

THE FUTURE BANK

a new public figure

NATIONAL BANK
OF BELGIUM

MSc 4 - Interiors Buildings Cities

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The future bank

A public figure that invites new life and creates a new hotspot for the work environment.







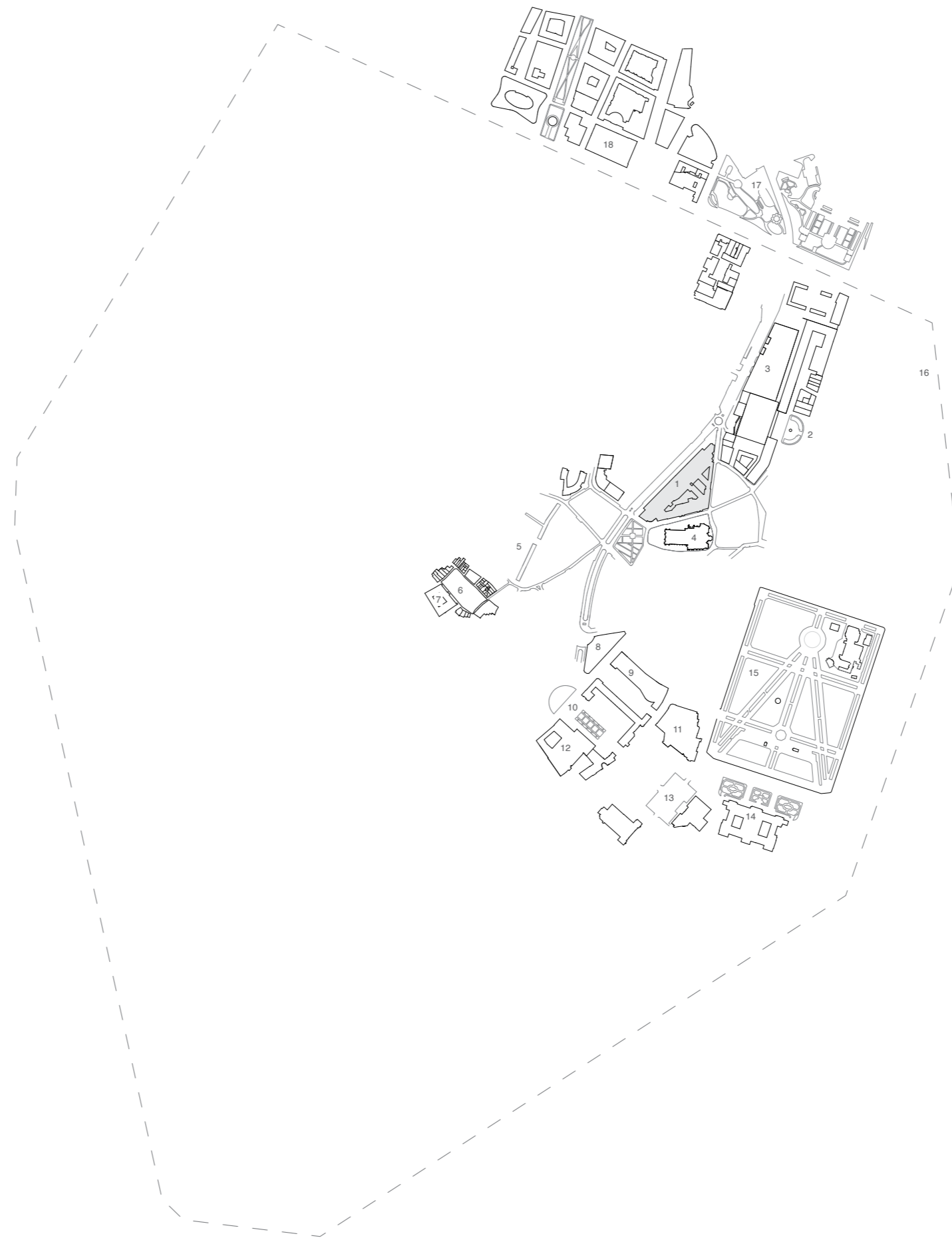
financial district

historical center

cultural district

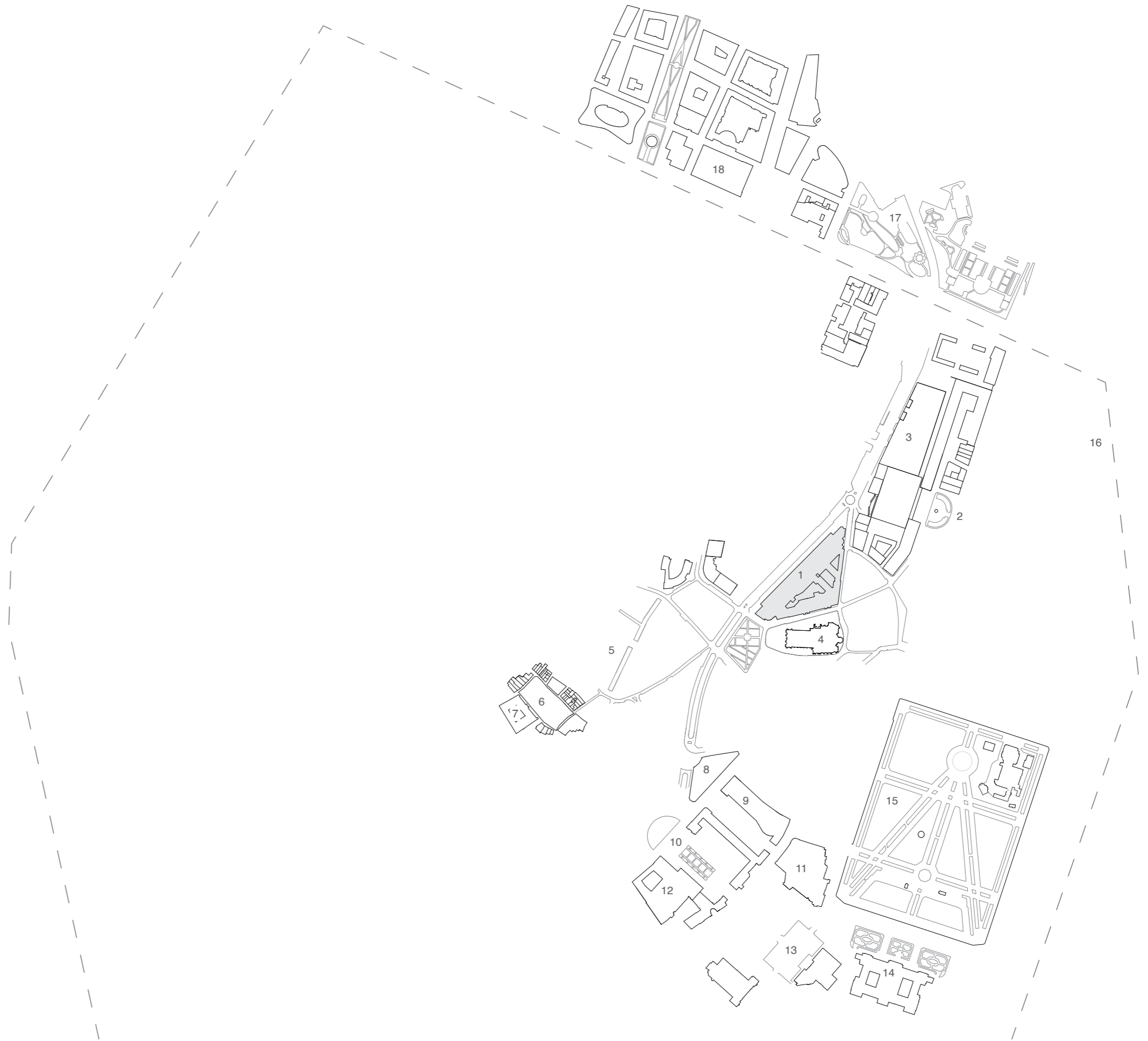
political district

Filtering Brussels



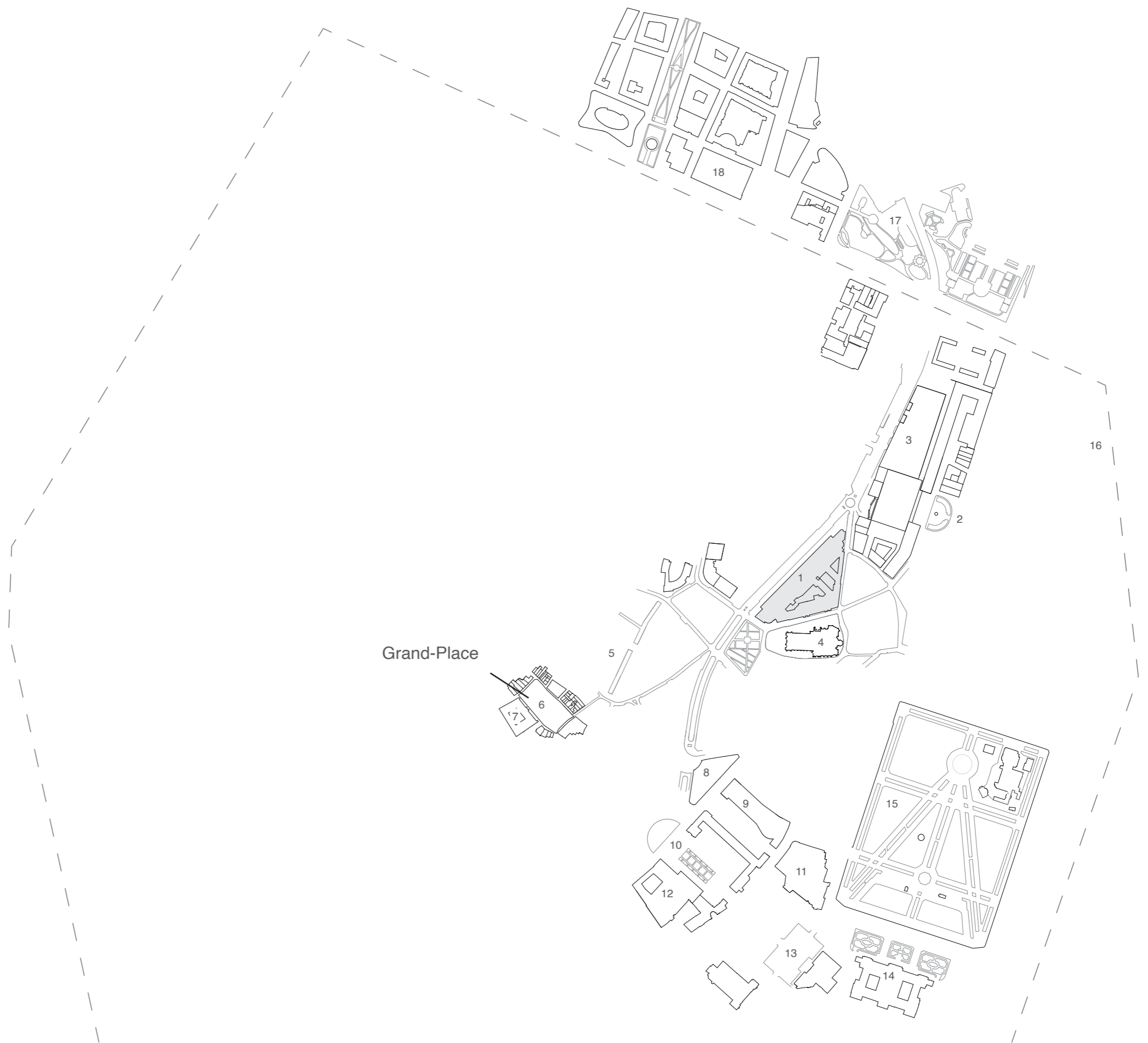
- 1 National Bank of Belgium
- 2 Congress column
- 3 Administrative Center
- 4 Cathedral of St. Michael and St. Gudula
- 5 Galeries Royales Saint Hubert
- 6 Grand-Place
- 7 Brussels Town Hall
- 8 Brussels Central Station
- 9 Galerie Ravenstein
- 10 Mont des Arts
- 11 Bozar
- 12 Royal Museums of Fine Arts
- 13 Place Royale
- 14 Royal Palace of Brussels
- 15 Royal Park
- 16 City centre 'Pentagon' line
- 17 Botanical Garden
- 18 Koning Albert II Laan, Noordwijk

Filtering Brussels



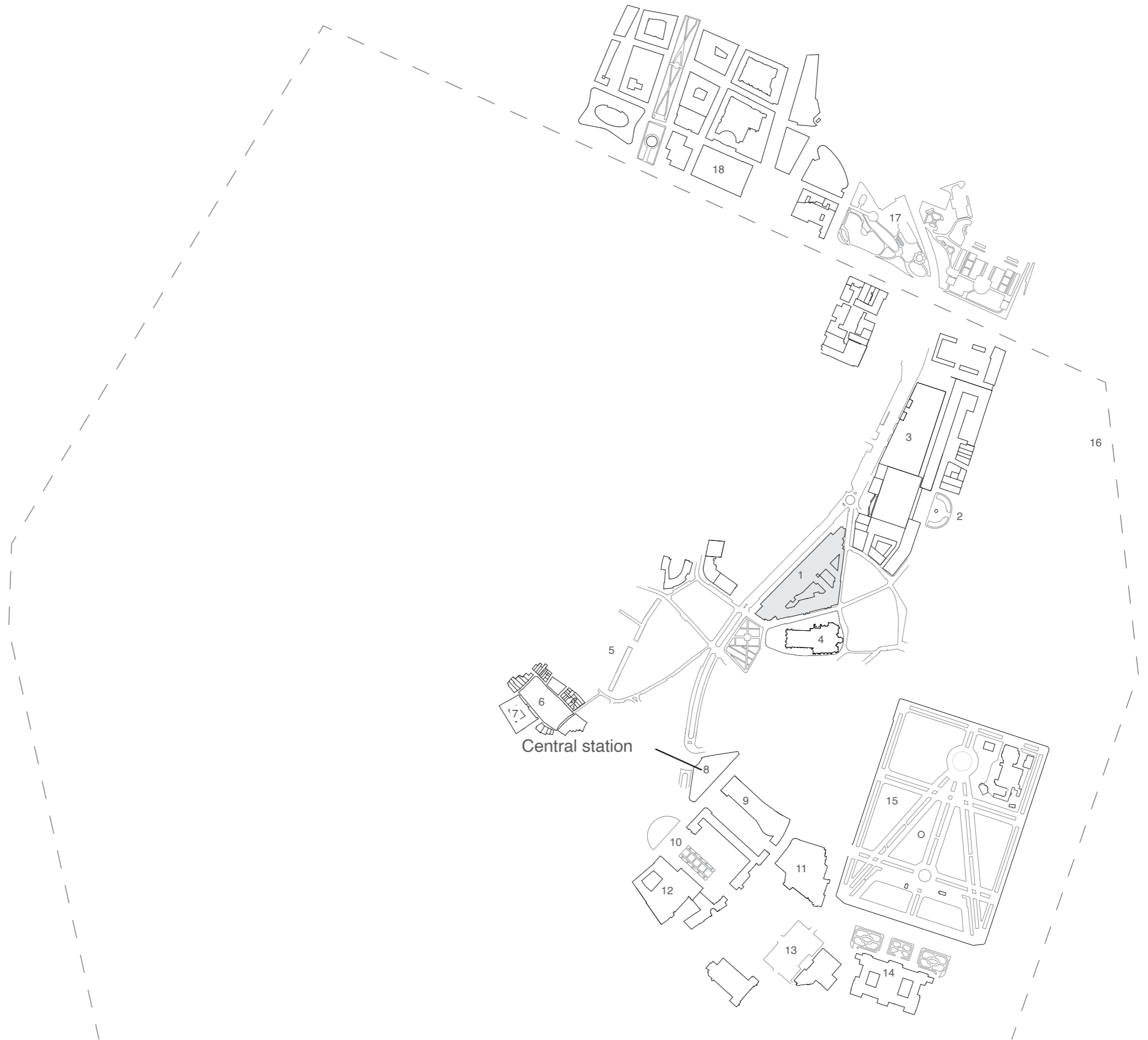
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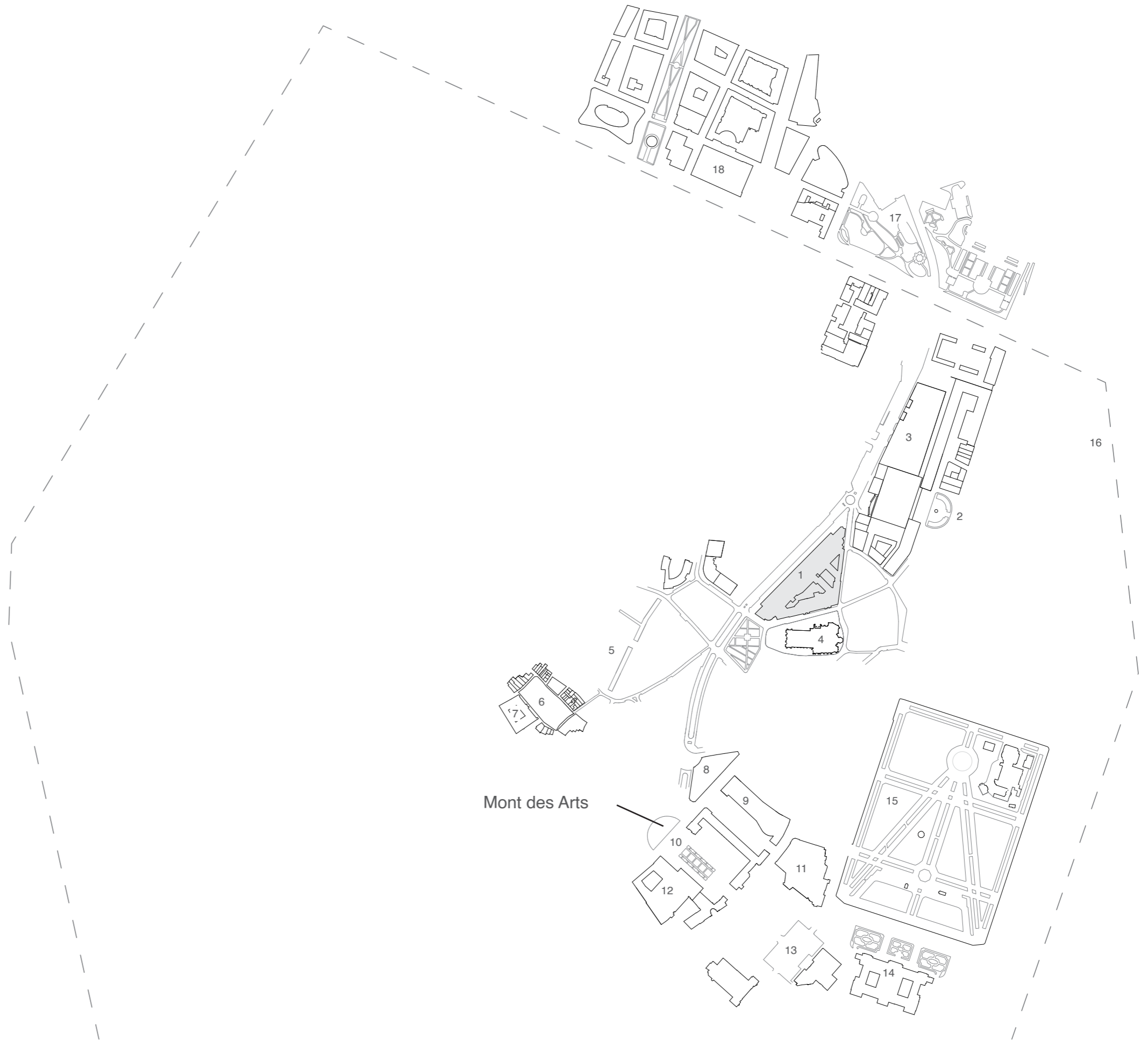
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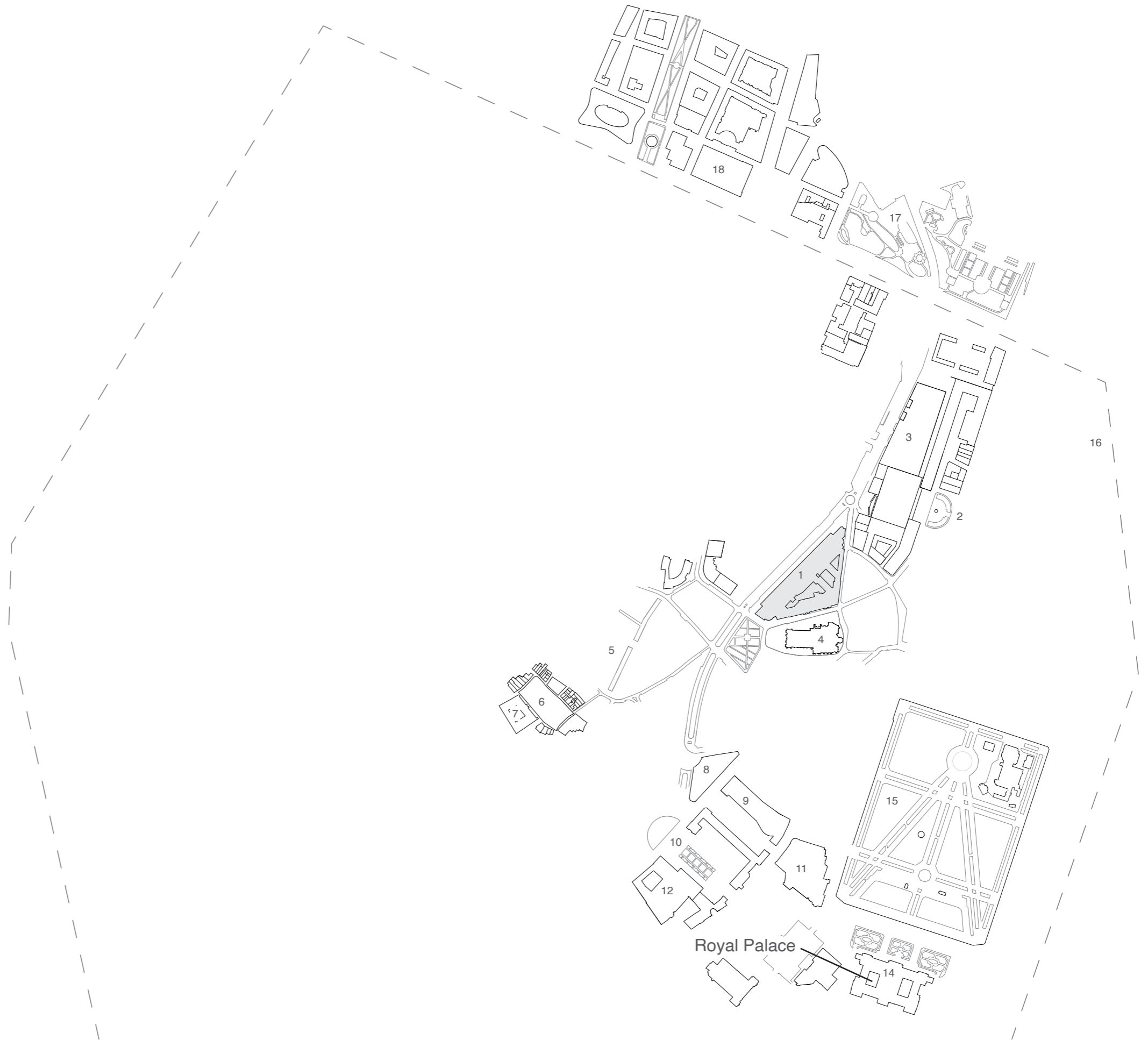
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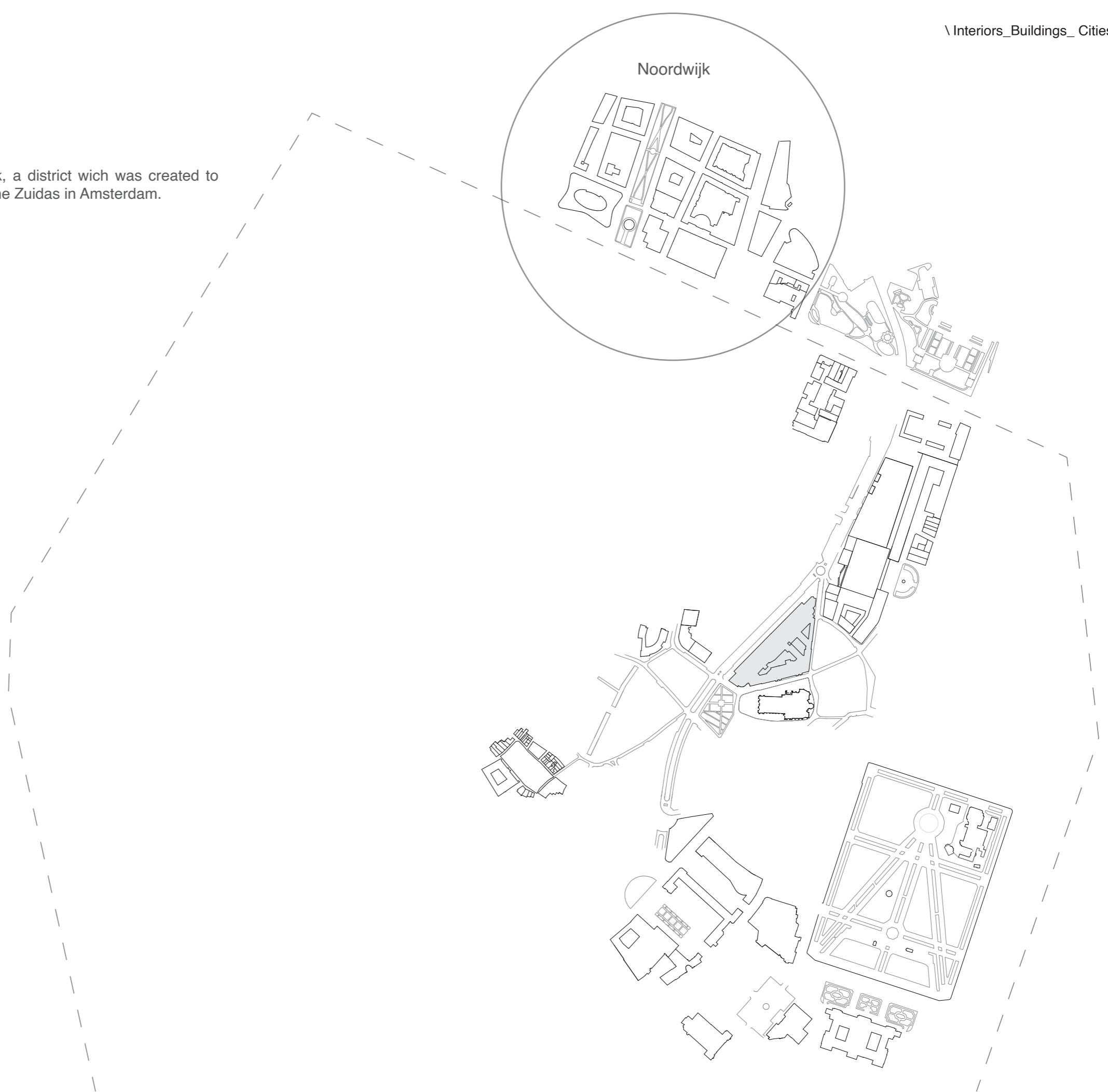
Filtering Brussels



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The business district

The heart and center of the business districts is Noordwijk, a district wich was created to accommodate many highrise offices, and is comparable to the Zuidas in Amsterdam.



Business district: Noordwijk

In the 70's, big development plans for the business districts were made.



Charly de Pauw, supporter of the Manhattan plan. Still from the Brussels Biennale of Modern Architecture short movie 'Manhattan, Brussels'

Business district: Noordwijk

In the 70's, big development plans for the business districts were made. These modernist and ambitious plans led to large scale destruction and expropriation of thousands of households. Which left its mark to the citizens.

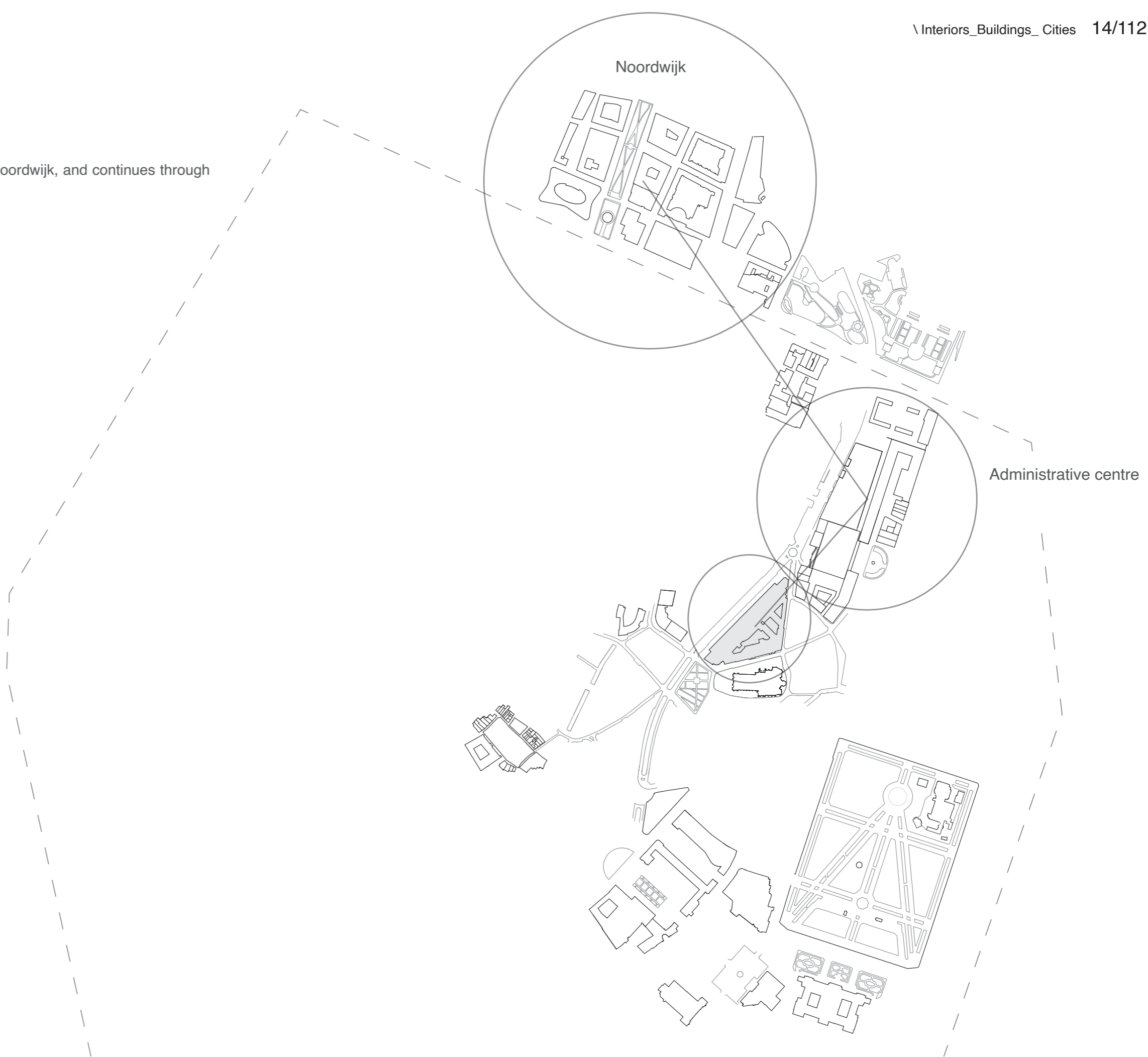
New development ...



... with its accompanying destruction

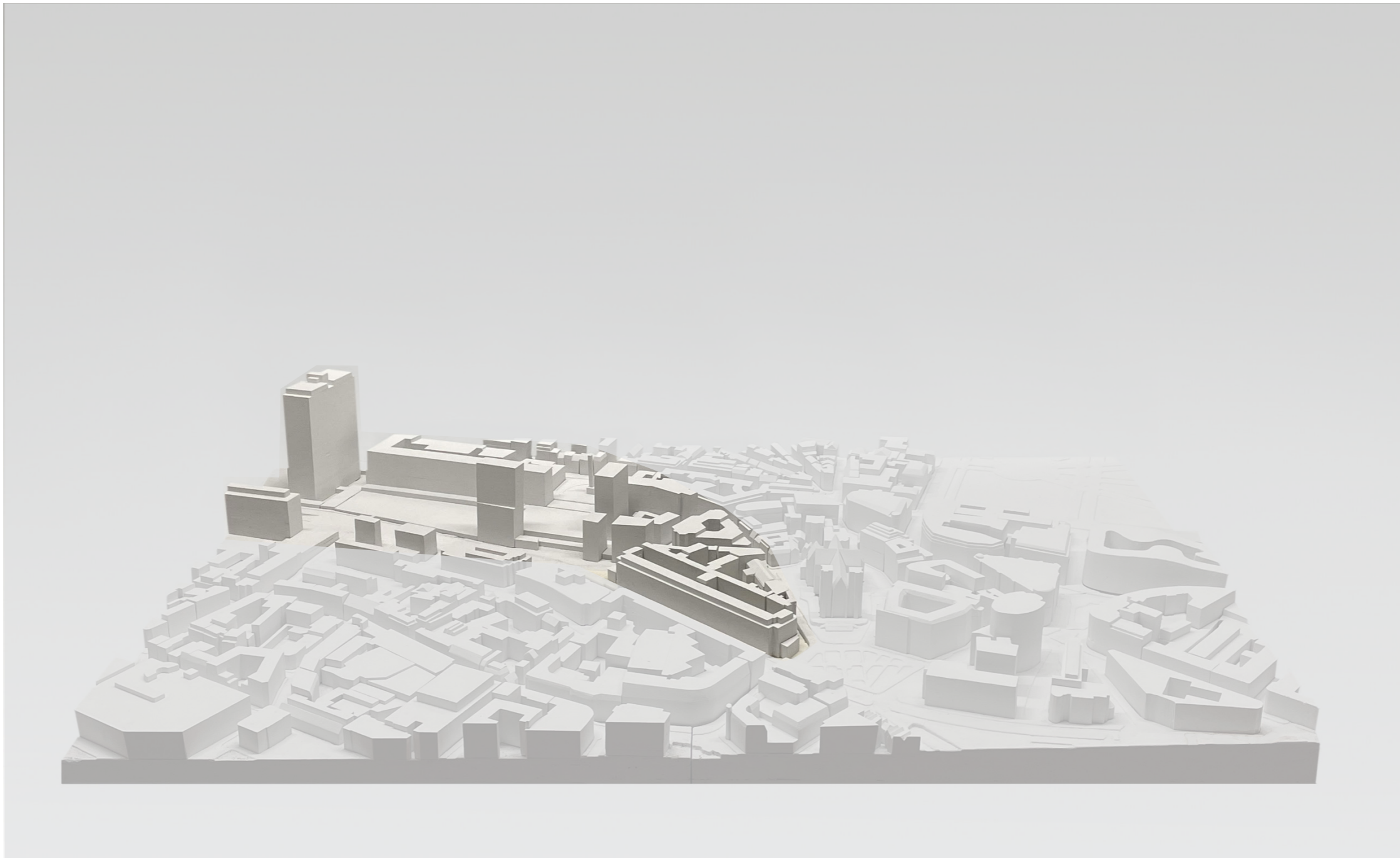
The business district

The heart and center of the business districts is located in Noordwijk, and continues through the city via the administrative centre to the Bank of Belgium.



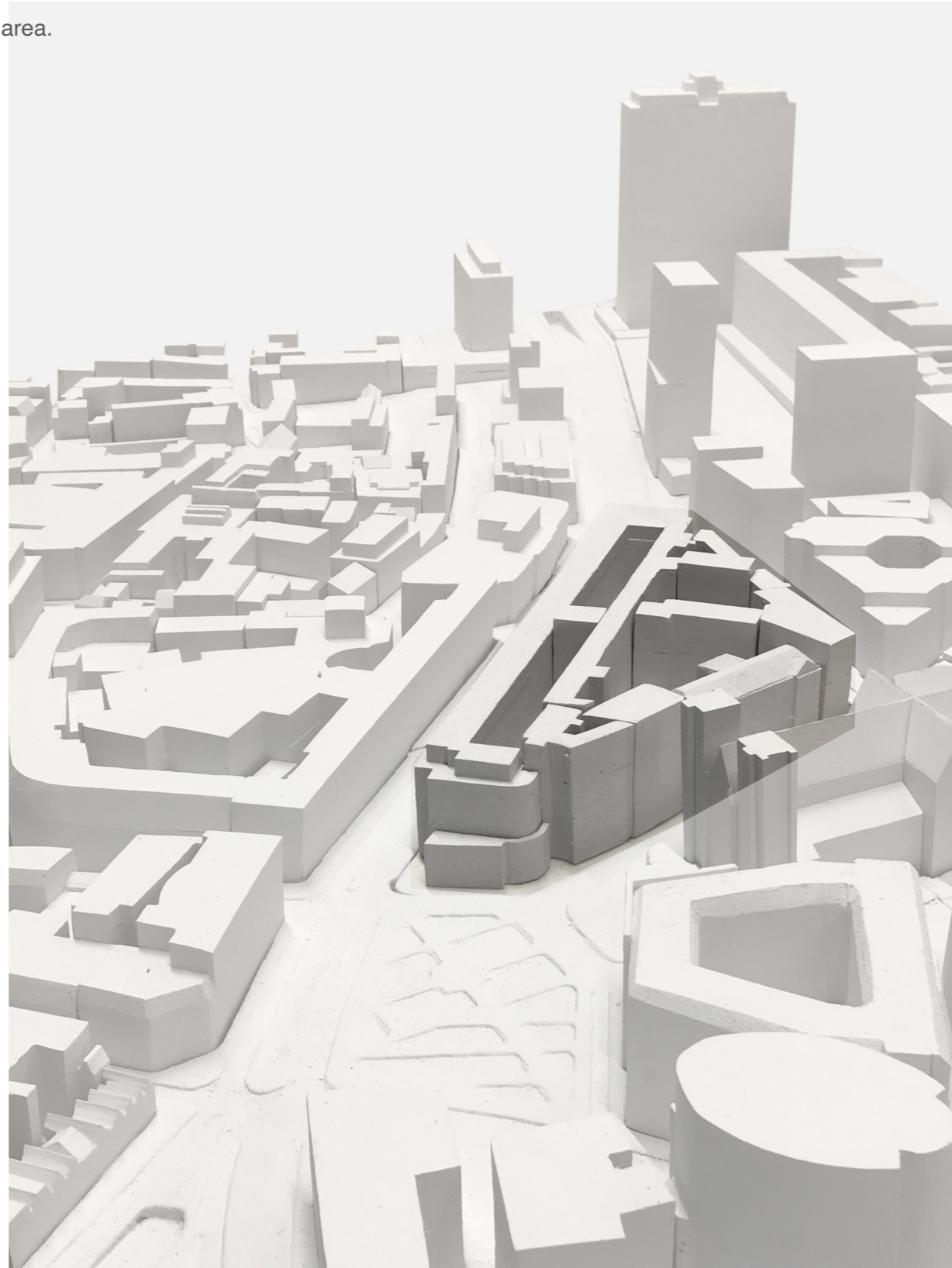
Business district: Administrative Centre

The Administrative center is heavily criticized for being a mono-functional block that failed to integrate into the physical and mental urban fabric city that divides parts of the city centre.



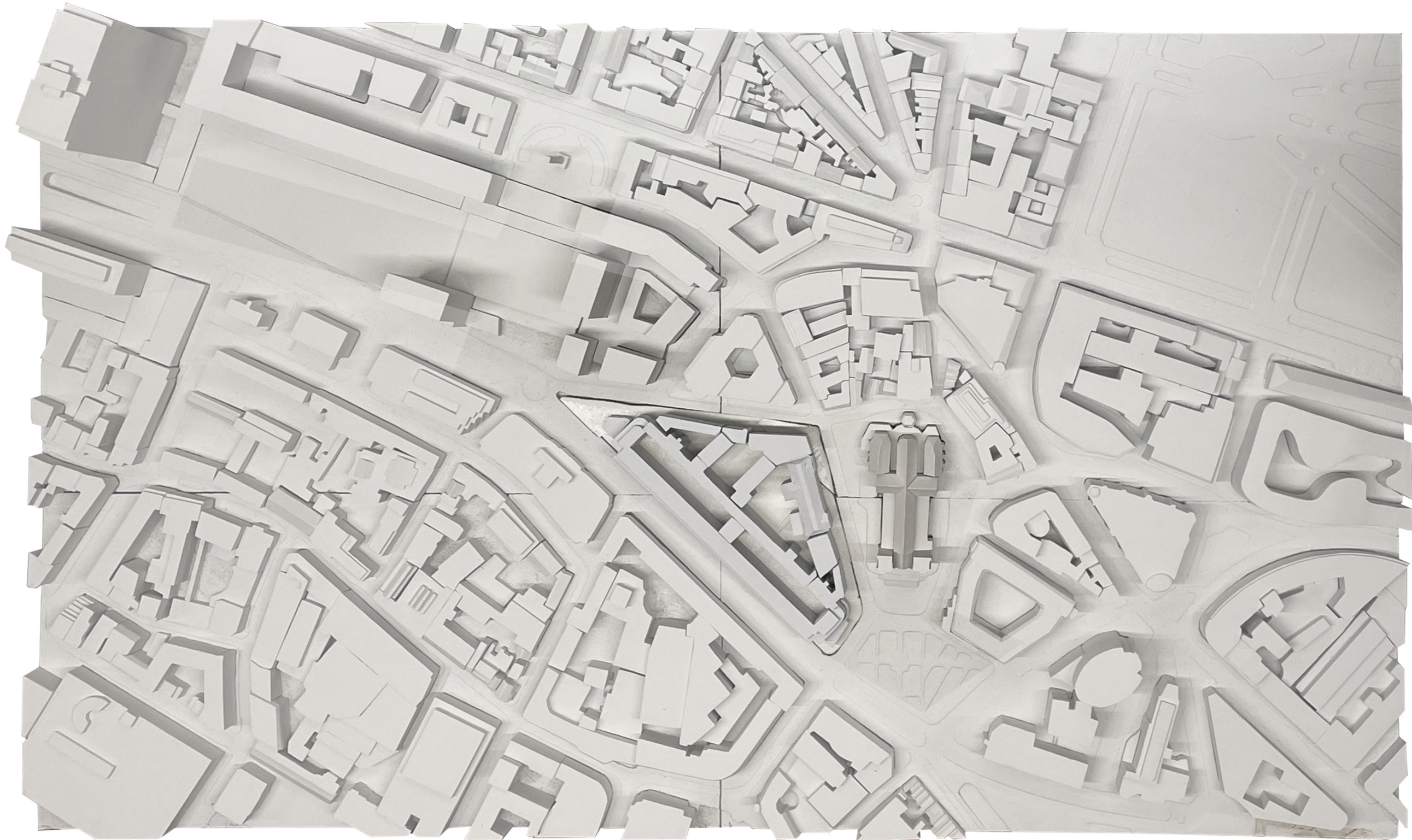
The isolated urban block

The bank building is a continuation of the mono-functional business area.



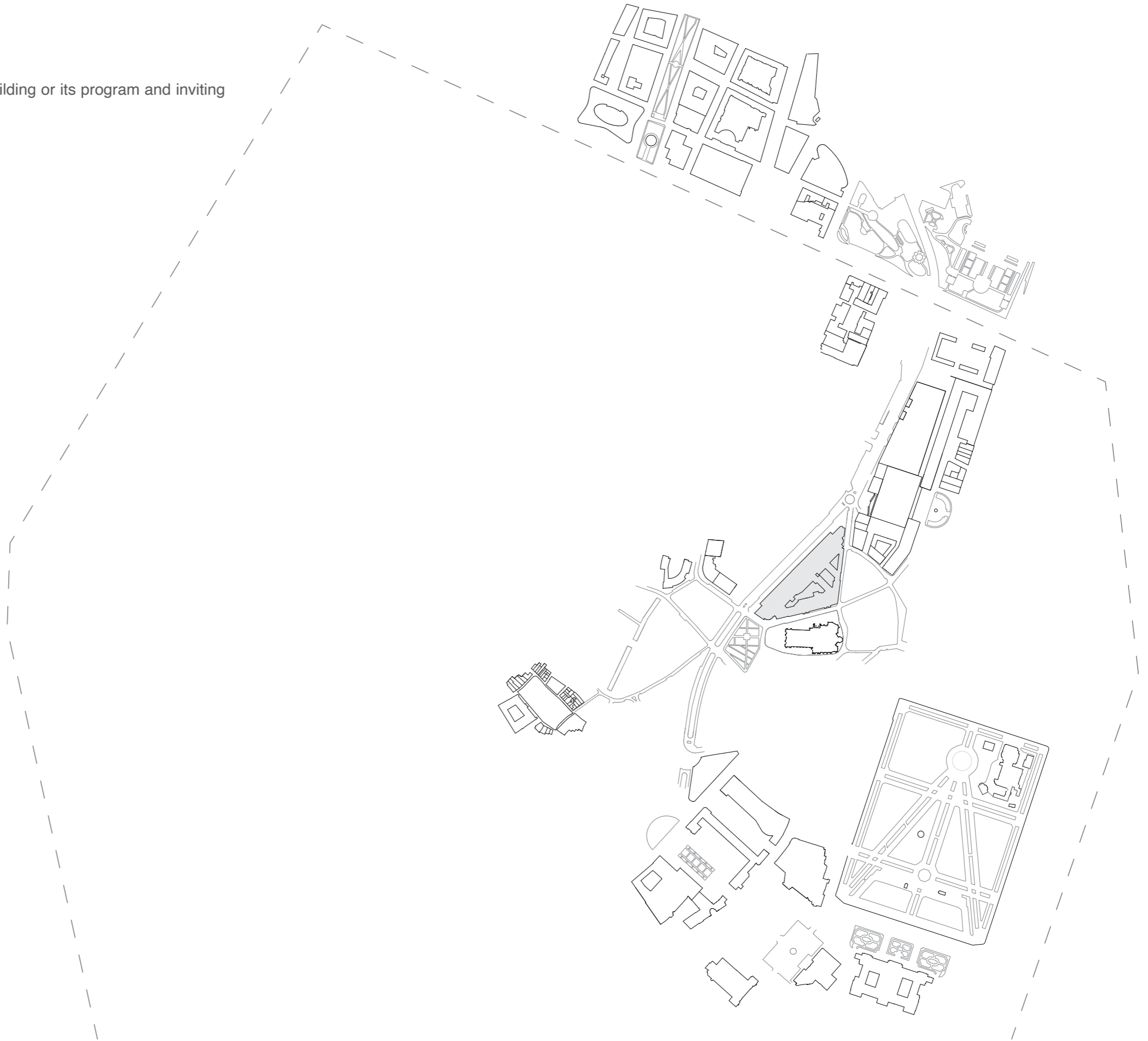
New purpose for the bank

Creating a multipurpose space by establishing collaborations and expanding the current activities within the bank building.



Establishing new collaborations

Parties that could be interested in the bank, adressing its building or its program and inviting these new institutes into the bank.

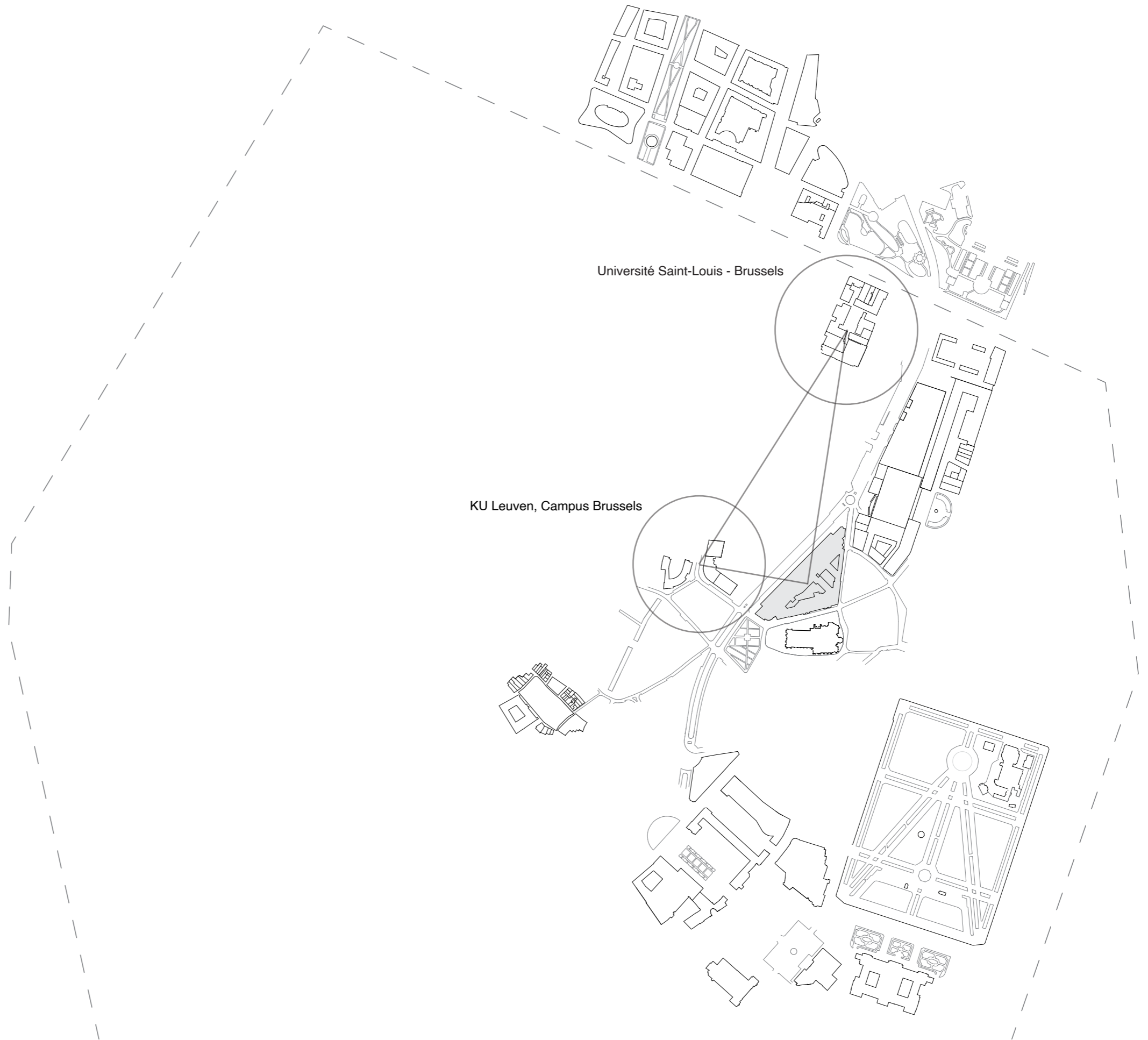


Colaborating with Universities

New activity within the bank

Universities

- students / teachers / researchers
- lecture halls / workspaces



Relating to cultural institutions

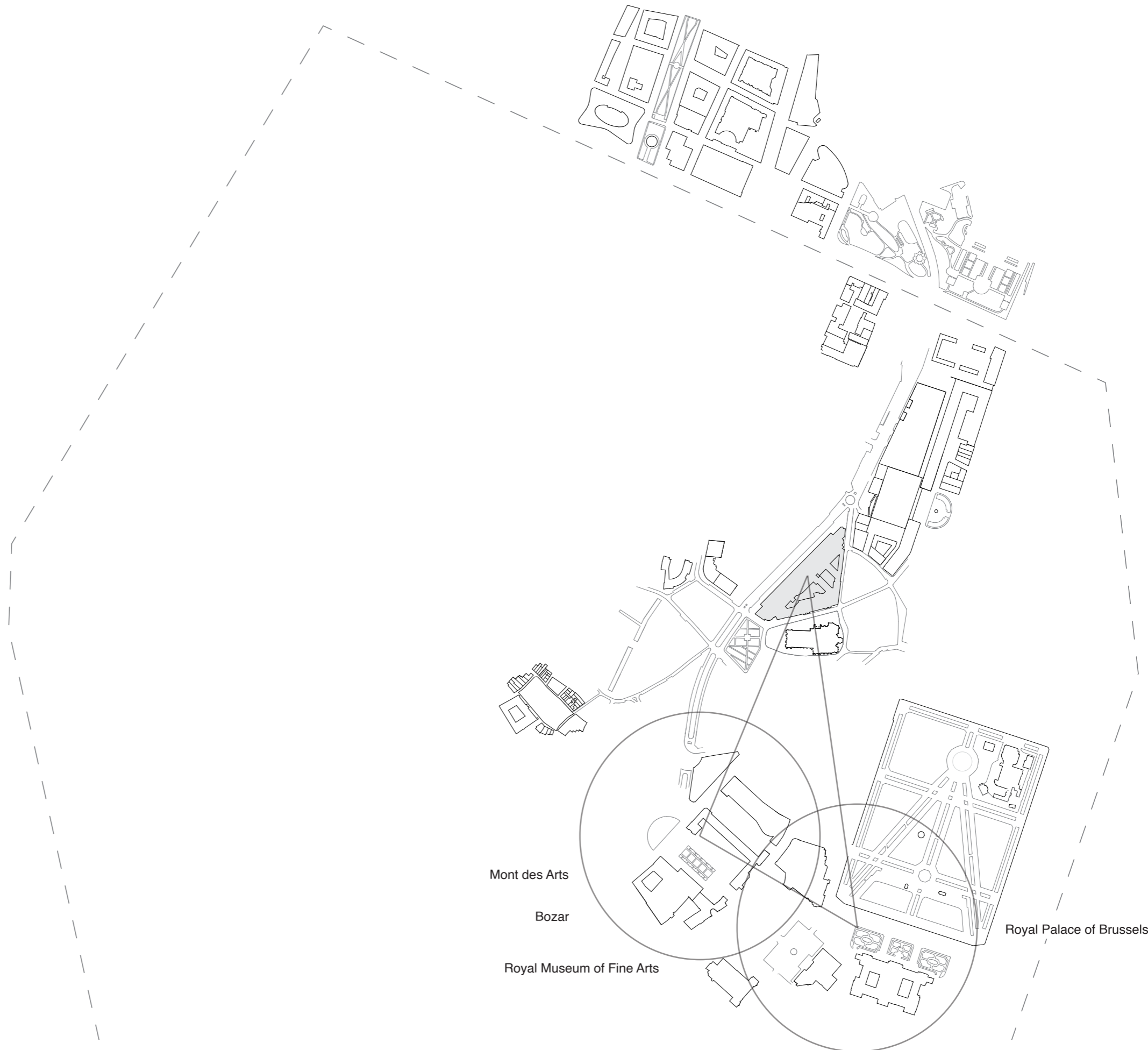
New activity within the bank

Universities

- students / teachers / researchers
- lecture halls / workspaces

Culture

- creatives / locals / visitors
- galleries / expositions / presentation spaces



Mont des Arts

Bozar

Royal Museum of Fine Arts

Royal Palace of Brussels

Integrating with business institutions

New activity within the bank

Universities

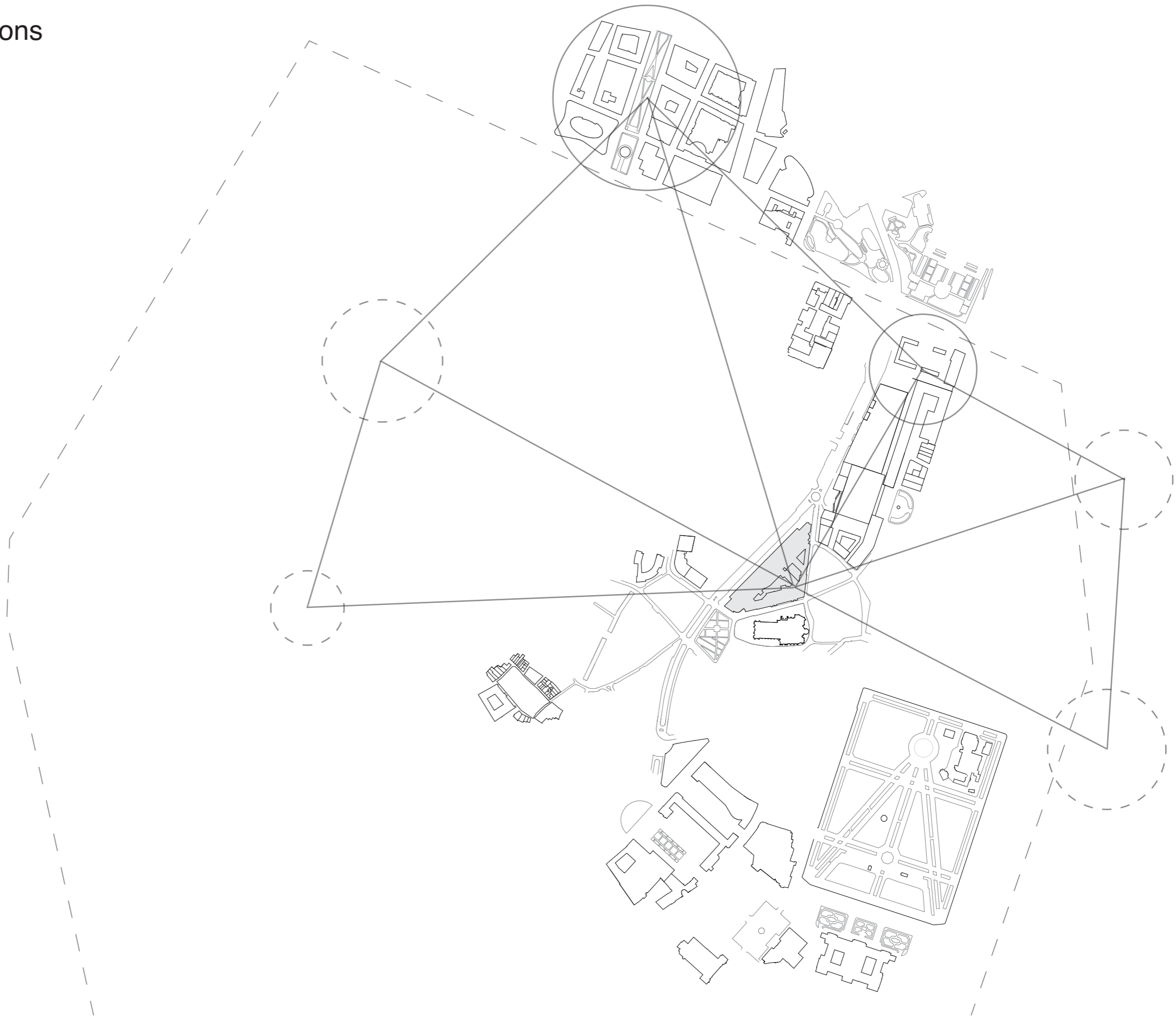
- students / teachers / researchers
- lecture halls / workspaces

Culture

- creatives / locals / visitors
- galleries / expositions / presentation spaces

Businesses

- startups / entrepreneurs
- office spaces / workspaces / meeting rooms



Merging program

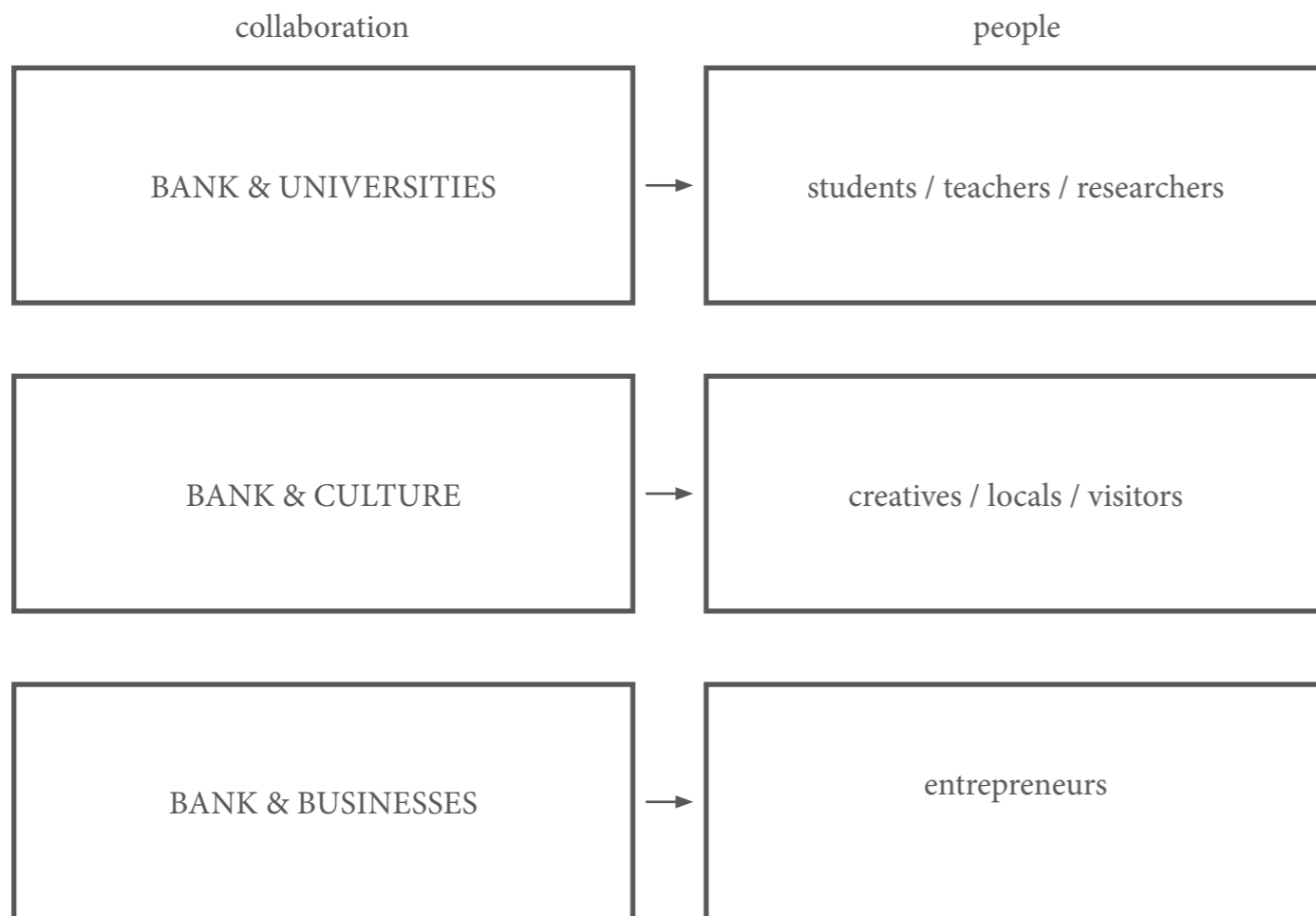
collaboration

BANK & UNIVERSITIES

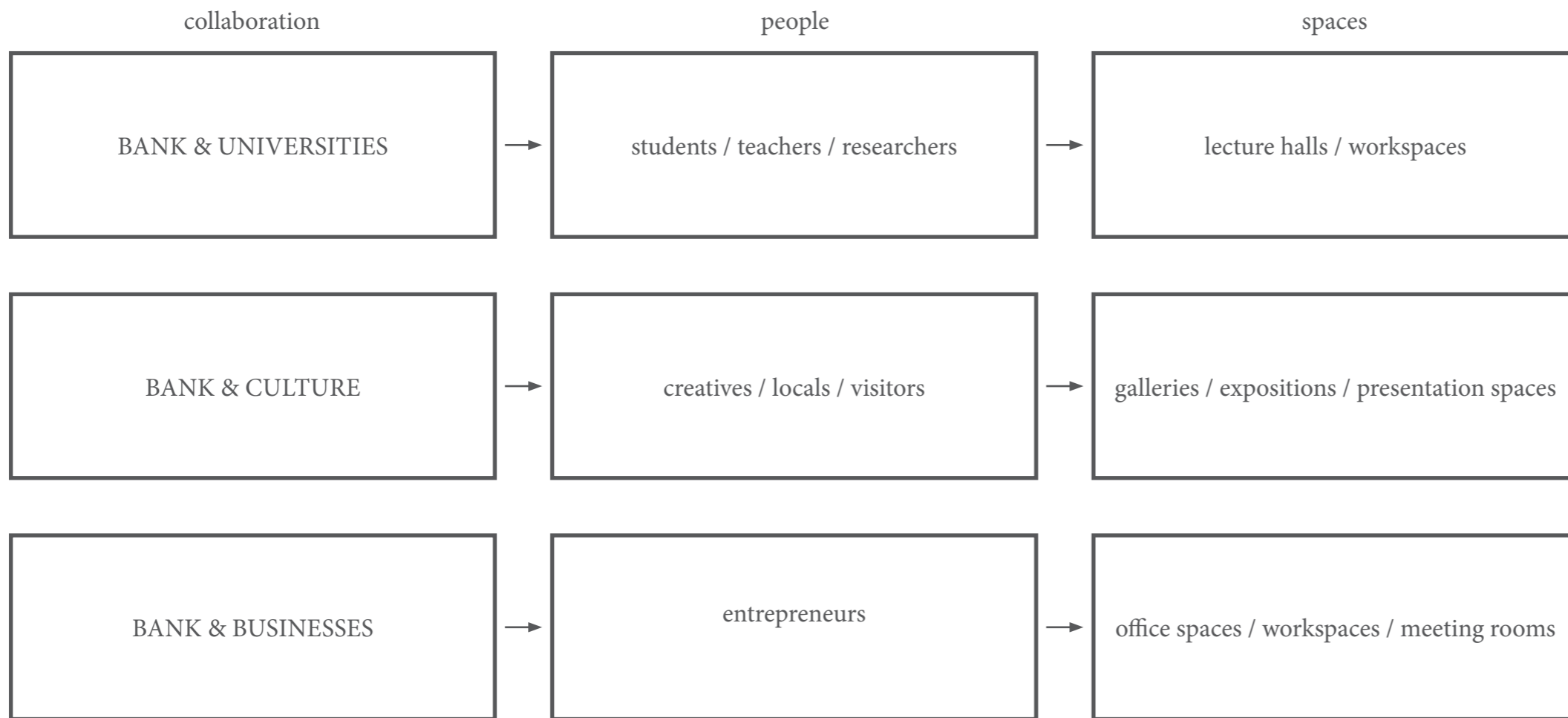
BANK & CULTURE

BANK & BUSINESSES

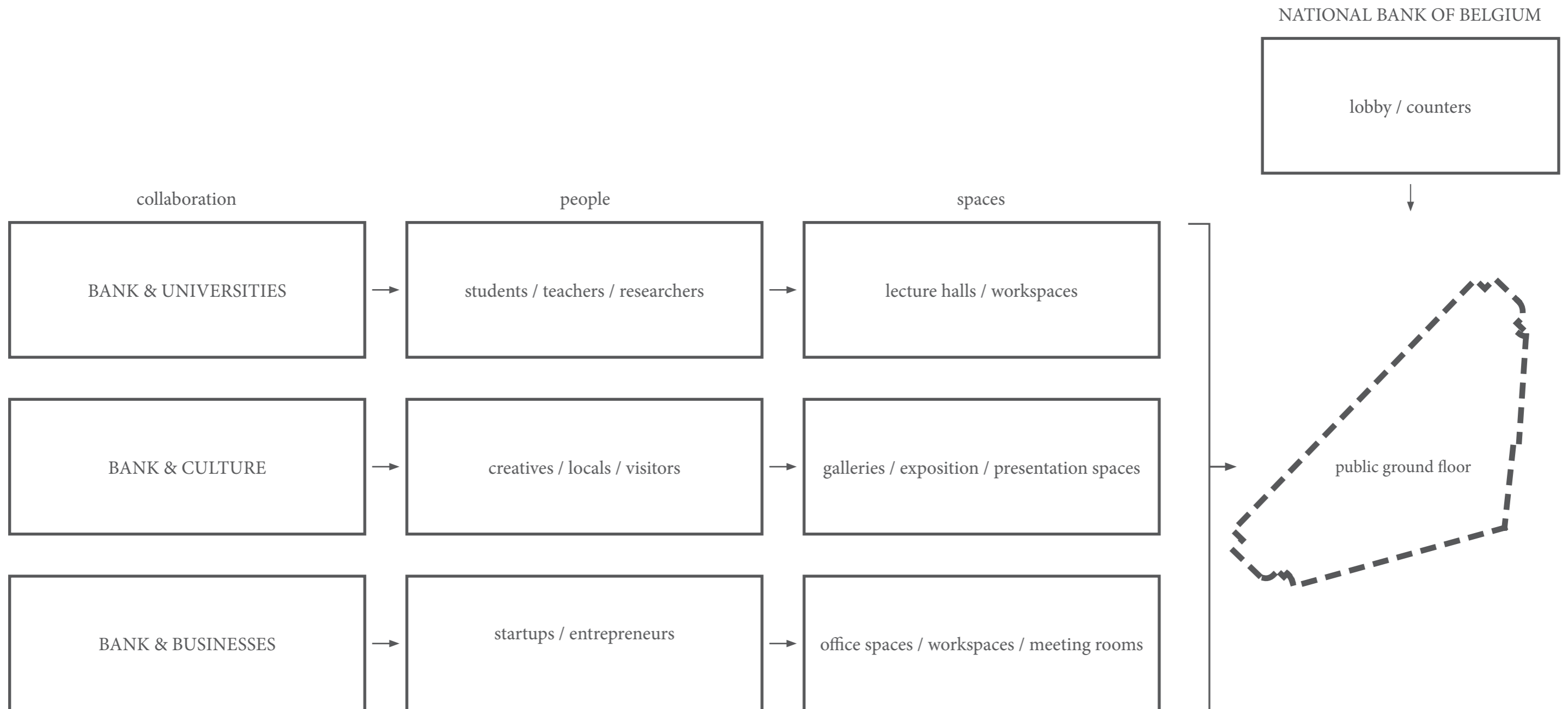
Merging program



Merging program



Merging program



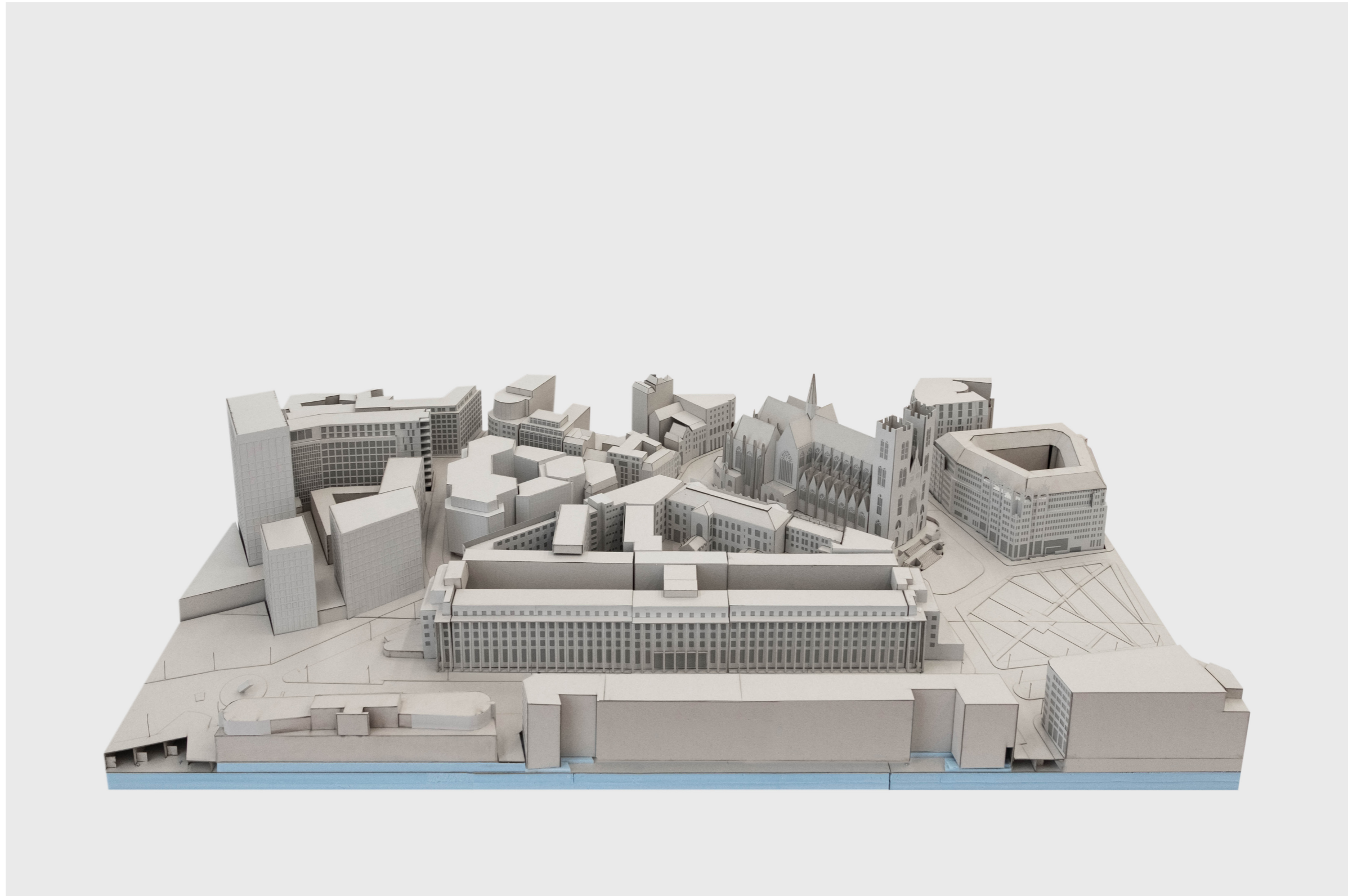
Multipurpose, permeable bank building

To make these collaborations possible and attract the new life in the building, a more permeable building is needed. Where the bank will be opened up, and become a more inviting building.



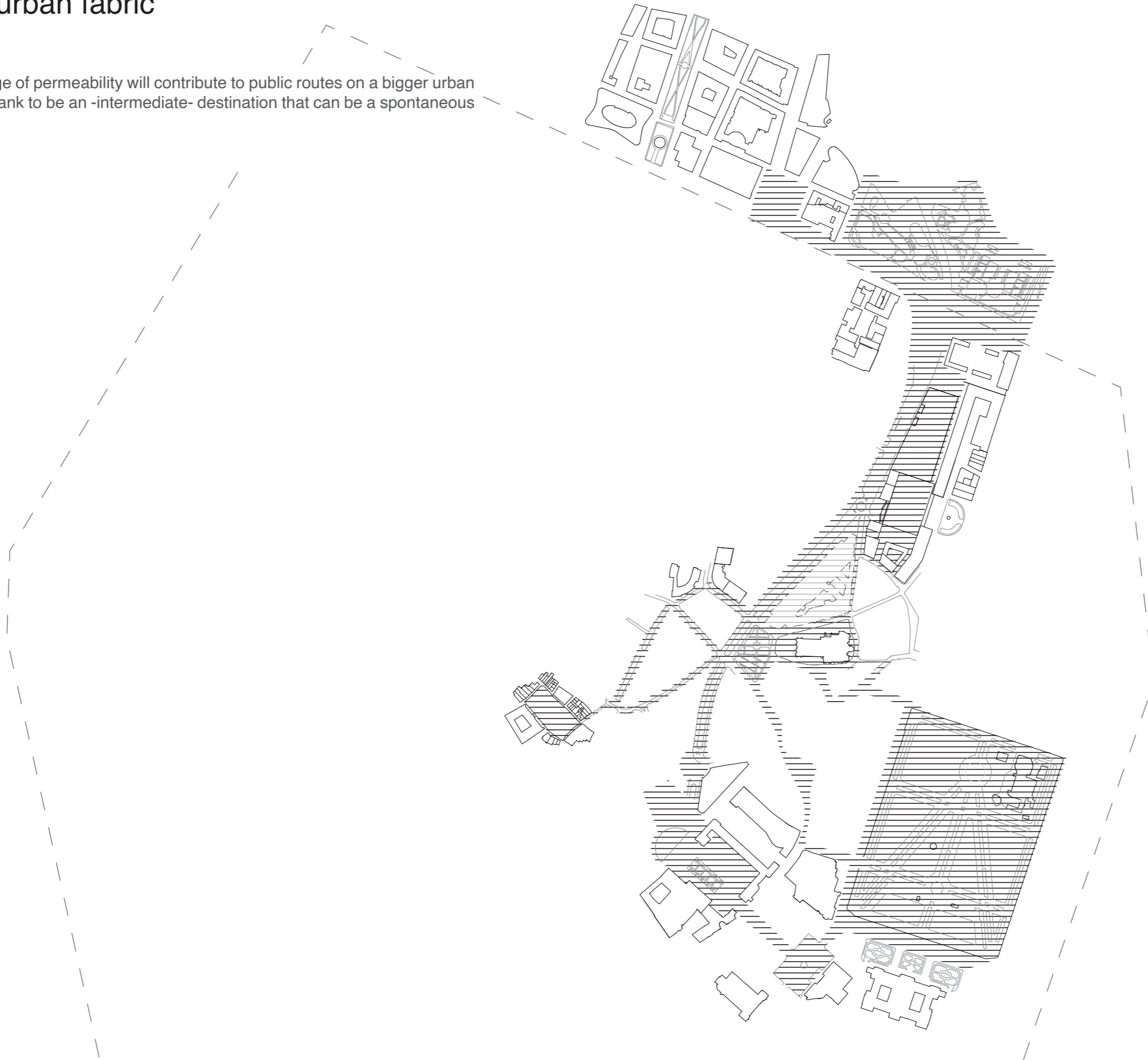
The static bank building

This will lead to a shift of the image of the bank from an imposing, static and unreachable building to an inviting and friendly institute.



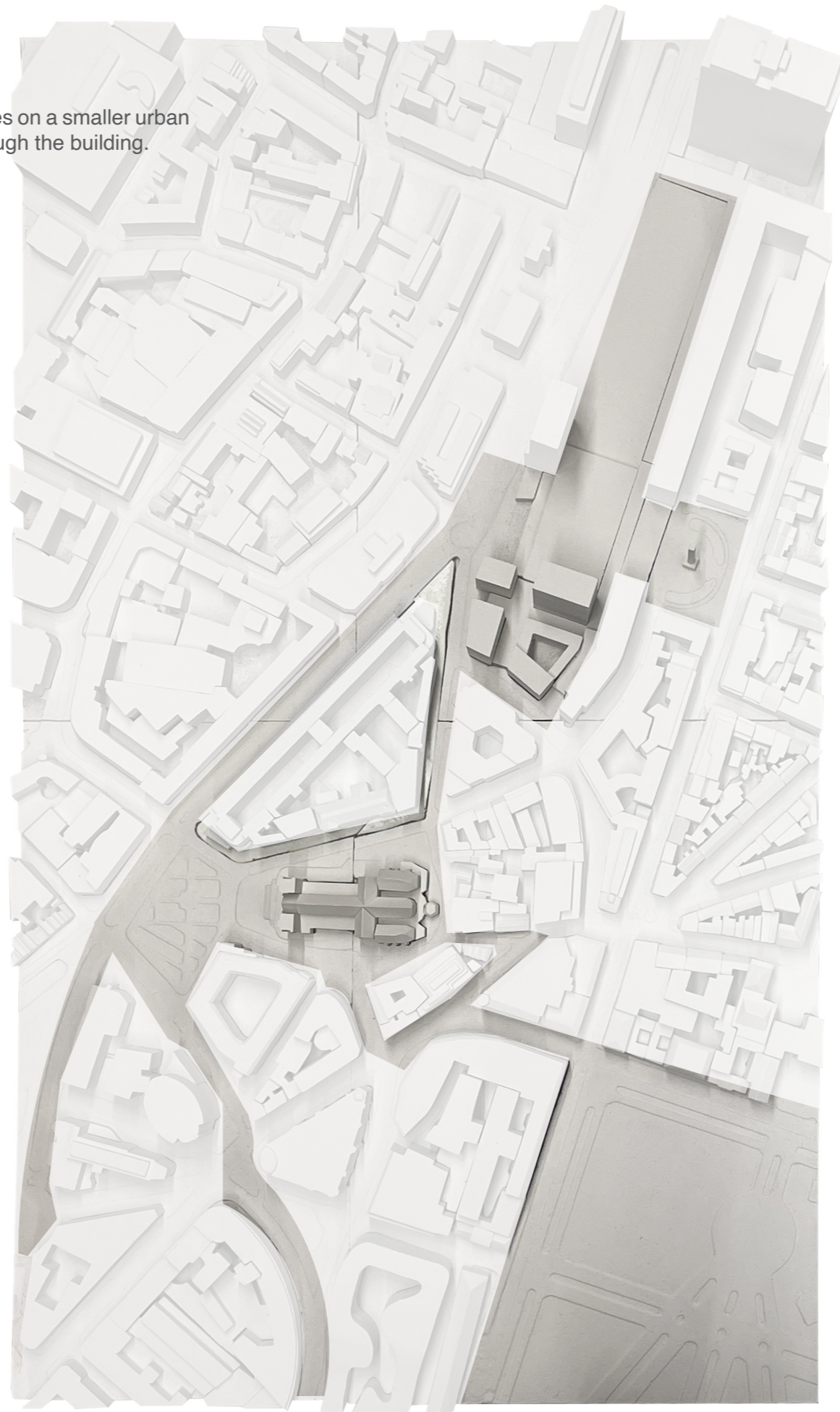
Relating to the urban fabric

The new program and change of permeability will contribute to public routes on a bigger urban scale, leading a visit to the bank to be an -intermediate- destination that can be a spontaneous part of your daily life.



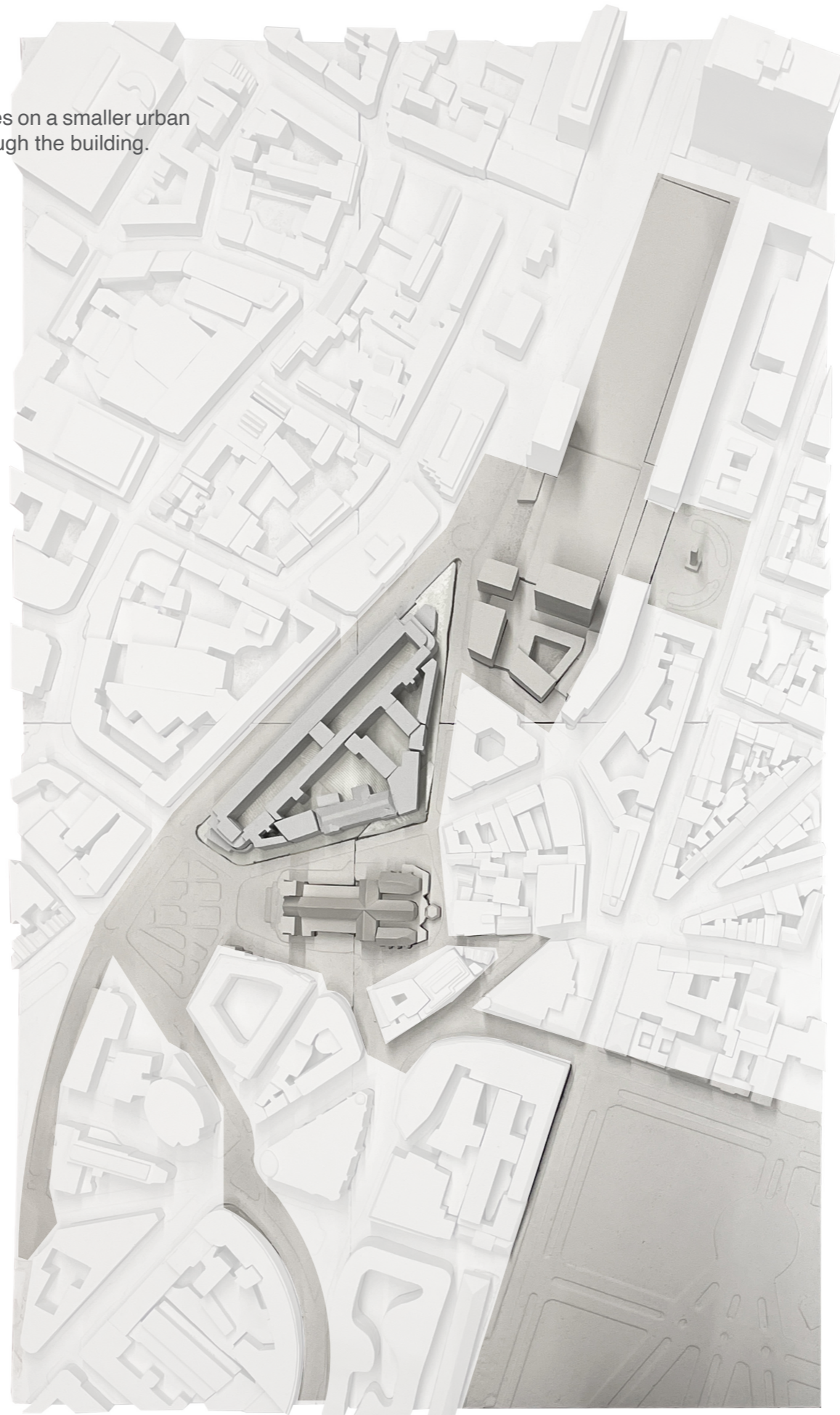
Relating to the urban fabric

The new program and change of permeability will contribute to public routes on a smaller urban scale. where not only a walk around the bank will be made, but also through the building.

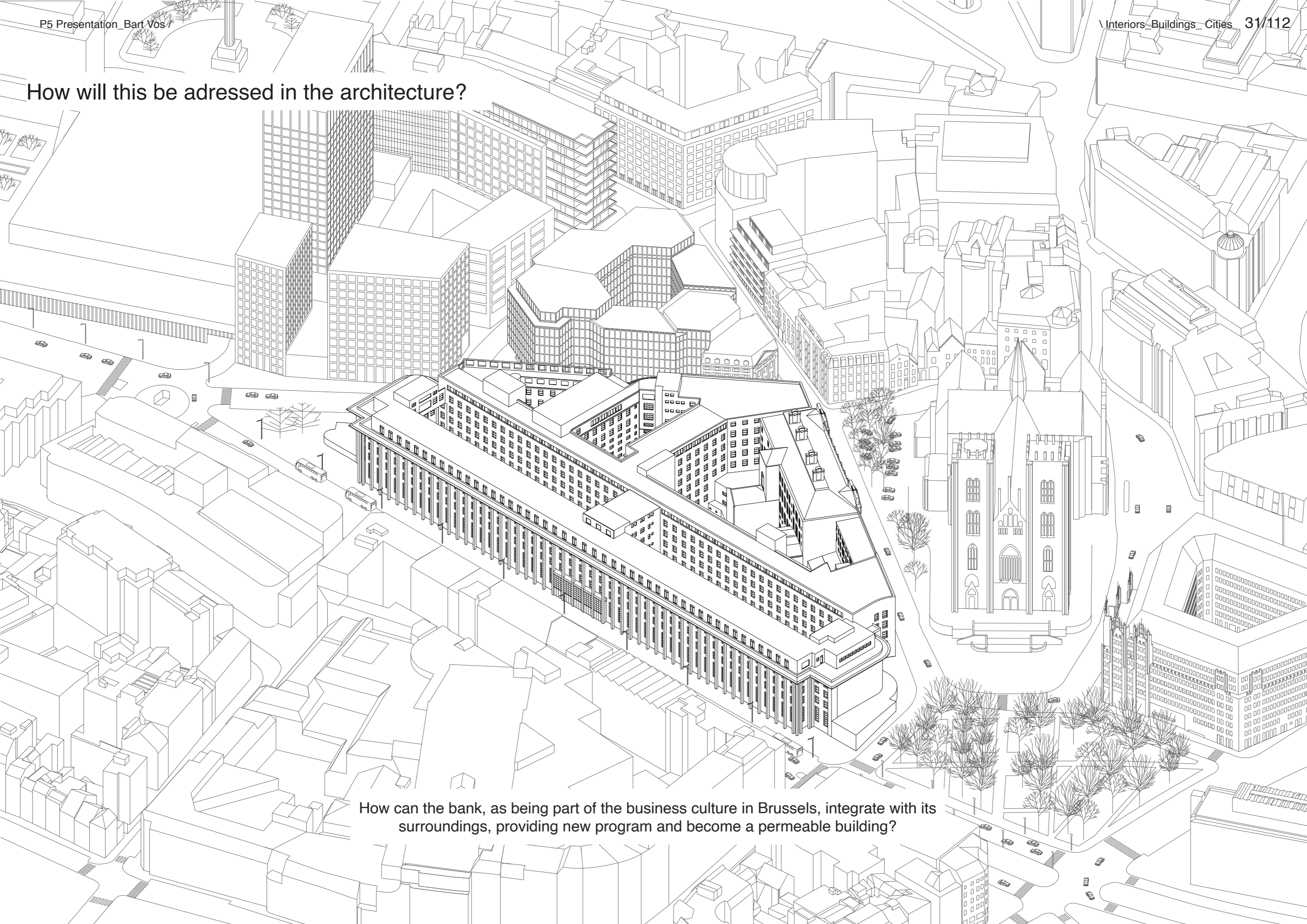


Relating to the urban fabric

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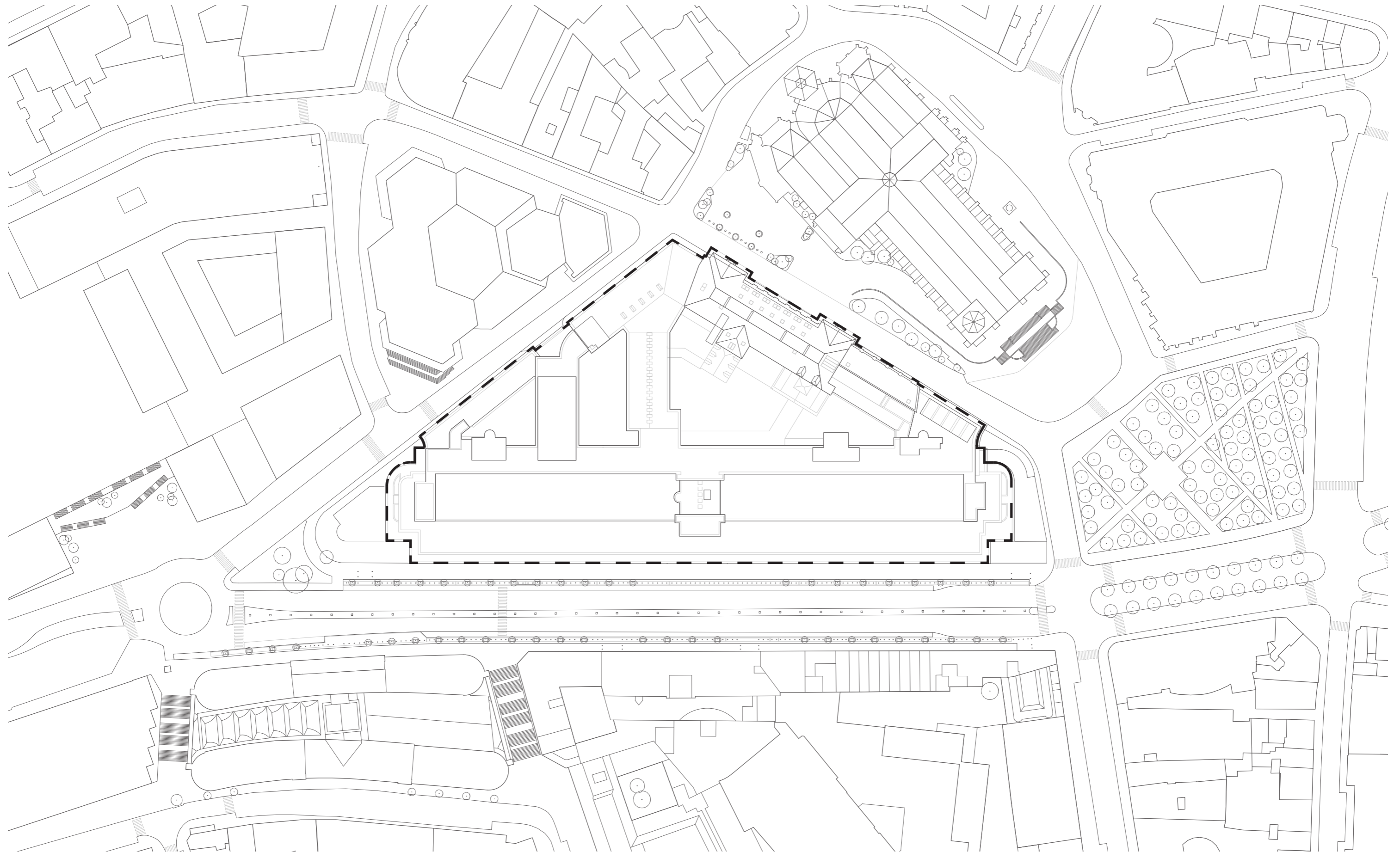


How will this be adressed in the architecture?

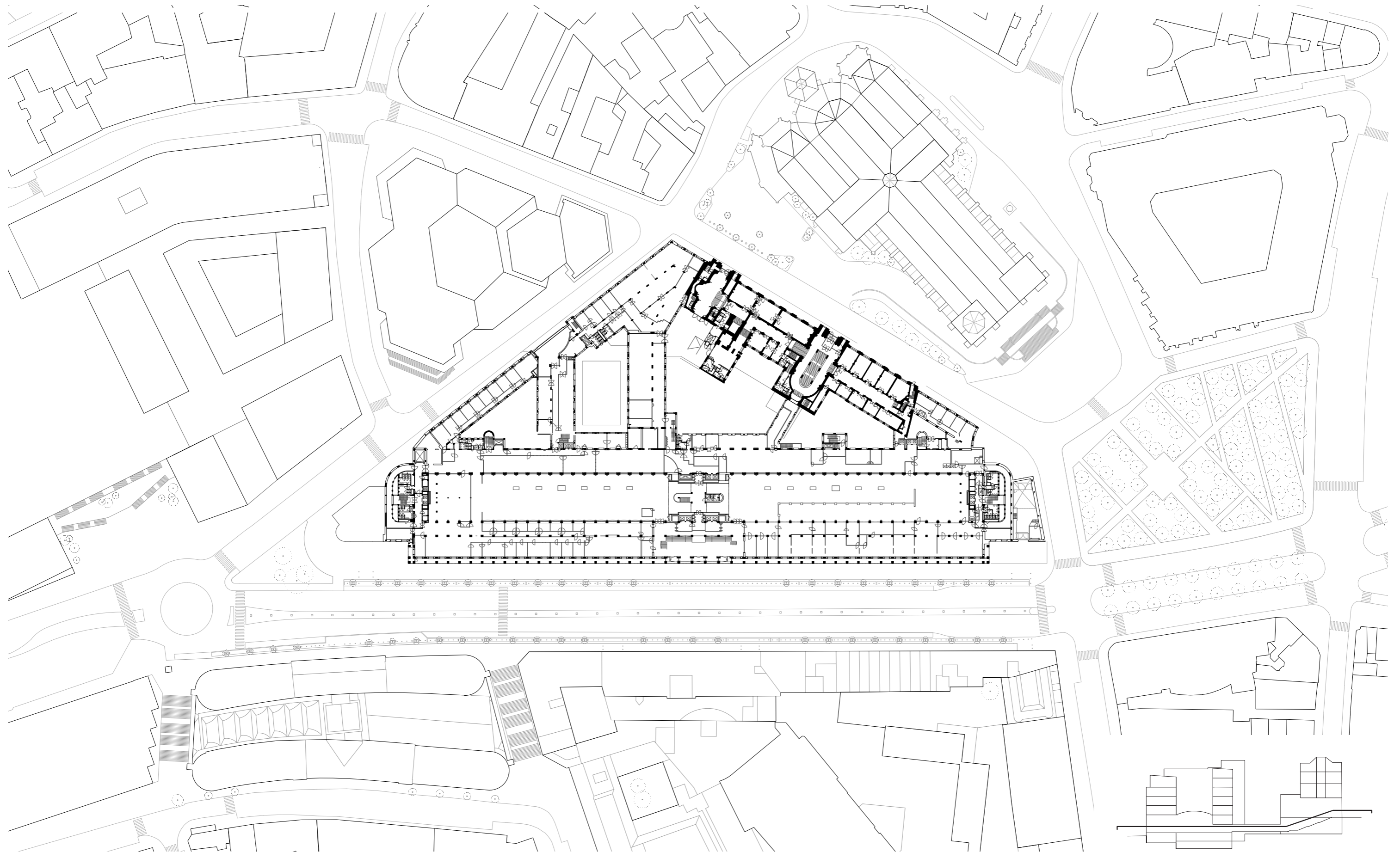


How can the bank, as being part of the business culture in Brussels, integrate with its surroundings, providing new program and become a permeable building?

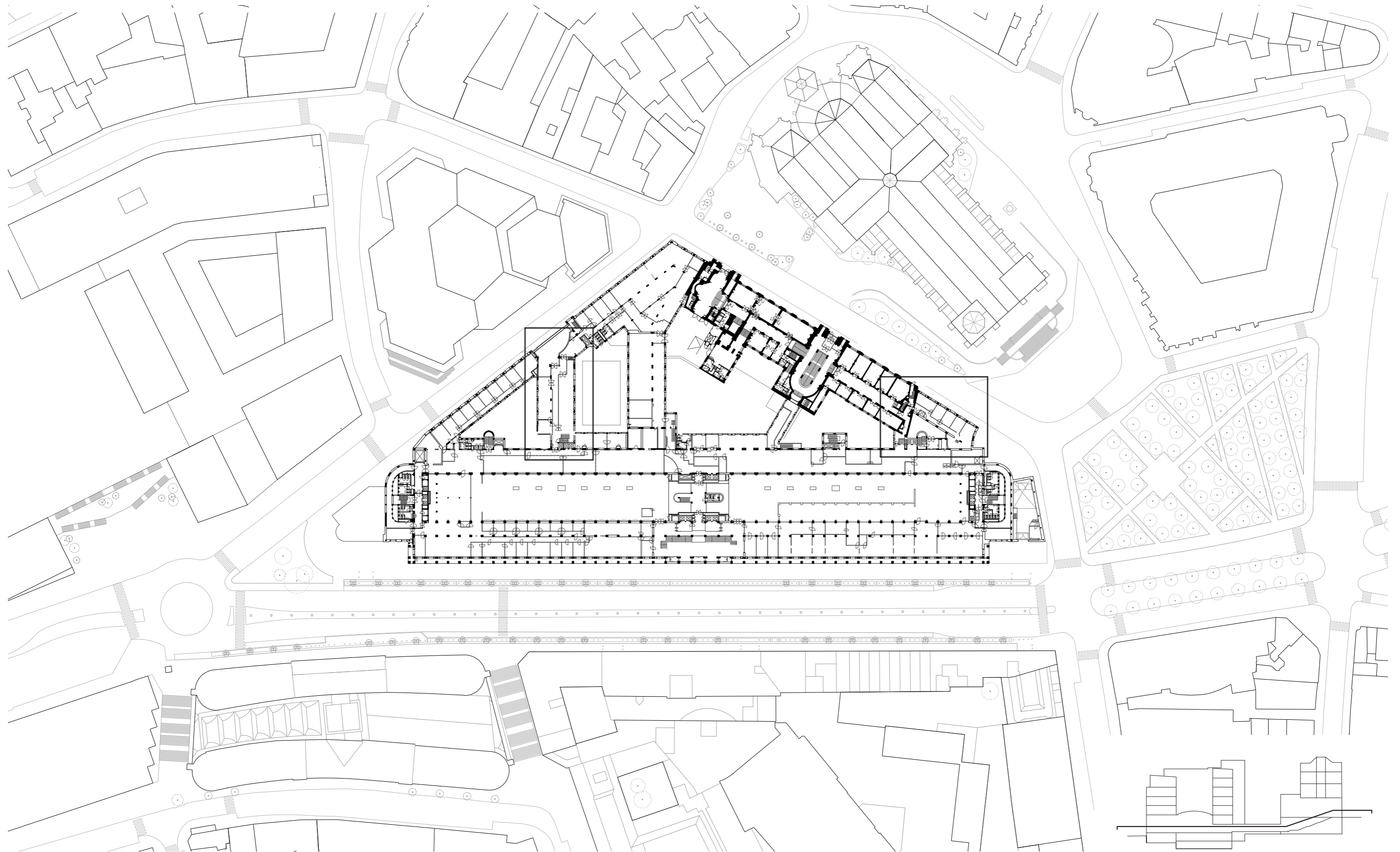
The permeable bank



Analysing the 'leveled' ground floor plan

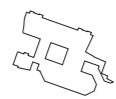
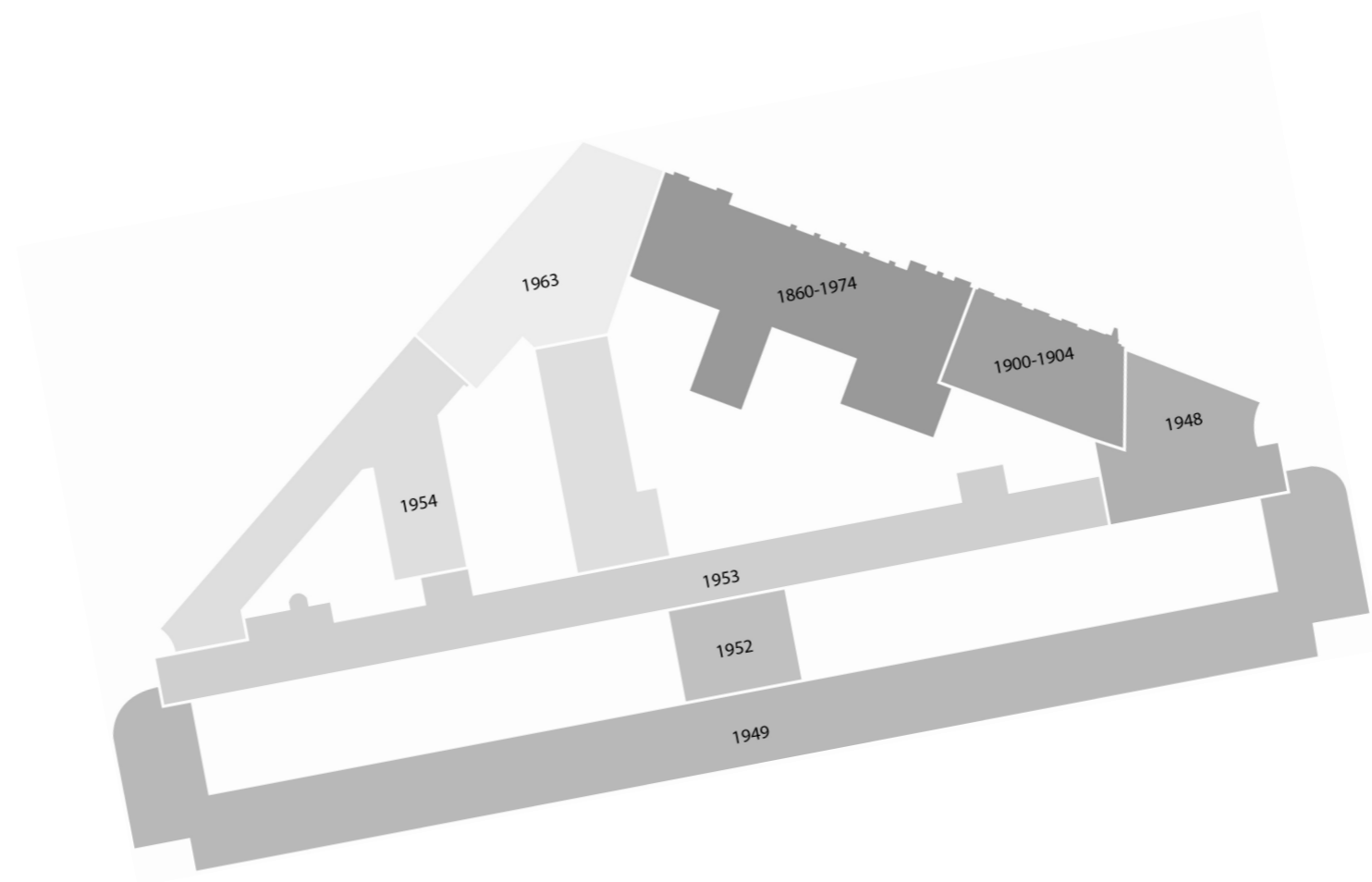


Finding the 'soft spots'



The assembly of the bank

The bank is built in different fragments out of different time zones, acting as a conglomerate. Therefore parts are visibly, constructively and socially distinguished from each other and can be treated as separate elements.



1860-1874



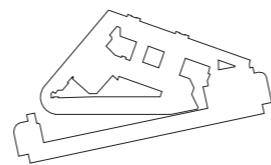
1871-1878



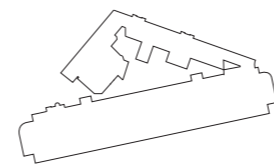
1900-1908



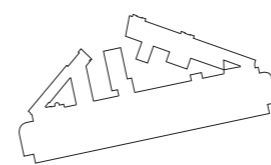
1948-1949



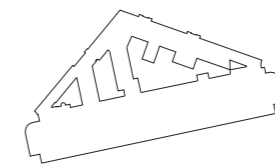
1949-1951



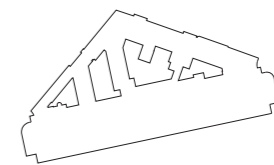
1952-1953



1954



1965



2021

Analysing the unfolded facade



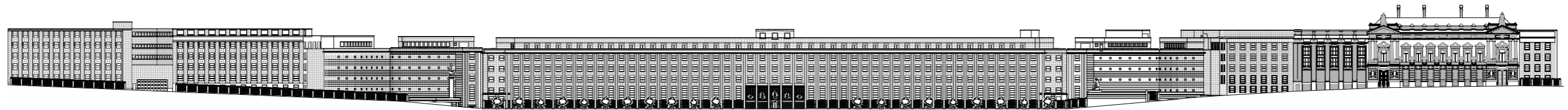
Analysing the unfolded facade



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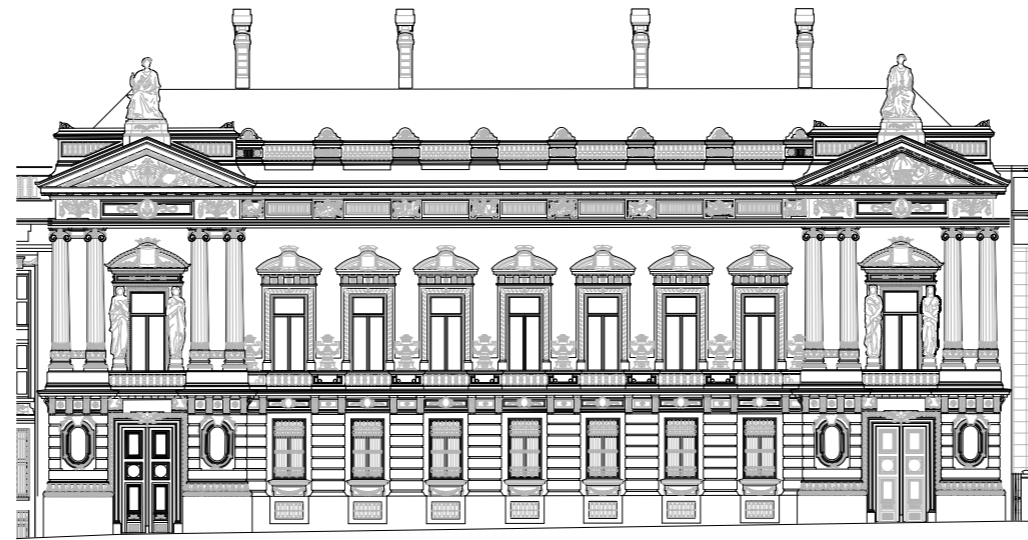
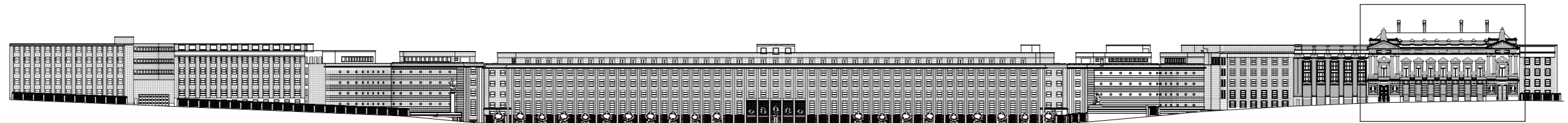


Unfolding the building

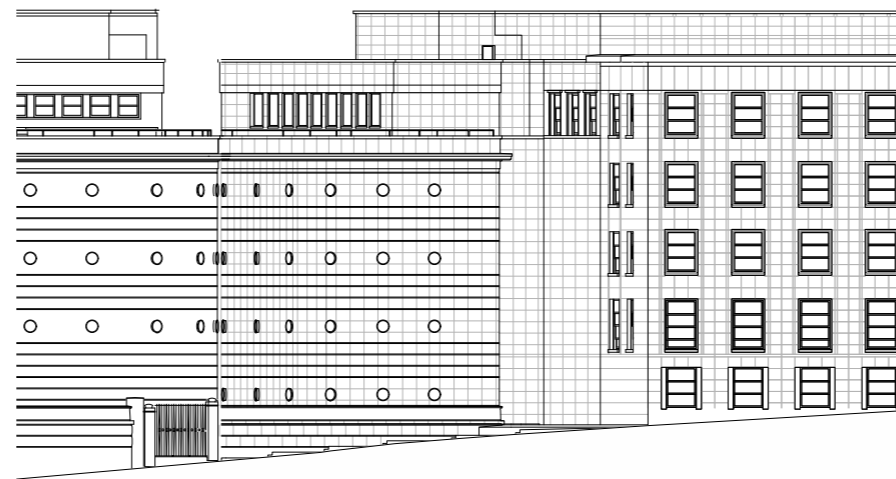
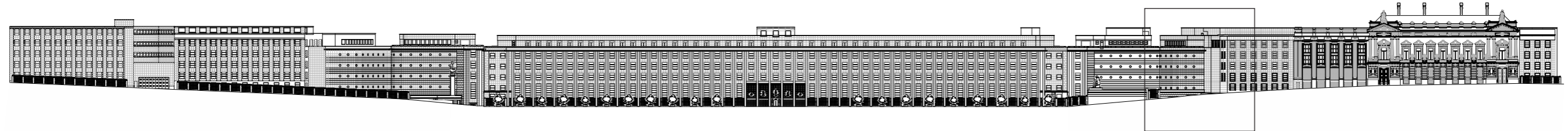


90.000 m2

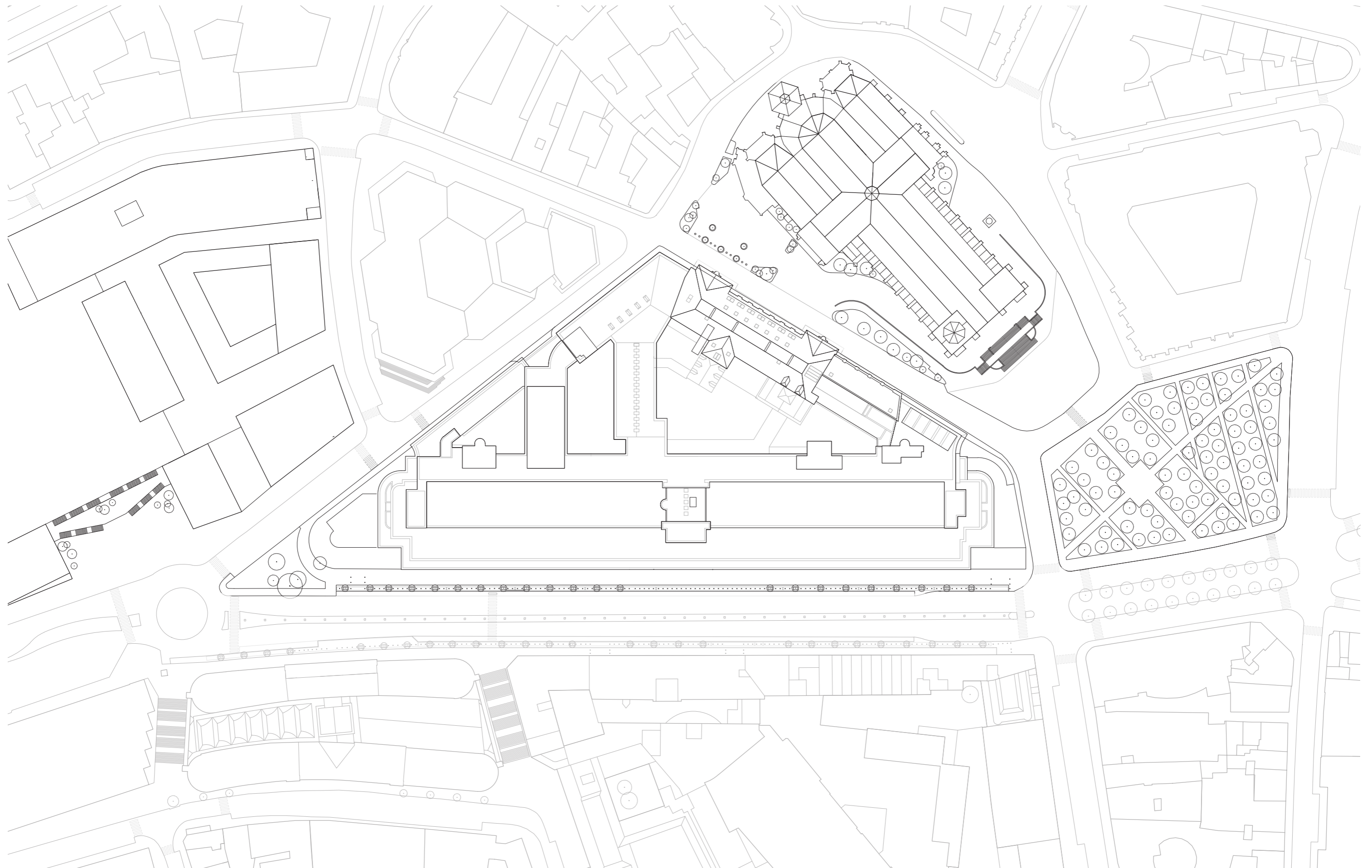
Unfolding the building: new openings



Unfolding the building: new openings

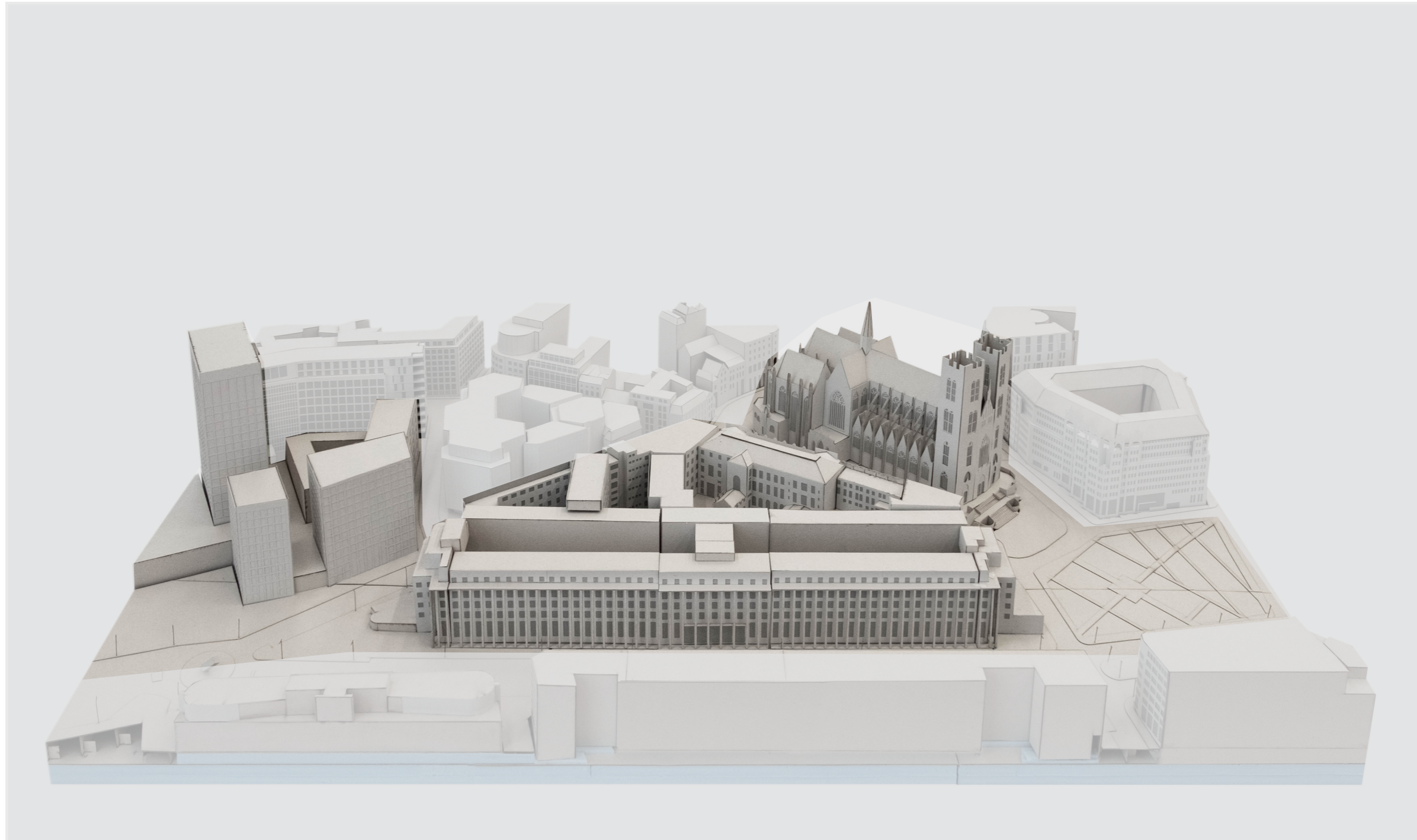


Banks surroundings

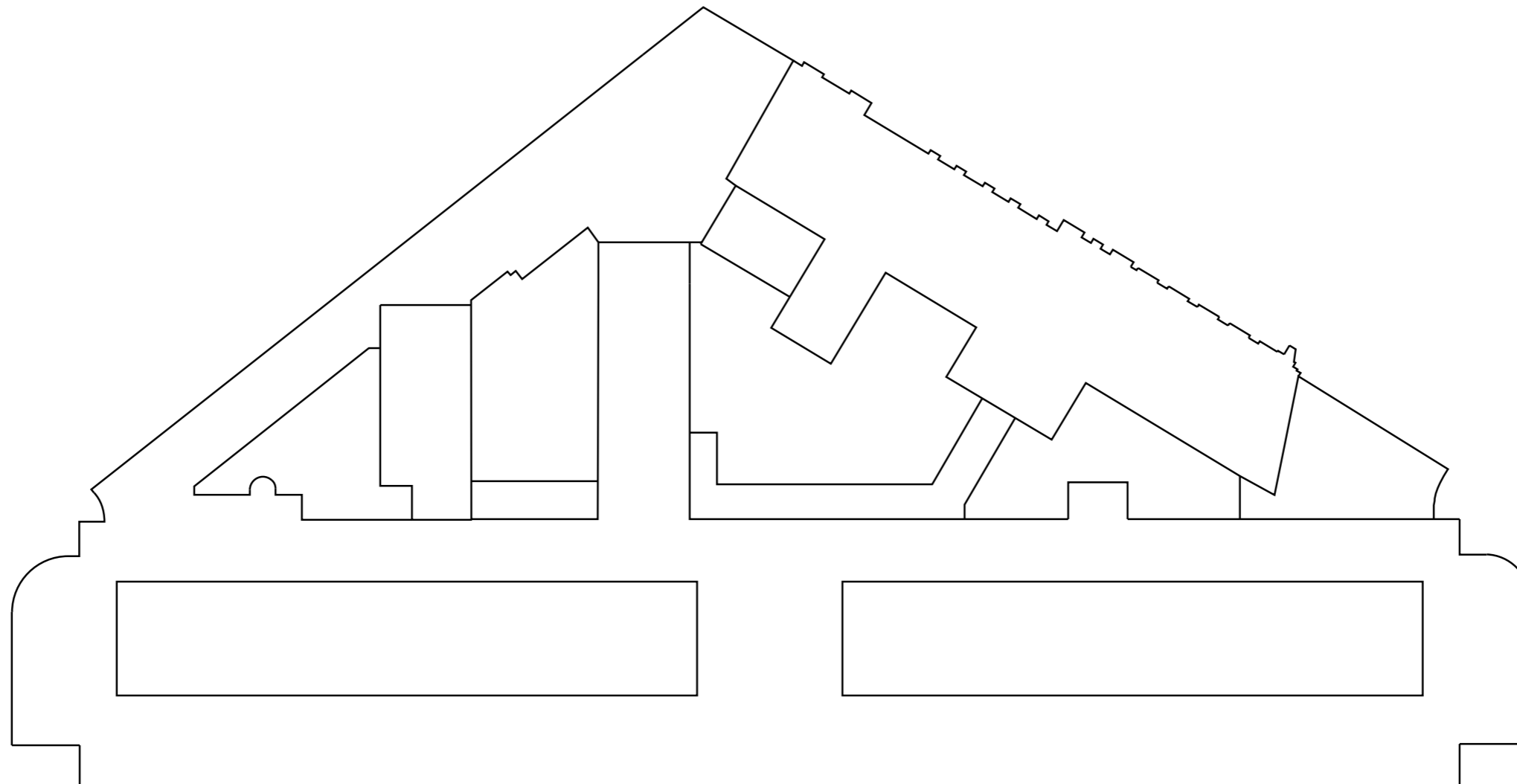


Potential of the area

The cathedral and public square, together with the new development at the administrative centre brings new life and reduces the monofunctionality of the area.

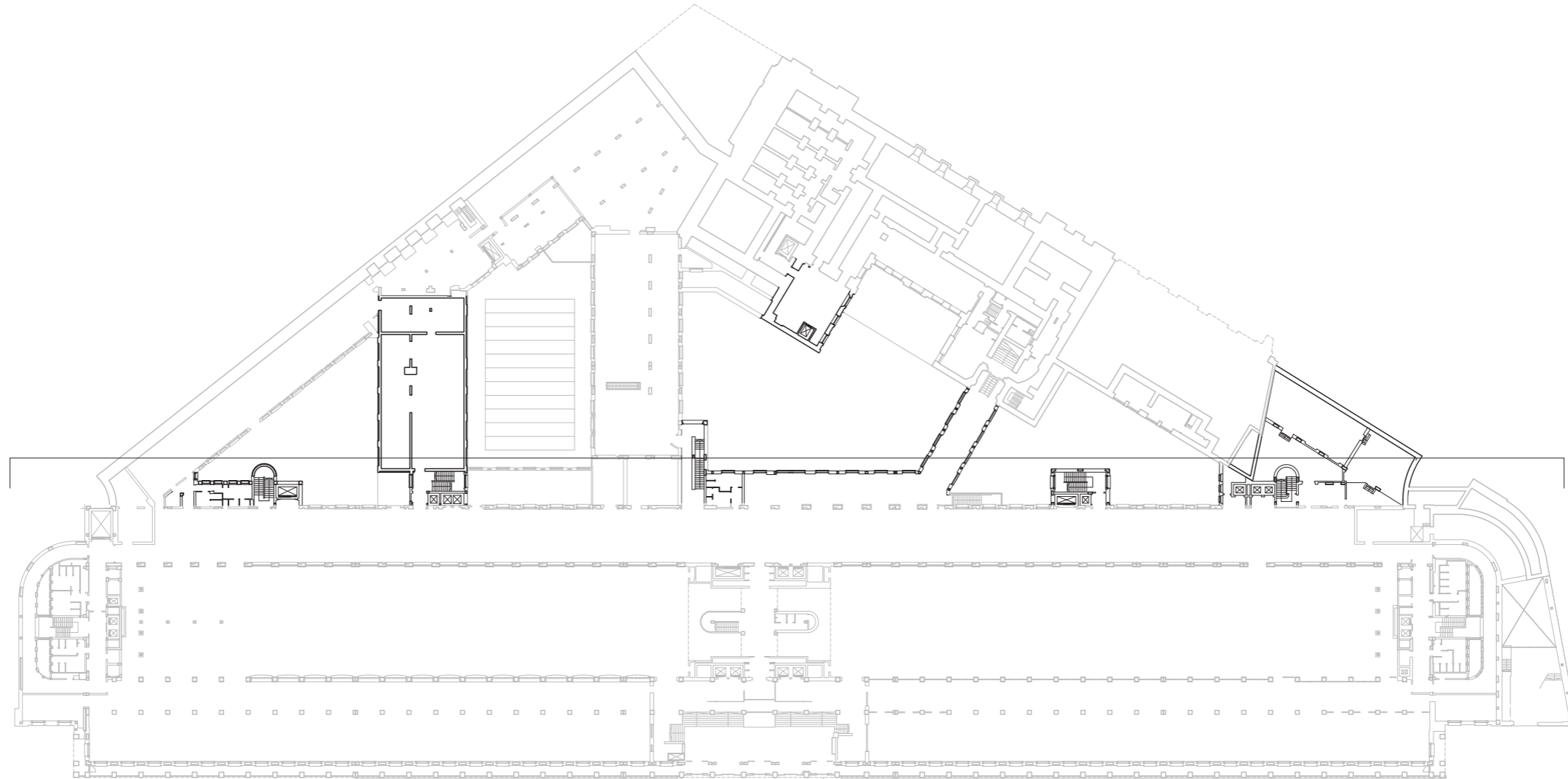


Existing building

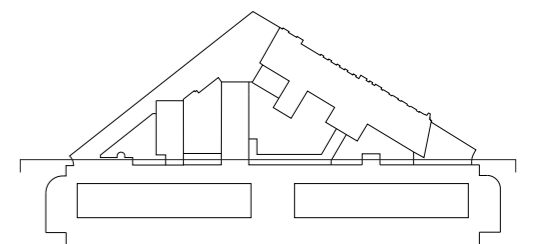
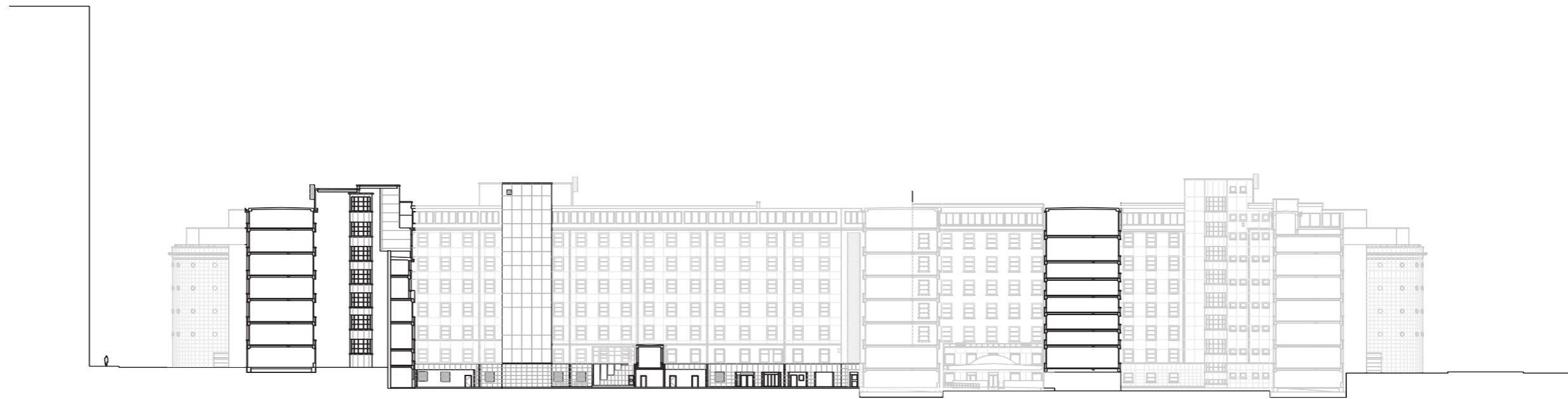


Creating space in courtyards

By finding the soft spots, and understanding the context, new interventions can be made. By removing these parts, reorganisation will take place within the courtyards which will improve the daylight in the bank.

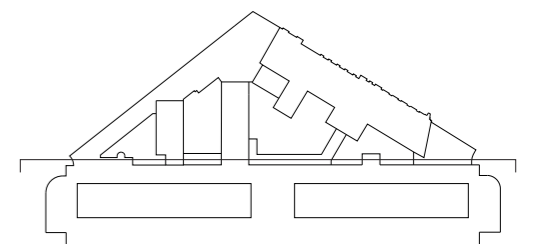


Creating space in courtyards



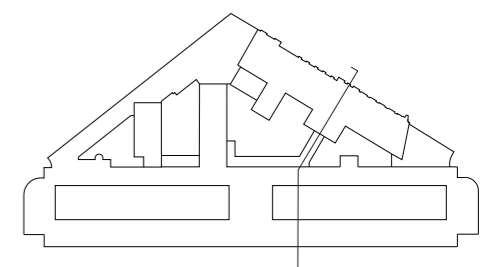
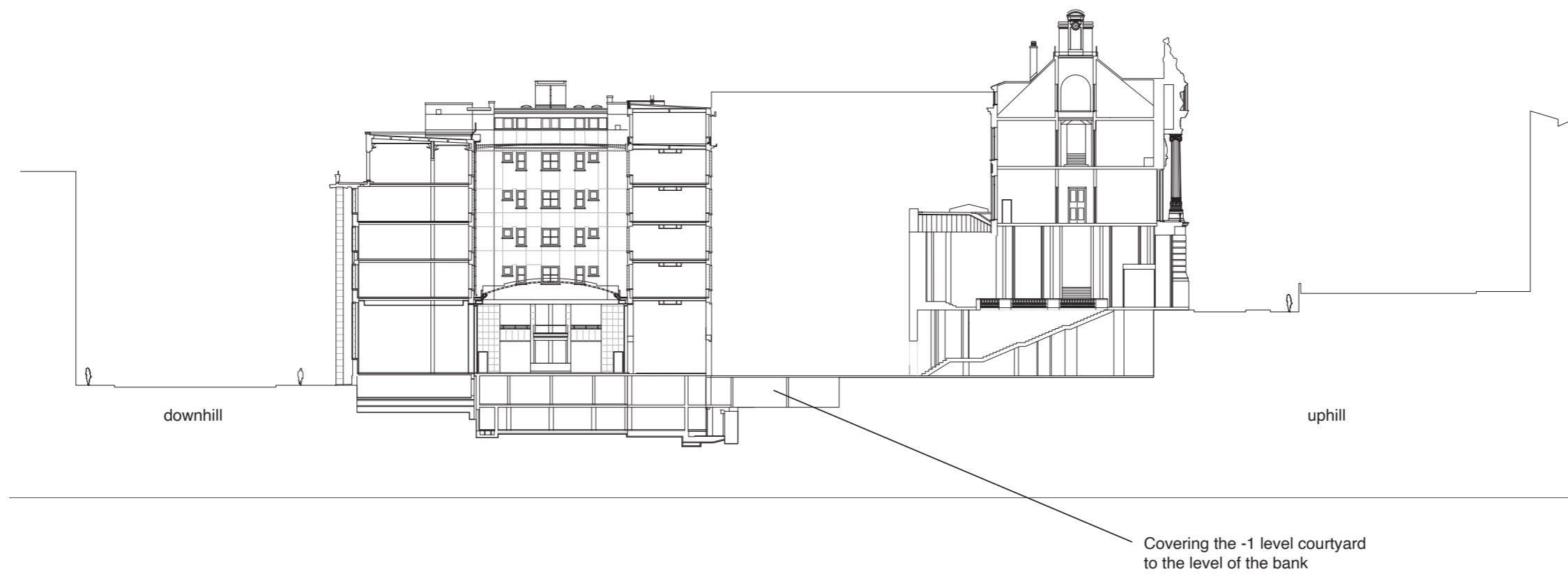
Creating space in courtyards

A new facade inside the courtyard is needed, and the -1 level will be covered.



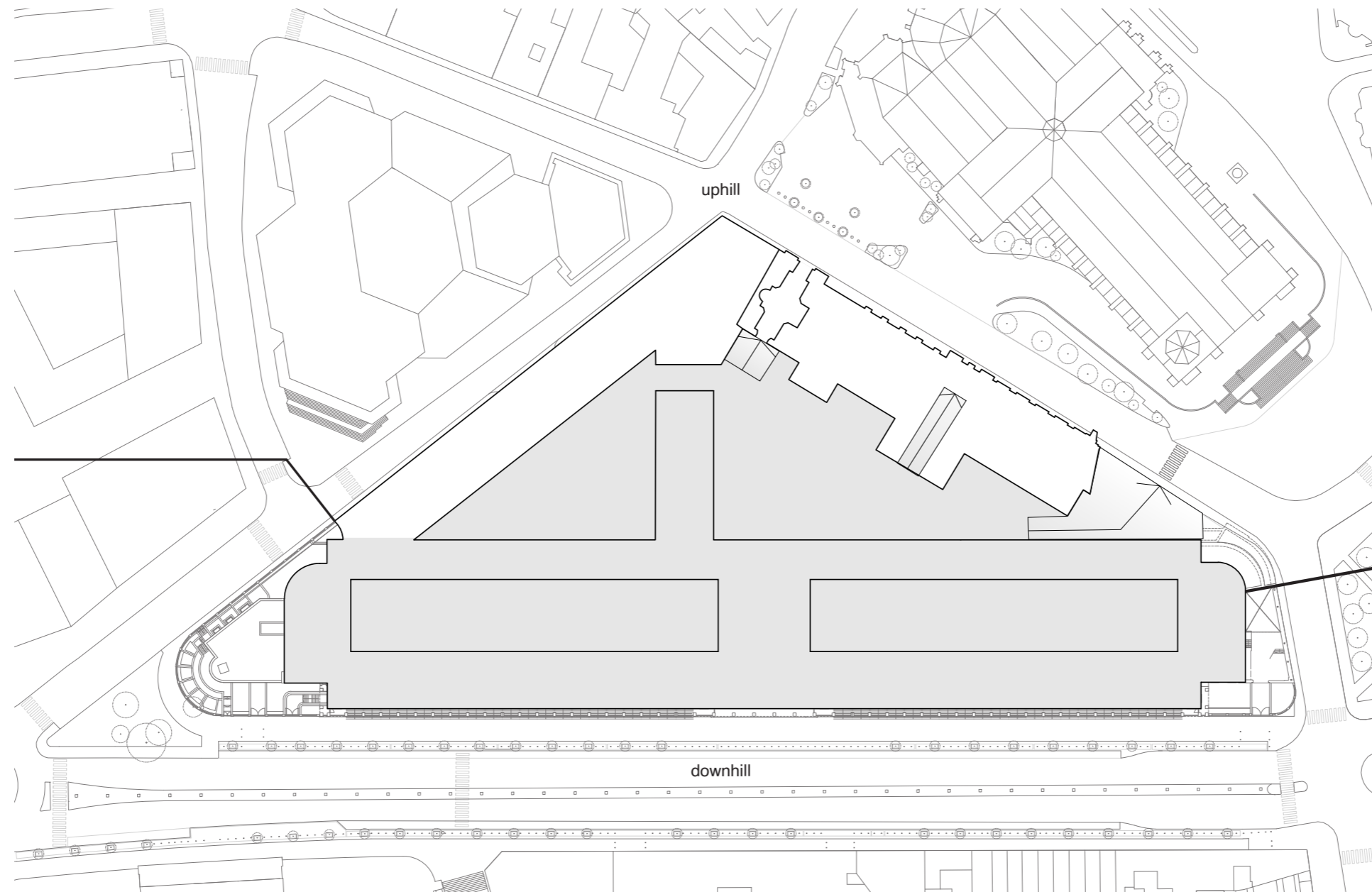
Leveling the courtyards

Leveling the courtyards with the bank, will improve the connection between the uphill and downhill areas of Brussels



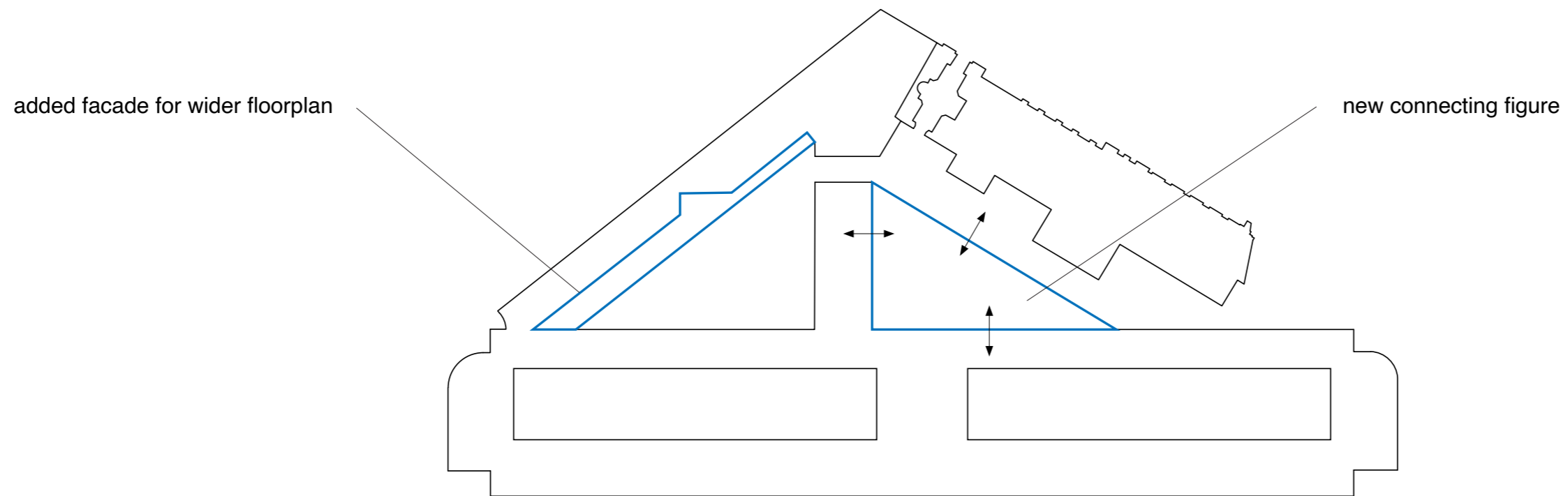
Leveling the courtyards

Leveling the courtyards with the bank, will improve the connection between the up and downhill areas of Brussels, and creates a clear organisation for the public ground floor.



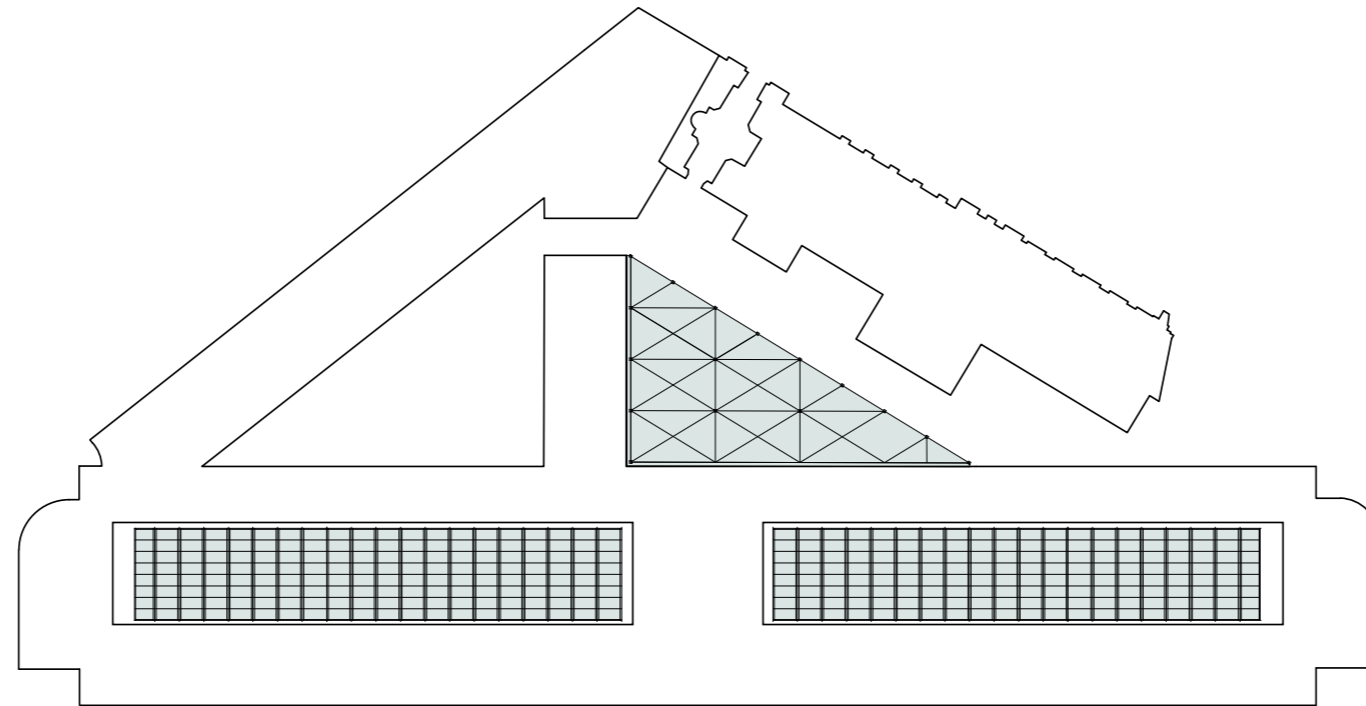
New additions

New volumens are needed, to improve the quality of the northern wing, and improve the organisation by creating a connecting figure.



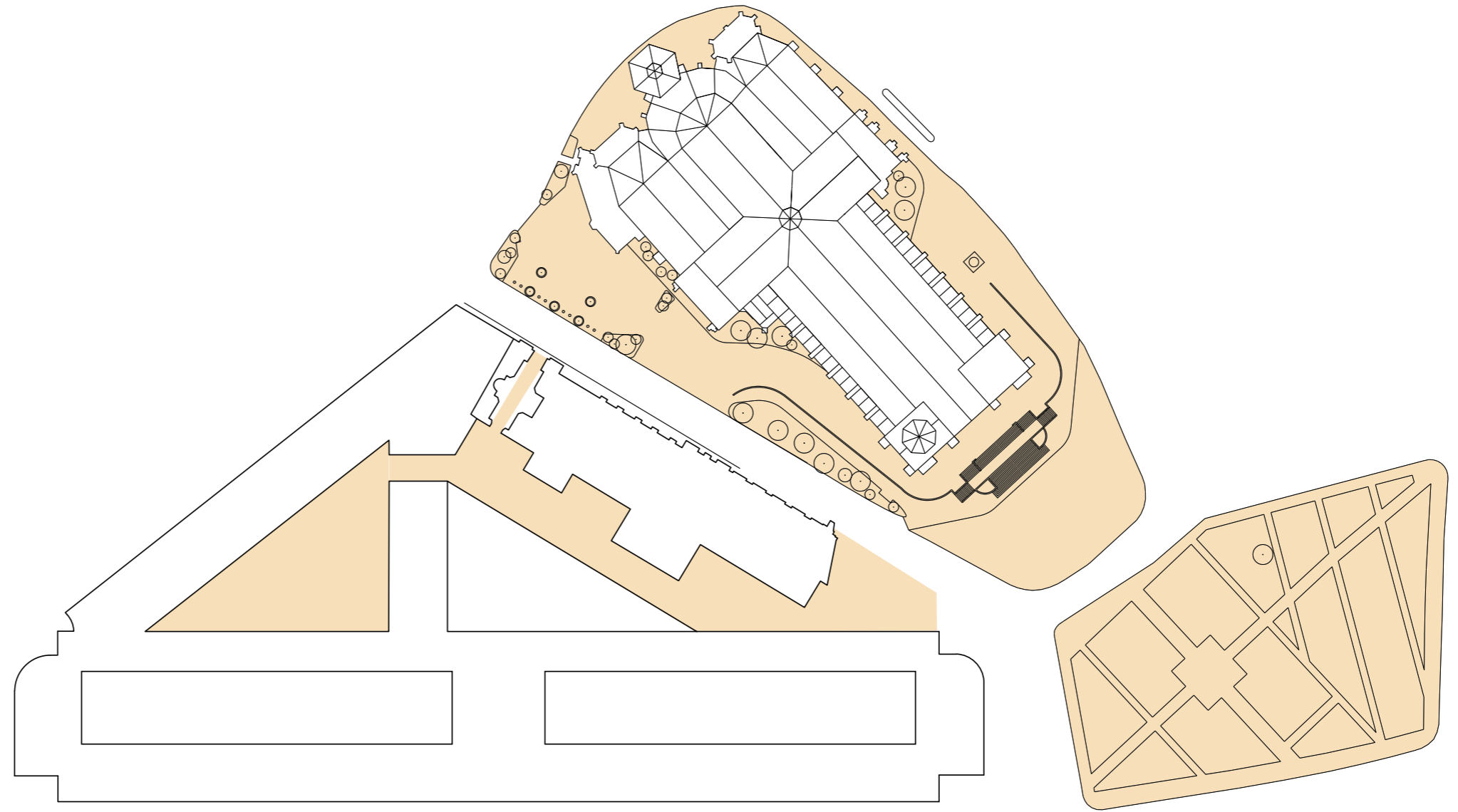
Equivalent of banking halls

The new figure will act as an equivalent of the banking halls.



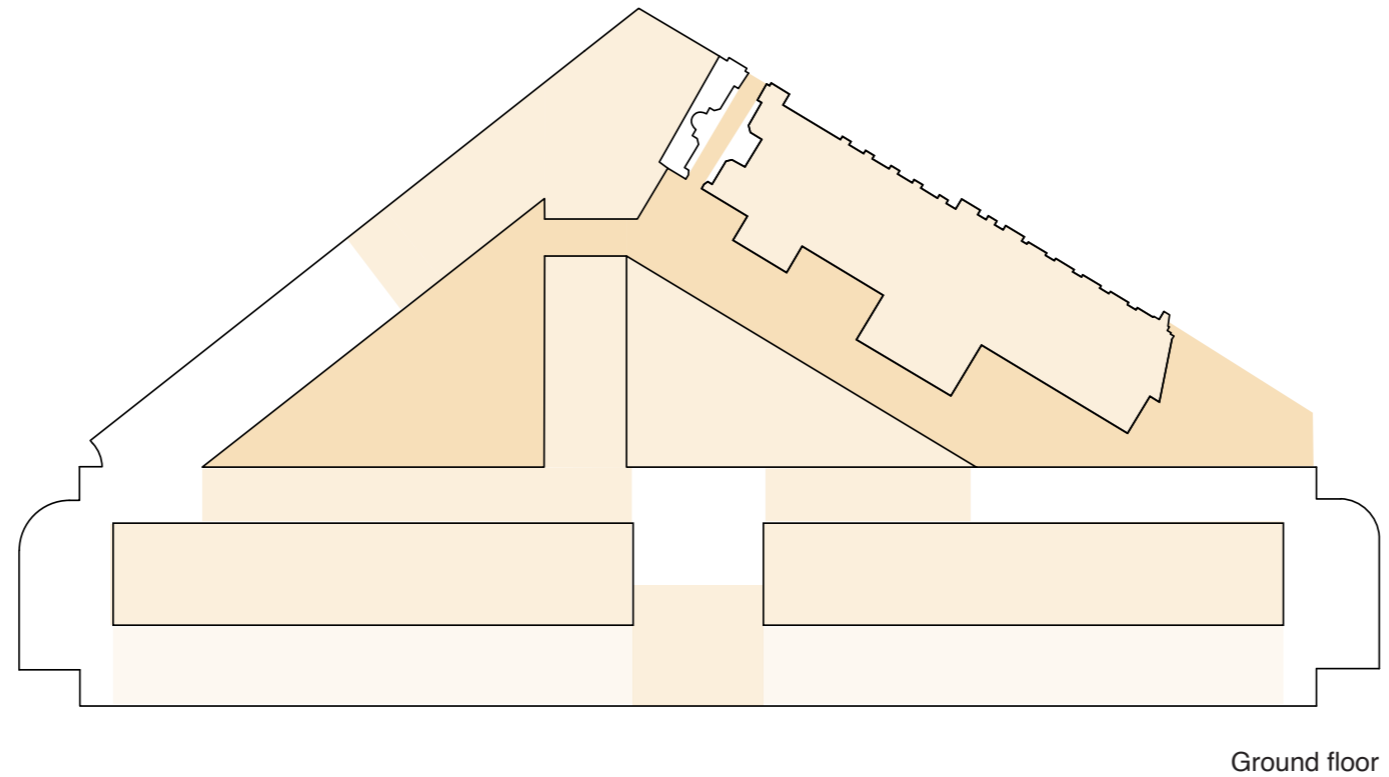
The outdoor public route

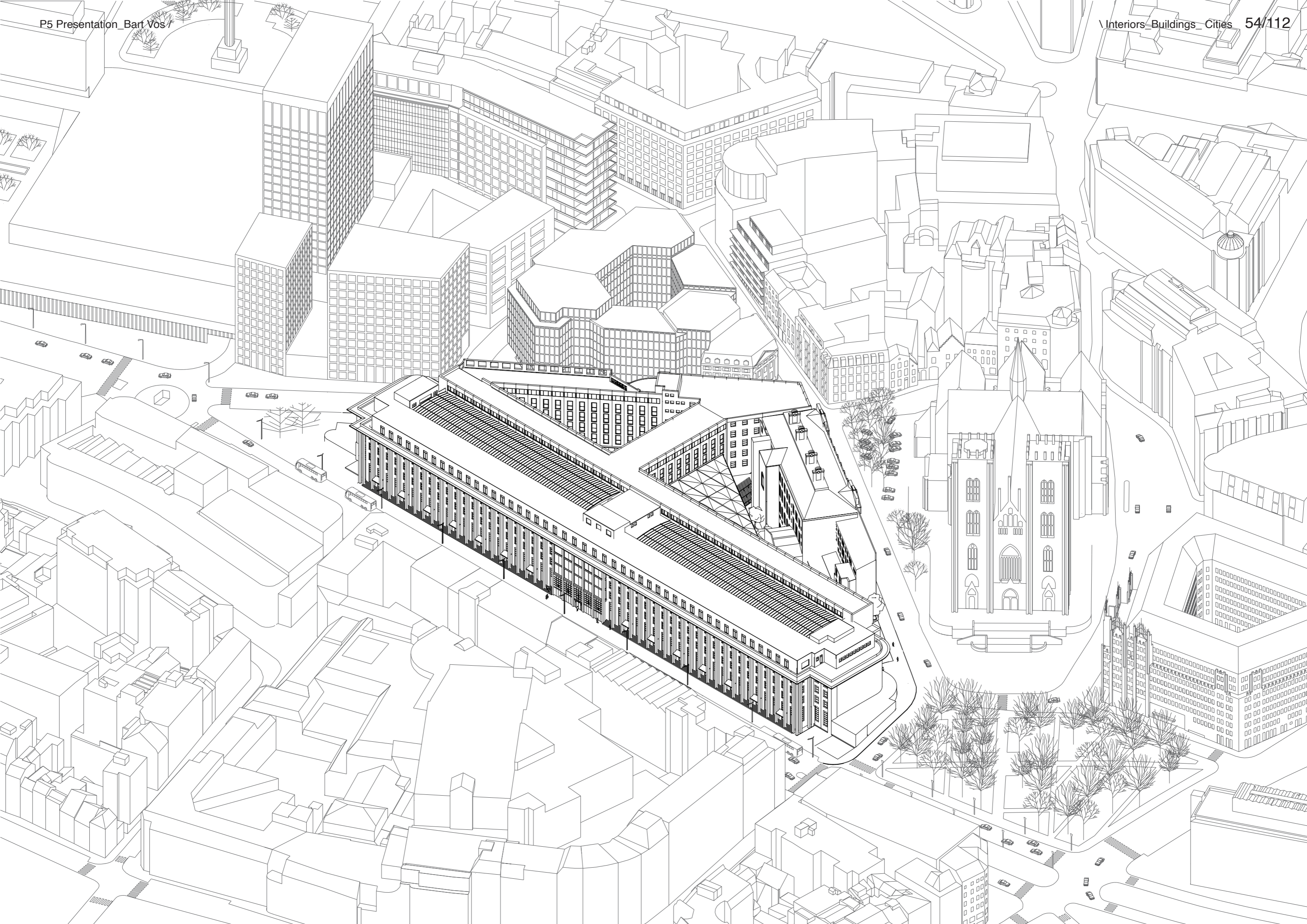
Continuation of the public outdoor route through the bank.



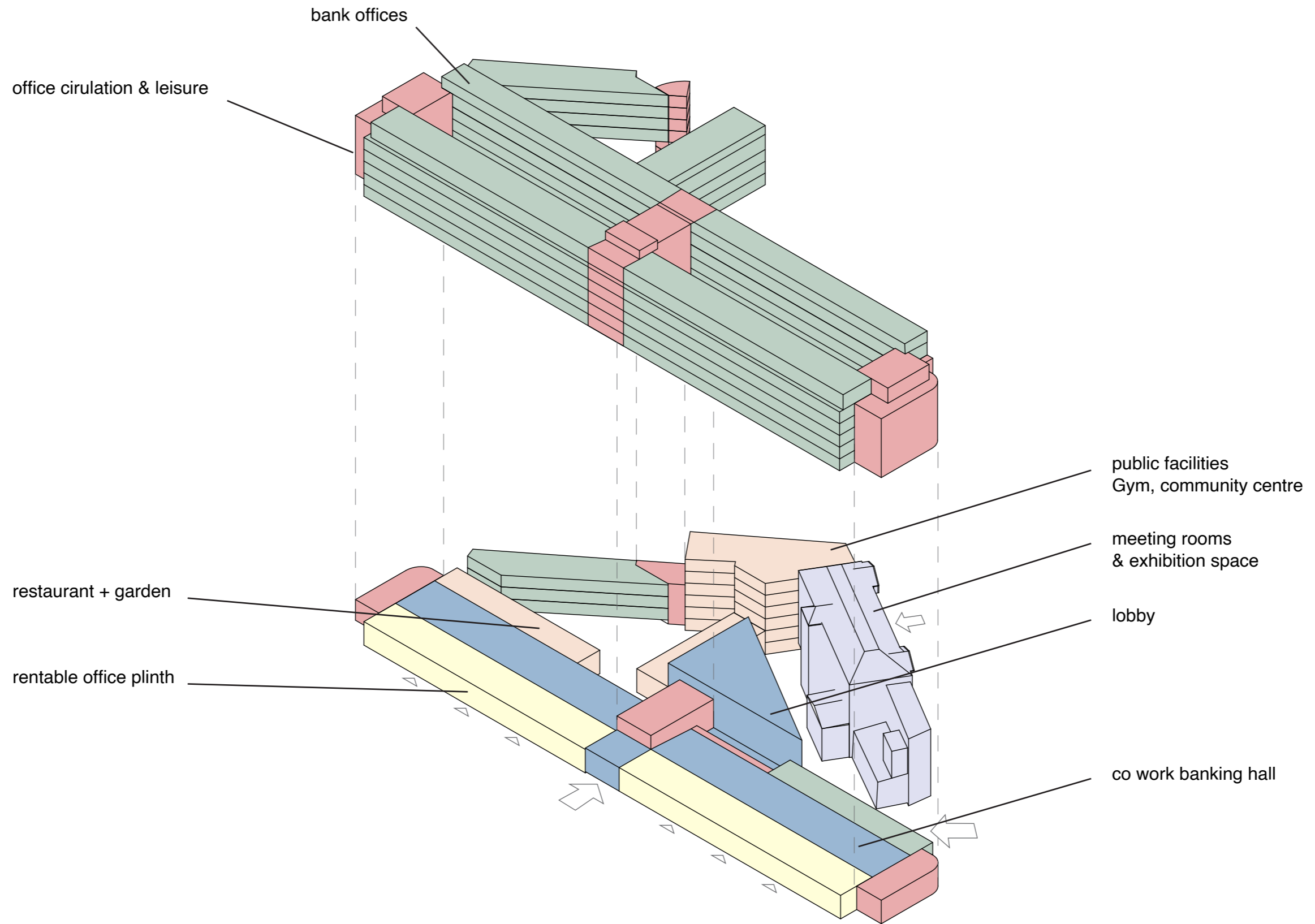
The total public ground floor

The public route continuous through the interior of the bank.

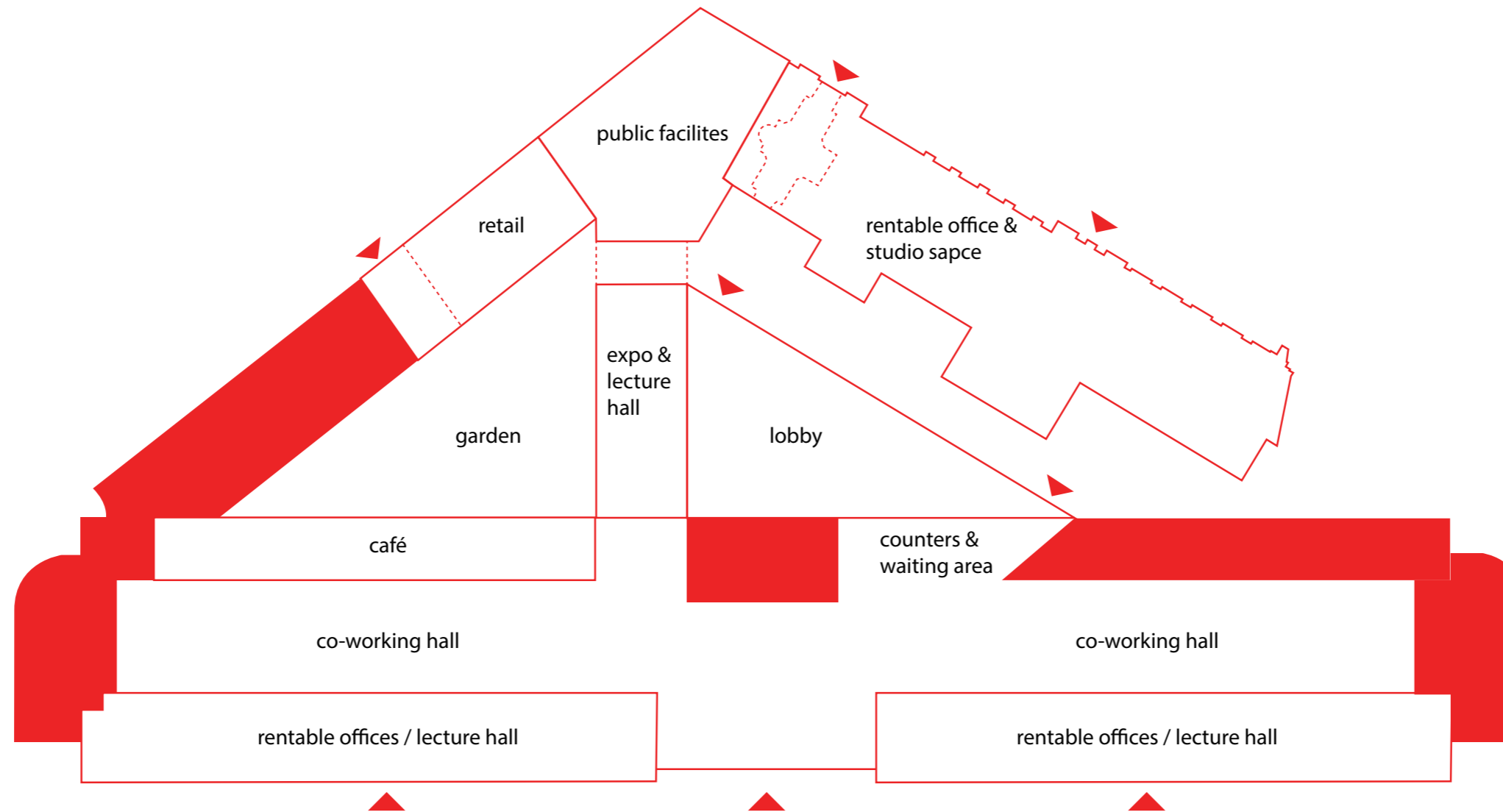




Program

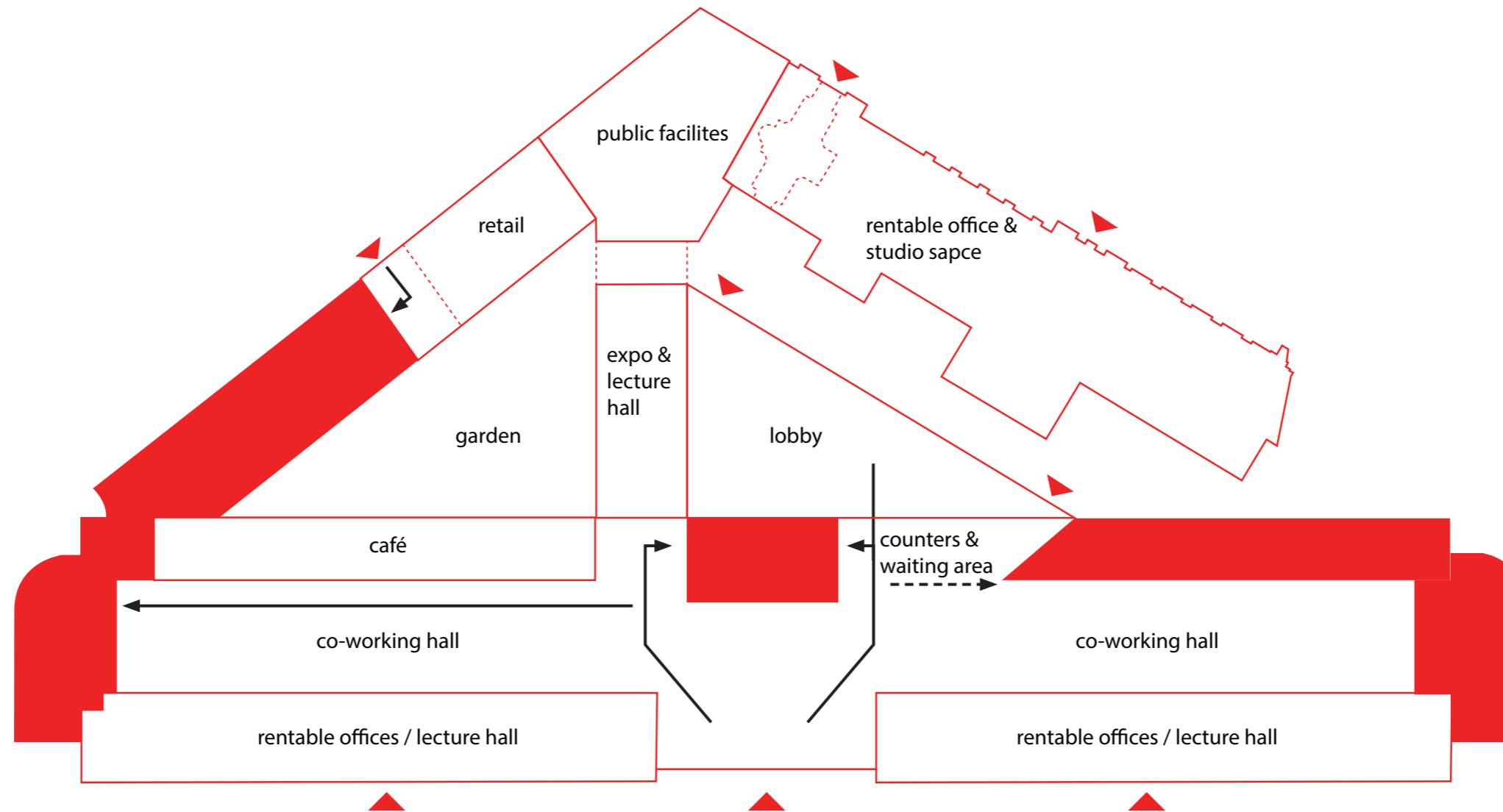


Public ground floor



■ Secured Banking Area

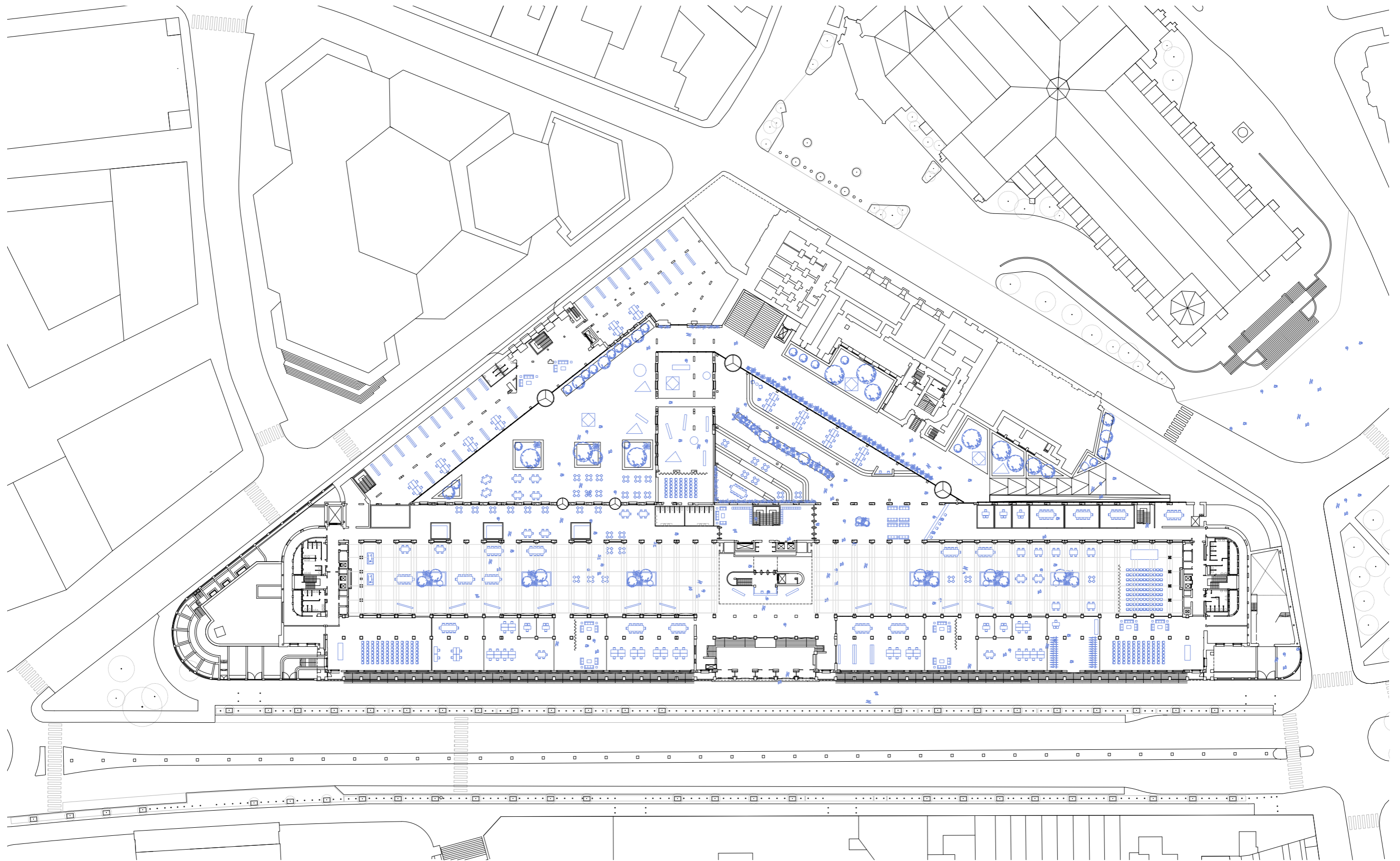
Flow of employee



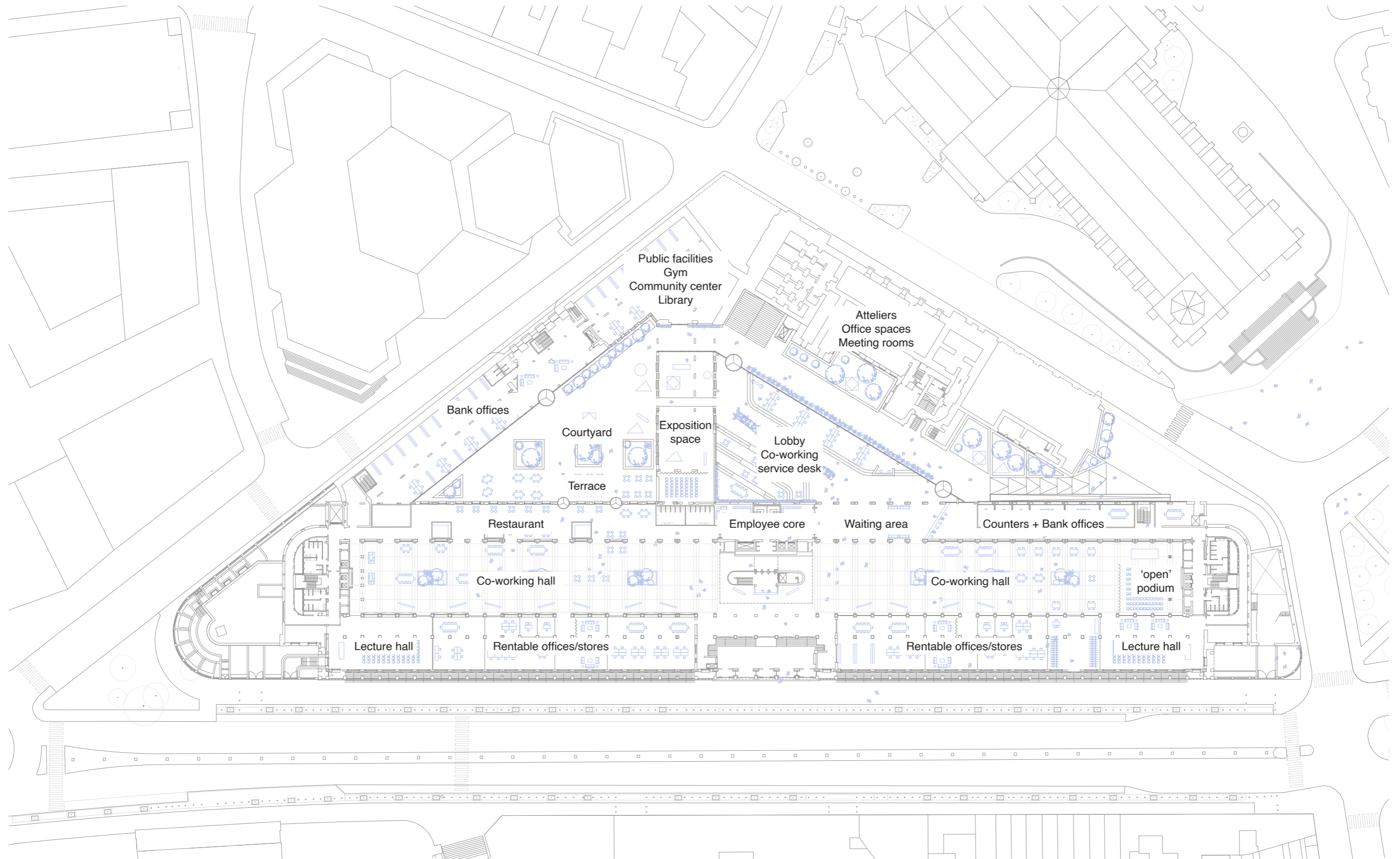
Bank employees walk through the public program

Secured Banking Area

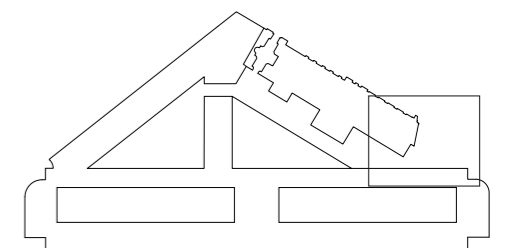
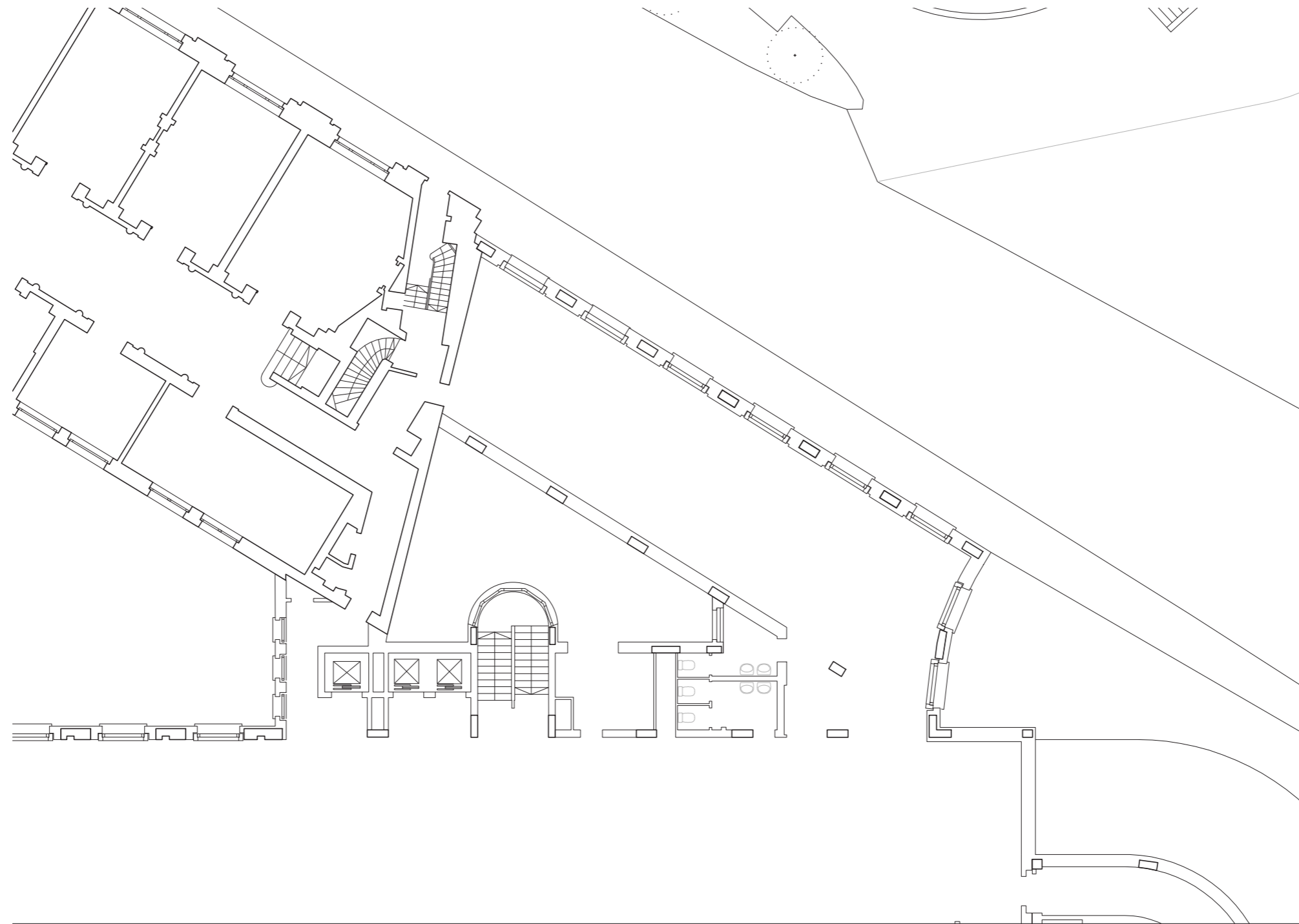
Ground floor plan



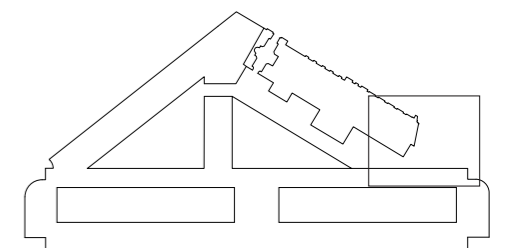
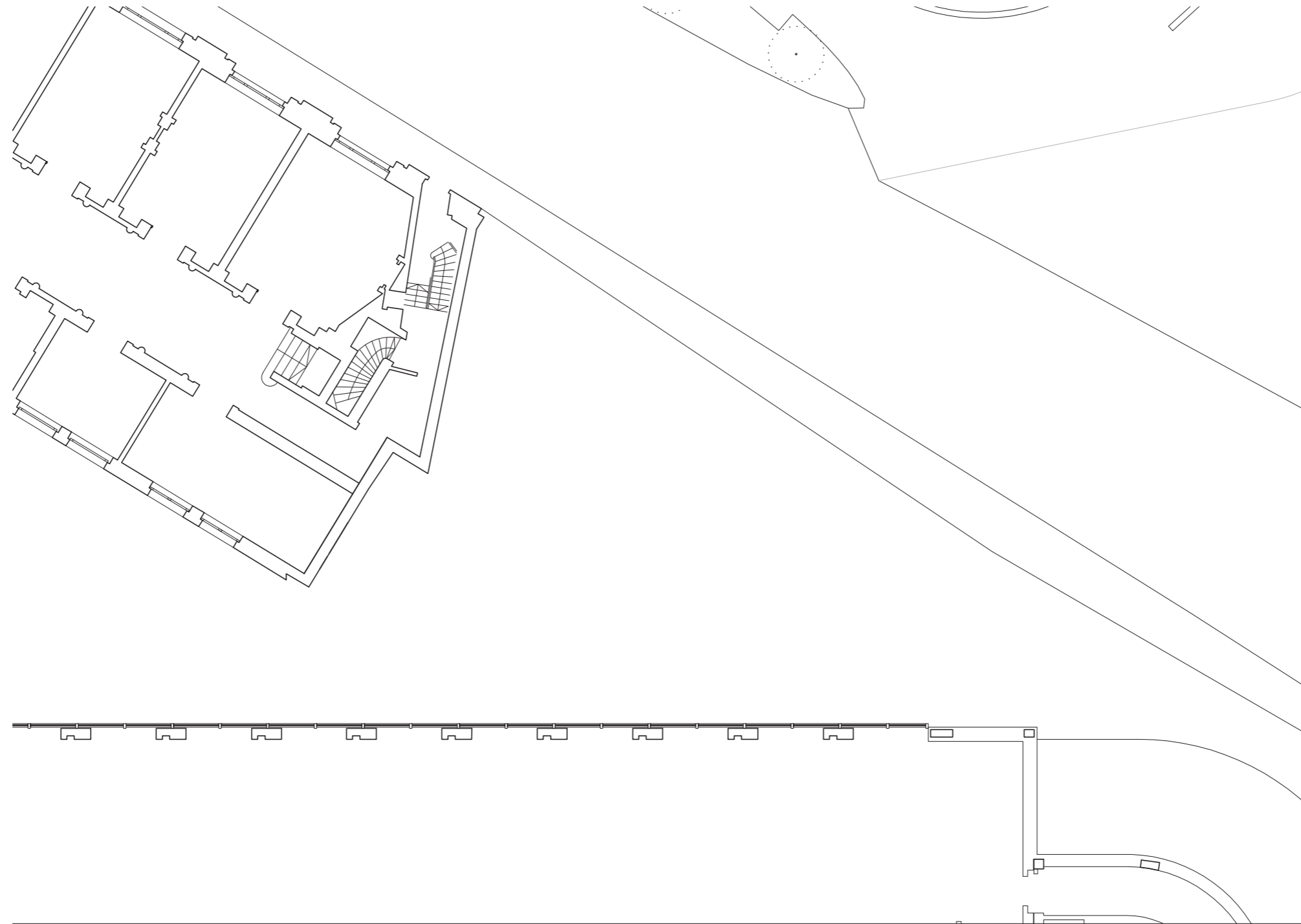
Ground floor plan



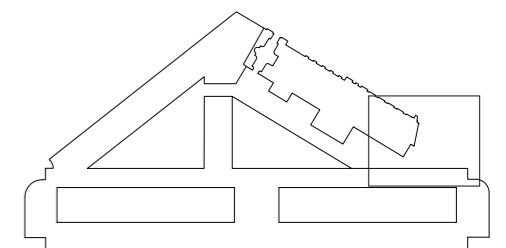
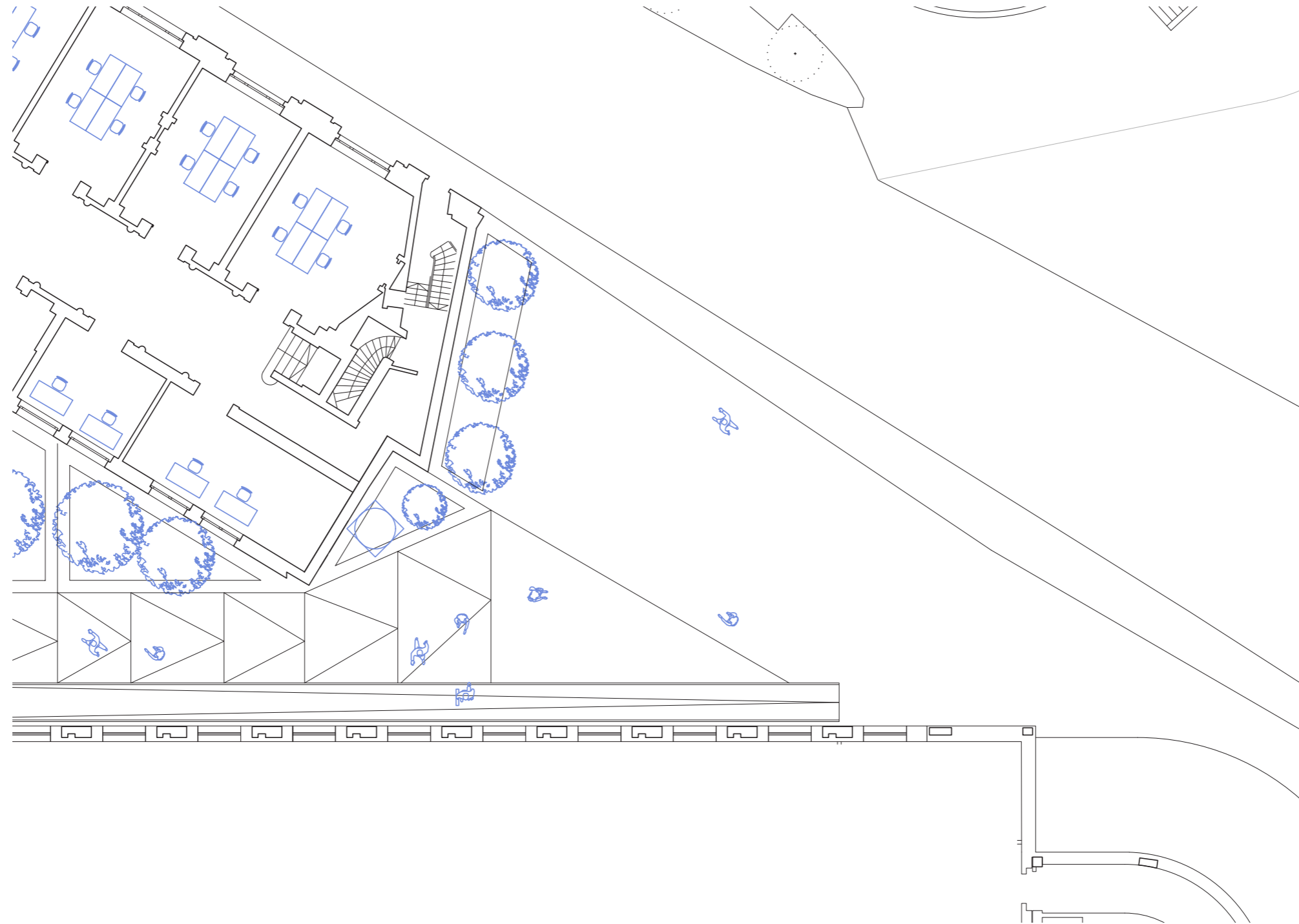
Opening to south



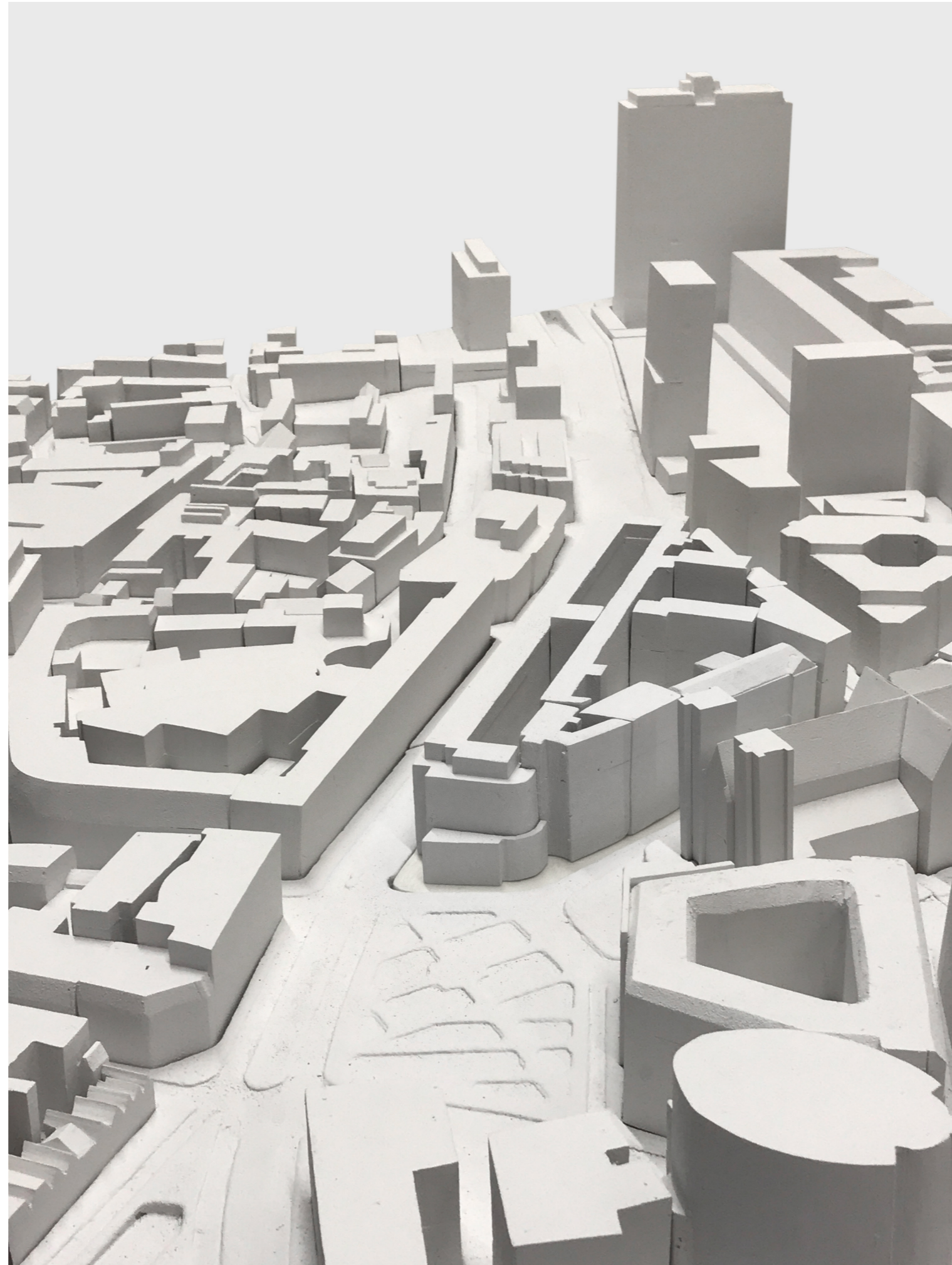
Opening to south



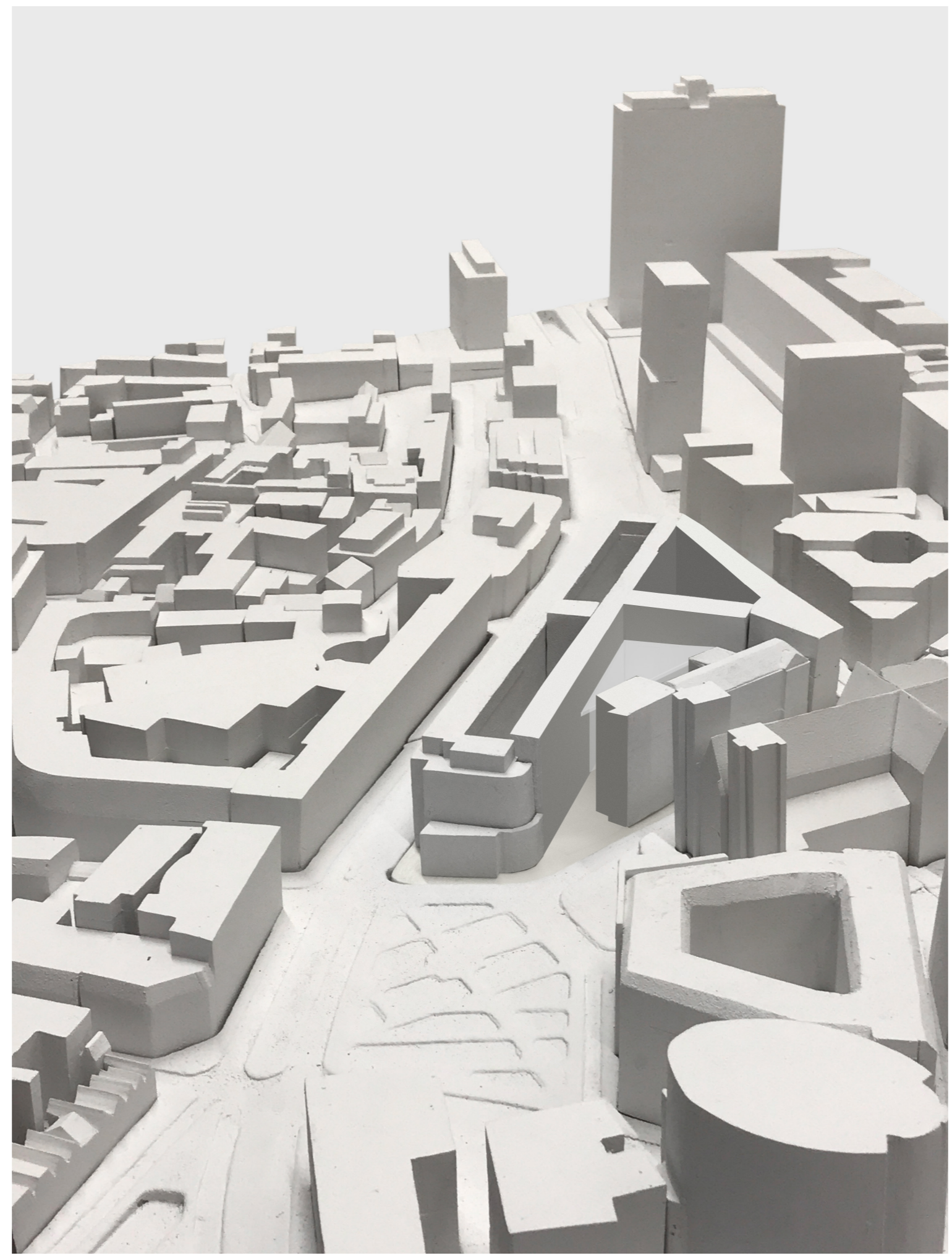
Opening to south



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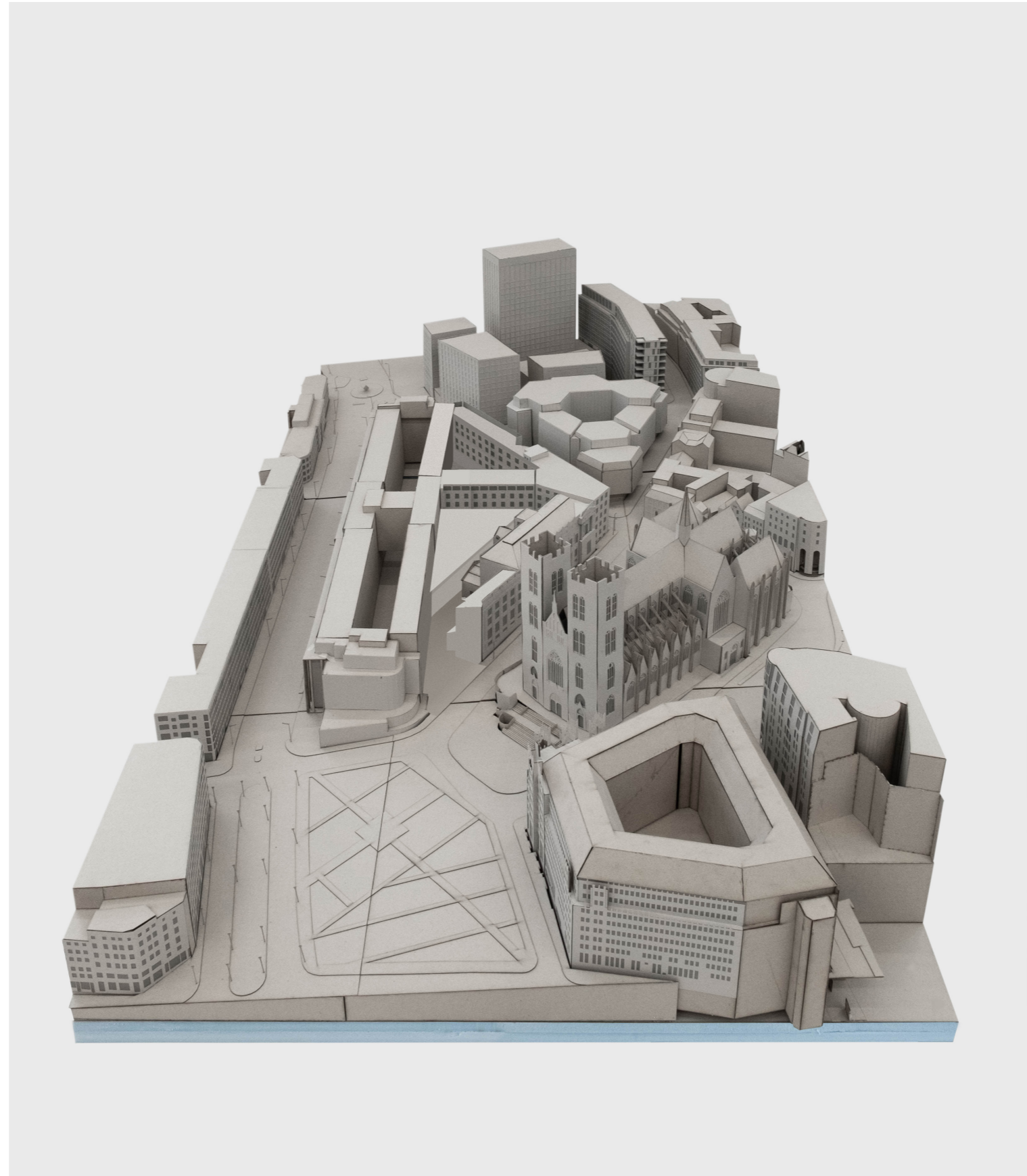
Opening to south



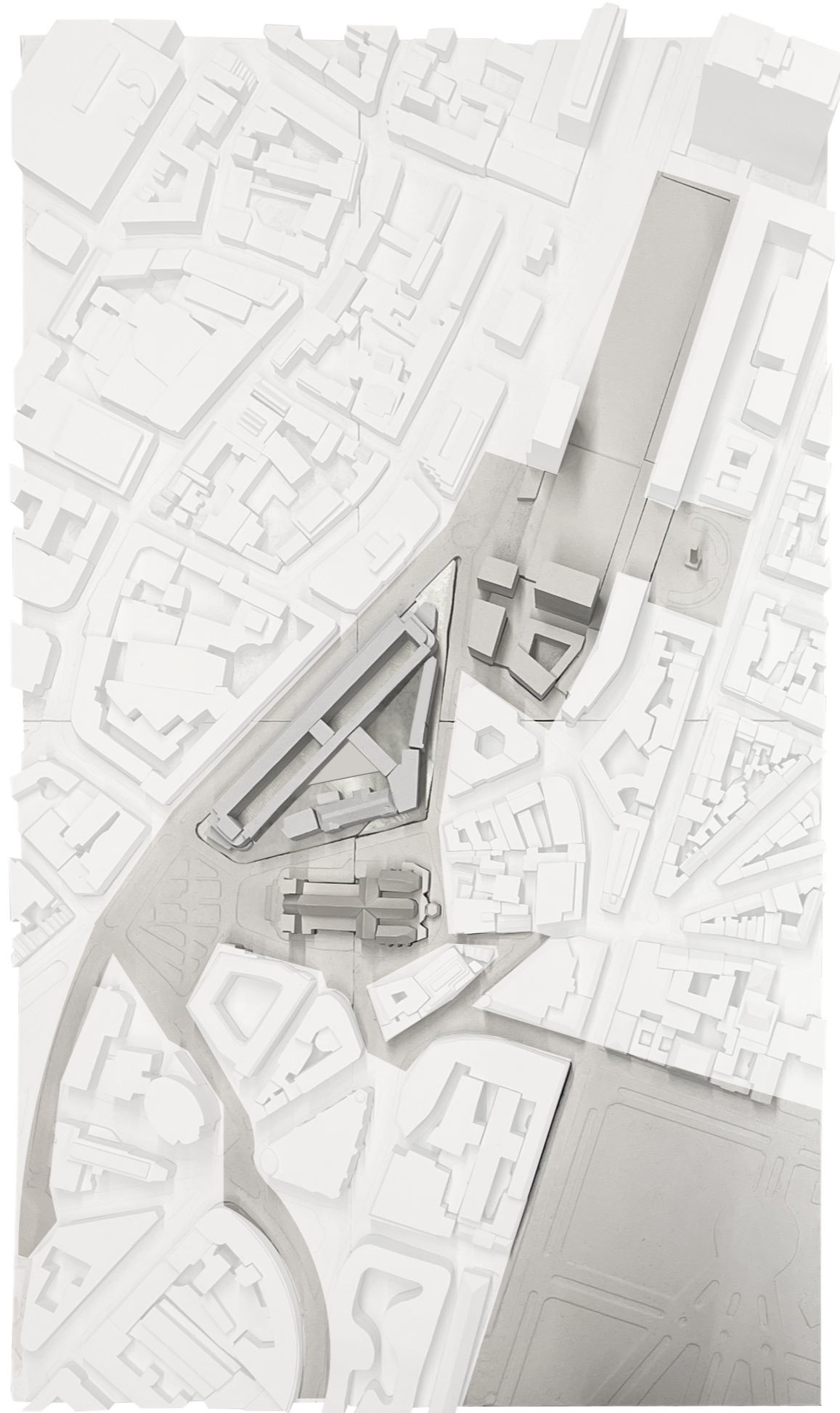
Opening to south



Opening to south



Relating to the urban fabric



The new opening



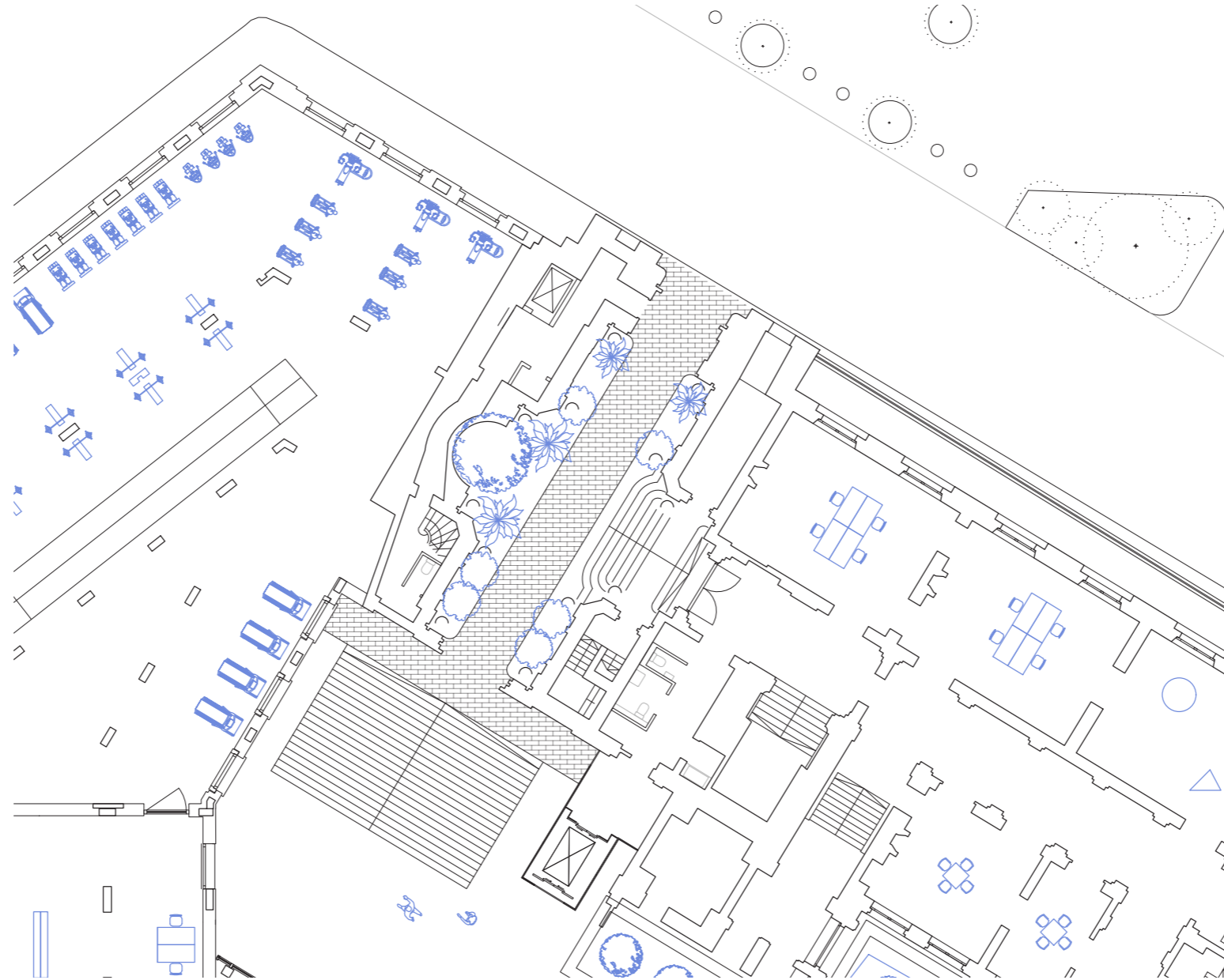
Ariving the Lobby



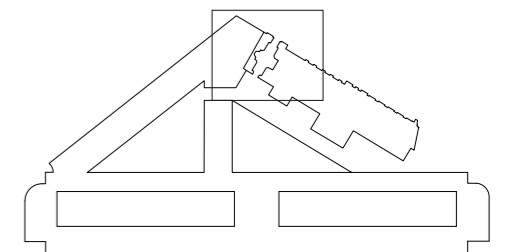
Life within the Lobby



Opening Hotel entrance



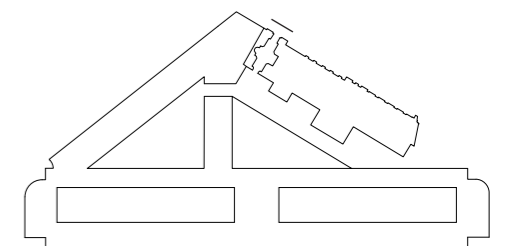
Opening the sites history to public



Opening Hotel entrance



Wander around to get inspired

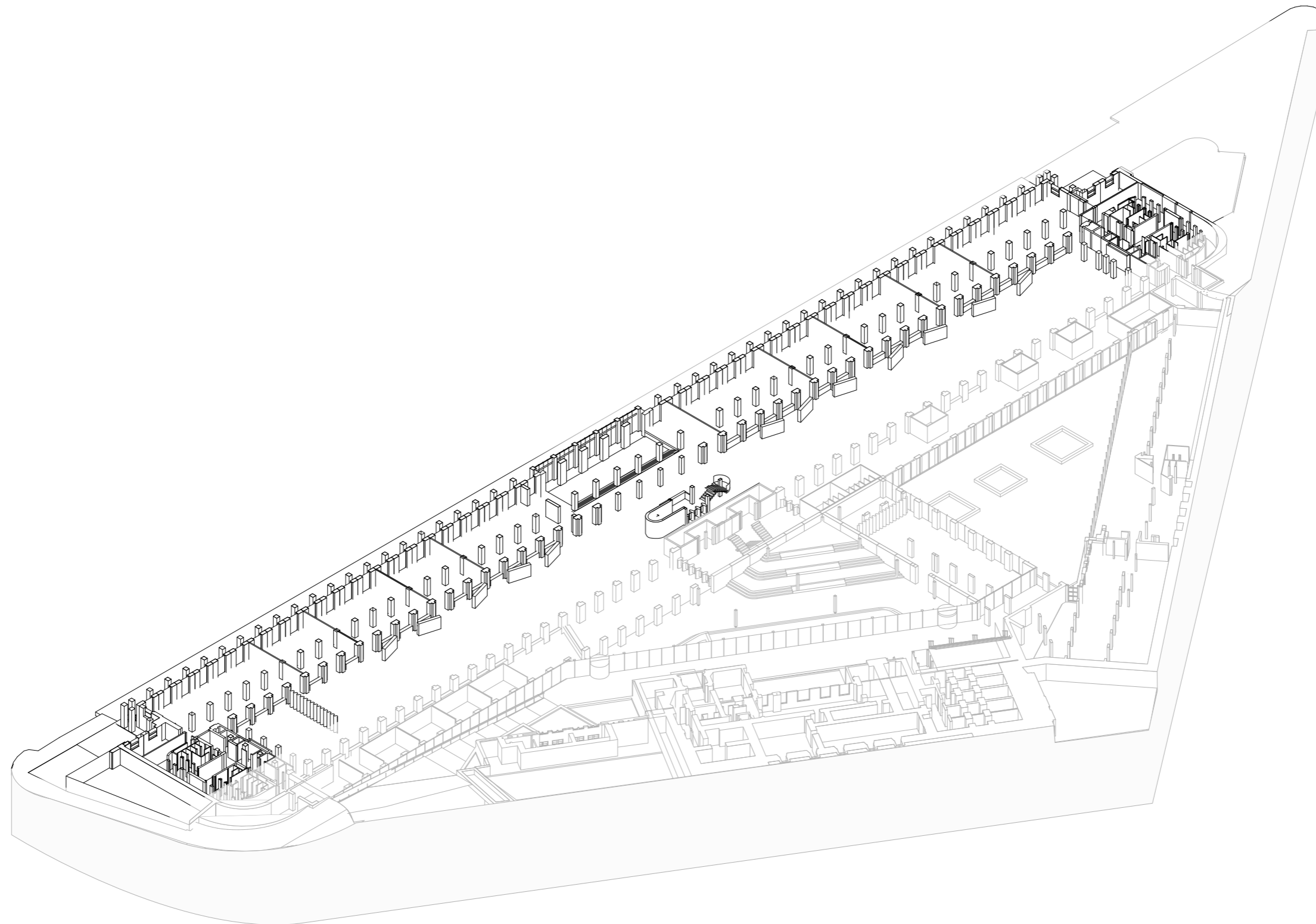


View to the Atrium

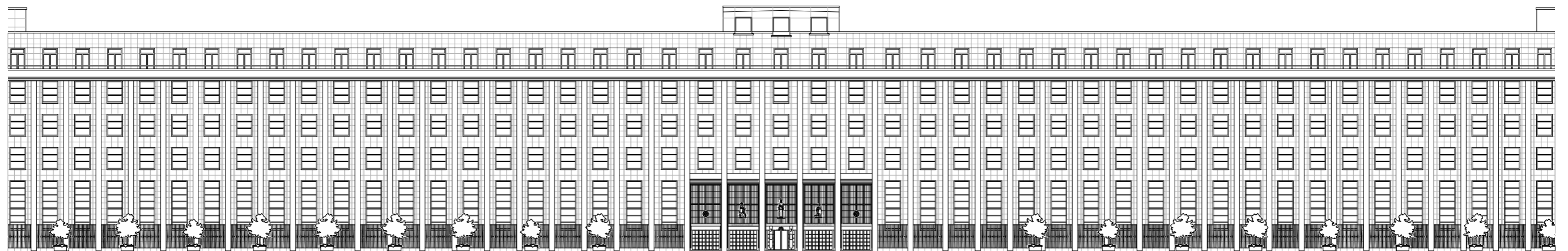


Wander around to get inspired

Front face



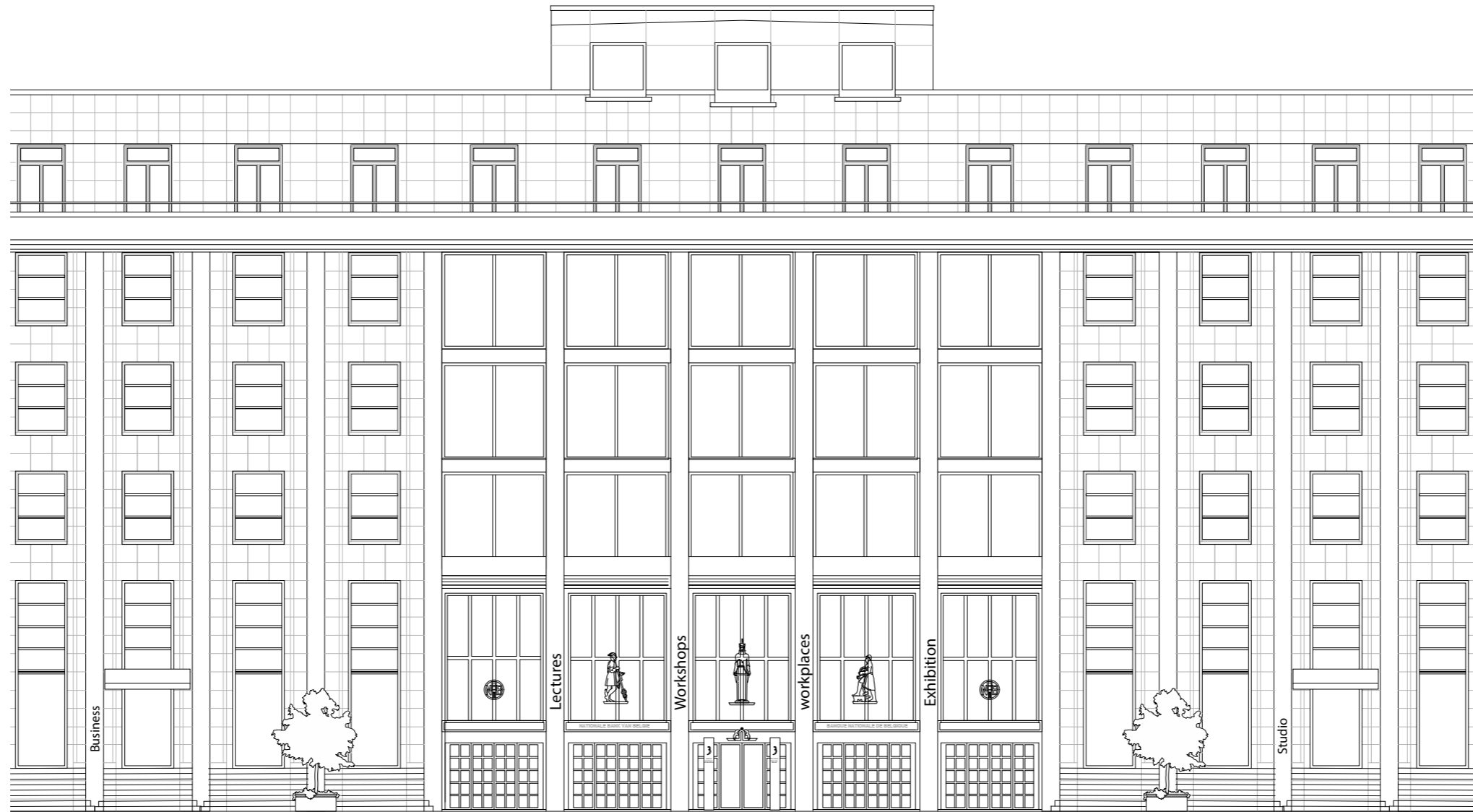
Front facade



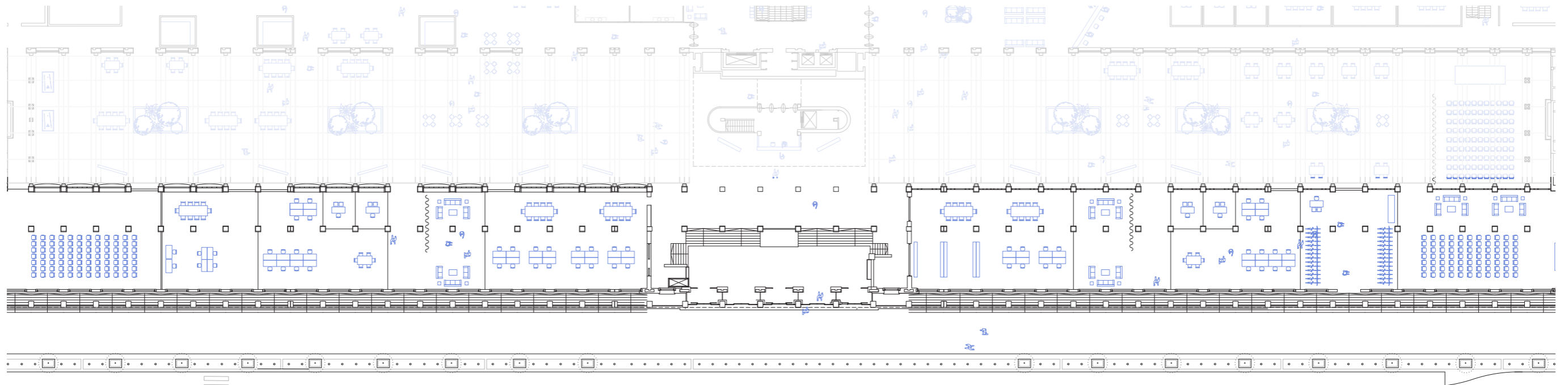
Front facade



Plinth of innovation



Plinth of innovation



Plinth of innovation



'Open door' offices

The impact of the awning

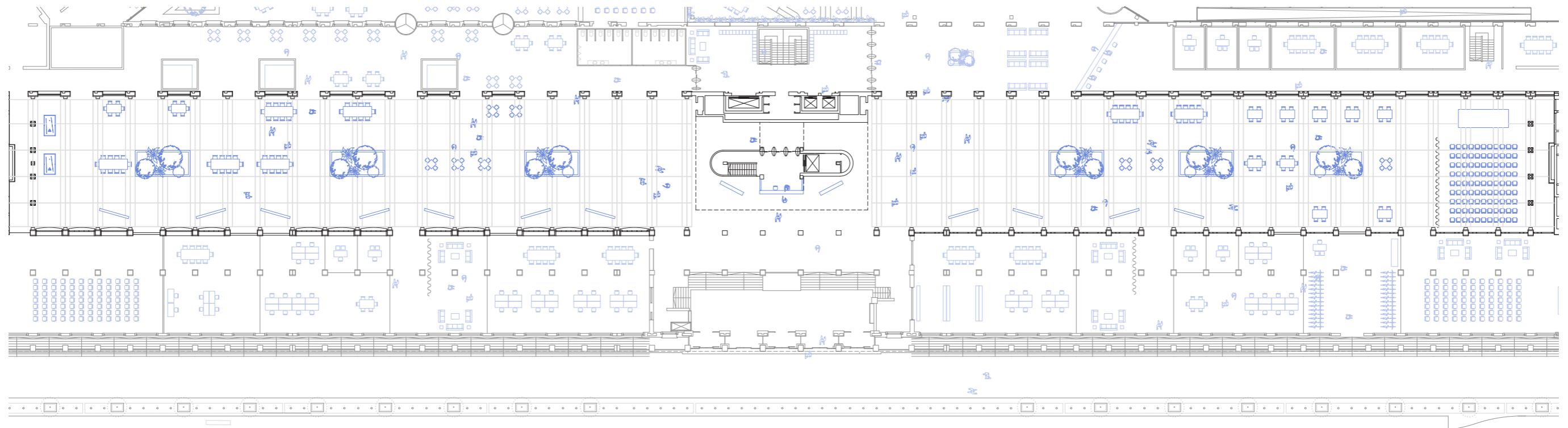


Front entrance



New window frames showing the employees of the bank

Banking Halls

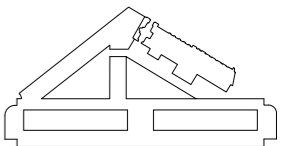
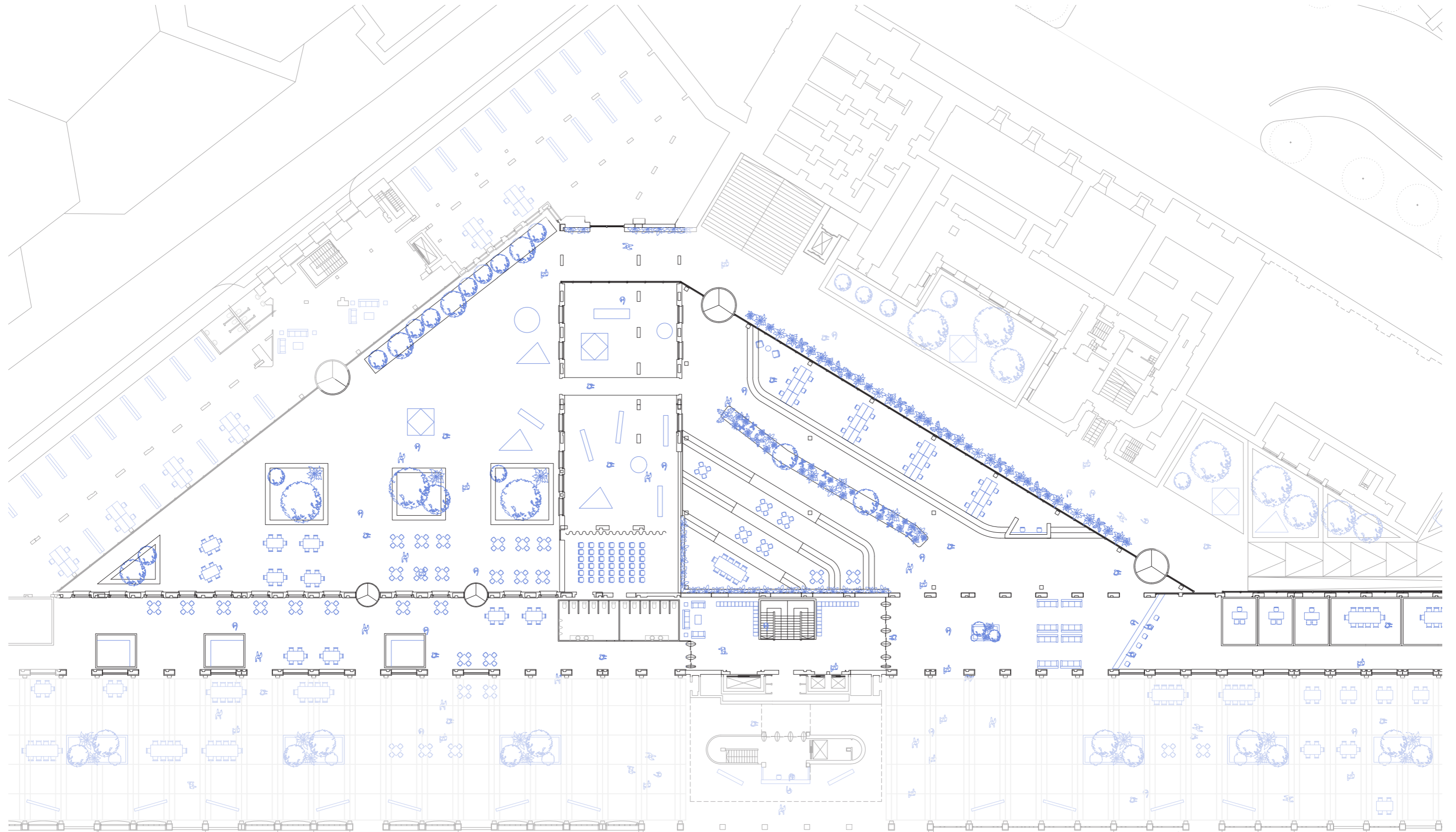


Open working space

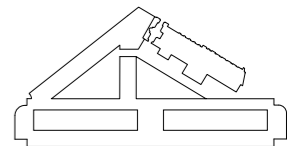
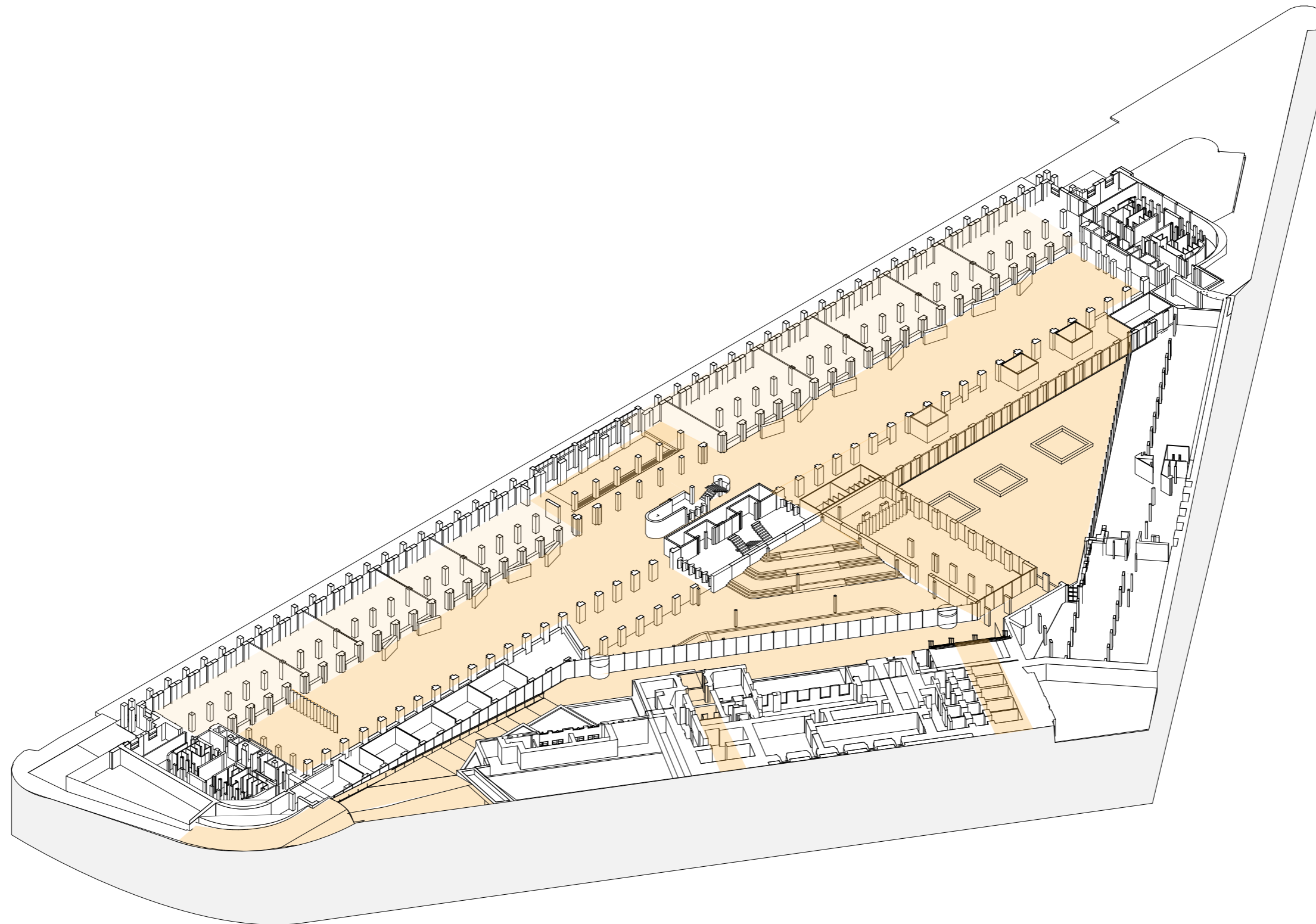


New banking hall

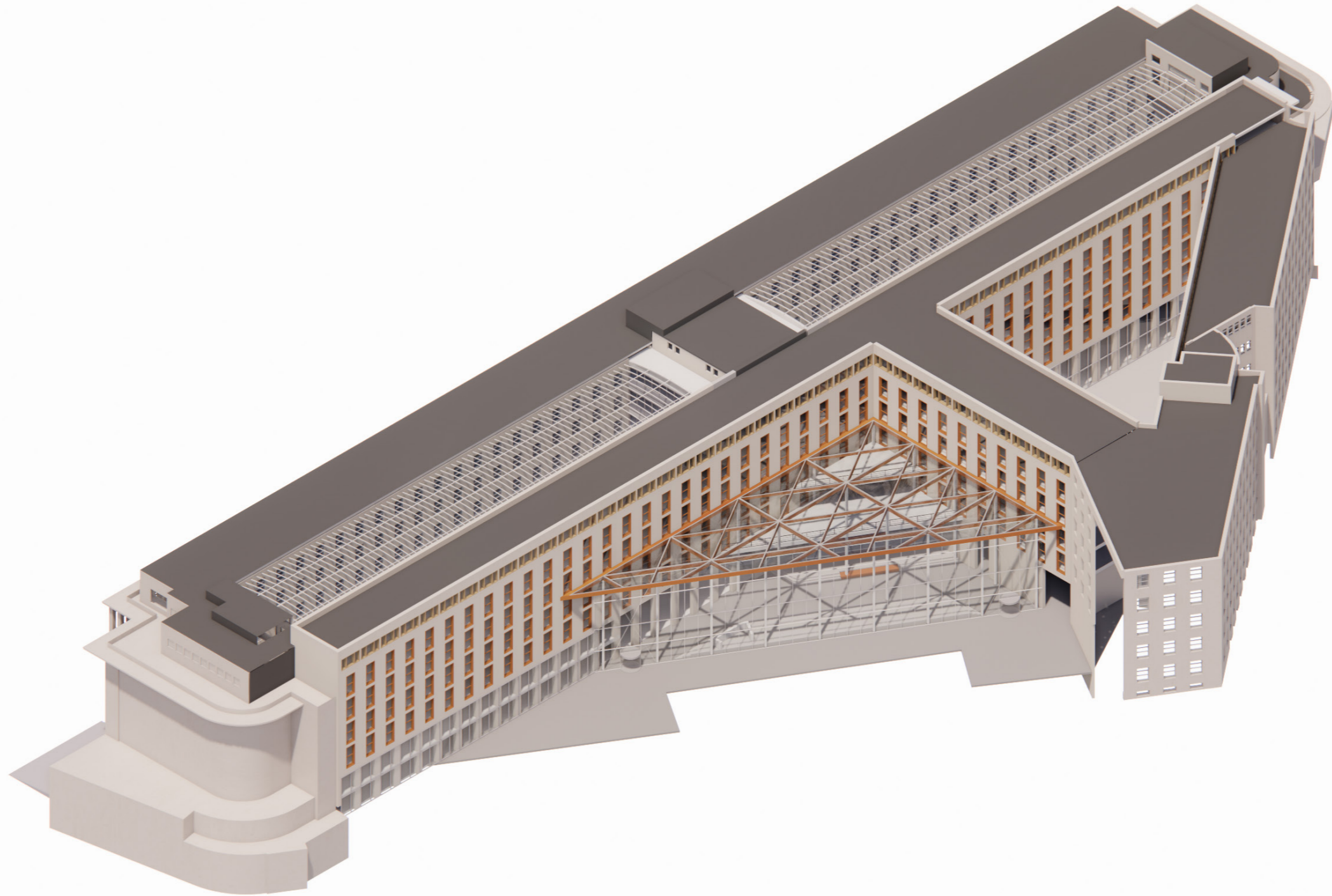
The heart of the bank



The heart of the bank

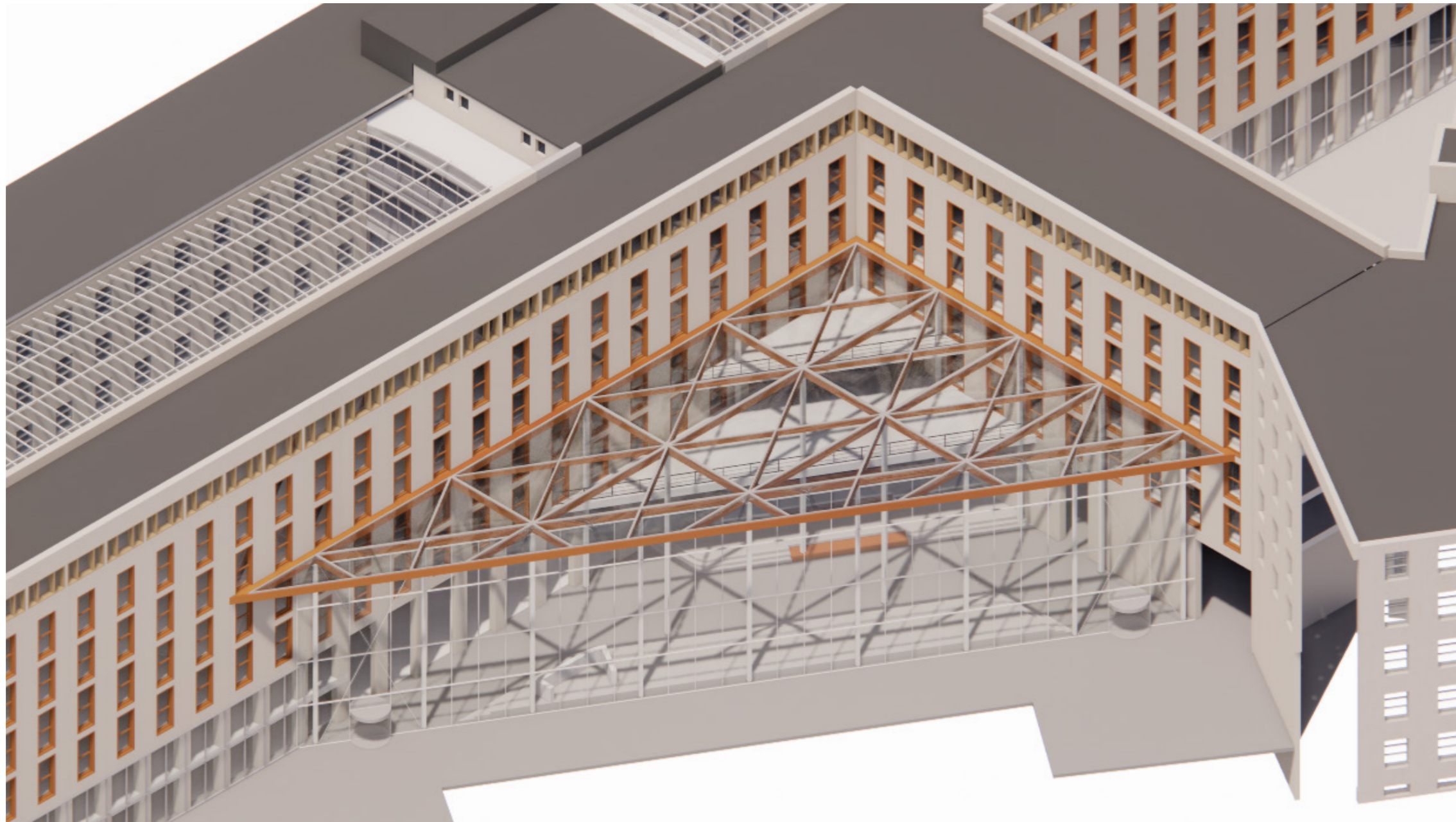


New wooden structure



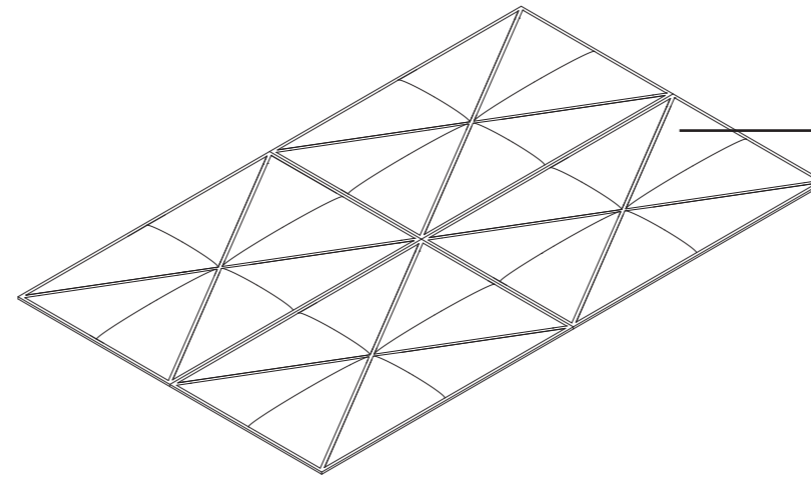
Wooden structure shows the banks new image

New wooden structure

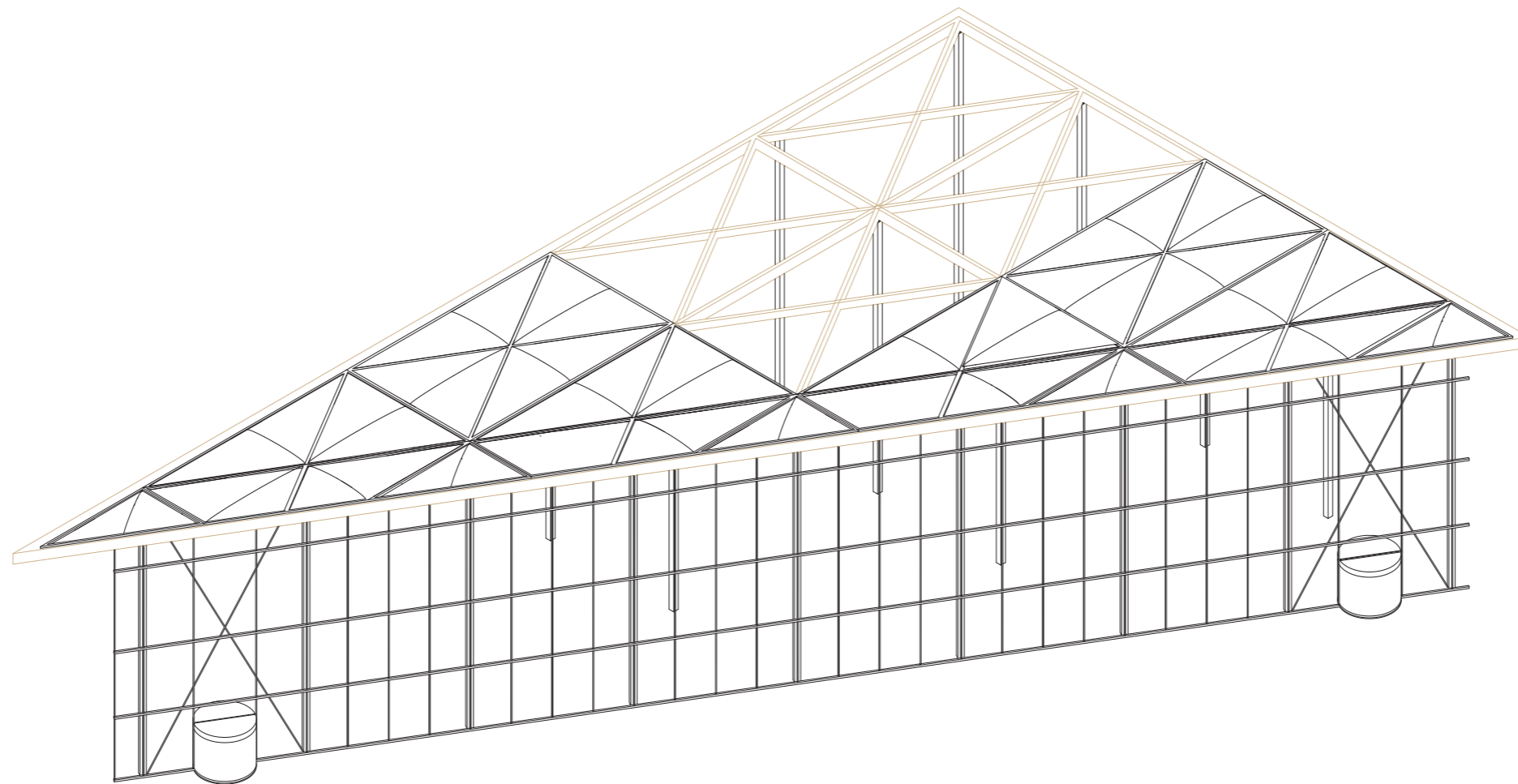


Wooden structure shows the banks new image

ETFE roof system



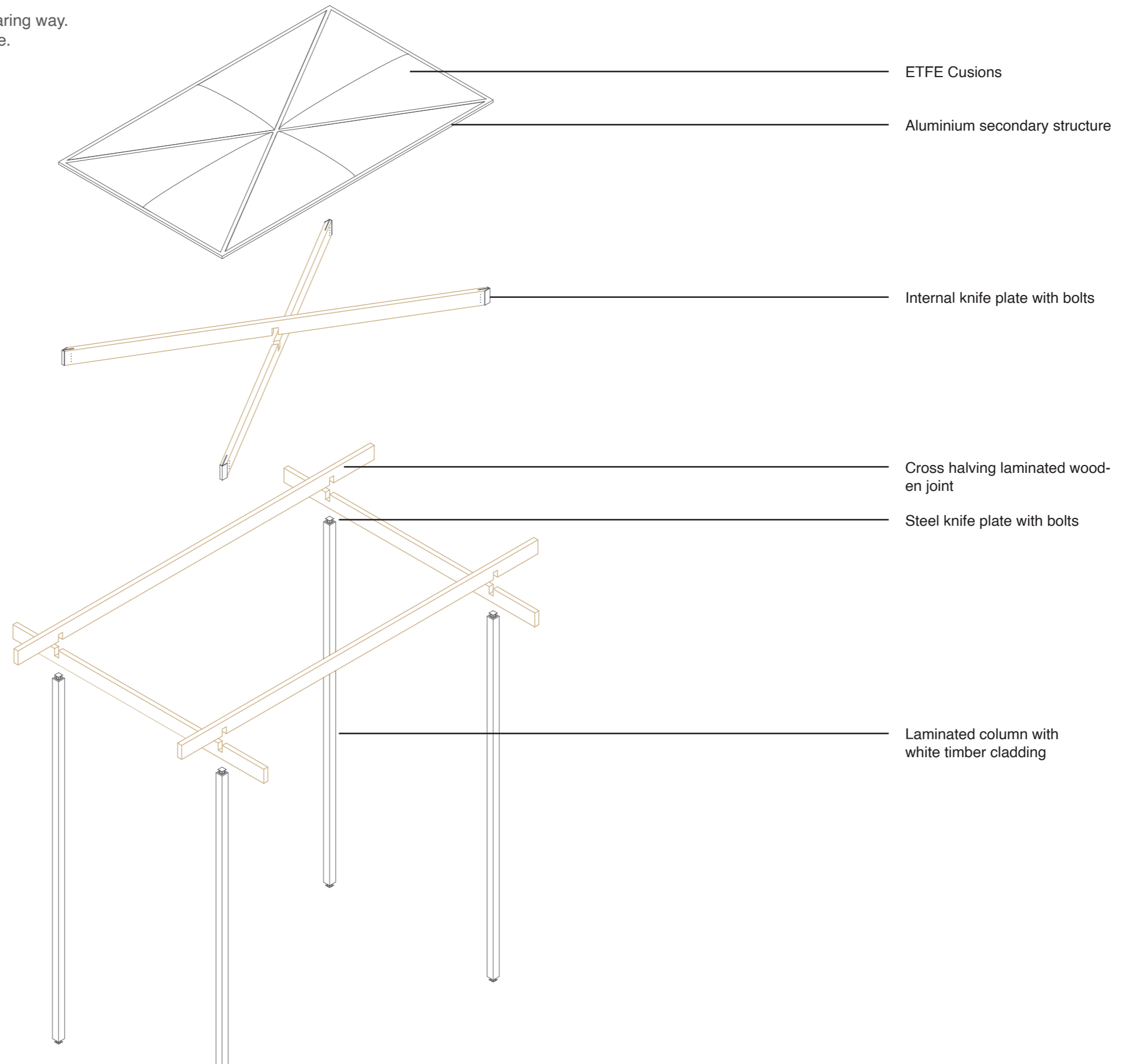
16 ETFE Cushions hold together by a steel frame on a 8x13m grid



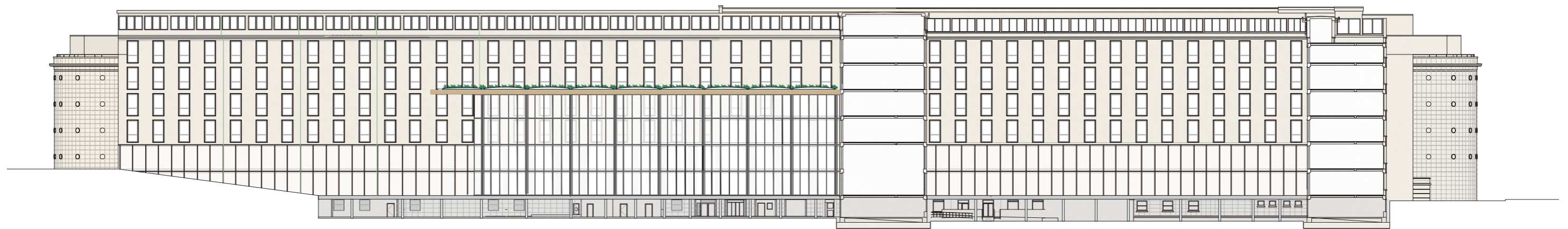
ETFE is 1% the weight of glass and has up to 95% light transmission.

Structural joints

The wooden column holds the beam via the knife plate connector in a floating way.
The laminated beams are internal connected so no connectors are visible.



Atrium and new plinth in courtyards



Section through atrium

**Structure:**

Existing concrete column, beam structure with a brick infill.

Windows upper floors:

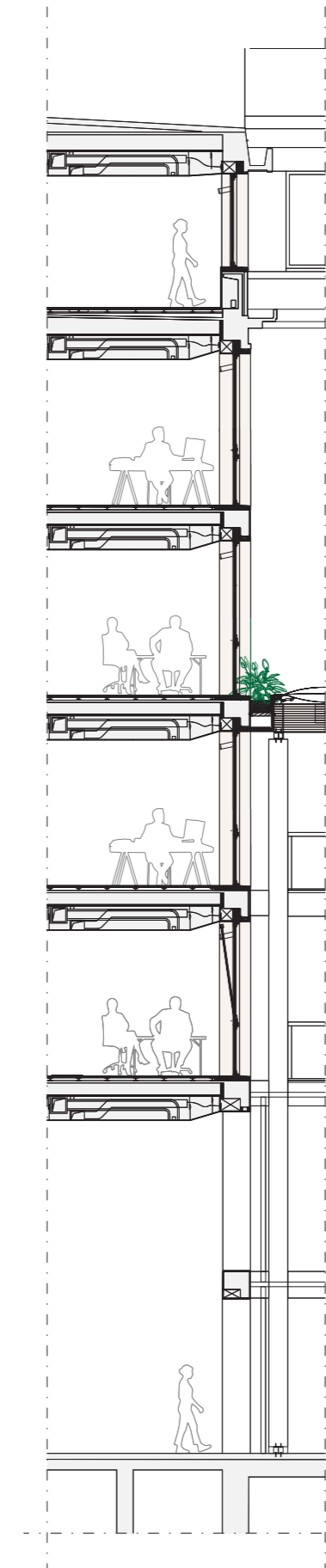
Removing bricks underneath existing windows, creating a bigger opening.
New Larch wooden window frames with to be opened upper part.
Placing new Larch wooden finishing around window frame.

Facade:

New light creme clean colored plaster on top of existing structure.

Plinth / Atrium facade:

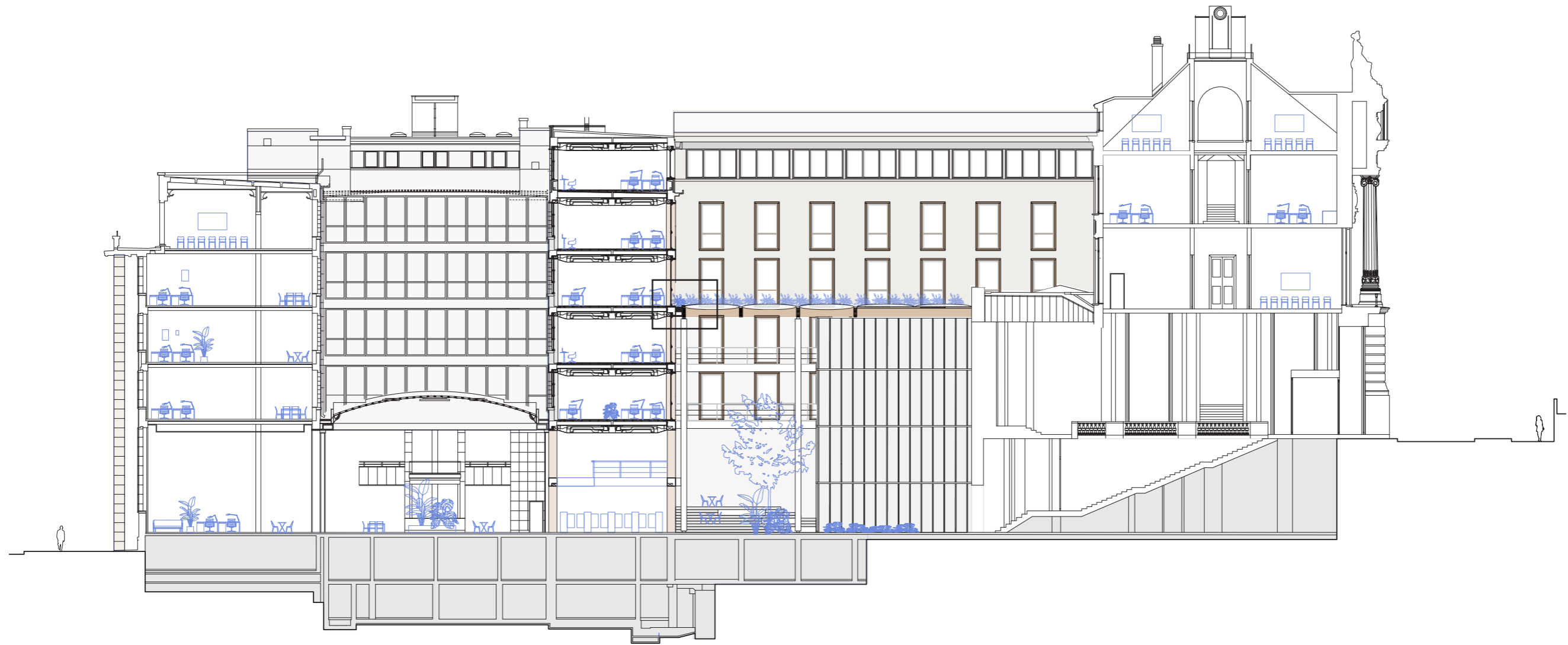
Wooden curtain wall with glass panels.



New facade



Section through Lobby



Atrium roof attachment

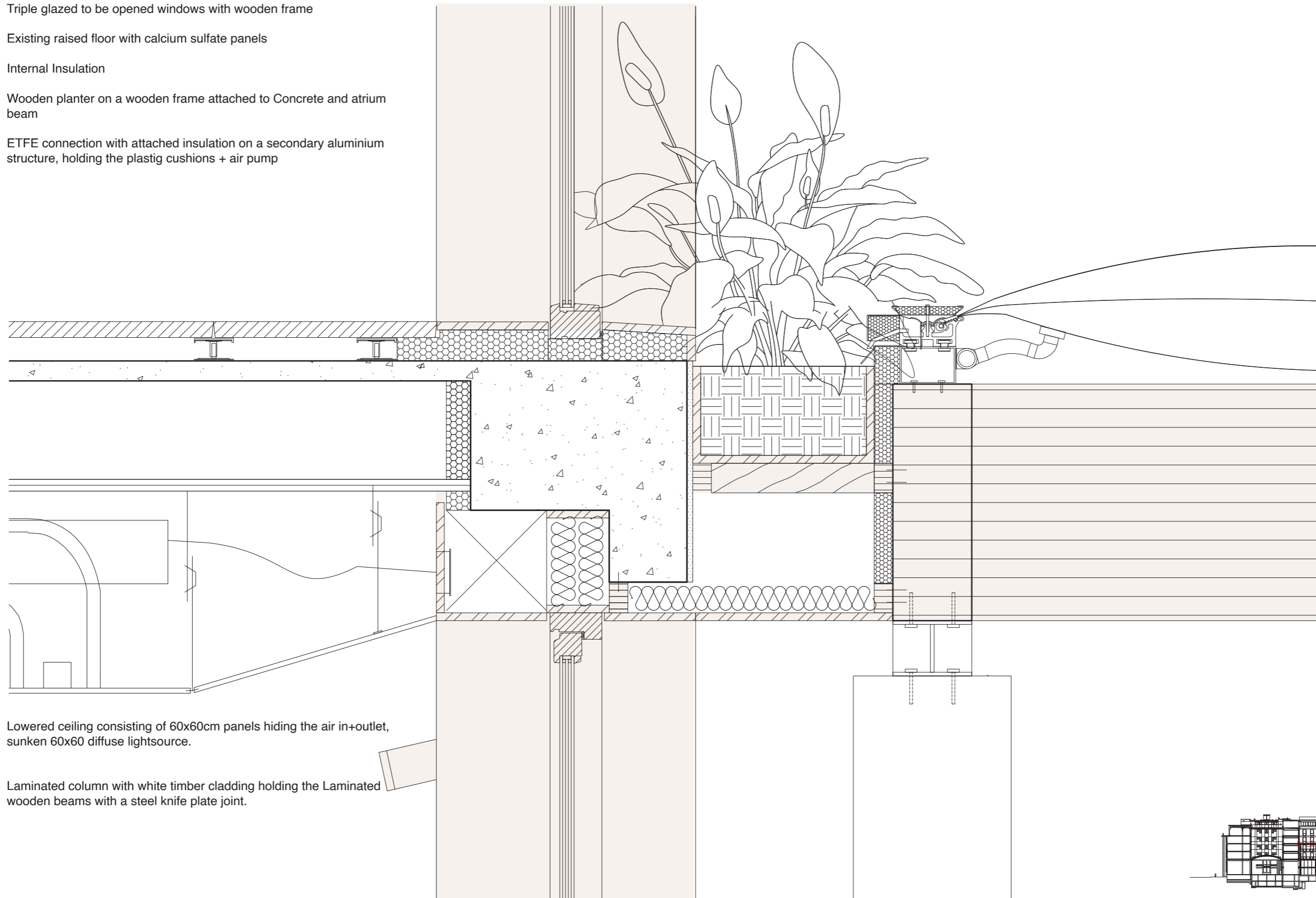
Triple glazed to be opened windows with wooden frame

Existing raised floor with calcium sulfate panels

Internal Insulation

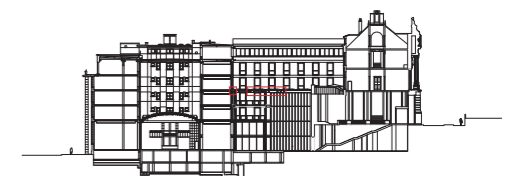
Wooden planter on a wooden frame attached to Concrete and atrium beam

ETFE connection with attached insulation on a secondary aluminium structure, holding the plastig cushions + air pump

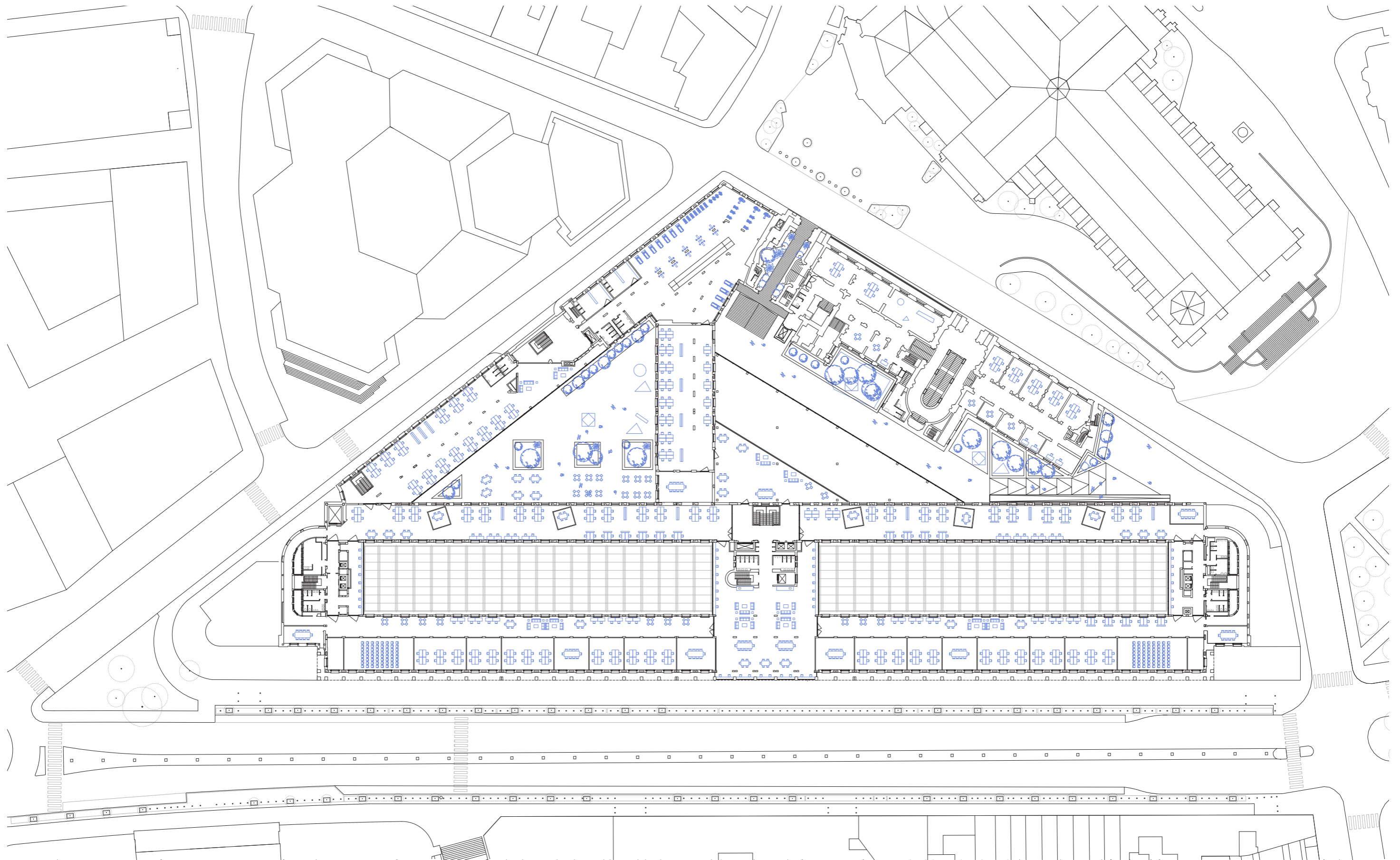


Lowered ceiling consisting of 60x60cm panels hiding the air in+outlet, sunken 60x60 diffuse lightsource.

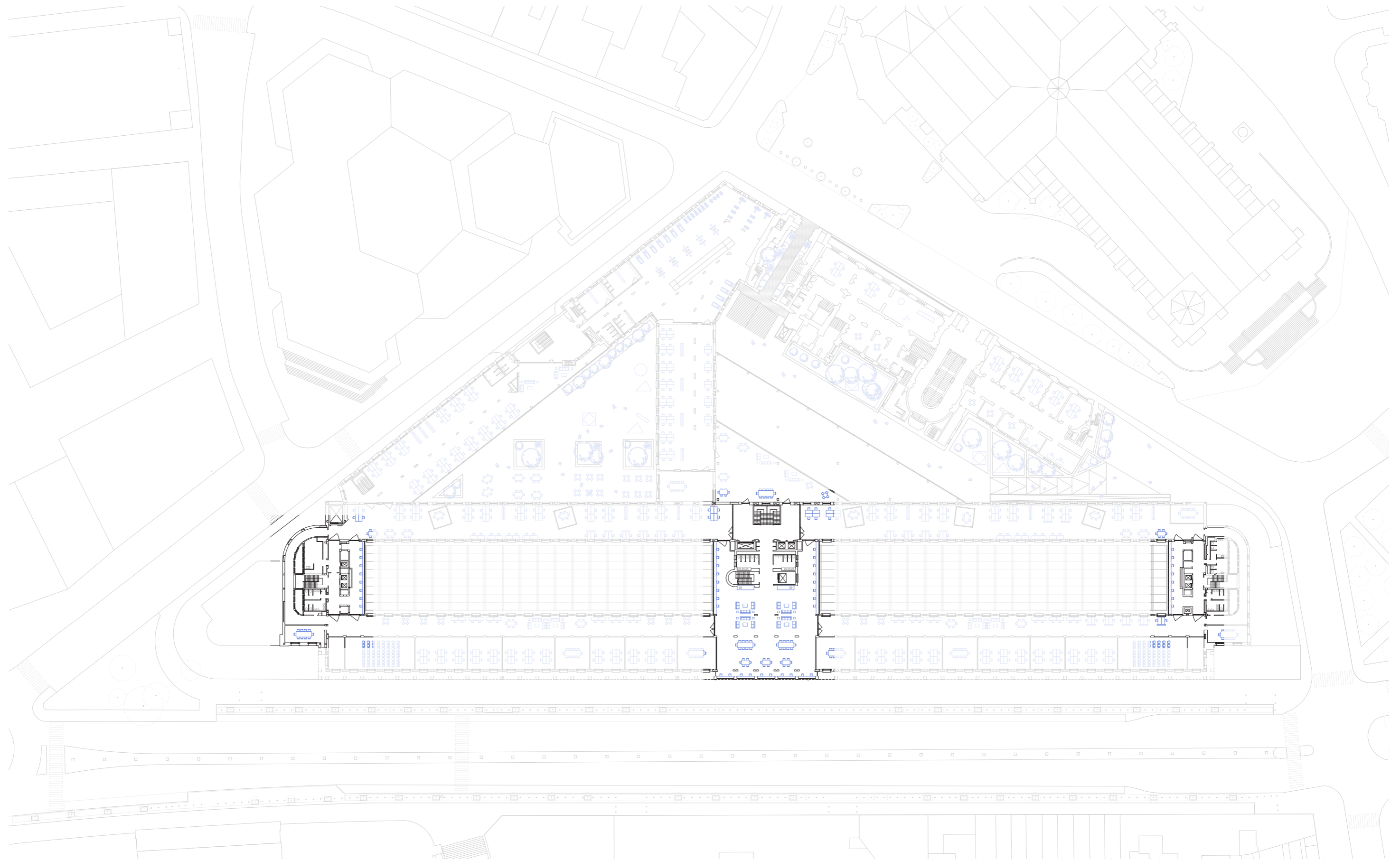
Laminated column with white timber cladding holding the Laminated wooden beams with a steel knife plate joint.



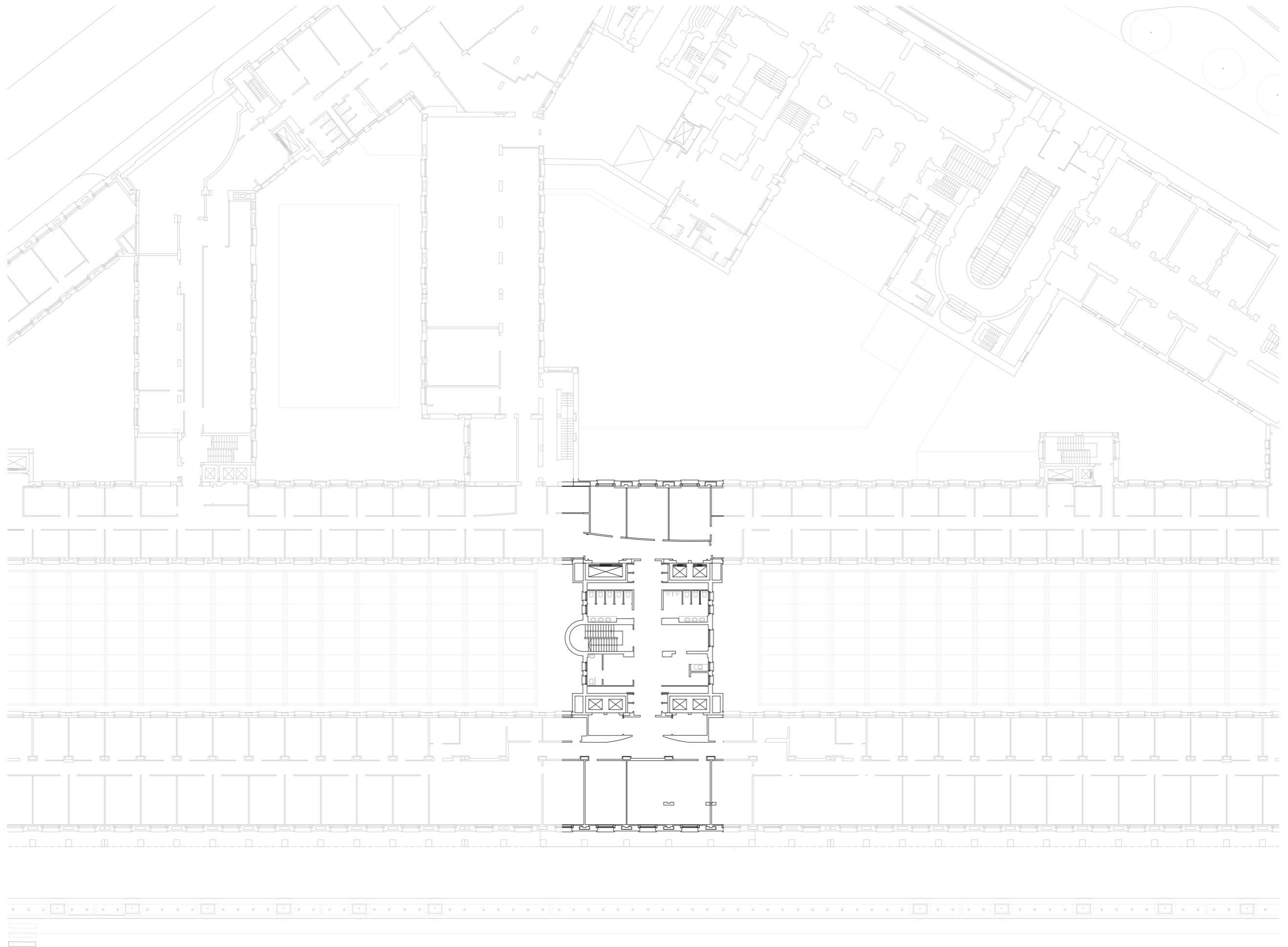
Common bank offices floor plan



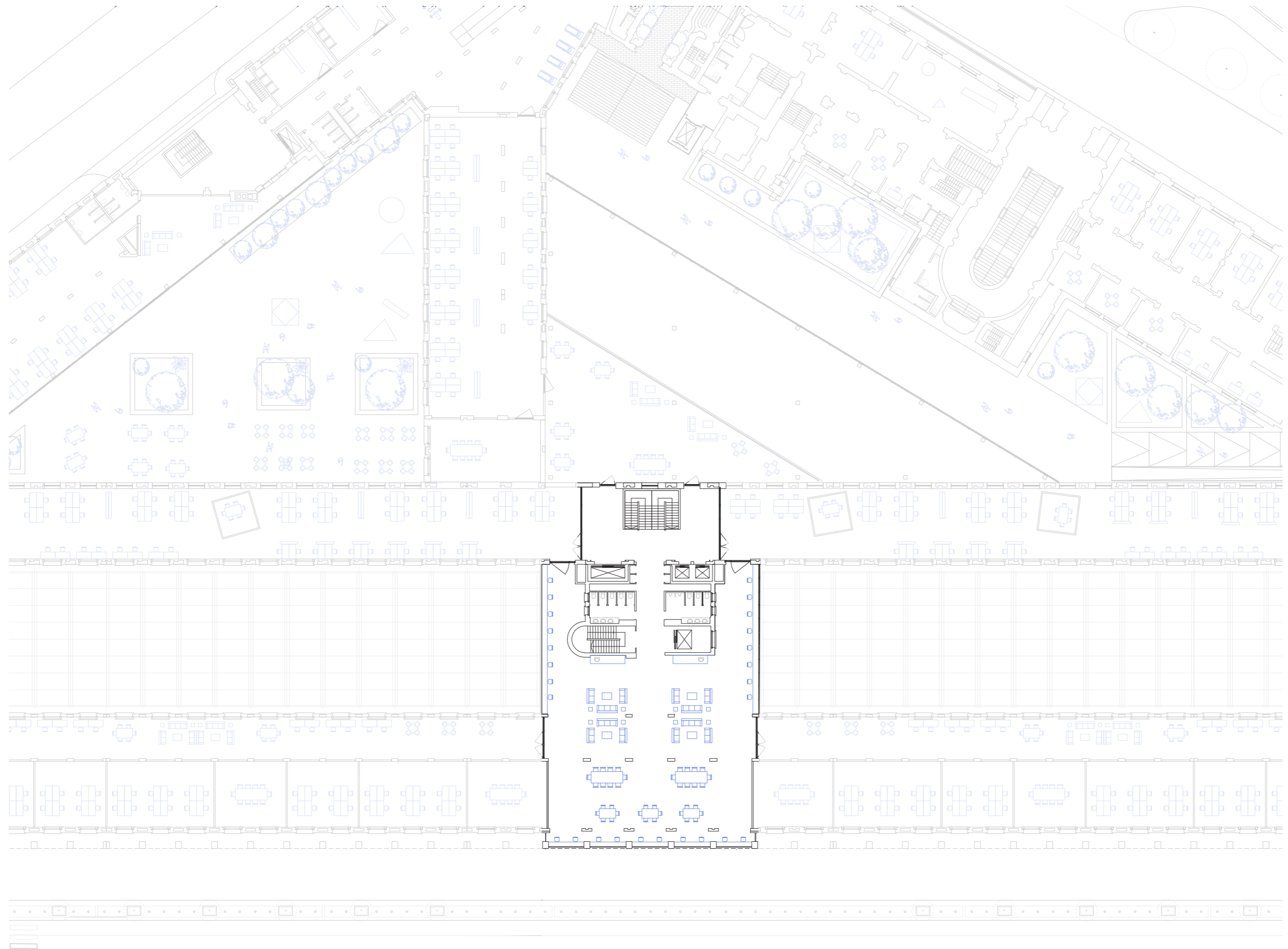
Common bank offices floor plan



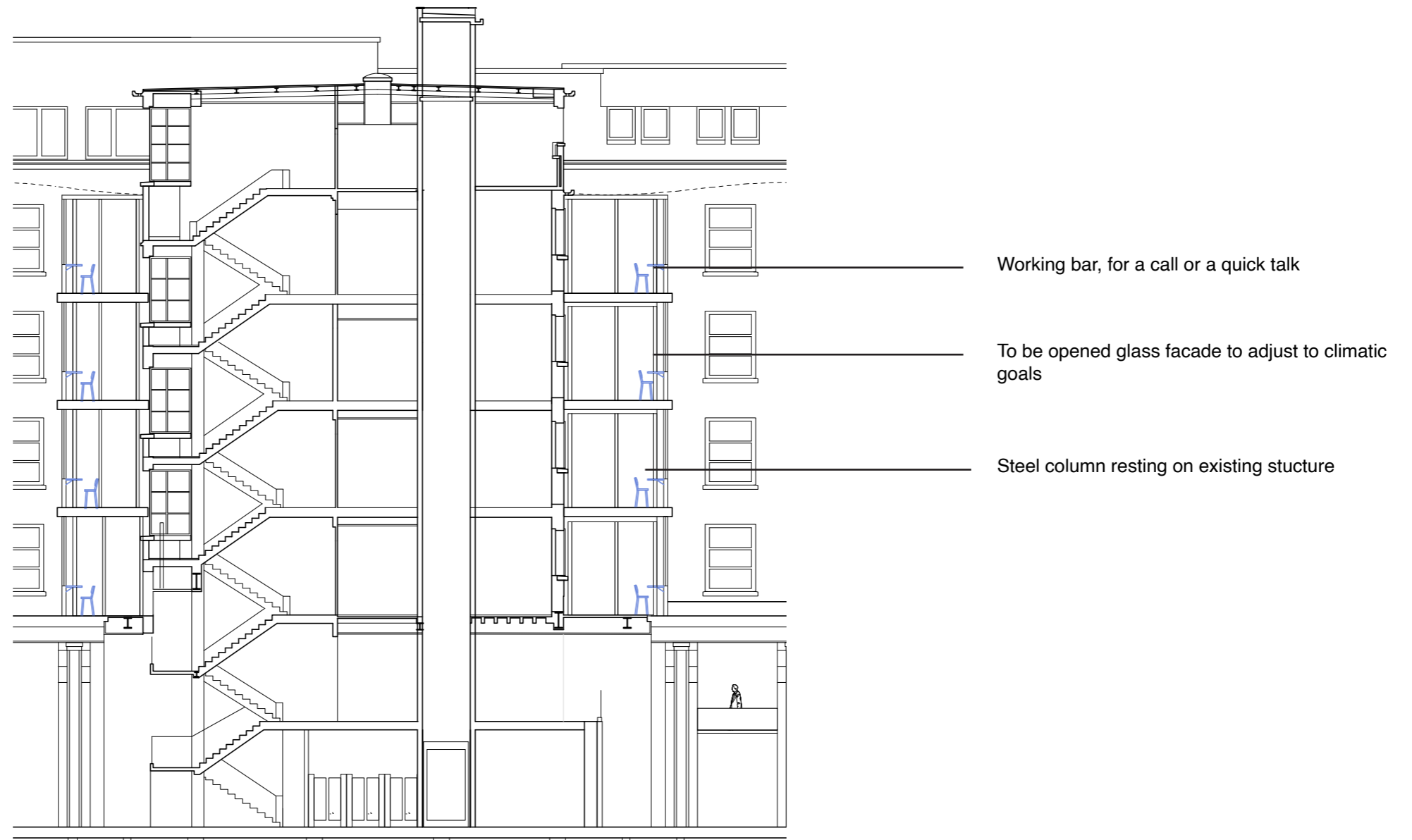
Existing core of the bank



New core of the bank



New core of the bank



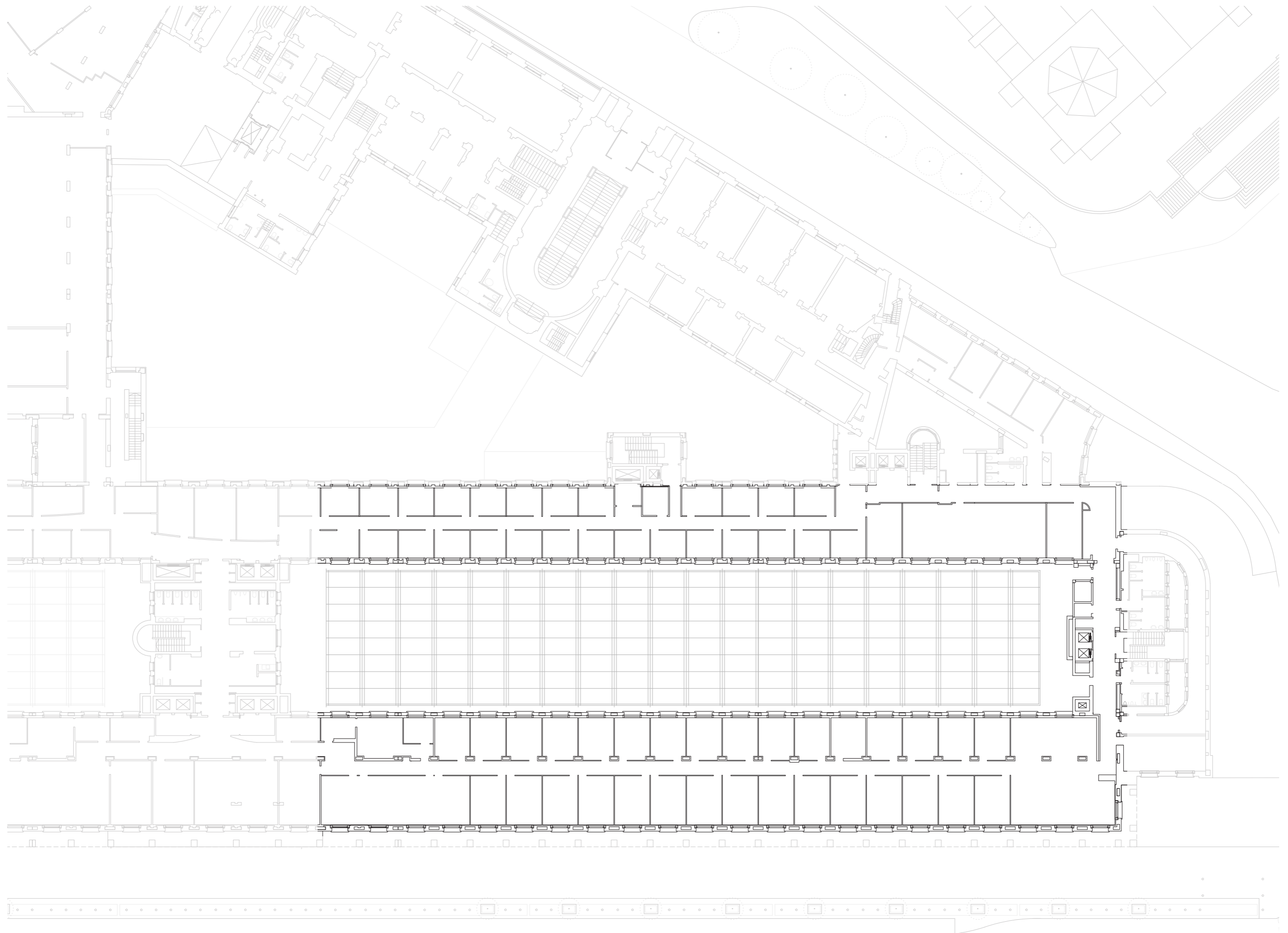
Balcony view



Balcony view



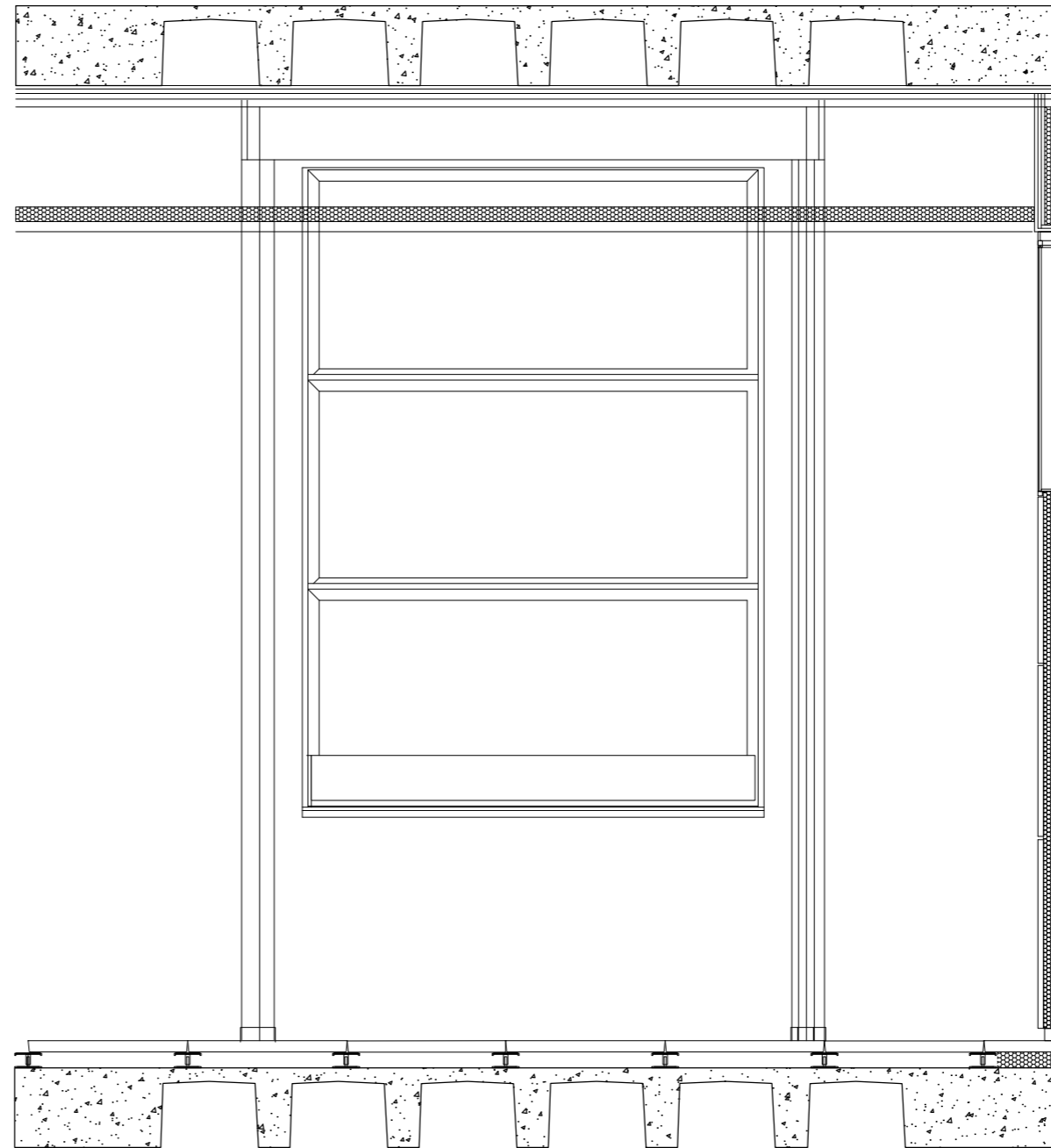
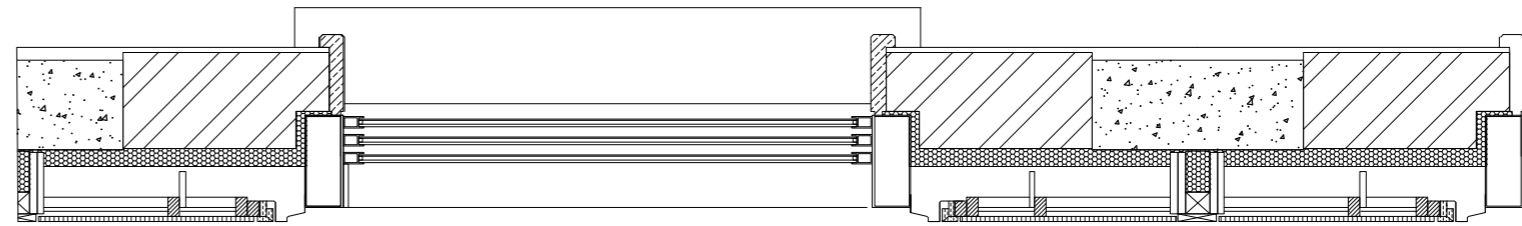
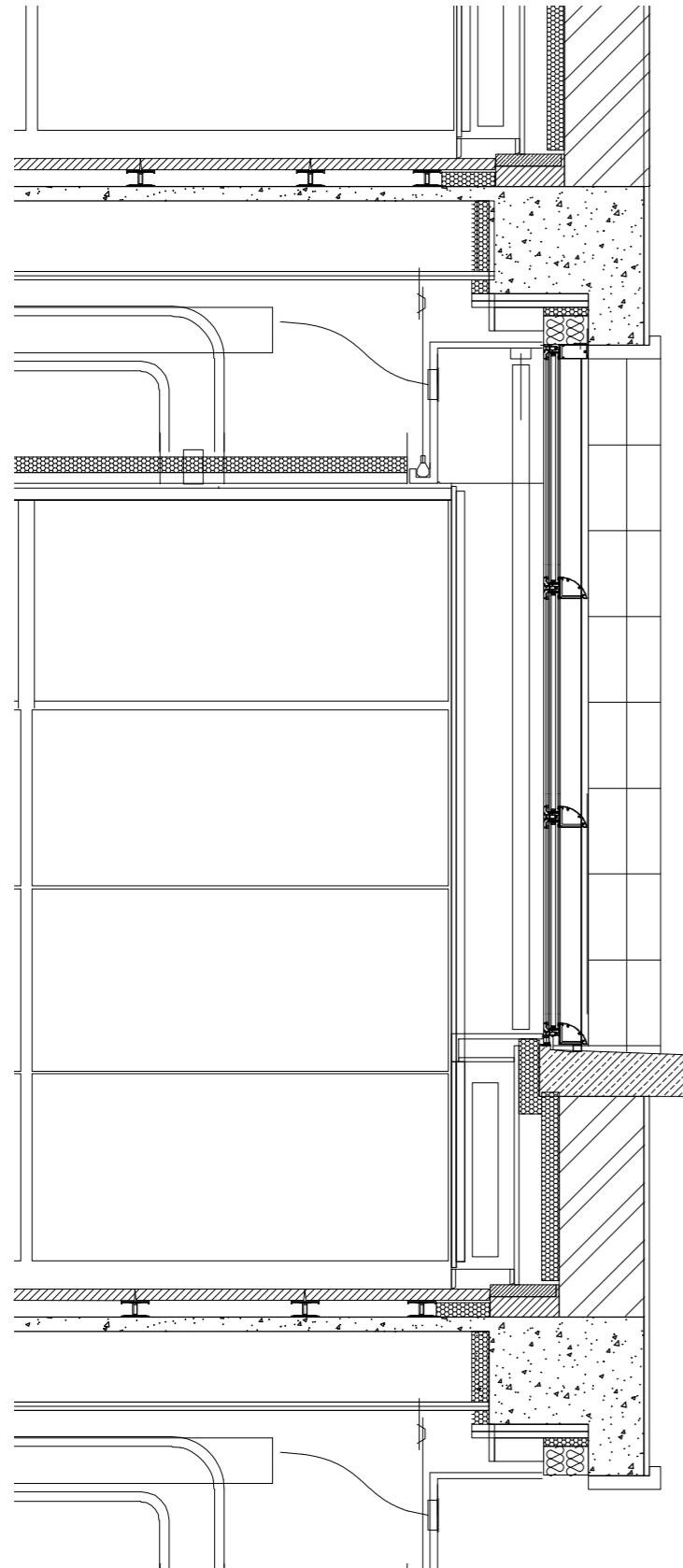
Existing bank offices floor plan



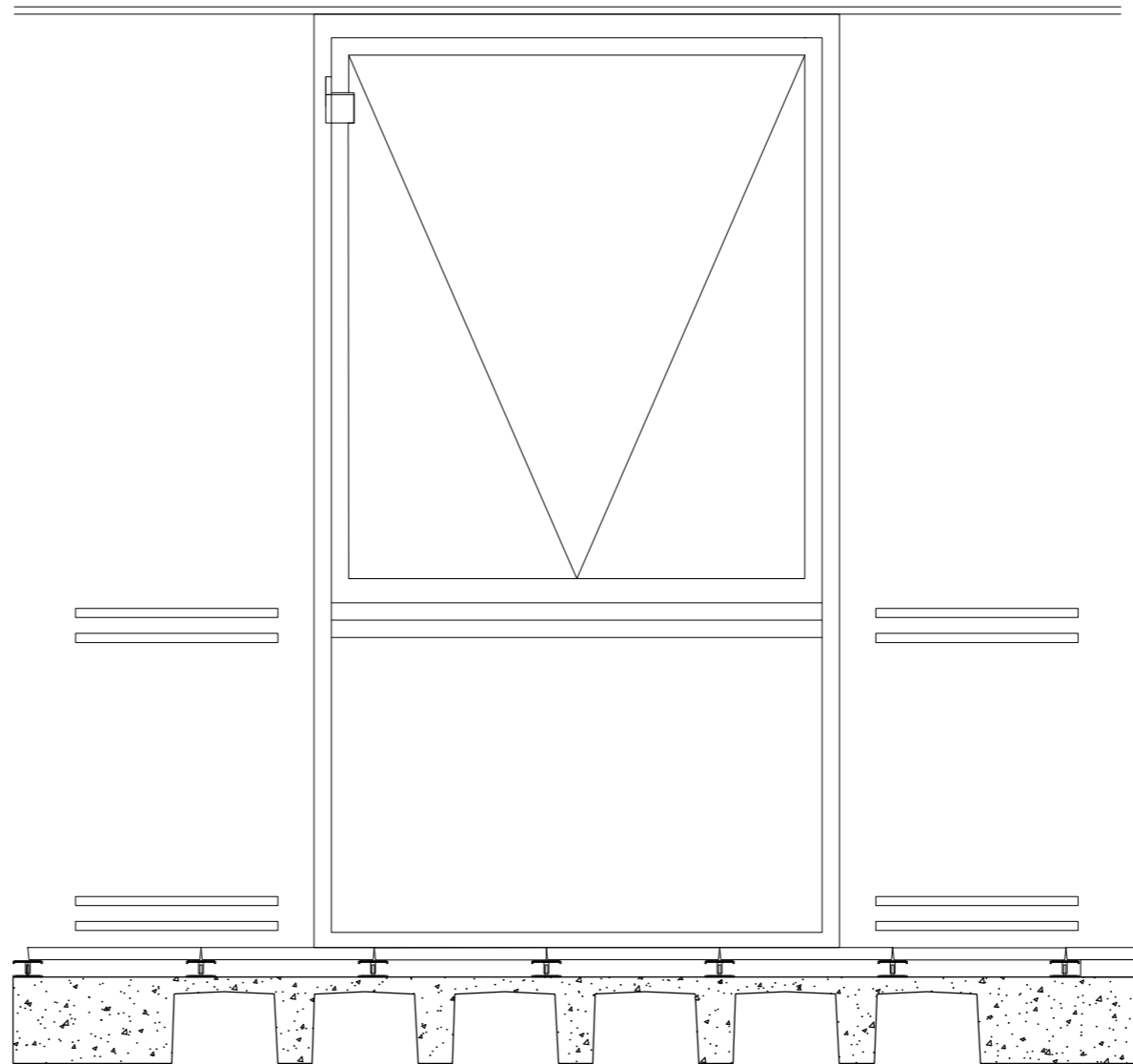
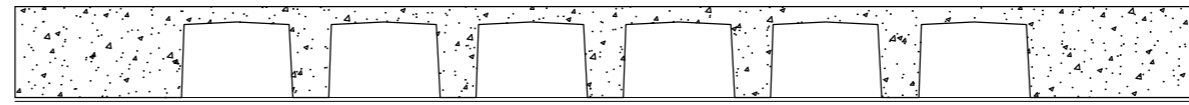
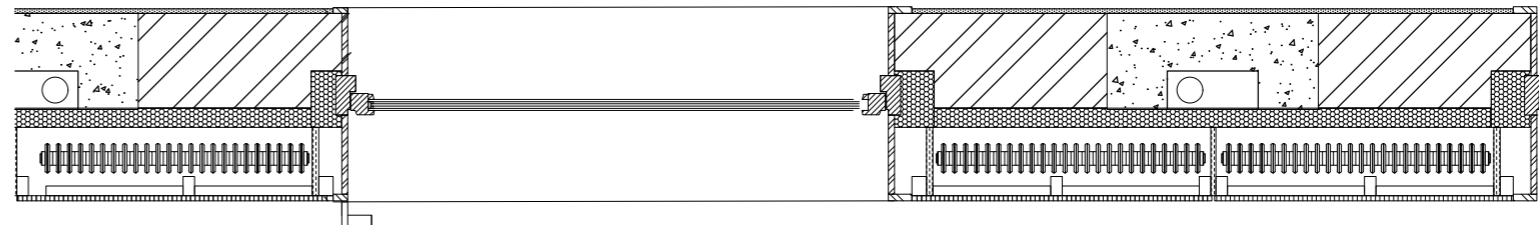
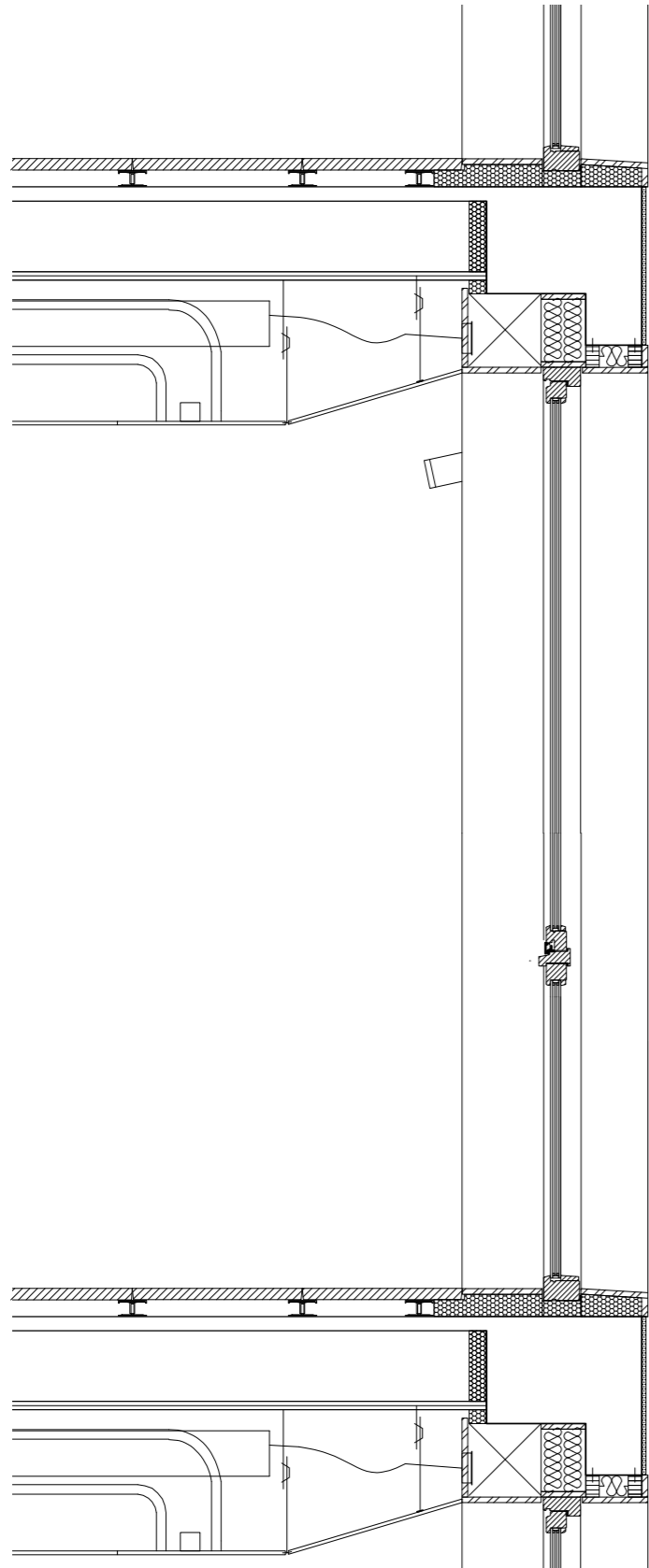
New bank offices floor plan



Existing office interior facade

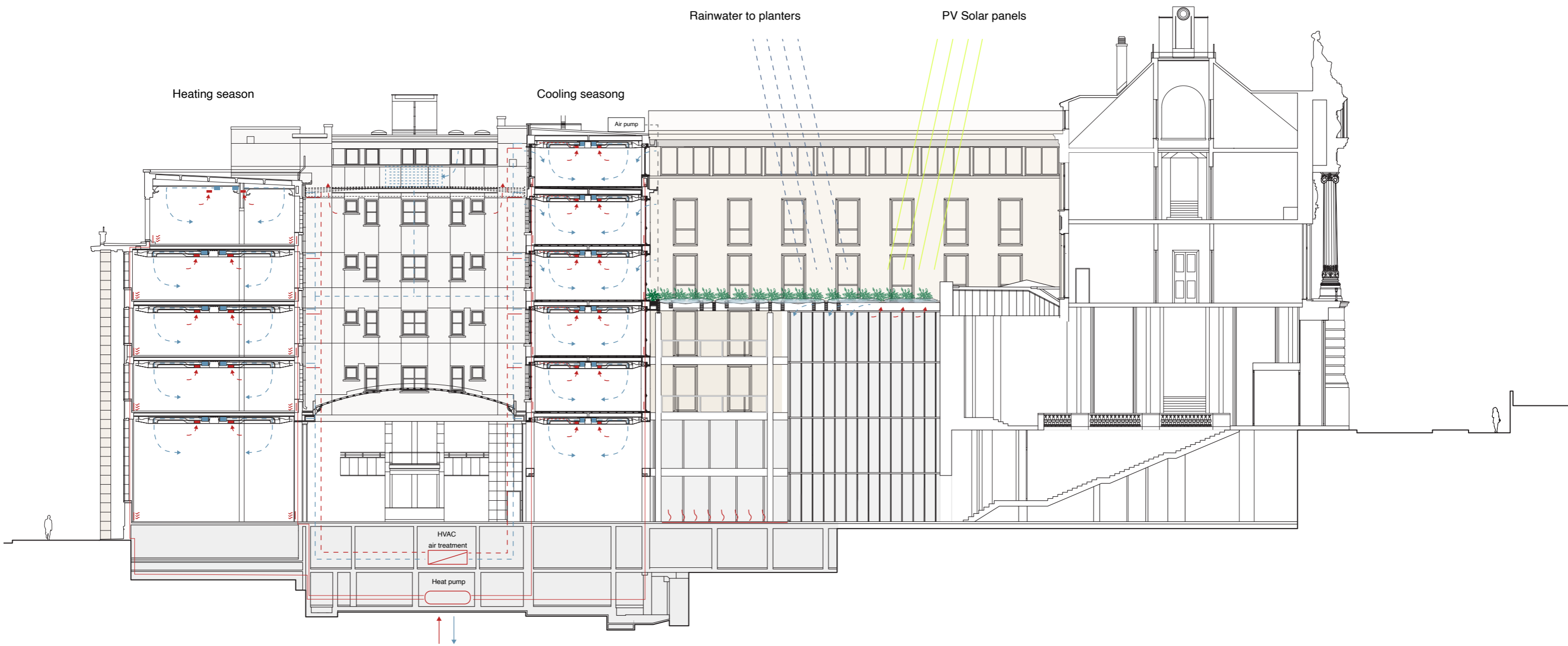


New office interior facade





Buildings climate



part of urban route & site visit



new public work & meeting space



podium for new startups / initiatives



mix of culture, work and study



new perception on banking office space



