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PROFILE

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Profile

The design approach of Serge Schoemaker Architects is informed by a fascination for aesthetics, construction and craftsmanship. Through the process of building physical models, we explore the architectural potential of space, structures and materials. Our work reflects an honest expression of construction; materialization and detailing are inseparable from the architectural concept and sensorial experience. By utilizing space, proportion, light, and material we aim to give our architecture a basic intrinsic quality.

Through a process-based way of working that is both hands-on and research-driven, we strive for exceptional, custom-made solutions. We seek spatial and structural outcomes that reference their surroundings through form or craftsmanship. Thereby, the architecture can become a natural, sustainable fit for its surroundings and tell the story of a place in a new light. This contextual approach proves to be suitable for both sensitive environments and monumental sites.

The practice works on projects ranging from small interiors and installations to buildings in the public domain and private sector. Projects span conservation work to conversions and new interventions. We advise clients from initial concept – via feasibility studies and design sketches – to final completion. Special attention is given to the realization phase: through in-house project management during the construction process, we can ensure that the design will be executed with the quality that we envisioned.



Team: Serge Schoemaker, Ilaria Saggese, Axelle Paverio, Max Hart Nibbrig, Alexander Beeloo, Sanne Knoll (FLTR)

Right: Studio of Serge Schoemaker Architects
(Photo by MWA Hart Nibbrig)

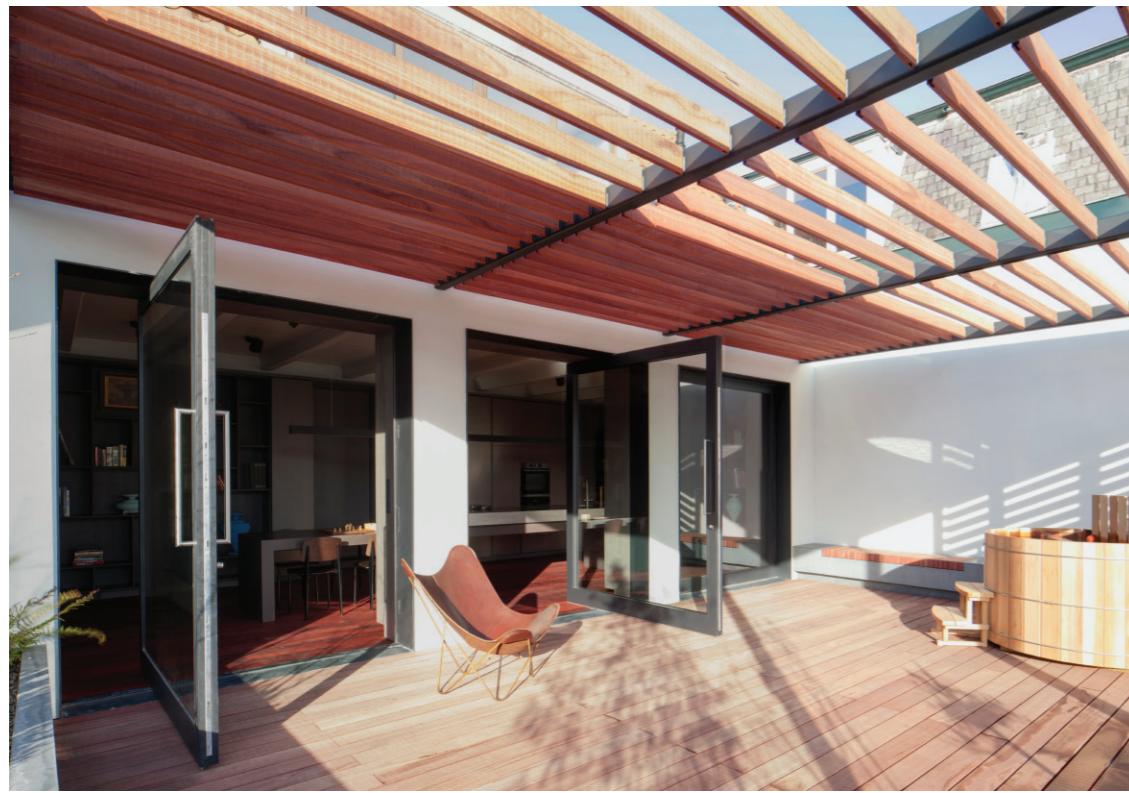
Next pages: Haarlem Primary School; Woerden Terrace Apartment; Bussum Garden Studio
(Photos by MWA Hart Nibbrig/ Raoul Kramer)



PROFILE



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BIOGRAPHY

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Biography

Serge Schoemaker (born 1975 in Amsterdam) studied architecture at the Delft University of Technology in the Netherlands and the Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich, Switzerland. In 2001 his graduation project was awarded the Archiprix International, the international award for the best graduation projects in architecture, urban design and landscape architecture.

He worked for the Zurich based office Harder & Spreyermann Architekten on several prize winning competition entries from 2000 to 2002. Between 2002 and 2007, Serge Schoemaker worked at the practice of renowned Swiss architect and Pritzker Prize-winner Peter Zumthor, where he was project architect of the highly acclaimed Kolumba Art Museum in Cologne. After completion of the museum, he successfully established Serge Schoemaker Architects in Amsterdam in 2008.

Besides running his own practice, Serge Schoemaker is a visiting lecturer at the Delft University of Technology, the Rotterdam Academy of Architecture and the Academy of Architecture, Amsterdam.



Serge Schoemaker

Right: Studio of Serge Schoemaker Architects
(Photo by MWA Hart Nibbrig)

Next pages: Kolumba Art Museum, Cologne
(Photos by Hélène Binet)



BIOGRAPHY



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Hoofddorp Fort Island

HOOFDDORP FORT ISLAND

PUBLIC

Hoofddorp Fort Island

Our Hoofddorp Fort Island design transforms the 8'100 square metre world heritage site into a public park, encompassing among others a restaurant, a small open air theater and a wild garden. It envisions a restoration of both the fort island and building, saving the monument from further decline.

The fort island is part of the Defence Line of Amsterdam, which extends 135 kilometres around the city of Amsterdam. Built between 1880 and 1920, the Defence Line consists of a unique system of inundation areas and forts. It was inscribed into the UNESCO World Heritage List in 1996. The fort in Hoofddorp is unique due to its central location in the heart of the town. Furthermore it is one of only two forts within the Defence Line of Amsterdam that are two storeys high.

Offering picturesque views over the surroundings, the green fort island will become an appealing public park. A new path will guide visitors from the bus stop to the highest point of the island. Contemporary elements will be added to the landscape in order to enhance its attractivity, such as information poles, a new entrance gate, a connection bridge, a jetty as well as a small open air theater.

During previous renovations, some of the massive internal partition walls of the second floor were demolished. We used this historically incorrect situation to design a restaurant interior that references the original fort structure but benefits from the spaciousness of the current layout: dark wooden tables will be suspended from the lowest points of the solid in-situ concrete ceilings where the partition walls once stood, emphasizing the solidness of the concave ceiling in a functional way.



CLIENT
Stichting Fort van Hoofddorp

GROSS FLOOR AREA
2200 m²

LOCATION
Hoofddorp, Netherlands

YEAR
2012-2018

PROGRAM
Public

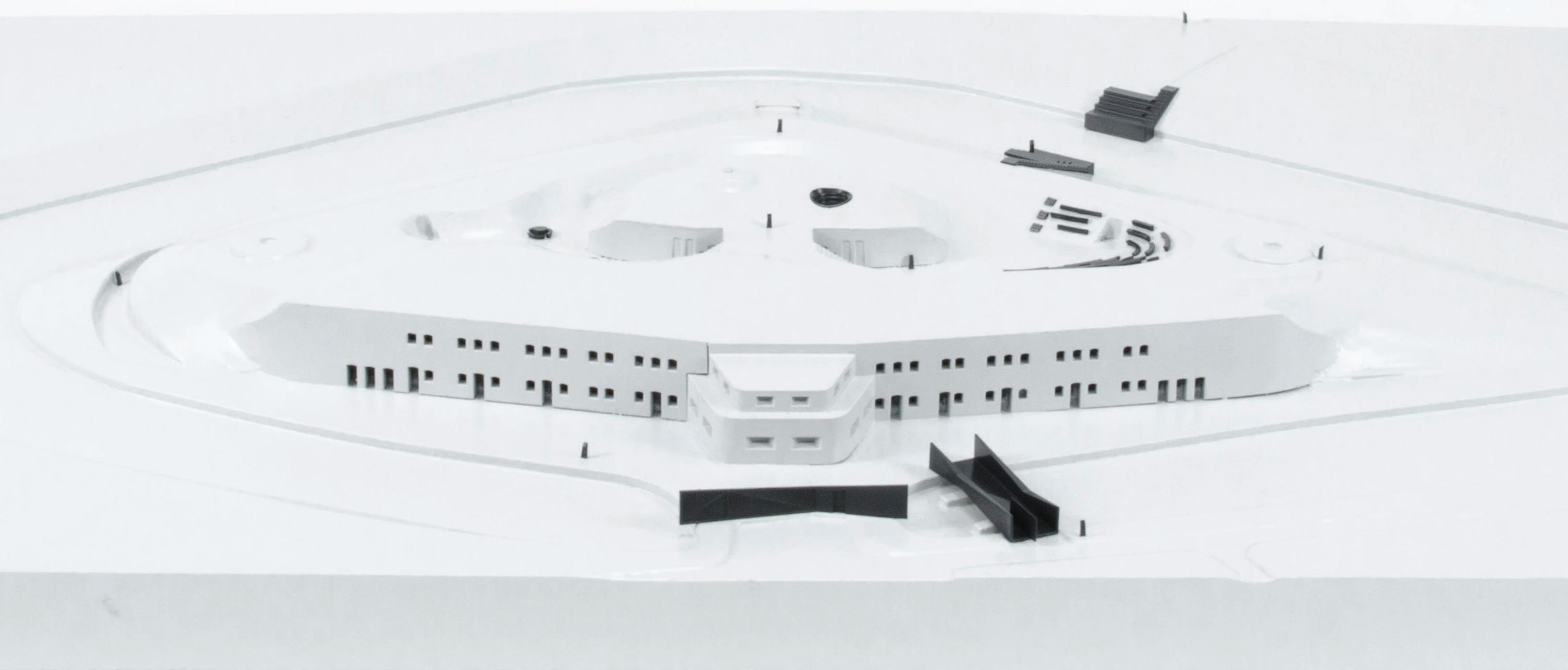
TEAM
Serge Schoemaker, Max Hart
Nibbrig, Alexander Beeloo,
Arun Bourdon, Anthony Dann,
Yunqiao Du, Dik Houben,
Roxana Vakil Mozafari

PHOTOGRAPHY
MWA Hart Nibbrig

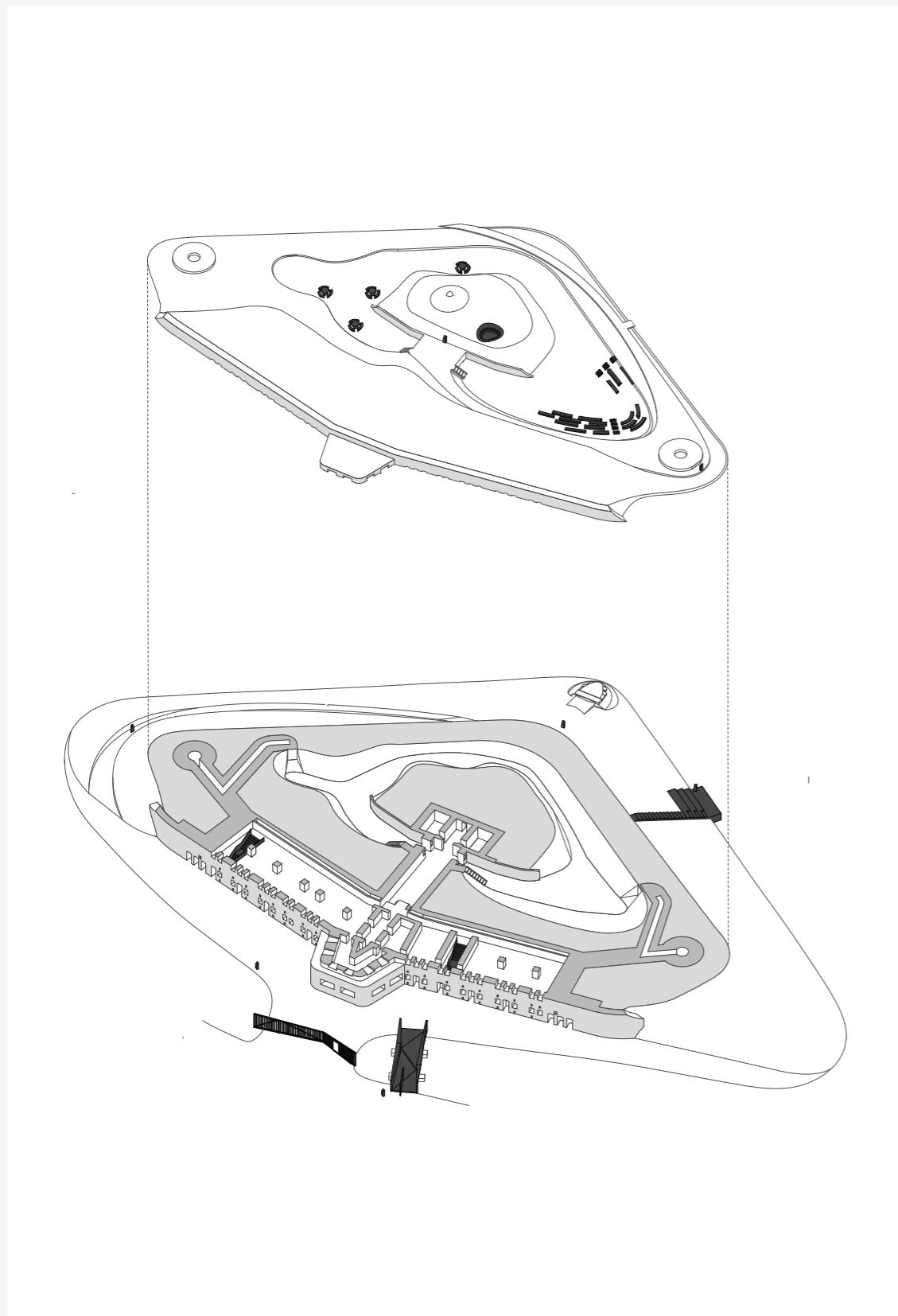
HOOFDORP FORT ISLAND

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HOOFDORP FORT ISLAND



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Haarlem Primary School

HAARLEM PRIMARY SCHOOL

INSTITUTIONAL

Haarlem Primary School

Piramide Boerhaave primary school in Haarlem has undergone a metamorphosis. Serge Schoemaker Architects made a number of strategic architectural interventions, introducing light, air and space into the 1960s school building and giving it a totally fresh look. The project demonstrates that the renovation of post-war school buildings is a valid alternative to demolition and new construction.

The primary school is part of a characteristic green strip in the Schalkwijk district of Haarlem. The main block was built as a primary school in 1964, and a gym and kindergarten were added in 1967. With its efficient floor plan and partly standardized construction, the school was the precursor to a series of patio schools built in the 1960s.

However, the building badly needed a makeover. A multicultural school, it had a reputation as a problem institution with a declining number of pupils. The introvert school building was behind the times, and its appearance and colour palette out of date. The once-famous patios suffered neglect and remained unused. In terms of learning, the school needed space for group activities and celebrations.

In 2015, after a design study carried out under the umbrella of the Mevrouw Meijer Foundation, Serge Schoemaker Architects was appointed to oversee the renovation and

extension of the primary school. The study showed that a future-proof result could be achieved through renovation, costing less than demolition and new construction. Spacious and bright classrooms make post-war schools like this ideal for renovation.

The design for the renovation and extension makes use of the original clear corridor arrangement. The toilet blocks once positioned at the end of the corridors have been removed to open up views of the surroundings, giving the school an open character. Both inside and outside, large lime-green window frames now mark the ends of the corridors. They form part of a totally new colour palette.

The largest patio has been roofed and furnished as a multipurpose auditorium. The vertical rooflights overhead have been positioned to allow daylight to enter from various sides, without experiencing annoyance from direct sunlight. The required storage units have been created inside seating elements, custom made in birch plywood, which enclose the auditorium. The carefully designed, half-open hall adds a new spaciousness to the school, providing extra space for group activities and celebrations.



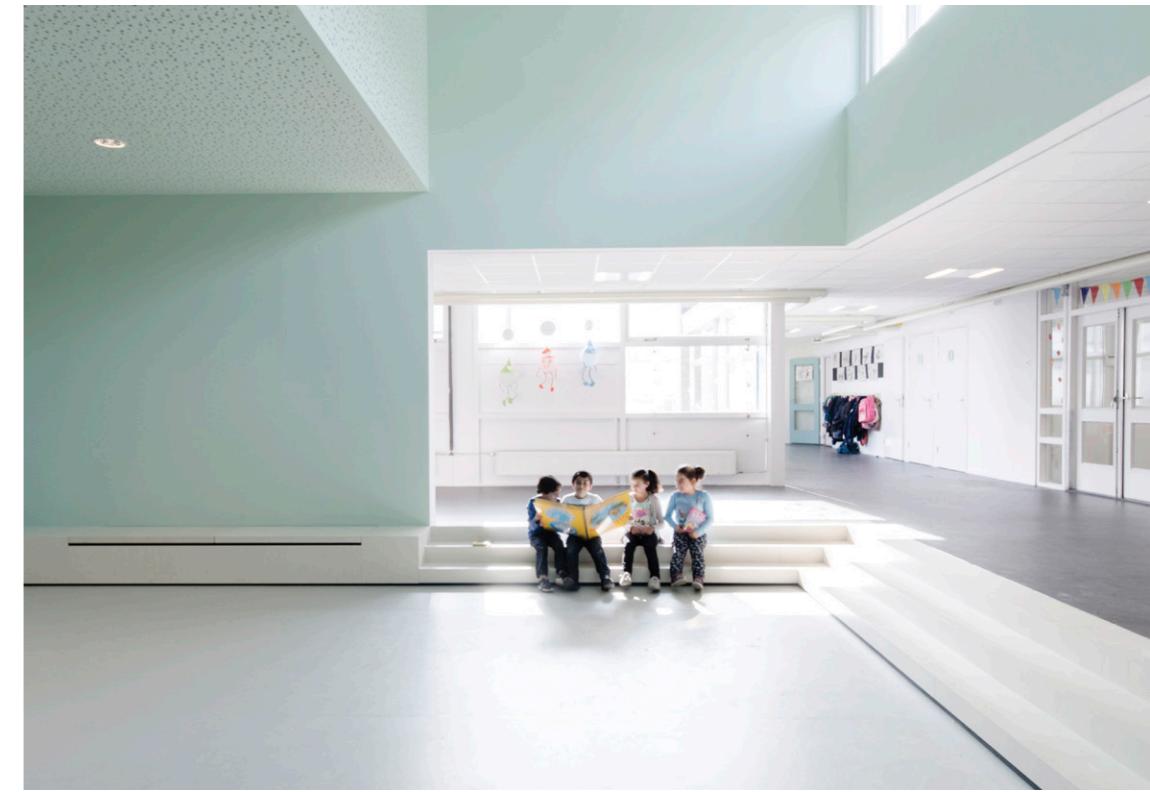
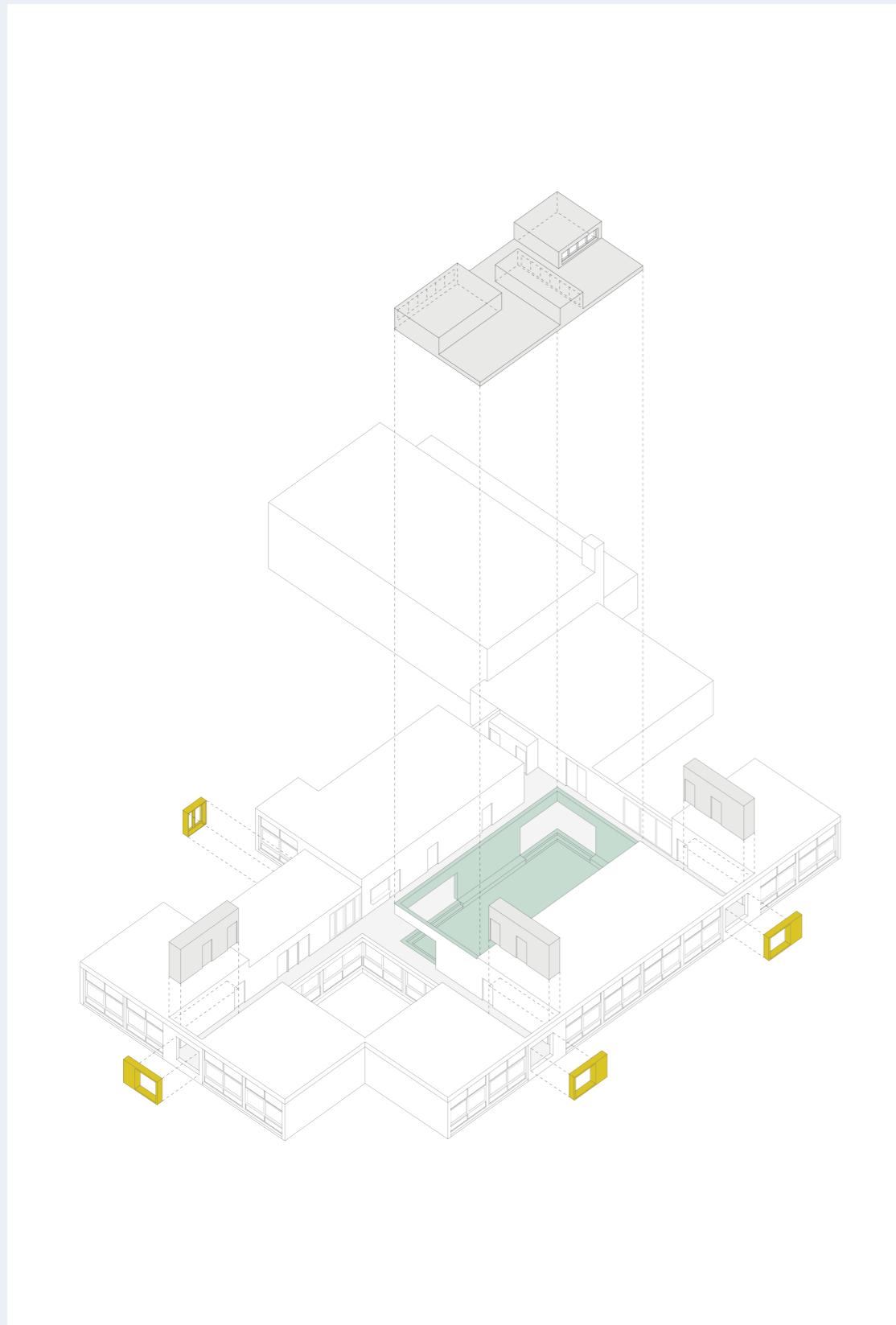
CLIENT
Stichting Spaarnesant
LOCATION
Haarlem, Netherlands
PROGRAM
Institutional

GROSS FLOOR AREA
956 m²
YEAR
2015-2016
PHOTOGRAPHY
MWA Hart Nibbrig

TEAM
Serge Schoemaker
Sanne Knoll
Alexander Beeloo
Roxana Vakil Mozafari

HAARLEM PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Museum of Moluccan Culture

MUSEUM OF MOLUCCAN CULTURE

INSTITUTIONAL

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Museum of Moluccan Culture

Since 1986, the Museum of Moluccan Culture in Utrecht collected and exhibited the cultural heritage of the Moluccan community in the Netherlands. Alongside exhibition spaces, the Museum of Moluccan Culture offered a knowledge centre, music theatre and a Moluccan culinary café.

In the museum, the layout was somewhat chaotic with the functions fragmented across different adjoining buildings. For the envisioned renovation, we were commissioned to give clarity to the layout and add a proper entrance and foyer in 2010. Unfortunately, due to inadequate financial means, the Museum of Moluccan Culture had to close its doors in October 2012.

Our design connected and structured the different museum activities by creating a central focus. The new extension replaced a part of the existing building from the 1980s and utilised the currently unused central courtyard. A strategically placed volume containing the museum shop and kitchen divided the building extension into two zones: a new spacious foyer that could accommodate a larger cafe, and an additional exhibition room for temporary exhibitions.

The varying qualities of light gave each zone a different atmosphere. Adjoining the terrace and garden, the foyer and café are light and spacious, bathed in daylight thanks to the extensive facade glazing. The enclosed

exhibition room is surrounded by the walls of the monumental nineteenth century buildings along the Biltstraat and the Kruisstraat; here an impressive opaque glass roof light generated ideal indirect light for exhibitions. The white walls created a serene atmosphere and luxurious oak flooring contributed a feeling of warmth and intimacy.

CLIENT
MUMA
LOCATION
Utrecht, Netherlands
PROGRAM
Institutional

GROSS FLOOR AREA
2000 m²
YEAR
2010
IN COLLABORATION WITH
Jean-Paul Hitipeuw

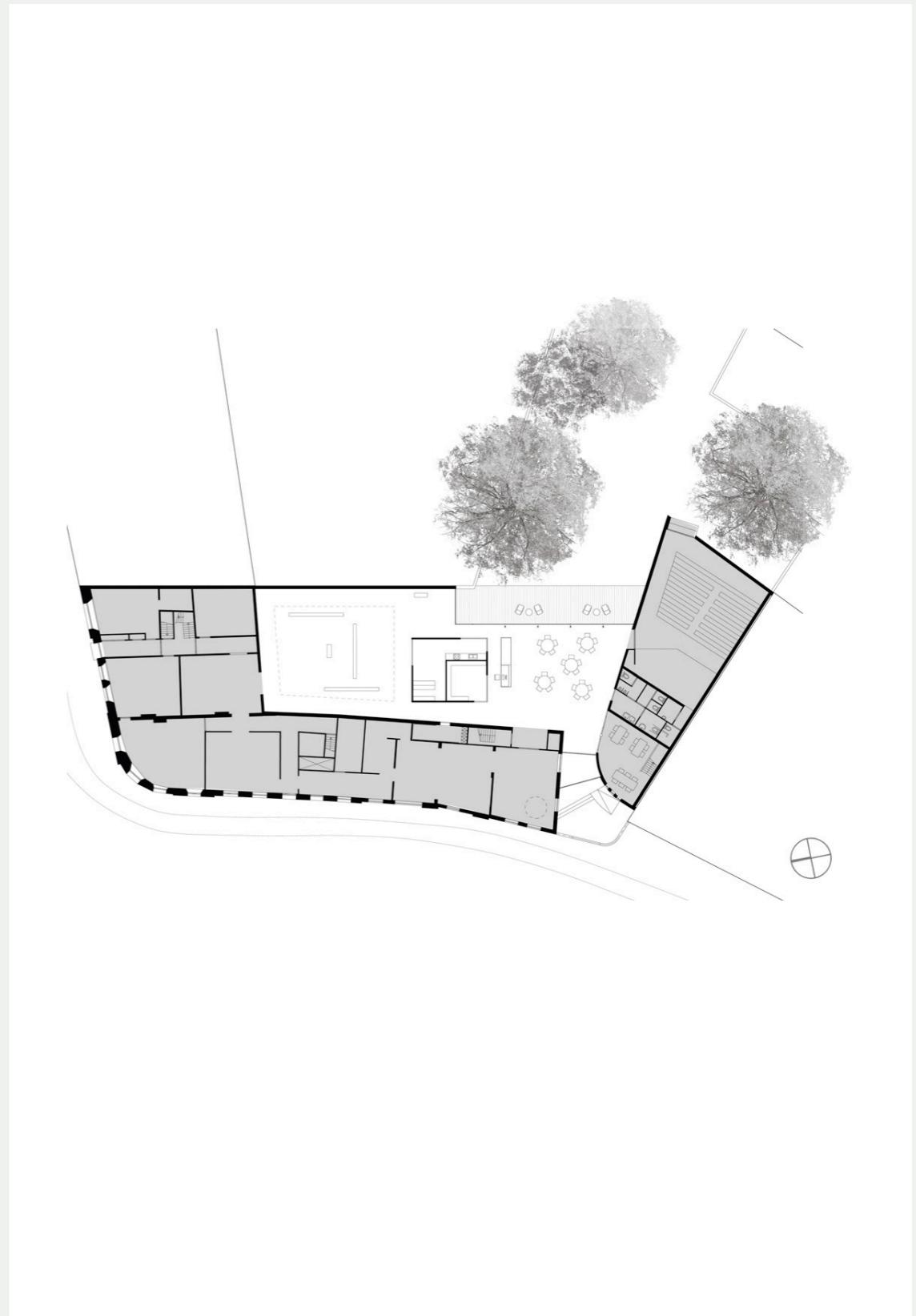
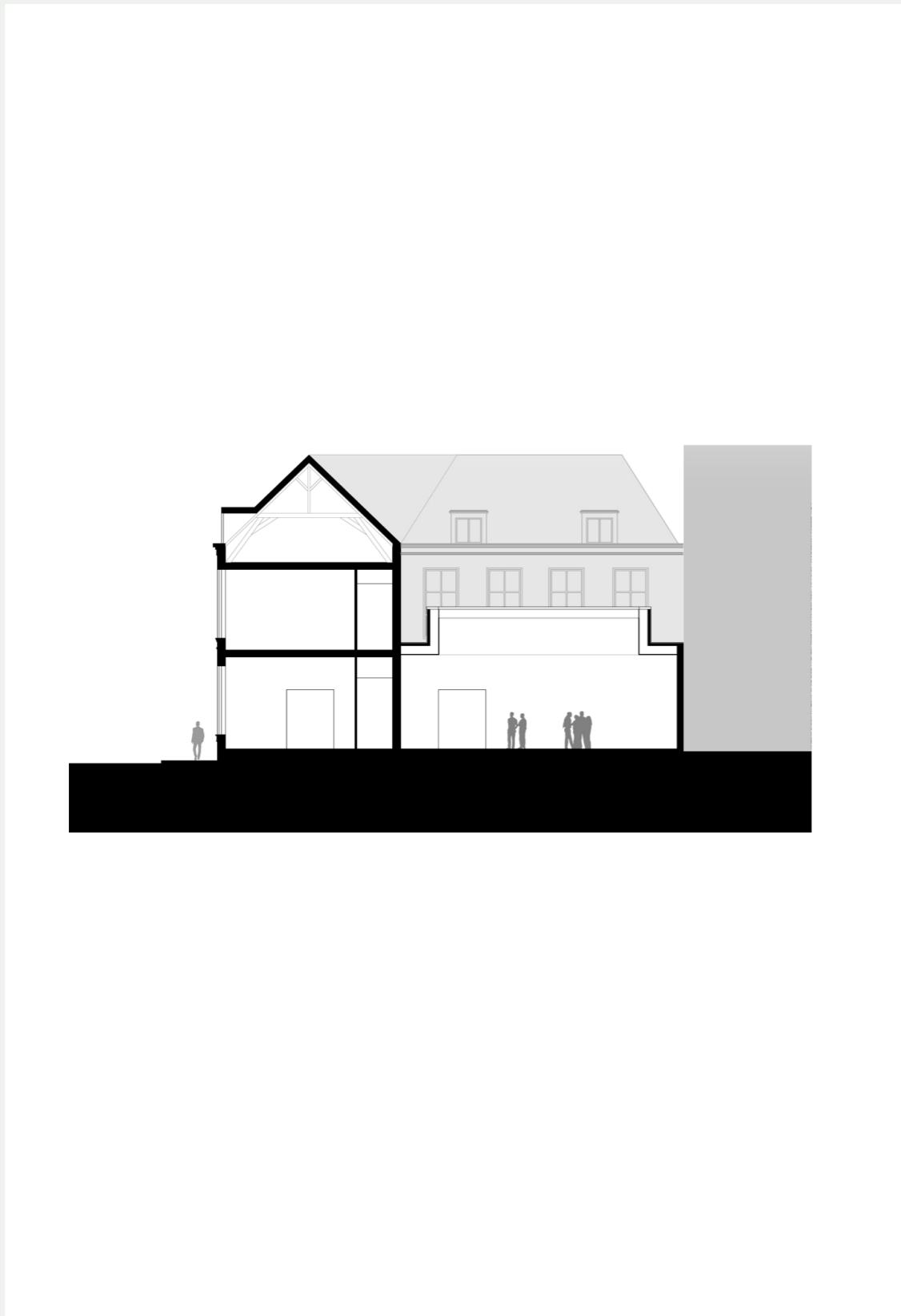
TEAM
Serge Schoemaker
Dik Houben
Hoda Khanbani
Giulia Tönz



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MUSEUM OF MOLUCCAN CULTURE



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Bussum Garden Studio

BUSSUM GARDEN STUDIO

RESIDENTIAL

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Bussum Garden Studio

The Garden Studio in Bussum involves the design and construction of a freestanding shed in a private garden that functions as a study, guest accommodation and storage. The challenge to fit a relatively large structure in a long, narrow garden resulted in an elongated plan. A geometric form entirely clad in shingles, combined with the transparent corner and rotated siting at the rear of the garden lends the studio a distinct presence and identity.

The aim was to design a contemporary, well-crafted studio that fit with the traditional surroundings; the use of materials, detailing and exceptional craftsmanship in the construction play an important role here. Durable black-varnished red cedar shingles envelop the structure from the walls to roof, the colour recalling black painted wooden sheds found in the region. The use of shingles enabled the application of a uniform material to minimise the roof line, thereby accentuating the studio's sculptural quality. Approximately 2000 shingles were sanded and painted by hand, and individually mounted onto the structure.

The windows lend the studio a characteristic appearance. Extending full-height over two facades, the largest window opens up the corner of the structure, its sharp lines forming a striking contrast with the irregular textured facade. Careful attention was required for the construction of this window as the glass

panes meet here at a non-perpendicular angle without a window frame under the cantilevered roof corner. A second full-height opening views onto the garden, complemented by a built-in desk. Deeply recessed to highlight the thick walls and sculptural volume, the openings are expressed in black plywood reveals that frame views of the garden.

Contrasting with the dark, rough textured exterior, the interior appears seamless and light. Extending continuously from the floor, walls and joinery to the ceiling, its entire surface is fashioned from transparent white-lacquered birch plywood. The interior is composed of various plywood pieces cut precisely to size and carefully pieced to fit seamlessly like a jigsaw puzzle, a task made more challenging by the structure's geometric form. The lightness of the material creates a calming atmosphere and its restrained, continuous finish emphasises the sculptural quality of the space.

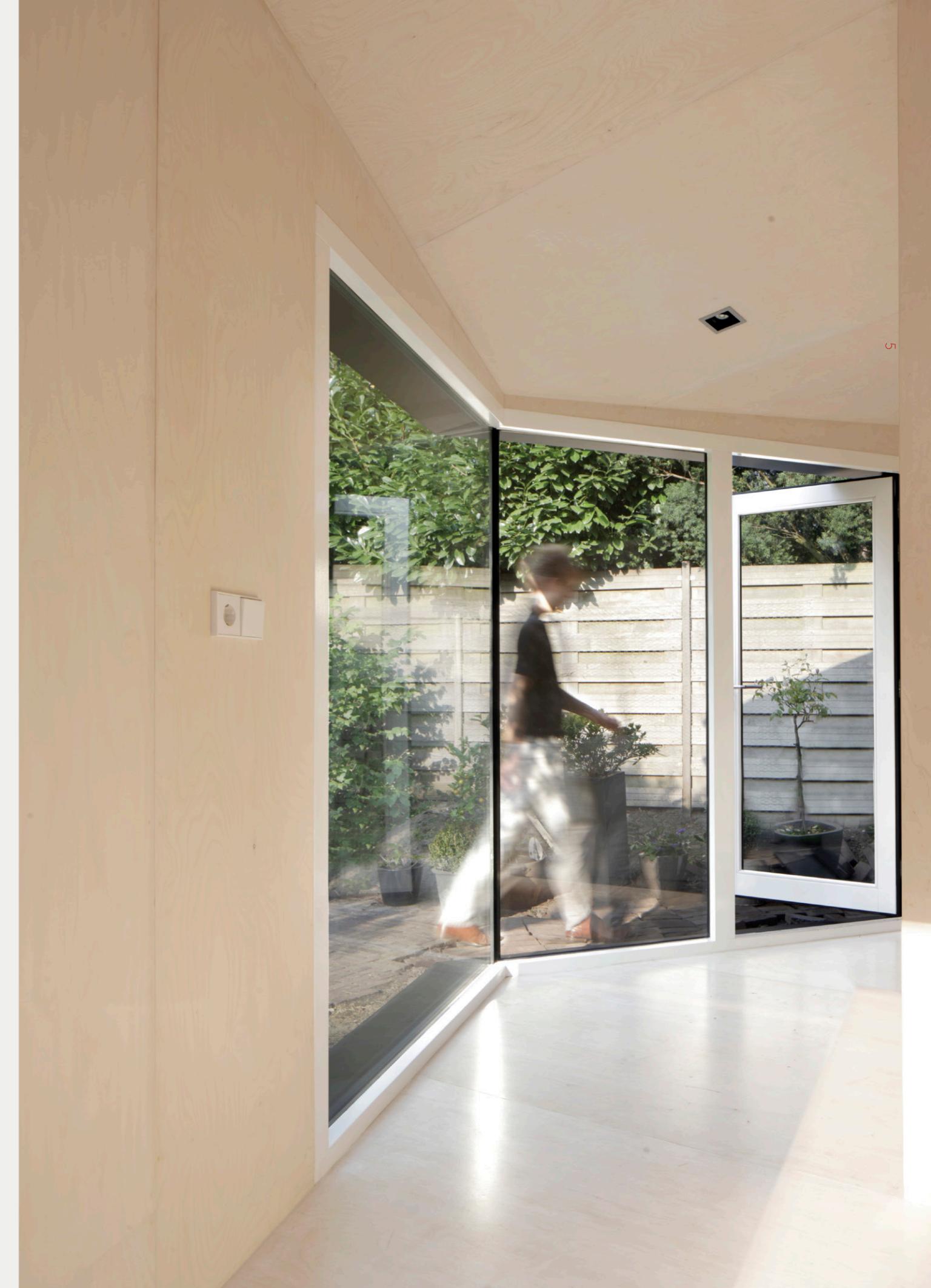
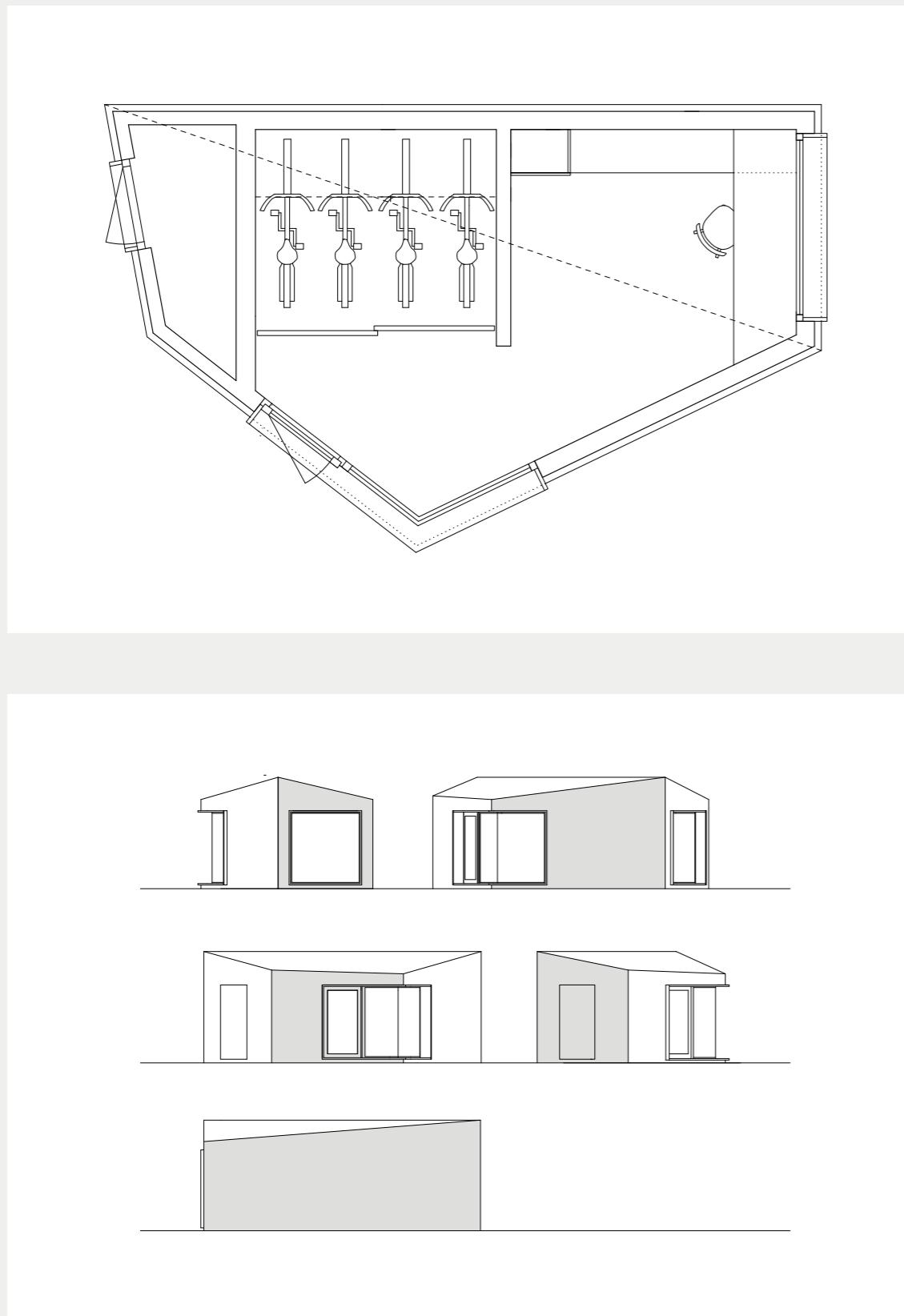
CLIENT
Private
LOCATION
Bussum, Netherlands
PROGRAM
Residential

GROSS FLOOR AREA
30 m²
YEAR
2013-2014
PHOTOGRAPHY
Raoul Kramer

TEAM
Serge Schoemaker
Beatrice Nespega



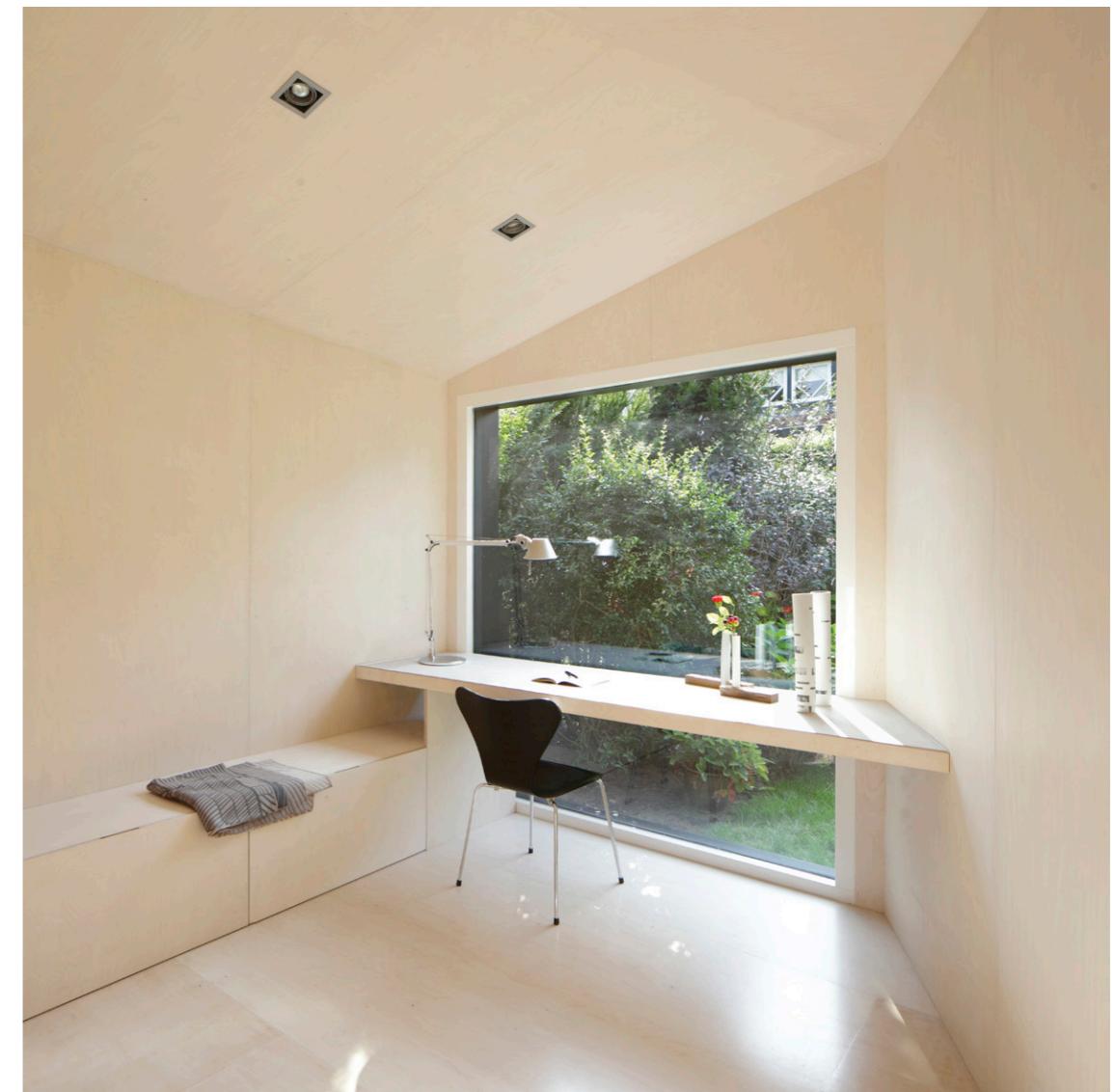
BUSSUM GARDEN STUDIO



BUSSUM GARDEN STUDIO



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Woerden Terrace Apartment

WOERDEN TERRACE APARTMENT

RESIDENTIAL

Woerden Terrace Apartment

The commission to modernize this apartment at the top of a town house in the centre of Woerden resulted in a design that joins the three existing rooms at the rear of the first floor to create one big kitchen cum living area that opens onto a generously sized, sun-drenched roof terrace.

The spatial connection between the kitchen and roof terrace is maximized by three full-height steel-framed pivot doors in the façade. These can open fully to the terrace. The hardwood floor in the kitchen-living area extends seamlessly outdoors, further emphasizing the unity of inside and outside.

The kitchen is completely surrounded by a built-in storage element made up of both open shelving and cupboards, as well as a fireplace. Occupying the centre of the space is a five-metre-long table in solid wood, which doubles as a work surface.

The open shelving is designed as a cabinet of curiosities and works of art. Tall, dark and veneered, the shelves are lined with books and exotic objects that lend the kitchen-living area a sophisticated appearance.

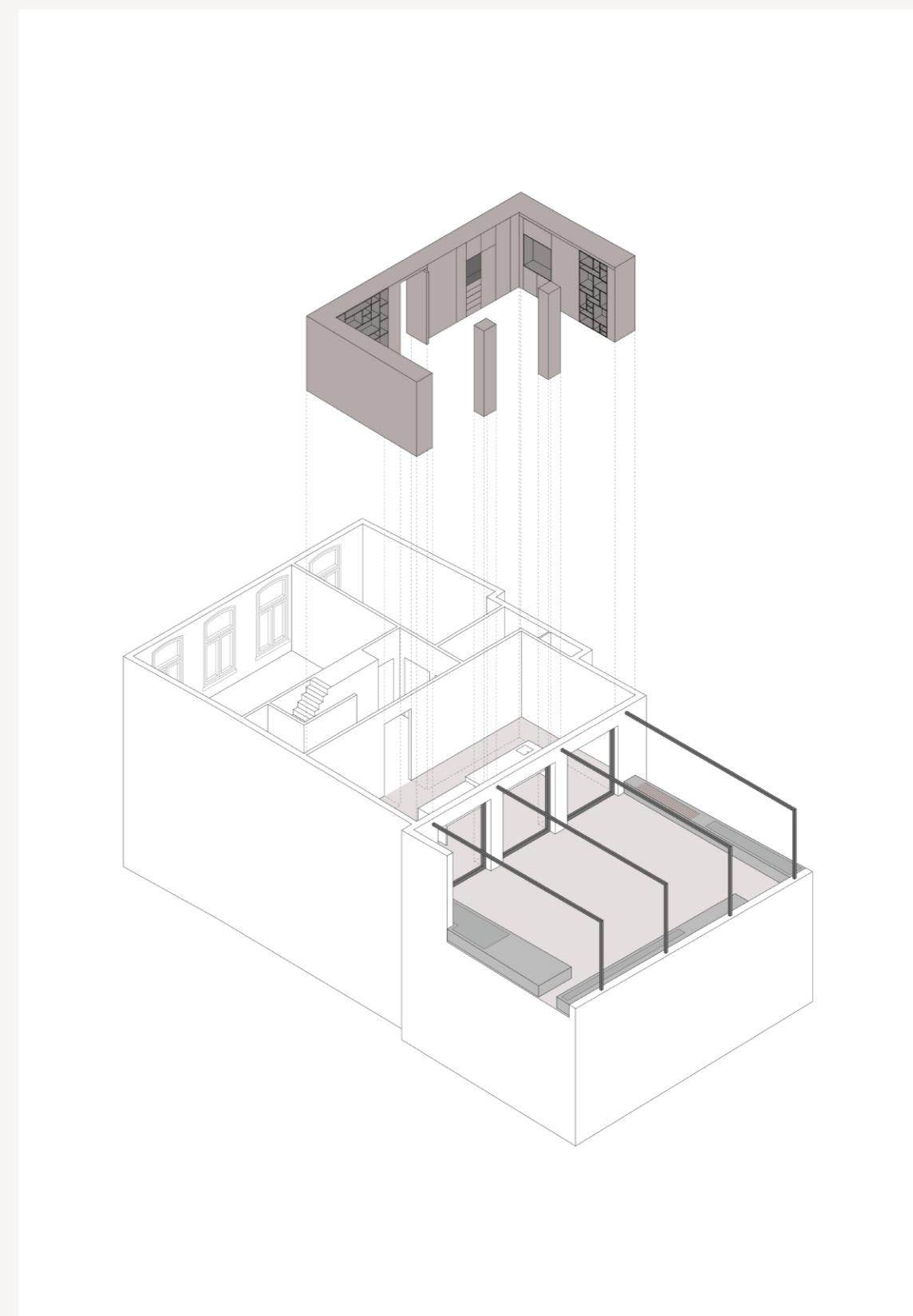
Shade and privacy are provided by the overhead screen of hardwood slats. Together with the hot tub, the screen gives the space the feel of a country residence, despite its location in the heart of the city. The slats, just like the parquet and terrace floor, are executed in African padauk.

Defining the edges of the terrace are solid, made-to-measure concrete elements. Made of prefabricated exposed concrete, these elements extend the full depth and width of the terrace and function as space dividers, benches, and planters. Over time, the leafy plants will colonize the sleekly designed terrace, gradually transforming it into a unique oasis tucked away in the heart of the city.

CLIENT	GROSS FLOOR AREA
Private	200 m ²
LOCATION	YEAR
Woerden, Netherlands	2015-2016
PROGRAM	PHOTOGRAPHY
Residential	Raoul Kramer

TEAM
Serge Schoemaker
Alexander Beeloo
Sanne Knoll
Roxana Vakil Mozafari





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WOERDEN TERRACE APARTMENT

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Hoofddorp House

HOOFDDORP HOUSE

RESIDENTIAL

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Hoofddorp House

In the renovation, the interior of this freestanding house has undergone a rigorous transformation, with the entire ground floor opened up and reorganized. The concrete structure of the house made it possible to create an almost fully open floor plan.

Enlarging the living space by including the former garage and loft above made the ground floor not only more spacious but also taller. A new rooflight at a height of over four metres draws exceptional levels of daylight inside.

The refurbished ground level features a terrazzo floor poured on site. Placed on this white stone surface are two full-height storage walls, finished in oak-veneer, which functionally organize the plan and enhance the quality of space.

Carefully positioned openings in these storage walls set up views through the interior and out of the house. Open and half-open niches and a large transparent hearth create a visually balanced composition. To the front is an open kitchen, featuring a monolithic white kitchen island with terrazzo worktop.

The addition of folding doors at the front and rear of the house opens up the remarkable living space to the green surroundings with abundant water. As a result, the open hearth at the centre can be used from inside and outside.

CLIENT
Private
LOCATION
Hoofddorp, Netherlands
PROGRAM
Residential

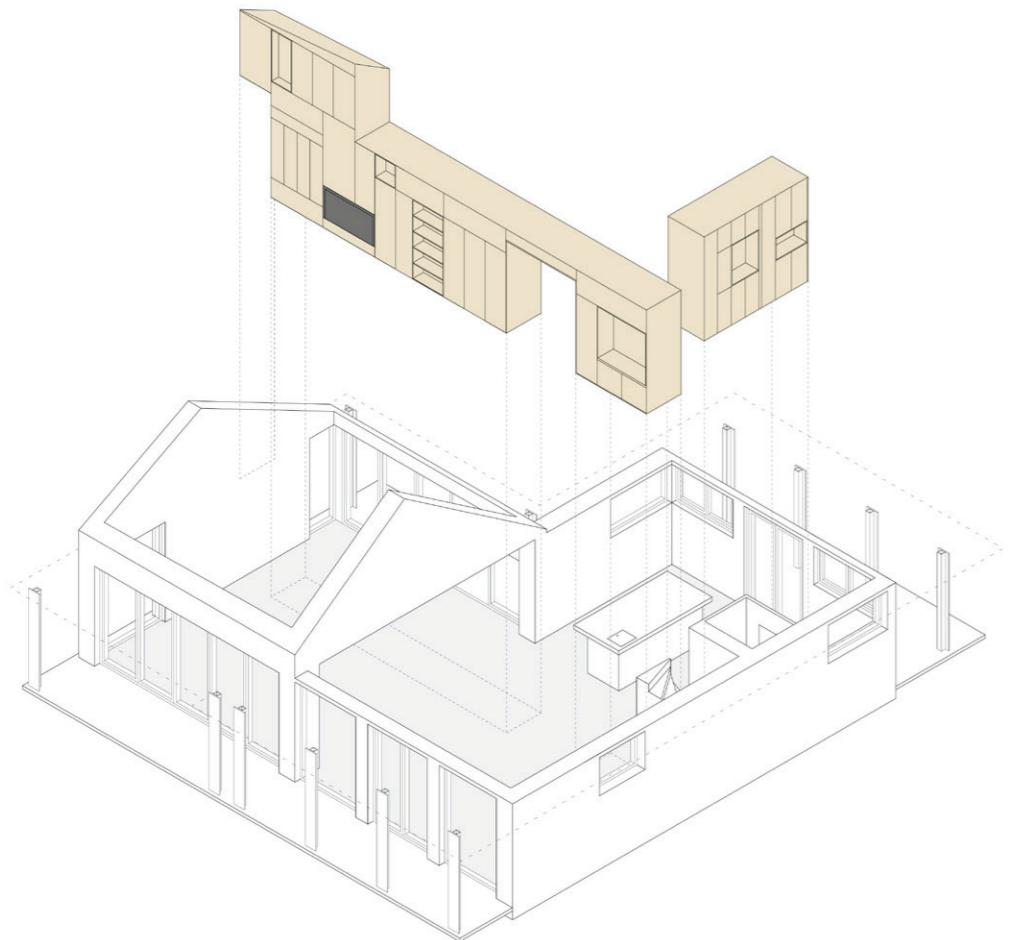
GROSS FLOOR AREA
102 m²
YEAR
2016-2017
PHOTOGRAPHY
MWA Hart Nibbrig

TEAM
Serge Schoemaker
Alexander Beeloo
Roxana Vakil Mozafari



HOOFDDORP HOUSE

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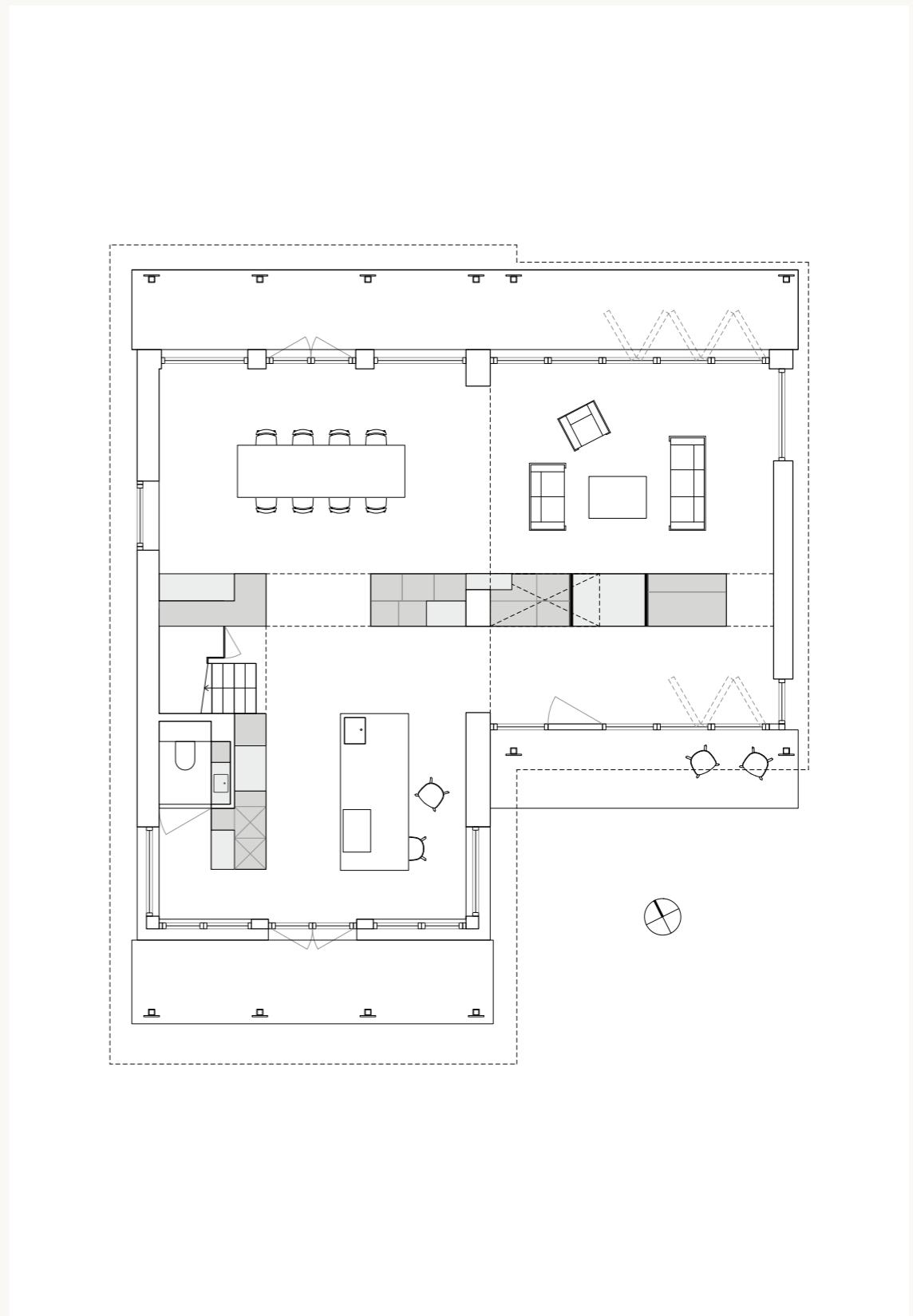
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HOOFDDORP HOUSE



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Heiden Park Hotel

HEIDEN PARK HOTEL

COMMERCIAL

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Heiden Park Hotel

Der Hotelneubau ist in einem klassisch dreiteiligen Aufbau mit Sockel, Hauptgeschossen und Dachkonstruktion konzipiert. Im Innen werden die Geschosse vertikal verbunden durch ein Atrium über die ganze Gebäudehöhe, welches einen räumlichen Zusammenhang vom Erdgeschoss zum Dachgeschoss schafft. Durch diese hohe Halle wird die vertikale Dimension des Hauses auch im Innern spürbar. Große Fenster in den Korridoren der Hotelzimmer erlauben Blicke in das brandschutztechnisch abgetrennten Atrium und ermöglichen vielfältige Sichtverbindungen zwischen den Geschossen.

Die Typologie der ortstypischen Einzelfenster mit Fensterläden wird transformiert zu einem räumlichen Fassadenelement, welches in struktureller Reihung den architektonischen Ausdruck des Gebäudes prägt. Die Fensterläden werden als Faltschiebeläden konzipiert, welche senkrecht zur Fassade ausgestellt werden können und so eine plastisch dynamische Fassadenwirkung prägen. Das Öffnen und Schließen der Fensterläden schafft eine Privatsphäre und ein Gefühl von Behaglichkeit, welches einem Hotel im dörflich ländlichen Kontext entspricht.

Die auf dem massiven Traufgesims ruhende Dachkonstruktion ist aufgebaut aus vier Dreiecksgiebeln welche die ortstypischen Dachformen interpretieren. Durch die im

Dachgeschoss zurückliegende Fensterfront wird das Dach als plastischer Abschluss des hohen Gebäudes gestärkt. Von Innen bietet die scheinbar schwebende, skulpturale Dachform an erhöhter Lage eine einzigartige Seminarlandschaft. Das Kreuzgiebeldach erlaubt eine weite Sicht über die Dachlandschaft von Heiden, auf die umliegenden Hügellandschaft und den Bodensee. Der Blick vom Dachgeschoss rückt Heiden und den Kurpark für den Besucher in eine neuen Perspektive.



CLIENT
Heiden Park Hotel

LOCATION
Heiden, Switzerland

PROGRAM
Commercial

GROSS FLOOR AREA
3400 m²

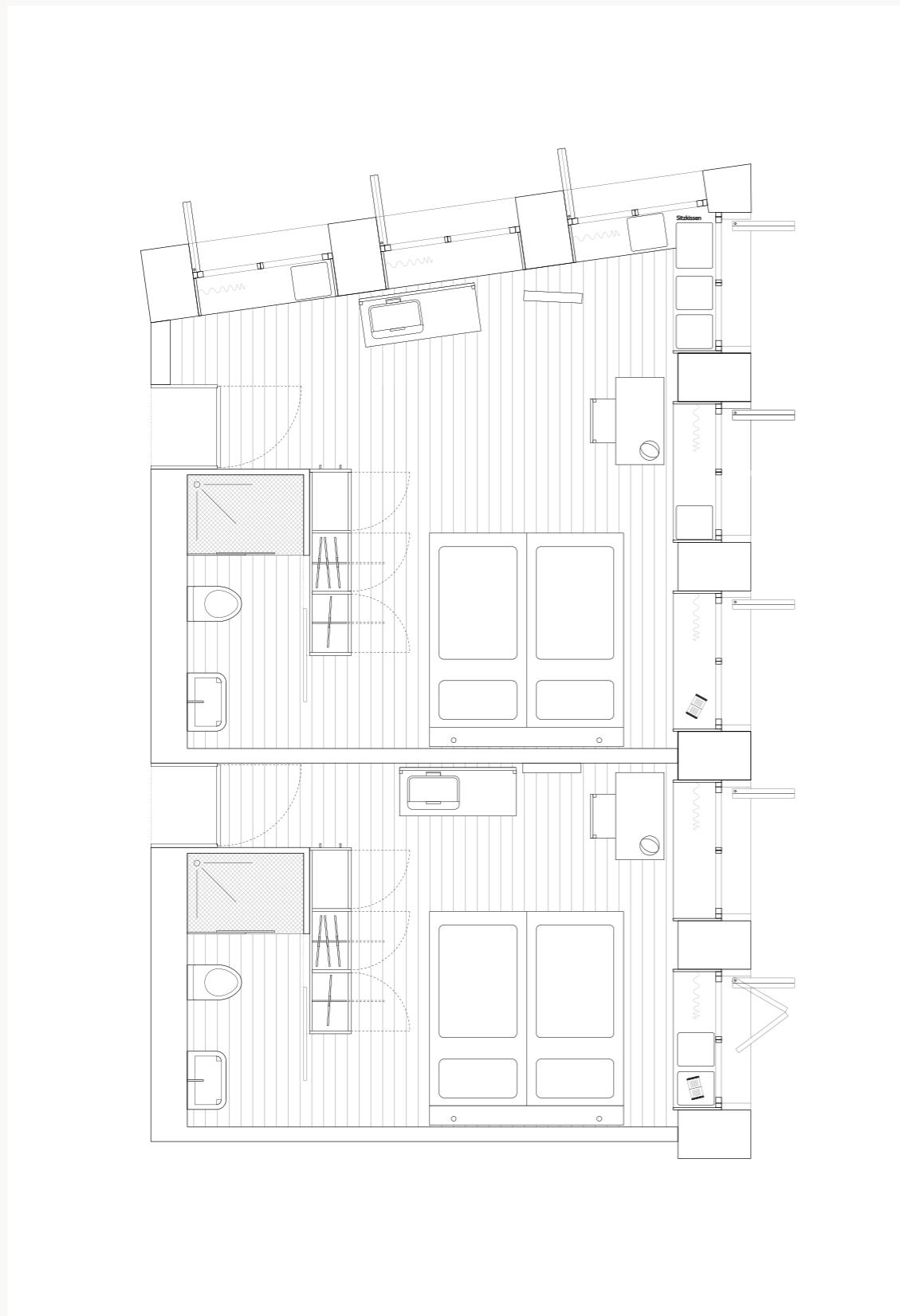
YEAR
2012

TEAM
Serge Schoemaker
Max Hart Nibbrig
Giulia Tonz
IN COLLABORATION WITH
Harder Spreyermann Architekten

HEIDEN PARK HOTEL



HEIDEN PARK HOTEL



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Utrecht Townhouse

UTRECHT TOWNHOUSE

RESIDENTIAL

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Utrecht Townhouse

The townhouses around Wilhelminapark in Utrecht were built in the early 20th century to offer well-to-do citizenry an alternative to the bustle of the city centre. Our clients' spacious neoclassical house dates from 1900 and is set in a terrace of houses at the western side of the park.

The townhouse has four floors, with a living room occupying the entire first floor. Originally a reception space, the 'period room' on the street side of the ground floor features an ornamental ceiling and marble mantelpiece. The remaining spaces on this floor, previously used by servants, were relatively small prior to renovation.

In renovating this townhouse, we decided to redefine the ground-floor kitchen as a luxury open kitchen, which opens directly to both the garden at the back and the period room at the front. A few simple architectural alterations enlarged and brightened this space, which is now more in proportion to the rest of the house.

With a combination of clean, modern lines and richly contrasting classical materials, we transformed the ground floor of this townhouse into an elegant living space. Authentic details blend with high-quality interior design to create spaces full of character.

A striking new pivoting door leads visitors directly from the hall into the open kitchen. The wall between the kitchen and period room has been replaced by large built-in storage units with double doors, allowing the open kitchen and front room to function as two interconnected spaces.

The authentic details and ornaments in the house have been painted white, while the new floor in the hall and open kitchen is finished in polished white marble. Interior fittings with a dark finish of smoked oak veneer create a sense of contrast, warmth and intimacy.

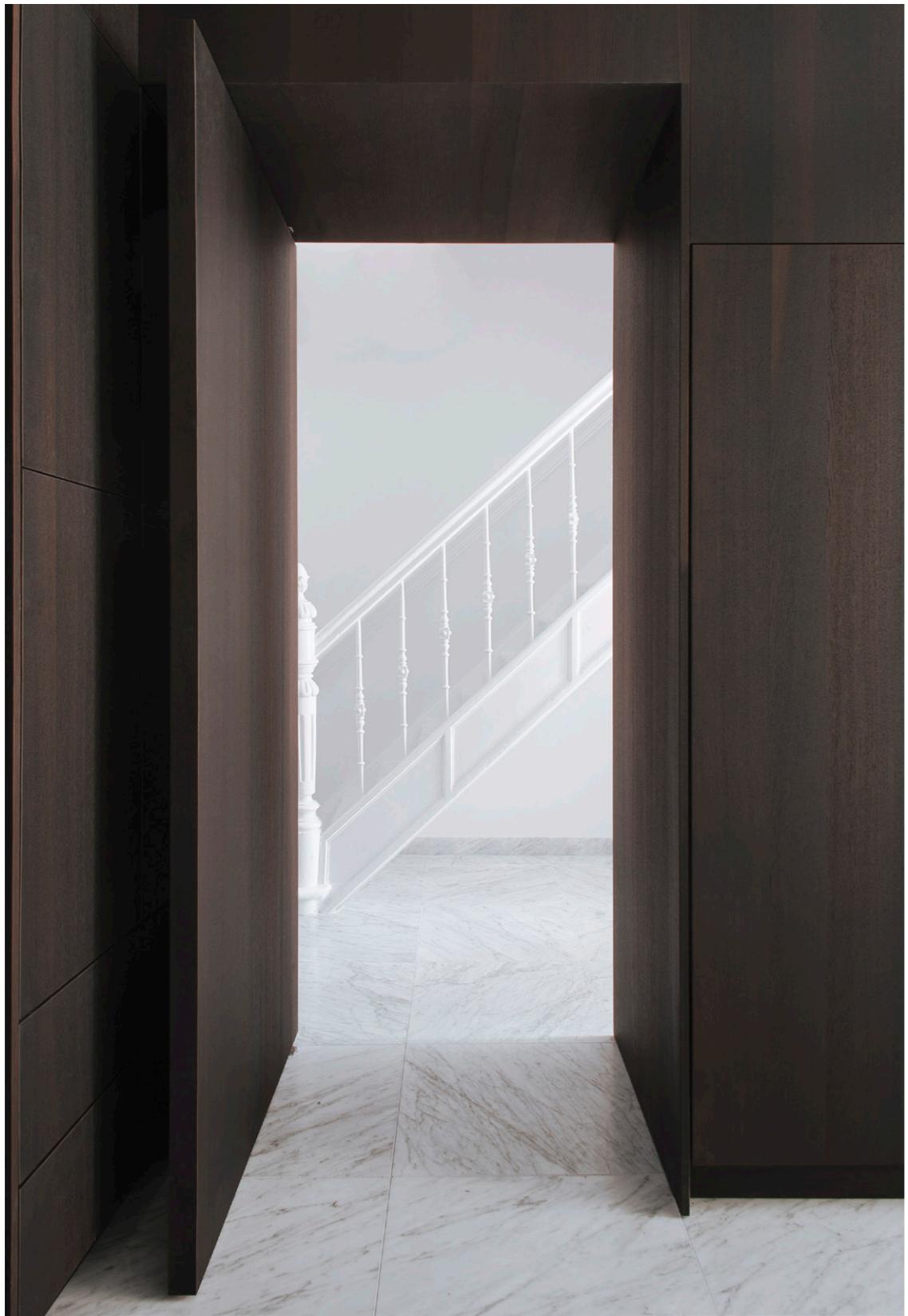
CLIENT	GROSS FLOOR AREA
Private	66 m ²
LOCATION	YEAR
Utrecht, Netherlands	2016-2017
PROGRAM	PHOTOGRAPHY
Residential	MWA Hart Nibbrig

TEAM
Serge Schoemaker
Alexander Beeloo
Roxana Vakil Mozafari

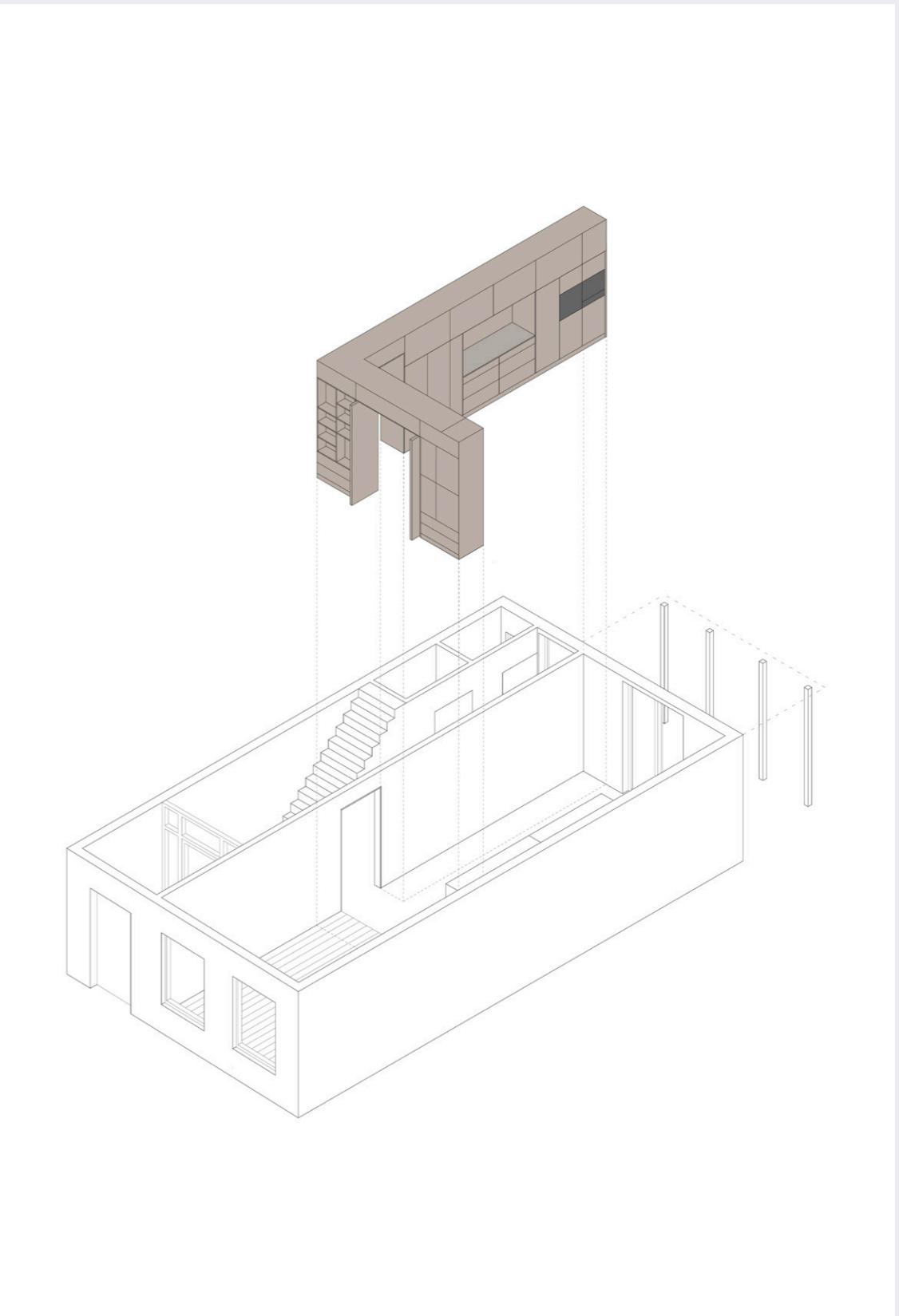


UTRECHT TOWNHOUSE

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UTRECHT TOWNHOUSE

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Avsaralani Villa

AVSARALANI VILLA

RESIDENTIAL

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Avsaralani Villa

The village of Avsaralani (+1500m) is situated in a desirable mountain area 100km north of Kayseri in Central Turkey. Most people live and work abroad and stay here only during summer. During winter time Avsaralani is a abandoned place and frequently covered with snow. By building a house here, in a prime location at the south edge of the village, our Dutch-Turkish client creates a pied-à-terre in the valley of birth of both his parents.

The Avsaralani Villa is a 500m² contemporary house, using native materials and construction traditions common to the region. Everything in this building is executed with considerable craftsmanship, which contributes to the building's specific expression. The natural stone facades, hardwood doors and window frames are inspired by the local stonemasons in the Yozgat Province. Although the house is integrated with the natural site through its materiality, it is significantly different from the local architecture in its appearance by its rectangular shape, strong geometric forms and storey high window frames. The stones originate from demolished old neighbouring houses and accumulate like built out of time between the modern horizontal concrete floor lines.

The house is orientated to the south, facing the panoramic view. The villa is a composition of massive stone walls and volumes, which protect against the harsh climate. A long stone wall running north-south blocks the view from the main village road into the private garden and at the same time guides one to the entrance of the house. The main living area on the ground floor is a designed negative space, a meandering space between solid blocks. The wide openings between the volumes enable spectacular views at the mountains. By integrating the serving spaces into the stone volumes, corridors are limited in the house.

The floor plans of the ground floor and first floor show the different use of the house in winter and summer: the ground floor is intimate and divisible, sliding doors enable to close off unheated areas from the heated ones in winter time; the first floor is orientated to the sun and connected with an extensive terrace where life takes place during summer. The low stone walls around the terrace function both as balustrades and as sitting facilities and recall the endless stone retaining walls that frame the surrounding Yozgat landscape.

CLIENT
Private
LOCATION
Avsaralani, Turkey

PROGRAM
Residential
GROSS FLOOR AREA
500 m²

YEAR
2011
TEAM
Serge Schoemaker
Dik Houben



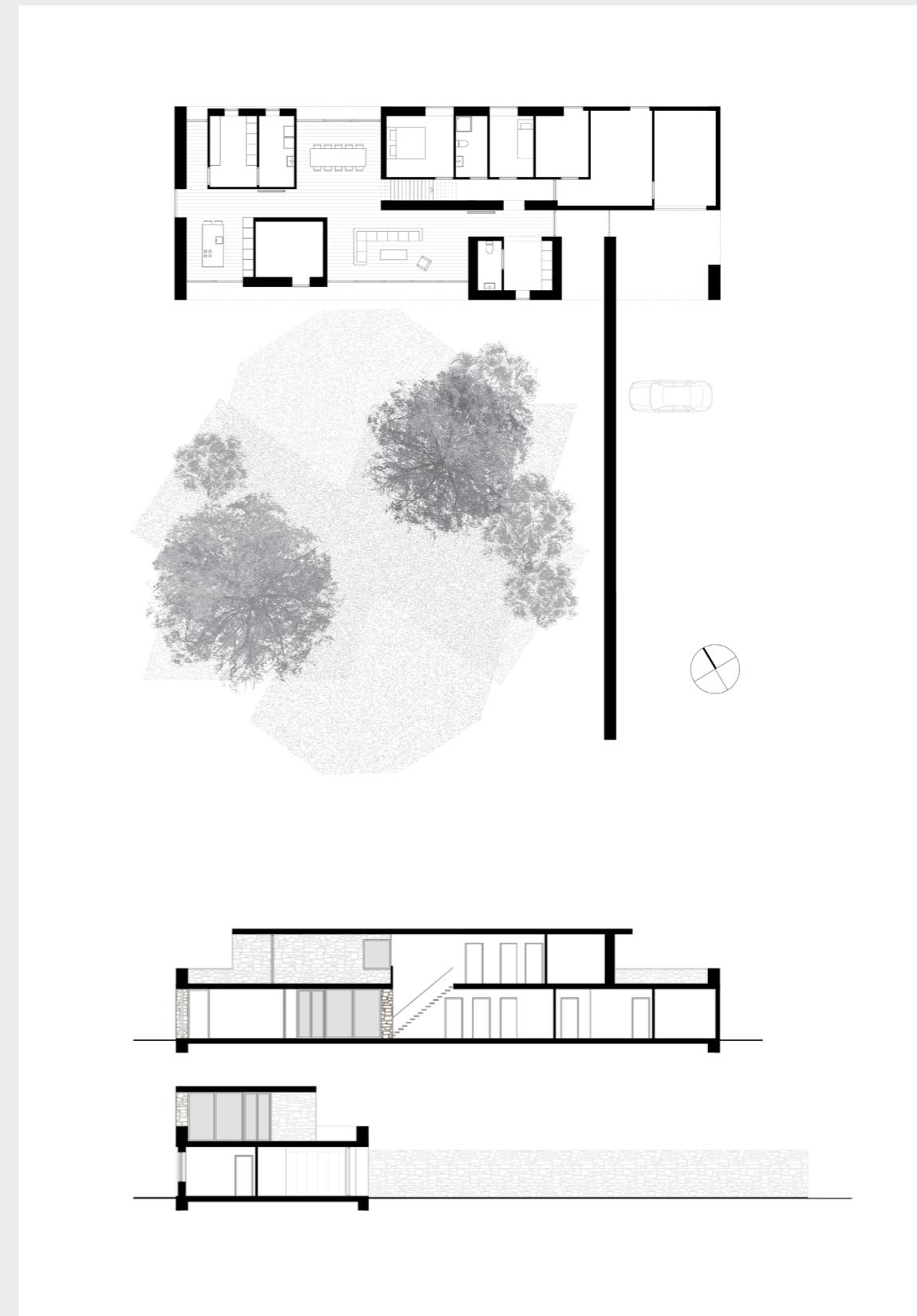
AVSARALANI VILLA

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AVSARALANI VILLA



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Plan Libre 2.0

PLAN LIBRE 2.0

MULTIFUNCTIONAL

Plan Libre 2.0

Plan Libre 2.0 is a study for a prefabricated modular wooden building system. We were interested to explore the architectural possibilities for sustainable architecture using simple, efficient constructions and minimal materials.

Our design reflects the practice's fascination with architecture that derives its expression from structural logic. The proposal involves a three-storey circular structure consisting of six glued-laminated timber columns and twenty-four prefabricated timber frame floor elements.

The structure is 10 metres high, its diameter widens from 12 metres at the base to 17 me-

tres at the top. Fixed into the base and slightly leaning outwards, the wooden pillars hold the structure in balance, gaining their strength in the connection with the floor segments.

The distinct architectural form of the building creates a unique spatial quality. The central void both reduces the building weight and overall construction dimensions, and brings light into the centre of the building. If required, the inner void can be filled in to become either an internal or external courtyard.

The environmentally sustainable structure can be quickly assembled and easily dismantled for reuse elsewhere. In this way,

the simple wooden structure could function as a temporary or permanent pavilion, a public viewing platform in a natural environment or on a sensitive site or as a spacious contemporary patio house.

CLIENT
Unsolicited
PROGRAM
Multifunctional

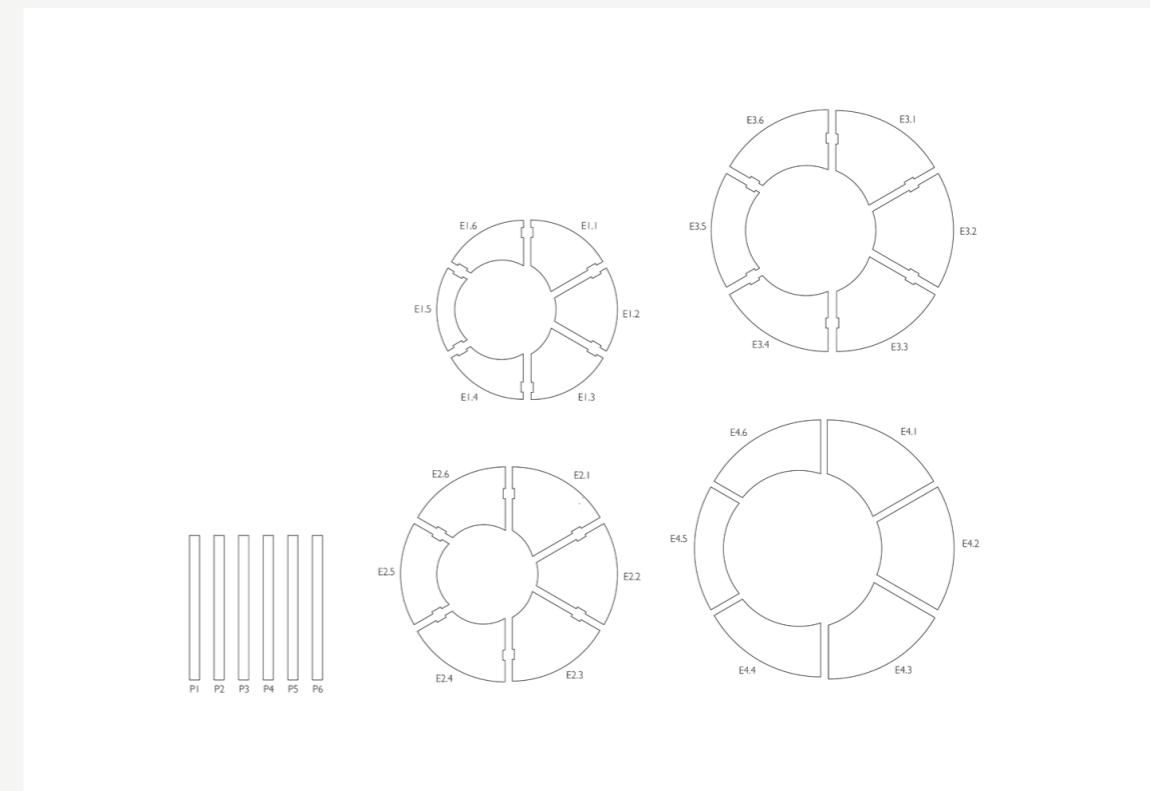
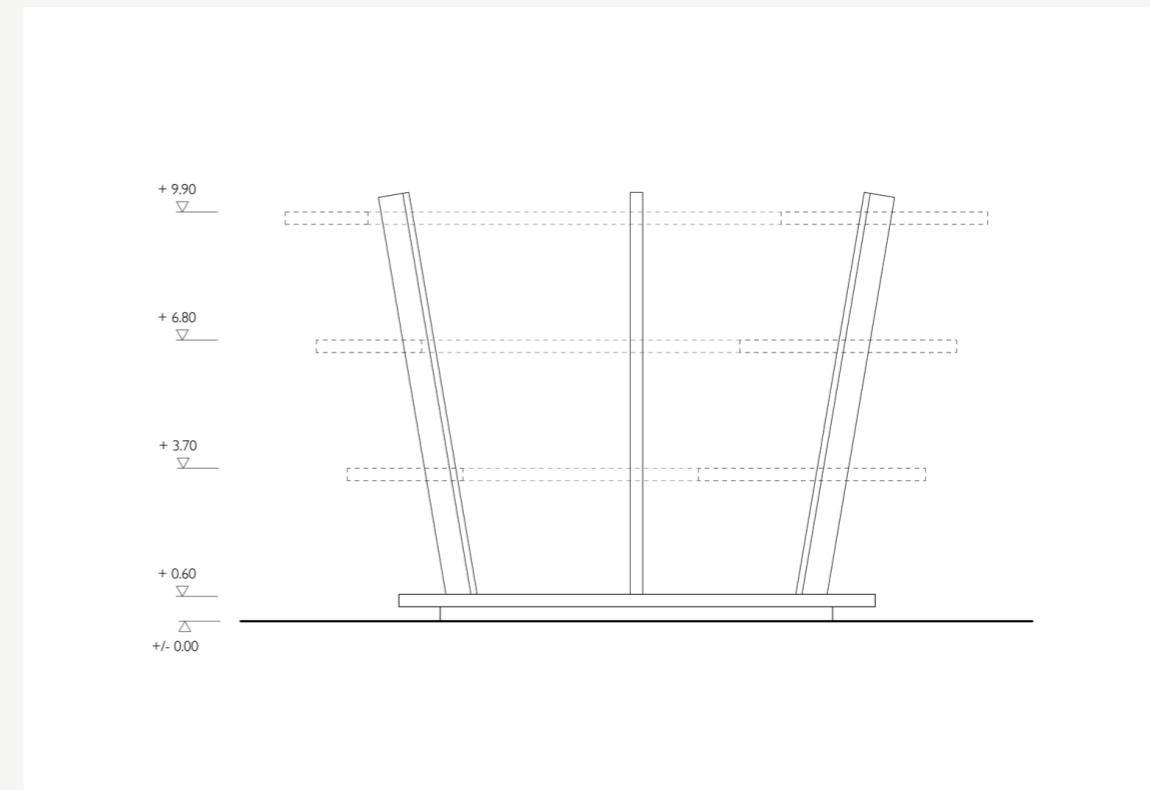
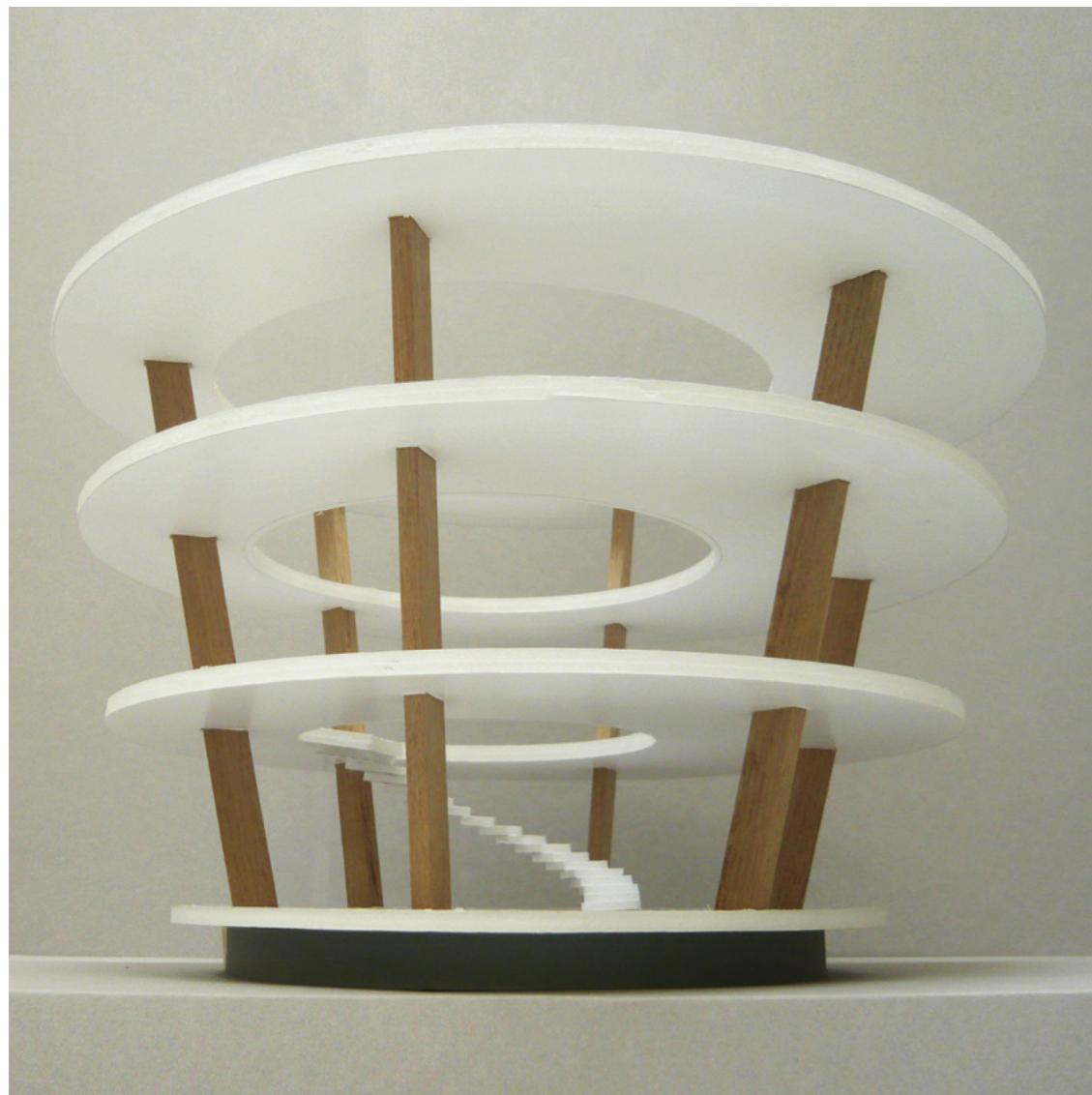
GROSS FLOOR AREA
350 m²

YEAR
2012

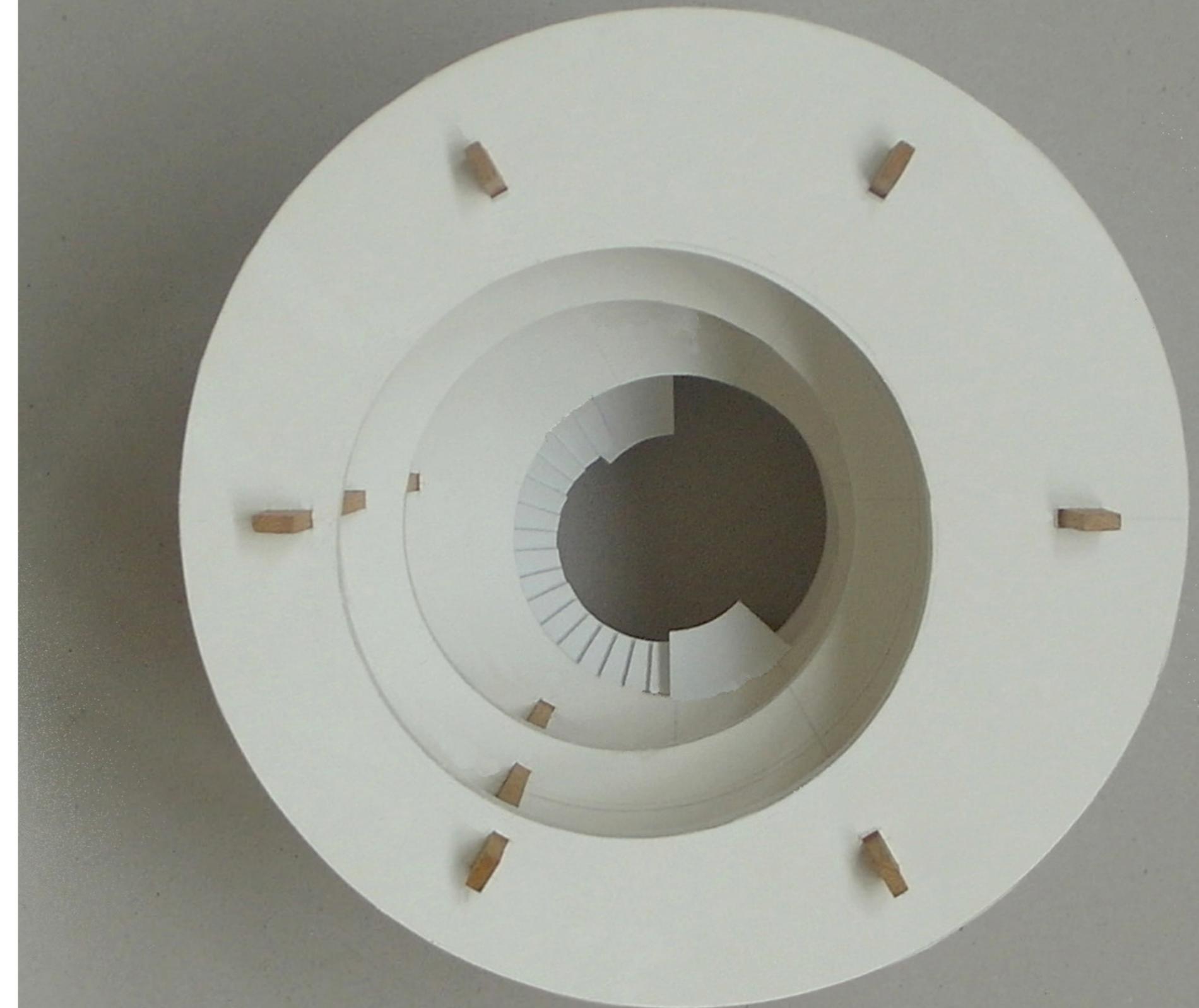
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