

A Library for Exchange



Overview of the main intervention done on the West side of the Asplundhus

Under the guidance of
ir. E. Karanastasi,
ir. S. S. Mandias,
ir. S. Pietsch,
M. Pimlott,
Prof. D. J. Rosbottom,
S. De Vocht,
ir. J. S. Zeinstra

The Building: Stockholm City Library

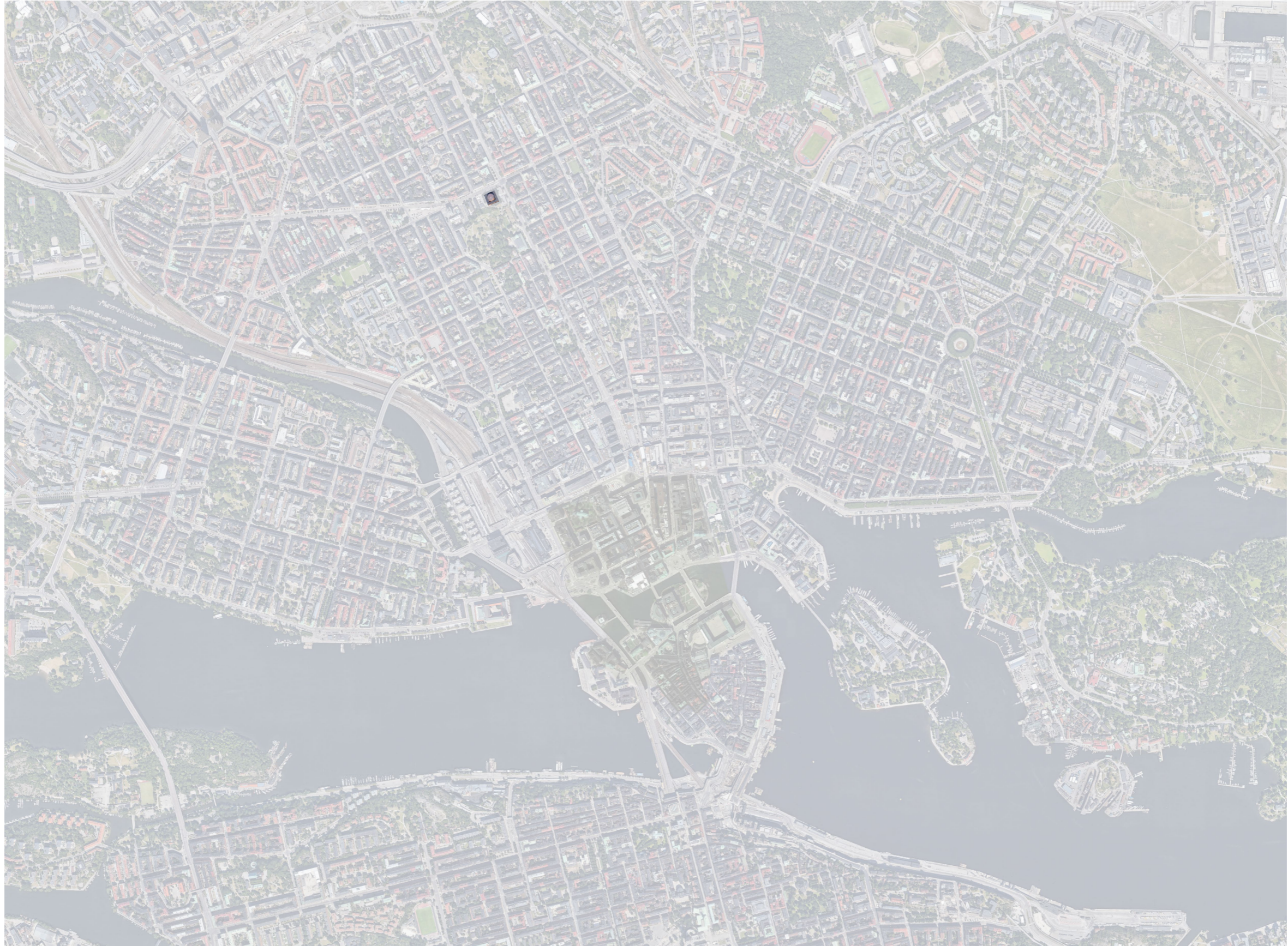


This year, the Graduation Studio will undertake a design project for a public library in relation to the existing Stockholm City Library by Erik Gunnar Asplund from 1928.

The City



The Library



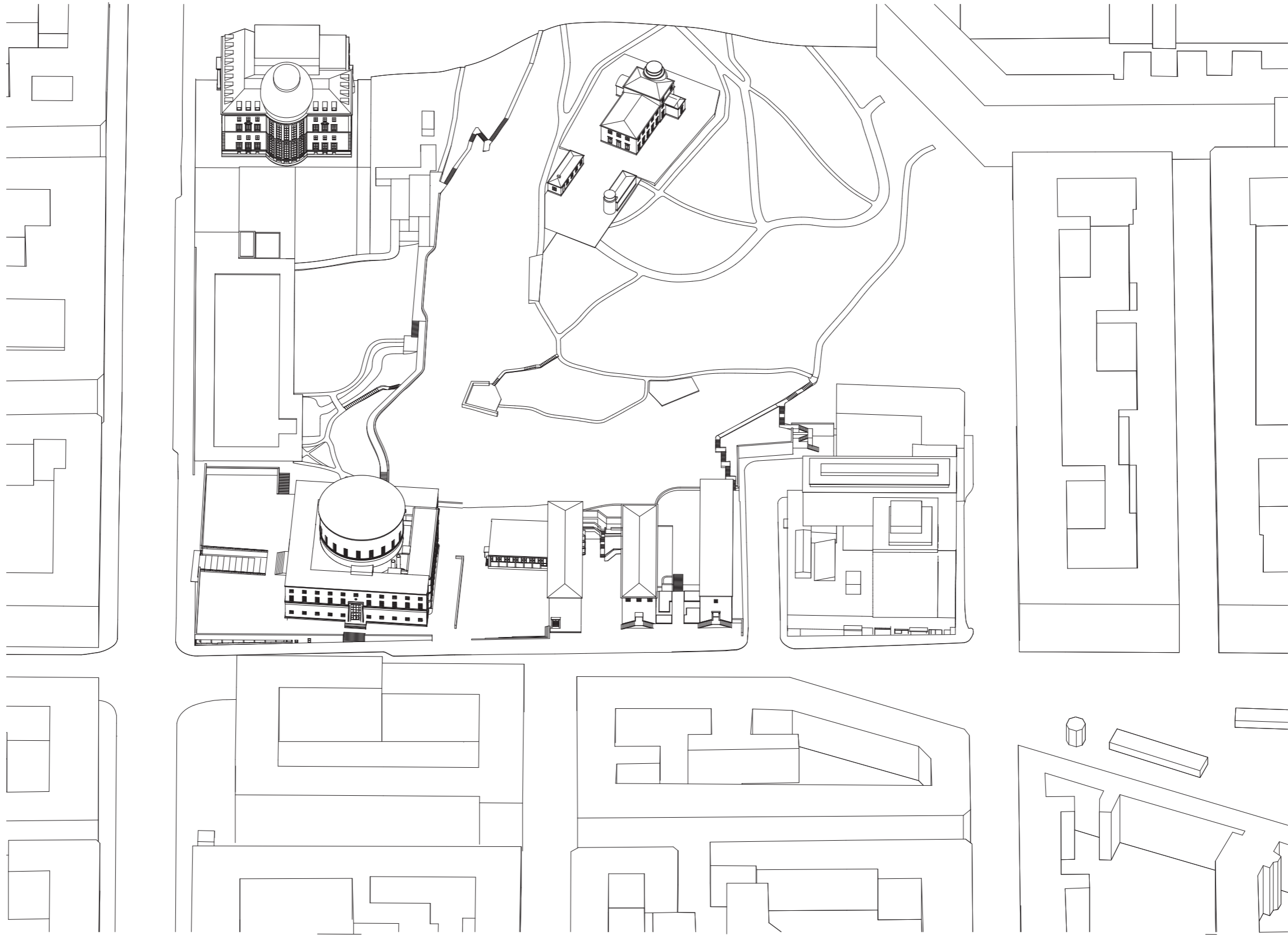
The Building Plot



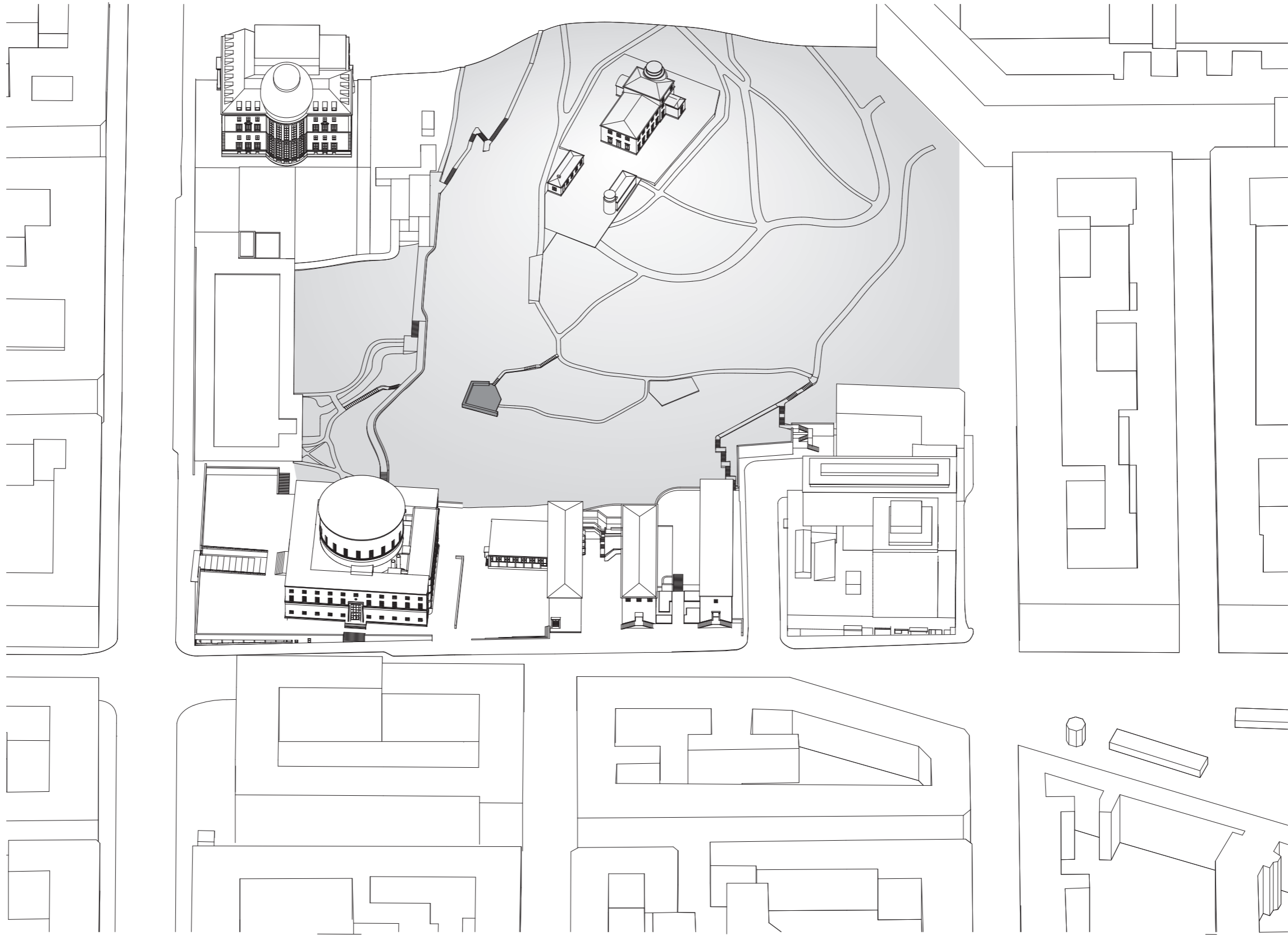
Sveavaegen



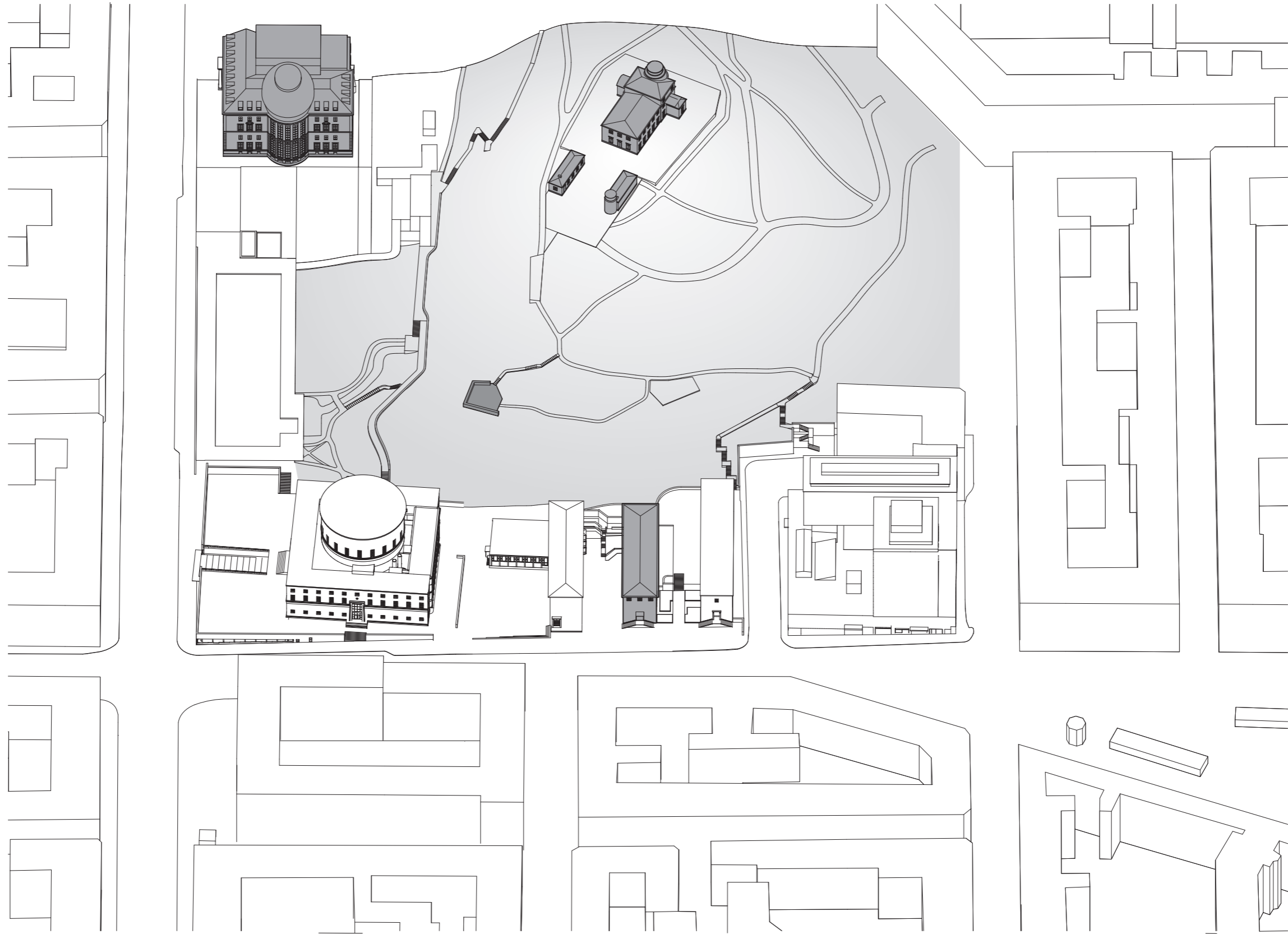
The Plot



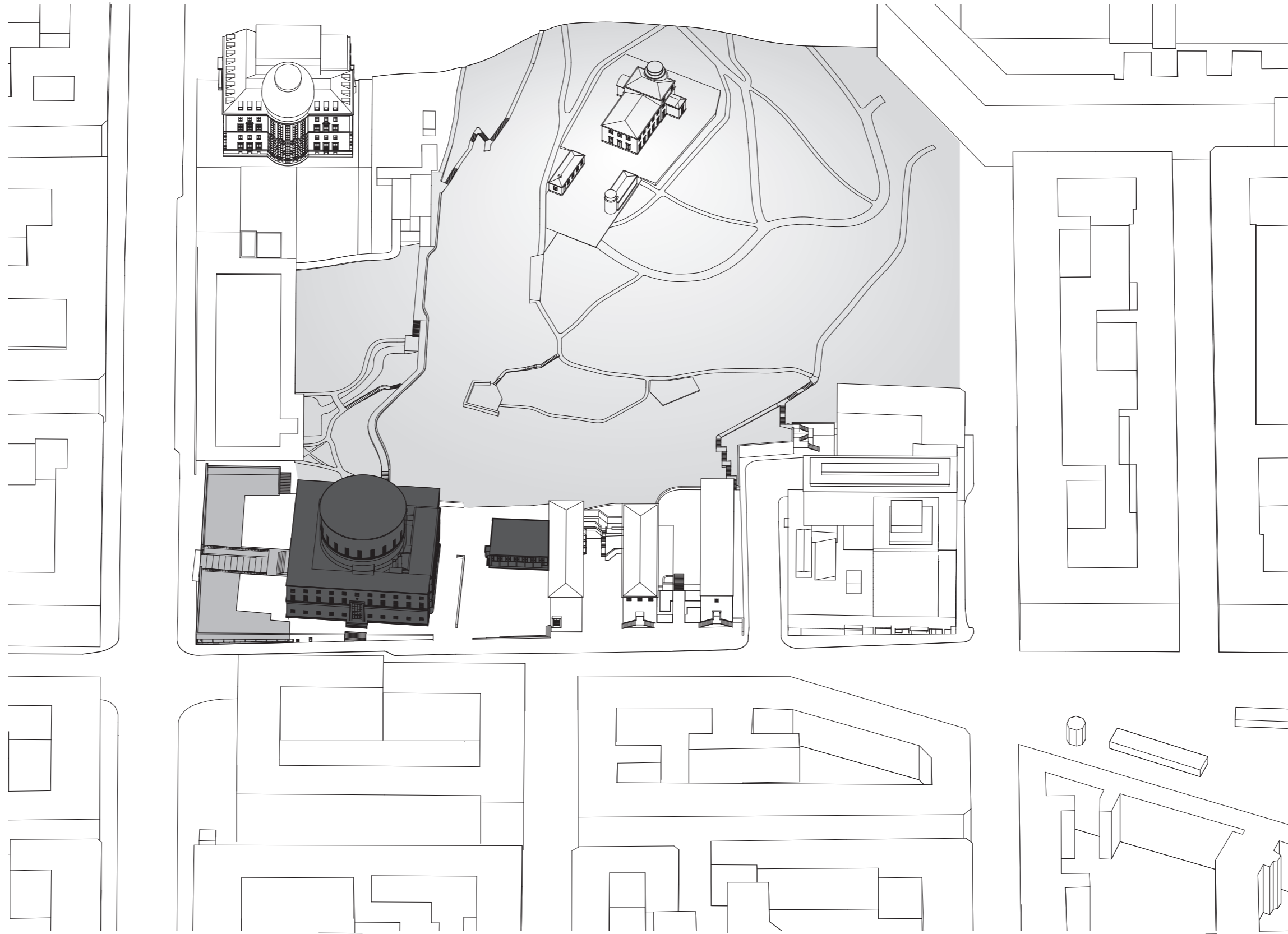
The Plot



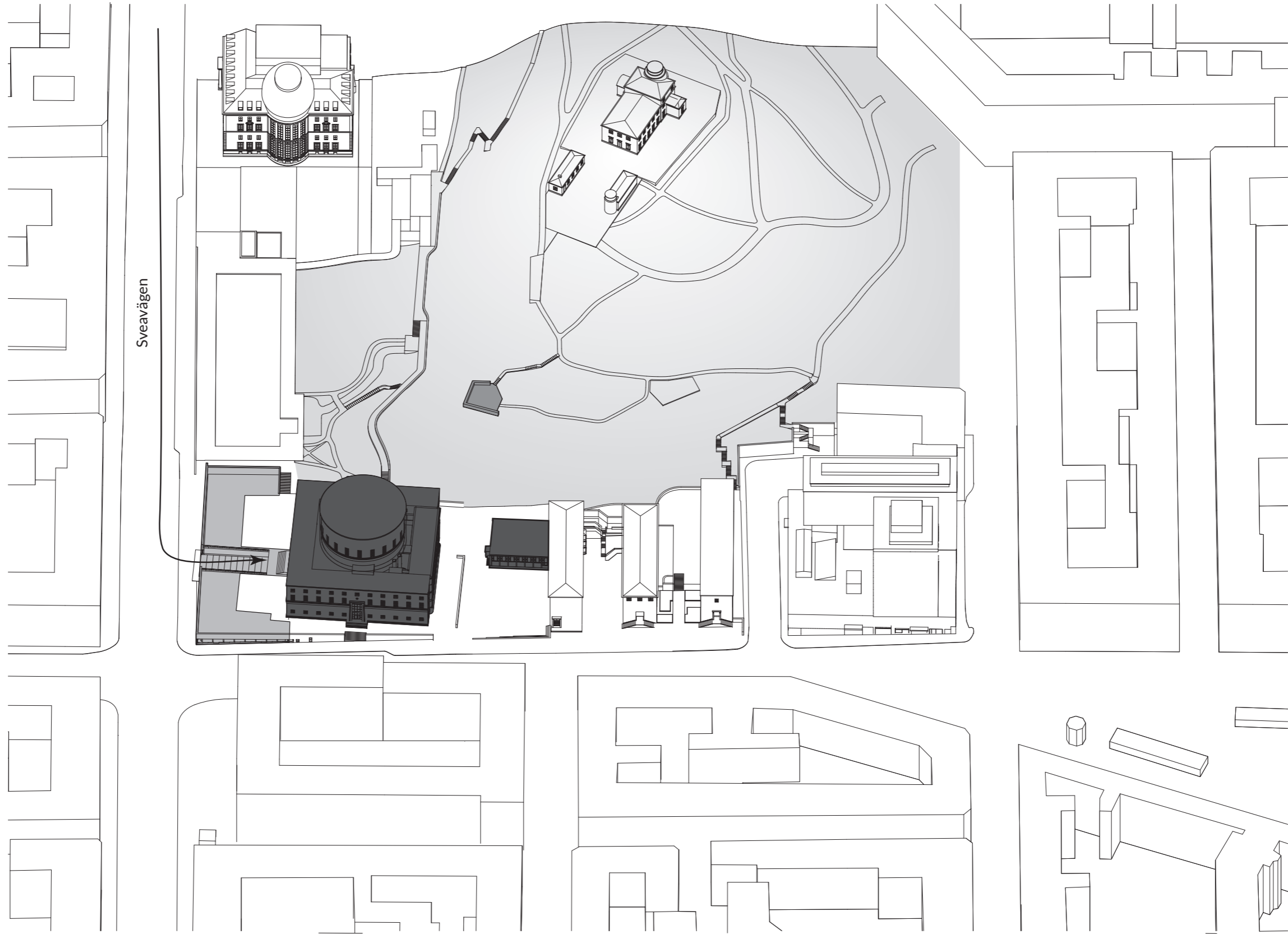
Educational Buildings



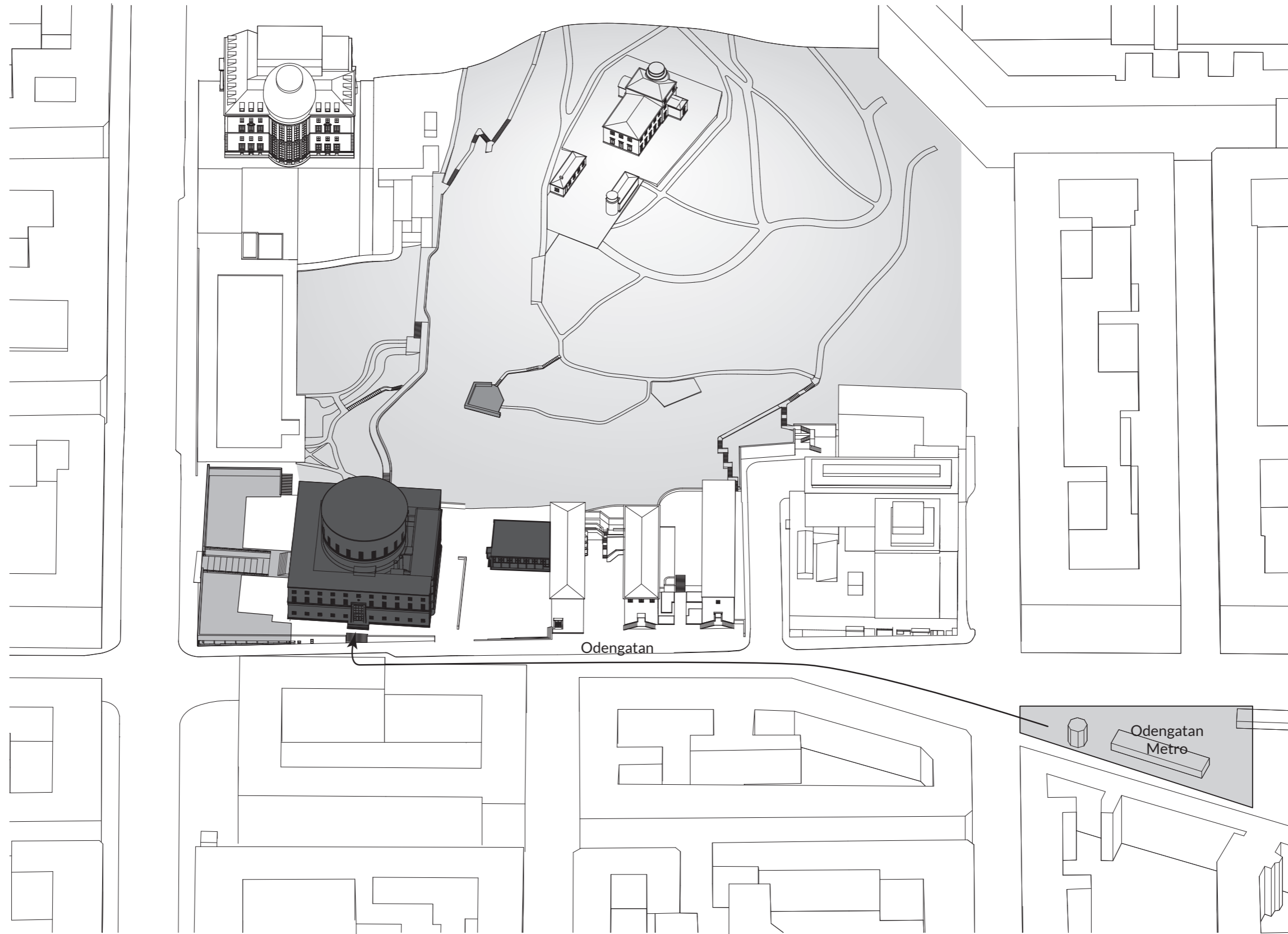
Ensemble



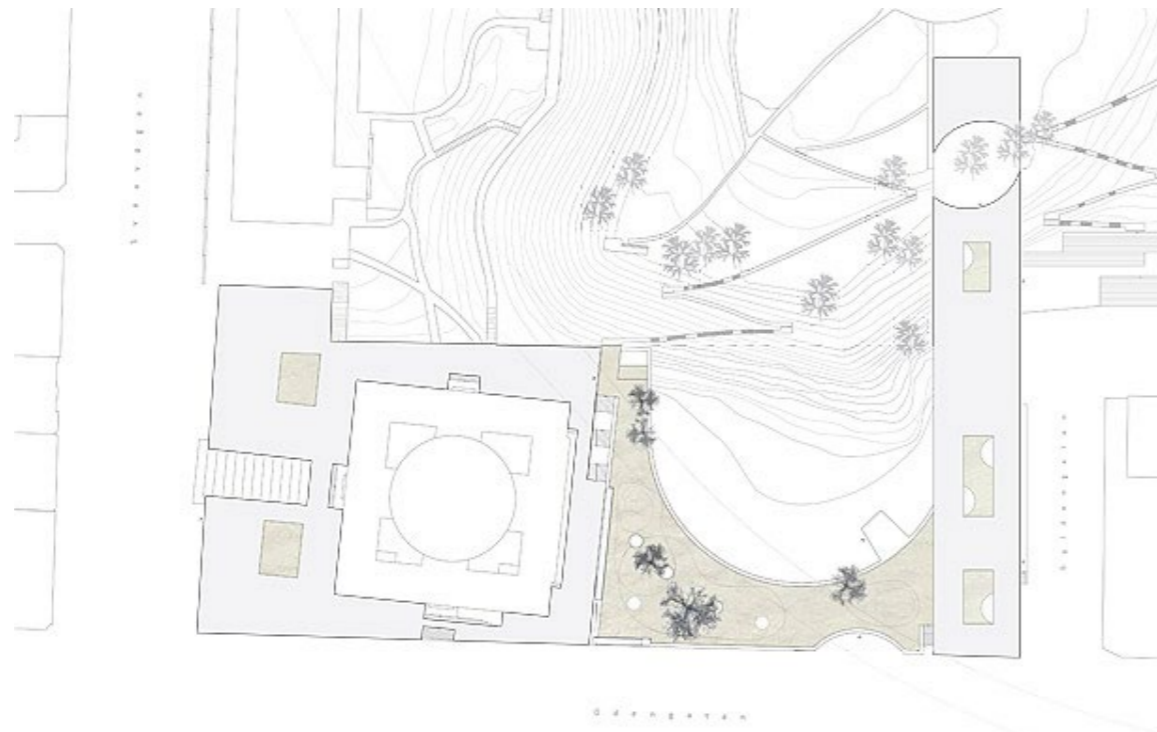
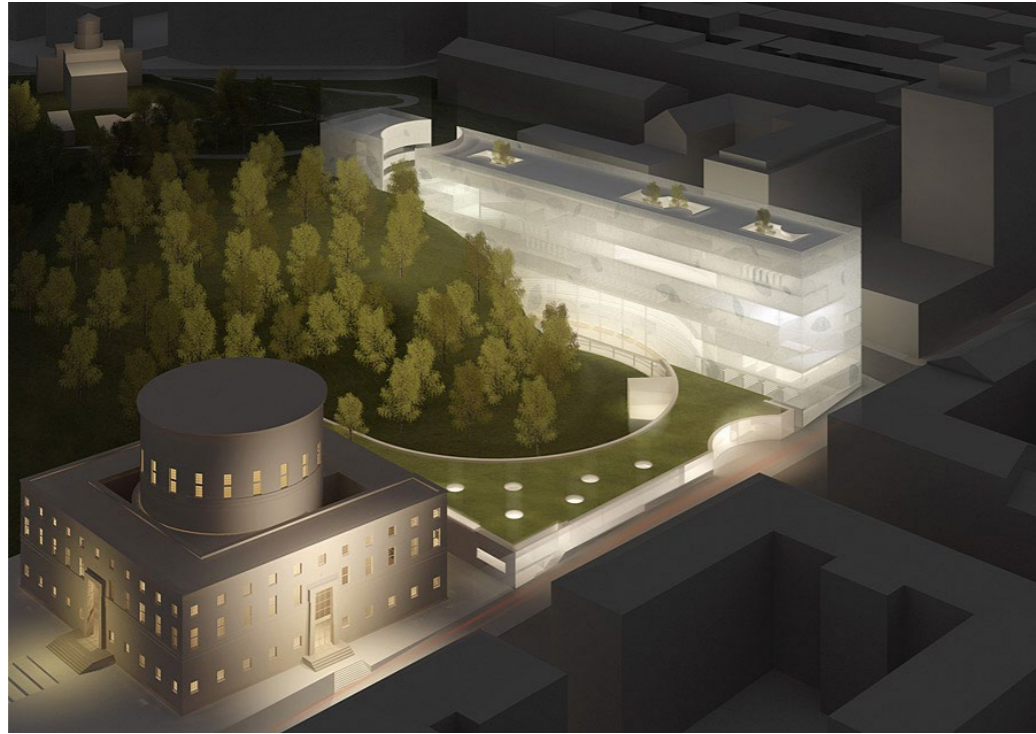
East entrance



North entrance



Starting point: failed competitions



2007 winning competition proposal
Heike Hanada



2015 winning competition proposal
Caruso St John Architects

**What should a Library be
in the 21st Century?**

**How to react to the existing
monumental building by Asplund?**

Looking Carefully at Asplundhuset

How to react to the existing monumental building designed by Erik Gunnar Asplund?



Composition



2015 photograph by David Grandorge.

the Bazaar



2015 photograph by David Grandorge.

Asplundhuset



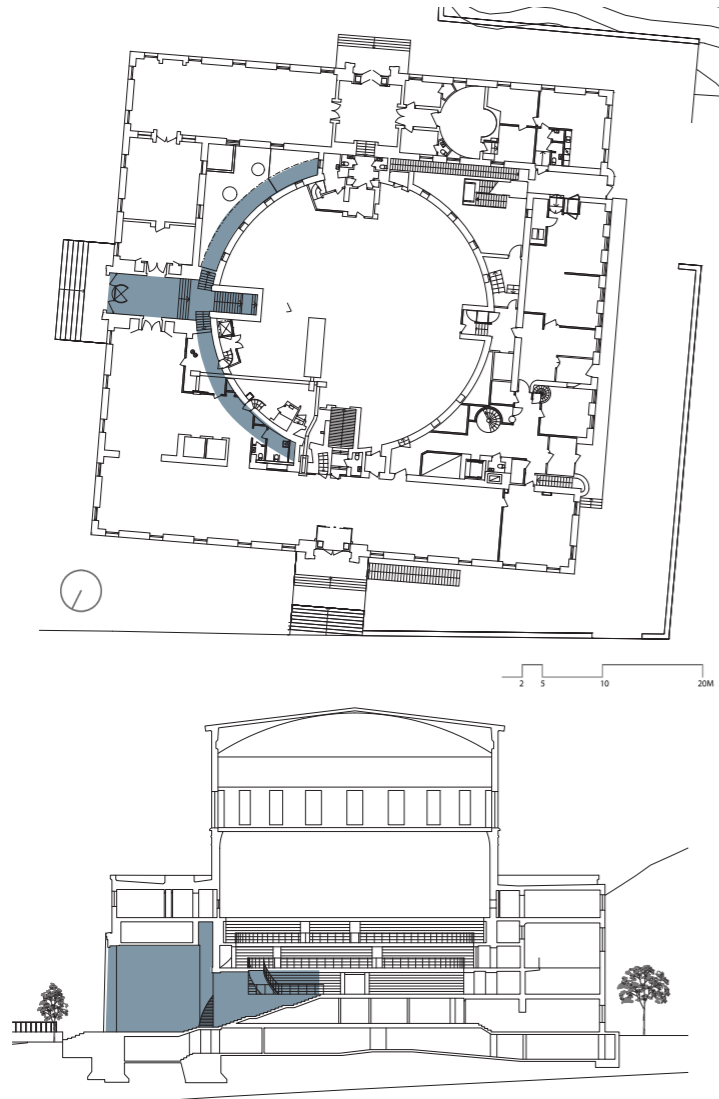
2015 photograph by David Grandorge.

Composition

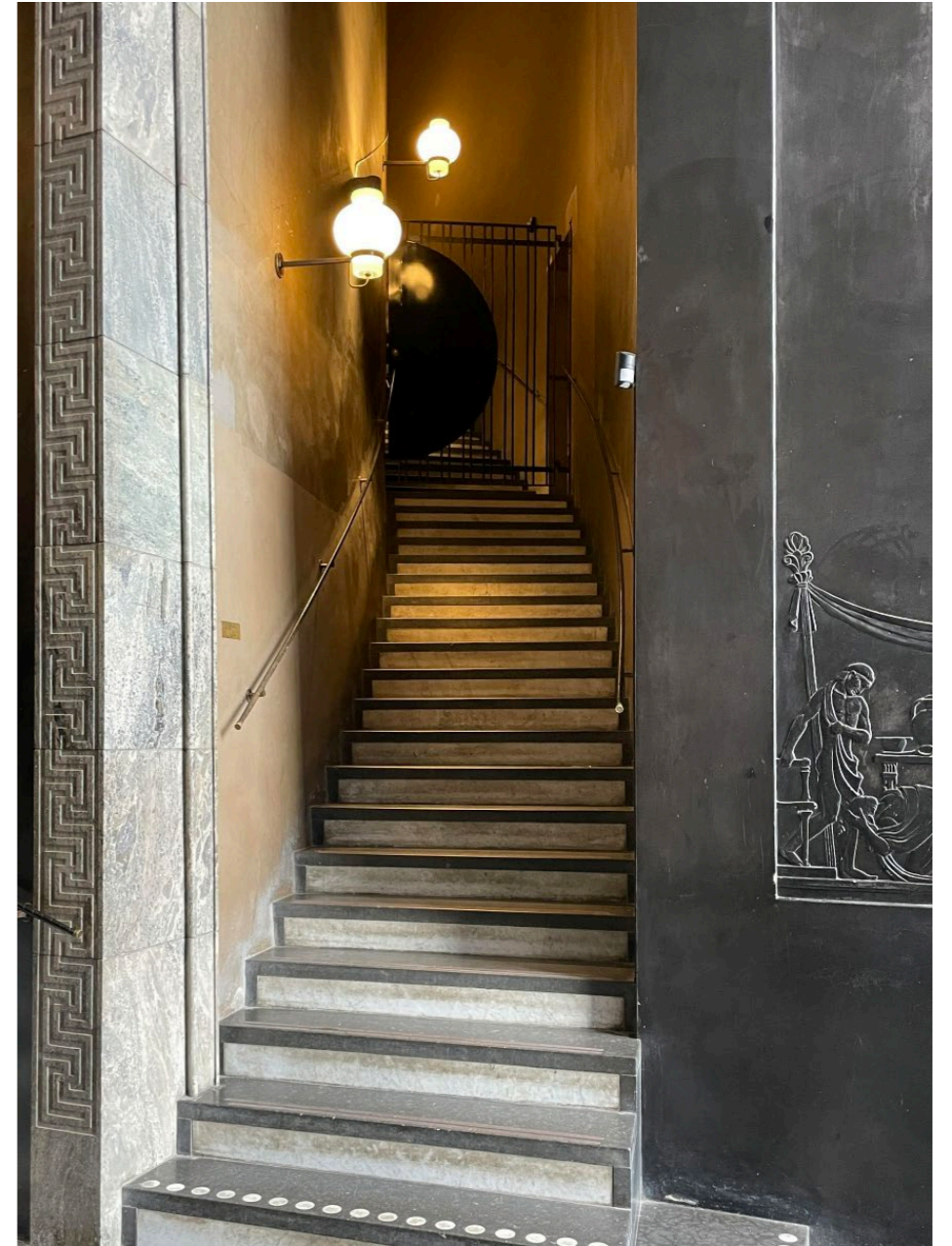


2015 photograph by David Grandorge.

Entrance

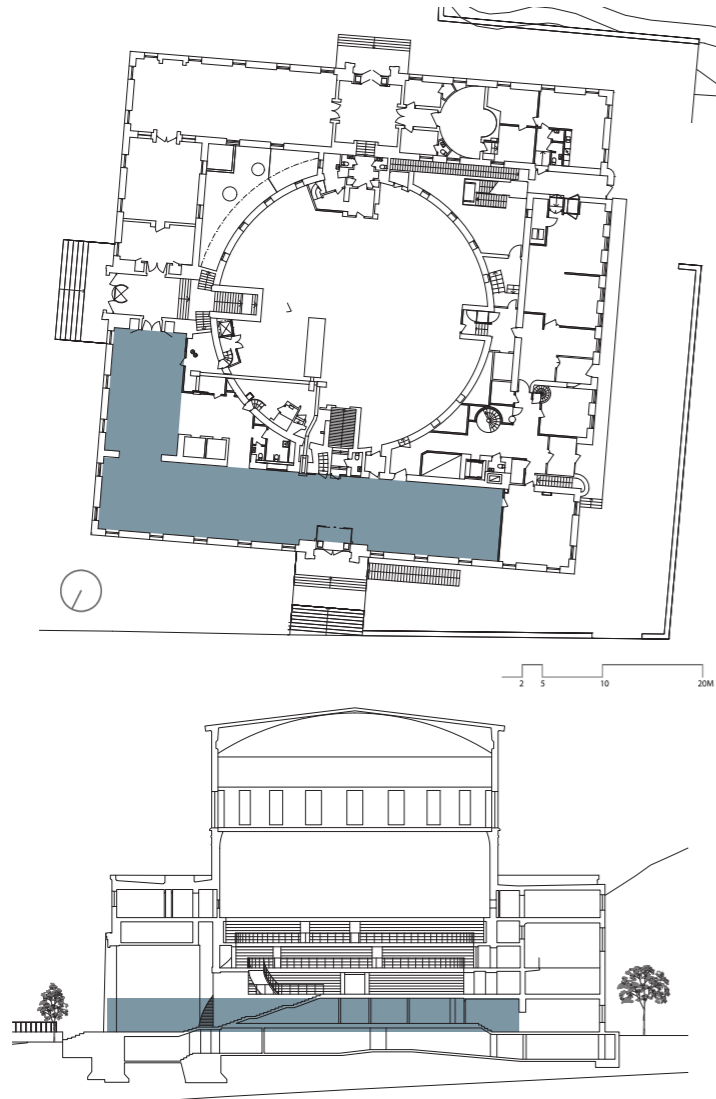


archival photograph



2023 photograph

Perimeter halls

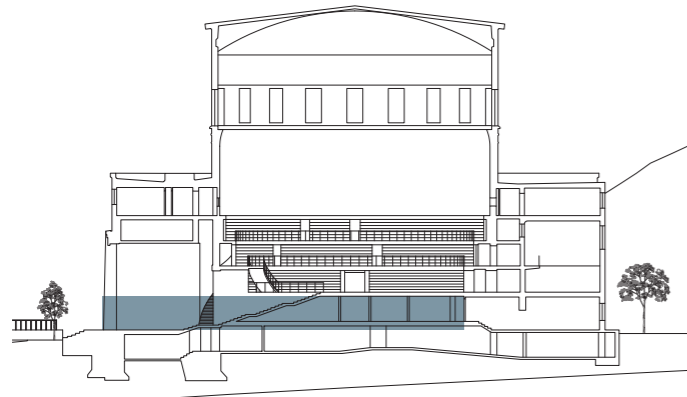
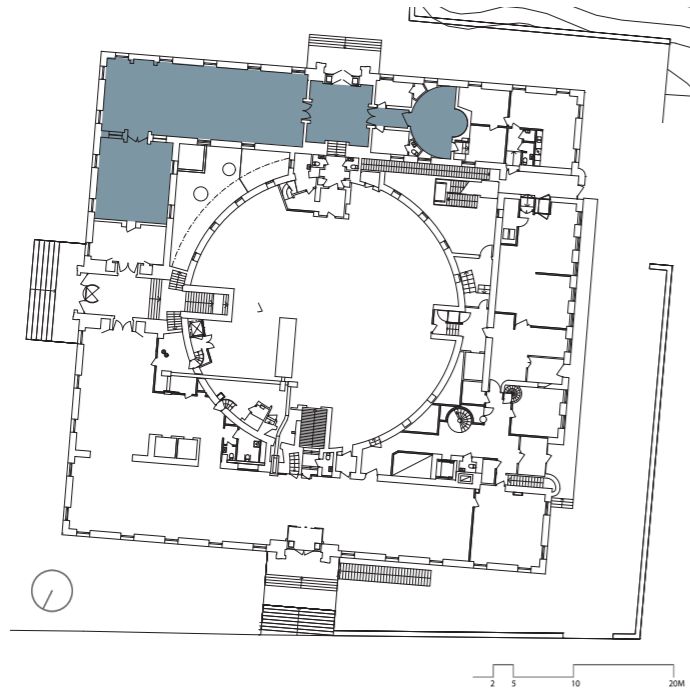


archival photograph



2015 photograph by David Grandorge.

Children's Library



model photograph

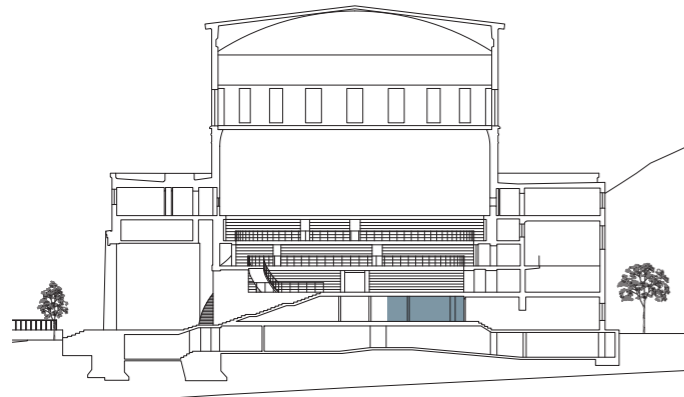
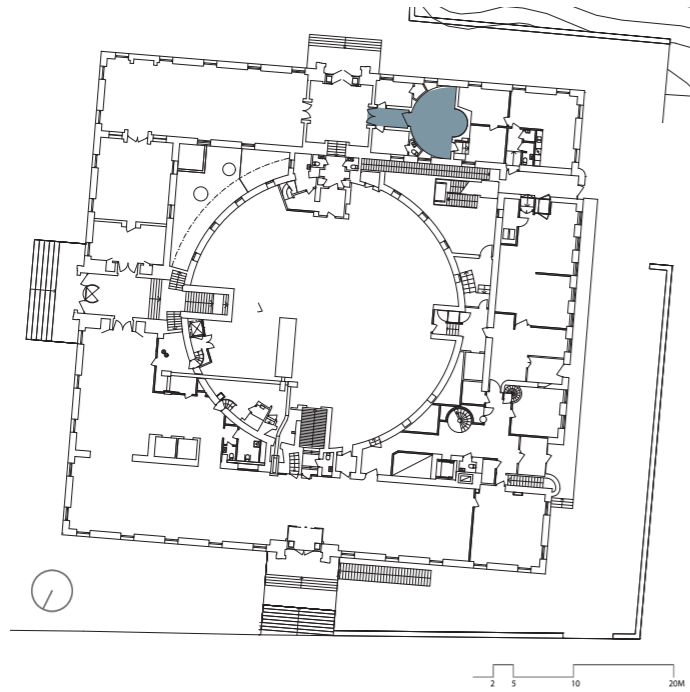


2023 photograph



archival photograph

Children's Library



model photograph

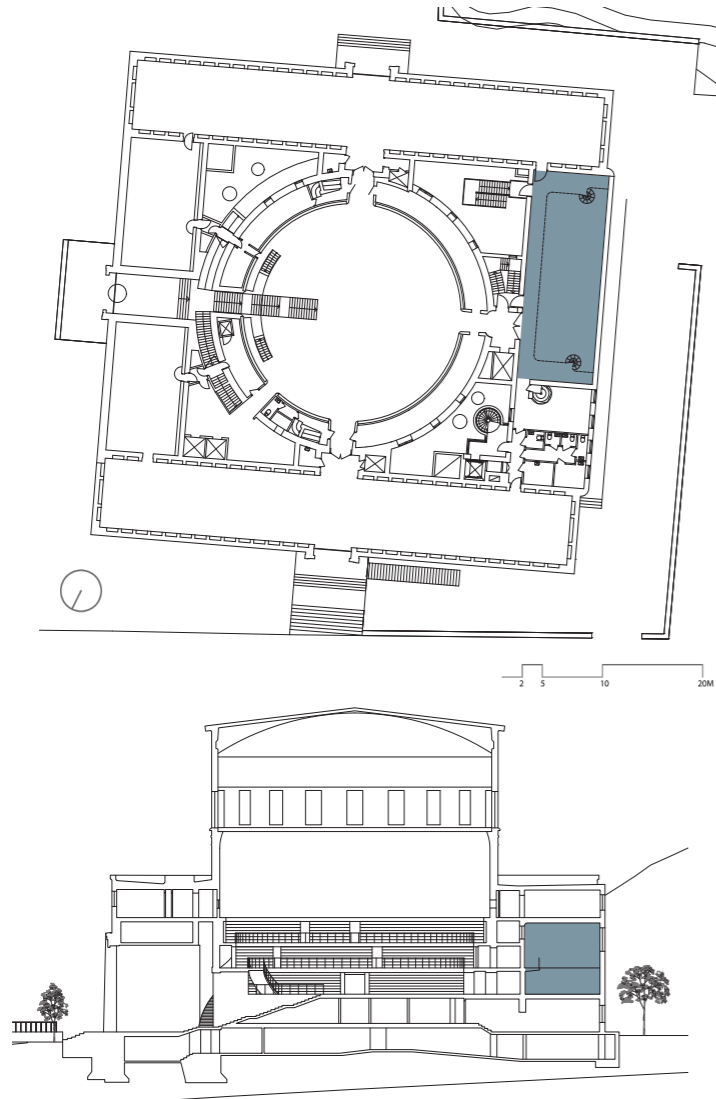


2023 photograph



archival photograph

Perimeter halls

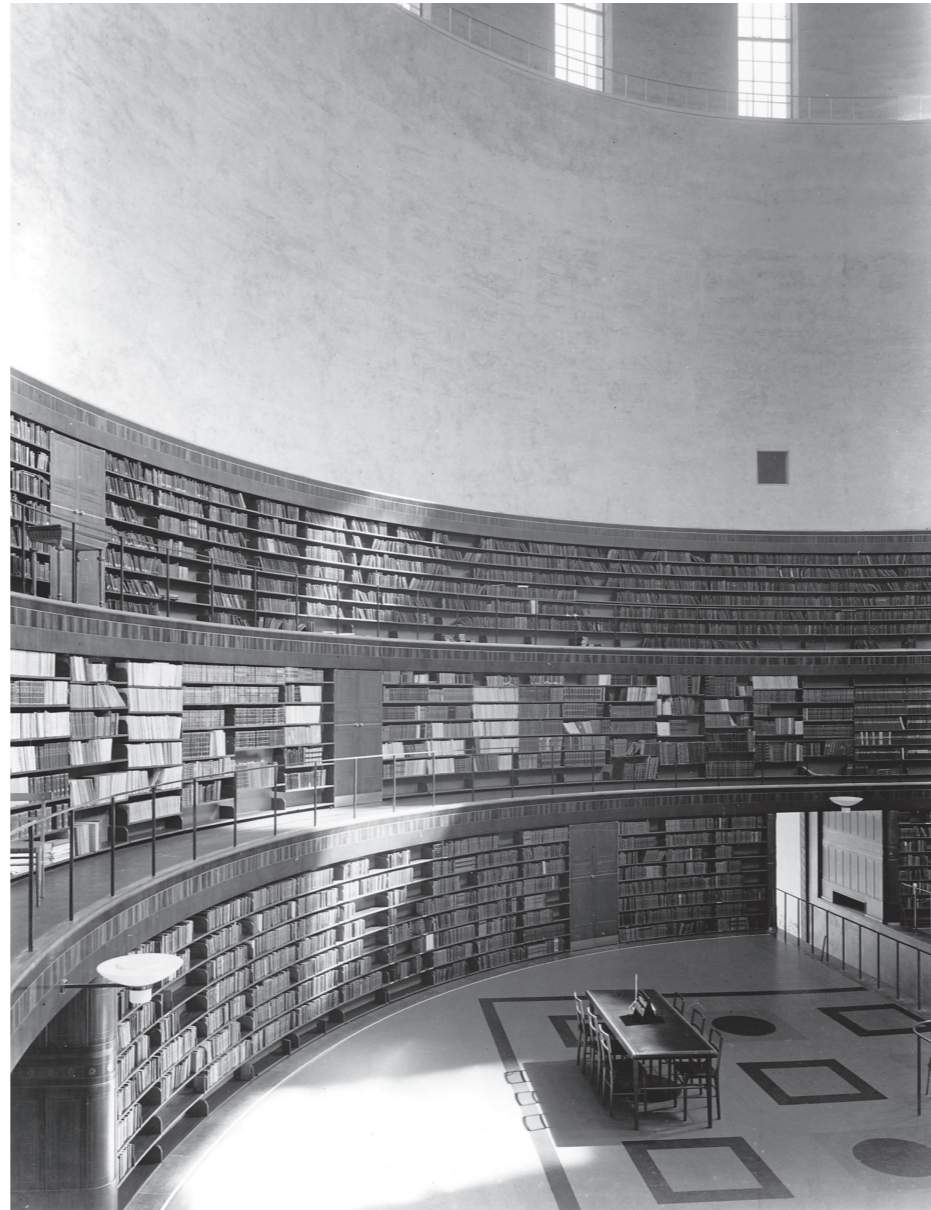
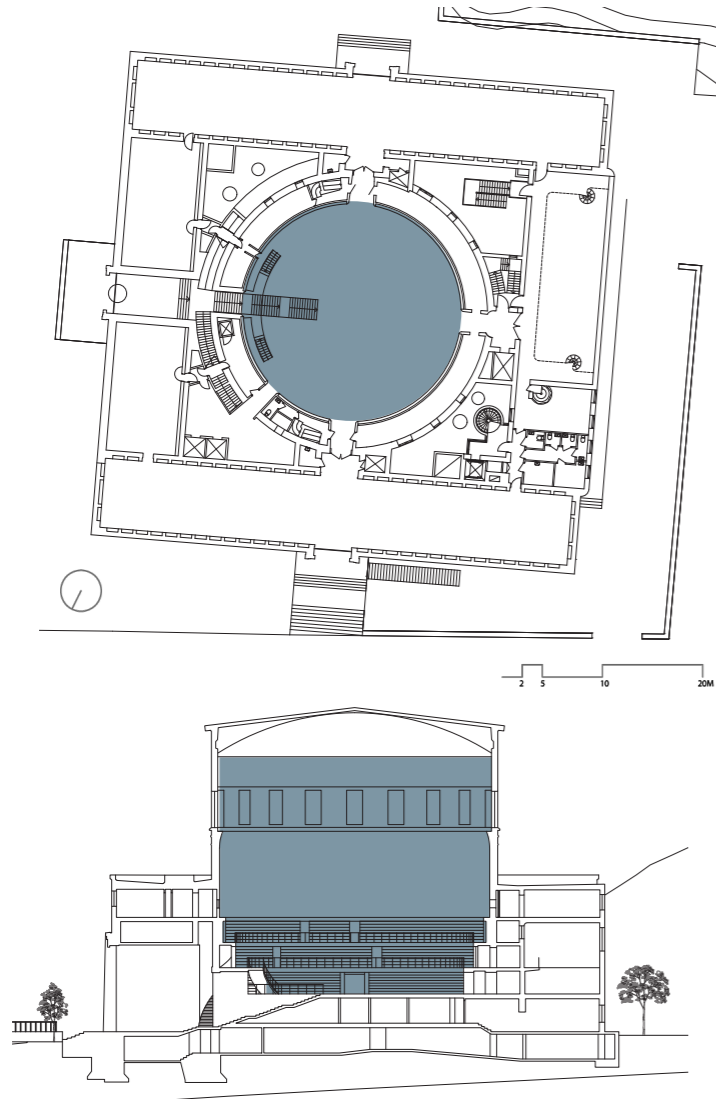


model photograph

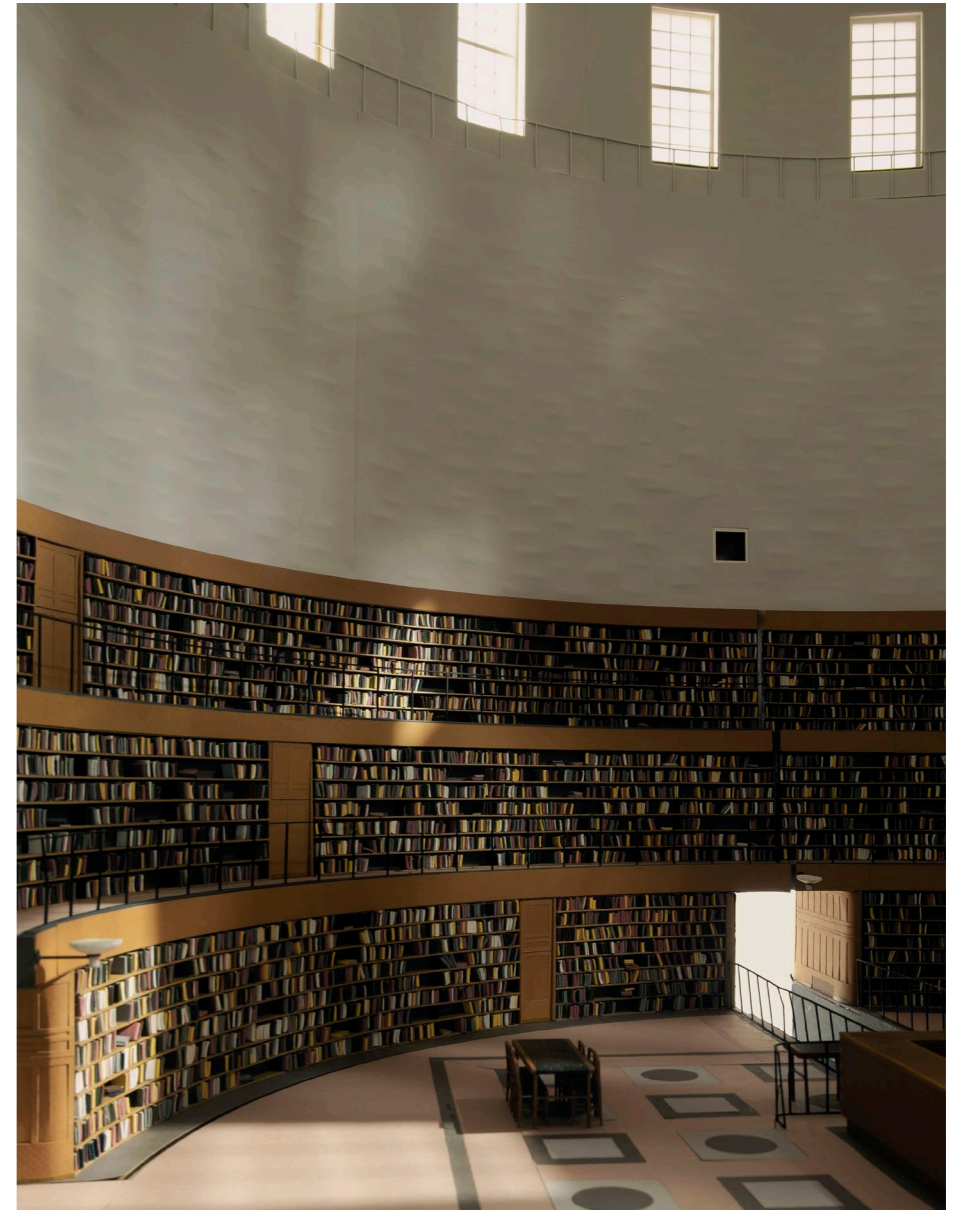


2023 photograph.

Rotunda

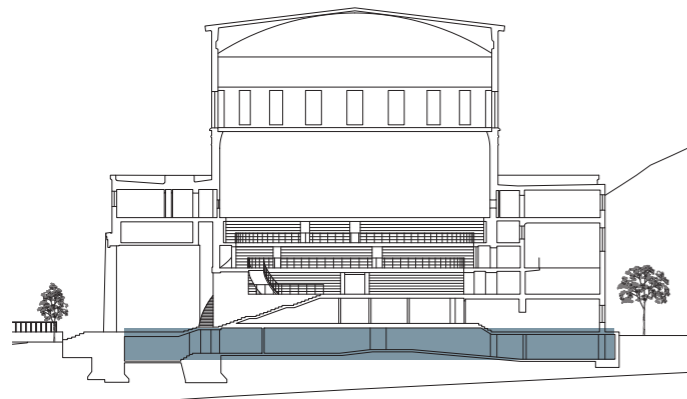
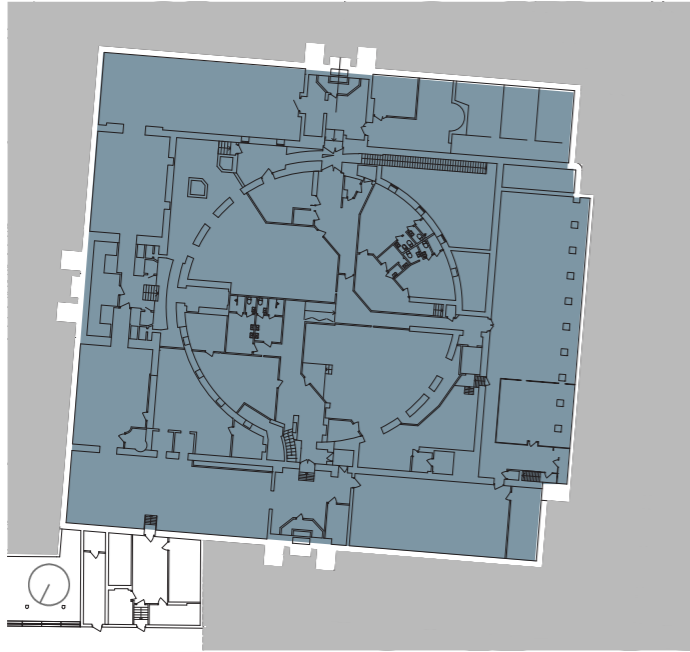


archival photograph



model photograph.

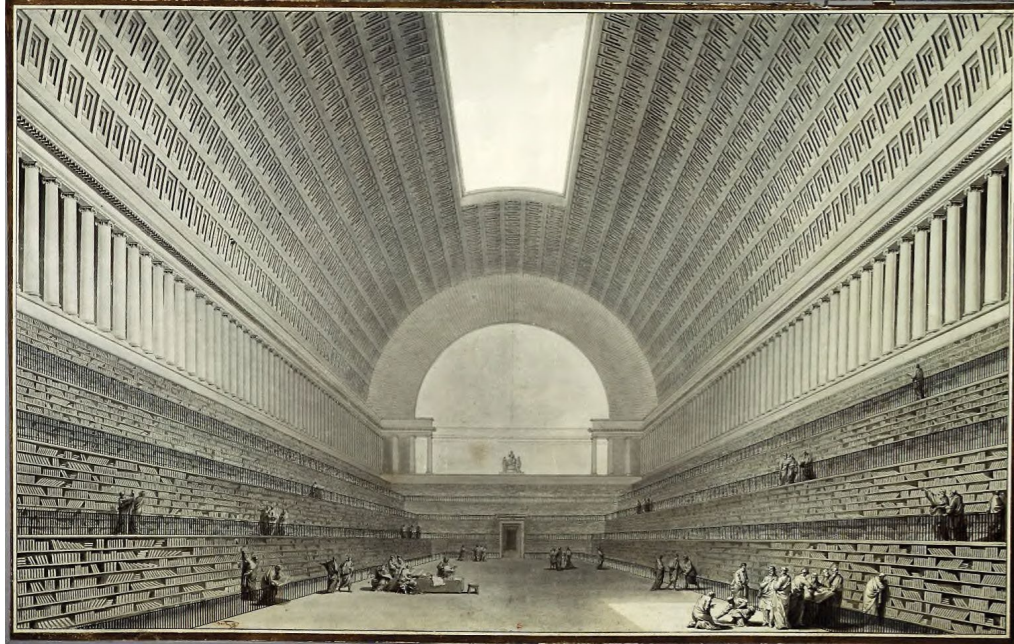
Basement



2015 photographs by David Grandorge.

The Role of the Modern Library

The Former Library



Interior of a Library, Étienne-Louis Boullée. 1728–1799.

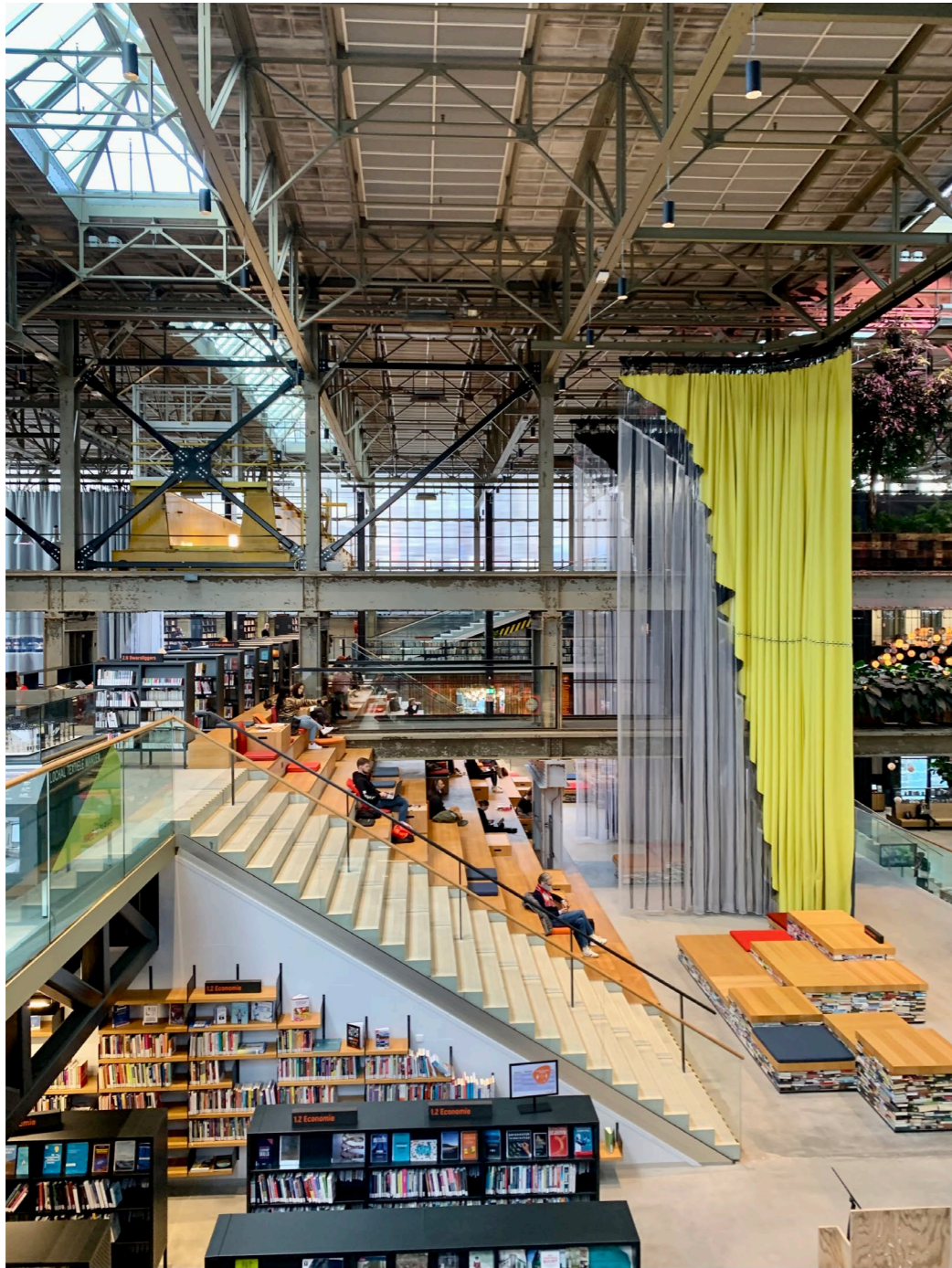


Photo montage of the Rotunda by Andreas Gursky. 1999.

“There are certain types of building over which there hovers an aura of myth. [...] There is one type of building which is profane, yet in fulfilling its proper role, **touches the hem of the sacred: the great library.** [...] [the Library] protects the **freedom** and **diversity** of the human spirit in a way that borders on the sacred.”

– The Design and Construction of The British Library by Colin St John Wilson

Modern Precedents



De Lochal, Tilburg.
photograph by author. 2023.

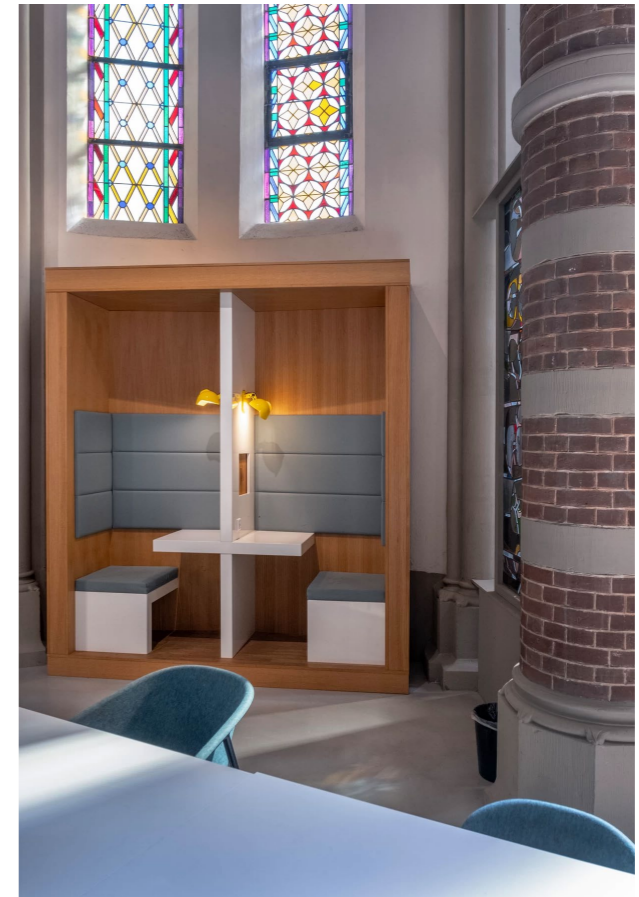
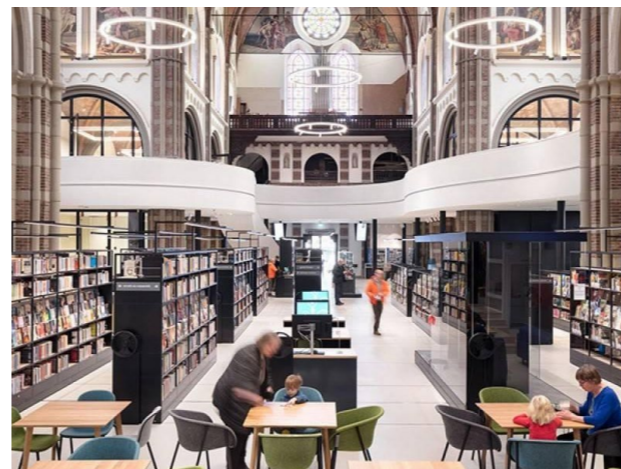
de Volkskrant

REPORTAGE

Bieb is back: de tempels van het boek omarmen nieuwe maatschappelijke rol

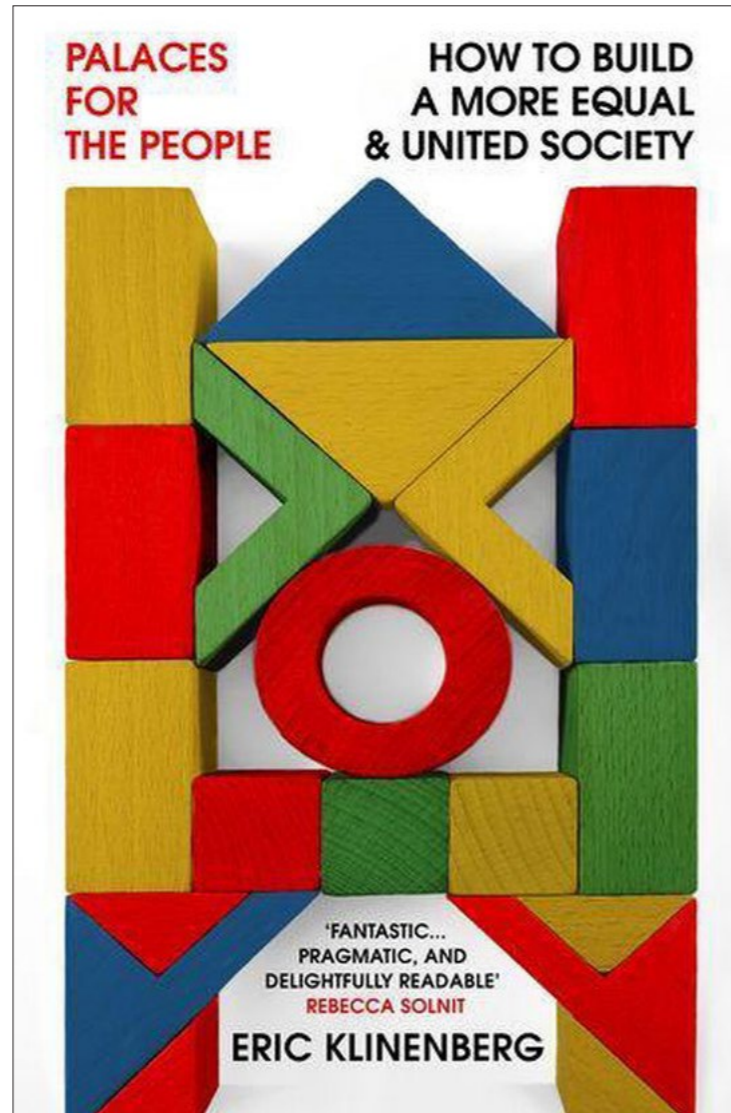
Na jaren van bezuiniging en verschraling is de openbare bibliotheek bezig aan een verrassende comeback. Zelfs de koning hield in zijn Troonrede een pleidooi: de bieb moet op zo veel mogelijk plaatsen terugkeren. Wat verklaart deze omslag?

Peter de Graaf
28 september 2023, 17:16



Article in newspaper De Volkskrant about
Library DePetrus
from 28 september 2023.

Social Infrastructure



Klinenberg, E. (2018). *Palaces for the People. How to build a more equal & united society.* Vintage.

Libraries are like temples dedicated to the concept of sharing: **sharing knowledge and space.**

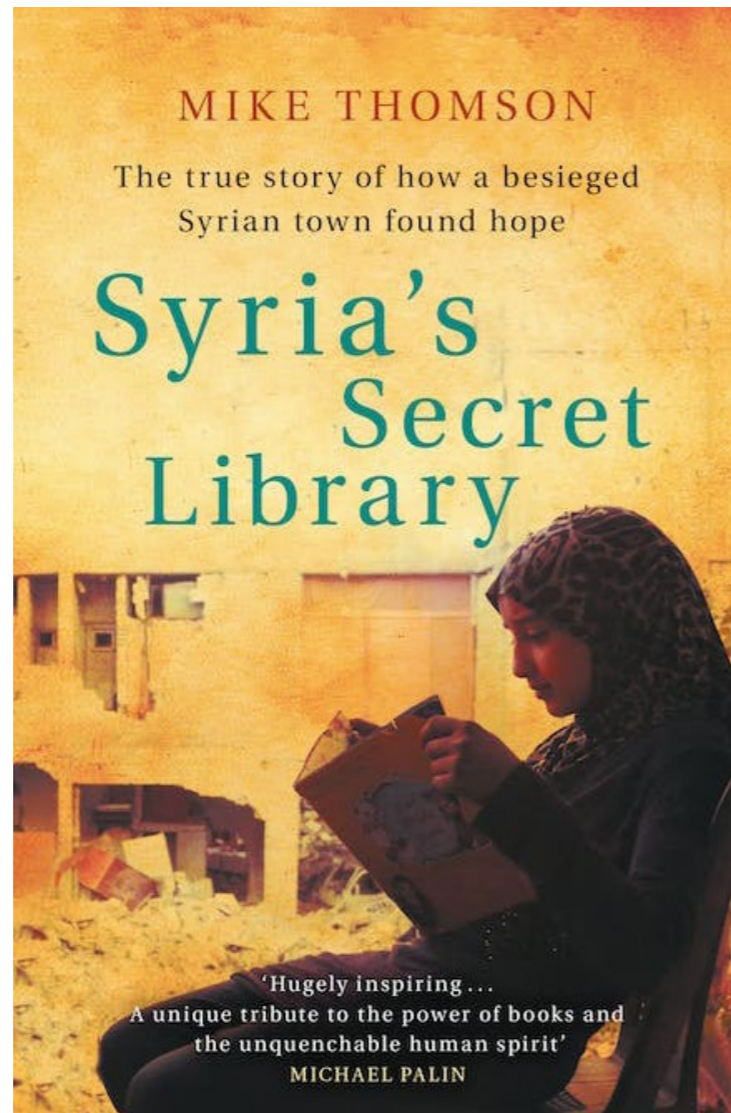
A healthy **community is held together by shared spaces.**

Klinenberg advocates for libraries to evolve into **community hubs.** He suggests that libraries can serve as central places where people **come together** for various **activities, events, and discussions.**

Libraries should strive to be **accessible** and **inclusive spaces.** This involves addressing issues such as physical accessibility, providing resources in **multiple languages,** and creating an environment that welcomes people from **different backgrounds and walks of life.**

Hosting **events, workshops, and classes** that address a **range** of topics and engage people of **all ages.**

Social Infrastructure



Thomson, M. (2019). *Syria's secret Library: Reading and Redemption in a Town Under Siege*. PublicAffairs.

“The Youth Group of Daraya held open **debates**, screened **films** and called on people to **take responsibility** for their own destiny. [...] They believed that **reading and learning** were essential if they were to truly **change society** for the better, yet getting hold of the right books had not been easy.”

“**Reading, learning, discussing** the content of books was enjoyed by almost all who could read, irrespective of class, occupation or education.”

“... The wider community will gain much from reading [rescued books]. They help us **understand the outside world** better. This is a golden opportunity not only to educate ourselves but to be able to take our minds off the death and destruction around us. By building the library we are creating **a place where people can come and read, continue their education, or just relax**. It is an **oasis of normality** in this sea of destruction”

Social Infrastructure



Woman reading and eating.
photograph by author. 2023.

Knowledge Transfer



The School of Athens
Raffaello Sanzio da Urbano. 1509-11.

“The Library Act emphasises the importance of libraries for the **development of a democratic society** and the foundational role they play in **knowledge transfer** and the **free formation of opinions.**” [...]

“The libraries in the public library system shall promote the status of **literature** and an interest in **learning, information, education, and research** as well as other **cultural activities.**”

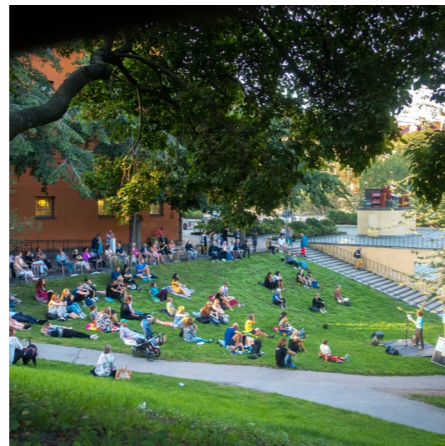
– The Swedish Library Act (2013)

A Library for Exchange



A place to share knowledge

The Library should be a place where one not only acquire knowledge for him/herself, but also share it with people from other fields of life. A place where knowledge is transferred freely and where opinions can be formed.



A place for social interaction

The Library, as social infrastructure, should be an inviting place where people can meet others from different cultures, languages, places and social backgrounds.



A place for life long learning

The Library should empower the citizen to learn, no matter what age or background. It should promote the status of literature and an interest in education, research and cultural activities.

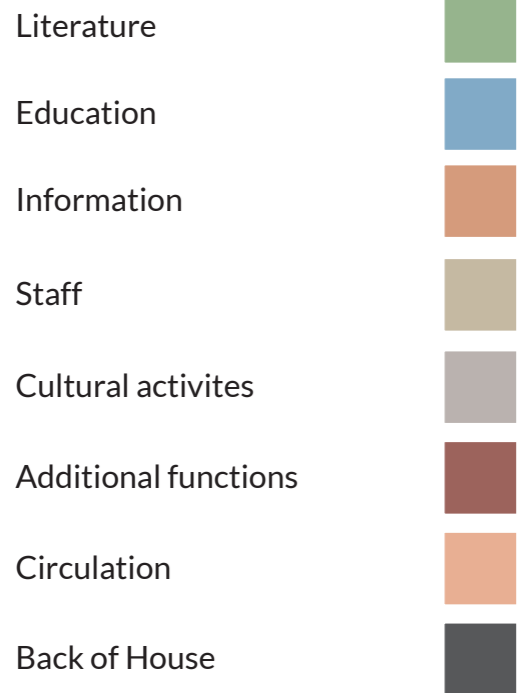
Proposed programme

Current situation

Scaled 2006 brief

Proposal

- Literature: Reading, studying
- Education: Actively engaged education
- Information: Barrier-free, inviting, spark an interest to the public
- Cultural activities: Actively engaged in culture
- Additional functions: Tools Library, Restaurants
- Circulation: Routing
- Staff: Not public, employees only
- Back of House: Storage, logistics, handling



7 500 m²



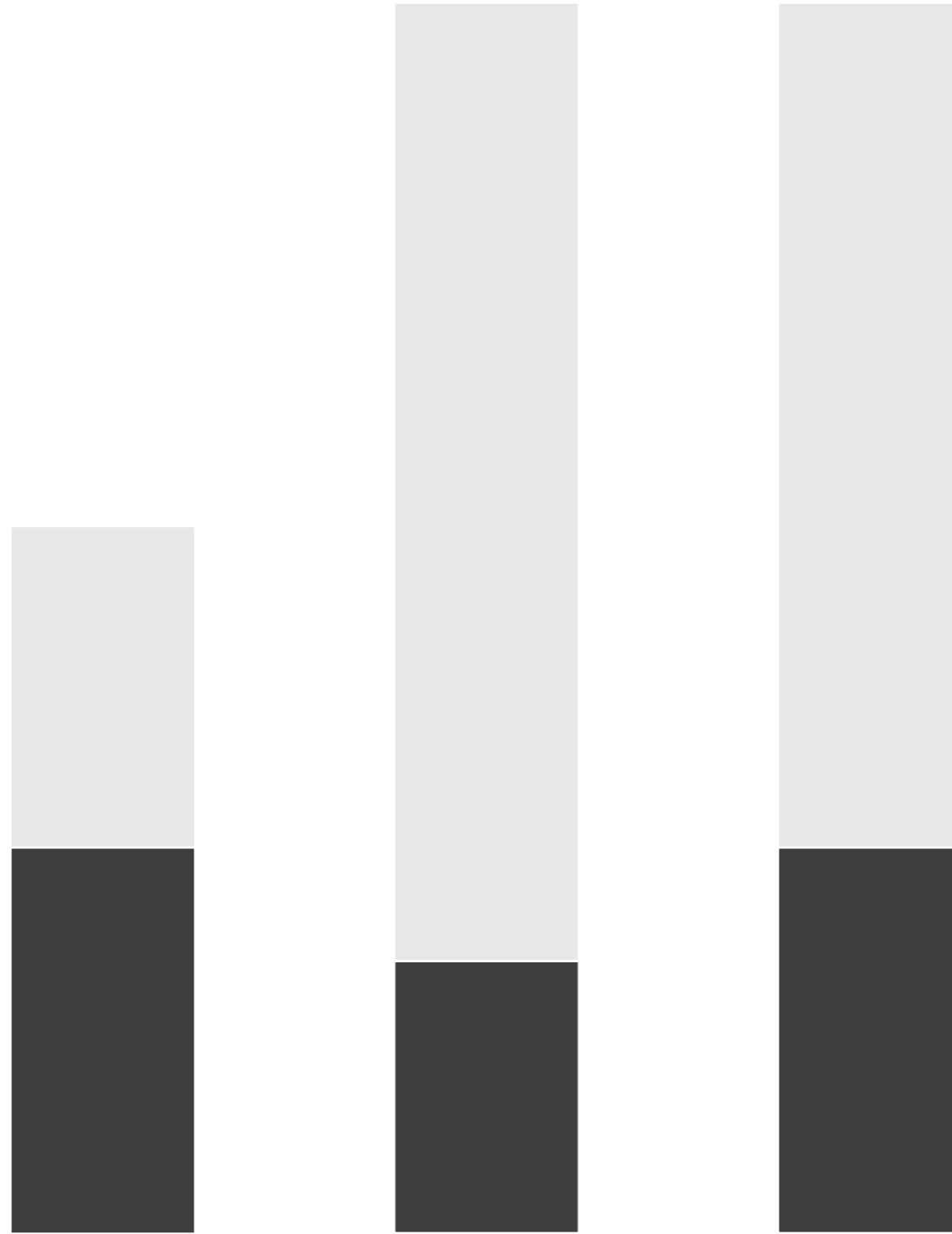
13 000 m²

Programme analysis

Current situation

Scaled 2006 brief

Proposal



7 500 m²

13 000 m²

Public

Back of House

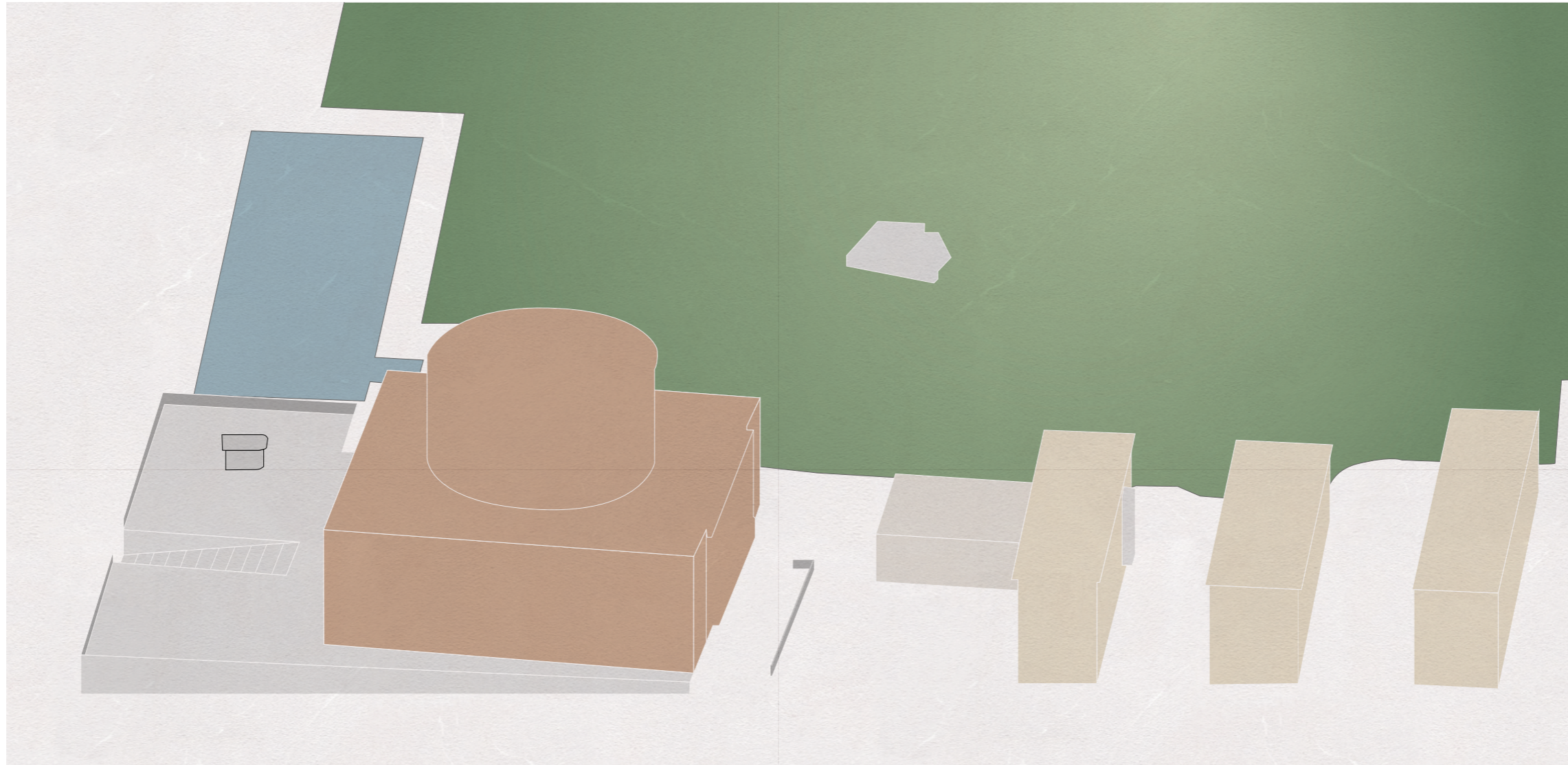
Ensemble

“To restore a building is not to maintain, repair or rebuild it, it is to restore it to a state that may never have existed at a given time.”

– Eugène Viollet-le-Duc



Current ensemble



the current ensemble of bazaar, Asplundhuset, lamella buildings and international library.

Bazaar as a mediator



2015 photograph by David Grandorge.

Bazaar for social life



Archival photograph around 1930 of what is currently McDonald's, colourised by AI Photoshop 2024.

Social interaction



Odentorget in Stockholm by Harry Henriksson, 1907.



Archival photograph of Odentorget. 1928.

Spelbomskan torg



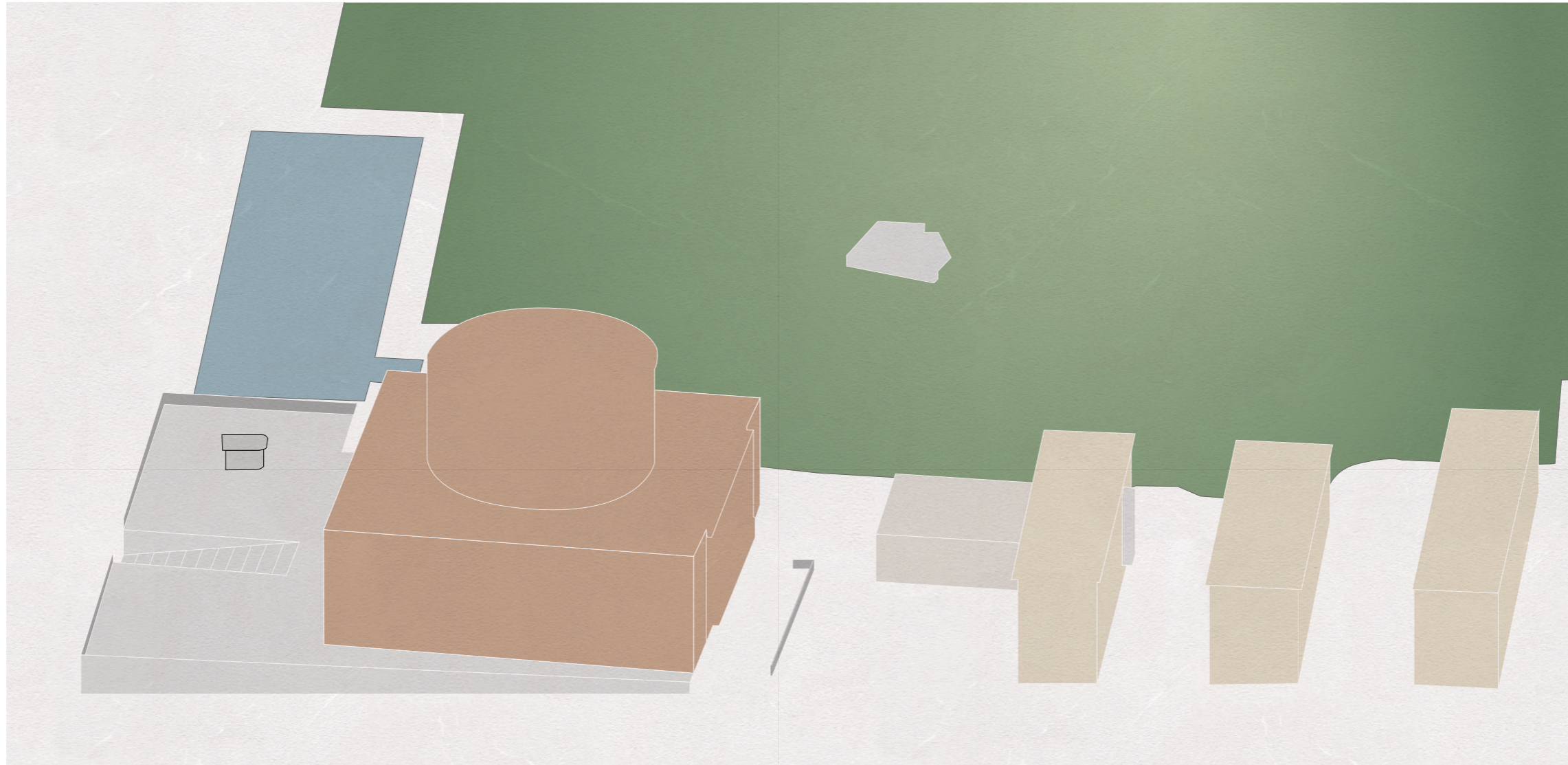
2015 photograph by David Grandorge.

Spelbomskan torg



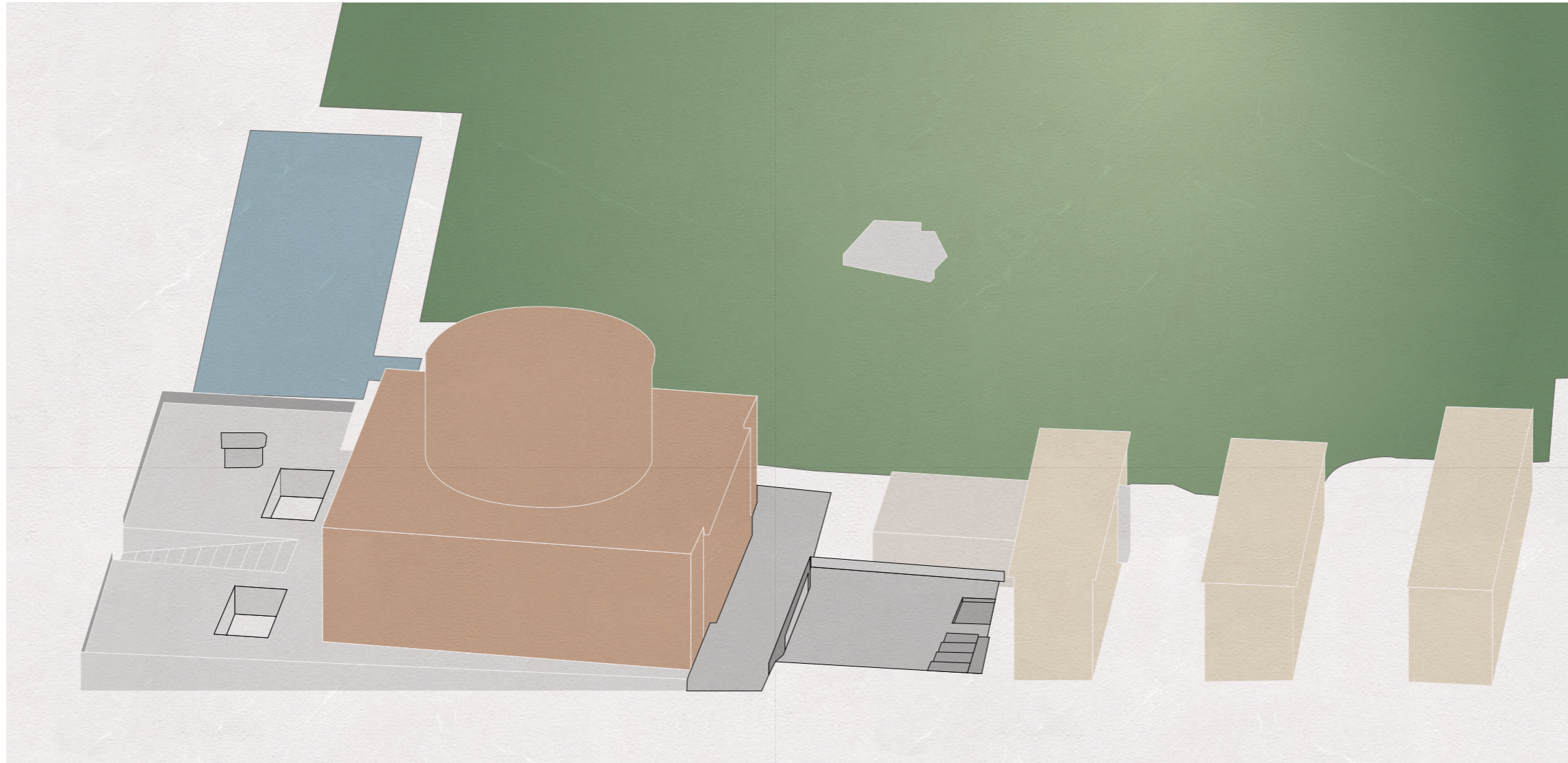
2015 photograph by David Grandorge.

Current ensemble



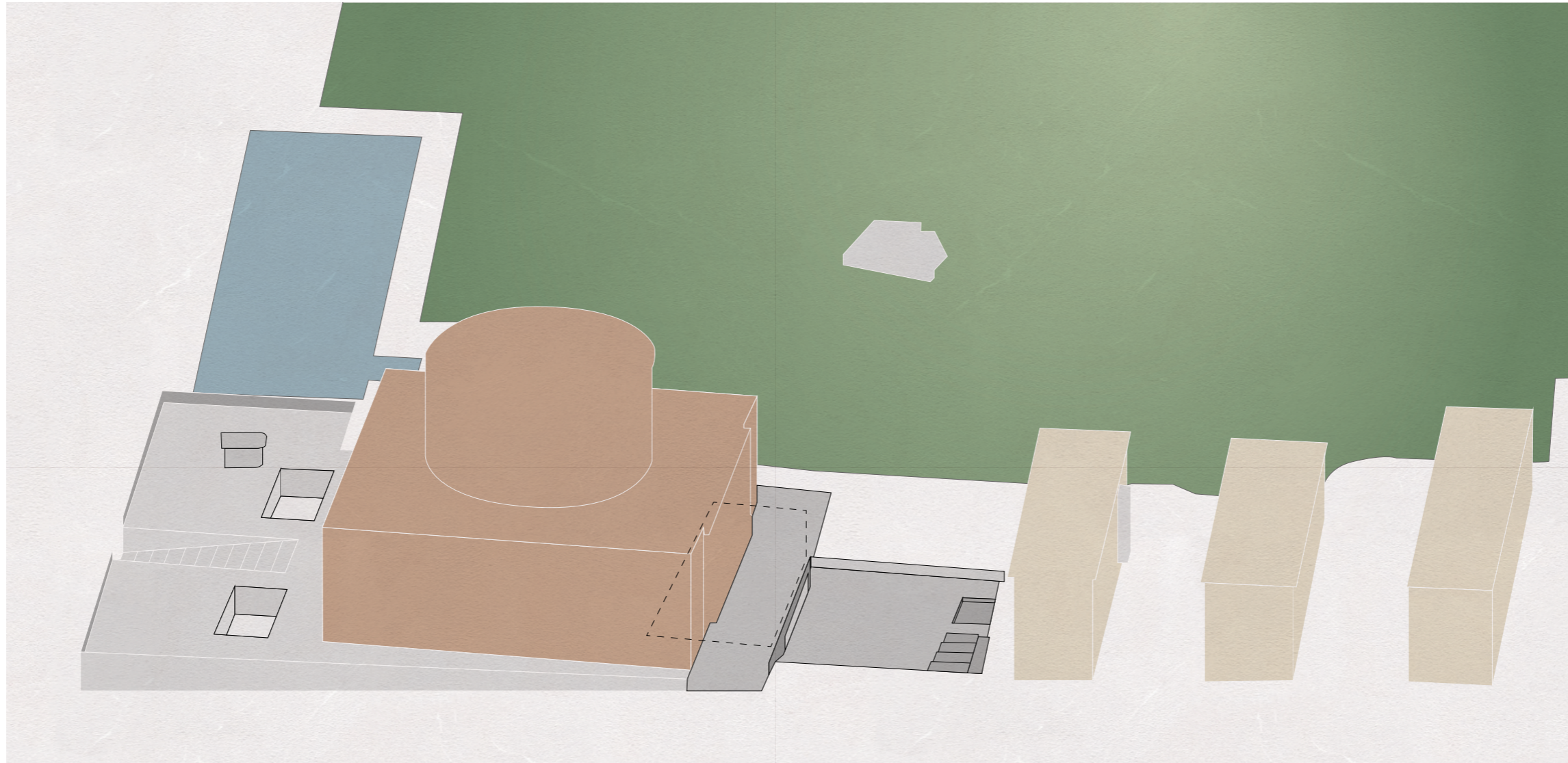
the current ensemble of bazaar, Asplundhuset, lamella buildings and international library.

Completing the bazaar



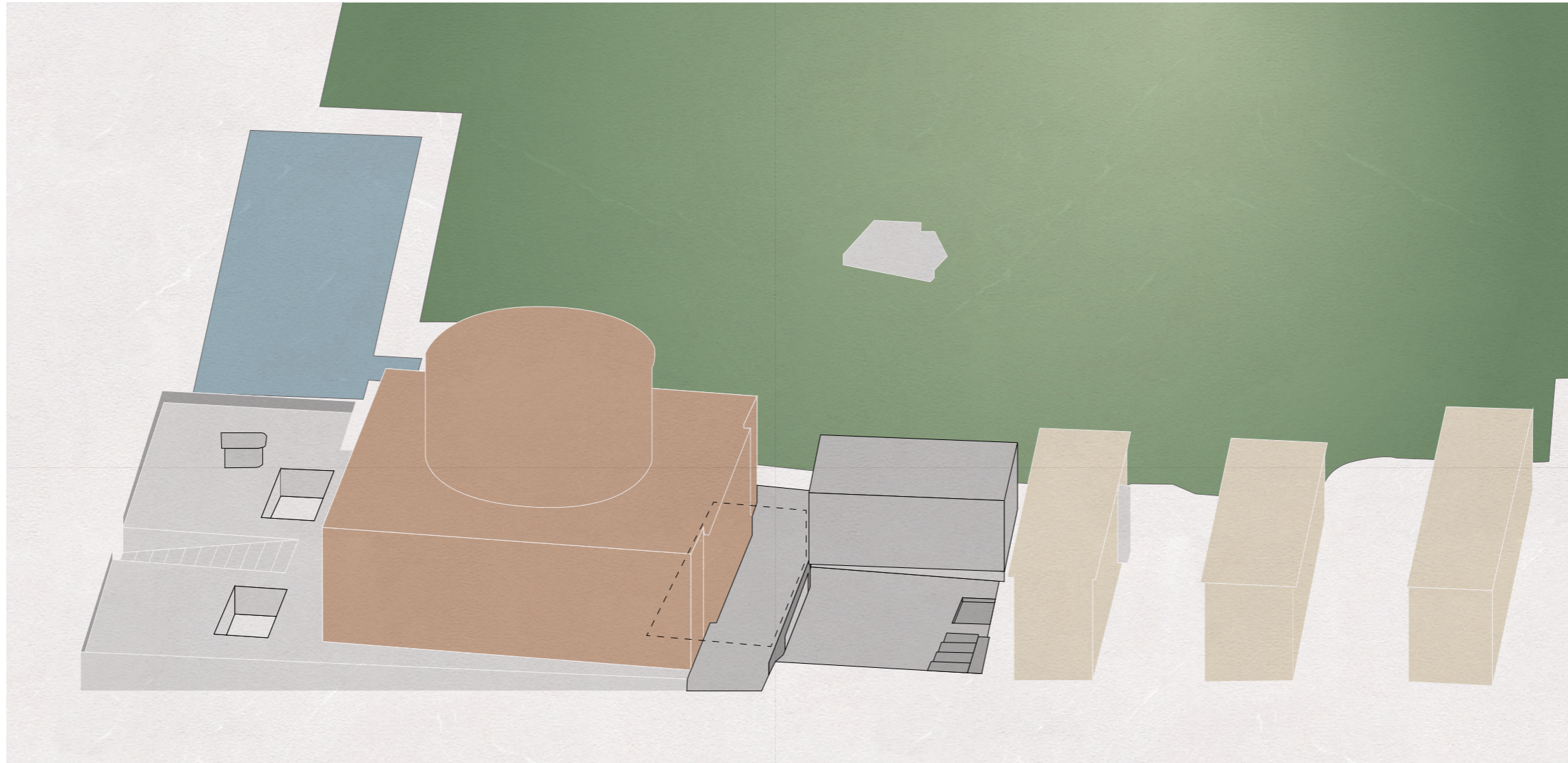
completing the bazaar, lowering the square, creating a new entrance

Moving the International Library

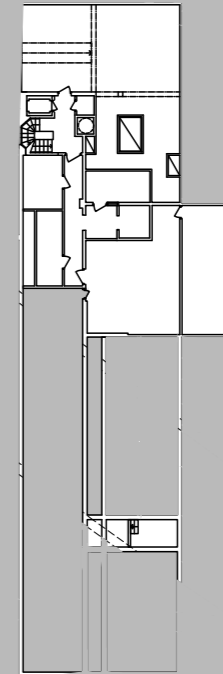
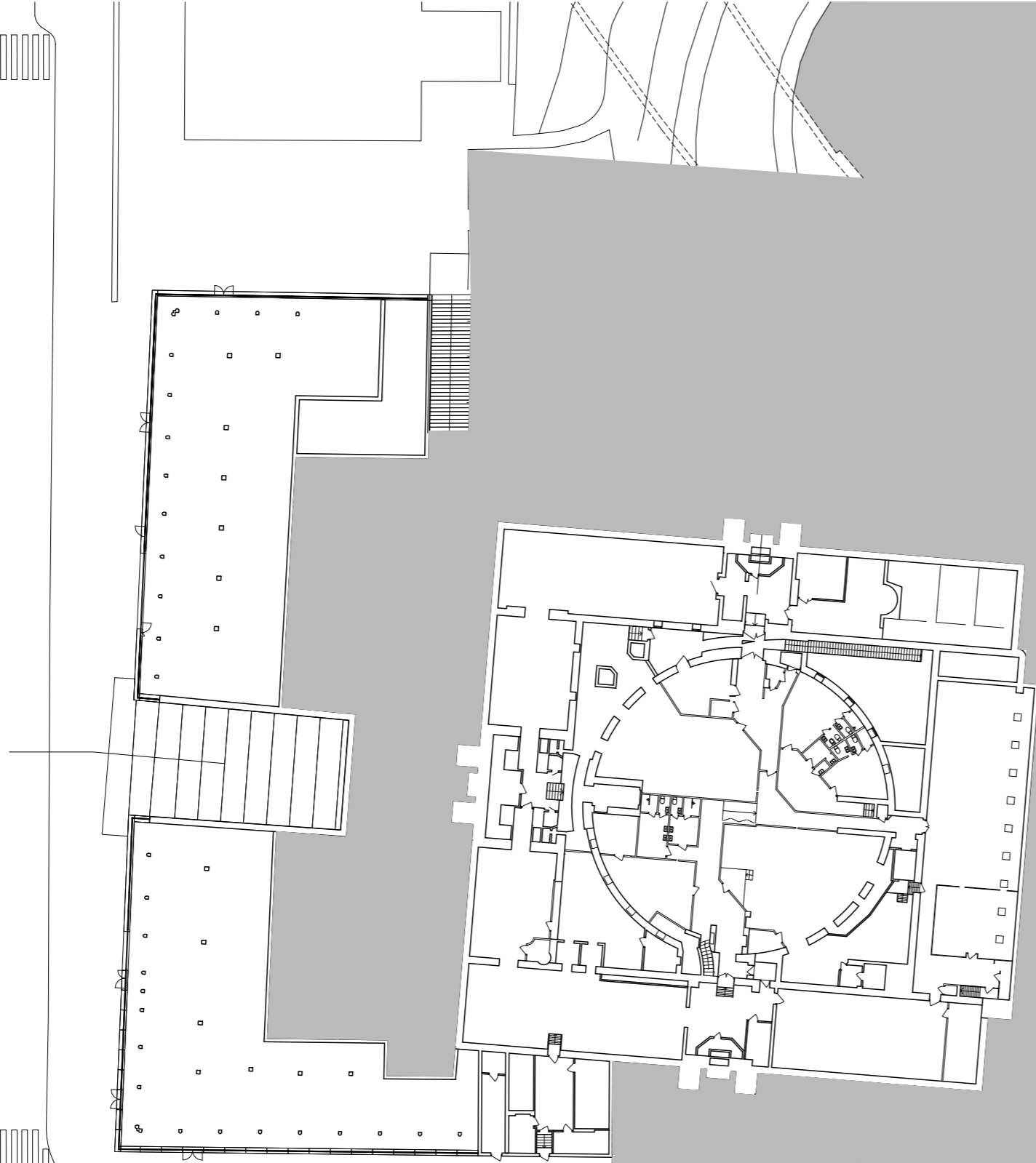


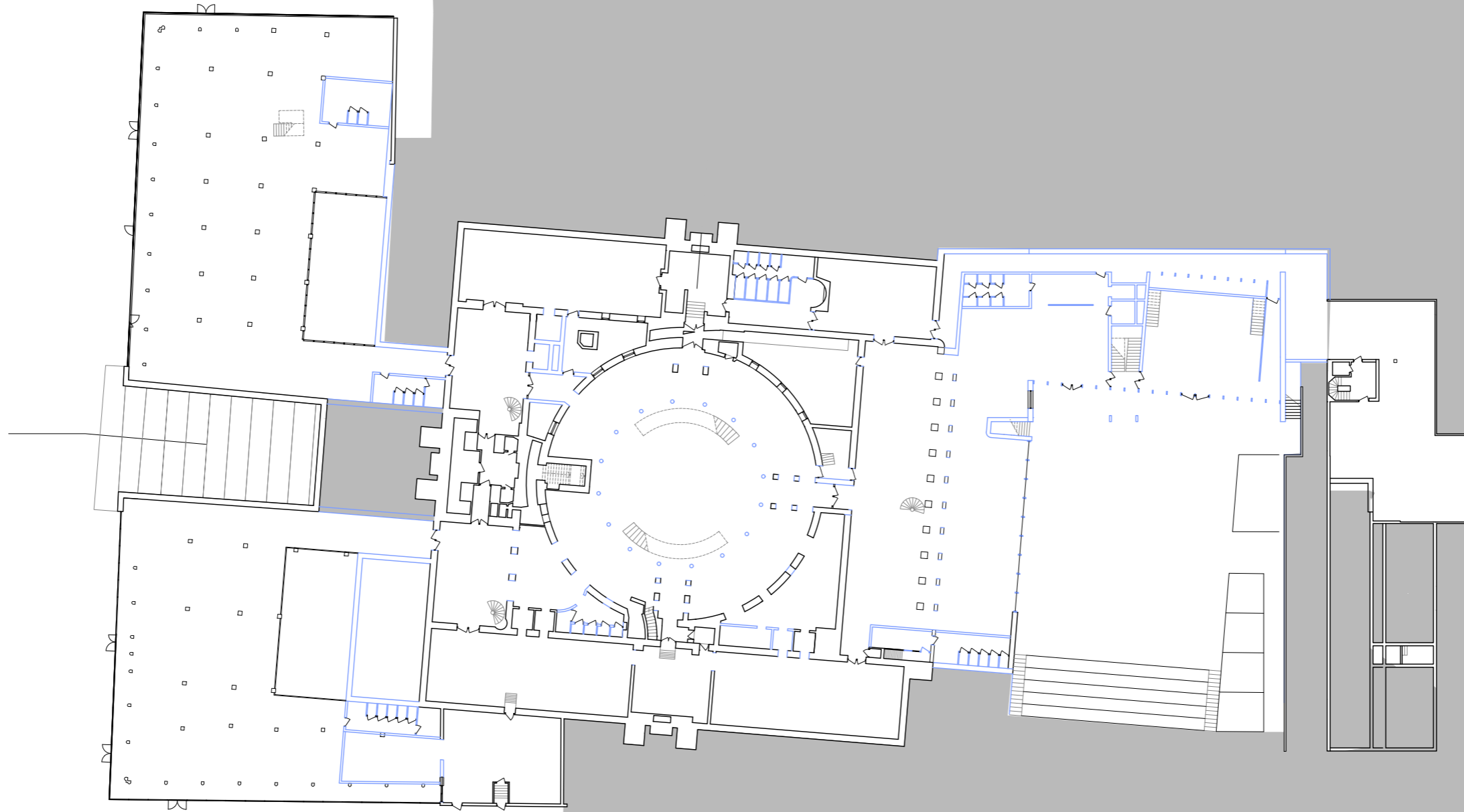
moving the international library

Inserting the Samtalshus

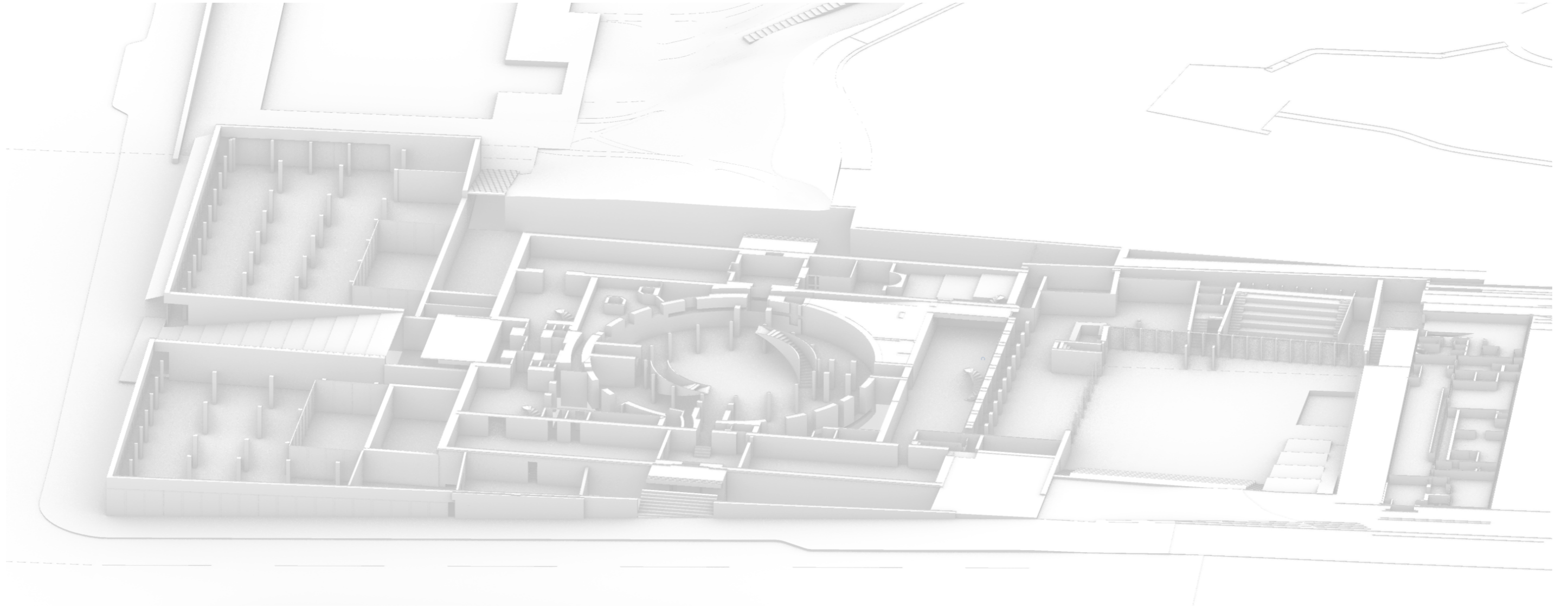


inserting the Samtalshus





Excavation

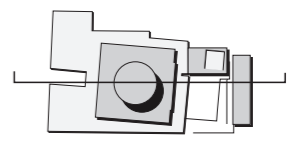
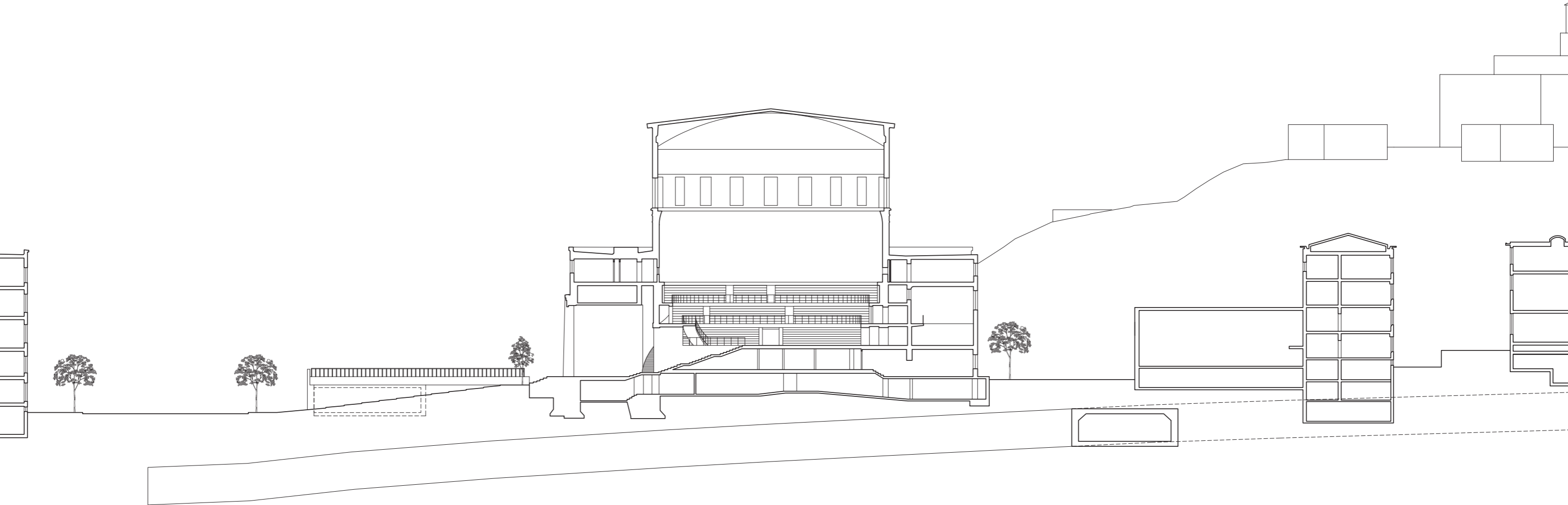


The public plinth



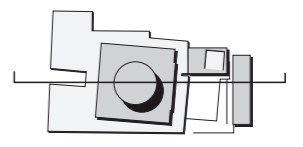
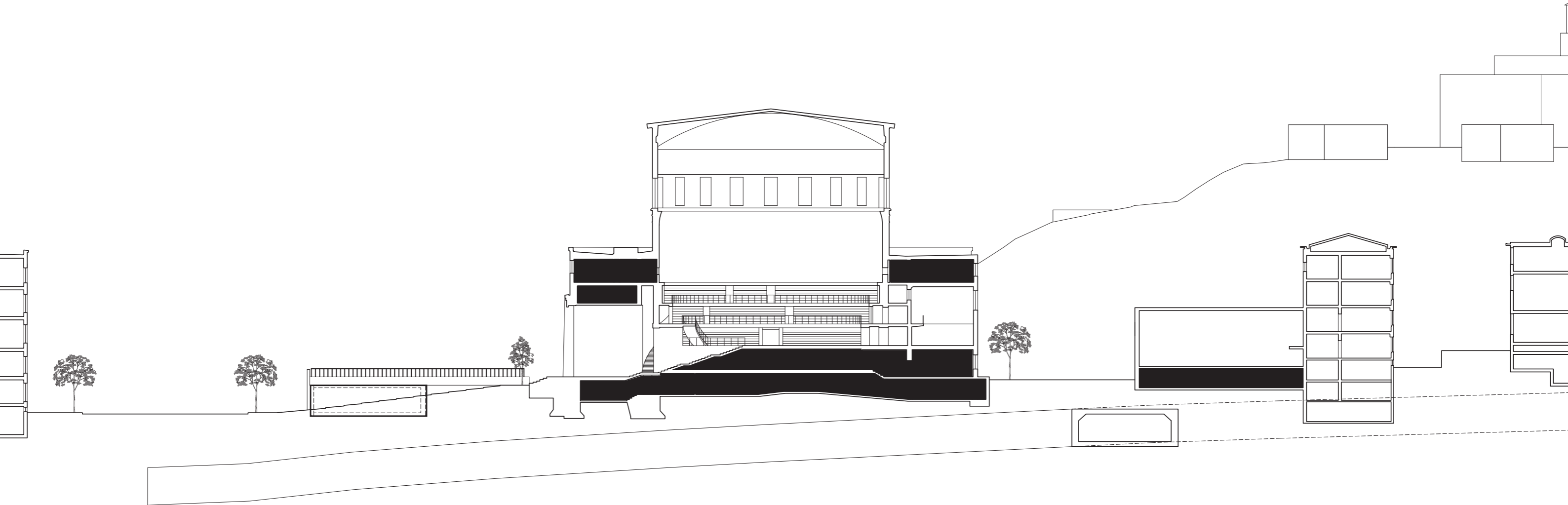
Section AA current situation

MSc4 Palace

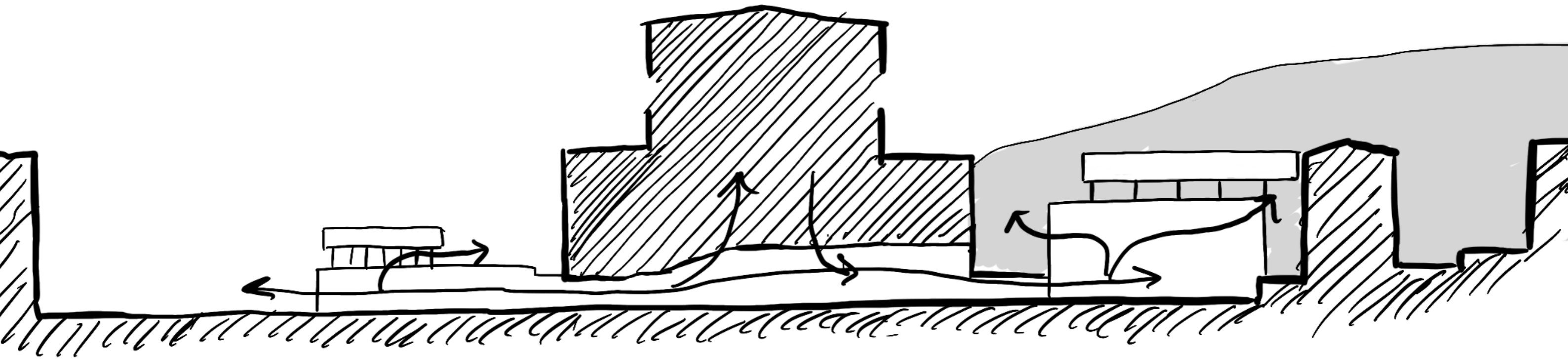


Section AA current situation

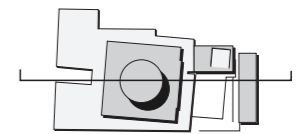
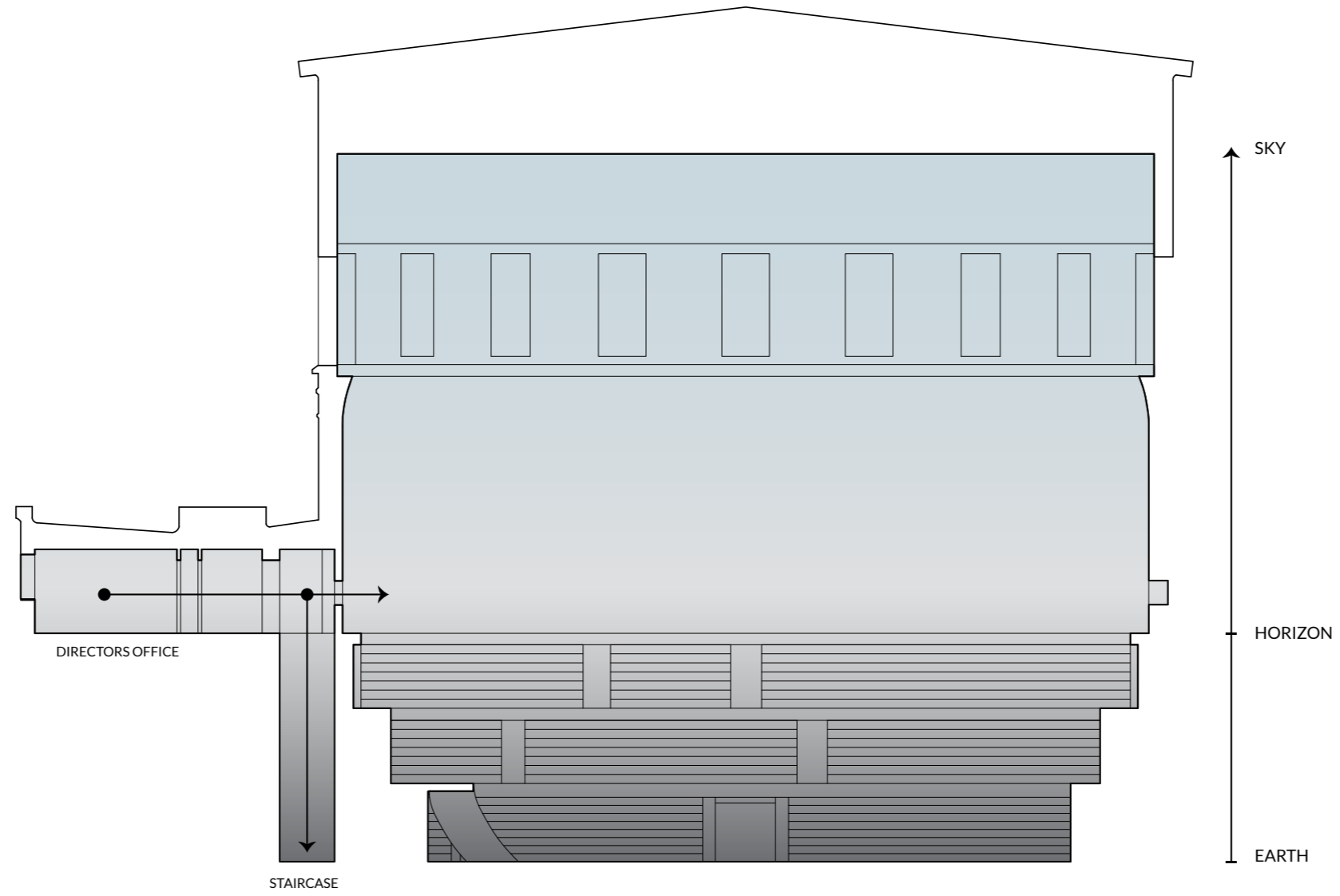
MSc4 Palace



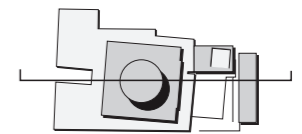
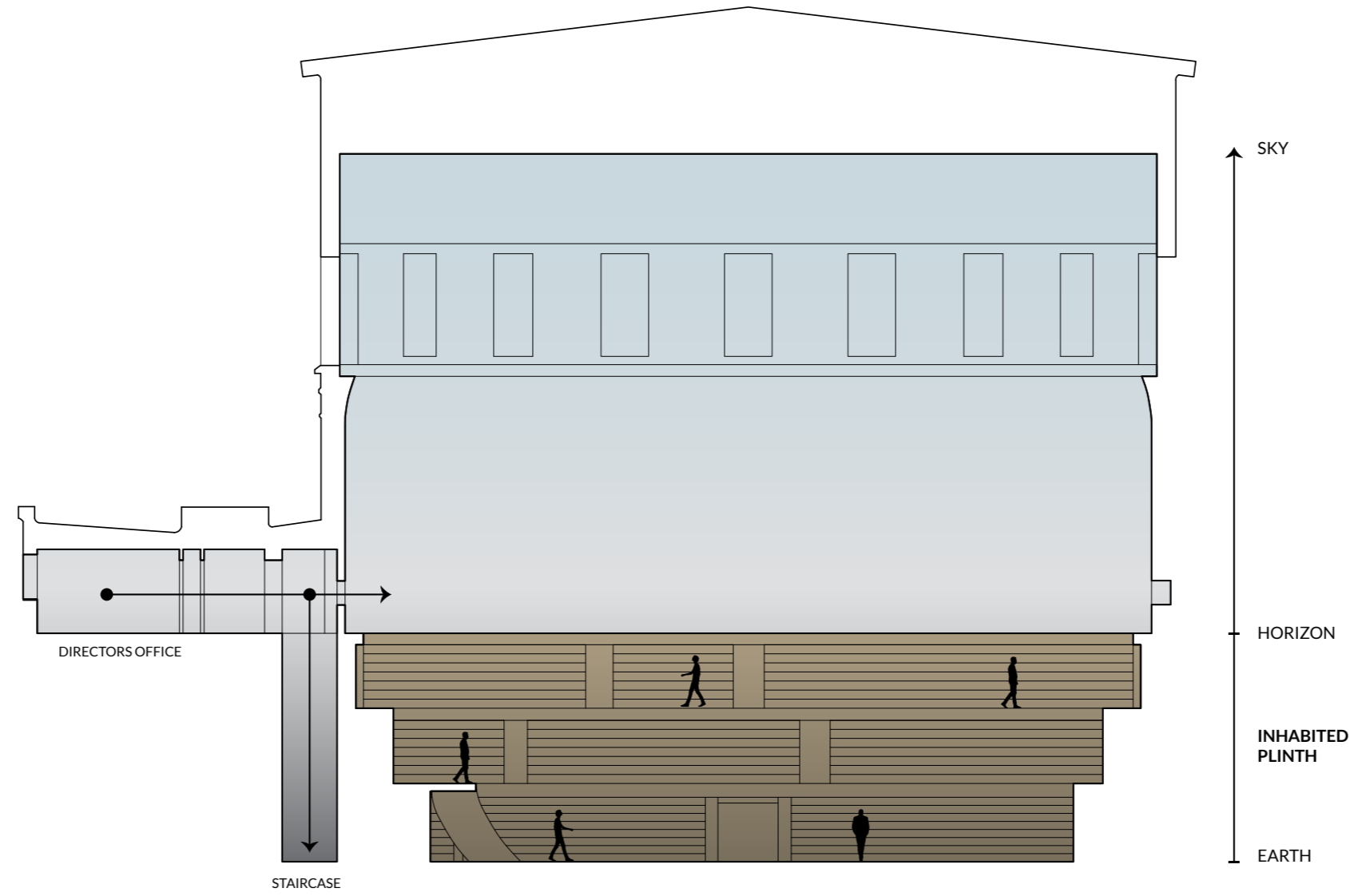
Section AA sketch



Inhabited plinth



Inhabited plinth



Inhabited plinth



DePetrus, Jan David Hanrath



Reading Room Boijmans, Robbrecht & Daem



De Korenbeurs, Schiedam



Predikheren Klooster, KSA



Bibliothèque Nationale Paris



Predikheren Klooster, KSA



National Library Sweden



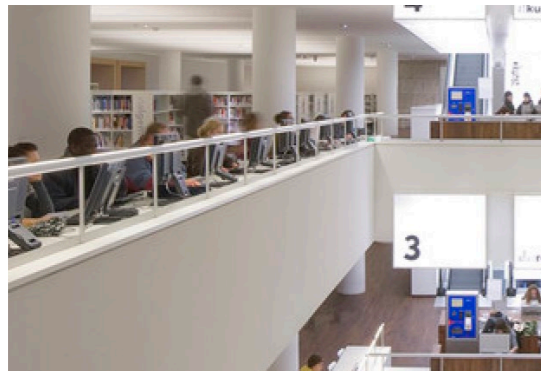
Exeter Library, Louis Kahn



Predikheren Klooster, KSA



Bibliotheek School 7, Jan-David Hanrath



Amsterdam Public Library, J Coenen



Sainte Genevieve Library, Labrouste



Liyuan library, Li Xiaodong

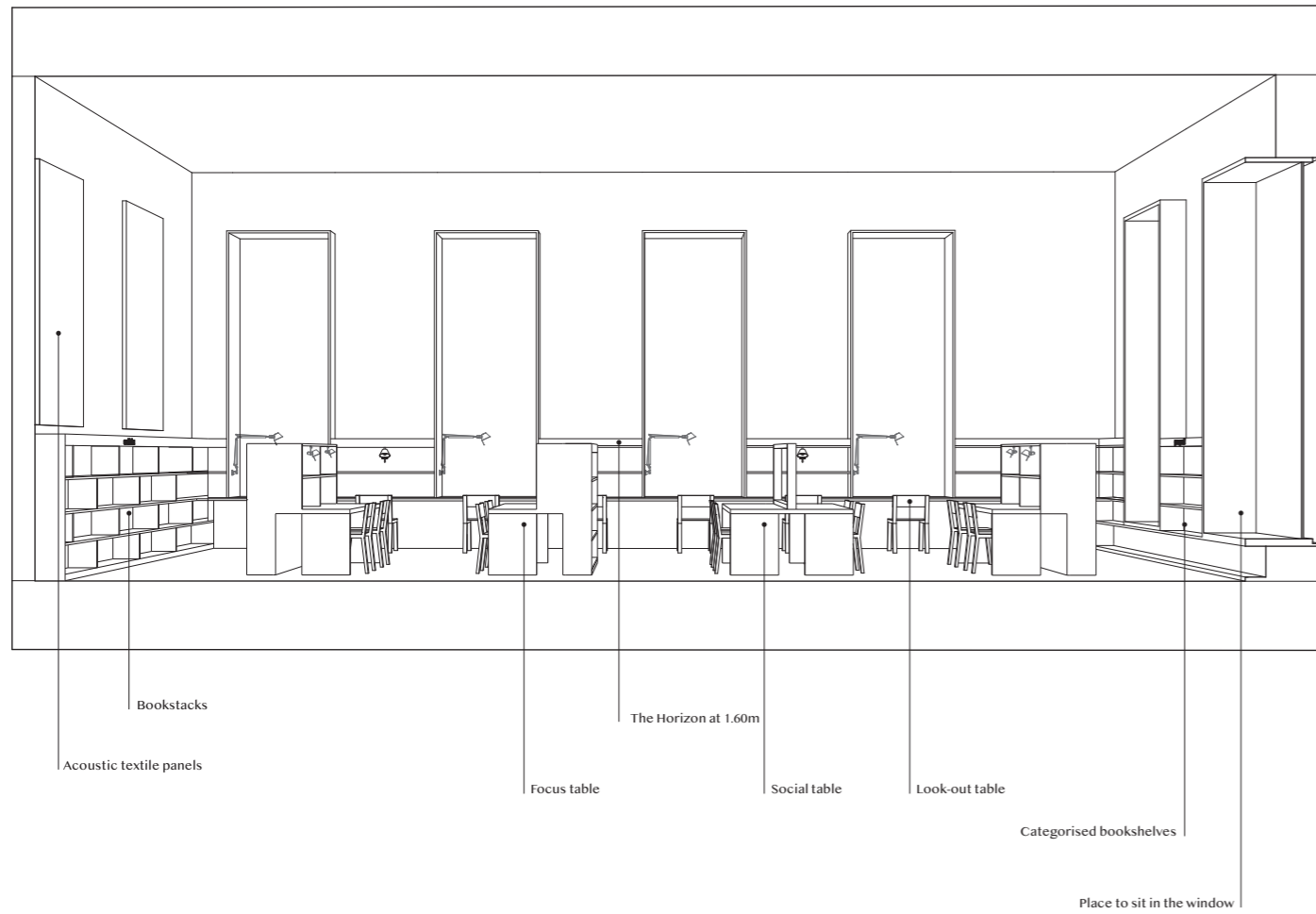


British Library, St John Wilson



Royal Portuguese Reading Room

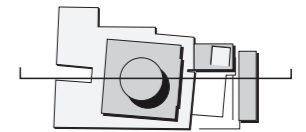
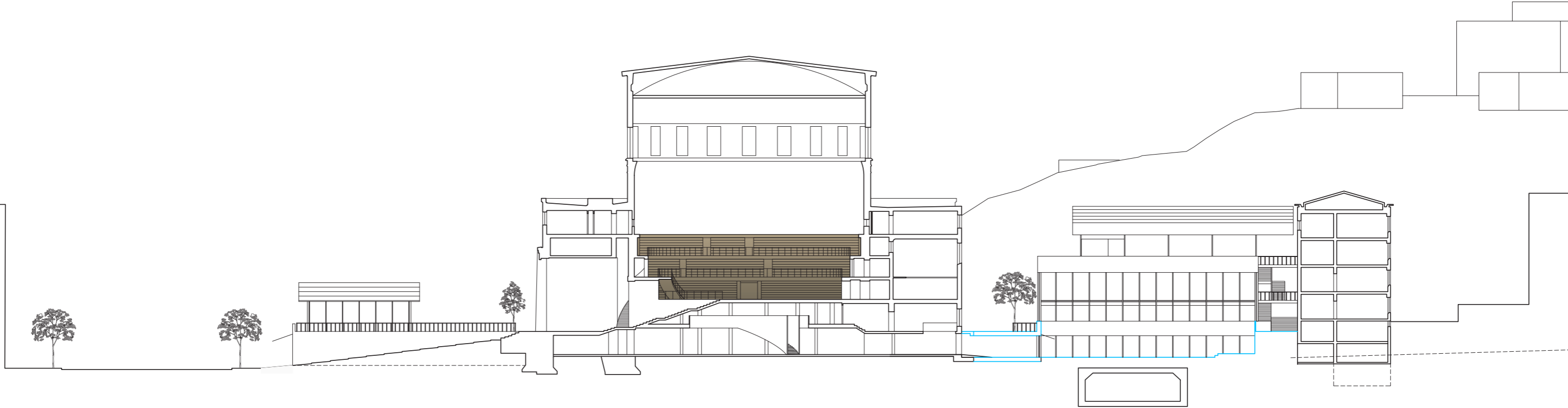
Inhabited plinth



Perspective section and photographs of my Room for a Library.
Landscape of interior spaces.

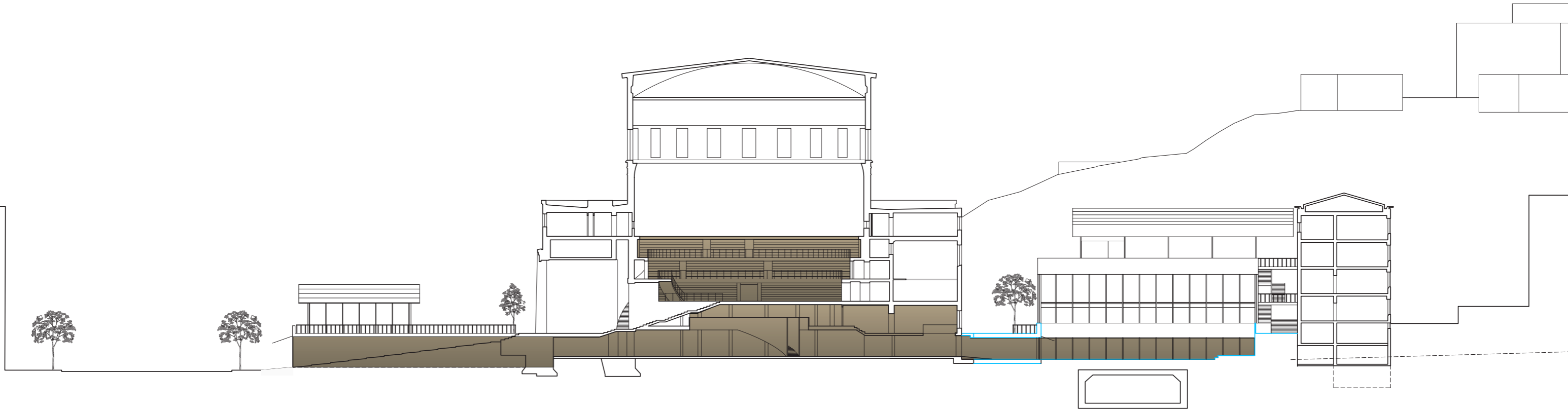
Section AA current situation

MSc4 Palace

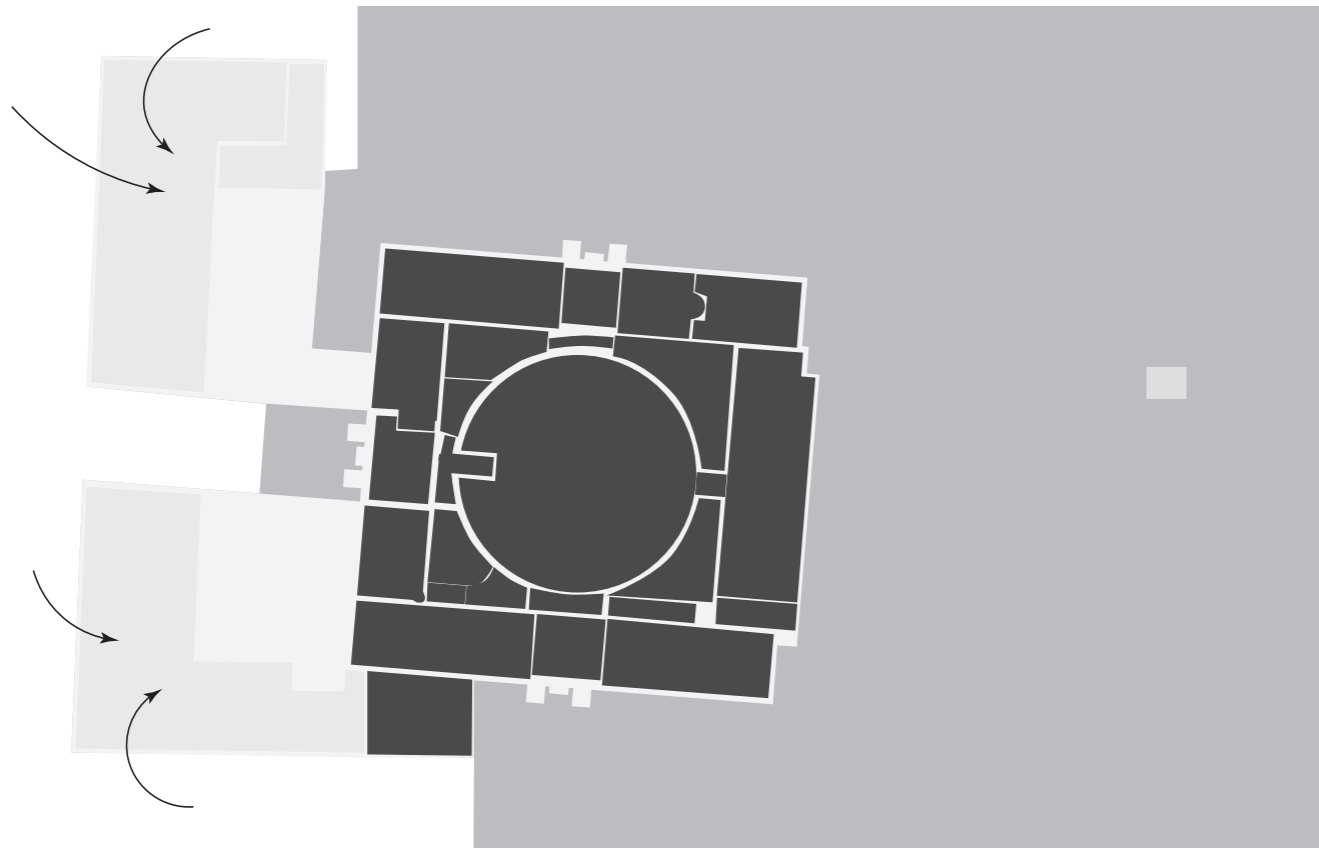


Section AA new situation

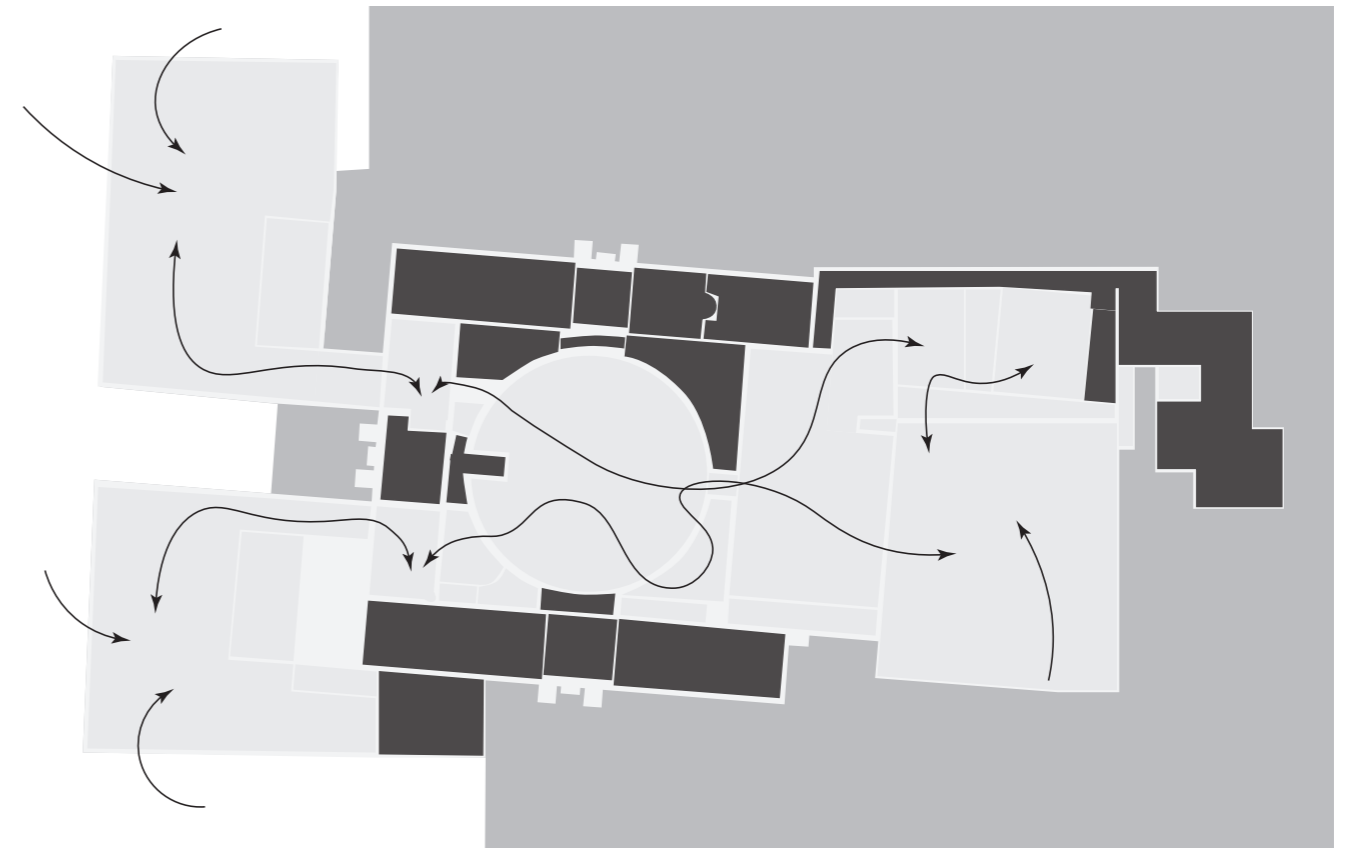
MSc4 Palace



Reorganisation Sveavagen level

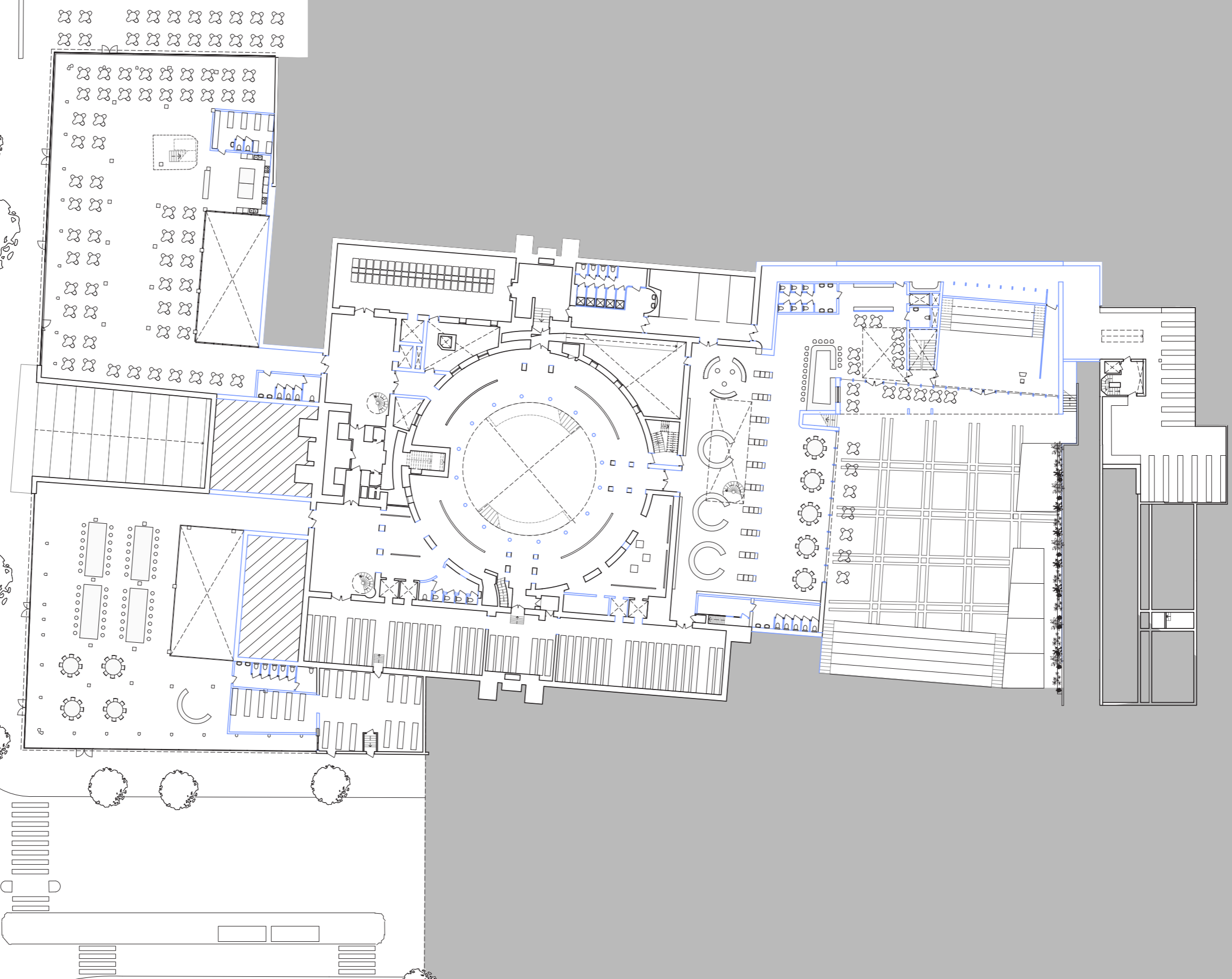


Current situation .



Proposed situation.

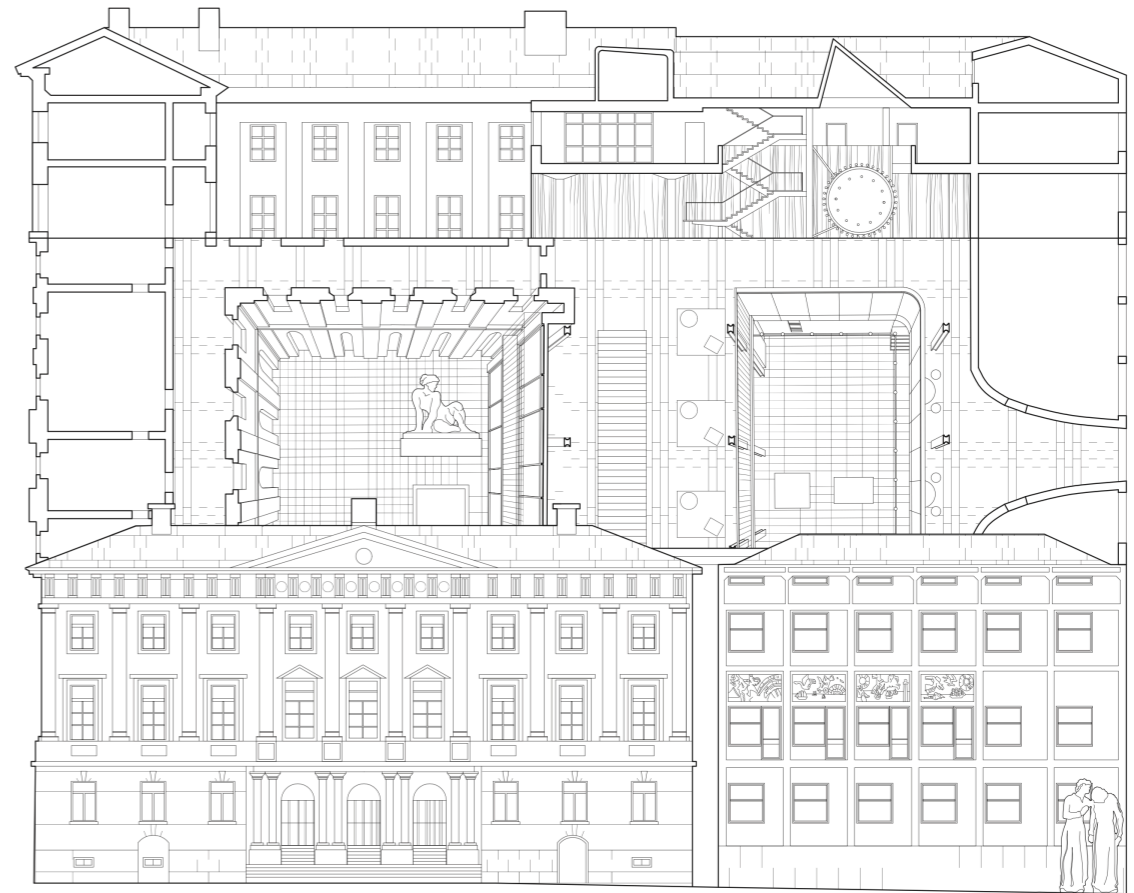
Sveavagen level



Continuous fabric

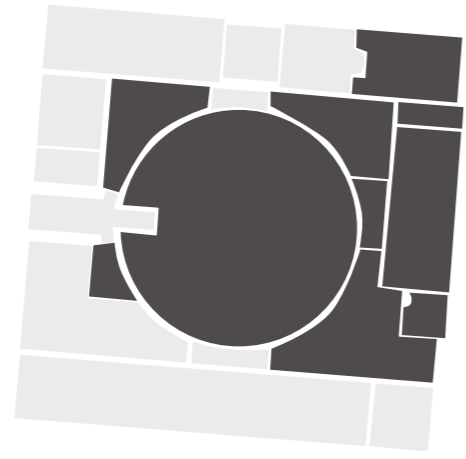


Gardner, G. (2023). Photograph of the facade facing the square. garethgardner.com.

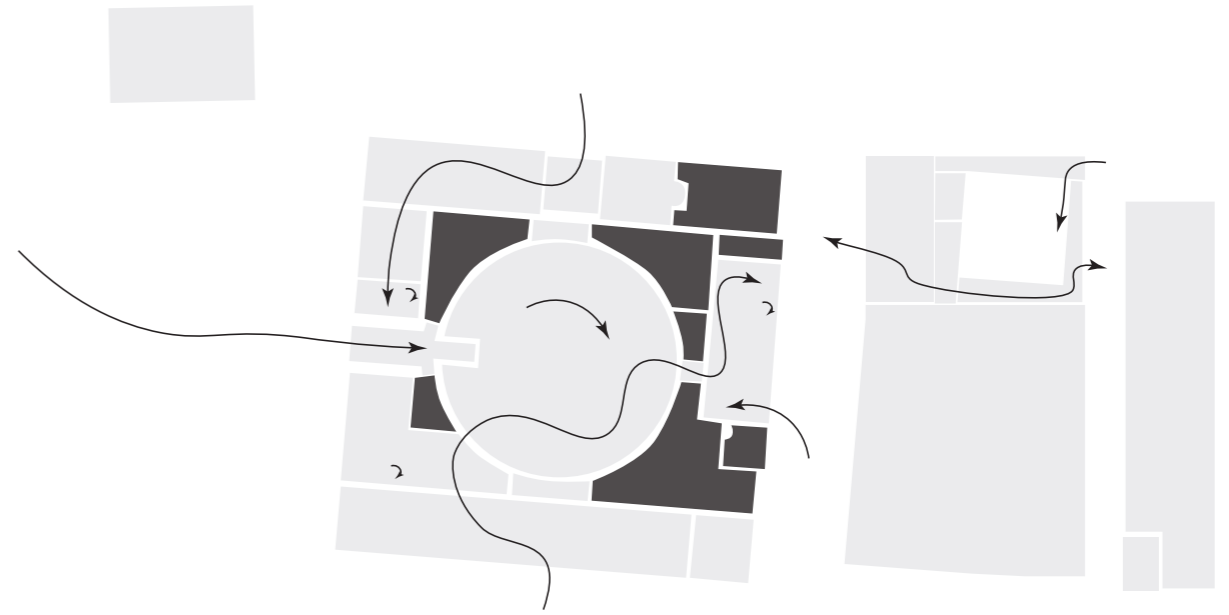


Analytical drawing of the Gothenburg Law Court Annex

Reorganisation Odengatan level

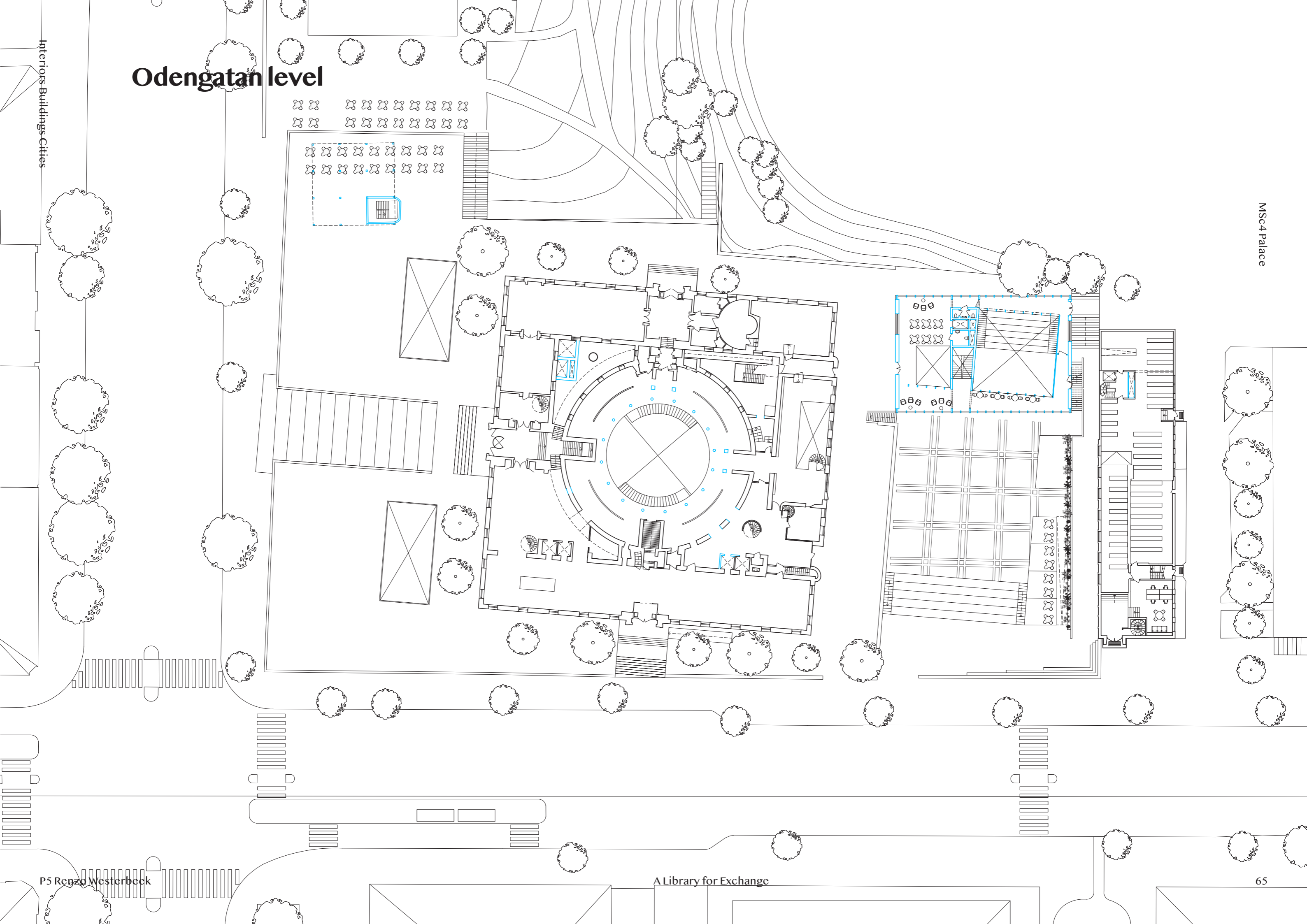


Current situation .

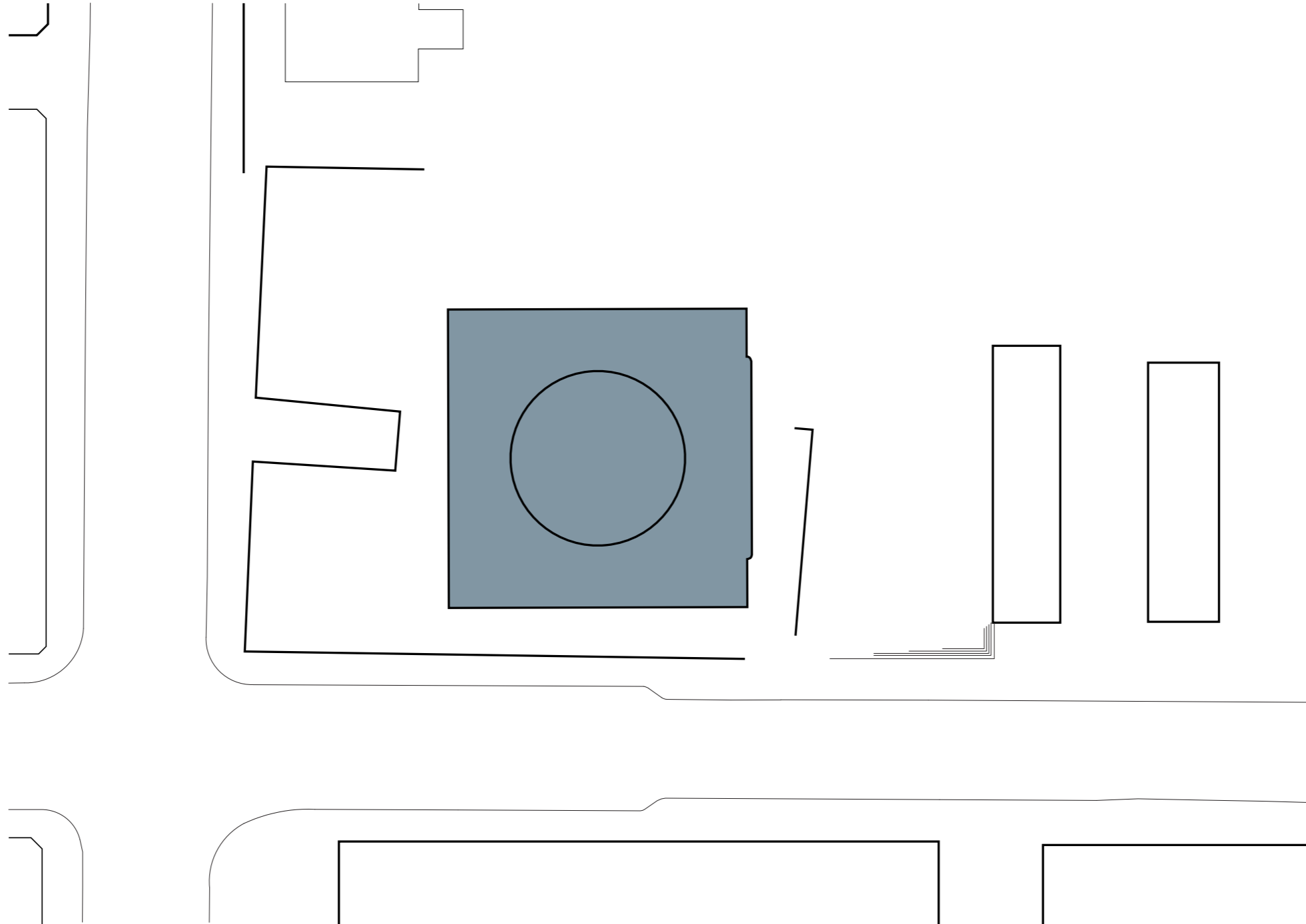


Proposed situation.

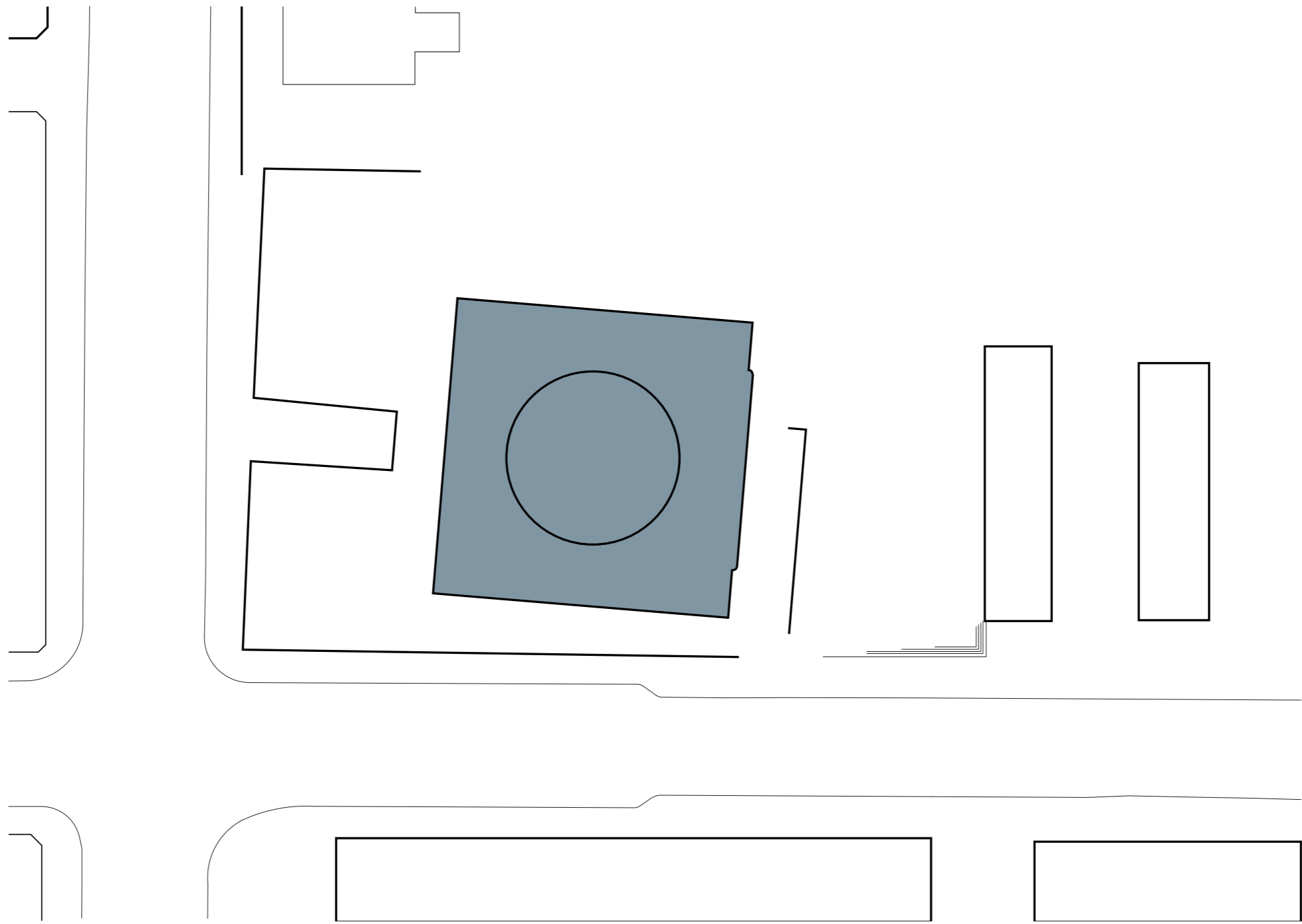
Odengatan level



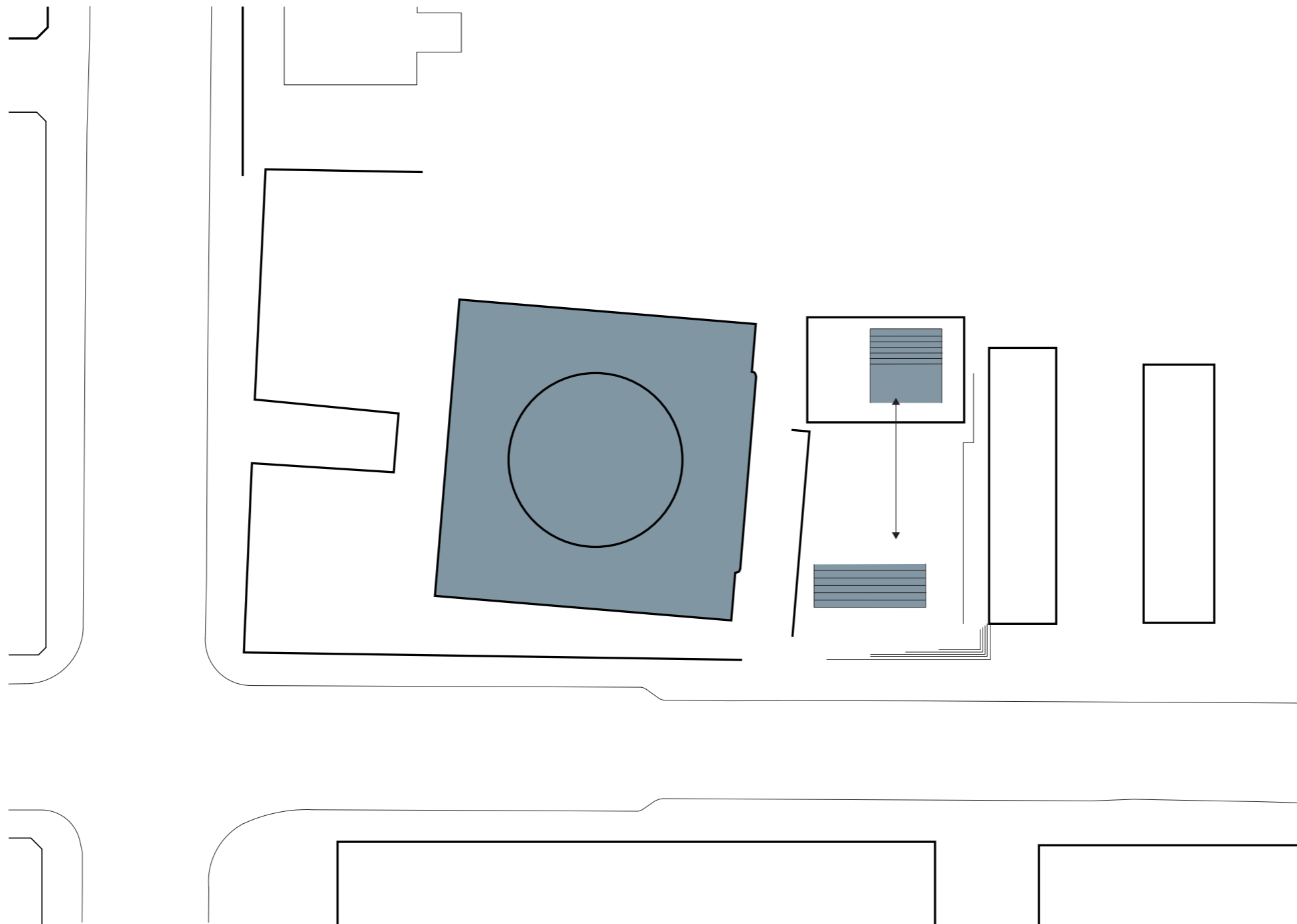
Directionality



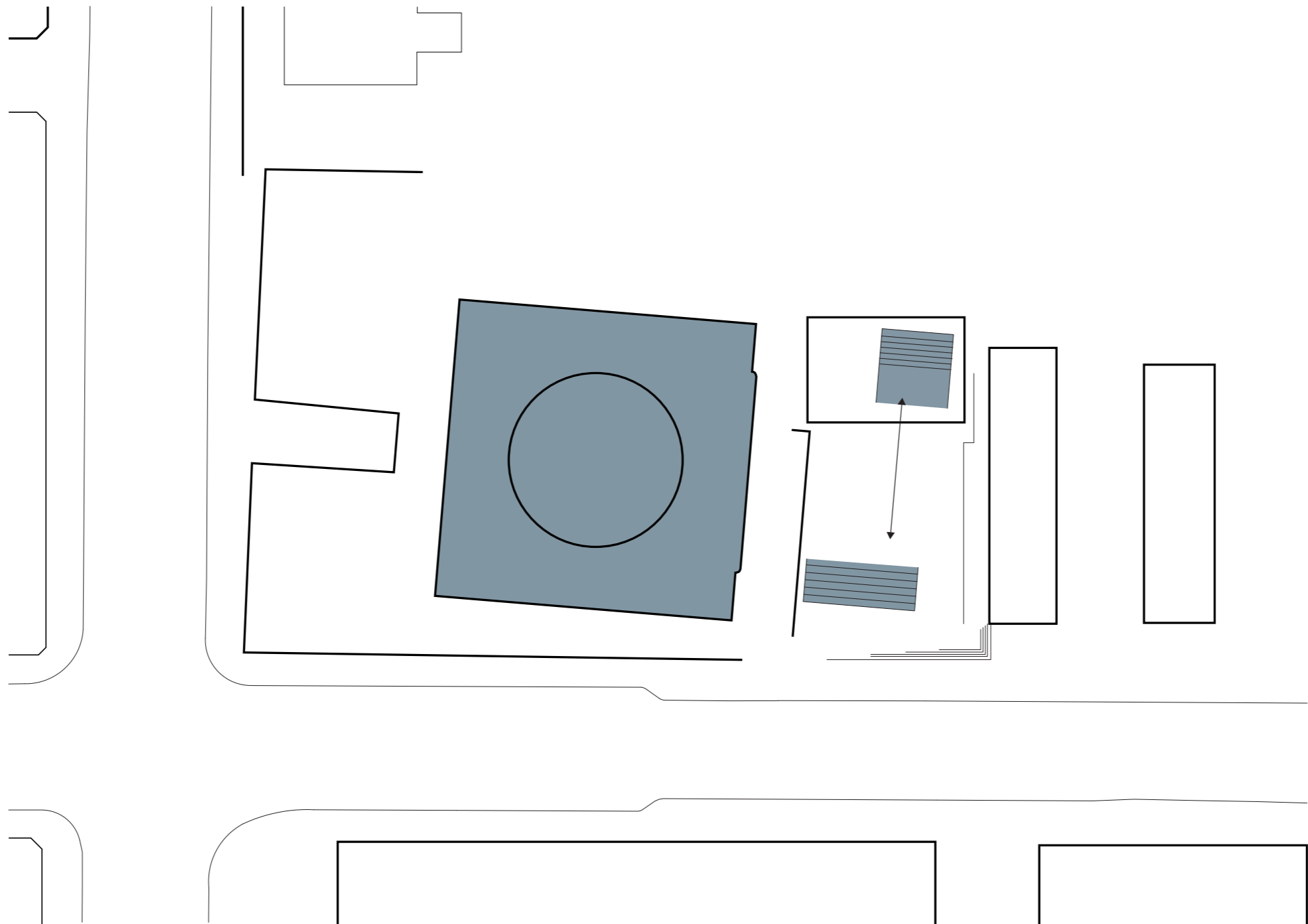
Directionality



Directionality

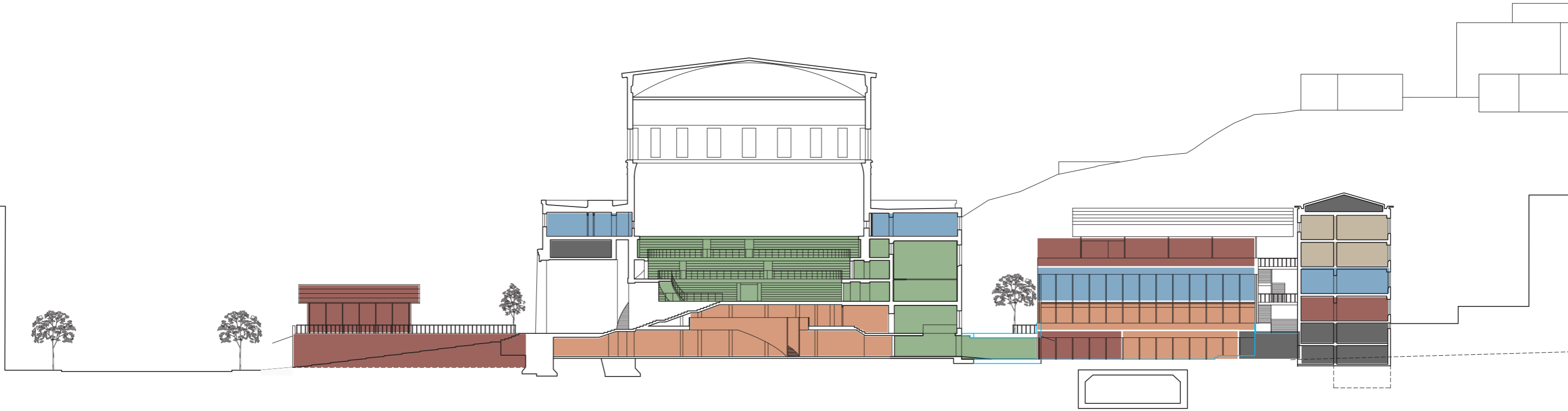


Directionality



Section AA new situation

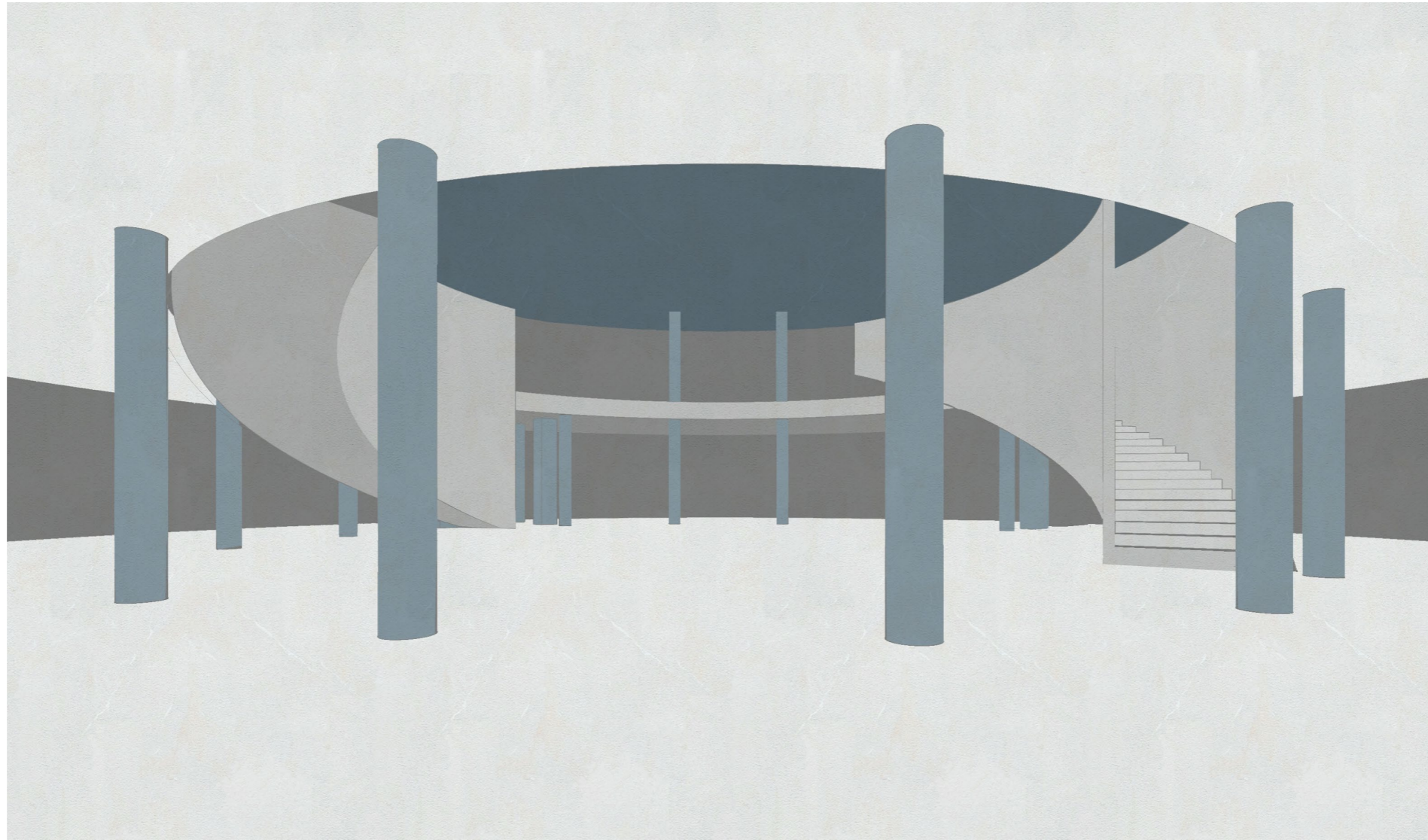
MSc4 Palace



- Literature
- Education/discussion
- Information
- Staff
- Additional functions
- Back of House



Exhibition Space



Exhibition Space underneath the Rotunda.

International Library



View from inside the new International Library.

Samtalshuset

/sam'sta:l,hæ:ɪt/ *subst.*

A "Conversation House"

A place for verbal exchange of views or information between two or more people.



Reacting to Asplund



Bazaar as a mediator



Entrance to the International Library



View on Spelbomskan towards the Asplundhuset.

Focal point between Asplundhuset and Lamella



View from Odengatan towards the Samtalshuset.

Gothenburg Law Court Annex, Asplund



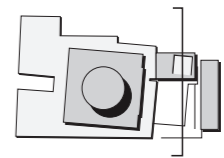
Gardner, G. (2023). Photograph of the Annex' inner courtyard. garethgardner.com.

Kulturhuset, Peter Celsing

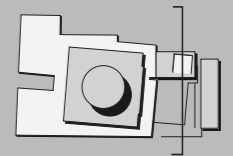
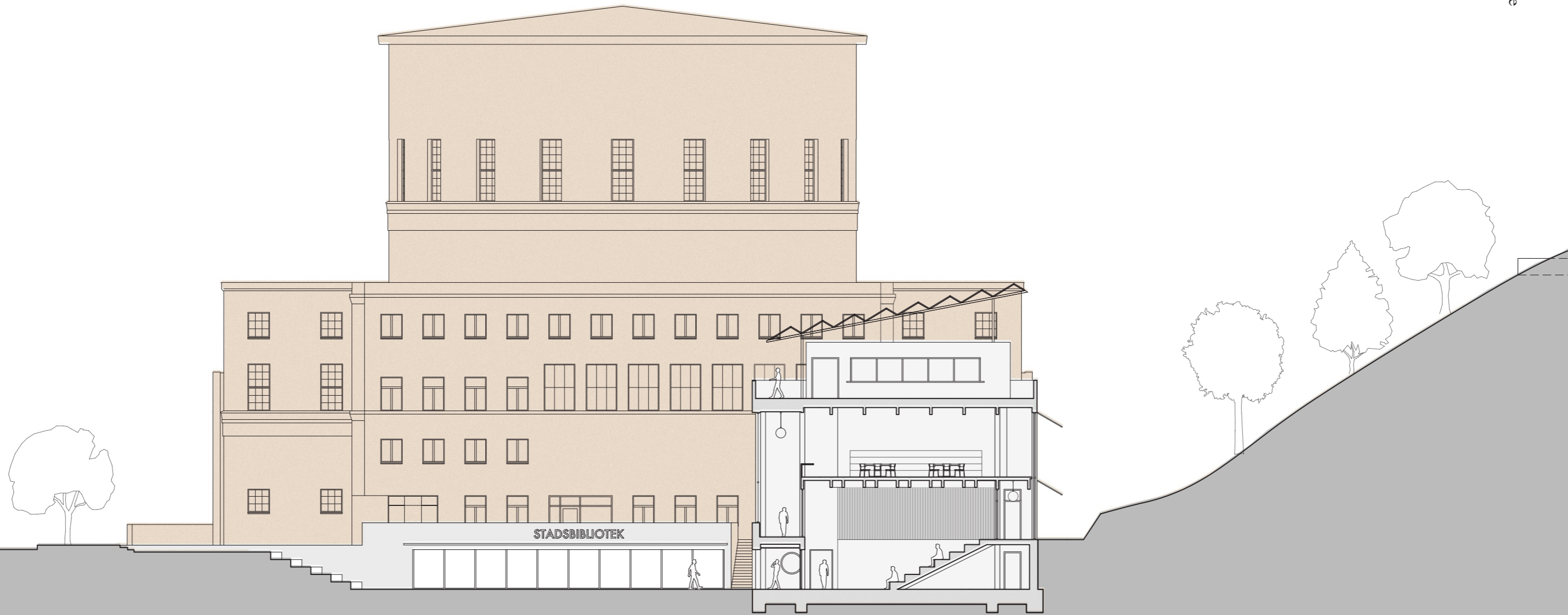


Section CC current situation

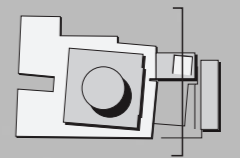
MSc4 Palace



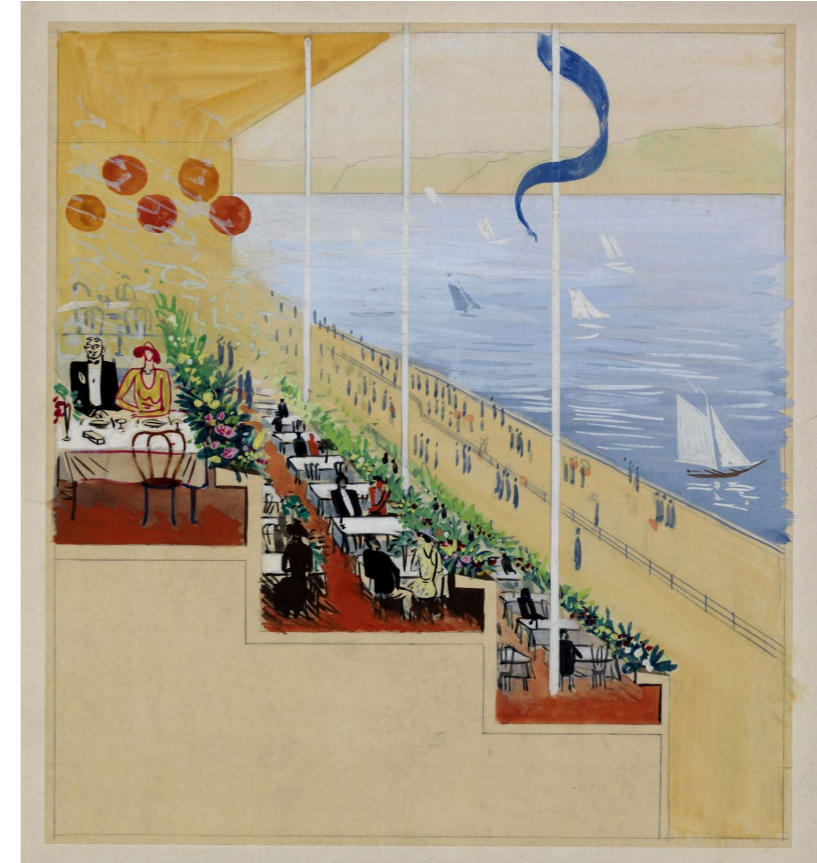
Section CC proposed situation



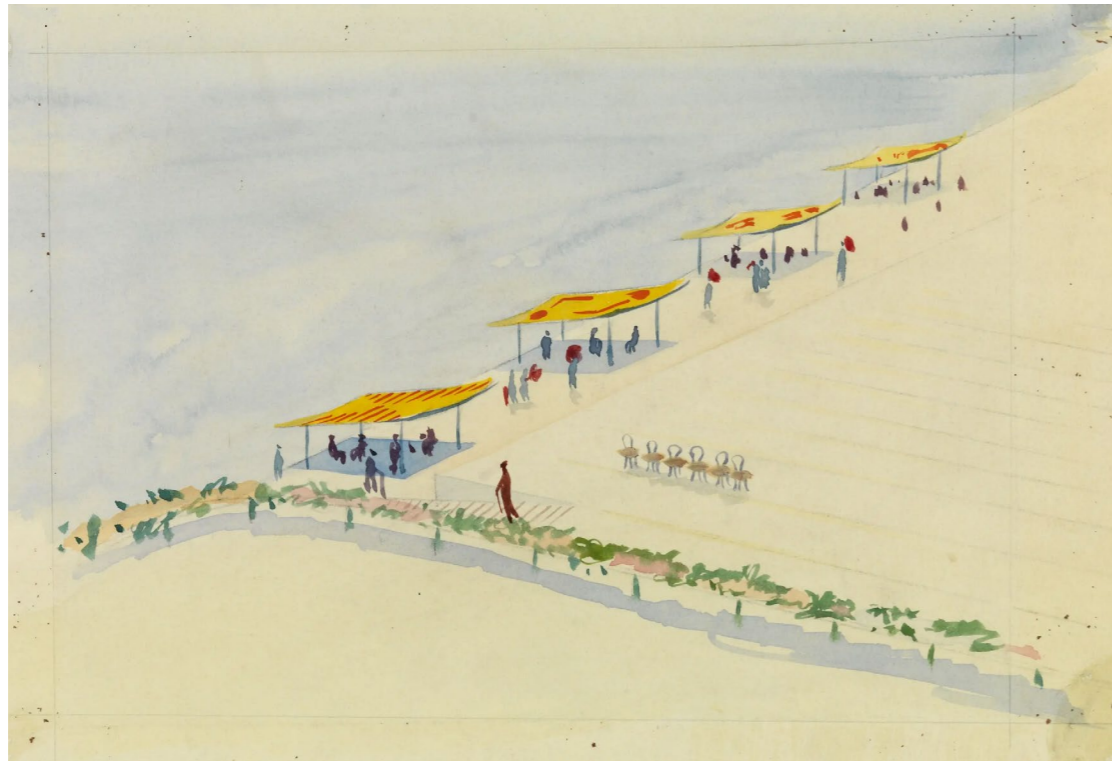
Section CC proposed situation



1930 Stockholm Exhibition, Asplund



MSc4 Palace



P5 Renzo Westerbeek



A Library for Exchange

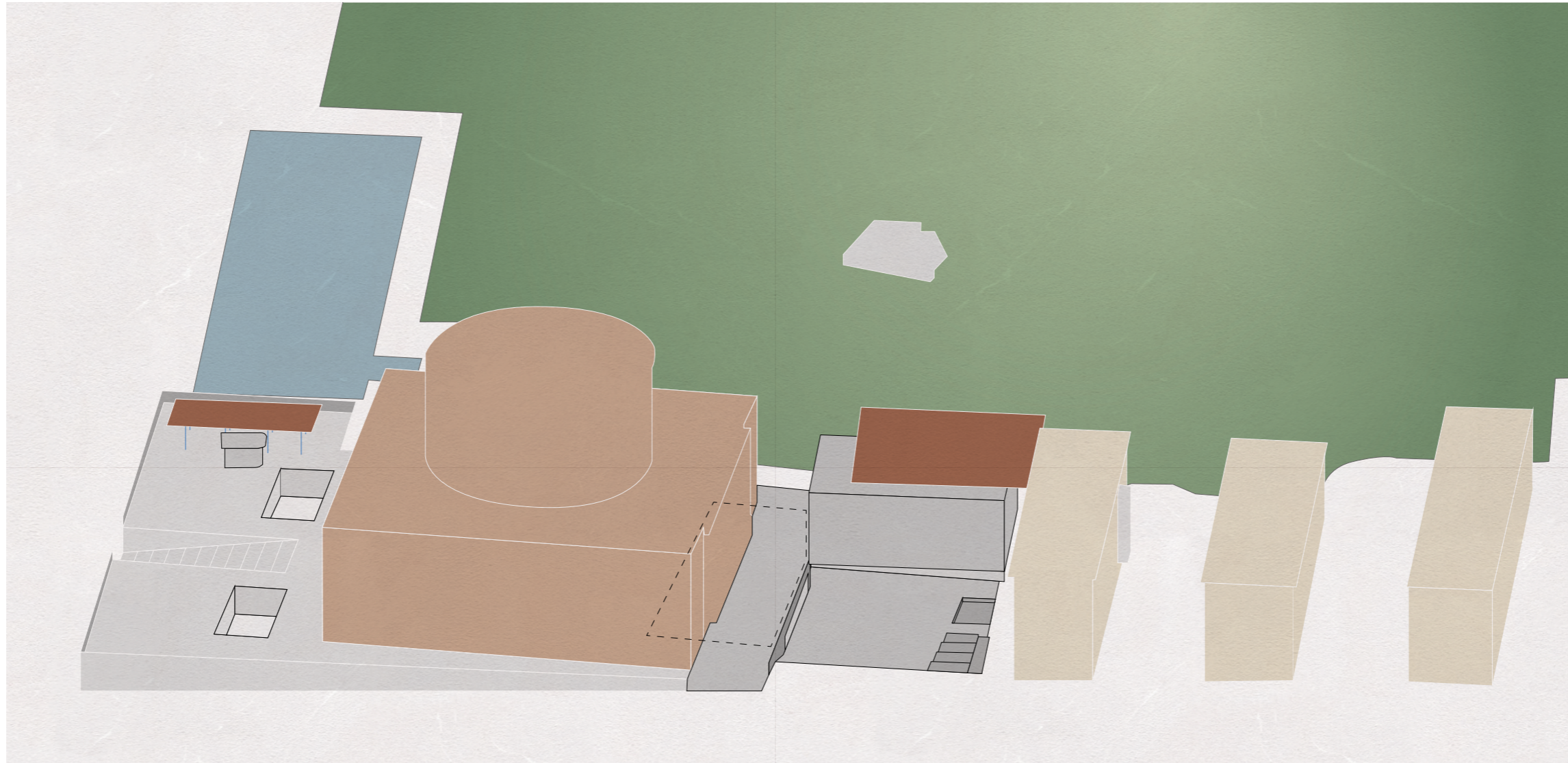
Paradiset Restaurant, Asplund



Bazaar pavilions



Bringing back Pavilions

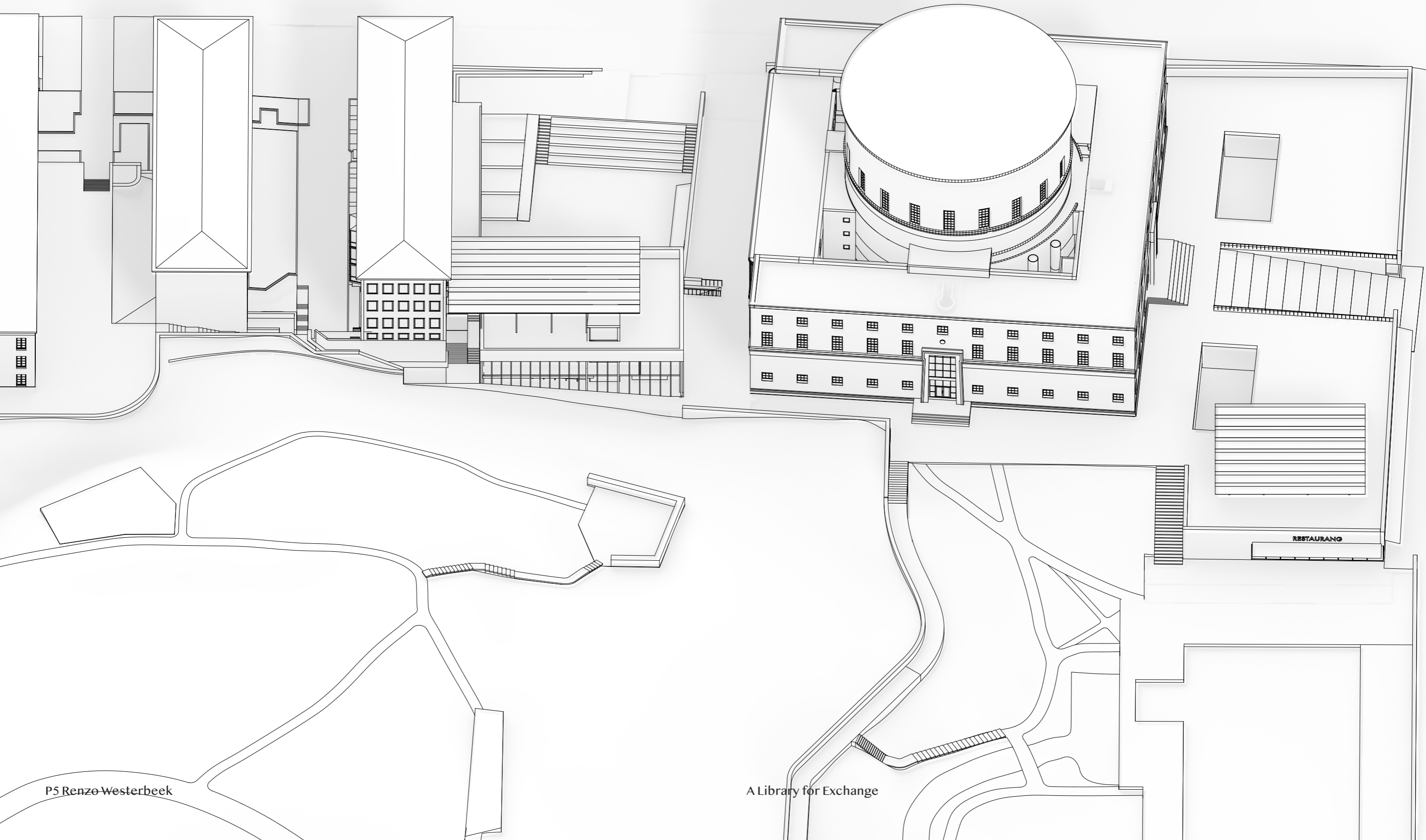


bringing back the pavilions.

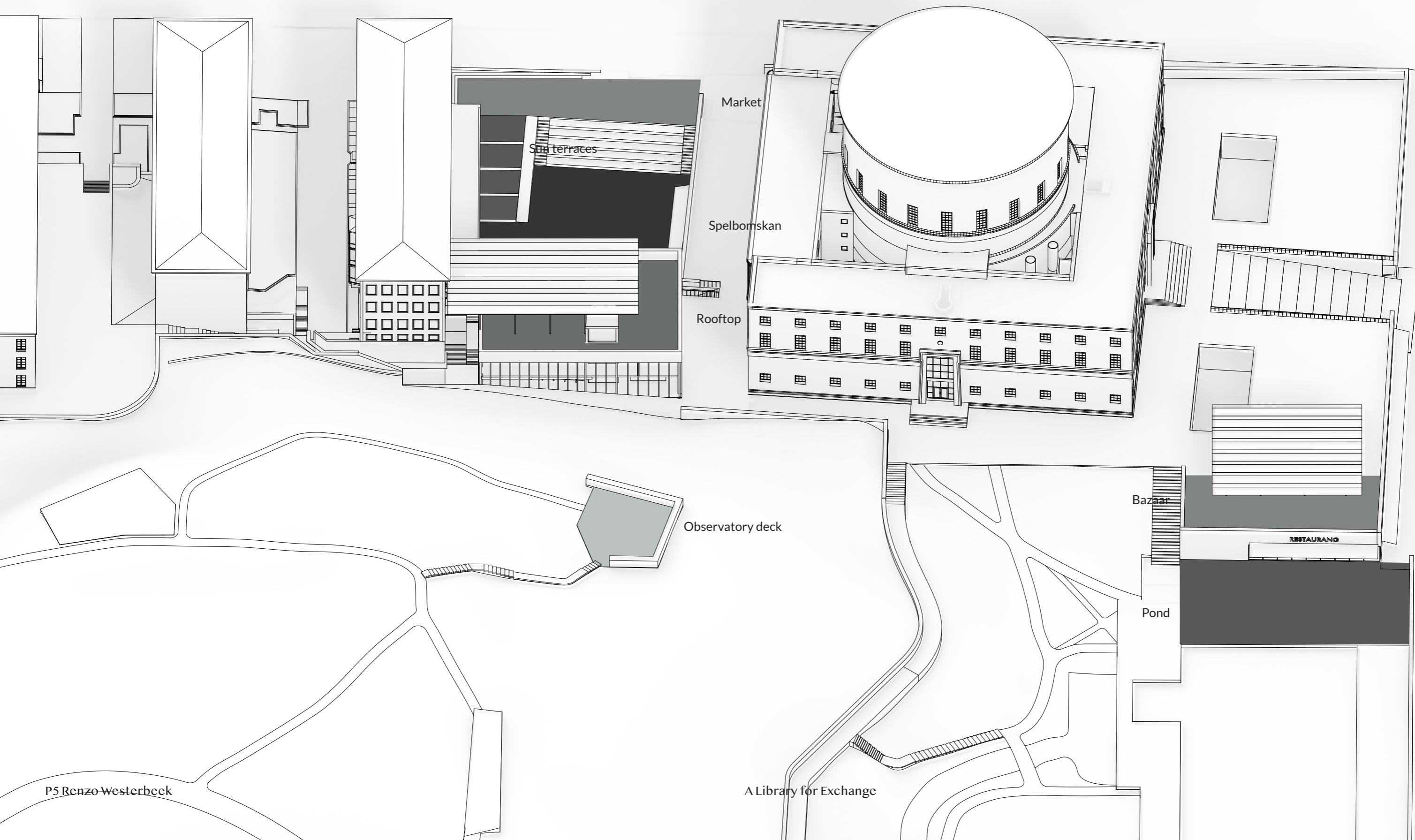
Roof top terrace



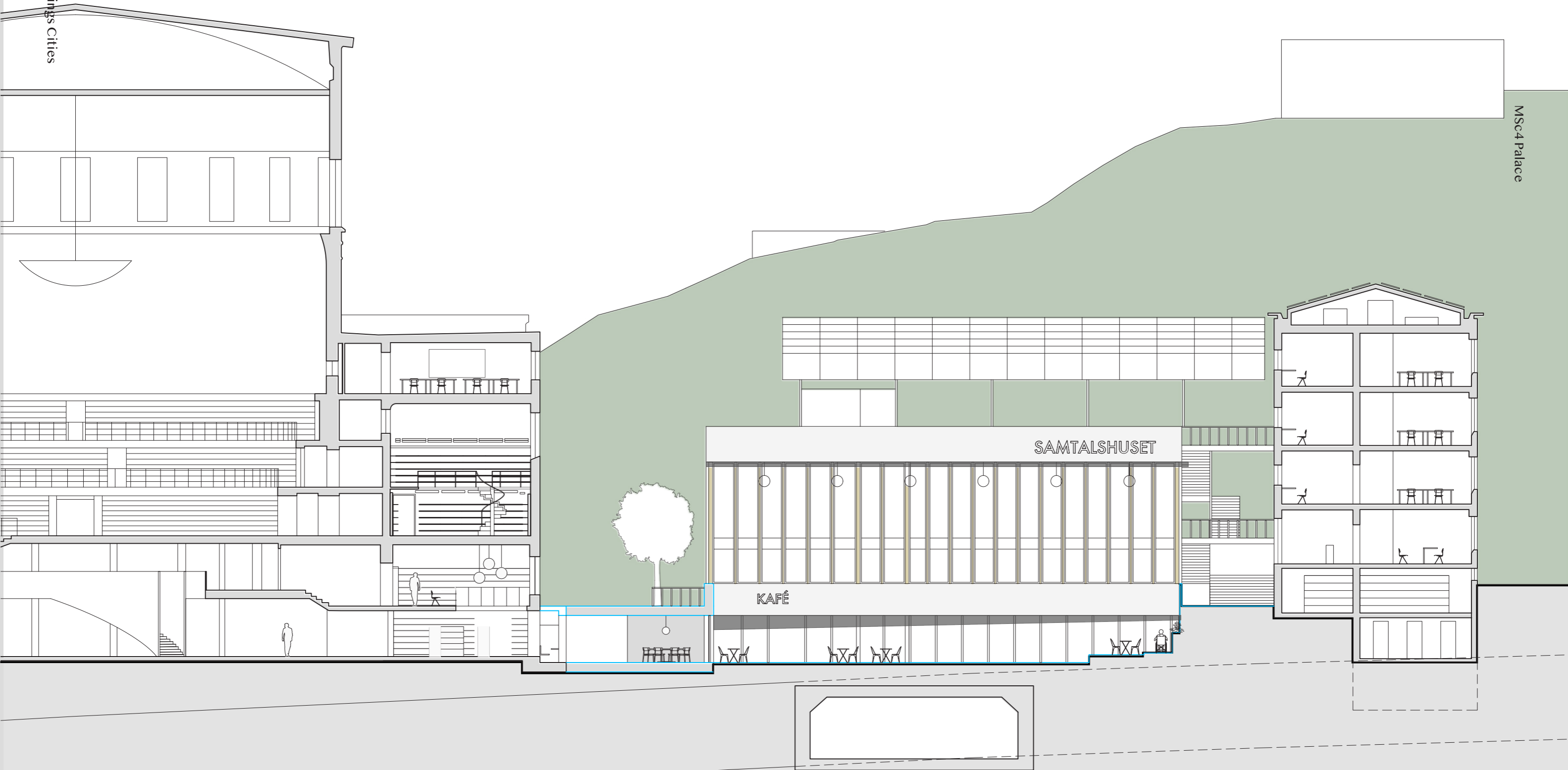
Terraces



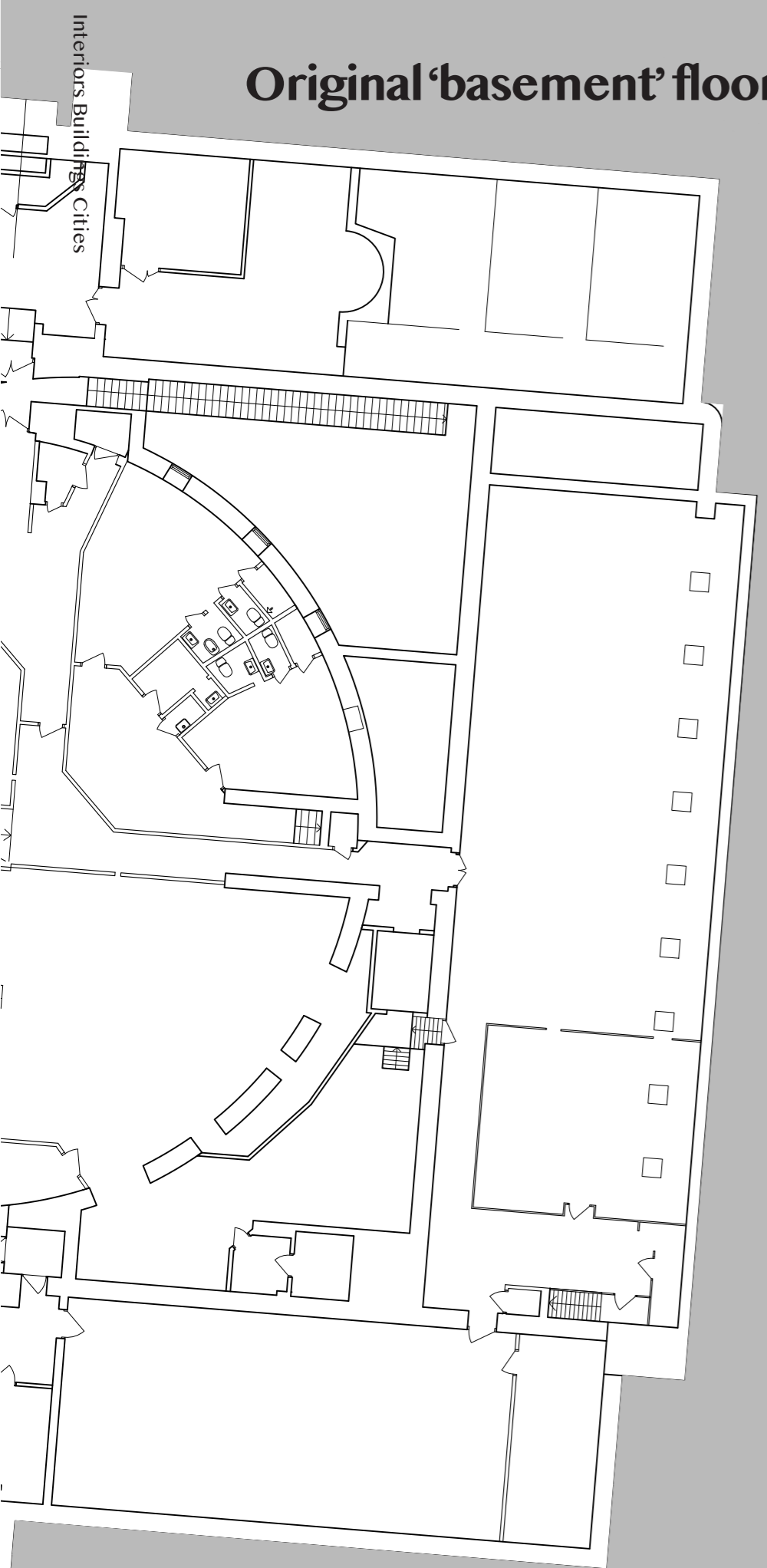
Terraces



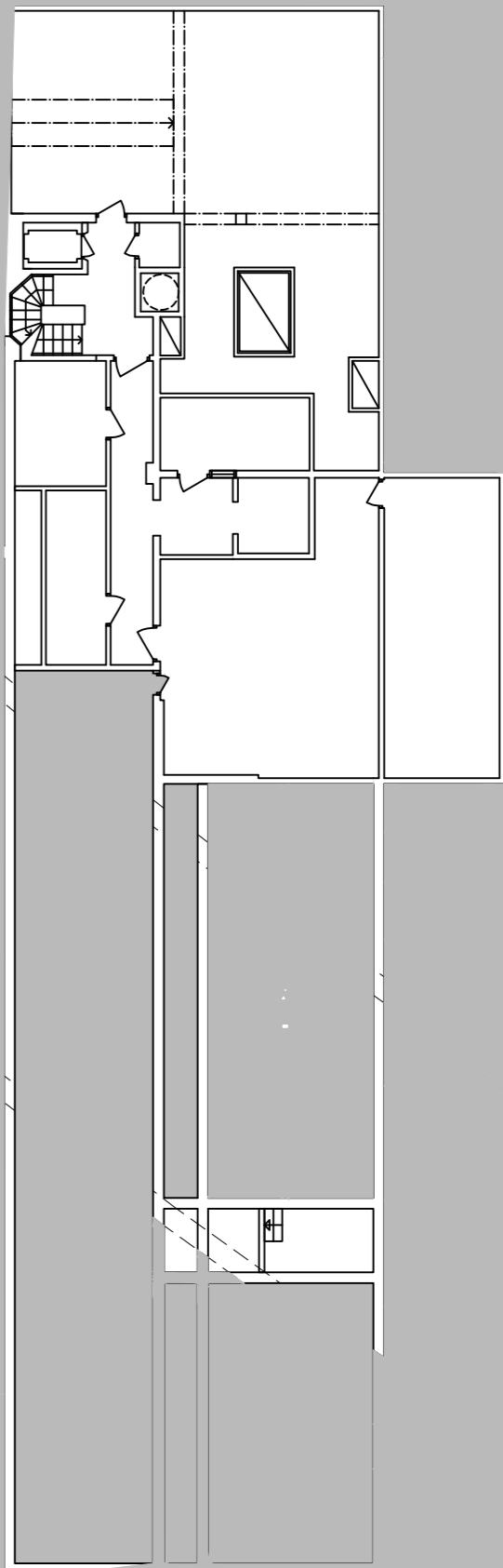
Long section



Original 'basement' floor plan



P5 Renzo Westerbeek

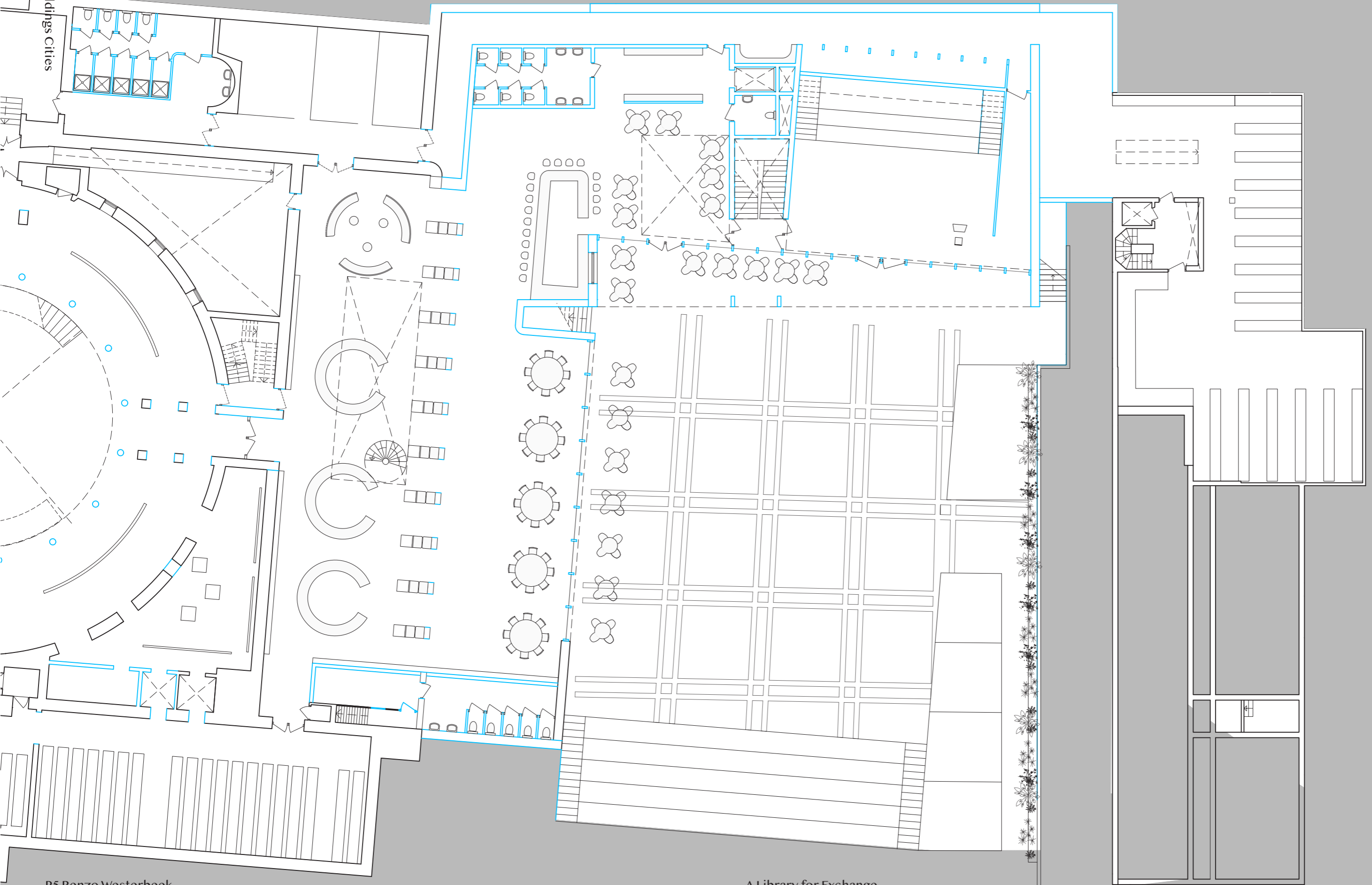


MSC4 Palace

A Library for Exchange

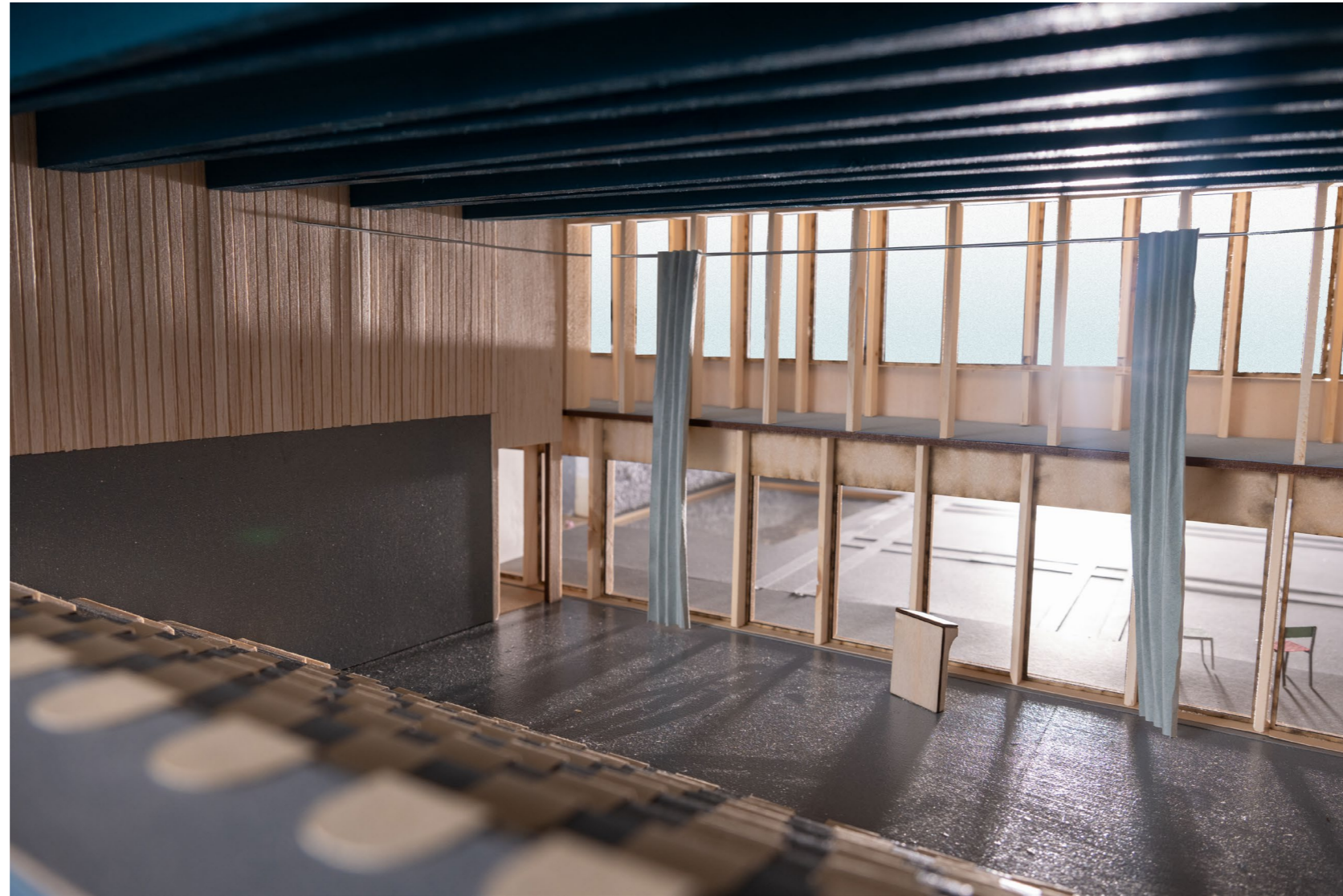
Sveavagen level

Interiors Buildings Cities



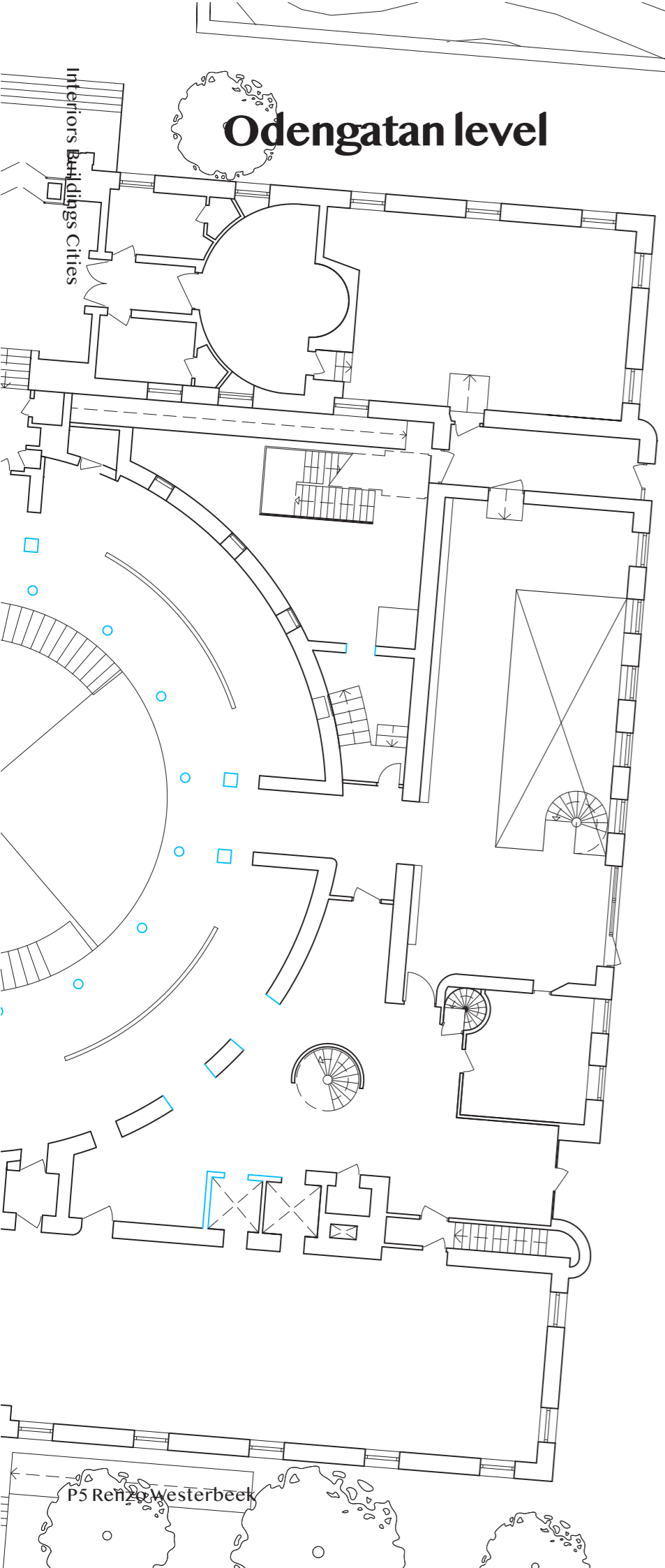
MSc4 Palace

Room for Explanation



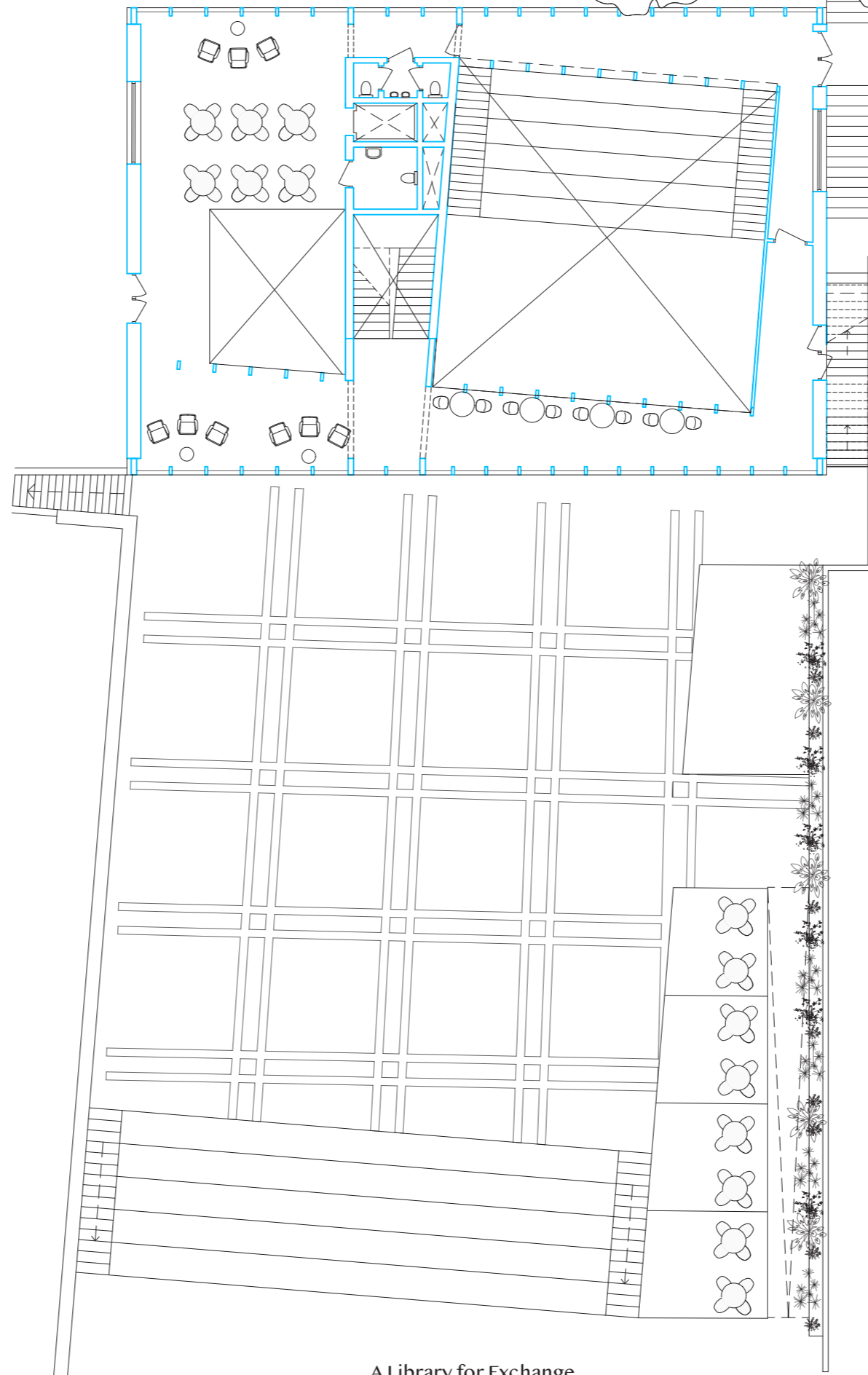
View from the lecture hall.

Odengatan level

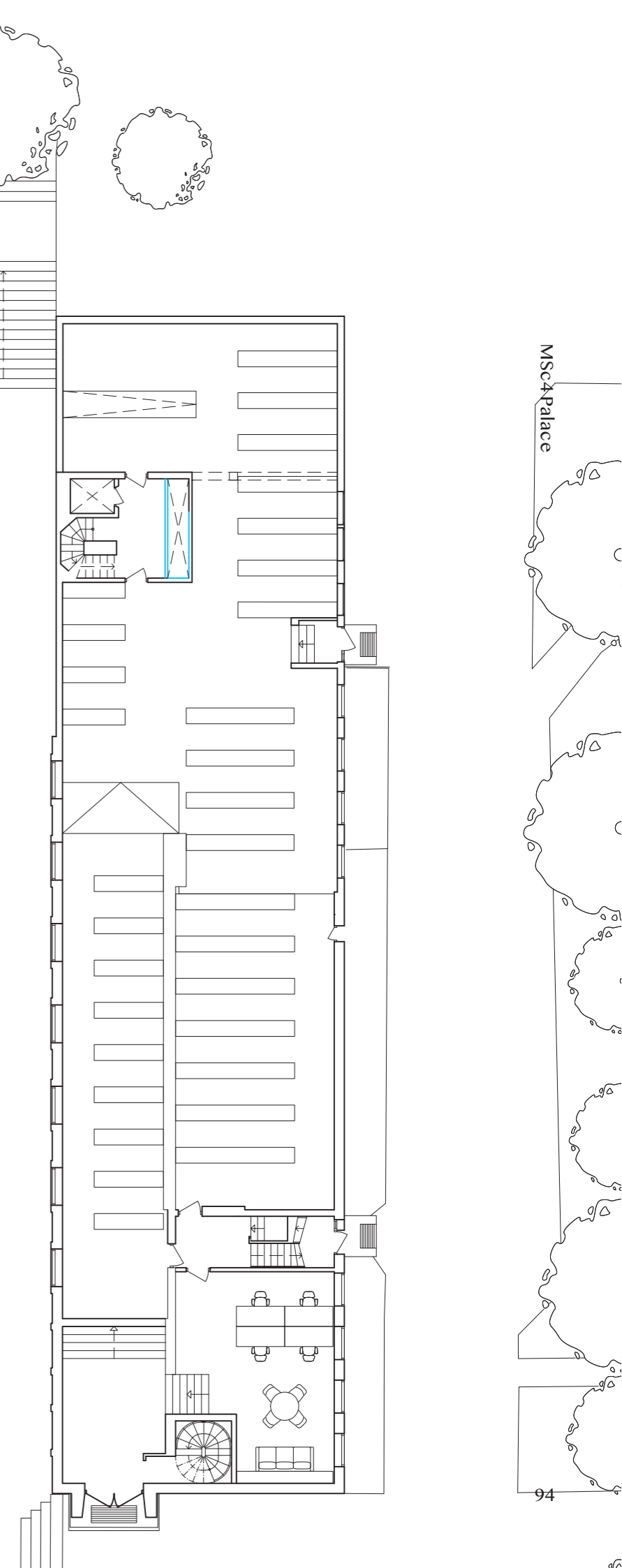


Interiors Buildings Cities

P5 Renzo Westerbeek



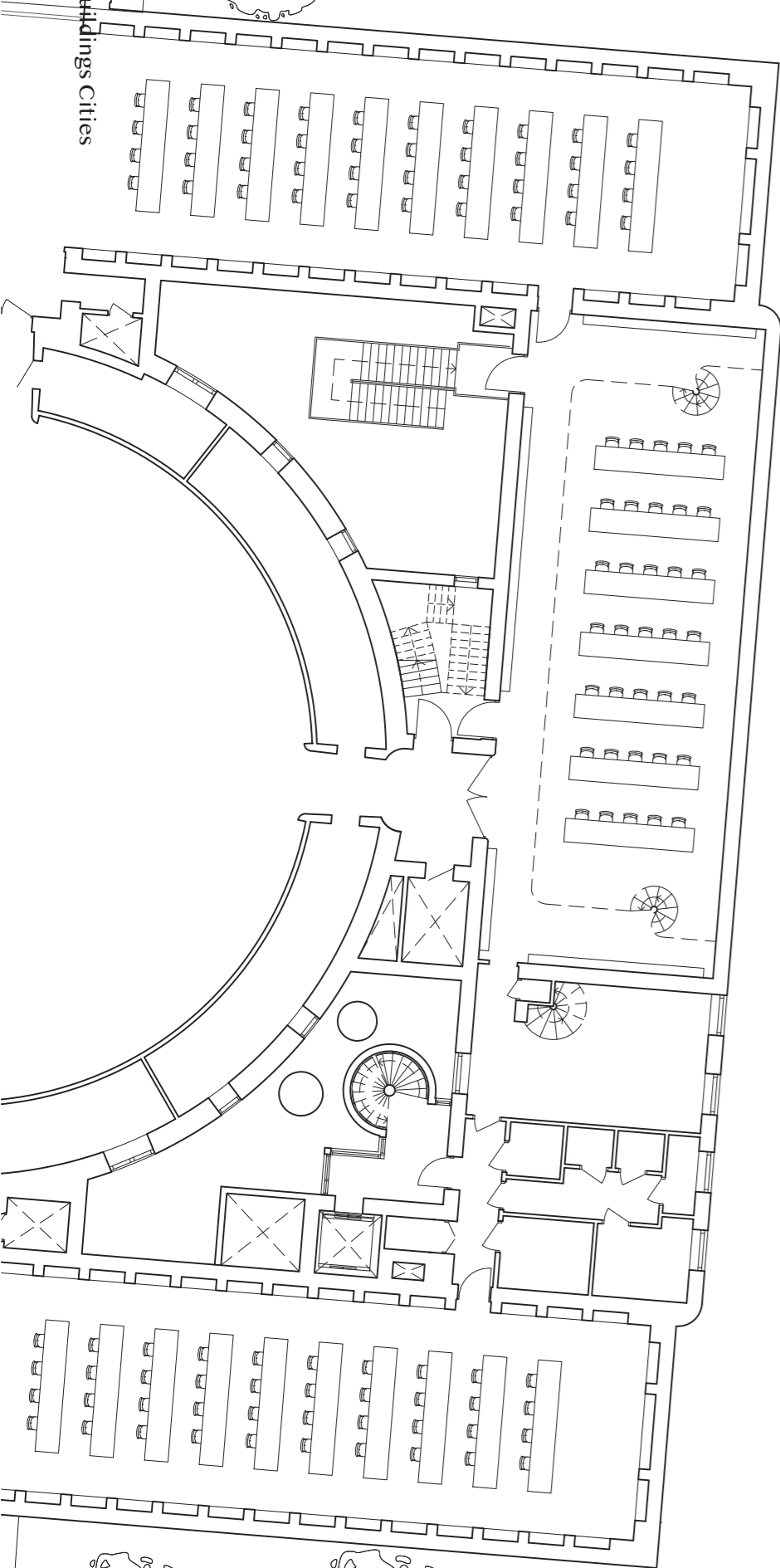
A Library for Exchange



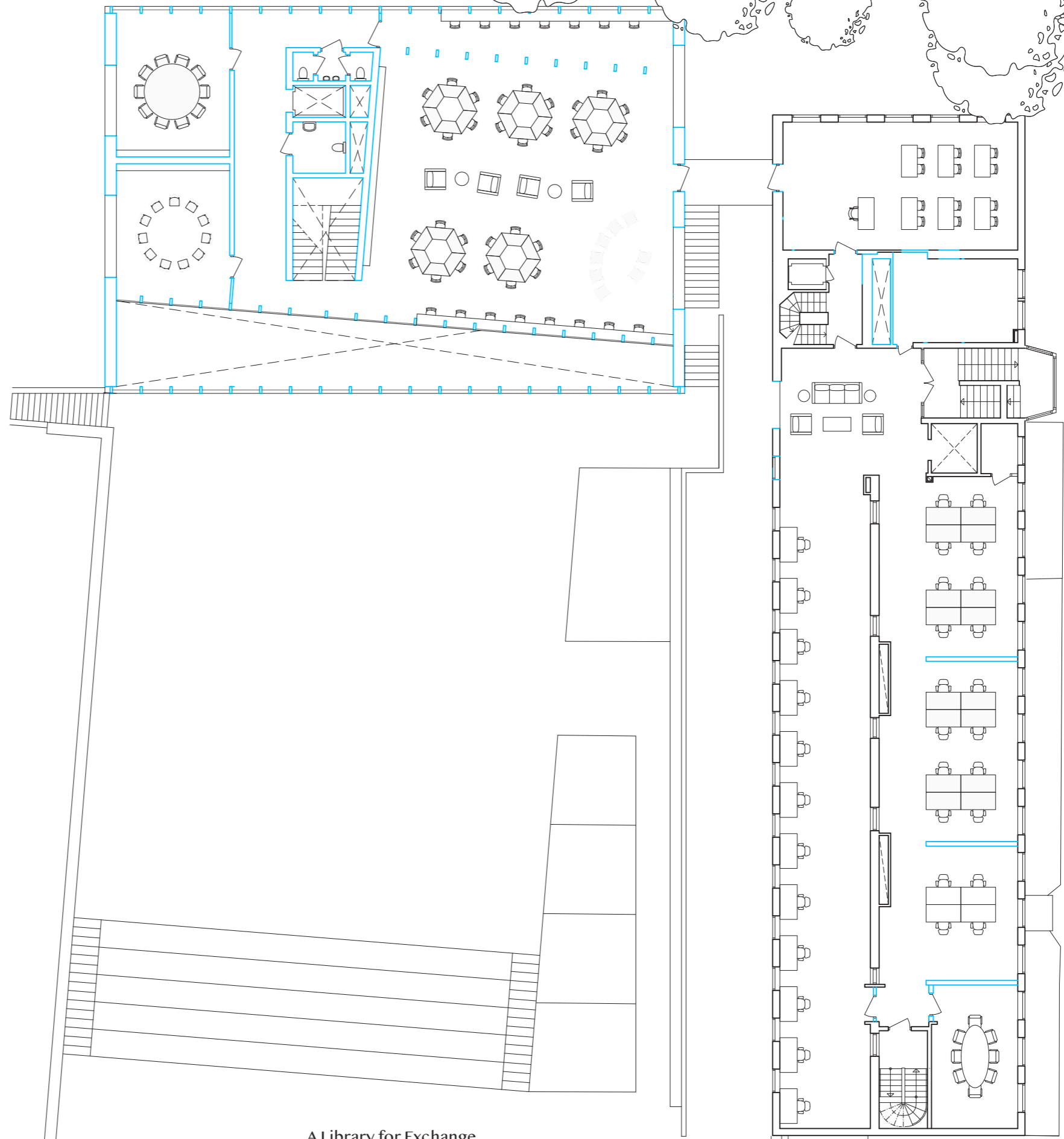
MSc4 Palace

Odengatan level +1

Interiors Buildings Cities



P5 Renzo Westerbeek



A Library for Exchange

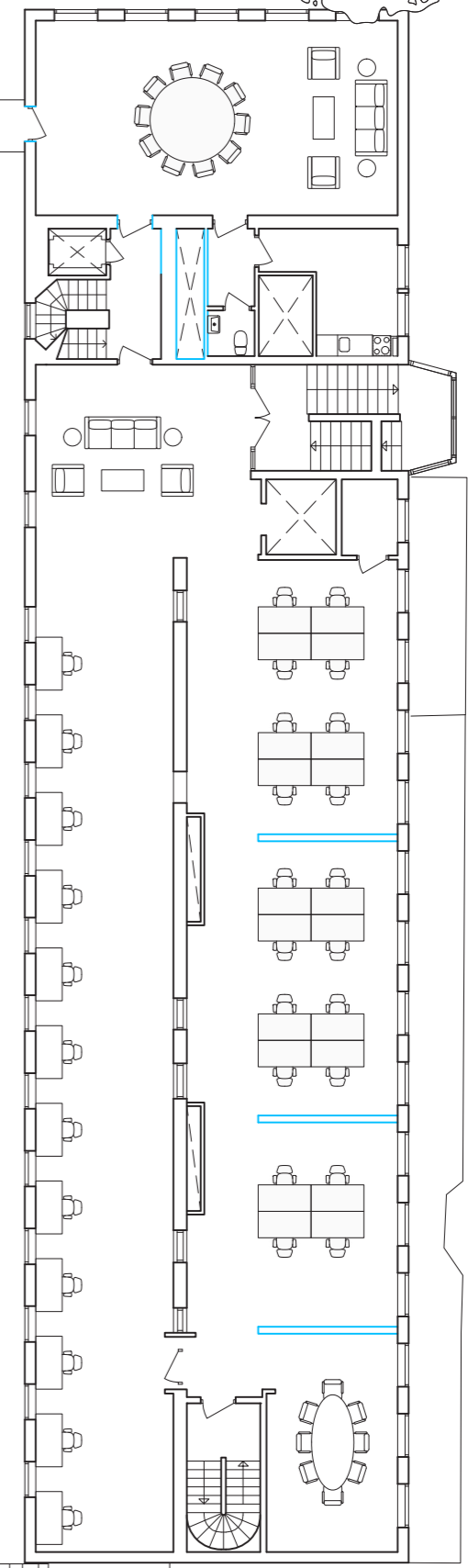
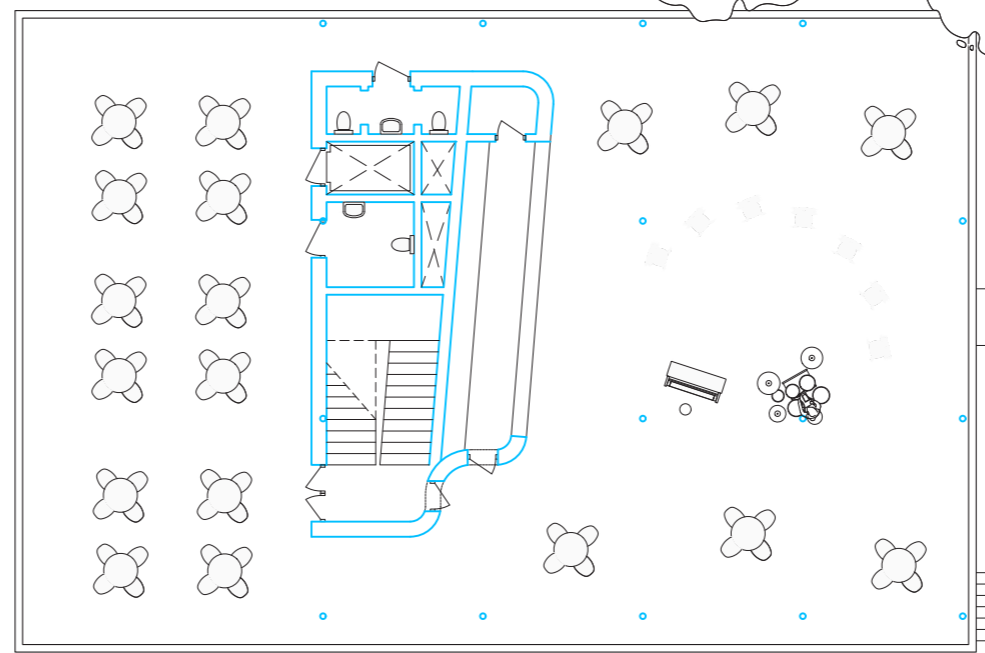
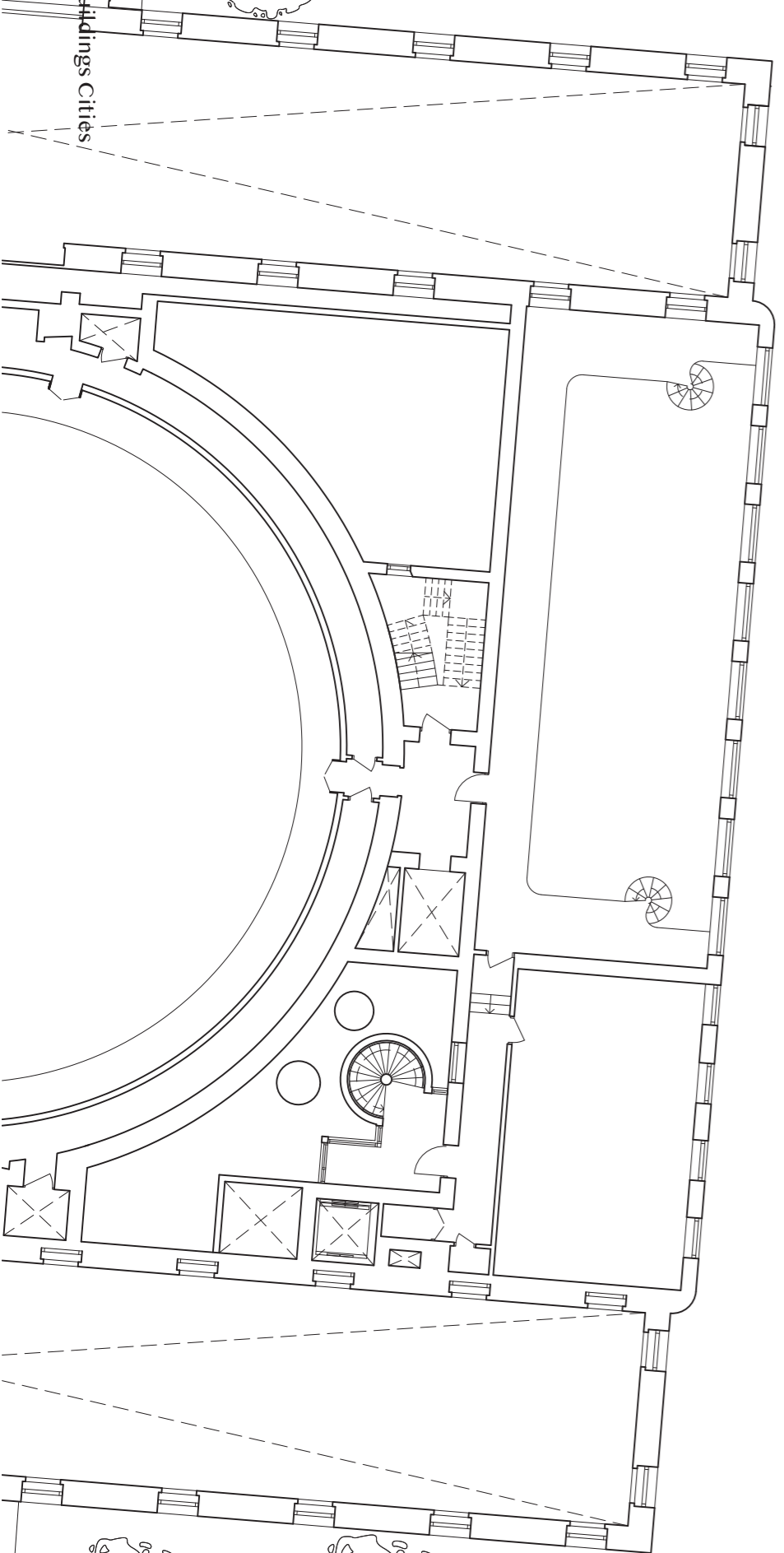
Msc4 Palace

Room for Discussion



Odengatan level +2

Interiors Buildings Cities

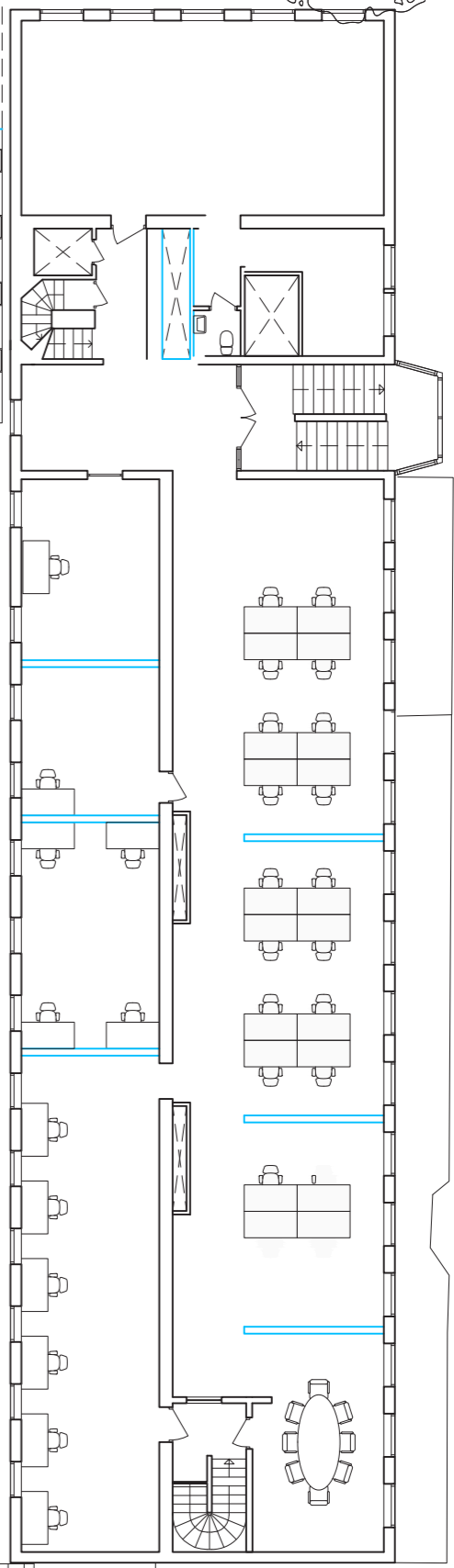
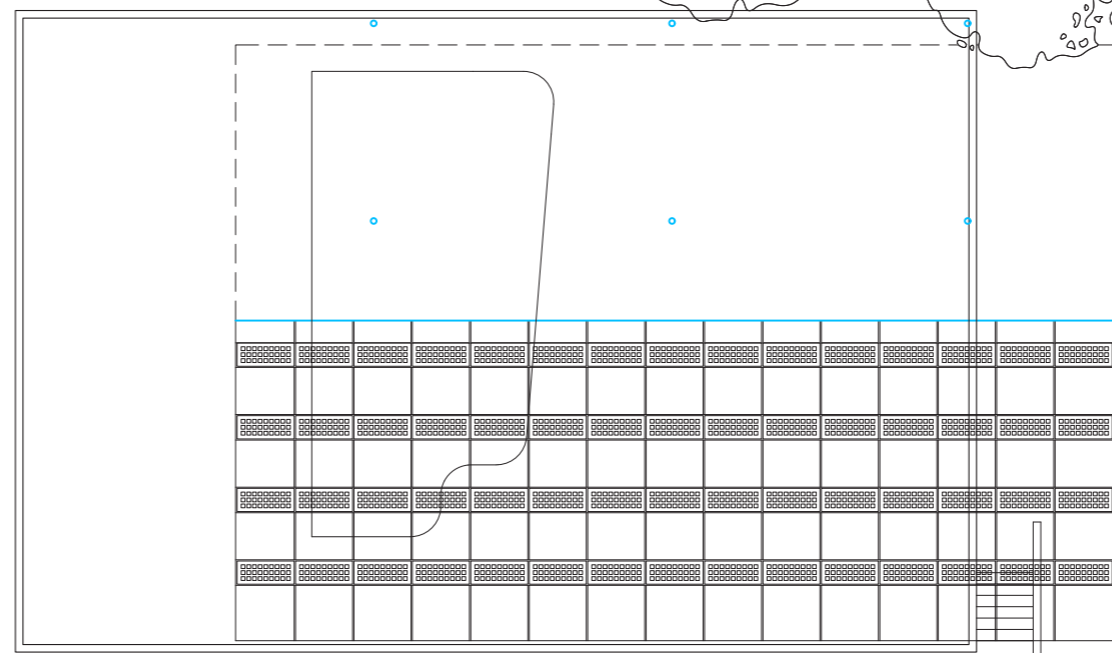
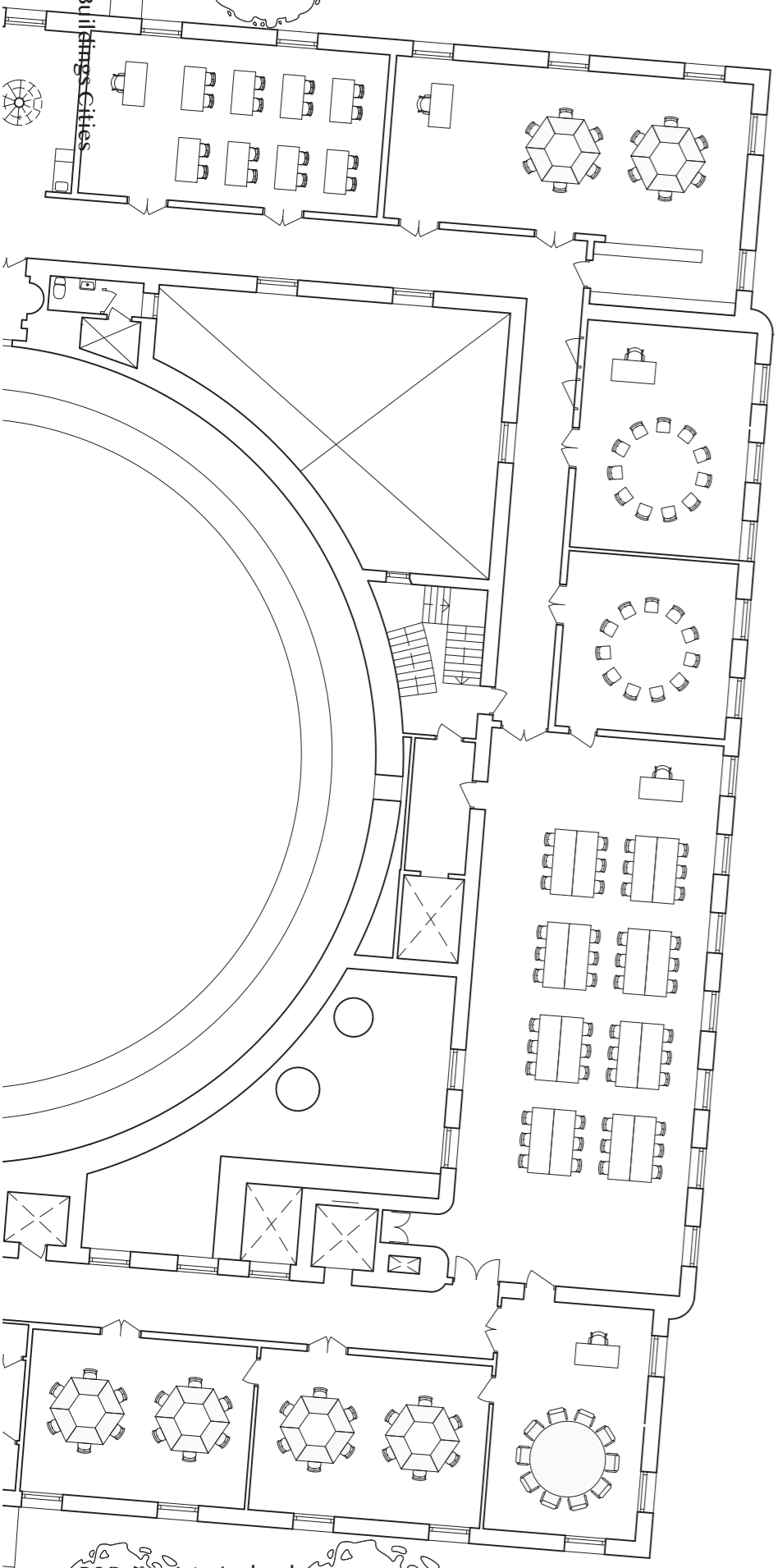


Msc4 Palace

P5 Ren20 Westerbeek

A Library for Exchange

Odengatan level +3



P5 Renzo Westerbeek

A Library for Exchange

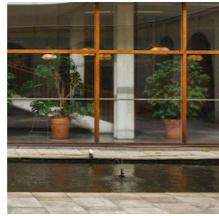
Msc4 Palace



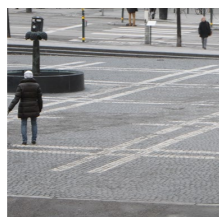
Steel



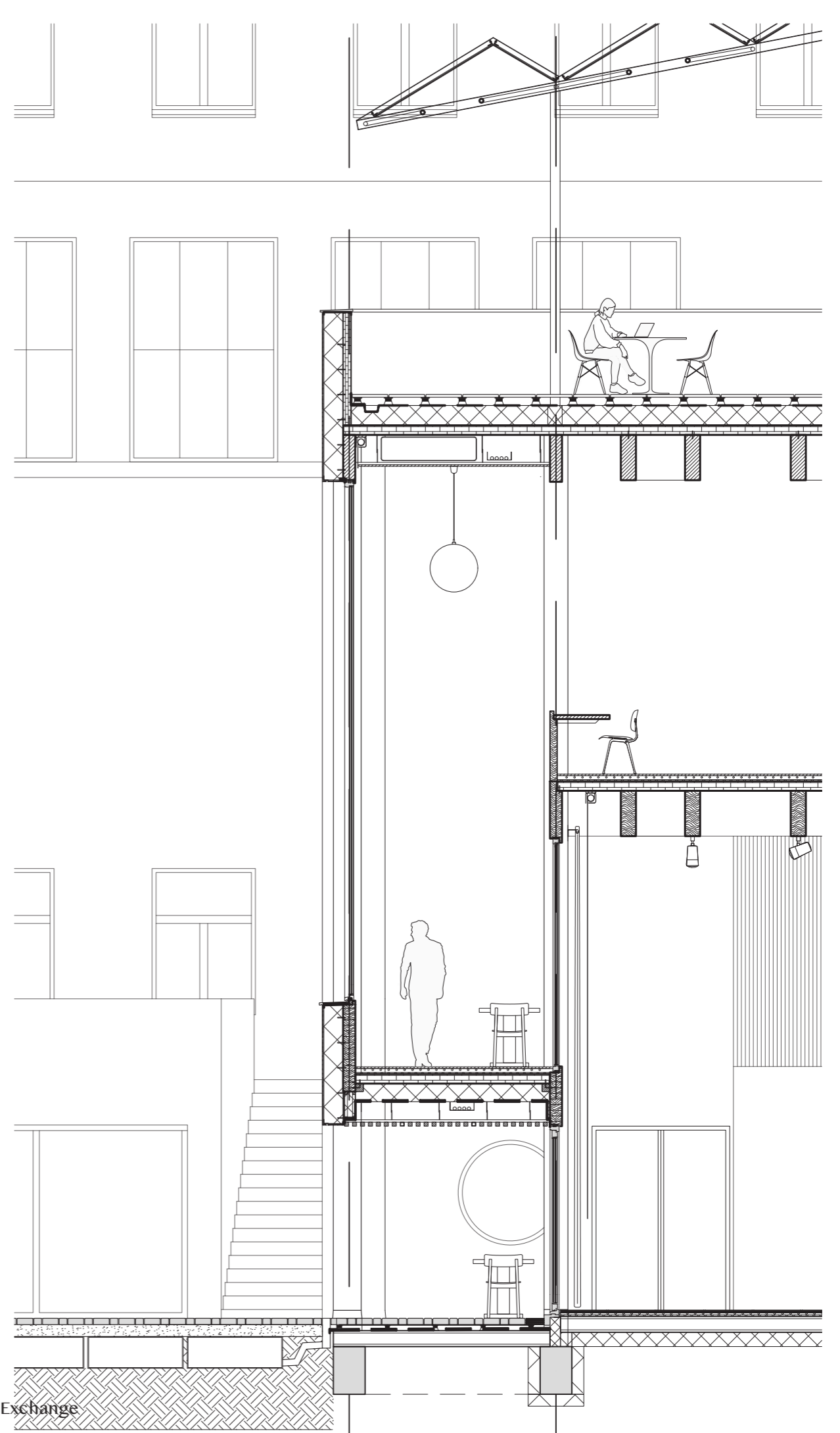
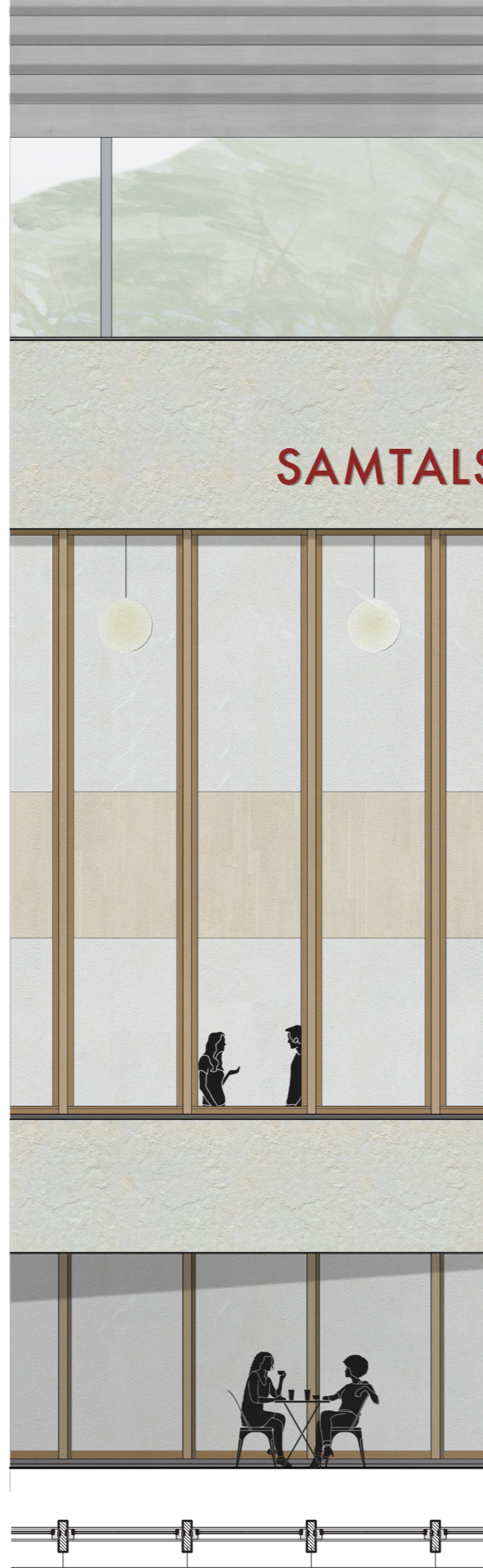
Plaster



Scandinavian wood



Nature





Steel



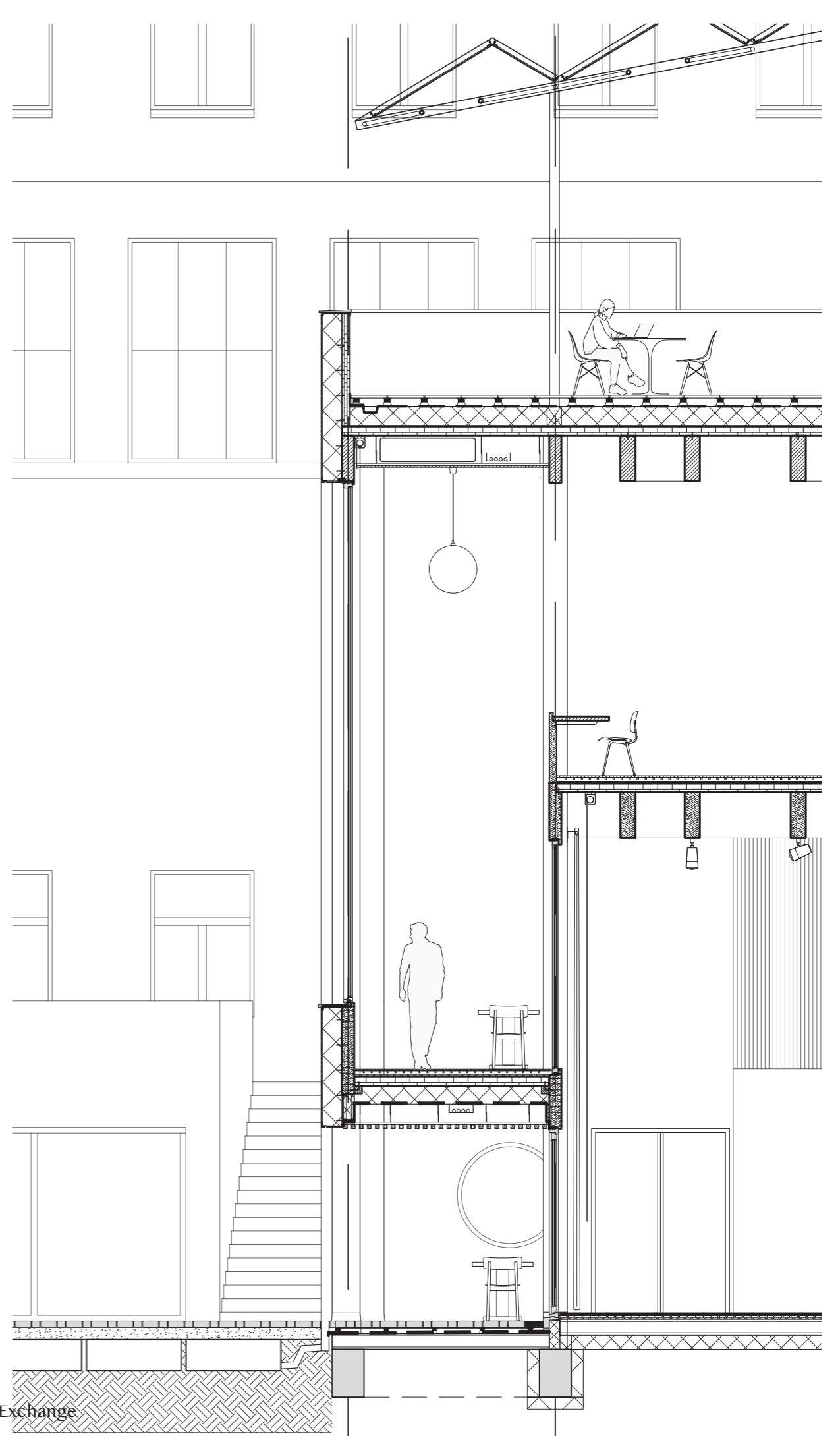
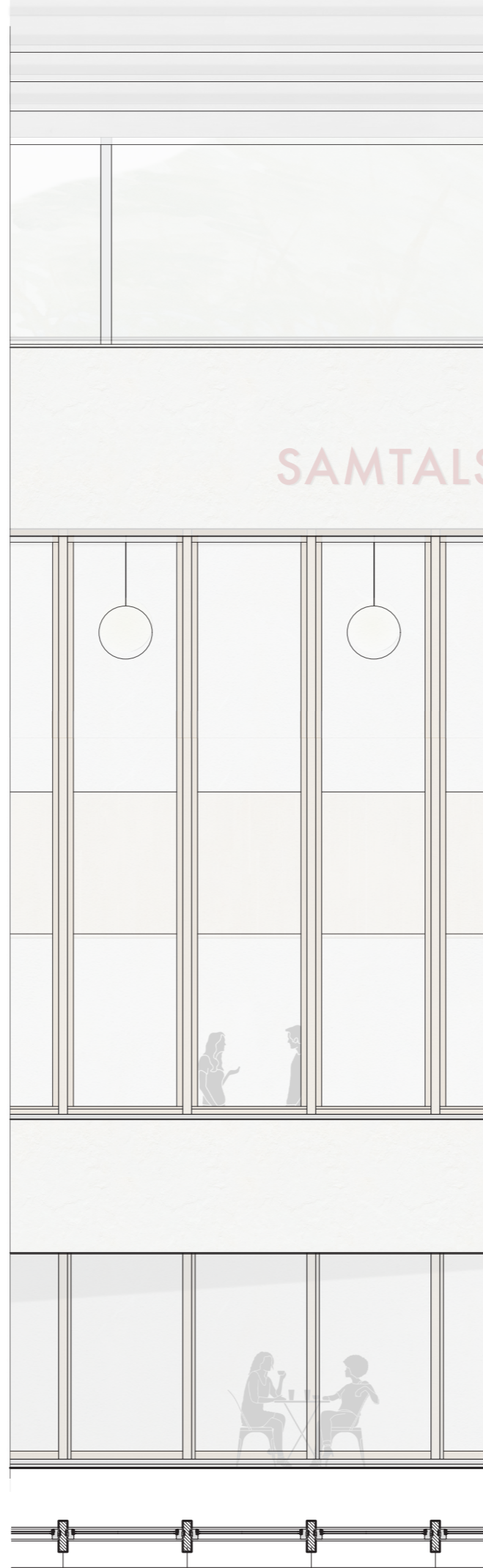
Plaster



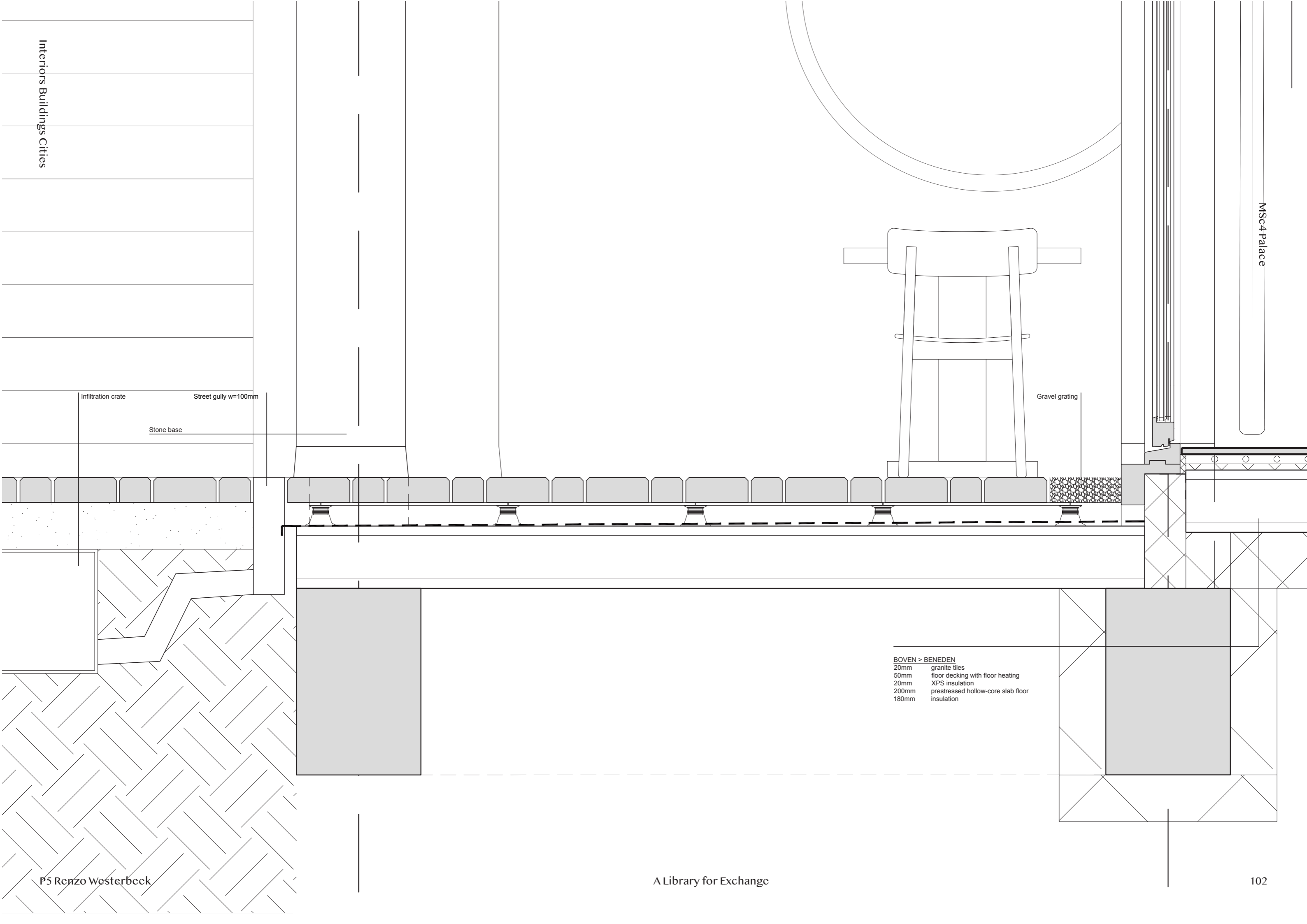
Scandinavian wood



Nature







Infiltration grate
Street gully w=100mm
Stone base

Gravel grating

BOVEN > BENEDEN
20mm granite tiles
50mm floor decking with floor heating
20mm XPS insulation
200mm prestressed hollow-core slab floor
180mm insulation

Timber load bearing column 600x200mm

Wooden window frame

Stone bottom lintel

OUT > IN
 5mm plaster finishing
 7mm plaster base
 240mm XPS insulation (Sto)
 154mm gluelam beam

Timber column 300x100mm

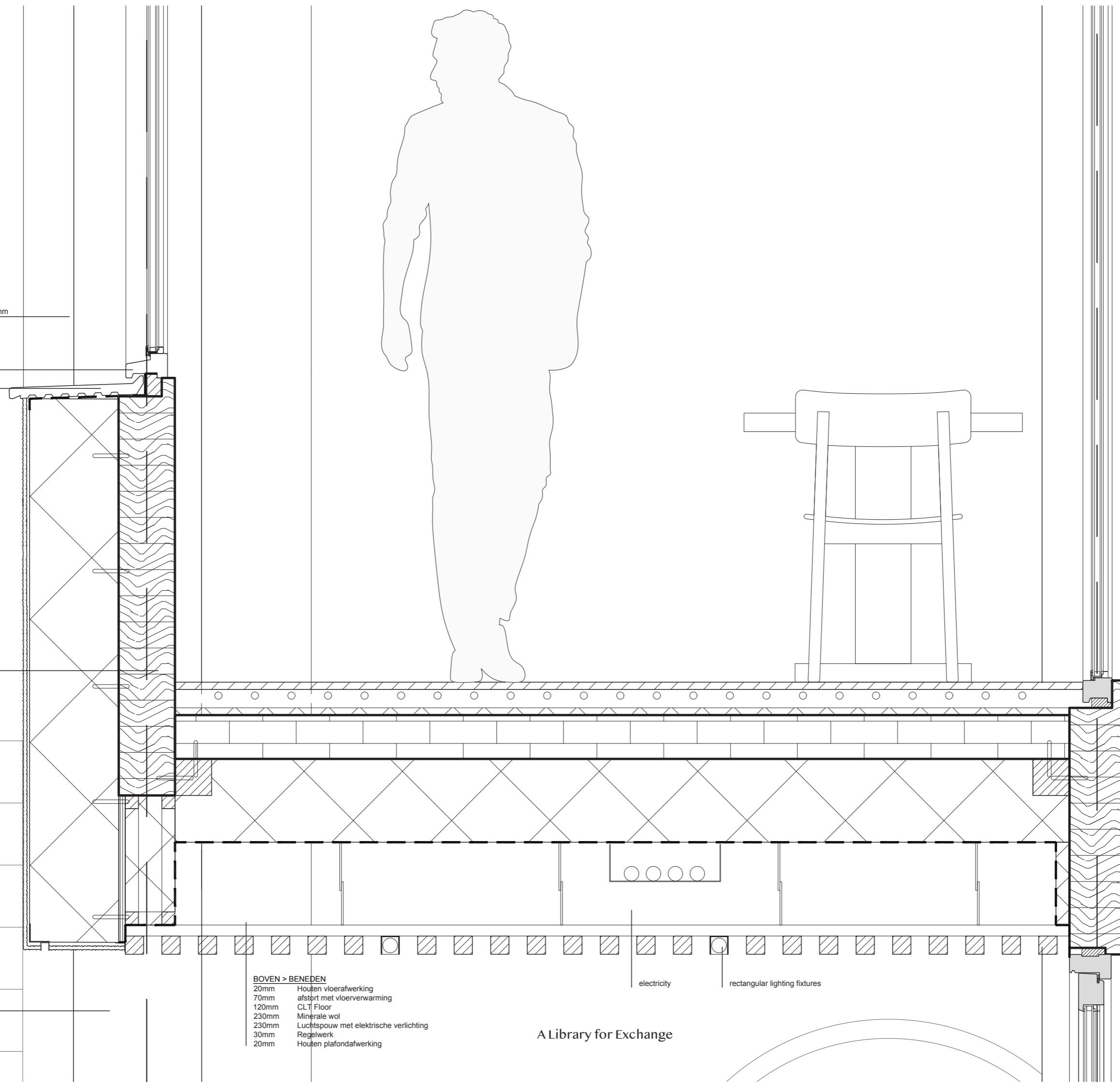
P5 Renzo Westerbeek

BOVEN > BENEDEN
 20mm Houten vloerafwerking
 70mm afstort met vloerverwarming
 120mm CLT Floor
 230mm Minerale wol
 230mm Luchtsponw met elektrische verlichting
 30mm Regelwerk
 20mm Houten plafondafwerking

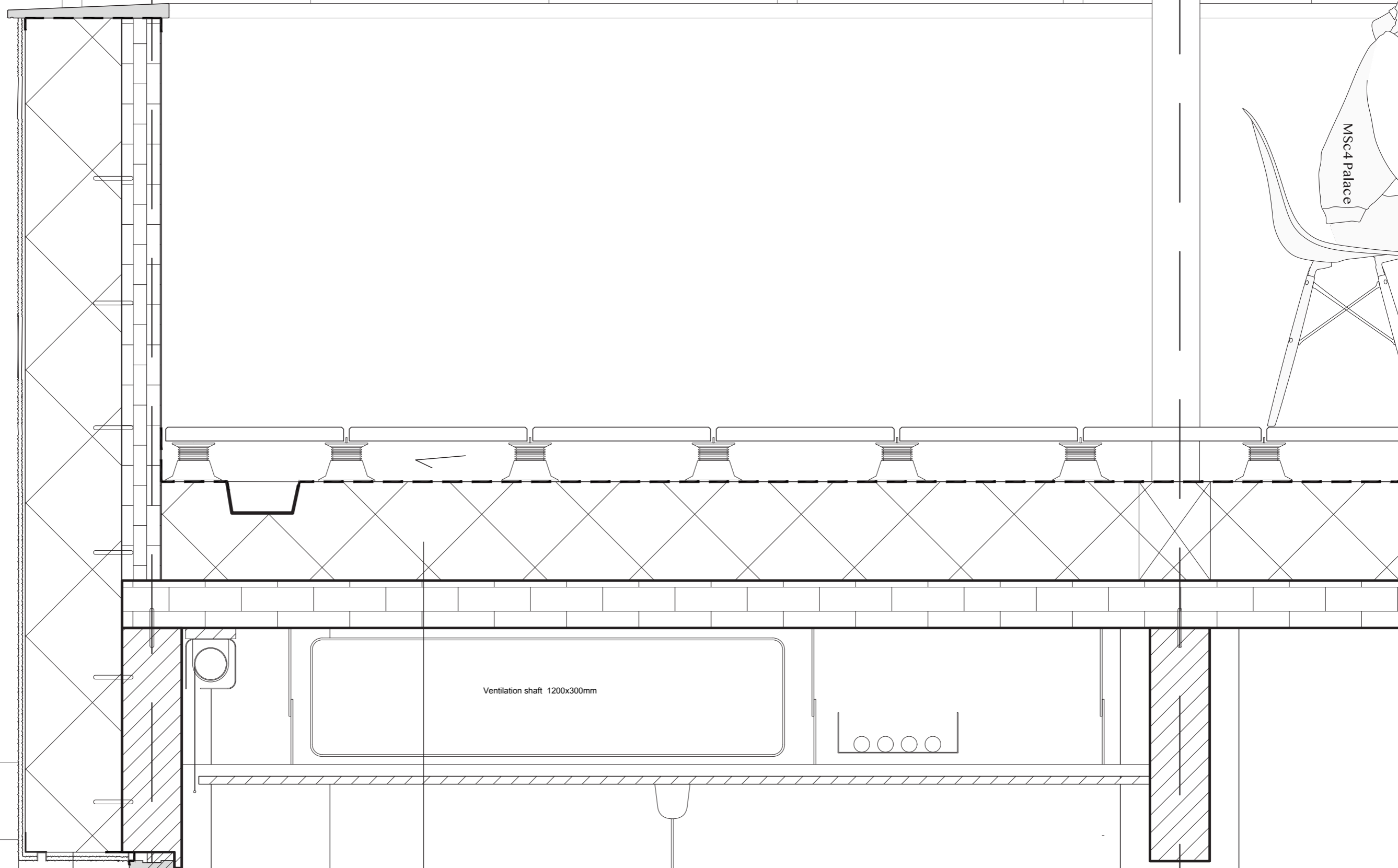
electricity

rectangular lighting fixtures

A Library for Exchange



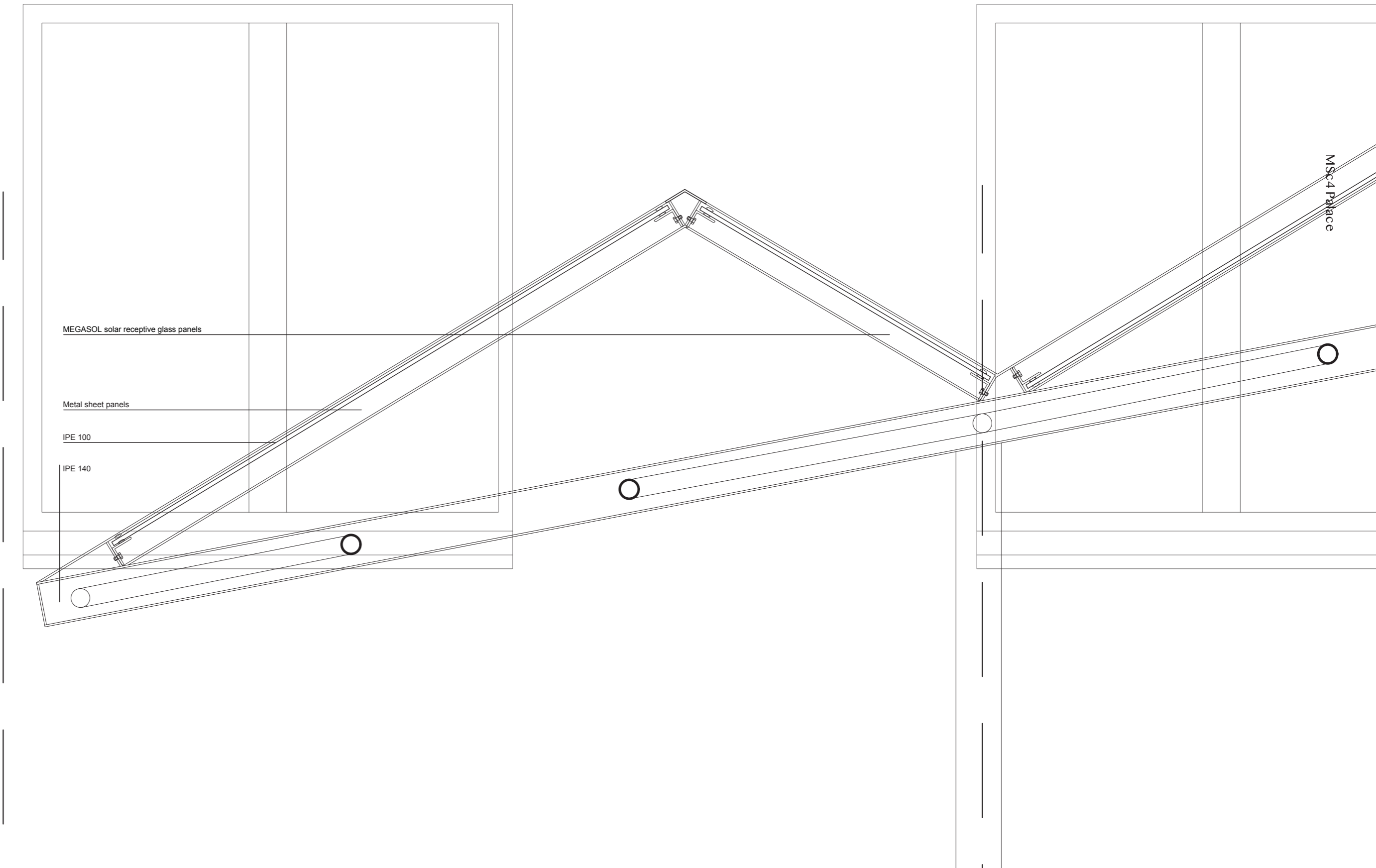




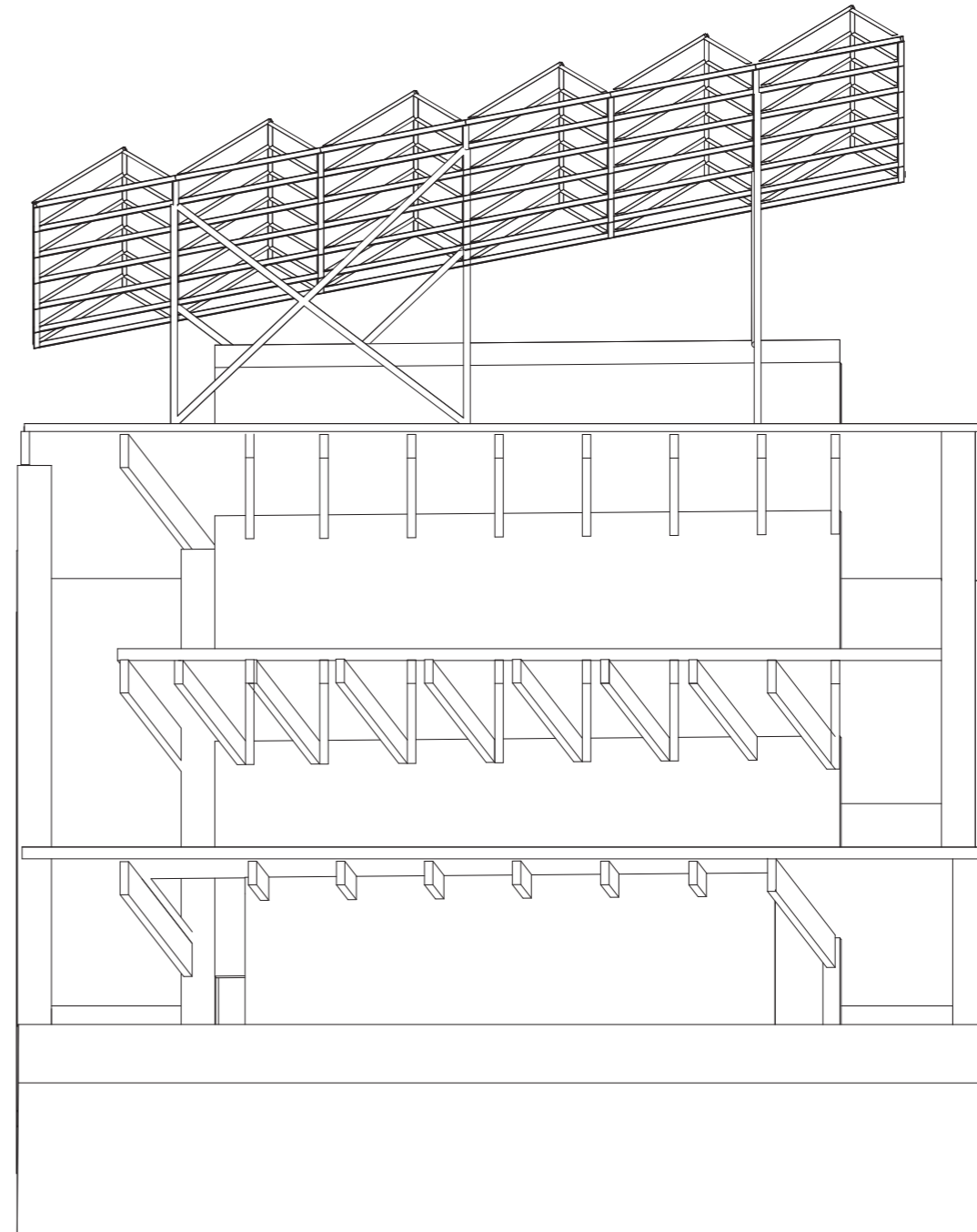
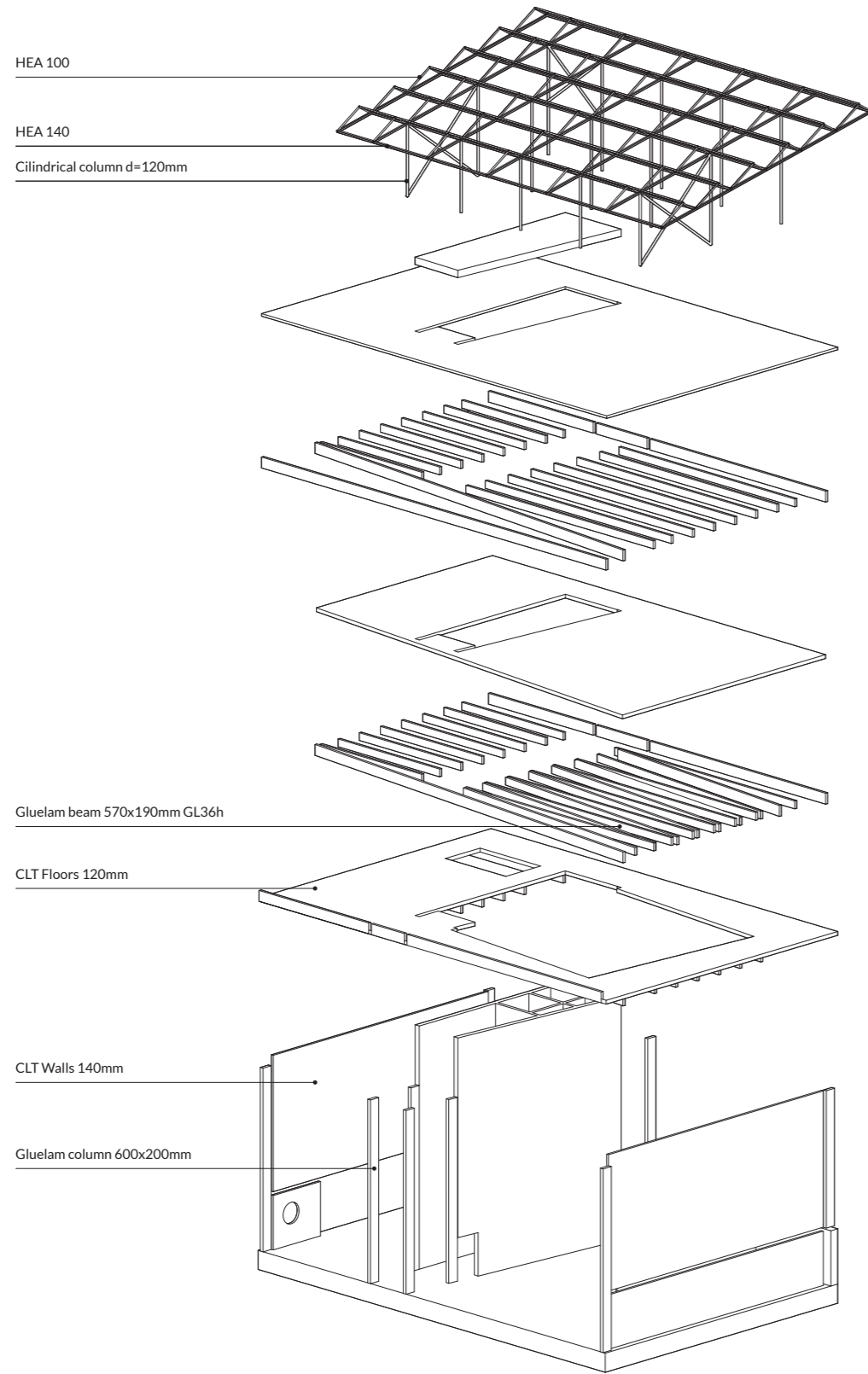
TOP > DOWN
20mm granite tiles
tile carriers
250mm XPS insulation, 2% slope
120mm CLT floor elements

Ventilation shaft 1200x300mm

MSc4 Palace



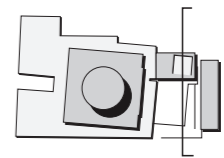
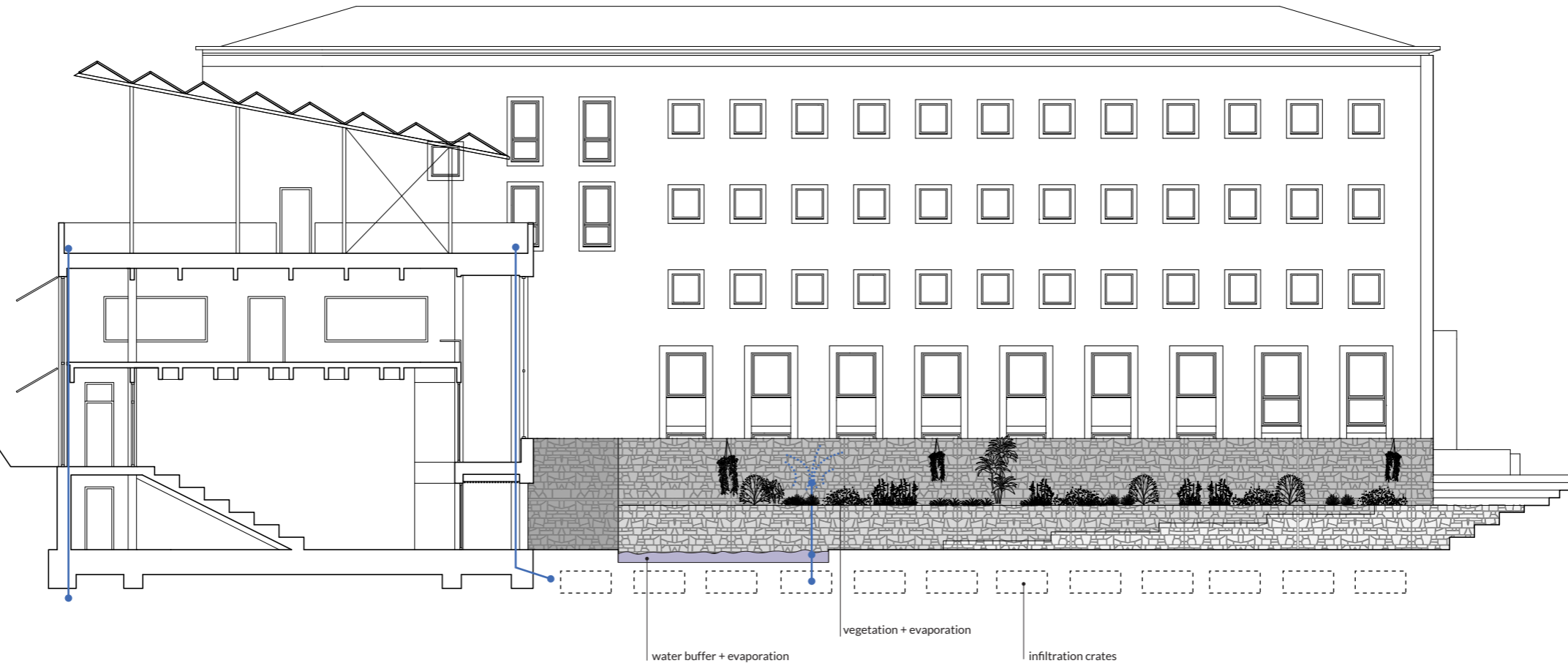
Construction



Room for Explanation

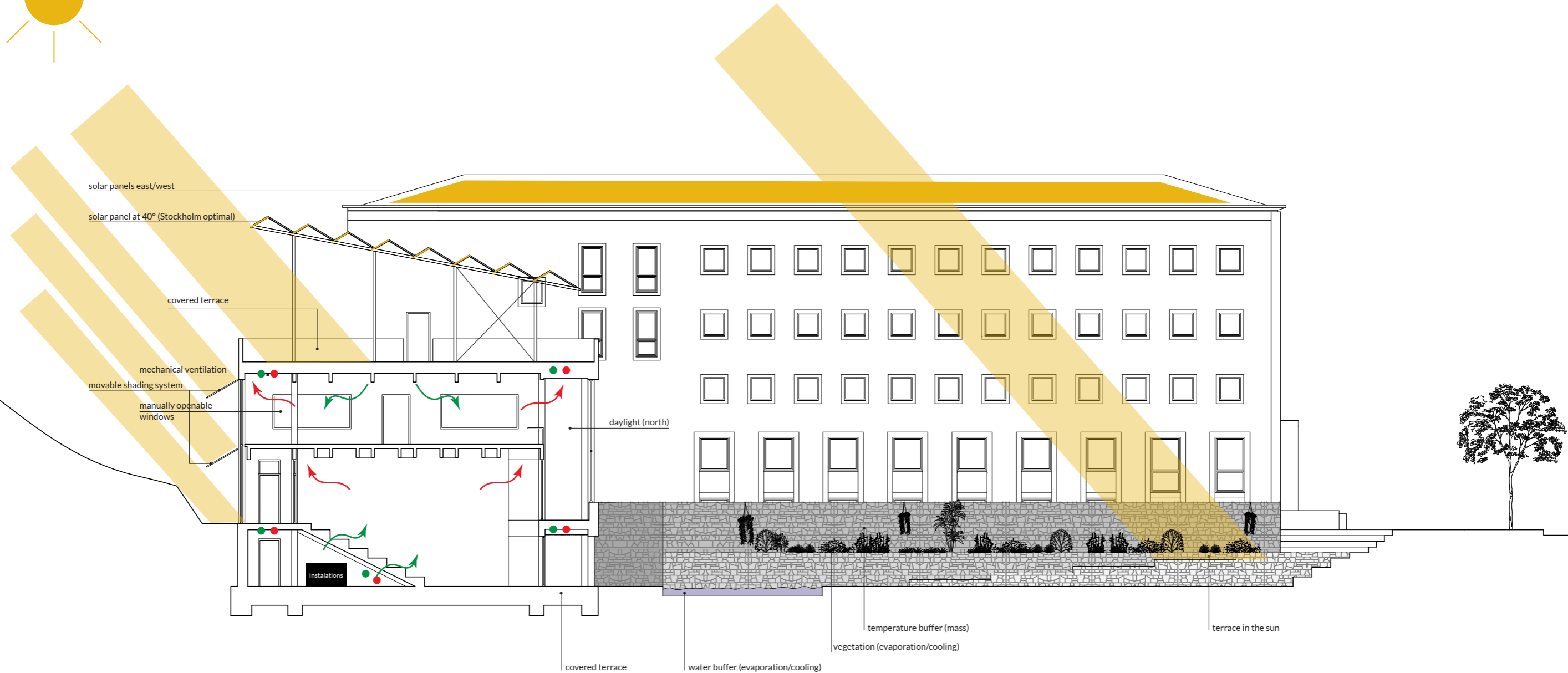
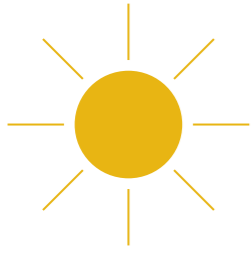


Climate, water

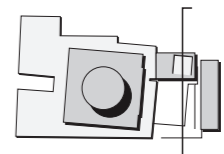
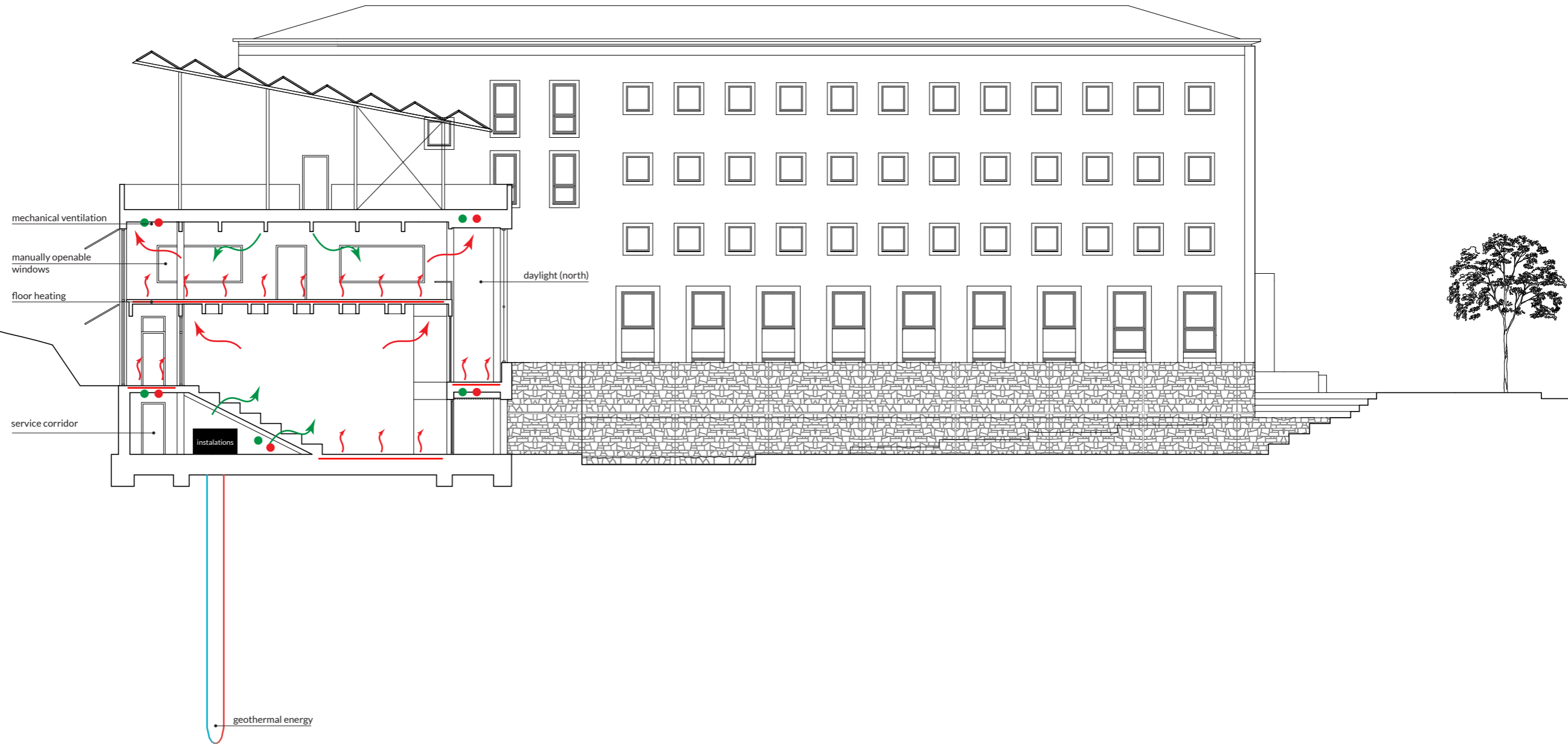




Climate, summer



Climate winter

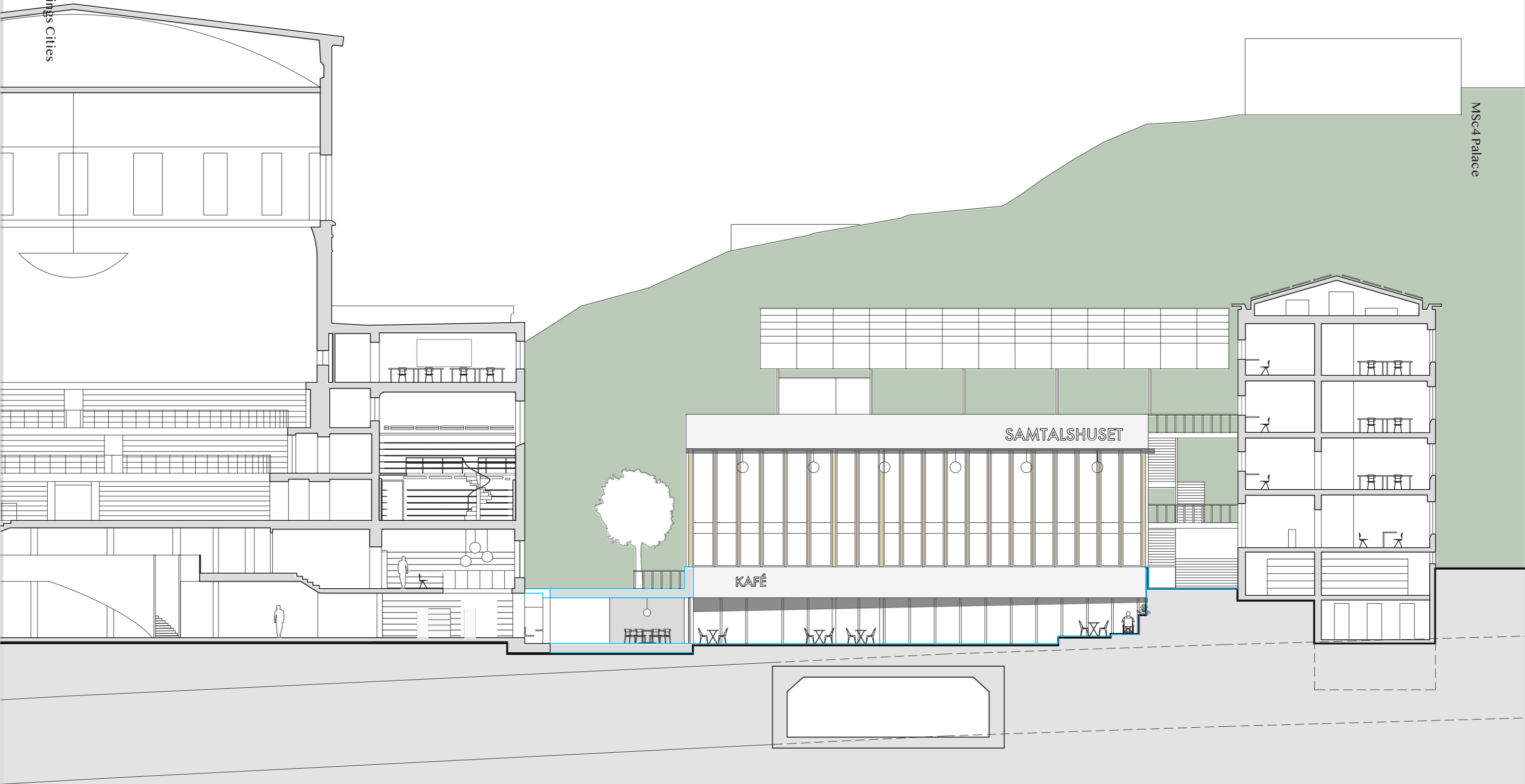


Conclusion





Current situation in June 2024. Photo by Leontine de Wit.

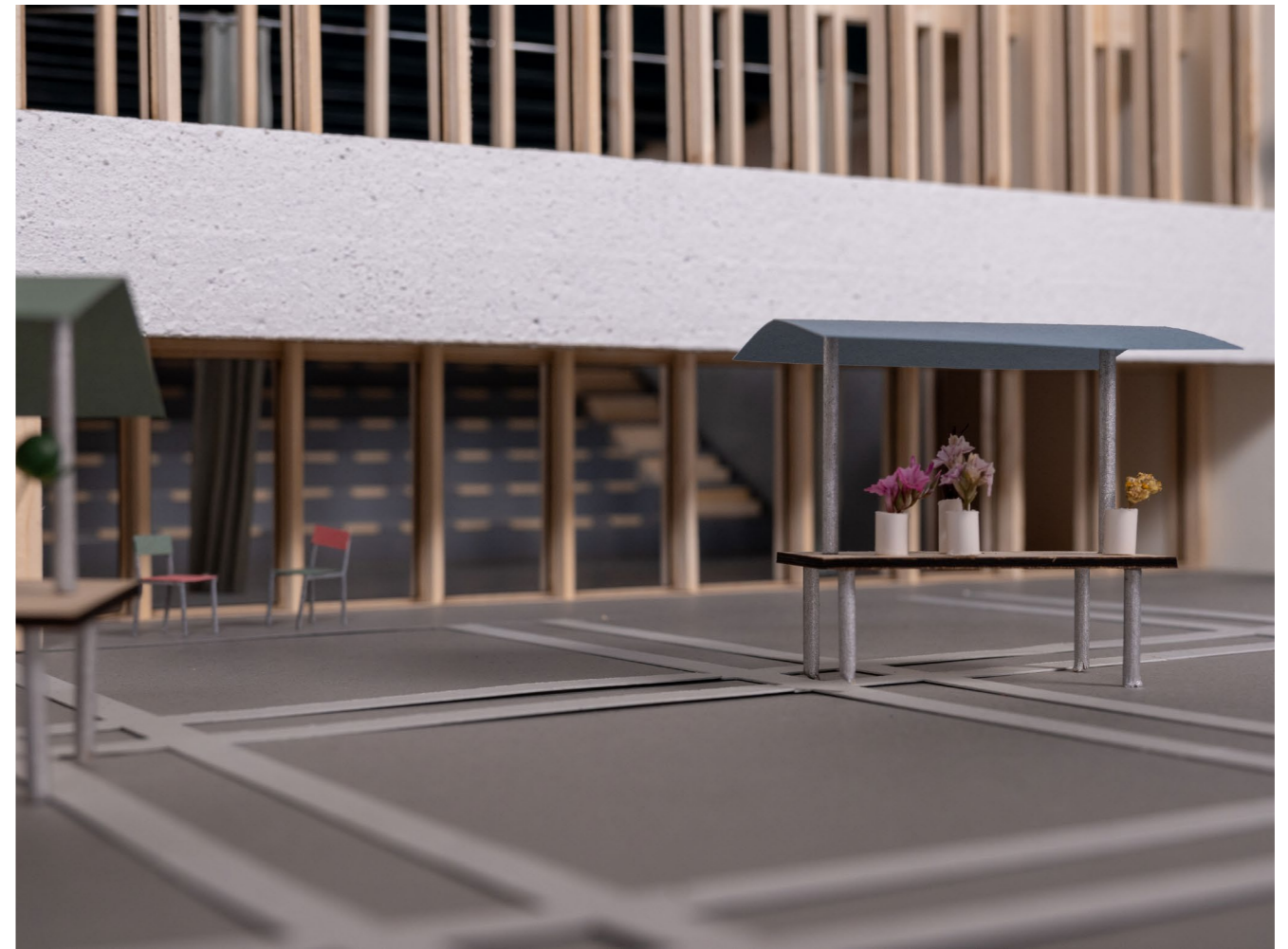






View on Spelbomskan towards the Asplundhuset.

Flower market



Film screening





A Library for Exchange

Interiors Buildings Cities
MSc3|4 Palace 2023/24

Andrea Beznitchi
 Carlotta Luciano
 Conor O'Kelly
 Dominika Kubicka
 Eirini Sideri
 Francesca Tritapepe
 Haoyu Wang
 James Flaus
 Jan Yke van den Bogert
 Janis Kivlinieks
 Joanna Pilecka
 Julia Pałęga
 Julia van der Ploeg
 Kamil Urban
 Kelly Gumbs
 Lenore Liu
 Liuying Chen
 Marianna Lappa
 Marijke de Groot
 Mikołaj Waszkiewicz
 Natalia Simonarson
 Olga Strzałkowska
 Pelle Kuipers
 Pien van der Linde
 Renzo Westerbeek
 Ries Schouten
 Simon Muntz
 Snighda Ray
 Sora Kaito
 Tijana Čulum
 Zhengxin Fang

ir. E. Karanastasi
 ir. S. S. Mandias,
 ir. S. Pietsch,
 M. Pimlott,
 Prof. D. J. Rosbottom,
 S. De Vocht,
 Dr. ir. J. S. Zeinstra



tack så mycket.

Appendix

Programme Overview



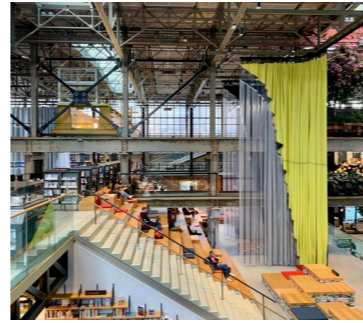
City Library, Stockholm



British Library, London



Predikheren Library, Mechelen



LocHal, Tilburg



National Library, Stockholm



Centrale OBA, Amsterdam

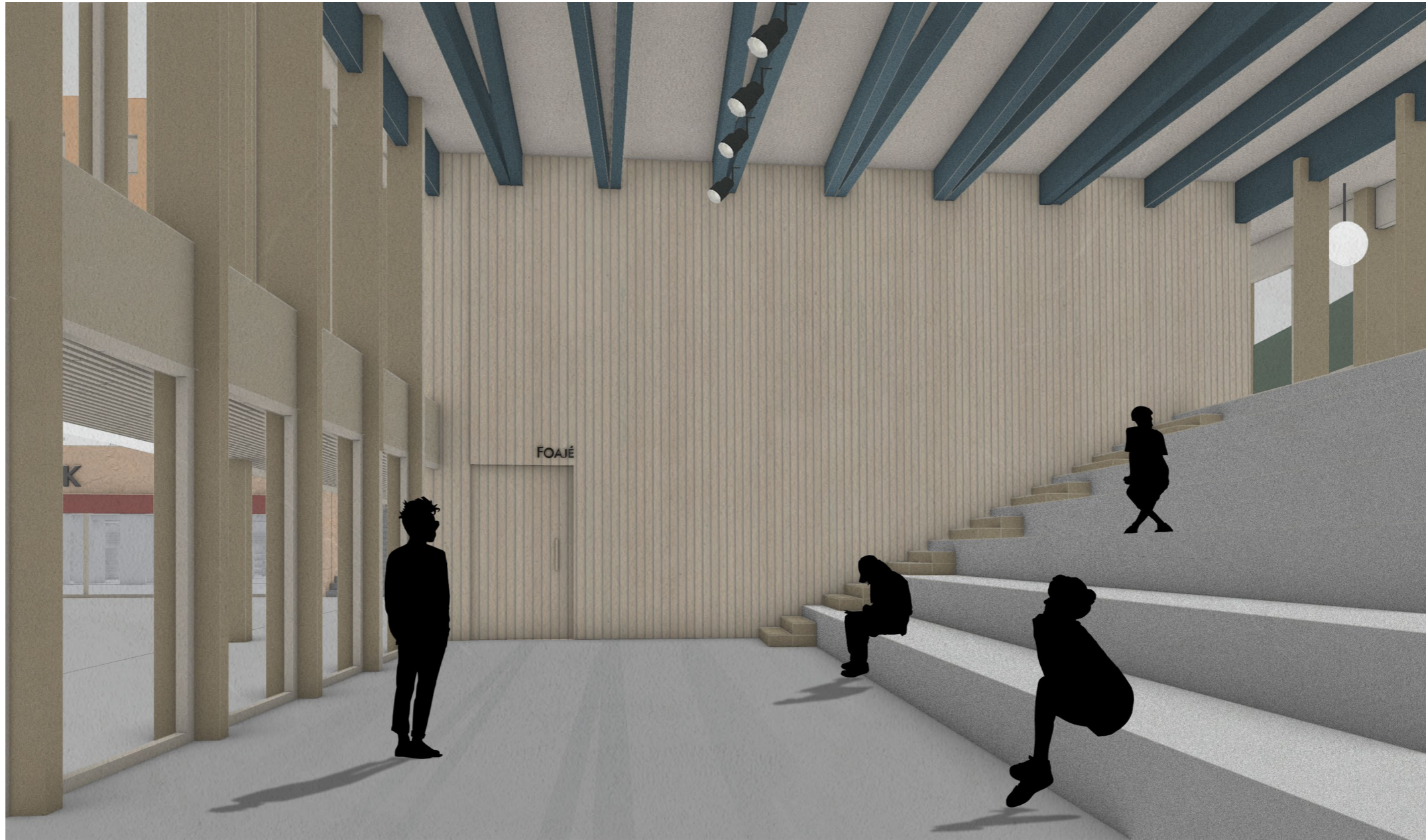


DePetrus, Vught

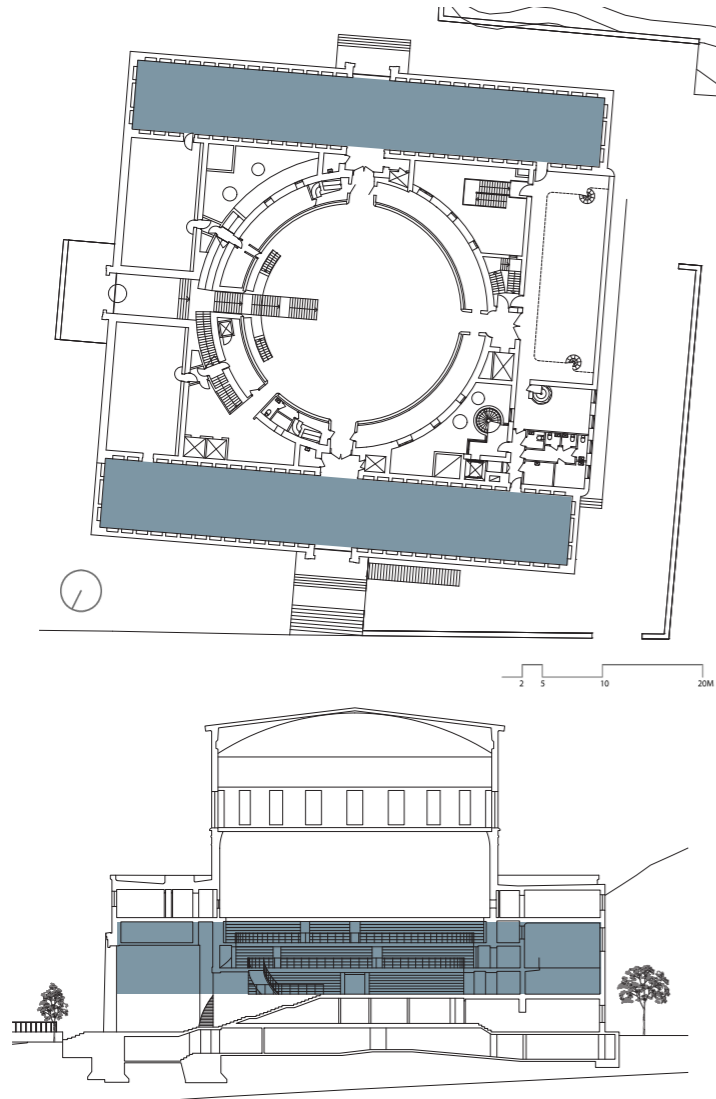
	book lending	study spaces	lecture halls	children's library	external tennant	event space	exhibition space	cafe/restaurant	distribution facility	national collection of books	education/workshop space	municipal assistance desk	shop	museum
City Library, Stockholm	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
British Library, London	●	●							●					
Predikheren Library, Mechelen	●	●		●		●		●	●					
LocHal, Tilburg	●	●	●		●	●	●	●		●	●			
National Library, Stockholm	●	●						●	●					
OBA, Amsterdam	●	●		●	●			●	●	●	●			
DePetrus, Vught	●	●						●		●	●	●	●	●

● Proposed in 2006/2014 competition brief

Comparing the functions of Modern Libraries.



Perimeter halls

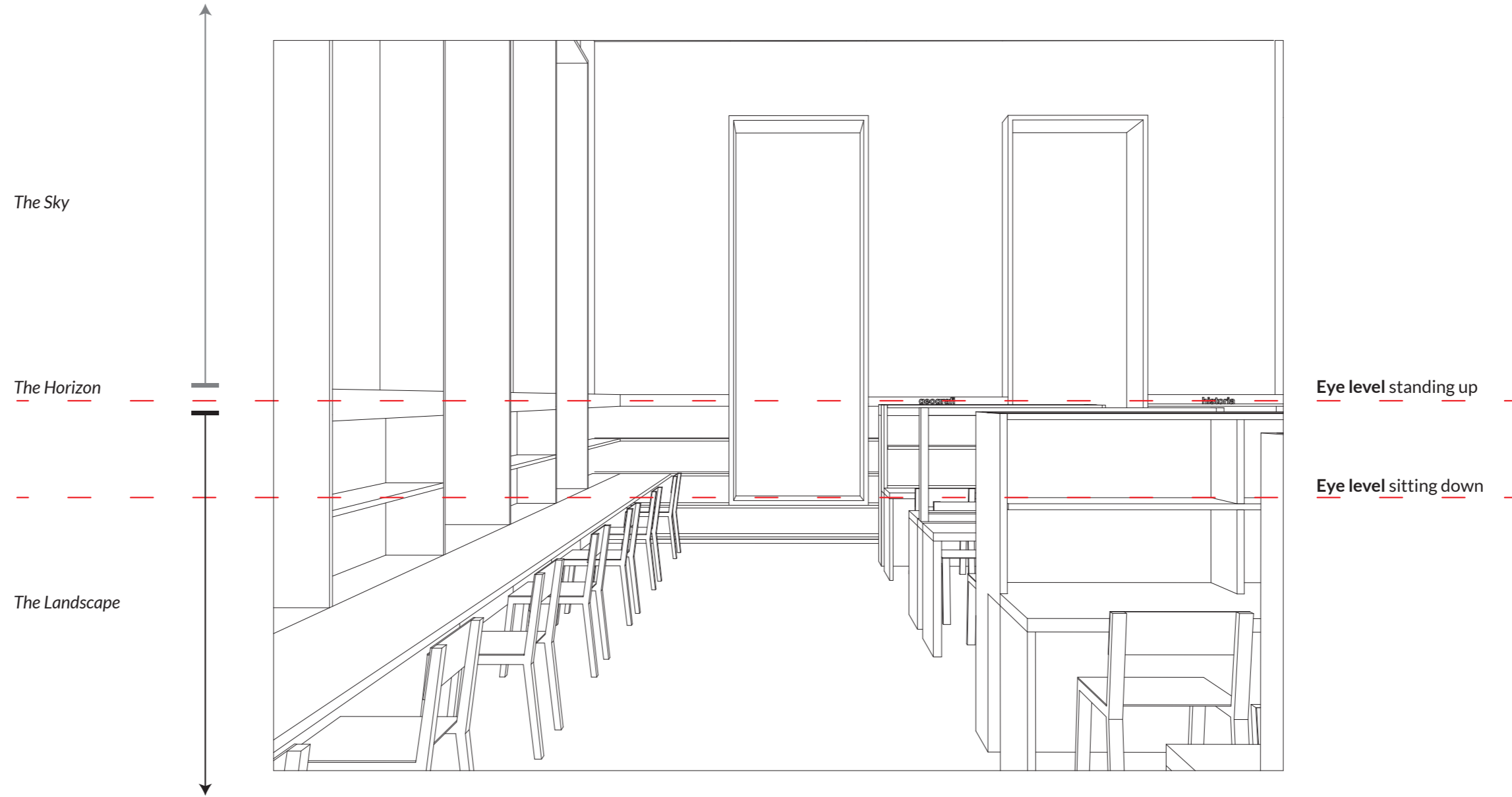


model photograph

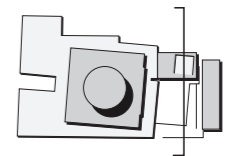
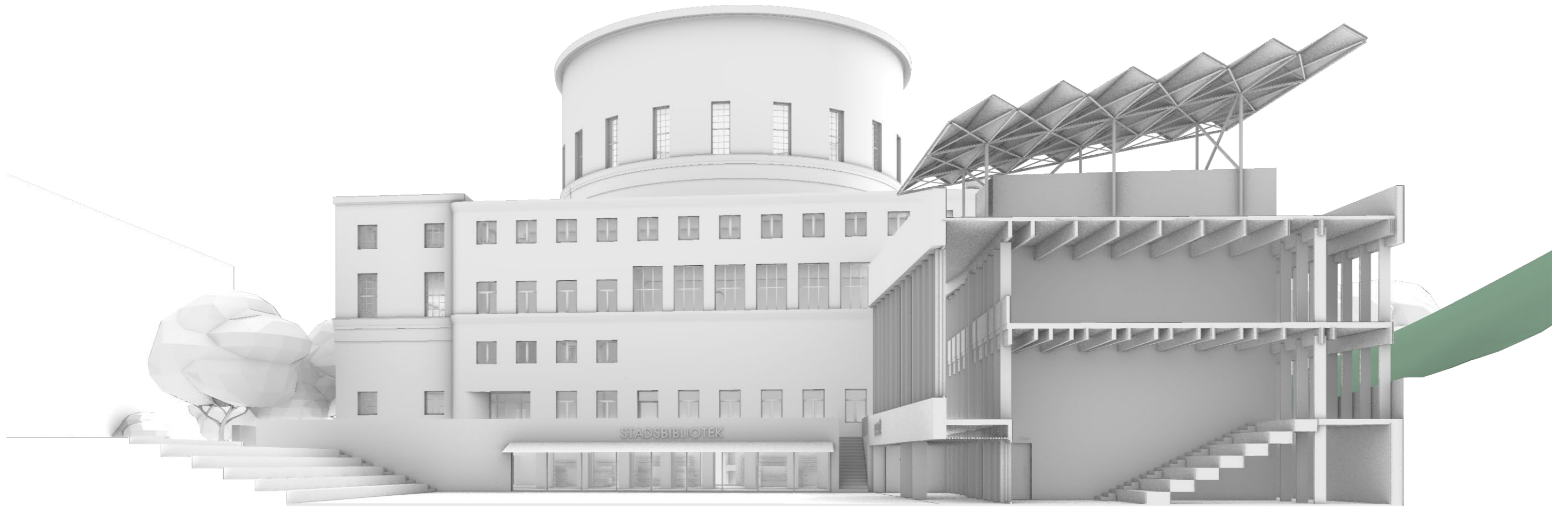


2023 photograph.

Inhabited plinth



Short perspective section



Section AA new situation

MSc4 Palace

