

Iveta Nikolova
P5 Presentation

5 July 2024

Kesklinn Community Centre

*Reimagining Soviet-Era Heritage through the
Lenses of Memory and Perception*

“One who cannot remember can hardly imagine, because memory is the soil of imagination. Memory is also the ground of self-identity; we are what we remember.”

- Juhani Pallasmaa

part 1.
to remember

Introduction



“It was the early 80s and I was a young girl of about 10 years old. There were several shops in the proximity of our home and one of them was particularly near, yet oddly distant – the Corecom shop. It was impossible to go somewhere and not pass by it, however my family, like my friends’ families, was not allowed to shop there. As kids we often gathered by the storefront windows, peering inside and trying to imagine the taste of Coca-Cola, the Toblerone bars and the Kinder Surprise chocolate eggs. The latter were the most peculiar to me. I’d heard stories how they consisted of milk and white chocolate, with a hidden toy inside but I couldn’t wrap my head around how everything fits together. With my friends we would often make business plans – we would make candy apples, sell them for dollars and buy Kinder eggs with them. This never happened though. Once I shared these ideas with my parents they laughed and then explained to me how it was illegal, and we could get arrested. Only people who worked abroad were allowed to have dollars, the rest like us weren’t.

One evening, my mum told me how we’ll go to the Corecom shop the next morning, and she would buy me a Kinder egg. I couldn’t sleep the whole night – what if they arrested us? She reassured me that it would be fine – a colleague of hers had a husband who worked abroad as a construction worker, he was going to shop in the Corecom, and my parents were going to pay him back in Bulgarian levs. I remembered who that family was, their children were the only ones I knew who had jeans and jeans you could also buy only from the Corecom. We went to the store, together with my mother and the husband of her colleague. There wasn’t anyone in the world happier than I was – for the first time I had a “Kinder” chocolate egg. It was also the first time ever I tried white chocolate. It wasn’t like anything else I had tasted. I will also never forget the tiny toy house I got. I kept it for years...”

- My mother, in personal communication

Introduction



Introduction



National Library of Estonia

Introduction



National Library of Estonia



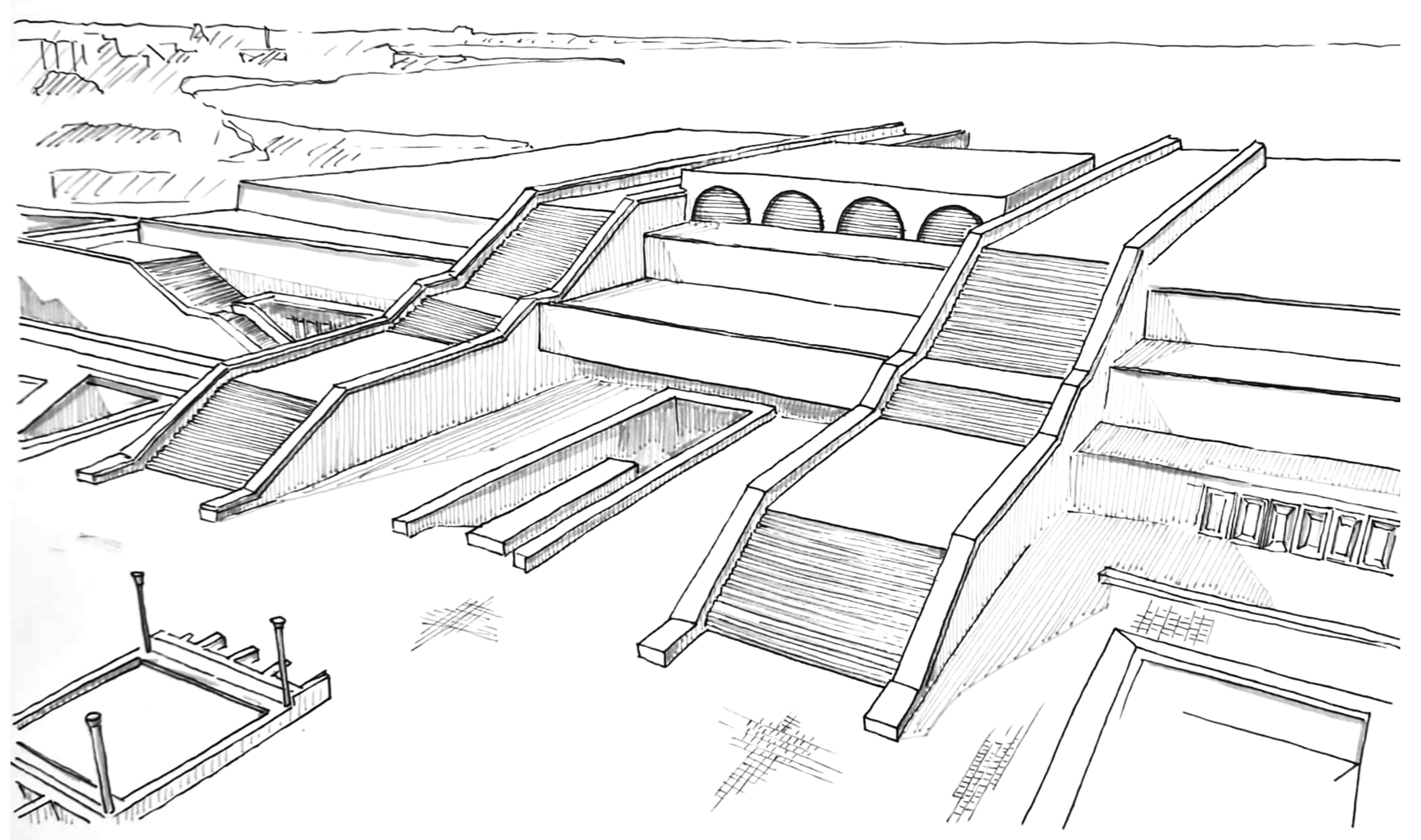
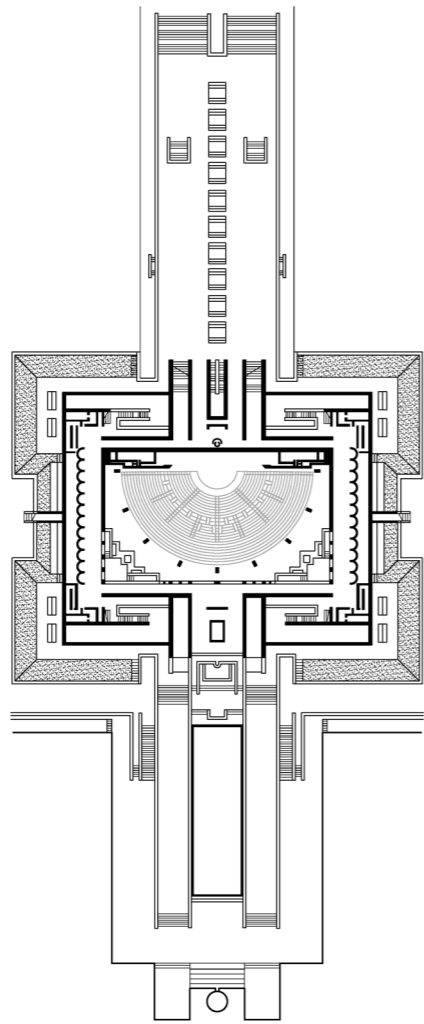
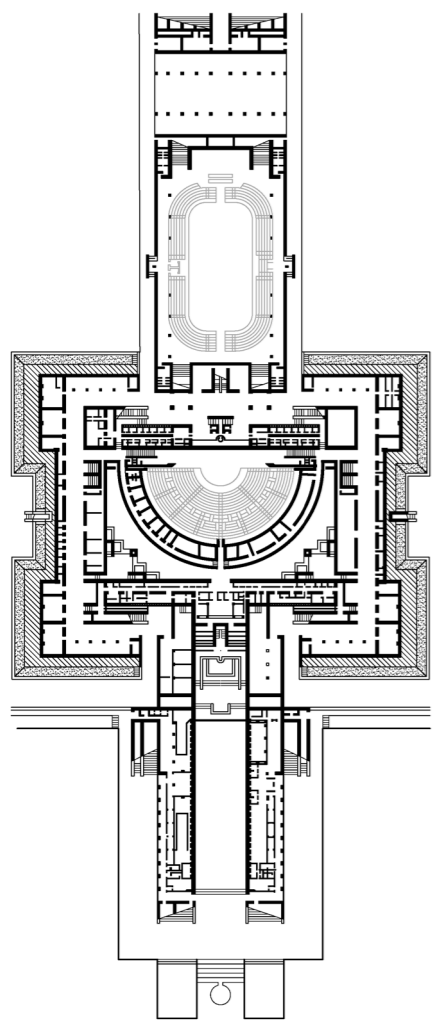
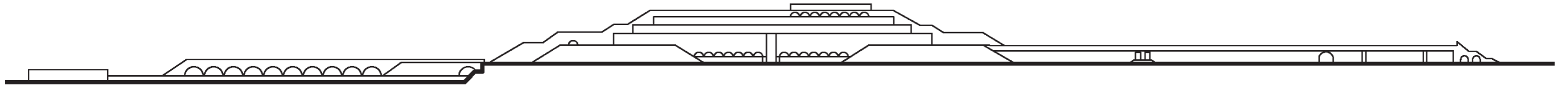
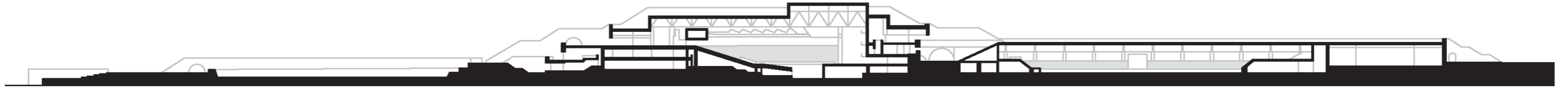
*Former Central
Post Office of Tallinn*

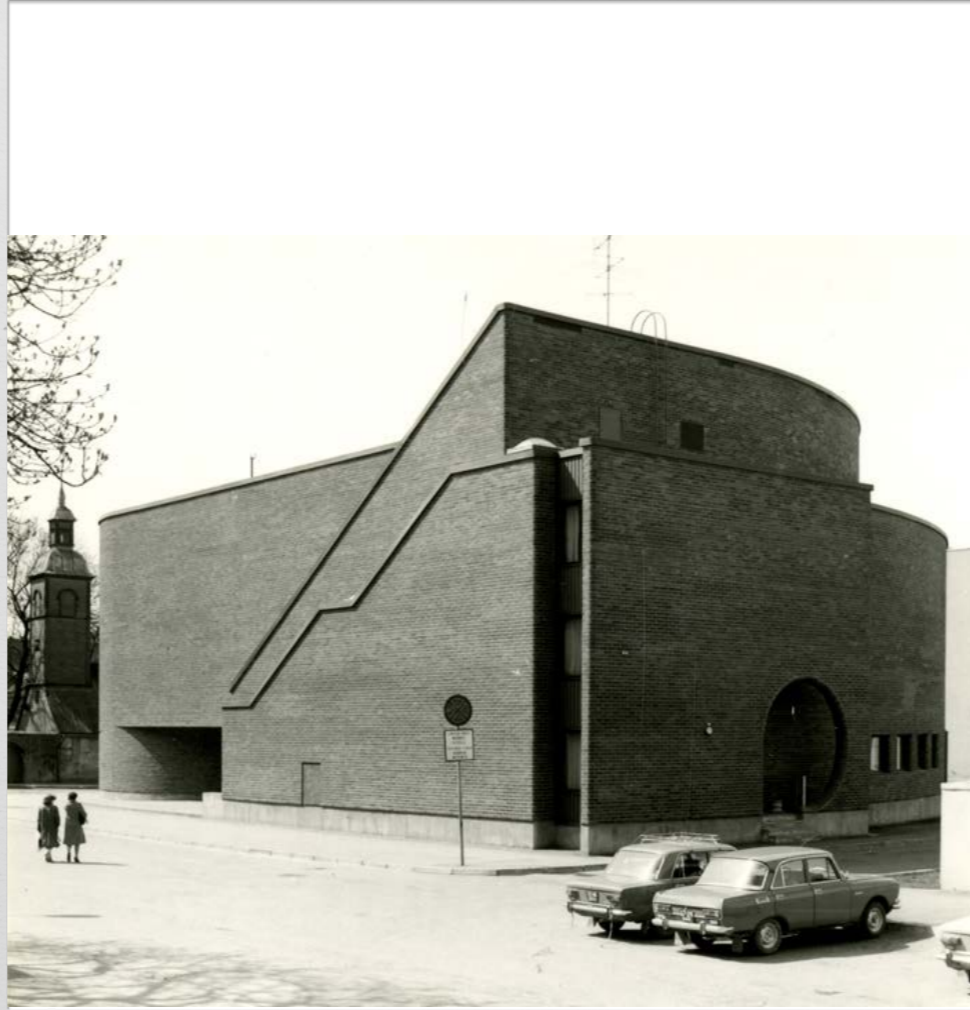
Introduction



Linnahall

Introduction





The Turist shop

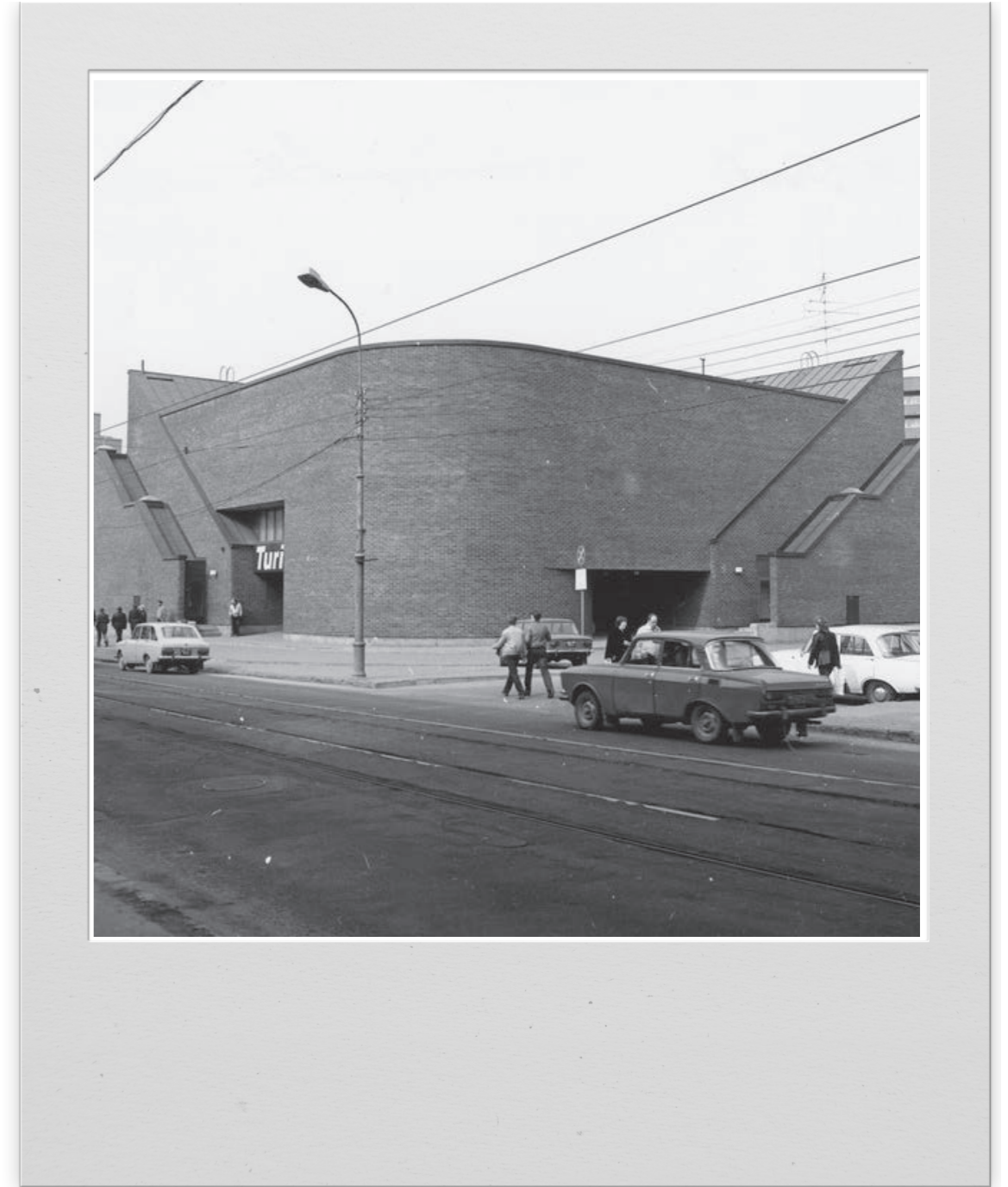
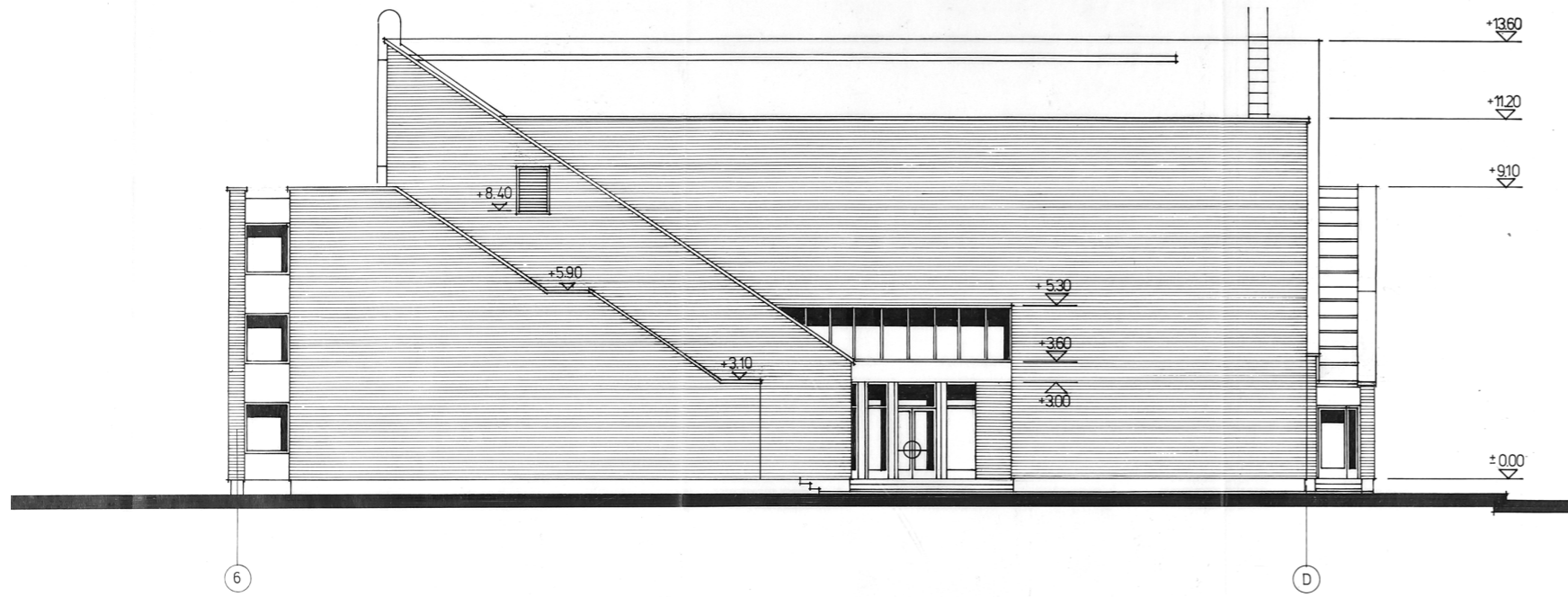
“A hopelessly contradictory task: an insignificant place for Tallinn residents and a sought-after destination for foreign tourists.”

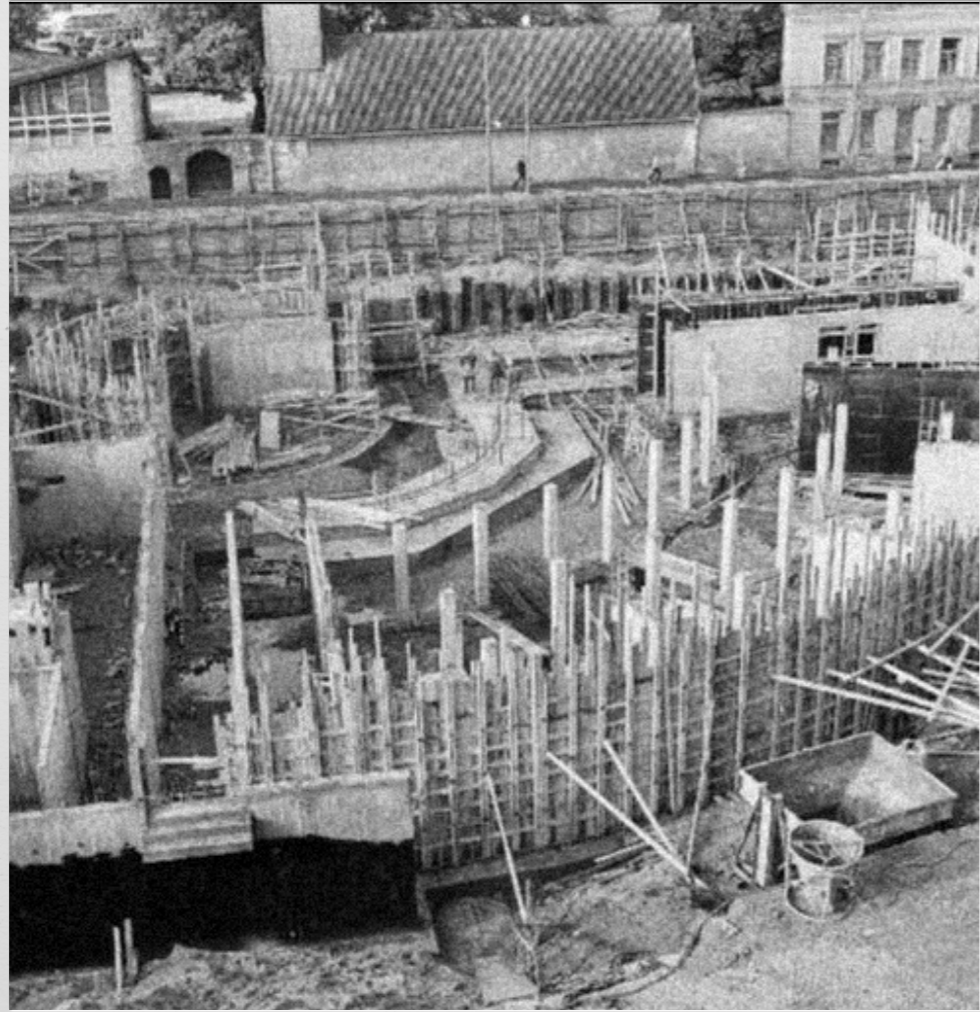
- architect Peep Jänes

Research

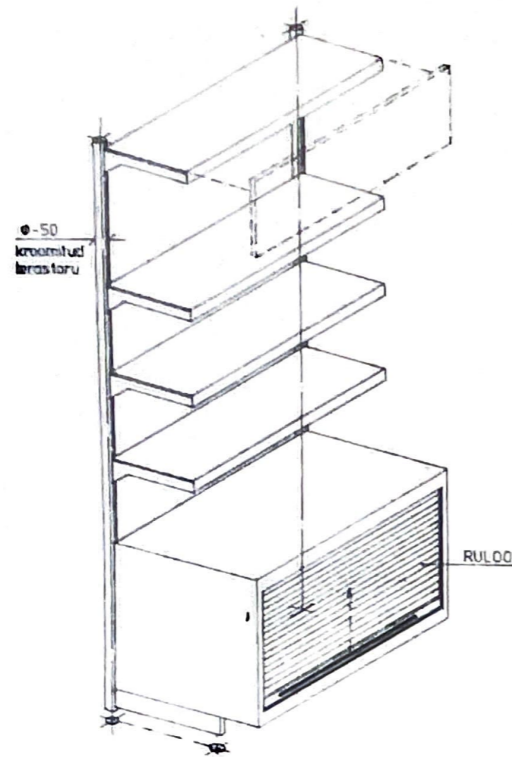


Research

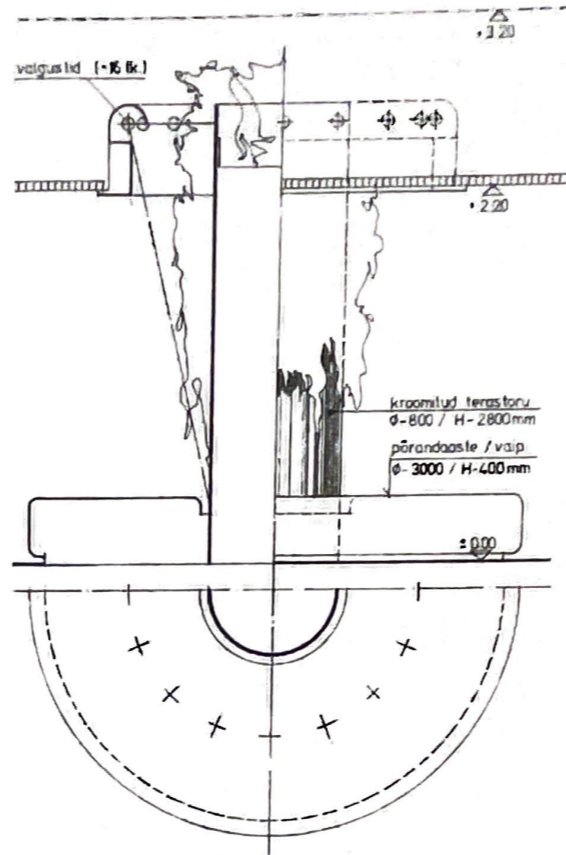




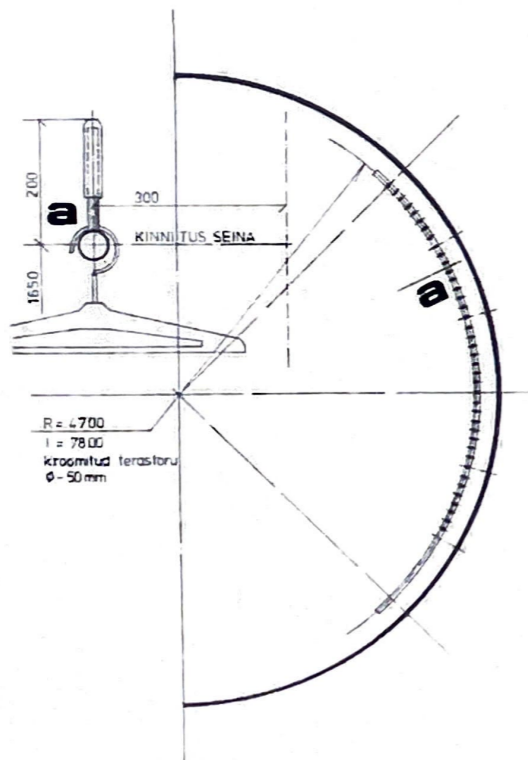
Research



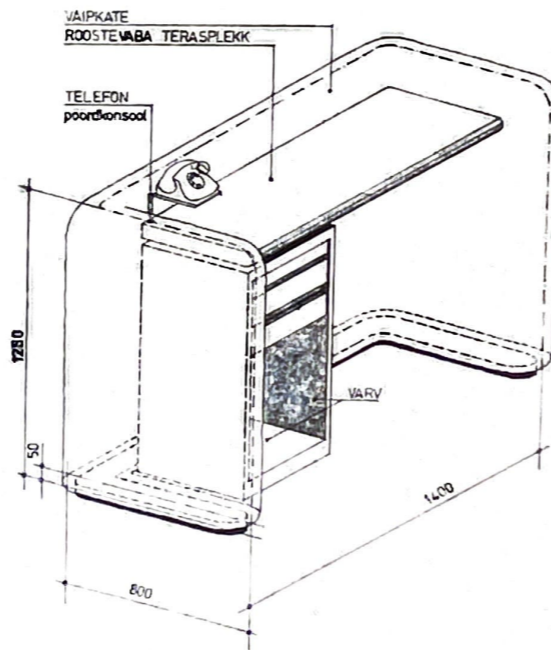
RUUM № 101 MUUGISAALI VITRIIN 1



RUUM № 144 POS № 34 ISTE 3



RUUM № 144 POS № 37 GARDEROOBI NAOL 6



RUUM № 144 POS № 35 ADMINISTRAATORI LAUD 4



“there is no place without memory; no memory without place; and since there is no architecture that is not engaged with place, neither is there architecture that is not engaged with memory.”

- Jeff Malpas



*“...they were given special money
“boonid” they could spend on
stores like Turist that were closed
for regular citizens.”*

- V.H.

*“I don’t remember much, there was
a queue, I think we had to wait
to get in. And then there was also
a queue at the cashier. It was a
nervous feeling.”*

- M.A.

*“To me, it symbolizes the falsehood
of the Soviet era. In a way, going
to that store, even with distant
relatives from abroad, felt a bit
demeaning.”*

- E.K.

Research



“...in our childhood we collected empty drink cans from the Tourist trash can with classmates. Mostly it was Aura, sometimes also Fanta etc. We were collecting the empty cans to place them on the shelves at home as decoration.”

- M.N.

“I remember the windowless appearance of the building and the knowledge that only selected people could enter. That we were like some other category of people. Injustice.

- M.A.

Problem statement



Problem statement

REAL ESTATE

27.10.2023, 12:50

The well-known nightclub building will disappear. An architectural design competition for the construction of a new high-rise building in the heart of Tallinn has begun (47)



Edited by: **Krista Kaaver**
krista.kaaver@arileht.ee



Tartu street 17

PHOTO: PRIVATE COLLECTION

Problem statement

1. The architecture of the Turist shop is a unique example and demolishing it would be a great loss for the architectural heritage of Estonia.

Problem statement

1. The architecture of the Turist shop is a unique example and demolishing it would be a great loss for the architectural heritage of Estonia.
2. Introducing a high-rise in the urban block will intensify the problem of constructing without consideration for the surrounding urban context.

Problem statement

“A hopelessly contradictory task: an insignificant place for Tallinn residents and a sought-after destination for foreign tourists.”

- architect Peep Jänes

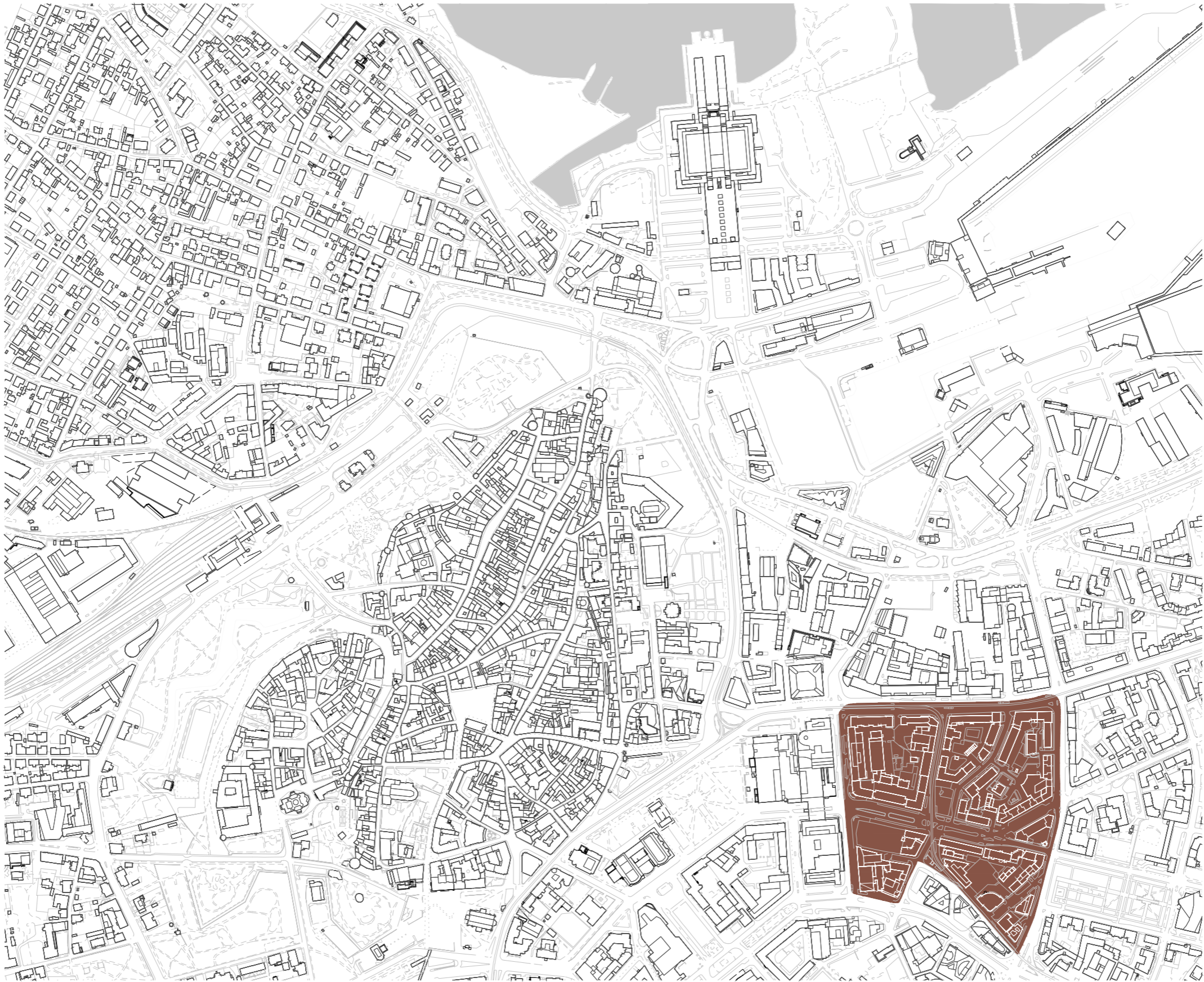
Design goal

An inclusive community centre, which contributes to the current needs of public spaces in Tallinn and enriches the life in the city, while honouring particularities of the past, present and future.

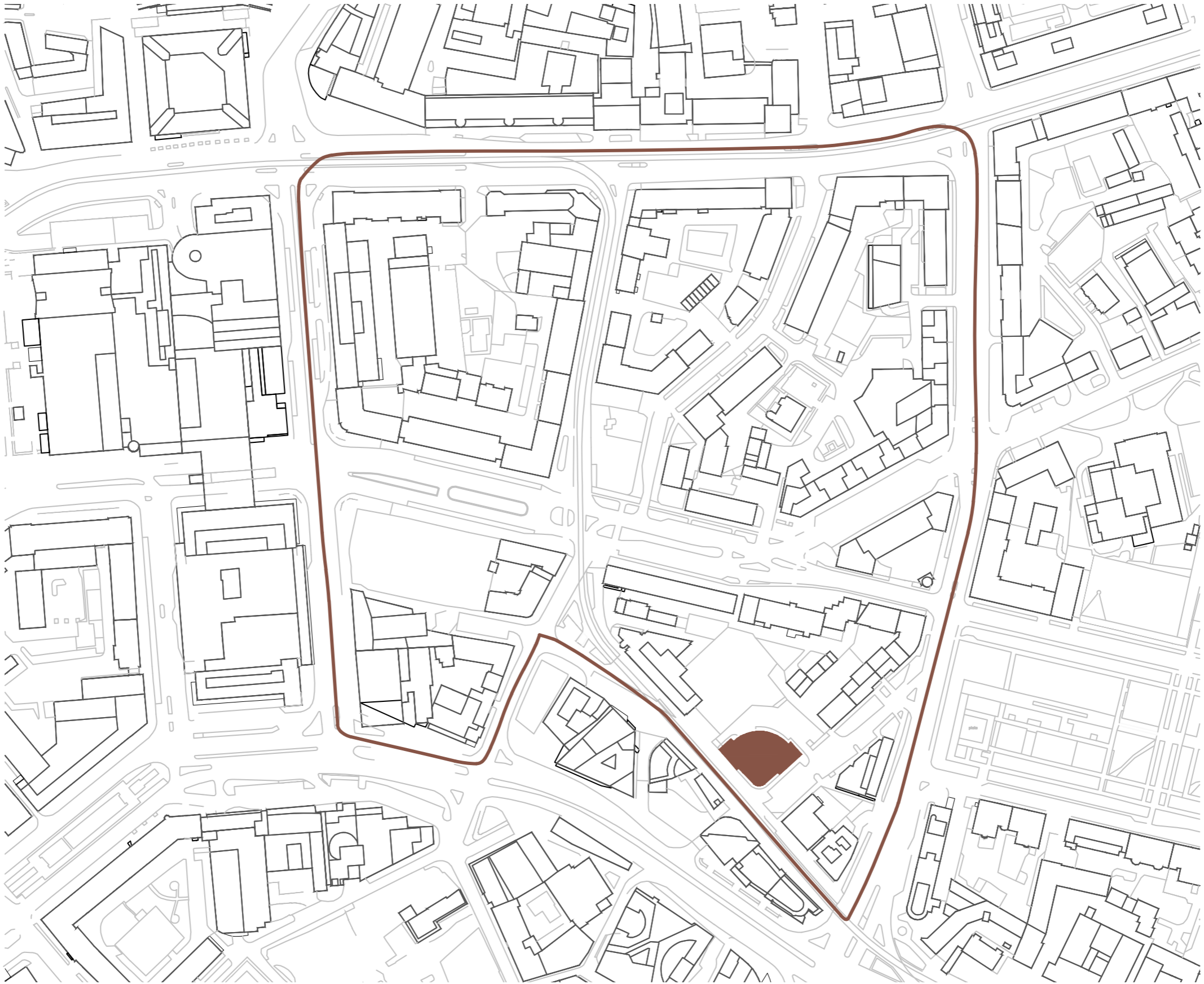
Context



Context



Context

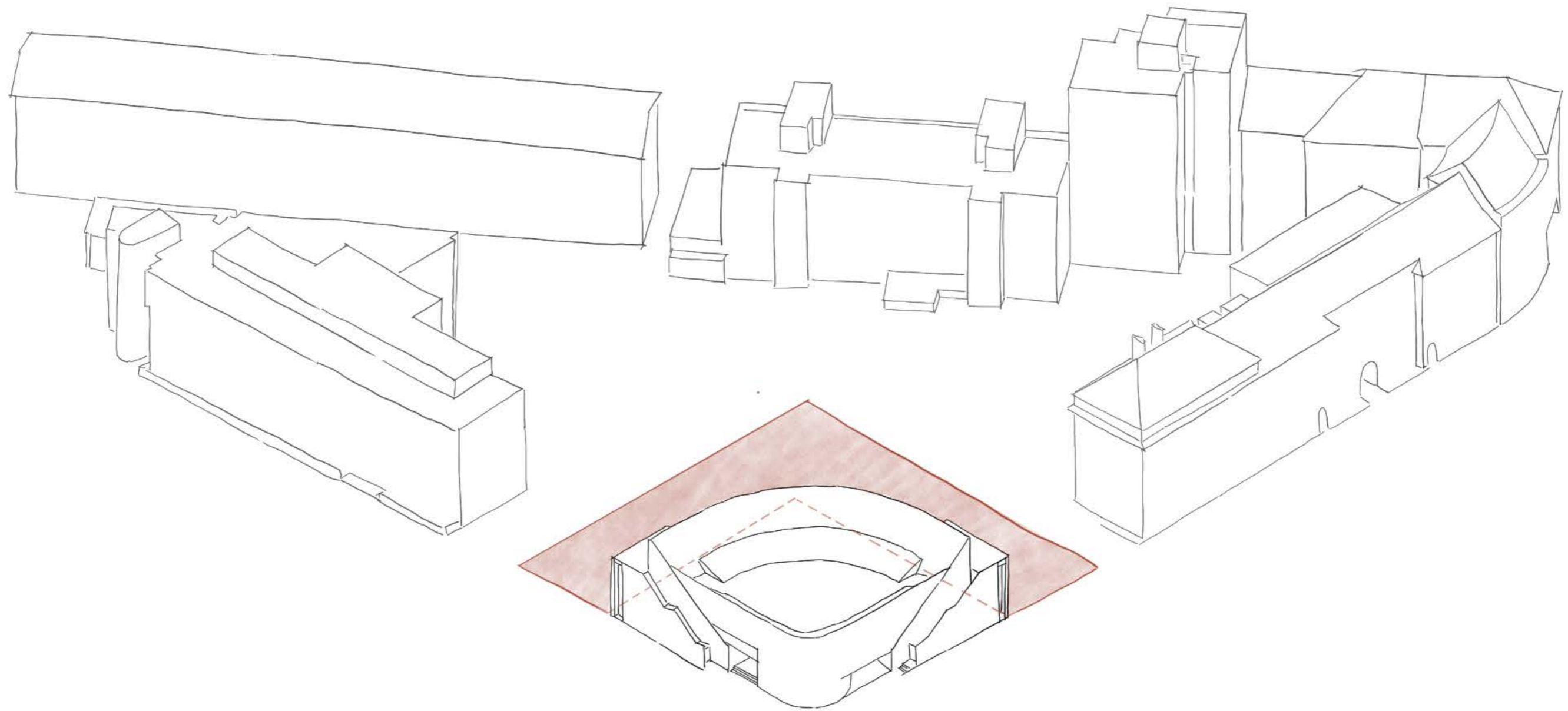


Context



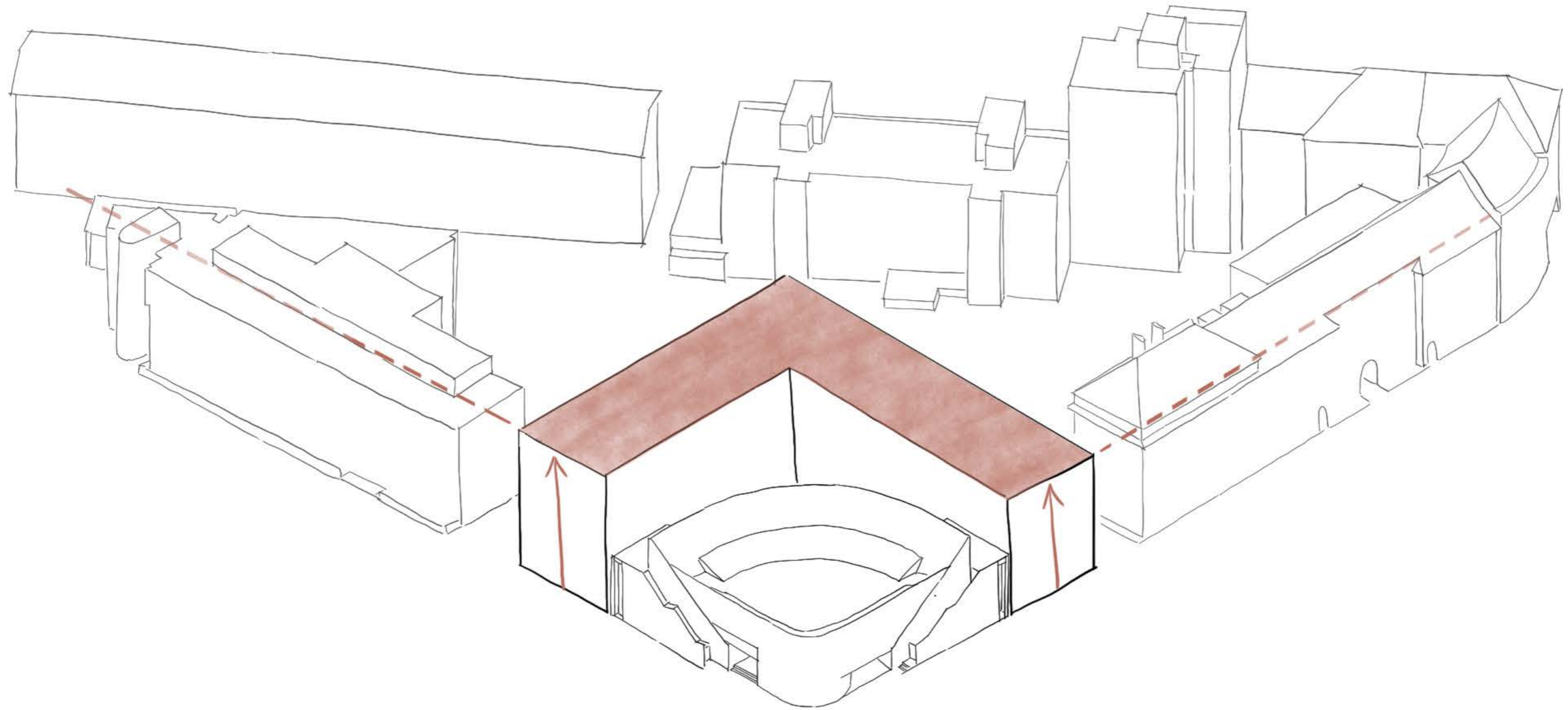
part 2.
to imagine

Concept



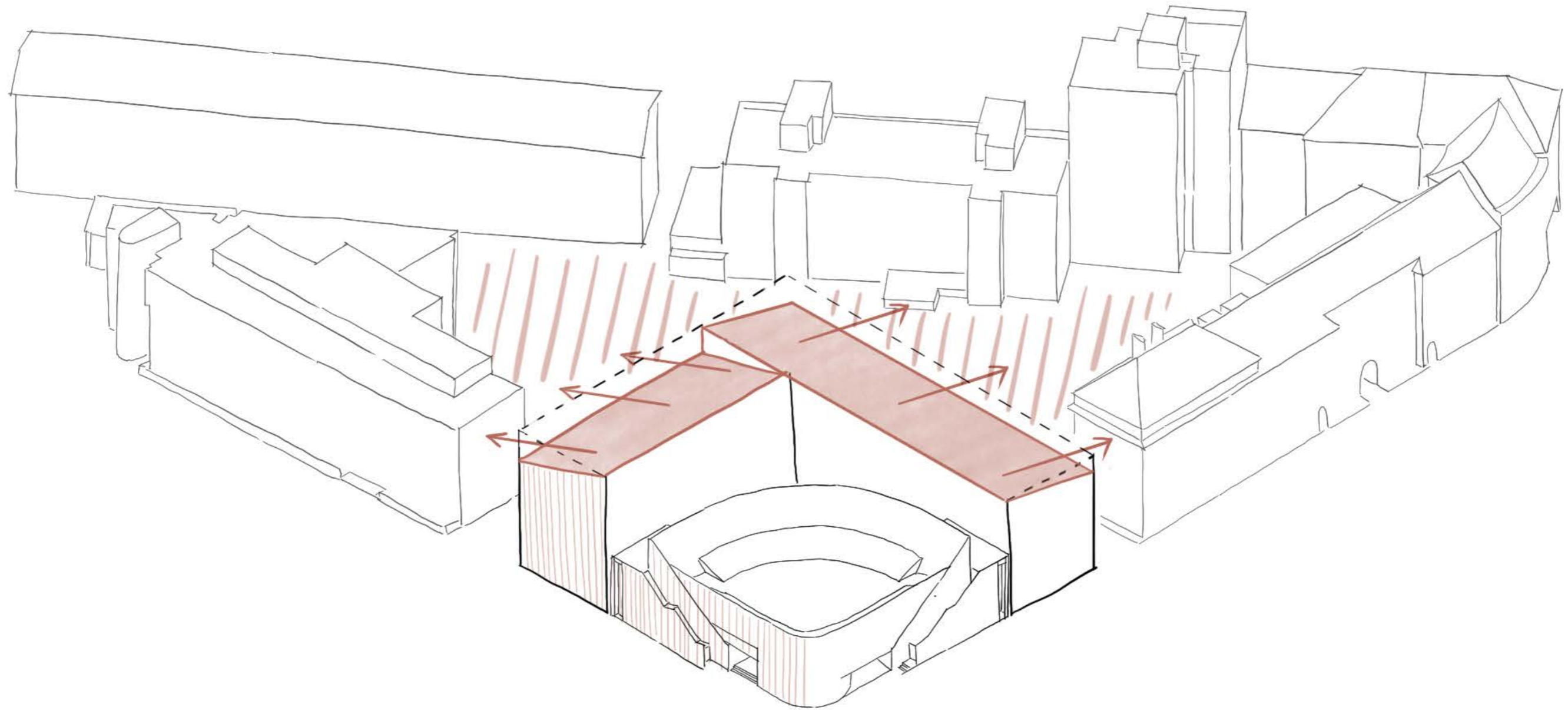
1. a new layer wraps around the former Turist shop

Concept



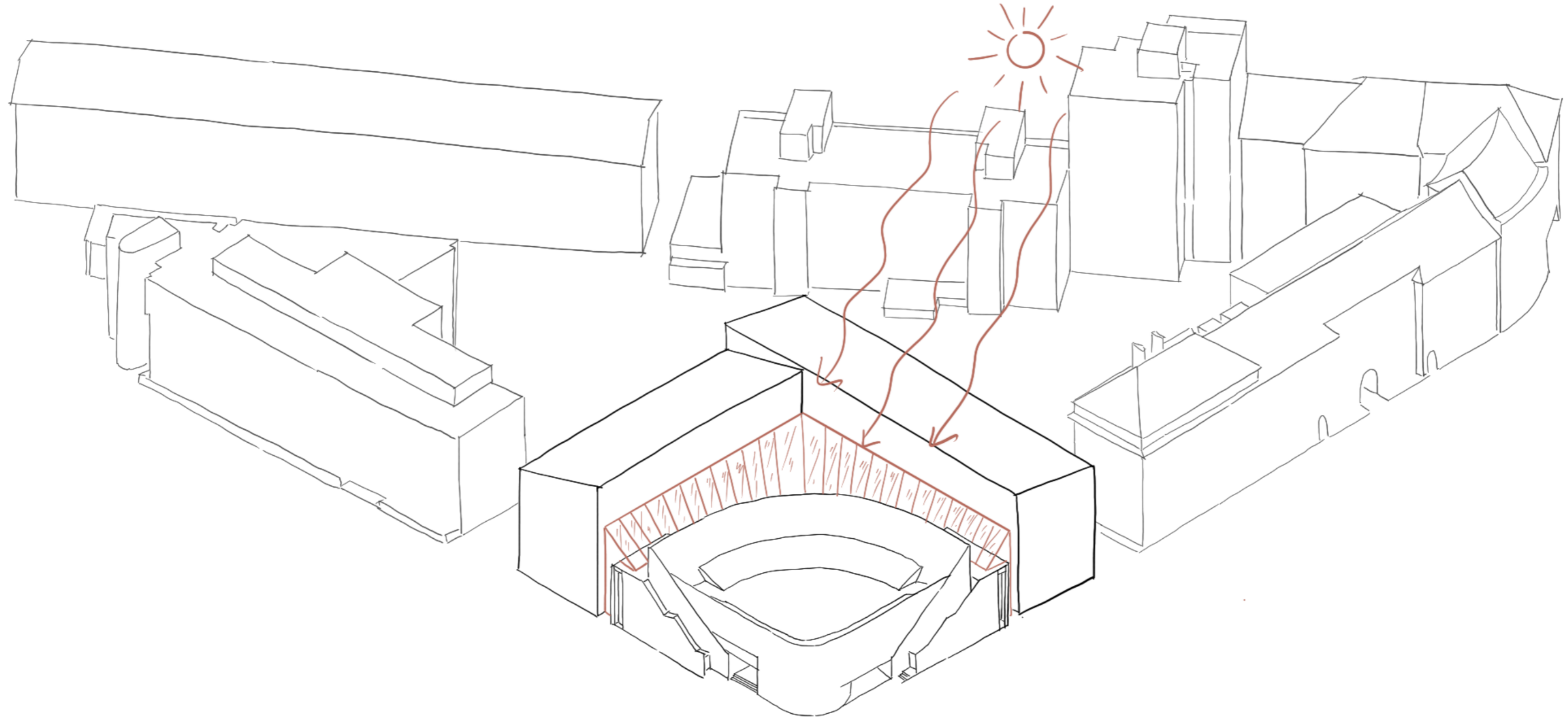
2. the height of the urban block is respected

Concept

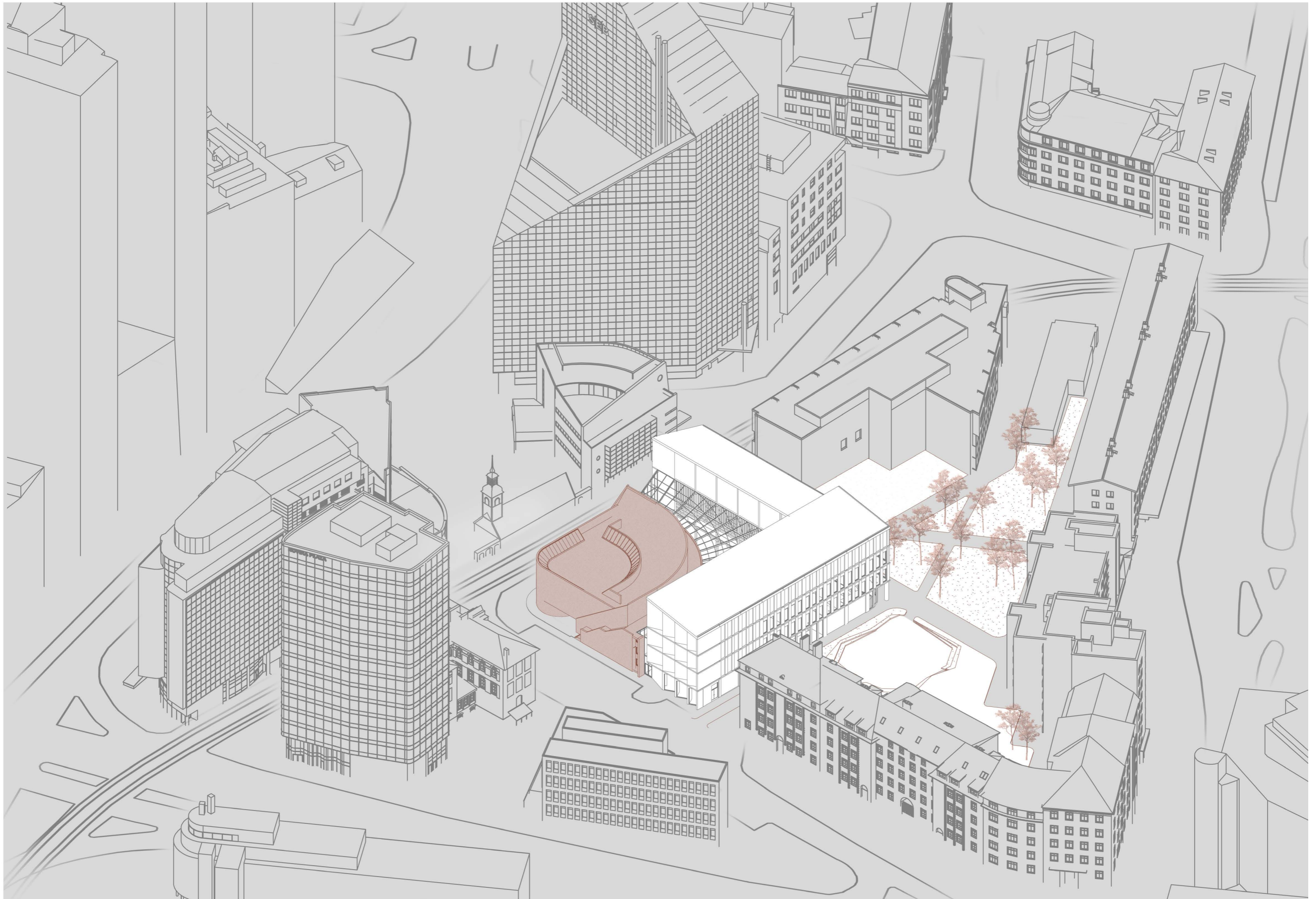


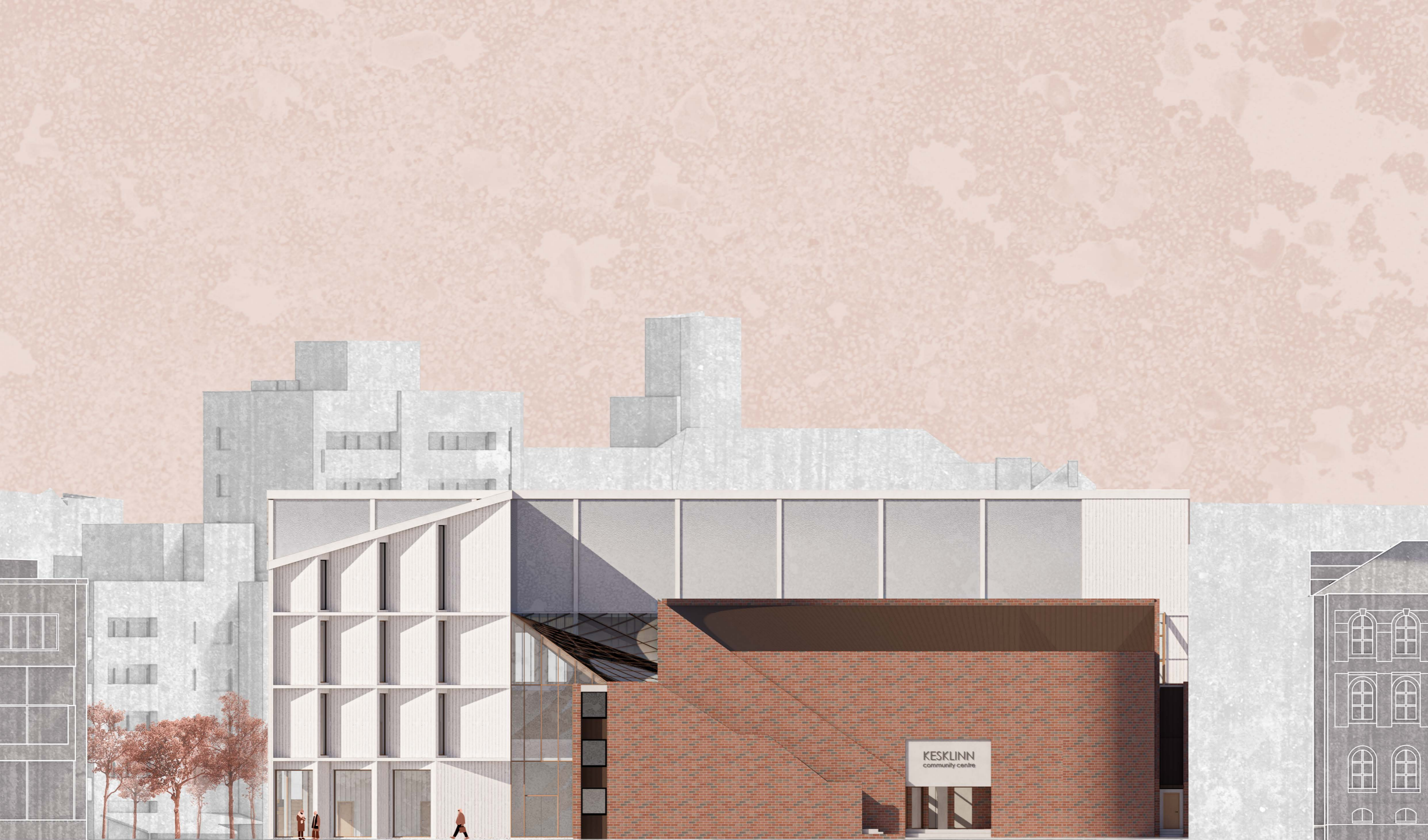
3. a sloping roof establishes a visual connection to the context

Concept



4. an atrium is added where the old and the new meet



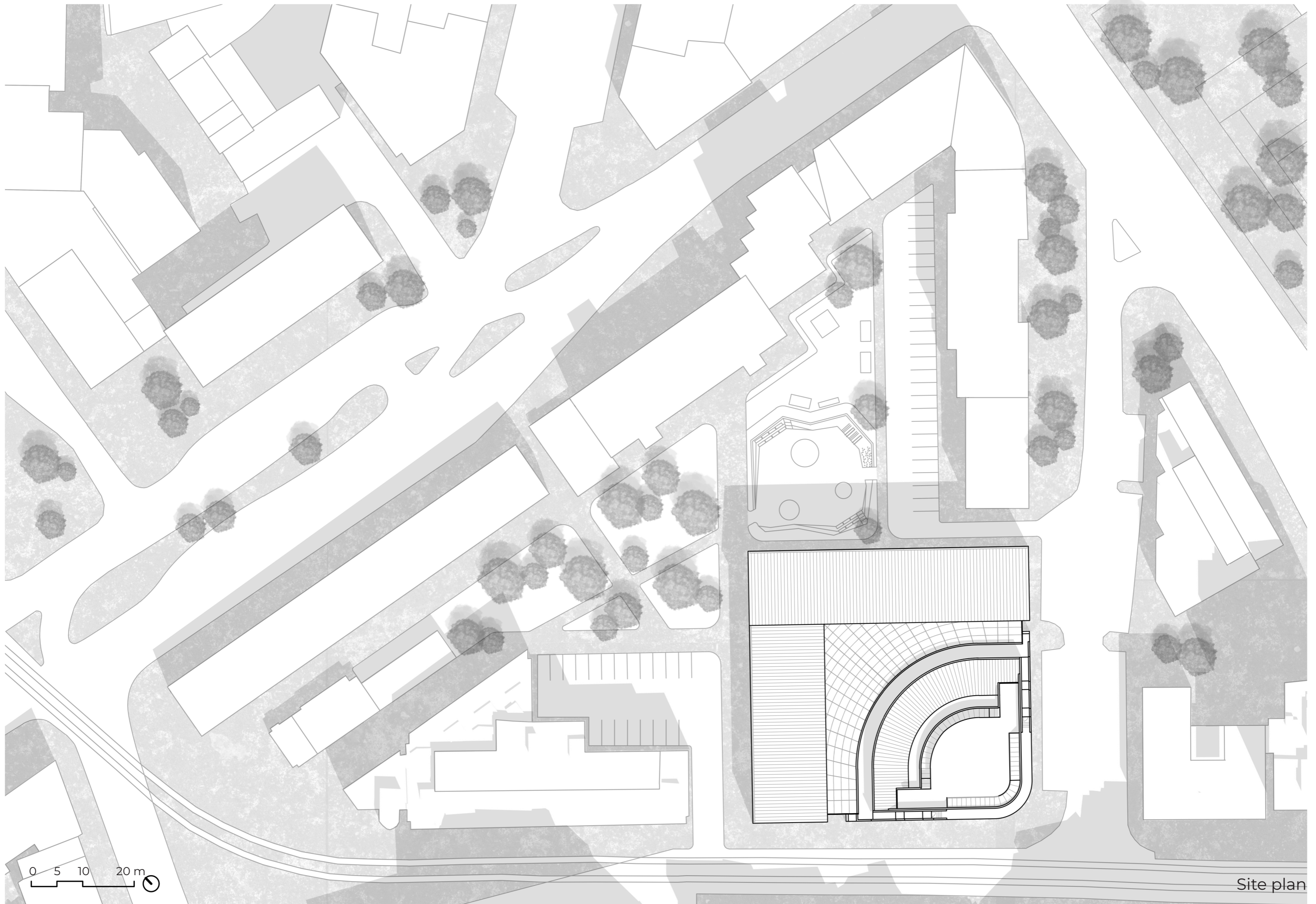


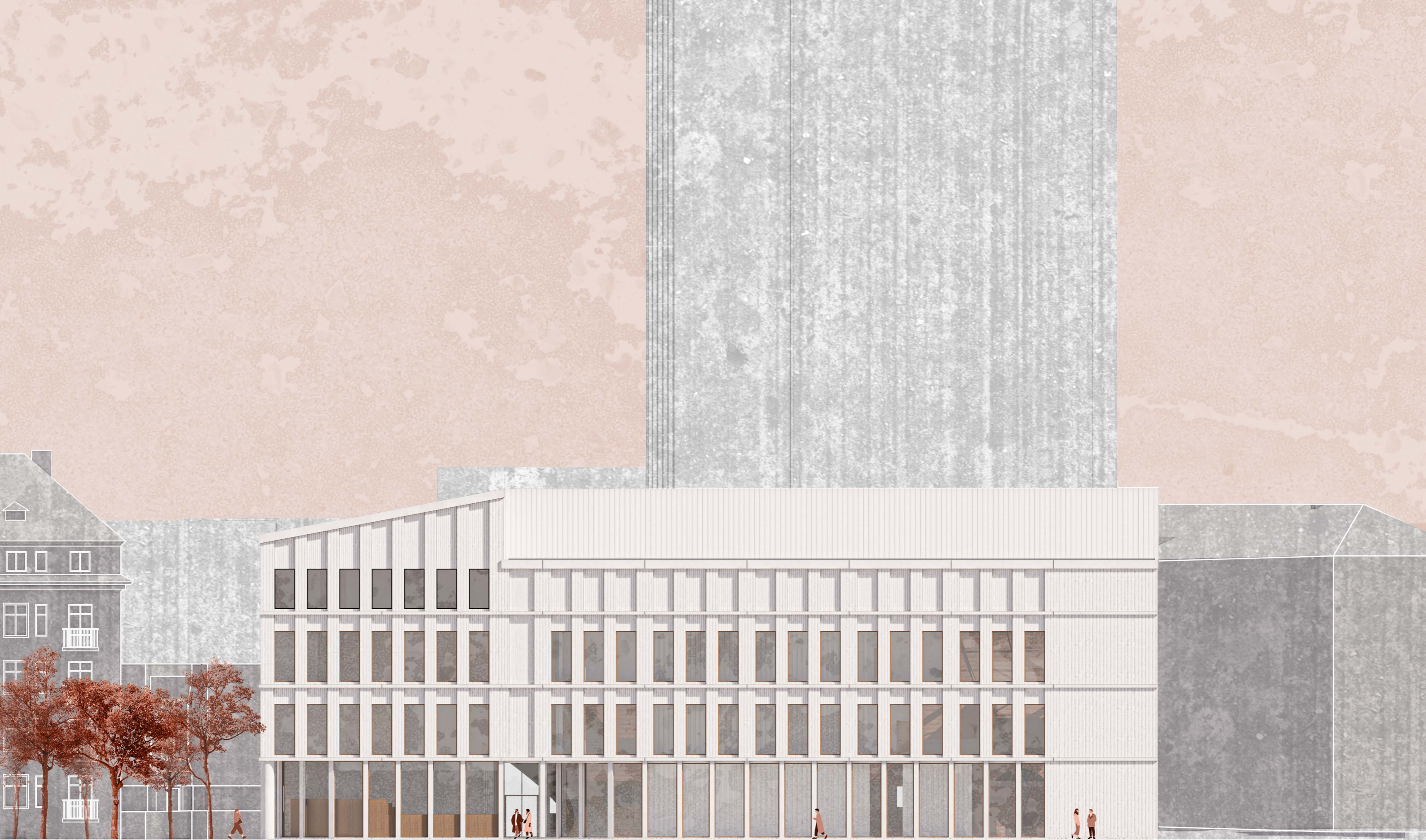
0 1 2 5 10 m



0 1 2 5 10 m







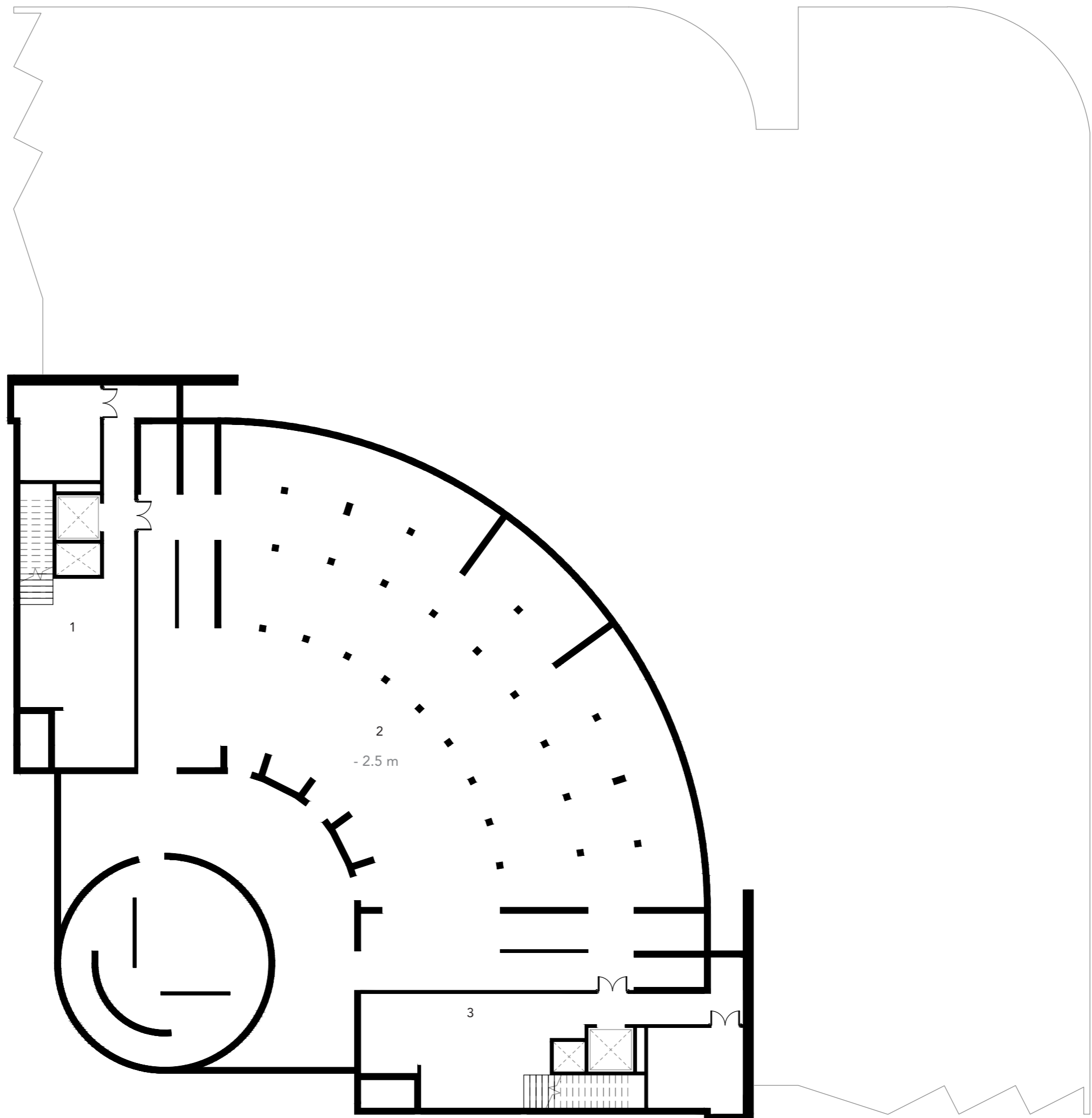
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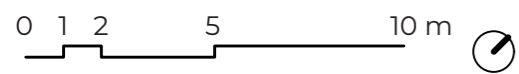
0 1 2 5 10 m

North-east Elevation





- 1. utility room
- 2. storage
- 3. utility room



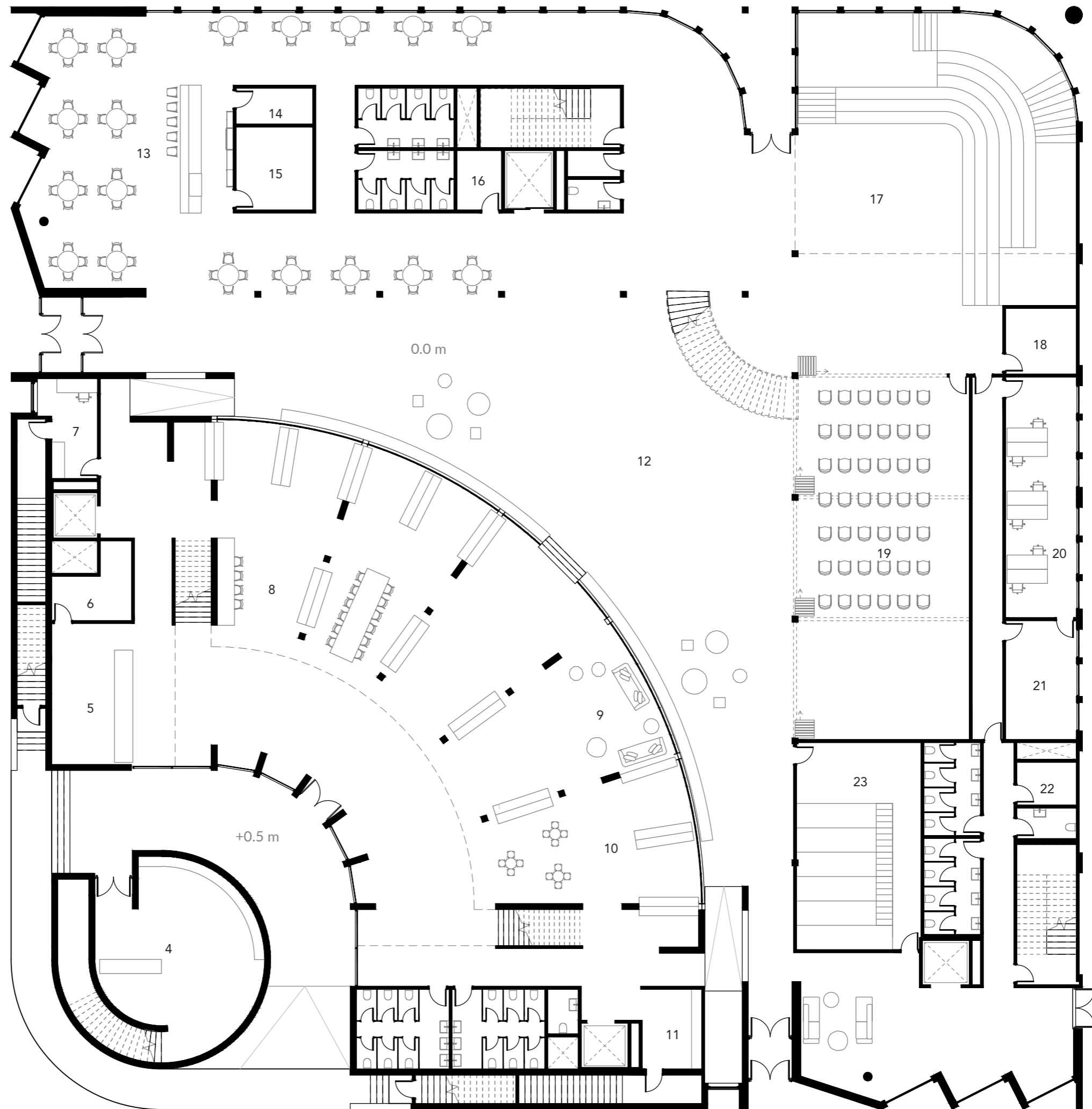
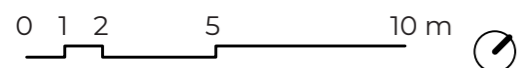
-2.5 m

3

1

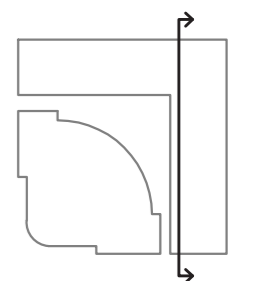
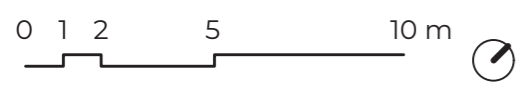
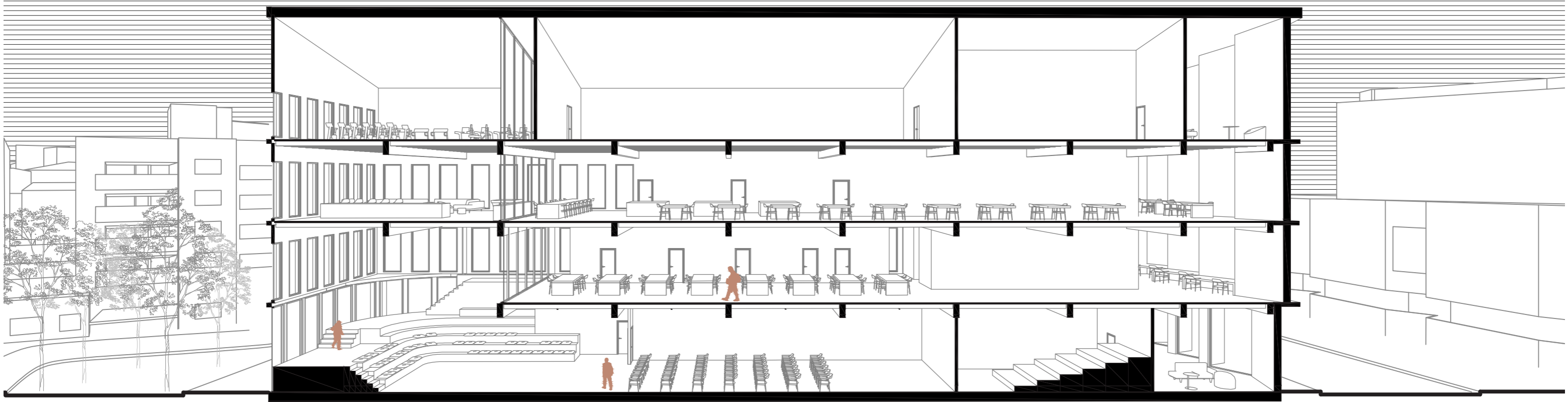
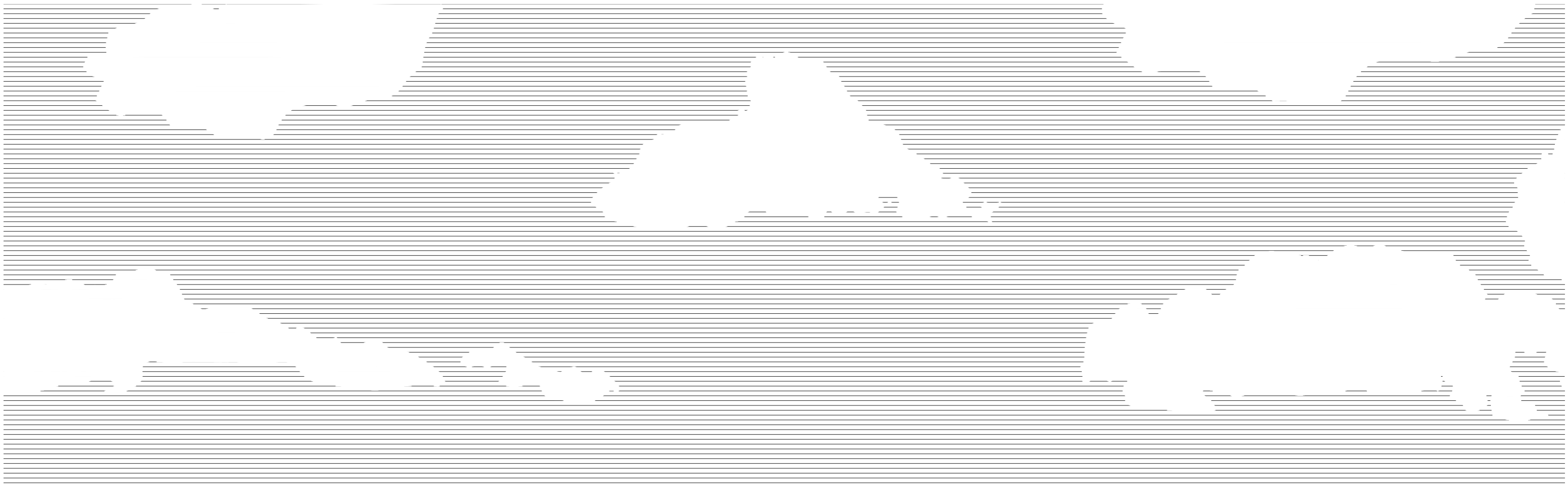
part 2. to imagine

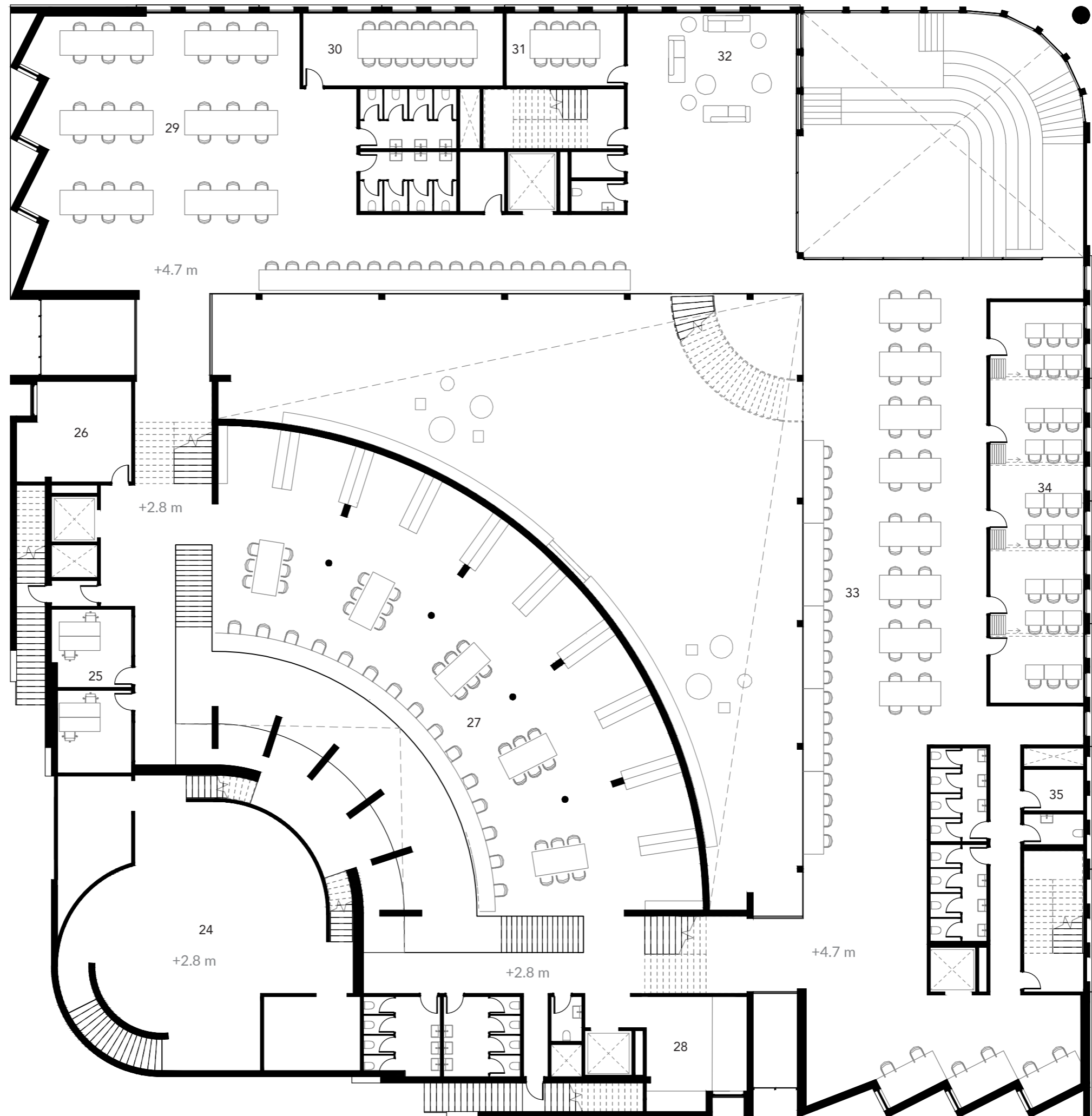
- 4. gallery reception
- 5. library reception
- 6. sorting room
- 7. office
- 8. book return area
- 9. lobby
- 10. kids' area
- 11. lockers
- 12. atrium
- 13. café
- 14. staff room
- 15. kitchen
- 16. utility room
- 17. auditorium
- 18. storage
- 19. flexible space
- 20. offices
- 21. staff room
- 22. utility room
- 23. cinema



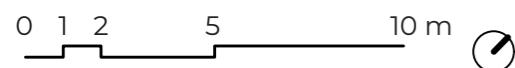
part 2. to imagine

Ground floor



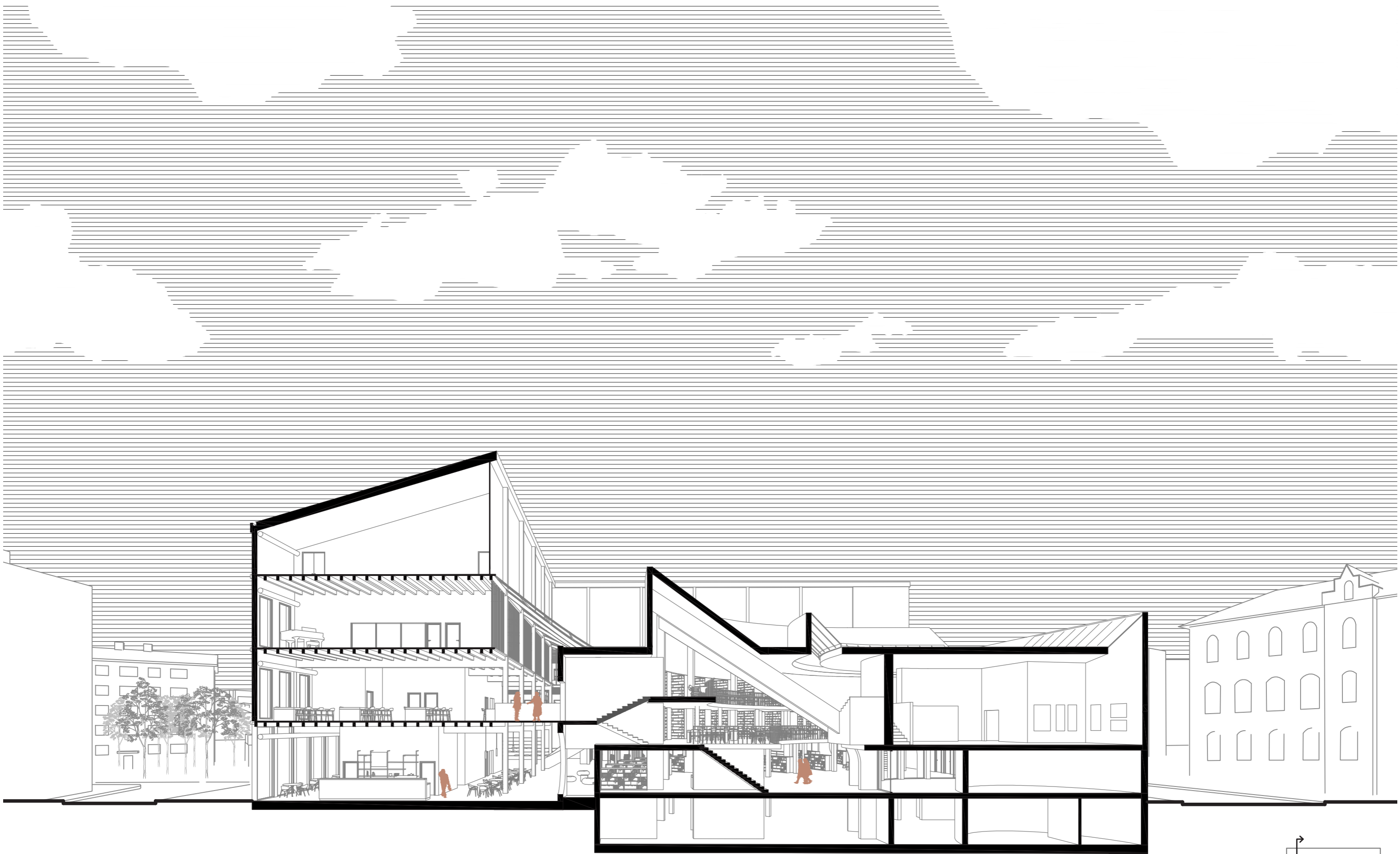


- 24. gallery
- 25. offices
- 26. reference materials
- 27. library
- 28. copy area
- 29. co-working/study space
- 30. meeting room (14 people)
- 31. meeting room (8 people)
- 32. rest zone
- 33. co-working/study space
- 34. flexible classrooms
- 35. utility room

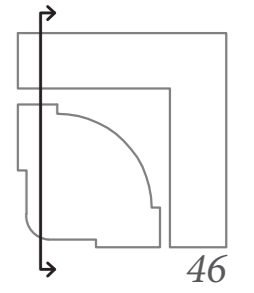


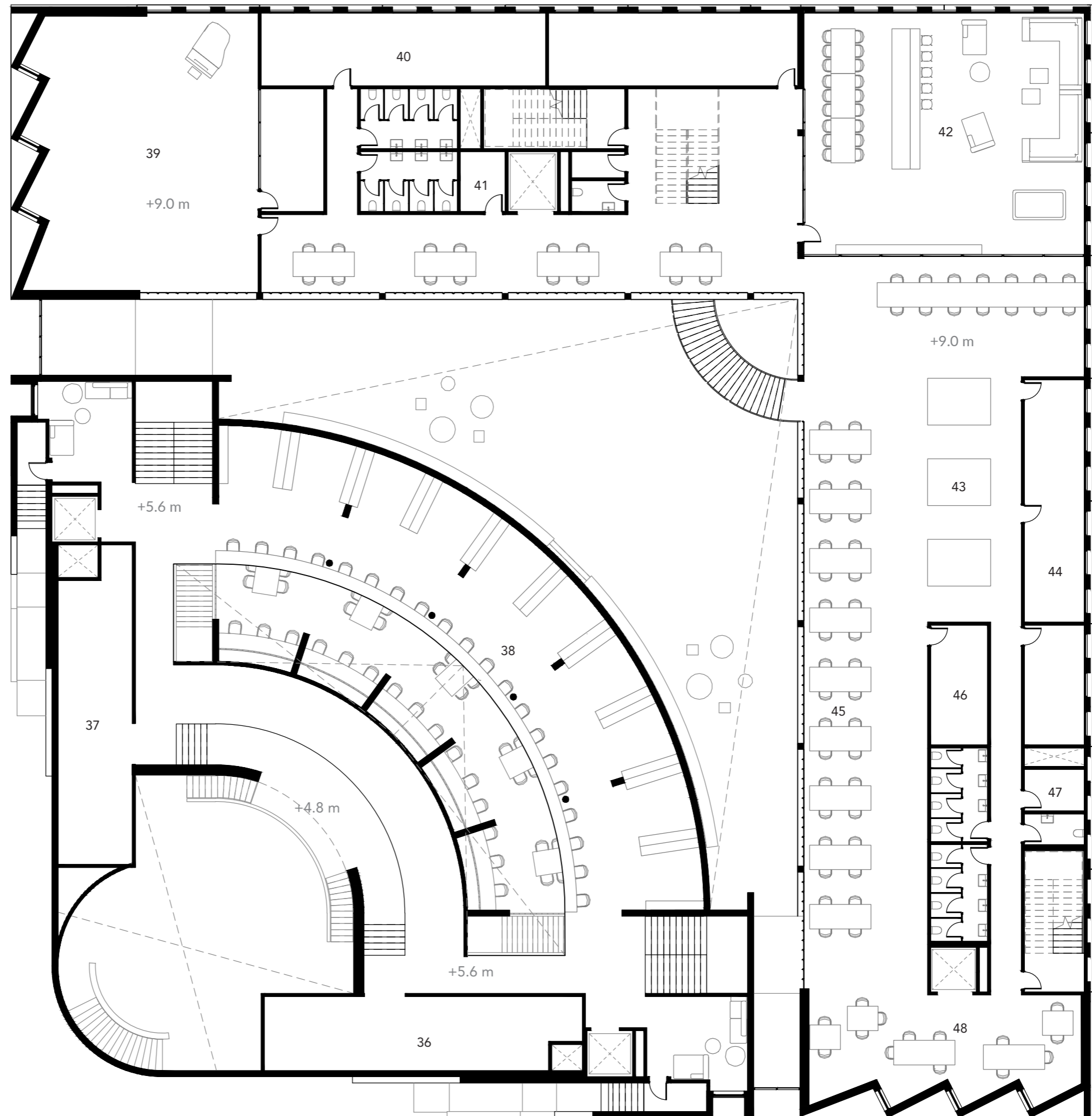
First floor

part 2. to imagine

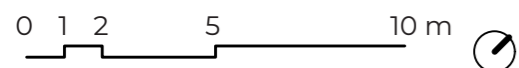


0 1 2 5 10 m

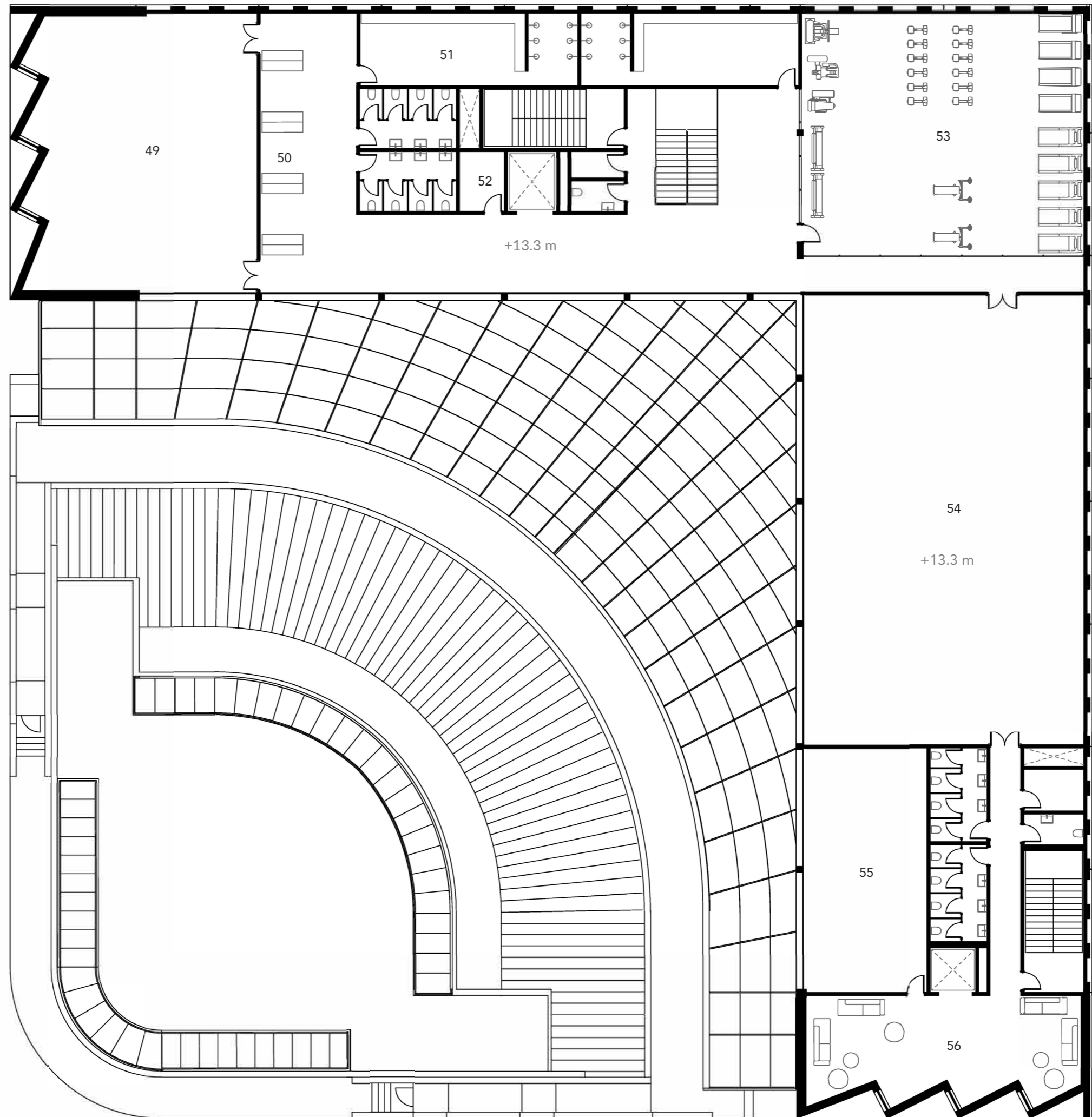




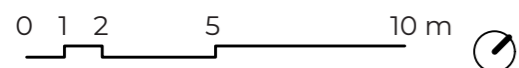
- 36. gallery
- 37. gallery
- 38. library
- 39. music/recording studio
- 40. artist studios
- 41. utility room
- 42. common living room & kitchen
- 43. 3D printers/laser cutters
- 44. artist studios
- 45. workshop working tables
- 46. spray painting room
- 47. utility room
- 48. workshop classes



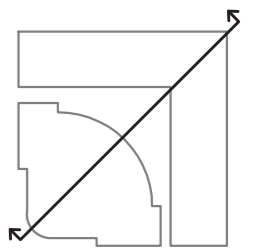
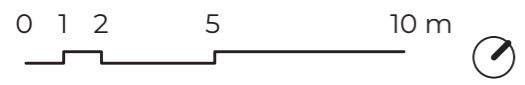
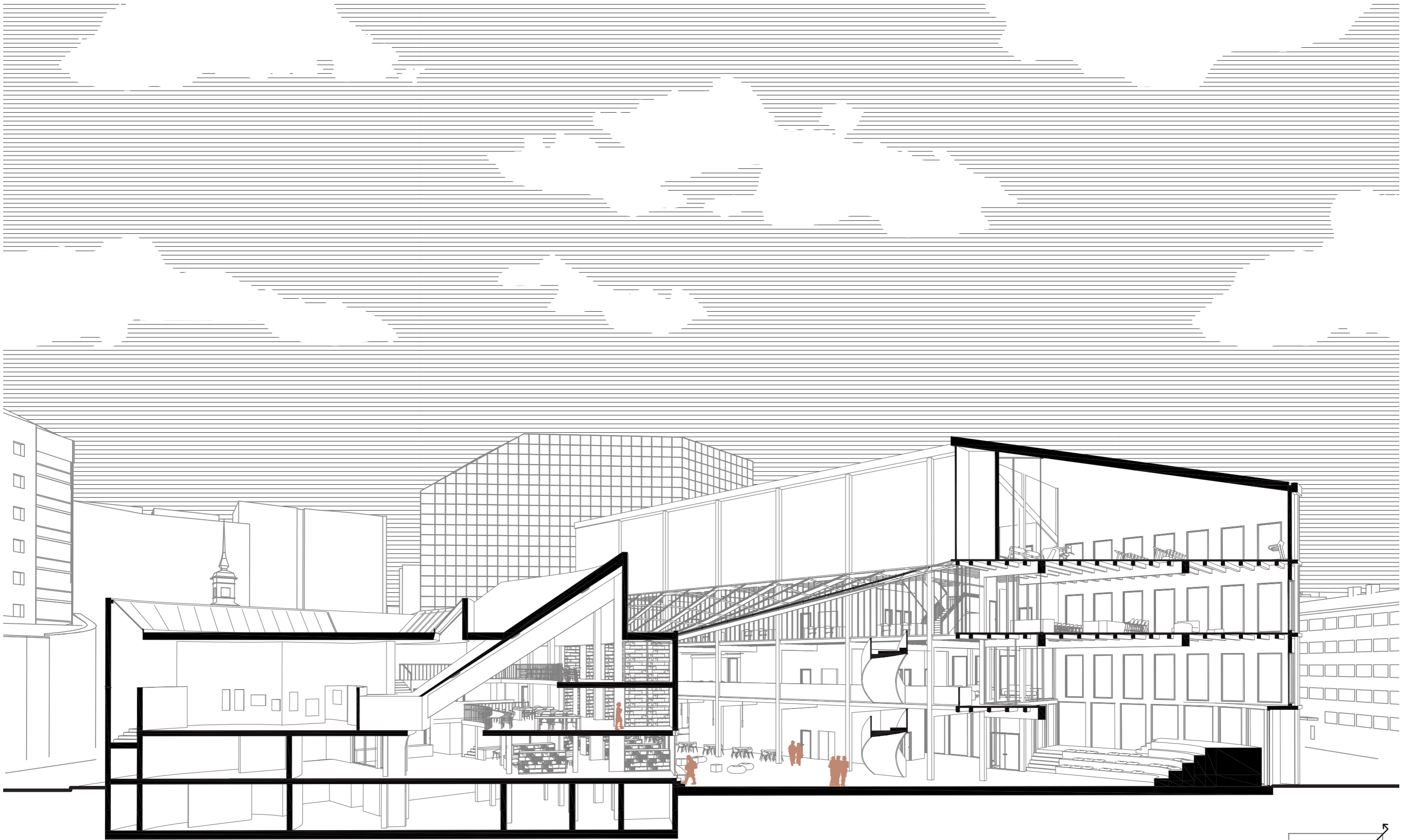
Second floor



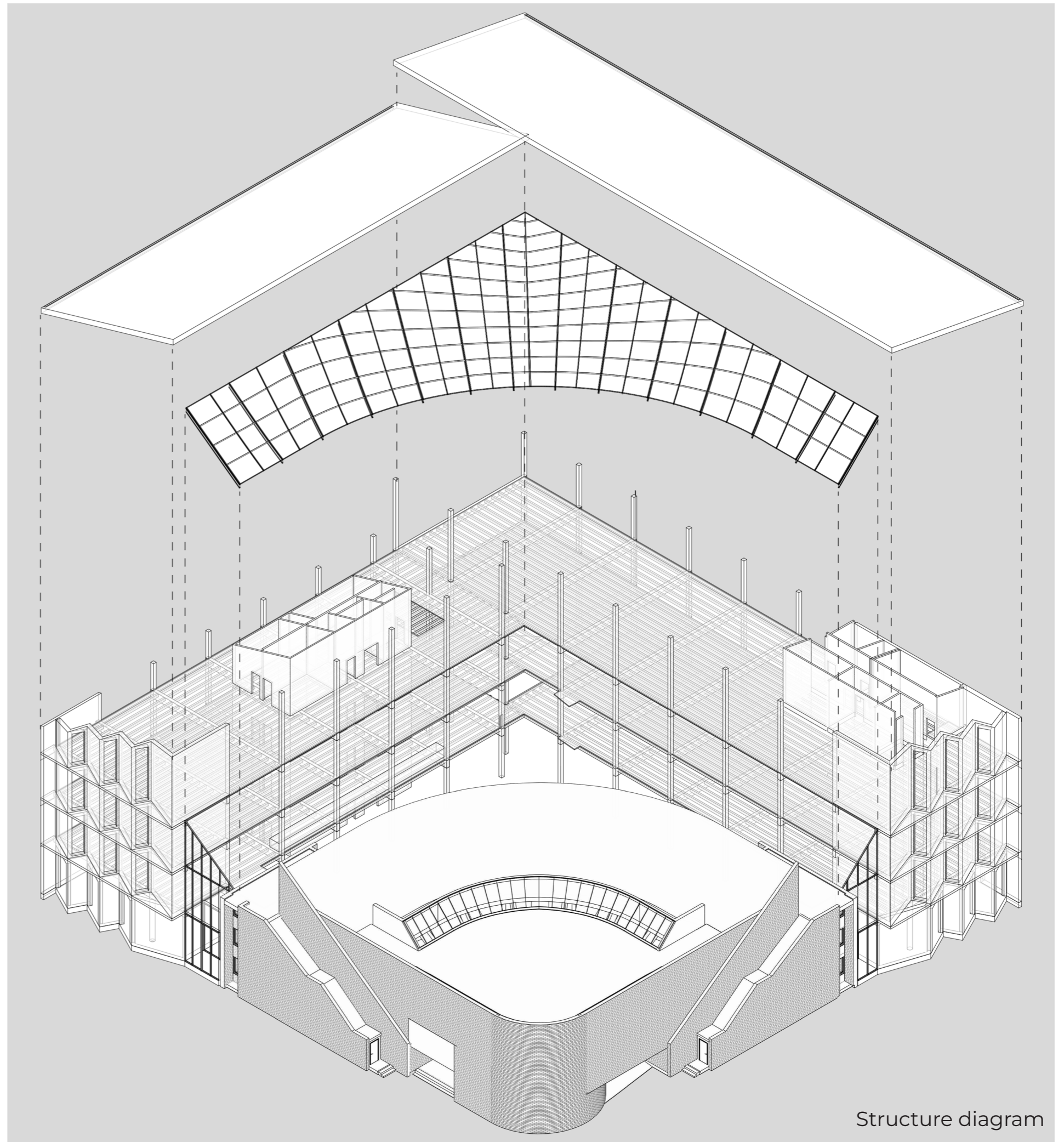
- 49. sports hall
- 50. lockers
- 51. fitting rooms
- 52. utility room
- 53. gym
- 54. sports hall
- 55. storage
- 56. rest zone



part 2. to imagine

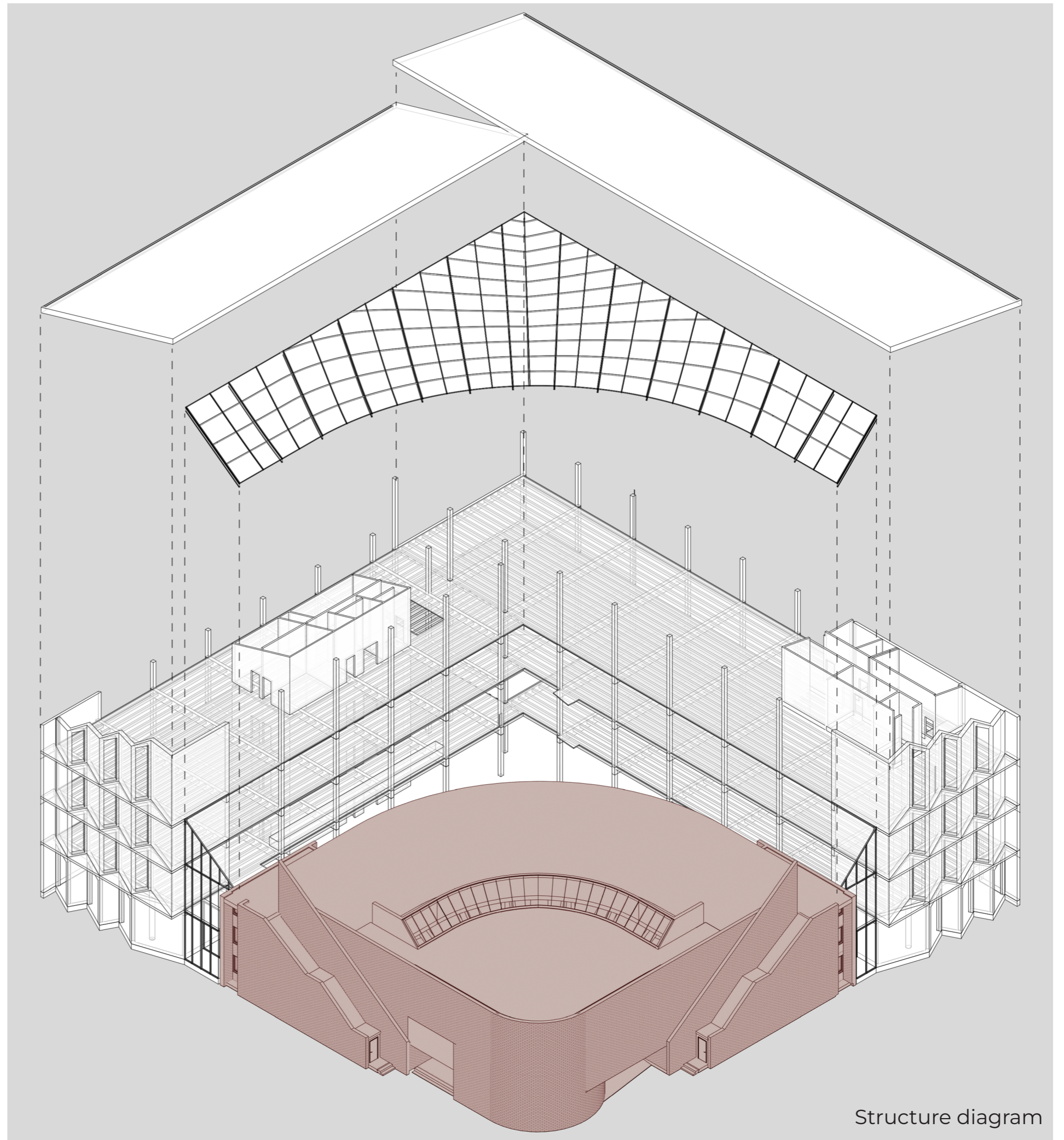


Structure



Structure diagram

Structure

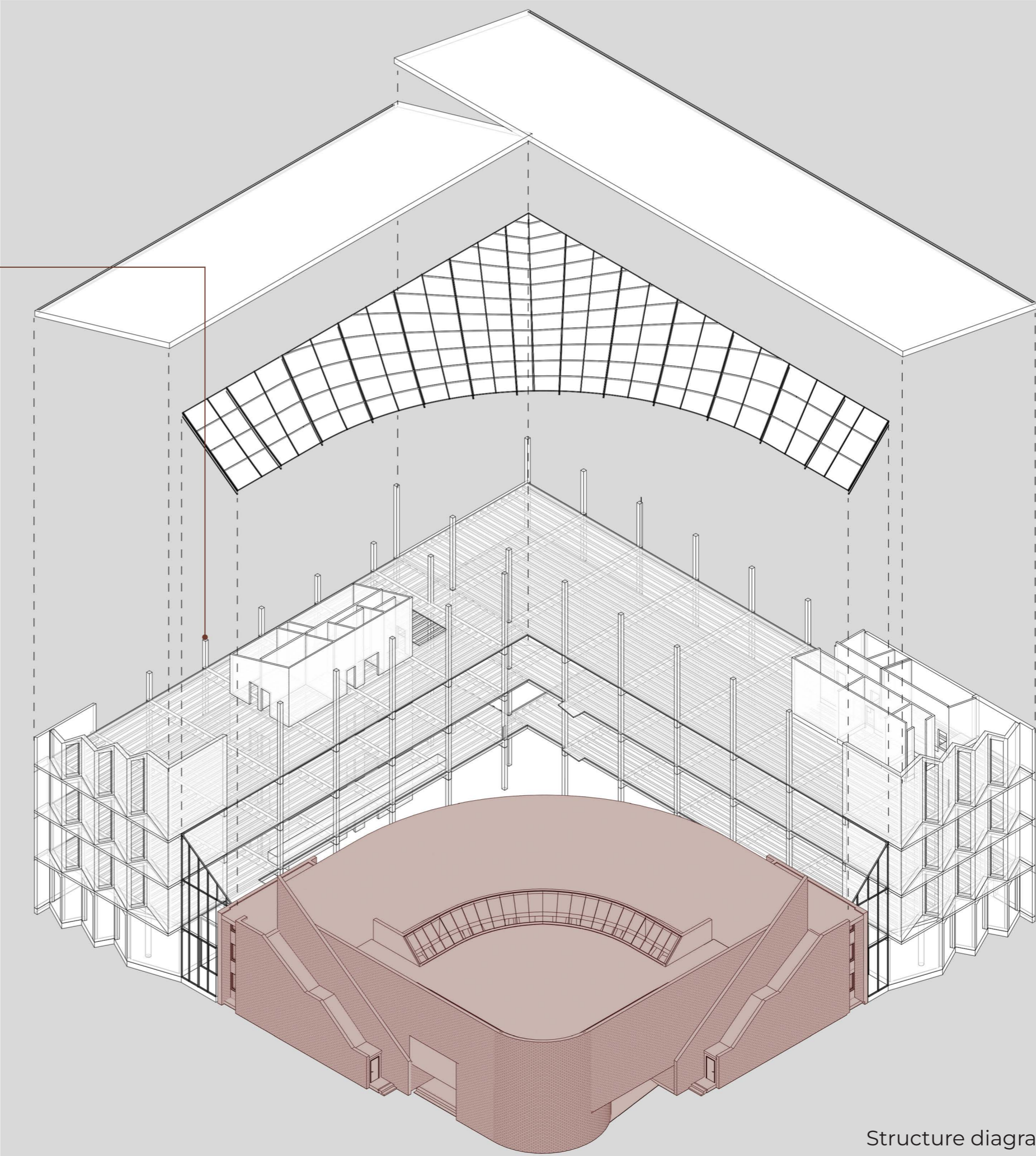


Structure diagram

Structure



reinforced concrete beams and composite columns



Structure diagram

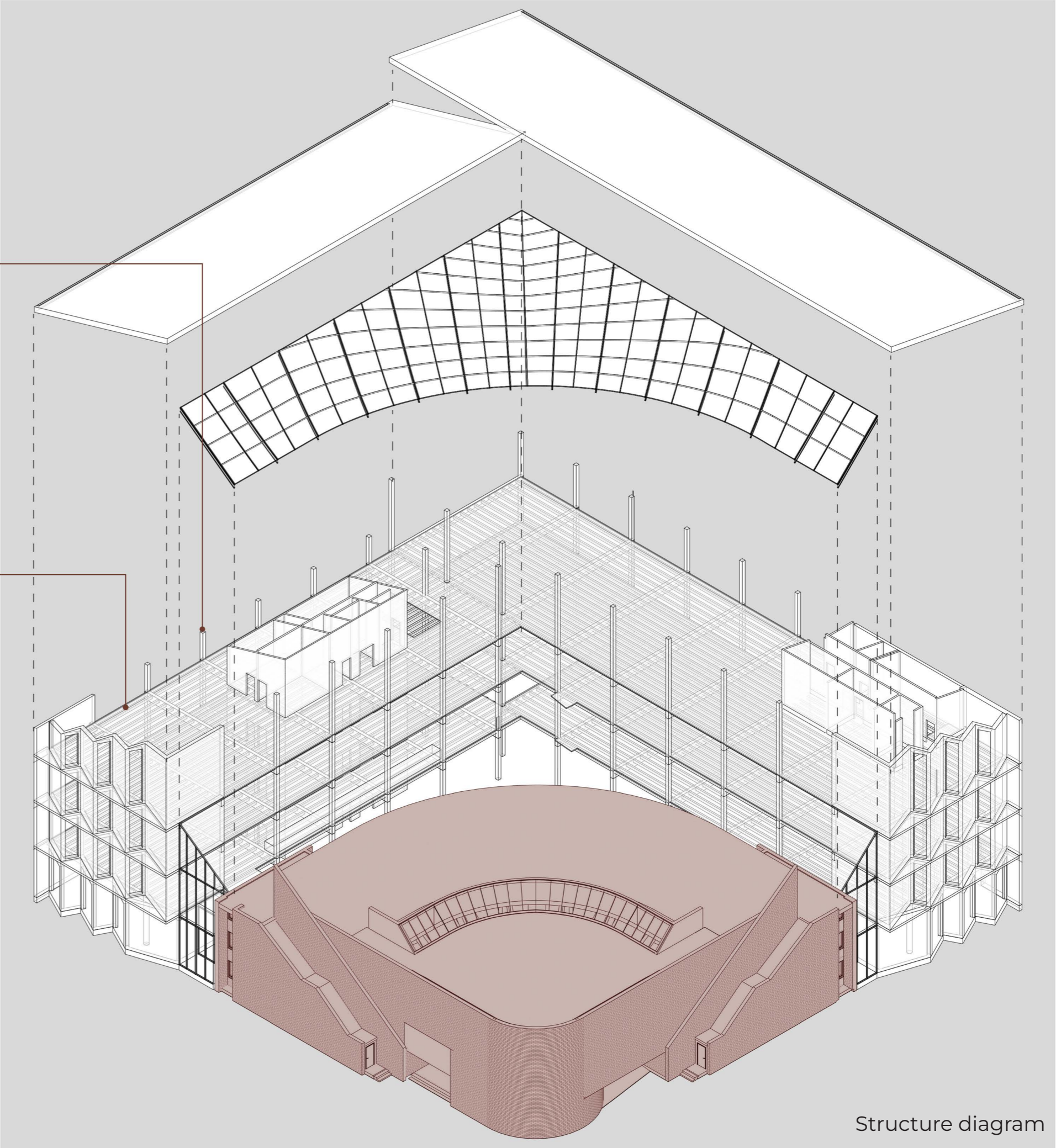
Structure



reinforced concrete beams and composite columns



ribbed concrete slabs



Structure diagram

Structure



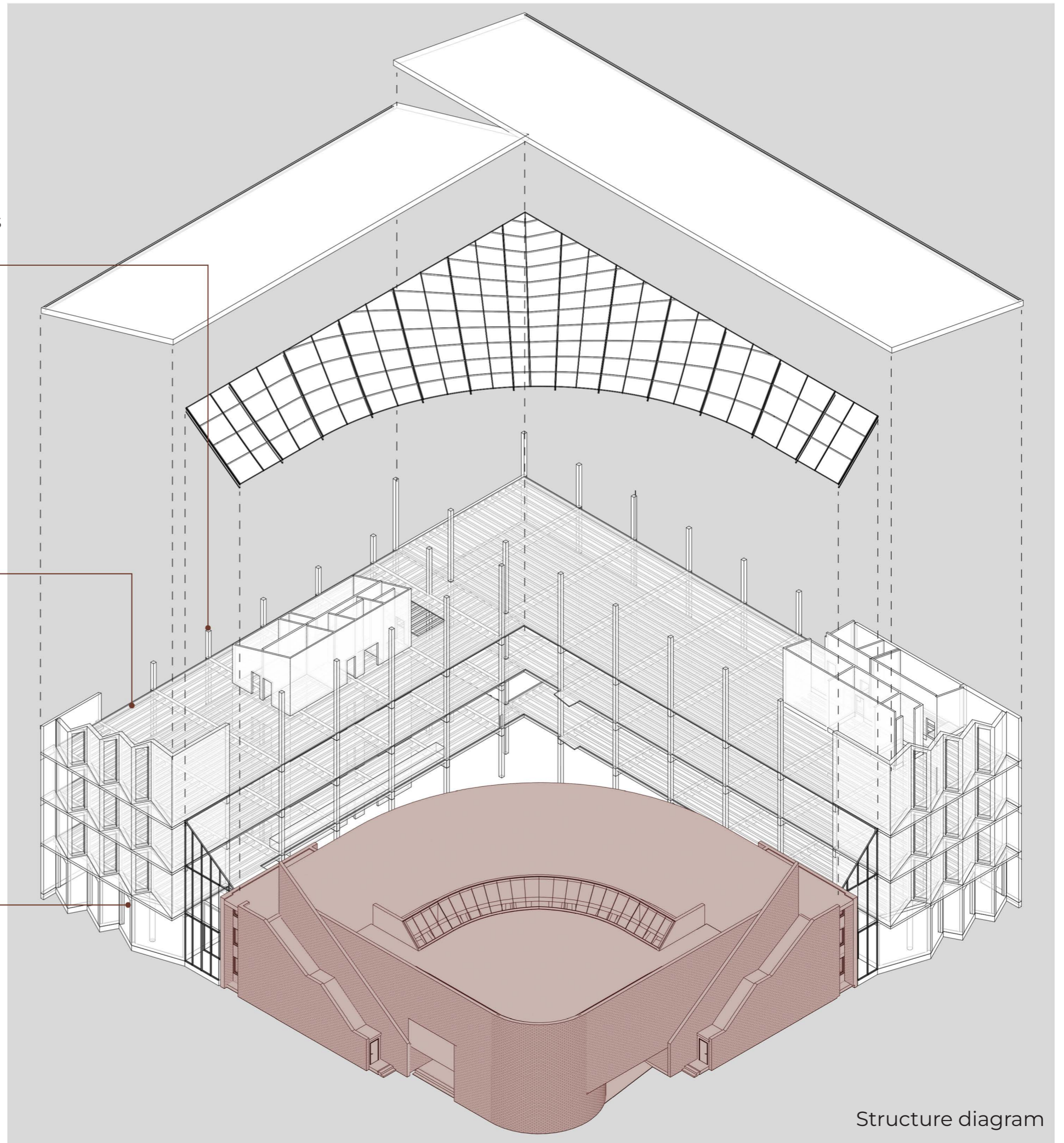
reinforced concrete beams and composite columns



ribbed concrete slabs

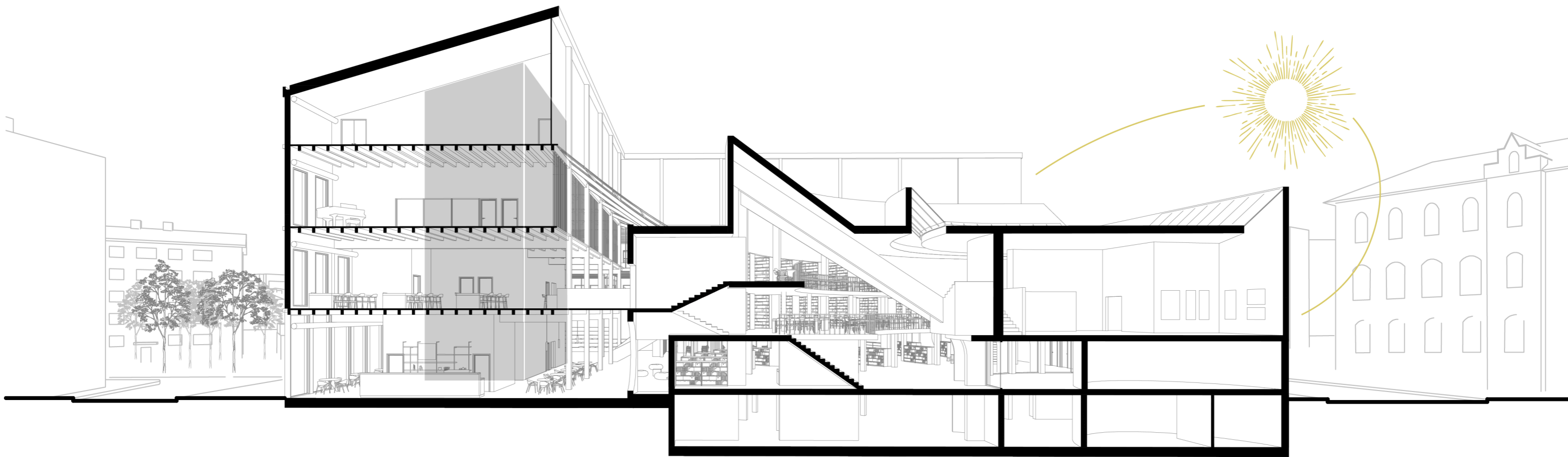


prefab concrete walls in custom moulds



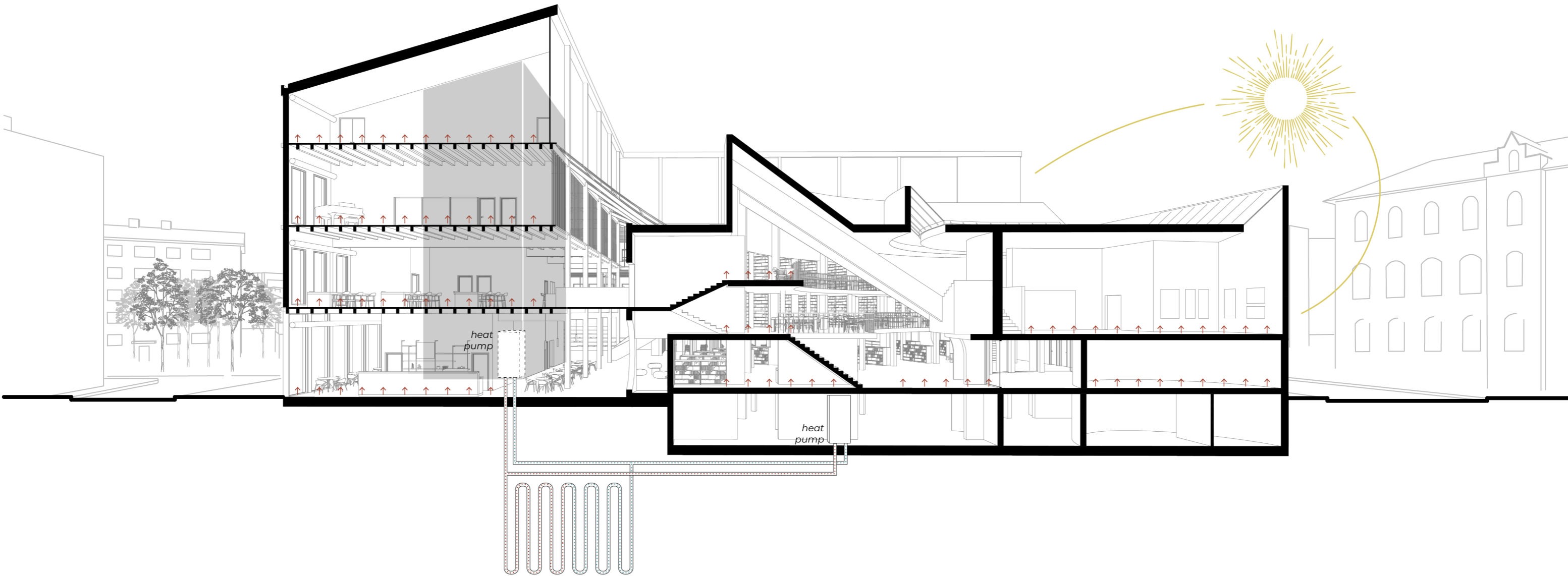
Structure diagram

Climate concept



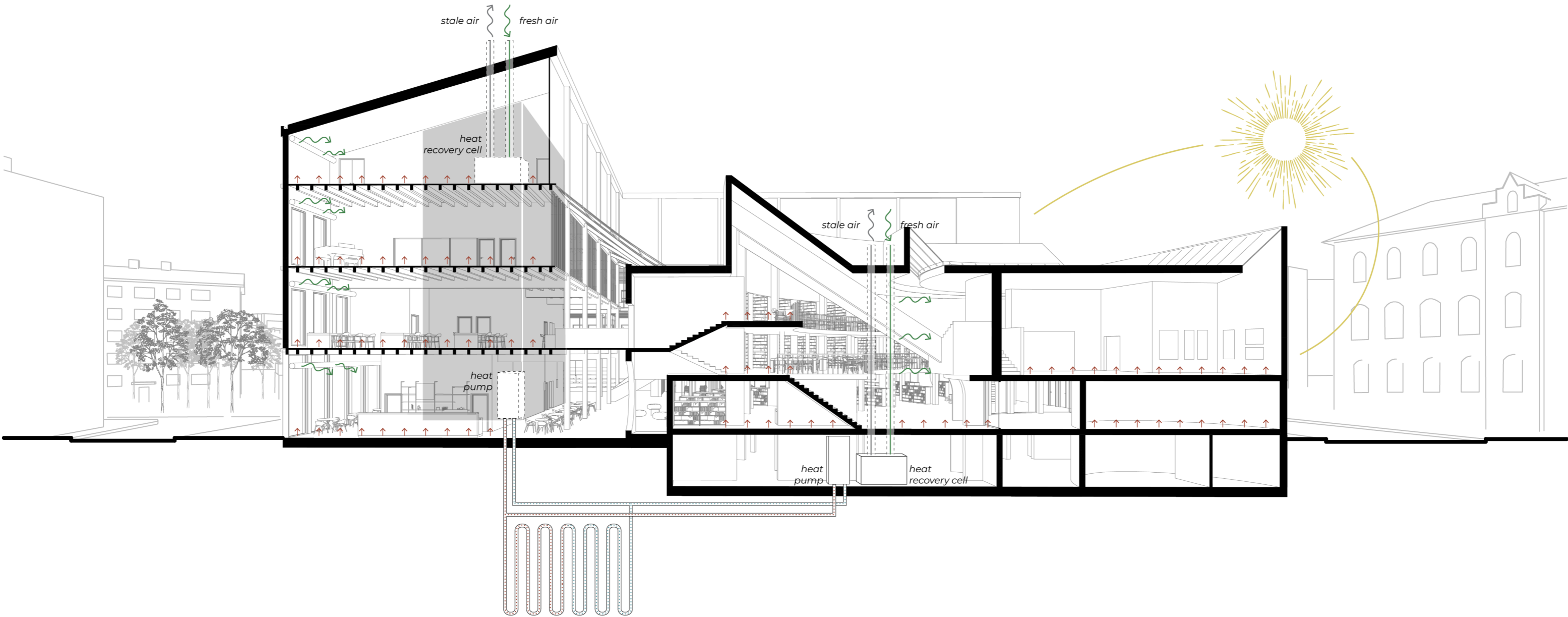
Climate concept: winter

Climate concept



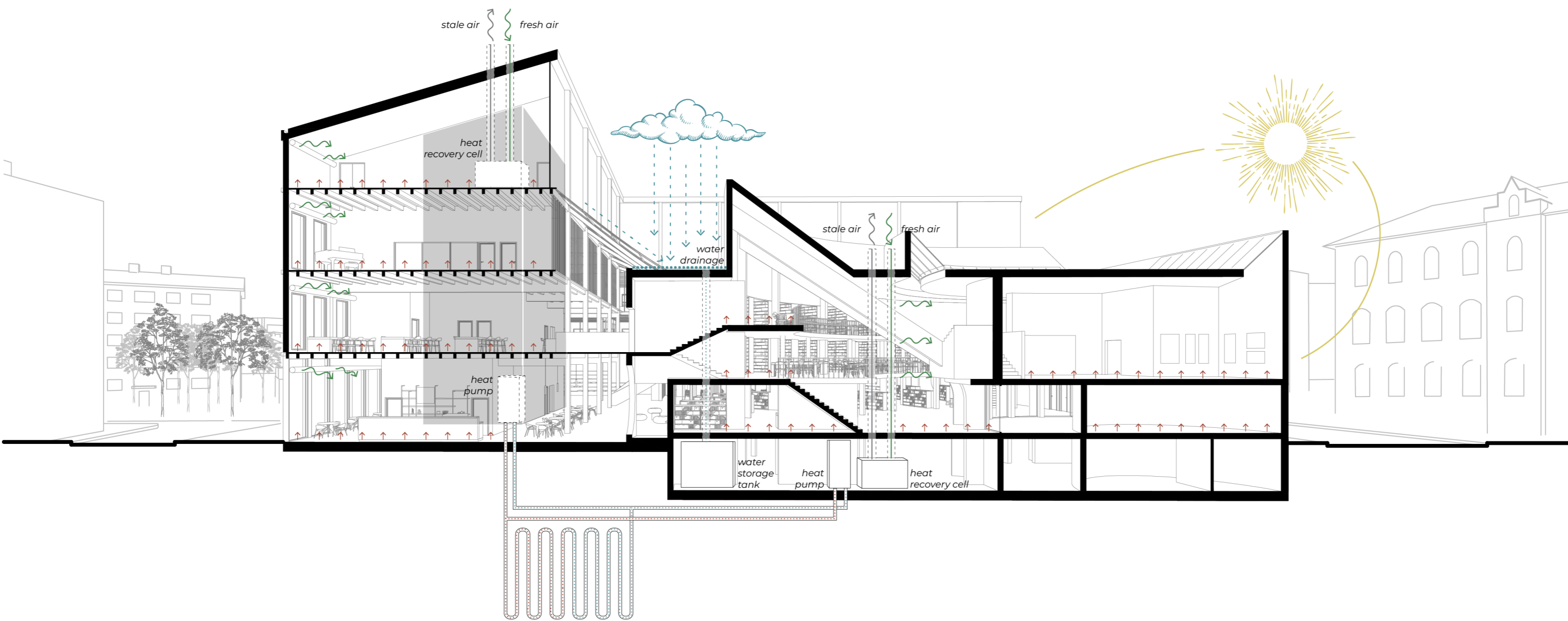
Climate concept: winter

Climate concept



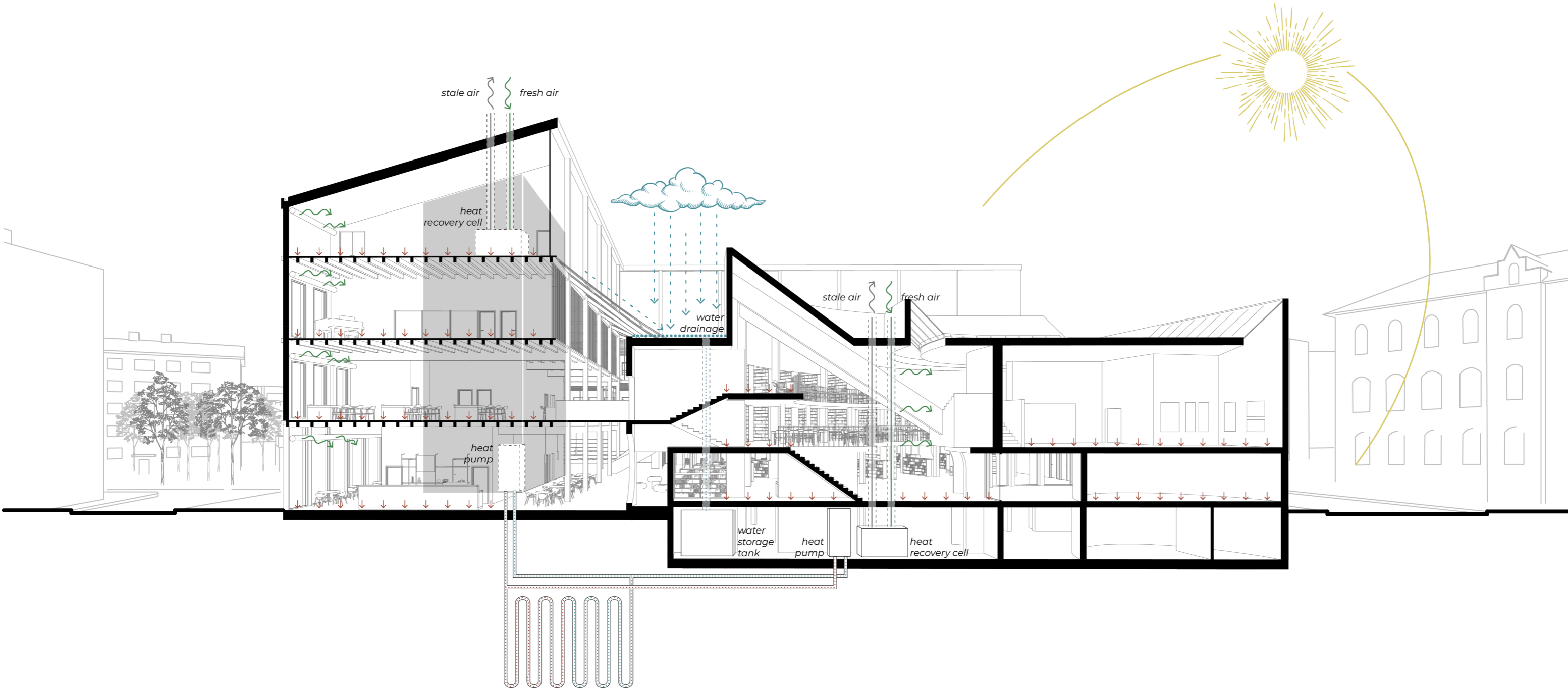
Climate concept: winter

Climate concept



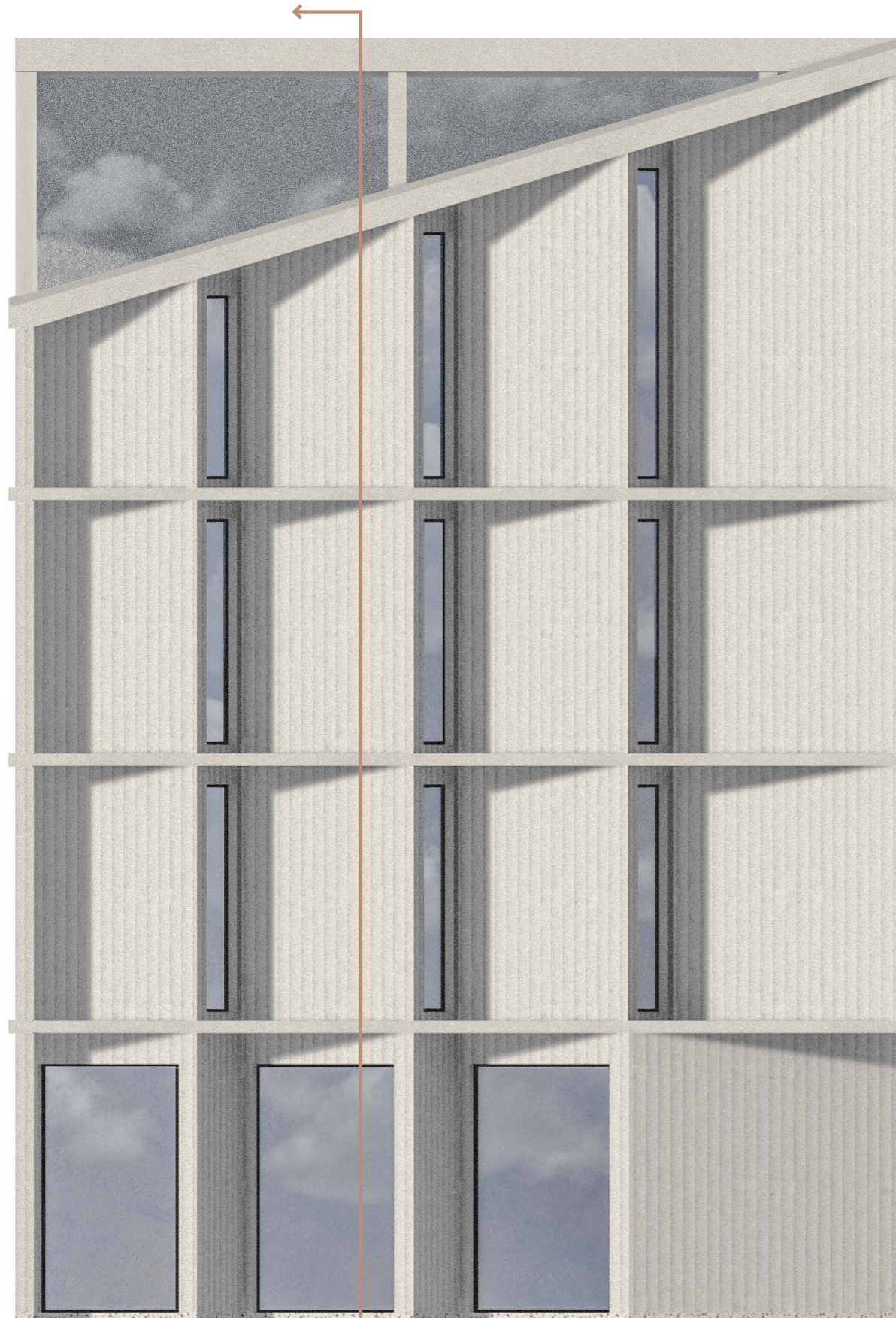
Climate concept: winter

Climate concept

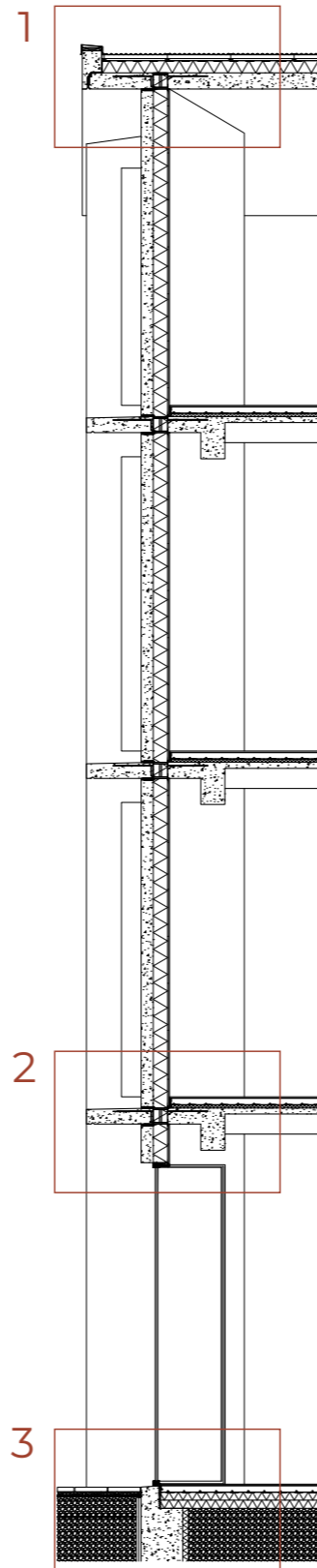


Climate concept: summer

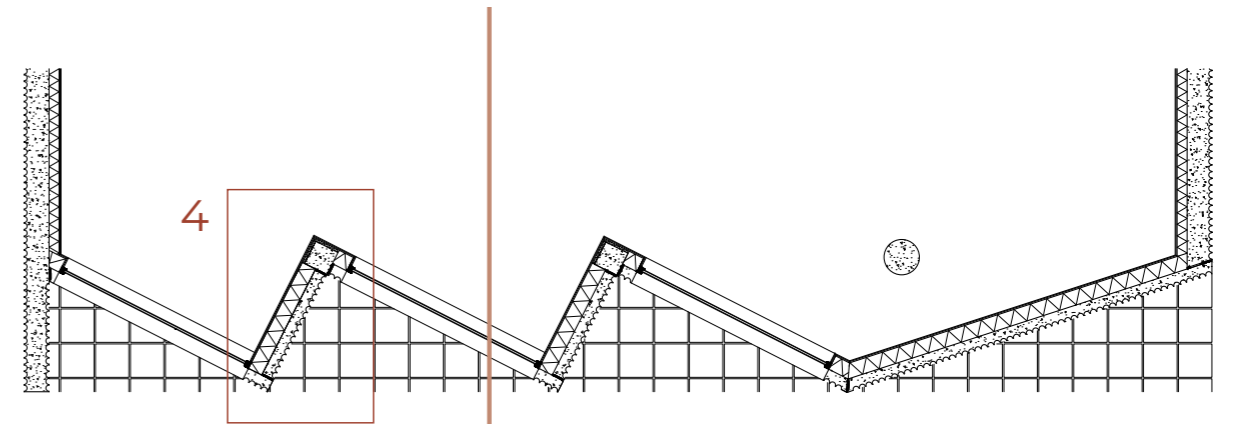
Facade combination drawing



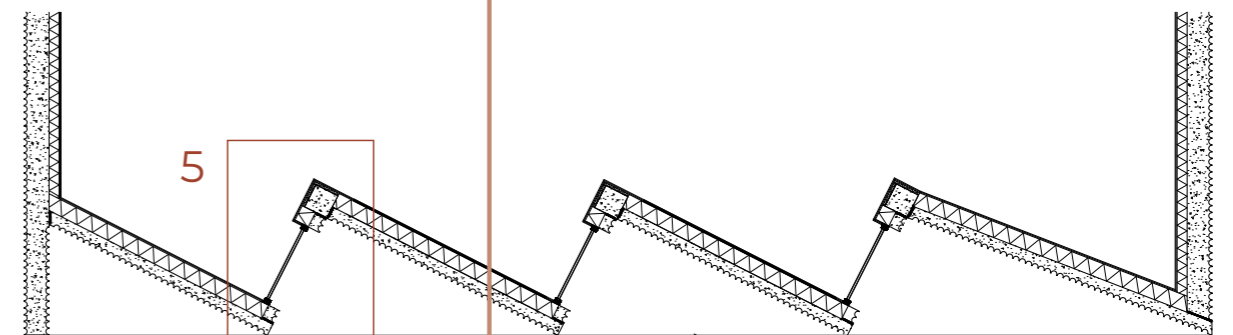
South-west Elevation, 1:50



Section, 1:50



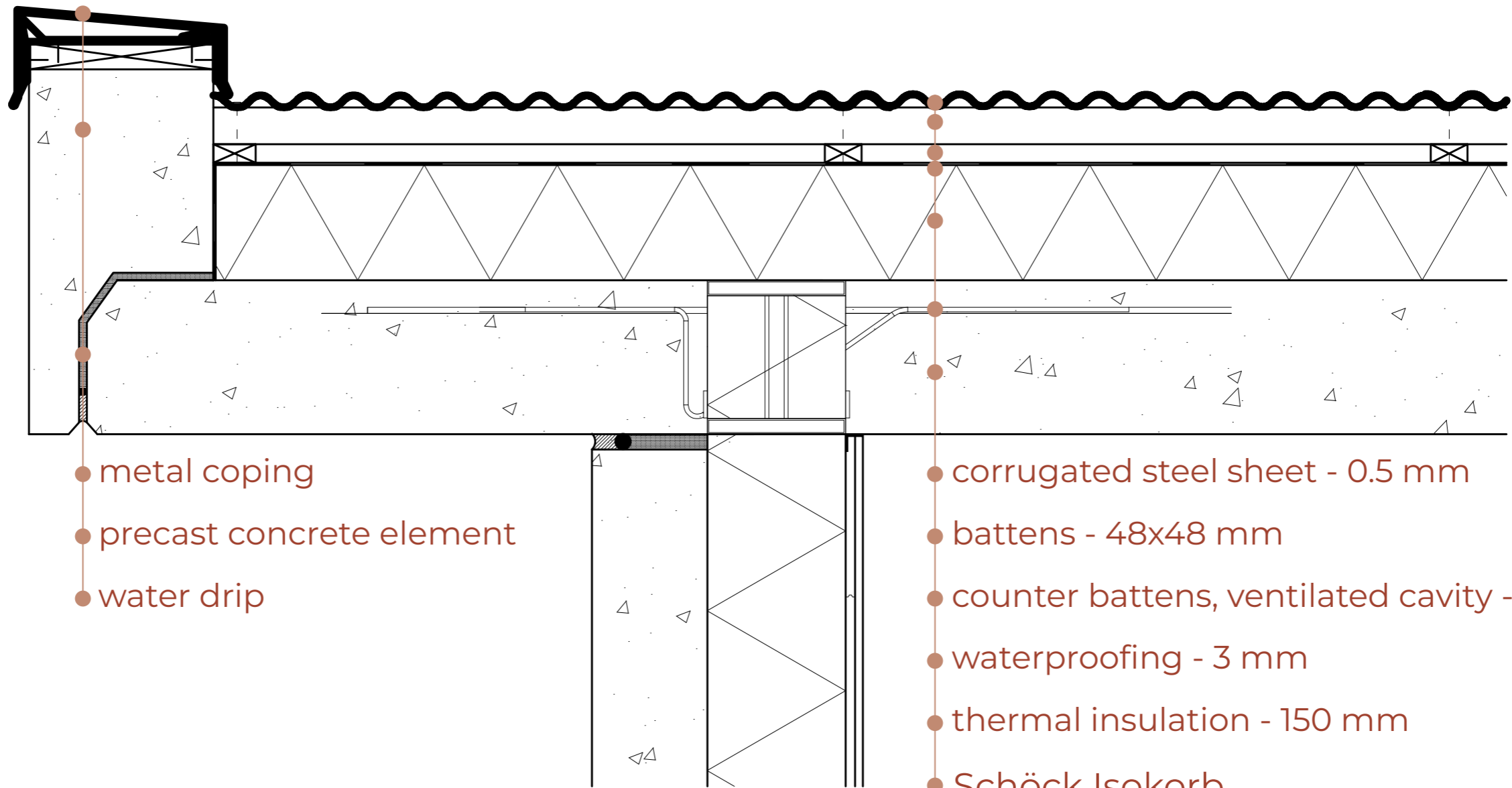
Ground floor, 1:50



First floor, 1:50

Details

1

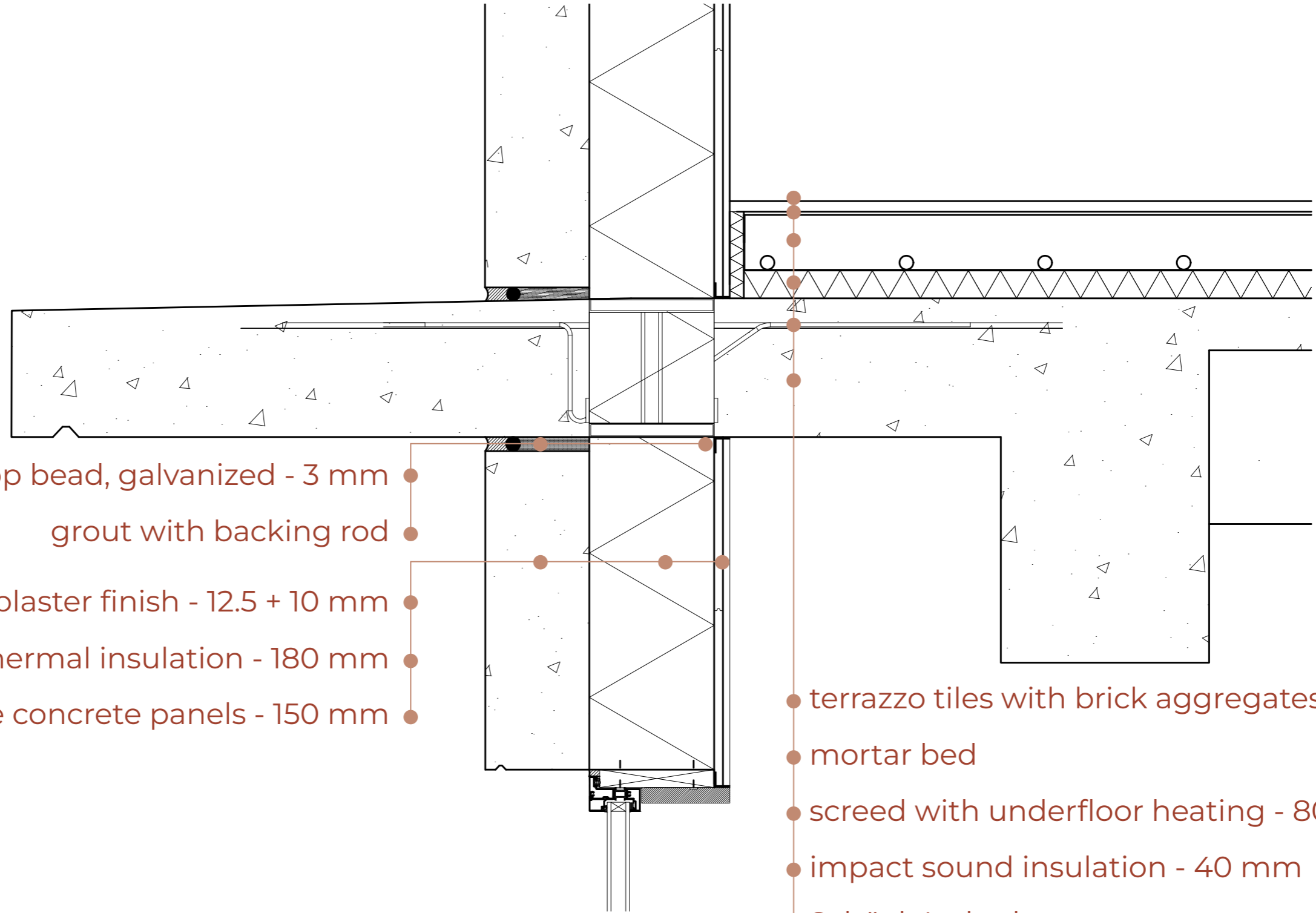


- metal coping
- precast concrete element
- water drip

- corrugated steel sheet - 0.5 mm
- battens - 48x48 mm
- counter battens, ventilated cavity - 48x24 mm
- waterproofing - 3 mm
- thermal insulation - 150 mm
- Schöck Isokorb
- concrete roof - 200 mm

Details

2



stop bead, galvanized - 3 mm

grout with backing rod

gypsum boards with plaster finish - 12.5 + 10 mm

vapour proof thermal insulation - 180 mm

precast fair face concrete panels - 150 mm

terrazzo tiles with brick aggregates - 15 mm

mortar bed

screed with underfloor heating - 80 mm

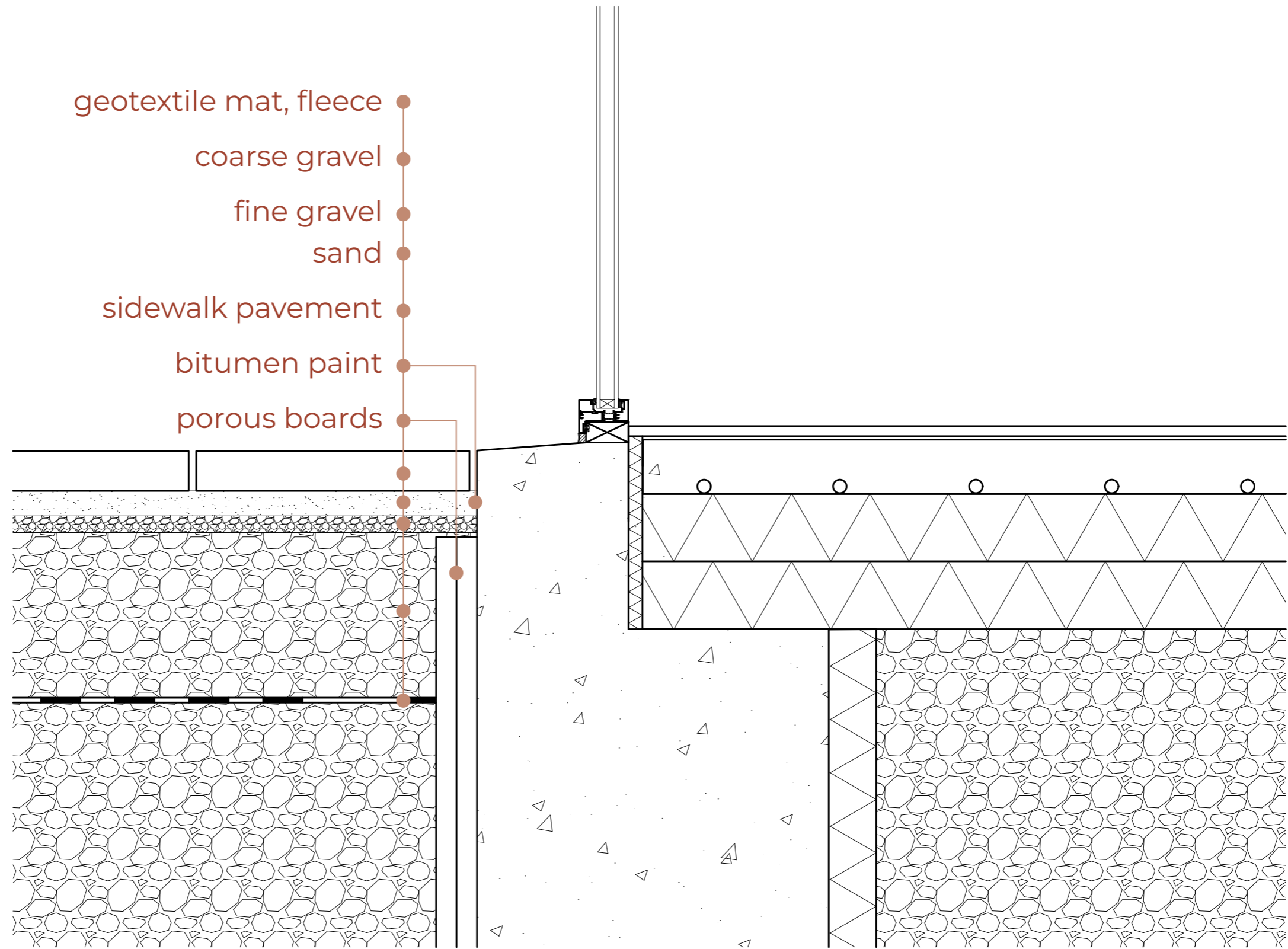
impact sound insulation - 40 mm

Schöck Isokorb

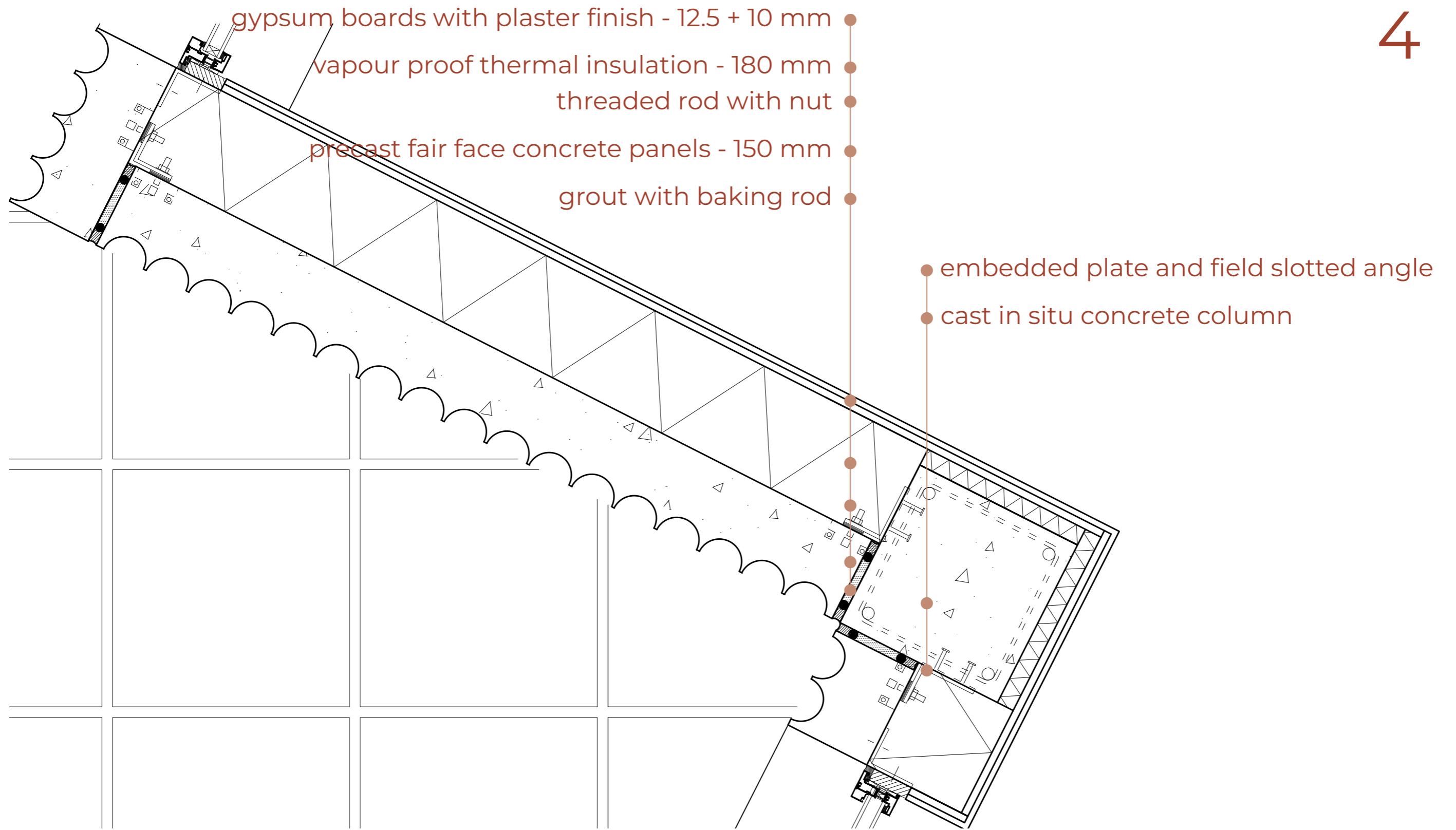
cast in situ concrete

Details

3



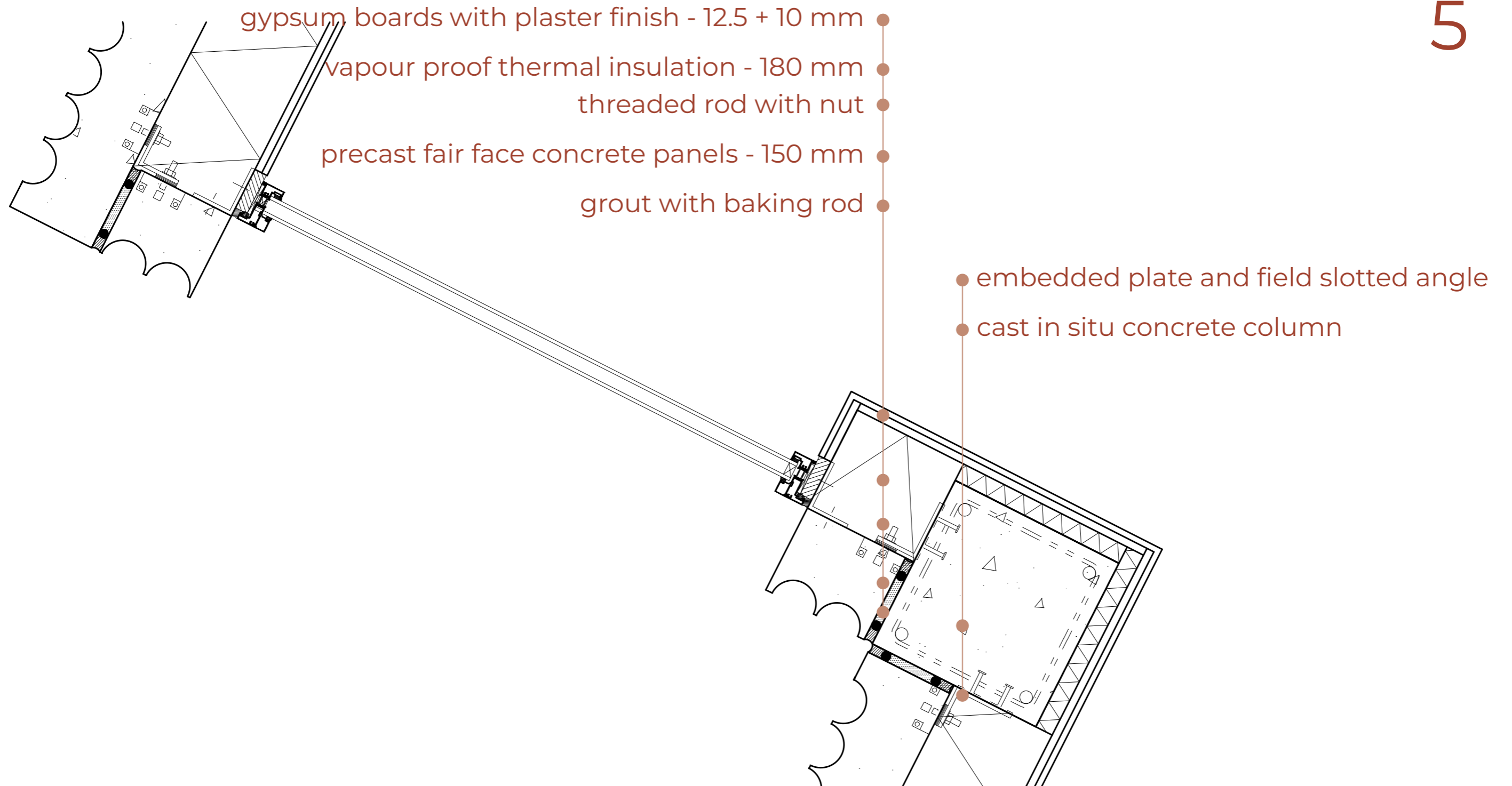
Details



4

Details

5



part 3.
to experience



Front facade view from inside



View from atrium entrance towards the café







The flexible space as an extension to the auditorium







part 4.
reflection



An inclusive community centre, which contributes to the current needs of public spaces in Tallinn and enriches the life in the city,



where the past and the present exist together, side by side.



thank you!