

β residence for artists

Transformation of the former family hotel *U Černého koně*

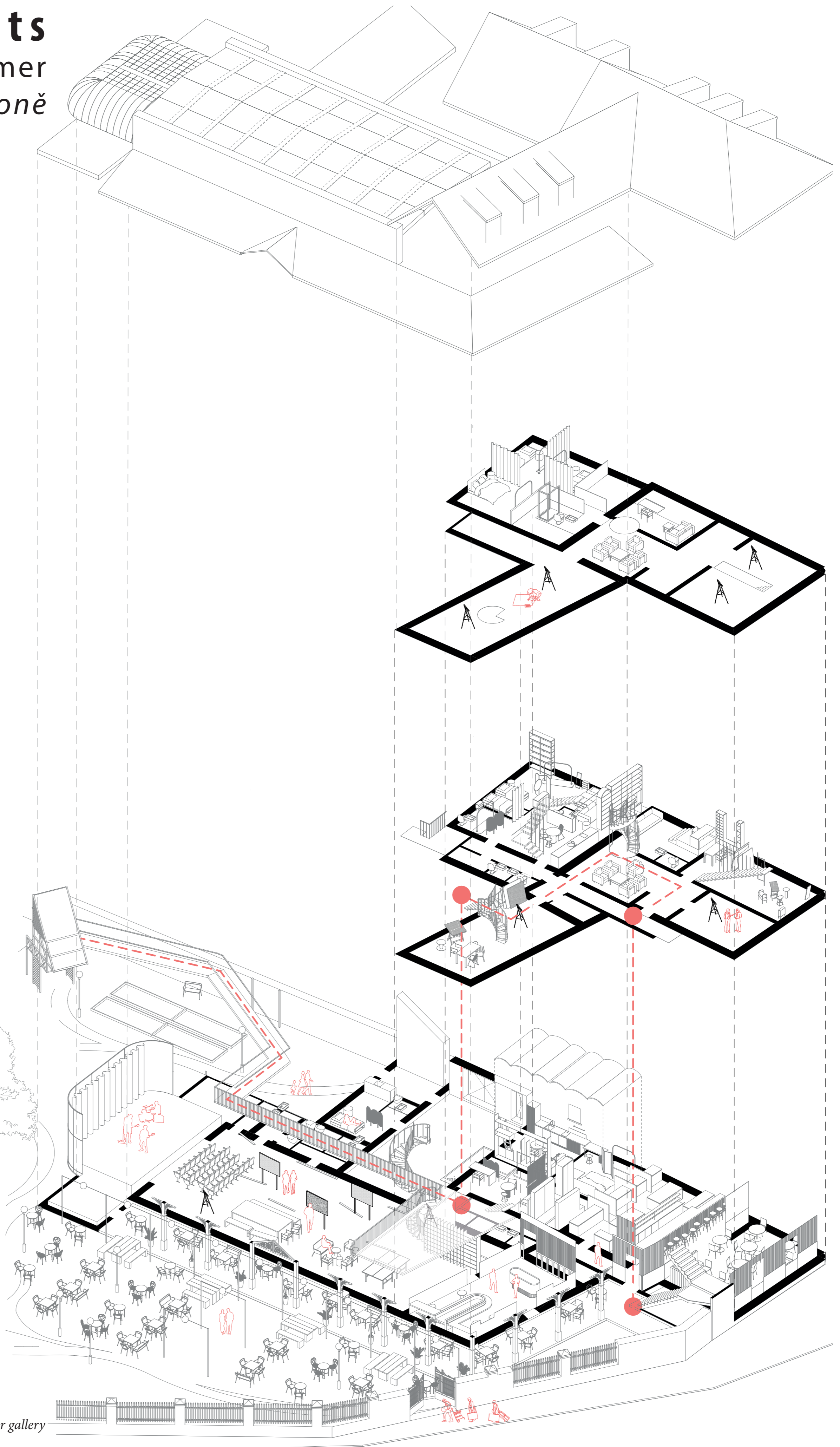
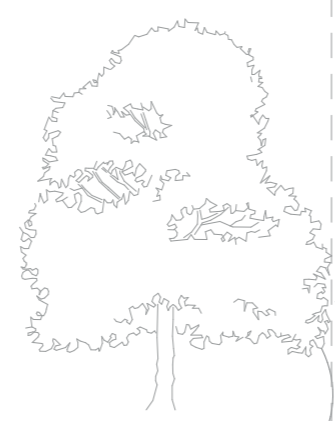
Beta is a name that symbolizes one life, the family, one time, two faiths and two cultures, and above all love, devotion, persistence, and the most important values of life.

I still remember my grandma's inspirational stories, so descriptive that it was not difficult for me to imagine and visualize all the details about her family and their hotel Černý Kůň. Hotel, of not many big size, was favorite, as other *Výletní restaurace*, among the people of Prague, who were happy to run from the center to have a beer under the chestnuts. Even today you can feel in every space a special atmosphere and the spirit of that time.

Unfortunately, the state today is far from optimal. There are some parts, being neglected for years. Despite the part which one of the owners reconstructed, there are some new functions, as renting out. This running from its primary function brought it to an almost ruinous state, close to total disappearance and forgetting.

This work keeps photos and the most beautiful memories of my grandmother's life. I aimed to make unique collection of their personal memories, a valuable record of her family, through the architecture, written and approached with the new proposal and design, carefully and with love.

This is not just a story about the hotel, which is nothing but ordinary building or rows of bricks. This is a story about the people who worked in it, lived and died, the story of the past, the present and the future time of one family and their descendants. This is a story of nostalgia and memory. Understanding and honoring the past, and saving somehow this beautiful story from the forgetting and disappearance. Hoping that Černý Kůň, as a witness of those times, will continue to be a symbol of family, love, togetherness and happiness, this work was created.



Axonometry

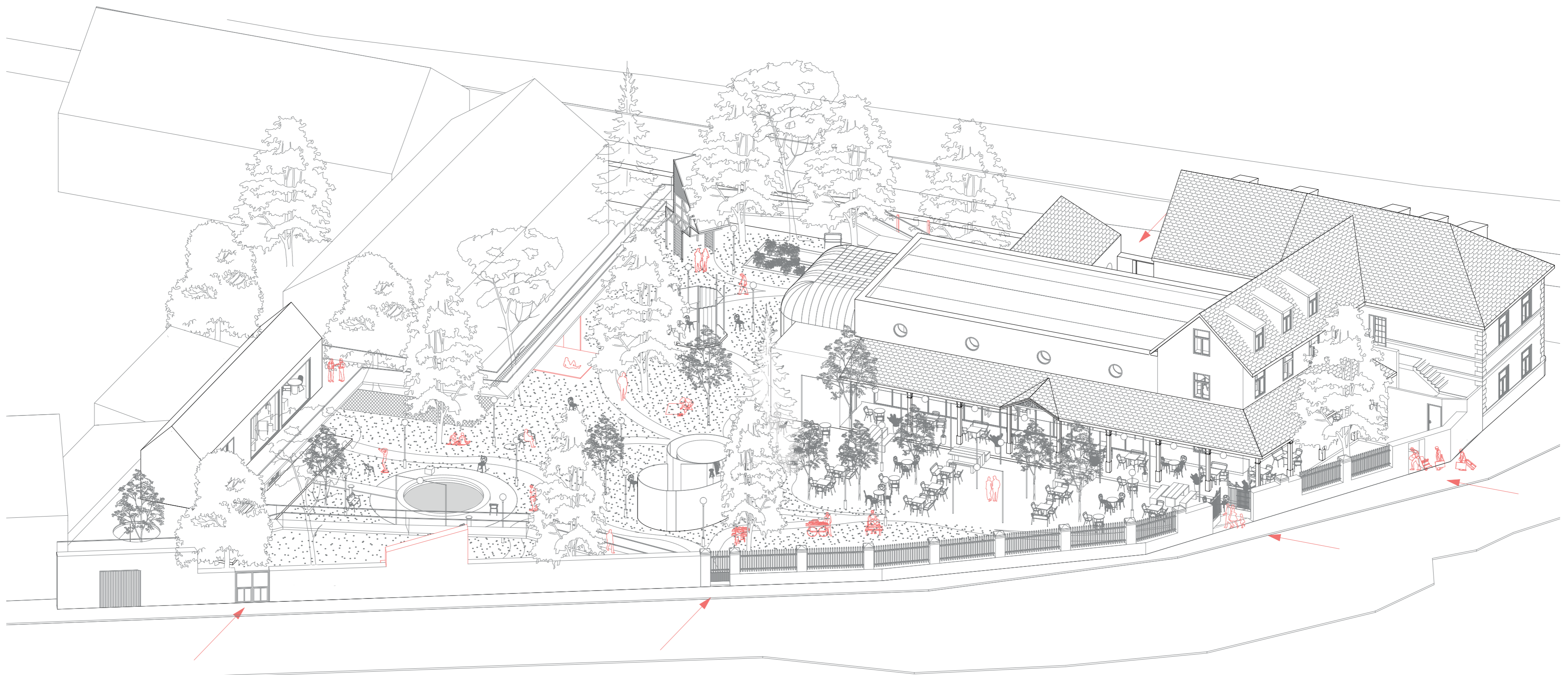
● — — — Line of movement through the open studios (exhibition) time, the inner gallery extends its path to the yard



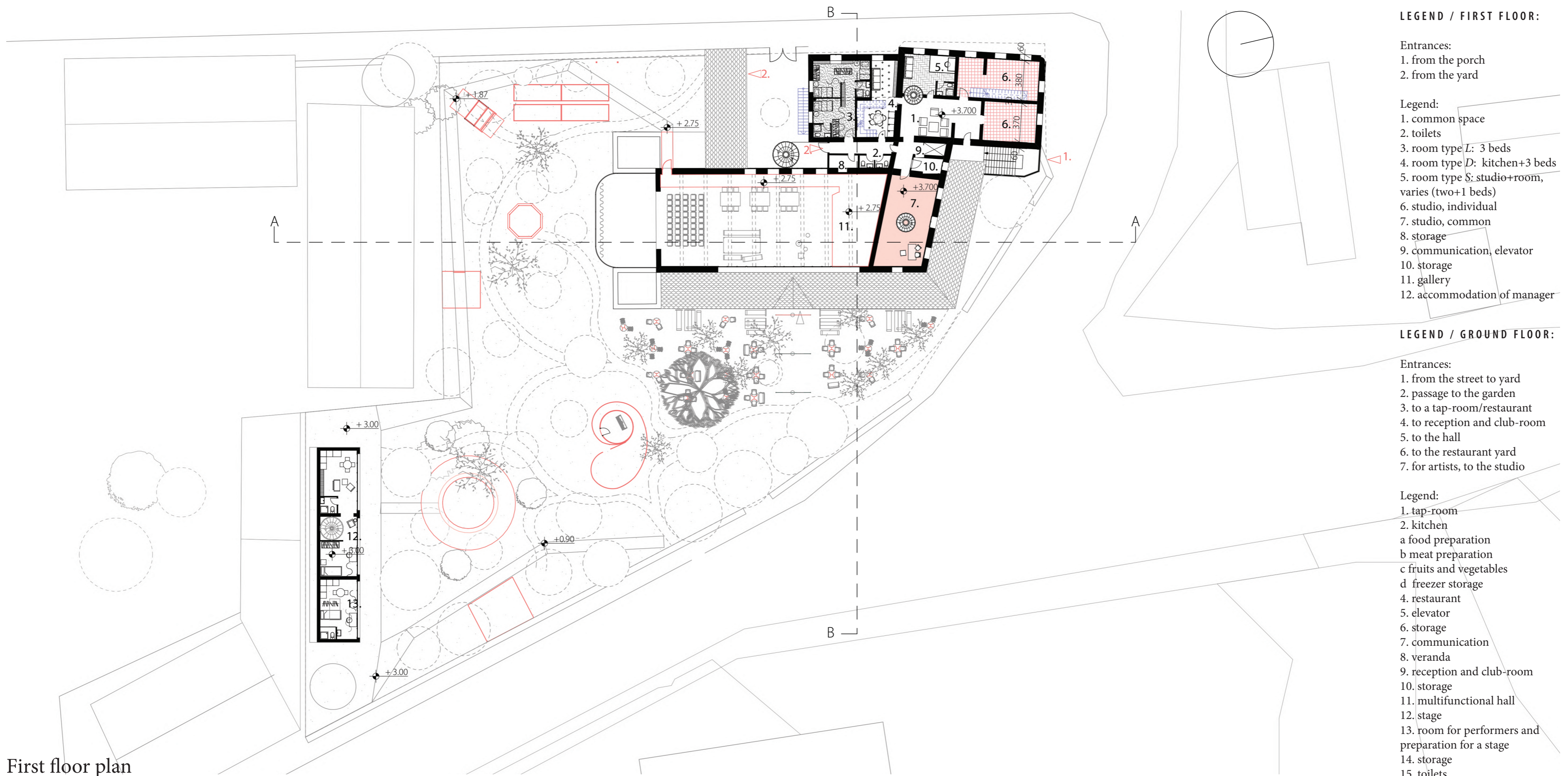
Visualization / Restaurant garden back to original function



Visualization / The pond, manager house and office, and sculpture studios



Axonometry of the complex

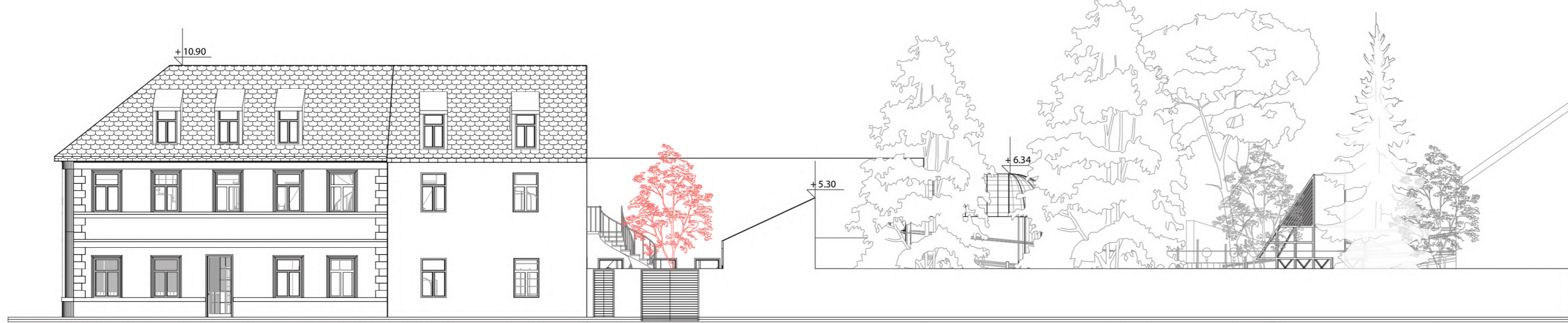


First floor plan



Ground floor plan

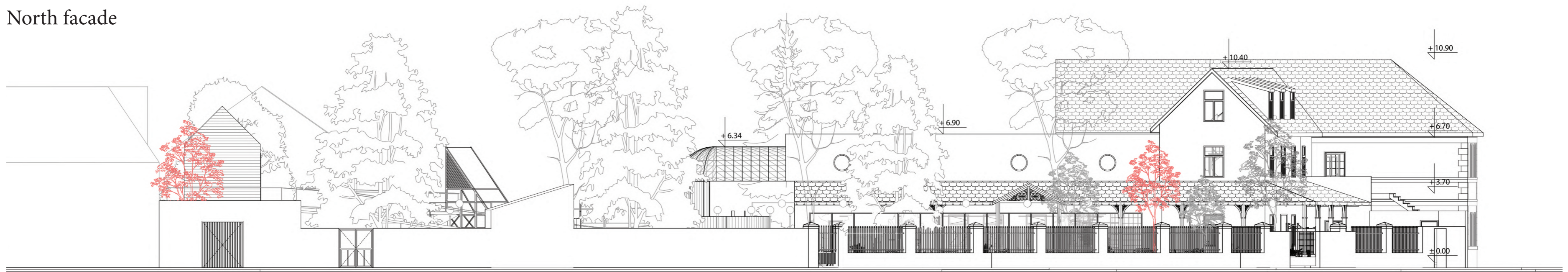
West facade



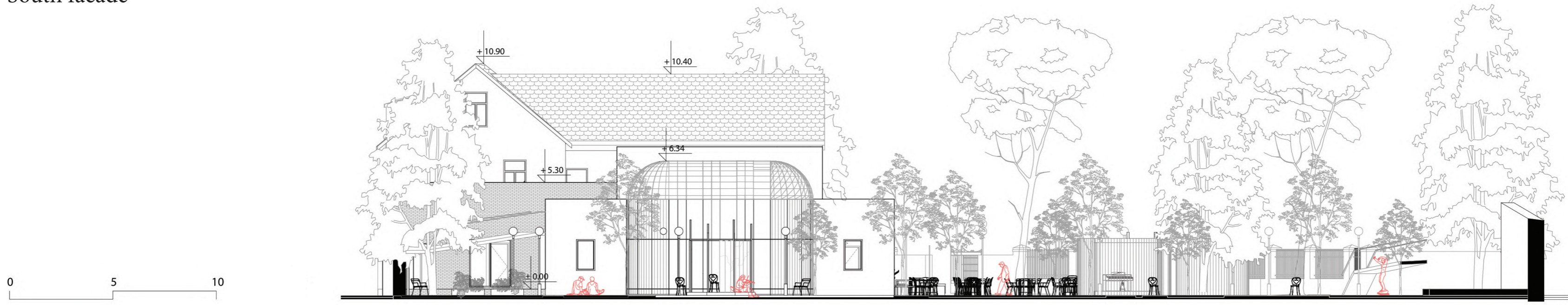
East facade



North facade



South facade

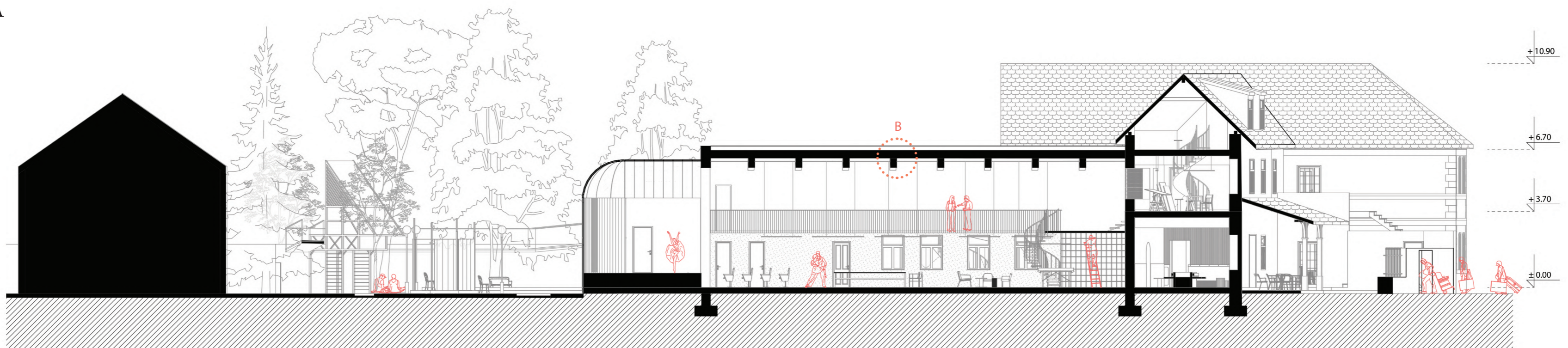


The hotel was the meeting spot for many artists, often the guests were students and young people. Over time, the hotel became a periodic home for many well known personalities. Rich and interesting history, full of various stories helped me during thinking of the concept that will again make this place live and full of joy, laugh and art, and at the same time respect its history and context, neighbourhood, environment. The idea is to create a residence that welcomes artists of all specialties and nationalities to Prague. To create a place made of ateliers and accommodation units, but also to create the place that will again be the meeting point of locals. Affordability and interaction between artist from different countries, different experiences, interests, exchange of cultures. Interaction between locals and artists as well, organizing a lot of public events, supporting the art, but also thinking about cultural life in Hodkovičky.

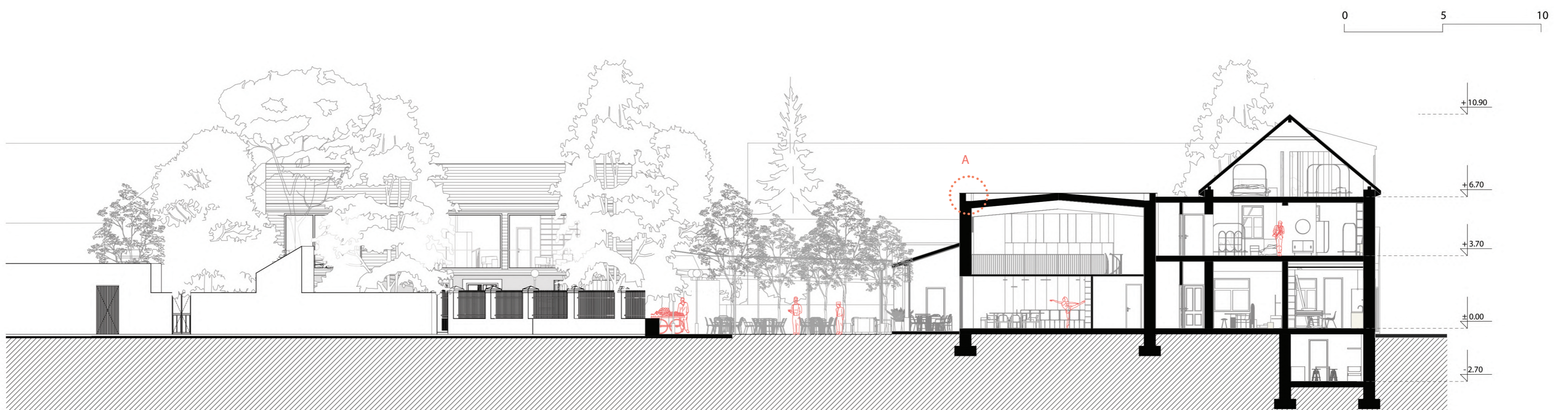
The building used to be the hotel once, what's making this process of transformation easier, functionally not requiring big change. Logical thinking about revive the old functions, while thinking about new needs and demands, but having on mind future as well and flexibility of whole complex. New functions inside will support the original ones. The restaurant as the meeting point will again be there. Because of the creating art, I divided area for accommodation from the studios. Rooms are mostly surrounding the small yard, with the good orientation and their own entrance to the complex. There are 5 types of rooms. Each of them is different and inspired by one of Beta's children, because each of them has unique character and life story, that I want to tell to visitors.

There are two types of studios. Dancing hall, gallery, yard can be used as studios, workshop and exhibition space, as well. In the yard, there are several parts, differing in mood and contains. Returning again the garden restaurant under the chestnuts, having the free space for the market and other events for the locals. Also considering former pond (sculptures garden), garden full of roses and vegetables, traditional gazebos (gazebo and writer pavilion), the central part for the orchestra (piano pavilion), cozy and warm area open for public, each of these segments inspired these parts of the yard. There are also remains of old structures, marking the position of the future pavilions.

Section AA



Section BB





Visualization / Room type A / double bed



Visualization / Room type L / three beds



Visualization / Room type O / single bed



Visualization / Reception, lobby and entrance for the dancing hall



Visualization / Restaurant



Visualization / Multifunctional hall



Visualization / Common atelier



Visualization / Individual atelier