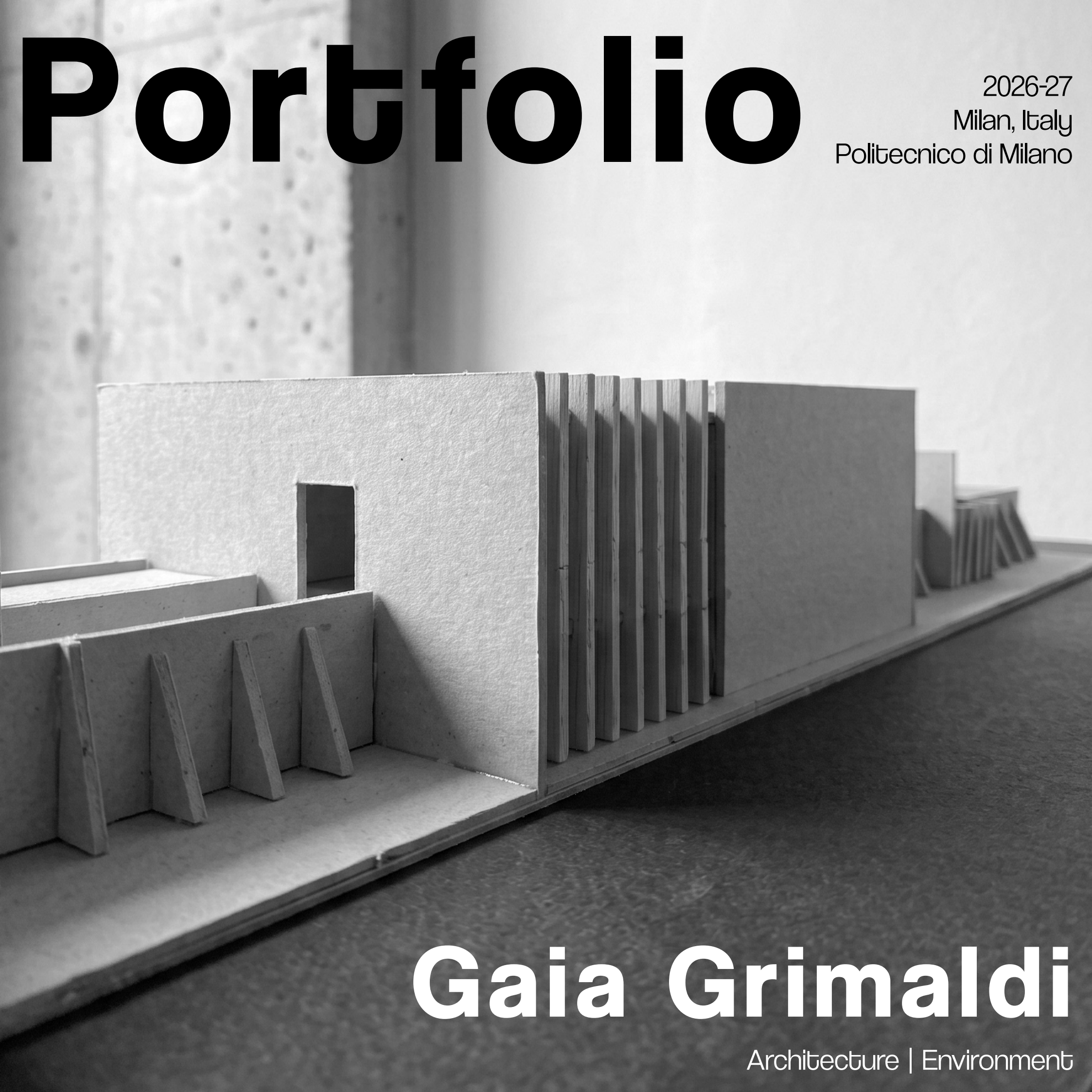


Portfolio

A black and white photograph of an architectural model. The model is constructed from light-colored, textured material, possibly cardboard or paper. It features a series of vertical slats or fins of varying heights, creating a rhythmic pattern. A small, rectangular opening is visible in the upper part of the model. The model is placed on a dark, flat surface, and the background is a light, textured wall.

2026-27
Milan, Italy
Politecnico di Milano

Gaia Grimaldi

Architecture | Environment

CV

About me

Hi! I'm Gaia Grimaldi, a Master's student in Architecture and Environment at Politecnico di Milano.

I believe that contemporary architecture has a clear purpose: to respond to human needs rather than becoming an exercise in aesthetics for its own sake. Today, these needs are increasingly shaped by the challenges of climate change, and I believe that the construction sector has a crucial role to play in addressing them.

I am particularly interested in exploring how the study and analysis of architectural design choices, both compositional and technical, can contribute to more conscious, sustainable, and forward-thinking architecture. I see design as a continuous process of research and critical thinking, aimed at developing solutions that respond to the needs of our time while shaping a more responsible relationship between people, buildings, and the environment.



Contact

Email

gaia.grimal@gmail.com

Phone number

+39 3335809809

Linkedin

www.linkedin.com/in/gaiagrimaldi

Portfolio website

gaiagrimaldi.it

Professional experience

2025-2026 Office Design for CDLAN, Milan

Design for flexible offices, open-plan spaces, and coworking.

2024 Internship at Atelier Alessandro Traldi, Milan

Design competition for a university

2022 Internship at Studio Alberto Grandi, Busto Arsizio (VA)

Autocad drawings

2021 Internship at Ferrante Associati, Milan

Rendering for a notary firm

Education

Master’s Degree in Architecture and Environment at Politecnico di Milano

Attending

Bachelor’s Degree in Architectural Design at Politecnico di Milano

110/110

Artistic High School - Architecture program

100/100

Languages

Italian	English	French
Native	C1	Basic

Software

Autocad	
Archicad	
InDesign	
Illustrator	
Photoshop	
Rhino3D	
Grasshopper	
Twinmotion	

Skills

Visualization

Quickly create diagrammatic visualisation

Teamwork

Experience in group projects

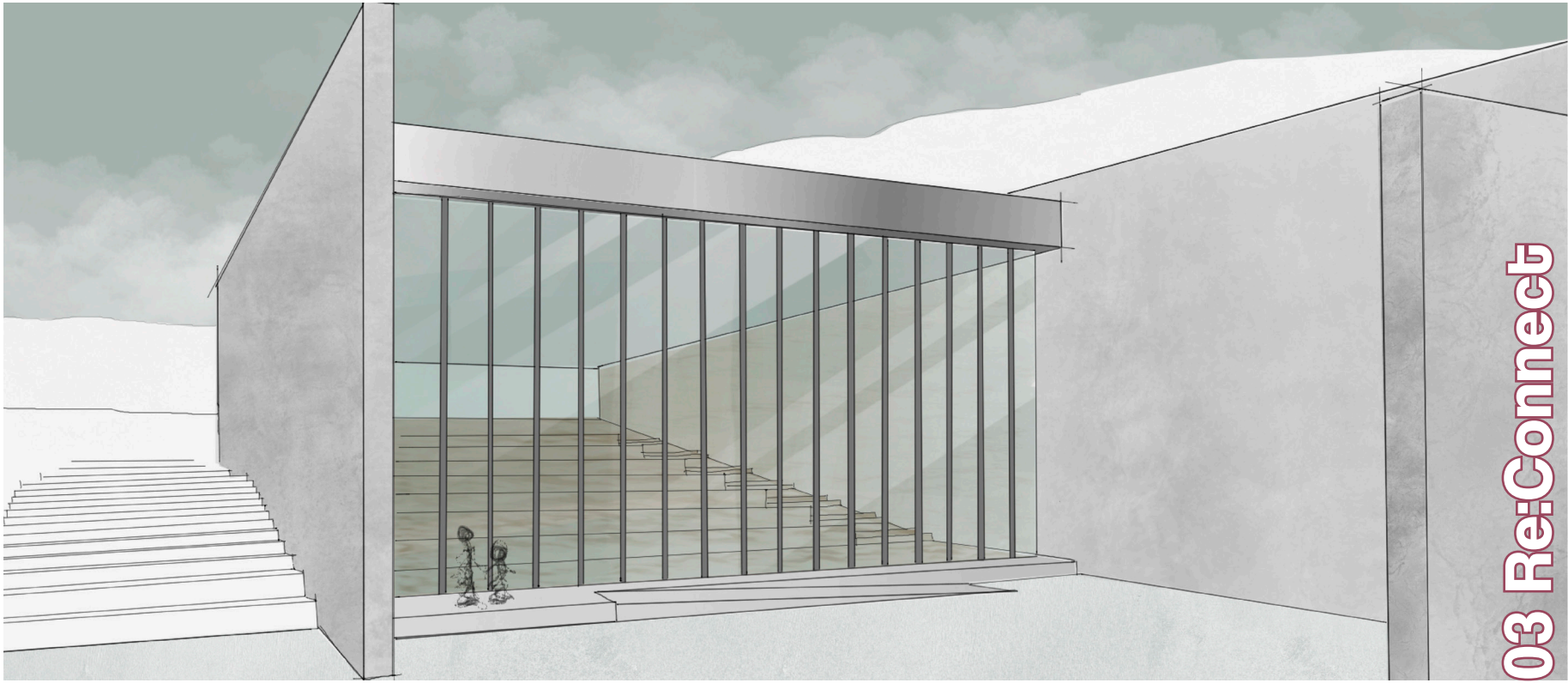
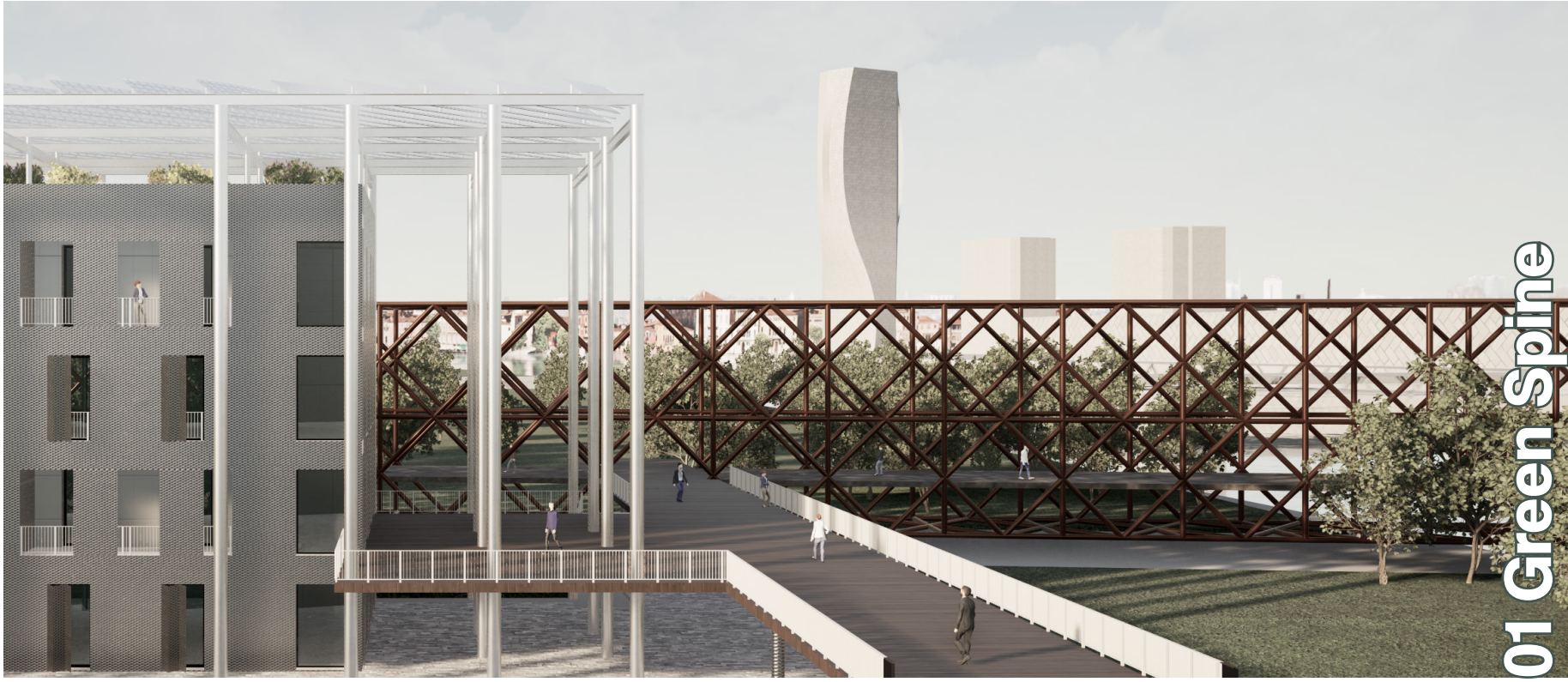
Analyses

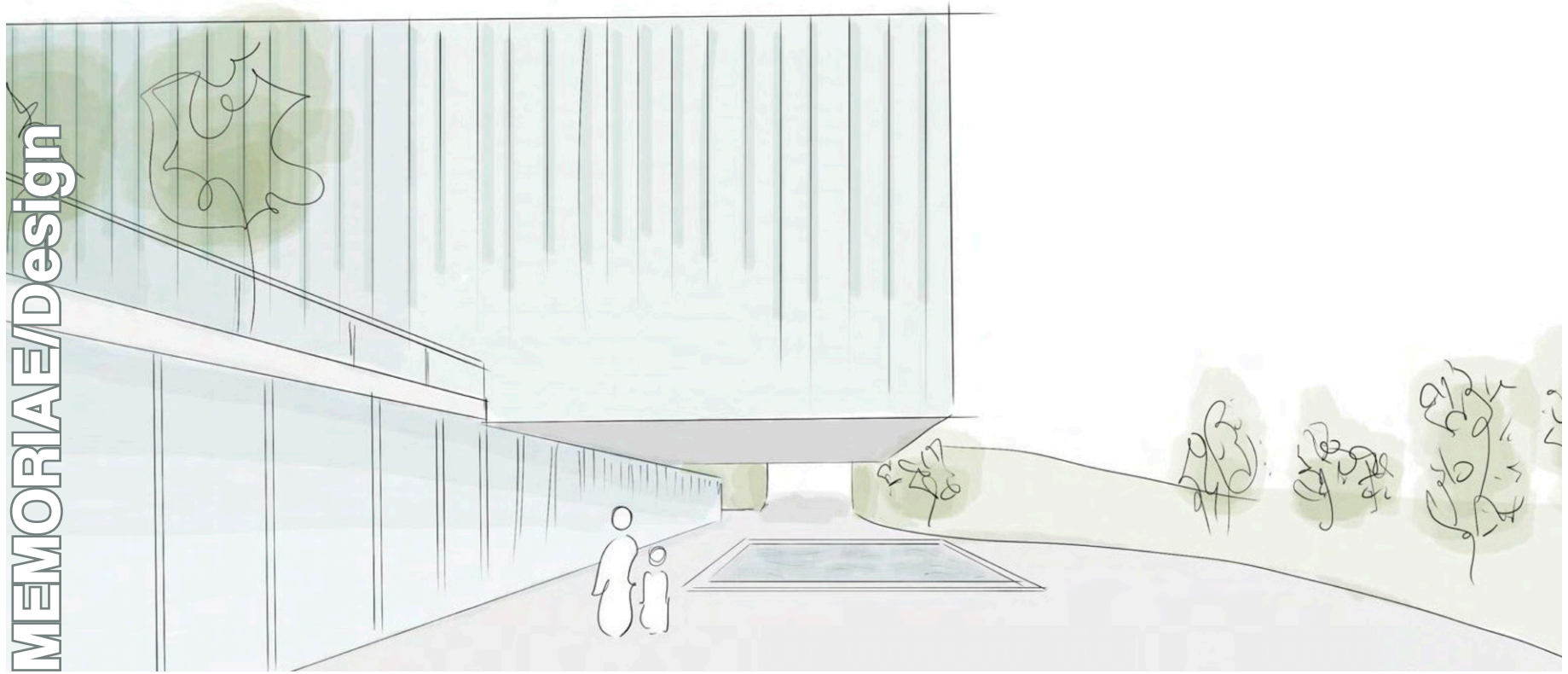
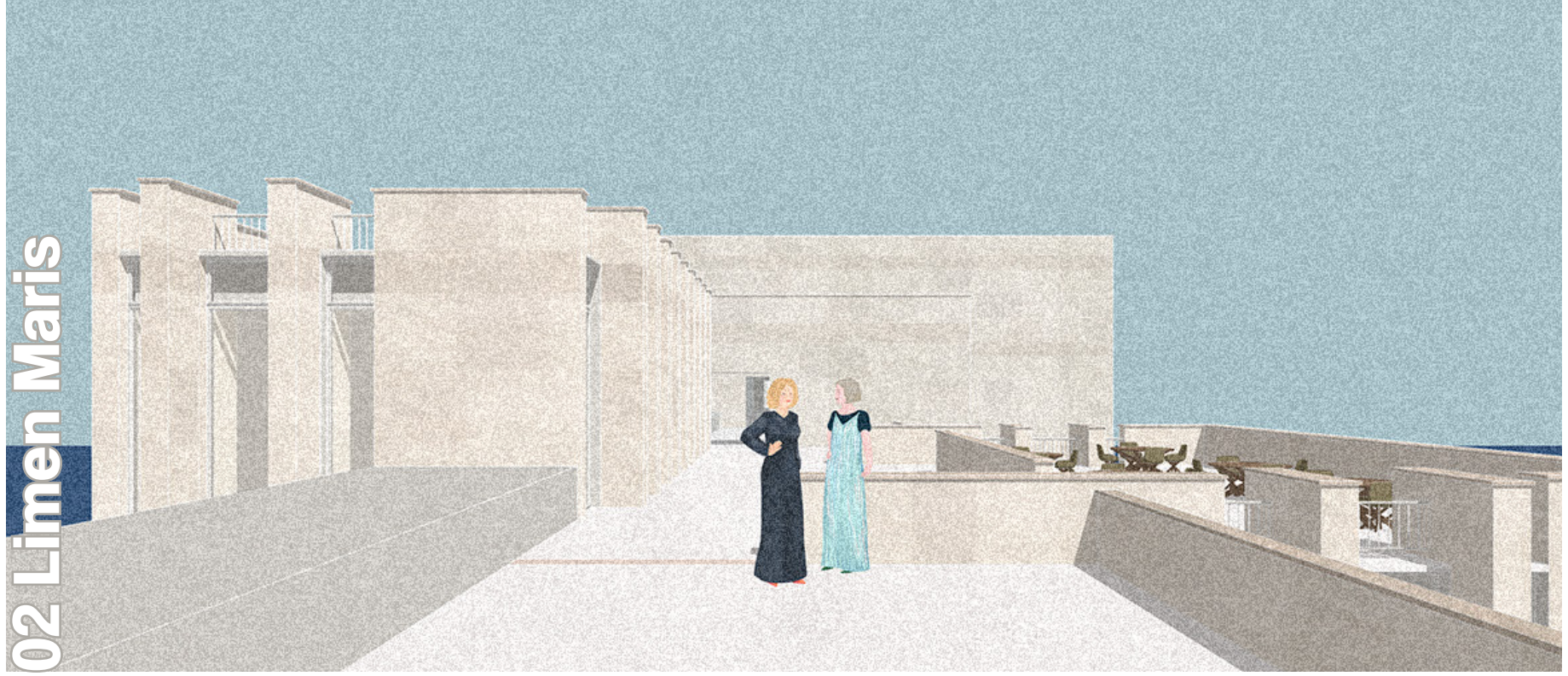
Building Physics and LCA (Grasshopper and One Click)

3D Modelling and Rendering

Also with AI, to optimize daily work

Index





Green Spine



Year

2025-2026

Location

Serbia, Belgrade

Typology

Residential, Sport

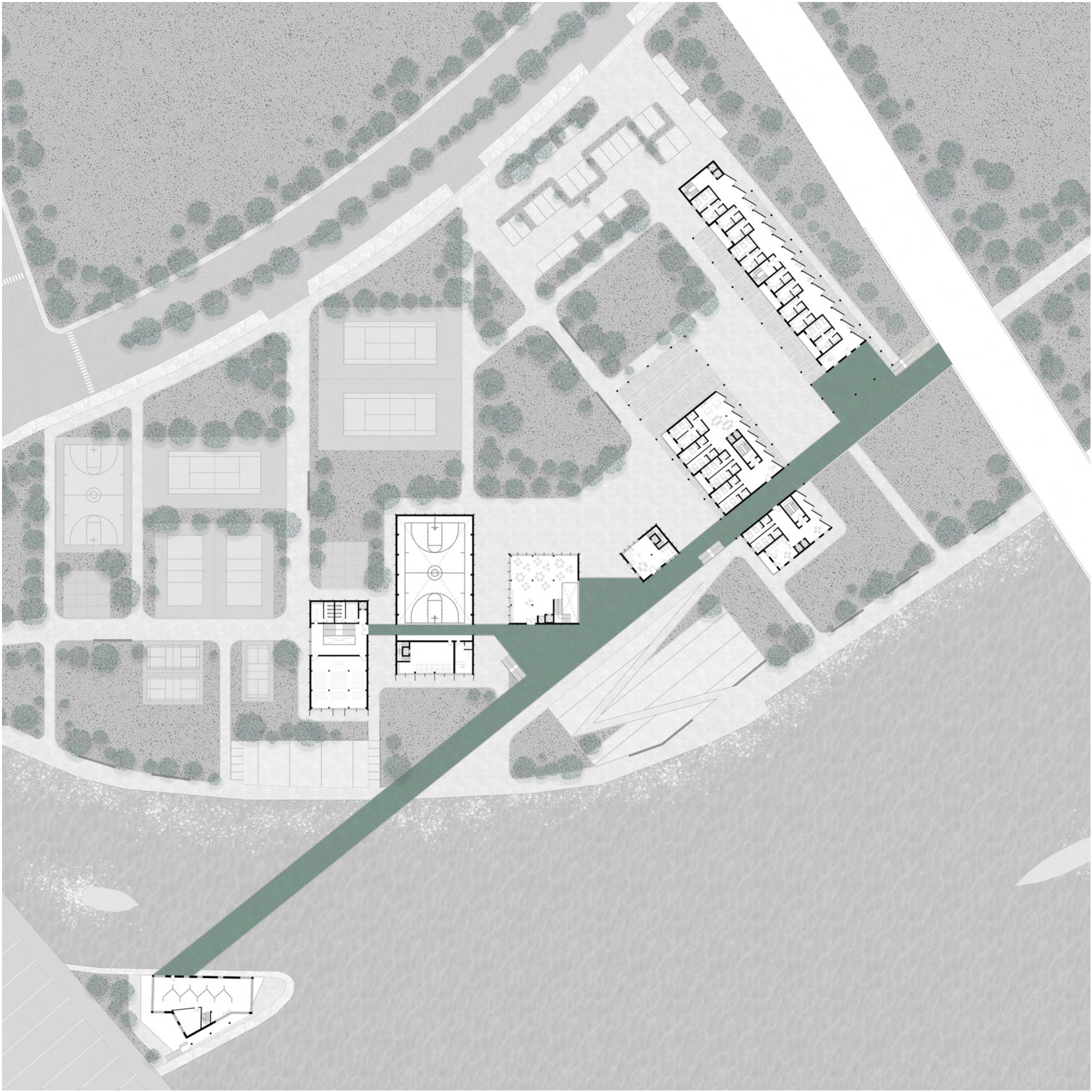
Competition

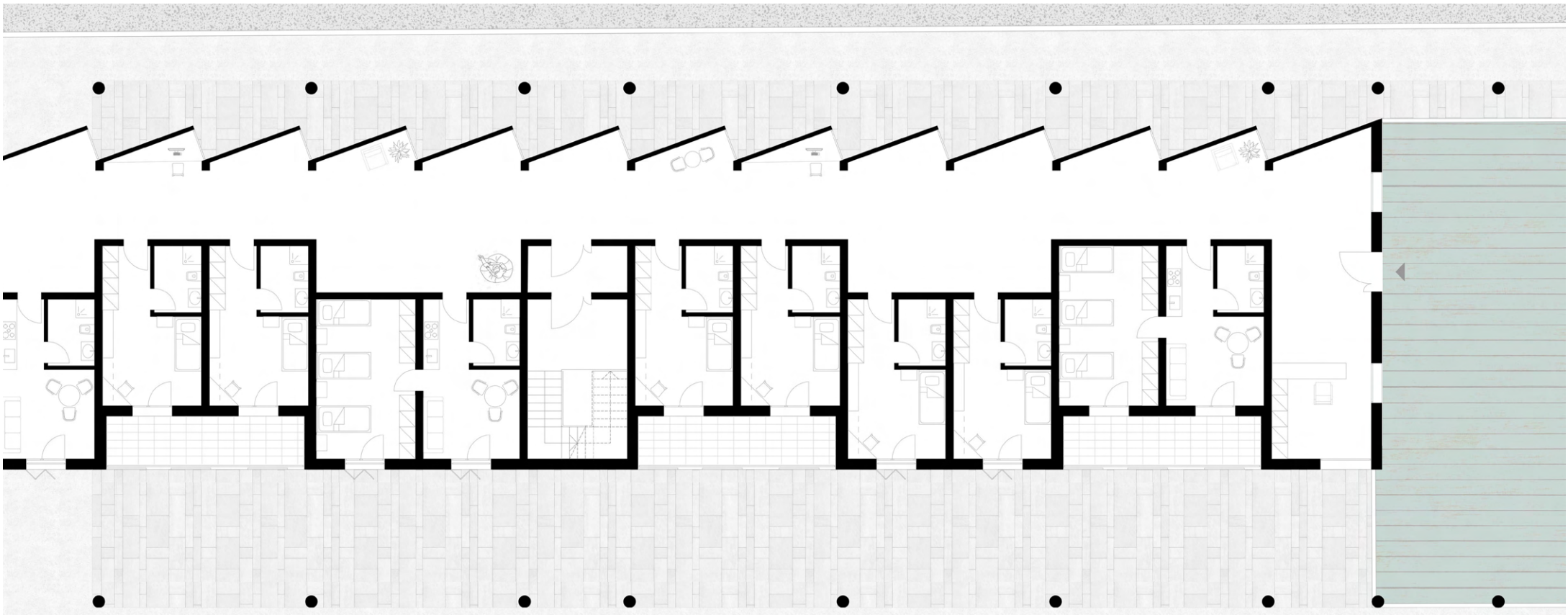
Saint Gobain Student Contest

Professor

Andrea Campioli, Niccolò Aste, Amra Salibegovich



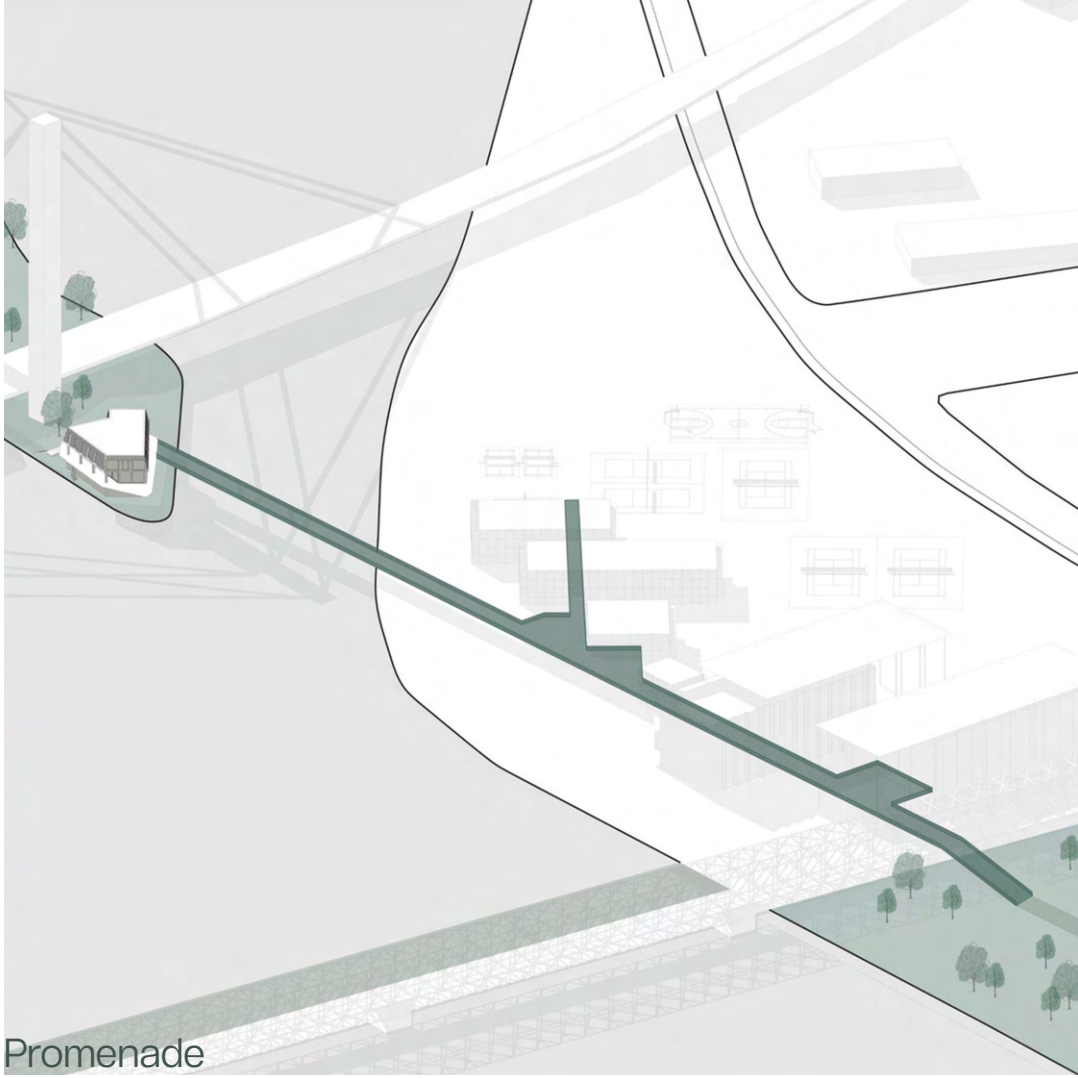
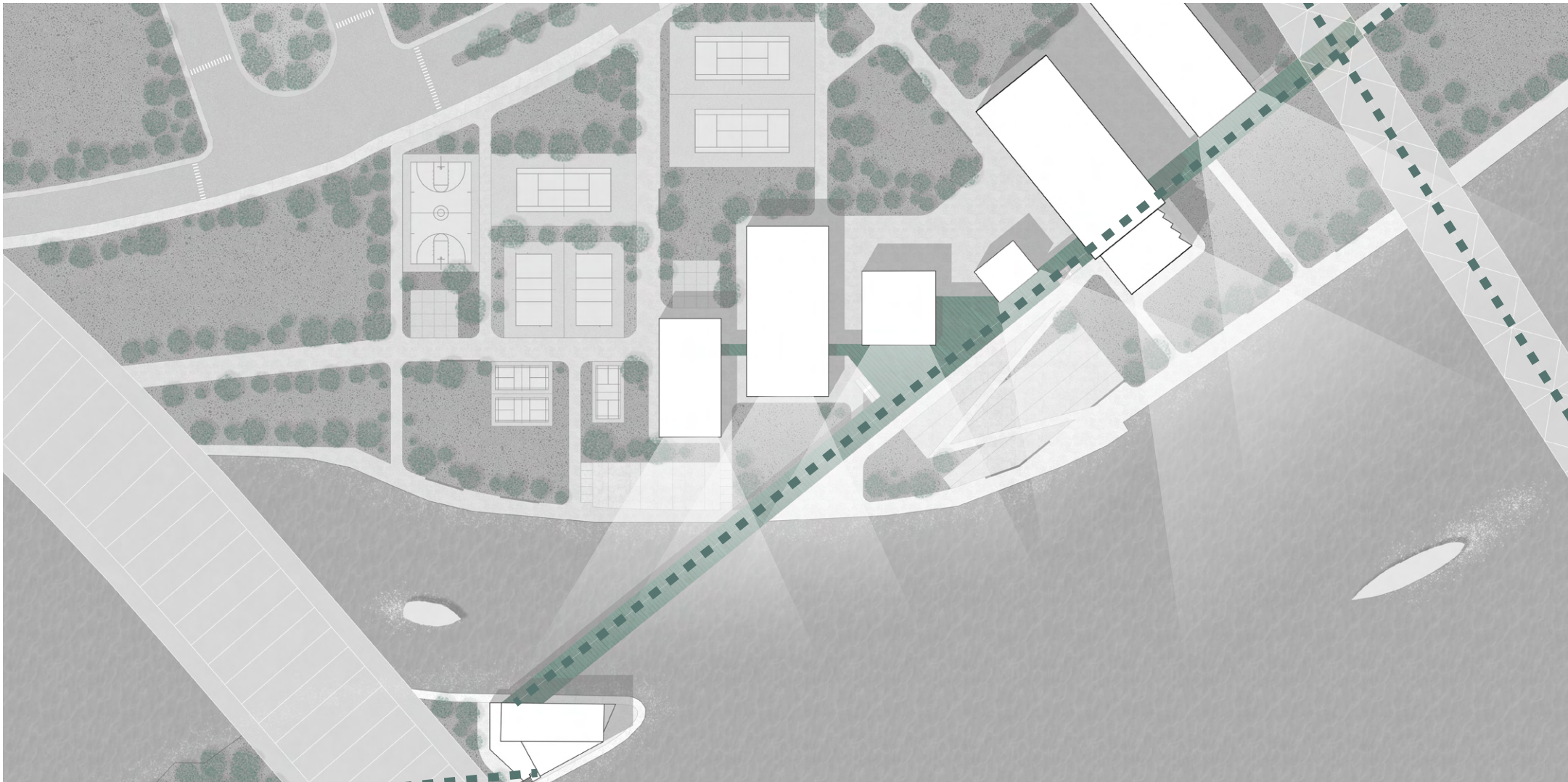




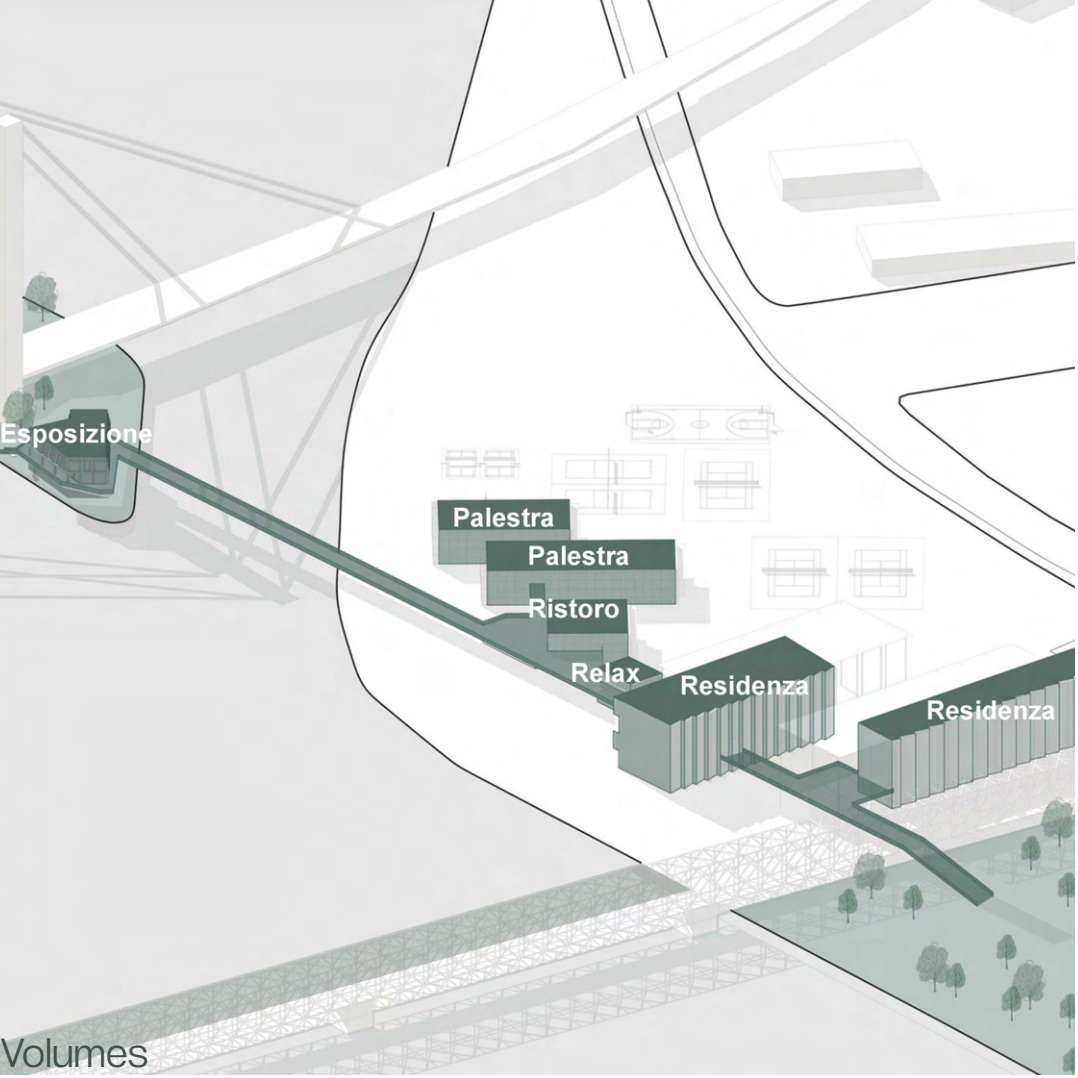
Residential Building 1



Room's flexibility and adaptability



Promenade



Volumes

Project description

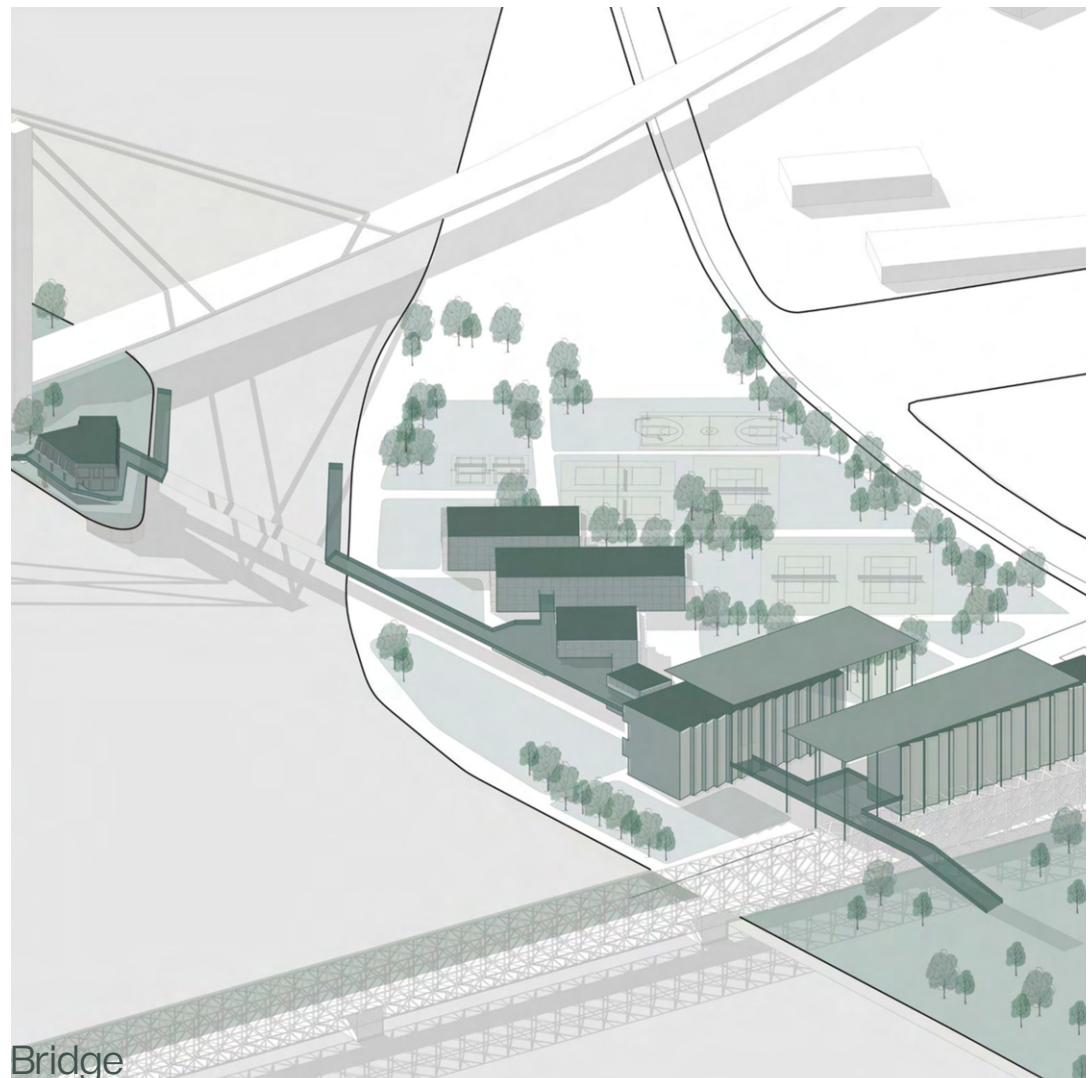
The architectural strategy is built on three pillars: **reconnecting** green areas by overcoming physical barriers, **enhancing** existing landmarks like the yachting club, and **integrating** diverse urban scales.

The residential buildings incorporate **flexible and adaptable solutions** and technologies designed to accommodate a changing number of athletes over time. The different orientations of the public and private buildings inform distinct architectural and technological design strategies. The public buildings feature elements that provide **solar shading** during the summer while maximizing **solar gains** in winter. The residential buildings incorporate loggias and movable shading systems, as well as **solar pergolas** designed to meet the energy demand of the entire complex, analyzed through **Ladybug Tools** for Grasshopper.

The technological solutions were also assessed through a Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) of the buildings using **One Click LCA software**.

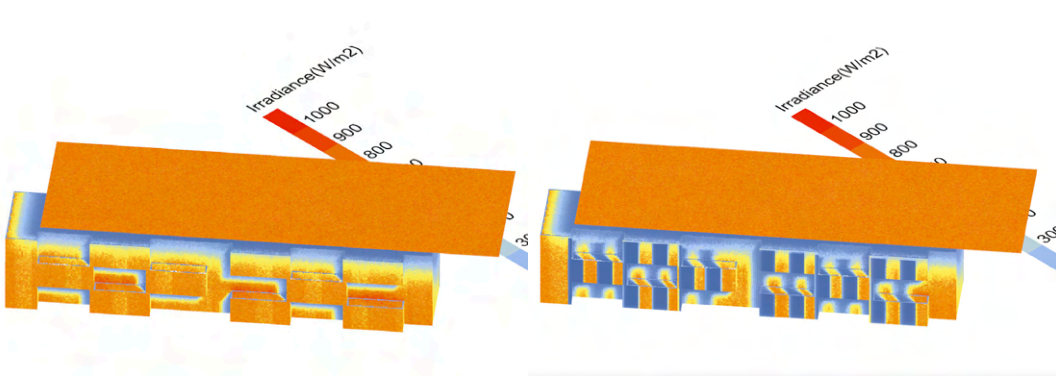
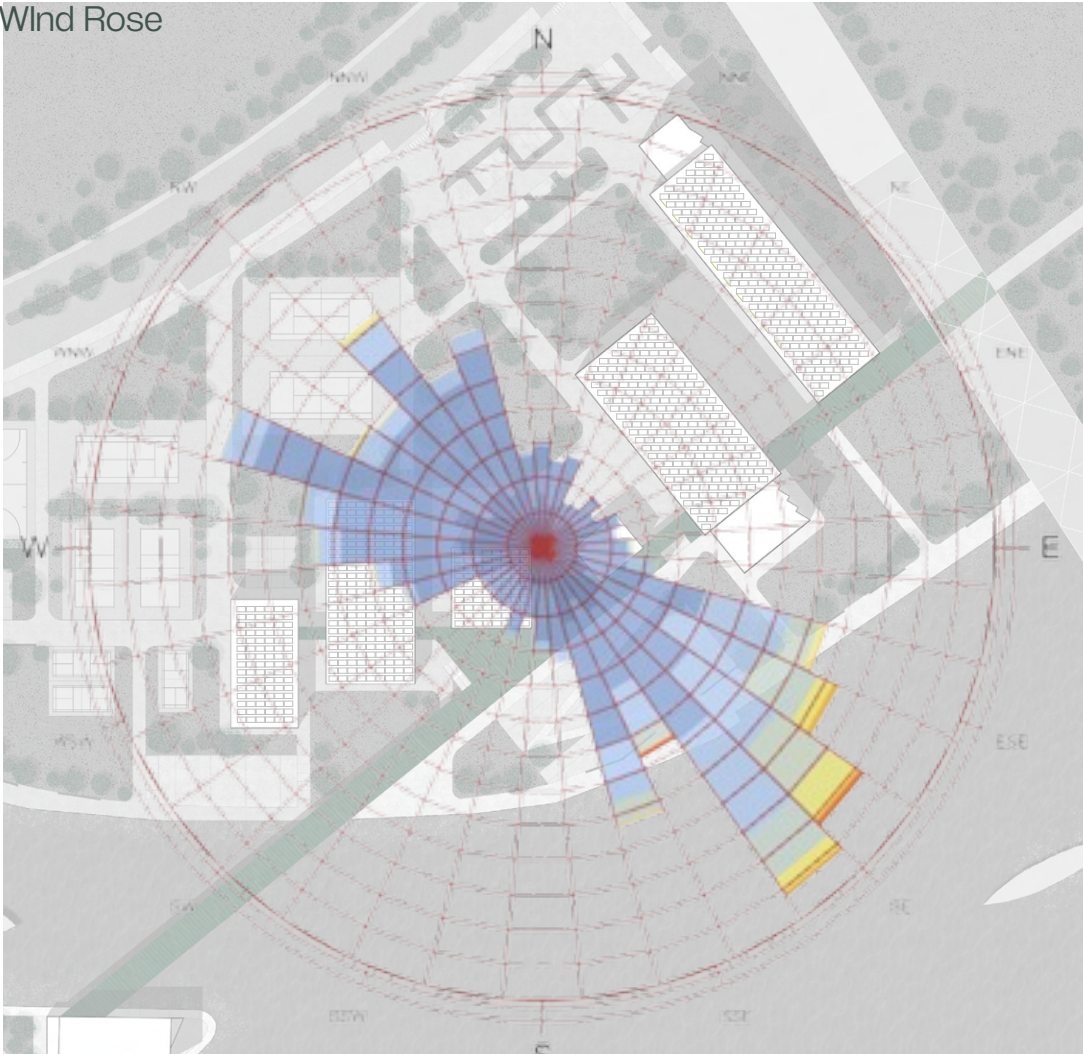


Landscape

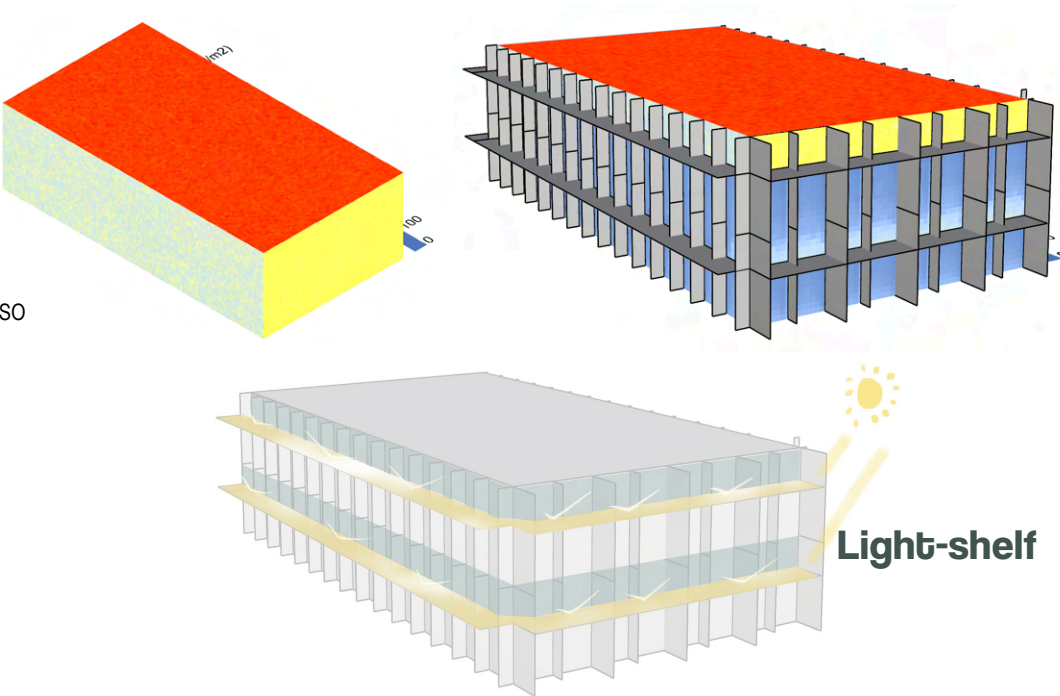


Bridge

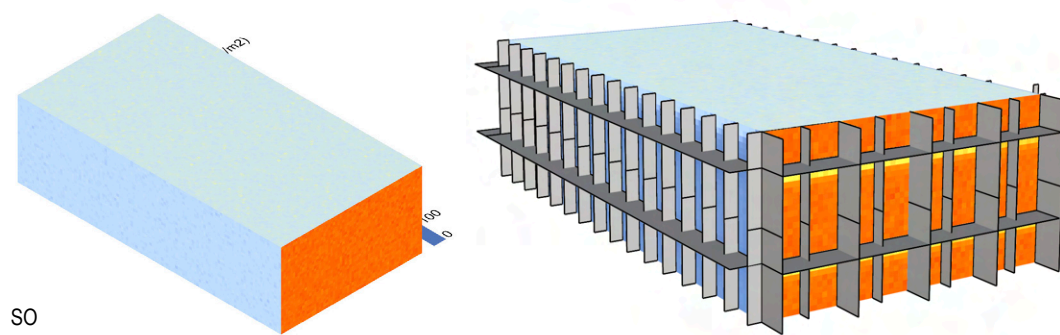
Wind Rose



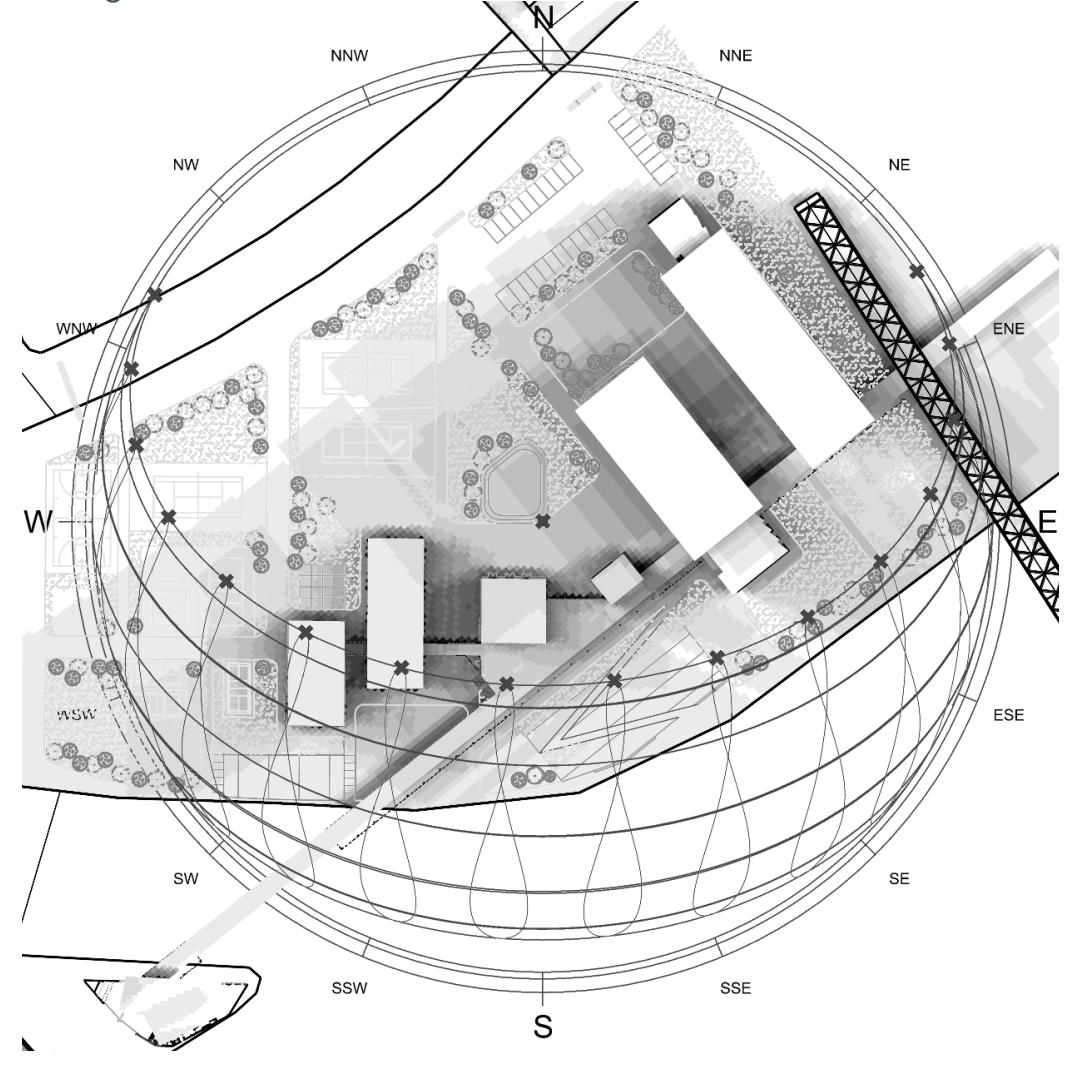
Summer Solstice



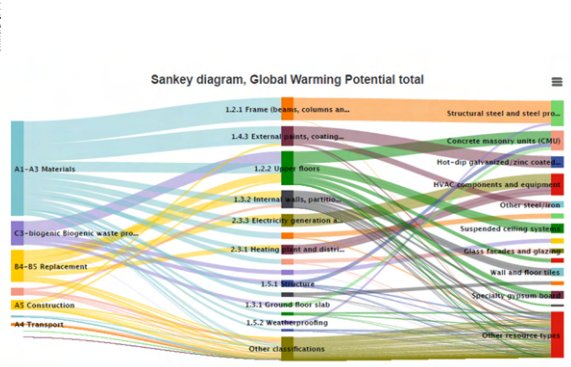
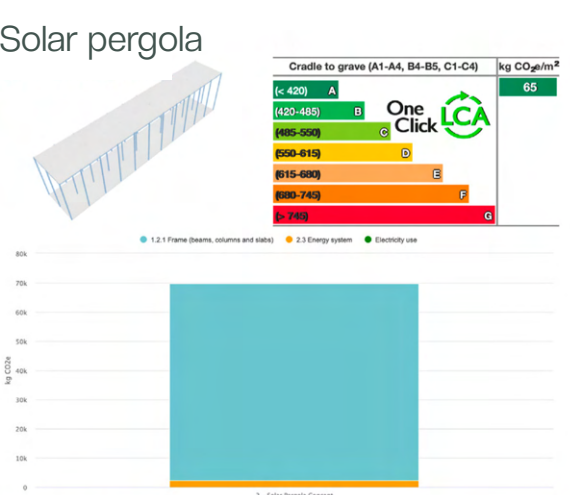
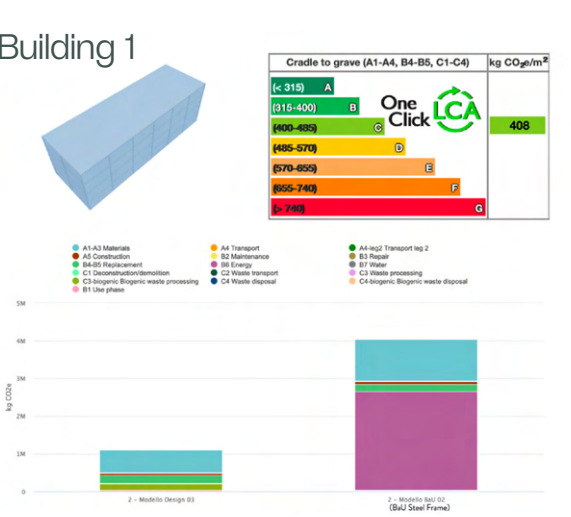
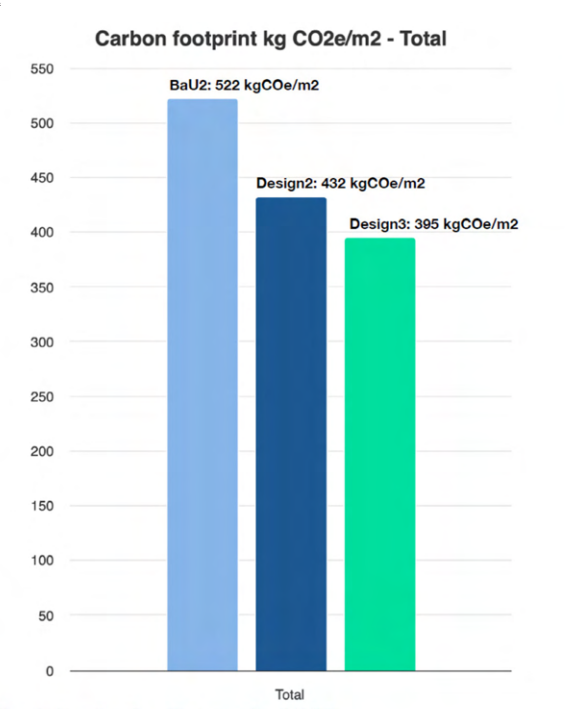
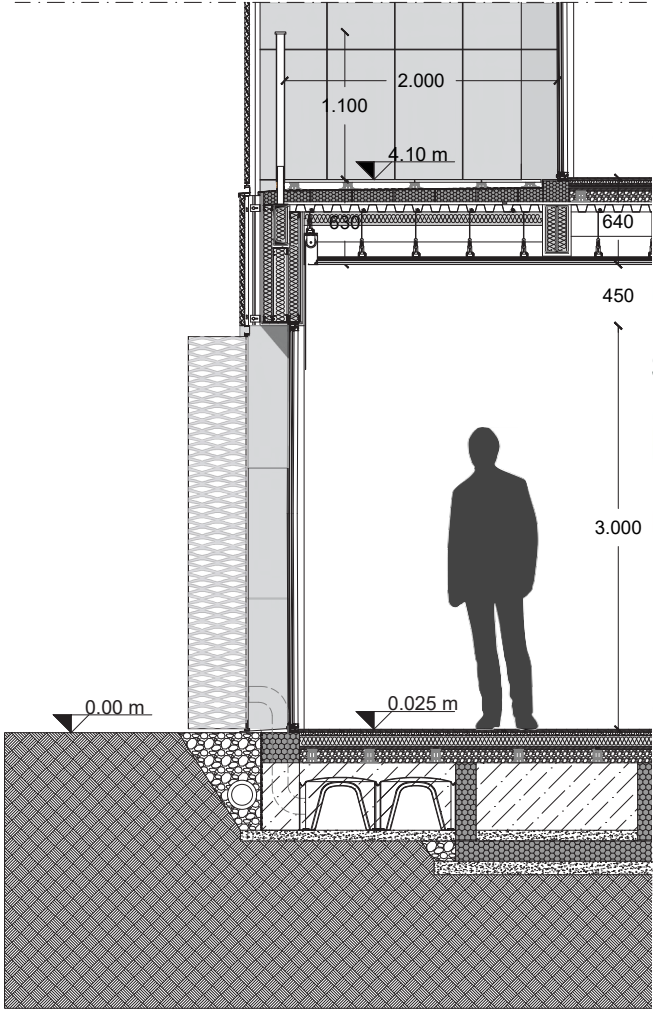
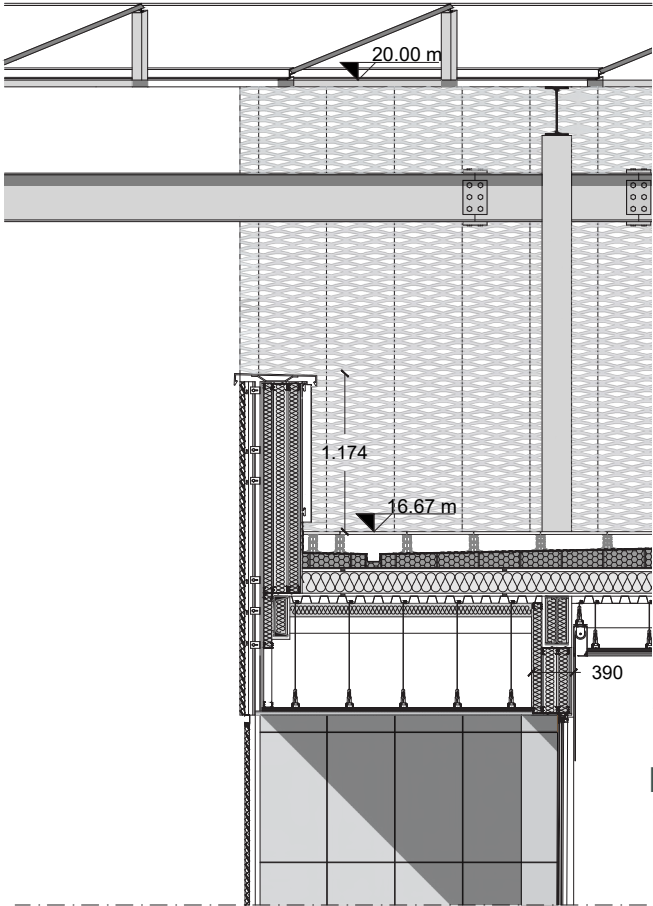
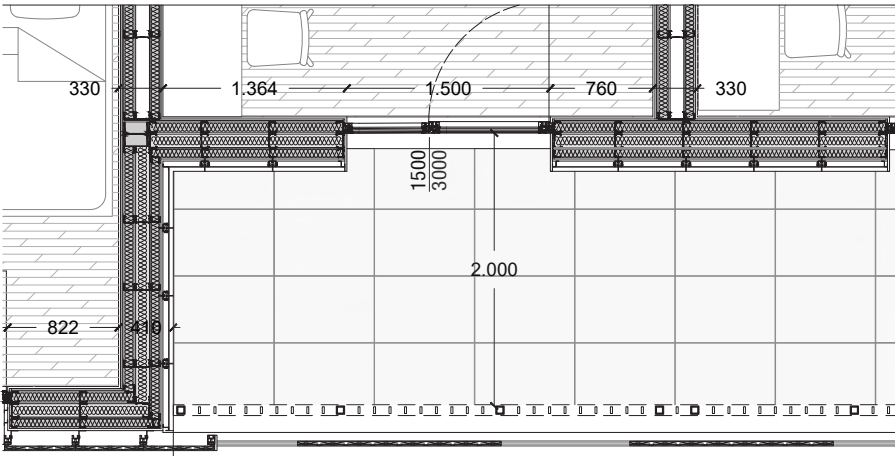
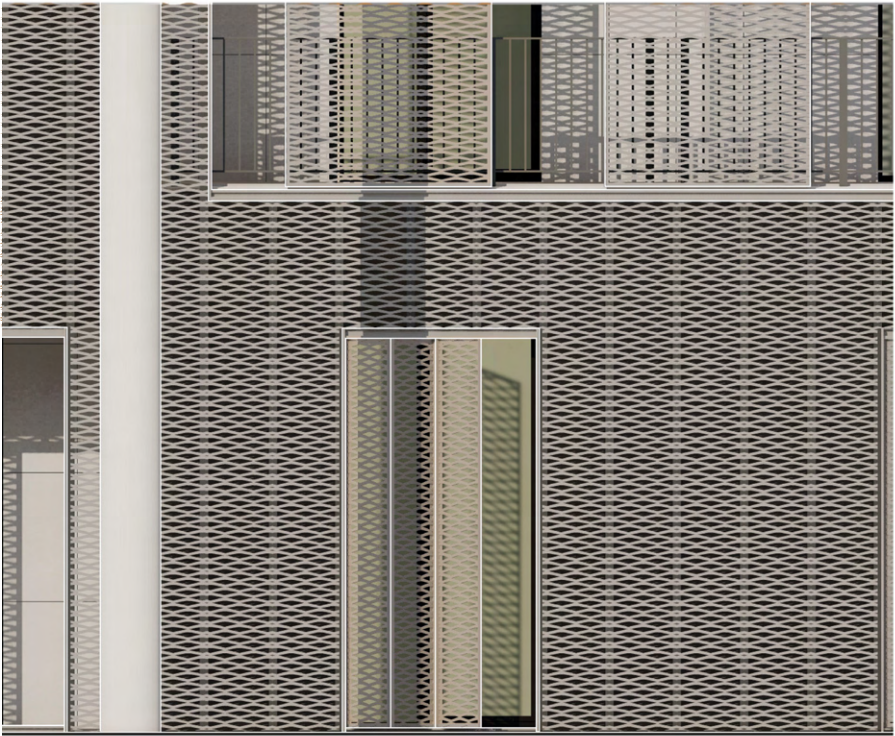
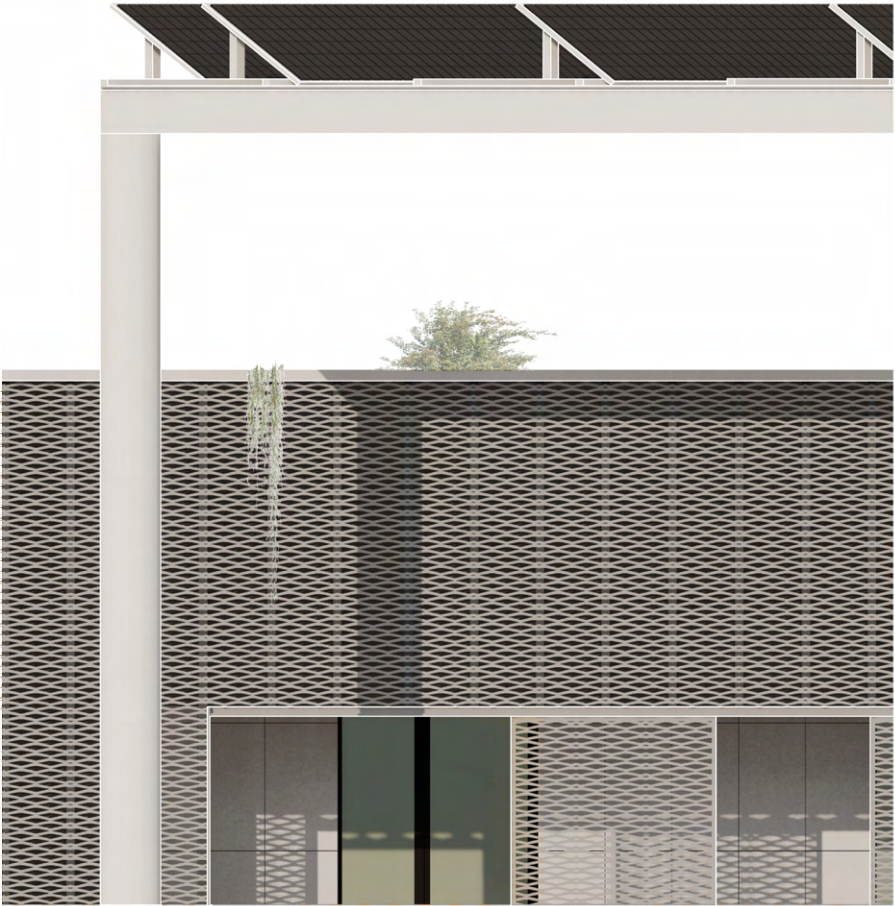
Winter Solstice



Shading



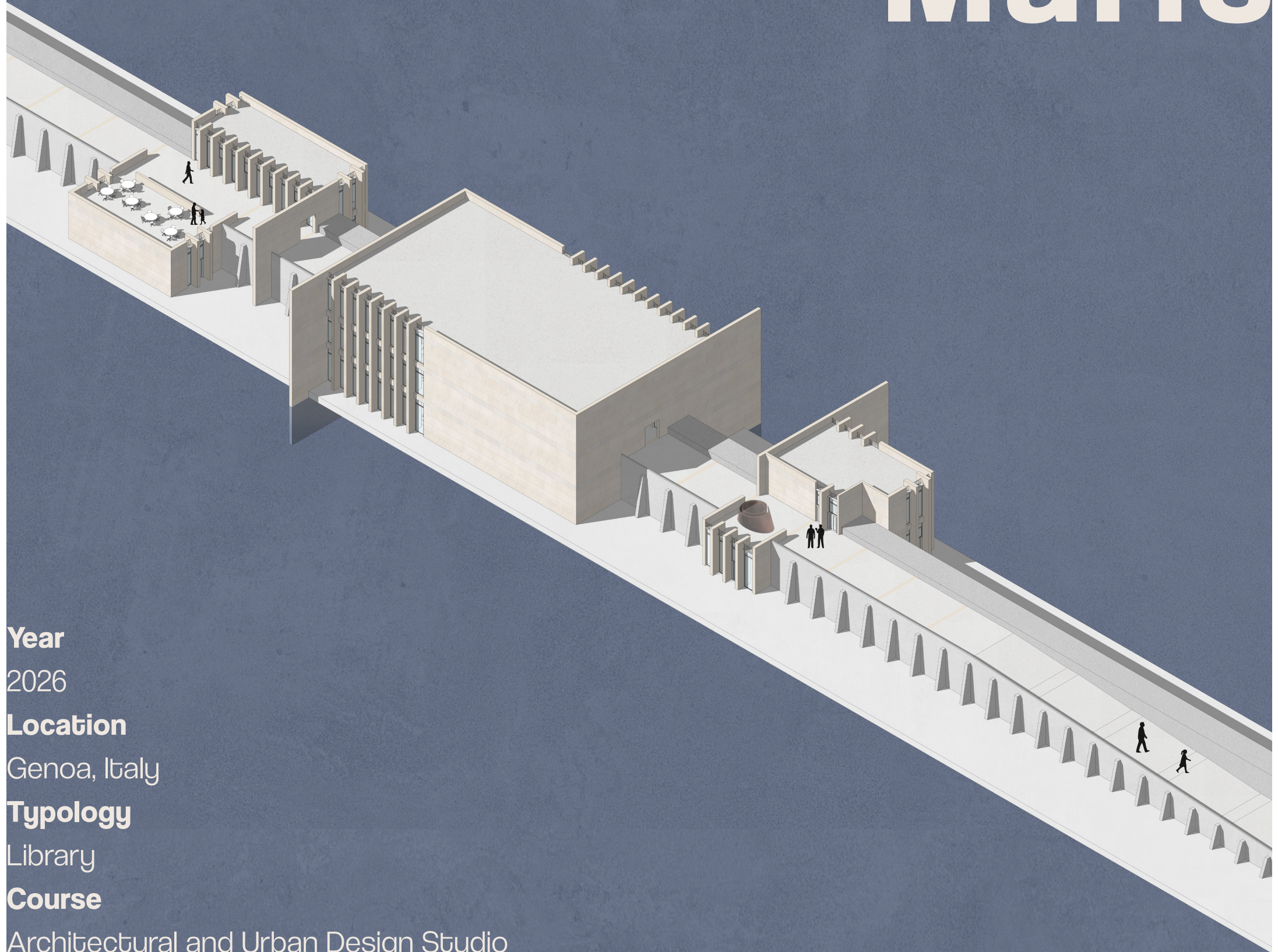




Detail



Limen Maris

**Year**

2026

Location

Genoa, Italy

Typology

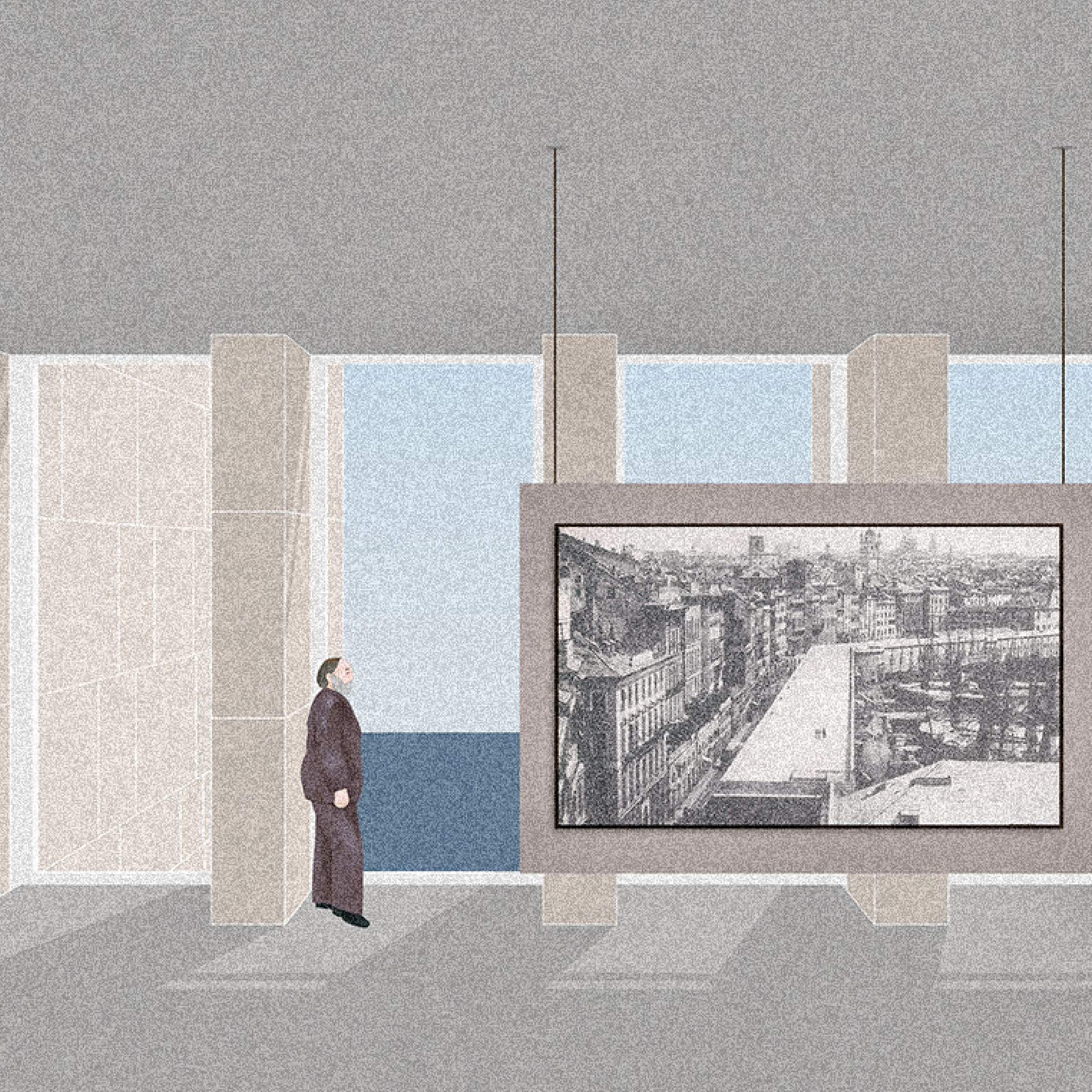
Library

Course

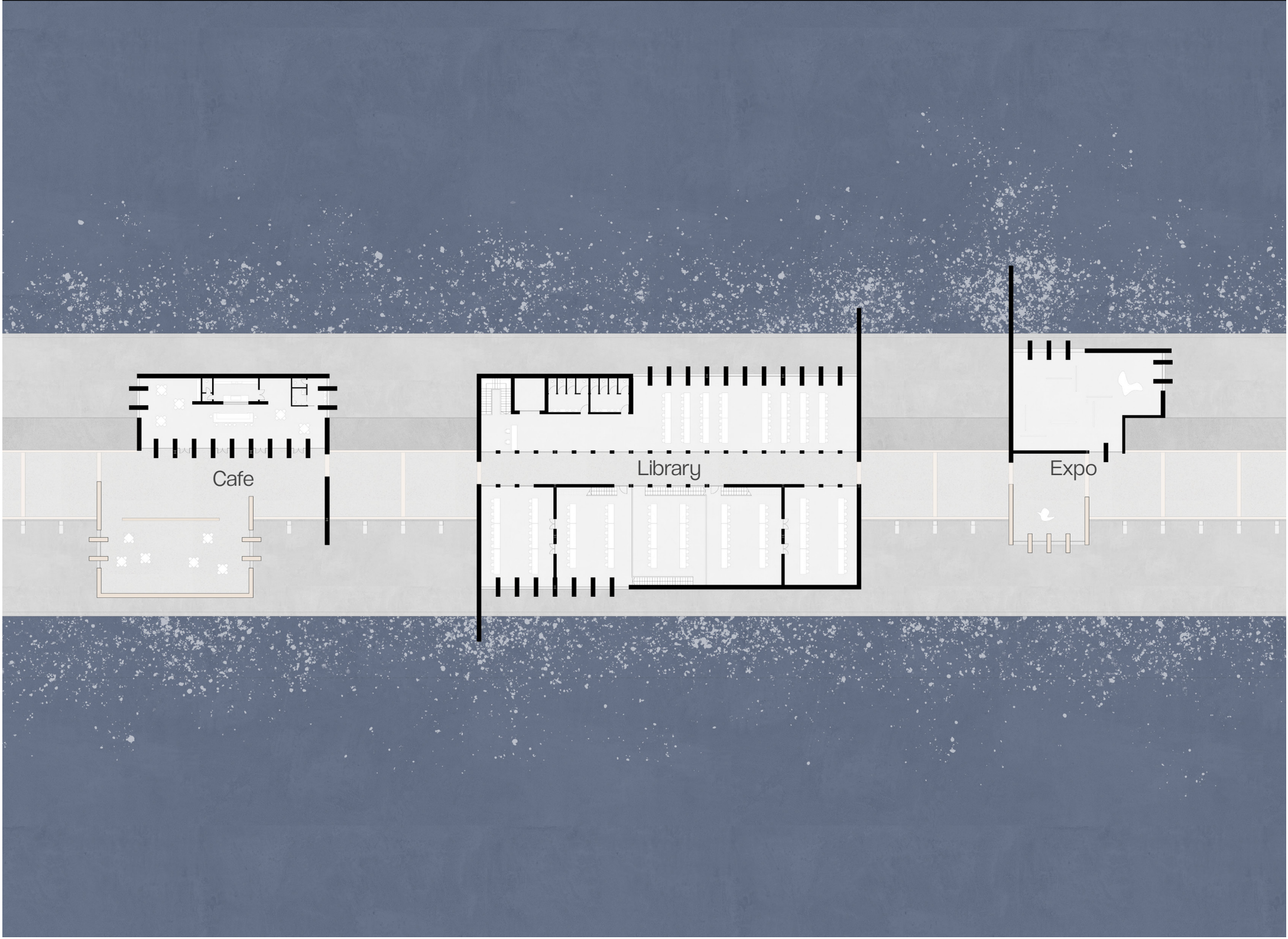
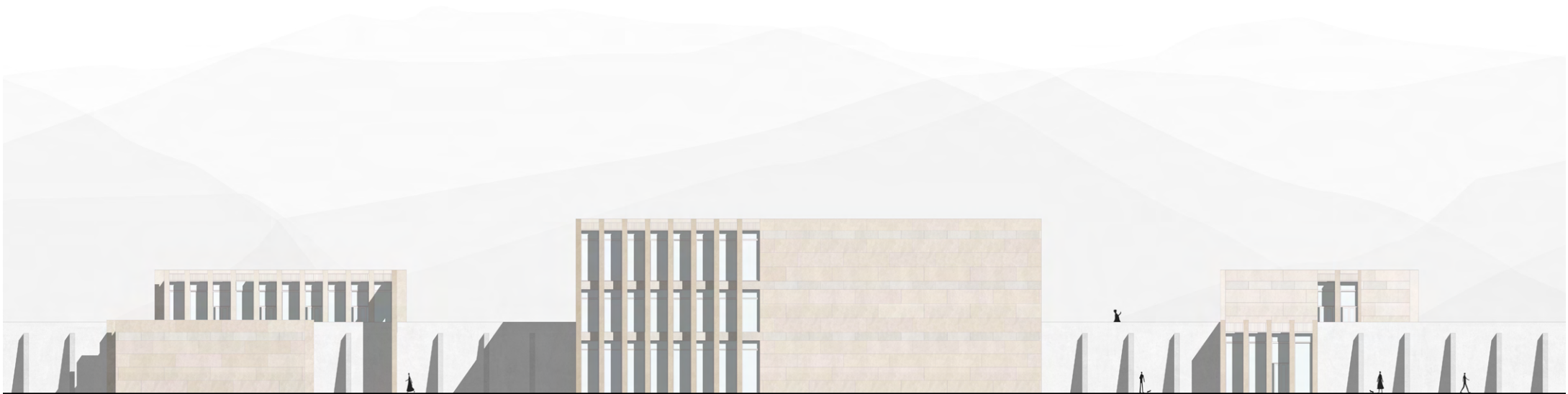
Architectural and Urban Design Studio

Professor

Tomaso Monestiroli











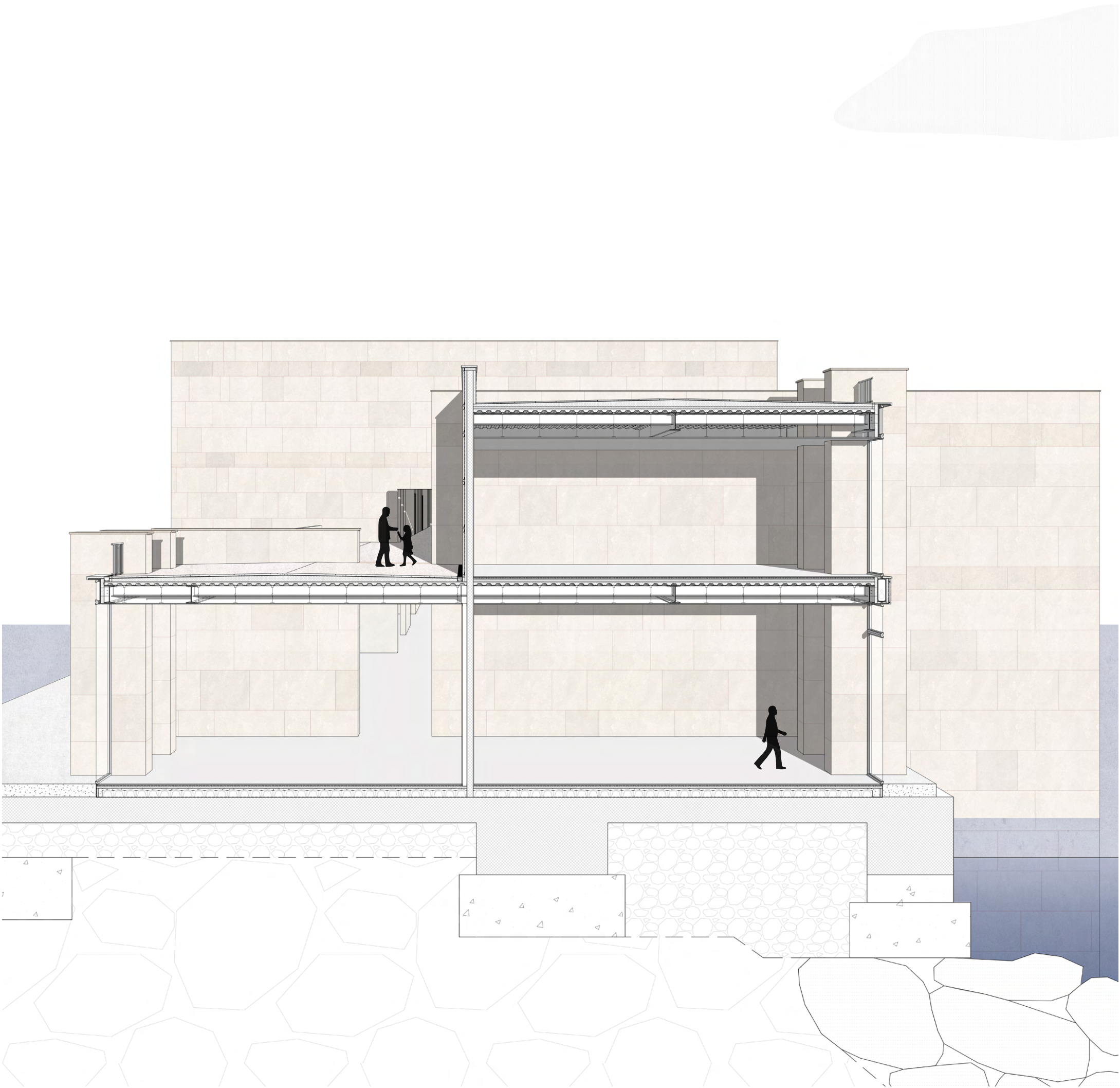
Project description

The design project is located on the pier of Genoa, a city preparing for major changes related to port trade. The pier, almost **1 km long and 25 m deep**, is characterized by a continuous, massive **wall** that was originally built to break the waves but has become obsolete following the construction of a new outer breakwater.

In this unique setting, surrounded entirely by the Mediterranean Sea, the brief calls for an archive capable of housing one million books. The project takes advantage of the existing continuous wall as a key architectural element. The wall is periodically interrupted to create a sequence of interior and exterior spaces, drawing inspiration from **Mies van der Rohe** and his **Brick Country House** project.

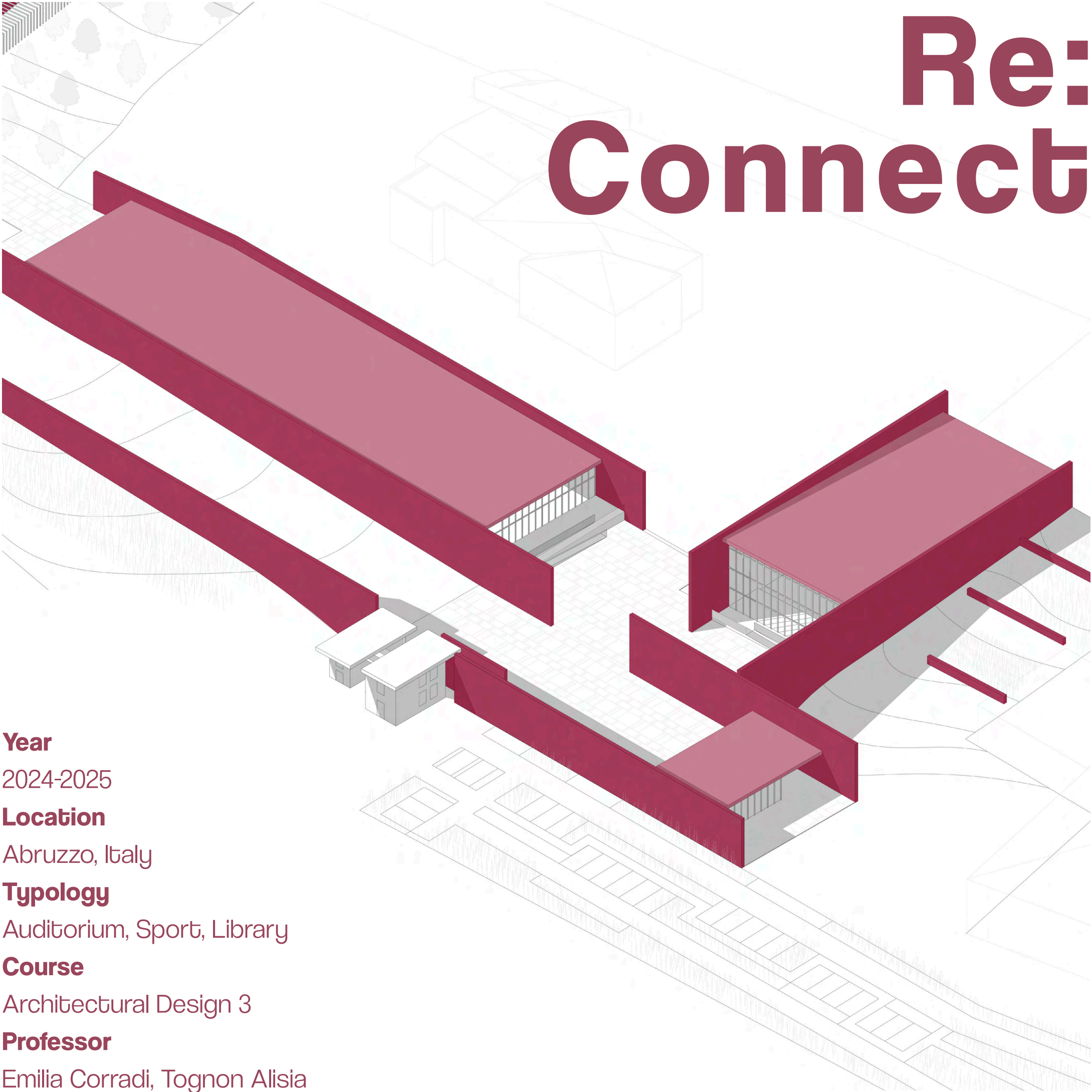
At ground level, the archive is organized around a **rhythmic** sequence marked externally by buttresses, while the upper part of the structure creates a promenade inspired by **Gardella's Marble Terrace**, which historically served as important social gathering spaces in Genoa.

Above, the wall breaks apart to generate a series of volumes accommodating a cafe, a library inspired by Max Dudler's library in Berlin, and an exhibition hall.





Re: Connect



Year

2024-2025

Location

Abruzzo, Italy

Typology

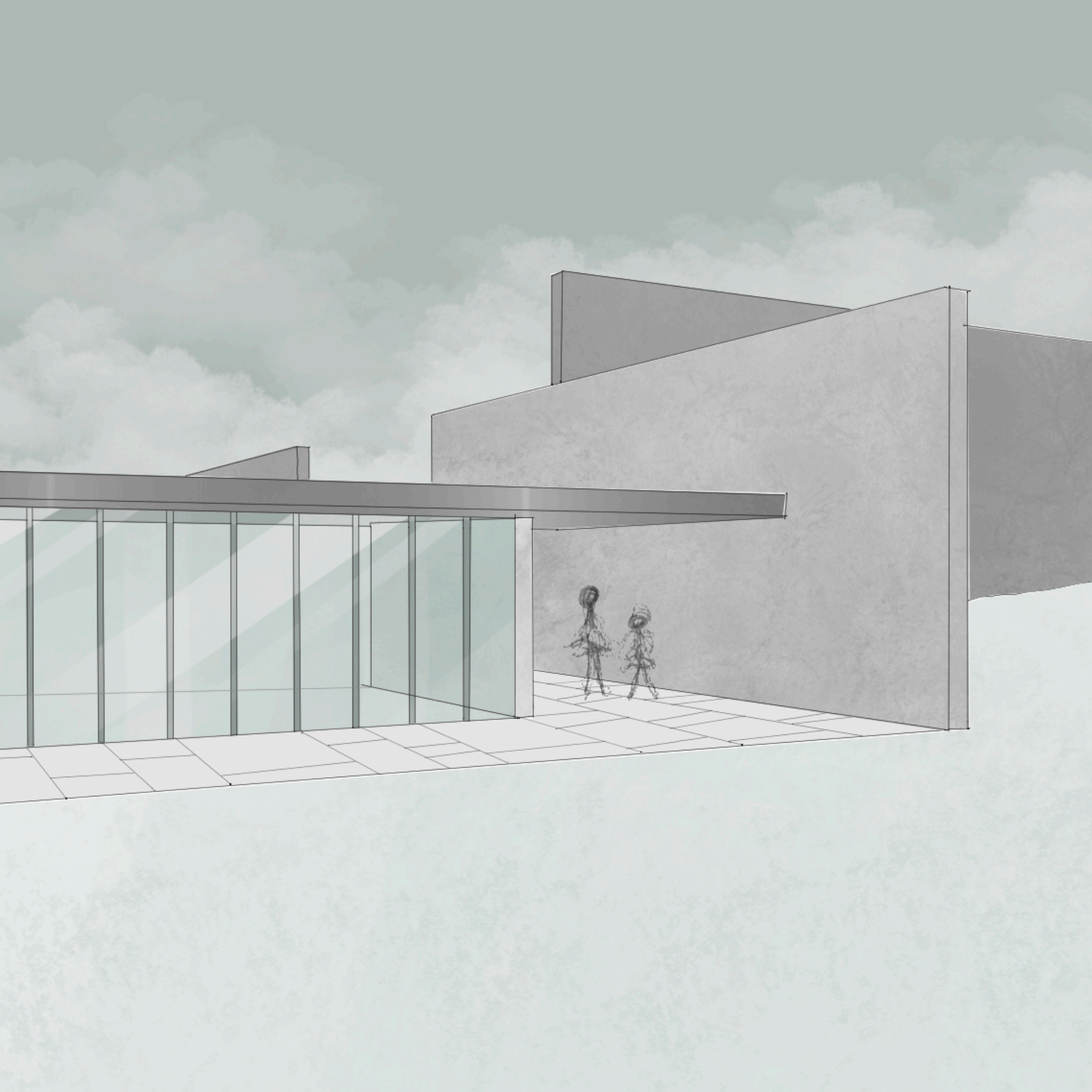
Auditorium, Sport, Library

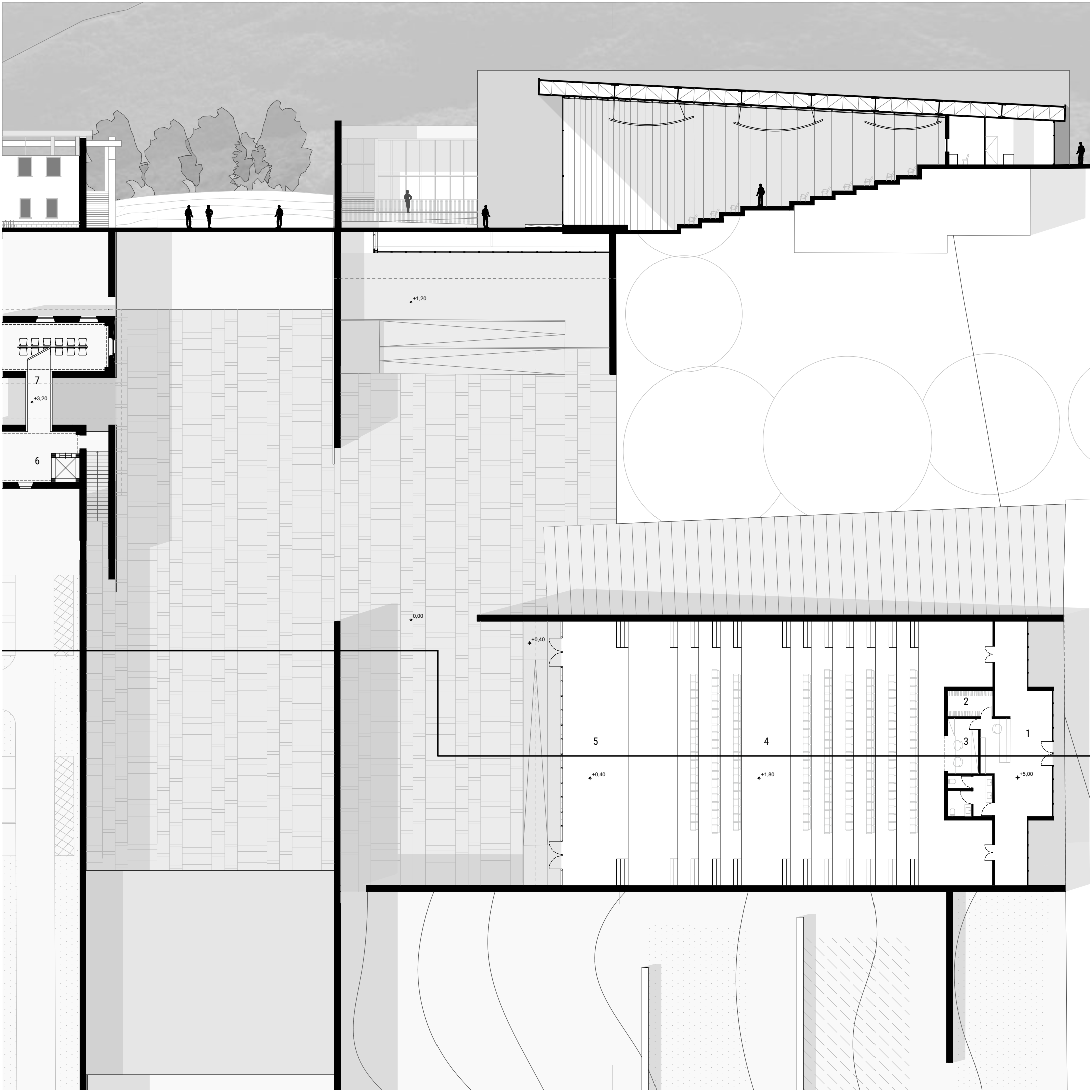
Course

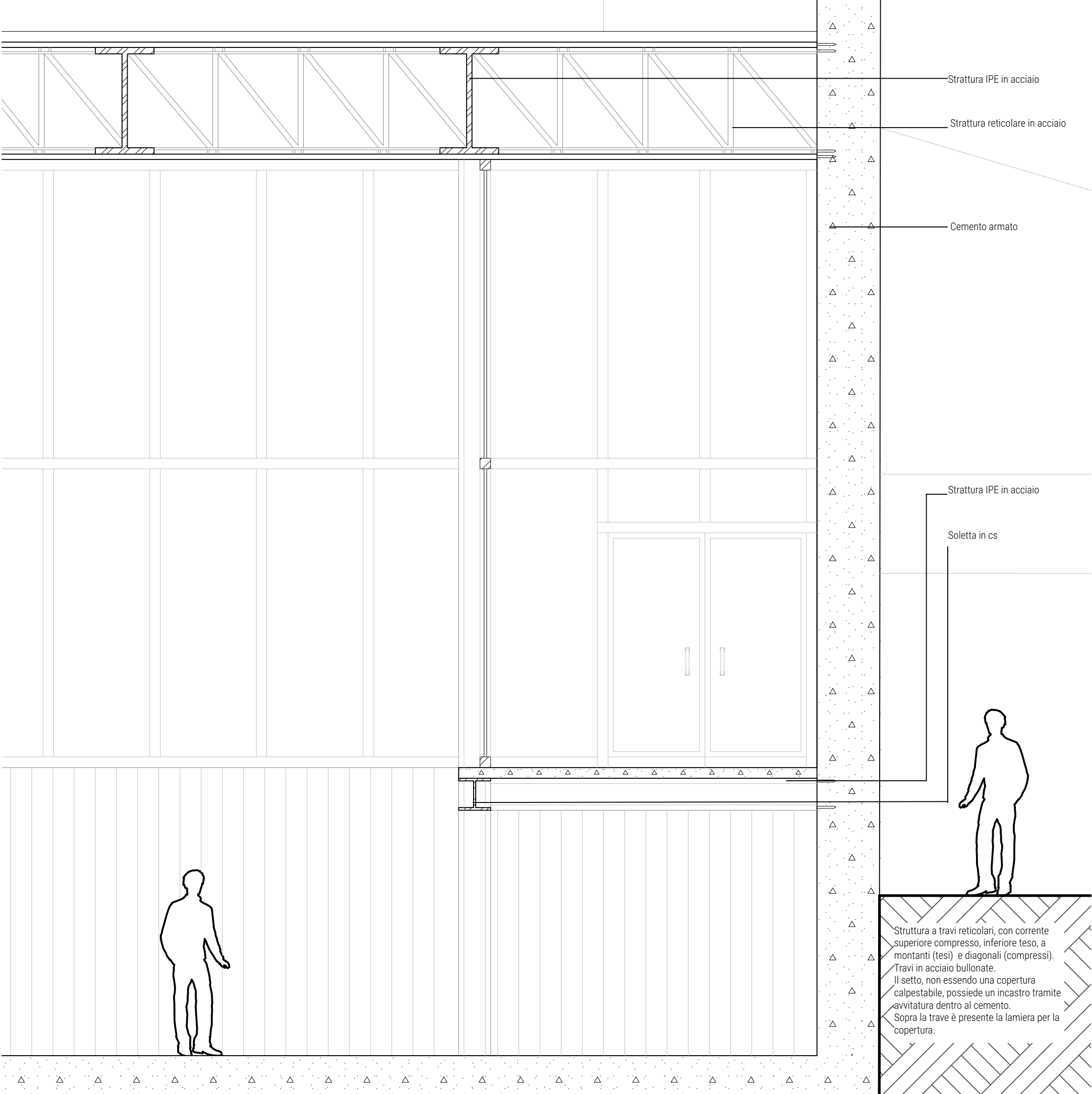
Architectural Design 3

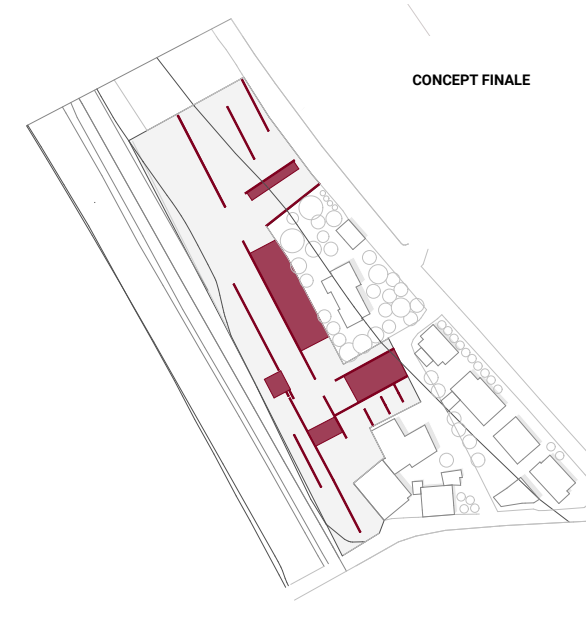
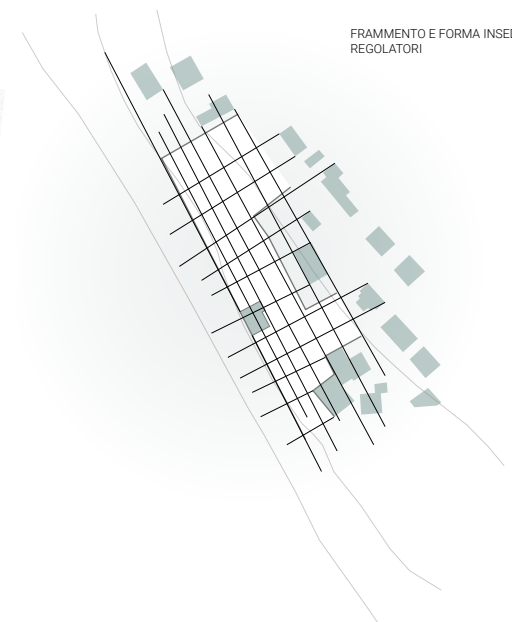
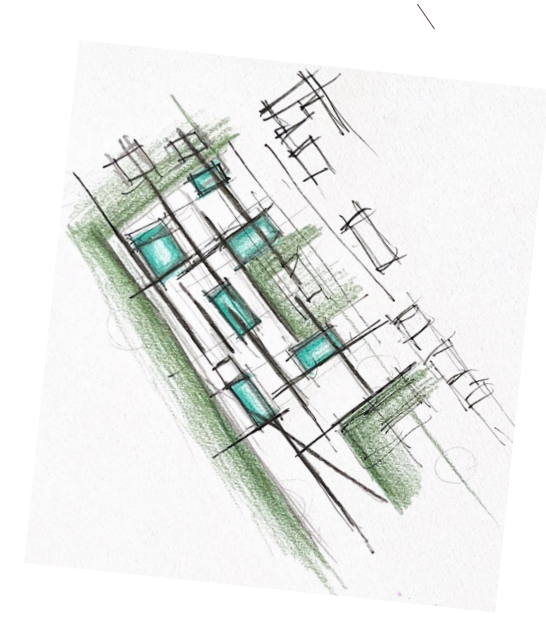
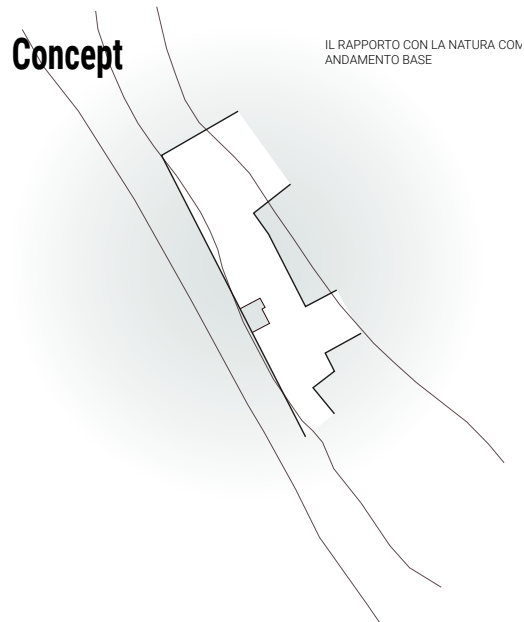
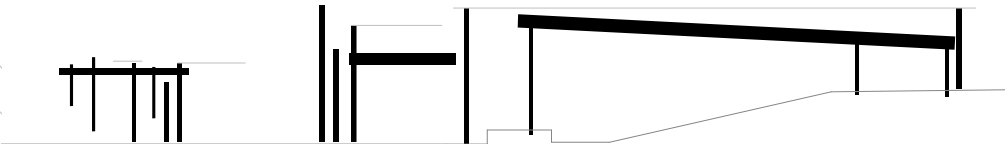
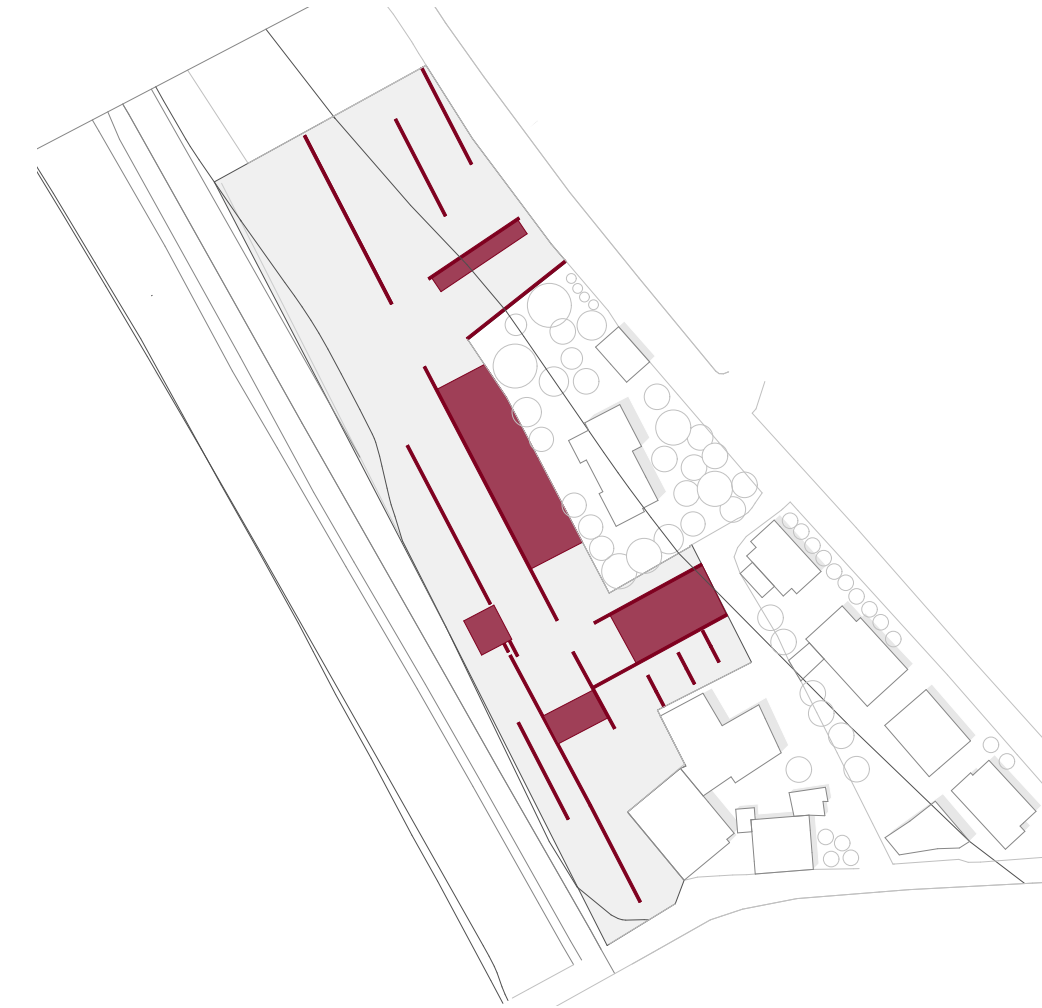
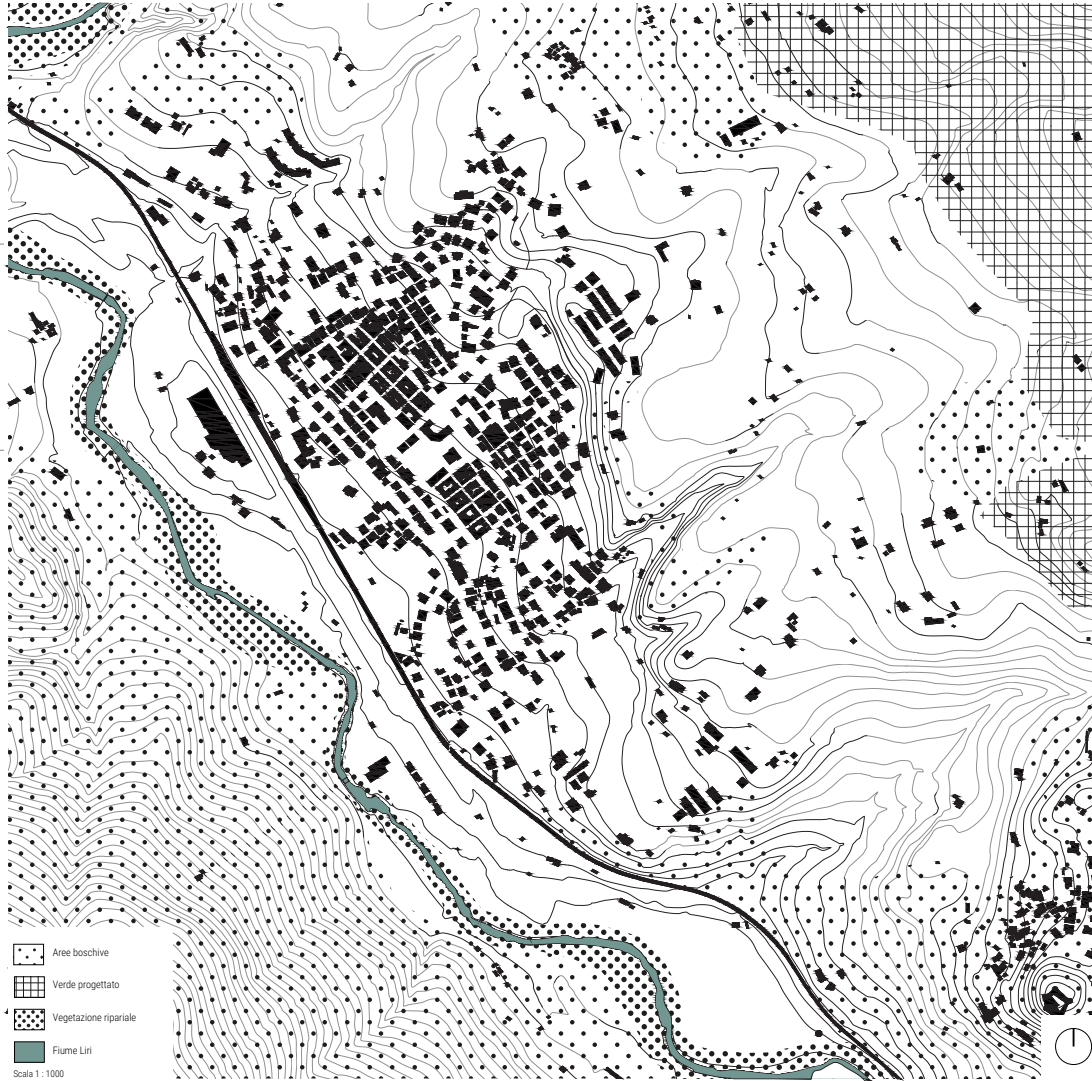
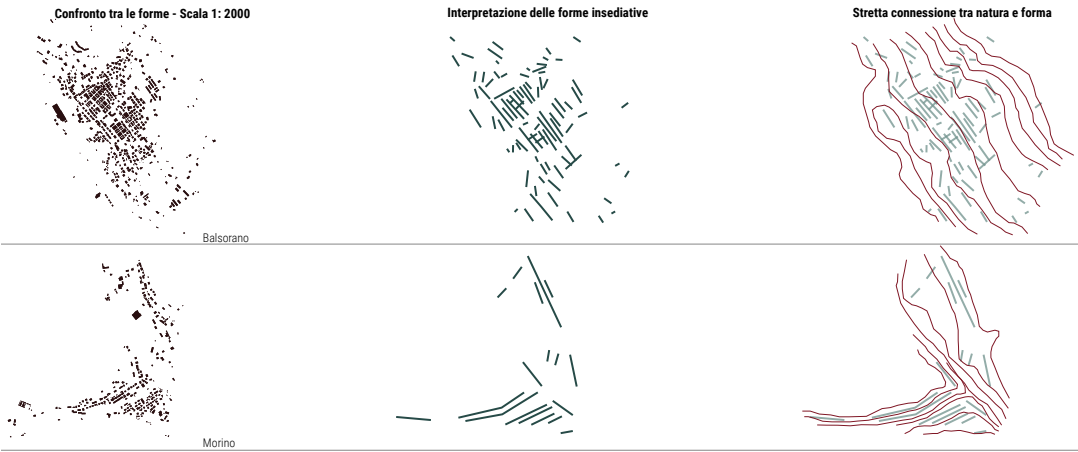
Professor

Emilia Corradi, Tognon Alisia









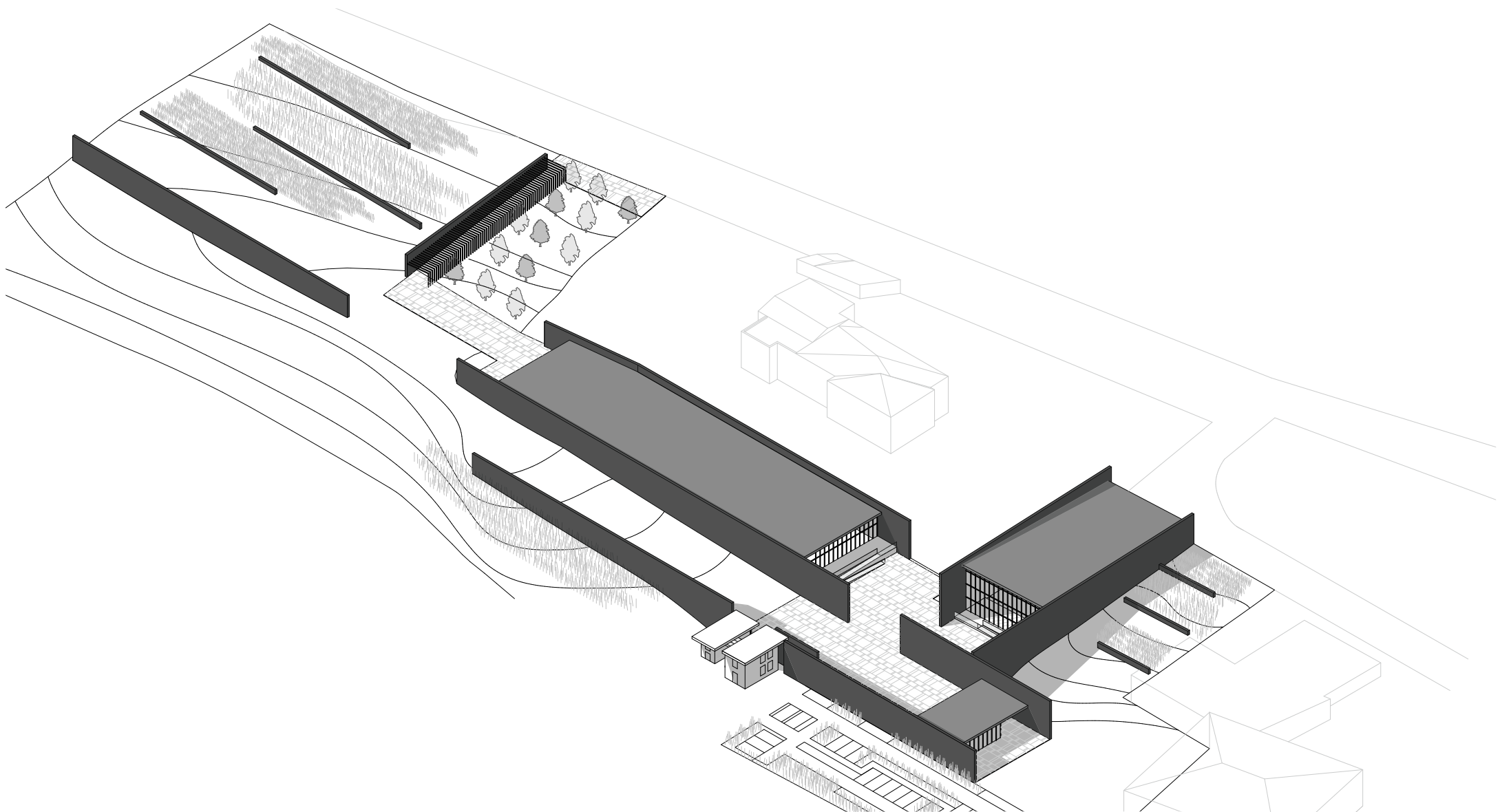
Project description

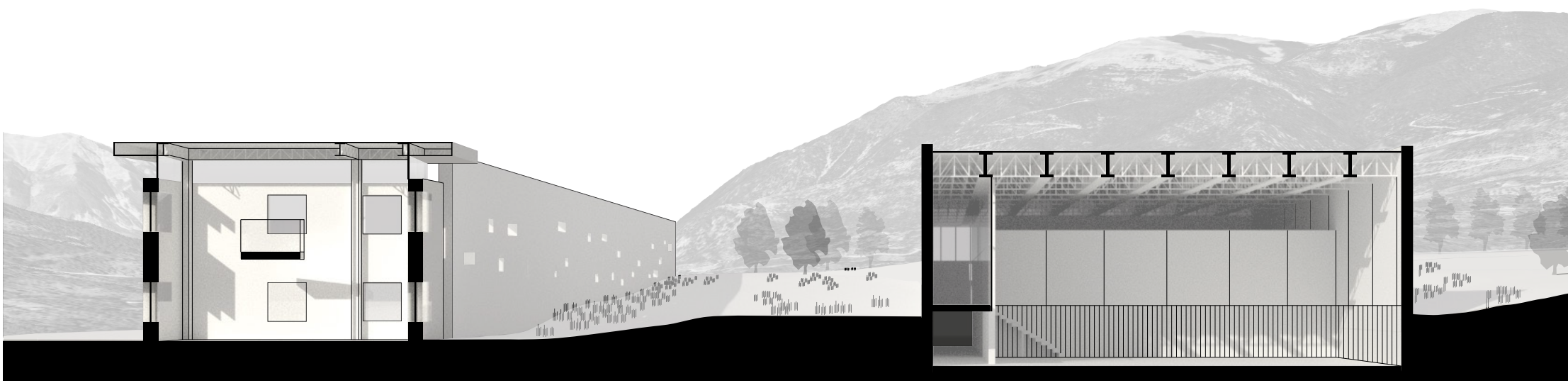
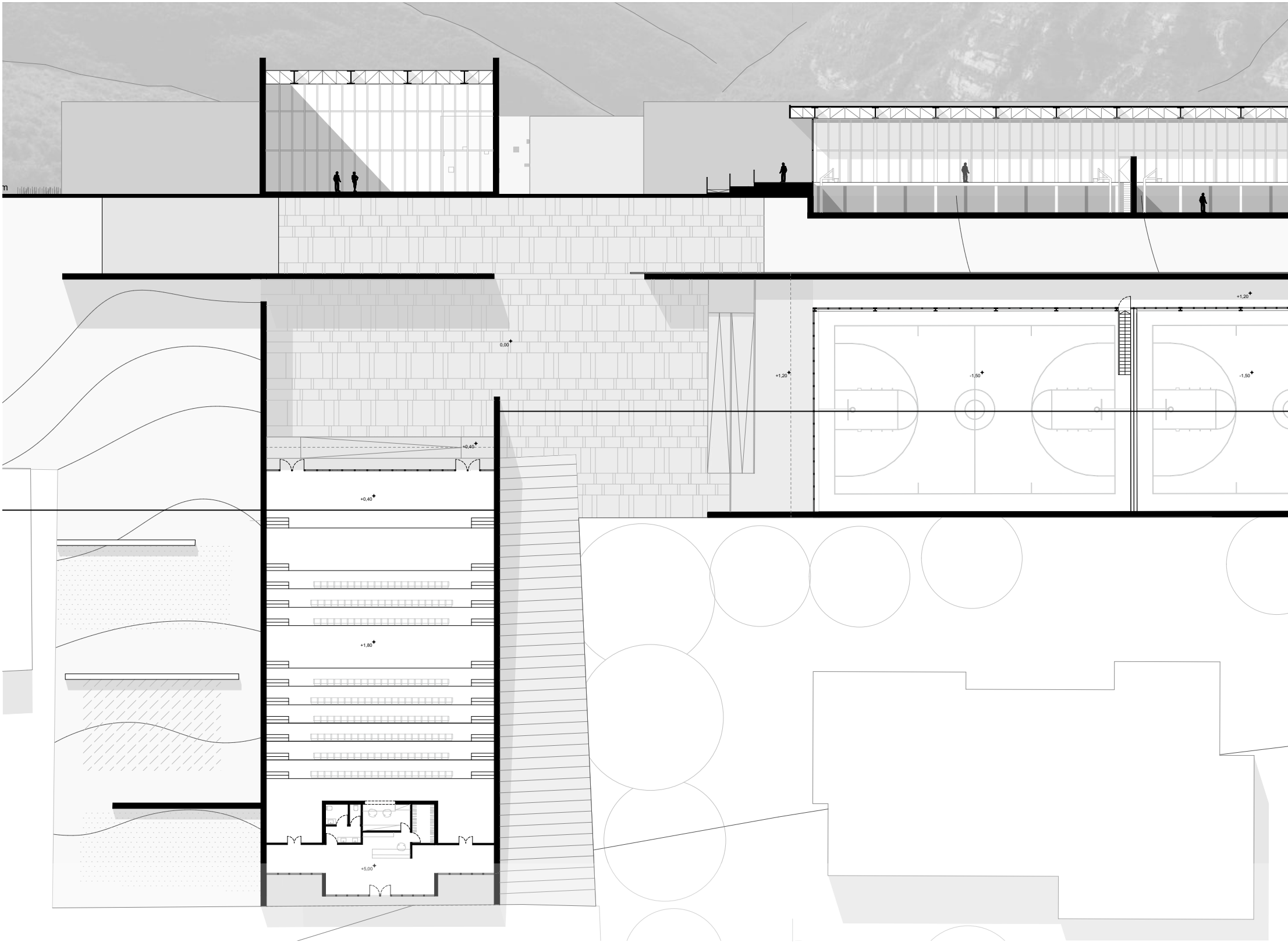
The project focuses on Italian **Apennine villages**, which have become increasingly overlooked and **fragmented**, also as a result of the consequences of past earthquakes. The project focuses on the railway station, an element that connects the villages across the valley and has the potential to become a place for social interaction and community gathering.

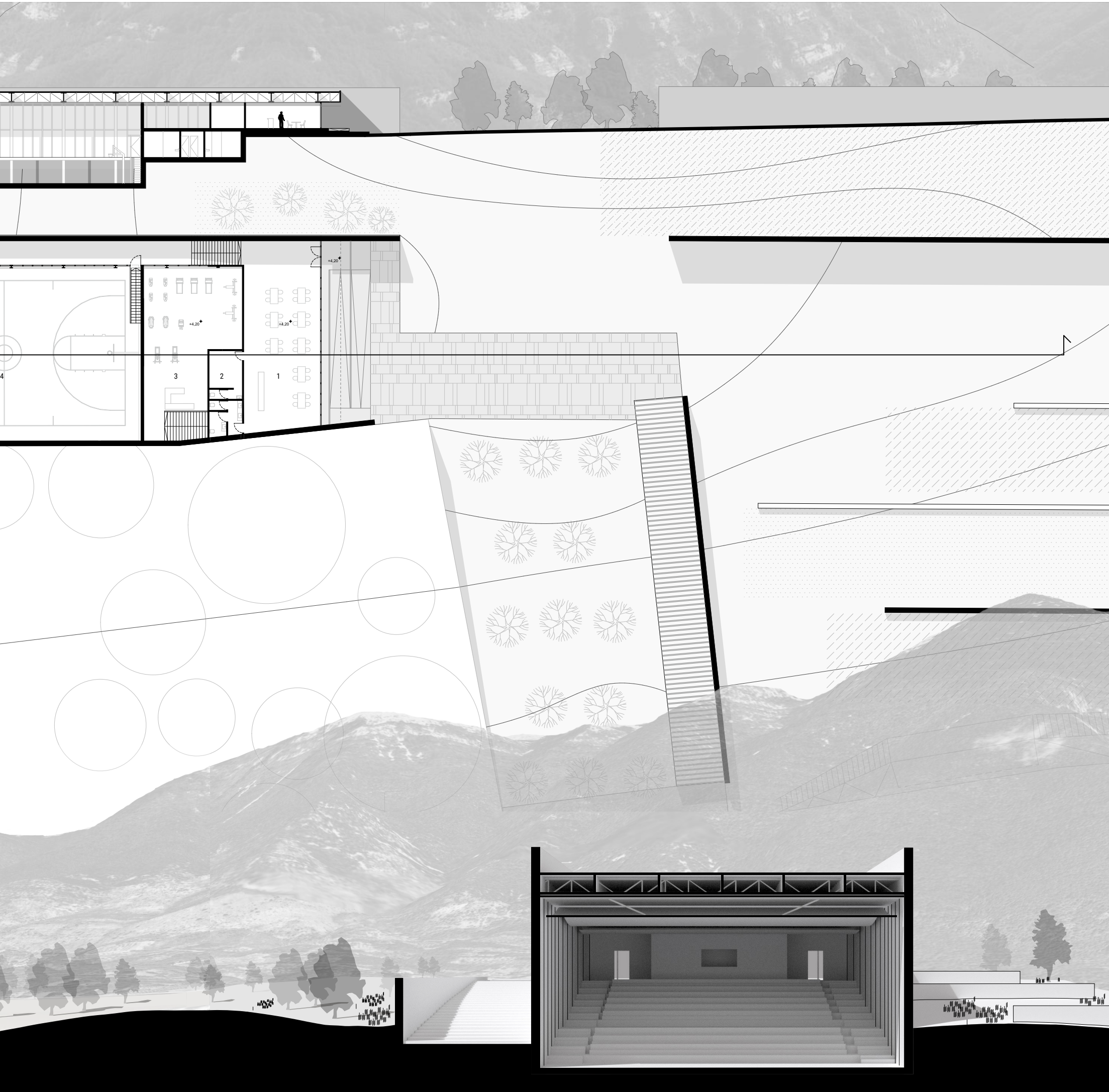
Following a careful analysis of how the villages have developed in relation to the surrounding **morphology**, the project draws inspiration from **Peter Zumthor's Therme Vals**, particularly from his sketches exploring the composition of solid and void spaces.

This concept is translated into the organization of the external green spaces and through the introduction of walls that either frame or restrict views, guiding visitors and shaping their interaction with the space according to the **movement allowed by the walls**.

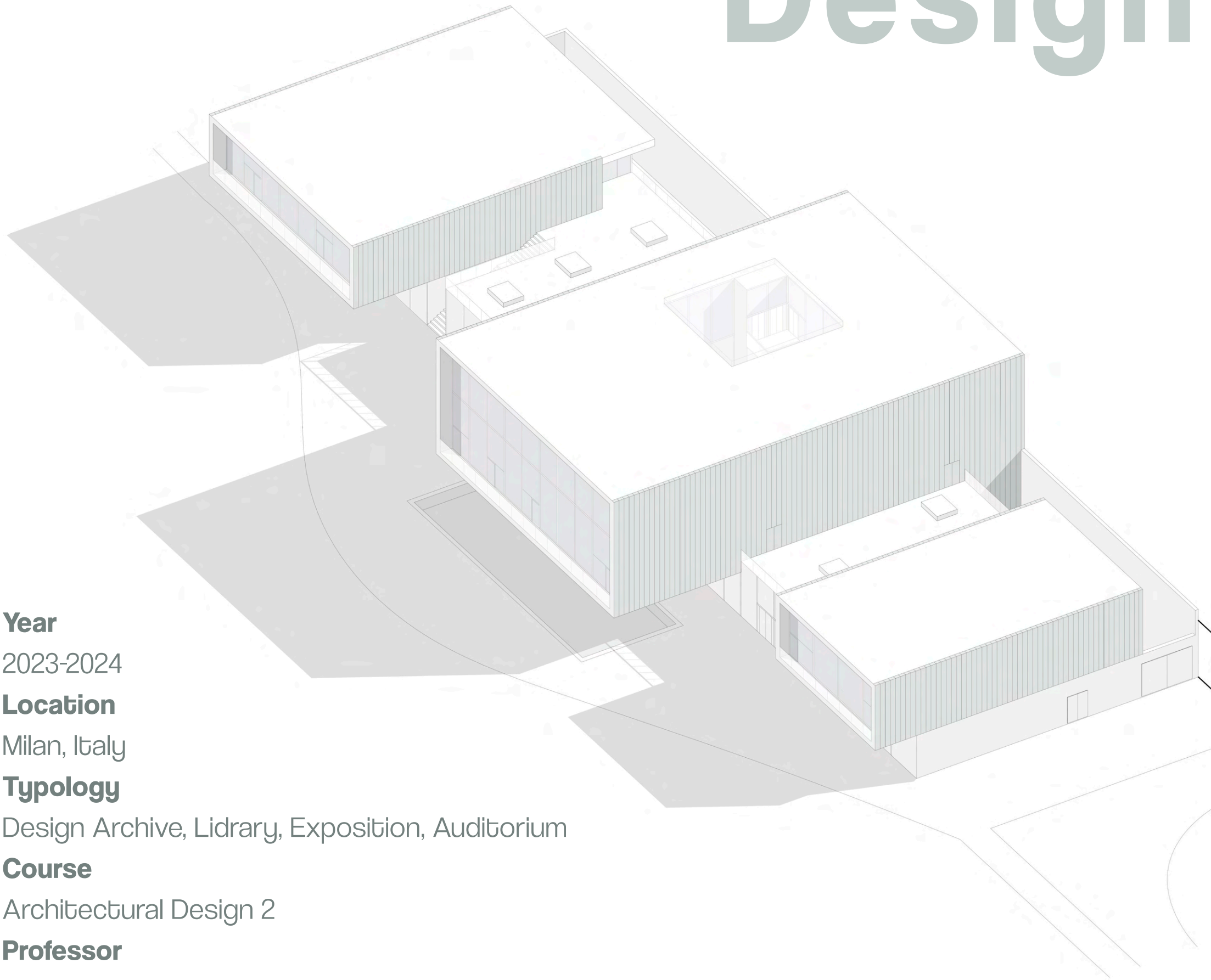
The extensive project area provide activities that are otherwise absent from the area: an auditorium designed to also accommodate community assemblies, a sports center with covered courts, a café, and a library integrated into an existing building.







MEMORIAE/ Design



Year

2023-2024

Location

Milan, Italy

Typology

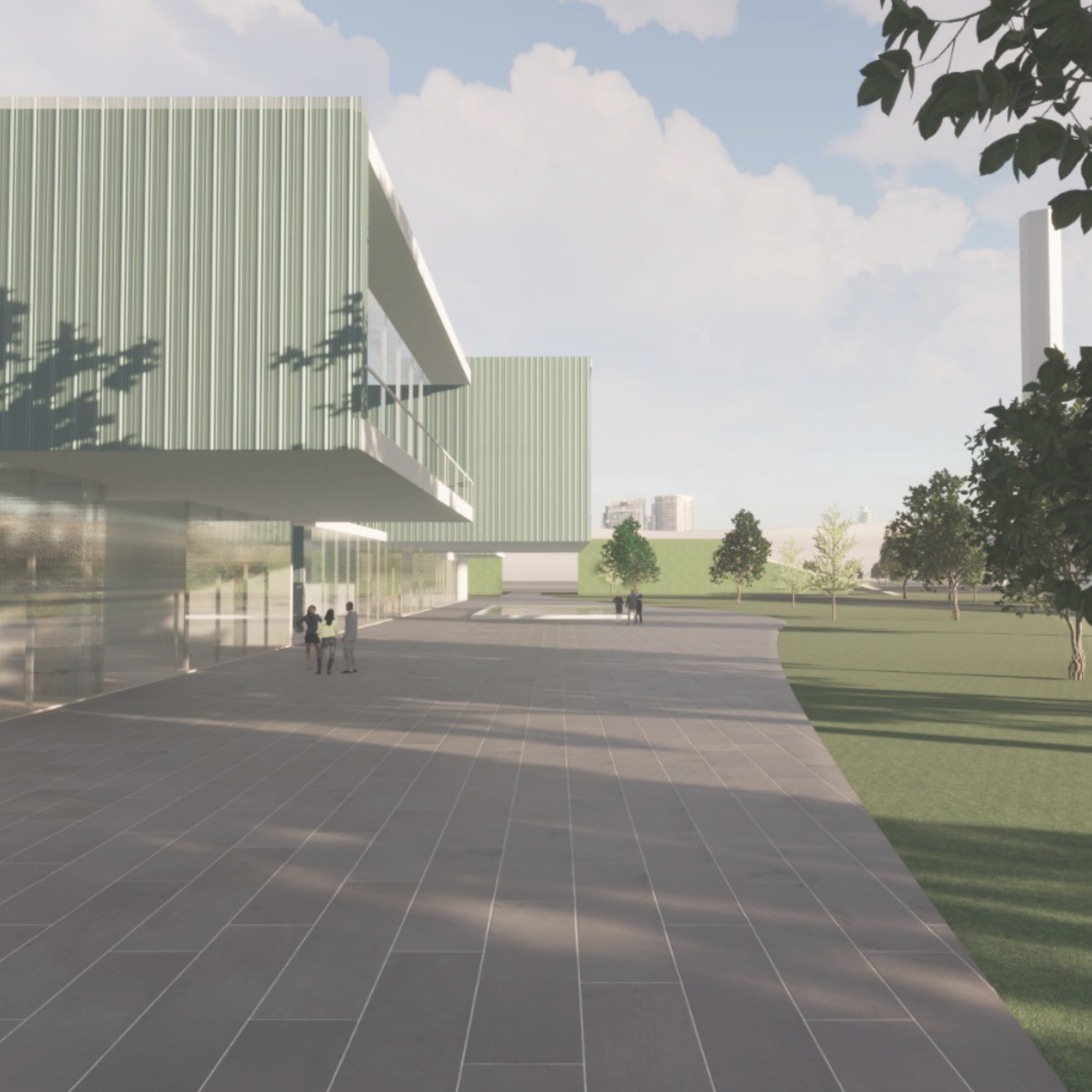
Design Archive, Library, Exposition, Auditorium

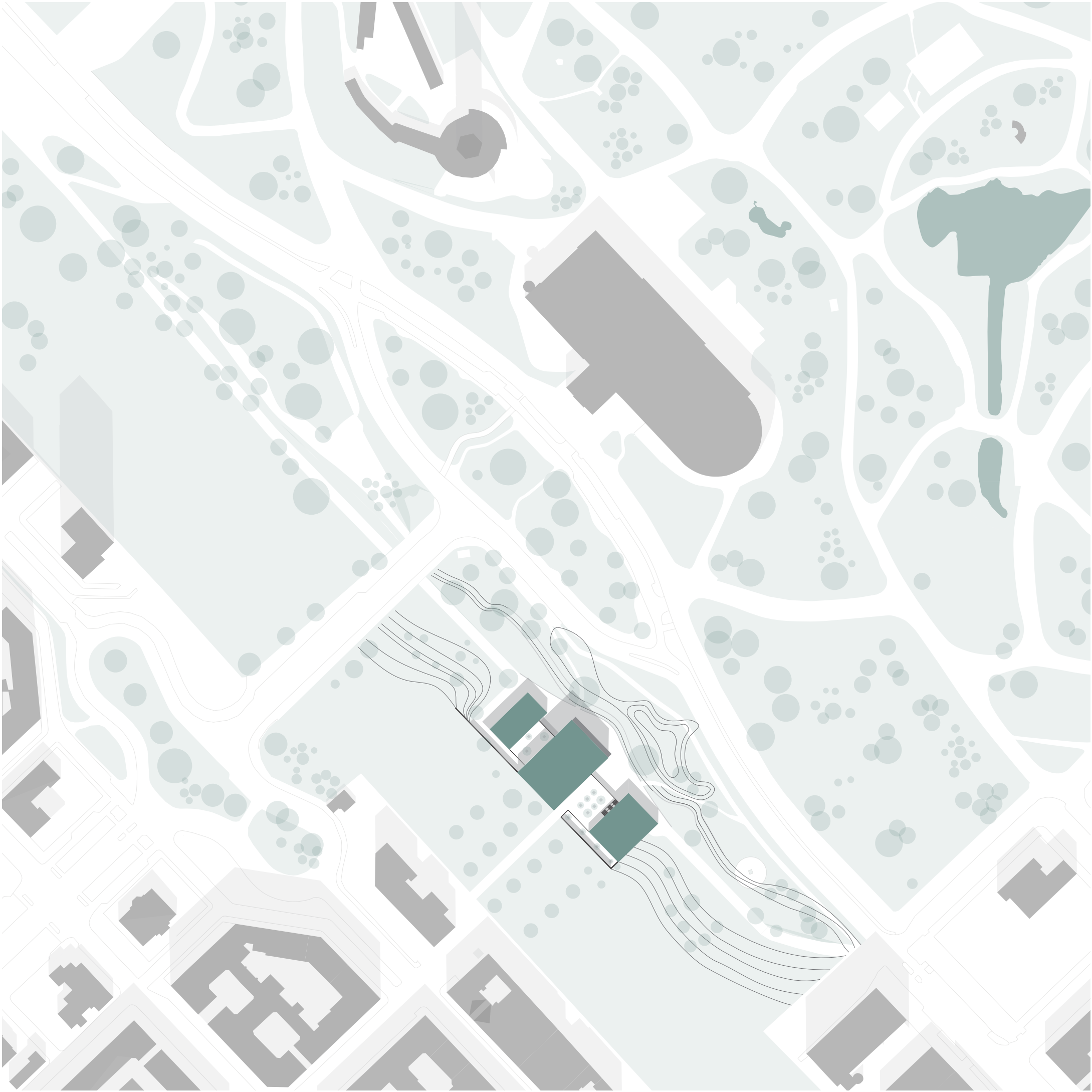
Course

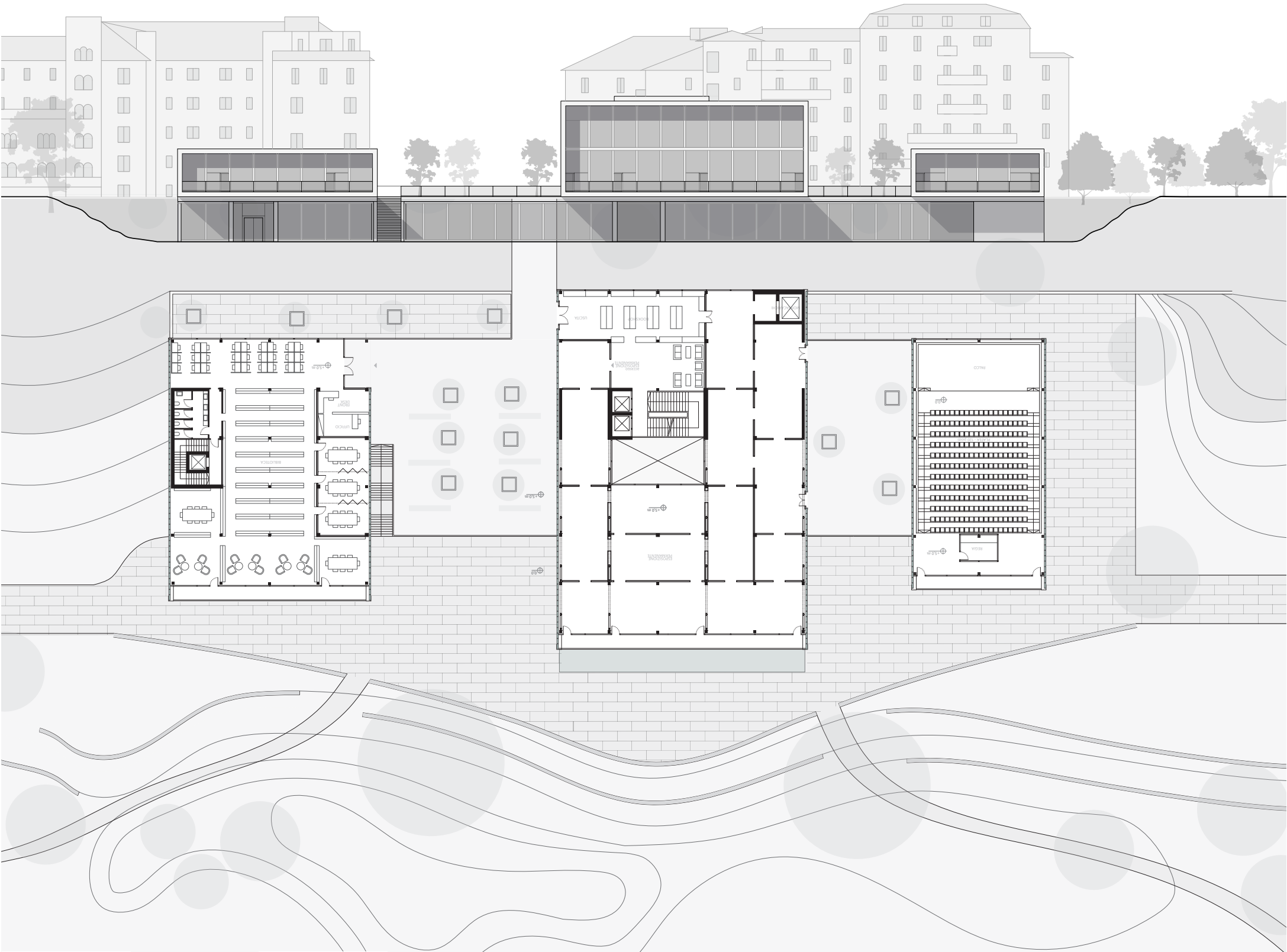
Architectural Design 2

Professor

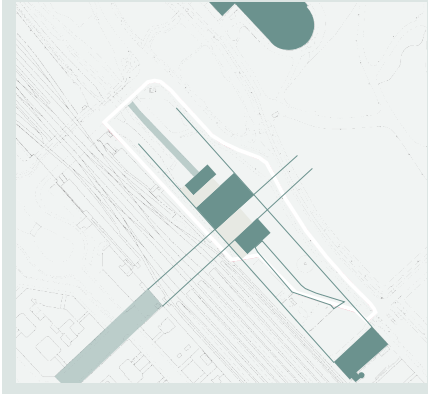
Carlo Alberto Maggiore



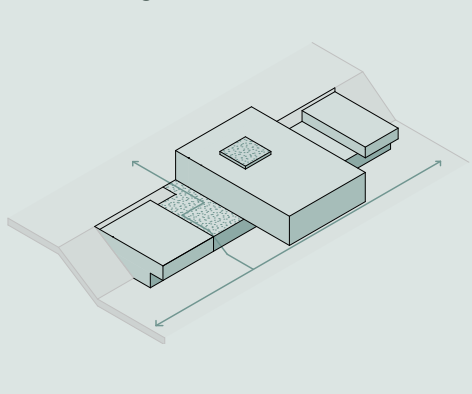




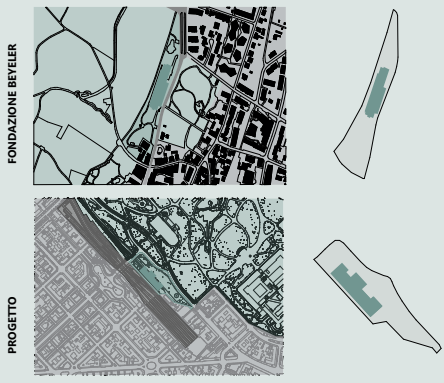
Site Location



Permeability



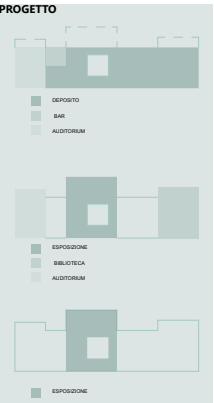
Comparison with the Beyeler Foundation

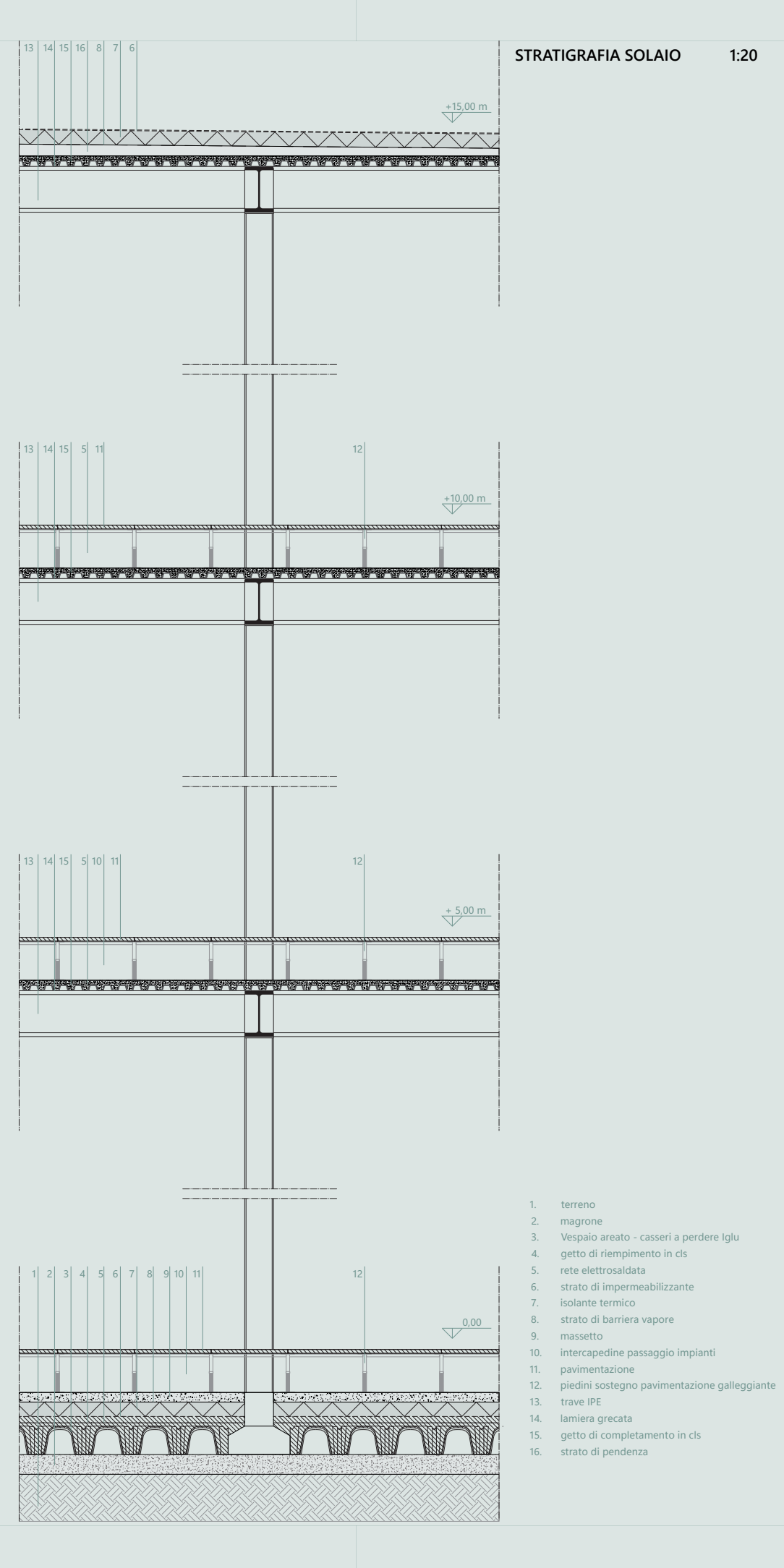
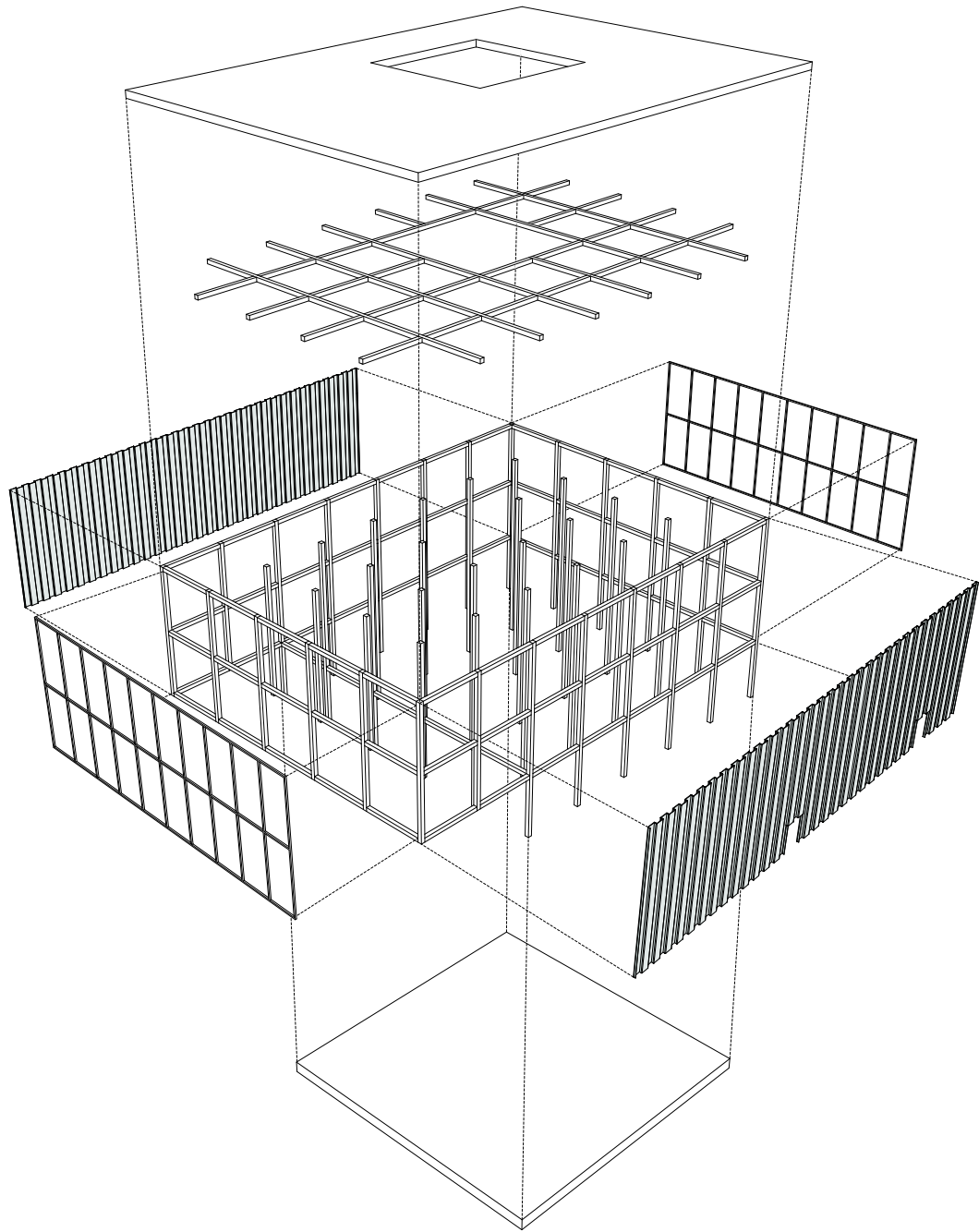
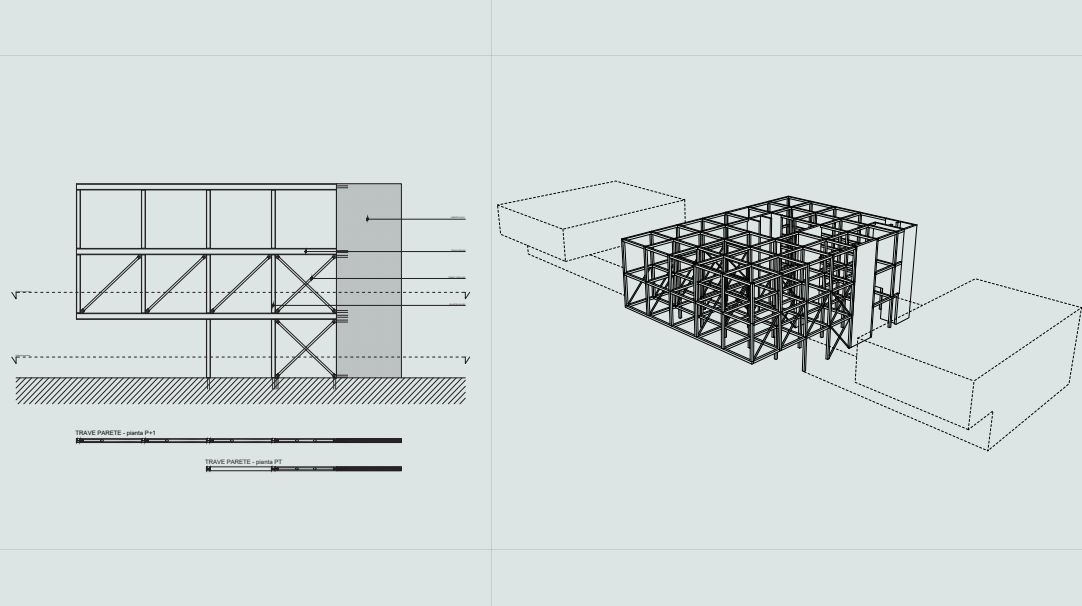


FONDAZIONE BEYELER



PROGETTO





Project description

The project aims to become a **cultural hub** through the establishment of foundations dedicated to six prominent **Milanese designers and architects** of the 20th century: Franco Albini, Achille Castiglioni, Ignazio Gardella, Alessandro Mendini, Gae Aulenti, and Vico Magistretti.

Located near Parco Sempione, the Triennale di Milano, and Cadorna railway station, the complex takes into account the Progetto F.I.N.I., which envisions a green landscaped deck above the Cadorna railway tracks.

The lower level accommodates the building's service functions, particularly the **archive** facilities intended to house the collections of the various foundations. Above ground, three distinct volumes accommodate the main cultural functions: a **library** housing the architects' and designers' collections, a **permanent and temporary exhibition** space showcasing objects from the archives, and an **auditorium**.

The spaces between these volumes form a series of public squares that act as transitional thresholds, establishing a direct spatial and visual connection with the green landscape proposed by the Progetto F.I.N.I..

