

SPACE OF PRESENCE

/arsenal memory park

Location - San Miguel de Tucuman, Argentina.

The central idea of the project is the organic synthesis of the existing built heritage – which is being preserved – with new public architecture. The complex is conceived on the principle of organic coexistence between the old and the new, where one gently permeates the other, forming a symbiosis, yet without losing its individual identity. The tectonics of the old fabric have become the foundation of the public centre. At the same time, the historic buildings have received renewed elements to replace what was lost.

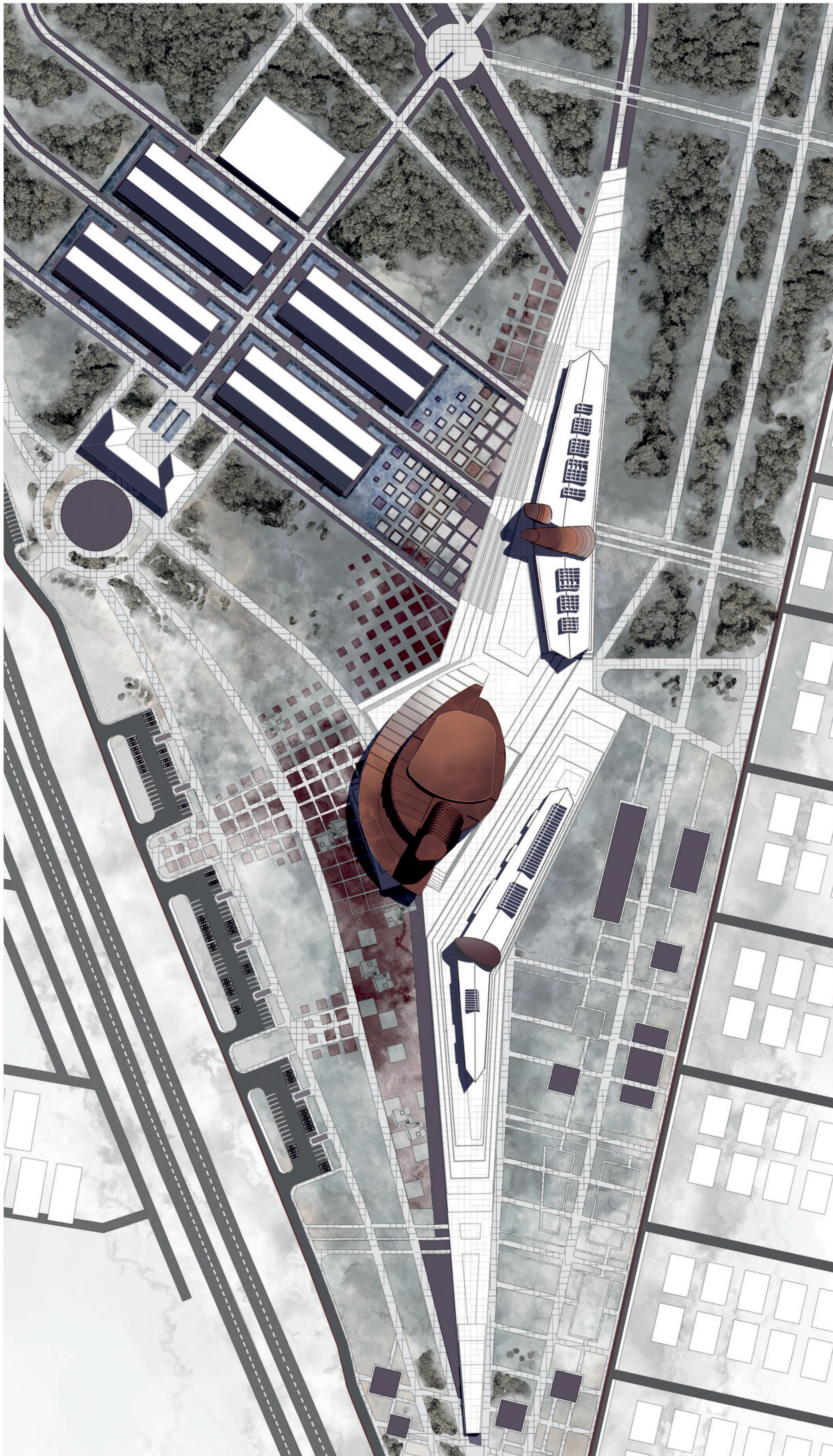
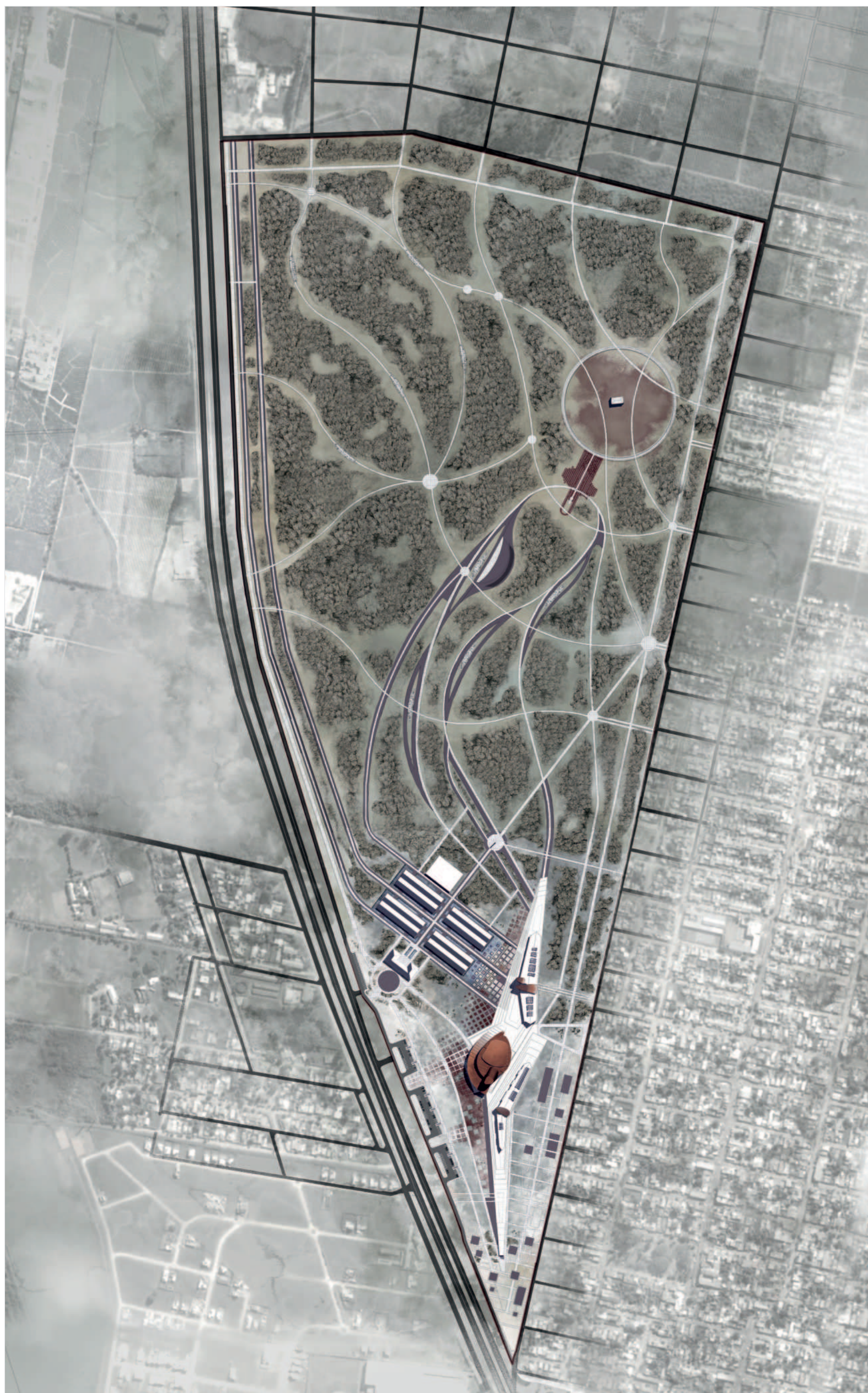
This approach allows the environment to achieve a cohesive, finished appearance without resorting to direct imitation. The second idea of the project is its social dimension. The public centre serves as the heart of the park area, which reconnects residential neighbourhoods that were previously divided by the closed-off territory. Moreover, the complex acts as a transitional zone between the urban park and the memorial park. All of this enables the project to be seamlessly integrated into the urban fabric, enriching it and restoring lost connections.

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University academic year: 2025/2026







Master plan

Visitor parking is located at the western edge of the site, directly adjacent to the city's main thoroughfare. This is where the main pedestrian route begins. Residents of the surrounding neighbourhoods have an additional entrance through the Lower Park. The Lower Park eliminates the urban disconnection, restoring pedestrian and bicycle links between districts, while channelling flows in such a way that everyday transit does not intrude upon the sacred core of the park.

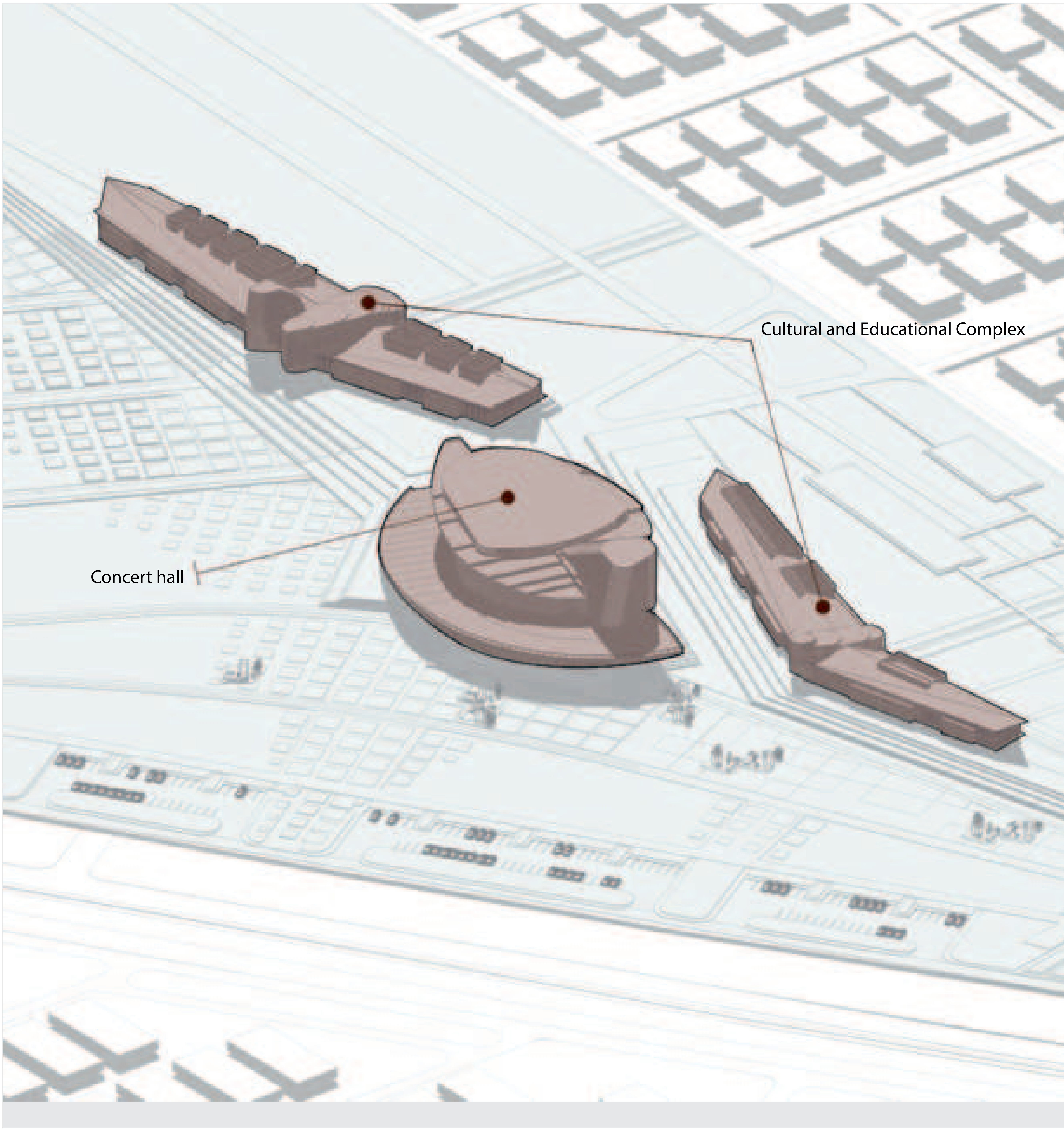
The conference hall and educational centre are arranged in a broken line that curves around the barracks and, to the south, extends towards the centre, away from the residential area. This solution serves a planning function, simultaneously connecting the facilities of the educational zone with one another and separating them from the daily life of the neighbourhood residents. The line – an architectural metaphor – resembles a scar. In the context of the Arsenal Memory Park, it is precisely this form that becomes the chief spatial statement about the fate of Argentina – a country where the events from 1976 to 1978 left a wound that will never fully heal. This line serves as a boundary between the memorial core and the transition zone, between sacred silence and documented history. Thanks to its gaps, the boundary does not become a wall: it remains permeable to both sight and movement.

/Testimony. It includes a museum section (the barracks) and a new memorial complex. Just as the barracks themselves bear witness to the dirty war, the complex building also serves an educational purpose and carries history and truth.

/Alley of the Lost. Dedicated to the victims of the regime, the disappeared, and the families torn apart. It is more than a monument. It is a space imbued with meanings of restoring humanity and resisting oblivion. The alley can become a symbol of hope and ongoing search. To this day, the «Grandmothers of Plaza de Mayo» are still looking for their grandchildren who were stolen as children.

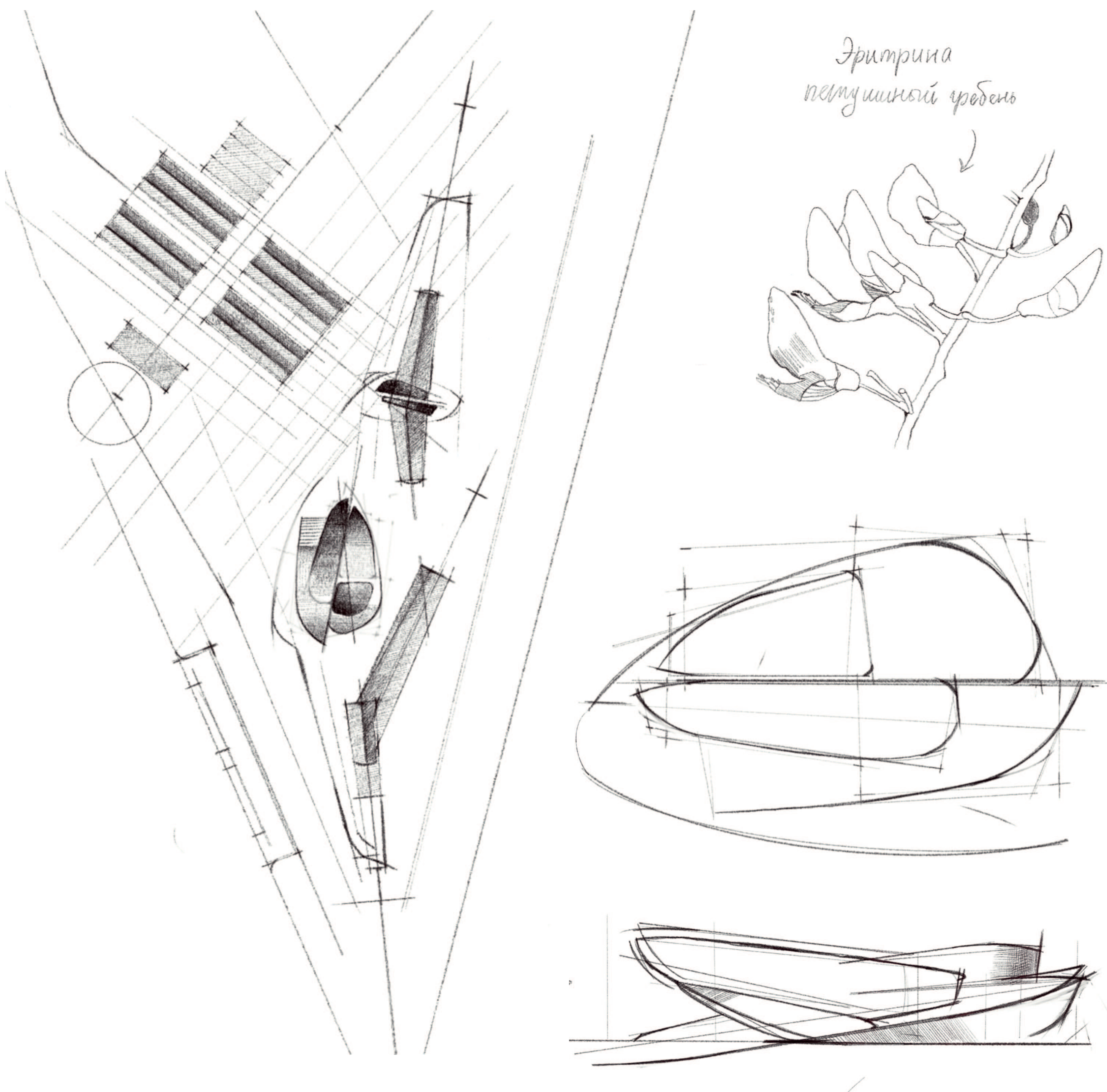
/Paths of Memory. All the pathways leading from the names on the alley converge at a single point. This is a visual metaphor for how thousands of different fates and life paths were violently cut short and herded by the system into one terrible, common place – a secret prison.

/Garden of Living Silence. It emphasises that this place is silent but filled with presence. This place will be the simplest and emptiest, yet full of deep meaning. During the dirty war, newborns were taken from their mothers and given to military families and families close to the regime. As justification, one military officer said that they took children and gave them to others, like transplanting a flower or plant from contaminated soil to fertile ground. The previous family with different views was «infected,» and they were doing good by saving the child and giving them to «good» families. The place is enclosed in a ring planted with flowers. As a protest that this statement is fundamentally wrong, flowers bloom even in the «contaminated» soil – soil stained with blood and violence.



Form Development

The design of the conference room was inspired by the Erythrina crista-galli tree flower. During the colonial period and after independence, this flower acquired the significance of national identity: it is associated with the blood shed for freedom, and at the same time with the beauty of the land that recovers after fires and floods. Adopted as the national flower of Argentina on December 2, 1942, Erythrina today is a symbol of the country's natural resources and reflects the resilience and spirit of its people.



The complex of public buildings

The complex of public buildings borrows certain elements from the barracks, integrating accent features whose imagery refers to natural structures. Such appropriation allows the parts of the park to be visually united by a single stylistic direction while preserving their individual identity.

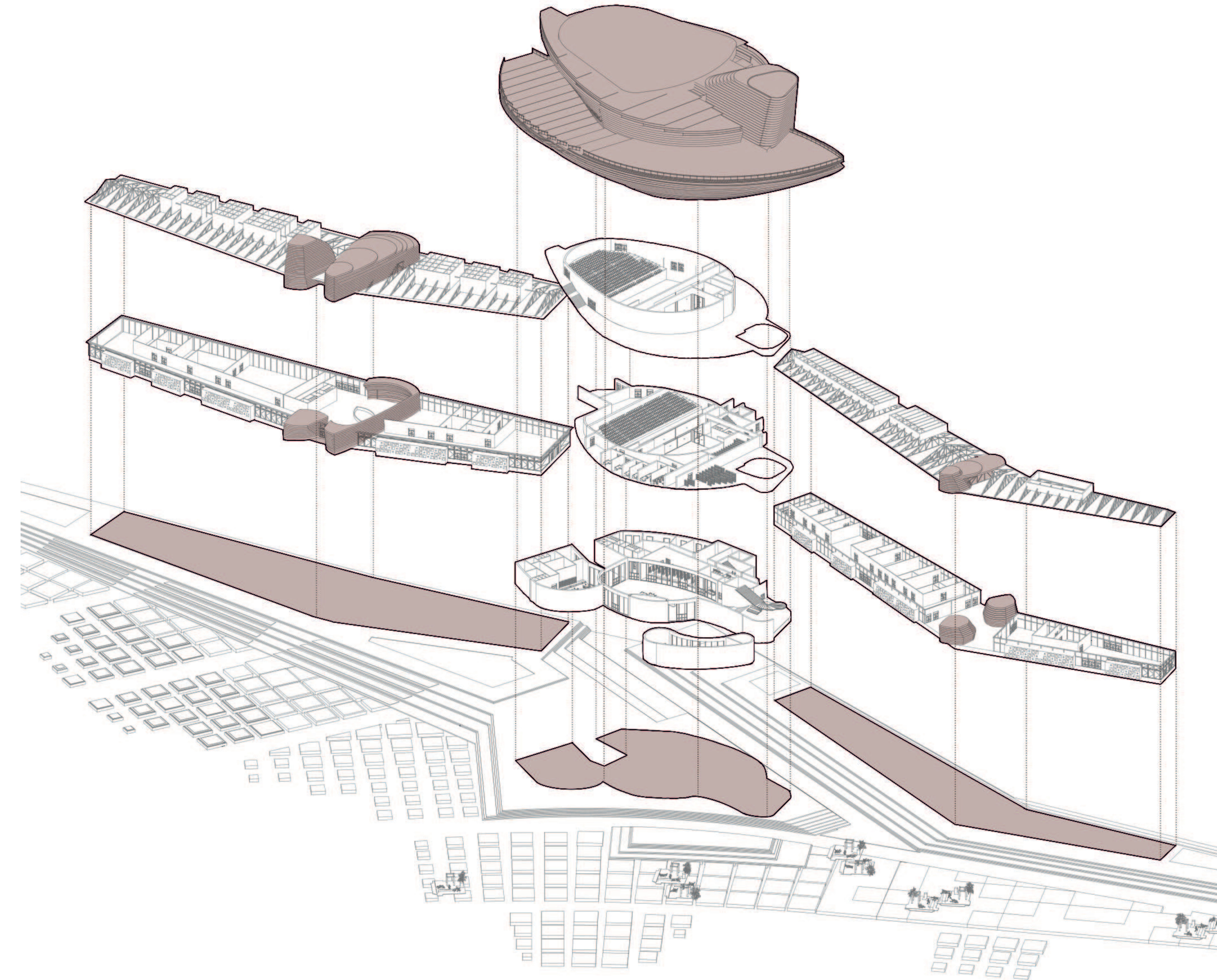
The ensemble has a broken, angular layout dictated by the requirements of the master plan, and it also enables the buildings to be oriented so as to ensure a visual connection with the barracks.

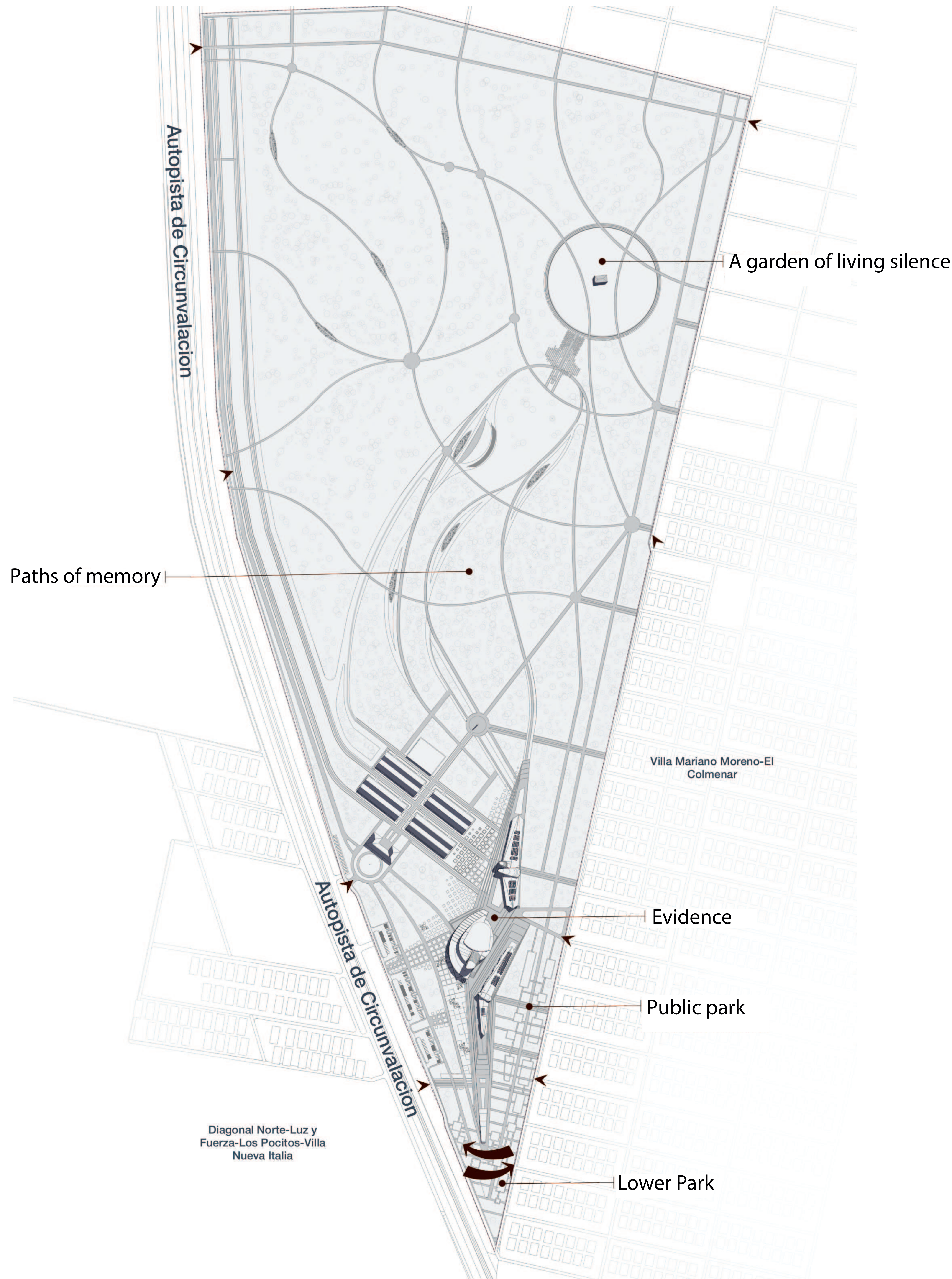
The core of the composition is the concert hall. The building has three floors, and its form refers to the national flower of Argentina. The ground floor features through-permeability, which allows for optimal distribution of pedestrian flows and provides access from all sides – an important consideration given the location of the facility.

The conference hall building has a tripartite structure. The massive central volume serves as the entrance group and main lobby. The wings of the building have a gallery layout, and the corridors can be used as exhibition space. Inside the building there are two conference halls of different capacities, as well as a block of individual meeting rooms with their own separate lobby. The building's layout allows flexible adaptation of spaces to the needs of various events.

The educational centre has a similar structure, but is divided into two blocks – a classroom complex and a media library. Its pronounced public function corresponds to the object's position as the central part of the lower park. This solution is intended to provide access to educational infrastructure for the residential areas east and west of the arsenal.

All three buildings stand on a common massive stylobate, which unites the ensemble into a single whole, serving as the trunk (core) of the composition.





Visit itinerary

Testimonio / Testimony. It includes a museum section (the barracks) and a new memorial complex. Just as the barracks are themselves witnesses to the Dirty War, the memorial building also carries out educational activities and embodies history and truth.

Callejón de los Perdidos / Alley of the Lost. Dedicated to the victims of the regime, the disappeared, and the separated families. It is more than a monument. It is a space imbued with the meanings of restoring humanity and resisting oblivion. The alley can become a symbol of hope and the ongoing search. To this day, the "Grandmothers of Plaza de Mayo" continue to search for their grandchildren who were stolen as infants.

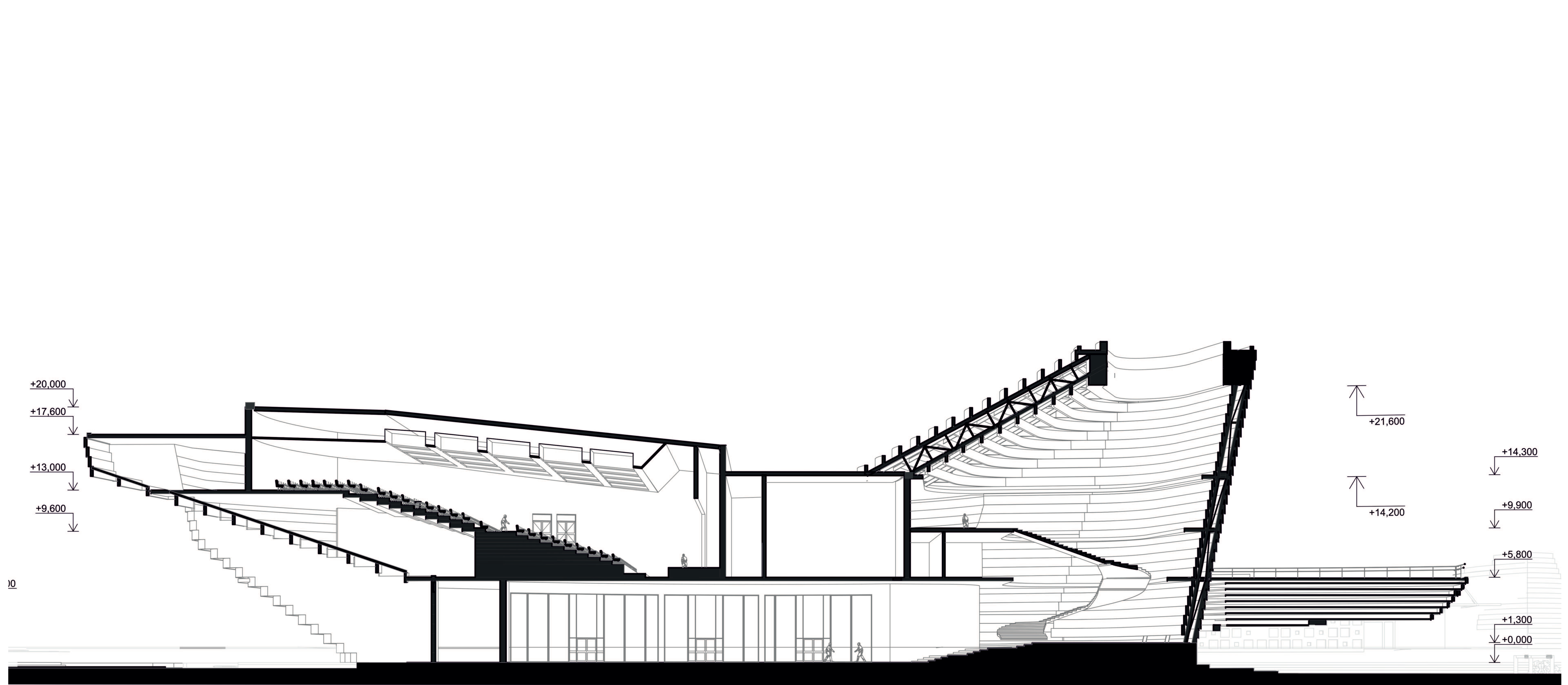
Caminos de la Memoria / Paths of Memory. All the paths leading from the names on the alley converge at a single point. This is a visual metaphor for how thousands of different fates and life paths were violently cut short and reduced by the system to one terrible, common place – the secret prison.

Jardín del Silencio Vivo / Garden of Living Silence. It emphasizes that this is a silent place, yet filled with presence. This place will be the simplest and emptiest, yet full of profound meaning.

During the Dirty War, newly delivered women had their children taken away and given to military families and families close to the regime. As justification, one military official said that they were taking children and giving them to others, just like transplanting a flower or plant from contaminated soil into fertile ground. The previous family, with different views, was "infected," and they were doing good by saving the child and placing it into "good" families.

The place of concealment is located within a ring planted with flowers. As a protest against this claim being fundamentally wrong, flowers bloom even in the "contaminated" soil – contaminated with blood and violence.

















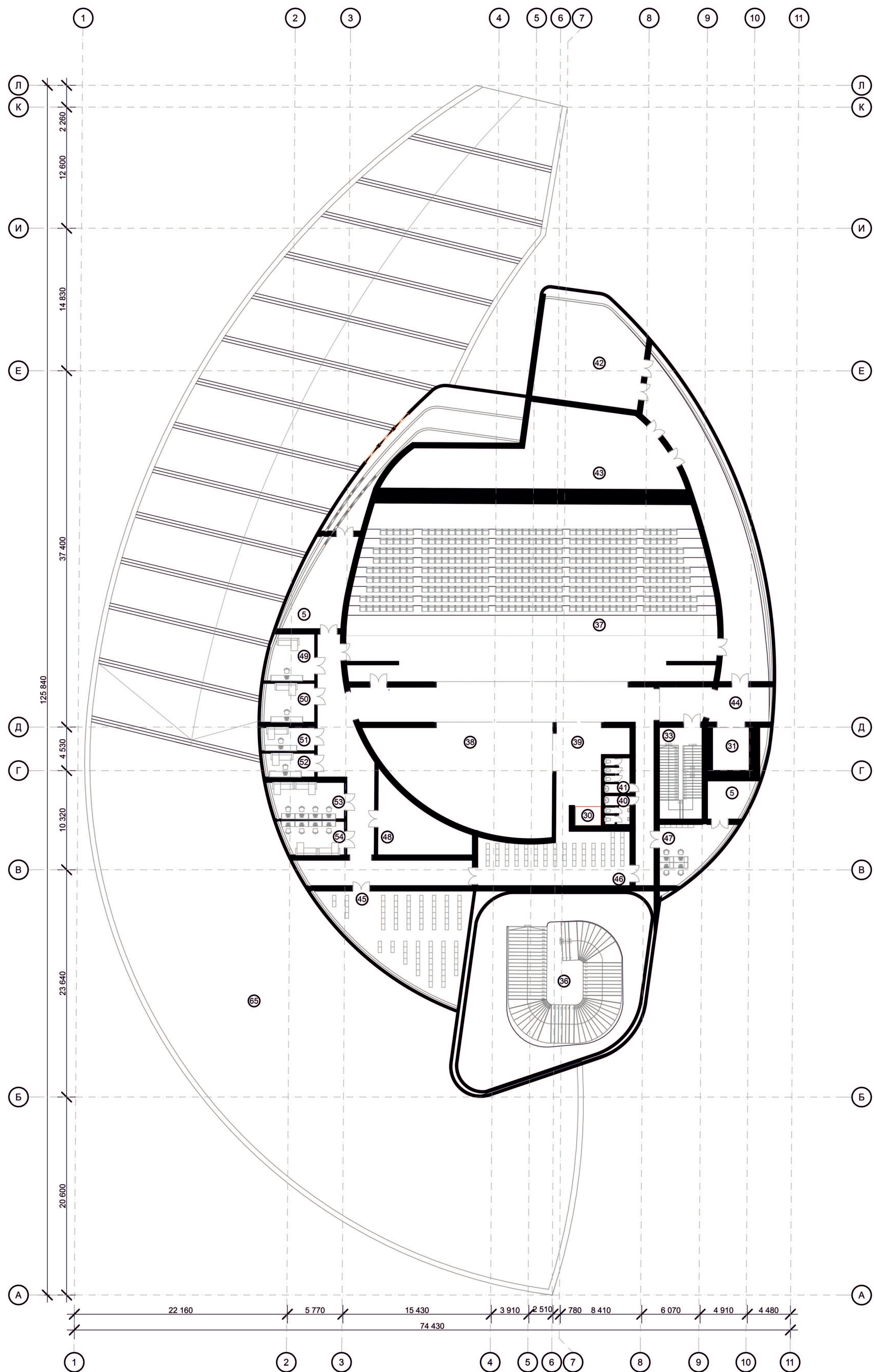




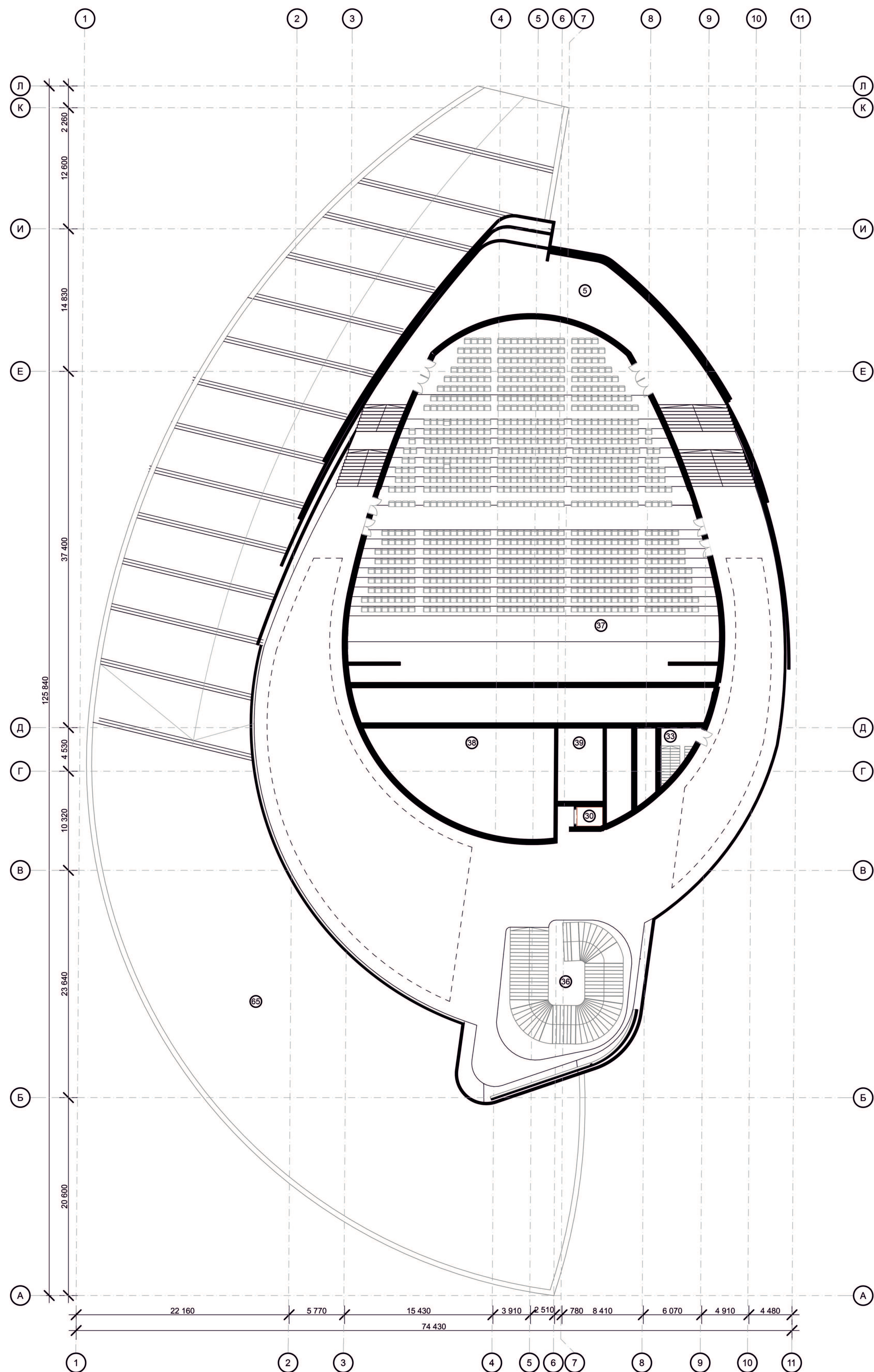
1-st floor

Concert hall

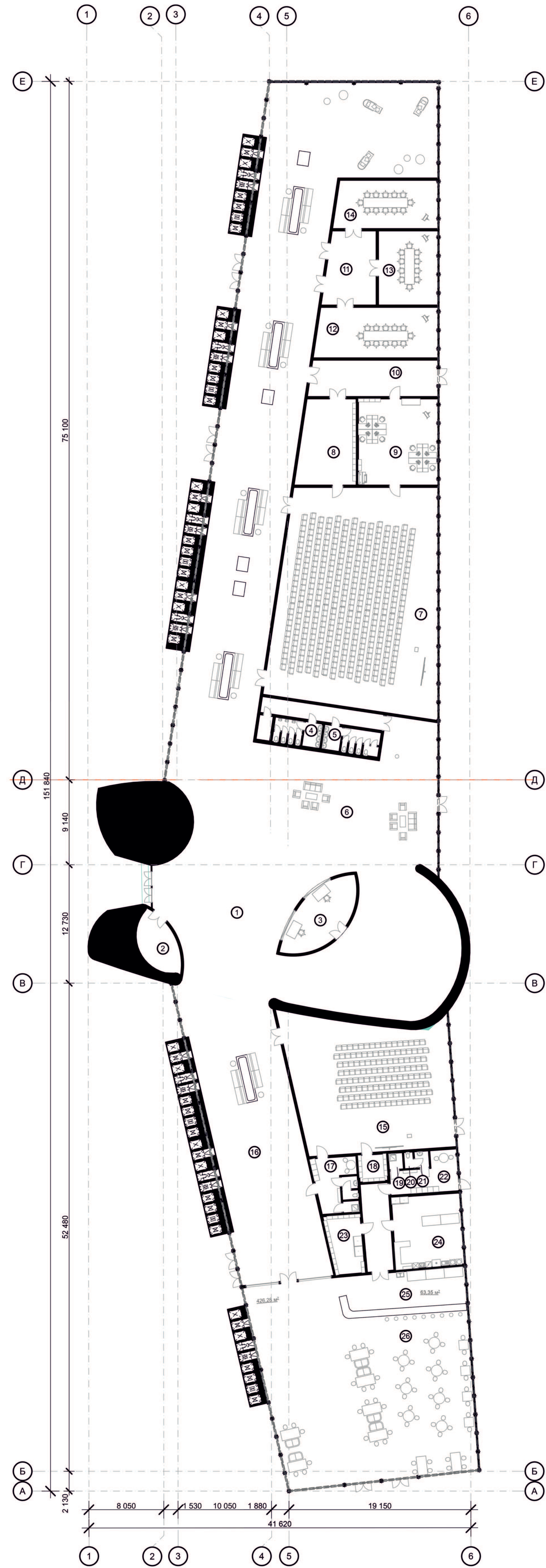
1. Cafeteria Dining Hall	196	M2
2. Pick-up / Service Counter Area	34	M2
3. Corridor	28	M2
4. Food Storage Room	18	M2
5. Cafeteria Kitchen	42	M2
6. Cafeteria Administrative Office	37	M2
7. Staff Changing Room	27	M2
8. Cafeteria Staff Restroom	4	M2
9. Shower Room	3	M2
10. Cold Storage Room	4	M2
11. Staff Break Room	16	M2
12. Men's Restroom	4	M2
13. Women's Restroom	4	M2
14. Ground Floor Lobby	632	M2
15. Corridor	15	M2
16. Mother and Child Room	13	M2
17. Men's Restroom	4	M2
18. Women's Restroom	15	M2
19. Technical Room	2	M2
20. Cloakroom	141	M2
21. Ticket Office	30	M2
22. Women's Restroom	10	M2
23. Men's Restroom	9	M2
24. Administration Office	47	M2
25. Accounting Office	41	M2
26. Administrative Block Lobby	141	M2
27. Meeting Room	23	M2
28. Archive Room	39	M2
29. Staff Vestibule	60	M2
30. Loading Area	27	M2
31. Freight Elevator	17	M2
32. Hall	27	M2
33. Stairwell	43	M2
34. Server Room	41	M2
35. System Administrator's Office	15	M2
36. Stair Hall	274	M2
37. Auditorium	1071	M2
38. Scenery Construction Workshop	154	M2
39. Large Scenery Storage	46	M2
40. Men's Restroom	8	M2
41. Women's Restroom	9	M2
42. Scenery Storage	114	M2
43. Auditorium Technical Room	172	M2
44. Second Floor Technical Lobby	44	M2
45. Rehearsal Hall	105	M2
46. Costume Storage	84	M2
47. Costume Workshop	34	M2
48. Lighting and Sound Control Room		
49. Private Dressing Room	56	M2
50. Private Dressing Room	23	M2
51. Private Dressing Room	22	M2
52. Private Dressing Room	19	M2
53. Group Dressing Room	14	M2
54. Group Dressing Room	27	M2
55. Third Floor Auditorium Lobby	23	M2
56. Concession / Retail Area (adjacent to Concert Hall)	1340	M2
	200	M2



2-st floor

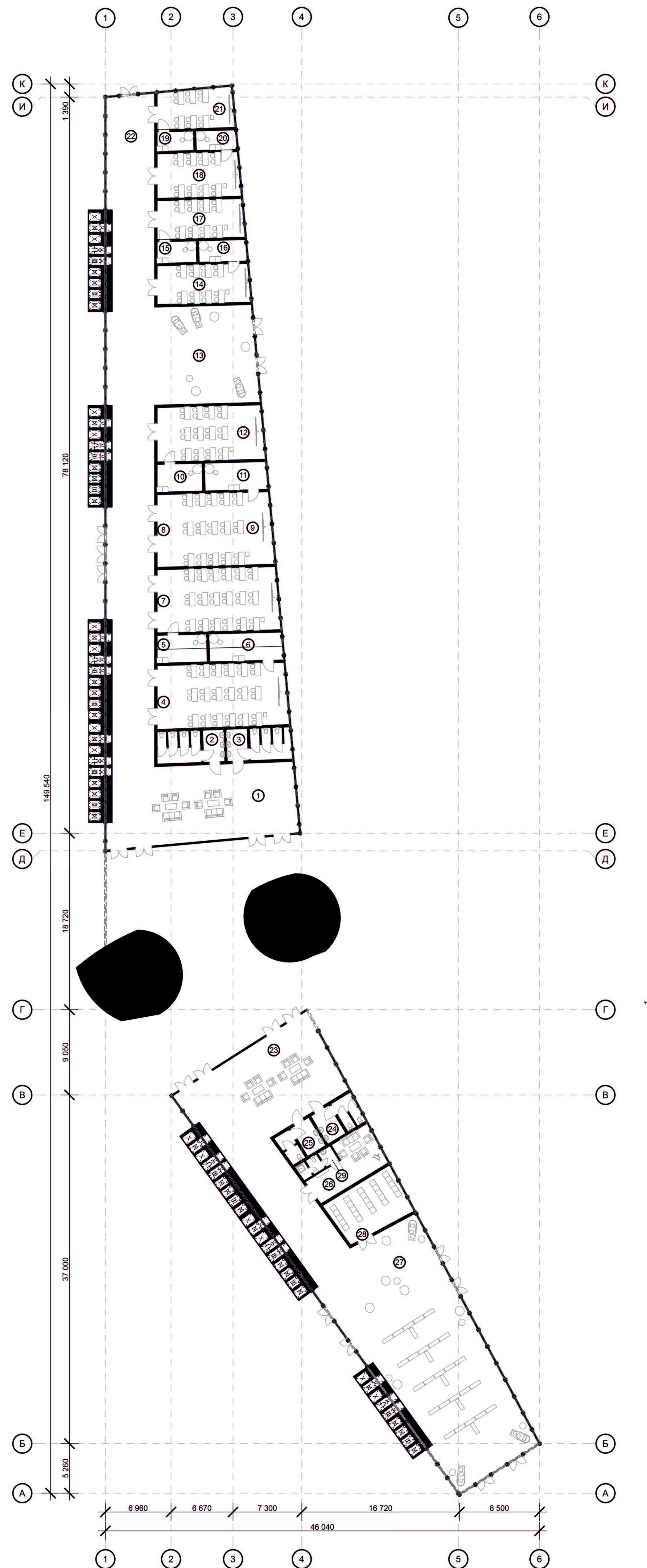


3-st floor



Conference Hall

1. Conference Center Lobby	178 M2
2. Security Room	20 M2
3. Reception	20 M2
4. Men's Restroom	20 M2
5. Women's Restroom	22 M2
6. Large Conference Hall Lobby	731 M2
7. Large Conference Hall	435 M2
8. Equipment Storage	56 M2
9. Speakers' Room	79 M2
10. Technical Corridor	54 M2
11. Meeting Rooms Lobby	43 M2
12. Meeting Room	52 M2
13. Meeting Room	72 M2
14. Meeting Room	57 M2
15. Small Conference Hall	246 M2
16. Small Conference Hall Lobby	322 M2
17. Speakers' Room	70 M2
18. Equipment Storage	8 M2
19. Shower Room	8 M2
20. Cafeteria Staff Restroom	6 M2
21. Cafeteria Staff Restroom	6 M2
22. Cafeteria Staff Break Room	30 M2
23. Food Storage Room	21 M2
24. Kitchen	56 M2
25. Pick-up / Service Counter Area	20 M2
26. Cafeteria Dining Hall(Concert Hall)	332 M2

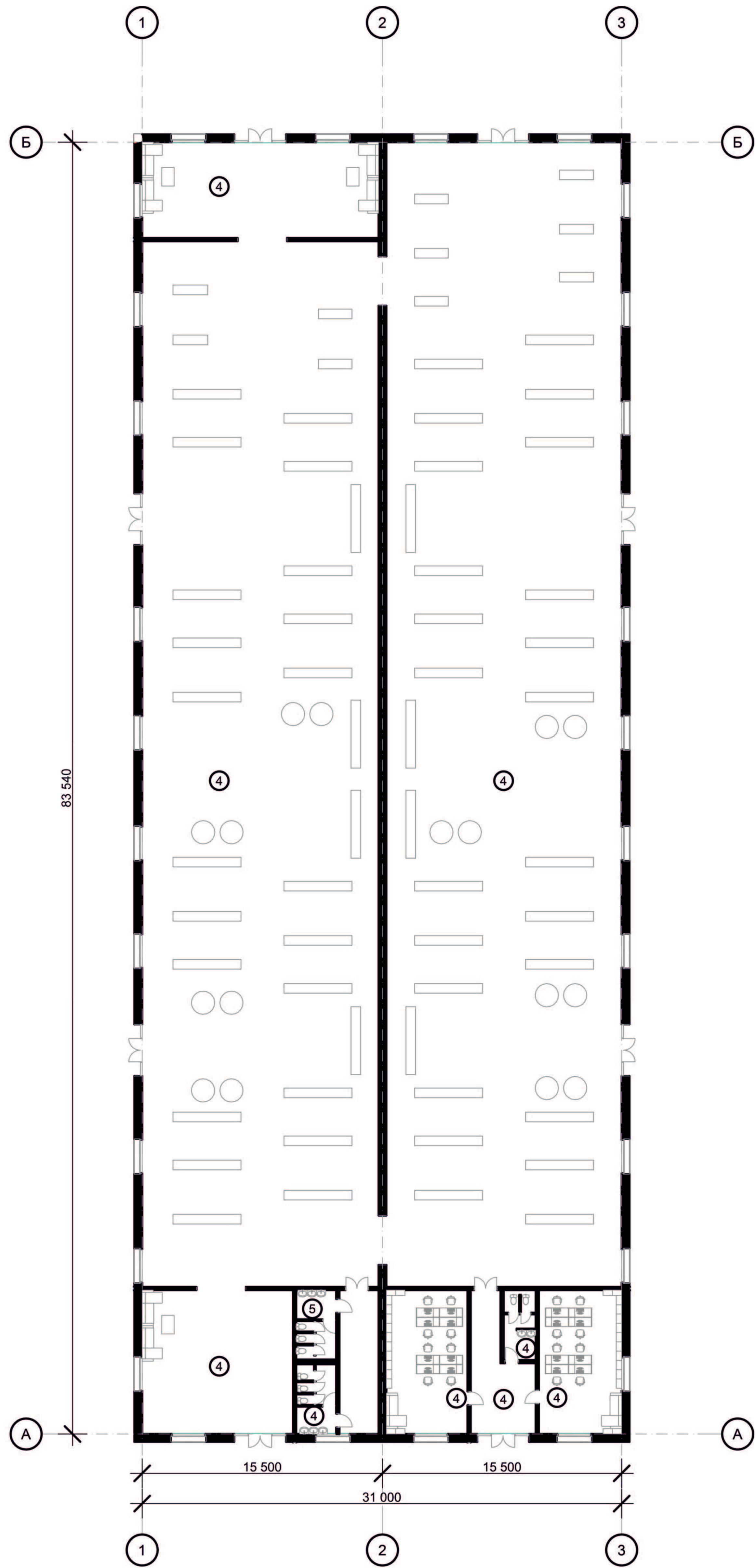


Educational Center

1. Educational Center Lobby	160	M2
2. Women's Restroom	10	M2
3. Men's Restroom	9	M2
4. Classroom	70	M2
5. Staff Room	10	M2
6. Staff Room	8	M2
7. Classroom	45	M2
8. Classroom	47	M2
9. Staff Room	11	M2
10. Staff Room	12	M2
11. Staff Room	9	M2
12. Classroom	50	M2
13. Hall / Lobby	110	M2
14. Classroom	56	M2
15. Staff Room	12	M2
16. Staff Room	13	M2
17. Staff Room	12	M2
18. Classroom	13	M2
19. Staff Room	14	M2
20. Staff Room	10	M2
21. Classroom	42	M2
22. Hall / Lobby	368	M2
23. Library Lobby	156	M2
24. Men's Restroom	8	M2
25. Women's Restroom	8	M2
26. Library Staff Room	33	M2
27. Library Reading Hall / Library Hall	325	M2
28. Library Storage	40	M2
29. Staff Restroom	5	M2

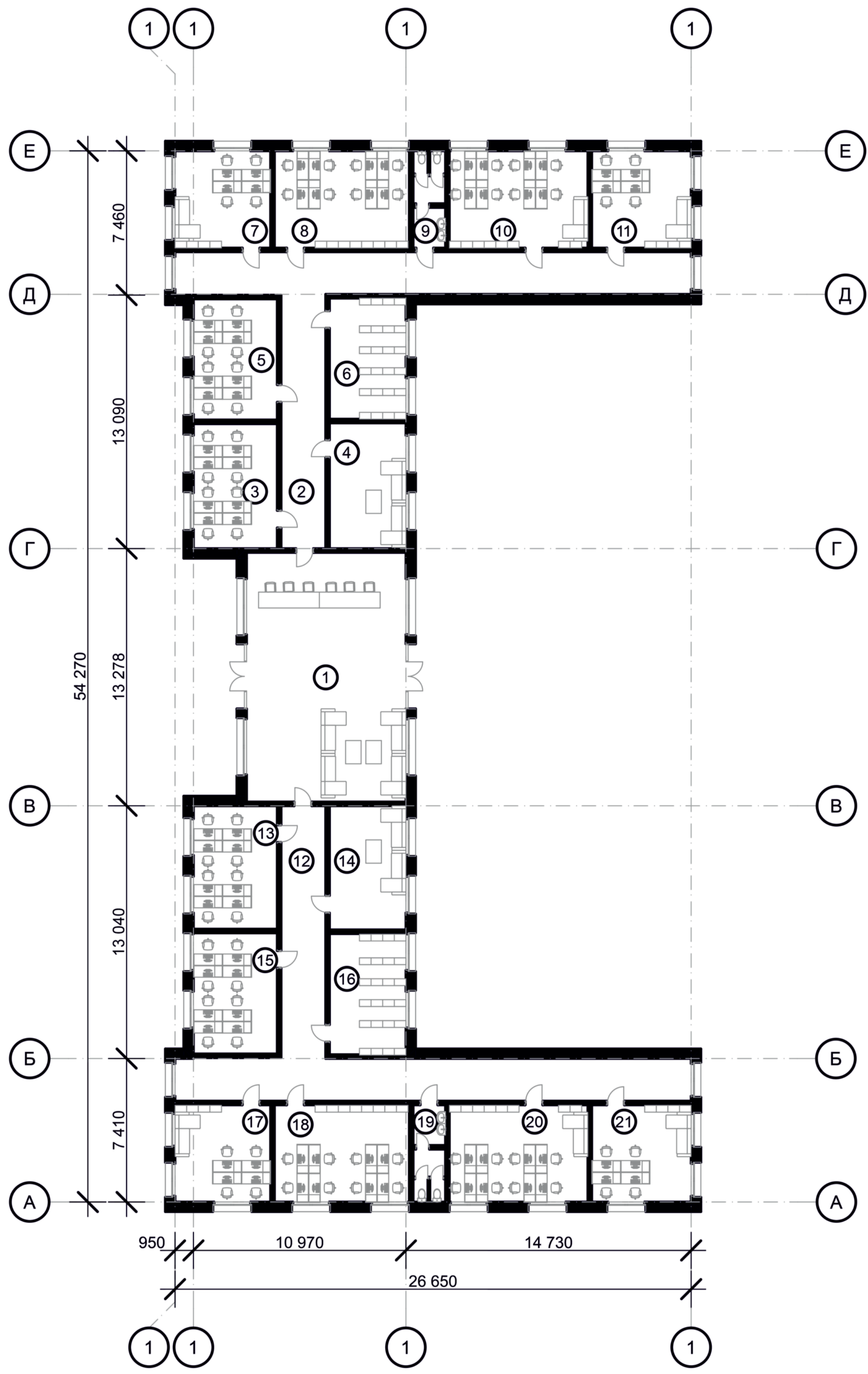
Standard Exhibition Pavilion

1. West Hall	90 M2
2. Men's Restroom	12 M2
3. Women's Restroom	11 M2
4. Exhibition Pavilion Administration	49 M2
5. Service Corridor	19 M2
6. Staff Restroom	10 M2
7. Office Room	49 M2
8. Exhibition Hall	720 M2
9. Exhibition Hall	870 M2
10. East Hall	94 M2



Administration

1. Reception	105 M2
2. Corridor	91 M2
3. Office Room	28 M2
4. Staff Break Room	25 M2
5. Office Room	27 M2
6. Archive Room	26 M2
7. Chief Accountant's Office	26 M2
8. Accounting Office	34 M2
9. Staff Restroom	8 M2
10. Human Resources Office	36 M2
11. Public Relations Office	26 M2
12. Corridor	91 M2
13. Office Room	28 M2
14. Staff Break Room	26 M2
15. Office Room	25 M2
16. Server Room	25 M2
17. Complex Director's Office	27 M2
18. Office Room	36 M2
19. Staff Restroom	8 M2
20. Office Room	36 M2
21. Office Room	25 M2



Media center

1. Hall	150 M2
2. 360° Media Center	882 M2
3. Service Corridor	250 M2
4. Men's Restroom	11 M2
5. Women's Restroom	11 M2
6. Technical Storage	55 M2
7. Projector Room	55 M2
8. Server Room	34 M2
9. Office Room	38M2
10. Staff Break Room	36 M2
11. Public Relations Office	38 M2
12. Office Room	38 M2
13. Office Room	38 M2
14. Maintenance Workshop	38 M2
15. Staff Restroom	38 M2
16. Technical Room	25 M2
17. Equipment Room	27 M2
18. AV Rack Room	36 M2
19. Office Room	8 M2
20. Office Room	36 M2
21. Cloakroom	25 M2

