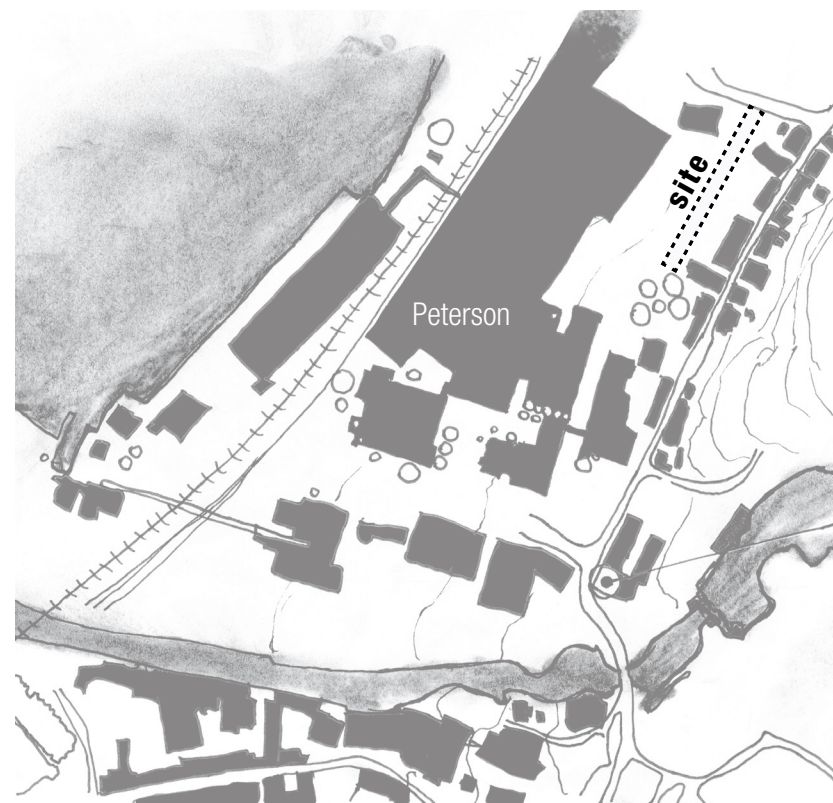
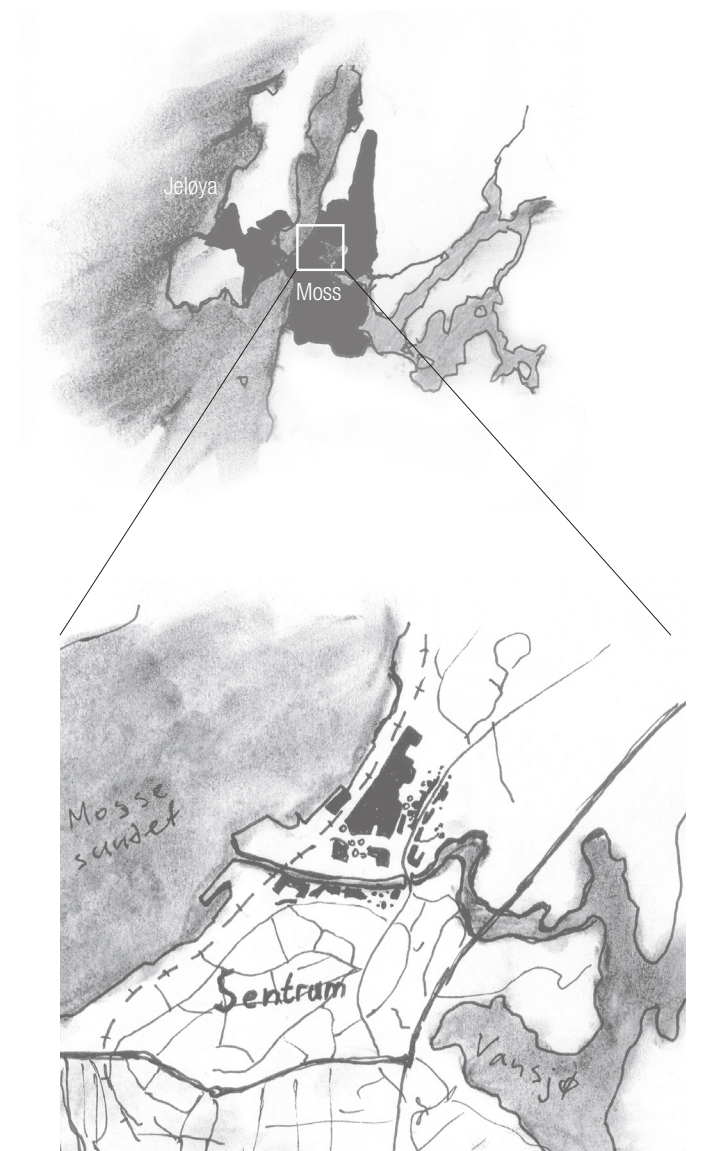
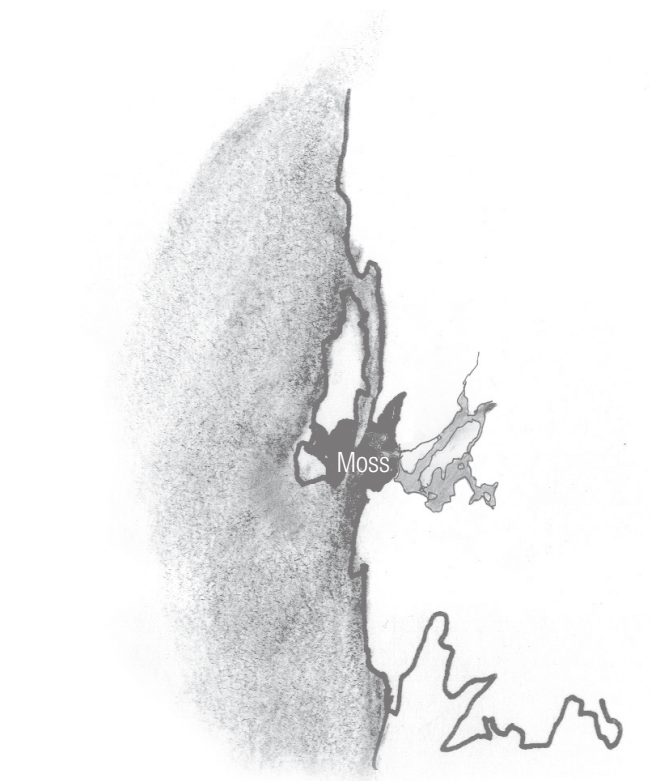


# School on the edge

master thesis  
spring 2012  
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SITUATION PLAN



Mossesundet

Peterson Packaging

Moss Verk

Konventionsgården

Mossefossen

Vansjø

Moss Sentrum



KEY POINTS

Description



The American College of Norway is a private school in Moss. The school offers a one year program of preparatory courses for people who wish to study in the USA. As the ACN looks to expand from 70 to 150 students, a new school building is needed. Currently the school is located at temporary facilities in the Moss Verk area. This area is within walking distance of the city centre, and lies between the bankrupt Peterson factory and a large rock. There, on the edge of the Moss Verk plateau, overlooking the abandoned factory, is a vacant strip of land. The site is very narrow and oblong, unable to accomodate a traditional school building.

Peterson Packaging is the last local factory to either go bankrupt or move its production abroad, making Moss' identity as an idustrial town a thing of the past.

To prevent Moss from simply becoming a gray suburb to Oslo, one must now look to unique local institutions, other than the industrial ones. The ACN is an institution that could help add some new identity and life to the central areas of Moss.

Placement and shape

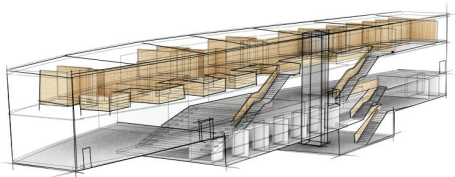


Originally, the site was regulated to follow the edge of the neighbouring sites and only be 8 meters wide. No standpoint on the unusal setting was taken.

I angled the building towards the steep edge facing the industry. This makes for more generous outdoor spaces and keeps a more sensible distance to the existing houses.

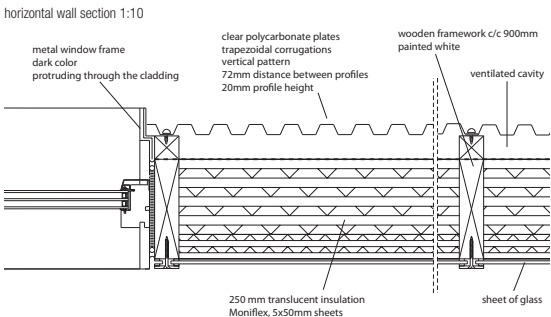
The original site plan keeps a lot of residual areas towards the factory untouched. Even before the factory went bankrupt they were filled only with bushes and garbage. The new building expands across those residual areas, making use of the leftover space.

Organisation



- The organization of the program follows these main intentions:
- The school functions and smaller spaces are located at the uppermost floor
  - The larger common spaces are located at the ground floor, where they are easily accessible for everyone
  - The U1 floor contains support functions
  - The U2 floor comes all the way down to the industrial floor, creating a general back of house and a service entry.
  - The school is universally designed

Facade



The facade is translucent and allows 10% of outside natural light to pass through. It wraps around the entire building and gives it a milky white exterior.

The cladding references the corrugated metal facades at the omnipresent factory, while simultaneously adding something completely new to the area. The distance between the corrugations is relatively small, adding a finer scale to the envelope. A scale corresponding to the vertical timber cladding found on the local worker houses.

Upper floor



Moss Verk street passes by the site and is surrounded by small wooden houses. In between the houses one can glimpse the base of a large rock, towering over the area. This street is used as an analogy for the schools uppermost floor:

The classrooms are the "worker houses" offering glimpses of the factory in between them. Lodged between the classrooms are the "backyards"; informal social spaces. The classrooms fluctate, subdividing the circulation zone into smaller subspaces.

On the other side of the "road" there is an almost inverse situation; shelves with study stations saperated by voids, offering contact down to the ground floor.

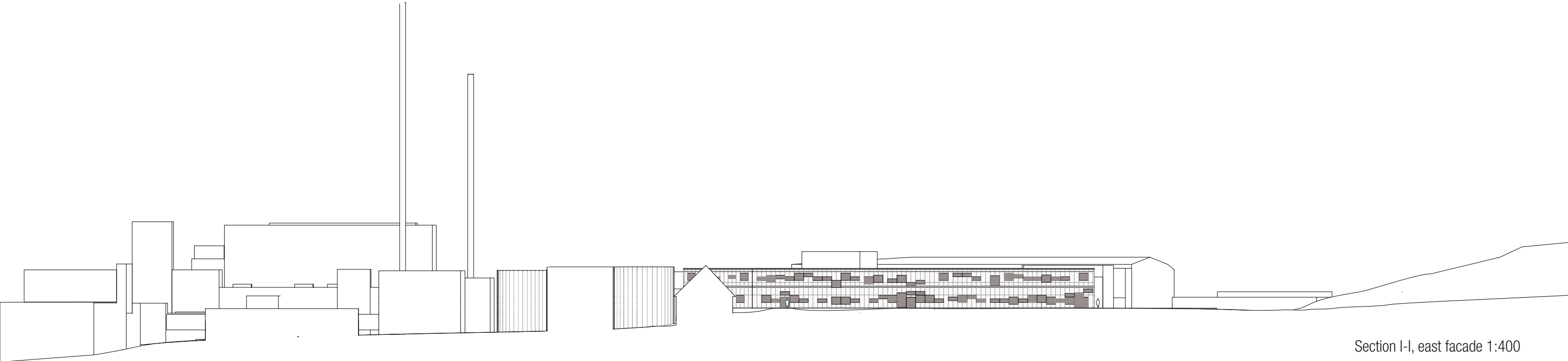
The upper floor is held up by metal rods hanging from the transverse structural frames. This way the ground floor only has culumns in its periphery.



SITUATION



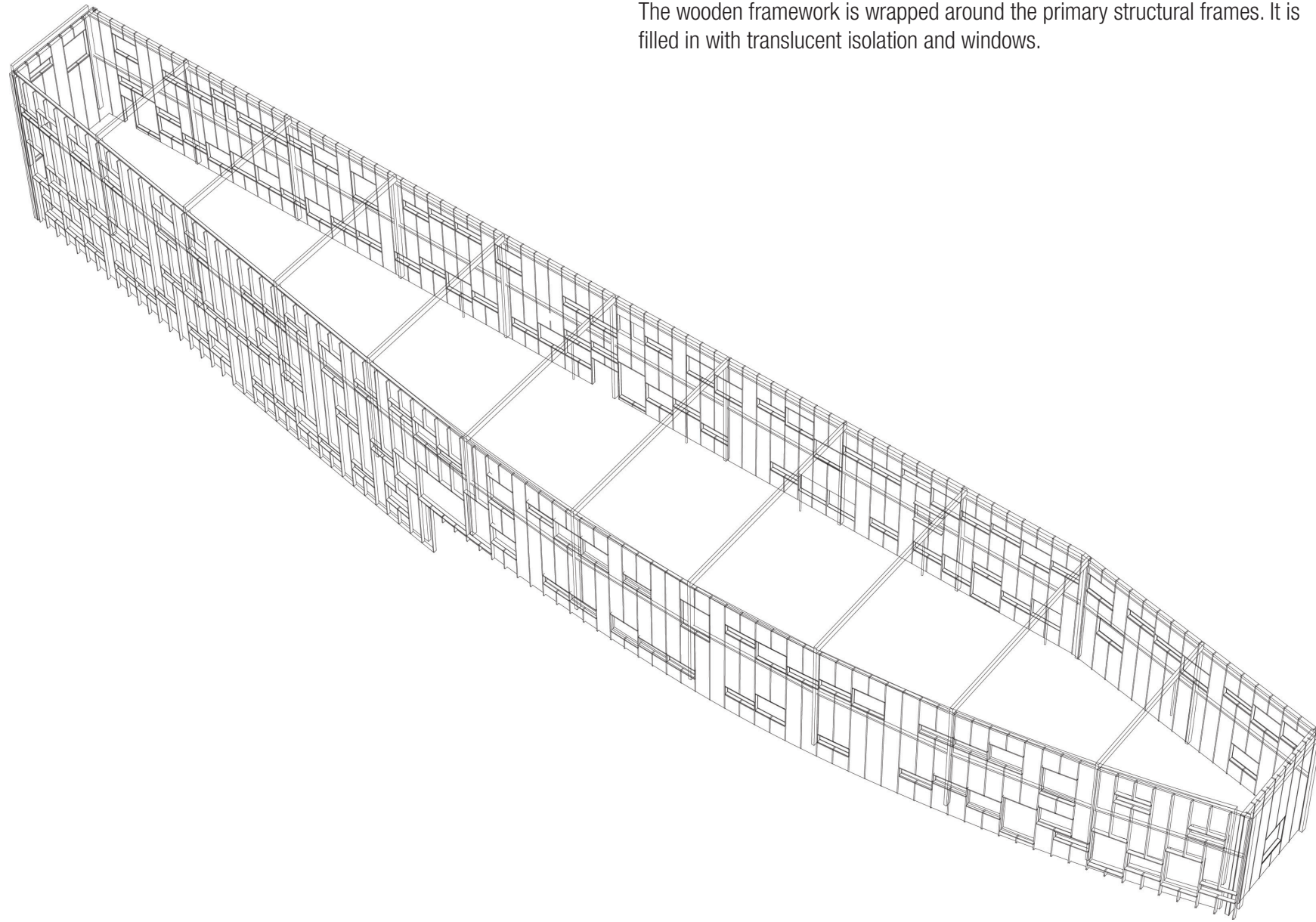
Section H-H, north facade1:400



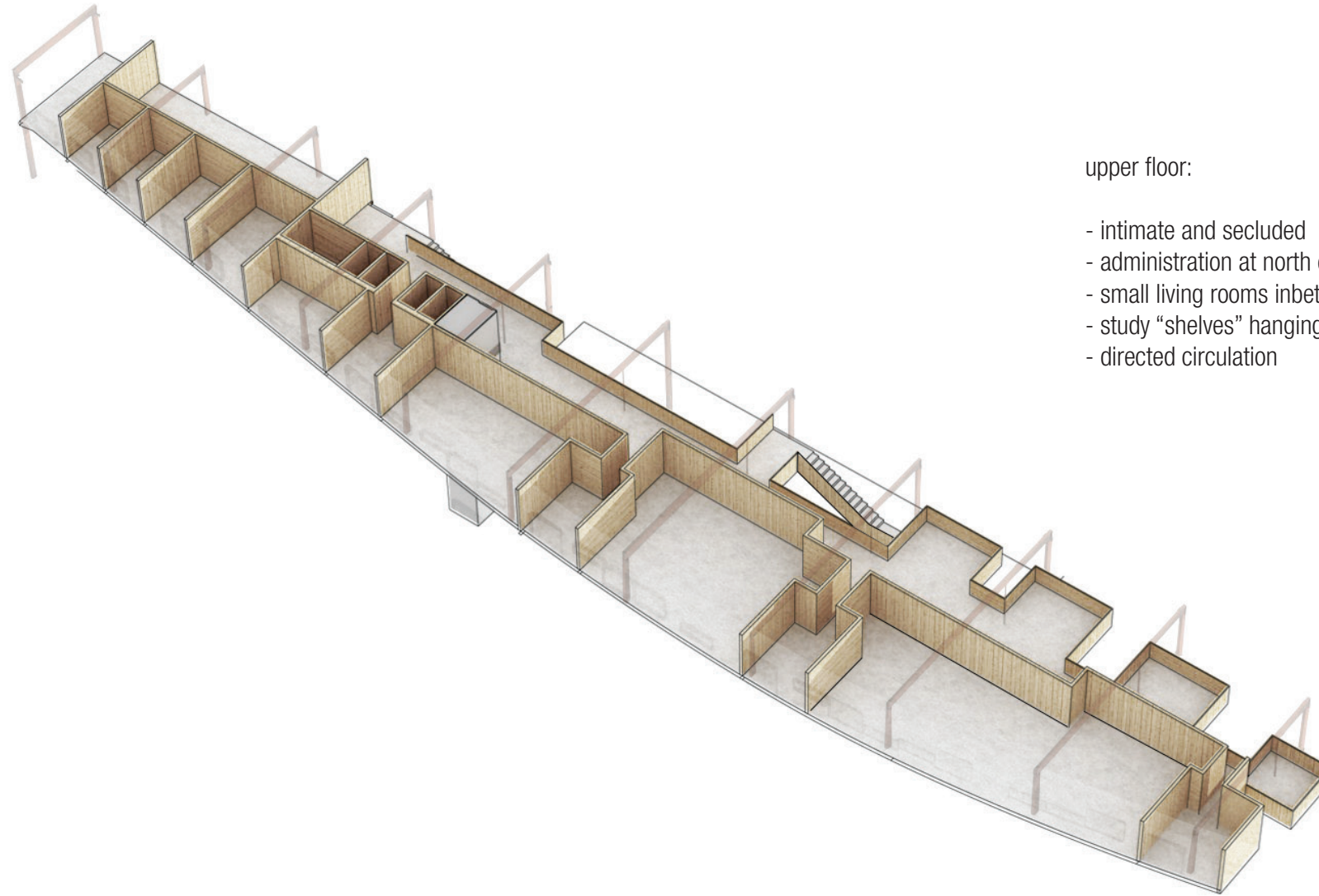
Section I-I, east facade 1:400



The wooden framework is wrapped around the primary structural frames. It is filled in with translucent isolation and windows.



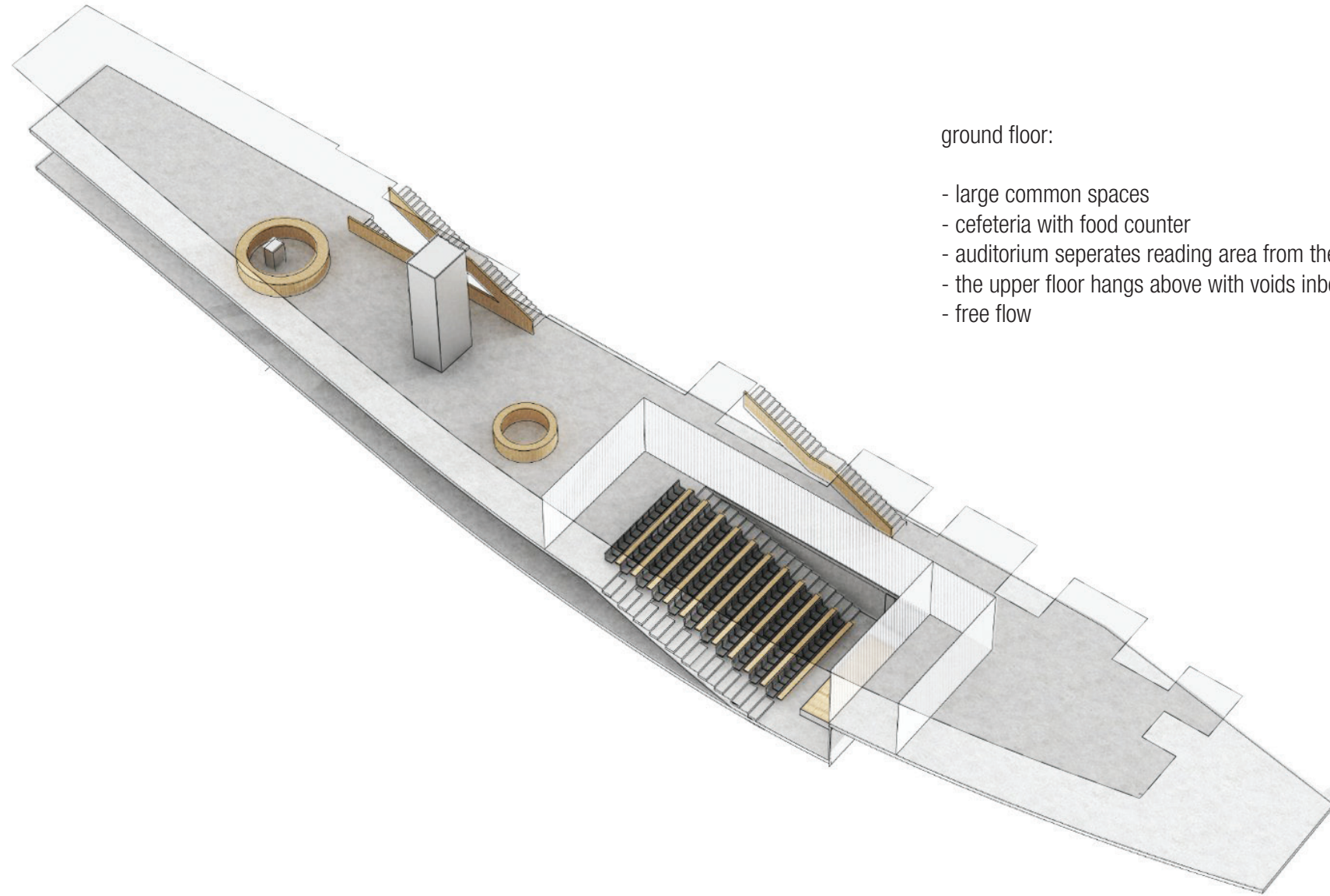




upper floor:

- intimate and secluded
- administration at north end
- small living rooms inbetween formal classrooms
- study "shelves" hanging over the ground floor
- directed circulation

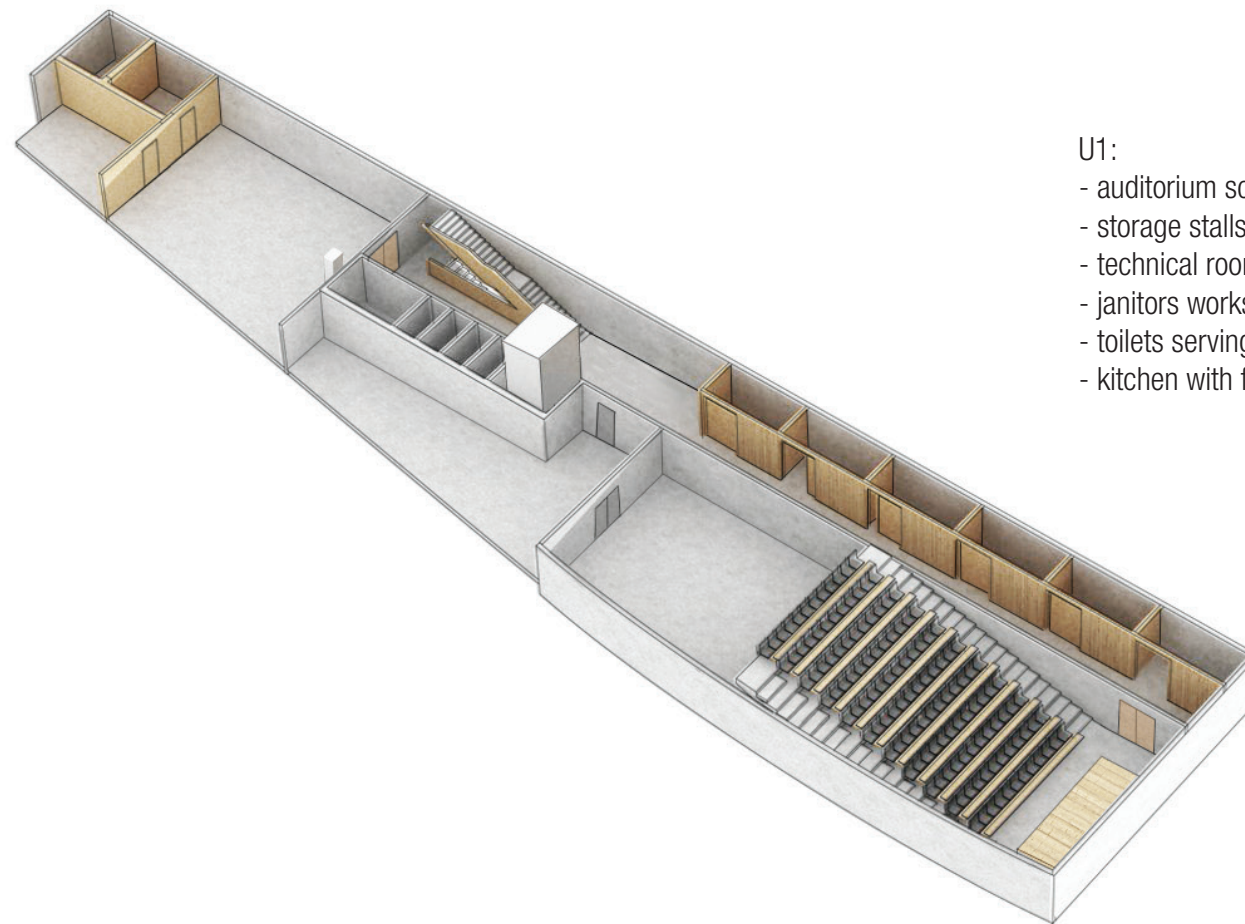




ground floor:

- large common spaces
- cafeteria with food counter
- auditorium separates reading area from the reception and cafeteria
- the upper floor hangs above with voids inbetween the cantilevers
- free flow

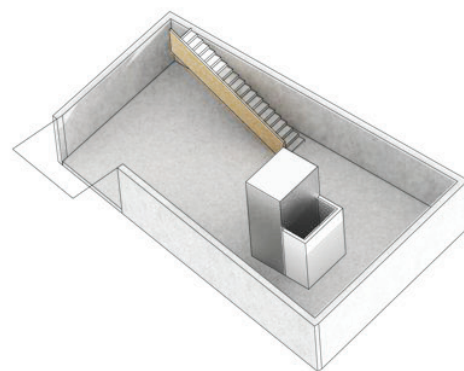




U1:

- auditorium scene
- storage stalls
- technical room under the auditorium
- janitors workshop with access to technical room
- toilets serving the ground floor above
- kitchen with food elevator





- U2:
- back of house
  - service entry
  - on the industrial floor (15 moh.)
  - hydraulics for the elevator
  - garbage/storage



looking down from the upper floor

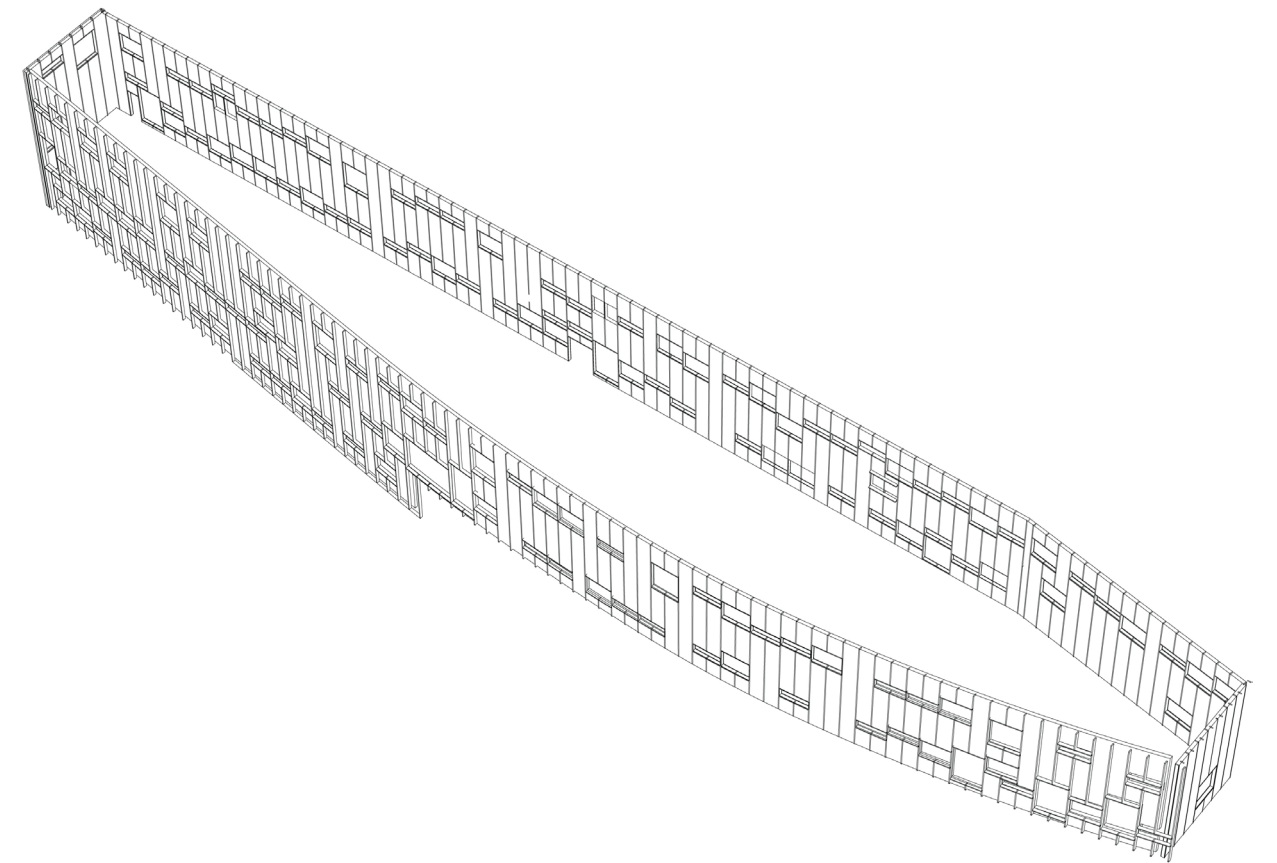
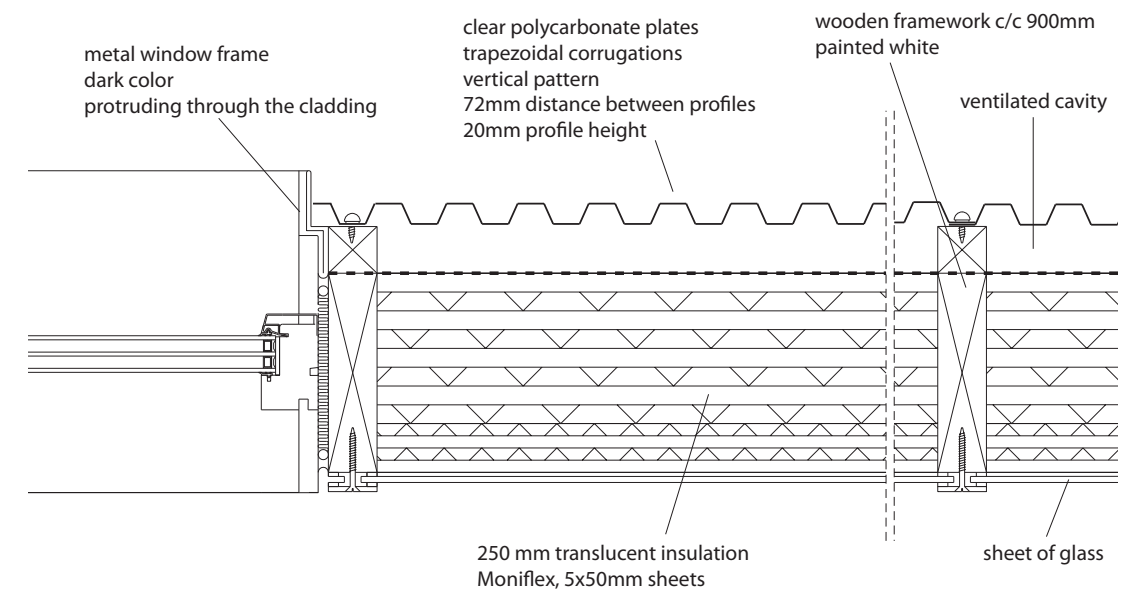




white, translucent facade

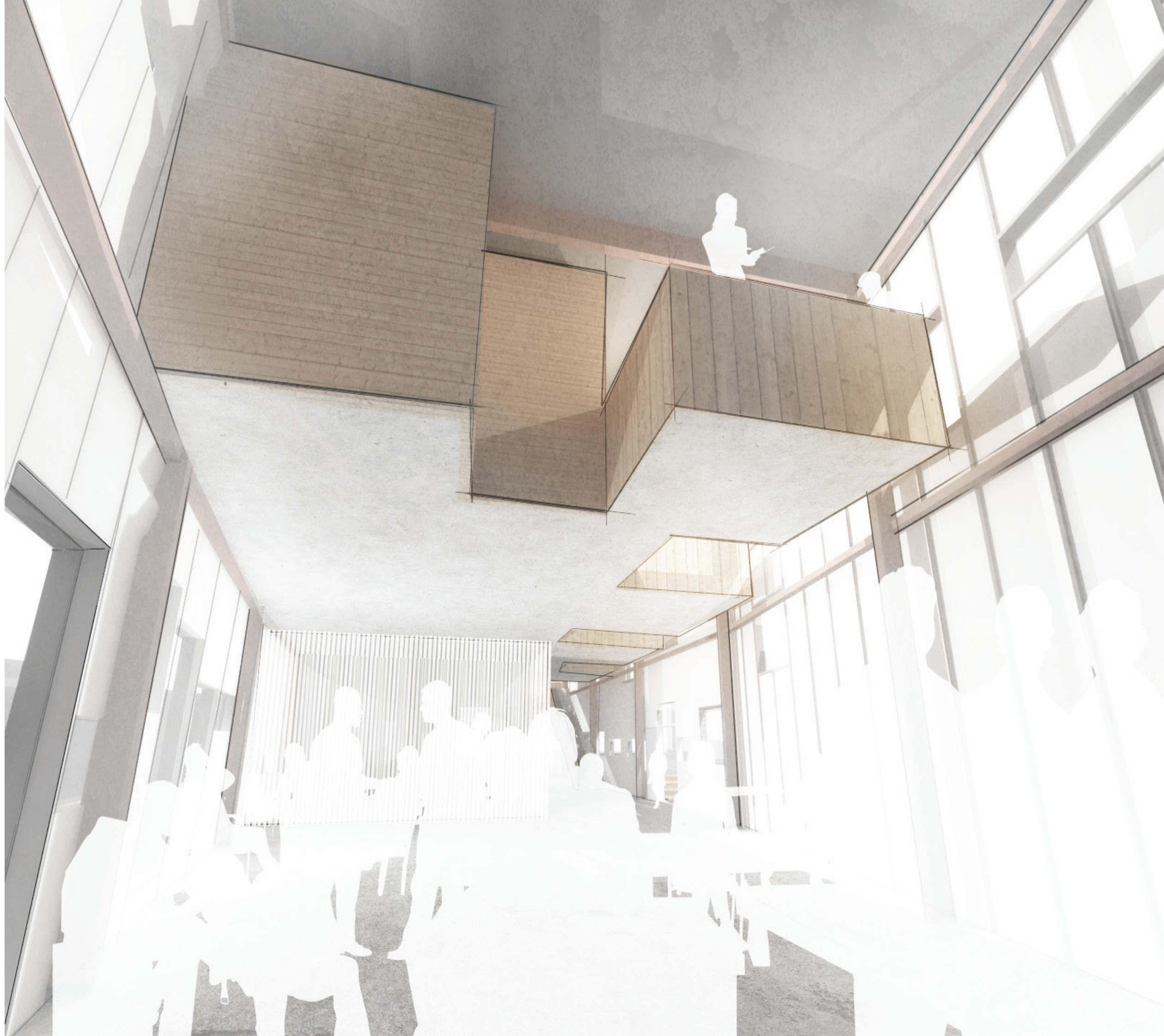


horizontal wall section



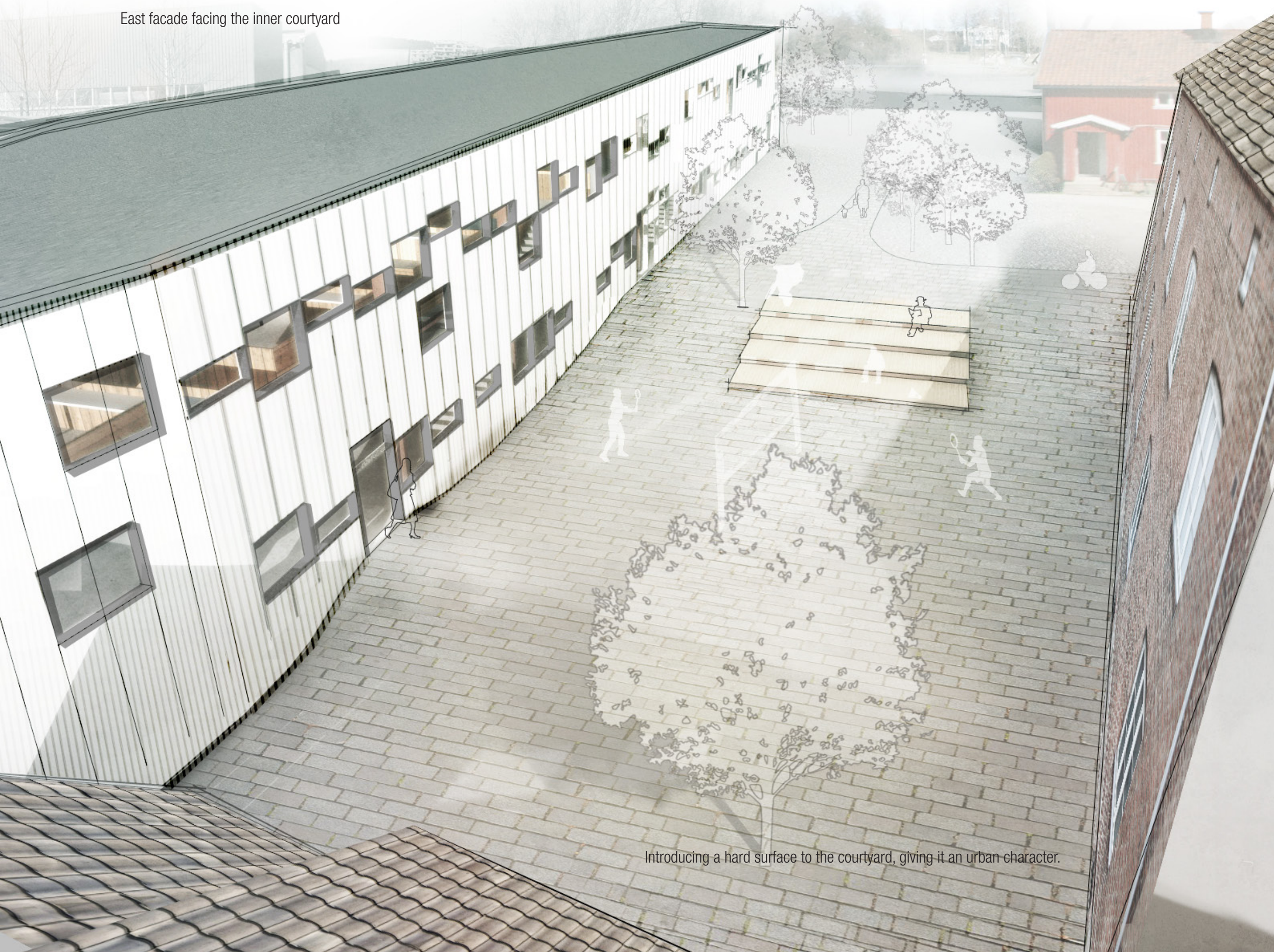


the upper floor hanging over the ground floor





East facade facing the inner courtyard

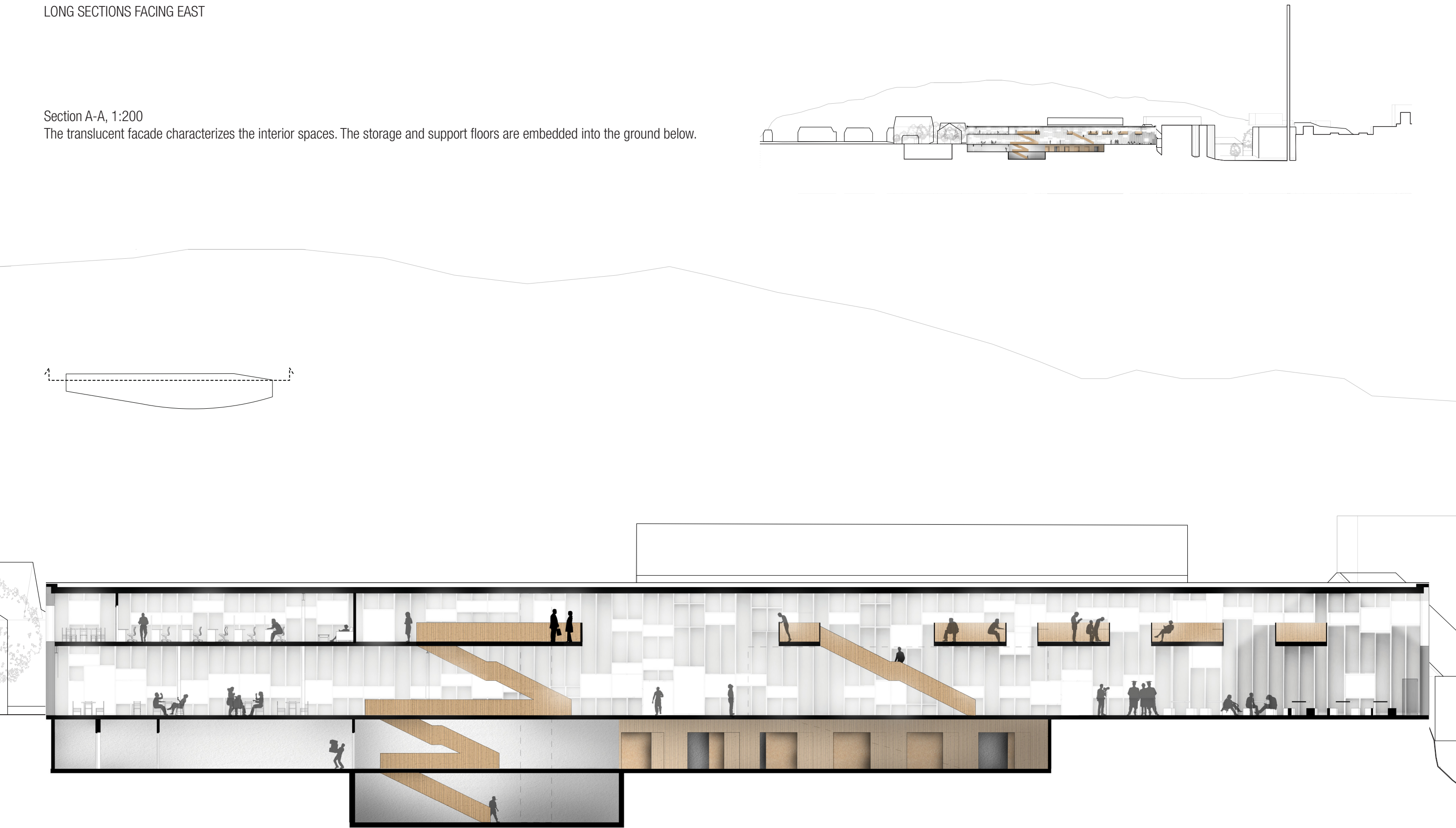


Introducing a hard surface to the courtyard, giving it an urban character.



LONG SECTIONS FACING EAST

Section A-A, 1:200  
The translucent facade characterizes the interior spaces. The storage and support floors are embedded into the ground below.





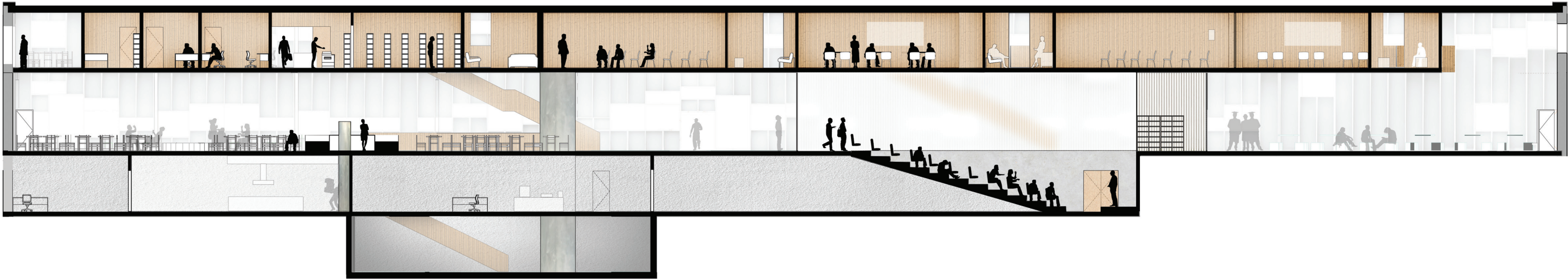
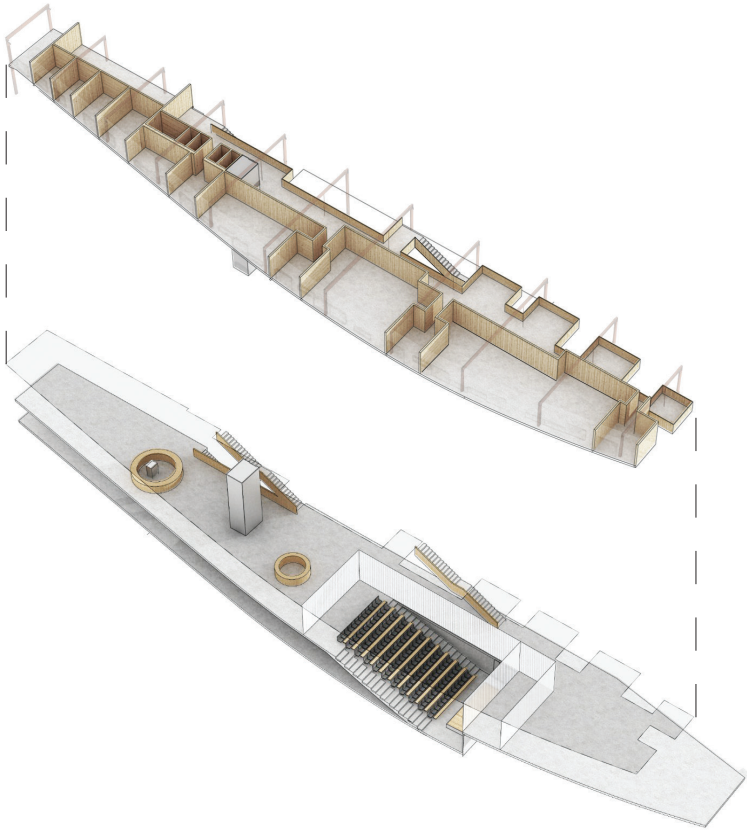
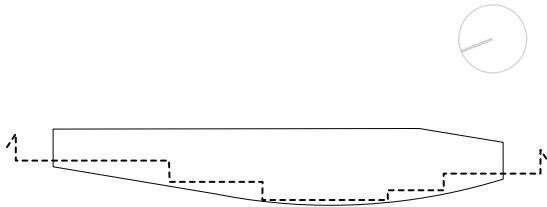
LONG SECTIONS FACING EAST

Section B-B, 1:200  
as the section is pulled back towards the curved wall, the functions appear.

The auditorium divides the ground floor and is accessible from the reception area, and the support floor.

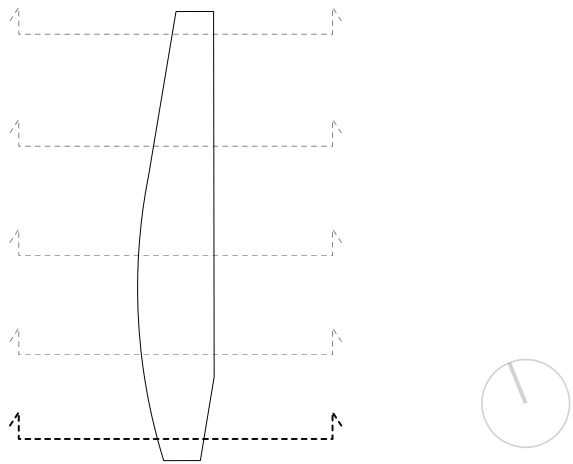
The upper floor contains classrooms interrupted by small informal “living rooms”. At the northern end is the school administration. A meeting room concludes the upper floor at this end.

The ground floor holds the large common spaces, while the upper floor consists of smaller, more intimate rooms.

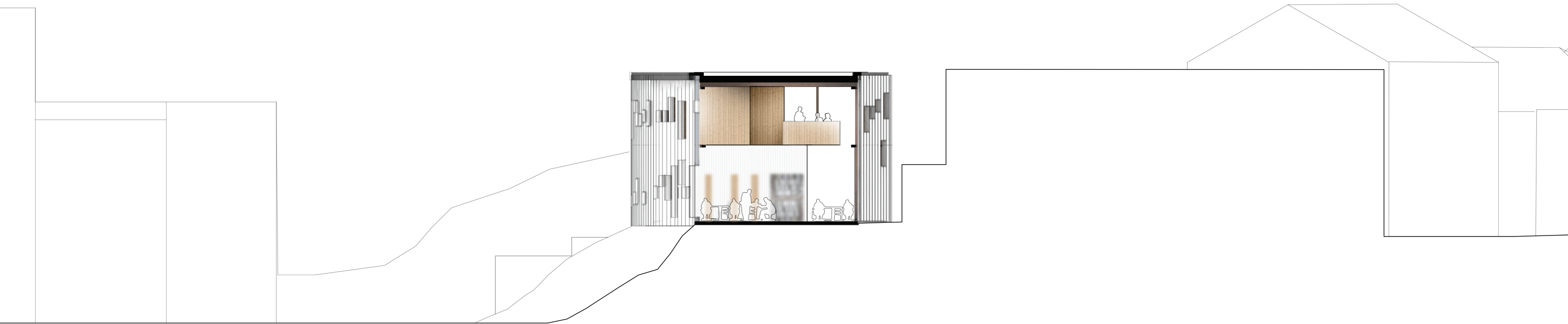




TRANSVERSE SECTIONS FACING NORTH

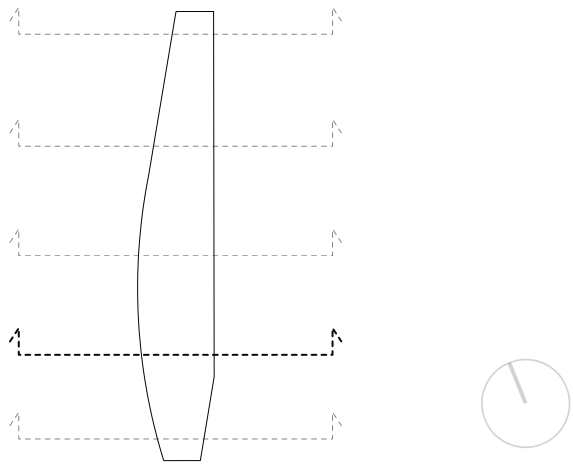


At the south end the upper floor is hanging over the study area. The elevations are visible as they bulge out (west) and break (east).





TRANSVERSE SECTIONS FACING NORTH

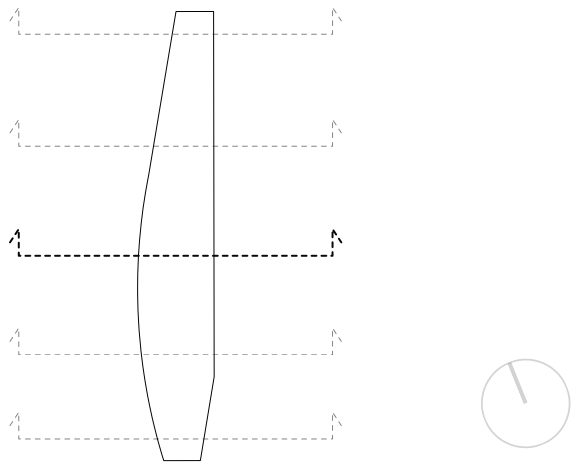


The school at its widest. The auditorium walls above ground are made of opalized polycarbonate. The stage is buried into the edge.

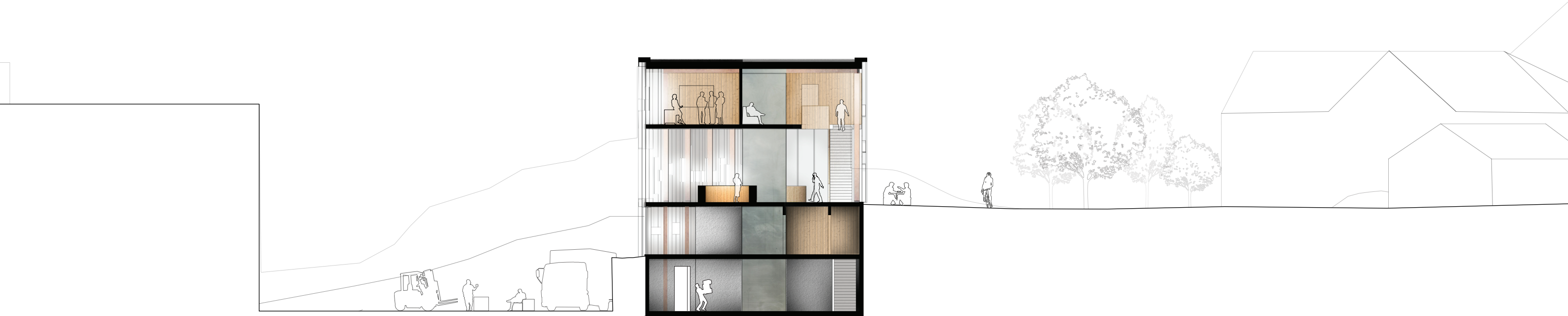




TRANSVERSE SECTIONS FACING NORTH

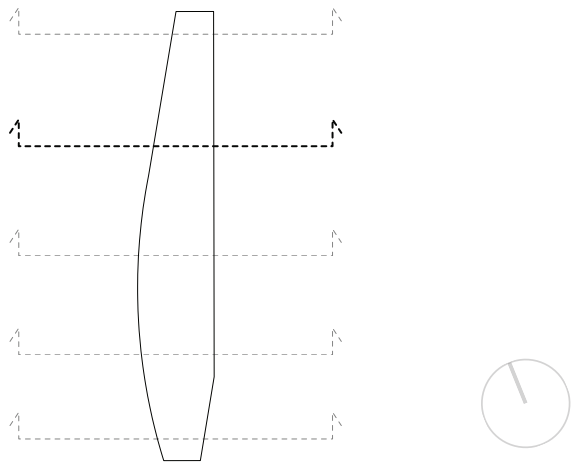


Here the school reaches the industrial floor, with the hydraulic elevator connecting all four floors.

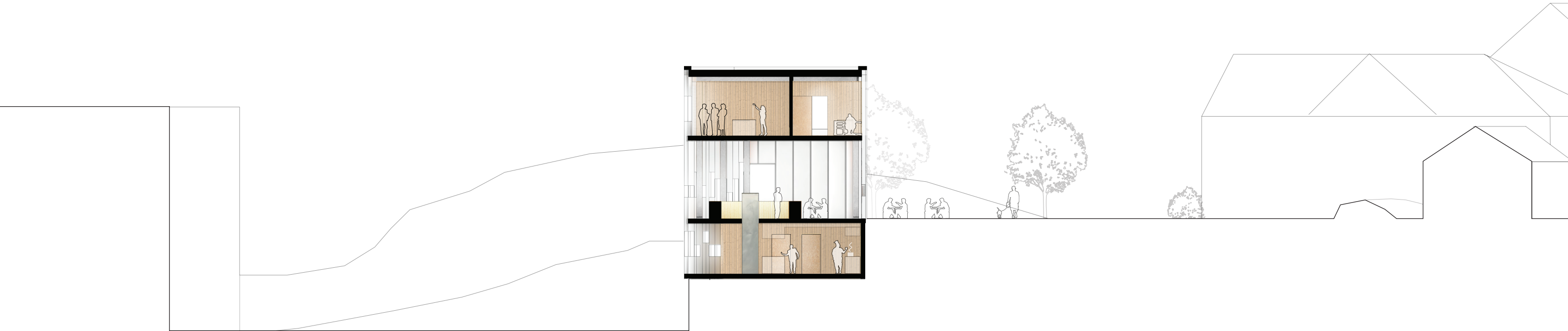




TRANSVERSE SECTIONS FACING NORTH

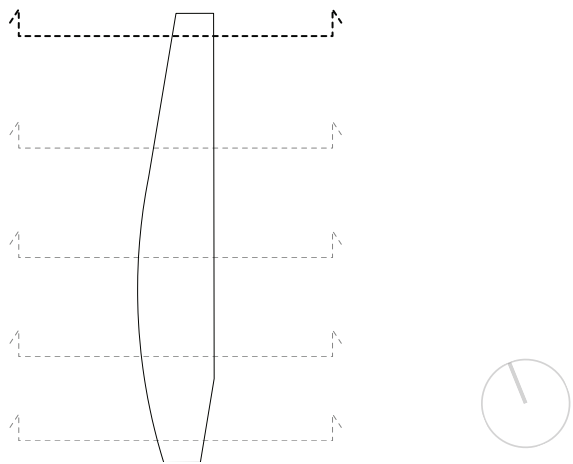


The cafeteria supported by a kitchen. In the upper floor are work stations and a printing area. The building is embedded into the edge.

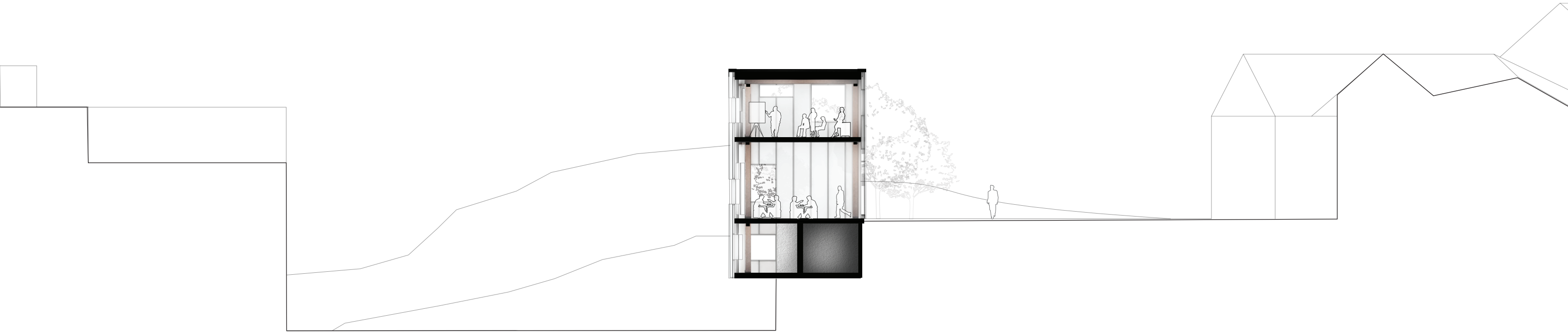




TRANSVERSE SECTIONS FACING NORTH



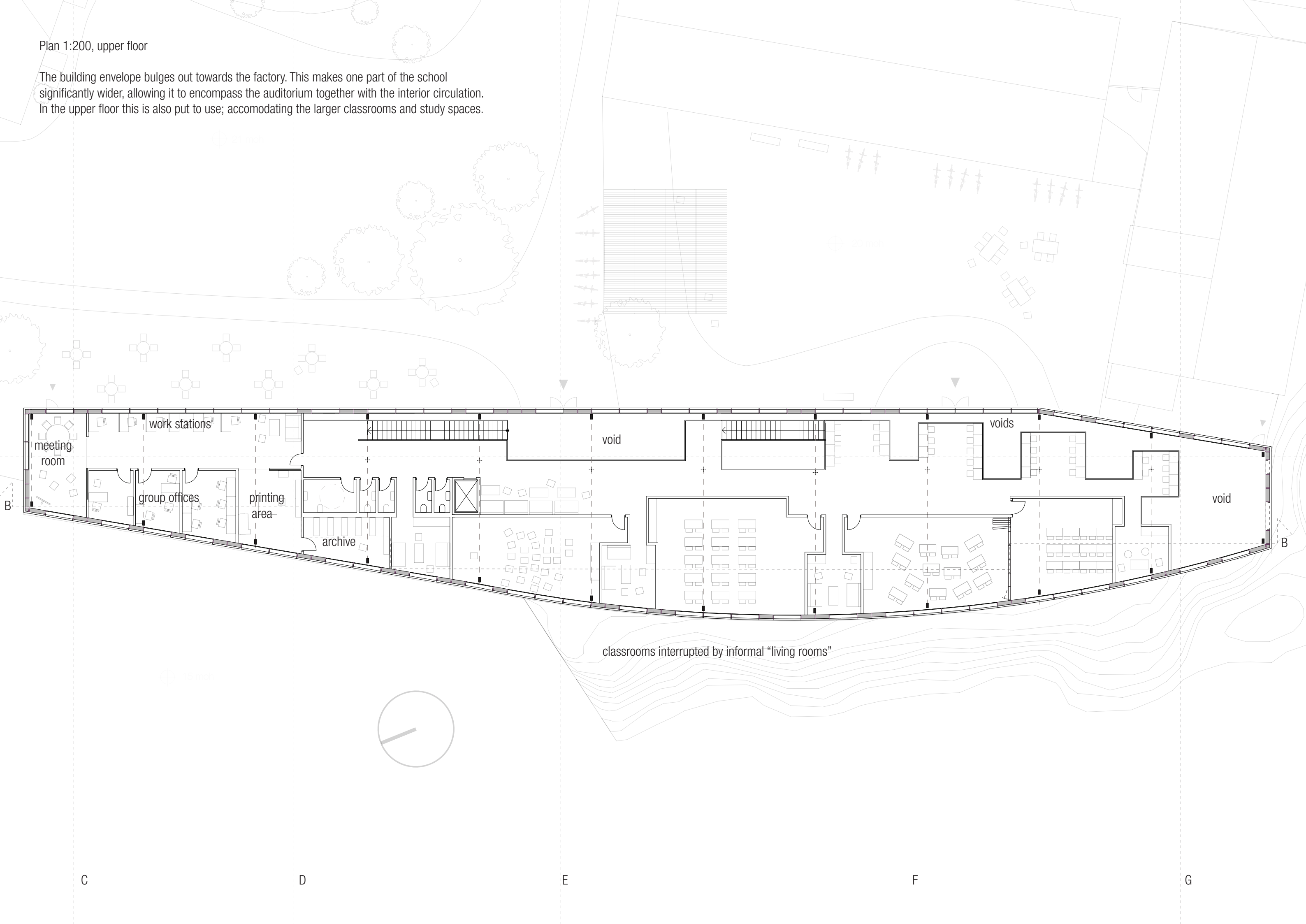
The north end of the building. Meeting room on the upper floor, cafeteria below. The volume cantelevers over the industrial floor.





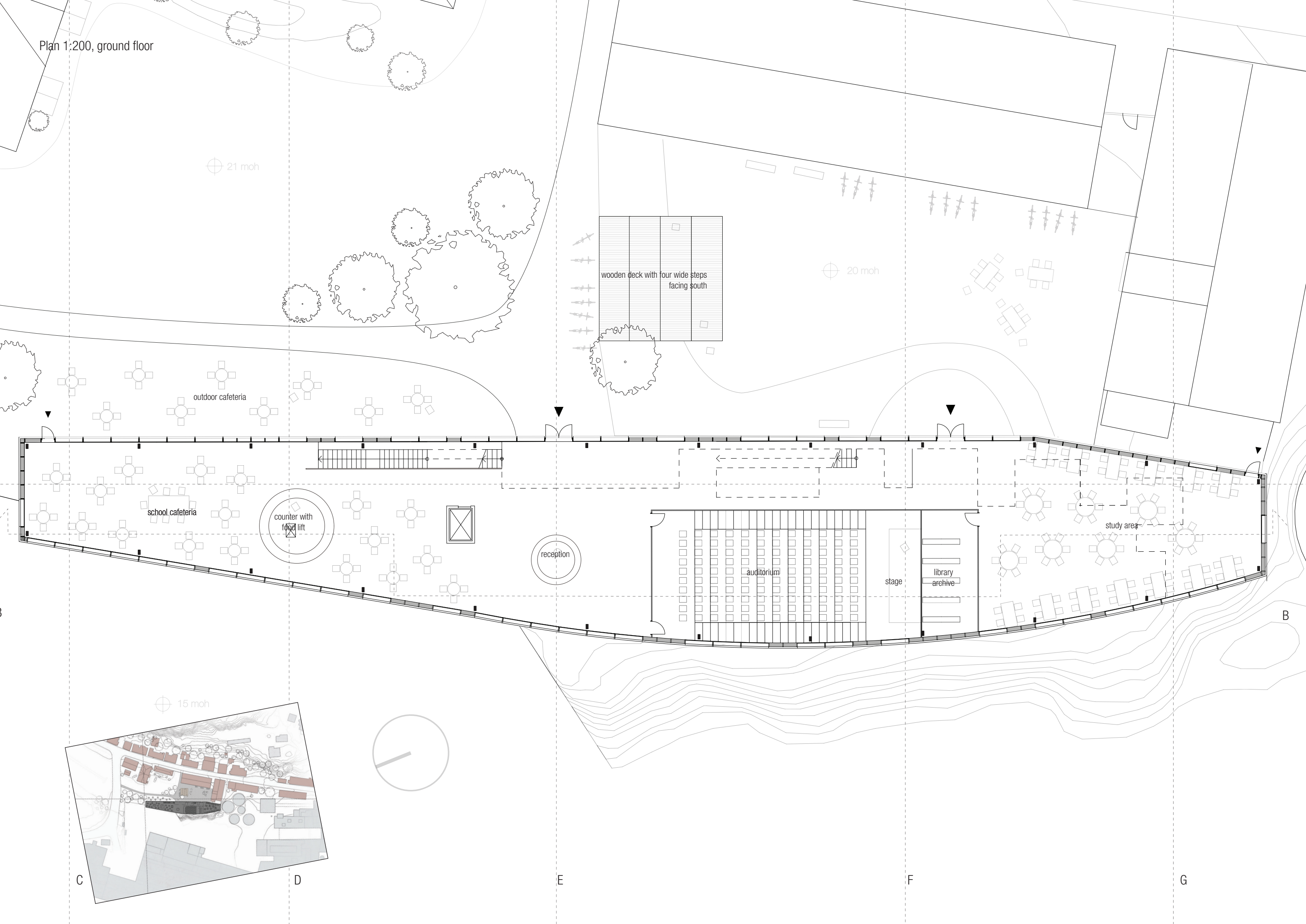
Plan 1:200, upper floor

The building envelope bulges out towards the factory. This makes one part of the school significantly wider, allowing it to encompass the auditorium together with the interior circulation. In the upper floor this is also put to use; accomodating the larger classrooms and study spaces.

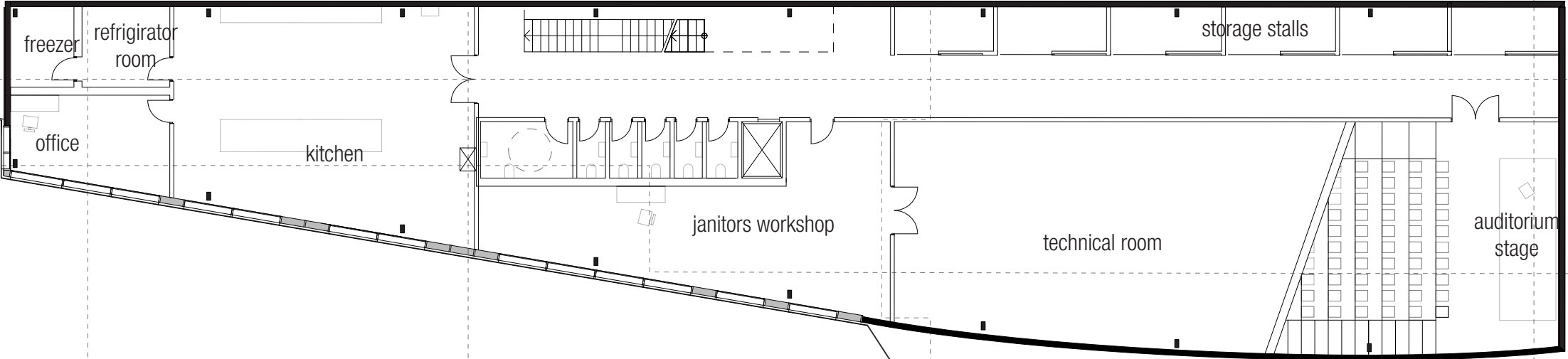




Plan 1:200, ground floor







C

D

E

F

F

