

Studio Sergison
Diploma 2019

Cagliari



Contents

5	Introduction
6	Theme: A new urban quarter
8	Cagliari: the context
12	Building precedents
18	Strategy plan
20	Survey
22	Atmosphere/image
24	Building concept
26	Facade concept
28	Material for final review
30	Programme
32	Contacts

Aerial view of Cagliari



Introduction

Our work in Cagliari will be an urban undertaking first and foremost, as all previous Diploma study projects the studio has worked on over the last 11 years. In this instance we will focus on a remarkable part of this Italian city that was developed in the nineteenth and early twentieth century, the area immediately adjacent to the main railway station.

Students are expected to develop strategies for strengthening the existing urban fabric. These studies will then be taken as a base for the insertion of a number of new public and institutional buildings. The exact programme for these buildings will be assigned to each student and the list of possible options can be found within this document.

While in the past, we have tended to explore normative programmes, in this instance we will focus on a more public and architecturally more expressive urban investigation. As in the past, the studio encourages critical support in an atmosphere of shared endeavour and a high level of ambition.

Via Roma,
Cagliari

We have elected to work in the area that lies at the limits of the historical centre of the city. As is the case with many Italian cities, the *centro storico* is quite well-preserved and retains important cultural associations - the only task here is a need to repair. Instead, we will work in the area that absorbed the expansion of the city in the nineteenth and twentieth century with a generous distribution of public spaces.

The cultural wealth of a city is in some measure correlated with the quality and character of its shared spaces and the manner in which buildings contribute to the framing of these spaces. As a first task you will make a careful survey of the existing urban condition, on the basis of which you will then develop a strategy plan. The scale and ambition of each proposal need to be argued individually.

An example that comes to mind is the area in the centre of Lisbon, where a clear urban structure was imposed on a part of the city that had been destroyed in an earthquake and fire. The success of the intervention is in the manner in which new rectangular blocs were integrated into an ancient urban tissue. Another historical example is the forming of the Strada Nuova in Genova, where a new street framed by palazzos brought urban decorum to a dense and chaotic neighbourhood.

Your task will be to develop a detailed single building proposal that incorporates one of the following uses into your urban strategy: university campus, student accommodation, car park, bus terminal, retail, public open space. You will need to consider and put forward an argument supporting the degree of urban adjustment and transformation you propose.



Plan of the area under investigation



1



4



5



2

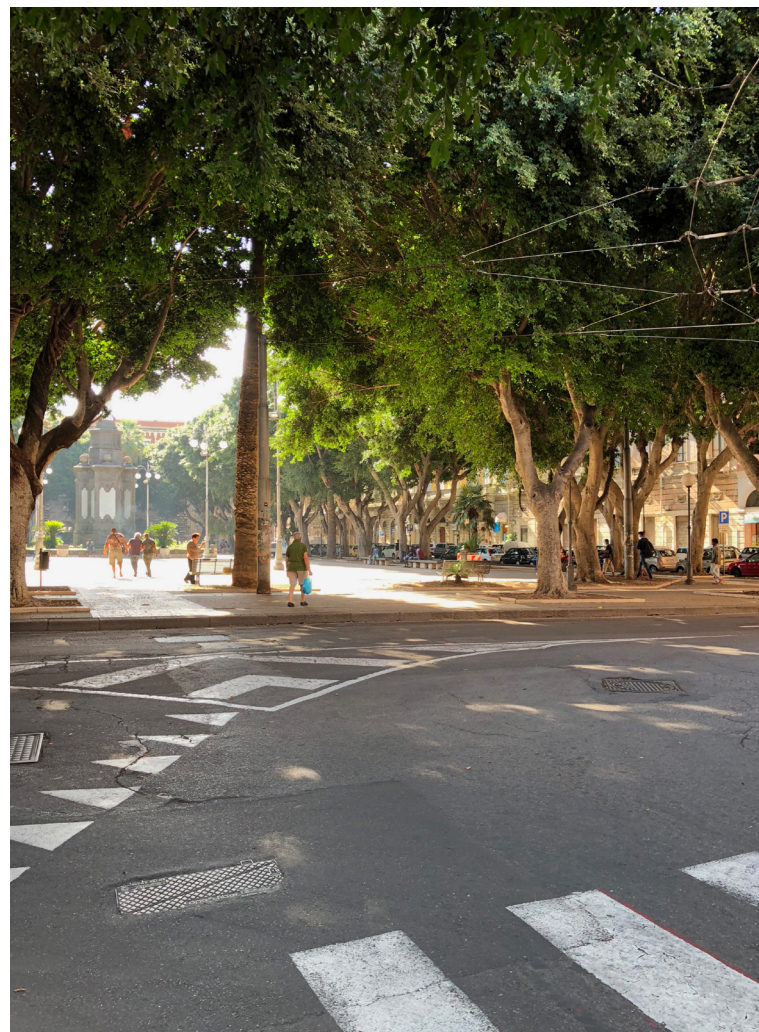


3

- 1 Via Roma
- 2 Palazzo Civico
- 3 Palazzo Civico, courtyard
- 4 Portico via Roma
- 5 Typical street in the historical city centre
- 6 Typical street in the historical city centre



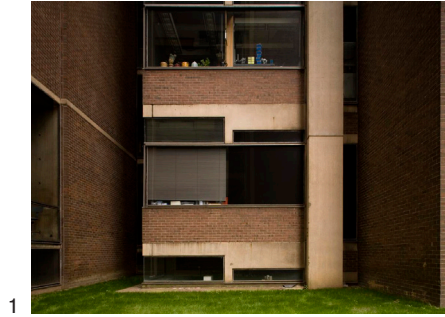
6



- 1 Piazza del Carmine
- 2 Piazza Umberto
- 3 Piazza Giacomo Matteotti
- 4 Parking area La Plaia
- 5 Via Roma
- 6 Viale Trieste



Building precedents



1, 2
Richards Medical Research Labs,
Philadelphia
Louis Kahn

3
St Catherine's College,
Oxford
Arne Jacobsen

4
MIT Baker House Dormitory
Cambridge, Massachusetts
Alvar Aalto

5, 6
Indian Institute of Management
Ahmedabad
Louis Kahn

7
University of São Paulo FAU-USP
João Vilanova Artigas

8
Johnson Wax parking,
Racine, Wisconsin
Frank Lloyd Wright

9
Autosilo Balestra, Lugano

10
Underground garage
Villa Borghese, Rome
Luigi Moretti

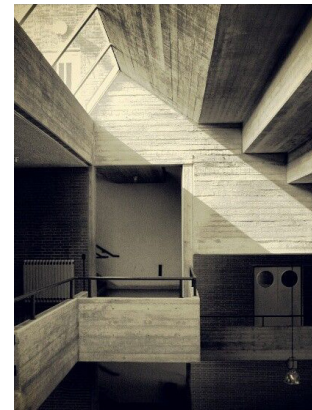
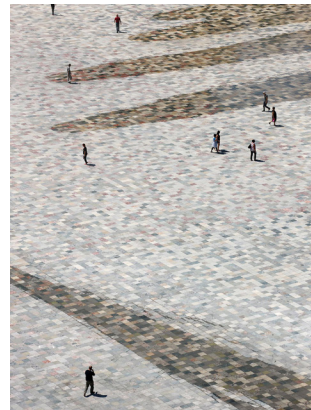
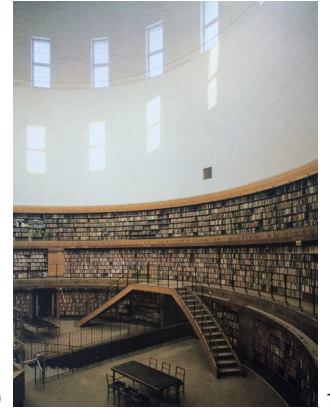
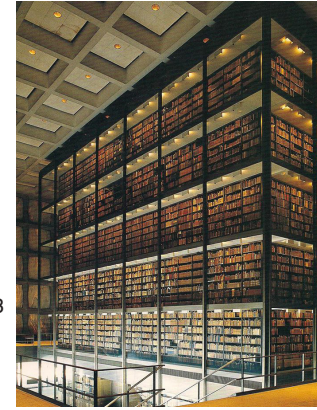
11
1111 Lincoln Rd, Miami Beach,
Herzog & de Meuron

12, 15
Grand bazaar, Istanbul

13
Mall of America,
Bloomington, Minnesota
Jon Jerde

14
Kariakoo Market in
Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
B.J. Amuli





1
Stockwell Bus Garage,
London
Adie, Button and Partners

2, 3
Jaú Bus Station,
Jau
João Batista Vilanova Artigas

4
Sitio Roberto Burle Marx
Rio de Janeiro
Burle Marx

5, 6
Skanderbeg Square,
Tirana
51N4E

7
Katsura Imperial Villa,
Kyoto

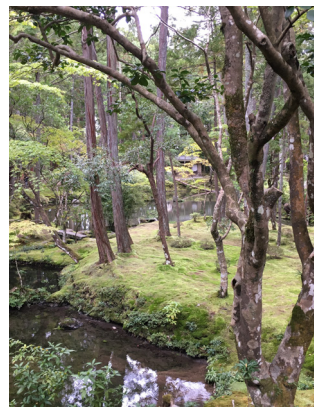
8
Phillips Exeter Library,
Exeter, New Hampshire
Architects Louis Kahn

9
Beinecke Rare Book Library,
Yale University, New Haven,
Connecticut
Gordon Bunshaft (SOM)

10
Stockholm Public Library,
Stockholm
Gunnar Asplund

11, 12
Urbino University,
Urbino
Giancarlo De Carlo

13
Indian Institute of Management,
Bangalore
Balkrishna Doshi



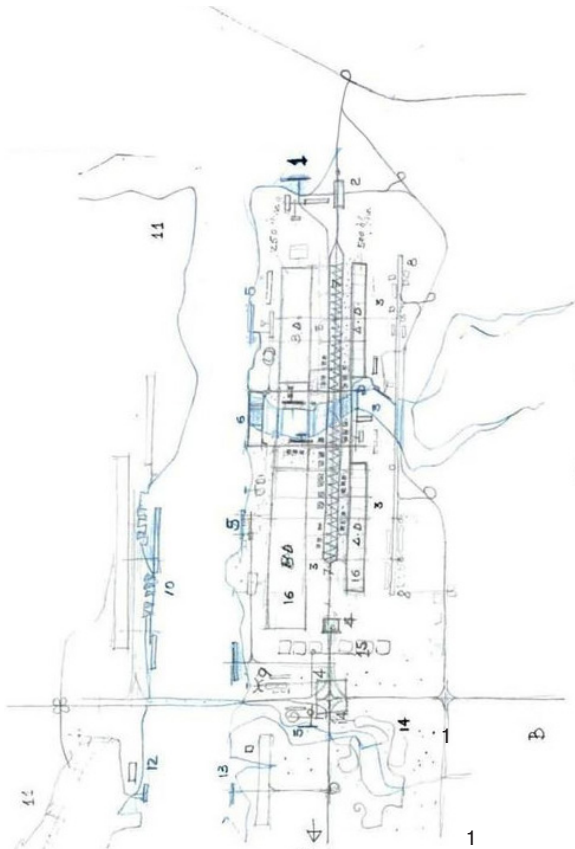


Strategy plan

The first component of the work to be undertaken this semester requires you to develop a strategy plan. This can be understood as a typological and massing study. The principal tool to assist you in this exercise will be a 1:500 model. This will be made collectively and should encompass a wider area than the site in which your work is situated.

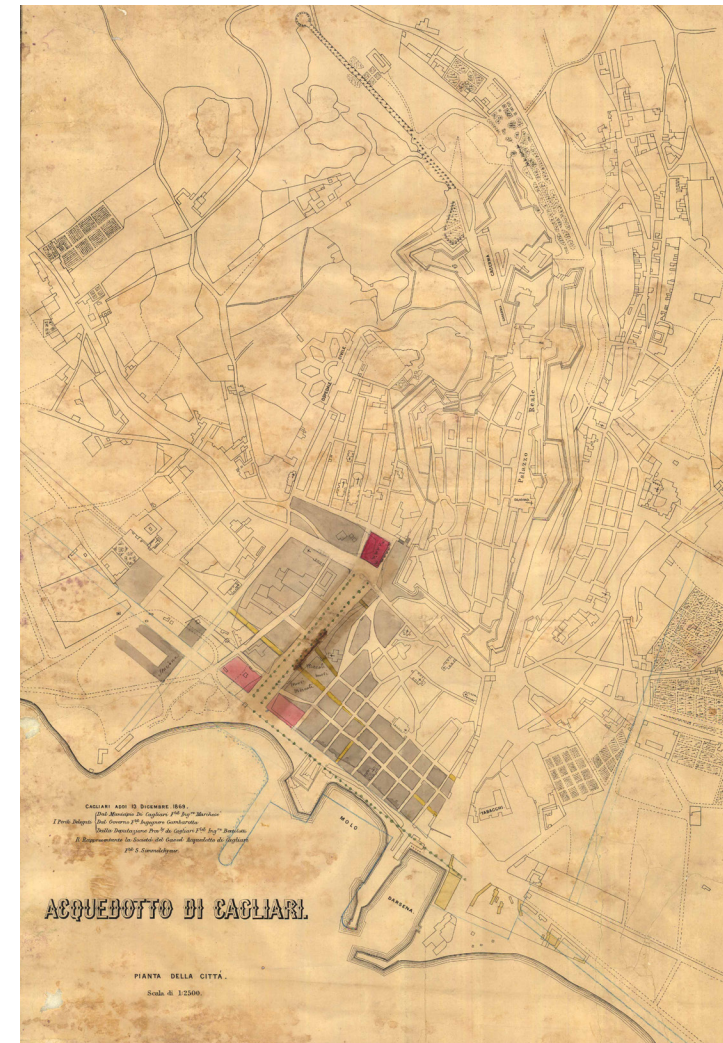
To begin we ask you to explore how the area of study can be adjusted and re-organised as an urban setting. You should explore a number of options and develop a clear argument in support of the solution you decide to propose. This exercise should be understood as an iterative process that will begin to develop the idea for the project you will be working on throughout the semester.

Our study trip should be used as an opportunity to understand the scale and existing urban structure of the city.



1
Sketch
Mendes da Rocha

2
City plan,
Cagliari



In this studio we hold the position that invention is a necessary ambition in architecture, but it rarely emerges by spontaneous intuition. Generally, architects develop truly unique proposals only after many years of study and reflection, and it is questionable whether true originality can actually be achieved, given the wealth of precedents in the history of world architecture.

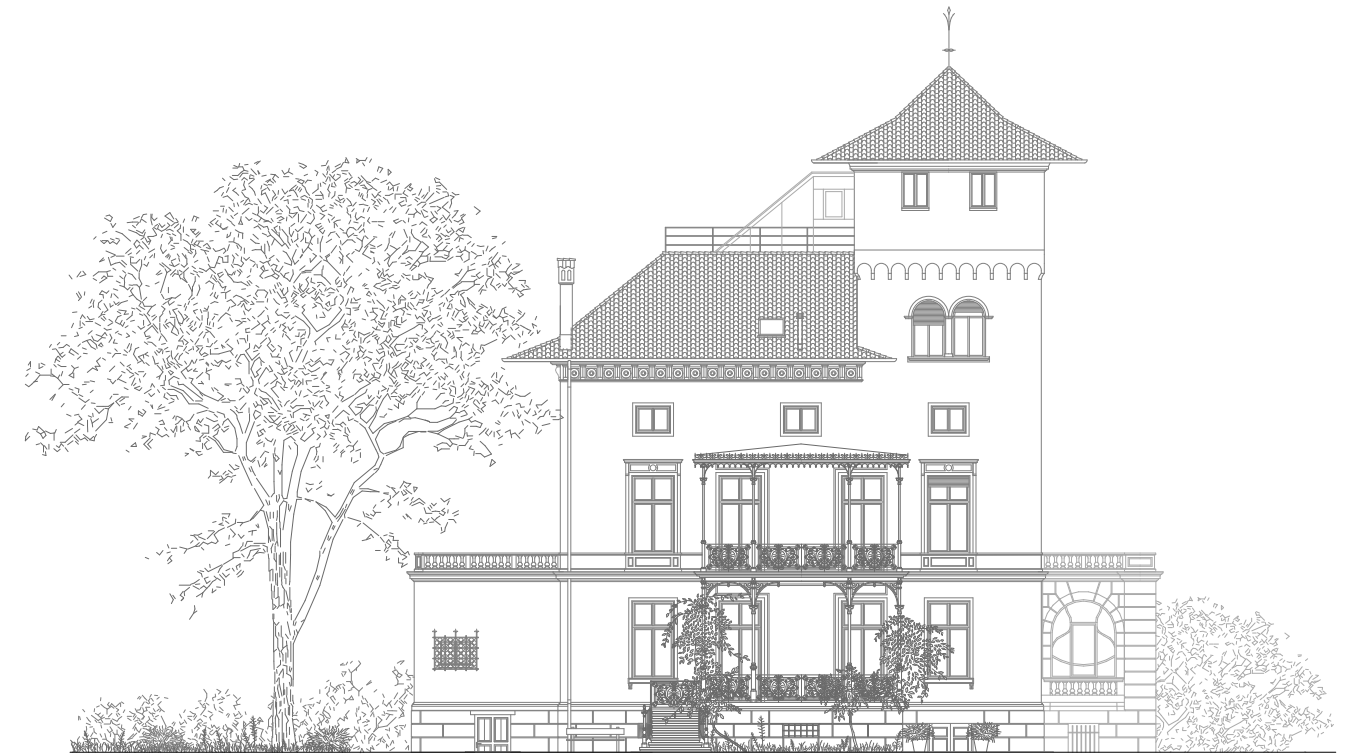
To help you understand the task that you will be attending to this semester we would like you to undertake a survey. This will be at the scale of the city, focusing on the immediate neighbourhood your project would be adjusting and adding to. This will ensure a clearer understanding of what it is you are being asked to work with, giving you a better chance of making a building that is suited to its purpose.

You should begin to consider where the building programme you have been assigned can be introduced into the urban fabric.

You could look at how the plan of a building is organised, or you could consider a study that looks at elevations rather than at building volumes. You should be able to describe it clearly and analytically, employing diagrams where necessary. Alternatively you might concentrate on understanding the quality and arrangement of a facade drawing upon a measured survey of an existing series of elevations.

This will require you to look carefully at buildings, making sketches and taking photographs as a way of recording their current condition. We also ask you to make a precise photographic portrait that conveys the atmosphere of the building or buildings and the manner in which they are situated in the city. You might also make a photographic portrait of an internal space and record the relationship of the building's interior with the city outside.

You are free to choose the subject of your own survey, but do consider carefully the role it may play in assisting you later.



Maria Minic
Villa Tobler, 1853
Gustav Wegmann

This exercise requires you to produce two images. No specific graphic technique is prescribed, although you should be able to explain why you consider the technique you choose appropriate.

These images should represent the atmosphere and the presence of your building. One of the images should depict the exterior of the building and its relationship with the existing urban tissue and the site of the project within the city and its immediate context. The other image should represent the interior and its qualities as a partly public, partly private space.

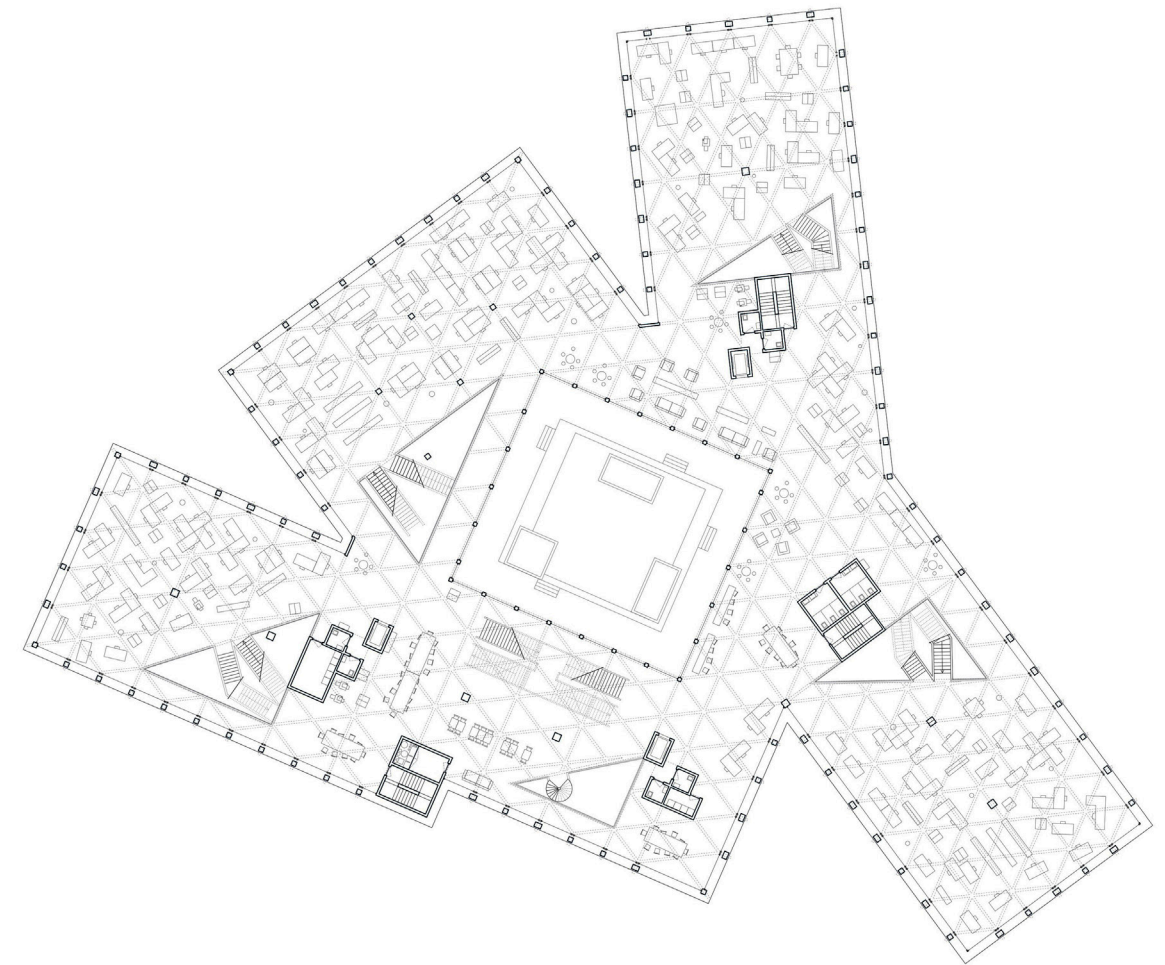


Interior perspective
Yasmin Ciorabai

The result of the previous studies should now be reappraised and drawn upon to produce the next instalment of this semester's work. We would now like you to develop a more precise concept for a building or buildings and their relationships to the wider context.

The principal tool we ask you to employ is a 1:100 study or sketch model, which should include an appropriate amount of context. This is really the beginning of the key piece of work you will be producing this semester. We are interested in the qualities of the buildings you design and the way they are expressed through the organisation of the facades.

Your work should concentrate on the critical appraisal and further refinement of your earlier studies. While a model will be the principal piece of work, we expect your project to be developed with study plans, elevations, sections and sketches. At this stage in the semester your work will be subject to an intermediate review.

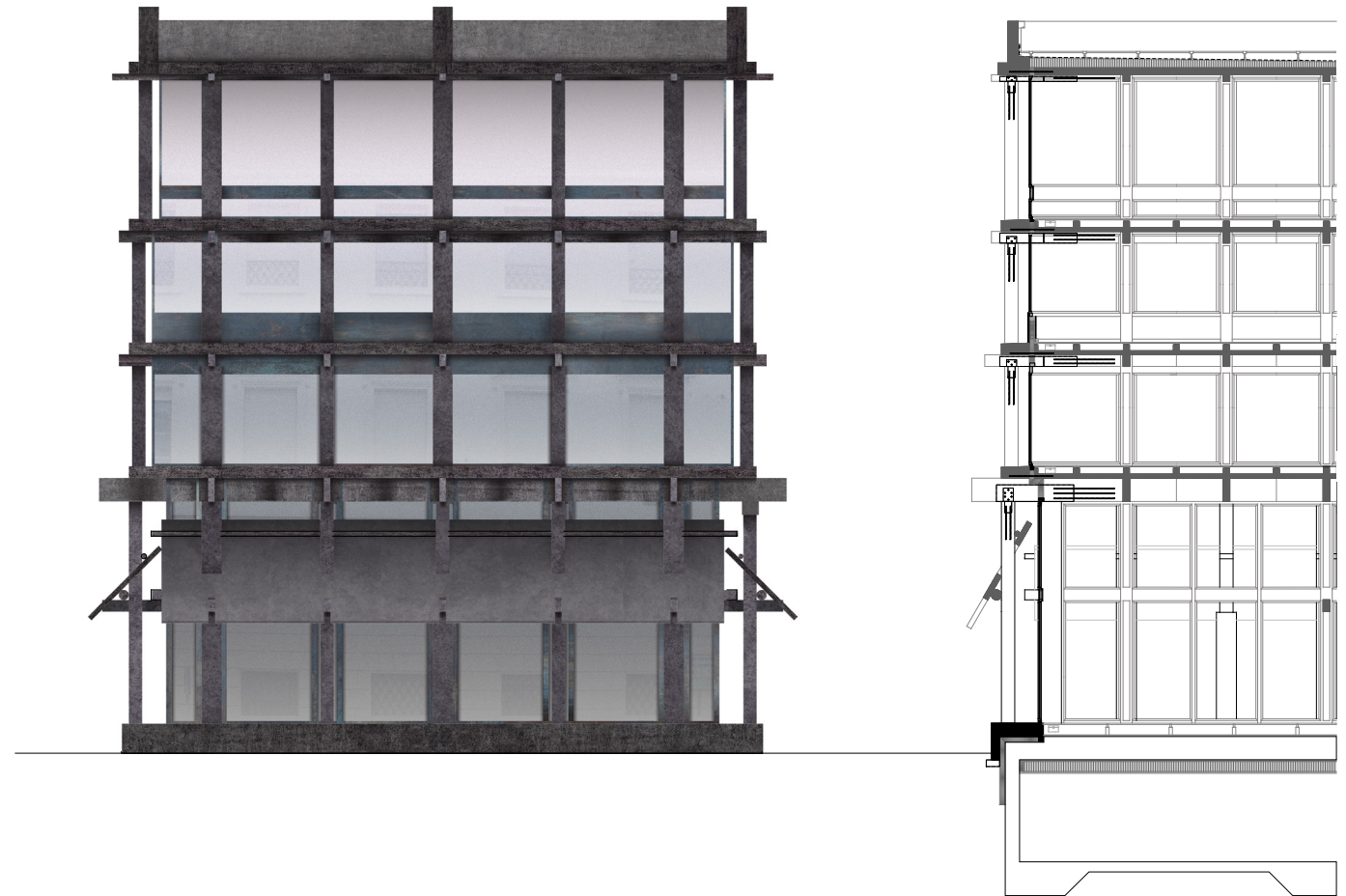


Office building plan
Lorenzo Landelli

At this stage of the semester you should already have developed a rudimentary understanding of your project in plan and section, and we now ask you to develop and test your ideas for building facades within the framework of the strategy you have developed.

The facades of your buildings should be drawn at 1:100 (as unwrapped elevations) and translated into three-dimensional models.

This piece of work should be undertaken with a clear concept of the image of your buildings in mind. What materials is the building made from? What is your approach to the arrangement of window openings? How does the building meet the ground and how is the top of the building resolved? These are only a few of the questions you should be asking yourself about the facade of your building.



Office building elevations
Lorenzo Landelli

With the emergence of a convincing set of ideas for your buildings you will need to produce a careful set of drawings of some of the facades you have developed. Additionally a number of sections should be produced, all at scale 1:100:

You should also give due consideration to the plans for the project. These should be developed at 1:200, 1:100 and at a larger scale where appropriate.

A landscape plan should be produced at a scale of 1:200 indicating an approach to the landscape surfaces, hard and soft elements and a general concept for the public realm.

The main piece of work should be the remaking of a final model at a suitably ambitious scale. You should choose the material for this model carefully – it should feel special!

A further two 'atmospheric' perspectives should be produced of the final version of your project.

Finally, you should produce a pdf or Powerpoint presentation describing your project. This should be understood as an important tool for presenting your project at the final review and should explain the development of your work and the strategy you propose.



Date	Event	Details	Assignments
4 February	Studio trip	Taro Sakurai (TS), Liviu Vasiu (LV) Studio trip to Cagliari	
7 February	First meeting	Presentation 1:500 model Precedent study	1:500 site model Precedent study
20 February	Studio introduction		
22 February	Tutorials	Urban studies References	Urban study document References document
1 March	Review	Review of urban studies References	Urban study document References document
8 March	Tutorials	1:500 model studies 1:500 plans	1:500 model studies and plans Perspectives
15 March	Review	Review of perspectives	1:500 site model 1:200 plans Study models Perspectives
22 March	Review with landscape architect	Plan studies Elevation studies	1:200 plans Study models
29 March	Tutorials	Plan studies Elevation studies	1:100 plans Study models
3 April	Intermediate reviews	Project reviews with Diploma commission and guest critics	1:500 site model 1:200 plans, sections, elevations Study models Interior/exterior perspectives Pdf presentation
12 April	Tutorials		Same as above
19- 28 April	Review		
22- 26 April	Easter holidays		

Date	Event	Details	Assignments
3 May	Review with structural engineer	Construction studies Elevation studies	1:100 plans, sections, elevations Study models
10 May	Tutorials	Construction drawings	1:50 section Study models
17 May	Tutorials	Elevations	1:100 plans Study models
24 May	Review	Review of projects	Start final models Review of all material
31 May	Tutorials	Discussion of final model	Project revisions
7 June	Tutorials	Review of final model and pdf presentation	Final model Pdf presentation
10 June	Final reviews	Project reviews with Diploma commission and guest critics	1:500 site model Final model (scale to be agreed) 1:100 ground floor plan 1:100 typical plan 1:100 elevations and sections Interior/exterior perspectives Pdf presentation

Contacts

Professor

Jonathan Sergison
jonathan.sergison@usi.ch

Assistants

Taro Sakurai
taro.sakurai@usi.ch

Liviu VasIU
liviu.vasiu@usi.ch

Studio

2nd floor
Canavè

Office

Office C3.57
Palazzo Canavèe
Largo Bernasconi 2
CH 6850 Mendrisio