

ARCHITECTURE AND THE CITY

4th Year Students - AAR 4711 Arkitektur og by – Prosjektemne A

5th Year Students - AAR4731 Arkitektur og by – Prosjektemne C

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ARCHITECTURE AND THE CITY

- 15 credit **design studio** course and a 7.5 credit **knowledge course**
- A **collaborative studio** addressing **urban, architectural** topics across a **range of scales**.
- Theme is **Transforming the Zwischenstadt (or In-Between City)**
- **5th Year Students** – will be encouraged to develop ideas and themes that they can develop further into their masters thesis semester.

Previous student work examples:

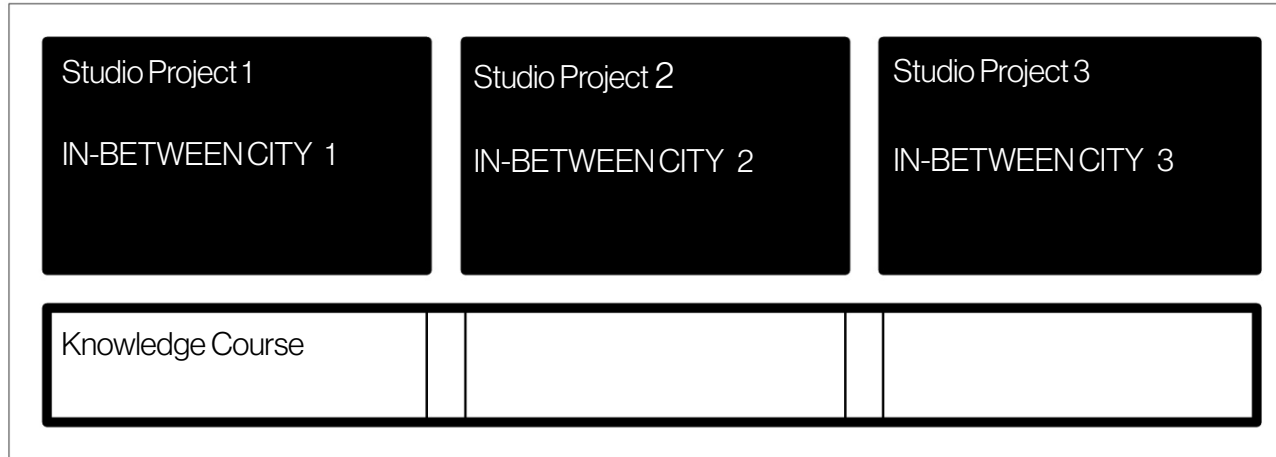
[JOINT STUDIO NTNU \(cargo.site\)](#)

One Joint Theme – Many Projects

THEME -

TRANSFORMING THE ZWISCHENSTADT (or In-Between City)

PROJECTS



At the start of the semester, you will be able to choose a project brief that investigate the shared theme of the Zwischenstadt or In-between City in different ways

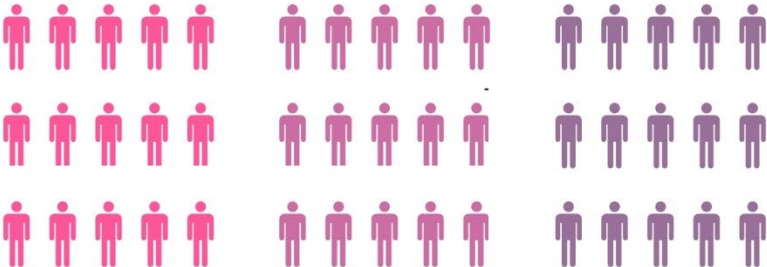
Semester will start - 20th August 2024

One studio with a shared field of investigation

Commencement



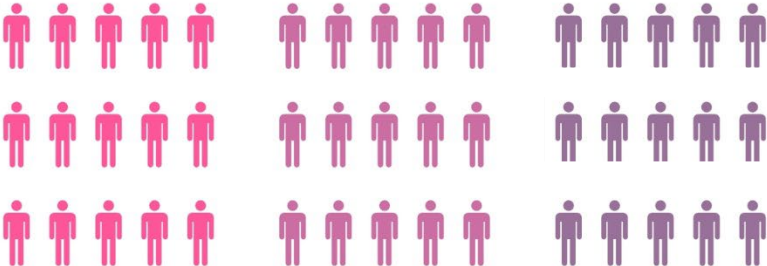
Intermediate weeks -
formal or informal
collaboration + study trip



Mid-term Critiques



Intermediate weeks -
formal or informal
collaboration + study trips



Final Review + Assessment



Shared events across the studio

Lectures project reviews study trips

Transforming the Zwischenstadt

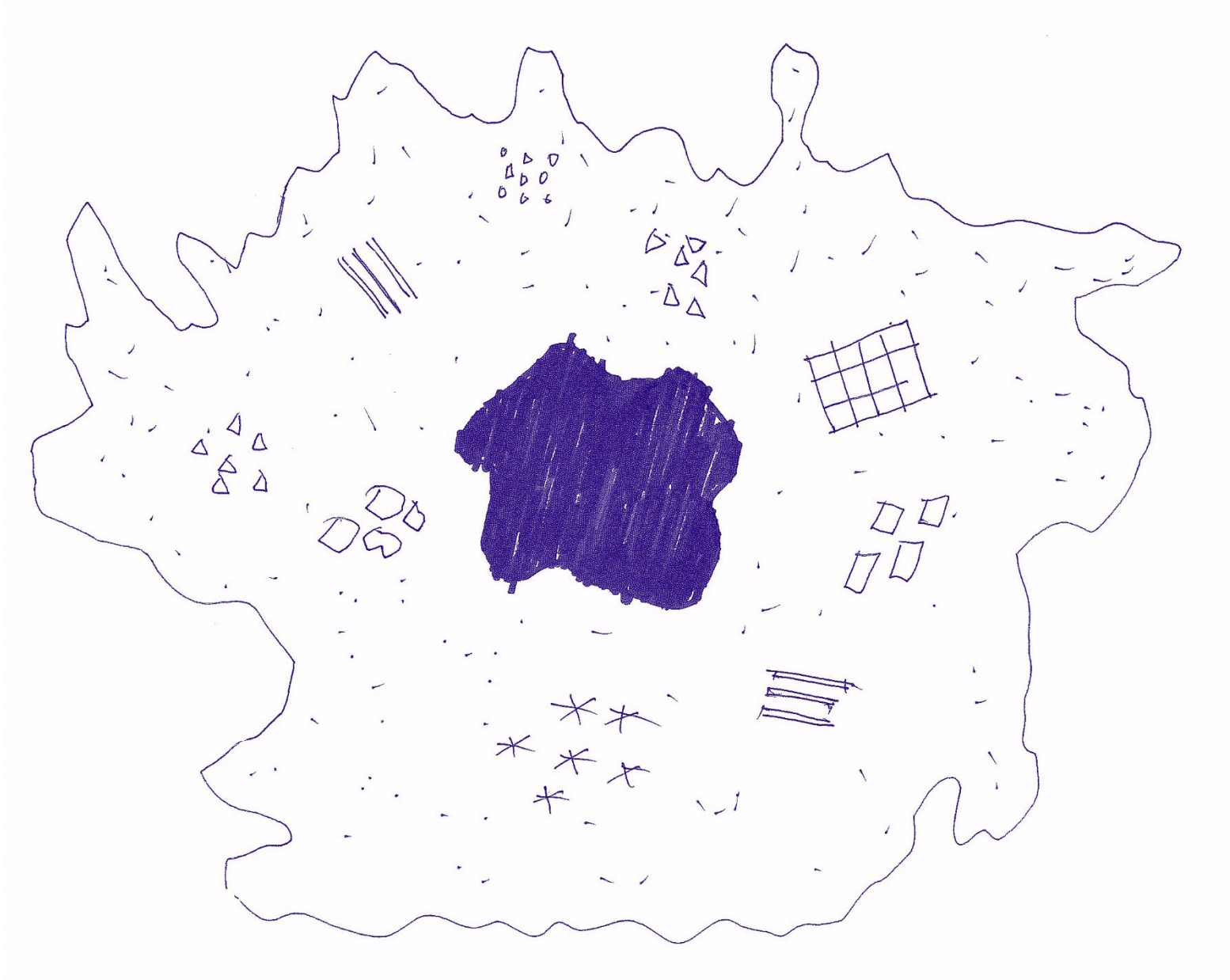
Autumn 24 Theme

An aerial photograph of a city, rendered in a blue monochrome palette. The image shows a dense urban environment with a central green space, a multi-lane highway with a complex interchange, and various commercial and residential buildings. The text 'Zwischenstadt' is overlaid at the top, and 'In-Between City' is overlaid at the bottom.

Zwischenstadt

In-Between City

What is the Zwischenstadt?



Zwischenstadt – the city landscape **in-between** the historic city centre and the landscape



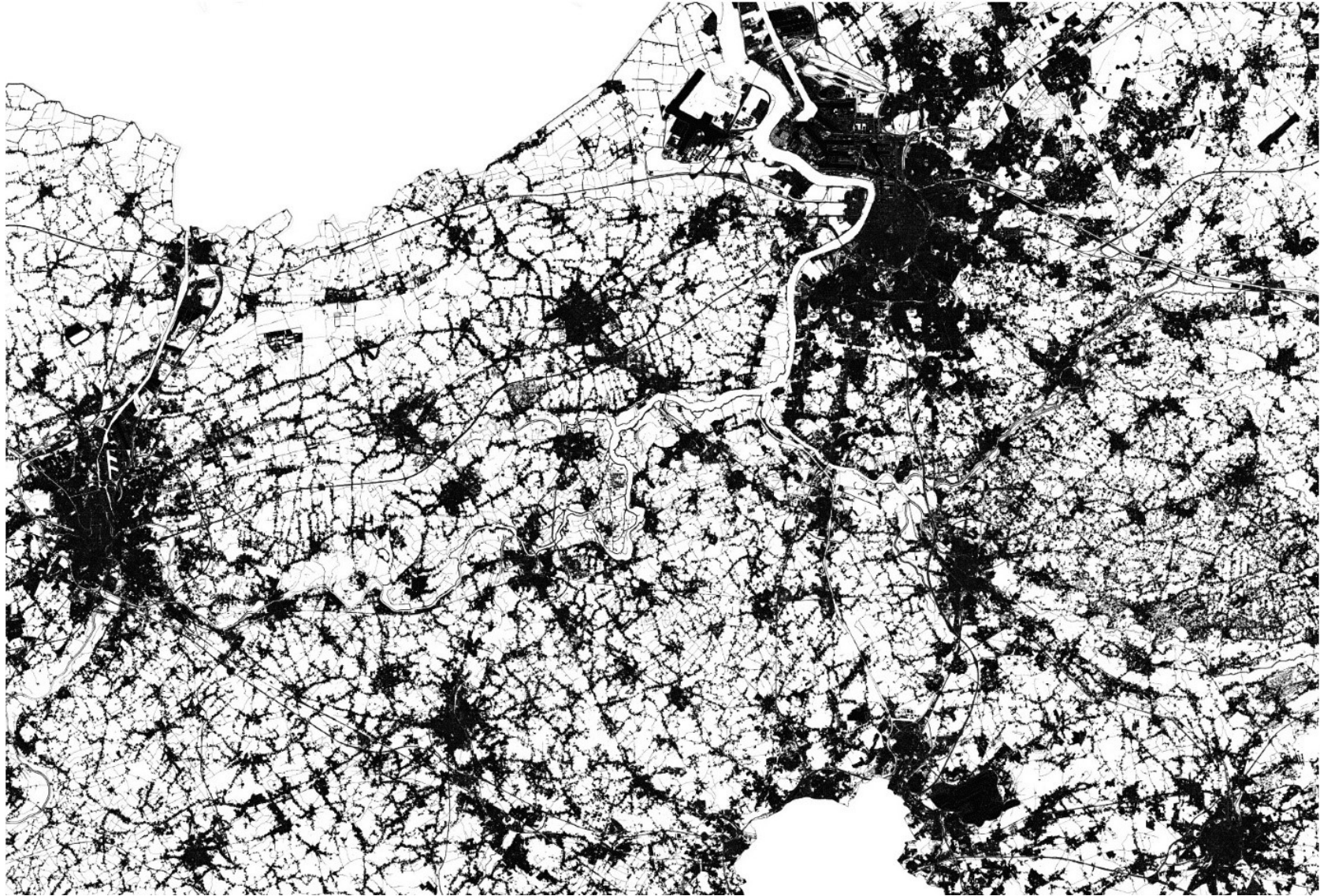
Zwischenstadt – a fragmented landscape of suburban housing, industry, shopping centres, infrastructure, agricultural and natural landscapes



Zwischenstadt – a fragmented landscape of suburban housing, industry, shopping centres, infrastructure, agricultural and natural landscapes



Zwischenstadt – a fragmented landscape of suburban housing, industry, shopping centres, infrastructure, agricultural and natural landscapes



The growth of this urban sprawl is unsustainable – it destroys and fragments the natural systems and our agricultural landscape



The growth of this urban sprawl is unsustainable – it destroys and fragments the natural systems and our agricultural landscape

Zwischenstadt landscapes



'Prospector Park, Subdivision Phase I, Lot 29, looking Southeast toward Masonic Hill' - 1980
Lewis Baltz



'Paris, Monparnasse' - 1993
Andreas Gursky



'Liege, Fussballspieler' - 1984
Andreas Gursky



'Ratingen Schwimmbad' - 1987
Andreas Gursky



'Düsseldorf Flughafen, Sonntagsspaziergänger' - 1995
Andreas Gursky



'Duisburg, Bruecke' - 1985
Andreas Gursky



'Gursky Dusseldorf Flughafen, Sonntagsspazieranger' - 1995
Andreas Gursky



'99 Cent' - 1999
Andreas Gursky



The New Industrial Parks
Lewis Baltz



'Toys 'R' Us' - 1999
Andreas Gursky



'Amazon' - 2016
Andreas Gursky



'Amberg, Siemens' - 1991
Andreas Gursky



'Ohne Title XIII' - 2002
Andreas Gursky

Transforming the Zwischenstadt

The Zwischenstadt is the zone of the city where architects and urban designers have a societal responsibility to:

Densify livable, compact, mix-use districts

Urbanise integrated city uses, public spaces, transport systems

Re-naturalise blue-green networks, climate adaption, natural systems

Develop new building typologies hybrid buildings

Implement low-carbon building circular construction and bio-based

Establish new productive landscapes food and energy systems)

City Practices

- The densification of the existing city sprawl and in-between city to make a compact, urban, plural and polycentric city fabric.
- The retention and diversification of the existing city programmes as a model for the creation of a city structure of interconnected neighbourhoods with complementary functional mixes.
- The programming and design of new hybridities and hybrid typologies which orientate around emergent economies, circular economic models and sustainable urban living.
- The urbanising and re-naturalising of the open space of the Zwischenstadt with outdoor living spaces (squares, streets, parks, sports...), climate adaptation structures and ecological systems (energy production, food production, water management, green-blue networks...).
- The implementation and integration of multimodal transportation networks which reduce the impact of movement of people, resources and goods.
- Time-dimensioned, process-orientated urban development. Development of societal models, communities, economies and institutions.

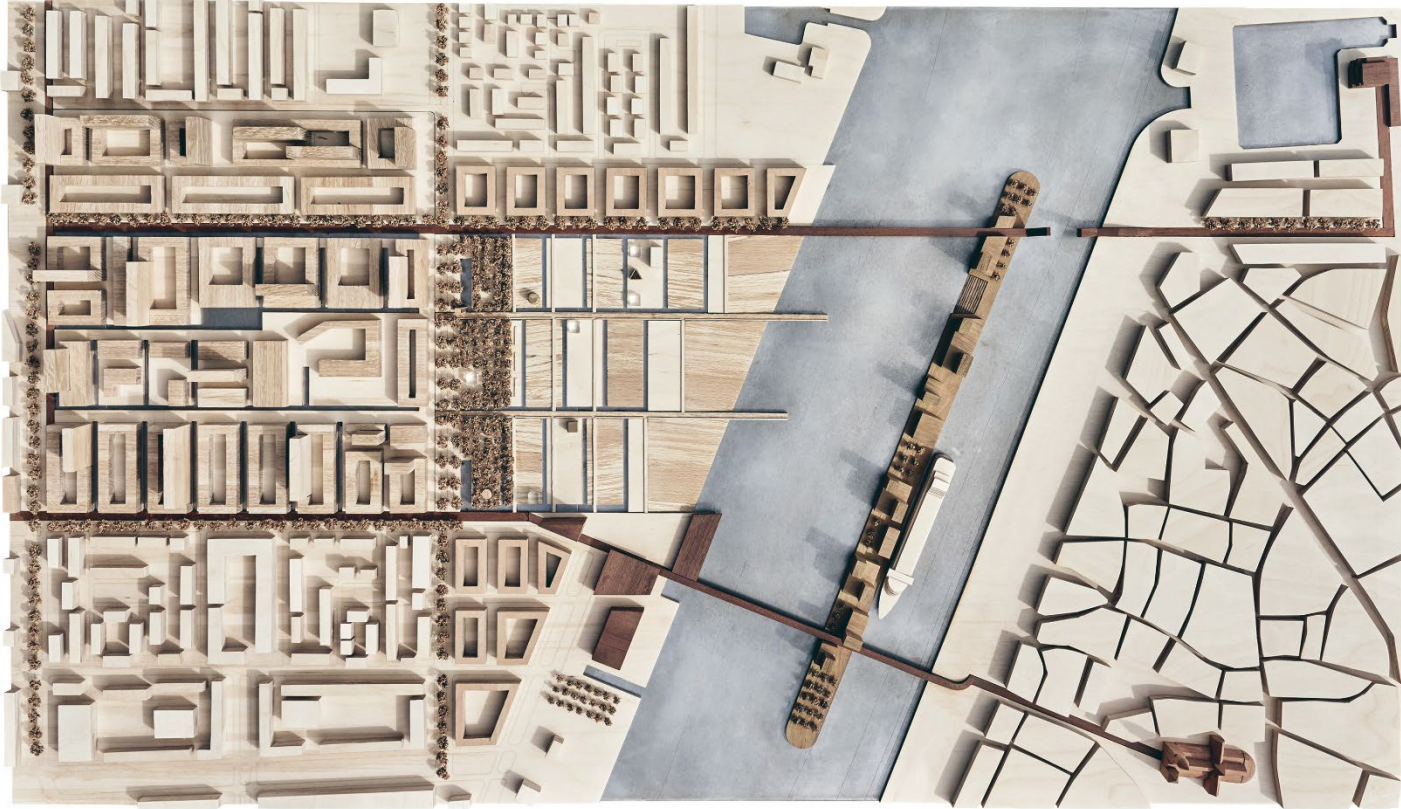
Architectural Practices

- The retention, re-use and transformation of all viable existing buildings irrespective of their cultural or historic value.
- Design of Intelligent Ruins – time-dimensioned buildings that are easily maintained, reprogrammed and designed-for-disassembly.
- New tectonics based on bio-based materials and the ‘material-mine’ of existing resources and building elements that already exist.
- Developing material, aesthetic and spatial practices and that give meaning and rhetorical power to these new tectonics and practices.

How Can We Transform?



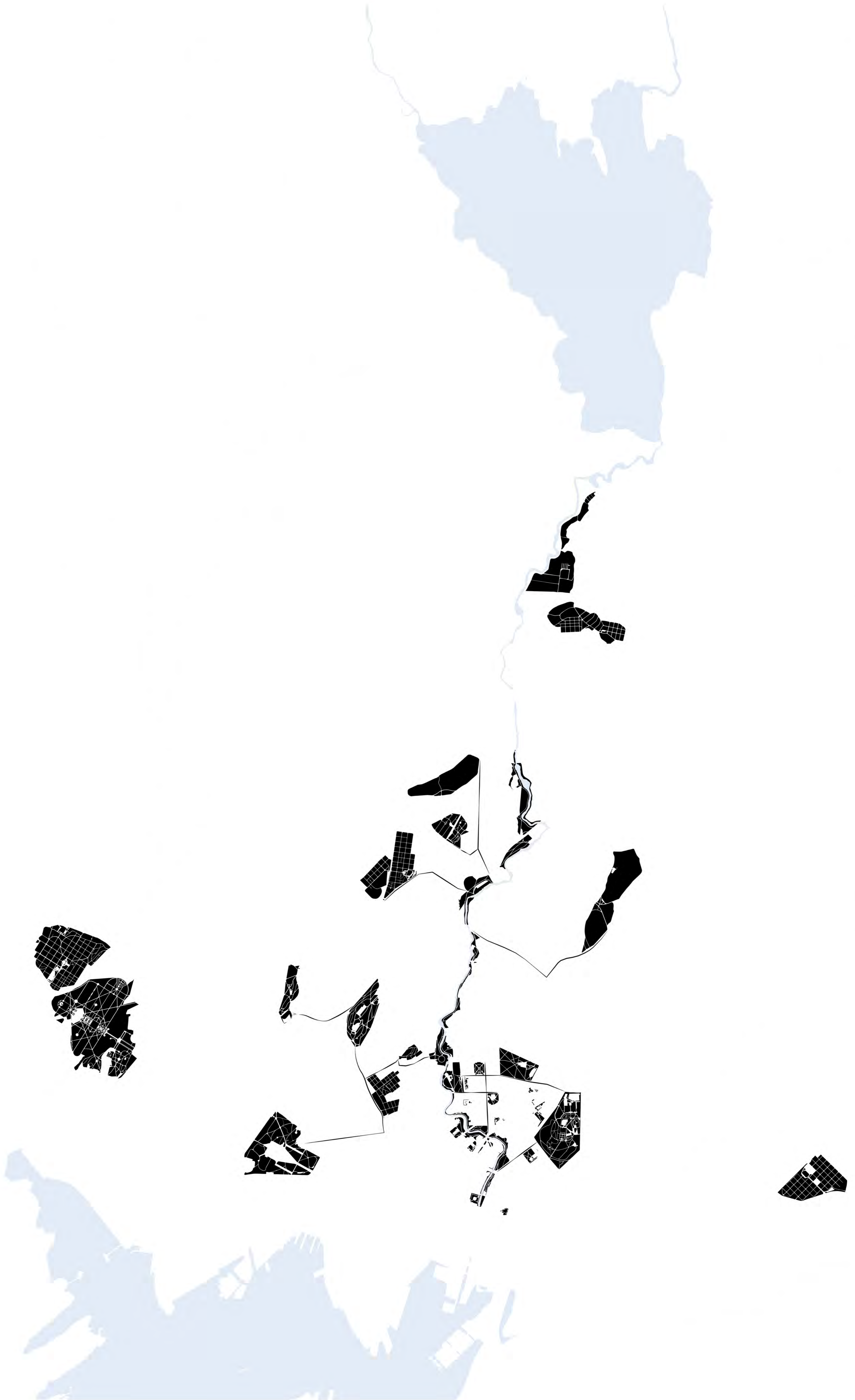
Linkeroever, Antwerpen, BE (International Competition Winner)
Stuart Dickson



Linkeroever, Antwerpen, BE (International Competition Winner)
Stuart Dickson



South Gate, Budapest, HU (Competition Finalist)
Stuart Dickson











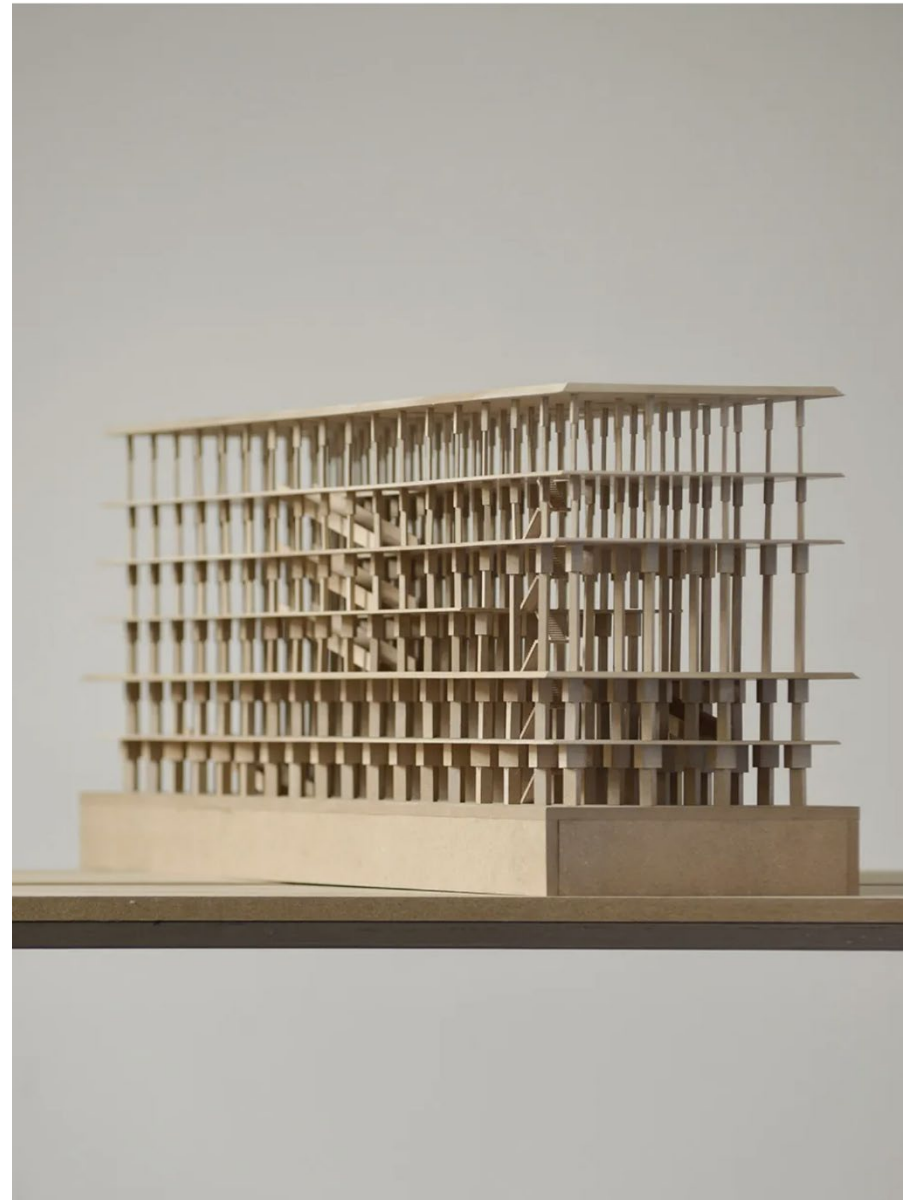
Urban Figure in Neighbourhood Plan



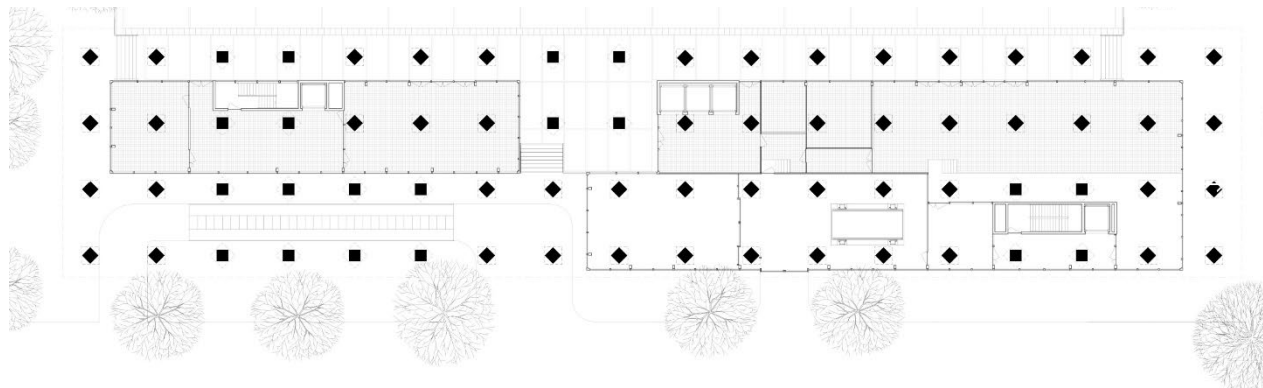
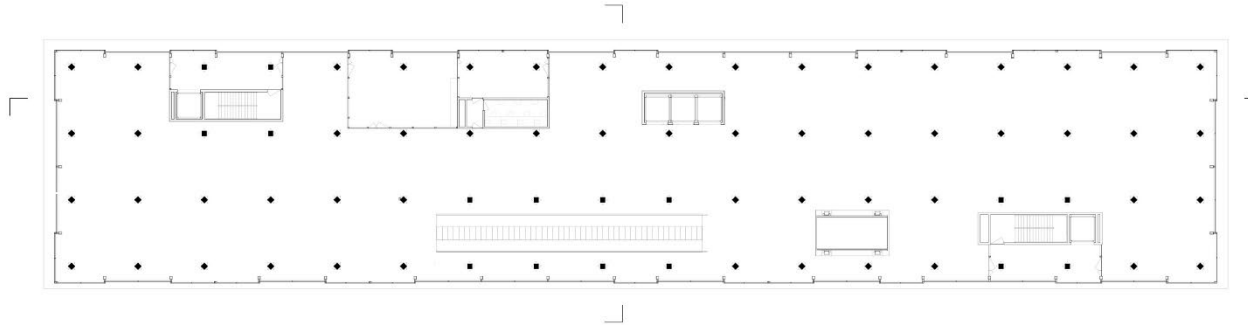
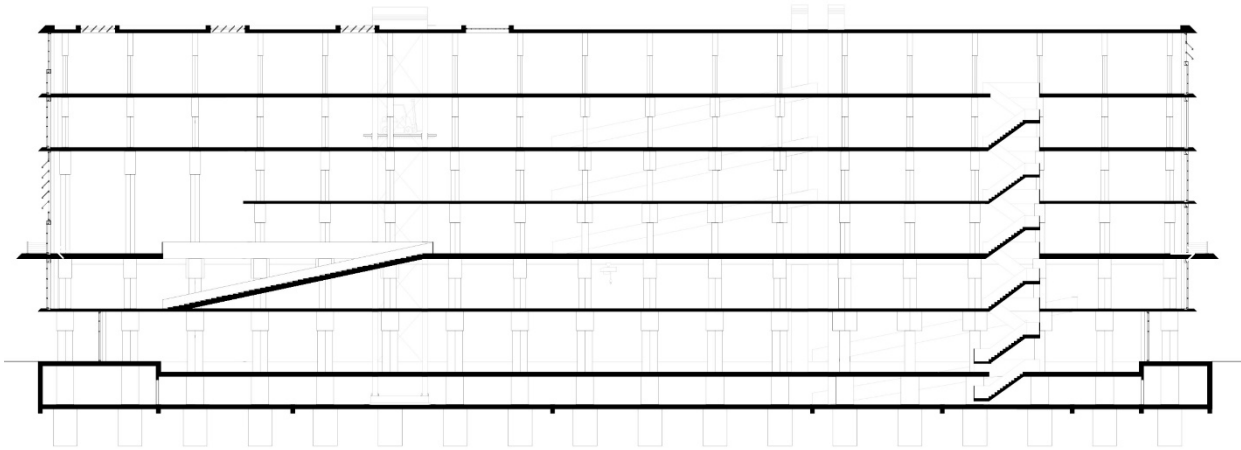




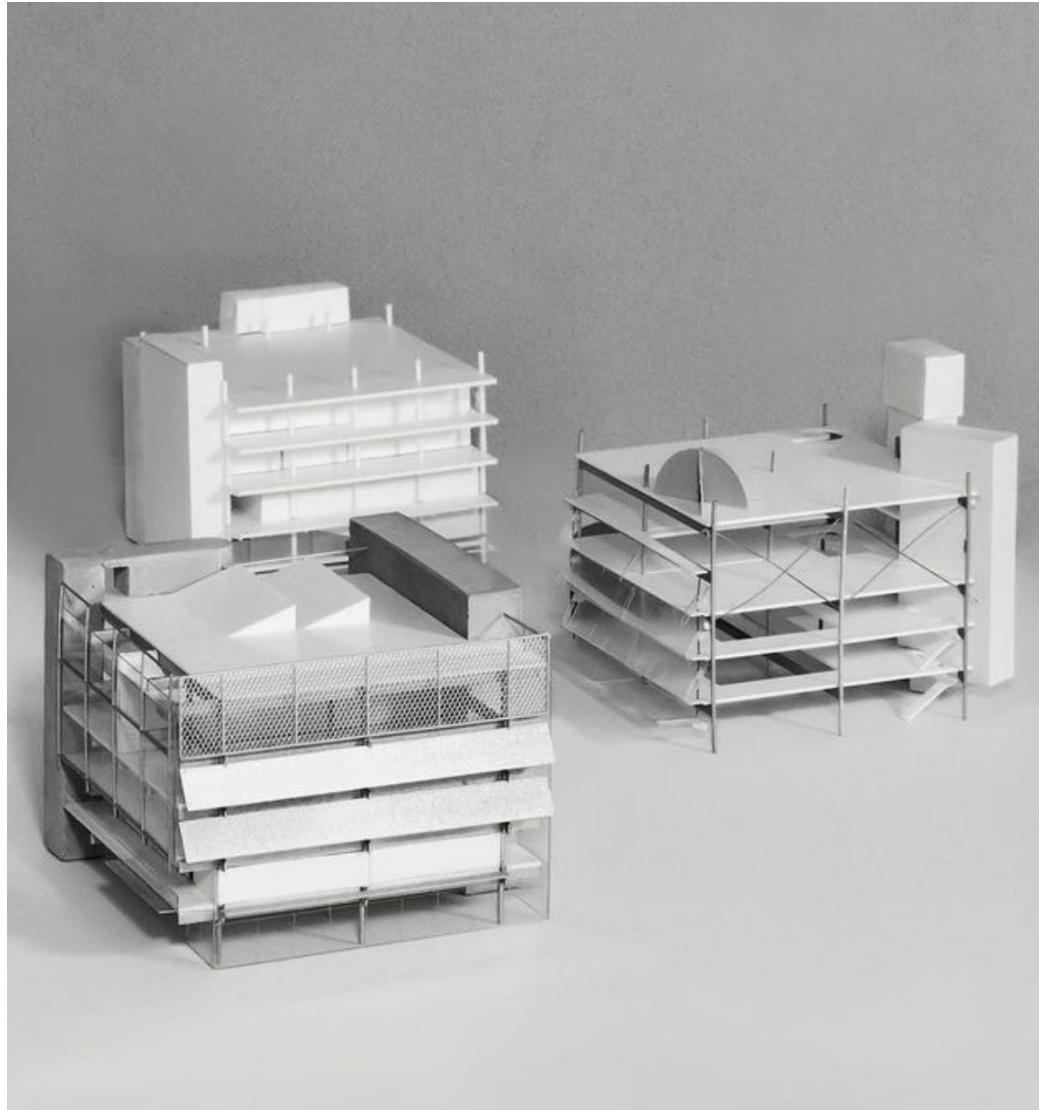
Intelligent Ruins – Buildings designed for re-programming and adaptive maintenance



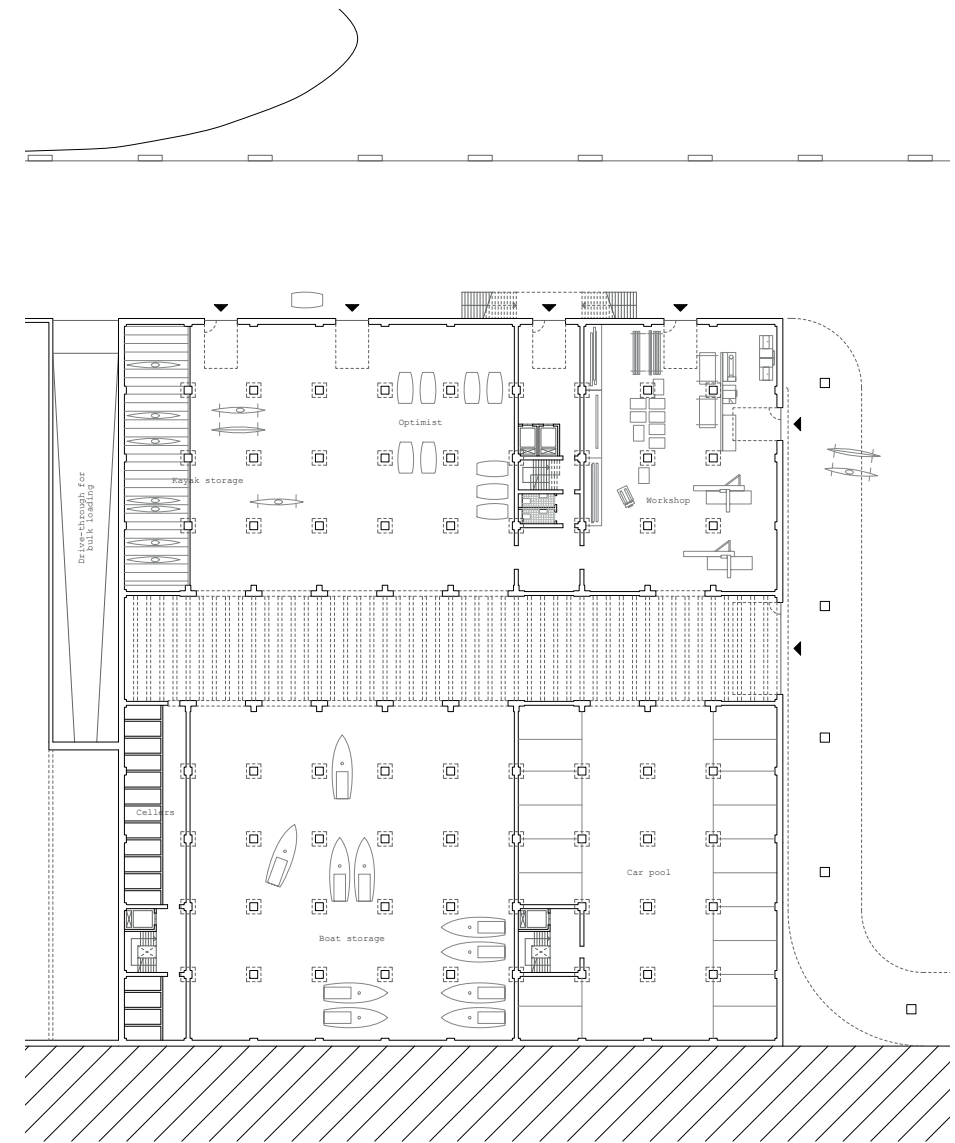
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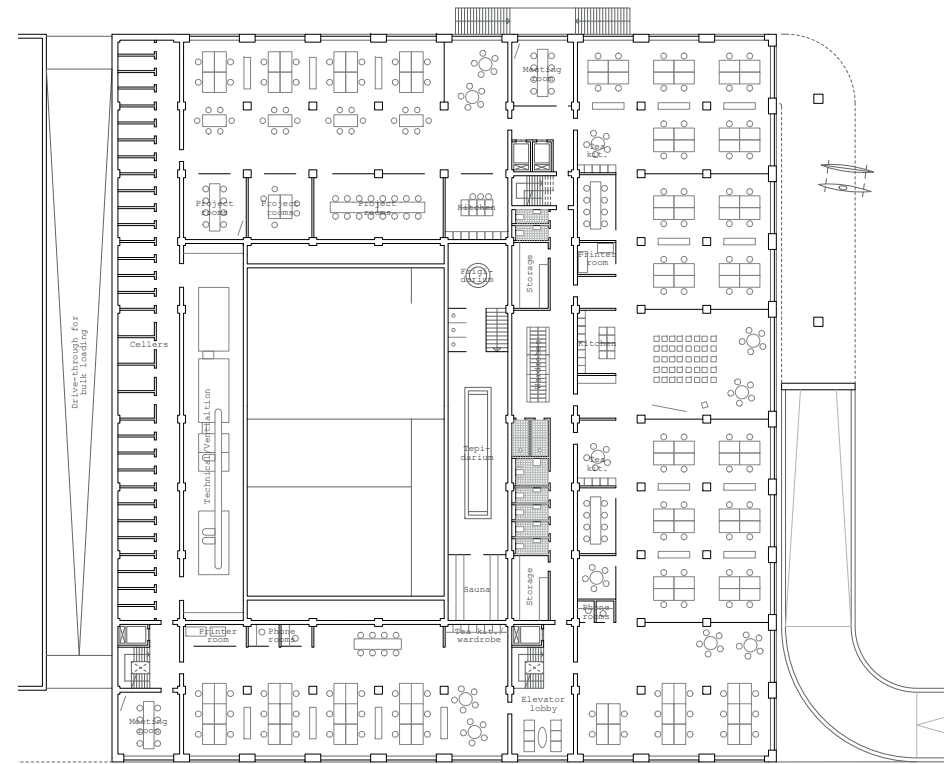
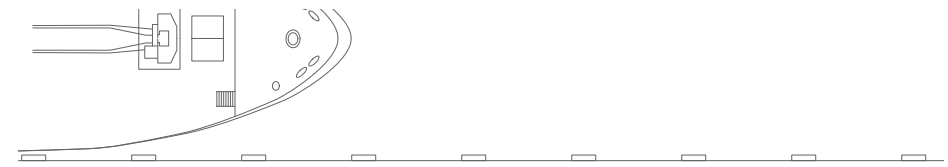


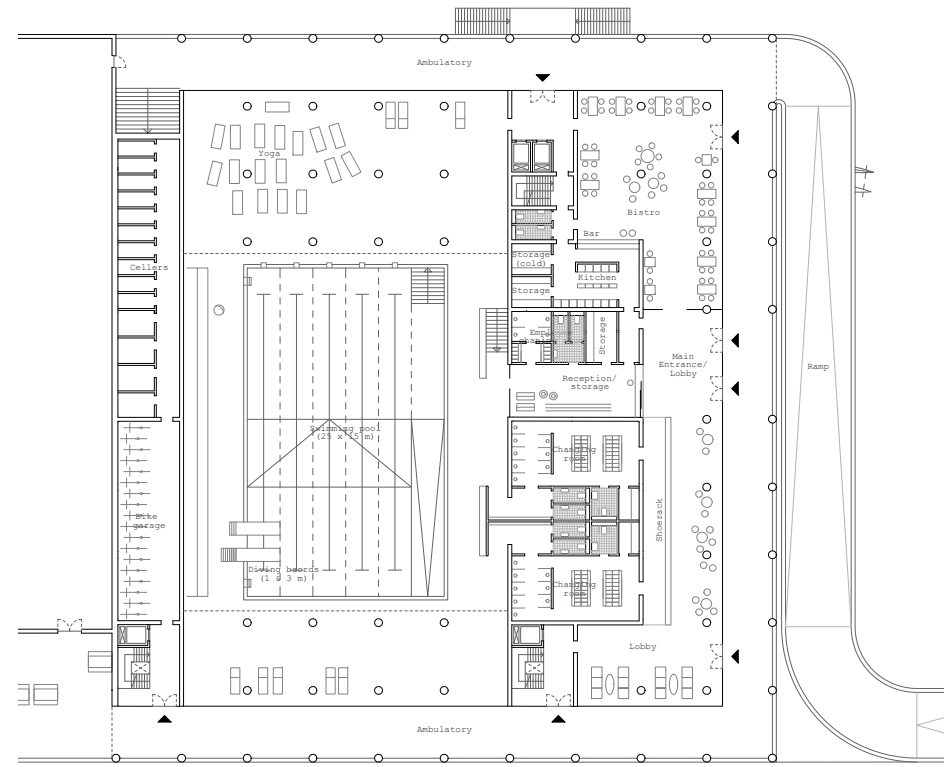
Intelligent Ruins – Buildings designed for re-programming and adaptive maintenance

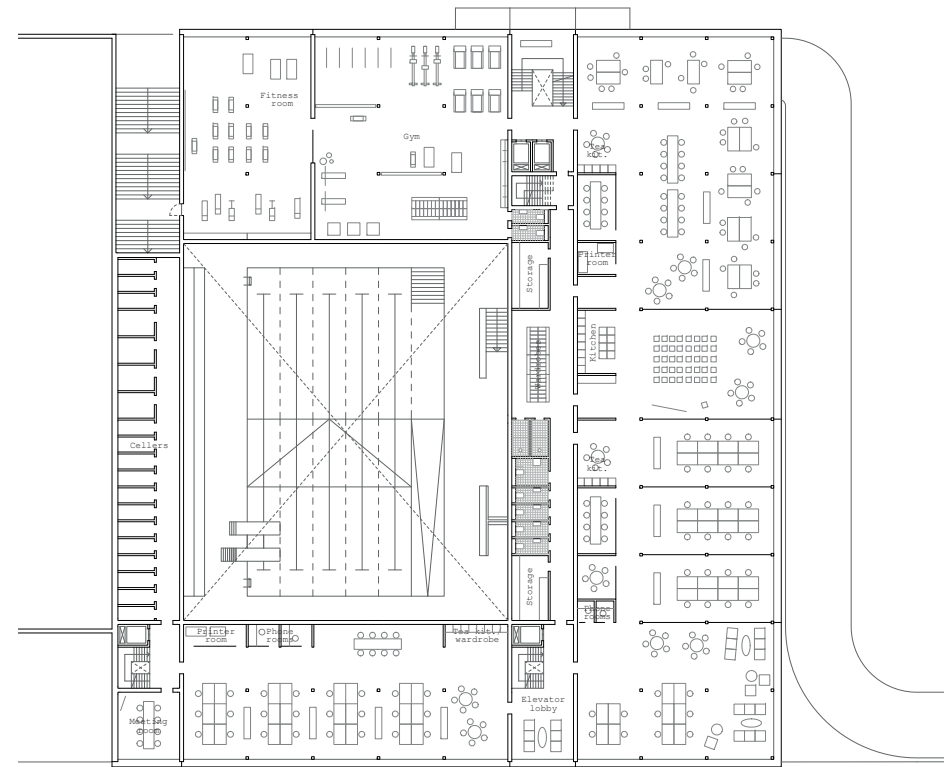
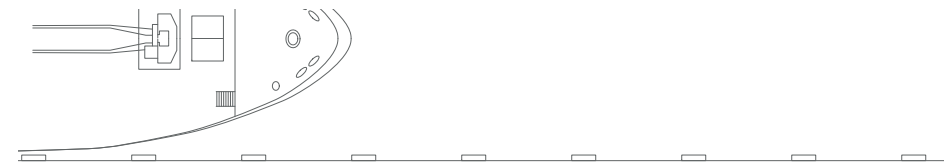


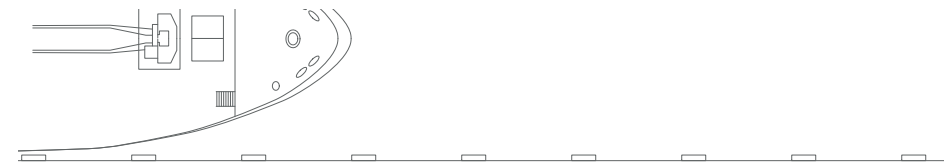
Intelligent Ruins – Buildings designed for re-programming and adaptive maintenance

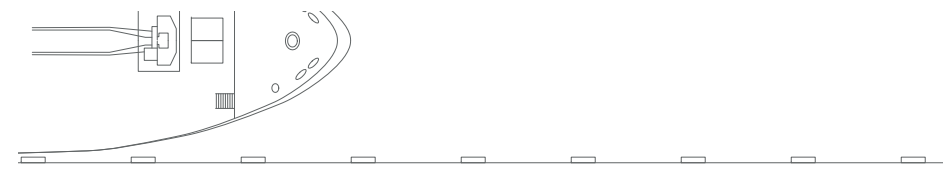














STRUCTURE

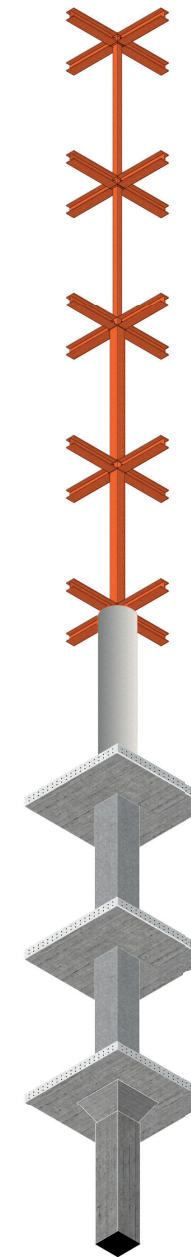
Due to the design's add-on DNA, the additional structure is based on the column grid from the existing pillar structure in the warehouse. The concrete pillars are arranged in a dense grid of 5000 x 5160 mm, which for a modern steel construction would be a relatively frequent pace of repetition. However, we have made it the governing standard for the new steel structure and all the floors above. When distributing the load on this many columns, the dimensions can be heavily reduced, as each column supports only 25 m² per. floor. Under guidance by our structural supervisor, Engineer Bunji Izumi, we have concluded with square profiled steel columns of only 200 x 200 mm for the lower floors and even slimmer dimension for the upper floors, reaching down as far as 100 x 100 mm. For the housing departments, the steel structure is capsuled almost in its entirety within the partition walls, making the issue of fireproofing less problematic.

The existing concrete pillars are reinforced to make columns of 600 x 600 mm. Additional reinforcement for the pillars and floating fundaments underneath the slab would be needed. The columns will keep it's size, but receives an outer steel layer of 30 mm, making it a hybrid column of steel and concrete.

On the 3rd floor ambulatory, as a transition between the concrete- and steel systems, we introduce a round, cladded, steel column. The cladding answers to the exposure to salty, humid air from the coast, and inside, chlorine-filled swimming hall damp. The columns are wrapped in a marine grade stainless steel coat, with chrome finish. The circular profile communicates an idea of publicity, as the round column naturally keeps adjoining walls on distance, with the result of large open spaces.

Horizontal loads are handled by the three concrete cores for vertical circulation.

The floor decks of steel addition are filigree concrete slabs. The short spans are also in this this case benefitting material reduction.





¹
 Webcontent. (2022). "Never
 demolish. Always transform, with
 and for the inhabitants": Anne La-
 caton delivers inaugural Jacqueline
 Tyrwhitt Urban Design Lecture.
 Harvard Graduate School of
 Design.
<https://www.gsd.harvard.edu/2022/04/never-demolish-always-transform-with-and-for-the-inhabitants-anne-lacaton-on-urban-design-and-architecture/>

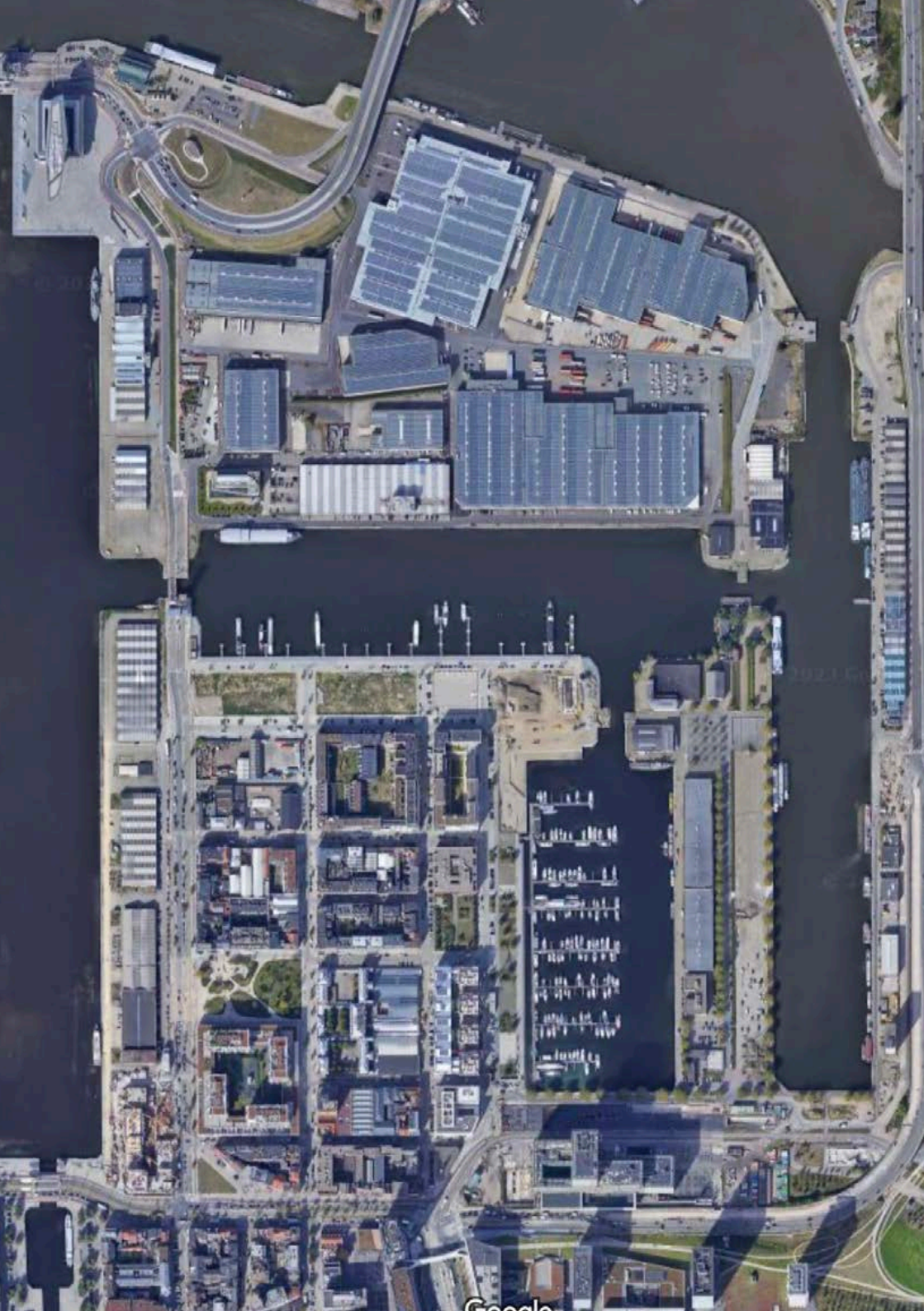
What to do when a new building is needed but there is already a structure present?

The field of architecture is increasingly challenged with such questions, as the construction industry is one of the largest polluters. The conventional way of building, where demolition and new construction are at the heart of the business, is becoming more and more unjustifiable.

Lacaton & Vassal's mantra "Never demolish, never remove or replace, always add, transform and reuse!"¹ offers an answer to this, and that philosophy reverberates loudly throughout this master's thesis. This awareness can be seen as one of the more recent developments within the field of architecture.

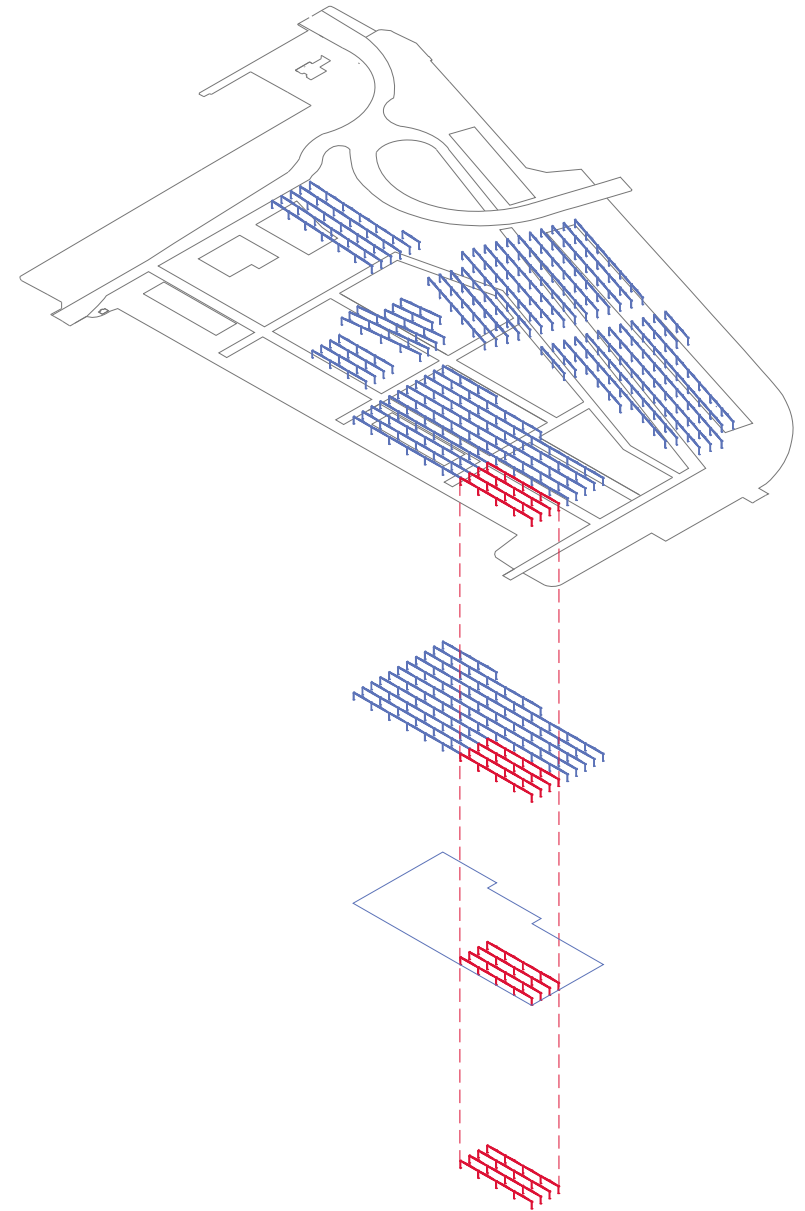
When applying this mantra to architectural interventions, the methodology will always be different because there is no one-size-fits-all solution when working with pre-existing structures. Each intervention will have its own parameters and limitations set by its unique environment. On top of this, what a culture decides is worthy of preserving varies wildly and further complicates things.

This project offers a solution for preserving pre-existing structures not solely for their historical or cultural value, but for the potential to create something greater out of it by reassembling common elements found in commercial architecture.



3.2

The dismantled structures (blue) and the preserved structures on the site (red).

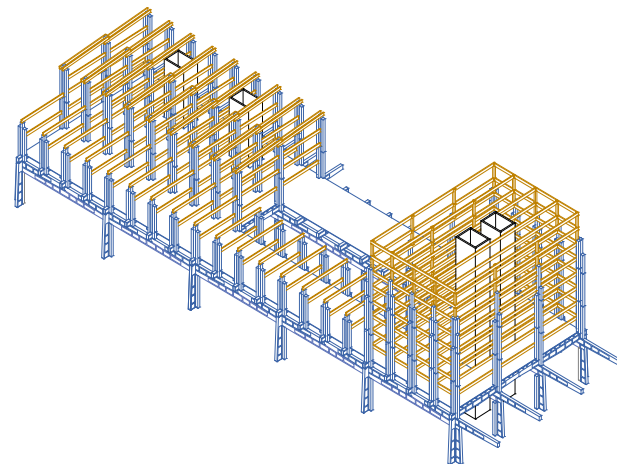
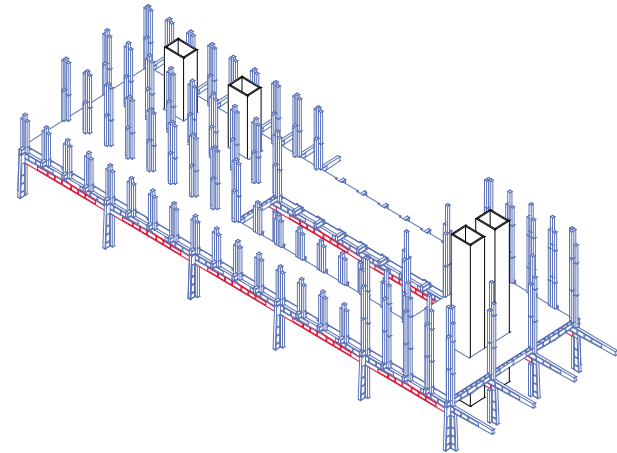
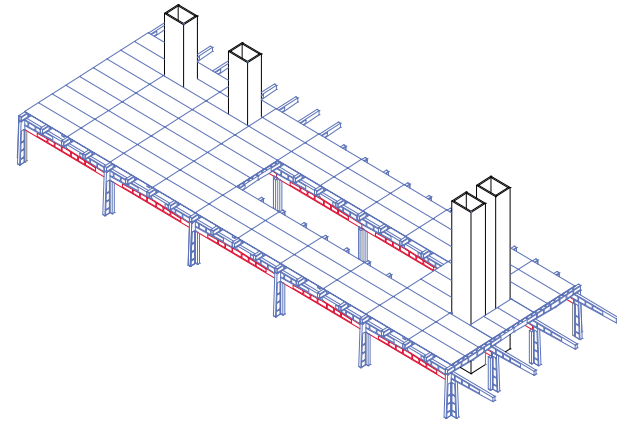


3.3

The Mexico Island in the north in relation to the city in the south (left).⁵

⁵ Google. (n.d.) [Satellite image of the Mexico Island in Antwerp in relation to the city towards the South]. Retrieved June 13, 2023, from <https://www.google.com/maps/>

- 4.4 (4) Concrete cores are added for circulation and for stabilization. The salvaged TT-slabs span between the new beams. Cantilevering beams outside of the plot are cut off, except at the main entrances to emphasize them.
- 4.5 (5) Spare columns are stacked on top of the existing grid to carry the additional floors.
- 4.6 (6) CLT beams span between the new columns.

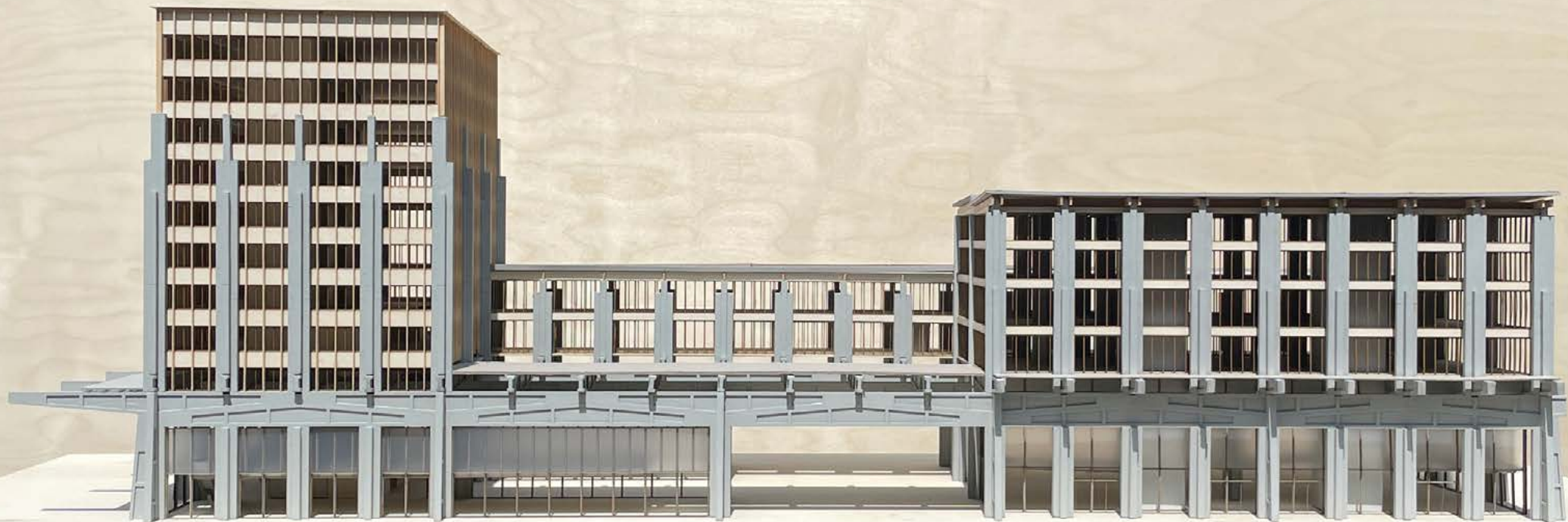


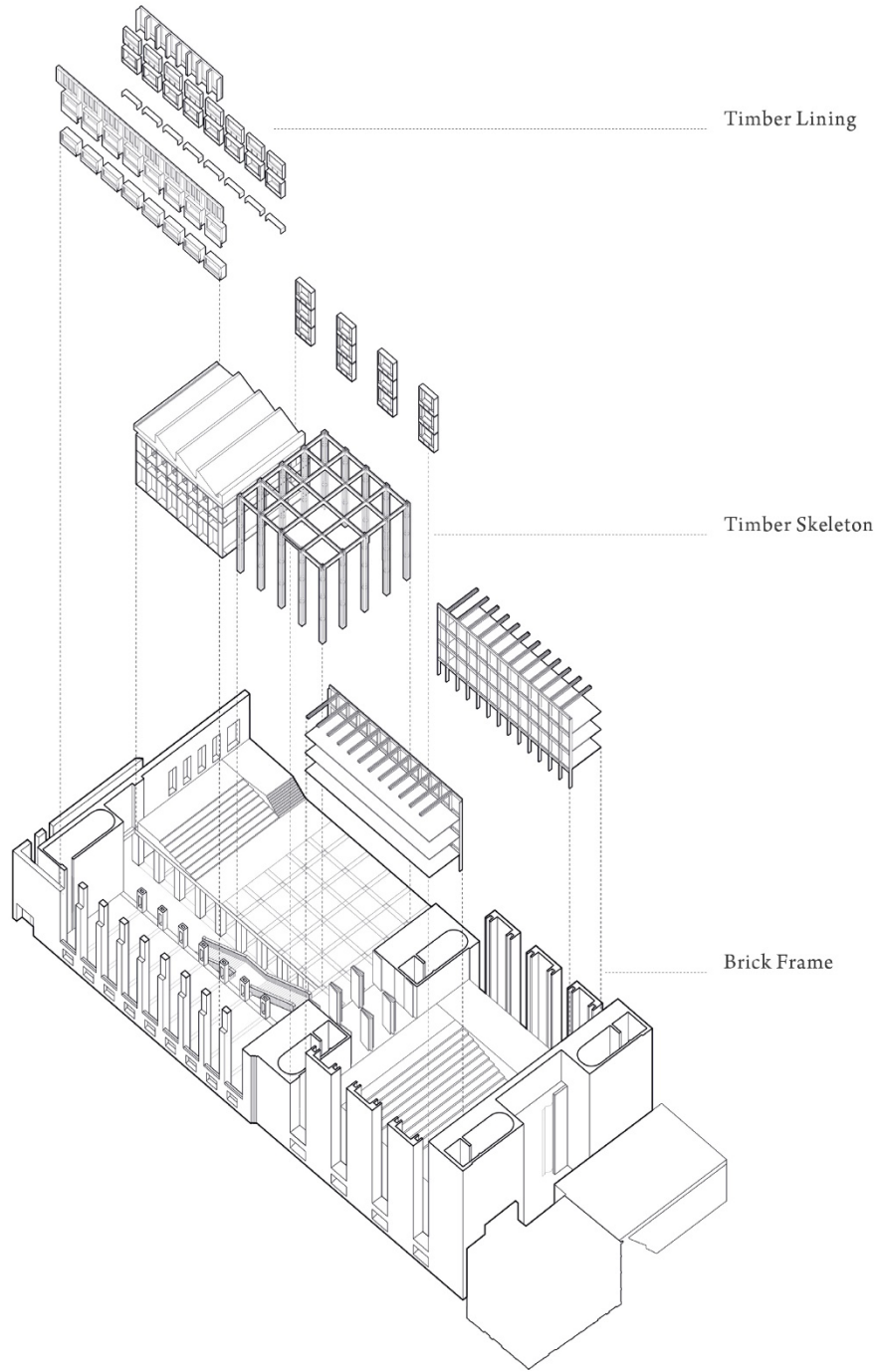
First of all, additional floors are needed. The original one storey structure was not designed to support eight more additional floors. We search for structural principles that connect and stack the prefabricated concrete elements using the existing grid.

Columns are combined by tying them together with steel belts in order to carry more loads. The load bearing capacity of the beams is increased by stacking them on top of each other and fastening them as well.

The original 11-metre-high factory hall becomes the plinth of a new high rise. Situated on the corner of two quays, the new high-rise serves as a recognizable beacon of the new neighbourhood.







Nesting of Elements



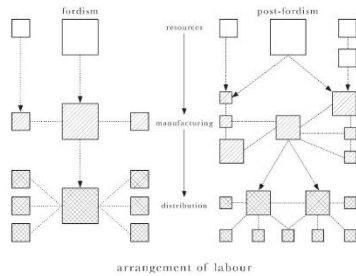
Timber Skeleton
Public Square Facade

thesis

Today the digital world gives everyone access to a vast network of resources and connectivity, which has brought about new modes of labour. Primarily Labour was a Fordist approach, where workers and resources would arrive at the place of work, and revolve around a rigid framework. New formations of labour are arising such as the 'gig economy', where free-lancers, home-workers and temporary jobs are more common. The industrial city was built around places of labour and at the heart of the civic realm.

"Glasgow history is in making, in craftsmanship. Its legacy is in buildings."
Toby Webster

My project attempts to create a new civic building in Merchant City, Glasgow, that accommodates space for creative practices to occupy and adapt. By bringing the act of crafting and creating into the public realm, the process can become the performance itself.



spatial organisation

The concept was to have a very open and accessible ground floor in which the public could access and view into creative hubs, who's program spills out into the public realm.

By creating an avenue through the site the intention would be to encourage people to walk through and explore. This central space also acts as the fly-tower, where people would see sets, unfinished constructions and artwork. Each hub of activity (Creation, Performance & Exhibition), act as pavilions sitting within a supporting mass of program.

tectonic strategy

Basing the structure around the program & activity, two structural grids formed. One open and flexible, supporting the main program with the intention to be adapted over time. The second being more rigid and permanent, acting as the servant spaces to afford high flexibility within the other.

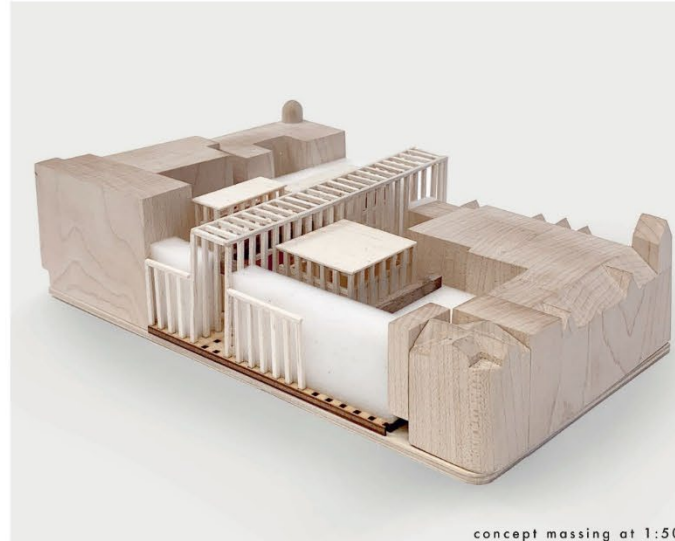
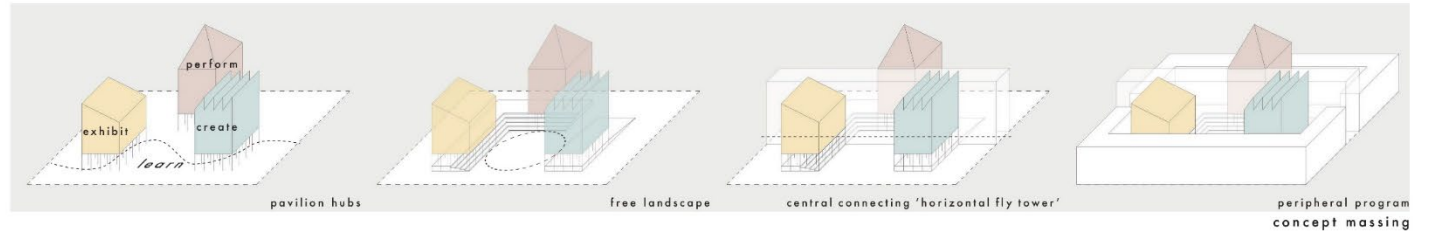
For the light structure, the use of timber would be suitable as it can be assembled and de-constructed by hand, and is typically the structure is very legible. By making the structure and connections readable (and also non-permanent), it might encourage users to adapt it to their activity.

For the heavier structure, the use of concrete blocks would achieve the mass intended to contrast the lighter frame, but also not feel too precious and again act as a legible "honest" structure.

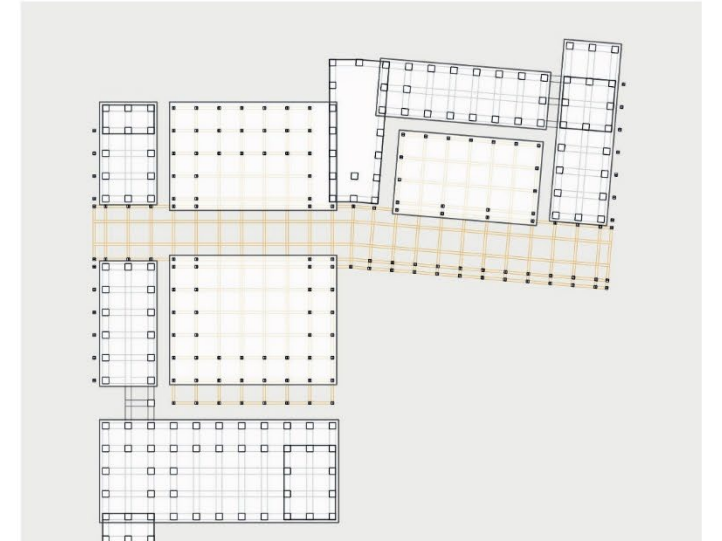
expected issues

Because of the deep plan and high surrounding built environment, bringing light into the structure will be important.

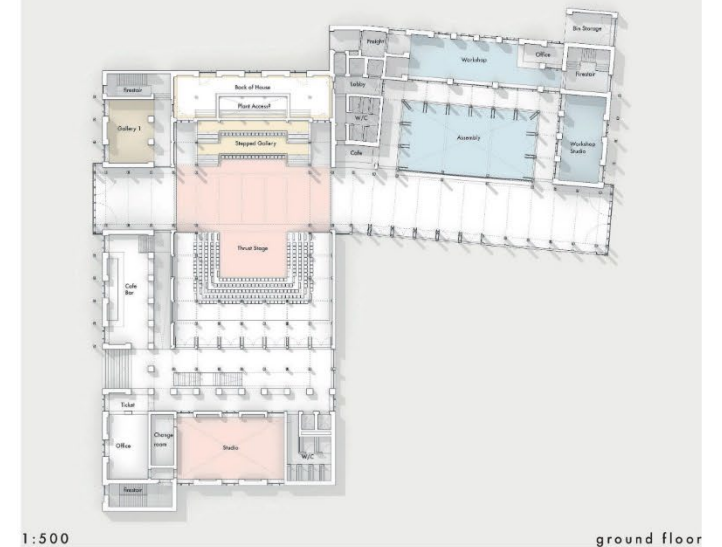
To achieve the size of spaces to accommodate the program, investigation into large spanning structures will be needed. Also heating and ventilating these spaces will be paramount, by differing the systems for each area of activity, a greater efficiency might be possible.



concept massing at 1:500



tectonic relation | structure to program



1:500

ground floor



timber skeleton precedent



masonry mass

AT_02

structure

timber structural strategy

The main structural issue is achieving the 19m high uninterrupted volume of the horizontal fly tower which is needed to carry gantry cranes, spanning a 7m distance.

Two glulam members of 100x300mm make up each column with a second row of column for carrying the facade and creating lateral stability. The horizontal span is achieved with glulam beams of 100x300, two beams connect each set of columns creating a deep truss.

Cross bracing cables are used for lateral stability acting as Whipple truss. The longitudinal structural stability is achieved through shear walls when the timber structure connects to concrete cores.

The primary vertical members are the glulam columns that carry the weight from the horizontal members to the steel flitch connection into the concrete substructure. Primary beams span between the columns with secondary beams spanning between each truss. Tertiary members support the floor-plates and facade build-up.

mass structural strategy

The use of concrete blockwork as structural brings problems in achieving the strength needed to carry the weight of the 3-4 story structure. Large 800x800 blockwork piers at 3m centres are used to carry the vertical load to the concrete substructure.

The structure must also span up to 8m in places, so the use of pre-cast concrete floor plates are used. The floor plates span longitudinally between each blockwork pier, a 1200mm deep beam carries the load from the floor plate while also incorporating a service zone, ribbed beam floor plates span between each beam (ribs 750mm deep at 1000mm centres, floor plate 250mm thick).

The blockwork piers act as the primary vertical member. The pre-cast floor plate has primary-tertiary members, with the primary load-path spanning between each column, the ribbed deck spanning between each primary beam, and the slab acting as a tertiary span for the floor build-up.

Sub | Super Structure

The substructure is made up of a pre-cast concrete plinth, which holds the basement and plant which rest on pile foundations.

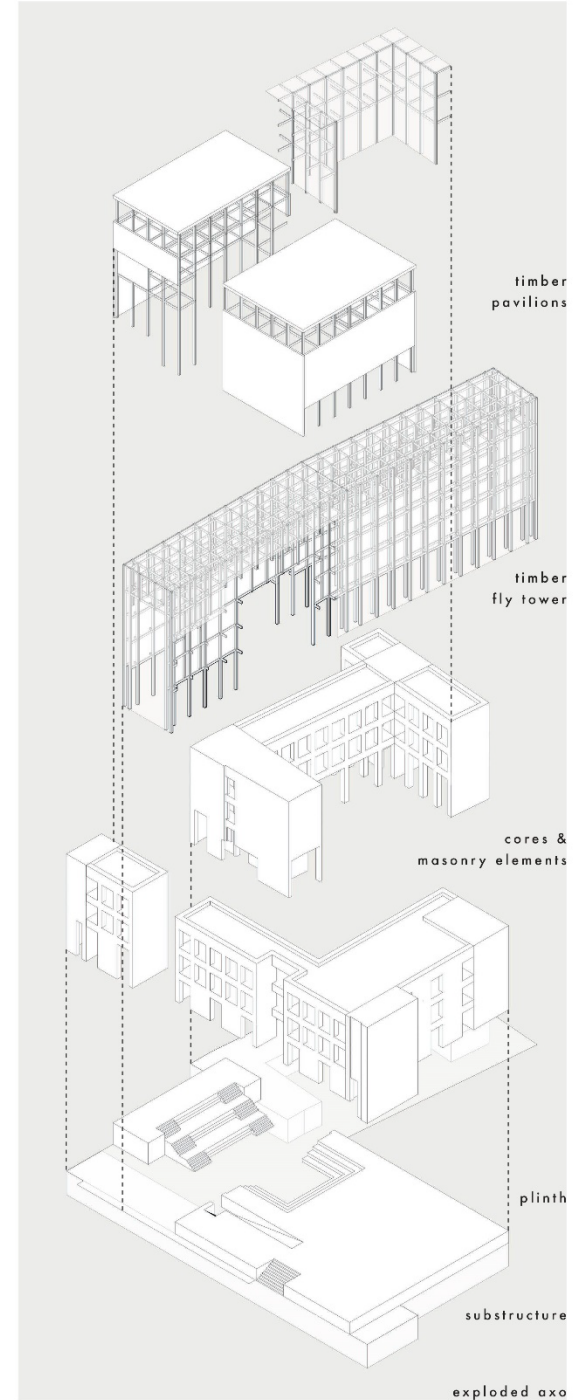
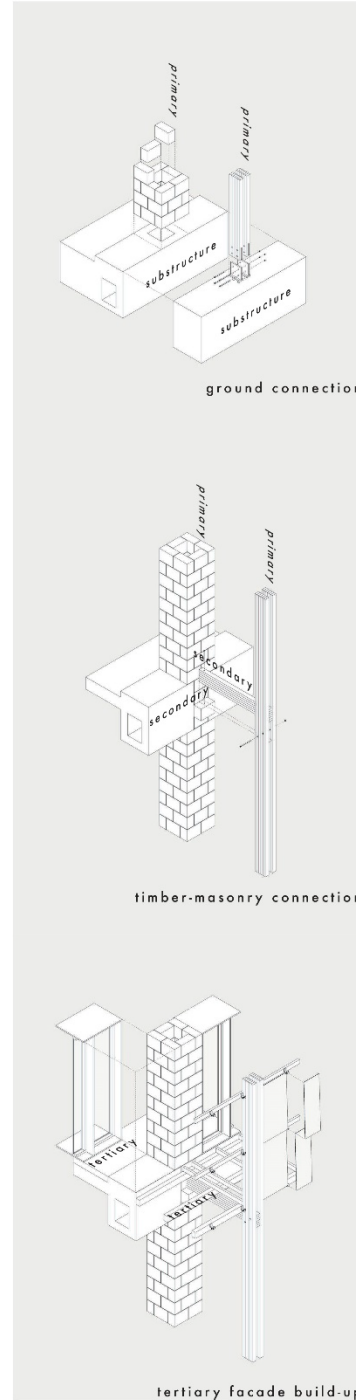
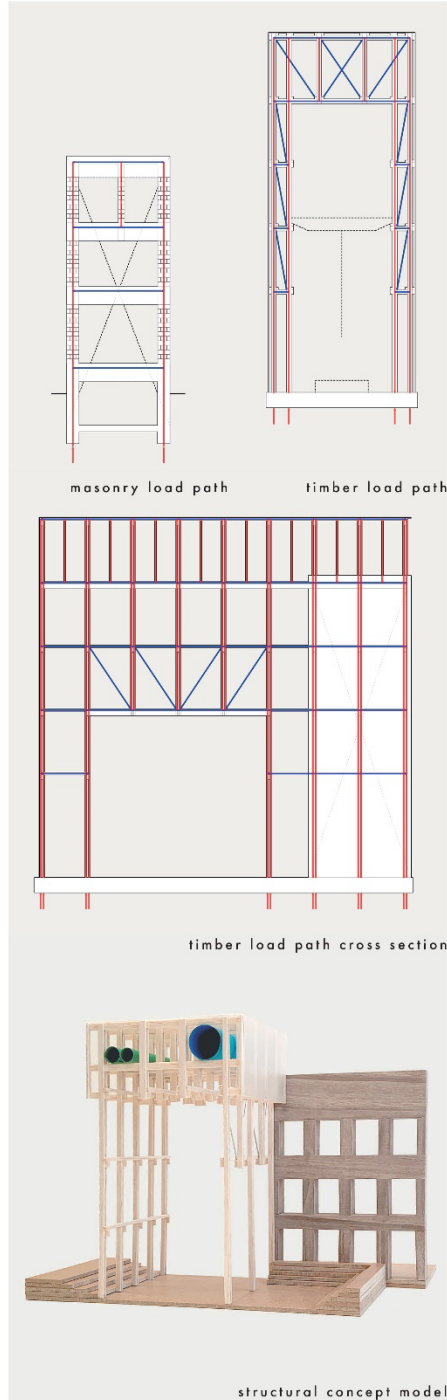
Concrete fire and wet vertical cores are constructed primarily at one end of each blockwork structure and along the timber fly-tower, to provide lateral stability through shear walls.

The blockwork and pre-cast floor-plate superstructure form the perimeter of the block, sitting on the plinth.

The timber fly-tower is constructed between the blockwork masses, which help with lateral stability and loading.

The timber pavilions sit between the fly-tower and blockwork masses. An extended block protrudes from the blockwork column to support the timber beam. The timber cladding and secondary structure help with lateral stability.

The exterior glass, timber and zinc skins sit on the timber and within the blockwork structure.



AT_04

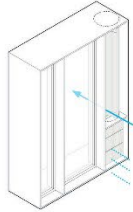
energy & environment

environmental factors

Due to the large size of the build and its spaces, ventilating and heating is integral to the design. To reduce the environmental impact of the building, less than half the building is heated regularly, with the larger spaces only being conditioned when in use.

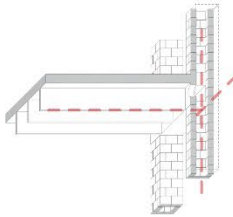
Integrated ventilation

The pre-built timber window boxes use built in openable shutters, plus passive ventilation through porous stone blocks to prevent drafts. Allowing the user to control their environment helps with thermal comfort.



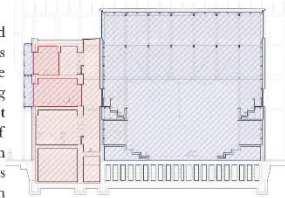
integrated services

The large blockwork piers are hollow to allow for vertical distribution of warm air extraction and mechanical ventilation. The deep floor-plates allow for servicing to run into each space. Electrical sockets drop from the ceiling to allow for open floor arrangement.



conditioned spaces

The layering of conditioned spaces help to reduce heat loss through the building fabric. The masonry portion of the building are heated with underfloor wet heating and the thermal mass of the floor helps to keep an even temperature. The large spaces are heated intermittently with dry heating, using a thermal labyrinth to warm the air and a heat exchanger to extract the heat from the stale air from the rest of the building. Plenum are used to pump heating under the seating.



water retention

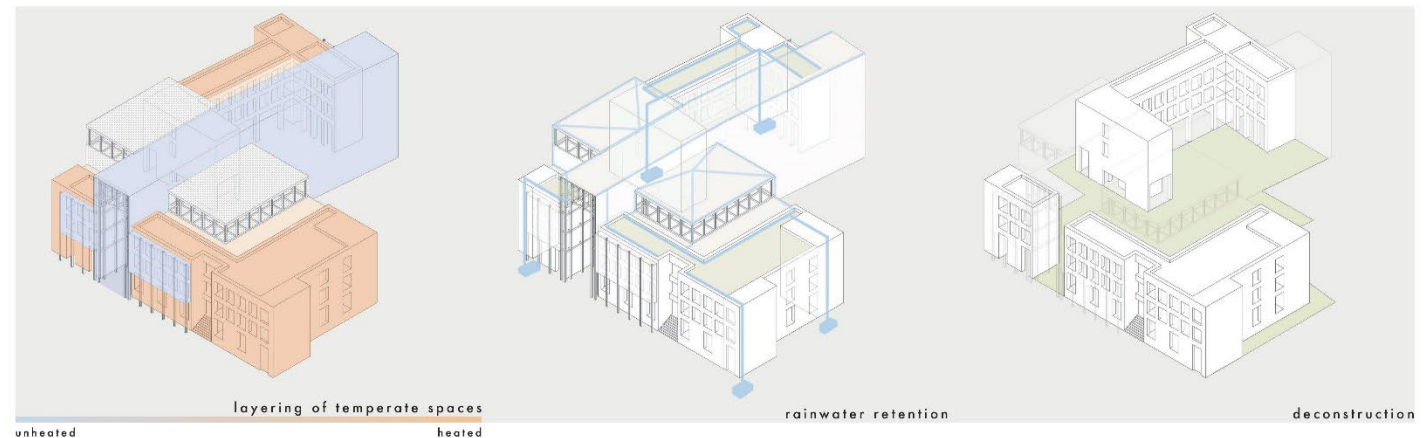
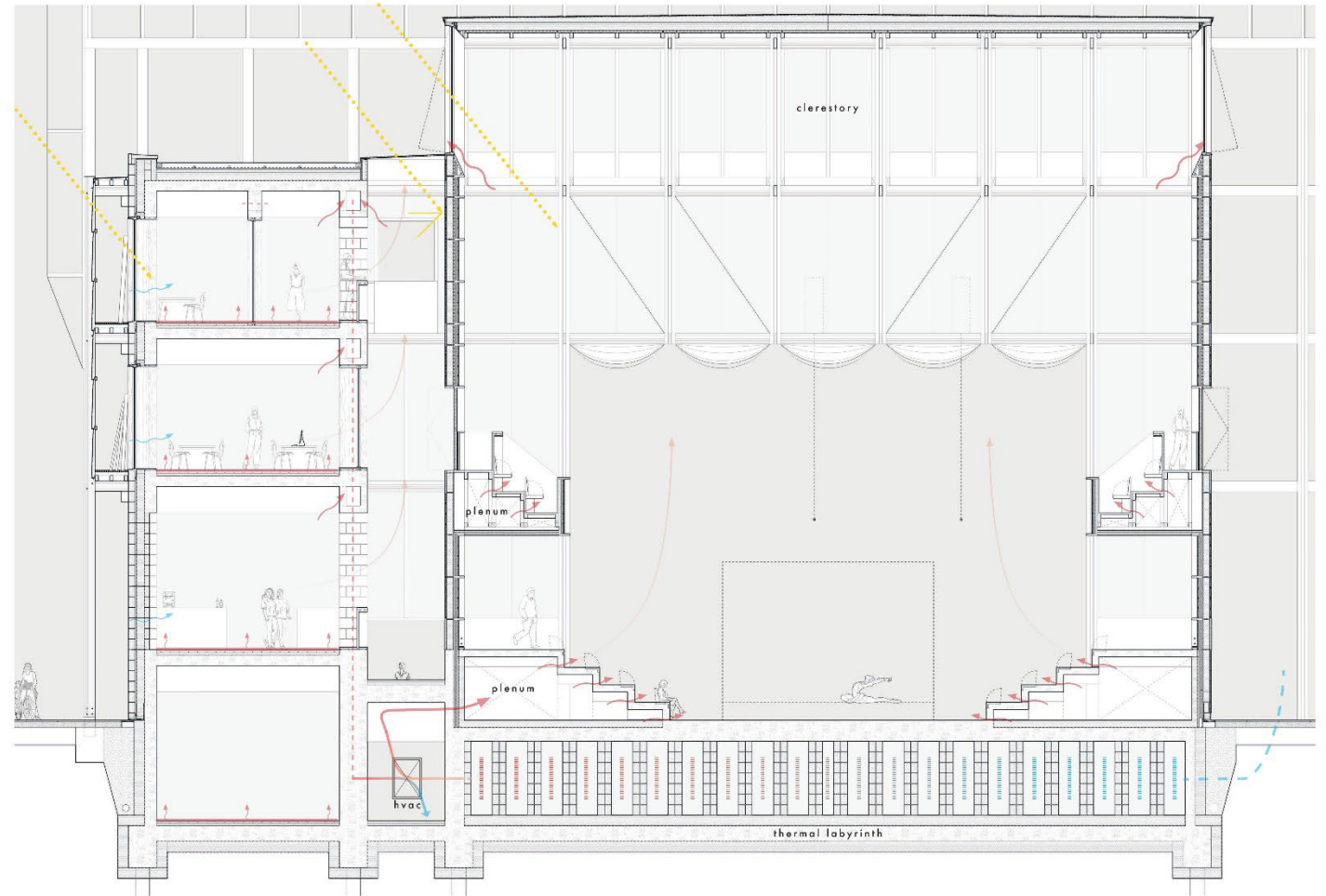
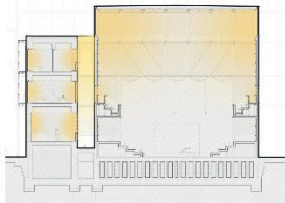
Green roofs help to retain the water, which is then distributed vertically through the wet cores and used for sink water and toilet flushing

future proofing

The building program aims to operate without the timber pavilions, if removed later in its lifespan. Lime mortar and pre-cast elements also allow for the building to be de-constructed.

light and environment

Due to the depth of the building and built up environment, the building is split up into thin floor plates to allow light to enter via atria. Each pavilion space has a clear story to allow top light through the timber structure.



unheated

heated

rainwater retention

deconstruction

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ARCHITECTURE AND THE CITY

- 15 credit **design studio** course and a 7.5 credit **knowledge course**
- A **collaborative studio** addressing **urban, architectural** topics across a **range of scales**.
- Theme is **Transforming the Zwischenstadt (or In-Between City)**
- **5th Year Students** – will be encouraged to develop ideas and themes that they can develop further into their masters thesis semester.

Previous student work examples:

[JOINT STUDIO NTNU \(cargo.site\)](#)