

Studio Sergison
Accademia di Architettura
Università della Svizzera Italiana

Diploma 2021
Saint-Étienne

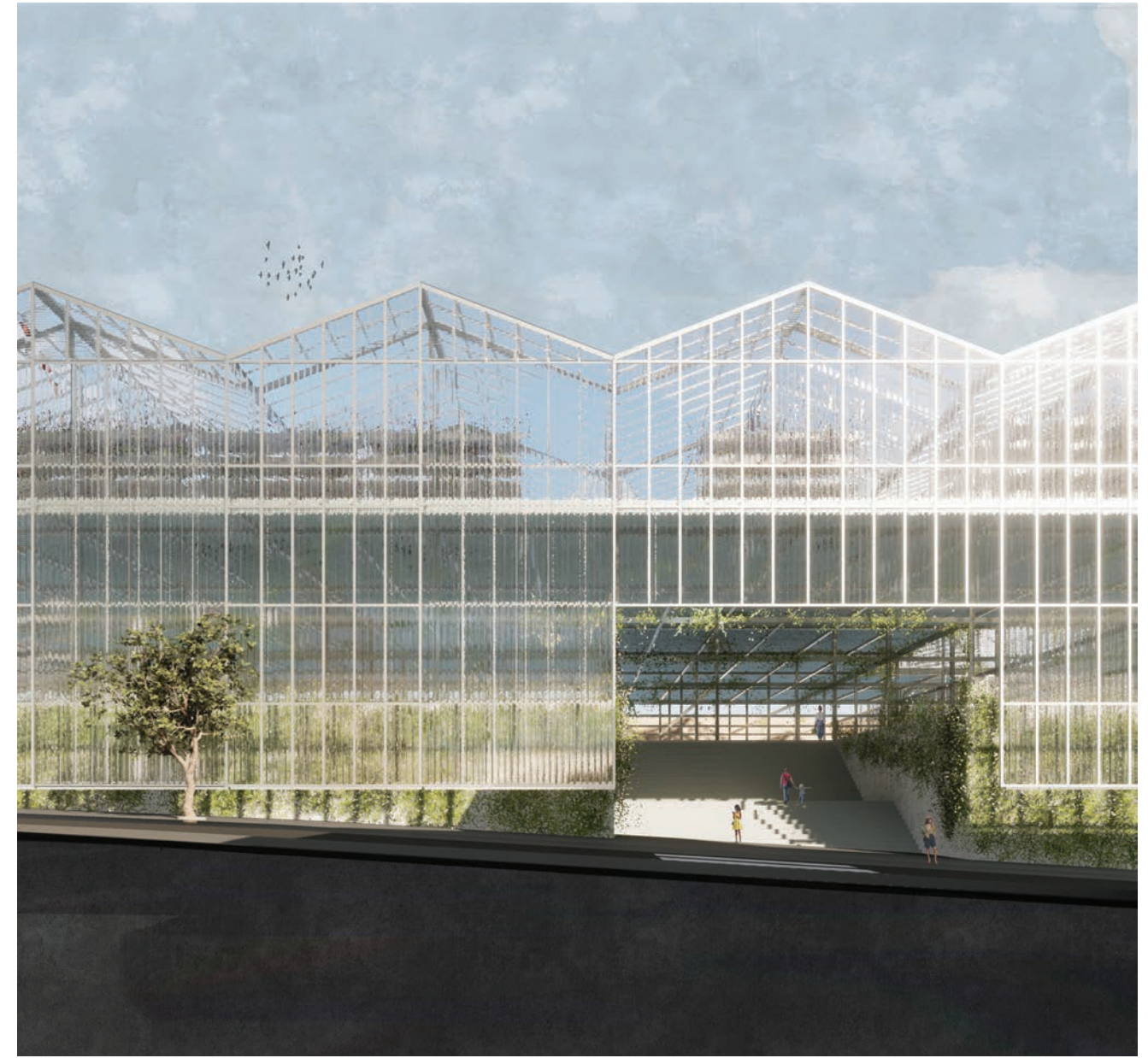


Introduction

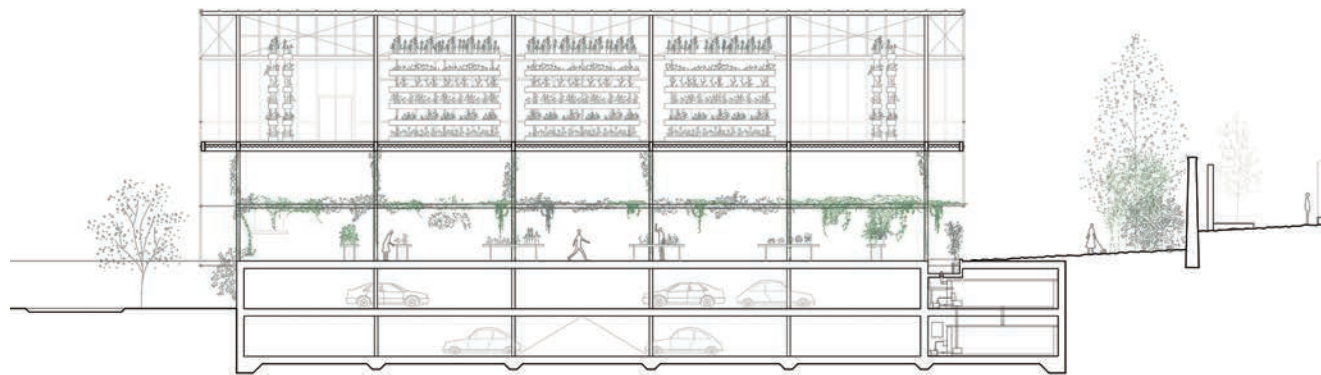
When we think of the future needs of a city, we invariably do so in terms of population increase and the demands this places on housing provision and other programmes that support inhabitants; public realm generally, education, recreation, medical facilities and places of employment, amongst others. As urbanists and architects, we also need to ask what role should we play when the reversal is the case? How should we act in an urban situation where the population is declining? Invariably this is the result of unfavourable economic circumstances. While it is clear that a city with a declining population also equates to a reduction in tax income, which is exacerbated when the elderly population is proportionally increasing. Such conditions should not be met with ambivalence because across Europe more generally this is an increasingly common situation even if the circumstances vary greatly. We would argue that there is a nevertheless a need that requires an architectural and urban solution.

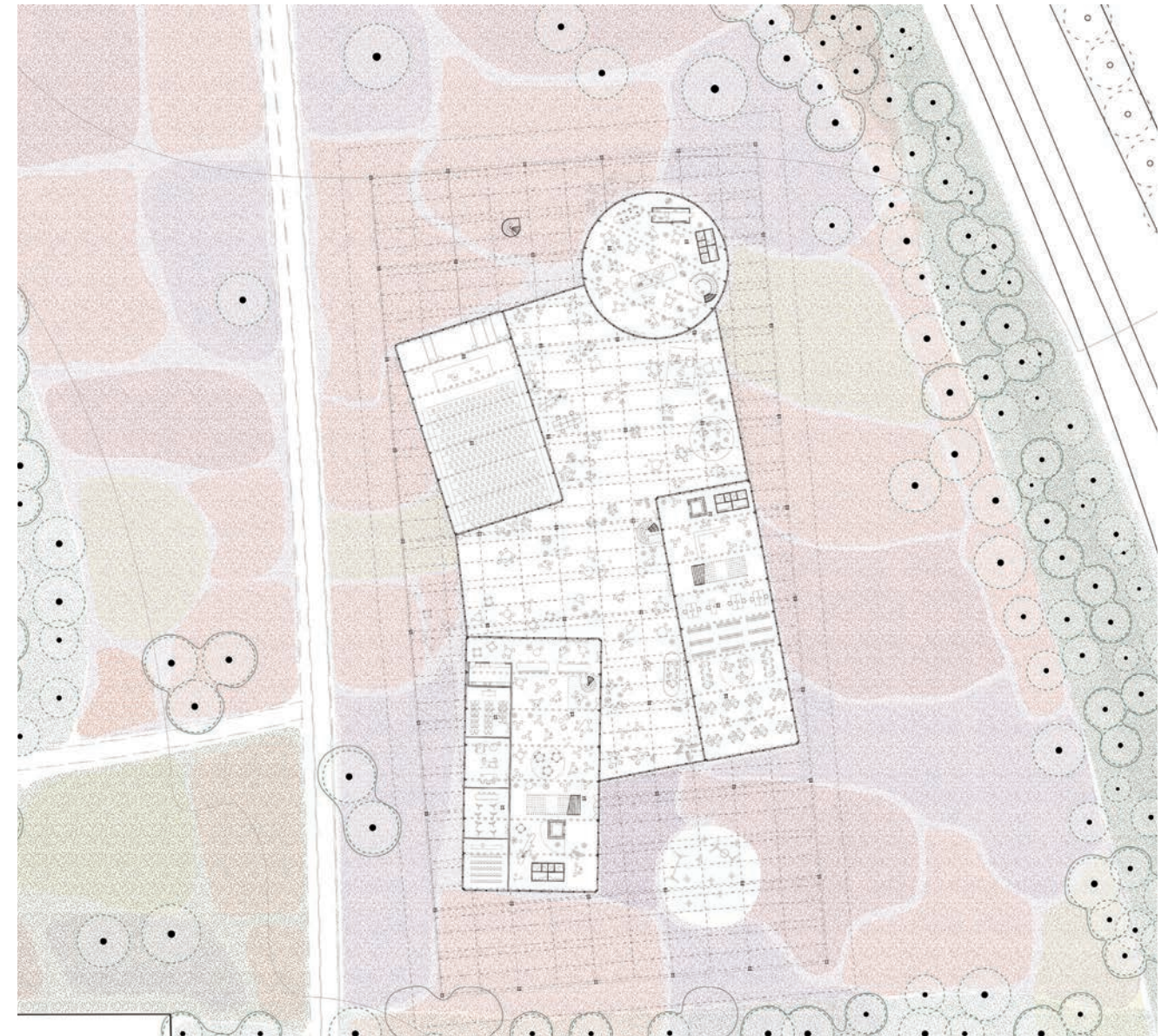
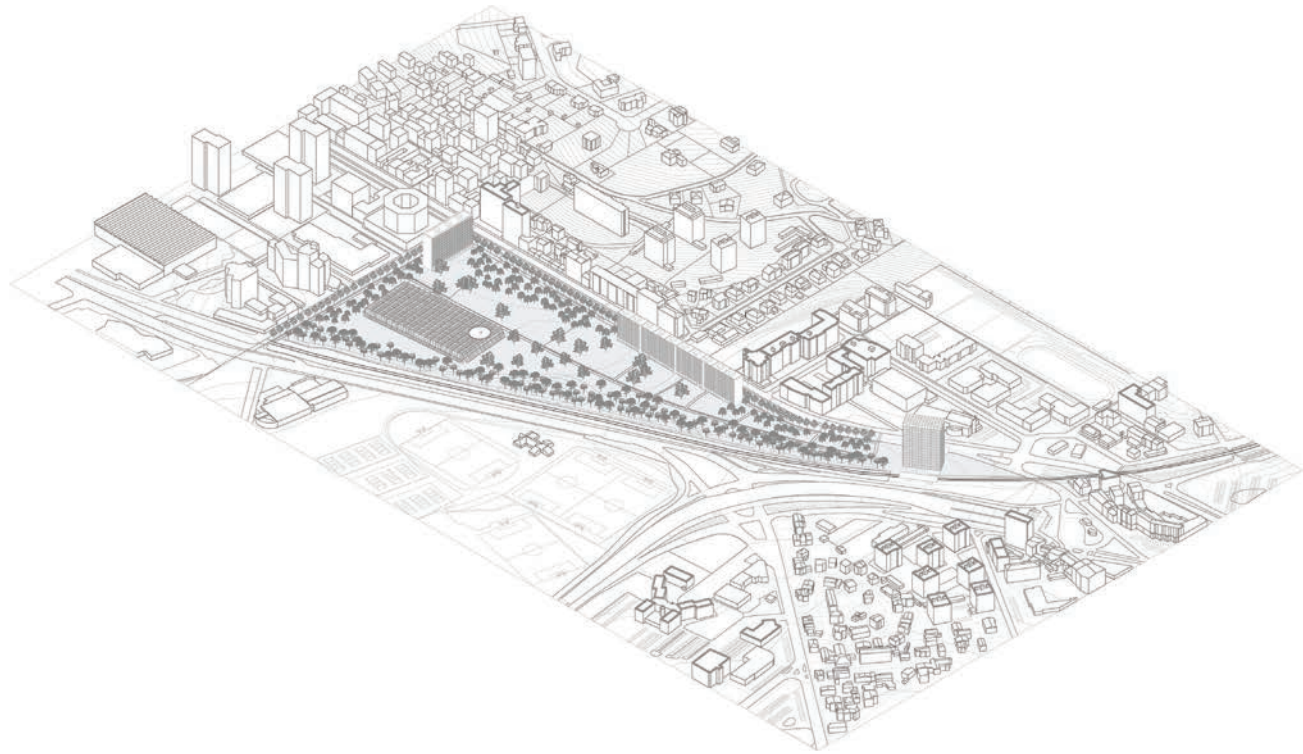
In contemporary terms the French City of Saint Etienne can be characterised in these terms. It is one of the cheapest cities in France to live which naturally implies that it is an undesirable urban offer. The task of improving the physical conditions of the city lie at the core of the work we have undertaken in this round of Diploma studies. While this ambition, to work in an urban manner, has underpinned every diploma task over the years, in this instance we see the need to employ a strategy of clearing, opening up and reframing the city. By creating more open space, because the need to densify is not there, the public realm of the city can be improved, and hopefully in doing this, the decision to reinhabit Saint Etienne will occur in the future.

Plan of the area under investigation

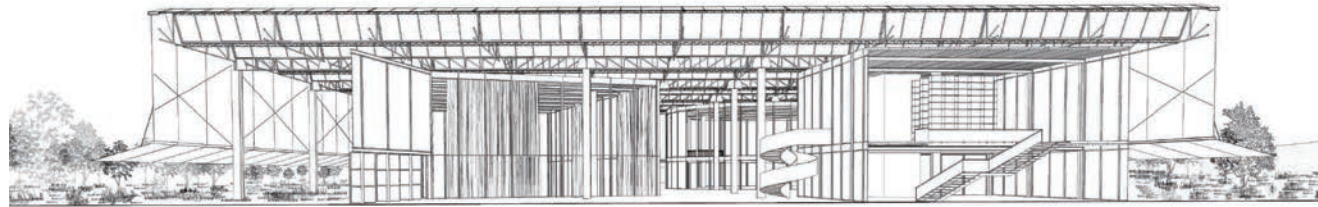




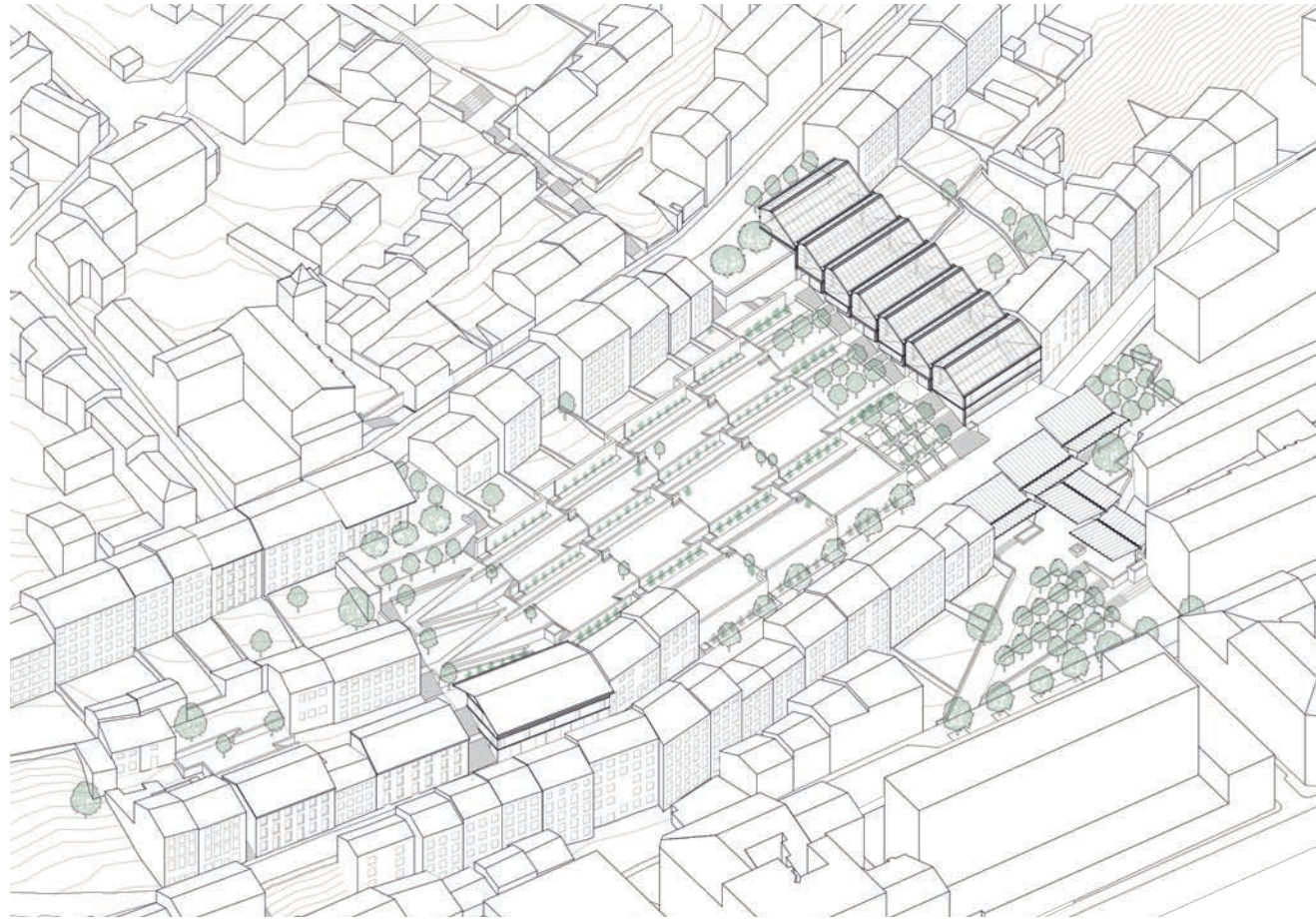




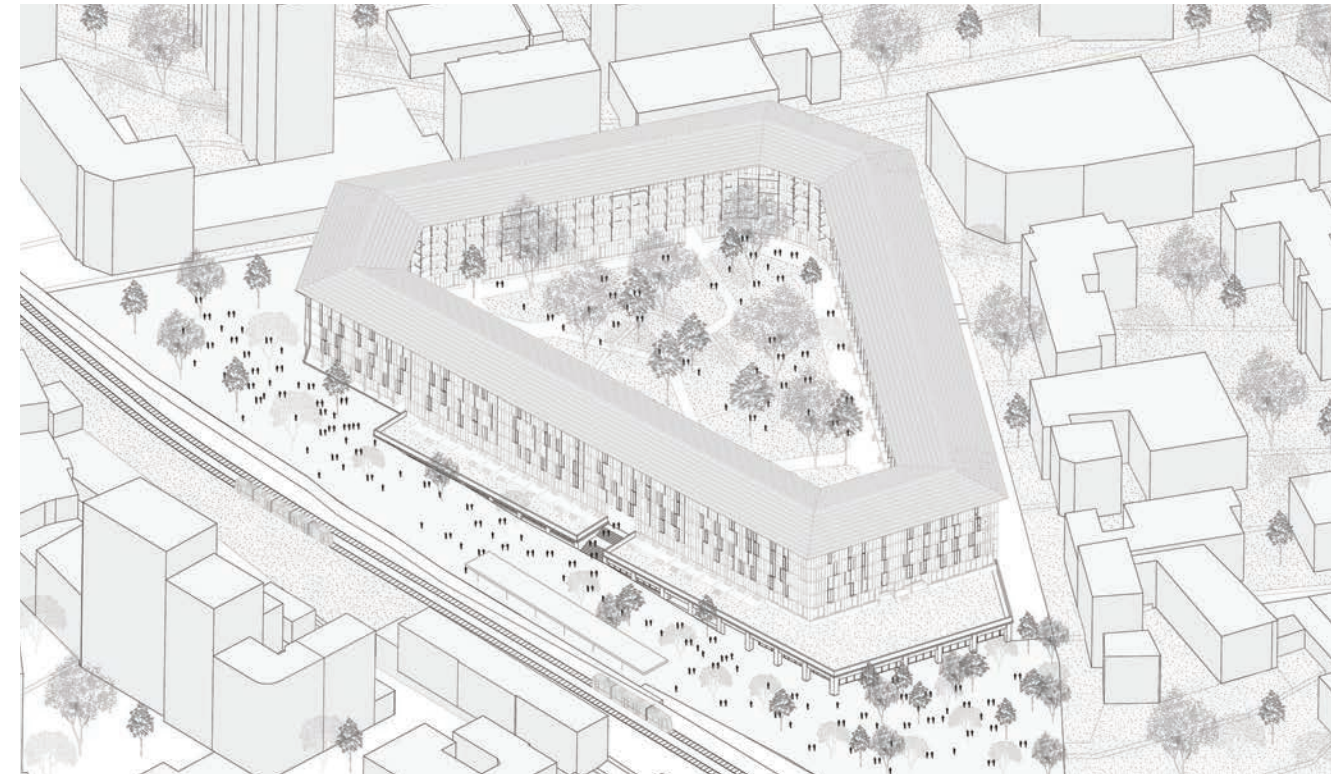
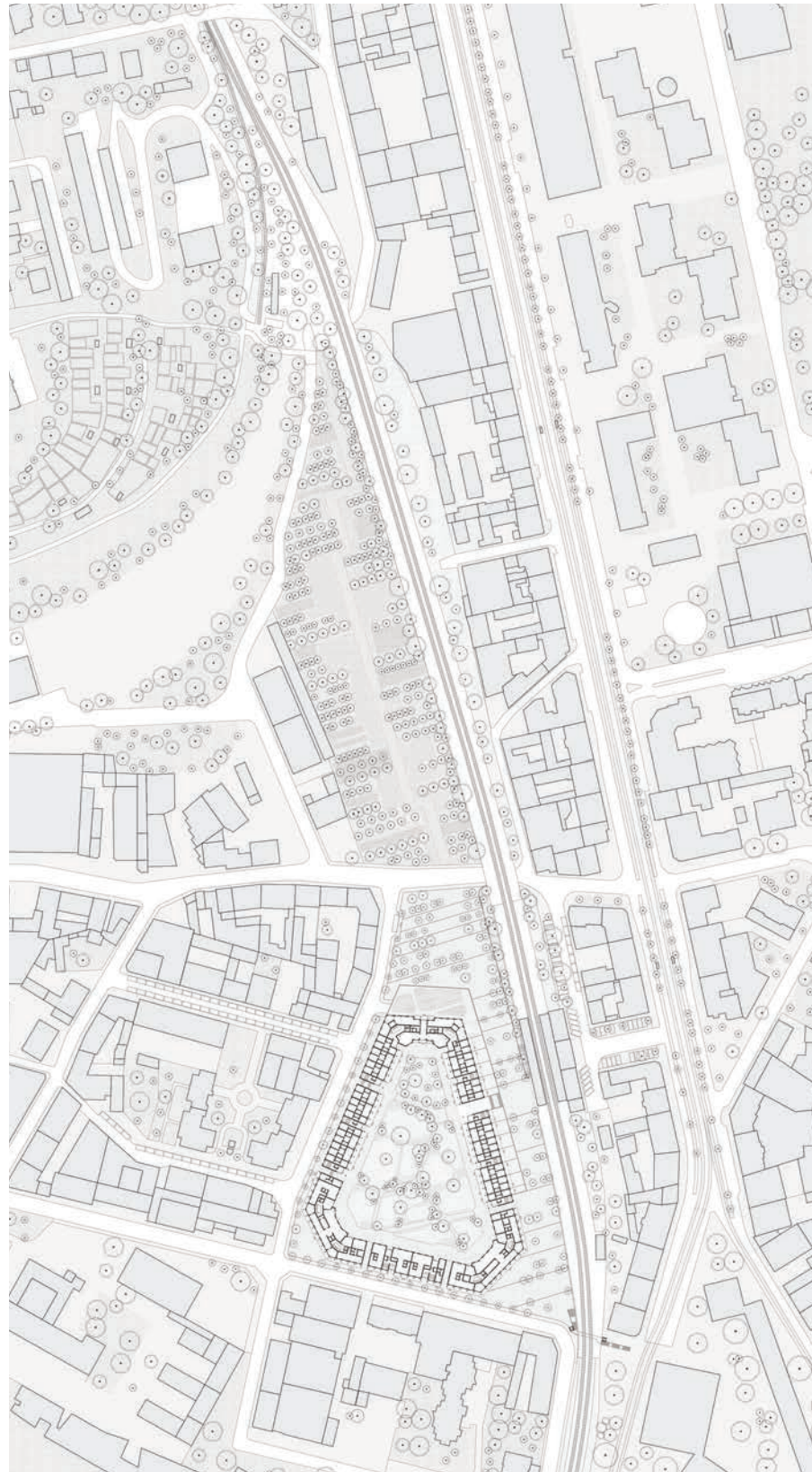


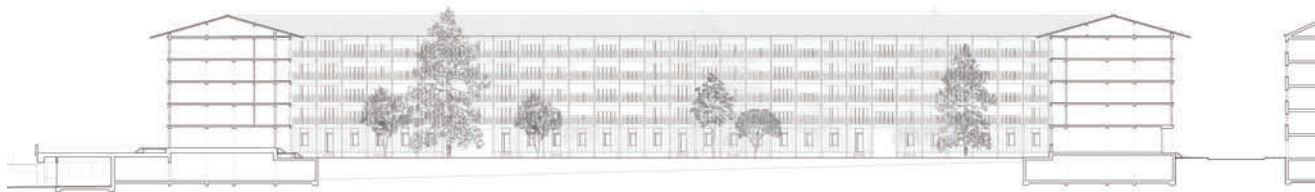






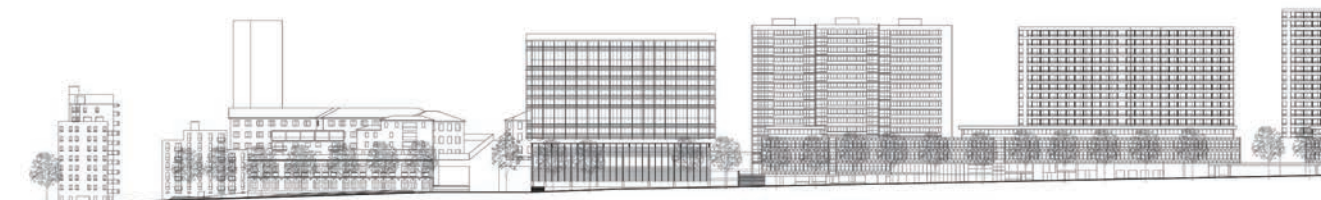


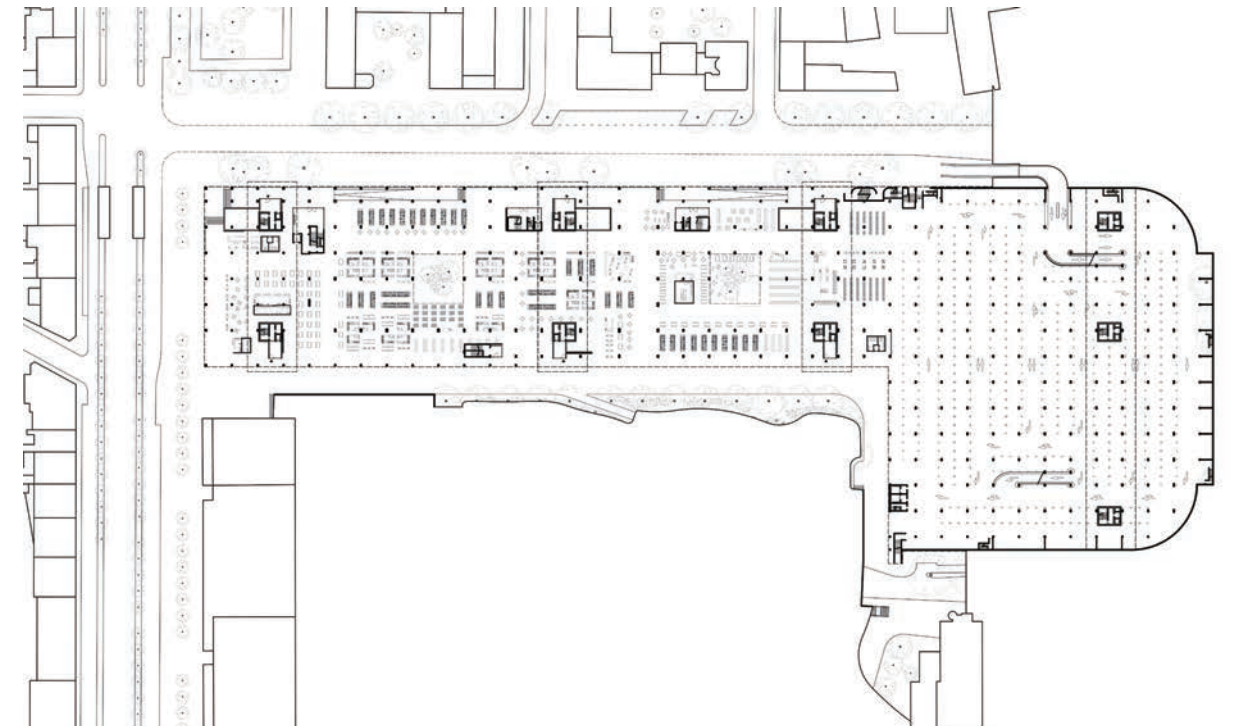
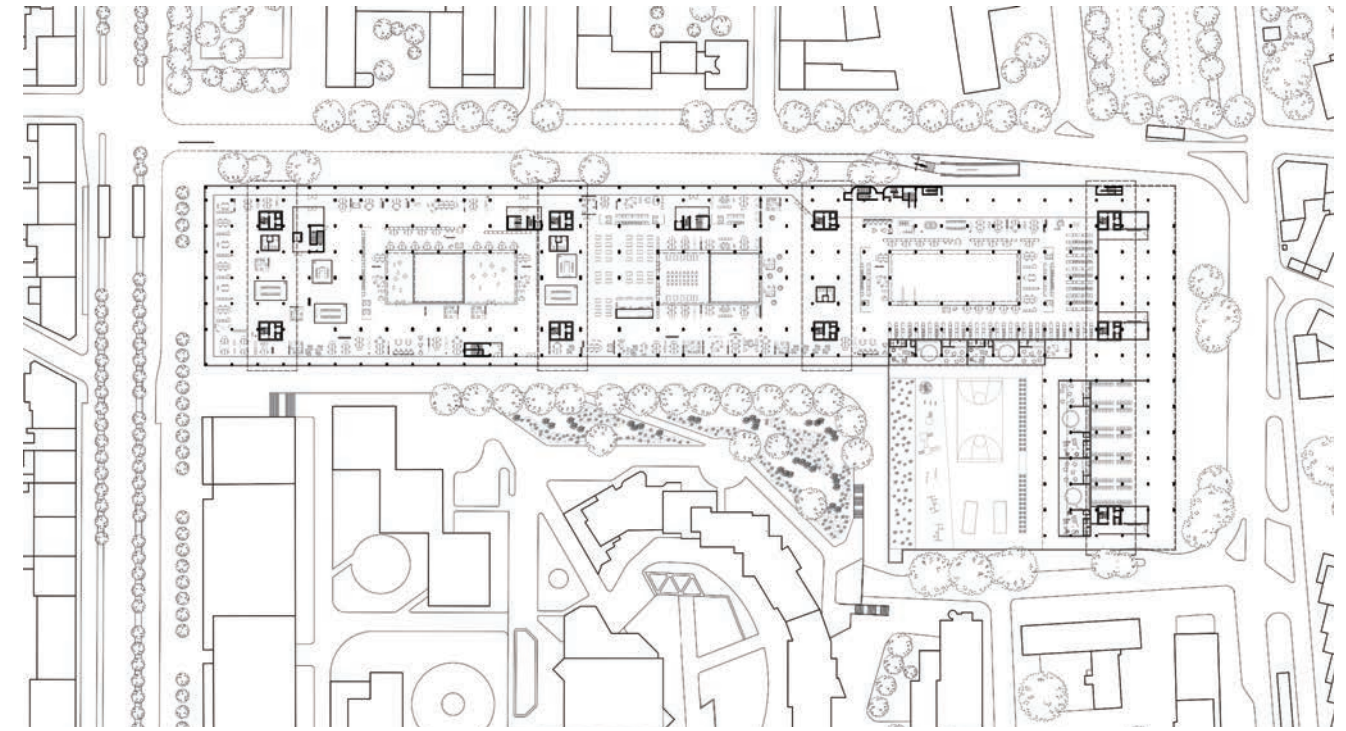
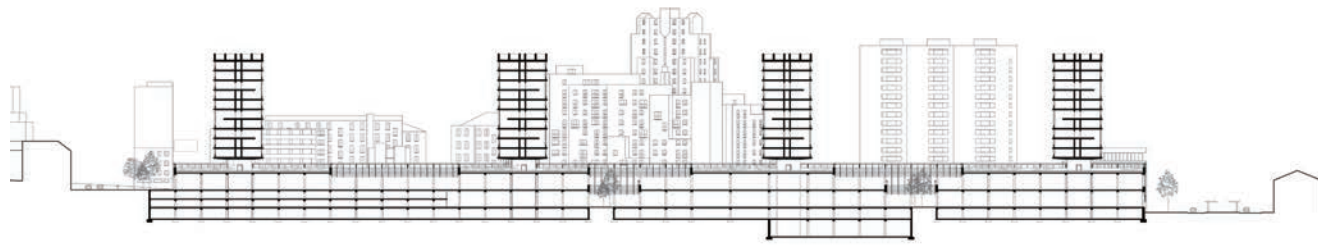


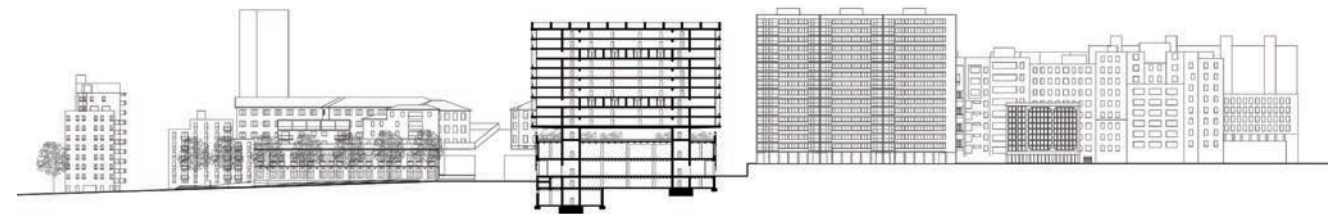


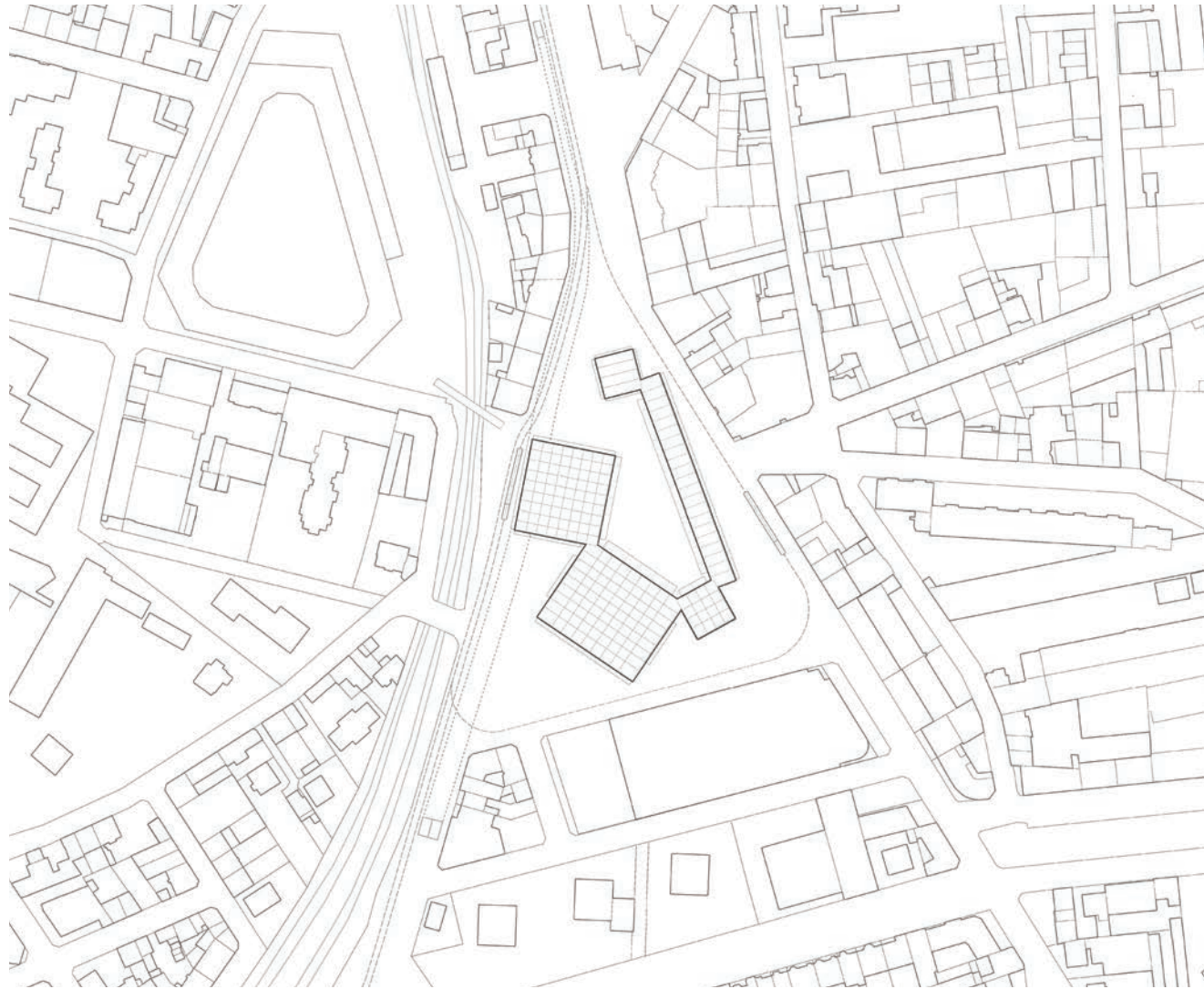


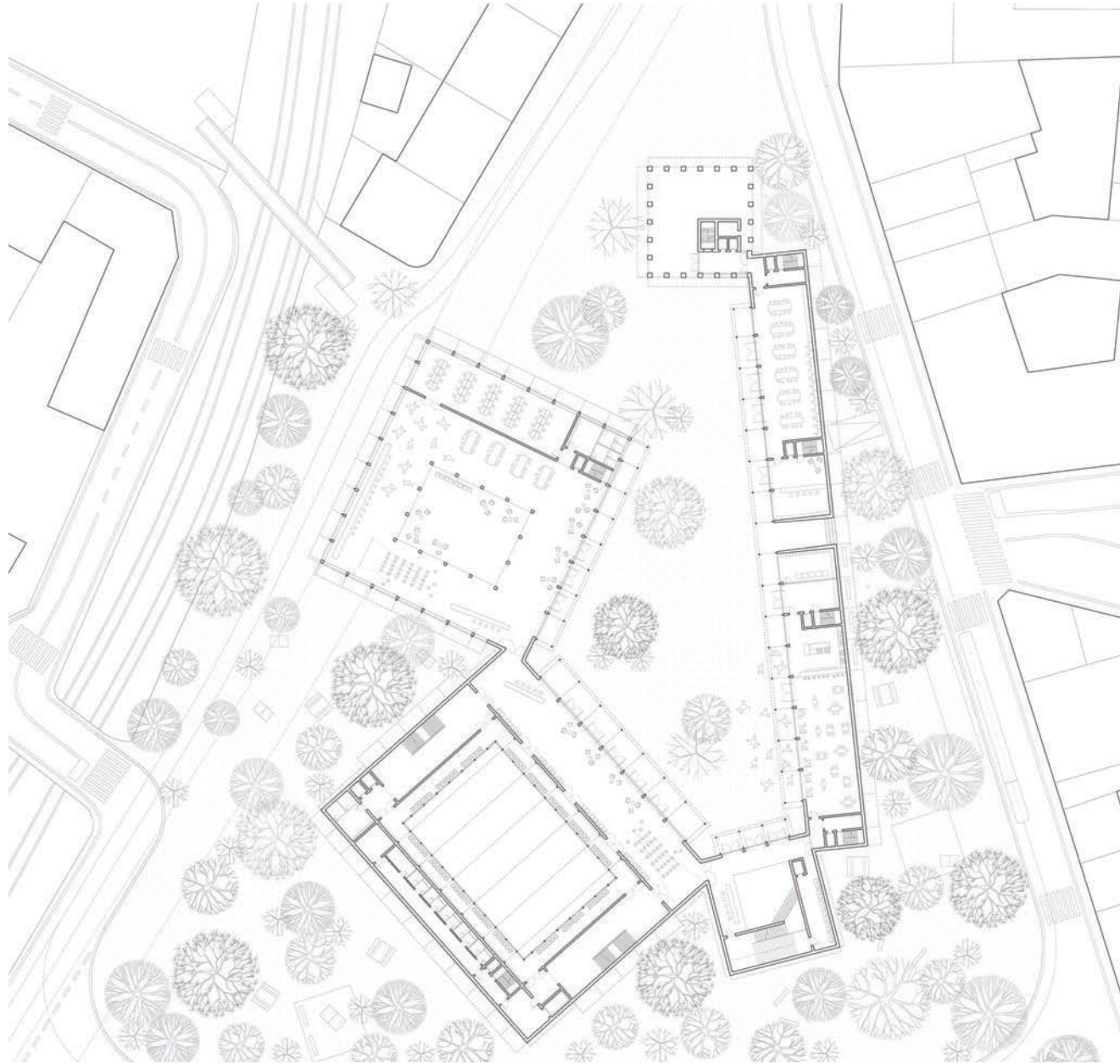




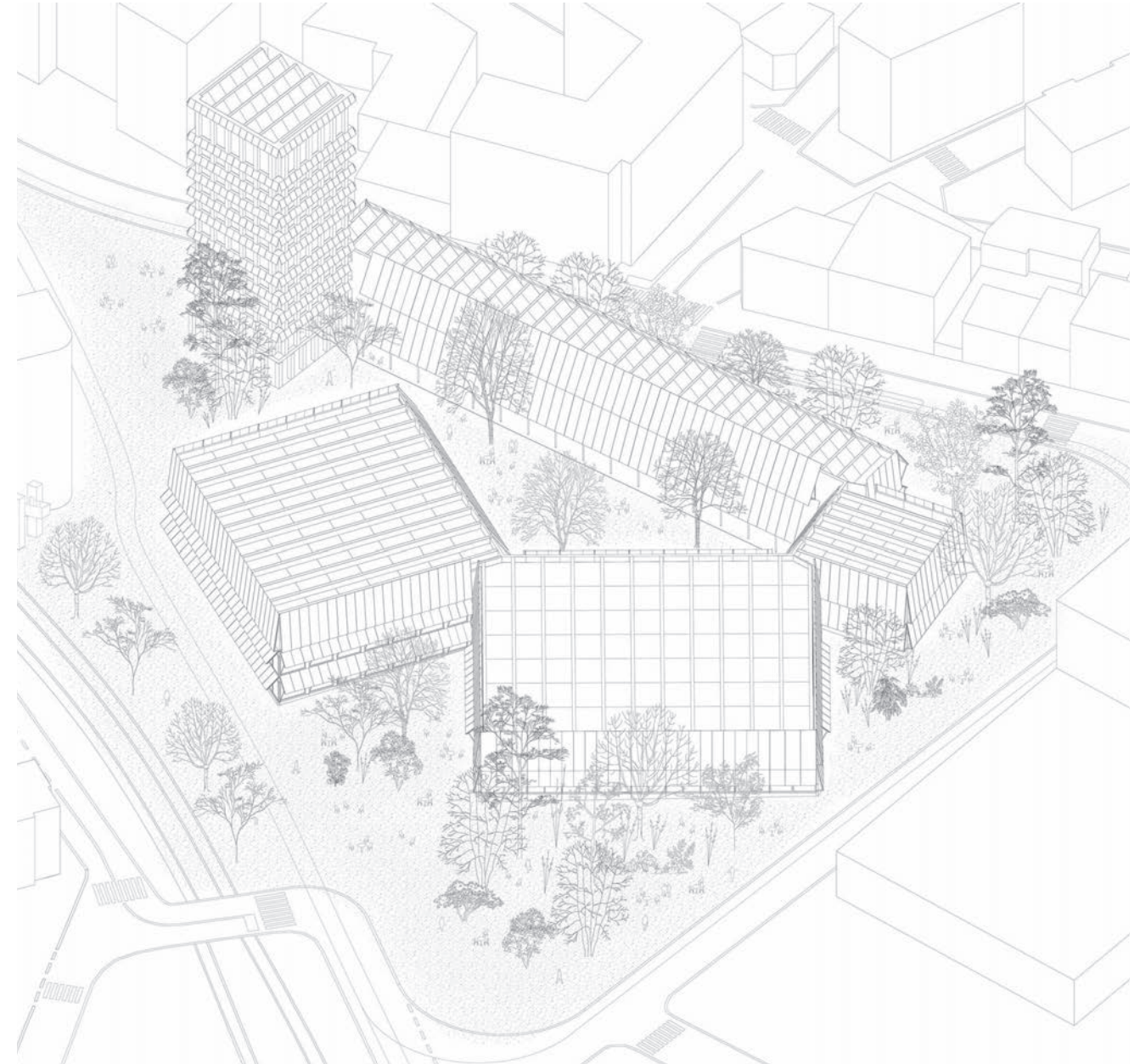




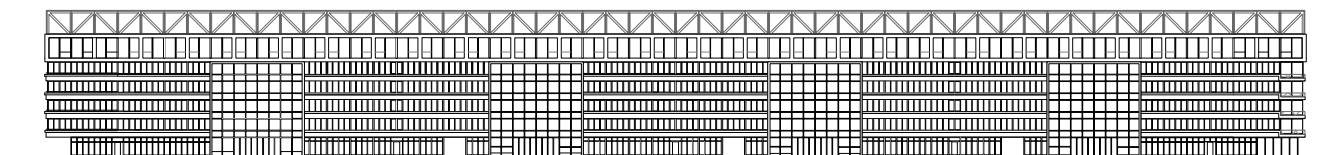
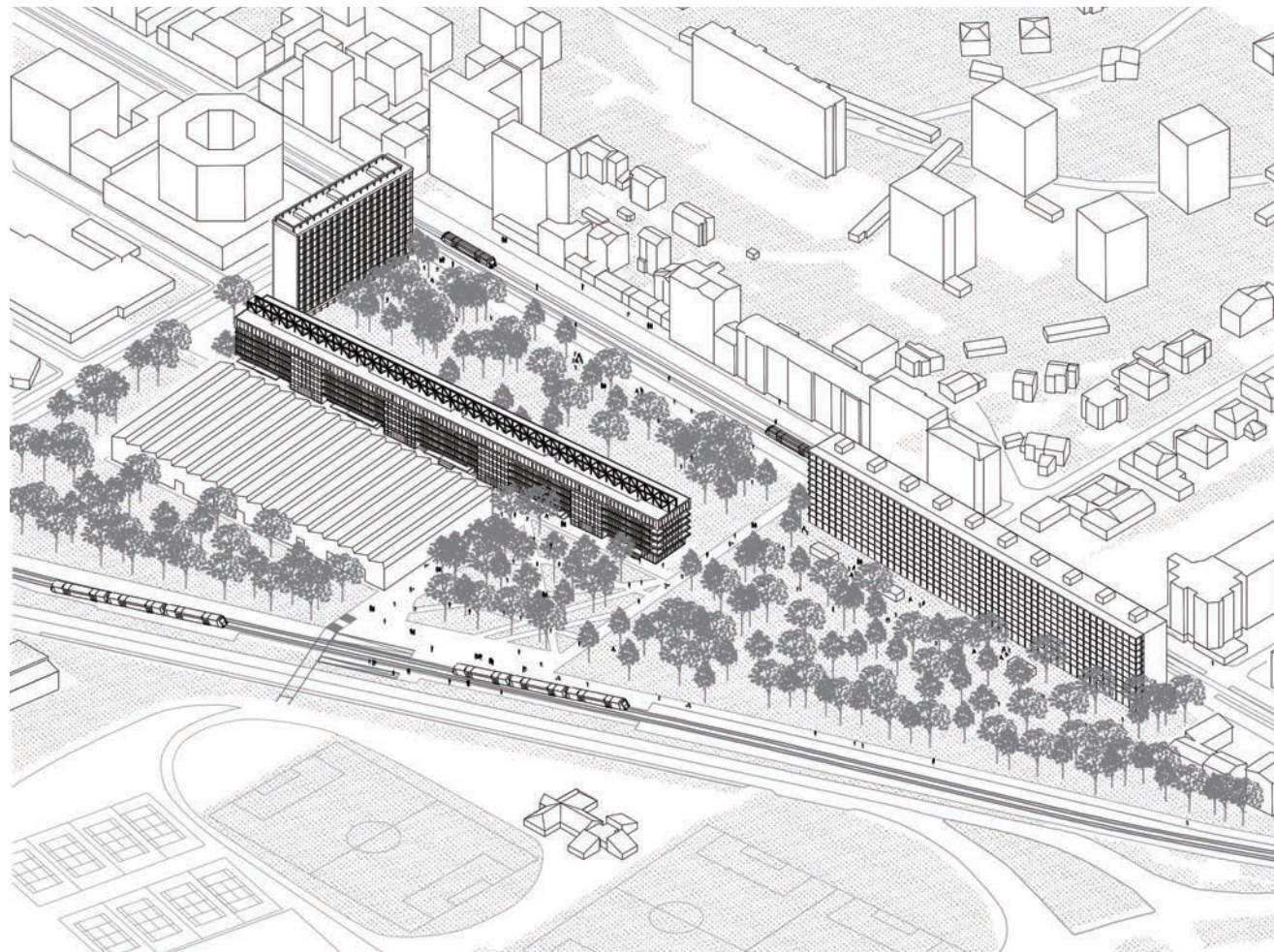


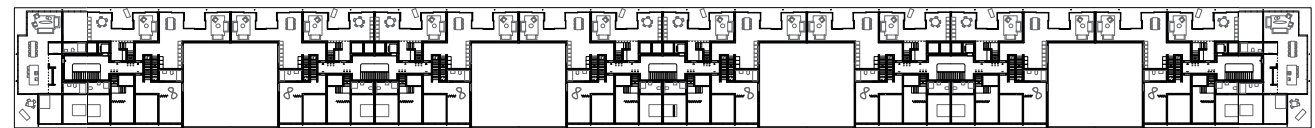
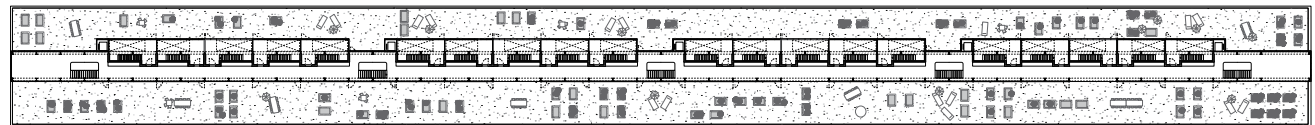


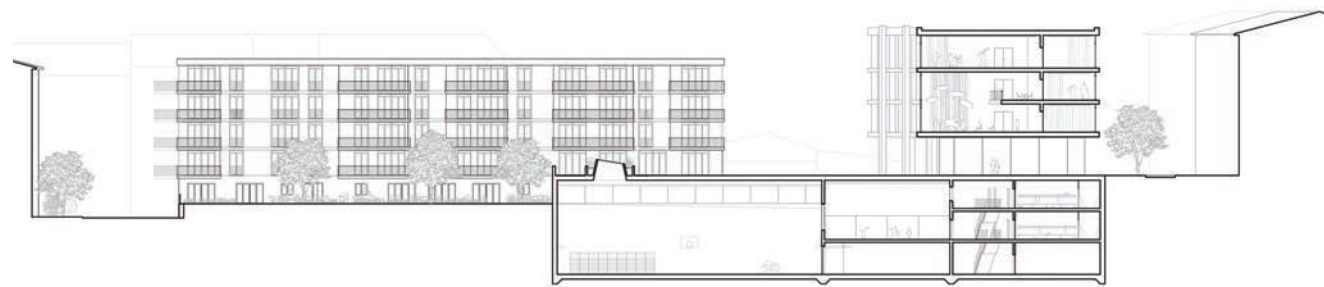


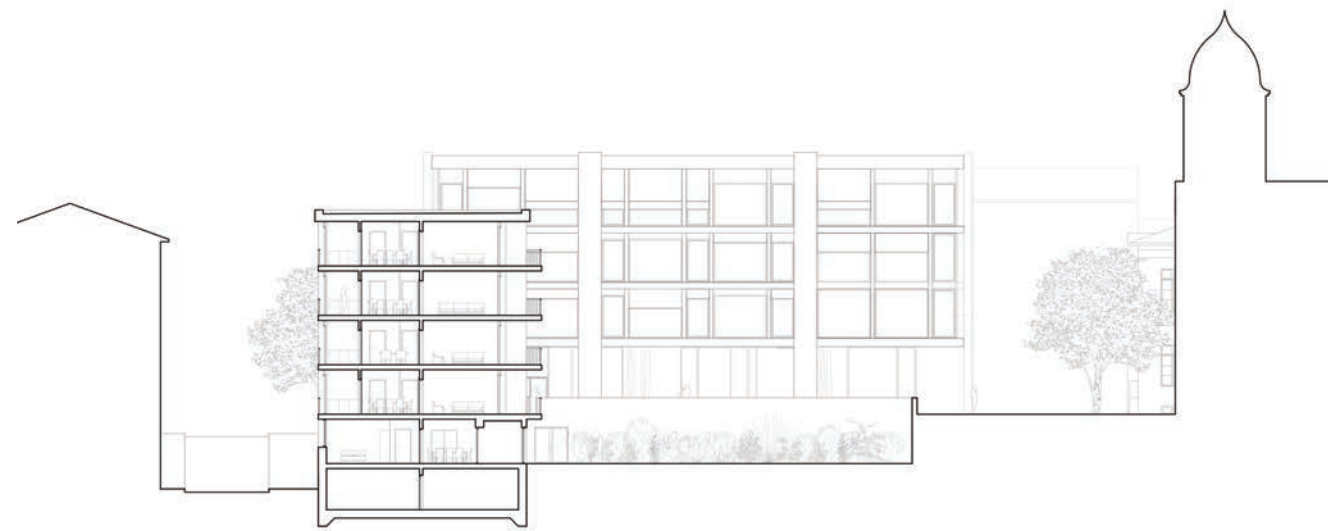


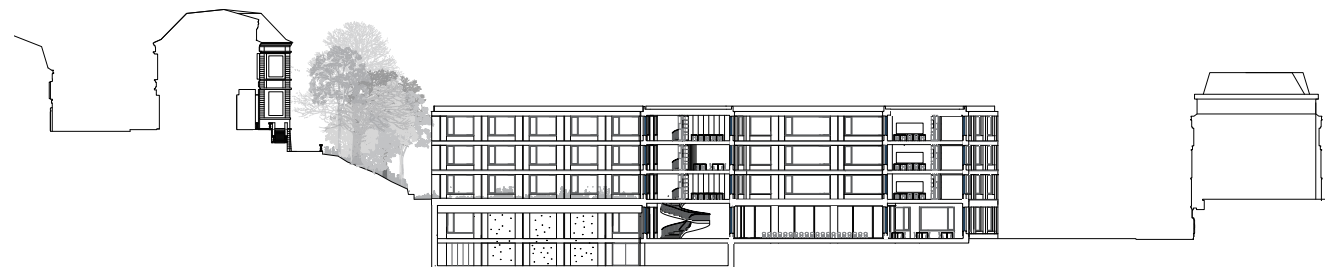
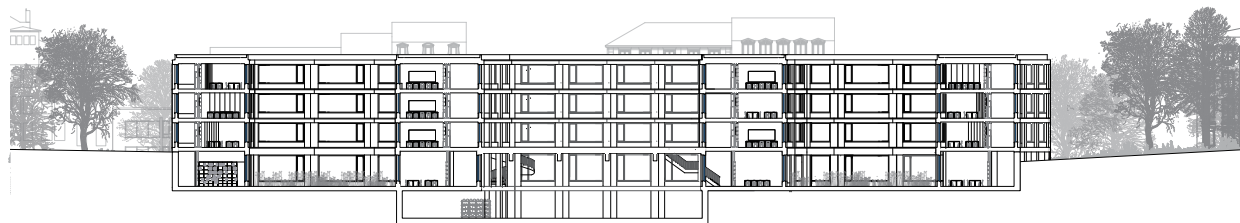


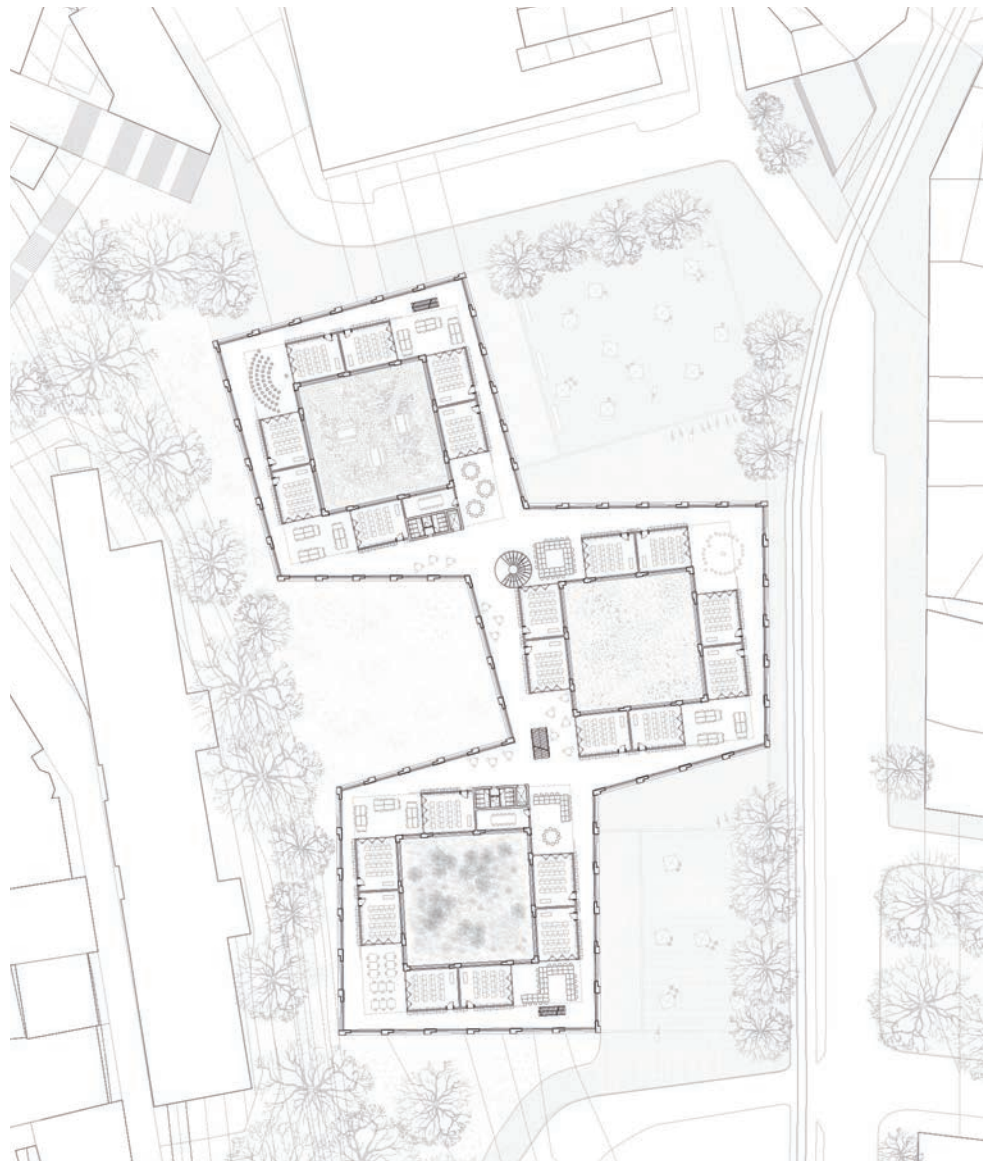


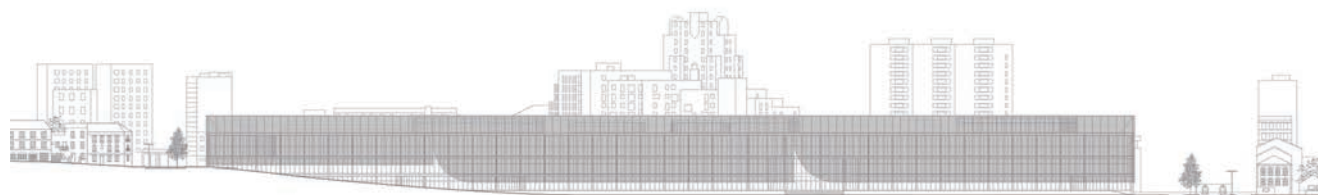
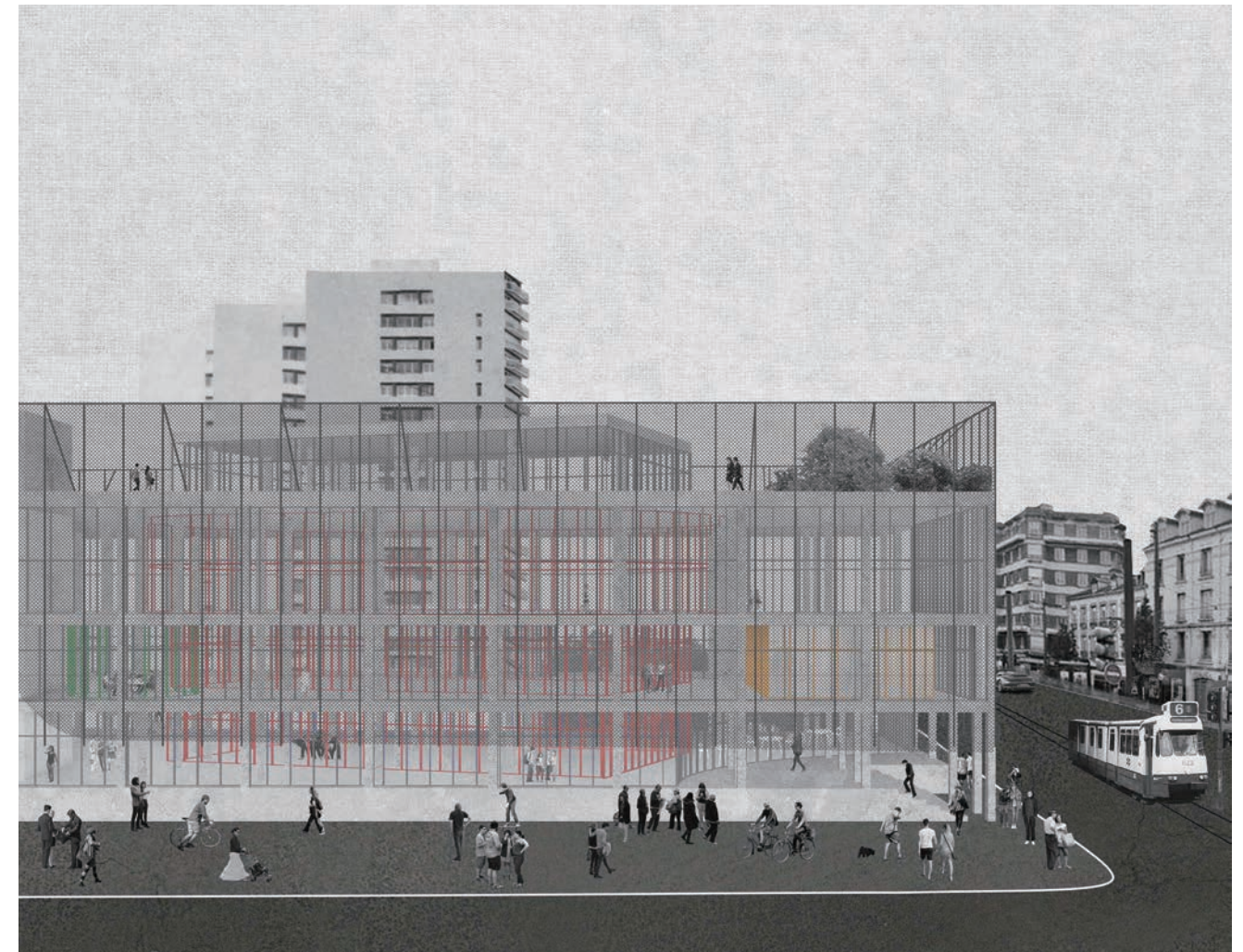
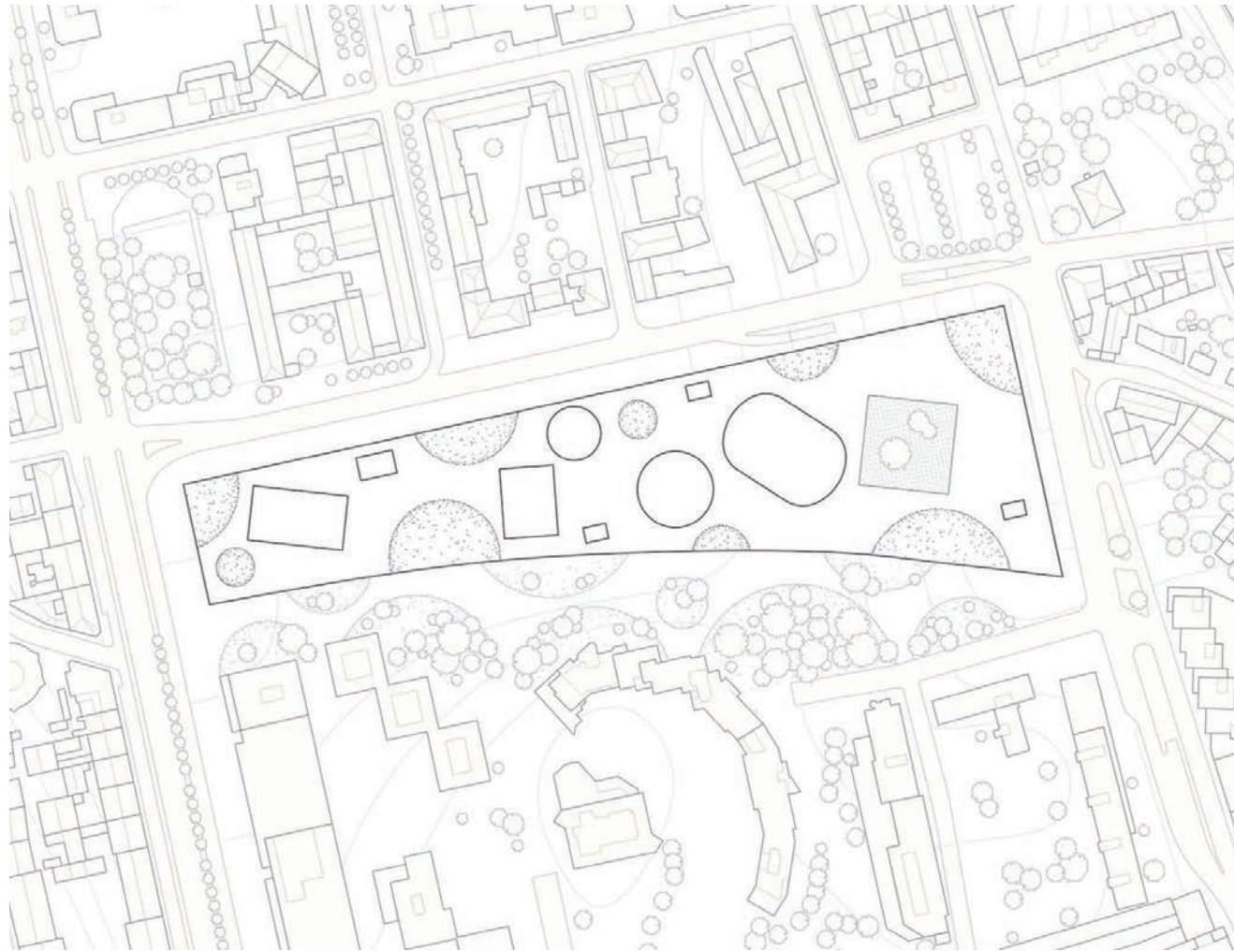


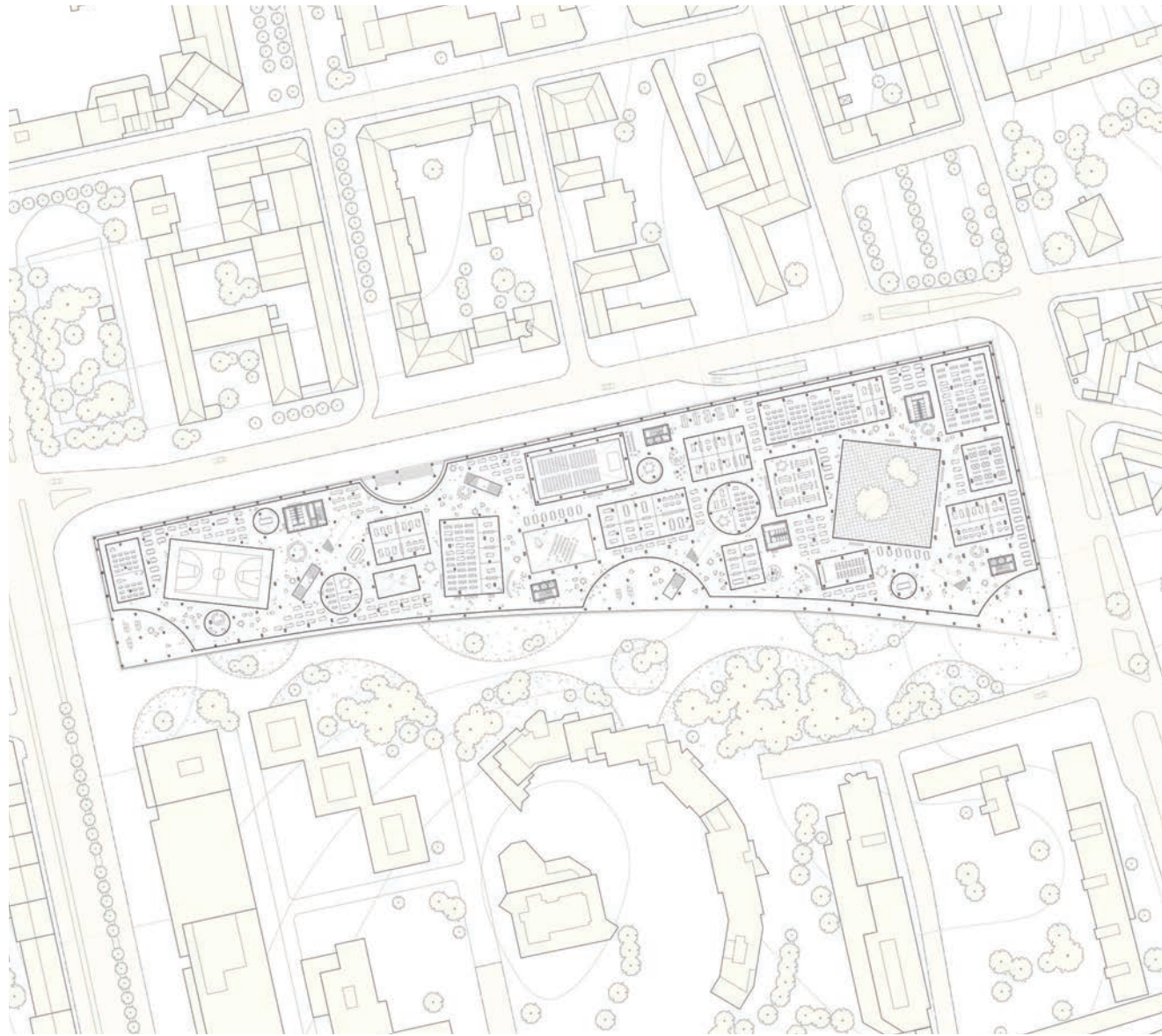


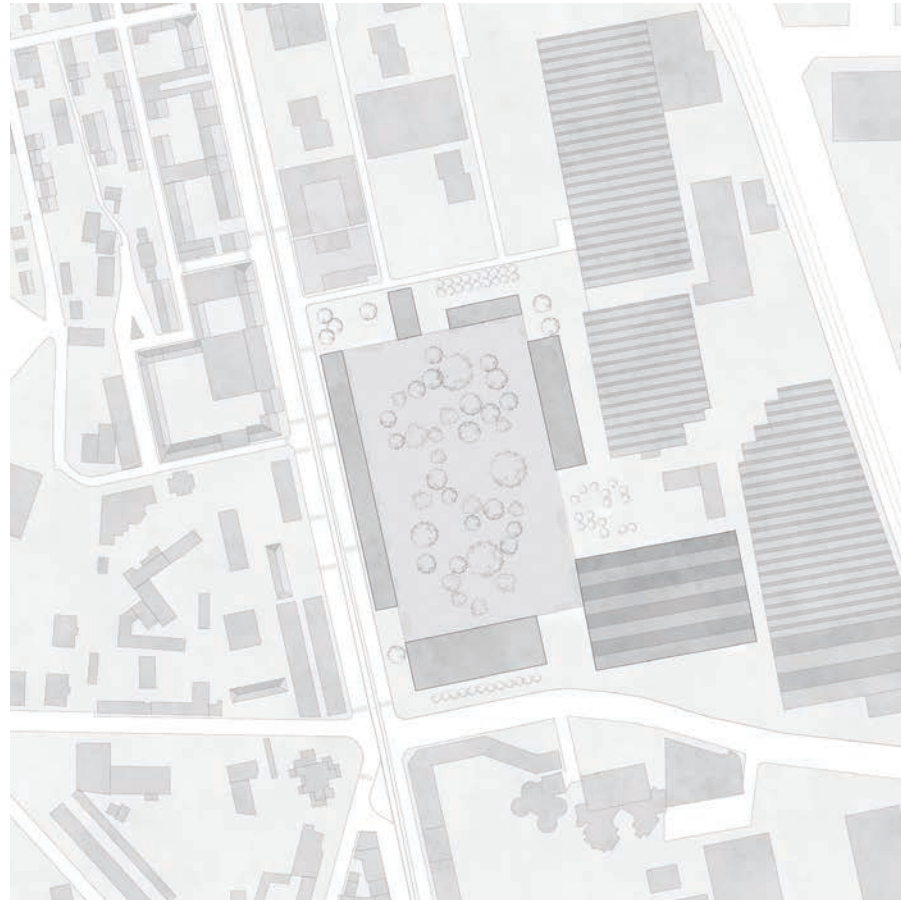






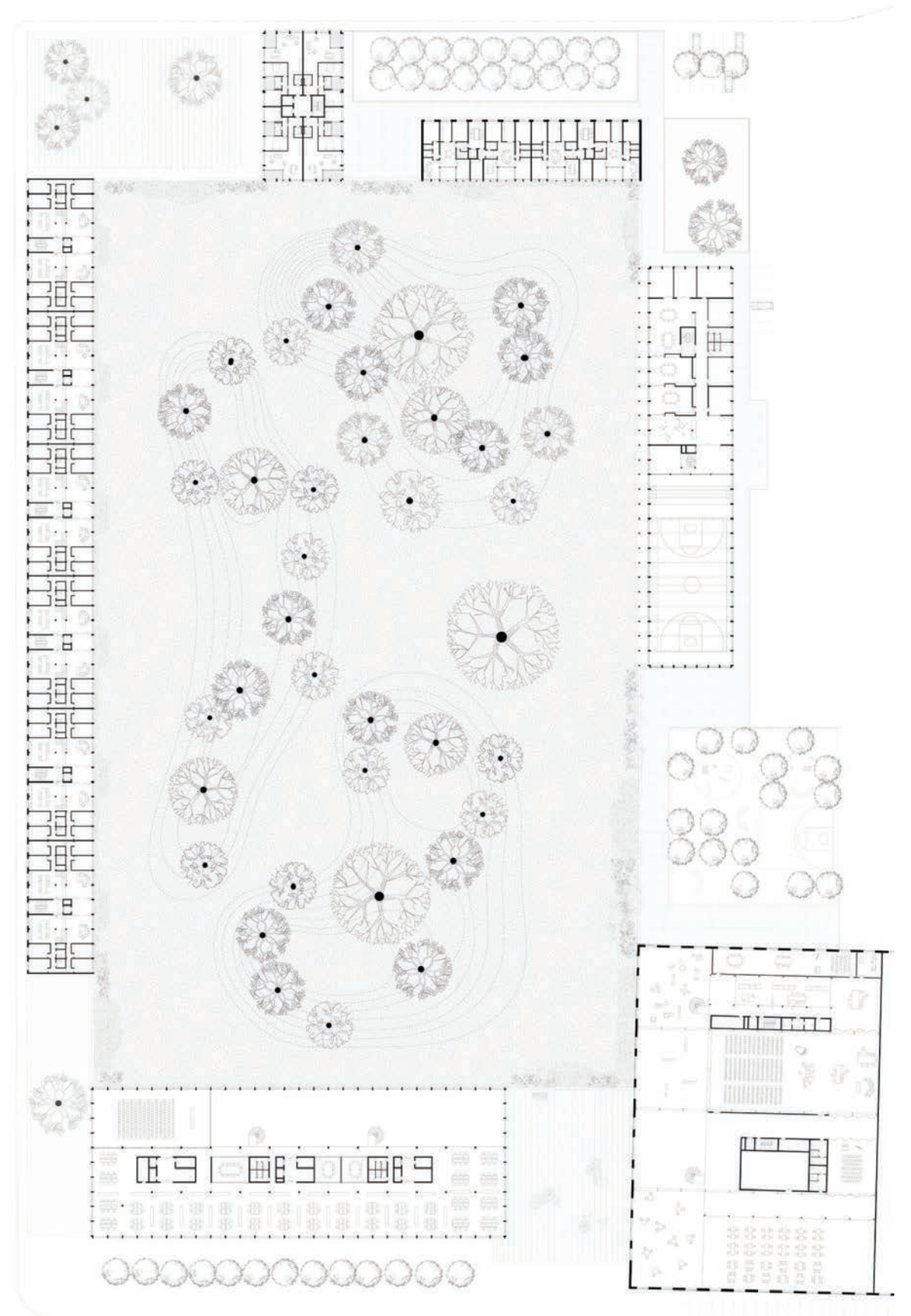
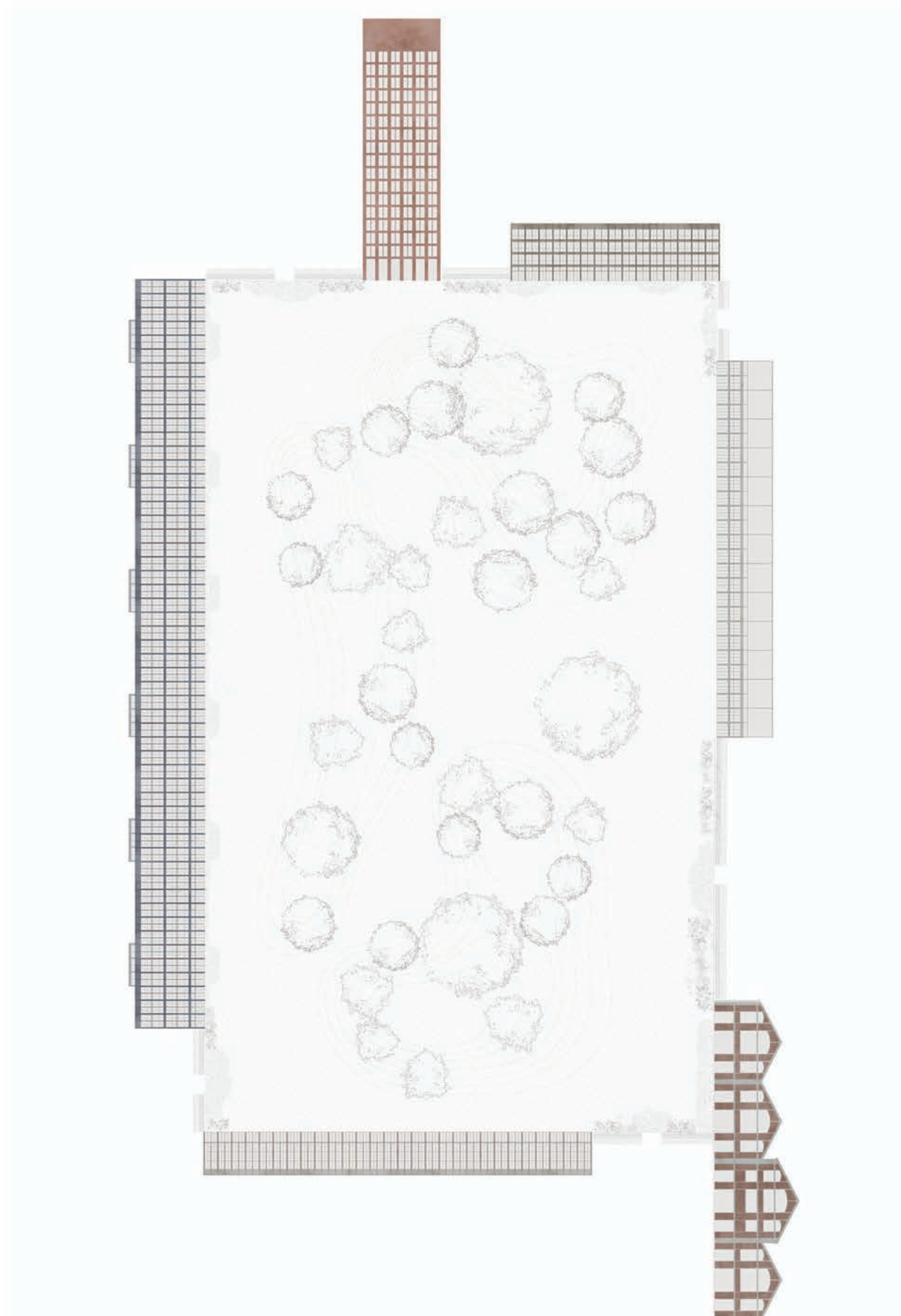




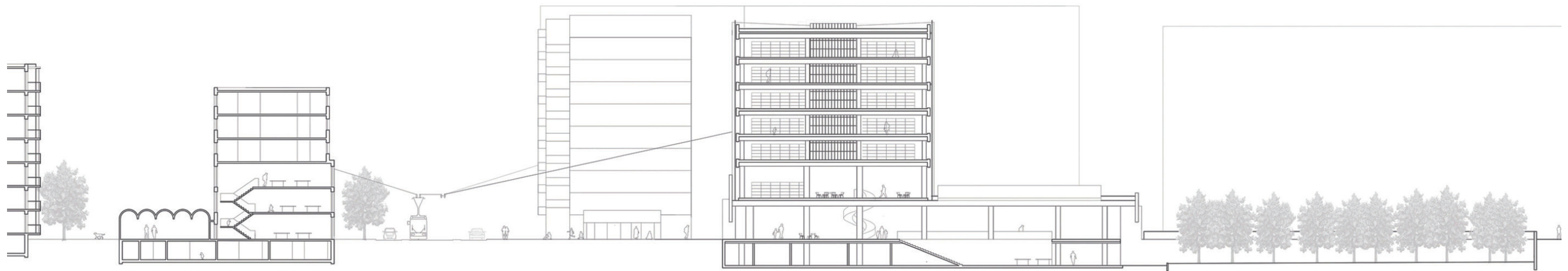


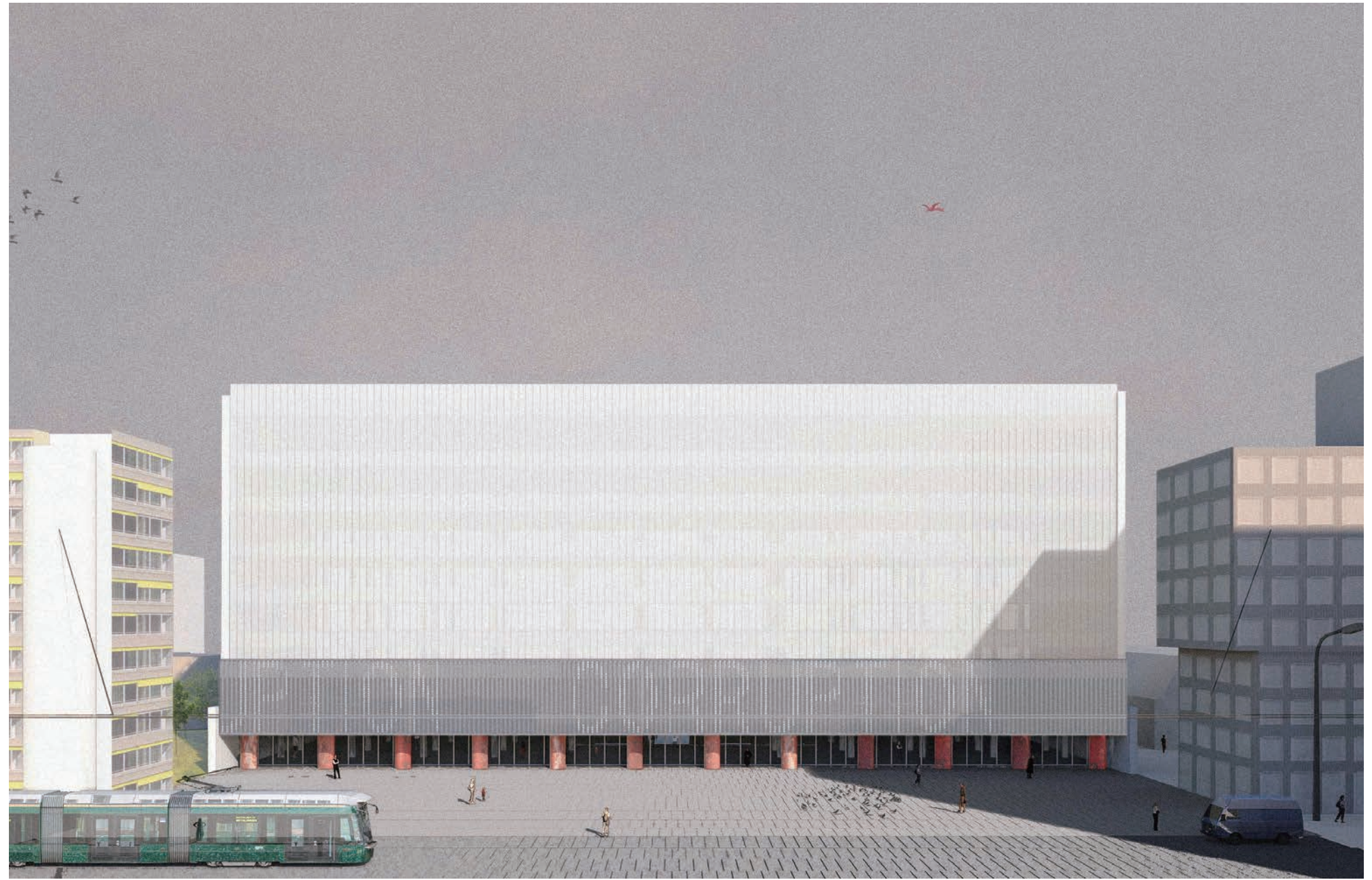
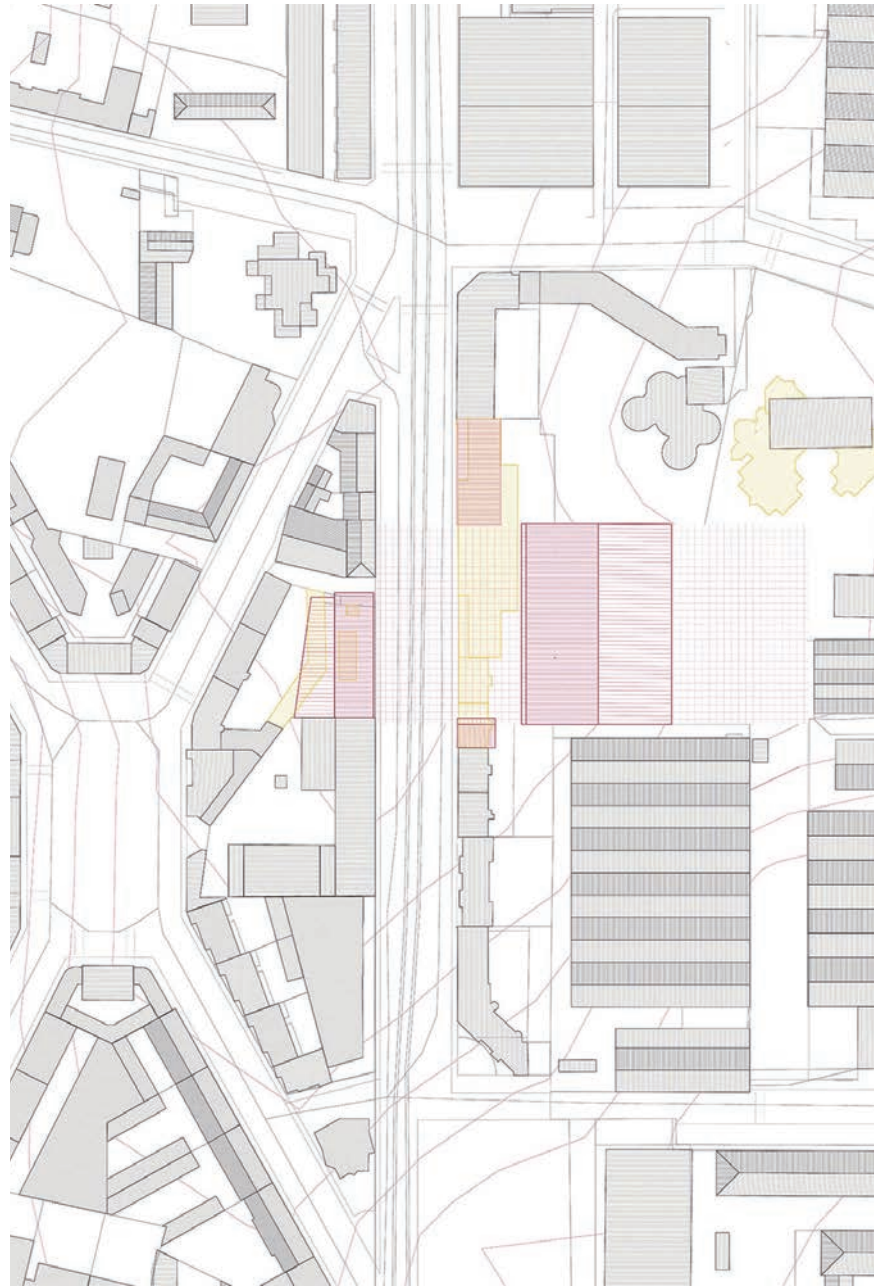


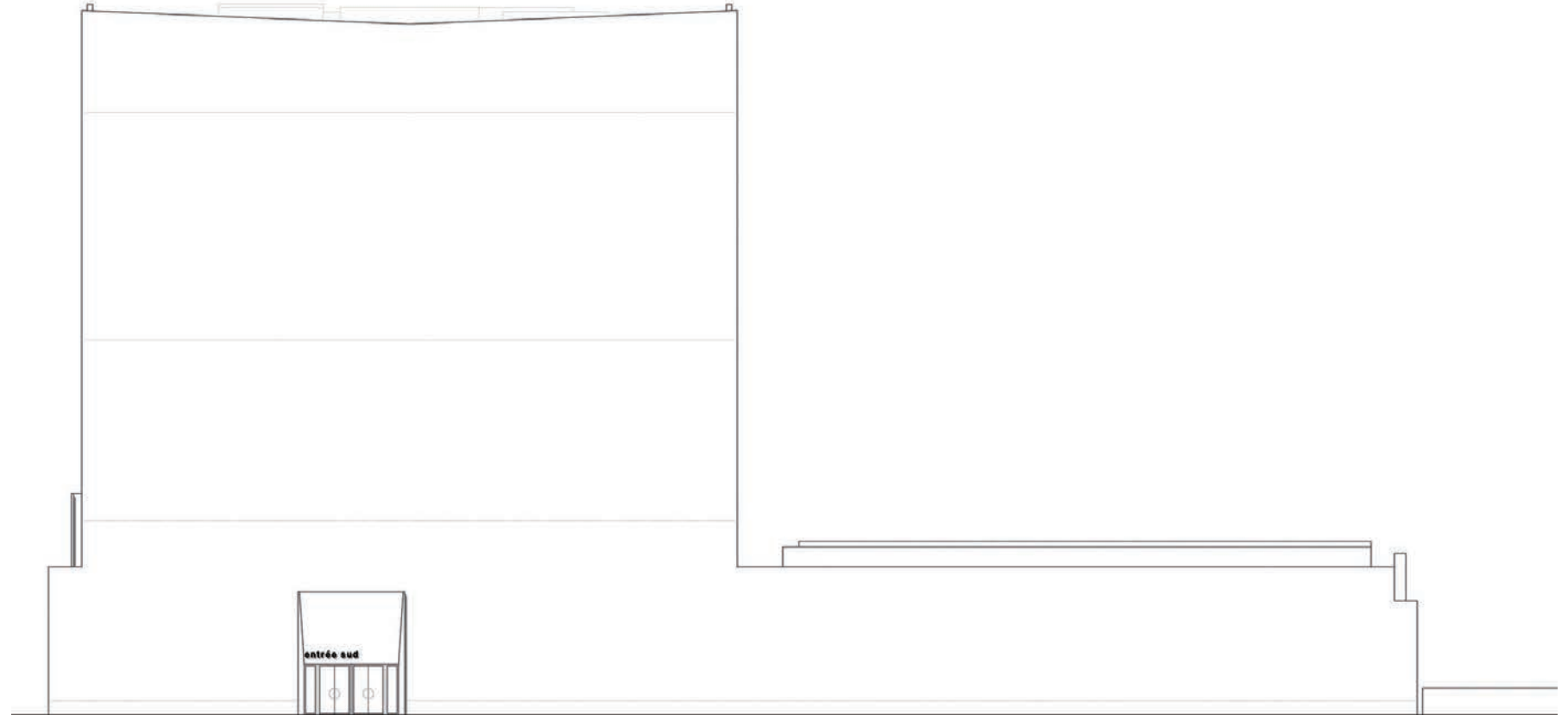


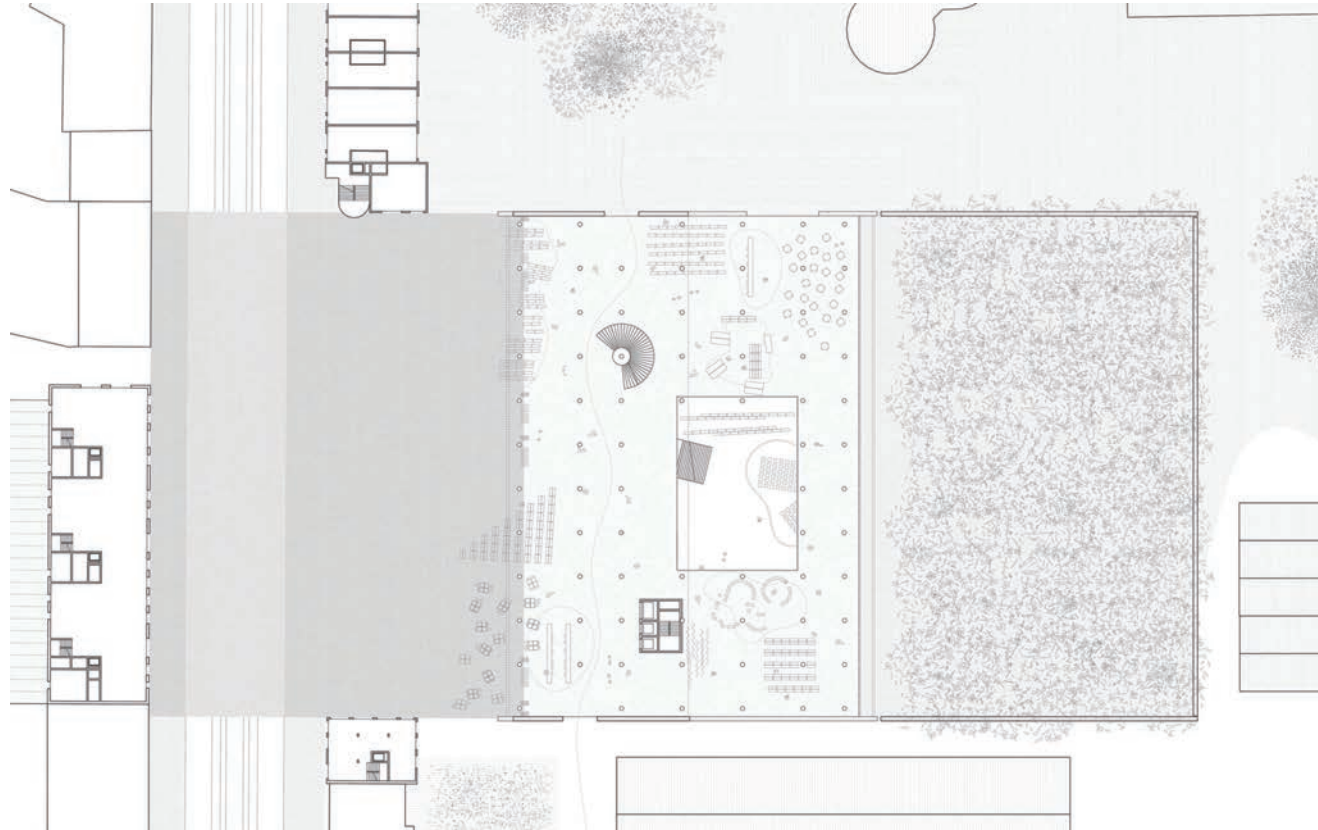












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