# INTEGRATION // CULT-I-VATION

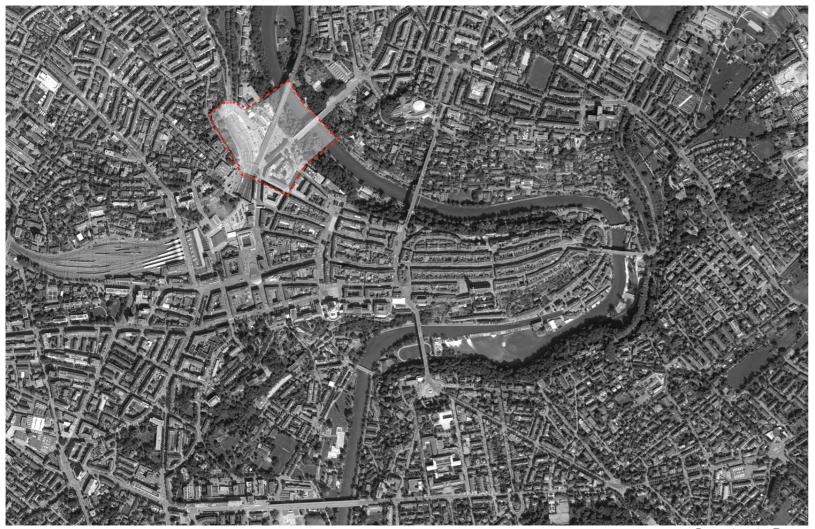
TO BLUR THE BARRIERS IN SOCIETY AND THE URBAN LANDSCAPE // A SOCIAL SUSTAINABLE STRATEGY FOR BERN

MASTER THESIS 2012 GOTTFRID WALL // JENNY ÖRYD CHALMERS TEKNISKA HÖGSKOLA ARCHITECTURE MPARC EXAMINATOR: MORTEN LUND



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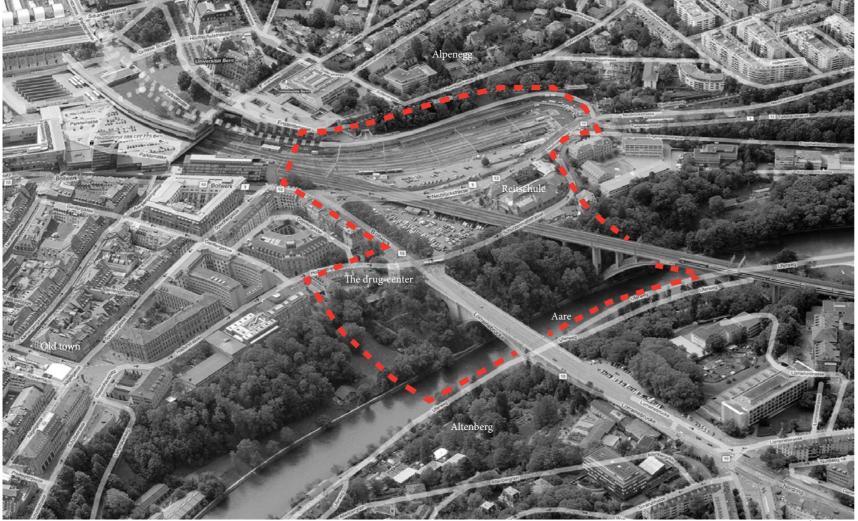
#### BACKGROUND

The focus field of our master thesis deals with social sustainability. The thesis is within the framework of a competition, the Schindler award 2012. The task is to address the needs of a neglected urban area in the shadow of the proud and famous UNESCO Heritage old town of Bern in Switzerland.

Characteristic for Schindler award is that the competition raises the advantages in the overall subject of disability. This year's competition adds another aspect of functional impairment – social and mental disability. The challenge is to include facilities for those suffering from social and mental disabilities living at the fringe of our society; people such as drug abusers, alcoholics, the homeless and destitute.

The scope of the competition includes an overall master plan for the specific site, propose a conceptual architectural concept for the project perimeter, including the building partially dedicated to the relocation of the drug center. The program of the competition were defined but left much freedom in our own interpretation and innovation.

Location in Bern.



#### BERN AND THE SITE

Bern is the capital of Switzerland with a population of 135 000 inhabitants. The city positioned as the fourth largest city in Switzerland is not an economic hot-spot, it is a small city sourrounded by a striking landscape with a lively historic town, attractive cultural institutions, universities and the river Aare which is a wonderful and very used recreational area for the city inhabitants.

Our site i located at the north-west corner of the old town, in an area once occupied by the fortifications and the millitary training grounds. Through the site runs the main infrastructure for car and traintraffic. The high-density infrastructure inhabiting the site is the main reason for a blocked urban development. A consequense of that became controversal usage. One of few functions inhabiting the site is Reitschule. The buildng was occupied in 80s by activists and with that followed conflicts between activists and the police. Many years later Reitschule is today a center for alternative culture, still unruly and controversial. With very few residents living in the area and with a concentration of functions dedicated to fringegroups (the drug center, the alcohol center and the emergency sleeping shelter) the site is today a strange mix of wasteland, parkinglots, a meeting point of culture activists and retreat of fringe groups.

Overview, the site.







#### STREETVIEWS OF THE SITE

1. The main elements of the site is the parking lot and the railway bridge.

2. Here you can get a feeling of whos in charge of the site – its not the people its the cars.

3. One of few functions inhabiting the site is Reitschule. The building was occupied in 80s by activists. Many years later Reitschule is today a center for alternative culture, still wild and controversial.

4. Aare river is a very important recreation area and very much appreciated in everyday life.

5. The view and connection from the site down to river Aare.

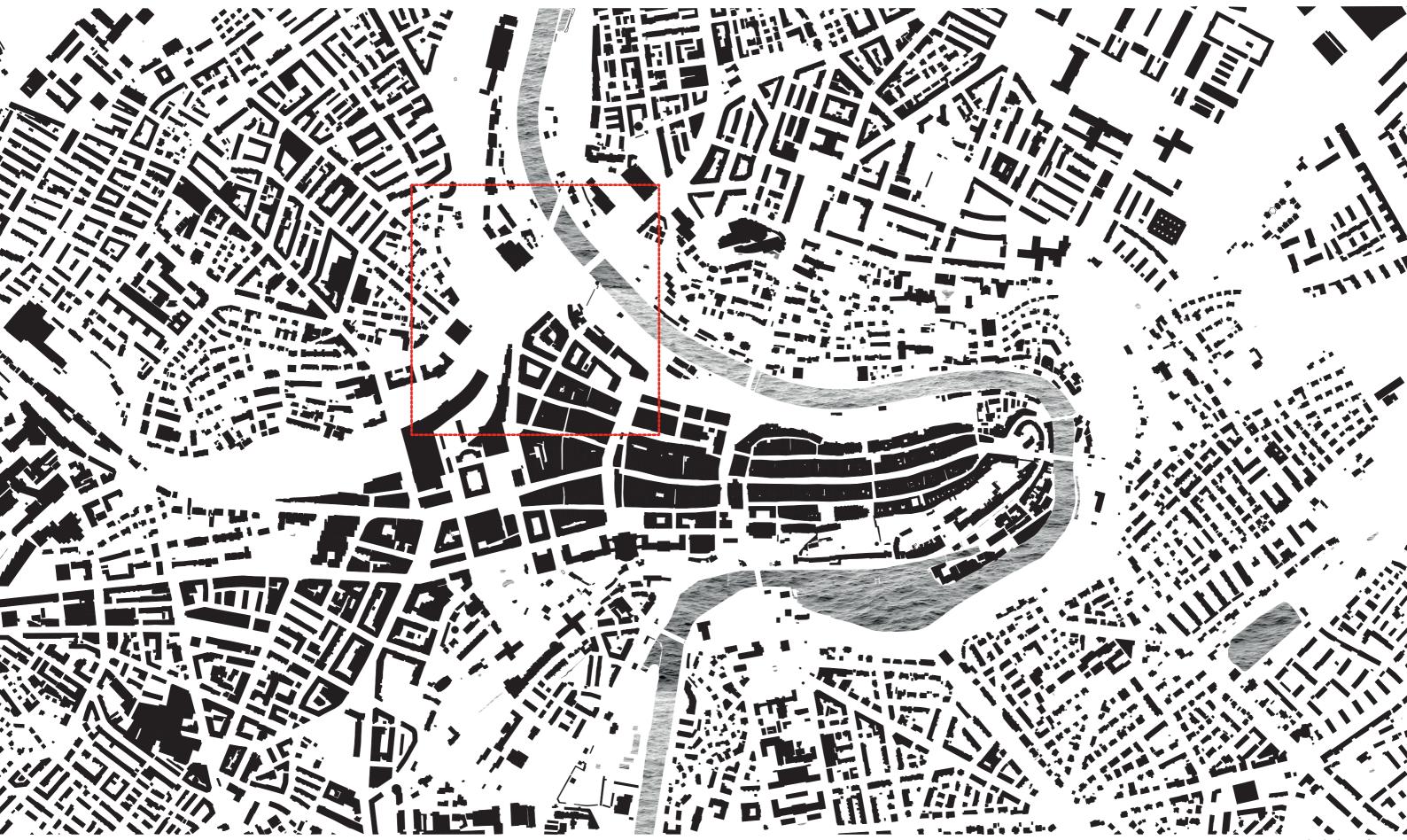
6. In the corner of the site and at the entrance to river Aare valley is the drug cener situated.



#### DRUG POLICY IN BERN

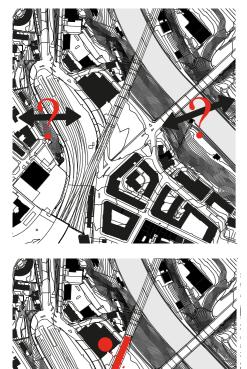
Bern is pioneering with its drug policy, it was the first city in the world to introduce a drug center and space for drug consumption where drug abusers are allowed to consume their illegally acquired drugs under controlled sanitary conditions already in 1986.

Instead of repression the drug abusers are here offered a sheltered place, new sterile syringes, consultancy, meals, health checks and social acceptance. The drug center was extremely controversal at first but the outcome was succesful - drug related crimes has been reduced aswell as an increasing health among the users. In Sweden, there are still no equivalent.



Blackplan of Bern.

# **URBAN ISSUES**



Links between mainparts of the city are missing. There is no clear connection between the city district Alpenegg (to the left) and the site aswell as Altenberg (to the right). The exsisting connections over the river Aare are dedicated for cars and traintraffic.

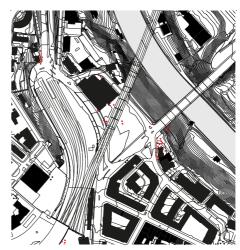
The railway bridge cuts through the city and forms a barrier between the cultural institutions and it ends the old town of Bern with no clear continuity.



A visual and easy accessable connection to the river Aare is missing. Aare is an important recreation area and very much liked by the Bern inhabitants.

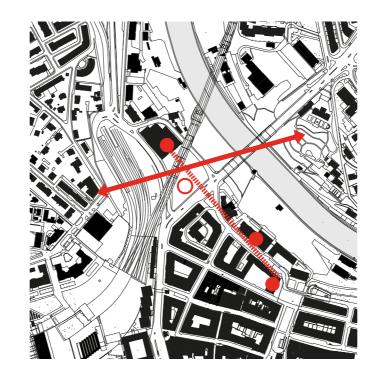
The site is complex in its topography with large heightdifferances. From the seabed of Aare there is 35 m up to the square and another 26 m up to Alpenegg.





# SOCIAL ISSUES

Due to todays location of the Drogenanlaufstelle (drug center), Alkisstübli (alcohol center), the Notschlafstelle (the emergency sleeping shelter) and the lack of other functions in the area there is a concentration of fringegroups inhabiting the site.



# URBAN STRATEGY // THE LINKS THAT CONNECTS

Aare, over to city district Altenberg. culture.

Our urban strategy is to make two links with a hot-spot in its crossing point. In the crossing point we suggest a square. The East-west link connects the city district Alpenegg going over Eilgut where we propose a high density housing area, over the square, down to river

We want to strengthen the axes of the cultural institutions by adding more culture. The square is programmed with a 24-7 program and becomes a lively central part of the city. River Aare becomes accessible and is activated, the river walk gets a clear start and goal. The site is no longer an eyesore, nor an undefined left over waste land. It's now central, well connected and filled with a diversity of life and

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# DIVERSITY

tions to the site that attracts a large variety of users.

# SOCIAL STRATEGY // DE-CONCENTRATION, INTEGRATION,

Our social strategy is driven from the believe that diversity and mixture is the goal for reaching social sustainability.

The site is dense when it comes to concentration of fringegroups we want to de-concentrate by adding new life and a mixture of func-

We have designed a social program for re-integration embedde in the new functions inhabiting the site. The social program is devided into four steps and the aim is a sustainable re-integration in society.

social issues of the site. ous of ways.

## THE FIVE DEVICES // THAT CONNECTS PEOPLE, NATURE, CULTURE AND A FRAGMENTED PART OF BERN.

Our analysis of the site, the challange of the competition and an on-going everyday discussion about social sustainability, integration and the complexity of how to include everyone lead us to five devices of different character that gives an anwer to the urban and

Together they create a unit/a recipe for an overall social sustainable proposal. Apart they treat the urban and the social issues in a vari-





The Meadow – We suggest a new highdensity housing area, we want to give more people the opportunity to live central although in a green context.



The Rock – By combining the alcoholcenter and the drogenanlaufstelle with culture and offices we create a mix of users.



The Forest - is our main focus area. The elevated railway track is an urban divider, splitting up the space in three parts and the railway traffic is a disturbing element when it comes to noise pollution. The Forest stands for blurring with its play of light and is a place for socializing.

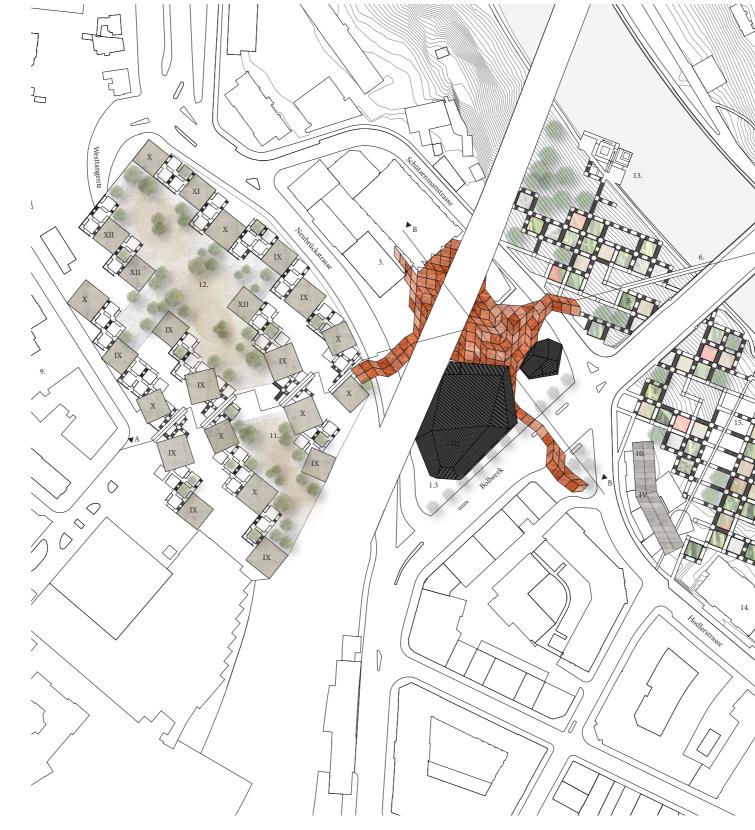


The Barn – The old location of the drogenanlaufstelle is rebuilt into a barn that acts as a hostel giving the place a new life.



The Field – consist of small farming lots that activates the slope and handles the height-differance on a diagonal basis.

### THE MASTER PLAN // SCALE 1:2000 N Δ





- The Rock, culture building

   Drogenanlaufstelle
   Commerce
   Out-door seating, Restaurant
   Otficebuilding with a public commercial groundfloor
   Kulturzentrum Reitschule
   The Field cultivation fields
   New Pedestrian/bicykle bridge
   Botanische garten
   Altenberg
   Alpenegg
   Othe Barn Hostel
   The Meadow
   Urban green + Agriculture
   Public park
   Water activity jetty
   Kunsmuseum
   Langmur and Bluturm
   River Aare

IV/XI Indicates number of floorlevels

#### DISTRIBUTION OF USE

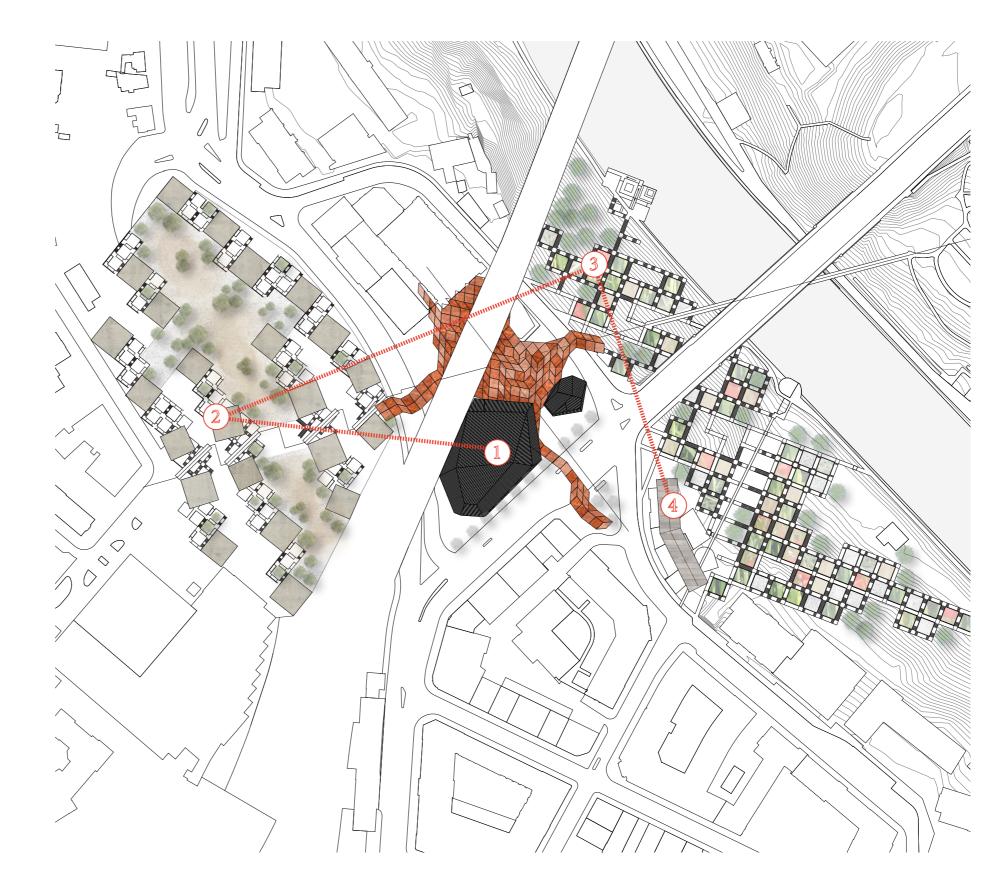
Residential	45 000 m2
Hospitality	2600 m2
Culture // Leisure	4200 m2
Reitschule	5200 m2
Office	5960 m2
Education	380 m2
Other / Agriculture	1700 m2
Drogenanlaufstelle	630 m2

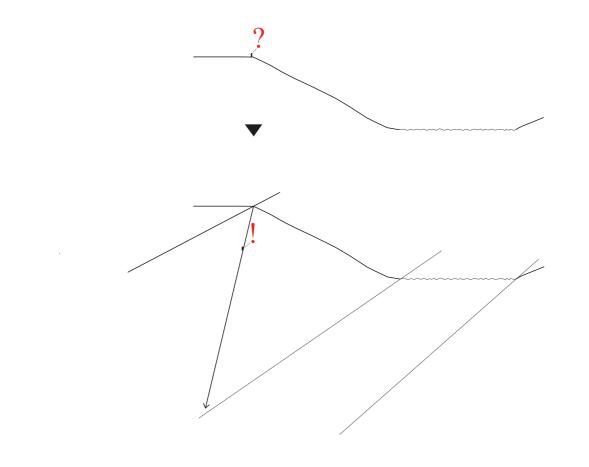
Total

65 670 m2

# THE SOCIAL PROGRAM FOR RE-INTEGRATION IN 4 STEPS.

We have designed a social program embedde in the five devices at the site. To be able to start using the drug center you need to become a registered member. We see the drug center as a good starting point and opportunity to get re-integrated back in the society. The aim is that the drug and alcohol abusers will be encouraged to take part in the social program which is devided into four steps. Step two after beeing registered is to get a place to live, a so called Housing first concept. The concept is built on the idea that, first you get a place to live - then you get individual support to be able to keep your home. In step three of the program you are offered a first job with responsabilities. In the Field you are offered a space for farming where you as a user can cultivate crops that you get benefits from either by leaving the goods at the Barn or sell it yourself on the market in the square. Showing a more or less problem free development in the field you're ready for the last step in the program which is a job in the Barn (the hostel). This job means more responsability and is the last step in getting re-integrated in the society. The aim of the program is that its going to work as a win/win strategy for a social sustainable Bern.



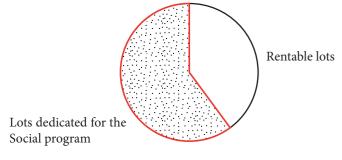


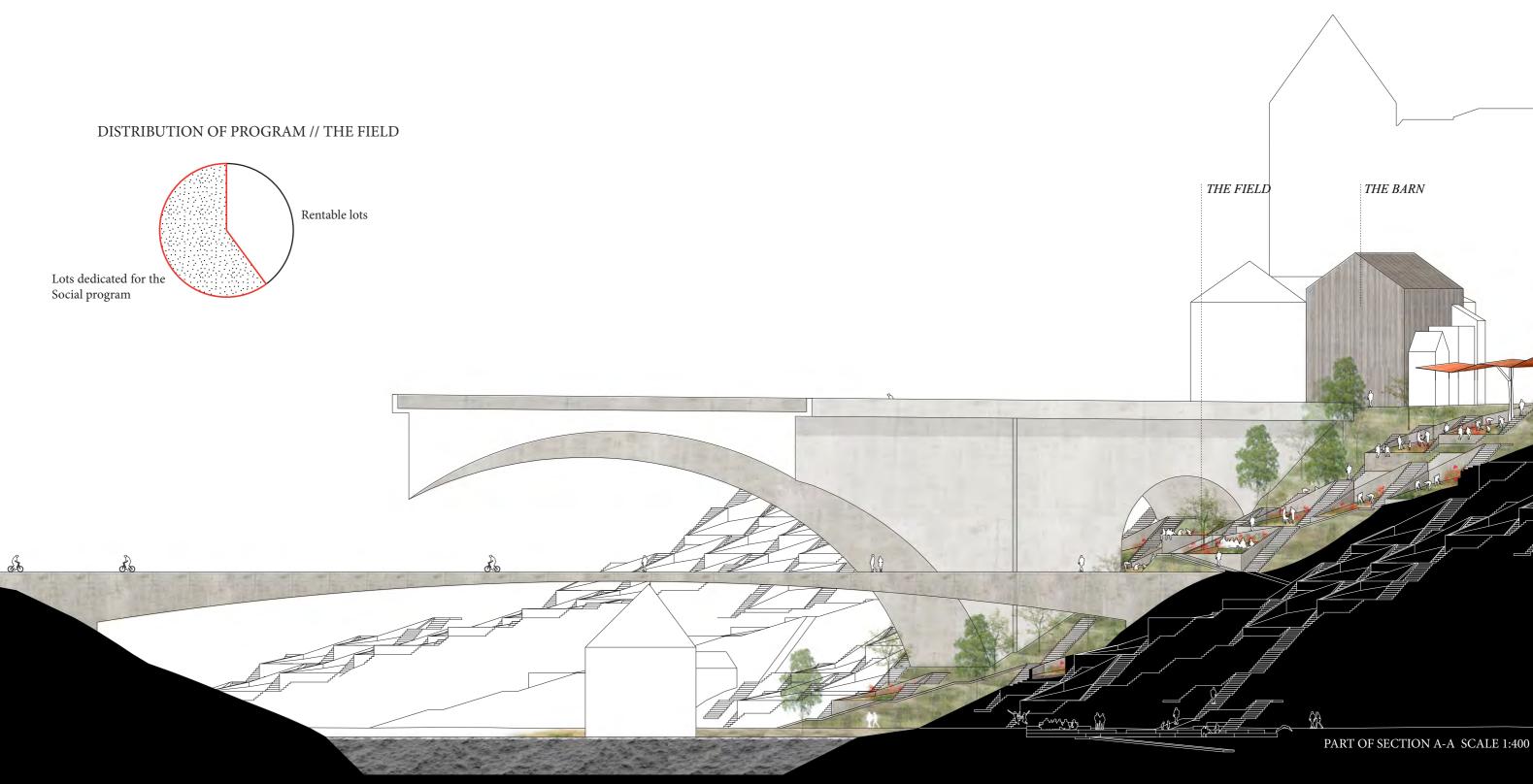
## THE FIELD // THE BARN // CULTIVATION, PARTICIPATION, INTEGRATION, RESPONSABILITY

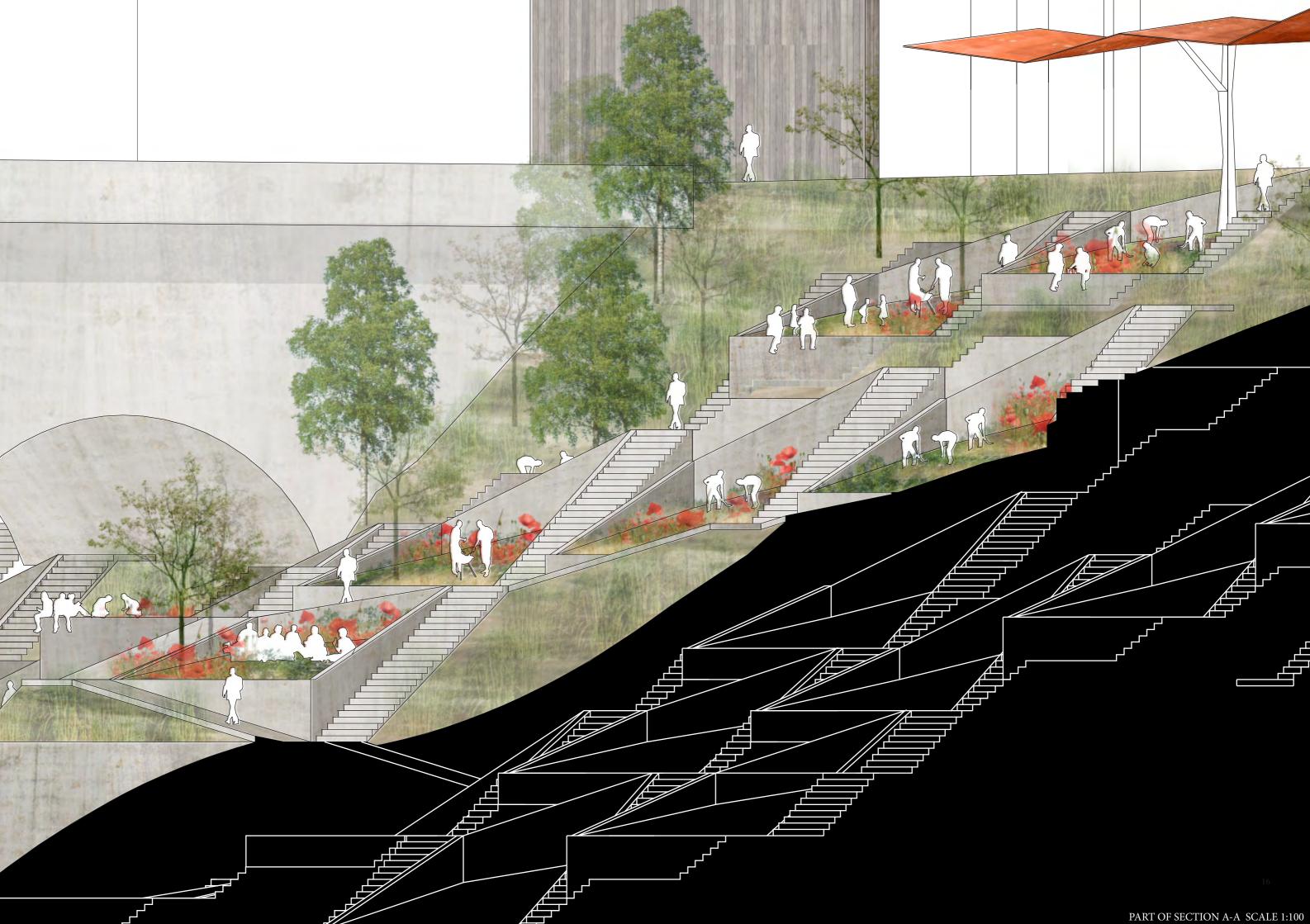
The Field is connecting the citylevel with the river Aare by a pattern of cultivationlots.

The contextual situation of The Field is complex with its topography. By the uniformed pattern made by a concrete stair and rampsystem we take up the height-differances diagonally making the Aare river more easy accesible. The terassed squares are used as small farming lots, the main part of them are used by the social program - the rest is possible to rent and the revenue goes back to the social program. Moving from the citylevel you pass by tulip fields, potatoe plantations, barbeque platforms and the goal is situated in the river Aare where you find a platform for water activities.

The Barn stands for simplicity and offers a affordable shelter. By integrating a new hostel on the previous site for the drug center we give the place a new life. The Barn serves the Field with organisation and equipment.







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## THE MEADOW // A LIVELY CENTRAL HOUSING AREA IN THE GREEN

The Meadow refers to diversity among users, types of ownership - rentable and buyable as well as social housing (the first housing concept).

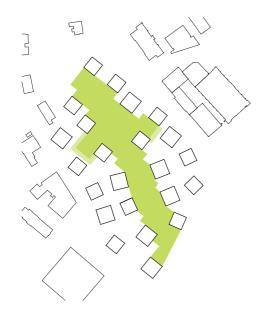
Our proposal suggests a high-density housing area - we want to give more people the opportunity to live central, although in a green diverse context.

Under the housing area we inhabit parkinglots for the people living in the area aswell as people visiting the site. The character of the Meadow and the Field are related to eachother (similar contextual situation), they therefore speak a similar language. We have been using a similar way of treating the hightdifferances in both cases with a diagonal concrete stair -and rampsystem.

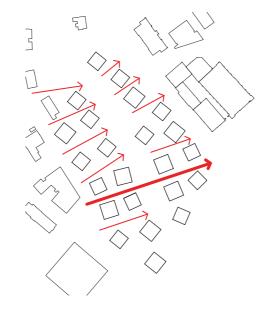
The Meadow is a place for everyday life, recreation and leisure with its public park, where you find sport activities and an on-going urban life. Drink your morning coffee surrounded by a poppyfield and take your kite for a flight in the afternoon sun.



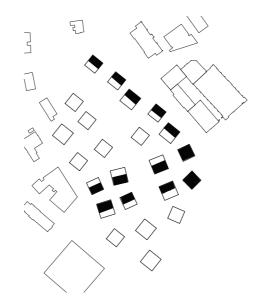
#### DISTRIBUTION OF TYPE OF LIVING // THE MEADOW



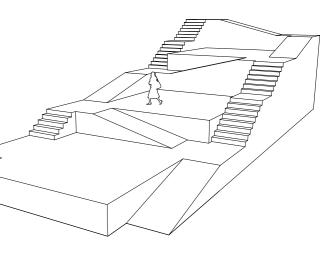
A central public park for recreation.



Movement, connections through the Meadow and the relation to Alpenegg.



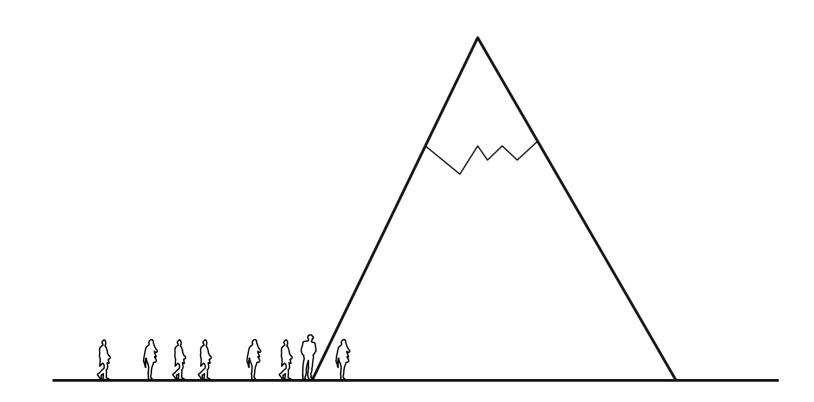
Public program - entrancefloor framing the main link and the street, Neubrückstrasse. Ramp and stair system - taking up height and framing space of activity.





PART OF SECTION A-A SCALE 1:100

Statistics

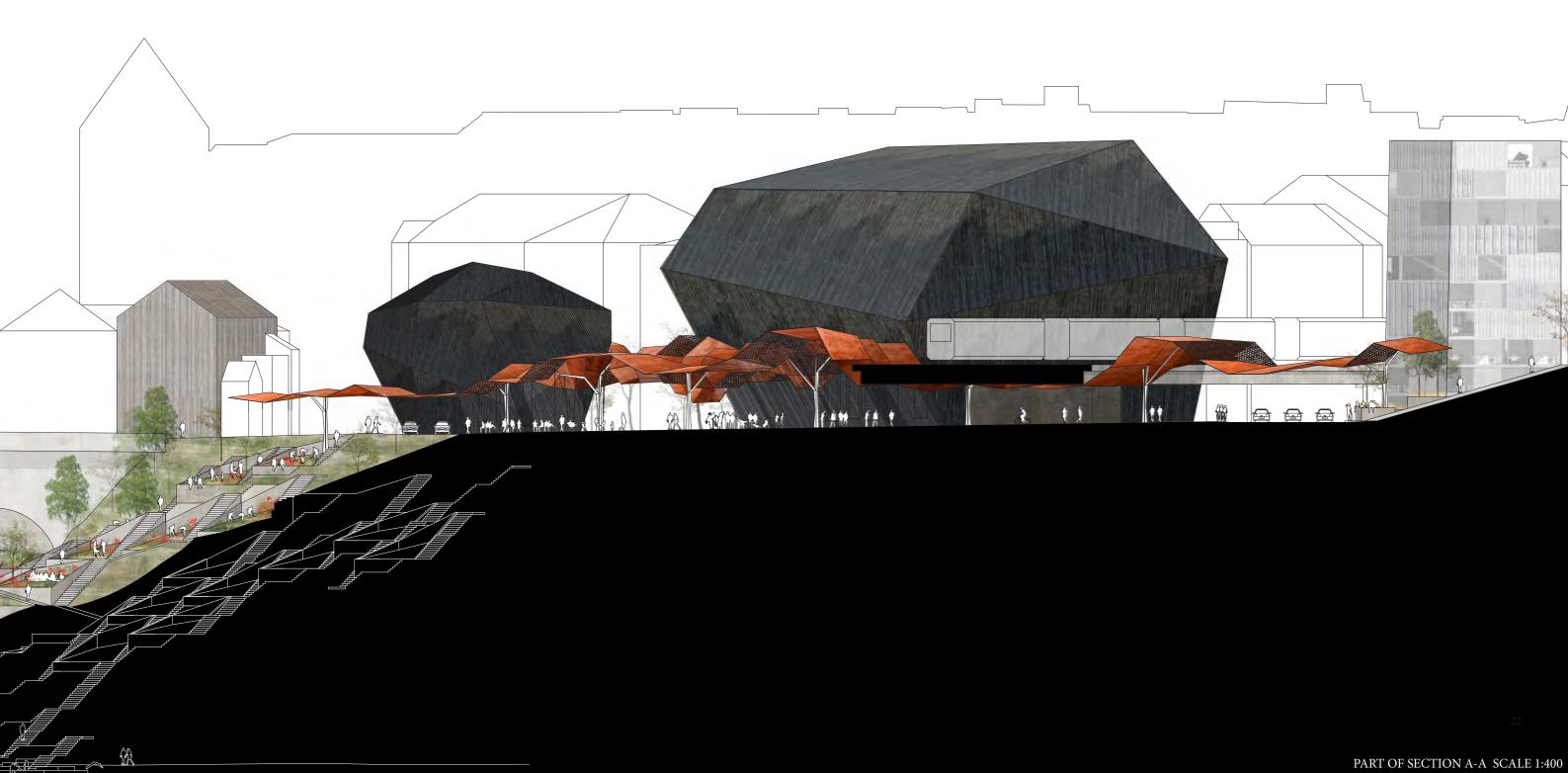


## THE ROCK // A PLACE FOR CULTURE, INTERACTION AND LIFE.

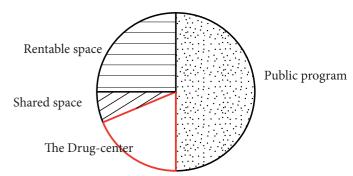
The Rock stands for stability and is to be seen as an attraction spot. In the program of the competition we are challange to come up with a sollution for a new drug center, with an integrated public restaurant. Our approach is to take it one step further and make a turn in the program. We suggest a culture building in which we integrate the drug center.

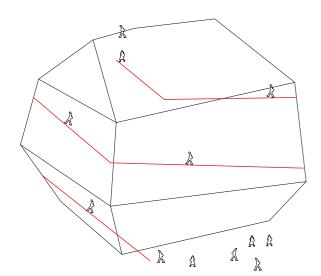
By placing the drug center in a bigger context and interfuse it with other functions we avoid concentration. The Rock is programmed with 24/7 functions to make the site lively and safe. The program of the Rock is multifunctional – where we share spaces between functions, activities and time. The entrancehall is used as a lounge for presentations, temporary exhibitions, dinig area, nightclub and bar.

Moving up in the building we have balconies with spaces for the coffeebreak - studyplaces, meetings and transportation. By this we want to gain an active space with social interaction.

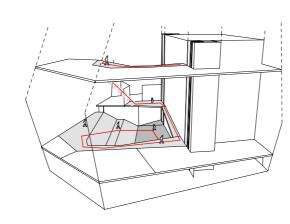


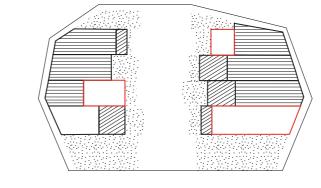
DISTRIBUTION OF PROGRAM // THE ROCK



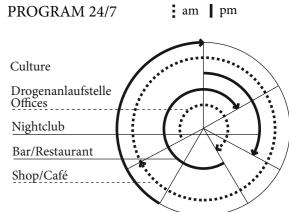


To climb the Rock Principle of public flow // Out-door



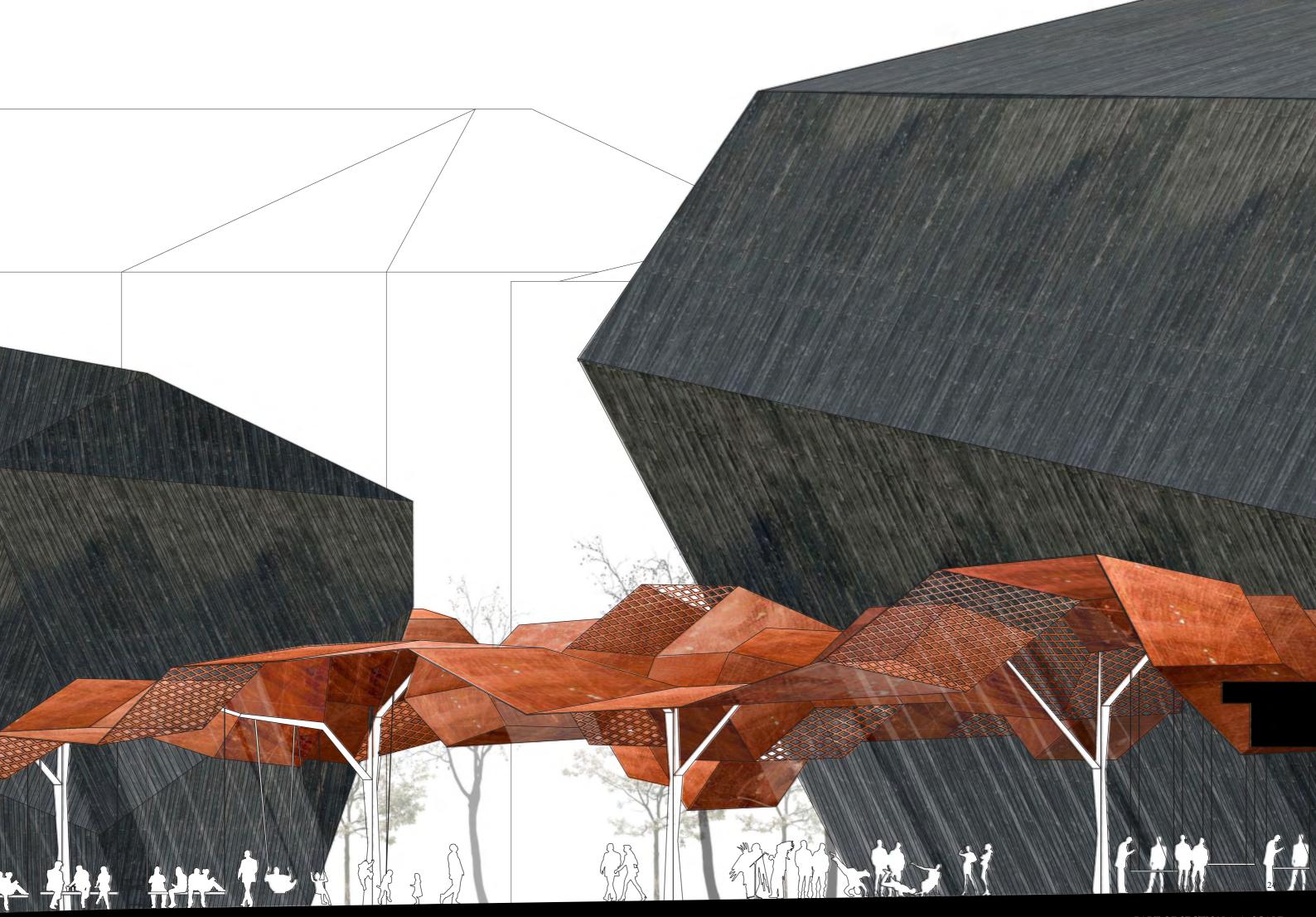


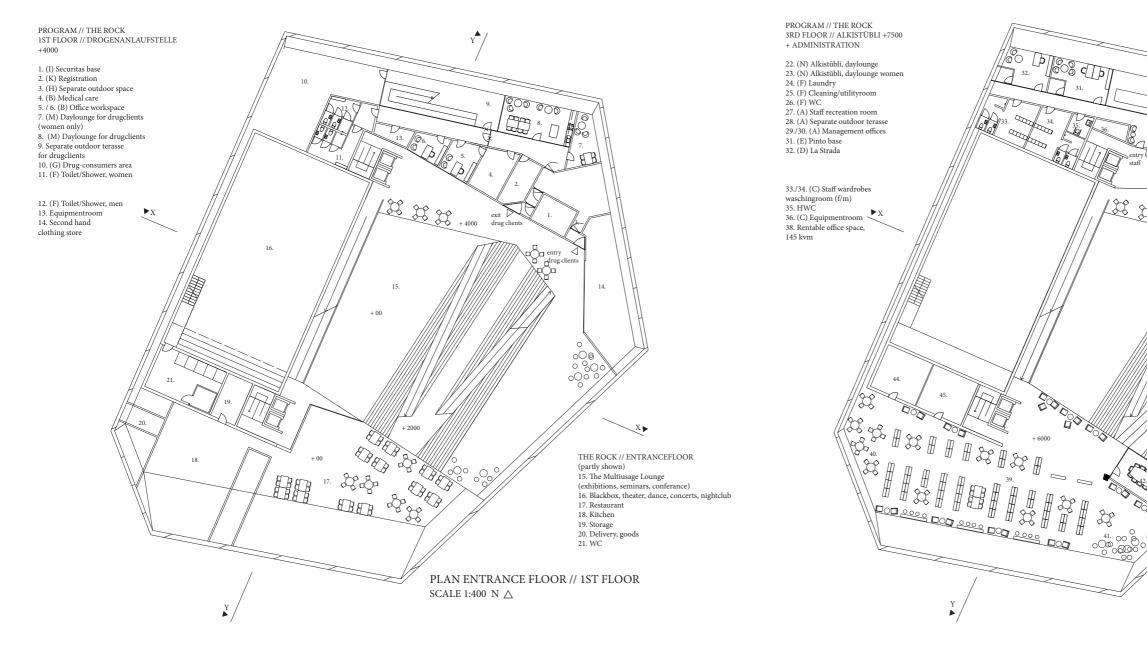
The journey in the cave Principle of public flow // In-door

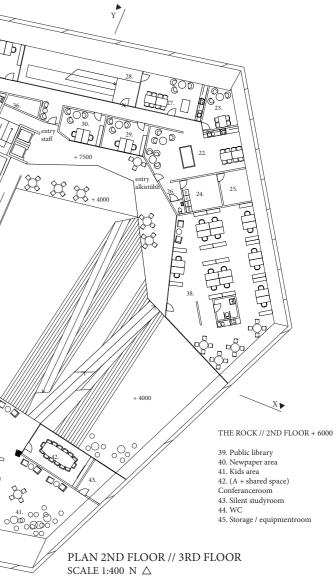


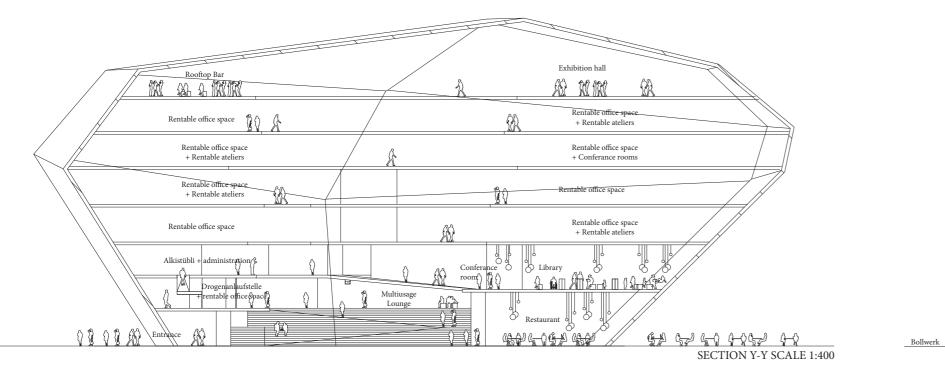
#### PROGRAM // THE ROCK

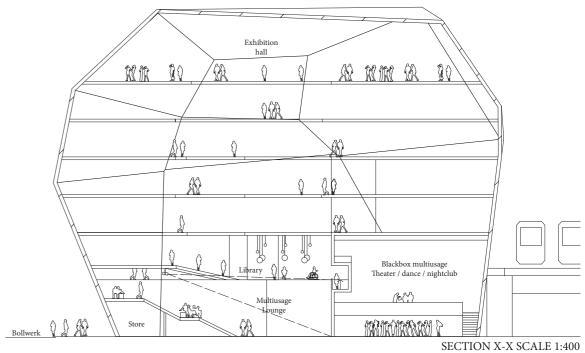
- Public program theatre, library, commerce, nightclub, restaurant, café, exhibitionspace
- Shared space Conferencerooms, grouprooms, foaje
- Rentable space officespace, studiospace, atelier
  - Program dedicated to the drug center

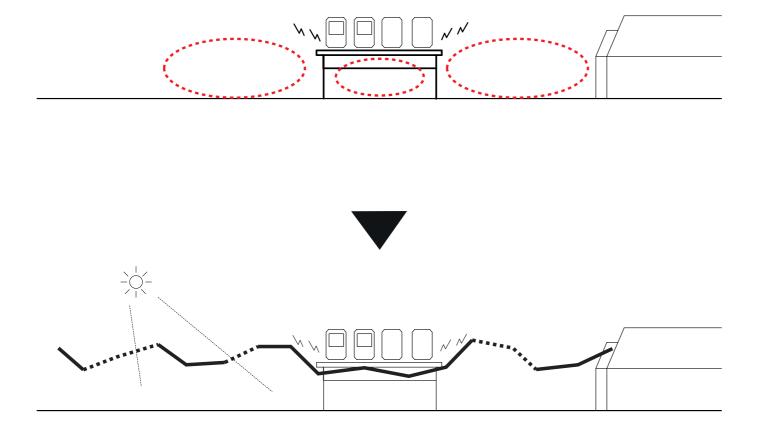










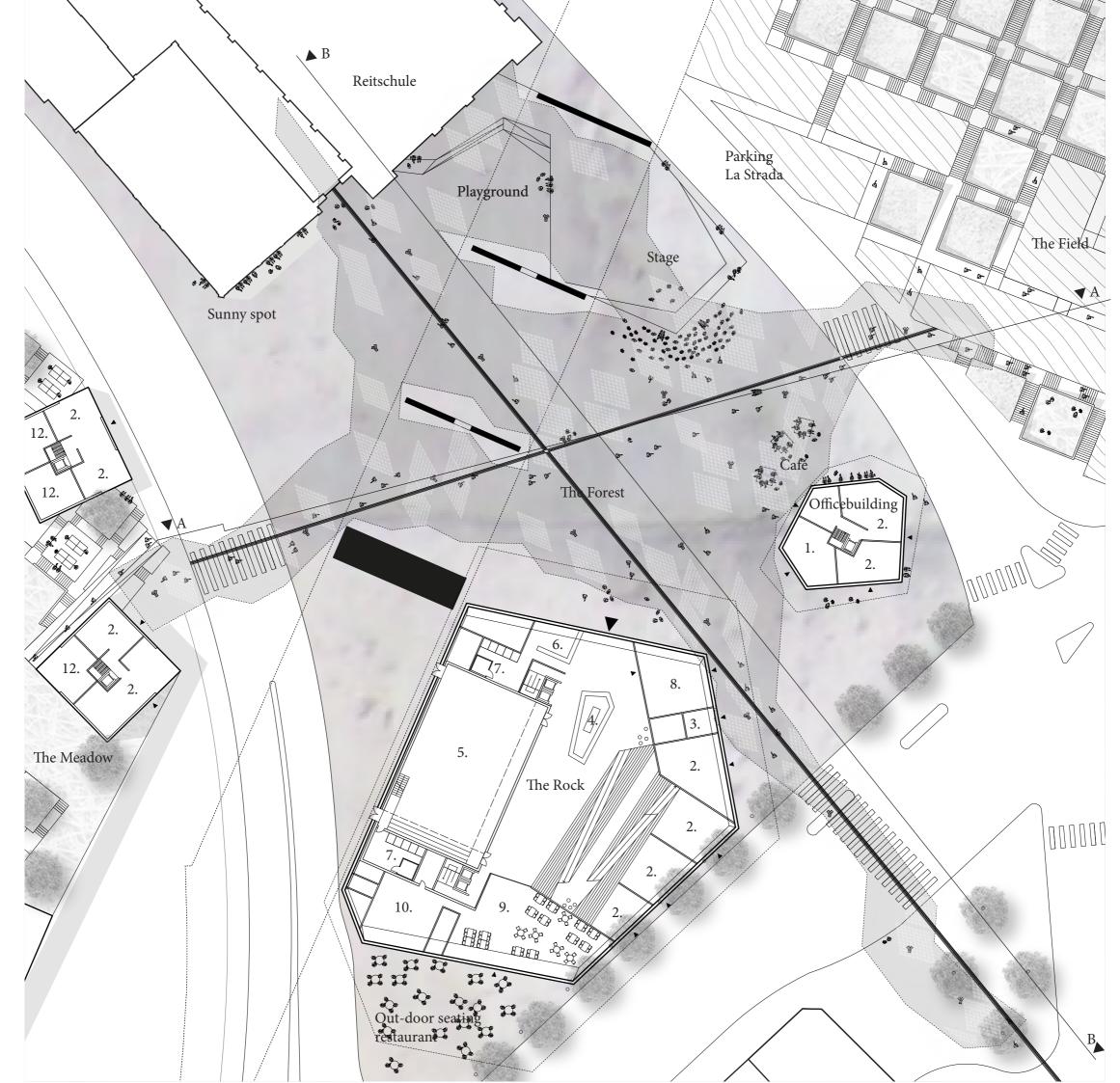


## THE FOREST // a central square for activities, culture and life

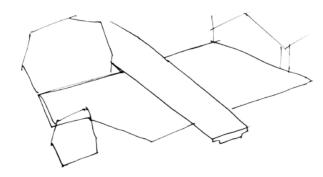
The Forest stands for blurring with its play of light and is a place for socializing.

The elevated railway track is a urban divider, splitting up the space in three parts and the railway traffic is a disturbing element when it comes to noise pollution.

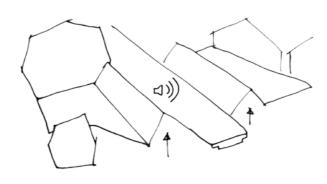
An architectural answer of that is the roof - blurring out the barrier - unifying the three parts into one, protecting from noise and a play of light. The forest is spread out in strategic spots in direction of the two links to strengthen the whole area. The construction of the roof can be used for hanging of components such as out-door seating places for the café, market tables and playground swings aswell as light sources and backdrops when there's a concert. The square is a 24/7 lively place for social interaction. It is planned to inhabit bigger and smaller events. The rock and new office building together with the Reitschule frames the square.



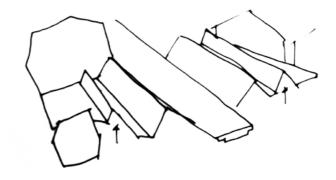
- 1. Commercial entrancefloor
- 2. Store
- 3. (L) Syringe dispensory
- 4. Bar/cafe
- 5. Multifunctional blackbox
- 6. Reception, wardrobe, tickets
- 7. WC
- 8. (O) Soupkitchen -the new "Gassenküche"
- 9. Restaurant
- 10. Kitchen
- 11. Administration
- 12. Apartment



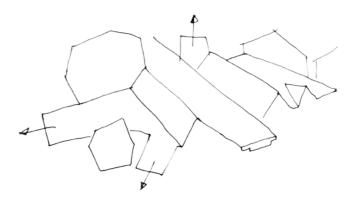
The roof - A climate shelter and connecting



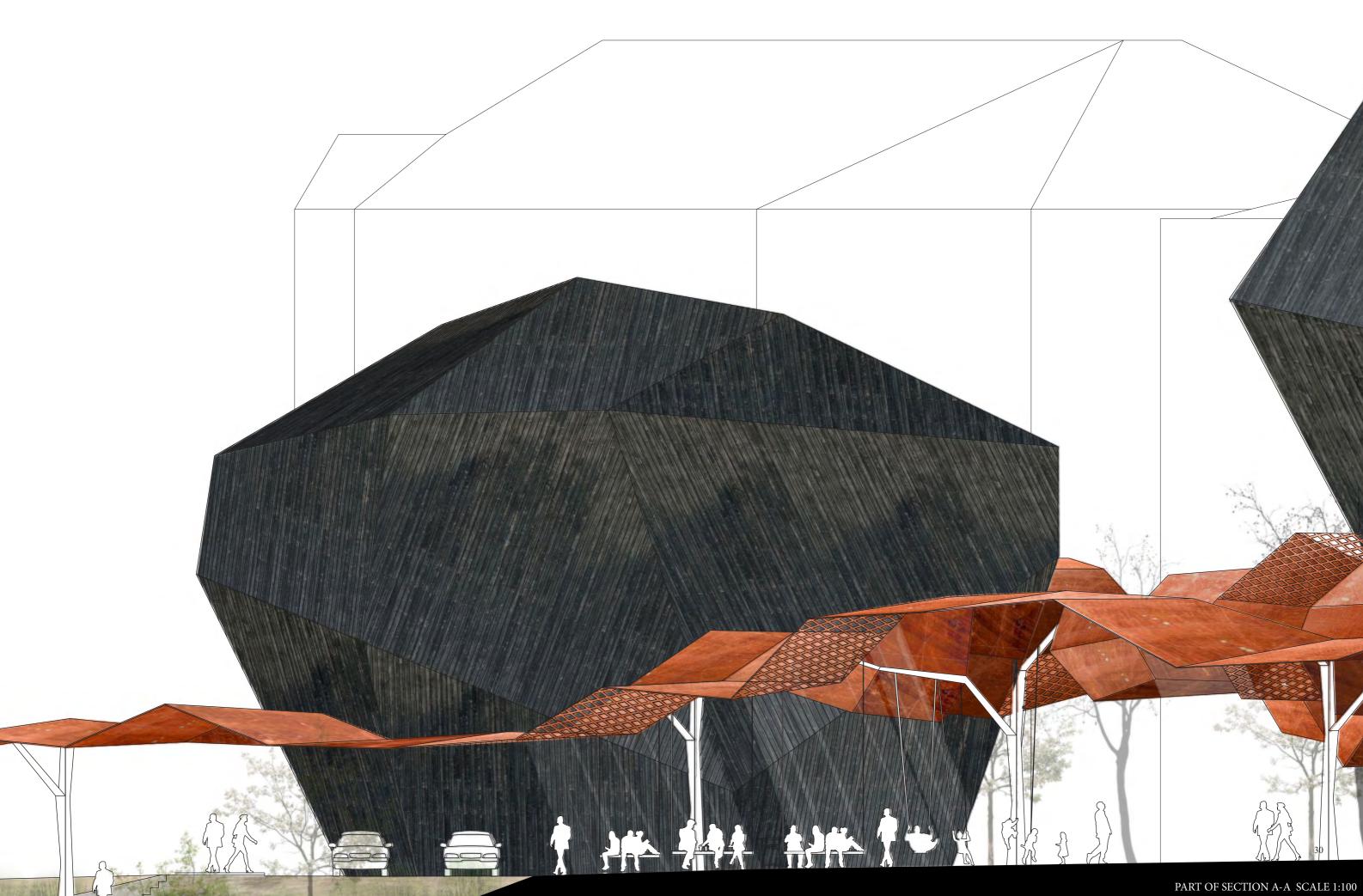
Bending/Folding - Protection against noise pollution



2nd Bending/Folding - Diversity of spatail qualities

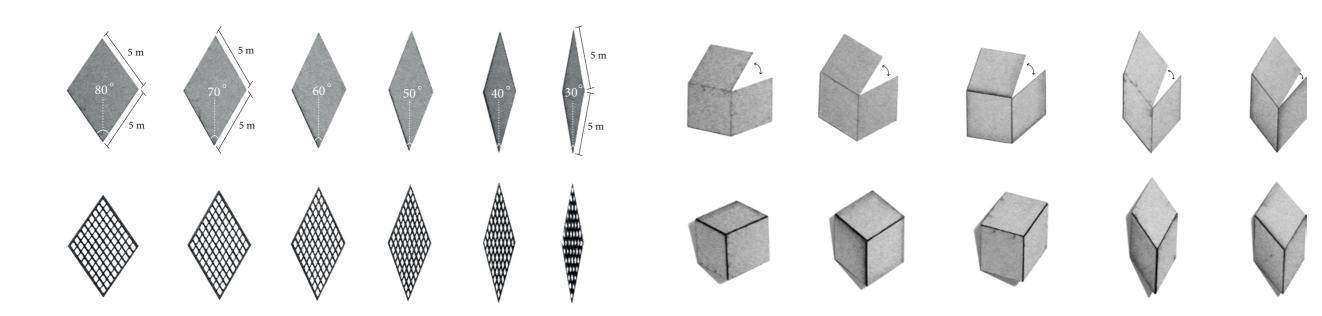


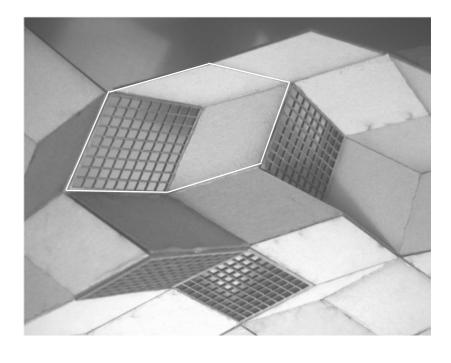
Stretched out - Connecting The Meadow, The Field and the culture axe



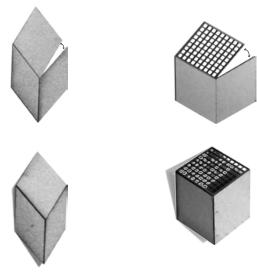
# ROOFSYSTEM // THE PRINCIPLE

The roof is constructed out of a various of 6 components. Dense (aluminum sheet) - programmed to be a noise and climate shelter. Transparent (expandable sheet metal) - letting light through. Combining the components in different manner - gives a variety of spatial qualities. The angle of the components are ranging from 80 degrees to 30 degrees, all sides are equal and measures 5 meter making them combinable.

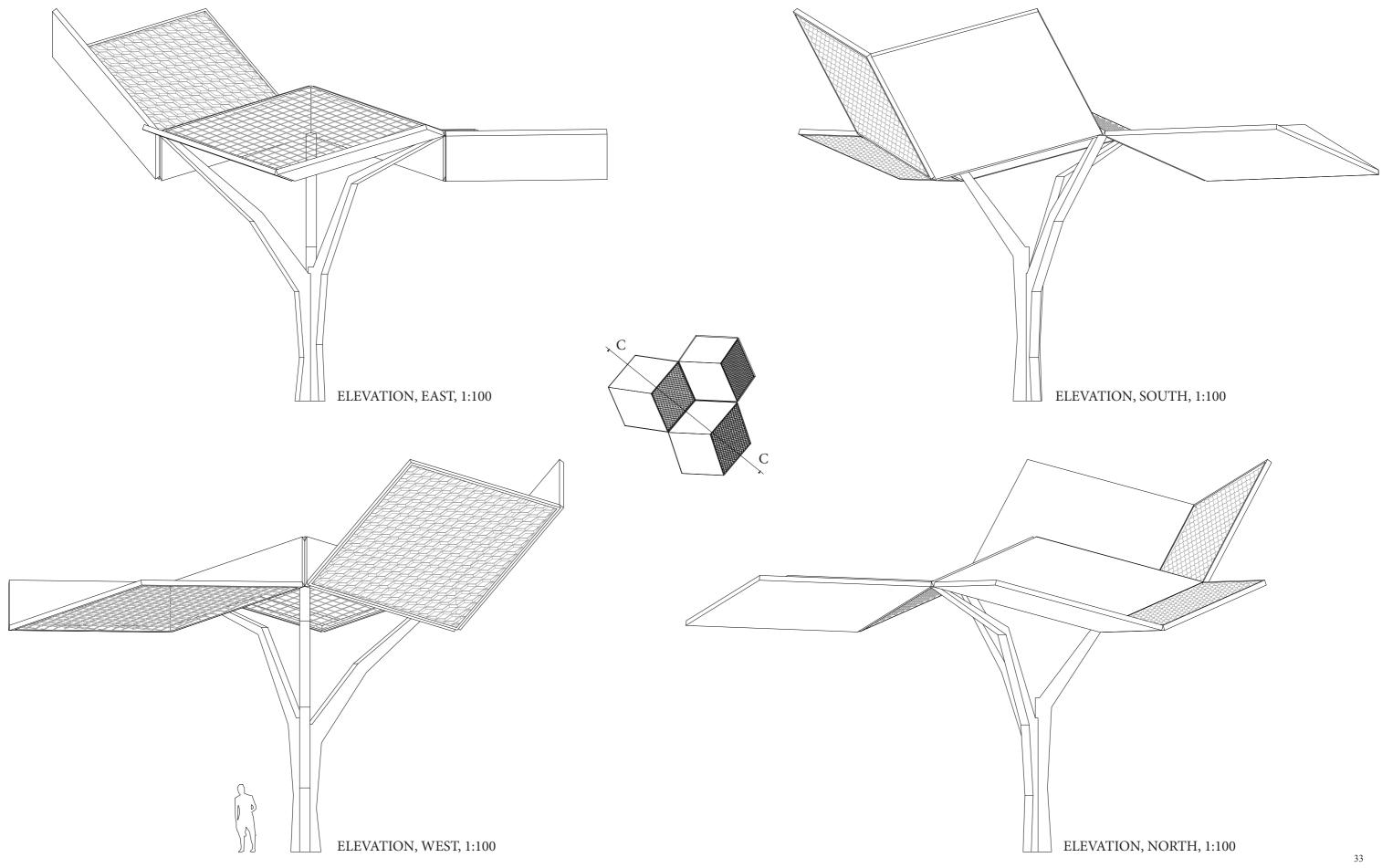


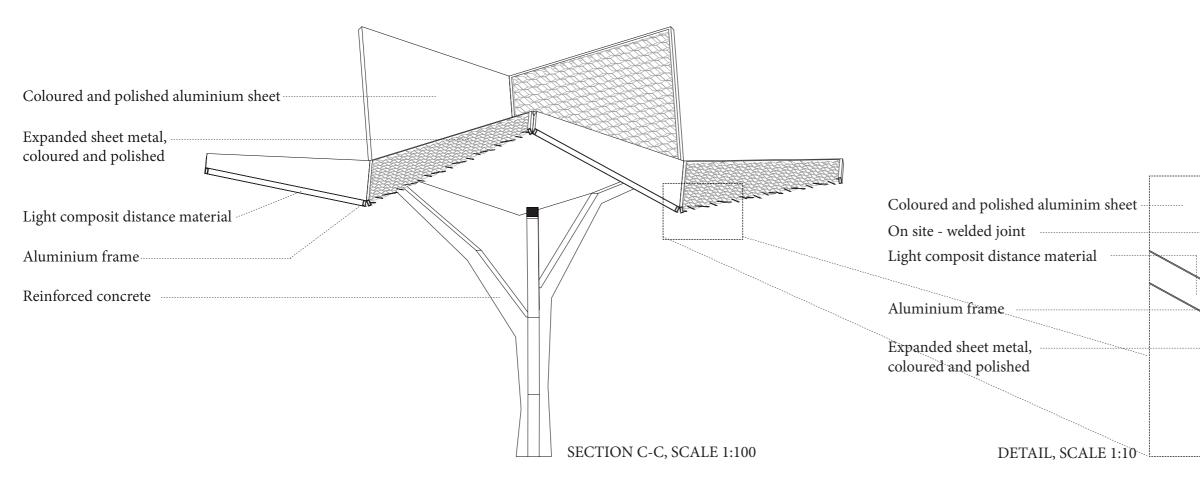


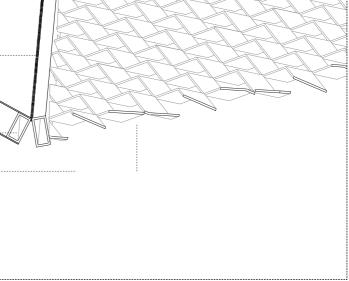


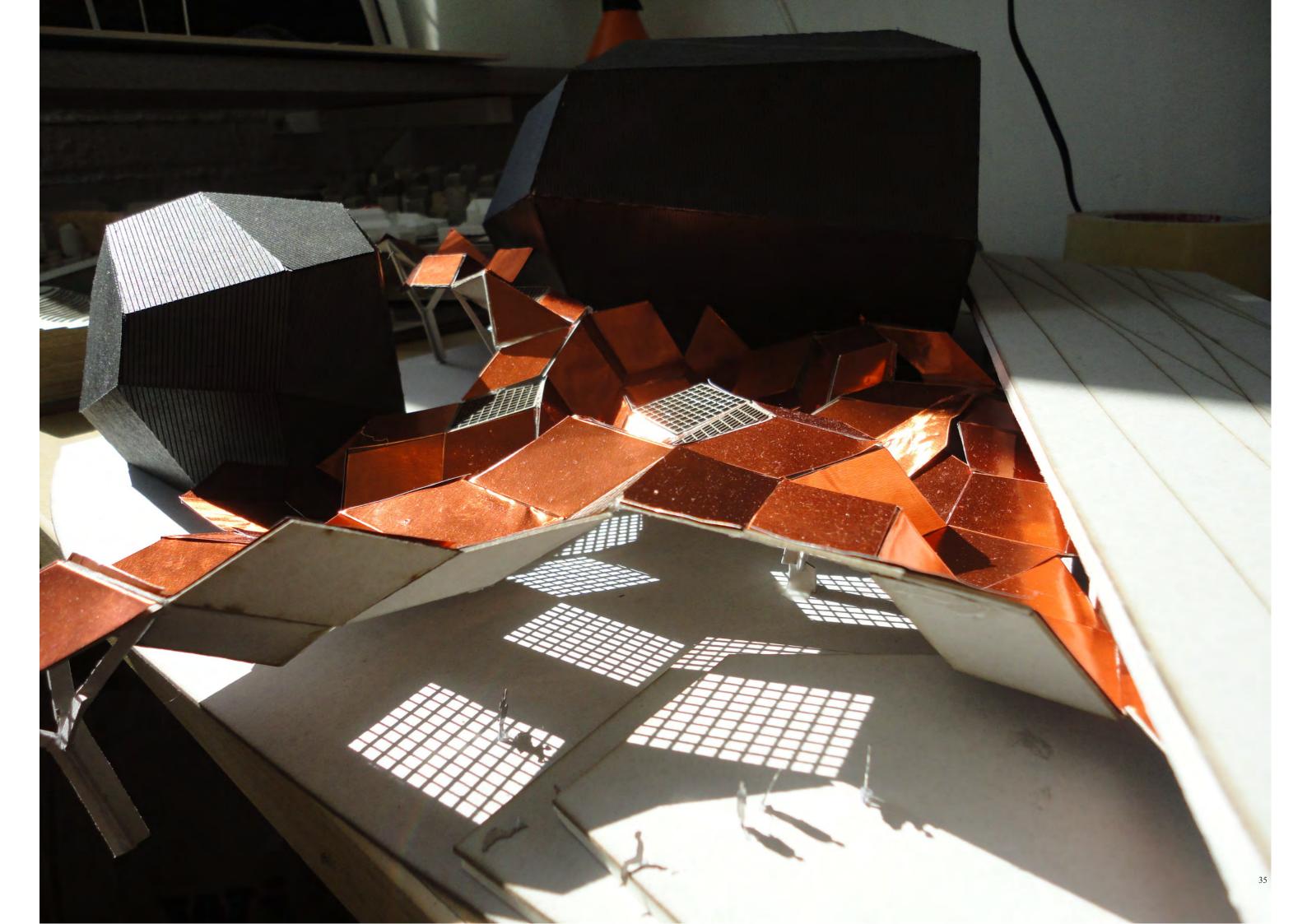


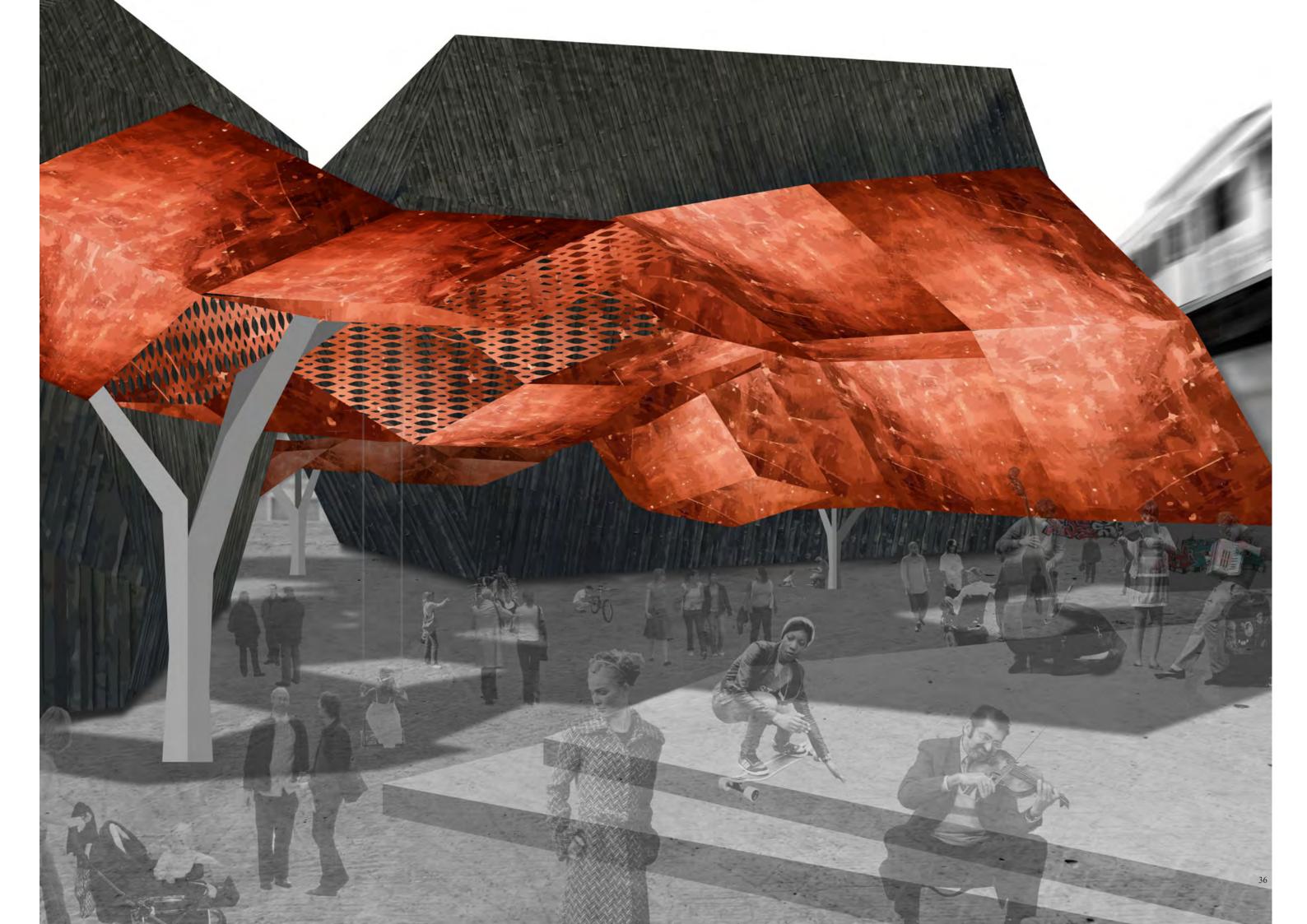
# ROOF- AND PILLAR CONSTRUCTION // THE PRINCIPLE

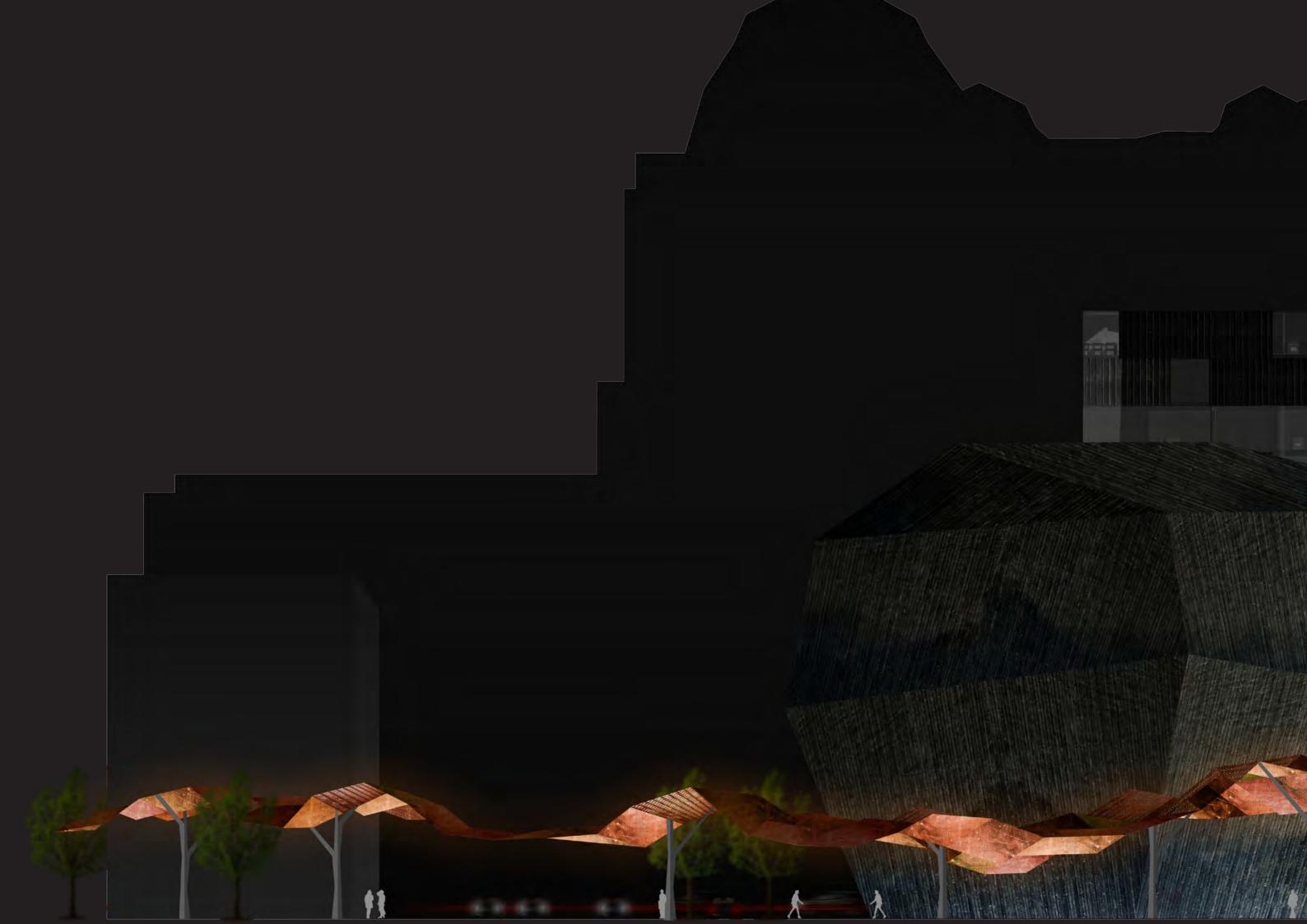


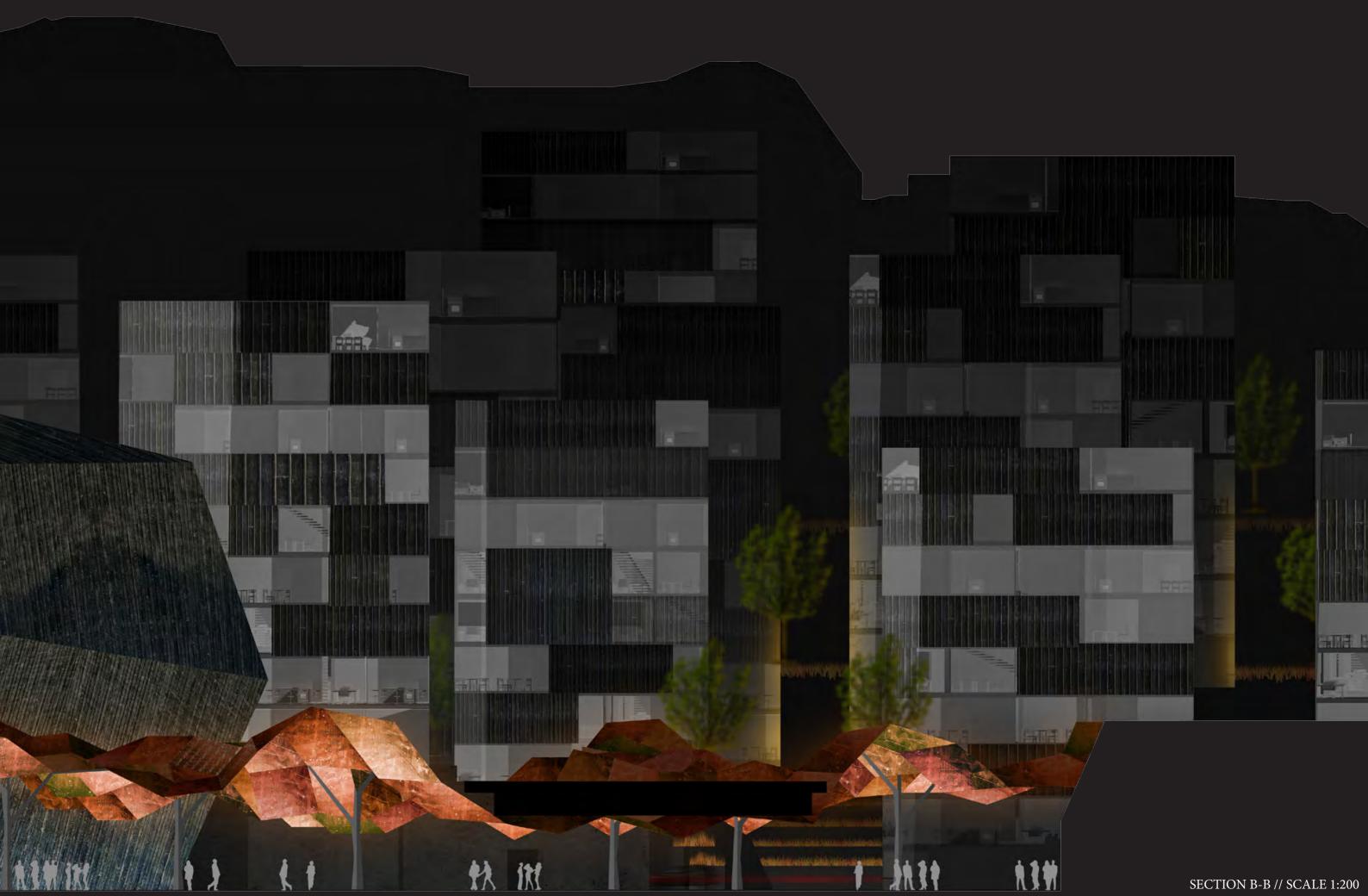




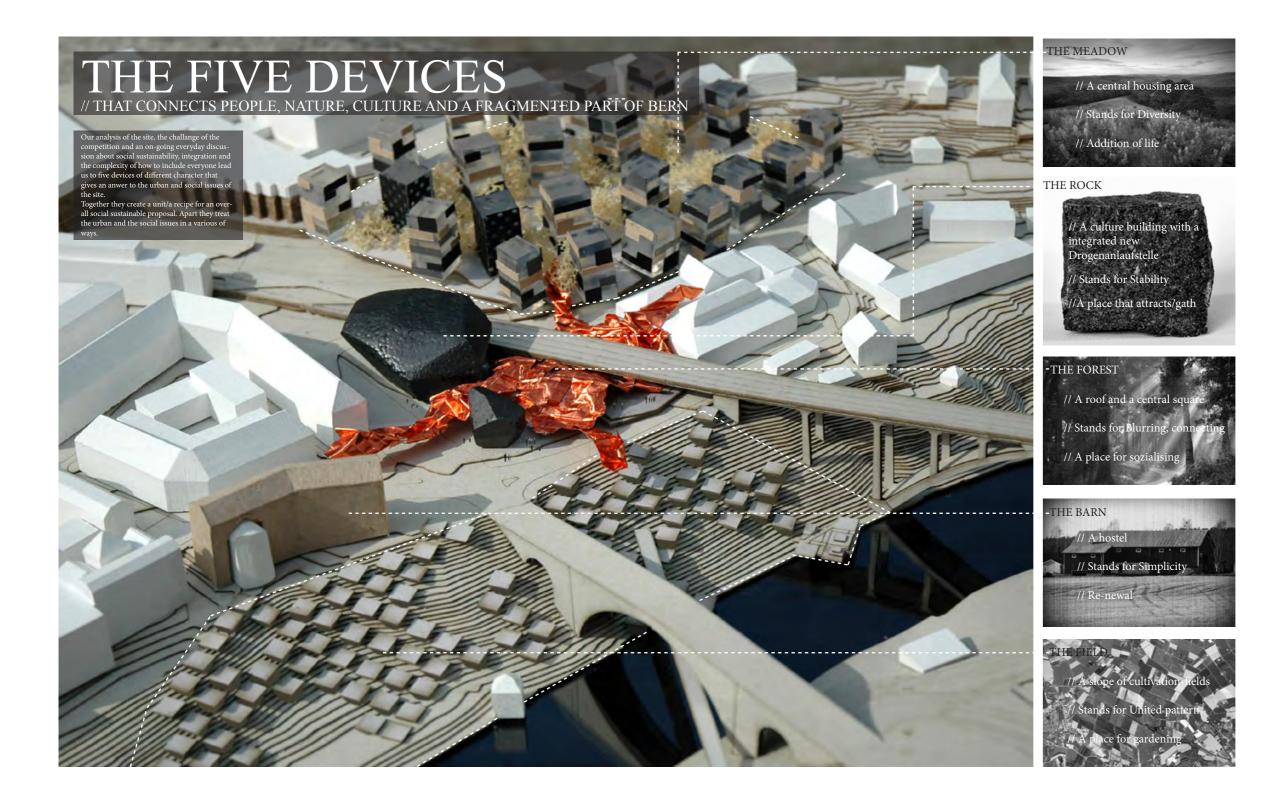








## INTEGRATION // CULT-I-VATION TO BLUR THE BARRIERS IN SOCIETY AND THE URBAN LANDSCAPE // A SOCIAL SUSTAINABLE STRATEGY FOR BERN

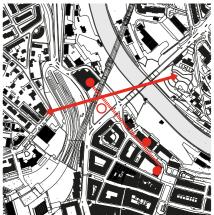


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// ENTRY NR 157 // GOTTERID WALL & JENNY ÖRYE // CHALMERS UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOG

### **URBAN STRATEGY**

// THE LINKS THAT CONNECTS



Our urban strategy is to make two links with a hot-spot in its crossing point. In the crossing point we suggest a square. The East-west link connects the city district Alpenegg going over Eilgut where we propose a high density housing area, over the square, down to river Aare, over to city district Altenberg. We want to strengthen the axes of the cultural institutions by adding more culture. The square is programmed with a 24-7 program and becomes a lively central part of the city. River Aare becomes accessible and is activated, the river walk gets a clear start and goal. The site is no longer an eyesore, nor an undefined left over waste land. It's now central, well connected and filled with a diversity of life and culture.

## SOCIAL STRATEGY

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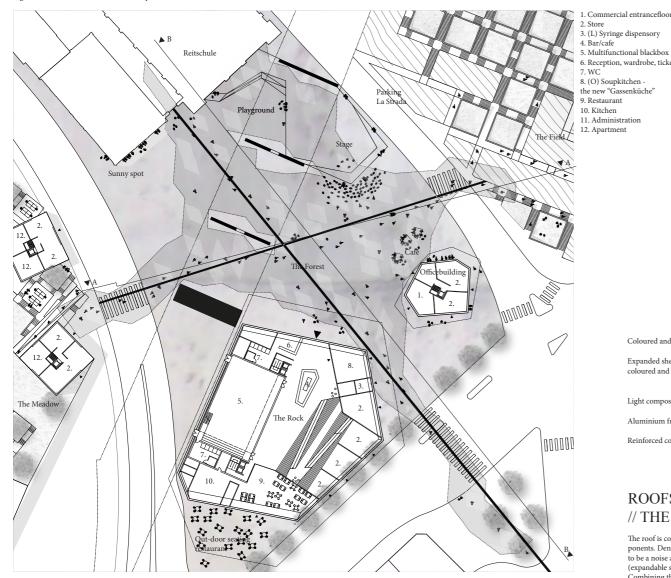
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### THE FOREST // A CENTRAL SQUARE FOR ACTIVITIES, CULTURE AND LIFE

The Forest stands for blurring with its play of light and is a place for socializing. The elevated railway track is a urban divider, splitting up the space in three parts and the railway traffic is a disturbing element when it comes to noise pollution.

An architectural answer of that is the roof - blurring out the barrier - unifying the three parts into one, protecting from noise and a play of light. The forest is spread out in strategic spots in direction of the two links to strengthen the whole area. The construction of the roof can be used for hanging of components such as out-door seating places for the café, market tables and playground swings aswell as light sources and backdrops when there's a concert. The square is a 24/7 lively place for social interaction. It is planned to inhabit bigger and smaller events. The rock and new office building

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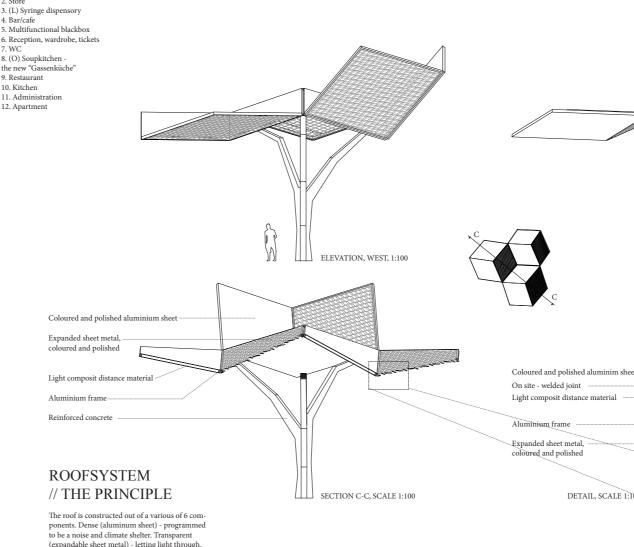
PLAN SCALE 1:500 N  $\Delta$ 



The roof - A climate shelter and gathering of space

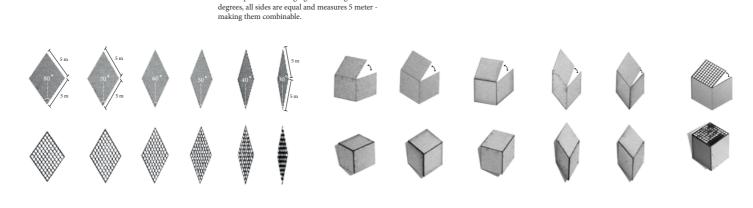
Bending/Folding - Protection against noise pollution

### ROOF- AND PILLAR CONSTRUCTION // THE PRINCIPLE



### REPORT TO MR. ZAPPA

When leaving the house you take the road leading to Botanische garten, from there there's a new pedestrian and bicykle path leading you down the hill to the new bridge. The flat concrete material you walk on makes the walk easy. You have your right hand on the handrail all the way over the bridge, you hear Aare and people laughing, having a morning swim. You like this bridge, day and night-time as is has very good lighting during the dark hours. Light is a good leader. The air is fresh and you are happy not having to bother about car trafic. The handrail stops and you now take the diago-nal stairs upwards the hill. The first and last step of the stair is made out of light rough wood, the steps in-between out of concrete. You have your hand on the handrail, just in case. There are many stairs, but the walk upwards gives you a daily exercise and the scent of flowers are astonishing. On the level of Schützenmatt you feel groundleaders on the ground. The curved concrete leads you to the pedestrian path over Schützenmattstrasse, were you also feel that you're covered under a roof. The acoustic is different. The acoustics from the roof are lovely the days when it's raining, and- the roof keeps you dry. The curved concrete leads you to the middle of the square - they call it the forest. You get the interpretation, because of the shelter and the feeling of beeing protected, from rain and from noise. You now here music, and you now that your'e close to work which is situated in the new culture building. You think it was a good investment for Bern since the city aims for beeing not only a cultural heritage city but also the cultural capital of Europe! You follow the sound and you feel the smell of carbonized wood, the facade is made out of it. When entering he building you hear a "Guten morgen Herr Zappa" from the receptionist. "Guten morgen Frau Schmitz" and you take the elevator situated right next to the reception. In the elev-tor you read with your fingers on the tastatur, 3rd floor. "3rd floor" the elevator says. You step out and follow the wall to the entrance were you are meeting up you colleauges for a morning coffee.



Combining the components in different manne

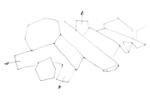
- gives a variety of spatial qualities. The angle of the components are ranging from 80 degrees to 30

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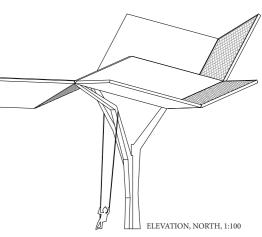


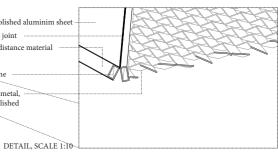


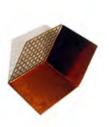


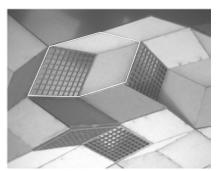
2nd Bending/Folding - Diversity of spatail qualities

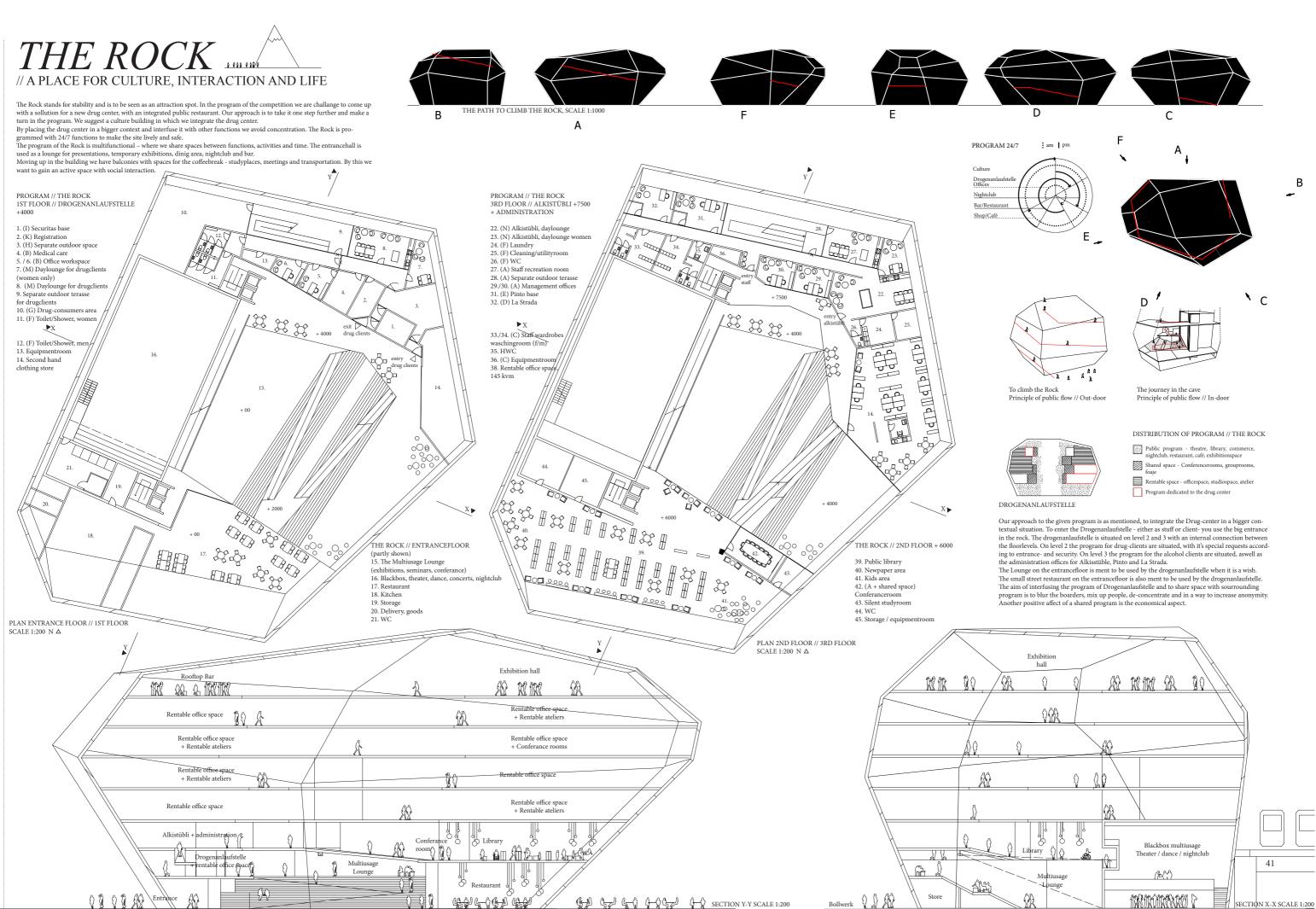
Stretched out - Connecting The Meadow, The Field and the culture axe

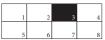
















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As you're now finished with your visit at the seminar at the conferance center in Altenberg it's time to go home. You enter the new path going through the newly re-freshed-Botanische garten. You start to get a glimpse of river Aare. The new road in Botanische garten leads you to the new pedestrian/bicykle bridge going straight over Aare, here you get a more close-to-nature experience than if you would have chosen the noisy you get a more close-to-nature experience than it you would have chosen the noisy Bollwerk bridge. When you pass under the old bridge the wind is blowing in your hair as you see youngsters surfing on the river, you see a jetty were a couple of people are jumping in the water. When arriving at the other end of the bridge a new character ar-rises. A landscape of colourful flower- and vegetable fields lays in front of you. There's a lot of people working in the green. Suddenly you hear "Hallo, Herr Manser". It's your old neighbour Moritz. He was a good man but had problems with the alcohol so he had to move. "You have to taste my basilicum". You stay with Moritz for a while and he tells you shout the new recital newrem having high the hear a nort in "Dreugh the newrem has you about the new social program in which he takes a part in. Through the program he is now on his feets and spend his days on the farming lot. You now start your journey diagonal upwards the terassed cultivation fields made out of warmly grey concrete. The scent from the flowers are lovely, some people have set up a barbeque. You start to see a colourful blank roof when you are halfway up the terasses. It starts to get cloudy and you move towards the roof. Yet another charcter arises, an elevated landscape of golden/bronce aluminium, you follow the arm of the roof that is stretched out over the road Schützenmattstrasse. You take the pedestrian path over the road and now you are fully under the roof. That's good because you felt the rain was coming. You now have a square in front of you, to the left people are having coffee and to the right you see Re-itschule and there's an ongoing fleamarket on the concrete ground. You pass by ad you do not really notice the railwaybridge that you pass under. You see a big building on the left side from were you hear music. It's the new culture building! You have now passed the square and you face Neubrückstrasse, you see see that the other stretched out arm of the roof ends where a new character arrises. It's the Meadow, the new housing area. You cross over the pedestrian path and here you recognize something from the terasses leading you from Aare to the square. It's the terassed squares. You take the diagonal pedestrian and bicykle road upwards the hill. A green park arrises between the high buildings!! Animals!! Some kids are feeding a cow and a couple have a picknick in the grass. You move further up the hill, again diagonally when you now enter Alpenegg! You see your door, you're home!

DISTRIBUTION OF USE

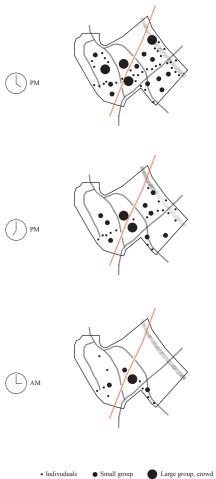
Residential	45 000 m2				
Hospitality	2600 m2				
Culture // Leisure	4200 m2				
Reitschule	5200 m2				
Office	5960 m2				
Education	380 m2				
Other / Agriculture	1700 m2				
Drogenanlaufstelle	630 m2				
Total	65 670 m2				

### INFRASTRUCTURE

The road infrastructure is kept mainly as it is today, with minor changes to raise the quality of the area. We add cross-overs for pedestrian and bicykles, we add a noise protector - the roof - and we make the area Eligut accessible and linked to Alpenegg by building a structure over the road Westtangente. We link the area to Altenberg by sug-gesting a new pedestrian and bicyle bridge.

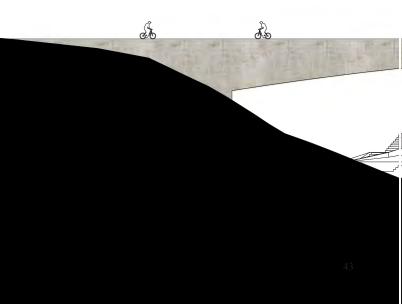
The new housing area and the buildings with commercial and rentable space in the streetlevel are giving Neubrückstrasse a new public life.





Projected pedestrian traffic flow.



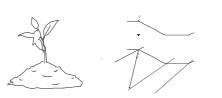




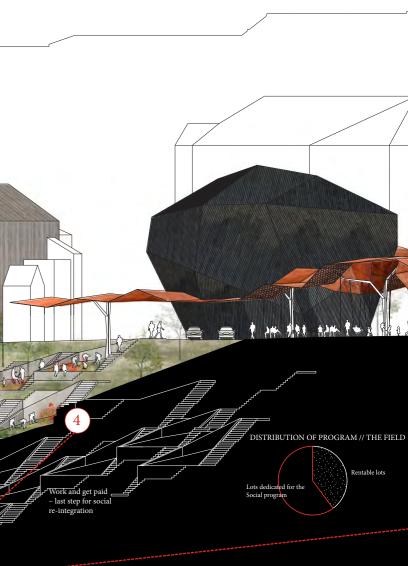
The Field is connecting the citylevel with the river Aare by a pattern of cultivationlots. The contextual situation of The Field is complex with its topography. By the uniformed pattern made by a concrete stair and ram-psystem we take up the height-differances diagonally making the Aare river more easy accessible. The terassed squares are used as small farming lots, the main part of them are used by the social program - the rest is possible to rent and the revenue goes back to the accessible. the social program. Moving from the citylevel you pass by tulip fields, potatoe plantations, barbeque platforms and the goal is situated in the river

Aare where you find a platform for water activities.

The Barn stands for simplicity and offers a affordable shelter. By integrating a new hostel on the previous site for the drug center we give the place a new life. The Barn serves the Field with organisation and equipment.





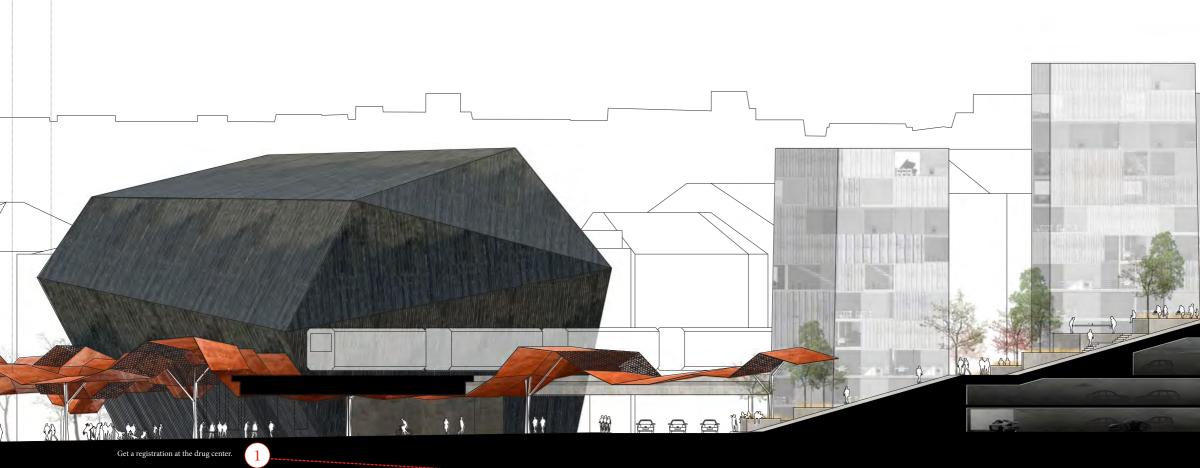


arm and sell – a first job with responsabili-

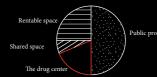
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DISTRIBUTION OF PROGRAM // THE ROCK

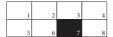


SOCIAL PROGRAM FOR RE-INTEGRATION IN 4 STEPS

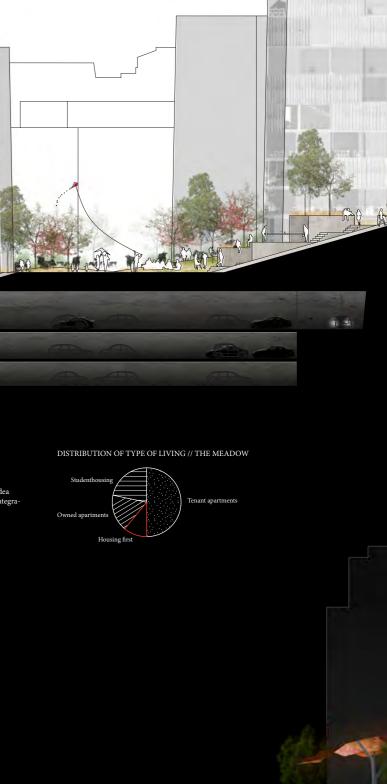
// A SOCIAL PROCRAM FOR RE-INTEGRATION IN 4 STEPS
We have designed a social program embeded in the five devices at the site. To be able to start using the drug center you need to become a registered member. We see the drug center as a good starting point and opportunity to get re-integrated back in the society. The aim is that the drug and alcohol abusers will be encouraged to take part in the social program which is devided into four steps. Step two after beeing registered is to get a place to live, a so called Housing first concept. The concept is built on the idea that, first you get a place to live - then you get individual support to be able to keep your home. In step three of the program you are offered a first job with responsabilities. In the Field you are offered a space for farming where you as a user can cultivate crops that you get benefits from either by leaving the goods at the Barn or sell it yourself on the market in the square. Showing a more or less problem free development in the field you're ready for the last step in the program which is a job in the Barn (the hostel). This job means more responsability and is the last step in getting re-integrated in the society. The aim of the program is that its going to work as a win/win strategy for a social sustainable Bern.

Housing first concept – built on the idea that the home is the first step for re-integration.

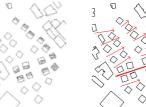
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agriculture.

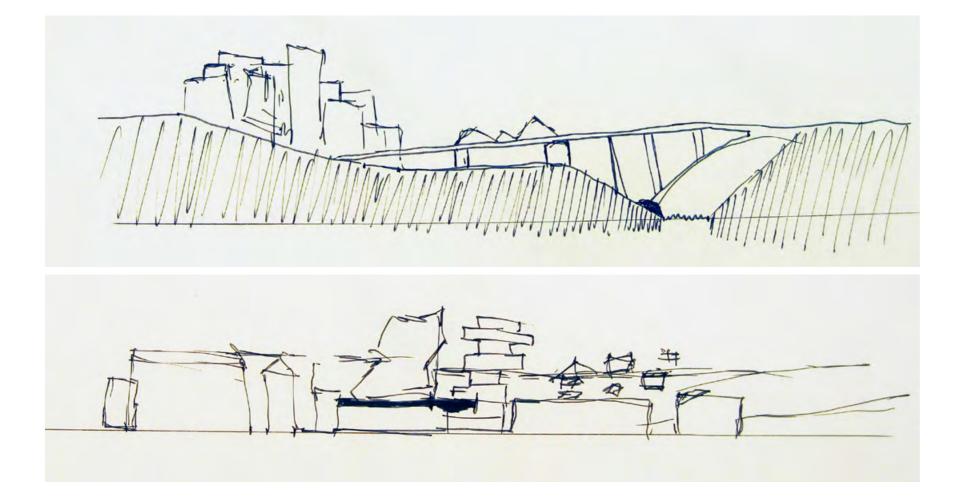


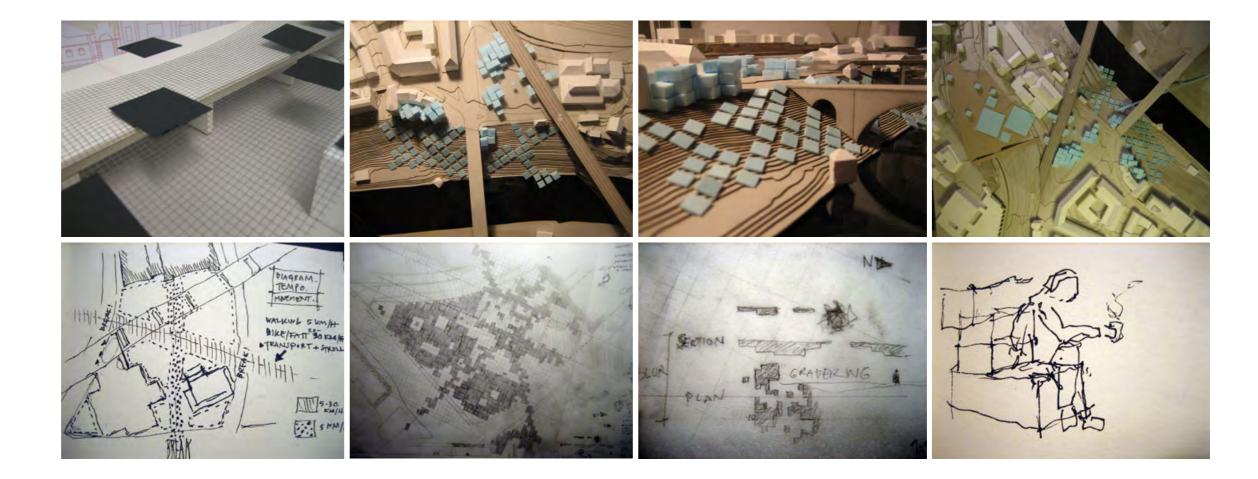


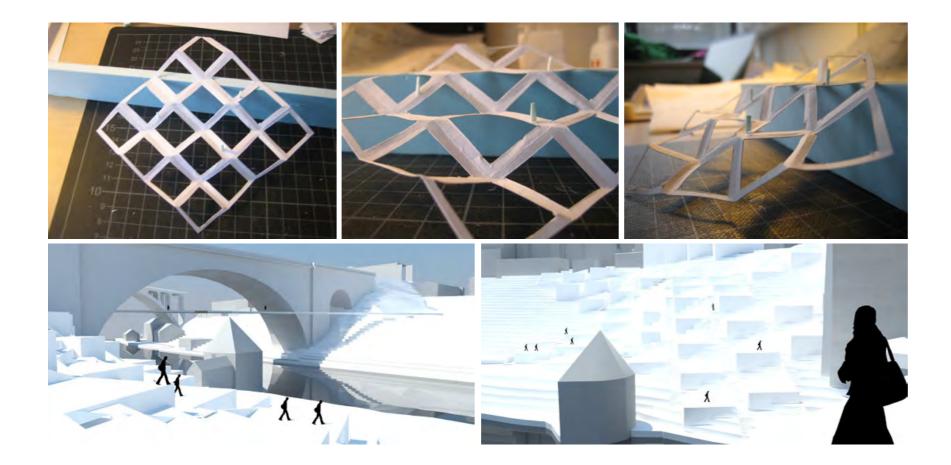
## THE PROCESS // A JOURNEY THROUGH OUR WORK



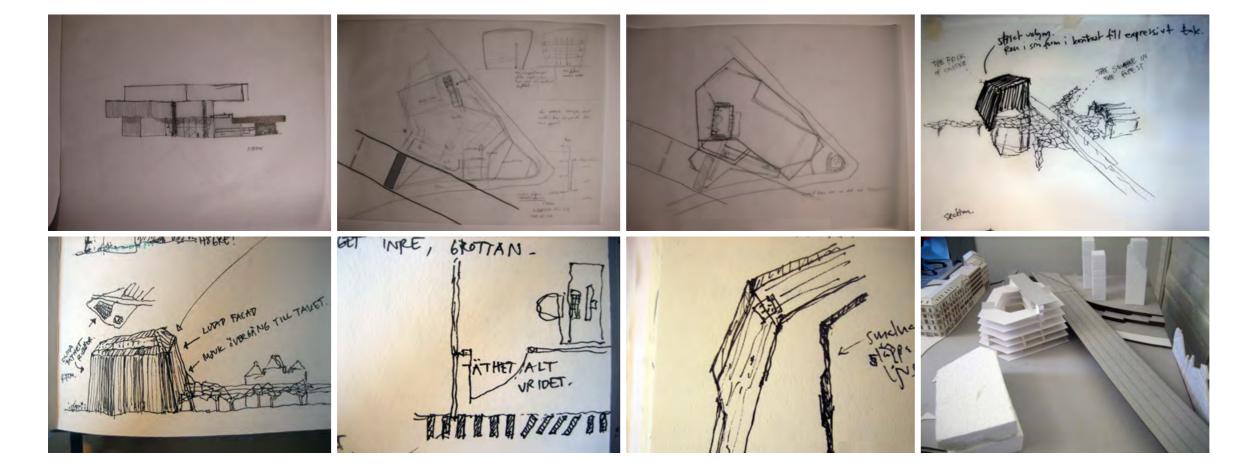
## THE SITE



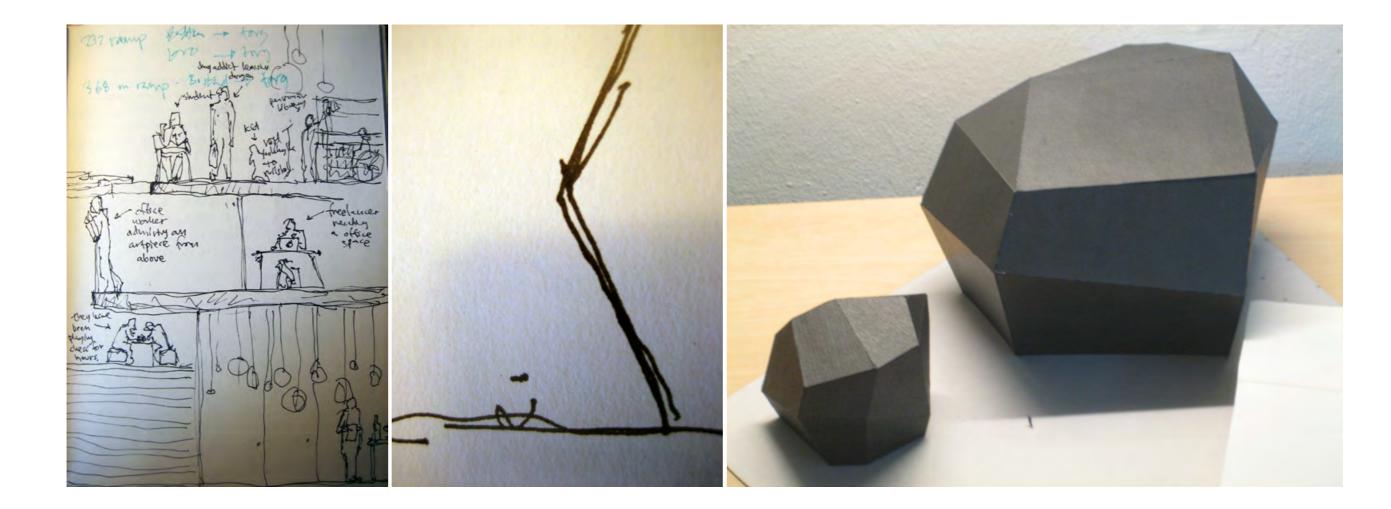


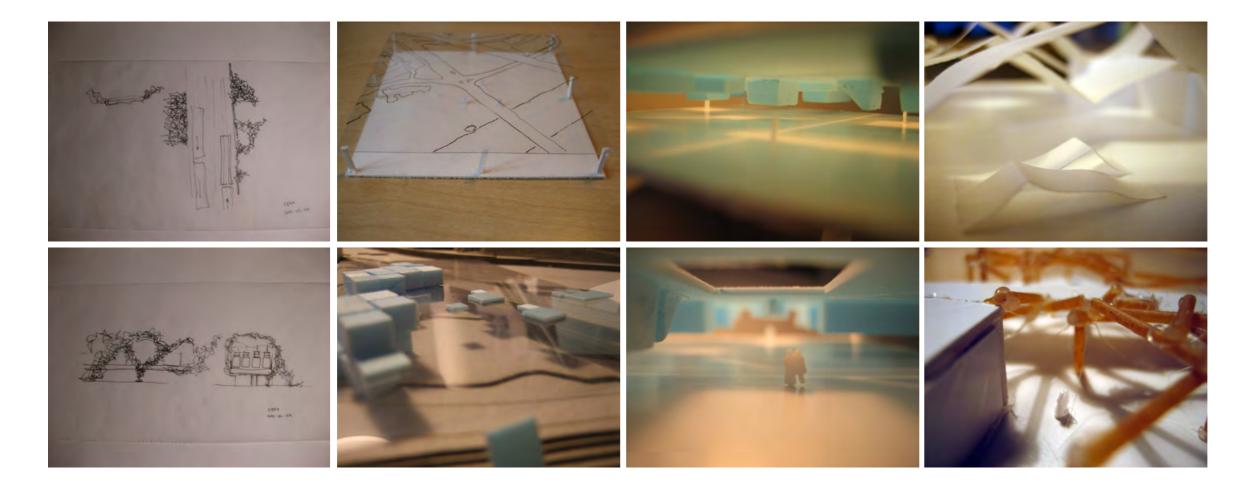


# THE FIELD

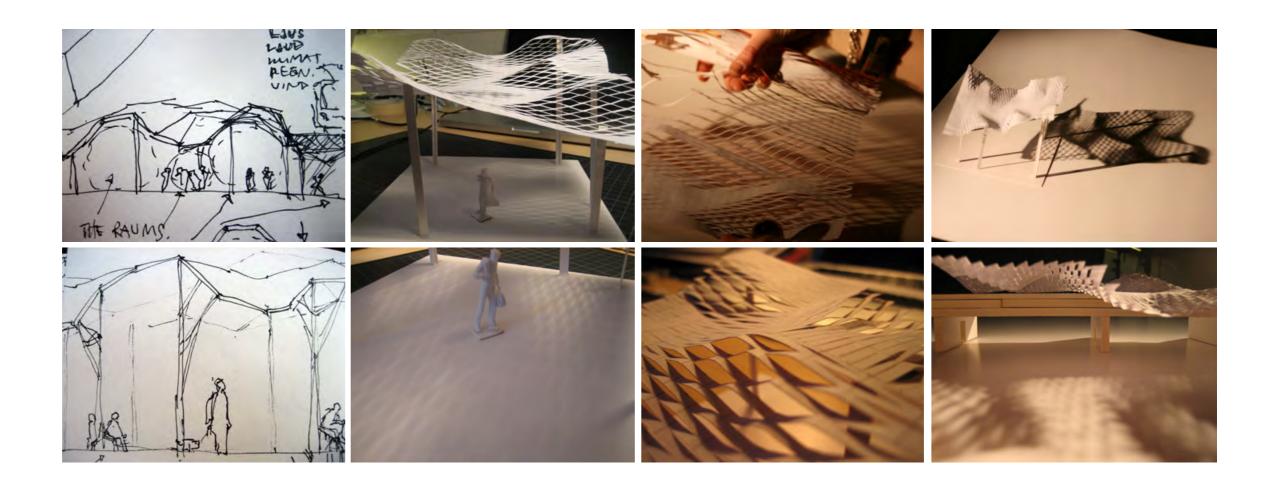


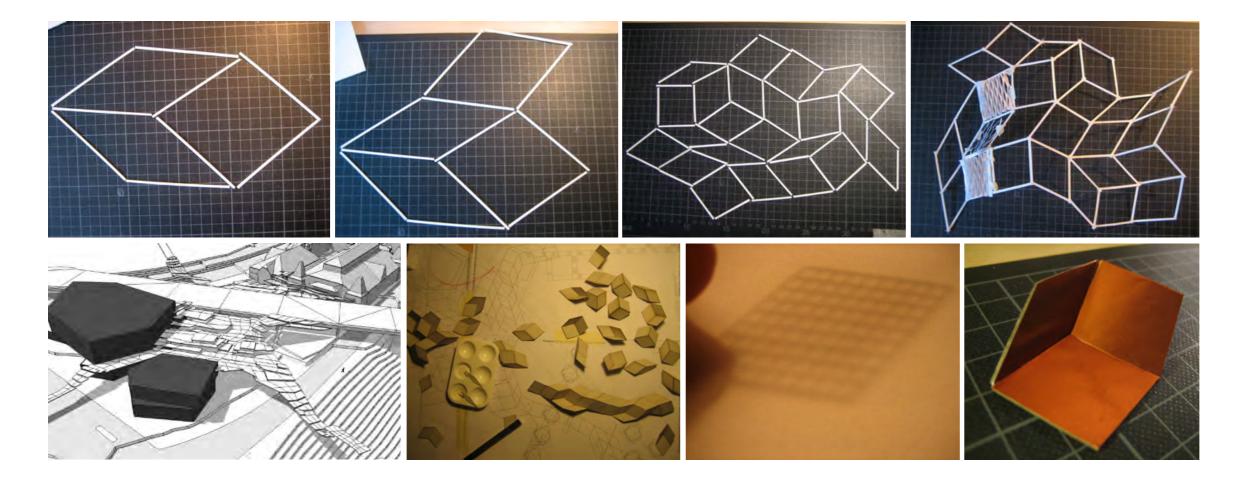
# THE ROCK





# THE FOREST









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