taking care of caretakers

Rotterdam in 2030 is bustling with life. The amount of people living in the city grows, and there are more job opportunities. Especially in the healthcare sector job opportunities rise by 30%, thanks to an amount of healthcare institutions including the biggest in The Netherlands: The Erasmus Medical Center. Employees from all over the world are attracted by world-class research facilities and advanced healthcare. Erasmus MC is also the largest medical school in the Netherlands, with about 3,100 medical students and 243 PhD graduates. The Erasmus MC ranks in the top ten of best medical institutions in the world.

Some of the students and employees are working here for a short time on a specific study or research. This means they all have to be housed in the city for a short term, varying from a couple of months to a few years. Due to the housing shortage in in Rotterdam, it has become more difficult to find the proper place to house employees in recent years. At the same time, the Erasmus MC has a special status in the city owning one of the most valuable properties in the city of Rotterdam. However, the Erasmus MC healthcare campus is in the middle of Rotterdam, it does not seem to be part of it. According to an historical a morphological analysis, the campus grew in its own practical way, lacking the ability to connect to the city fabric, and thus lacking to be a part of the city.

The proposed building will make the Erasmus MC healthcare campus more complete, inviting for visiting students and researchers, and will also mould the campus on to the city fabric, and is facilitating future expansion and restructuration plans proposed by the municipality as well as the Erasmus MC itself.

The placement of this building will be at the intersection of the city boulevard Rochussenstraat and Zimmermanweg. This location is at the edge of the campus, but very visible for everyone passing or entering the campus. It is on top of Dijkzigt metro station, a place that is now a leftover plot caused by the solitaire growth of the healthcare campus. Here lies the opportunity to realise a substantial number of dwellings for researchers and students, varying from 30 to 50 square meters in size, and complemental programme such as a green courtyard, metro station, shops, a coffee bar and a small congress facility to be used by the Erasmus MC.

In contrast to the solitaire development of the healthcare campus, the new building will have a clear orientation, meaning that all four outer facades of the building will look different in character. Following the urban hierarchy of the context, the facades on the Rochussenstraat and Zimmermanweg are the most representative.

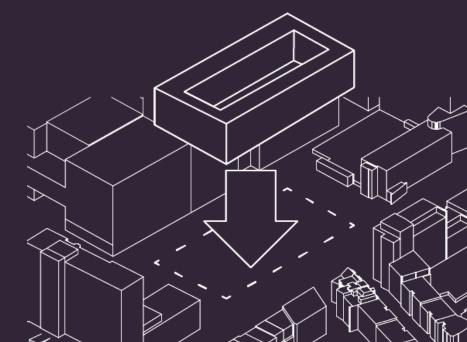
In the plinth of the building, a lively street scene is encouraged by making setbacks and placing shopfronts, a station entrance and dwelling entrances at intervals in the streetscape to enhance the pedestrian experience. All dwellings have their representative entrance at the livelier city streets. The coffee bar at the corner of the block will be the casual meeting space where medical professionals, hospital visitors, students from the nearby school, and passers-by will mingle. The opening in the façade at the side of the Zimmermanweg invites people to come in and enjoy a green and healing environment in the middle of the block.

Above the plinth, the angled facades of the dwellings will mark the importance of the street corner in a larger scale, directing passers-by into the Zimmermanweg on their way to the main entrance of the Erasmus MC. The two facades at the Burgemeester S'Jakobsstraat are modestly shaped and react to the ambiance in the logistics space or 'mews' of the hospital. On the fifth floor, set-backed penthouses with private roof terraces will vertically conclude the building volume on the representative side, shaping the transition in scale from the healthcare campus to the residential area.

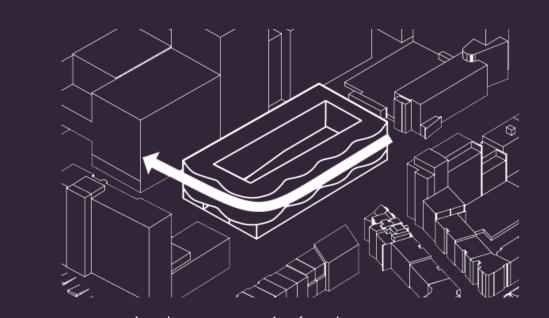
With the proposal of this building the opportunity is created to work towards a greater goal: Making the Erasmus healthcare campus a true part of the city, and at the same time make spaces for the ongoing development of the healthcare sector and benefits for its employees. By 2030, Rotterdam takes care of its caretakers.



the area of hoboken in 2030 in the municipality plans: the erasmus mc proposed as healthcare campus isolated from the city by green spaces. source: gebiedsvisie rotterdam hoboken 2030, gemeente rotterdam, 2009

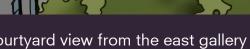




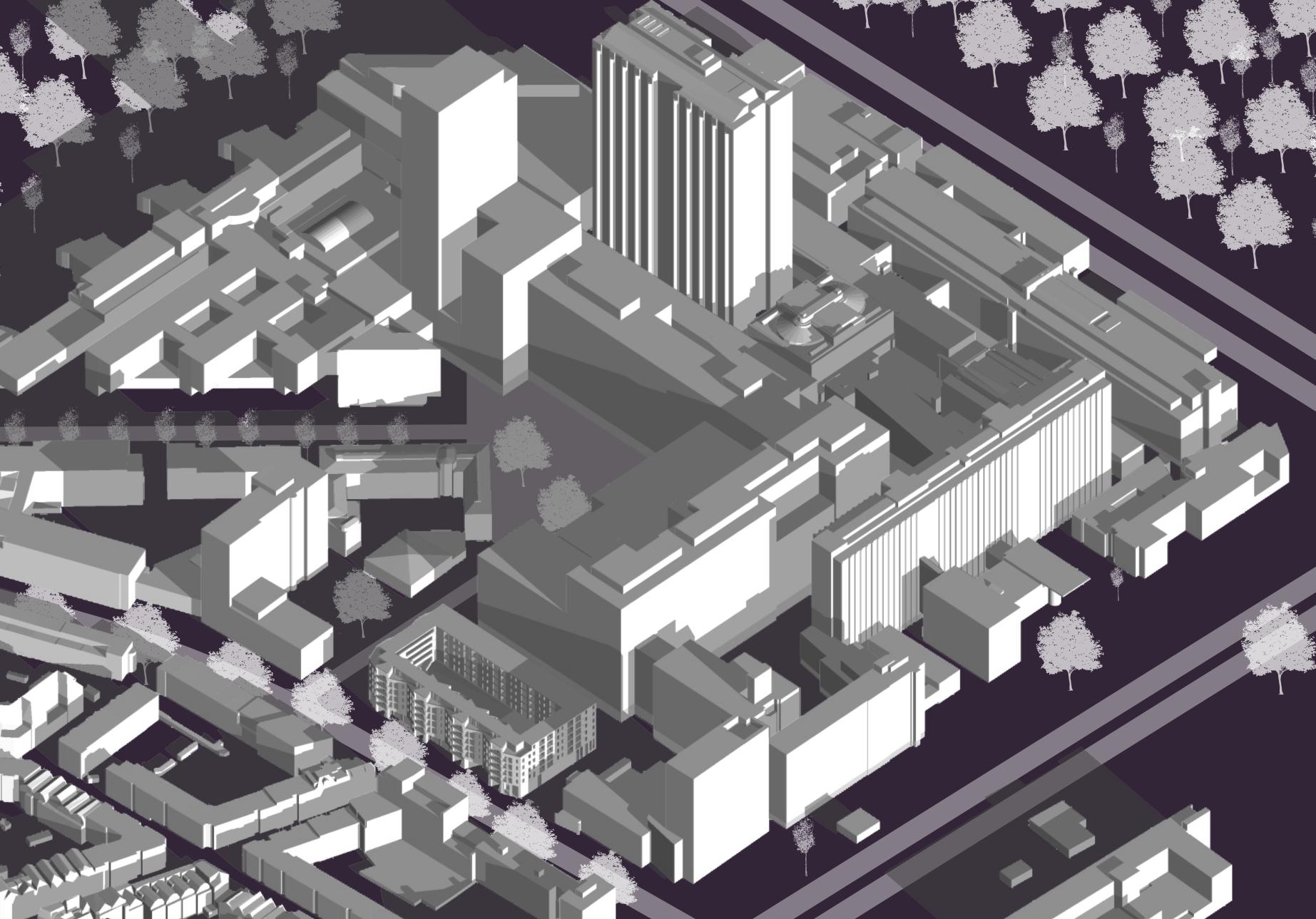






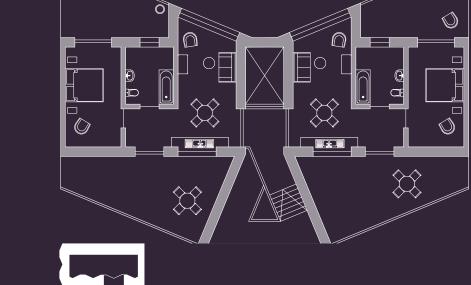




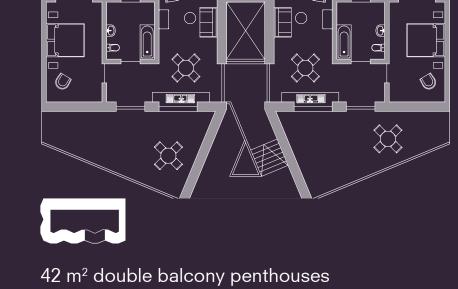


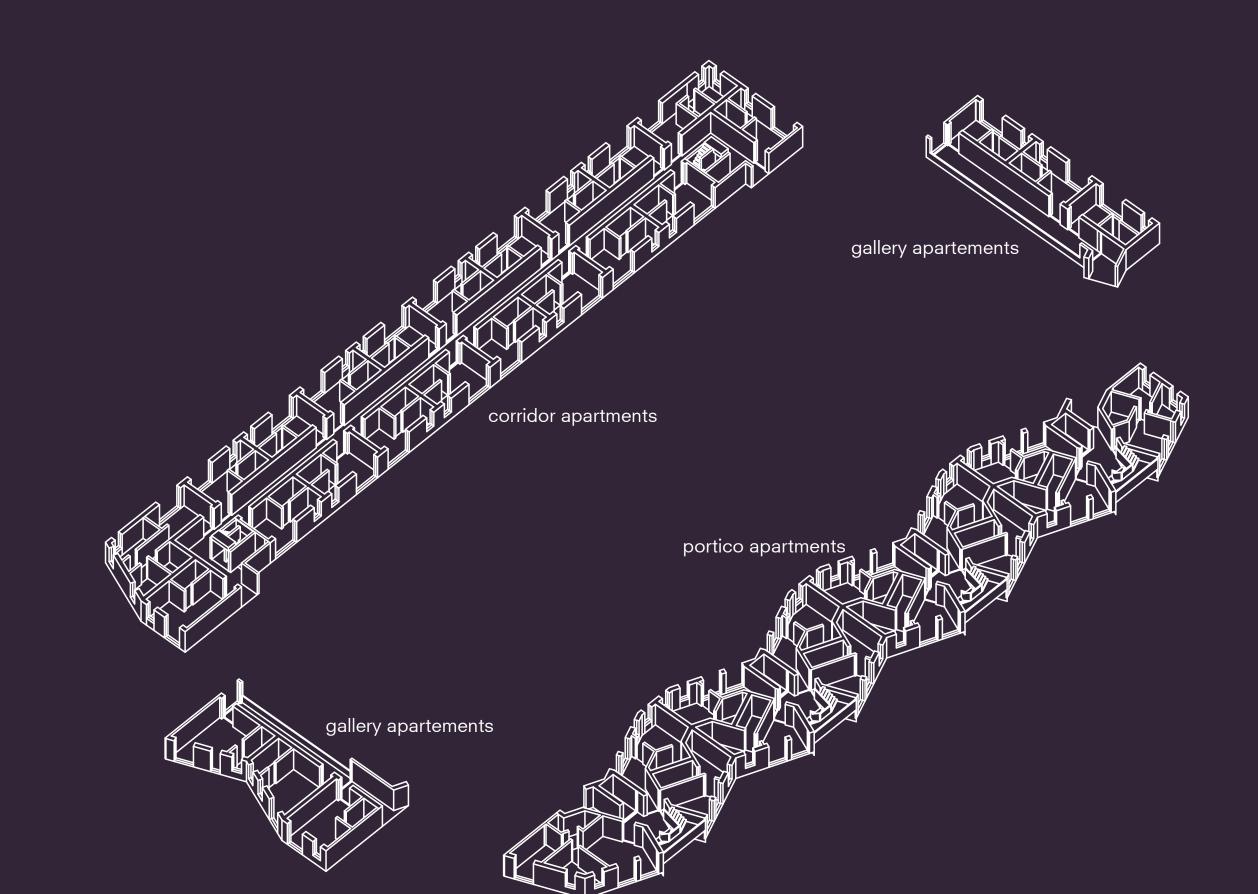
overview of the proposed campus addition

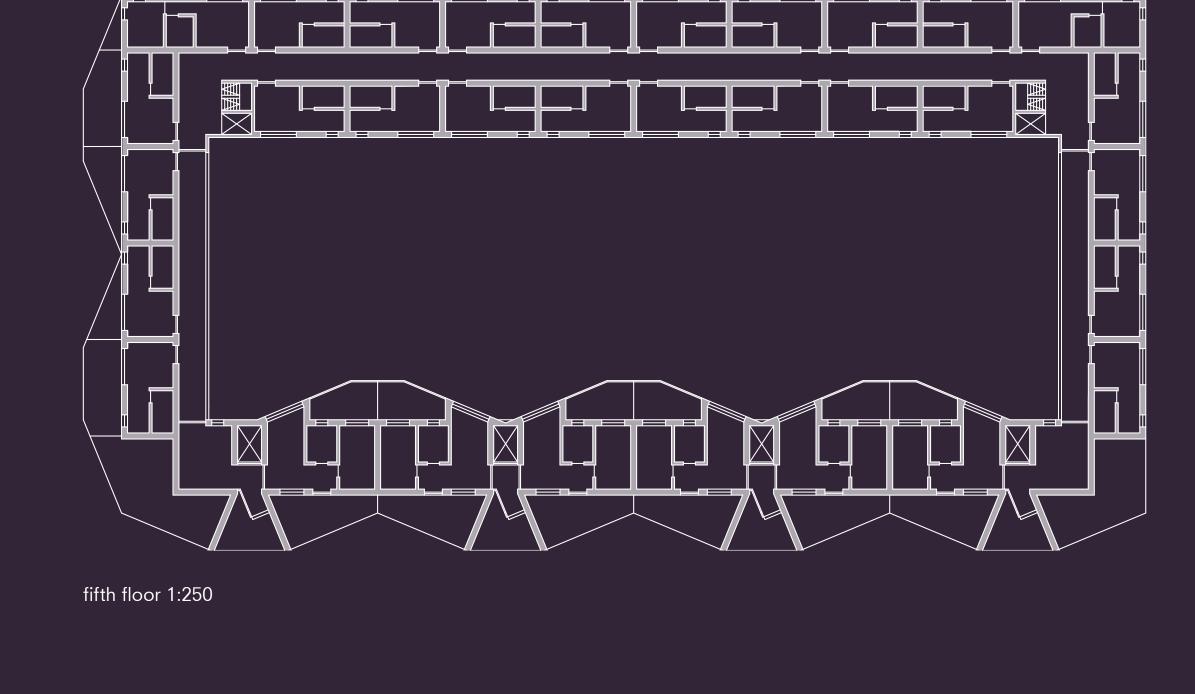


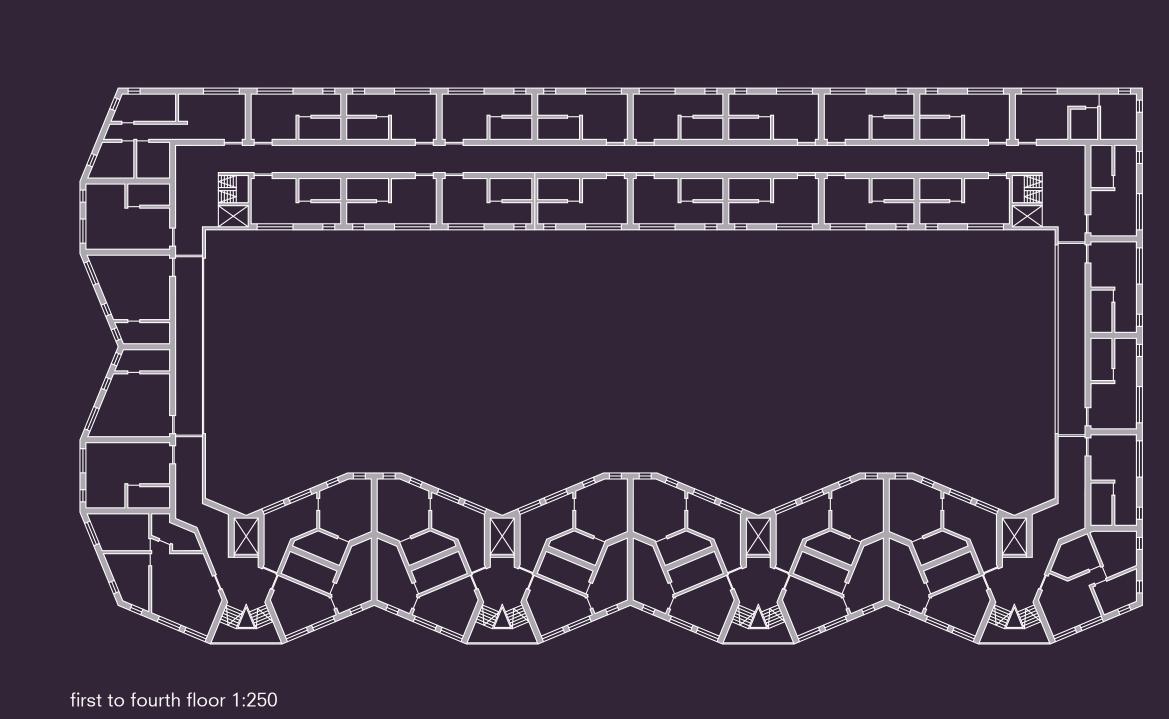


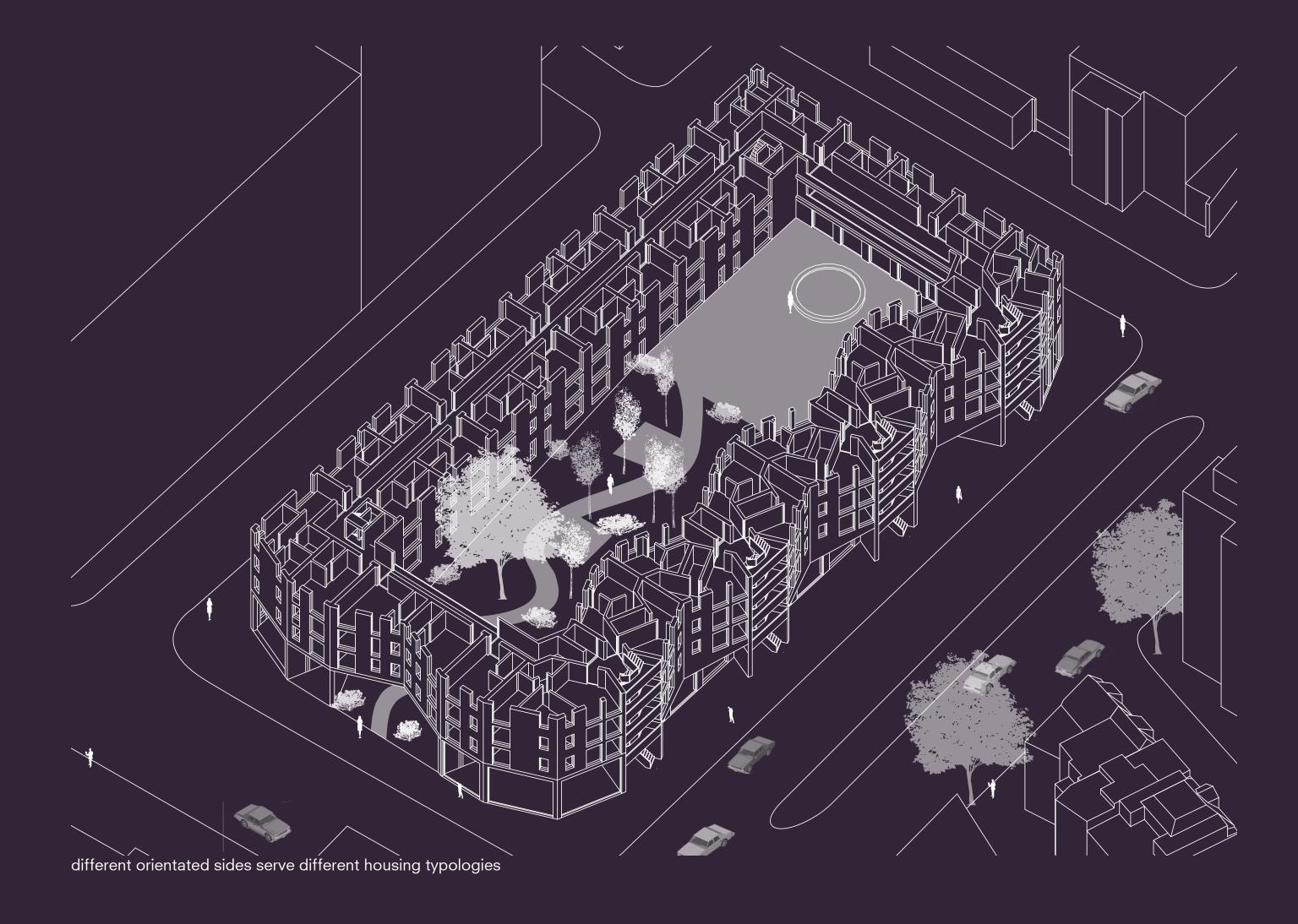
32 m² pointed studio 26 m² shoebox 40 m² / 35 m² portico one-bedroom apartments apartment floorplans 1:100

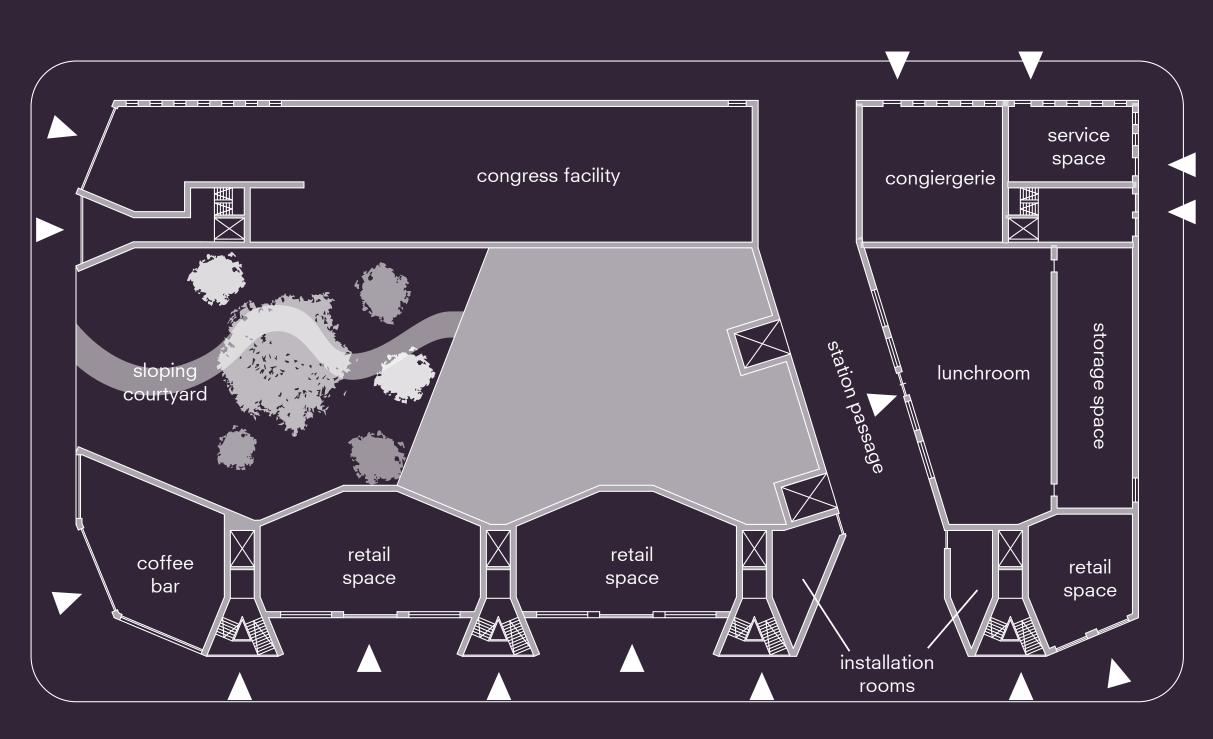




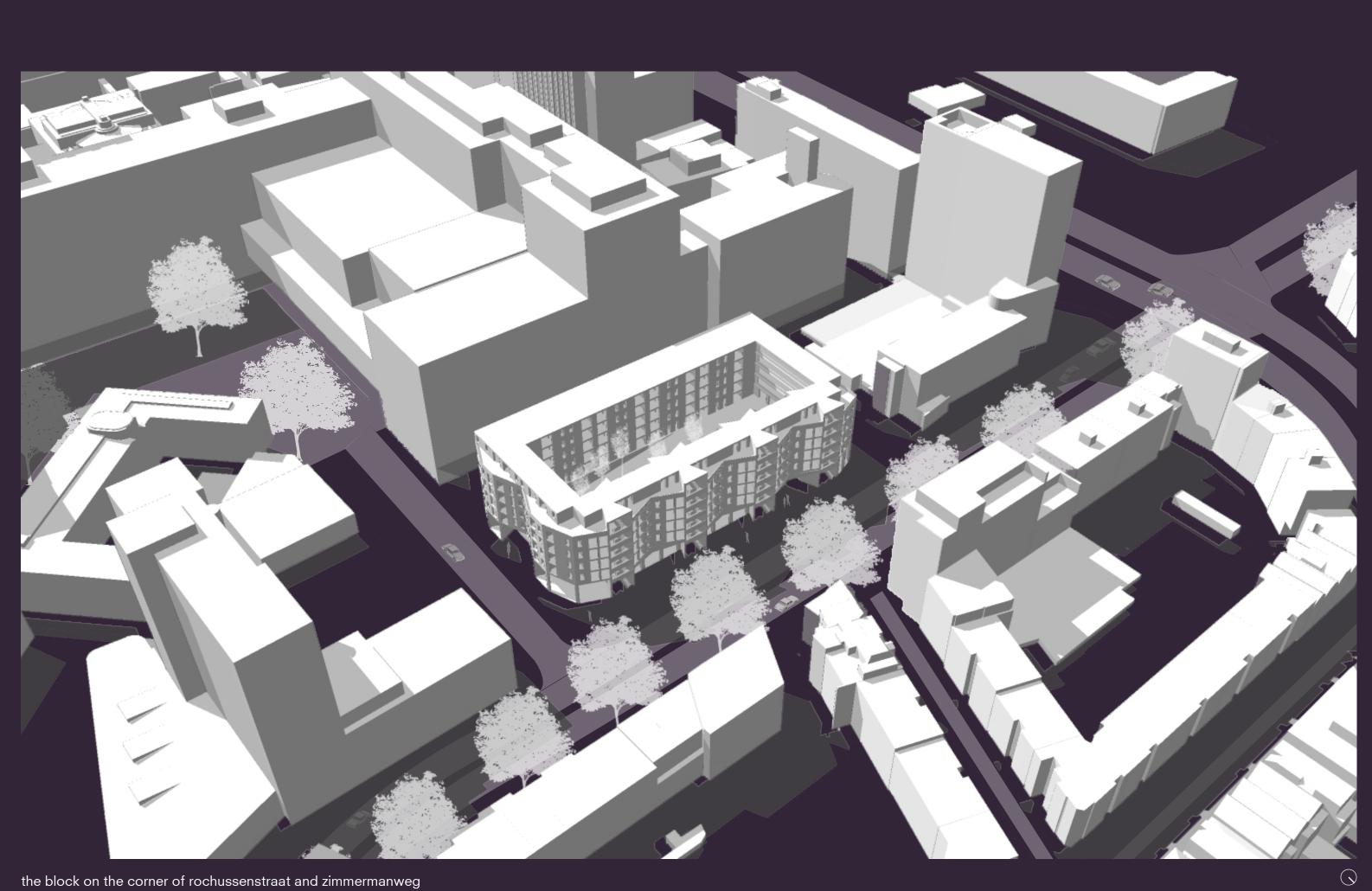








ground floor 1:250



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east-west section 1:250