





How can Dampsaga be transformed and continue to be a place for Steinkjer's population, where old history is valued and new history is created?



Main entrance, Dampsaga kulturhus

## INTRODUCTION

The project Ny lyd I fløyta – from Sawmill to Folk High School, aims to transform Dampsaga kulturhus, a versatile venue currently housing a multiplex movie theater, stage theater, library, offices, and an open multi-use space for smaller and larger cultural gatherings, into a new folk high school. For thirty years, Dampsaga kulturhus has been a cherished hub for people of all generations in Steinkjer, offering opportunities for entertainment, cultural experiences, and learning. Excited children have had their first dance performance or climbed the auditorium stairs hand-in-hand with their parents to see their favorite hero on the big screen. Young adults gather for thrilling horror movies, despite the sleepless nights that follow. Parents bring their children to music school, hoping to cultivate a future pianist. The venue has also been the backdrop for dates, Christmas parties, office events, bingo nights with friends and family, concerts, theatre performances, and more. Dampsaga Kulturhus has been a vital part of the community, and this transformation into a vibrant folk high school will ensure it continues to serve as a cornerstone of cultural and educational development for years to come.

On September 1, 2023, a brand-new cultural center, Steinkjer kulturhus, opened on the south side of the river, in Steinkjer center, marking the end of an era for Dampsaga Kulturhus. The new center offers several stage theatres, movie theatre, the city library, a museum, a digital showroom, exhibition space, a café, office work space and more. It's situated by the city square next to the church and the community center. These three together with Rismellen activity park on the east side of the community center, form the new cultural quarter in the city.

The new location of the cultural center has been done based on an idea of gathering the cultural events in the city and making it easier for organizers, the public and residents of Steinkjer to work more closely together and create new meeting places and to form new creative communities.

Now vacant and with the municipality in process of selling the property, it is time to look back in time and highlight the social and cultural value of the Dampsaga site and building complex. The establishment has played a significant role in the city since the early 20th century. Originally a sawmill, it served as a major workplace for many residents of Steinkjer. The whistle that signaled the start and end of the workday, as well as the lunch break, was heard throughout the city and became a common time signal. With modernization in the seventies, the industrial operations moved to new facilities across the road, and Dampsaga's future seemed uncertain as it stood in the path of a future road planned by the municipality. However, local advocates saw the transformative potential in the building stock, leading to the establishment of Dampsaga Kulturhus in 1990.

As a resident of Steinkjer, I have cherished memories of Dampsaga, considering it one of the city's most important gathering places during my upbringing. Given its uncertain future, I have dedicated my diploma to investigating the potential for transforming Dampsaga once again, demonstrating that it can remain a place where new memories are created.





Interior photo, saw building

With a focus on reusing and transforming the existing building mass, I aim to find a new purpose for Dampsaga, allowing it to continue as a vibrant meeting place for the people of Steinkjer. I propose programming the buildings as a folk high school with two study lines: Sustainable forestry, and Hunting and Fishing. My goal is to revitalize the entire property and contribute positively to the community, addressing the decline in population while preserving and showcasing the history embedded in both the Dampsaga's beautiful brick buildings and the concrete structures from 1992. By making these structures accessible, attractive and visible in the urban setting, new generations can breathe new life into Dampsaga and create lasting benefits for the city. From May to August, the housing area will function as a reasonable accommodation offer and be a good option for tourists and others visiting Steinkjer. The aim is to fill the building with life throughout the whole year and for Steinkjer's residents to continue feeling ownership to the facility and using it for big or small events or even just take an evening stroll in the park.

The building complex consists of several structures, three of which were originally part of the sawmill and were erected in 1909 and 1915. These buildings feature solid brick outer walls and wooden truss roof constructions. The remaining buildings were constructed in 1992 when the site was transformed into a cultural center. The 1992 structures are primarily made of prefabricated concrete elements, with facades composed of prefabricated concrete slabs, brick, and metal cassettes.

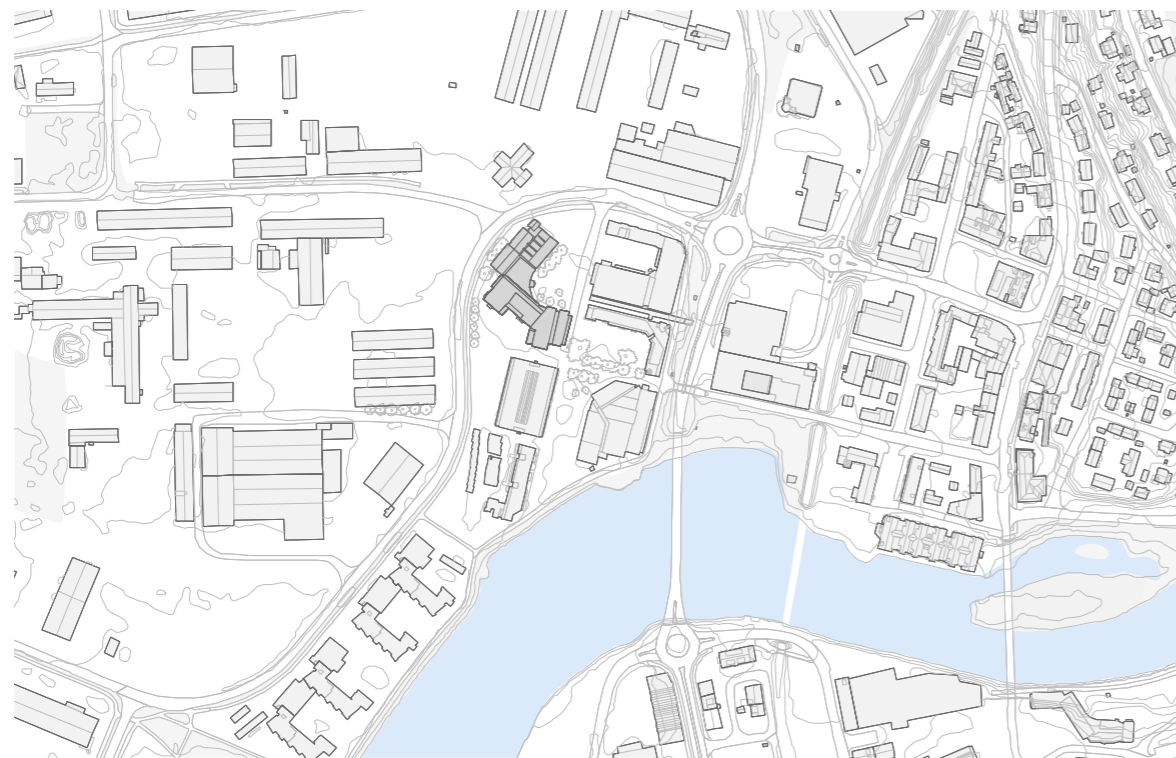




The Saw building. ca 1980, [https://www.steinkjerleksikonet.no/dampsaga\\_1980\\_tallet](https://www.steinkjerleksikonet.no/dampsaga_1980_tallet)



[https://www.steinkjerleksikonet.no/steinkjer\\_dampsag\\_og\\_hovleri\\_as](https://www.steinkjerleksikonet.no/steinkjer_dampsag_og_hovleri_as)



Existing situation plan

## HISTORY OF SITE AND BUILDING

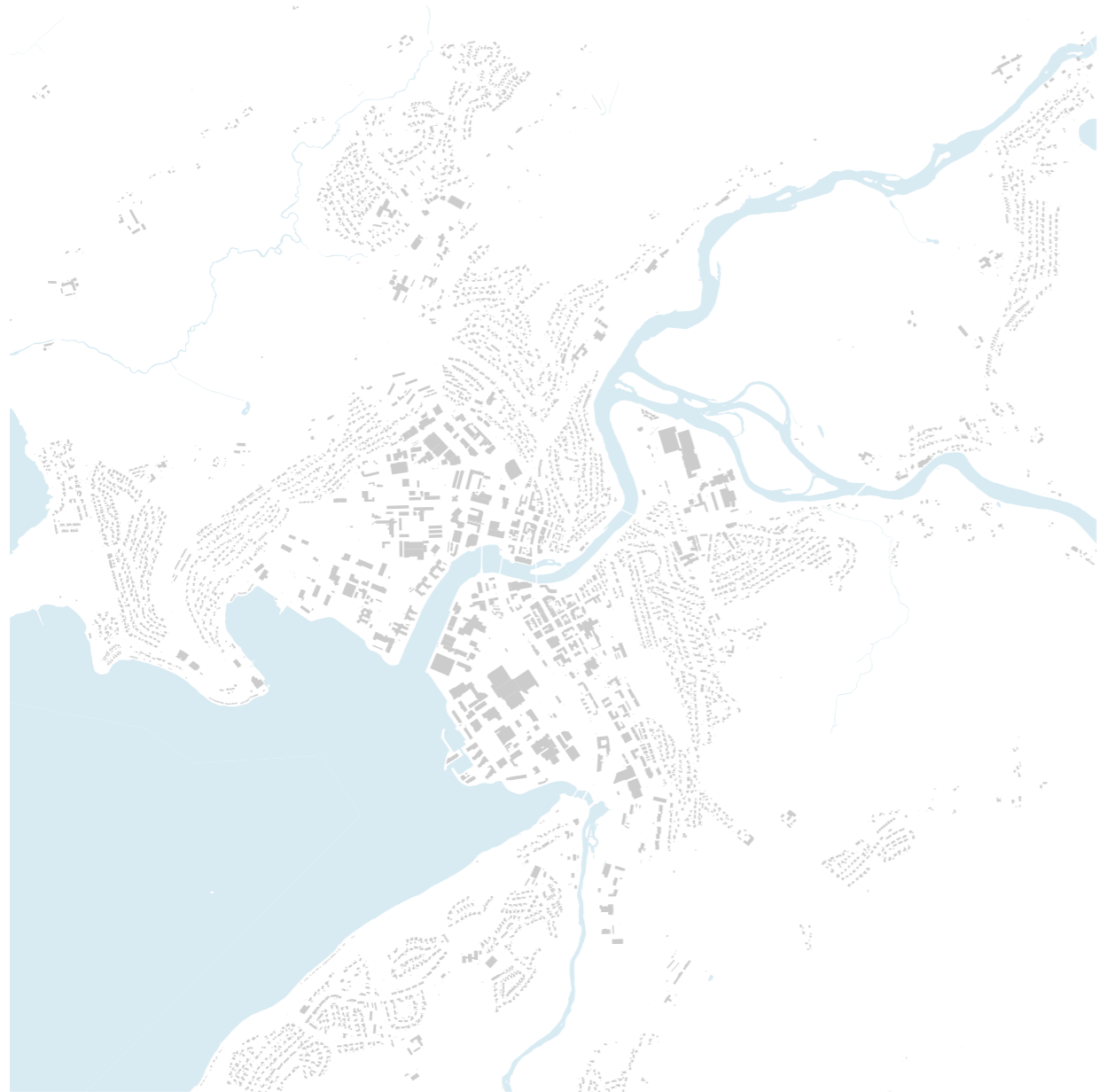
Dampsaga Kulturhus is situated on the north side of the river in Steinkjer. The rivers Oгна and Byaelva meet to form Steinkjervelva, which has its outlet in the middle of the city and divides it into two districts, «Nordsia» and «Sørsia». These rivers served as significant waterway for logging used to transport timber from the large forest areas to the timber harbor, and made it natural for Steinkjer to become a timber industry center. A road curves along the north and west sides, serving as the boundary between Dampsaga and Steinkjer's timber industry area. To the west, a small shopping center is accompanied by several apartment buildings, predominantly housing elderly residents. These apartment buildings extend along the river on the south side, where they meet the industrial area and the health center, all the way down to the river outlet. It's close to the river promenade which connects with the rest of the city and the train station is only a ten-minute walk away. The bus stops by the shopping center which makes it very available. During the years the green areas in the city has decreased, and the industry area have grown larger. By demolishing some of the structures erected in 92 who are directly connected to the brick buildings I tend to increase the green area and making the beautiful facades visible as a nice reminder of the history it holds. Creating a outdoor space

Originally, the property was home to one of Steinkjer's most significant workplaces, with a history dating back to 1874 when architect Haakon Mosling established a carpentry shop called Naustvolen. In 1876, a fire destroyed the factory, but it was rebuilt and expanded with a steam saw and planer powered by a 10-horsepower steam engine..

Just three years later, the company went bankrupt. In 1909, Sunnan Træforedlingsamlag, led by manager Elseus Ramberg, purchased the estate and renamed it Steinkjær Dampsag og Høvele-ri AS. That same year, a new planer building and a for ge with a 23-meter chimney were constructed. Six years later, the saw building was lost in another fire but was promptly rebuilt. These historic buildings remain part of the facility that stands today .

The production of timber was of great importance to the workers and the community. A whistle signal marking the start and end of the workday, as well as the lunch break, could be heard throughout the city, becoming a communal time signal. Over the years, the operations faced various challenges, and in 1955, the company was severely affected by an economic downturn. The sawmill became outdated, requiring a large workforce relative to its production capacity. Dispatcher Ramberg retired at the age of 84, and in 1962, Inntrøndelag Skogeierlag took over the business. The steam engine was replaced with electric motors, but as time went on, it became clear that a significant modernization was needed, signaling the end of Dampsaga's era as a sawmill. In 1978 the production was moved to a new facility across the road, leaving the original buildings in a state of limbo..





The river divides the city into two parts, "nordsileiret" and "sørsileiret"



The forrest surrounding





■ Industry area

The municipality initially planned to demolish the buildings to make way for a new road alongside the industrial area. However, this initiative was fortunately halted due to strong local engagement. The community recognized the historical value of the buildings and worked tirelessly to preserve them. It was soon acknowledged that the buildings held symbolic value and were of antiquarian interest. Consequently, on September 29th, 1982, the foundation Stiftelsen Dampsaga was established with the purpose of owning, preserving, and developing Dampsaga as a cultural facility.

The deed was transferred to the foundation in 1984, with the condition that they maintain the building and refrain from requesting financial grants until the beginning of the 1990s. An incredible sense of idealism drove the vision of transforming Dampsaga into a music and opera facility for the entire county of Nord-Trøndelag. Volunteers, companies, and the municipality contributed with great creativity and dedication. To finance the restoration of the planer building, framed drawings by renowned Steinkjer artist Olav Myhr were sold. Additionally, people could purchase their own chair in the concert hall, with the buyer's name engraved on it. A radio channel called Steinkjer Dampradio was also established by three of the most passionate advocates for resurrecting the property as an important gathering place for the city. Numerous gifts and donations poured in, demonstrating the project's importance to many in the community. The widespread engagement illustrated what Dampsaga meant to the people of Steinkjer, making it a project that many felt a deep sense of ownership and pride in.





East facade, Saw building



Newspaper clippings from Steinkjer Avisa



**Fredag 15/11:**  
 18.00: Nyheter  
 18.05: Postkassa  
 19.00: Næringslivshalvtimen  
 23.00: Opp med dampen

**Lørdag 16/11:**  
 10.00: Opp med dampen (repr.)  
 23.00: Lørdagskveld i Høvelen (Country-program v/Ebbe Tronstad).

**Søndag 17/11:**  
 10.00: Lørdagskveld i Høvelen (repr.)  
 18.00: Sportsspeilet

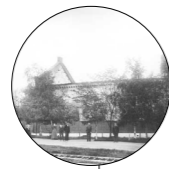
**Mandag 18/11:**  
 17.30: Barnetime  
 18.00: Nyheter  
 18.05: Dampsaga på laust og fast (Programoversikt informasjon o.l.)  
 18.30: Pop & Rock 102 (I dag med Rockgarasjen).





**1857**

Steinkjer blir egen kommune med bystatus og ladestedsrettigheter.



**1900**

Sørsia brant og 62 bygninger ble lagt i aske, der blant Steinkjer kirke.



**1907**

Sunnan Træforedlings-samlag kjøper opp Nøstvolden dampsag.



**1914**

Sagbygningen på Dampsaga brant ned, ny sag sto ferdig i 1915



**1962**

Inntrøndelag Skogeierlag kjøper opp Dampsaga.



**1983**

Dampsaga stiftelsen opprettes. En ide om kulturhus fødes.



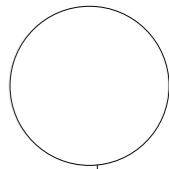
**1991**

byggingen startet 2. mai, kulturhusanlegget ble utformet av Letnes Arkitektkontor A/S.



**2023**

kinoforestillingen 14.august blir Dampsagas siste offisielle arrangement.



**20—>**

Dampsaga Folk High School

**1874**

I 1874 startet arkitekt Haakon Mosling et snekkeri og senere dampsagbruk på Nordsileiret.



**1905**

Jernbanen i Steinkjer ble offisielt åpnet.



**1909**

endrer navn til Steinkjær Dampsag og Høvleri AS og ny høvelbygning og smie blir bygget.



**1940**

Andre verdenskrig. Steinkjer blir bombet og ca 80% av byen blir lagt i ruiner.



**1978**

Driften flyttes over veien til nye lokaler og Dampsaga har sagt sin siste plank.



**1990**

utbyggingen ble vedtatt i kommunestyret.



**1992**

Dampsaga kulturhus innvies 15. mai.



**2023**

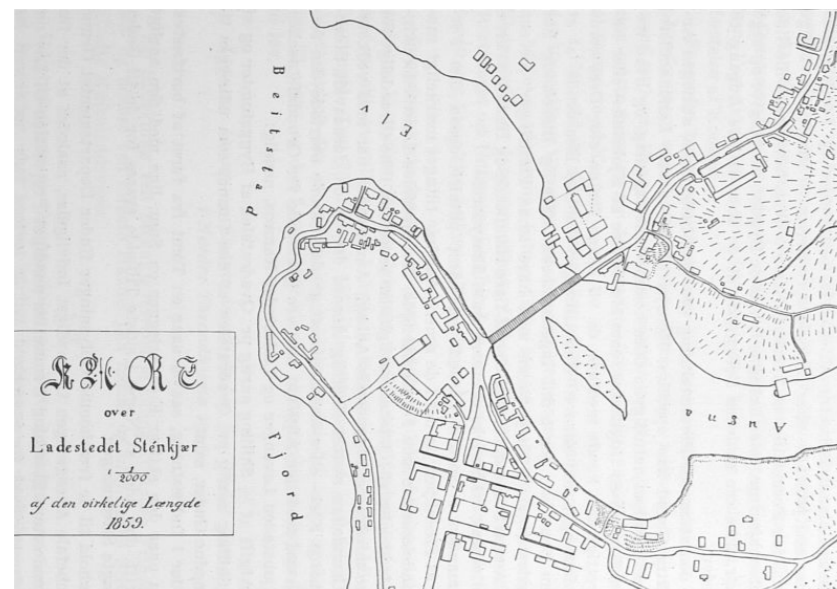
1. september åpner det nye kulturhuset i Steinkjer







<https://www.ika-trondelag.no/steinkjer-ladested-150/>



<https://www.ika-trondelag.no/steinkjer-ladested-150/>

## STEINKJER

On the left side, you can see a map of Steinkjær from 1835, and on the right, a map from 1859 after the city had received market town rights and city status. These maps show how the city is divided into two districts, “Nordsia” and “Sørsia,” by the river. Due to its location, it was natural for Steinkjær to become a sawmill town. The rivers Ogna and Byaelva meet to form Steinkjær-elva, which has its outlet in the middle of the city and was a significant waterway for logging used to transport timber from the large forest areas to the timber harbor at Eggebogen.<sup>1</sup>

The trading industry has played a significant role in Steinkjær’s economy throughout history. Steinkjær’s position as a natural trading center prompted the villages in the inner part of Trondheimsfjorden to take the initiative to obtain market town rights for the city in the mid-1800s. The rights enable the business owners to trade internationally (imports and exports). The legislative authorities approved the request on May 7, 1857, which made Steinkjær a separate municipality with city status and market town rights.<sup>2</sup>

1 Bartnes, H. (1957)  
 2 Langøyen, P. (2007)

EU Tirsdag 26.5 1992 11



# Dampsaga Kulturhus

Vi gratulerer og takker for oppdrag og leveranser

**Hovedentreprenør**  
**Enda en jobb er utført**  
 Selmer A.S takker alle som har deltatt i prosjektet, for en vel gjennomført jobb.

**EN TOTAL ENTREPRISE VED**  
**Selmer A.S**

**Arkitekt og konsulenter**  
 Utførende arkitekt:  
 LETNES AS  
 VEDDAL, Navalgata 28, Box 37, TE. 075 79155  
 STEINKJER, Jernstikkergata 6, TE. 077 83100  
 Rådgivende ingeniør for VVS, sprinkleranlegget og klimaanlegget:  
 SIVILINGENIØR  
**ARNODD GULLING A.S**  
 Rådgivende ingeniør i VVS-energi og klimateknikk  
 Hornesgt. 20 - Steinkjer  
 De elektrotekniske anlegg er prosjektert av:  
**RYJORD AS NORD**  
 Rådgivende ingeniør Elektroteknikk MRF  
 Kongensgt. 28, Steinkjer, tlf. 077/63 755  
 Rådgivende ingeniør i byggeteknikk:  
**NT CONSULT**  
 TEKNIKK - BYGGINGSPROJEKTERING  
 KONGENSVEIEN 11 - 7700 STEINKJER  
 TEL. 077 61 400 - TELEFAX 077 61 400

Levering og montering av buesledninger og gule-  
 cementanlegg:  
**RørTek a.s**  
 ALT. RØRLEGGER  
 Salskrang. 1, Steinkjer  
 Tel. 0776/533. Mobil: 09021 489, 20 236

Grunnarbeider er utført av:  
**Asbjørn Røstad**  
 7050 Verdal, tlf. 78 988

Leveranse av TBK universalsett:  
**TBK**  
 Postboks 2511, Verksvegen 1, 7700 Steinkjer  
 Tel. 077/65 100 - Telefax 077/65 102

Vi har utført maling og beleggsarbeid:  
**Eivind Olsen**  
 Malerforretning A/S  
 HORNESVEIEN 11 - 7700 STEINKJER  
 TEL. 077/61 400 - FAX 077/61 400

Glass og aluminiumsfasader er utført av:  
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 7000 Verdal, tlf. 076/78 340

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**TRØNDERARDA**  
 Tlf. 077/65 900  
 Verksvegen 7, 7700 Steinkjer

De elektriske installasjoner utført av:  
**ANTE INSTALLASJON**  
 Avd. Steinkjer

Inneklima:  
**TEKNISKE ENTREPRENØR SOLLAND**  
 Gamle Kongevei 53  
 Postboks 1050 - 7701 Steinkjer  
 Tel. 077-62 977

Vi har utført uterensarbeid:  
**Anton Letnes**  
 Steinkjer - Steinkjer

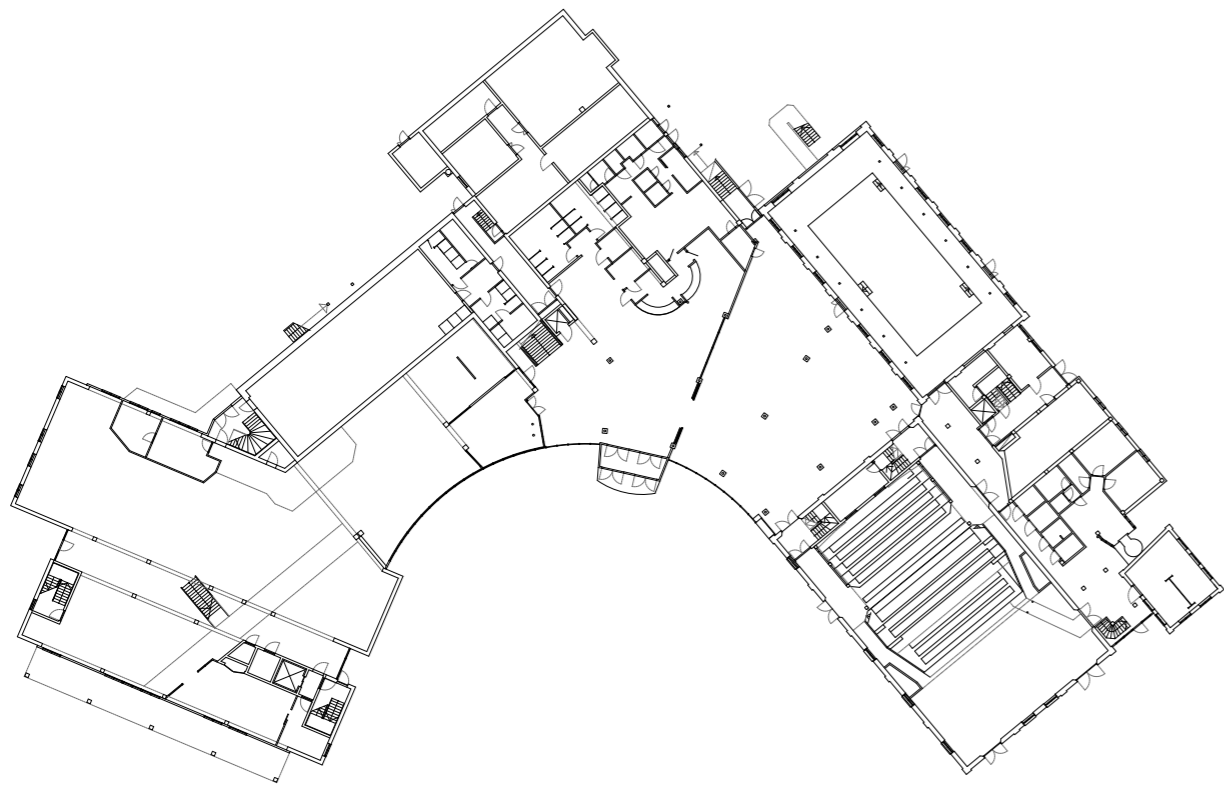
Dampsaga Kulturhus valgte sikkerhetstjenester fra:  
**SECURITAS**

Vi har utført flisarbeid:  
**TOR RØLI A.S**  
 RØLIVANGEN, 7710 TINE, 290 2004

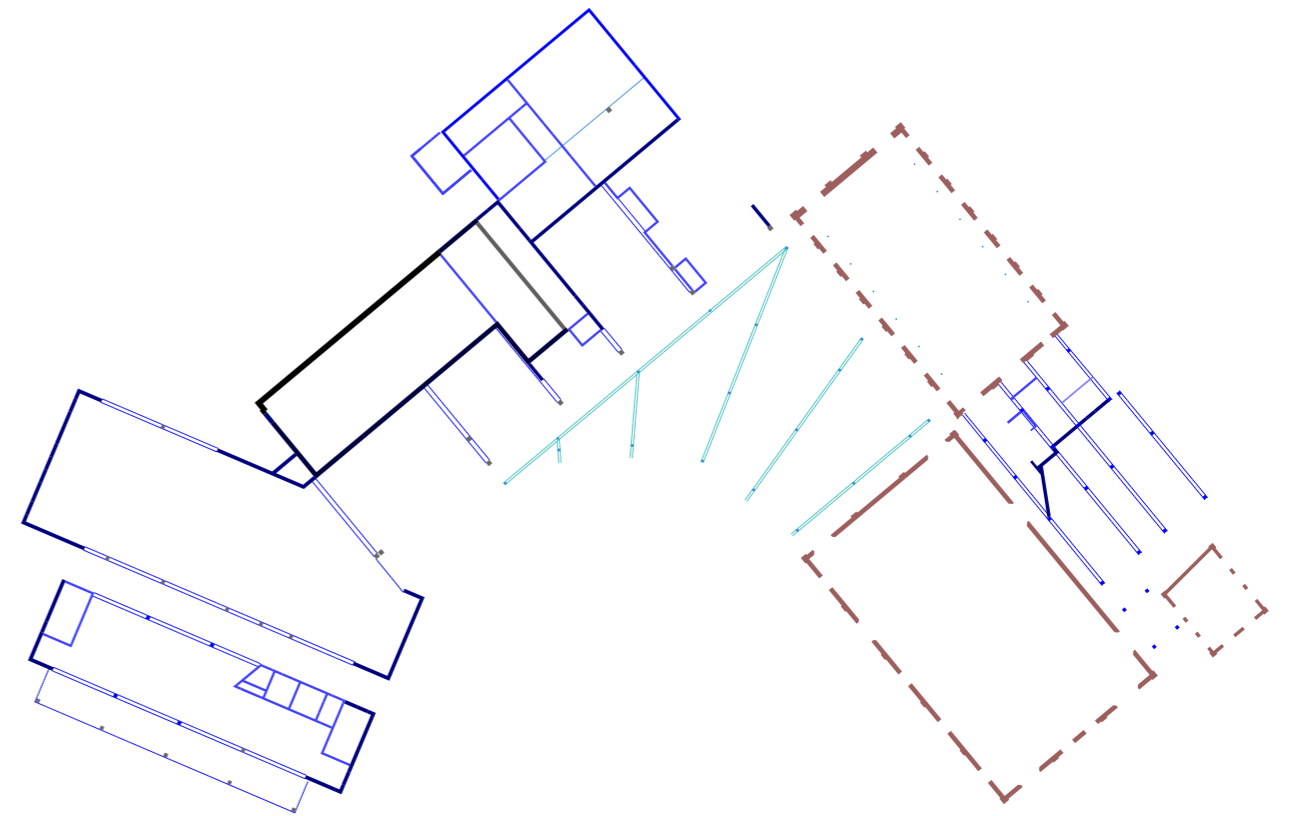
Newspaper clippings from Steinkjer Avis

## BUILDING INDEX

Name of building:	Dampsaga kulturhus
Address:	Bogavegen 10, 7725, Steinkjer
Builder:	Dampsaga utbygningsselskap AS 57% Steinkjer kommune 19% Sparebanken 19% Focus bank 6%
Construction time:	12 months
Gross area:	5575 sqm
Ground surface:	3165 sqm
Architects:	Per Audun Letnes og Kåre Herstad (Letnes arkitektkontor AS) and Hallgrim Bremset.
Contractor:	Selmer AS
Construction consultant:	NT Consult AS
Plumbing (VVS) Consultant:	Siv.ing. Arnodd Gulling AS
El. Consultant:	Ryjord AS Nord

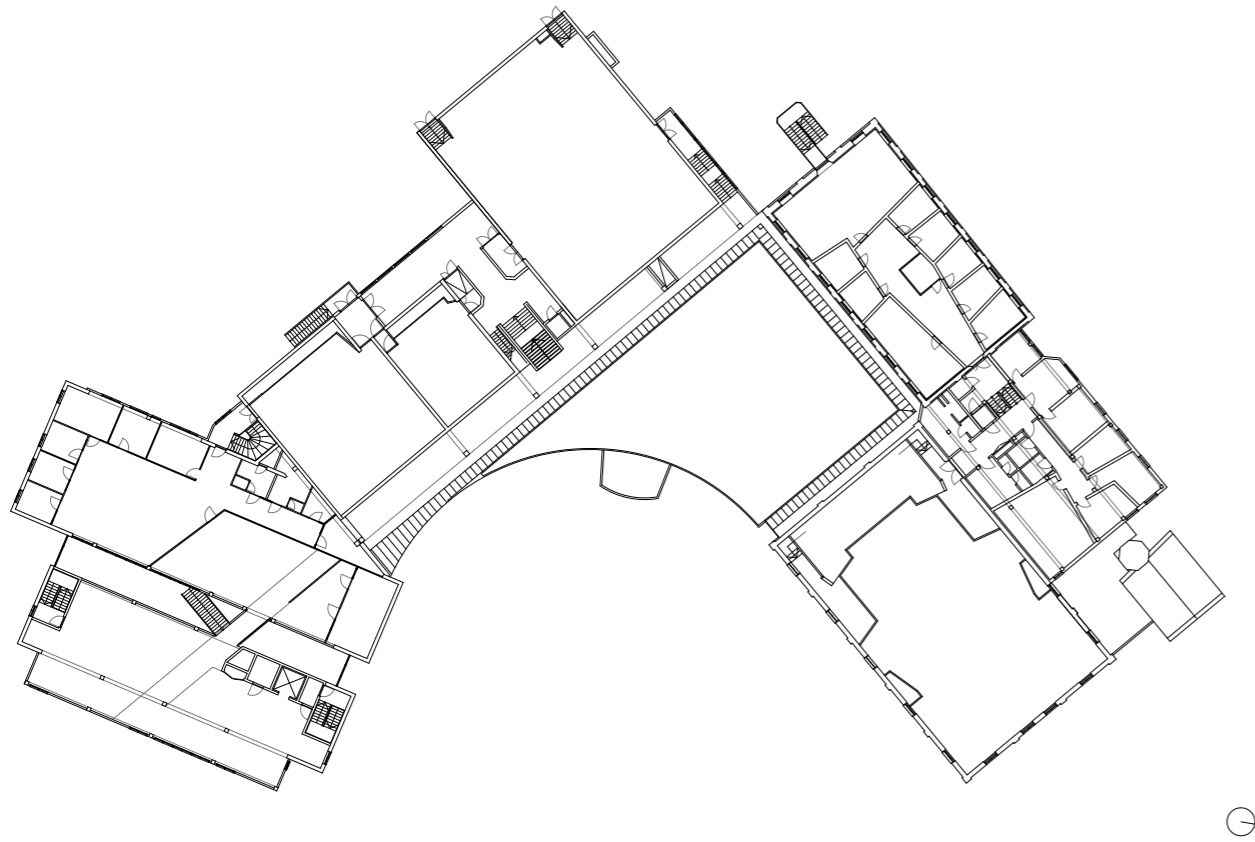


Existing floor plan

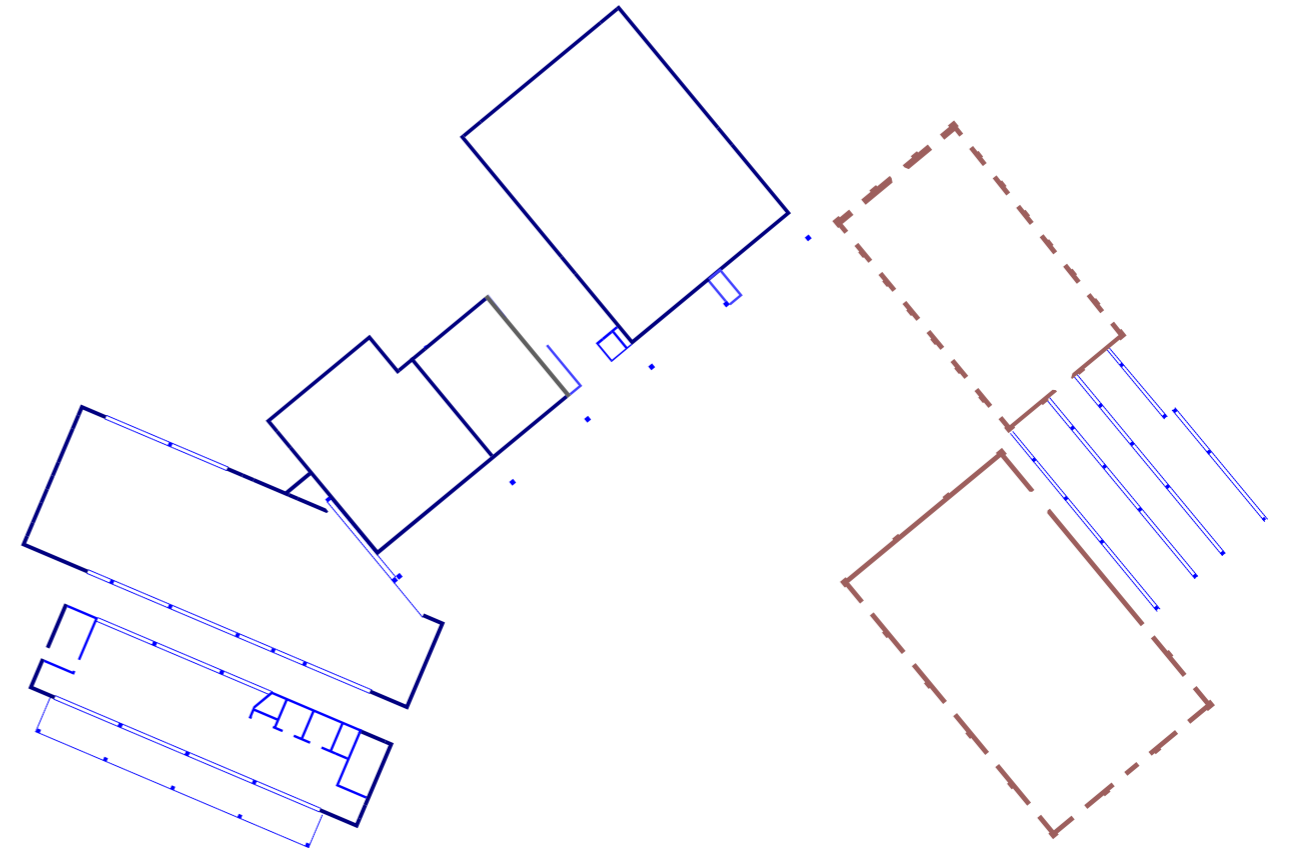


Construction diagram existing floor plan

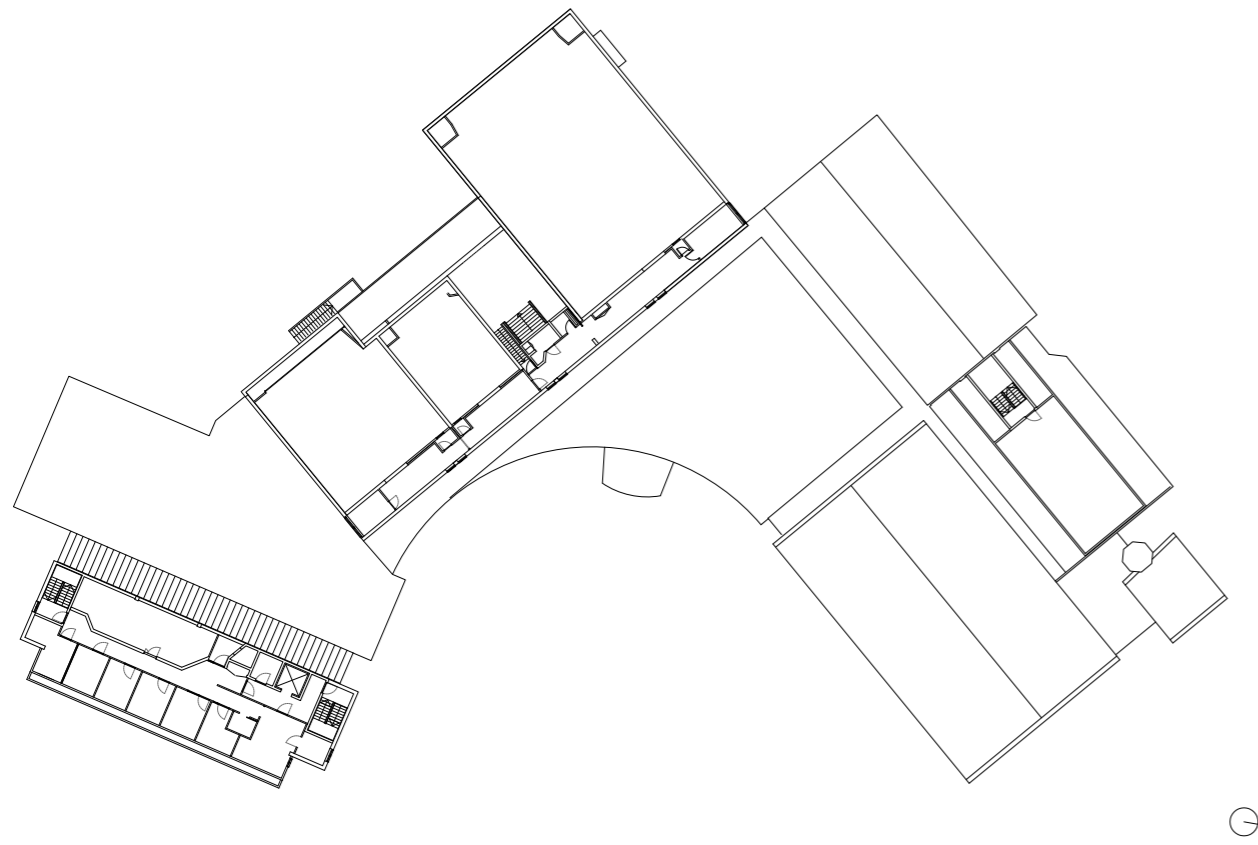




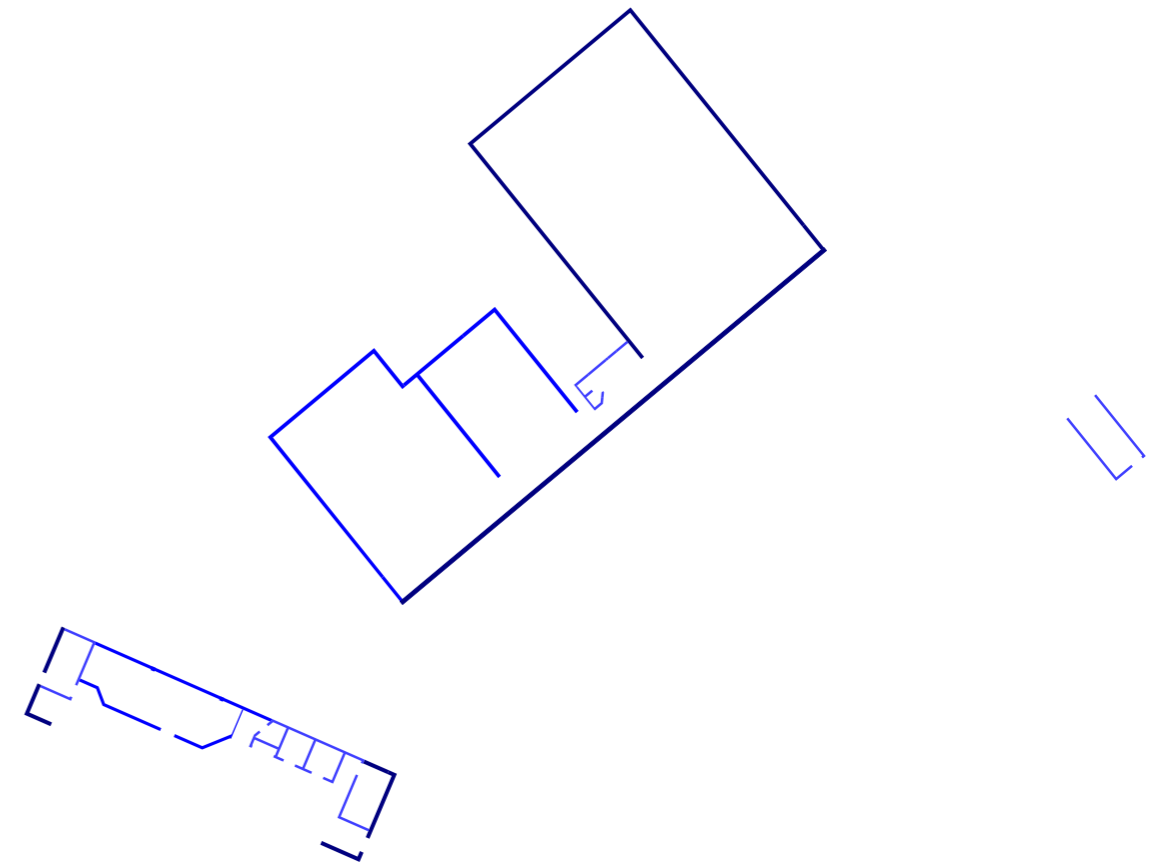
Existing plan second floor



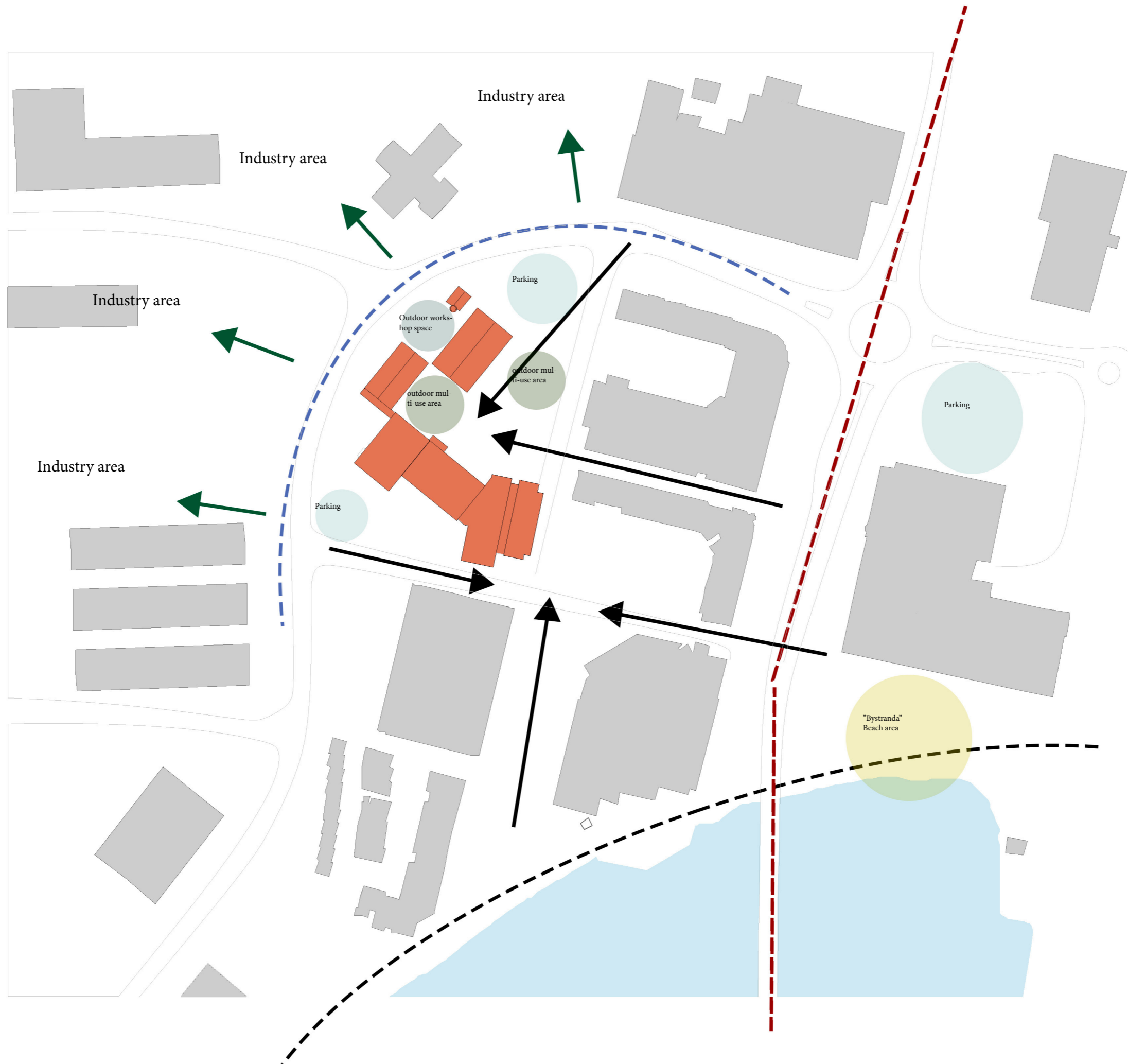
Construction diagram existing plan second floor



Existing plan third floor



Construction diagram existing plan third floor



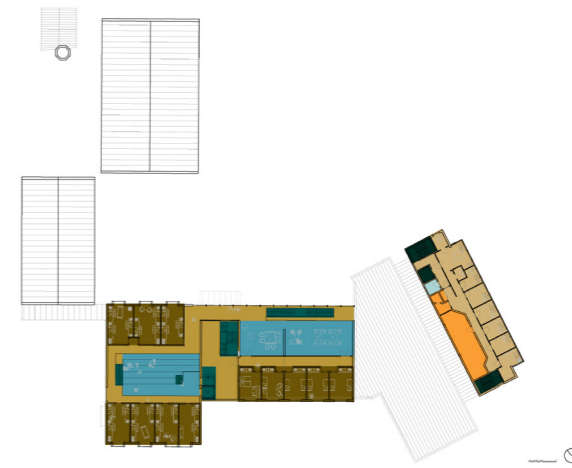
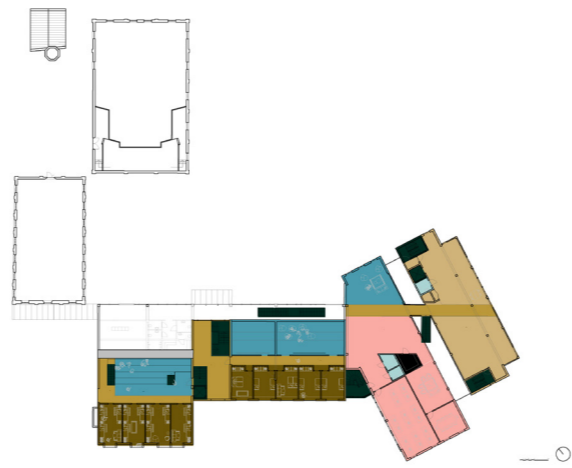
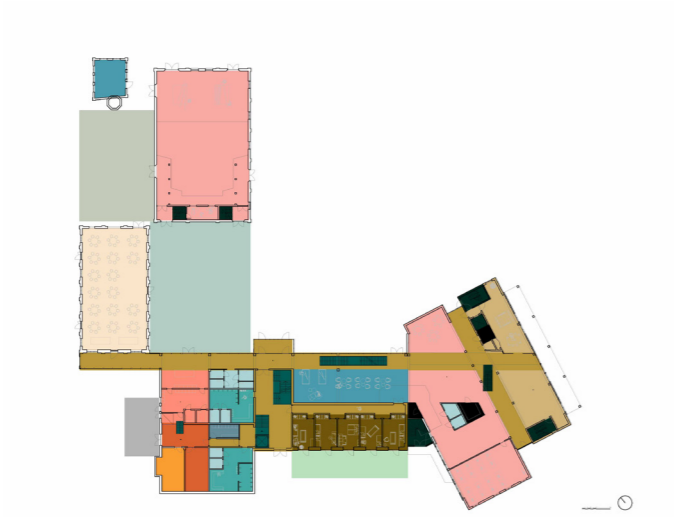





















Model photo II



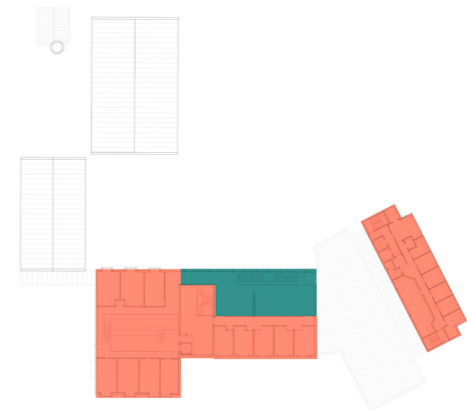
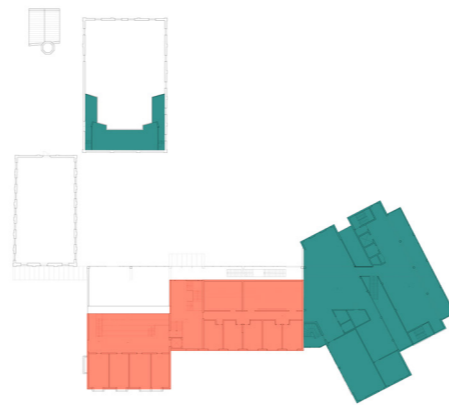
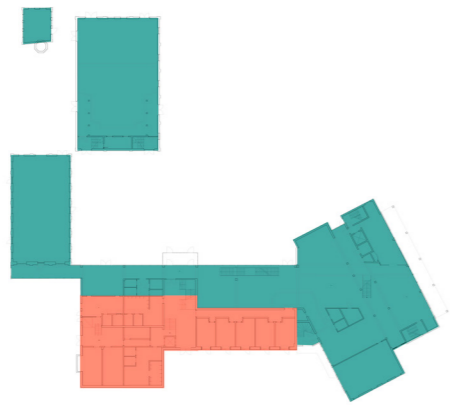
Model photo III



- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
|  outdoor workshop area |  utility room      |  new vertical communication |
|  outdoor multiuse area |  common area       |  vertical communication     |
|  private outdoor space |  kitchen           |  educational space          |
|   |  waste room        |  administration             |
|   |  shower facilities |  laundry room               |
|   |  WC                |  housing                    |
|   |  circulation area  |  technical room             |

during school year





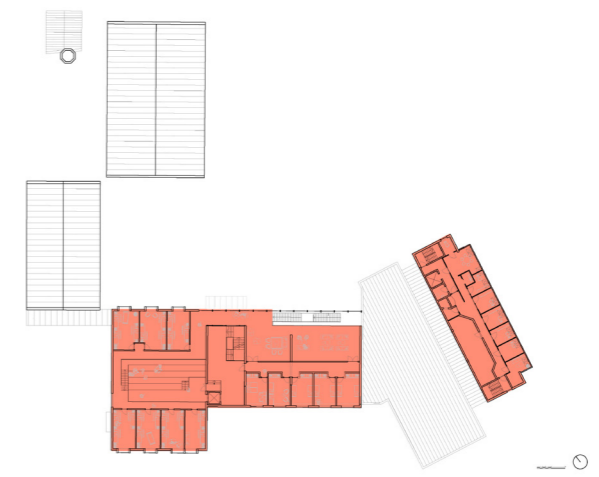
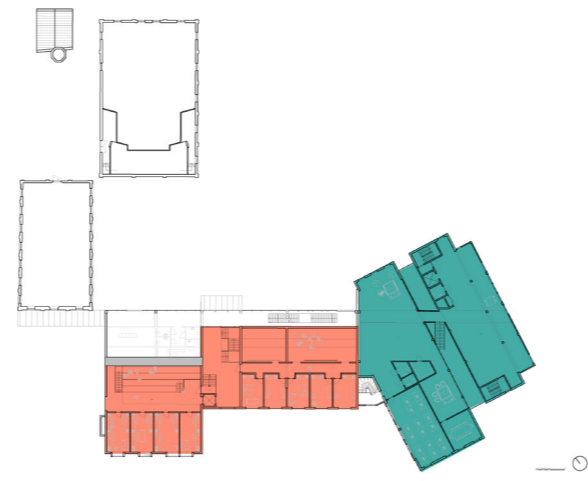
private  
public

during school year



- admin
- vertical communication
- accommodation
- rental workshop space
- circulation area
- selskapslokale
- common functions

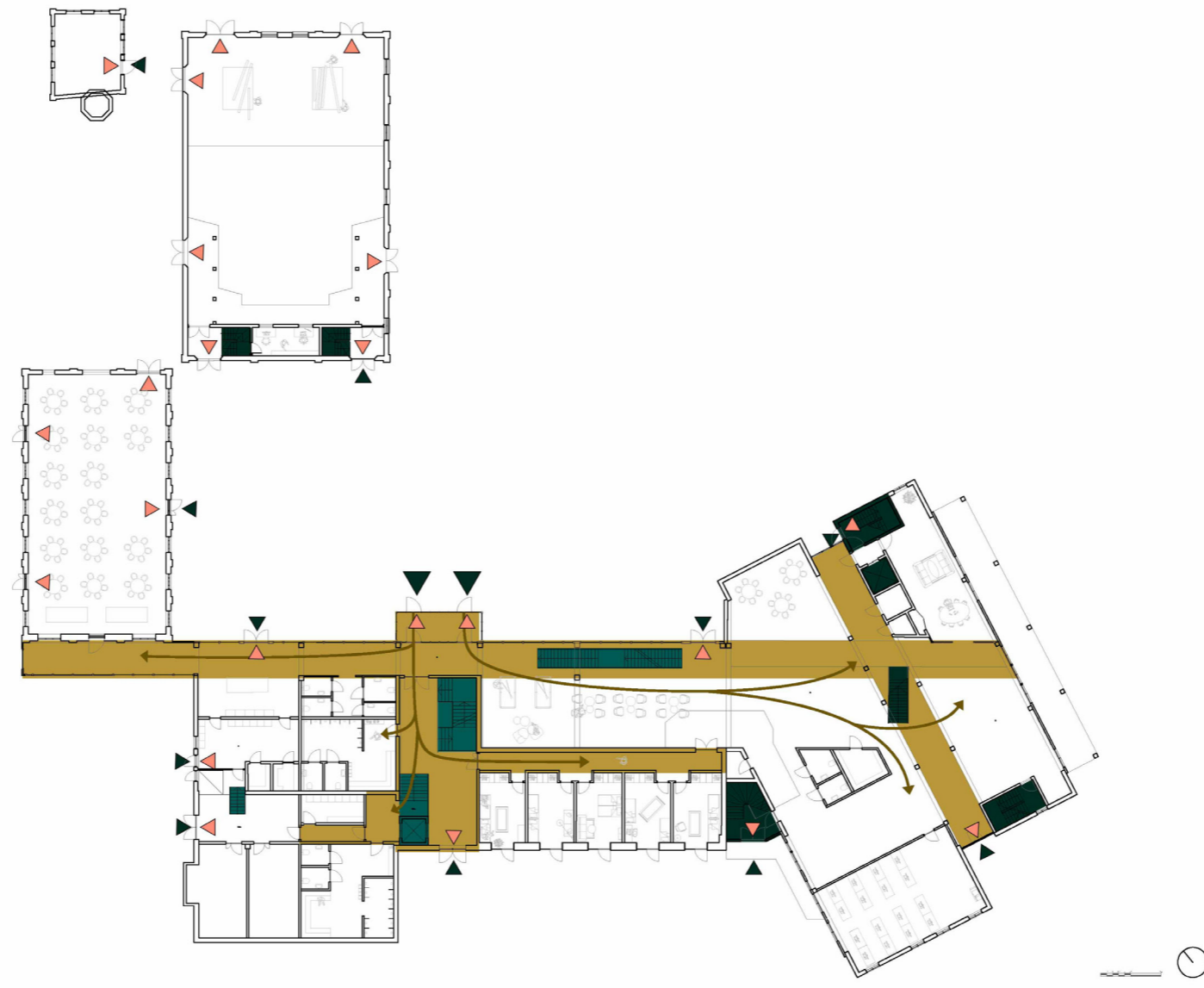
during school year



private  
public

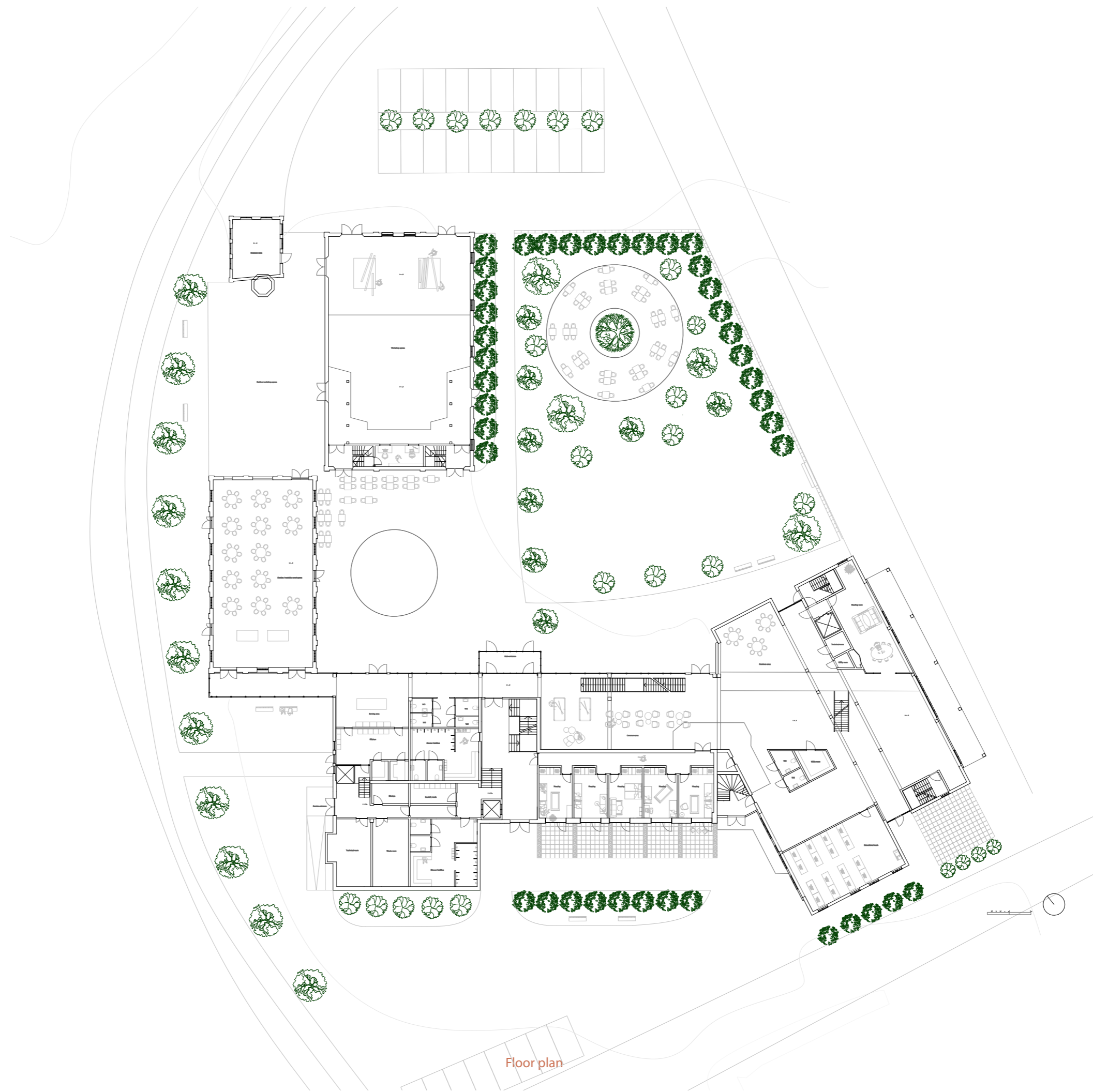
during summer



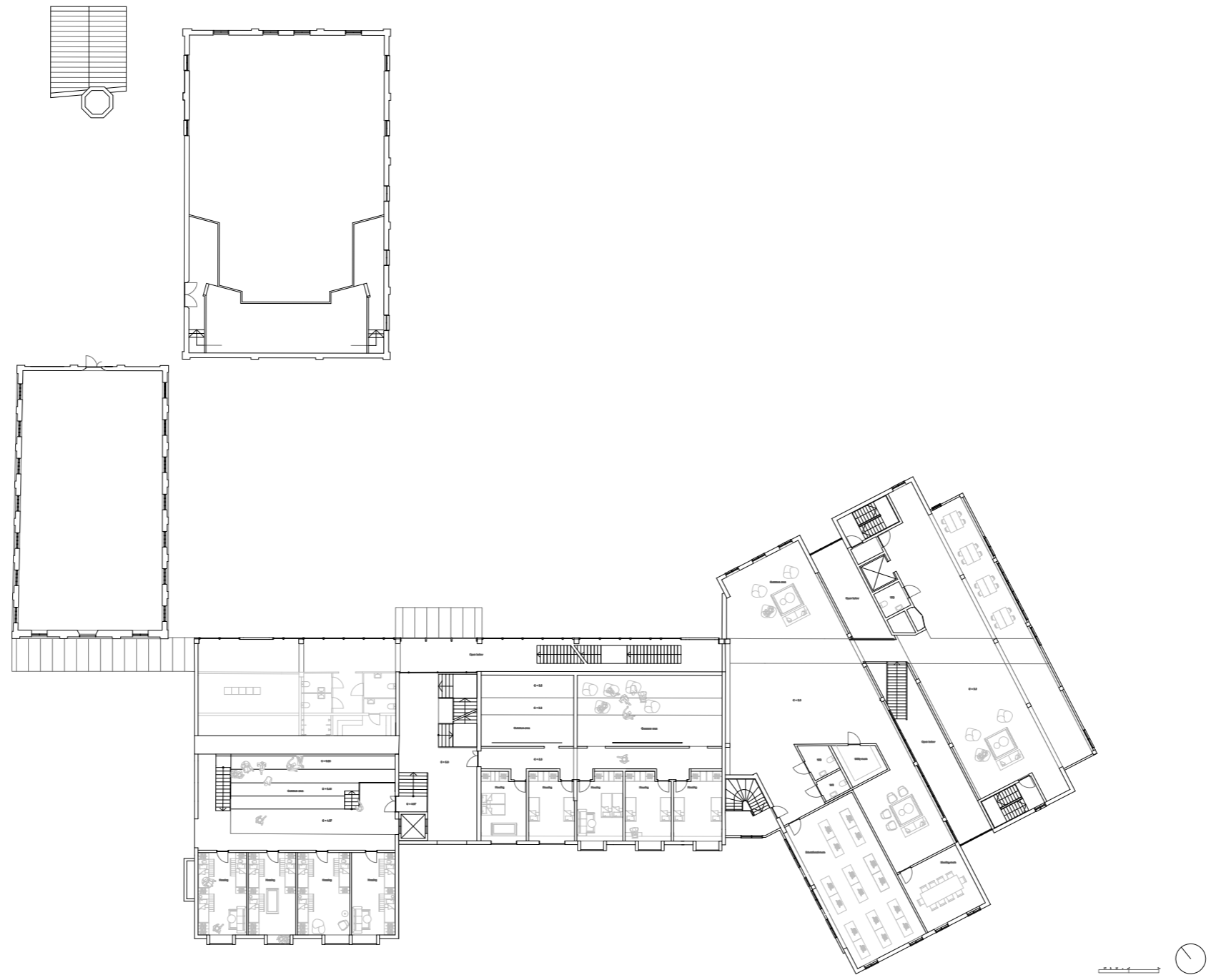


- new vertical communication
- vertical communication
- circulation area

circulation diagram

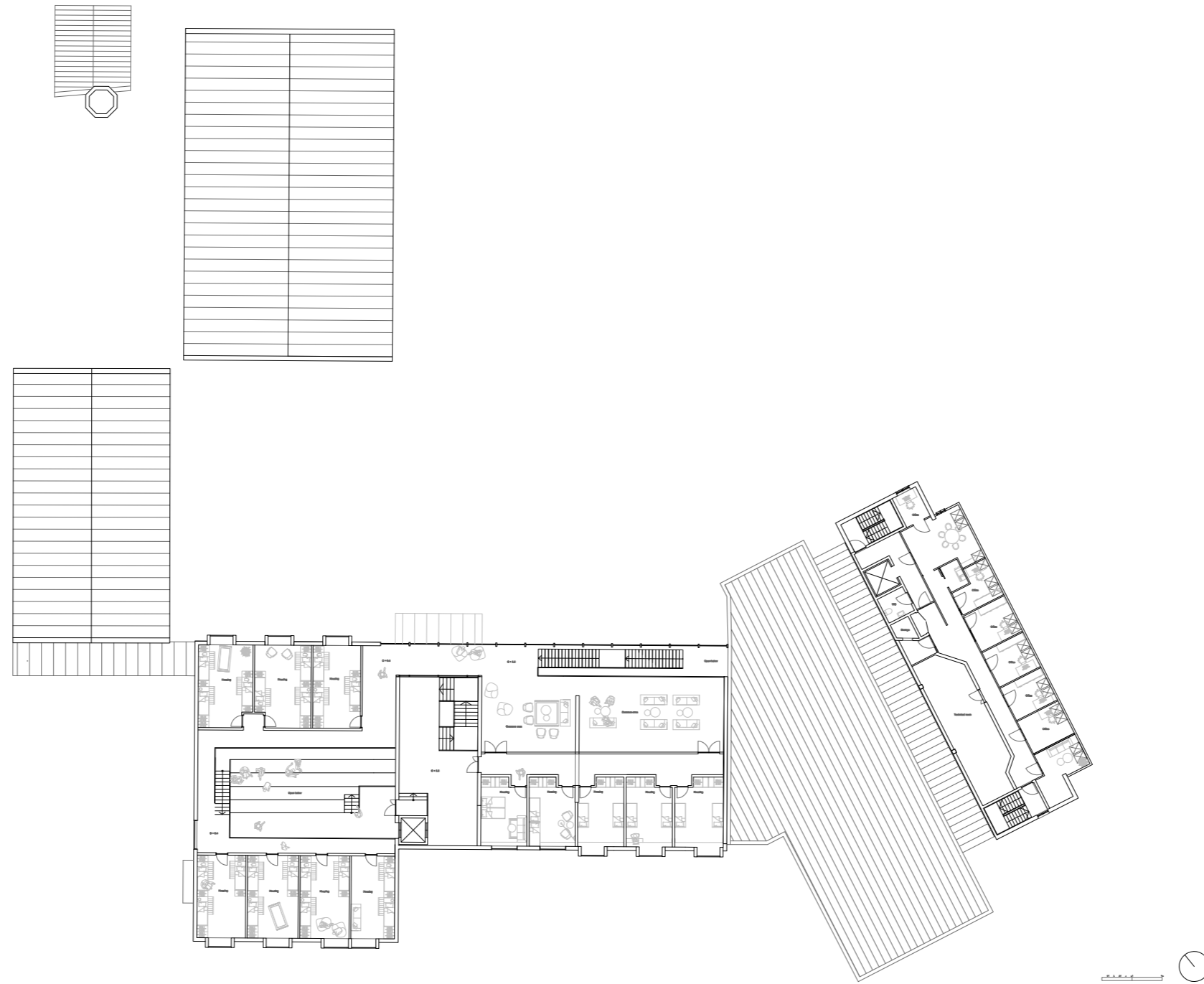


Floor plan

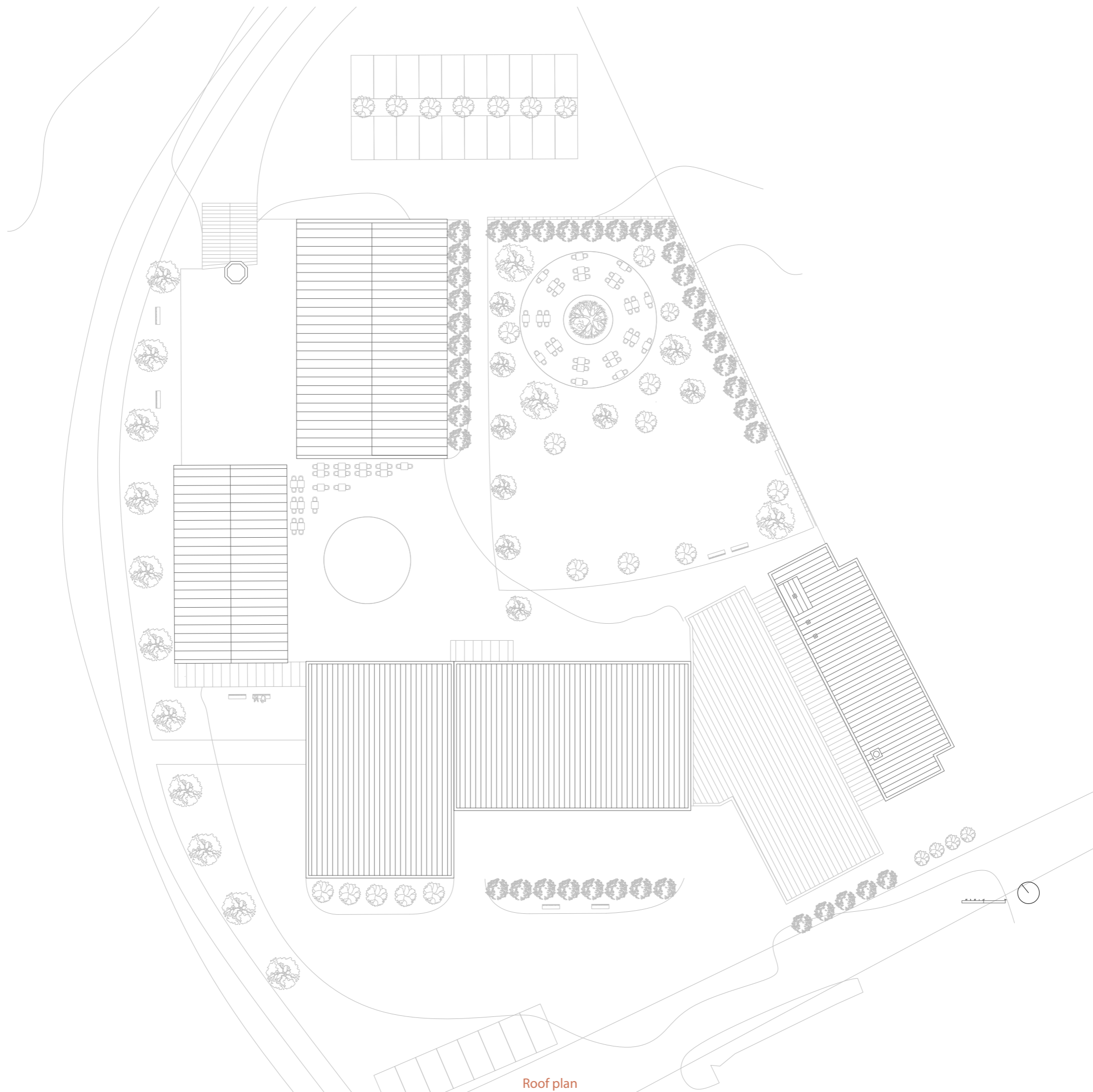


Second floor plan

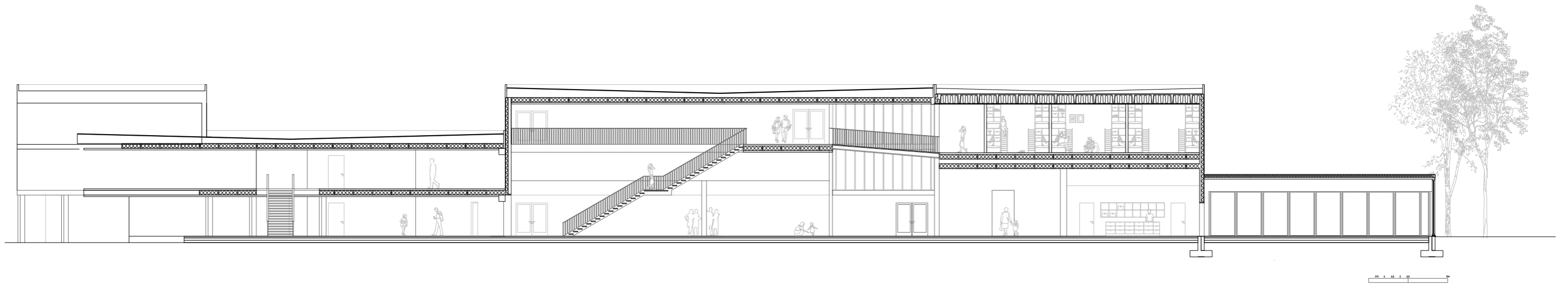
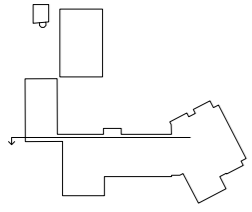




Third floor plan

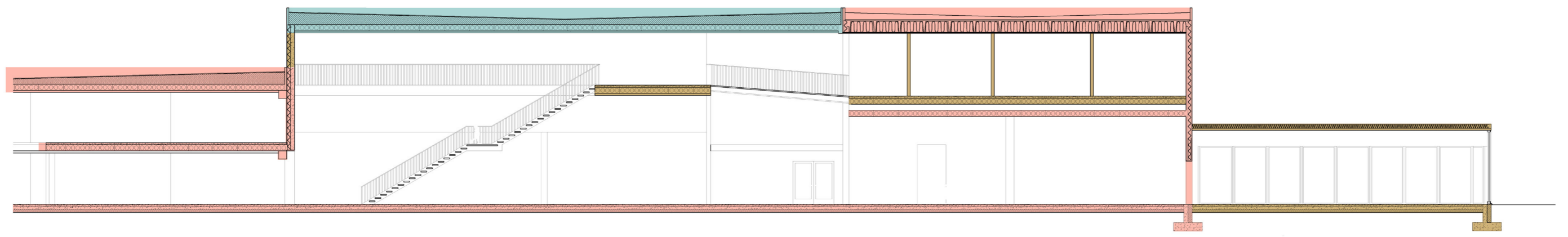


Roof plan



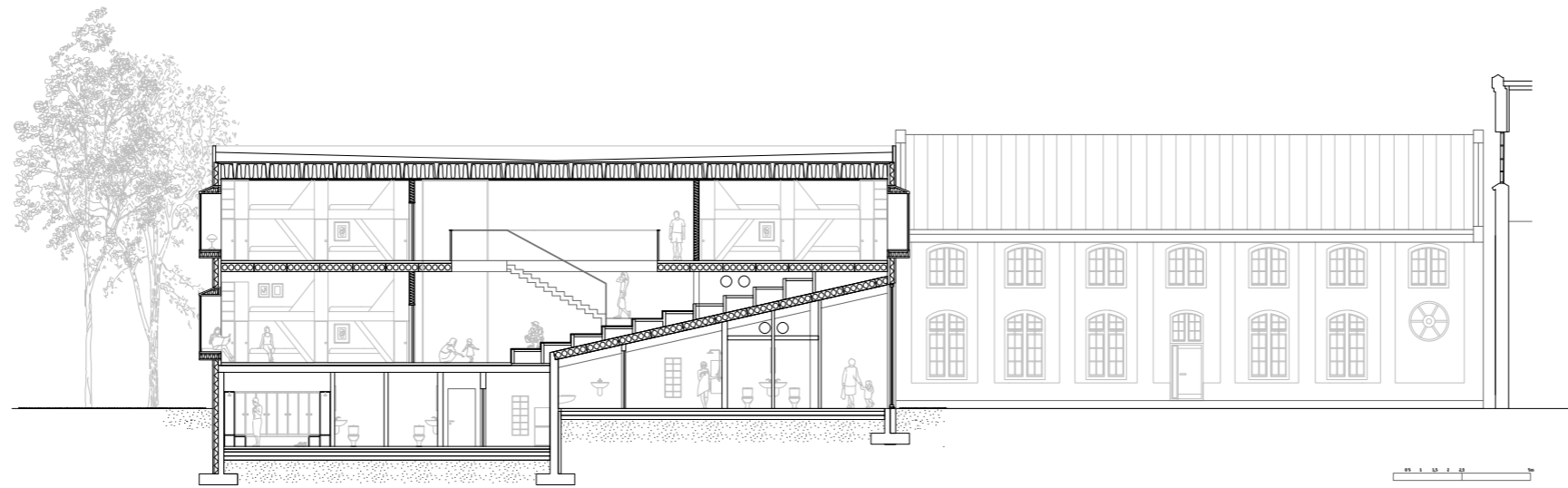
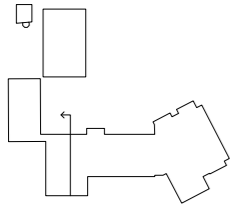
Section I



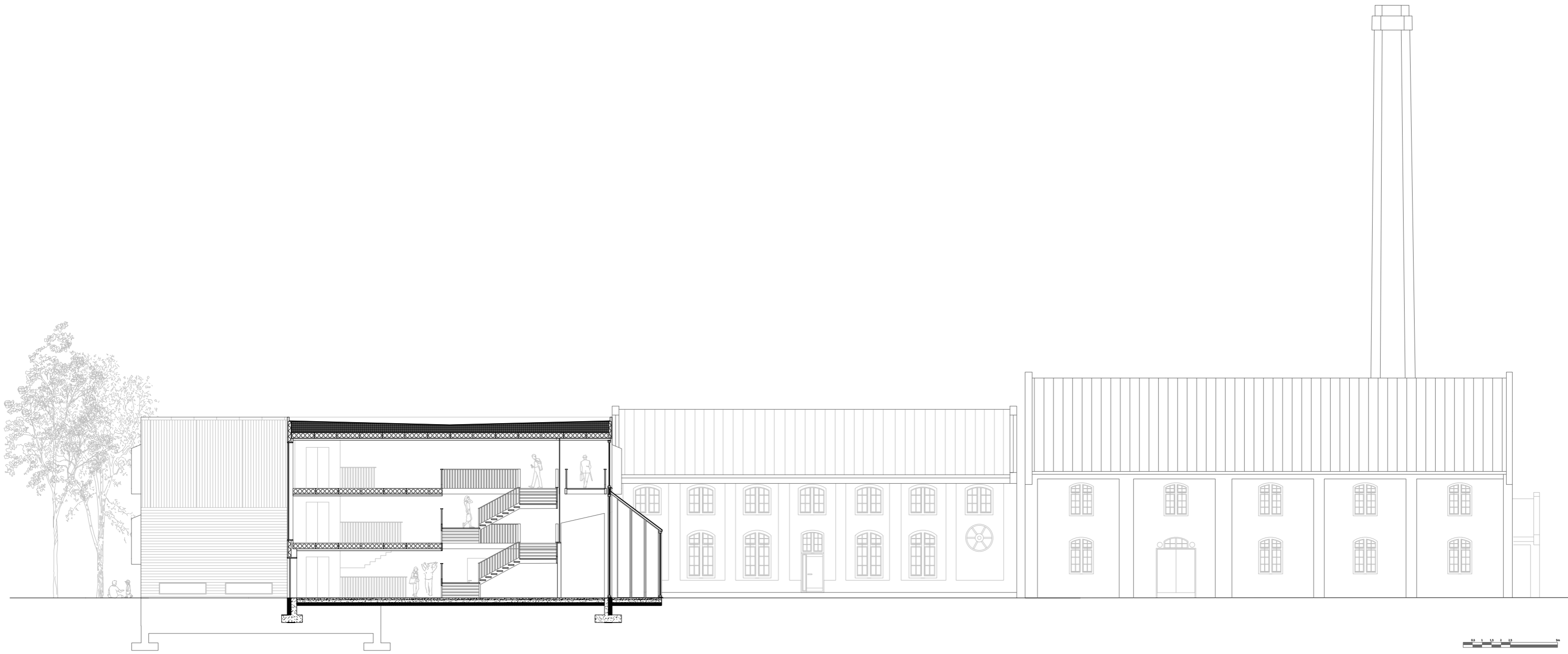
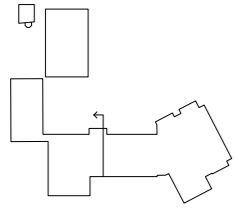


Construction diagram section I

- Existing construction
- New construction
- Re-use of existing construction

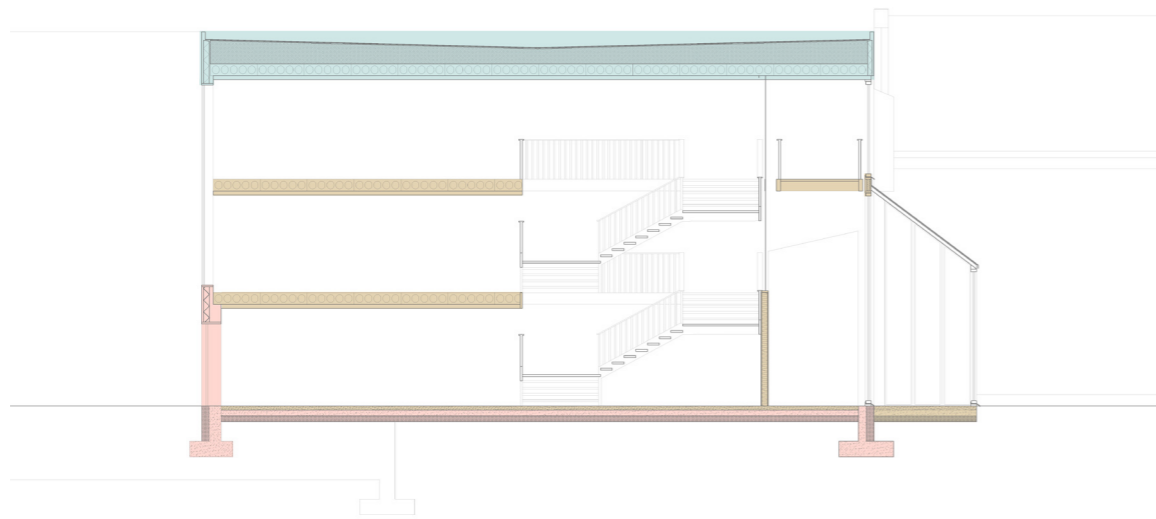


Section II

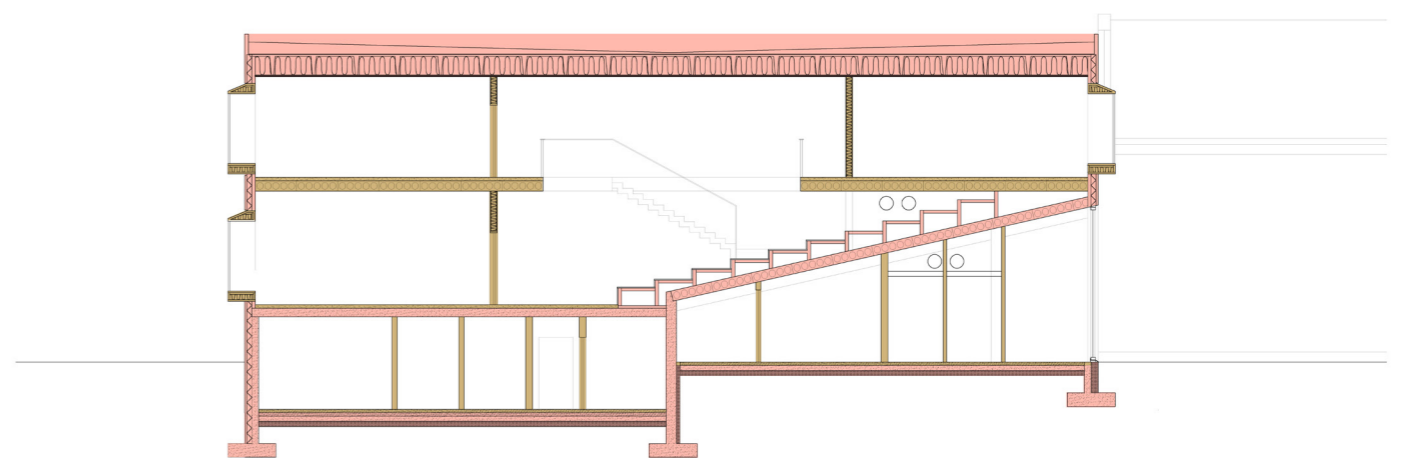


Section III





- Existing construction
- New construction
- Re-use of existing construction

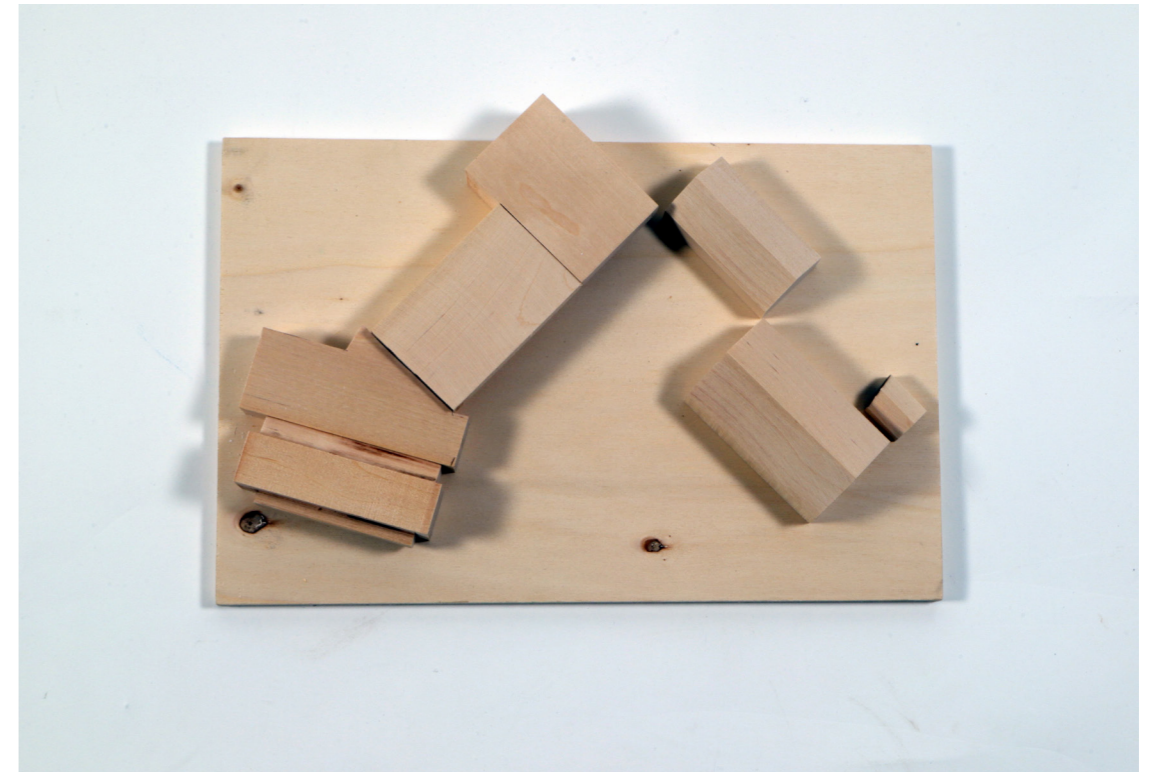


- Existing construction
- New construction

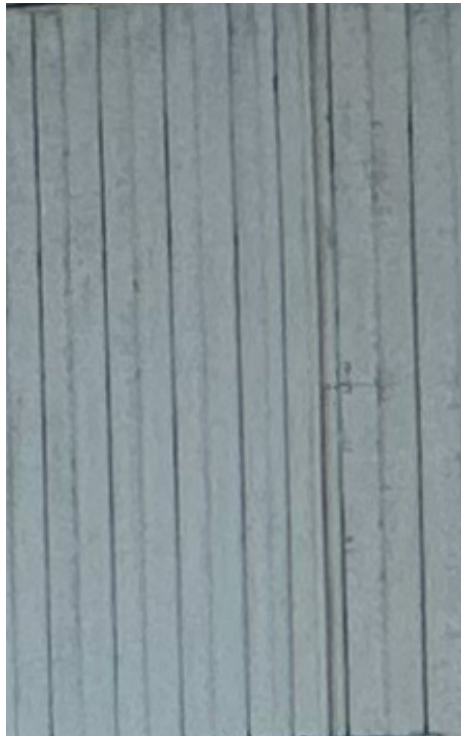
Construction diagram section II and section III



volume study, Dampsaga kulturhus



volume study, Dampsaga Folk High School



prefabricated concrete slabs



metal cassettes



horizontal timber cladding



glass facade

Existing facade

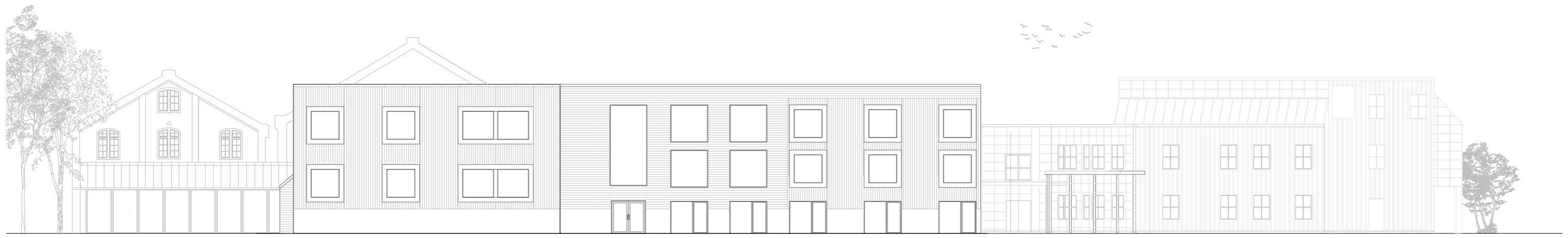
New facade

Exterior materiality





North facade

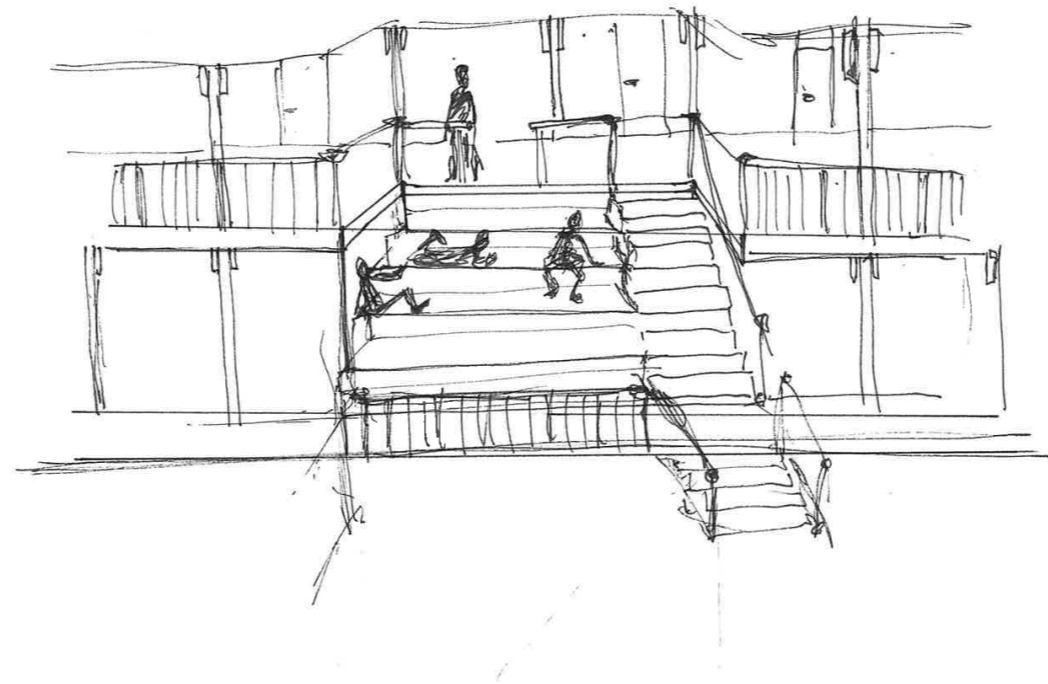


South facade



West facade





Idea sketch of common area in section II

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