

06

TECHNICAL INVESTIGATION AND DESIGN RESOLUTION

Technical Concept

Precedents

Materials

Structure

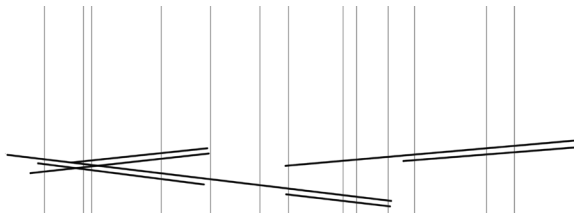
Ventilation Strategy

Water Harvesting

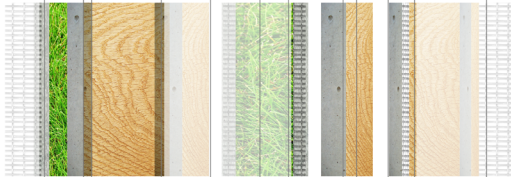
Design Resolution

Model Photos

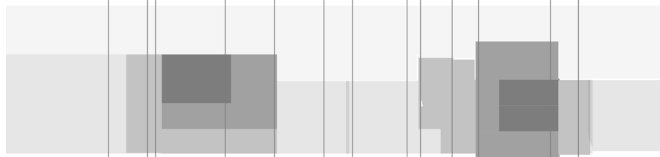
Figure 6.1. Conceptual sketches of technical approach



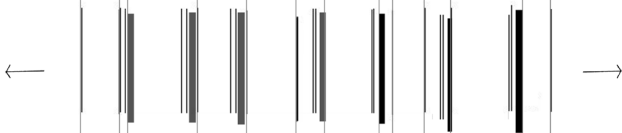
• The canopy unifies and connects old to new, inside to outside



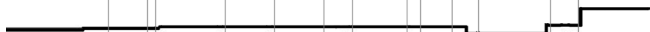
• A layering of materiality aids in the legibility and articulation of space



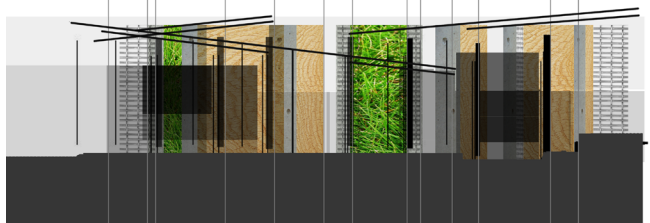
• Spaces are intended to flow into one another without any stark transitions



• Space is articulated through a layering of vertical elements



• An extended surface connects space on an urban scale



• A layering of materials and elements construct a physically and visually connected environment

6.1. TECHNICAL CONCEPT

The concept for the technification of the scheme is derived from design intentions, thus emphasising the layered and connected sense of space. A palette of elements including **surface, vertical articulation and canopy**, is formulated in order to ensure the concept is taken through to the resolution of the scheme, manifesting in different ways according to a hierarchy of transitional spaces. These elements are used within each space to articulate the specific spatial requirements.

The first element is the **urban surface**, which holds the most significant potential to connect the place to the larger urban area. The intervention thus extends beyond the site, acting both centrifugally and centripetally.

Vertical separations of space are considered as aids in connecting spaces to each other while at the same time providing the separations needed for security and privacy. While the building is not completely open to physical movement, visual connection between spaces are intended to extend much further in order to make users aware of each other's movement and activities, allowing for observation and interaction.

The canopy serves in connecting the place of education as a whole. Due to the very different nature of the existing buildings which form part of the design, and the addition of a new intervention, this element unites the objects to ensure the parts and their connections are legible to the user. The canopy also includes exterior spaces into the arrangement, providing the necessary smooth transition from exterior to interior.

Figure 6.2. Technical concept



Garden



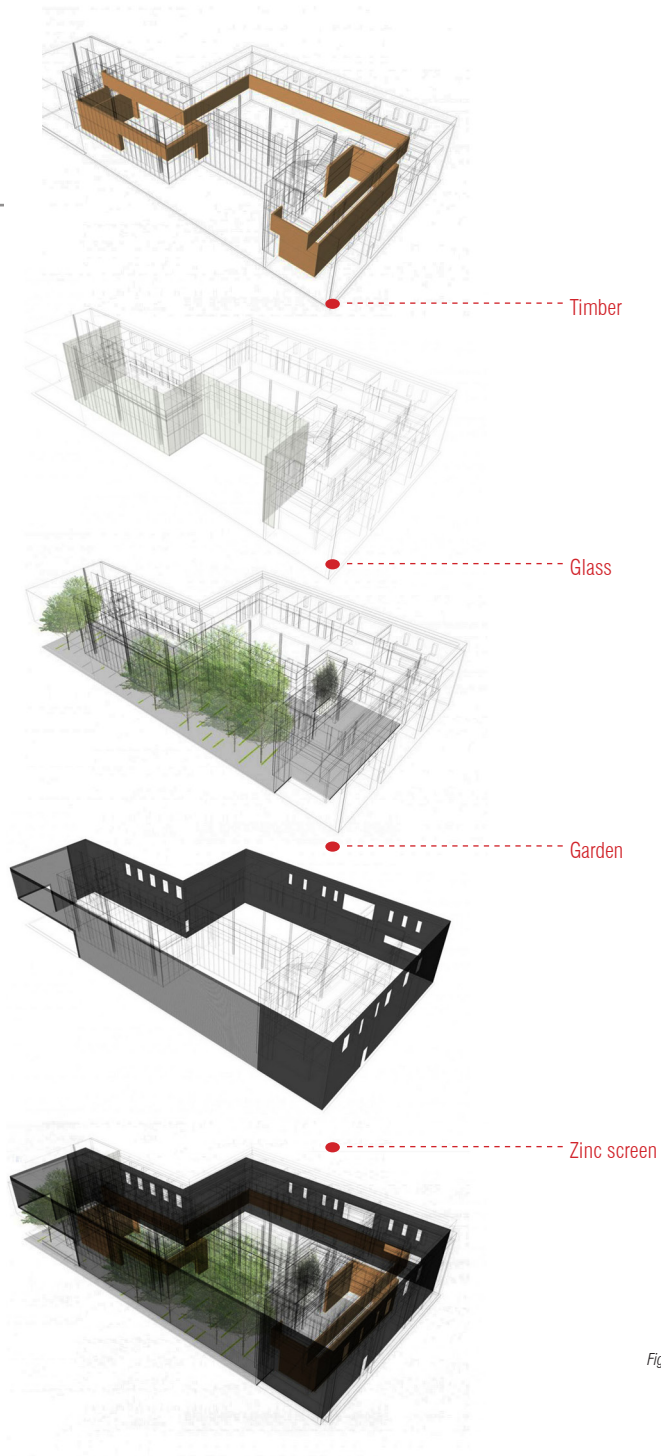
Transparent edges



Presentation space



Flexible reading spaces



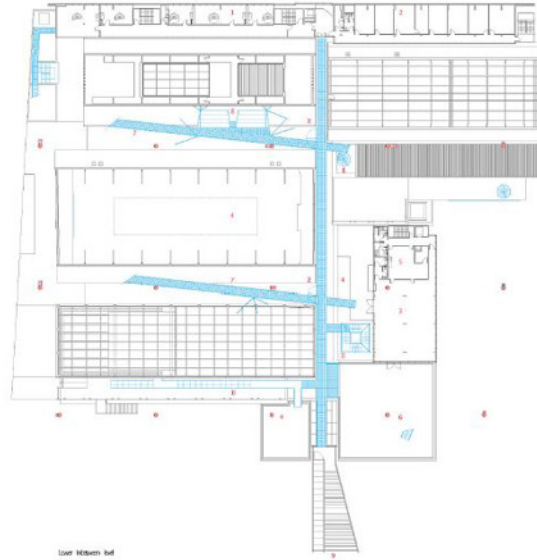
6.2. CHICAGO POETRY FOUNDATION, CHICAGO, USA, 2011. ARCHITECT: JOHN RONAN ARCHITECTS

The poetry foundation is designed as a building in constant dialogue with its exterior spaces, considering these spaces as ancillary rooms. It follows that the building slowly unfolds in spatial sequence. The approach through the exterior blurs the hard distinctions between public and private realms. (Broome 2011:63)

The sequence is supported by a variety of materials, varying in acoustic qualities and conceptually articulating the series of layers through which a visitor would move. Zinc, Glass and timber peel apart to define the various programmes.

The outer layer of corrugated anodised zinc lends the building a monolithic appearance from the outside. This layer however becomes perforated and takes on a veil like diaphanous quality. While allowing visual access to the street it also acts as a sun shade, while the meandering glass façade with anodised aluminium framing behind it delineates the garden (Detail 2012:466).

Figure 6.3. John Ronan: Chicago Poetry Foundation



Upper level plan



Ground floor

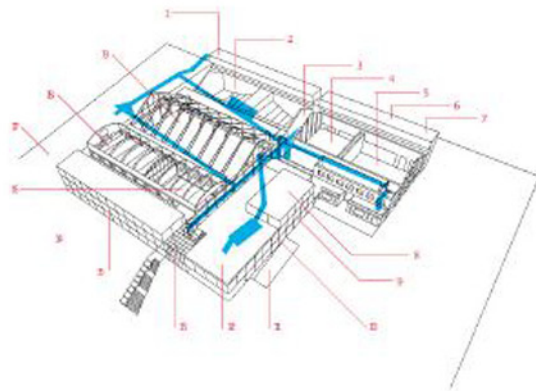
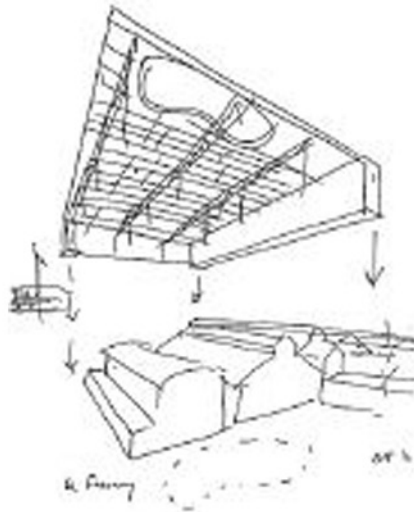
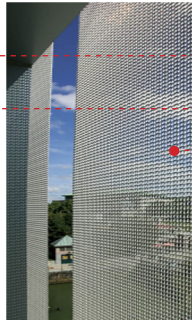


Figure 6.4. Bernard Tschumi: Le Fresnoy centre for Contemporary Arts

6.3. LE FRESNOY NATIONAL STUDIO OF CONTEMPORARY ARTS, TOURCOING, FRANCE, 1992, ARCHITECT: BERNARD TSCHUMI ARCHITECTS

The Le Fresnoy National Studio of Contemporary Arts incorporates a multiplicity of artistic activities under one roof which includes performance art, cinema, video and film production, sound studios, a postgraduate school, a restaurant, several exhibition areas as well as student and artist residences. The existing buildings could have been demolished, but the character and magic of place would be lost, thus the complex of buildings were kept and protected by a large roof stretching across the whole complex which protects the existing structures and provides for all the necessary ducting and services needed.

New facilities were located within the existing volumes, while a fluidity of space was maintained by the development of the in-between spaces. Large horizontal windows covered with transparent glazing ensure an interior flooded with natural light. Hanging walkways and platforms activate the in between space to allow for a variety of appropriations by the users of the centre. The large roof thus acts as the project's common denominator, unifying and connecting the range of spaces which sit underneath it. The intention of the roof is to create and give attention to spaces of leftovers, residue, gaps and margins between the existing and the new. Therein lies the unexpected where unprogrammed events might occur. (Tschumi 2006:38-47)

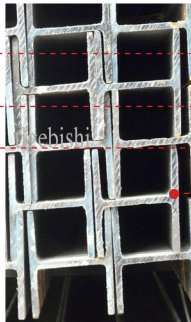
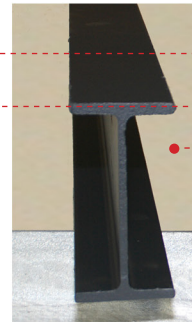
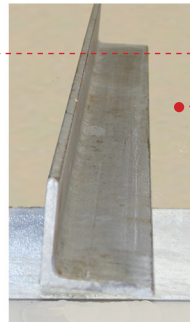


Metal fabric at various densities depending on shading required

Typical connections

Exterior application

Interior application

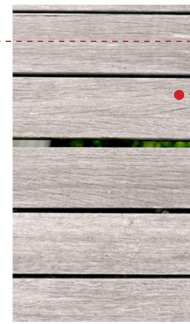


Galvanised steel

Supports

Beams and columns

Trusses

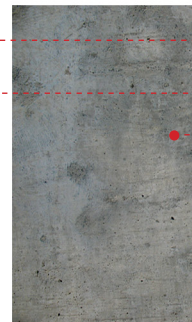


Plywood (Interior)

Balau (Exterior)

Timber floor application

Timber ceiling application



Existing off shutter concrete

New off shutter concrete

Concrete screen floors

Concrete structure with brick infill

6.4. MATERIALS

The materiality of the scheme is configured in a way which enforces the idea of spatial layering and palimpsest, ensuring that spaces flow easily into one another. The layering of materials also relate to the environmental conditions they are found in.

Steel and concrete are used on the exterior while **timber** becomes identifiable within more intimate interior spaces.

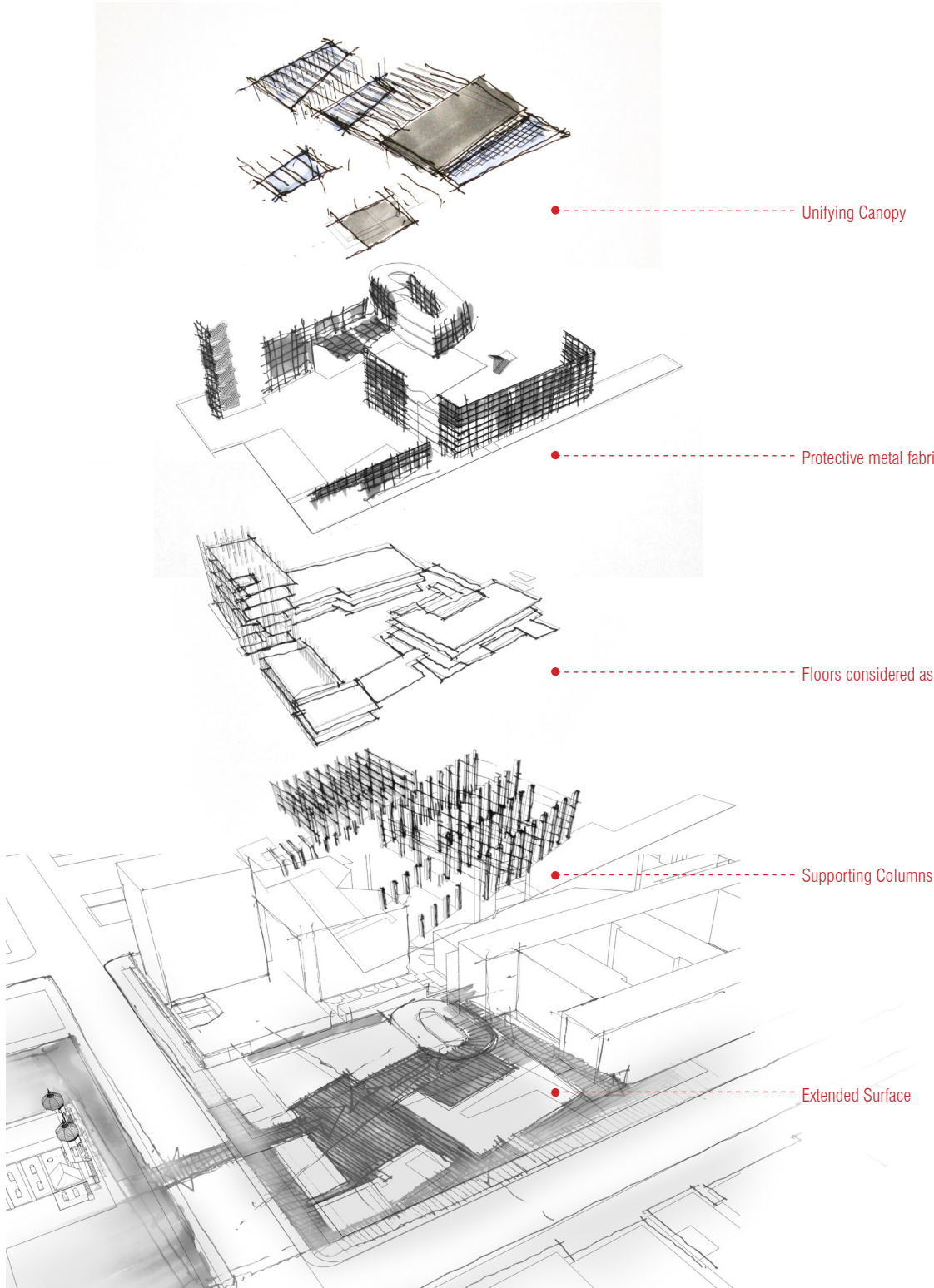
Large openings constructed of **glass** pivot windows in aluminium frames, open up the building for visual connectivity, these are placed within **timber sub frames** so as to extend the material associated with the interior of the building to the vertical interfaces of the building.

Metal fabric is used as a screening device as well as to claim and articulate exterior spaces of the building, the transparency of the fabrics are varied in order to create differentiation and to serve environmental and lighting requirements.

The materiality of space pushes and pulls into one another, ensuring once again the connection and merging of space.

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Figure 6.5. Materials



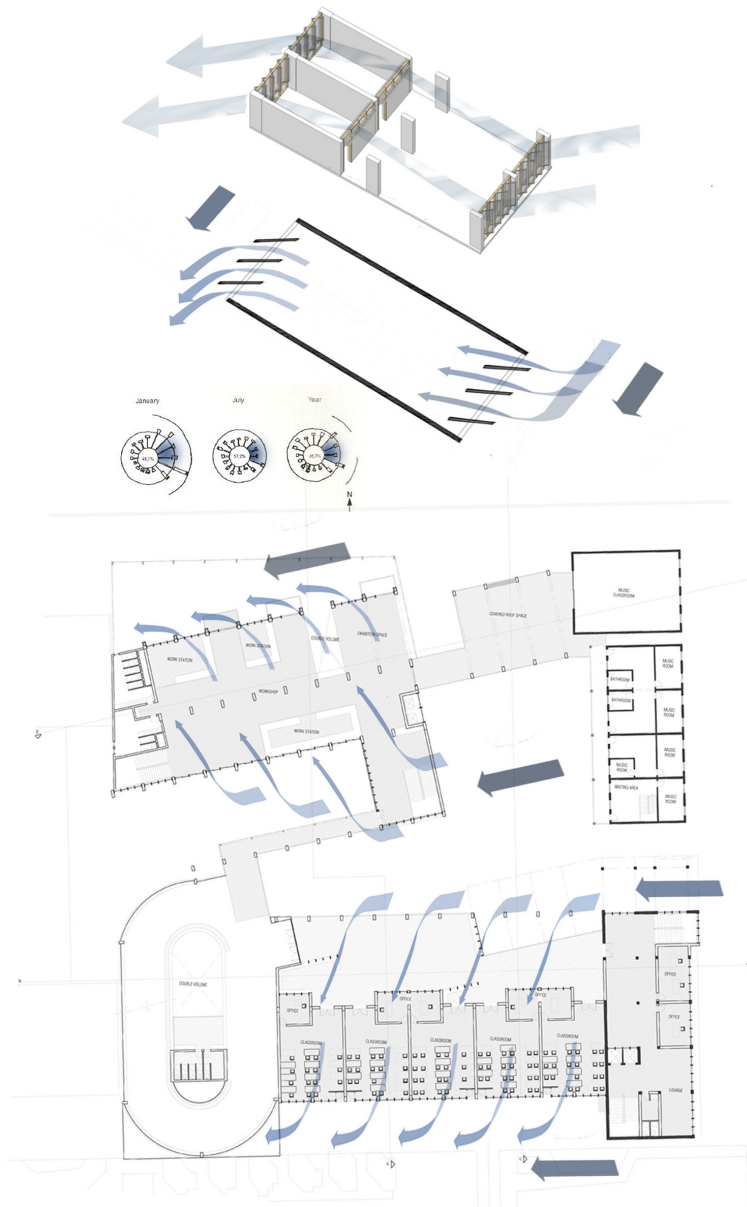


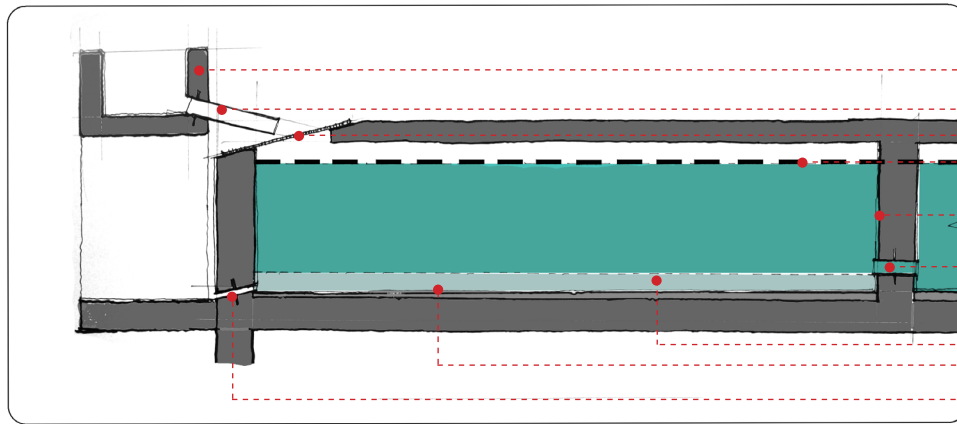
Figure 6.6. Deconstruction of technical palette
Figure 6.7. Diagram of cross ventilation principle
Figure 6.8. Wind rose of Pretoria showing dominant quadrant (reference)
Figure 6.9. Ventilation concept

6.5. STRUCTURE

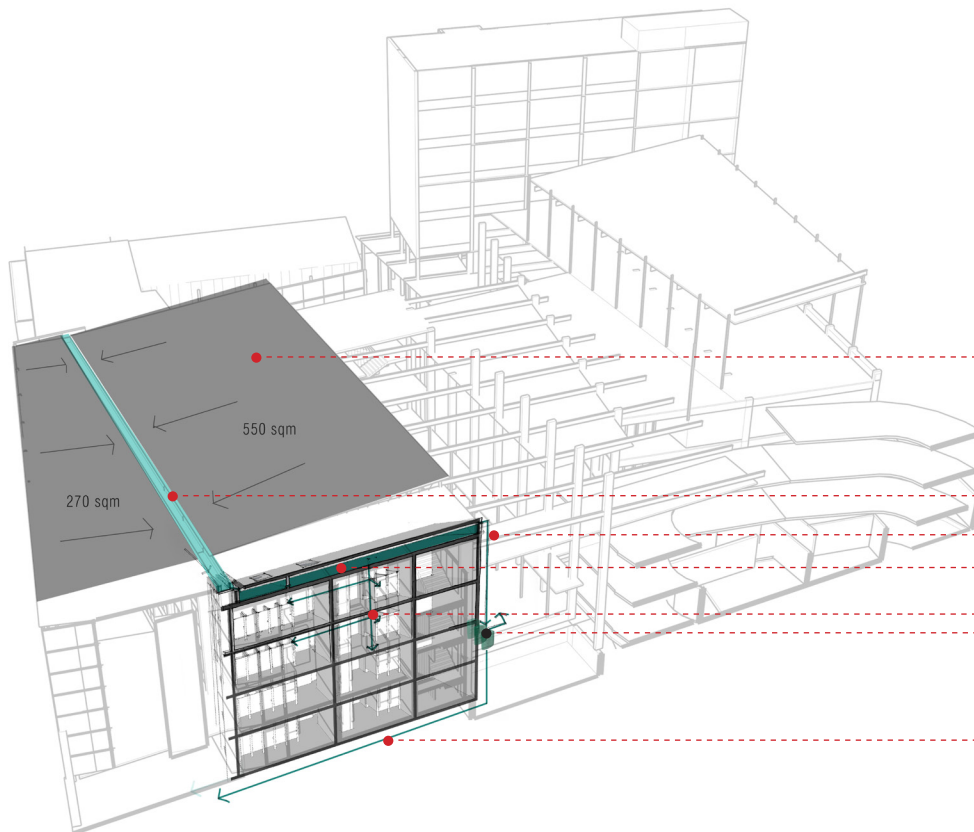
The load bearing structure of the building comprises of heavy concrete columns and floors following on the robust nature of the existing Peugeot Building. These elements are however not used to define space but to create secondary horizontal planes to the extended urban surface upon which space is articulated by **vertical separations and canopies**. Space is defined first and foremost by the lightweight assemblies of steel, timber and metal fabrics. The old and new therefore begin to speak a similar tectonic language, creating a whole comprised of similar parts.

The intervention pushes into existing structures with exposed connections in order for them to be understood as previously autonomous buildings which have extended and become incorporated into a new range of activities and spaces.

New and existing structures push into and pull away from each other creating the most architecturally important space between them - the **in-between**. The merging is not concealed but exposed and reinforced with the rotated grid.

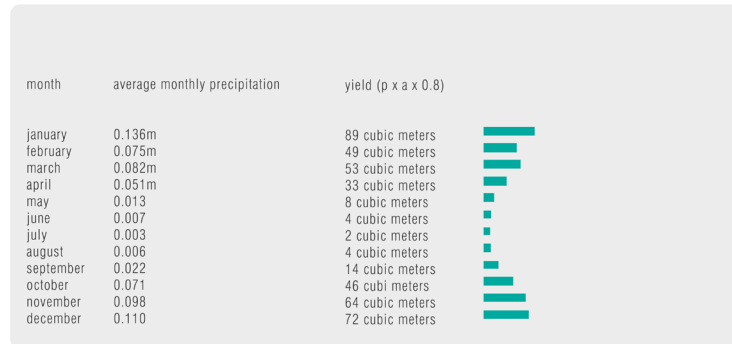


- Concrete Gutter
- Galvanised steel outlet with leak flange
- Galvanised steel mesh
- Water level corresponding to overflow outlet
- Derbigum waterproofing
- Galvanised steel connection with leak flange
- Sediment collection level
- Screen to fall to cleaning outlet
- Galvanised steel outlet for cleaning of tank

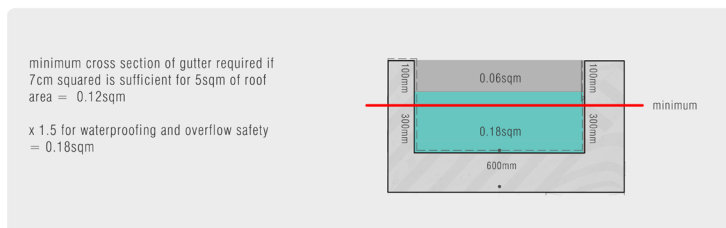


- Water collection on roof
- Concrete gutter
- Excess water to overflow
- Storage to serve flushing of WC's
- Distribution
- Secondary storage for irrigation
- Excess to municipal storm water channels

COLLECTION



GUTTER CALCULAIONS



STORAGE AND REQUIRED VOLUME

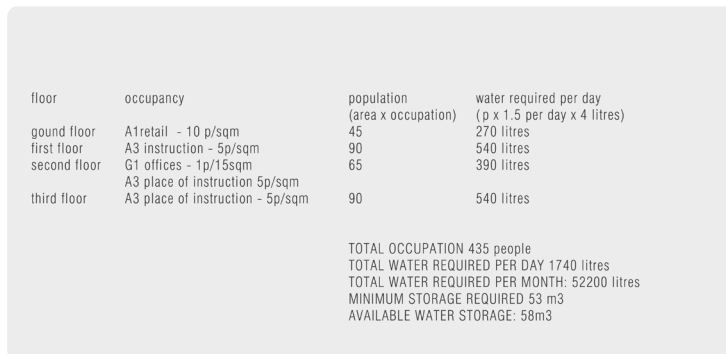


Figure 6.10. Water storage diagrams
Figure 6.11. Water storage calculations

6.6. VENTILATION STRATEGY

Horizontal pivot windows which rotate both ways make it possible to promote the ingress or deflection of prevailing winds. This process is enhanced by the orientation of the buildings and open spaces between them. While the programme does not require incoming air to be cooled, the thermal mass provided by the heavy concrete floors maintains a regular temperature within the building. Well insulated roof structures and double glazing support the thermal insulation of the building.

6.7. WATER HARVESTING

The large area of the new roof makes it possible to harvest large amounts of water. The sizing of the gutter was determined by this, but was made larger in order to handle excessive amounts of water during intense high veld thunderstorms.

Due to the amount of harvested water exceeding the available space for storage the storage space was determined by the amount needed to flush all of the waste closets in the new building. Other fixtures such as hand basins and drinking water is municipally supplied.

The rooftop tank has an overflow which transports excess water into secondary tanks for irrigation, and the remaining waste is transported to the municipal storm water system.

6.8. FINAL DRAWINGS





DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT

MUSIC HALL

EXHIBITION SPACE

BICYCLE REPAIR WORKSHOP

COVERED ROOF SPACE

MUSIC ROOM 01

MUSIC ROOM 02

MUSIC ROOM 03

MUSIC ROOM 04

MUSIC ROOM 05

MUSIC ROOM 06

MUSIC ROOM 07

MUSIC ROOM 08

MUSIC ROOM 09

MUSIC ROOM 10

MUSIC ROOM 11

MUSIC ROOM 12

MUSIC ROOM 13

MUSIC ROOM 14

MUSIC ROOM 15

MUSIC ROOM 16

MUSIC ROOM 17

MUSIC ROOM 18

MUSIC ROOM 19

MUSIC ROOM 20

MUSIC ROOM 21

MUSIC ROOM 22

MUSIC ROOM 23

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MUSIC ROOM 28

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MUSIC ROOM 30

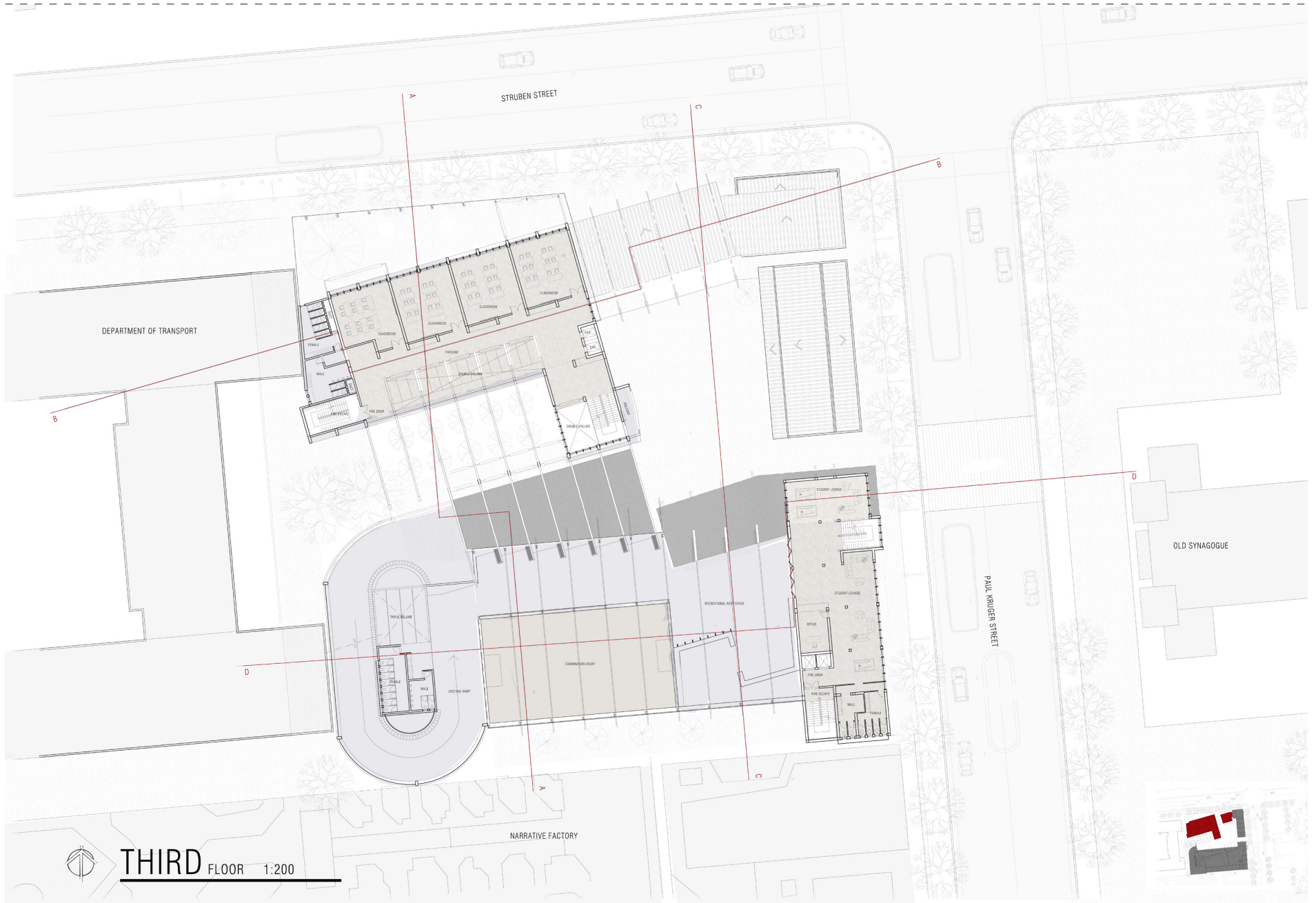
OLD SYNAGOGUE

NARRATIVE FACTORY

FIRST FLOOR 1:200



 **SECOND FLOOR** FLOOR 1:200



THIRD FLOOR 1:200

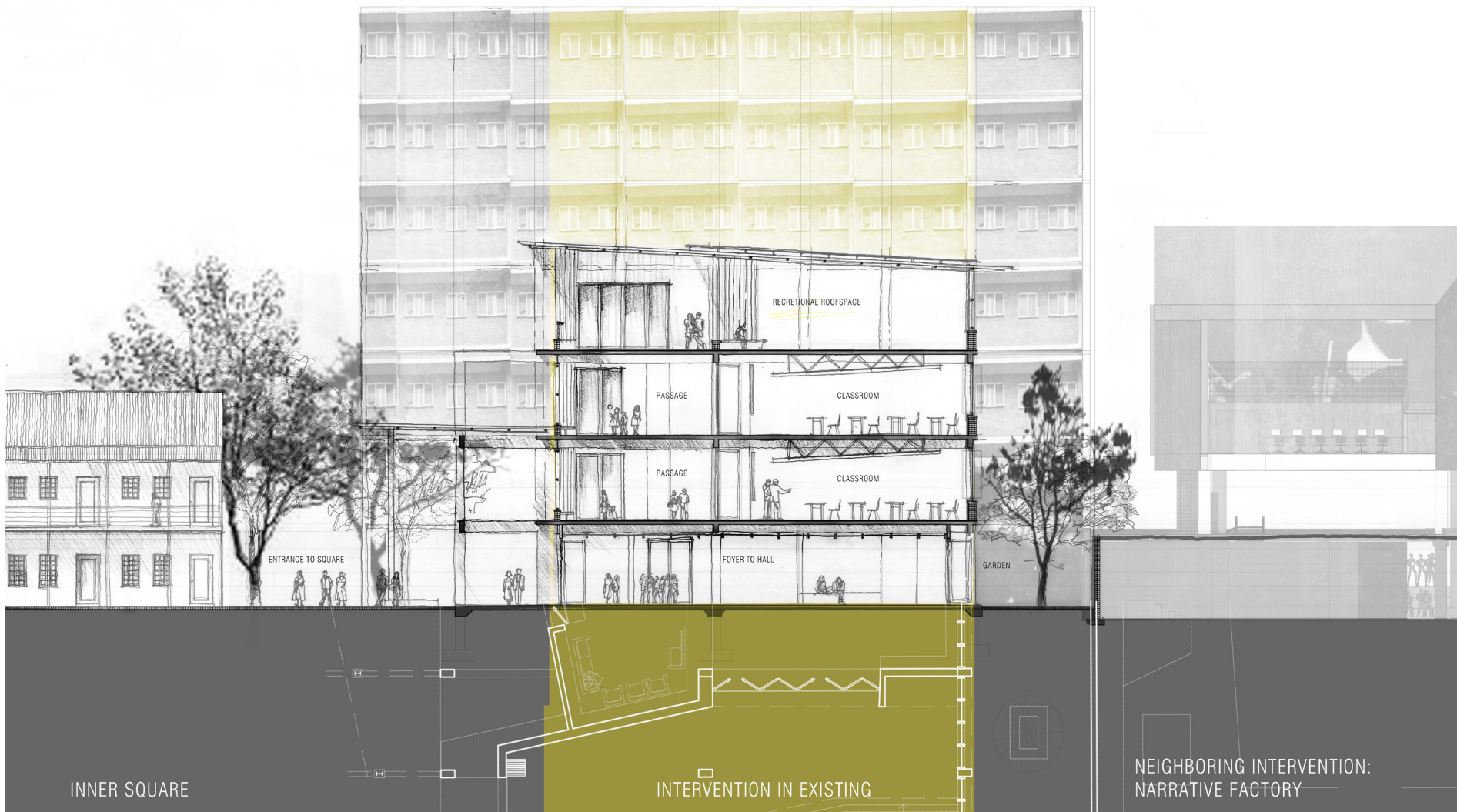


SECTION CC 1:100

STRUBEN STREET

PERIMETER BUILDING

PANAGOS BUILDING



INNER SQUARE

INTERVENTION IN EXISTING

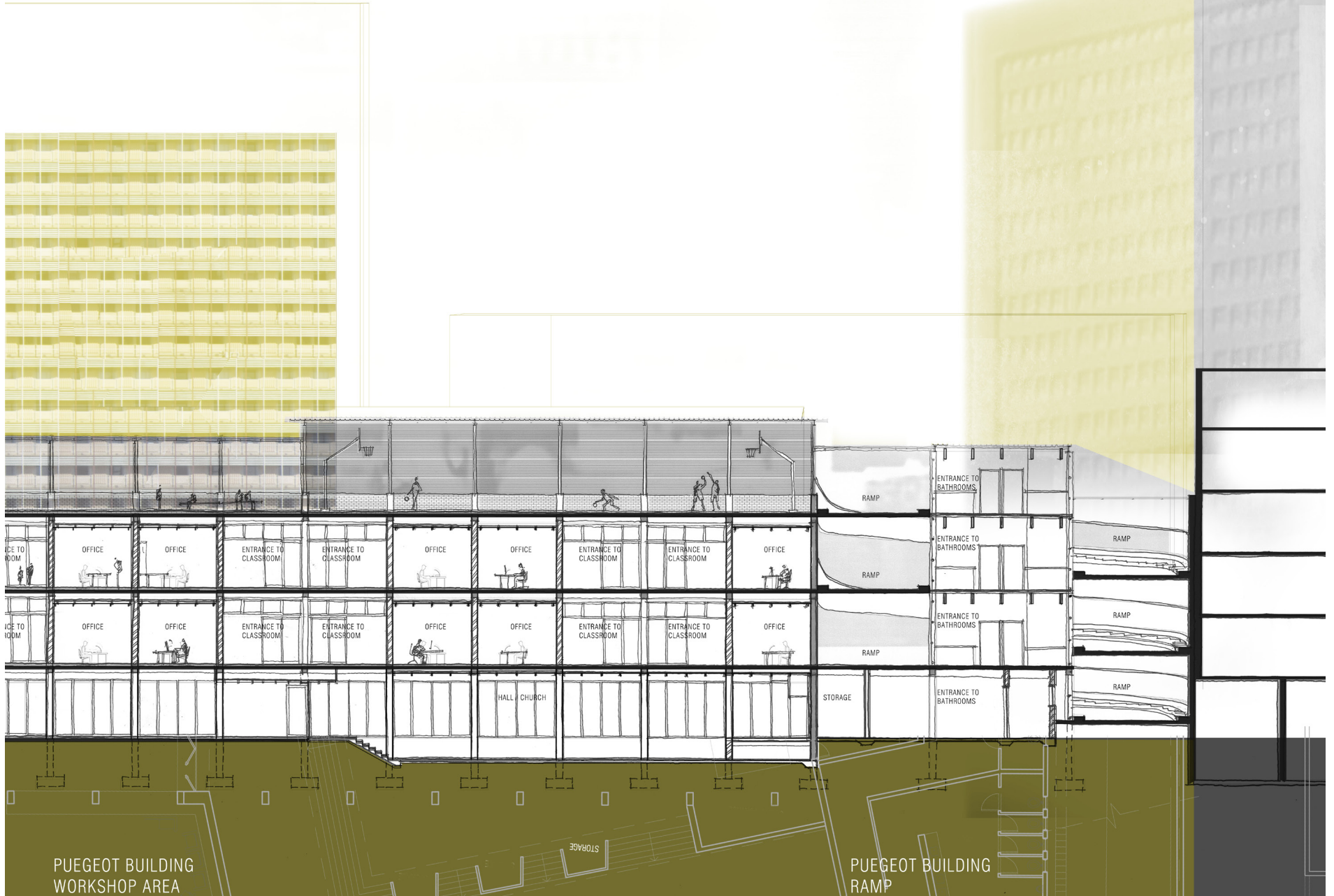
NEIGHBORING INTERVENTION:
NARRATIVE FACTORY



SECTION DD 1:100

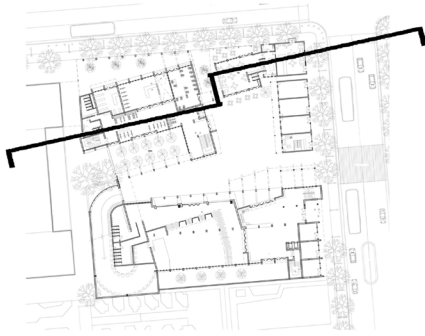
STRUBEN STREET

PUEGEOT BUILDING
ADMIN BLOCK



PUEGEOT BUILDING
WORKSHOP AREA

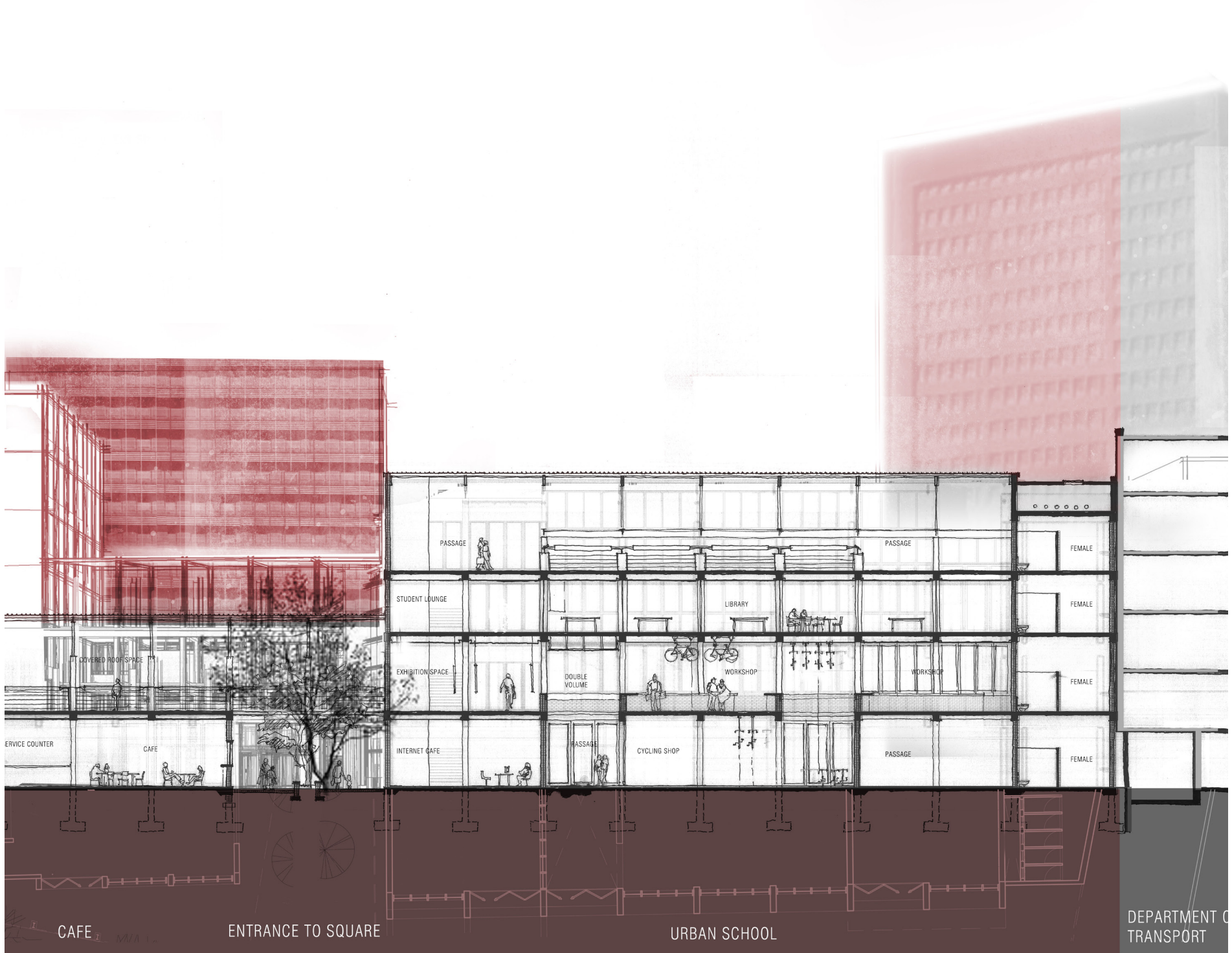
PUEGEOT BUILDING
RAMP



SECTION BB 1:100

PAUL KRUGER STREET

PANAGOS BUILDING

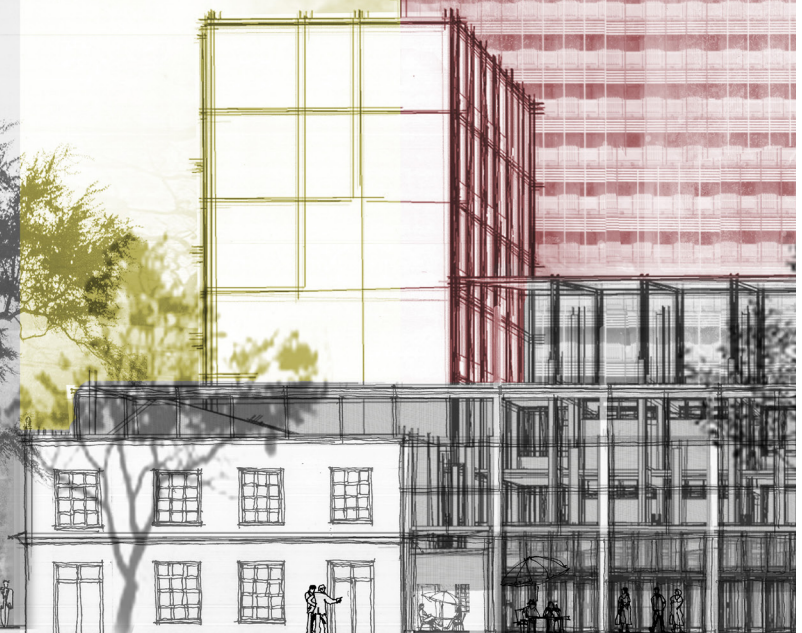


CAFE

ENTRANCE TO SQUARE

URBAN SCHOOL

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT



NORTH ELEVATION 1:100

PAUL KRUGER STREET

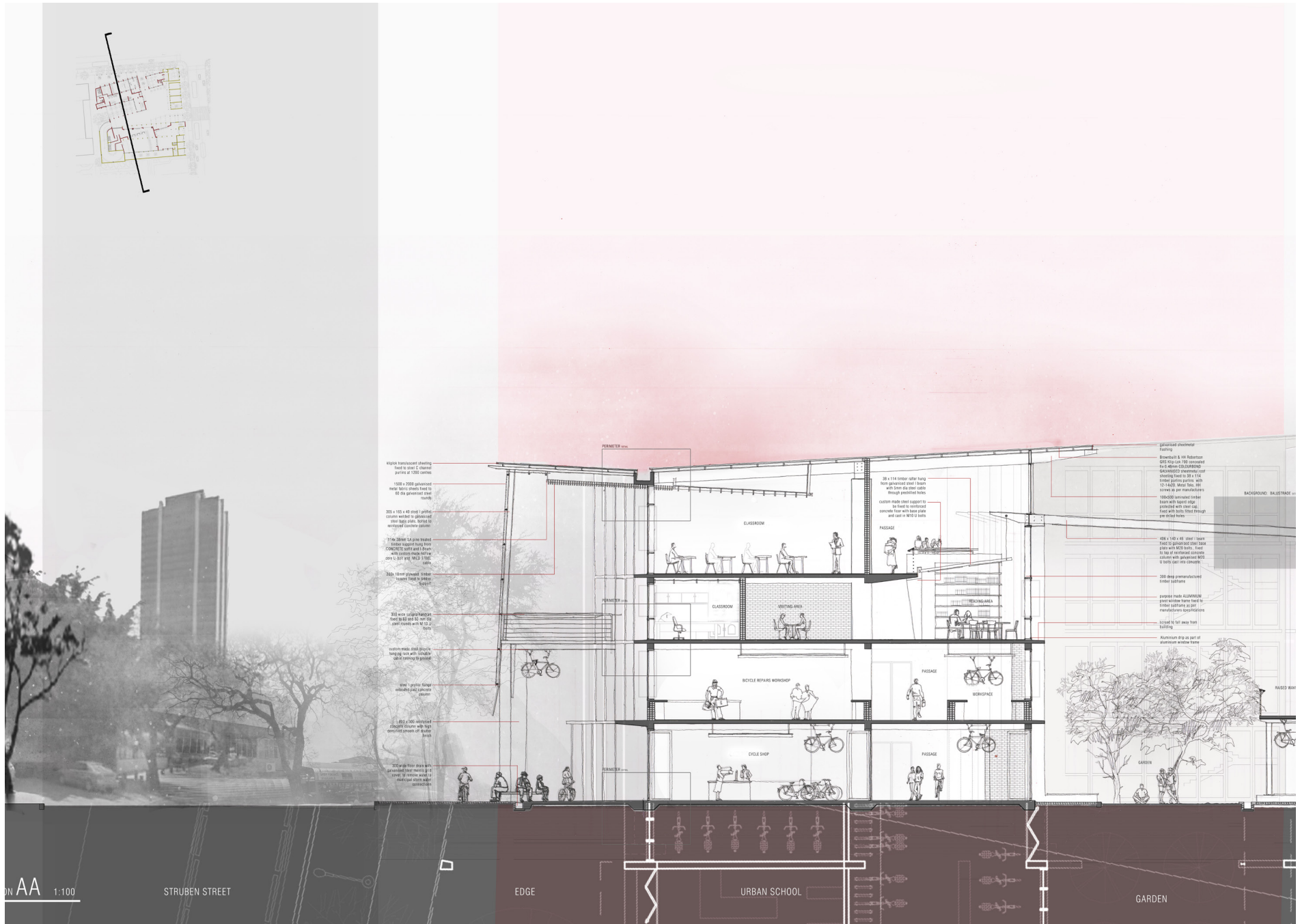
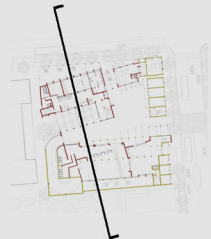
PANAGOS BUILDING

CAFE



URBAN SCHOOL

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT



Kipike handover shelving
 built to suit C. channel
 profile at 100 centres
 1000 x 1000 galvanneal
 metal fabric sheets fast to
 60 50 galvanneal steel
 studs
 305 x 153 x 45 steel L-profile
 custom made to galvanneal
 steel fabric sheet. Spaced to
 support canopy structure
 174x 200mm 14 pin thread
 custom support bars from
 galvanneal steel and coated
 with custom made soft
 coat 1.5mm thick 200 x 100
 cable
 200x 180mm galvanneal
 support
 200mm custom made
 steel DA 80 and 50 on 50
 steel studs with 12.5
 Yarn
 custom made steel pipe to
 support roof with 100mm
 cable capacity to ground
 200mm 14 pin thread
 custom support bars from
 galvanneal steel and coated
 with custom made soft
 coat 1.5mm thick 200 x 100
 cable
 200mm custom made
 steel DA 80 and 50 on 50
 steel studs with 12.5
 Yarn
 custom made steel pipe to
 support roof with 100mm
 cable capacity to ground

38 x 114 timber ceiling baffle
 100 galvanneal steel beam
 with 3mm dia steel cable
 through perforated baffle
 custom made steel support to
 be fixed to reinforced
 concrete frame with 10mm plate
 and cast in place to level

galvanneal aluminum
 cladding
 60mm x 114 Robertson
 600 200 on 100 galvanneal
 14.5 40mm COLOURBOND
 GALVANNEAL structural steel
 channel fixed to 38 x 114
 timber ceiling baffle with
 12 1400 3mm dia 100
 cables to support structure
 100000 galvanneal timber
 beam with 100mm dia
 protected with clear coat
 spray and built free through
 the timber baffle
 BACKGROUND: RAUSTRAND
 1000 x 1000 x 100mm
 fixed to galvanneal steel beam
 with 10mm dia 100 cables
 to top of structural columns
 custom with galvanneal
 U bolts cast in place concrete
 300 deep galvanneal
 timber battens
 custom made ALUMINIUM
 steel window frame fixed to
 timber battens as per
 manufacturers specifications
 100mm dia hot dip zinc
 coating
 Aluminium strip as part
 of structural window frame
 PASSIVE ROOF
 GARDEN

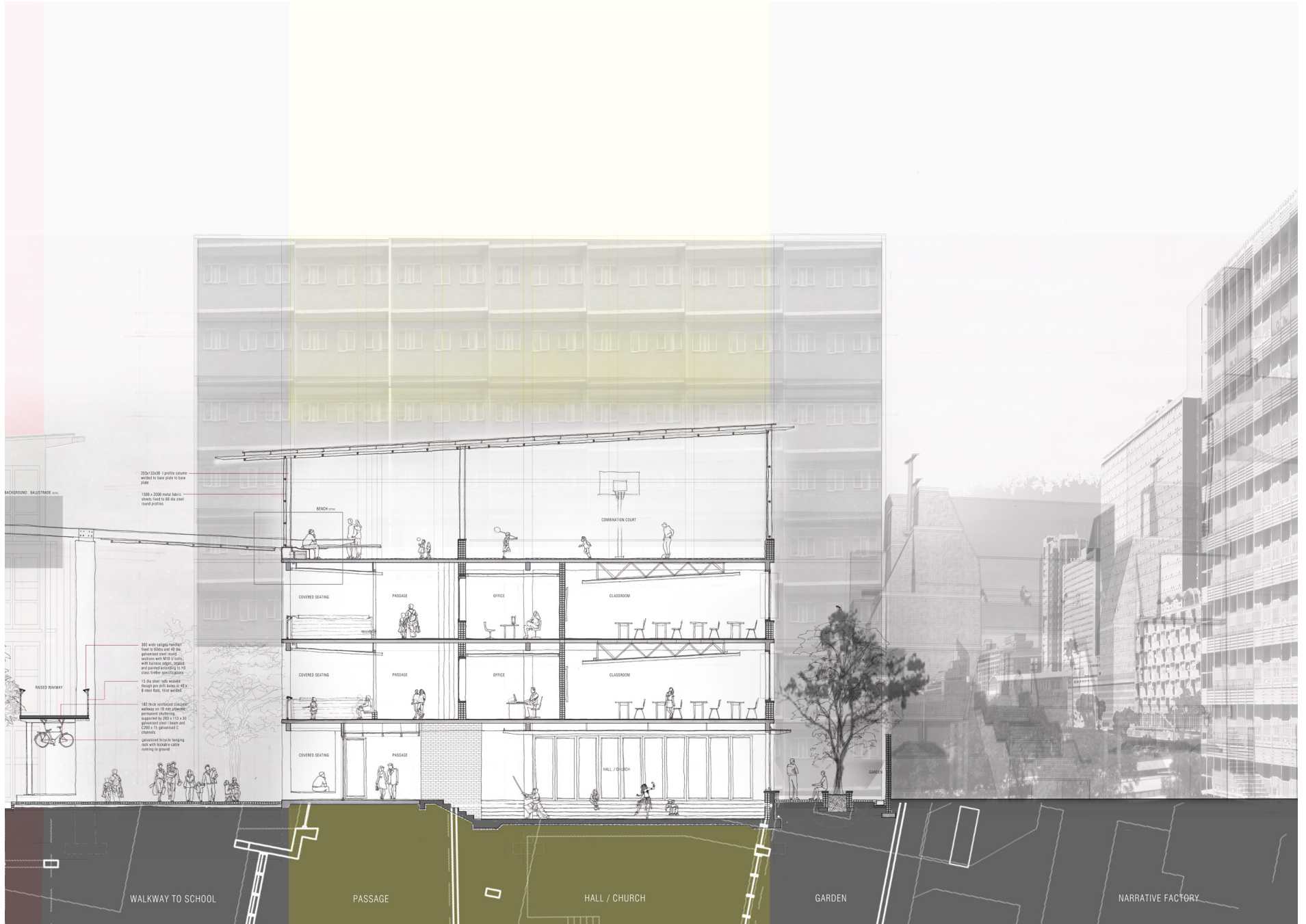
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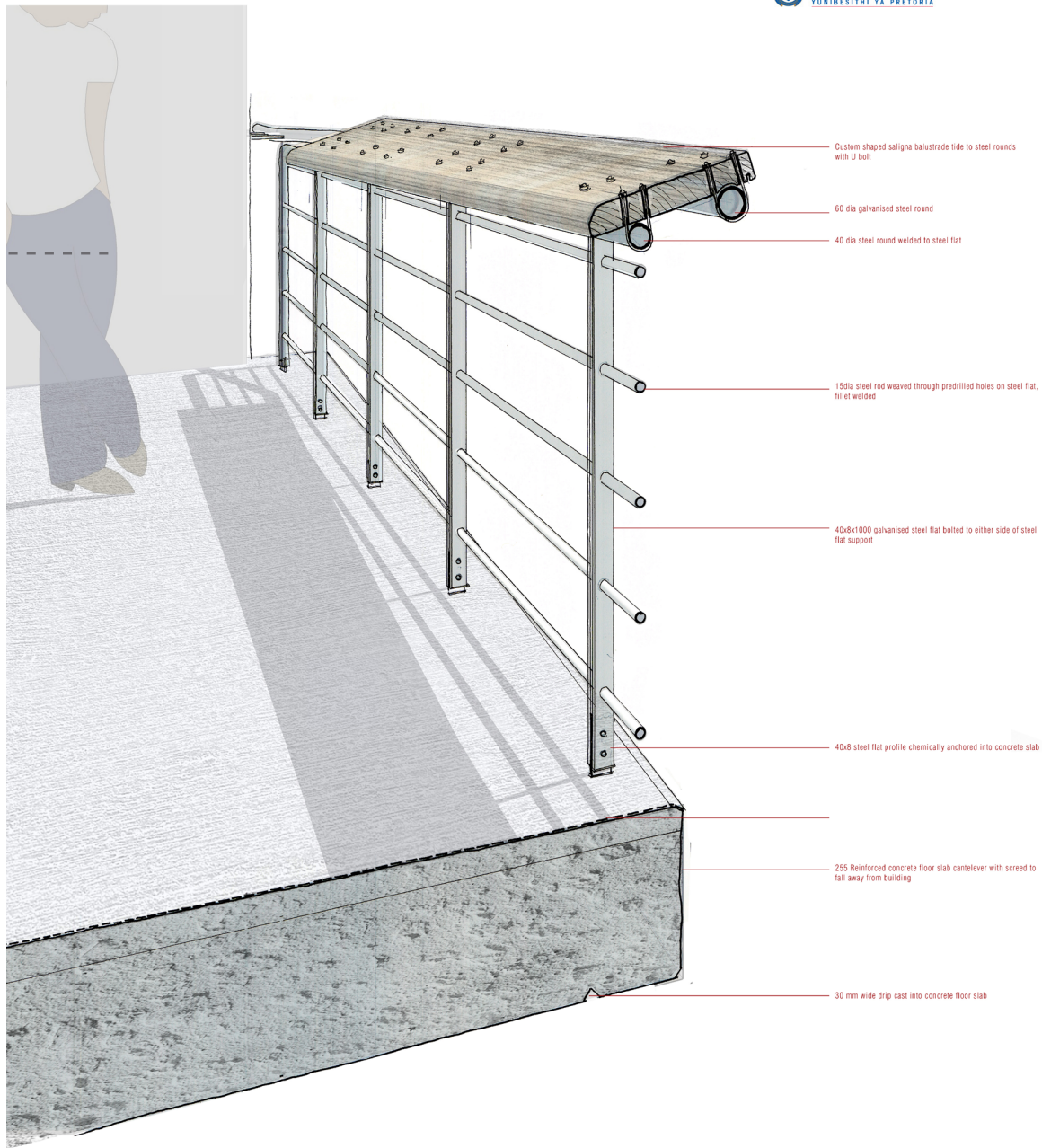
STRUBEN STREET

EDGE

URBAN SCHOOL

GARDEN

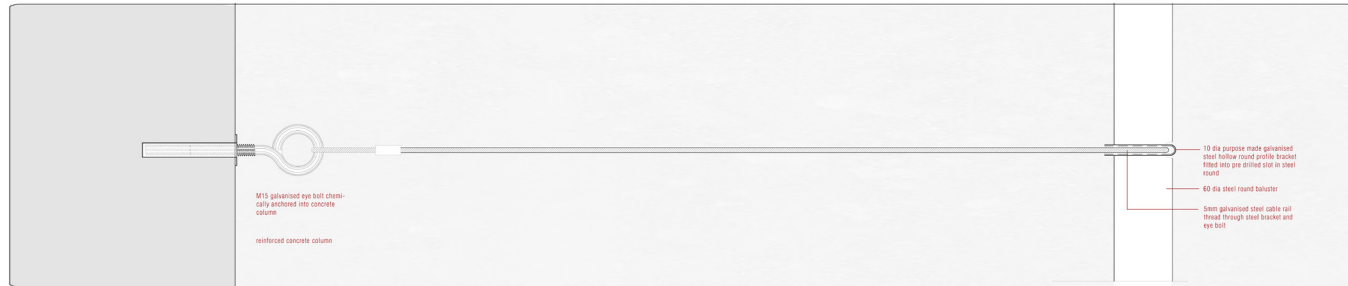




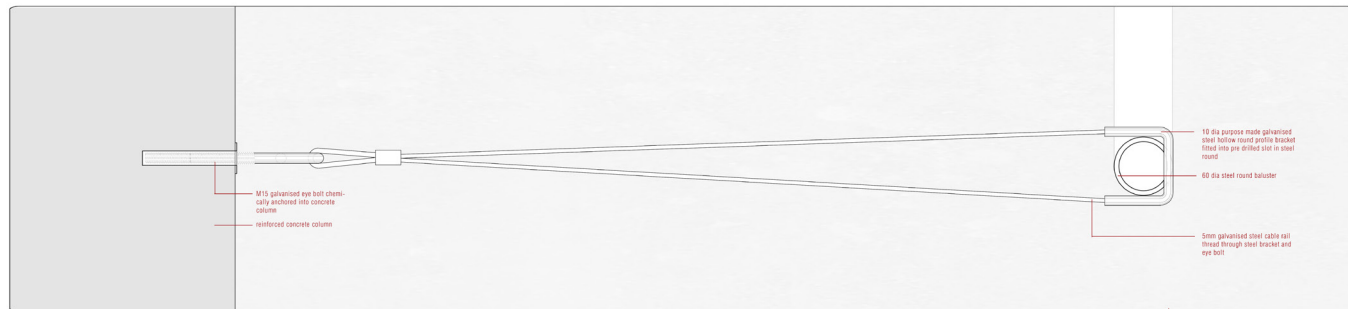
BALUSTRADE

DETAIL NOT TO SCALE

6.9. DETAILS

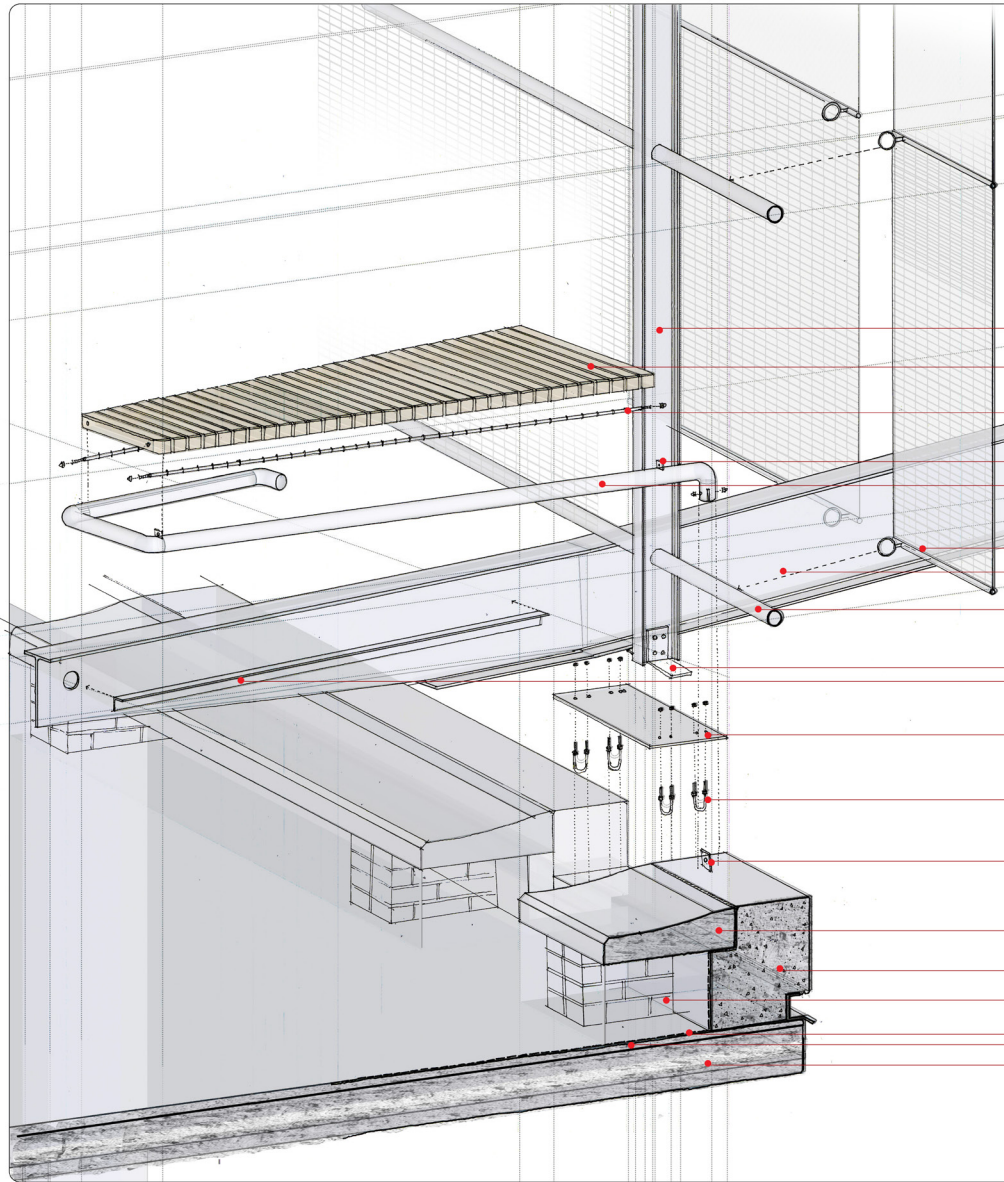


RAILING DETAIL SECTION 1:2



RAILING DETAIL PLAN 1:2

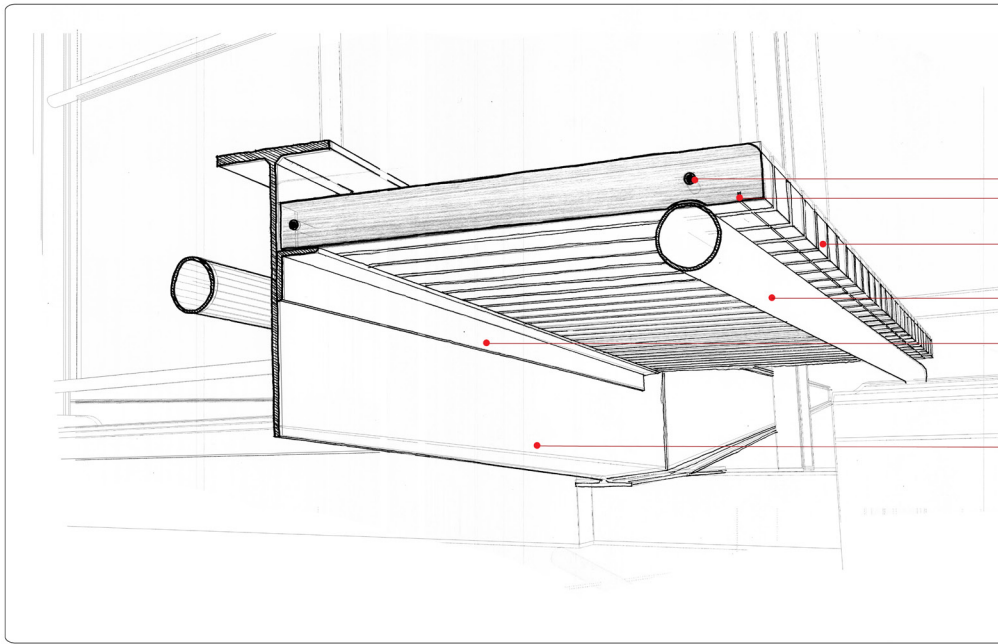
Figure 6.21. Detail 01 Balustrade



- 25x146x43 steel I profile column bolted to steel bracket, welded to galvanised steel base plate
- 50 x 50 saligna timber bench members with bullnose chamfered edge fitted to 15 dia steel rod with 5mm rubber spacers
- 15 dia steel rod with threaded end, bolted to steel flange
- 40x8 steel flat with 15dia predrilled hole, welded to 60dia steel round
- 60 dia steel round welded to western face of I beam, bolted on eastern side to steel flat
- 1500 wide metal fabric sheets fixed to steel round
- 40x140x46 steel I beam welded to base plate, fixed to U bolts cast into reinforced concrete footing
- 60 dia steel round member to support metal fabric screen
- steel flange
- 50x50x5 equal leg angle fillet welded to I beam to support timber bench members
- 10mm thick steel base plate
- M 20 U bolt cast into concrete footing
- 40 steel flat flange cast into concrete footing
- precast concrete bench
- reinforced cast in situ concrete footing
- 220 masonry wall support
- derbigum waterproofing torched onto screed
- 40 concrete screen to fall to existing full bore outlet
- 255 existing reinforced concrete floor slab

BENCH DETAIL NOT TO SCALE

Figure 6.22. Detail 02 Bench



15 dia steel rod with threaded end, bolted to steel flange, fillet welded to steel round section and cast into concrete bench

5mm wide drip sawn into timber prior to fixing

50 x 50 saligna timber bench members with bullnose chamfered edge fitted to 15 dia steel rod with 5mm rubber spacers

60 dia steel round welded to western face of I beam, bolted on eastern side to steel flat

50X50X5 equal leg angle fillet welded to I beam to support timber bench members

406x140X46 steel I profile beam welded to base plate, fixed to U bolts cast into reinforced concrete footing

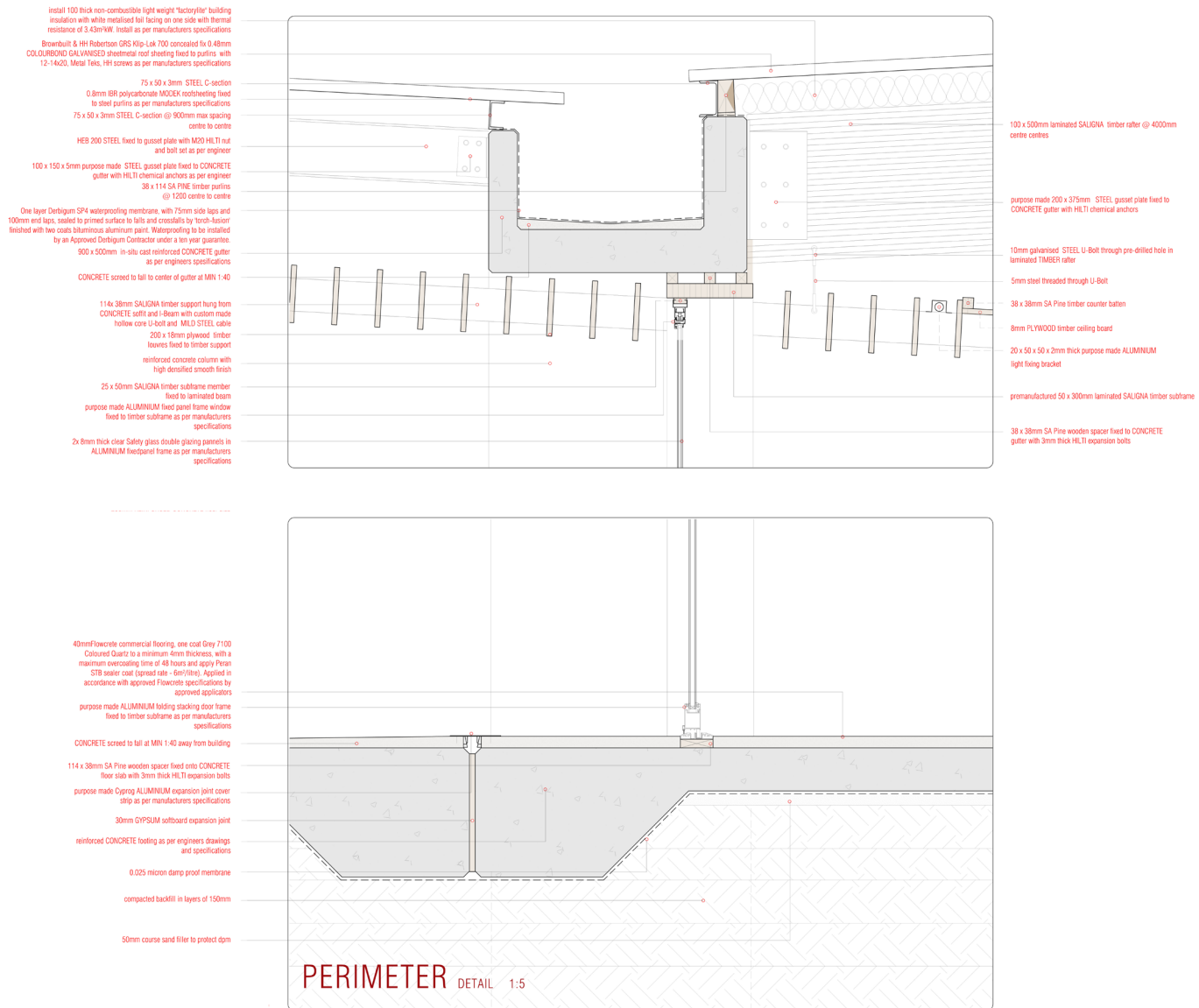
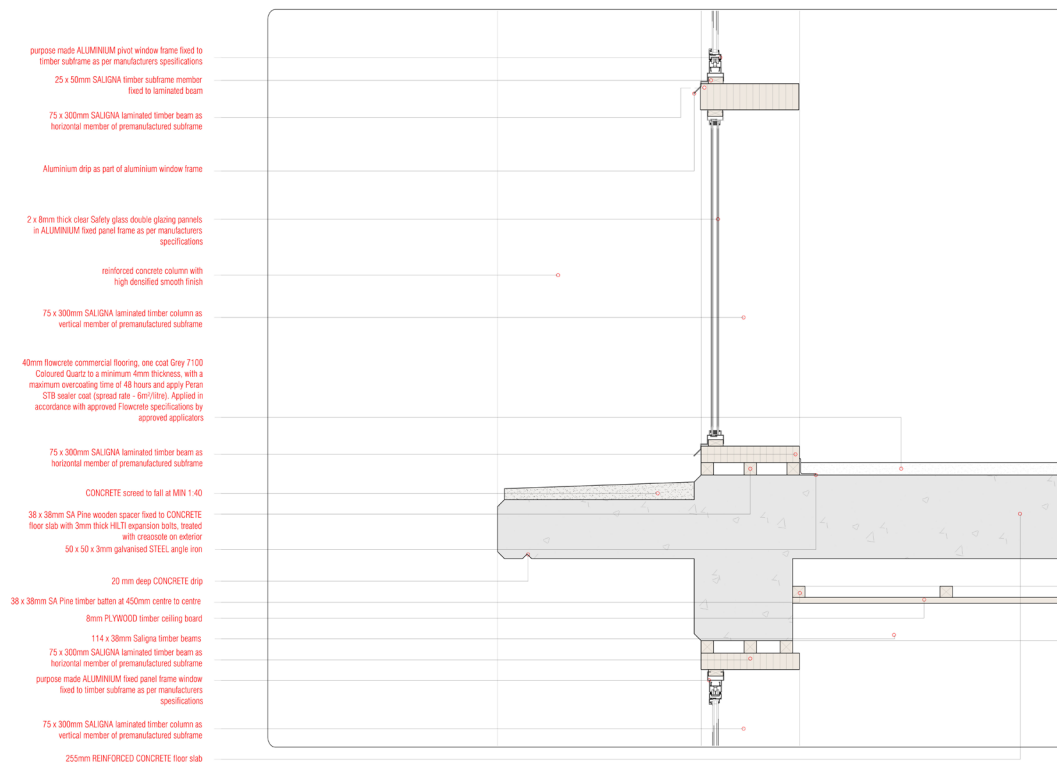


Figure 6.23. Detail 03 Perimeter details



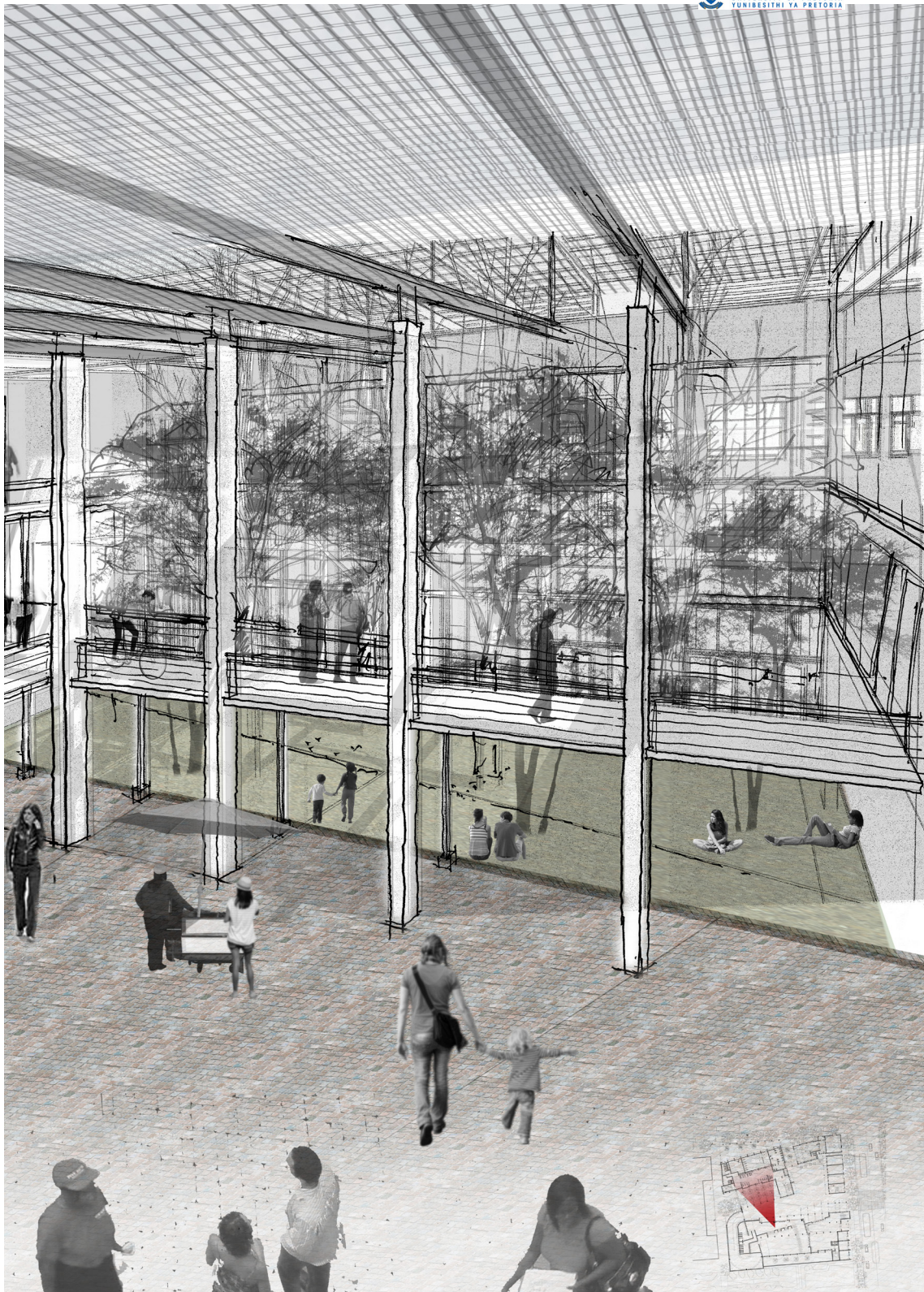


Figure 6.24. 3D View: Garden

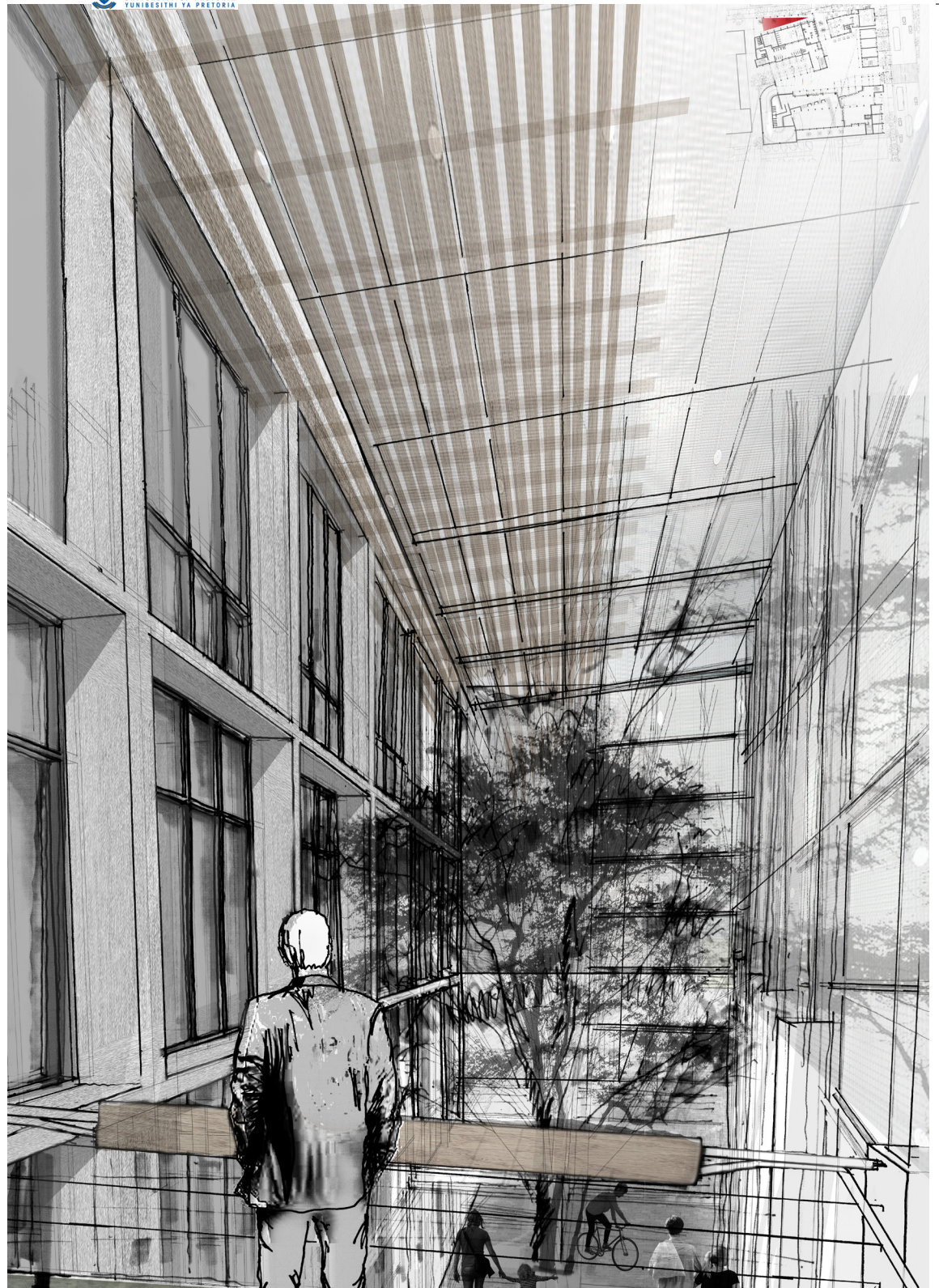


Figure 6.25. 3D View: Northern Edge

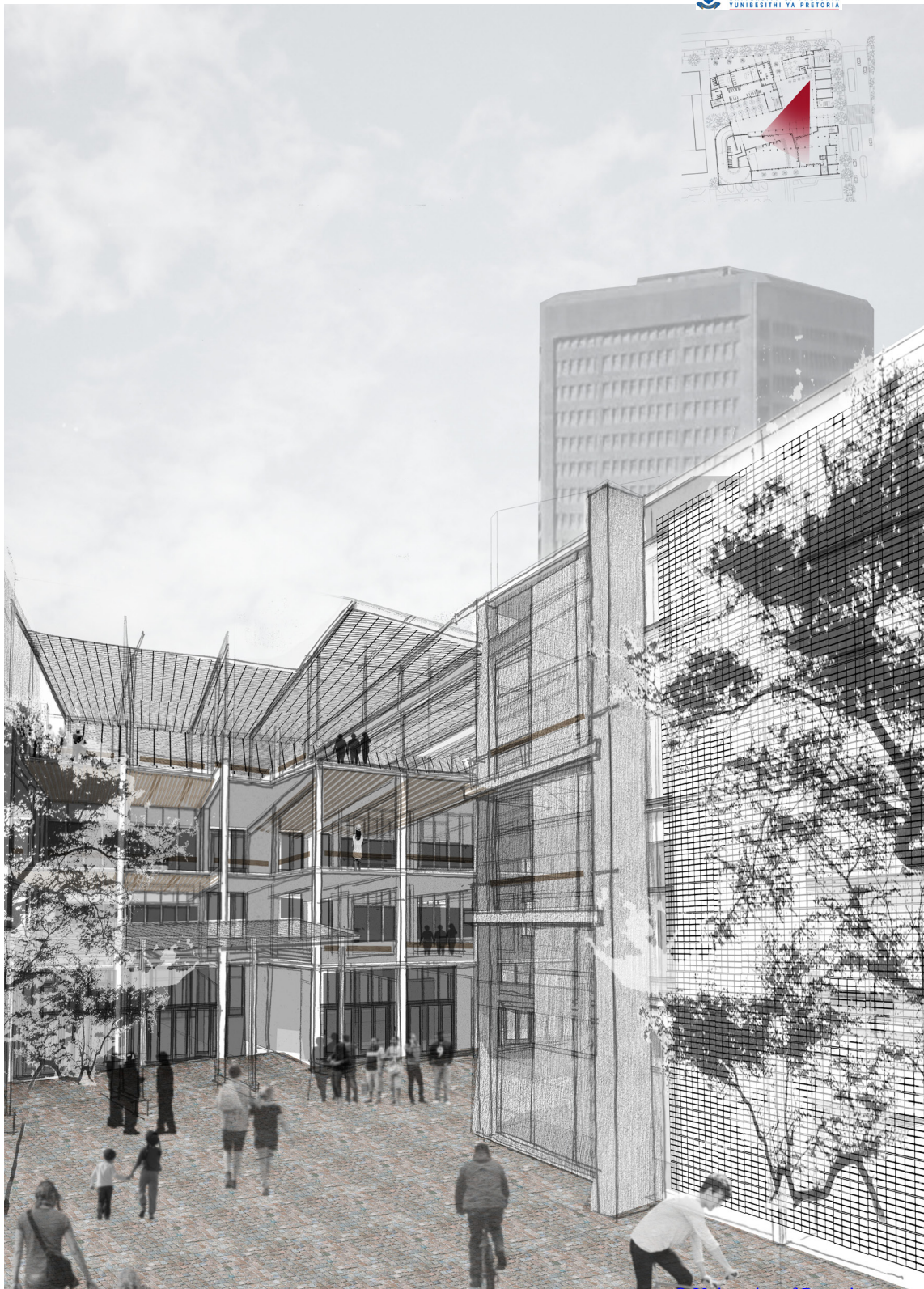


Figure 6.26. 3D View: Public Courtyard looking to existing

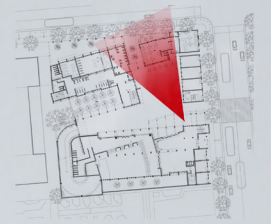
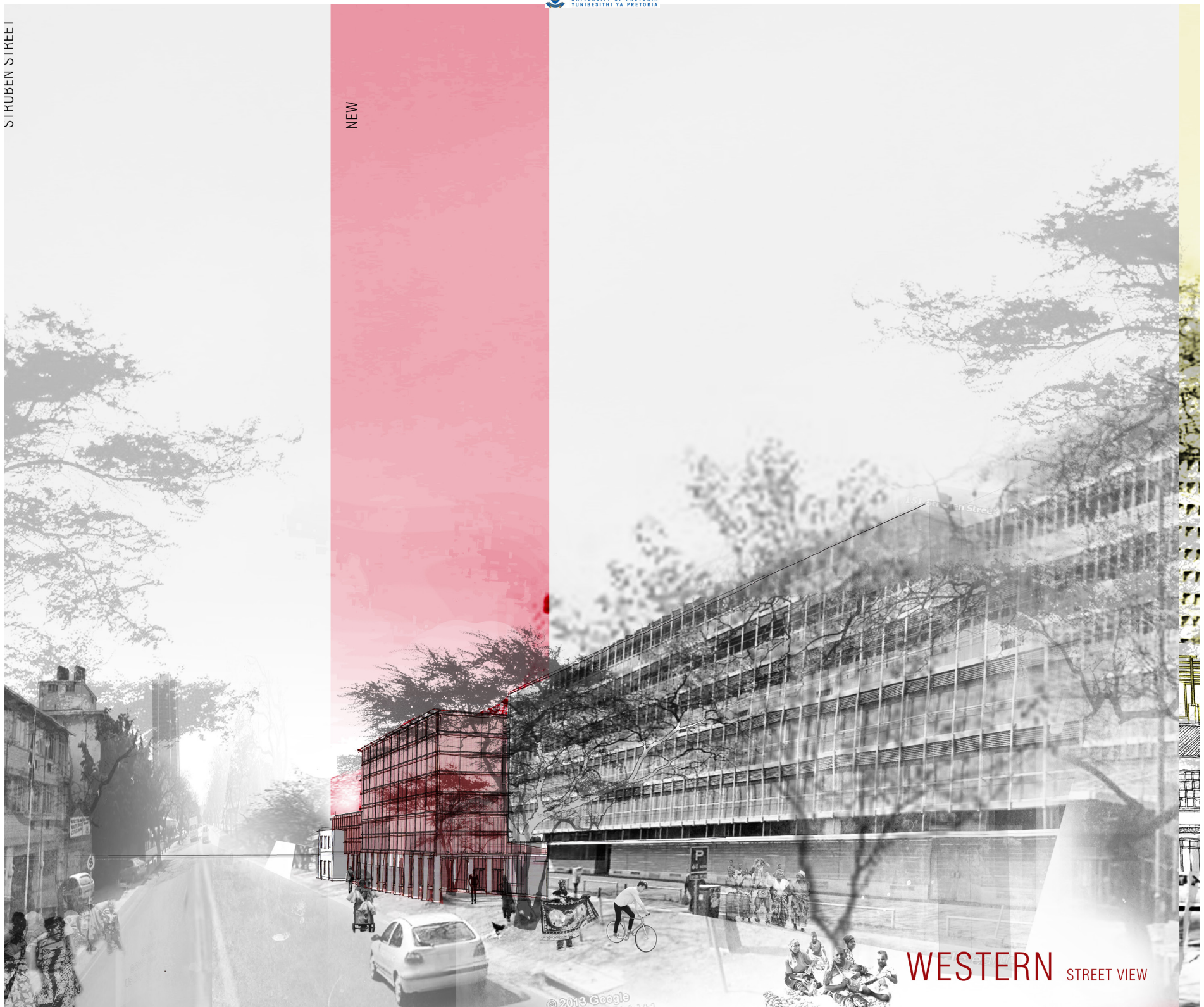


Figure 6.27. 3D View: Public Courtyard looking to cafe

NEW



WESTERN STREET VIEW

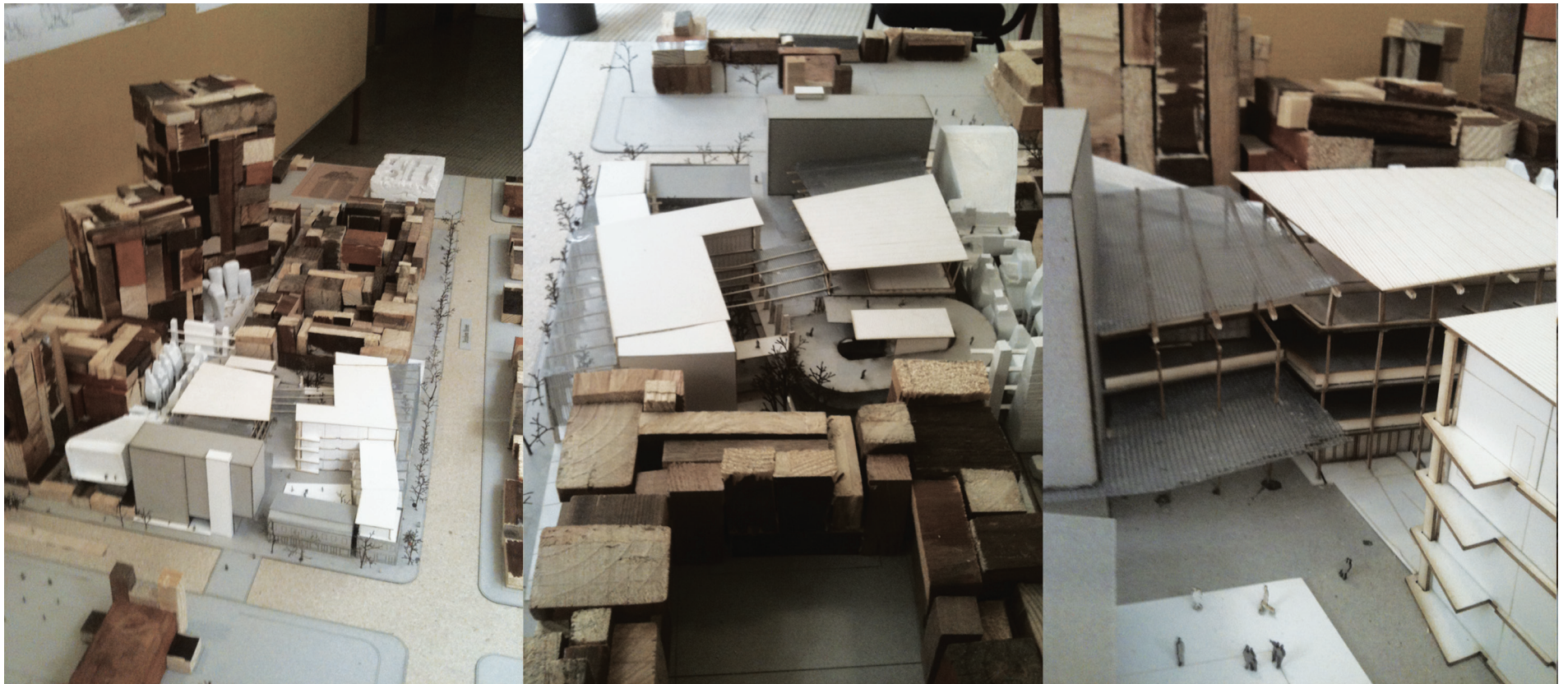
INTERVENTION IN EXISTING

NEW

STRUBEN STREET

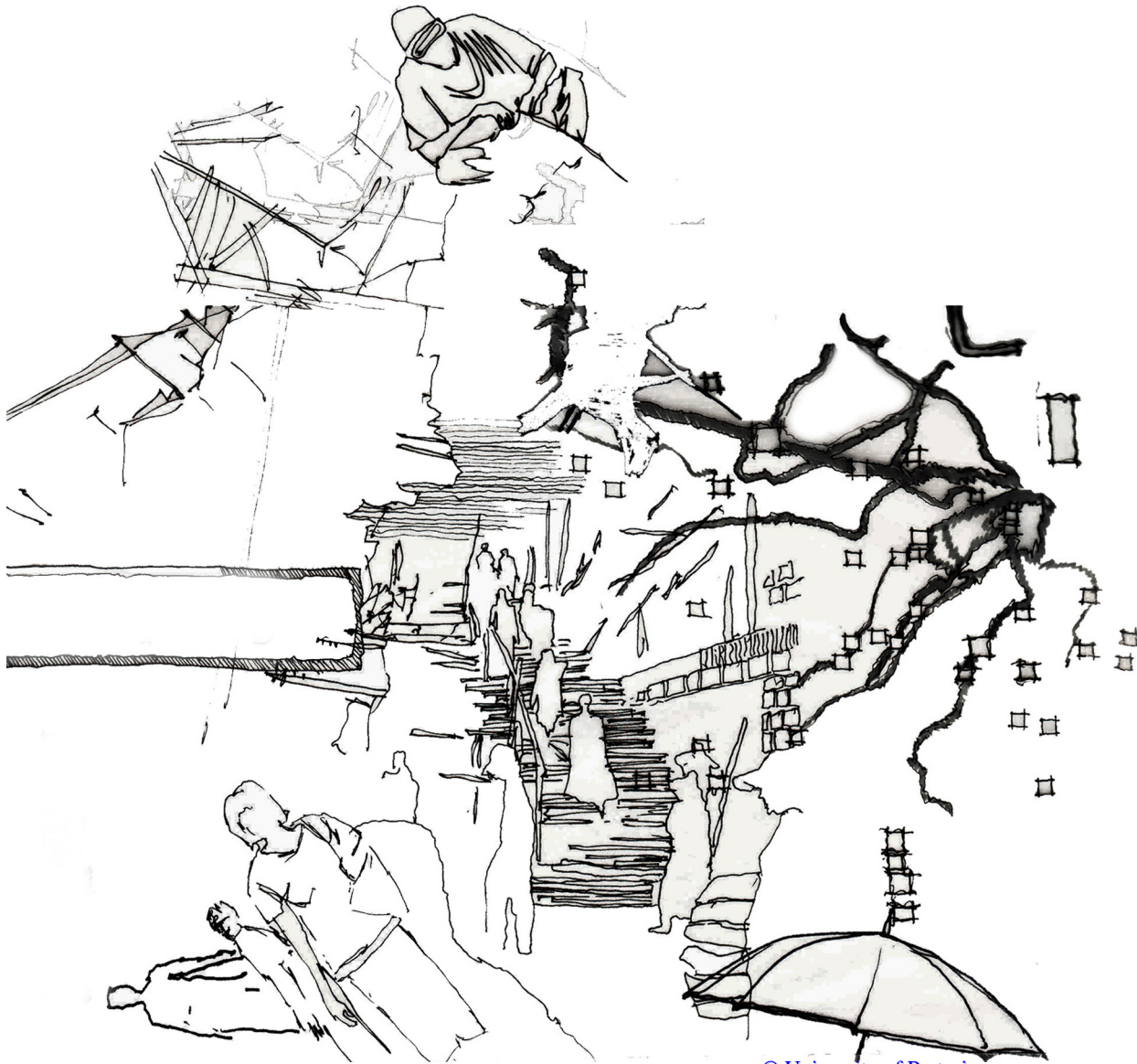


EASTERN STREET VIEW



6.10 MODEL PHOTOS





07 | CONCLUSION

While urban planning aims at creating positive urban environments, the good intentions are rarely carried through in specific interventions. This thesis has shown how an intervention in the Pretoria city centre does not exist alone, but is inserted in a manner which respects and enriches the environment around it. It is intended to serve as an example with the hope that continued development will follow suit.

The City already exists - our responsibility as architects is not to add a multiplicity of structures born from ideals which will never be realised, but to use our urban environment to enrich and inform the architecture which we create.

- BENTLEY, I. 1985. Responsive Environments: a Manual for Designers, Routledge.
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01 | APPENDIX

A Group approach in collaboration with Y. Viljoen,
O. Horzook, S. Steyn, C. Hughes & R. Smit

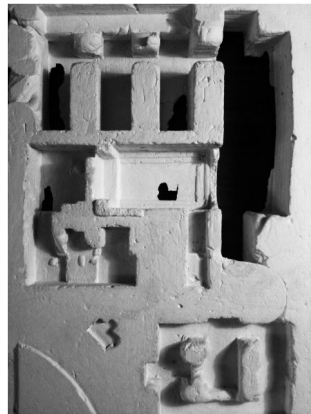
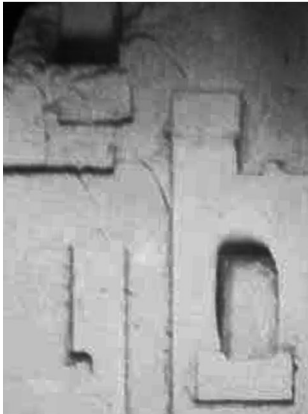
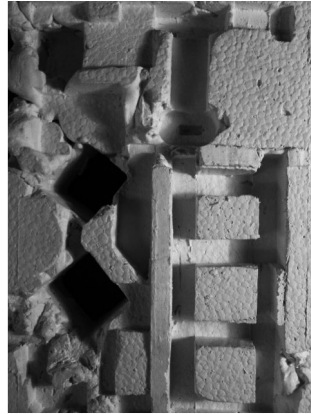


Figure.1.1. Plaster of Paris models of negative space for respective sites

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1.1. INTRODUCTION

The reciprocal relationship between human desires and human artefacts is at the core of the development of urban forms. Our programmes create unique spatial arrangements when our cities distribute and manage dynamic flows of material and inhabitants. These spatial arrangements, in turn, produce novel programmes when practices adapt to complex changes in density and distributions. In cities, the human scale is amplified; here the forms we inhabit are shaped not only by the needs and desires of human bodies but are also subject to the forces of mass culture. Individuals, subcultures, media, and government coagulate to form visions and zeitgeists which give additional, often radical, shape to the city. The ebbs and flows of these forces occasionally dislodge spaces from the programmes for which they were designed or necessitate the deliberate design of empty space. This disconnection has left the city punctuated with “Lost Spaces”.



Figure.1.2. Map of lost space

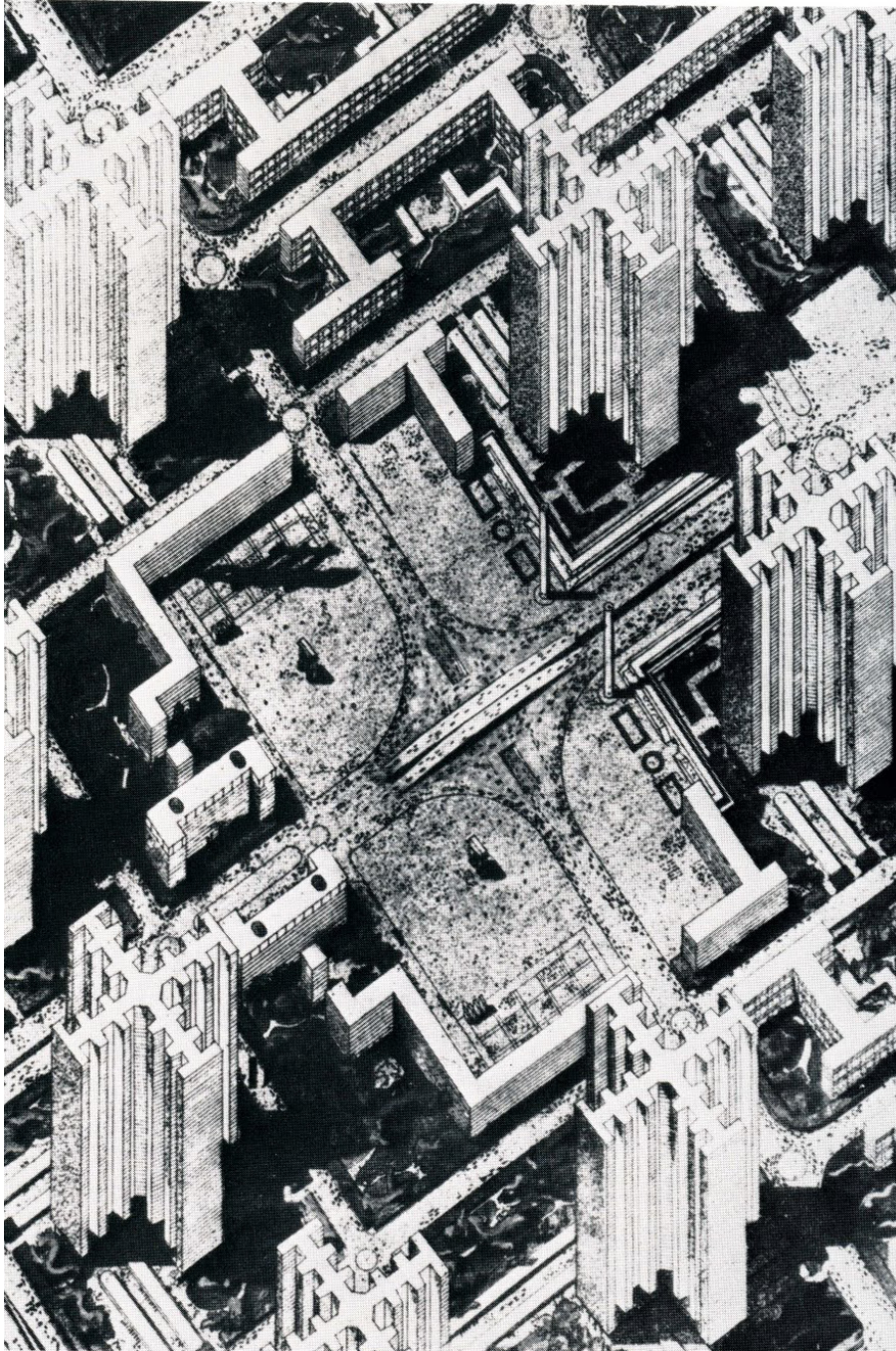
1.2. LOSS IS MORE: LOOSE SPACE

The programmatic vacuum that exists within these lost spaces is precisely where the productive potential for new practices is at its most concentrated. It is, however, necessary to socialise these spaces if they are to become productive (Franck, 2007). Karen Franck and Quentin Stevens calls such productive spaces “loose”. The defining characteristics of loose spaces is that they share programs that do not clearly define the limits of the activities that may be carried out there. They can be squares, wide sidewalks, staircases, building thresholds and abandoned sites. It is in the interest of the profession, and no doubt society in general, for to architects make original programming part of the design process and to take advantage of the productive capacity of ambiguous urban sites. While the history of a lost space and an investigation into its former functions may be useful in directing the generation of new programmes, attempts to refill these spaces with the programs that have abandoned them would be to deny them their creative potential.

1.3. GENERATORS OF LOSS

For the purposes of this investigation, the various causes of lost space are investigated only in order to classify and analyse lost spaces, and not in order to remediate the forces that have created the current urban condition.

These superhuman forces are classified under the general headings of Grand Visions, Automobiles, Suburbanity, and, ultimately,



Fence Fetishism.

1.4. GRAND VISIONS

The use of architecture as flags of brand identity has proliferated the occurrence of object buildings as each brand attempts to stand apart from competitors and detractors. Object buildings often necessitate the design of empty spaces devoid of any purpose other than the provision of adequate viewing distance. Grand schemes of urban planning conspire with object buildings to produce “open space” on an urban scale.

Figure.1.3. Conceptual image of grand visions



1.5. THE AUTOMOBILE

The mechanical model of the city, which rose in popularity dramatically during the first half of the 20th century, (Lynch, 1984, pp360) has placed emphasis on economy and efficiency as the primary principles influencing the management of urban space. The speed at which goods and people could be distributed through the urban fabric became closely associated with progress, while density and congestion were recast as undesirable complications which smother development. The rise of the automobile has meant not only that additional space had to be made for the bulk of metal occupying the urban territory, but also that a perceptual distance between the occupants of vehicles and the spaces outside has been created.

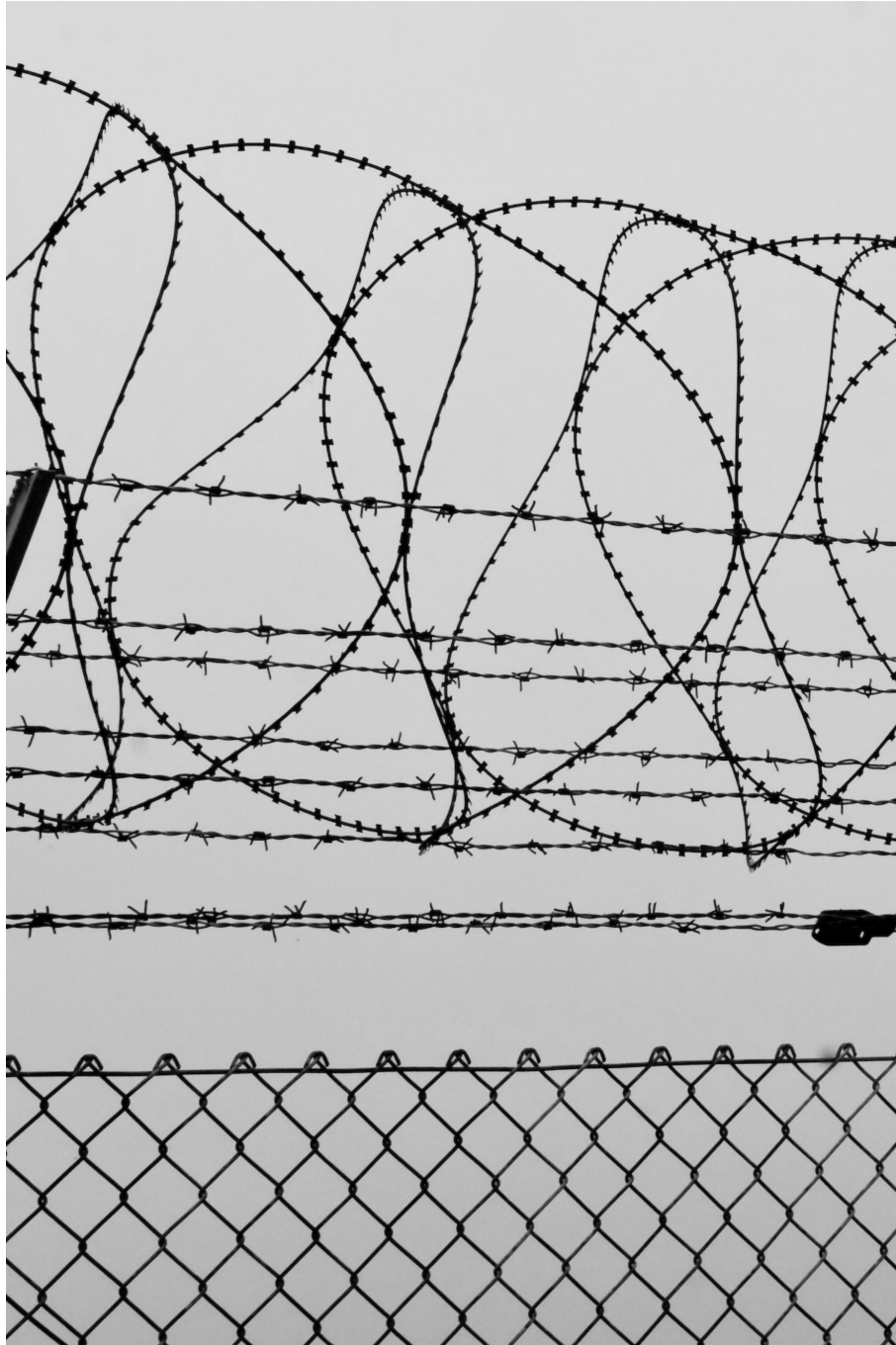
Figure.1.4. The effect of the Automobile



1.6. SUB-URBANITY

The rise of the automobile has enabled cities to grow well beyond the scale of animal and human based transport. The tendency of peripheral urban land to be more affordable than central sites has encouraged horizontal growth and a loss of density. This spread has also led to the development of many compact new centres, to which formerly urban programs flow - abandoning traditional city centres in favour of highly adaptable, and often predictable, shopping malls.

Figure.1.5. The effect of sub-urbanity



1.7. FENCE FETISHISM:

The uncertainty engendered by loose space carries an element of danger. This is confirmed by Karen Franck when she writes that it is “[p]recisely because the activities occurring in loose space are varied and unpredictable, [that] there is always a degree of uncertainty which, in and of itself, may be seen by some as a substantial risk.” The aversion to vagarious activities has led to the widespread erection of fences and the closing of auxiliary entrances (and even primary thresholds) to public buildings in the city. The logic seems to be that relatively predictable lost space is more palatable than loose space, and, since “social ills” occur only in inhabited spaces, removing people from spaces will make potential sites of danger benign. This cauterization and segmentation of urban space has become one of the most significant current engines driving the production of lost space.

Figure.1.6. *The effect of fence fetishism*



Figure. 1.7. The Kraal

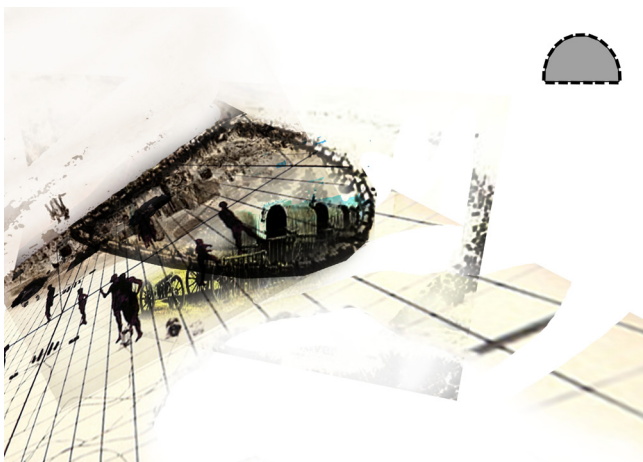


Figure. 1.8. The laager

1.8. GENEALOGY OF FENCES

A brief history of the fence in South Africa will be useful in setting the context and establishing the totemic significance that have made them so commonplace. The genealogy will trace the evolution of fences in South Africa from the kraal to the city grid.

1.9. THE KRAAL

In precolonial African settlements, the kraal was an enclosure for livestock which consisted of a circular boundary of mud wall or reed-palisade fence construction. The term originates from Dutch or Afrikaans and since early colonisation it loosely refers to the settlement as a whole, including the traditional huts that circumscribe the animal stockade (McCall: 1984: XX). The kraal offers nocturnal security for the livestock, whilst the settlement as a whole provides the infrastructure for a social unit where the chieftain is located on the end opposite to the singular entrance and is adjacent to a reception hut for visitors and meetings (Kidd; 1984: 41).

1.10. THE LAAGER

In the mid-1800s 'South Africa' was mostly a territorial expression, made up of various independent political states devoid of any real unity (New History. 2010). It was within this context that the laager originated – essentially a military camp made up of a ring of 50 or more pioneer wagons (New History. 2010). The wagons were both a means of transport and shelter as well as part of a collective fortress when grouped together in a circular formation and reinforced with additions of thorn bushes and sticks. The

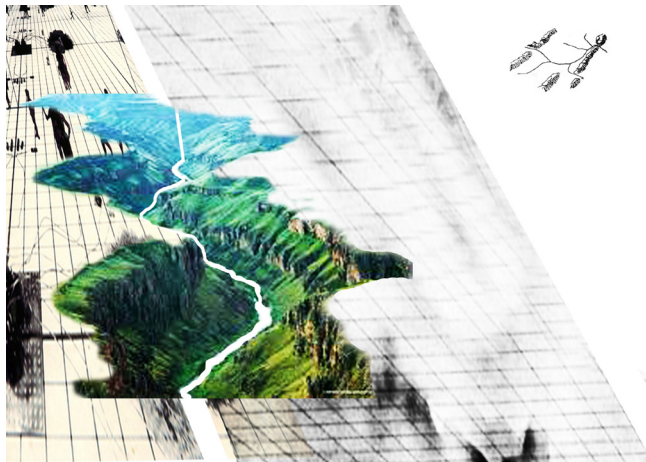


Figure.1.9. The landscape



Figure.1.10. Land Parcels

laager was possibly adapted from the African kraal as a circular settlement with the hut and thorn bushes as the defensive barrier (Van Rensburg. 2009). Like mobile huts which formed a communal kraal for the defence of people and animals in the centre.

1.11. THE LANDSCAPE - PRETORIA

The Pretoria city form is a direct result of the landscape in which it is situated (Visit Pretoria. Online). The natural boundaries that defined the original city centre included the Apies river on the Eastern edge, Redoubt and Gezina Hills on the north, Magazine and Timeball Hills south and Steenhoven Spruit west. (Jordaan. 1989: 26).

1.12. LAND PARCELS - FARMS

The landscape over which Pretoria has been constructed, was previously the territory of Ndebele tribes who were forced to flee with the arrival of the Voortrekkers in 1836 (SAHO; online). The first permanent occupation of the area occurred with the setting out of the Elandspoort farm by the Bronkhors brothers in 1842. Over the next decade various other farms were established resulting in a division of the land as individual claims to portions were staked out by the early settlers (Honiball; 67-67). Thus the Pretoria valley was gradually divided along agrarian boundaries (Alkayyali; 16-17). These farm boundaries remain evident in the layout of the city suburbs for example Waterkloof farm and Irene farm.

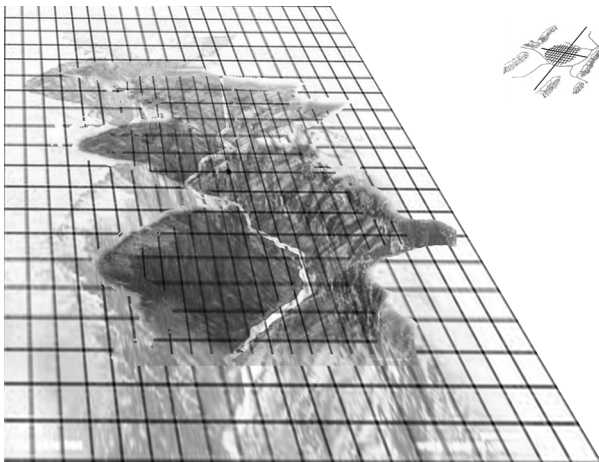


Figure.1.11. The city grid



Figure.1.12. Stratified rainbow

1.13. THE CITY GRID

By 1853 a community had formed around the religious congregational needs of the many farmers in the area, and in November of that year the Elandspoort and Daspoort farms were declared a town. In 1856 the town of Pretoria was pegged out by Andries Du Toit as an imposed grid following the traditional roman Cardo-Decumanus layout (Alkayyali; 16-17). This grid divided the area into ever smaller territories now defined by a grid of roads and property boundaries. Pretoria was granted official city status in 1931. (SAHO; online).

1.14. STRATIFIED RAINBOW

During the 1990s the perception of safety and trust in the government's ability to provide security waned. This perception, combined with the high incidence of crime, conspired to enact the privatization of security services and the formalization of segregation in spatial rather than legislative terms. (Mellin. 2011)

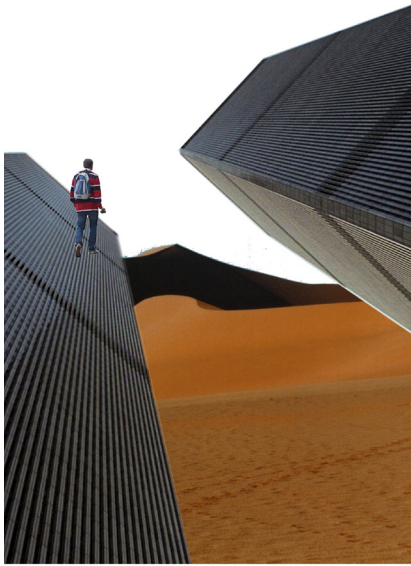


Figure.1.13. Scale as fence



Figure.1.14. Use as fence



Figure.1.15. Hostility as fence



Figure.1.16. Level as fence

1.15. VARIOUS MANIFESTATIONS OF THE FENCE

Etymologically the concept of the fence is related to defence, fencible and fend (as in “to fend for oneself” - to be independent) and essentially represents a manner of separating and claiming space. A fetish is defined as “an inanimate object worshipped for its supposed magical powers or because it is considered to be inhabited by a spirit” (OED. 2010). With fences, these “magical powers” or “spirits” revolve around security, containment, ownership, privacy and control. There are, however, various ways in which buildings, symbols and activities claim space and control access. They vary in subtlety - from degrees of deterring occupation perceptually, to straightforward obstacles.

1.16. SCALE AS FENCE

The difference between the human body and the size of a surface or volume influences the desire for proximity. The larger the deviation from the human scale, the more likely it is to appear repellent to a person on the street.

1.17. HOSTILITY AS FENCE

Spaces that do not conform to conventions of comfort or that do not have attributes that are considered inviting may act as perceptual fences by discouraging occupation and movement.

1.18. USE AS FENCE

When sites are defined by particular uses, the ingress of other uses is, to some



degree, restricted. The memory of former uses and events can also create impressions that continue to define territories. Abandonment and the ensuing lack of use can also discourage occupation.

1.19. SIGNAGE AS FENCE

Language and imagery serve to demarcate the boundaries of a territory. They indicate permitted or forbidden practices with a limited material dimension.

1.20. LEVEL AS FENCE

Raised surfaces act as fences when they make spaces physically inaccessible. Staircases, ramps, elevators or escalators act as “gates” in these “fences”.

1.21. FENCE AS FENCE

Material fences, which have ability to control access without obscuring vision, have become the ubiquitous manifestations of the desire for security and control.

1.22. APPROACHES

Selected sites are treated as laboratories for the diachronic analysis and manipulation of the existing “fence” types. In doing so, a selection of spatial forces can be used as informants for the exploration of various site-specific interventions.

Figure.1.17. Laboratories for diachronic analysis and manipulation

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