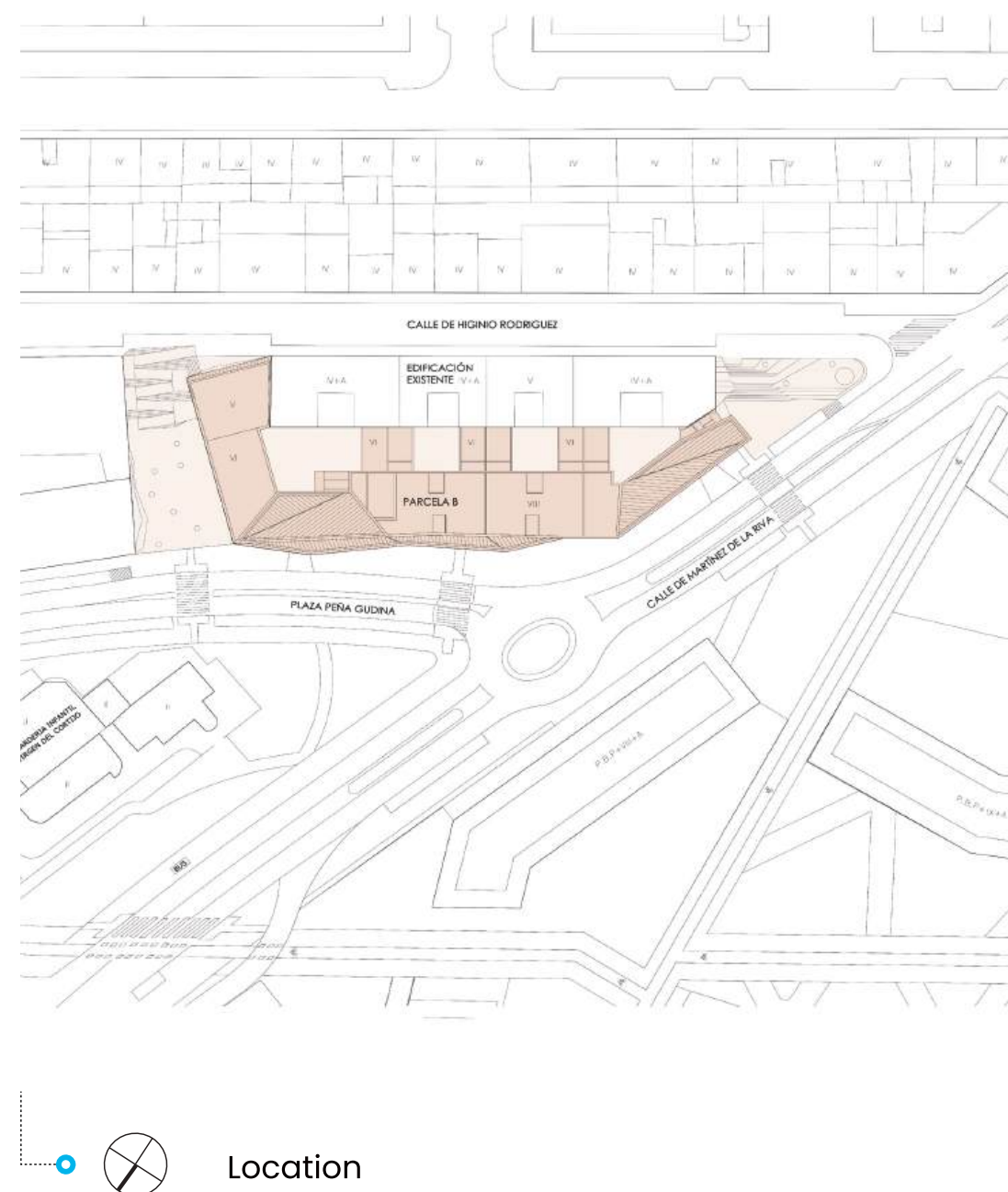


SFJ6 102 SOCIAL HOUSING. Madrid

01

MARMOLBRAVO+MADhel
www.marmolbravo.com

Architects	Marina del Mármol Mauro Bravo Daniel Bergman Miguel Herraiz
Typology	Collective Housing
Location	Vallecas, Madrid, Spain
Client	EMVS
Area	13.267 m ²
Cost	9.731.009 €
Construction	2024
Engineering	Mecanismo
Photos by	José Hevia



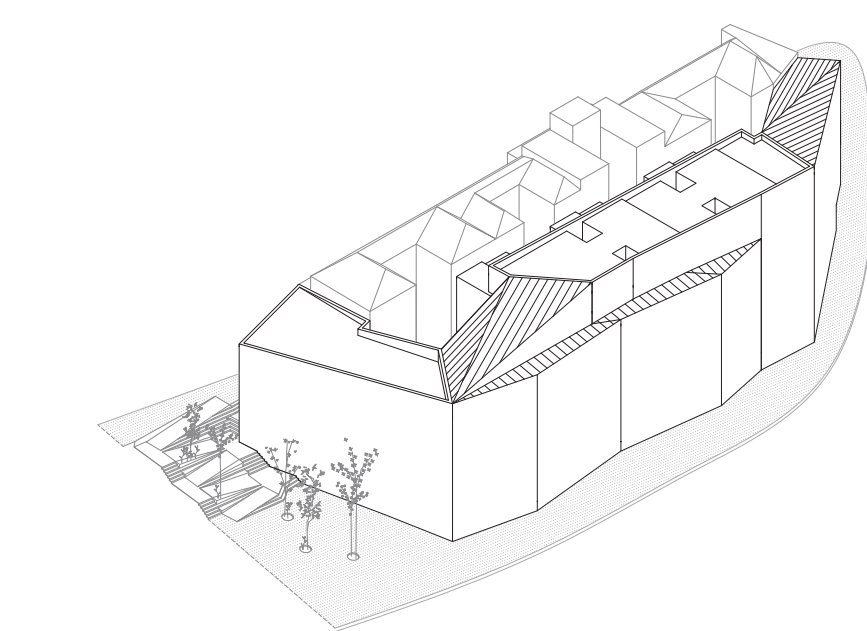
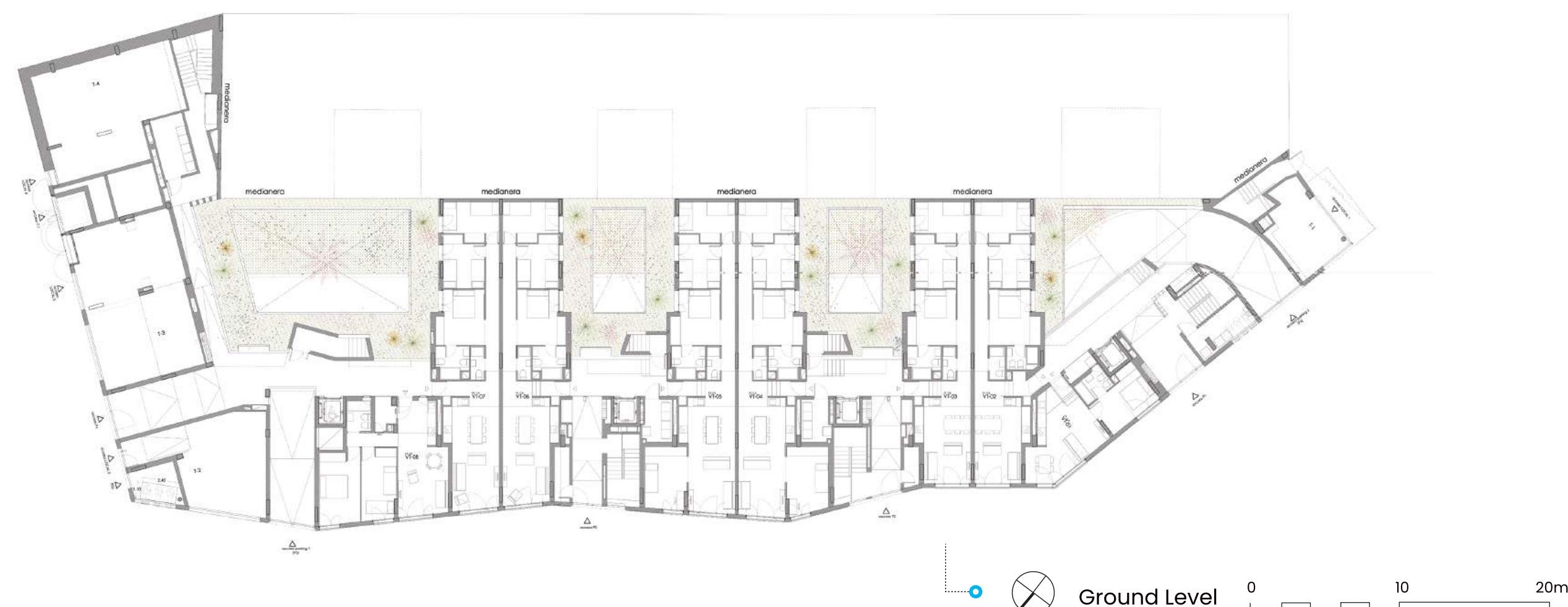
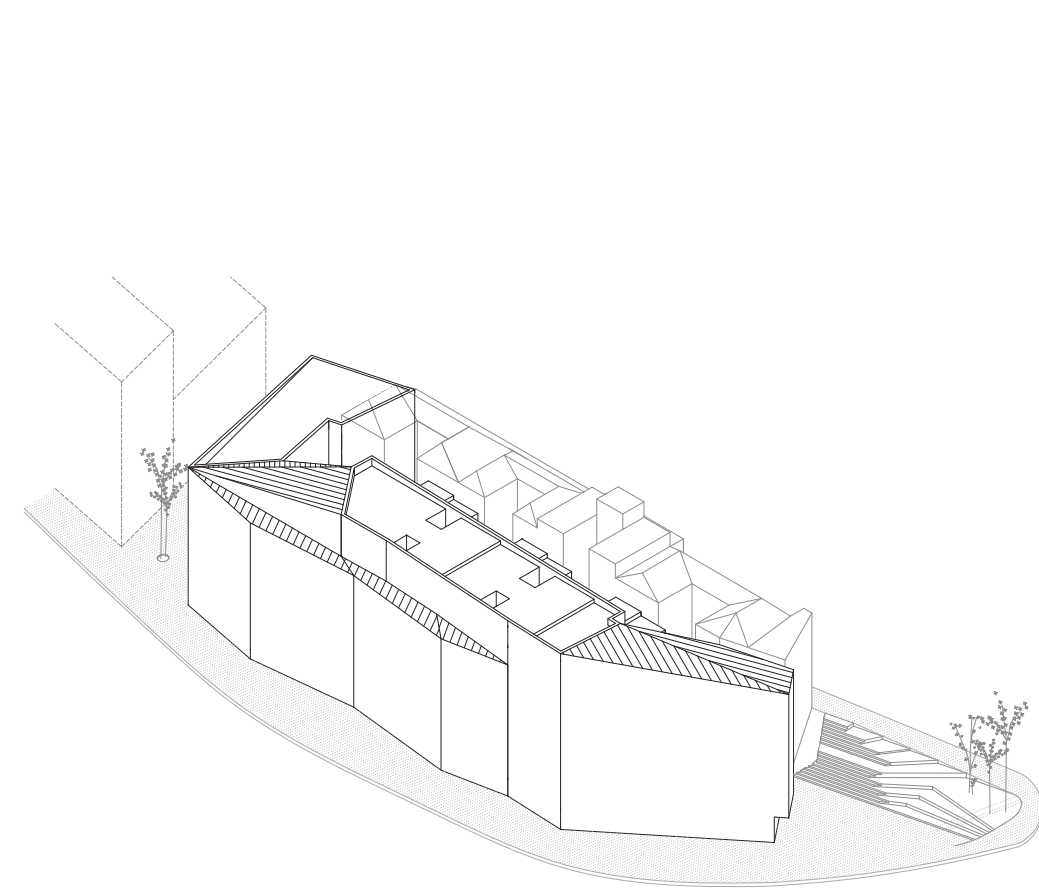
SFJ6 is a project of 102 dwellings designed to adapt to the complexity of the city, solving several urban problems and generating quality public spaces in its surroundings. The building is integrated into the city as a folded volume that embraces the disparate existing buildings, taking special care of the contact areas and adapting its ground floor to the complex topography of the site in order to generate the greatest points of contact with the city and revitalise the public space.

The folding of its façade, the change of heights and the setback of the last two floors provide urban diversity. In addition, by unifying the window openings, which are perceived larger than they really are, the perceptual scale of the whole is reduced, achieving a friendlier scale.

The building is between 5 and 8 storeys high, with 4 courtyards located next to the party wall courtyards of the existing buildings. This project decision generates large interior courtyards, which double in size when added to those of the adjoining buildings. Each of the courtyard has its own particular atmosphere, enhance by the other colours on the façades in contrast with the abundant vegetation of the project's landscaping, which helps to create a microclimate in the city center.

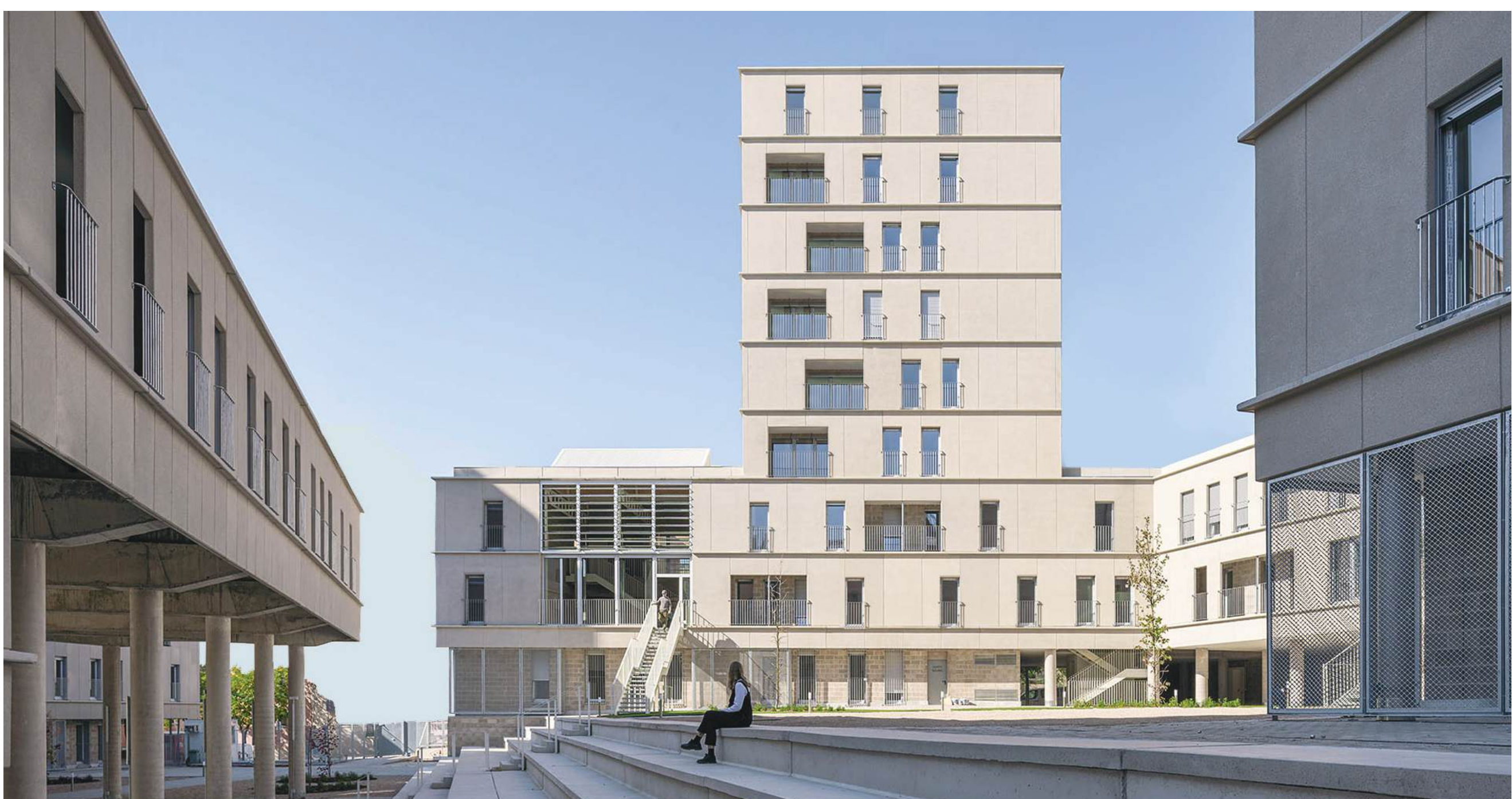
The solution for the floor plan of the 102 dwellings is conditioned by the search for cross ventilation and by the desire to give each dwelling views of the street space from its living area, through large openings in the façade that help to extend the horizon line.

The building is designed as a low-energy building. Demand reduction is achieved through passive strategies such as cross ventilation and the design of a high performance thermal envelope. In addition, it has heat recovery systems and ECOBARRIO's District Heating for DHW and heating, in combination with active systems. Finally, as a contribution from renewable sources, there is aerothermal energy supported by photovoltaic panels, achieving an A energy classification for the whole building.



TAA, totem arquitectos asociados slp
www.totemarquitectos.com

Architect	Javier García-Germán Alia García-Germán
Typology	Social Housing
Location	Carabanchel, Madrid, Spain
Client	EMVS, Madrid City Council
Area	22.675 m ²
Cost	17.500.000 €
Construction	2017-2022
Engineering	ATEI Ingenieros Consultores GARVAL ingenieros Valladares Ingeniería Atmos Lab
Photos by	Miguel de Guzmán



The building is located in a new urban area in the district of Carabanchel, southwest of Madrid and close to the M-40 ring road. Despite its urban character, it sits near large open spaces that act as urban heat sinks, helping cool the building during summer. In addition, its position on a south-facing slope ensures excellent solar exposure.

The shape of the plot and the size of the housing program led to dividing the project into two volumes that adapt to the site's perimeter and create two interior plazas connected to one another—spaces intended for social interaction. Inside these two buildings, a public network of wind-catchers, corridors, and social condensers connects directly with the plazas, forming the main areas for social exchange.

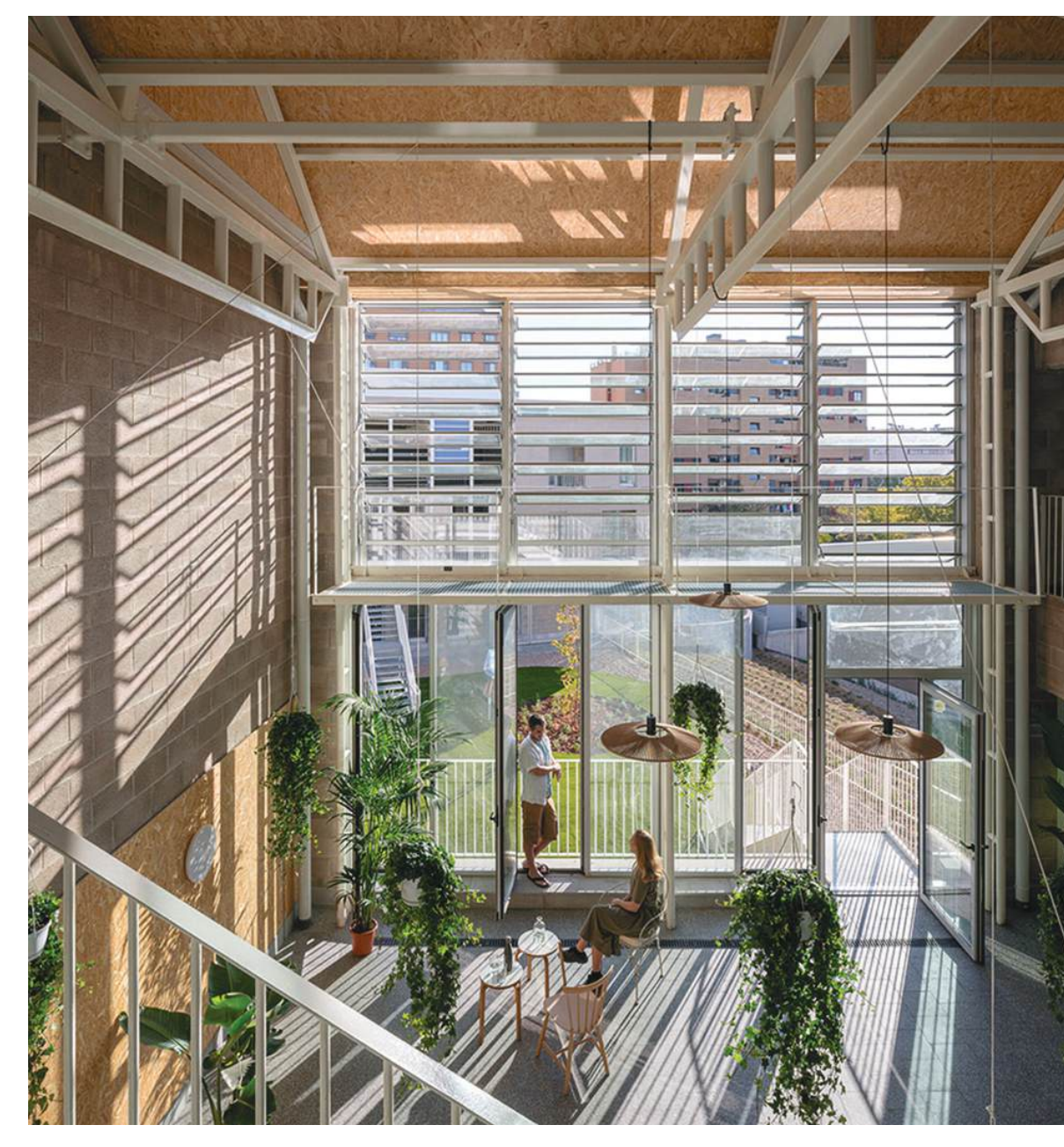
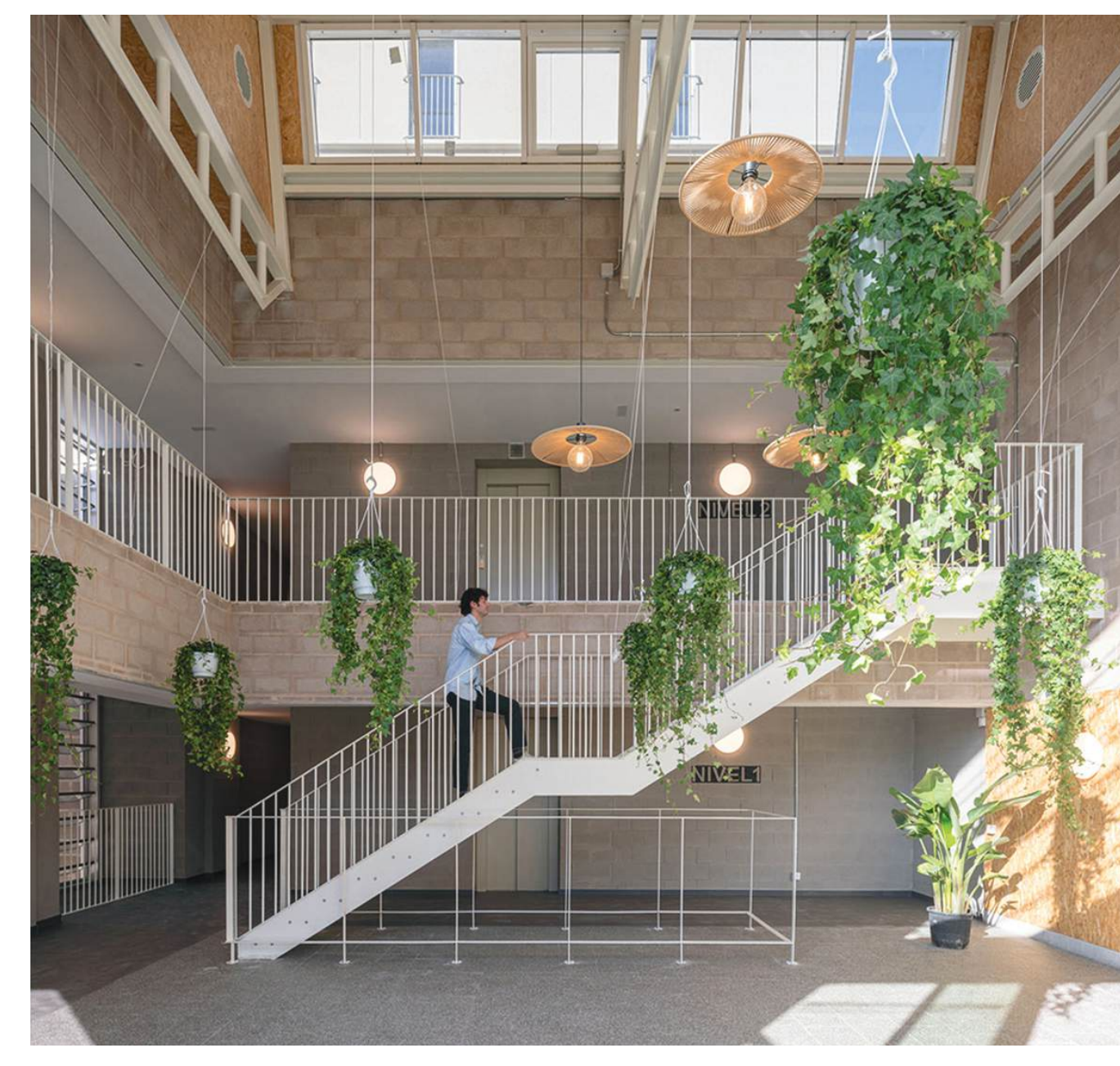
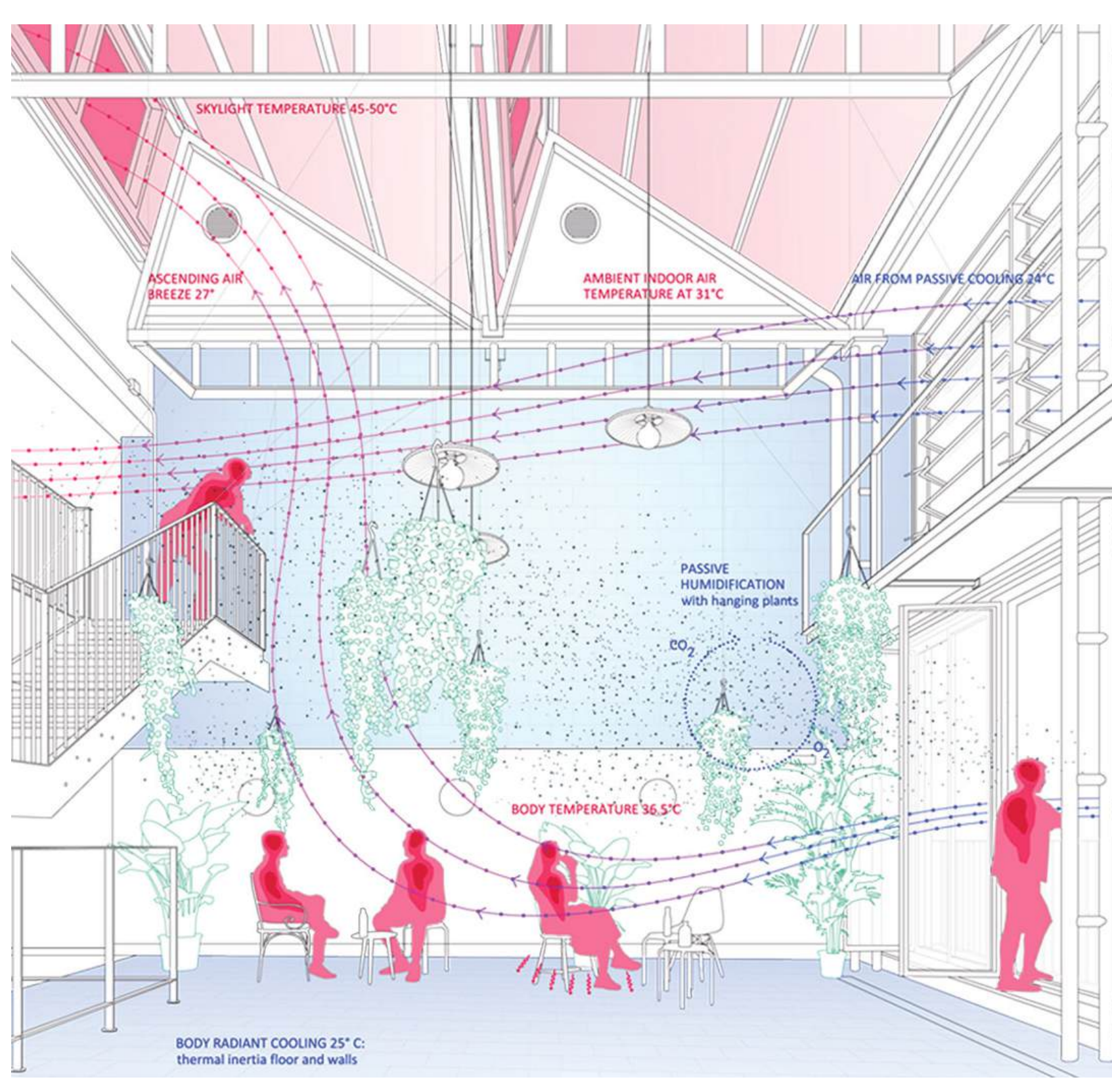
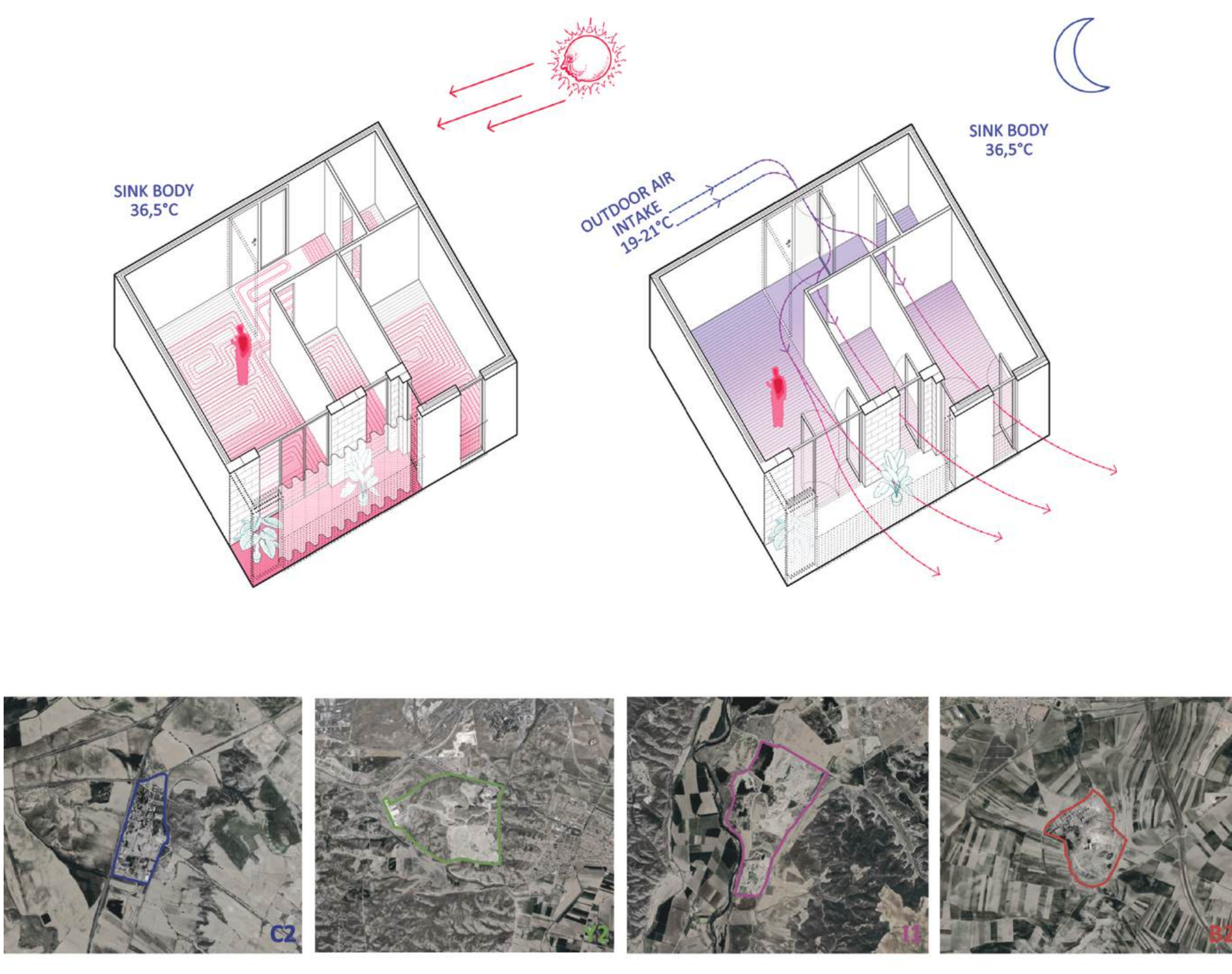
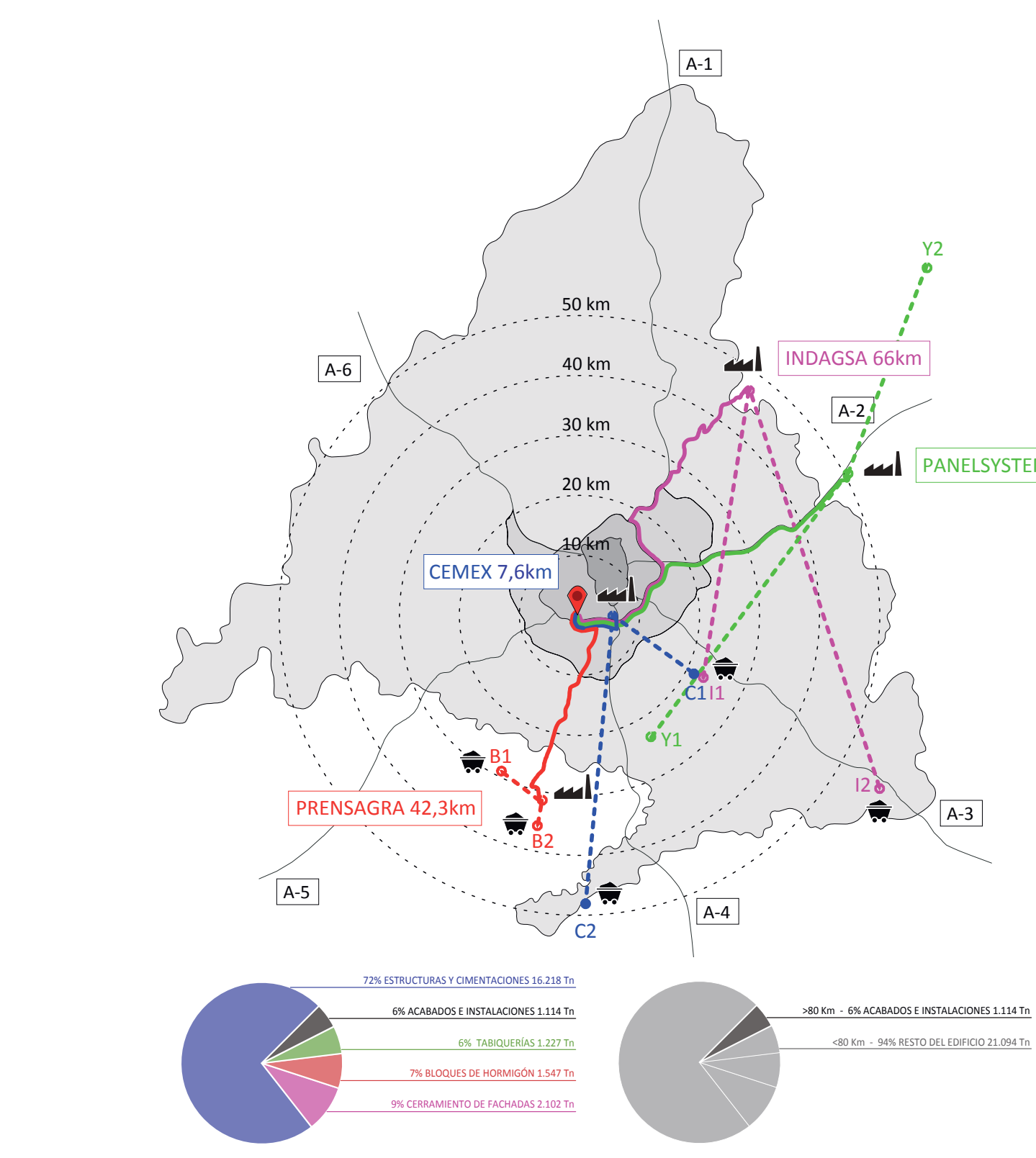
This network has been shaped using form-finding digital design techniques to naturally cool the building during the summer months. It harnesses the cool nocturnal winds that blow from the northwest of Madrid, which can effectively cool any properly oriented building. The spatial network has been parametrically designed to guarantee its climatic performance.

The building's climate adaptation strategy is complemented by a careful study of the material ecologies involved in its construction, acknowledging the relationship between the housing complex and the extraction landscapes from which its materials originate. We consider it essential to examine the dichotomy between extractive mineral—yet durable—materials and biogenic, renewable ones, questioning altogether the current obsession with timber construction.

This question is also addressed from a cultural perspective by integrating Madrid's material identity into the project. The building draws from the grey—sandstone and limestone—material culture of the southern páramos. This massive, monolithic structure is assembled using prefabricated concrete panels in a dry-assembly system, cast with grey aggregates sourced from Madrid's southern steppes.

The same materiality is present in the concrete blocks of the ground-floor façade and in the network of patios, corridors, and social condensers. This material honesty is reinforced by our interest in maintenance-oriented architecture, expressed through prefabricated panels with horizontal trays designed to address weathering and conservation.

Finally, the building also focuses on its occupation and enjoyment, approaching architecture through the lens of everyday experience, where well-being and pleasure are achieved through design. The sole objective of the climatic and metabolic design is to offer users a more intense and pleasurable atmosphere in which to unfold everyday life.

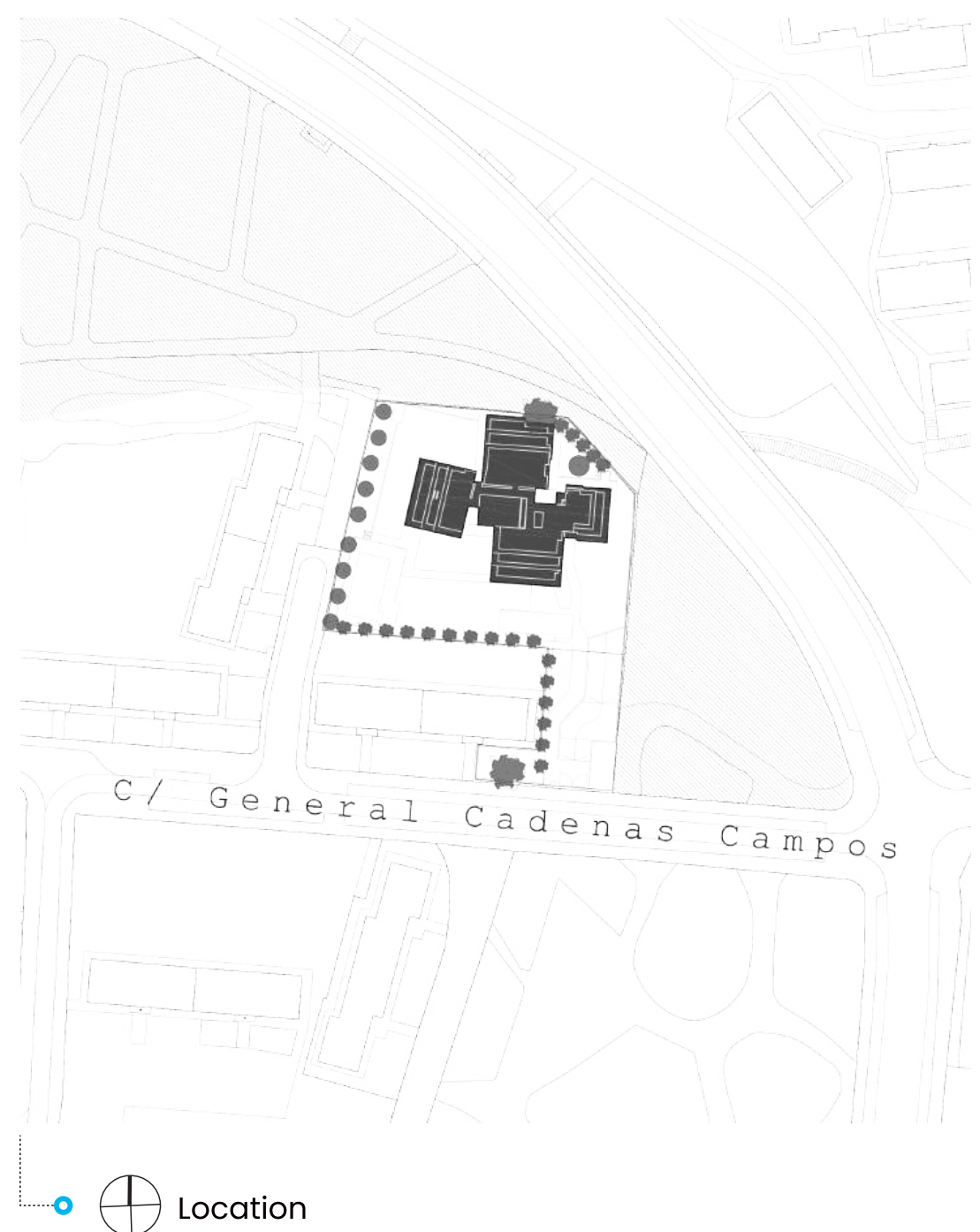


TORRE FLOR. Madrid

03

ESTUDIO MH10
www.estudiomh10.com

Architects	Juan Mera Diana Mera Gemma Díaz Irene García
Typology	Residential
Location	Dehesa de la villa, Madrid
Client	Galivivenda Soc. Coop.
Area	9,300 m ²
Cost	6,5 mill. €
Construction	2021
Engineering	Víctor Sánchez (Ingresa)
Photos by	Javier Longobardo



Torre Flor is a twelve-storey high-rise building with 51 flats, storage rooms, a garage and a communal area with a swimming pool. The plot, located on high ground, becomes a watchtower from which to gaze out over the city's most natural horizons. A tower that is conscious of the fact that the buildings with the greatest responsibility are those that shape the city's skyline. A tower that is a flower.

The plan. Cross plan with a central core. It allows dwellings to get sun on every face.

The wind. The structure of the building is inspired by trees. 18 Tons of steel to reinforce the foundation and 220 Tons of concrete to settle its central core, from which the bidirectional concrete slabs spread.

The orientations. Three orientation dwellings with large windows, protected by eaves and awnings that guarantee enjoyment and comfort.

The vertigo. Windows raise their horizontal posts, but they remain glazed underneath. The eaves visually enlarge the dwellings and frame the landscape.

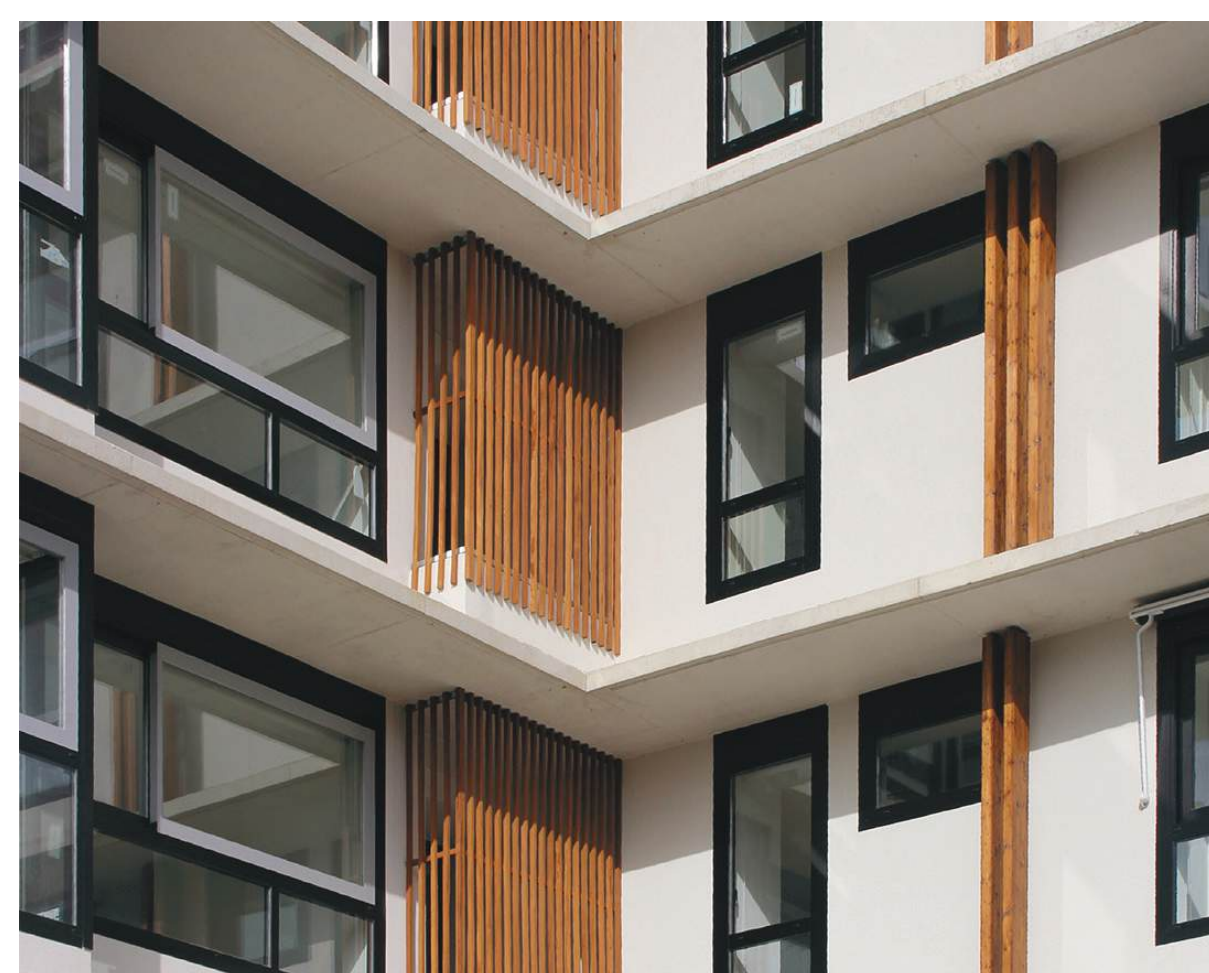
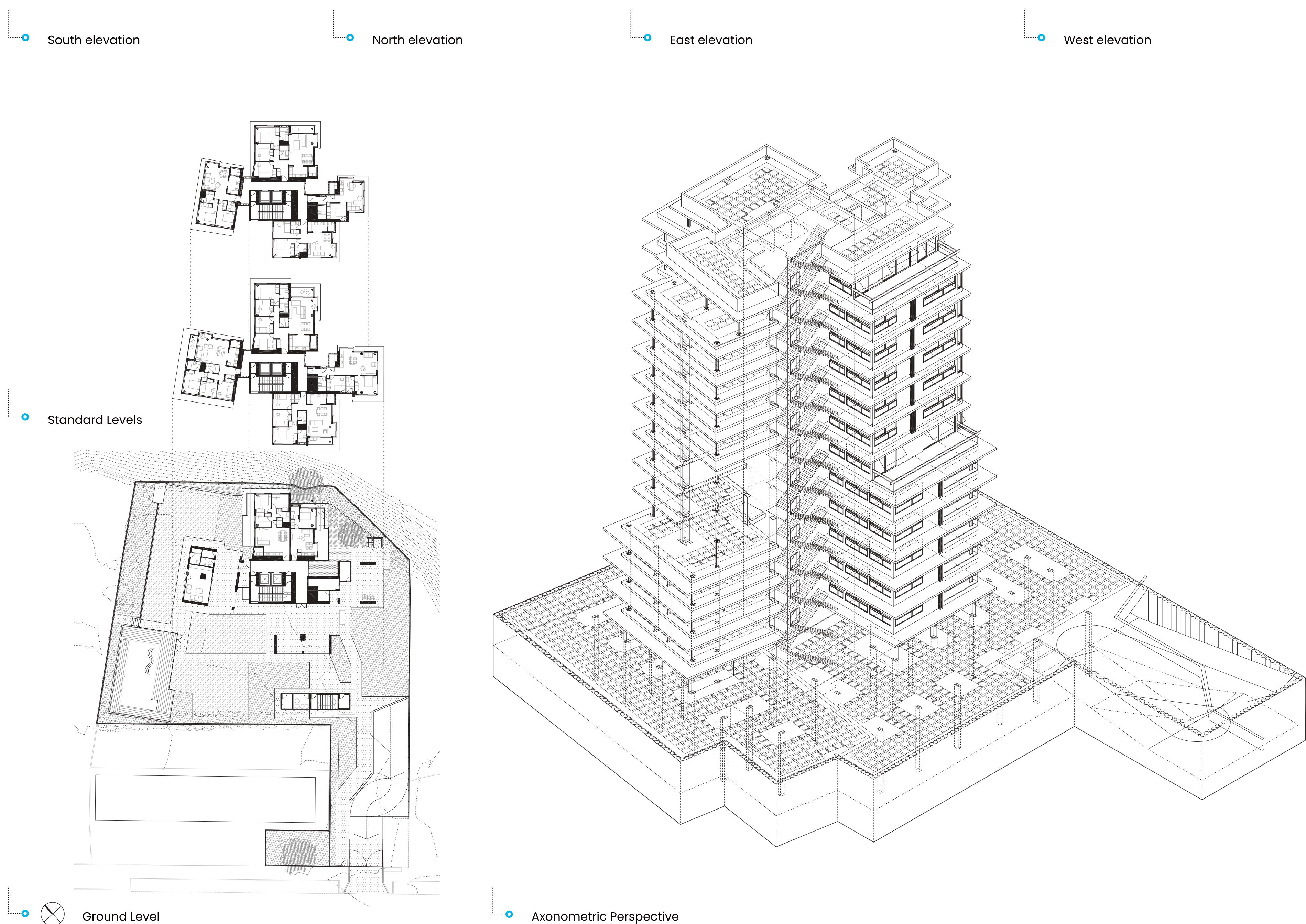
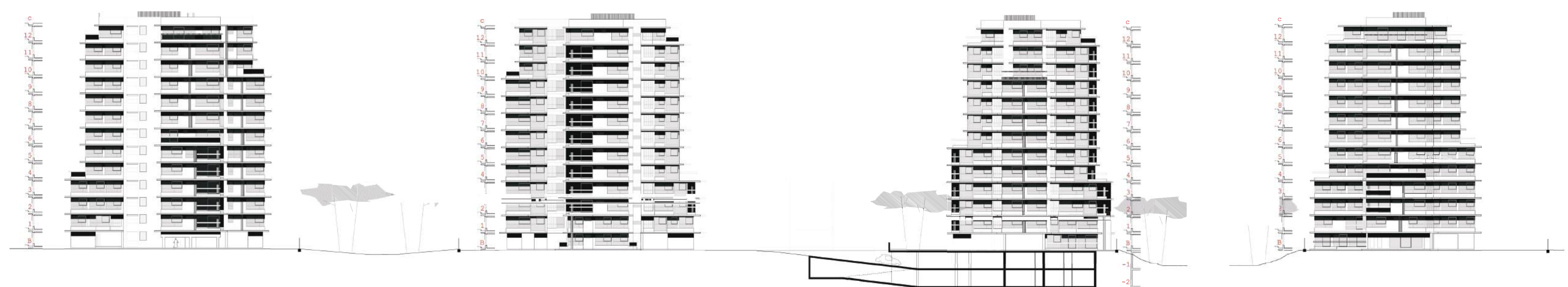
Vertical communications. Two large elevators guarantee the coming and going of the inhabitants. There are also two stairs, vital for safe evacuations.

The skin. The exterior finishing is defined by the structure: a white concrete building that shows itself as it is.

The eaves. Eaves protect from rain, sun, noise, glances and vertigo. They defend the building and protect its inhabitants.

The comfort. It is achieved through a building envelope of low thermal transmittance, sun protection elements and a radiant/refreshing floor powered by geothermal energy.

The night. Living in transparency means habiting while looking at the landscape and transforming residential buildings into the city's lamps.



OUR-SHELVES-HOUSES. Madrid

04

SUMA arquitectura
www.sumaarquitectura.eu

Architect
Elena Orte
Guillermo Sevillano

Typology
Location
Client
Housing cooperative
Madrid, Spain
Our-shelves-houses

Area
Cost
Construction
S.coop
2.046 m²
2.930.477 €
2021

Engineering
Miguel Nevado

Photos by
Jesús Granada



A unique housing cooperative in Madrid, located in a low-density area of Arturo Soria's Linear City that has lost part of its original garden-city character. The building reinterprets this heritage with a landscaped perimeter and an open block that frees a communal garden at the rear, sheltered from street noise. Elevated slightly, it allows circulation through a porch beneath the homes, each with private side gardens.

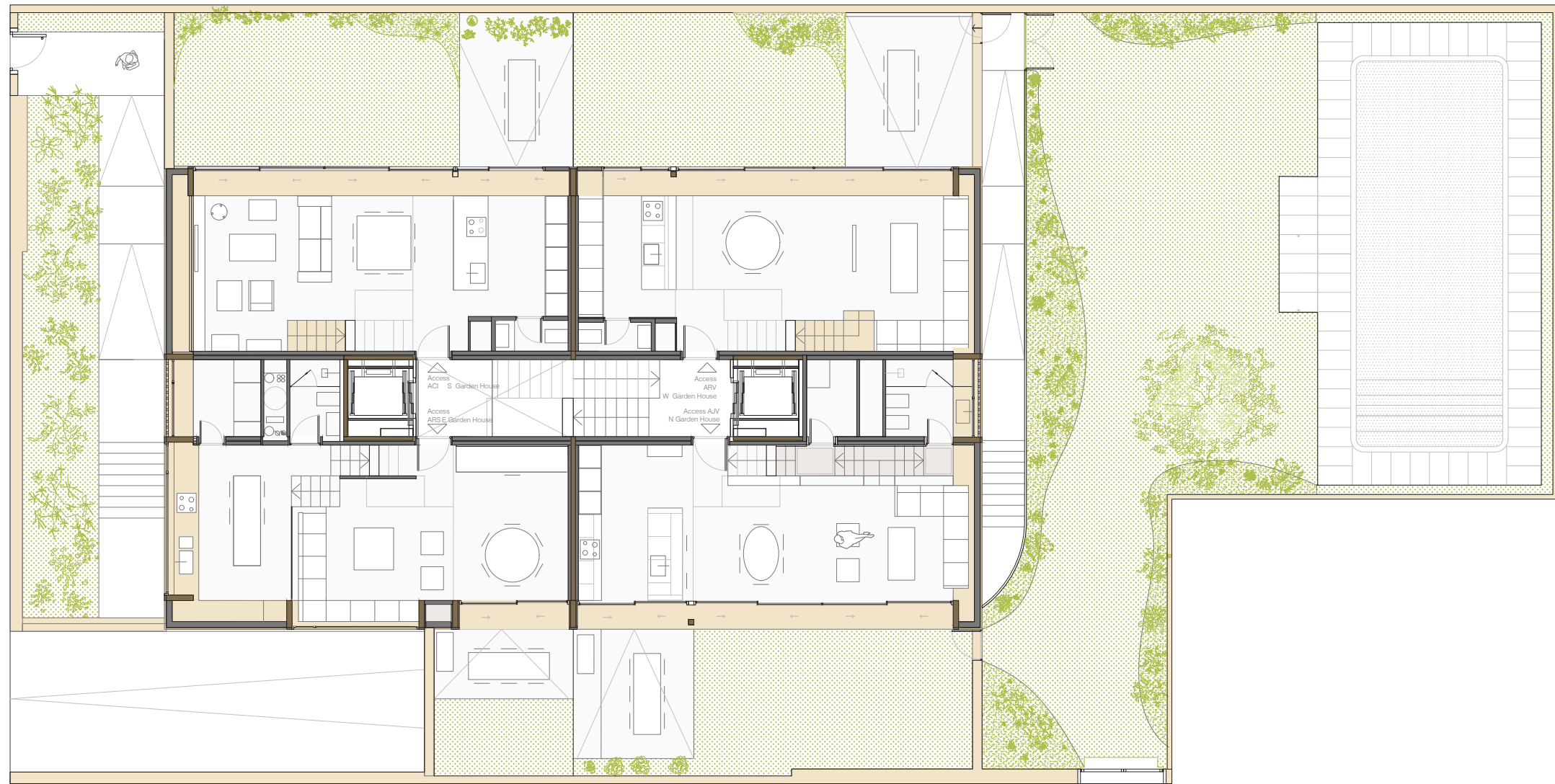
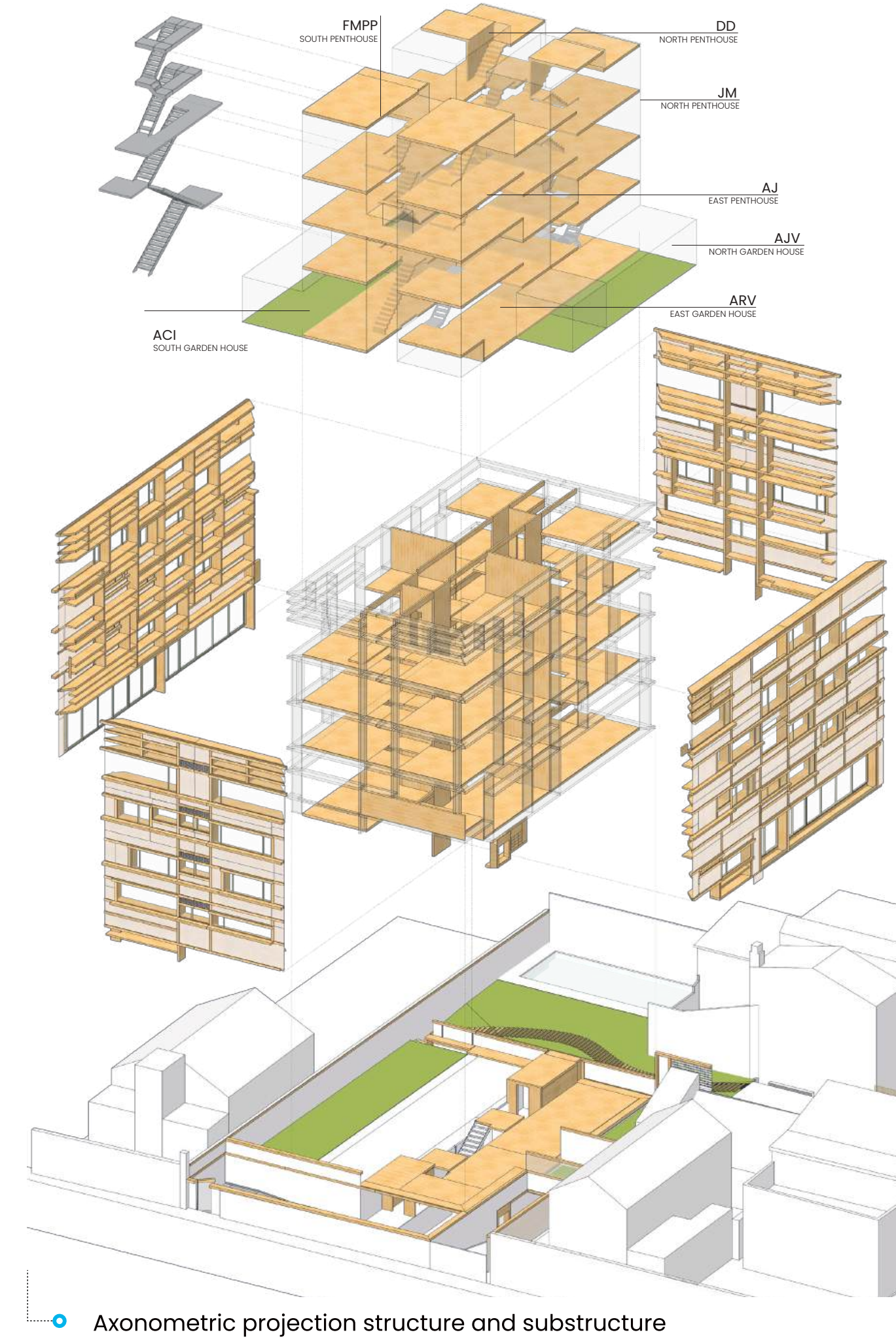
Typological Innovation: The building is composed entirely of duplexes: ground-floor homes with gardens and penthouses with terraces. The staggered section connects interiors with exterior spaces, gives living rooms generous height, transforms the central staircase into a vertical core, and turns each dwelling into its own landscape.

Architects as entrepreneurs: Led by SUMA Arquitectura, the cooperative united eight young families to design and develop their first homes. Each of the eight three-bedroom duplexes has private outdoor space and access to shared facilities—garden, pool, parking, storage, laundry, and multipurpose rooms. Through interviews and iterative design, every household achieved a tailored home, making key decisions beyond surface finishes. The structure itself is a dense, modular framework that integrates furniture (closets, desks, shelving), optimizing privacy and light.

Socializing Structure: The exposed red spruce and Scots pine framework—prefabricated in CLT and GLT—rises from a concrete base, offering hygrothermal comfort, efficiency, and tactile warmth.

Ecosystemic design: Energy systems include aerothermal heating/cooling, mechanical ventilation with heat recovery, solar thermal panels, rainwater harvesting, and retractable awnings to ensure efficiency and comfort.

Constructing Social Bonds: As a cooperative, each home embodies the identity and priorities of its owners. After a long, participatory process, every family can truthfully say theirs is the best possible home.



TOMÁS BRETÓN. Madrid

05

SATT TRIPLE BALANCE | TABIM
www.satt.es | www.tabim.es

Architect Iñaki Alonso, Luis Escudero

Typology Ecological cohousing
Location Arganzuela, Madrid
Client Distrito Natural
Area 3.734 m²
Cost 3.774.795 €
Construction 2024-2025

Engineering Daniel Pascual
Miguel A. Rodríguez Nevado
Francisco Suárez Fernández

Photos by Andrés Valentín-Gamazo



Tomás Bretón is a **Triple Impact building**: environmental, social and economic. A building that takes care of people and the planet.

Certification: **Passivhaus.**
Energy certificate "A"

Heating demand (CTE): **6,26 kWh/m² year**
Cooling demand (CTE): **10,57 kWh/m² year**
Consumption (CTE): **0,31 kWh/m² year**
Installed Peak Photovoltaic Power: **33,3 kW**

Carbon Footprint: **532 tn CO₂**
Carbon Footprint: **142,53 kg CO₂/m²c**

The building is a residential block including 20 apartments, storage rooms and garage. The project includes communal spaces for residents, designed as an extension of the dwellings located on the ground floor and fifth floor such as two common rooms, garden, cycle parking, common rooftop and a vegetable garden.

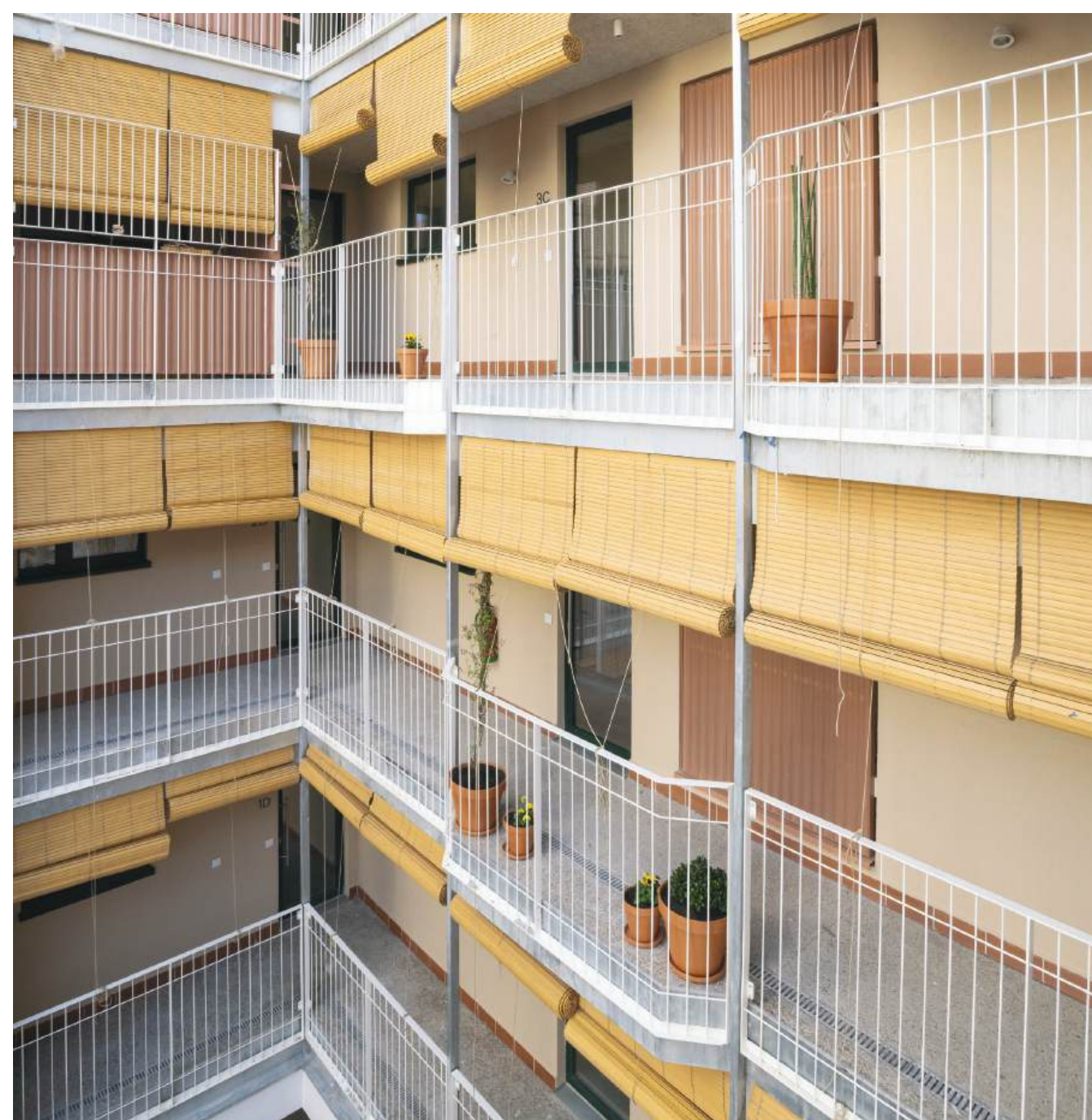
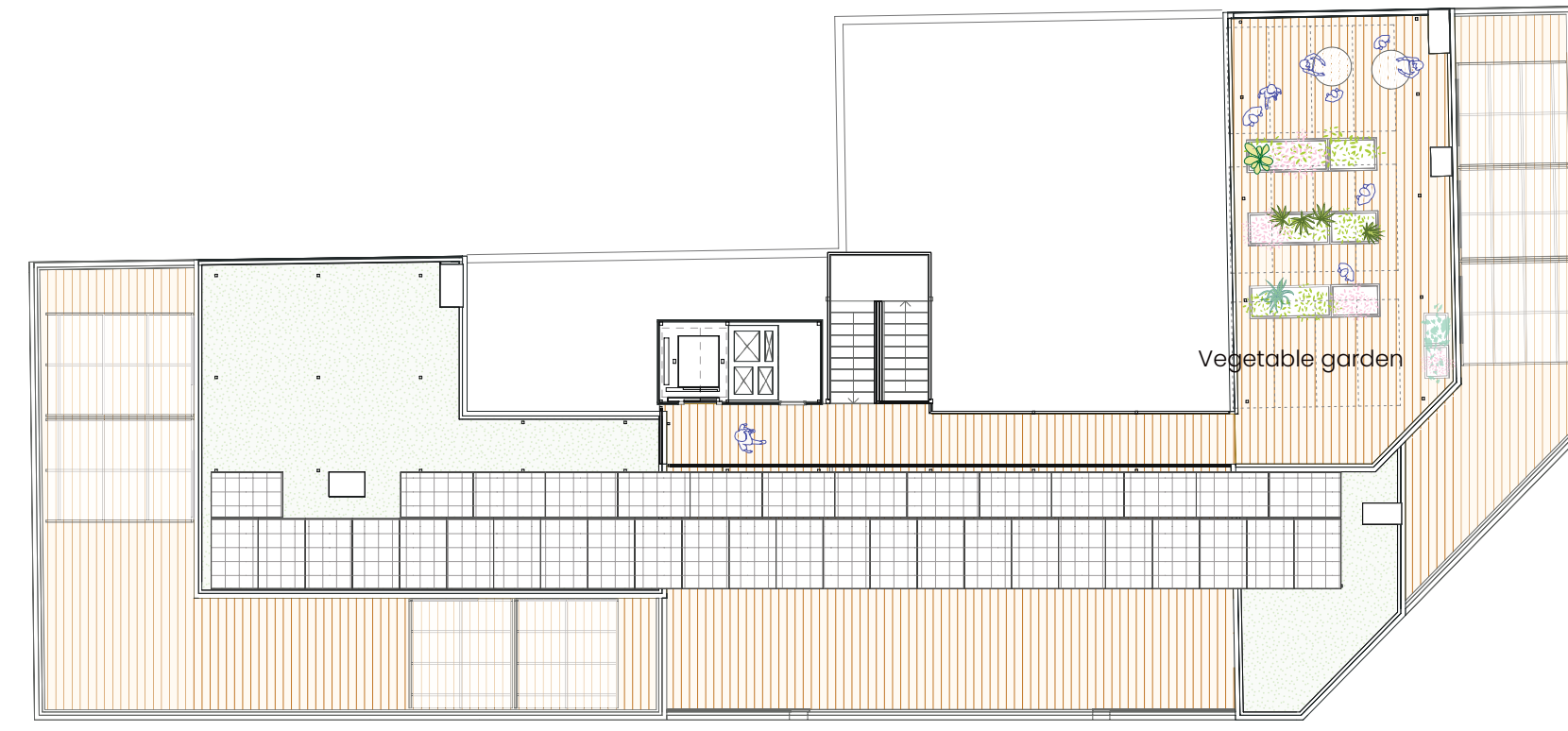
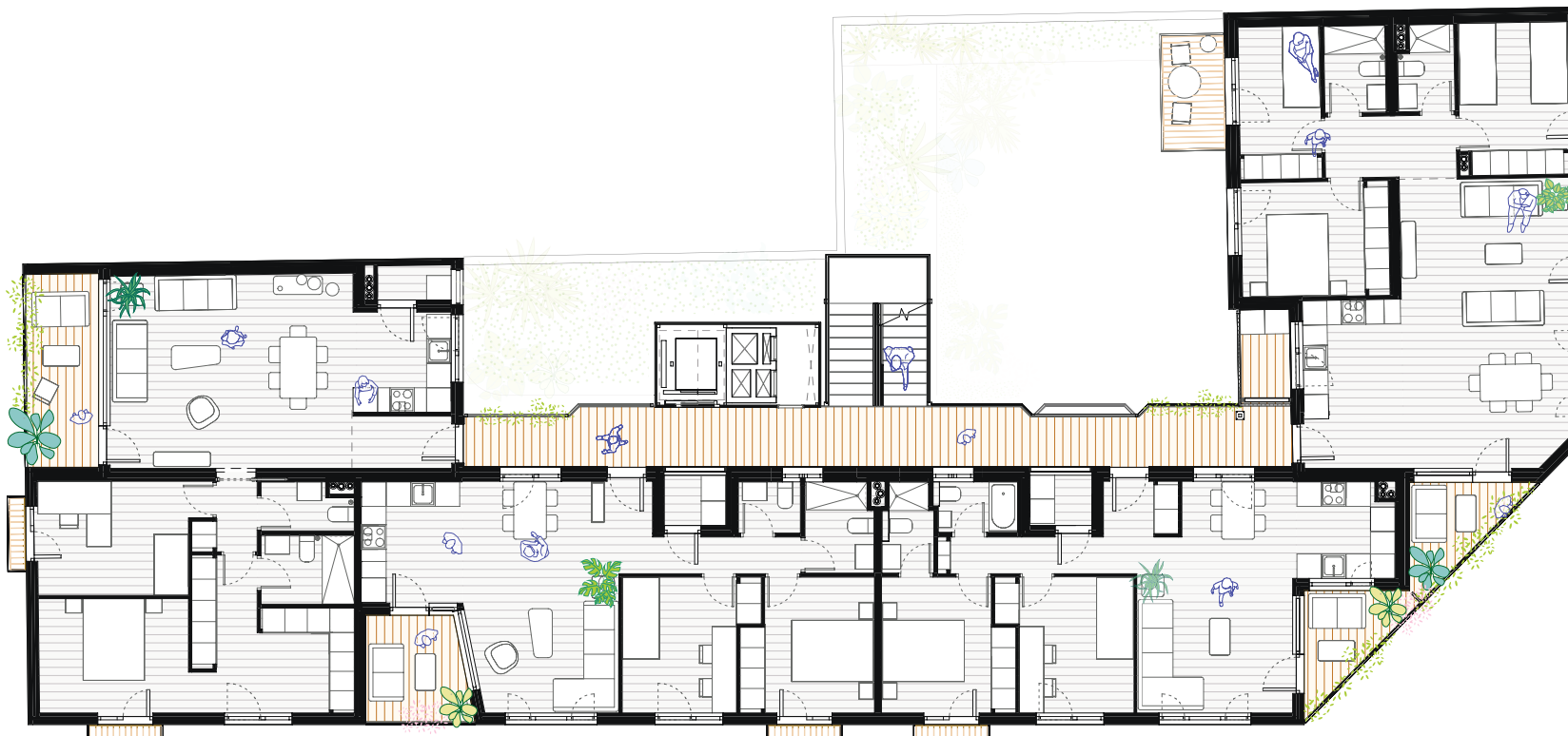
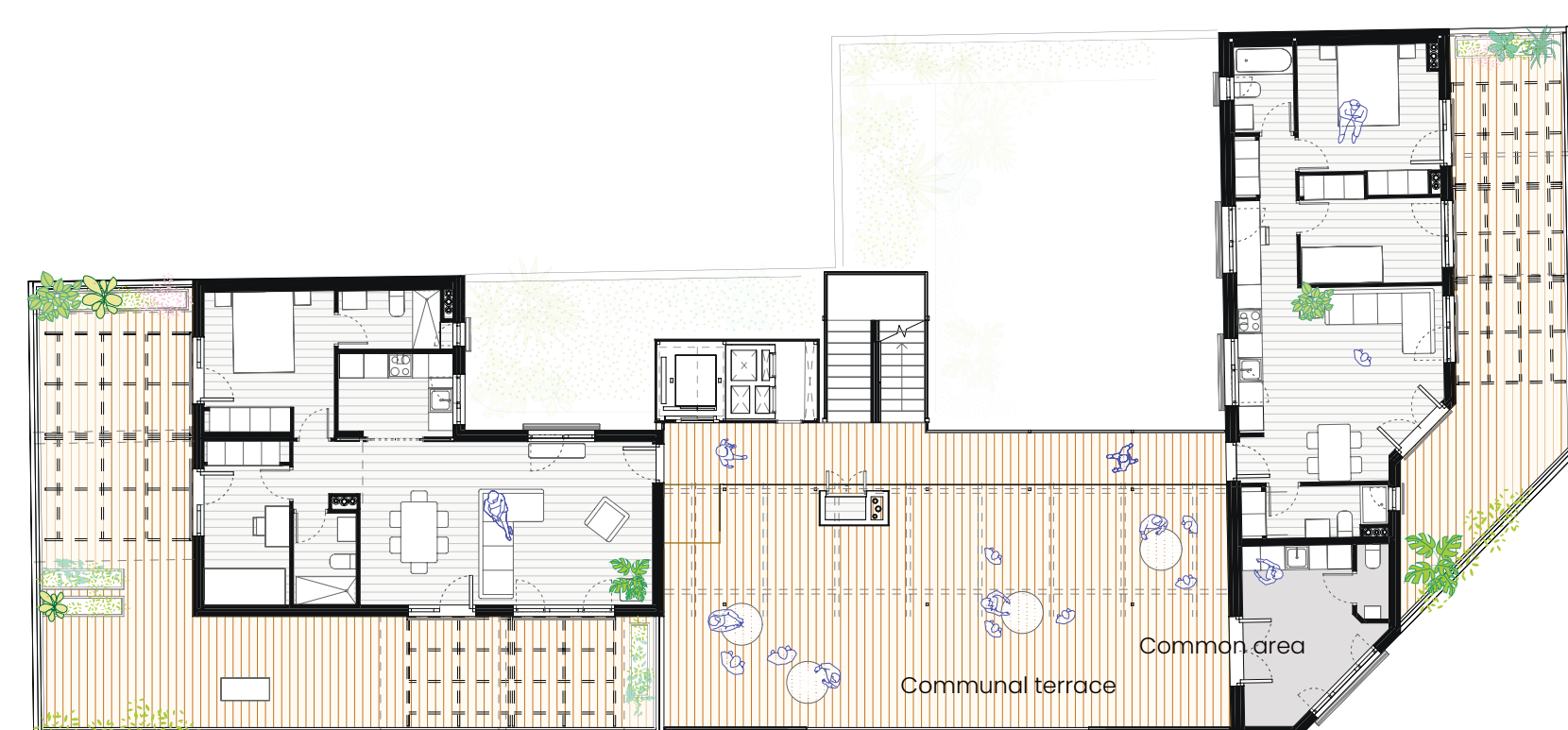
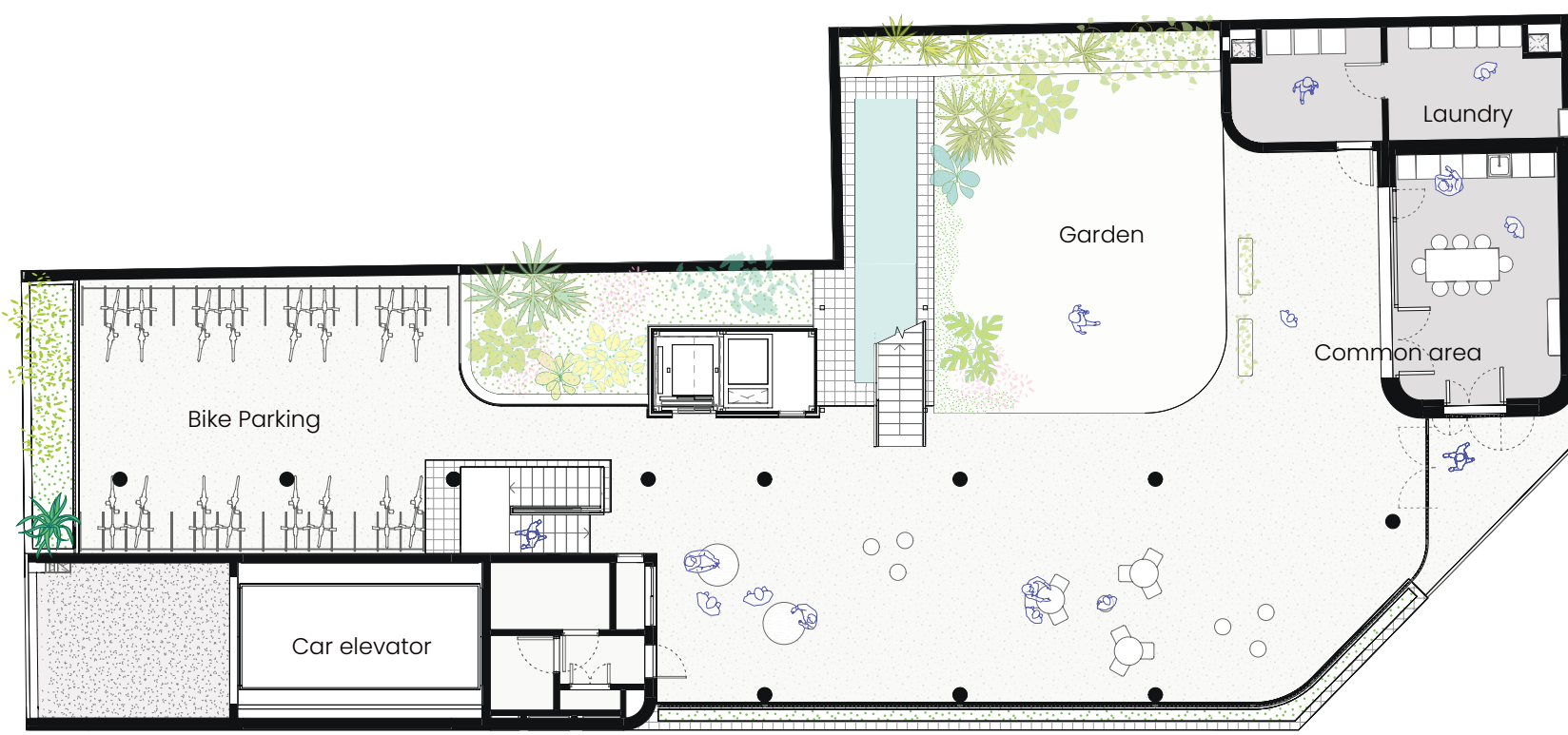
The volume is shaped to create an interior courtyard where the staircase is located. This not only optimizes radiant energy but also creates communal corridors and terraces fostering a strong social dimension and encouraging a sense of community through these and other collective facilities.

This typology improves the bioclimatic performance of the apartments, with the service areas (kitchens, bathrooms, drying areas) facing northwest (towards the courtyard) and the living spaces (living rooms and bedrooms) facing southeast.

The fact that all them have this dual orientation allows for cross ventilation, which complements the proposed controlled mechanical ventilation system.

Priority is given to economically achievable environmental aspects through passive or low-energy design of the dwellings and a local renewable energy production. Furthermore, the project promotes the establishment of local, closed-loop energy, water, and waste cycles throughout the lifecycle of the apartments.

It is a responsible and productive building with a positive impact on health achieved through high indoor air quality, abundant natural light, thermal and acoustic comfort and the use of healthy materials.



RENOVATION OF PLAZA DE ESPAÑA. Madrid

06

ESTUDIO GUADIANA + PORRAS LA CASTA
www.estudioguadiana.com
www.porraslacasta.com

Architects
Lorenzo Fernández-Ordóñez
Aránzazu La Casta
Fernando Porras-Isla

Typology
Location
Client
Area
Cost
Construction

Public Space
Madrid
Madrid City Council
120.000 m² above ground,
30.000 m² below ground
98.000.000 €
2019 - 2022

Engineering
Prointec, Grahen

Photos by
Imagen Subliminal



The project deeply transforms the urban space between Madrid's Royal Palace, Plaza de España, Gran Vía, and the Debod Temple Park, an area of immense scenic and cultural value in the city center. The proposal is based on four main strategies or axes of intervention:

-A continuous pedestrian route is established by removing architectural barriers, implementing universal accessibility measures, and eliminating car traffic on the urban surface.

-A new green corridor links previously disconnected green areas: Plaza de Oriente, the Sabatini Gardens, Parque del Oeste, and Madrid Río park. Over a thousand trees are planted, creating a vital connection in an environmental corridor that links the Casa de Campo (a huge park covering over 1,700 hectares) to La Sierra, the mountains to the north of Madrid.

-The plan introduces a new mobility model by reducing space for motorized traffic and relocating private vehicles underground via a subterranean passage. It also expands the city's cycling network, linking previously interrupted routes.

-A new cultural route unveils hidden archaeological remains, such as the cellars of the Godoy Palace, the Sabatini buttress wall, and the arches of the San Gil barracks, making them visible to the public.

Since its renovation was completed in 2022, the new public space has been enjoyed by thousands of people, including local residents, city dwellers, and occasional visitors. The new spatial fluidity appears as if it has always been there and was essential for the city's well-being.

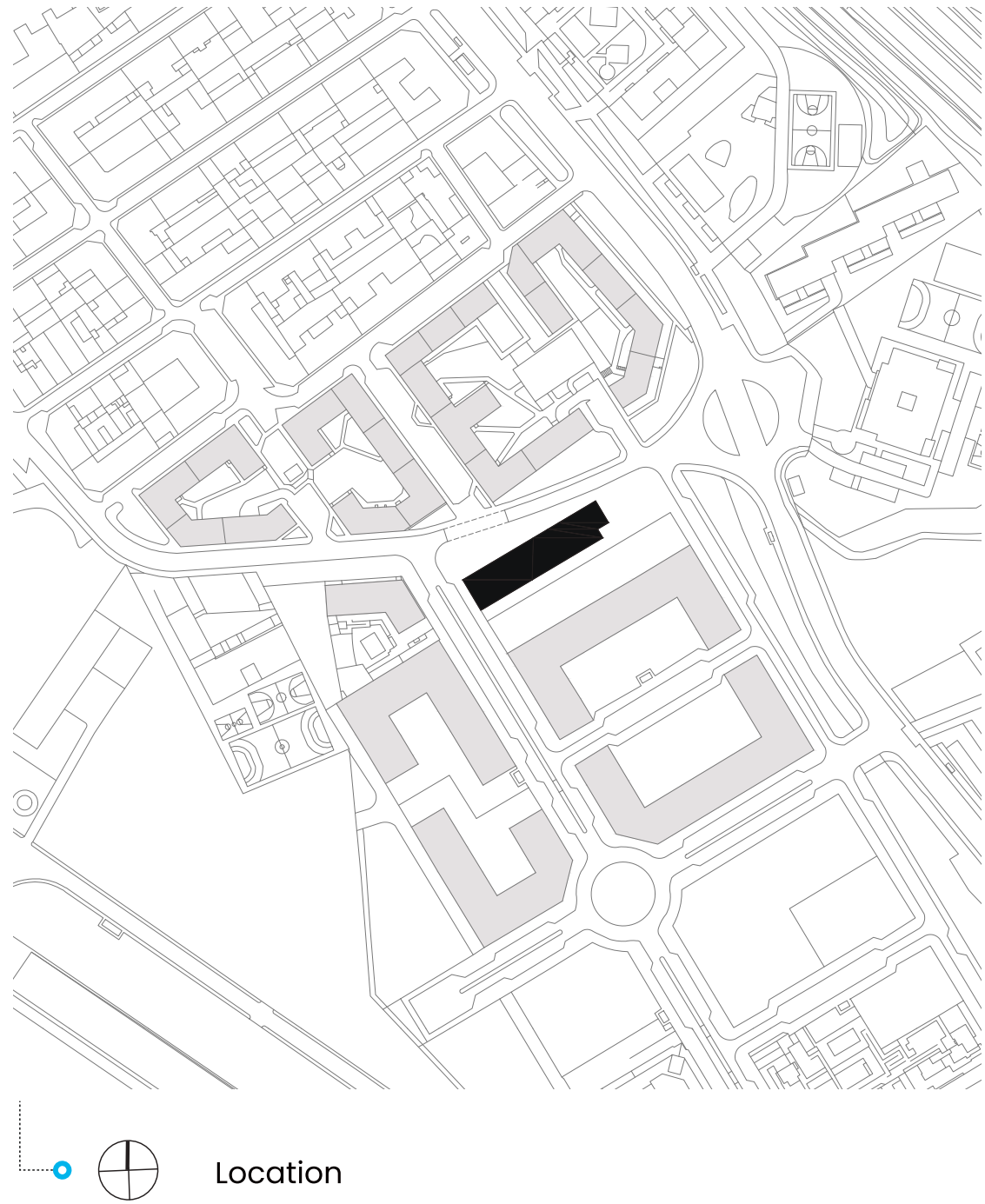


THE THOUSAND SUNS LIBRARY. Madrid

07

MADC & Partners
www.madcandpartners.com

Architect	Miguel Angel Diaz Camacho
Typology	Public Architecture
Location	Madrid, Spain
Client	The City Council of Madrid
Area	2.763 m ²
Cost	4.500.000 €
Construction	2024
Engineering	Calter, Urculo, Egoin
Photos by	Javier Callejas Sevilla

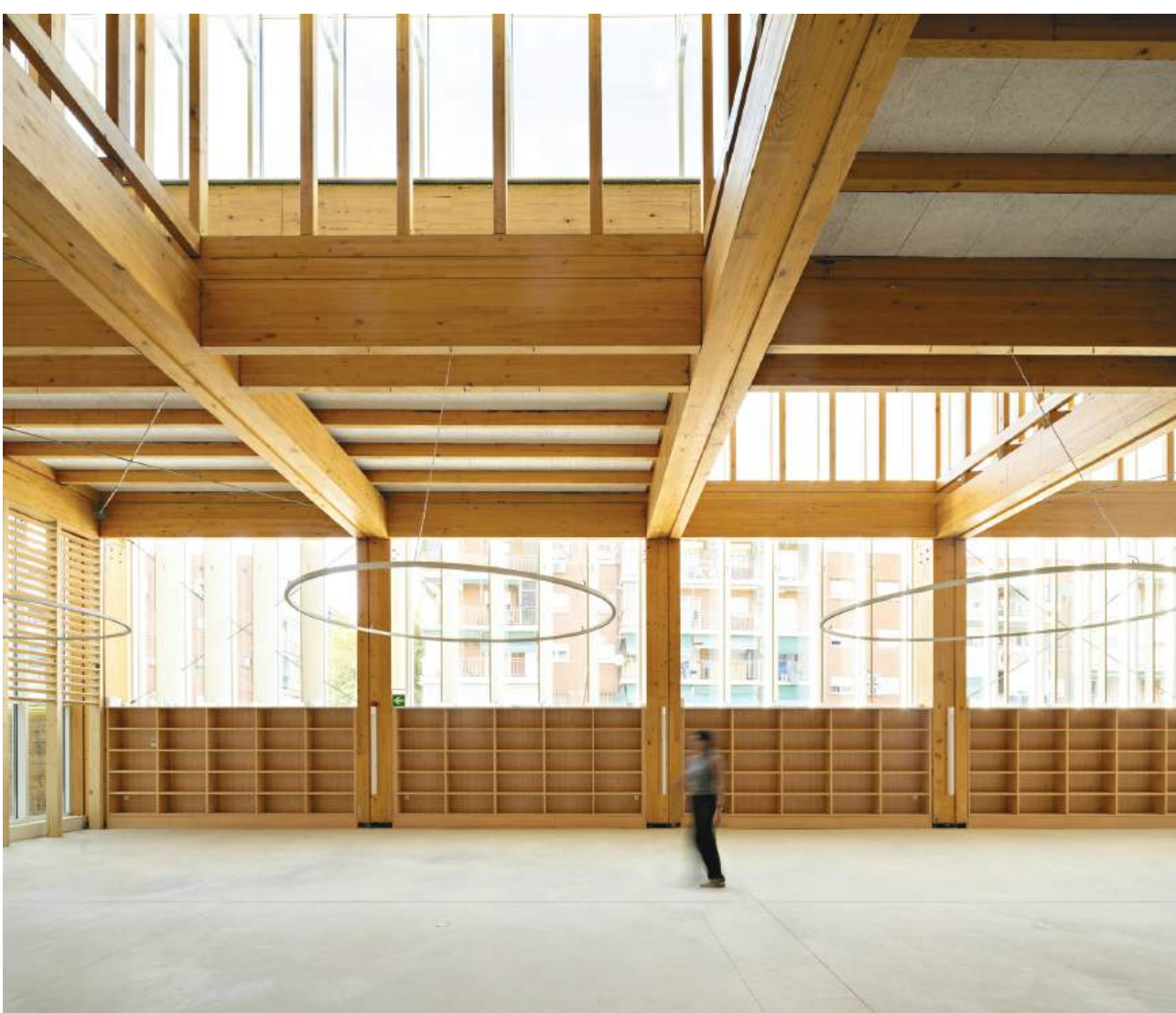
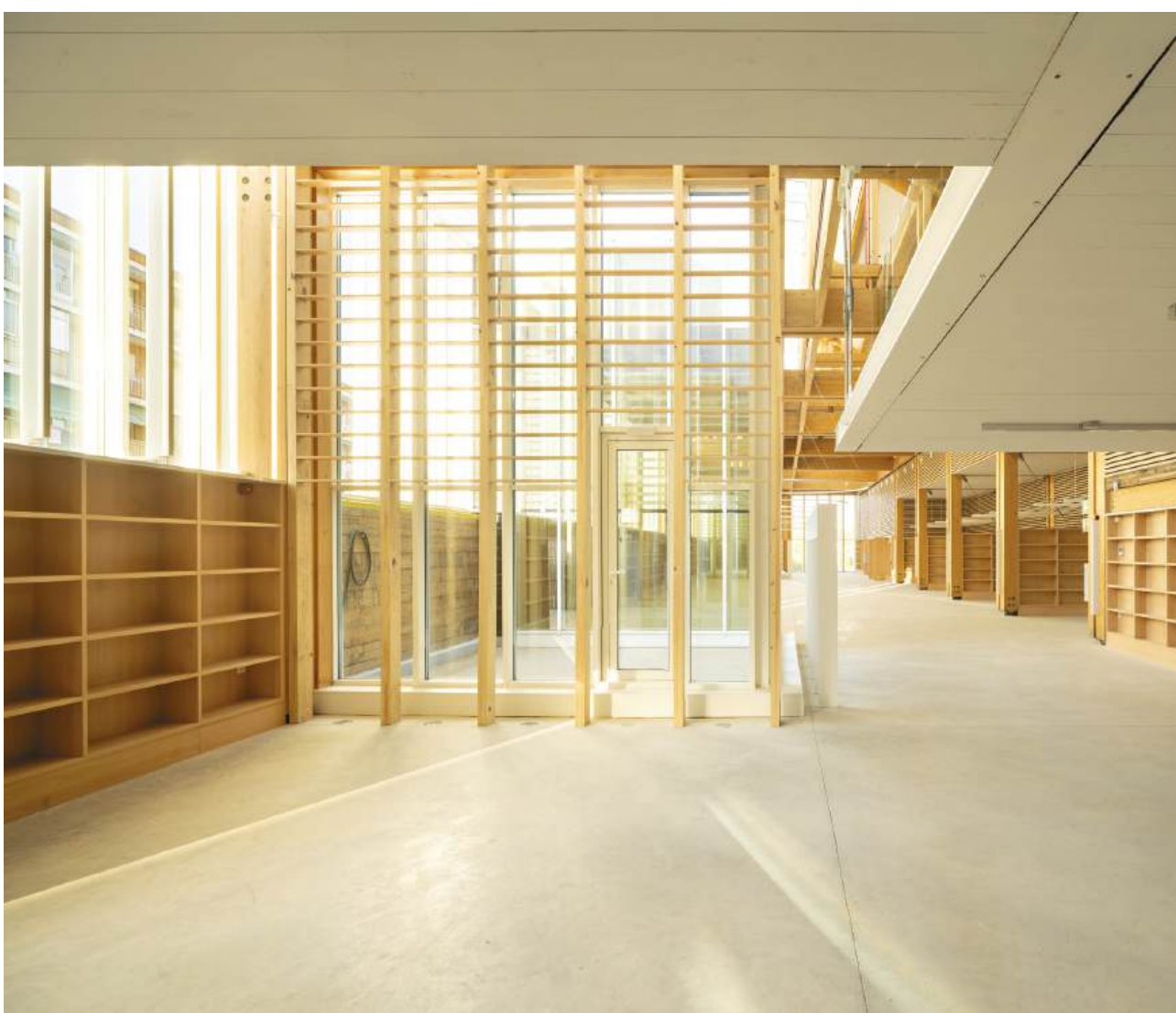
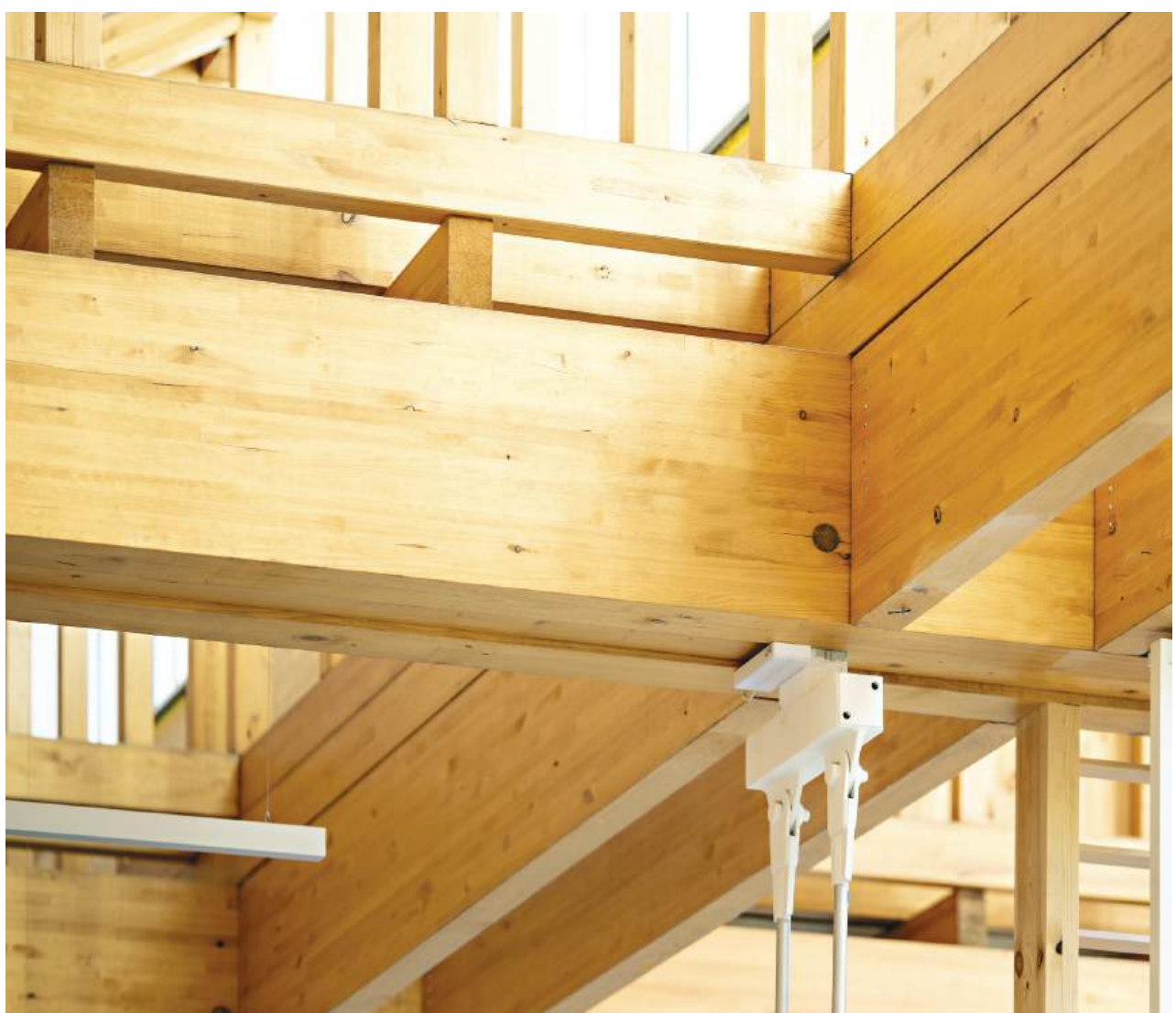
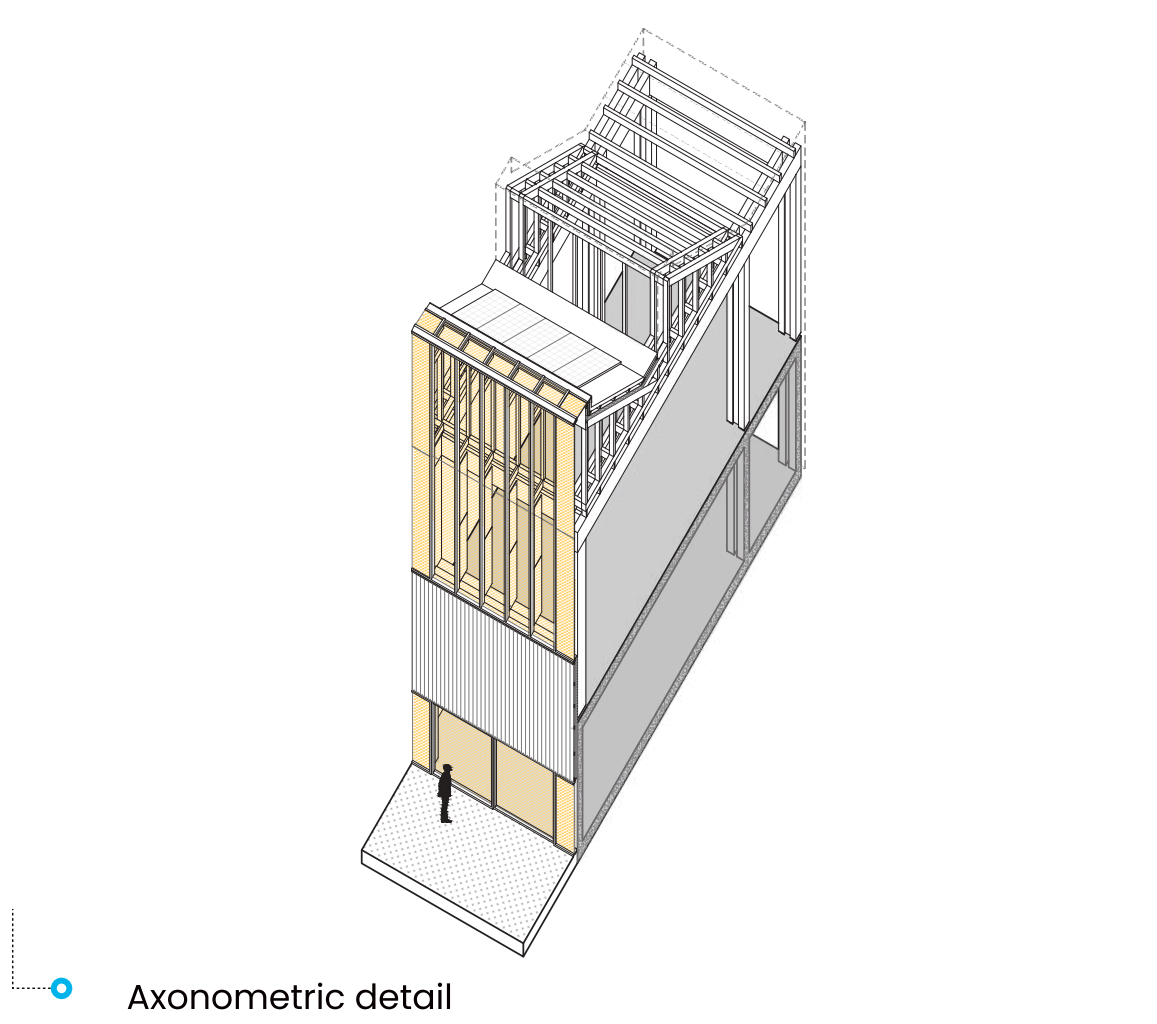
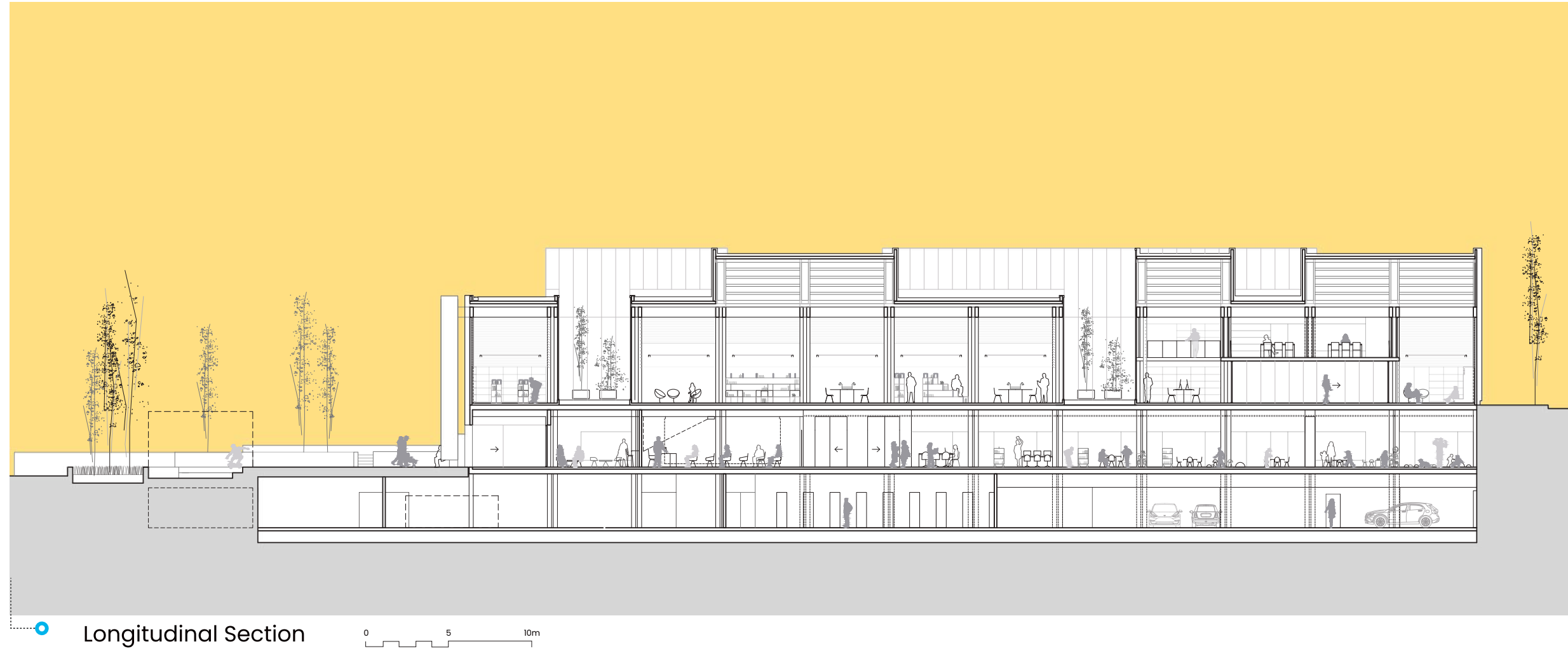
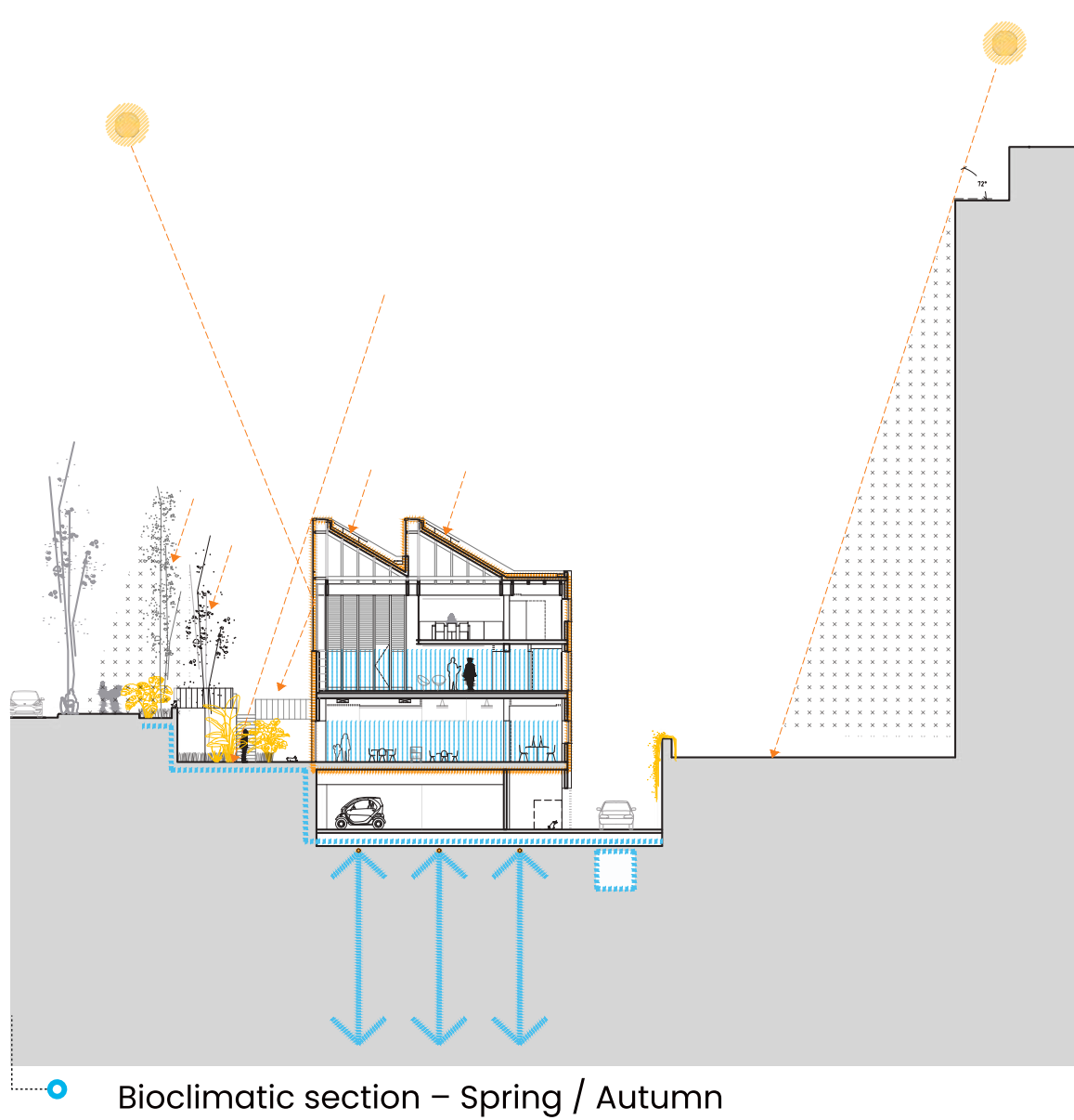
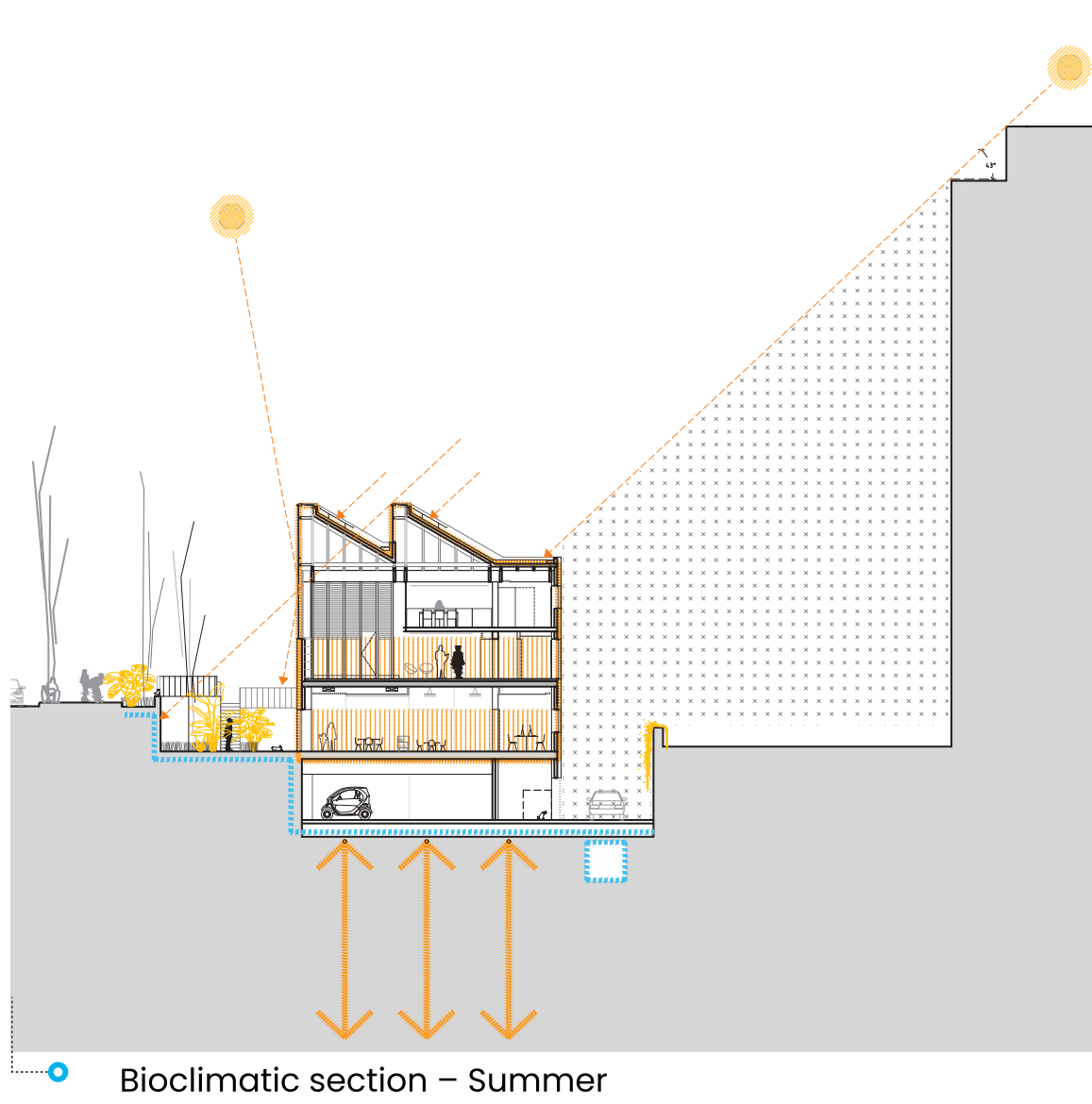
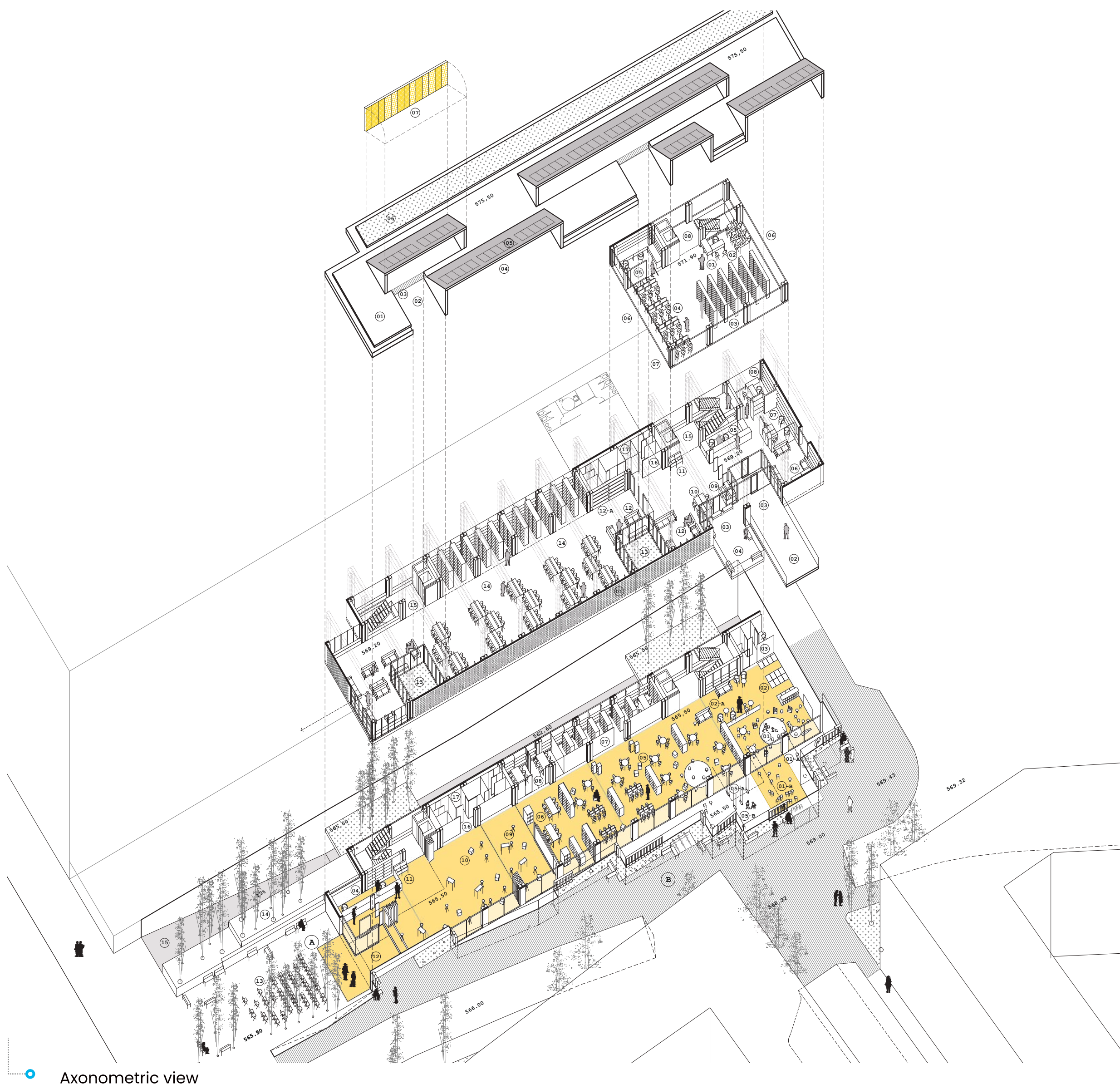


The Thousand Suns Library is a transformative project for social, urban, and environmental renewal in one of Madrid's most vulnerable neighborhoods. As the district's first public library, it'll enhance residents' quality of life by providing culture, beauty, sustainability, and togetherness.

The project establishes a green corridor that links to the Manzanares River and the "Metropolitan Forest" project, transforming a site previously occupied by old factories and polluted land. In its place, we have designed a high-quality public space and open-access cultural facility. The metal cladding references the site's industrial past, while a warm timber framework defines the interior space. Natural light becomes the primary material of the design, creating a rich atmosphere through multiple mechanisms of filtered illumination.

To the south of the site, a high-rise residential block casts a deep shadow over the plot. The project responds to this challenge not by resisting, but by transforming it, introducing a constellation of elements designed to capture and reflect natural light: the "thousand suns." Sunlight is drawn into the building through an array of light-collecting strategies: patios, skylights, vertical slats along the northwest façade, lattices surrounding the courtyards, and even the undersides of tree canopies. As night falls, the library inverts its role, glowing from within; it becomes a luminous lantern in the landscape.

Inside, the timber structure, wooden roof, and skylights come together to reveal the full scale and craftsmanship of the exposed beams and trusses. The ceiling's white wood-shaving "sponge" panels, alongside the natural grain and knots of the timber, are displayed in striking detail, inviting a tactile and sensory connection to the material. The delicate scent of wood, the gentle reflection of light, the warm acoustic quality, and the innate materiality of the space coalesce to form an environment that is both intimate and radiant, perfectly suited for study, contemplation, and quiet introspection.



NURSERY SCHOOL L.F.M. Madrid

08

ALE ESTUDIO
b-ground arquitectura
Des Clics et del Calques

Architect
Camille Besuelle
Nathalie Couineau
Berta González
Alegria Zorrilla

Typology
Public Architecture

Location
Madrid

Client
A.E.F.E y L.F.M.

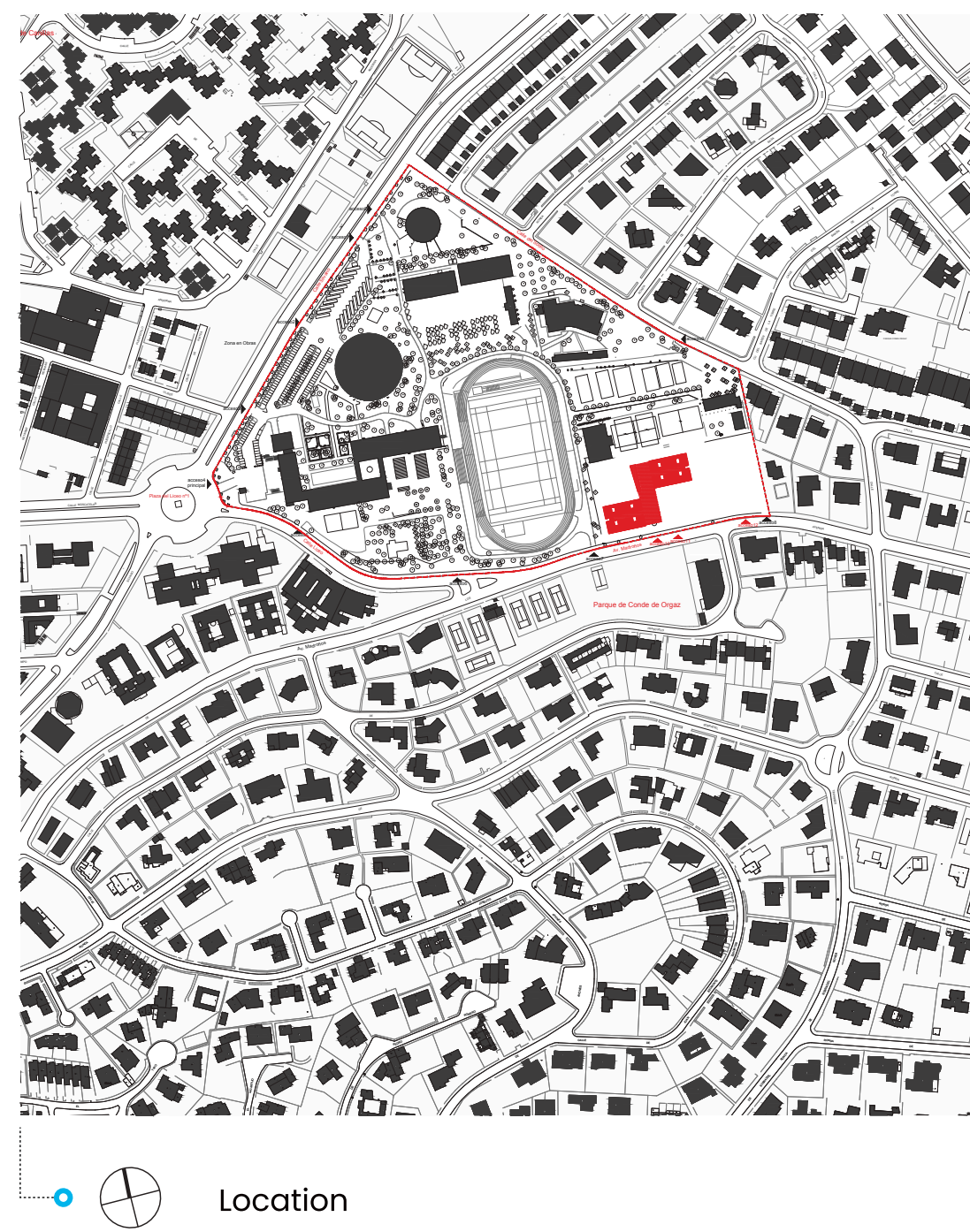
Area
5300 m² int + 5500 m² ext

Cost
5.300.000 €

Construction
2021

Engineering
C. Jofemar S.L.
JG Ingenieros

Photos by
Paula Arroyo
Juan Sepúlveda photo



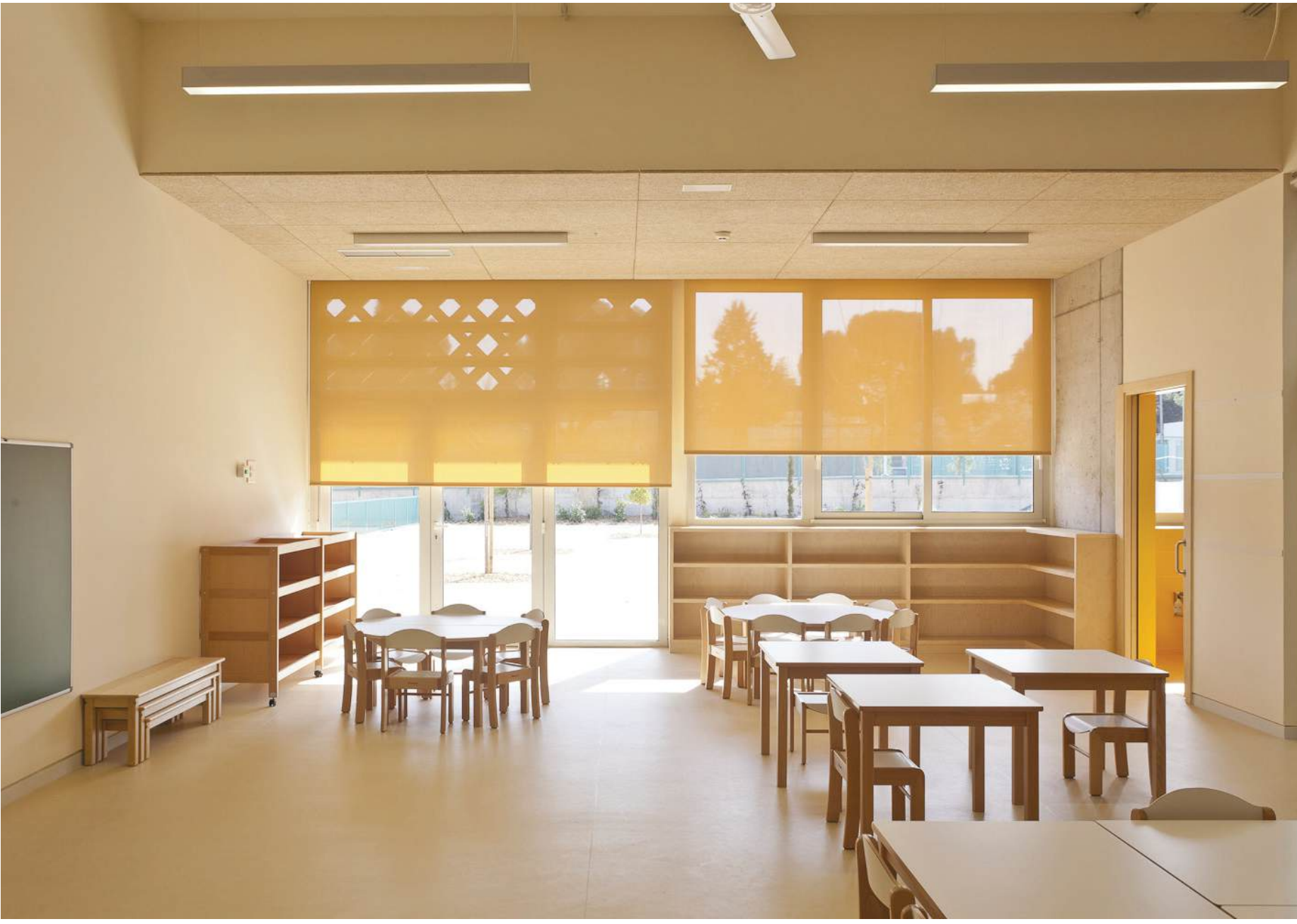
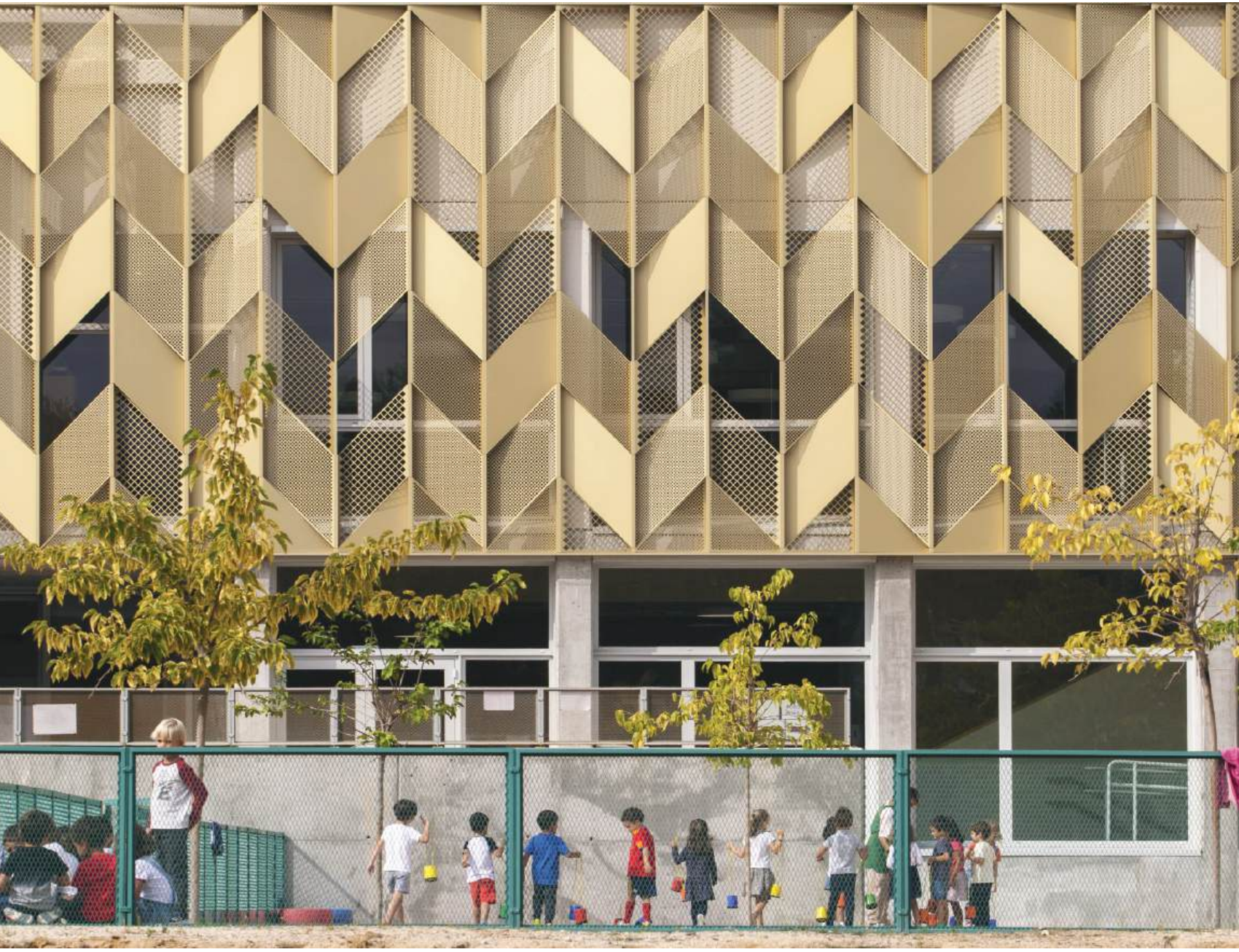
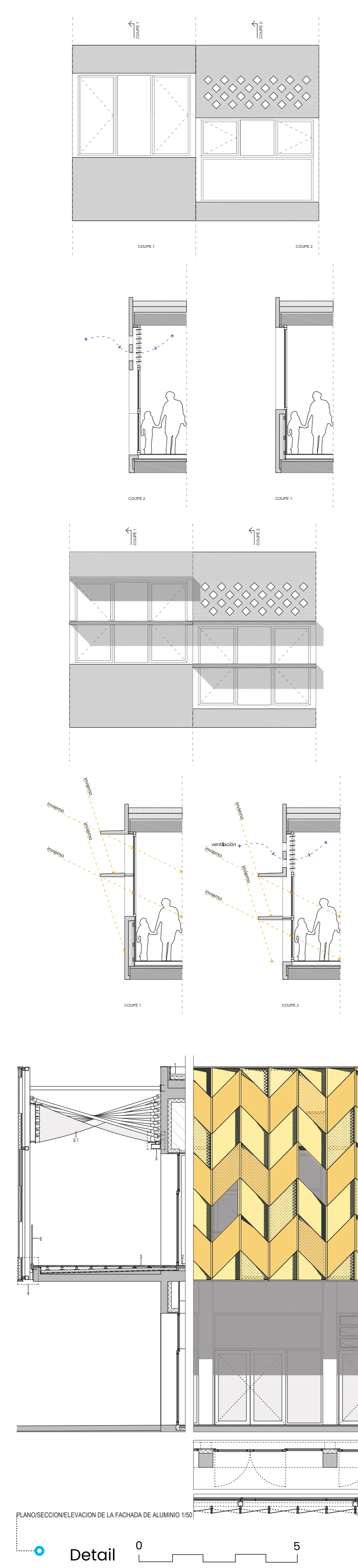
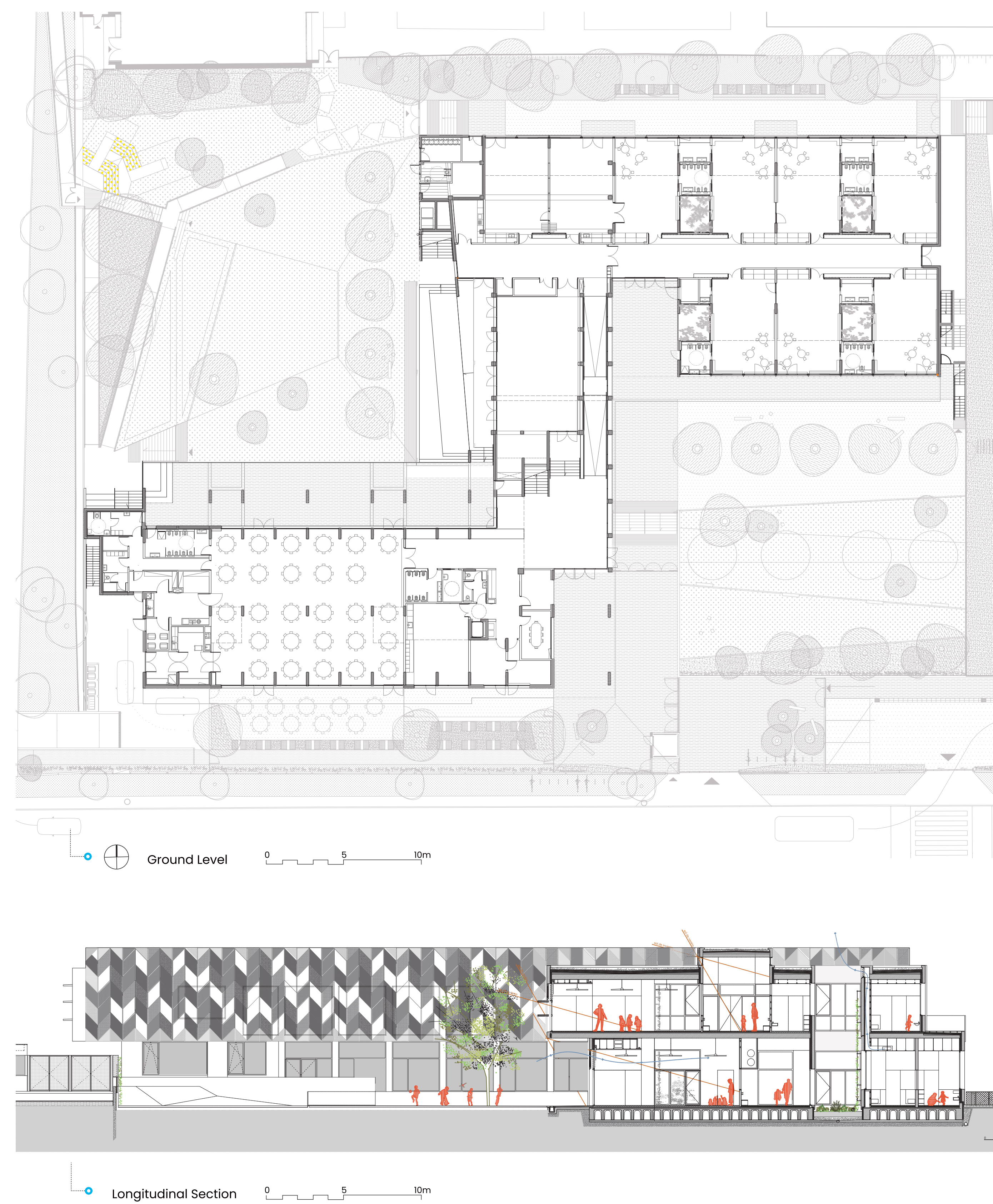
The project originates from an international competition that offered the opportunity to design an efficient building meeting the HQE (High Environmental Quality) certification standards. Set within a green campus, the nursery is composed of three low volumes that adapt to the children's scale while maintaining coherence with the existing educational buildings. The classroom façades follow a modular rhythm that simplifies prefabrication and construction processes.

The central volume is defined by an aluminum cladding of overlapping scales, the school's most distinctive feature. This shimmering skin reacts to light and the nearby treetops, generating ever-changing reflections and shadows. It also forms intermediate spaces that extend classroom activities outdoors, fostering interaction between architecture and landscape.

A close relationship with nature guided the design. Classrooms open directly to patios, gardens, and orchards, while smaller inner courtyards bring vegetation inside, allowing children to perceive seasonal changes. Deciduous trees and low-maintenance plant species were chosen to provide natural solar control and reduce water use. Material selection prioritized natural, low-VOC components such as wood fiber panels, birch boards, linoleum flooring, and eco-friendly paints.

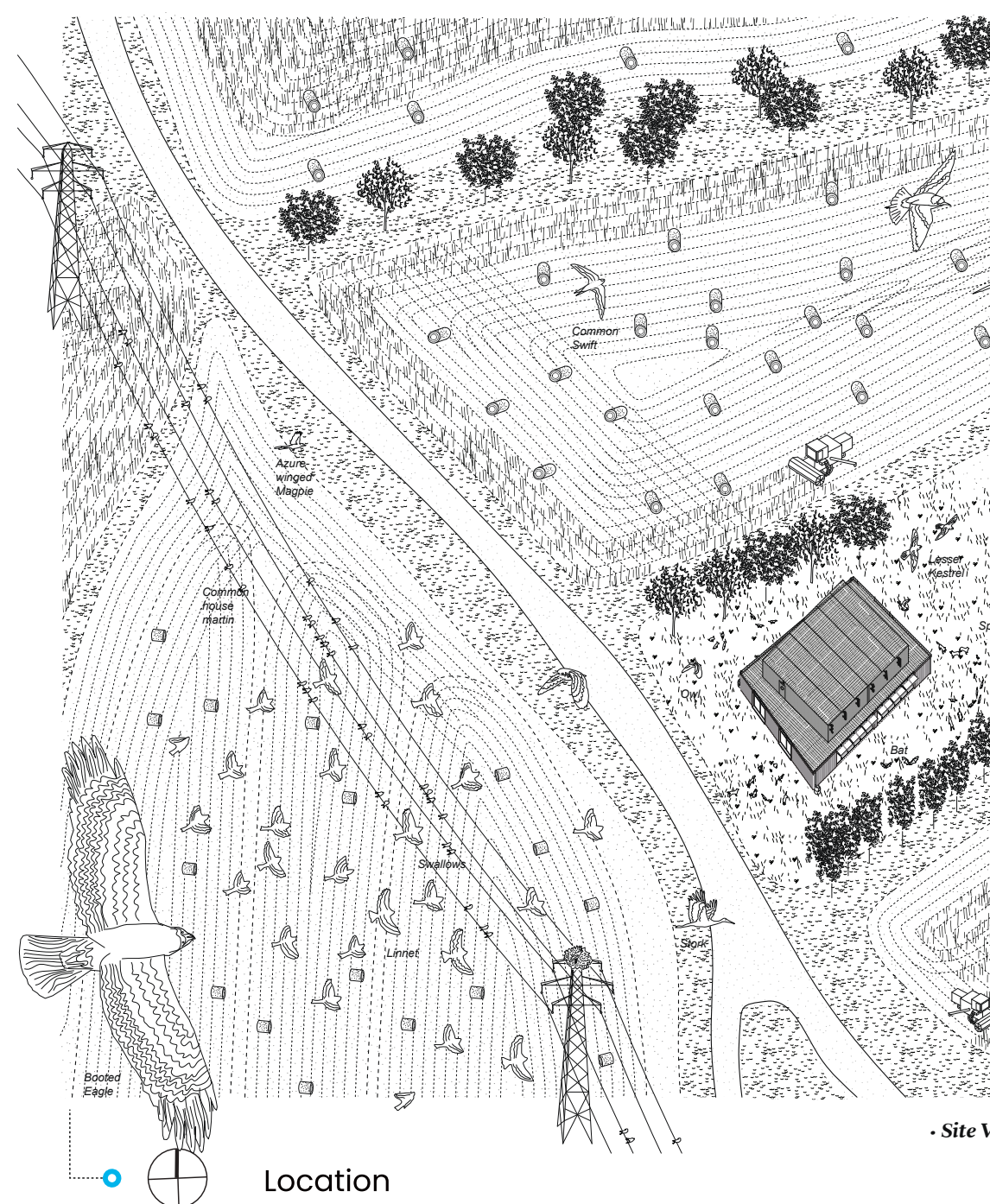
Passive strategies ensure thermal comfort and energy efficiency: optimized orientation, solar control through cantilevered upper floors, concrete brise-soleils, and a metal lattice that filters east-west sunlight. Natural ventilation is enhanced through operable façade louvers and air-extraction chimneys, complemented by a mechanical ventilation system with heat recovery and CO2 sensors.

A radiant floor heating system uses low-temperature energy, supported by solar panels producing hot water and heating. Altogether, the building becomes a living pedagogical tool, inviting both teachers and children to engage with environmental awareness through architecture.



EEESTUDIO + LYS VILLALBA
www.eeestudio.es | www.lysvillalba.net

Architect	Enrique Espinosa Lys Villalba
Typology	Canine School
Location	Brunete, Madrid
Client	Adiestramiento Educan
Area	300m ²
Cost	225.000€
Construction	2020
Engineering	Mecanismo, Alberto Espinosa, Jorge López
Photos by	José Hevia and Javier de Paz



A School for dogs, humans and other species.

01. Multi-species architecture.

Eva, Carlos, two Belgian Malinois – Bicho and Bomba –, Harris the owl, five swift families, six kestrel families and twenty sparrows, are all companion species. They live and learn together in this building, thirty kilometres west of Madrid. Sitting in amongst fields, in a rural environment transformed over recent decades by urban development and intensive pesticide-reliant agriculture, Educan School is trialling ways to recover the conditions of the ecosystem.

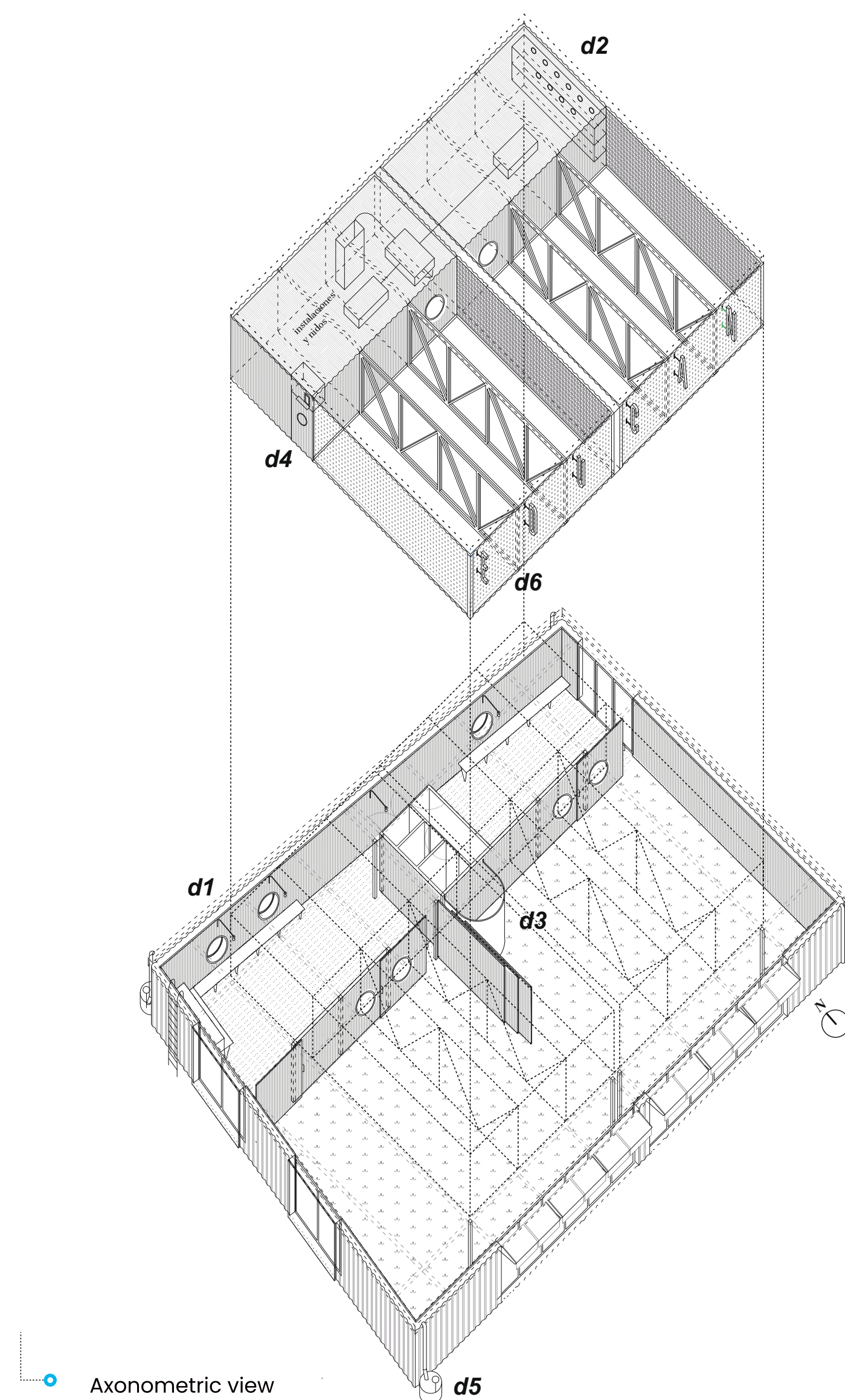
Its architecture is a multi-species design. While the two main classrooms are busy with dog-human pairs practising agility or dog sports like Schutzhund, birds nest on the upper floor's nest-facade, boasting ideal views and orientation.

Non-humans are at the centre of the design. The floor, usually designed for people wearing shoes, are now adapted to the softness of dogs footpads –the training classes are covered with artificial grass–, the interior holes are elevated more than one meter high to avoid canine distractions, the upper surfaces are coated with pyramid shaped accoustic pannels that minimized dog barking sounds. Meanwhile, in the exterior, rainwater is collected in big dog&bird's water dispensers, located close to the nests-facades of the upper level.

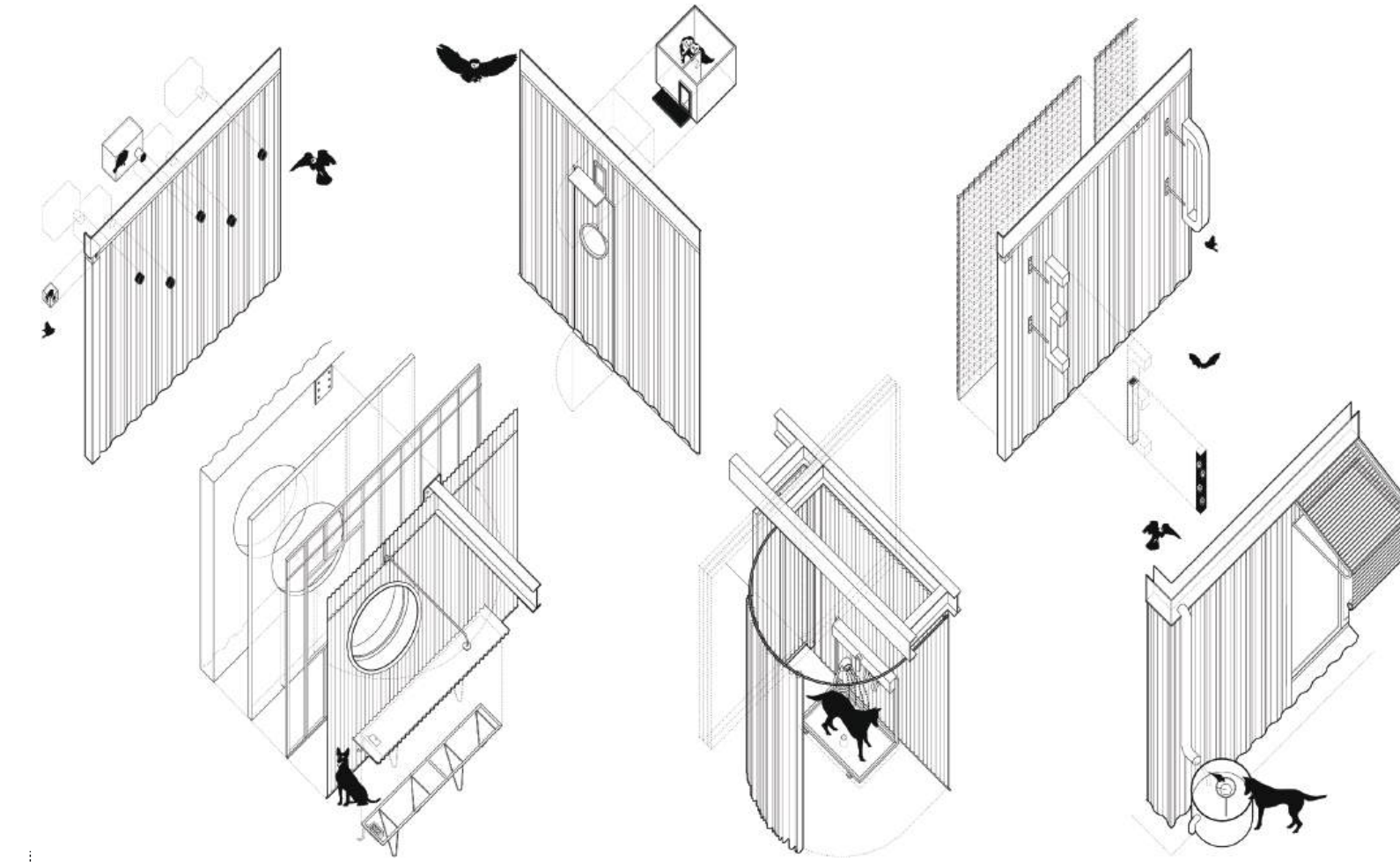
02. Material crossovers and innovation.

This ecosystemic design is also approached in material terms. Different construction techniques and production systems—including the reuse of maritime containers, undulating concrete, industrialized metal sheets, CNC woodworking precisely cutted, or handmade locksmith's craft—configure a wide range of material crossovers.

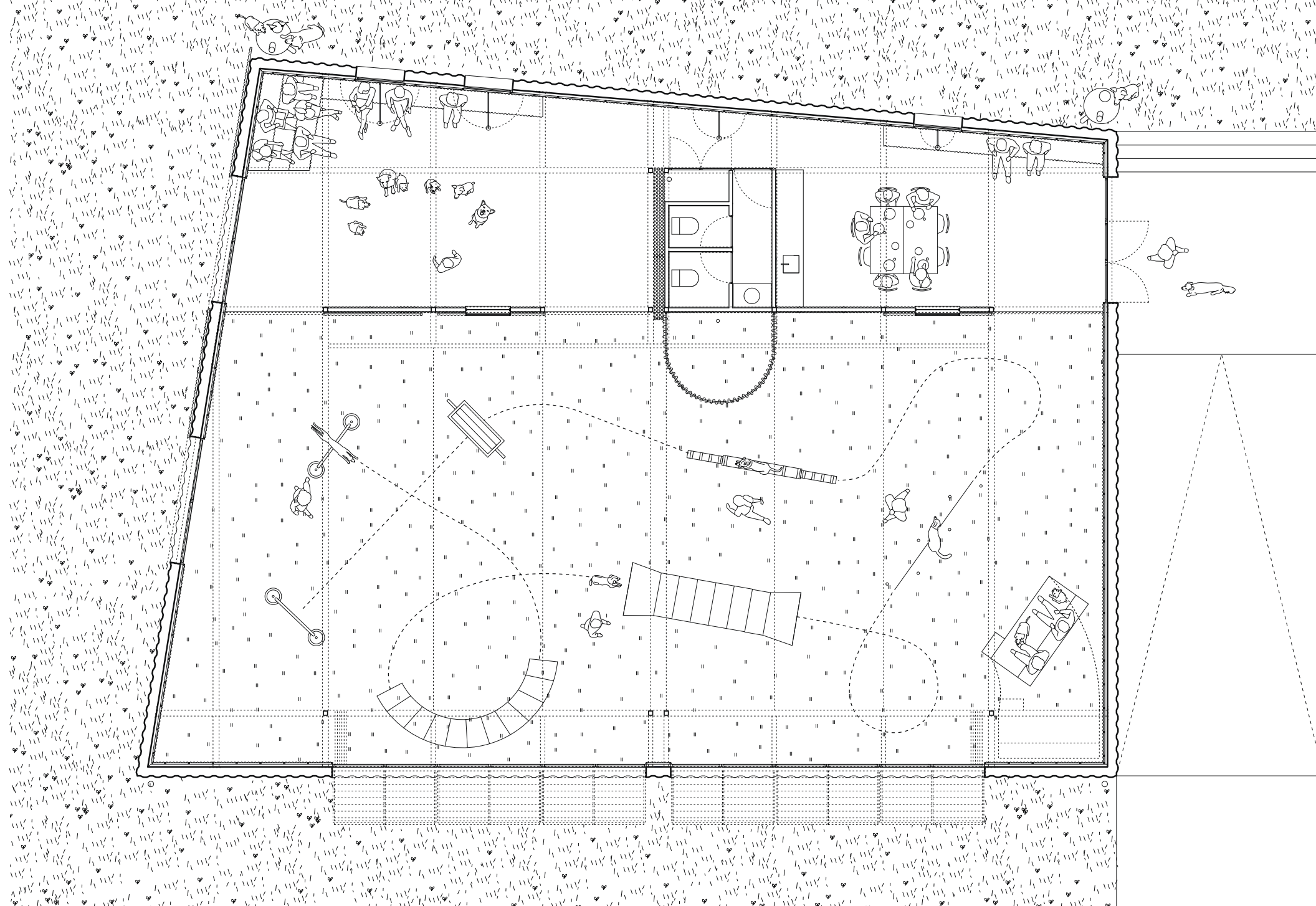
Educan is also an experiment that demonstrates that agricultural architectures, usually considered lesser within the discipline itself, can also be places of exploration and architectural innovation.



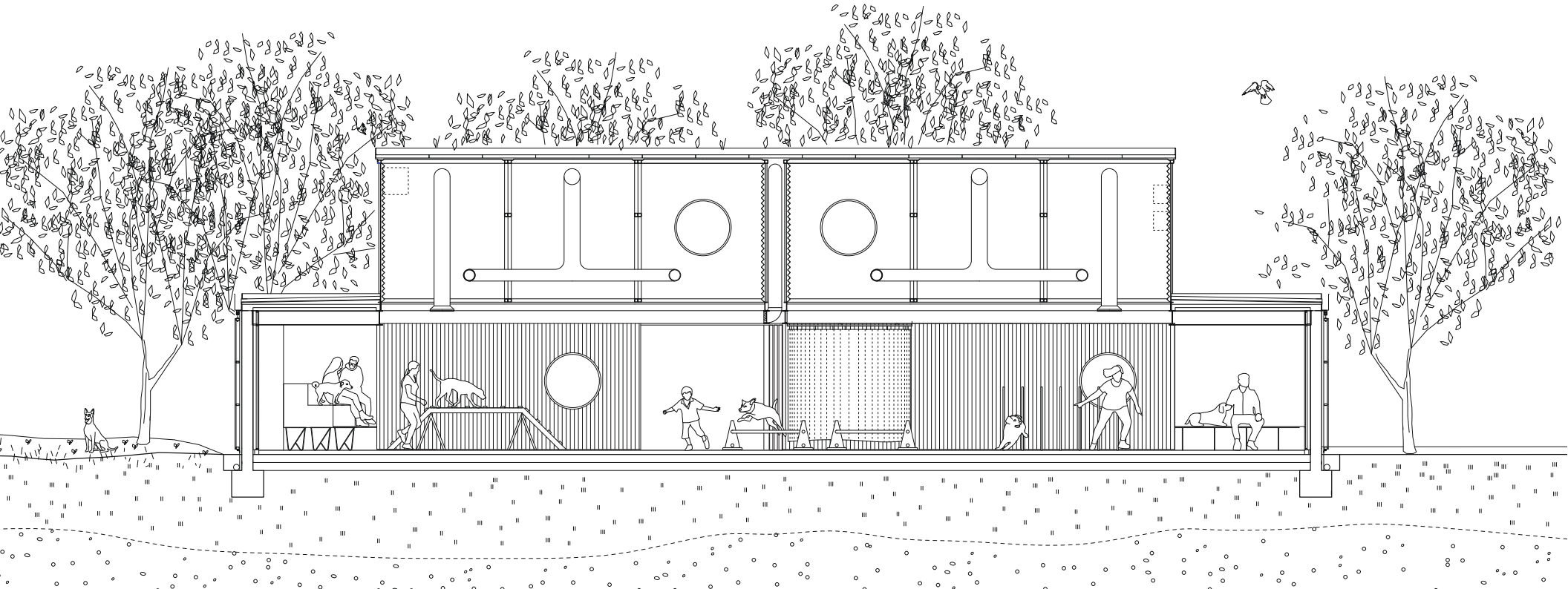
Axonometric view



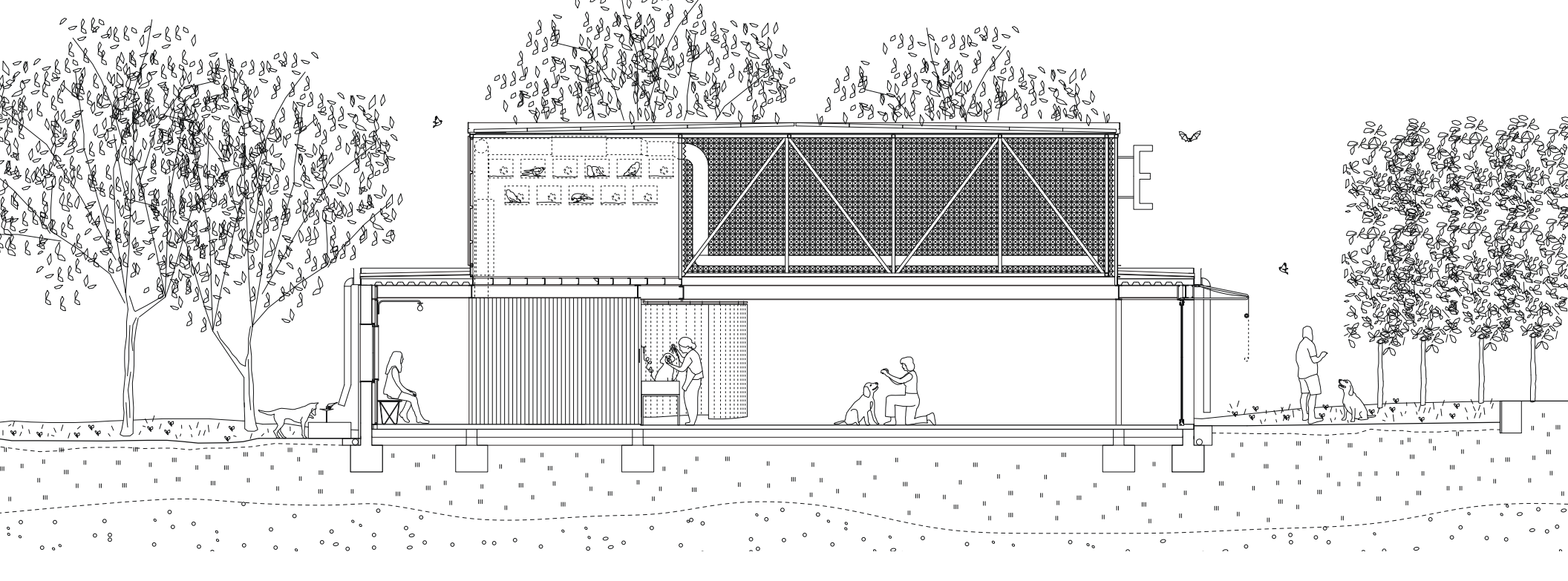
Details



Ground Level



Longitudinal Section



Cross Section



THE PORTABLE CITY. Brussels

10

ENORME STUDIO
www.enormestudio.com

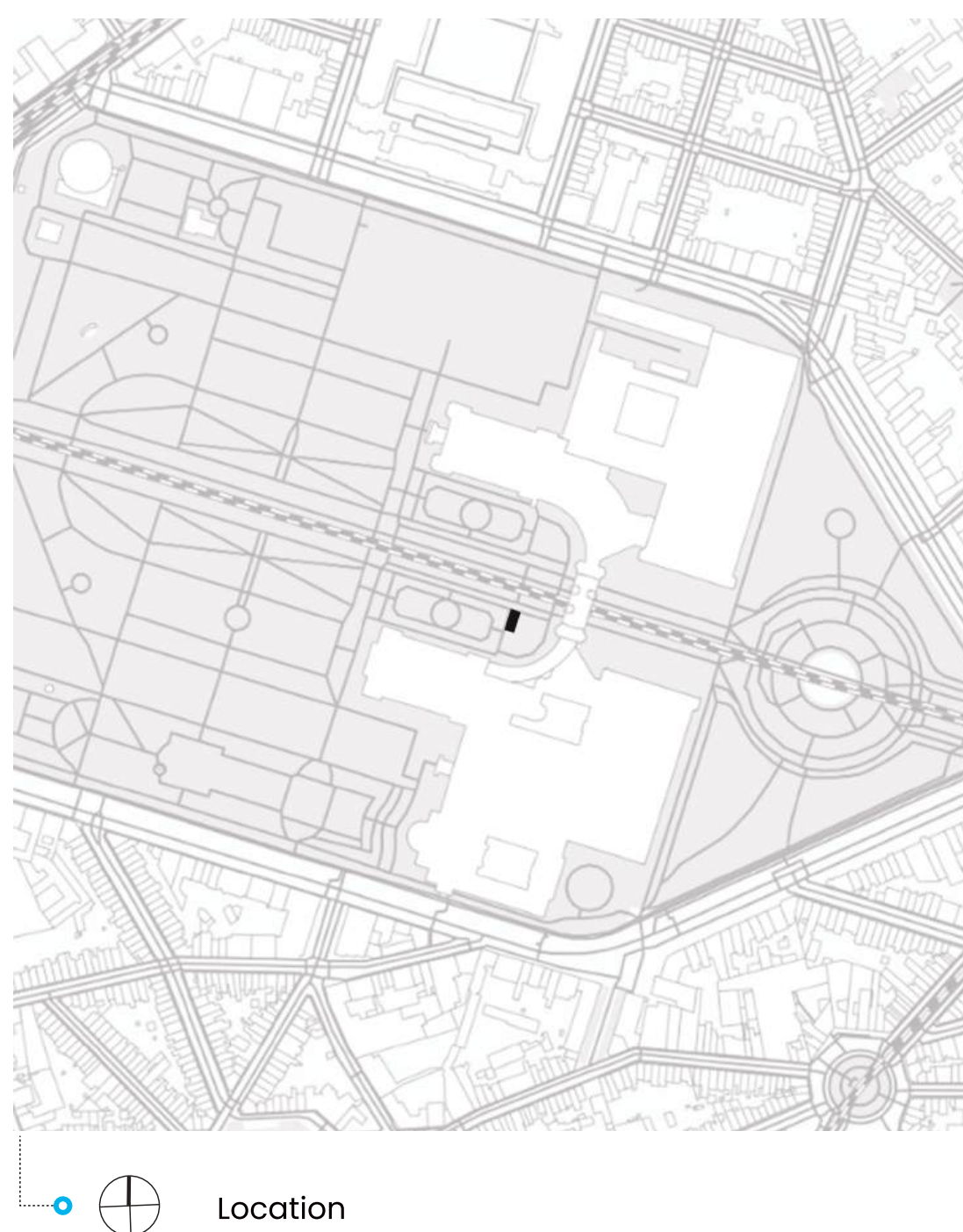
Architect
Rocío Pina
Carmelo Rodríguez

Typology
Location
Public Architecture
Parc du Cinquantenaire,
Brussels, Belgium

Client
Area
Cost
Construction
New European Bauhaus
40 m²
80,000 €
2024

Engineering
ENORME Studio

Photos by
Berenguer + Samos

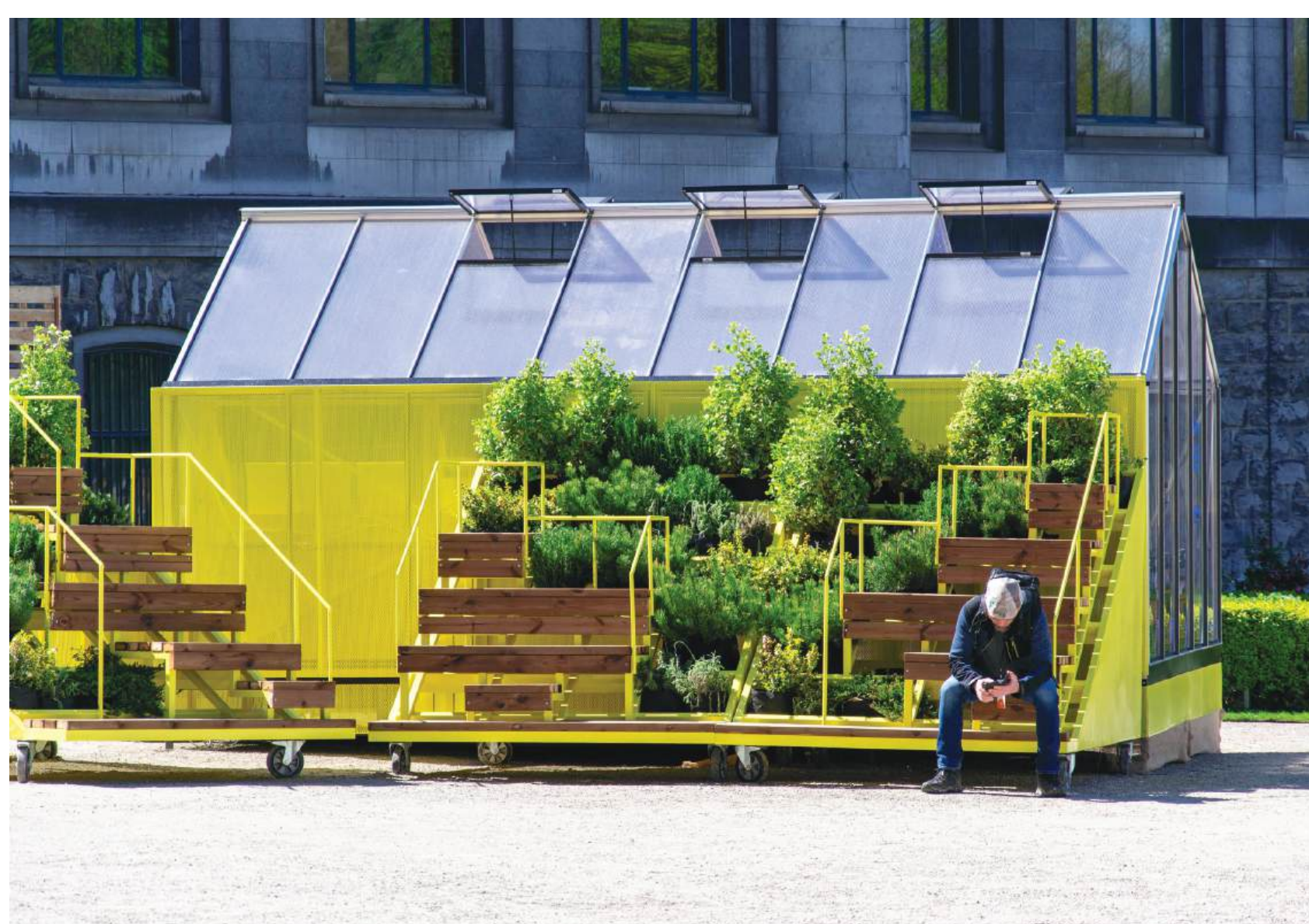
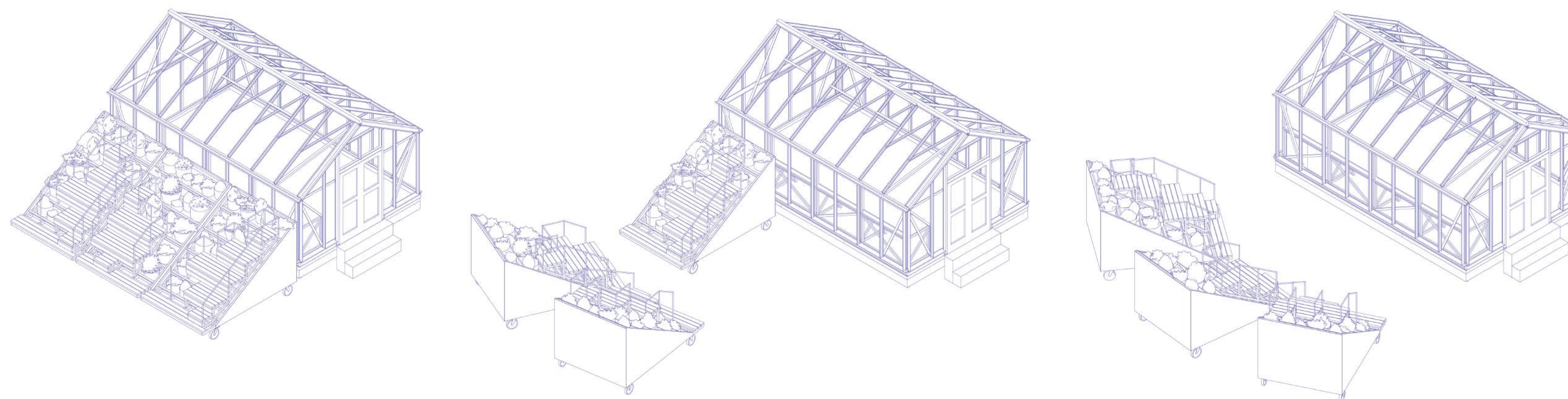
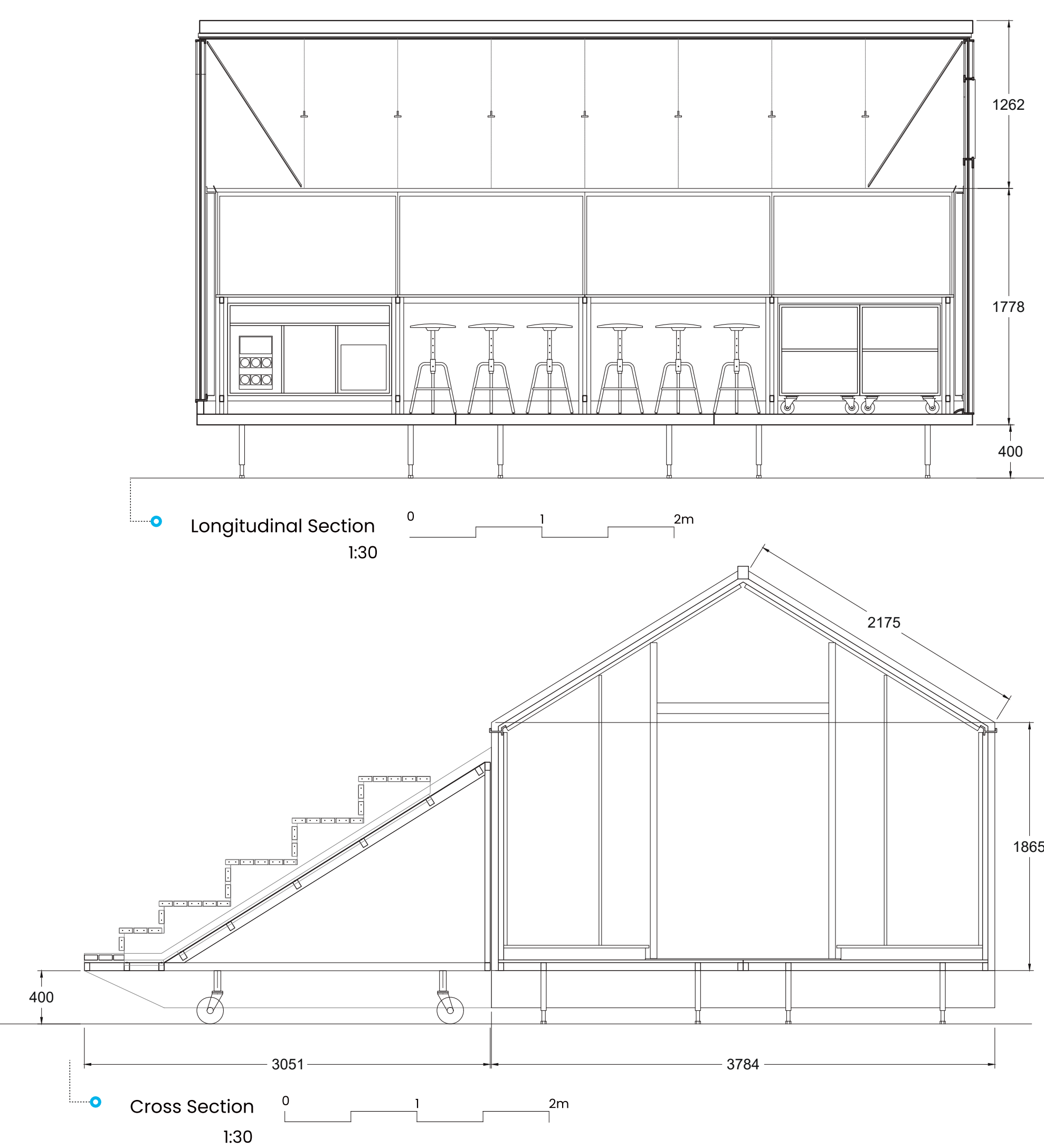
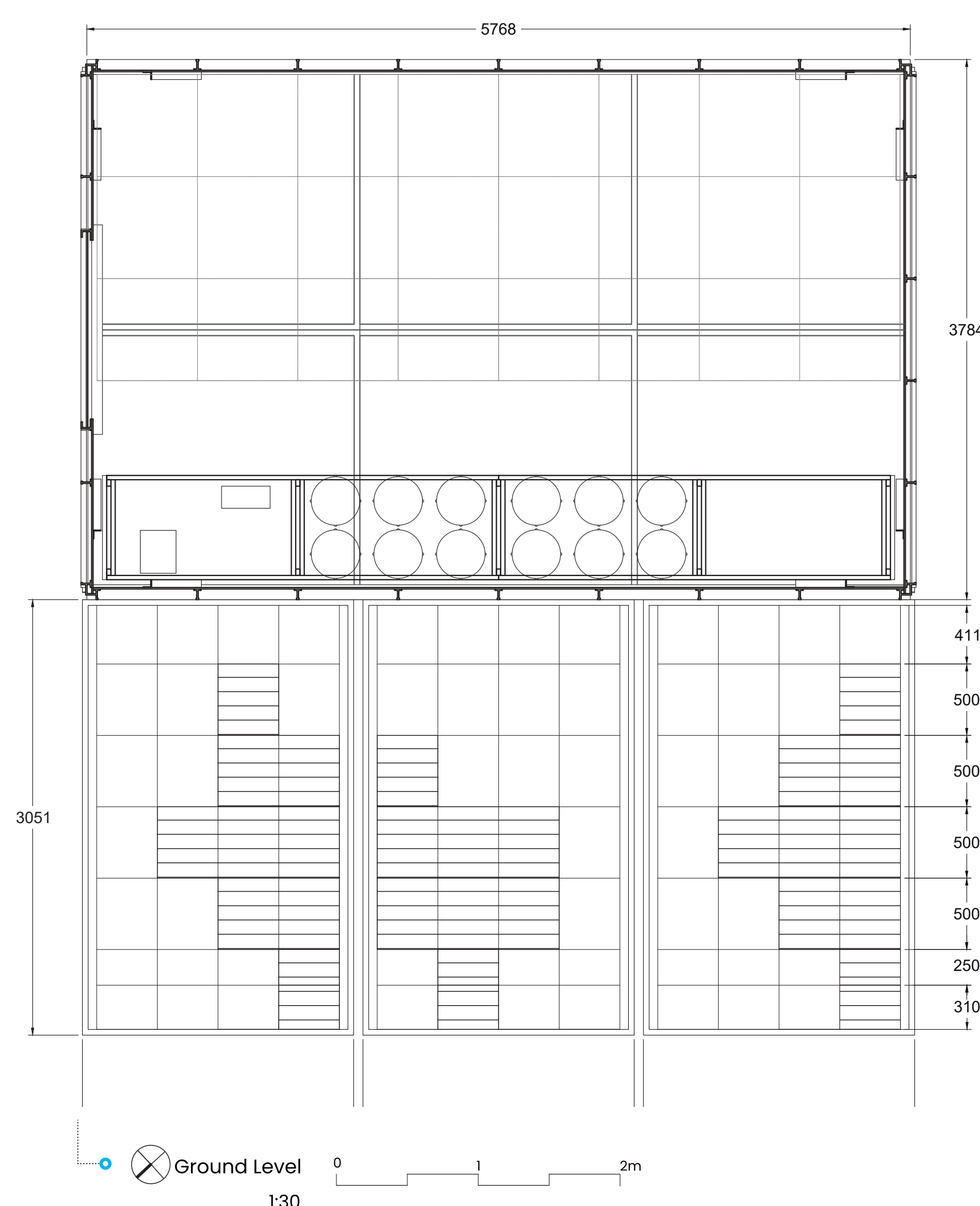


In Enorme Studio, our core practice focuses on transforming existing spaces in order to rehabilitate them, enhance their use, and improve their performance in terms of flexibility and habitability. Our design approach is rooted in public space and participatory processes. In this context, our research explores the renovation of spaces through mobile solutions that foster more adaptable environments.

Our installation for the New European Bauhaus Festival consists of a new, inhabitable and mobile facility designed to address some of the most pressing challenges faced by contemporary cities. It serves as a meeting point between design and the urban environment, strengthening the relationship between citizens and public space. Urban furniture becomes the central feature of the initiative, placing the user at the forefront and creating a space for gathering, rest, and disconnection.

"The Portable City" creates an opportunity to experiment with portable architecture at street level, making it accessible to all users. It is an urban innovation project featuring a greenhouse—conceived as a social laboratory for hosting workshops—alongside three pieces of urban furniture that embody key ideas for imagining the future of our cities: flexibility, portability, vegetation, and community-based participatory design.

During the activation week, the Berenguer + Samos architecture studio conducted a series of workshops focused on photovoltaic energy and its integration into architecture and urban design. Throughout these sessions, participants explored how buildings can generate sustainable energy and discovered innovative solutions for a greener future. More than 300 people took part in the activities, contributing to the exchange of ideas and the promotion of more environmentally responsible architecture.

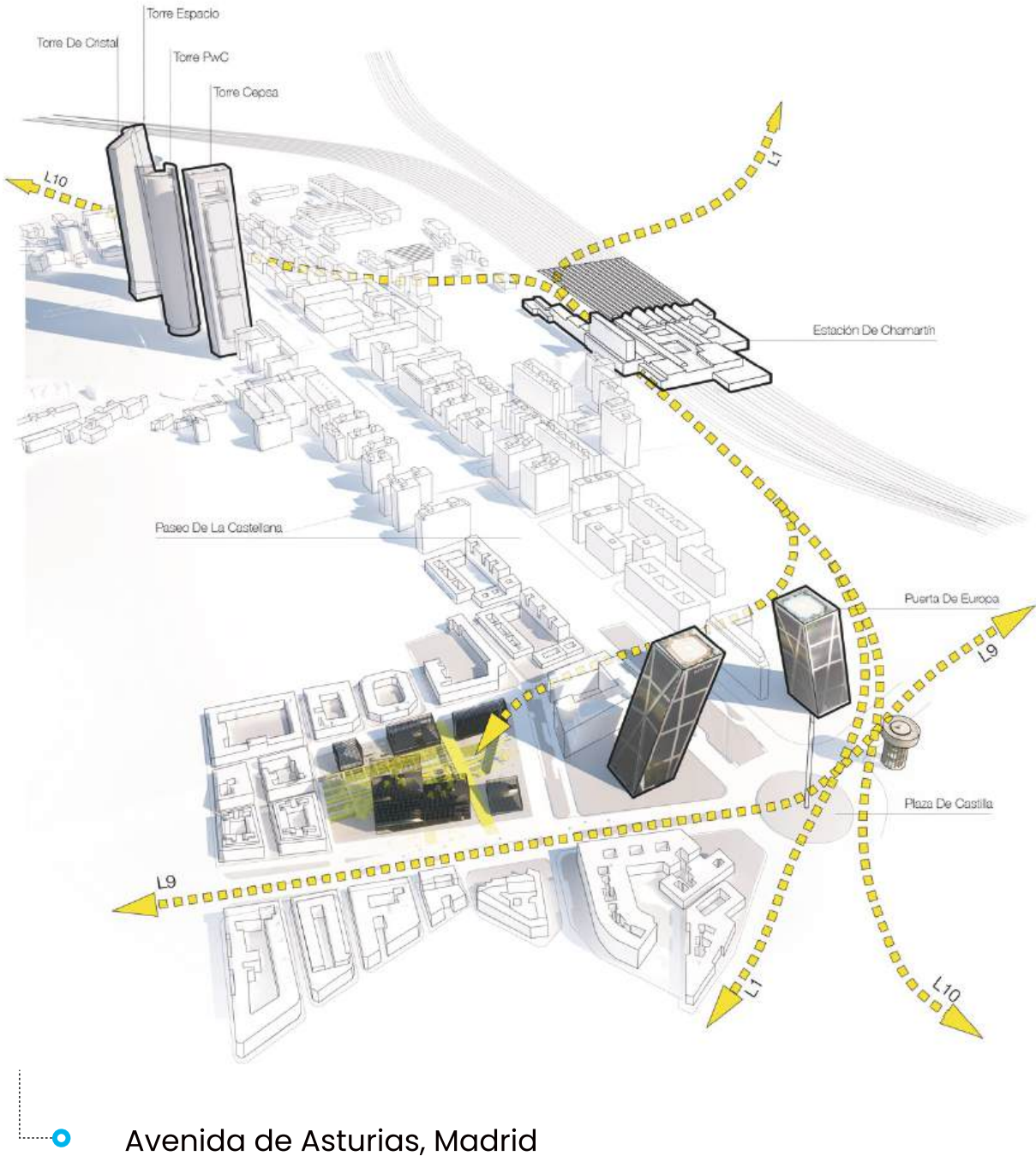


METRO DE MADRID HEADQUARTERS. Madrid

11

NEXO ARQUITECTURA +
GUTIÉRREZ-DELA FUENTE ARQUITECTOS +
ANDRÉS PEREA ARQUITECTO
www.nexo-arquitectura.com
www.gutierrez-delafuente.com
www.andresperearq.com

Architects Manuel Leira, Julio de la Fuente, Andrés Perea
Typology Offices-Public Facilities
Location Madrid, Spain
Client Metro de Madrid
Area 23.000 m²
Cost 25.277.488 €
Construction 2022
Engineering Valladares Ingeniería, BAC Ingeniería, Aguasol
Surveyor Jorge Carrión
Photos by Fernando Alda

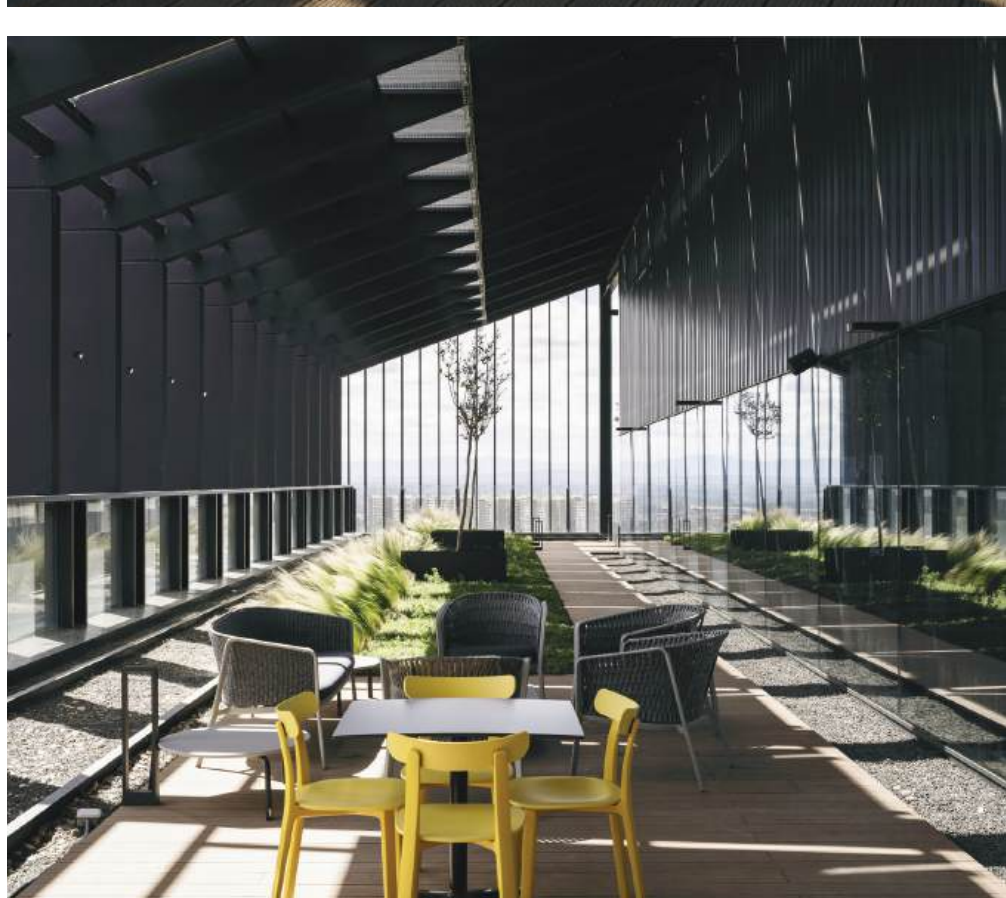
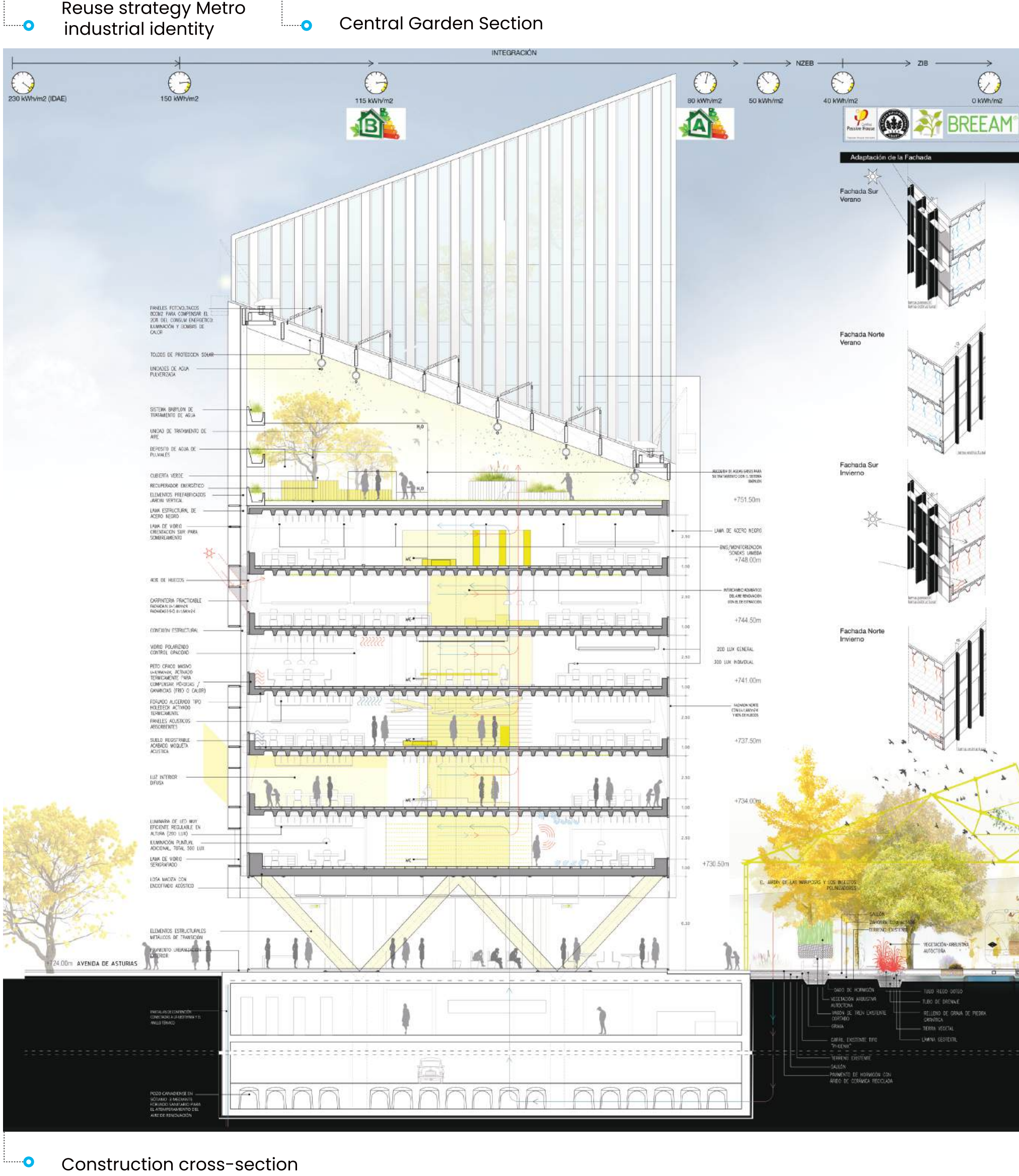
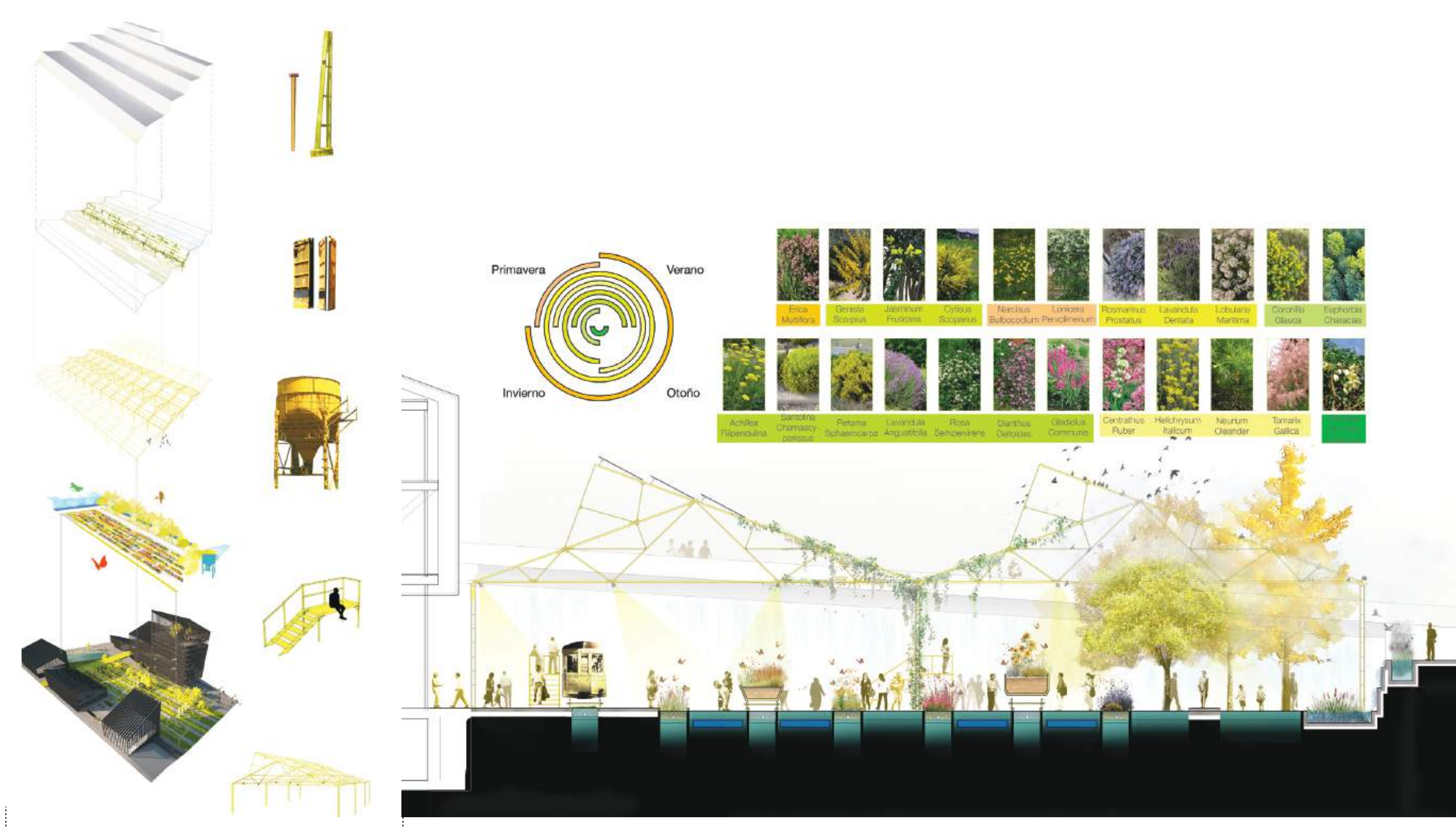
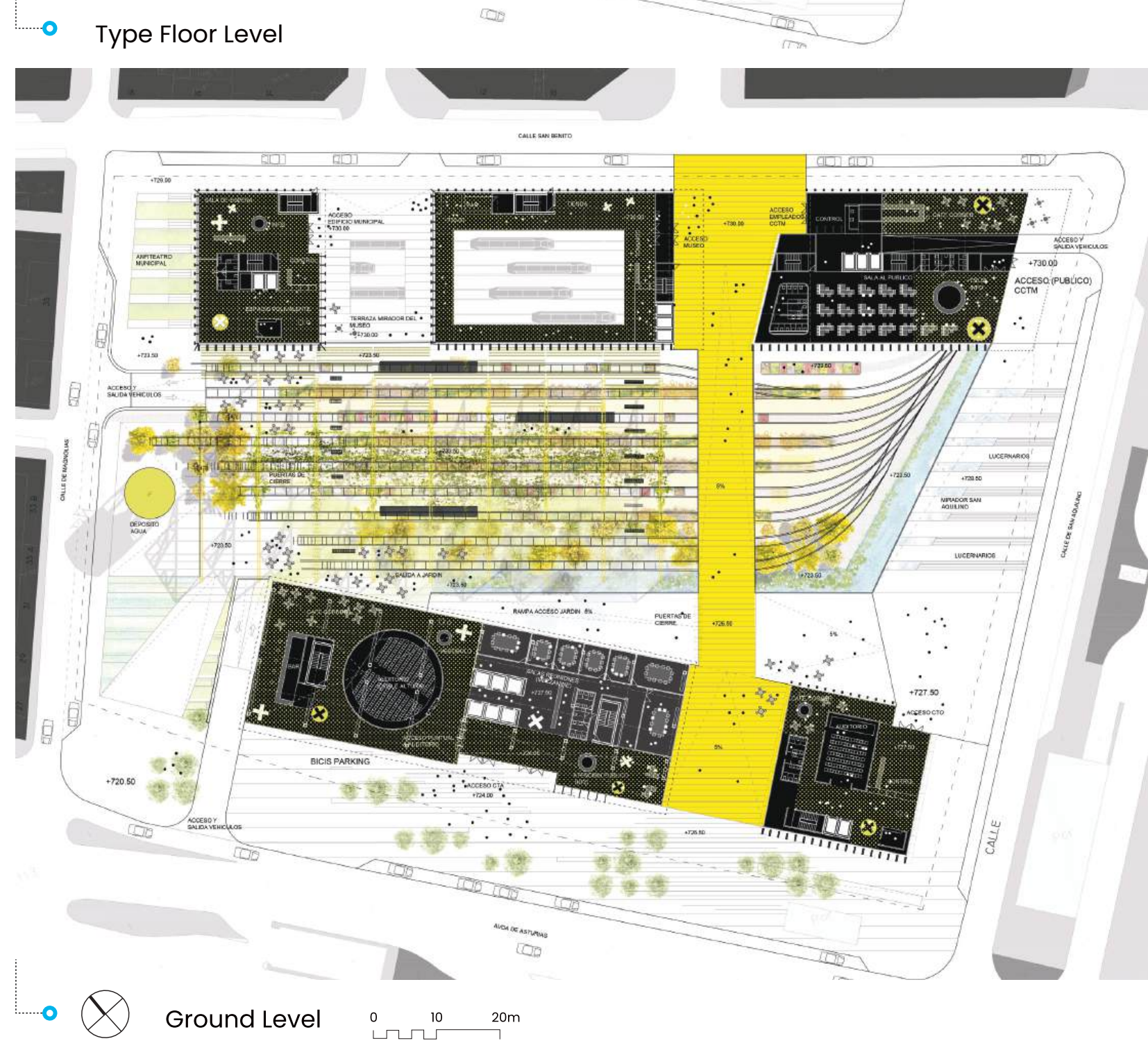
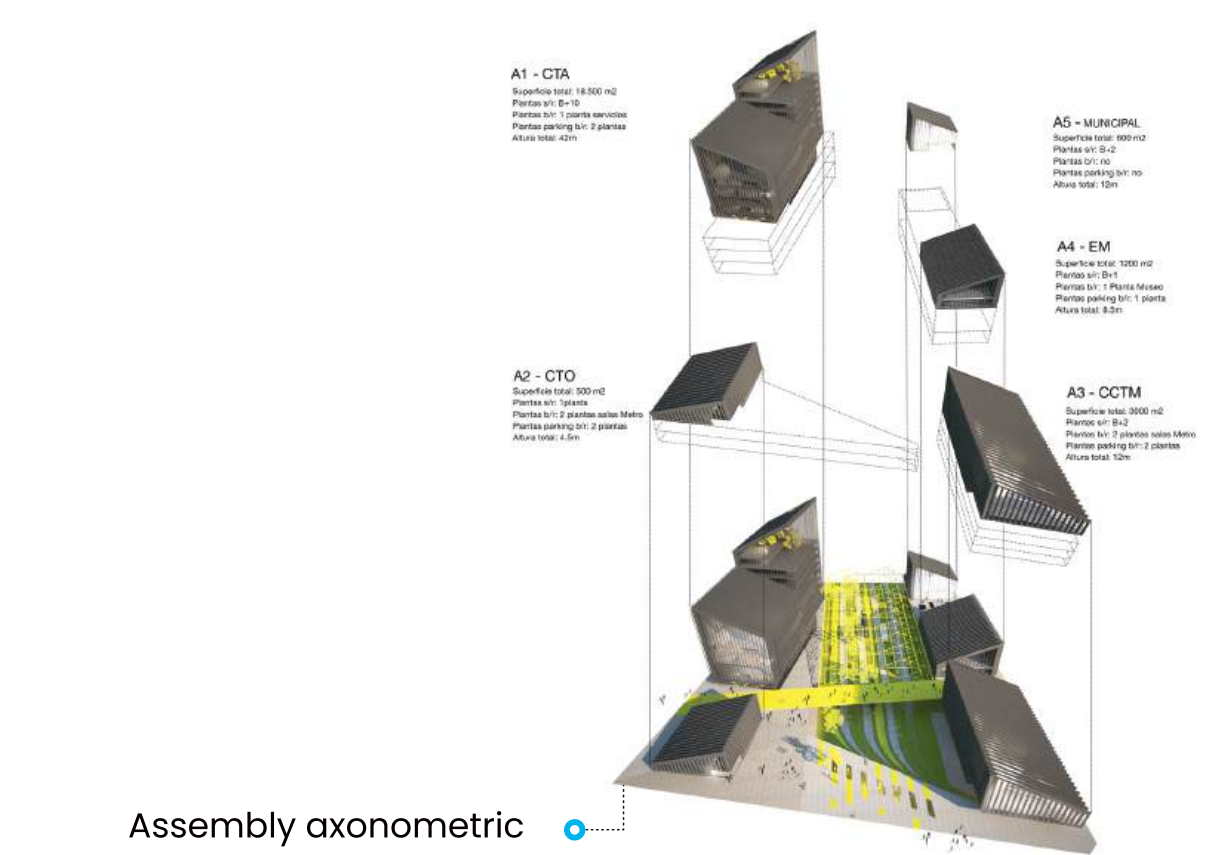


METRO DE MADRID HEADQUARTERS & TRANSPORT COMPLEX: OPENING AN OLD INDUSTRIAL SITE TO THE CITY THROUGH AN INSTITUTIONAL CAMPUS

The CIT is an initiative by Metro de Madrid to build a Transport Campus on the site of Plaza Castilla (Madrid) where the former depots of Line 1 were located. The project has a double objective, on one side the urban regeneration through an existing plot, containing an obsolete Metro facility, and on the other hand the centralization of office spaces and services related to the transport in the Community of Madrid and to the already centennial Metro de Madrid. The CCOR (New Technological and Operational Center), a building for the Regional Transport Consortium and the Museum of Transport will be included in a second phase. All the buildings are framed within the sustainability criteria and the almost zero consumption building standards nZEB.

One of the urban projects key, belonging to this institutional acropolis, is the visual and physical permeability which allows the visitor to articulate the relationship between the built, the central garden and the urban context. A new urban structure clarifies the space of the street and the interior Garden. A new habitat for the workers, the neighbours, the visitors but also for the local fauna and flora.

The central Garden, Jardín 1 Metro is a new Metro park which maintains the legacy of the old depots space. A new space which talks about the infrastructures that made Madrid a great city, and which reflect a contemporary attitude to restore, to update and to reuse. A contemporary urban archaeology practice based on a circular strategy. The past of this place will be present in numerous aspects, but it gets its particular importance in the central Garden, built from the depots existing structure and the "furniture" elements such as the escalators, the mechanical doors, the masts, the railways and many others, keeping their yellow colour of maximum visibility, considered very iconic in the industrial Metro culture. Attention should also be drawn to the recycling of the ballasts deposit, still on the plot, which will be an urban landmark for the main access to the Garden.



SKATEPARK PONIENTE. Villanueva de la Cañada

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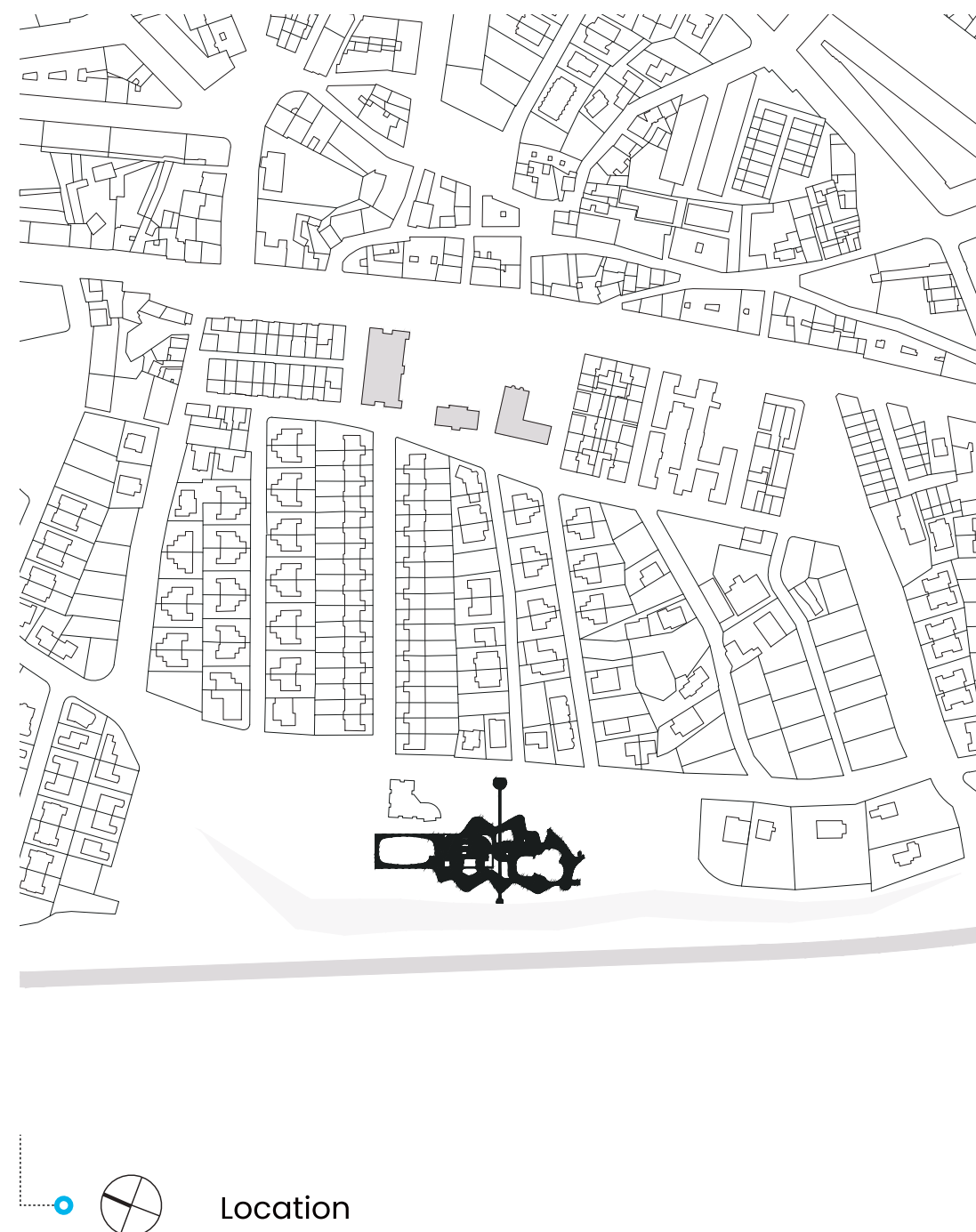
DIAZ DONCEL arquitectos
www.diazdoncel.com

Architect Mauro Doncel Marchán
Maitane Díaz Prieto

Typology Public spaces
Location Villanueva de la Cañada
Client Ayto. de Villanueva
Area 3.650 m²
Cost 417.053 €
Construction 2023

Engineering Caiser Ingenieros
Zut Skateparks

Photos by DIAZ DONCEL arquitectos

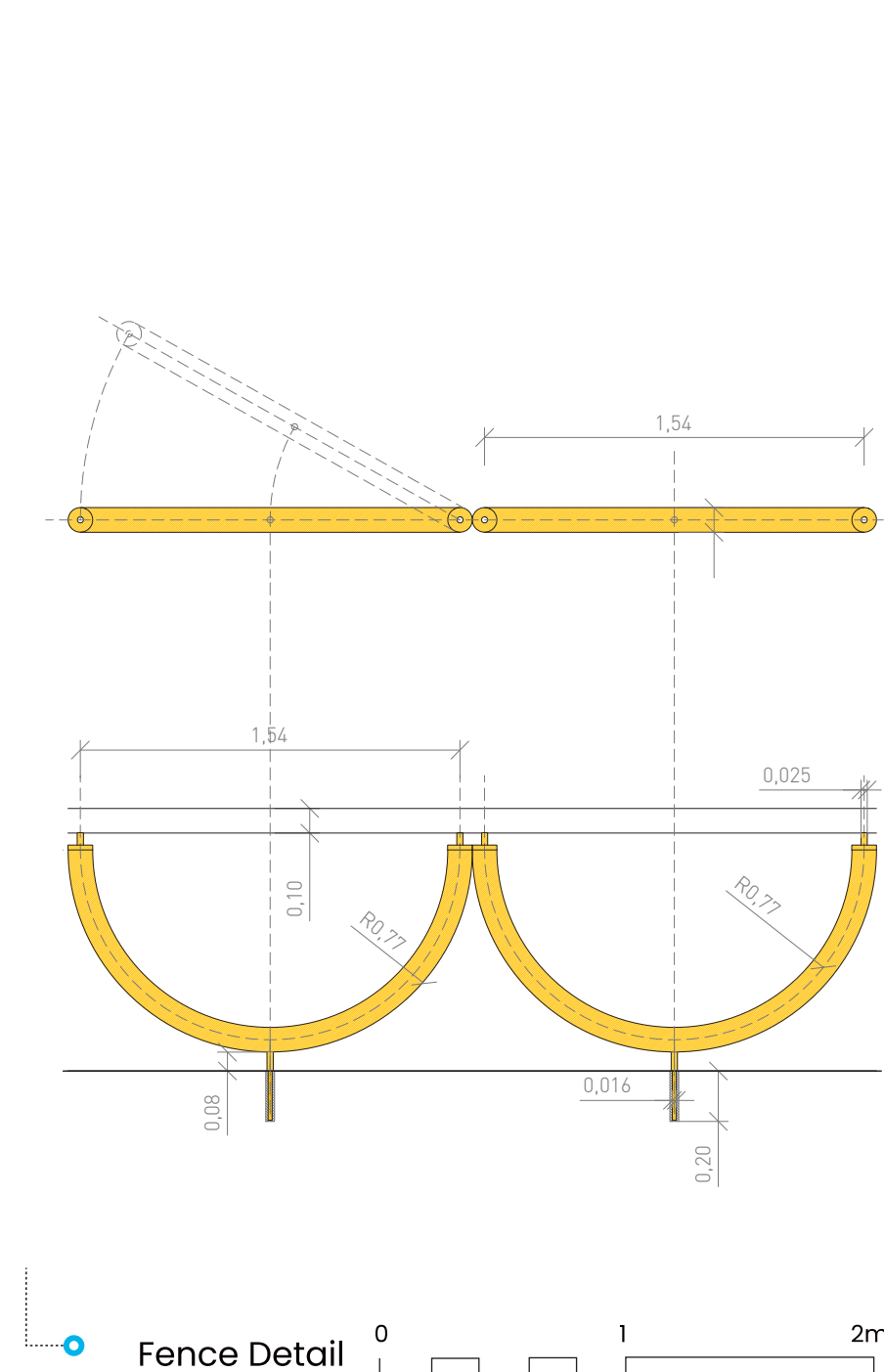
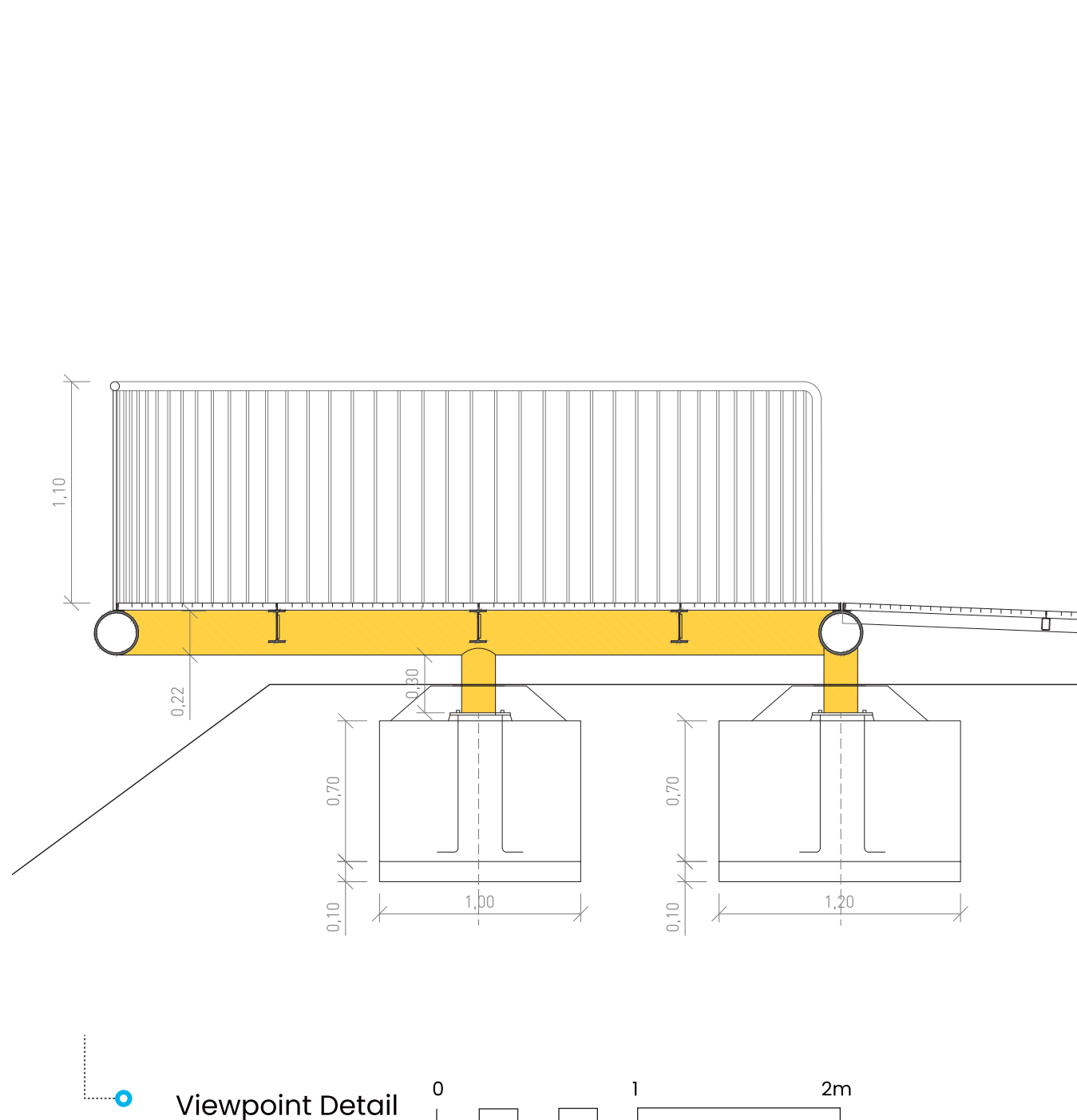
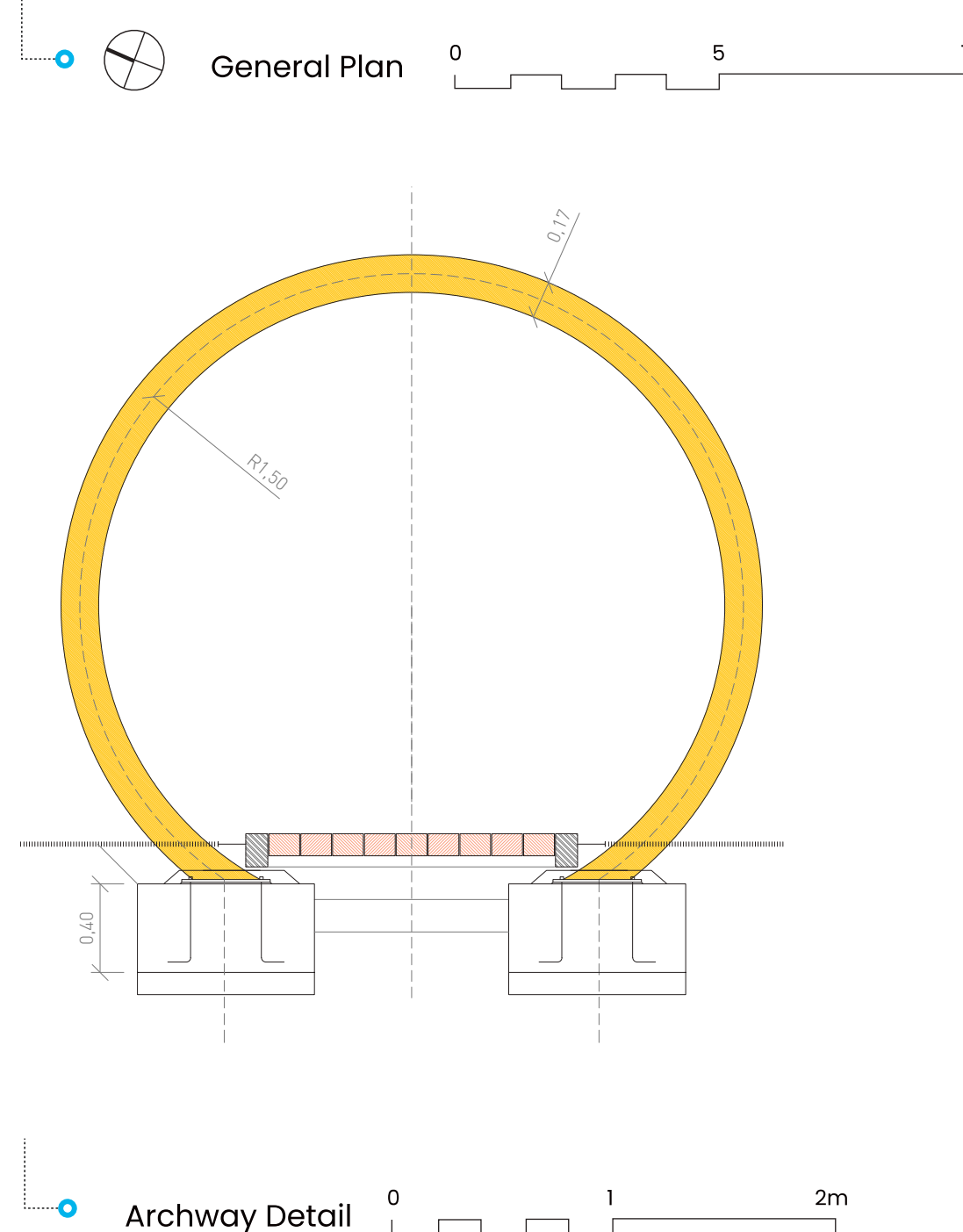


The new skatepark in Parque de Poniente, Villanueva de la Cañada, is located within a public park at the heart of the city. It occupies a large horizontal platform, bounded to the west by a steep slope and dense hedge, and spans approximately 3,650 square meters dedicated entirely to skateboarding and related urban sports activities. The project aims to promote healthy lifestyles and sporting activity in a natural, open environment, creating a dynamic space that encourages both exercise and social connection.

Adjacent to the new facility lies the former skate plaza, carefully integrated into the design through a comprehensive remodeling process. In addition, an existing multi-sports court has been transformed into a roller rink, expanding the park's recreational opportunities. The complex is further enriched by the construction of a bowl and a variety of skateable features thoughtfully arranged to blend with the surrounding natural landscape and mature trees, preserving the park's ecological identity.

This renewed public space consolidates its role as a vibrant community meeting point, enhancing urban life and fostering social cohesion. A central archway provides a welcoming transition from the urban fabric to the park, guiding visitors to a newly opened viewpoint that reveals impressive vistas of the nearby mountains, previously concealed by the hedge.

Sustainability and environmental awareness were central to the project. Excavated natural soil was reused throughout the site, minimizing waste and preserving local resources. An energy-efficient lighting system with programmable controls was installed to reduce energy use, while drought-tolerant trees and shrubs were planted alongside a flexible drip irrigation system to ensure minimal water consumption. Together, these measures express a firm commitment to ecological responsibility while creating an innovative, multifunctional public space that enriches both the city and the quality of life of its residents.



ESTUDIO SIC + TODO POR LA PRAXIS
www.estudiosic.es | www.todoporlapraxis.es

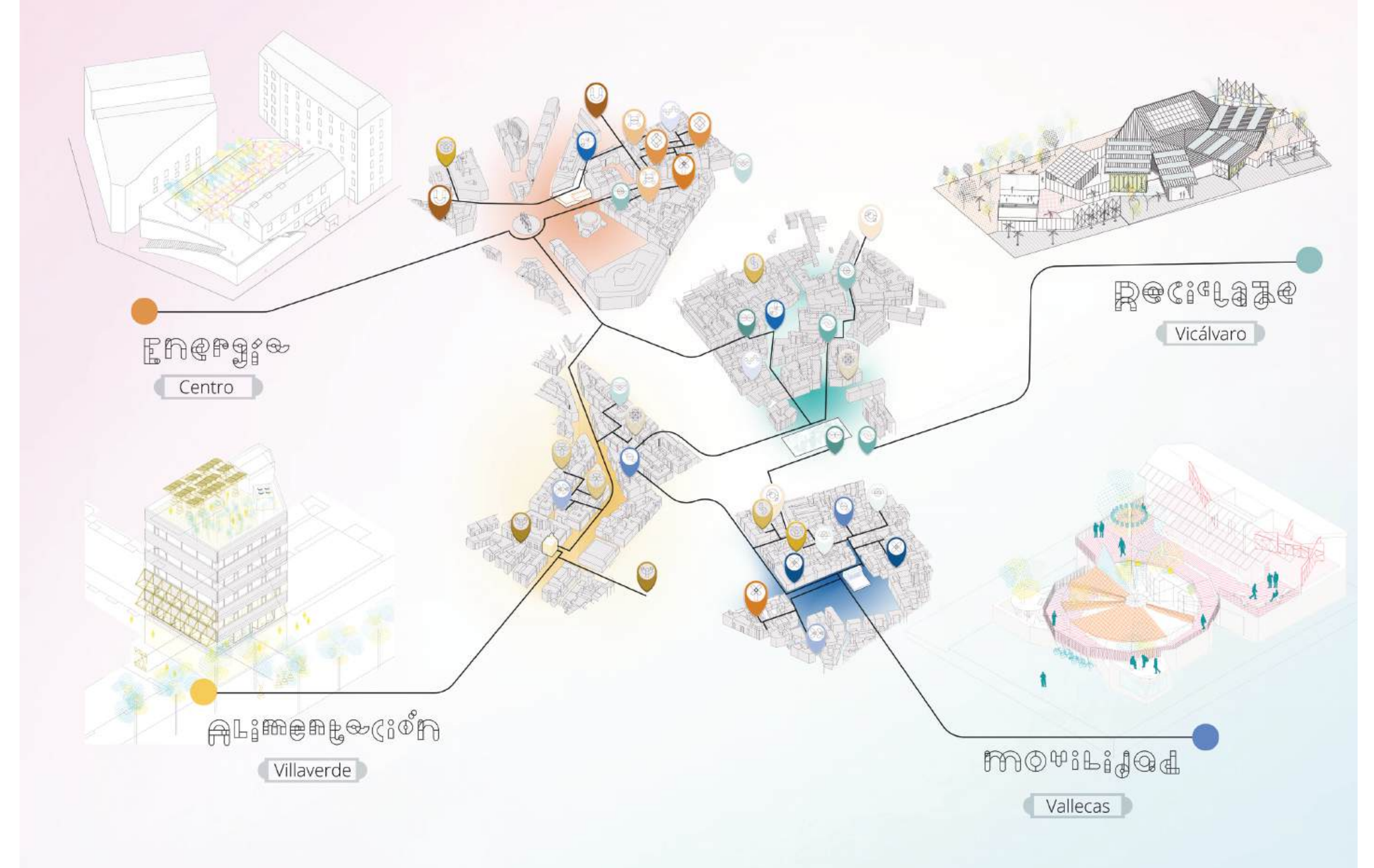
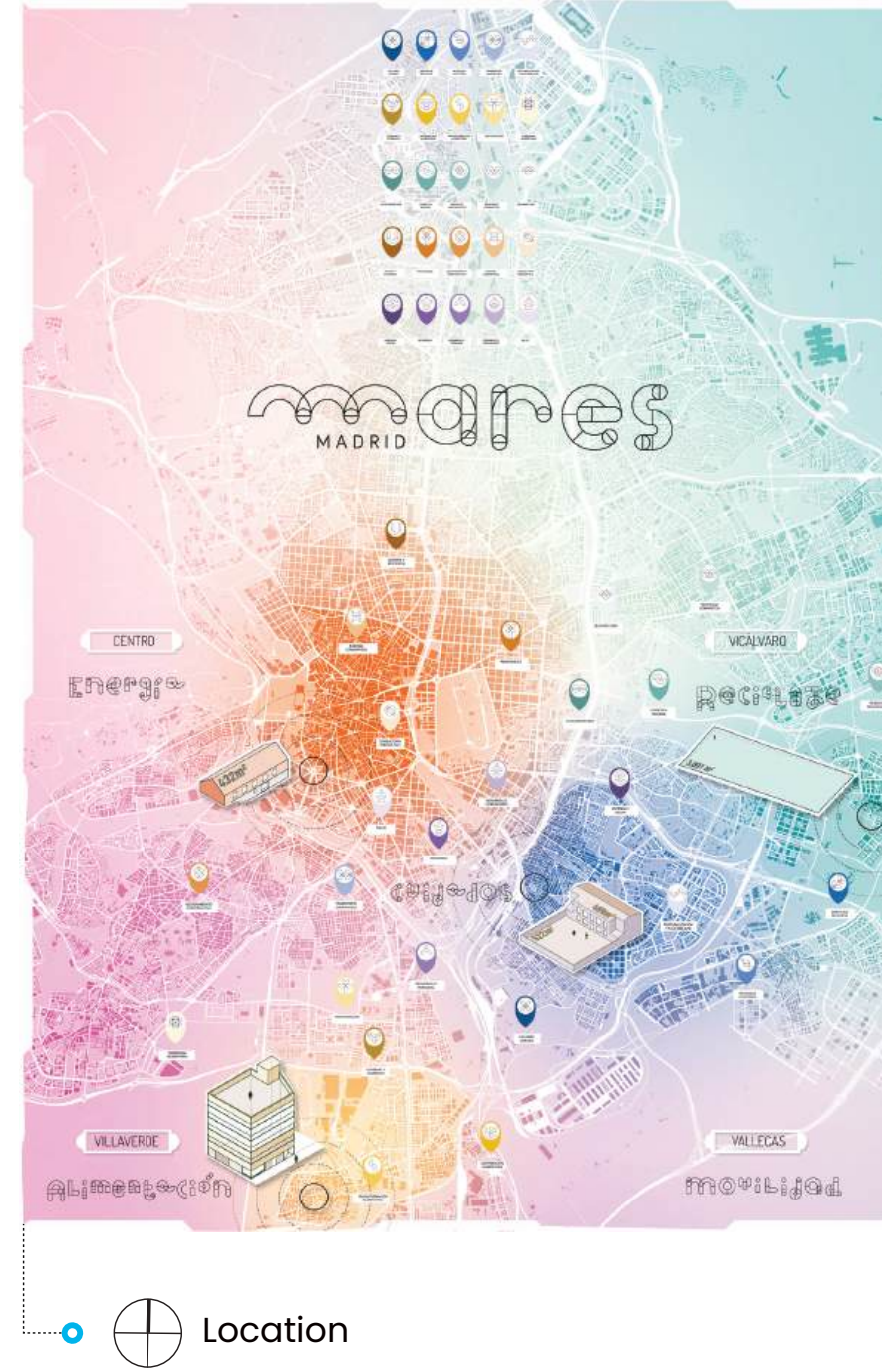
Architects Diego Peris, David Martí,
Esaú Acosta, Miguel
Jaenicke, Mauro Gil

Typology Urban Innovation Hub

Location Madrid, Spain
Client UIA Project, EU & Madrid
Council

Area 2.200 m²
Cost 3.800.000 €
Construction 2017-2019

Photos by Javier de Paz



STRATEGY FOR URBAN TRANSFORMATION OF THE PERIPHERY AND THE GENERATION OF RESPONSIBLE EMPLOYMENT

Mares Madrid is a project for urban transformation and social economy, designed to strengthen Madrid's resilience by reactivating disused municipal buildings and fostering local innovation. The initiative transforms four former city buildings into hubs of innovation, or Mares, each dedicated to a key urban challenge: Mobility, Food, Recycling, and Energy. These spaces connect citizens, associations, and enterprises, and enterprises, supporting the creation of sustainable, community-based economic projects.

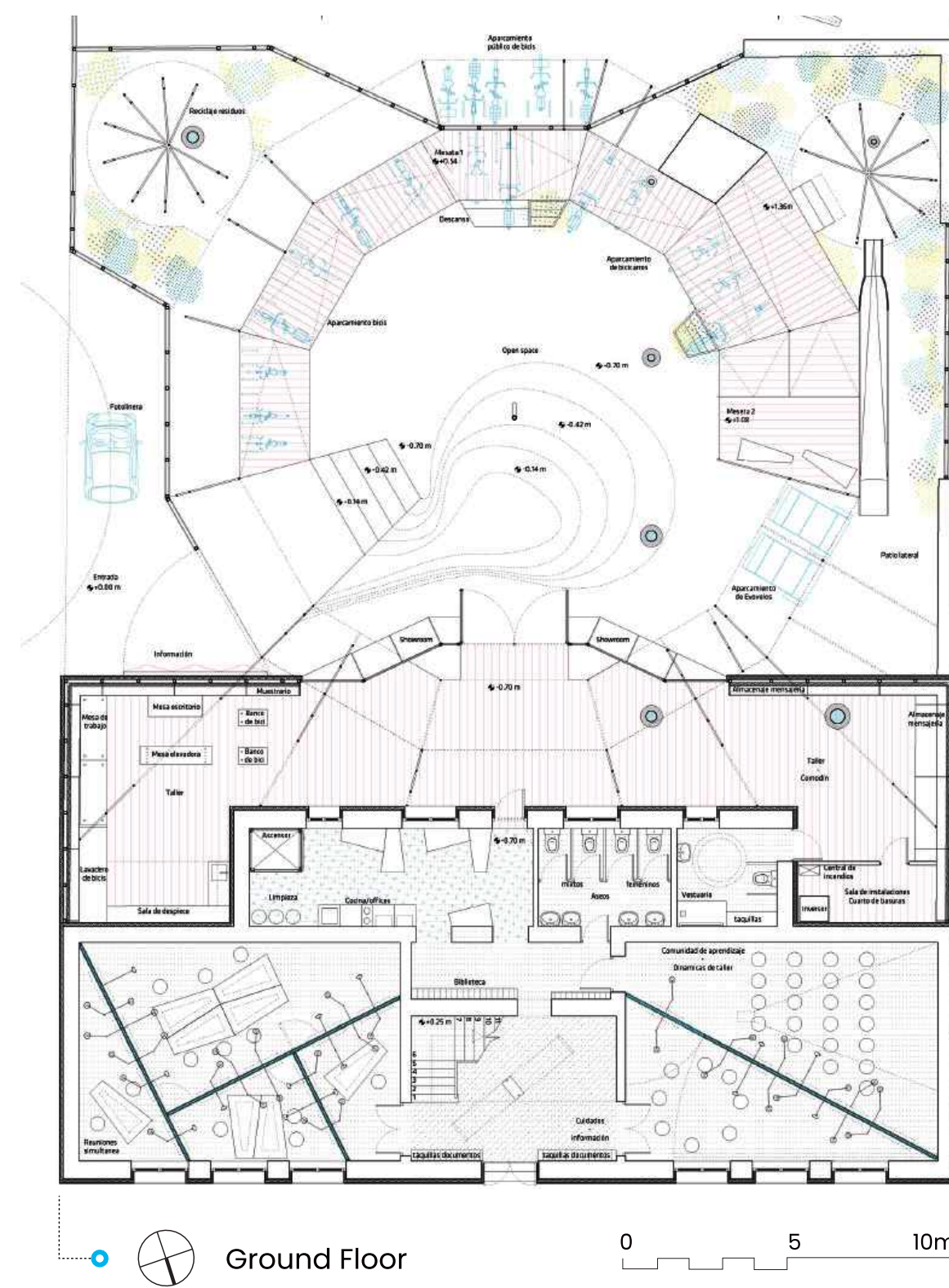
Each Mar acts as an infrastructure for collaboration, where people and projects intersect to generate new forms of employment and social innovation. The initiative promotes reuse and cooperative management of urban resources, encouraging adaptive, citizen-driven solutions that strengthen local ecosystems.

Among its most notable achievements are the creation of Madrid's first cooperative-certified kitchen in Villaverde, promoting a local, ecological food strategy; the first riders' cooperative in Vallecas, offering dignified working conditions for young people in e-commerce; and the first cohousing learning community in Madrid, linked to solar energy initiatives developed from the Mar of Energy.

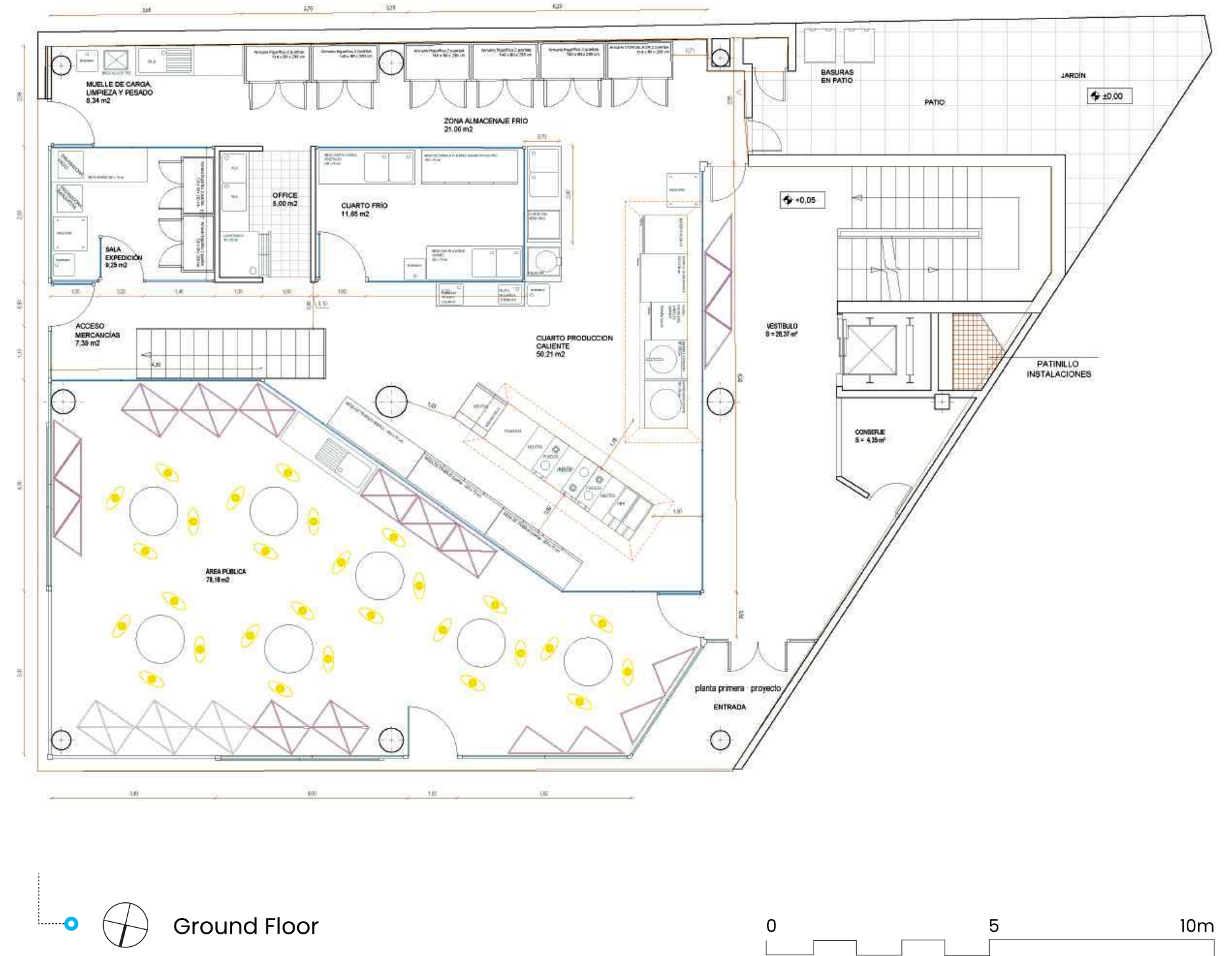
Beyond these pilot projects, MARES has generated numerous proposals and pilot experiences for urban recycling, community composting, and the creative reuse of cultural infrastructures across the city.

Throughout its implementation, 48 new companies have been created, 332 organizations have received business model guidance, and an active ecosystem of more than 550 entities has emerged. Mares Madrid demonstrates how transforming disused spaces through social innovation and collective management can lead to a more sustainable, cooperative, and resilient city.

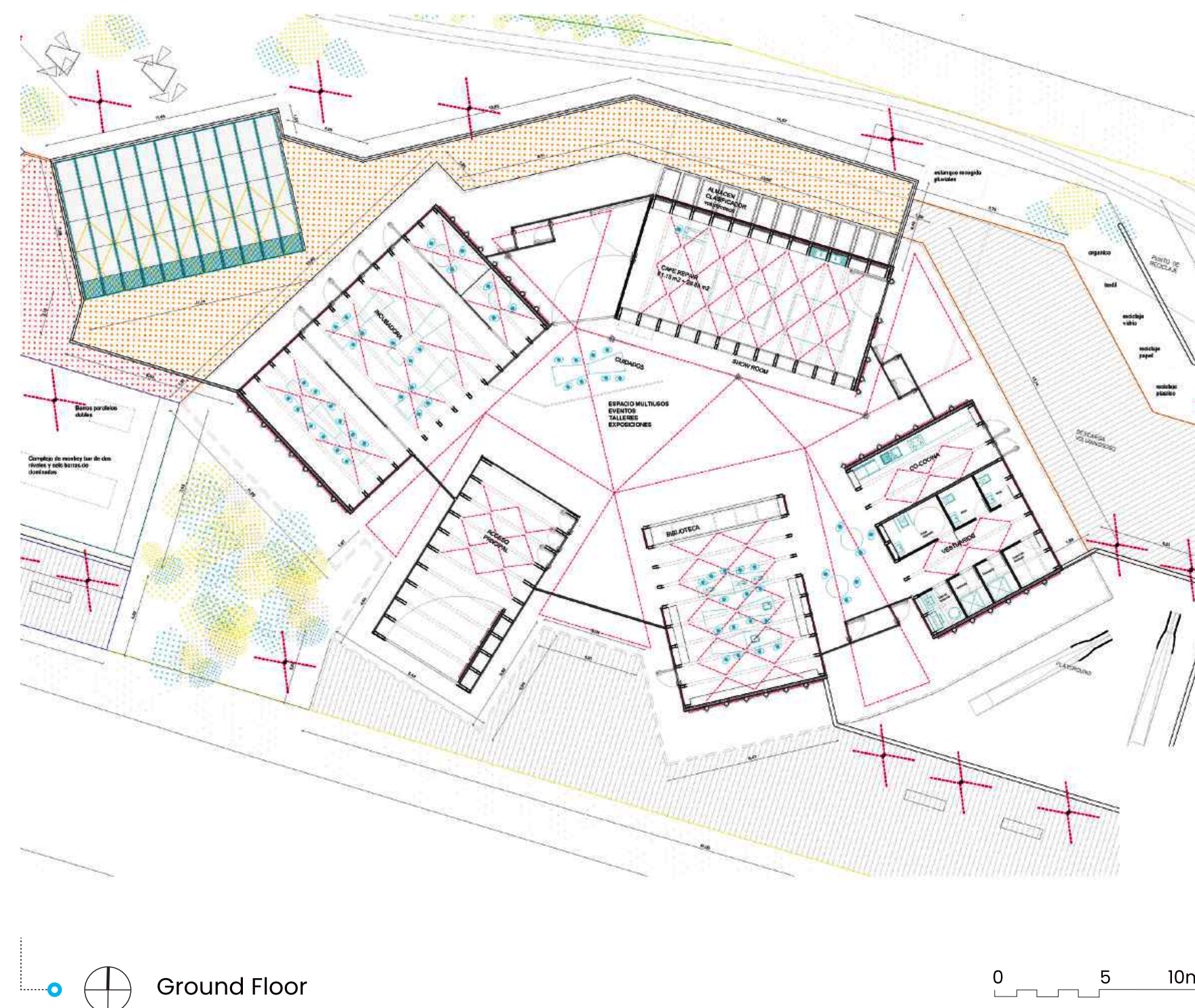
MAR DE MOVILIDAD (Vallecas)



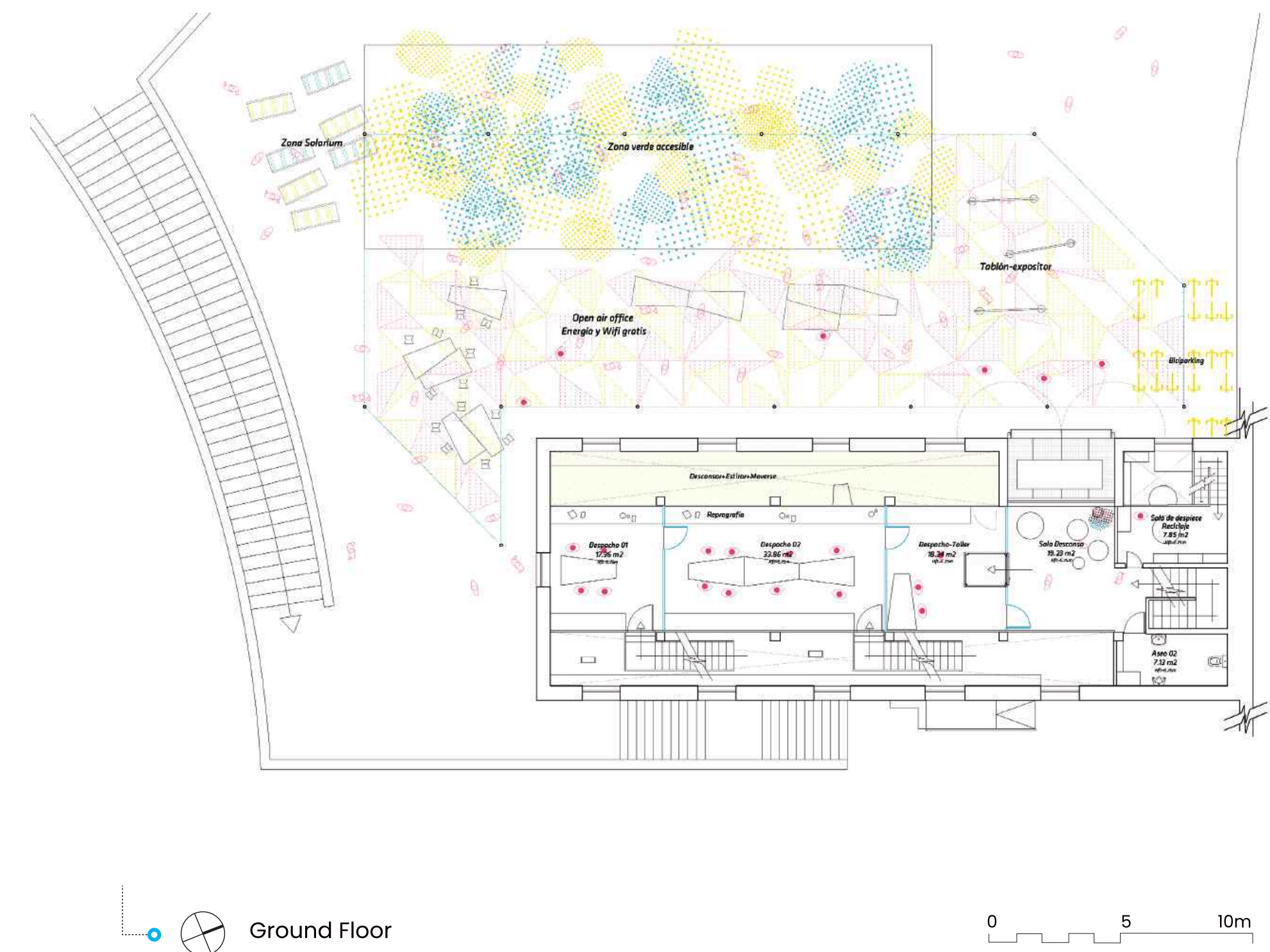
MAR DE ALIMENTACIÓN (Villaverde)



MAR DE RECICLAJE (Vicálvaro)



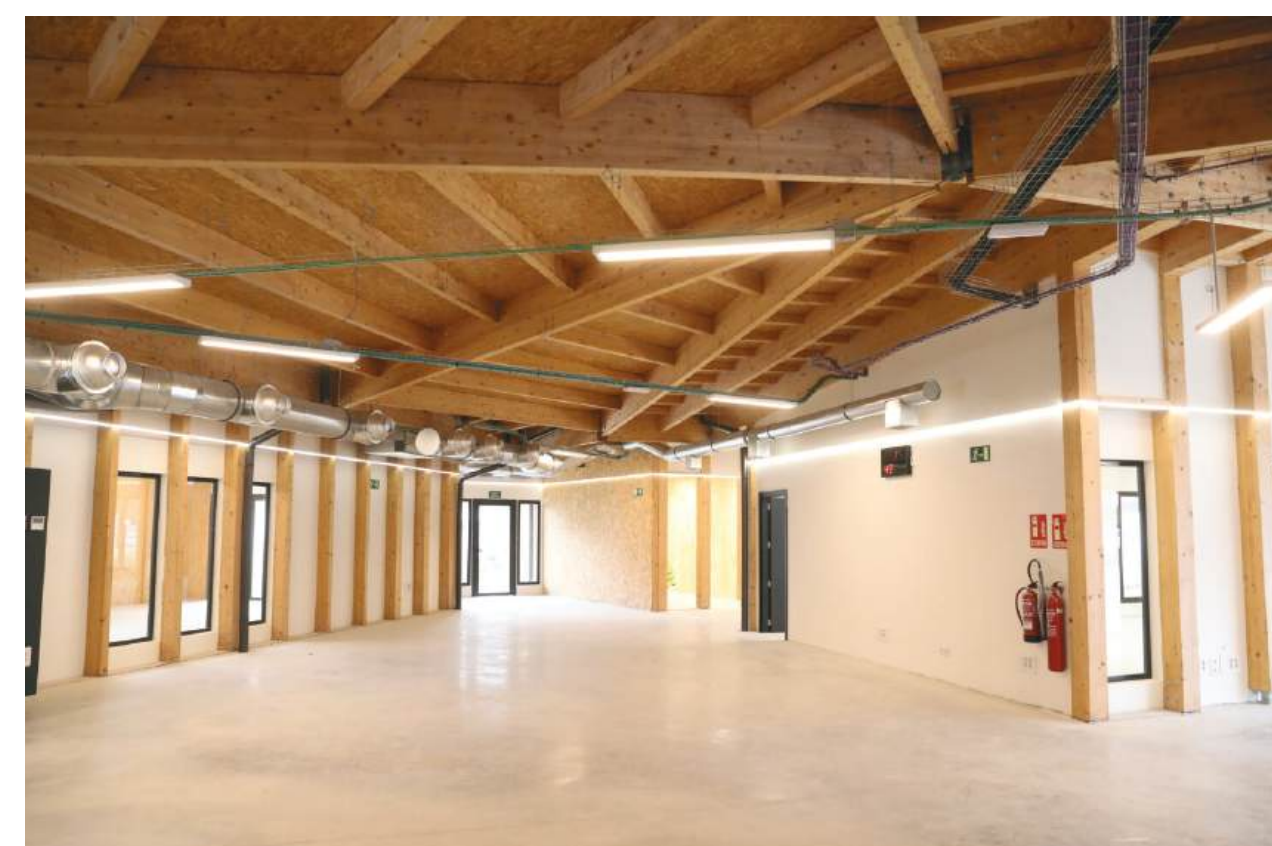
MAR DE ENERGÍA (Centro)



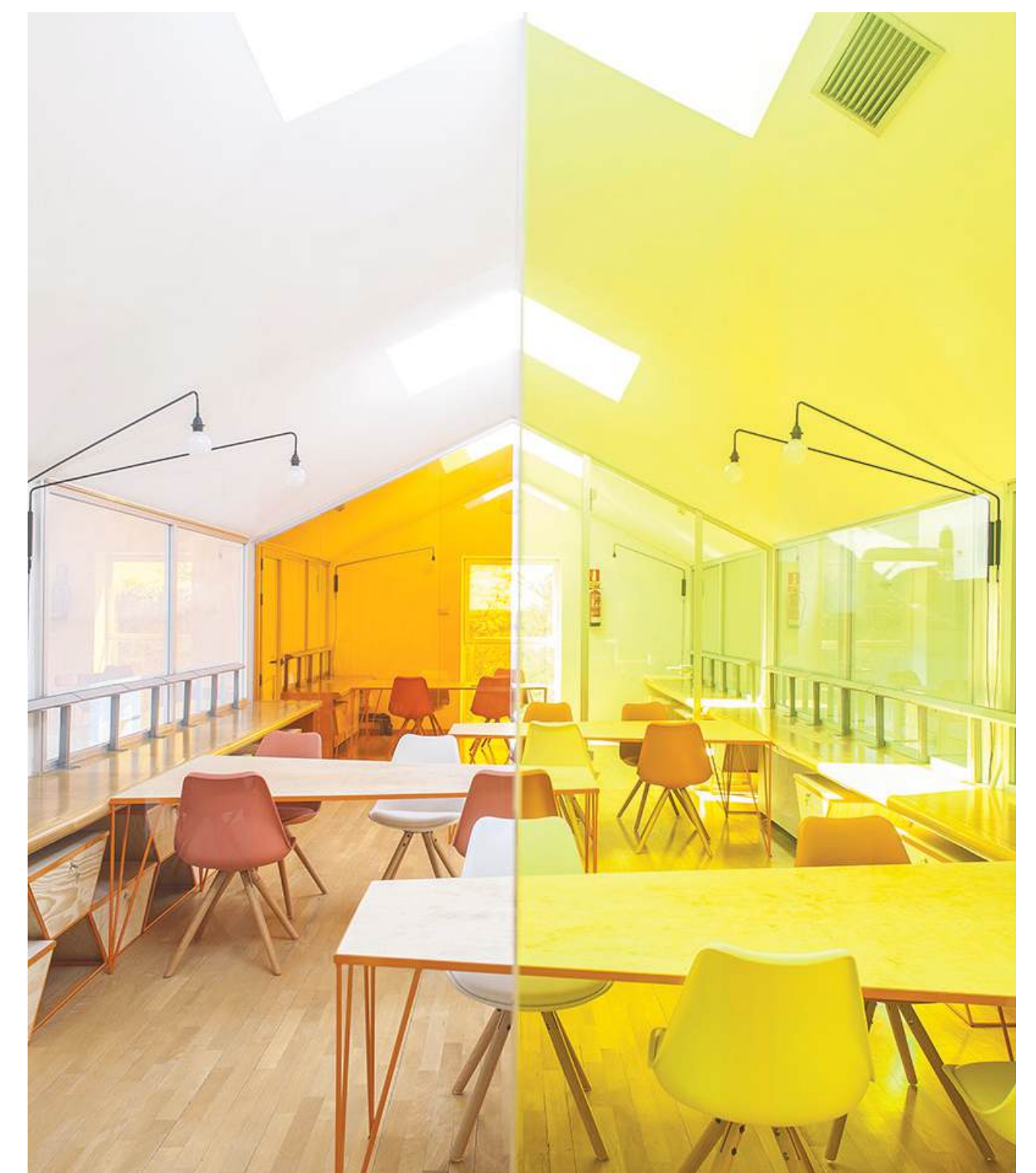
Mar de Movilidad (Vallecas)



Mar de Alimentación (Villaverde)



Mar de Reciclaje (Vicálvaro)



Mar de Energía (Centro)

MANZANARES RESTORATION STRATEGY. Madrid

14

ALDAYJOVER Architecture and Landscape
www.aldayjover.com

Architects
Iñaki Alday
Margarita Jover
Jesús Arcos
Francisco Mesonero

Typology
Strategic Document

Location
Madrid, Spain

Client
Madrid City Council

Area
29 lineal km

Cost
-

Construction
2023-2024

Engineering
IRBIS
ABM Consulting
Fernando Benedicto

Photos by
aldayjover team



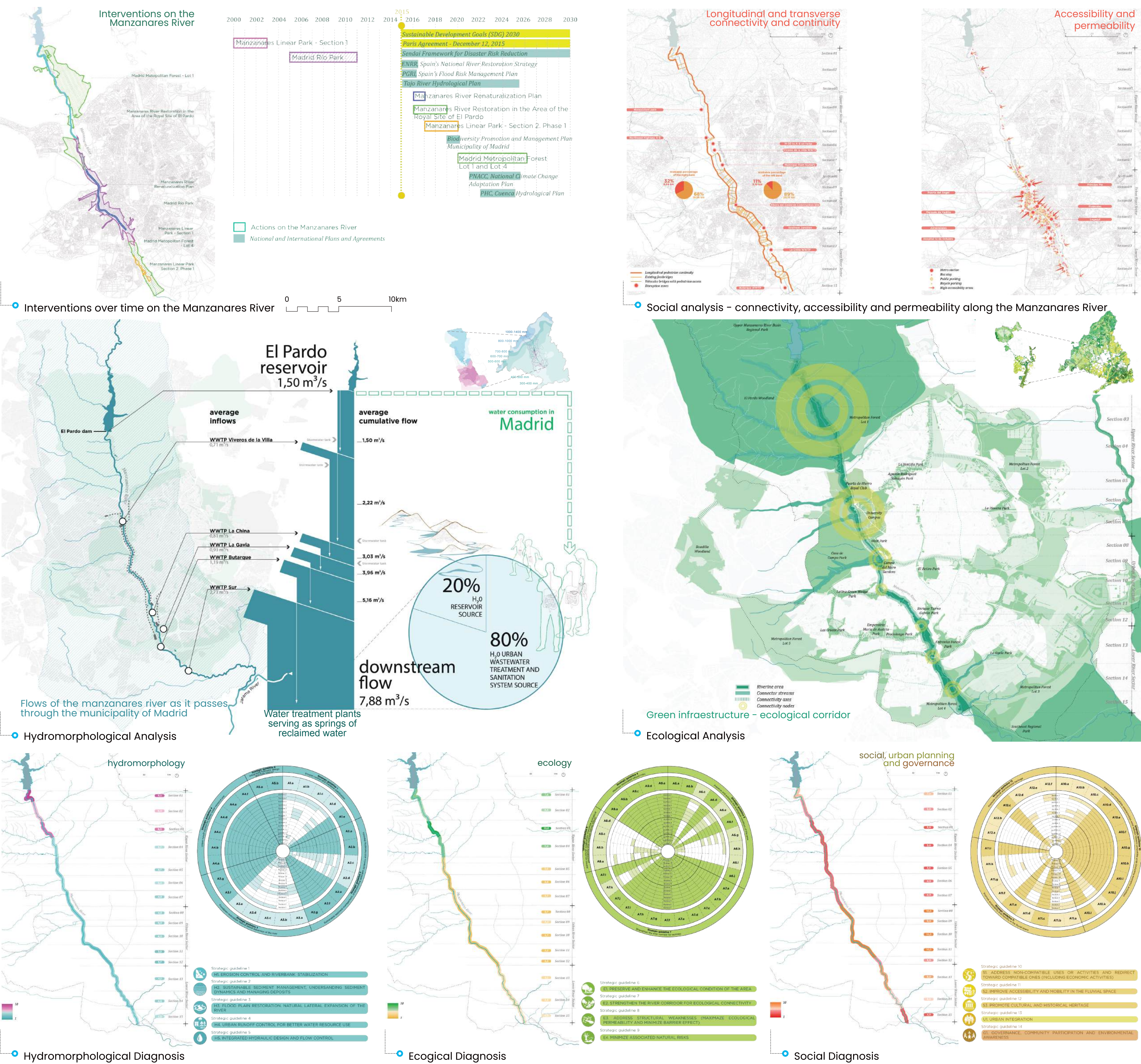
The Manzanares River has played an essential role in the formation and growth of Madrid. Over time, urban expansion transformed the river, causing a gradual physical and cultural distancing that led to its increasing anthropization and hydraulic control. Works such as the El Pardo dam and the channelling of the urban stretch deeply altered its landscape, prioritizing urban development while relegating its ecological and social value.

After decades of disconnection, at the beginning of the 21st century a series of interventions sought to recover the riverfront and transform it once again into a civic meeting place. Emblematic projects such as Madrid Río and the Parque Lineal del Manzanares were key to restoring the river's relevance within the city as a green, accessible public space with strong recreational and social value.

In the current context of the climate crisis, the Madrid City Council, with support from Fundación Biodiversidad and European funding (NextGenerationEU), is promoting the Strategic Plan for the Recovery of the Manzanares River. This transformative initiative aims to restore the river as an ecological, hydraulic, and social corridor, aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the 2030 Agenda.

The plan addresses key challenges such as rising temperatures, water scarcity, and flood risks, positioning the Manzanares as an axis of urban resilience. Its objectives include restoring biodiversity, improving hydraulic and sedimentary processes, and creating multifunctional spaces. It also proposes to revalue water treatment plants as “21st-century springs,” sources of reclaimed water for green areas and ecological flows.

With 14 strategic lines and 119 direct actions, the plan seeks to restore the river as an ecological and social corridor, enhancing connections between communities and improving citizens’ quality of life—turning the Manzanares into a symbol of sustainability and urban regeneration in line with Europe’s green transition.



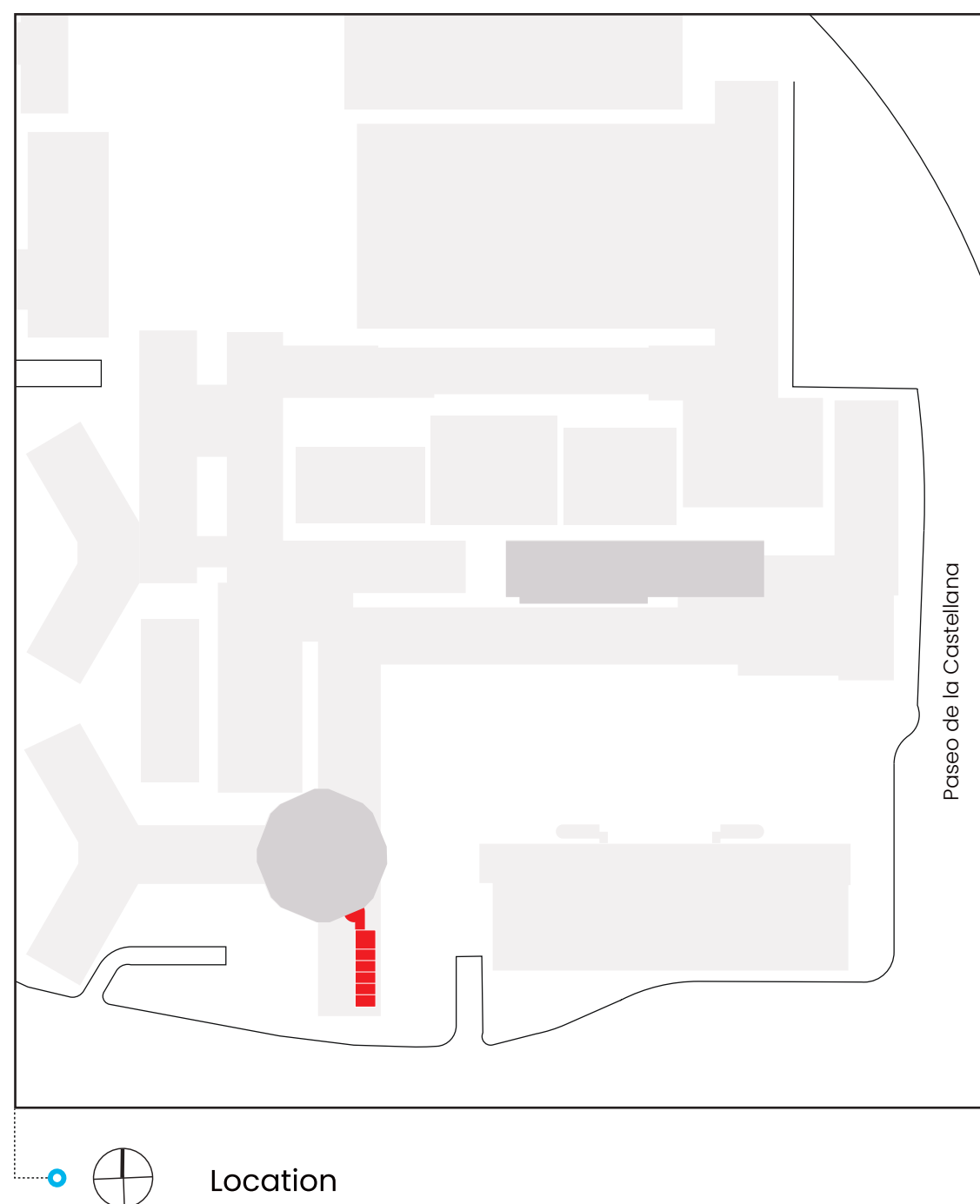
MURADO & ELVIRA ARQUITECTURA
www.muradoelvira.com

Architects Clara Murado López
Juan Elvira Peña

Typology Therapeutic space
Location Madrid, Spain
Client Unoentrecienmil
Area 139 m²
Cost 460.200 €
Construction 2023

Engineering Bernabeu Ingenieros
Axiom

Photos by Imagen Subliminal

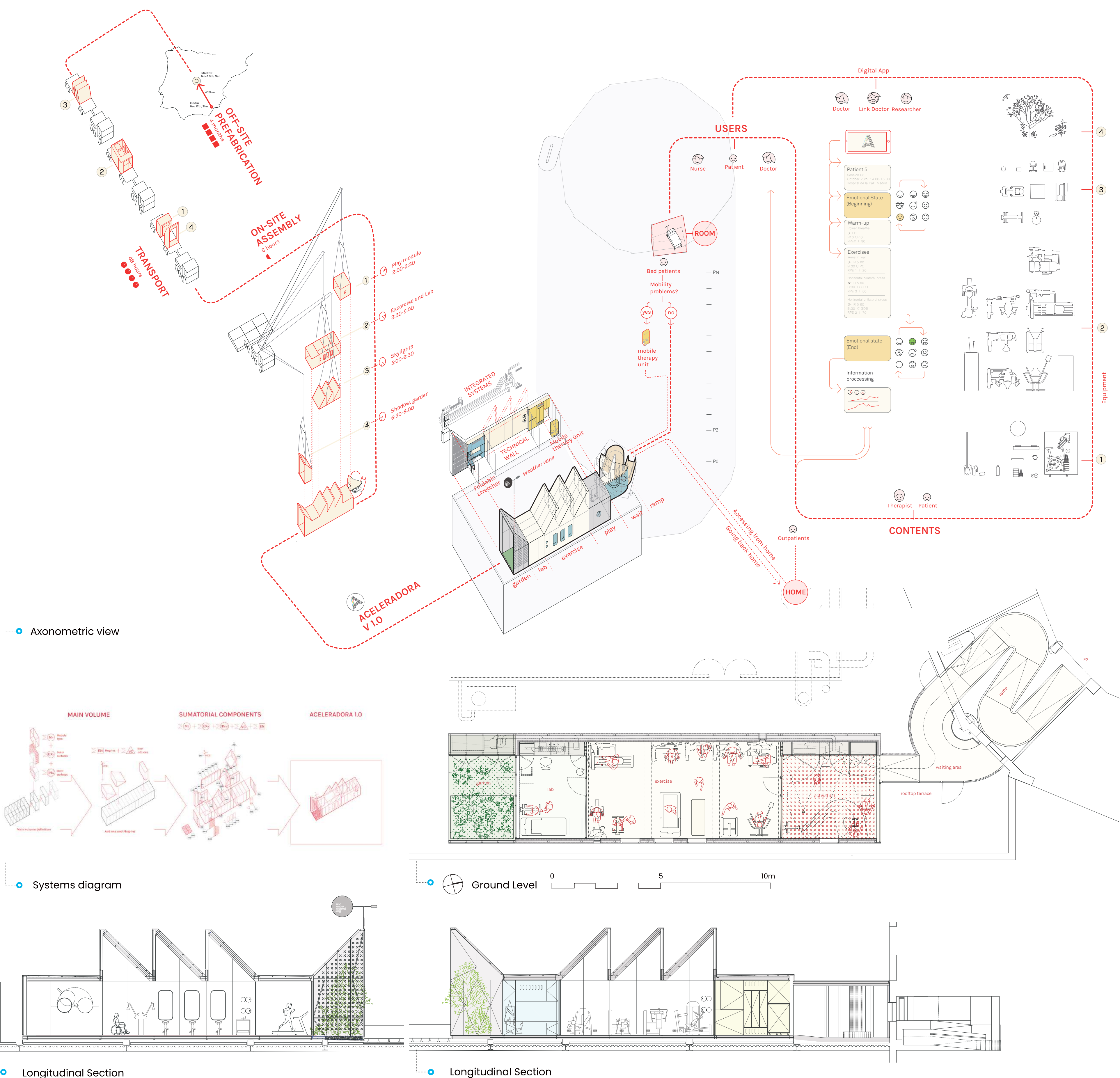


The Accelerator is the first of a series of industrialised pavilions that will be implemented in various Spanish hospitals with an unprecedented purpose in our healthcare panorama. It is part of a research project of the unoentrecienmil foundation – promoter of the project – whose results have shown that physical exercise can help accelerate the cure of childhood cancer by 17%, increase the chances of survival, mitigate the side effects of treatment and improve their self-esteem and quality of life. Here, children of different ages will be able to exercise as part of a non-pharmacological therapeutic programme, thus positively influencing their recovery. The patients' physical activity is recorded by devices that collect data to obtain scientific evidence that will improve their treatment.

The pavilion is located on the roof of La Paz Hospital in Madrid, next to the main entrance and connected to the maternity tower. It is an outdoor space but at the same time a new interior that incorporates techniques and imaginaries favourable to recovery. Patients can leave for a moment the rigid temporal and spatial protocols and the monotony of the main building, to enter a place with an alternative spatial and material organisation.

The future need to implement these research spaces in different hospitals led to an understanding of the project as a combinatory system. Based on a catalogue of dimensional units, interior and exterior finishes, a series of light control devices and other “plug-in” devices, each project will be approached as the selection and combination of a series of pre-designed units. Each Accelerator will therefore form part of a common family of solutions, adapted in each case to the needs of the location.

If the interior of the building is designed to reinforce as far as possible the therapeutic nature of the research programme, on the outside it aims to communicate globally with those who walk through the area. The shape of the project makes its combinatory character explicit, and conveys a certain idea of lightness and ease.



ESCUELA NACIONAL DE SANIDAD. Madrid

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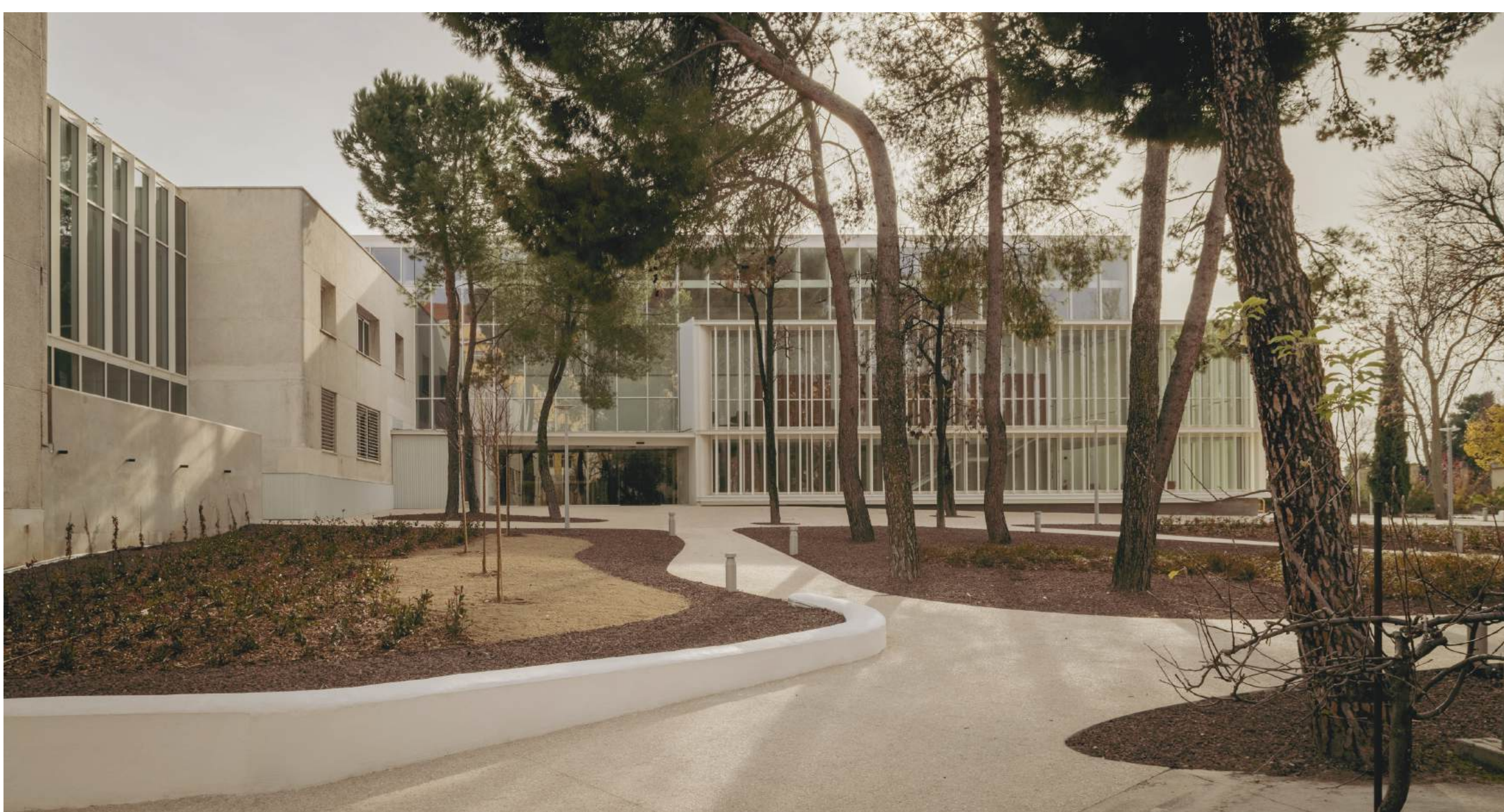
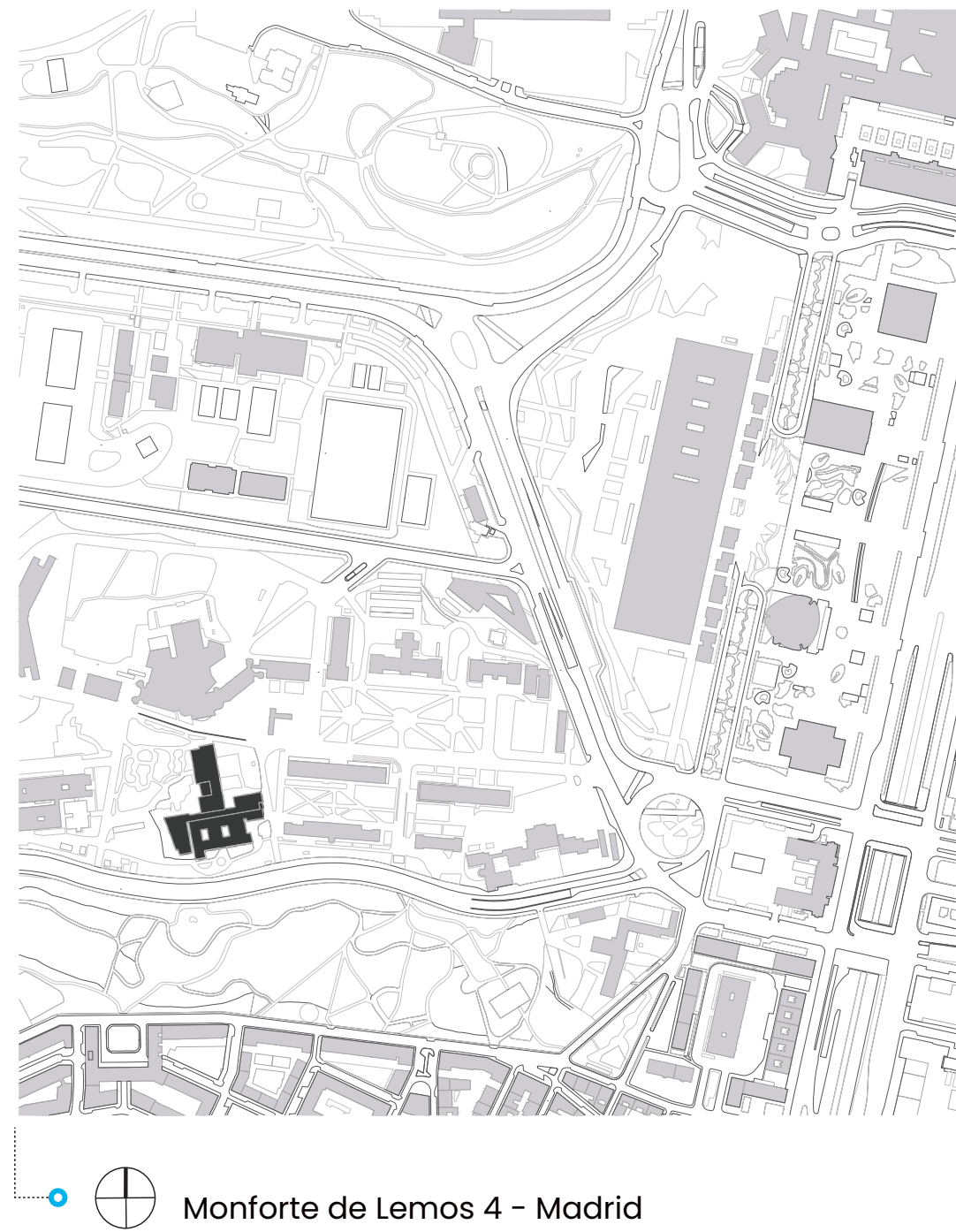
MÓNICA ALBEROLA
@monicalberola

Architects Mónica Alberola,
María Casariego, Enrique
de Teresa, Guiomar Martín

Typology Public Architecture
Location Madrid, Spain
Client Instituto Salud Carlos III
Area 8.500 m²
Cost 9.611.047 €
Construction 2024

Engineering JG Energy Systems
Fhercor Structural

Photos by Alberto Amores

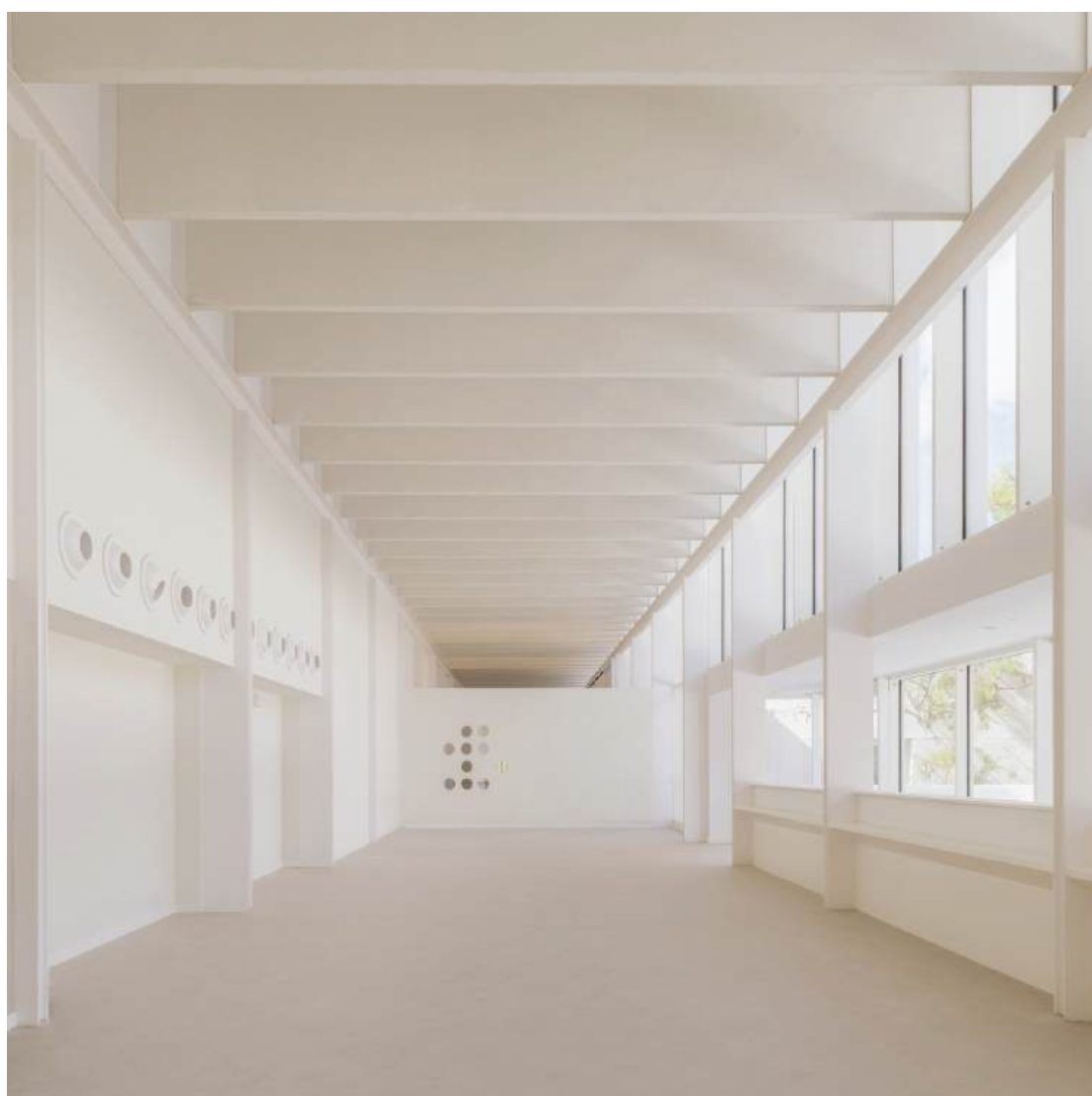
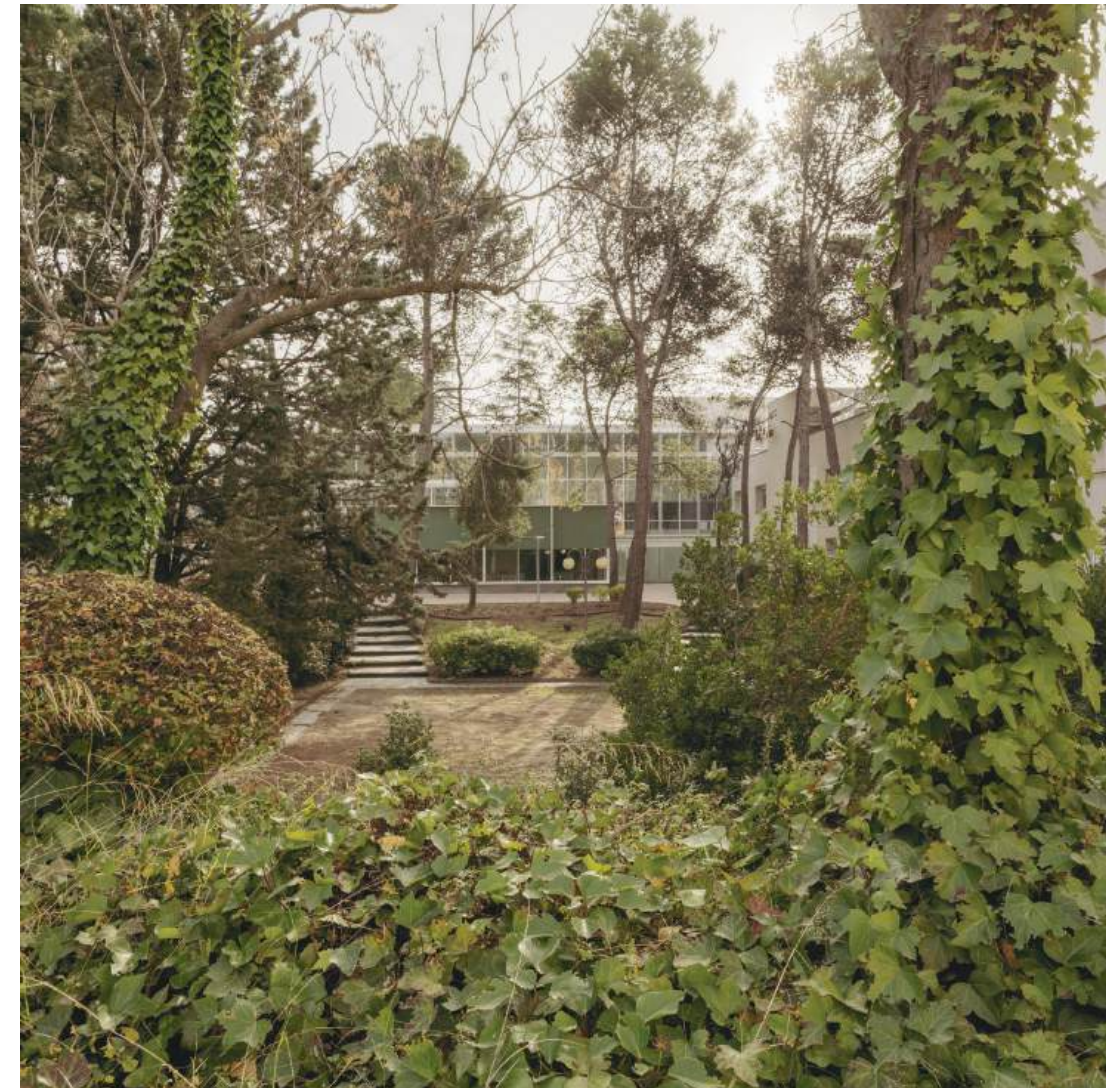
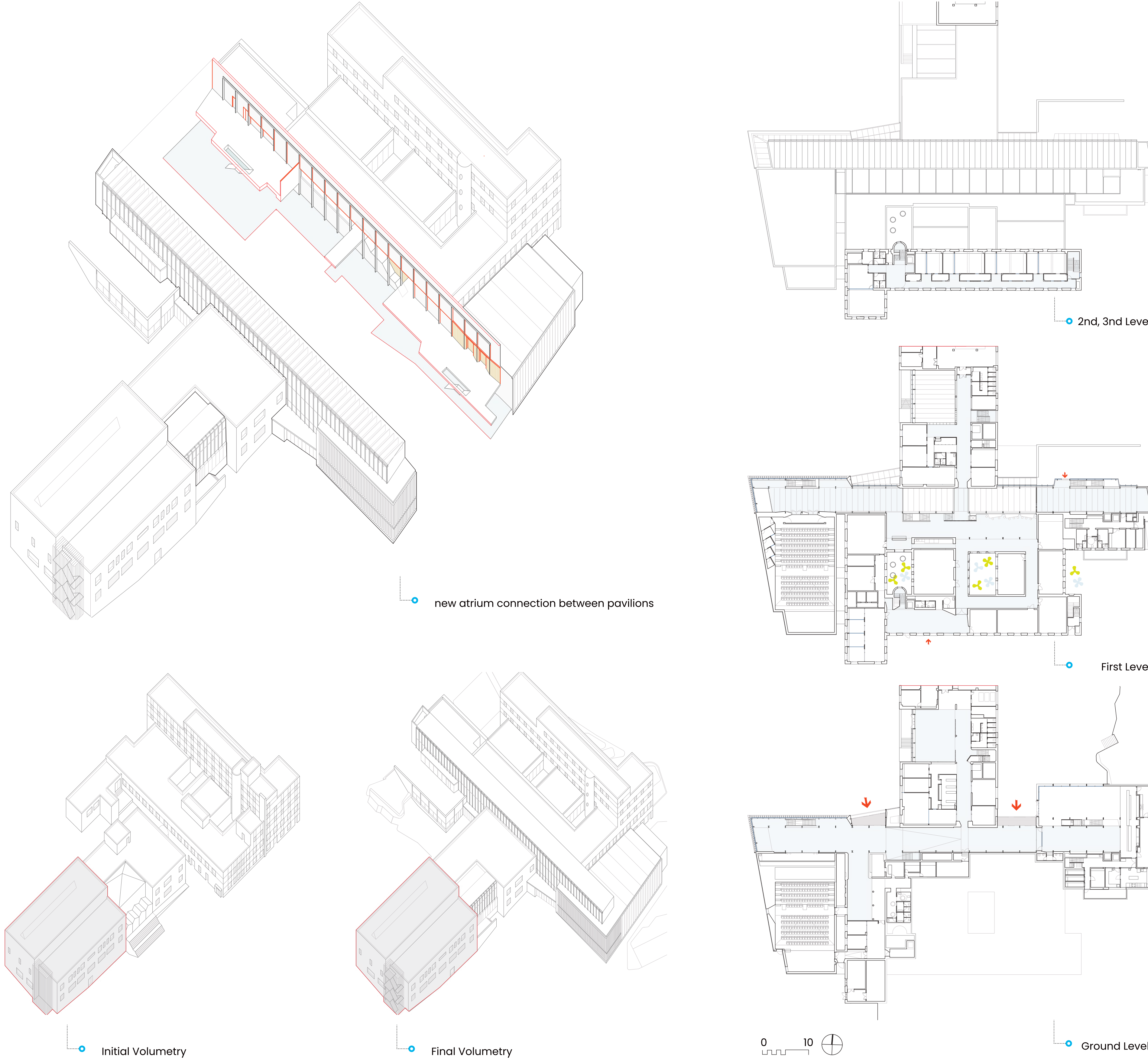


The extension and refurbishment of Pavilions of the Instituto de Salud Carlos III, on the Chamartín campus, responds to the need to update the facilities of the National School of Public Health, improve its connection with the Central Library, and recover the institutional identity of the complex. Severely deteriorated and disjointed by successive transformations, the ensemble exhibited serious functional, spatial, material, and technical deficiencies.

The intervention is based on two simultaneous strategies: the rational reorganization and qualitative improvement of existing uses—mainly classrooms and offices—and the incorporation of new elements that provide the complex with a unified and representative image. After removing dissonant additions accumulated over time, the residual space between the two pavilions is occupied by a longitudinal prismatic volume that organizes access, clarifies circulation, and resolves level differences between the buildings. The fully glazed north façade, defined by the regular rhythm of its curtain wall and a structure of deep beams spaced every 120 cm, produces a distinctive interior atmosphere—light in tone and softly but variably illuminated. Within this large atrium, double-height areas, walkways, and staircases are finished with light metal railings, wooden slats, and acoustic panels that lend a touch of domesticity to the public character of the space.

At the west end, the new trapezoidal auditorium with raked seating allows access on two levels. Its entirely wooden interior meets functional and acoustic requirements through a faceted geometry that integrates the technical booths. At the opposite end, the two-level cafeteria connects the lobby with the garden, softening the topographic transition to the immediate surroundings.

The intervention extends to the reorganization of the exterior environment: pedestrian paths, slopes, and planting areas are shaped with organic geometries and gentle gradients, continuing the campus botanical trail and ensuring accessibility and clear orientation throughout the institutional complex.



BIBLIOTECA LOS MOLINOS. Madrid

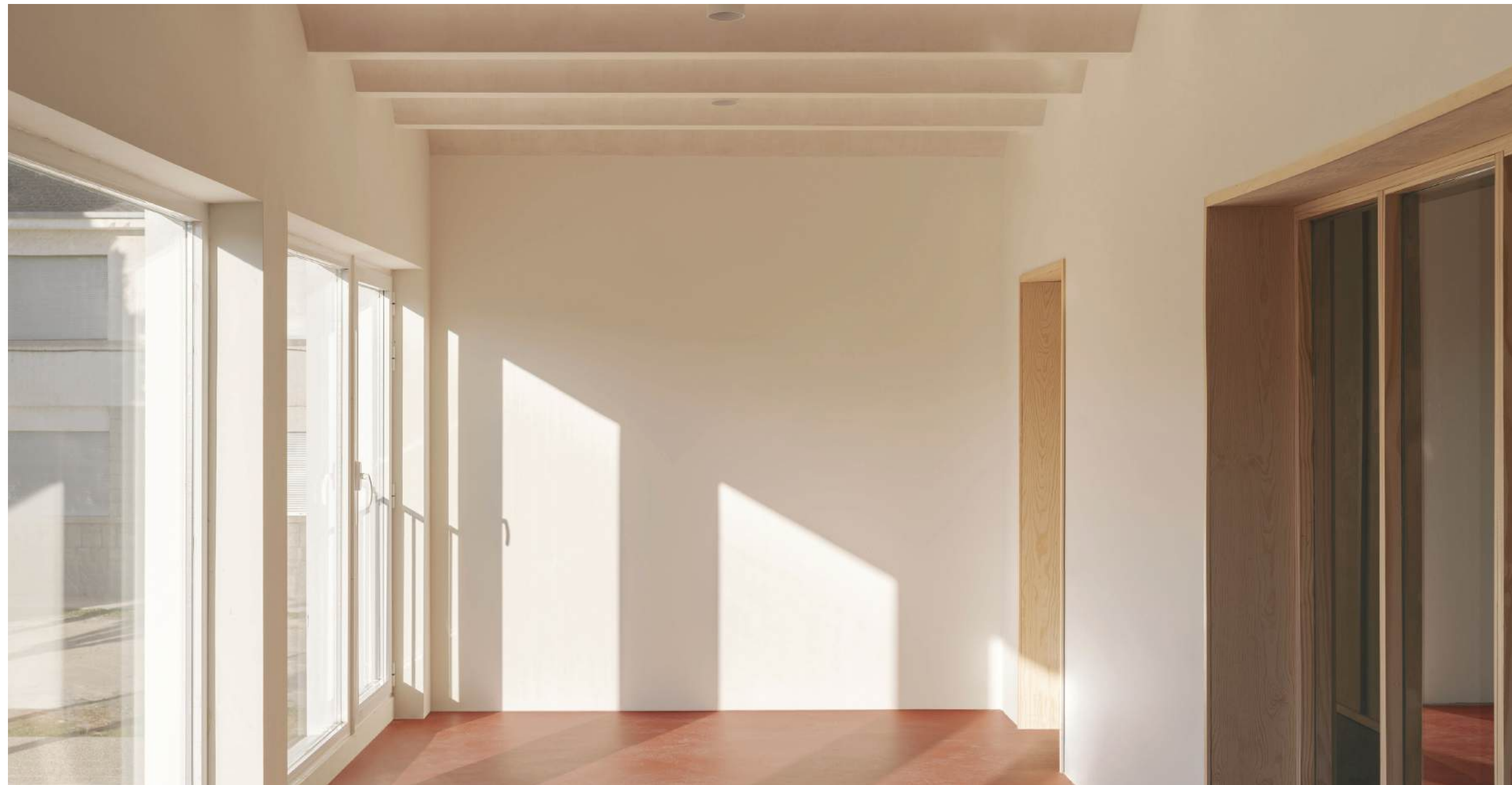
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DIIR
www.estudiodiir.com

Architects
David Meana,
Ignacio Navarro,
Iñigo Palazón,
Ricardo Fernández

Typology
Location
Public Architecture
Los Molinos, Madrid,
Spain
Client
Area
Cost
Construction
Engineering
Los Molinos City Council
600 m²
350.000 €
2023
Alfredo Lafuente

Photos by
Luis Díaz Díaz

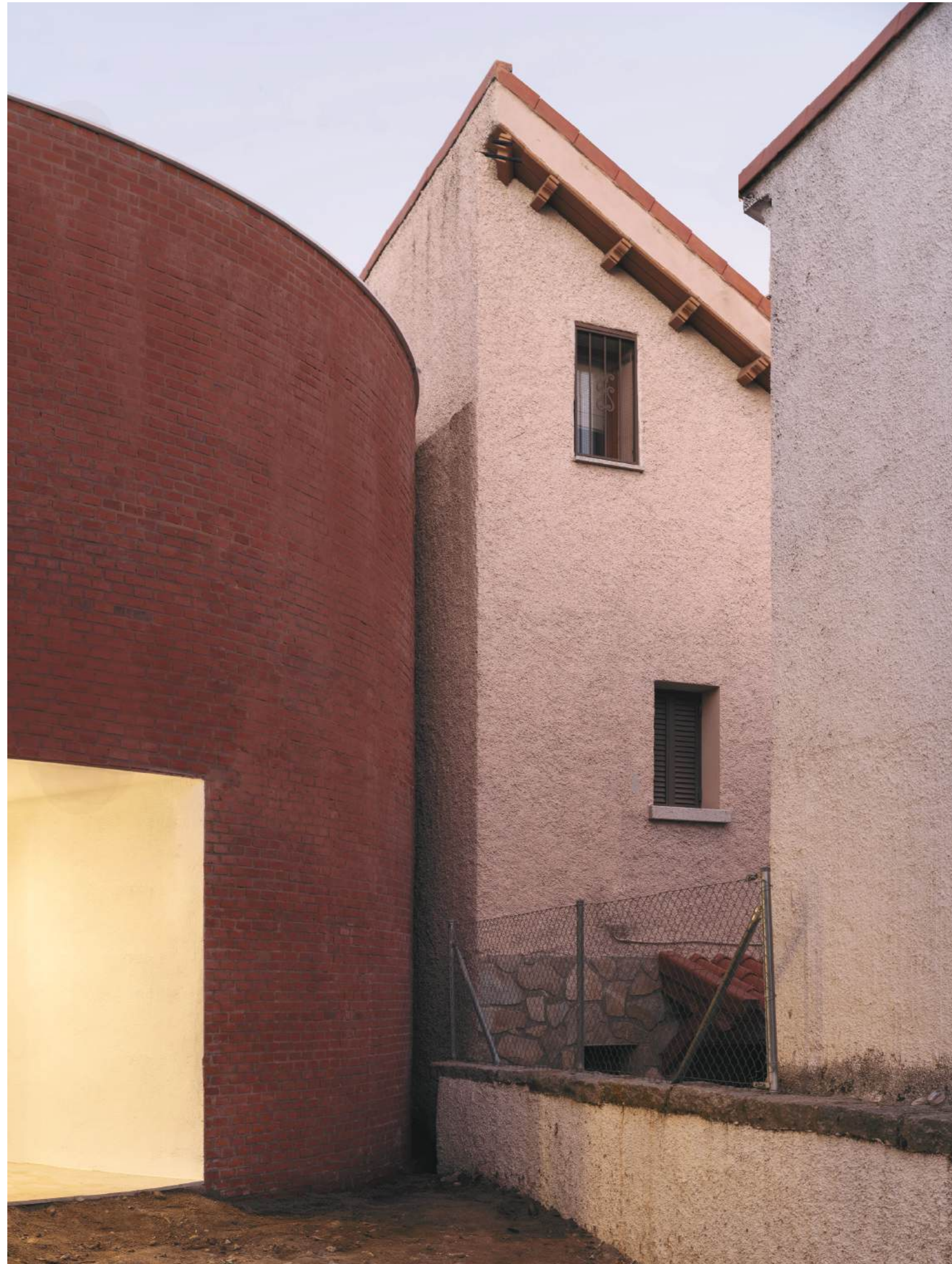
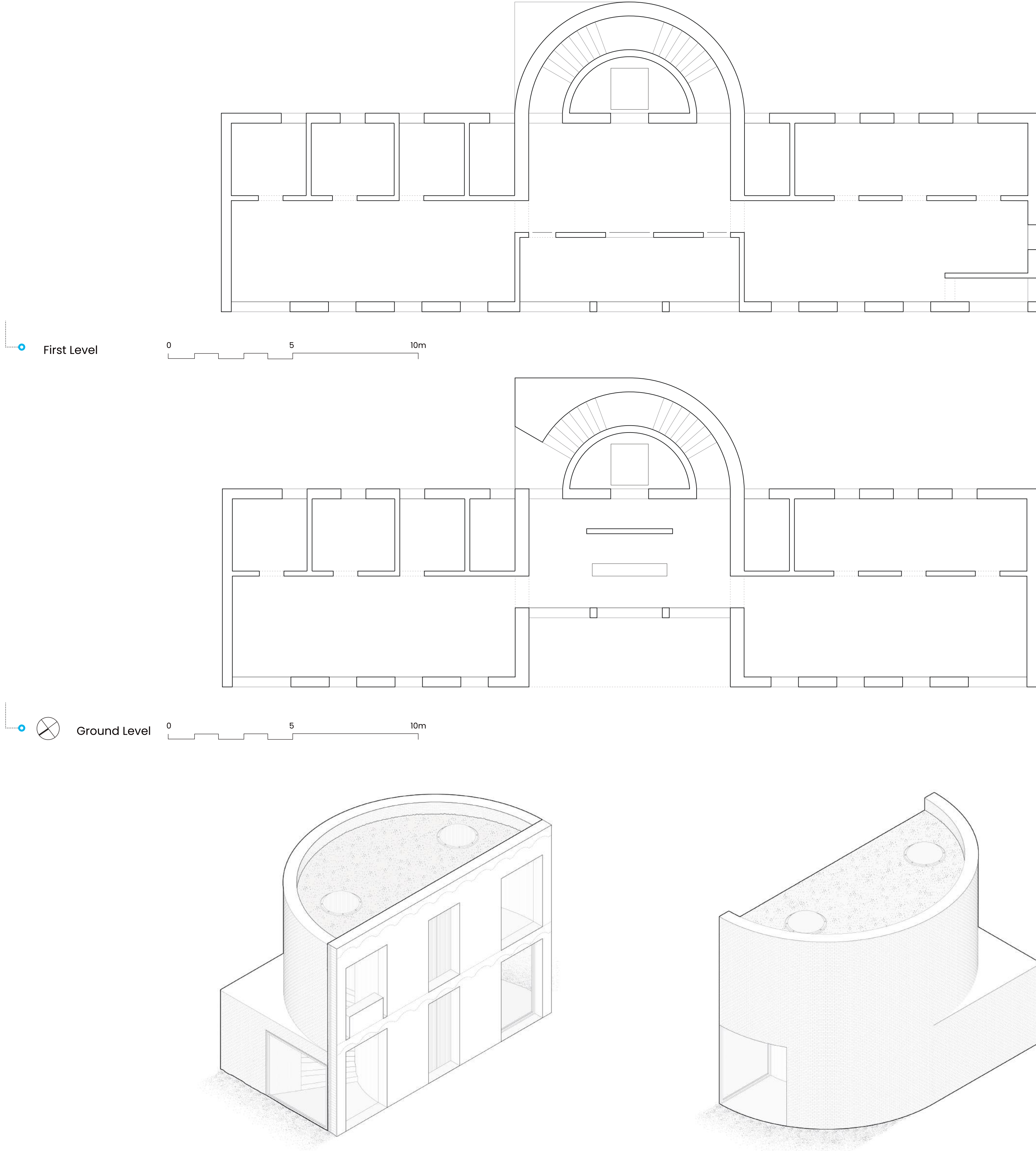


Los Molinos library is part of an ambitious project framed in a public competition won by DIIR in 2018. The main goal of this commission lies in the renovation of an old school complex in order to adapt the entire site to present and future needs.

The existing environment is analyzed in detail in order to carry out a respectful and strategic intervention. Everything that was formerly designed to accommodate a specific program is completely changing its identity to host a new use. Among the different operations that make up this project, three stand out above the rest. One involves converting the playground into a public square. Another, currently under construction, transforms the main building, which housed the classrooms, into a cultural center. And the last one, which concerns this project, converts the entire area of the teachers' dormitories into the new municipal library.

When renovating this building, each floor is intervened in a different way. While specific modifications are made on the ground floor, the entire first floor is fully renovated. The aim is to incorporate the overall space into the cultural activity of the building. The first operation focuses on the design of a new communication core. Its unique semicircular shape is attached to the building in the center of the configuration and gives it a very distinctive appearance through the use of brick. Coinciding with the arrival area of this core, a reception space is proposed. This welcoming area completes the semicircle and builds its contour by means of a wooden bench. From this point, the user connects with a kind of large corridor, which acts as a backbone, and gives access to each of the rooms. This entire strip is clad in wood paneling, which adds character and presence. Its rhythm organizes the path and facilitates the flow between the different programs.

In terms of the project's materiality, a play of contrasts is sought. The warmth of the wood on the vertical walls and the color provided by the red linoleum on certain floors contrasts with the neutrality of the other tones. White covers the vast majority of the spaces and gives prominence to the unique vaulted ceiling.

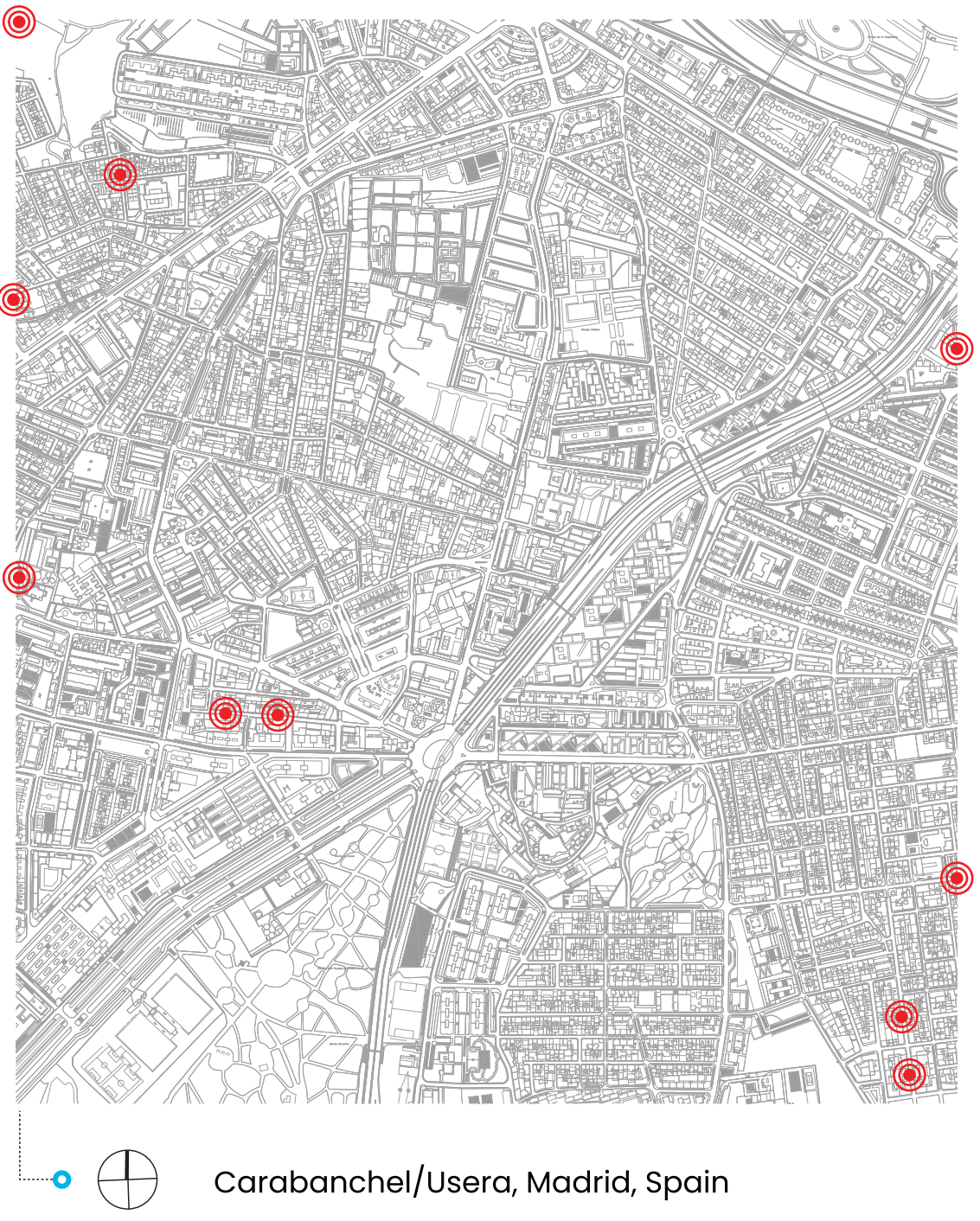


ELEMENTS FOR INDUSTRIAL RECOVERY. Madrid 18

BURR
www.burr.studio

Architect BURR
Typology Mixed use
Location Usera/Carabanchel
Client Private
Area av. 200 m²
Cost av. 200.000 €
Construction 2020–2025

Photos by Maru Serrano



“Elements for Industrial Recovery” is a framework-project that includes several architectural interventions in disused industrial warehouses in southern Madrid. It seeks to protect the cities industrial heritage by introducing adaptive use strategies that can extend the lifespan of these structures and prevent their demolition.

Over the past three decades, industrial activity in central Madrid has steadily diminished, reaching a point where it has virtually disappeared. This activity decline mirrors patterns seen in other urban centers: environmental regulations on noise and emissions coupled with rising property values, have driven industrial uses to the city's outskirts. As a result, urban industrial buildings have become obsolete: too large for local commerce, too central for industry, too constrained by regulations for recreational use and too deep for a residential use. These spaces now stand unused, they have become functional leftovers. Most of these industrial spaces are located on the ground floors of residential buildings, extending beyond the building's footprint into interior courtyards. In a cityscape now dominated by residential and commercial uses, these large-volume spaces are no longer needed. Amid a speculative boom in Madrid's housing market, many of these former industrial spaces are now being targeted for conversion to purely residential use. The most drastic transformation involves limiting the depth of new construction, making residential redevelopment of these industrial buildings unfeasible unless they are partially demolished. The financial incentive for these changes lies in the real estate market, where property values can triple or even quadruple when converted into residential use. The key to preserving these spaces lies in hybrid uses. These industrial spaces cannot be understood rigidly; they require a more fluid approach to occupancy that takes advantage of their spatial qualities while balancing the costs of adaptation. They are not private spaces, but neither are they fully public; not residential, but not purely industrial either; they are not galleries, art centers, theaters, residencies, industrial kitchens, artists' studios, occasional restaurants, or listening spaces, but somehow all of these at once.

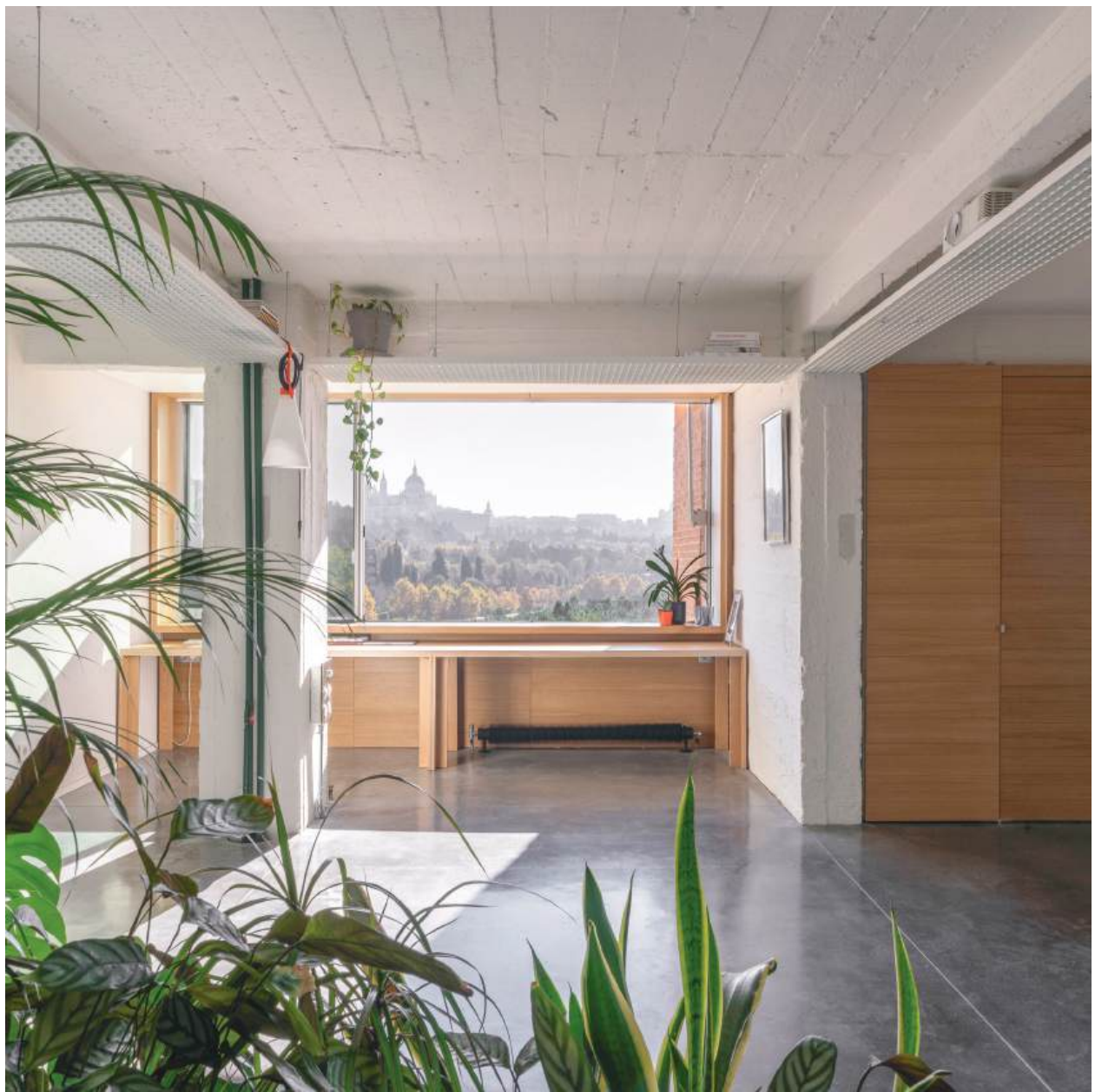


STUDIO PACHÓN – PAREDES
www.pachonparedes.com

Architect Luis G. Pachón
Inés García de Paredes

Typology Transformation
Location Madrid
Client Private
Area 57+47 m²
60+63 m²
Cost 69.000 €
72.000 €
Construction 2022
2024

Photos by ©Luis Asín



NON-BINARY CROSS SPACE (I)



NON-BINARY CROSS SPACE (III)

No one can precisely define today how we live, or how we will live in the near future. Unlike other historical moments, when architecture was conditioned by socio-economic vectors that defined the use and meaning of space, contemporary society demands more than ever the flexibility and adaptability of socio-cultural and urban models — and therefore, the versatility and mutability of the spaces we inhabit. Inflation, the rising cost of living, and growing labor uncertainty have led people to invest more time and resources in the domestic environment, through activities and experiences once linked to the public realm of the city. This shift makes it inevitable to import the dynamics of public space into the home.

The projects within this series aim to provide a polyvalent framework for diverse ways of living, framed within two active research lines:

NON-BINARY SPACE — Liberating Space

An experimental research that explores spatial sustainability and the undefined habitat through strategies of typological, functional and energetic undefinition; promoting freedom of occupation, transformation and interpretation of space over time.

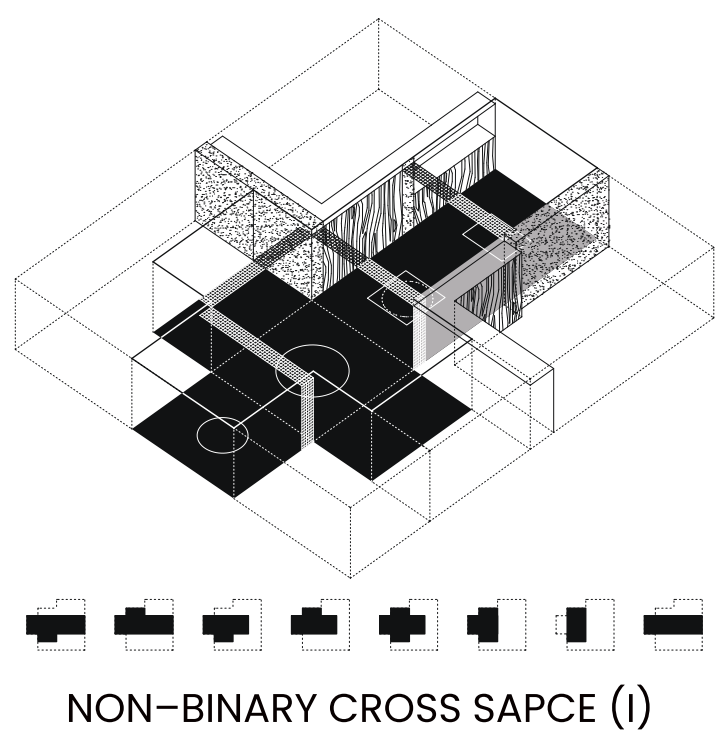
CROSS-SPACE — Occupying Structures

A practical research developing a systematic strategy for the occupation and optimization of existing structures and infrastructures through rehabilitation projects. It seeks to minimize material and energy impact while maximizing spatial adaptability and longevity.

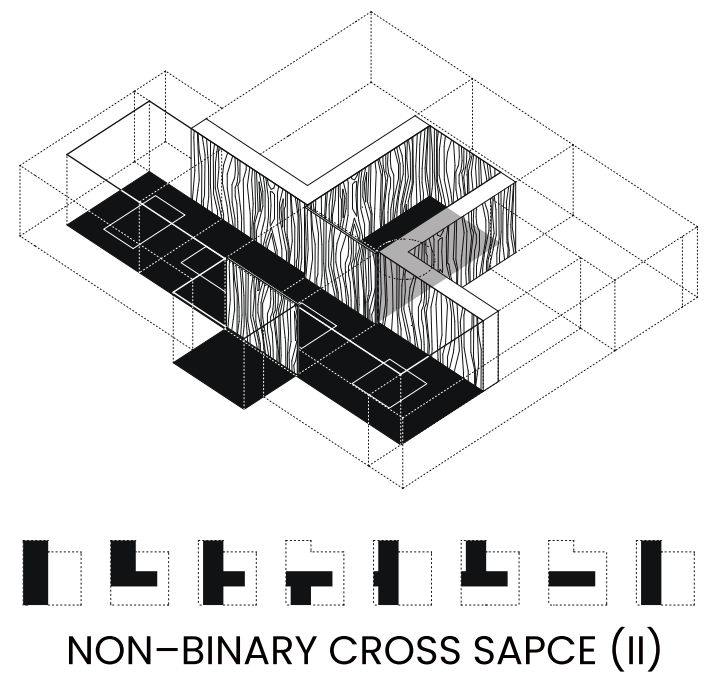
The structure, as a permanent layer, reveals and values the memory of the neighbourhood, the building, and the space itself. The strategies adapt to existing structural elements — slabs, columns, beams, and typologies (concrete, steel, or wood) — systematising dimensions and constructive solutions.

The first case studies correspond to mid-20th-century concrete buildings in Madrid's expanding districts and suburbs — such as Colonia de San Antonio, Pacífico and Vallehermoso. The strategy analyses the structural grid to define two types of space: binary spaces, fixed and defined, and non-binary spaces, open and polyvalent. The latter incorporate passive and active strategies, freeing up spatial connections that enhance natural light, cross ventilation and outdoor access through the recovery of terraces and courtyards.

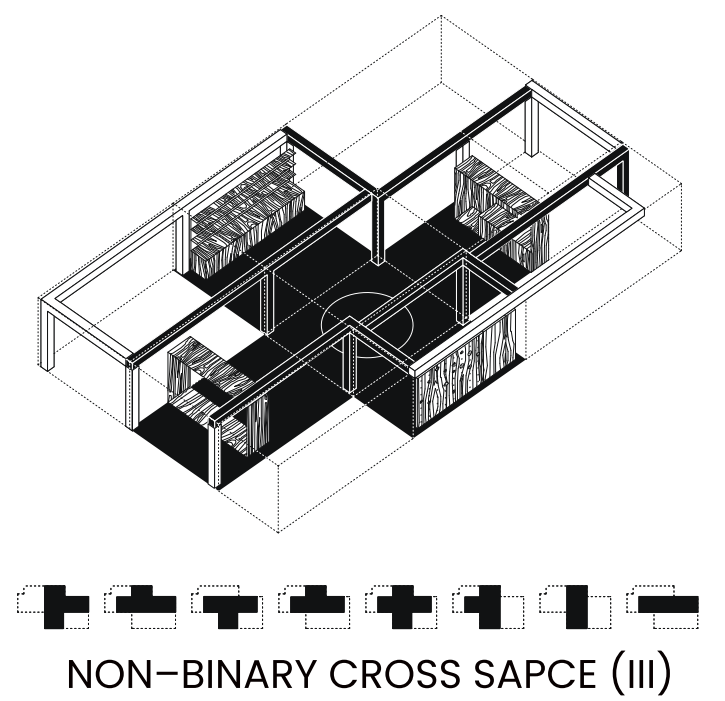
NON-BINARY CROSS SPACE ATLAS



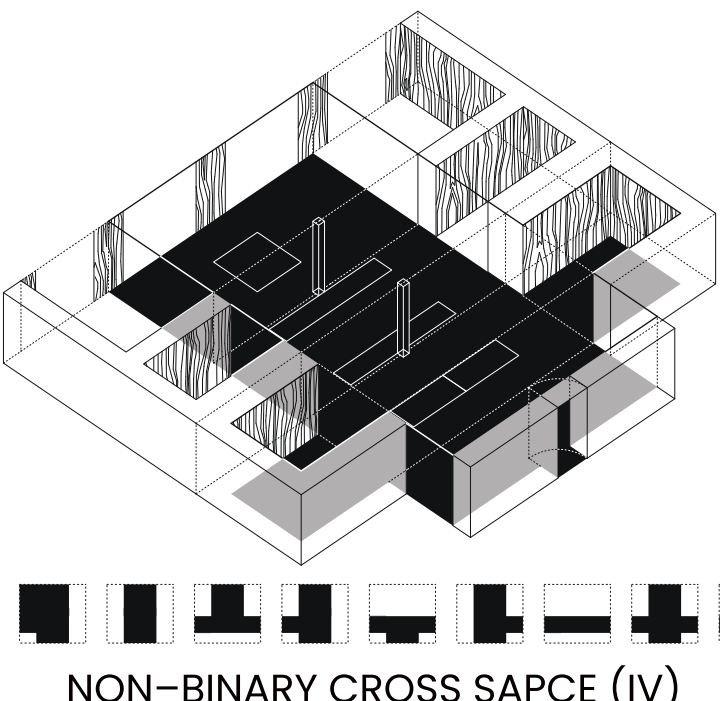
NON-BINARY CROSS SPACE (I)



NON-BINARY CROSS SPACE (II)

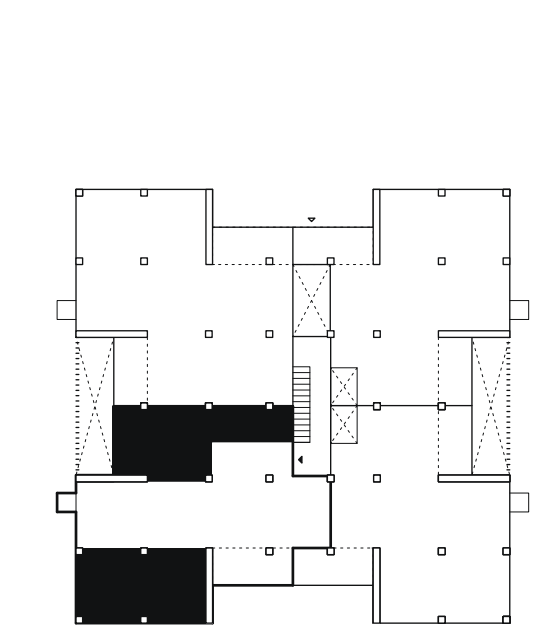


NON-BINARY CROSS SPACE (III)



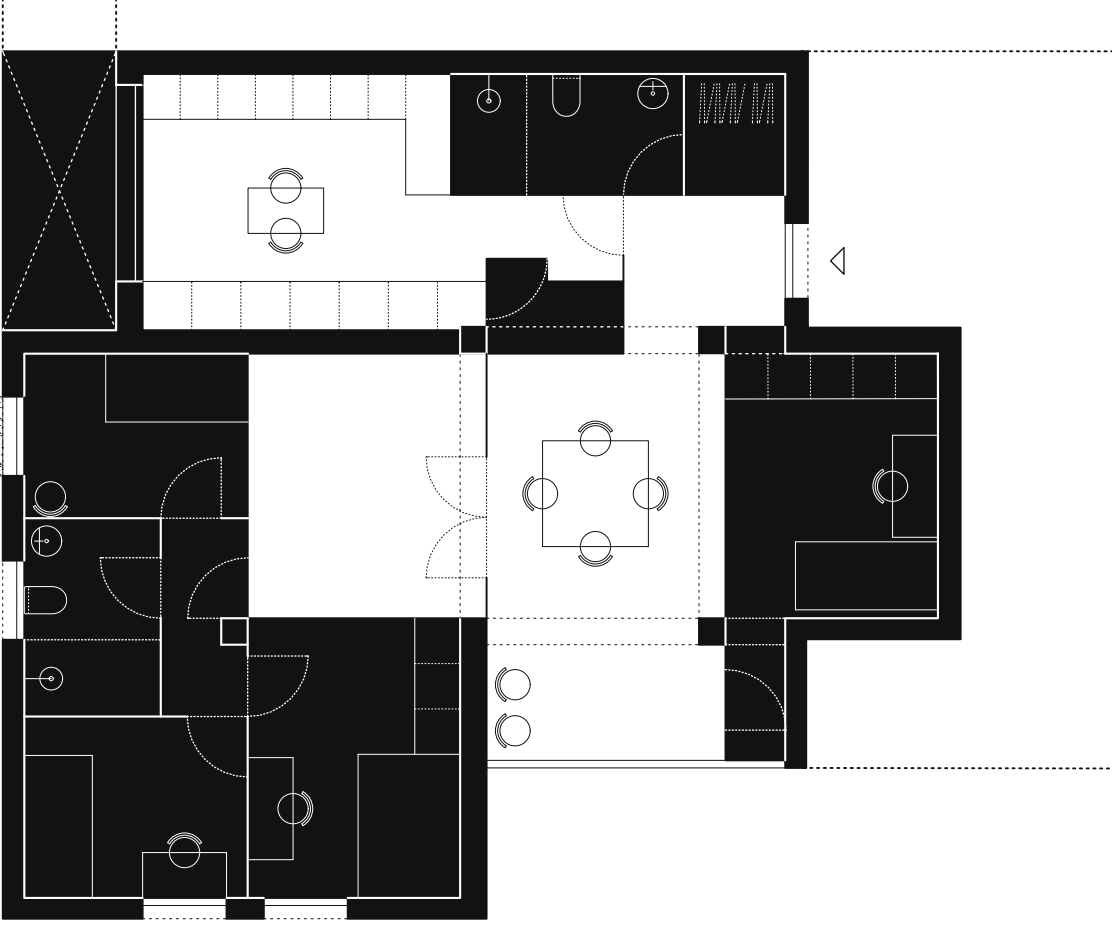
NON-BINARY CROSS SPACE (IV)

NON-BINARY CROSS SPACE (I)



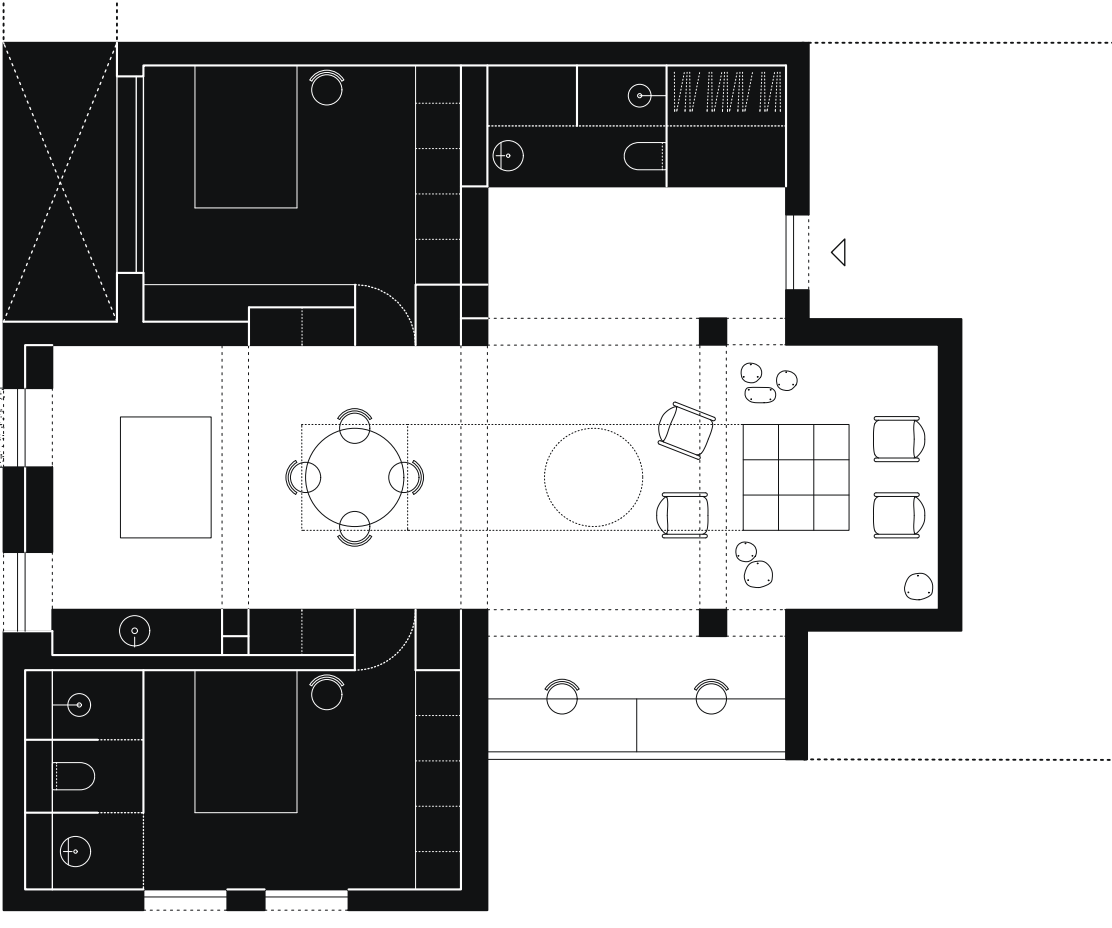
Block Plan

0 5 10m



Original Plan

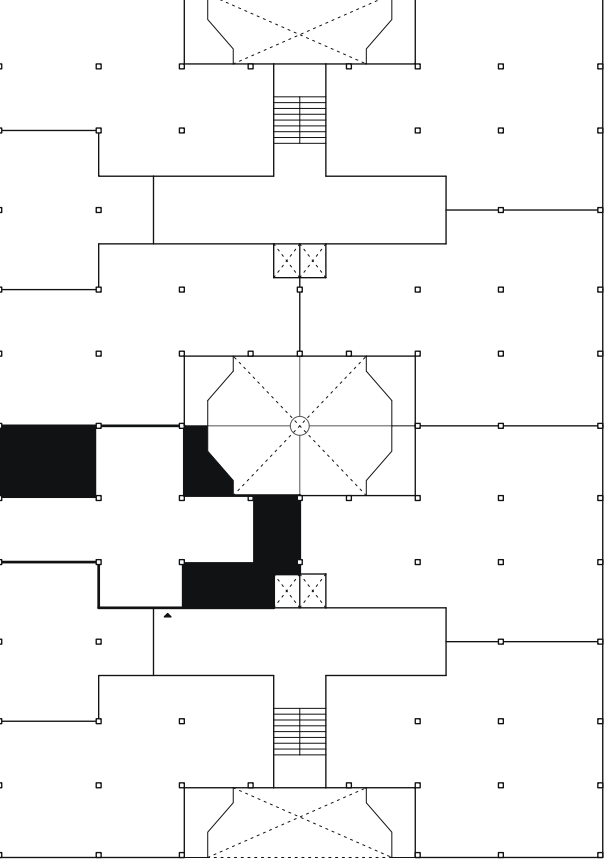
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Transformation Plan

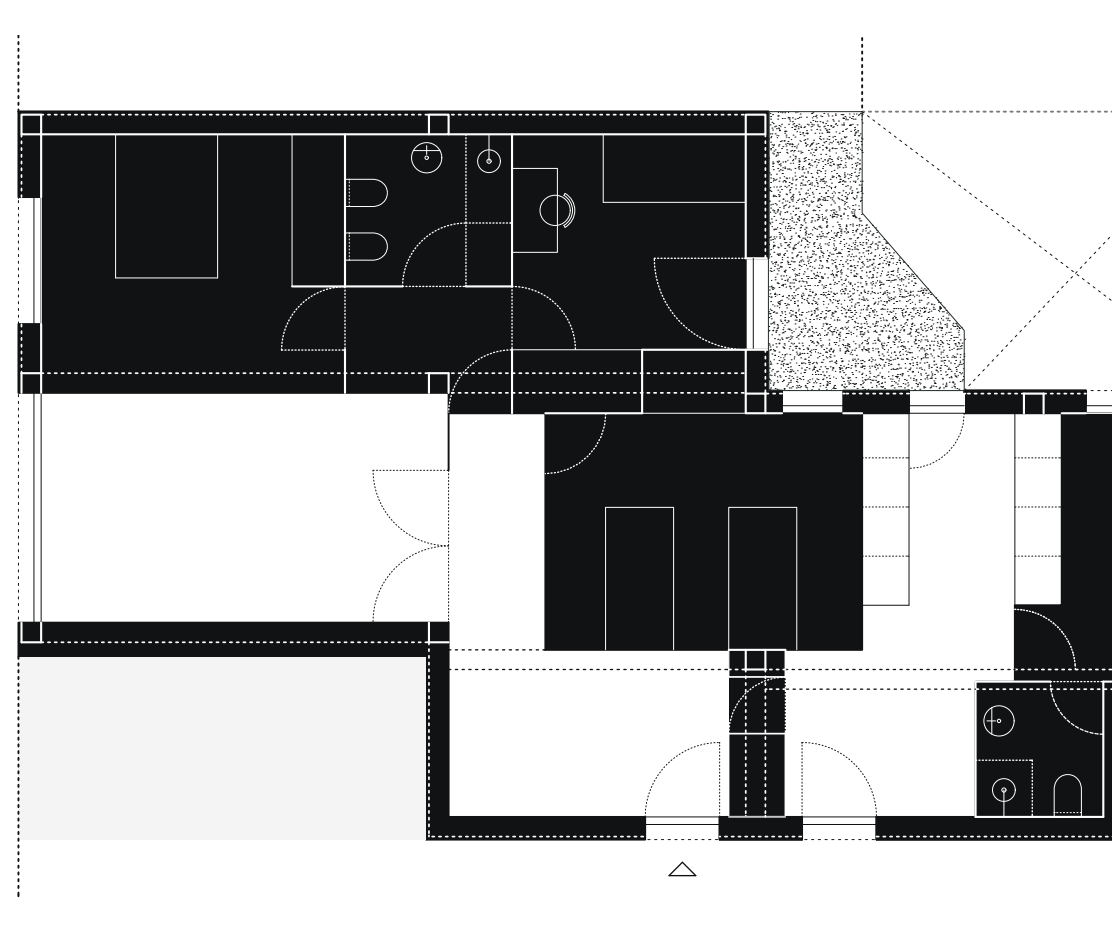
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NON-BINARY CROSS SPACE (III)



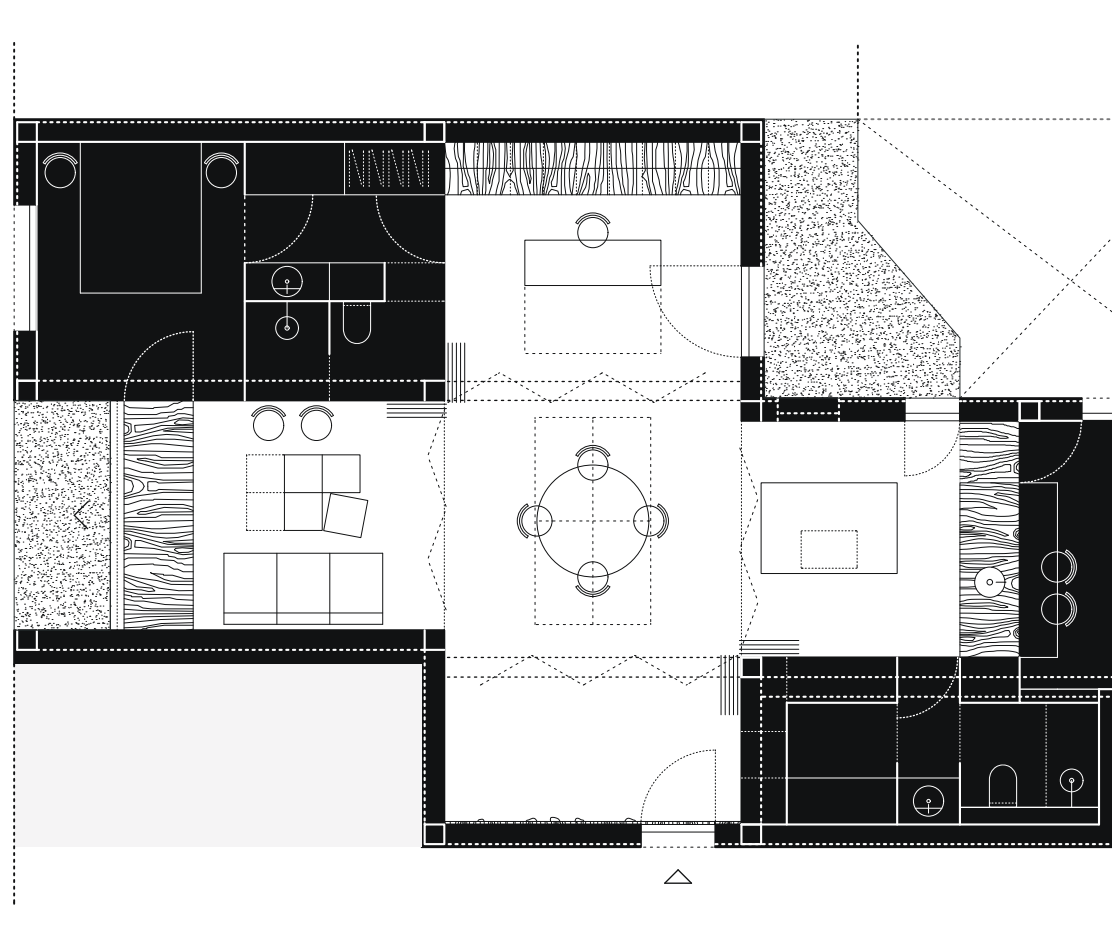
Block Plan

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Original Plan

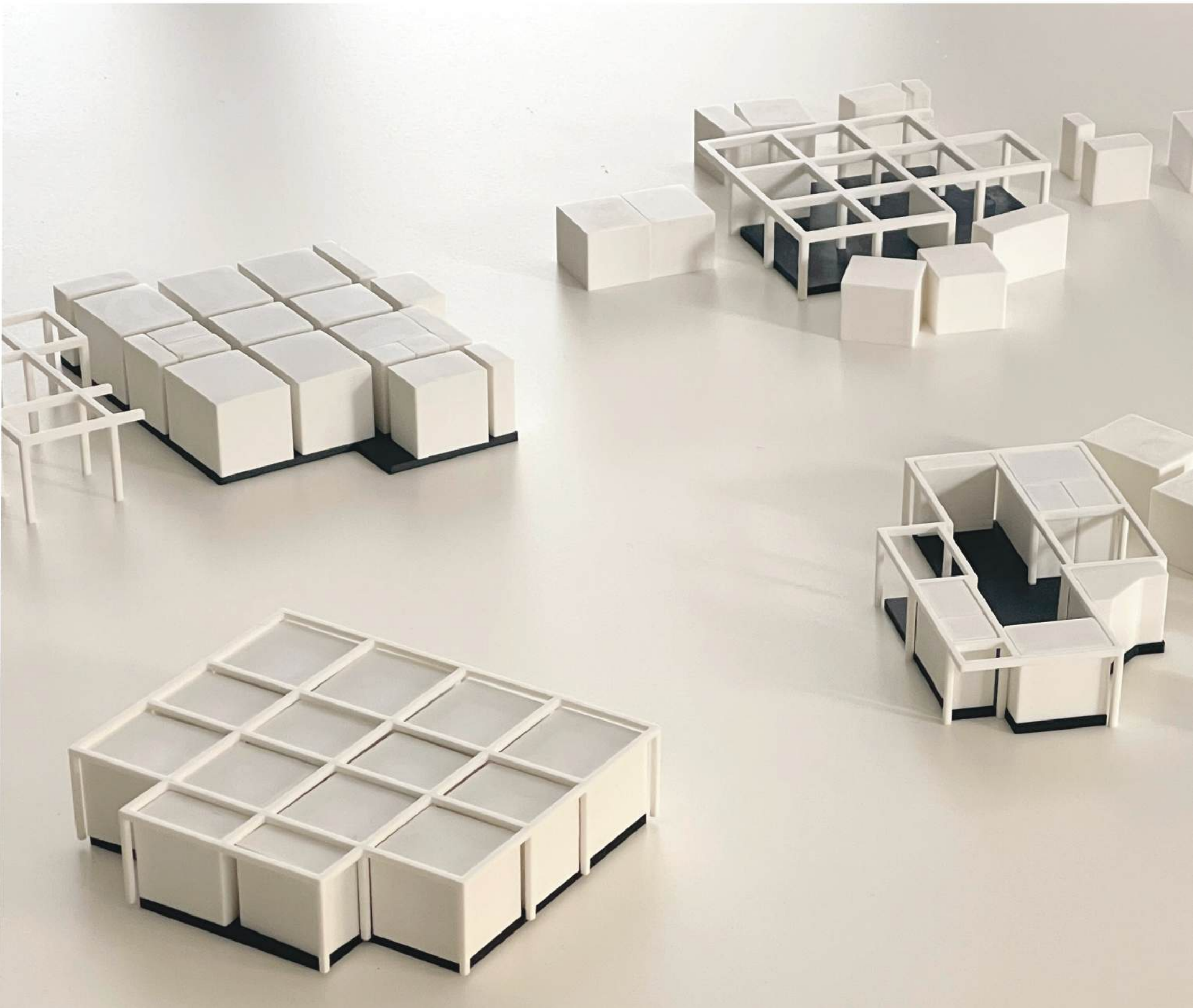
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Transformation Plan

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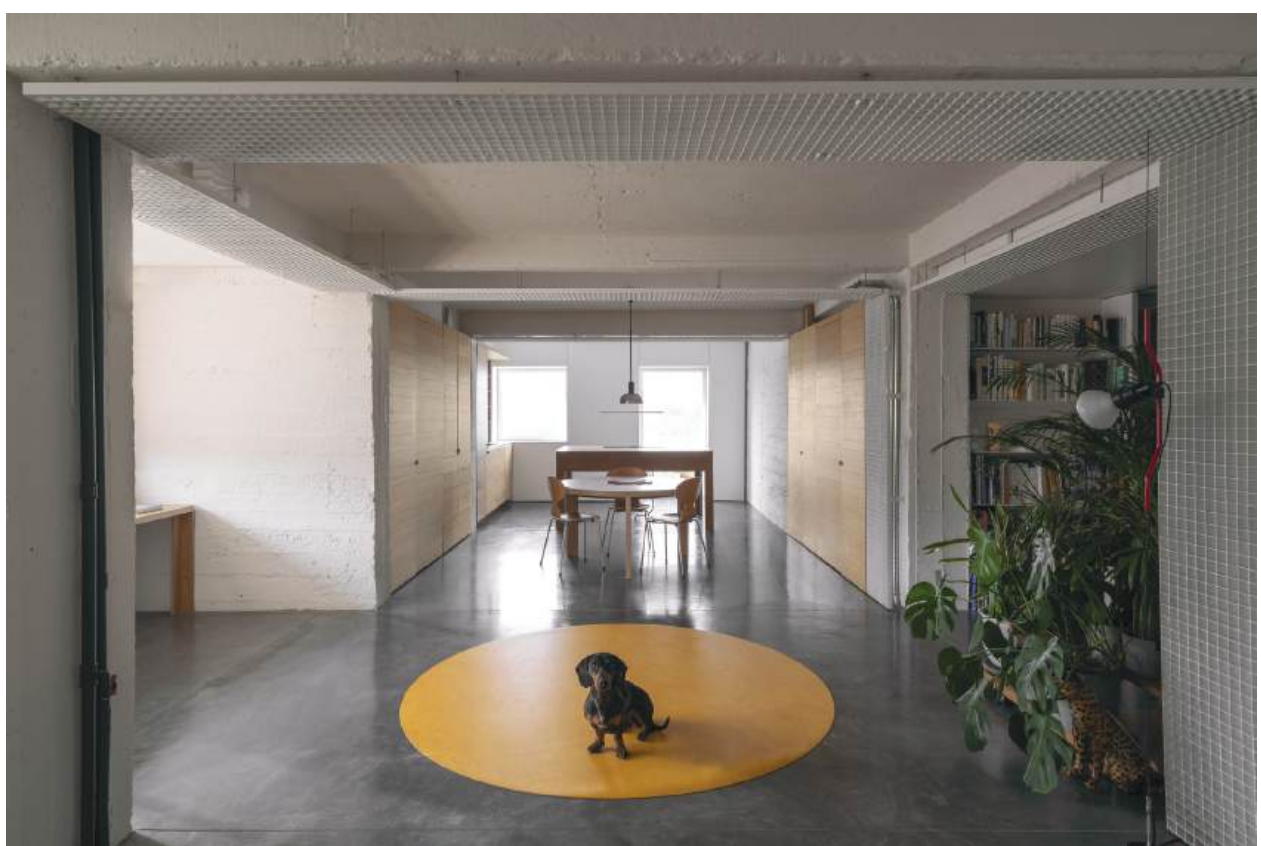
NON-BINARY CROSS SPACE SERIES



NON-BINARY CROSS SPACE (I)



NON-BINARY CROSS SPACE (III)



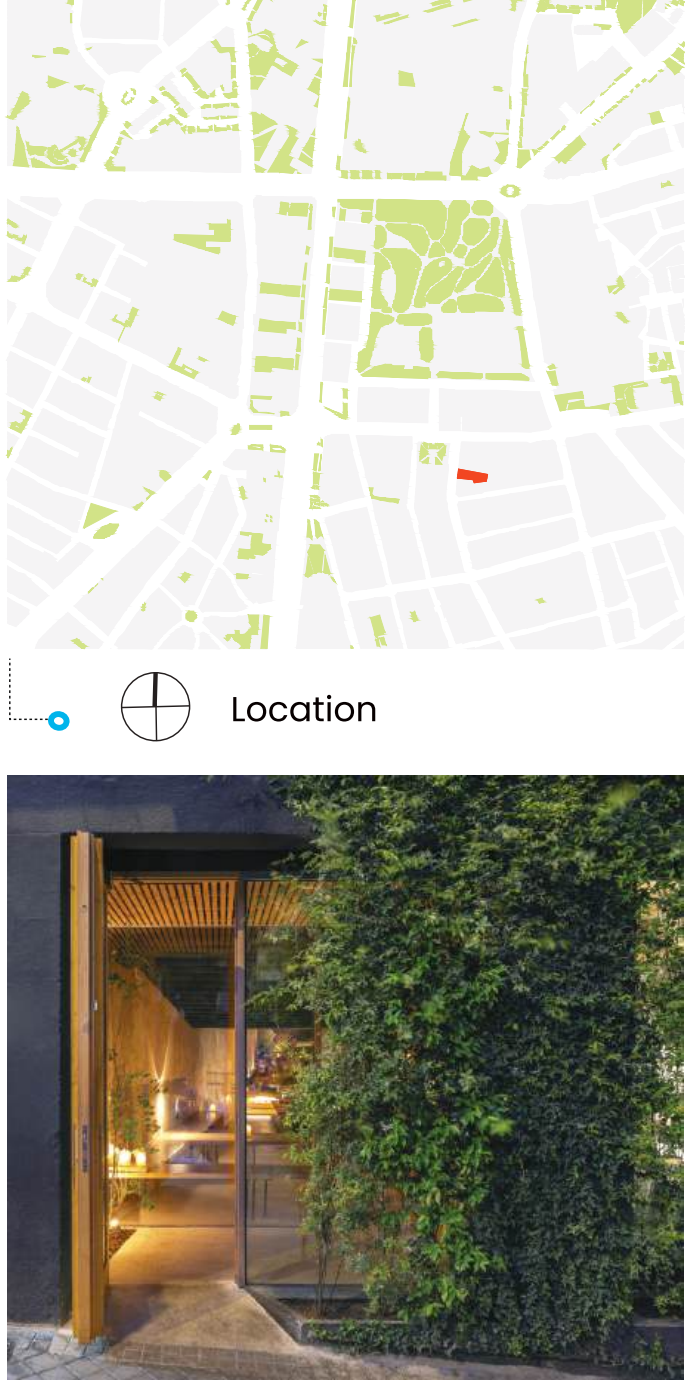
SELGASCANO
www.selgascano.net

Architect selgascano
Furniture Andreu Carulla

Typology Retail. Restaurant
Location Madrid
Client Proyectos Conscientes
Area 410 m²
Cost N/A
Construction 2023

Engineering Zimenta (Zetus)

Photos by Juan Baraja
Iwan Baan



Working with what exists and avoiding the superfluous.

Tramo is a restaurant located in a large industrial space that once housed a mechanical workshop and the legendary Madrid bar Garaje Hermético. Originally built as a warehouse in the 1950s, its most remarkable feature is the roof structure—slender concrete and steel trusses, all unique and tensioned in situ. The project's main goal was to preserve this structure's simplicity and beauty.

Designed by Selgascano, TRAMO respects the original space, minimizing new interventions so the old architecture remains dominant. The interior unfolds across different levels that generate diverse atmospheres and perspectives, with the kitchen as the visual and spatial heart. Two design systems coexist: the orthogonal geometry of the existing building and a more organic, irregular layout that creates variety and warmth.

A north-facing skylight brings in natural light and views of a rooftop garden, complemented by another small garden in a side patio. Access follows the original car ramp through the open kitchen, maintaining the industrial character of the site.

Sustainability guided every decision: materials were reused, toxic elements avoided, and comfort prioritized. Recycled textile panels (GeoPanel) line the ceilings, improving acoustics and insulation. Indirect lighting highlights textures and creates a warm atmosphere, while solar-powered table lamps and a rainwater reuse system contribute to the restaurant's energy self-sufficiency.

Furniture and lighting by Andreu Carulla emphasize craftsmanship, modularity, and restraint. Over one thousand handmade ceramic modules form part of a natural heating and cooling system integrated into continuous benches. Lamps made from reclaimed textiles and threaded rods emit a soft, diffused light, reinforcing the project's spirit of sensitivity, reuse, and deliberate austerity.

