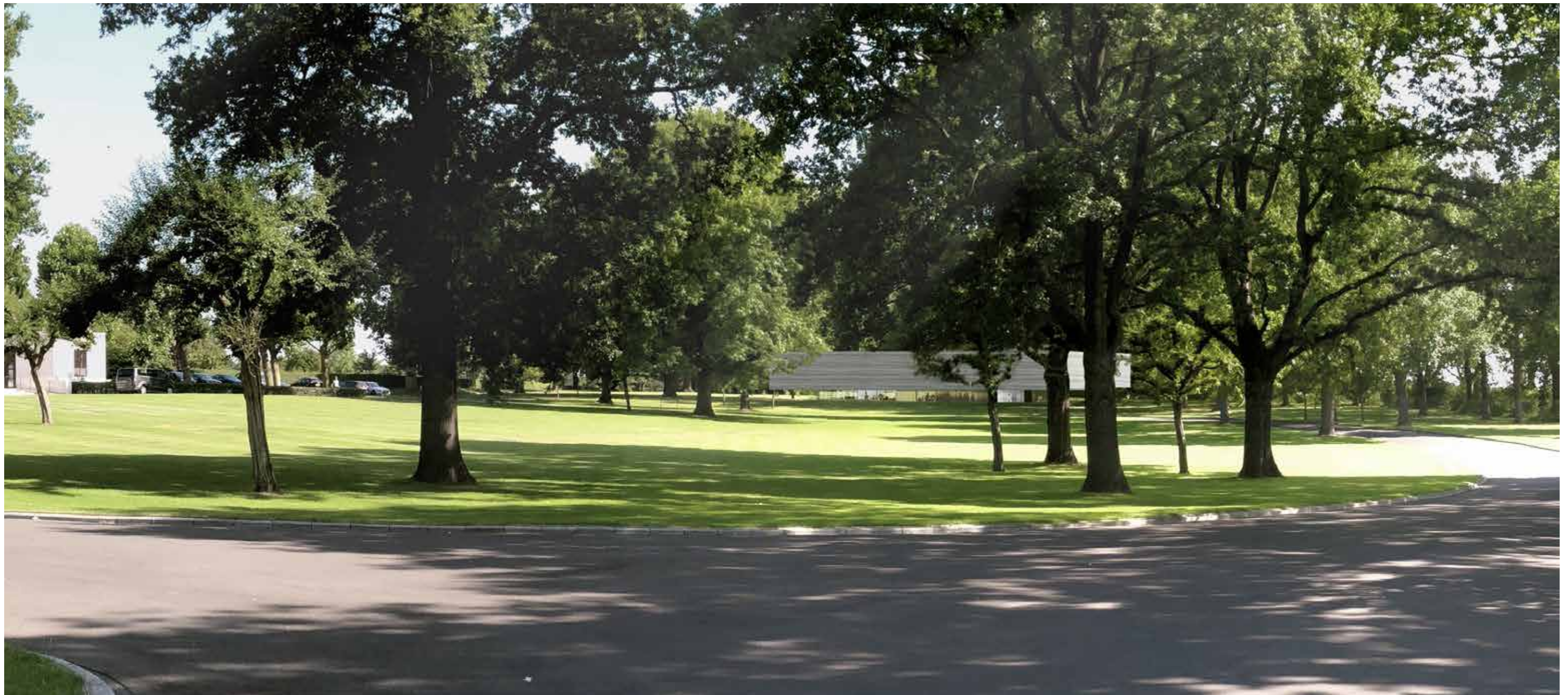
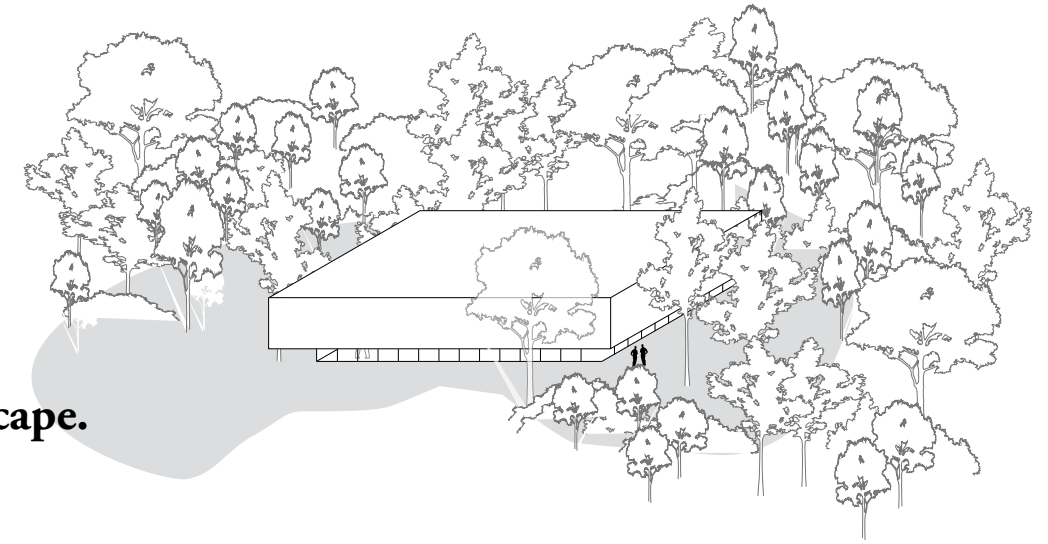


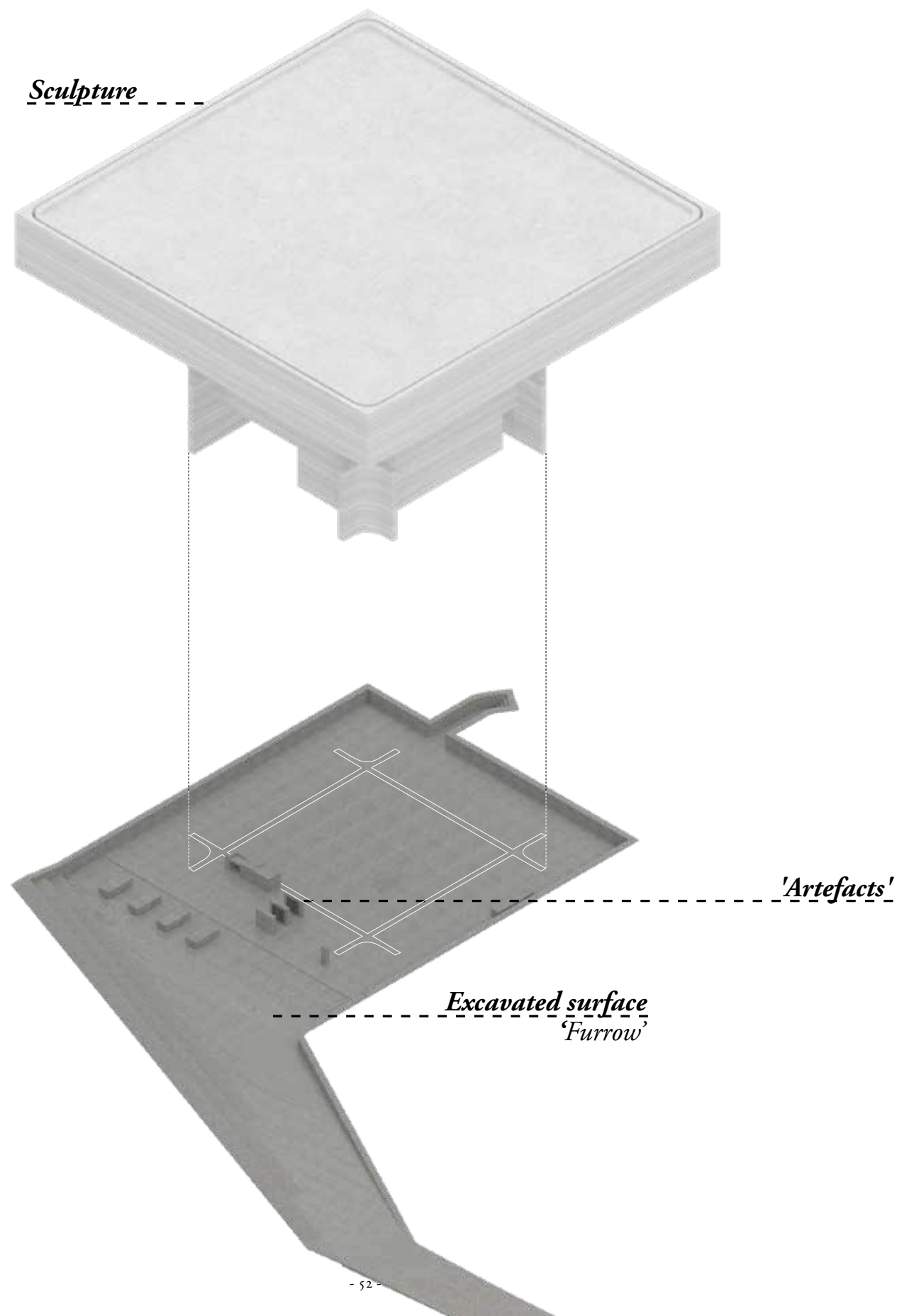
VISITOR CENTER
ARCHITECTURE

VISITOR CENTER ARCHITECTURE CONCEPT

- **Gently inserted** into the cemetery landscape, somewhat **in the background**.
- Located in **a place on its own**, hovering in between the tree canopies.
- Providing **shelter to the story** to be told, while visitors **keep the visual connection to the cemetery landscape**.



VISITOR CENTER
ARCHITECTURE
CONCEPT

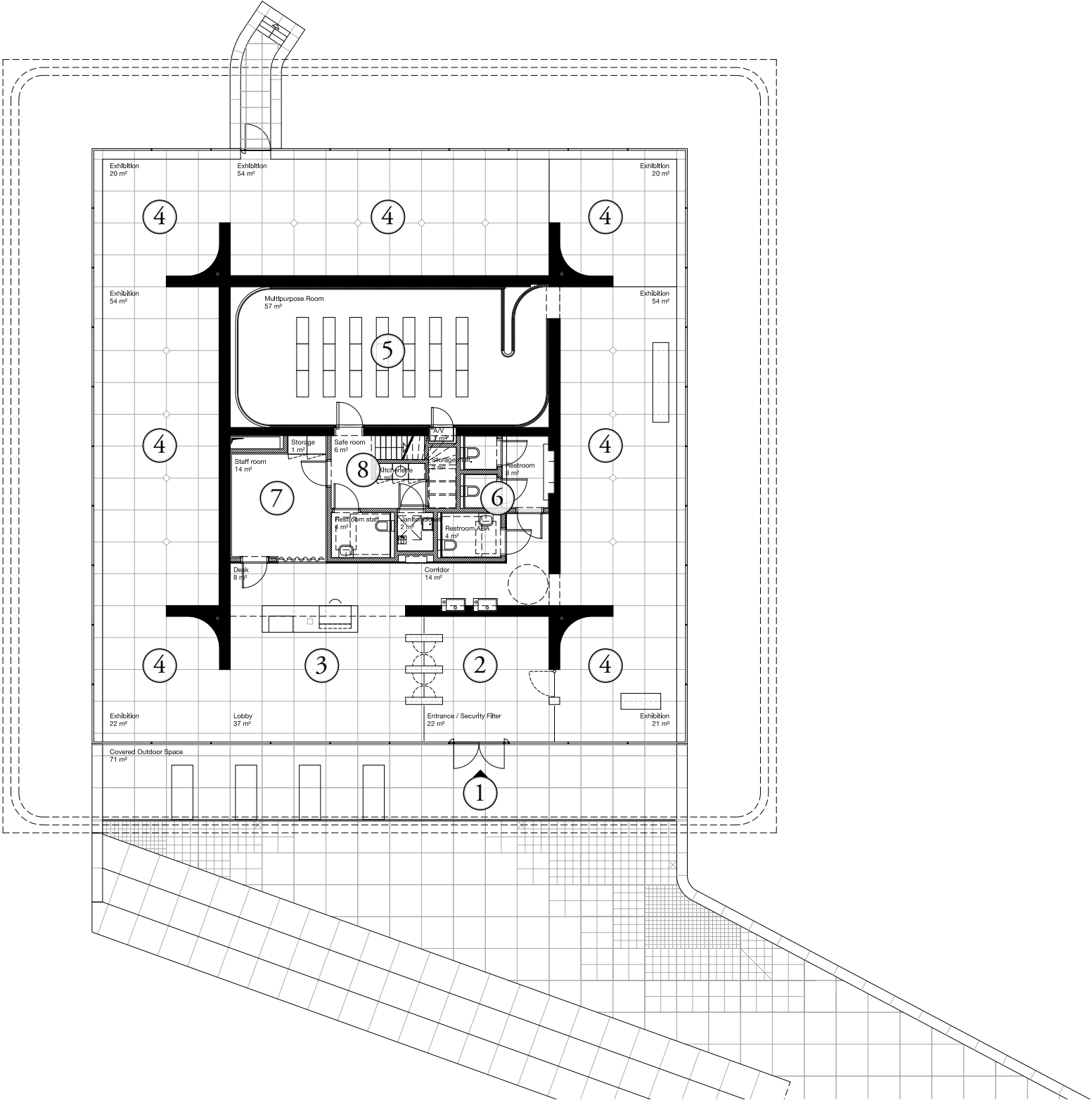


VISITOR CENTER

ARCHITECTURE

GROUND FLOOR PLAN

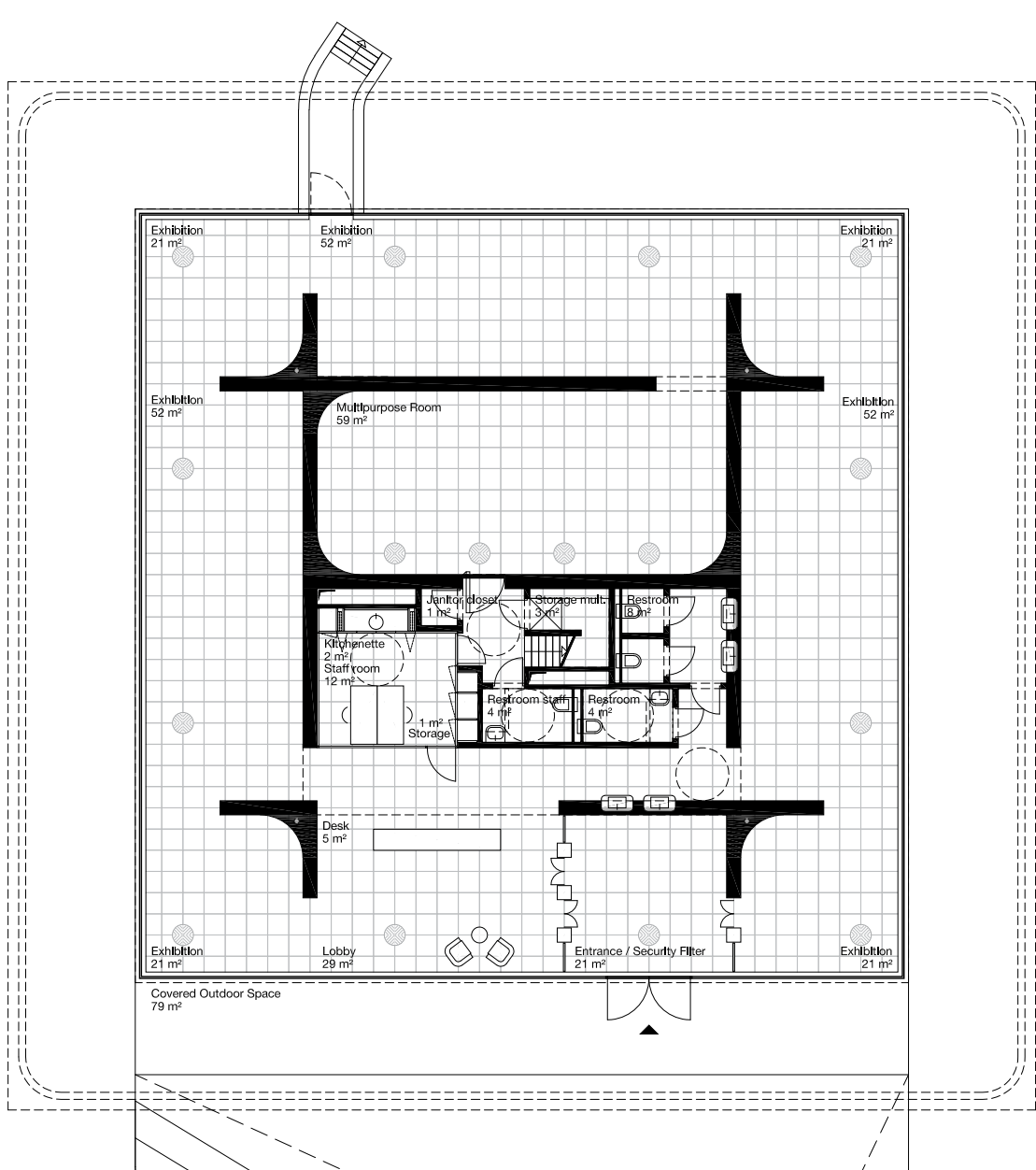
- Program**
- 1. Entry plaza
 - 2. Entrance / exit (security filter)
 - 3. Lobby
 - 4. Exhibition
 - 5. Multipurpose room
 - 6. Restrooms
 - 7. NEAC staff room
 - 8. Safe room



0 2 4 10
meter

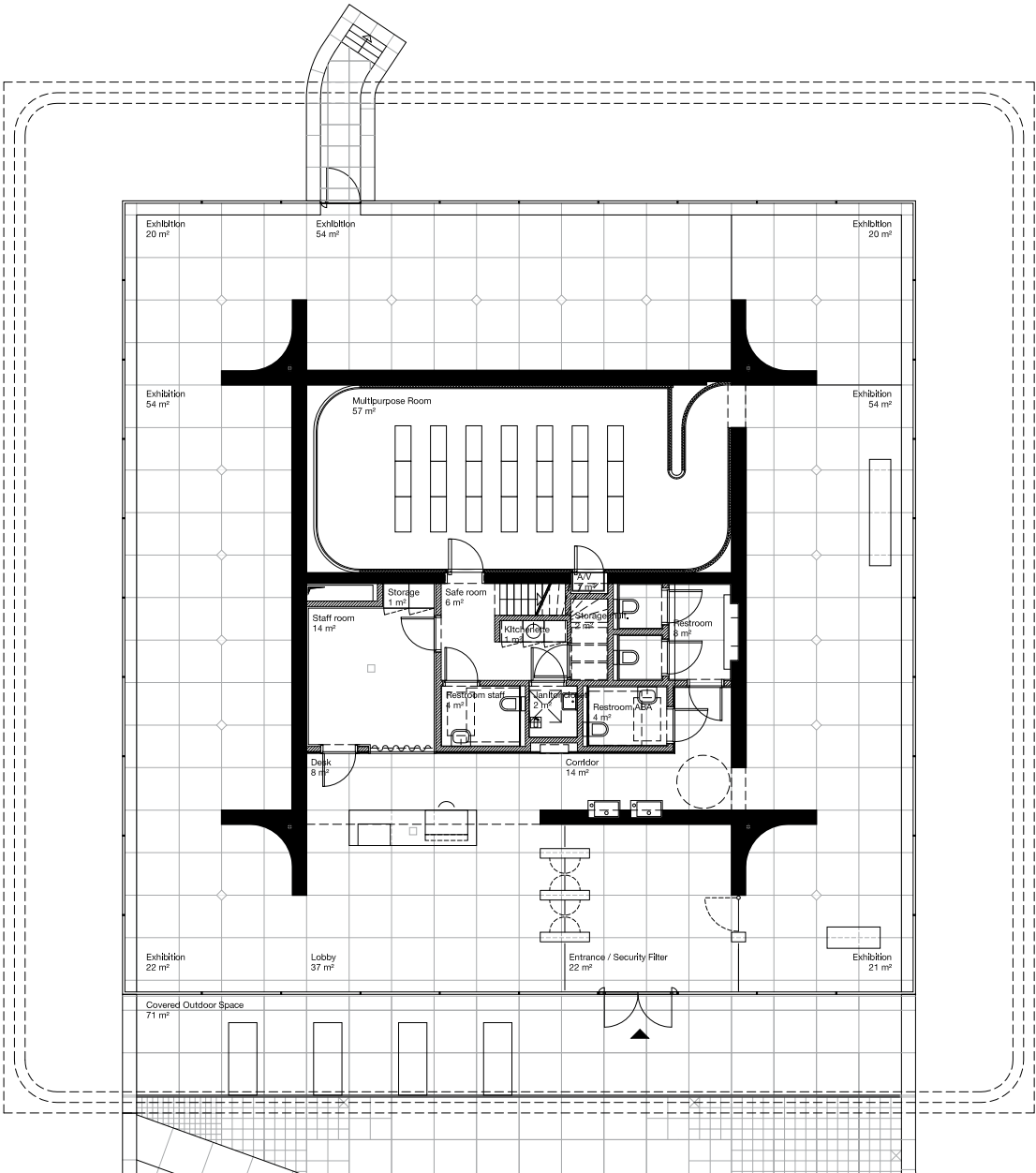
VISITOR CENTER
ARCHITECTURE
GROUND FLOOR PLAN - CHANGES

CONCEPT DESIGN / FINAL DESIGN



concept design

September 2019



final design

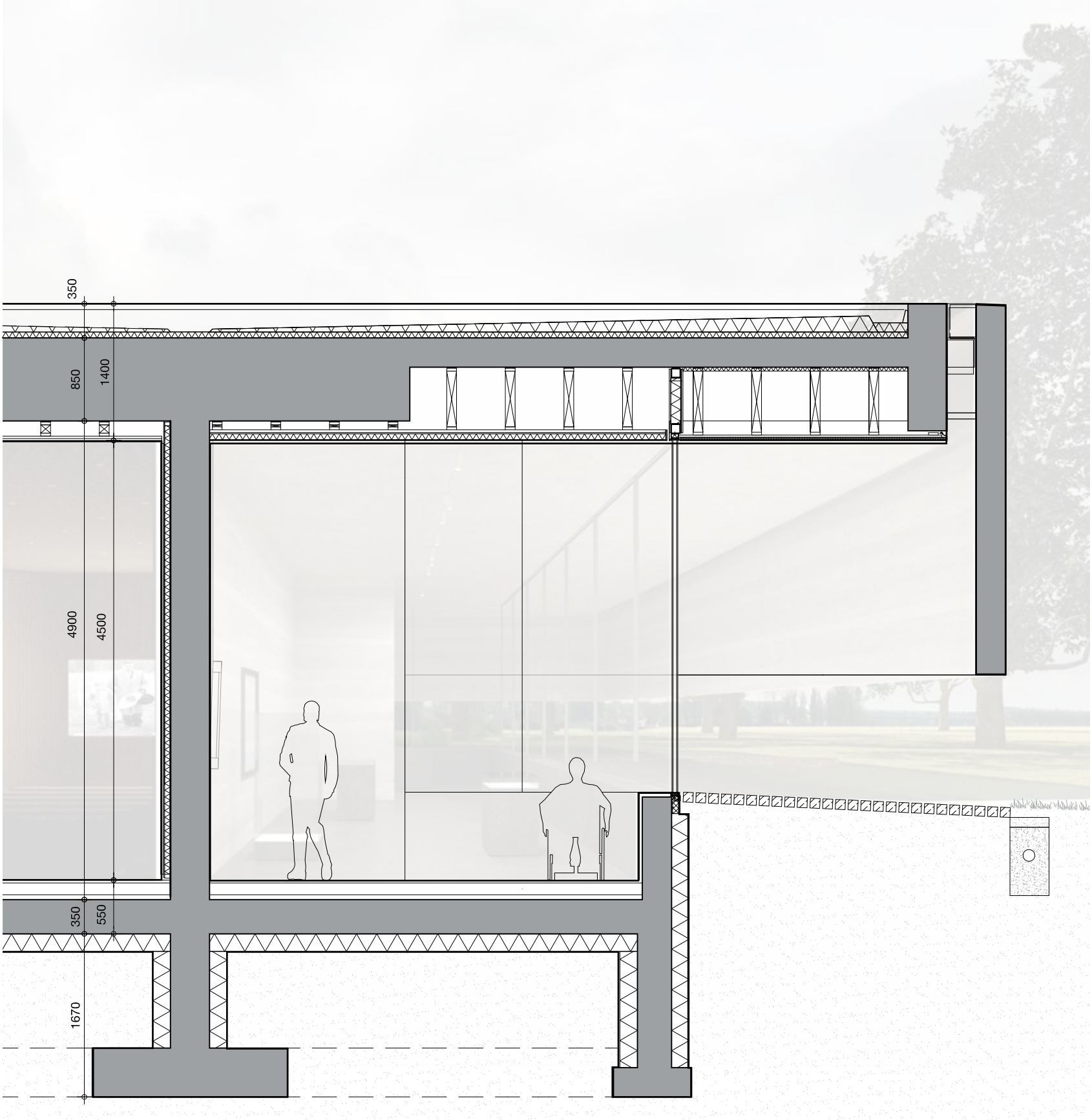
June 2020



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ARCHITECTURE
SECTION - PERSPECTIVE



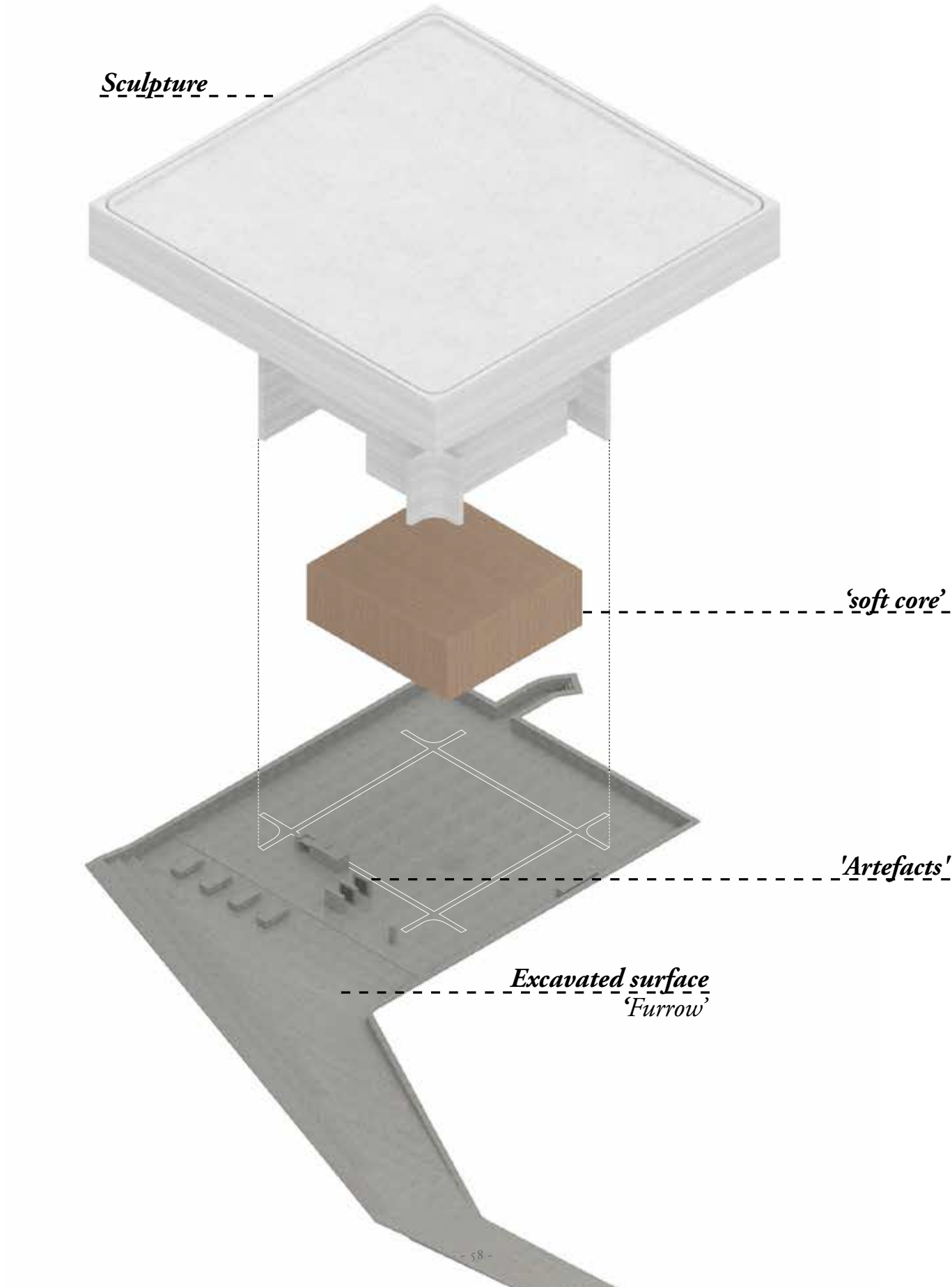
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SECTION - TECHNICAL



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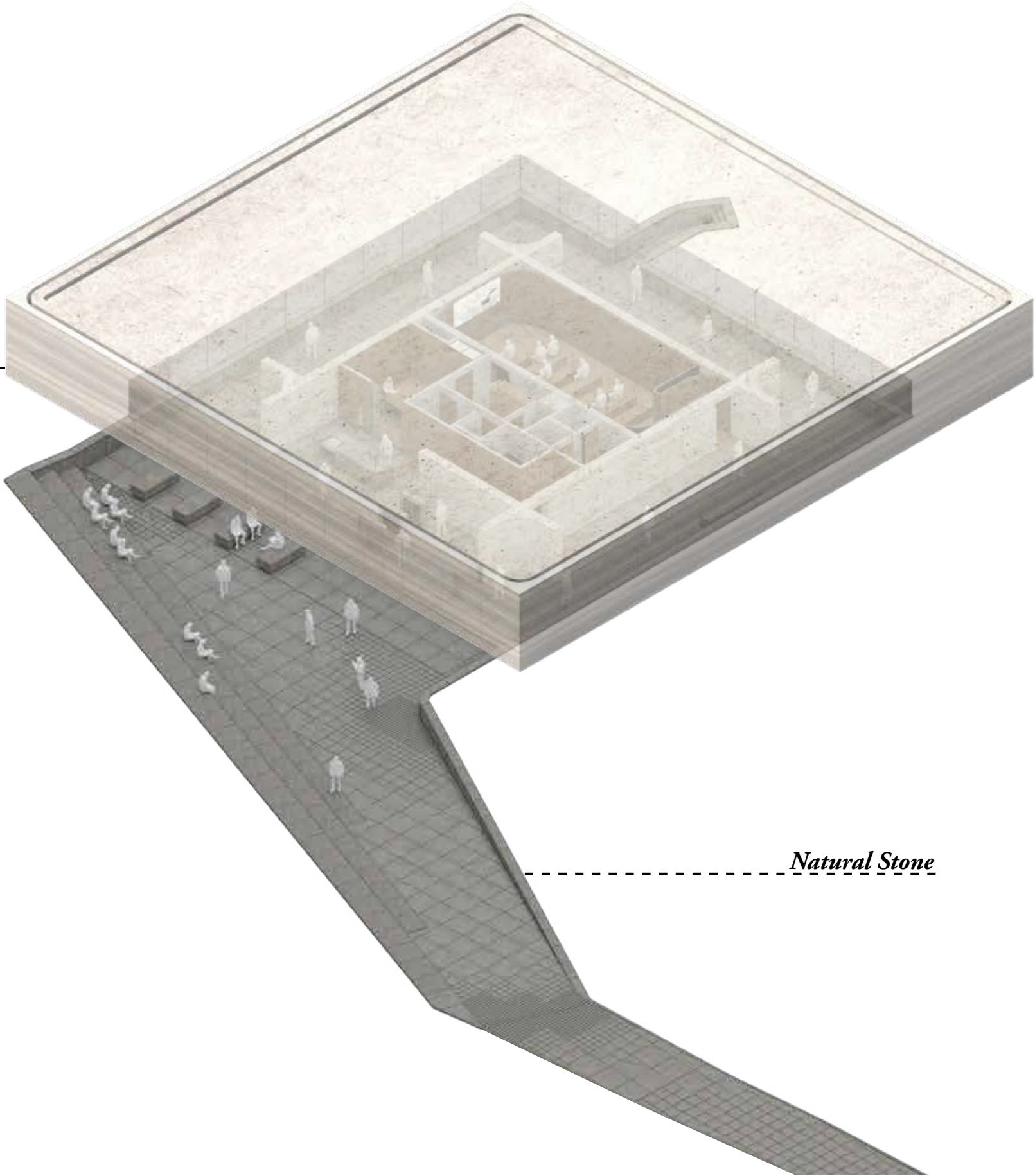
MATERIALS

VISITOR CENTER
MATERIALS
CONCEPT



VISITOR CENTER
MATERIALS
EXTERIOR

Aesthetic Layered Concrete



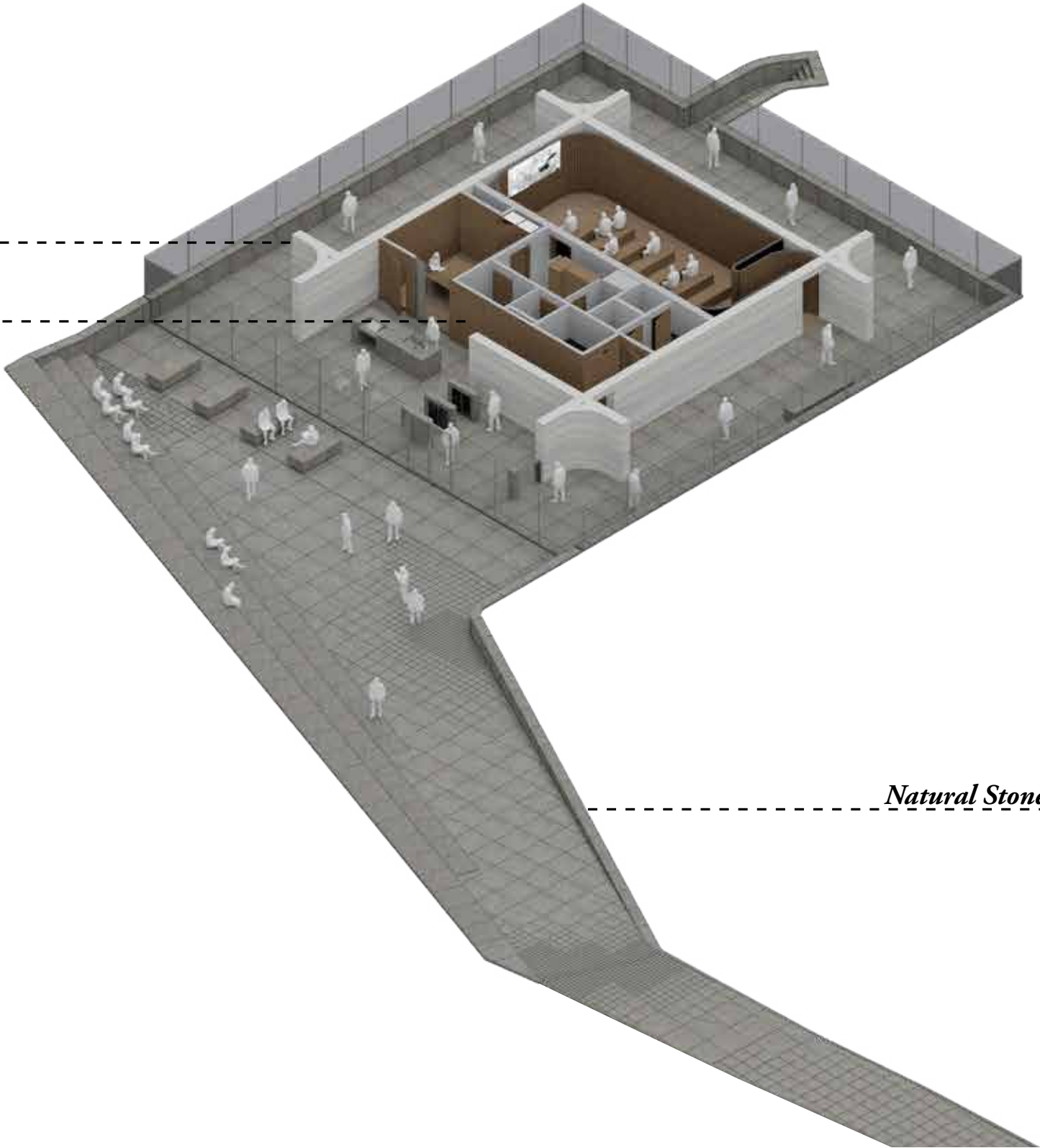
Natural Stone

VISITOR CENTER
MATERIALS
INTERIOR

Aesthetic Layered Concrete

Wooden Finish

Natural Stone



VISITOR CENTER
MATERIALS
FURROW & SCULPTURE

EXHIBITION SPACE



VISITOR CENTER
MATERIALS
FURROW & SCULPTURE

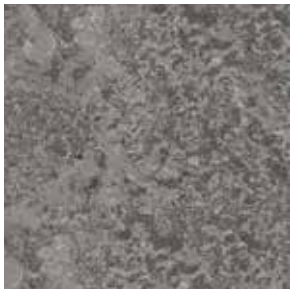


Figure 01 - Natural stone



Figure 02 - Layered concrete



Figure 03 - Acoustic plaster



Figure 04 - Track light

Furrow - The excavation reveals a natural stone floor. This lime stone, called Fossil Smoke, covers both interior and exterior spaces. It gives an appearance of rough exposed ground and is at the same time durable and easy to maintain. This dark lime stone complements the similar lighter type of stone used for the existing monument. Emerging from the floor, dark natural stone furniture and retaining walls appear as excavated archaeological remains. Info desk, security gates and benches are all made from or clad with the same natural stone.

Sculpture- The entire concrete load bearing core and exterior fascia are cast in-situ with layers of approximately 30 cm in height. Such method produces a distinct horizontal pattern as the separate layers dry individually. The suspended ceiling of the exhibition spaces and below the overhang is seamless with high acoustic values. It matches the appearance of the concrete and make one experience the interior bigger than its actual physical size.



VISITOR CENTER
MATERIALS
THE HEART

MULTIPURPOSE ROOM / THEATER SPACE



VISITOR CENTER
MATERIALS
THE HEART



Figure 05 - Walnut slats



Figure 06 - Walnut parquet

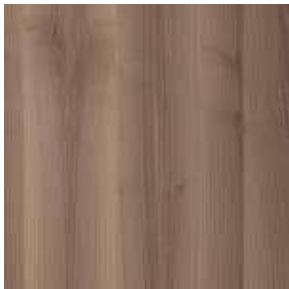


Figure 07 - Walnut panels

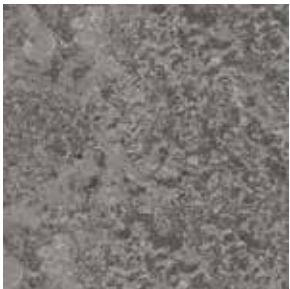


Figure 08 - Natural stone

The Heart

Heart - The interior representative spaces inside the concrete core are clad with **wooden panels** and **slats**, creating a comfortable atmosphere at the staffs workspace and the visitors multipurpose room (or: theater space).

The **wooden cladding** of the **interior spaces** within the heart of the building **enhance the warmth, quietness and calmness** of the architecture. Cabinets, kitchen appliance, doors, etc. are concealed behind or within the surface of the wooden panels. The wooden wall cladding serves also an acoustic purpose to enhances the comfort for both staff as the visitors while they stay within the heart of the building for a longer period of time, either for staff to work at their desks or for visitors spending time in the theater space experiencing the movie presented.



Figure 09 - ABMC staff work space



Figure 10 - ABMC staff kitchenette

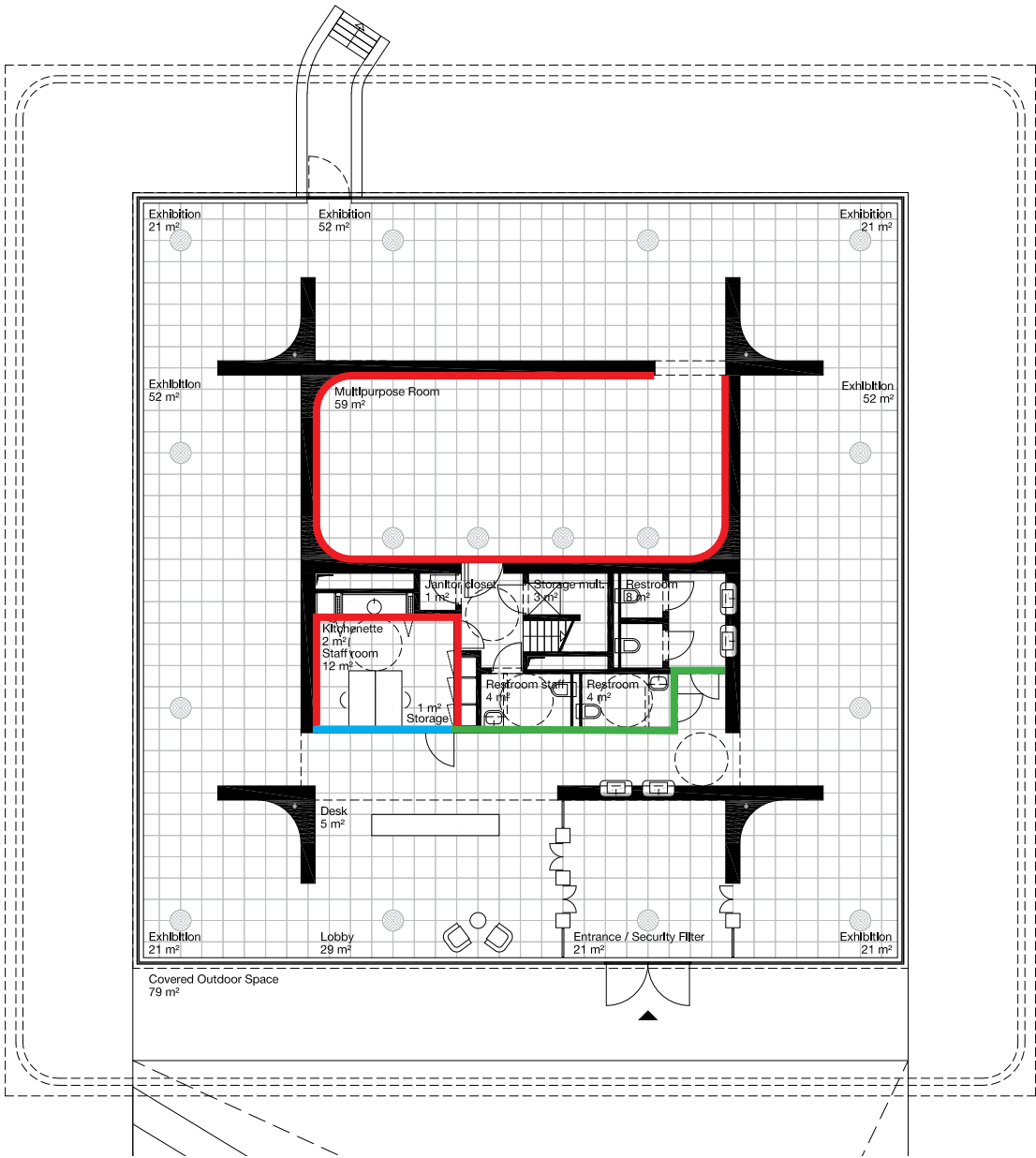
VISITOR CENTER

MATERIALS

GROUND FLOOR PLAN - CHANGES

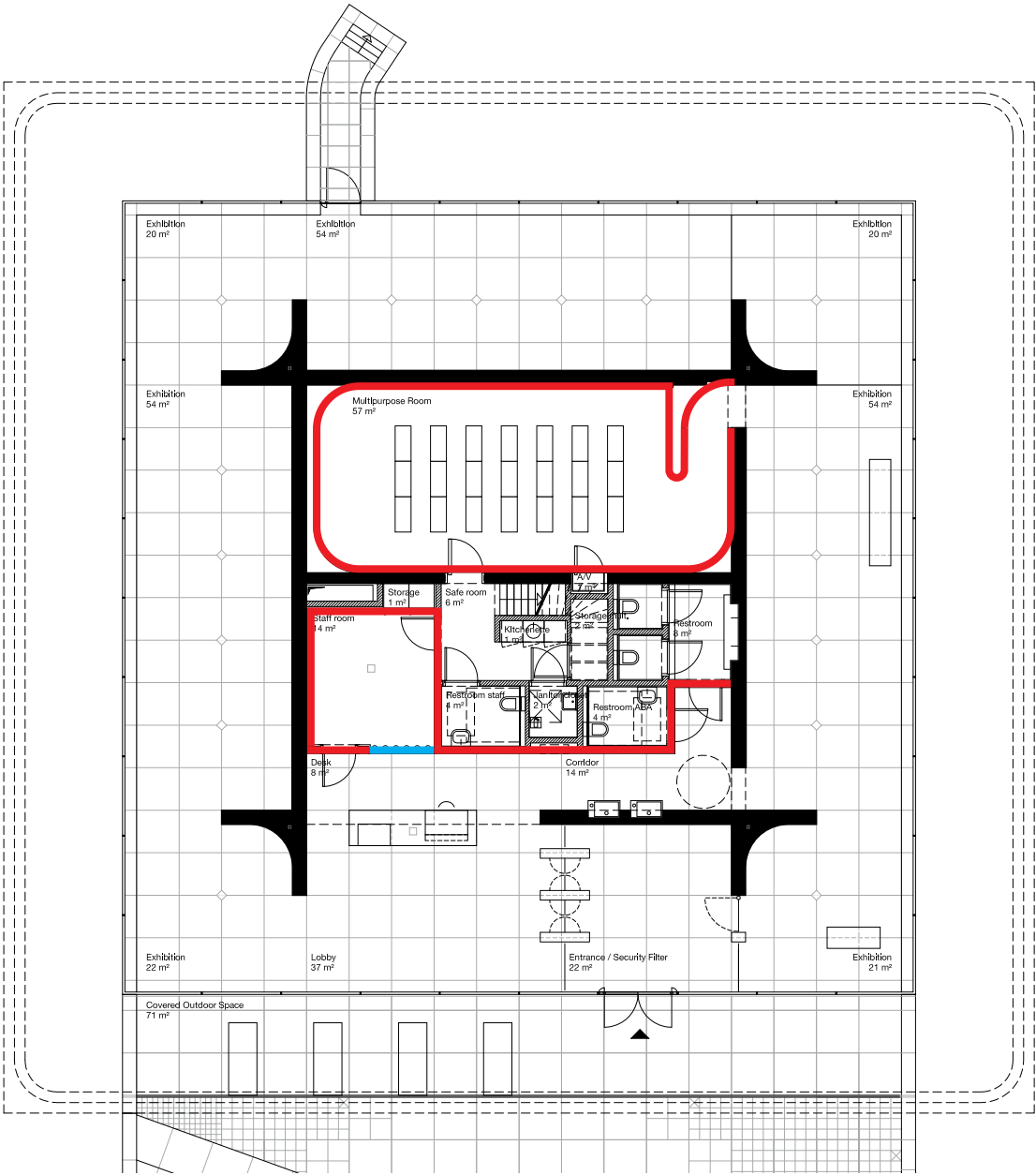
CONCEPT DESIGN / FINAL DESIGN

- wood
- layered concrete
- glass



concept design

September 2019



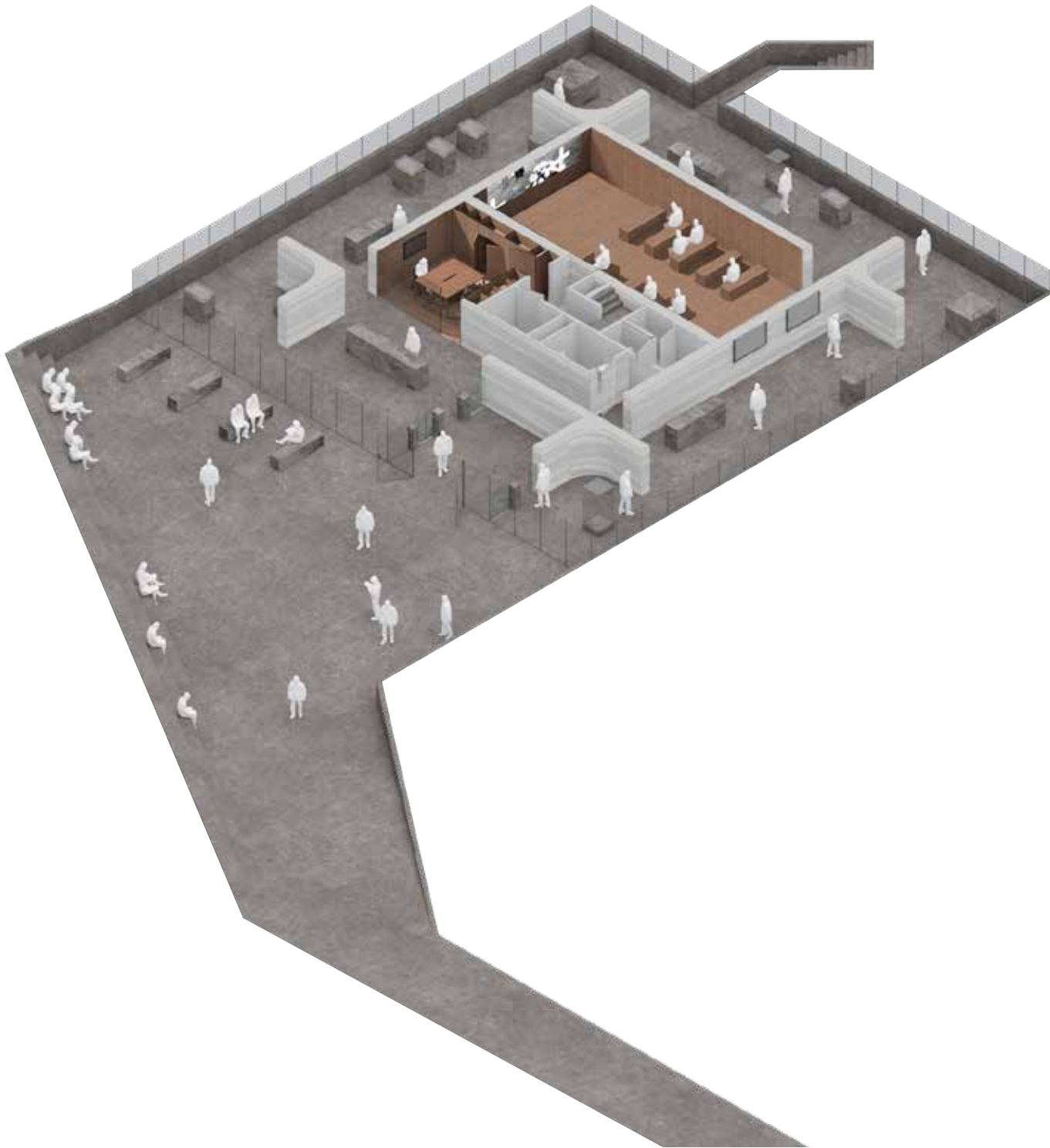
final design

June 2020

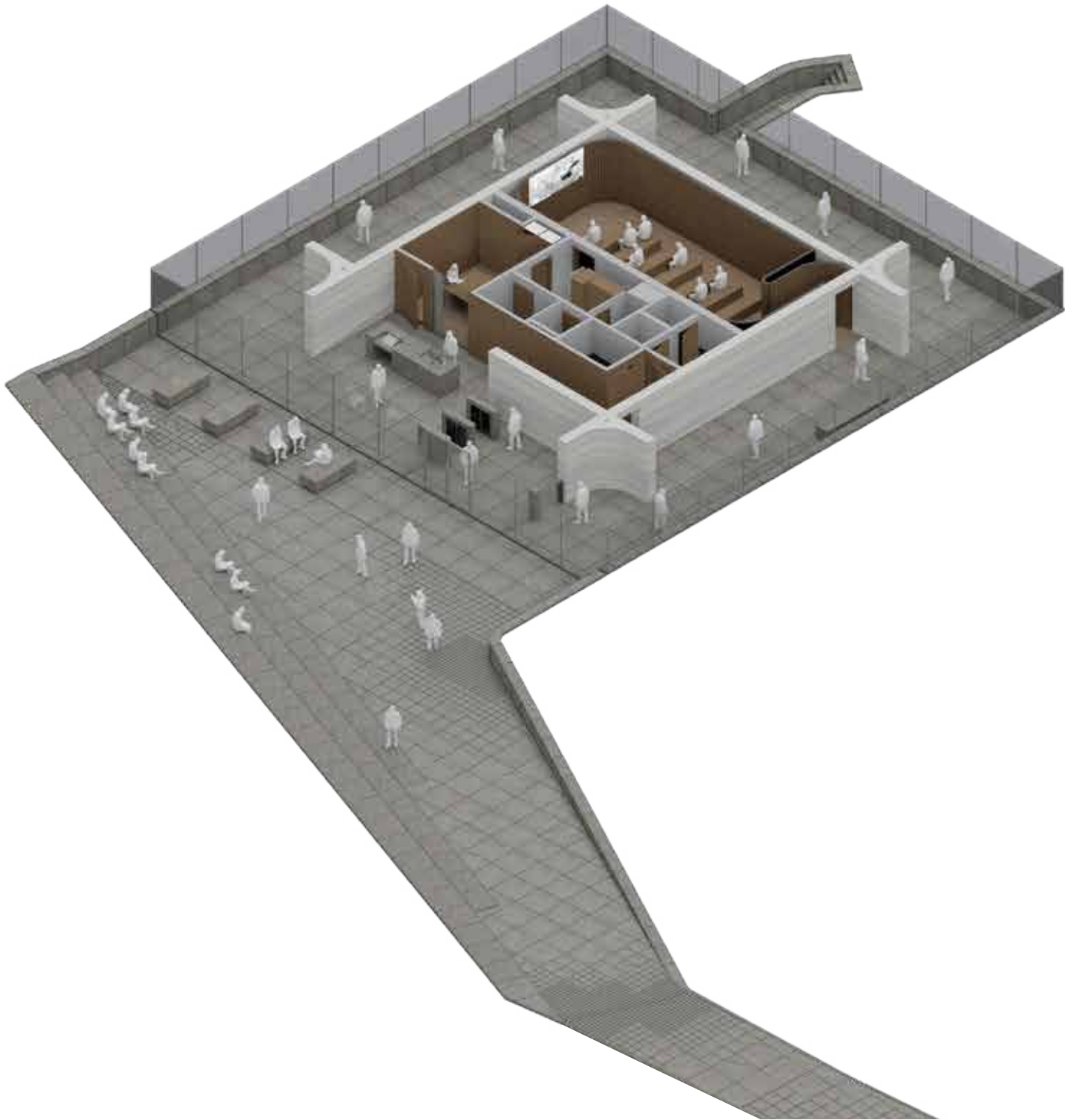


VISITOR CENTER
MATERIAL
AXONOMETRIC SCHEME - CHANGES

CONCEPT DESIGN / FINAL DESIGN



concept design - *September 2019*



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VISITOR CENTER
MATERIALS
CORE APPROACH - CHANGES

CONCEPT DESIGN / FINAL DESIGN

concept design

September 2019



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June 2020



VISITOR CENTER
MATERIAL
INFO DESK - CHANGES

CONCEPT DESIGN / FINAL DESIGN

concept design

September 2019



final design

June 2020







THANK YOU

dGm^R

hp engineers

Pieters
BOUWTECHNIEK

KARRES
BRANDS

KAAN Architecten

VISITOR CENTER
PHYSICAL MODEL

VISITOR CENTER
PHYSICAL MODEL

METRIC SCALE 1:200



VISITOR CENTER
MATERIAL NARRATIVE

VISITOR CENTER

MATERIAL NARRATIVE

AESTETIC LAYERED CONCRETE

Concrete Narrative

*“The architecture of the VC shall be as quiet as possible, expressing neither bravado, nor aggressive forms and materials.
It is the aim of the project to perceive*

the Visitor Center as an accessory building within a completed work of civic art.

The presence of the VC is be designed to blend as a background intrusion. In some instances, the original materials, forms and massing will provide the design vocabulary with which the VC must evolve and be visually compatible. In other instances,

the Visitor Center is best designed to not mimic the existing architecture of the cemetery, allowing the original monument to have eminence.”

As stated above, the design intentions of the NEAC Visotor Center - including the materials - comply to the thoughts of the Visitor Center that serves as an accessory building to an already completed piece of art. In order to not make the architectural additions to the site mimic the existing architectural features of the cemetery, the opportunity arises to use a maybe less conventional, but still appropriate material. The use of another material - other than natural stone - allows the new building to show humbleness and dignity to the existing monument, both in architectural as in landscape respect. For the appearance of the facade structure of the building, the use of a material other than stone will complement the existing architectural features instead of competing with the main features of the cemetery.

The intention of the architectural design and appearance of the building is to not drag too much attention from the main features of the cemetery, without making the new building unnoticed. More so, the VC should have an inviting character that provokes curiosity to the story told inside. The monolith shape and appearance of the ‘accessory building’ give it a strong emergence. To not break the monolithic appearance, seams must be avoided. An aesthetic monolith structure will be achieved by the use of concrete. A soft touch to a material that is conventionally considered more brutal can be found in a special way of how the concrete will be applied. Therefor the use of aesthetic layered concrete is proposed. In order to achieve a delicate and refined appearance of the concrete structure, real craftsmanship is required for this special way of constructing concrete walls and slabs.

Layered Concrete - Layered (or tamped) concrete is one of the oldest concrete types, using non-reinforced concrete based on natural stone and cement, which is compacted by pressure surges. Until the second half of the 19th century, the material was used for the construction of large foundations and bridge pillars due to its durability and compressive strength. When the era of reinforced concrete began at the beginning of the 20th century, tamped concrete fell into oblivion. For some years now, aesthetic layered concrete experiences a kind of renaissance because this way of concreting and compacting layer by layer enables a special and more ‘soft’ aesthetics. The raw material chalk forms the main ingredient of the cement that is used in the mixture of the concrete. This raw material finds its origin in the area of Margraten within the Limburg province. The area is well known for the extraction of chalk, or better known as ‘Marl’.

Limburg Marl Quarries - More than two thousand years ago, this area was already used by the Romans to extract marl. Ever since then, underground limestone extraction and surface mining (or open-pit mining) has taken place in so-called “marl quarries” in the area around Maastricht. Many Maastricht churches and other buildings are built with “marl” from the Sint-Pietersberg. The ‘famous’ ENCI quarry is a limestone quarry on the Maas (river Meuse) side of the Sint-Pietersberg (part of the Plateau van Caestert that lays next to the Margraten Plateau) in the Dutch municipality of Maastricht. Open-pit mining of limestone (“marl”) started here in 1926 with the founding of the First Dutch Cement Industry (ENCI). Limestone is an important raw material for the production of cement. Maastricht cement was used in roughly a quarter of everything that was built in the Netherlands during the reconstruction after WWII. During the war, much infrastructure such as bridges, roads and railways was destroyed. Houses, factories and buildings were also destroyed or damaged. The Netherlands was rebuilt by an association of forces and available help from the Marshall Plan, among others. The reconstruction took place roughly between 1940 and 1958.

The marl extraction in the Sint-Pietersberg has left deep marks in the landscape. Limestone cliffs and deep abysses - from the highest point the quarry is 95 meters deep - form a spectacular and typical un-Dutch landscape here. The different layers of the earth in the grooves takes one back in time, with the final destination being the Maas-trichtian. In this chalk layer of 72 million years ago, the remains of the Mosasaurias were found.

Recently, and mostly because of sustainability-based reasons (in order to maintain the St. Pietersberg, save the Plateau and to not pollute the Maas), the marl extraction has been brought to an end. Nowadays the former marl quarry has been christened a natural monument and is used as a public nature and walking area.

Material Concept - Since limestone is added as raw material for the production of concrete, the use of the aesthetic layered concrete for as well the exterior as the interior appearance of the Visitor Center provides a direct relation / connection to the area where the VC is to be build. Thereby, the layers of the **aesthetic layered concrete** refer metaphorically to the layers of the Limburg marl quarries (as shown in figure 25). It visually relates to the typical Limburger landscape and quarry features of which the (local) people are so familiar with.

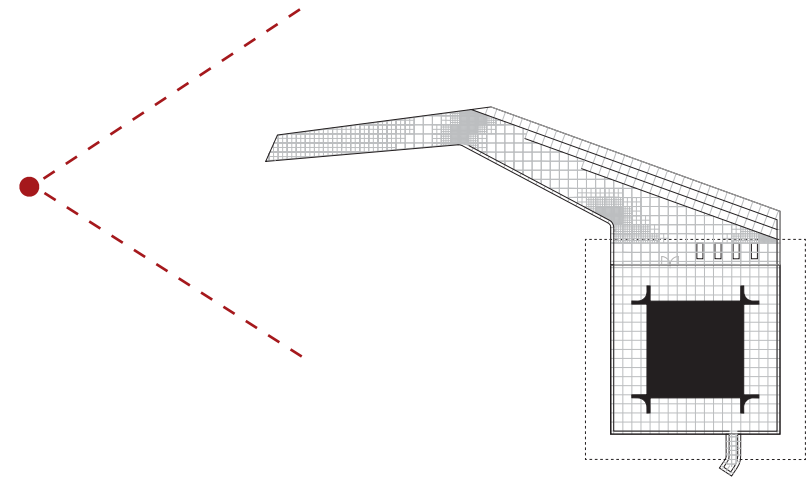


Figure 11 - Typical (former) Limburg Marl Quarry

VISITOR CENTER

WAY-FINDING

VISITOR CENTER
WAY-FINDING
SITE SIGNAGE

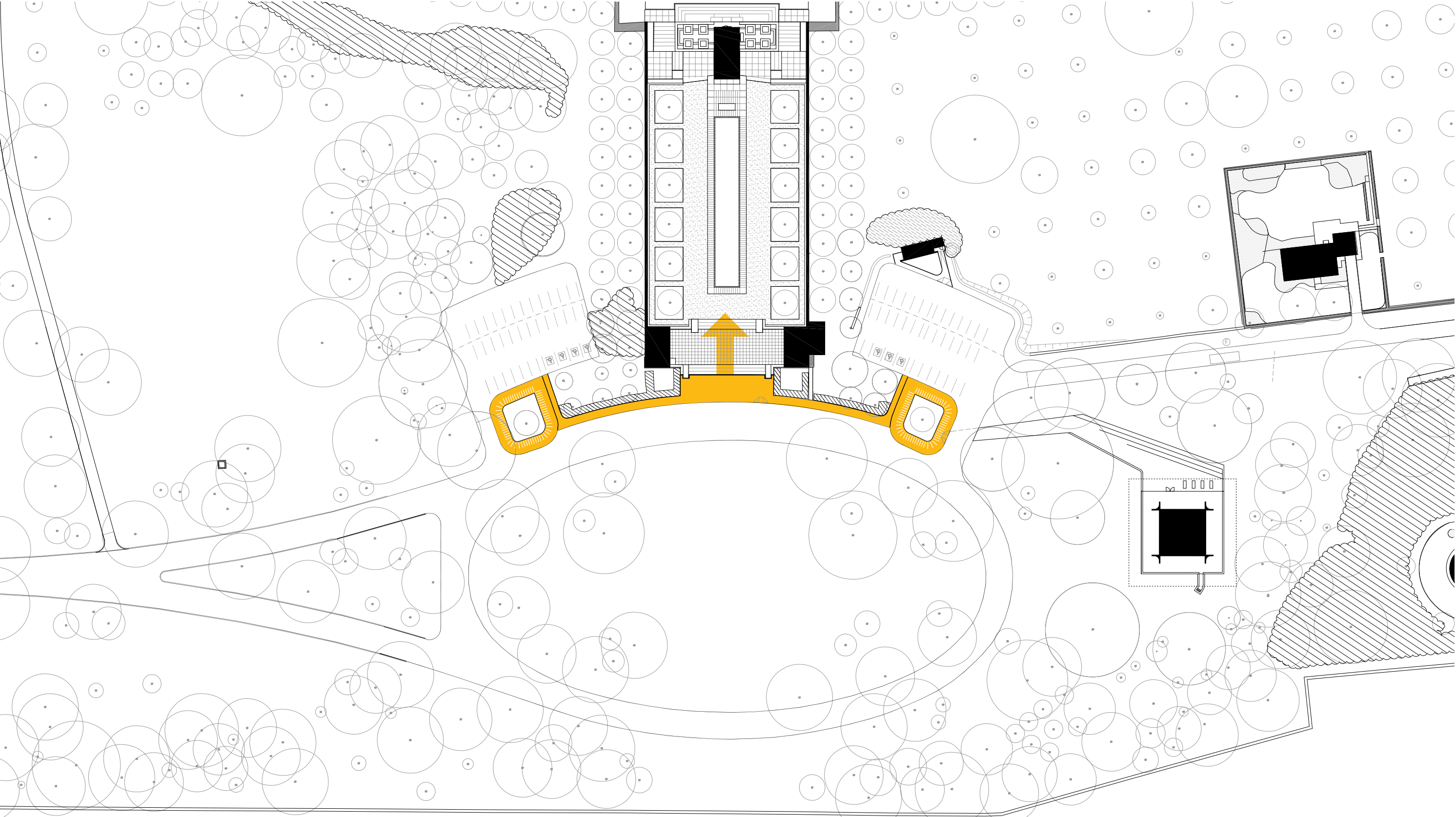


VISITOR CENTER

FLOW DIAGRAM

VISITOR CENTER
VISITOR FLOW
FLOW DIAGRAM

CURRENT FLOW



VISITOR CENTER
VISITOR FLOW
FLOW DIAGRAM

NEW FLOW

