2026

Portfolio

Alexander Söderholm



What drives me is the story behind every design decision and the life that will be shaped by it.



Alexander Söderholm

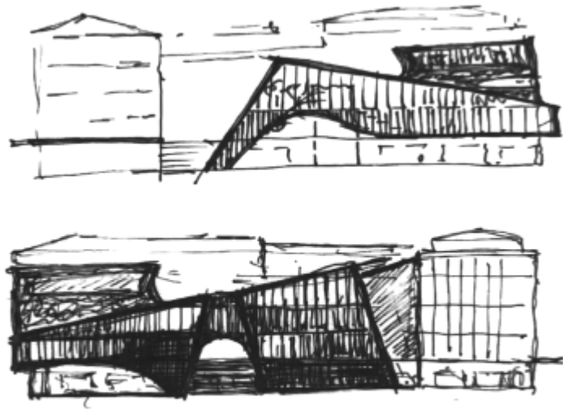
Master of Architecture Student
Lund University, LTH

Hideout Page 2-13
A centre for social, mental and cultural health among youths.

Level Page 14-21
A transformation of a parking garage into an intergenerational community hub.

Treppenecke Page 22-27
A plaza where complementing programs activate the space throughout the day.

Additionals Page 28-33
My two competition wins, my first building design and a selection of my physical models.



A building that meets the ground floor at entrances and builds up to its surrounding.

Hideout

Youth centre - Umeå, Sweden

Hideout tackles youth social health by integrating existing support measures with a modern after-school space. Its central location and multi-user programme aims to remove common barriers to get help.

The space is designed around a sequence of publicness, making it easy to go to a public activity the first time while seeing something with a higher barrier to return to another time.

Type: Bachelor Thesis (Individual), 2025

Focus: Social health, low-threshold access, and merging encounters within.

Hideout merges the functions of a health centre with the approachability of a youth centre. The programme allows visitors to enter through low-threshold spaces like the café or park to then proceed to the ones with a higher threshold.

Grounded in case studies from the UK and local initiatives in Umeå, the approach aims at combating three core challenges:

Youths suffer from unemployment

Arbetsmarknadstorget is an existing initiative that supports people on their way towards work or studies through activities such as job fairs and workshops.

Involuntary loneliness is a growing issue

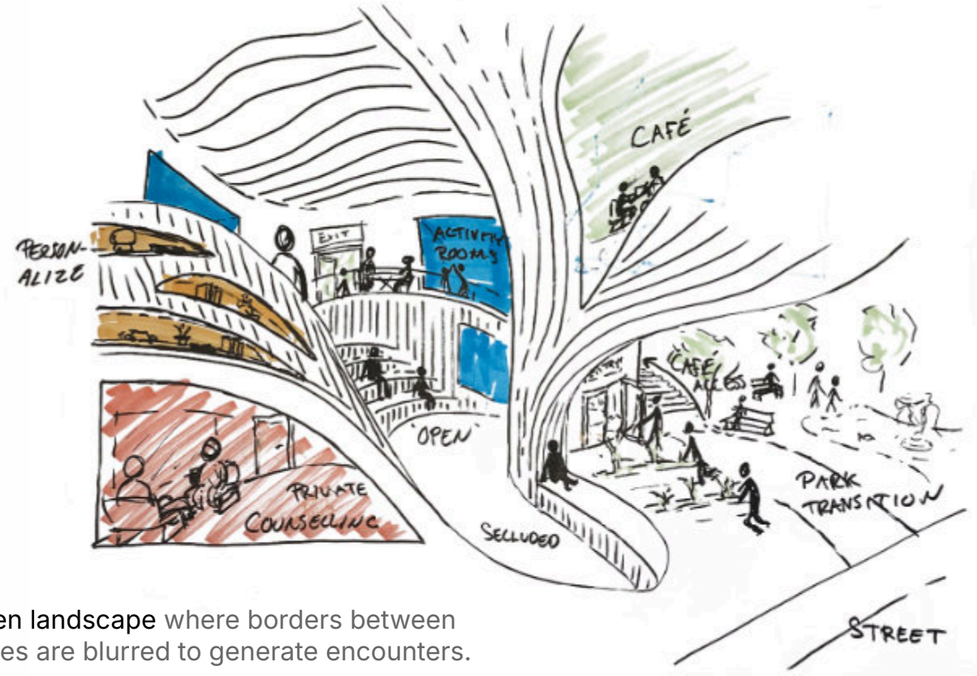
Social Prescribing is a proven method in the UK that connects people to community-based activities. Umeå University is researching ways to bring this to Sweden.

After-school spaces have not been updated

Hideout proposes a central youth centre where employment and social health are discussed, making it less intimidating to seek help when needed.

Case studies and Local actors:

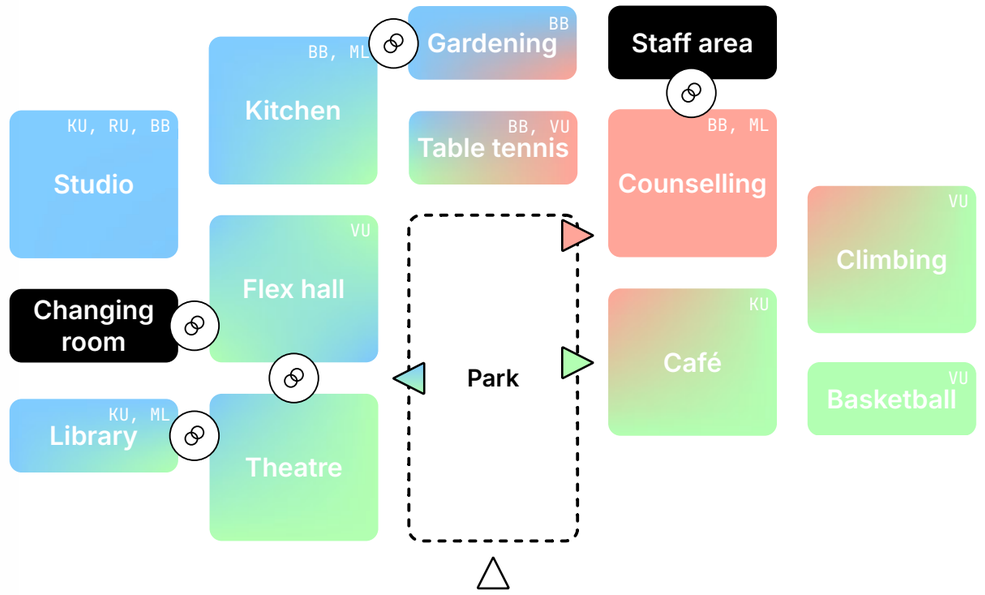
UK: Bromley by Bow Centre (BB), Maggie's Leeds Centre (ML)
Umeå: Klossen Umeå (KU), RSMH Umeå (RU), Vän i Umeå (VU)



An open landscape where borders between activities are blurred to generate encounters.

Reasons to go
Programmes

XX Case studies · Interlinked · Access

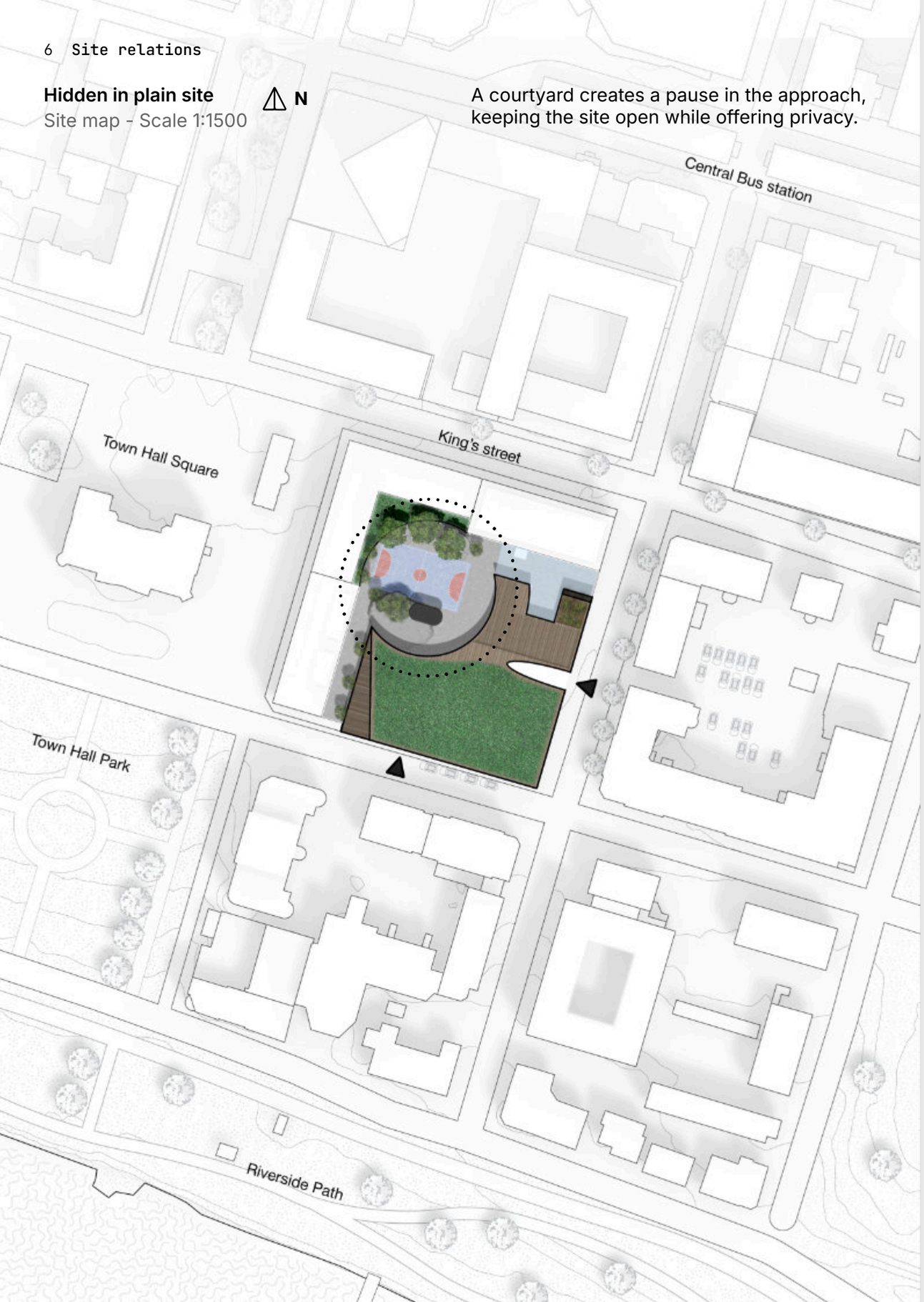


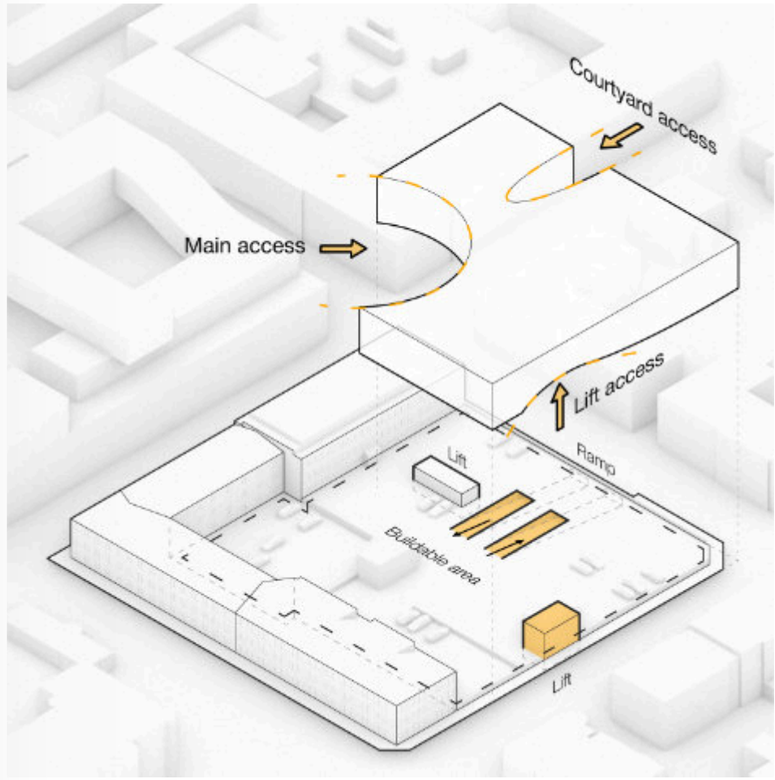
Personal development | Health and Wellbeing | Enjoy our spaces

Hidden in plain site
Site map - Scale 1:1500

N

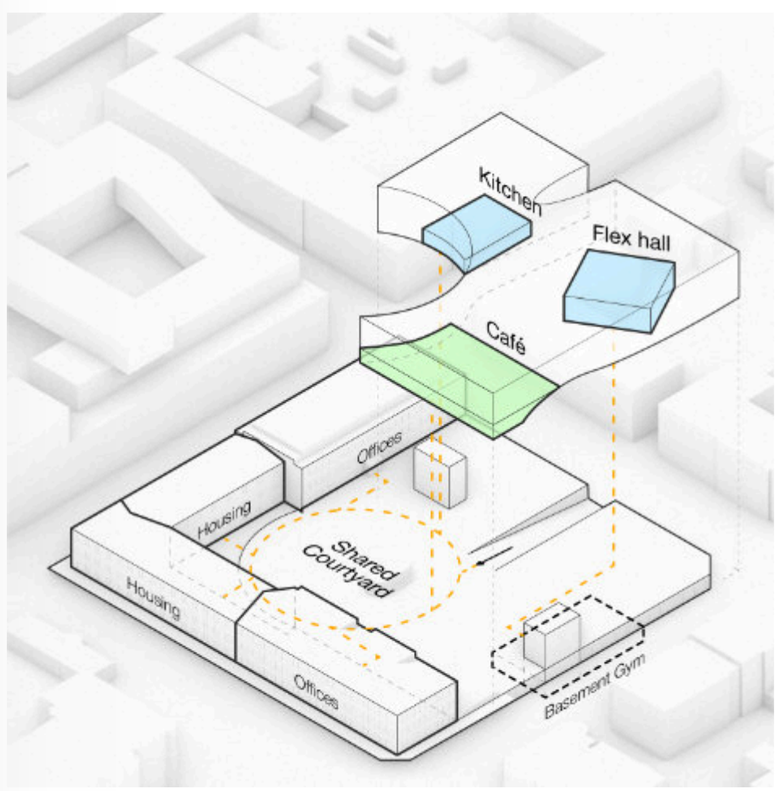
A courtyard creates a pause in the approach, keeping the site open while offering privacy.





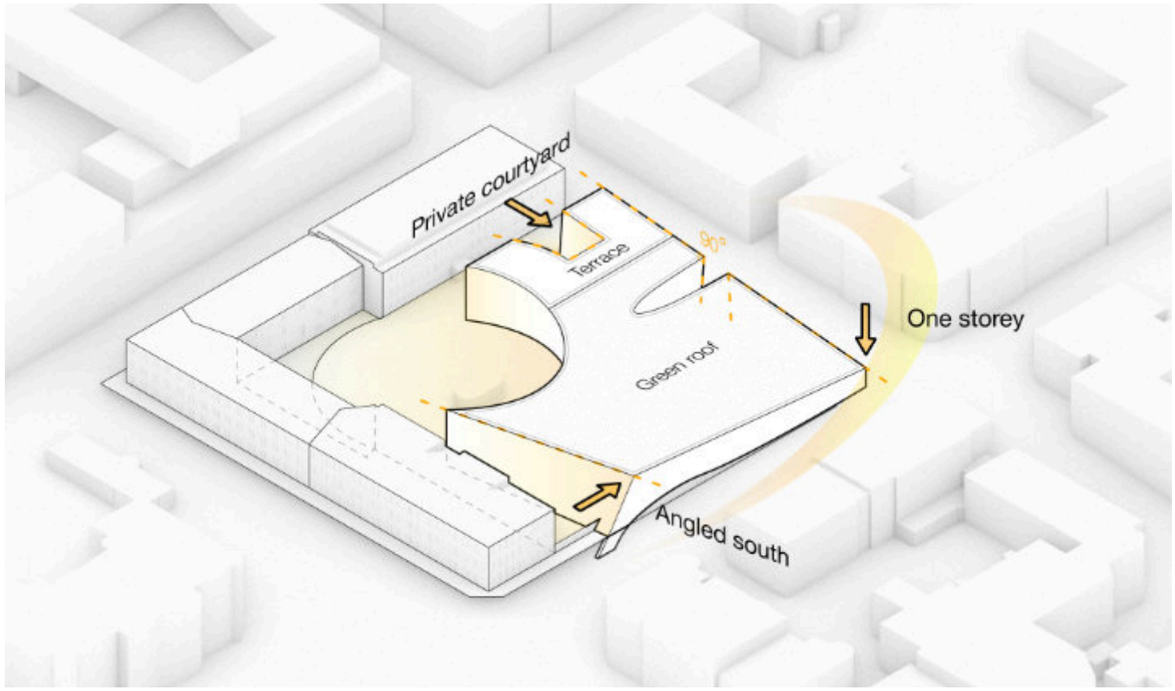
Access points

The existing access points are kept and accentuated; The canopy rises with the lift and the ramp cuts a chasm through the building.



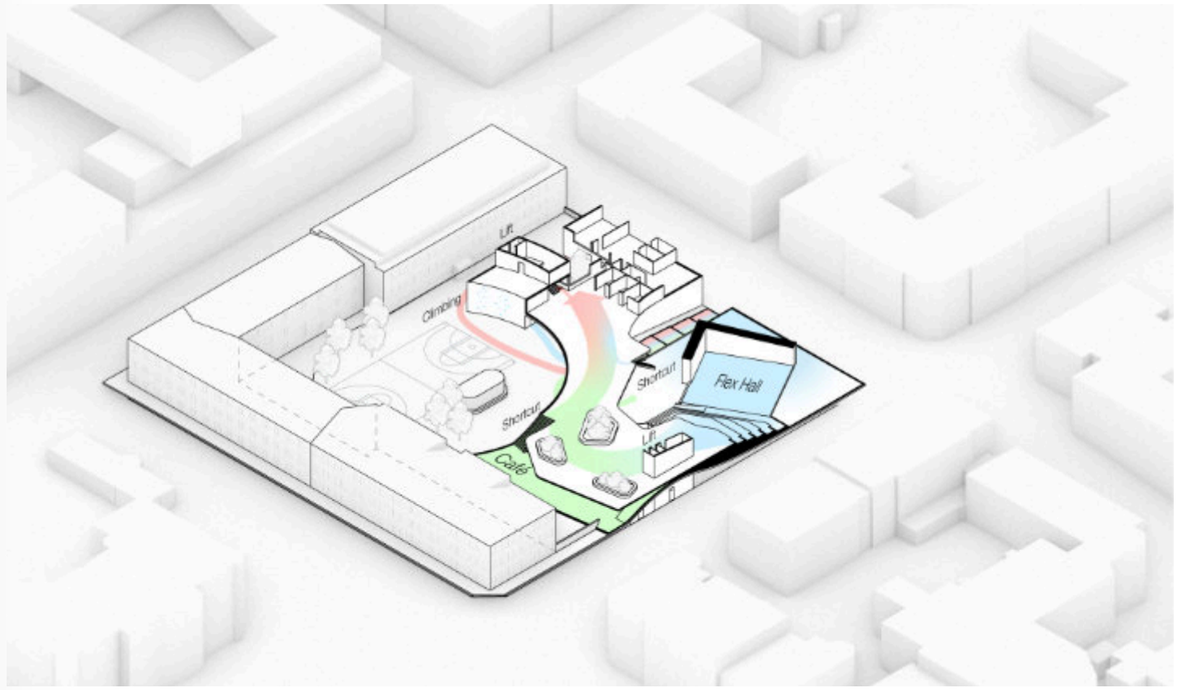
Public programmes

Some programmes are open to the public, giving more users and a lower threshold.



Exterior landscape

The building bends to the sunlight. It is lowered to the street yet enclosing within the courtyard.

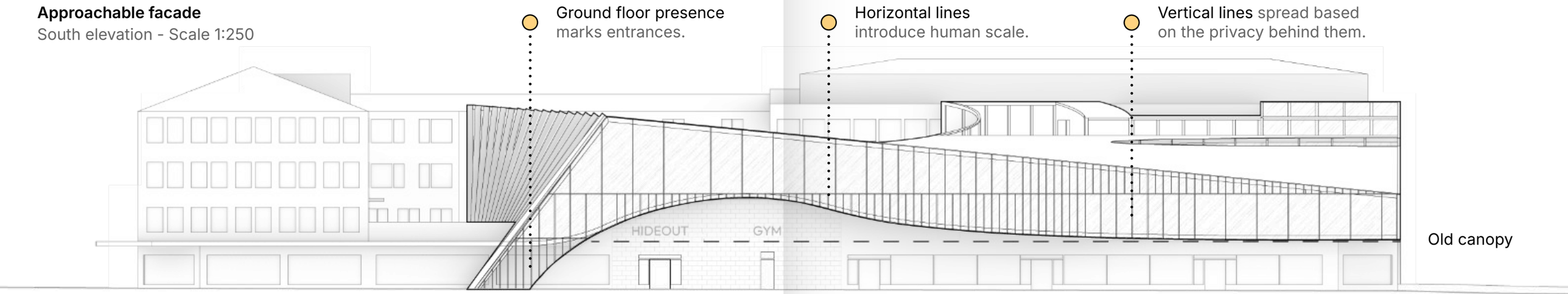


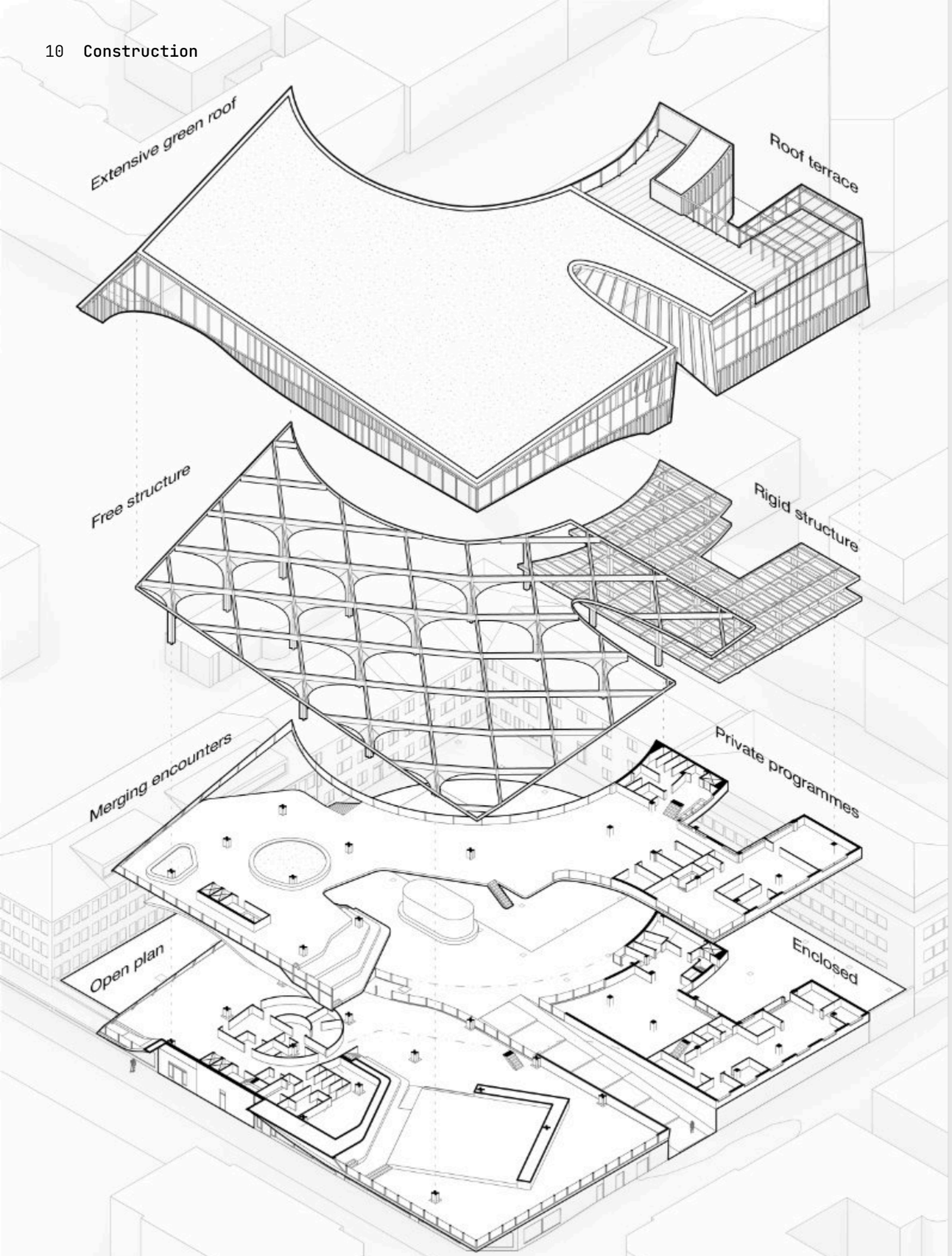
Interior landscape

The path goes from public to private. Explore new activities along the way or take a shortcut.

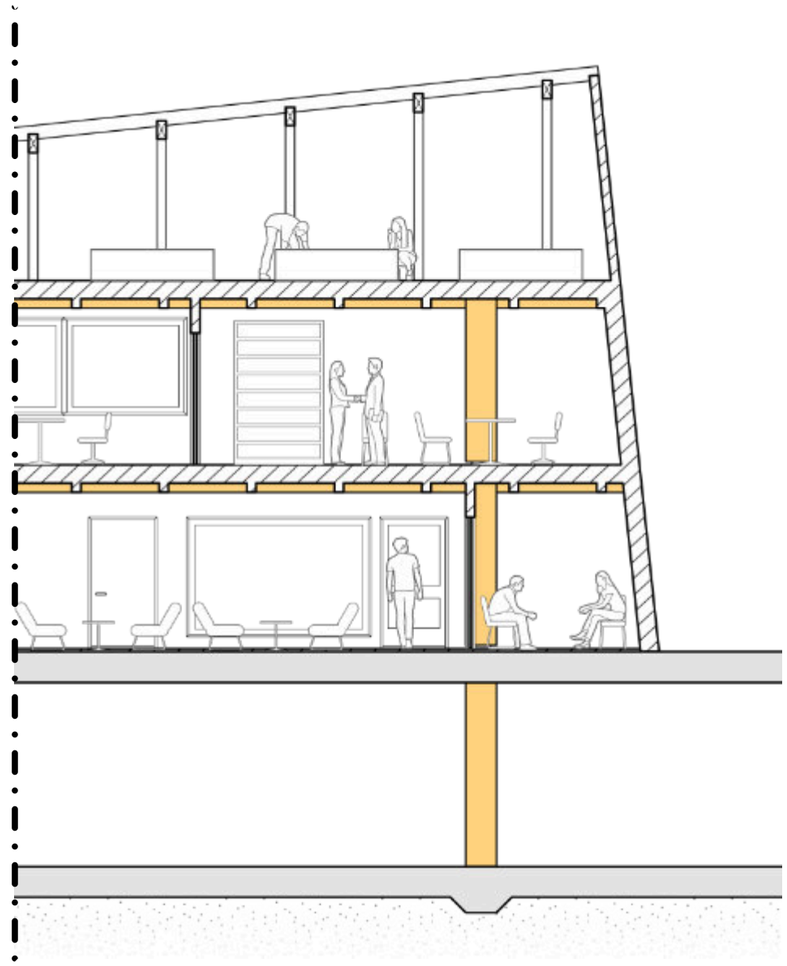
Approachable facade

South elevation - Scale 1:250



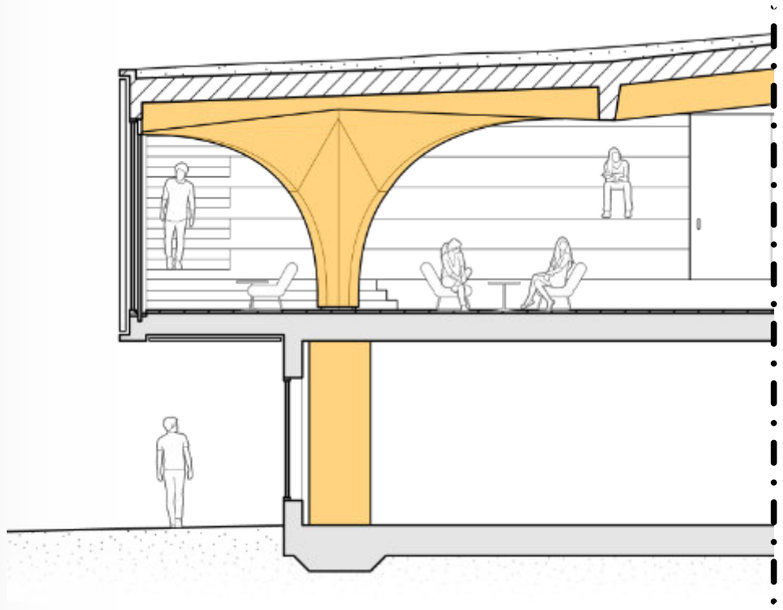


Spatial Expression
Section - Scale 1:100



Rigid structure

The quiet north side requires acoustic control, calling for regular, enclosed rooms.

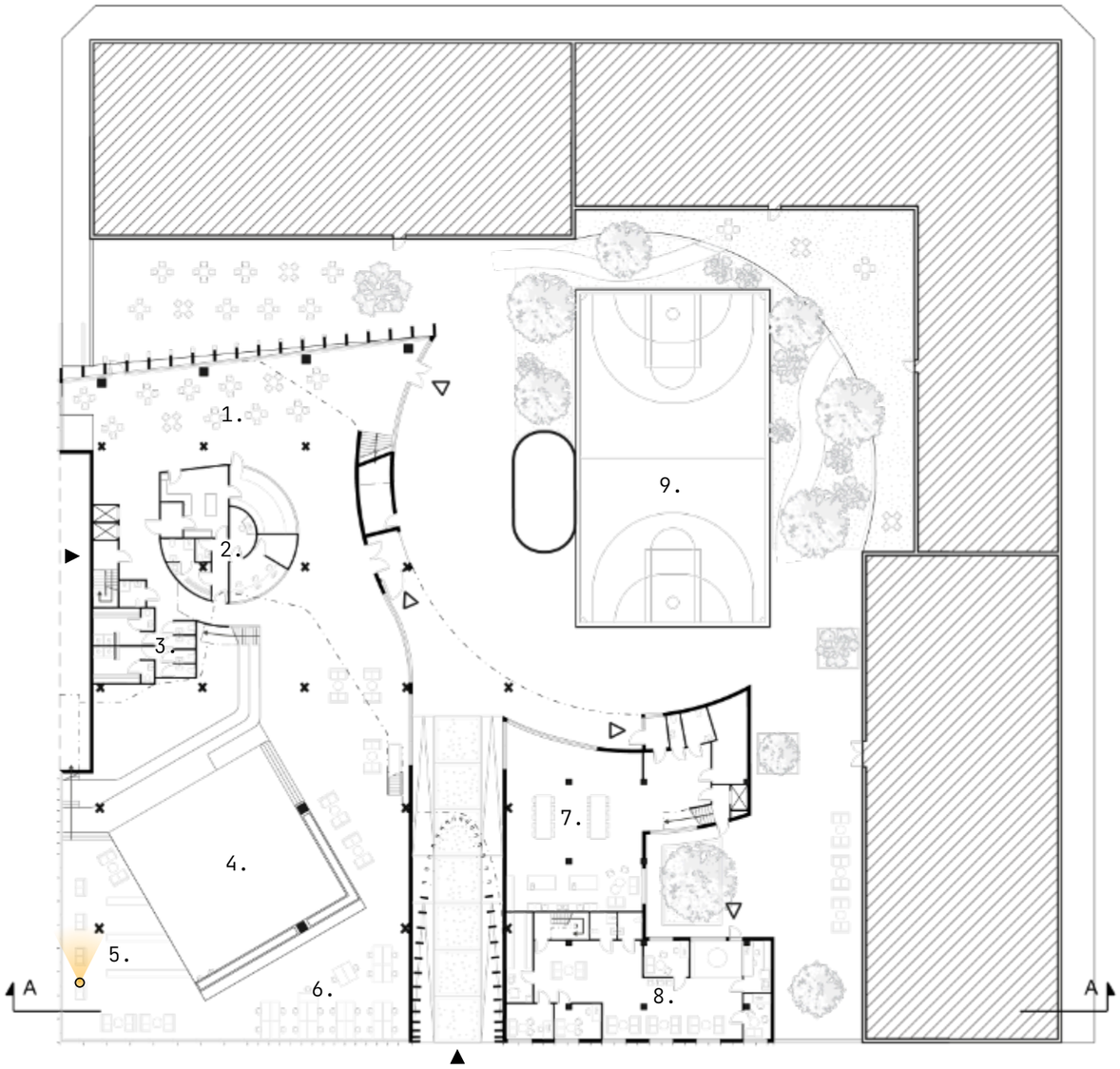


Free structure

The active south side lets activities overlap, enabling a free flow between spaces.

Placement of functions
First floor plan - Scale 1:500

N



In the large hall, arched pillars break up the space into enclosing pockets.



Functions

1. Café
2. Kitchen + Reception
3. Changing room + WC
4. Flex hall
5. Library
6. Creative studio
7. Kitchen
8. Counselling
9. Outdoor sports



Multiple levels make for different groups to sit closer to each other and eventually interact.



Level

Community centre - Malmö, Sweden

The proposal reimagines the building Motetten, originally developed within the Swedish Million Programme. Rather than demolishing and rebuilding, the project works within the existing structure to add spontaneus use to its existing program.

At its core, a central square becomes the social heart of the community, encouraging encounters between people of different ages and backgrounds throughout the day.

Type: Academic (Collaborative), 2026

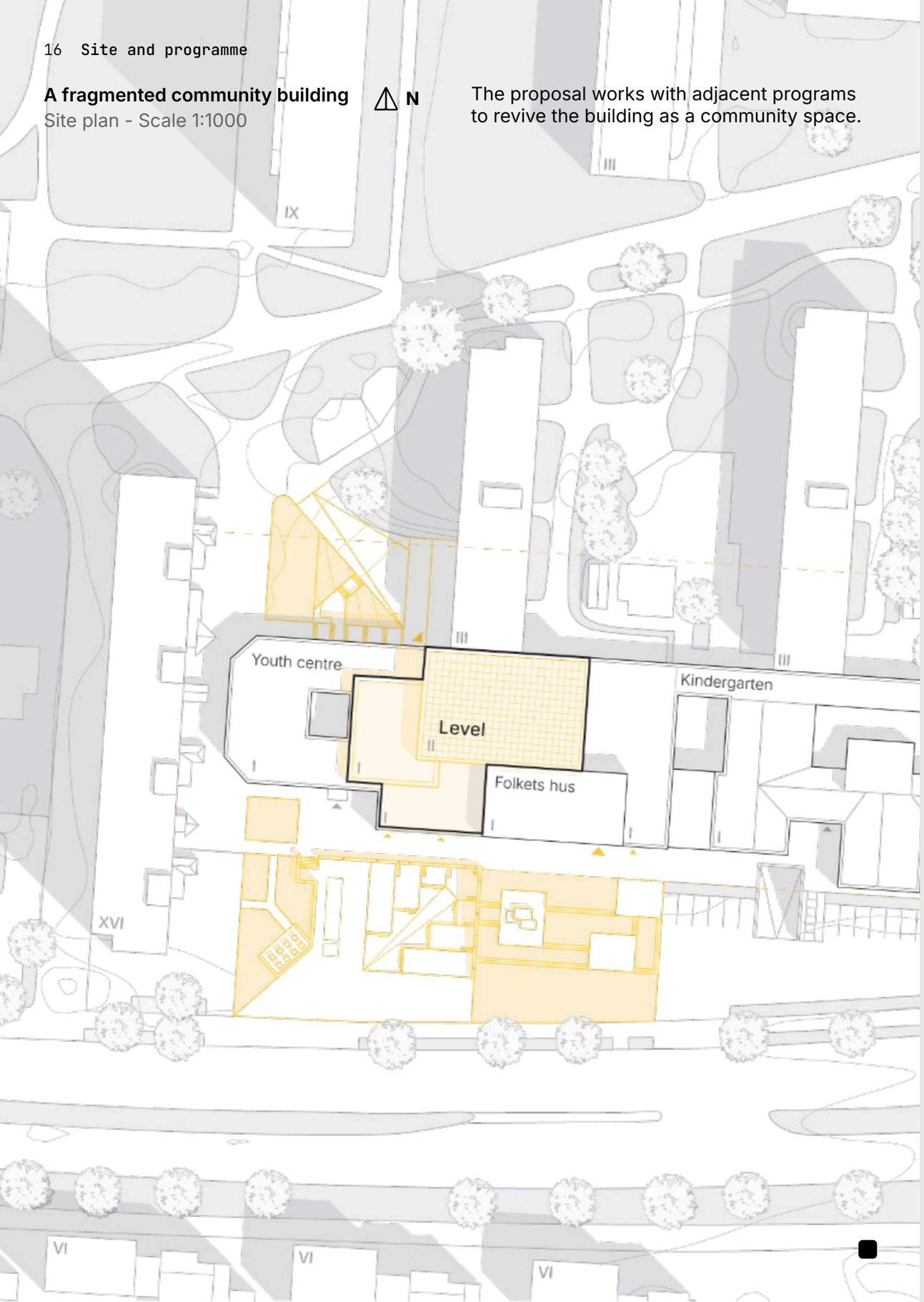
Brief: Redevelop a Folkets hus struggling to attract users and to secure financing.

Collaboration: - Made by me ■ Made with group member ▢ Made by group member

A fragmented community building
Site plan - Scale 1:1000

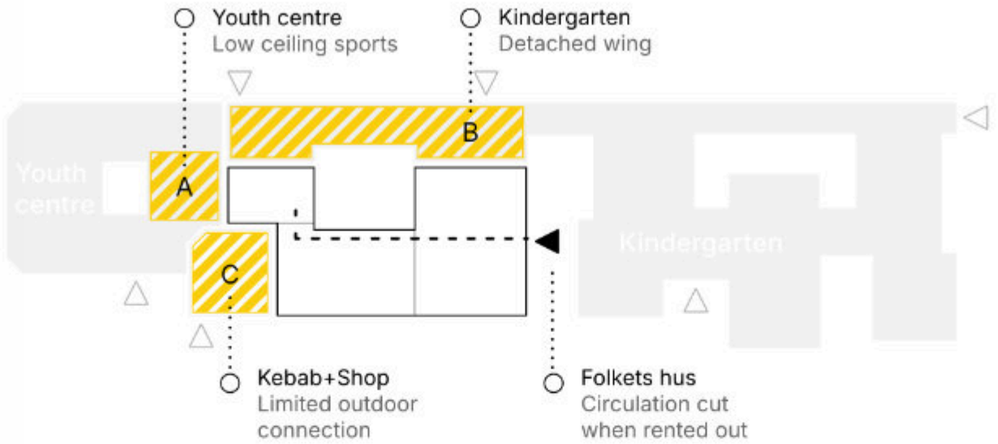
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The proposal works with adjacent programs to revive the building as a community space.



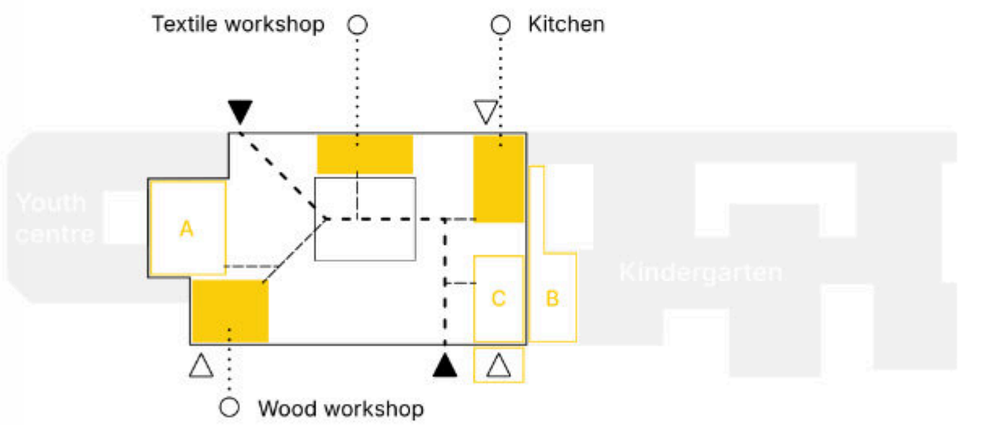
Problems were identified through site visits and interviews with staff members and users.

Problem Circulation



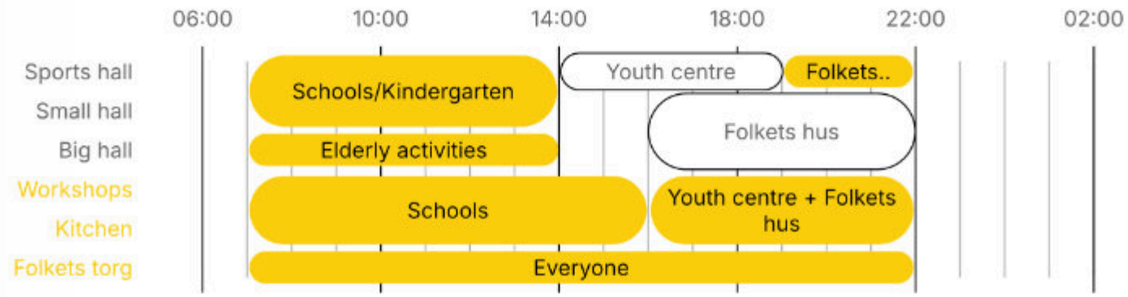
Relocating programmes add users to the Folkets hus and free up space for new ones.

Changed Added



Integrating the school system into Folkets hus to bring in daily users and build early familiarity with the space.

Existing New



Multiple access points

Create a flow through the building while giving each user group their entrance.

Roof Access
For everyone

Youth Access
From youth centre

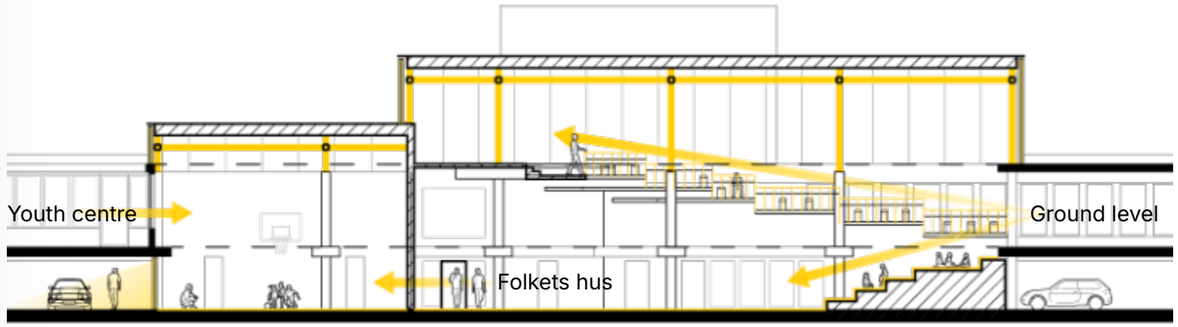
Main Access
To folkets hus

Secondary Access
Mainly for schools

Service Access
For deliveries

Expanding below create new connections
Section - Scale 1:300

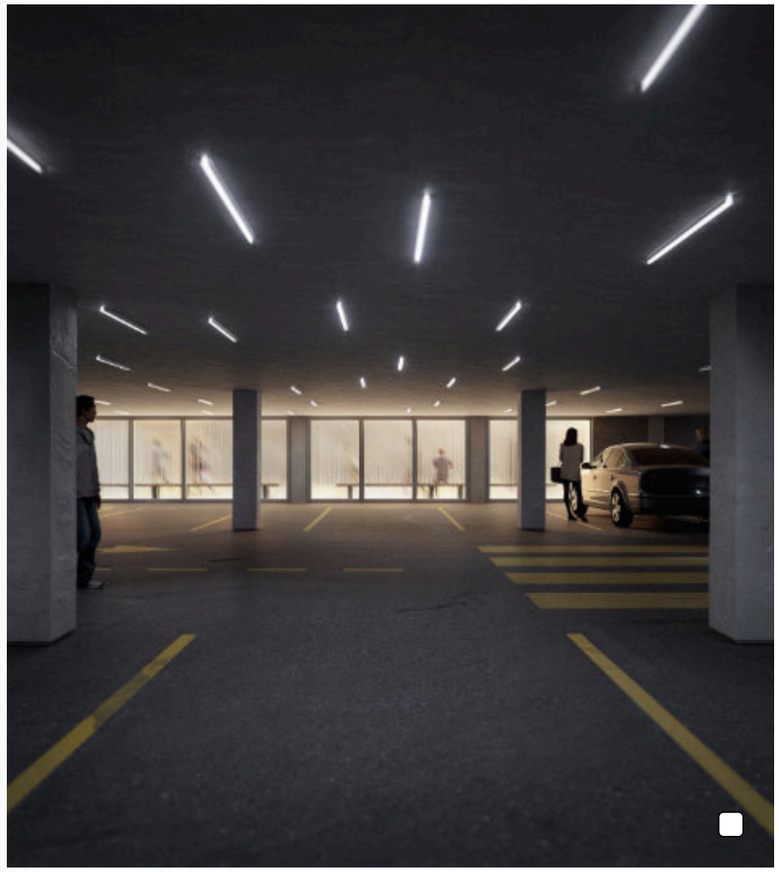
All user-paths converge in previous garage where the indoor square takes shape.



Light reaches the garage

Double heigth sports hall serve multiple users.

A multi-level indoor square.

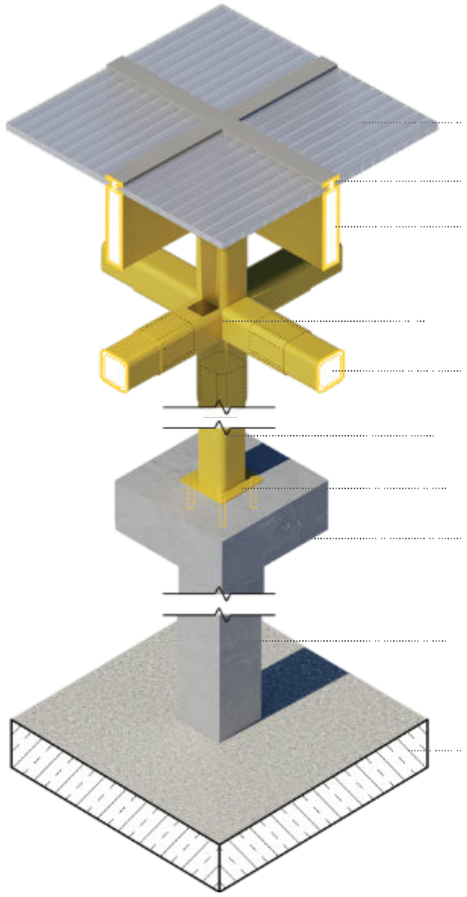


A safer garage

Residents can access the centre through the garage, making it brighter and safer.

Extending the structure

Where the floor slab is cut to the garage, columns are also extended to create an upper floor and new roofs.



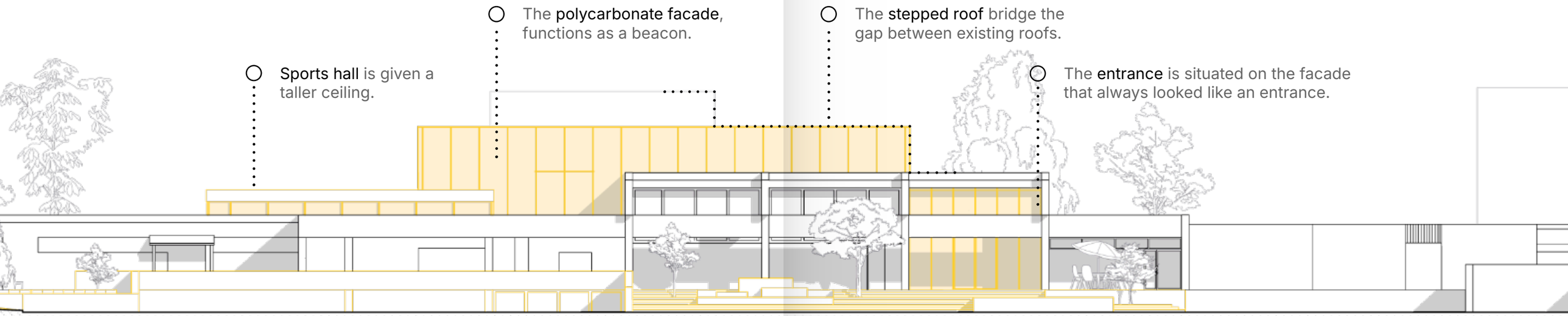


The upper floor

The circulation terminates by the roof terrace where new structure meets the old.

Added roofs intention

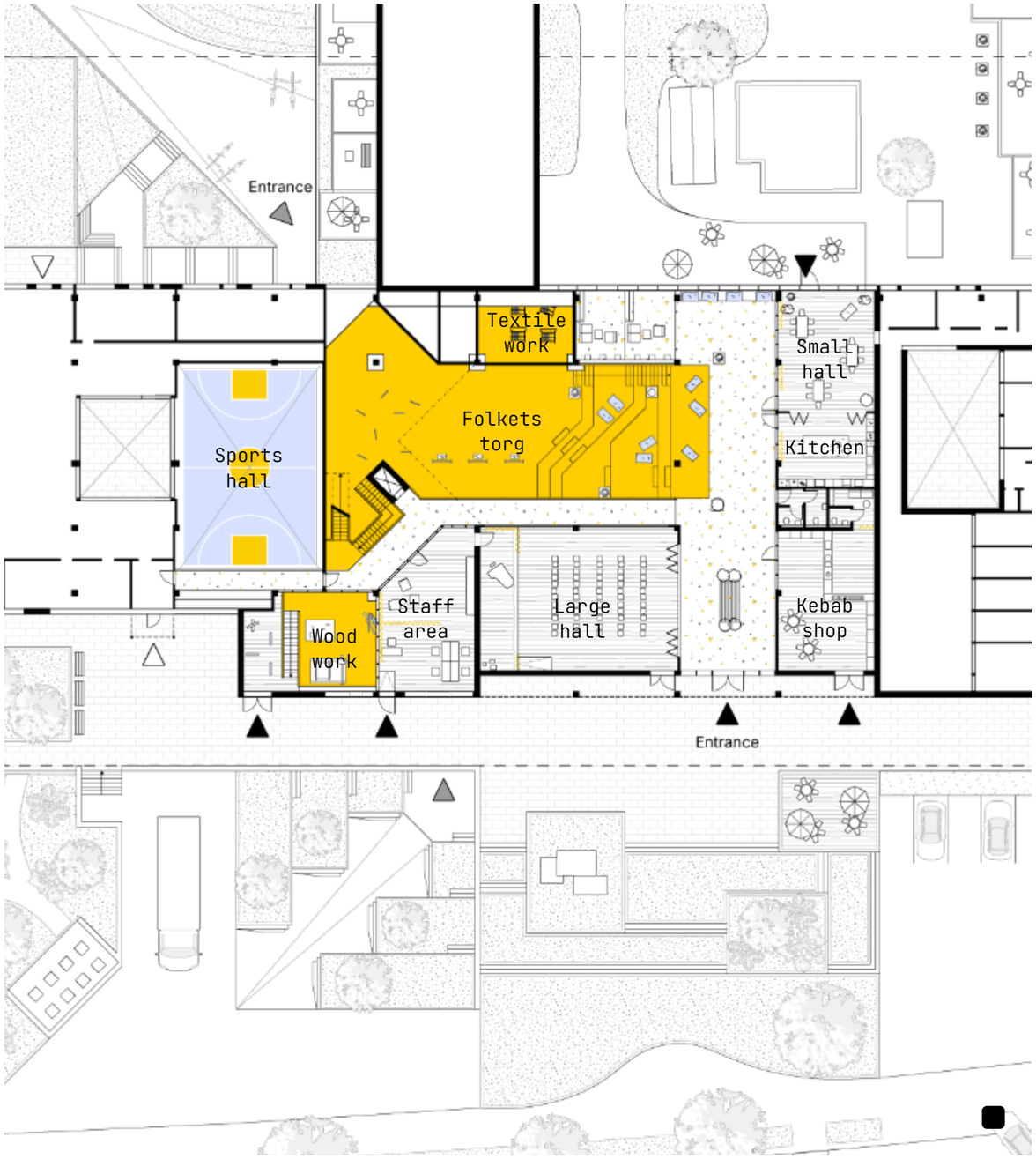
South elevation - Scale 1:200



Folkets torg
Ground floor plan - Scale 1:400

N

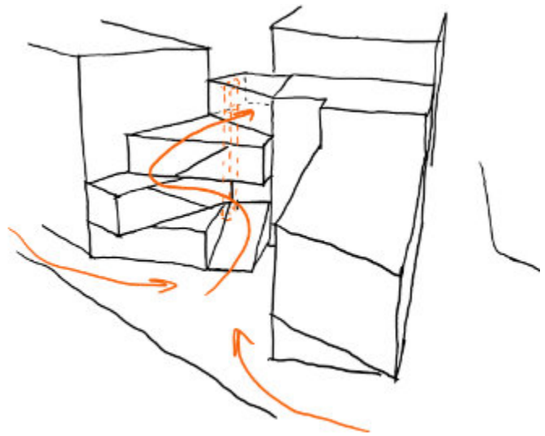
An indoor square which people can collaborate over and take ownership of.



My key contributions:

I was responsible for the layout logic, defining the programme placement and circulation. I also played a key role in designing the added roofs and outdoor spaces. Beyond that, I integrated the workshop functions into the school system for financing.





The main circulation is out in the public space and extends the public movement upwards.

Treppenecke

Mixed-use building - Berlin, Germany

In Neukölln's graffiti-heavy streets, an empty corner lot is transformed into a public plaza activated by surrounding programs.

Graphic design courses bridges the sites professional mural with local graffiti, while the new facades physically connect the two.

The dark corner houses a brewery with a bar and public terrace at the top, offering a place to enjoy a local beer and take in the local art.

Type: Academic (Individual), 2024

Brief: Three student collaborate on one site to create an all day program.

A neighbourhood node
Site map - Scale 1:200

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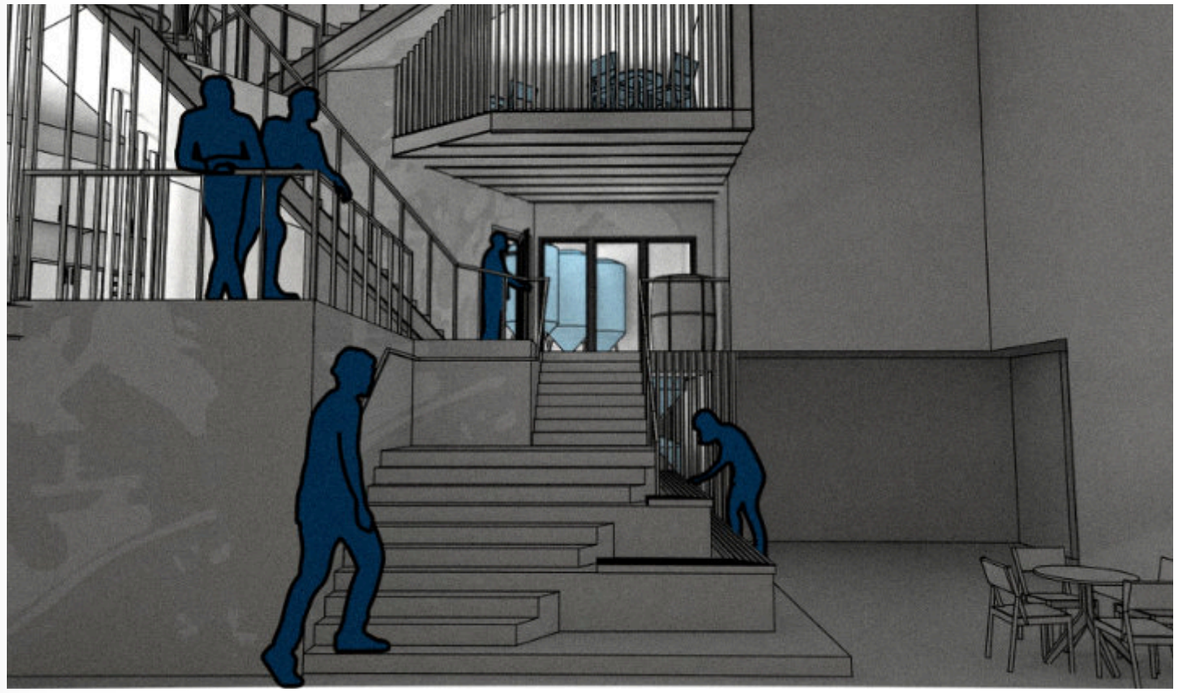
Venues can extend their business onto the shared plaza to keep the space active all day.





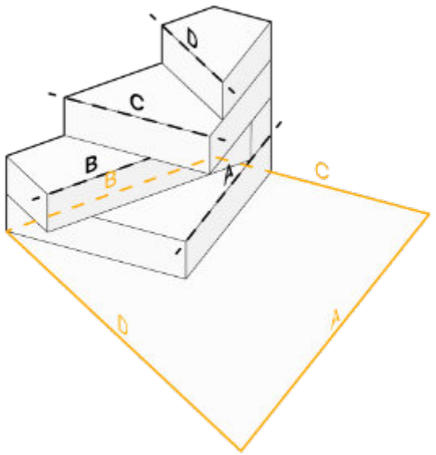
Graphic design studio
By day

The grafitti indicate its popularity, here you can learn to do it professionally.



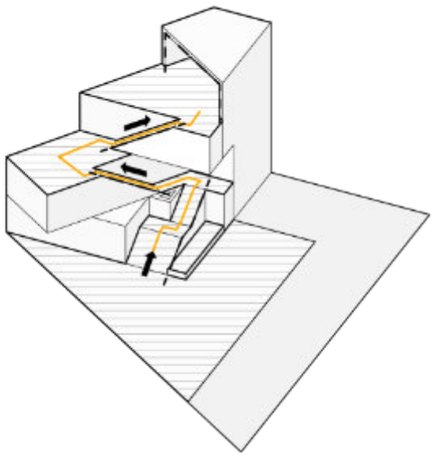
Bar and Brewery
By night

The beer production is exposed and becomes a central part of the experience.



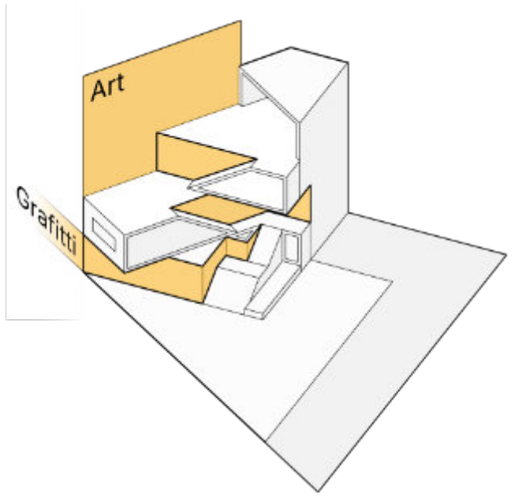
Traversing floors

Derive from the site outlines to create a stair-like volume.



Public promenade

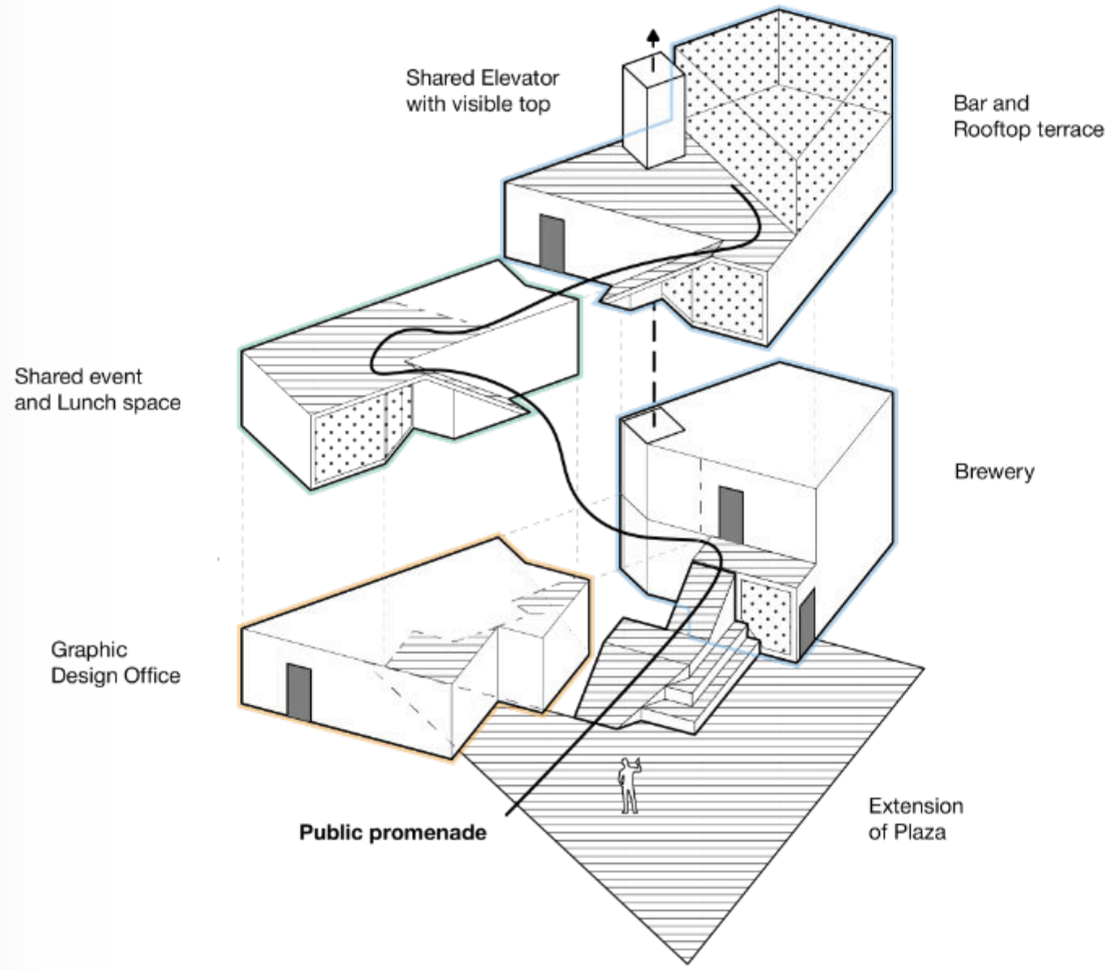
Prominent staircases extend the plaza upwards.



Extended artpiece

It spans the new facades and ties directly into the graffiti.

The venues are reached through the outdoor path. The permeable facades indicate their existance while giving them some privacy.



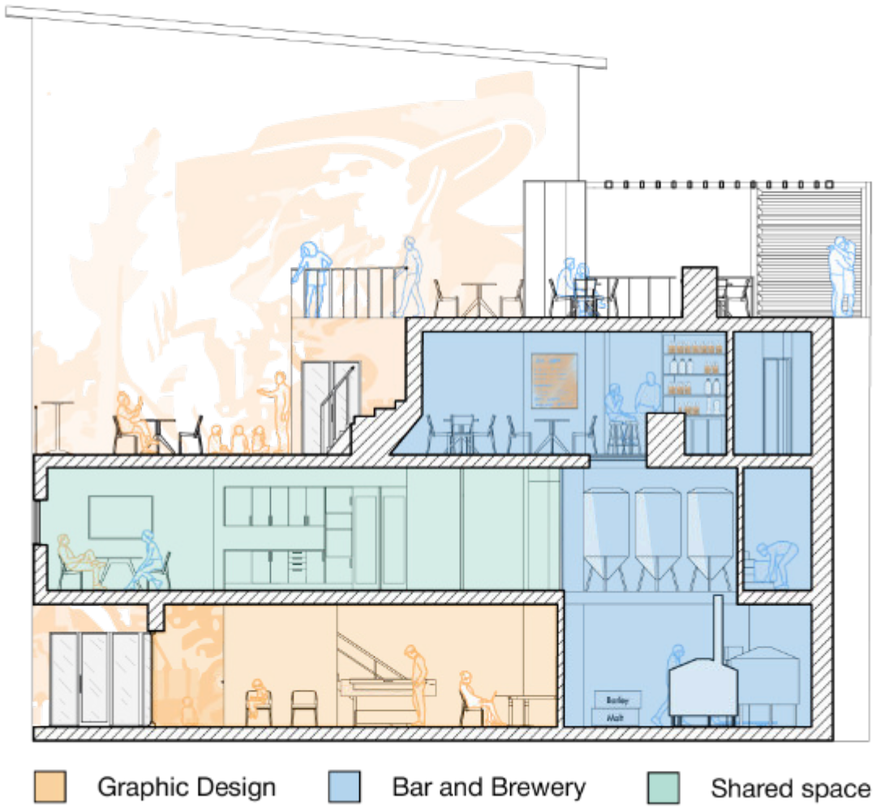
Access points

Continous public space

Permeable facades

Programme relations
Section AA - Scale 1:150

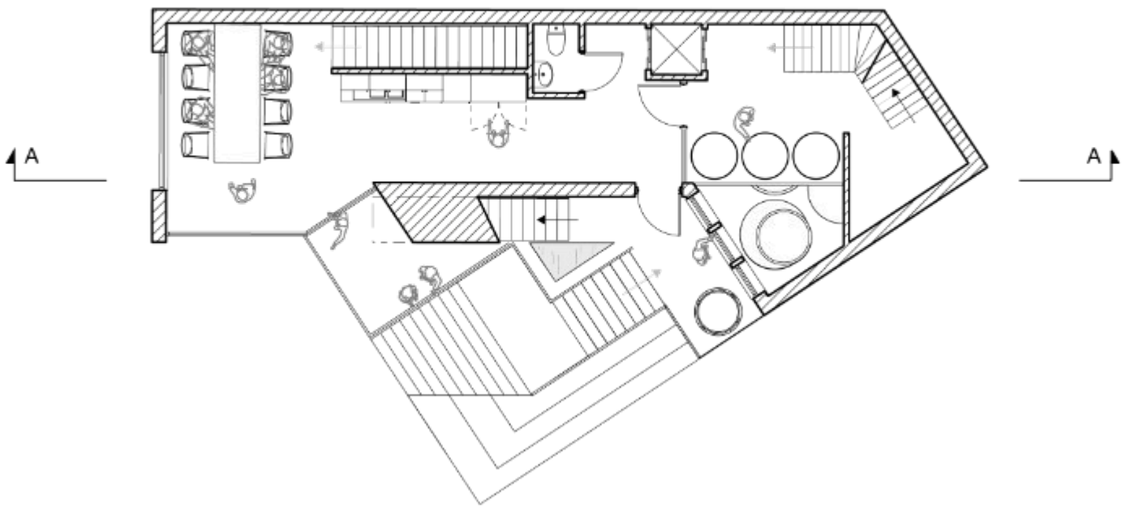
The venues are separated but share the amenities they do not use all the time.



Where they meet
First floor plan - Scale 1:150

N

Both have easy access to the shared space where they eat lunch and host events.





Additionals

1 **Campustratten** Page 34-35
Competition for sustainable urban furniture.

2 **Depth of Field** Page 36-37
Competition for a subterranean museum.

3 **Trekkinghut** Page 38-39
My first building design, a one night cabin.

4 **Modelmaking** Page 40-41
A selection of physical models.

Campustratten

Urban furniture - Lund, Sweden

Type: Competition (Collaborative), 2026

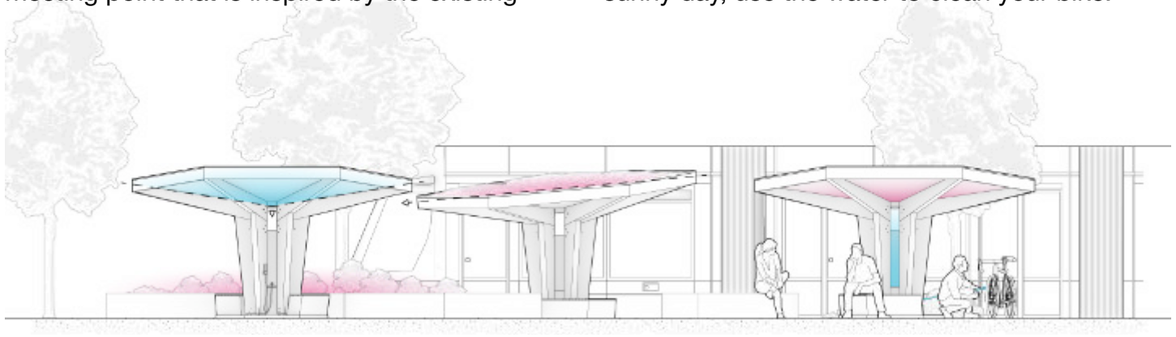
Organizer: Lund University x Muncipality

Awarded 1st prize

Campustratten collects and filters rainwater through its green roof, using substrates selected based on current research to clean runoff.

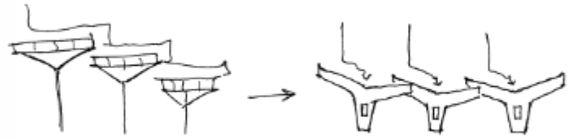
Its angled roofs create an approachable, meeting point that is inspired by the existing LTH-fountain. Strategically placed on campus, it offers a natural spot to gather in a circle and converse.

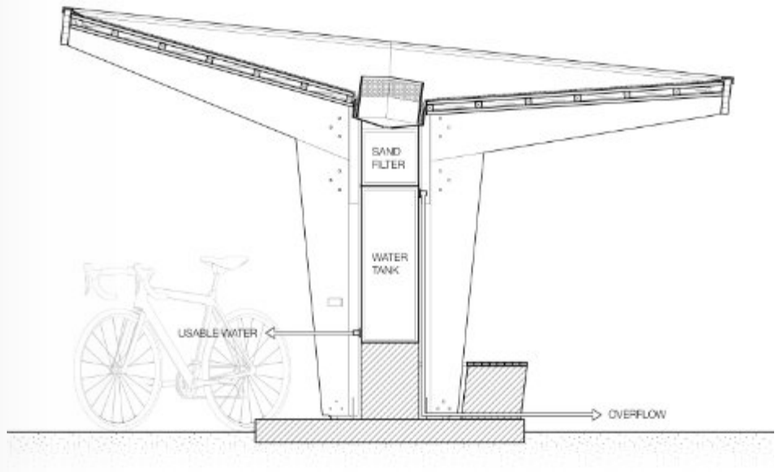
On a rainy day, watch the water filtering or on a sunny day, use the water to clean your bike.



Collecting water Exposing greenroof Shelter and resource



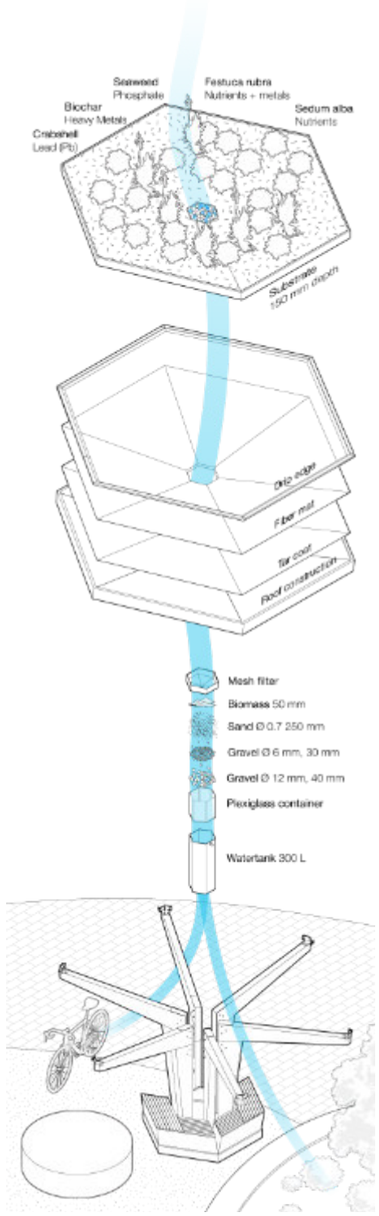






Construction

The mirrored roof geometry ensures that all pillar and beam members occur in pairs, meaning less bespoke parts.



Water management [1]

Stored water can be used by visitors, while overflow is redirected to surrounding plants.

1. Georgin, J. et al. (2026) 'Green roof substrates for water quality improvement', Molecules, 31(11), 1862. doi:10.3390/molecules31111862.

Depth of Field

Museum extension - Stockholm, Sweden

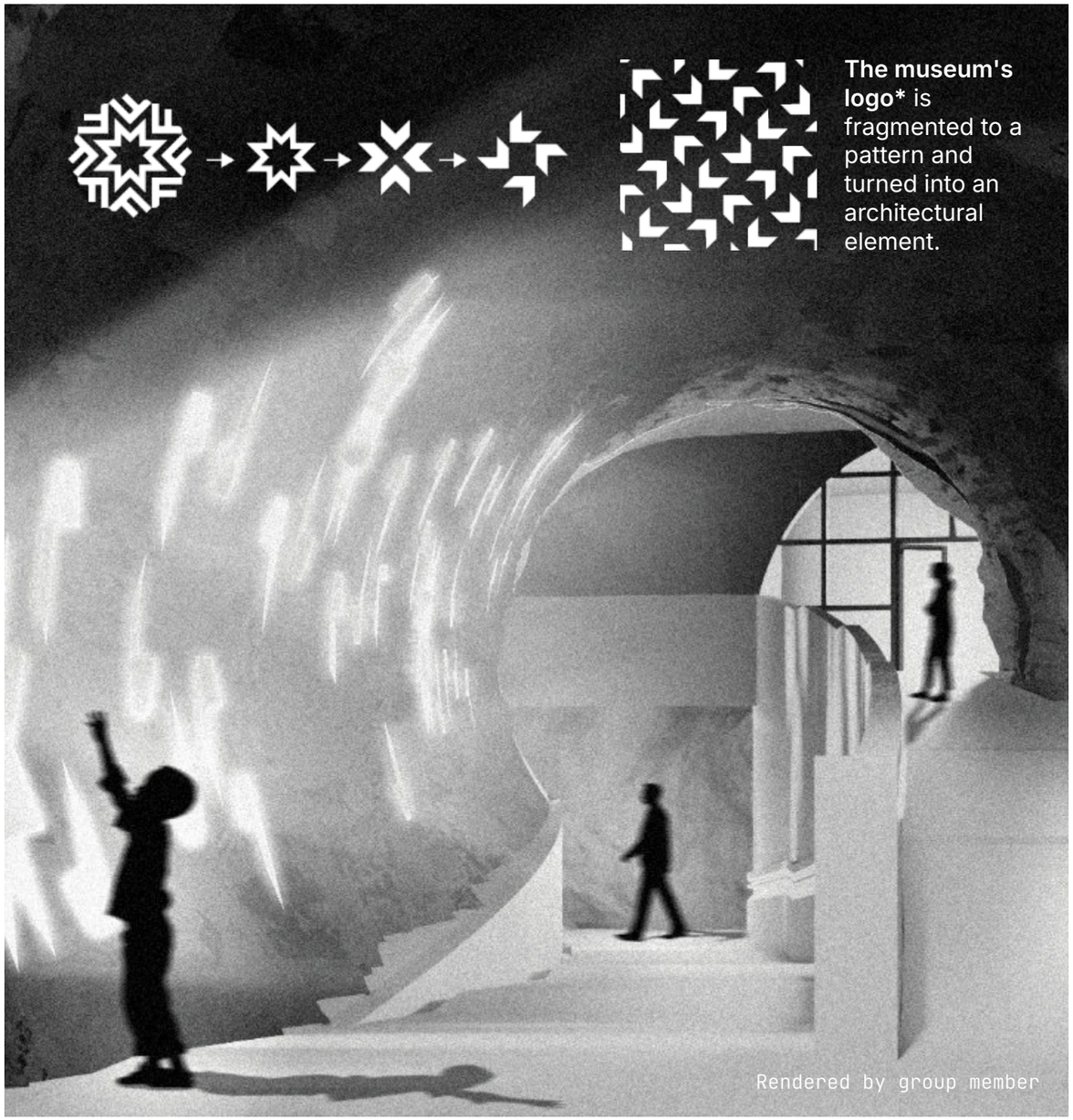
Competition (Collaborative), 2025

Organizer: Archiol Competitions

Awarded 1st prize

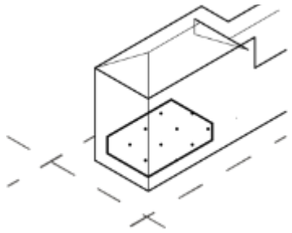
The brief sought to reimagine subterranean museum spaces. Since Fotografiska already covers its windows to control light, the proposal explores how the photography museum can evolve underground.

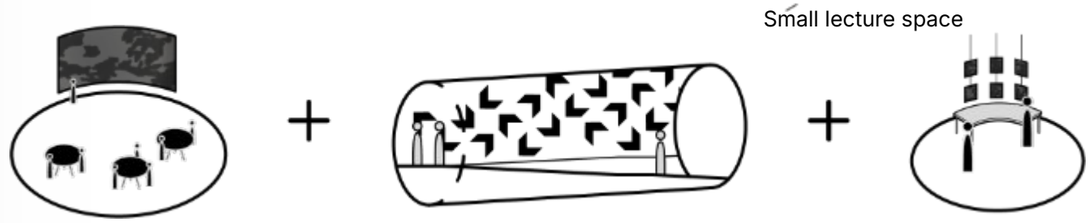
By connecting the museum to the current extension of the blue line metro, it combines culture with infrastructure and opens its inaccessible site to the rest of Stockholm.



*The Fotografiska logo is used for Academic and illustrative purposes only.
All rights belong to Fotografiska. (www.fotografiska.com)

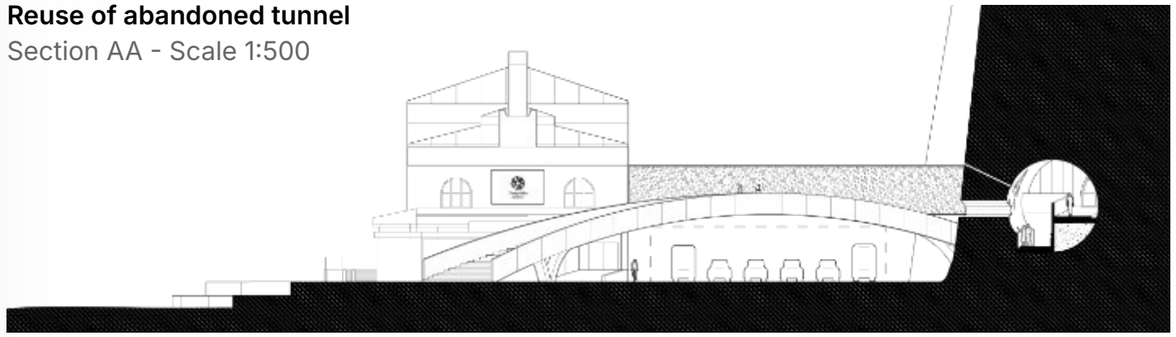
Moving below ground release the spaces from the urban grid and allow for complementary spaces to emerge.





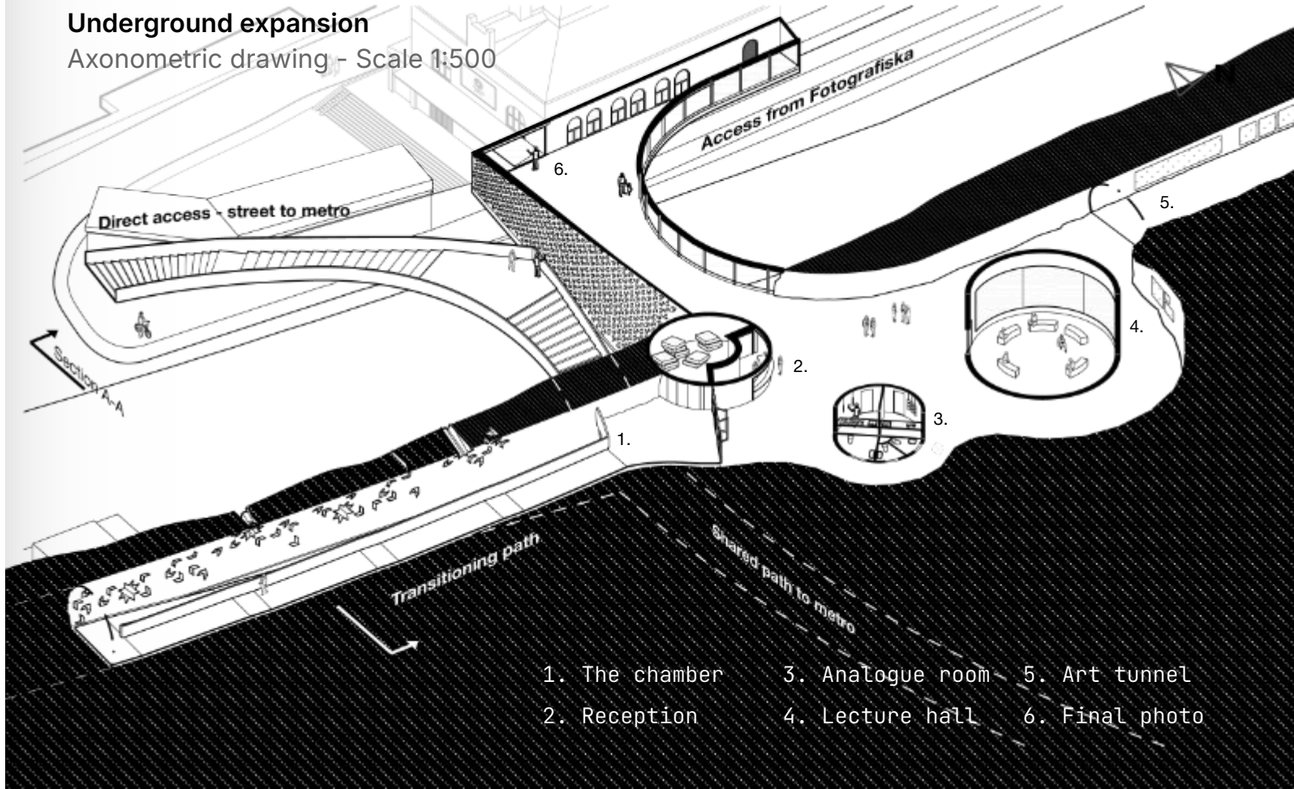
Reuse of abandoned tunnel

Section AA - Scale 1:500



Underground expansion

Axonometric drawing - Scale 1:500



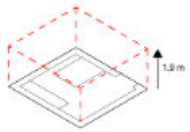
Trekkinghut

Overnight cabin - Holmön, Sweden

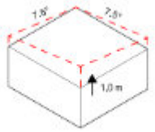
Type: Academic (Individual), 2023

Brief: Create a low tech one night cabin.

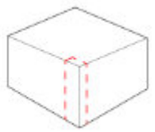
Holmön's lighthouse is a familiar destination for locals but distant for travellers. The trekking hut extends the landscape and introduces a new place to stay, built with a minimal imprint and low-tech systems that allow it to be placed almost anywhere. Rainwater collection, wood-fired heating and windows that frame their context mark this experience, opening the site to more visitors than the Keeper's house can accommodate.



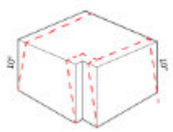
Minimum rental height



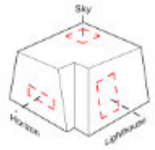
Rainwater run-off



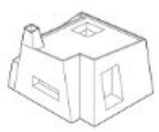
Illusion of a cliff



Planted in landscape



Frame views



Low tech details



Passive design

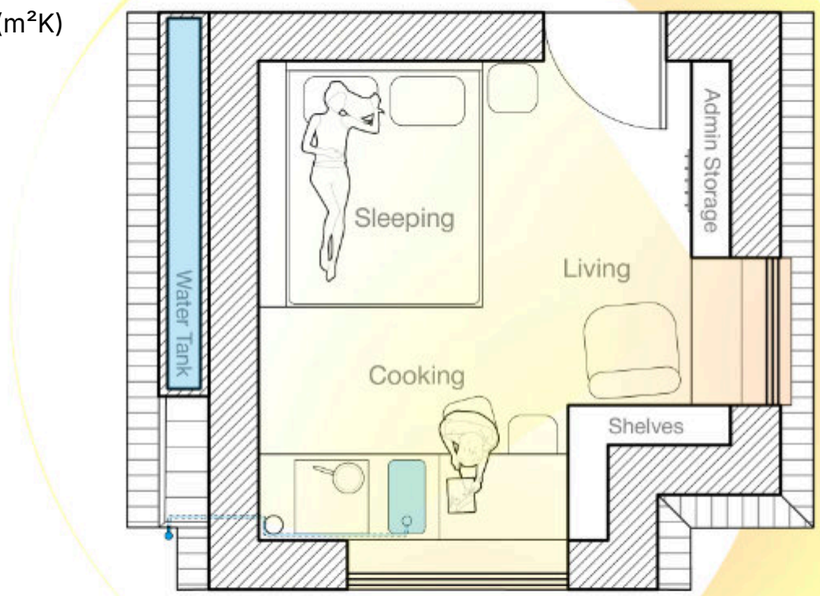
Floor plan - Scale 1:50

N

Functions are placed in relation to the sun path to ensure passive thermal comfort.

0,149 W/(m²K)

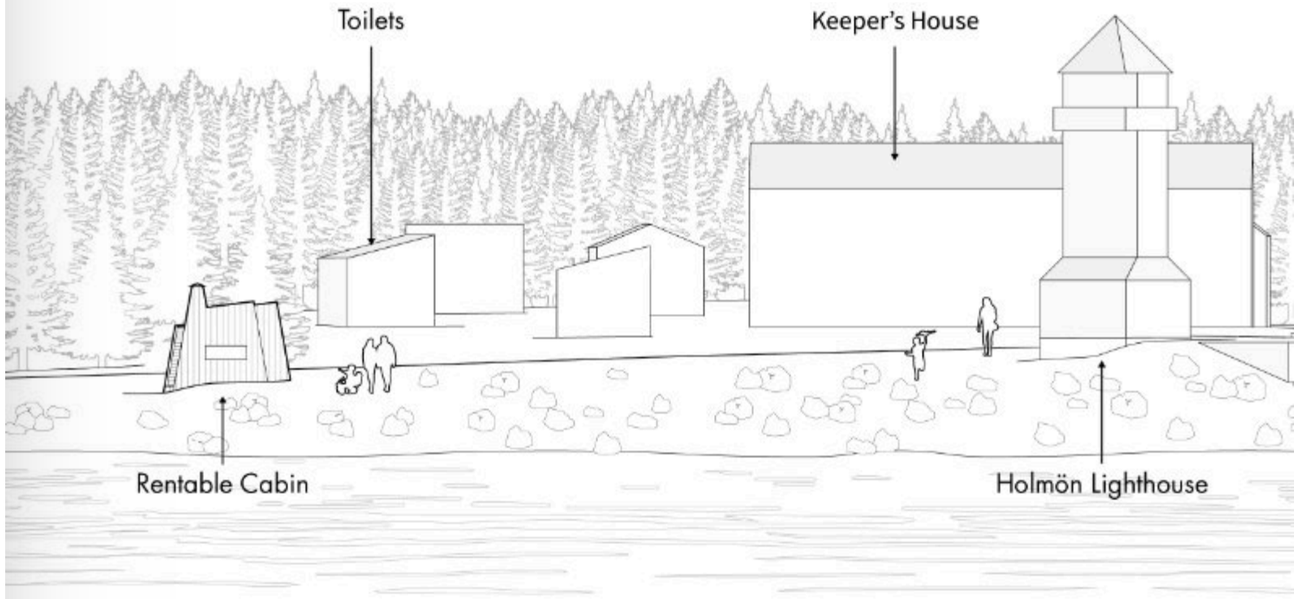
U-Value



Spatial organization

West elevation - Scale 1:200

Existing buildings will be activated by the possibility of staying over.



Modelmaking

Selected models

Type: Academic models, 2022-2026

Skills: Laser-cutting, 3D-printing, Plotter, Woodworking

Sangath building by Balkrishna Doshi (2025)
Building/garden relation - Scale 1:150



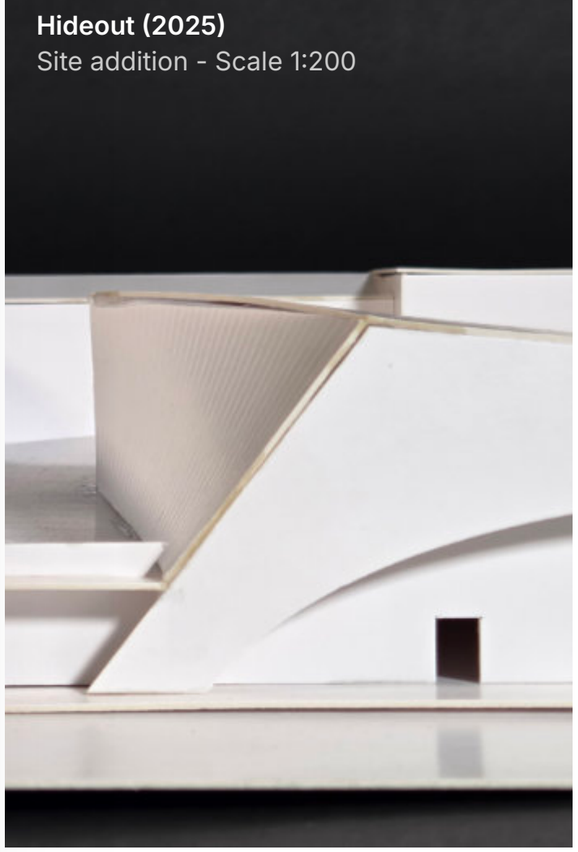
Collaborative: I made the digital model, laser-cutting and joined the assembly.

Level (2026)
New and old - Scale 1:100



Collaborative: I 3d-printed the roofs and contributed to the design process.

Hideout (2025)
Site addition - Scale 1:200

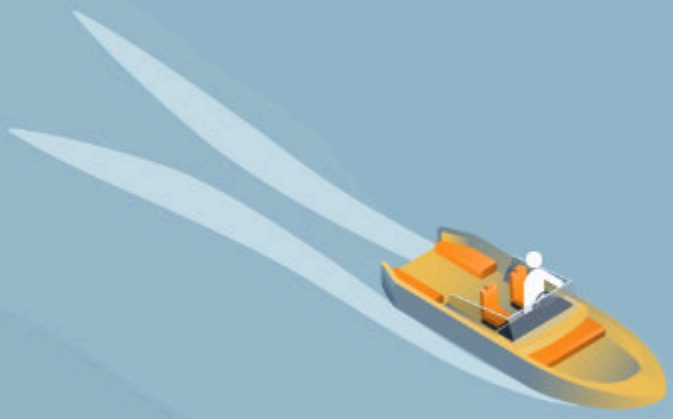


End of first year Pavillion (2023)
Hard shell/soft interior - Scale 1:1



Collaborative: I worked on the design, digital model and joined the assembly.

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The story does not end here.

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