

# Connected

Investigations on city landscape  
and space in between buildings

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*Matter, Space, Structure Studio*

Master Thesis  
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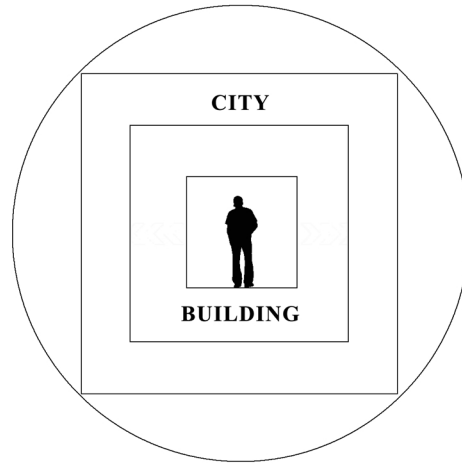


In modern cities, especially those that are developing on a basic level, there is a lack of solutions for a small enclosed, semi-private space where you can spend some time to distance yourself from everyday life troubles.

People always need some space where they can hide for a moment, think, refresh their mind or just isolate themselves from others.

Most of the areas in the city centre are made for certain official functions. There are many common shared spaces in which you can spend time for a while, but those spaces are mostly overused or, they are not used at all. Some of them are also only for private owners. Additional space for a quiet moment seems to be missing still.

Empty gaps in between buildings in an urban quarter area can be filled with new spaces. Additions can be treated as a small separate space to be inside next to a space inside building. Apartments can be connected by corridor which link certain spaces and extend living space of the owners. By adding and extending spaces we can change and modify spatial experiences of existing building structures.



*“One cannot make architecture without studying the condition of life in the city”.*  
Aldo Rossi



## Idea

The general idea for this thesis is about additional space in between buildings, which can be used as a space to sit and rest during the day. The main concept from the beginning was about creating small quite space, in the building and outside the building. I wanted to underline the importance of intermediate spaces in everyday life.

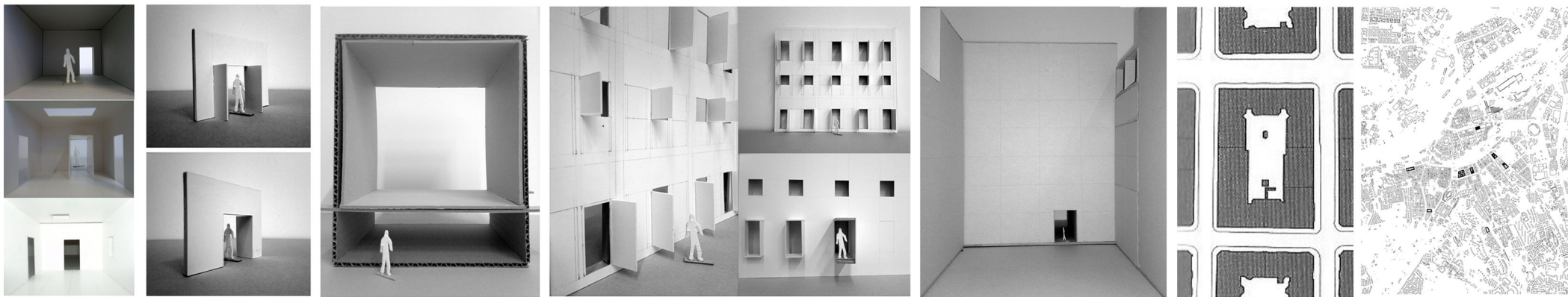
The first part of this work is about the city. I wanted to find specific space, where I can place my project and when I was searching, the whole topic of the city expanded.

The second is about specific situation in the city center context. It's more about putting all my observations into one certain area, rather than presenting specific solution.

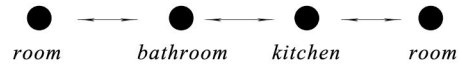
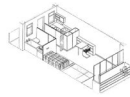
The third is about additional space near the room. It is a small, enclosed area, which can be treated as an extension of room, where you can separate yourself from the rest of the apartment. You can modify walls according to your needs, by choosing to make them out of glass material (to see others) or wooden (to be isolated).

The city context can be treated as a problem of connected elements which build the whole urban structure and create different spaces to live, some of them are according to human scale, other are a bit anonymous and unpleasant to be.

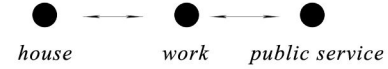
Investigations.



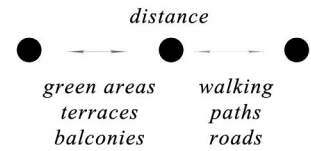
apartment



city



in between



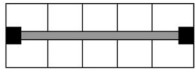


buildings



in between: distance & function  
green areas, communication (walking paths, roads)

### housing flow



no views on the way  
anonymous space

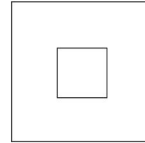


separate entrances  
good communication  
with the city

### city flow

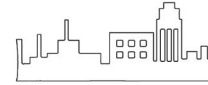


roads



public squares

### urban flow



big city : driven by car mostly. large areas,  
big distances between spaces



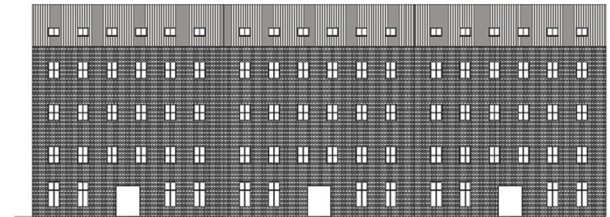
small city : you walk mainly, small scale,  
close proximity to different places



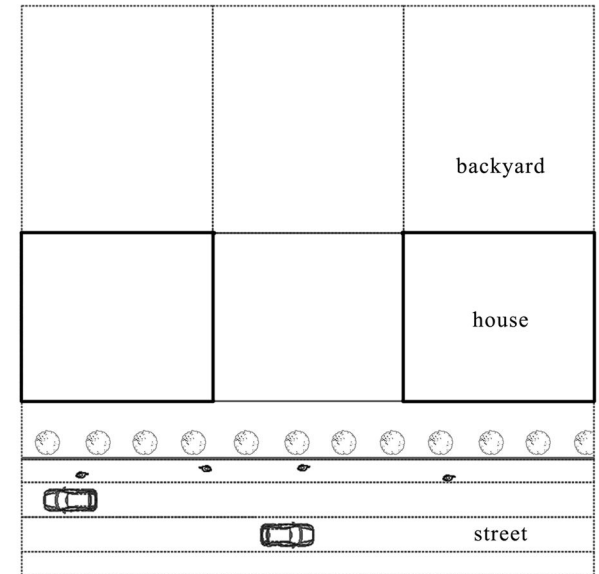
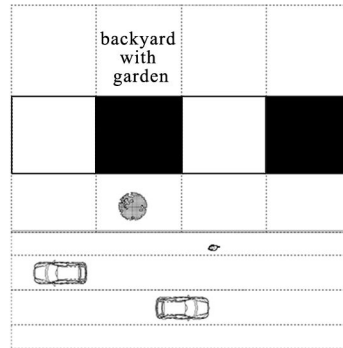
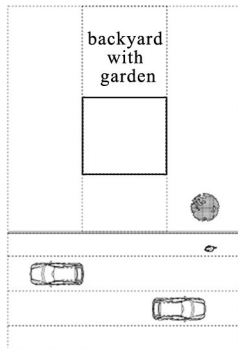
house



row houses



tenement house, lamellhus

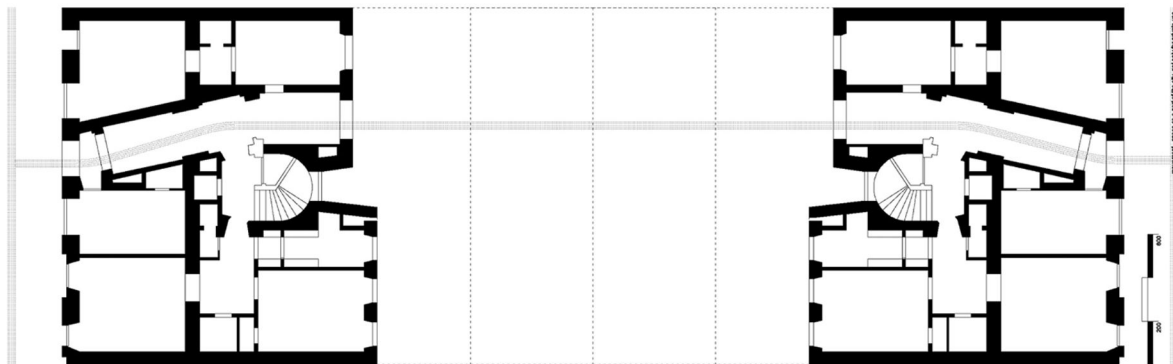




Housing typology; tenement house in the main city center. This form of the house is popular in cities around the world and forms the space to live for many people. The most characteristic feature of this type of the building is the fact that it's binded directly with the street and has a backyard as a semi private space for people who live in the flats around. Also, other users of the city space can enter those backyards, where in some of them they can find shops, private firms, galleries, restaurants etc. In that way public space becomes more various and people who walk can move freely through the city.

Institution like shopping malls or large housing areas, usually situated outside main city, created empty spaces in the core of the city and changed the way, people who move mostly by car, use public space.





street - building - backyard - building - street

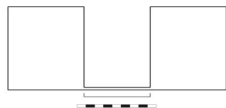




Anonymous spaces in the city context



Haga Nygatan



Vasagatan



Sten Sturegatan



Skanegatan

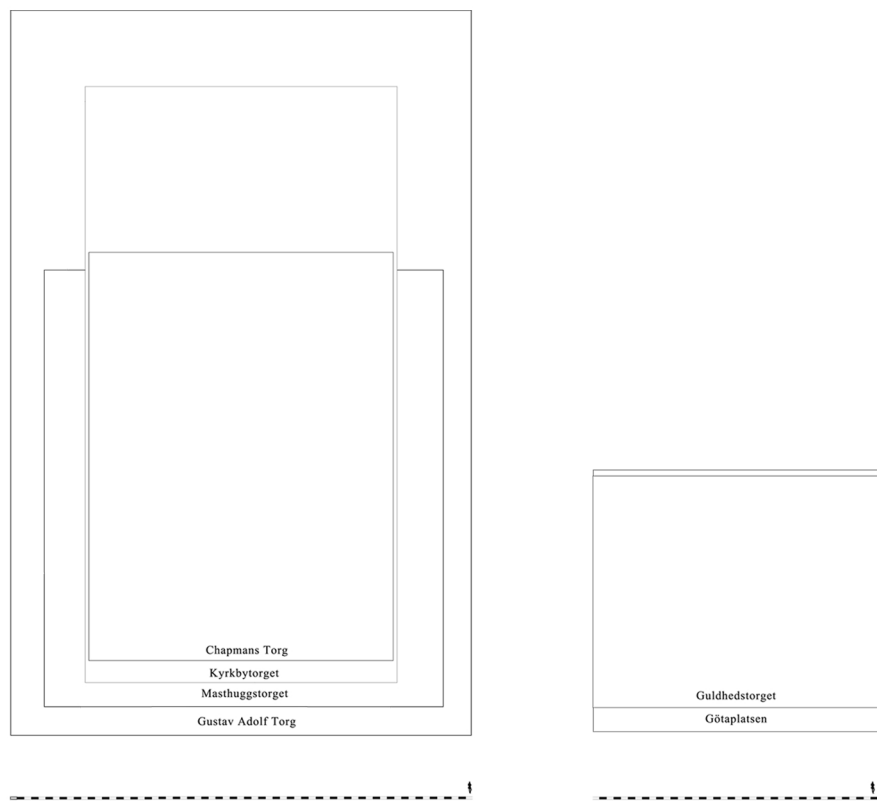


Kungsportavenyn



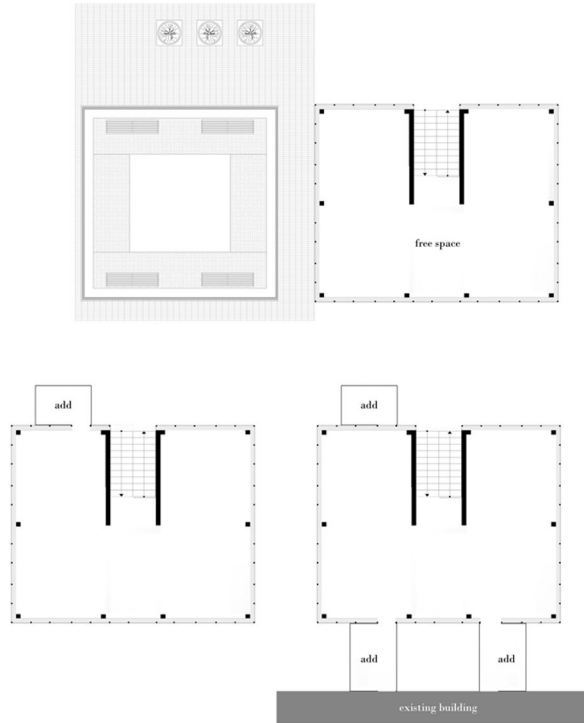
roads according to scale

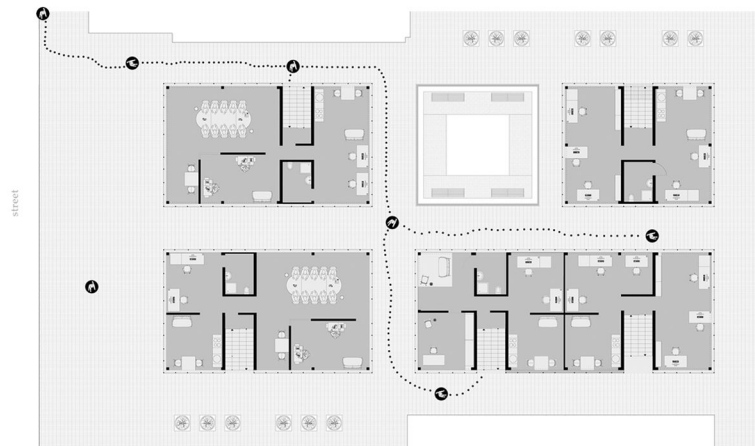




Public squares according to scale

Following my investigations on city environment and tenement house, I've made first a model of buildings with additional spaces, around small courtyard. This situation was interesting for me because it shows a good model for environment, where people can rent flats or empty space for small firm with additional area around for visitors.

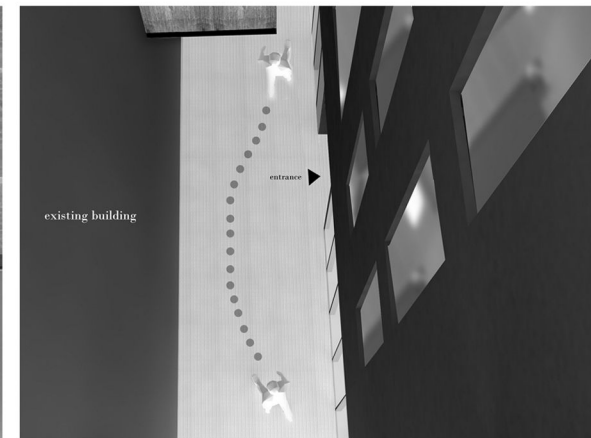




layout on a ground floor with  
connection to the street



view from courtyard  
inside buildings



movement inside area

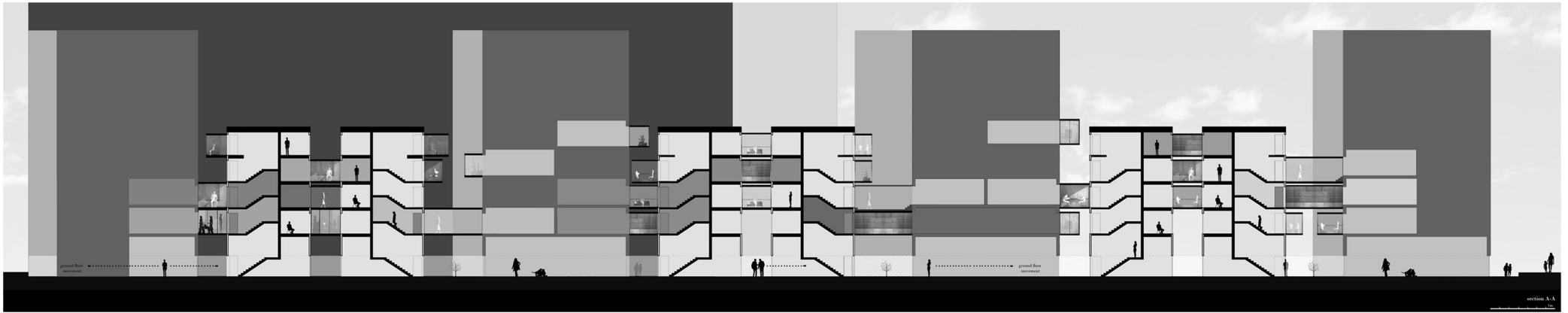


view from the street with connected buildings



view from the street





how apartments can be connected together

After investigations and first models, I have decided to make a quite narrow building on the same site, in between existing buildings. In that way this structure is enclosed and it can be used in a more extensive way. On the ground floor there is a square where people who stroll along the city can enter to sit for a moment.

Also this space can be used by the owners of the apartments. The building is based on the idea with connected rooms and additional spaces in between and next to room, organized and used in a different manner than regular apartments.

Building



Carlo Scarpa, extension of Canova Museum,  
Possagno, Italy 1955-57



example of inner housing courtyard



Aldo Rossi, San Cataldo Cemetery, Province of Modena, Italy, 1971



MVRDV, Wozoco, The Netherlands, 1997



Swatt Miers, Modern Tea House, 2009



housing in Bikkjarvik, Norway

## References



Material

topic	what	for who	
additional space in the inner city area	a small space connected to a building by window or door. Space can be stretched out in between rooms.	for people who use public space like housing or office and they want to isolate themselves for a moment. Additional space as an option.	
where	why	place	discourse
in the city urban context. The space is organized according to an investigations on movement and housing typology	lack of calm, enclosed spaces in a city centre area	Goteborg, Heden, Sten Sturegatan	small spaces next to a building, extended balconies, verandas, terraces or small light spaces which can be placed in different environments, outside or inside crowded areas



room



shelter



veranda



sauna



terrace  
balcony

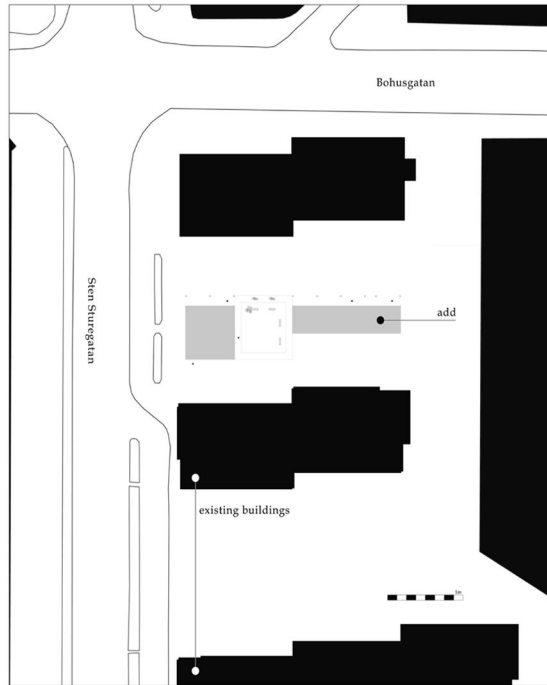


inner  
cortyard



garden

questions



site

Additional space within existing structure as an :

- a. inner courtyard area, where you can sit
- b. basic form of the space which is added in between existing buildings
- c. addition as a small space where you can relax and corridors which link spaces

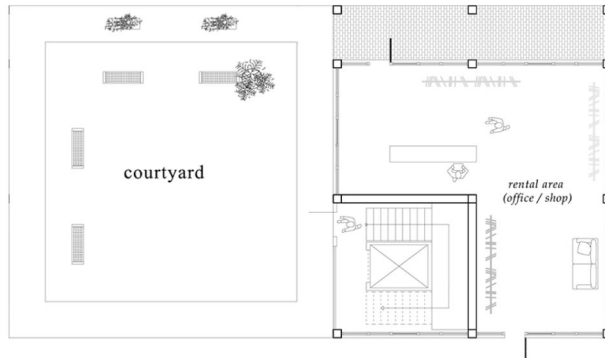
a.



b.

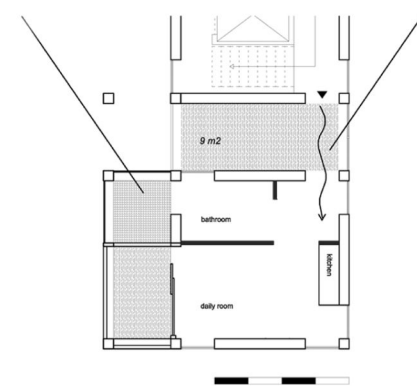


c.



additional space,  
enclosed one, which is  
connected with daily room

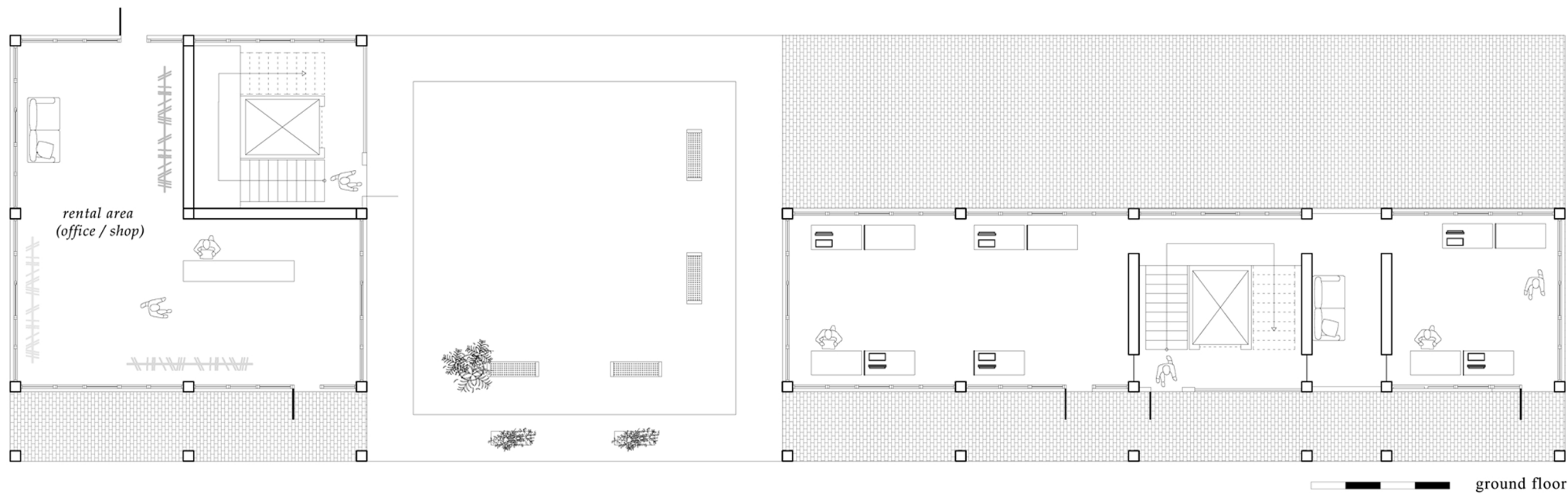
corridors with  
additional space  
link and divide spaces

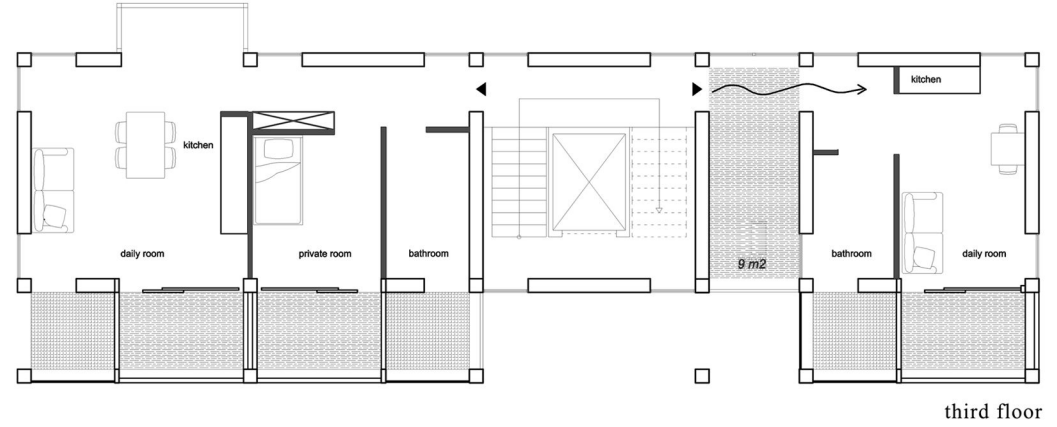
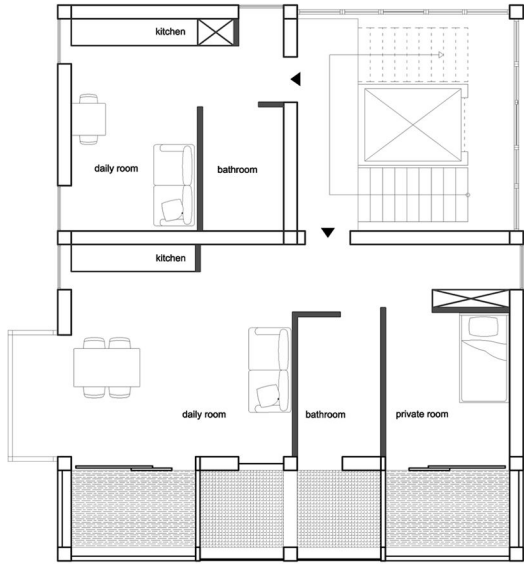




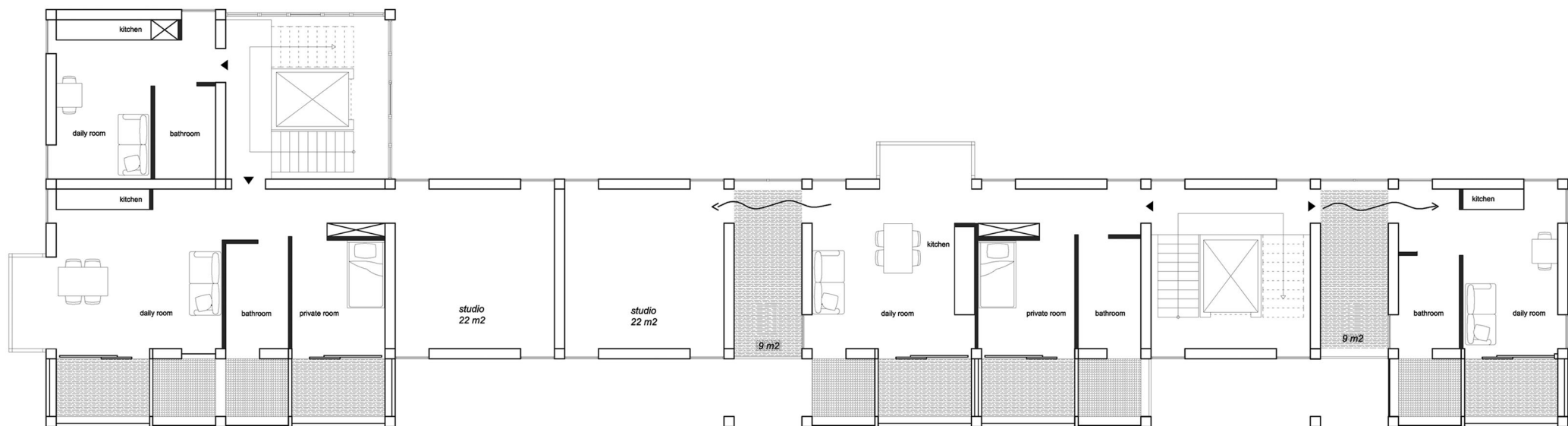


inside area in between existing and new building

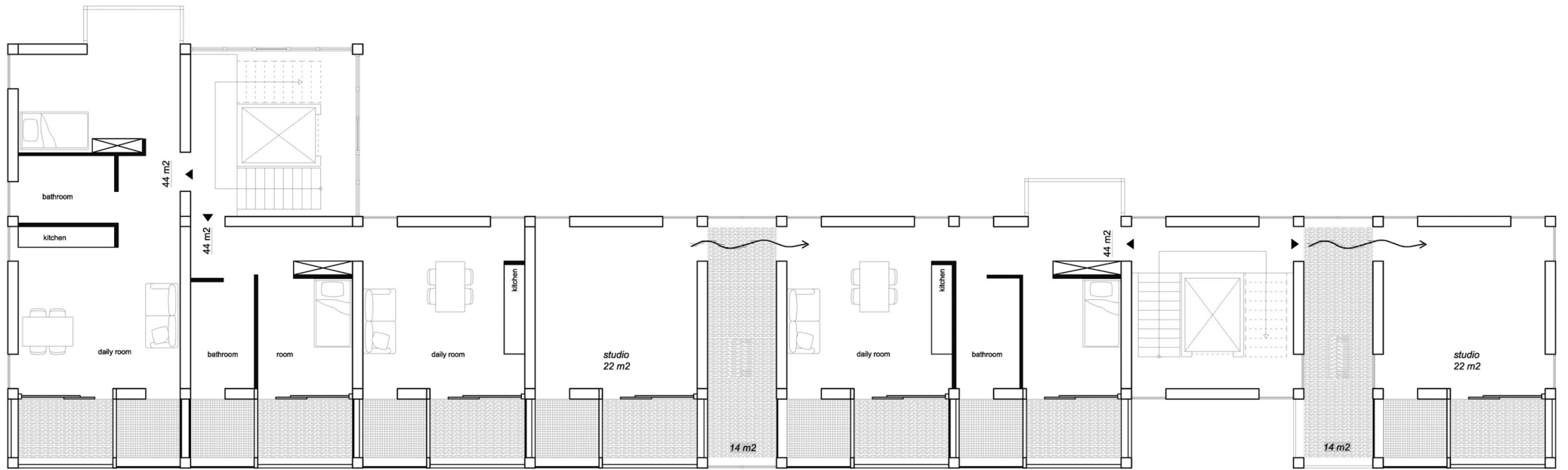




third floor

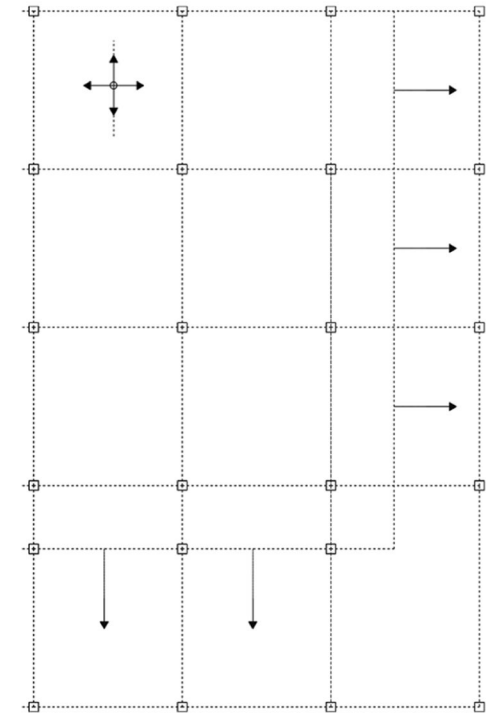
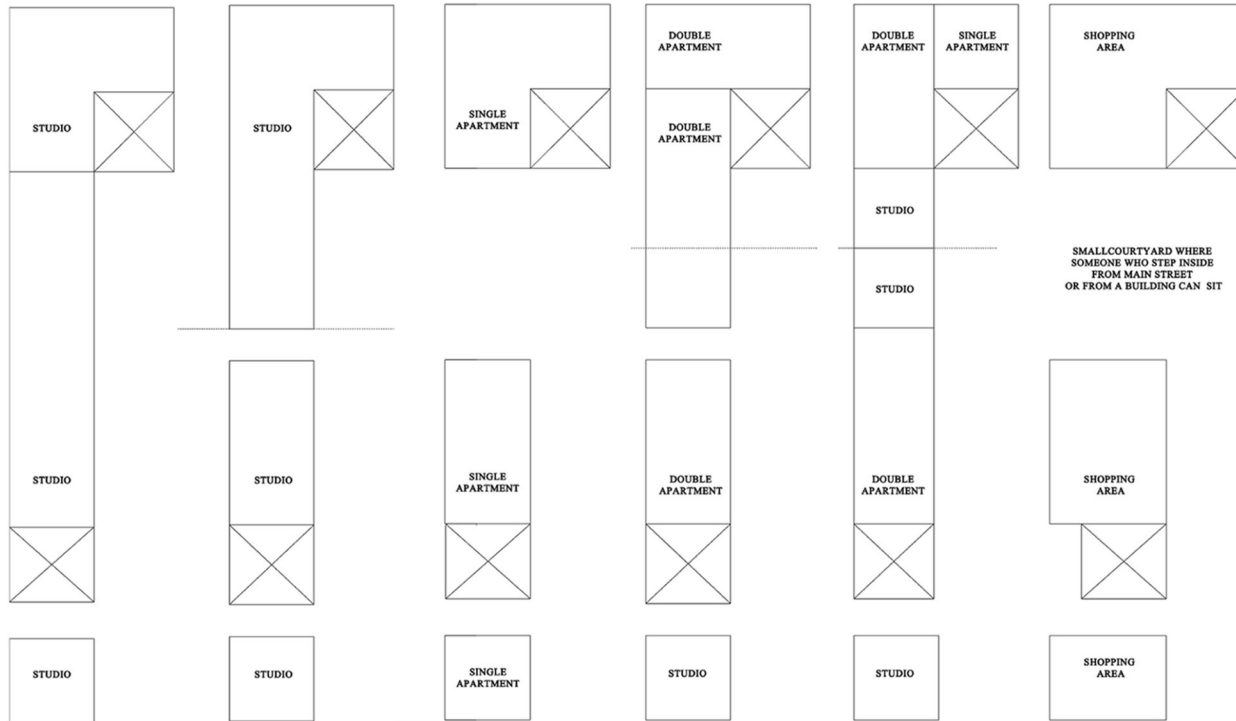


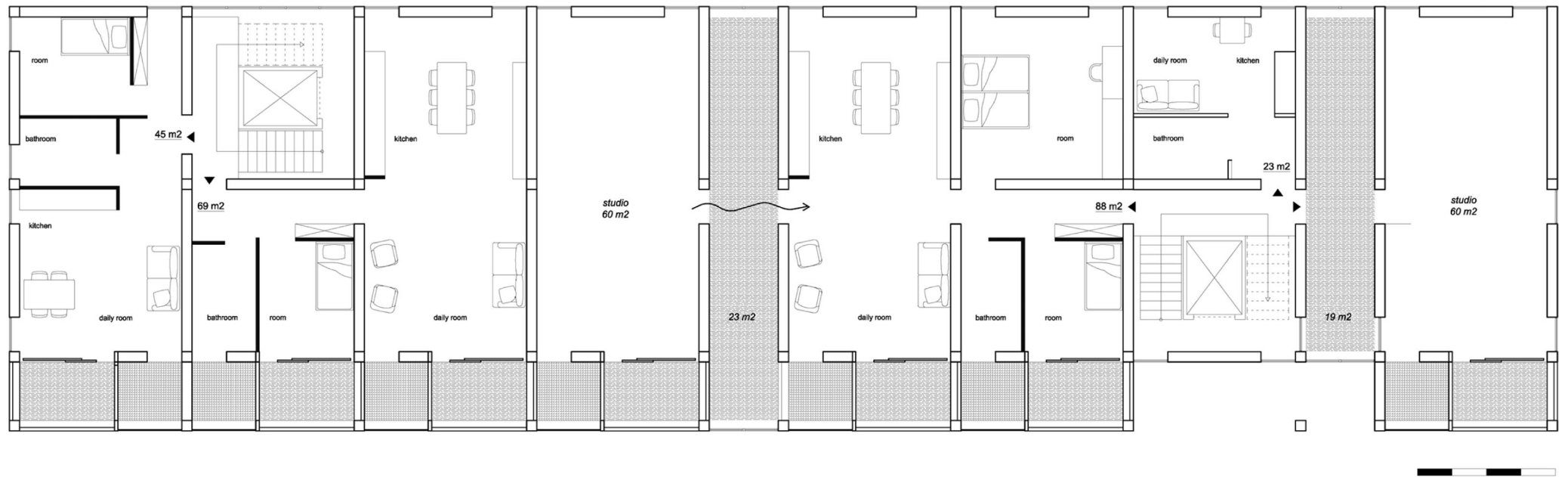
fourth floor



fifth floor

## variation of different layouts and composition of rooms



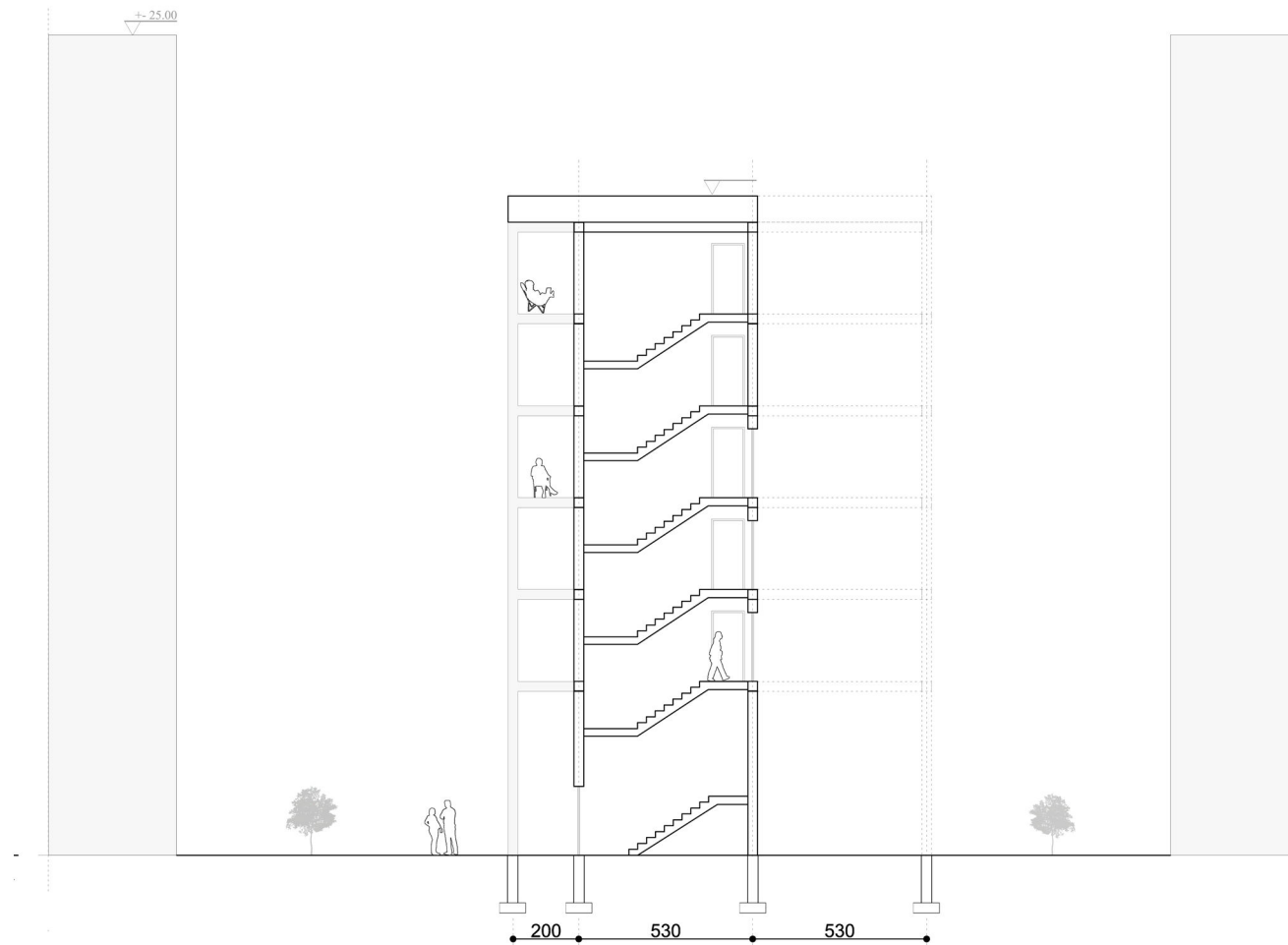






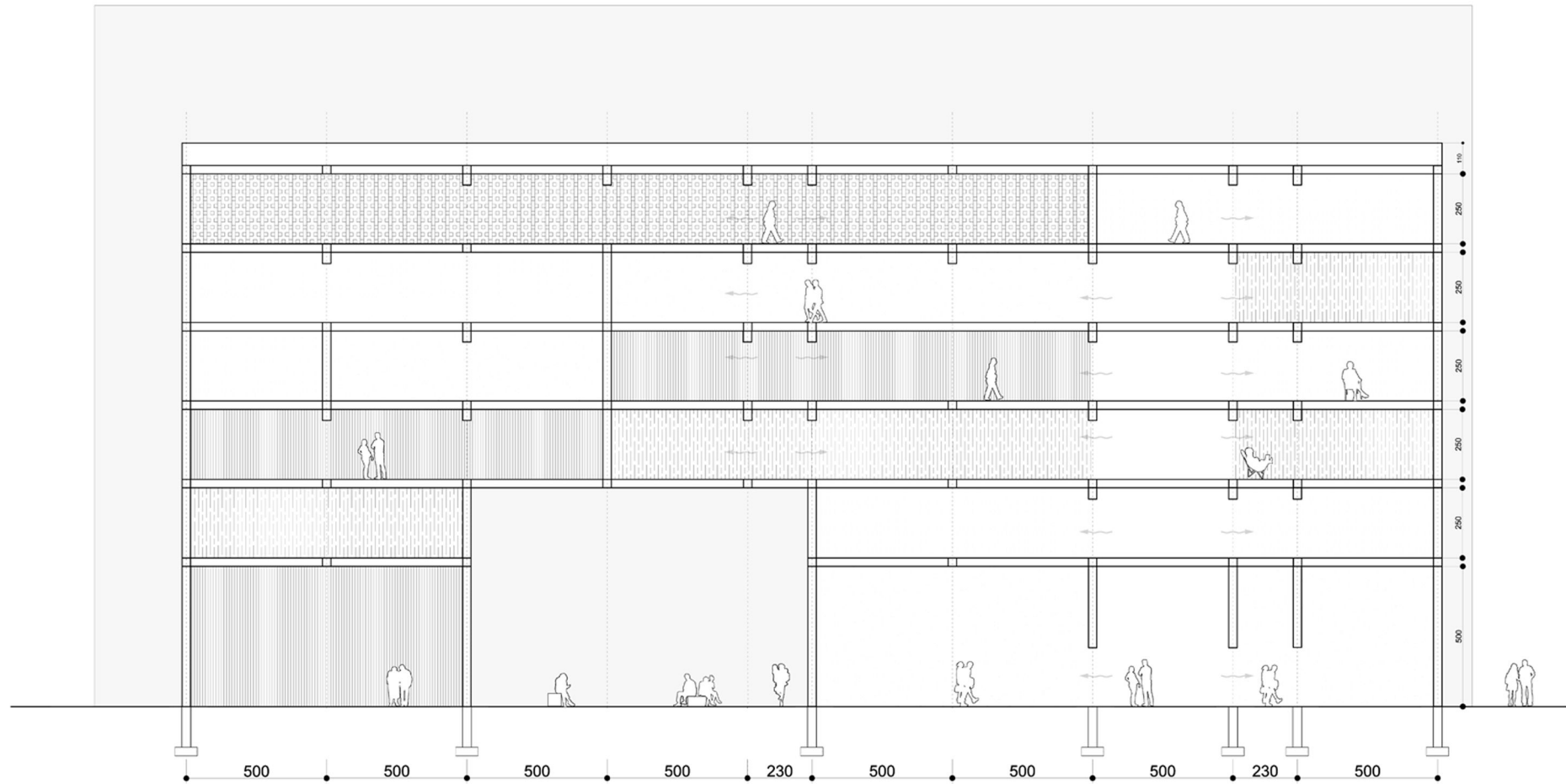


views from Sten Sturegata



section B-B

37



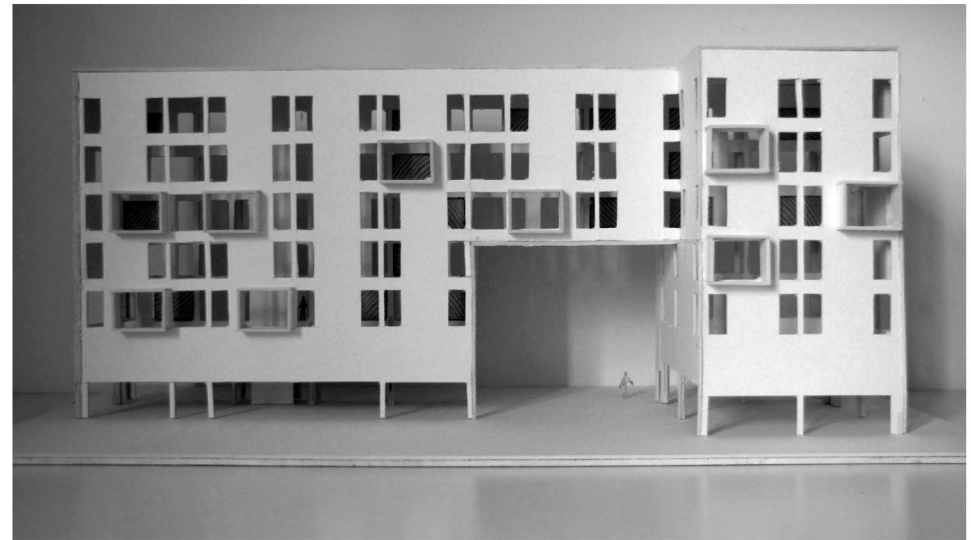
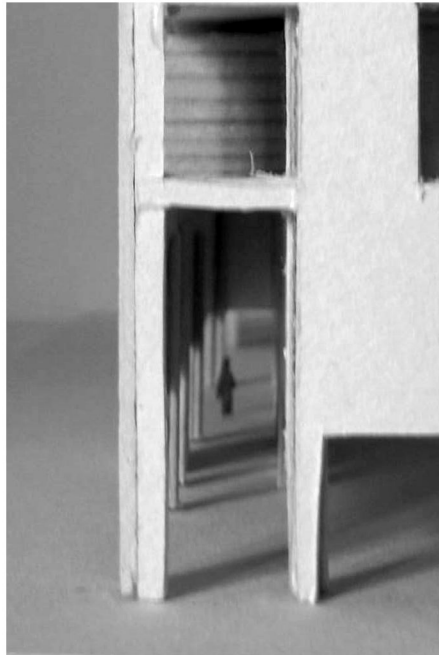
section A-A



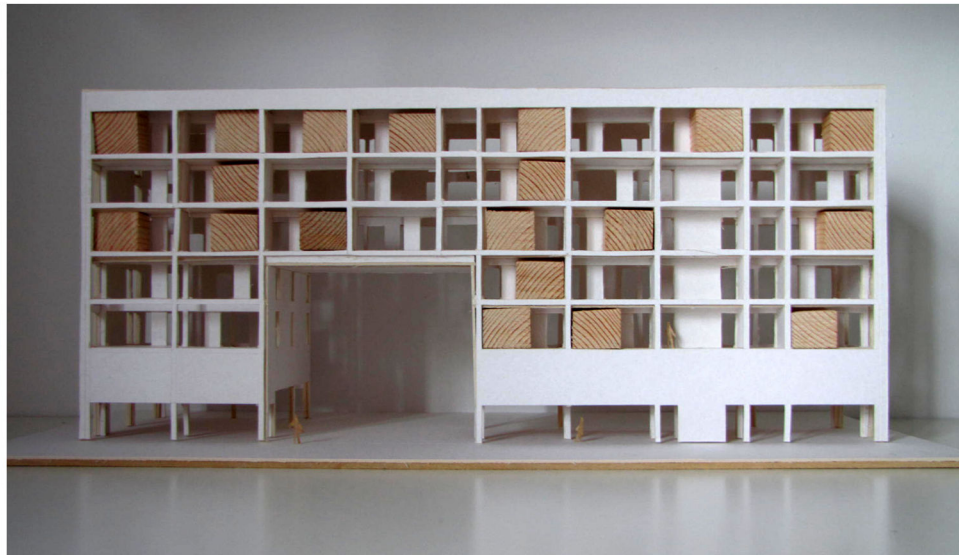
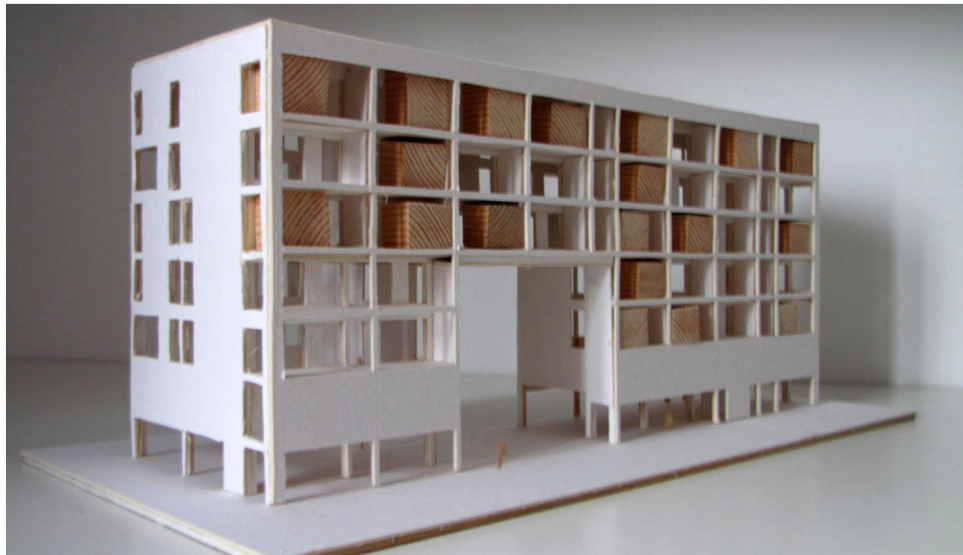
Facade from north side



view from a main street



view from side



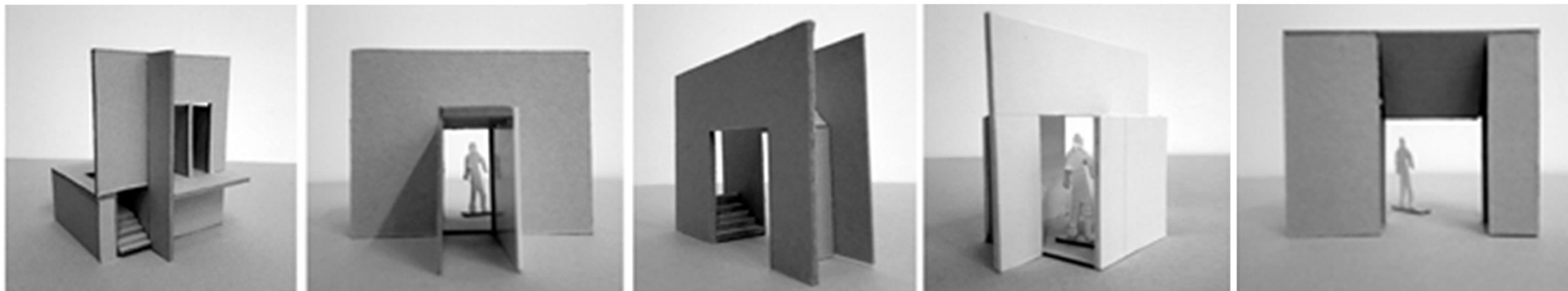
model scale 1:100



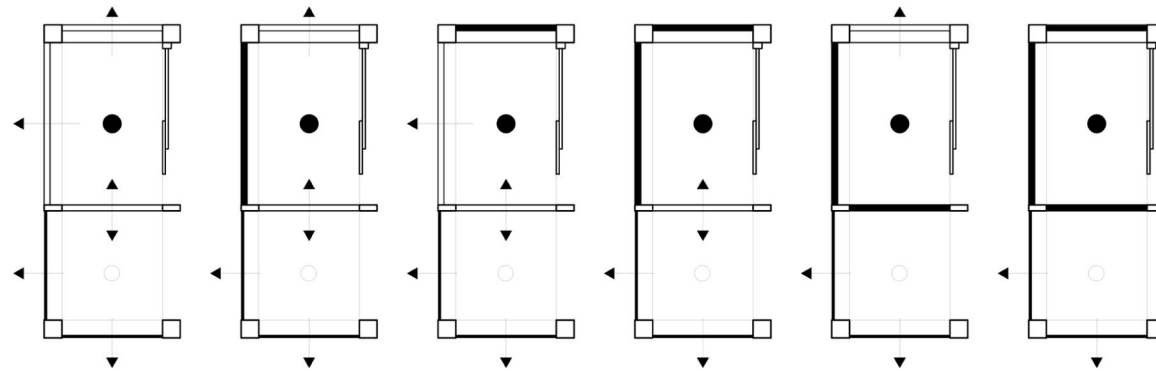


Additional space

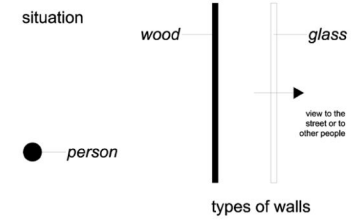
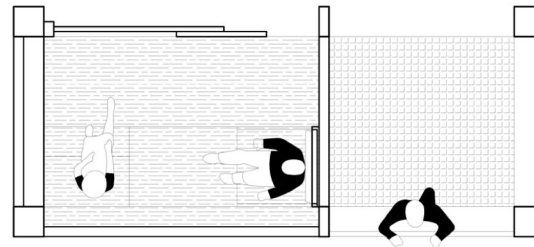
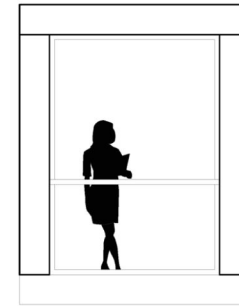




Space around window in a room



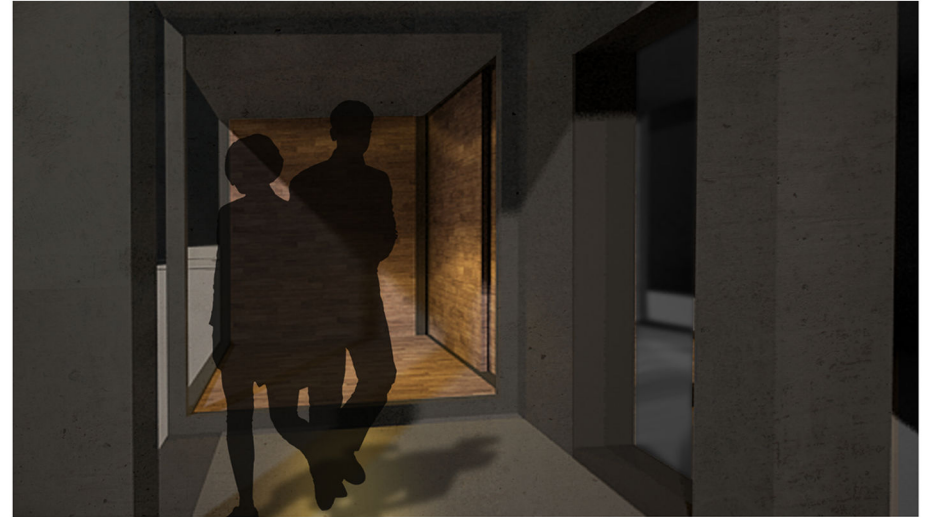
addition and balcony with variation of different walls to separate from other people or to keep in contact



addition : section and layout

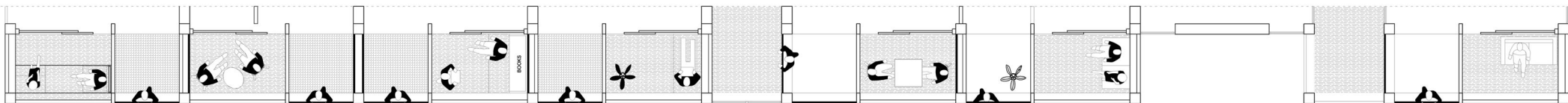
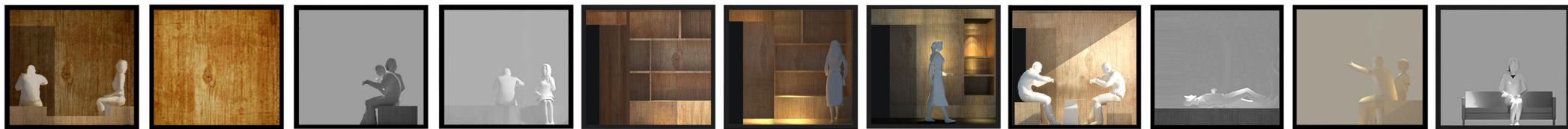


view from the room

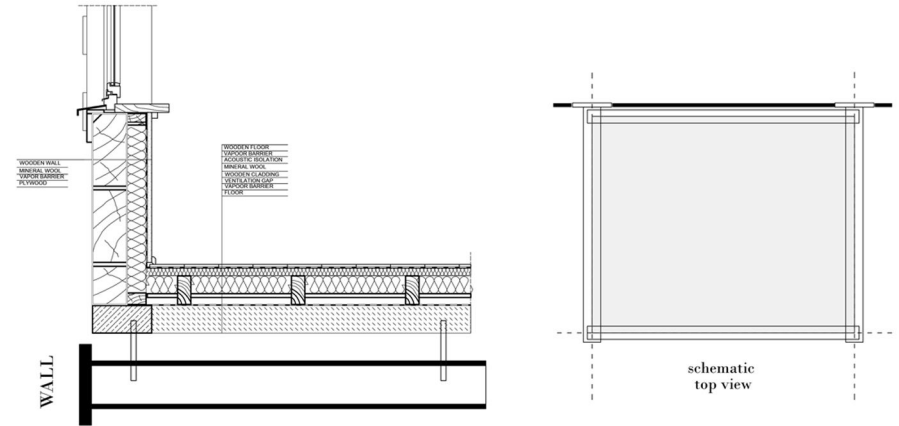
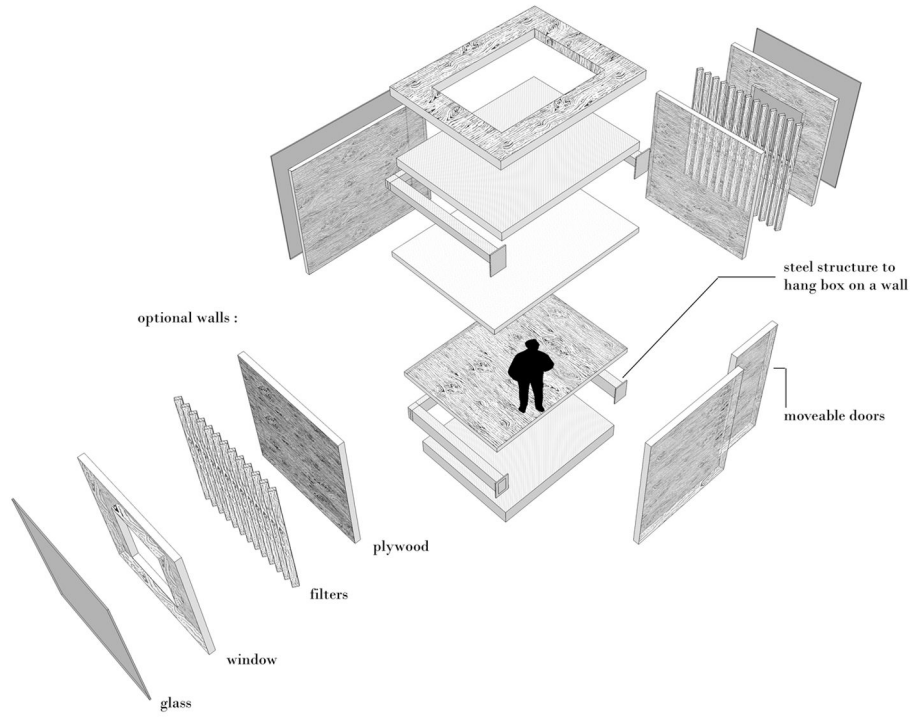


view from the balcony





1 m



detail of the additional box  
glued to facade



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Rewers Ewa, *Post - polis*, Kraków: Universitas, 2005  
Rossi Aldo, *The Architecture of the City*, Cambridge: MIT Press, 1982



Department : Architecture  
MPARC Programme

