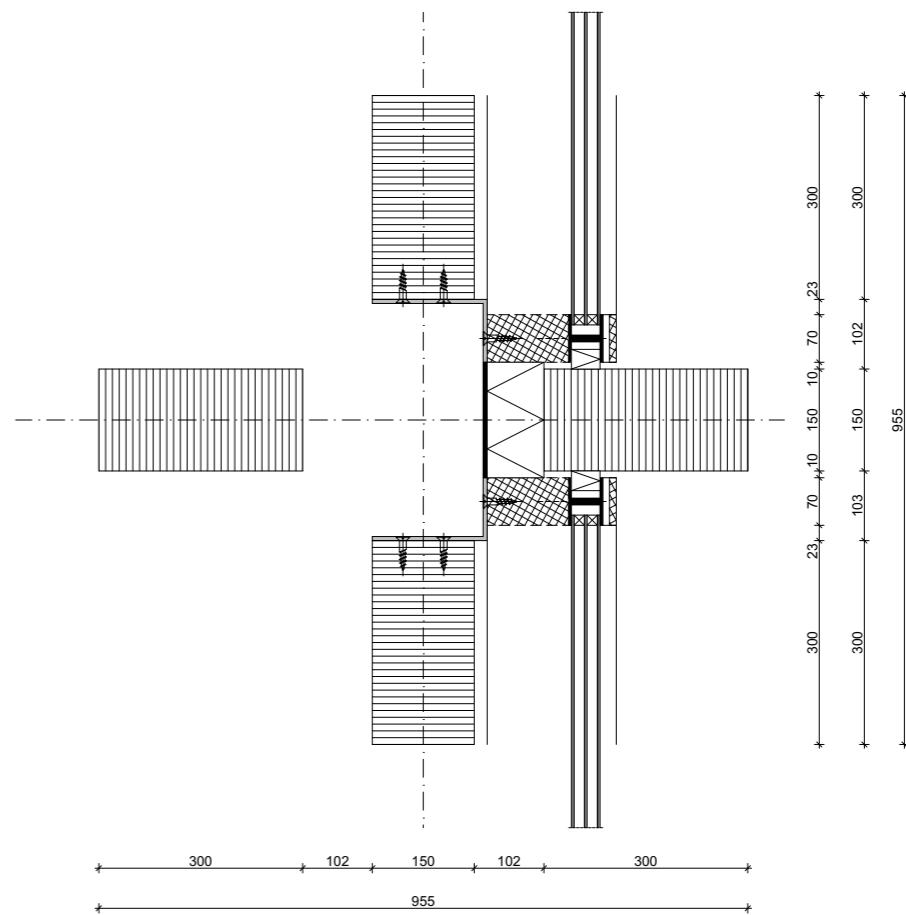
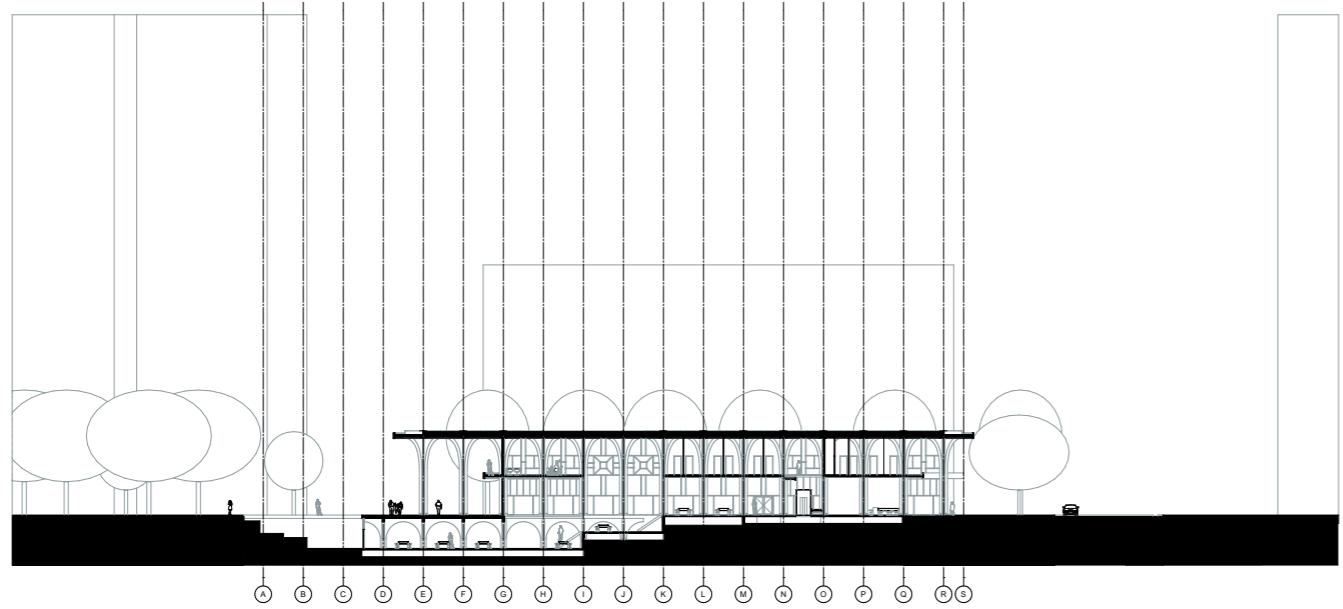
LOOKING
AT ARCHES
AFTER P3
COMMENTS

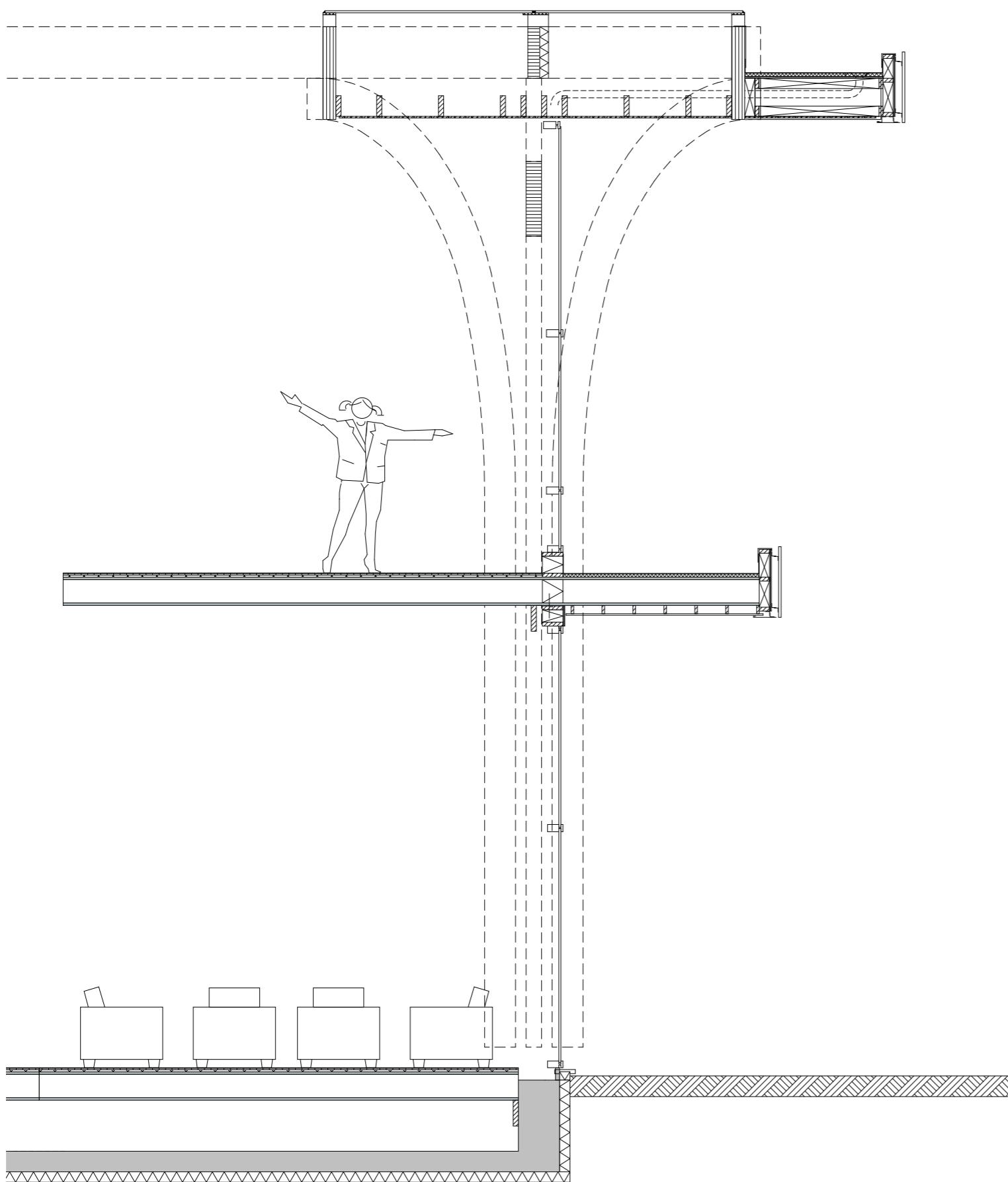
WEEK 29

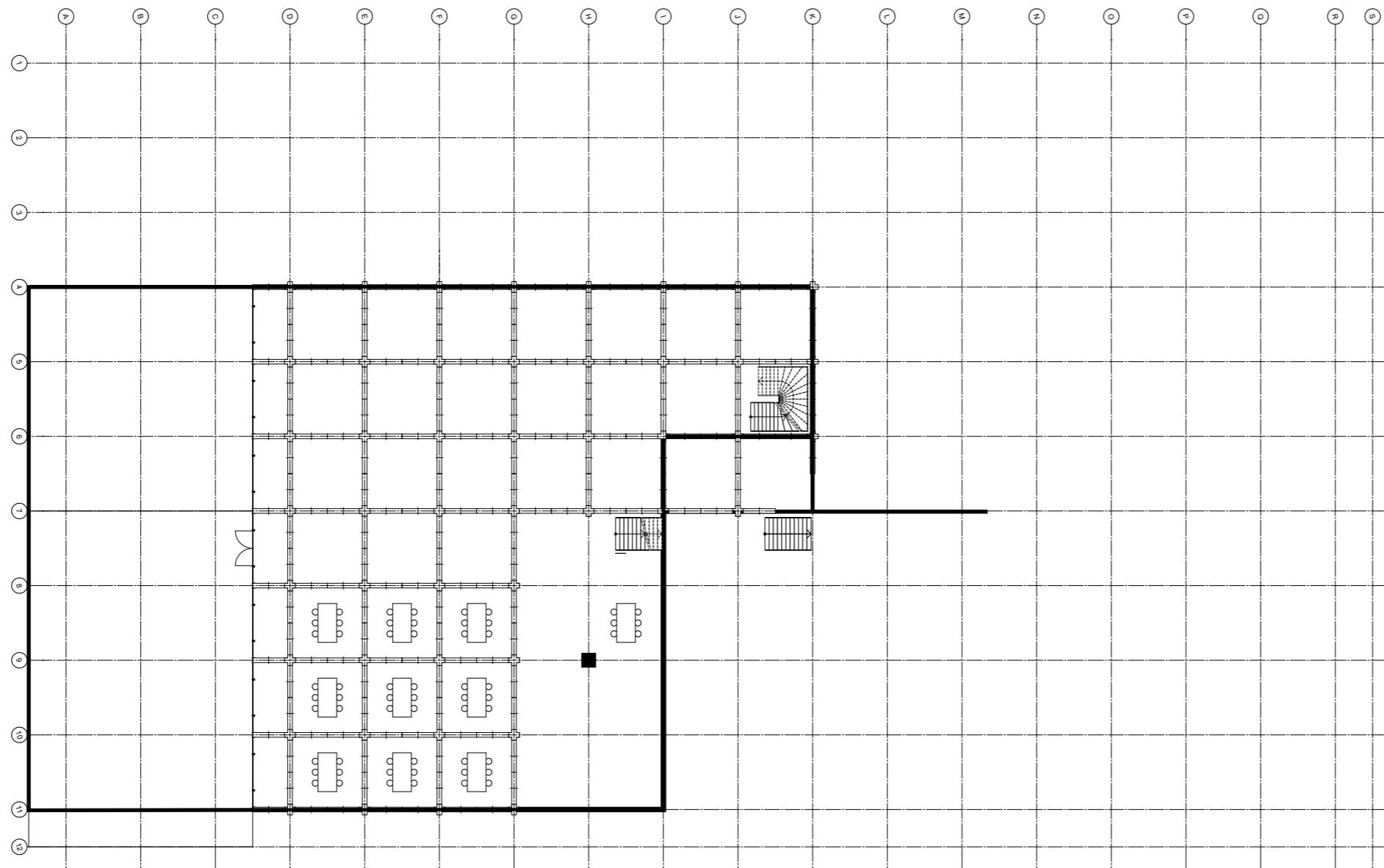


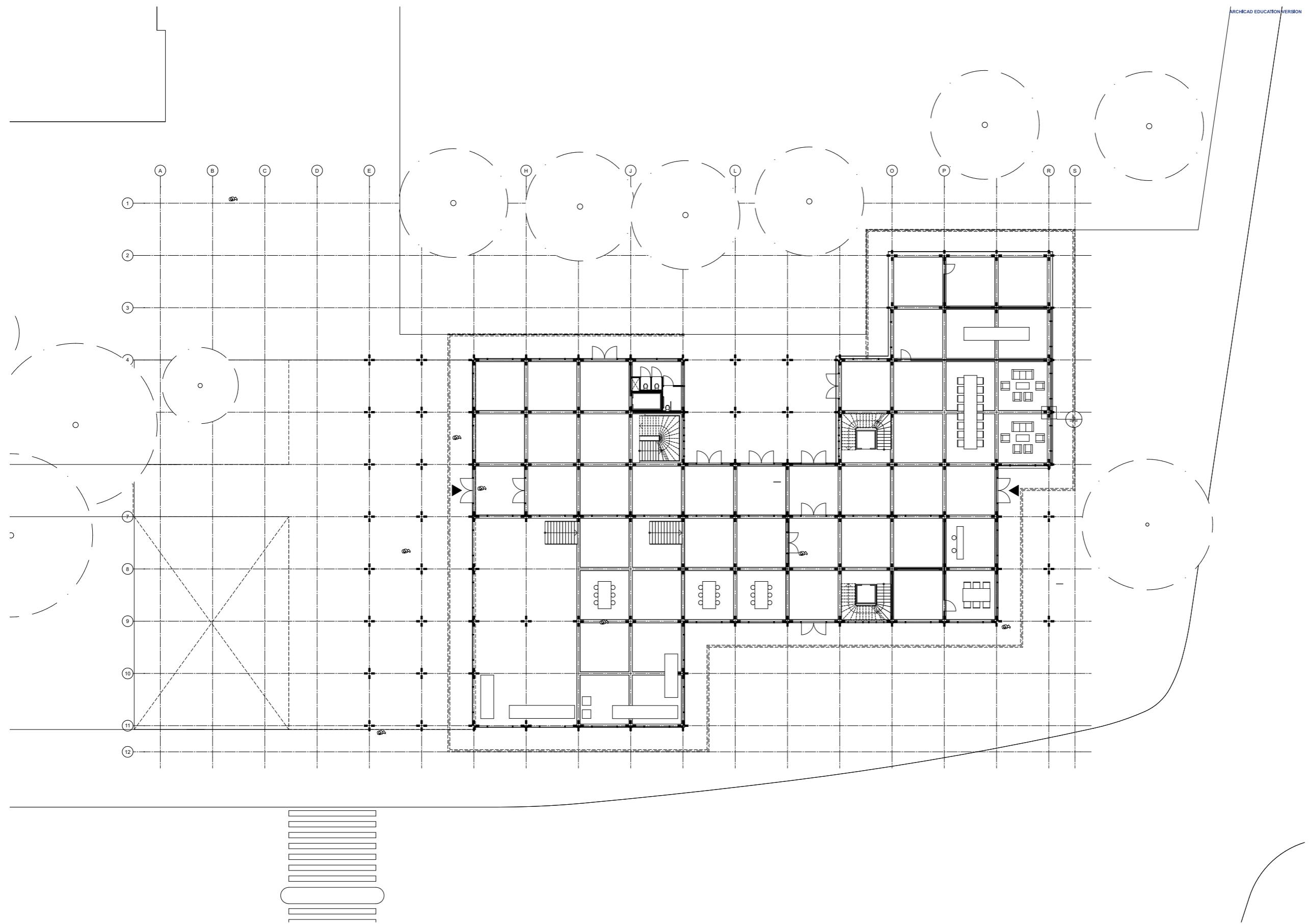
VISIT TO STUDIO PIET HEIN EEK EINDHOVEN AND LO-CHAL TILBURG

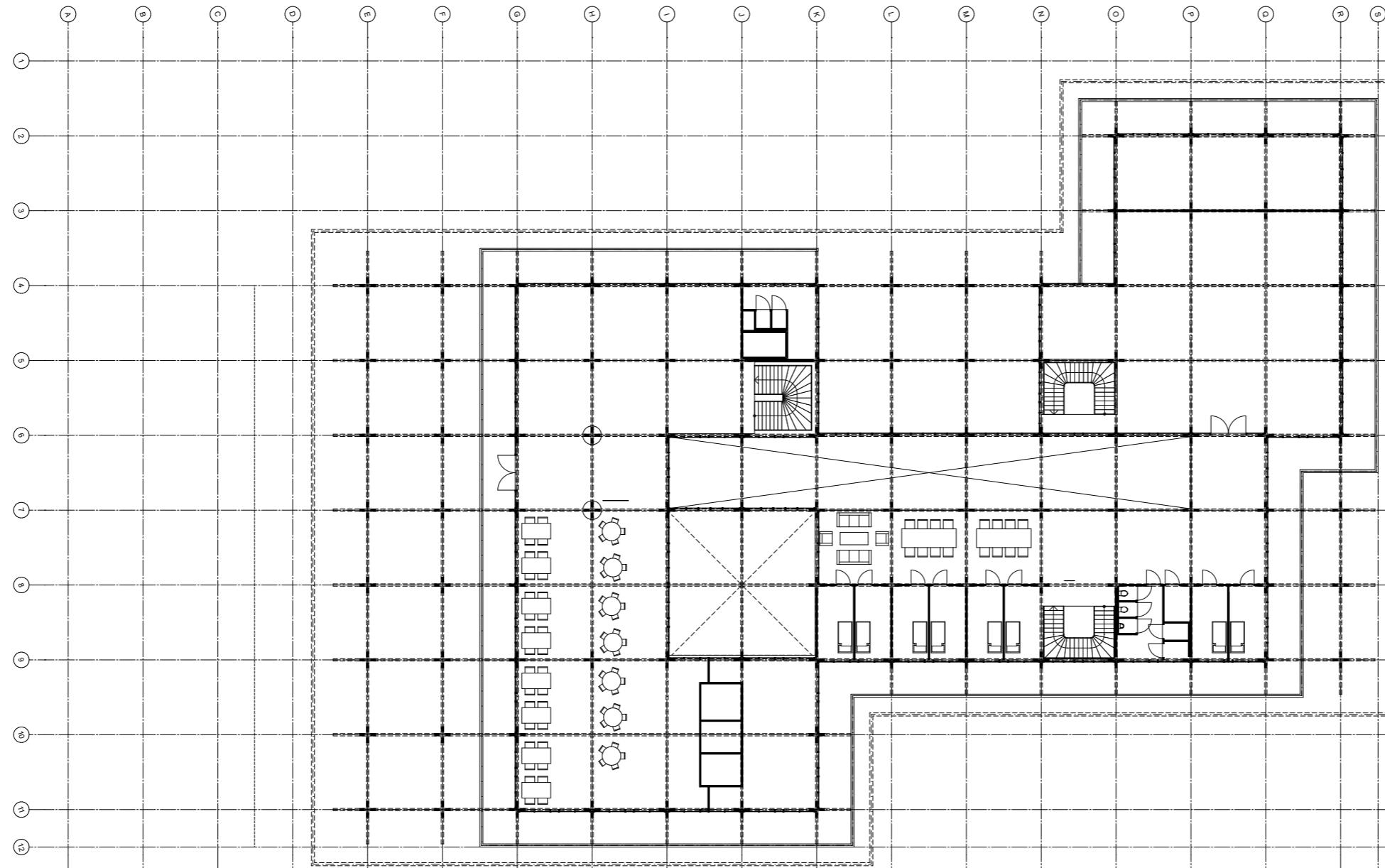
WEEK 30

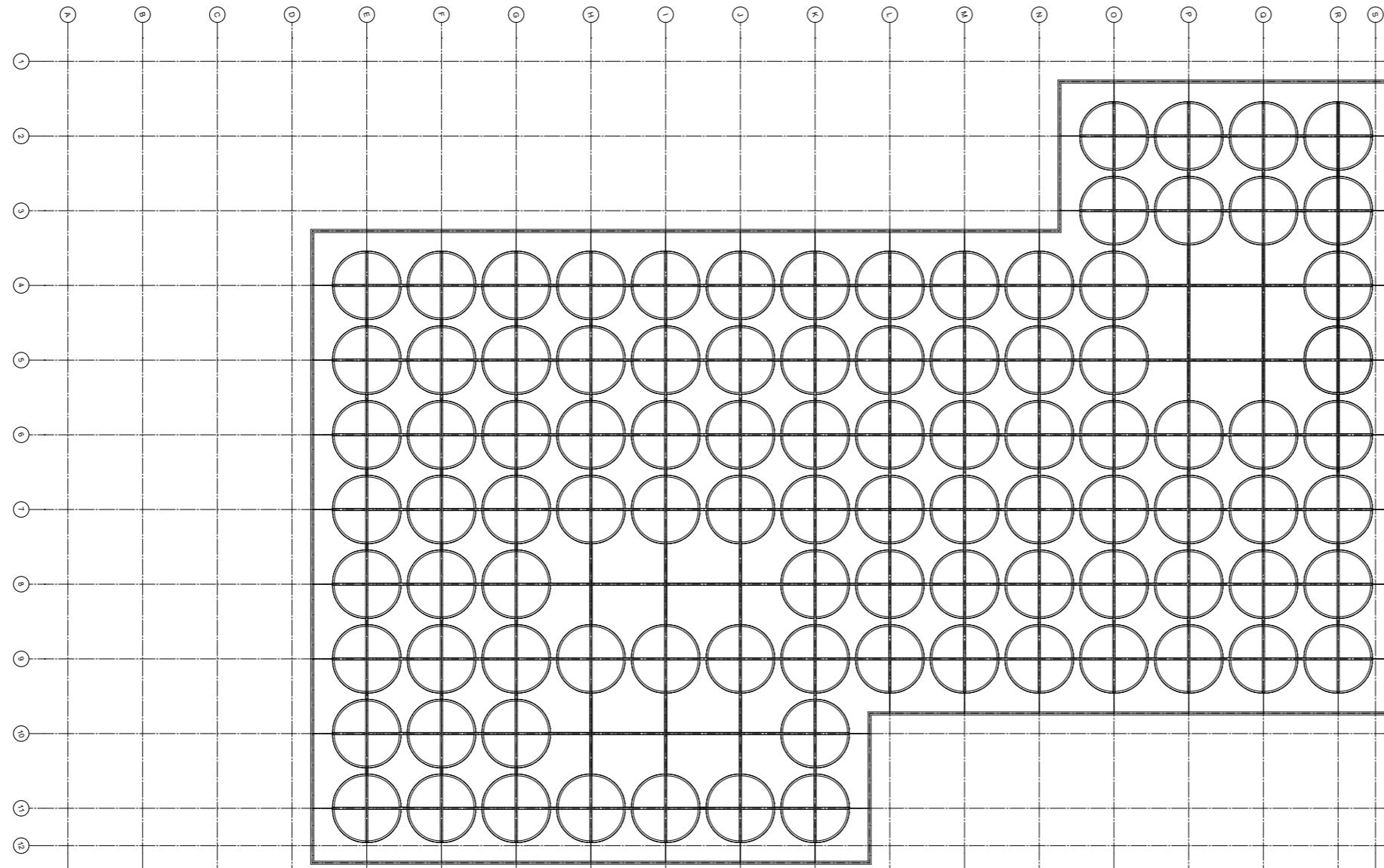


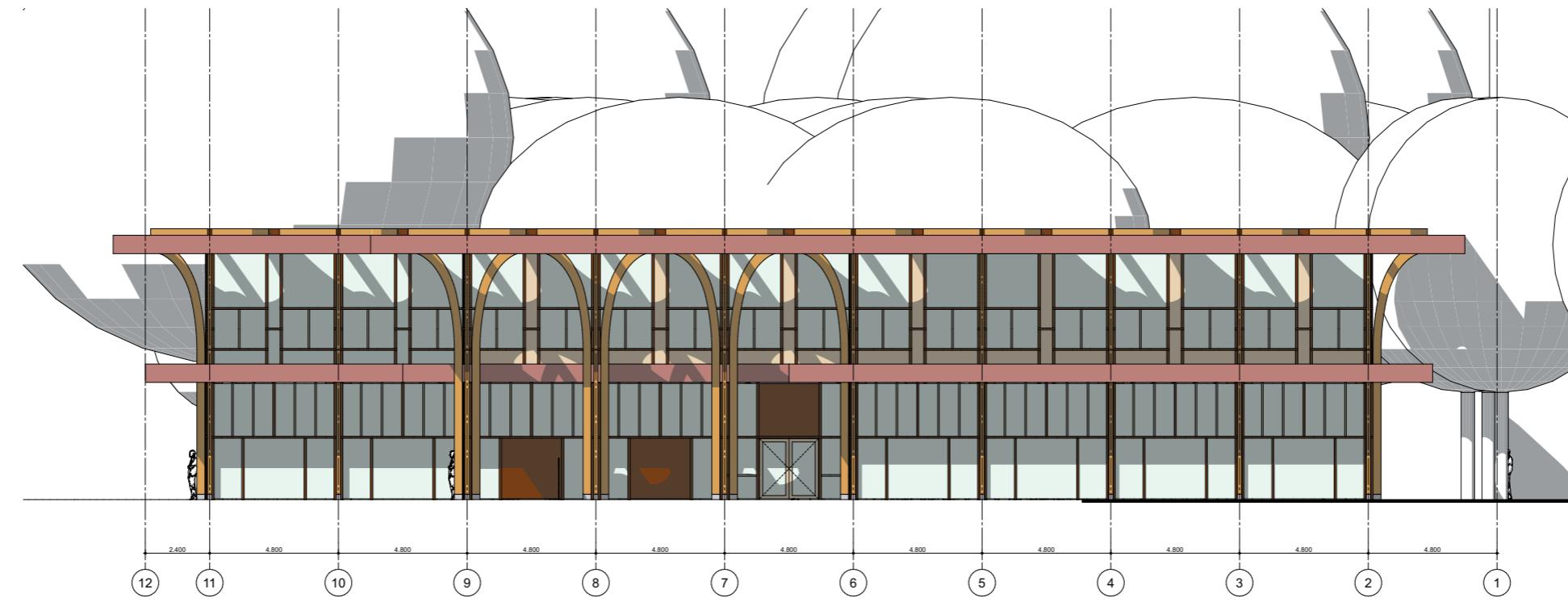




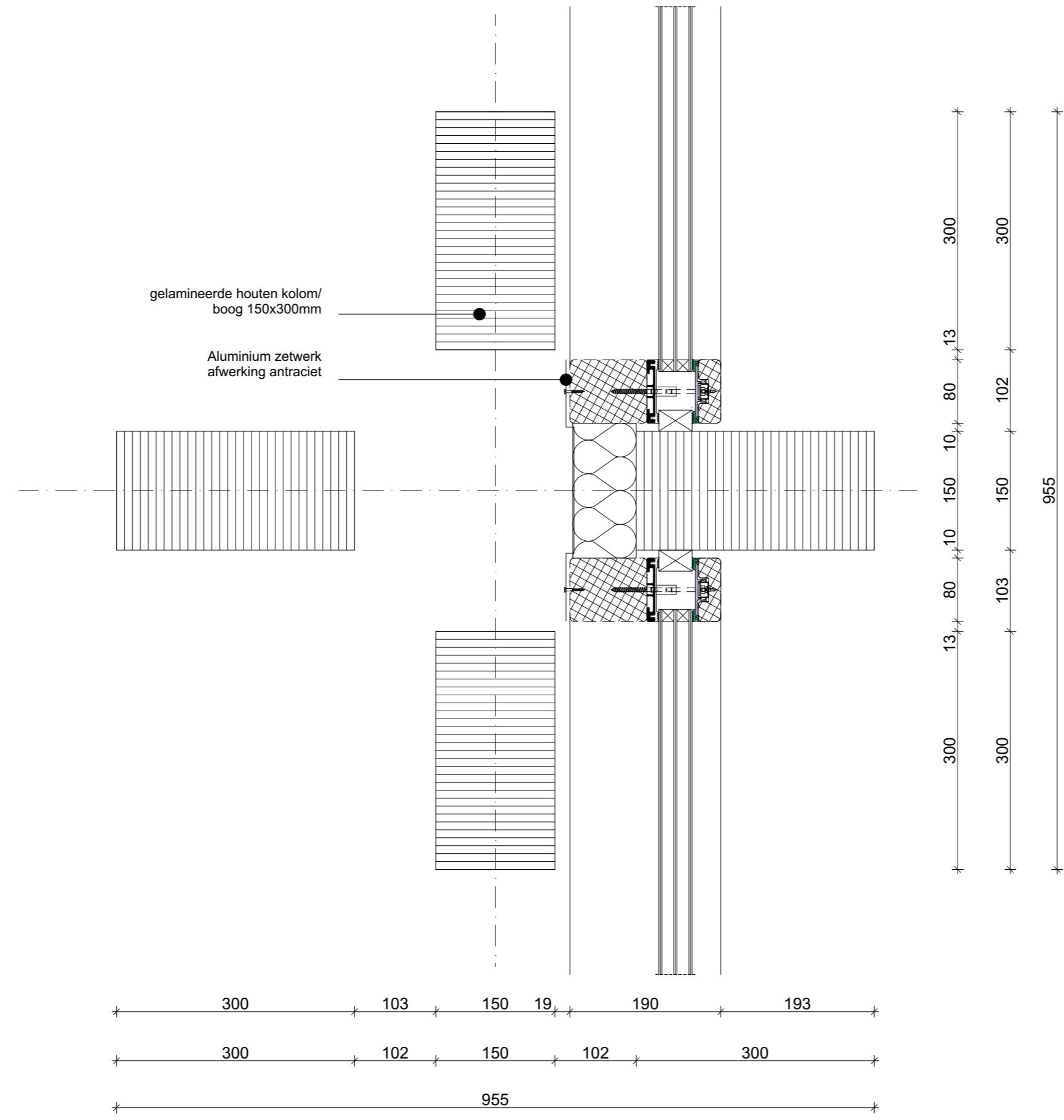


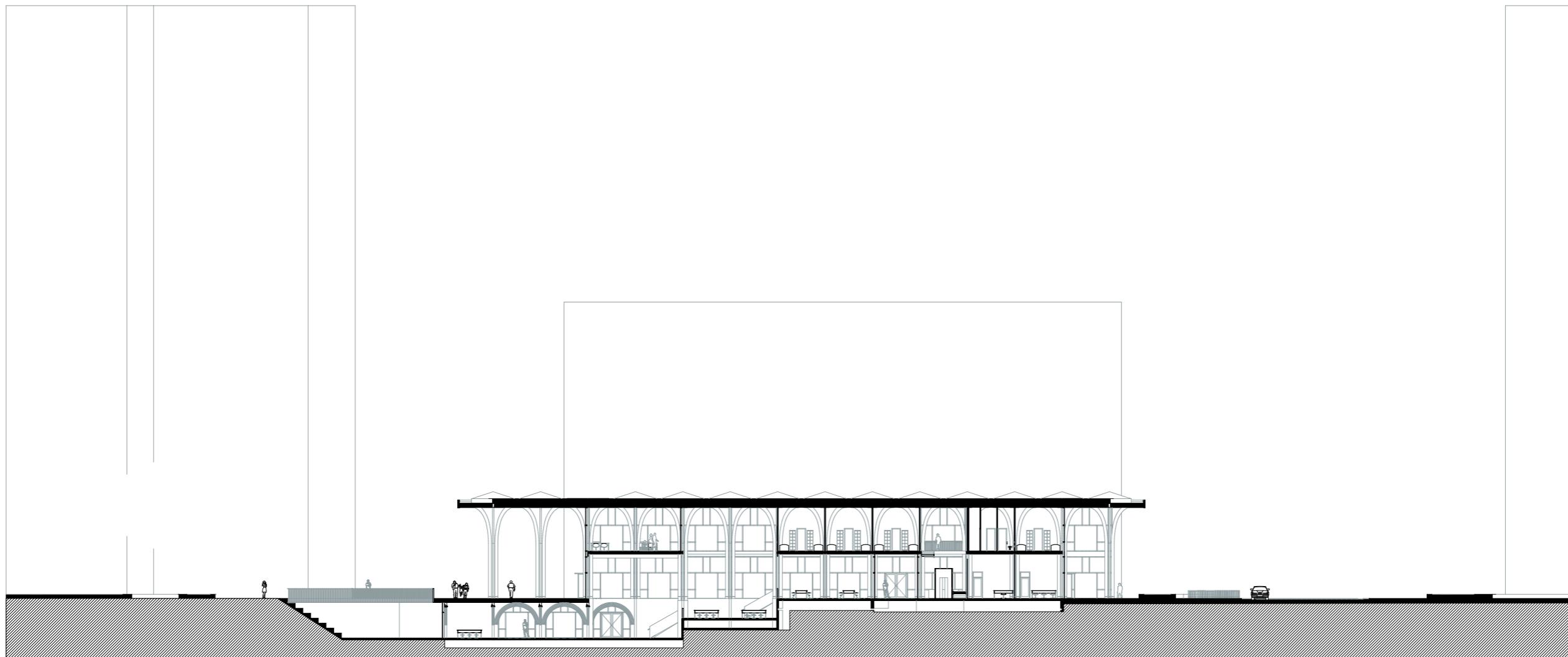


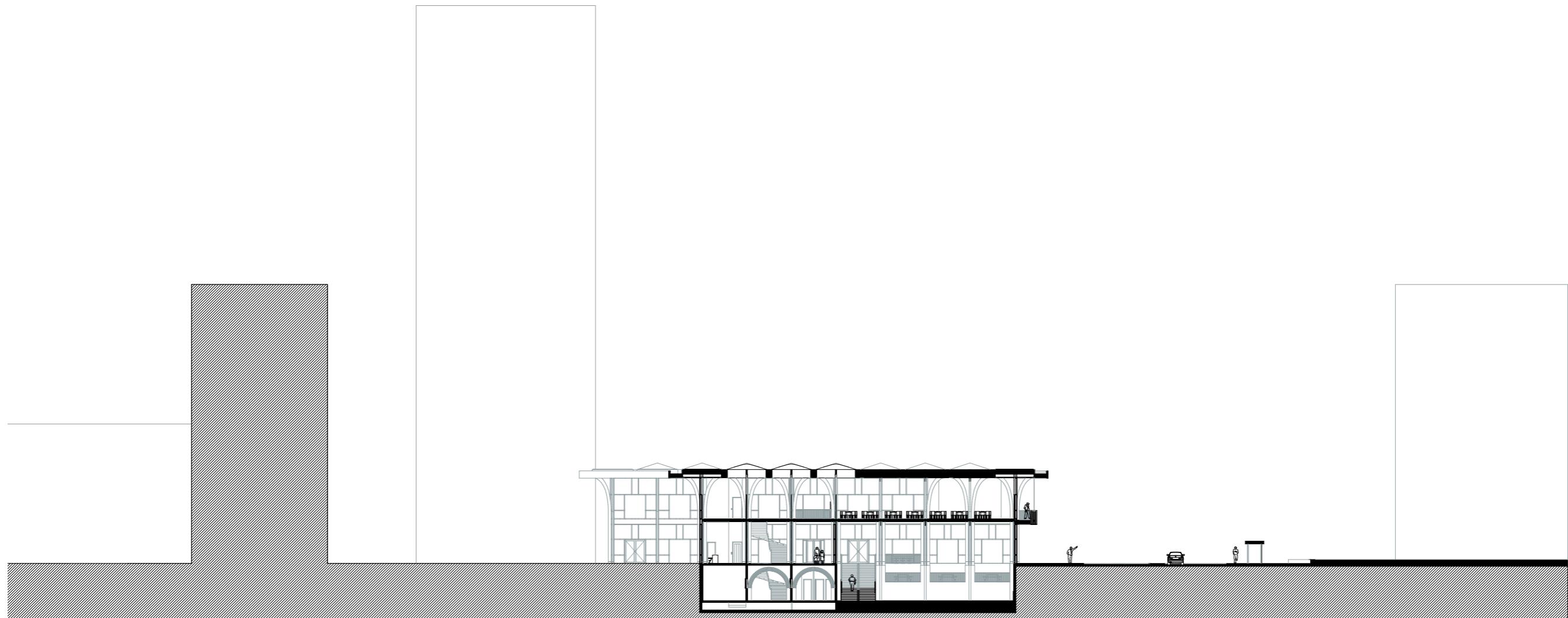


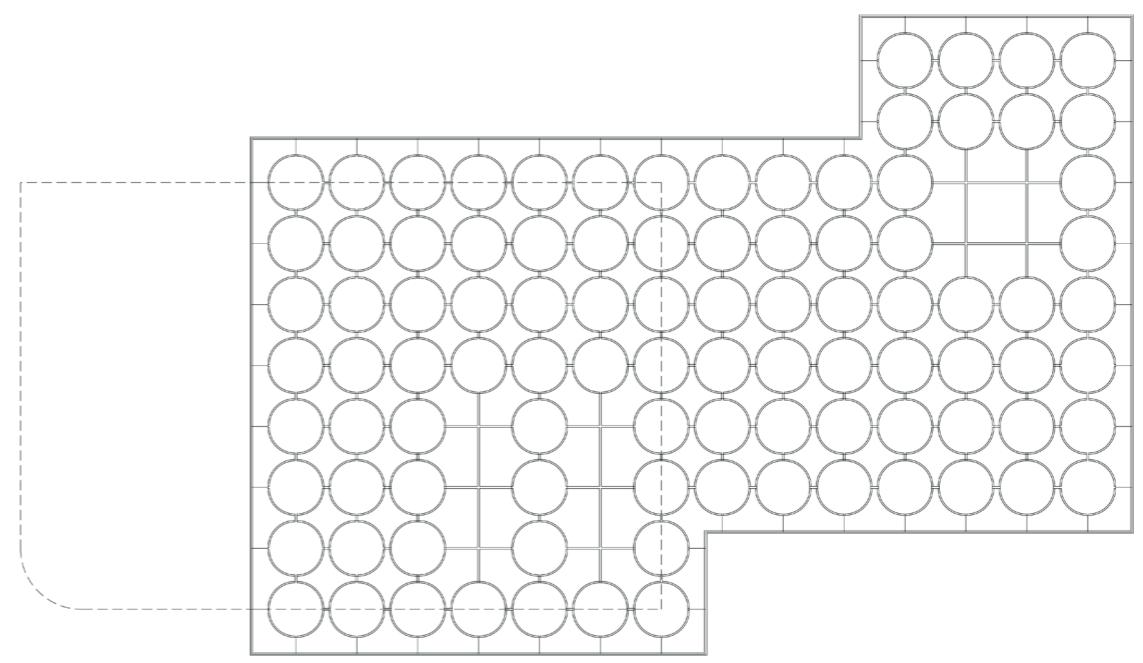
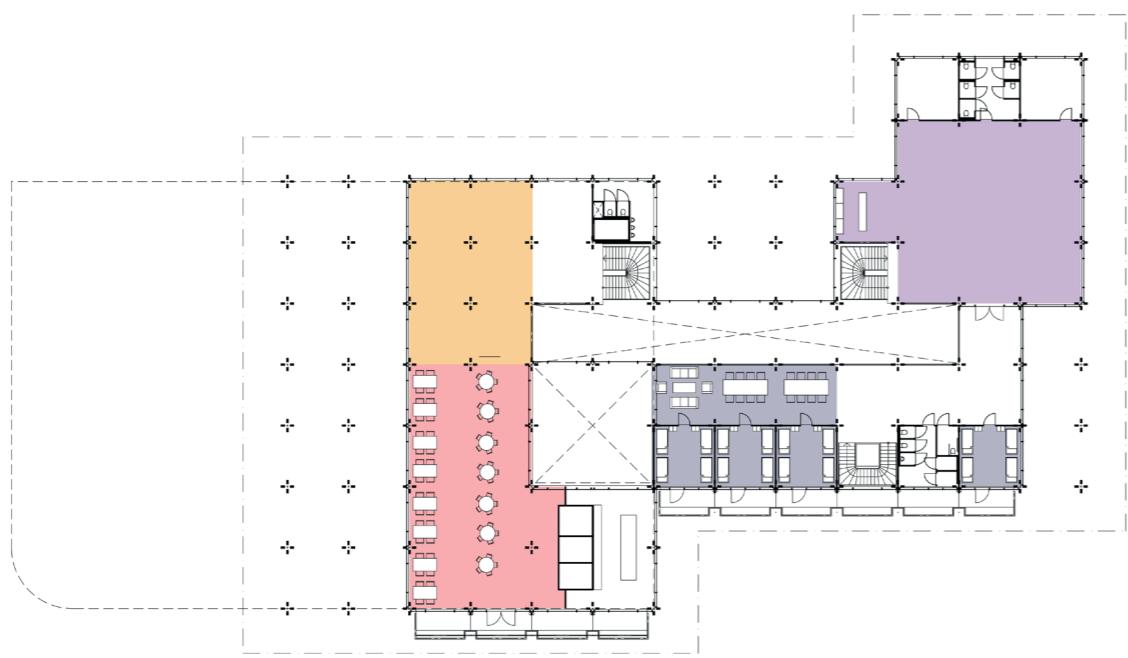
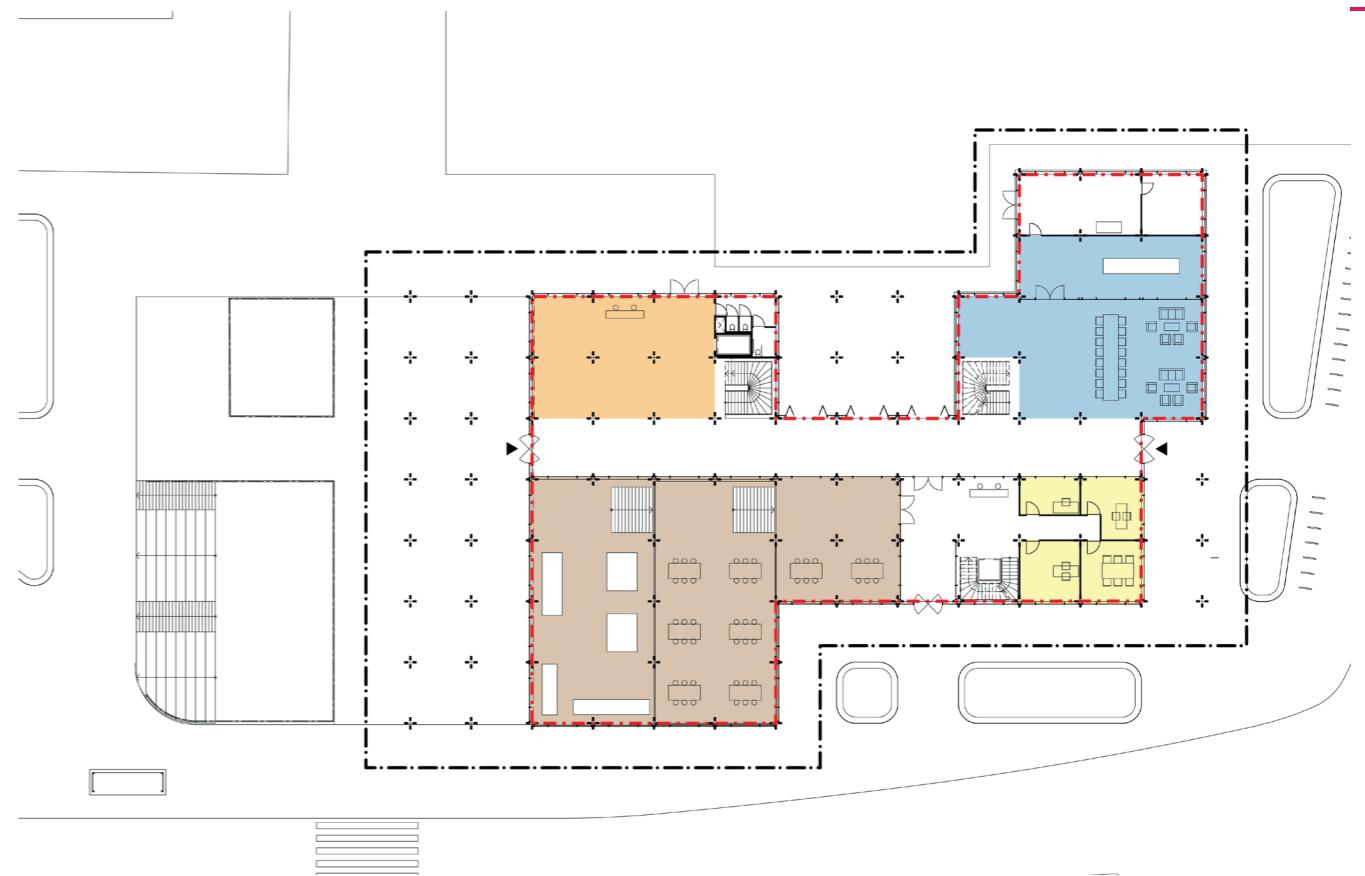


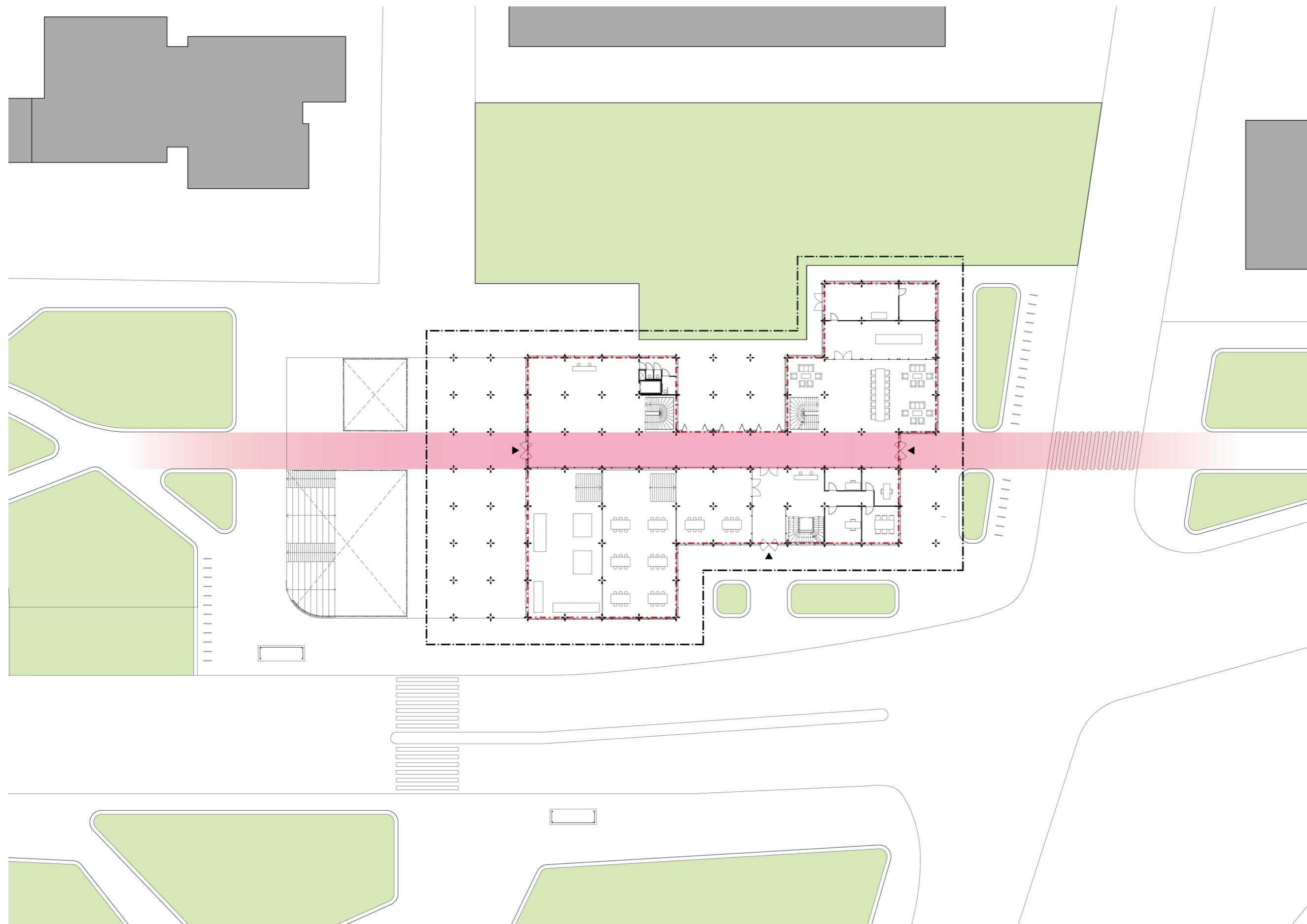
WEEK 31-33

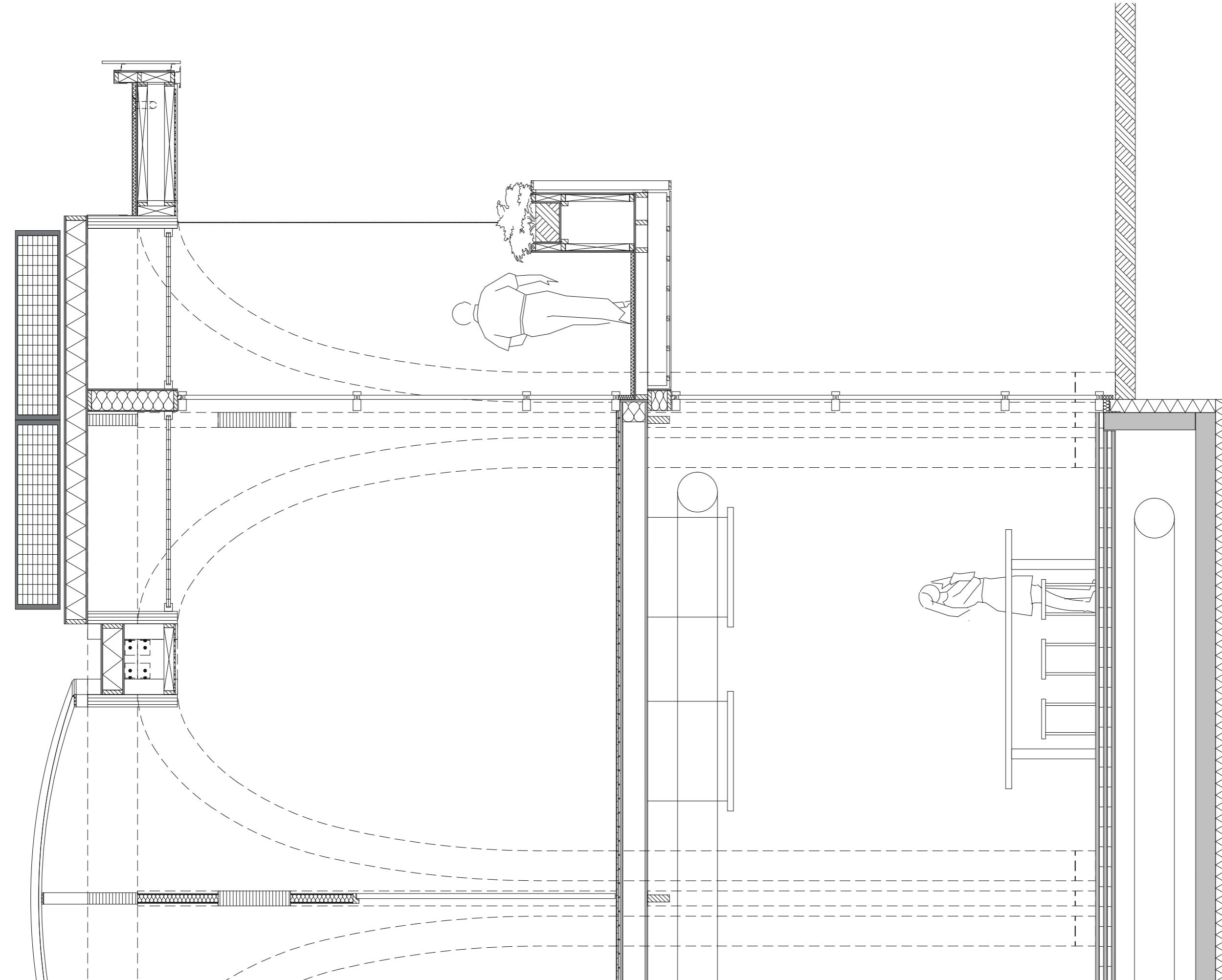






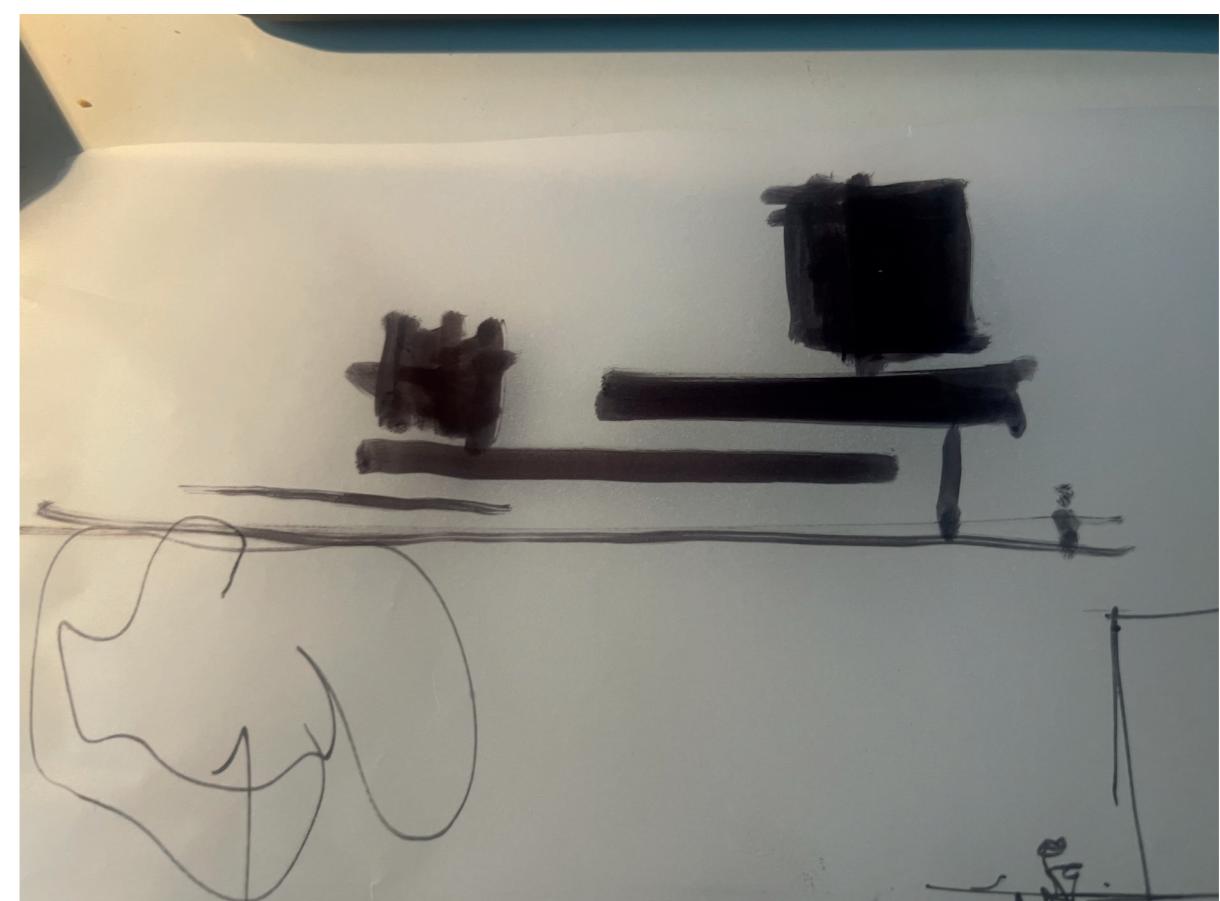
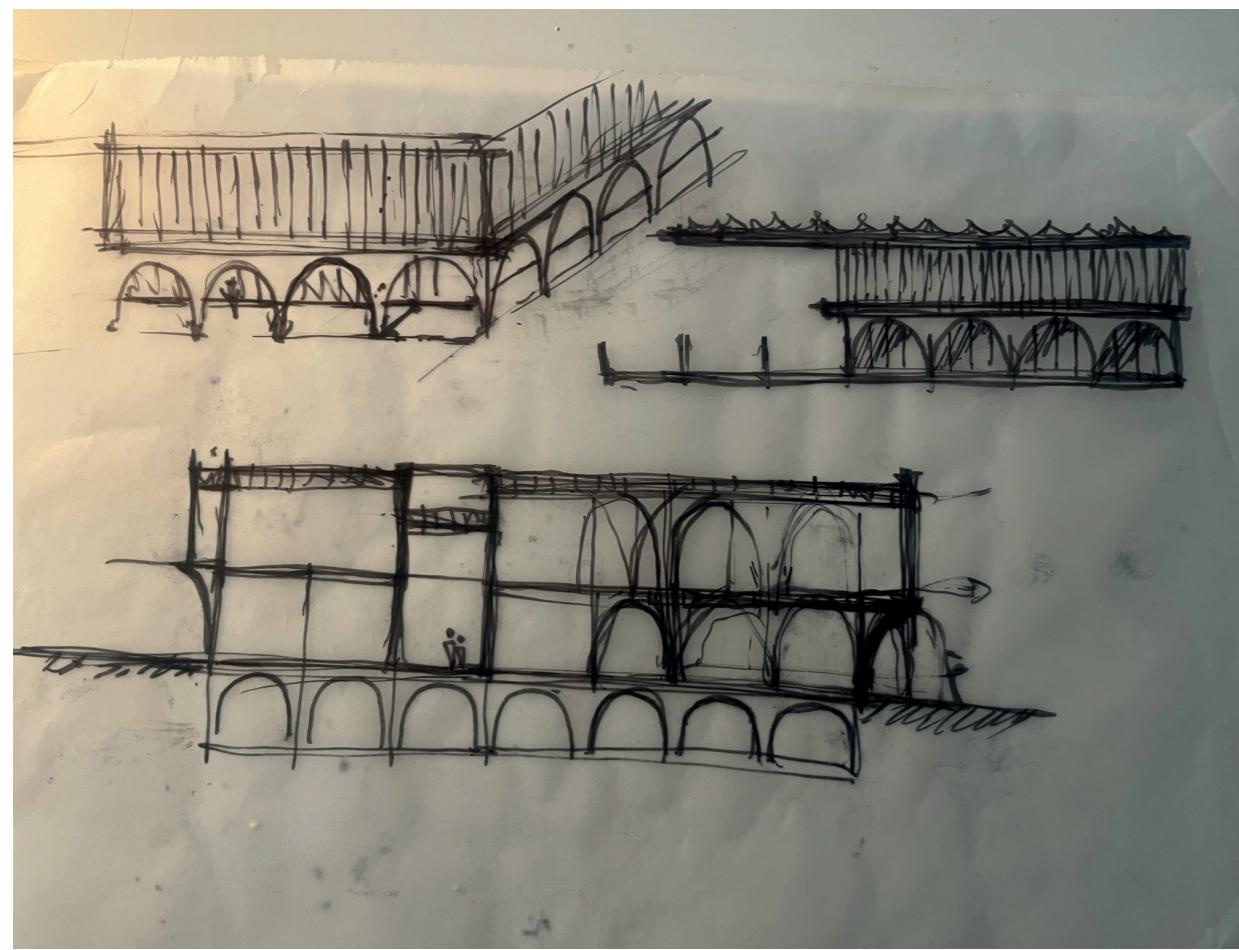
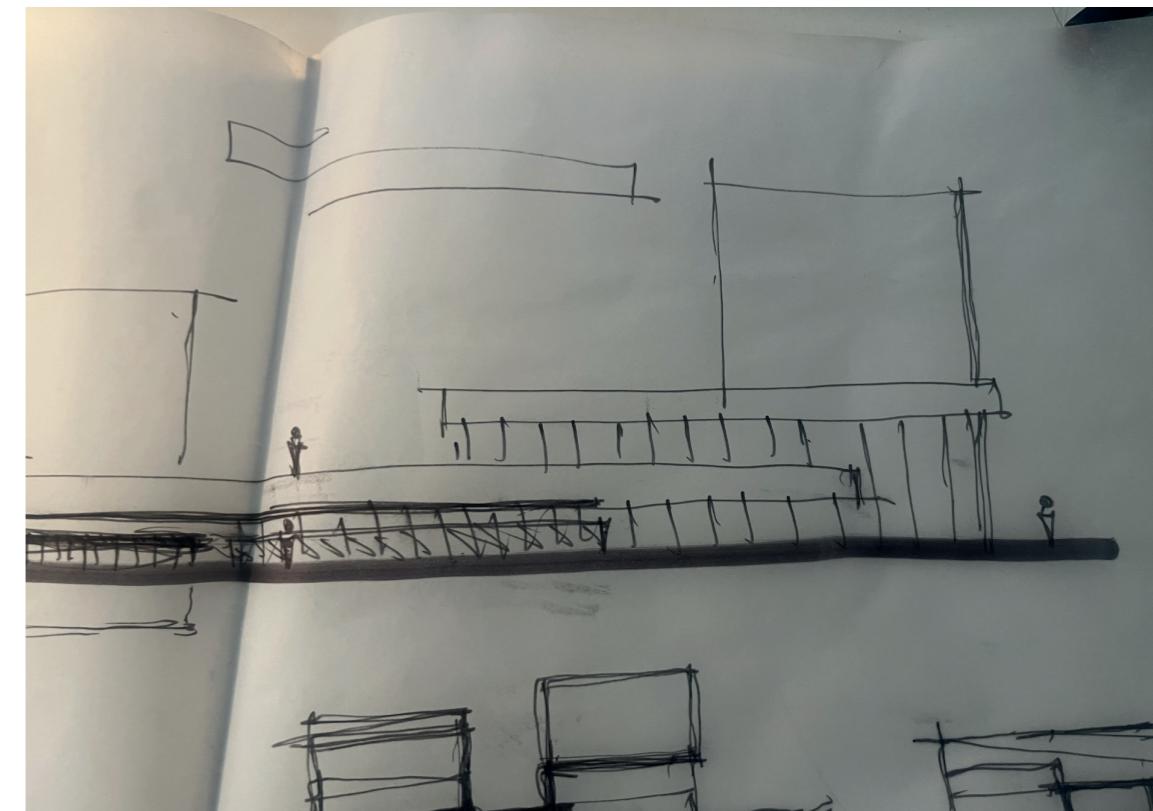
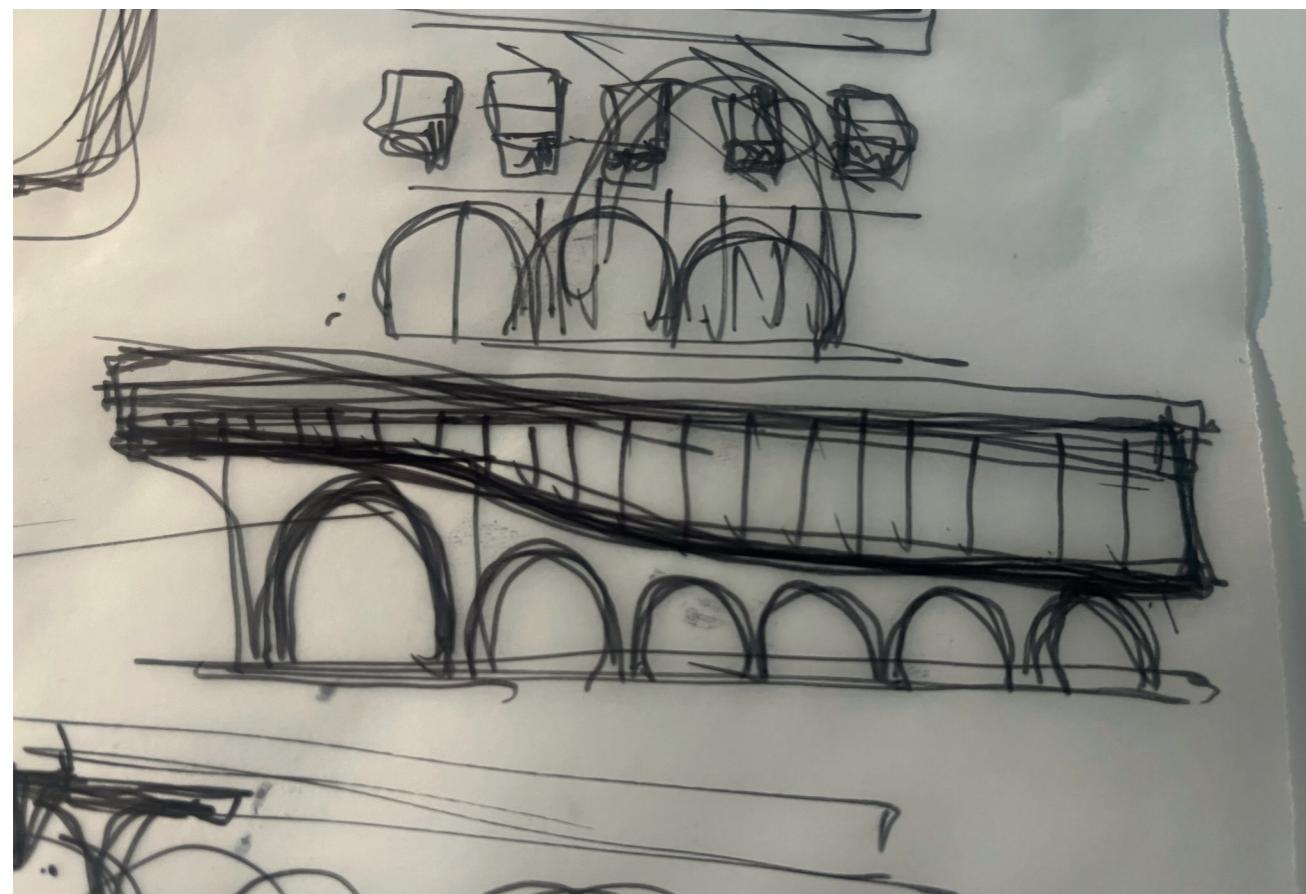


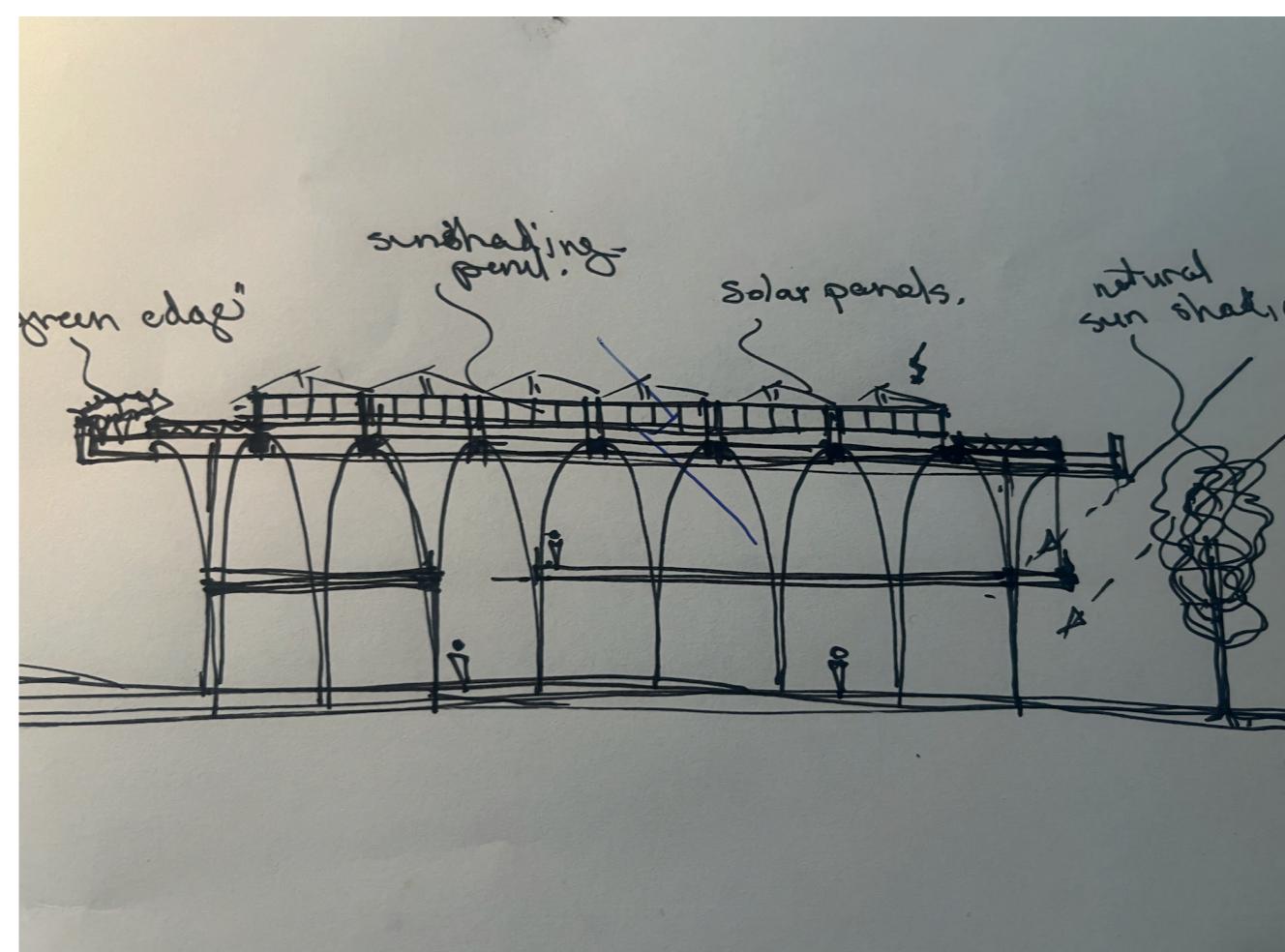
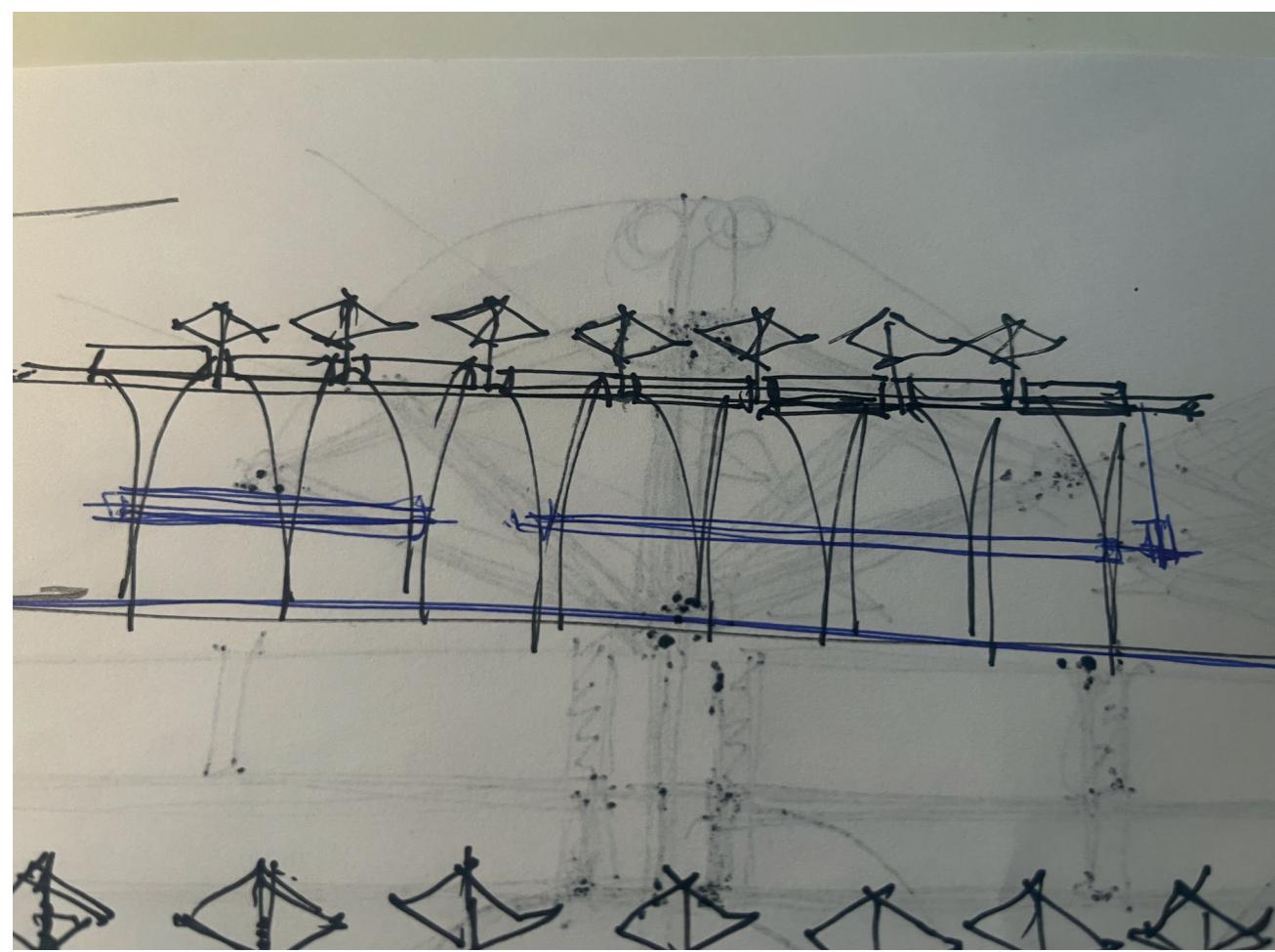
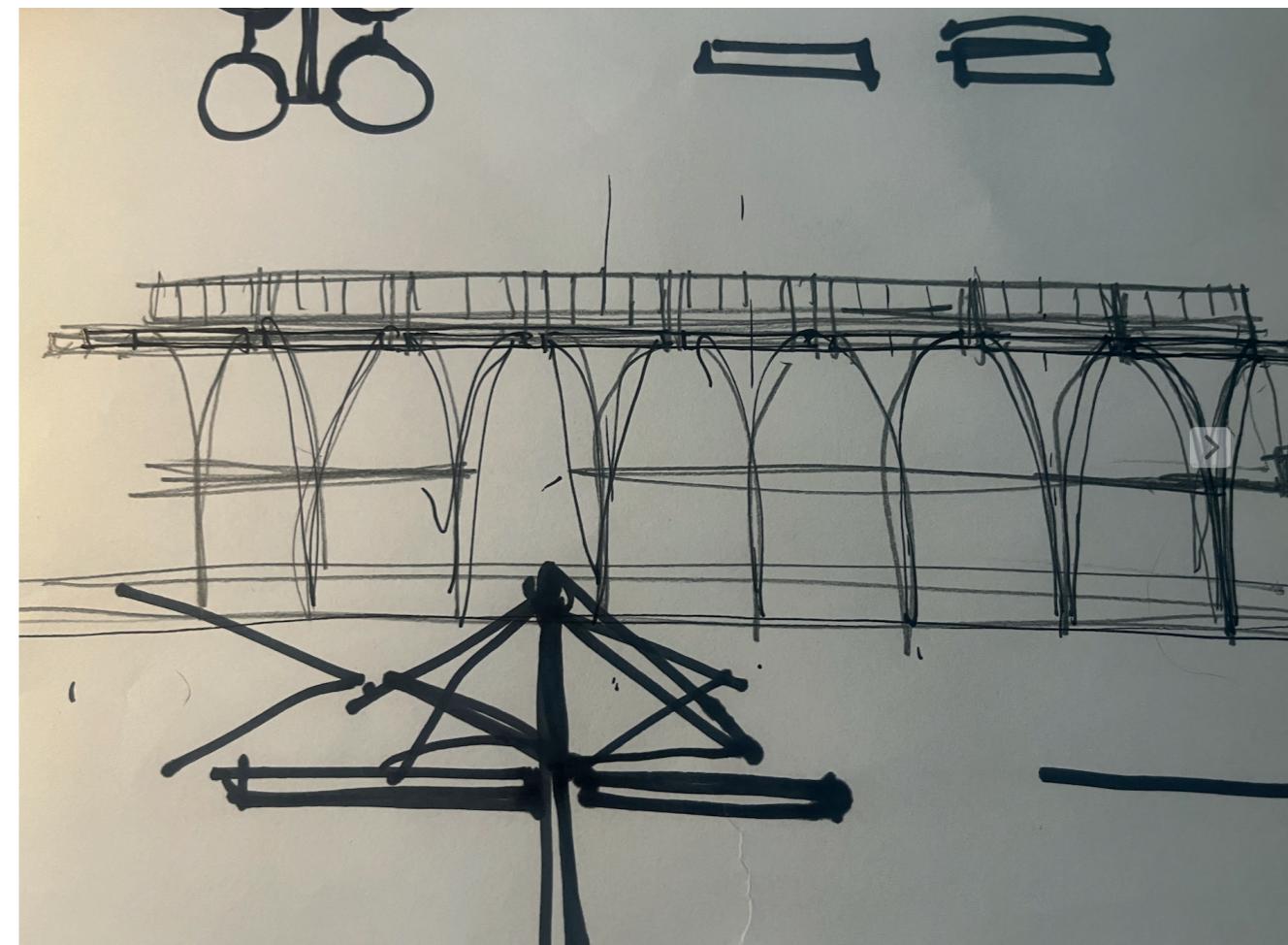
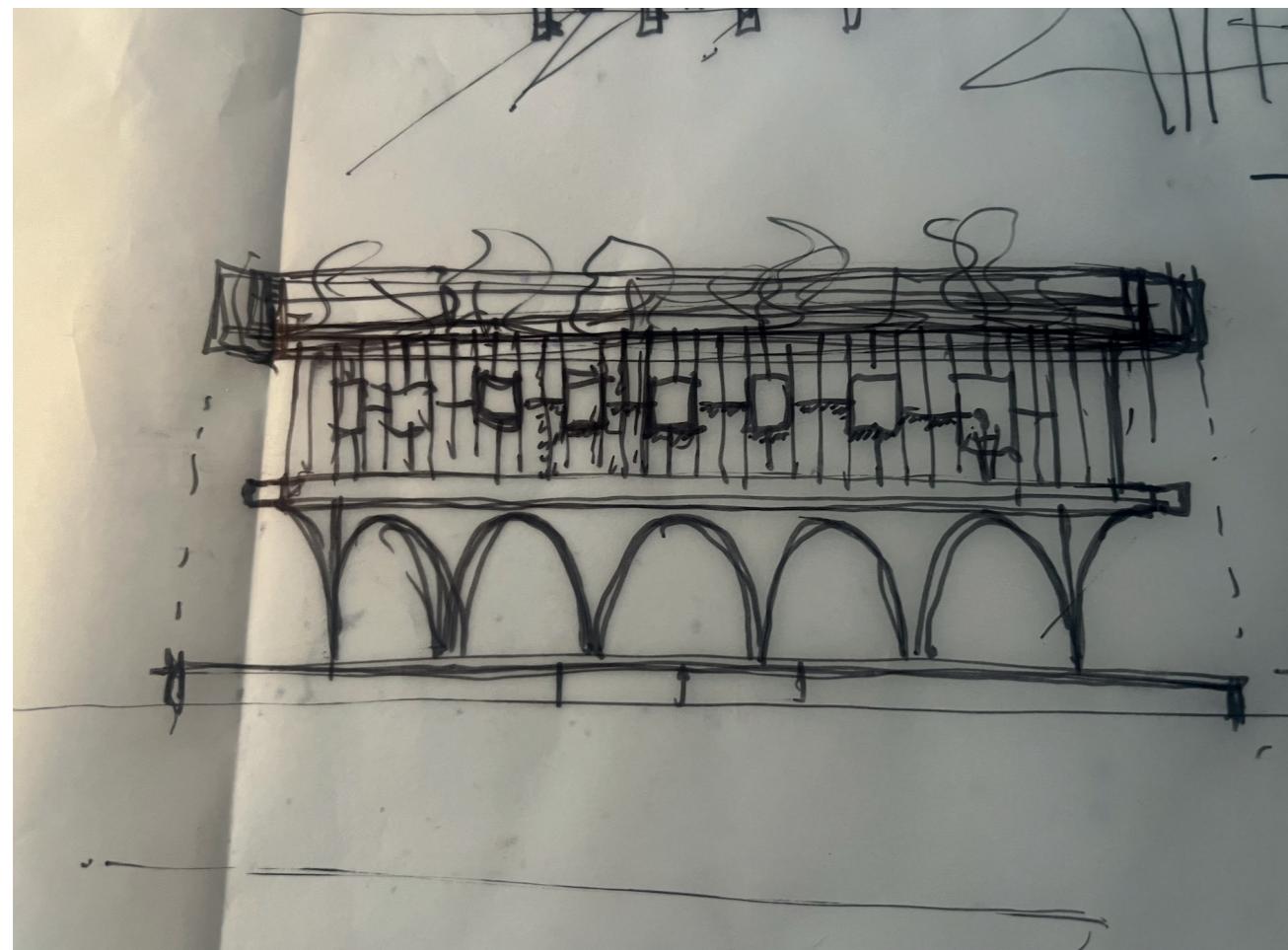


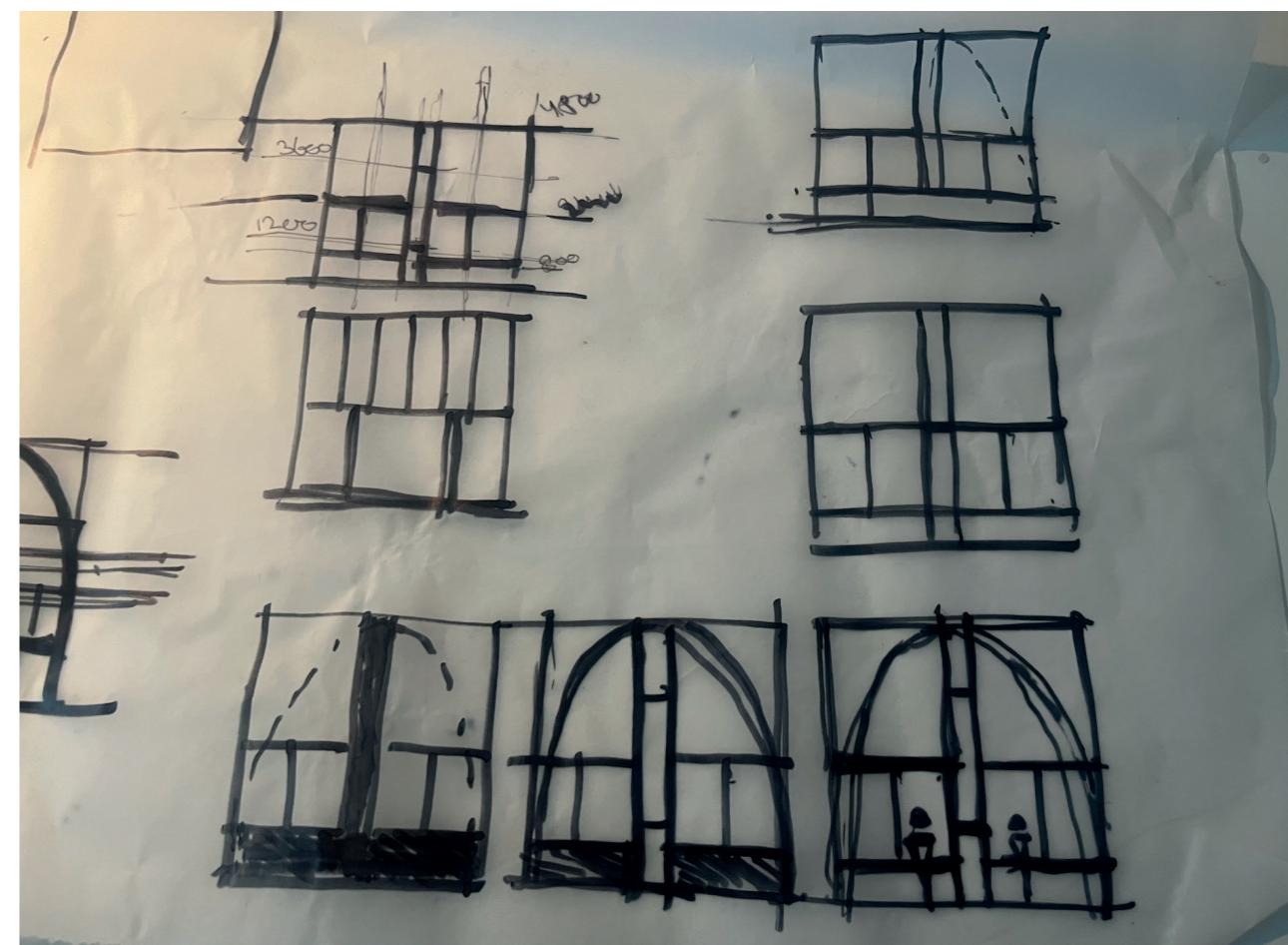
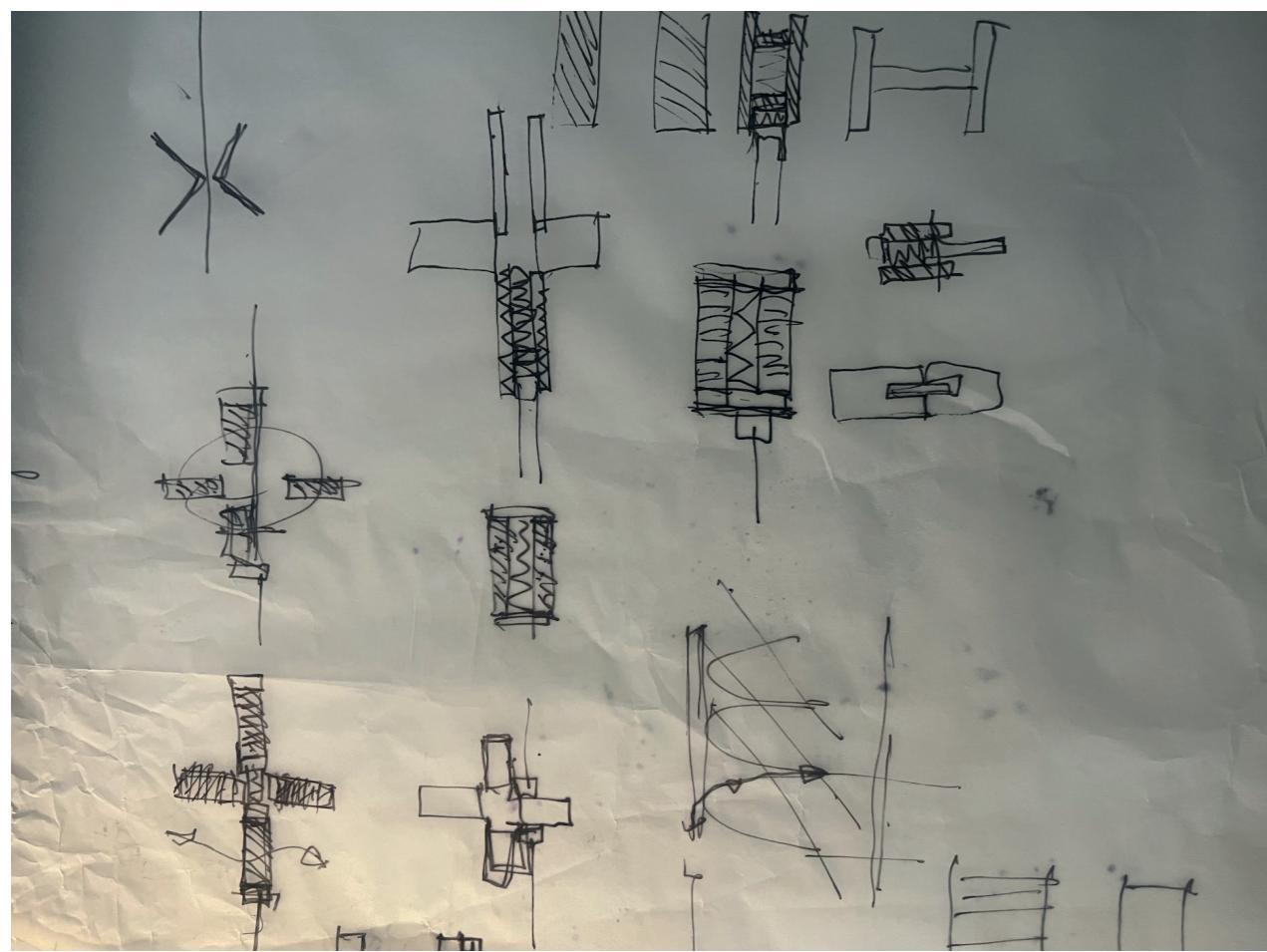
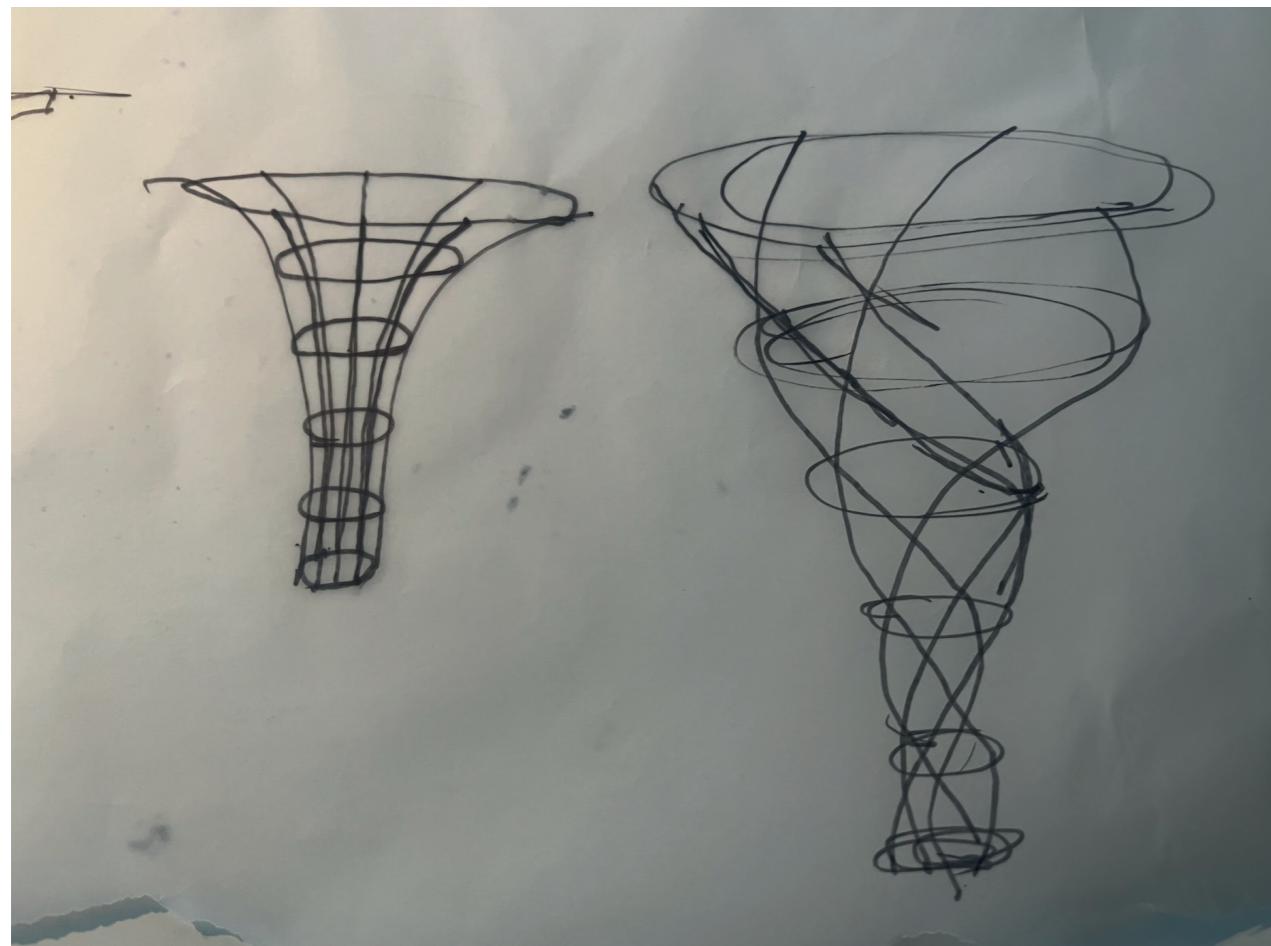


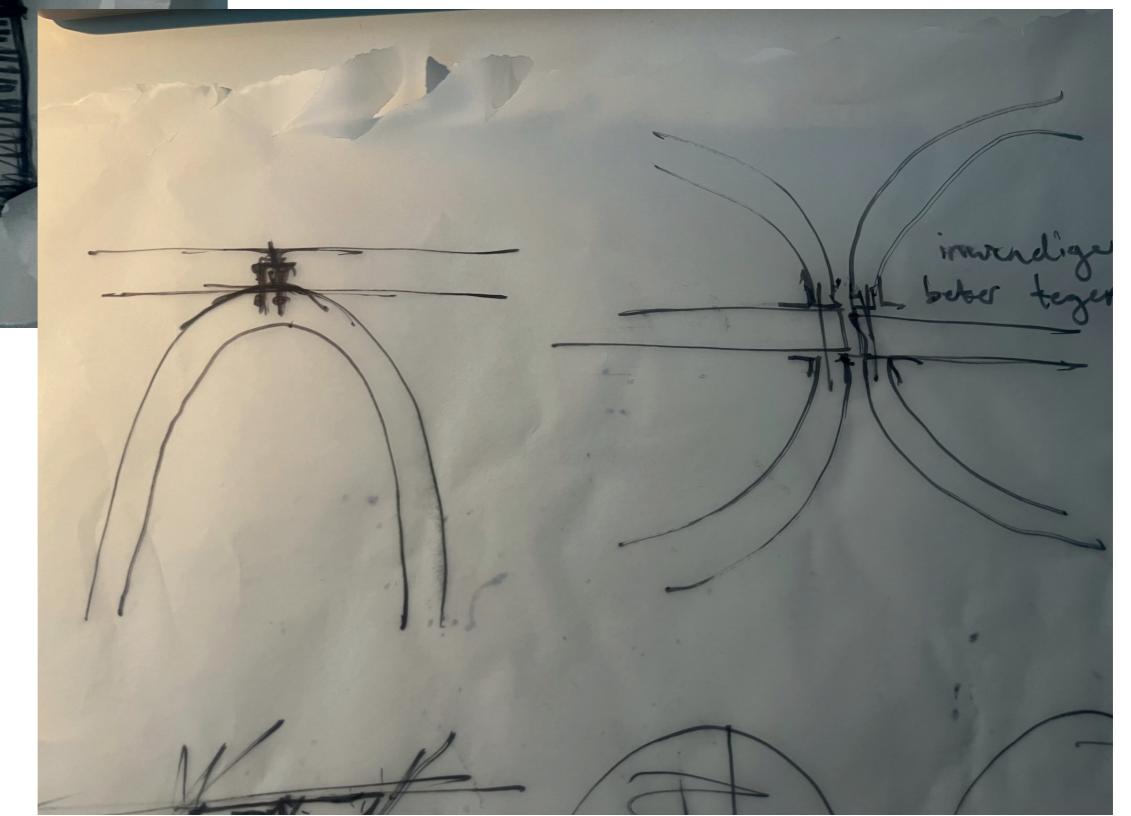
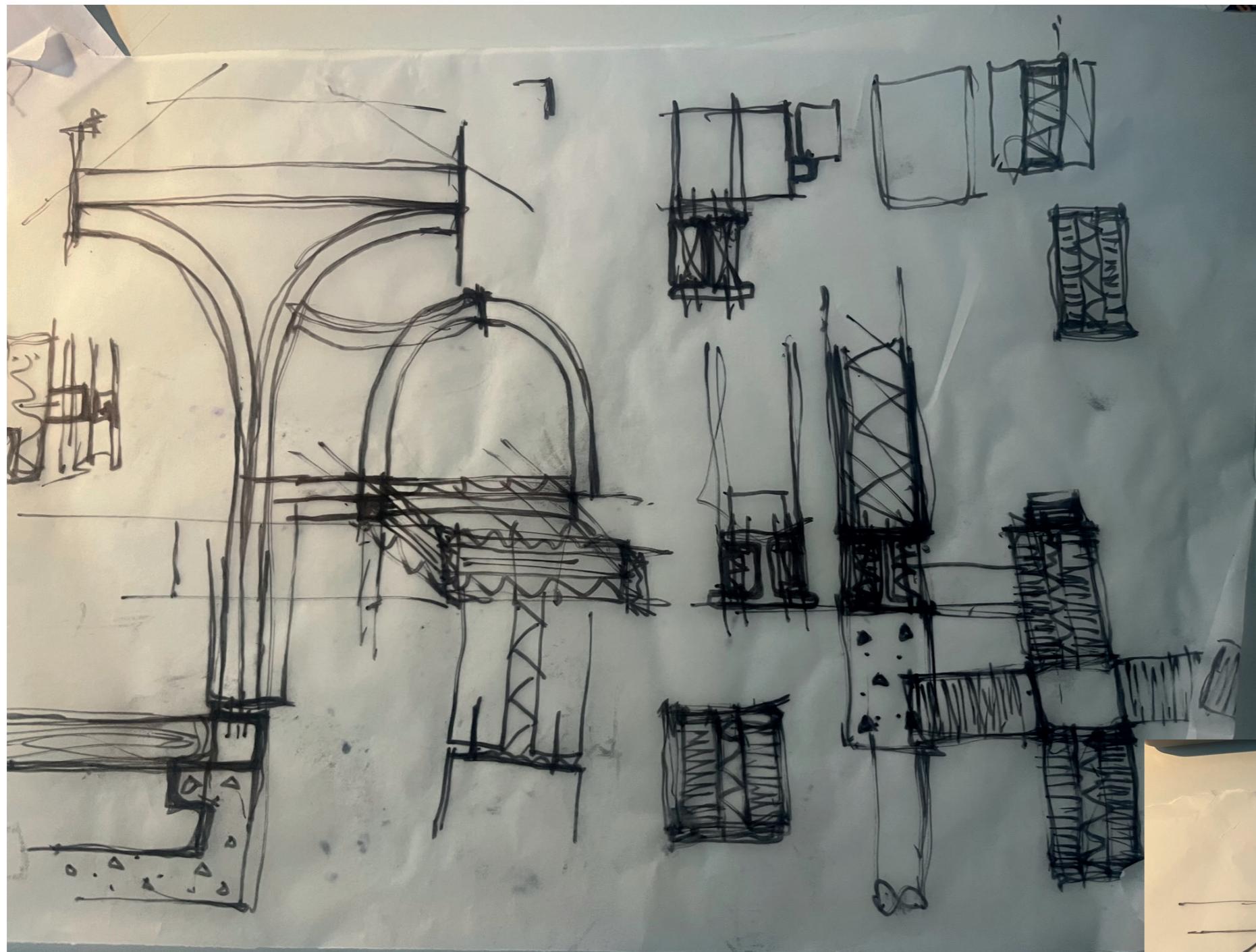


SKETCHES









WEEK 34 - P4 (NEXT CHAPTERS)

2. FINAL DESIGN



P5 GRADUATION PRESENTATION

TIMO VAN DALEN

TU DELFT

FACULTEIT BOUWKUNDE

20.06.2023

Bau(m) BERLIN

Building a future Commons
Building connections
Building things



Bau(m) BERLIN

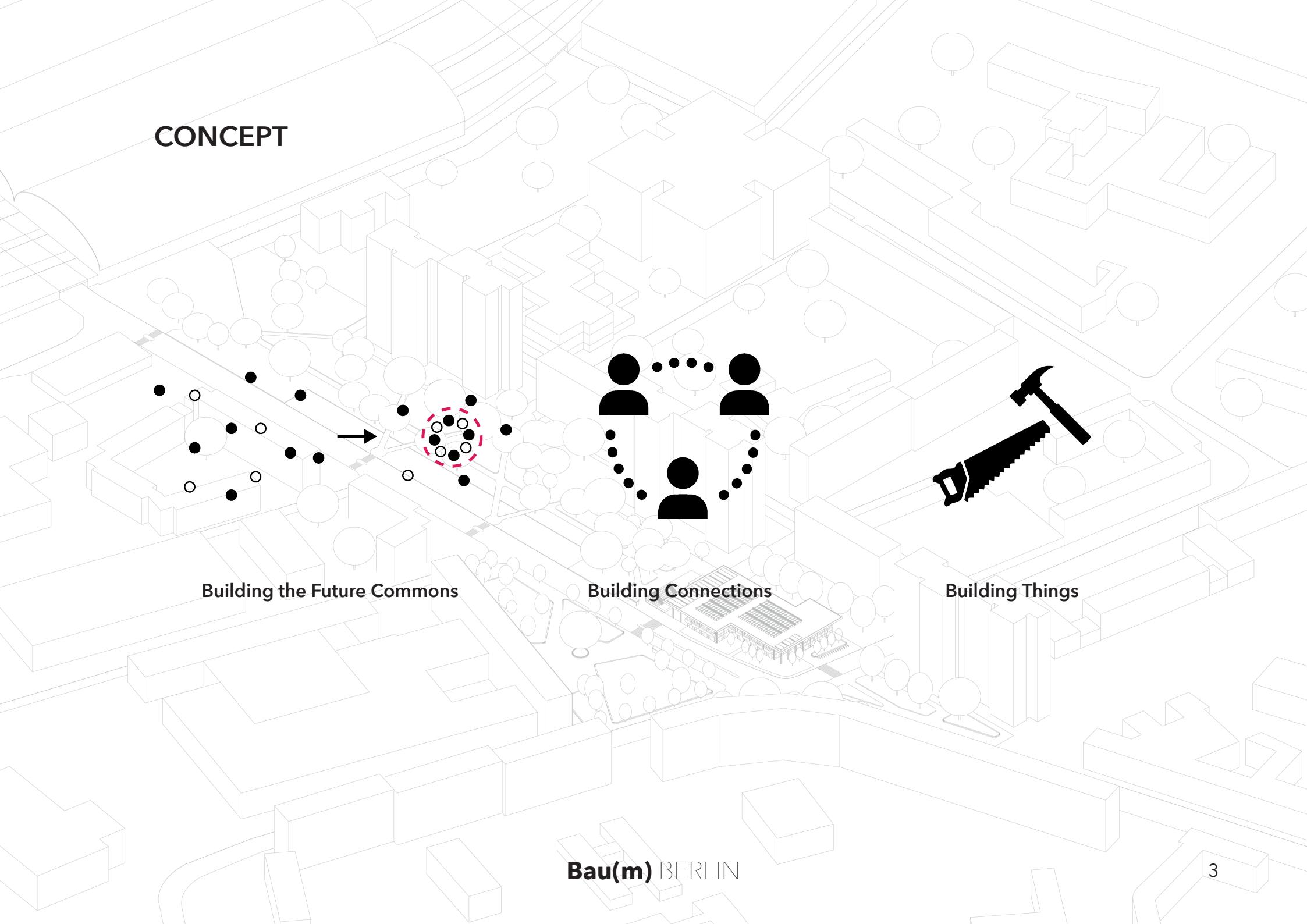
Building the Future Commons
Building Connections
Building Things

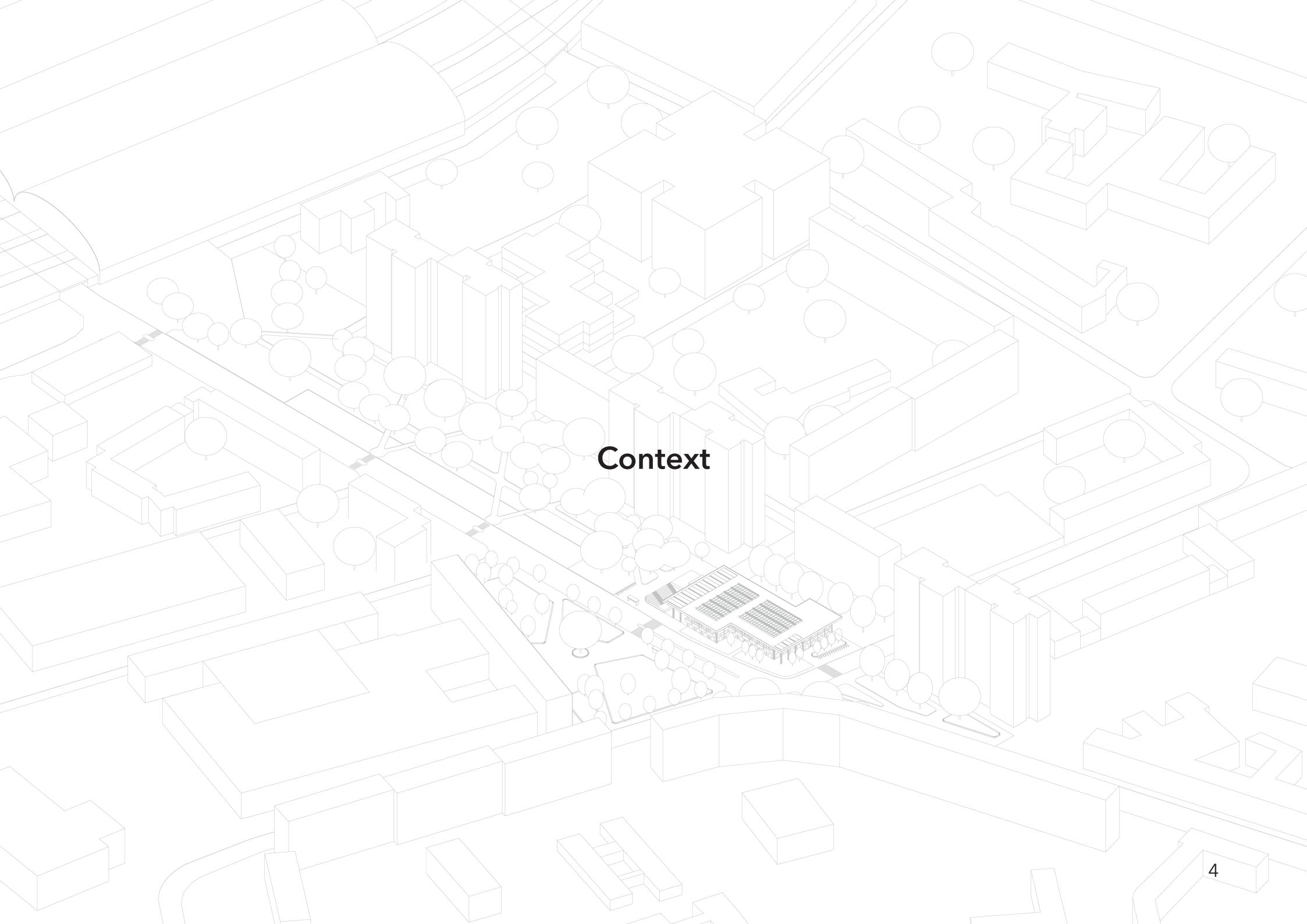


Bau(m)ultiplicity

Building the Future Commons
Building Connections
Building Things

CONCEPT





Context

THE WALL

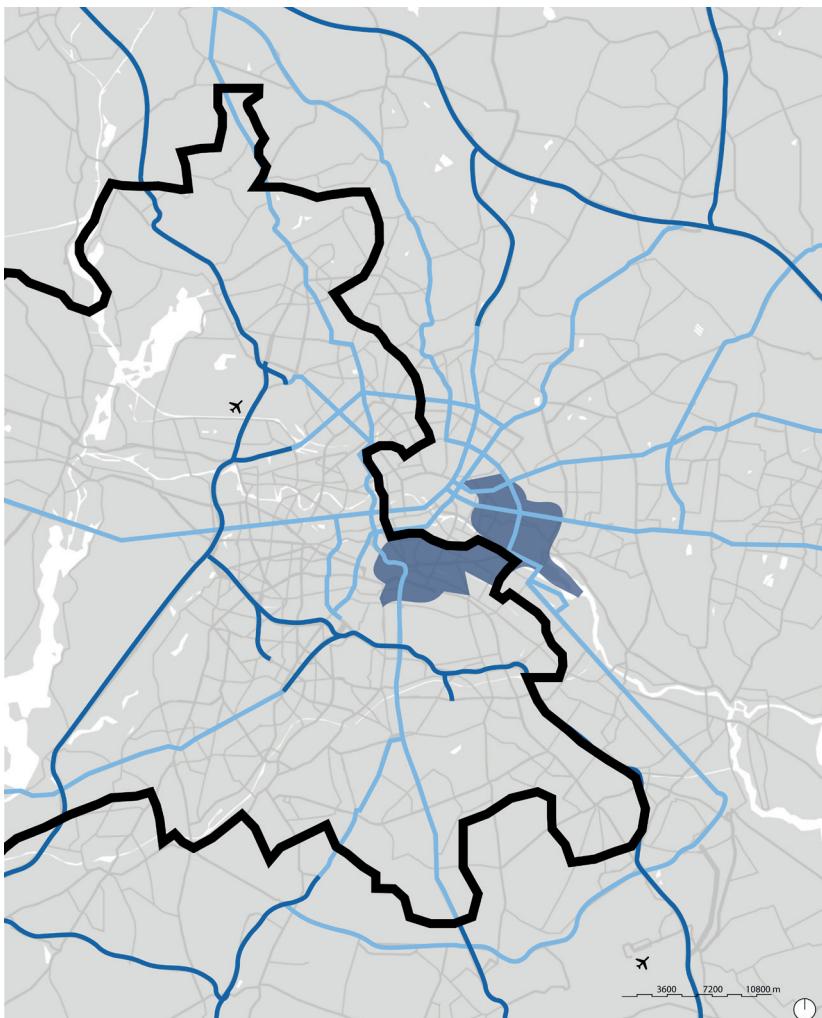


View at Brandenburger Tor

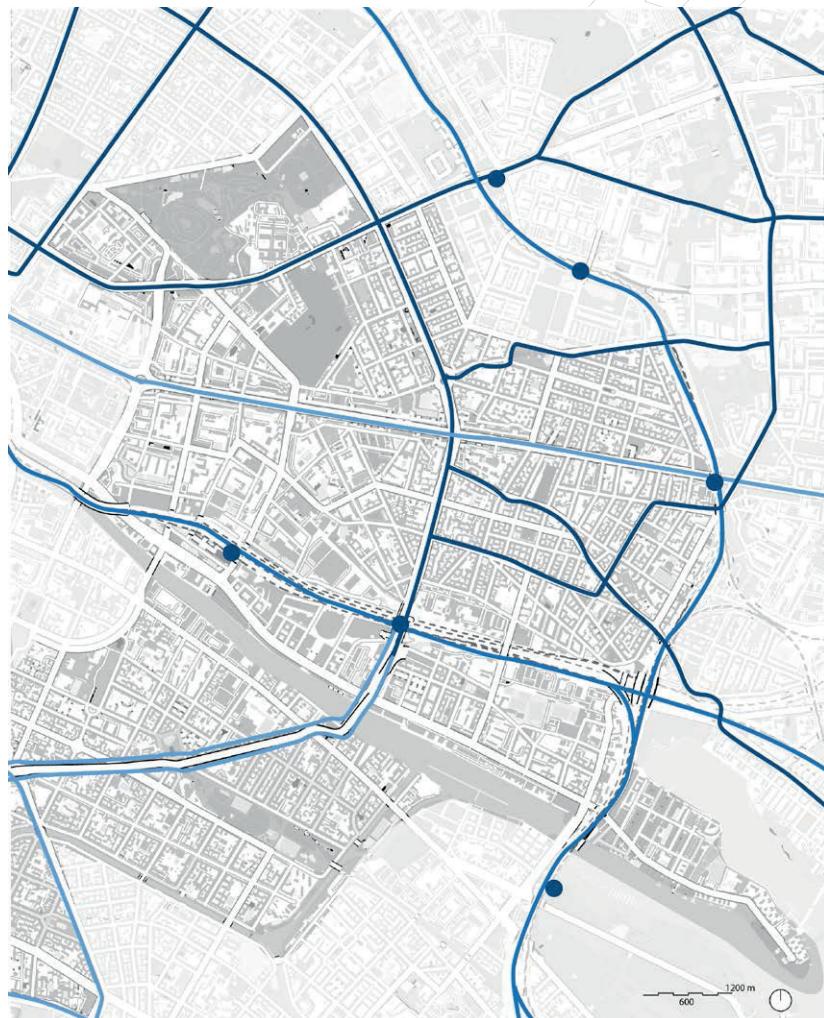


View from East Berlin

CITY AND DISTRICT MAP



Berlin



Friedrichshain-Kreuzberg

BRIEF AREA



Brief area (Friedrichshain West)



Pedestrian routes and green space

URBAN CHARACTERS



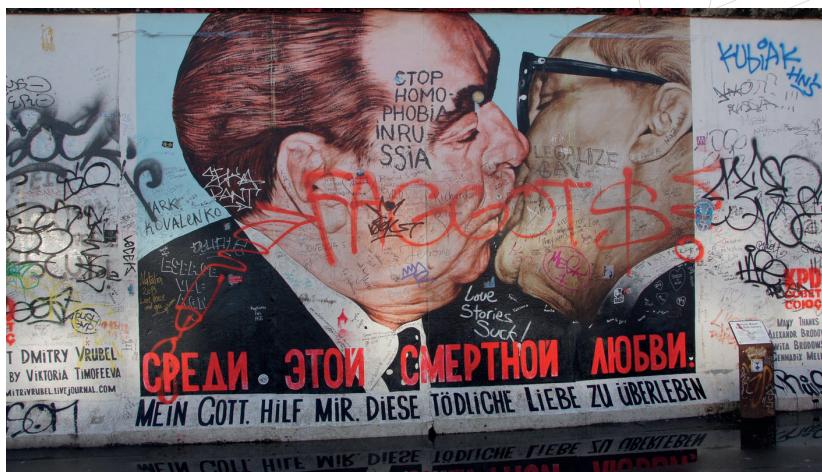
Ostbahnhof



Karl Marx Allee

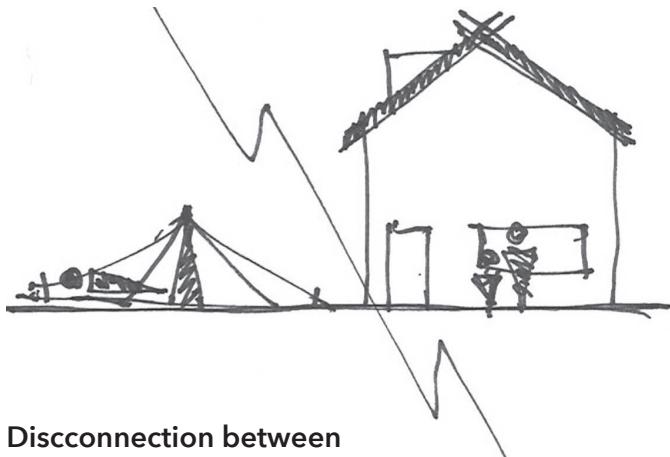


Berghain

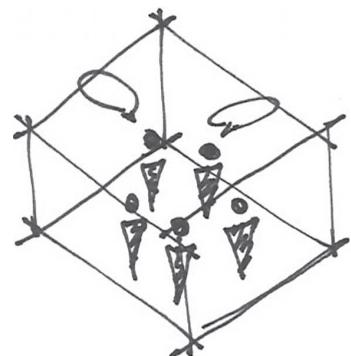


East Side Gallery

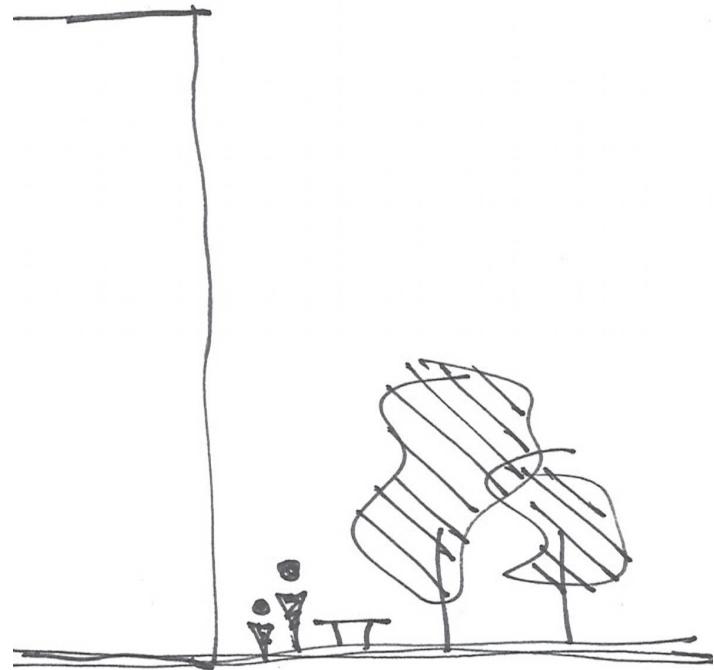
ENCOUNTERED PROBLEMS



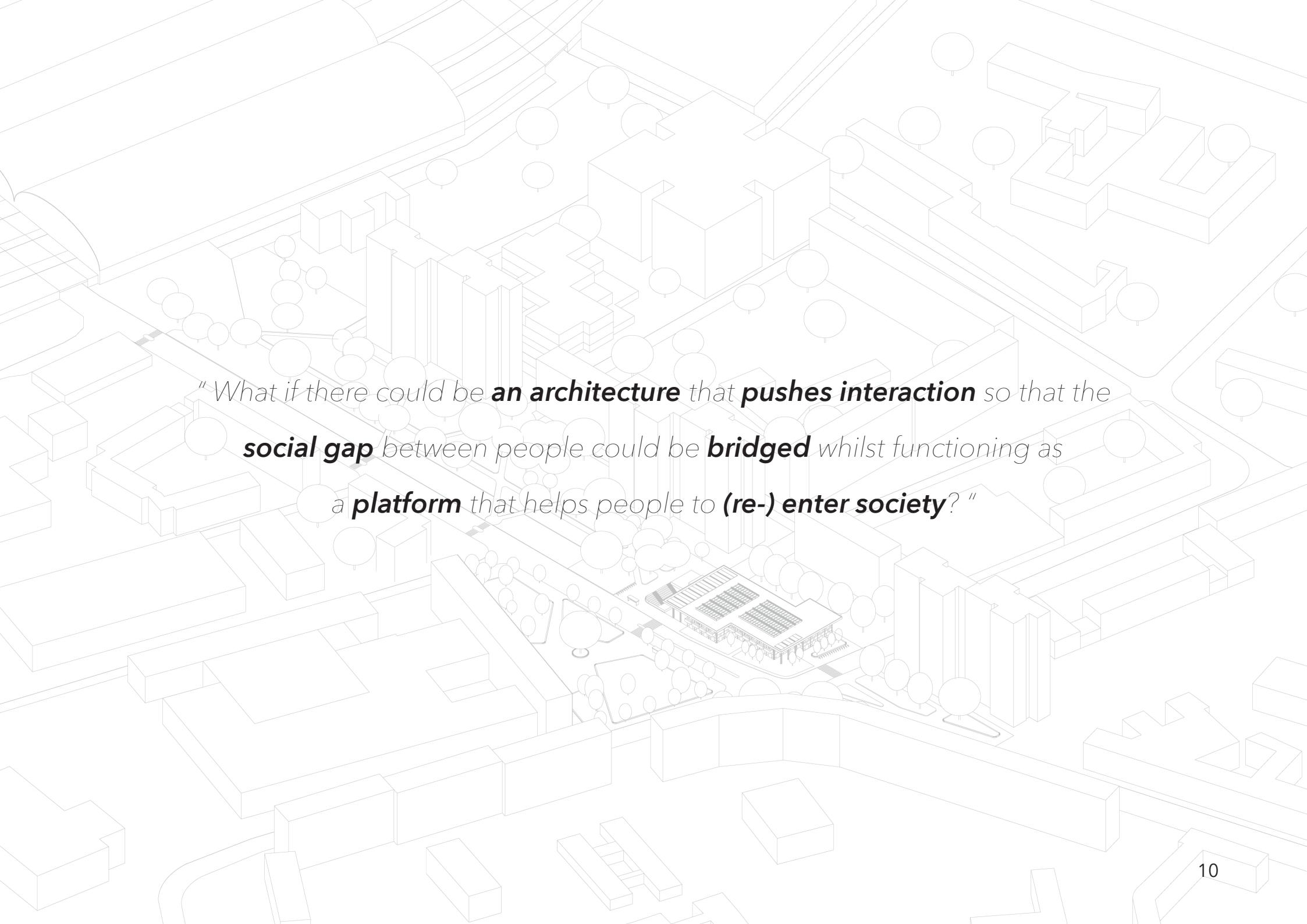
Disconnection between residents



Missing framework for social (re-)integration



Low quality green space

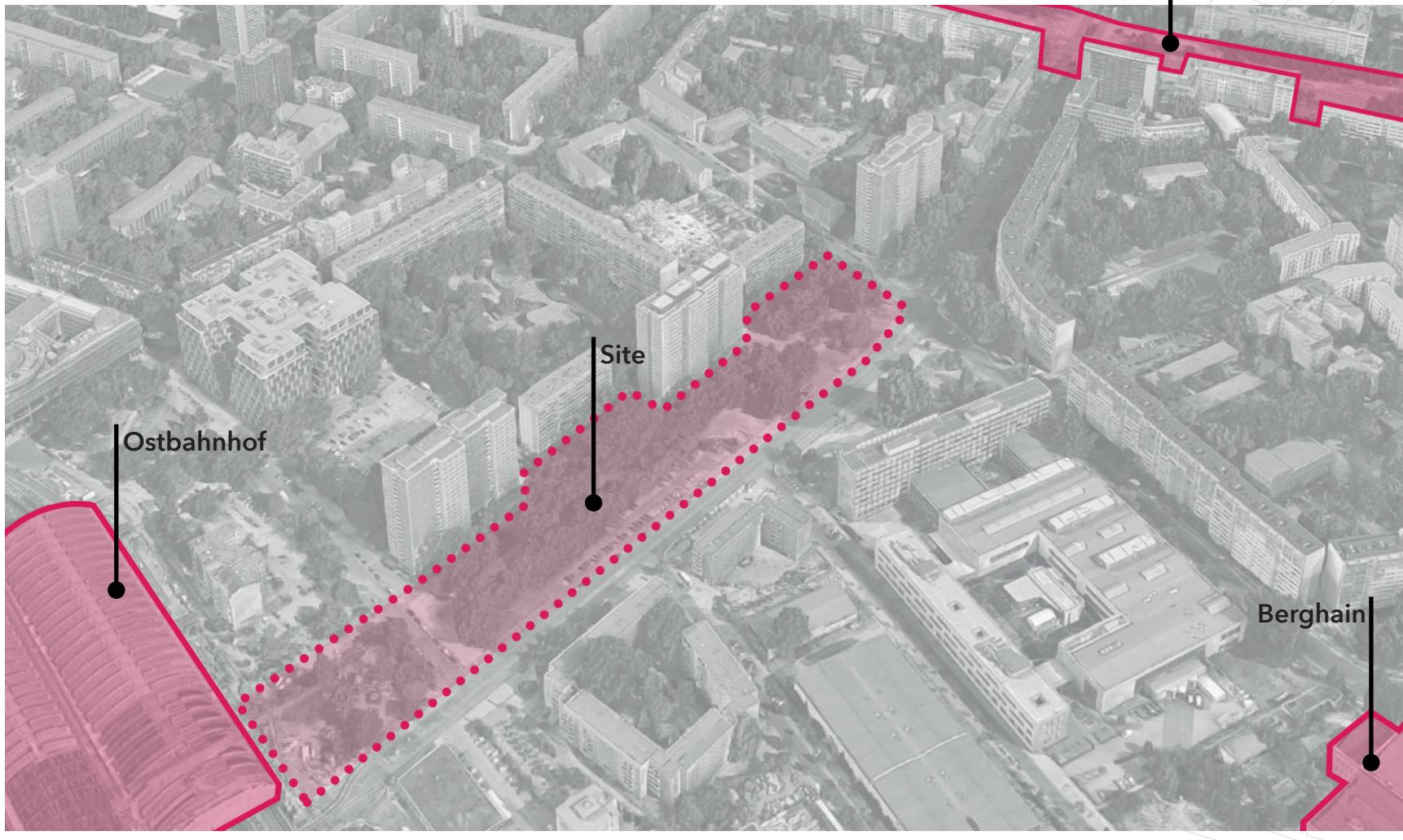


"What if there could be **an architecture** that **pushes interaction** so that the **social gap** between people could be **bridged** whilst functioning as a **platform** that helps people to **(re-) enter society?**"



Site

SITE LOCATION

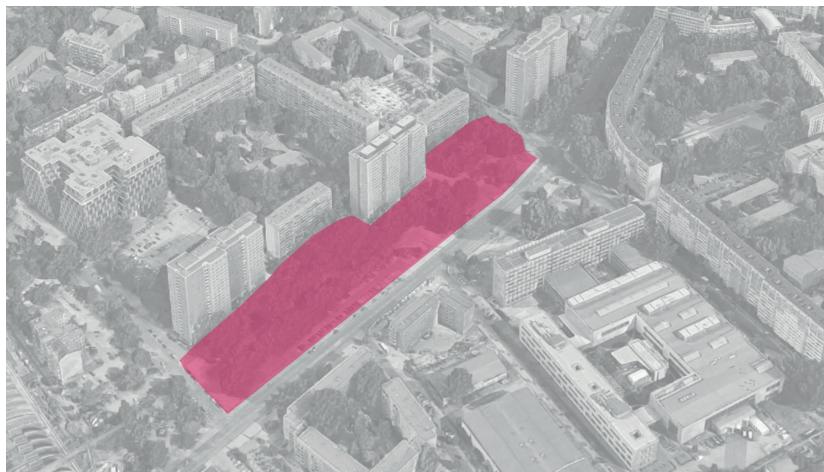


Urban overview

Bau(m) BERLIN



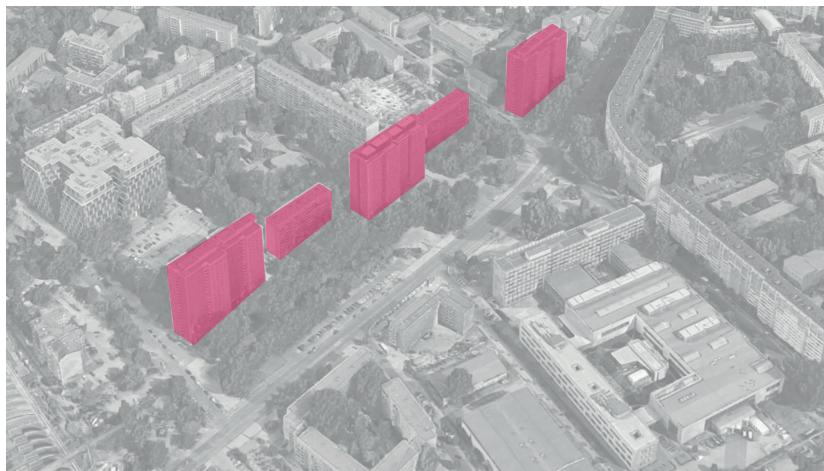
SITE CHARACTERISTICS



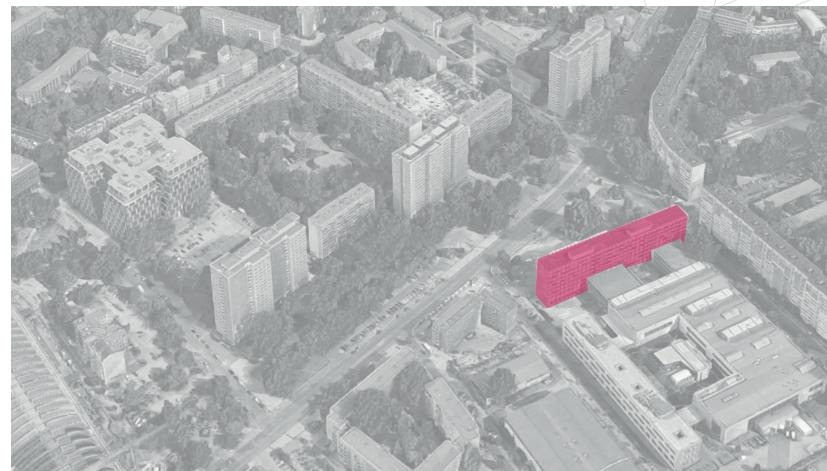
Park



Straße der Pariser Kommune

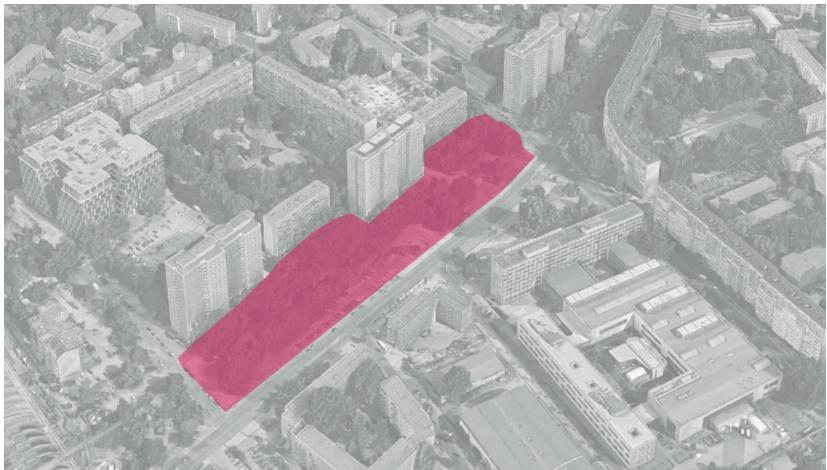


Plattenbau (up to 60m)



Neues Deutschland Newspaper Building

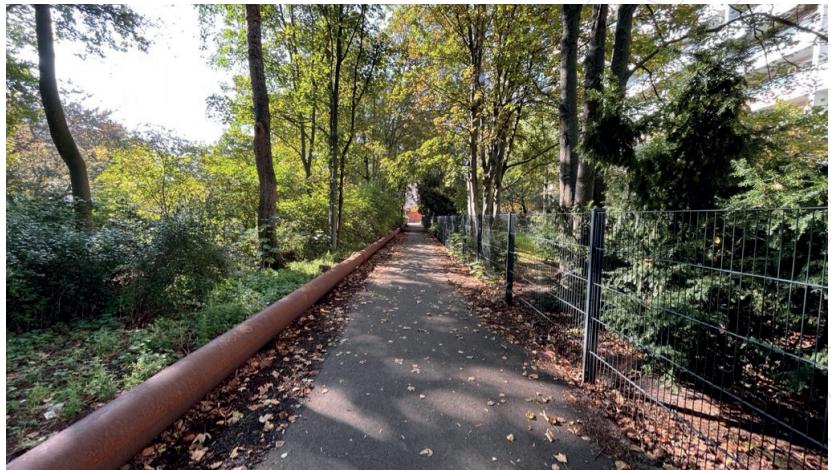
PARK



Park zone



Open Spots



Linear track



Underground Car Park (out of use)

Straße der Pariser Kommune



Straße der Pariser Kommune



Straße der Pariser Kommune

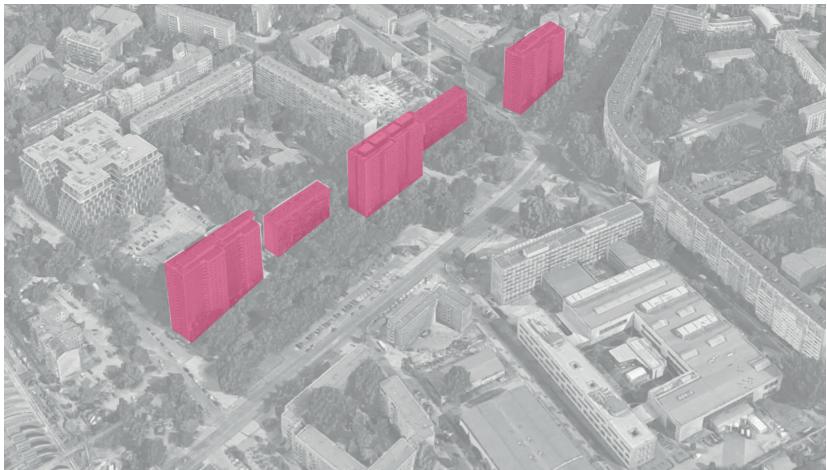


Car park along street



Car park along street

Plattenbau



Plattenbau (up to 60m)



Plattenbau (station side)

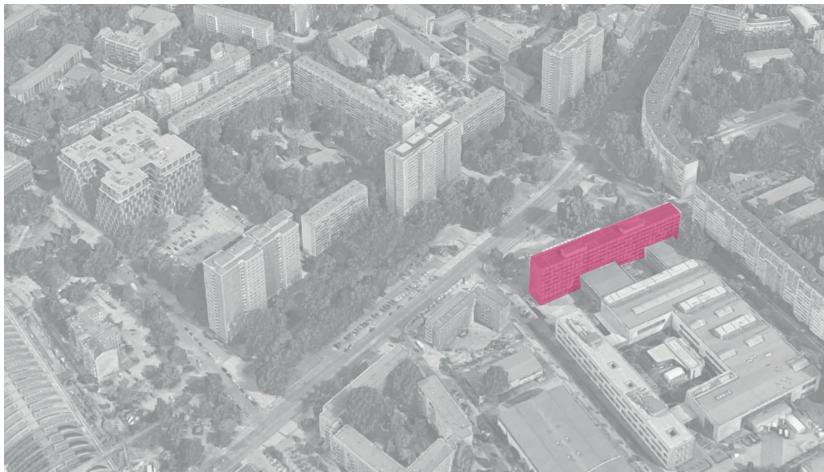


Plattenbau (from park)



Plattenbau (Karl Marx Allee side)

Neues Deutschland



Neues Deutschland Newspaper Building



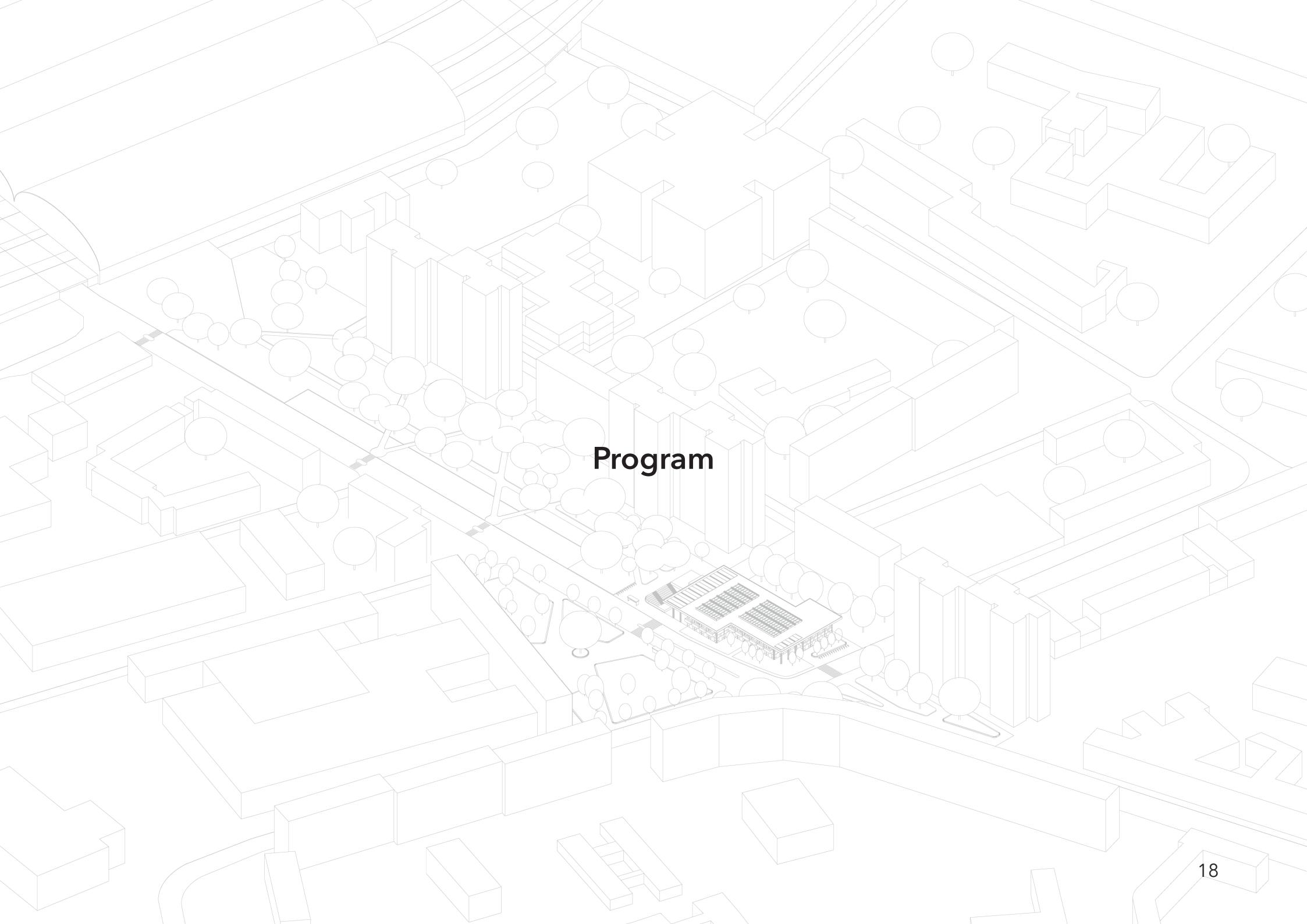
Neues Deutschland from intersection



Neues Deutschland from Karl Marx Allee



Neues Deutschland park redesign

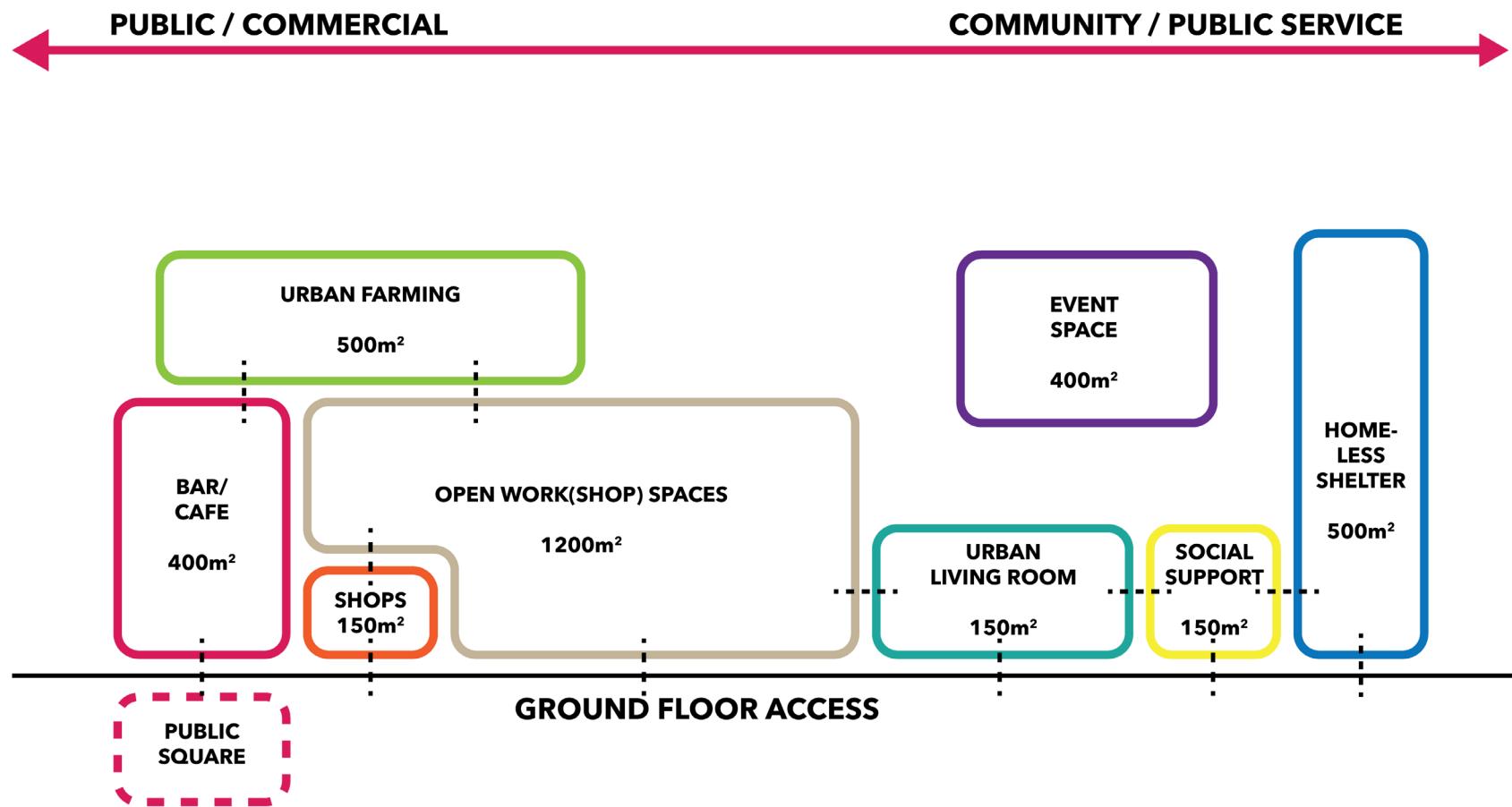


Program

BUILDING PROGRAM



BUILDING PROGRAM



PRECEDENT VISIT

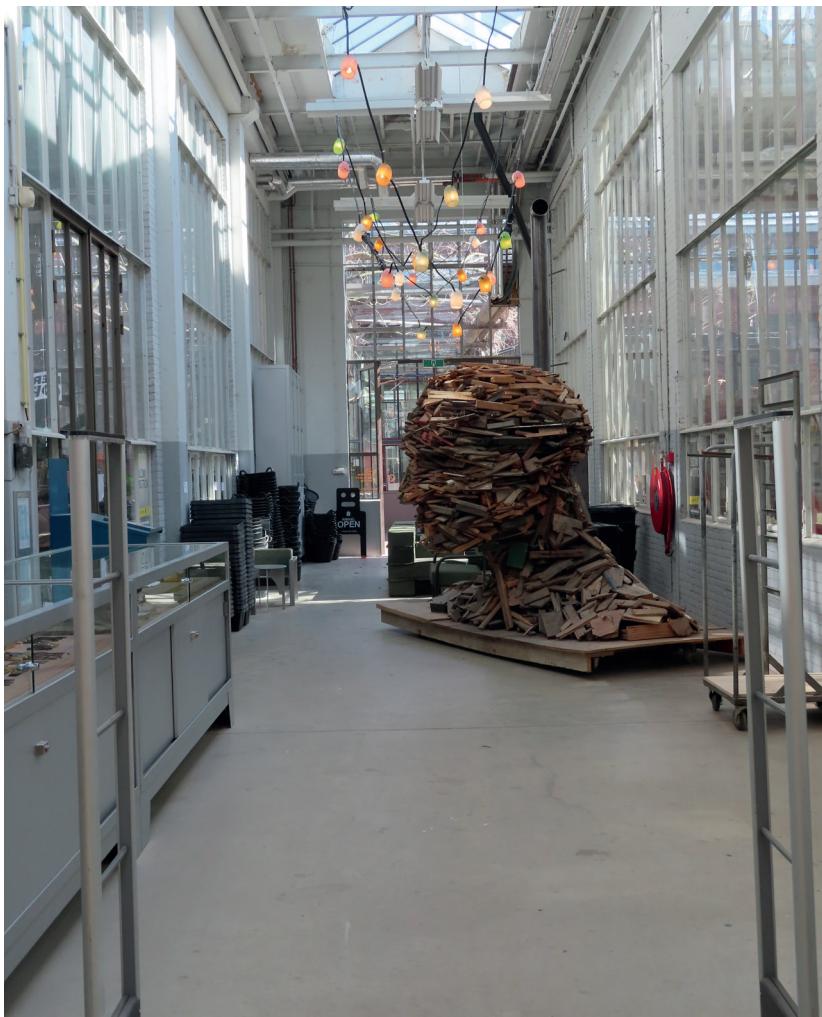


Pluspunt Rotterdam

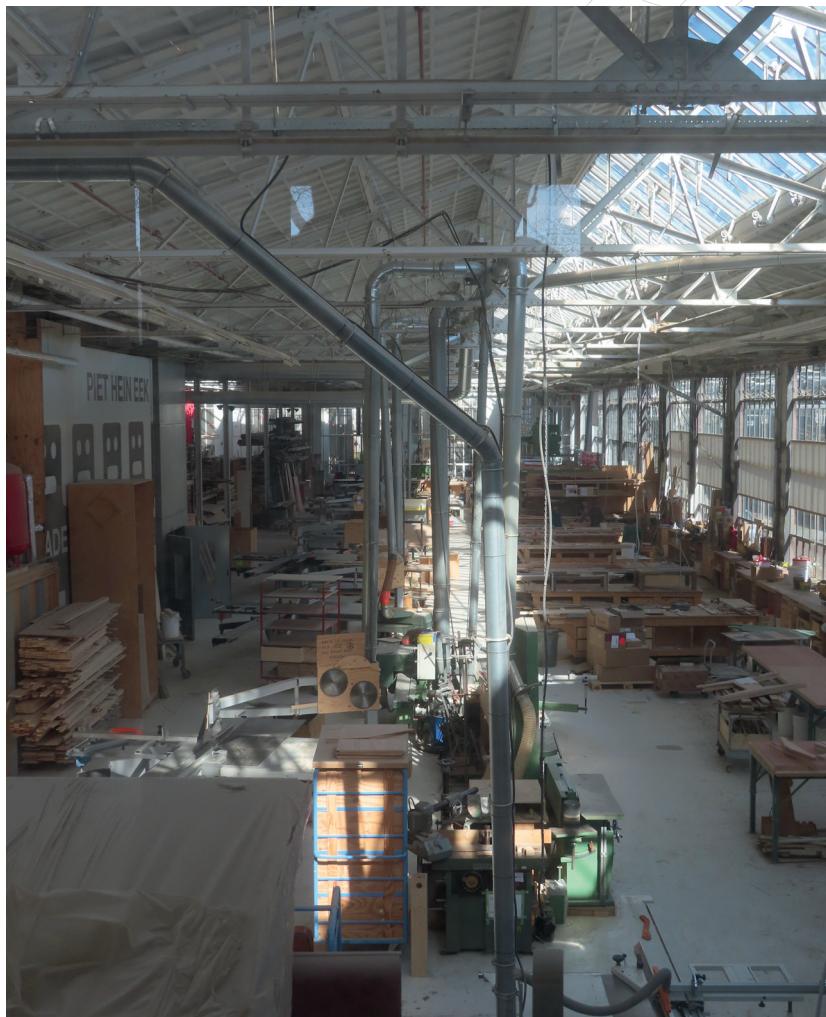


Bau(m) BERLIN

PRECEDENT VISIT



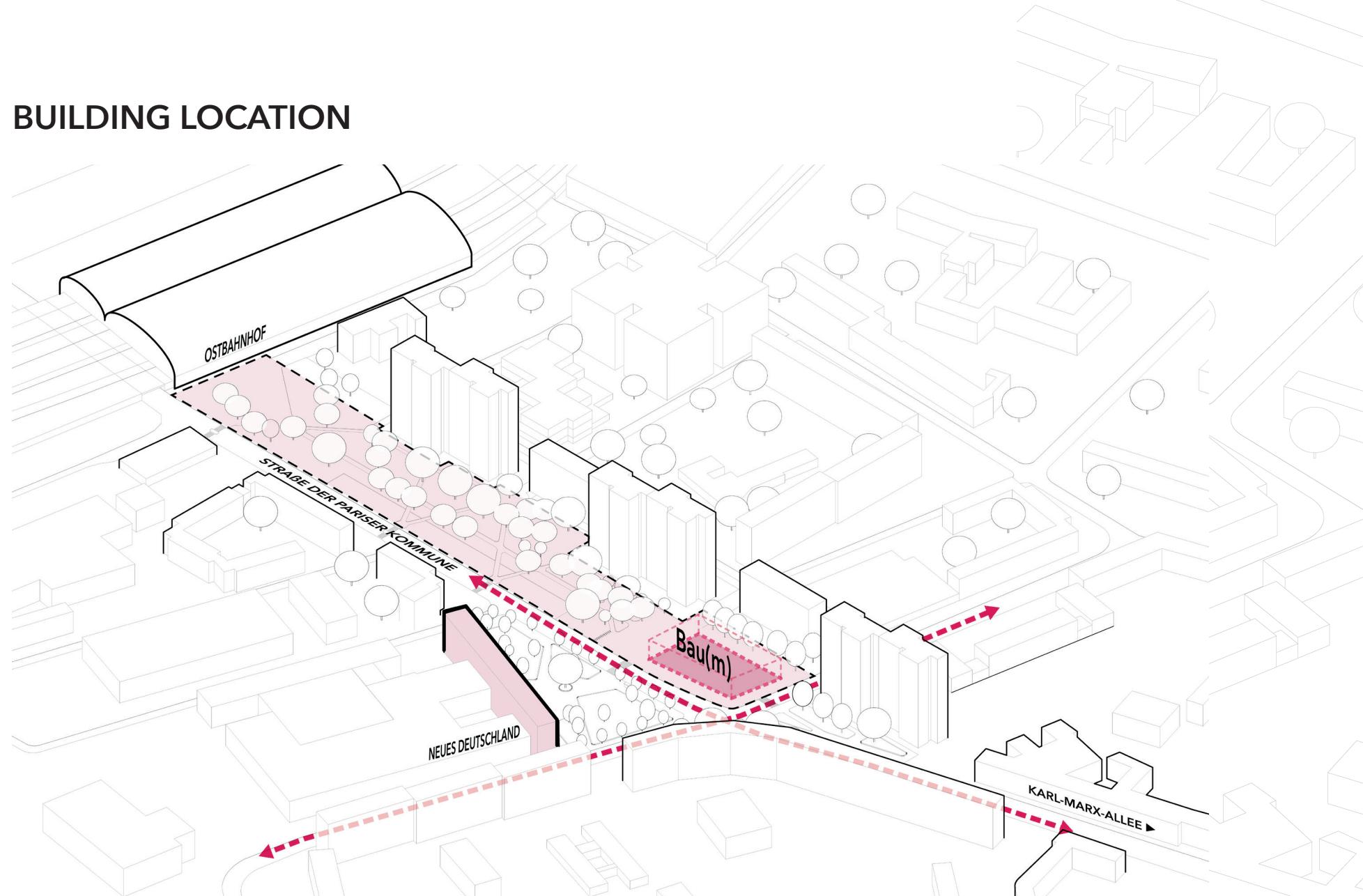
Design / Craft studio Piet Hein Eek (Eindhoven)





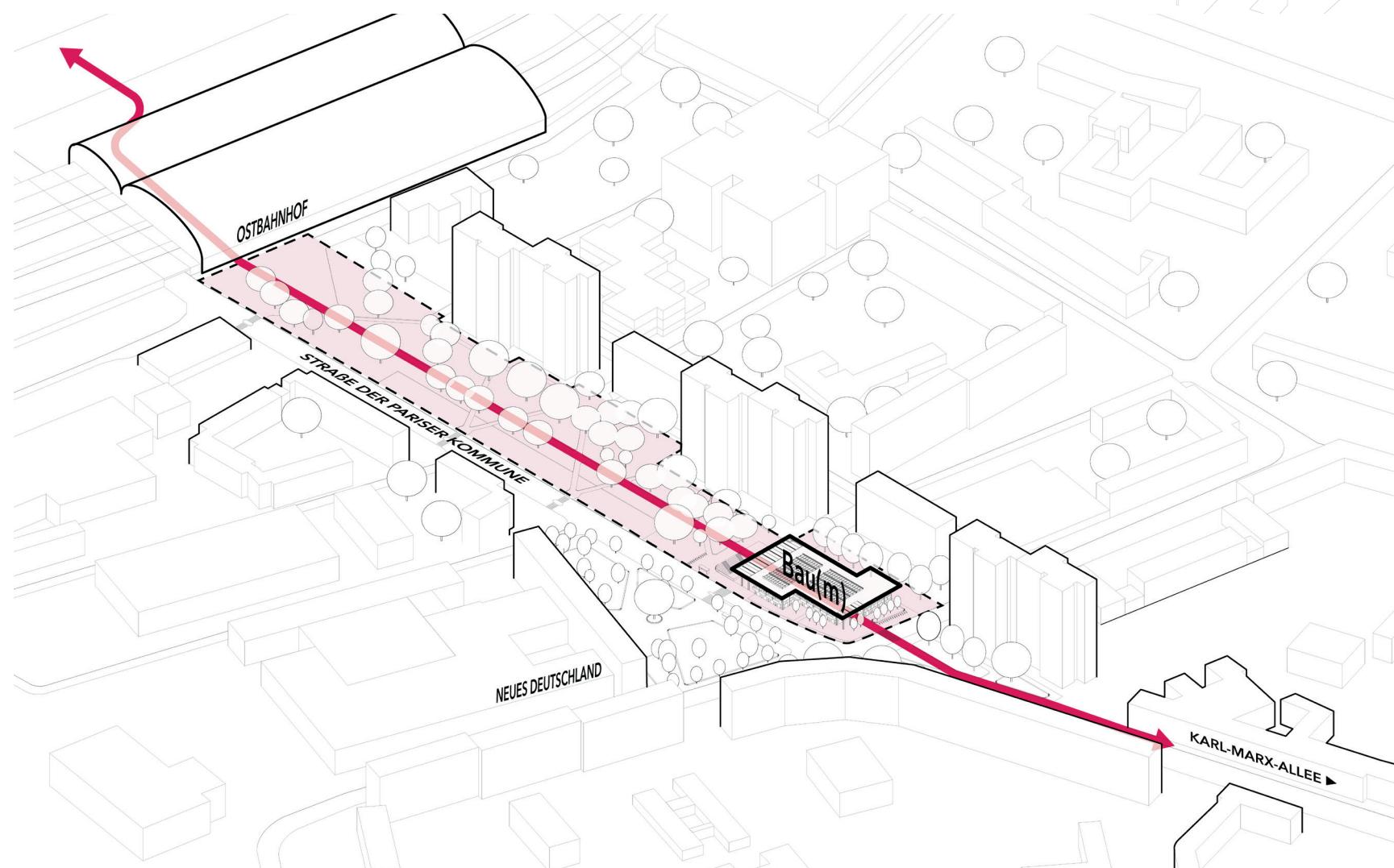
Urban Scale

BUILDING LOCATION



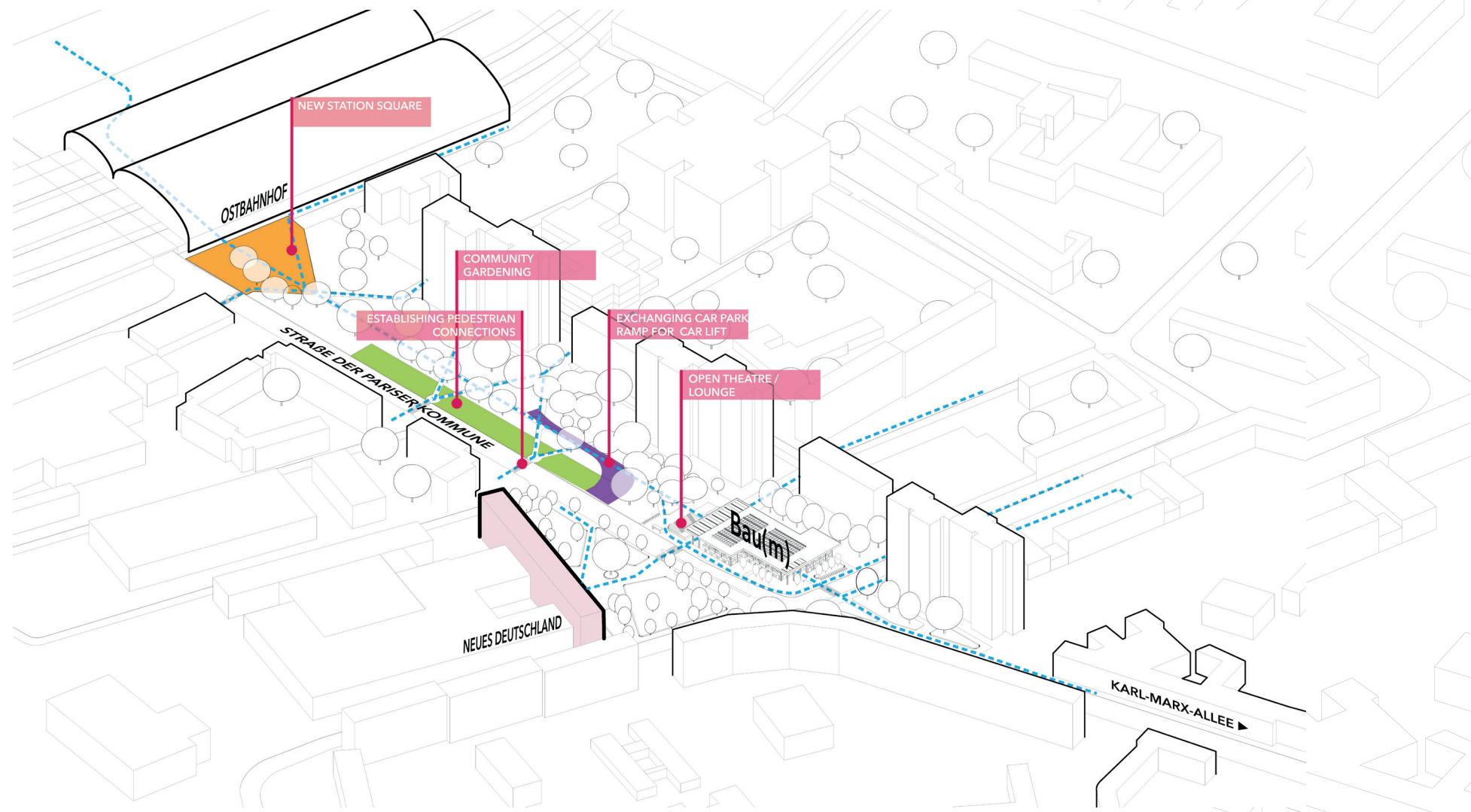
Bau(m) BERLIN

URBAN PEDESTRIAN ROUTE

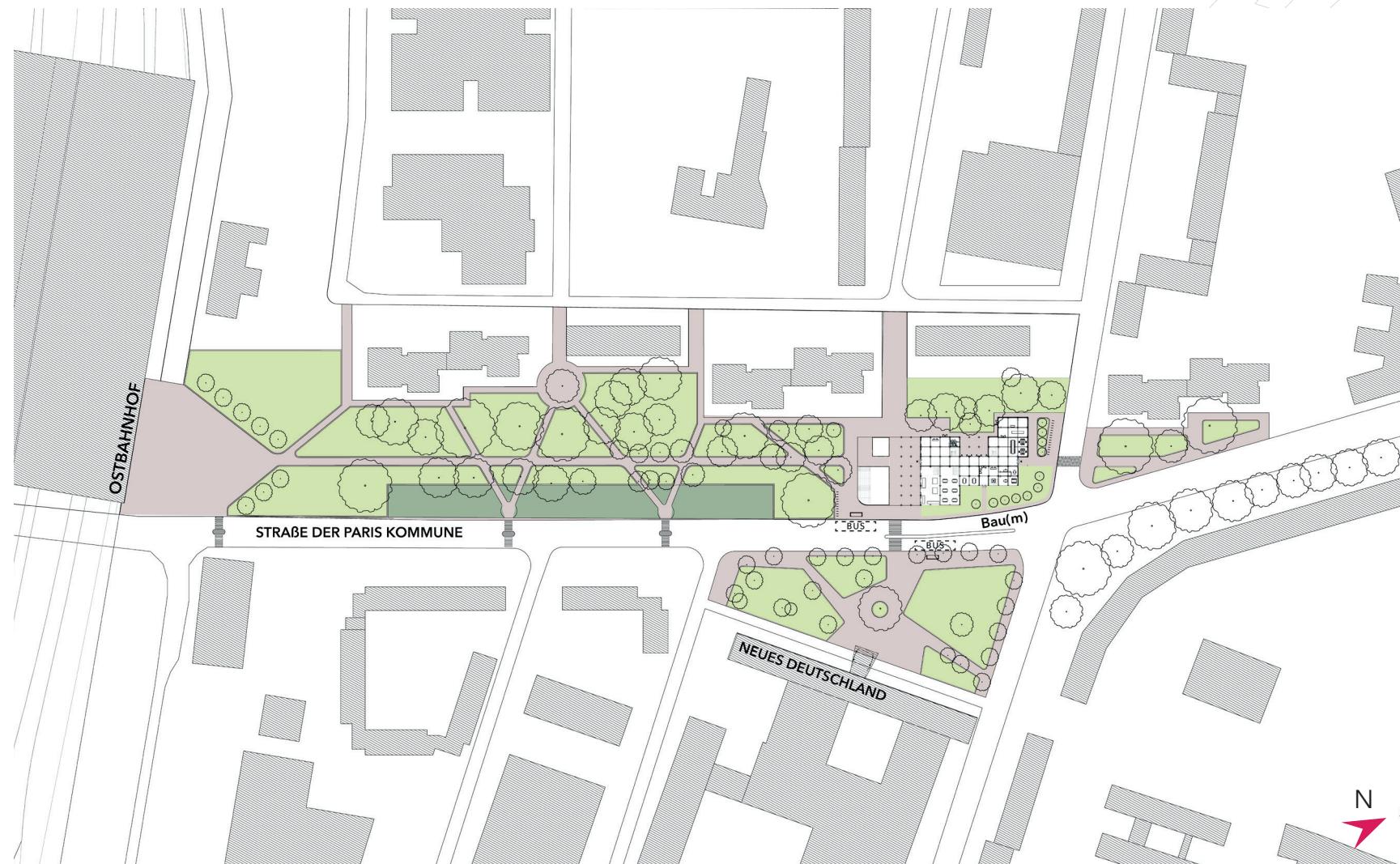


Bau(m) BERLIN

SITE ADAPTATIONS



URBAN PLAN



URBAN AXIS



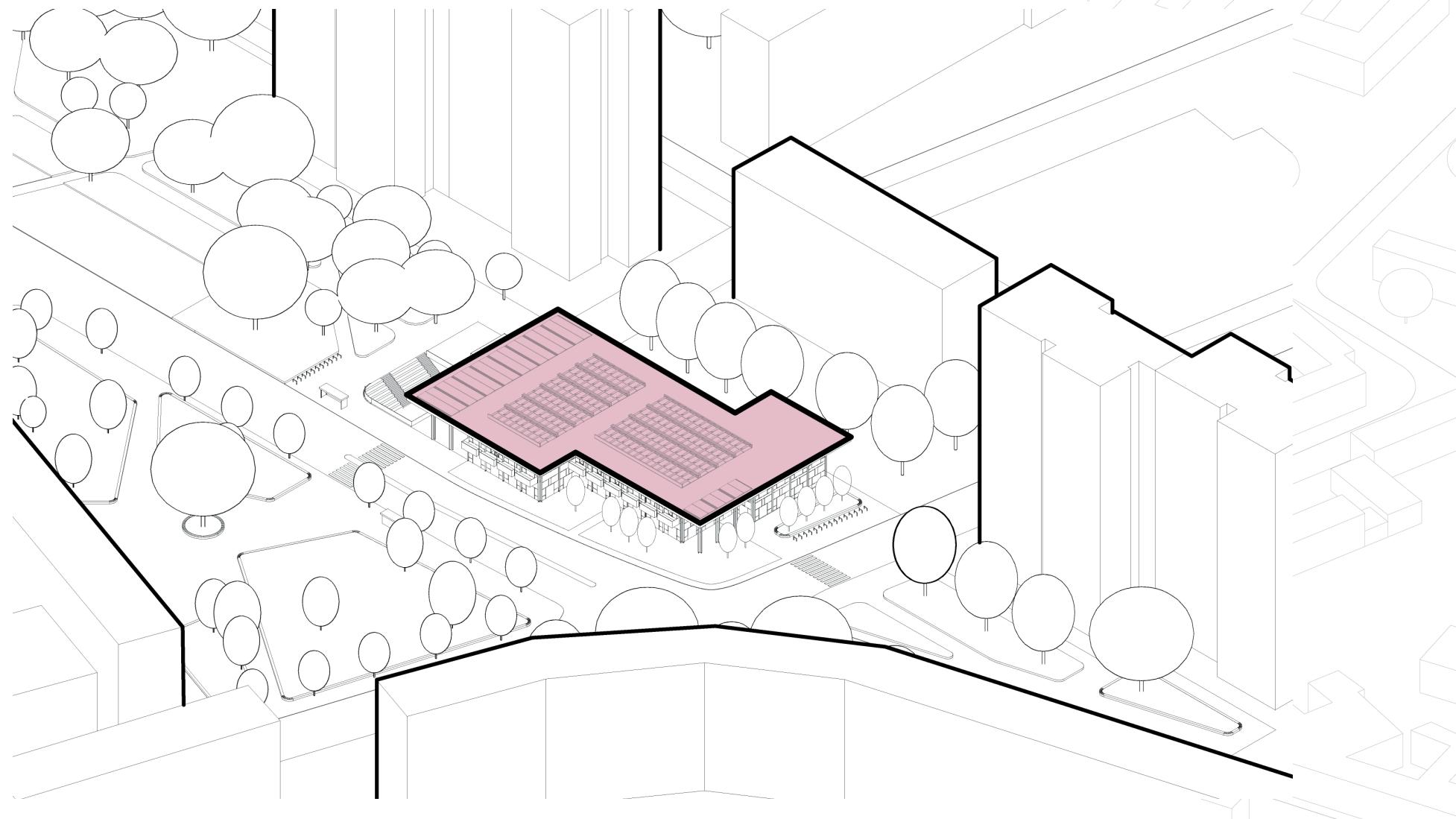
Bau(m) BERLIN

URBAN ROUTE



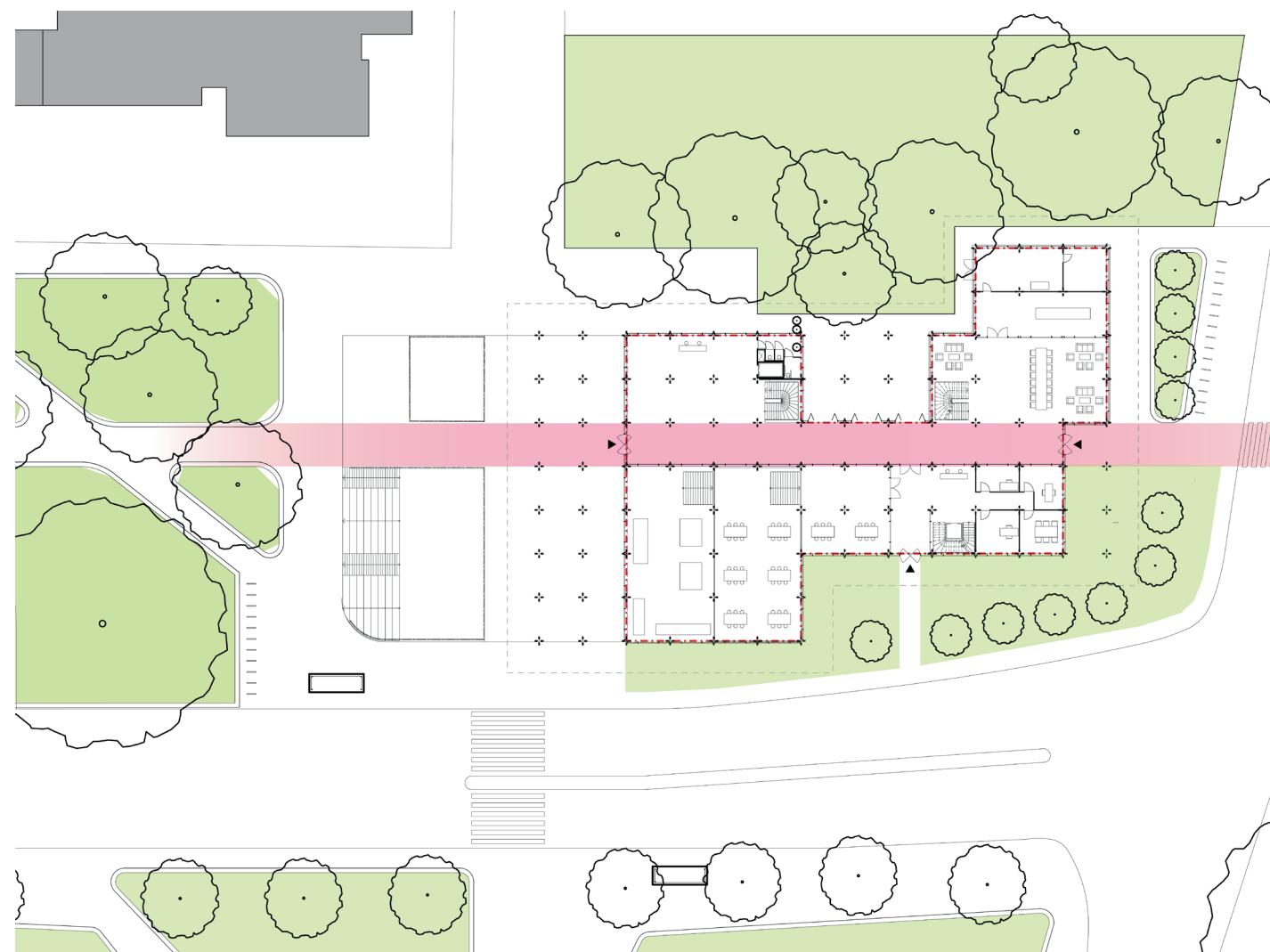
Bau(m) BERLIN

BUILDING ON SITE

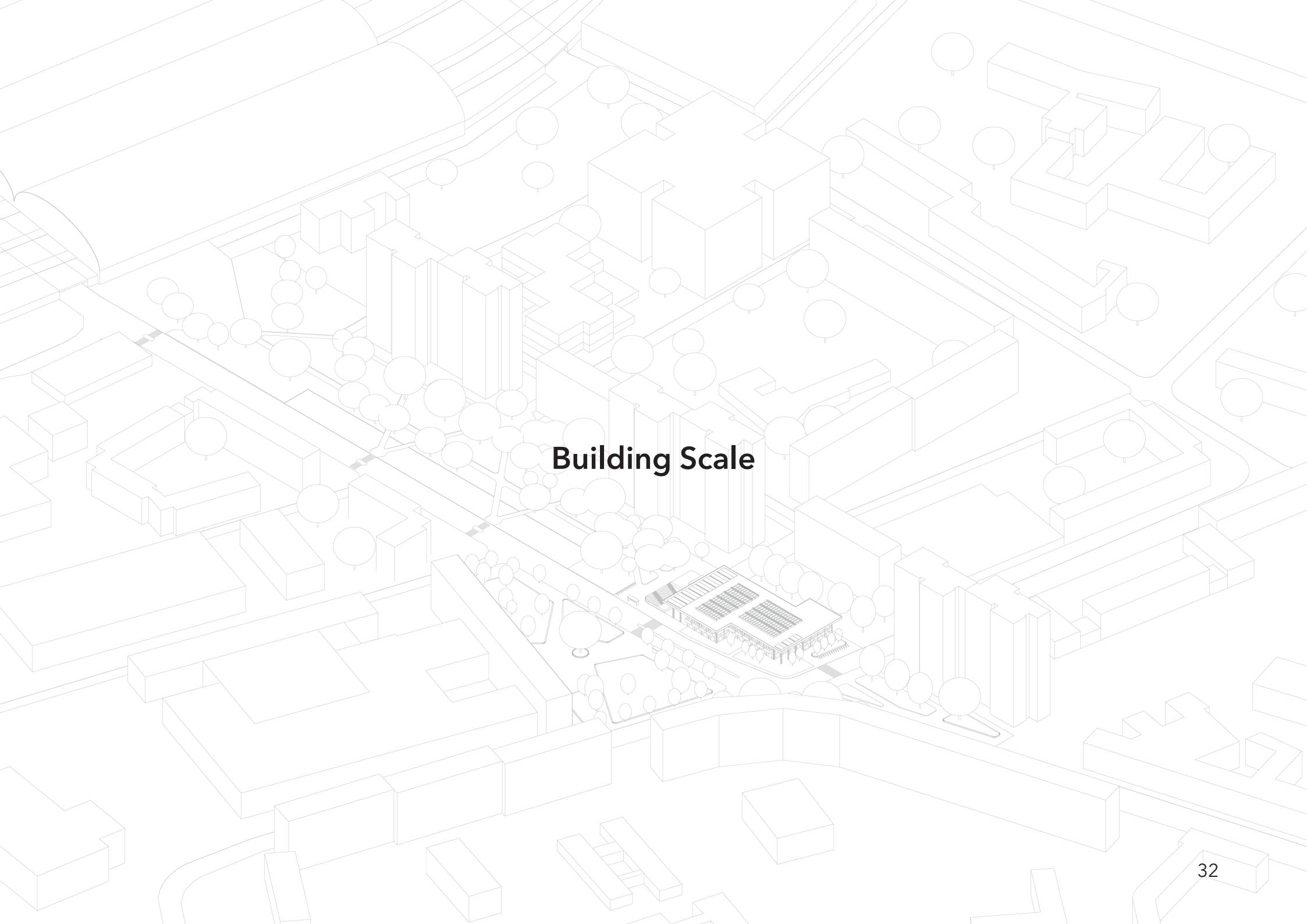


Bau(m) BERLIN

BUILDING ON SITE



Bau(m) BERLIN



Building Scale

ALL UNDER ONE ROOF



Model 1:500

Bau(m) BERLIN

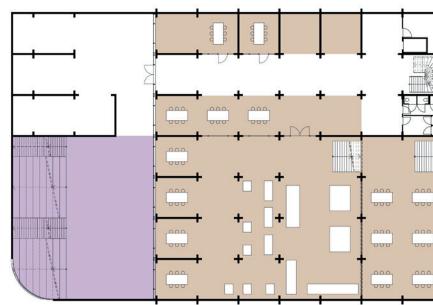
BASEMENT



View from basement looking outside

Workshop Space

Open Theatre



5 10 15 20 25m
N

GROUND FLOOR



Urban Living Room

- Shop
- Urban Living Room
- Workshop space
- Social Support

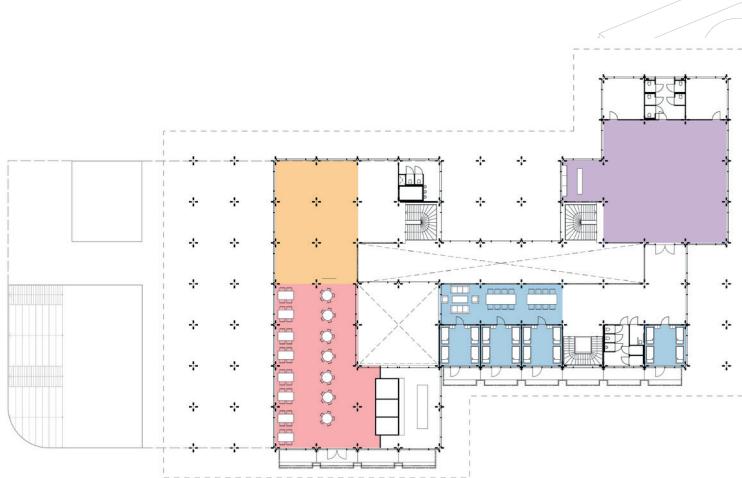


FIRST FLOOR



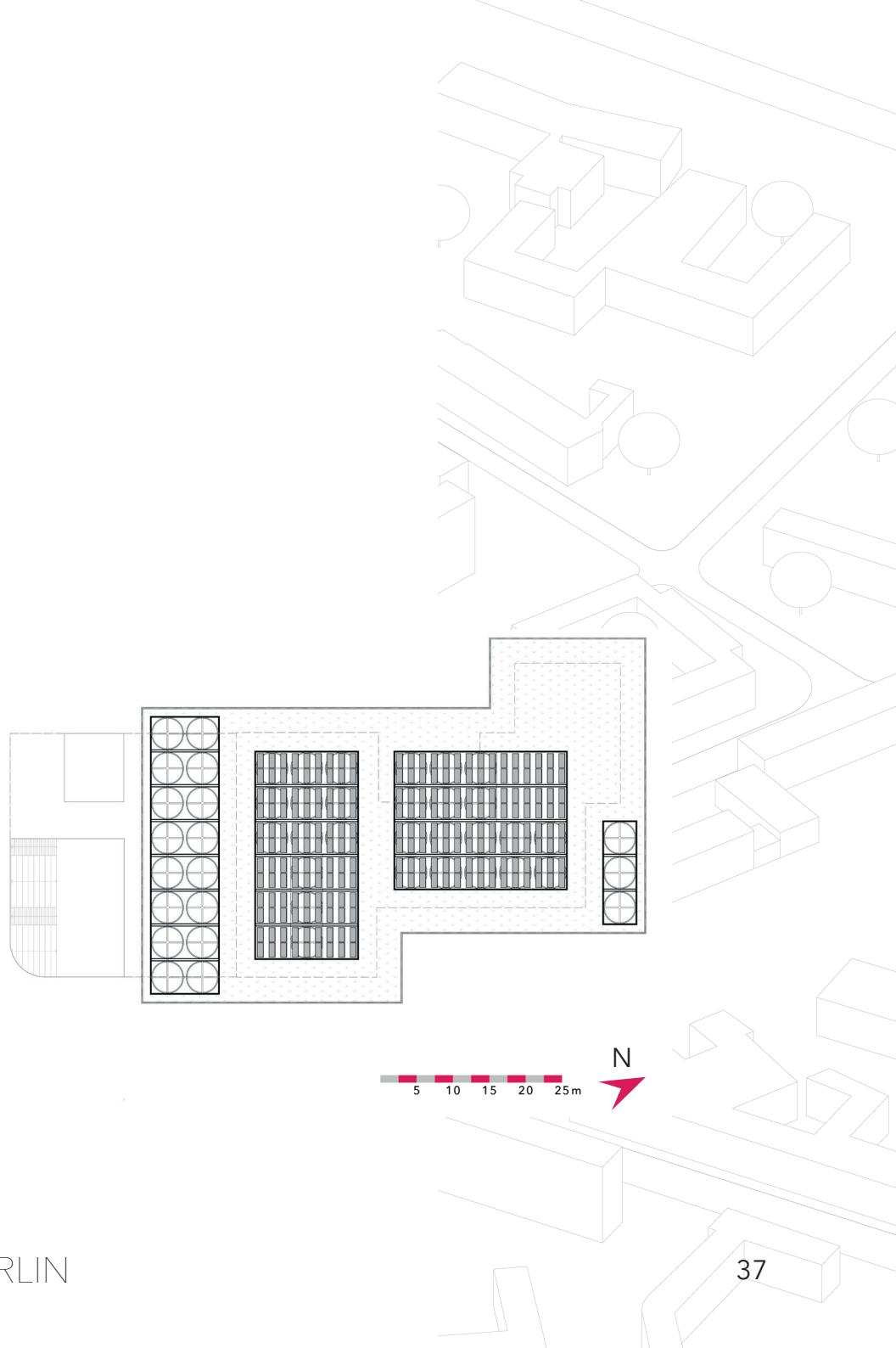
Event Space

- Shop / Showroom
- Restaurant
- Homeless Shelter
- Event Space



5 10 15 20 25m
N

ROOF



SECTION A



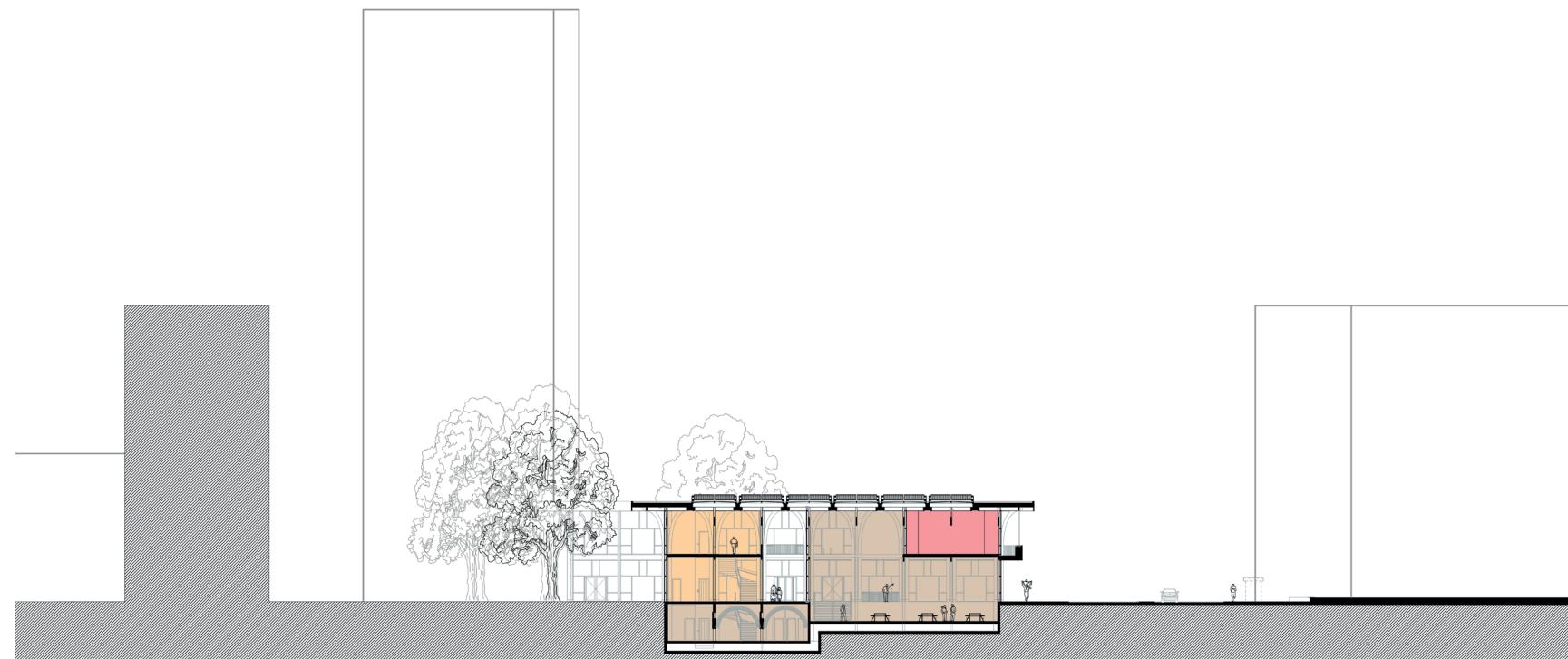
Bau(m) BERLIN

WORKSHOP SPACE



Bau(m) BERLIN

SECTION B



Bau(m) BERLIN

PASSAGE



Bau(m) BERLIN



Architectural Language

ARCHES INSPIRED BY THE URBAN CONTEXT

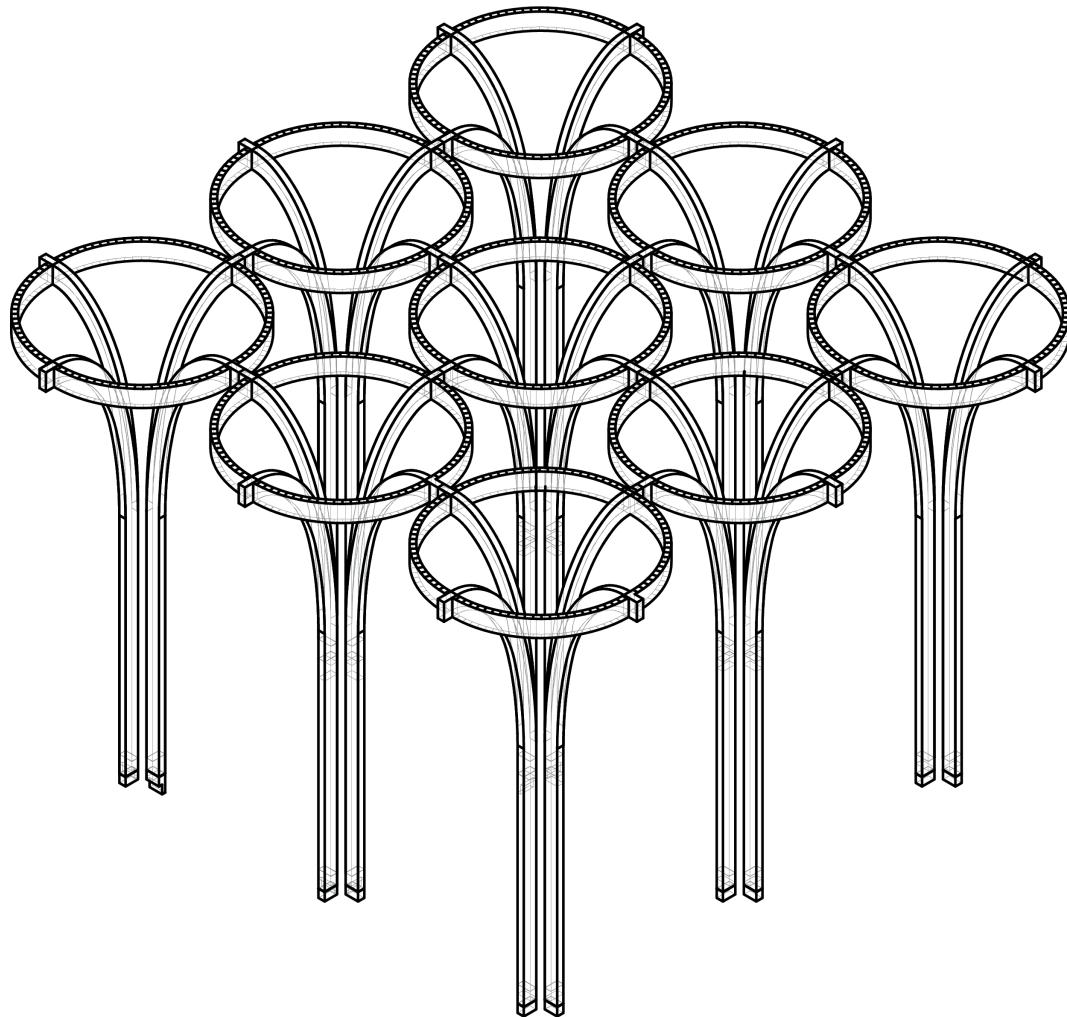


Ellen Key Schule



Ostbahnhof

A REPEATING ELEMENT

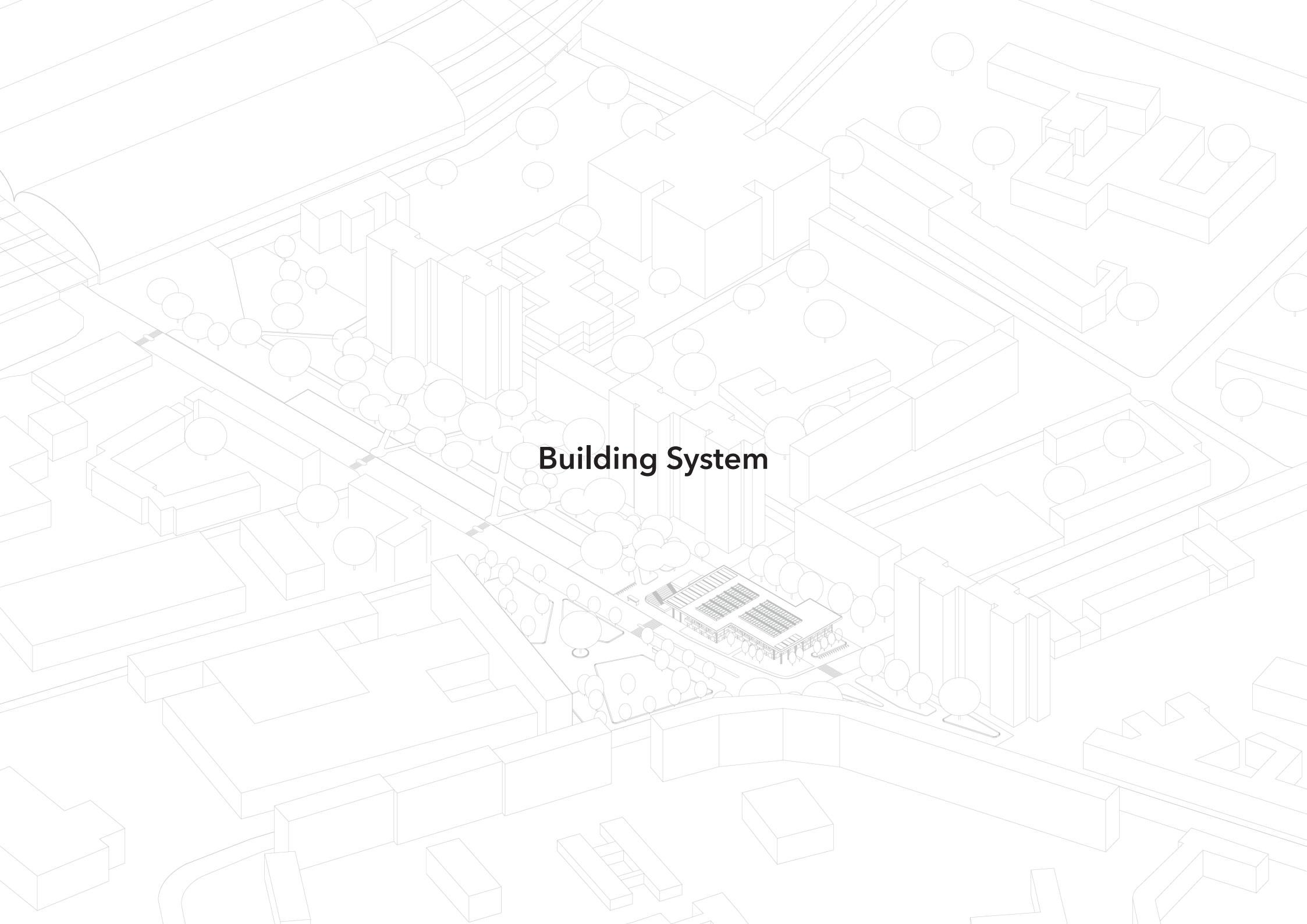




Bau(m) BERLIN

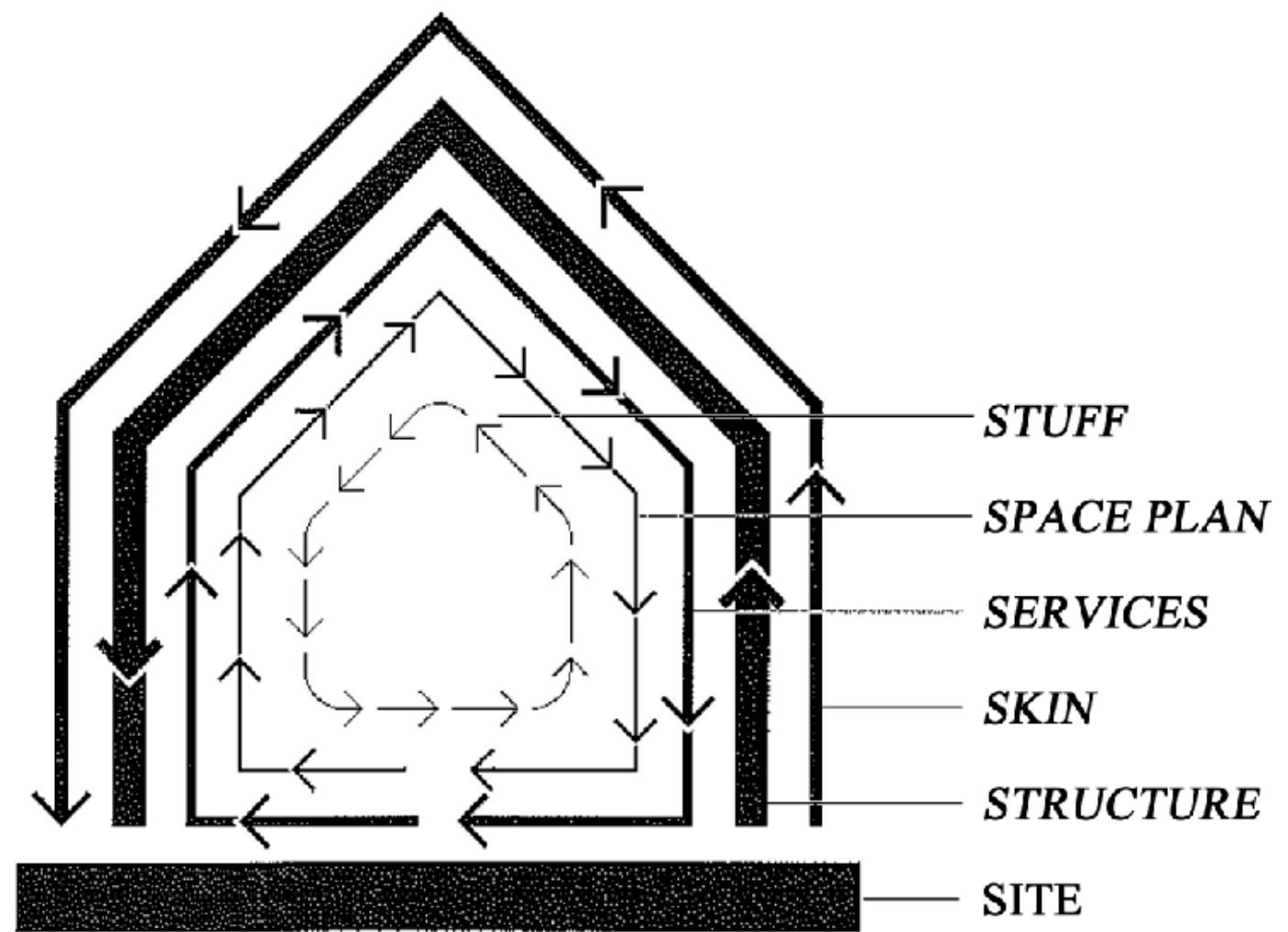
COPPER ROOF EDGE PATINA





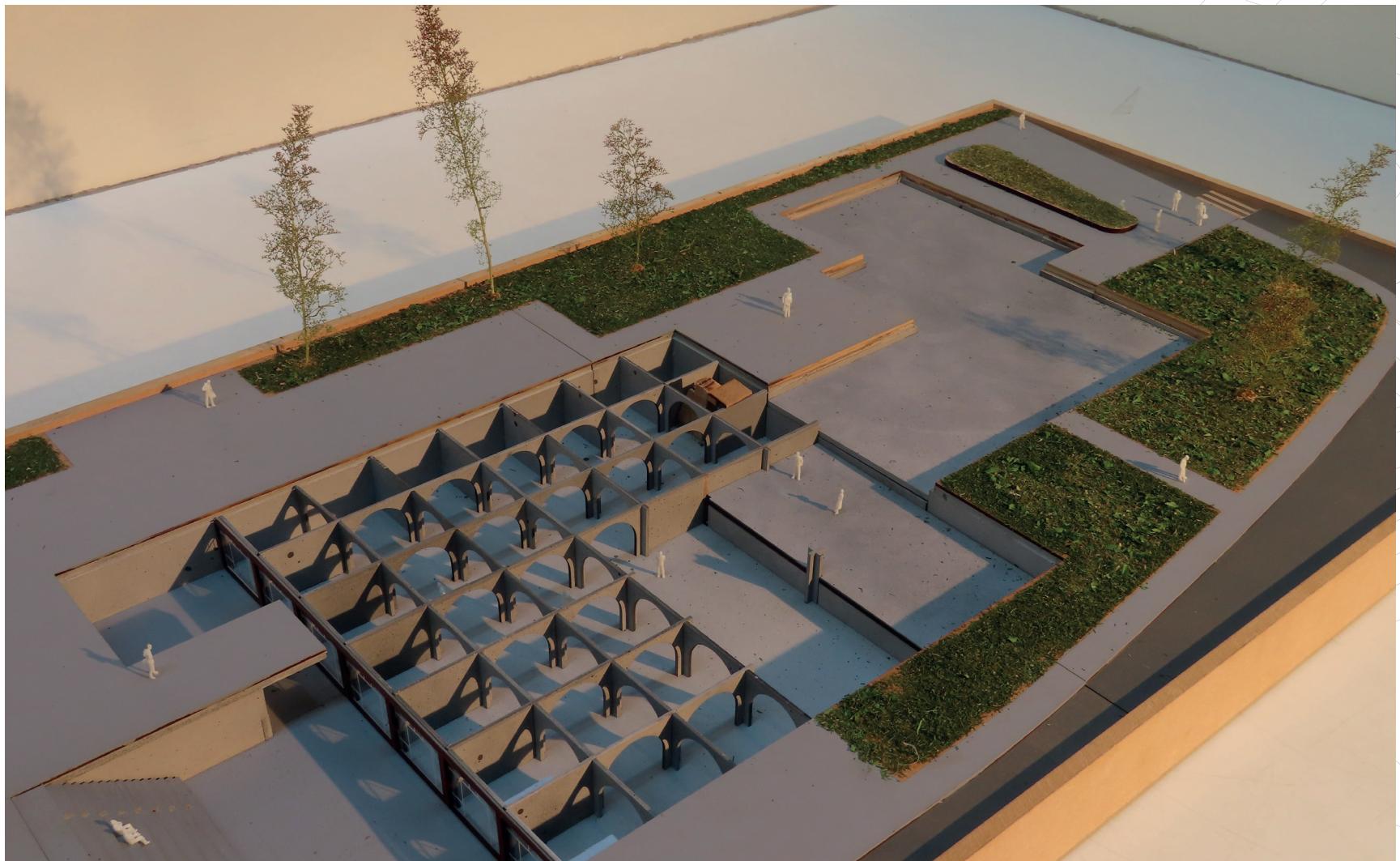
Building System

SHEARING LAYERS



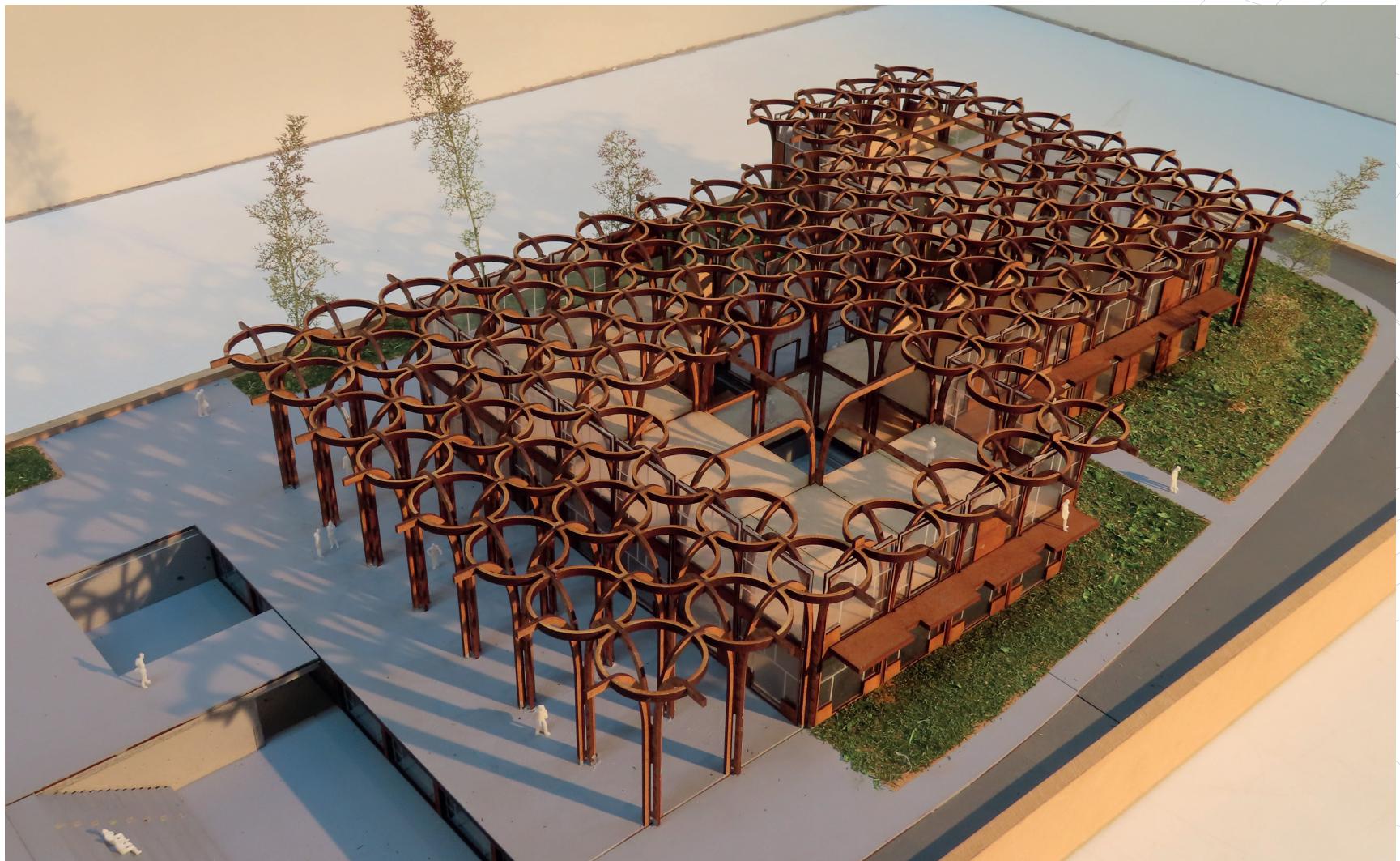
Model Shearing Layers, by S. Brand

SITE

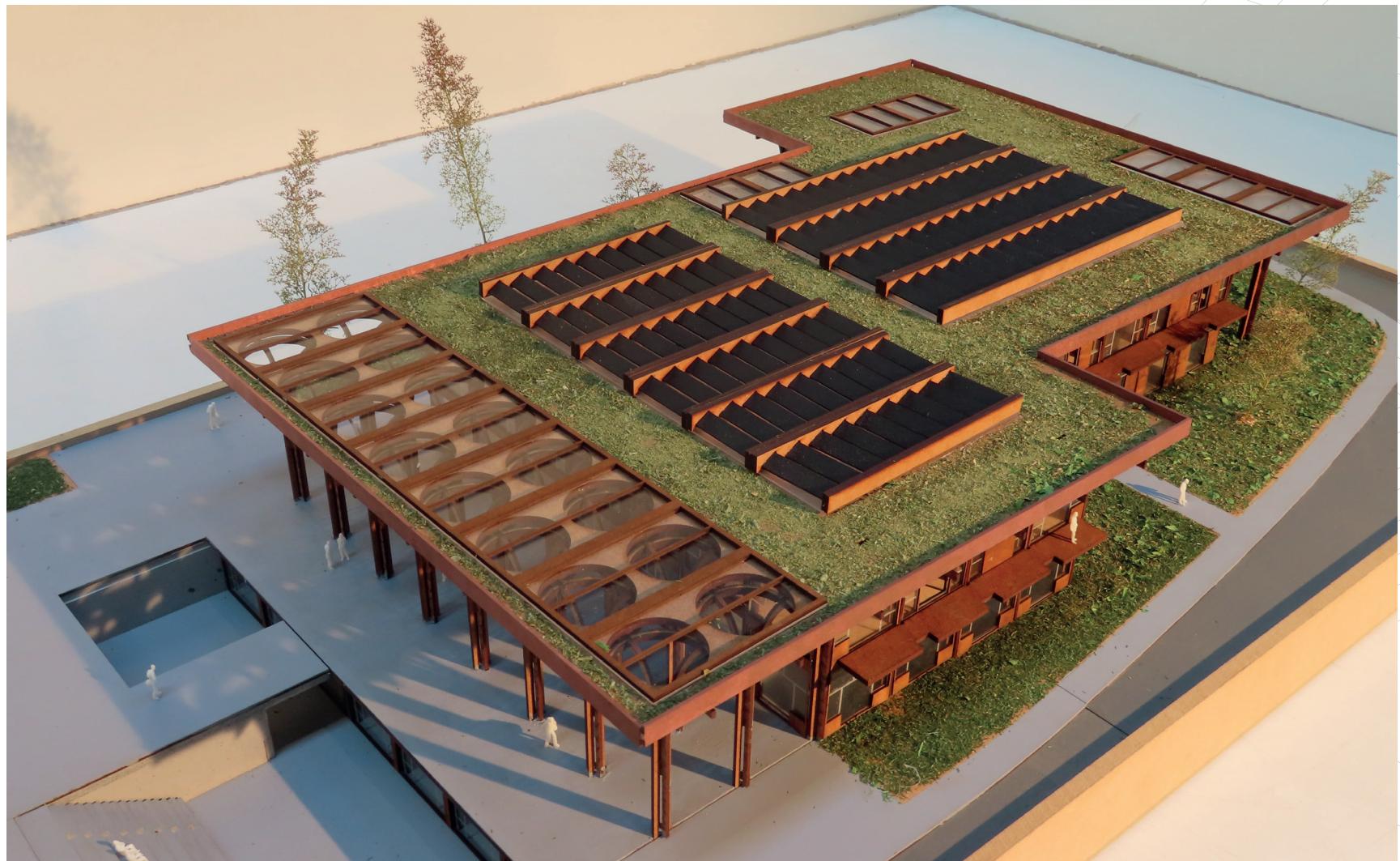
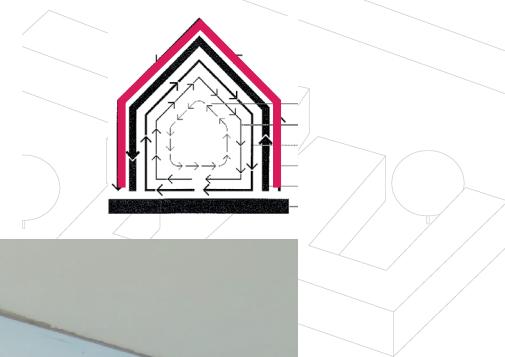


Bau(m) BERLIN

STRUCTURE

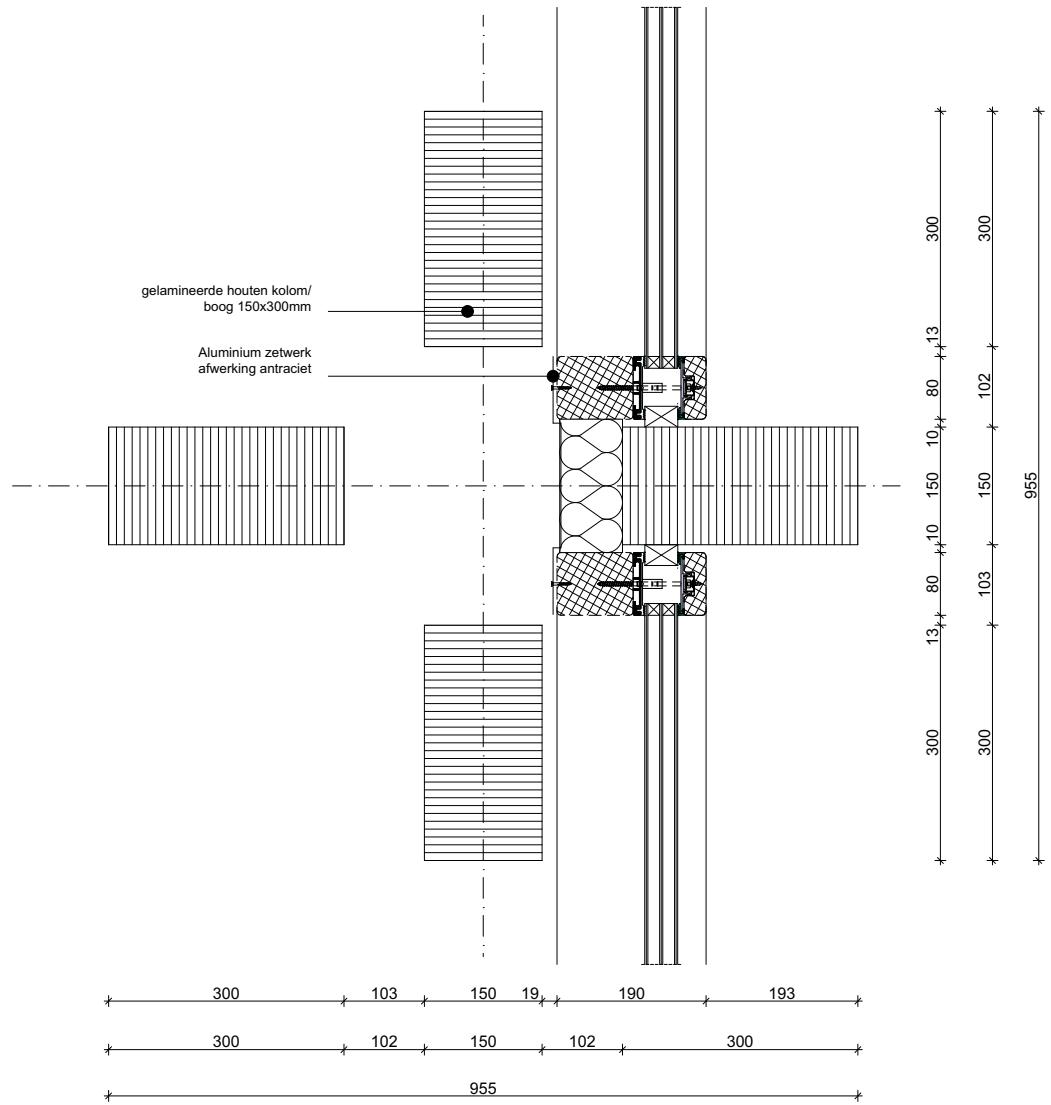


SKIN

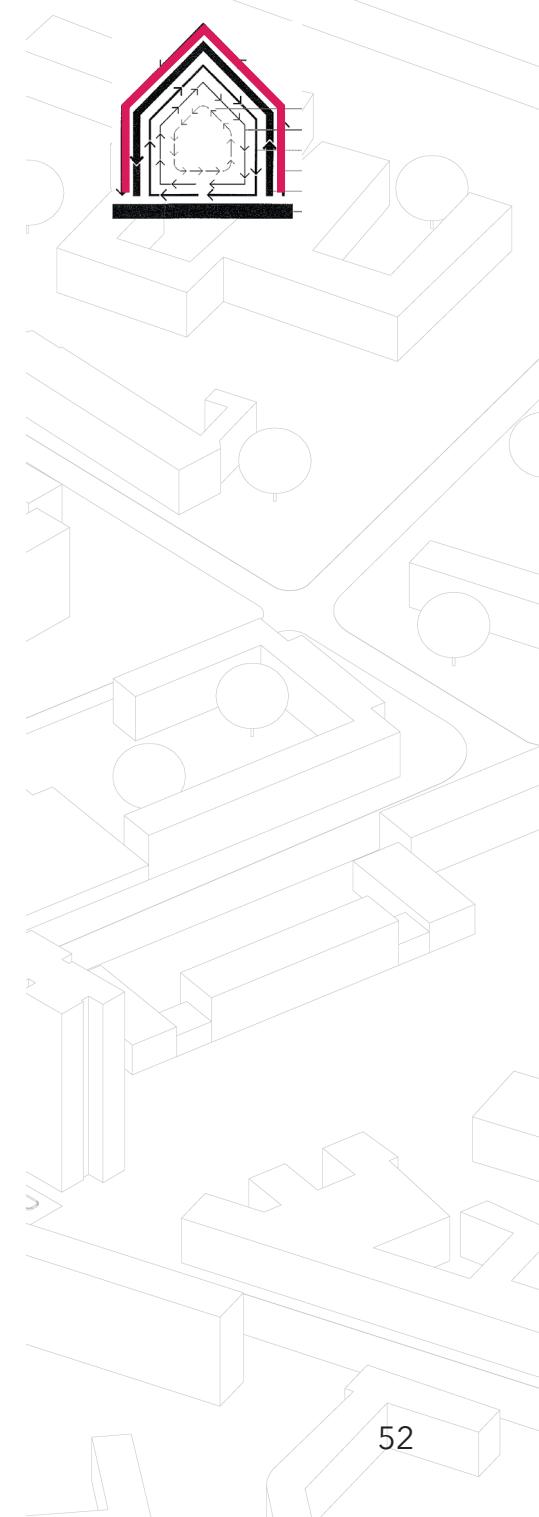


Bau(m) BERLIN

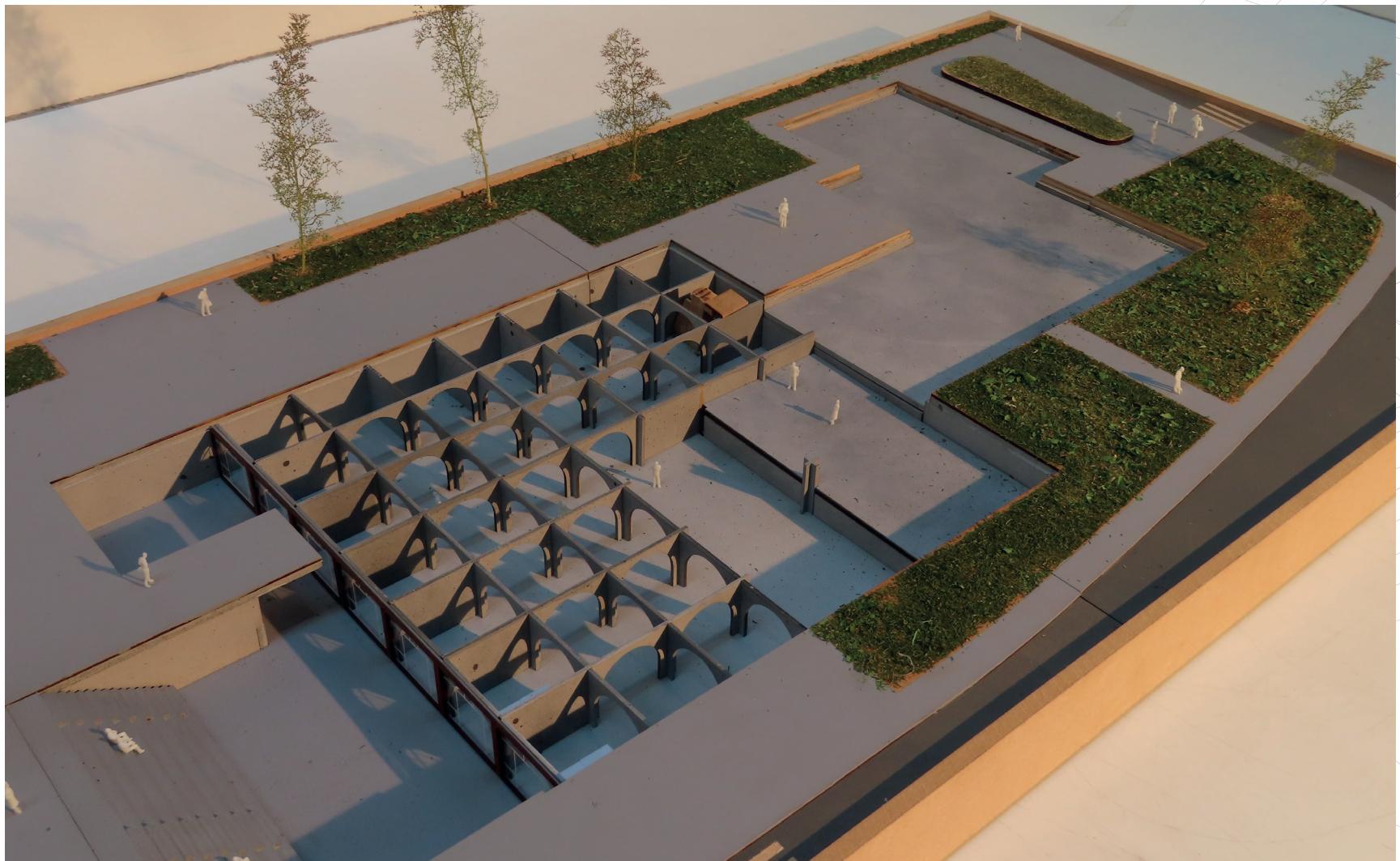
SKIN



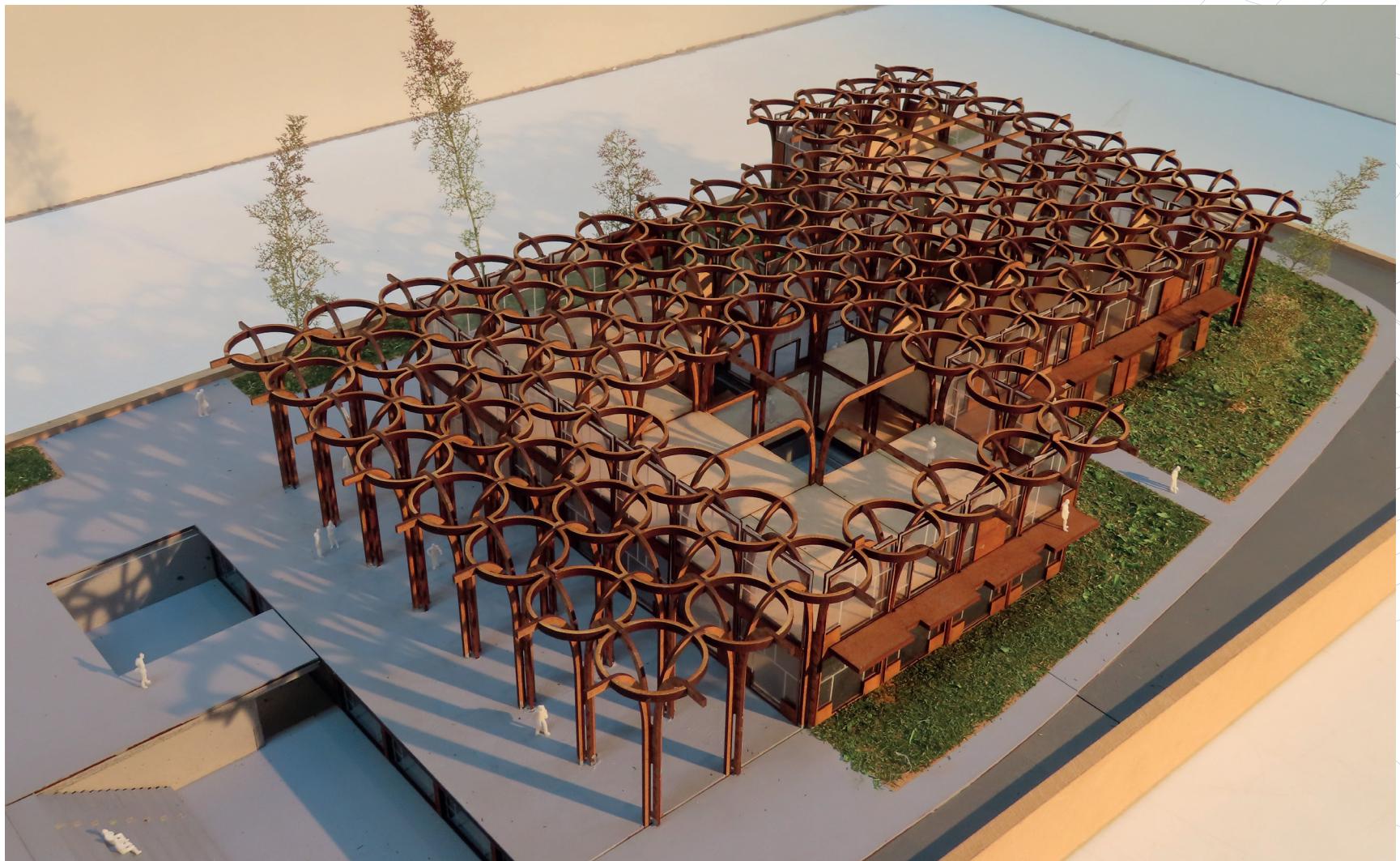
Bau(m) BERLIN



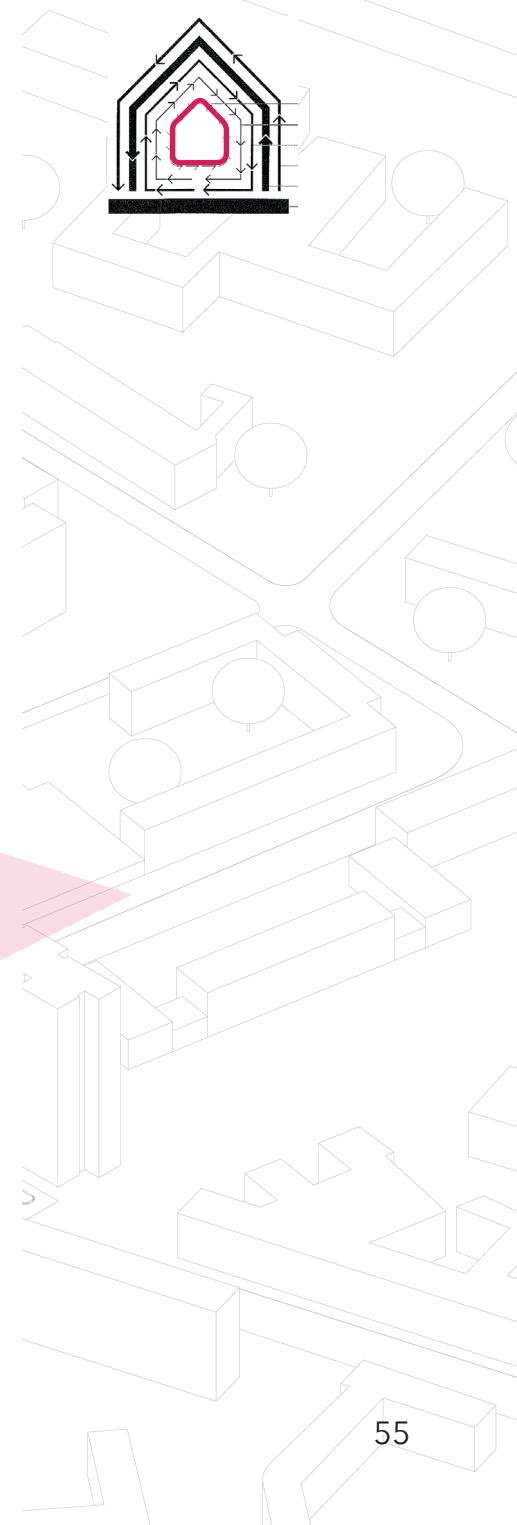
SERVICES



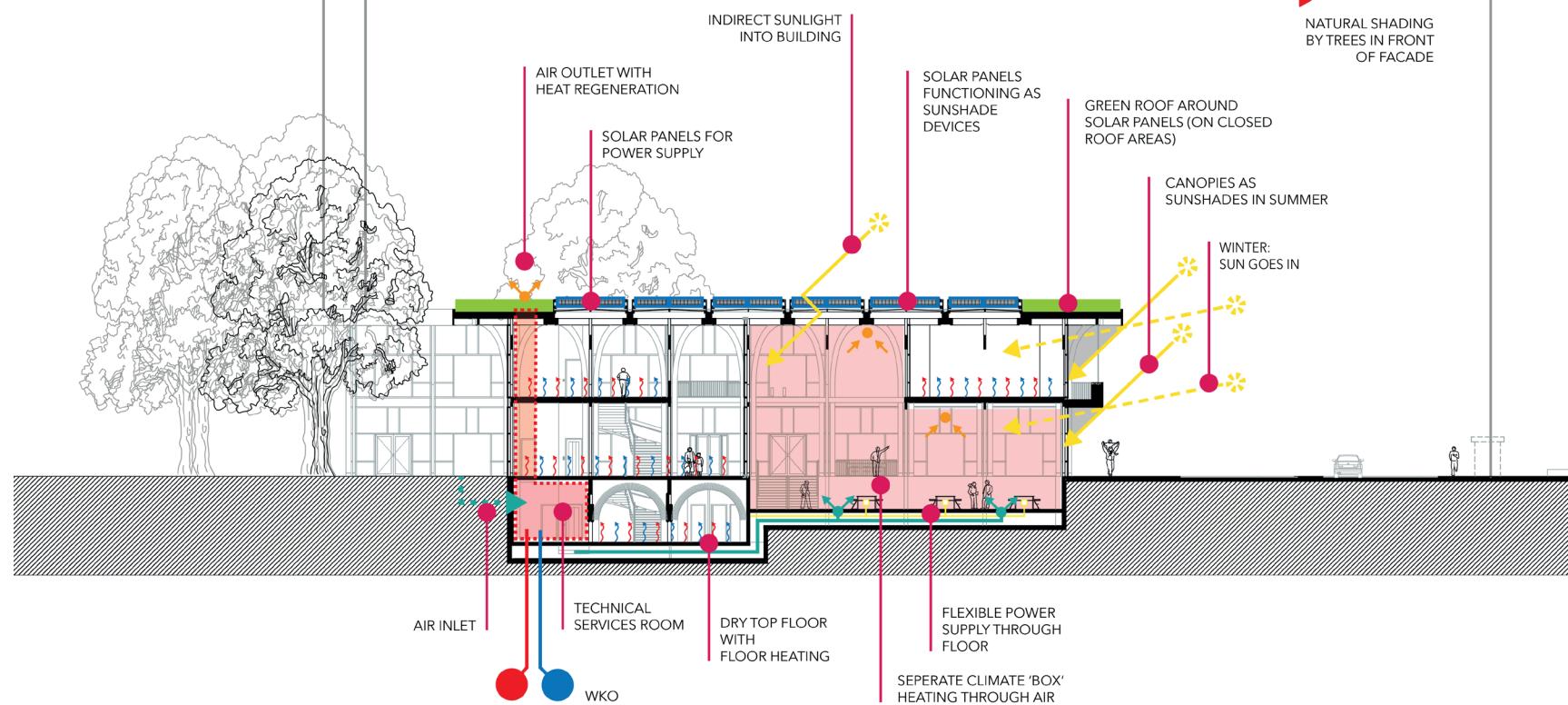
SPACE PLAN



STUFF



CLIMATE SYSTEM

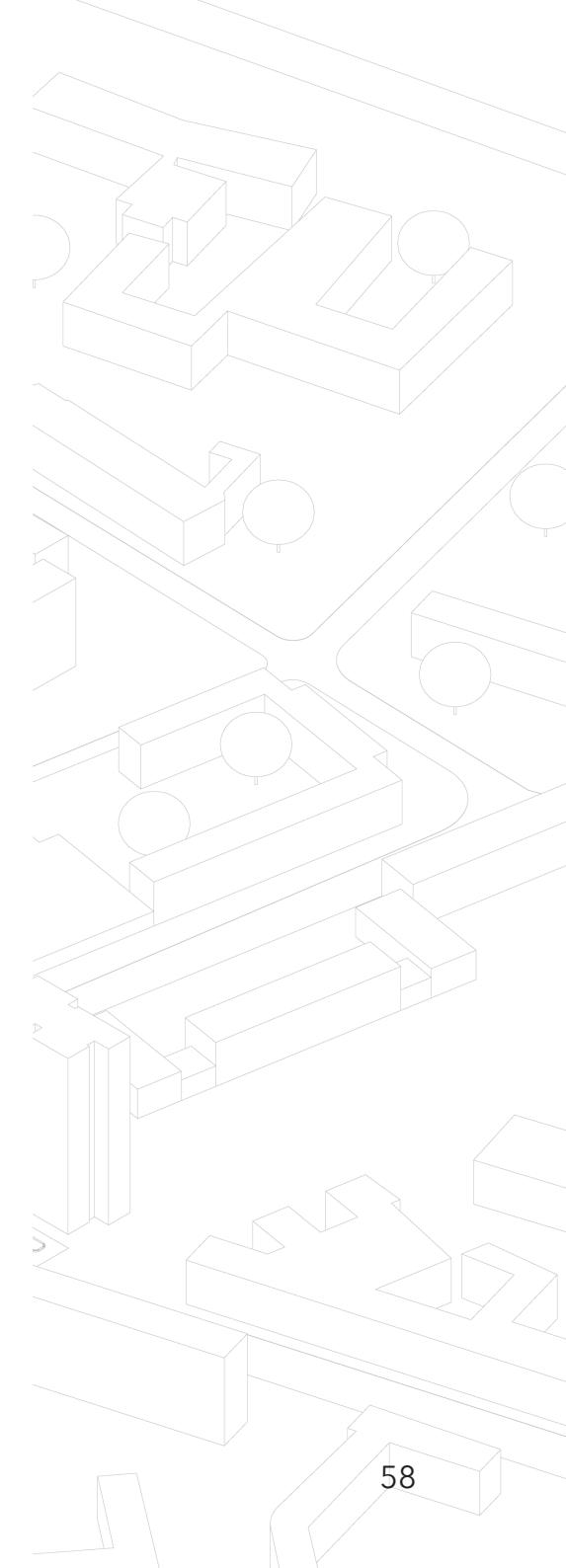
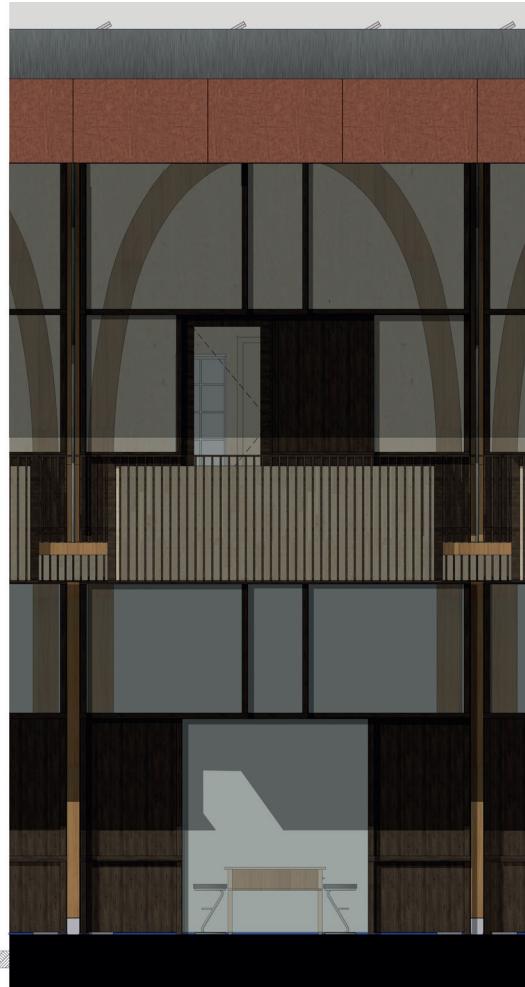
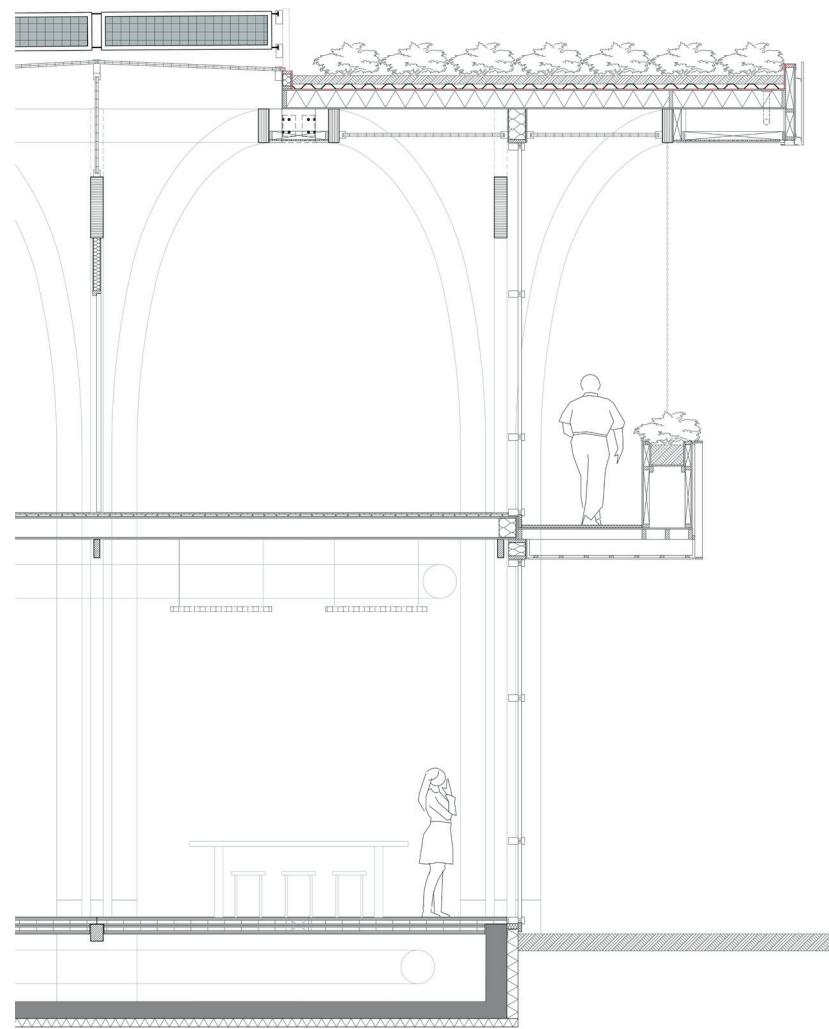




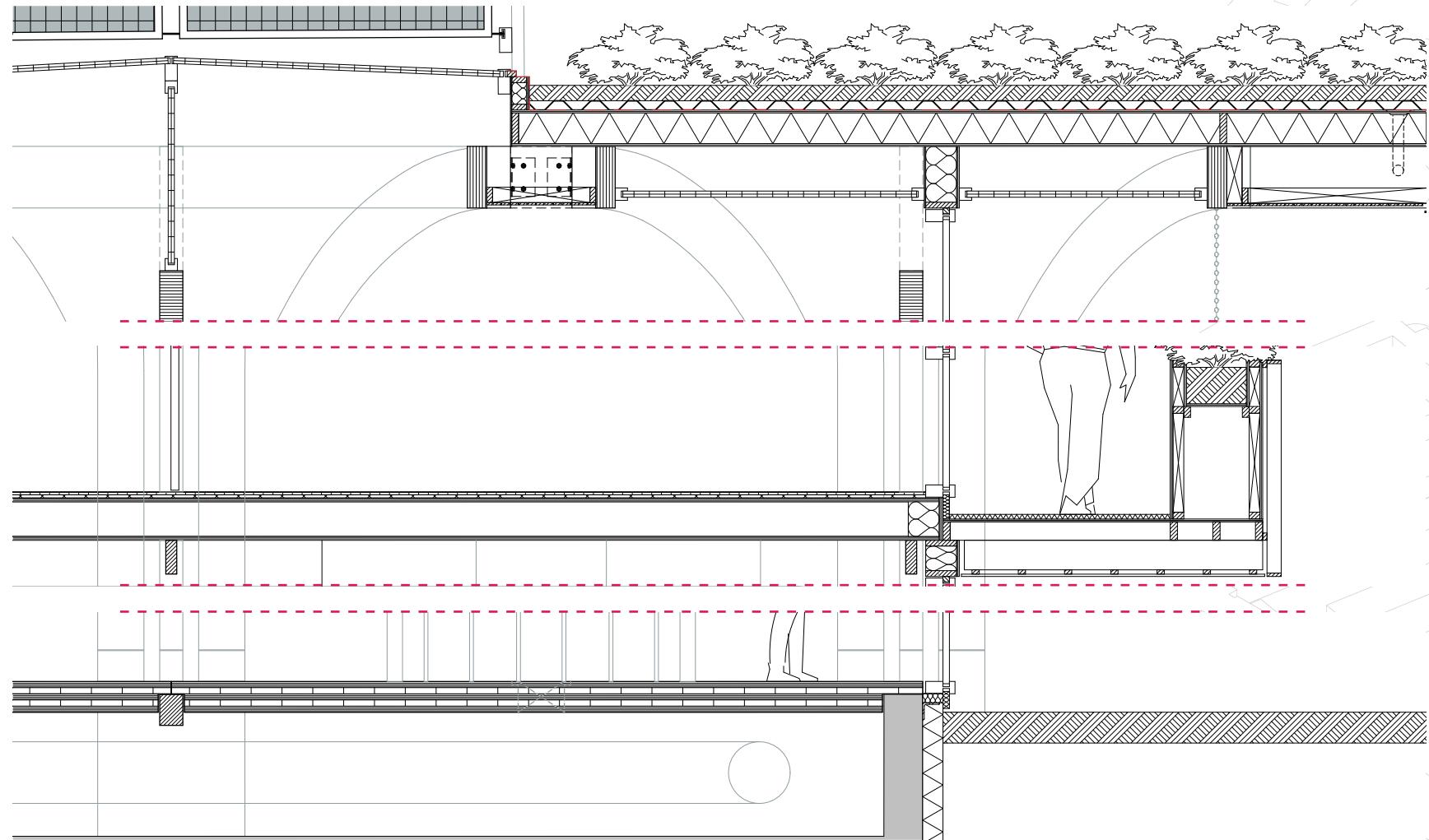
The Skin

In Depth

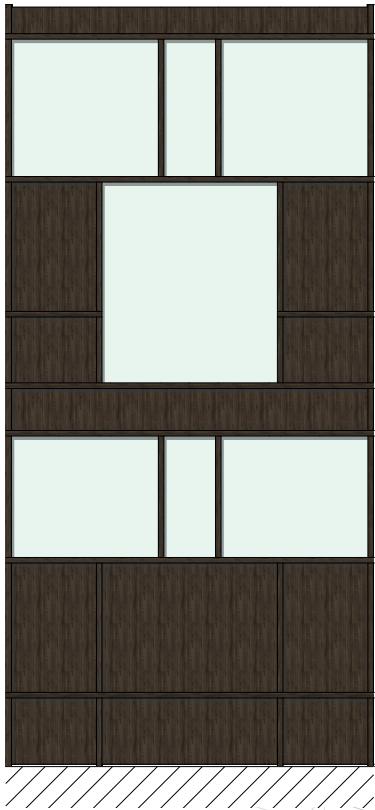
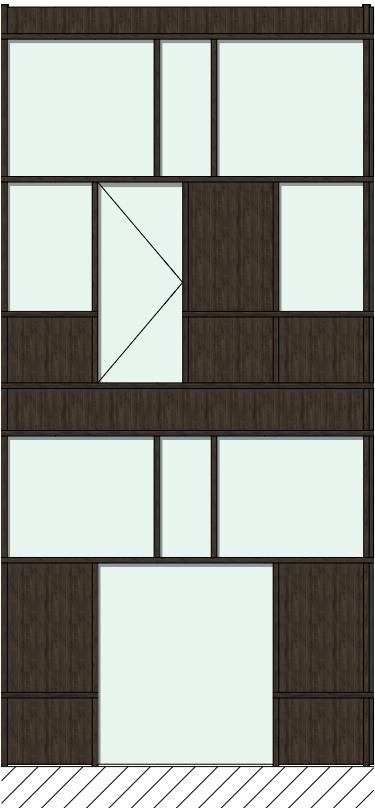
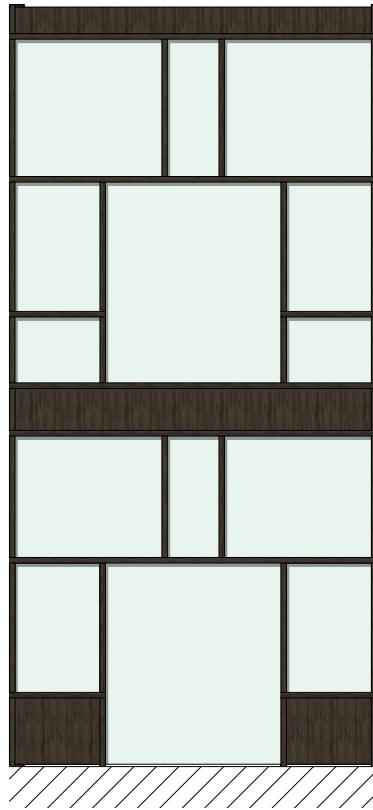
FACADE SECTION



FACADE SECTION ZOOM

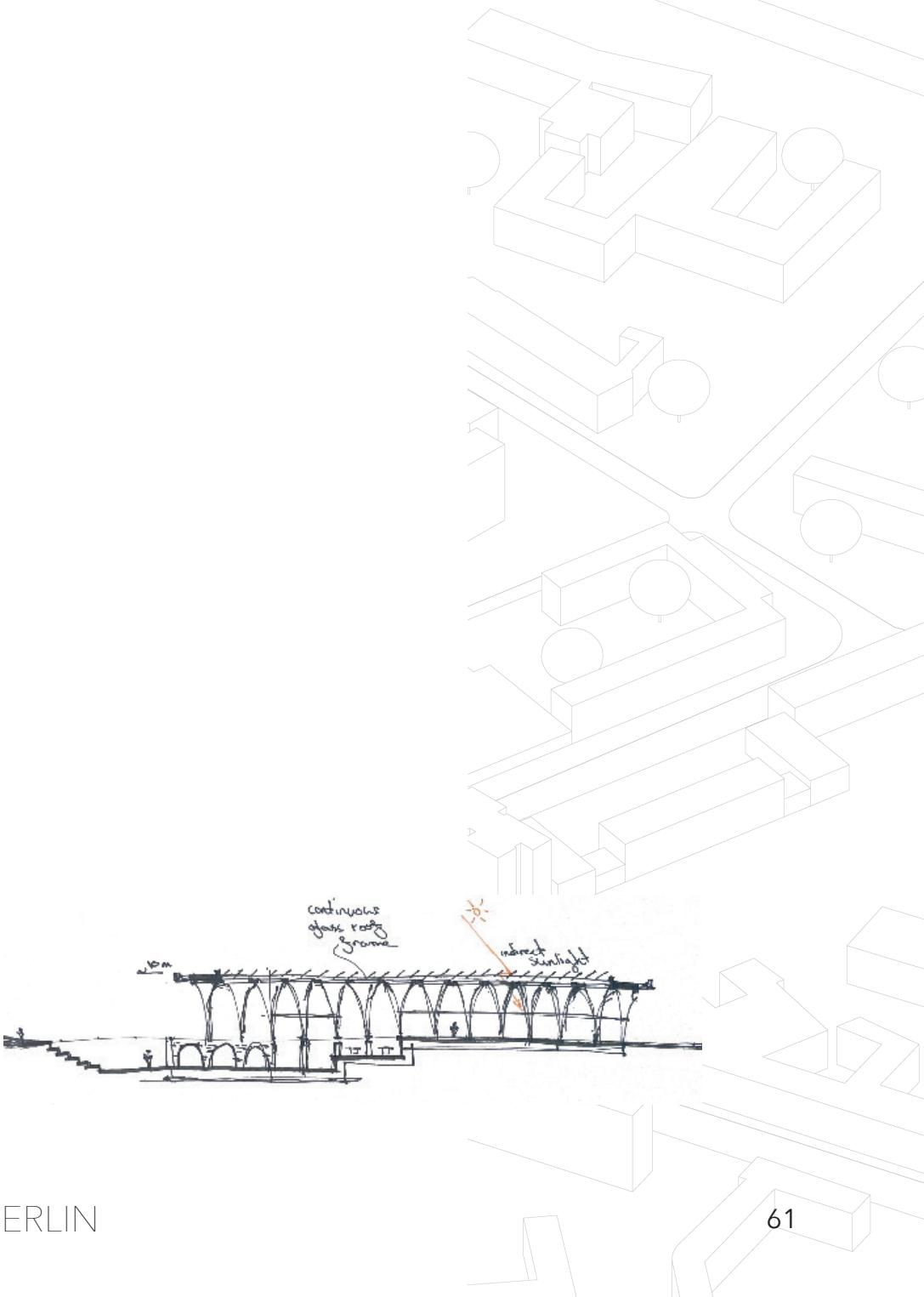


SAME SYSTEM, DIFFERENT INFILL

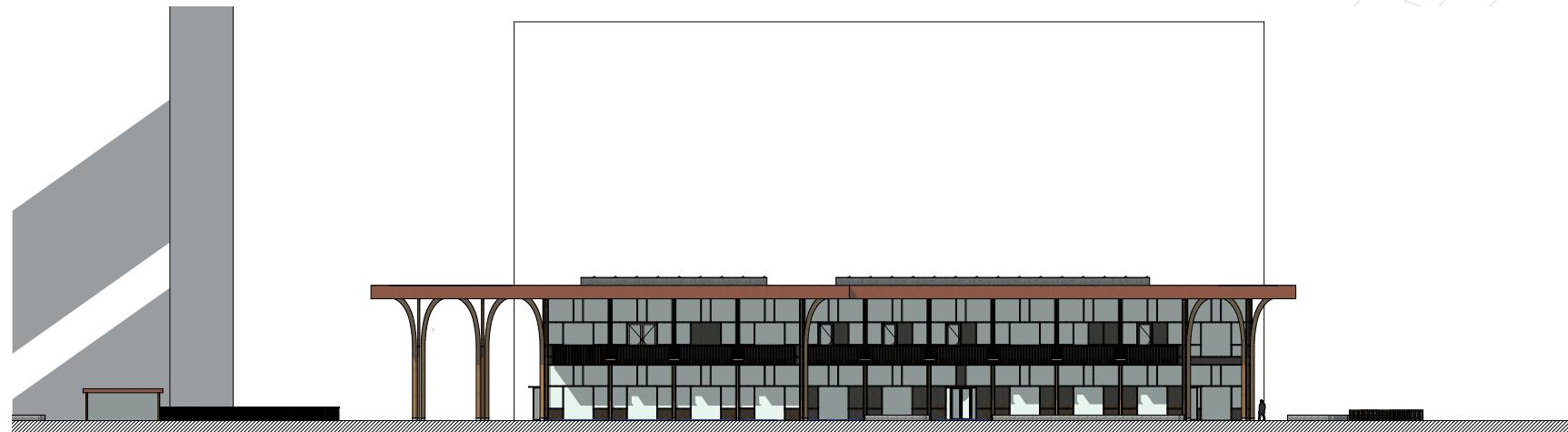


Bau(m) BERLIN

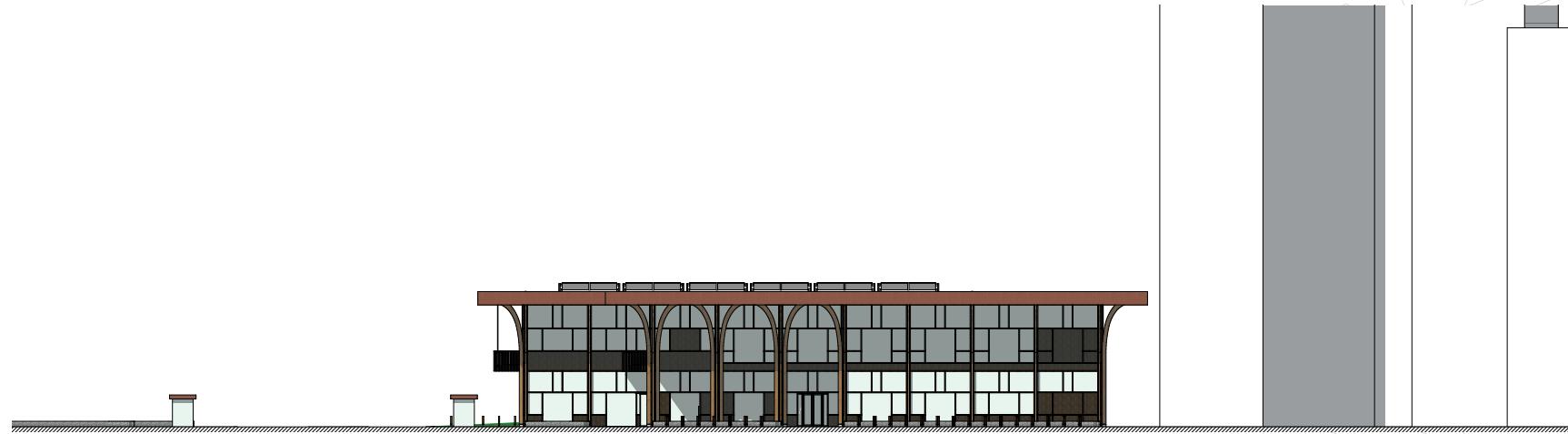
ROOF SYSTEM



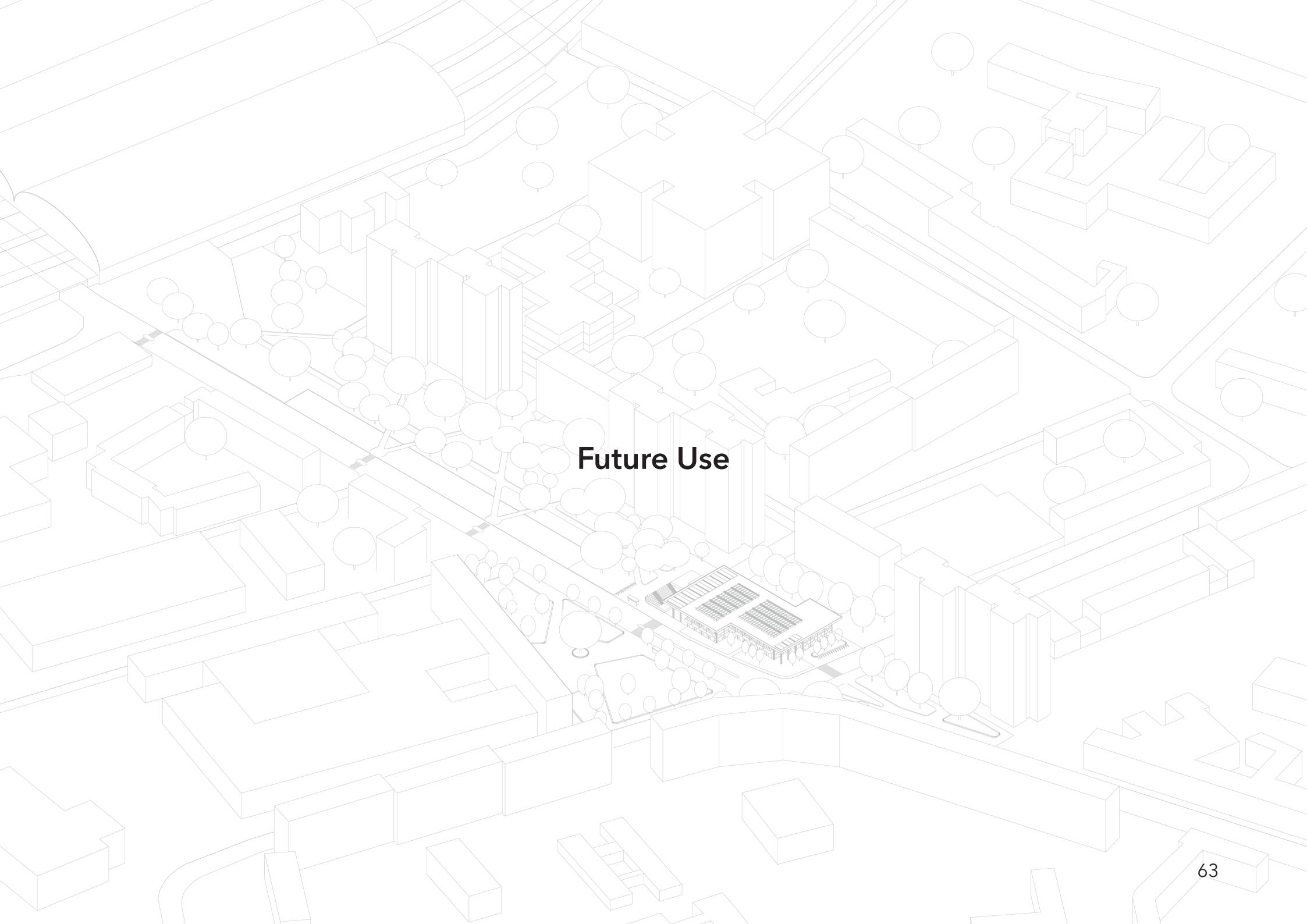
FACADE ELEVATIONS



Front Elevation



Right side Elevation



Future Use

USE TODAY



Bau(m) BERLIN

FUTURE USE??



Bau(m) BERLIN



Bau(m) BERLIN
Bau(m) MUNICH
Bau(m) AMSTERDAM
Bau(m) LONDON
Bau(m) PARIS
Bau(m) MADRID
Bau(m) ROME



P5 GRADUATION PRESENTATION

TIMO VAN DALEN

TU DELFT

FACULTEIT BOUWKUNDE

20.06.2023

Bau(m) BERLIN

Building a future Commons
Building connections
Building things

image sources

Karl-Marx-Allee

Ruslan Taran (2019), retrieved from commons.wikimedia.org: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Karl-Marx-Allee,_Berlin._DJI_1368-2s.jpg

Ostbahnhof

photo by Markus Schwarz

precedent visit PLuspunt Rotterdam

pluspuntrotterdam.info, 14-05-2023, Werkplaatsen: <https://www.pluspuntrotterdam.info/werkplaatsen/>

Berliner Dom: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/9/95/Berliner_Dom_von_Humboldt-Box_%2850MP%29.jpg/1920px-Berliner_Dom_von_Humboldt-Box_%2850MP%29.jpg

Frankfurter Tor: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Frankfurter_Tor_%28Karl-Marx-Allee,_Berlin%29_%286074753128%29.jpg

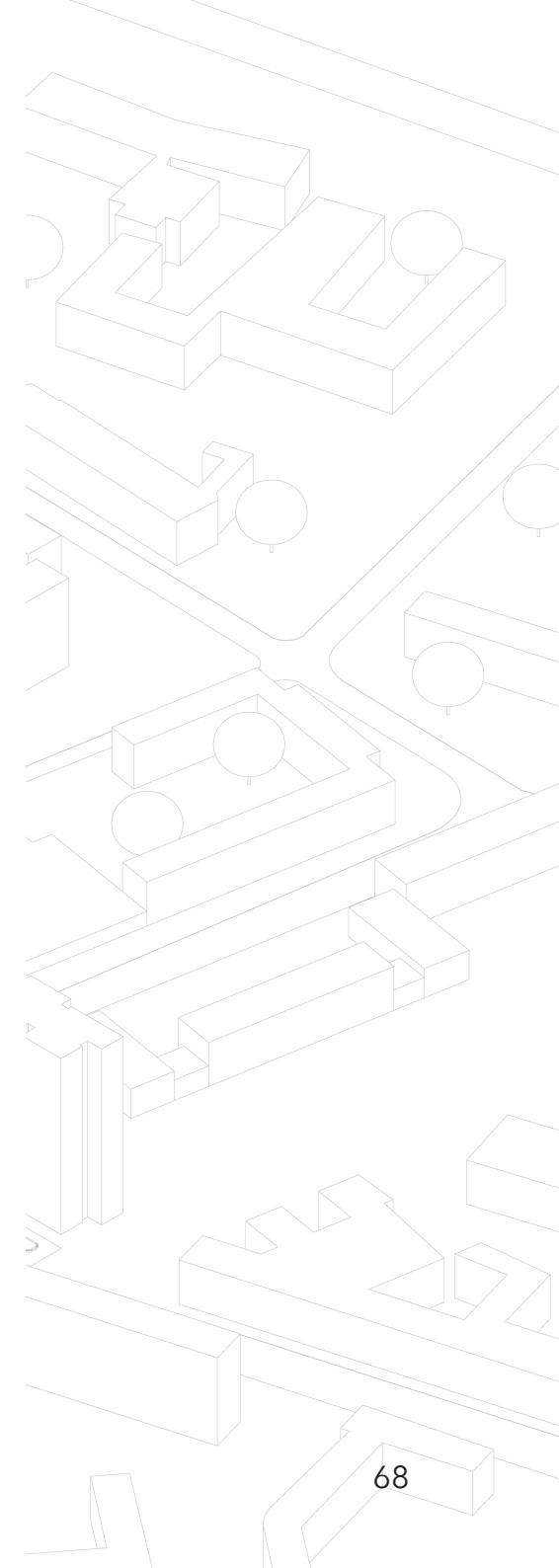
Kimbell Arts Museum Extension: <https://www.archdaily.com/448735/renzo-piano-pavilion-at-kimbell-art-museum-renzo-piano-kendall-heaton-associates>

Golf Club Shigeru Ban: <https://www.floornature.com/architectural-solutions/shigeru-banas-curved-wooden-structure-golf-club-span-langja-13113/>

Superhub Meerstad: <https://www.pietersbouwtechniek.nl/projecten/superhub-meerstad>

Cafe Moskau: <https://www.cafemoskau.com/en/home>

Neue Nationalgalerie: <https://the-talks.com/location/neue-nationalgalerie/>



3. FINAL REFLECTION

introduction

This graduation project sets out the task of creating a 'New Urban Lounge & Urban Commons' in Friedrichshain, east Berlin. This public building should function as an urban condenser, and thus bring people from the neighbourhood together. For me, such a space should allow for interaction and connection between the people living in/ passing through Friedrichshain. It should be a place that is able to connect people from different backgrounds so that, in particular social minorities, are included and can become part of the Friedrichshain community.

Being formerly part of East Berlin, and thus East Germany, Friedrichshain used to be under communist rule, something which is still visible today due to its urban plan and architecture. The selected area of the Bezirk (District) is divided into three smaller neighbourhoods. It is divided by the Straße der Pariser Kommune with Andreasviertel on the West and Weiberwiese and the Wriezener Bahnhof on the East. Due to post-war development, Friedrichshain, like many other areas of Berlin, is greatly characterised by the 'plattenbau' typology.

Preliminary research and a visit to Berlin made clear that the area is lacking qualitative public spaces and places whilst there being great potential for development. On top of that, it appeared that people were rather disconnected with their environment and some social minorities were left out. This made clear to me that a place for people to come together and connect was indeed vital.

In general, it is my belief that the social issue of disconnection in neighbourhoods and the exclusion of minorities is not limited to Berlin. For that reason, the concept of a public social connector for Berlin could function as a prototype for other places.

Other research on connections and routes in Berlin allowed me to map out key routes and places of Friedrichshain (Fig. 1). As a consequence, these studies gave insight in valuable green spaces and public buildings in the area and how they were used (Fig. 2). During my visit to Berlin, this ended up being particularly useful in finding a valuable site for a public condenser in Friedrichshain.

The design site I have finally chosen is located along the route I took when walking from the Ostbahnhof train station to my hostel along the Str. der Pariser Kommune. It is a longer park zone that could use a lot of improvement on the way it is designed, especially when taking into account its central position in the area and location along the busy main road. Upon arrival, the connection to the long stretching park was so bad that I ended up walking on the narrow pavement along the street instead of the park next to it. The poor connection was one of many things that should certainly be improved.



Fig. 1.: Friedrichshain: urban routes and spots

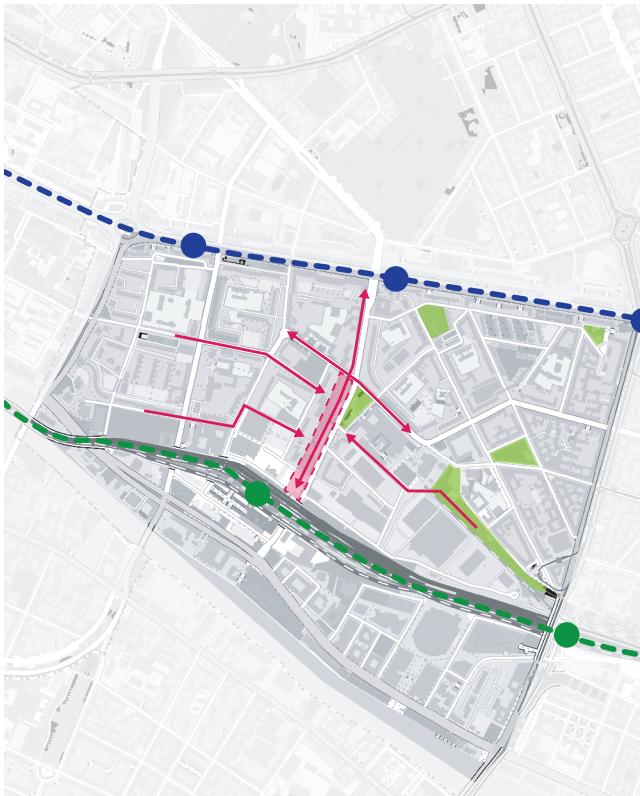


Fig. 2: Friedrichshain: urban parks and neighbourhood routes

A more social note that was visible, not just in this park, but in green areas throughout the neighbourhood, was the huge number of homeless people living on the streets. Even though the area has a few homeless shelters, a place for social minorities to (re-)enter society seemed to be missing.

Upon my return from Berlin, I started to look into social spaces in The Netherlands, mainly my hometown Rotterdam, that work on social reintegration. An effective method for this, was found to be the act of making, so crafts and used at 'Pluspunt Rotterdam'. Here, making, thus creating, things, gave these people a sense of belonging, a belief they do matter.

All this combined, my conclusion was to design a maker's space that could be used for a much broader set of activities. Therefore, I added various other programmatic functions, creating an overlap in the type of user, thus a reason to interact. This public building will be positioned in the formerly mentioned park zone, opposite the Neues Deutschland building, at the corner of Rüdersdorfer Str.

research & design

As the 'Public Building studio' is based on research by design, a lot of my process founded on trial and error. However, especially at the start of the project, reading papers on social integration and visiting social workshops, such as 'Pluspunt Rotterdam', helped in shaping the program of my building. Consequently, the input given allowed me to find other reference projects that could help with understanding typologies, such as wood workshops. Later in the design process, this allowed me to visit the design and craft studio of Piet Hein Eek in Eindhoven (Fig. 3). This visit gave extra insight in ways to design a workshop space.

Secondly, the act of designing (as this is a research method within Research by Design), allowed me to test different spatial ideas by seeing if they work. An example of this is the passage in my building that works as a way to get close interaction between people and function as a meeting space for its users. At first however, I designed this passage as cut through my people and thus outside and open to weather condition. For this I mostly looked at the way OMA designed their cut through the 'Rotterdam Kunsthall'. As I would like this space to be used as a central axis in my building for people to gather, I realised this would much better if this were a space inside the building. For that reason, I chose to make this passage part of the interior building climate and close it at night (Fig. 4). This 'feedback loop-approach' was also the primary method of research and design, in addition to reading literature.

In trying to create a building that allows for social inclusion, the program tries to cater a wide array of people by having different type of functions for people to interact. At first, the main function of the building is a work-



Fig. 3: Central corridor, design studio Piet Hein Eek (Eindhoven, NL)

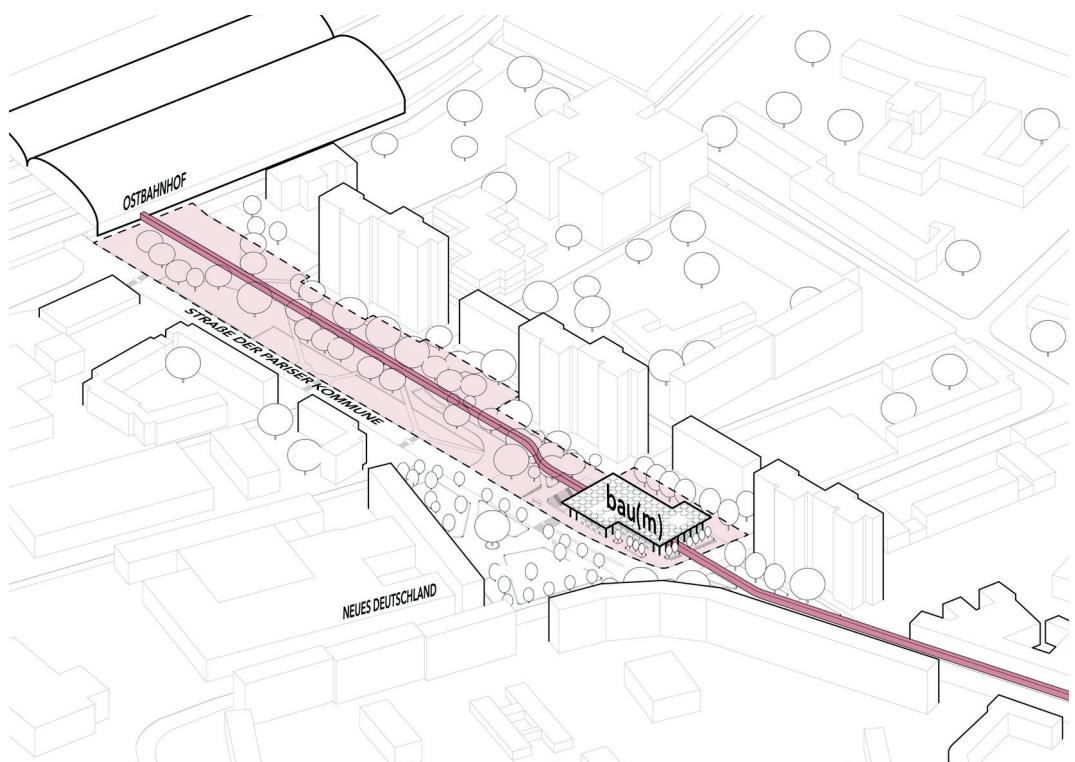


Fig. 4: Urban pedestrian route continuing through building

shop space where pieces of art and smaller pieces of furniture can be made from scrap by social minorities as a way of giving these people a space to get back on track and learn crafts to re-enter society. To create the interaction with people, the workshop is connected to a small shop for people to buy products or hand elements they don't need or want to be repaired. Urban farming land is placed in the park and links to the restaurant in the building to sell food with local products. Then also, the building hosts a place for social support that is linked to a night shelter for homeless people. This way, multiple cycles are at hand to create these interactions.

academic & societal value

Through the design brief, the studio project aims for a Public Condenser using the design topic of 'Multiplicity'. With this aim, the public can be brought together in a space that is sustainable, adaptable and resilient.

For this project, social inclusivity is taken as the approach to condense the public. For it, the German verb 'bau', meaning 'to build', is combined with the noun 'baum', meaning 'tree', into 'bau(m)'. Transcriptively, the word 'bau' resembles the design concept in threefold. Firstly, it is a building where things can be made, crafted, or built in workshop spaces. Secondly, interactions and connections can be made (built) between people by assembling multiple functions in my building. Thirdly, the use of the building will result in 'building' memories, together, as a community.

As for 'baum', the structural columns are shaped as arches, resembling in some way the shape of a tree. Also, the building is positioned in a park and the main structural material is wood, that comes from trees.

Academically, the project relates in various ways to the topic of multiplicity. By using a grid structure with columns, a predominantly open plan is created, providing great flexibility. In addition, standardised dimensions are used as a way to allow for better adaptability. The element of flexibility and adaptability combined equally makes it an element of sustainability as it allows to be transformed for many times, if needed.

Lastly, as mentioned before, the building tries to bring people, with all their differences and cultural backgrounds together, make them see each other for who they are whilst developing a close community bond. Especially in bigger cities, where there are many differences between people, a concept like rau(m) could be really useful as a way to promote social inclusion. Therefore, the concept of 'rau(m)' could be a prototype and used in other locations (fig 5).

bau(m) BERLIN
bau(m) MUNICH
bau(m) AMSTERDAM
bau(m) LONDON
bau(m) PARIS
bau(m) MADRID
bau(m) ROME

Fig. 5: bau(m) as a prototype