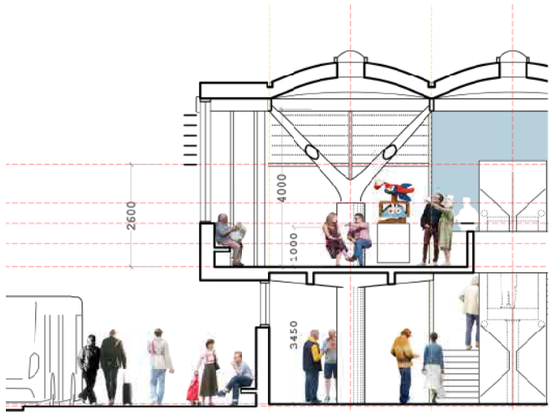
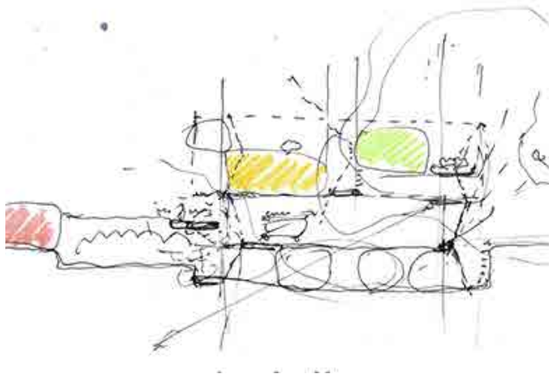
Olof Nilsson

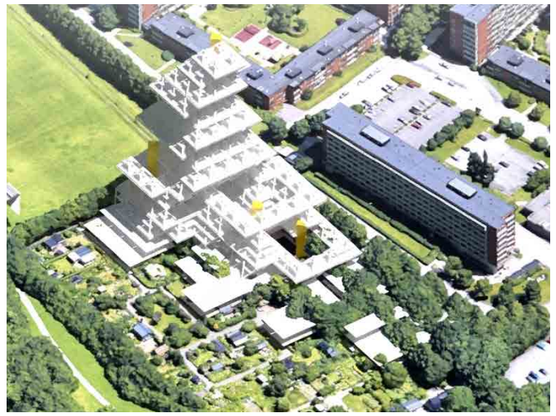
Architecture Portfolio

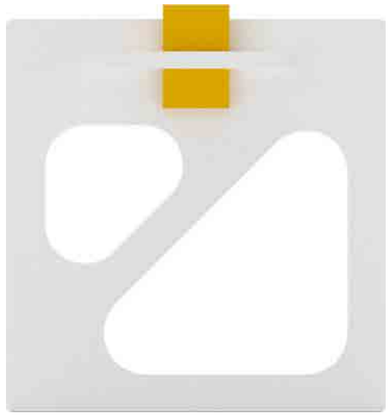
Selected Work
2017–2026

Lund, 2026









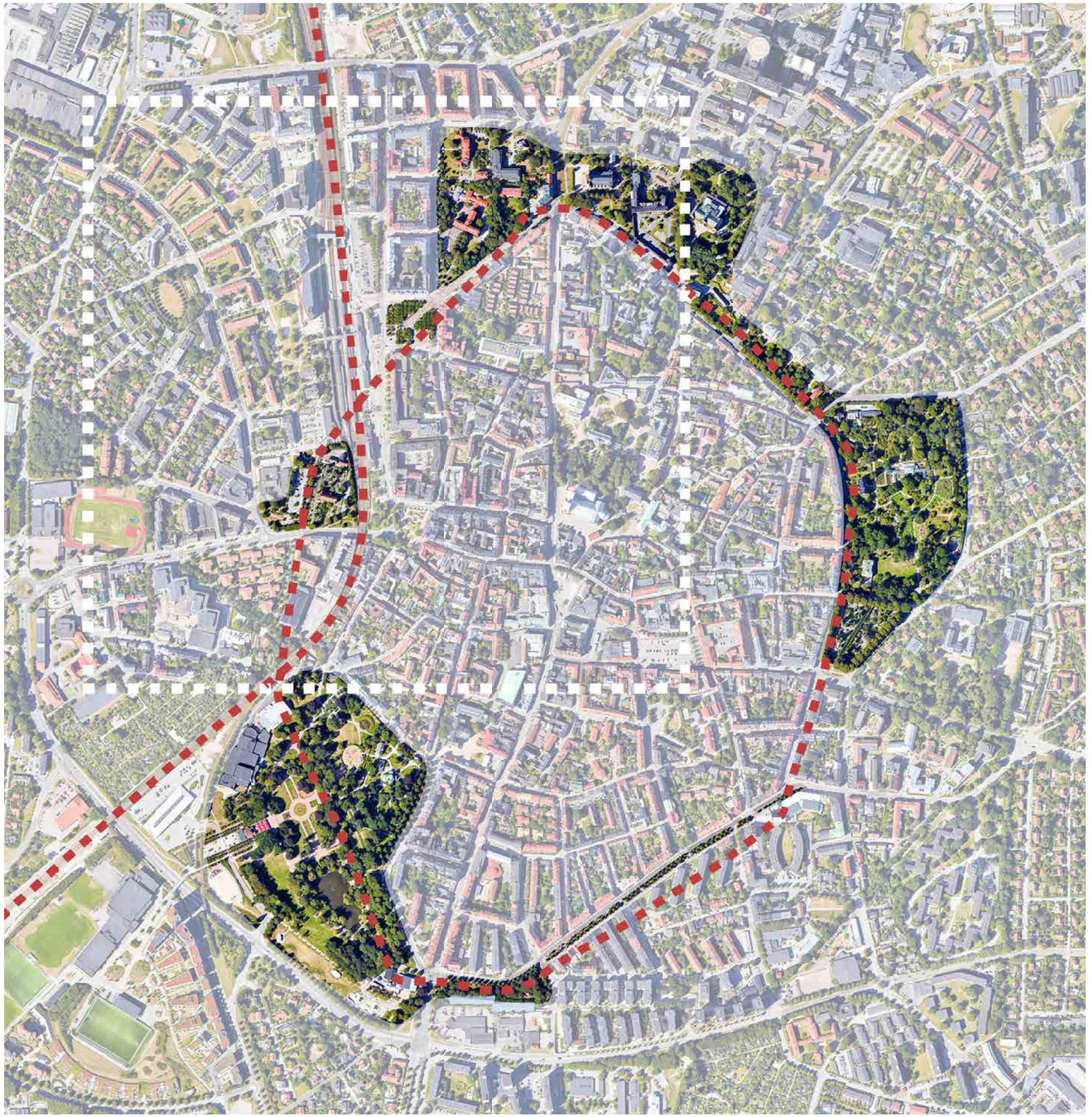
Selected work is presented in this portfolio. Additional projects are available online.

The Railway and the Urban Fabric

Master Thesis / Lund University (LTH) / 2025–2026

The railway cuts through the city as both a barrier and a connector.
This project explores how it can become something else: a place.

The station is extended along the tracks, adding a sequence of spaces and public rooms that turn the railway edge into part of the city.

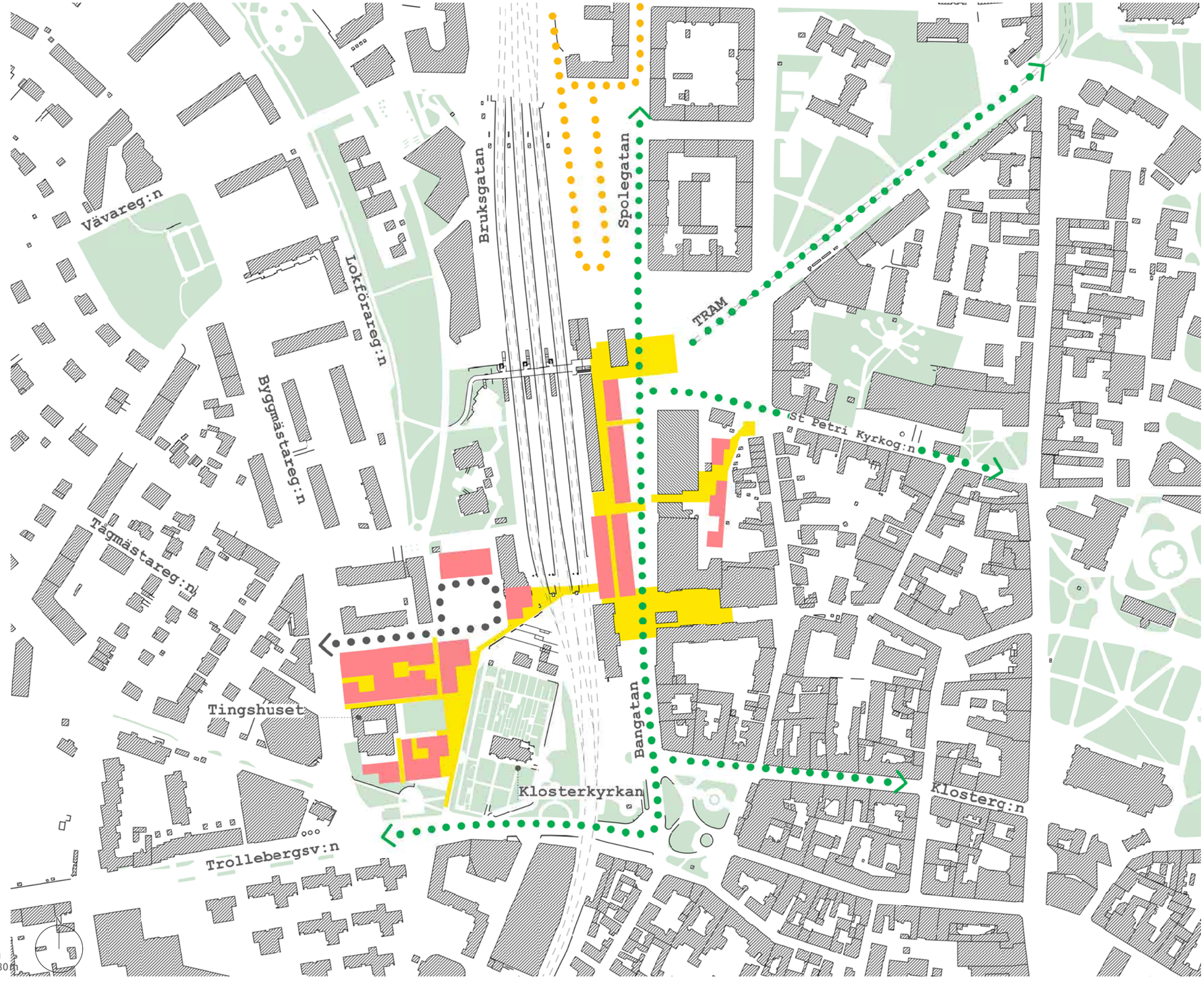


As Lund grows towards the northeast, the station becomes a more important place where the city, the university, and regional travel meet.

This makes the area around the tracks a good place for public and educational programs—spaces for study, meeting, and everyday use.

The railway and the former city wall form overlapping boundaries in Lund, shaping both movement and spatial identity.

The proposal introduces a series of public and institutional buildings around the station, transforming the railway edge into an active urban structure. New connections and programs strengthen links between the eastern and western parts of the city.

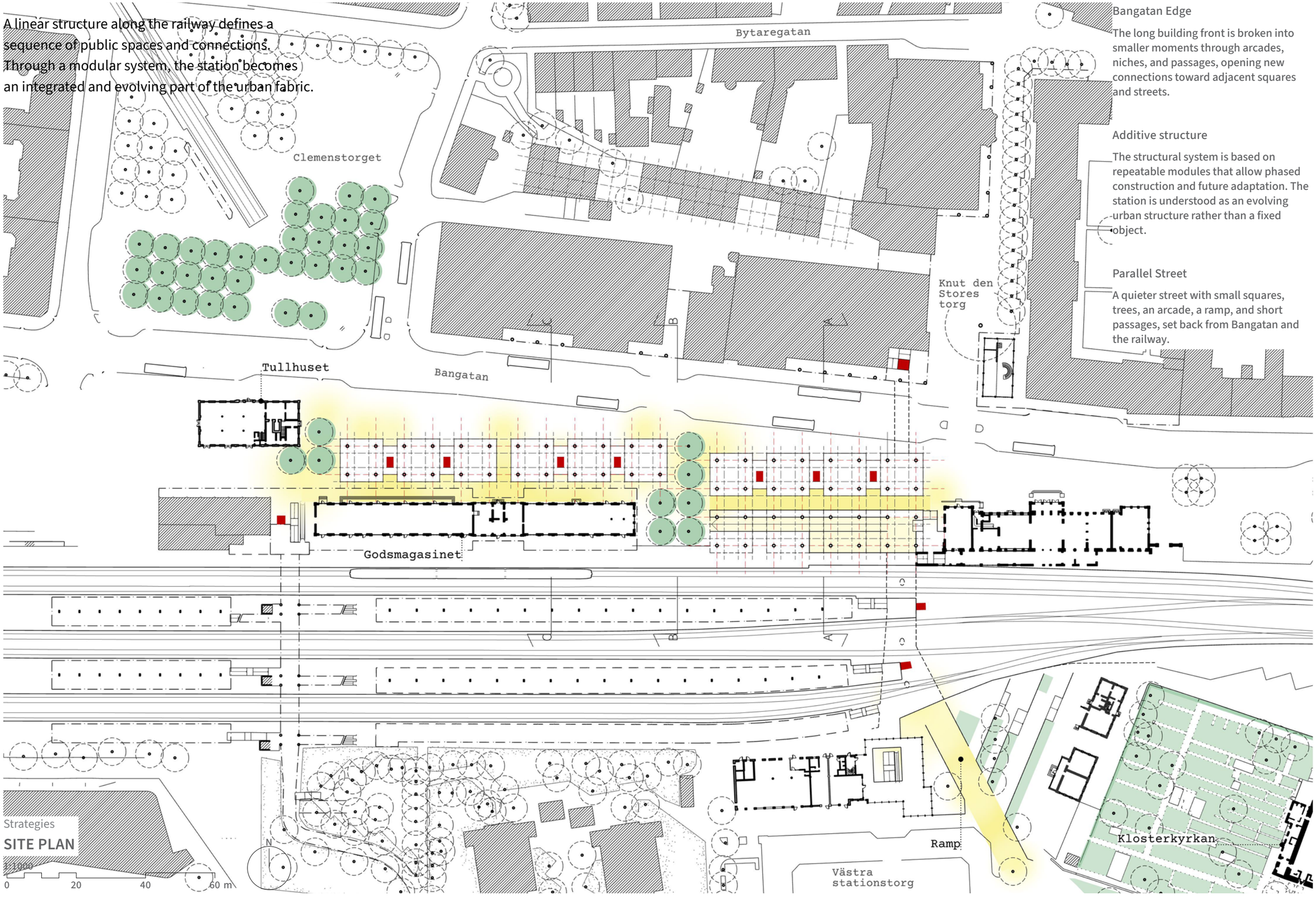


STATEGIC PLAN

1:3000

0 60 120 180 m

A linear structure along the railway defines a sequence of public spaces and connections. Through a modular system, the station becomes an integrated and evolving part of the urban fabric.



Bangatan Edge

The long building front is broken into smaller moments through arcades, niches, and passages, opening new connections toward adjacent squares and streets.

Additive structure

The structural system is based on repeatable modules that allow phased construction and future adaptation. The station is understood as an evolving urban structure rather than a fixed object.

Parallel Street

A quieter street with small squares, trees, an arcade, a ramp, and short passages, set back from Bangatan and the railway.

Passage/
Arcade

Bangatan

Knut den
Stores
torg

Arcade / interior street

Ramp

SITE PLAN

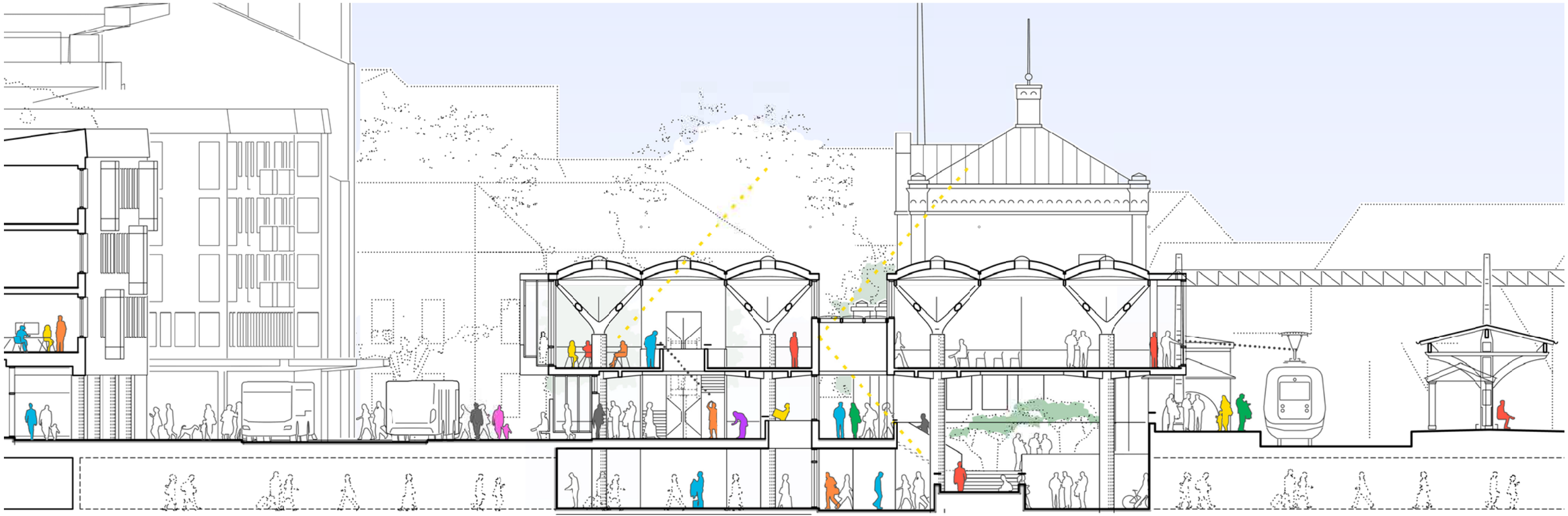
1:1000

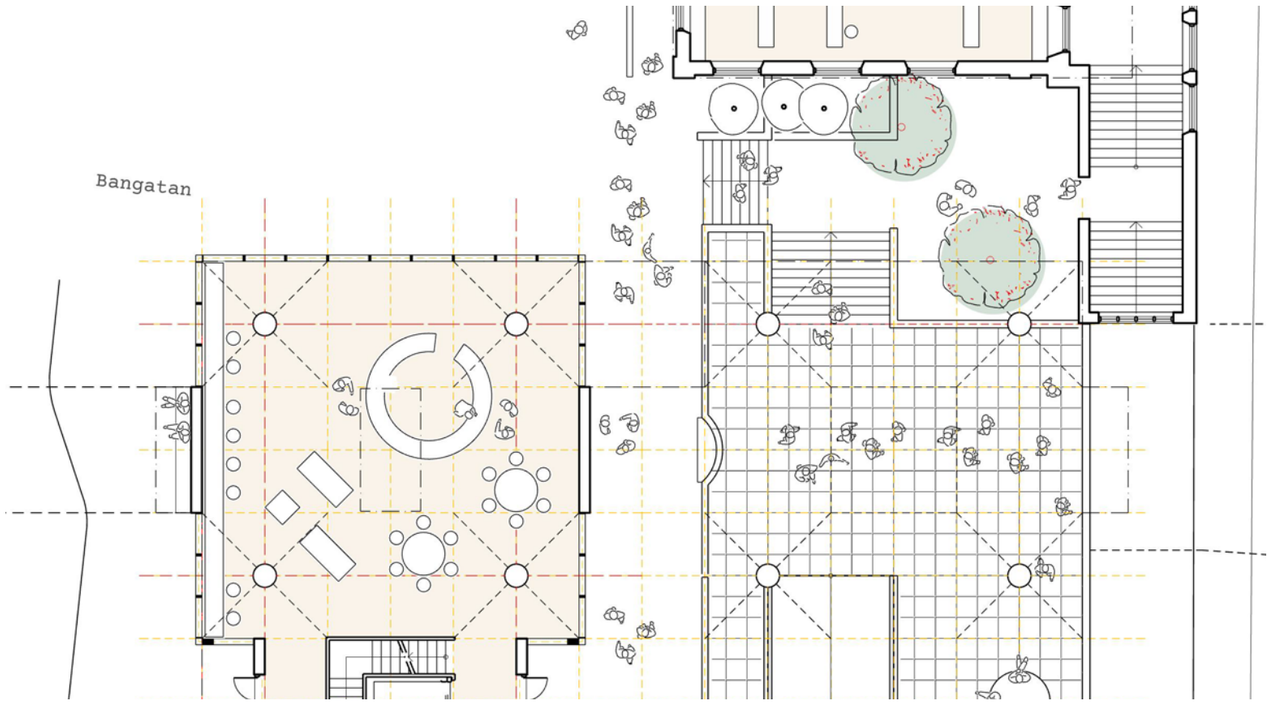
0 20 40 60 m

SECTION A-A

1:200

0 4 8 12 m





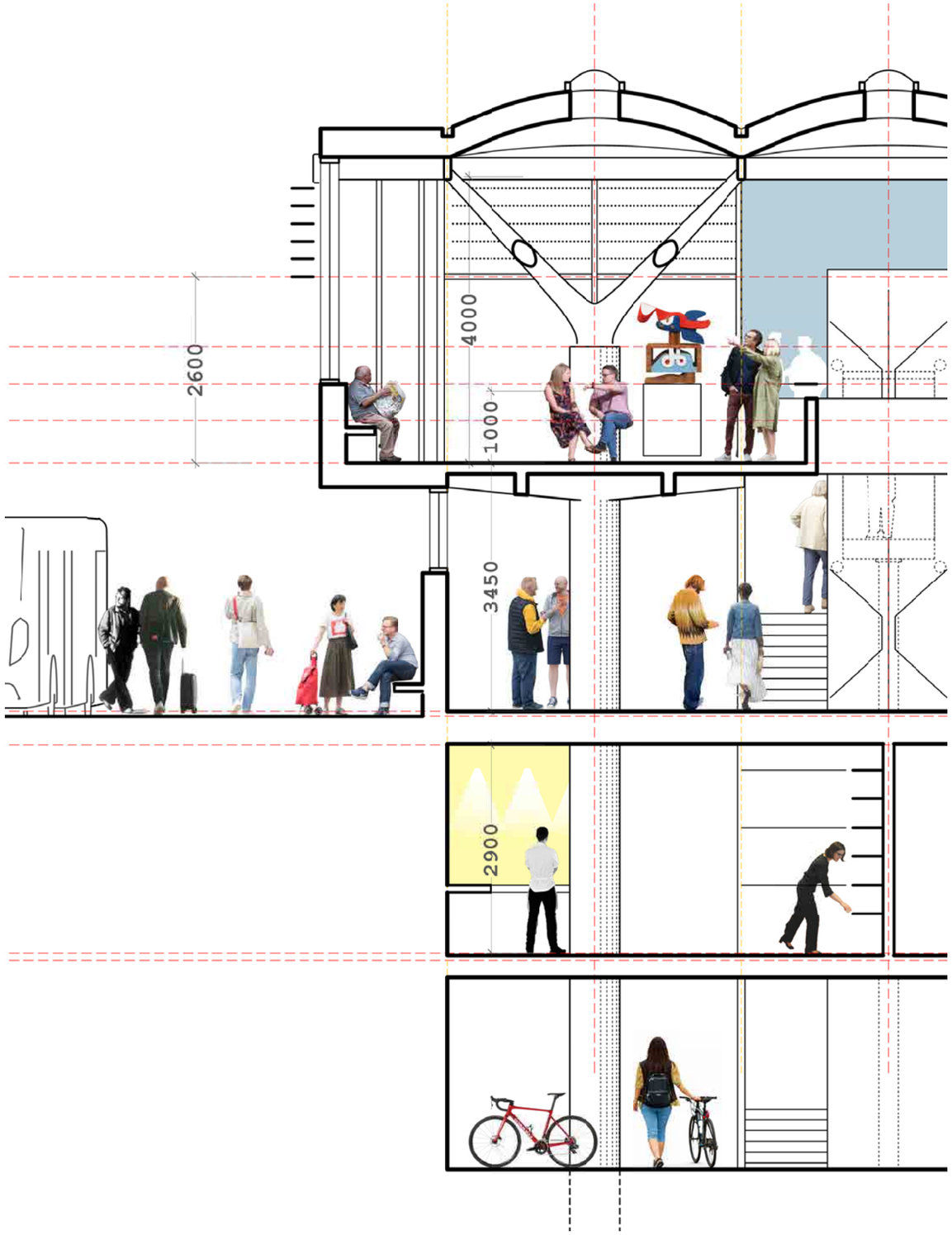
SECTION B-B

1:200
0 4 8 12 m

The system adapts to different urban conditions, creating a sequence of spaces ranging from open public areas to more intimate environments.

SECTION C-C

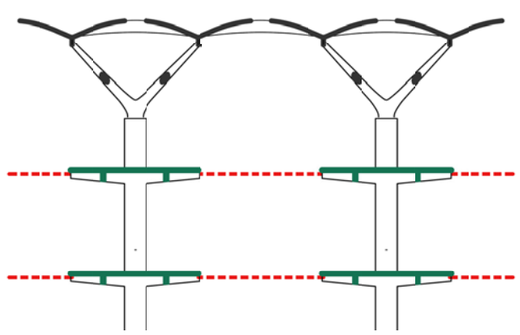
1:200
0 4 8 12 m



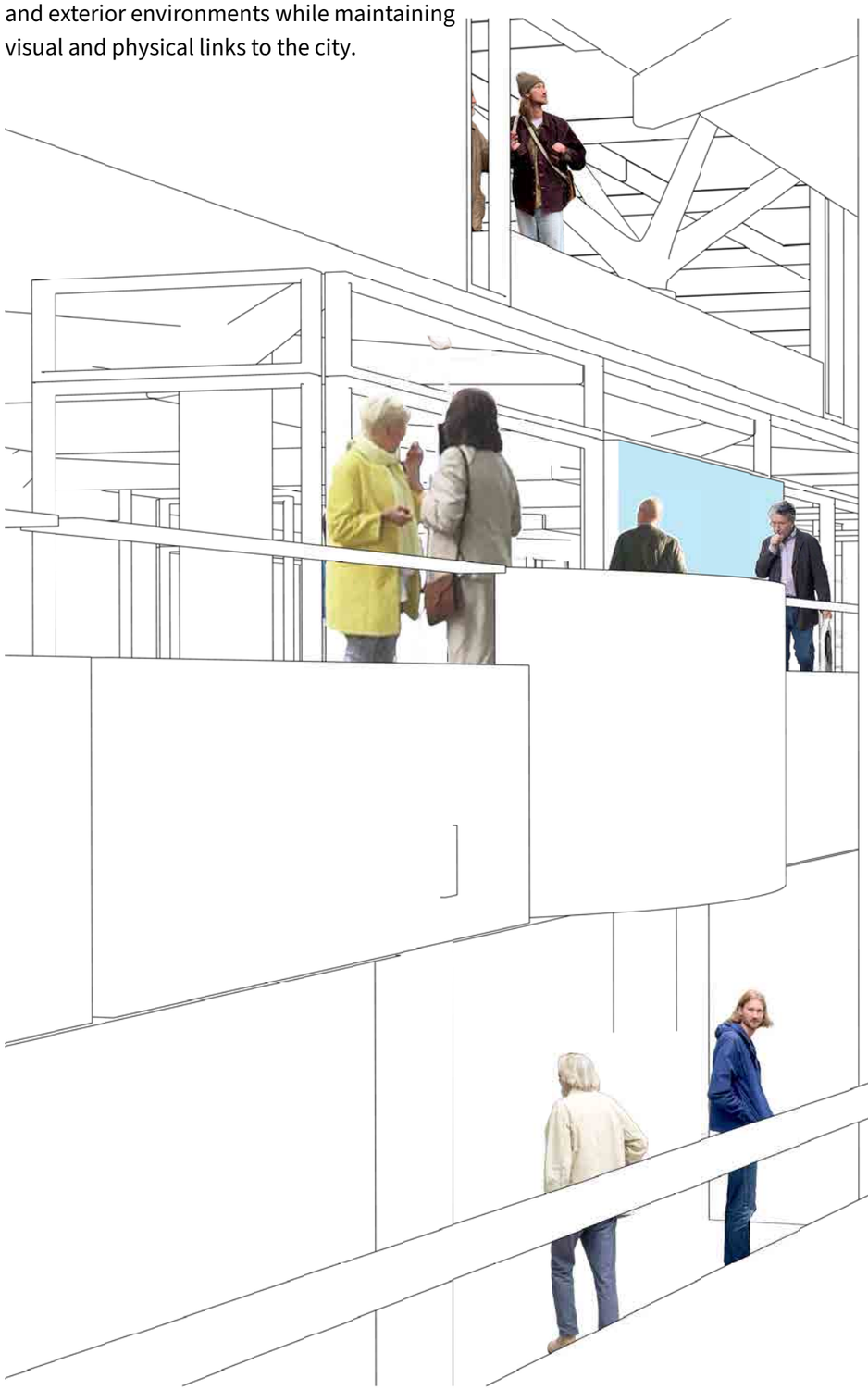
The spatial character is defined by a continuous structural order of columns and roof spans that establishes a generous public interior. While the structure operates at a large scale, its repetition and proportions create spaces that remain close to the human body, allowing occupation to take place within the structure itself.

Movement is ordered by the structure itself. Columns, roof spans, and level changes define paths, pauses, and places for staying, reducing the need for walls and partitions and keeping circulation clear and legible.

The result is a spatial character that supports both transit and everyday use. Spaces are open and robust, yet capable of accommodating quieter moments of waiting, working, or meeting, allowing the station to function both as infrastructure and as part of the city’s ordinary public life.



Movement through the station is conceived as a continuous spatial sequence, connecting interior and exterior environments while maintaining visual and physical links to the city.



Kasernplan - Civic House

Civic House / Landskrona / Bachelor Project / 2019

A civic building inserted between Landskrona's military structures and park. The project extends the public realm through a sequence of terraces and a permeable ground floor.

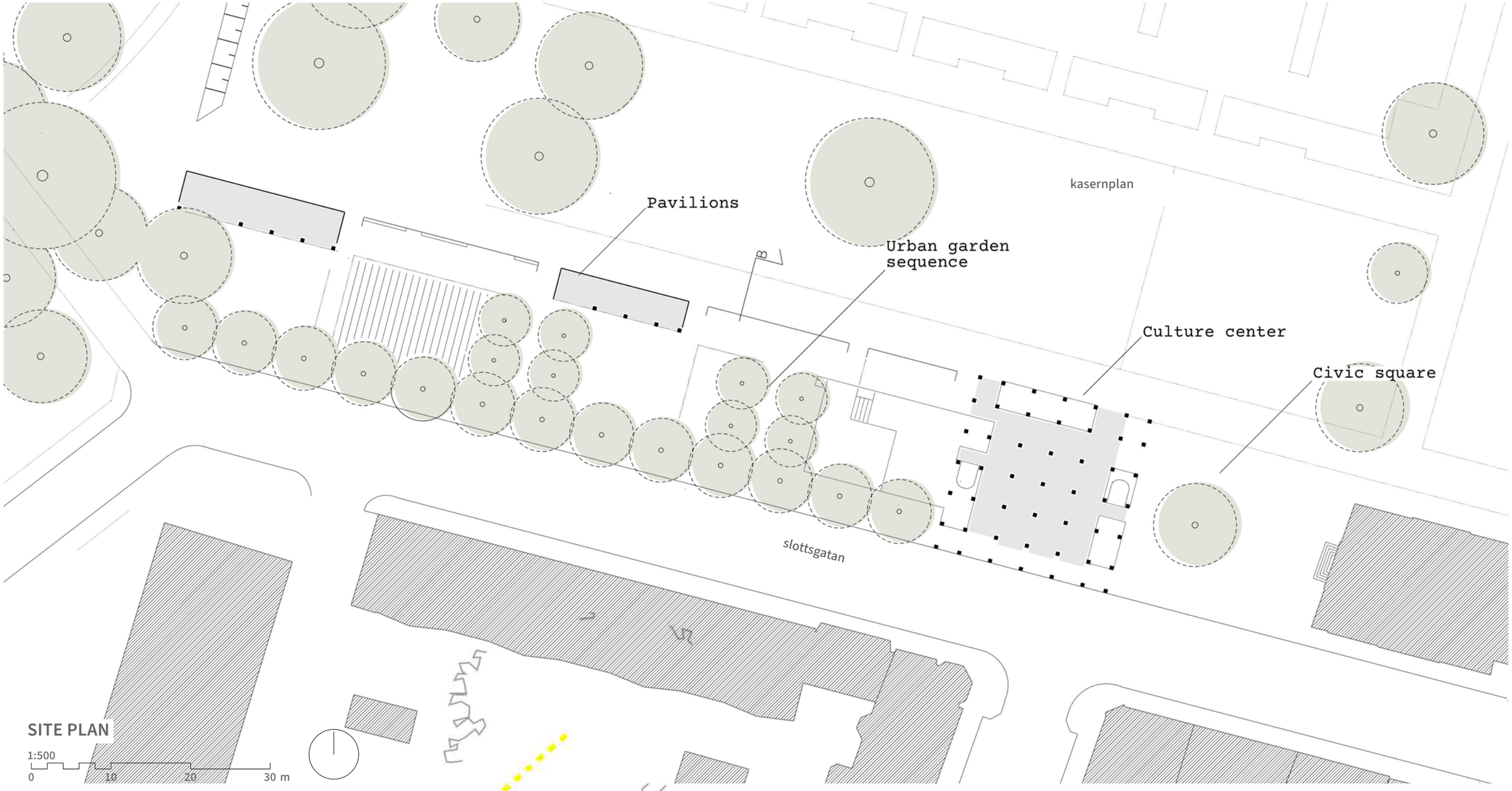
Ground floor, interior view

The extension along Slottsgatan, between Slottsparken and the military barracks, is currently a no-man's-land used for parking. This project explores how this area can enrich the use of Kasernplan while reconnecting the Citadel to the city through a new fine-grained structure.

URBAN STRATEGY

1:3000

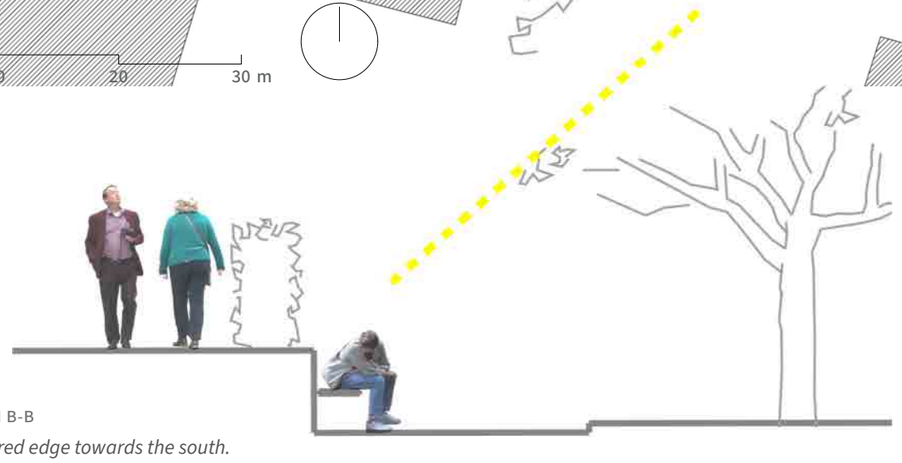
0 60 120 180m



SITE PLAN

1:500

0 10 20 30 m



SECTION B-B

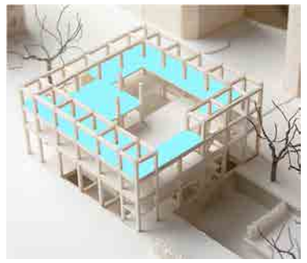
A sheltered edge towards the south.

READING / EXPLORATION / SKETCHING

Can a structure with a fine grain, work as a compliment to the huge public space that is Kasernplan, and give it a new meaning? The slope towards Kungsgatan can be used to create a sheltered edge to the south. On the inside of the edge, a series of urban garden spaces and a small scaled building structure make the big space more meaningful. Through a new structure on the east side of Kasernplan, where Slottsgatan ends a small intimate place between old and new is created. A small place, which in relation to Kasernplan, describes the scale of the spaces. A place to use next to the great open space. A pocket alongside an otherwise inarticulate space. The gardenspaces alongside Slottsgatan with their greenhouses creates intimacy and connects Kasernplan through Slottsparken all the way to the allotments.

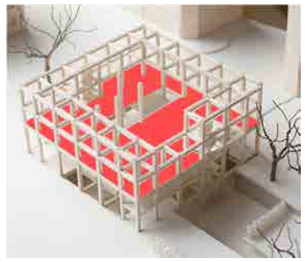
The ground floor of the building becomes an extension of the small square outside and is accessible from different sides. A forest of wooden columns and a pair of mezzanines give the large room a sense of intimacy and of being populated. It is a space intended to shift in use, much like Kasernplan.

The lower ground floor connects through terraces to a sequence of gardens that gradually change in character before transitioning into the large sculpture park and art gallery to the west. From the rooftop terrace, there is a view towards the Citadel and Öresund.



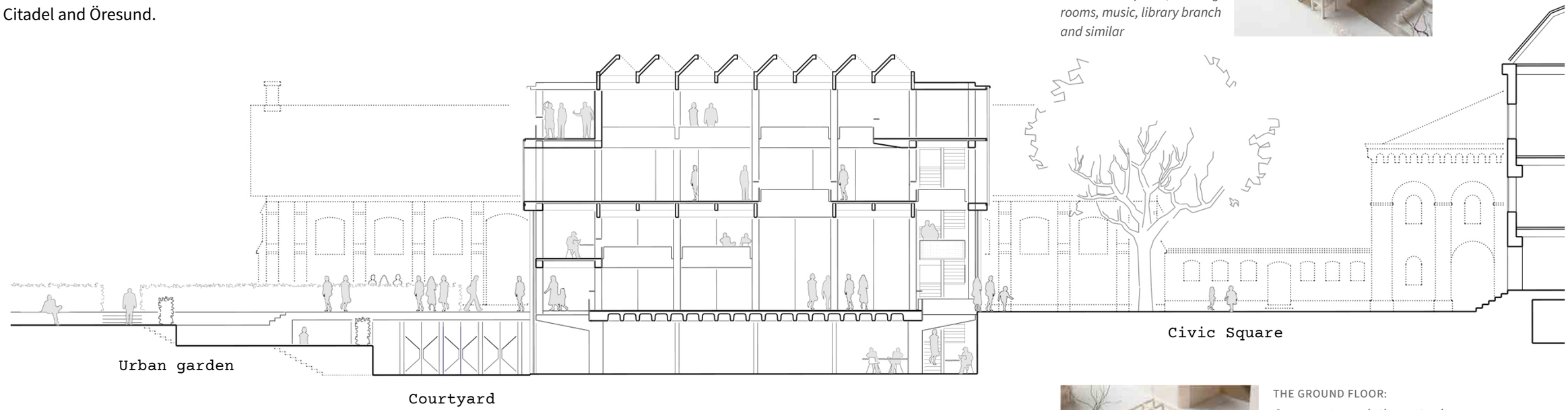
SECOND FLOOR PLAN

Study, rentable spaces for different societies, lectures, small concerts.



FIRST FLOOR PLAN

Small office spaces, meeting rooms, music, library branch and similar



SECTION A-A

1:200

0 4 8 12 m

THE GROUND FLOOR:

Opens up towards the east, where during the summer months, you drink coffee in the morning sun. The ground floor is the place where both residents and visitors find information, temporary exhibitions, flea market and flower market in collaboration with Allotment Owners

LOWER GROUND FLOOR

Workshops, sewing machines, 3D-printers in a robust space below, with the possibility of working outside in direct contact with a courtyard. Here you will also find newspapers and periodicals together with a café.

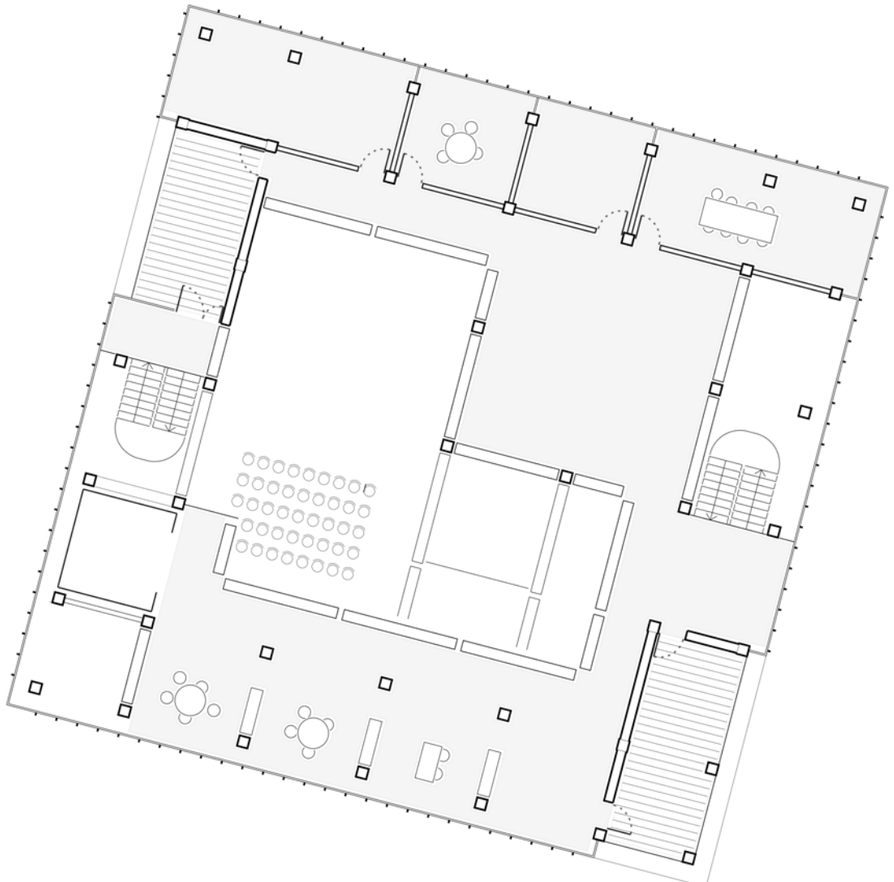
GROUND FLOOR

1:200

0 4 8 12 m

STUDY MODEL

Building and ground as continious platforms.

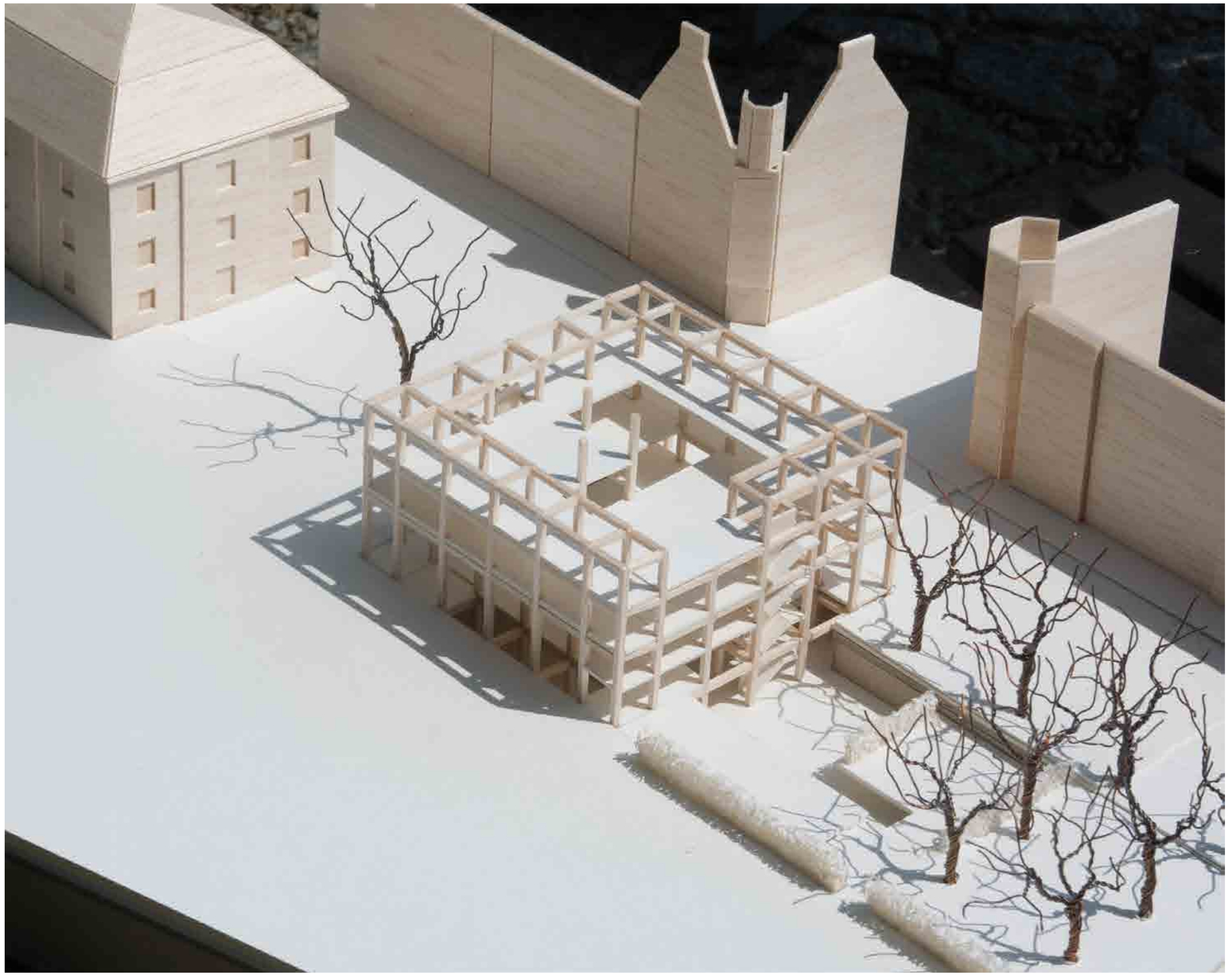


SECOND FLOOR

LOWER GROUND FLOOR

1:200

0 4 8 12 m



MODEL PHOTO

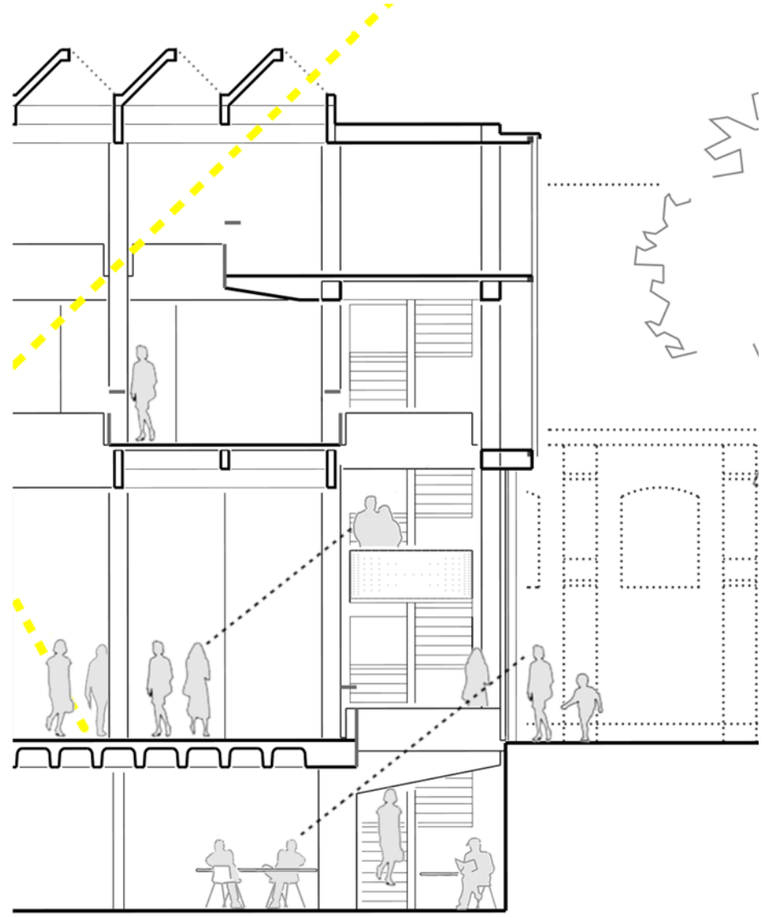
Timber frame set on a concrete base, organising the building across levels.

CONSTRUCTION

A concrete base anchors the building to the terraced section, forming a robust public ground.

Above, a regular timber frame defines a flexible grid, accommodating both open civic spaces and smaller rooms.

Overlapping levels and vertical openings create visual connections and bring daylight deep into the building.



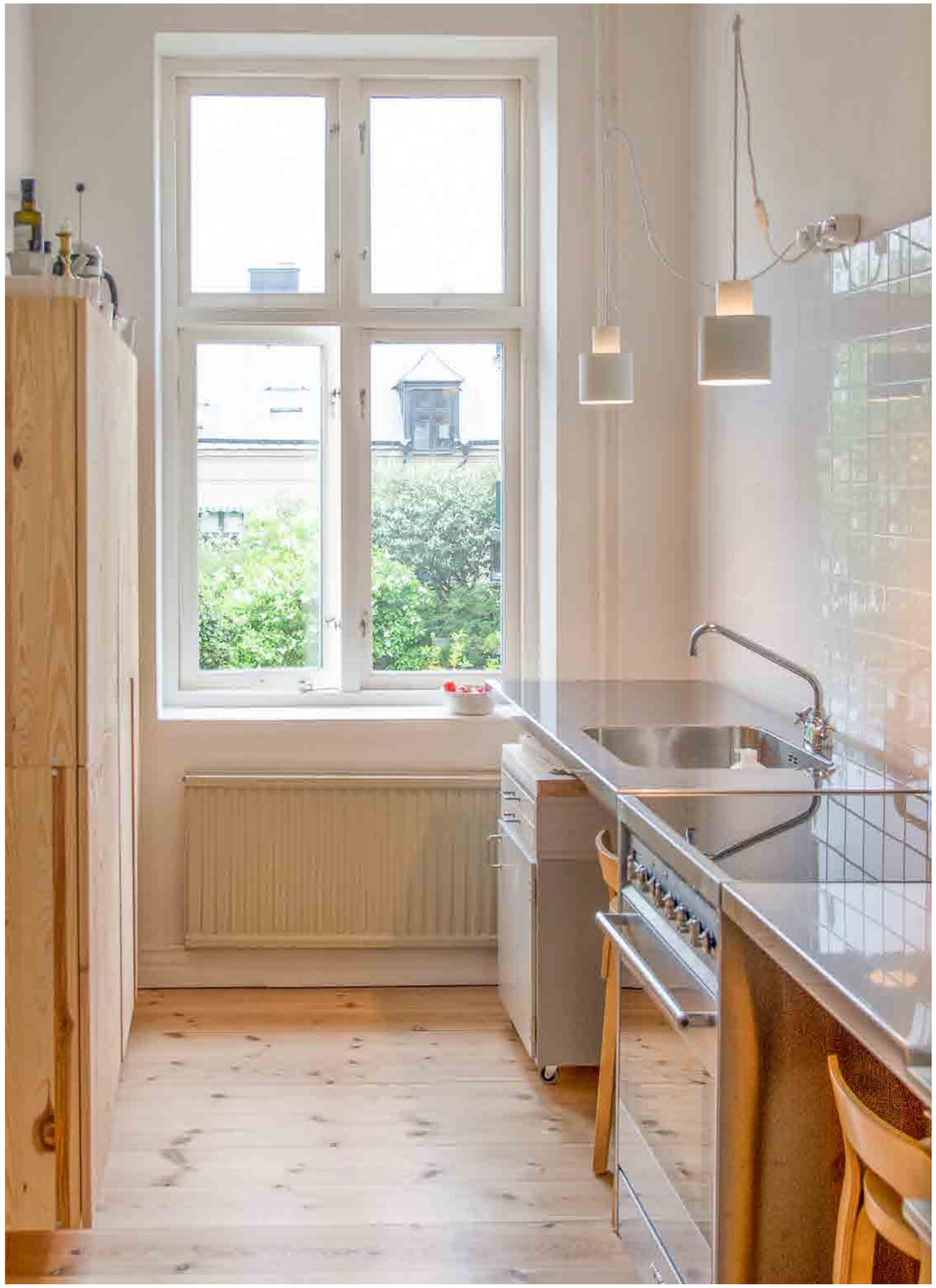
Section showing the relationship between levels, structure, and light.

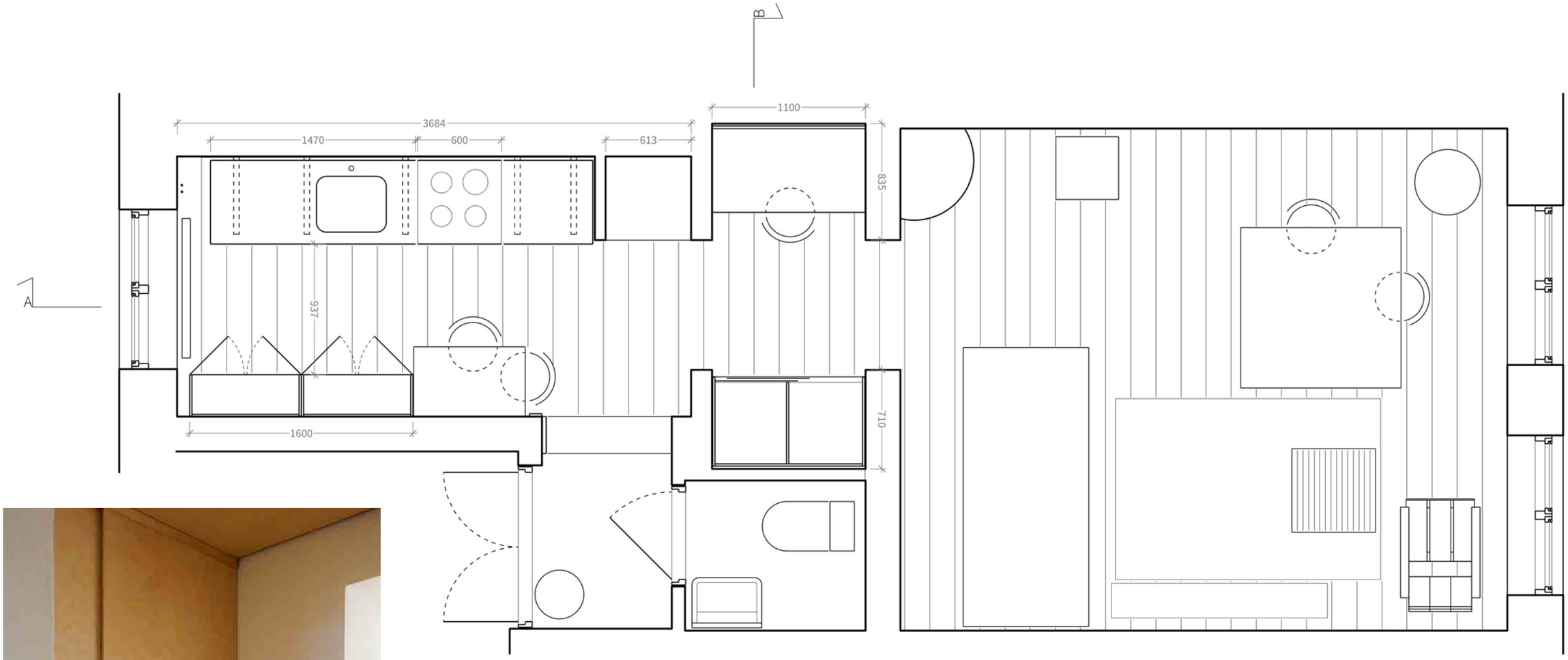
Exterior view

Kanikgatan 6C

Apartment Renovation / Lund / Private Commission / 2020

A 29 m² apartment in a 1906 brick building, reorganised around its structural core. Former wardrobes were transformed into a birch-lined workspace and reading niche — warm and compressed between the white-tiled kitchen and the living room beyond. A constrained footprint reads as a sequence of distinct spatial atmospheres.





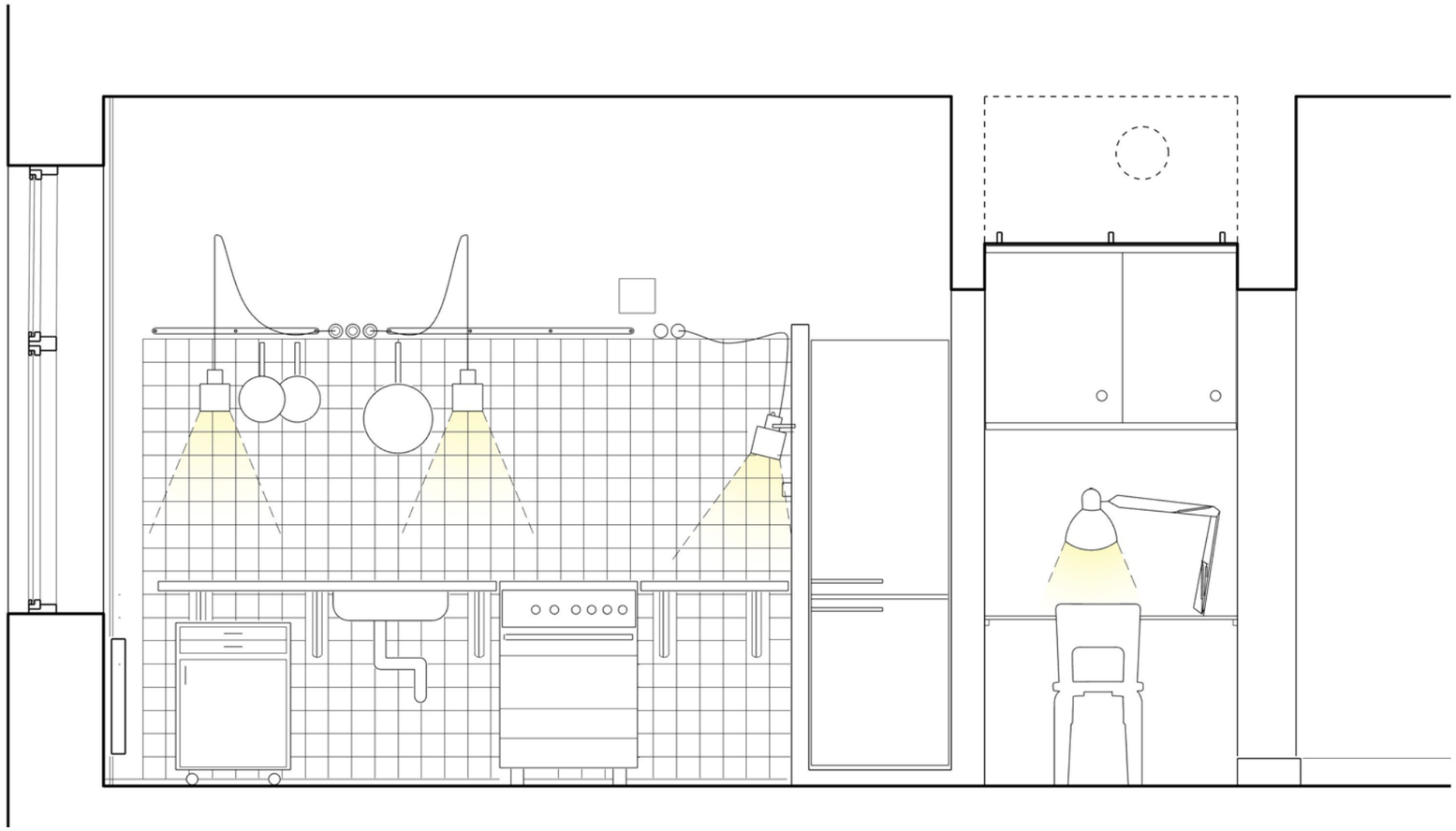
RECONFIGURED APARTMENT PLAN

1:30

0 0.6 1.2 1.8 m

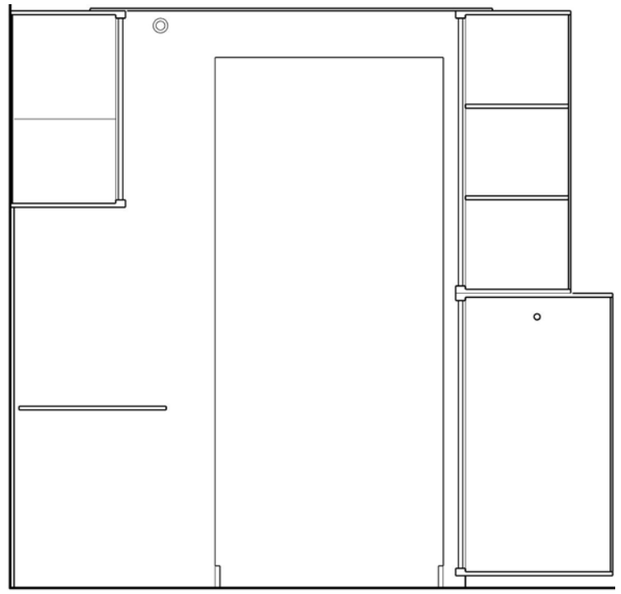
The apartment is organised around a north-south sequence — kitchen facing the courtyard, central core, living room facing the street. The central core, defined by the building's existing load-bearing walls, was previously used only for wardrobes. Reconfiguring it as an inhabited threshold between kitchen and living room is the primary move of the renovation.

The central core has a deliberately lowered ceiling in birch plywood, compressing the space between the full-height kitchen and living room on either side. The workspace sits within this niche, with storage above and the desk facing the wall — enclosed and focused. The contrast in ceiling height between the niche and the adjacent rooms gives the apartment its spatial rhythm.



kitchen + storage niche section

SECTION A-A



Workspace niche

SECTION B-B

1:25

0 0.5 1 1.5 m

Tiny Tower

Master Thesis / Lund / LundUniversity (LTH) / 2025–2026

Tiny Tower proposes a compact vertical structure at Kulturen in Lund, combining viewing platforms with exhibition spaces. Five stacked levels create a small vertical landscape that extends the museum’s existing circulation. The project explores lightweight construction and efficient use of materials to support flexible, temporary urban interventions.

SITE CONTEXT

The museum Kulturen consists of two plots of land separated by a street. An underground passage was introduced to connect the two sides during a later extension.

SITE CONTEXT

Position of the tower within Kulturen and its surrounding urban fabric.

STREET VIEW

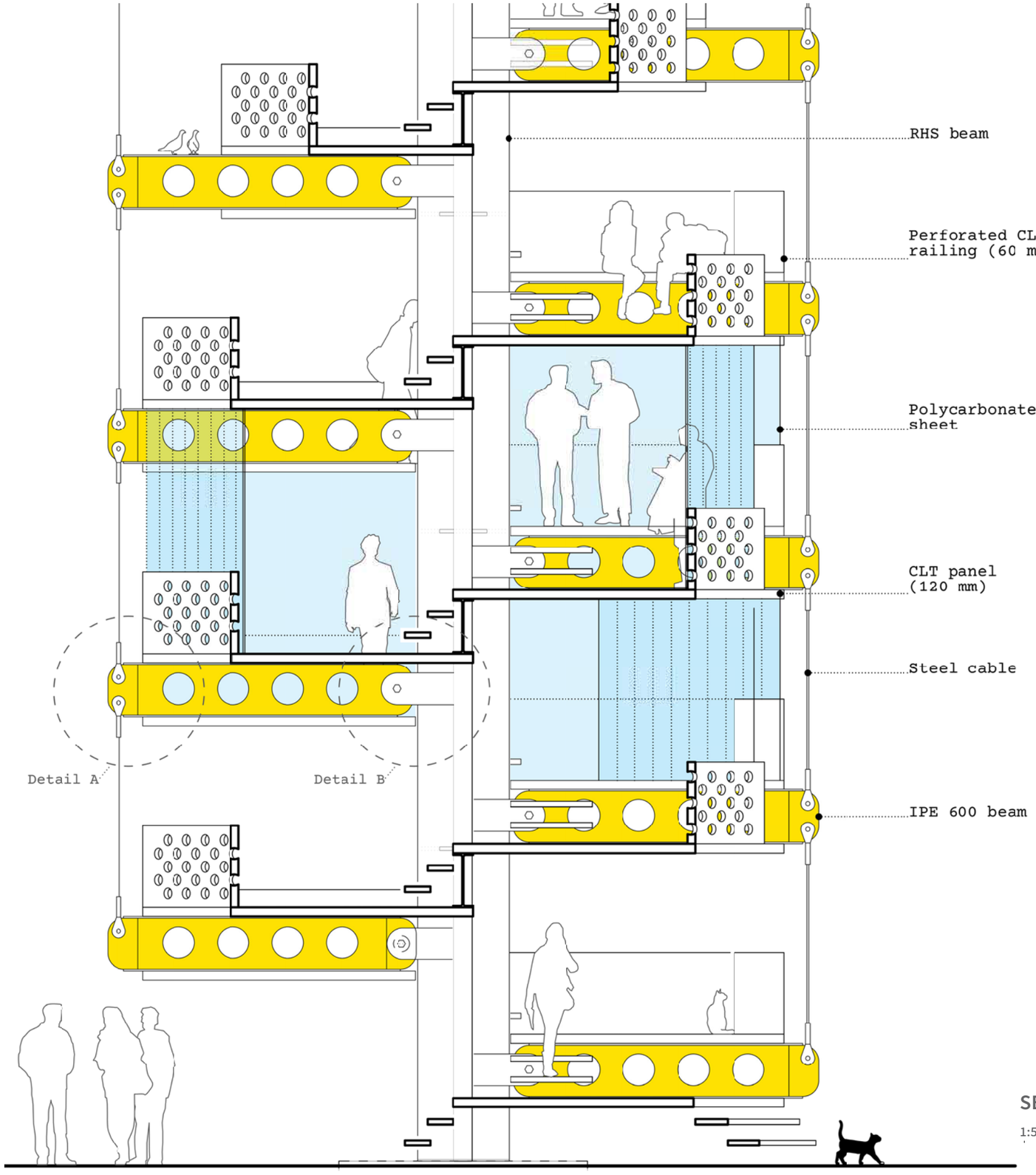
Tower inserted within the historic fabric of Kulturen.

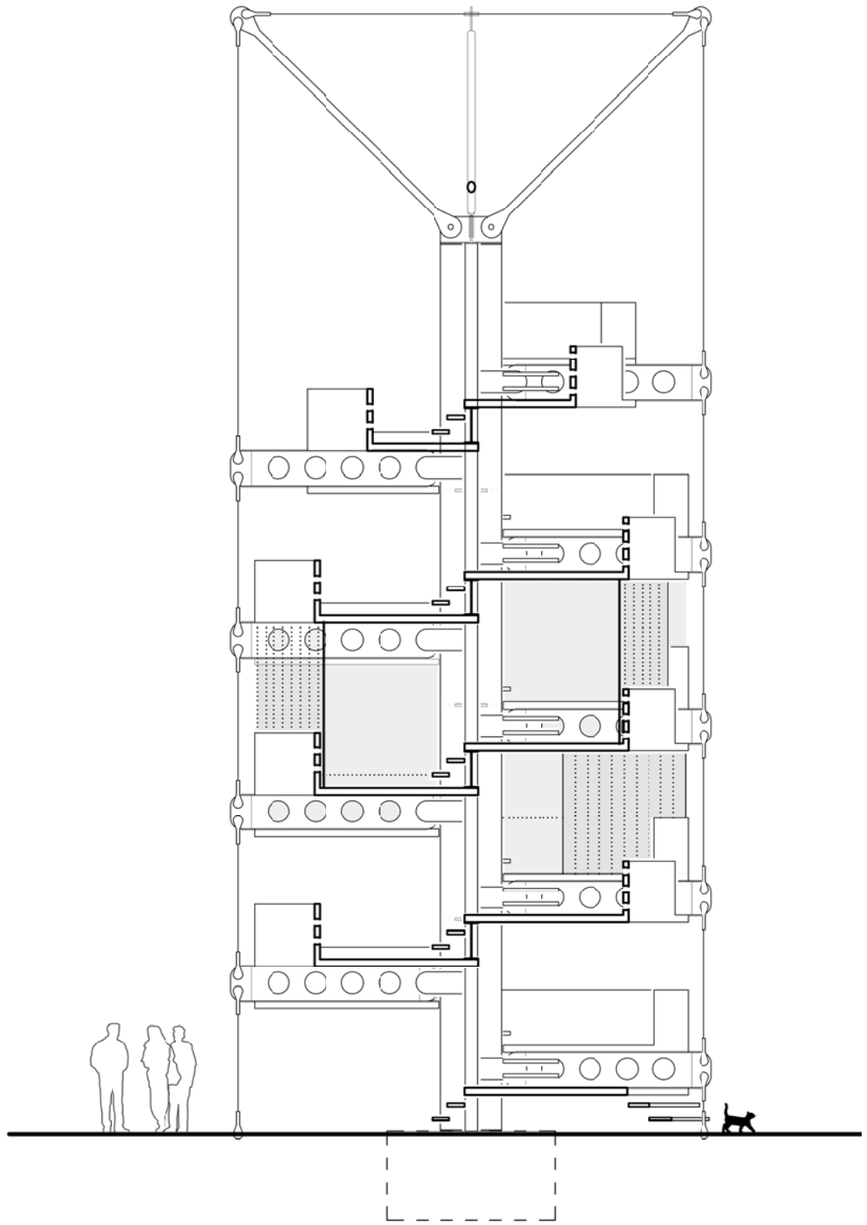
CIRCULATION STRATEGY

The tower connects to the northern end of this passage, extending the existing stair and integrating with the museum’s circulation.

PROGRAMMATIC ROLE

The structure functions as a vertical sequence of spaces: a stair for exhibitions, an armature for posters facing the street, and a viewing platform overlooking the museum and the city of Lund.





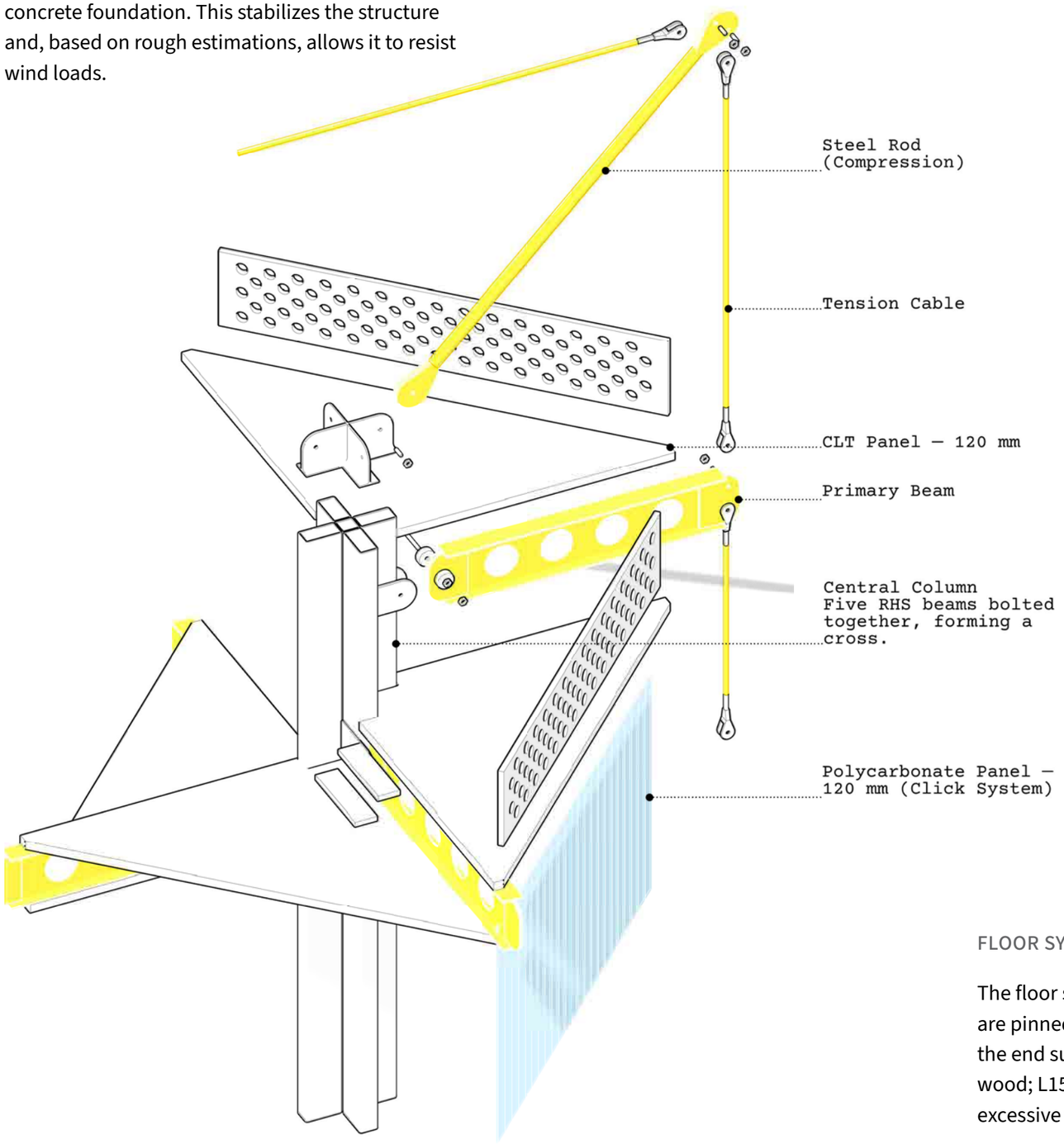
SECTION A-A

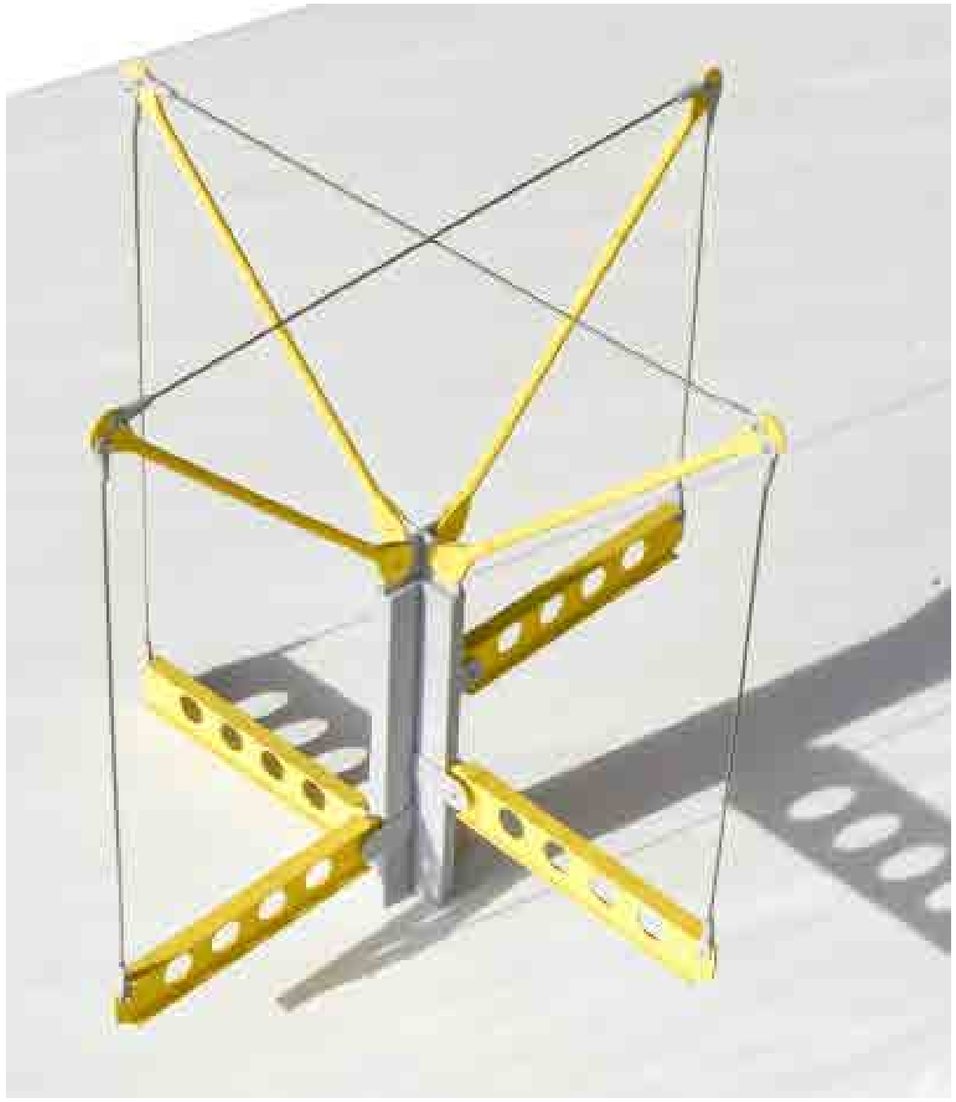
1:50

1 2 3 m

PRIMARY STRUCTURE

The core is constructed by four hollow rectangular steel beams that are fixed into the ground with a concrete foundation. This stabilizes the structure and, based on rough estimations, allows it to resist wind loads.





STRUCTURAL MODEL

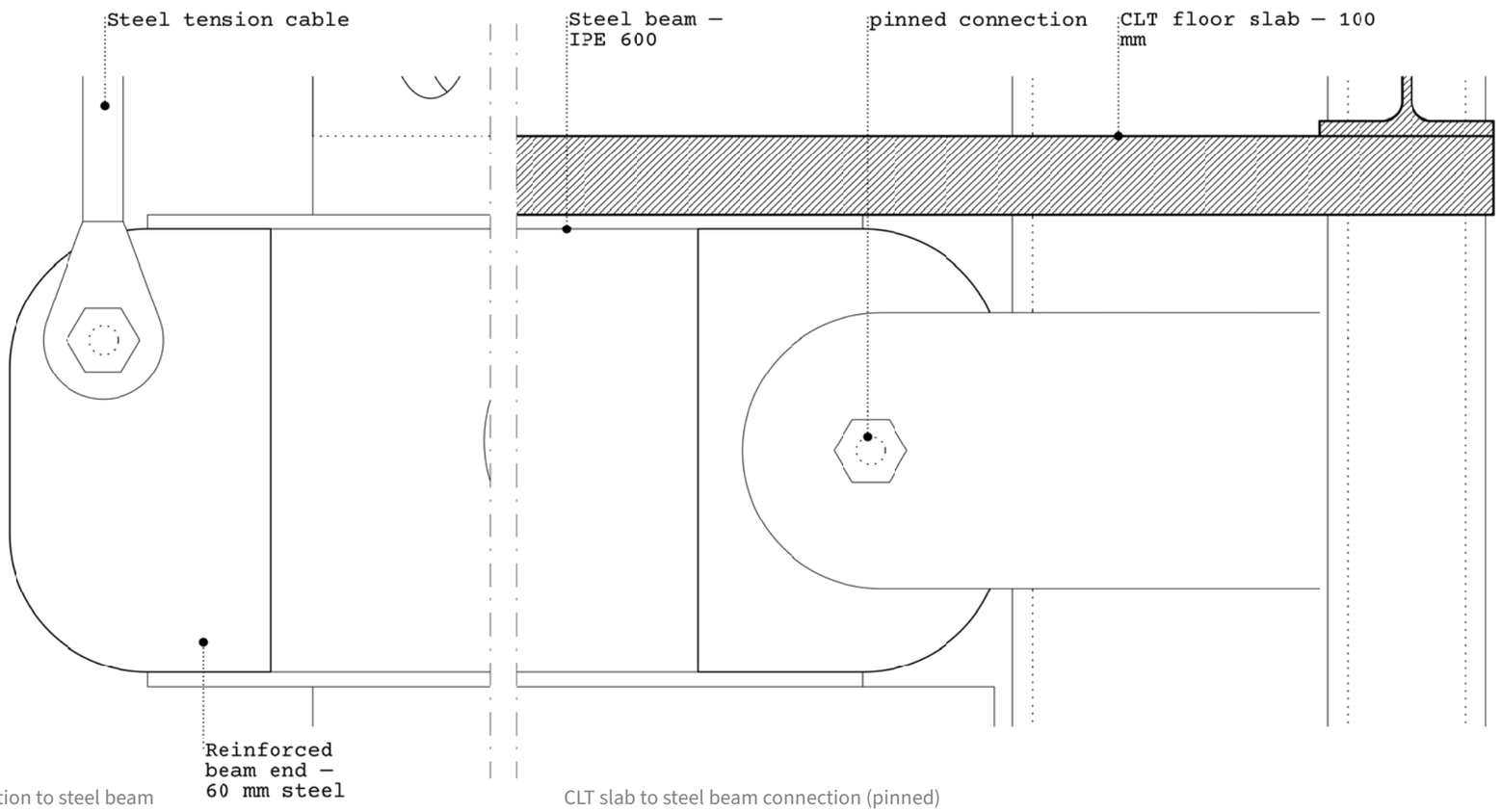
Physical study of the cable-stayed system and beam connections.

FLOOR SYSTEM

The floor slabs are connected to two beams that are pinned to the main structure, with a cable at the end supporting them. The slabs are made of wood; L150-5s are used to take the loads without excessive vertical deformation.

CABLE SYSTEM

The cables support the floor slabs and primarily work in tension. They are anchored at the top to circular steel beams, which are pinned to the tower and stabilized by a secondary cable between them. This setup allows forces from opposite sides to counteract each other, maintaining overall stability.



Tension cable connection to steel beam

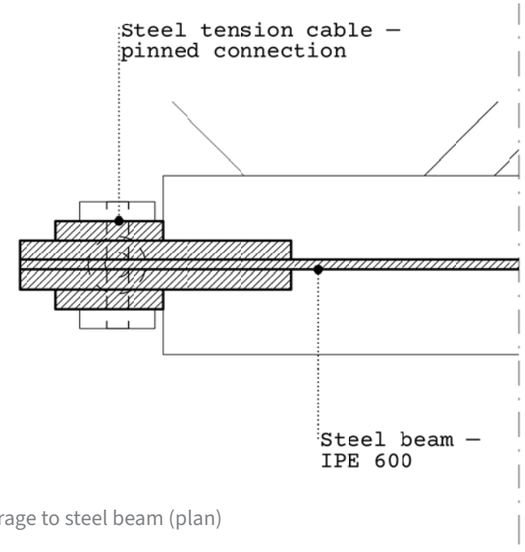
VD A

1:7.5

CLT slab to steel beam connection (pinned)

VD B

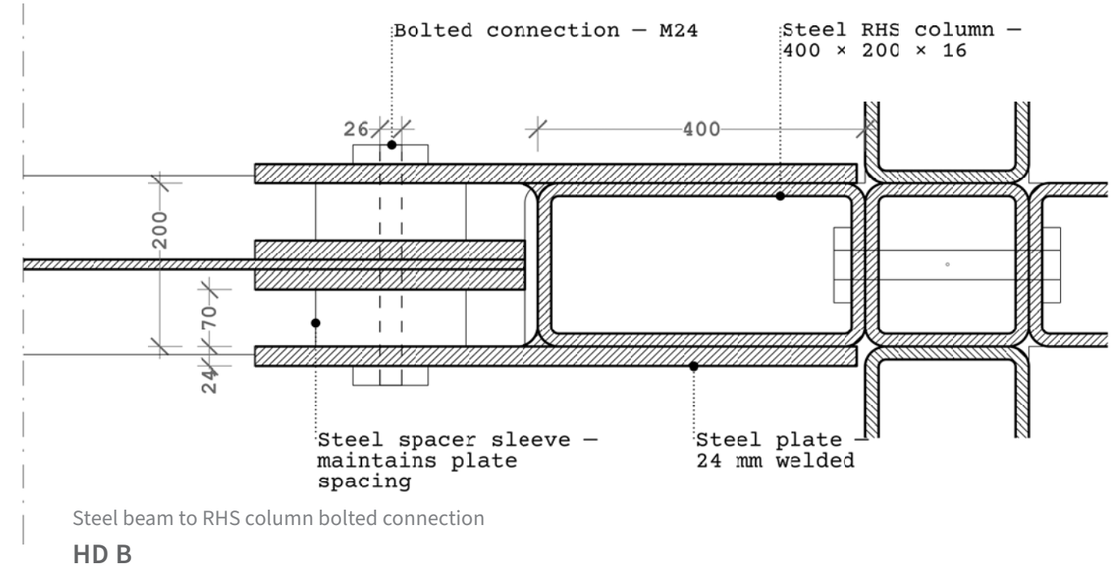
1:7.5



Tension cable anchorage to steel beam (plan)

HD A

1:7.5



Steel beam to RHS column bolted connection

HD B

1:7.5

Fritidshus Bengtsson

Summer House / Grevie / Private Commission / 2023

Sketches for a summer house in Grevie exploring the potential of a site with a 3-meter slope. The site is bordered by neighbors to the north and west and a natural reserve to the east. Designed for a family of three with a wish for extra space for visits. The proposal traces a wall along the neighbor's boundary while opening the house toward the natural reserve, using the slope to organize the plan and frame views into the landscape.

SPATIAL STRATEGY

Diagram describing the transition from enclosed boundary to open landscape.

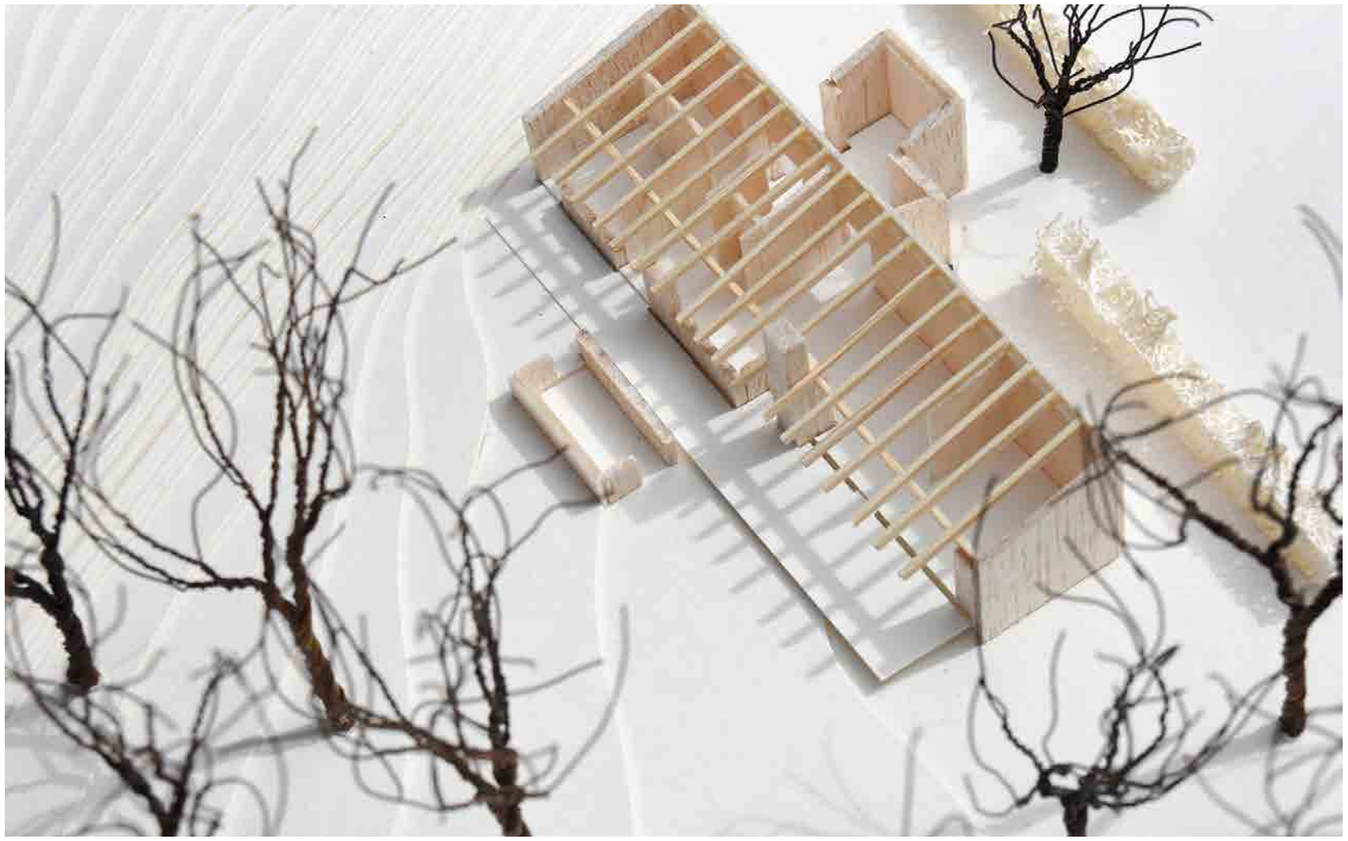
PLAN – SPATIAL STRATEGY

1:150

0 3 6 9 m

1. *View from Tranvägen toward the site, revealing the descending terrain and the adjacent natural reserve.*

2. *Character of the adjacent natural reserve.*



YSICAL MODEL

ıdy model exploring the house's relationship to topography and rrounding vegetation.

SPATIAL AXONOMETRIC

layered living and circulation

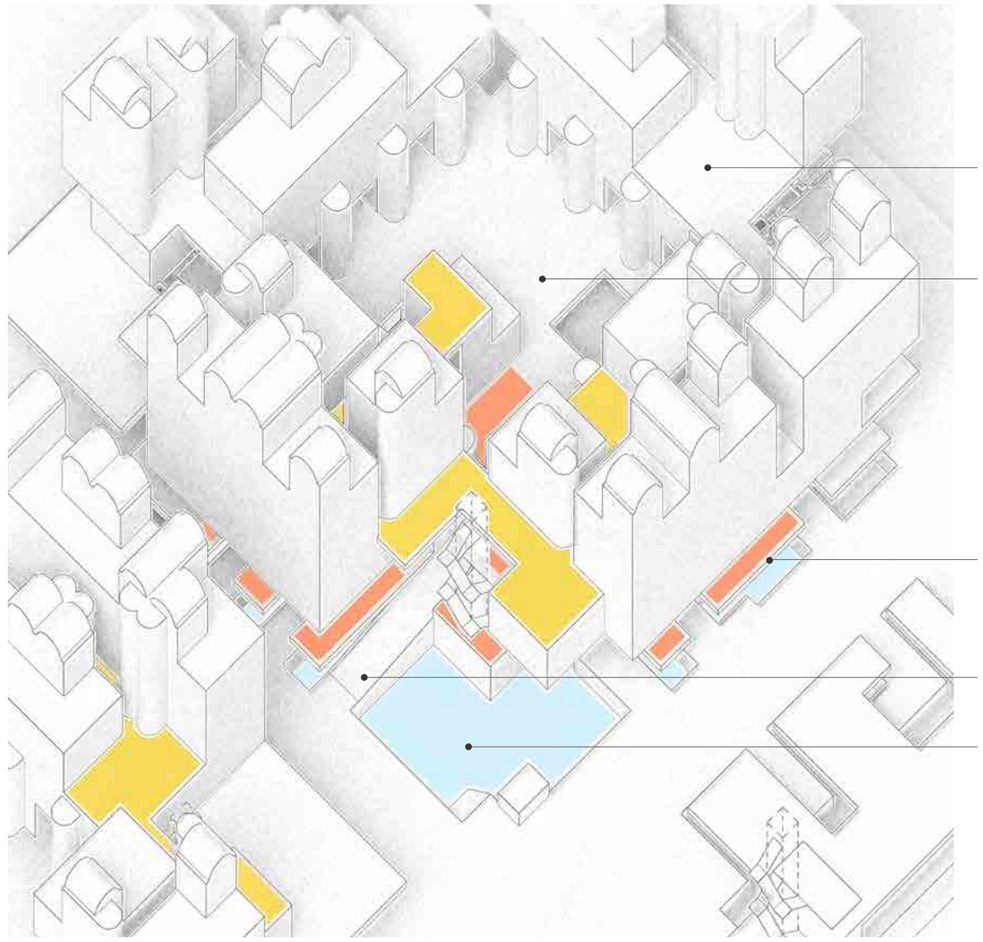
A City to Call Your Own

Urban Housing / Nisshin Kogyo Competition / 2021

This project proposes a modular urban housing framework organized around interdependent spaces-courtyards, streets, and shared terraces. By dissolving conventional zoning, it creates a continuous environment that supports diverse forms of living, working, and social interaction. The system is designed for adaptability, enabling incremental growth and long-term spatial flexibility.

URBAN SCALE COMPARISON

Relative footprint of the proposed housing system within a historic urban fabric.



The local street is defined by a tight pattern of entrances that encourage social contact and activity. It extends the living space across one, two, or three levels, incorporating gardens and terraces.

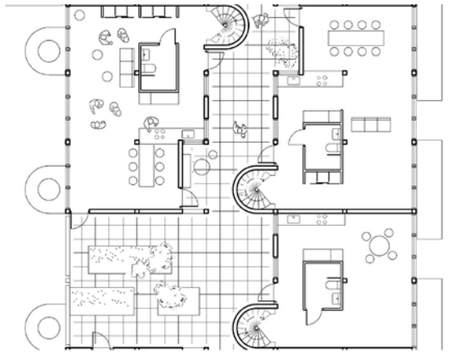
The courtyard – a shared gathering space.

A half-level relationship increases interaction between the street and the built form. It becomes a layered condition of street, courtyard, and flexible space below.

Ramp connecting the street with the courtyard and main staircases.

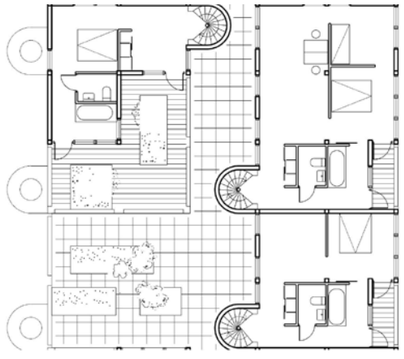
At street intersections, spaces widen and diversify. These shared areas transform the street into a sequence of distinct places—for leisure, work, communal activities, or simply a quiet green corner.

LIVING ALONG THE ELEVATED STREET



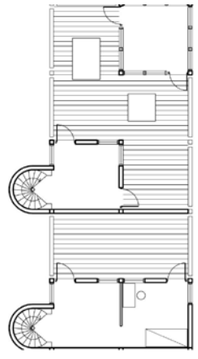
SHARED STREET LEVEL

Entrance, kitchen, and daily living connected to the communal deck.



PRIVATE LIVING LEVEL

Bedrooms and quieter domestic spaces set above shared circulation.



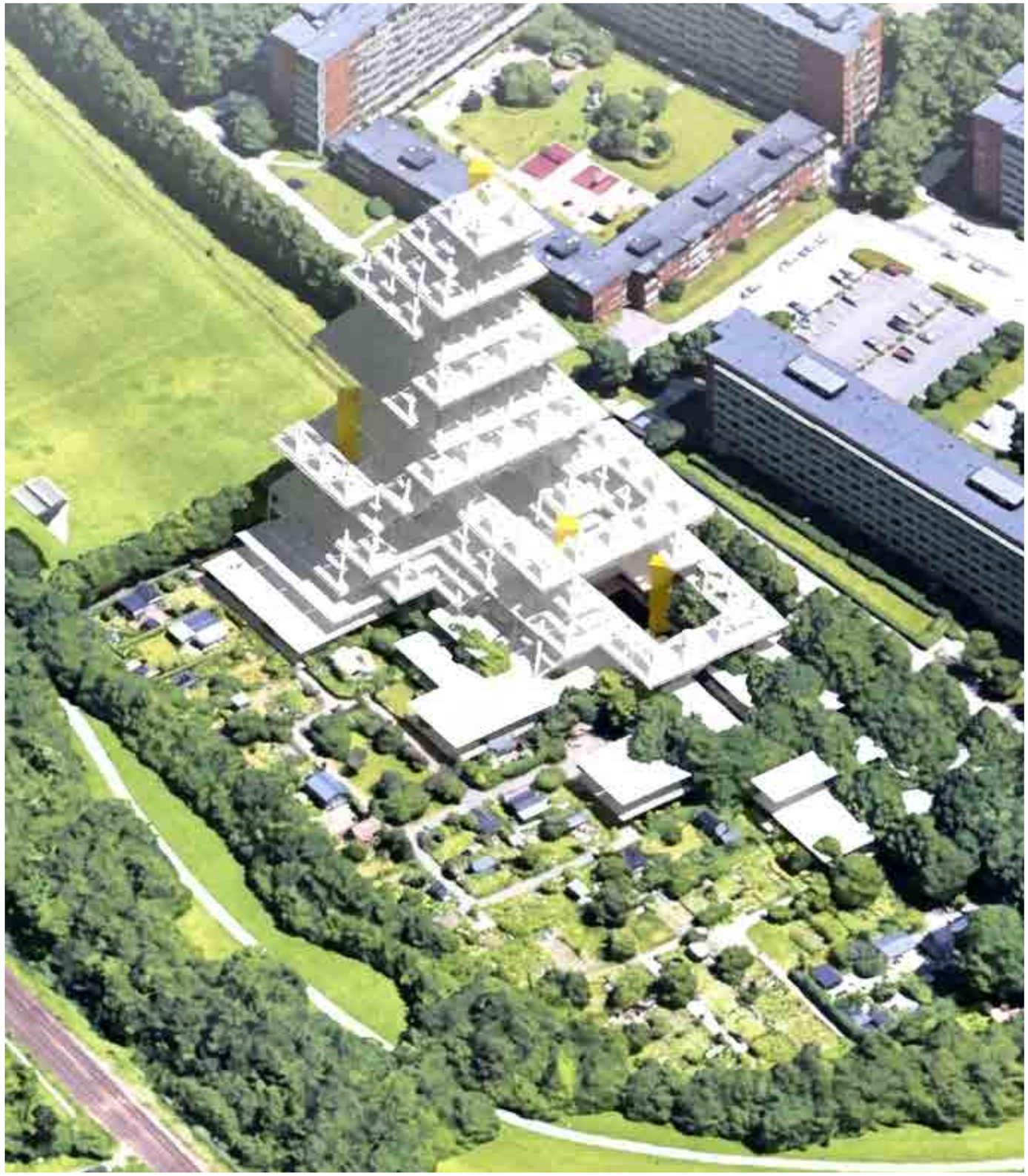
UPPER LEVEL

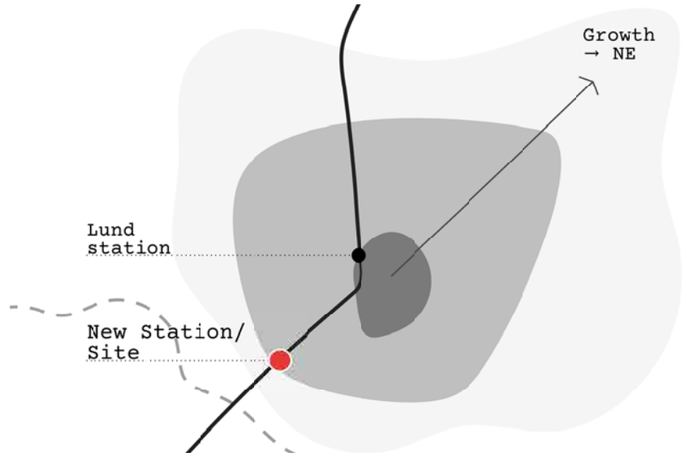
Flexible top floor for work, leisure, or expansion.

Structure in the Landscape

Housing / Lund / Lund University (LTH) / 2022

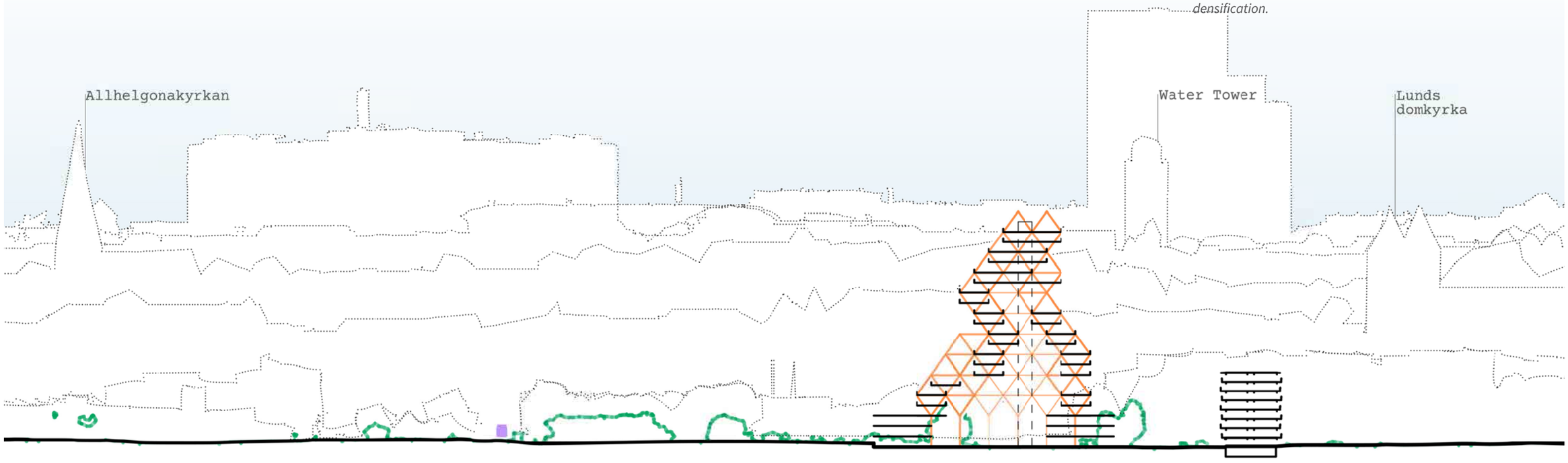
A large-scale building positioned at the intersection of city, infrastructure, and terrain.





URBAN GROWTH AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEFINE OPPORTUNITY

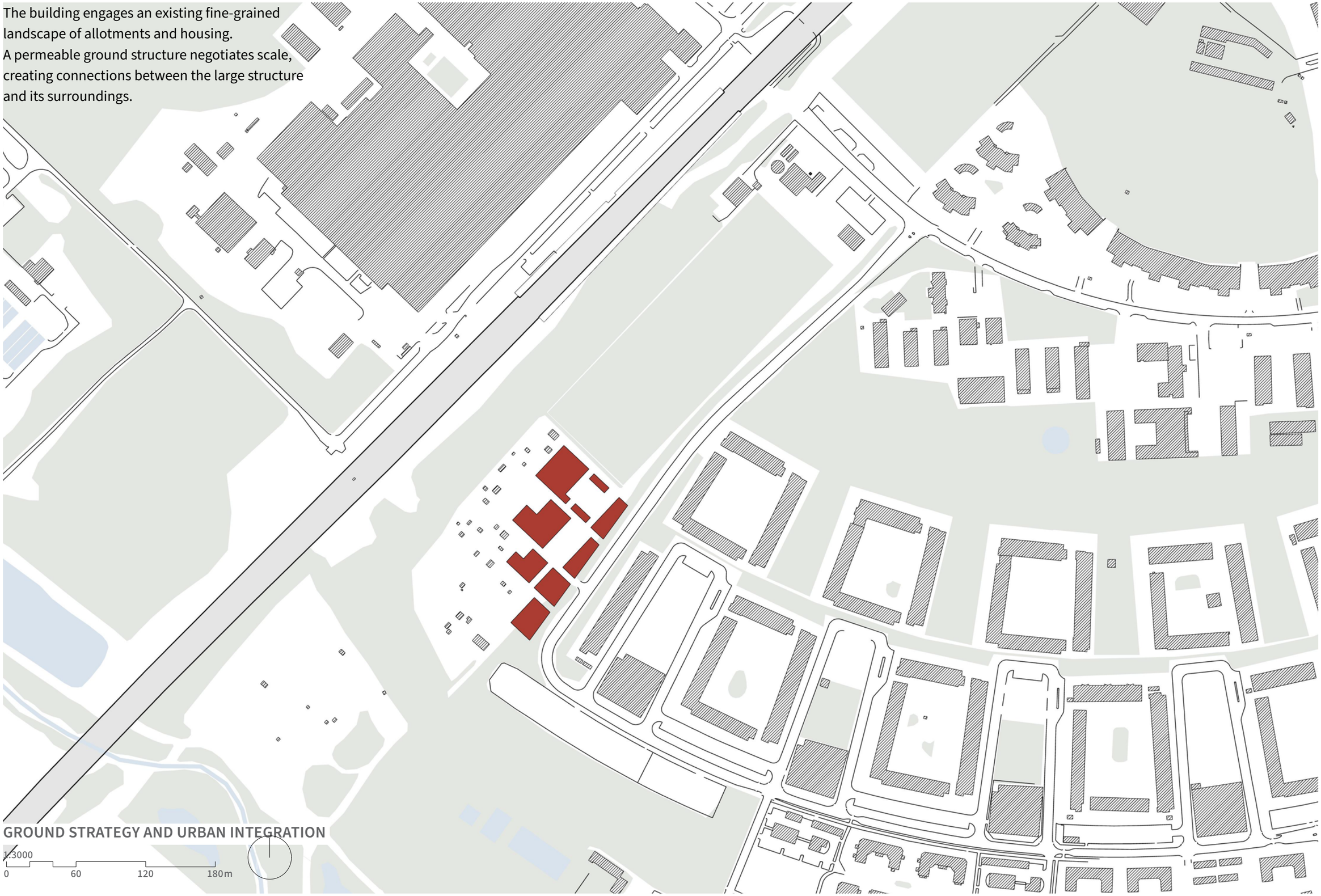
The city has predominantly expanded toward the northeast, leaving the southwest underdeveloped. The introduction of a new station establishes this area as a strategic node for future densification.



THE LOW POINT AS VERTICAL OPPORTUNITY

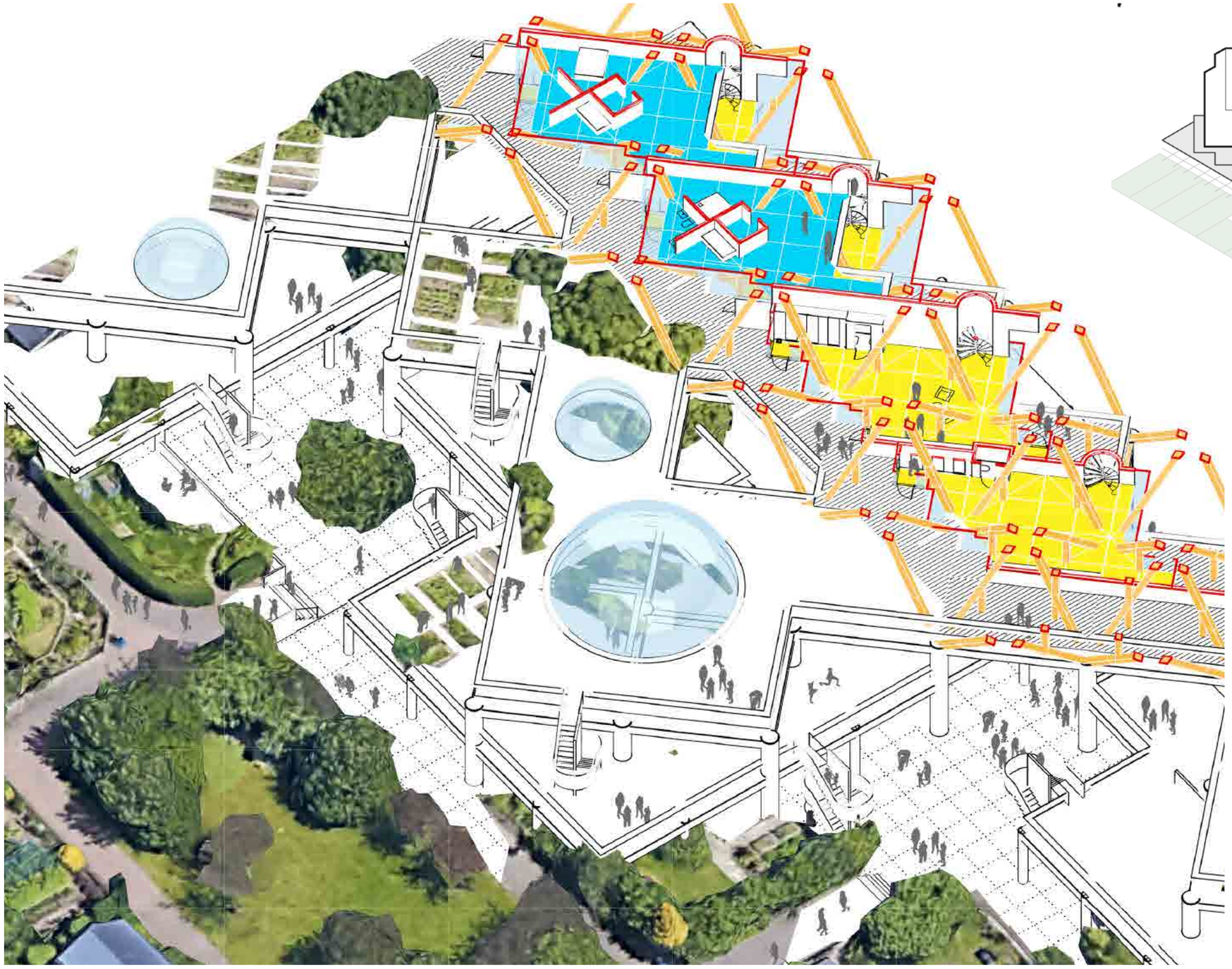
The project is located at a low point in Lund's landscape, where transport infrastructure meets a less developed edge of the urban fabric. From this position, vertical extension creates a new vantage point from which the city can be read against its wider landscape. This establishes a natural site for vertical development within the broader city.

The building engages an existing fine-grained landscape of allotments and housing.
A permeable ground structure negotiates scale, creating connections between the large structure and its surroundings.

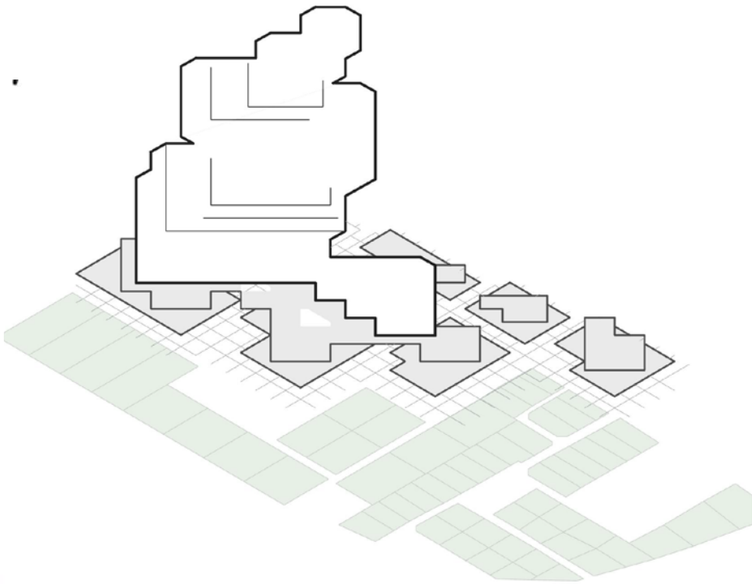


GROUND STRATEGY AND URBAN INTEGRATION

1:3000
0 60 120 180m



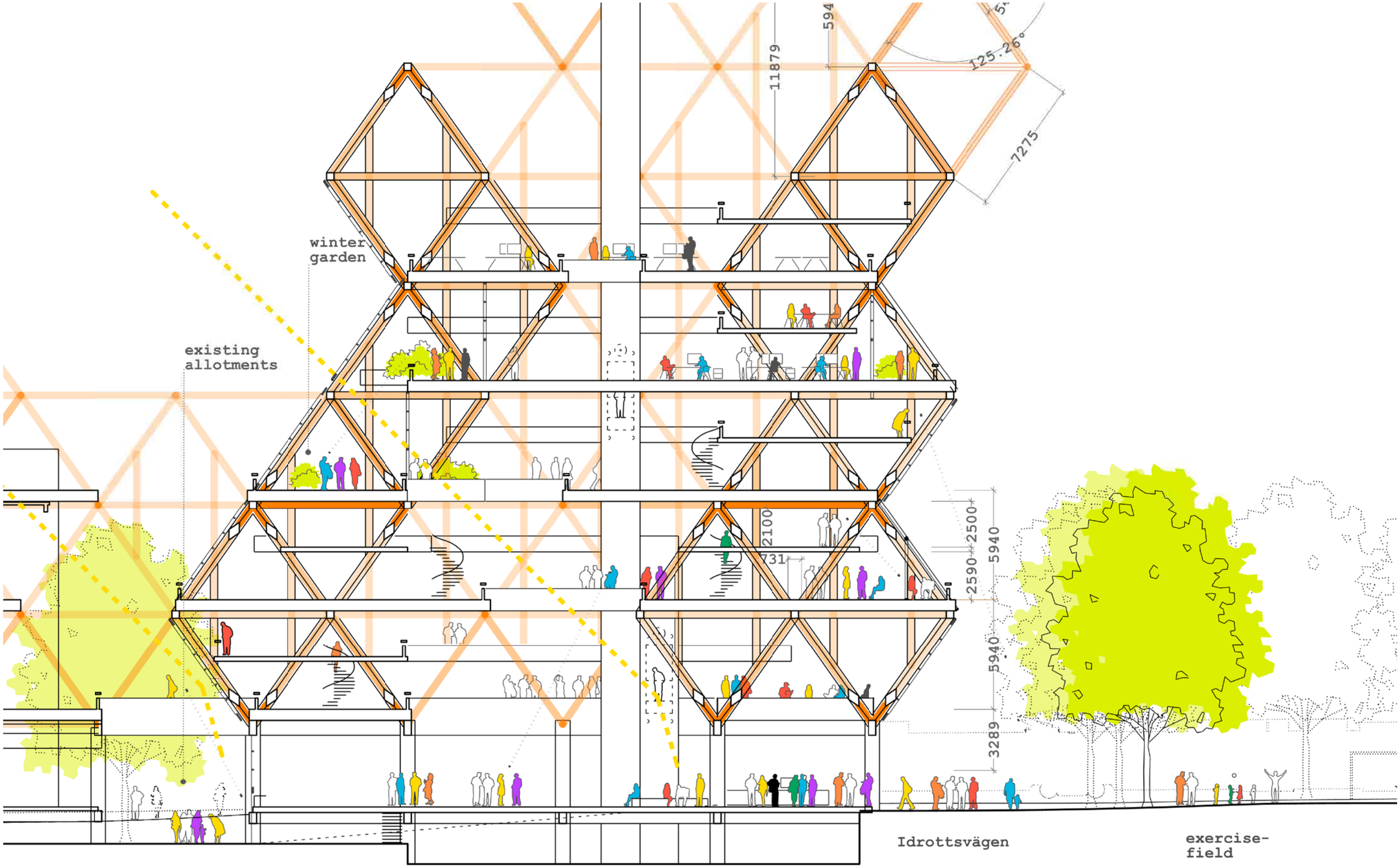
A VERTICAL FRAMEWORK FOR LIVING AND WORKING



LAYERED SYSTEM: FROM GROUND TO STRUCTURE

The project is organized as a layered system that mediates between landscape and large-scale structure.
An existing ground structure is extended into platforms that support a vertical spatial framework.

A layered system organizes the transition from landscape to building.
Ground, platforms, and structural framework mediate between the scale of the city and the individual.



THE VERTICAL FRAMEWORK

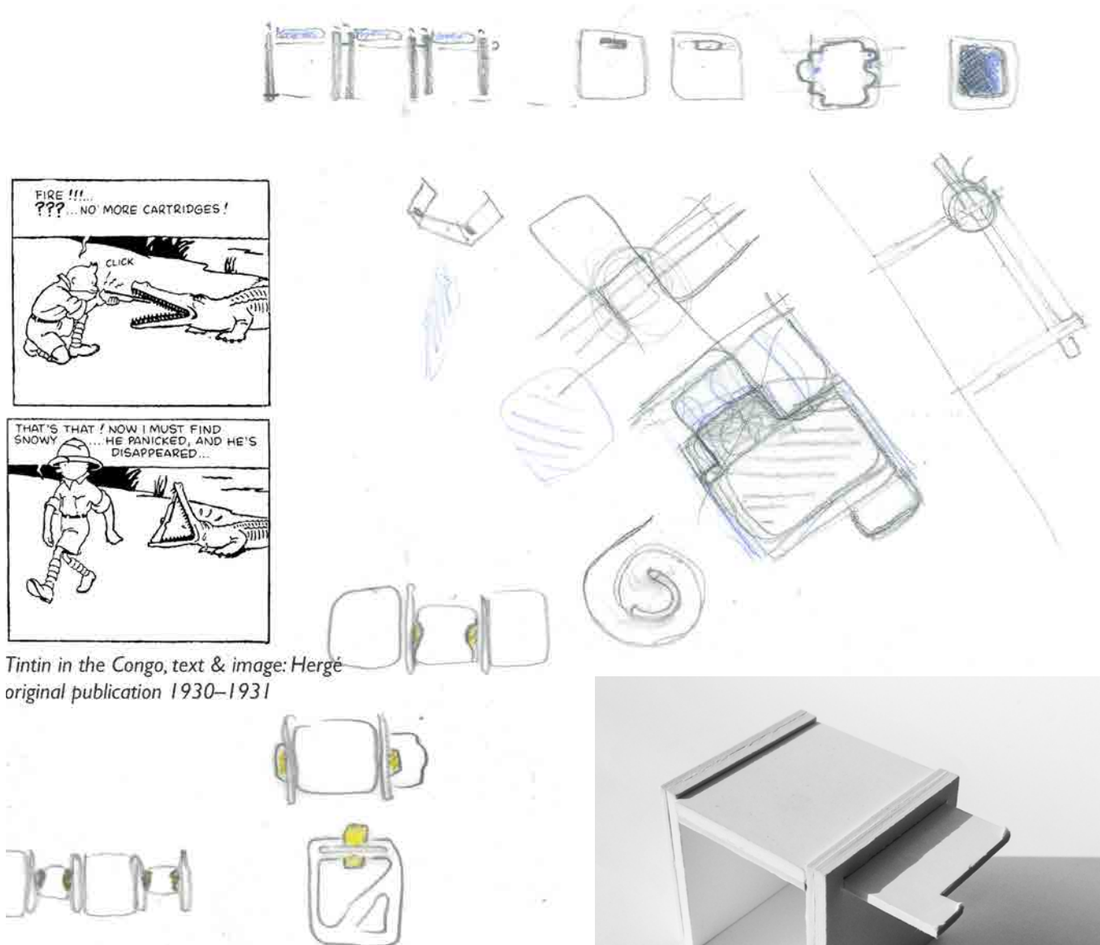
1:3000

0 60 120 180 m

tin-tin-tin: Modular Stool System

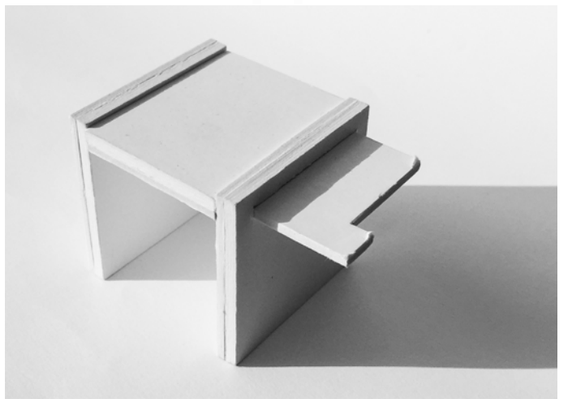
Furniture Design Studio / Lund University (LTH) / 2017

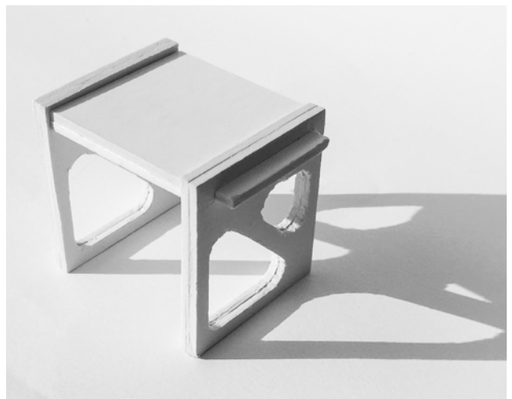
One object. Multiple uses. Open to reinterpretation. A small modular stool designed to be used in different ways. It can be stacked, extended, or used on its own. The project focuses on simple construction, easy assembly, and a flexible relationship between object and use.



Tintin in the Congo, text & image: Hergé original publication 1930–1931

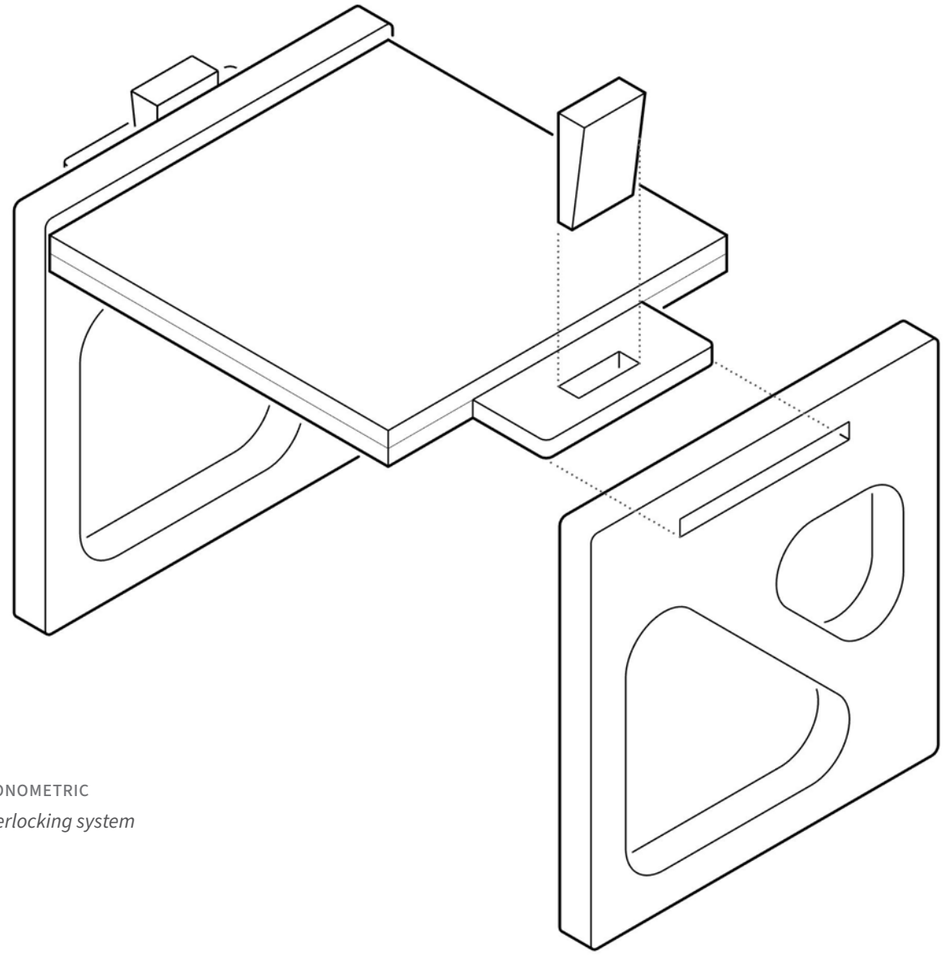
PROTOTYPE, *Built stool in birch plywood with polycarbonate locking details.*





MODEL STUDY

left: first working model
right:cut-outs for lightness, cast new patterns on the floor during the day.



AXONOMETRIC

Interlocking system

FABRICATION & ASSEMBLY

The parts are CNC-cut from birch plywood and joined with small polycarbonate locking pieces. The stool is assembled without screws or glue and can be easily taken apart.

DESIGN PRINCIPLE

An object open to reinterpretation

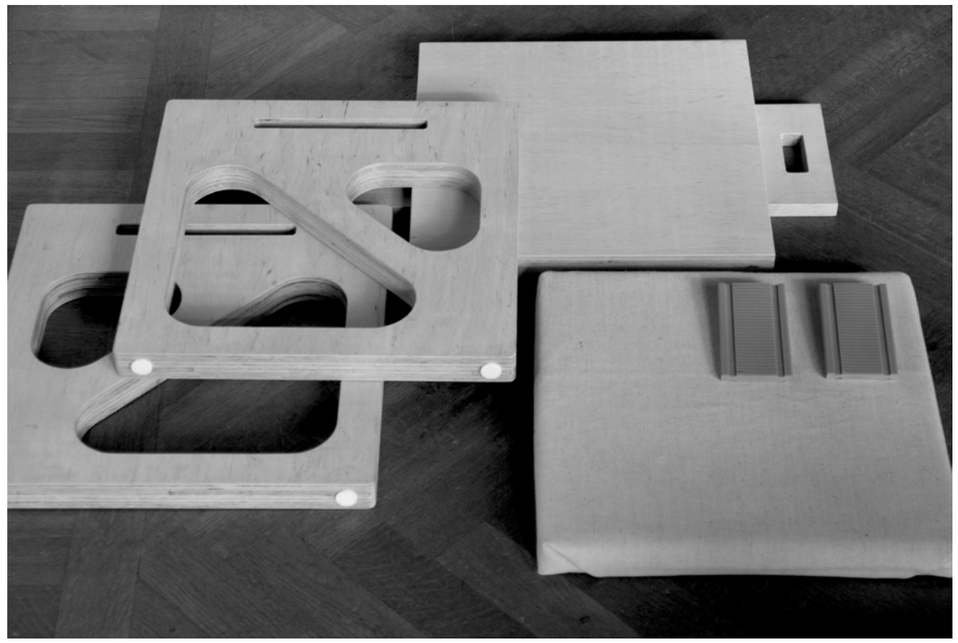
The characters in the comic Tintin have the ability to look beyond the obvious function of objects. A rifle becomes a wedge, a crocodile a bench, and a Bible a box for storing rum

Certain objects have qualities that evoke associations, shaping how we perceive, interpret, and use them. For this reason, some pieces of furniture function better than others. A multifunctional object can foster a strong relationship between user and furniture.

The built environment functions in a similar way. Some spaces are more usable than others, resulting in relationships of varying strength between space and user.

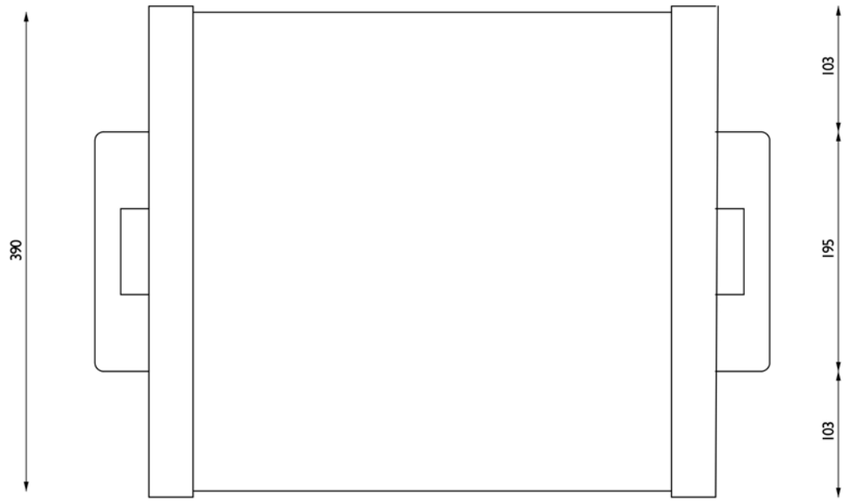
Our built environment and society at large are mutually dependent and continuously influence one another, resulting in constant change. This is something we must respond to. Furniture, like our physical surroundings, must allow for multiple interpretations in order to increase usability. Such an approach contributes to a more sustainable built environment.

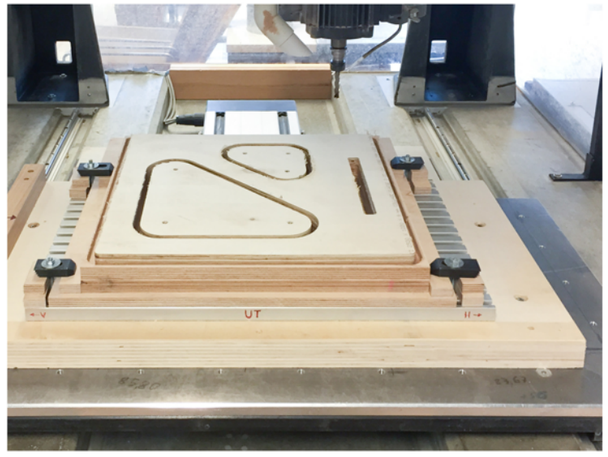
Can a piece of furniture be designed around these questions?



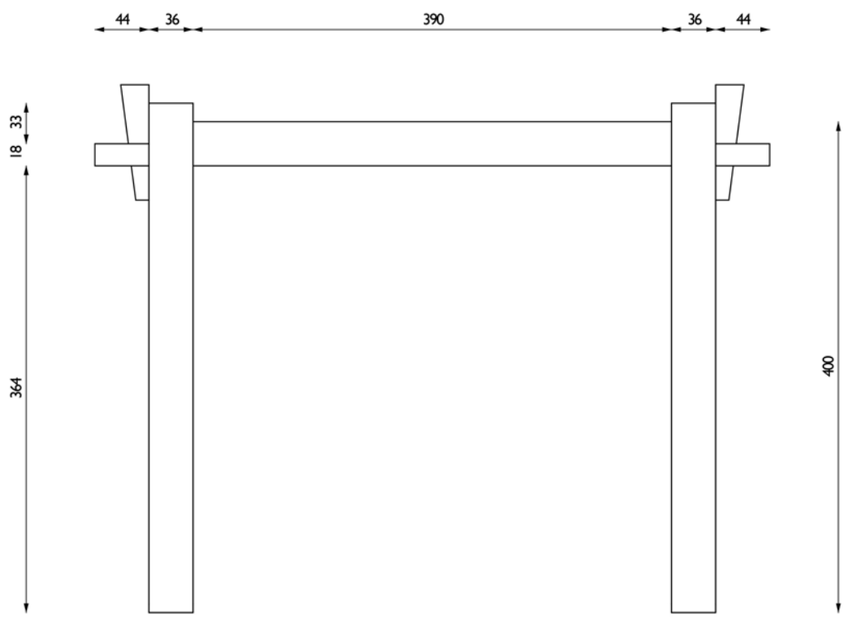
ASSEMBLE

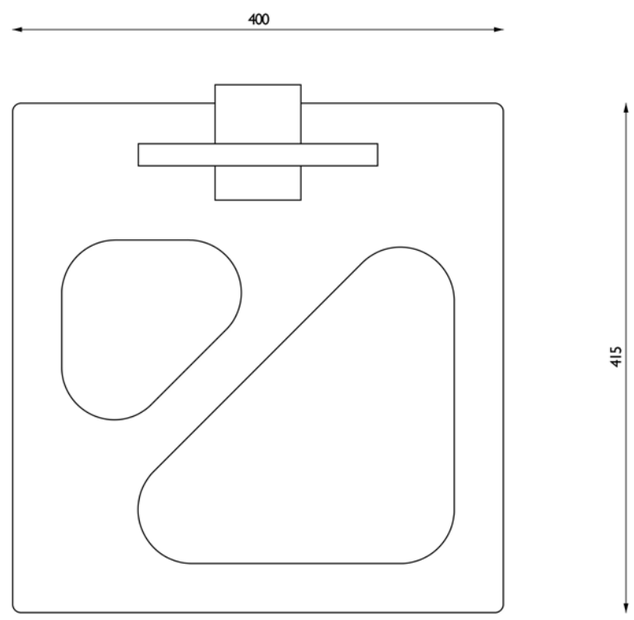
A small number of repeatable parts form the stool and can be assembled and taken apart easily.

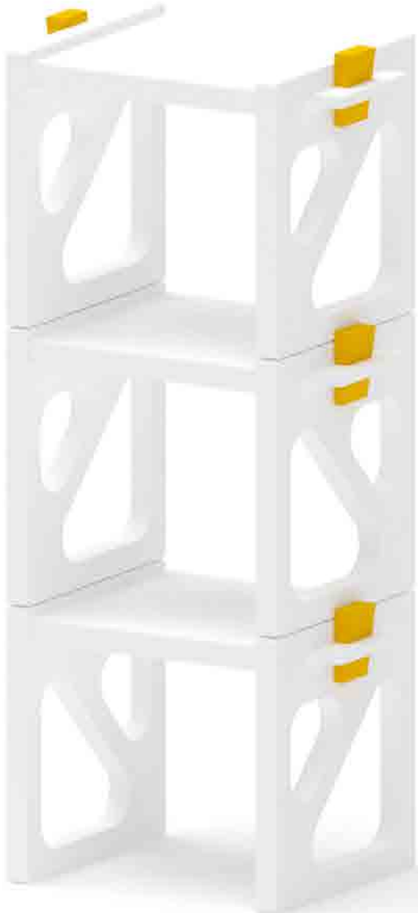




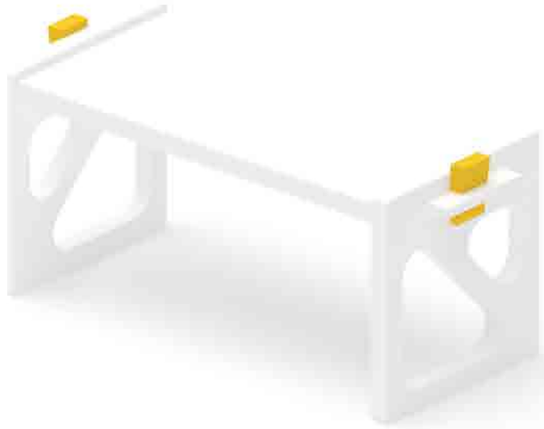
The stool sides were fabricated using a CNC mill



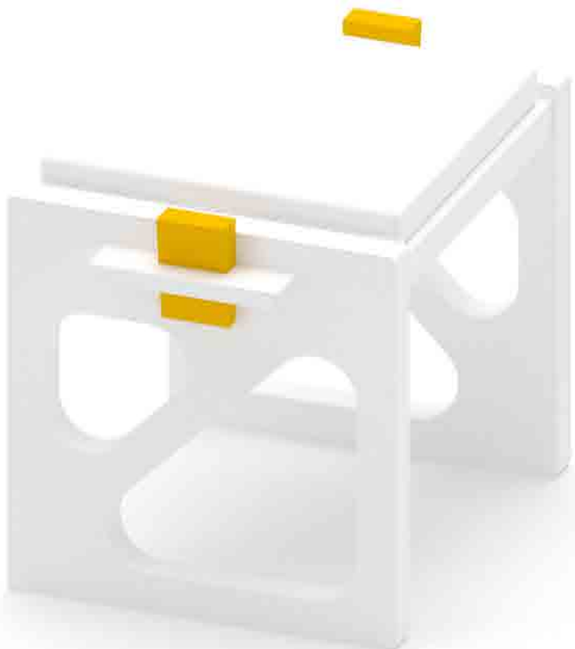




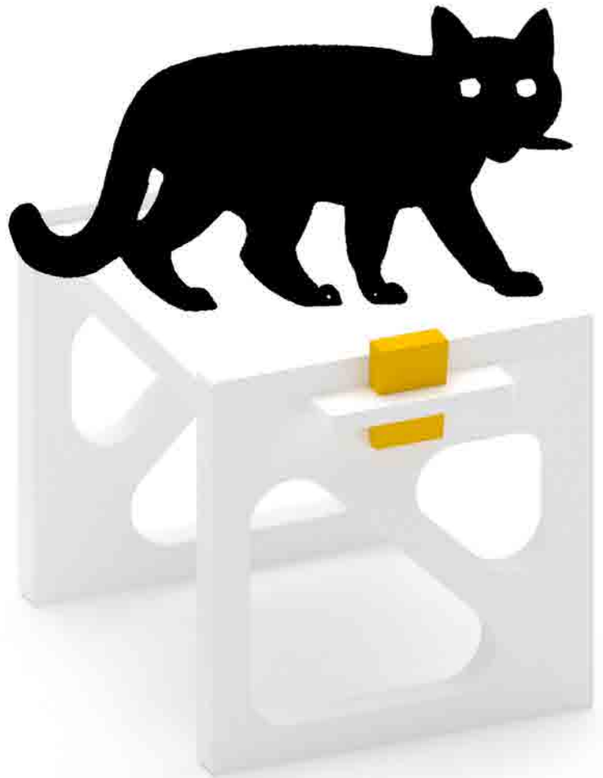
3xpall



förlängd pall



pall



MODULAR LOGIC

The stool is conceived as an additive system. As a single unit it works as a seat or small table, while several units can be stacked or combined into larger configurations depending on use.