



PORTFOLIO

Jacob Bley Griffiths

2026

JACOB BLEY GRIFFITHS

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Rights to work: dual EU and British citizen

Languages: English (native), Italian (intermediate)

Education

Politecnico di Milano (2021-24)

MSc Architecture and Urban Design - 110/110

University of Bath (2015-19)

BSc (Hons) Architecture

University of Bath (2013-14)

BSc (Hons) Computer Science - first year

University College School, London (2006-13)

A-Levels: Mathematics: A*, Physics: A, Fine Art: A

Software Skills

Rhino, Revit, Archicad, SketchUp, Grasshopper, Python, AutoCAD, Vectorworks (2D + BIM), V-Ray, Enscape, Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, QGIS

Employment

Yabsley Stevens Architects - *Junior Architect*

2019-21, 2023-24, 2025-Present

- Leading a home renovation project that involves reversing the orientation of the staircase, new layouts on ground and first floor, and a new bathroom. Completely responsible for design work, drawings, design reports, meetings and correspondence with consultants.
- Working on concept design for a memorial wall within a churchyard – aiming to create a dignified and contemporary monument that honours the deceased while remaining sensitive to the surrounding graves and setting.
- Playing a central role in taking a new-build house through the technical design phase, and overseeing it on site. Responsible for developing details; liaising with consultants; coordinating technical information; briefing other staff; and preparing graphics and documents to discuss the design progress and options with the clients.
- Responsibilities in other projects have included assisting with development of massing, preparation of planning application documents, and development of interior concepts.

Stefano Boeri Architetti - *Junior Architect*

June 2024-April 2025

- Worked in BIM to develop options for the facade and integrated greenery systems for a large residential project, coordinated information from the technical consultants, and prepared documentation for the client.
- Took on a crucial role in a project involving a historic landmark, producing design options and presentation materials, from feasibility study to concept design.
- Developed massing, facade designs, and graphical representation for a mixed-use development competition.
- Collaborated with the urbanism team on an ecological park competition, working on public realm and heritage building interventions.
- Contributed to projects across various design and construction phases, with scales ranging from small interventions to urban developments.

Yabsley Stevens Architects - *Work Placement*

April-September 2017; February-September 2018

- Deeply involved with three residential projects through briefing and concept design, including massing and concept design for a new-build house.
- Continued one of the projects by overseeing it through technical design, site, and completion – responsible for coordinating with consultants, suppliers and the contractor, while continuing to develop the interior through discussions with the client.

Robert Dye Architects - *Assistant*

Summers 2014-16

- Attended design meetings and assisted the team by making architectural models to explore each iteration.
- Worked on drawings for planning applications and building regulations submissions.

CONTENTS

- 1 **Trieste Porto Vecchio**
Regeneration of an abandoned port, focusing on urban forestry, restorative public spaces, and preservation of heritage
- 4 **Wedge House**
New-build house on angular plot
- 7 **Foro**
A cultural centre and student accommodation project based around a shared courtyard
- 10 **Repose**
A building for contemplation through activity
- 13 **Innovation District**
Landscape proposal for the MIND regeneration project in Milan
- 16 **Theater Der Kunst**
Arts and performance space alongside the Spree, Berlin
- 18 **Taper**
Home renovation with extension



TRIESTE PORTO VECCHIO

Regeneration of an abandoned port, focusing on urban forestry, restorative public spaces, and preservation of heritage

Year: 2024

Type: Master's Thesis

Thesis supervisor: Maria Chiara Pastore

Thesis co-author: Ada Muszalska

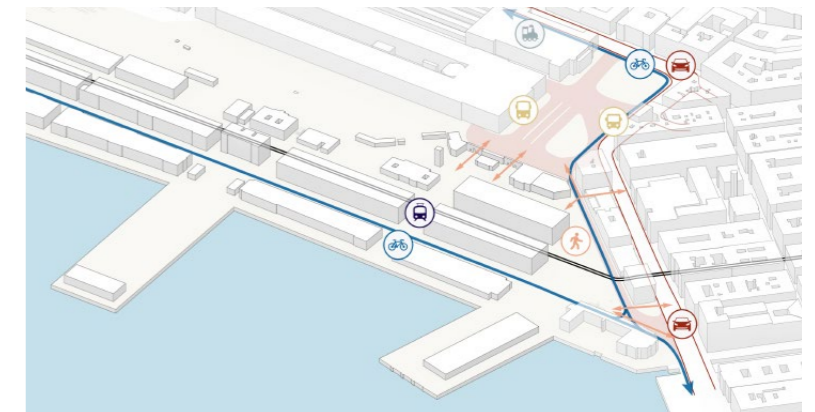
Location: Trieste, Italy

An adaptive re-use of Trieste's Porto Vecchio as a mixed-use development, aiming to transform this derelict but historically significant site into a vital asset for the city. Focusing on people-centric design principles and biodiversity-sensitive strategies, the project aims to integrate the zone of the old port with the urban fabric of the city.

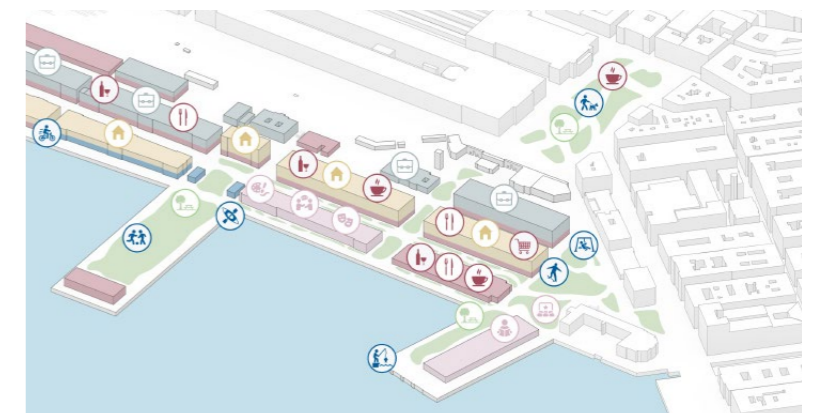
Building on comprehensive research, including Mediterranean port regeneration studies and best practices in sustainable urban design, the project can be seen as a model for further redevelopment of ports in the region.



Green and blue strategy: emphasis on urban greening and reactivation of the waterfront, including the introduction of an urban forest and the uncovering of an underground waterway.



Mobility and accessibility strategy: focusing on removing obstacles around the edges, connecting with existing rail, coach and bus nodes, and putting pedestrians first.



Revitalisation of the site: giving new life to abandoned industrial buildings by proposing a mixed-use development with a variety of functions, in order to achieve a vibrant urban environment.

Masterplan

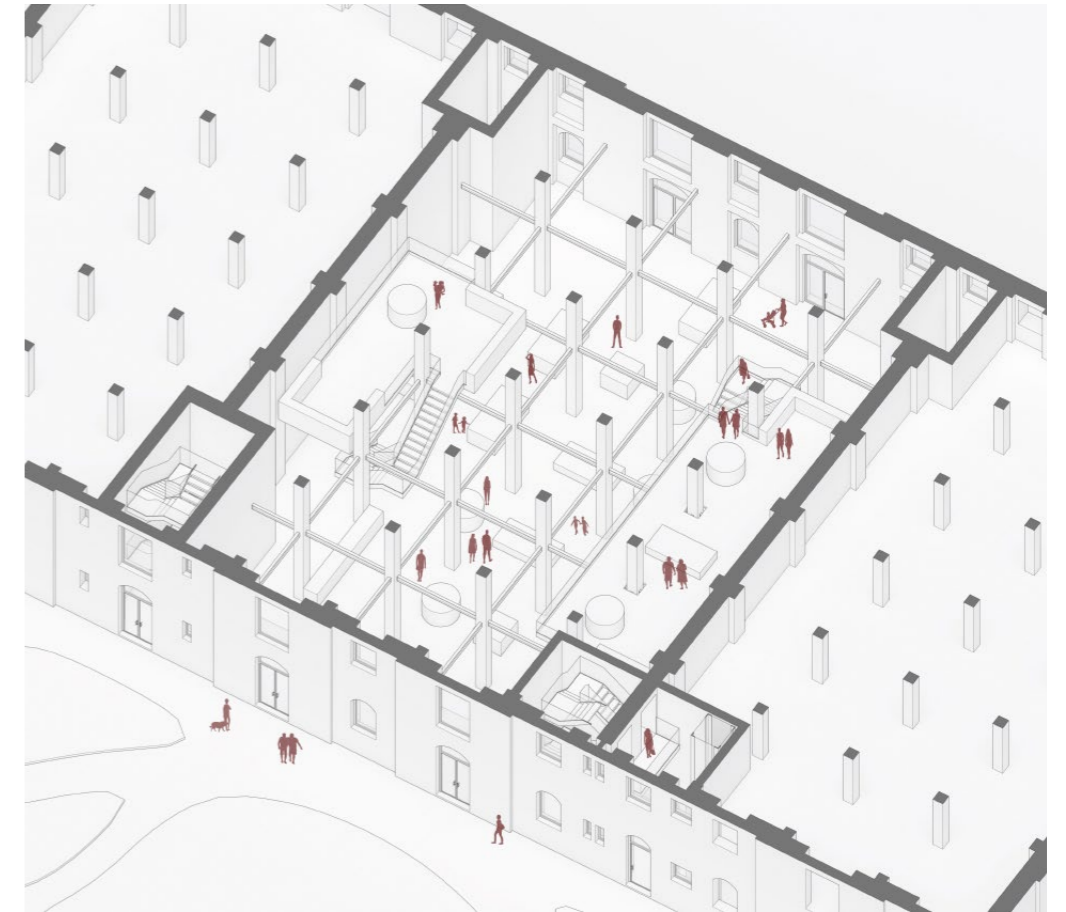
- 1 swimming pool
- 2 toilets
- 3 kiosk
- 4 open-air cinema
- 5 marina
- 6 bike racks
- 7 tram stop
- 8 shared bike path and authorised vehicles route
- 9 cultural centre
- 10 mixed-use (residential, offices, commercial, services)
- 11 food court
- 12 dog park
- 13 ferry terminal (existing)
- 14 coastguard station (existing)
- 15 skateboard park
- 16 basketball courts
- 17 playground
- 18 cafe
- 19 shop
- 20 forest
- 21 coach depot (existing)
- 22 coach stops
- 23 bus stops
- 24 taxi rank
- 25 train station (existing)

0 100m





The main axis going from Piazza Libertà to the waterfront features vegetation and seating alongside a waterway, to encourage social interaction while providing tranquil resting spaces



Concept for a general model for adaptive re-use of the existing buildings. The first floor is removed to create a double-height commercial space, and the staircases are reconfigured within the existing shafts, providing access to the offices or residences above.



Section through the main axis

WEDGE HOUSE

New-build house on angular plot

Years: 2018 - 2024

Type: Professional

Location: North London

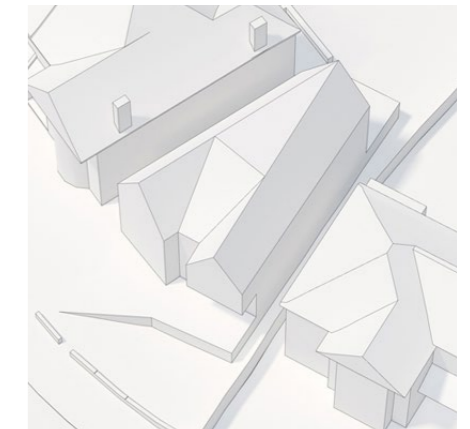
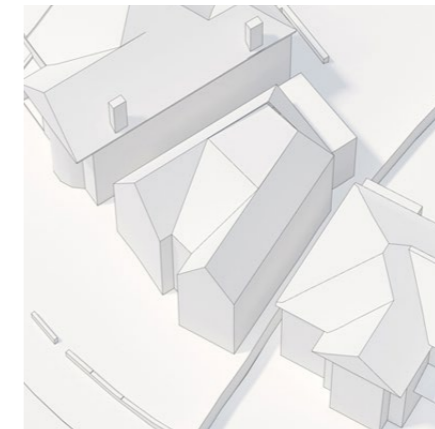
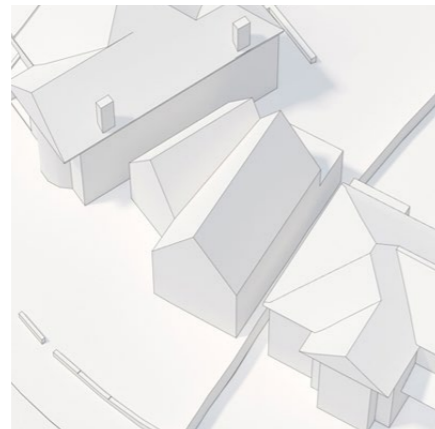
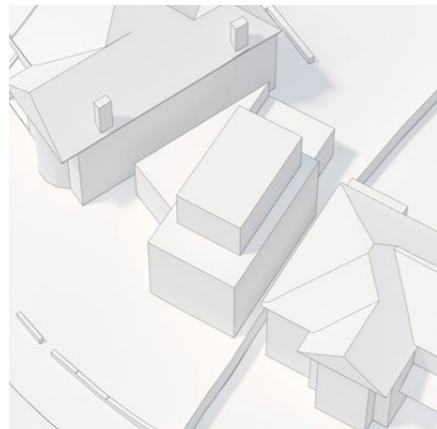
A 170sqm, three-bedroom house in a 1930s suburban area of London. The form of the house makes reference to the gables predominant on the street, but is optimised to make better use of the space within the pitched roof.

Working closely with the director, I was involved from the beginning of the project, working on massing, and resolving the complex roof geometry. When I returned to the company after finishing university, I was responsible for taking the project through technical design, producing a 70-page package of drawings for tender. Finally I returned in 2023 to oversee the project on site - it was completed in 2024.

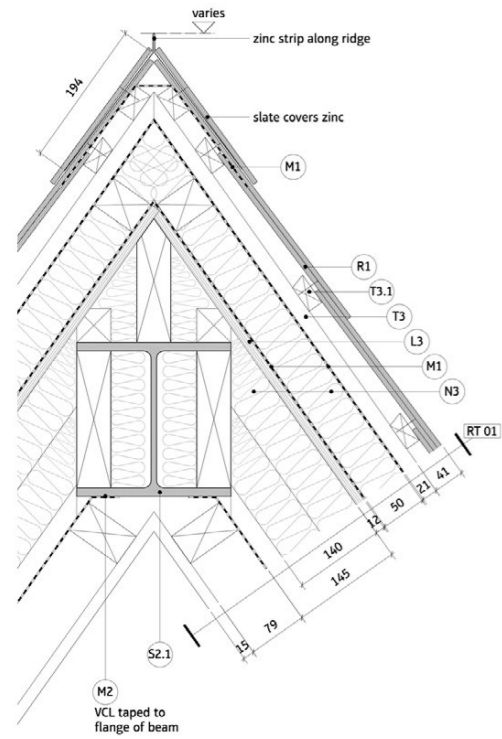
Massing progression

To fit in with the composition of the street, the house is comprised of two gabled volumes, a major and a minor, which merge at the rear to form a single gabled facade.

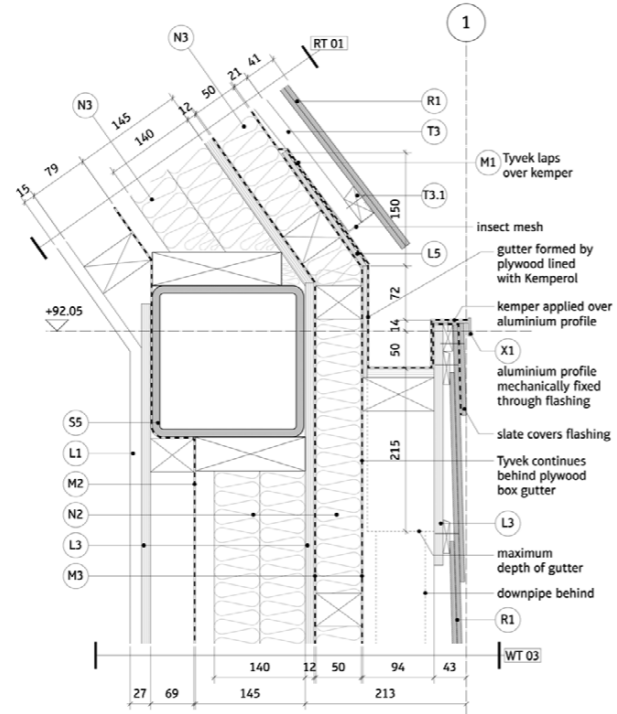
Due to the slight bend in the road, the two volumes are at angles to each other, such that the house turns to align with each neighbour.



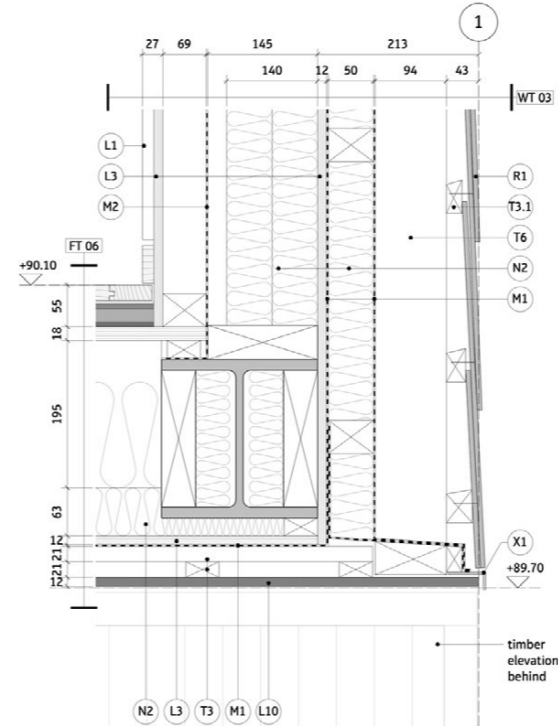
Selected Details



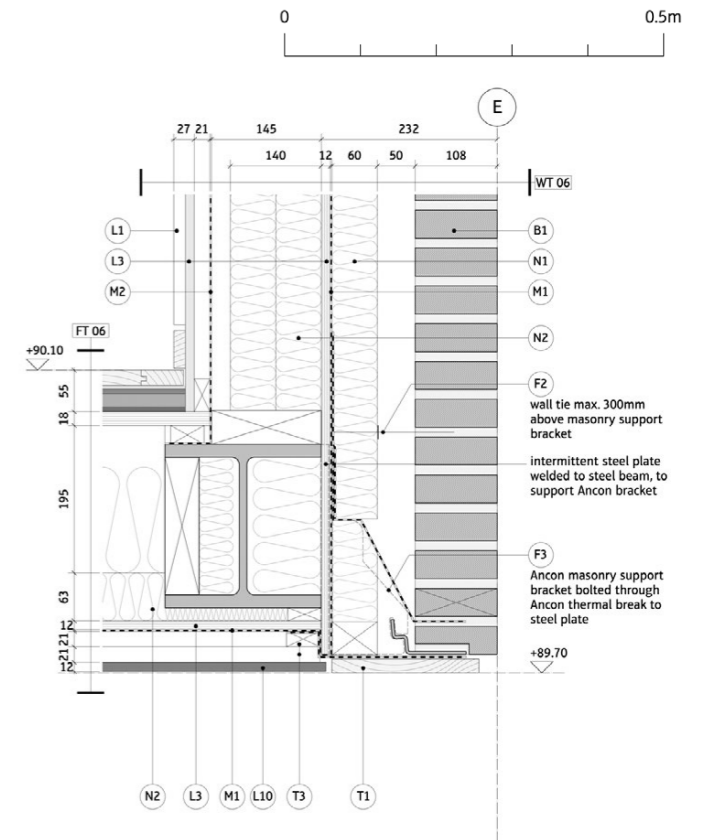
Typical Ridge



Typical Gutter

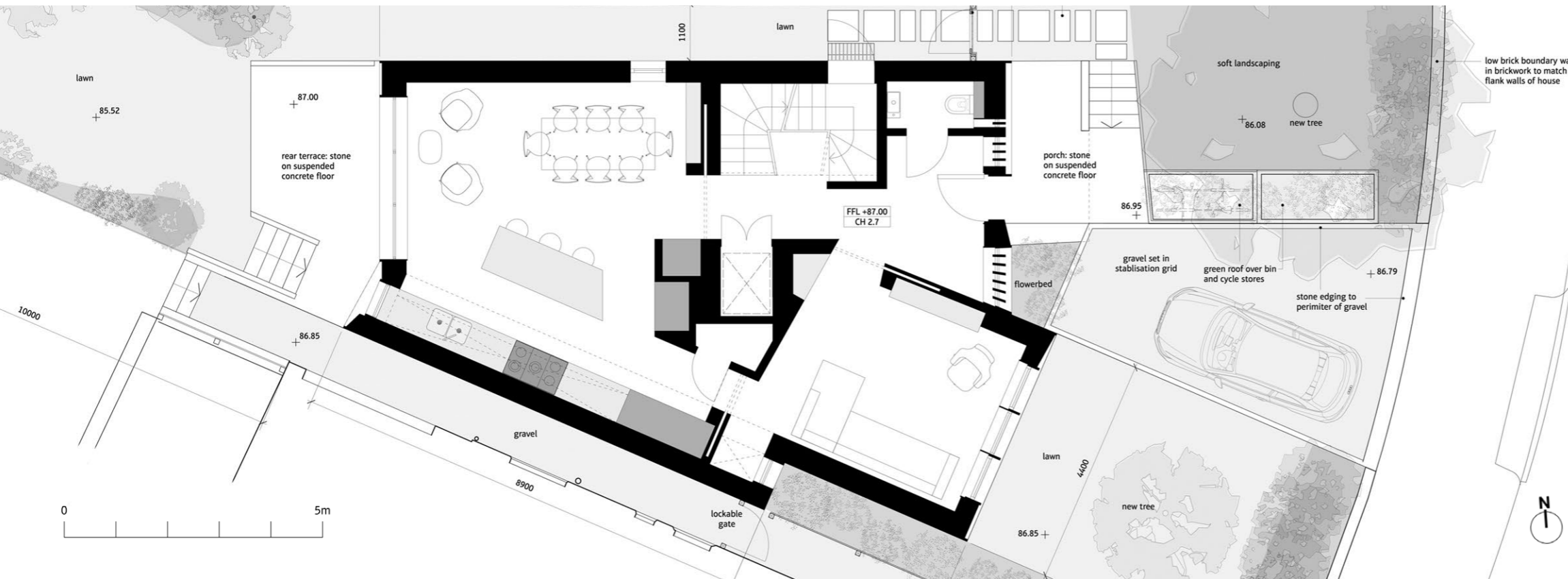


Side Edge of Overhang



Front Edge of Overhang

Ground Floor Plan



Details: Materials Key

- B1 Petersen K51 brick
- B4 100mm blockwork
- F2 Ancon Teplo L-Tie
- F3 Ancon Optima masonry support
- L1 12.5mm plasterboard
- L3 12mm WBP plywood
- L5 6mm WBP plywood
- L10 Equitone fibre cement panel
- M1 Tyvek breather membrane
- M2 DuPont Air Guard VCL
- M3 Damp-proof membrane
- N1 Kingspan Kooltherm K108
- N2 Kingspan Kooltherm K12
- N3 Kingspan Kooltherm K7
- R1 500x250mm roofing slate
- S2.1 203x203x46 UC
- S4 152x152x37 UC
- S5 200x200x10 SHS
- T3 25x50mm treated softwood
- T3.1 25x50mm with chamfered top
- T6 50x100mm treated softwood
- X1 50x250x3 aluminium angle, matte black powder coat

Photos of the completed project





FORO

A cultural centre and student accommodation project based around a shared courtyard

Year: 2023

Type: Group Project

Location: Milan, Italy

Contribution: played a key role in the design, managed the 3D model, and created the renders, drawings and diagrams in this portfolio.

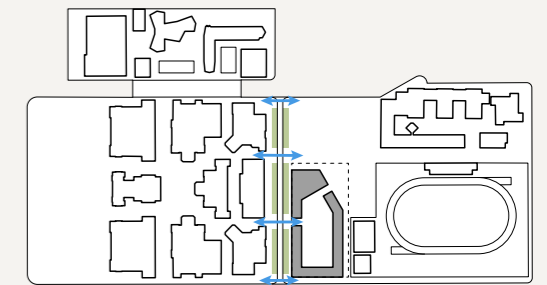
A cultural hub for Citta Studí, the design is motivated by the idea of creating a place where students can integrate with the residents of the surrounding areas.

The development involves a courtyard overlooked by two buildings: a student residence, taking advantage of the strategic position next to the Politecnico di Milano campus, and a Cultural Centre, which includes an auditorium, exhibition space, coworking spaces, and studios. The courtyard acts as a shared space, bringing the various users together.

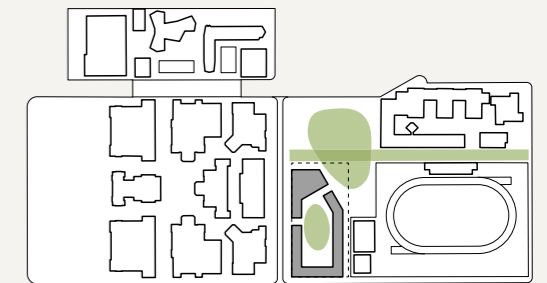
Public realm works are also included, to make the block more pedestrian-friendly and unite the two parts of the campus.

Perspective Section of the Cultural Centre

- 1 Bar with Roof Terrace
- 2 600-seat Auditorium
- 3 Quiet Workspace
- 4 Lobby Area
- 5 Climbing Centre
- 6 Changing Room
- 7 Reception Area / Flexible Workspace
- 8 Cloakroom
- 9 Food Court
- 10 Storage
- 11 WC
- 12 MEP Utilities



Pedestrianisation and public realm works along via Ponzio, to create continuity between the distinct parts of the campus.

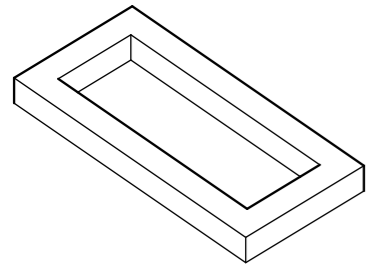


The building engages with the public space to the north, while defining another semi-public space within.

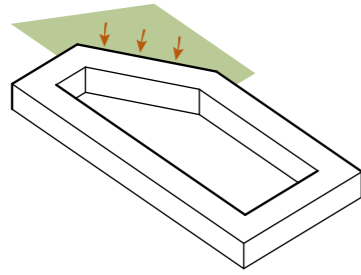


These new spaces join the existing network of public and semi-public spaces, each with a different purpose and character.

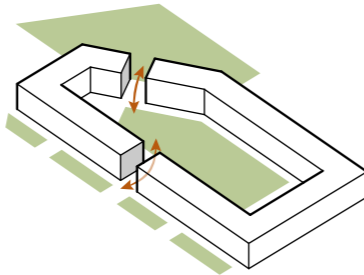
Evolution of the Building Form



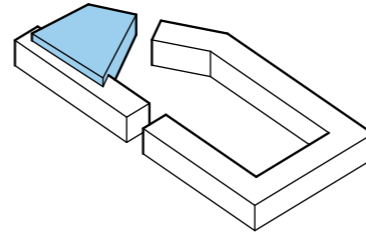
courtyard morphology



corner pushed back to open up to the public space

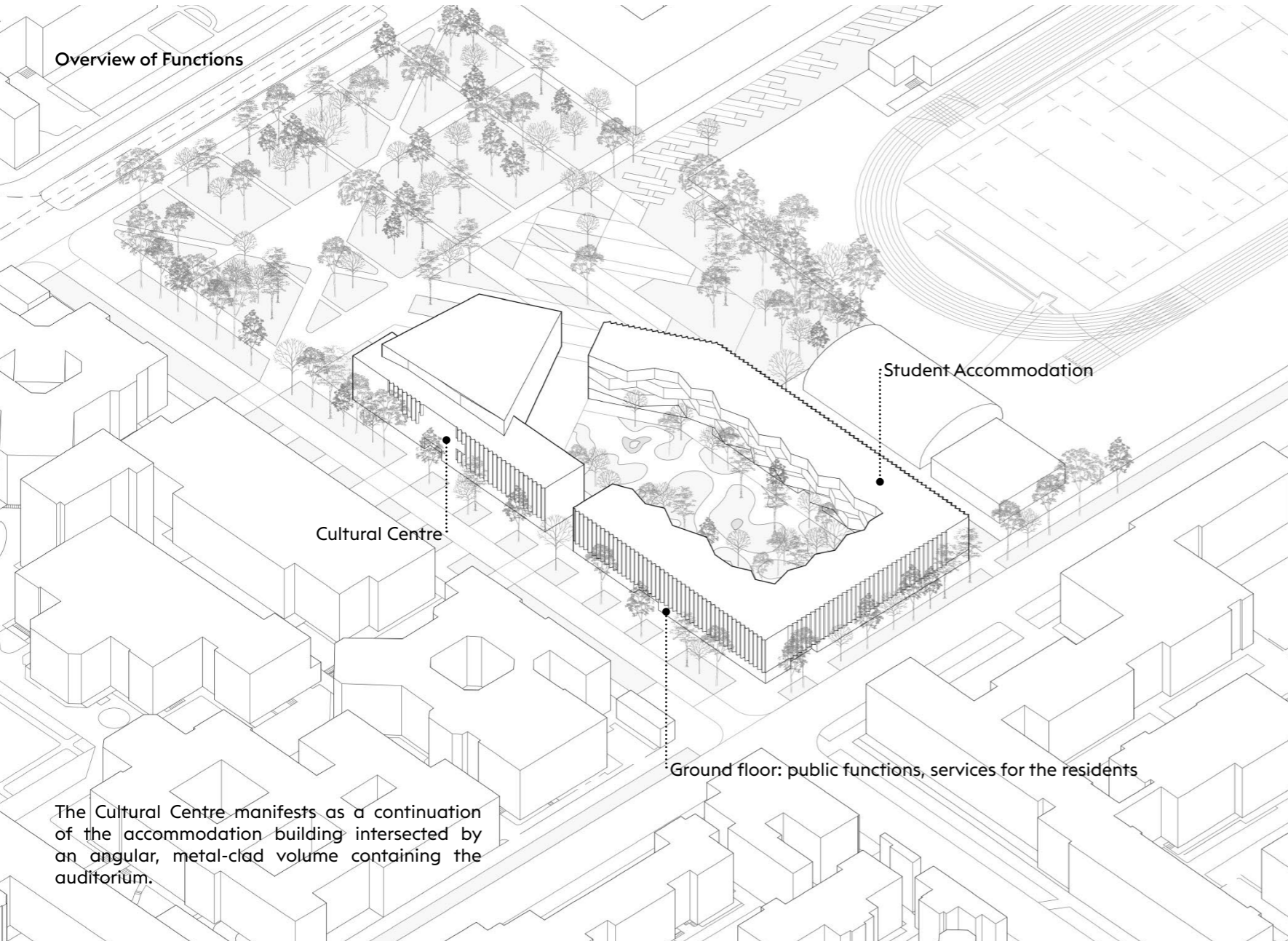


cuts created to allow circulation through the courtyard



enlargement of the Cultural Centre

Overview of Functions



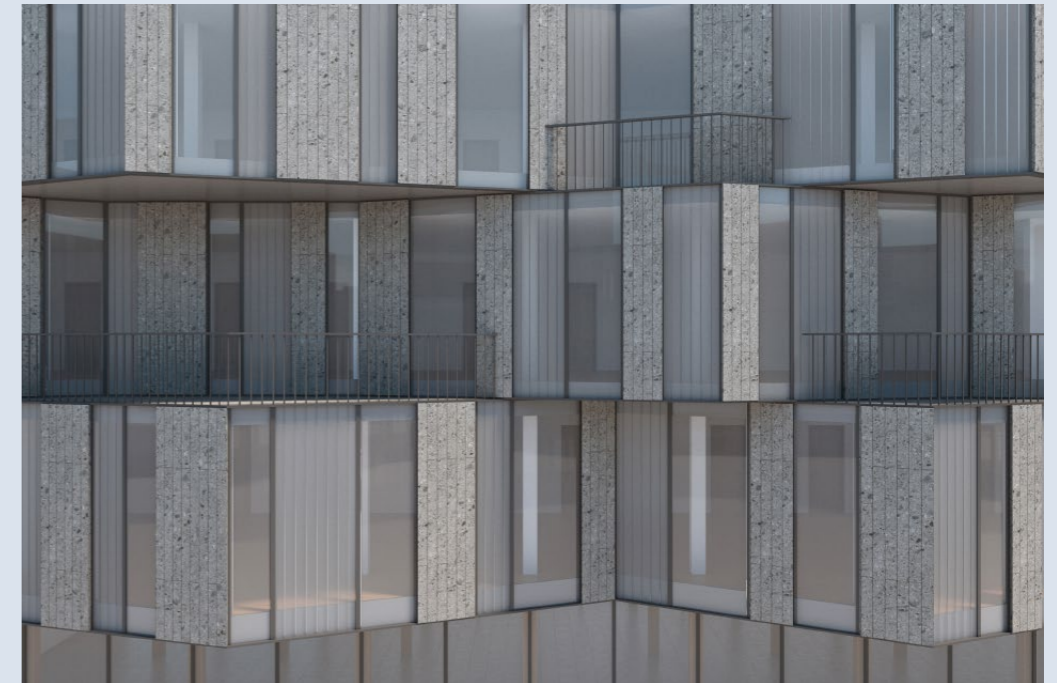
The Cultural Centre manifests as a continuation of the accommodation building intersected by an angular, metal-clad volume containing the auditorium.

Treatment of the Façades

The elevations create a distinction between the public realm on the outside and the semi-private space of the courtyard.

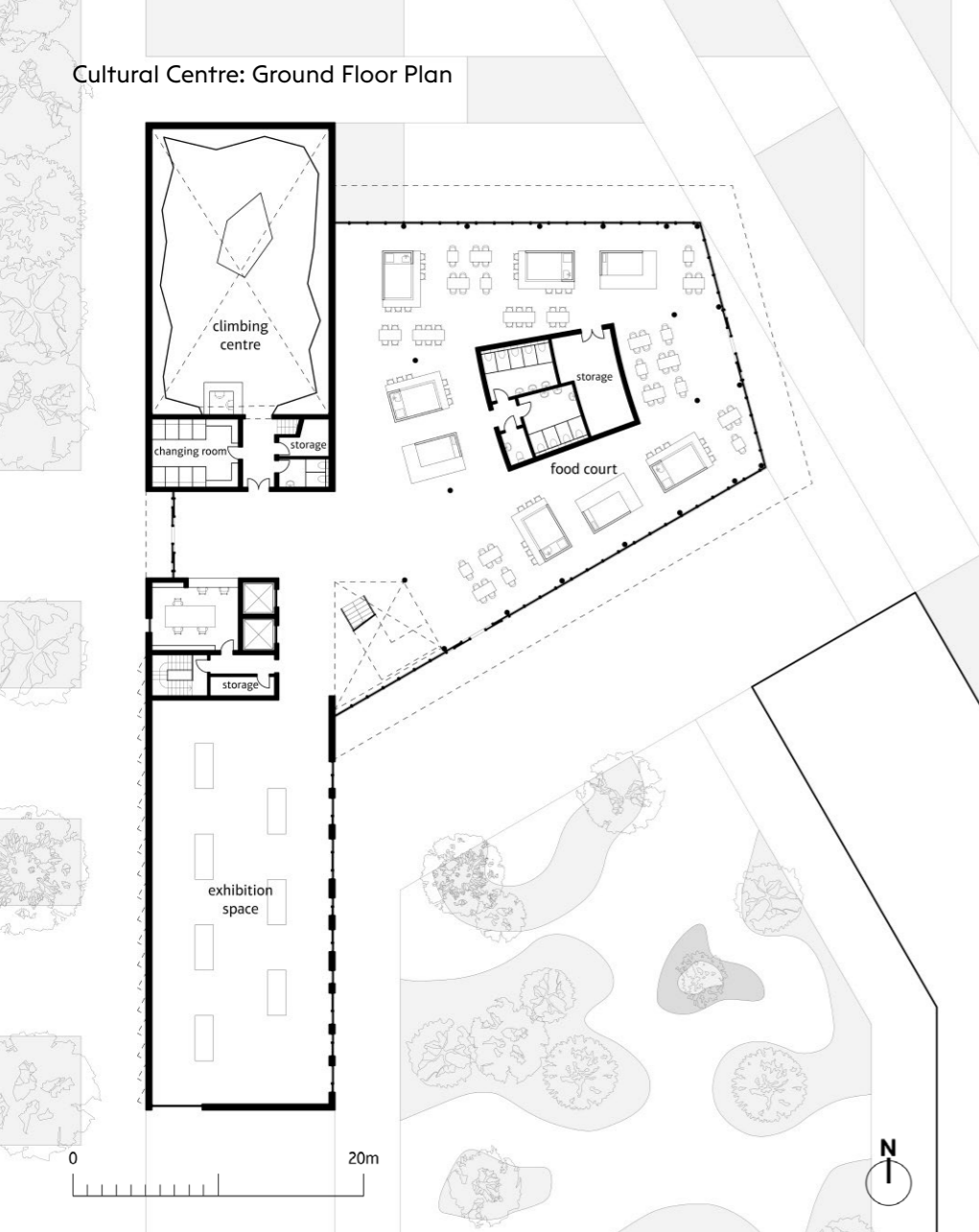


The outer façades are clean and regular, defining its presence on the corner of the block. The windows are angled toward the north, to prevent excess solar gain.



The courtyard façades feature a dynamic, angular geometry, weaving in and out to create balconies connected to the communal spaces.

Cultural Centre: Ground Floor Plan



the exhibition space on the ground floor of the cultural centre

Cultural Centre and Residential Building: West Elevation





REPOSE

A building for contemplation through activity

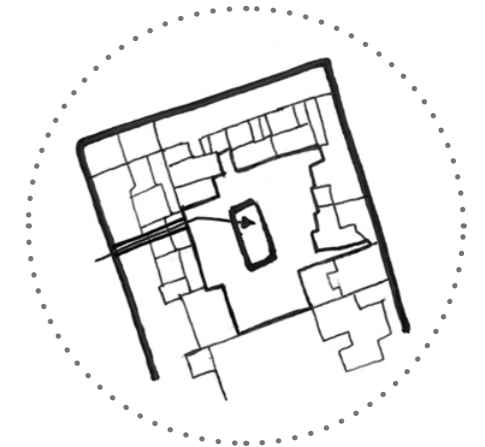
Year: 2019

Type: Individual Final Project

Location: Bath, UK

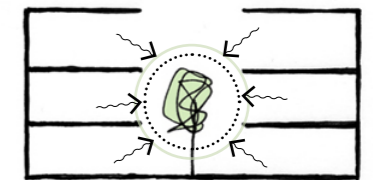
Set in the heart of the city, the building provides space for activities that are conducive to contemplation, and which induce a calm state of mind in the visitor. Studios are provided for various activities including glass-blowing, pottery and yoga.

With no street frontage, access is provided by a passageway coming from one of the main streets. The building is addressed only by the backs of the surrounding buildings, which also serve to protect it from the commotion of central Bath and grant it a sense of calm seclusion.



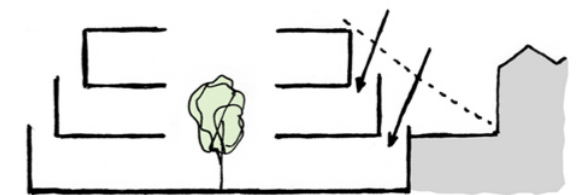
Order within chaos

The backs of the surrounding buildings are disordered in their form. The proposal creates a calm and ordered space within, centered around a three-storey atrium.



An introspective building

The principal spaces primarily address the atrium, which is also experienced by all visitors as they circulate around the building. In this way, the atrium brings unity to the activities within.



Opportunity from constraints

The building steps back between every level, to allow for sky-lighting, and to avoid overshadowing the neighbours.

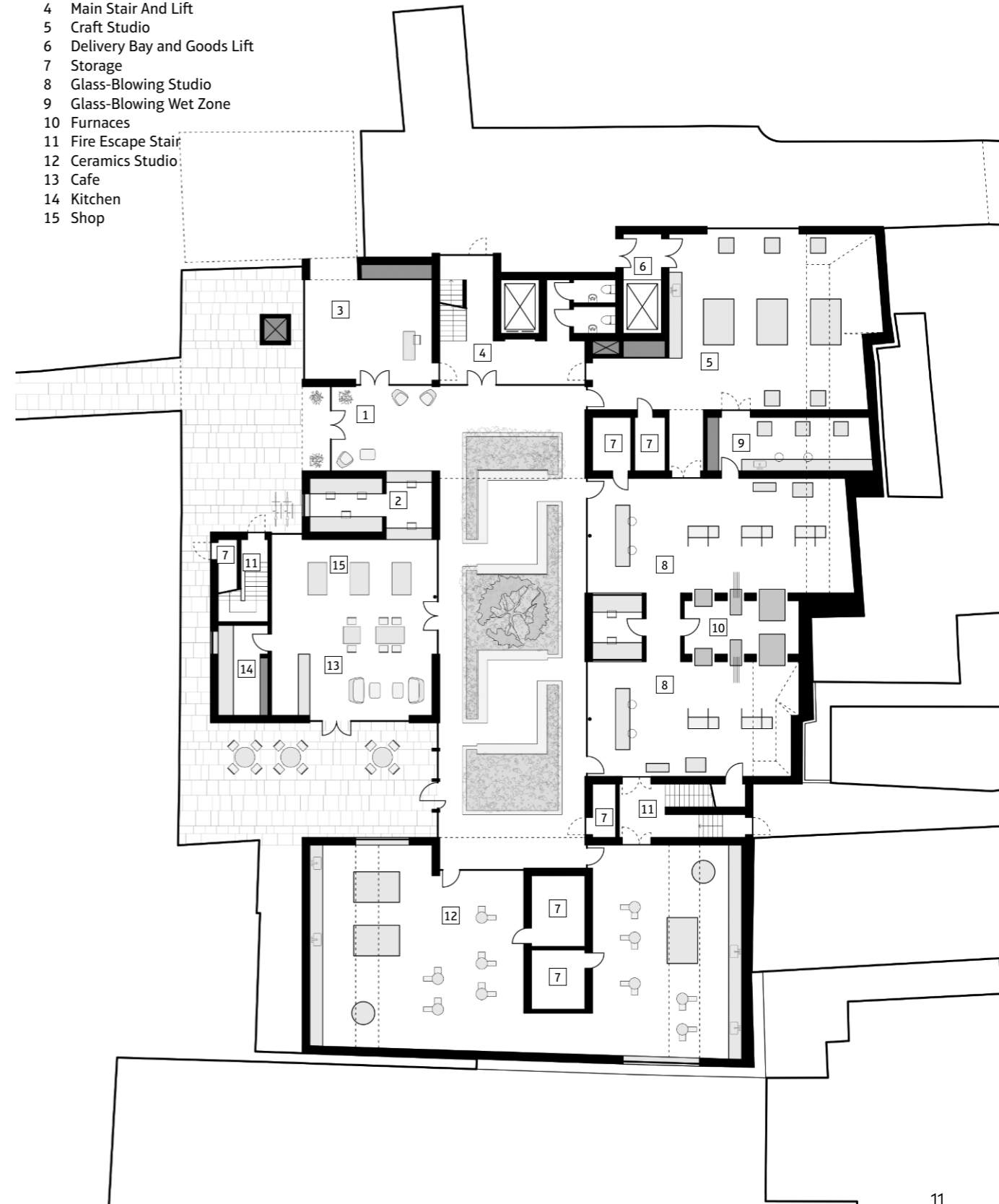
Short Section

- 1 Reading Room
- 2 Atrium
- 3 Upper Roof Garden
- 4 Yoga Studio 1
- 5 Yoga Studio 2
- 6 Cafe
- 7 Glass-Blowing Studio
- 8 Fire Escape Stair



Ground Floor Plan

- 1 Entrance Lobby
- 2 Reception Desk and Office
- 3 Exhibiton Space
- 4 Main Stair And Lift
- 5 Craft Studio
- 6 Delivery Bay and Goods Lift
- 7 Storage
- 8 Glass-Blowing Studio
- 9 Glass-Blowing Wet Zone
- 10 Furnaces
- 11 Fire Escape Stair
- 12 Ceramics Studio
- 13 Cafe
- 14 Kitchen
- 15 Shop

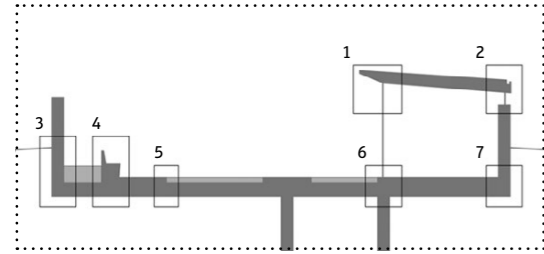


The main Yoga studio, also suitable for Tai Chi, Capoeira and similar physical activities. A major grid of concrete and a minor grid of white-stained timber fins softens the light and adds privacy.

Detailed Design



A roof garden at first floor level, with seating areas broken up by areas of planting.



An internal contemplation space looks over the garden - a way of connecting with it in the winter

A | Green roof buildup

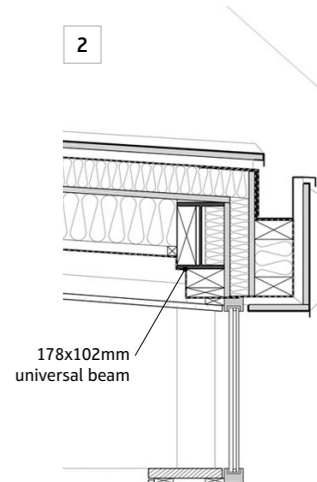
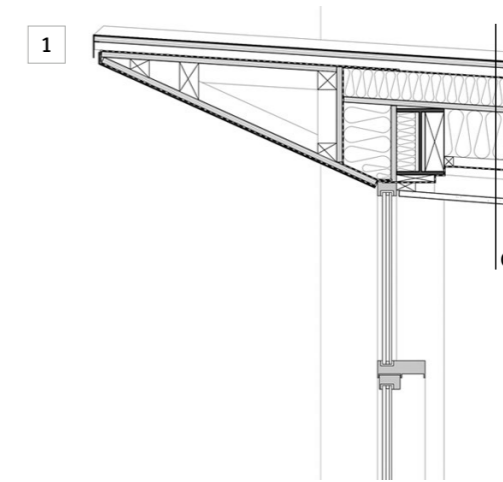
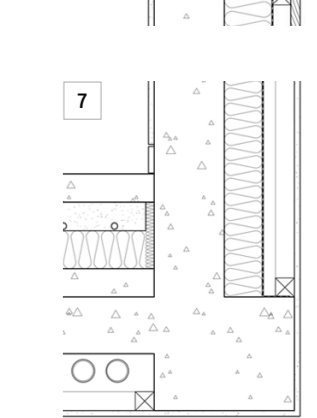
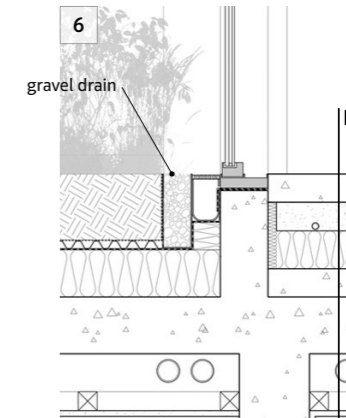
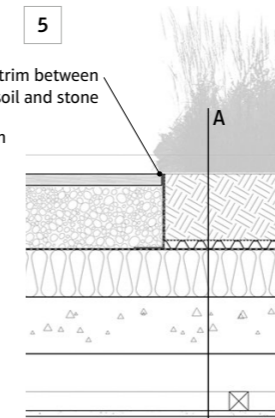
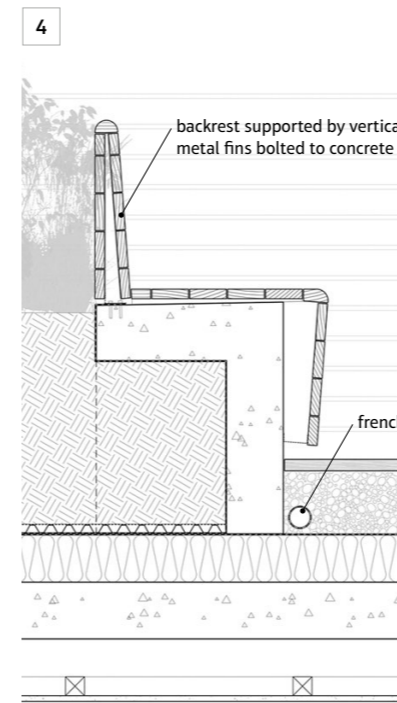
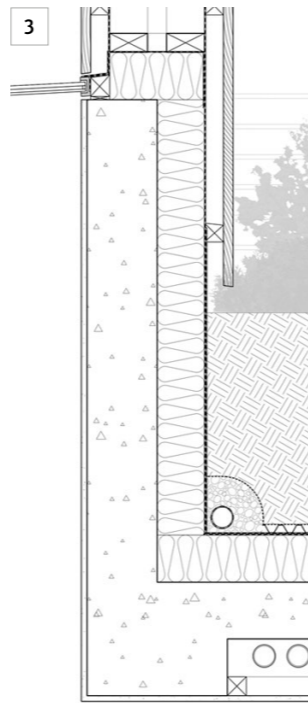
- 275mm growing medium
- filter layer
- drainage and storage membrane
- root barrier
- liquid-applied waterproofing coat
- 125mm rigid foam insulation
- 150mm reinforced concrete with 150mm structural downstands
- 15mm plasterboard ceiling

B | General floor buildup

- 75mm concrete finish
- 75mm screed with UFH pipes
- 100mm rigid foam insulation
- 75mm concrete
- 150mm reinforced concrete with 150mm structural downstands
- 15mm plasterboard ceiling

C | Zinc roof buildup

- standing-seam zinc on 18mm plywood
- 25mm ventilated gap
- breathable membrane
- 75mm rigid foam insulation
- 18mm plywood deck
- 150mm timber joists with 125mm insulation between
- vapour barrier
- 15mm plasterboard ceiling



Short Section





INNOVATION DISTRICT

Landscape proposal for the MIND regeneration project in Milan

Year: 2022

Type: Academic Project

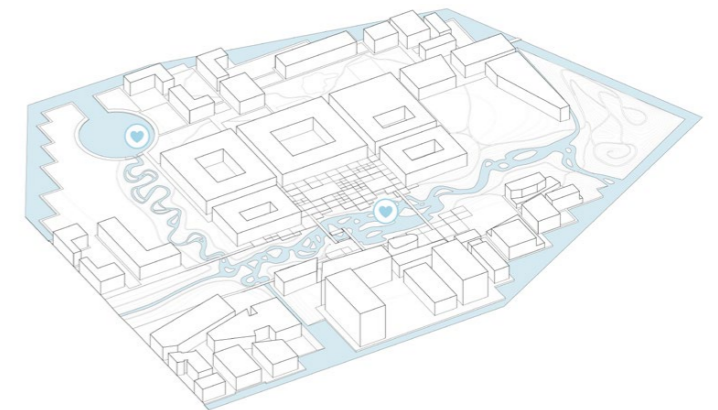
Location: Milan, Italy

The former EXPO 2015 site is being regenerated to become an innovation district following a masterplan by LAND. As part of a course taught by Andreas Kipar, we first developed a landscaping concept for the whole site, then a more detailed proposal for a specific area.

Our proposal centres on a new waterway running through the site, creating a sequence of public spaces and introducing a stronger relationship with water. Sloped banks bring people close to the waterway, making it a defining element of the area.

Topography is manipulated to reinforce this concept. Excavated material from the waterway is used to enlarge an existing hill at one end of the site, originally formed from construction rubble.

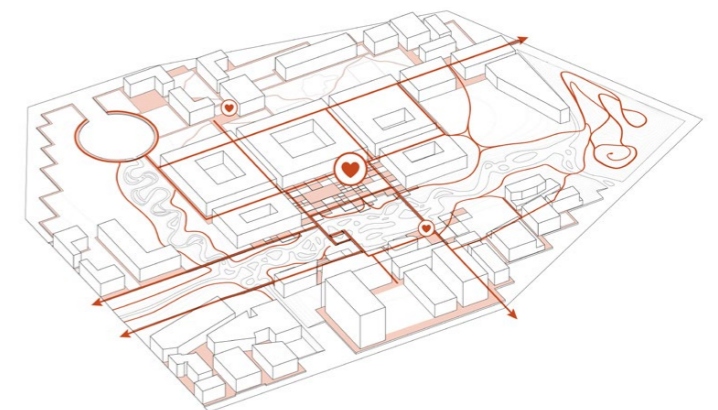
A dialogue between natural and urban geometries defines the character of the spaces. The organic path of the waterway contrasts with gridded, more formal spaces, allowing for a range of atmospheres and interactions where these geometries intersect.



Central waterway with organic geometry, creating a strong spatial identity and inviting interaction with nature.



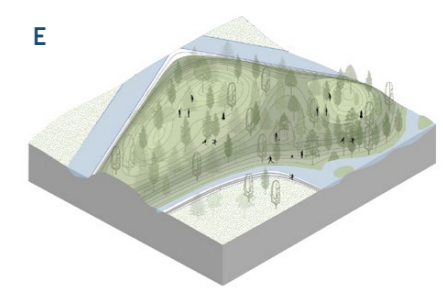
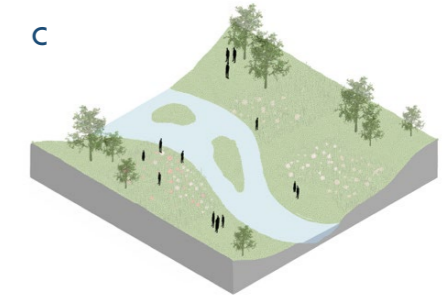
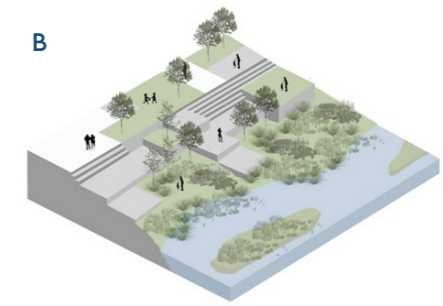
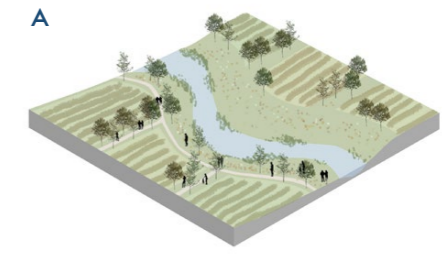
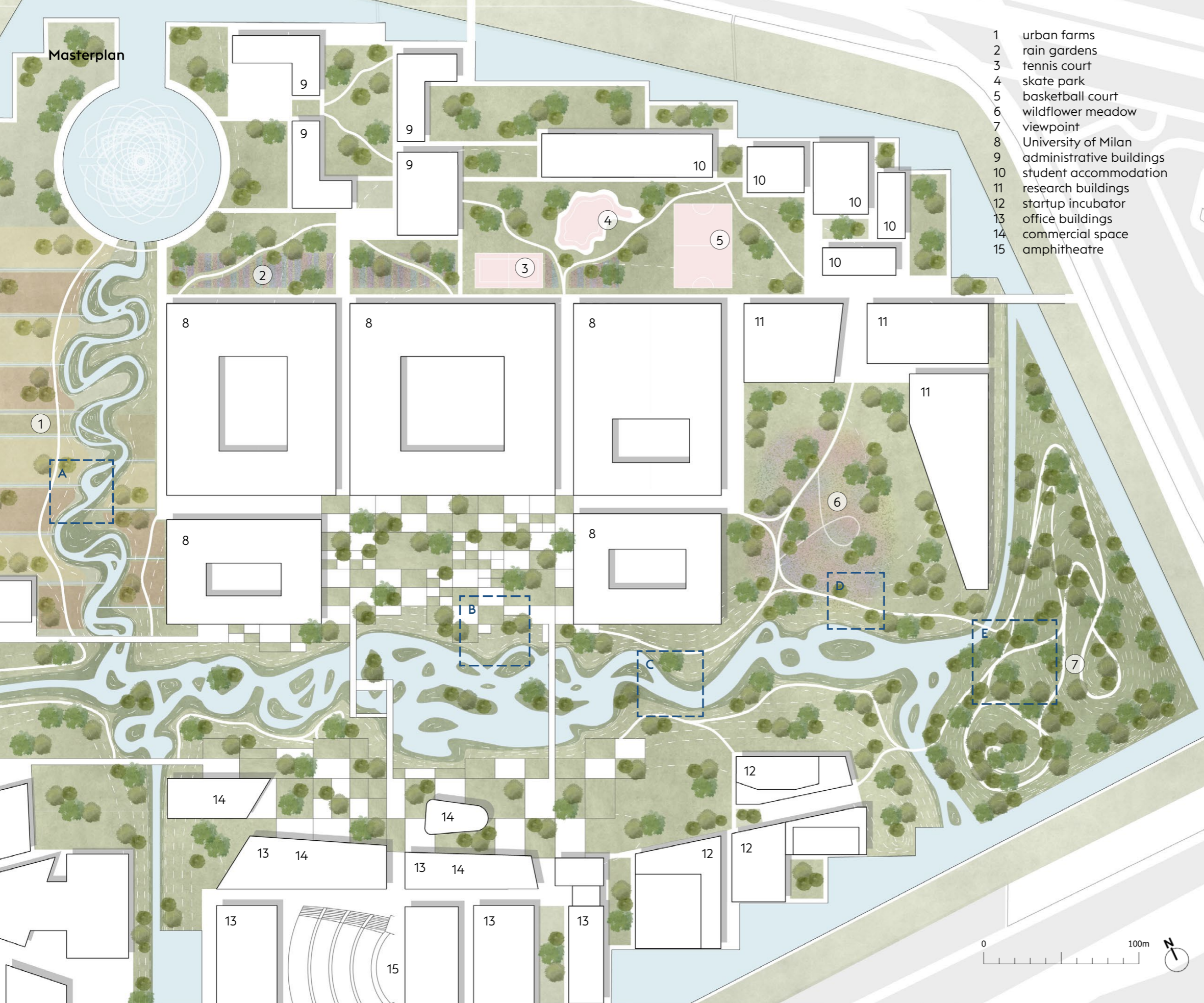
Green public spaces and vegetation, creating a restorative, biodiverse landscape



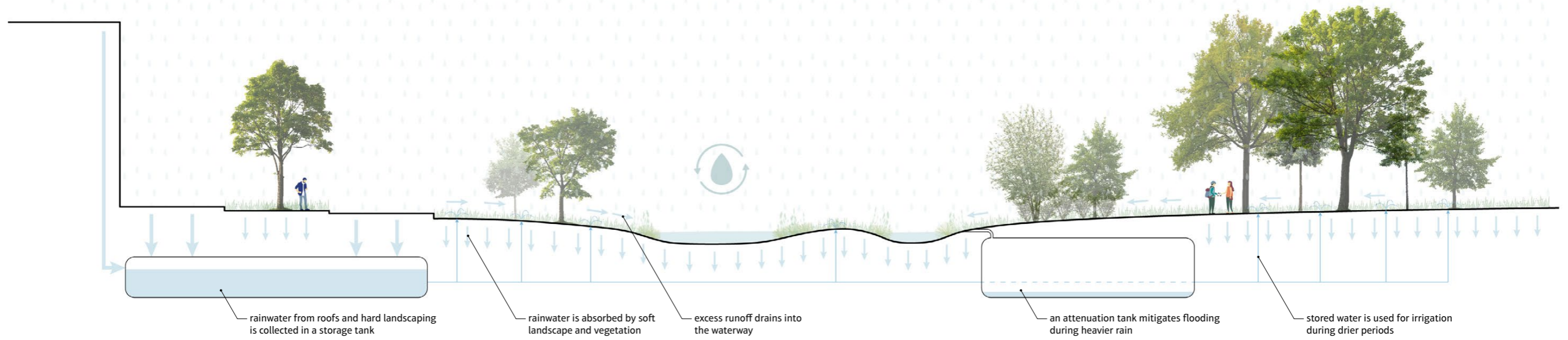
Circulation and paved areas, providing spaces for gathering or for rest.

Masterplan

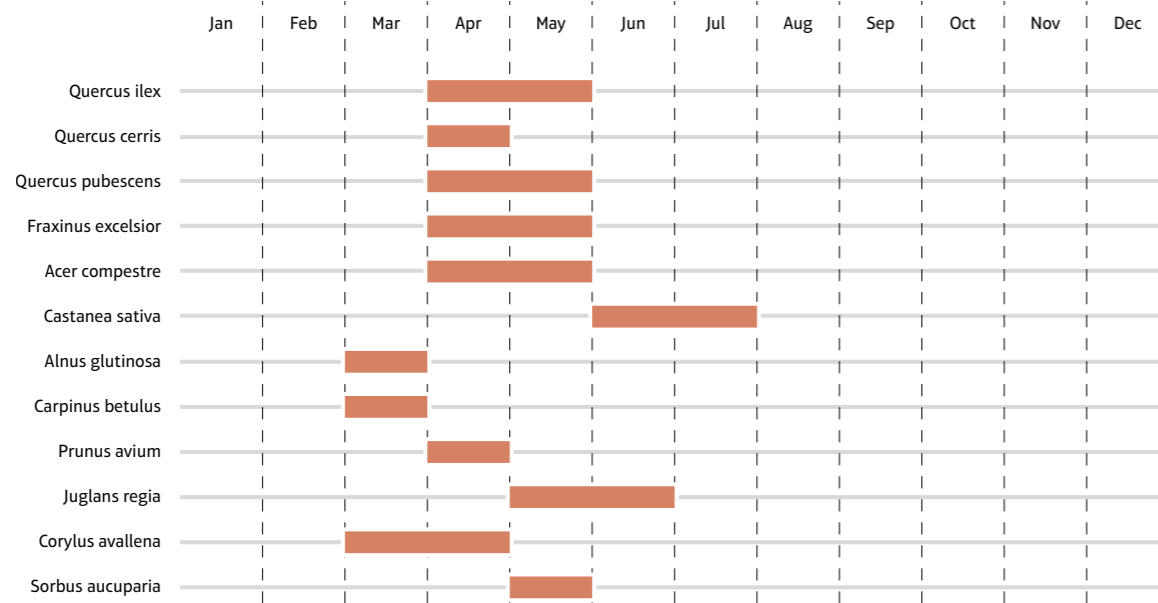
- 1 urban farms
- 2 rain gardens
- 3 tennis court
- 4 skate park
- 5 basketball court
- 6 wildflower meadow
- 7 viewpoint
- 8 University of Milan
- 9 administrative buildings
- 10 student accommodation
- 11 research buildings
- 12 startup incubator
- 13 office buildings
- 14 commercial space
- 15 amphitheatre



Water Management



Calendar of Bloom: Trees



Castanea sativa



Alnus glutinosa



Juglans regia

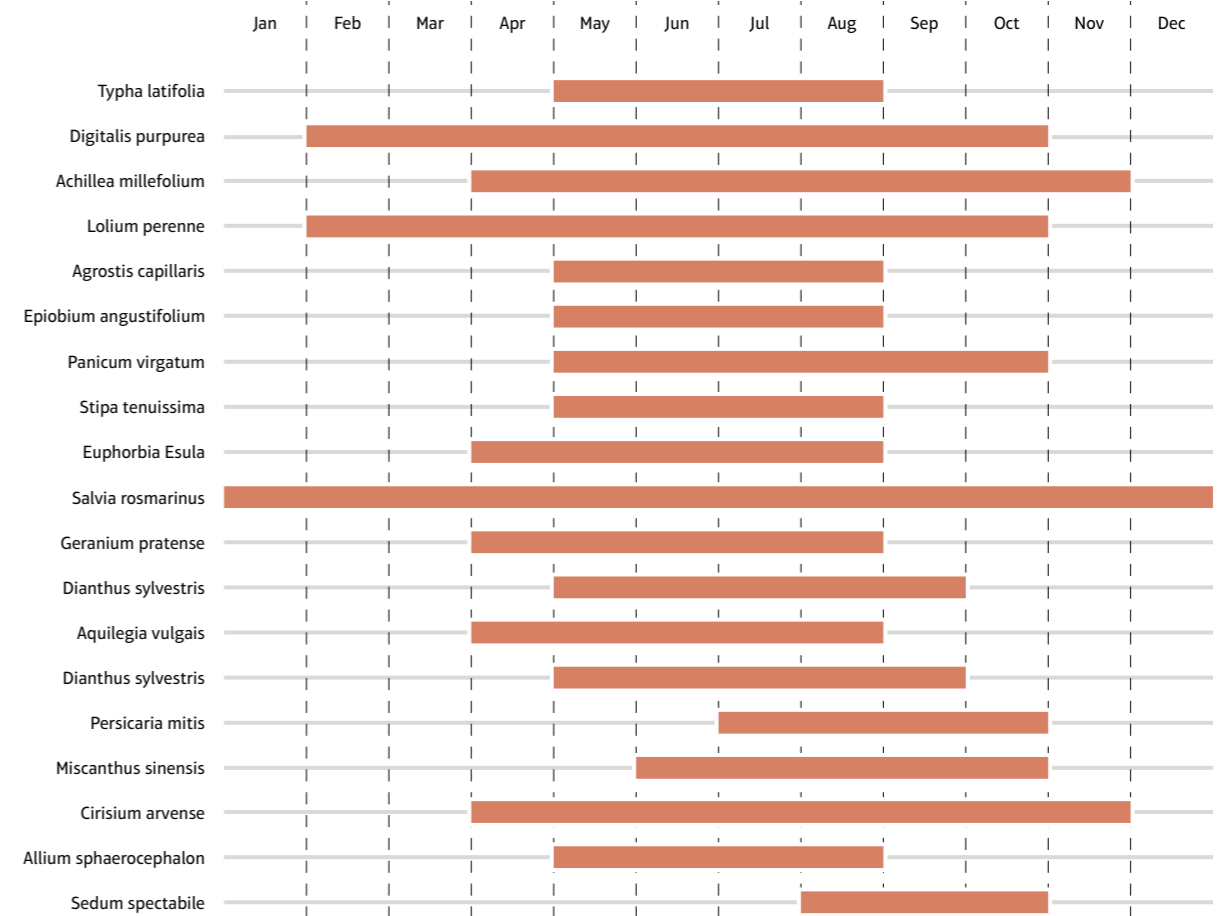


Sorbus aucuparia



Prunus avium

Calendar of Bloom: Bushes



THEATER DER KUNST

Arts and performance space alongside the Spree, Berlin

Year: 2018

Type: Individual Project

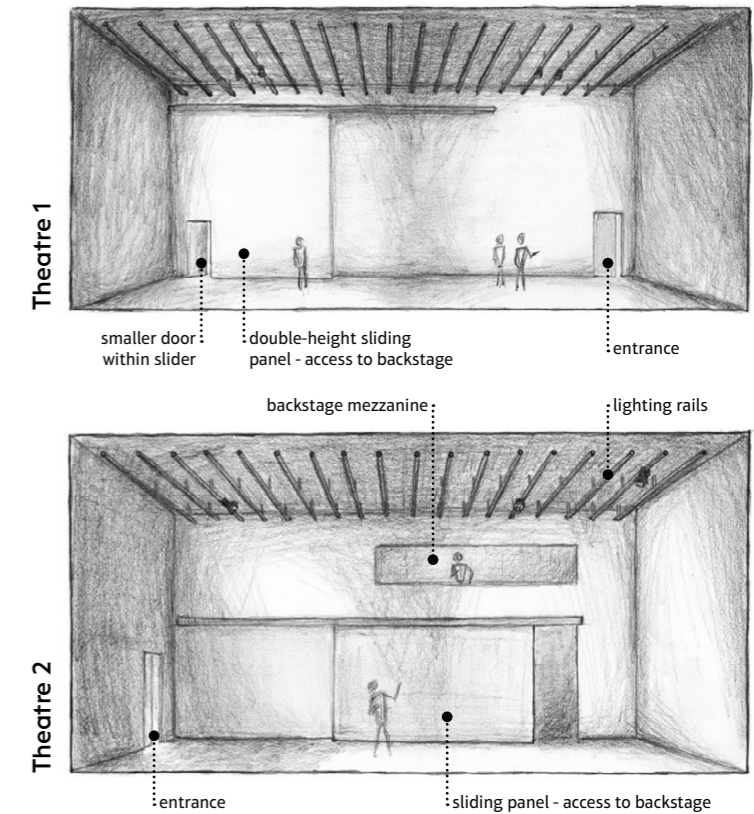
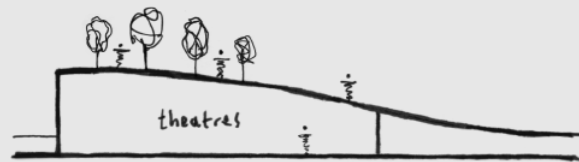
Location: Berlin, Germany

This cultural space reinforces the relationship between theatre and art, by providing a centre with adaptable spaces for anything from interactive sculptures, to performance art, to more traditional plays.

Located between the East Side Gallery and the Spree, the building is buried under an accessible green roof that slopes down to seamlessly connect with the ground and surrounding landscape.



"I realise the power of art that does not hang on the walls of galleries."
Marina Abramović

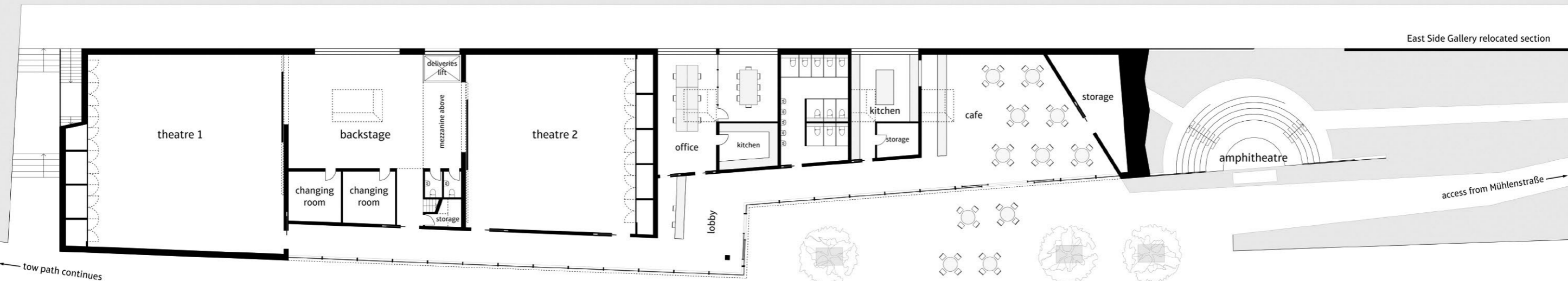


As adaptable spaces, the theatres' only permanent features are the lighting rails and the large sliding doors, which allow large pieces to be brought in from the backstage area.

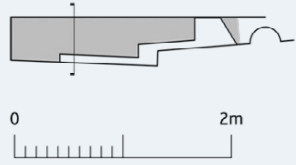
Ground Floor Plan

← Berlin Wall - East Side Gallery →

East Side Gallery relocated section



Tectonic Cut Through Backstage Area



A | General floor buildup

- 70mm concrete finish
- 75mm screed with UFH pipes
- 100mm rigid foam insulation
- damp-proof membrane
- 300mm reinforced waterproof concrete slab on pile foundations

B | Changing room floor buildup

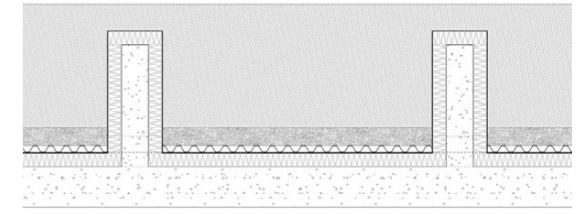
- 25mm timber floor finish
- 9mm plywood separation layer
- 36mm insulated UFH board
- 75mm screed
- 100mm rigid foam insulation
- damp-proof membrane
- 300mm reinforced waterproof concrete slab on pile foundations

C | Plant room floor buildup

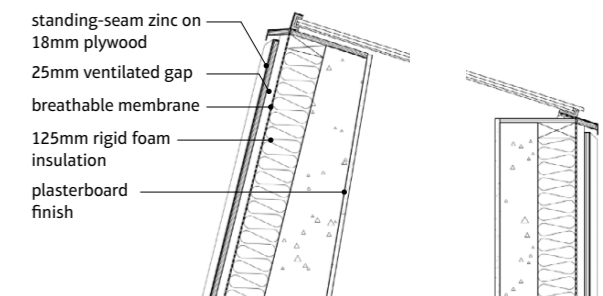
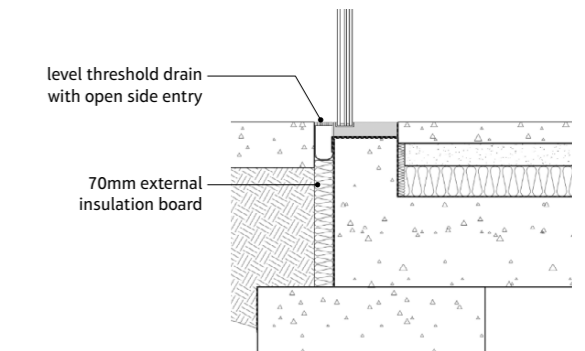
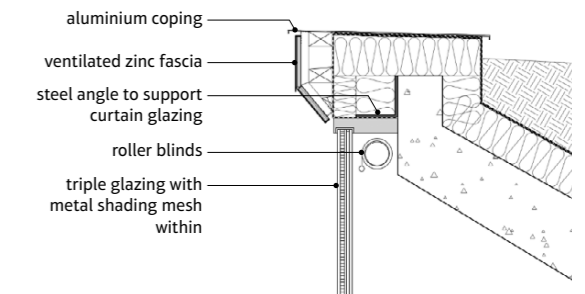
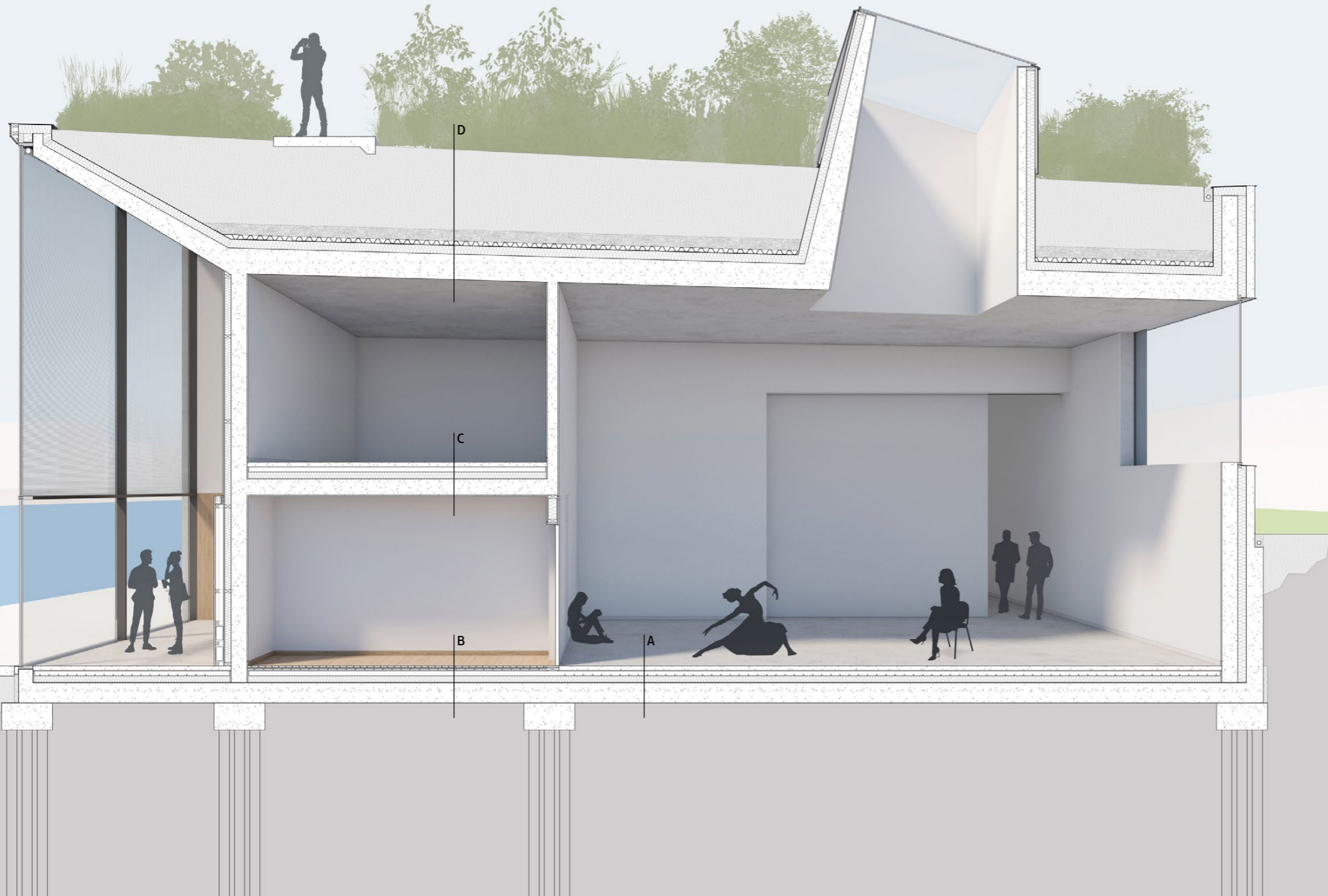
- 70mm concrete finish
- 75mm screed
- 100mm rigid foam insulation
- 240mm reinforced concrete
- 15mm plasterboard finish

D | Green roof buildup

- 250-1250mm soil (depth varies along length of building)
- 175mm lower substrate
- filter layer
- drainage and storage membrane
- root barrier
- liquid-applied waterproofing coat
- 125mm rigid foam insulation
- 375mm reinforced concrete



The structure of the roof is based on concrete upstands, at 3m centres, concealed by the soil layer. They run from front to back, and cantilever 3m over the corridor.



TAPER

Home renovation with extension

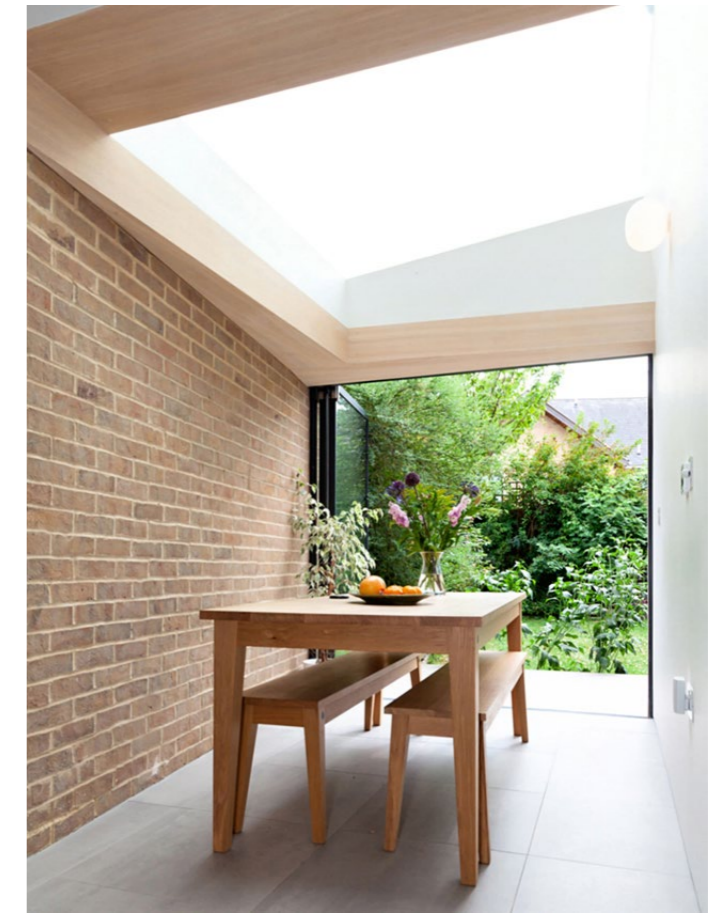
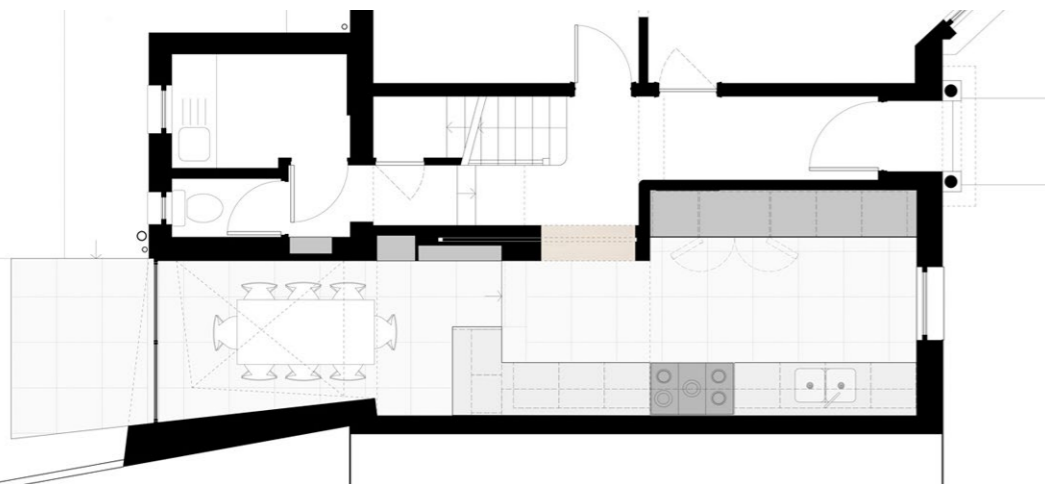
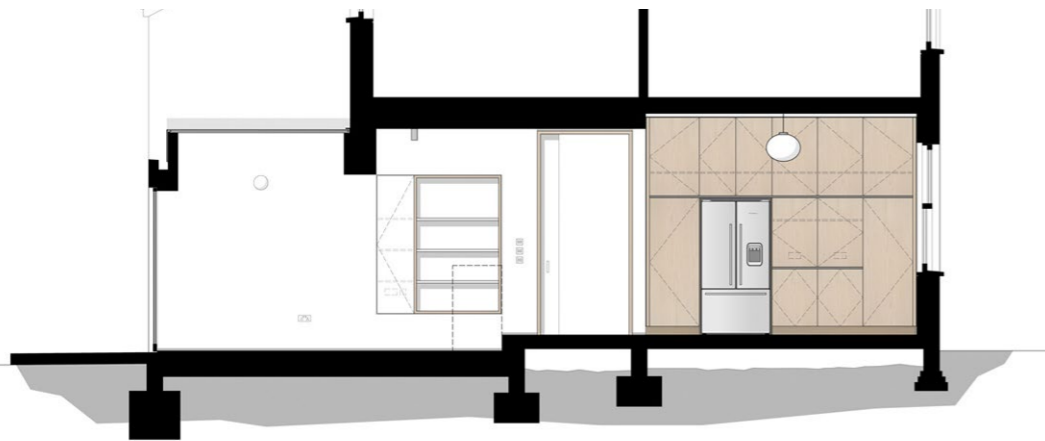
Years: 2017 - 2018

Type: Professional

Location: North London

A new 30sqm kitchen and dining room was created by combining two of the existing rooms with a new rear extension.

I started this project after my second year at University and was involved with the design from the initial definition of the brief through to the planning application. When I returned to the company, I took the project to site and oversaw the build through to completion.



Thank you for your attention!