

PRESS
RELEASE

CLIENT:
FLEMISH GOVERNMENT, DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE,
YOUTH AND MEDIA, FACILITAIR BEDRIJF, AGENCY FOR
NATURE AND FORESTS

RECEPTION BUILDING OF THE GAASBEEK CASTLE ESTATE

KASTEELSTRAAT
1750 GAASBEEK
BELGIUM

OPEN CALL FOR PROJECTS, WINNING PROJECT 2016/
OPENING 2022

ATELIER
D'ARCHITECTURE
PIERRE HEBBELINCK



ARCHITECTURE
Atelier d'architecture
Pierre Hebbelinck
Collaborators
Julien Broers
Céline Schnitzler

STABILITY ENGINEER
BEG

**SPECIAL TECHNIQUES
ENGINEER, PEB**
AE+

ACOUSTICS
Jean-Pierre Clairbois

LANDSCAPE HISTORIAN
Catherine Hebbelinck

OPERATING ARCHITECT
Kobe Van Praet (VersA)

ADVISOR
Iwert Bernakiewicz

BUILDING COMPANIES
Vandezande
Roels

PHOTOGRAPHER
François Brix

**CREATION OF PIERRE
HEBBELINCK'S MODEL**
Mellens et Dejardin

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CATHERINE HEBBELINCK** P.11

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A

ARCHITECTURE

The entrance pavilion of Gaasbeek Castle and its eponymous country estate was designed in autumn 2015 by Atelier d'Architecture Hebbelinck as part of the Open Call for Projects. After being selected as the winner, the client requested modifications to the structure of the roof. This note describes the path followed by the project from initial design to final completion.

It draws part of its substance from observations made in the wider Pajottenland region, from the analysis of its landscapes and their depiction by Bruegel. (°) (1)

The topography of the village of Gaasbeek is characterised by hills where the village is coiled around a medieval church (1381) and its century-old Saturday farmers' market. (At 3 p.m., the church bell rings and the stalls all open together, only to close less than an hour later when the exclusively local products are all sold).

In its cemetery is the humble tomb of Maurice Roelants (2), former director of Gaasbeek Castle, designed by renowned architect Willy Van Der Meeren. This tomb takes the form of a simple concrete mould of the grassy area of the cemetery, expressing the original earth, engraved with only the names and years of birth and

death of Roelants (1895/1966) and his wife. Van Der Meeren also designed the Roelants house (1962). (3)

Two castles compete for dominance on the bluffs. Gaasbeek Castle stands on a promontory overlooking a lake. It was transformed at the end of the nineteenth century (1887-1898) by the Marquise Arconati Visconti, who was a lover of art, politics and history. (4) The garden-museum with its baroque parterres, its vegetable garden and its orchards is one of the finest in Europe. (5)



[1_Brueghel: "the parable of the blind"]



[4_Portrait Marquise Arconati-Visconti]



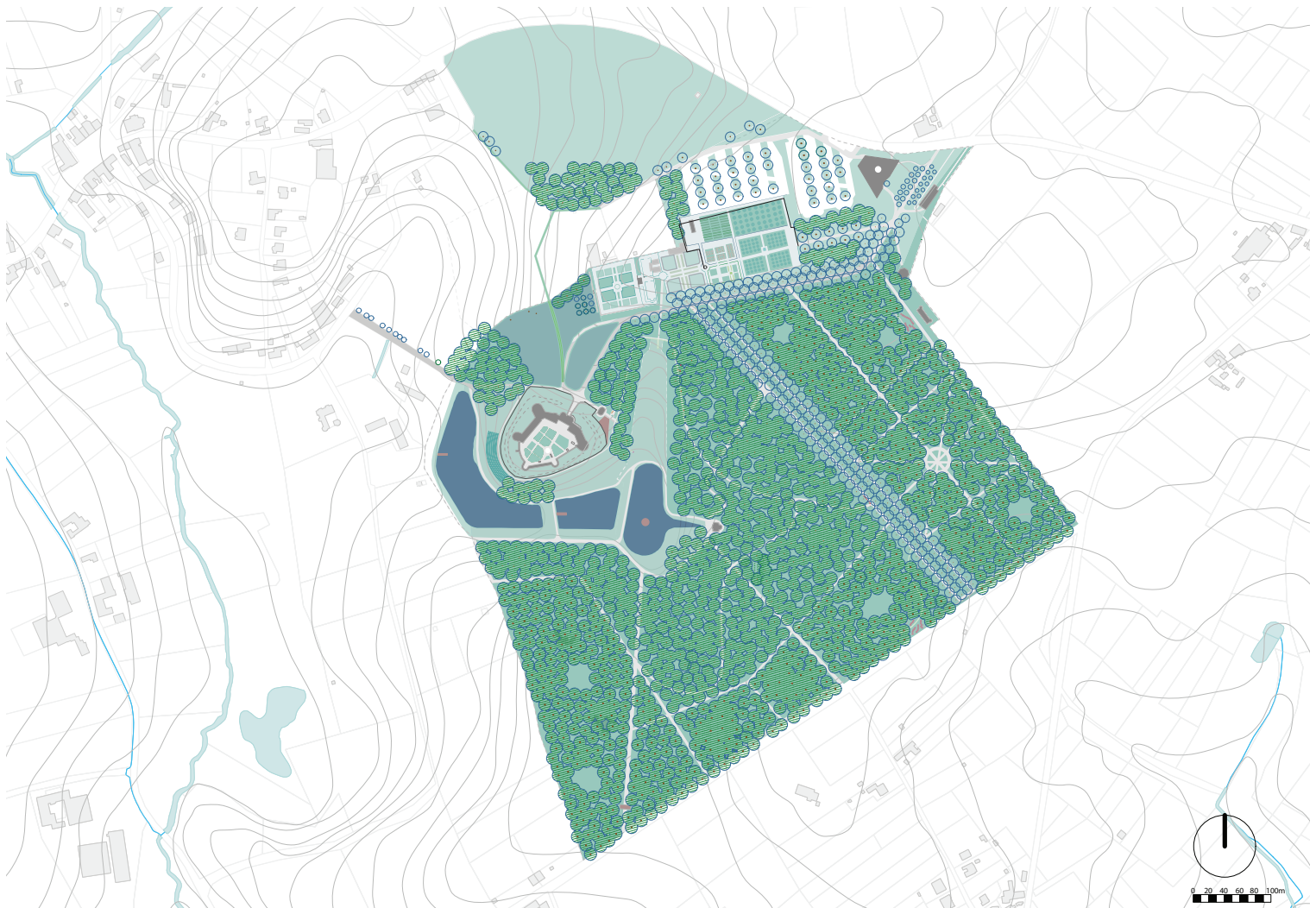
[2_Tombe Roelants]



[3_Roelants House]



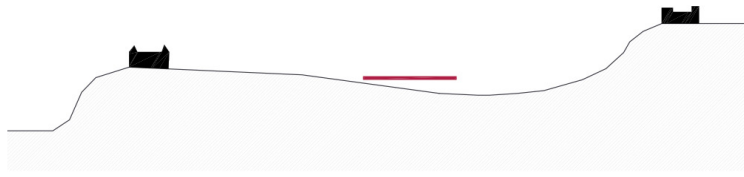
[3_Roelants House]



[5_Situation Map]

Between the two castles (Gaasbeek and Groenenberg), we observe a small valley, separating their lands. The pavilion project

does not set out to make an architectural statement but to provide a bridge slightly above the connecting landscape. (6)



[6_scheme coupe territorial]

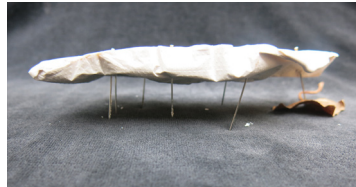
It forms a simple cover, too vast to shelter just the internal uses of a pavilion, and also offers cover to the groups of visitors and leaves room for activities. It serves as an ambassador for the local community.

The roof was first designed

as a concrete imprint of the existing floor, which saves on formwork. The perimeter required for the covering surface is surrounded by vertical boards, the reinforced concrete is poured and then lifted by hydraulic jacks along perennial columns. (7, 8)



[8_Plaster model 1]



[8_Plaster model 2]

The small volume of the pavilion is then slipped under this shelter.

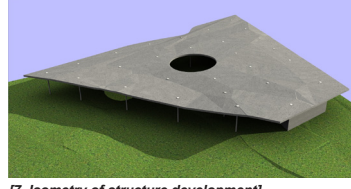
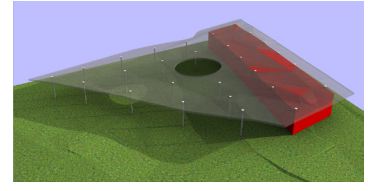
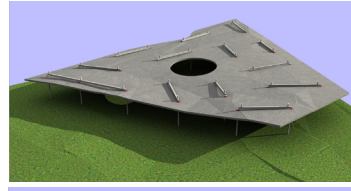
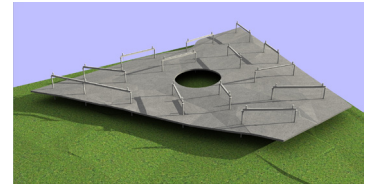
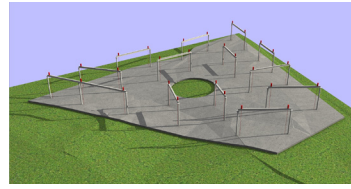
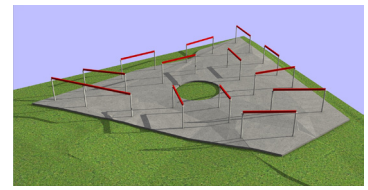
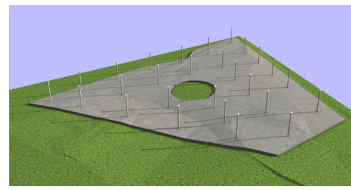
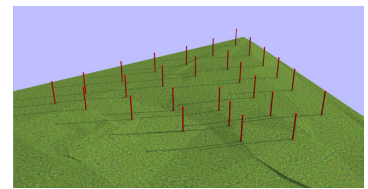
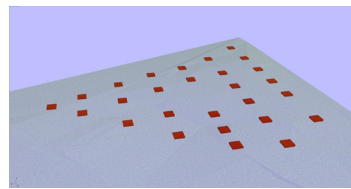
The pavilion includes an area designed to welcome visitors, a ticketing office, offices, the library and archives of the castle and a warehouse.

However, during the study phase, this idea of a concrete roof was abandoned in favour of a different concept. On a trip to Crete during the same period, when visiting the Palace of Knossos, I saw a temporary structure made, without plans, by archaeologists. (9) The simplicity and timelessness of the simple structure provided food for thought for the following proposition. We proposed to the engineer to work with slender steel profiles by alternating their performances. The IPE profiles perfectly take up the loads in one direction but are weak

on the other axis; this alternation creates a robust and collective balance, each column correcting the weaknesses of its neighbour. (10)

In parallel to the design of this new structure, smooth, perfect, tense, we designed a volume made of the simplest and 'poorest' building material: a concrete block of 20 x 20 x 40 cm. Its positioning makes use of the mortar of the joint, crushed under the weight of the block, protruding from the wall, giving it greater materiality, a hazardous texture, catching shadow and light. (11)

Pierre Hebbelinc
Liège
5 June 2022



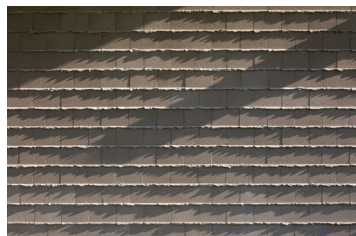
[7_Isometry of structure development]



[9_Coverage of the archaeological site in Knossos]



[11_Make up at the building site]



[11_Final result]



[10_Steel model 1%]

B

THE DESIGN GAVE RISE TO MORE THAN
THIRTY MODELS (VARIOUS TYPES OF
CARDBOARD, FOLDED PAPER, PLASTER,
MODELS



[Image 1 - Series]



[Image 2]



[Image 3]



[Image 4]



[Image 5]



[Image 6]

[Moule en platre de sol en terre, 2016]



[Image 1]



[Image 2]

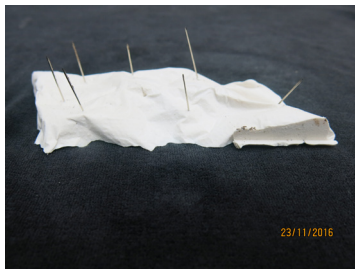


[Image 3]

[Plaster model + Pins 2016, left]



[Image 4]



[Image 5]



[Image 6]

[Cardboard model, parsley, plaster, 2017 draft, below]



[View 1]



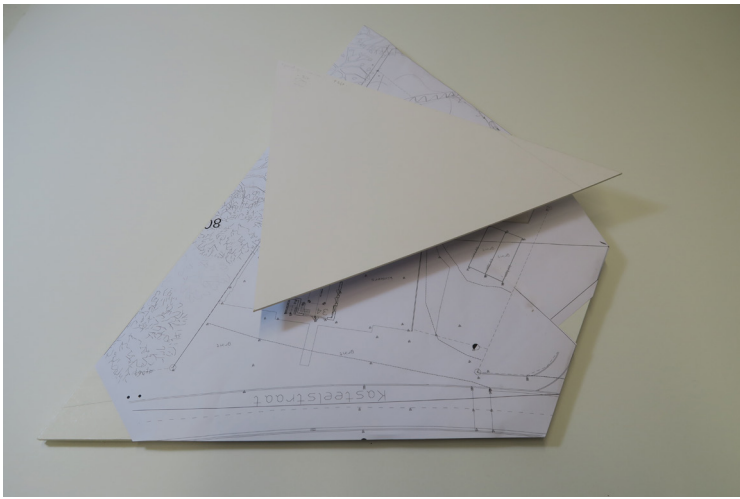
[View 2]



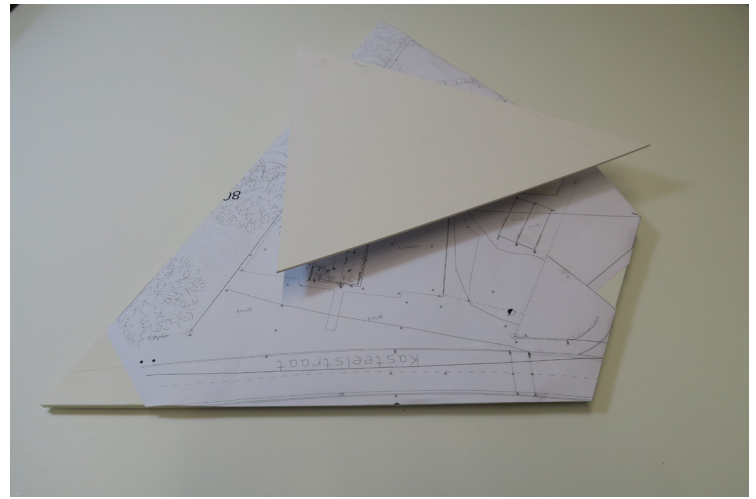
[View 3]



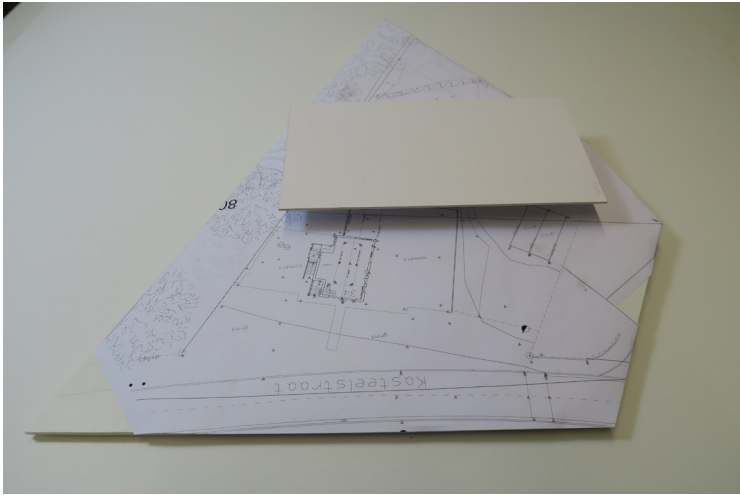
[View 4]



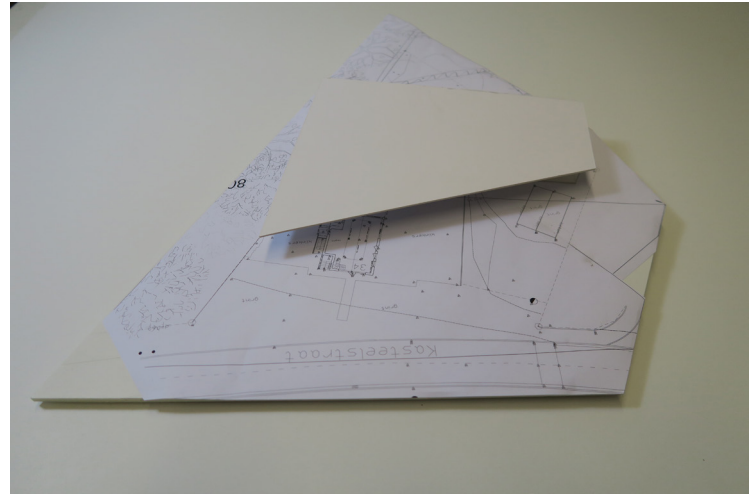
[Image 1]



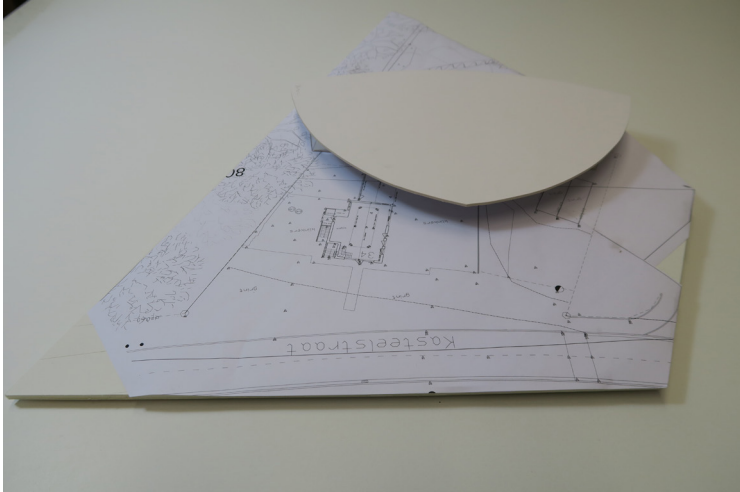
[Image 2]



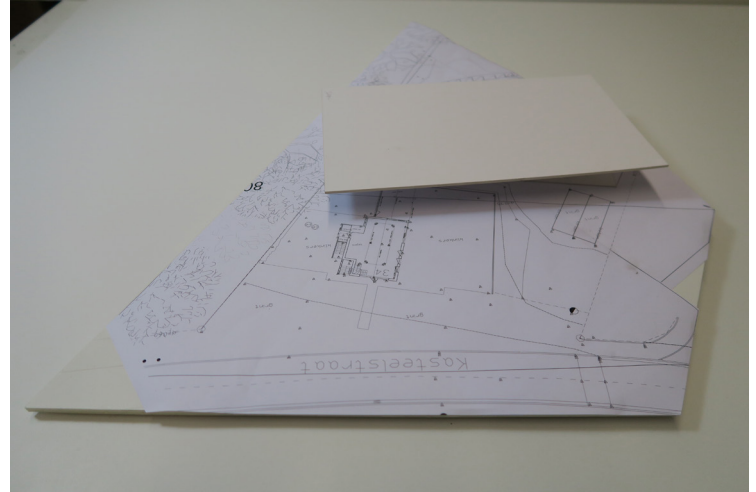
[Image 3]



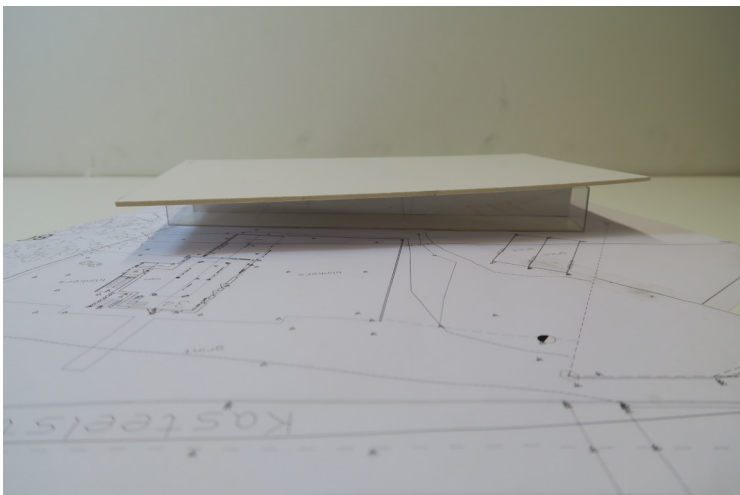
[Image 4]



[Image 5]



[Image 6]



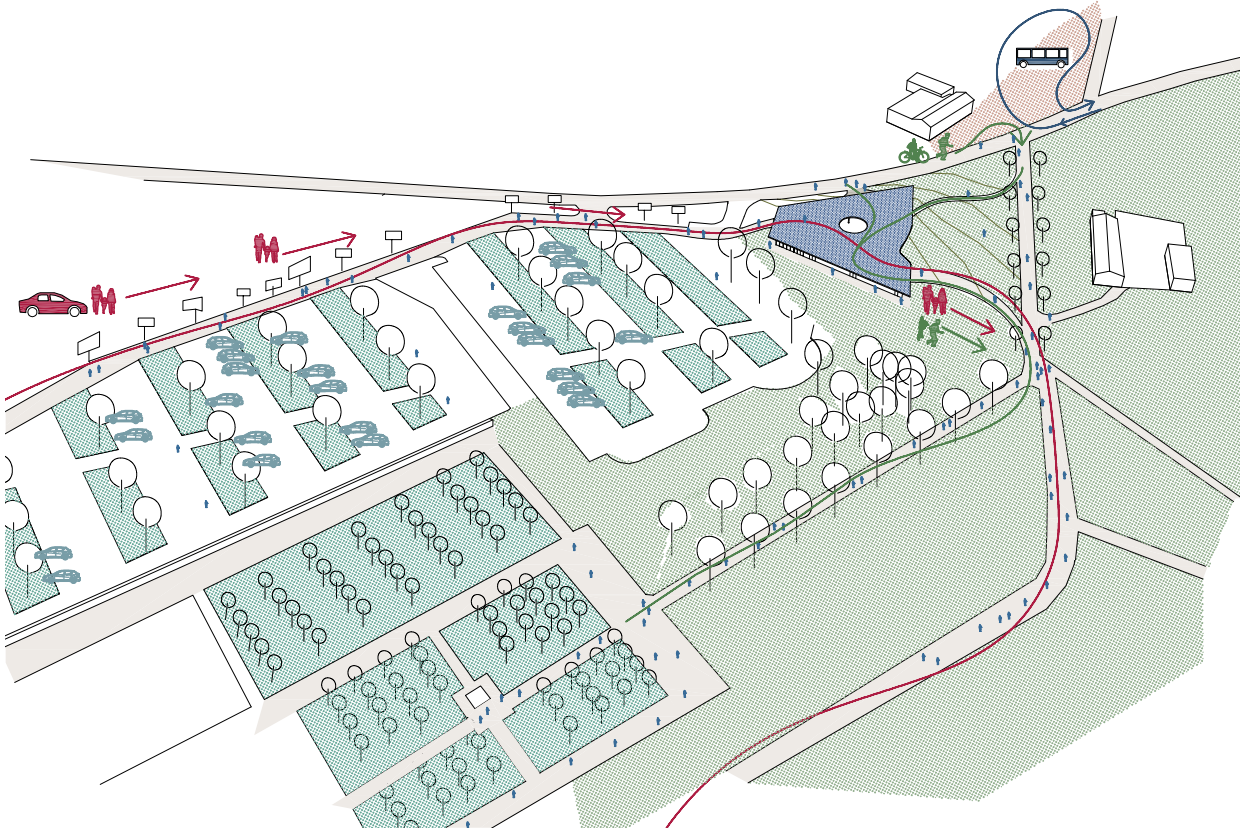
[Image 7]

C

**CAME UP WITH THE IDEA OF EXPLOITING
THE LOCATION'S PEDAGOGICAL CAPITAL BY
ARRANGING A BOTANICAL NARRATIVE PATH
WITHIN THE VAST CAR PARK**

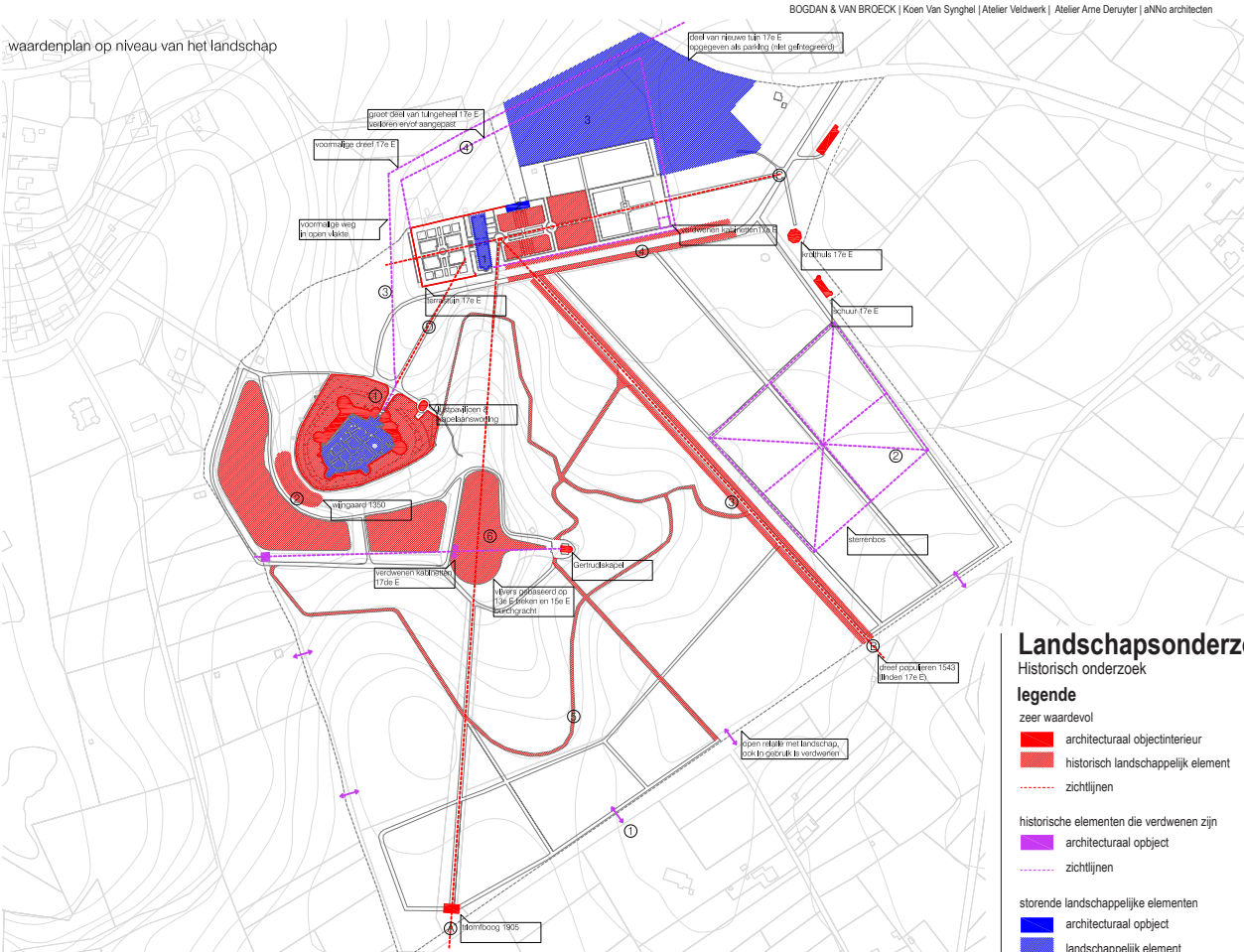
**THE LANDSCAPE
HISTORIAN,
CATHERINE
HEBBELINCK**

3. TOEGANGEN



Plan de mobilité

waardenplan op niveau van het landschap



[Eindrapport_colour]



Rode kornoelje



Steedoor



Eenstijlige meidoorn



Haagbeuk



Hazelaar



Wilde kardinaalsmuts



Hondroos



Hondroos



Wilde liguster

D

THE CONSTRUCTION SITE PROVIDES OPPORTUNITIES TO TEST SOME PLASTIC ASPECTS OF THE CONSTRUCTION AT FULL-SCALE: MOCK UP OF BLOCKS, FACTORY TEST FOR THE FRAMES, ...)

MOKE UP



[Steel beams / ironworks / covid]



[Moke up blockwork with backflow joint / sculpture support]

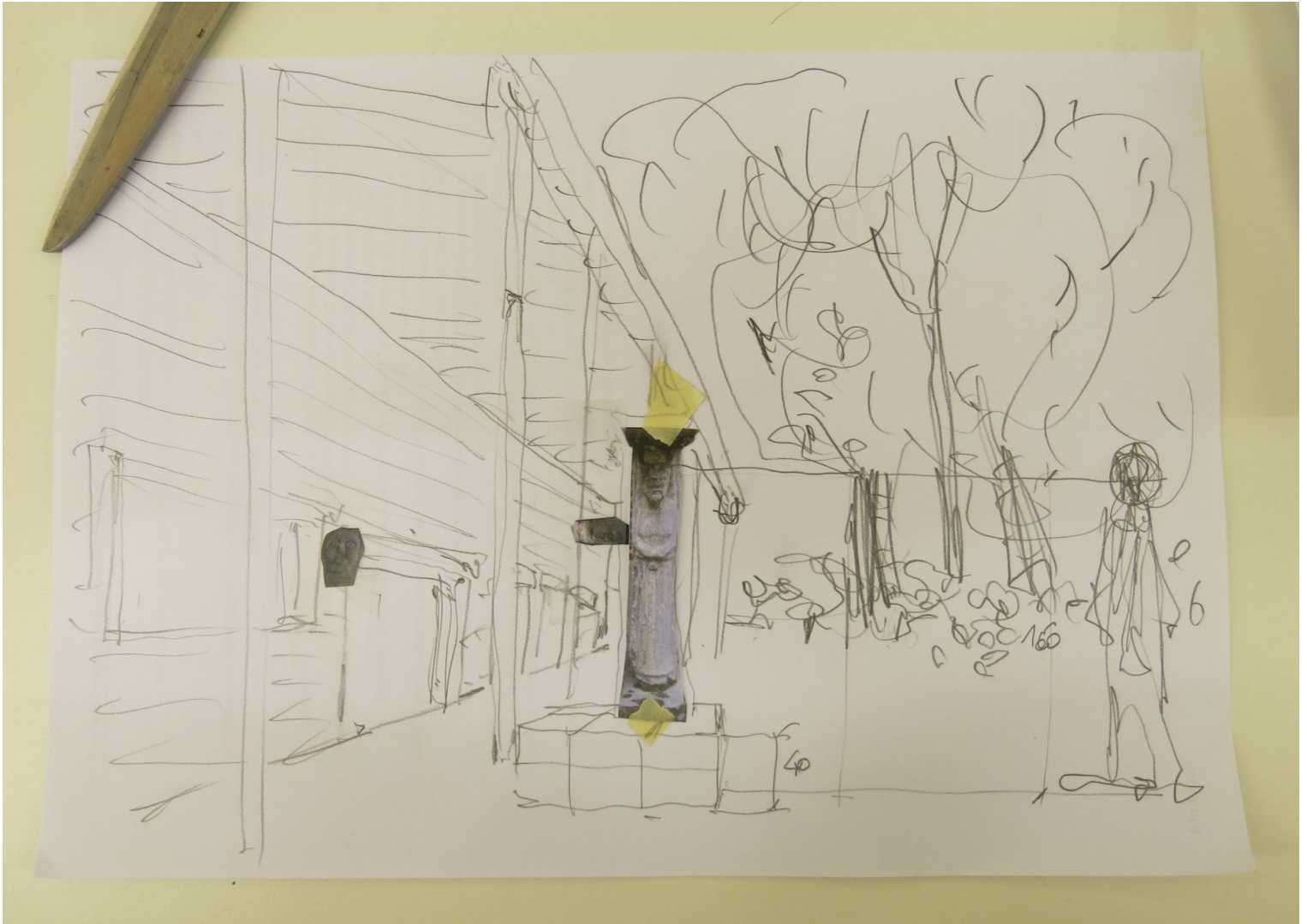
E

THE COLLABORATION BETWEEN LUC VANACKERE, DIRECTOR OF THE CASTLE, AND THE ARCHITECT PIERRE HEBBELINCK WILL CREATE THE OPPORTUNITY TO PLACE WORKS FROM THE COLLECTION BOTH INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THE PREFABRICATED CONCRETE VOLUME.

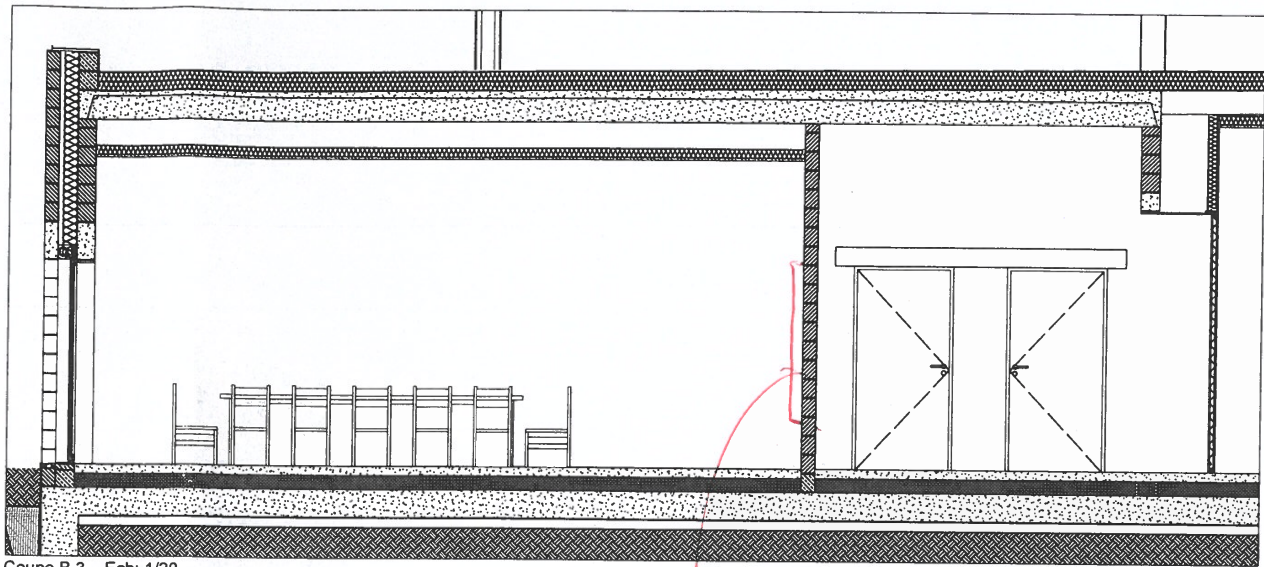
**THE INSIDE
OUTSIDE
WORKS**



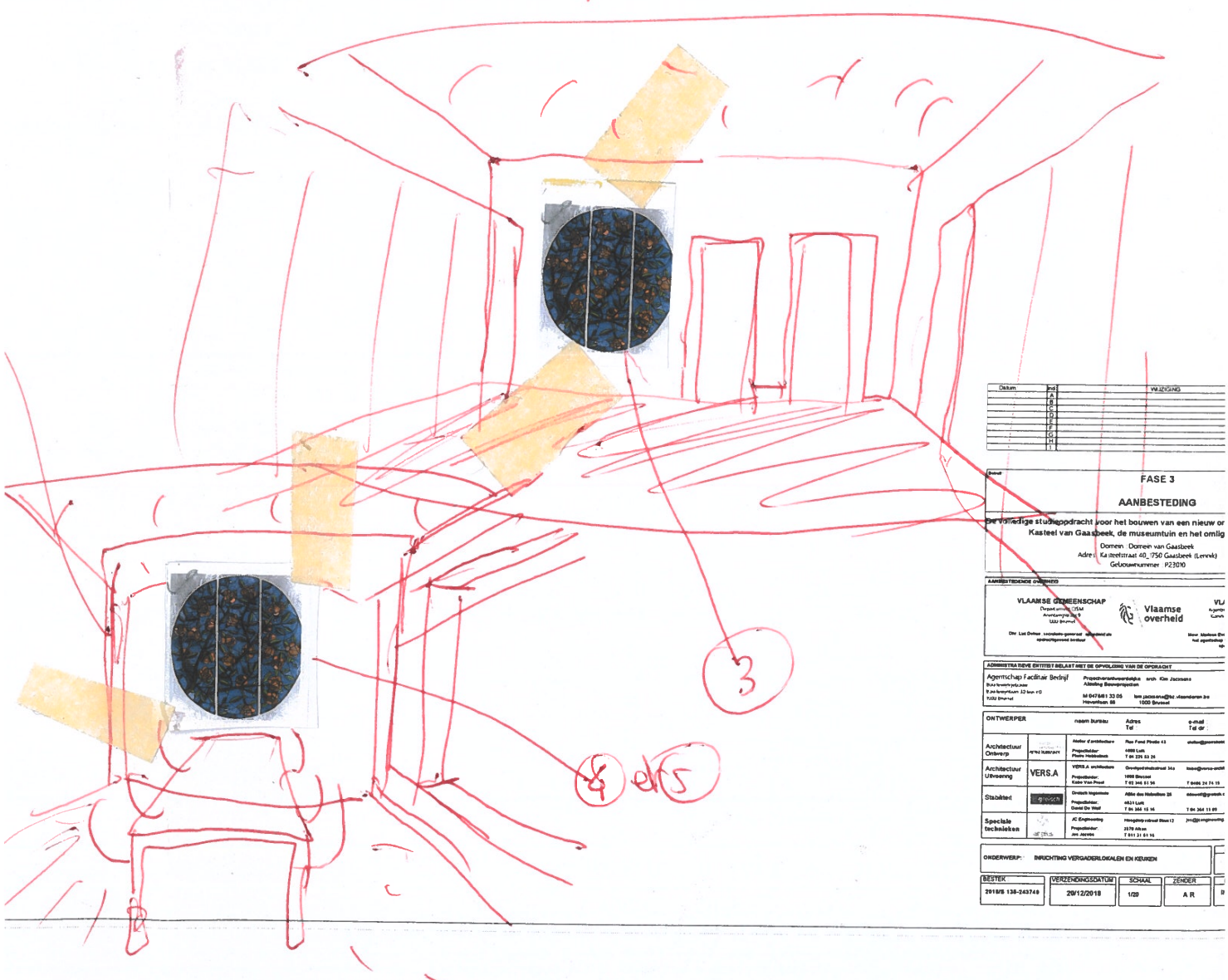
[Carved head, medieval stone]



[Test of placement of Medieval stone sculptures on wall / in garden (collage on pencil drawing)]



Coupe B.3 _ Ech: 1/20



Datum	Pos	VERZONDING
18		
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31		

FASE 3
AANBESTEDING

De volledige studieopdracht voor het bouwen van een nieuw of
Kasteel van Gaasbeek, de museumtuin en het omliggend
Domein - Domein van Gaasbeek
Adres: Kasteelstraat 40, 750 Gaasbeek (Levvel)
Gemeente: Leuven (22300)

AMBIENTE VERLENDE OVERHEID

VLAAMSE GEMEENSCHAP
Dienst Milieu
Kortrijksesteenweg 11
3000 Leuven

Vlaamse
overheid
VU
Lijzen
Lucht

Die Lief Dier - voor de natuur, voor de natuur
natuurlijk leefbaar

voor natuur die
het opbeleven
is

ADMINISTRATIEVE ENTITEIT BELAST MET DE OPVOLGING VAN DE OPDRACHT

Agentschap Facilitair Bedrijf
Bouwen en Wonen
Kortrijksesteenweg 12 box 10
1000 Brussel

Provinciebestuur Provincie Antwerpen
Kortrijksesteenweg 12
2000 Antwerpen

Agentschap Facilitair Bedrijf
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1000 Brussel

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ORDERWERP: INRICHTING VERGOERLIJKEN EN KEUREN

BESTEK	VERZENDINGSdatum	SCHAAL	ZENDER
2018/138-243743	20/12/2018	1/20	A R

[Test work in collective office (collage / bic on paper)]

F

HIDDEN IN A DISCRETE PLACE, CONVEYING A FORM OF INITIATION. THIS PRACTICE COMES FROM THE OBSERVATION OF THE ITALIAN CHURCHES OF THE XIITH CENTURY WHERE THE MASTER BUILDER OFFERED A STONE MODEL TO HIS CLIENT. IT IS ALSO INSPIRED BY THE POEMS MOULDED IN THE SUMERIAN BRICKS AND WHICH DISAPPEAR IN THE THICKNESS OF THE WALL.

PIERRE

HEBBELINCK

PLACES A MODEL

IN ALL OF HIS

PROJECTS



[Fabrication atelier Mellens et Dejardin].



[Detail]



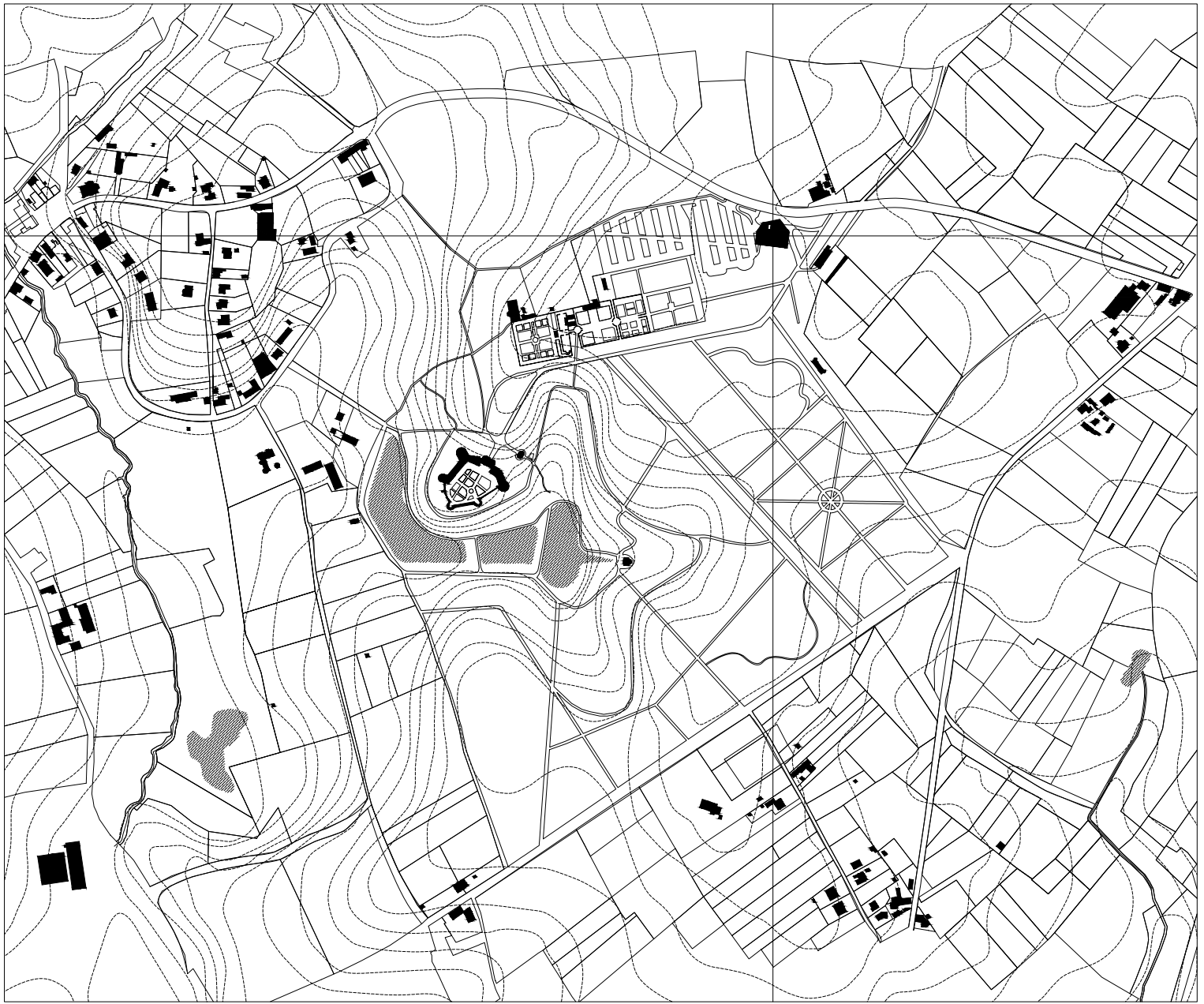
[View from below]



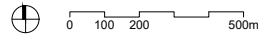
[Placement]

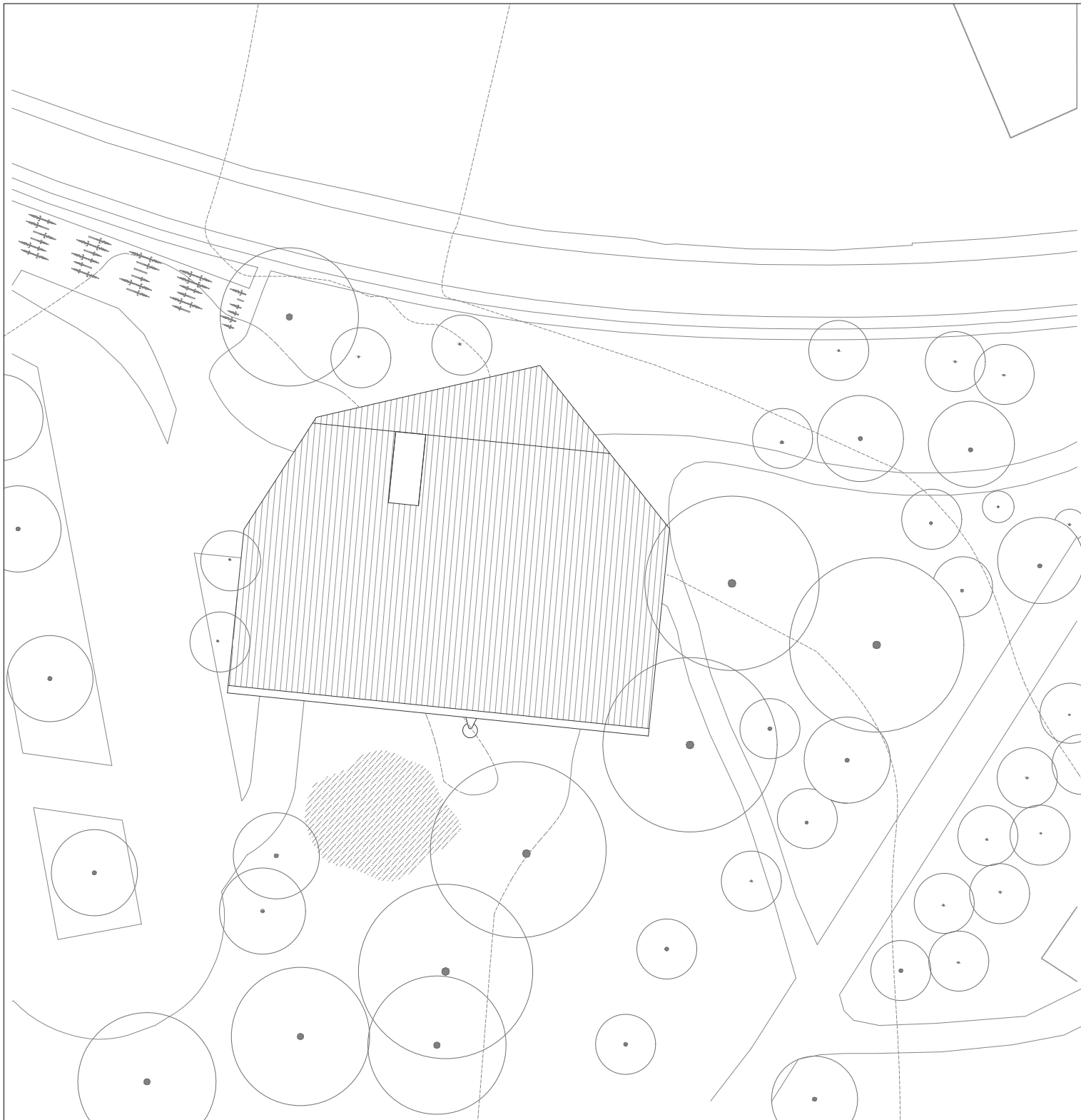
G

PLANS

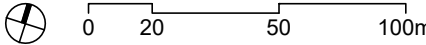


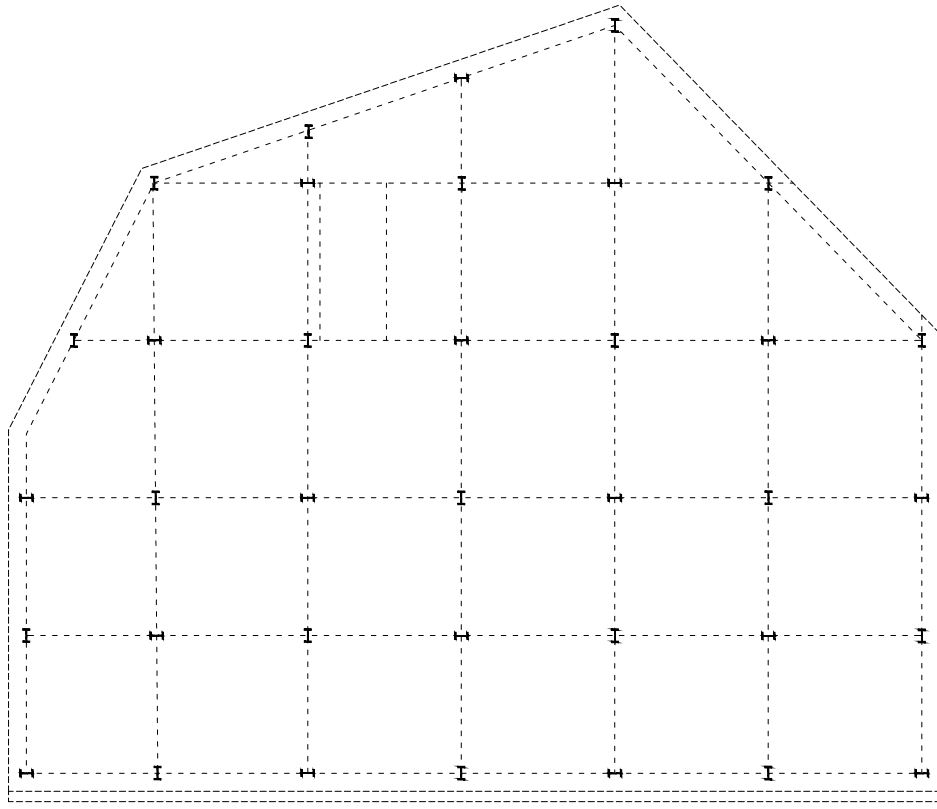
PLAN DE SITUATION



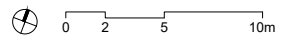


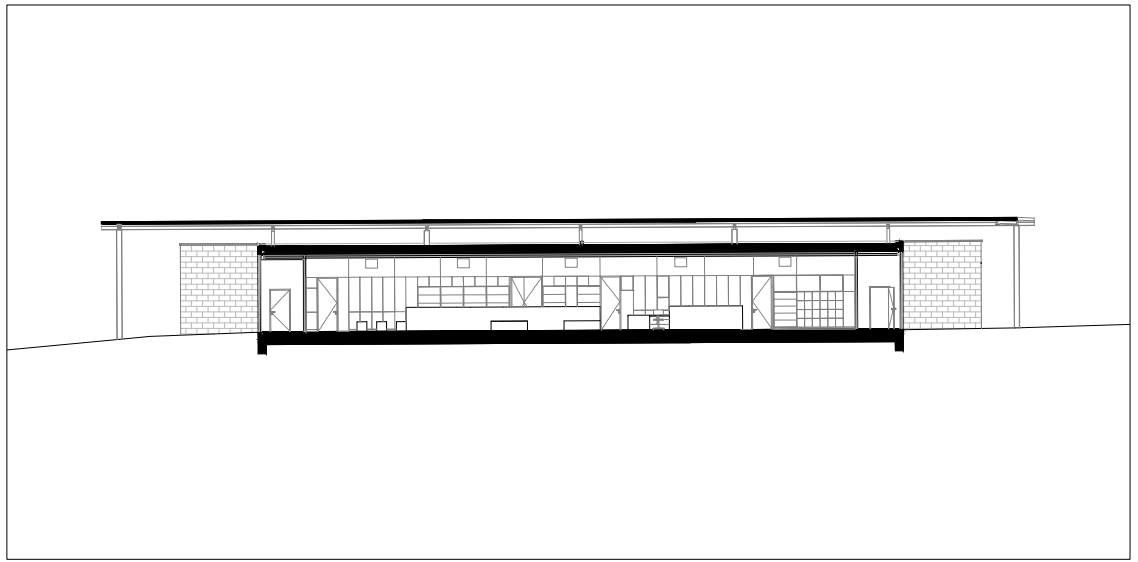
PLAN D'IMPLANTATION





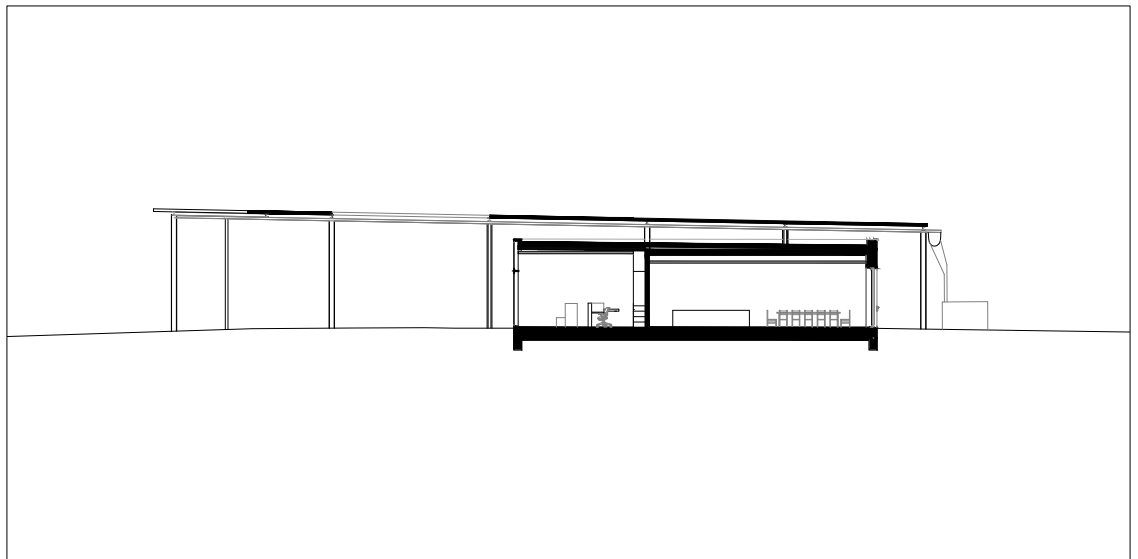
PLAN DE STRUCTURE





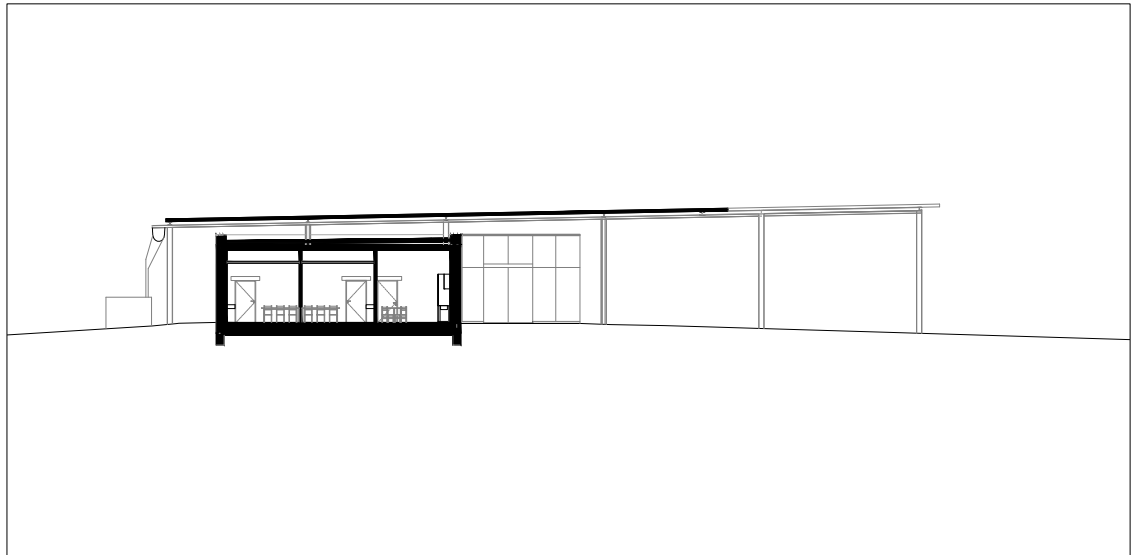
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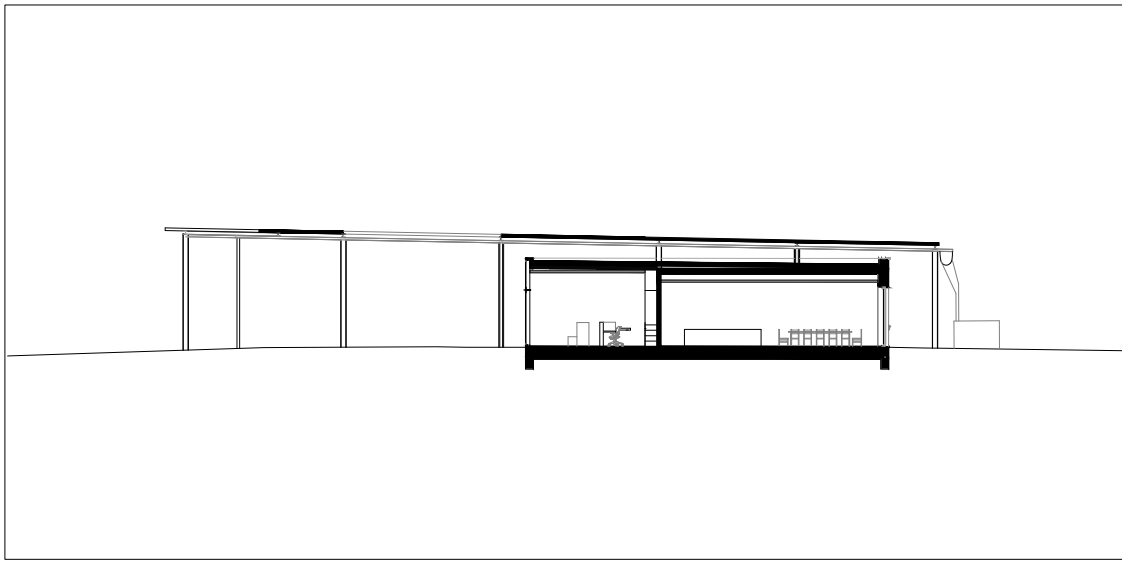
COUPE 02

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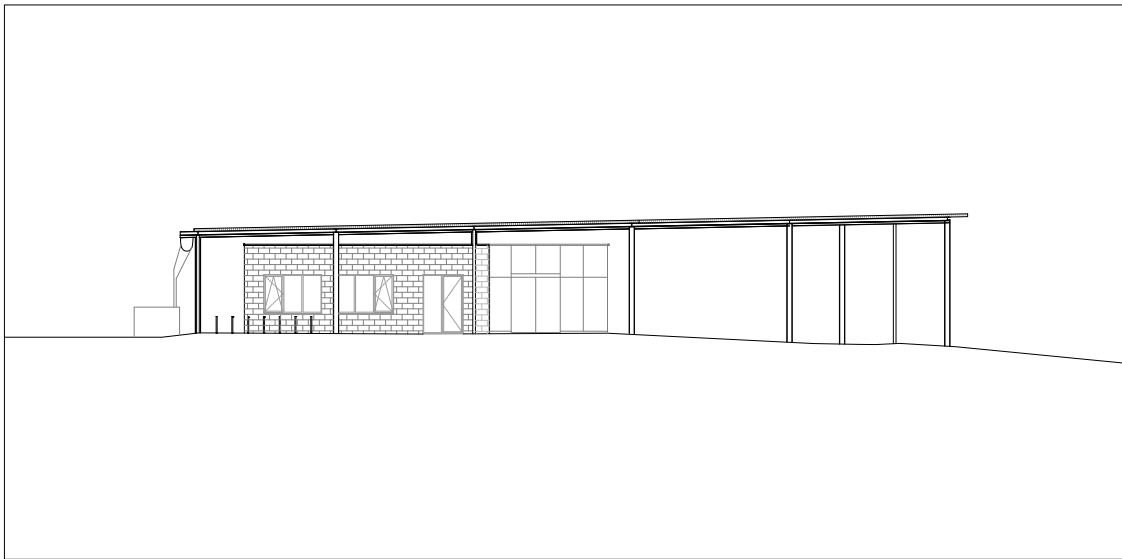
COUPE 03

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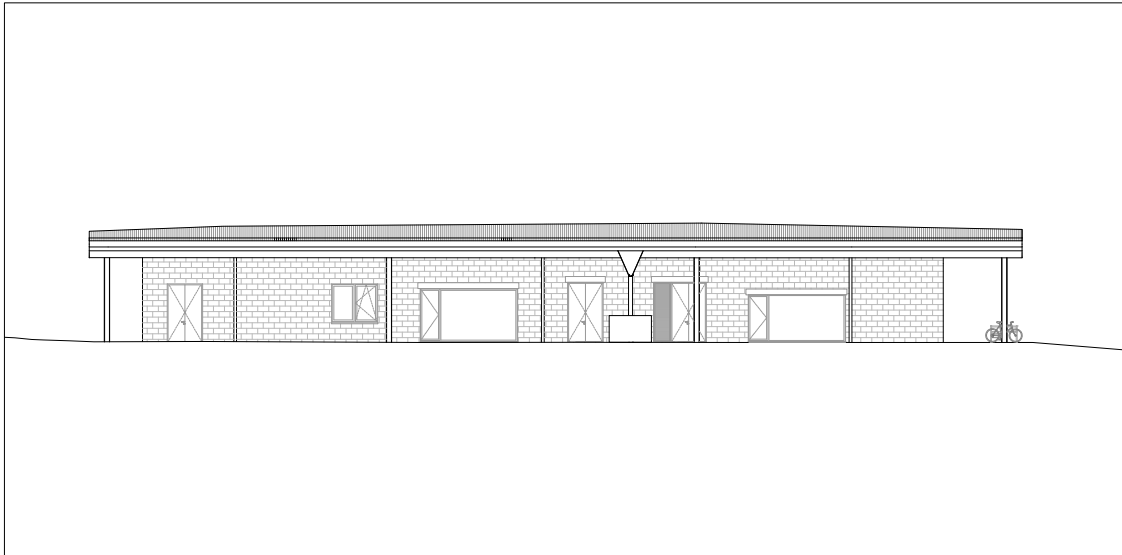
COUPE 04

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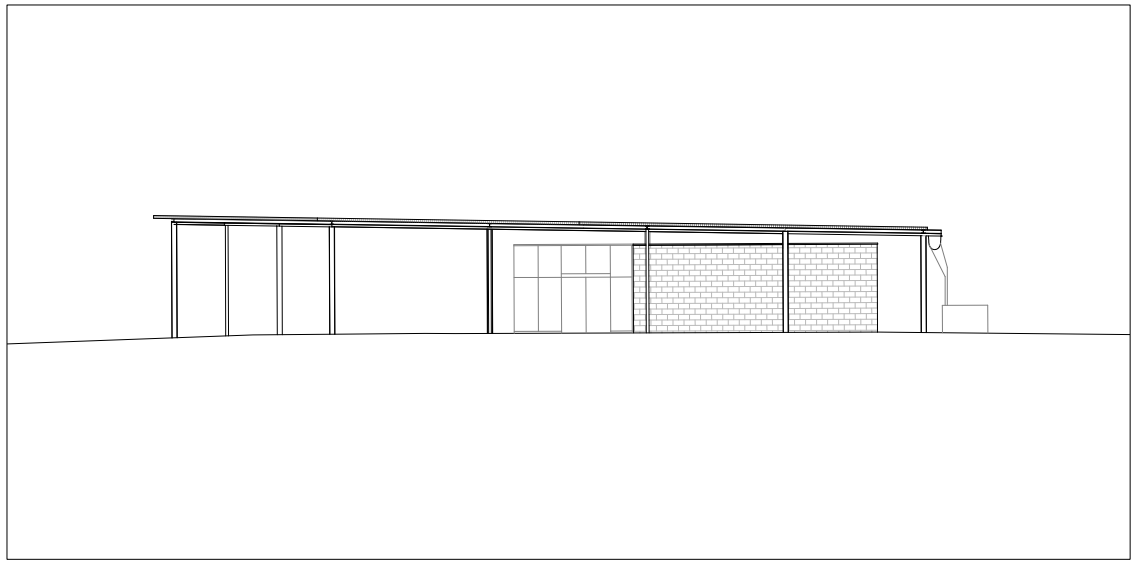
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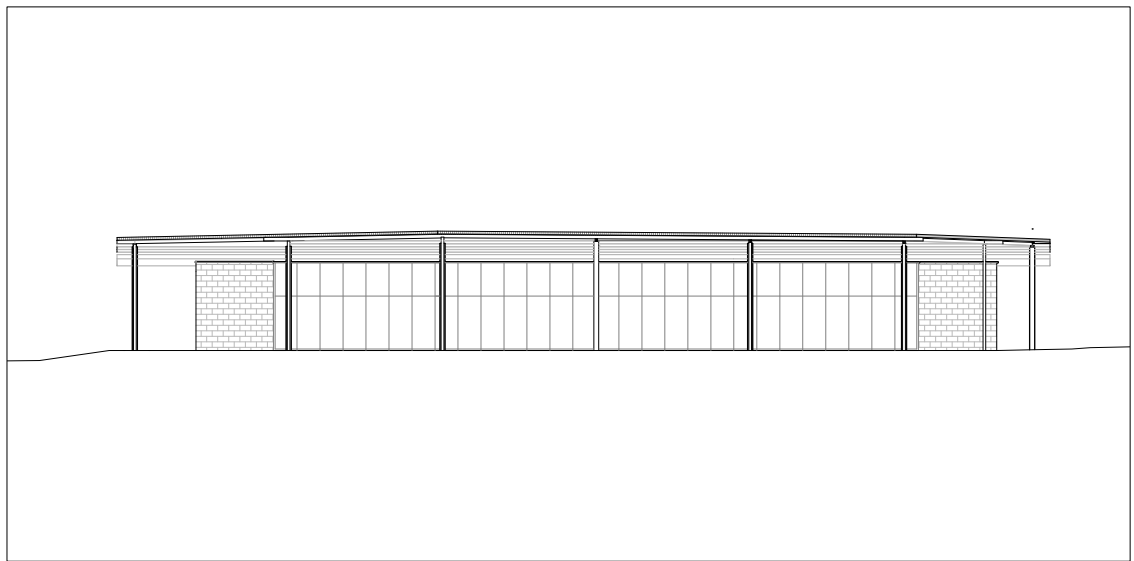
FAÇADE SUD

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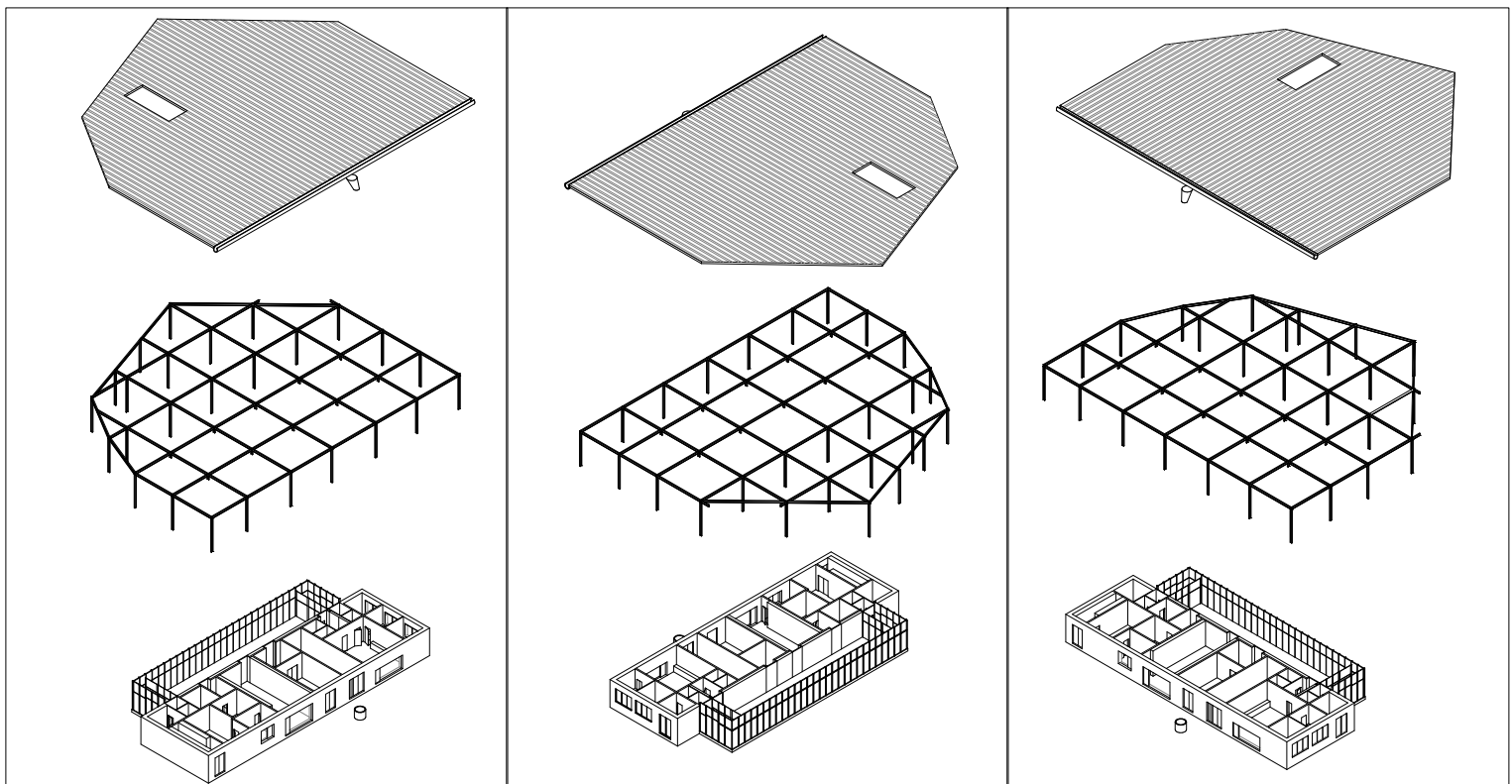
FAÇADE OUEST

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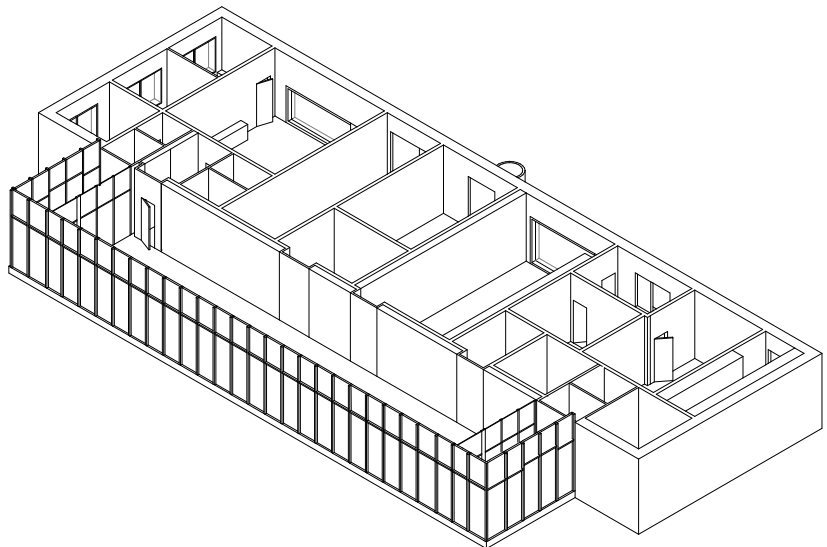
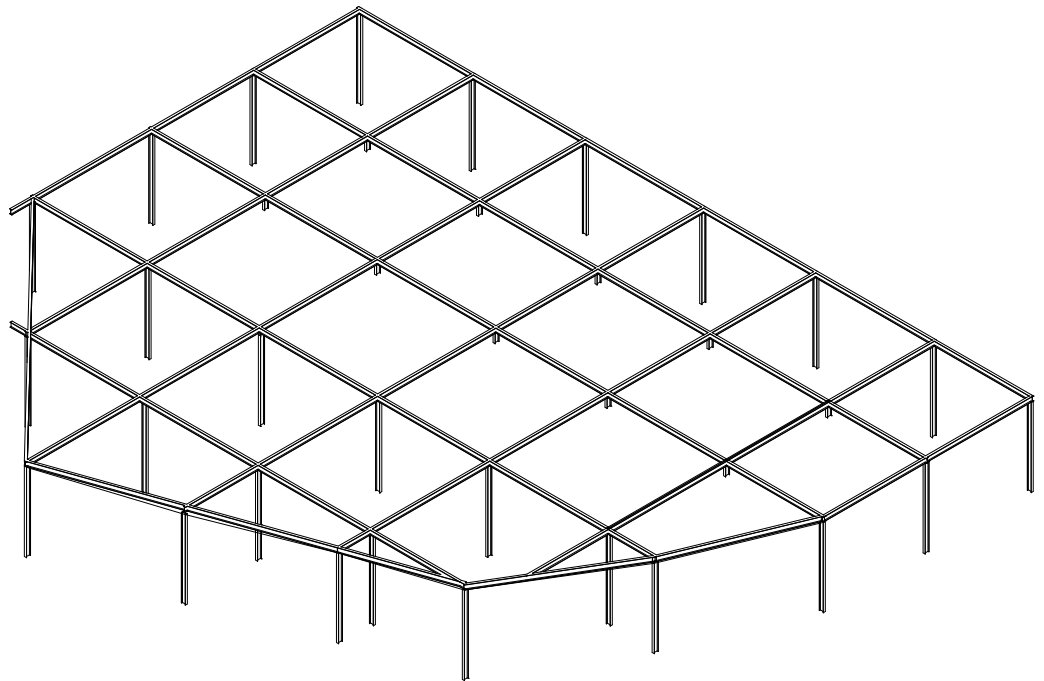
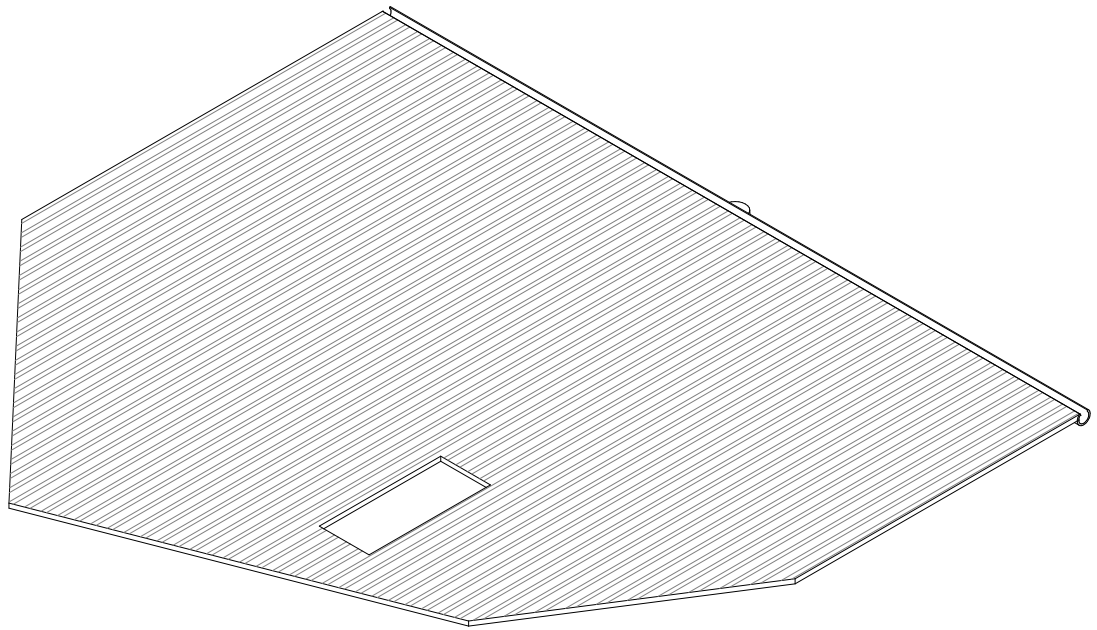


FAÇADE NORD

0 2 5 10m



[isometric views]



[Isometric view]

H

DETAILS



PHOTOGRAPHS
© FRANÇOIS BRIX



[Picture 1]



[Picture 2]



[Picture 3]



[Picture 4]



[Picture 5]



[Picture 6]



[Picture 7]



[Picture 8]



[Picture 9]



[Picture 10]



[Picture 11]



[Picture 12]



[Picture 13]



[Picture 14]



[Picture 15]



[Picture 16]



[Picture 17]



[Picture 18]



[Picture 19]



[Picture 20]



[Picture 21]