

HuSoCap

GRADUATION REPORT



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Introduction

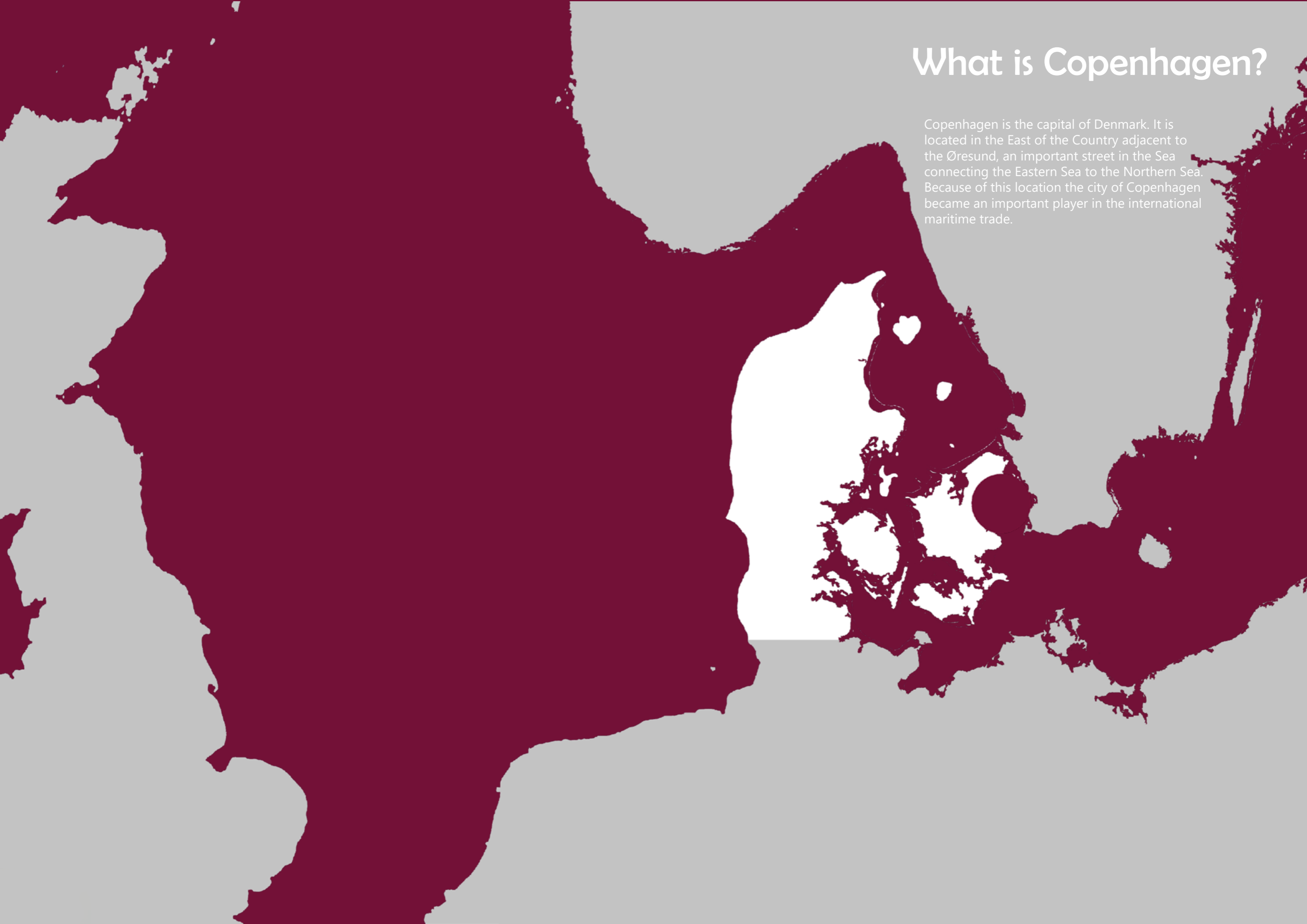
This graduation report researches what a public condenser can contribute in the neighbourhood Vesterbro in Copenhagen. Research is done in what subjects a public building can play a role. What positive impulses can it provide in this neighbourhood. In short: Why is a public building needed in Vesterbro? How can it contribute to the subjects discovered? What does a public building look like if it wants to fulfill the role it has to have in this neighbourhood?

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What is Copenhagen?

Copenhagen is the capital of Denmark. It is located in the East of the Country adjacent to the Øresund, an important street in the Sea connecting the Eastern Sea to the Northern Sea. Because of this location the city of Copenhagen became an important player in the international maritime trade.



Danish society

Danish society is one of the most egalitarian societies in the world. This starts with the main Danish values which it is based on. These Danish values come down to four main principles. These principles are:

- Equal rights

Denmark has a high rate of gender equality. It ranks second in the UN development report in the gender inequality index. Parental rights enable women to unite family and work. The income inequality is lower than the OECD average with a Gini coefficient of 0.249 (OECD average 0.315) (Causa, 2016)

About 72% of Danish women have paid jobs. This percentage is far above the OECD average of 59%. (Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark, n.d.)



Image 1: equality on the streets in Copenhagen

Image 2: equality on the workflow in Copenhagen



- Equal opportunities

The Danish health system is tax-funded and healthcare is free for everybody. Danish schools and universities are also funded by taxes and free for students. The idea is that everyone must contribute to the community and in return, the community will help take care of everybody. (Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark, n.d.)

- A safe and family friendly society

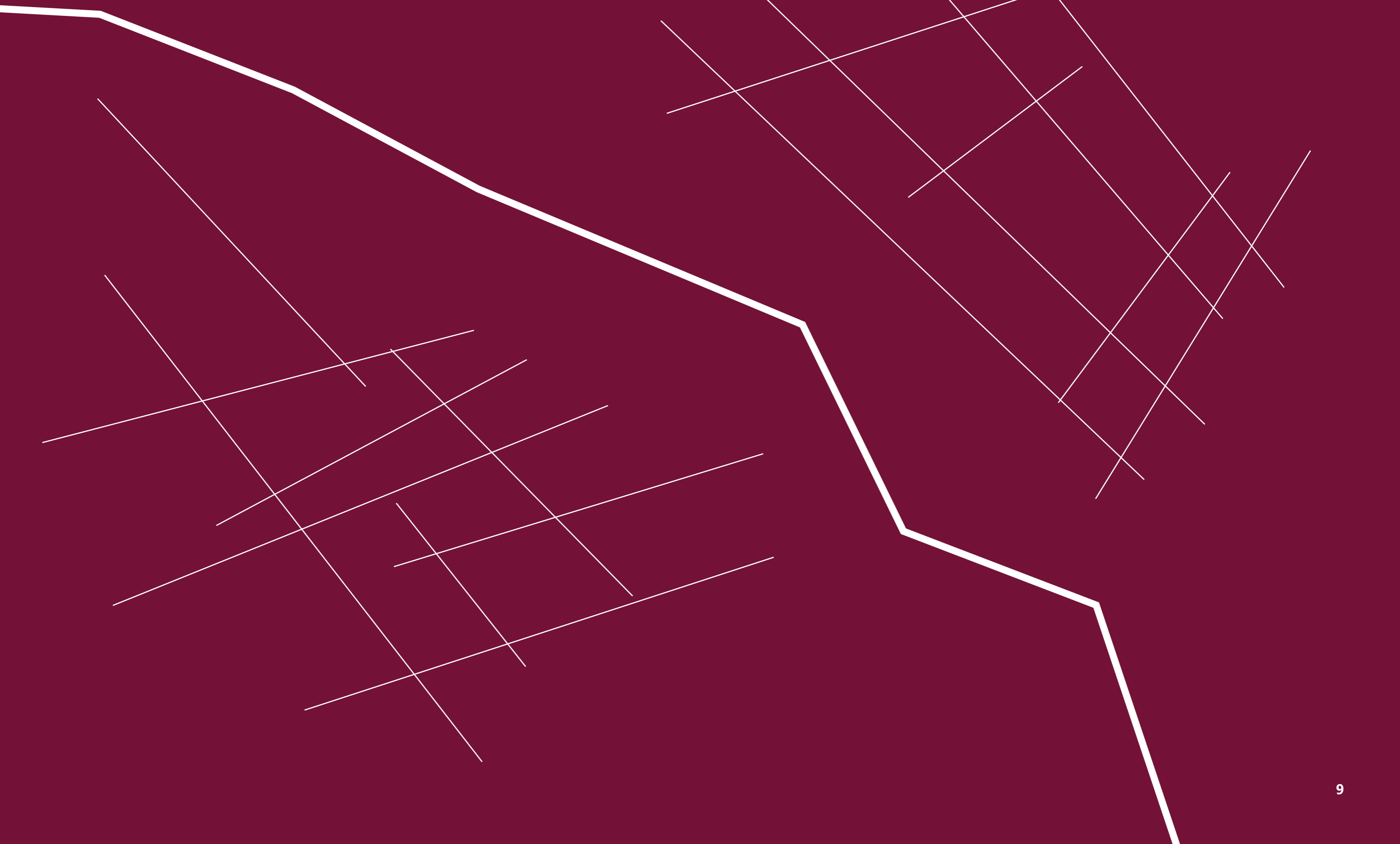
In Denmark, 84% of people say that they feel safe walking alone at night, much more than the OECD average of 68%. (OECD, n.d.)

- Freedom for the individual

Respect, tolerance and a strong sense of mutual trust form the values that allow a wide freedom of the individual. Freedom of speech and the freedom of press is guaranteed. The law prohibits any sort of discrimination on gender, race, religious belief or sexual orientation.

Danish society is thus a very egalitarian society. Meaning everybody has the same rights in Denmark.

Developments in Copenhagen



Ghetto legislation

In March 2018 the right-wing government of Denmark announced a plan to combat the social problems for certain neighbourhoods and the lives of their residents. This plan was named the "ghetto package". In first instance the plan targets 25 neighbourhoods around Denmark that authorities consider most vulnerable. This was based on unemployment rates, crime statistics and the percentage of immigrants in the area.

Certain measures are:

- Young children will be sent to government-run child-care centers from the age of 1, away from their parents.
- Residents from a ghetto convicted of a crime face a penalty twice as high as residents from other districts.
- Parents who allow their children to drop out of school will face cuts in child-care benefits, and in some cases prison sentences.
- Entire public housing developments are set to be razed under the justification that they are old and decrepit; others will be renovated.

(R. Rutten, 2018)



Image 3: Ghetto housing areas as of 2019 in greater Copenhagen. (Based on Wenande, C. (2018))

Municipal plan

In the Municipal plan Copenhagen of 2015 the municipality focusses on a couple of key aspects to develop in a certain way and set goals for 2027. One of these aspects is a coherent city in which social housing is discussed. The plan sets the following goals on this subject:

- 20% public housing in 2027 which corresponds to 750 new public housing dwellings per year.
- At least 70% of new public housing approved from 2015 - 2025 will be located in school districts with less than 20% public housing.
- 10% of the new public housing in urban development areas - 50 dwellings per year
- must have a maximum rent of DKK 3,200/month.
- 6.000 new youth housing dwellings by 2027, corresponding to 500 dwellings per year. (The city of Copenhagen, 2015)

The notion that 70% of new public housing approved should be in districts with less than 20% public housing is interesting for Vesterbro as 4/5 of the school districts in Vesterbro are in this category. Which means a rise in social housing in Vesterbro is expected. The plan also mentions that no additional public housing is to be built in areas with over 30% public housing. This means that an increase in public housing in Vesterbro is to be expected.

Vesterbro has seen a big impact of gentrification from the 1990s until 2015. However the Municipality acknowledges the importance of a diverse city and is trying to force more public housing into the districts with less than 20% public housing. This means that Vesterbro will also see an increase in public housing and thus reversing a bit of the gentrification since 1990.

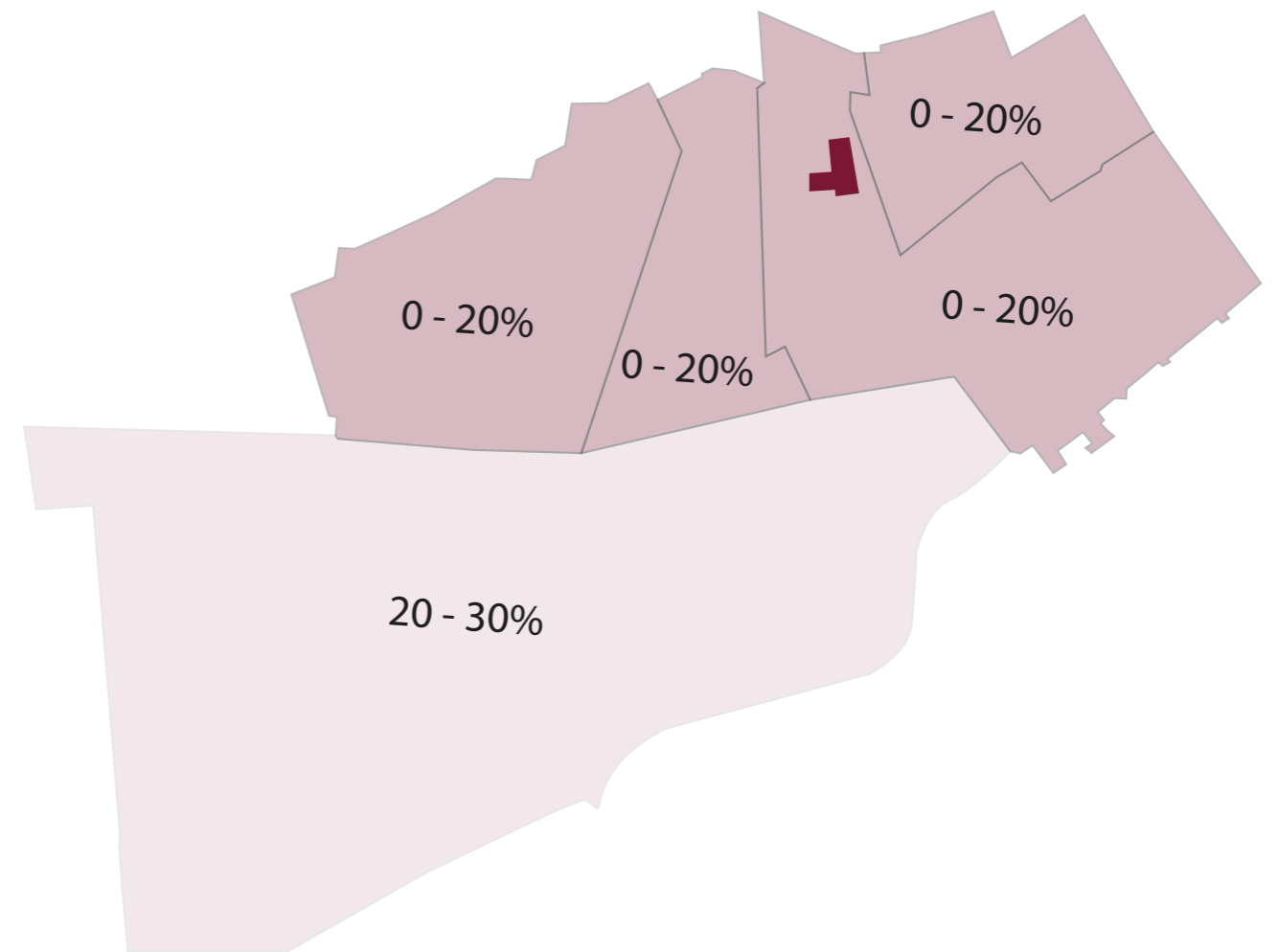


Image 4: School districts as of 2016 in Vesterbro and the percentage of social housing in 2015. (based on the municipal plan 2015 (The city of Copenhagen, 2015))

Integrating in Copenhagen

This ghetto legislation is a result of an increasing segregation in Copenhagen. What groups are being segregated from each other? Looking at the quotes on page 15 it comes to light that this segregation is mainly between Copenhagengers and people with an other ethnic background. It also shows that there is a lack of help for integration.

Finding employment in Copenhagen is not easy when you're not originally from Denmark. This is shown in numerous examples. Image 5 shows a woman from Thailand who has a PhD in molecular biology started a food truck after being refused several jobs in her workfield.

So this segregation is mainly between Copenhagengers and people new to Copenhagen. We will call these people new to Copenhagen new Copenhagengers.

About 30 percent of new immigrants lived in the nation's two largest cities, Aarhus and Copenhagen, where Muslim women in abayas and men in prayer caps stand out among the blond and blue-eyed crowds on narrow streets.

Mr. Mahmoud said his family had not encountered direct insults or threats, but was frightened by the anti-immigrant and anti-Muslim tenor in the public discourse.

"It's like foreigners are put in a special clan, separate from the Danish people," he lamented. Still, Mr. Mahmoud said that "some of the Danish people are angels" and that he was relieved to be far from the violence of Iraq. "I'm in my heaven now."

Ozlem Cekic, a Turkish-born Muslim, served in Parliament from 2007 to 2015. She is inundated with accusations that Muslims are milking the welfare system and plotting against Danes, she said. Credit...Ilvy Njiokiktjien for The New York Times

"Danes are so concerned about losing their culture," said Ms. Andersen, 62, a retired teacher. "But how many help the ones who want to be part of it?"

David Zucchino (2016)



Image 5: CPH Post article about integration in Danish society (Mukerji, 2017)

Diversity Vesterbro

Interviews conducted show that there is a lack of diversity in Vesterbro. This is not just shown in the numbers but the inhabitants themselves also notice the lack of diversity. See image 6. Now to make integration a success the will has to be there from both sides. Looking at the quotes from the interviews the people are willing to welcome new faces to the neighbourhood.

“People have friends that look like them, eat like them. **They are like Facebook algorithms.**”
(Woman living in Vesterbro for 40 years, 2019)

The only remarks on Vesterbro could be that it is getting **too correct** now.
(Friends visiting Skydebanehaven with their kids, 2019)

VESTERBRO

“The area changed a lot, it gets **less diverse.**”
(Teacher at Vesterbro Ungdomsgård, 2019)

“It is easy to forget that **not everyone** is so **privileged** as we are here.”
(Mother living in Vesterbro for 20 years, 2019)

Image 6: Quotes from conducted interviews in Vesterbro (Eric Bezemer, Rebwar Obeid, Robert Kupzik)

CONCLUSION

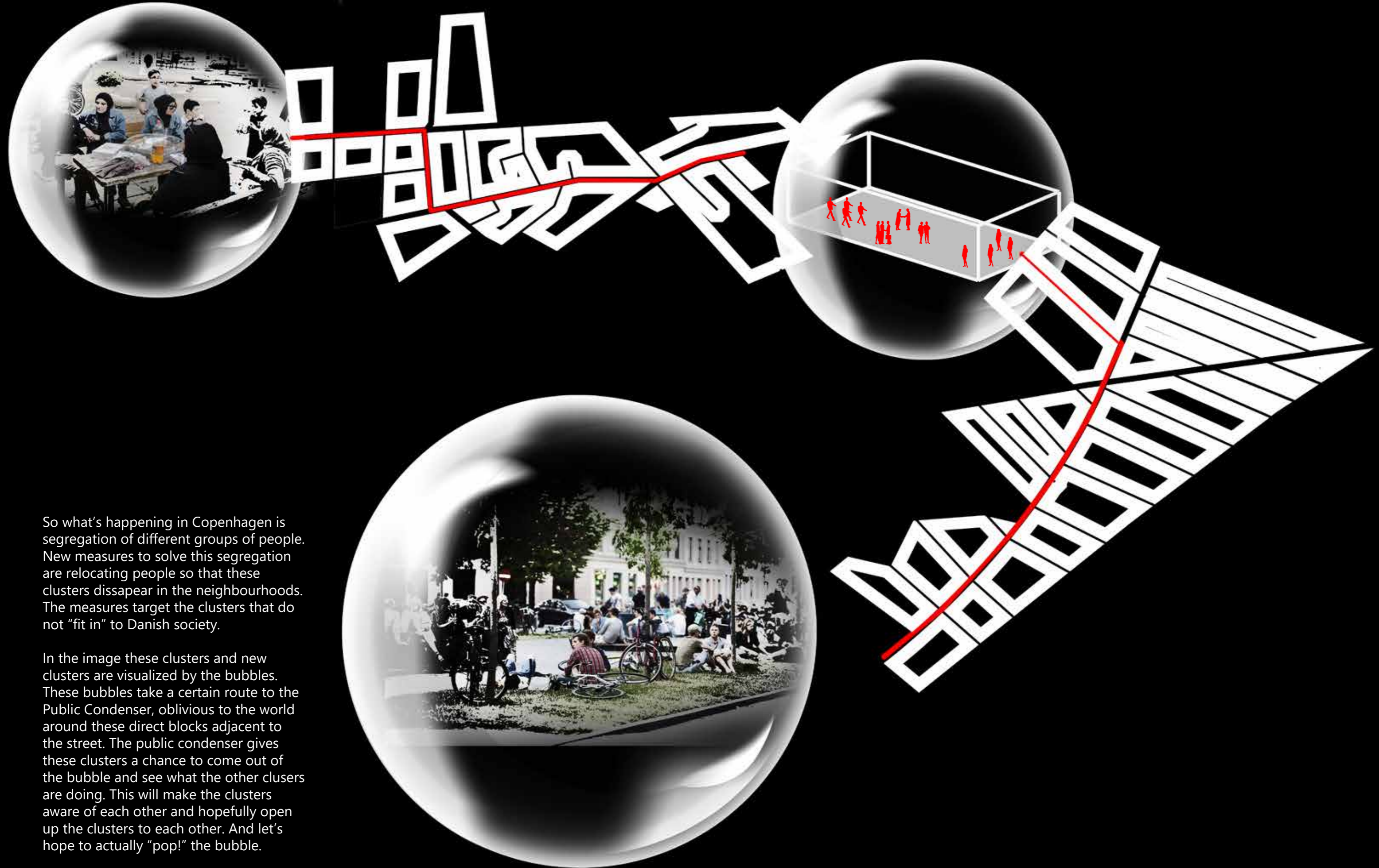
The ghetto legislation is in great contrast with the Danish values upon which the Danish society is built. Because of this people are being treated differently than other people. The goal of the legislation is to eventually get rid of these ghettos.

The notion that 70% of new public housing approved should be in districts with less than 20% public housing is interesting for Vesterbro as 4/5 of the school districts in Vesterbro are in this category. Which means a rise in social housing in Vesterbro is expected. The plan also mentions that no additional public housing is to be built in areas with over 30% public housing. This means that an increase in public housing in Vesterbro is to be expected.

Integrating in Danish society is quite difficult for people new to Copenhagen. They have to do it by themselves. Even when New Copenhagensers have a good education and work experience they are unable to get a job in their workfield. It shows a strong segregation between Copenhagensers and New Copenhagensers.

In Vesterbro people also notice a lack of diversity. So this segregation is not just socially but also physically. In Vesterbro there is an absence of New Copenhagensers.

MANIFESTO



So what's happening in Copenhagen is segregation of different groups of people. New measures to solve this segregation are relocating people so that these clusters disappear in the neighbourhoods. The measures target the clusters that do not "fit in" to Danish society.

In the image these clusters and new clusters are visualized by the bubbles. These bubbles take a certain route to the Public Condenser, oblivious to the world around these direct blocks adjacent to the street. The public condenser gives these clusters a chance to come out of the bubble and see what the other clusters are doing. This will make the clusters aware of each other and hopefully open up the clusters to each other. And let's hope to actually "pop!" the bubble.

Conclusion

Danish society is one of the most egalitarian societies in the world. It's based on four main points being: freedom for the individual; a safe and family friendly environment; equal opportunities; equal rights.

The Danish values upon which Denmark was built are being threatened by the recent ghetto legislation. This ghetto legislation is a result of increasing segregation until the situation was out of control and the government decided to mark certain housing districts as ghettos. People inhabiting these "ghettos" are treated in a different way, even in the eyes of the law.

The goal of this ghetto legislation is to eventually get them off the ghetto list. This is done by forcing people to move out of these ghettos, in first instance by labelling a housing district ghetto. People would want to move out of this place, this place being a ghetto they live in. Another measure in the ghetto legislation is ultimately demolishing these ghetto housing blocks. Thus literally eliminating the problem.

In the municipal plan the government formulated the goal to become a more coherent and diverse city. They try to achieve this by creating a mixed group of people all over the city. This is done by rebuilding social housing in districts that lack social housing at this point in time.

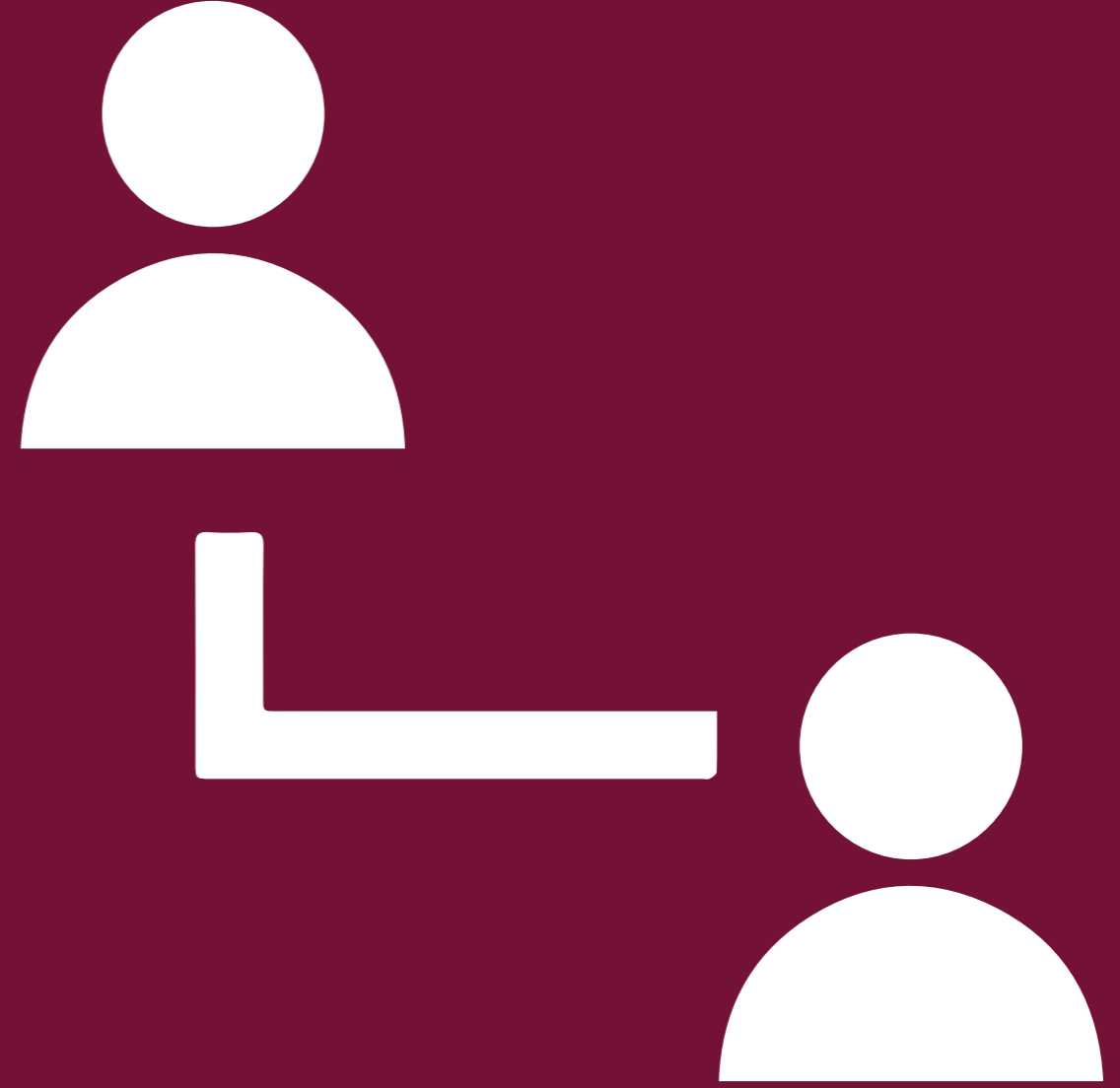
RAISED QUESTIONS

The questions raised from this research are a number of things. Some are more superficial as to what can a public condenser contribute in fighting this problem. But if you really want to contribute you should know what causes this segregation in the first place. Why are these New Copenhageners not integrating the way Danish society wants them to? And from the other side: Why can the New Copenhageners not integrate when they actually are really trying to? To answer these questions additional research needs to be conducted in to what are ingredients to fit in to a society and have a "successful" life? So the main question is: How can a public building help Vesterbro be a more coherent neighbourhood?

CONTRIBUTION



HUMAN
SOCIAL
CAPITAL



How

The research provided a why a public condenser is needed in Skydebanehaven. It can contribute in preventing an increase in segregation in Copenhagen and in the neighbourhood of Vesterbro. But how can a public building contribute in this subject? To see what it can contribute research has been done in segregation and how this happens.

Most of the time segregation in a diverse society is the result of poor integration. Research showed that in Copenhagen integrating into the Danish society is quite difficult for non Danes. Finding a job is particularly difficult for people new to Copenhagen (CPH Post, 2017).

Integration

Robert Putnam

Robert Putnam is an political scientist from the United States. He introduced a new form of capital named social capital. This a new form of capital alongside physical capital and human capital. According to Putnam these three types of Capital determine if a person is leading a happy life and is thus integrated into a society. As architects we cannot give people physical capital. However with design human capital and social capital can be improved.

Human Capital

Human Capital is the Capital that people obtain by learning, working out and relaxing. It clears the mind and gives meaning to peoples lives. By learning one feels more valuable. By working out one feels healthier. By relaxing one feels well rested and it frees up their mind.

Social Capital

Like tools (physical capital) and training (human capital), social networks have value. This is what Robert Putnam calls social capital. Evidence suggests that where levels of social capital are higher, children grow up healthier, safer and better educated, people live longer, happier lives, and the democracy and the economy work better.

(Putnam, 2007)

Human Capital

In Vesterbro we have roughly two target groups which have been described in the previous chapter. The first target group being the biggest target group in Vesterbro and these are the Copenhageners. The other target group being the relatively new group to Vesterbro, these are the New Copenhageners. Both of these target groups have different priorities when it comes to human capital.

New Copenhageners

This group lacks the human capital in terms of language and skills to find themselves employment in their new environment. Therefore they are learning these skills as a means to eventually integrate into Danish society. There are already places where this can be achieved for these people. The three subjects these people are looking for are: Learning, finding employment and integrating.

Ishtar



Provides a place where new Copenhageners can show their own culture to Copenhageners. It is a small enterprise in Copenhagen N providing a place where people from around the neighbourhood cook for people in the neighbourhood. It provides cooking classes and it has a restaurant. So this enterprise learns and connects these two groups of people.

Trampoline house



Trampoline house is an enterprise that gives courses and classes to New Copenhageners. These classes involve language classes and workshops for low skilled work such as a barber workshop, or plumber workshop. This way New Copenhageners get a chance to increase their human capital on these levels.

Foreningen Nydansker



This is a bit more of a professional enterprise and has good connections to businesses. It helps New Copenhageners find employment if they already have a degree or work experience in a particular area of work.

Copenhageners

This group is already integrated into their own society. These people have other priorities when it comes to human capital. Interviews conducted showed that these people lack human capital on a more physical and relaxing level. They are asking for more sports facilities, hobby spaces and a place to meet people. This is shown in the quotes below from interviews done at Skydebanehaven.

“Communal functions as football, handball and different sports.” (Woman living in Vesterbro for 40 years)

“Communal activities for adults: Sports, music center for rehearsal rooms. A place for the youth that prevents them from hanging around in the park.” (Friends from Frederiksberg visiting Skydebanehaven)

“More green areas, and some indoor activities for kids.” (Teacher at Vesterbro Ungdomsgård)

(Interviews conducted for P1 research by Eric Bezemer, Rebwar Obeid, Robert Kupzik)

Social Capital

New Copenhagensers have the chance to increase their human capital to integrate into Danish society. However somehow it is not a succes story in Copenhagen. Why is this the case? Robert Putnam describes it really good in the following quote:

“Most of the time we get what we want not through what we know but through whom we know.”

(Robert D. Putnam, 2007)

This quote shows that we not only achieve our goals by what our abilities are but also who we know that give us these opportunities. So the people do not only need human capital but also social capital to integrate into Danish societey.

New Copenhagensers

They lack the social Capital to fully integrate into Danish society. This is understandable since they are fairly new to the city. They are provided with the enterprises to learn to integrate but are not provided the place to meet Copenhagensers.

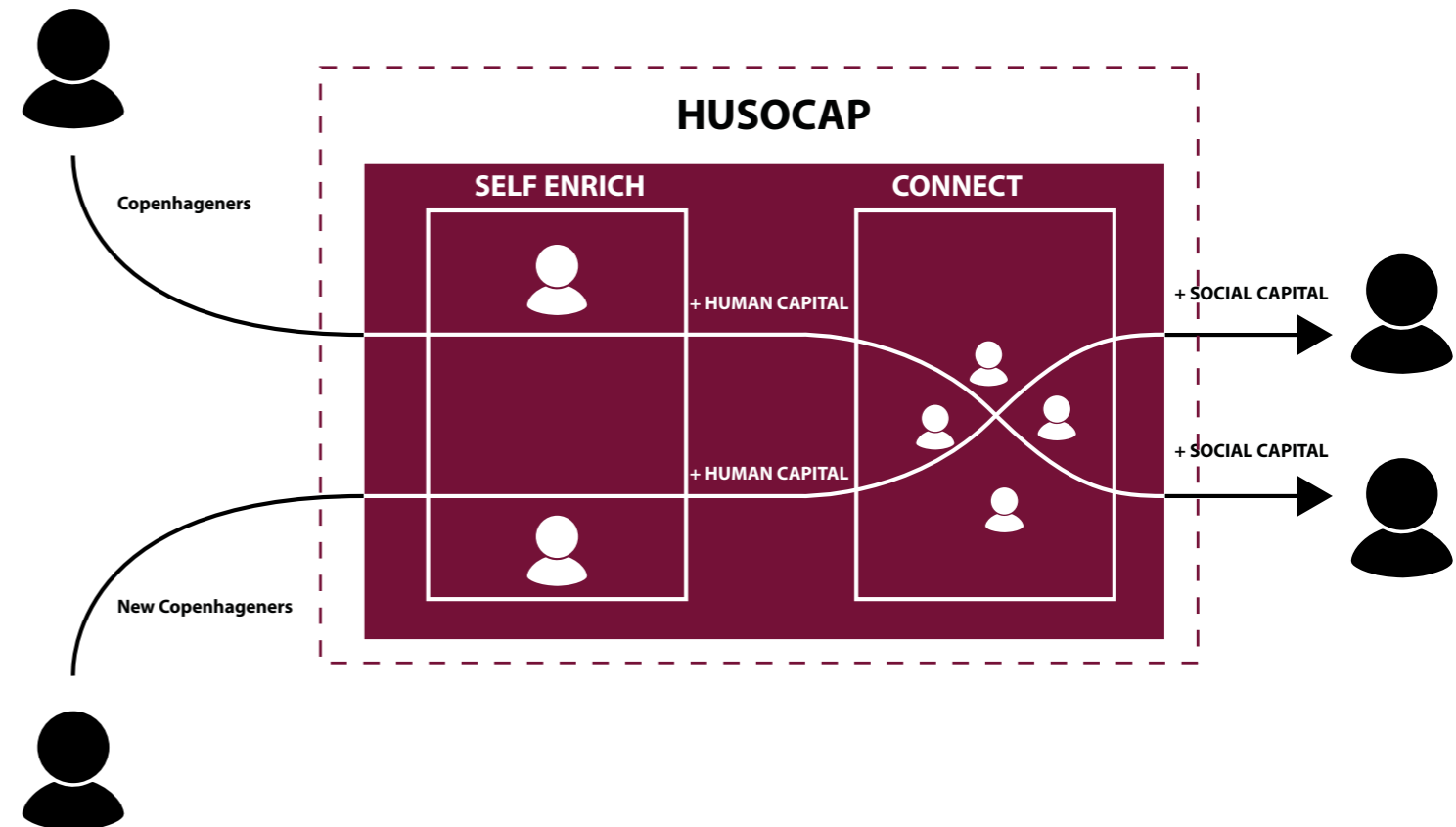
Copenhagensers

This group has the social capital already. However they can use their social capital to help the New Copenhagensers if they are able to meet them.

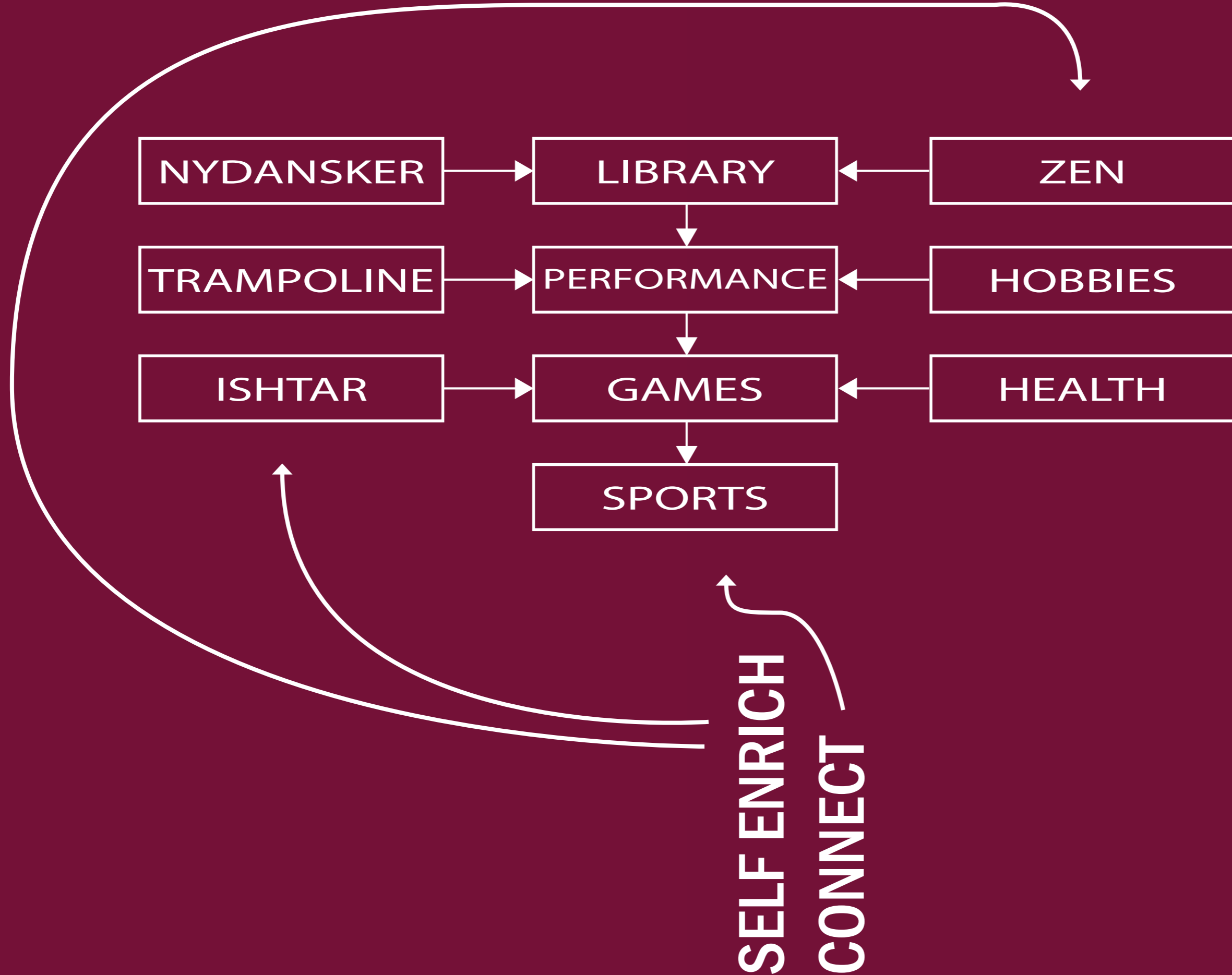
New Copenhagensers

So the goal of the HuSoCap is to attract both target groups to the building with it's self enrich programme. This gives the visitors Human Capital. It can give a second quality by providing in a connect programme which increases peoples social capital. This is also where the building gets its name from. **HU**man **SO**cial **CAP**ital.

Goal of public building

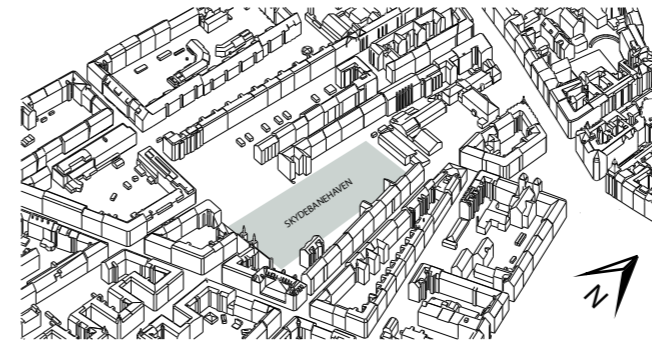


DESIGN

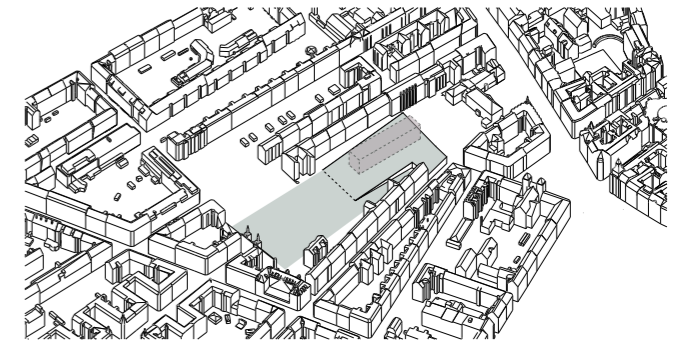


Shape

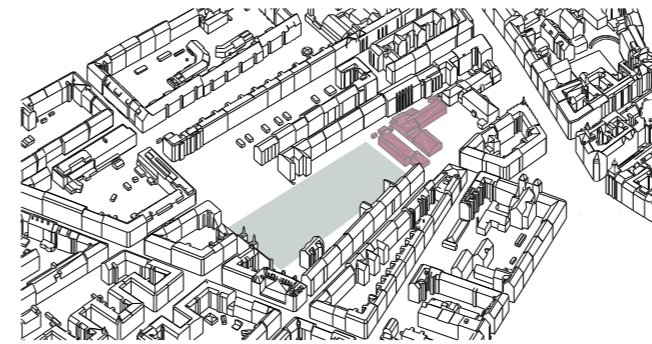
So what can the design contribute to this subject in skydebanehaven. A lot of requirements have been formulated for the design. For the site urban requirements have been formulated. The site has a quiet character in a busy district. This gave the site a sort of oasis like feeling, so the strength of this site had to be maintained. The second requirement was that the entrance to the park needed an upgrade. Programmatically the requirements have been elaborated in the previous chapter. These were the self enrichment programmes and the connecting programmes. All these requirements together lead to the following design show in figure.



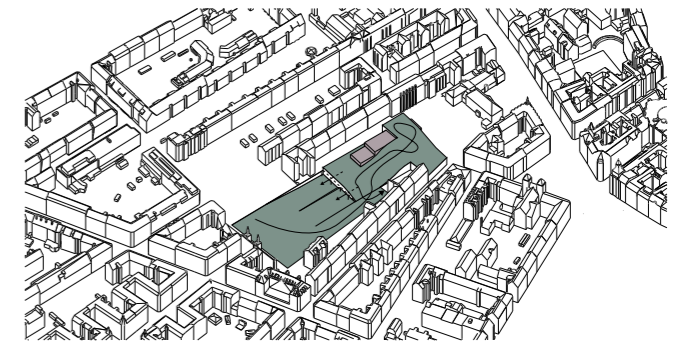
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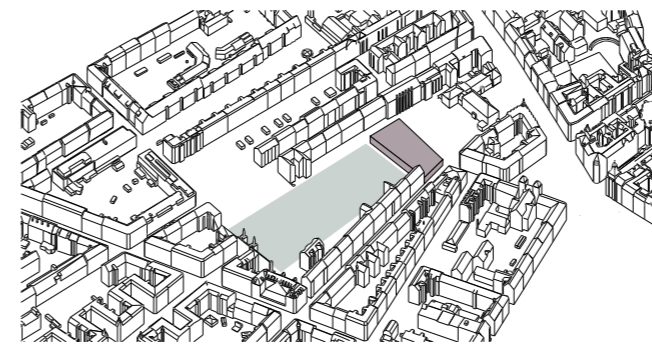
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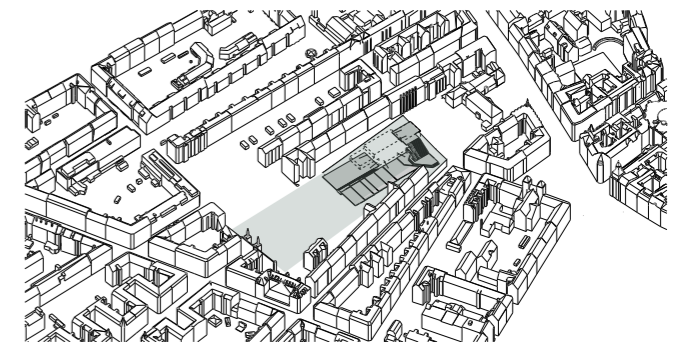
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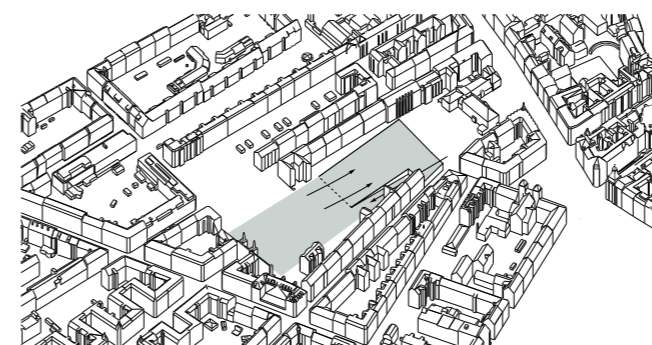
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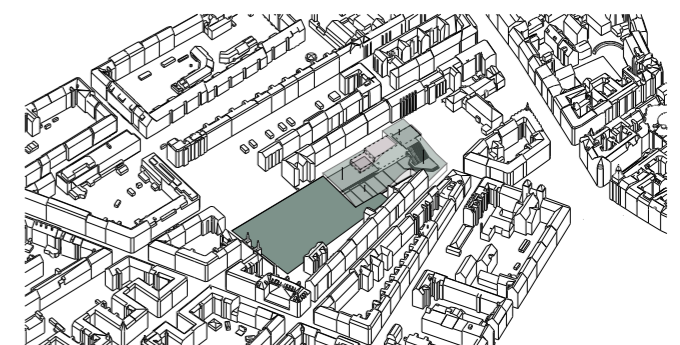
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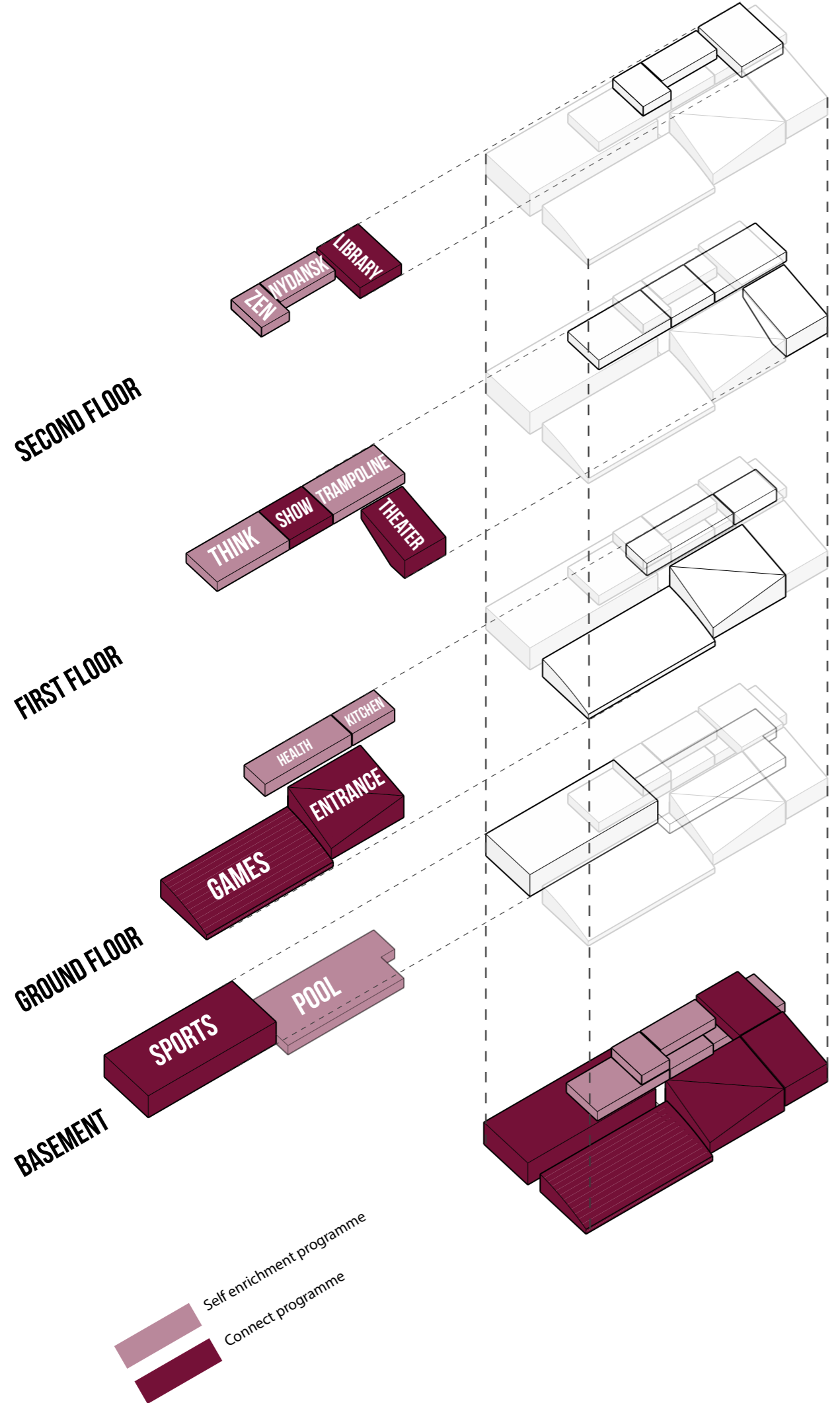
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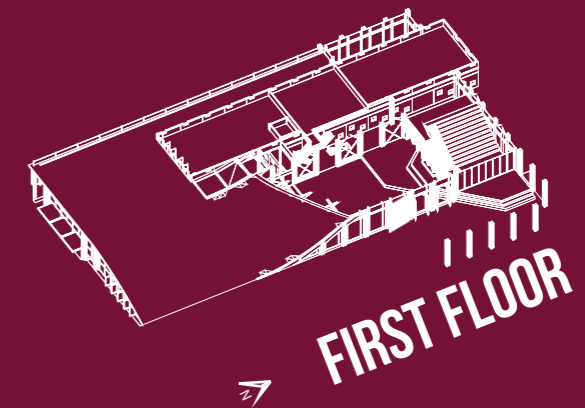
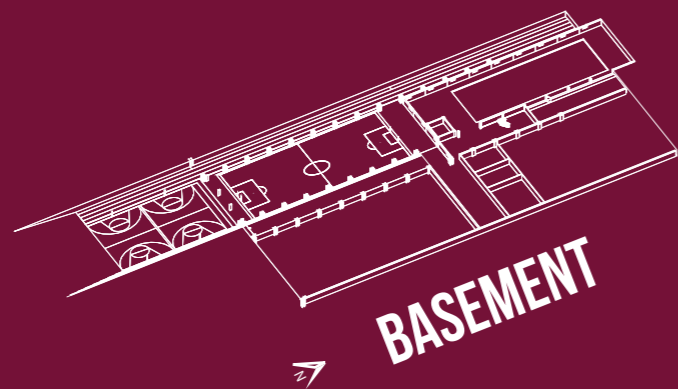
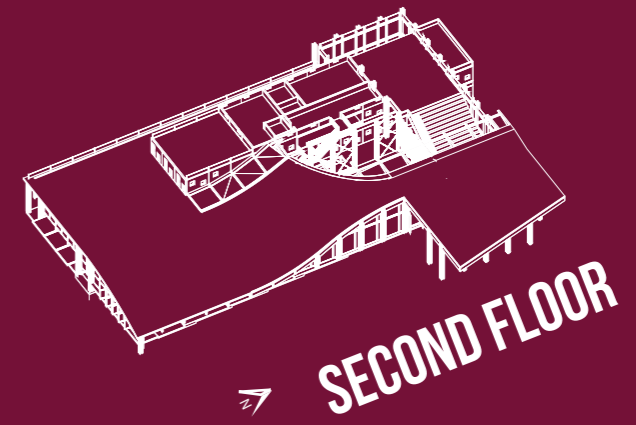
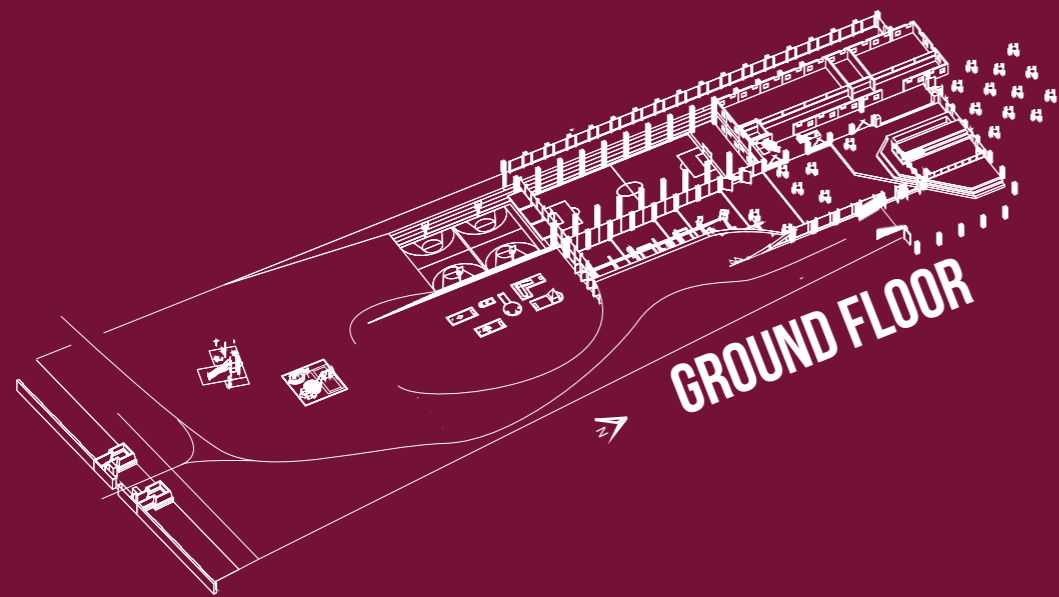
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Programmatic infill

The programmes are layered in their amount of activity they have. The most busy and vibrant programme is placed the lowest. The more quiet the programme becomes the higher it is placed. This way traffic will be reduced at the more quiet programmes and thus keeping their initial qualities. Each layer has a self enrich programme and a connect programme. The total connect programme creates a loop around the self enrich programme.

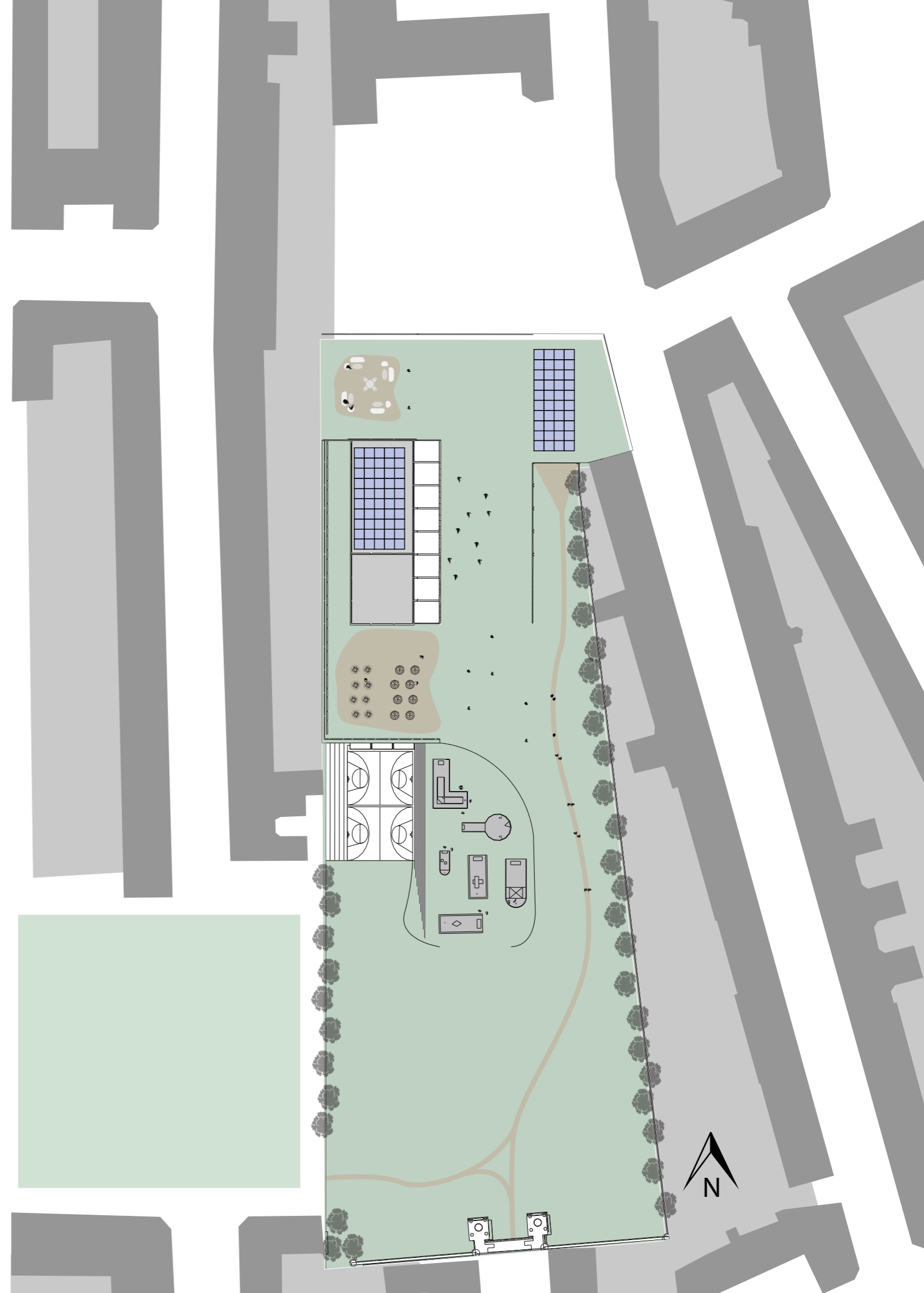


Floor plans



Park

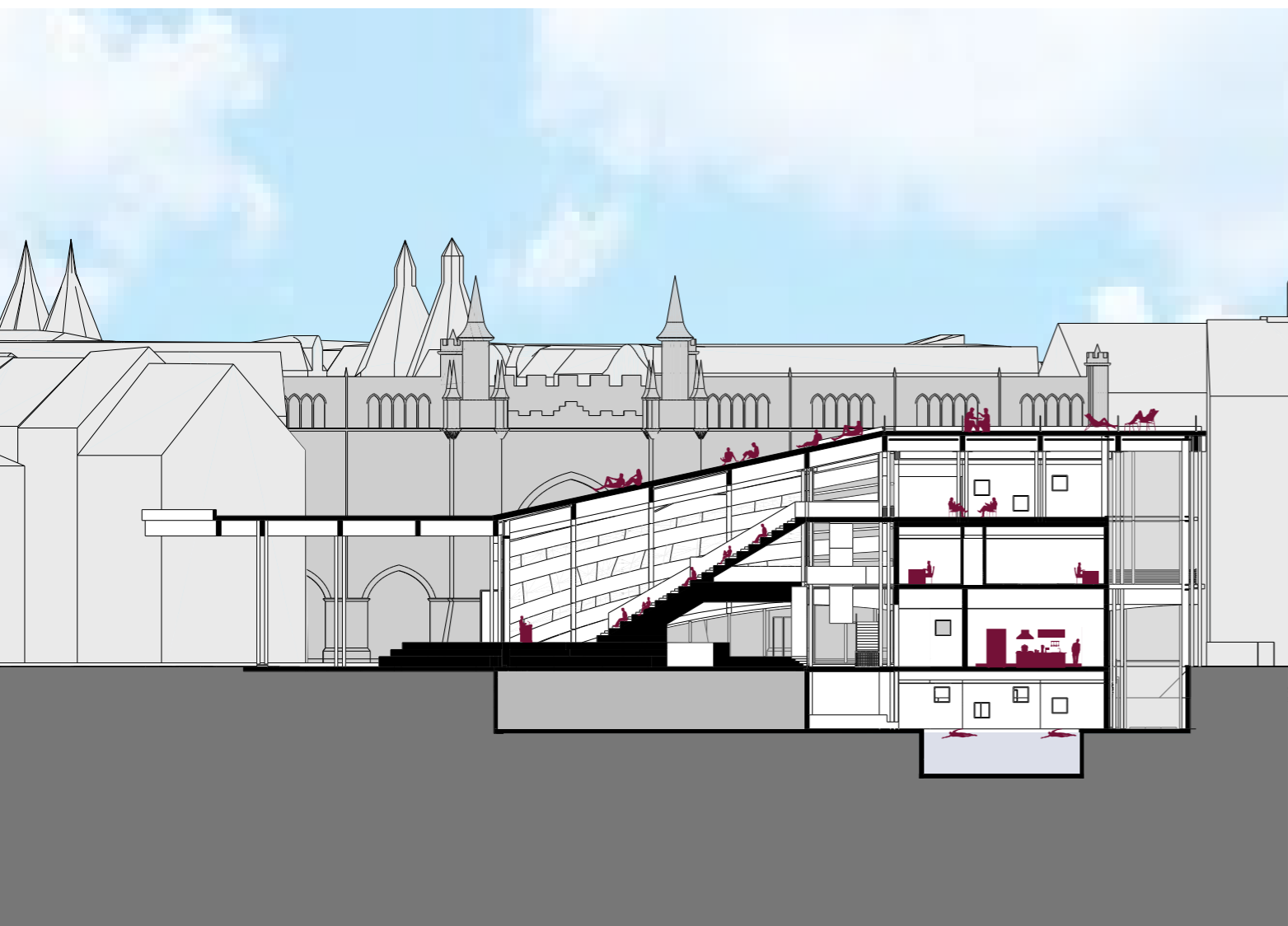
Because the park continues up to the roof the building and park become one. Making the building blend in with the park. This way the park maintains its closed off quality. At the same time the building is creating an indoor space offering the qualities to increase visitors human capital and social capital. The park maintains its original two programmes which are the playground and the relaxing grassfield. The playground remains at the same spot where it generated a lot of noise. The quiet part is elevated onto the roof of the building, making it even more secluded from the rest and keeping it closed off and thus really quiet. The outside programme is expanded with outside space complementing the inside programme. The sports and games is extended next to the playground because these are the more active programmes. On the roof of the building the hobby spaces are expanded outwards with programme that fits to that programme such as a herb garden and an outside yoga space. These programmes connect more to the resting characteristics of quiet grass area.



Sections

The sections show the different types of programmes housed in the HuSoCap. It shows the self enrichment programmes in the block of self enrichment and it shows the connect programme surrounding it. Visible is the secluded feel these self enrich programmes have whilst the connect programme has a really open character.

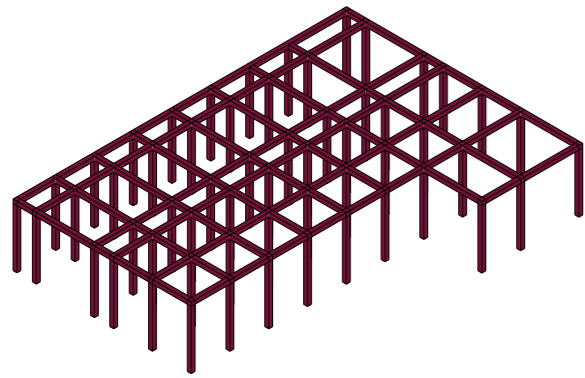




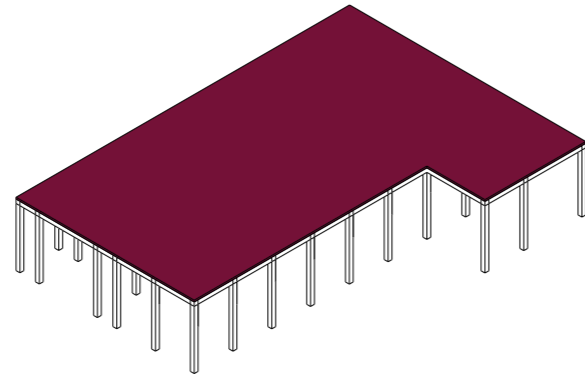


Construction

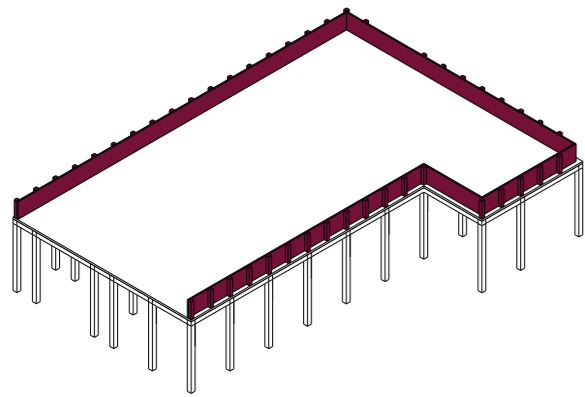
To build the project the spatial qualities thought of have to be maintained while this space also needs to be constructed. The connect programme needs to have this open character and an informal feel. The self enrich programme has this closed of feeling and a more formal feel to it. This is also shown in the construction type chosen for both these programmes. The connect programme has this big construction visible creating this big open space. The self enrich programme has this hidden construction and a more formal hidden construction.



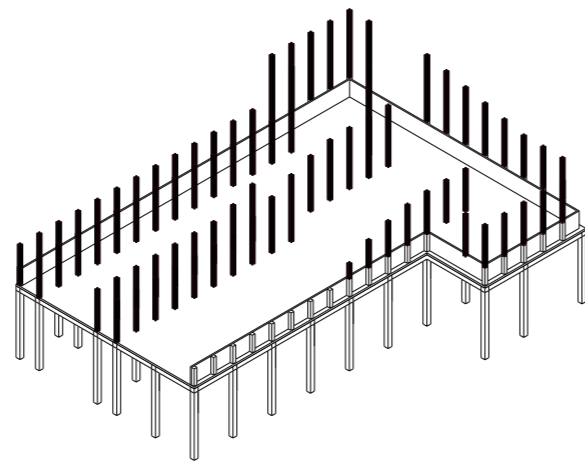
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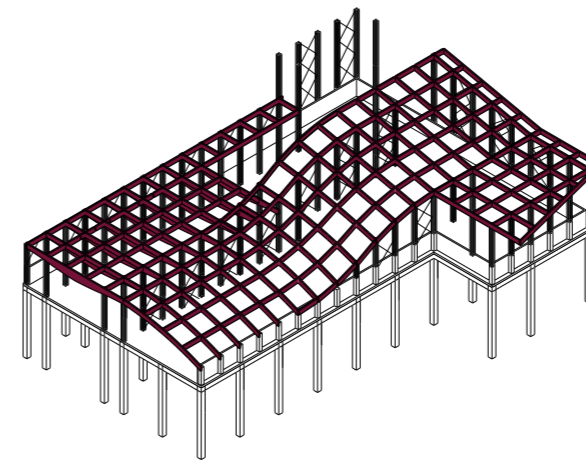
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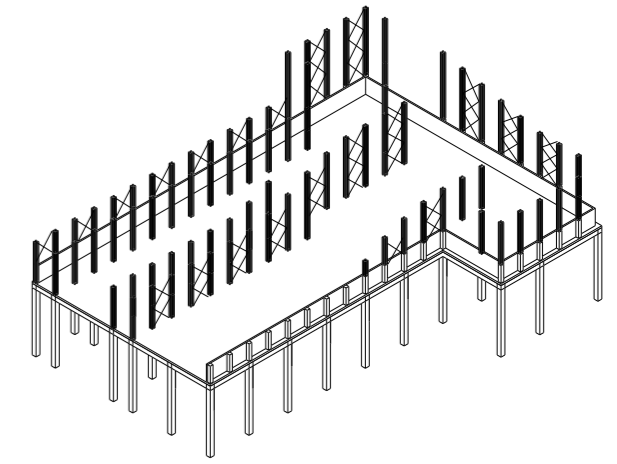
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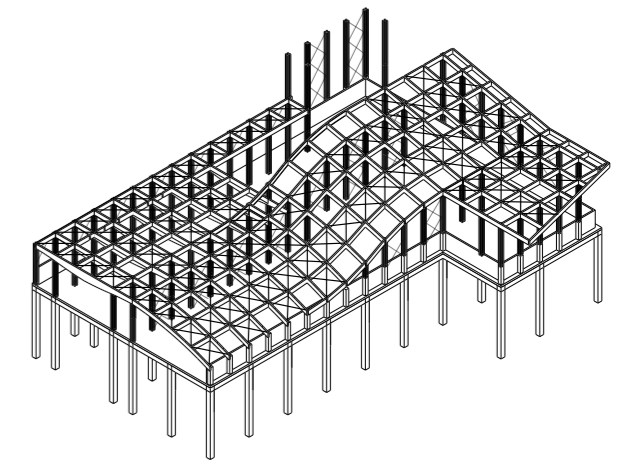
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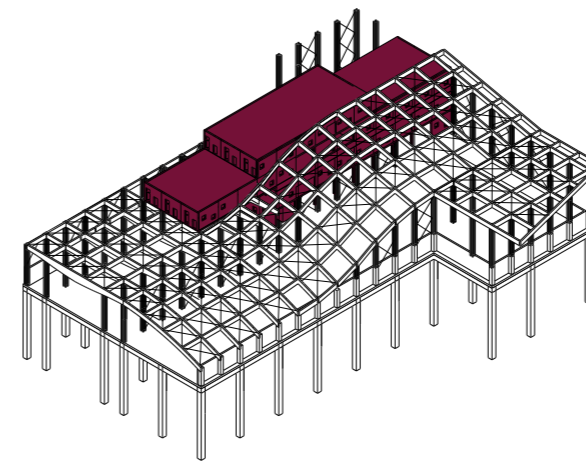
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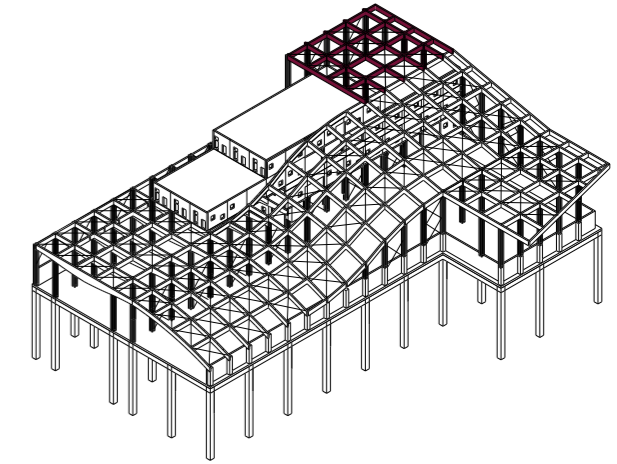
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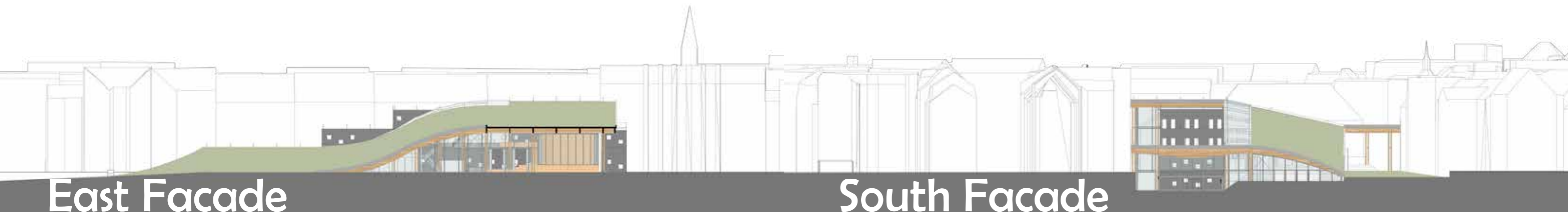
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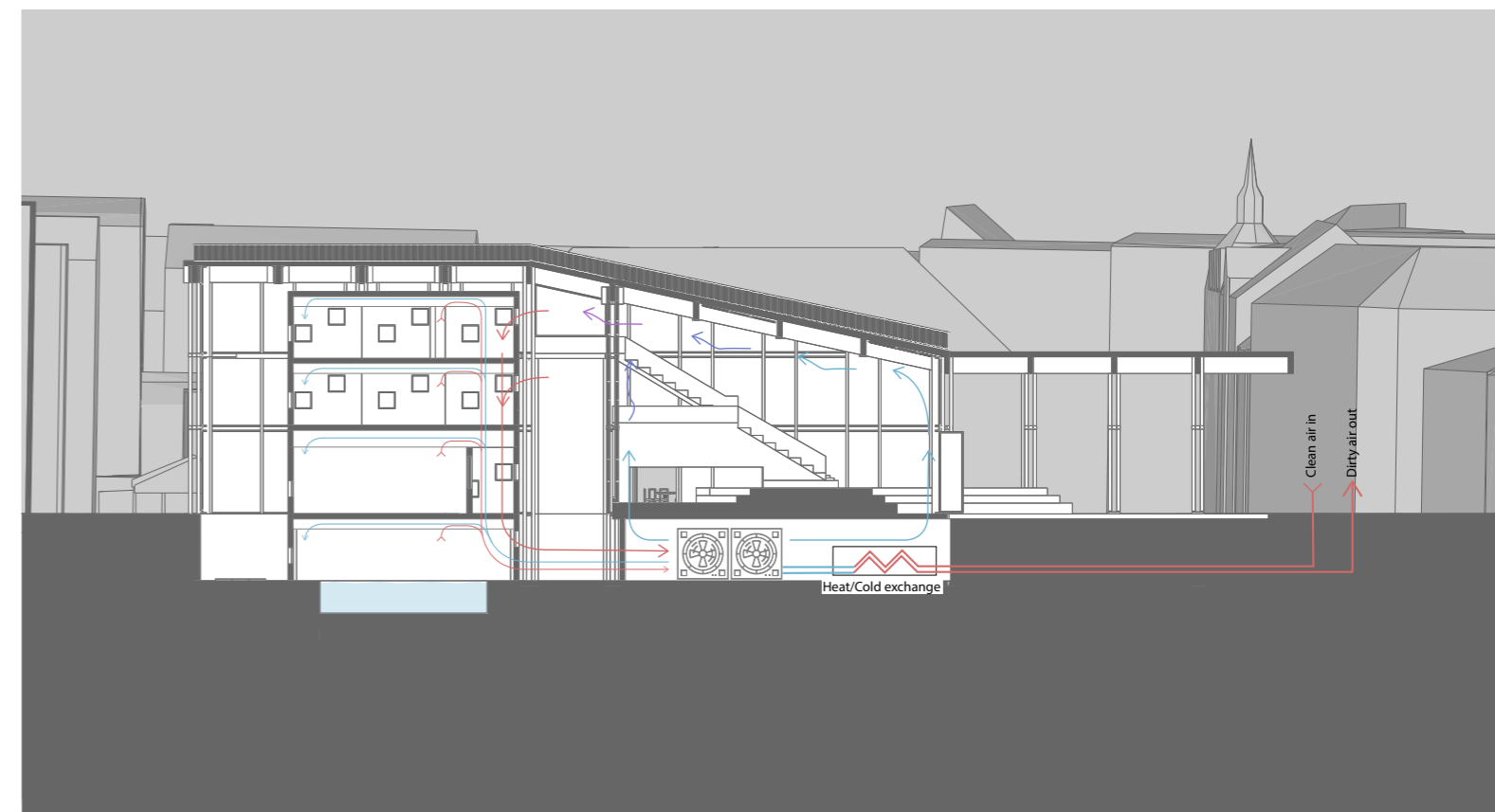
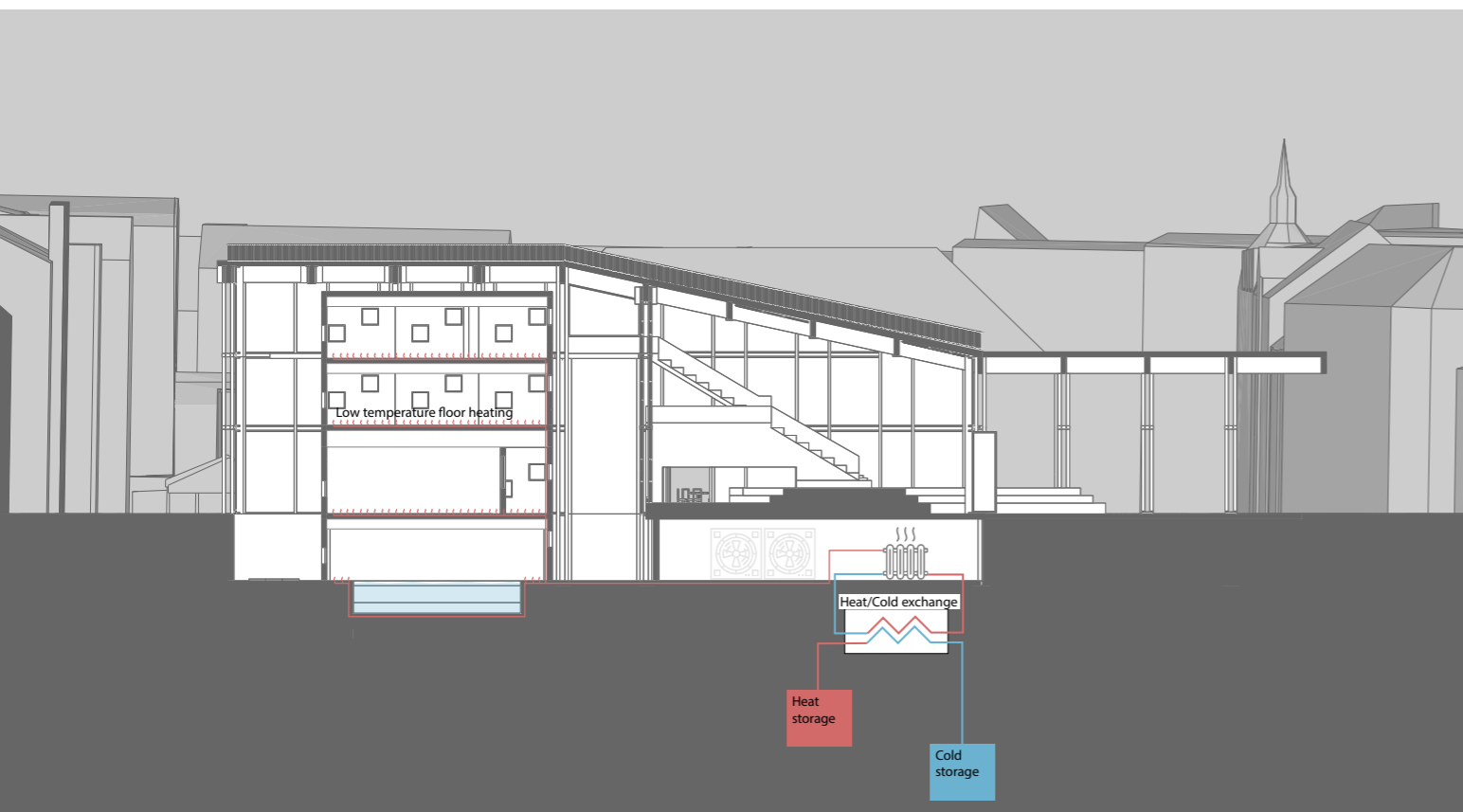
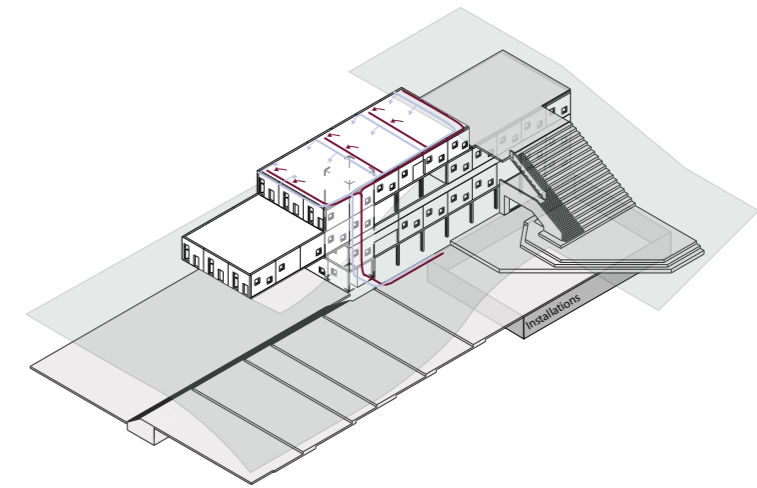
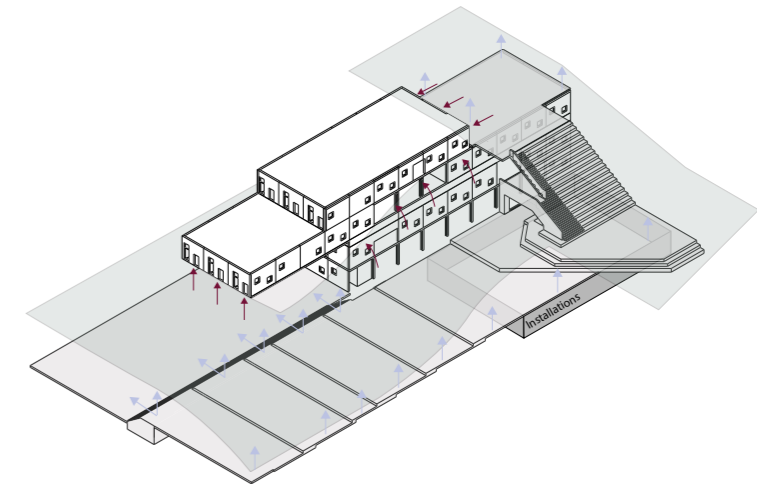
Facades

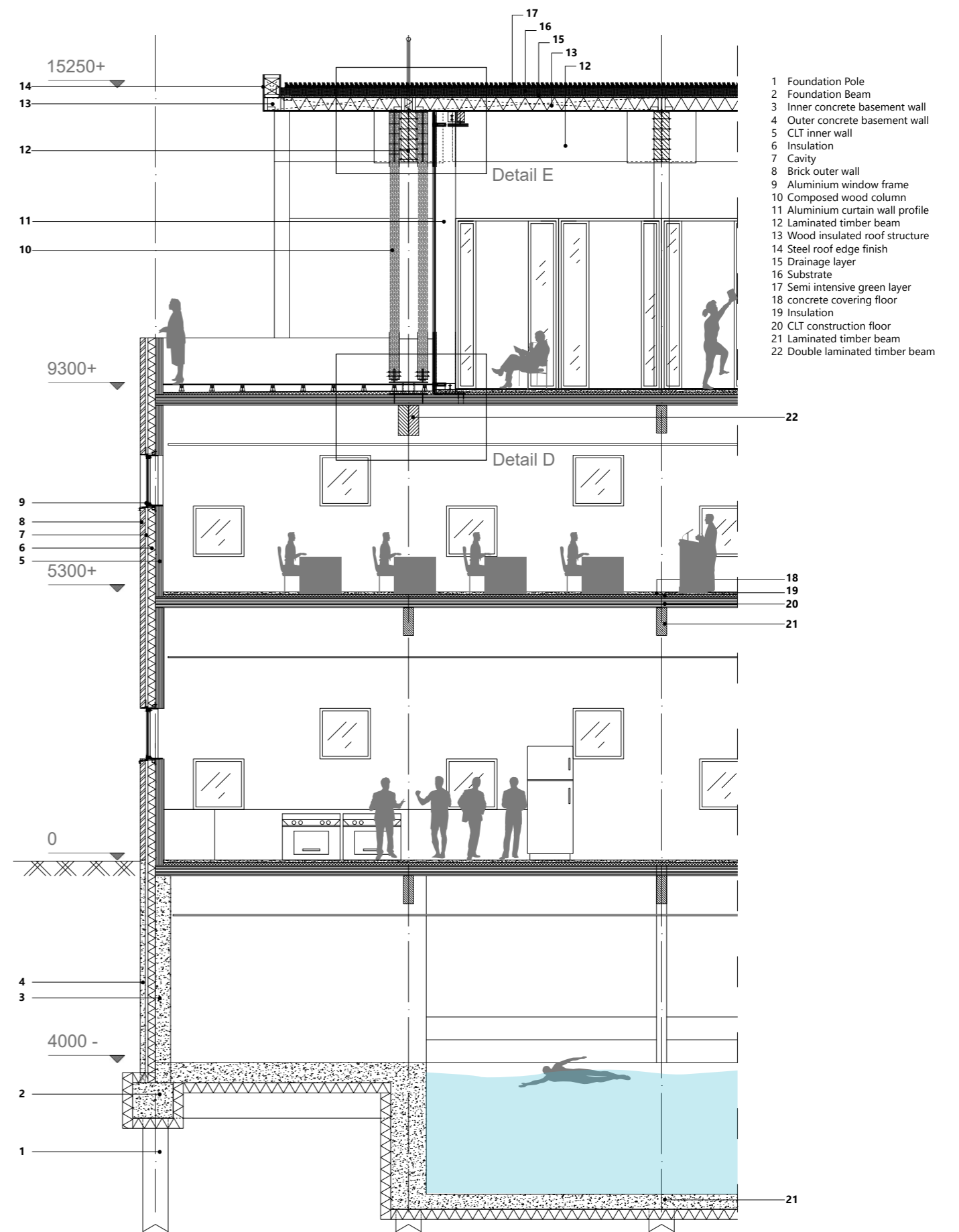
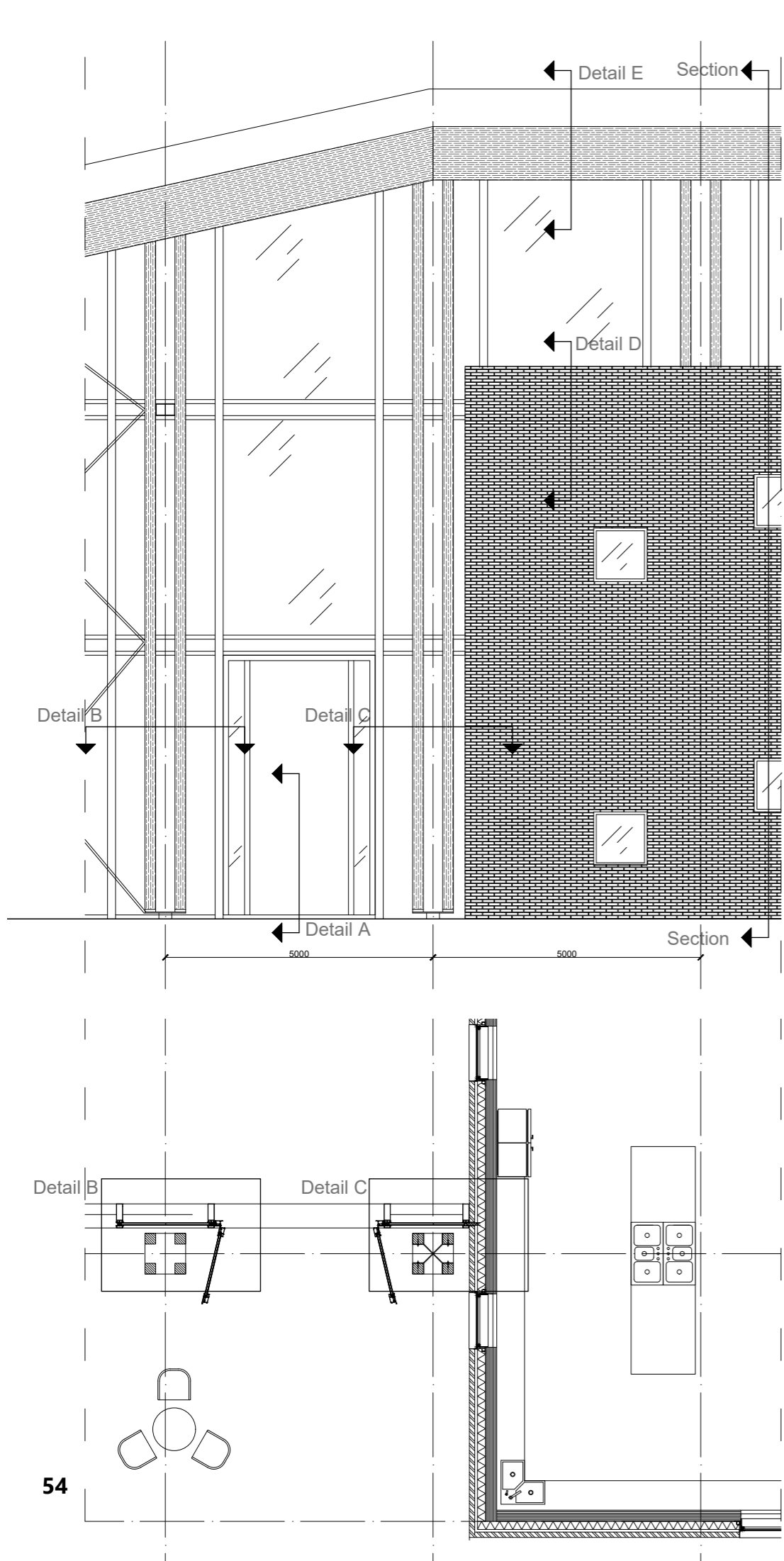
These different types of construction are also shown in the facades. The structure of the connect programme is placed in front of the curtain wall facade. Making the feel from inside visible outside. The self-enrich programme penetrates through this connect programme making itself visible in the outside facades.



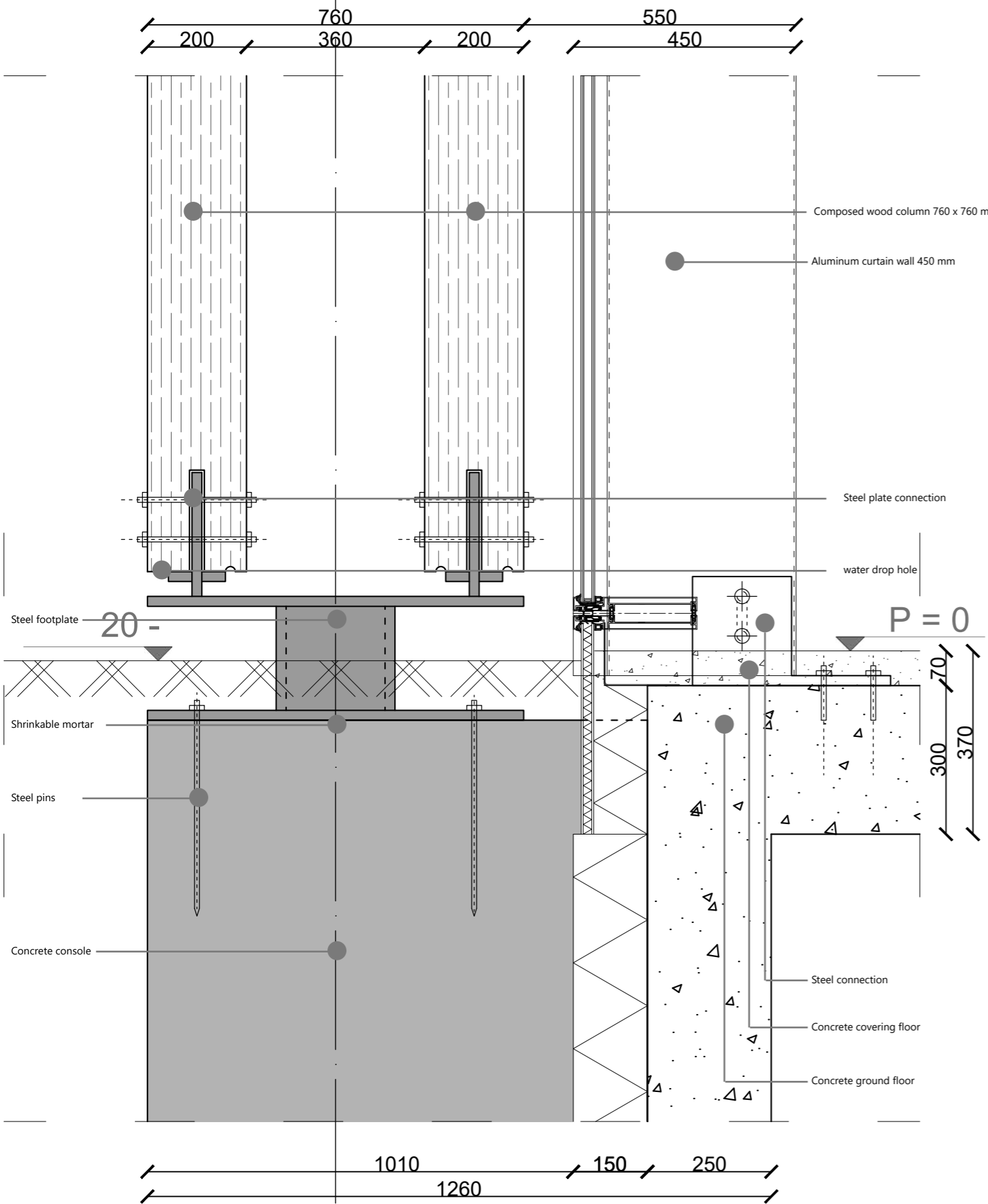
Climate

The connect programme has a big open character and the structure is in sight. Having all kinds of installations in sight would affect this quality. Since fresh air is usually blown in through the floor this can be maintained since a space has been reserved below ground level for installations. The air will be drawn out through the surface of the blocks, this way the ceiling of the connect programme is kept free of installations. The blocks have their own climate system. This is a more traditional approach with lowered ceilings to guide all the ducts to their destination. The vertical transport is done through a shaft in the centre of the building.

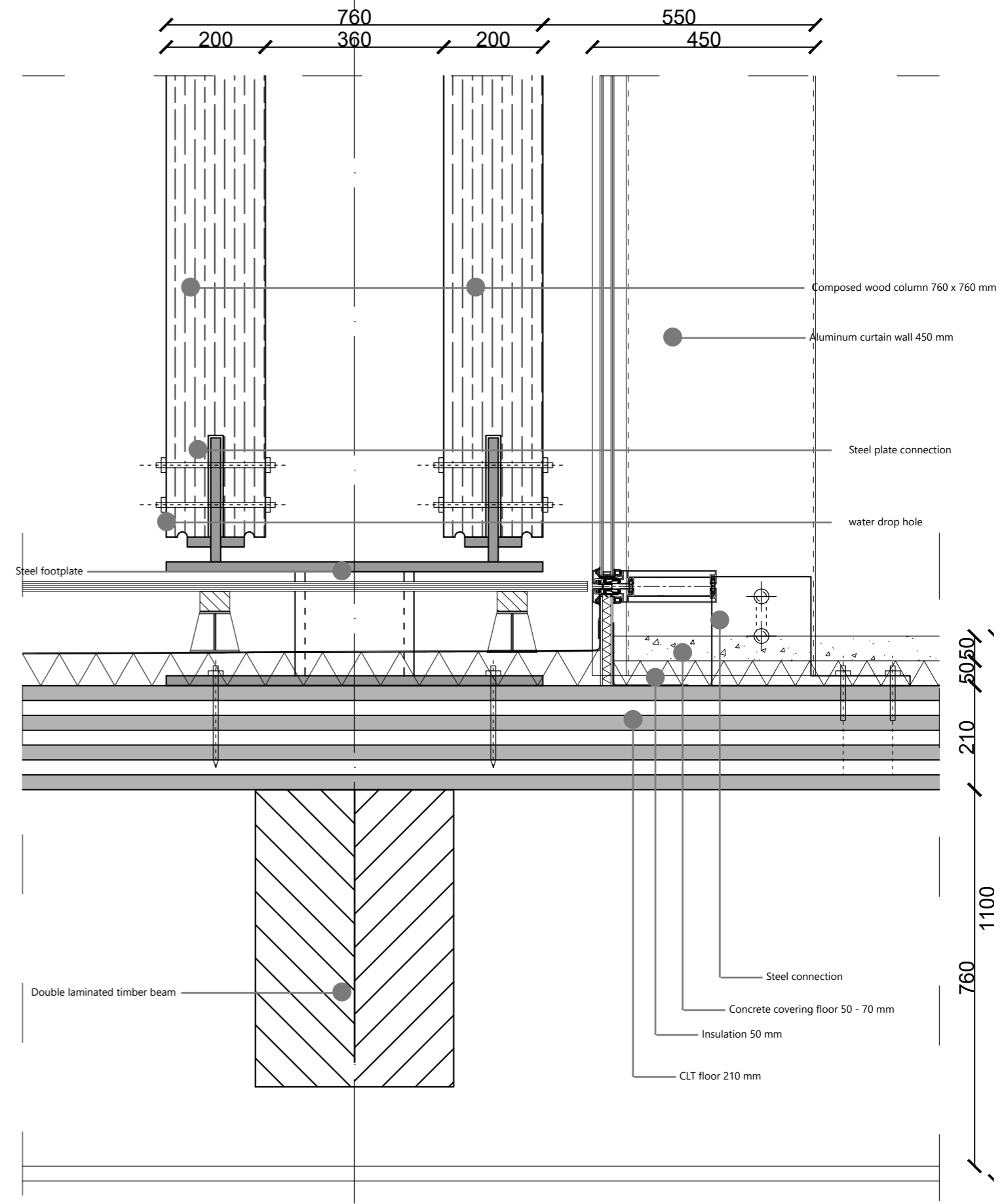




DETAIL A 1:5 A2

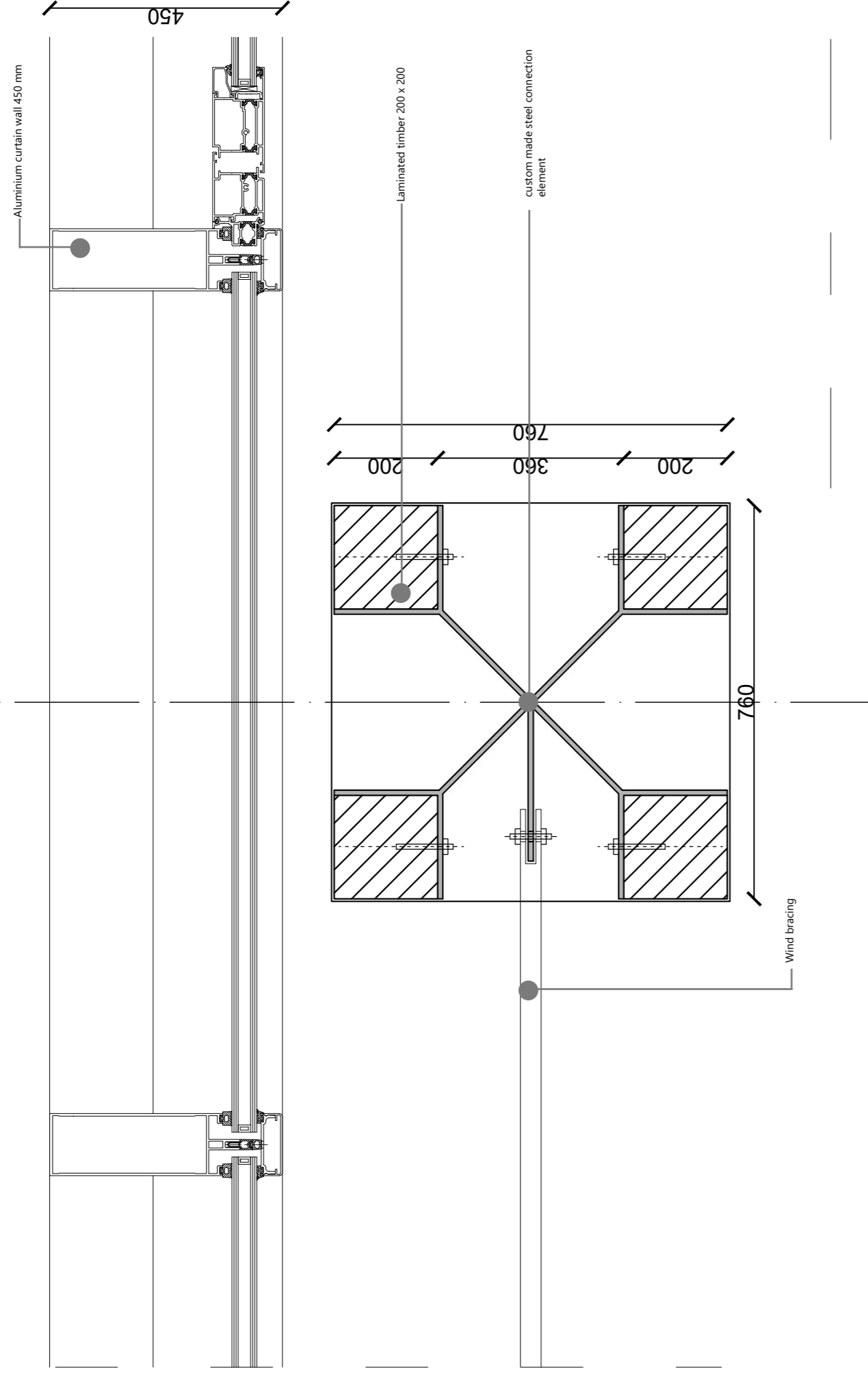


DETAIL D 1:5 A2

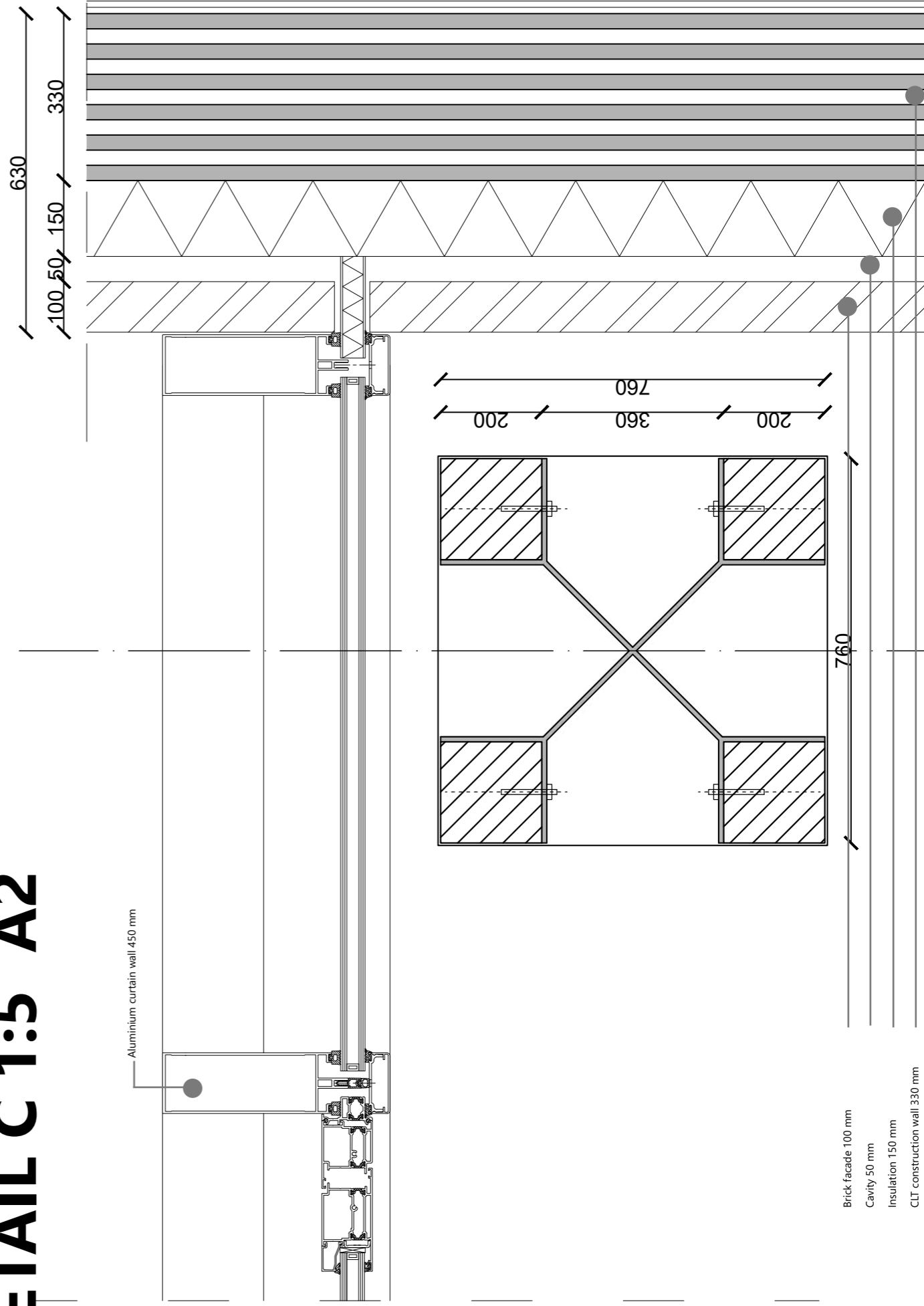


DETAIL B 1:5 A2

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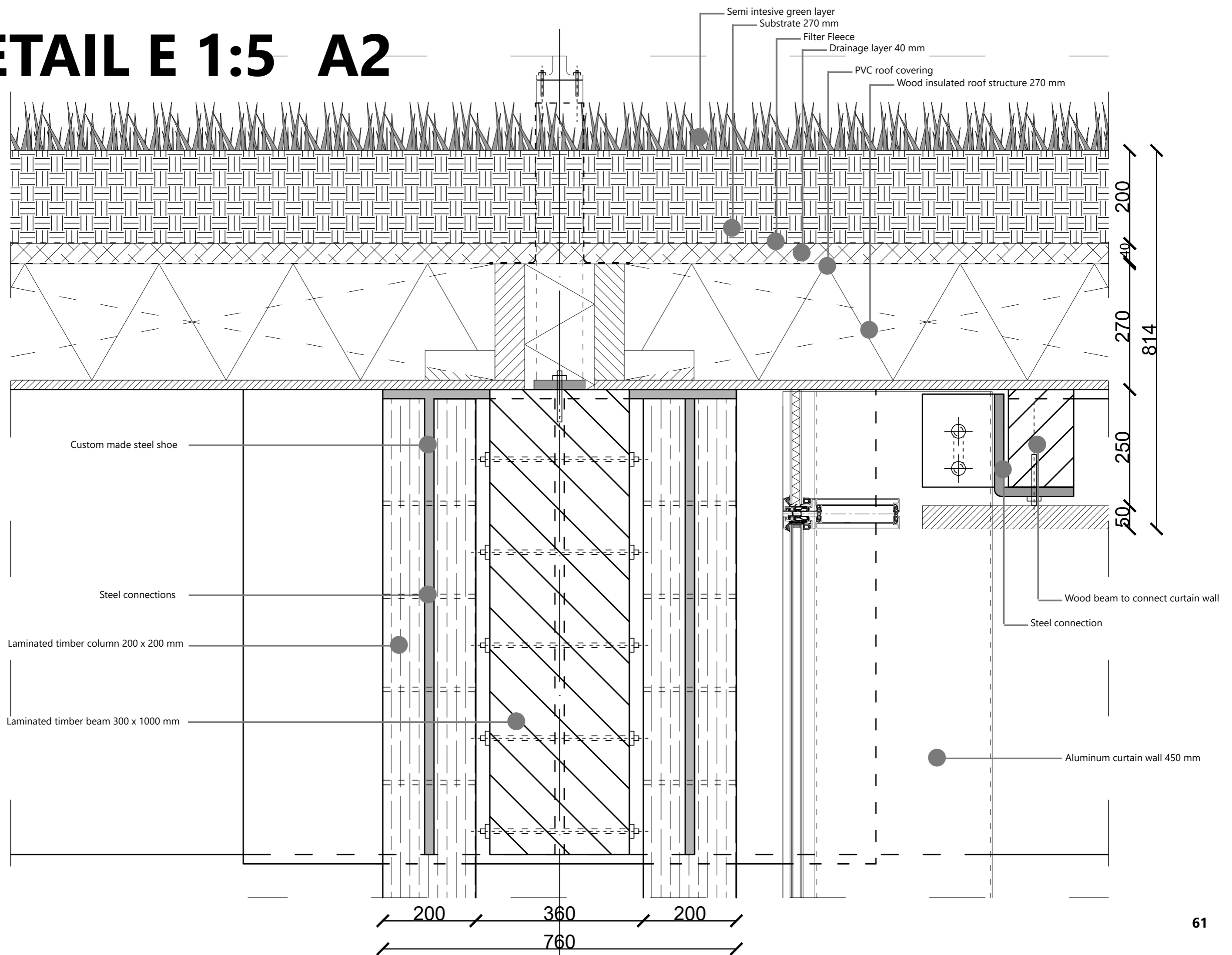


DETAIL C 1:5 A2



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DETAIL E 1:5 A2



Impressions





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P1 research booklets

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Group 8 Power: Haiqi Deng; Igor de Kuijer; Casper Aussems

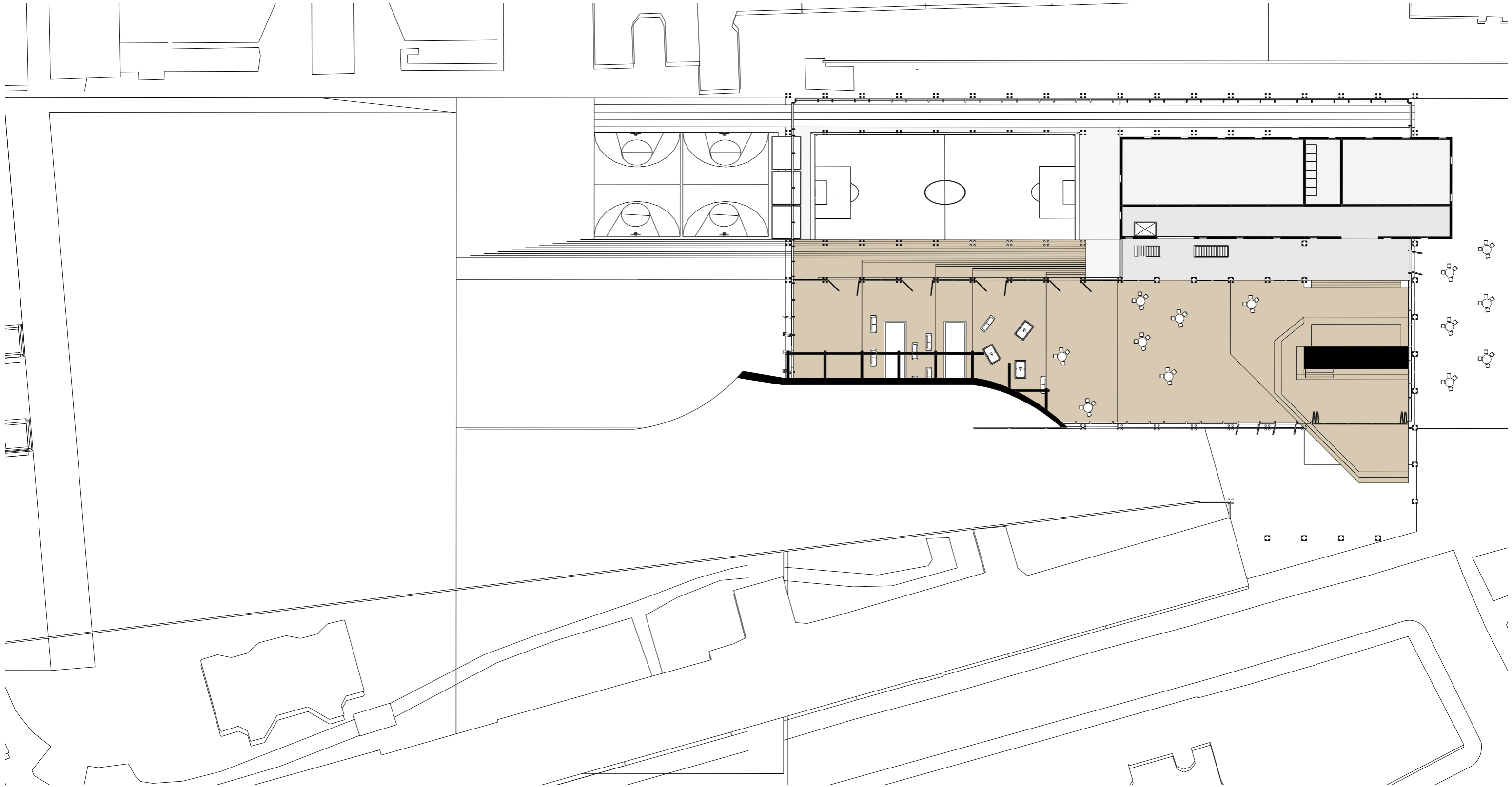
IMAGES

IMAGE 1: <https://imgur.com/WVeq3W3>

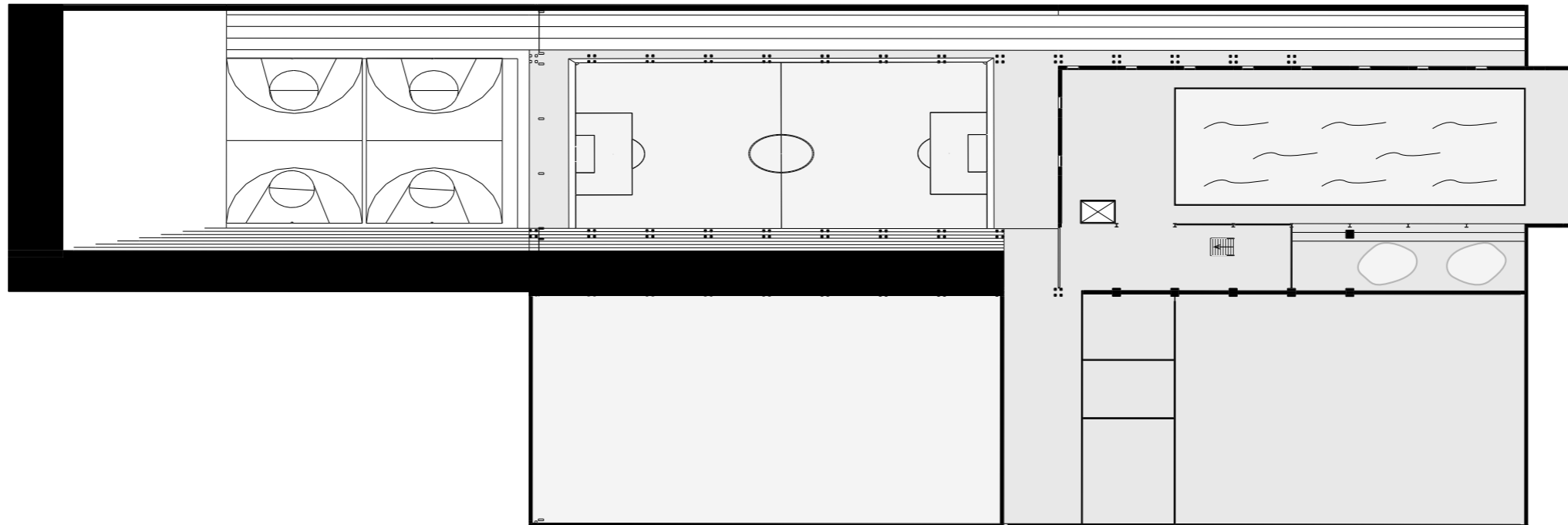
IMAGE 2: <http://www.monday-8am.com/building-cultural-fluency/>

Appendix 2D Floor plans

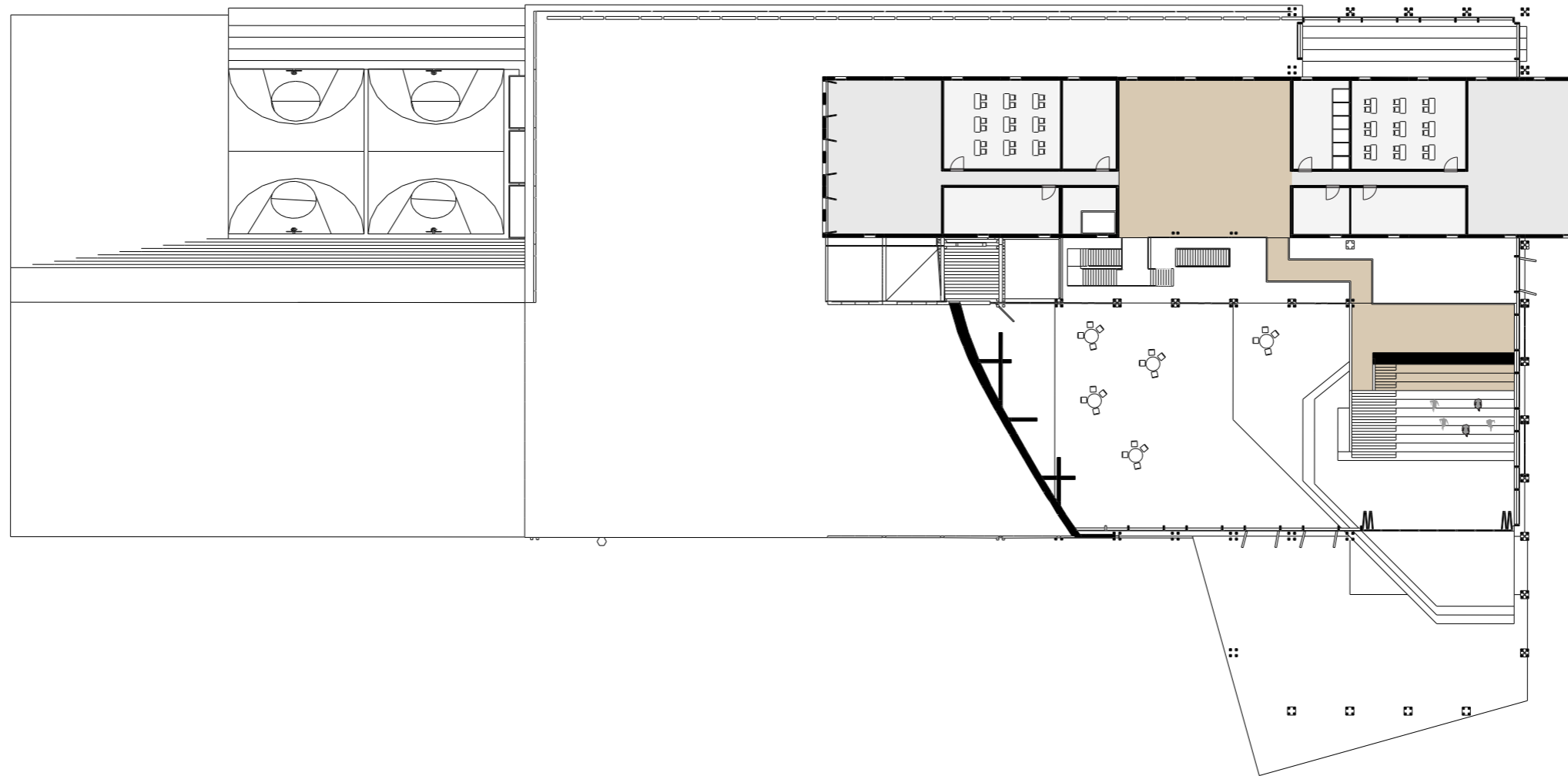
Ground floor 1:500



Basement 1:500



First floor 1:500



Second floor 1:500

