

VACANT CHURCHES OF LEEUWARDEN - PROJECT LOCATION

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START-UP BOOTCAMP

The aim of the graduation project 'Start-up bootcamp' is to enable new connections between local shareholders: the booming gaming industry of Leeuwarden and the skateboarder community of the city. The project transforms a vacant church and garage into a campus where recreation, working and learning and living are combined. A new lively environment where young people and entrepreneurs can learn from each other.

The slogan of Cultural Capital Leeuwarden 2018 is 'open mienskip', a Frysian term which can be translated to opening up the strong community spirit of Leeuwarden to the rest of Europe. Research shows, the legacy of previous European Cultural Capitals is based upon the organisation of events, where different target groups could meet and benefit from each other. Using these precedents as an example, 'Startup bootcamp' will target relevant social groups in Leeuwarden which have a positive influence on one another.

Conducted interviews with locals in Leeuwarden indicates the need for more activities and job opportunities for local youth. In order to attract youngsters to Leeuwarden on the long term.

The game industry is being involved into the program of Cultural Capital 2018 and is developing a reputation as a hot spot for 'serious gaming' in the Netherlands. However, most of the events for Cultural Capital are primarily orientated on gamers only. Stepping out of their comfort zone is essential for their businesses and creates more awareness of their profession. On the contrary, the skateboarder culture of Leeuwarden is being neglected by both the organisation of the Cultural Capital and the municipality. The large community of skateboarders requires an indoor space to develop their skills and should also be integrated into the programme of Cultural Capital.



FACADE FACING VALERIUSSTRAAT

THE CURRENT PLAN

The grey parts are added volumes during the 60's. The courtyard became part of the church and a cloakroom with a different shape was added at the entrance.

THE CONNECTIVE RING

In order to achieve more connectivity between both target groups. The architecture of new campus should have a recognisable and visual structure which stimulates visitors and users to explore the complex. A part of the church building will be demolished and the open space will be added to the vacant street Richard Holststraat to create a central courtyard, where people with different background can meet. Surrounding the courtyard, a connective yellow walkway will connect all of the functions, that the campus can offer.



THE COURTYARD

TIMELINE CULTURAL CAPITAL

2018

- Existing events game industry Leeuwarden including a new location for project 'GameLand'
- Skateboarder matches

2025

- Tourist becomes longstay hotel for successful gaming industry. For clients from abroad or employees.
- Skateboarders will offer daycare services and expand their other services.

RESIDENCES

The apartments at the Valeriusstraat and the former vicarage at the Sem Dresden street will remain their allocation. Living spaces near the campus contribute to a lively atmosphere on the campus and create social control on site. The apartments are rearranged to enable flatsharing. Furthermore, the former vicarage will be transformed into a long stay hotel for the employees or international visitors of the game campus.

OFFICE UNITS

The game office units are spread over the complex. In order to enable and stimulate contact between the skateboarders and the gamers. Transition zones between the working units and skateboard areas are necessary to make contact indirect and to lower noise levels entering the offices. Toilets, bars and other facilities are shared to stimulate informal contact by the two target groups. Additionally, the plan is a growing model. Working spaces will be placed in the existing building parts. When needed, new offices will be located alongside the walkway.

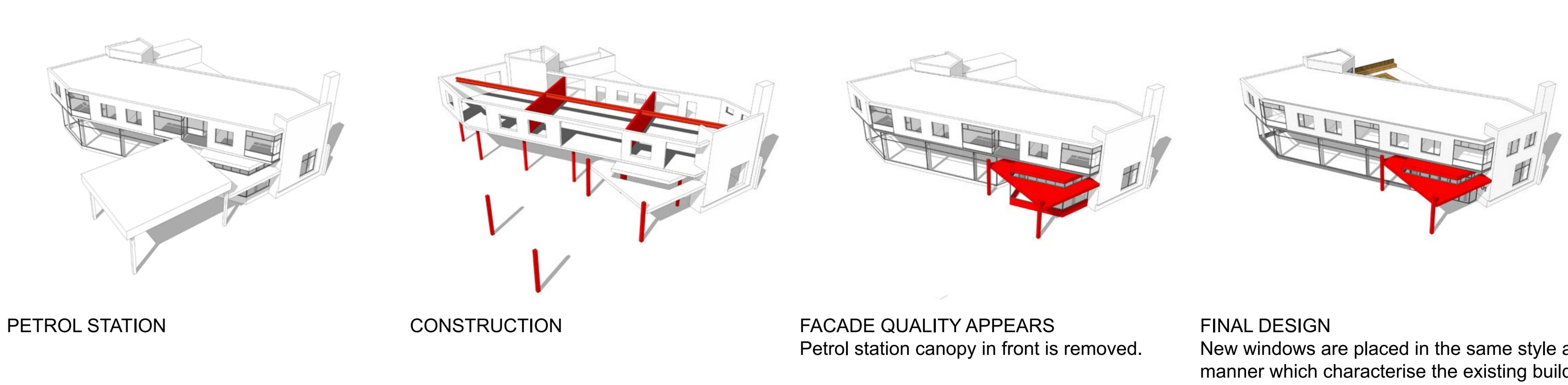
ANIMATION STUDIO & SKATEBOARDING

The vaulted roof of the garage has a wide span and is ideal to be used as a street skateboarding hall. The skateboard hall doesn't require heating and is therefore an energy efficient and low-cost allocation.

Existing qualities of the church hall include the height and the enclosed character of the space. Ideal qualities for an animation studio which is now located in the NHL Hogeschool in Leeuwarden. Game startups will benefit from the adjacent animation studio. The studio will attract related businesses and should enable more options because the church offers more space. Interiors of both spaces can be adapted to serve both gamers and skateboarders.



PETROL STATION FACADE FACING VALERIUSSTRAAT



PETROL STATION

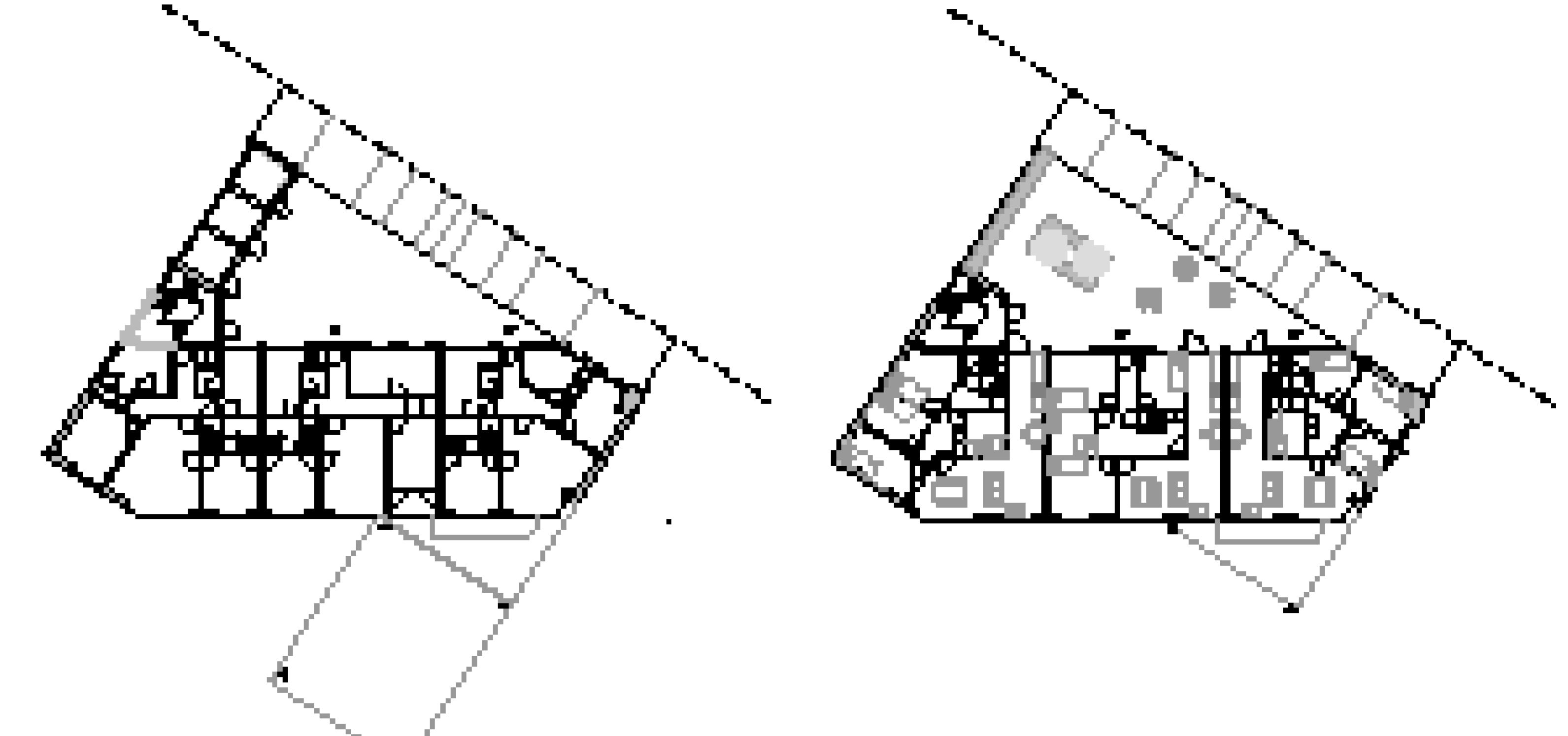
CONSTRUCTION

FACADE QUALITY APPEARS

Petrol station canopy in front is removed.

FINAL DESIGN

New windows are placed in the same style and manner which characterise the existing building.

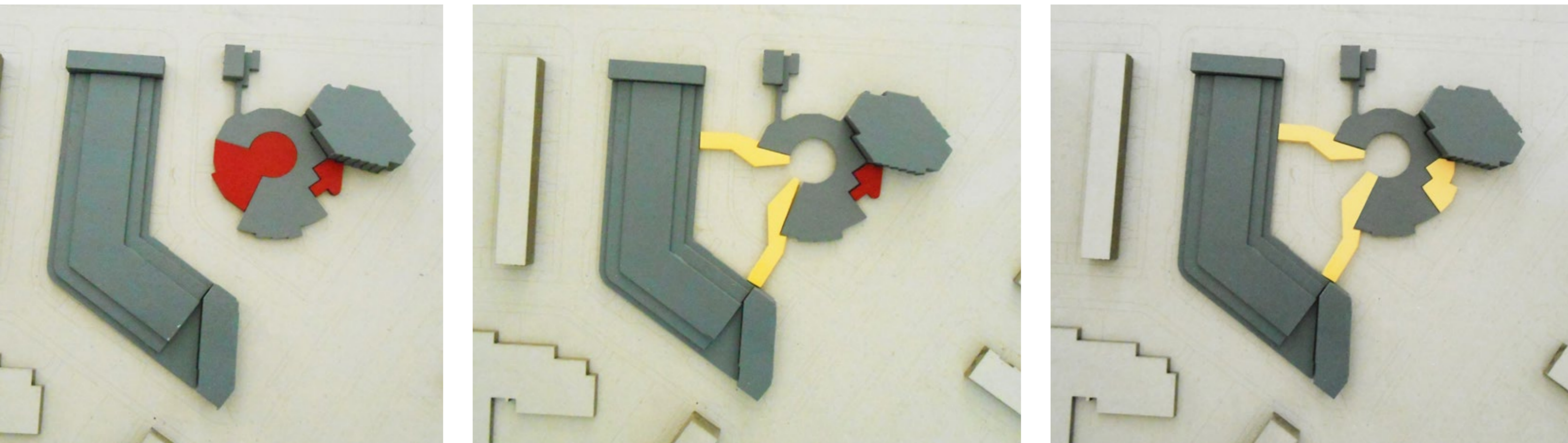


EXISTING PLAN APARTMENTS

scale 1:200

NEW FLATSHARE APARTMENTS

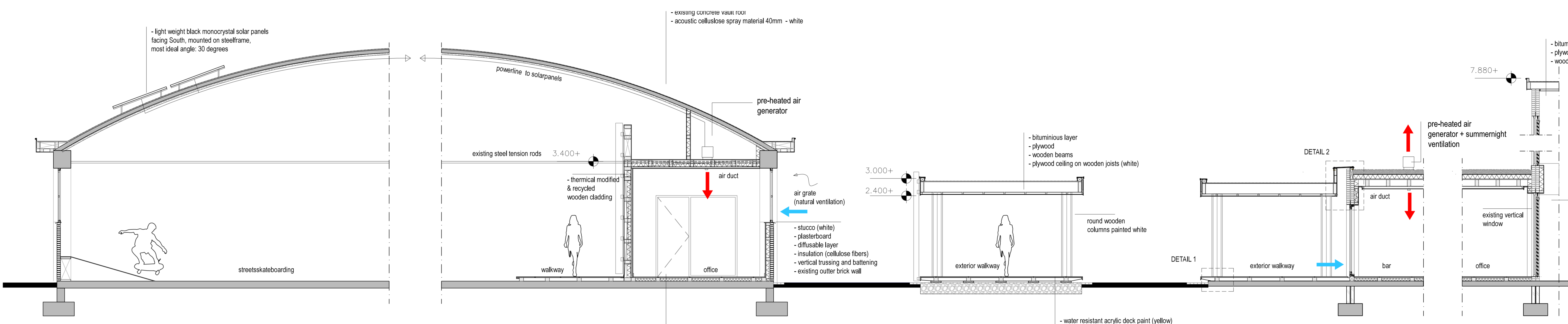
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1. removing parts existing buildings (red)

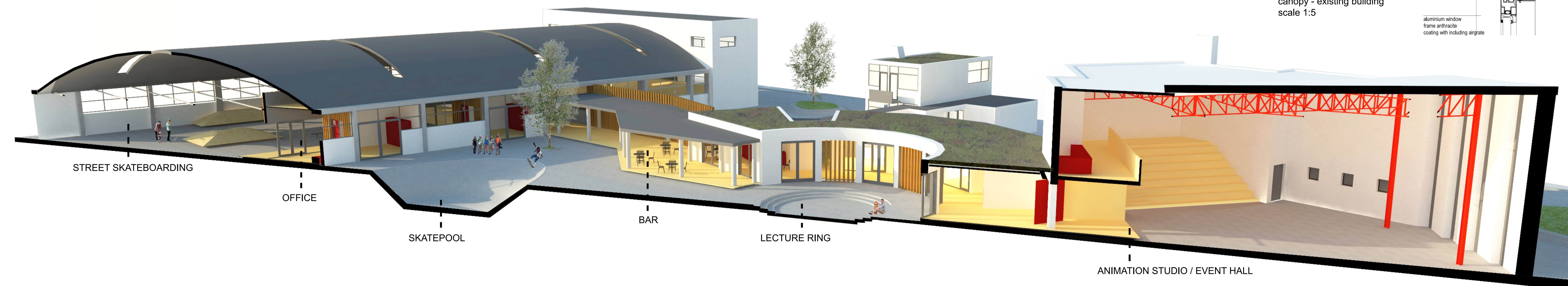
2. connecting walkways (yellow)

3. modifying existing structure (yellow)



LONGITUDINAL SECTION

scale 1:50



STREET SKATEBOARDING

OFFICE

SKATEPOOL

LECTURE RING

ANIMATION STUDIO / EVENT HALL



MAIN ENTRANCE

The skateboardshop and a bar are located at the main entrance. The shop and the bar can be closed off, when the offices in the skateboardhall require access.



MEETING SPACES BETWEEN OFFICES

The offices in the skateboardhall are accessed through a semi-open space in order to prevent noise entering the offices. In this space a skateboarder can change their knee caps, while overlooking the skateboard park.



INFORMAL MEETING SPACE

Existing brick walls are highlighted by lighting in alcoves in the ceiling. From all of the offices the courtyard is visible.



ANIMATION STUDIO / EVENT HALL

Vertical windows of the former church hall can be darkened with new shuttersystem.

BUILDING PHYSICS

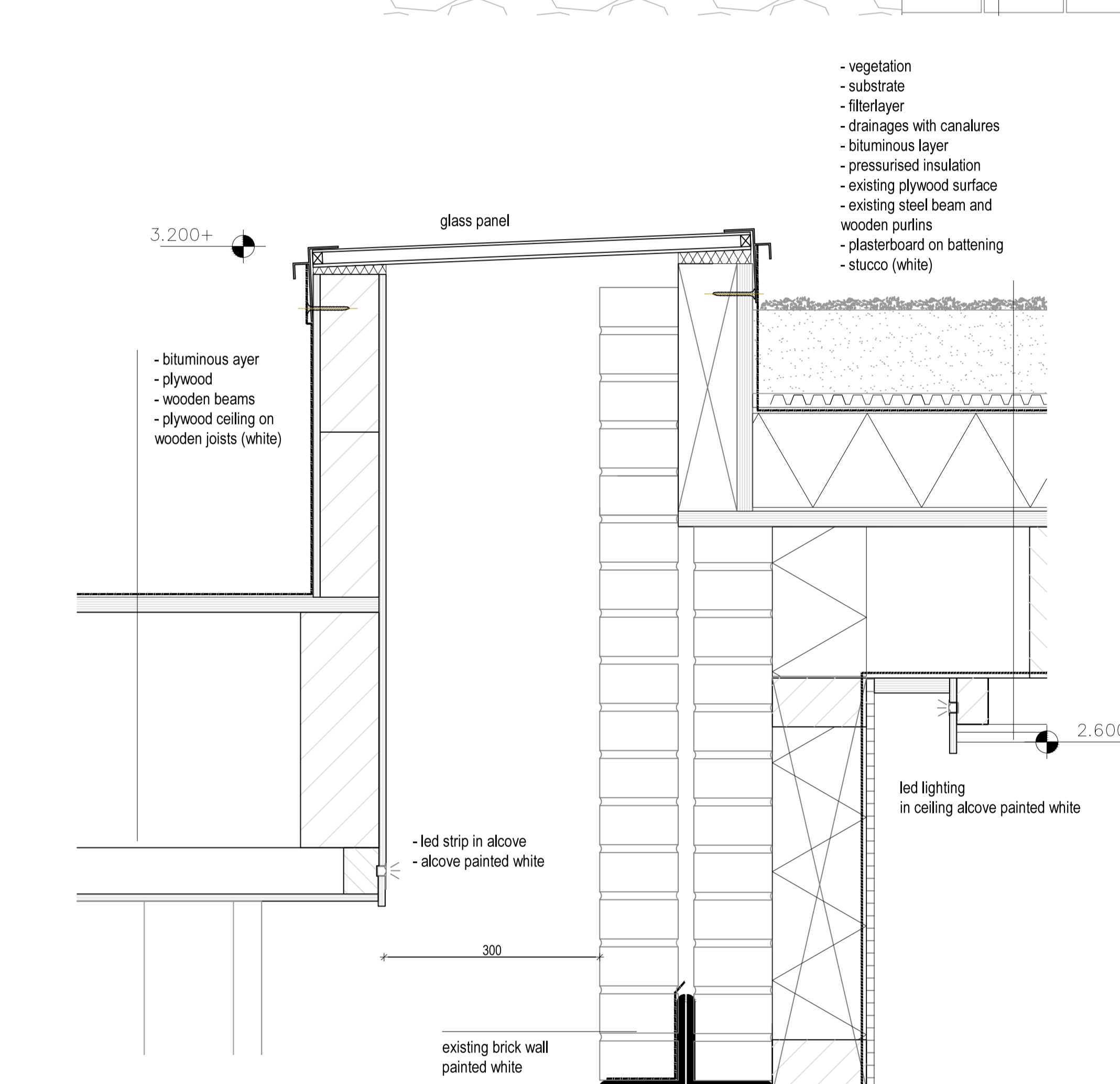
The existing spaces in the circular volume are heated by traditional radiators. An inefficient way of heating the spaces. Heating with convection is more efficient in energy use and heats up the spaces much faster. The large flat roof is one of the main qualities the building has to offer. A vegetation roof and summernight ventilation passively cools down the working spaces, in combination with the existing sunscreens. To reduce energy costs, solar panels are placed on the Southside of the concrete vaulted roof to make the complex more energy efficient.

DETAILING

The two covered walkways are situated on the former Richard Holststraat. As a reference to the open and public function of the former street. The walkway should remain a certain open and floating appearance. Therefore, the canopy of the walkway has its own construction and doesn't touch the existing brick walls of both the former garage and church. Furthermore, the walkway floor is made of inferior and affordable plywood but is reinforced with glassfibers and a yellow coating to give the deck a sleek and light appearance.

DETAIL 1 - deck detail

scale 1:5



DETAIL 2 canopy - existing building

scale 1:5