

University Humanities Library



Amsterdam , The Netherlands

REPORT

The building is to house the library of the Faculty of Humanities at the University of Amsterdam, in an absolutely central area –within the network of seventeenth century concentric canals– and in a very special zone that was first a convent and after a hospital. Of the two buildings that occupy the plot –the Zusterhuis and Tweede Chirurgische Kliniek, both of which were constructed around an interior courtyard in various phases at the end of nineteenth century– the project opts to maintain the first and demolish the second.

An apparently arbitrary figure is organized from a unitary body encompassing the Zuisterhuis on Nieuwe Doelenstraat, in order to later divide into several irregular bodies. There is nothing free in this proposal: the clefts that divide the building increase throughout the length of the façade, and therefore the well-lit areas, and incorporate the building within the main circulations that traverse the “campus”, situating the accesses at the bottom of same.

This being a library, the building has multiple entries on the ground floor, one at the bottom of each fissure, which allows access to the areas that don’t have contact with the collection – café, auditorium, and studios– while the entry control itself occurs only later, in front of the elevators leading to the upper floors.

From the long dimension along Nieuwe Doelenstraat one passes through the lower level towards the interior of the block. The intersection of the sloping roof with the irregular perimeter of the building will offer ever-changing views. This roof allows one to see a building that is unexpectedly low towards the interior of the block, avoiding prejudice to the homes on the perimeter.

Beneath the sloping roof, a series of trays are situated, decreasing in height and with a strict geometry –parallel to Nieuwe Doelenstraat– that makes the intersection with the irregular perimeter of the envelope more dramatic. The reading areas are arranged in the vicinity of the facades and in areas directly under the large roof light.

Publication’s title: University Humanities Library,  
Amsterdam  
Typology: Education and Culture  
Client: Universiteit von Amserdam  
Surface: 19.785 m<sup>2</sup>  
Year: 2002  
Status: Final Design

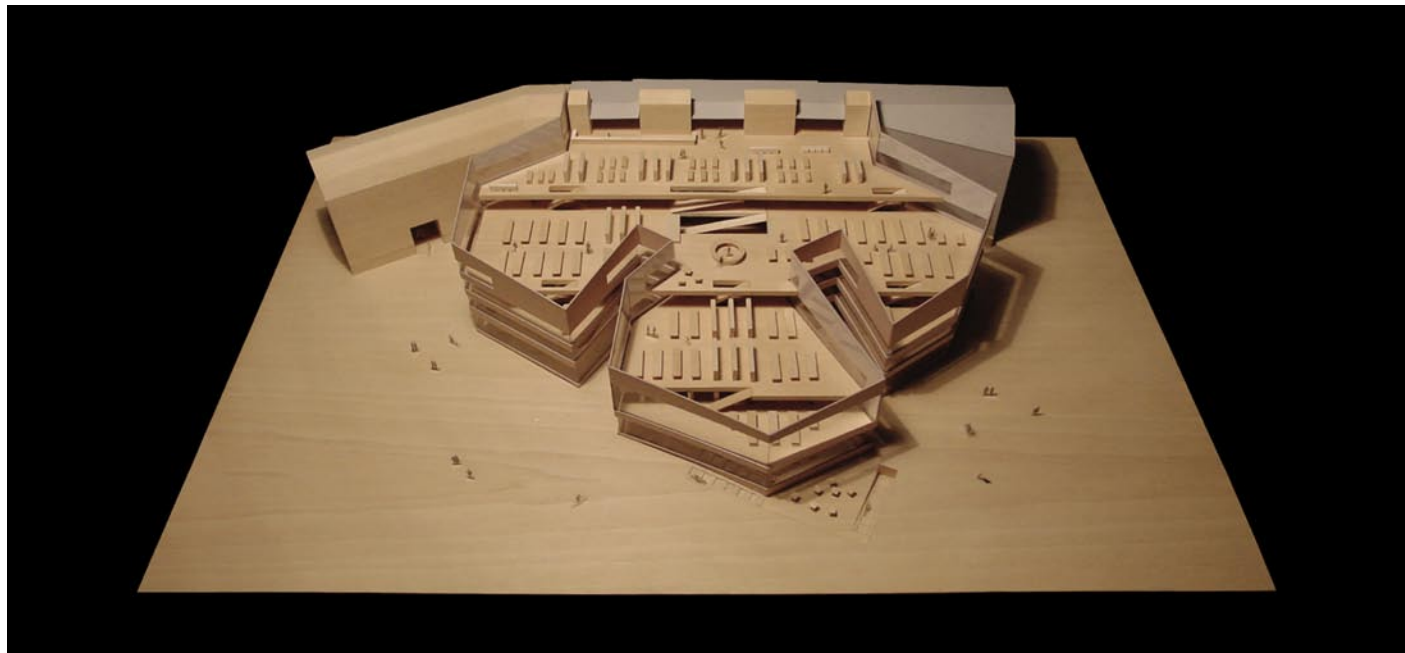
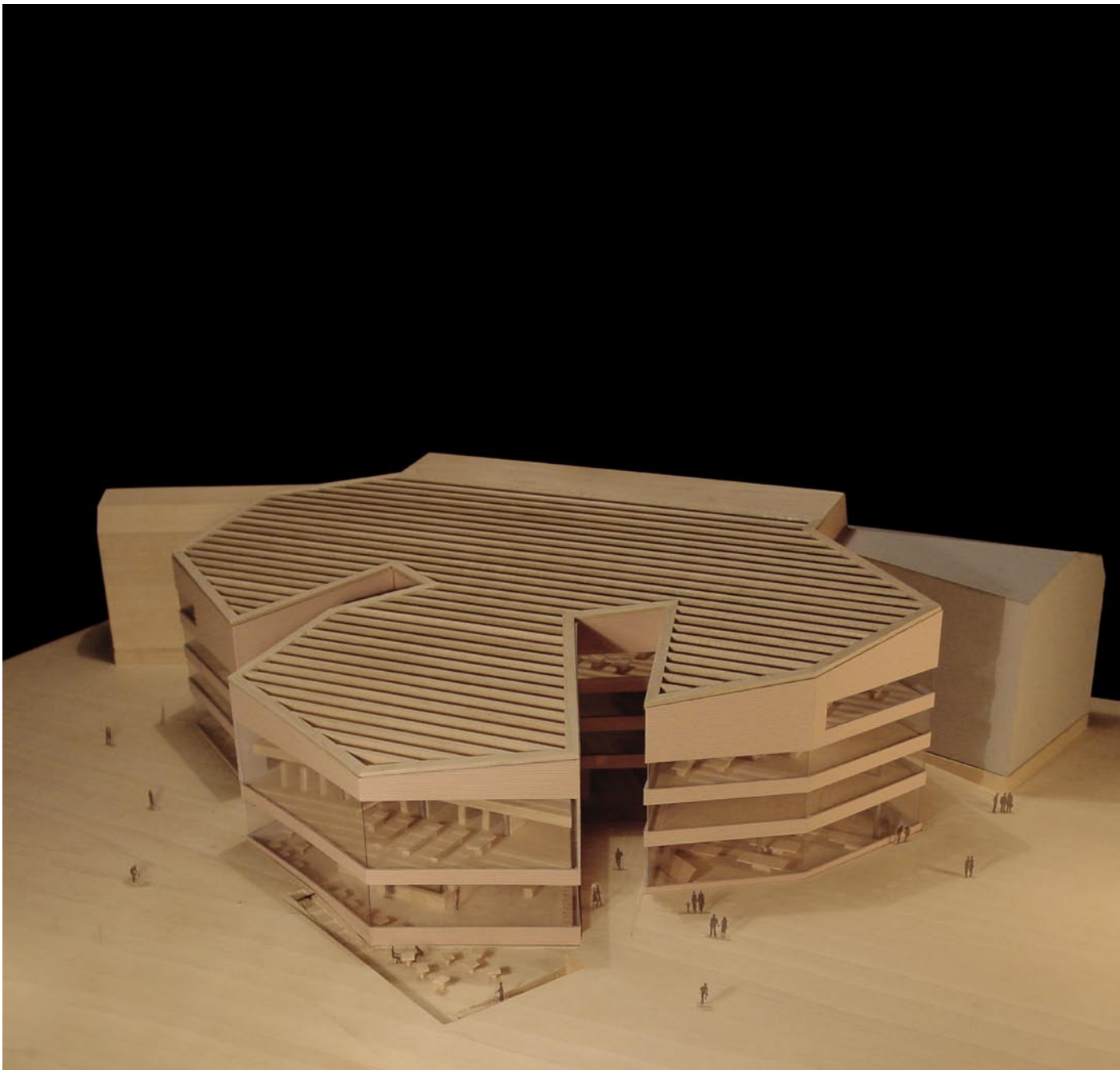
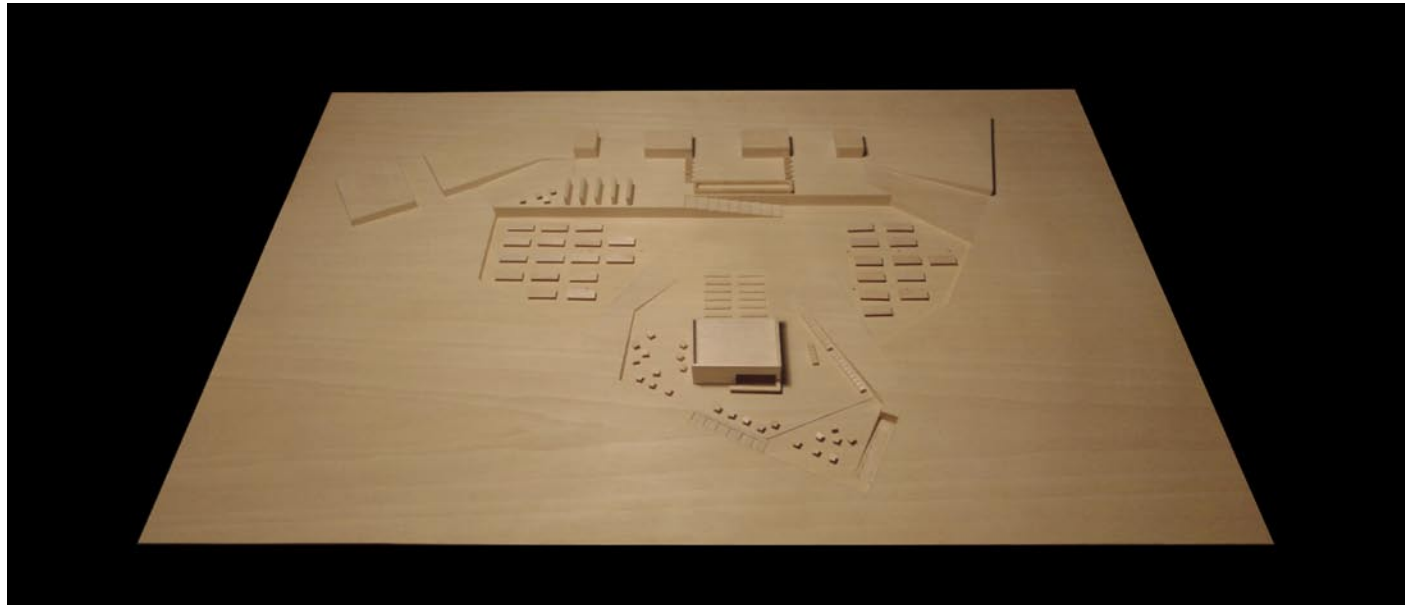




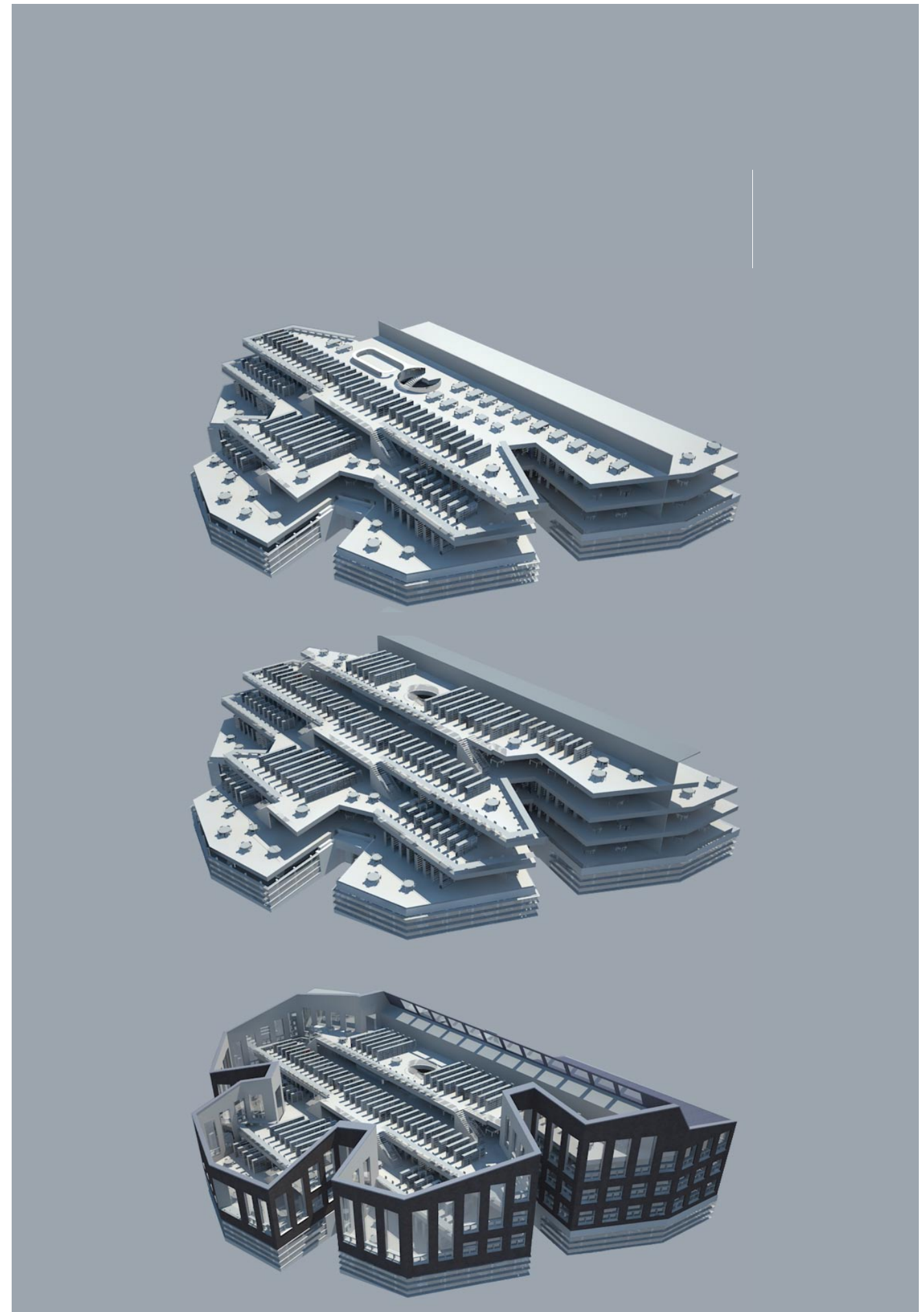
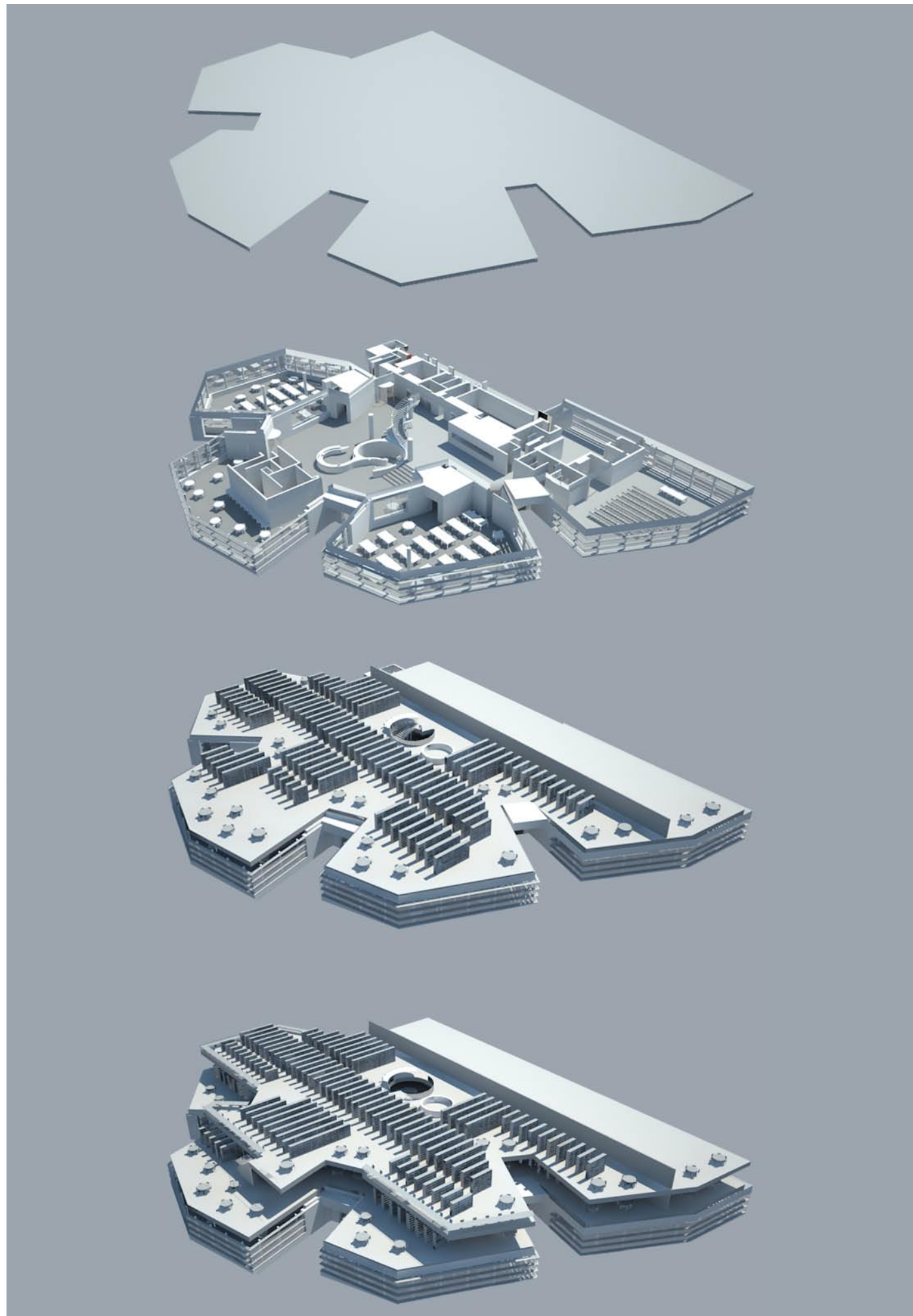


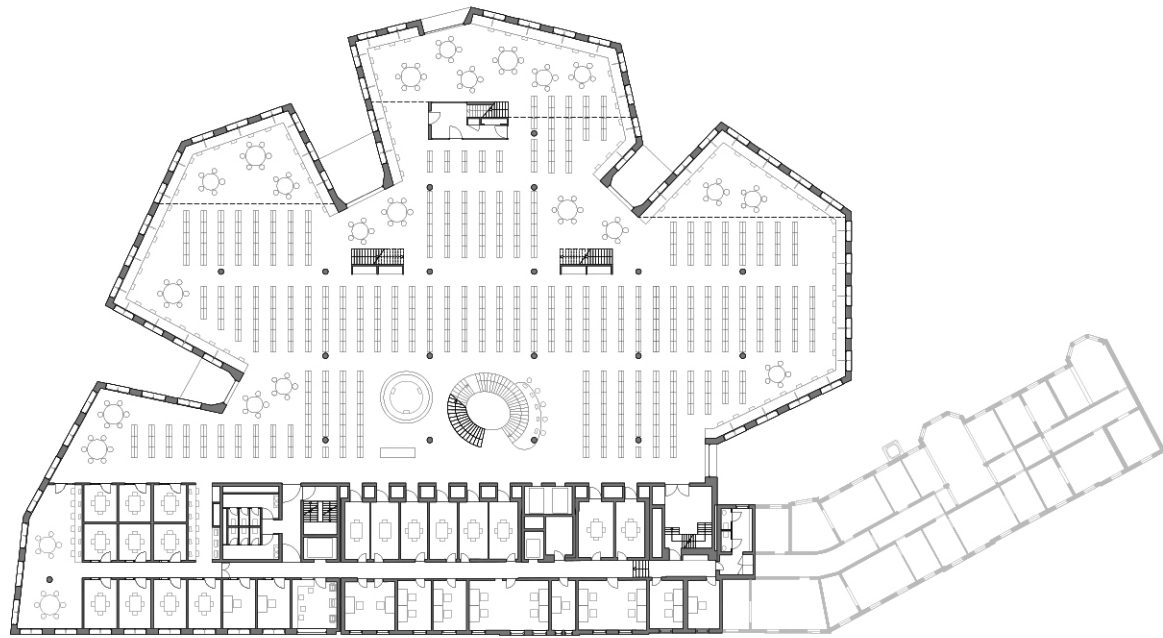




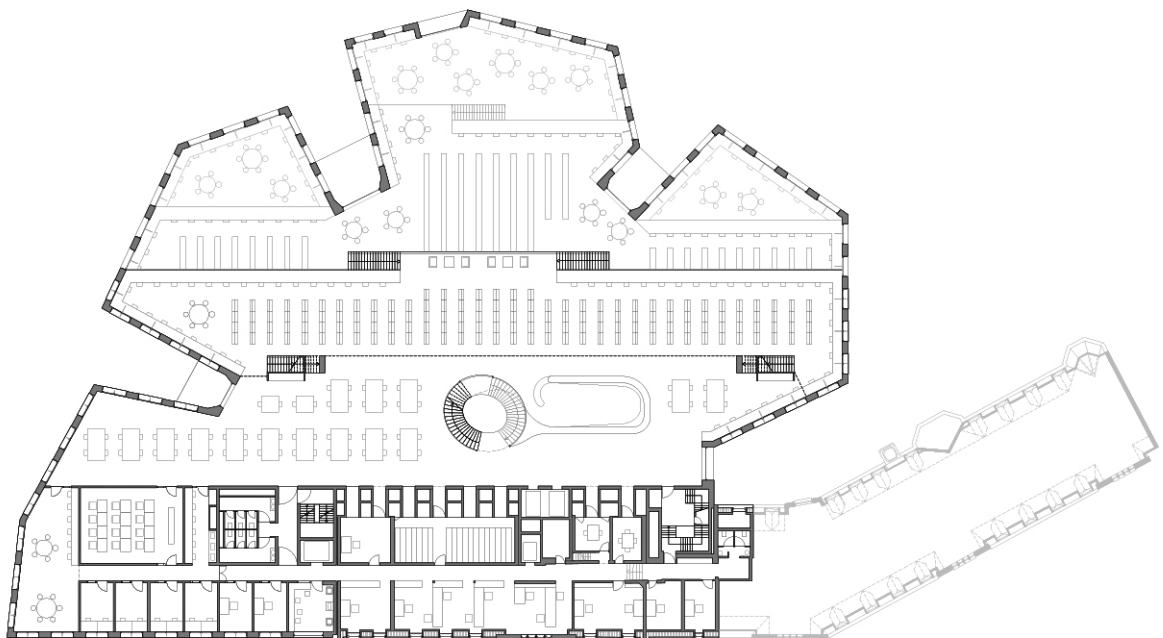




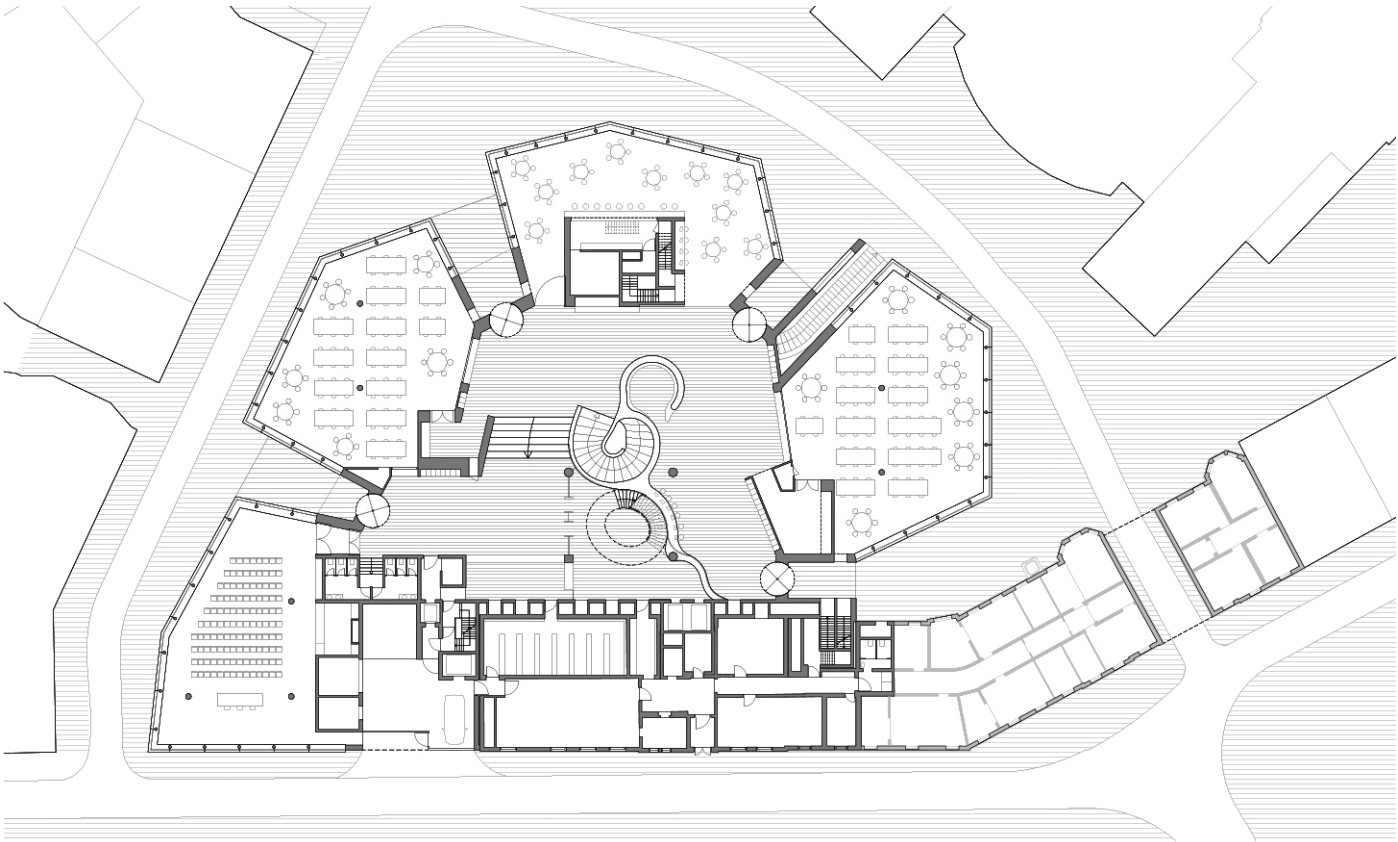




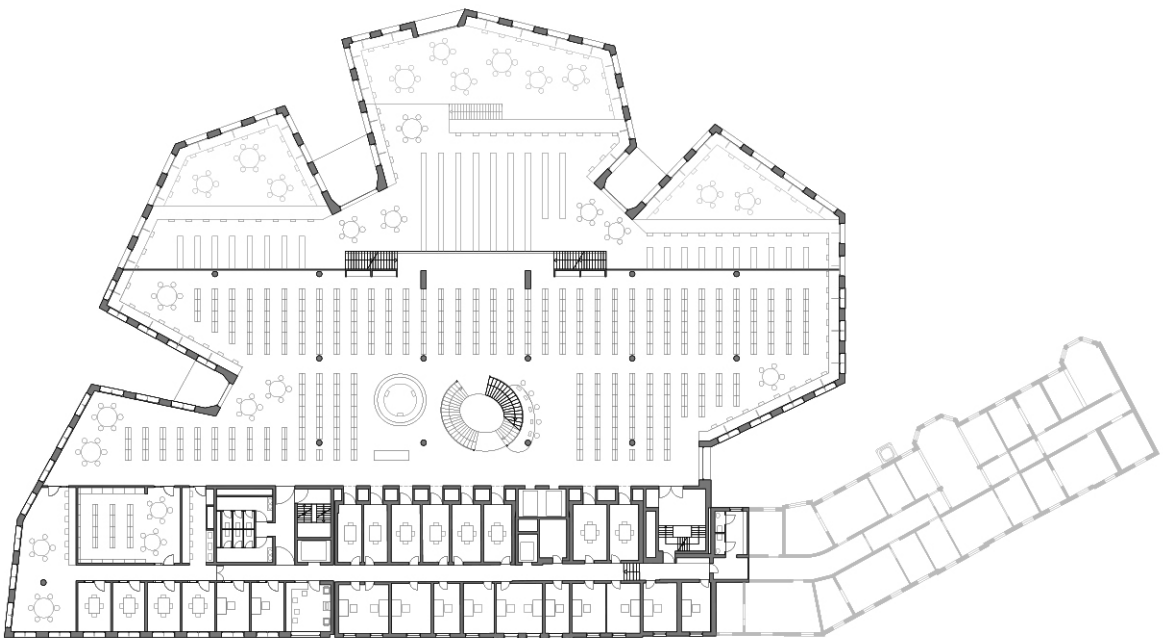
First floor



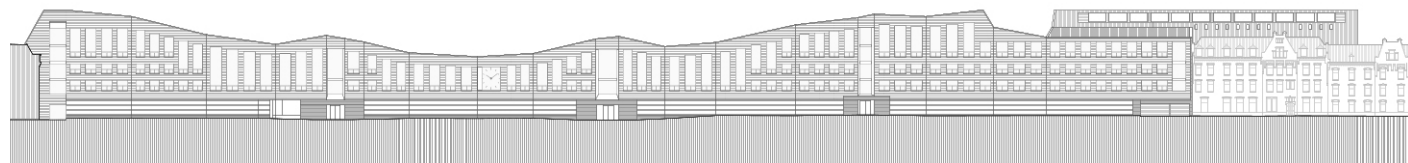
Thrid floor



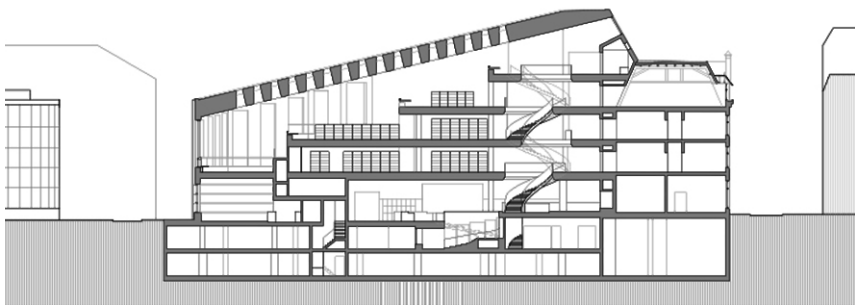
Ground floor



Second floor



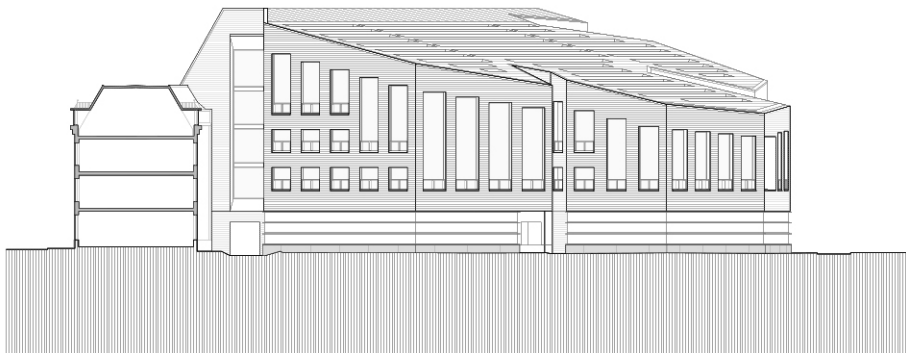
Developed elevation



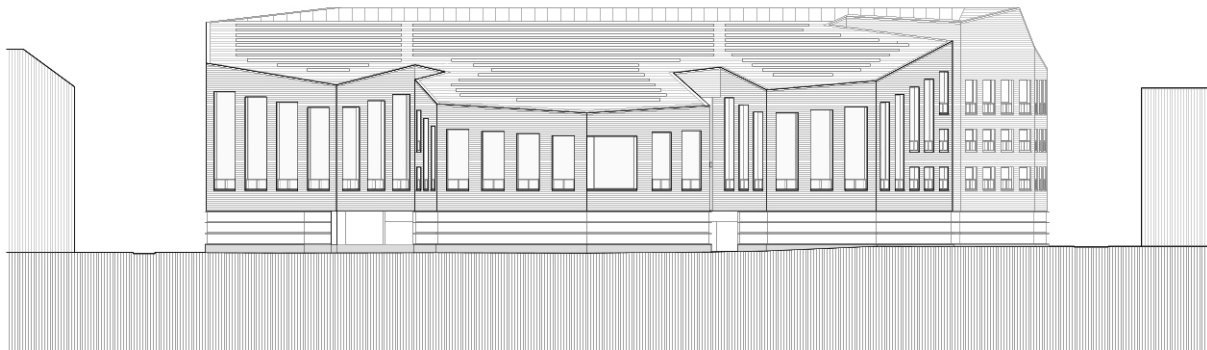
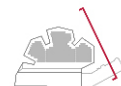
Cross Section



East elevation



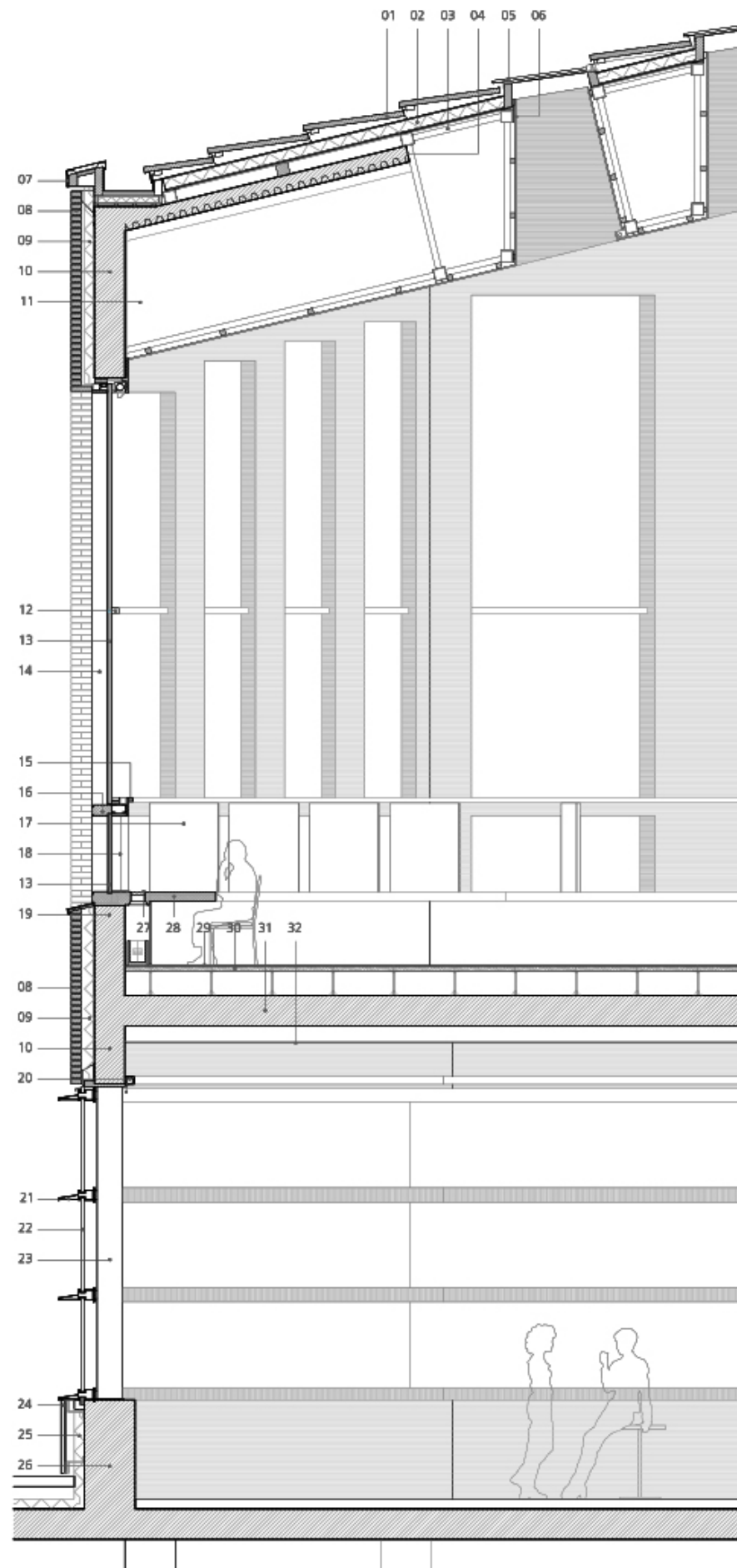
North elevation



West elevation







- 01 Panel sandwich de aluminio e=50mm
- 02 Aislamiento térmico e=20+100+20mm
- 03 Estructura metálica 60x60x2mm
- 04 Forjado colaborante de hormigón e=160mm
- 05 Doble vidrio 12+12mm sobre carpintería metálica
- 06 Revestimiento de paneles de madera e=12mm sobre montantes de madera de 50x50mm
- 07 Remate de zinc
- 08 Fábrica de ladrillo 210x100x50mm
- 09 Aislamiento térmico de poliestireno expandido e=100mm
- 10 Estructura de hormigón e=300mm
- 11 Plenum para retorno de aire de ventilación
- 12 Perfil de aluminio 30x30x1,2mm
- 13 Vidrio con cámara e=12+12+8mm
- 14 Jambas de madera maciza pintada en RAL 9010
- 15 Cajeado para iluminación 40x40mm
- 16 Carpintería de madera maciza pintada en RAL 9010
- 17 Panel de separación de Corian e=6.3mm sobre madera
- 18 Lama vertical
- 19 Remate de zinc
- 20 Cortina enrollable h=3m
- 21 Carpintería de aluminio pintada en RAL 7039
- 22 Vidrio tipo Climait e=12+12+8mm
- 23 Columna de acero Ø250mm relleno con hormigón
- 24 Piedra Belga natural e=30mm anclada a estructura
- 25 Aislamiento térmico de poliestireno expandido e=100mm
- 26 Estructura hormigón e=500mm
- 27 Rejilla para impulsión de calefacción
- 28 Mesa de trabajo de Corian e=6.3mm sobre madera
- 29 Pavimento de madera de roble e=6.3mm sobre tablero de madera e=8mm
- 30 Paneles de sulfato de calcio de 600x600x4mm sobre plots
- 31 Estructura de hormigón armado Z=300mm
- 32 Falso techo de paneles de yeso e=20mm

**CyO**  
Cruz y Ortiz  
Arquitectos

## TECHNICAL DATA OF THE PROJECT

### University Humanities Library. Amsterdam, The Netherlands

#### MAIN DATA

Client:	Universiteit von Amsterdam
Address:	Binnengasthuisstraat s/n. 1012 XX Amsterdam, Holanda
Type:	Education and Culture
Status:	Final Design

#### DATAS

Competition:	2002
Design of project:	2005
Construction:	-
Implementation:	-

#### SURFACES

Site:	-
Main building:	-
Other buildings:	-
TOTAL:	19.785 m <sup>2</sup>

#### PROJECT TEAM

Main Architect:	Cruz y Ortiz Arquitectos
Collaborators:	Muriel Huisman, Celine Nelke, Blanca Sánchez, Oscar García de la Cámara, Alejandro Álvarez
Local Architect:	Cruz y Ortiz Amsterdam
Interior design:	-
Lighting design:	-
Landscape architect:	-
Restoration architect:	-
Digital imaging:	Ángel Garrido, Alejandro Álvarez
Model:	-
Photography:	Fotowork (Model)
Structural engineering:	Pieters Bouwtechniek B.V.
Climate engineer:	-
Building physics advisor:	-
Fire safety specialist:	-
Health and Safety:	-
Urban planning:	-
Survey:	-
Site control:	-
Contractors:	-

Structural Section

Sevilla. 41001 Amsterdam. 1015CW  
 Santas Patronas n°36 Keizersgracht n°126  
 Tel. +34 954 50 28 25 Tel. +31 203 03 78 01  
 secretaria@cruzyortiz.com administratie@cruzyortiz.com  
 www.cruzyortiz.com www.cruzyortiz.com

Technical Data

**CyO**  
Cruz y Ortiz  
Arquitectos