

„The Garden of Shared Knowledge“

A COMMUNITY SPACE FOR LEARNING, CULTIVATION AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE IN TANGALLE, SRI LANKA

iöb - Sri Lanka
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und Amelie Ploetner

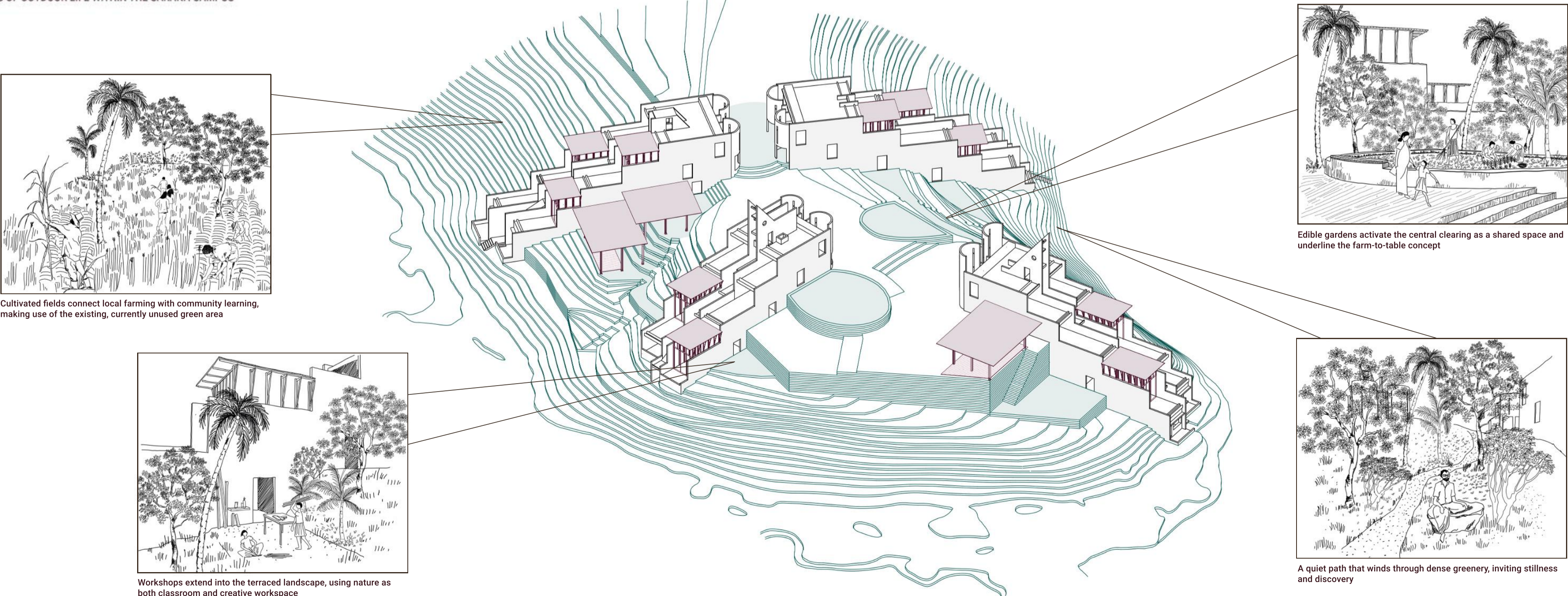
Designed as the heart of Sarana's local engagement, this campus supports a vision of culturally rooted and environmentally responsible tourism. It fosters the transmission of traditional knowledge in agriculture and crafts, while initiating community-based programs that strengthen local resilience and participation. Situated on the site of a former hotel near the coast, the campus is structured around a cyclical system: agricultural knowledge is shared through workshops, lectures, and a library; food is cultivated on site in community-run gardens and fields; and a farm-to-table café makes this process visible and accessible to both locals and visitors.

Architectural interventions emerge from the site's existing terraced topography. Old stone walls and the patterns of vegetation define spatial rhythms that guide new structures. Four building wings loosely frame a central palm-shaded clearing that serves as a communal and productive heart of the ensemble. Outdoor spaces are integral: workshop rooms open onto small garden terraces, paths lead through dense planting to quiet zones for meditation, and landscape-integrated elements like a yoga platform and amphitheatre extend the campus experience beyond the buildings. The result is a place where learning, cultivation, and exchange unfold in close relationship with the land.

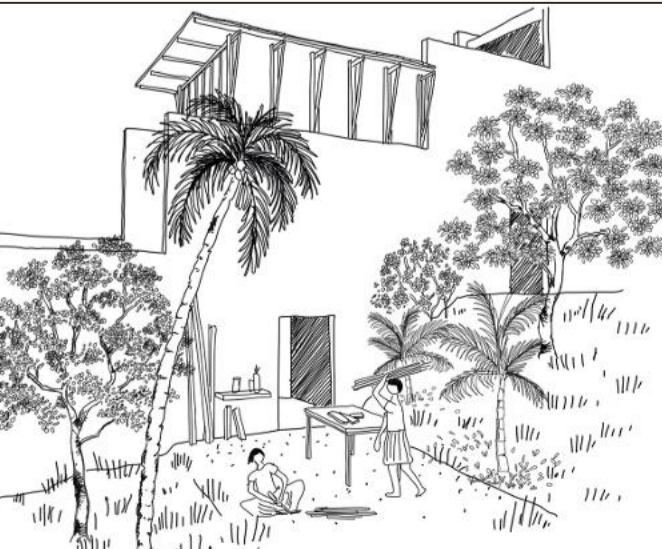


Landscape as Framework

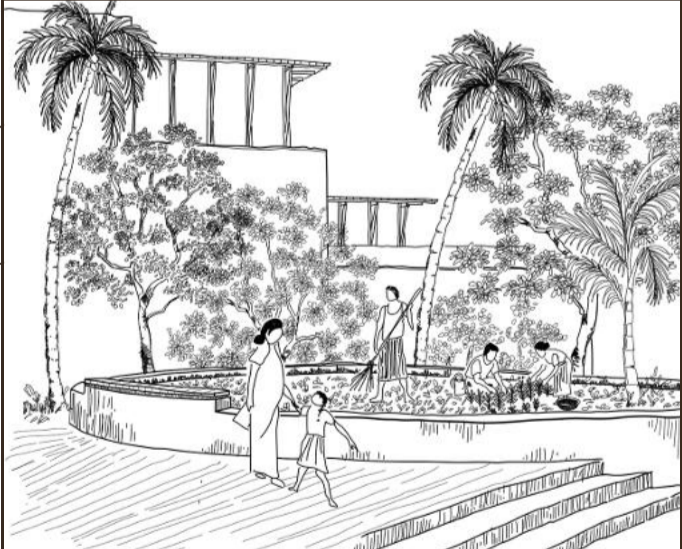
FOUR MOMENTS OF OUTDOOR LIFE WITHIN THE SARANA CAMPUS



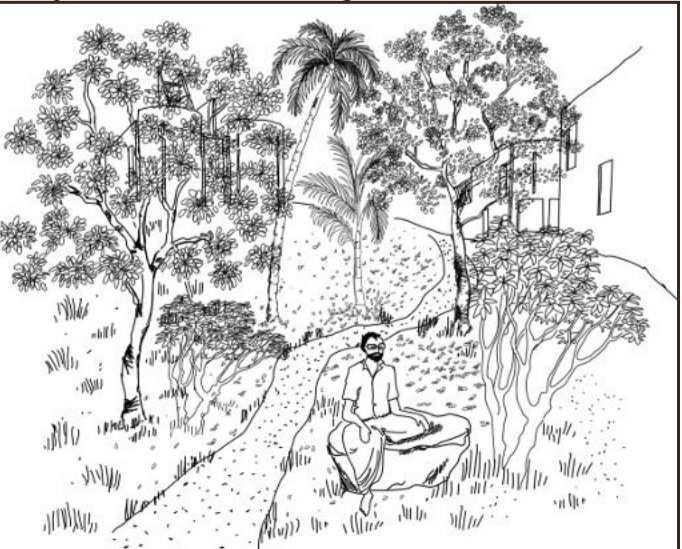
Cultivated fields connect local farming with community learning, making use of the existing, currently unused green area



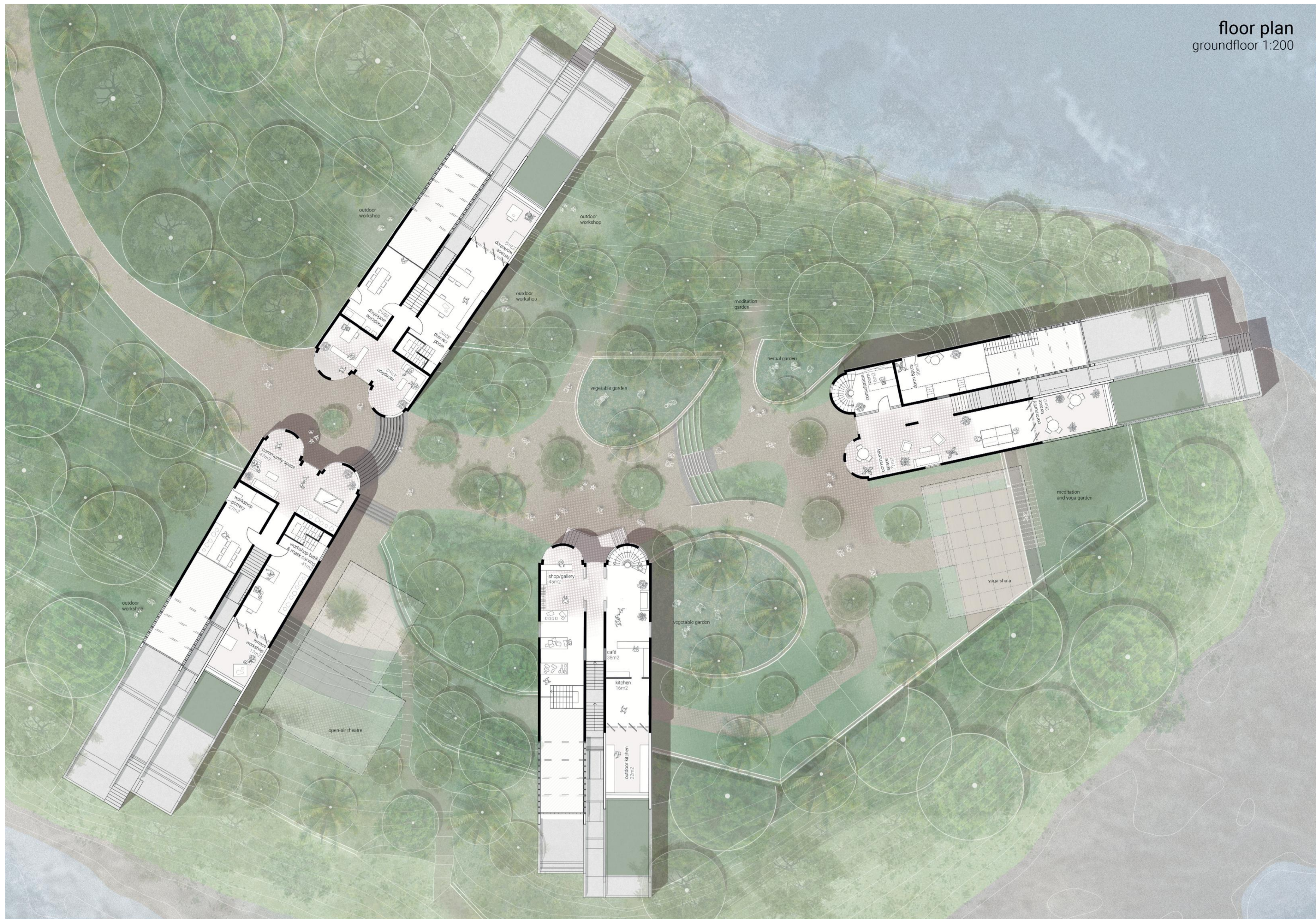
Workshops extend into the terraced landscape, using nature as both classroom and creative workspace



Edible gardens activate the central clearing as a shared space and underline the farm-to-table concept



A quiet path that winds through dense greenery, inviting stillness and discovery

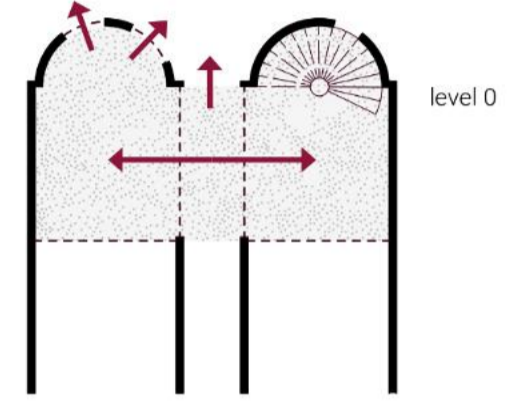
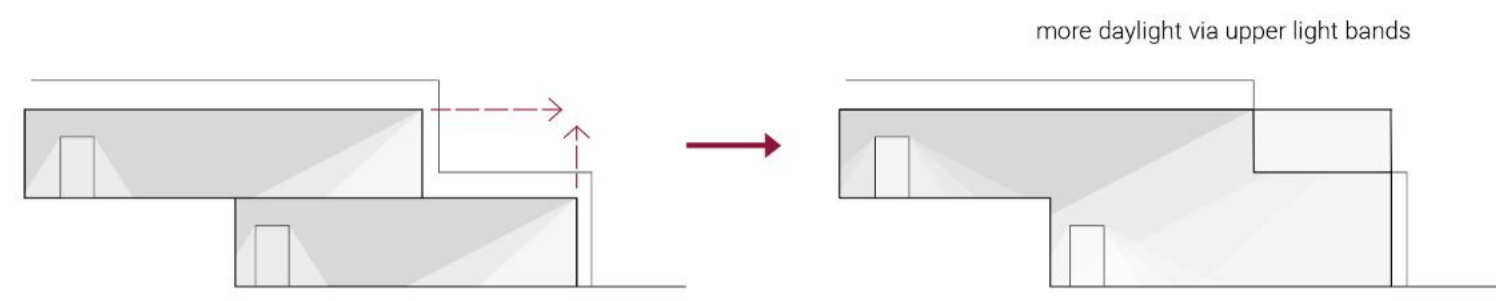


floor plan
groundfloor 1:200

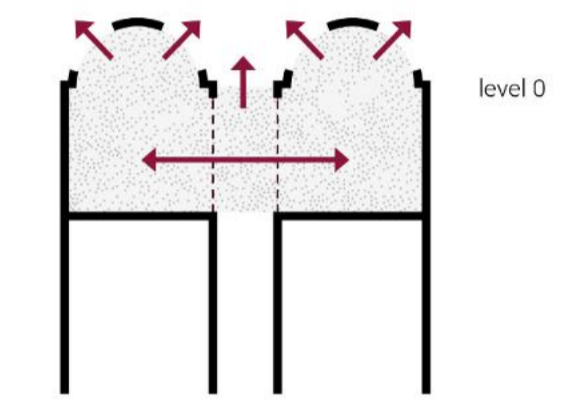


architectural additions to the existing framework

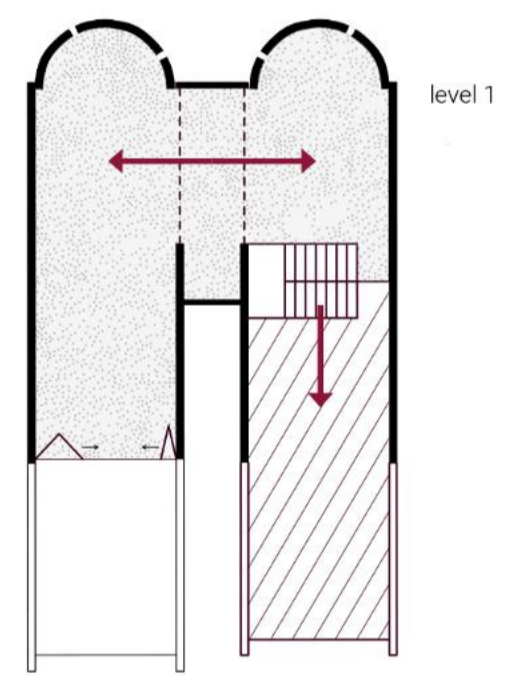
complementing the existing concrete structure with a light timber structure in areas where additional space is needed for the intended uses



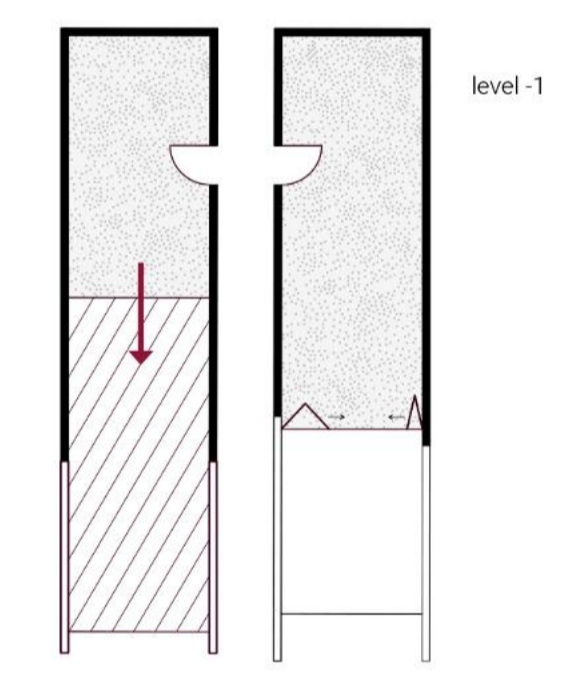
opening the ground floor rooms towards the clearing and using them as community spaces



opening the ground floor rooms and providing access to the upper floor via the spiral staircase in the round annex



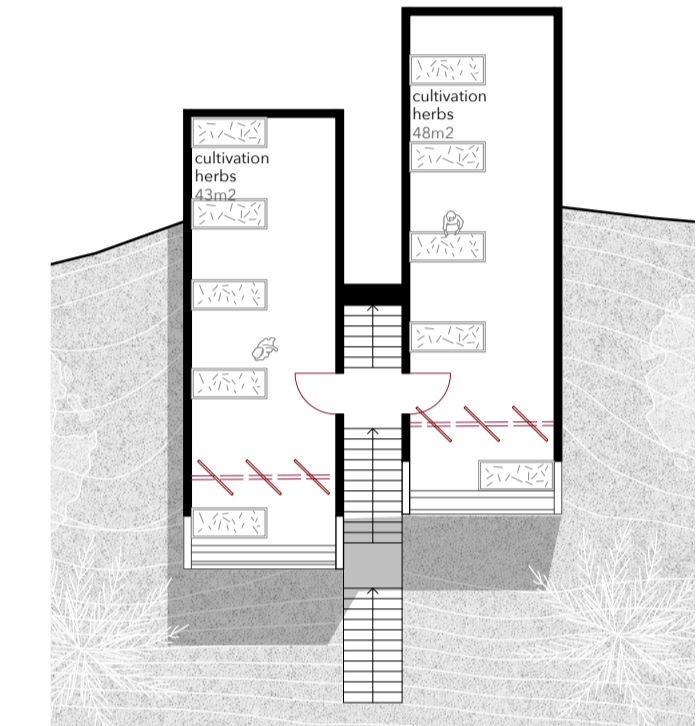
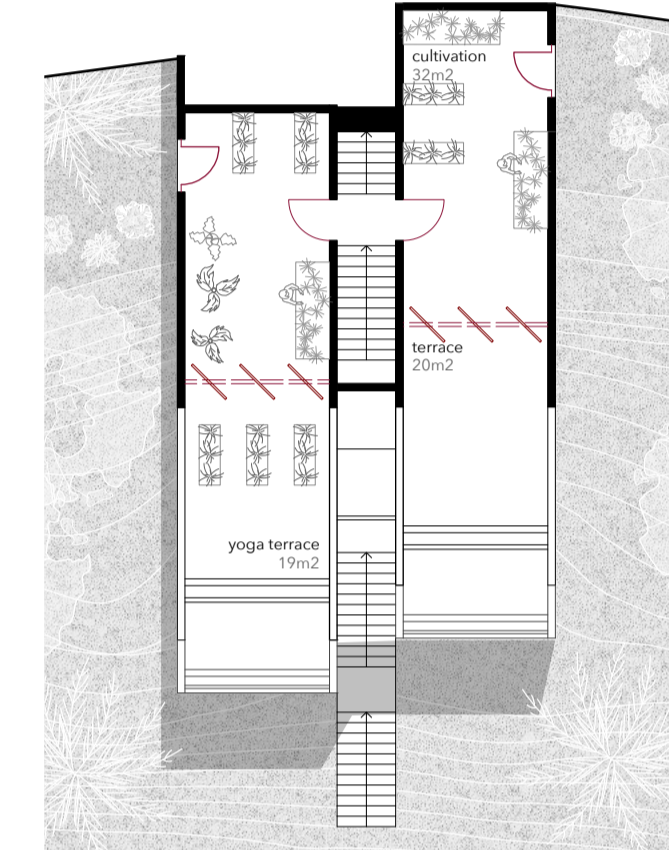
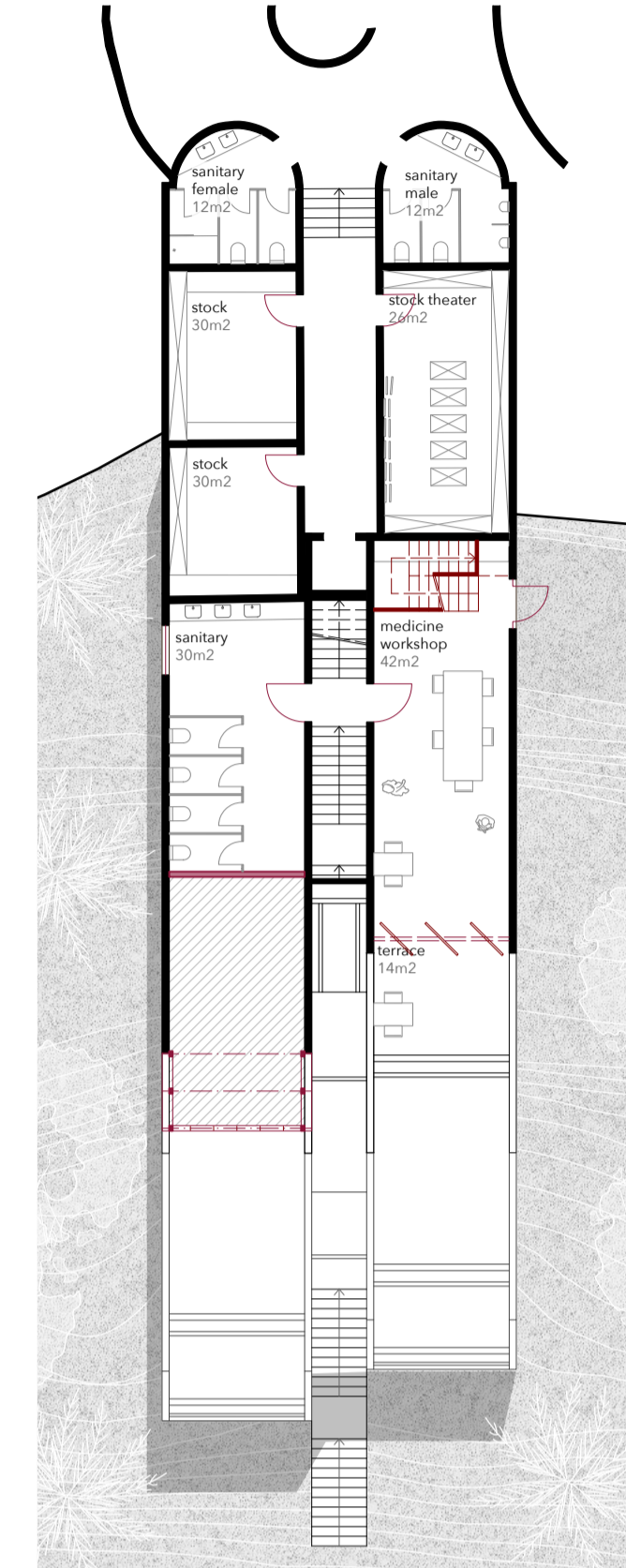
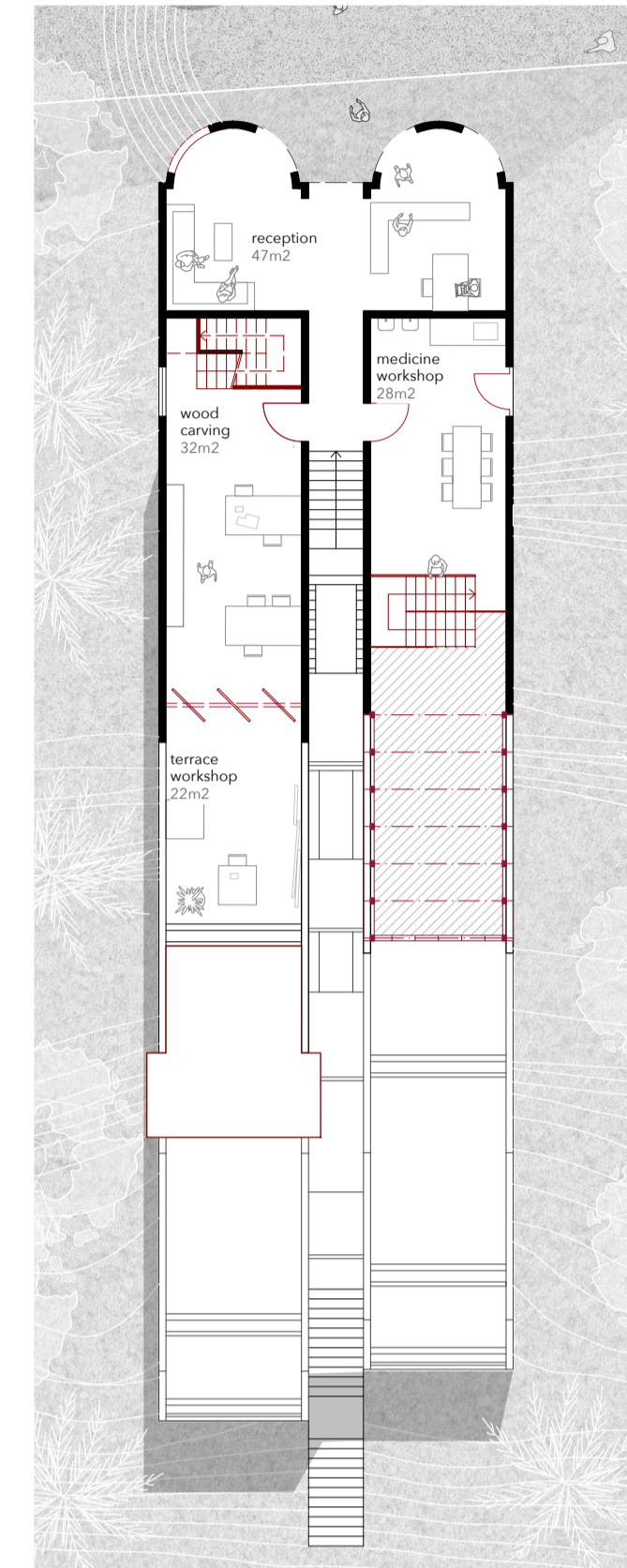
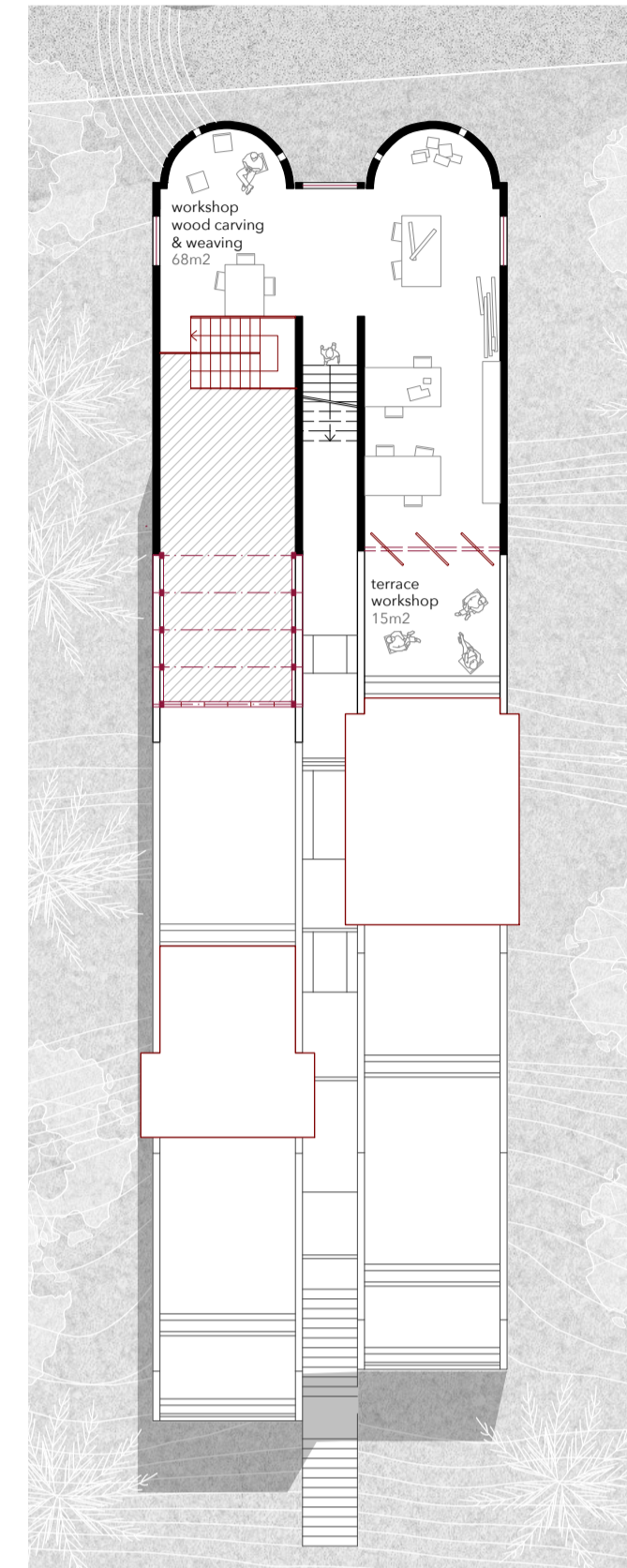
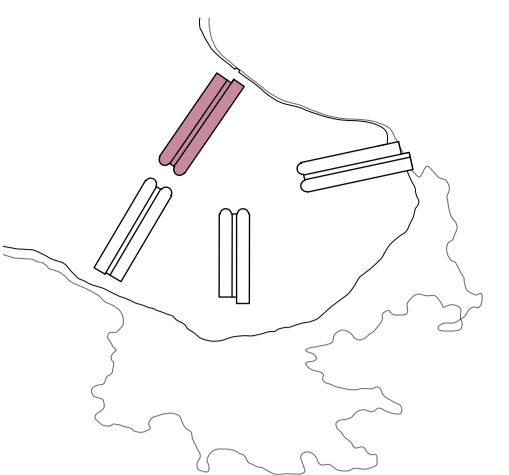
connecting the upper rooms for uses requiring more space, accessed via an integrated staircase



creating double-height spaces where additional vertical openness is required

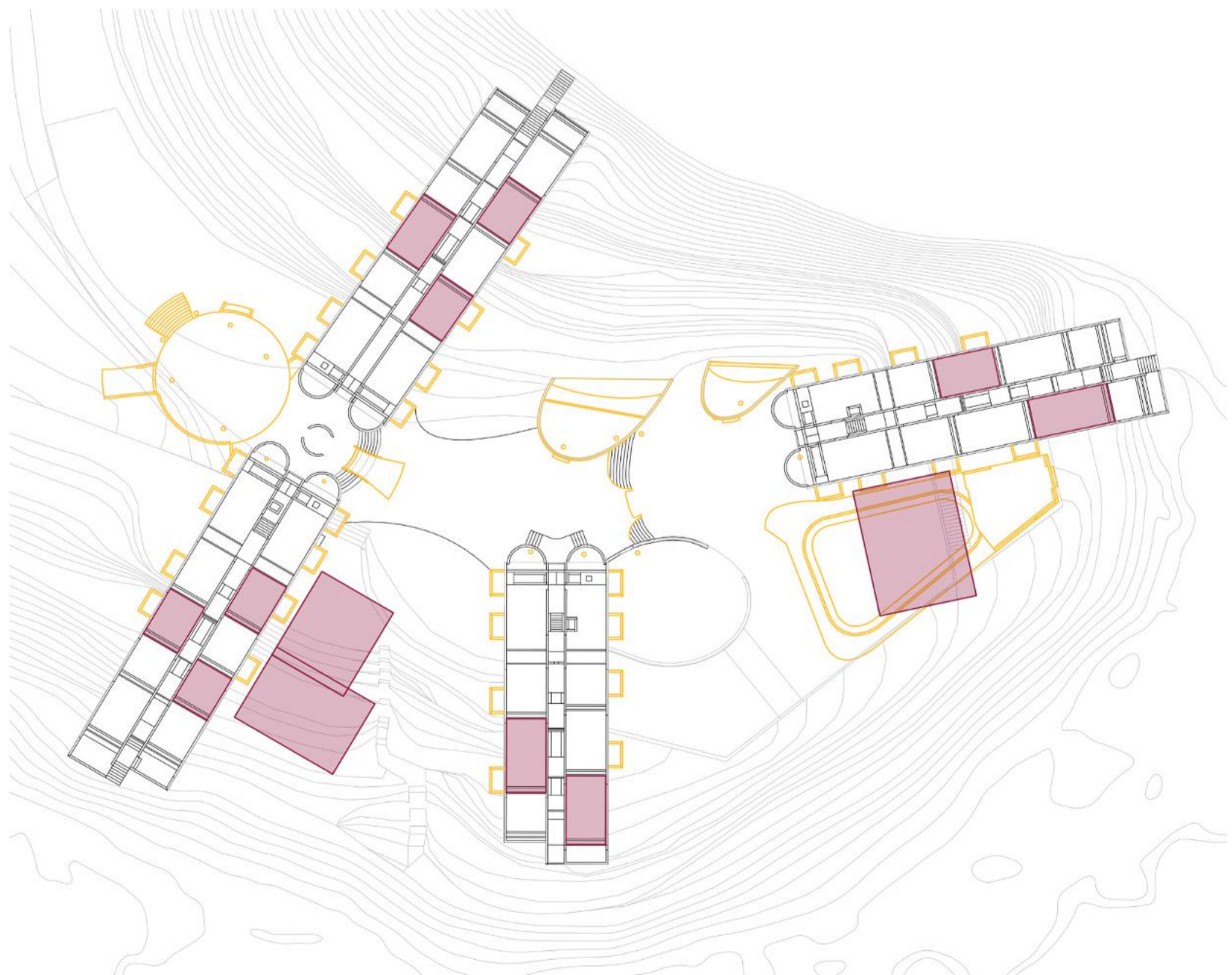
floor plans

building I - 1:200



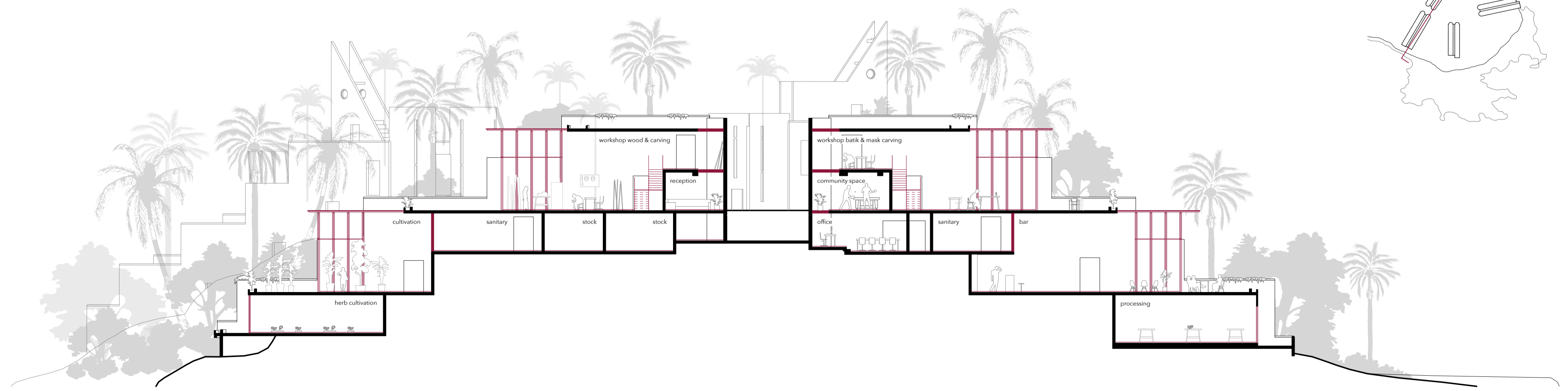
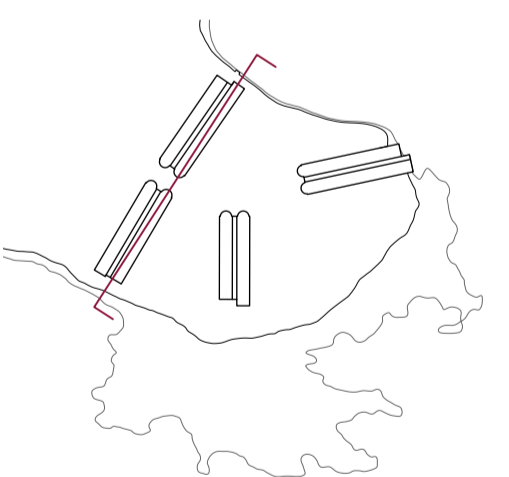
overlay plan showing additions and demolitions

1:500



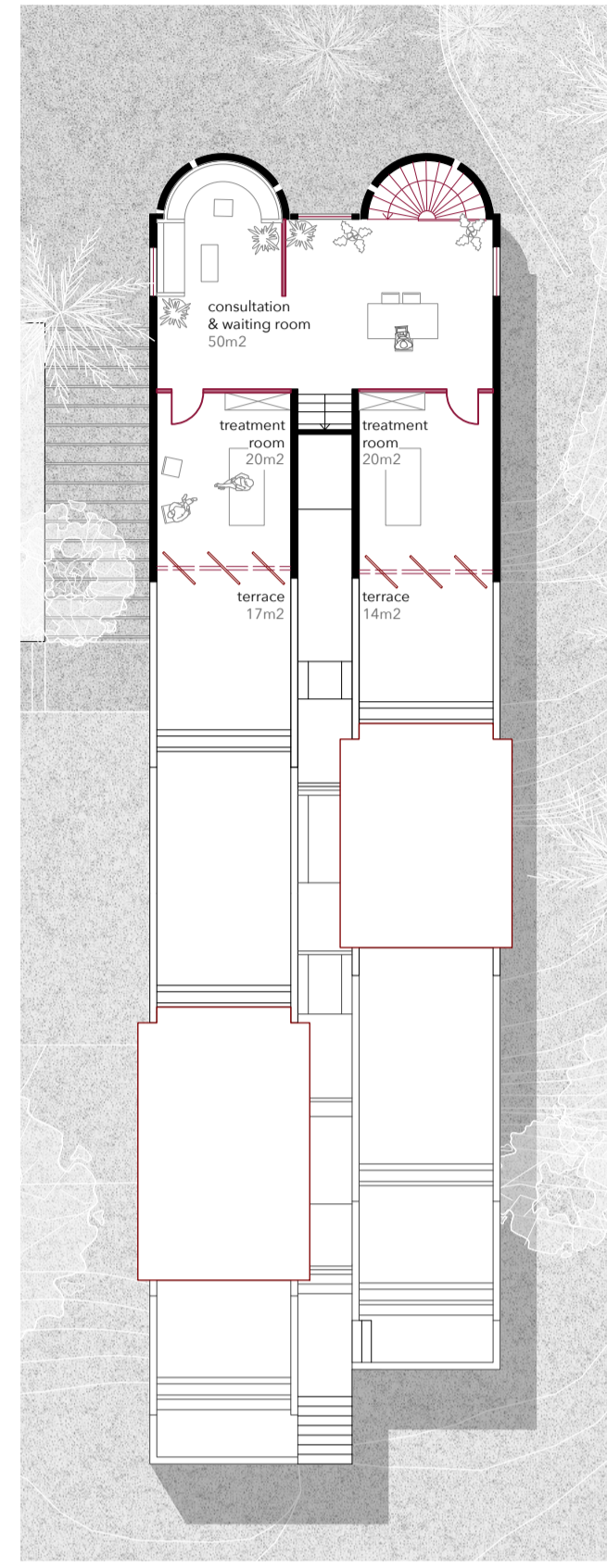
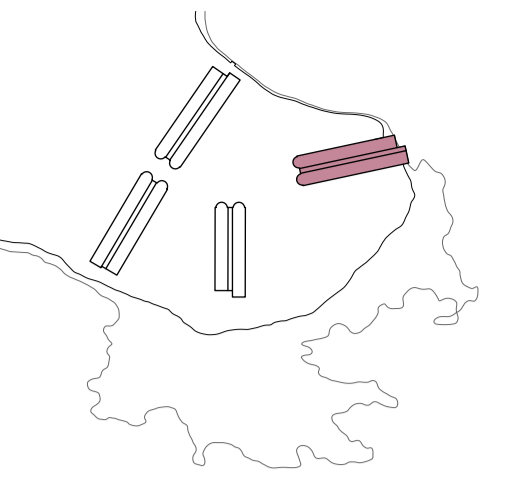
section a-a

building I & IV - 1:200

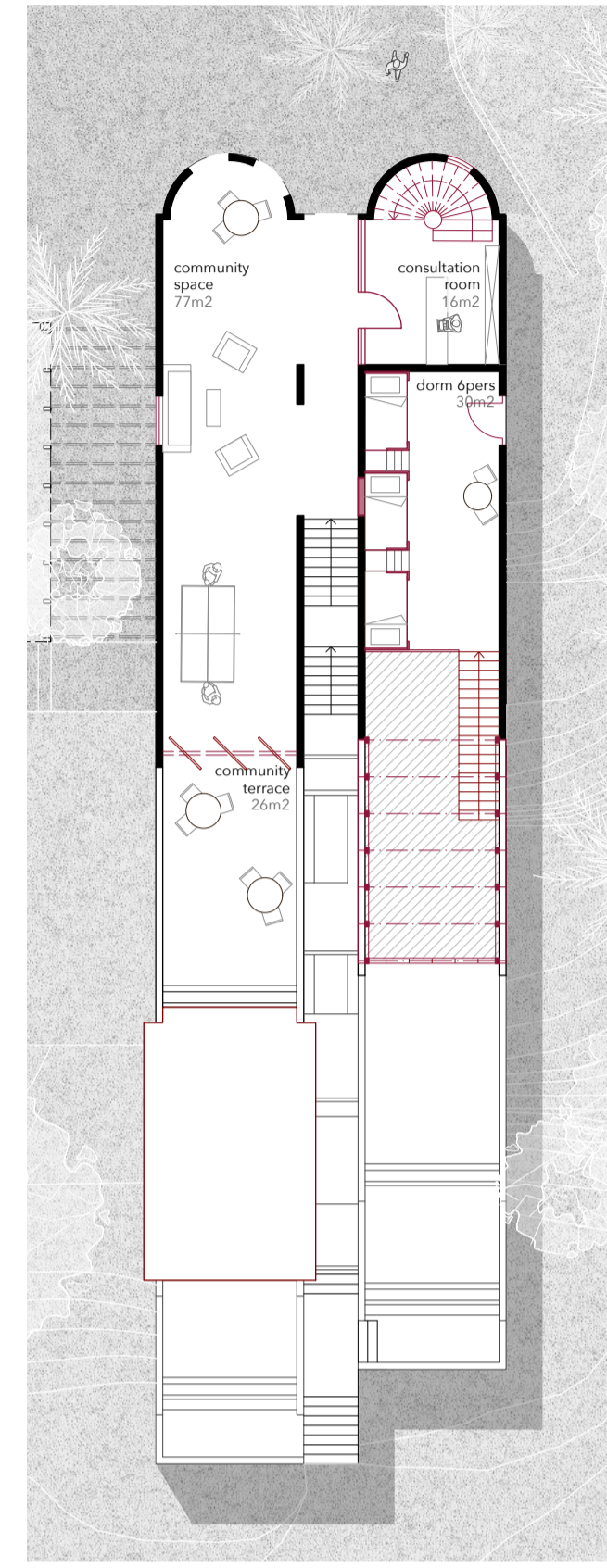




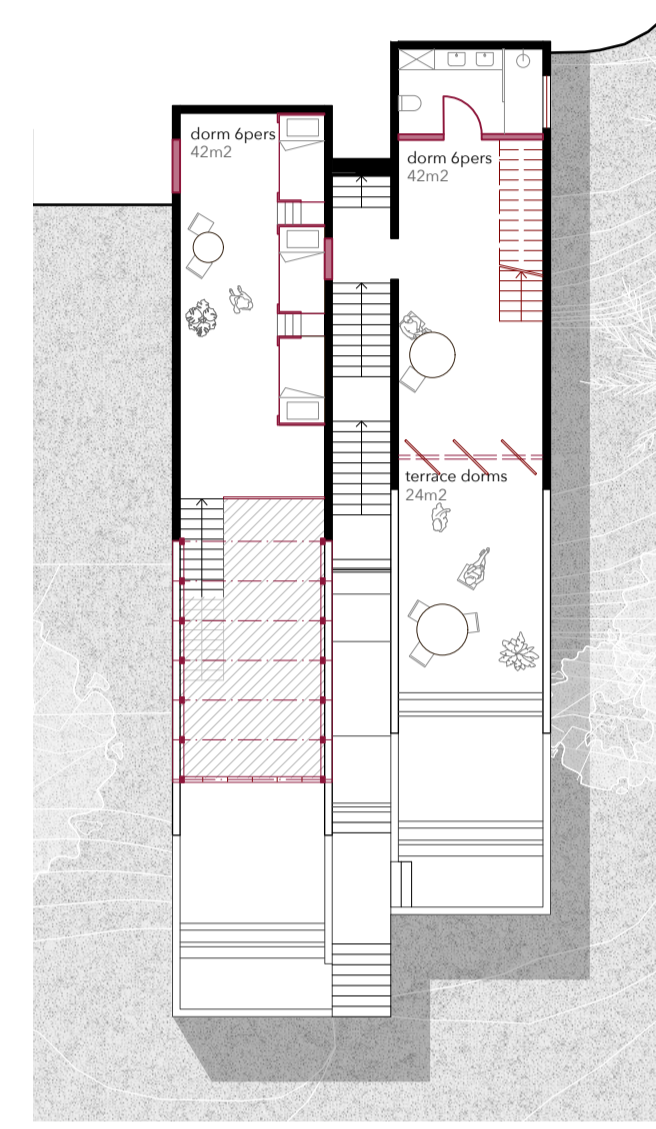
floor plans
building II - 1:200



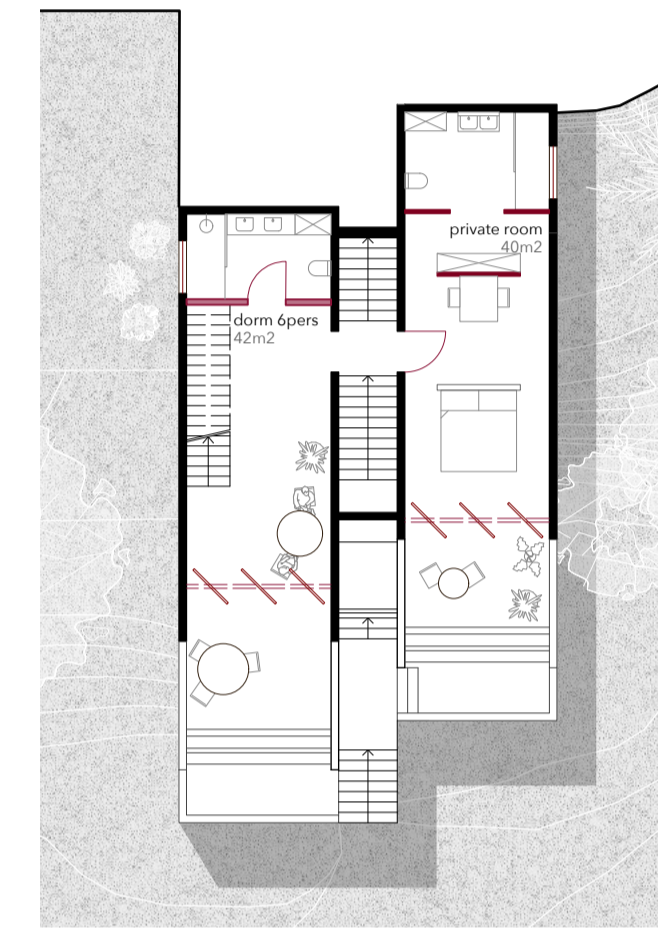
level 1



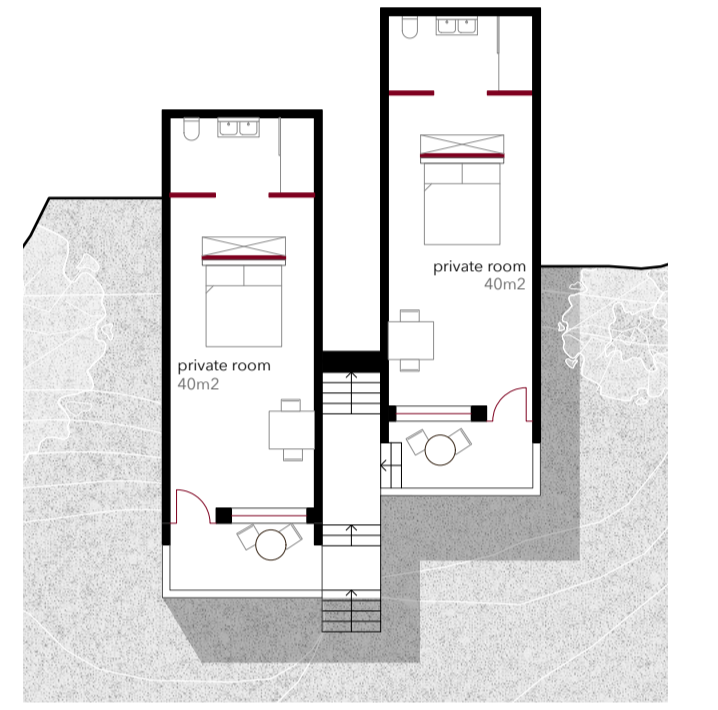
level 0



level -1



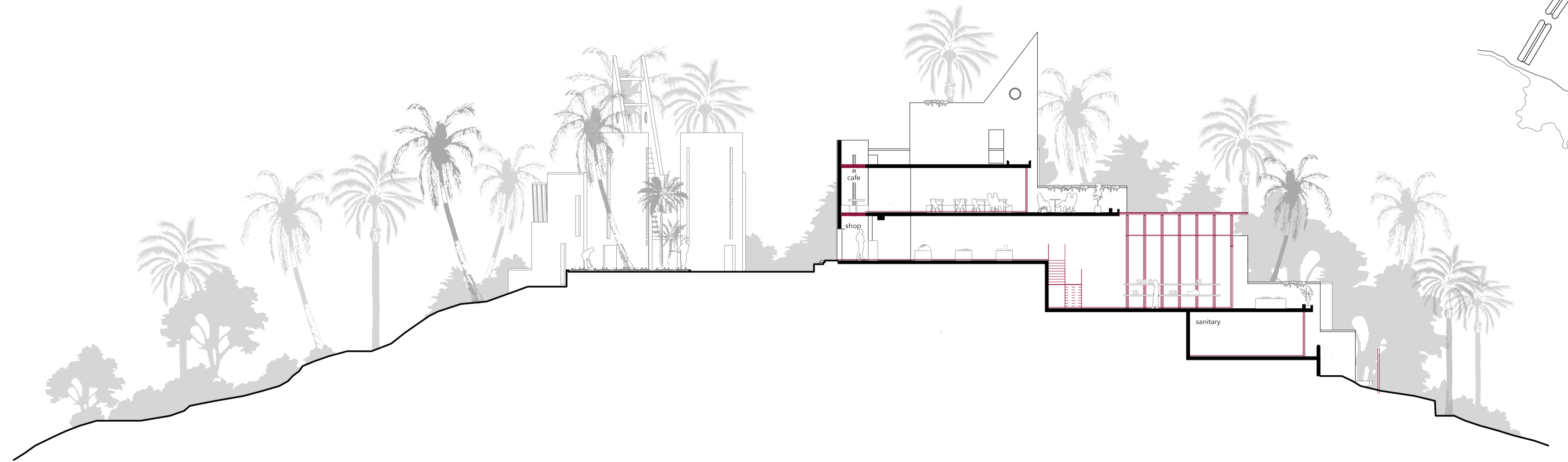
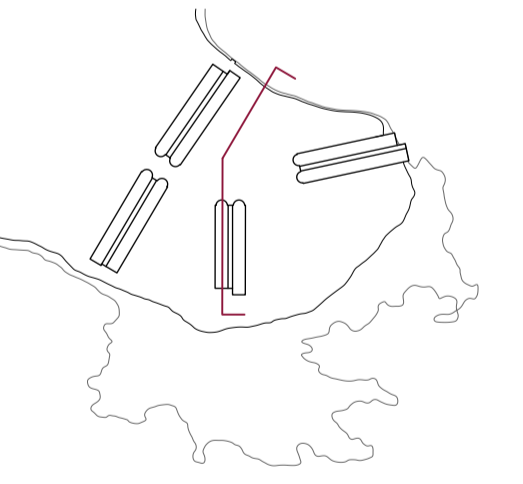
level -2



level -3

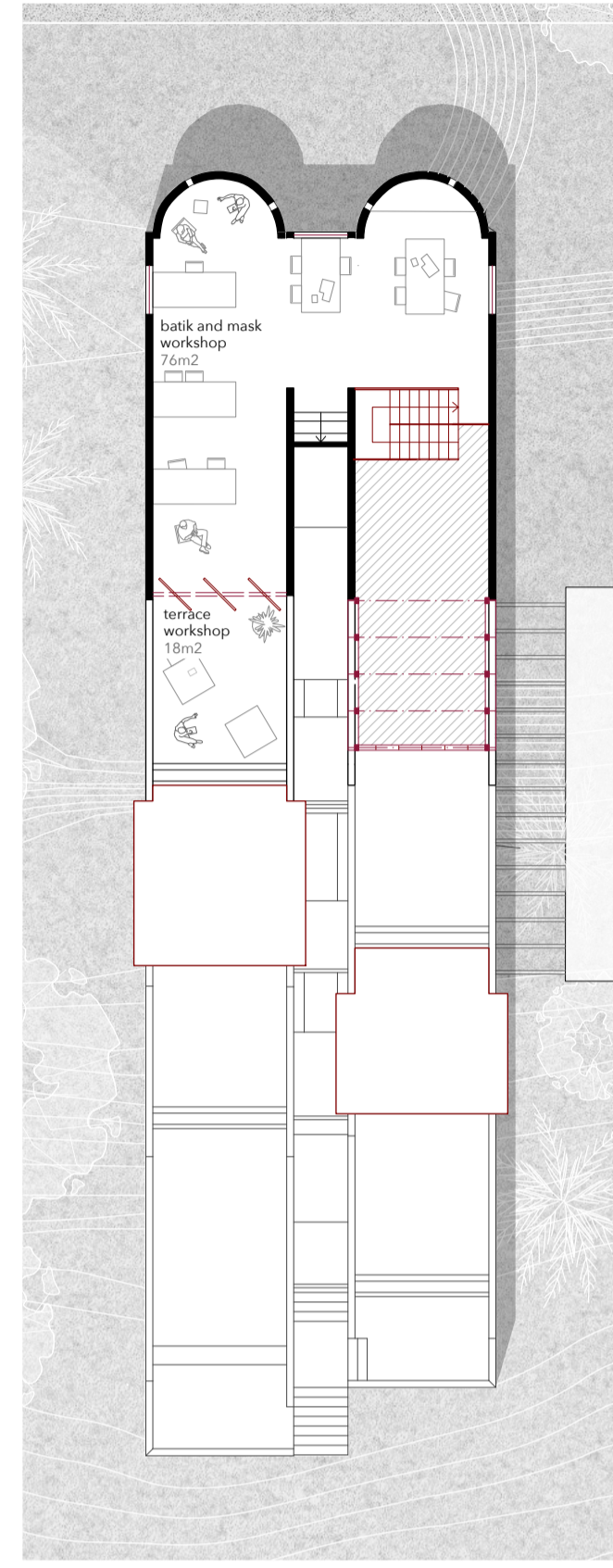
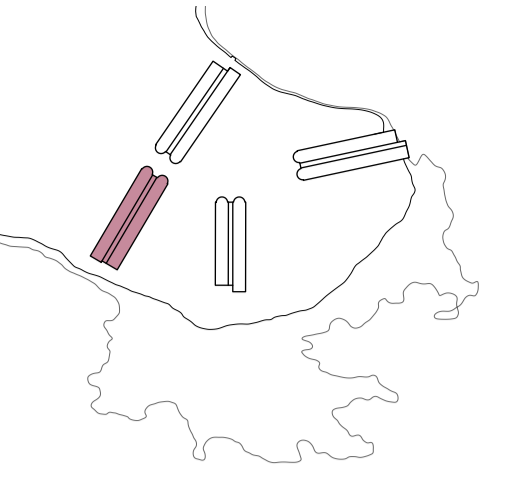


section c-c
building III - 1:200

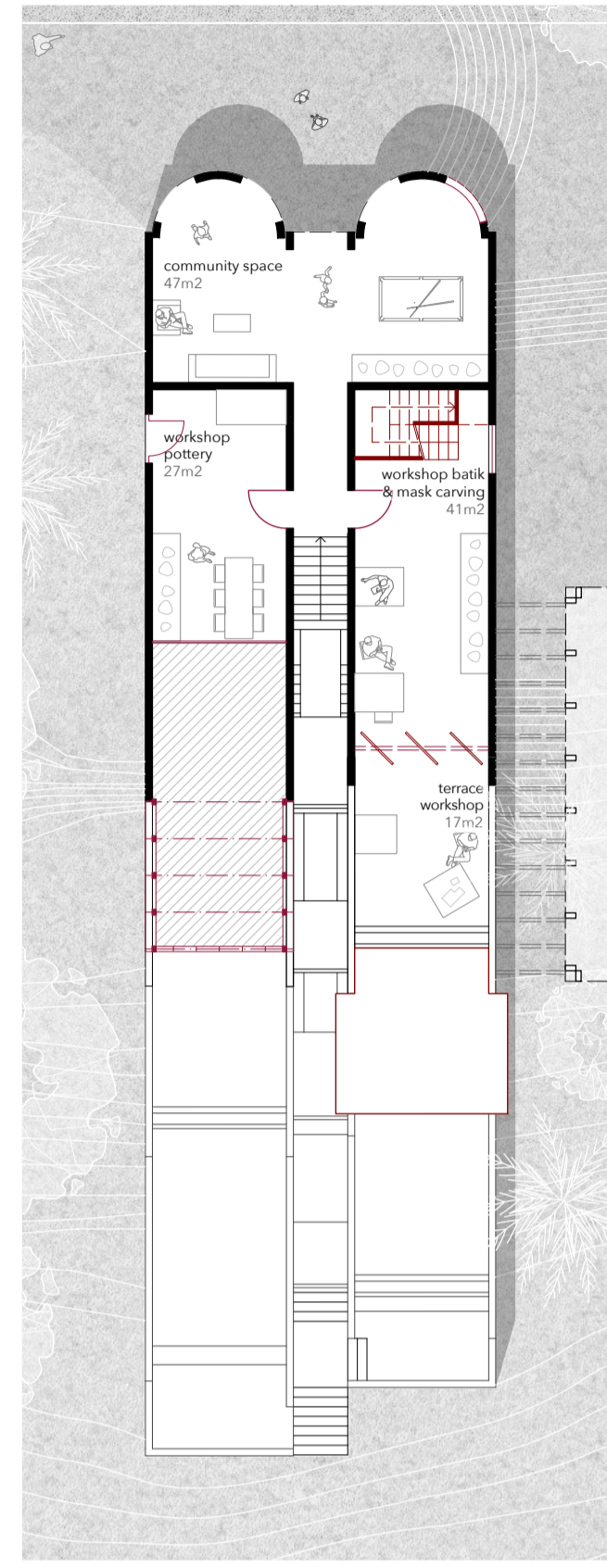




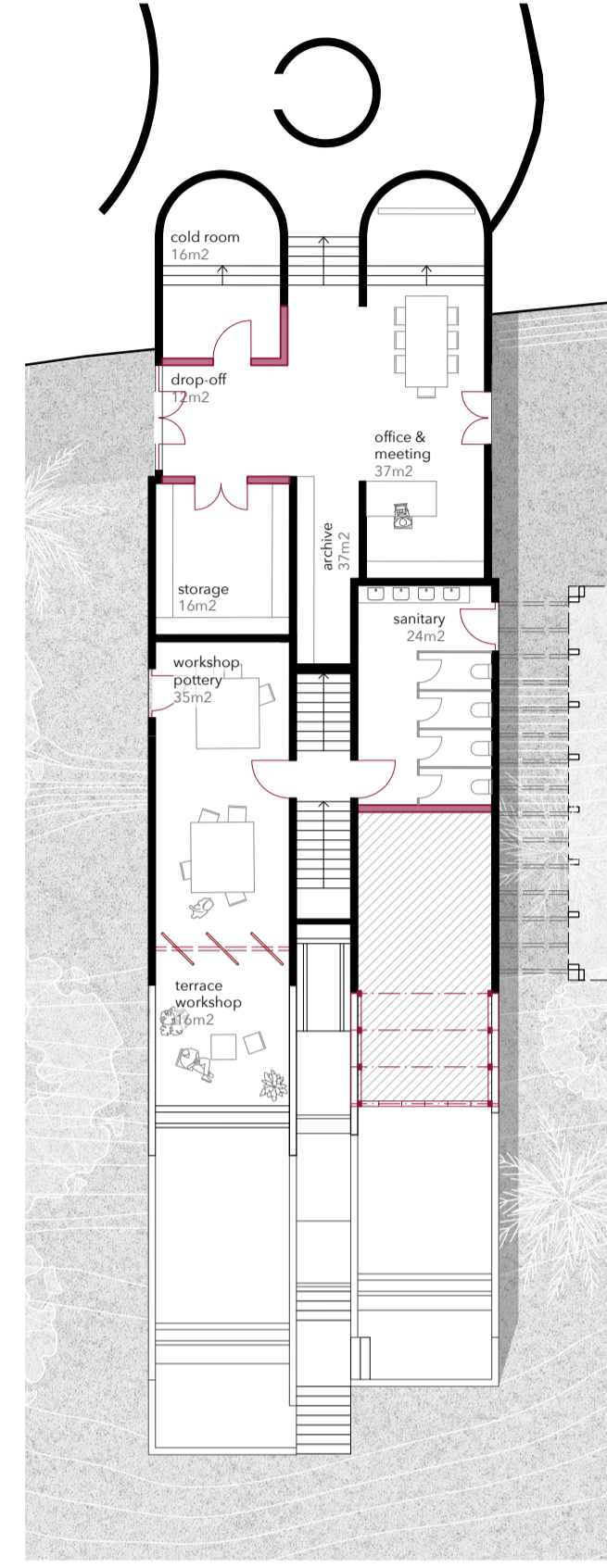
floor plans
building IV - 1:200



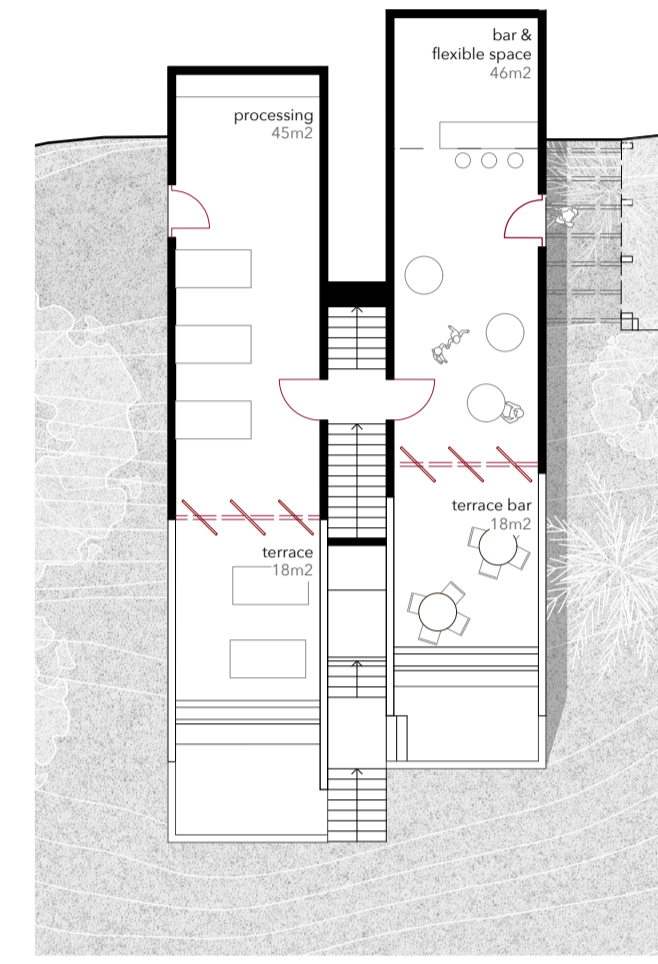
level 1



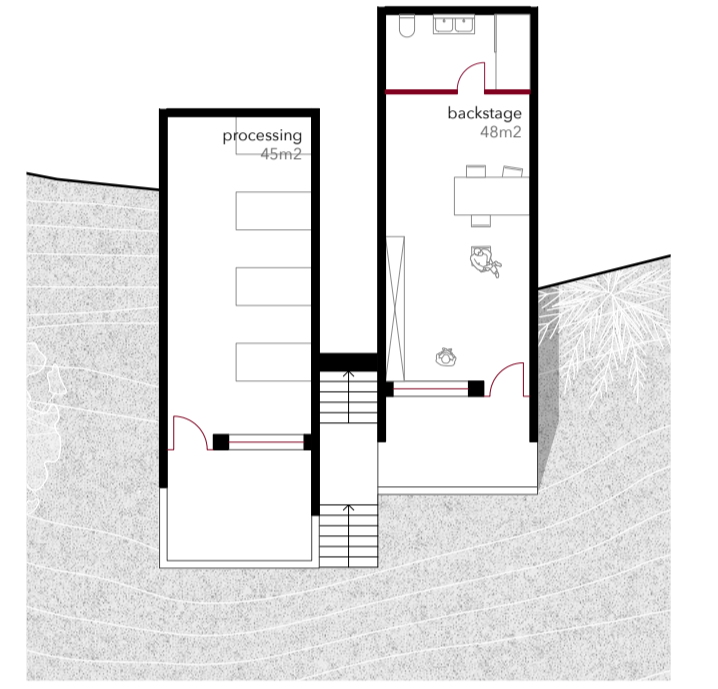
level 0



level -1



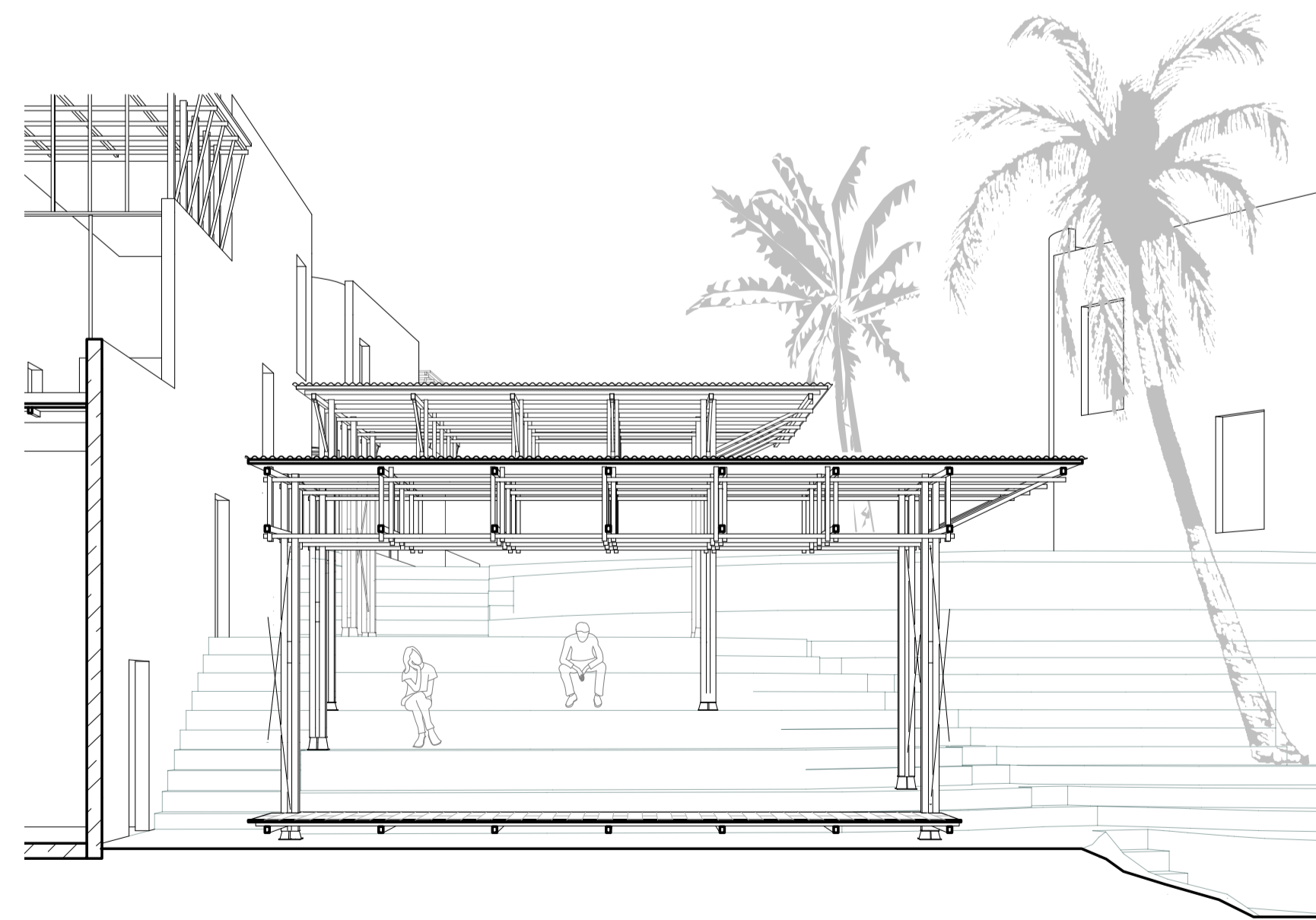
level -2



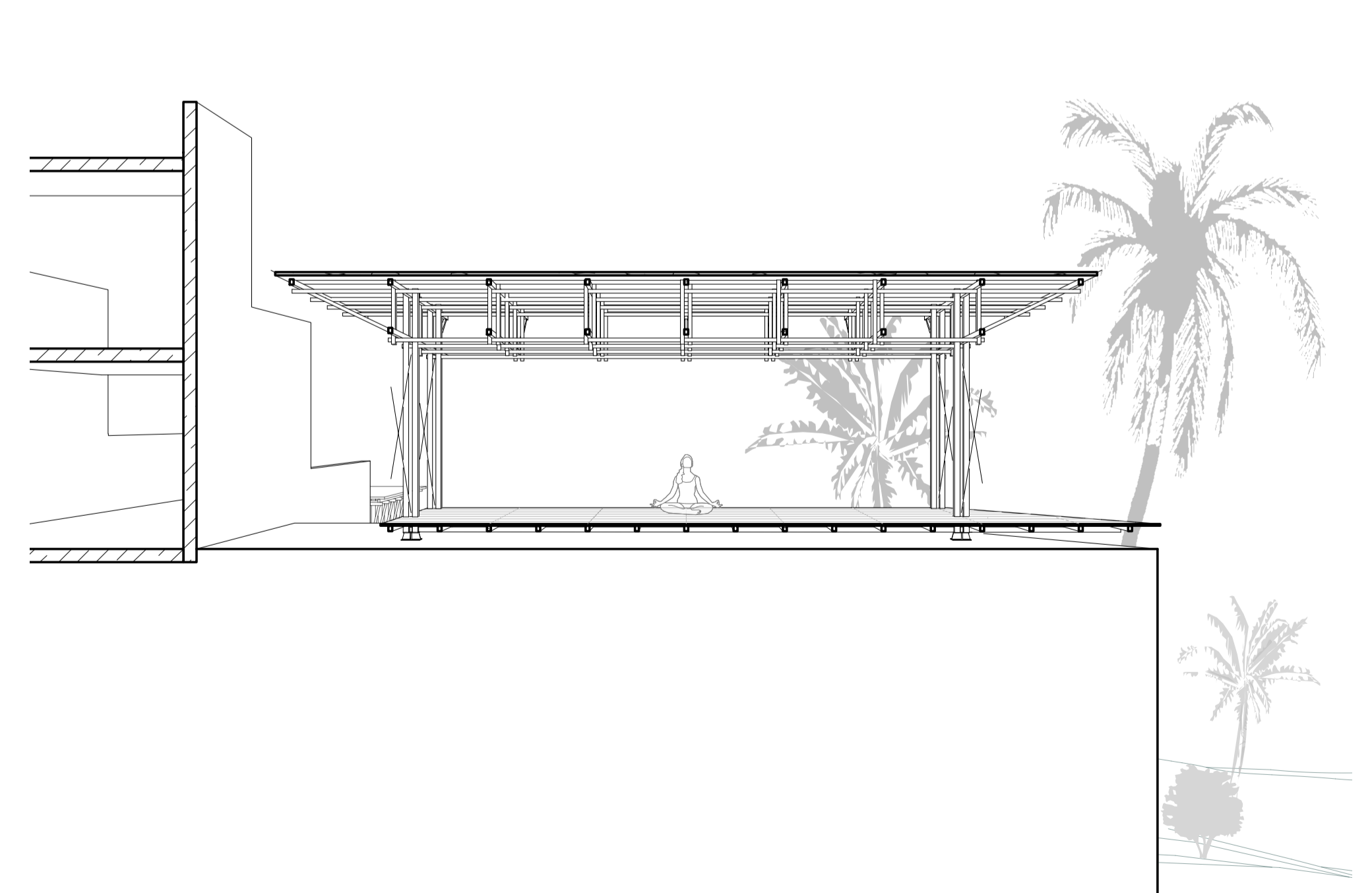
level -3



theater
section & floor plan 1:100



yoga shala
section & floor plan 1:100





structure
exploded drawing

section new buidings
yoga shala, 1:20

section additions
1:20

