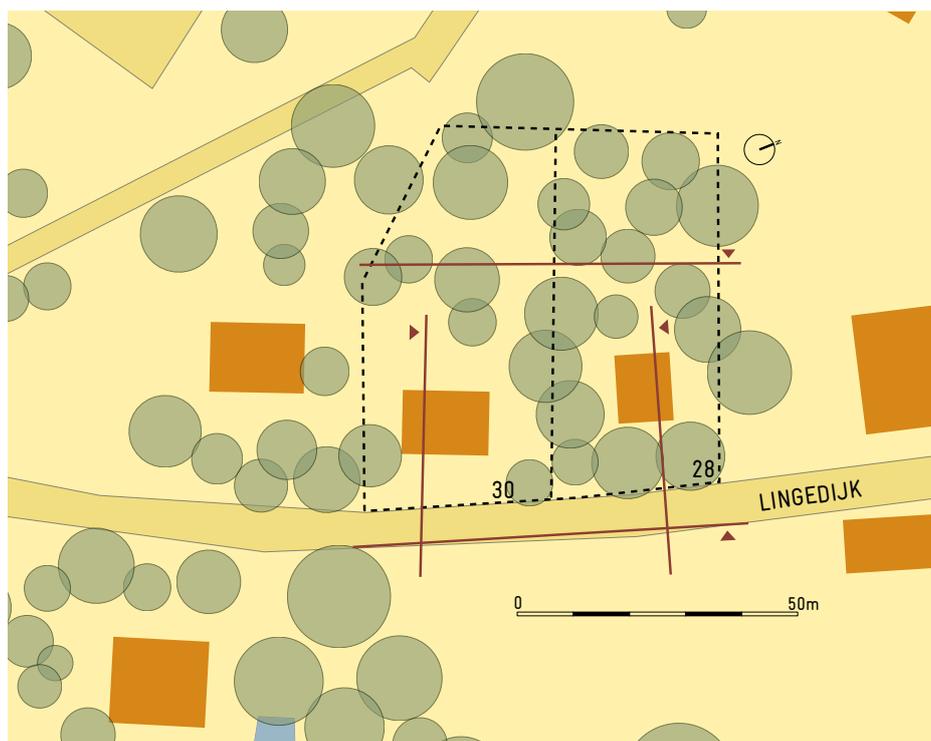


National Glass Museum Leerdam

bureau **SLA**
architectuur
en stedenbouw
07/07/

2010 explanatory text



Colophon

PROJECT:

Renovation of the National Glass Museum, Leerdam

PRINCIPAL:

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4158 CA Deil

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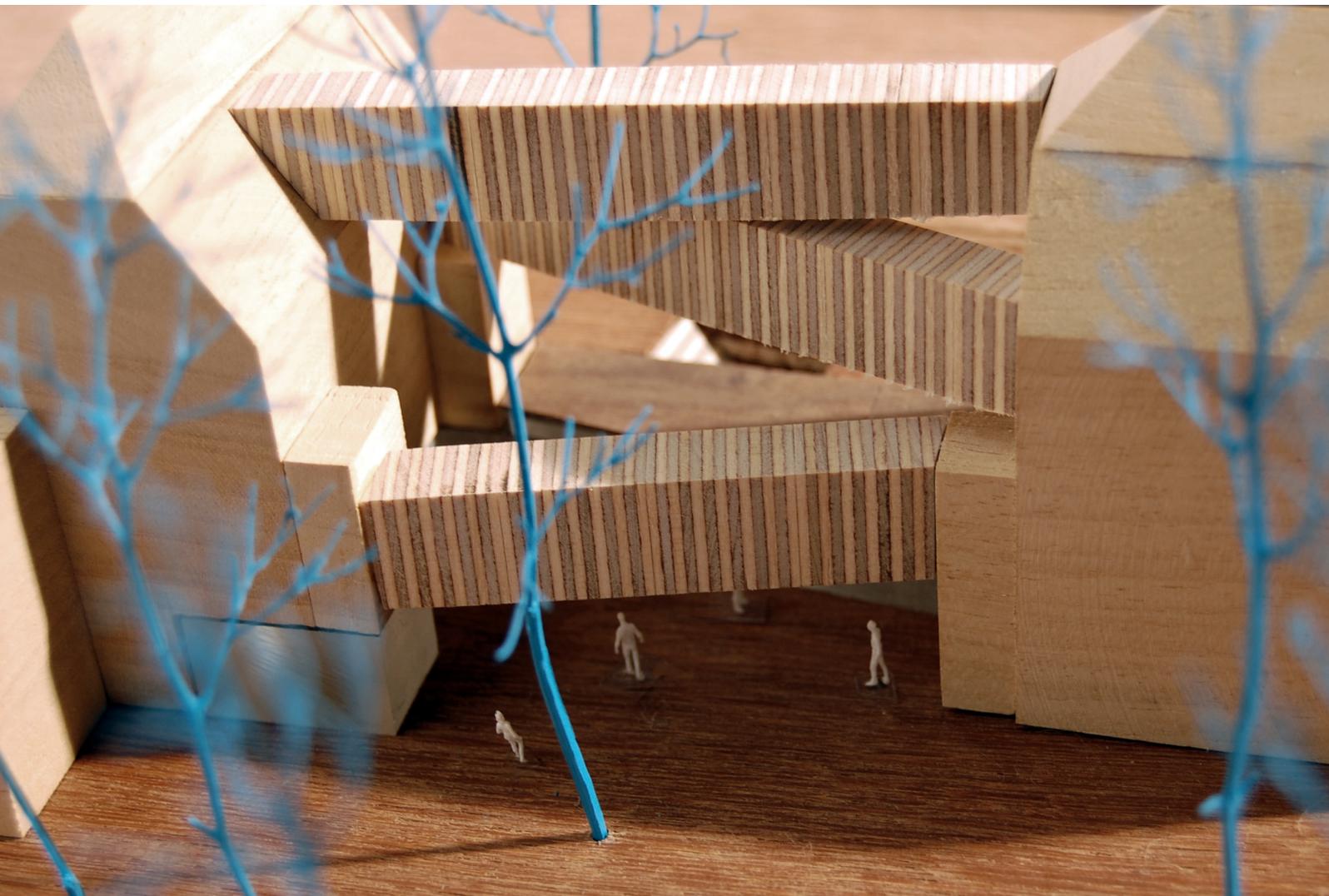
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site

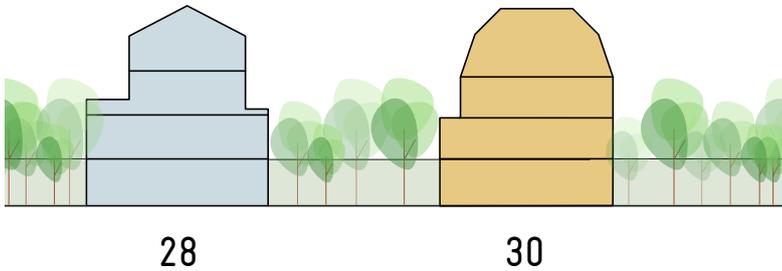
1. Introduction

The Dutch National Glass Museum collects, examines and exhibits glass art and design from 1850 onwards. It serves as the Netherlands' treasury, laboratory and centre of knowledge on glass. The Glass Museum was started in 1953 in the house of Petrus Marinus Cochius, director of Leerdam glass manufacturers and founder of the Leerdam glass tradition.

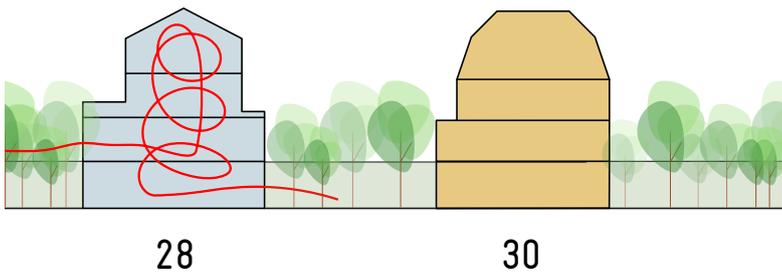
Five years ago, the National Glass Museum's management embarked on a process of renewal, re-structuring its organisation, redefining its mission and making strategic changes. The housing situation of the museum did not live up to this new mission and the existing Cochius villa was in dire need of renovation. When the museum was able to acquire the adjacent villa on 30 Lingedijk, new opportunities arose to modernise the museum and its offices and to improve their quality.



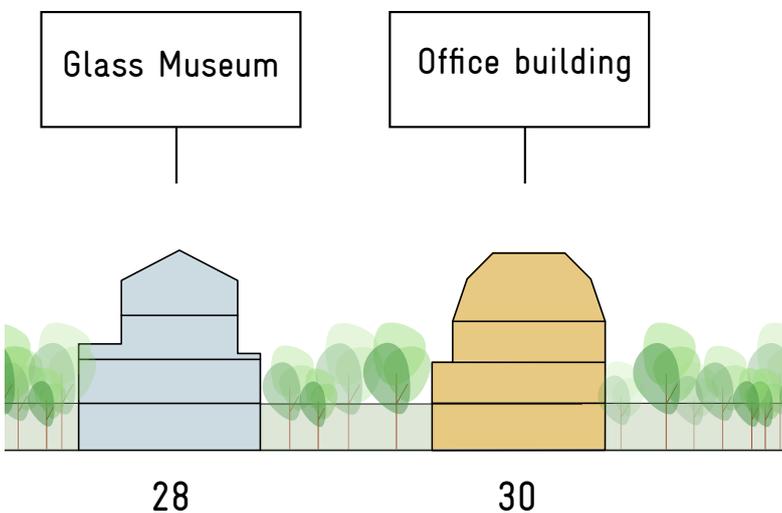
Spatial concept

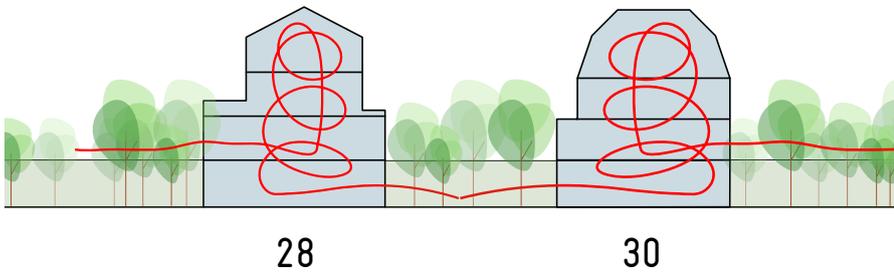


At first sight, it seems efficient to separate the museum's different functions, housing the museum in one of the villas and the offices in the other. The main storage is kept apart, and the museum store, the restaurant and the entry area are close to each other. This was our commission.

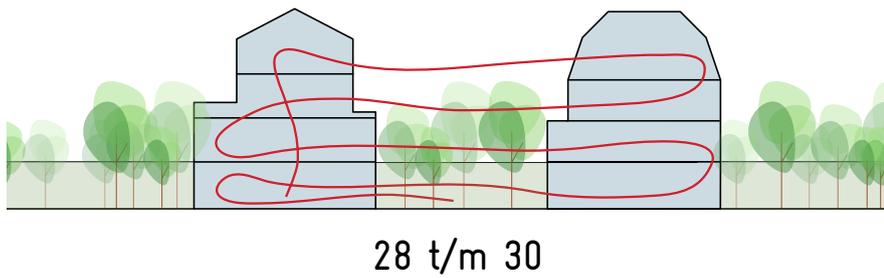


But it is a bit boring. The visitor can walk up and down in the museum villa. The office villa looks like ... an office villa. The museum is bigger, indeed, but that is hardly visible. The potential inherent in having two buildings is not fully utilised: a classical case of missed opportunities.





Imagine that you could use both villas for exhibitions, meaning the potential of the available space could be fully reached. The visitor would feel at ease to nose around in the two villas and get to see all, truly all, with no closed doors.



A pity though, that one still needs to go up and down in the two buildings. The museum remains housed in small rooms and has only limited access for disabled people, as one needs to walk up and down stairs.

Nationaal
Glasmuseum



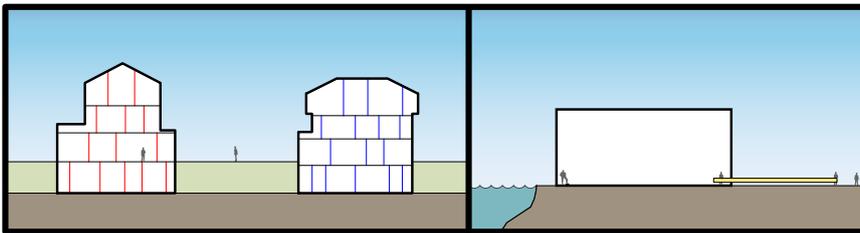
So why not make long horizontal lines? Thus the museum literally and figuratively takes a broad stance. Only one lift is needed to reach every level and the museum is accessible in an open manner. The National Glass Museum manifests itself as a new entity with its appearance fitting its national character.

28 t/m 30

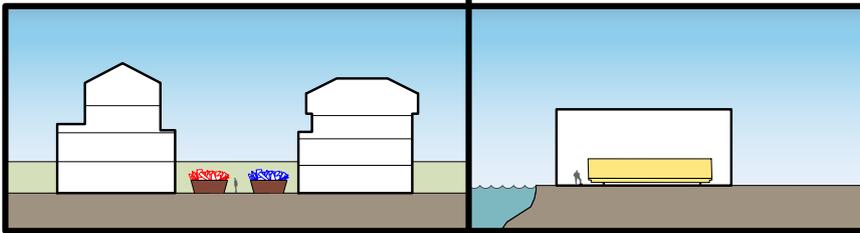
Execution

These diagrams are taken from the presentation of the initial design. In the end, it proved more efficient to transport the bridges over land, but for the rest, the work proceeded as planned. The connecting bridges were constructed in a workshop; floors, ceilings and the profiles for mounting the polycarbonate walls were installed (leaving room every now and then for transport and placing).

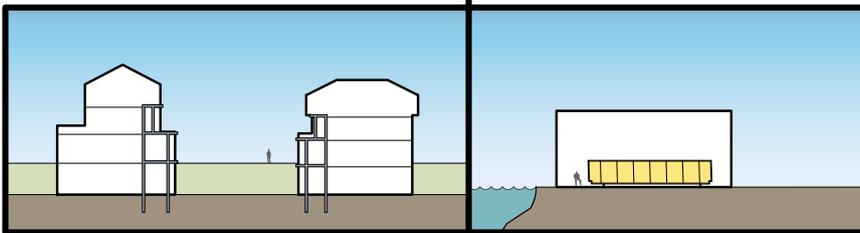
The bridges were suspended one after the other, with one week in-between. In this week the connections between the old buildings and the bridges were made waterproof.



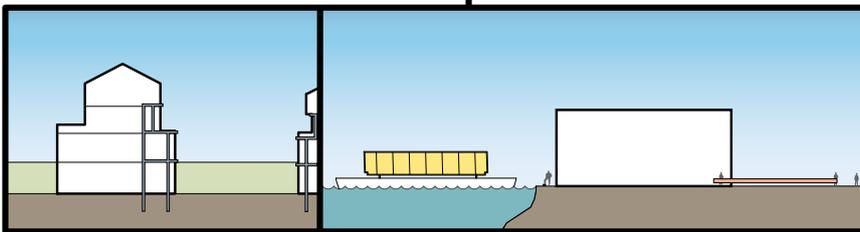
1. The interiors of both houses are cleared. The houses are prepared for restoration and the placing of a lift. Construction of the connecting bridges is started off-site.



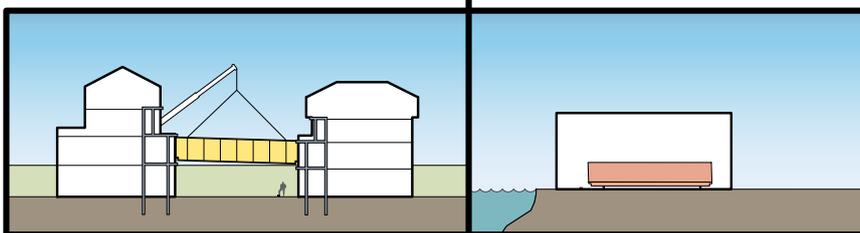
2. The villas are empty and ready for new interiors. Construction of the connecting bridges continues.



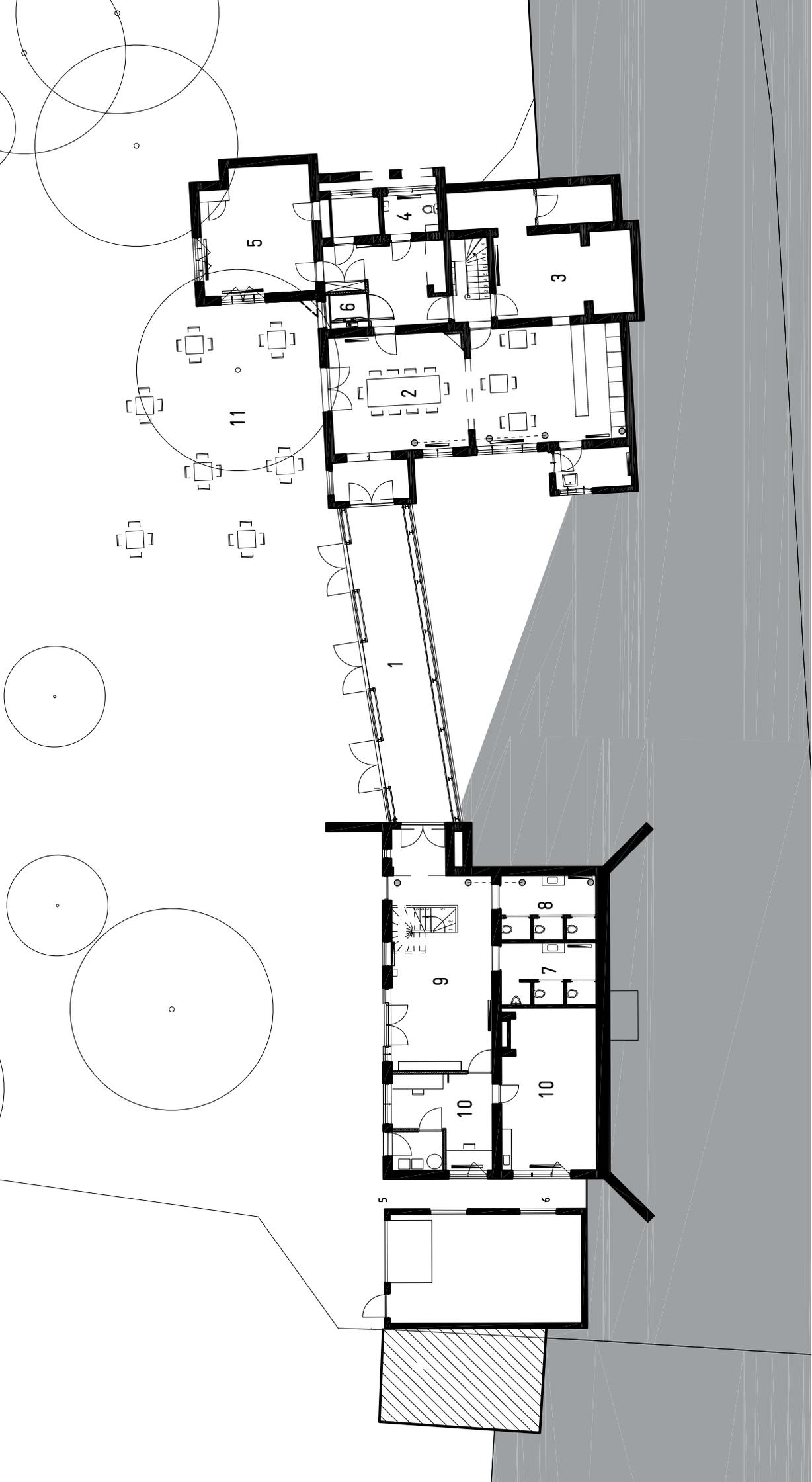
3. The villas' interiors are renewed. First preparations are made for the suspension of the bridges. The first connecting bridge is finished.



4. The bridge is transported over the River Linge to the National Glass Museum.

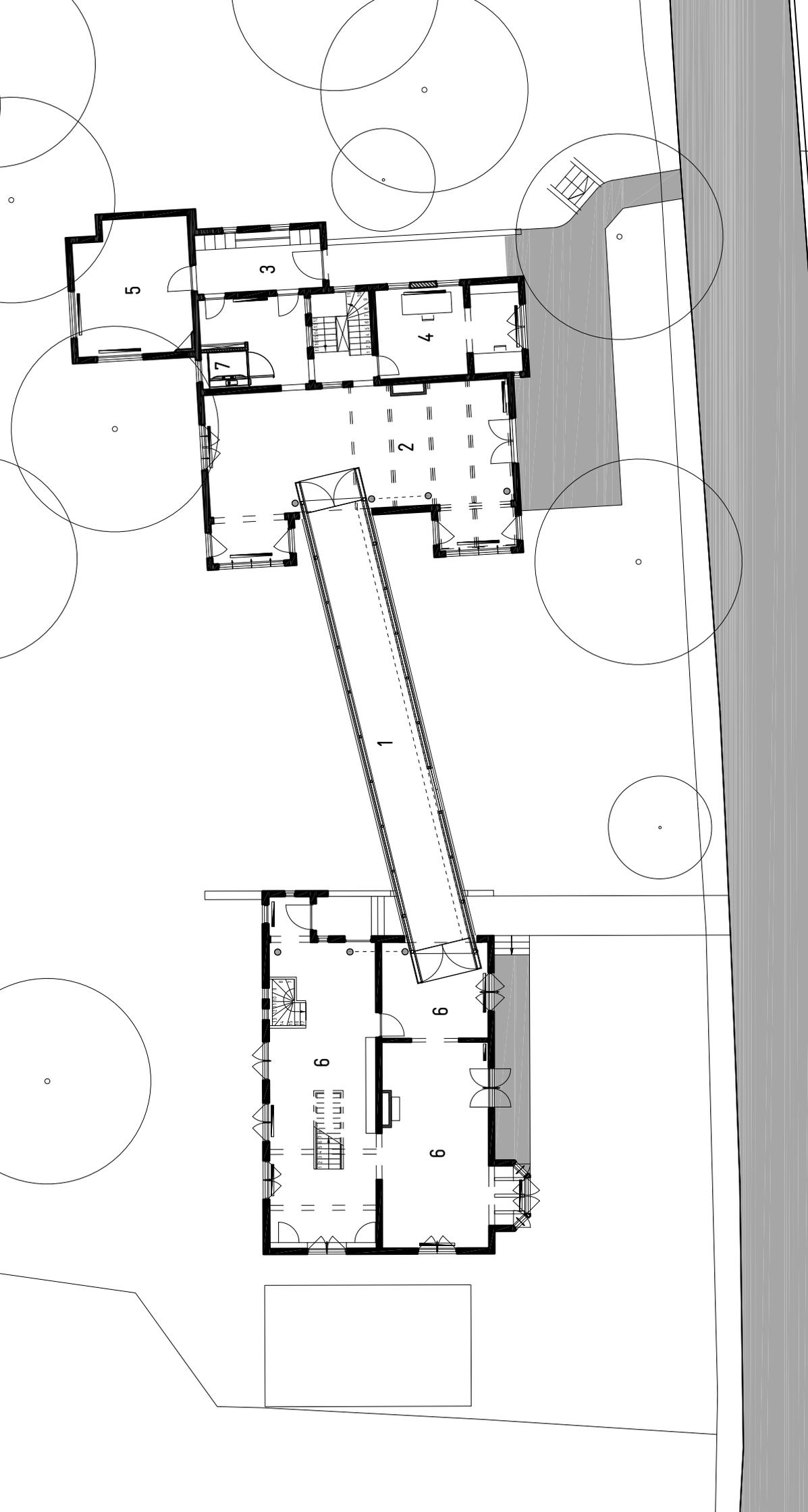


5. In one single day, all the bridges are suspended using a crane. The museum is ready for use.



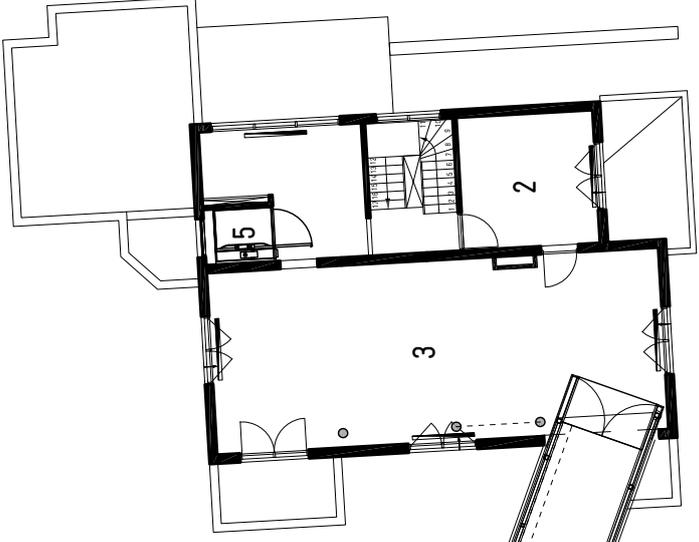
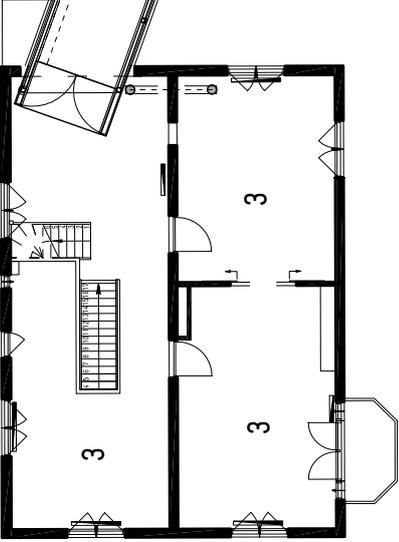
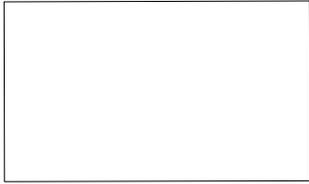
GARDEN LEVEL

- 1. bridge
- 2. restaurant
- 3. expo/film
- 4. disabled toilet
- 5. administration
- 6. lift
- 7. men's toilets
- 8. ladies toilets
- 9. expo
- 10. curator
- 11. terrace



DIKE LEVEL

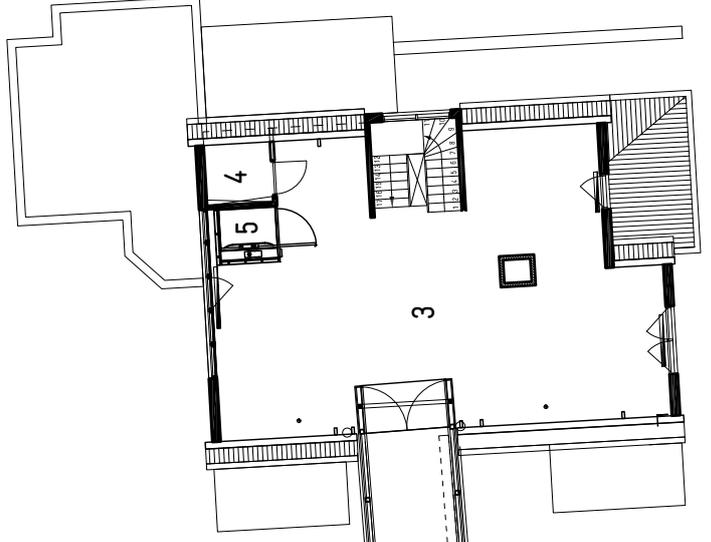
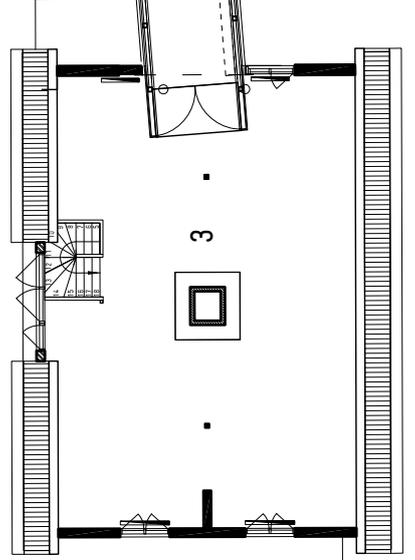
- 1. bridge
- 2. museum shop
- 3. entrance
- 4. offices
- 5. reception
- 6. expo
- 7. lift

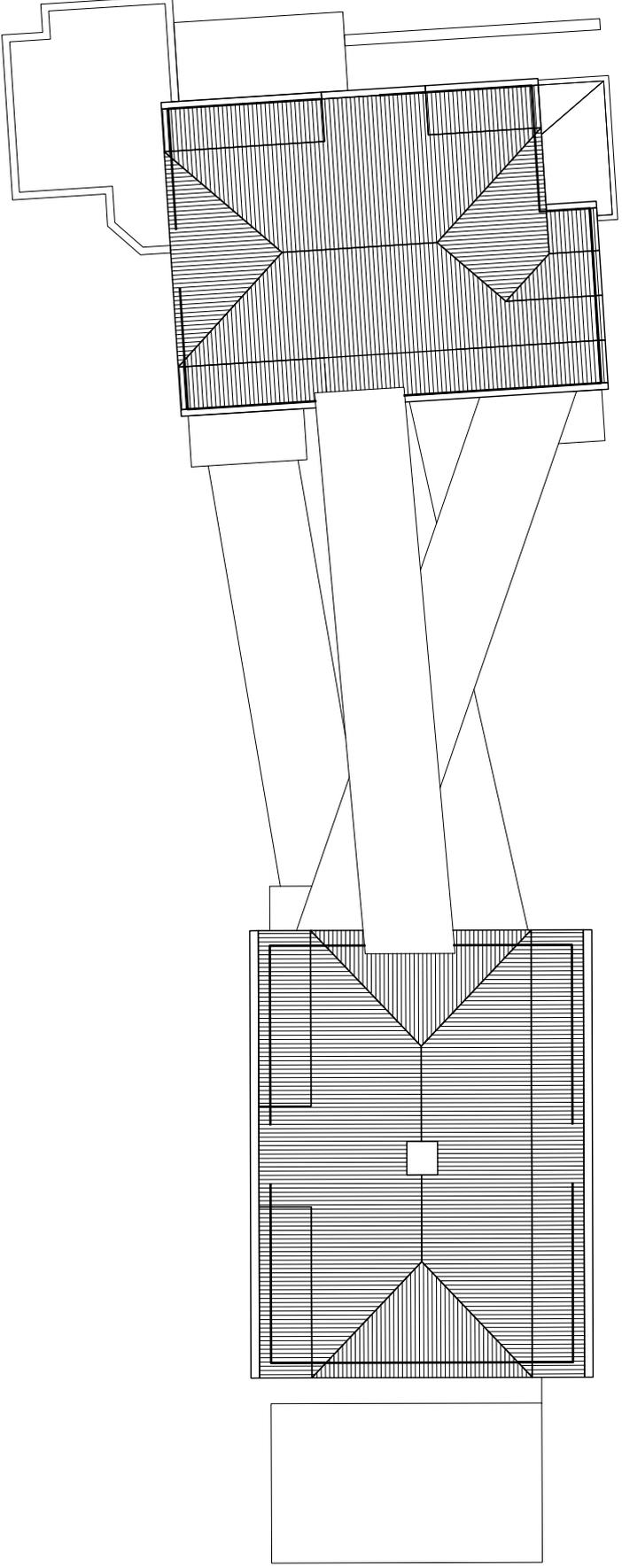


FIRST FLOOR

1. bridge 2. office/library 3. expo 4. boiler room 5. lift

TOP FLOOR





ROOF PLAN

