

Framework, Embodied²

A (second) low-carbon addition to the Leon Electric Building

Collective memories of place are bound by a common framework of space. Memories are inherently personal and subjective, and when collectively shared, produce fuzzy representations of a common narrative. And while it's the fuzzy details that are often contested, the common architectural framework continues to persist.

Carrying forward the embodied energy from the preliminary proposal, this project proposes the embodiment of the existing structural frameworks of the Leon Electric Building via the addition of a new CLT structural stitch, which binds together public transportation, co-housing, and co-working spaces to produce a new type of urban infrastructure.

These CLT frames and shear walls are grafted to, sistered with, and stacked on the existing concrete framework of the Leon Electric Building. In section, a 45-degree chamfer is carried from the preliminary proposal throughout the housing stitch in order to provide light to penetrate each co-housing unit.

Through the addition of a programmatic stitch, a new spatial framework that is finer in grain emerges, disrupting the large spans of the existing framework in order to produce a flexibility of potential unit types and layouts that favors co-housing programs.

As a spatial model, the existing concrete framework is re-embodied in order to produce a flexible and generous model of co-housing. As an economic model, the new CLT framework provides a range of co-living and co-working spaces that encourage collaboration between residents and the greater Dorchester community. As a social model, the combined frameworks bind the collective memory of Dorchester together with new programs, taking seriously the histories of a multi-generational community, while simultaneously prompting new opportunities for a collective future.

This project takes seriously issues of property, infrastructure, and economies of sharing within contemporary housing developments, and operates under the optimistic call for architects to embody a new type of spatial agency within the built environment.

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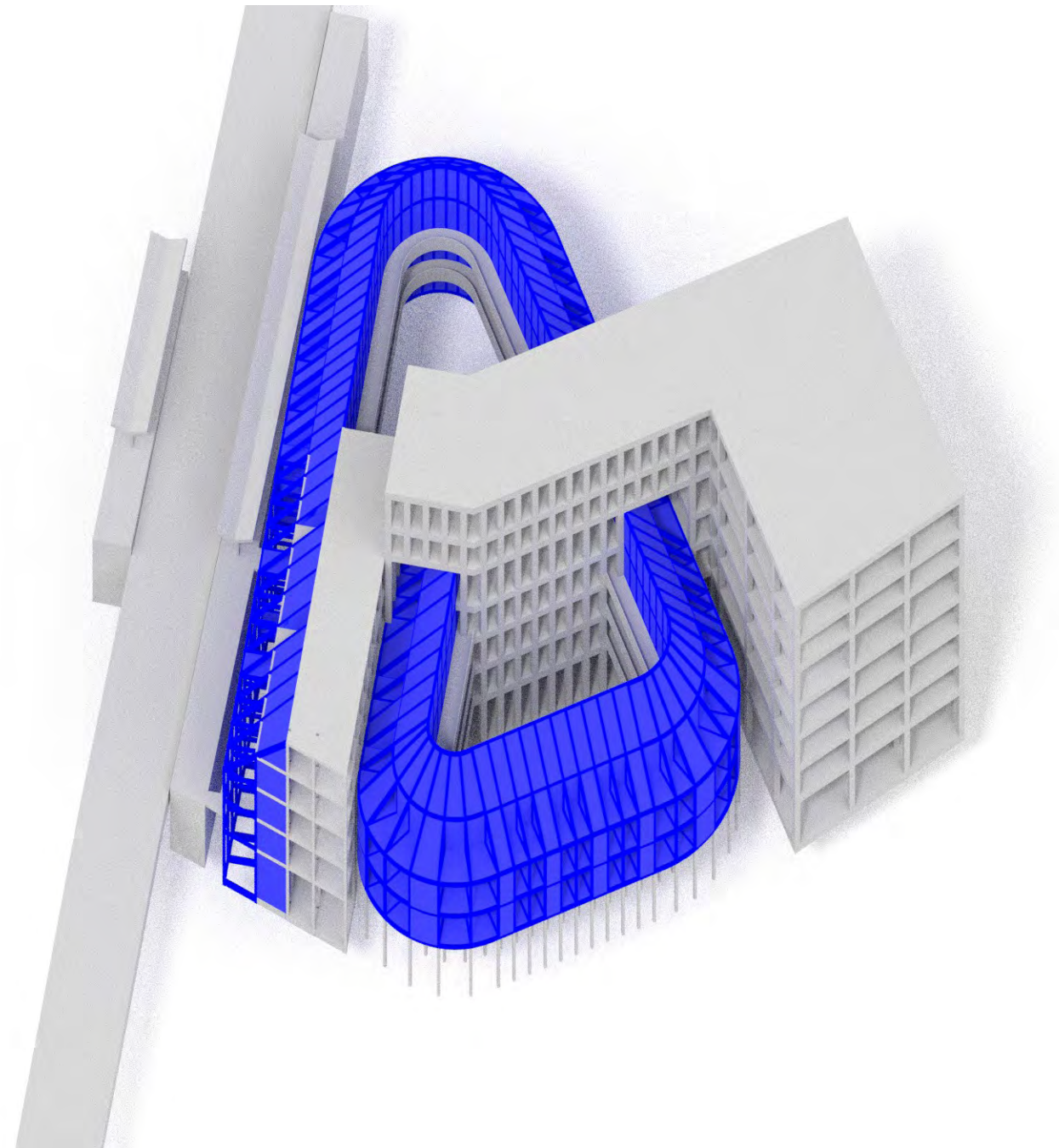
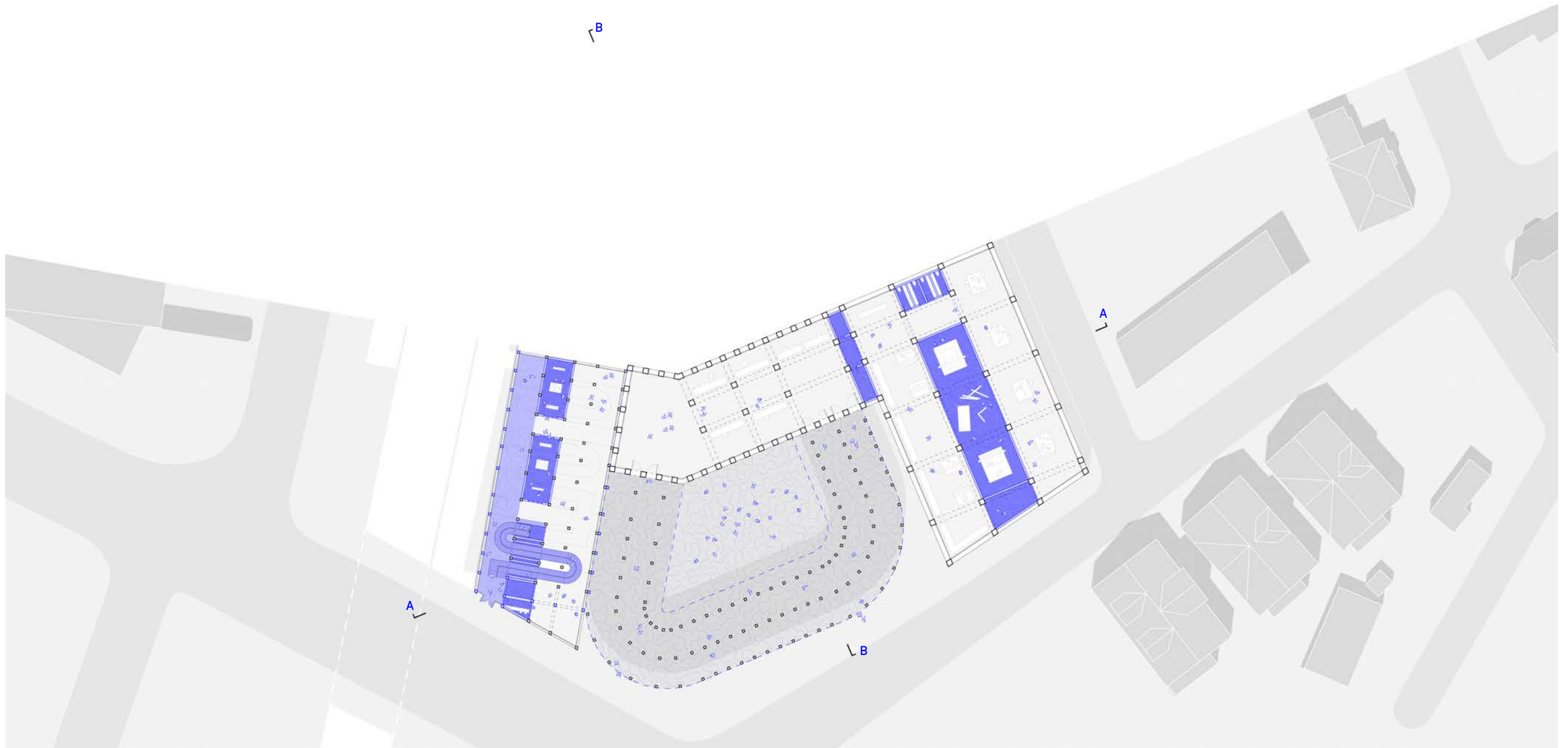
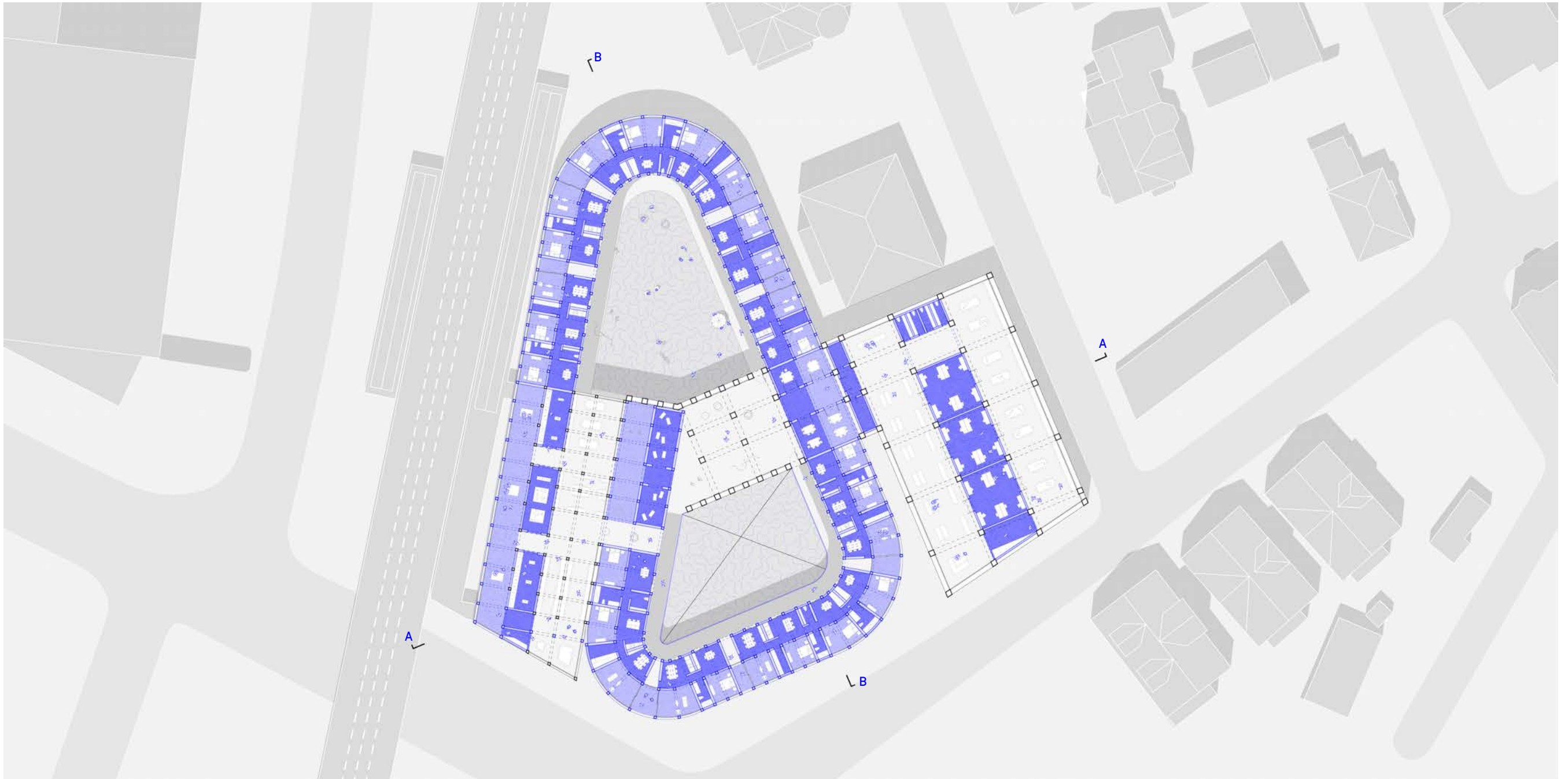
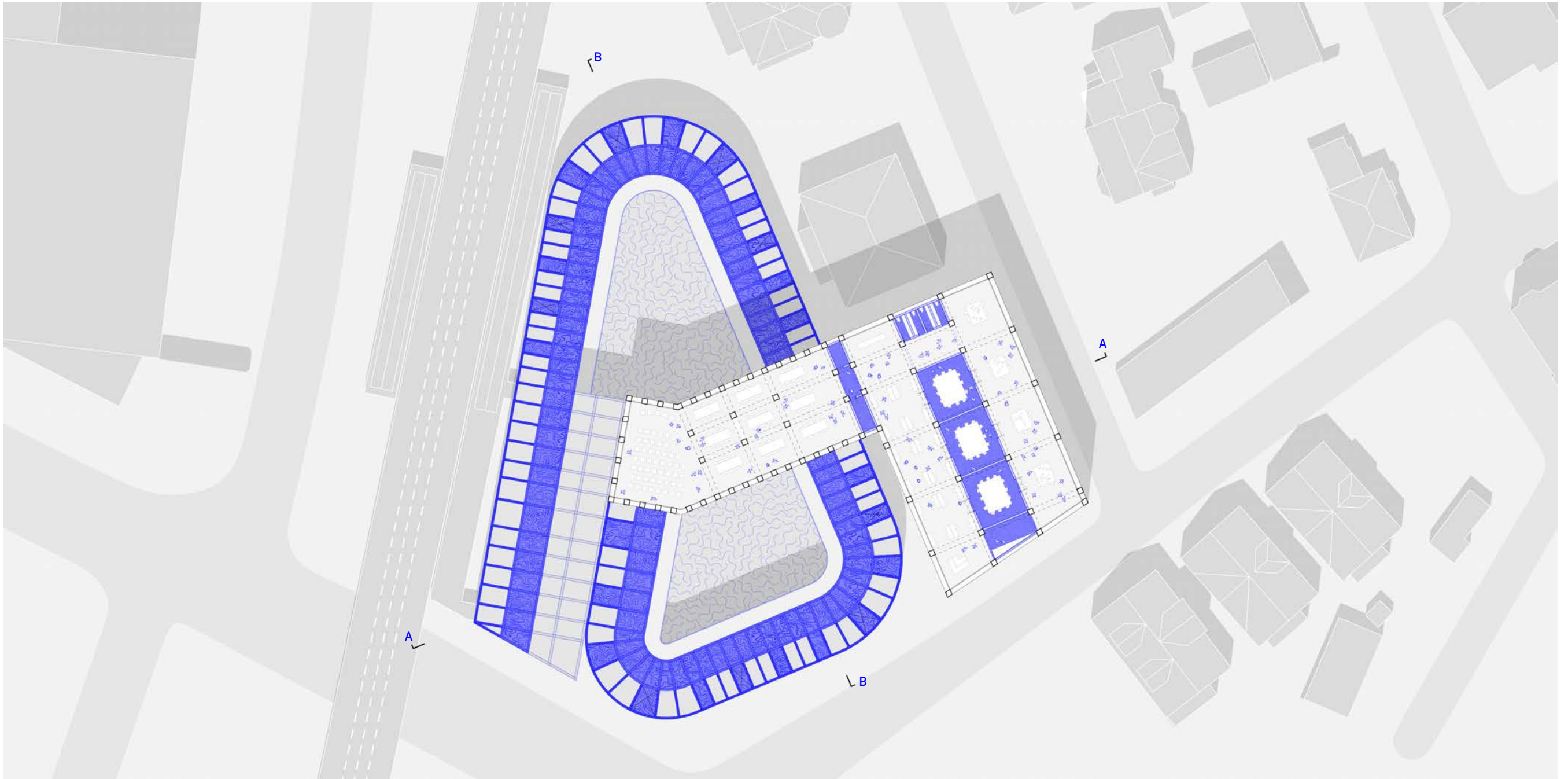
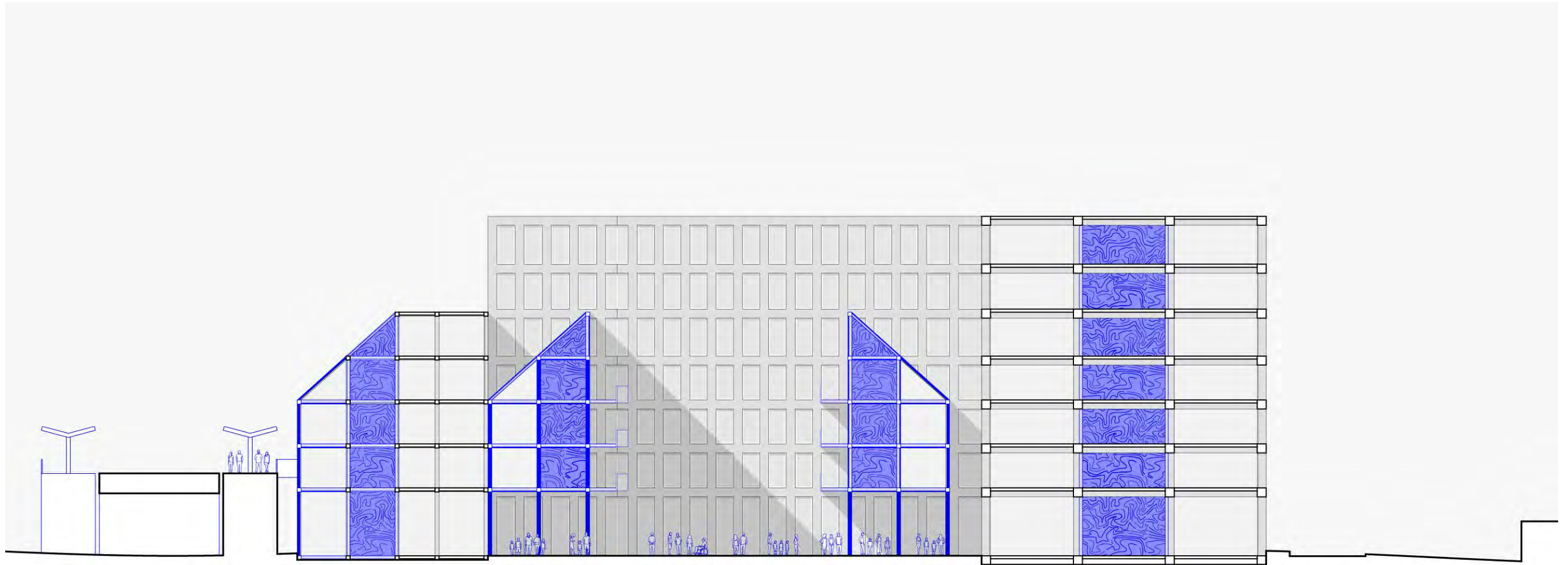


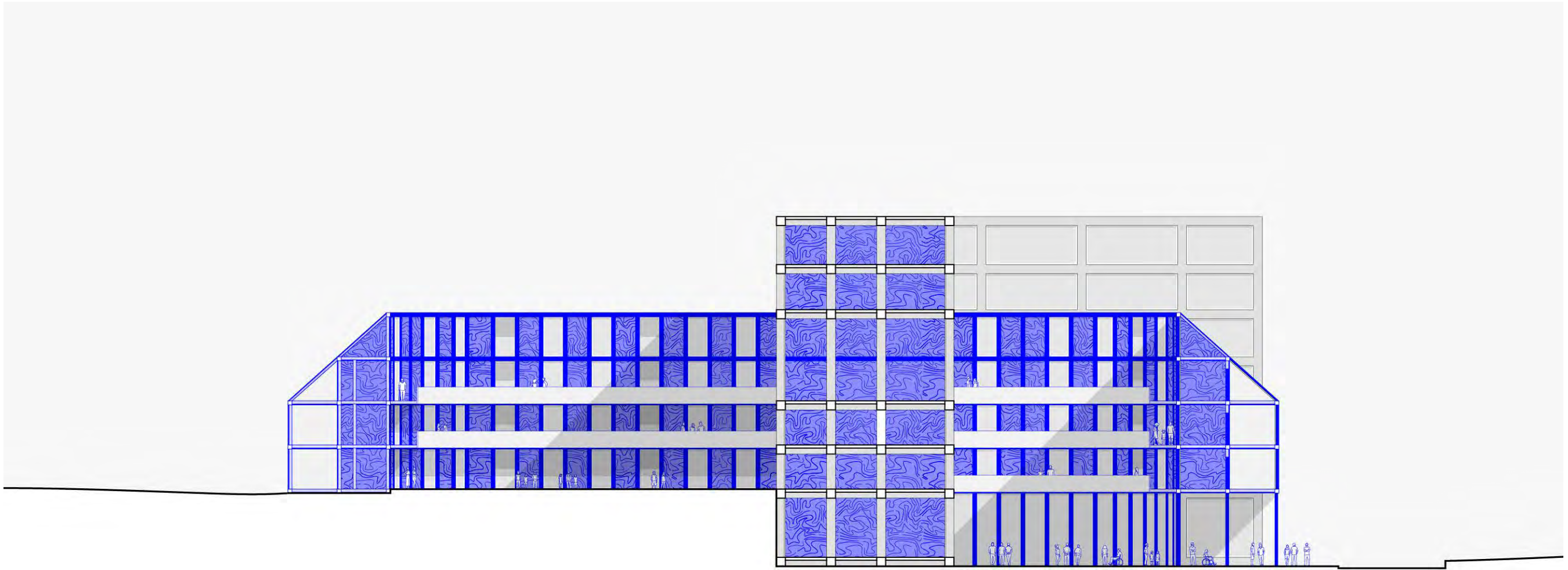
Fig. 01: Site Axonometric
co-housing "stitches" together public transporation and co-working spaces



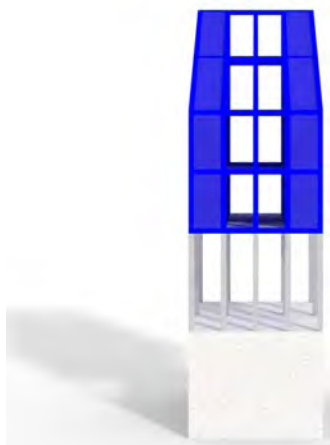




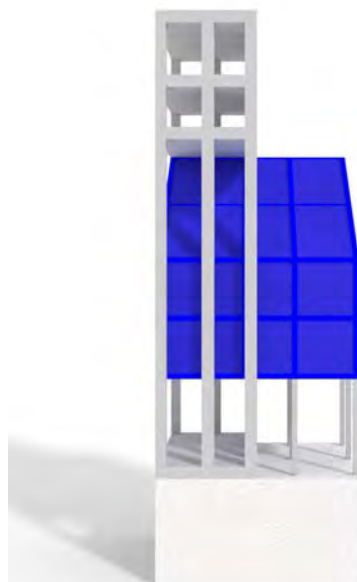




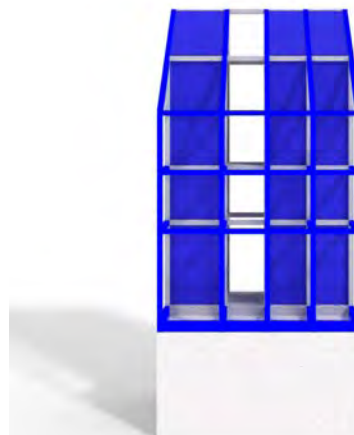
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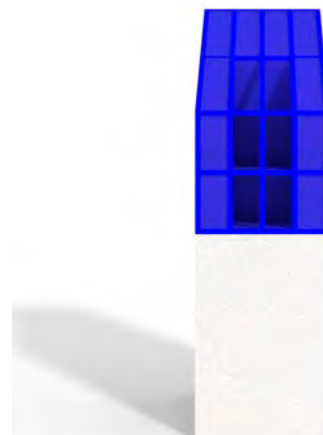
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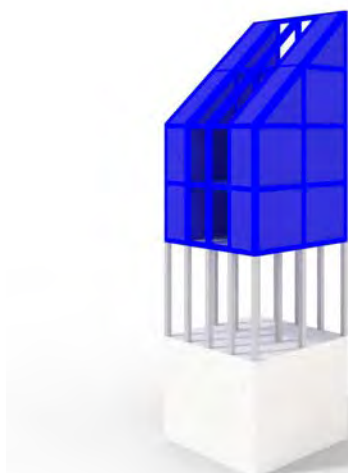
type c: graft



type d: shear



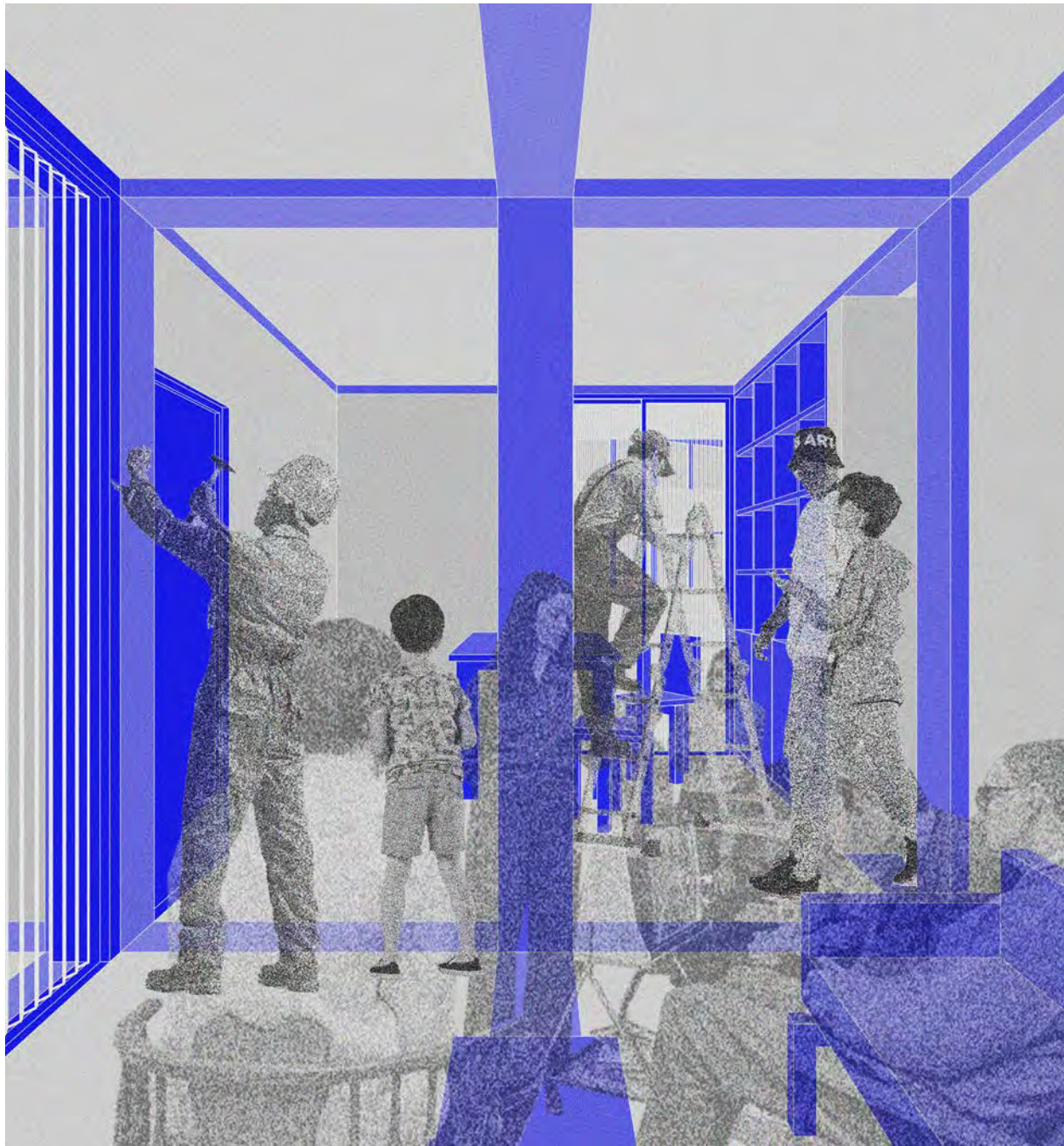
type e: sister



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Fig. 07: Structural Models
7 structural types

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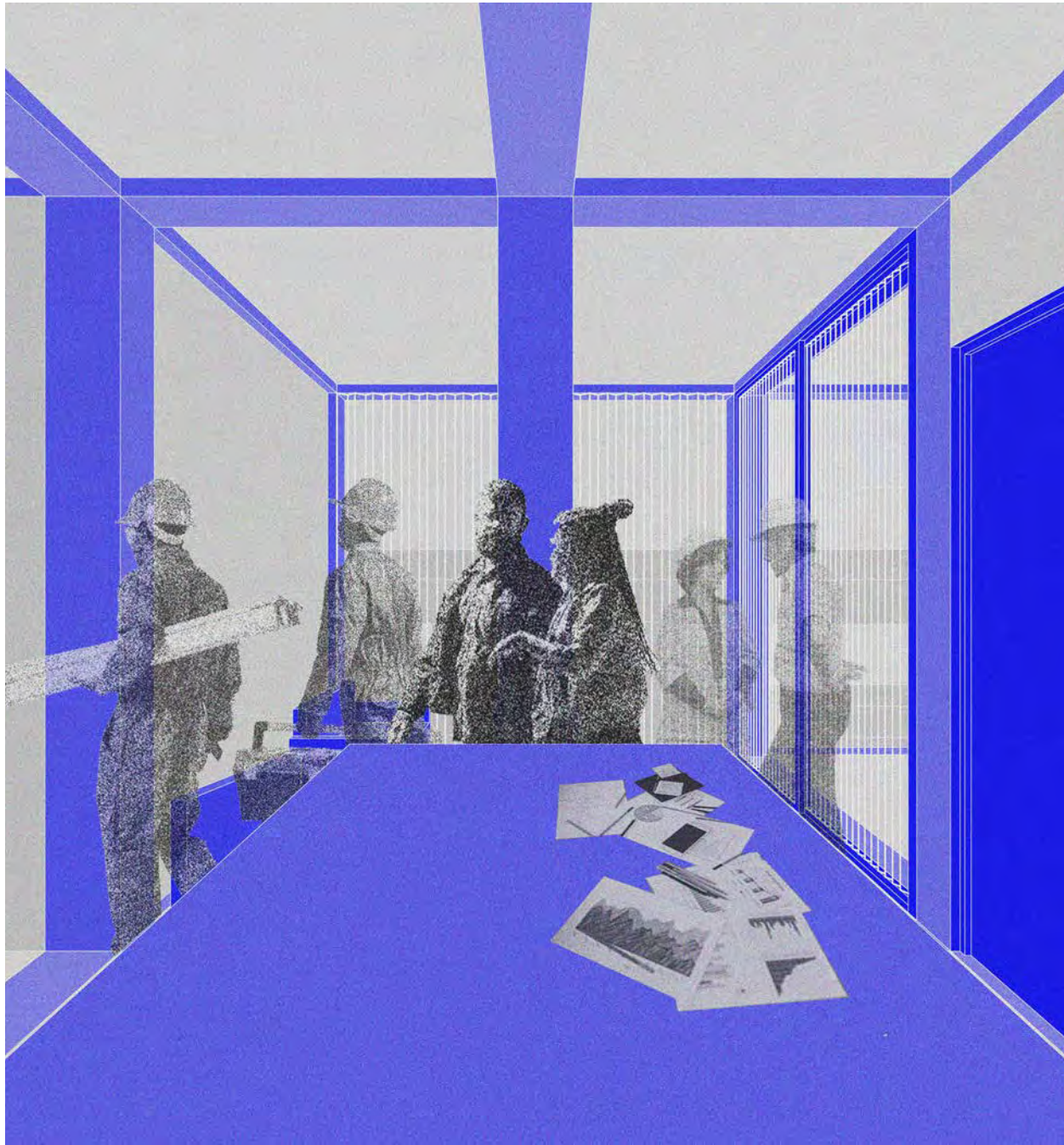
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Fig. 08: View 01
view from 2 bed unit to private courtyard



Fig. 09: View 02
view from co-working space to public courtyard

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Fig. 10: View 03
view from 1 bed unit to train platform

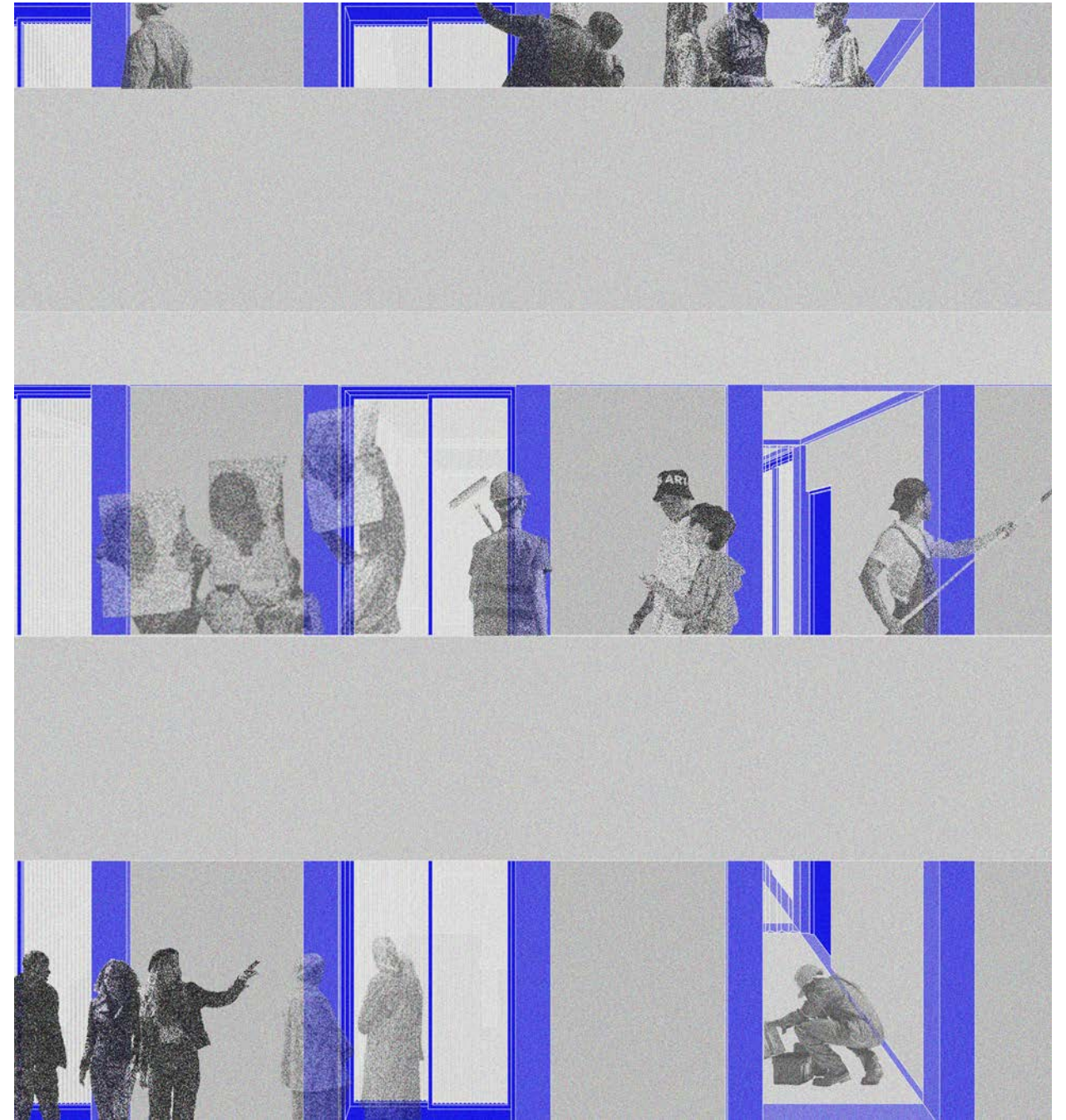
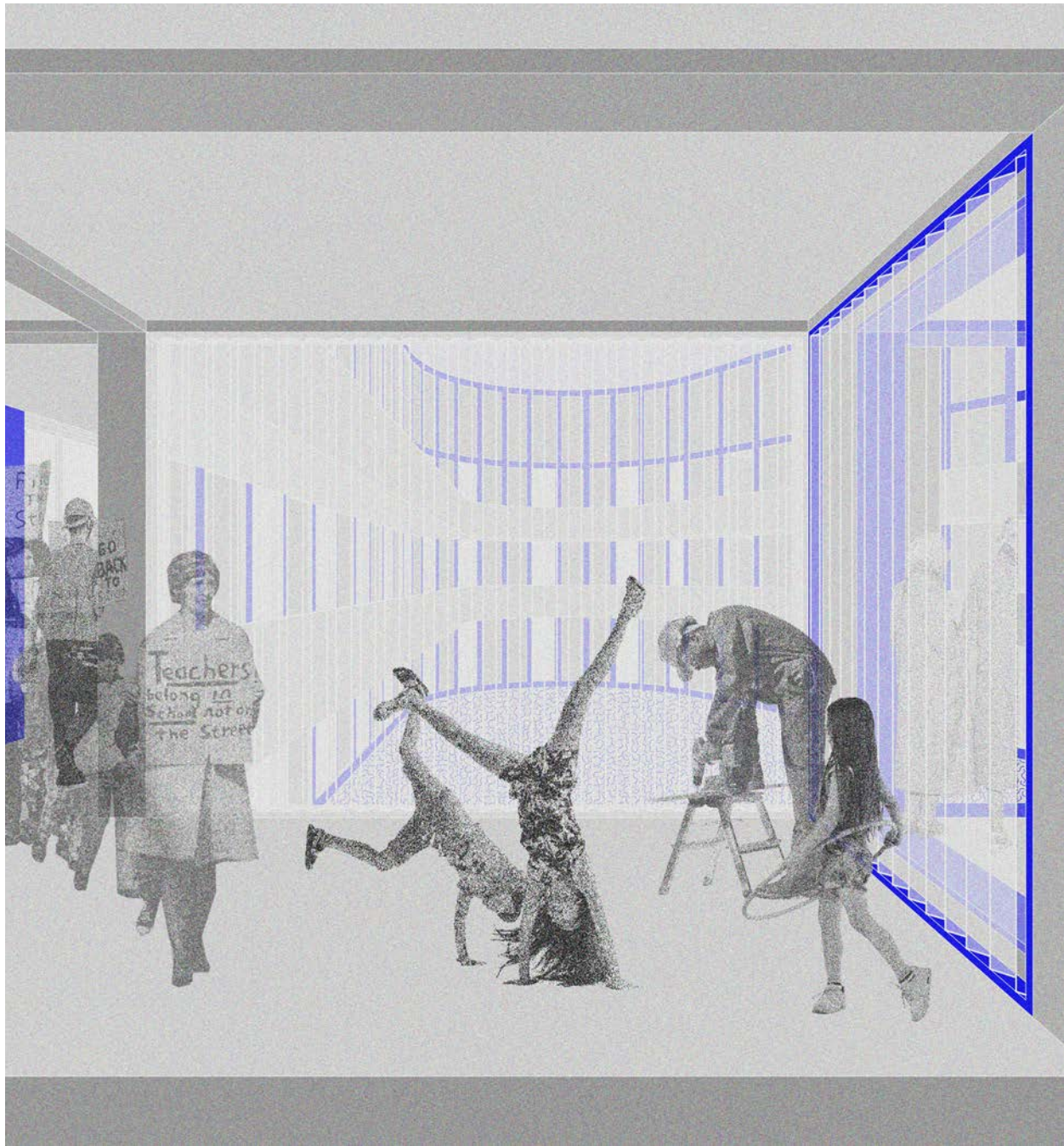


Fig. 11: View 04
interior elevation of private courtyard

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Fig. 12: View 05
child-care facilities

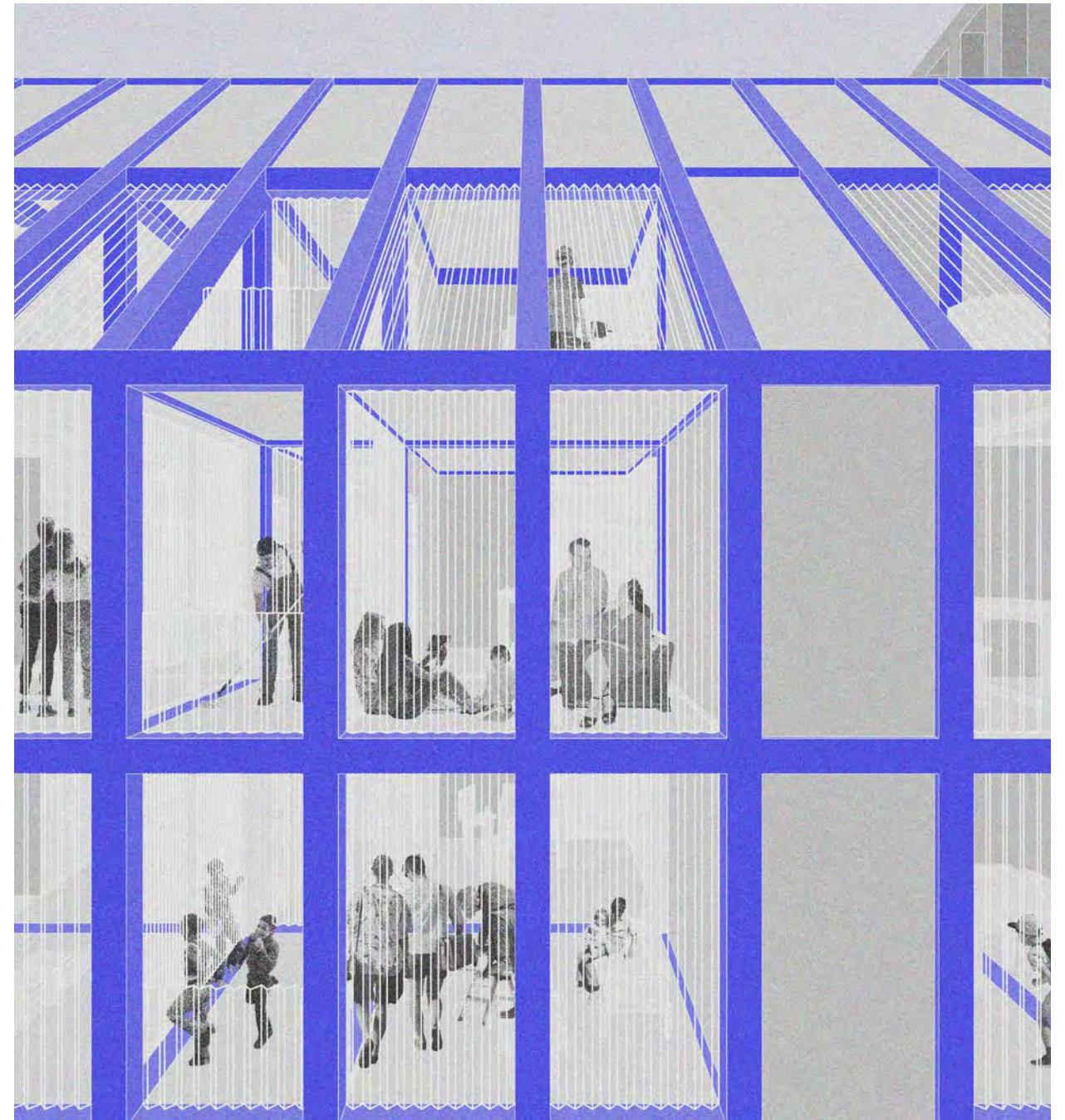


Fig. 13: View 06
exterior elevation of co-living units

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