

College House

Centre For Climate Action

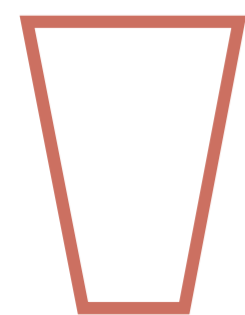
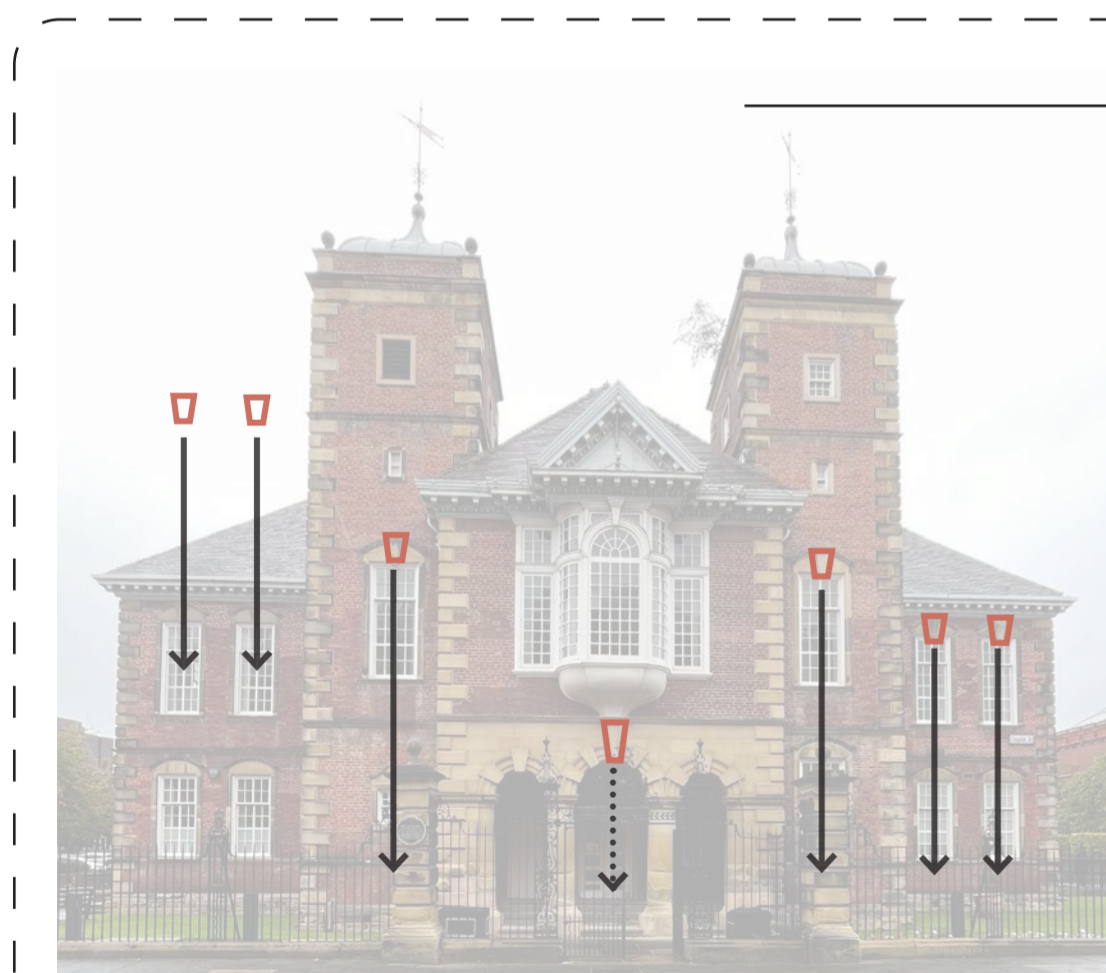
Art Activism Hub

College House is located in the North East of the UK in the City centre of Newcastle Upon Tyne on College Street. Built in 1883 by R. J. Johnson as a school founded in 1705 by Dame Allan and is now part of the University.

BRIEF: To design a centre for a climate action hub through adaptive reuse. Visitors will learn about climate change and inform others through exhibitions and organised debates and stay for refreshments.

This hub will inspire and educate people of all ages on the importance of what they can do to help climate change, altering their ways whilst having a voice to lobby local governments and businesses to reform. People can come to the centre to share ideas and learn from each other, spreading the word through creating their own art, in the form of a painting or a drawing, which they can display in the exhibition hall or photograph to make posters or banners to share with others or in peaceful protests.

Concept:



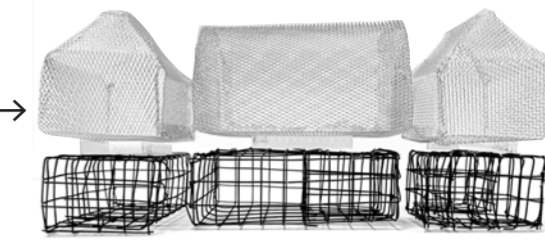
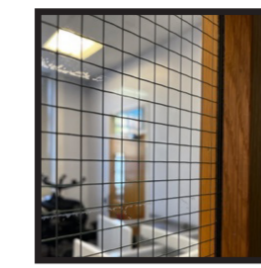
This shape is found above the first floor windows and entrance arch.

Chosen as its location matches the conceptual intent to bringing light and spatial feel from the top floor to the ground floor entrance.

Site Plan:

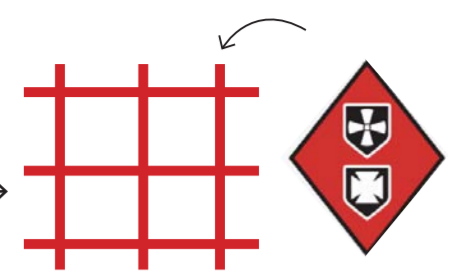


Building Response:



Site visit photos.

Building response model.



Galvanised mesh the colour of the school logo.

Why Art Activism:

Dynamic

Visual Protesting

Handmade

Emotionally Powerful

Affordable

Personal Interest

No language barriers

No cultural barriers

Northumbria University was once an Art College

Affects Hearts + Minds

Therapeutic

Provoking

Any skill level

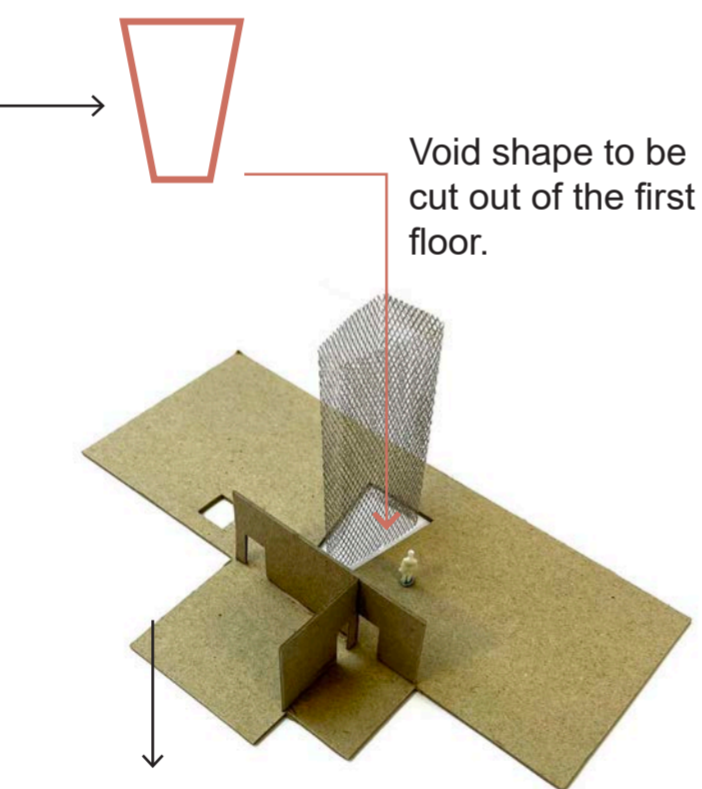
Local Art Suppliers + Art Students

Accessible

Peaceful

Creative
Any age

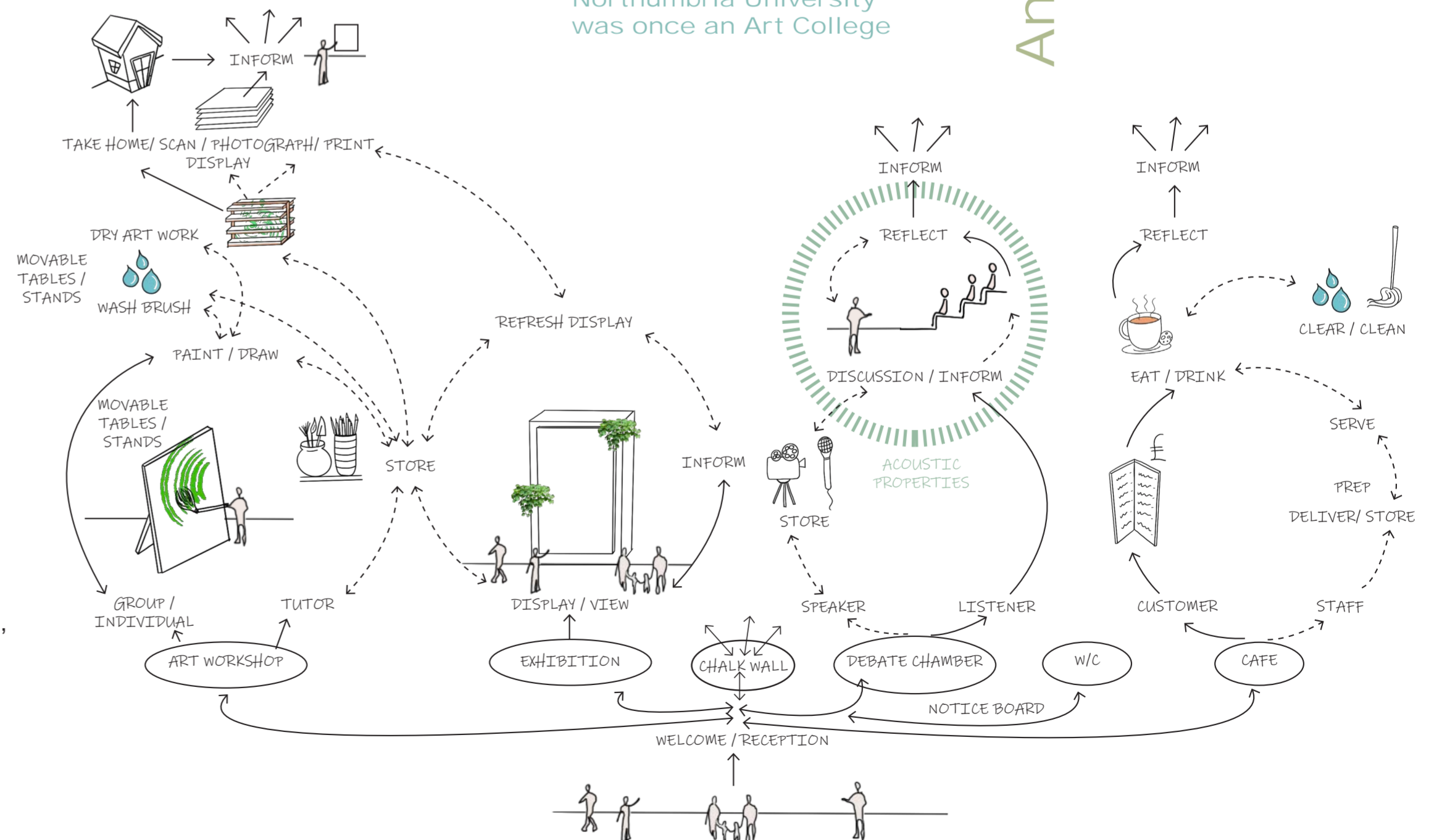
Function:



Void shape to be cut out of the first floor.



A striking decorative mesh frame will be inserted into the void to grow plants, hang lights and painting exhibition, linking both floors.



Design Principles:

All designs are in accordance with planning and listed building constraints and focus on the client's sustainable climate ethos. Every material chosen and environmental strategy for the building is in-line with sustainable strategy, reuse and fabric first approach aiming to bring the building performance to a U value of 0.5.

National planning policy framework:

Policy 92 - Aims to achieve healthy, inclusive and safe places.

- Promote social interaction, including opportunities to meet others who may not be in contact with each other, promoting mixed use developments.
- Address and identify health and well-being needs through green infrastructure, access to healthier food and encourage walking and cycling.

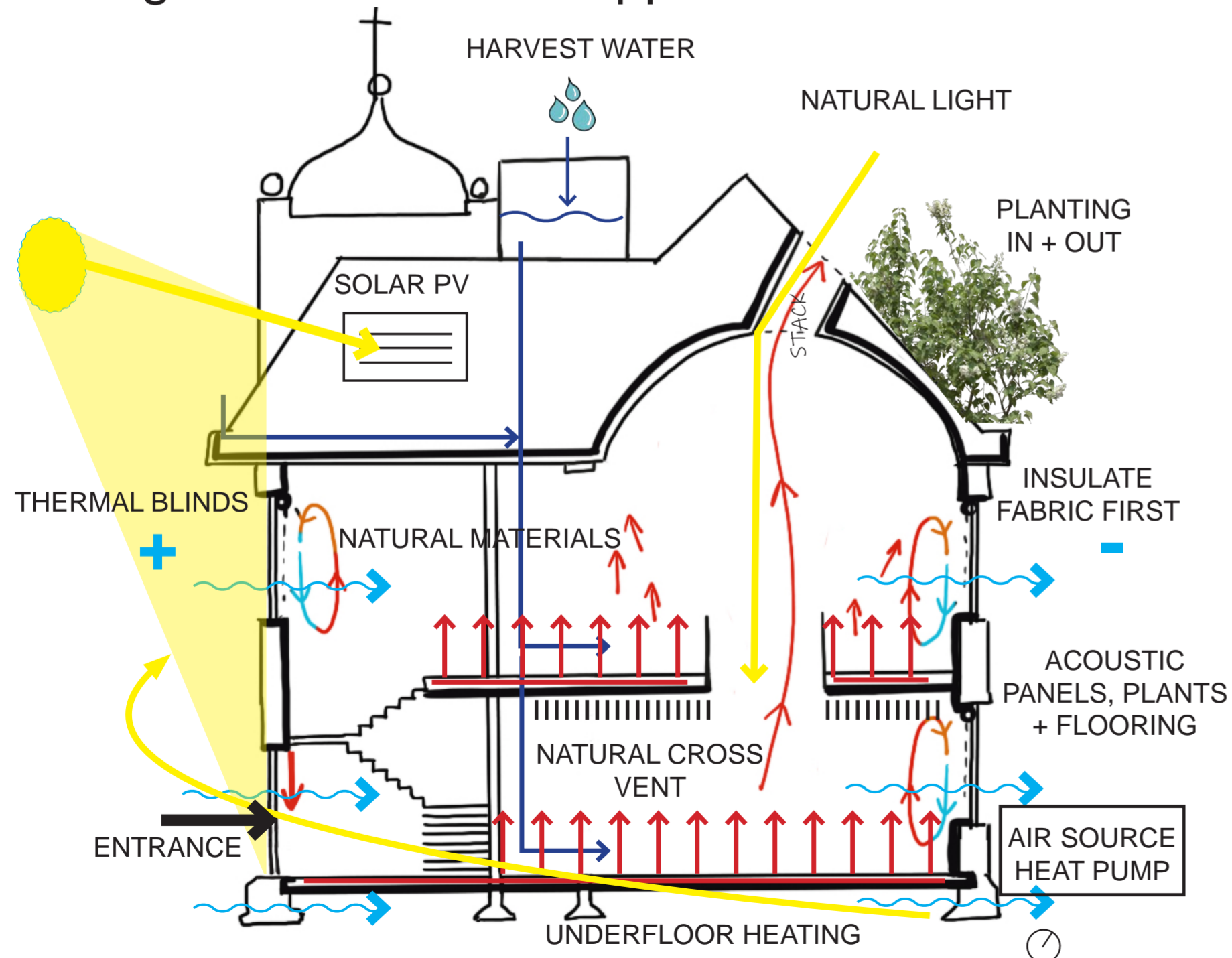
College House promotes mixed use integration through its Art work shops, exhibition area and debate chamber. The proposal promotes healthy eating in its downstairs cafe and provides opportunities to cycle to the centre by providing extra bike storage and being located on a cycle route.

Strategic Thinking:

Locating services together is more efficient in materials and construction time. Grouping the debate and cafe seating area makes it easier to control the acoustics. Direct external ground floor exit provides easy access to the kitchen for deliveries and waste. Locating private staff areas away from the main circulation and moving the lift next to the stairs both help with the flow of circulation and way-finding and accessibility.

The central void connects both floors with the exhibition and light, providing an open welcoming entrance and user experience, in keeping with the WELL and BREEM standards. The cafe order point and separate seating area forces visitors to walk past the exhibitions intentionally. The chalk wall area allows informal ad hoc art. The notice board provides a place for groups to share information and gather support.

Strategic Environmental Approach:



Material Choices:

- Locally sourced.
- Sustainable.
- Recycled where possible.
- Low carbon.
- Warm natural and welcoming.



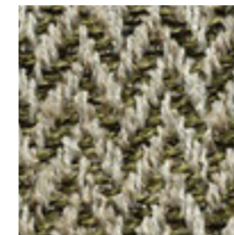
Reclaimed teak.



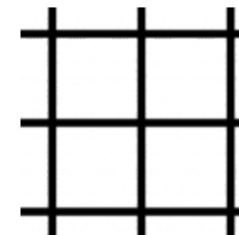
Cork flooring.



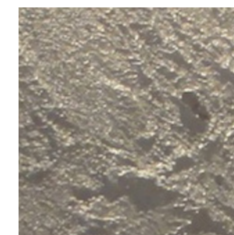
Zero carbon etched cement.



Natural wool upholstery.

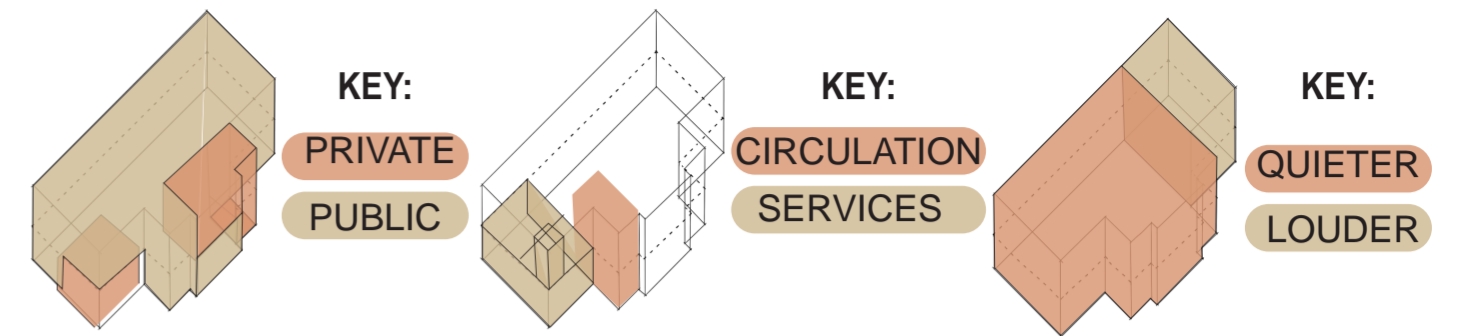


Recycled galvanised wire.

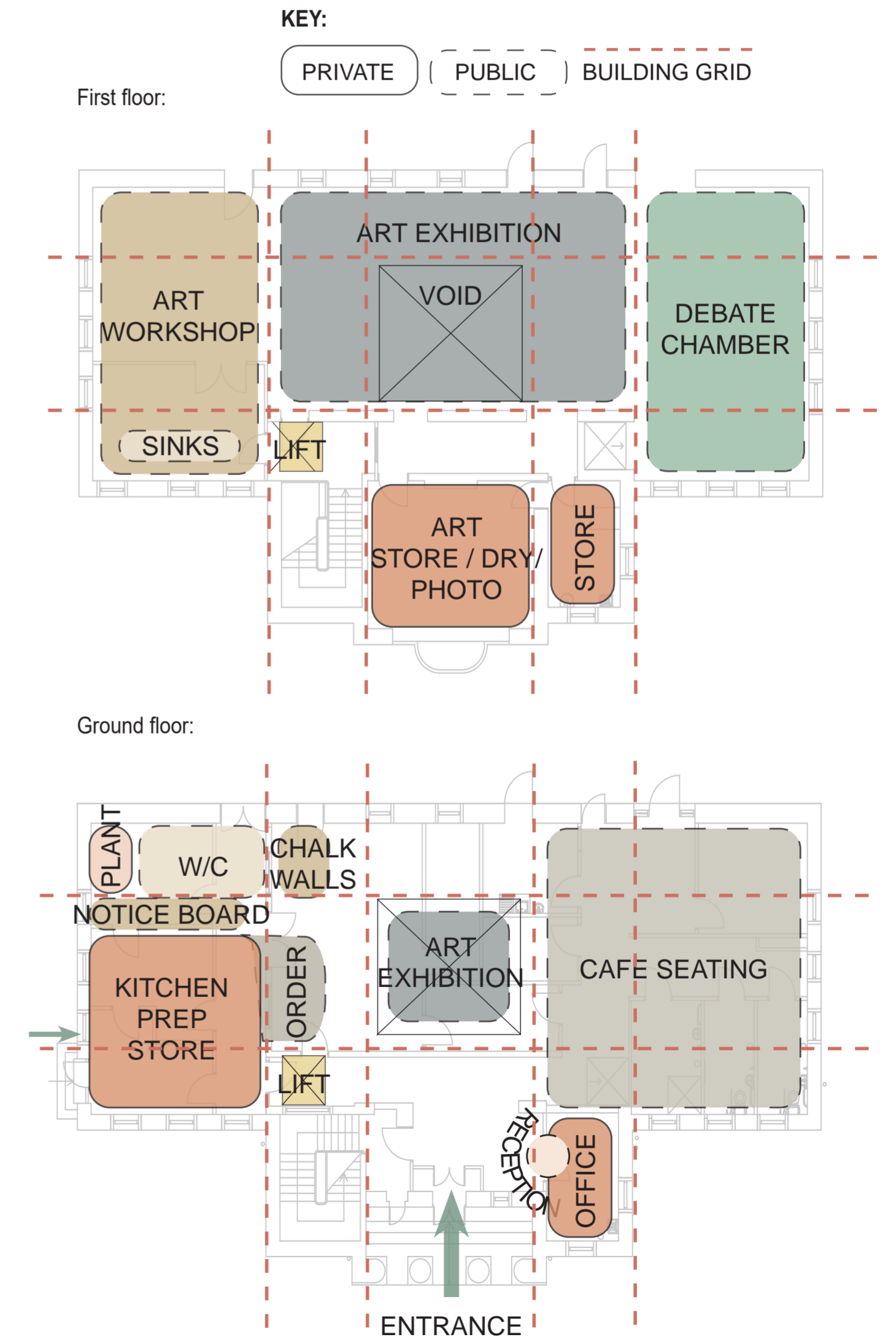


Hygroscopic clay based plaster.

Parti Diagrams:



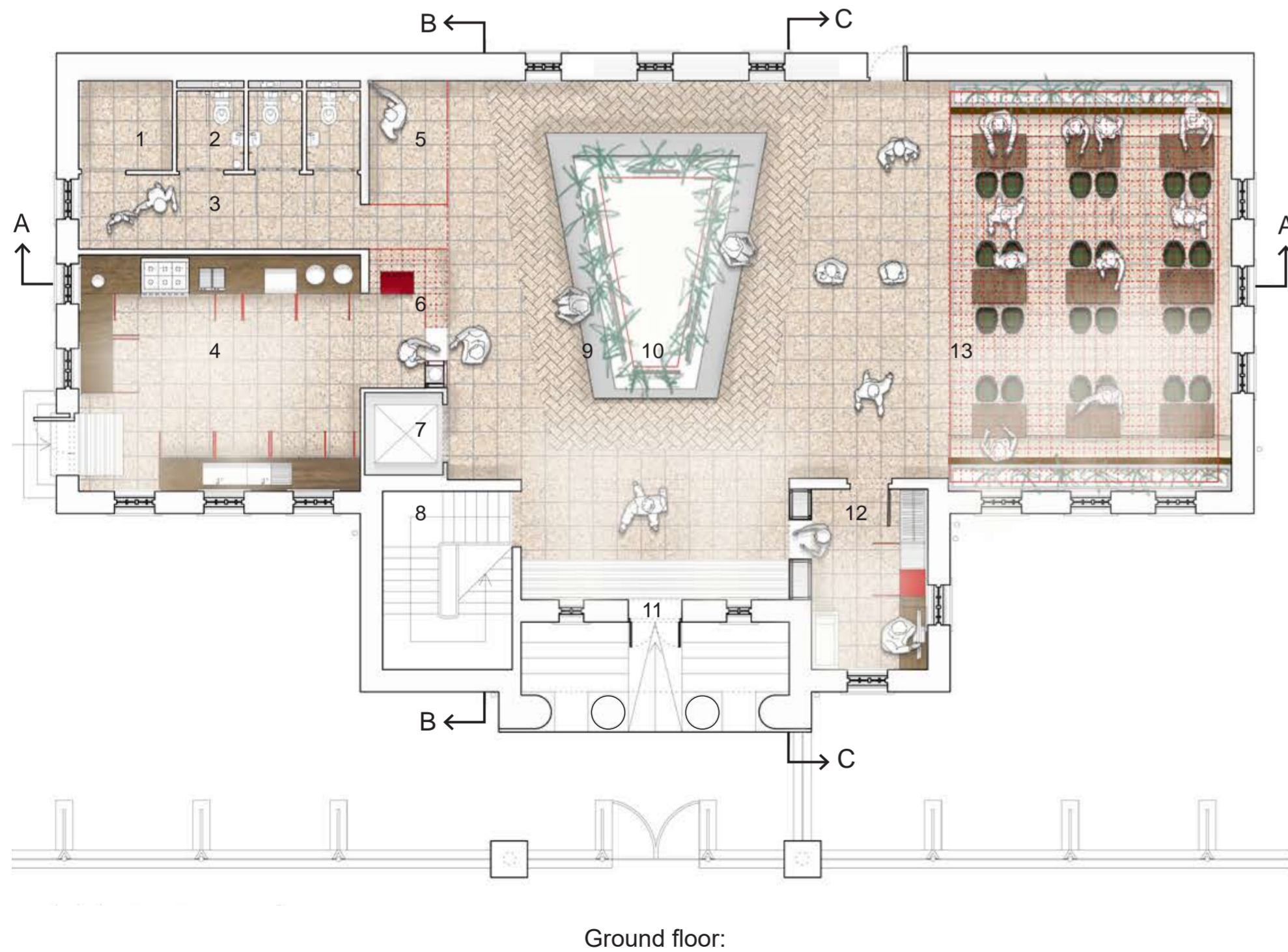
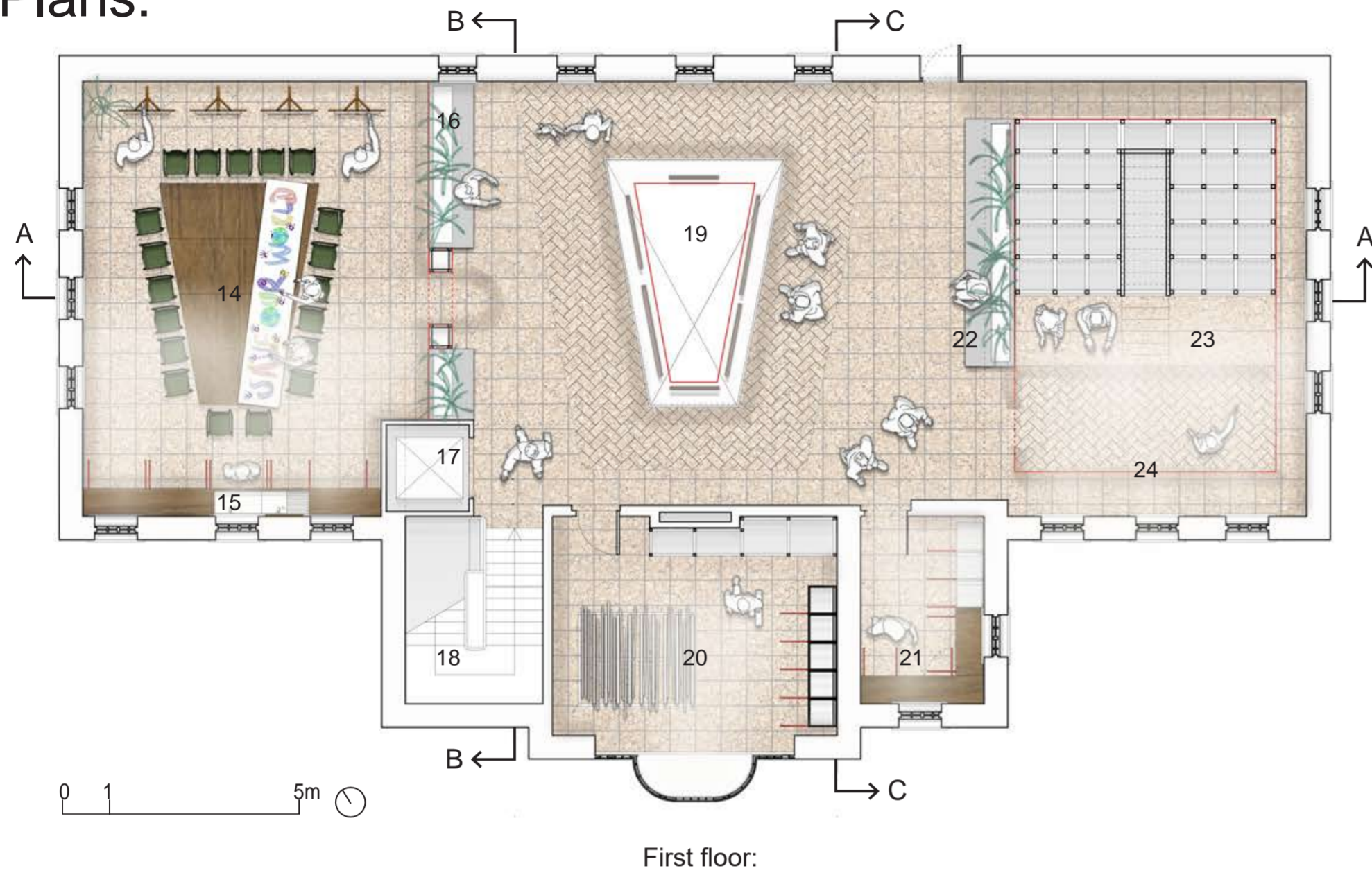
Block Plans:



Environmental factors have influenced the design decision:

- Utilising the water tank to harvest rain water for the Art workshop sinks and grey water.
- North light for the Art workshop location.
- Utilising the natural ventilation.
- Removing walls and creating a void and additional light tube to increase the natural light and ensure views out.
- Sustainable low carbon underfloor heating from solar PV panels and external air source heat pump.
- Internal planting for increased mental health, acoustic properties, increased dwell time and aesthetics.

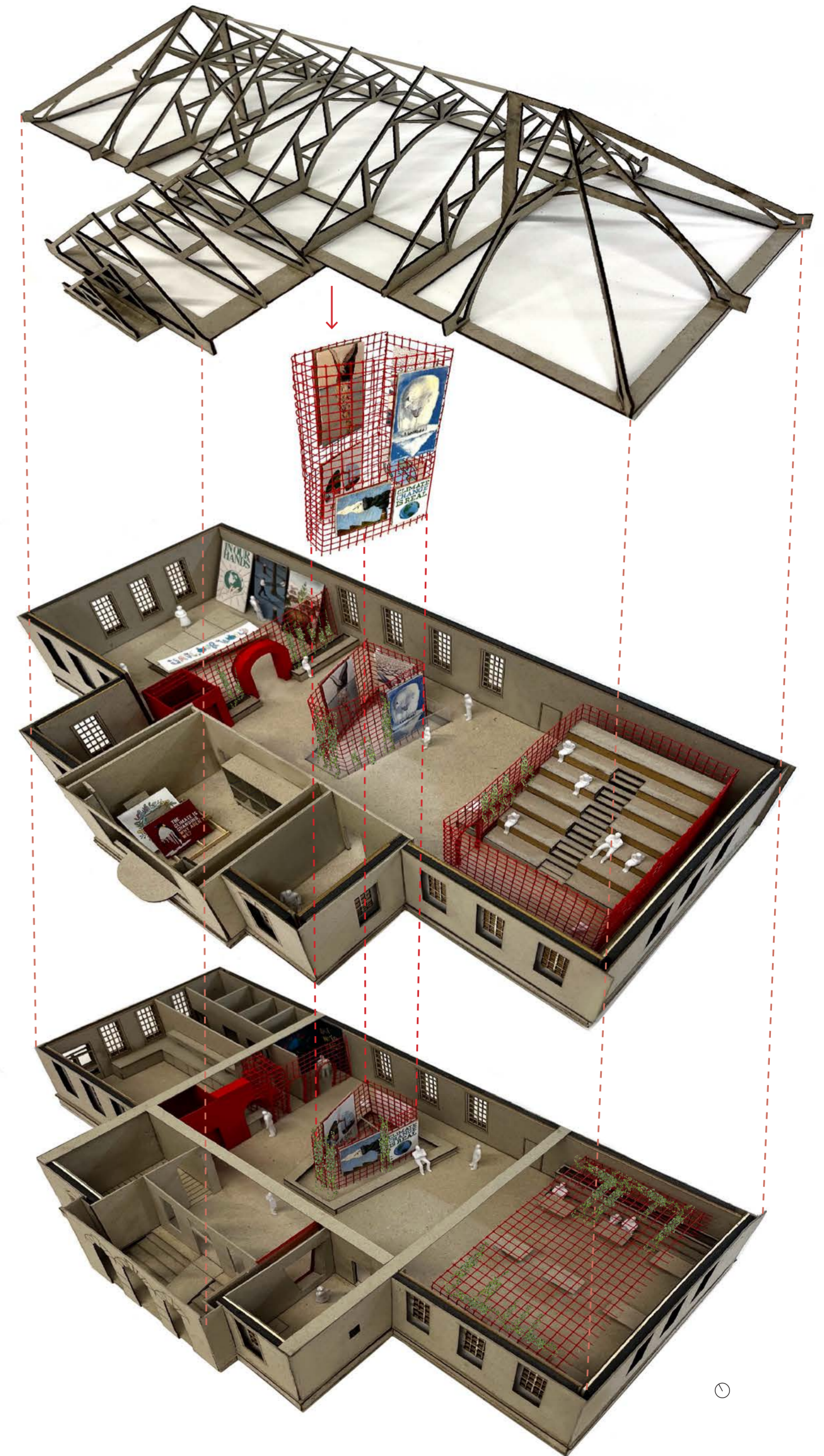
Plans:



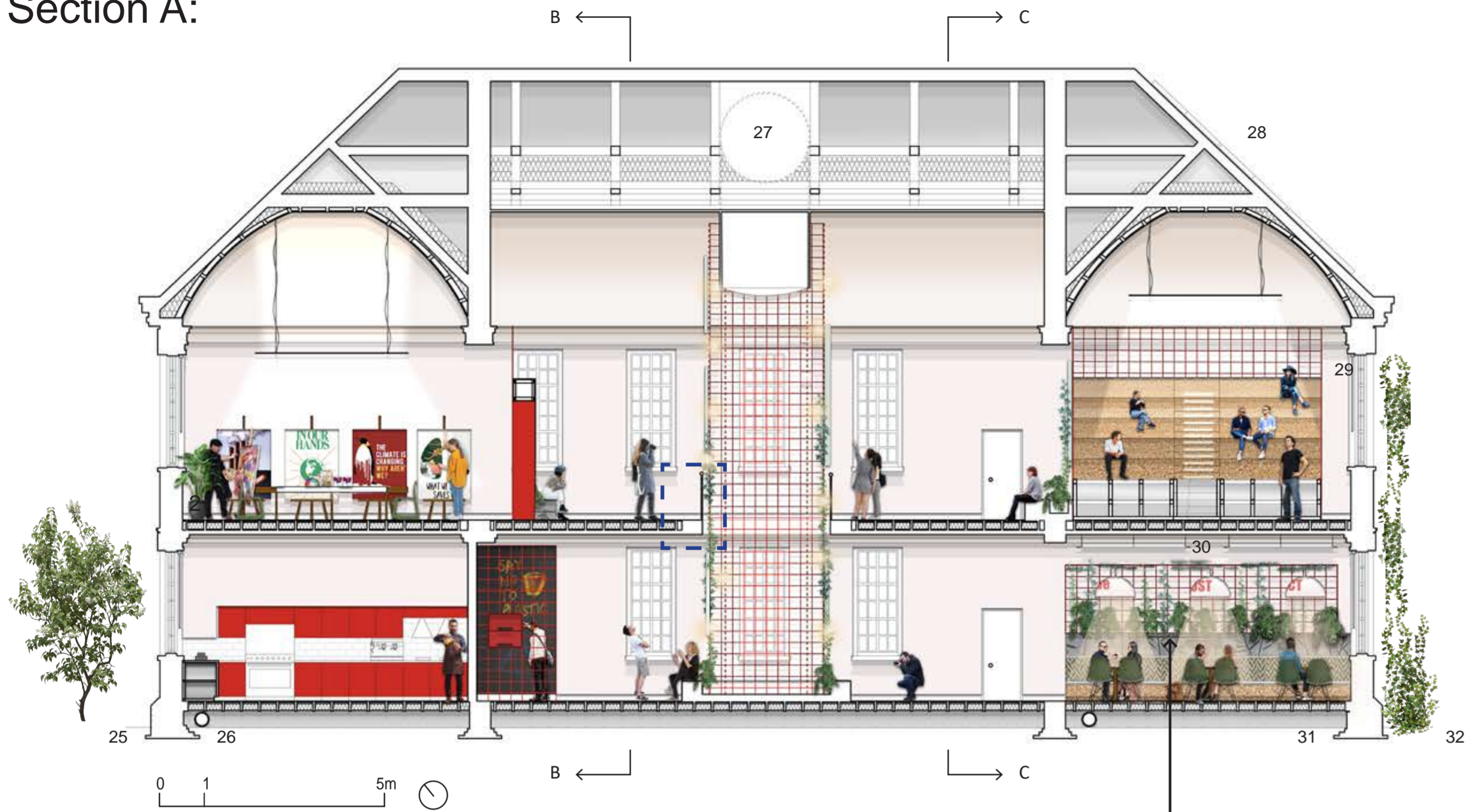
KEY:

- 1 Plant room.
- 2 Toilets.
- 3 Notice board wall.
- 4 Kitchen.
- 5 Chalk wall.
- 6 Cafe order point.
- 7 New lift location.
- 8 Stairs.
- 9 Seating around the void
- 10 Overhead void, planter and art exhibition.
- 11 Entrance.
- 12 Void shaped reception, office, printing and coat storage.
- 13 Cafe seating area for 40 people.
- 14 Art workshop.
- 15 Sinks and storage.
- 16 Planter and seat.
- 17 New lift location.
- 18 Stairs.
- 19 Central void with overhead light tube, glass banister and central mesh displaying the art exhibition.
- 20 Storage and drying room.
- 21 Storage.
- 22 Planter and seat.
- 23 Semiprivate debate chamber for 48 people.
- 24 Projector screen.
- 25 Planted tree to reduce noise and road pollution.
- 26 Drainage / service pipes.
- 27 Light tube.
- 28 Solar PV panels for the hot water and underfloor heating.
- 29 Thermal blind to keep out the summer glare, night and winter cold.
- 30 Acoustic panels and services.
- 31 Underfloor heating and insulation.
- 32 Ivy planted to prevent solar gain.
- 33 Water harvesting storage tank.

Axonometric:

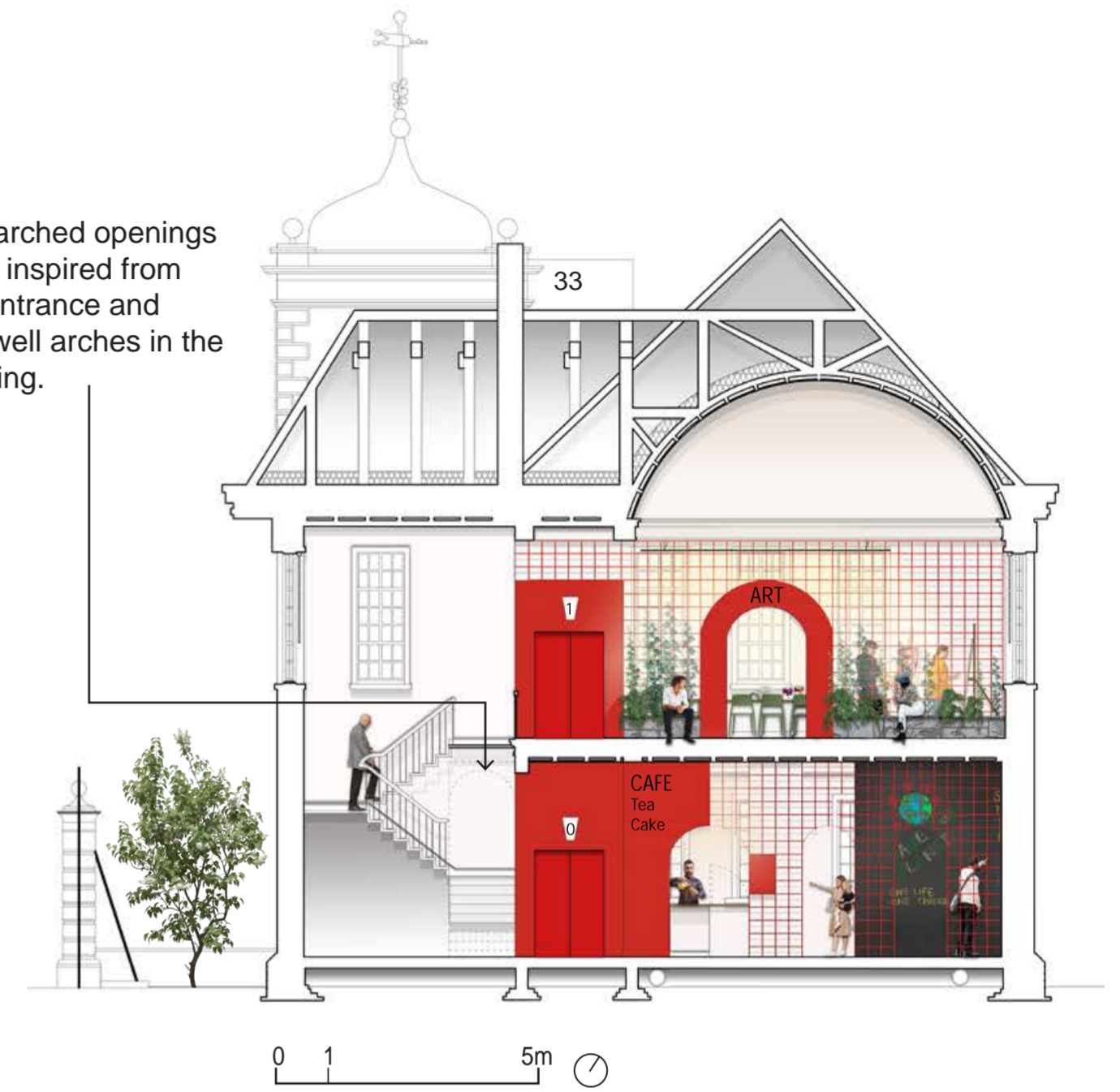


Section A:

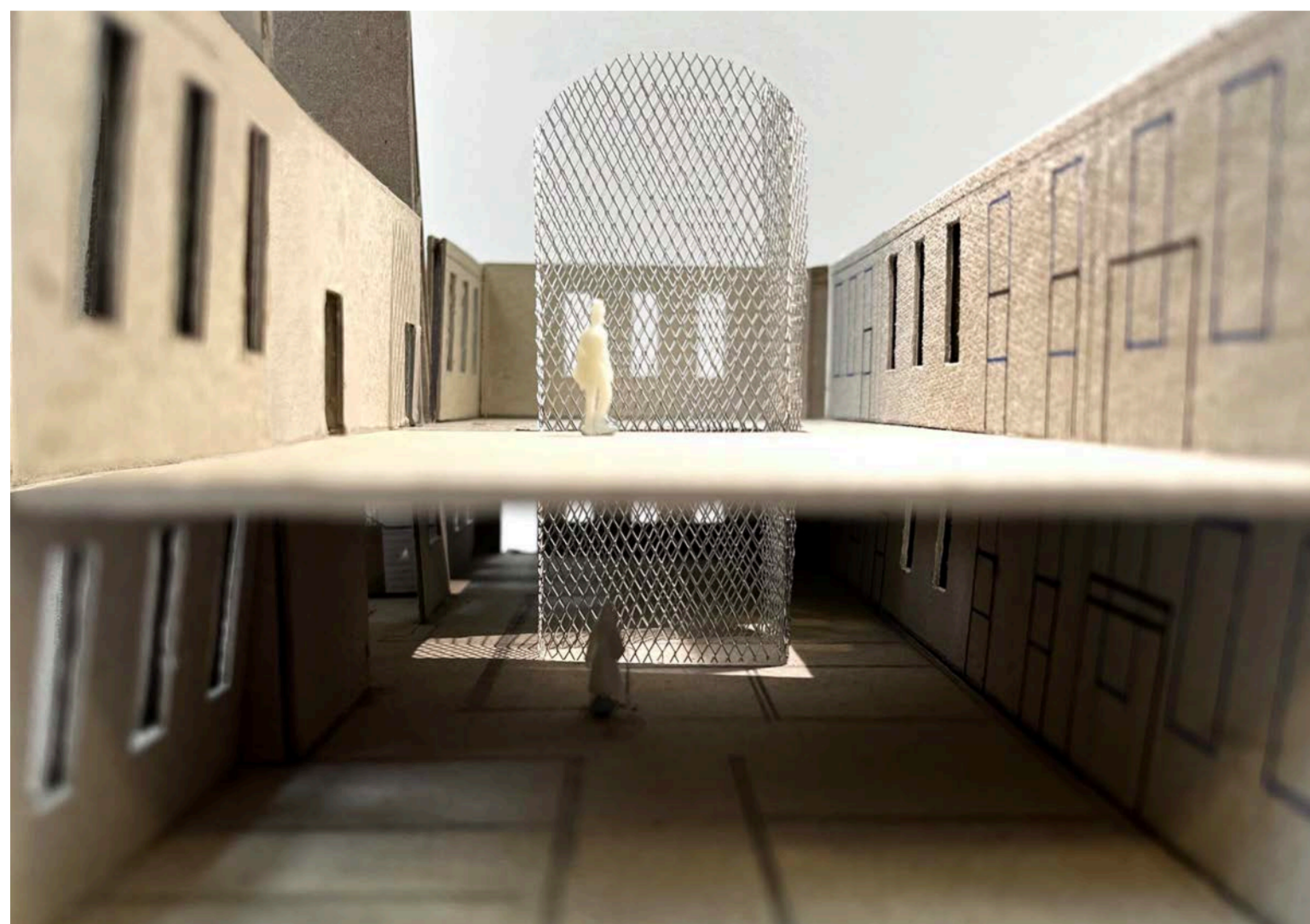


Section B:

The arched openings were inspired from the entrance and stairwell arches in the building.



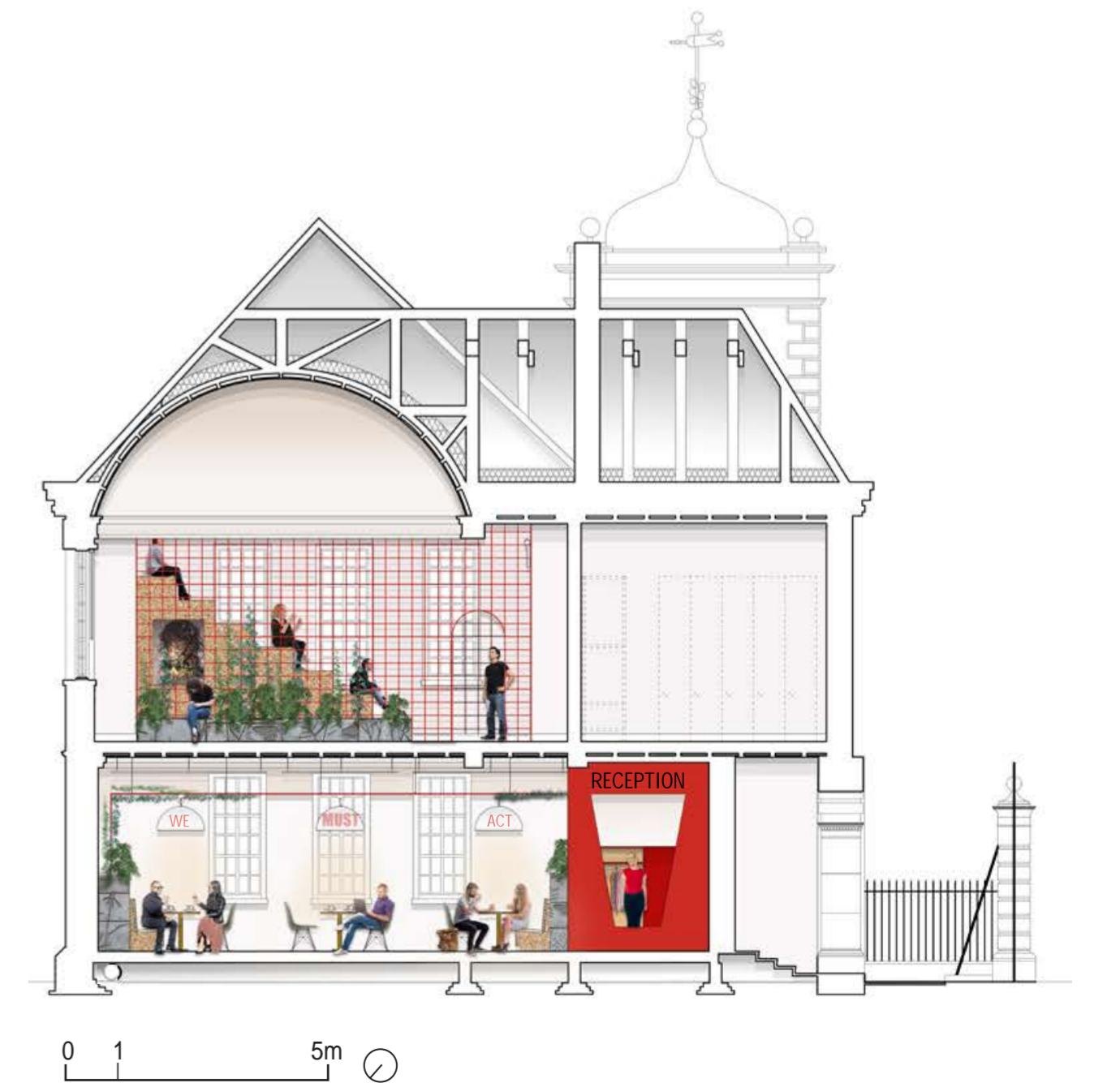
1:100 Sketch Concept Model:



The zero carbon concrete depicts the areas of seating and reinforces the key message of saving the wildlife and the planet with the etched design.



Section C:



1:50 Model Interior Perspectives:

- 1 External entrance.
- 2 Cafe, toilets, pin board wall and chalk room.
- 3 Entrance and welcome area.
- 4 Reception and cafe seating area.
- 5 Debate chamber.
- 6 First floor void and art exhibition.
- 7 Storage and drying room.
- 8 Art work shop.

