

social and collective housing

HLAVNÍ NÁDRAŽÍ.

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Prefabricated housing blocks from 1960 by
Czech painter Vlastimil Beneš (1919-81).
Photo by Mark Baker.

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INTRODUCTION

This thesis aims to propose a comprehensive approach to the context of social and communal housing—a longstanding architectural dimension ingrained in society since the inception of construction and the imperative need for habitation. It also explores the influence of various historical movements that have given rise to distinct architectural forms and housing structures.

The study begins with a brief historical analysis, shedding light on the manifestation of social and communal housing in Prague. It discusses into contemporary architectural trends emphasizing the significance of minimizing environmental impact and a small foot print, examining how these trends manifest in a city like Prague, where housing scarcity is a pressing societal issue compounded by affordability challenges.

The selected site, situated in the heart of Prague adjacent to both the new and old National Museum and positioned above the central station, Hlavní Nádraží, is strategically chosen. This location provides an optimal setting to propose a social housing project, serving as an example of designing housing solutions that are not only architecturally innovative but also socially responsible. The intent is to showcase how thoughtful design can address the critical need for housing in a sustainable and socially inclusive manner, particularly in a city where affordability remains a significant obstacle.

1. SOCIAL HOUSING - WHAT IT IS?

Social housing, a term commonly used to describe housing initiatives provided on a non-profit basis, is primarily orchestrated by governmental bodies or non-profit organizations, including housing cooperatives. This approach to housing is driven by a fundamental commitment to addressing the pressing need for affordable accommodation, especially among low-income households and various vulnerable demographic groups.

The goal of social housing is to create a safety net for individuals and families who may struggle to secure housing in the volatile private real estate market or individual with a minimum income. This paradigm shift aims to alleviate the financial burden on those with limited resources and offers a stable living environment to foster community well-being. The housing units under social housing schemes are typically made available at rents significantly below prevailing market rates, ensuring that affordability remains at the core of this socio-economic initiative.

Furthermore, social housing initiatives often incorporate additional amenities and support services to enhance the overall quality of life for residents. These may include community spaces, educational programs, healthcare services, and employment assistance programs, contributing to the development of individuals and families.

Collective housing is also a form of residential accommodation designed to provide affordable co-housing: This involves private homes where residents actively participate in the design and operation of their communities, often sharing common spaces and resources. Usually they have a communal way of living, sharing living spaces where individuals or families live together, often sharing resources, chores, and responsibilities.

The objective of this thesis is to explore a design that can address both the social housing design of living with affordable spaces and the collective way of living, sharing bigger amenities for a common use.

An example of this is the Trudeslund Cohousing, a housing arrangement consisting of 33 townhouses and a large common house where in the inside they shared kitchen and living room.

"Firstly established in 1981 – Trudeslands' design brief was formed on a social ideal basis that manifested itself on its physical design. The houses are all aligned on an L shape with a central common house. The houses are privately owned by its members who also own shares in communal facilities. The location is very much suburban but the commune has a very strong community feel – laid out on two pedestrian streets lined with rows of houses in an L shape. There are two children's playground each midway of the street. The pedestrian streets are designed in such a way where integration is reinforced between its members for example; if two members were to meet mid point there would always be a place for them to sit and chat."¹



Birkerød, Copenhagen
Architect: Vandkunsten Architects
Year: 1980-81

The following analysis on social housing in the Czech Republic is partially based on the book *Social Housing in Transition Countries* edited by Jozsef Hegedus, Martin Lux, Nóra Teller.

Historically, the role of the state in providing housing for Czech citizens has been substantial. For example, after the First World War, the newly-formed Czechoslovak Republic guaranteed and subsidized mortgages for housing built by municipalities and housing cooperations. After the Second World War, the state exercised total control over the housing industry, following the Eastern European Housing Model. During the socialist period, the state hugely subsidized housing and relied on cheap prefabricated building technologies to satisfy the demand for apartments.



Kelenföld, Budapest: pioneering prefabricated blocks built from 1965 using a Soviet spin-off of the Camus system. Source M Glendinning, 2015

These buildings still make up a large part of Czechia's current housing stock. This reliance on public housing disappeared after the end of socialism in Czechia in 1989, as a period of privatization began.

The Czech Republic has a relatively low proportion of social housing compared to other EU member states. Social rental dwellings account for only 0.4% of the total number of dwellings in the Czech Republic. The public housing system is highly decentralized, and there is a lack of central coordination and regulation when it comes to social housing. This is because the majority of social housing is provided by municipalities, which have complete autonomy in deciding how to use the housing stock they own.

Conversely, the private homeownership rate in Czechia is high, with 77.1% of the population being classified as a homeowner in 2022 Eurostat data, compared to the EU-27 average of 69.1%

Some articles have shown recently that in recent years, however, the private homeownership rate has been decreasing, especially in cities. This, combined with the fact that house prices are rising rapidly, is leading to a housing affordability crisis. For example, the average proposed price of vacant apartments in Prague - referred to as the Prague Develop Index - has increased 235.4% 153,800 CZK/sqm between 2014 and 2023. In 2022, Deloitte also calculated that the Czech Republic was the least affordable country to buy property in Europe.

The effects of this housing crisis are felt in the Czech population. At the end of 2022, more than 270,000 people were classified to be in a state of a housing crisis by the Czech Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs.

The housing crisis is primarily attributed to a mismatch between supply and demand. On the demand side, urban areas are grappling with an influx of individuals relocating from rural regions, foreign students enrolling in the renowned universities, and immigrants drawn by the robust Czech labor market.

Furthermore, the surge in tourism, coupled with the proliferation of short-term rental platforms like Airbnb, exerts additional pressure on housing prices. The 2022 Russian invasion of Ukraine exacerbated the situation, resulting in an influx of approximately 350,000 Ukrainian refugees. Consequently, as of June 2023, Czechia boasts the highest proportion of Ukrainian refugees in the European Union.

On the supply side, there simply isn't enough housing being built to keep up with the demand. For example, in 2022 around 6,500 new apartments were built in Prague (https://www.czso.cz/csu/czso/bvz_ts), while 9,000 new apartments are needed every year to cope with the city's growing population, according to the Prague Institute of Planning and Development. This can be explained by the slow process of obtaining business permits, as well as a lack of incentives for municipalities to build housing, as they have to invest in additional infrastructure, while having no control of the additional tax revenue, which is managed by the state.

Even if private developers manage to build more housing in the coming years, this might still not solve the issue of affordability. The reason is that local municipalities don't have the leverage to make sure that a substantial part of the new housing is affordable. In contrast, in cities such as Vienna, developers are required to make 30 per cent of their projects social housing. Thus, there is a strong need for social housing built and managed by the (local) government(s).

In conclusion social housing emerges as a crucial solution to mitigate the housing crisis by providing affordable, secure, and sustainable housing options. Offering dwellings without income constraints, social housing acts as a countermeasure against socio-economic segregation and the growing threat of homelessness.

The inherent stability in sustainable housing not only contributes to positive mental health but also fosters improved educational outcomes and heightened employment prospects. In addressing the pressing housing needs of vulnerable demographic groups, social housing becomes an indispensable tool for enhancing overall societal well-being.



Housing complex in Marzahn, (East) Berlin (Germany). ©Zupagrafika

1.1 SOCIAL HOUSING IN PRAGUE

Social housing in Prague reflects a mix of historical legacies, architectural styles, and evolving policies aimed at providing affordable accommodation for various segments of the population. Here's a general description:

Architectural Diversity: Prague's social housing showcases a rich architectural tapestry, spanning different periods and styles. From the geometric functionalism of the early 20th century to the utilitarian structures of the Communist era, each development reflects the architectural influences prevalent during its time.

Historical Significance: Many of Prague's social housing projects carry historical weight, emerging during periods of housing shortages. Constructed to enhance living conditions for the working class, these projects embody the ideologies and societal aspirations of their respective eras.

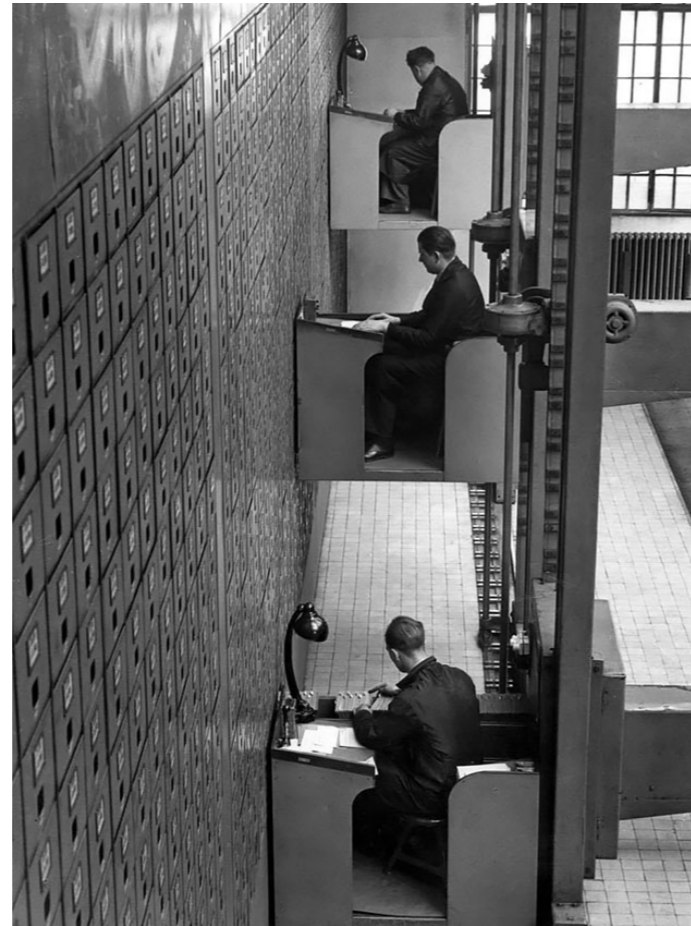
Challenges and Changes: Prague's approach to social housing has adapted to evolving challenges. Population growth, shifts in ownership post-Communism, and heightened demand for affordable housing have influenced urban policies. Striking a balance between contemporary needs, historical preservation, and addressing affordability and accessibility remains a key focus.

Modern Initiatives: Contemporary social housing endeavors in Prague extend beyond mere affordability. Sustainability, community integration, and architectural innovation take center stage. New projects not only offer economical housing solutions but also prioritize environmental considerations, energy efficiency, and the creation of vibrant, inclusive communities.

Governmental and Non-Governmental Involvement: The landscape of social housing in Prague is shaped through a collaborative effort. Government policies, subsidies, and regulations, alongside initiatives from non-governmental organizations and private developers, synergize to address housing challenges comprehensively. This collective involvement reflects a commitment to creating a sustainable and inclusive urban living environment.

Social Integration and Livability: Recent efforts emphasize the importance of not only providing affordable housing but also creating livable communities. Developments now focus on factors like access to green spaces, communal areas, public transportation, and amenities that contribute to the overall well-being and integration of residents.

Overall, Prague's social housing landscape is a blend of historical significance, architectural diversity, evolving policies, and contemporary initiatives aimed at addressing the ongoing challenges of affordability, livability, and sustainability in urban housing.



Central Social Institution In Prague, Czechoslovakia, 1937

The history of social housing in Prague reflects the city's evolution through various historical periods and social changes.

Late 19th to early 20th century:

During the late 19th and early 20th centuries, rapid industrialization and urbanization led to a housing crisis in Prague. Poor living conditions, overcrowding, and inadequate housing were prevalent, especially for the working class. To address this issue, several initiatives were undertaken. The mayor of Prague, Tomas Garrigue Masaryk (who later became the first president of Czechoslovakia), supported the construction of affordable rental housing. Architecturally significant housing estates like the Hloubětín and Baba Estates were built during this period, featuring functionalist and modernist designs. An example of this is the Hloubětín Housing Estate (1920s) Constructed in the 1920s, this housing estate exemplifies the functionalist architecture of that era. Designed by architect Oldřich Liska, it consisted of apartment blocks with flat roofs and geometric shapes. The estate aimed to provide affordable housing with modern amenities for the working class. Its design focused on functionality, efficient use of space, and access to light and greenery.

Interwar Period:

After World War I and the establishment of Czechoslovakia, there was a concerted effort to improve housing conditions. The First Republic era (1918-1938) witnessed the construction of more housing estates, such as the Libeň Housing Estate, with a focus on functionalist architecture and providing better living conditions for the working class. Baba Housing Estate developed on the 30s was another notable example of functionalist architecture, the Baba Housing Estate was built in the 1930s by architect František Janda. Located in Prague 6, this estate incorporated modern design principles, including terraced housing, simple lines, and functional layouts. It aimed to offer quality living conditions for middle-class residents.



Prague's Baba district.

Communist Era:

During the Communist era (1948-1989), the government controlled housing and urban development. This period saw the construction of large housing complexes like Jižní Město (Southern City) to accommodate the growing population. However, some of these housing projects faced issues related to construction quality, standardized designs, and lack of individuality. Jižní Město (Southern City) (1970s - 1980s), was a housing project represents the Communist-era construction initiatives. It's one of the largest housing complexes in Prague, built in the 1970s and 1980s. Jižní Město was constructed to accommodate the city's growing population, featuring numerous apartment buildings, schools, shops, and recreational facilities. However, criticisms arose due to the standardized designs and lack of architectural diversity.



Jaromír Čejka images of Prague's largest panel-housing estate, Jižní Město (South City), from the late-'70s and early-'80s.

“From 1948 until the late-’80s, the Communist regime constructed millions of residential apartments in cities and towns around Czechoslovakia to help ease a post-World War II housing crisis that lasted until the fall of Communism in 1989. The majority of these apartments were built as massive, free-standing blocks of multiple units, stacked one on top of the other. The state-run building companies made copious (and often indiscriminate) use of industrialized construction techniques developed after World War II and relied heavily on pre-fab-concrete panels as the main material.”

Pioneering Phase (1954-63)

The 1950s saw dramatic improvements in panel technology, and these were gradually incorporated into the country’s housing construction as the decade progressed. The exhibitors note that typical for this “pioneering phase” was the rejection of the decorative elements that characterized Socialist-Realism architecture: “in favor of a stricter and more exacting application of industrial technologies.”

It was during this time, in 1954, the country’s first full-panel apartment block was completed, identified as type “G40.” It wasn’t built in Prague, though, but rather in the eastern city of Gottwaldov (now Zlín, see photo).²

TEXT OBTAINED FROM: prague’s Museum of Decorative Arts exhibition on Communist-era “paneláky”



eastern Czech city of Gottwaldov (now Zlín). Photo by Mark Baker.

Post-Communist Period:

Following the fall of the Communist regime in 1989, there were significant changes in housing policies. The privatization of housing occurred, leading to the restitution of property to former owners and the introduction of market mechanisms in the housing sector. This transition period had its challenges, including property disputes and changes in ownership structures.

Contemporary Period:

In recent years, Prague has faced new challenges related to affordable housing due to increasing demand, tourism, and real estate speculation. The city has implemented various measures to address these issues, including affordable housing programs, rent controls, and regulations aimed at providing housing for lower-income residents.

Efforts by the government, NGOs, and private sector continue to focus on developing affordable and socially inclusive housing solutions, balancing historical preservation with modern housing needs.

The history of social housing in Prague reflects a trajectory from addressing the acute housing shortage in the early 20th century to contemporary challenges in ensuring affordable and adequate housing for all residents.

1.2 TYPOLOGY - OF HOUSING UNIT IN PRAGUE

In the context of Czech social housing, various typologies or types of housing have been developed over time to cater to different demographics and social needs. Some of these typologies include:

1. Paneláks: These are large concrete panel buildings that were prevalent during the Communist era. Paneláks were constructed in response to the housing shortage and were intended to provide affordable housing quickly. They consist of standardized, prefabricated panels and are often associated with high-density housing in urban areas.

“A typical panelák apartment has a foyer, bathroom, kitchen, a living room also used for dining, and a bedroom.³ All paneláks in the Czech Republic were constructed to follow one of sixteen design patterns.⁴

Paneláks have been criticized for their simplistic design, poor-quality building materials, and their tendency to become overcrowded. In 1990, Václav Havel, who was then the president of Czechoslovakia, called paneláks “undignified rabbit pens, slated for liquidation.”⁵



Towering paneláks in the Kamýk area of Prague.

2. Housing Estates: These are planned residential areas consisting of various types of housing, including apartment buildings, terraced houses, or semi-detached houses. Some estates were built during different historical periods, each reflecting the architectural styles and societal needs of their respective times.

3. Cooperative Housing: Cooperative housing involves residents collectively owning and managing their housing units. This model allows for greater resident involvement in decision-making and management, fostering a sense of community and shared responsibility.

4. Mixed-Income Housing: In recent years, there’s been a push for mixed-income housing developments. These projects aim to integrate households from various income brackets within the same community, promoting social diversity and inclusivity.

5. Supportive Housing: Some social housing initiatives cater to specific populations, such as individuals experiencing homelessness, seniors, or individuals with special needs. Supportive housing provides not only housing but also support services to assist residents in maintaining stable and independent lives.

Each typology has its advantages and challenges, reflecting different periods of development, social ideologies, and urban planning approaches. The typologies present in Czech social housing have evolved over time, adapting to changing societal needs and policy directions.



Prague-Hostivař, the Košík housing estate

Another significant development occurred in Břevnov, marking the evolution of the area from its agricultural roots into a small town characterized by structured building blocks. This transformation serves as a compelling example of the crucial importance of efficient space utilization, particularly in the context of housing. The current landscape of Břevnov has transitioned from a rural settlement to a suburban municipality, achieving town status in 1907, and ultimately being incorporated into the capital city of Prague in 1922. This historical progression underscores the dynamic adaptation of urban spaces to meet the changing needs and demands of its inhabitants.

Břevnov has for a long time preserved its rural character with a number of smaller homesteads and agricultural landscapes, complemented by marl or sandstone quarries and brickyards (Bělová, Kalašová, 2016)⁶. Even today, the highest number of preserved homesteads in Prague can be found in Prague 6 (together with Prague 5) (Ryska, 2014)⁷.

However, at the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries the character of Břevnov gradually began to change and the urban forms of its development started to prevail (especially in the case of housing). In 1907, with Břevnov's promotion to a town, the transformation from rural to urban settlement was officially completed. In 1910, the first primary school with the adequate capacity was opened. In 1912, Břevnov even acquired its own "skyscraper": The so-called "Břevnov skyscraper" was a high apartment building built in the Art Nouveau style. It was supposed to become the core of a new residential area consisting of new apartment houses; however, the plan was not carried out. In 1923, a tram line was introduced to the territory of Břevnov (Ryska, 2014; Bělová, Kalašová, 2016).⁷

In 1926, the construction of the Strahov Stadium, which can be considered as the most significant modern detached building in Břevnov, began. It was built for the VIII. All-Sokol Rally – a gathering of members of the Sokol movement accompanied by athletic and cultural events. According to some sources, it is the stadium with the largest area in the world (Ryska, 2015).⁷

Another intervention into the urban structure of Břevnov was the construction of Pionýrů Street (today's Patočkova) and the construction of a pre-fab housing estate for employees of the Ministry of the Interior (called "Na Obušku") in the 1970s. Political prisoners took part in the construction of that housing estate. Unfortunately, it led to the destruction of the original village square of Velký Břevnov, which was until then the main landmark reminiscent of the village character of the original settlement.

Almost all buildings in Velký Břevnov, one of the original cores of the settlement, were demolished to free up space for the new housing estate. The construction of the busy street Pionýrů also divided the hitherto well-permeable Břevnov into two separate parts (Ryska, 2014c; Bělová, Kalašová, 2016).

The clean-up of the entire location was only included in the Spatial Plan of Prague from 1976, which provided for the demolition of large parts of Břevnov, including the oldest buildings in this part of the city. While in the case of Smíchov or Žižkov, the spatial planning nevertheless assumed the demolition of the sites in the future, here everything was leveled to the ground basically at the same time when the plan was approved. Spatial plans assumed a more extensive rehabilitation of the whole of Břevnov, including the entire southern side of today's Bělohorská Street, but this did not happen.



Prague, Břevnov, Sartoriova street



Břevnov, Radimova 29



Břevnov, Sartoriova street, park

2. SMALL FOOT PRINT - FUTURE VISION

The concept of a “small footprint” usually in architecture usually refers to the impact a building or construction has on its environment, particularly in terms of the space it occupies and the resources it consumes.

A smaller footprint is associated with structures that occupy less land, use fewer materials, and have reduced energy needs, thereby minimizing their overall environmental impact, but also structures that can last, change their use, and be a real necessity for the specific area and context.

In the context of living spaces, “small living” often refers to the trend of designing and inhabiting smaller, more compact homes. An important aspect is to make clear that small living is not equal to a lack of design, sustainability and quality of space. In last century, some examples show that small living without design makes it impossible to enjoy a space.

This approach of design has gained popularity for various reasons, but mostly because the population is growing but the size of the urban area or new constructions are not.

Another important points why it has become more popular is because of the affordability that can provide. Smaller homes are typically more affordable to build, purchase, and maintain. This makes them accessible to a broader range of people, including those looking to enter the housing market or downsize, making this more interesting for investors and people.

Small living encourages efficient use of space as well. Clever design solutions, multifunctional furniture, and creative storage options are common features in small living spaces, maximizing utility in limited square footage.

The sustainability of small living makes them more energy-efficient and require fewer resources for construction. They often incorporate sustainable practices and materials, contributing to a more environmentally friendly lifestyle. This is very important point when designing social housing, as maintenance is usually not on the budget.

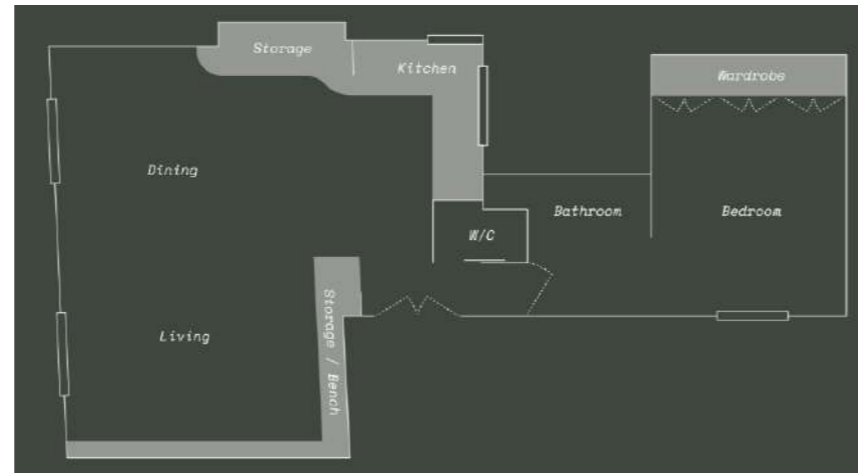
The design of the city and urbanization makes small footprint housing specially the best option as well in densely populated urban areas like the Prague city center. Small spaces are practical and often a necessity due to limited space. Compact apartments and tiny homes allow people to reside in central locations close to work, amenities, and public transportation.

Finally, small foot print also matches the trend of minimalism both as a design style and life style. The concept of minimalism is a lifestyle and design philosophy that advocates for simplicity, focusing on what is essential and eliminating excess. When applied to small living spaces, minimalist principles, promoting a simpler lifestyle with fewer possessions. This can lead to a reduced environmental impact and a focus on experiences rather than material possessions.

For this reason is that the design of minimal spaces will be an important goal and objective in the design of this thesis work.

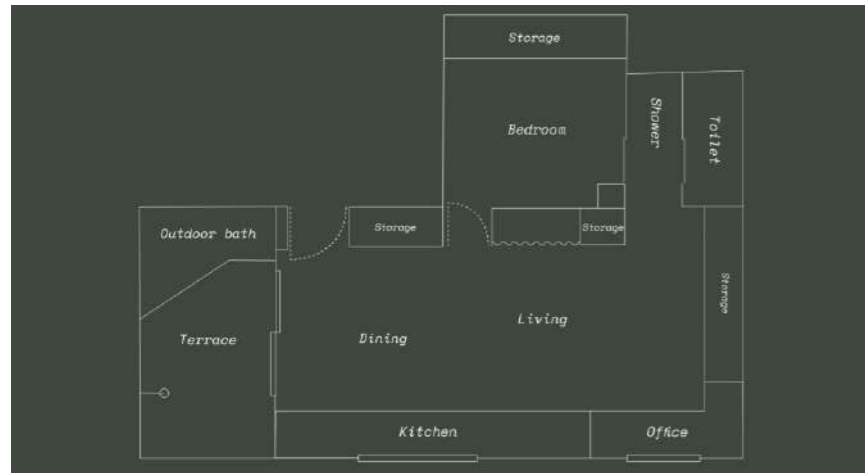
NEVER TOO SMALL

These examples are part of the "Never Too Small" channel. This project has been inspired by the way architects tackle small apartments in different cities. They always stand out for their beauty and excellent architectural design, playing with the limited space to create wonderful architectural solutions in a confined area. This approach and these examples are the inspiration planned to be used in the formal design of this thesis project: minimum housing units with intelligent architectural design and comfort, even in small spaces.



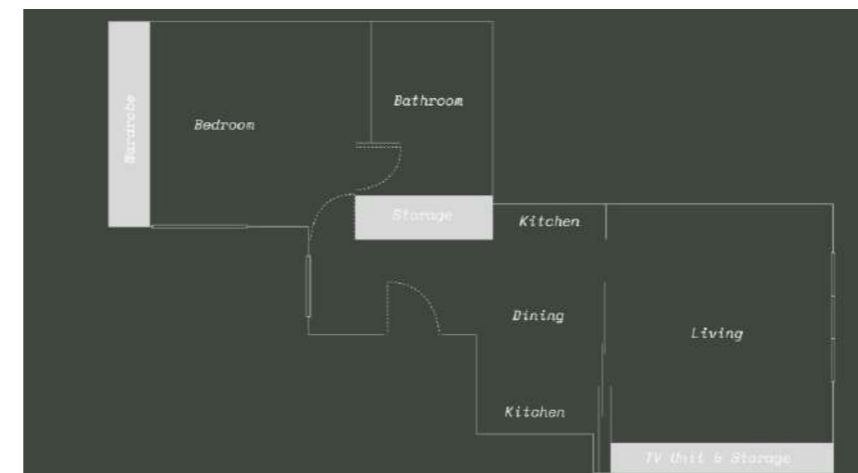
PANAMA APARTMENT, PARIS

Function, flexibility, and fluidity guided the design of this 47sqm apartment, nestled in an early 20th-century building within the lively Goutte d'Or district of Paris. Architect and ovo/studio-founder Bertille Bordja embraced inspiration from the existing architectural features and the client's '70s furniture to build a harmonious marriage of the past and the present in this starter home.



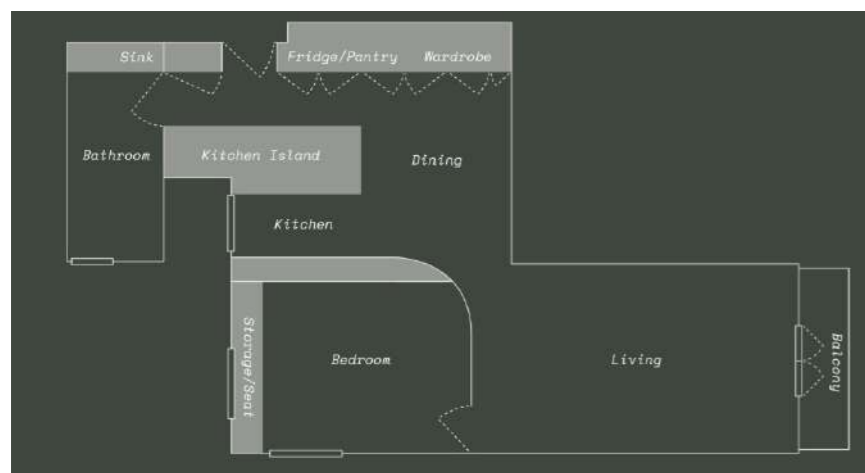
CASA GIALLA, MADRID

Gonzalo Pardo and the team at gon architects were tasked with redesigning a 47 sqm small one bedroom apartment in one of the busiest squares in Madrid. The apartment, which was originally built in 1910 and renovated in 2003, was in need of an update to make it more suitable for a young Italian woman and her partner. The team was inspired by the vibrant colors and geometric lines of Italian homes in the 1960s, and set out to create a space that was both functional and stylish.



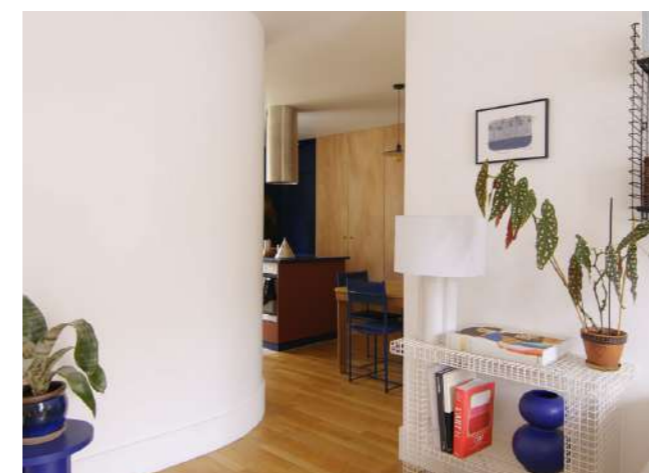
MENTA, MADRID

In smart design, the illusion of space can actually rival having the extra space itself — and this 46sqm Madrid apartment has some tricks up its sleeve. Using carefully considered spatial strategies like floor-to-ceiling storage, mirrors (aplenty), and consistent materials, Gonzalo Pardo and the architects at gon architects managed to transform what was a dark, cramped space into one that feels light and open.



JULES, PARIS

The primary goal for the 43sqm apartment was to create a space that married functionality with a timeless ambience, infused with carefully chosen colour accents. To achieve this, Gustin proposed a compact yet functional floor plan, drawing inspiration from the 1920s modernist features of Villa La Roche, and Le Corbusier's hallmark block-coloured walls. Two main features stood out to her that she wanted to emulate: the curved walls that allowed a natural flow of light and softened the interiors, and the striking shades of Prussian blue and terracotta accentuated by a minimalist white background.



4. REFERENCES

LACATON & VASSAL

Anne Lacaton (1955, Saint-Pardoux, France) and Jean-Philippe Vassal (1954, Casablanca, Morocco) met in the late 1970s during their formal architecture training at École Nationale Supérieure d'Architecture et de Paysage de Bordeaux.

"Good architecture is open—open to life, open to enhance the freedom of anyone, where anyone can do what they need to do," says Lacaton. "It should not be demonstrative or imposing, but it must be something familiar, useful and beautiful, with the ability to quietly support the life that will take place within it." Lacaton

Through their design of private and social housing, cultural and academic institutions, public spaces, and urban developments, Lacaton and Vassal reexamine sustainability in their reverence for pre-existing structures, conceiving projects by first taking inventory of what already exists. By prioritizing the enrichment of human life through a lens of generosity and freedom of use, they are able to benefit the individual socially, ecologically and economically, aiding the evolution of a city.

Throughout their careers, the architects have rejected city plans calling for the demolition of social housing, focusing instead on designing from the inside out to prioritize the welfare of a building's inhabitants and their unanimous desires for larger spaces.

Transformation of 530 dwellings / Lacaton & Vassal + Frédéric Druot + Christophe Hutin architecture Alongside Frédéric Druot and Christophe Hutin, they transformed 530 units within three buildings at Grand Parc in Bordeaux, France (2017) to upgrade technical functions but more notably, to add generous flexible spaces to each unit without displacing its residents during construction, and while maintaining rent stability for the occupants.

"Good architecture is a space where something special happens, where you want to smile, just because you are there," shares Vassal. "It is also a relationship with the city, a relationship with what you see, and a place where you are happy, where people feel well and comfortable—a space that gives emotions and pleasures."



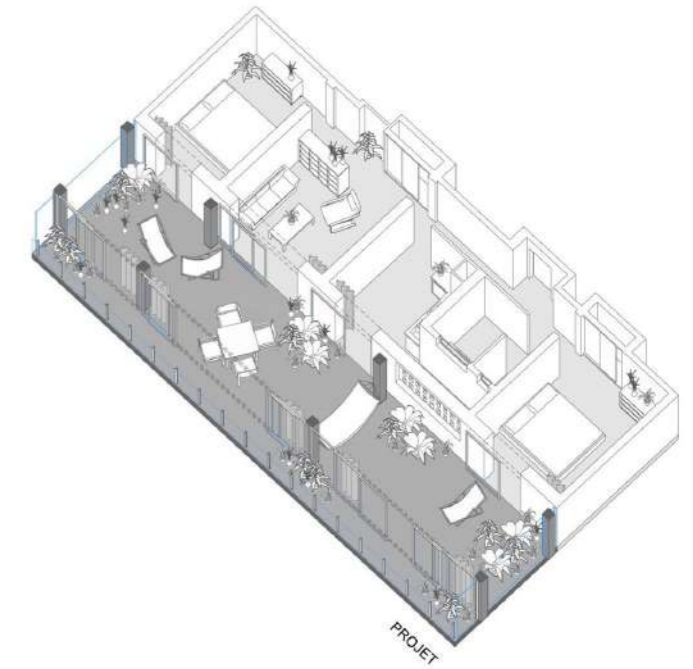
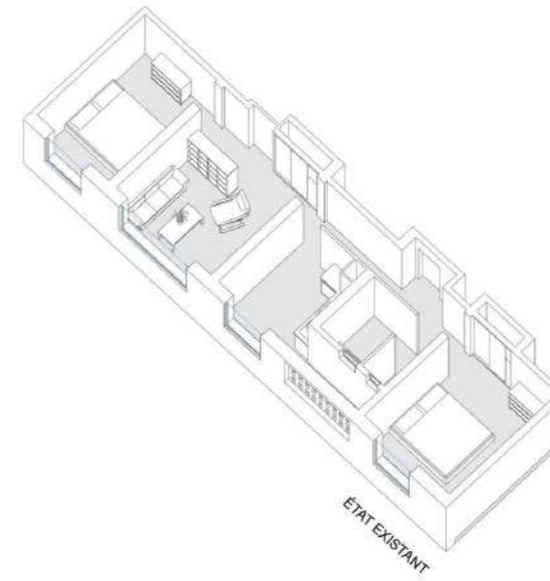
FRAC Nord-Pas de Calais, photo courtesy of Philippe Ruault

Text description provided by the architects. (Archdaily) "The project consists in the transformation of 3 modernist social housing's buildings, fully occupied. It is part of the renovation program of the 'Cité du Grand Parc' in Bordeaux. Built from the early '60s, this modernist district counts more than 4000 dwellings. The 3 buildings G, H and I, 10 to 15 floors high, gather 530 dwellings and needed a renovation after the question of their demolition has been ruled out. By their location and their layout, these buildings give a capacity of transforming into beautiful dwellings with qualities and comfort.

The project of transformation starts from the interior of the dwellings, to give new qualities to the dwellings, by investing with precision and care the existing qualities, that should be preserved, and what is missing that must be supplemented. The addition of winter gardens and balconies in the extension of the existing give the opportunity, for each apartment, to enjoy more space, more natural light, more mobility of use and more views."⁸



Photos: Transformation of G, H, I Buildings, Grand Parc, 530 Units, Social Housing (with Frédéric Druot and Christophe Hutin), photo courtesy of Philippe Ruault



GRAND PARC Haendel / Ingres - Escalier 2 + 4 - T3
 Surface habitable EXISTANT : 56,60 m2
 Surface habitable PROJET : 118,90 m2
 - Surface jardin d'hiver : 43,80 m2
 - Surface balcons : 14,00 m2

one of the apartment layout



HABITAT 67

Habitat 67, an iconic residential complex in Montreal designed by architect Moshe Safdie, embodies unique social aspects integral to its innovative design. It aimed to foster a sense of community through interconnected, modular apartments. The experiment sought to address affordable housing challenges, pushing the boundaries of traditional urban living.

The balance between privacy and community is evident in its design, posing questions about communal living dynamics. Beyond its physical structure, Habitat 67's legacy lies in influencing discussions on urban planning and the relationship between architecture and society. As an enduring example of experimental architecture, it continues to spark conversations about how people inhabit urban spaces.

"Moshe Safdie based this project on his master's thesis at the McGill University in Montreal. It was built as part of the World Exhibition Expo 67. Housing was one of the main themes of Expo 67 the theme of Expo 67 was "Man and His World", taken from Antoine de Saint-Exupéry's memoir *Terre des hommes* and Habitat 67 became a thematic pavilion visited by thousands of visitors. Moshe Safdie was an unknown young architect when he led seasoned modernists Philip Johnson, I.M. Pei, and Paul Rudolph on a tour of a half-constructed Habitat 67—the utopian modular-housing system he developed for the 1967 World's Fair in Montreal.

Habitat 67 was designed to integrate the variety and diversity of scattered private homes with the economics and density of a modern apartment building and to create affordable housing. Modular, interlocking concrete forms define the space. These forms measure 5 x 11 x 3 metres and weigh 85 tons each. They were pre-fabricated and stacked together on site in a way that all apartments get sufficient daylight.

The building was believed to illustrate the new lifestyle people would live in increasingly crowded cities. The complex was originally planned on a larger scale but due to exploding construction costs and initial criticism over the concept, only 354 of 1350 planned cubic elements were built.



photo source: The wall street journal

Together these units created 146 residences of varying sizes and configurations, each formed from one to eight linked concrete units. The complex originally contained 158 apartments, reduced from the original vision of 1,200, [but several apartments have since been joined to create larger units, reducing the total number. Each unit is connected to at least one private landscaped garden terrace, built on the roof of the level below, which can range from approximately 20 to 90 square metres in size. The apartments each had a moulded plastic bathroom and a modular kitchen."⁹

With this project as an example, I can conclude different elements that are necessary designing social housing and were essentials in this project:

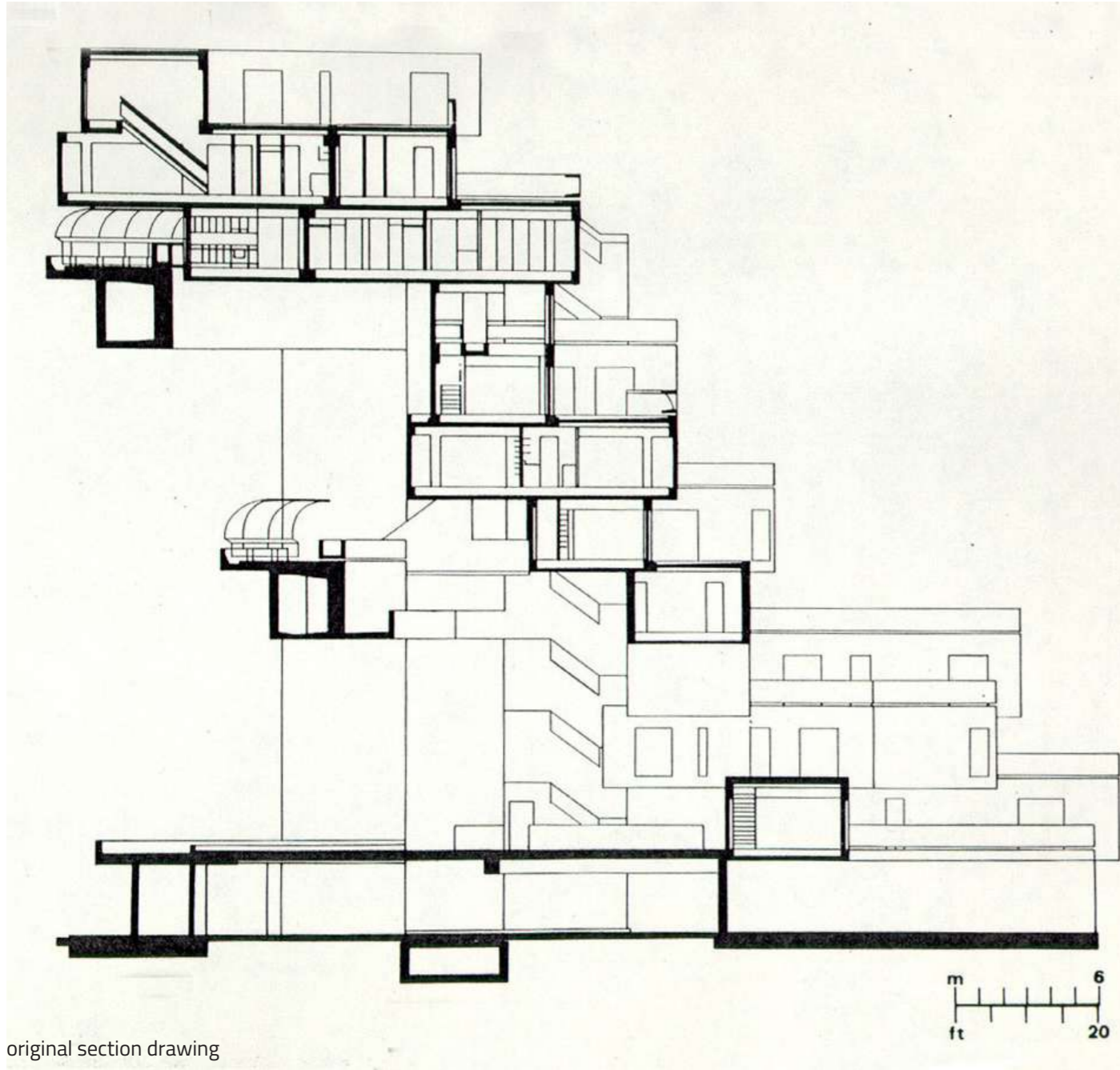
Community living, because the modular design of Habitat 67 was envisioned to create a sense of community within an urban environment. The interconnected apartments and the layout aimed to foster a community feeling among residents, with shared outdoor spaces and terraces.

Affordable housing was also one of the original goals of Habitat 67 was to provide affordable housing solutions. The use of modular construction was intended to be a cost-effective way to create quality housing units. However, over time, the costs of maintaining and renovating the aging structure have changed the economic dynamics. This "experimental" project was a way of exploring new possibilities for urban living. It challenged traditional notions of housing and apartment living, offering a glimpse into how architecture could shape social interactions and lifestyles.

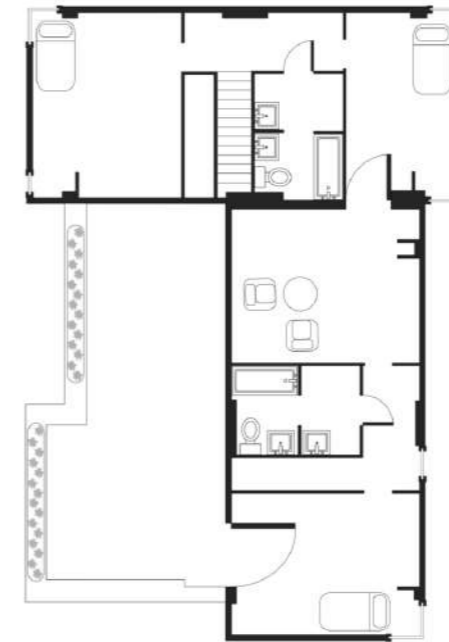
While the structure aimed to create a communal environment, the individuality of each unit is also apparent. The juxtaposition of private living spaces with shared areas adds an interesting dynamic to the social aspects of the building.

Habitat 67's impact goes beyond its physical structure. It has influenced discussions on urban planning, housing, and the relationship between architecture and society. It remains an important example of experimental architecture that sparked conversations about how people live in urban environments.

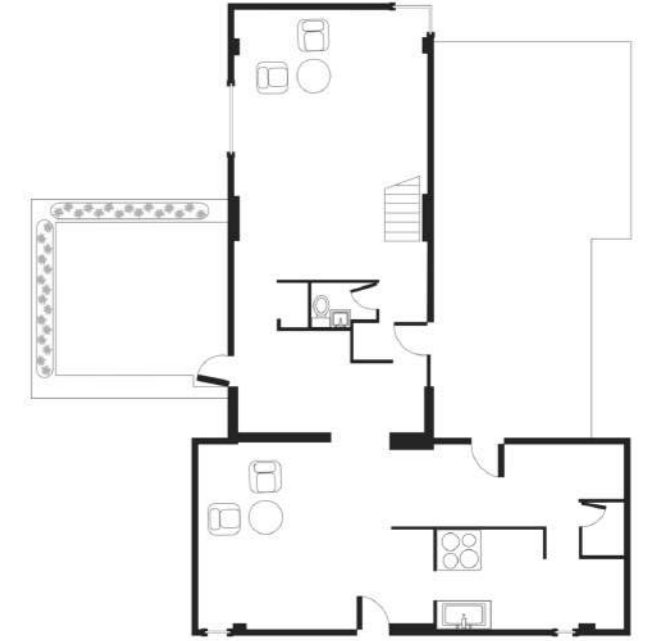




original section drawing



2 Unit Plan: Upper Level
Habitat 67 8"=1'-0"



3 Unit Plan: Lower Level
Habitat 67 8"=1'-0"

one of the apartment layout



5. LOCATION



5. HISTORICAL CONTEXT

LOCATION

PRAGUE - New Town - Vinohrady
The land is located on the border of two cities

Nové město and Vinohrady. The area has undergone a series of changes over time that they still have a significant influence today, leading between today's Wilso streets.



HLAVNÍ NÁDRAŽÍ PRAHA
picture sources: google maps



NATIONAL MUSEUM



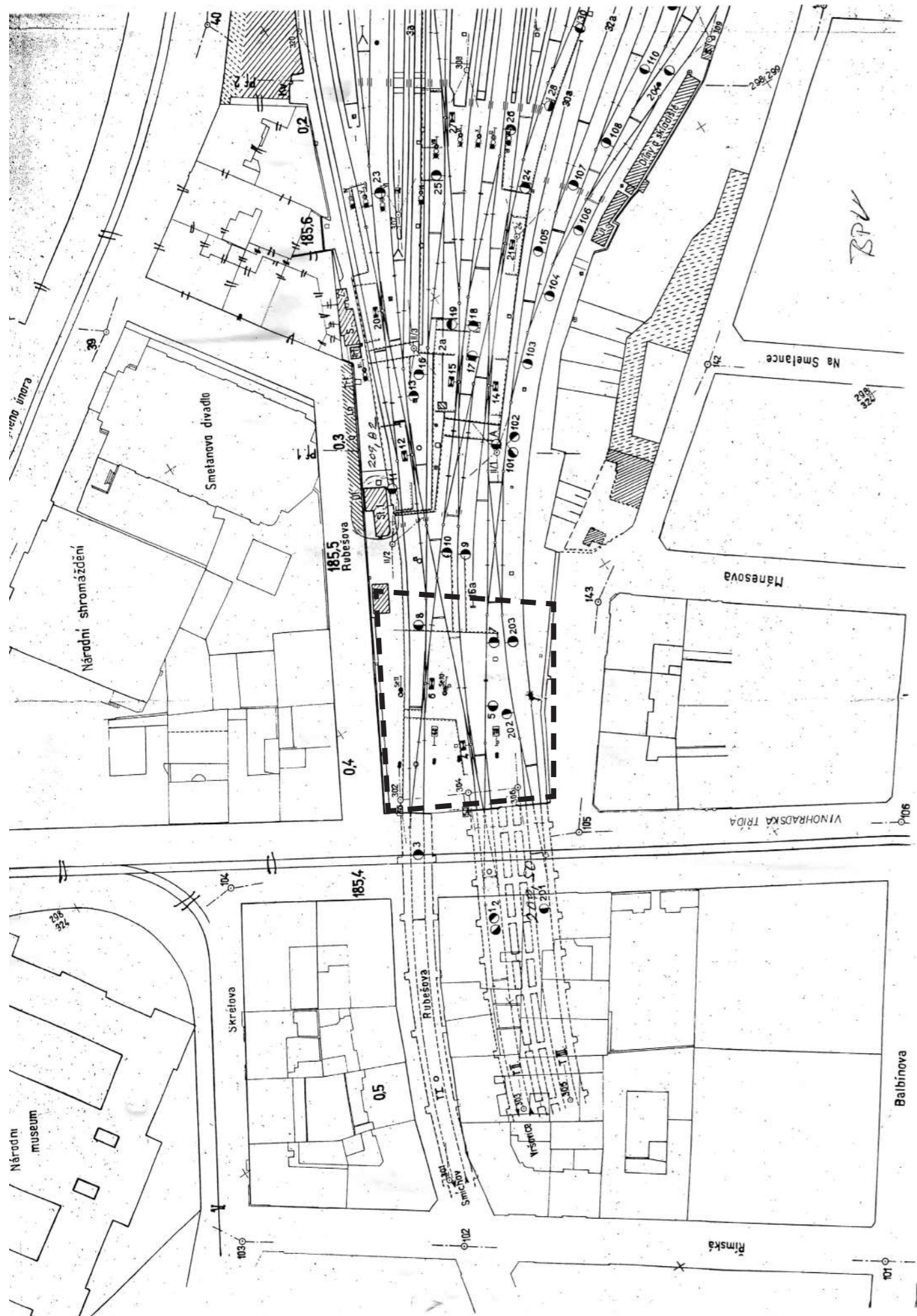
NEW BUILDING OF THE NATIONAL MUSEUM



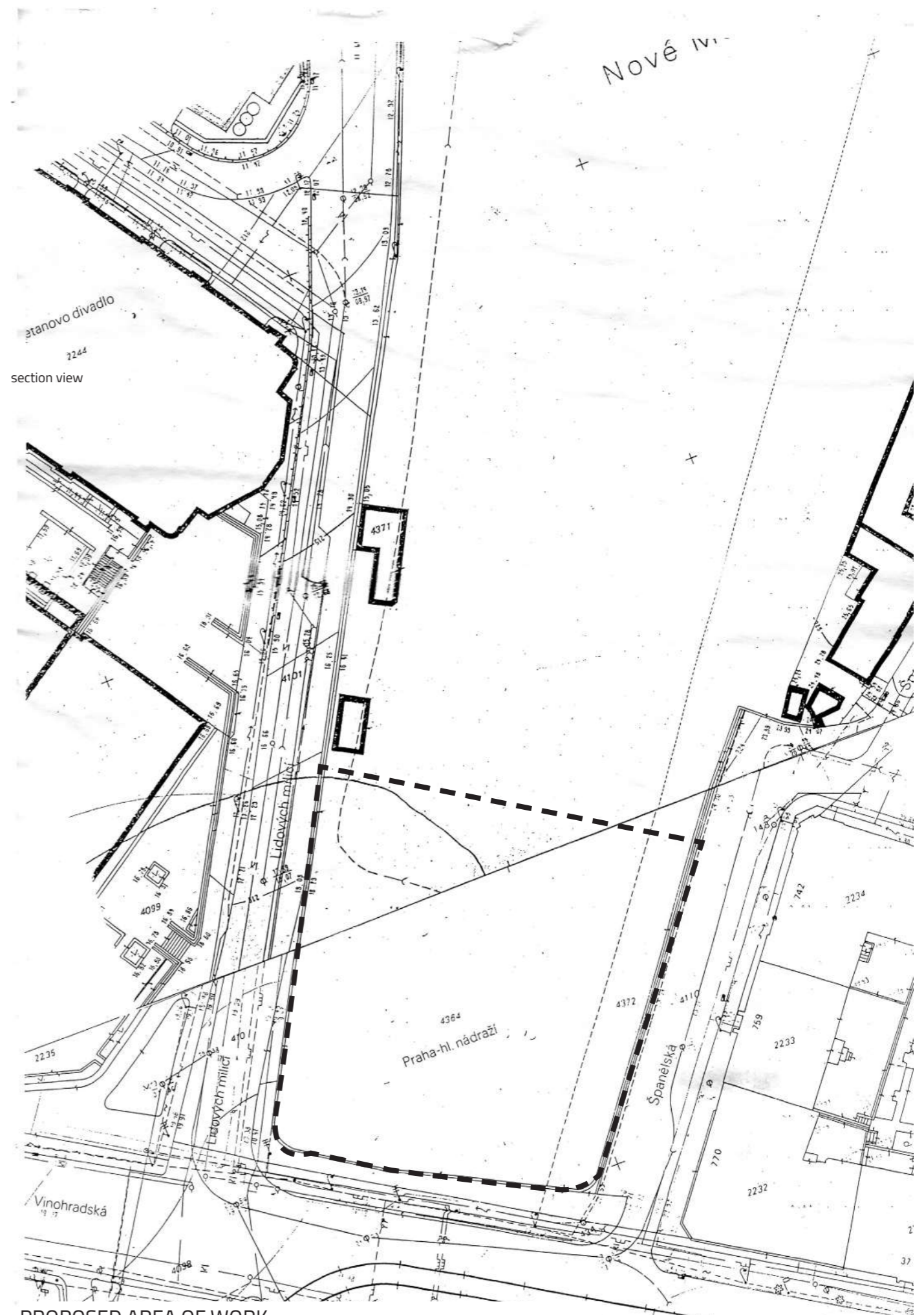
STÁTNÍ OPERA



BUDOVA ČESKÉHO ROZHLASU

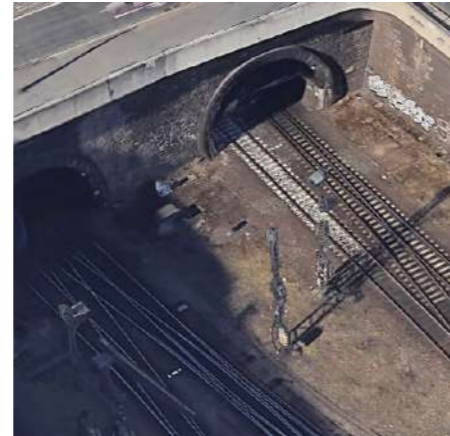
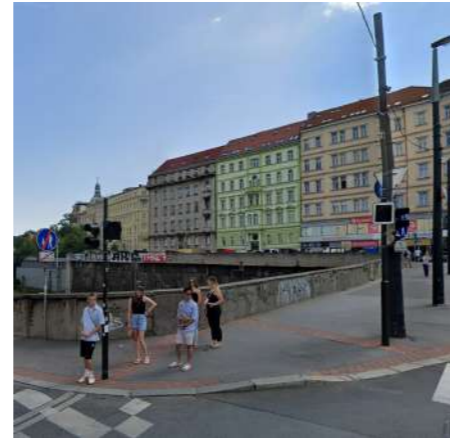
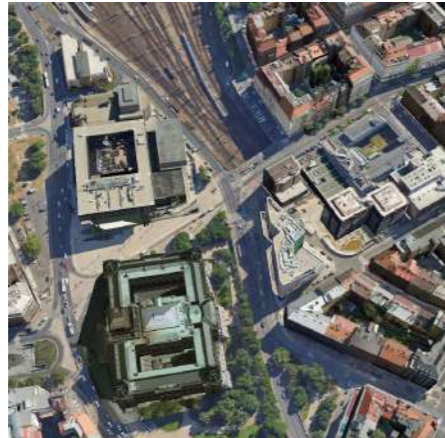


ORIGINAL OLD PLAN OF THE TRAIN TRACKS



PROPOSED AREA OF WORK

CURRENT STATUS



picture sources: google maps

With an approximate area of four thousand square meters and a perimeter of over 250 meters, this site holds the potential to connect Manešova and U Divadla in its urban planning proposal. These streets run parallel to Vinohradská.

Currently, there are three tunnels running from north to south beneath the proposed project surface. These tunnels connect a series of local Czech trains heading to other cities such as Ostrava and Brno, as well as various points in Prague like Smíchov. The tunnels also facilitate international routes, connecting other countries such as Germany or Austria. It is crucial to develop a project with a structural surface that allows the passage of these trains, given their significance.

The importance and relevance of the Hlavní nádraží, stands at the core of Prague's transportation network, serving as a central hub for both domestic and international travel. This historic railway station holds a key position in connecting Prague to various European cities, fostering tourism, business, and cultural exchange. With over a century of history, the station reflects the evolution of rail transport in the region.

Beyond its historical significance, Hlavní Nádraží plays a crucial role in the economic activities of Prague by facilitating the movement of goods and people. The growth and revitalization of surrounding neighborhoods. Integrated seamlessly into the city's public transportation network, the station provides convenient transfers between trains, metro, trams, and buses.

This transportation hub is a dynamic center shaping the urban landscape, connecting people, and contributing to the multifaceted vibrancy of Prague. And the goal is to create housing near to increase mobility inside and outside Prague.

The Sverojižní highway has become a prominent route for vehicular traffic within the heart of Prague. This thoroughfare has divided the National Museum from its surroundings, exacerbated by the removal of tram lines on Wenceslas Square. As a result, various pedestrian connections have been severed, forming a barrier that isolates the historic center of the city from districts such as Karlín, Žižkov, and Vinohrady.

The connection from north to south currently lacks a crossing that creates a visual pause, unlike the crossing between the old and new museums upon reaching the corner of Legerova. There is a chaotic intersection that the project must address and anticipate.

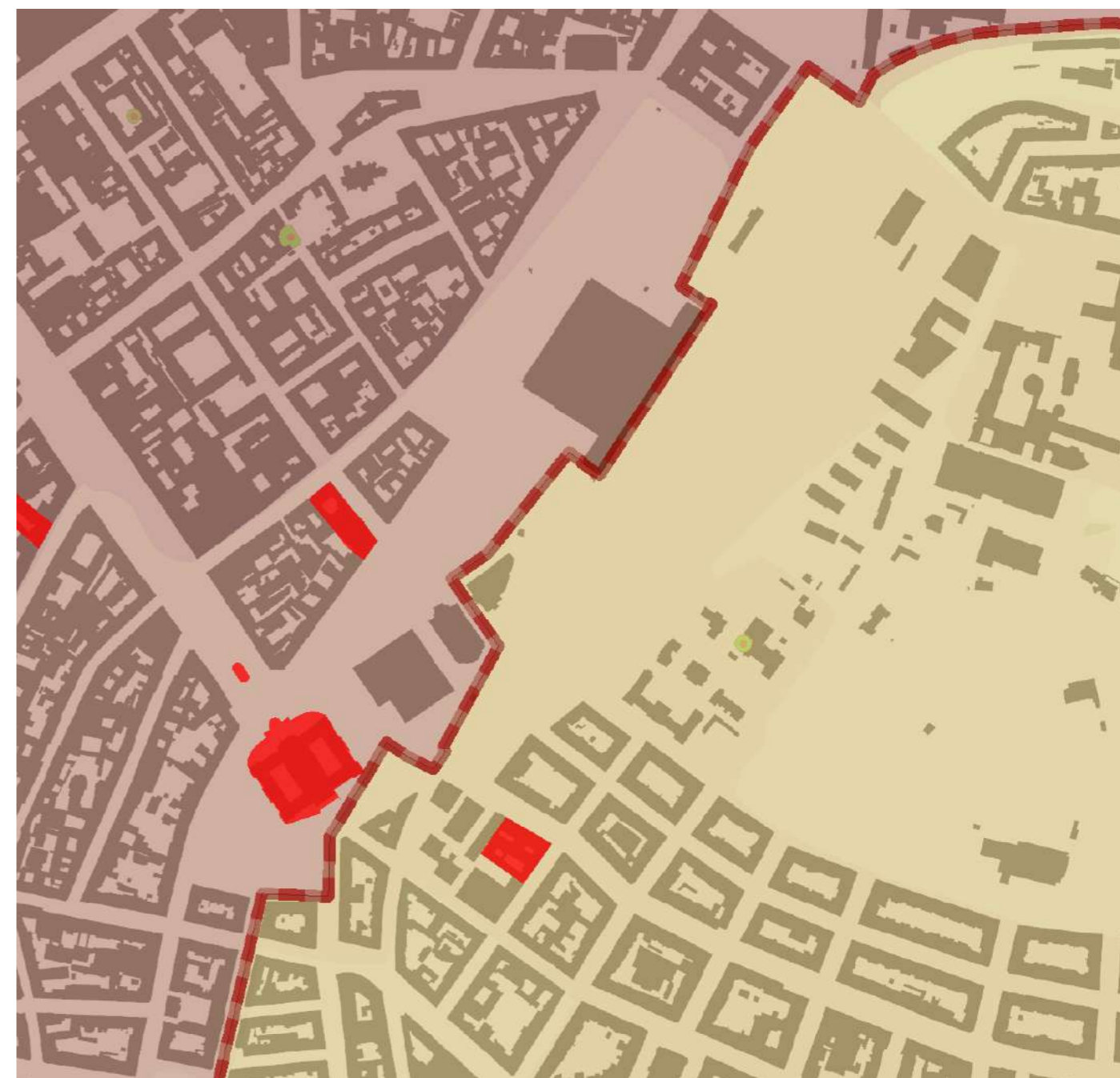
The proposal includes creating a public space at this junction, serving as a platform to connect these streets and providing a suitable environment for pedestrian transition.

The Vinohradská Street, connecting the front of the site and running in an east-west direction, poses a challenge due to continuous vehicular traffic, preventing pedestrians from stopping. There is no transition space, and this aspect needs to be addressed in the project. It is crucial to incorporate an area facilitating pedestrian transition at the intersection of Vinohradská, Legerova, and Španělská.

Vinohradská Street is not only a residential area but also a hub of cultural and commercial activities. It features a mix of shops, restaurants, cafes, and cultural venues, contributing to the vibrant atmosphere of the neighborhood.

5.1 LOCATION ANALYSIS

5. HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL LIMITS

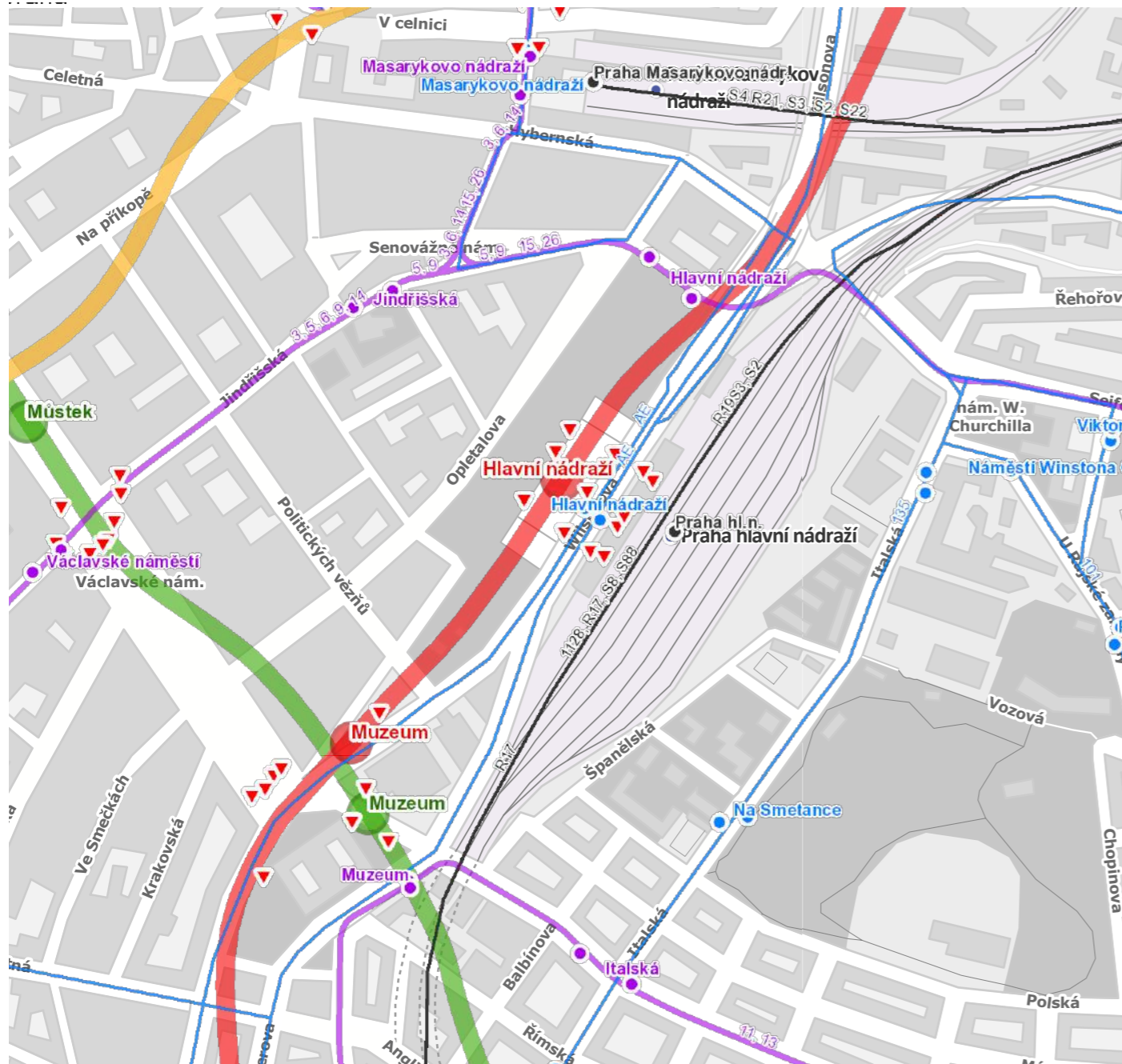


ESC 1:7500

- conservation zone
- heritage zone
- national cultural monument
- ptoteccion line /monument reserve



5. TRANSPORT FACILITIES

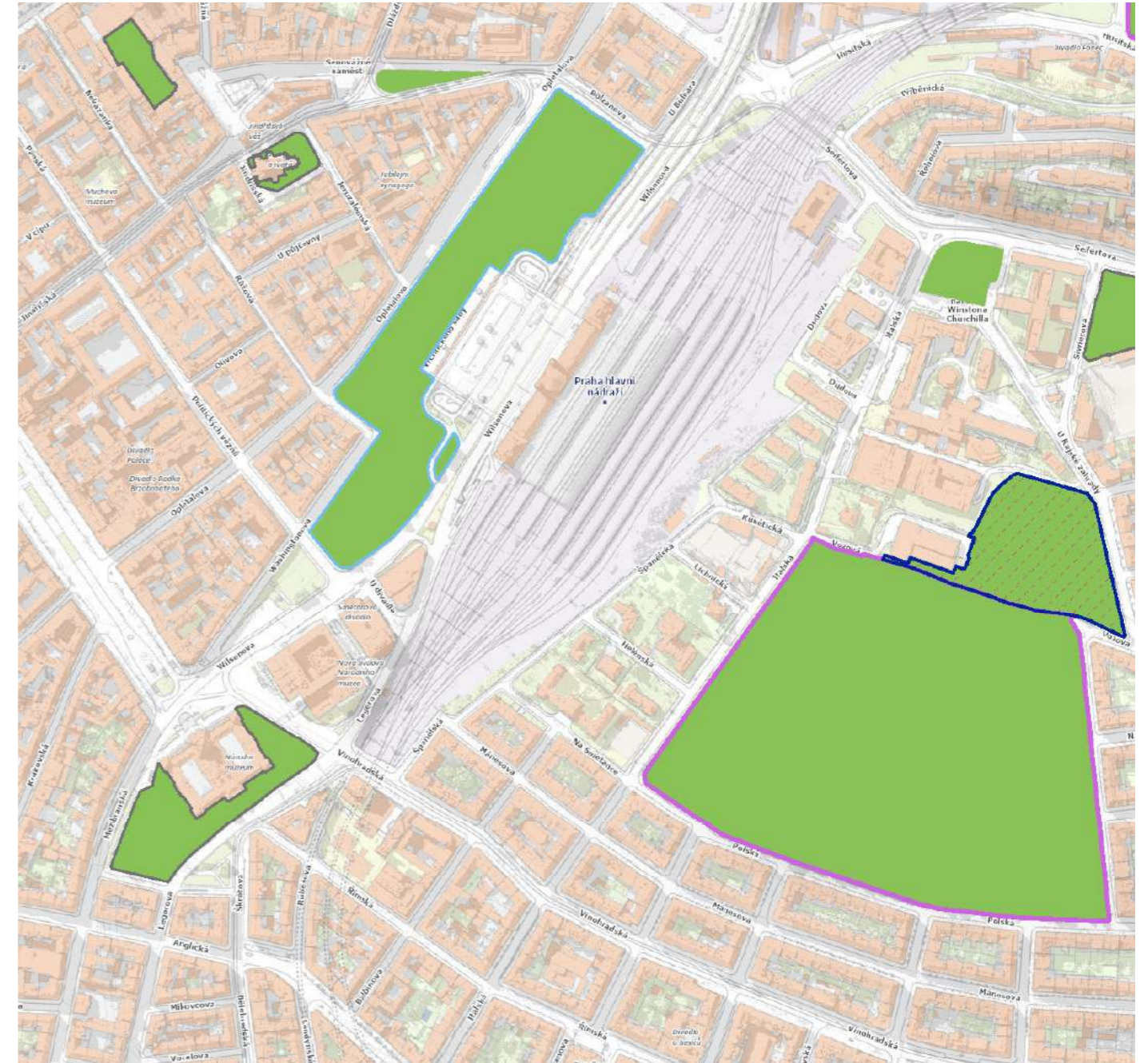


ESC 1:7500

- metro station C
- metro station A
- tram line
- bus line
- train line



GREEN AREAS



ESC 1:7500

- metropolitan park
- neighborhood park
- local park



LAND USE - FIELD SURVEY

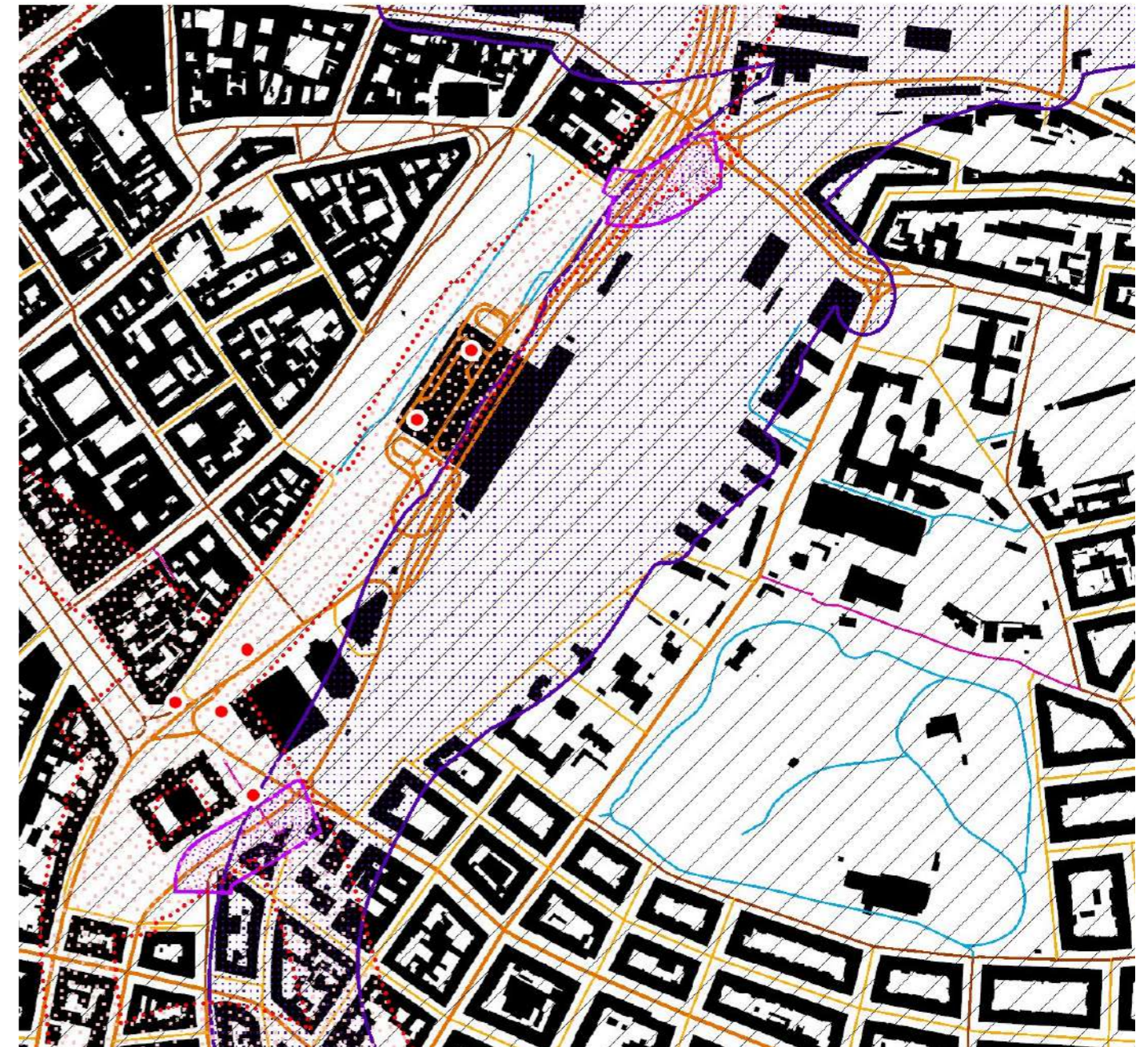


ESC 1:7500

- family houses
- commercial amenities
- social services
- culture
- nature recreation
- technical infrastructure



NOISE

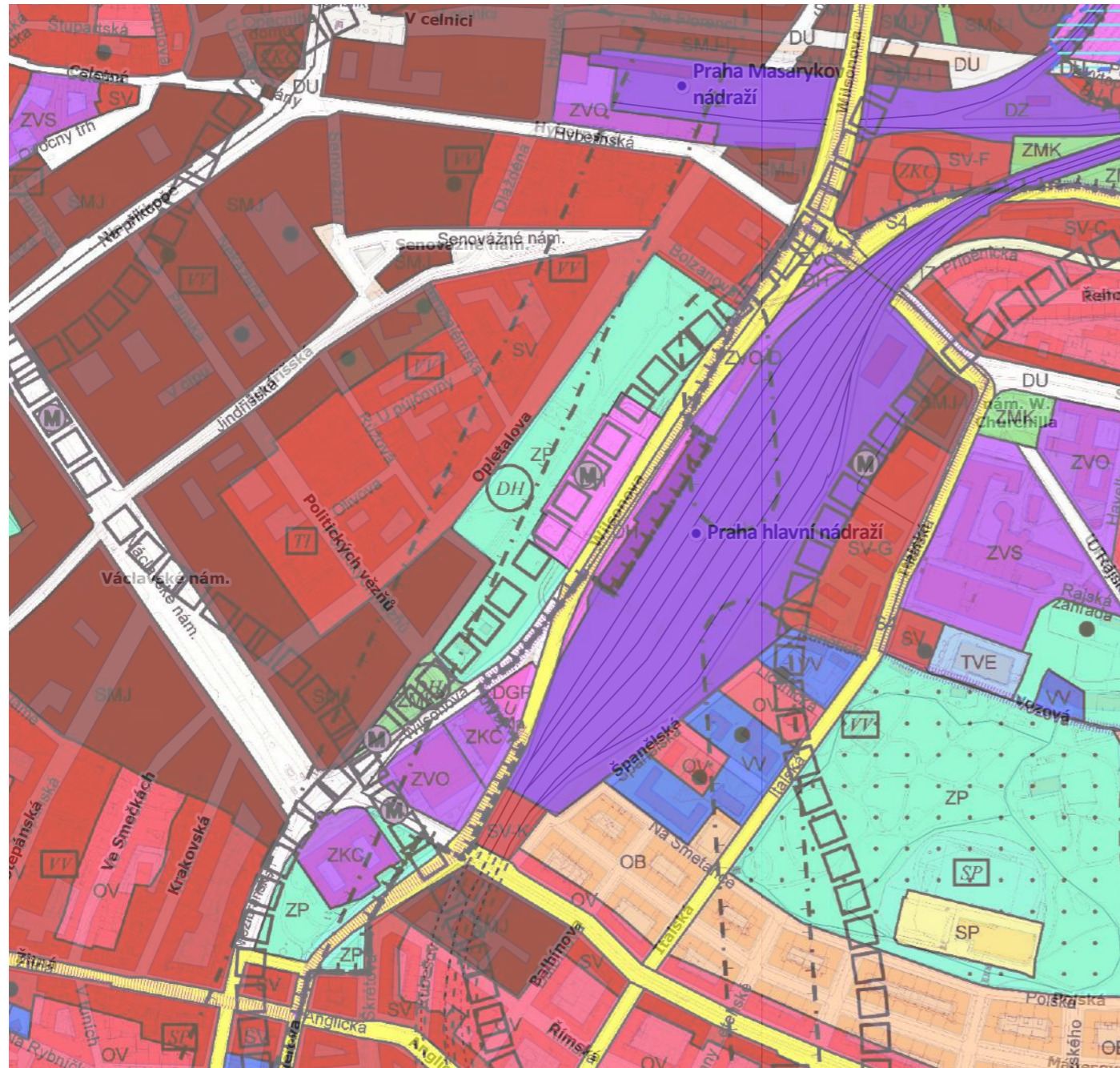


ESC 1:7500

- zone a (less noise)
- zone b (more noise)



5. LAND USE PLAN



ESC 1:7500

- train transport
- culture
- garage
- general mix use
- public facilities
- city greenery
- residential
- commercial
- sport



LAND USE - HORIZONTAL DESIGN

Main use:

Areas for the location of multifunctional buildings or a combination of monofunctional buildings for housing, trade, administration, culture, public facilities, sports and services, while maintaining the multifunctionality of the territory.

Permissible use:

Multifunctional buildings for housing and civic amenities in accordance with the main use, with a predominant function from the 2nd floor above (e.g. housing or administration in the case of vertical functional division with a commercial ground floor), commercial facilities with a total gross floor area not exceeding 8 000 m², buildings for administration, cultural and entertainment facilities, schools, school and other educational and university facilities, extracurricular facilities for children and youth, medical facilities, social service facilities, public catering facilities, accommodation facilities, church facilities, public administration buildings, sports facilities, small non-disruptive production and services, hygiene stations, veterinary facilities within multi-functional buildings and residential buildings, fuel filling stations without service and repairs as an integral part of garages and multi-functional buildings, buildings, equipment and areas for PID operation, small collection yards.

Small bodies of water, greenery, bicycle paths, pedestrian roads and spaces, vehicle roads, area technical infrastructure facilities to the extent necessary and technical infrastructure line lines.

Parking and parking areas, garages.

Conditionally permissible use:

Monofunctional buildings for housing or civic amenities in accordance with the main use in justified cases, taking into account the nature of the public space and territory defined in the ÚAP. Multi-purpose facilities for culture, entertainment and sports, commercial facilities with a total gross floor area not exceeding 20,000 m², rescue and safety system facilities, veterinary facilities, P+R parking lots, fuel filling stations, road maintenance yards, collection yards, raw materials collection centers, horticulture, buildings for small-scale cultivation and breeding.

For conditionally permissible use, it is valid that there will be no impairment or threat to the usability of the land in question.

Inadmissible use:

Inadmissible is a use that is incompatible with the main and permissible use, that is contrary to the character of the location and the conditions and limits set in it, or is otherwise contrary to the goals and tasks of spatial planning.

AREA UTILIZATION RATE CODE	KPP the highest allowable coefficient of floor areas	KPPp the highest conditionally permissible coefficient of floor areas	KZ minimum green coefficient	Typical character of the development at an average floor level	
TO	3.2	3.8	.1	up to 5	very compact urban type development
			.2	6	compact urban type development
			.25	7	urban-type development, high-rise buildings
			.25	8	urban-type development, high-rise buildings
			.35	9	urban-type development, high-rise buildings
			.35	10 and more	urban-type development, high-rise buildings

GOAL AND VISION

After the physical analysis of the area, I understood that the location is a transitional zone between the conservation space, with historical and heritage significance, and the residential area with houses and mixed use. Therefore, this transitional space where the site is located must both adapt to the architectural context and engage in a dialogue with the existing built environment.

The location zone will create a new visual panorama for the existing Hlvani Nadrazi station, so it is important that the proposal considers the optimal approach for society, respecting pre-existing conditions. Being in a noisy and constantly trafficked area, separating traffic is essential for the project. Users permanently present in the project (residents) will also experience this constant element, making it important to mitigate its impact.

GOALS:

ARCHITECTURE:

- Generate a proposal for social housing that adapts to different types of families or individuals.
- Propose common spaces with larger shared areas.
- Design open spaces with opportunities for various views both to the exterior and interior.
- Integrate green areas in both private and public spaces.
- Create a public ground floor for pedestrian circulation and integration with the existing public space.
- Keep private areas as far away as possible from public spaces with transitions referring to these boundary access spaces.
- Propose minimal usage spaces with the potential for transformations.
- Generate a structure that responds to the current use of underground tunnels at the central station.
- Design a building structure that allows free circulation within living spaces.

URBANISM:

- Create a pedestrian transition and crossing in the north-south direction and its connection to Vinohanska.
- Review the possible east-west connection between the parallel streets U Divadla and Mānesova.
- Respect the urban profile and seek integration with the adjacent block on Spanelska.
- Improve the existing public space by integrating a continuity of traffic.
- Respect the use of train tracks with a proposal that does not interfere with the underground horizontal plane.
- Respect pre-existing conditions, visual horizon, street profile, and heights.

VISION:

- Generate an architectural proposal for social housing that integrates into the area and offers the possibility of creating new housing and transitional public space in the area.



Google Earth

Image Landsat / Copernicus

400 m

GENERAL SITE CONCLUSION

The preceding historical analysis has revealed how urban blocks and architecture pose grow, and develop the cityscape of a metropolis, influencing not only our physical surroundings but also shaping the way we interact and engage in our daily activities—a matter of utmost importance. The concept of home, serving as the foundational and pivotal element for cultures like this one and many others, demands thoughtful consideration.

Throughout the evolution of housing in Prague, we have witnessed its expansion and progress, particularly in terms of population in recent years. Prague's remarkable transportation system and classical architecture make it an immensely desirable place to live. However, the constraints of space and soaring rental costs have complicated this prospect. Projects such as those championed by Lacaton and Vassal, along with Habitat 67, demonstrate that addressing this issue is feasible, particularly through innovative approaches like Smart and Small Footprint design.

The location on Vinohradska Street presents a tremendous opportunity to develop a project of significant impact, not only due to its scale but also for its potential to revolutionize urban development and enhance accessibility for both pedestrians and public and private transportation users. Factors such as land use, transportation access, green spaces, and the overall atmosphere contribute positively, transforming this space into an area of evolution with a view toward the historic conversational zone, generating a compelling contrast.

collective and social housing
HLAVNÍ NÁDRAŽÍ.

6. PROJECT DESIGN

- 6.1 CONCEPT
 - CONCEPT - SHAPE
- 6.2 PROGRAM
- 6.3 PROJECT
 - SITE PLAN
 - FOUNDATIONS
 - GROUND FLOOR
 - FIRST - SECOND FLOOR
 - THIRD - SIX FLOOR
 - PARKING
 - ROOF
- 6.4 APARTMENT TYPOLOGIES
- 6.5 SECTIONS
- 6.6 FACADES
- 6.7 CONSTRUCTION DETAIL
- 6.8 VISUALIZATIONS

6.1 CONCEPT

This thesis project originated from a semester of preliminary analysis on social housing. I recognized the necessity of developing a project that illustrates the feasibility of affordable housing in central Prague. After residing here for a year, I observed an urgent need for housing, exacerbated by gentrification and the absence of public policies to regulate rental prices. Consequently, I decided that this project would focus on developing the maximum number of high-quality housing units, serving as a countermeasure to the housing crisis.

The growth, infrastructure, context, climate, and culture of Prague were essential to the development of this work, taking into account the ways of living forming the foundation for the apartment designs. This led to the creation of 104 adaptable apartments. A basic layout of four apartment types was devised to accommodate the residents of the city. Additionally, a new public area was established at the front and first level, introducing a new public passage.

My background significantly influenced this design, as I drew upon the most important element of Mexican architecture: color. This project serves as a tribute to the architecture of Luis Barragán and his iconic use of the color pink, known as Mexican pink. This inspiration was combined with Mexican functionalism and the studio-house of Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera, resulting in a project where two volumes unite and by a curved staircase.

This thesis project features exposed concrete tinted pink on a large-scale volumetric design. It offers the possibility of traversing the boundaries between the historical city and the residential area, acting as a mediator between the two and creating a new transitional space.



The project was built around the vision of three main spaces.

First, a space for the public, an extension of the city inside the project. Second, a project for build community inside the complex a shared space for the inhabitants of the apartments. Third, a space for the privacy, the apartment units.



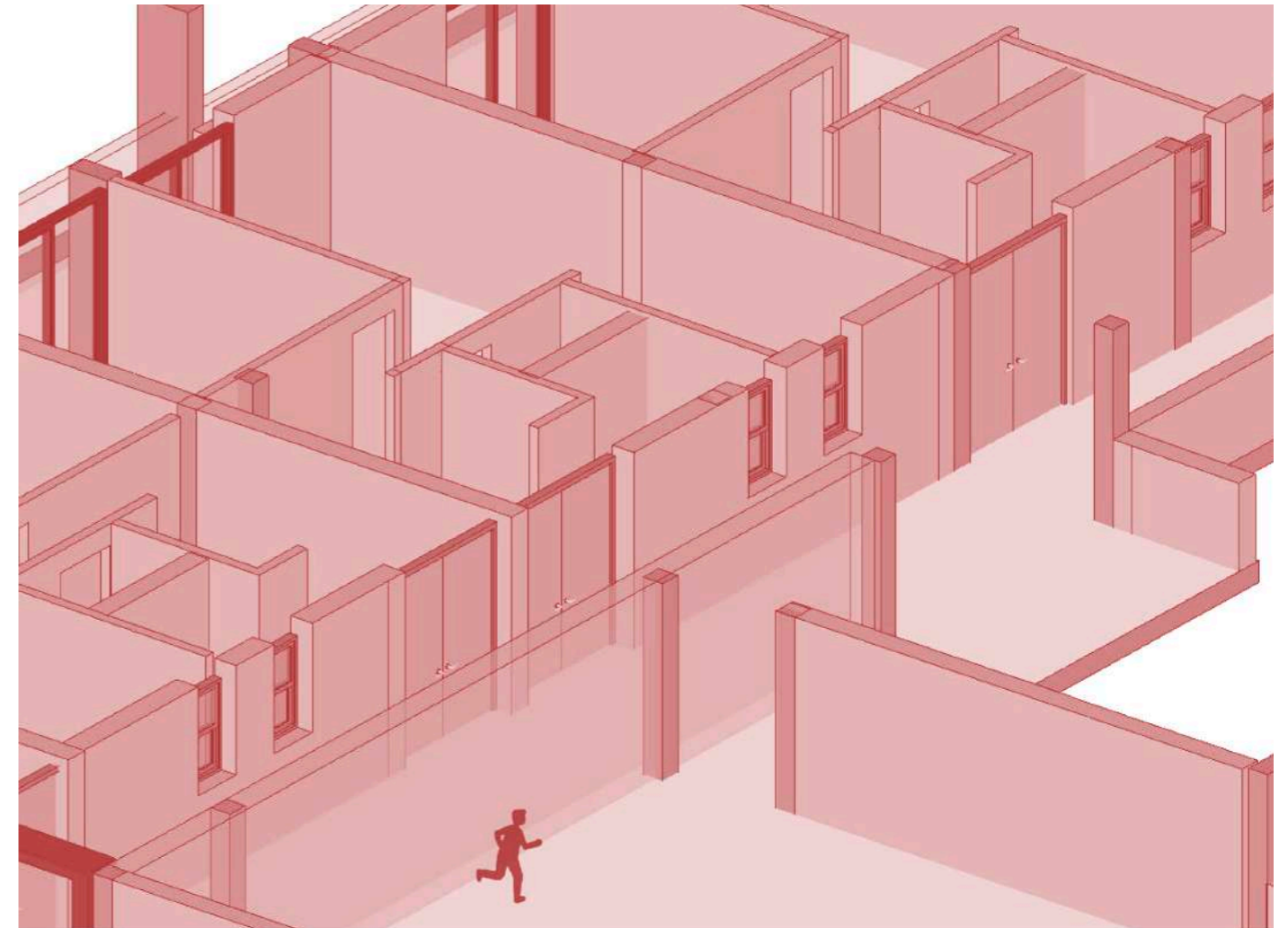
Public:

Residents share the urban space and landscape created with the city making, fostering social exploration and inviting to the socialization with stores, cafes, sitting areas and green spaces. However, their privacy is respected with a separate entrance with lobby for the interior of the building, making the rest of the space welcoming to everyone without concerns.



Community:

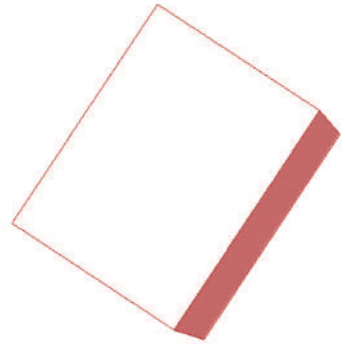
Inside, residents are able to celebrate and build a community. Three double height spaces work as a bridge in the facade and offer a large array of uses. The proposed use is a common sports area, but the spaces can also be used for different activities such as social gatherings, working, playing, etc. This space is connected with a circular circulation of corridors that goes around the building, creating a total connection and good communication.



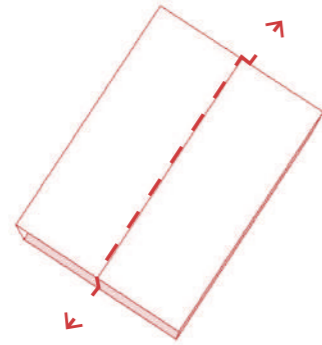
Private:

The residents can enjoy their private space inside their apartment units. These have a balcony to enjoy a private moment with the outside. The open spaces and ventilation are planned to create a private atmosphere while keeping the circulation around.

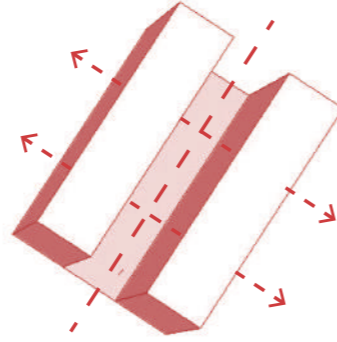
CONCEPT - SHAPE



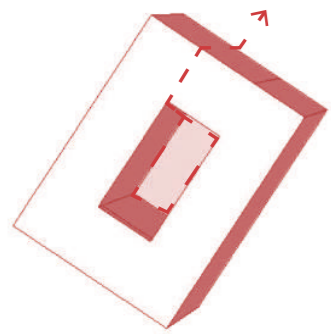
1. The project's form originates from an urban study that underscored the necessity of connecting the north and south via Vinohradská. Additionally, it was crucial to create a barrier against the scale and speed of traffic on Legerova.



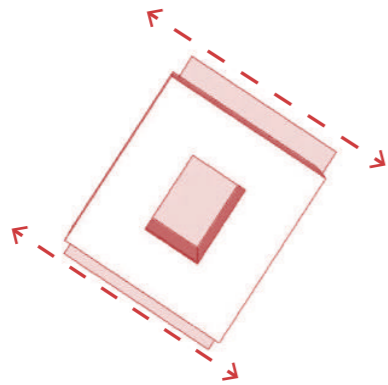
2. With a continuous flow from south to north, the design needed to expand to create a passage or new street to facilitate uninterrupted traffic flow in this direction.



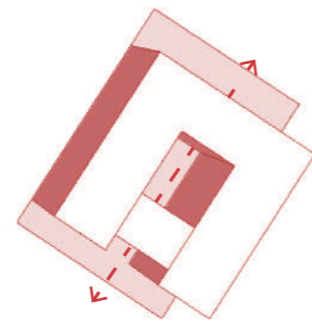
3. Creating spaces at the front and rear of the project was essential to establish complete urban connectivity and transit in all directions. This required horizontal expansion from east to west, linking adjacent streets.



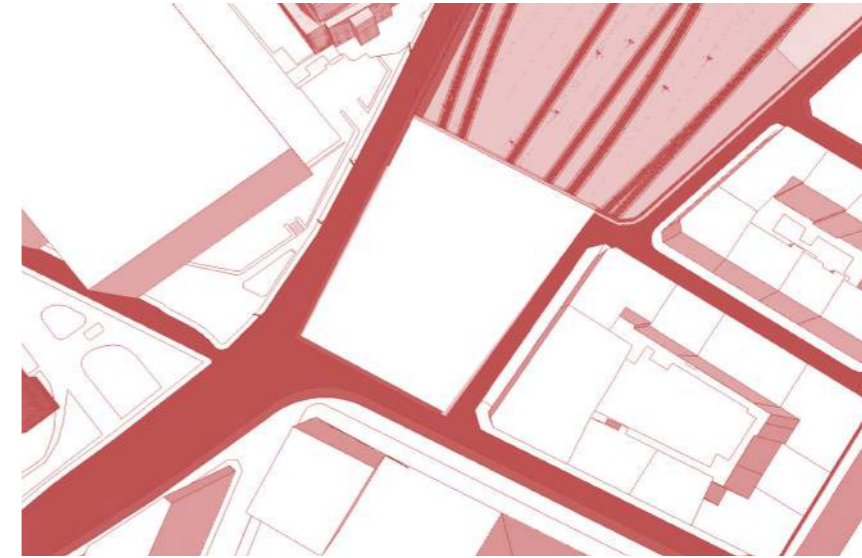
4. Given the urban typology with a central courtyard or open area, it was important to respect this feature to adapt to the neighboring residential area.



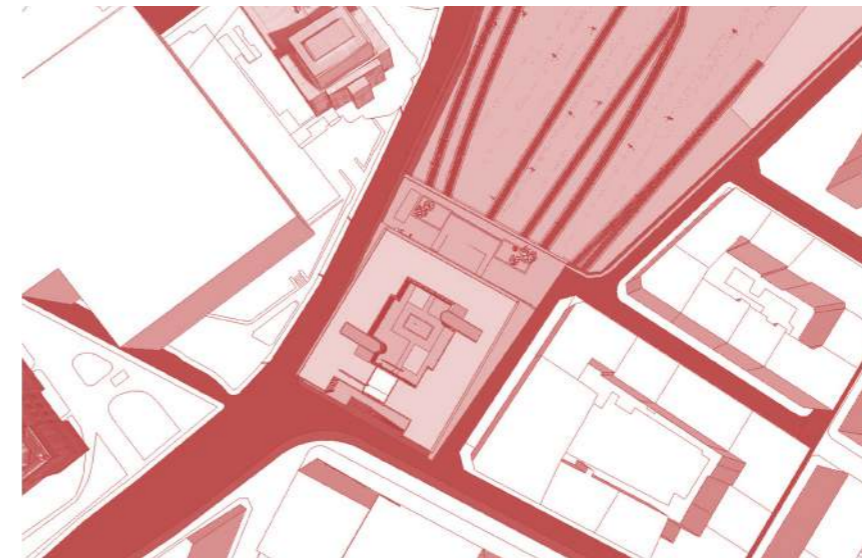
5. The beginning and end of the project needed to maintain the continuity of the street to ensure a seamless pedestrian flow.



6. Finally, the ground level was opened up to create a welcoming atmosphere and ensure the constant use of the space.



Built-up area

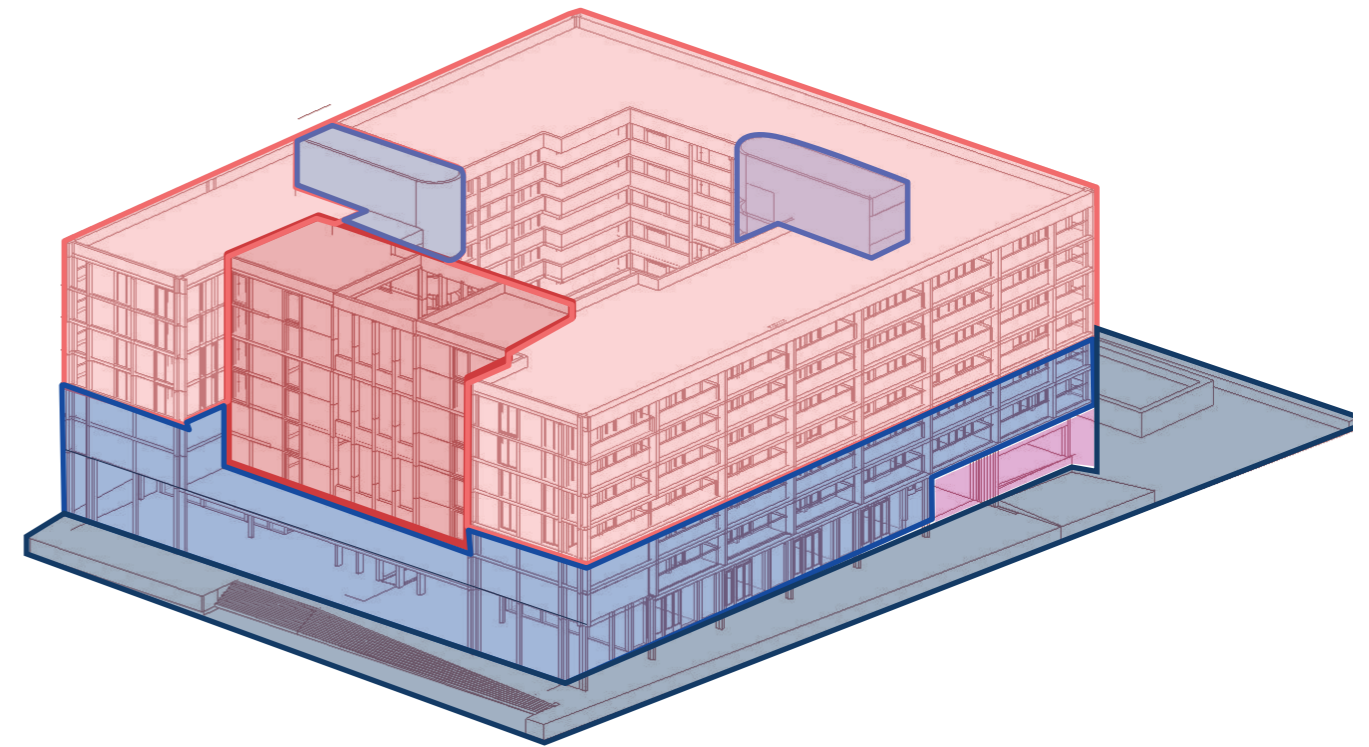
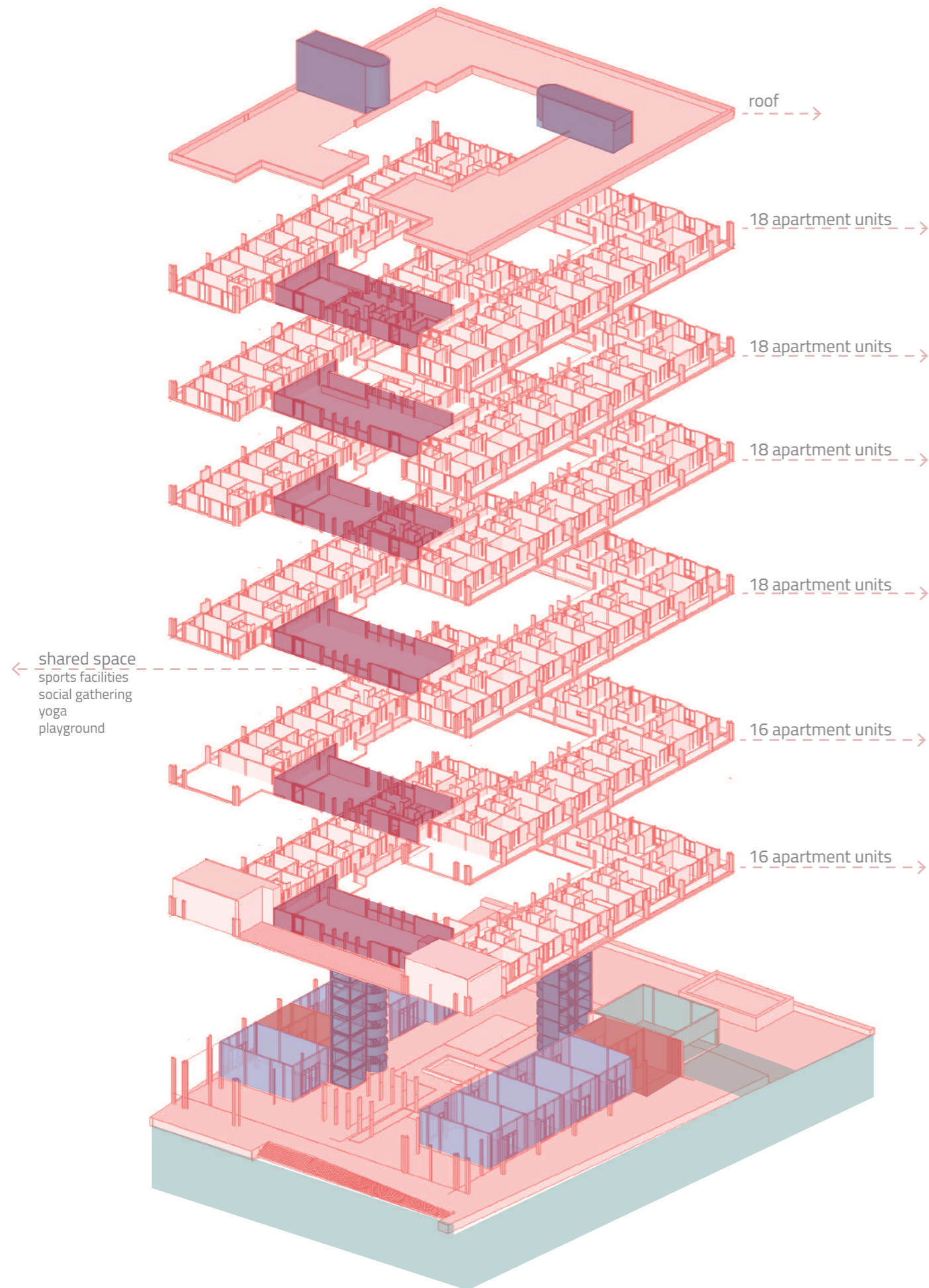


Building



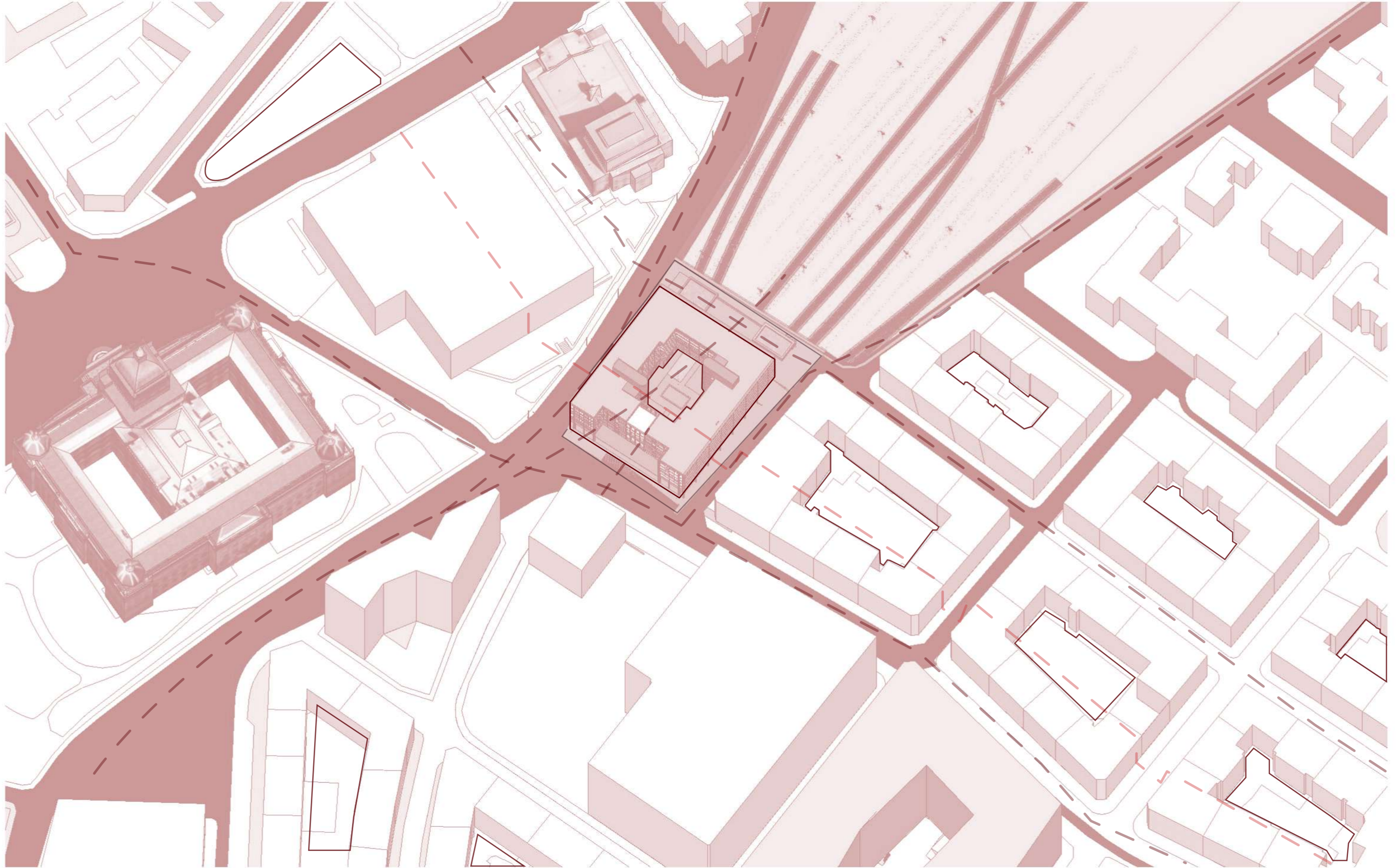
The concept draws inspiration from traditional Mexican architecture, incorporating traditional color schemes and volumetric designs. It also integrates Czech cultural living styles, emphasizing the importance of a corridor with an entrance and the ability to maintain privacy.

6.2 PROGRAM

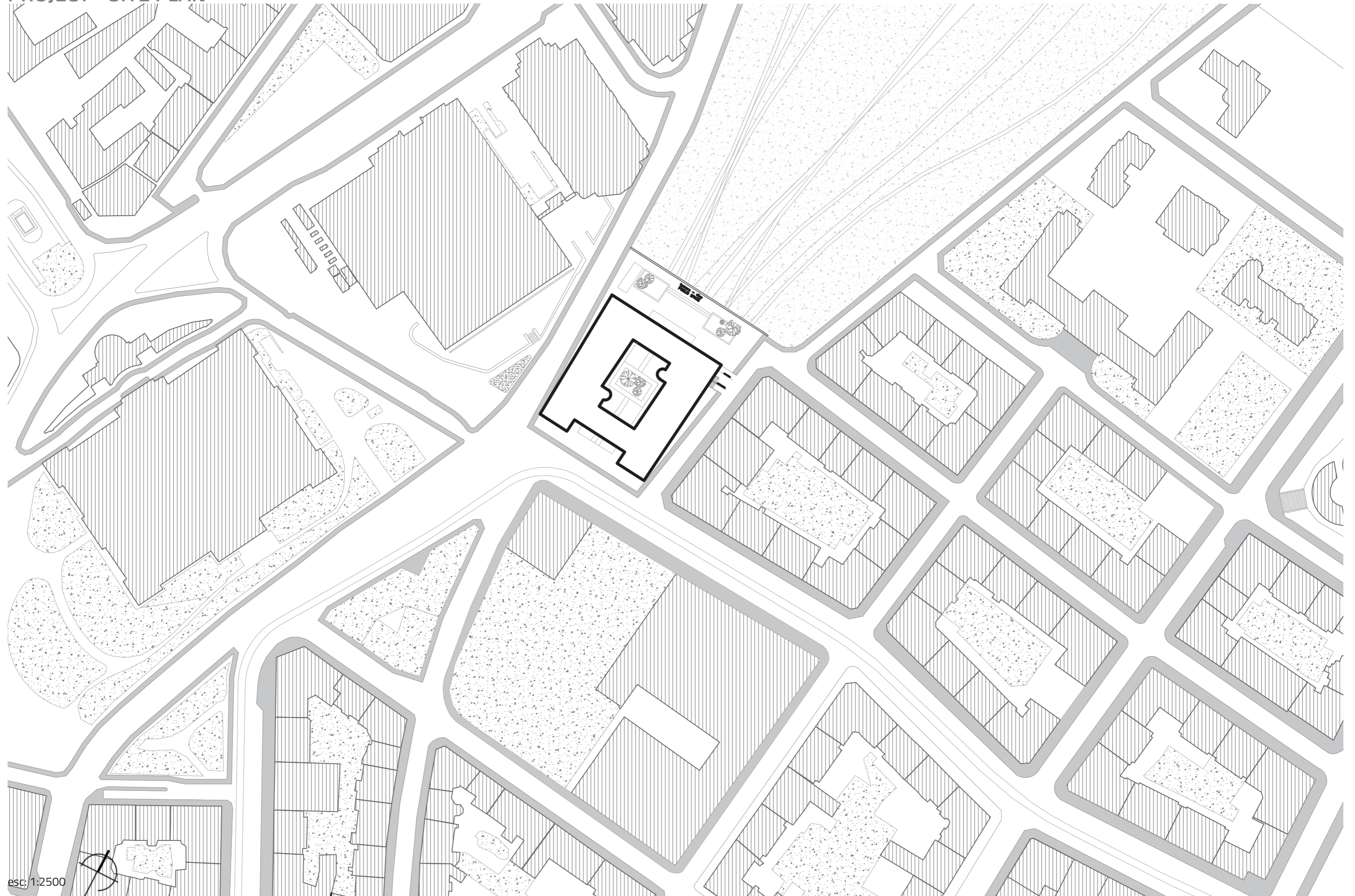


- | | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| apartment units | public |
| shared space | semi public |
| lobby- access | semi public |
| shops | semi private |
| circulation | private |
| parking | private access |

6.3 PROJECT

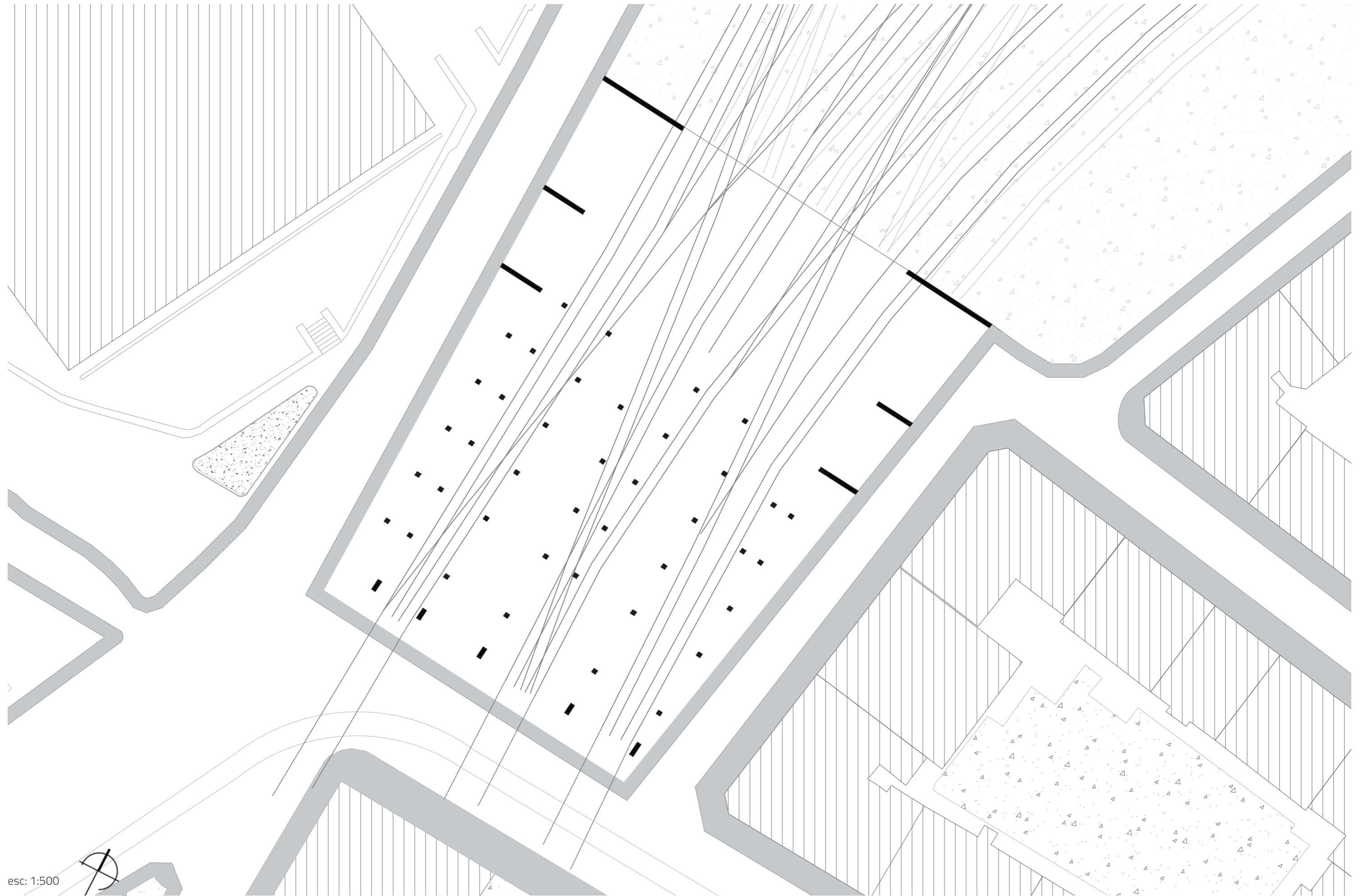


PROJECT - SITE PLAN



esc: 1:2500

FOUNDATIONS



esc: 1:500



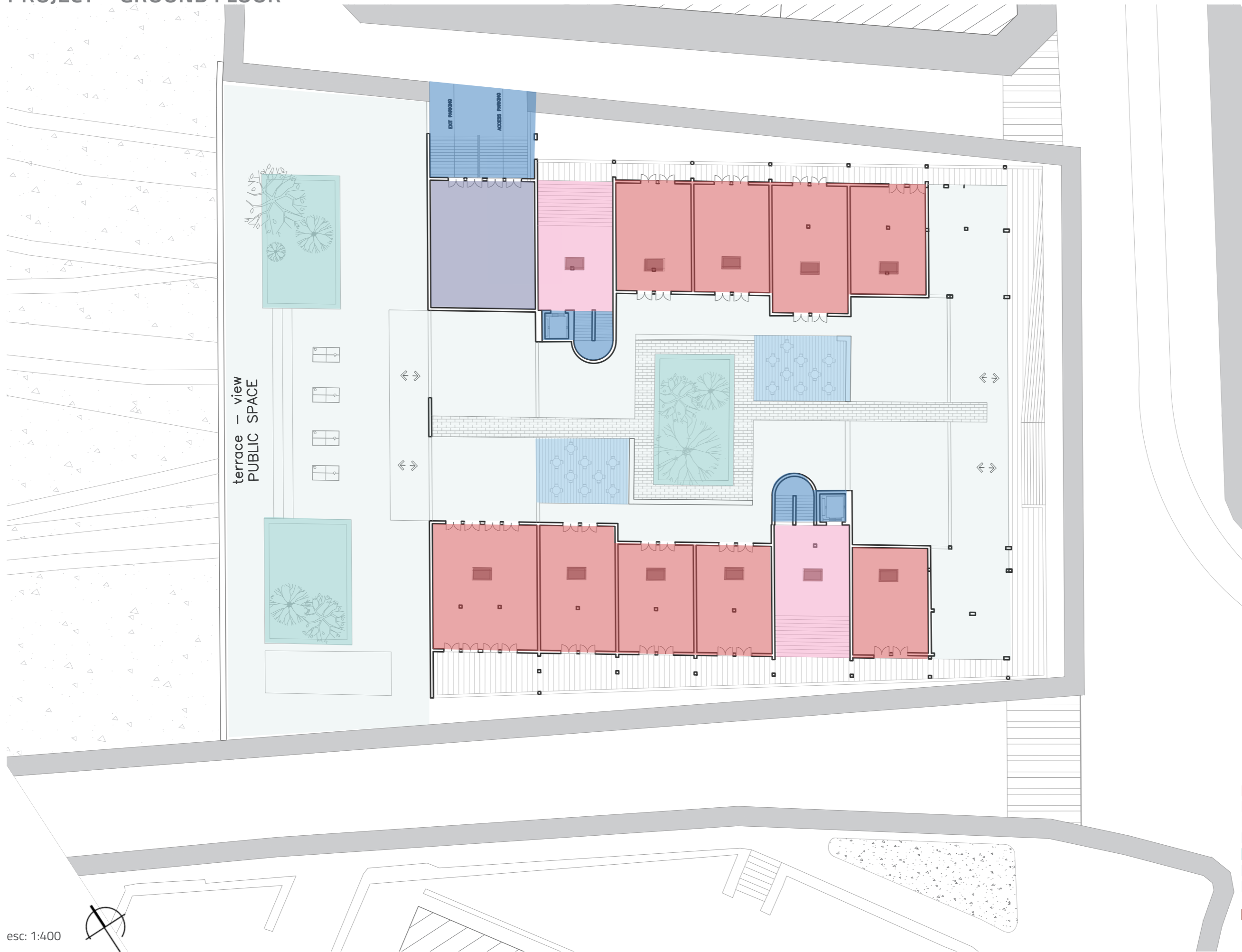
PROJECT - GROUND FLOOR



esc: 1:500



PROJECT - GROUND FLOOR



esc: 1:400

- stores - public shops
 - entrance lobby
 - public area
 - sitting space
 - green space
 - parking access
 - general building
 - waste - machinery
 - plumbing and electrical box
- build area: 1480 sqm
total area: 4062

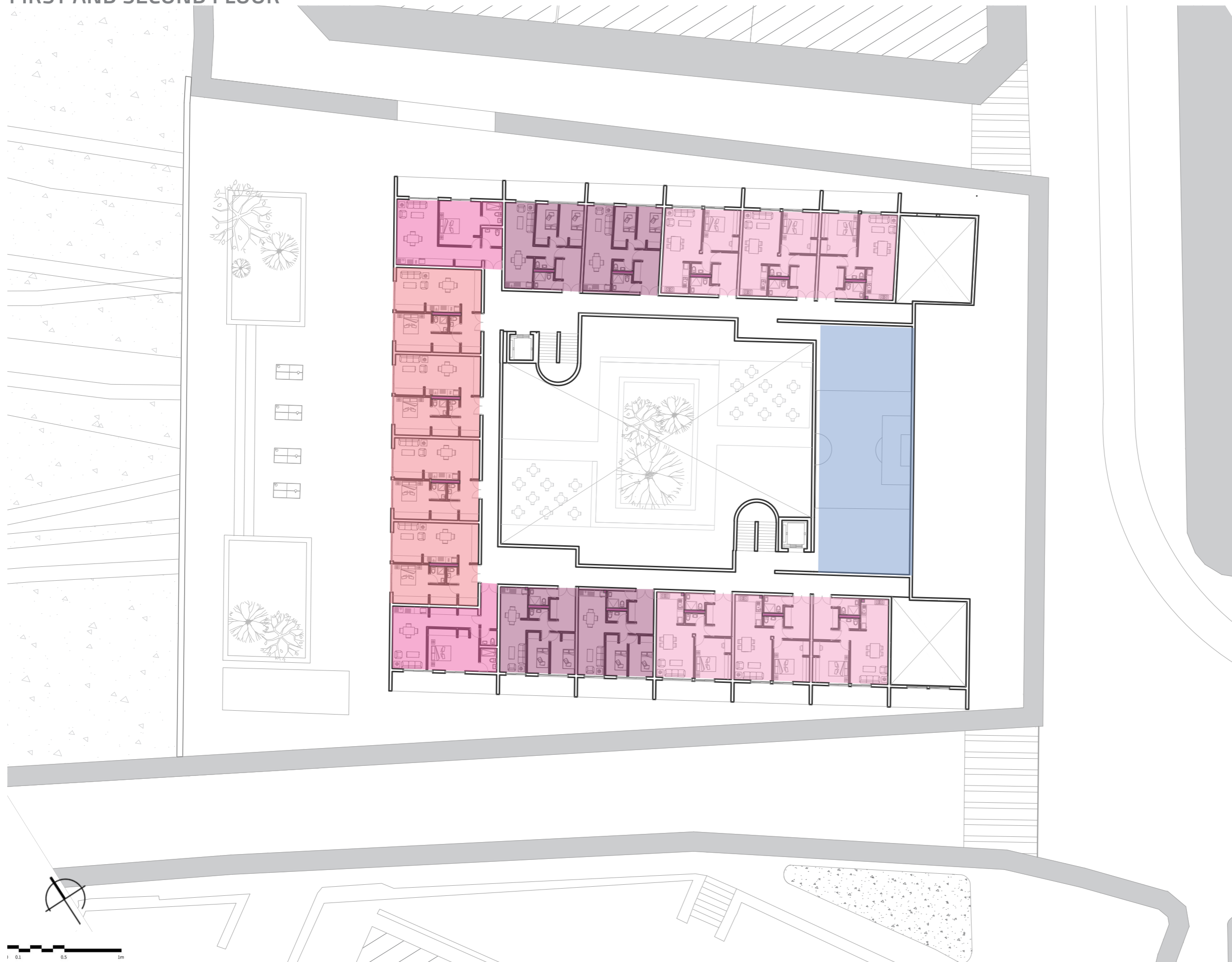
FIRST AND SECOND FLOOR



esc: 1:500



FIRST AND SECOND FLOOR



- typology 1
- typology 2
- typology 3
- typology 4
- shared space -sport facility
- plumbing and electrical box

build area: 2072 sqm

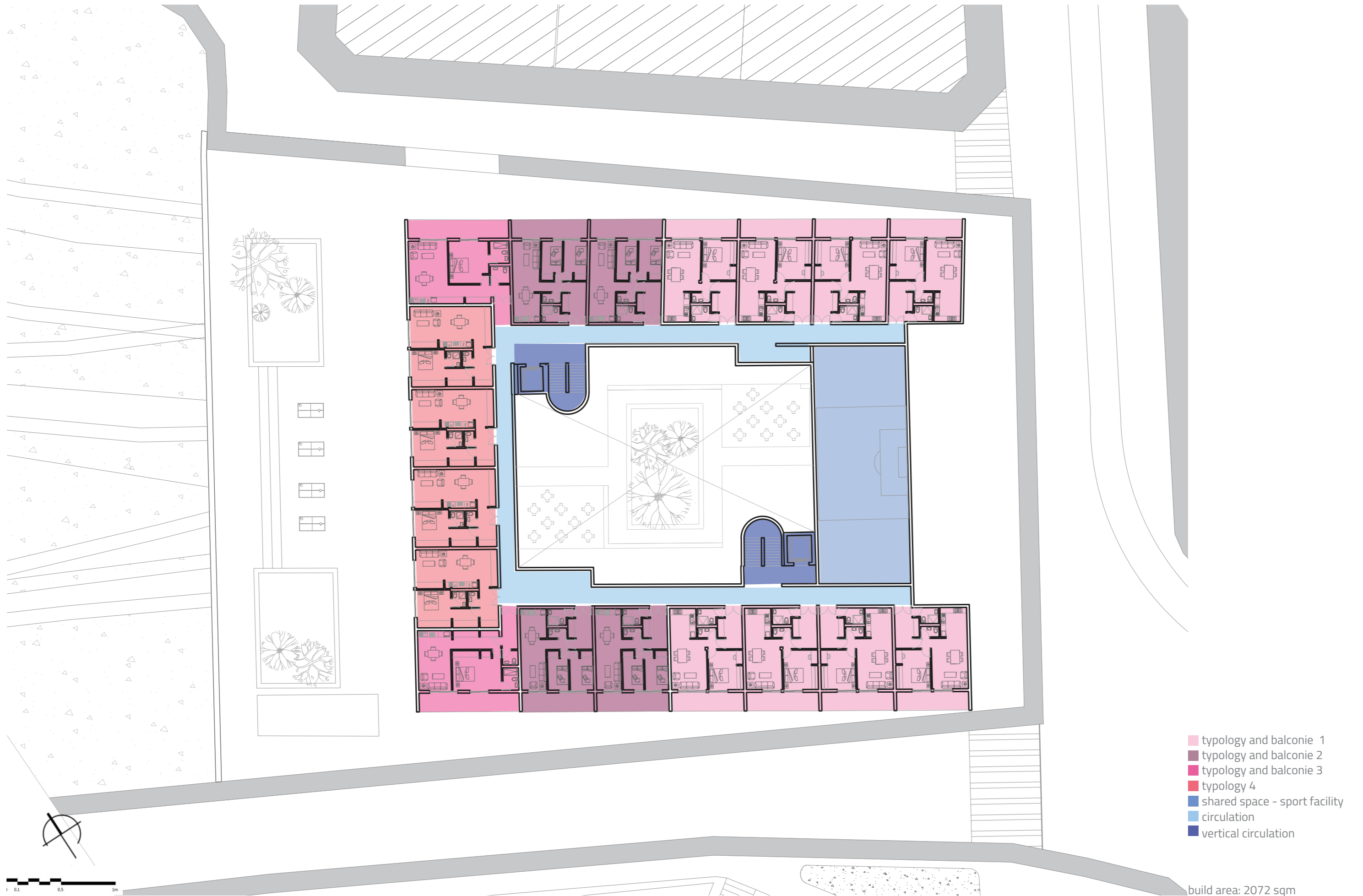
6.4 PROJECT - THIRD - SIX FLOOR



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PROJECT - THIRD - SIX FLOOR



PARKING

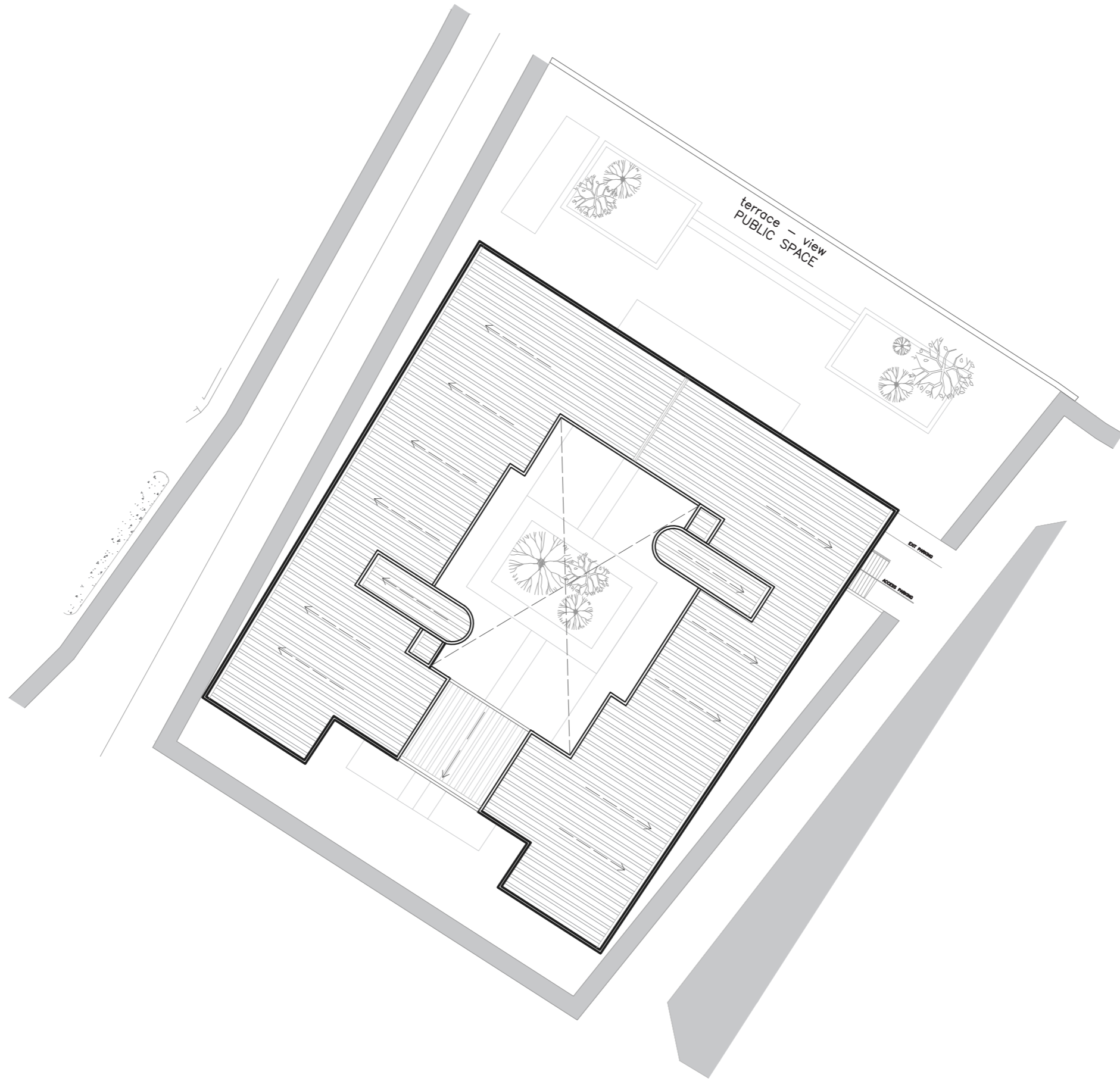


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75 parking spaces. Three of them with space for people with different abilities. 16 individual storage space and storage shared space. General waste and machinery of building.

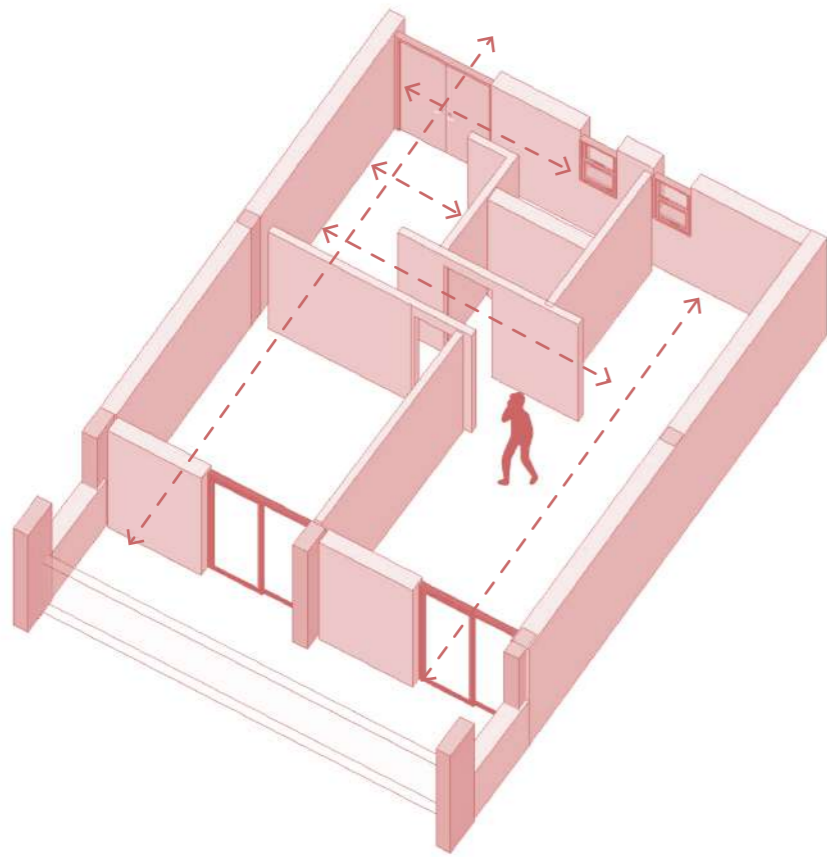
ROOF



esc: 1:500

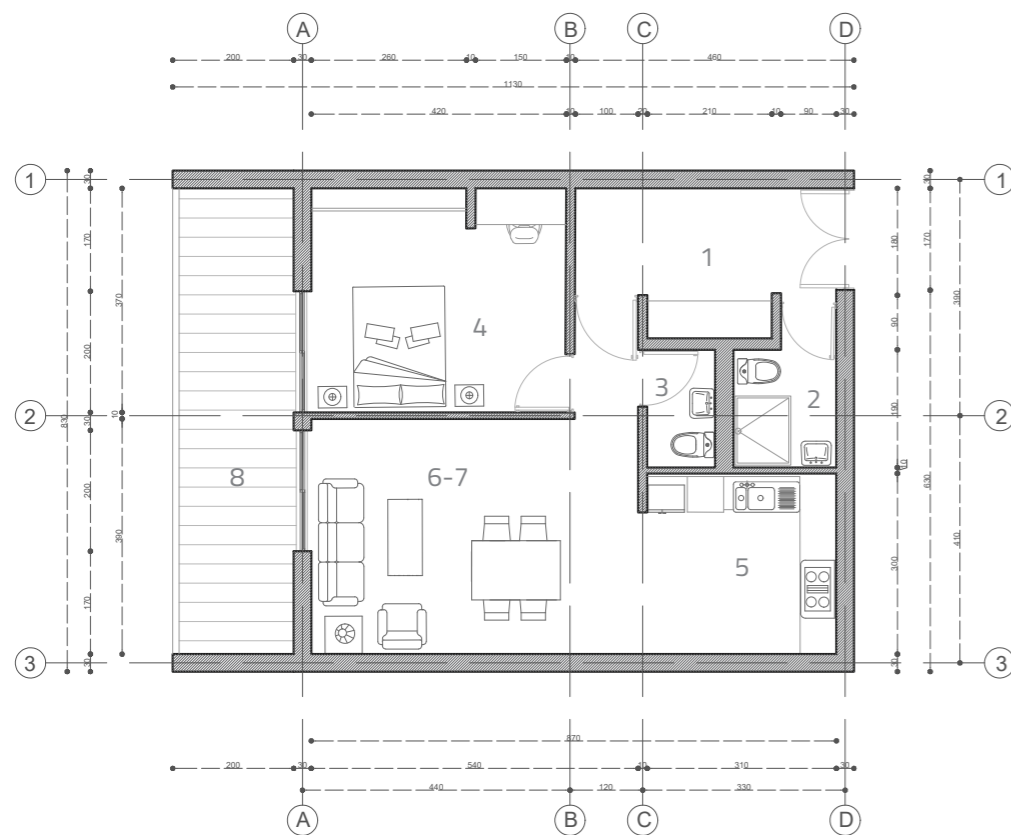
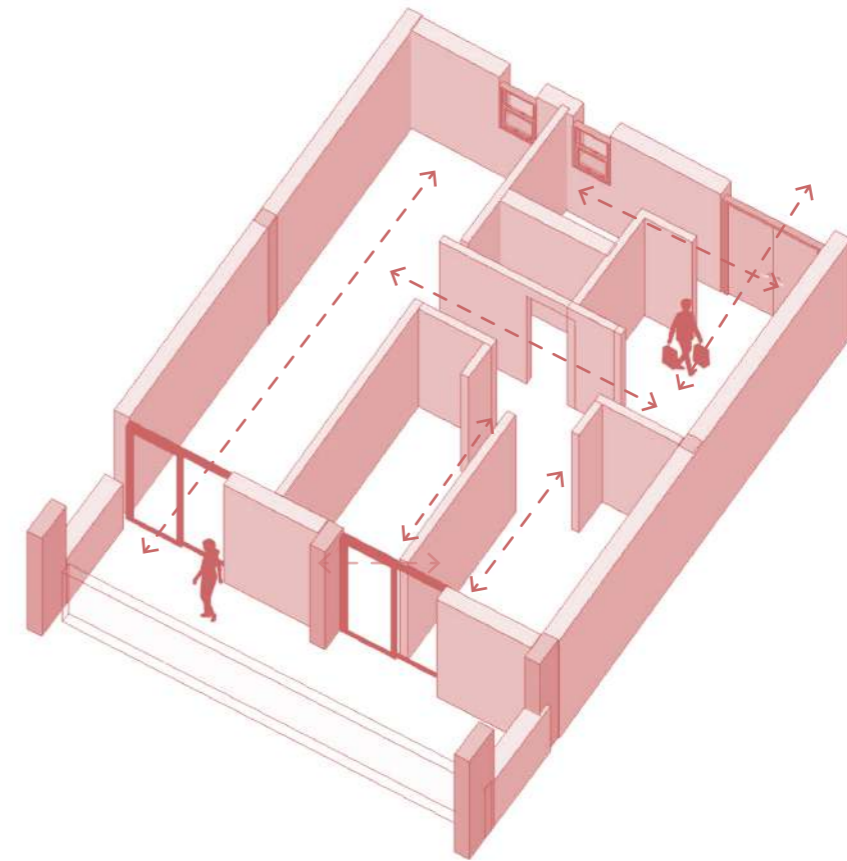


6.4 TYPOLOGY 1



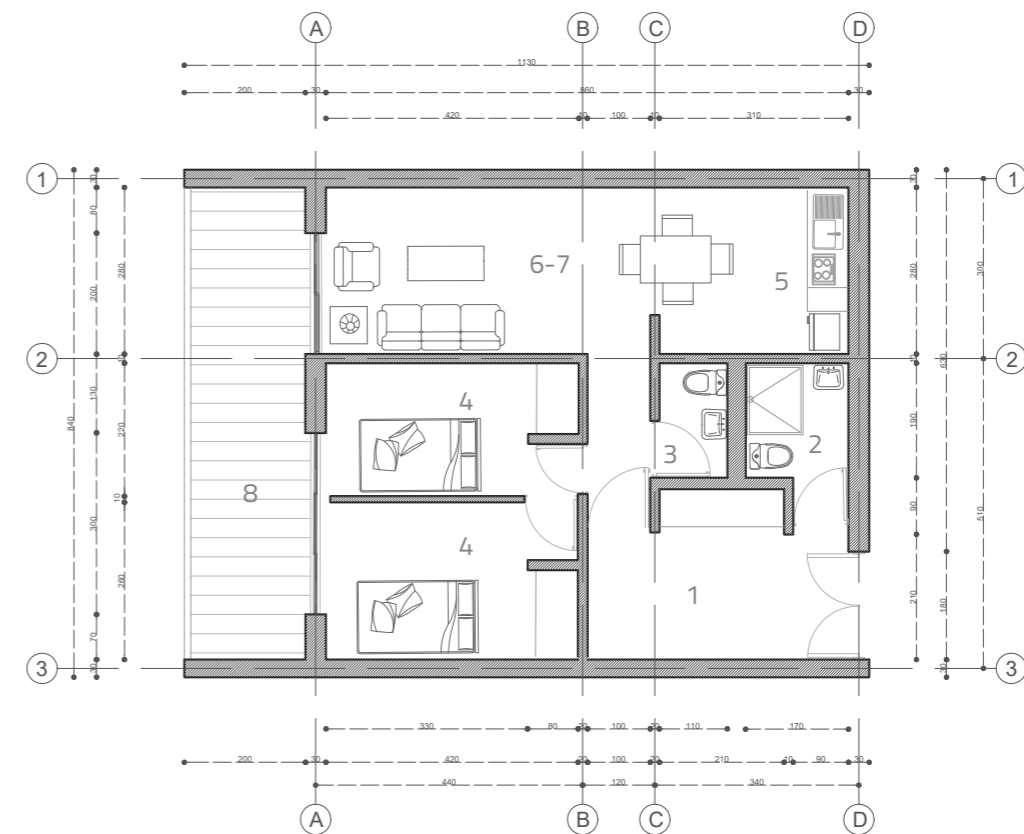
esc: 1:125

TYPOLGY 2



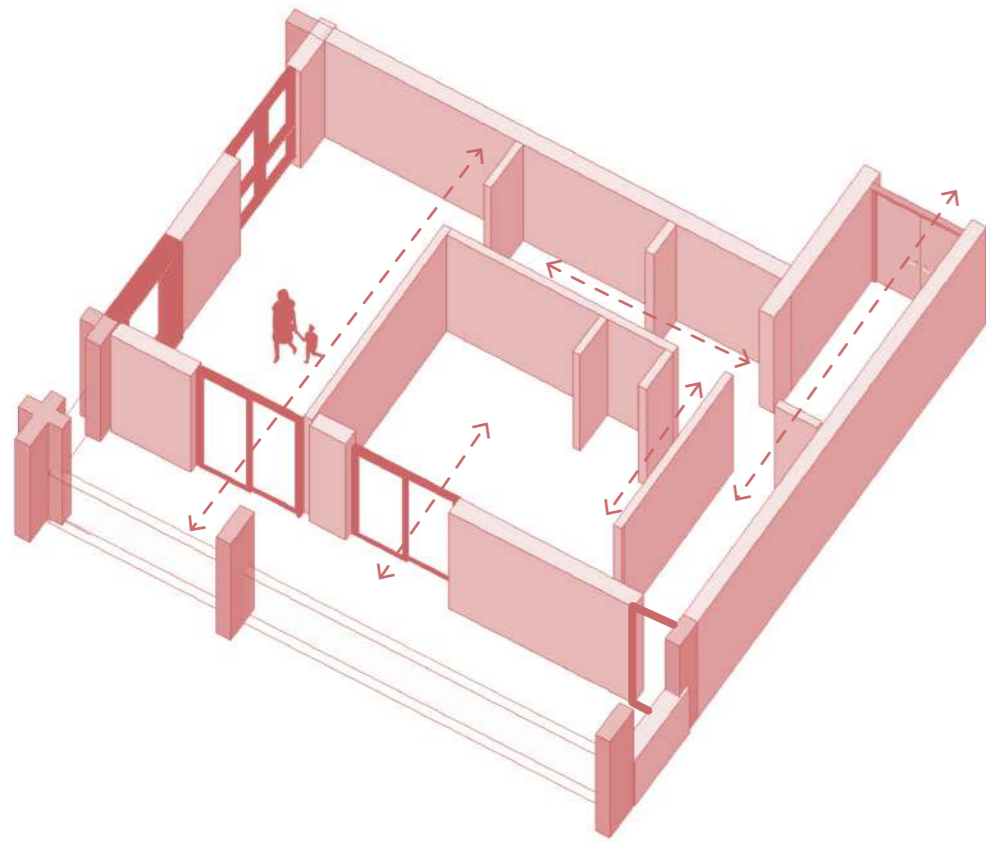
- 70 sqm
 1. entrance- closet
 2. bathroom
 3. toilet
 4. room
 5. kitchen
 6. dining room
 7. living room
 8. balcony - 16 sqm

esc: 1:125

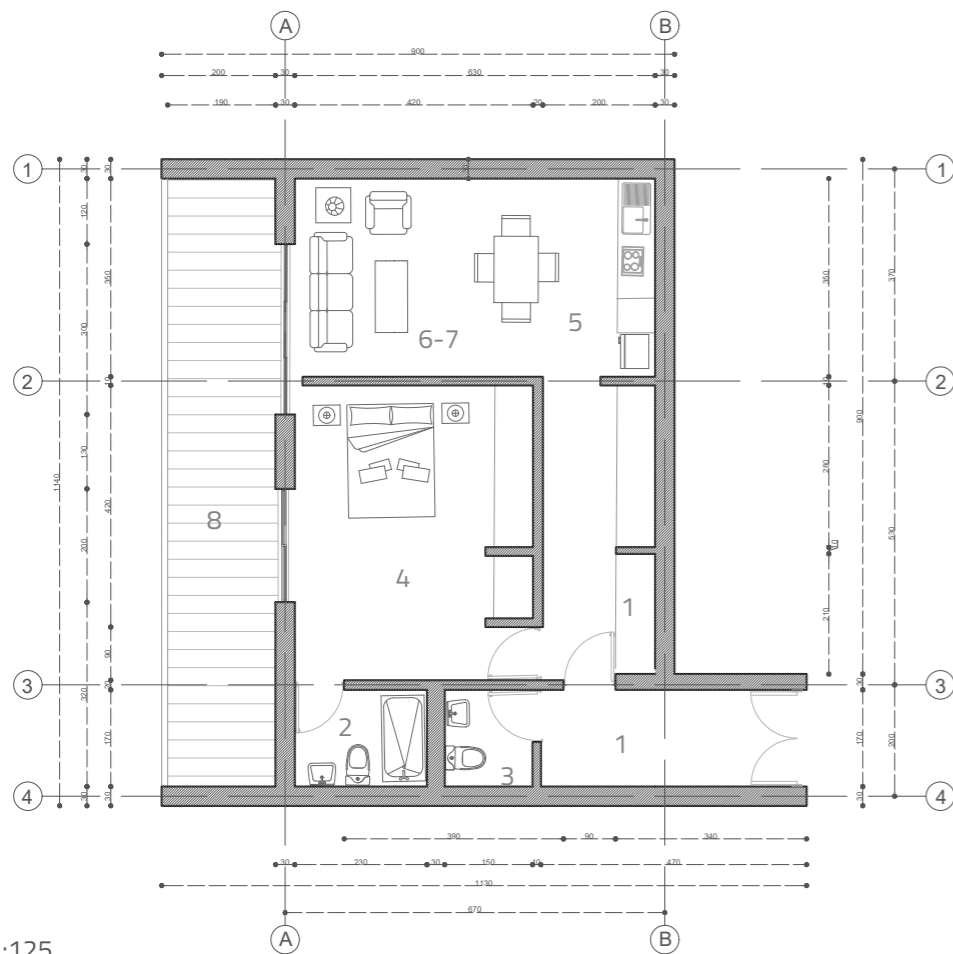
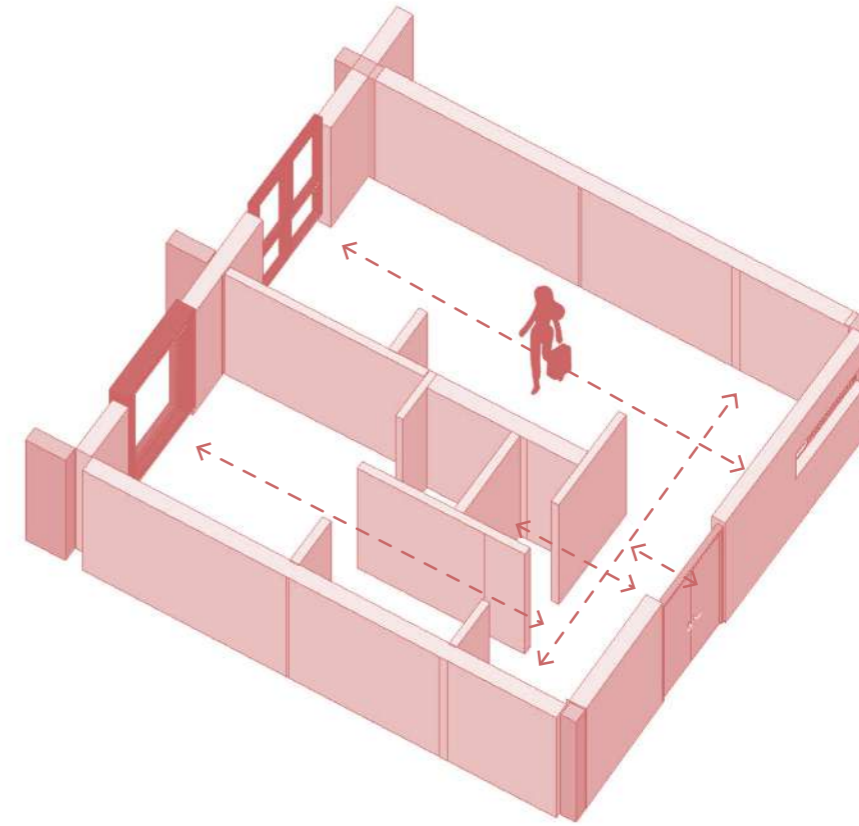


- 70 sqm
 1. entrance- closet
 2. bathroom
 3. toilet
 4. room
 5. kitchen
 6. dining room
 7. living room
 8. balcony - 16 sqm

TYPLOGY 3

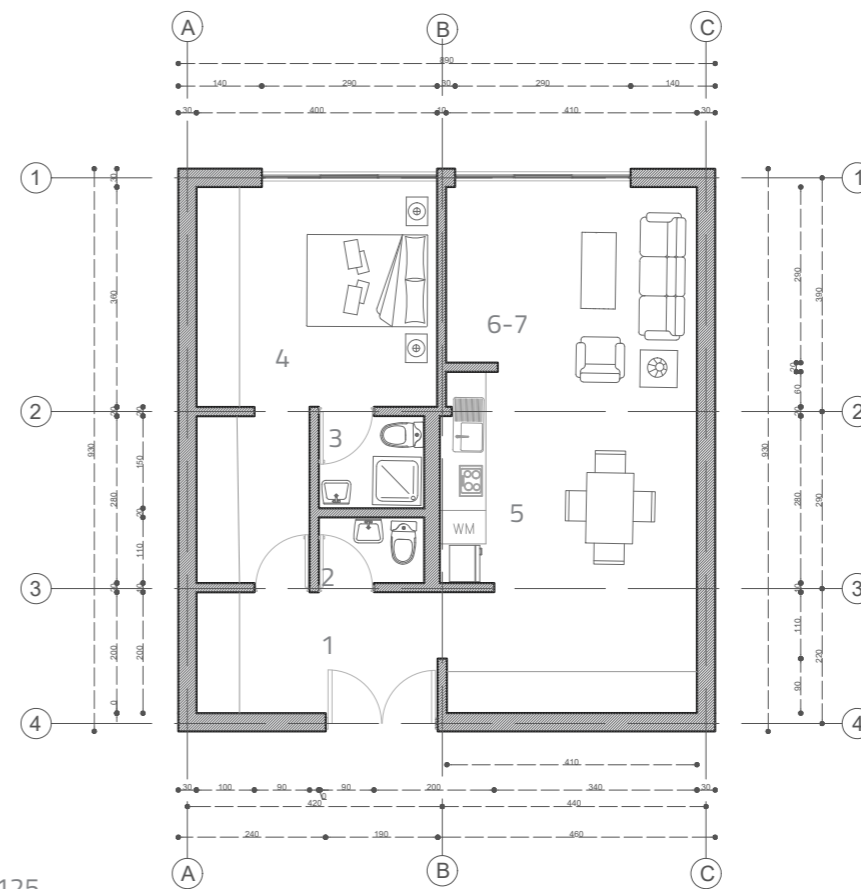


TYPLOGY 4



- 75 sqm
 1. entrance- closet
 2. bathroom
 3. toilet
 4. room
 5. kitchen
 6. dining room
 7. living room
 8. balcony - 18sqm

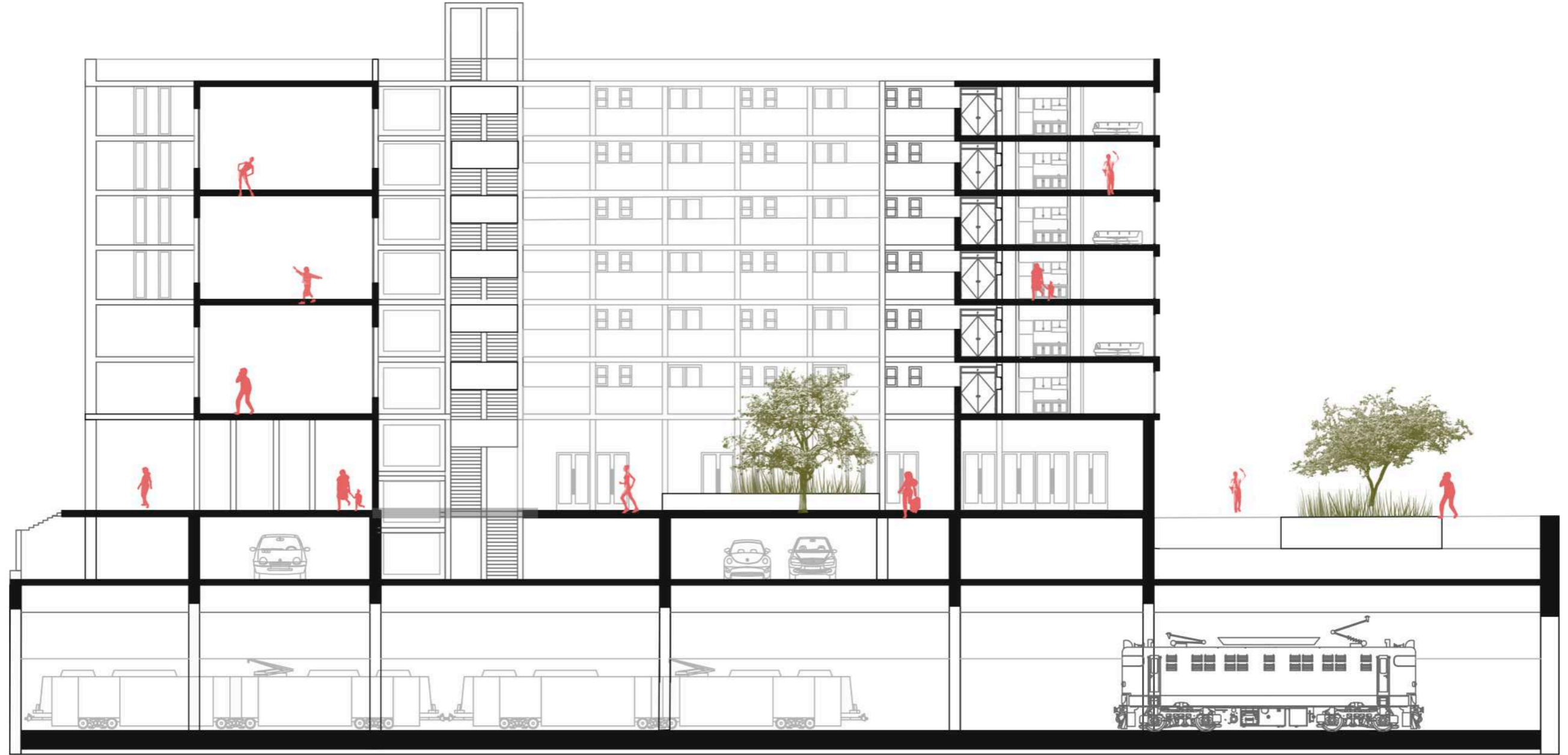
esc: 1:125



- 75 sqm
 1. entrance- closet
 2. bathroom
 3. toilet
 4. room
 5. kitchen
 6. dining room
 7. living room

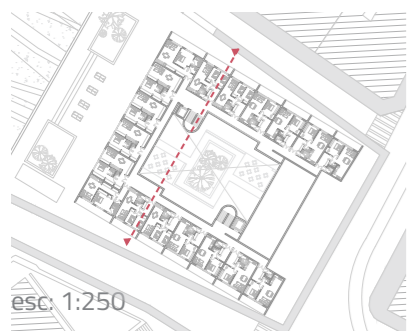
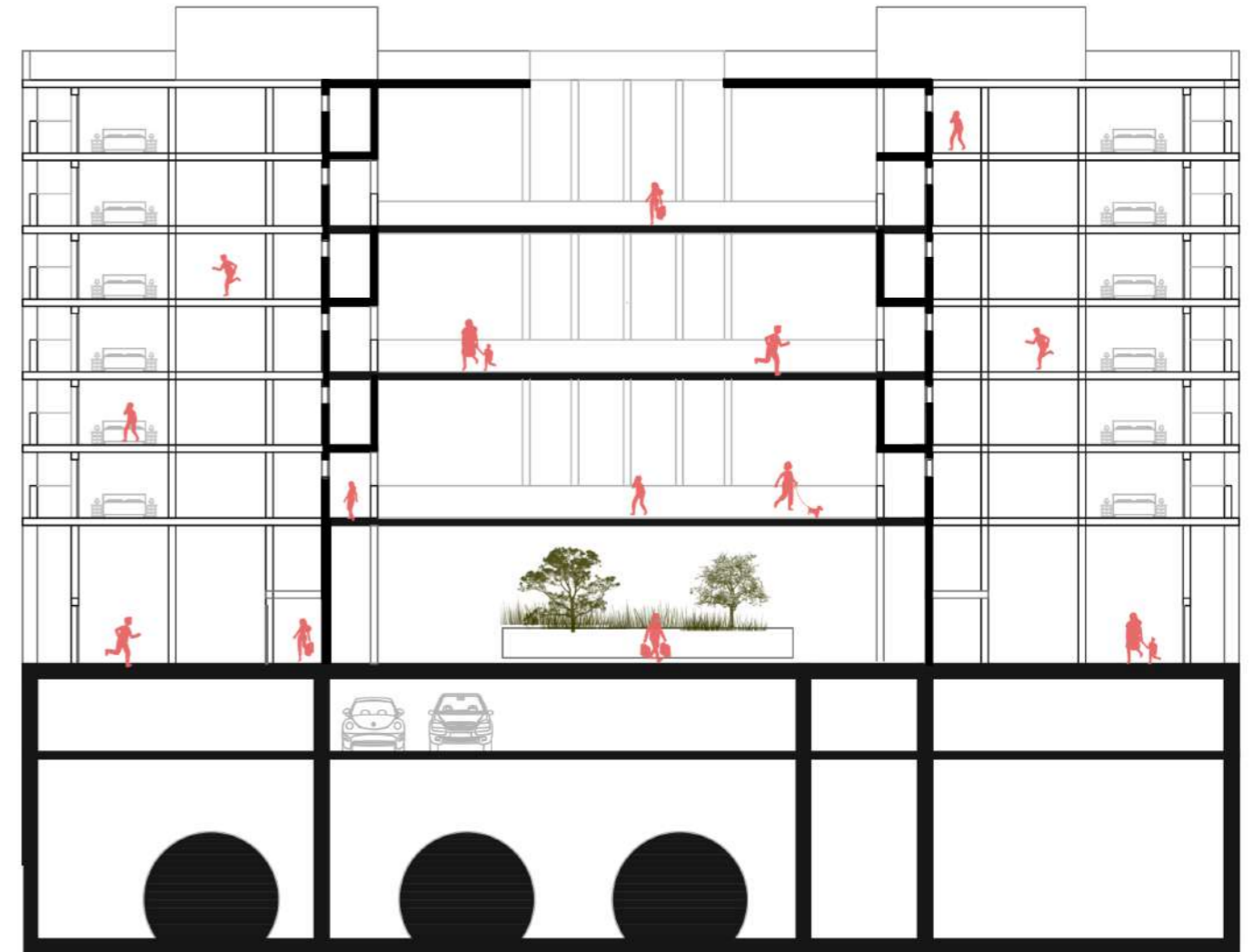
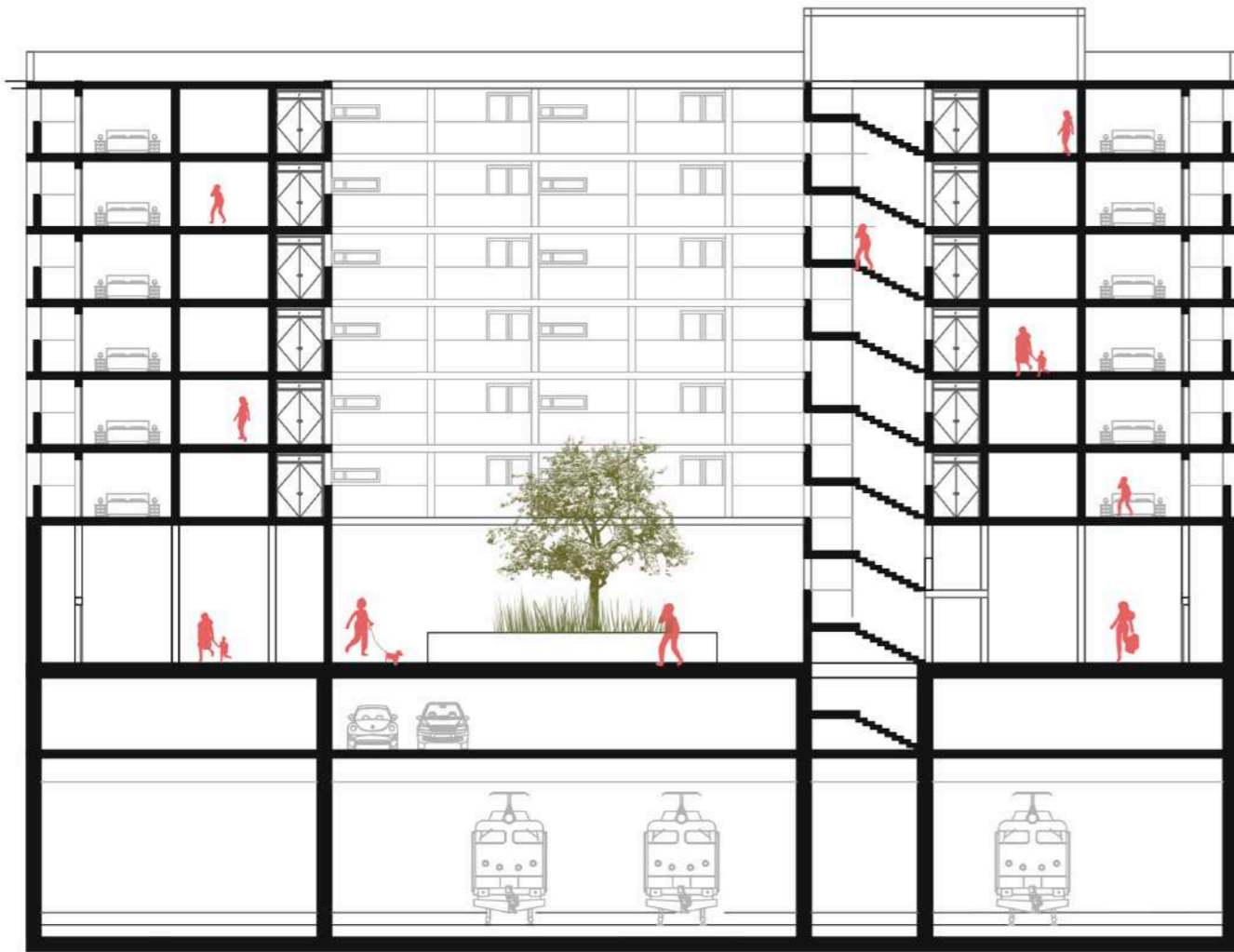
esc: 1:125

6.5 SECTIONS

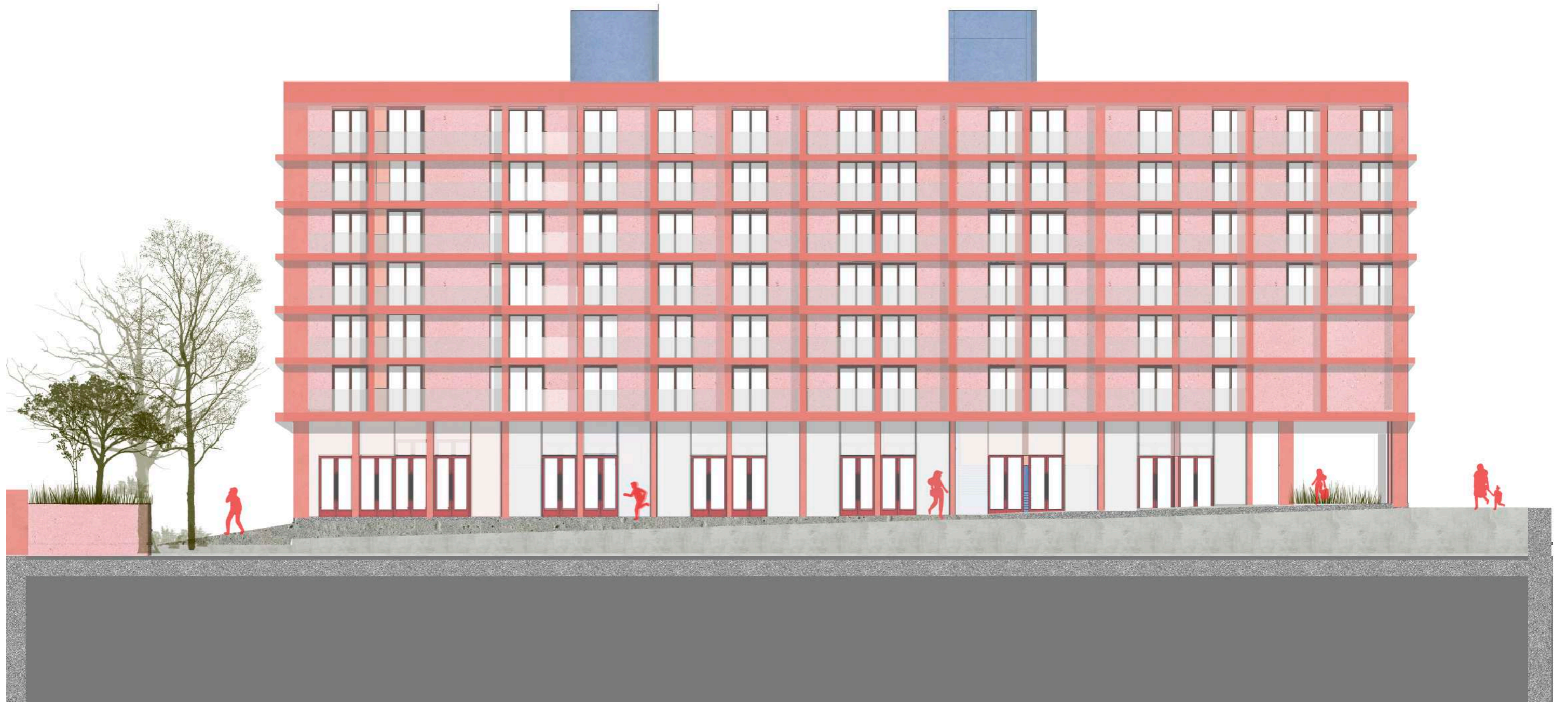


esc. 1:250

SECTIONS



6.6 FACADES



east west facade
esc: 1:1250

FACADES



back facade
facing main station

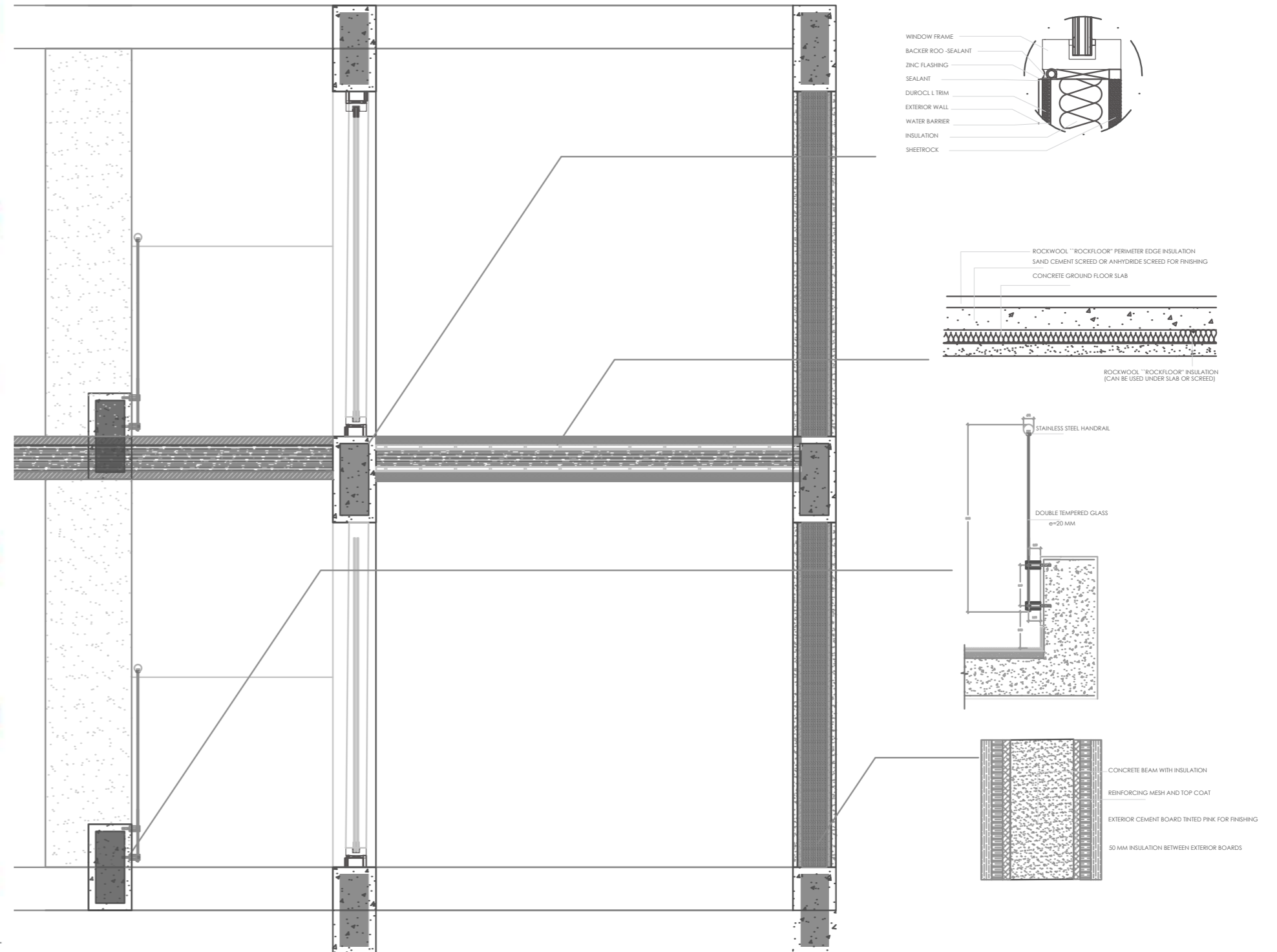
esc: 1:1250



front facade
facing Vinohradská

esc: 1:1250

6.7 CONSTRUCTION DETAIL



A monolithic structure, both vertical and horizontal, is proposed, designed with reinforced structural concrete. This concrete includes an insulation system for durability and climate differences. It is coated with a double-sided pink-tinted finish. The apartment floors are planned with radiant floor heating, but electric heating is also an option. The technical shafts for plumbing and electrical systems connect vertically from the first level. The design of the connecting corridors ensures access to the stairs in case of an emergency. All windows are double-glazed and supported by an aluminum frame

6.8 VISUALIZATIONS



This visual shows the access and main street parallel to Vinohradská. The access at the beginning of the project, along with the public space, creates a virtual barrier against the car space, placing the project and pedestrians in a safer zone. This section is mostly covered, extending outdoor use throughout the year and generating a play of volumes and changes in height.



View from Hlavní Nádraží station. The building rises above the train passage, offering a new perspective of the space. At the same time, from the public area, you can see the trains.



Legerova Street integrates into the urban space, expanding the virtual sidewalk space and reducing speed with crosswalks.



Lateral view showcasing the elongated facade design in the east and west directions of the project. The building's design takes advantage of its structure to accentuate the levels.



The central area of the social public space features a green area in the middle, creating the idea of a courtyard and a seating area, serving as an architectural center of the space.



From the beginning to the end of the project, you can feel the connection of the spaces and see the monumentality of the project with the changes in height at the entrance.



The apartments with typology 1 layout offer a privileged view of Prague's architectural landmarks. This combined living and dining area gives a sense of spaciousness



The common area of the building offers endless possibilities, making the space a zone of social interaction. It features double-height ceilings and views of the street and the center of the project.



The kitchen area in all four types of apartments is fully equipped to cook comfortably. These spaces are also connected to the living and dining areas.



The bedroom area is located at the back of each apartment, ensuring privacy. They are equipped with ventilation and access to the balcony.

CONCLUSION

This year of work on this project has given me the satisfaction of seeing an idea, a dream, become a feasible and buildable reality for new housing in central Prague. Sometimes, the solution to a problem is, in fact, building. Prague serves as a reference and demonstrates the potential for growing social cohesion and connection. This is reflected in this project that meets the requirements and objectives set at the outset. Constructive feasibility is achieved using a structure that does not obstruct train pathways while maintaining the structural qualities needed to support a building and withstand various seasons and weather conditions. The design prioritizes creating dignified and practical housing, where the elements within can adapt to contemporary lifestyles and various types of families. Furthermore, the project promotes sustainable use of space with a responsible ecological footprint, proving that no space is too small if it is designed with respect for the inhabitants.



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Czech Technical University in Prague, Faculty of Architecture

DIPLOMA PROJECT APPLICATION FORM

Name and Surname: Sara Alexa Venegas Torres

Date of Birth: 28 March 1998

Academic Year / Semester: Summer 2024-1^o

Department Number / Name: Diploma project DP (AV, AVKA)

Diploma Work / Diploma Project Leader: Doc. Ing. Arch. Petr Kordovský

Diploma Work / Diploma Project Theme – title in English language:

Social and collective housing - Hlavní Nádraží.

Signature of the Diploma Work / Diploma Project Leader:

The Student's Declaration:

I declare that I have fulfilled all the diploma work / diploma project initiation requirements stipulated by the "Study Plan" and "Study Rules" at the Faculty of Architecture, CTU in Prague.

In Prague on 19/02/2024

Signature of the Student



Czech Technical University in Prague, Faculty of Architecture

ASSIGNMENT of the Diploma project

Master degree

Date of Birth: 28 March 1998

Academic Year / Semester: LS 2024-4

Department Number / Name: DP (AV, AVKA)

Diploma Project Leader: Doc. Ing. Arch. Petr Kordovský.

Diploma Project Theme: Social and collective housing - Hlavní Nádraží.

See the Application Form for DP

Assignment of the Diploma Project:

1/description of the project assignment and the expected solution objective

2/description of the final result, outputs and elaboration scales

3/list of further agreed-upon parts of the project (model)

To this list further attachments can be added according if necessary.

1. A comprehensive approach to social and communal housing with emphasis in long term use of architecture. Offering a solution of the urgent need of central housing in Prague. The chosen location at the main station above the tracks propose a contemporary house solution on an strategic site.

2. Social and collective housing project that blends and propose a social use as well as a new urban part. Different scales 1:2500 - 1:50.

3..Diploma seminar
· Description of site
· historical context
· site context
· Plot
· Goal vision.
· Project design.
- concept
- design
- visuals
- panel
- model.

Date and Signature of the Student: 19/02/24

Date and Signature of the Diploma Project Leader:

Date and Signature of the Dean of FA CTU:




CZECH TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY IN PRAGUE FACULTY OF ARCHITECTURE	
AUTOR, DIPLOMANT: AUTHOR OF THE DIPLOMA WORK / DIPLOMA PROJECT Academic Year 2023 2024 Semester	
TITLE OF THE DIPLOMA WORK / DIPLOMA PROJECT (IN CZECH LANGUAGE)	
TITLE OF THE DIPLOMA WORK / DIPLOMA PROJECT (IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE)	
LANGUAGE OF THE DIPLOMA WORK / DIPLOMA PROJECT:	
Diploma Work / Diploma Project Supervisor	Ústav: Department Architectural design III Supervisor: doc. Ing. arch. Petr Kordovský Assistant professor: Ing. arch. Ladislav Vrbata
Diploma Work / Diploma Project Opponent	Tomáš Hořava
Key Words (Czech)	Sociální bydlení, komunální bydlení, dostupné, byt, komunita
Annotation (Czech)	Tento projekt představuje myšlenku realizovatelné a postavitelné budovy sociálního bydlení v centru Prahy. Někdy je řešením problému ve skutečnosti budování. Praha slouží jako reference a demonstruje potenciál pro rostoucí sociální soudržnost a propojení. To se odráží v tomto projektu, který splňuje požadavky a cíle stanovené na začátku. Konstruktivní proveditelnosti je dosaženo použitím konstrukce, která nepřekáží vlakovým cestám při zachování konstrukčních kvalit potřebných k podpoře budovy a odolnosti vůči různým ročním obdobím a povětrnostním podmínkám. Návrh upřednostňuje vytvoření důstojného a praktického bydlení, kde se prvky uvnitř mohou přizpůsobit současnému životnímu stylu a různým typům rodin. Kromě toho projekt podporuje udržitelné využívání prostoru s odpovědnou ekologickou stopou, což dokazuje, že žádný prostor není příliš malý, pokud je navržen s ohledem na obyvatele.
Annotation (English)	This project presents the idea of a feasible and buildable social housing building in central Prague. Sometimes, the solution to a problem is, in fact, building. Prague serves as a reference and demonstrates the potential for growing social cohesion and connection. This is reflected in this project which meets the requirements and objectives set at the outset. Constructive feasibility is achieved using a structure that does not obstruct train pathways while maintaining the structural qualities needed to support a building and withstand various seasons and weather conditions. The design prioritizes creating dignified and practical housing where the elements within can adapt to contemporary lifestyles and various types of families. Furthermore, the project promotes sustainable use of space with a responsible ecological footprint, proving that no space is too small if it is designed with respect for the inhabitants.

social and collective housing
HLAVNÍ NÁDRAŽÍ.

The Author's Declaration

I declare that I have elaborated the submitted diploma work / diploma project independently and that I have stated all the used information sources in coherence with the "Methodological Instruction for Ethical Preparation of University Final Works".

(The complete text of the methodological instruction is available for download on <http://www.fa.cvut.cz/En>)

In Prague on Signature of the Diploma Project Author

This document is an essential and obligatory part of the diploma project / portfolio / CD.

