



COMPETITIONS
KONKURSE

campus of justice | 2015 07
kampusi i drejtësisë | **ATELIER ALBANIA | AKPT**

INTERNATIONAL ARCHITECTURE DESIGN COMPETITION

Re-designing the New Headquarters of the
Supreme Court & the School of Magistrates
Tirana, Albania

No. 7

ORGANIZERS

Ministry of Urban Development
National Territorial Planning
Agency (AKPT)
Atelier Albania

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Ministry of Justice

PARTICIPANTS

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arhitekti + Atelier4

AVAtelier + Studio VALLE

Carlos Arroyo Architects + BAC
Engineering + LSN + Senat Haliti

Claudio Lucchin & Architetti
Associati Angelo Rinaldo Daniela
Varnier

Sadar+Vuga + PRG°B R architektur

ALN | Architekturbüro Leinhäupl
+Neuber GmbH + StudioArch4

Building Building + EGA + UHO
Architects

A&I Design + 3TI Progetti S.p.A. +
n!studio

SdARCH Trivelli & Associati +
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Atelier Albania, asked by the Minister of Urban Development, Minister of Justice and mandated by the Office of the Prime Minister, announced a competition for architecture design proposals, for the rehabilitation and the adaptation of an existing building site to become the new headquarters of the Supreme Court and the School of Magistrates.

RE-DESIGNING THE NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE
SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES
TIRANA, ALBANIA

International Architecture Design Competition
September – November 2015

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01 COMPETITION BRIEF

Manifesto

Albania, as a recent Candidate Country for EU membership, is making great efforts on its path towards the European Integration. It is a crucial moment for the judiciary system that is facing several challenges, not only in terms of integration, but primarily and above all due to the utmost urge to improve its public services, to protect the interests of citizens, to consolidate the fragile democracy and reinforce the rule of law in Albania. The development dynamics of the country during the last 25 years, the profound socio-economic transformations, the lengthy and complex process of the transition from a more than half a century long dictatorship to democracy, imposes the continuation of reforms in the field of justice, aiming to achieve the standards of western democracy. In this context, not only new premises are required, but it is also necessary to bring into focus the proximity of the highest juridical authorities with the academic environment.



the Court

The Supreme Court, which is the highest judicial power in the Republic of Albania, has its premises located in Tirana. In the realm of these rapid changes in the juridical system, the actual building no longer responds to the needs of the court to deliver high standard services, hence this program will be relocated in the competition site. In this context, the competition arises out of an utmost-urge as a response to the presented necessities of the Supreme Court for new spaces to host the institution, to improve the efficiency and the quality of the services in accordance with the European standards.

the School

This happens simultaneously with the need of the School of Magistrates-already being hosted from the existing building - which on the other hand, needs to be extended in the emerge of the ongoing growth in responsibilities regarding trainings of judges and prosecutors in charge. In the prevailing condition, the School of Magistrates shares its spaces with the Faculty building of Geology and Mines, part of the Polytechnic University, in Tirana. This last one will be replaced in a more appropriate academic environment. In the framework of the implementation of the "National Plan of European Integration" and its participation in the Intersectorial Strategy of the Judiciary System, the school has a number of prerequisites among which, the extension of its premise spaces is an essential demand for hosting its required activities.

the Heritage

The historical values this site inherits makes it an authentic competition site, claiming for a meticulous approach that respects its historical and cultural context. The building that will host the Supreme Court is of Italian rational planning architecture style of 1940s, with influences from organic architecture, enclosed in a facade that reflects vernacular motifs. Possessing the status of a culture monument of the 2nd category, the architectural vision and intervention in this building shall comply with the respective legislation. As such, this object is protected under the Law 9048, dt.07.04.2003 "On cultural heritage", as amended, Section 27, "Cultural Monuments of IInd Category are objects with distinguished values, mainly on their exterior appearance.

Beneficiaries

The competition for re-designing the New Headquarters of the Supreme Court and the School of Magistrates will search for best design solution for the accommodation of these two functions/ institutions by improving the current conditions of the existing site and optimizing the institutional operation. The two institutions – Supreme Court and the School of Magistrates – are direct beneficiaries of the initiative, while the citizens of Albania will benefit through the improved function of the juridical system.

Contracting Authority

National Territorial Planning Agency is the contracting authority in this process, on behalf of the Albanian Government.

Area of Competition

The site includes the existing buildings of the Faculty of Geology and the School of Magistrates and the area surrounding the complex as marked in the functional zoning map.

Objective

The outcome of the competition will be design solutions for the new headquarters of the Supreme Court and the School of Magistrates and its setting. Short-listed competitors are required to work to achieve, as follows:

- Study the area of the competition and its surroundings;
- Architecture design proposals for the New Headquarters of the Supreme Court and the School of Magistrates;
- Search for the mutual programs and activities of the Supreme Court and the School of Magistrates;
- Study the way extensions (if needed) in the existing building could be designed as harmoniously as possible, referring to the existing historical context;
- Search for ways of integrating the open space of the competition site with the existing park landscape, without disturbing the institutional privacy;
- Search for “green concepts” to be implemented in the renovation and adoption of the existing site;
- Preliminary estimation of the costs of the proposals;
- Proposal of an action plan.

Any solution should seek high creativity, respect the Albanian legislation in force regarding Monuments of Culture IInd Category, while being adjusted to the local context and set high design standards.

Scope of Competition / Competition Question

Competition will be built on these three tasks:

1. The site plan and landscape design proposal for the competition site pertaining to the open area/park- school- court- city interconnection.
2. An architecture design proposal for the New Headquarters of the Supreme Court.
3. An architecture design proposal for the School of Magistrates.

The detailed design brief that will guide competitors during the second stage of the competition to provide answers to the competition questions will be given only to short-listed competitors. To discuss the design brief and its requirements, a workshop will be organized in Tirana with all the involved stakeholders. The workshop date is given in the competition calendar.

Methodology

Atelier Albania is a unit of the National Territorial Planning Agency, mandated to identify alternative solutions and enrich architecture and planning by thinking beyond the typical planning framework. In this context, we stimulate and support the participation and collaboration of local and international professionals who will work in tandem with each other. We believe that this team-based collaboration will improve the way projects and research is informed with all the appropriate local knowledge as well as an international level of design expertise. Moreover, it is of high importance to look at competitions as co-creative processes, where designers and local actors are involved in an interactive selection process.

Expected Results

PHASE 1: at this stage of short - listing, the candidates present themselves to illustrate their capabilities, methodology and visions to the subject of the competition. Each submission will be reviewed carefully by members of the jury and the teams will be selected based on qualification

criteria and evaluation referred to Phase 1. The jury will short - list the teams that comply with the qualification criteria. These teams will be called to work for a second phase, for a concept in the fulfilment of the competition objective and questions. Second phase or stage will be based on elaborated information and brief that the short-listed competitors will receive from the organizers.

PHASE 2: at the stage of "Design proposals", each group of applicants will be carefully reviewed by members of the jury and, based on the criteria of the evaluation of Phase 2, a winning team will be selected.

Teams of local and foreign professionals

Every international team is encouraged by the organizers to partner with a local team and each local team is encouraged to partner with an international counterpart. The client believes that such cooperation can increase the impact of the proposal and improve implementation. In applying for the first phase it is not a pre-selection criterion to have a local or international partner; having a partnership at this stage however is positive and can help to create a more coherent and contextualized vision which of course might boost the teams' chances of selection.

Suitability

The competition is open to all professional architects or landscape architects, who are able to meet the following requirements.

1. Be registered or recognized by an official accreditation body in the country of origin of the applicant; or
2. Where recognition or registration law does not apply, the applicant is a member of a professional institution, the country of origin.

Each team of Phase 1 should be composed of at least, an architect, landscape architect, construction engineer, cultural heritage expert and an estimator. All team members must be identified in the Declaration of Team Composition.

Functional Zoning & General data

The site includes the existing buildings of the Faculty of Geology and Mines and the School of Magistrates located at the Southern area of Tirana.

Existing Buildings Area: 7 952 m²

Required surface from the program: 9 132 m²

New area to be built: 1 180 m²

Evaluation Criteria

The jury will evaluate the applications of Phase 2 based on the following criteria:

- Creativity
- Suitability of the design proposal to the required functions
- High implementation factor
- Links and impact of the proposal to the context
- The cost-impact ratio (low cost, high impact)

Final Product

The competition will end with the selection of a well-equipped team, who will be able to engage in the post-competition process. The winning team will be engaged in the next phase, which consists in the preparation of tender documents for the implementation of the New Headquarters of the Supreme Court and the School of Magistrates. The post-competition process will be determined through a negotiation process between the winning team and the client.

Post - Competition Process

To coordinate better the work between the winning team and the client of the project, organizers anticipate the first meeting between the team, the client and local stakeholders during the process of elaborating the design proposal. The underlying reason is to bring together the design team and all the stakeholders and to share among them ideas, proposals and suggestions at the curatorial stewardship of the members of the Jury and other specialized institutions. This meeting will be conducted in Tirana.

Competition Awards

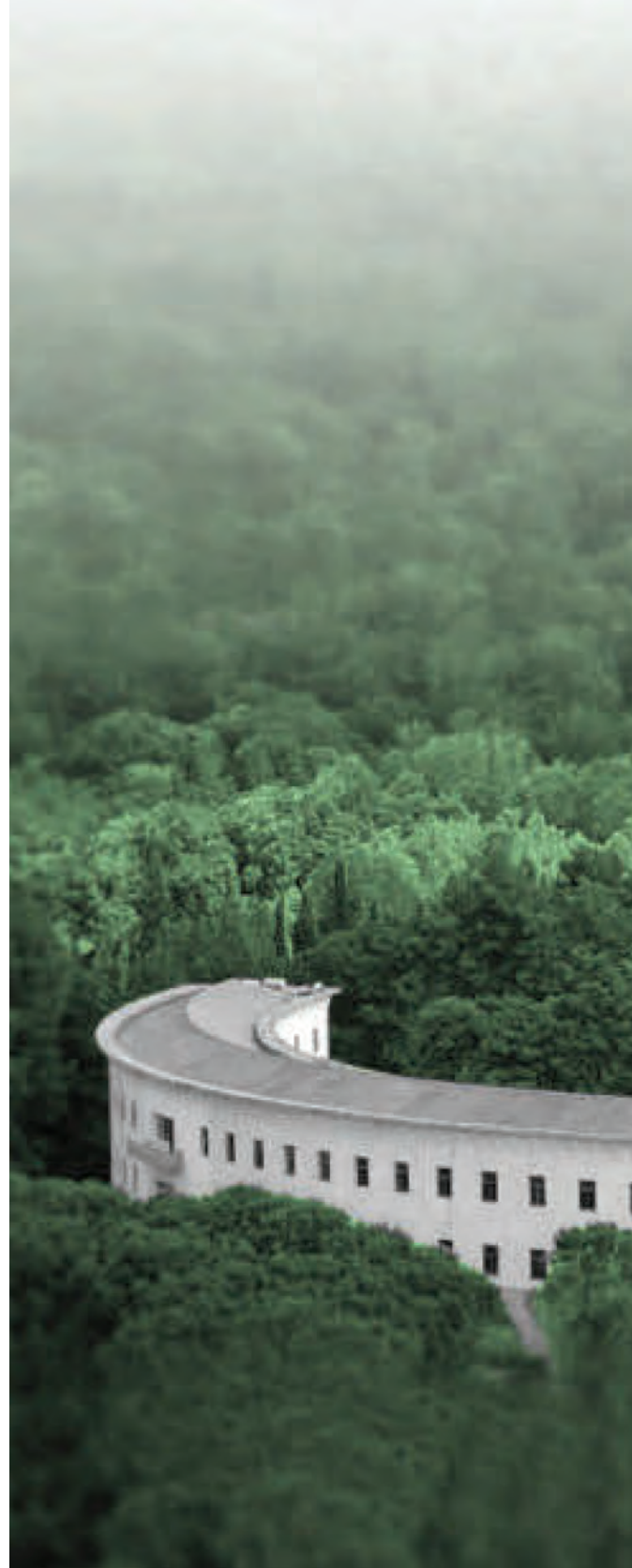
The winning team will begin contract negotiations with the Client for an agreement to prepare the tender documents for the implementation of the New Headquarters of the Supreme Court and the School of Magistrates.



TERMAT E REFERENCËS

Manifesto

Shqipëria, si një vend kandidat për anëtarësimin në BE, është duke bërë përpjekje të mëdha në rrugën e saj drejt integritimit evropian. Ky është një moment i rëndësishëm për sistemin gjyqësor që është duke u përballur një sërë sfidash, jo vetëm në aspektin e integritimit, por në radhë të parë dhe mbi të gjitha për shkak të kërkesave të mëdha për të përmirësuar shërbimet e veta publike, për të mbrojtur interesat e qytetarëve, për të konsoliduar demokracinë e brishtë dhe përforcuar fuqinë e ligjit në Shqipëri. Dinamika e zhvillimit të vendit gjatë 25 viteve të fundit, transformimet e thella social-ekonomike, procesi i gjatë dhe kompleks i tranzicionit nga më shumë se gjysmë shekulli diktaturë në një sistem demokratik, imponon vazhdimin e reformave në fushën e drejtësisë, duke synuar arritjen e standardeve të një demokracie perëndimore. Në këtë kontekst, jo vetëm që nevojiten hapësira të reja, por vlen për t'u sjellë në fokus edhe afërsia e autoriteteve më të larta juridike me mjedisin akademik.





gjykata

Gjykata e Lartë, që është organi më i lartë gjyqësor në Republikën e Shqipërisë, ka selinë e saj në Tiranë. Në fushën e këtyre ndryshimeve të shpejta në sistemin juridik, ndërtesa aktuale nuk i përgjigjet nevojave të gjykatës për të ofruar shërbime me standarde të larta, prandaj ky program do të pozicionohet në territorin e konkursit. Në këtë kontekst, konkursi lindi si një domosdoshmëri e si përgjigje ndaj nevojave të paraqitura nga Gjykata së Lartë për hapësira të reja për të akomoduar institucionin, për të përmirësuar efikasitetin dhe cilësinë e shërbimeve në përputhje me standartet evropiane.

shkolla

Kjo ndodh paralelisht me nevojën e Shkollës së Magjistraturës – që aktualisht gjendet në një nga ndërtesat ekzistuese- e cila duhet të zgjerohet në kushtet e rritjes së vazhdueshme të përgjegjësi, lidhur me trajnimin e gjyqtarëve dhe prokurorëve të rinj. Aktualisht, Shkolla e Magjistraturës ndan hapësirat e saj me godinën e Fakultetit të Gjeologjisë dhe Minierave, pjesë e Universitetit Politeknik, në Tiranë. Kjo e fundit është parashikuar të zhvendoset në një mjedis më të përshtatshëm akademik. Në kuadër të realizimit të "Planit Kombëtar të Integritimit Evropian" dhe pjesëmarrjes së saj në Strategjinë Ndërsektoriale të Sistemit Gjyqësor, shkolla ka një sërë kërkesash, ndër të cilat, zgjerimi i hapësirave të saj është një nga më të domosdoshmet për të zhvilluar aktivitetet e saj.

trashëgimia

Vlerat historike që trashëgon kjo vendodhje e bëjnë atë një terren mjaft autentik, që kërkon një qasje tepër të përpiktë, duke respektuar kontekstin e tij historik dhe kulturor. Ndërtesa ku do të vendoset Gjykata e Lartë i përket stilit të arkitekturës italiane, të projektimit racional të viteve 1940, me ndikime nga arkitektura organike e me një fasadë që reflekton motive tradicionale shqiptare. Duke gëzuar statusin e Monumentit të Kulturës së kategorisë së II-të, vizioni arkitektonik dhe ndërhyrja në këtë ndërtesë duhet të jenë në përputhje me legjislacionin përkatës. Si i tillë ky objekt mbrohet, bazuar në Ligjin nr.9048, dt.07.04.2003, "Për trashëgiminë kulturore", i ndryshuar, neni 27,"Monumente kulture të kategorisë II janë ndërtimet me vlera të spikatura, kryesisht në pamjen e tyre të jashtme.

Përfituesit

Konkursi për ri-projektimin e Selisë së Re të Gjykatës së Lartë dhe Shkollës së Magjistraturës do të kërkojë zgjidhjen për projektimin më të mirë për akomodimin e këtyre dy funksioneve/ institucioneve duke përmirësuar kushtet aktuale të vendodhjes ekzistuese dhe duke mundësuar mirë-funksionimin institucional. Të dyja institucionet – Gjykata e Lartë dhe Shkolla e Magjistraturës – janë përfituesit e drejtpërdrejtë të kesaj iniciative, ndërkohë që shtetasit shqiptarë do të përfitojnë nëpërmjet funksionimit më të mirë të sistemit gjyqësor.

Autoriteti Kontraktues

Agjencia Kombëtare e Planifikimit të Territorit është autoriteti kontraktor në këtë proces, në emër të Qeverisë Shqiptare.

Zona e Konkursit

Vendndodhja përfshin godinat ekzistuese të Fakultetit të Gjeologjisë dhe Shkollës së Magjistraturës dhe zonën që rrethon kompleksin ashtu siç është shënuar në hartën e zonimit funksional.

Objektivi

Rezultati i konkursit do të jenë zgjidhjet e projektimit për selinë e re të Gjykatës së Lartë dhe Shkollës së Magjistraturës dhe ambientit përreth tyre. Konkurentëve të përzgjedhur u kërkohet të punojnë për të arritur, si më poshtë:

- Të studiojnë zonën e konkursit dhe rrethinat e tij;
- Projekt-ide arkitektonike për Selinë e Re të Gjykatës së Lartë dhe Shkollës së Magjistraturës;
- Kërkimin e programeve dhe aktiviteteve të përbashkëta të Gjykatës së Lartë dhe Shkollës së Magjistraturës;
- Të studiojnë zgjerimet e hapësirave (nëse është e nevojshme) në godinën ekzistuese në mënyrë që projektimi të mund të realizohet në mënyrë sa më të harmonizuar që të jetë e mundur, duke ju referuar kontekstit historik ekzistues;
- Të kërkojnë mënyra për integrimin e hapësirave të hapura të vendodhjes së konkursit mepeizazhin ekzistues të parkut, pa cënuar privatësinë institucionale;
- Të kërkojnë që konceptet “green” të zbatohen në rinovimin dhe adaptimin e terrenit ekzistues;
- Vlerësim paraprak të kostove të propozimeve;
- Propozim për një plan zbatimi

Cdo zgjidhje duhet të kërkojë krijimtari të lartë, ndërkohë që do të përshtatet me kontekstin vendas, të respektojë legjislacionin shqiptar në fuqi të monumenteve të kulturë kat.II-të, dhe të vendosë standarde të larta projektimi.

Qëllimi i Konkursit / Pyetja e Konkursit

Konkursi do të ngrihet mbi këto tre detyra:

1. Plani i sistemit të terrenit dhe projekt propozimi për peizazhin për territorin e konkursit që l' takon hapësirave të hapura/ parkut – shkollës – gjykatës – ndër-lidhjes me qytetin.
2. Një projekt-propozim arkitektonik për Selinë e Re të Gjykatës së Lartë.
3. Një projekt-propozim arkitektonik për Shkollën e Magjistraturës.

Përmbledhja e detajuar e projektit, e cila do t'i udhëheqë konkurentët gjatë fazes së dytë të konkursit, mbi bazën e të cilës do të jepen përgjigjet për pyetjet e konkursit, do t'u jepet vetëm konkurentëve të përzgjedhur në listë të shkurtër. Për të diskutuar përmbledhjen e projektit dhe kriteret e tij, një workshop do të organizohet në Tiranë me të gjitha grupet e interesit që përfshihen. Data e workshop –it jepet në kalendarin e konkursit.

Metodologjia

Atelier Albania është një njësi e Agjencisë Kombëtare të Planifikimit të Territorit, e mandatuar për identifikimin e zgjidhjeve alternative dhe pasurimin e arkitekturës e planifikimit nëpërmjet të menduarit përtej kornizave tipike të planifikimit. Në këtë kontekst ne stimulojmë dhe mbështesim pjesëmarrjen dhe bashkëpunimin midis profesionistëve vendas dhe ndërkombëtarë, të cilët do të punojnë duke u bashkërenduar me njëri-tjetrin. Ne besojmë se ky bashkëpunim me bazë ekipi do të përmirësojë mënyrën sesi projektet dhe kërkimi pasurohen me të gjitha njohuritë e duhura vendase dhe nivelin ndërkombëtar të ekspertizës së projektimit. Gjithashtu, është me rëndësi të madhe që t'i shikojmë konkurset si procese bashkë-krijuese, ku projektuesit dhe aktorët vendas janë të përfshirë në një proces interaktiv përzgjedhjeje.

Rezultatet e pritshme

FAZA 1: në këtë fazë të përzgjedhjes në listë të shkurtër, kandidatët prezantohen duke ilustruar kapacitetet e tyre, metodologjinë dhe vizionet

ndaj subjektit të konkursit. Çdo material i dorëzuar do të shqyrtohet me kujdes nga anëtarët e jurisë dhe ekipet do të përzgjidhen bazuar në kriteret e kualifikimit dhe të vlerësimit të përmendura në Fazën 1. Juria do të përzgjedhë në një listë të shkurtër ekipet që plotësojnë kriteret e kualifikimit. Këto ekipe do të thirren që të punojnë për një fazë të dytë, për një koncept në përmbushje të objektivit dhe çështjeve të konkursit. Faza ose stadi i dytë do të bazohen në përmbledhjen dhe informacionet e përpunuara që konkurentët e përzgjedhur në listë të shkurtër do të marrin nga organizatorët.

FAZA 2: në fazën e "projekt-ideve", çdo grup aplikantësh do të shqyrtohet me kujdes nga anëtarët e jurisë dhe, bazuar në kriteret e vlerësimit të Fazës 2, do të përzgjidhet një ekip fitues.

Ekipet me profesionistë vendas dhe të huaj

Çdo ekip ndërkombëtar inkurajohet nga organizatorët që të krijojë partneritet me një ekip vendas dhe çdo ekip vendas inkurajohet që të krijojë partneritet me një homolog ndërkombëtar. Klienti beson se ky bashkëpunim mund të rrisë impaktin e propozimit dhe të përmirësojë cilësinë e zbatimit. Gjatë aplikimit për fazën e pare nuk është kriter përzgjedhës që ekipet të kenë një partner vendas apo ndërkombëtar.

Përshtatshmëria

Konkursi është i hapur për të gjithë arkitektët profesionistë, të cilët mund të plotësojnë kriteret që vijojnë.

1. Të jenë të regjistruar ose të njohur nga një organ zyrtar akreditimi në vendin e origjinës së aplikantit; ose
2. Atje ku njohja apo regjistrimi nuk aplikohen me ligj, aplikanti të jetë anëtar i një institucioniprofesional, në vendin e origjinës.

Secili ekip i Fazës 1 duhet të ketë në përbërje, të paktën: një arkitekt, arkitekt peizazhi, inxhinier ndërtimi, ekspert të trashëgimisë kulturore dhe një preventivues. Të gjithë anëtarët e ekipit duhet të identifikohen në Deklaratën e Përbërjes së Ekipit.

Zonimi funksional

Terreni i konkursit përfshin objektin ekzistues të Fakultetit të Inxhinierisë së Gjeologji - Minierave dhe Shkollës së Magjistraturës, që gjendet në zonën jugore të qytetit të Tiranës.

Sipërfaqje Ekzistuese e objekteve: 7 952 m²

Sipërfaqje e kërkuar nga Programi: 9 132 m²

Sipërfaqje e re ndërtimi: 1 180 m²

Kriteret e Vlerësimit

Juria do të vlerësojë aplikimet e Fazës 2 bazuar në kriteret e mëposhtme:

- Krijimtaria
- Përshtatshmëria e projektit të propozuar me funksionet e kërkuara
- Faktori i lartë i zbatueshmërisë
- Lidhje dhe impakti i propozimit me kontekstin
- Raporti kosto-impakt (kosto e ulët, impakt i madh)

Produkti Final

Konkursi do të përfundojë me përzgjedhjen e një ekipi mjaft të mirë, i cili do të mund të angazhohet në procesin post-konkurs. Ekipi fitues do të angazhohet në fazën vijuese, e cila konsiston në përgatitjen e dokumentave të tenderit për realizimin e Selisë së Re të Gjykatës së Lartë dhe Shkollës së Magjistraturës. Procesi post-konkurs do të përcaktohet nëpërmjet një procesi negociimi ndërmjet ekipit fitues dhe klientit.

Procesi Post-Konkurs

Për të koordinuar më mirë punën ndërmjet ekipit fitues dhe klientit të projektit, organizatorët parashikojnë zhvillimin e takimit të pare midis ekipit, klientit dhe grupeve lokale të interesit gjatë procesit të përpunimit të projektit të propozuar. Arsyeja themelore është afrimi i ekipit të projektit dhe të gjitha grupeve të interesit dhe shpërndarja e ideve, propozimeve dhe sugjerimeve mes tyre nën kujdesin e anëtarëve të Jurisë dhe institucioneve të tjera të specializuara. Ky takim do të zhvillohet në Tiranë.

Çmimet e Konkursit

Ekipi fitues do të fillojë negociimet e kontratës me Klientin për një marrëveshje në mënyrë që të përgatisë dokumentet e tenderit për realizimin e Selisë së re të Gjykatës së Lartë dhe Shkollës së Magjistraturës.



JURY MEMBERS

ELISABETTA TERRAGNI
ARTA DOLLANI
JACOB VOORTHUIS
ELSIE OWUSU
RUDIN BAQLI
ELA QOKAJ
PAOLO VIMERCATI



ELISABETTA TERRAGNI

Elisabetta Terragni is a tenured Professor at City College of New York. She is a licensed architect practicing between Italy, Switzerland, Albania and the United States. Her work extends from the analysis of hand-motion to the transformation of abandoned industrial and military infrastructures.

Terragni's work raises issues of spatial and temporal discontinuities in the design of exhibitions, the conversion of abandoned sites and disused infrastructures for new public purposes. Leftovers, abandoned places, and structures that have fallen in disuse will continue to be the sites of architectural interventions, challenging imagination and sensibility, so as to avoid heavy-handed results. In a number of places, such as abandoned highway tunnels and demilitarized zones, Terragni has installed museum venues and rededicated remaining buildings by treading lightly on the ground. She has frequent consultation with private individuals and institutions regarding projects of renovation and re-adaptation like the consultancy for Trento Province in view of the development in the area around the tunnels project, 2010 to present. Since the extensive renovation project of Giuseppe Terragni's 1937 Asilo Sant'Elia, Como, entailing an integral structural renovation and overhaul of mechanical equipment, she is frequently invited to analyze economical and technical problems of landmark buildings from 1920 to 1950.



ARTA DOLLANI

After graduating in Architecture and Urban Planning at the Polytechnic University of Krakow in Poland, she worked for a long period of time in the Municipality of Tirana as urban planner, developing parallelly and hereinafter the academic experience in teaching at the Faculty of Architecture. Co-designer of a considerable number of urban studies, urban requalification projects of public spaces, she also owns qualitative experience in design and implementation. Currently directs the Institute of Cultural Monuments, it is co-author of numerous projects on the restoration of monuments, and revitalization of historical and museum centers. The initiator of several partnerships with the Faculty of Architecture, Faculty of History and Philology and non-governmental organizations participating in the IPA projects in the region. The Institute she leads is the focal point of UNESCO for the declared World Heritage properties in the territory of Albania and maintains regular contacts with European institutions on exchanging parallel and successful experiences. Participant and contributor in a series of international conferences and exhibitions on preservation, revitalization and management of cultural assets. Jury member in several international architectural competitions.



JACOB VOORTHUIS

Jacob Voorthuis (1960) teaches philosophy of the built environment at the TU Eindhoven. With a special interest in the relationship between spatial practice and design, his research is concerned with the possibility of judging designs and design decisions from the perspective of a developing ontology of use, the attempt to remodel our conception of use and the useful in design thinking. Jacob graduated in 1988 in Art History at the University of Leiden in The Netherlands, specializing in Art Theory and Aesthetics. In 1996 he defended his doctorate which attempted to confront the subject of architectural design and its role in society with philosophical analysis.



ELSIE OWUSU

Chartered Architect. Principal, Elsie Owusu Architects (EOA), director of ArchQuestra, UK company which promotes best of British architecture, arts and creativity in emerging economies. Honoured by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II: for services to architecture.

UK Supreme Court: Project Architect: for arts and interiors 2006 -2009.

Green Park Station: Lead master planner for award-winning transport project 2007-2011.

Rapid Transit Systems & urban strategies: Ghana and Nigeria architecture and infrastructure as catalysts for economic and social development.

Trustee and Board memberships: Architectural Association, RIBA National Council; Vice-chair of London School of Architecture; member, Worshipful Company of Chartered Architects

NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES



RUDIN BAQLI

Rudin Baqli was born in Shkodra in 1970. He graduated in Law in 2000, and conducted a Master, thereafter and has been practicing since 2002. He started his career, as a lawyer, in the Directorate General of INSIG, until 2006.

From 2006 to 2008, Rudin Baqli has held the office of the chief of sector of legal services, the Directorate of Legal Services at the Ministry of Education, to continue later with as the Director of Legal Services, at the same institution, until 2009. In 2009-2010, he held the office of the Director at the Directorate of Procedural, Legal and Relations with Foreign Countries, the Office of the Commissioner for Protection from Discrimination.

For the period 2010-2013, Rudin was appointed as Chancellor at the Tirana District Court. He has participated in many trainings, organized locally and abroad. Currently he performs the functions as Chancellor of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Albania and has varied experiences in public administration and judicial.



ELA QOKAJ

Ela Qokaj (1975) has completed her higher studies in the University of Tirana, Faculty of Law. She has a masters degree in administrative law and she is an advocate.

Her professional career starts as an advocate and legal consultant in different national and international projects, and later she becomes part of the public administration, as a lawyer. In 2006 she is appointed by the Steering Council of the School of Magistrates as Chancellor of this school. She is responsible for the financial and administrative activity of the School and she has participated in several projects on the academic and administrative activity on the training of judges and prosecutors.

Her experience of several years as part of the leading structures of this School brings Mrs. Qokaj as a representative of the Magistrates' School, in the role of the member of this prestigious jury, to select together the best architectural project to meet the school institutional needs in service of the improvement of quality of the Albanian Magistrates' School activity.



PAOLO VIMERCATI

Paolo joined the Grimshaw London office in 2006 after completing a Master of Advance Studies in Sustainable Urban Planning at the Accademia di Mendrisio in Switzerland and he is now an experienced member of the senior team. He has worked extensively in the infrastructure, commercial and education sectors, gaining skills on a range of projects.

Paolo has been involved in a number of highly complex city and infrastructure master plan projects at Grimshaw, including the Birmingham Market City Centre Master Plan, the New Covent Garden Market regeneration project, the Tirana Master Plan and the Venice Marghera Master Plan. The New Covent Garden Market project, which provides a fruit, vegetable and flower market within a 57-acre site, seeks to condense the market activities to free up as much surplus land as possible for commercial development. This involved multiple consultations with various stakeholders and statutory bodies. In addition to a review with the client body, Grimshaw carried out detailed consultation with the Greater London Authority, Wandsworth planning department, adjoining owners and developers, market traders, local pressure groups and various other interested parties. Paolo has provided sound urban design input on national and international city centre projects concerning context, conservation, movement and the built form. His research has

been recently selected and showcased at the NLA New Ideas for Housing London exhibition. Paolo's is involved in academic research holding a lecturer position at the University of East London and at the new London School of Architecture where he leads a City Design Think Tank. He also regularly speaks at public events in the UK and internationally recently being invited to Milan (Ordine degli Architetti), Tirana (Atelier Albania), Paris (Atelier International du Grand Paris) and London (New London Architecture) to contribute to the discourse about urban development.

EVALUATION AND JURY DECISION

SADAR+VUGA + PRG°B R ARCHITEKTUR - WINNING TEAM

This proposal was innovative and a very creative solution to the complex issues that the chair has described, have been raised by the proposed issues, historical and social within their context. The layout was clear and straightforward, with a compact relationship between the new buildings and the park. The courtrooms have a clear interface with the context which is a very strong message. The message was delivered very well by the proposal. The auxiliary and circulation spaces to the pods allow a clear division between the public and the private, and this clarity is transferred to the interface between the existing and the new buildings. The new independent block to the north-west of the site is adjacent to the historical building and uses the same elegant, simple and clear language as the pavilions of the pods, with a human demarcation between public and private. We found this to be a beautiful, simple and elegant solution, though not perfect in every degree, but very satisfying. The images were very inspiring and engaging. A worthy statement of the modern Albanian justice system on the world stage.

A&I DESIGN + 3TI PROGETTI S.P.A. + N!STUDIO

The studio was also a very good proposal. It was quite well thought of and well designed. It represented of course many difficulties as it comes to the brief and to the requirements, in order to preserve a bridge between the old and the new, which means that we have already got a building which is a monument, which needs to live side by side with the new proposition. On the other hand was quite important the restoration effort included, and in such a treatment it is very innovative.

NFA ARCHITECTS + BEVK PEROVIĆ ARHITEKTI + ATELIER4

The proposal created an interesting unitary complex of the two buildings, integrating them in an interesting spatial proposition. The simple aesthetics complements and enriches the environment, and presents an interesting dilemma of the importance between the two buildings. An integration of the underground building section enables to create a fluid transition with the park, and enable the creation of dramatic, maybe over-dramatic spaces for the waiting areas. It also enriches the idea of transparency of the process, of the movement diagrams which was very appreciated from the judges. The amount of excavations and the complexity of the refined building solution pose a point of discussion but it looked very interesting and there was a lot of debate about how to bring it to creation.

AVATELIER + STUDIO VALLE

There is a very serious and deep analysis of the building. We could learn a lot about what was built and what it was supposed to be. We think that the choice to work in an incredible respect of the park as the main issue created a little bit complicated form of circulation. At the same time, the approach between the old and the new, is quite innovative in a way to a building that has never been completed to create a unity that is through buildings of different generations. We also think that the idea to take the counter of the ground at a certain value, to the extent that the circulation between the city and the park is working well. We think that the deep knowledge of the history of the building it didn't relate strongly to the result of the façade, that is in a way hiding a little bit beyond the building. In terms of the originality and the challenge it is one of the most innovative projects presented.

SDARCH TRIVELLI & ASSOCIATI + X-PLAN STUDIO

The proposal was clearly presented and stressed a clear separation between the new and the old, which was particularly appreciated by the representatives of the institutions. The decision to demolish the real building and change it a much larger footprint building, at the same time proposes a kind of program similar to the previous project. It proposes uses a simple urban civic space language to re-conciliate the historical element of the project and the new proposal. The circulation in the proposal and the definition between public and private space are well thought, yet there was not such an interesting design between the courtroom spaces themselves. In the proposal was particularly appreciated the attempt to use, understand the language of the existing building and re-propose it into a modern interpretation and an interesting connection to the design solution of the façade of the new building.

VLERËSIMI DHE VENDIMI I JURISË

SADAR+VUGA + PRG^oB R ARCHITEKTUR – SKUADRA FITUESE

Ky propozim ishte inovativ dhe një zgjidhje shumë kreative për çështjet komplekse që kryetari i ka të përshkruara, që janë ngritur nga çështjet e propozuara, historike dhe shoqërore brenda kontekstit të tyre. Planimetria ishte e qartë dhe e drejtpërdrejtë, me një marrëdhënie kompakte në mes të ndërtesave të reja dhe parkut. Sallat kanë një ndërfaqe të qartë me kontekstin i cili është një mesazh shumë i fortë. Mesazhi u dha shumë mirë nga propozimi. Hapësirat ndihmëse dhe të qarkullimit të njësive lejojnë një ndarje të qartë ndërmjet hapësirave publike dhe private, dhe kjo qartësi është transferuar në ndërfaqen midis ndërtesave të reja dhe atyre ekzistuese. Blloku i ri i pavarur në veri-perëndim të vendit është ngjitur me ndërtesën historike dhe ka të njëjtën gjuhë elegante, të thjeshtë dhe të qartë, me mbulesat, me një kufi në mes sipërfaqeve publike dhe private. Kjo dukej një zgjidhje e bukur, e thjeshtë dhe elegante, edhe pse jo e përsosur në çdo shkallë, por shumë e kënaqshme. Imazhet ishin shumë frymëzuese dhe tërheqëse. Një deklaratë të denjë për sistemin modern të drejtësisë shqiptare në skenën botërore.

A&I DESIGN + 3TI PROGETTI S.P.A. + N!STUDIO

Studio kishte gjithashtu një propozim shumë të mirë. Ajo e kishte menduar dhe projektuar mjaft mirë. Ajo hasi natyrisht shumë vështirësi për sa i përket konkretizimit dhe kërkesave, në mënyrë që të ruhej një lidhje mes të vjetrës dhe të resë, që do të thotë se ne kemi marrë tashmë një ndërtesë e cila është një monument, e cila ka nevojë për të jetuar krah për krah me propozimin e ri. Nga ana tjetër ishte mjaft e rëndësishme përpjekja e restaurimit, dhe në këto rrethana është ide kreative.

NFA ARCHITECTS + BEVK PEROVIĆ ARHITEKTI + ATELIER4

Propozimi krijoi një kompleks interesant unik të të dy ndërtesave, duke i integruar ato në një propozim interesant hapësinor. Estetika e thjeshtë plotëson dhe pasuron mjedisin, dhe paraqet një dilemë interesante të rëndësishme në mes të dy ndërtesave. Integrimi i sektorit të ndërtesës nëntokësore mundëson krijimin e një tranzicioni fluid me park, dhe për të mundësuar krijimin e hapësirave dramatike, ndoshta tejet të dukshme për zonat e pritjes. Ajo gjithashtu pasuron idenë e transparencës së procesit, nga diagramet e lëvizjes e cila u vlerësuashumënga gjyqtarët. Sasia e gërmimeve dhe kompleksiteti i zgjidhjes së ndërtimit të rafinuar përbëjnë një pikë të diskutimit, por ajo dukej shumë interesante dhe ka pasur shumë debate rreth asaj se si për të sjellë atë në krijim.

AVATELIER + STUDIO VALLE

Është bërë një analizë shumë serioze dhe e thellë e ndërtesës. Ne mund të mësojmë shumë rreth asaj që është ndërtuar dhe asaj që mendohej të ishte. Ne mendojmë se çështja kryesore, si zgjedhja për të punuar duke respektuar parkun, shkaktoi debate. Në të njëjtën kohë, qasja mes të vjetrës dhe të resë, është mjaft inovative në atë mënyrë që për një ndërtesë që nuk është përfunduar të krijohet një unitet që është me anë të ndërtesave të brezave të ndryshëm. Ne gjithashtu mendojmë se ideja për të marrë shtresën e tokës në një vlerë të caktuar, në atë masë që qarkullimi në mes të qytetit dhe parkut të funksionojë mirë. Ne mendojmë se njohja e thellë e historisë së ndërtesës që nuk ka të bëjë domosdoshmërisht me rezultatin e fasadës, e cila zbeh pak ndërtesën. Për sa i përket origjinalitetit dhe sfidës, ky është ndër projektet më inovative.

SDARCH TRIVELLI & ASSOCIATI + X-PLAN STUDIO

Propozimi u paraqit qartë dhe thekson një ndarje të dukshme ndërmjet të resë dhe të vjetrës, e cila u vlerësua sidomos nga përfaqësuesit e institucioneve. Vendimi për prishjen e ndërtesës ekzistuese dhe për shndërrimin e saj në një ndërtesë shumë më të madhe, njëkohësisht propozon një lloj programi të ngjashëm me projektin e mëparshëm. Ai propozon përdorimin e një gjuhë më të thjeshtë urbane për të ri-bërë për vete elementin historik të projektit dhe propozimin e ri. Qarkullimi është zgjidhur mjaft mirë, si dhe përcaktimi mes hapësirës publike dhe private, por nuk ishte menduar ndonjë projektim interesant në lidhje me vetë hapësirat gjyqësore. Si risi u vlerësua veçanërisht përpjekja për të përdorur, kuptuar gjuhën e ndërtesës ekzistuese dhe ri-propozimi i saj në një interpretim modern dhe interesant, që lidhet me zgjidhjen e projektimit të fasadës të ndërtesës së re.

02 NFA ARCHITECTS - BEVK PEROVIĆ ARHITEKTI - ATELIER4

TEAM COMPOSITION:

NFA architects

Nicolas Firket - architect-urbanist
Riccardo Villa - architect
Elise François - architect

Michel Desvigne Paysage

Michel Desvigne - landscape architect

Bevk Perović Arhitekti

Matija Bevk - team leader
Vasa J. Perović - team leader
Juan Miguel Herrero - architect
Luka Nedzbala - architect
Urban Petranović - architect
Vid Tancer - intern
Mitja Usenik - intern
Irene Salord - architect
Blaž Goričan - architect

Atelier 4

Andi Eftimi - team leader
Alban Eftimi - restoration expert
Altin Premti - project coordinator
Olsi Eftimi - landscape architect
Olisa Foto - architect

NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES



The Supreme Court of Justice is one of the highest institutions for any democratic Nation in the world. Redefining its organization together with the educational ambition of a School of Magistrates is an opportunity to express those inherent values, through Architecture, with an inscription in the historical perspective. We find it very appealing that Albania opens such a programme and project to an international architectural contest, and strived to make such energy the essence of our design proposal today.

INTRODUCTION

The two institutions seem to us as parts of one growing ecosystem, which occurs as an important pivot of institutional evolution in Albania, towards its European integration. With this in mind, our design for the Supreme Court and School of Magistrates articulates 8 priorities:

1. Expressing an Albanian European identity, as inclusive, evolutive, contemporary, future-oriented culture.
2. Allowing efficiency in operations, in short term (successful transition) and long term (adaptive building),
3. Transforming issues of access, circulations and security into architectural qualities, for a stronger, specific institutional identity.
4. Fostering high awareness of its Public role, dedicated to citizens rights,
5. Preserving the relation to history (in the making) and heritage,
6. Helping further develop high academic education standards, and their relation with the highest Judicial authority.
7. Integrating the complex in its natural context, increasing the value of the park both as a natural and civic value for all.
8. Leading by example on the ground of today's environmental challenges.

In establishing the strategic axis of our proposal, we delved deep into the understanding of the existing – both physical (landscape, existing structures, local character) and conceptual aspects of the challenge, dissecting the institution's programs and uncovering potentials and synergies between them. As architects, the centre of our concerns is the very public dimension.

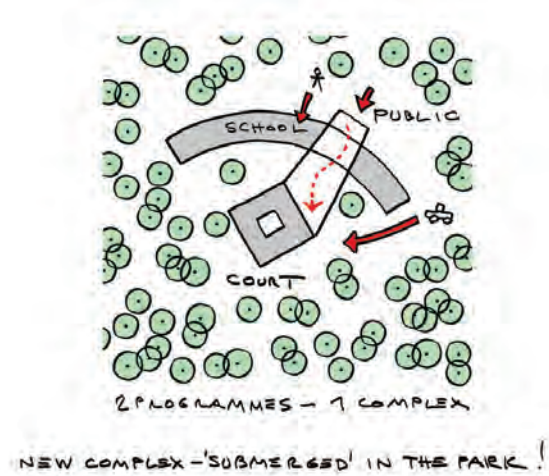
Also, through our proposal today, we strive to resolve programmatic issues - such as security, accessibility, as well as iconographic issues - presence, symbolism, materiality and expression; in a singular line of thought, for an architectural synthesis of high public and democratic value.

Aerial view, Courthouse submerged in the park



NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES

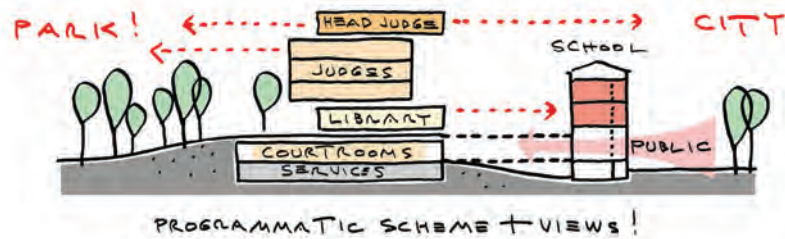
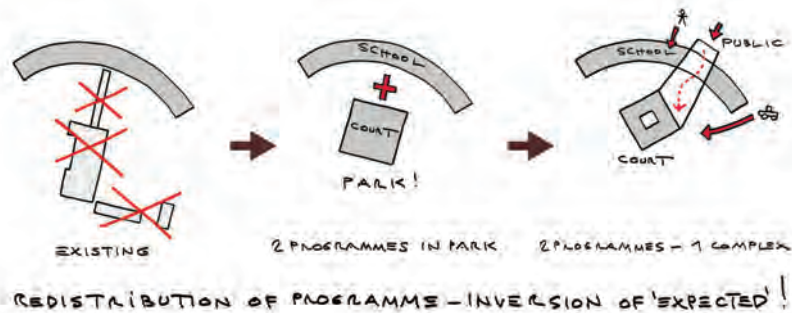




A SYMBOLIC LOCATION, BETWEEN HERITAGE & FUTURE

The choice of the Valle building as new location for the Supreme Court of Albania is a decision that makes sense on many levels. After analysis, it seems evident to consider this choice was not only one of a building, but first of all- one of a location and a context. Indeed, the monumental site of the "Convitto Femibile" dominates Tirana from a natural setting, while remaining part of the city. Its environment provides the necessary distance from the urban daily implications, while remaining totally connected and accessible, ideals factors for an institution of such public importance as the Supreme Court. Because of its relation to the park and the topography in Tirana, the heritage is not only made of the Italian architecture. The monument is the entire site!

As with any Palazzo, the timeless landmark is the product of the building and its surroundings, as a whole, regardless of their functions. We have approached the project with a broader historical and symbolic ambition, considering the site as a heritage where each element will play its best role for the future.



THE NEW SUPREME COURT + SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES COMPLEX

Is it possible to achieve a coherent Unity with a courthouse and a school, two autonomous institutions? How can they both work efficiently, while achieving together the best resolution of antagonisms such as openness and security, academia and practice, heritage and future? And how can such an intelligent resolution be developed in continuity with the park?

Our postulate is to create a united venue, as one destination of Justice, where each institution meets the uncompromising resolution of its fundamental needs, with maximal common synergies.

THE BEST FOR BOTH

After researching numerous organizational diagrams, our postulate can be summarized as such: Instead of forcing the judicial bodies in a traditional architecture of classrooms, with the courts relegated as “annexes” through a chaos of compromised circulations, we propose to maintain the national monument as an educational institution, and as the gate of an even higher institution, the New Supreme Court of Albania, a new symbol of Justice. Considering the whole site as a symbolic heritage, considering the complex as one unity, we therefore suggest to install the School of Magistrates in the historical educational building, and Supreme Court in a specific structure, a focal point, a new instrument of Justice. Also, from the analyses made from our structural engineers, it appears as evidence that structural interventions on the historical building have to be avoided as much as possible.

On structural and mechanical engineering point of view, the Supreme Court is not feasible in the historical building. Also, the Supreme Court of Albania should be hosted in a flexible structure that accompanies the changes implied by the Albanian reforms of Justice. In this report, we will guide you through the multiple elements that indicate why this choice can be an evidence, for a better functioning of the two institutions in the complex, and a clearer, stronger, evolutive identity for the whole.

ENTRANCE SEQUENCE - A DIALOGUE OF TWO GEOMETRIES

The Valle building, as universal Albanian Monument, remains the public facade of the complex, its anchor, the symbolic gate to both the Supreme Court and the School of magistrates. Built seventy years ago as an educational building, the monument is preserved in that role and typology, allowing for its architectural features to be untouched, furthermore making it a piece of living patrimony for the next generations. The key features of the building, its gallery, its ample staircase and its corridors can be restored in original condition, without being altered by the needs of security measures. The absence of contrasts in levels of access along its vertical and horizontal circulations offers to keep the monument intact.

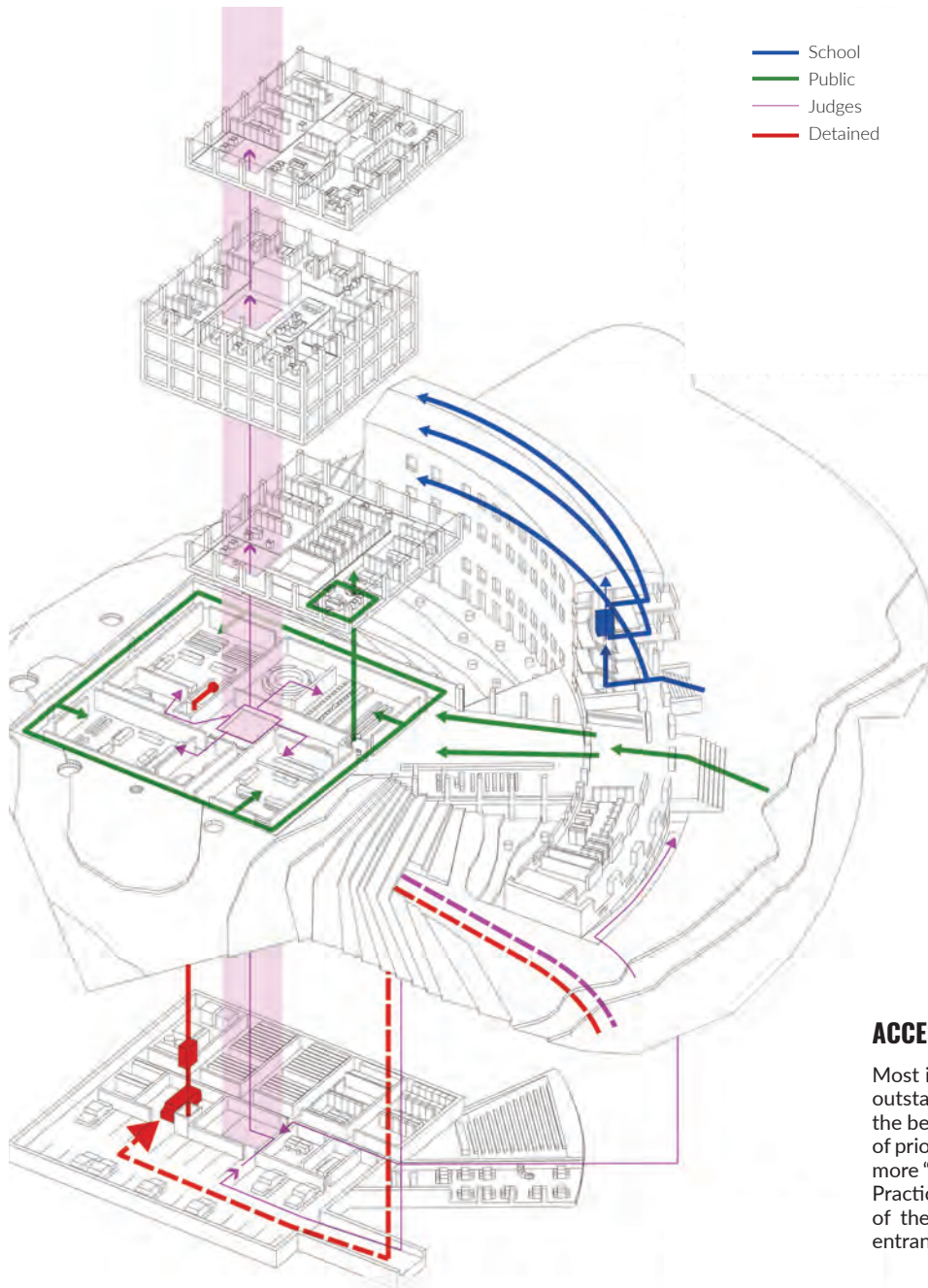
Two arcades on the left are dedicated to a large bay: the new Supreme Court entrance and foyer, from which one perceives the second element of the complex: the Supreme Court. The simple scheme of “public-monument-as-school” versus “compact-new-judicial-instrument” allows for a richer and clearer access sequence. The historical building acts as a ‘Face’ of the entire venue, a beacon for the new instrument: the court that operates like an efficient mechanism, a machine inserted into the park. Thanks to such program distribution, the Supreme Court compound appears as a modern institution dedicated to its mission as judicial apparatus, while it lets the monument play the representational role of the complex.

NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES

Supreme Court, access road



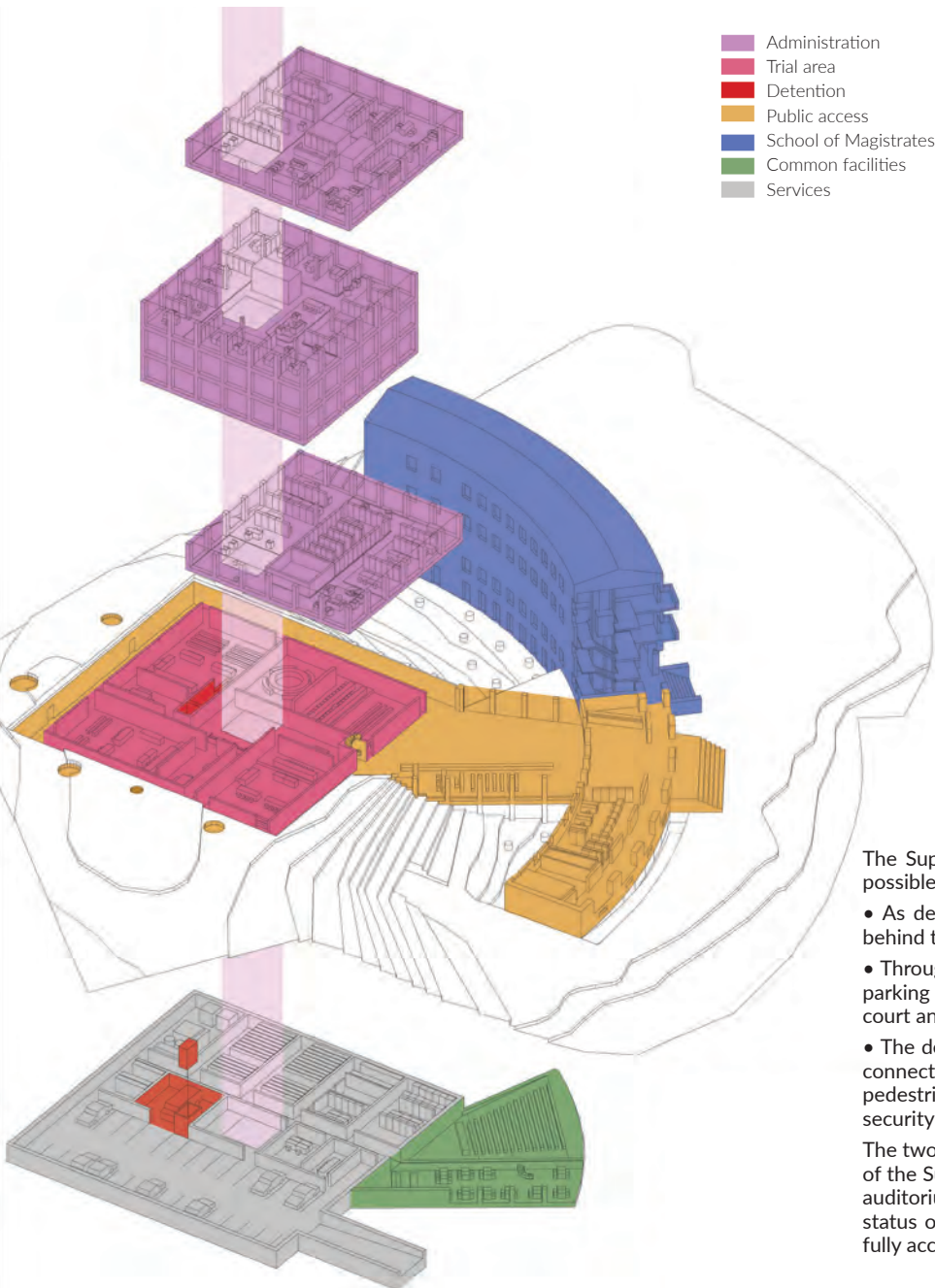
NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES



ACCESSES / CIRCULATIONS

Most importantly, this critical interpretation of the program allows for an outstanding clarification of accesses and statuses. It produces, in our views, the best scheme for a non-compromised triple access and circulation, first of priorities of the Supreme Court. In return, such access scheme allows for more “publicness” of the whole, by the removal of conflicting intersections. Practically, the school and public access is organized through the façade of the historical building. The school of magistrates keeps the natural entrance around which this educational building is naturally organized.

NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES



The Supreme Court's 3 separate accesses are organized in the clearest possible way:

- As detailed earlier, the public uses a double arcade entrance created behind the untouched Valle façade,
- Through a discreet garage tunnel, the judges access their own reserved parking facility which connects to a vertical core taking them straight to court and offices, with no intersections of any kind.
- The detainees are driven straight in an isolation bay, which is vertically connected to the penal court in an absolutely contained manner. A separate pedestrian access for the staff and judges is also arranged through the security check and basement at the front end.

The two institutions are interconnected through a double deck composed of the Supreme Court Foyer and a cluster of Common Facilities: the main auditorium, the common library and restaurant. In such scheme, the Public status of the Monument is best preserved, while the new structure can fully accommodate the more restricted statuses.

PROGRAM REPARTITION

CONTINUOUS GROUND FLOOR

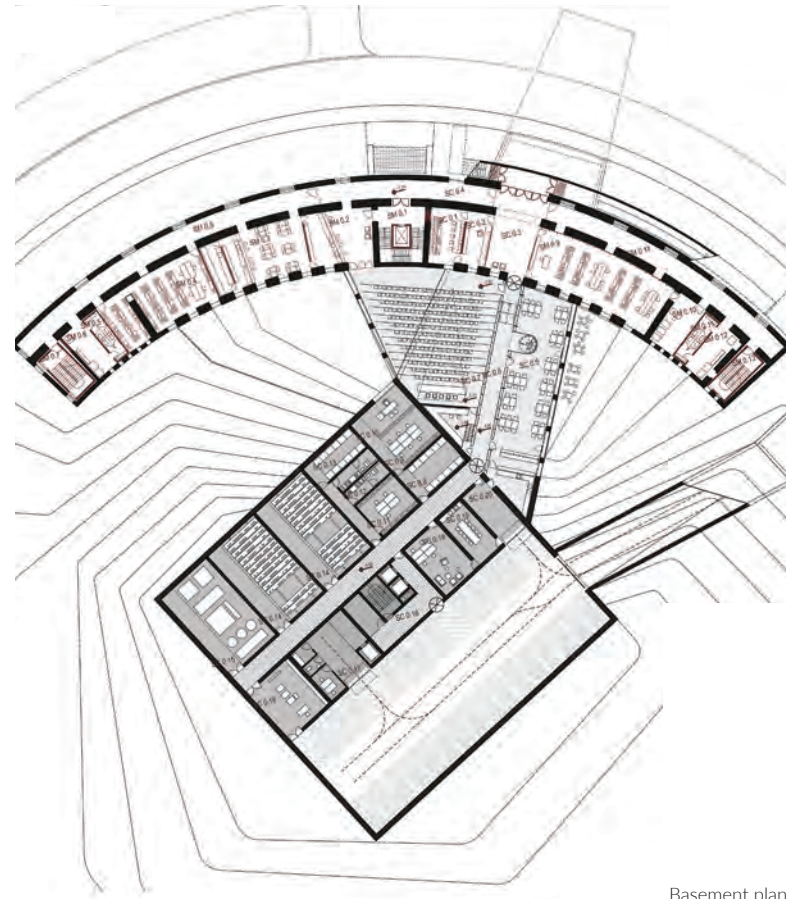
The first achievement aimed by our design is to create the greater possible “public” continuum, from the Valle building “magisterial” ground floor. In this way, the citizens and visitors can experience a full on grade spatial sequence, from the monumental entrance to the courtrooms. The ground floor contains the most public elements of both institutions: The Lobby, Press Room, Registration and Courtrooms for the Supreme Court – the Foyer, Academic Auditorium and staircase for the School of Magistrates. The two institutions are interconnected through a double deck composed of the Supreme Court Foyer and a cluster of Common Facilities: the main auditorium, the common library and restaurant.

THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES

The original circulation scheme of the Valle building is made-to-measure for educational purposes. Therefore, the academic institution sees its needs best served and represented by the traditional staircase, hallways and corridor scheme. The program of the School of Magistrates falls in place naturally in the walls of the heritage architecture. The Auditorium takes advantage of the noble ground floor 6m ceiling height, creating a high standard of academic representation.

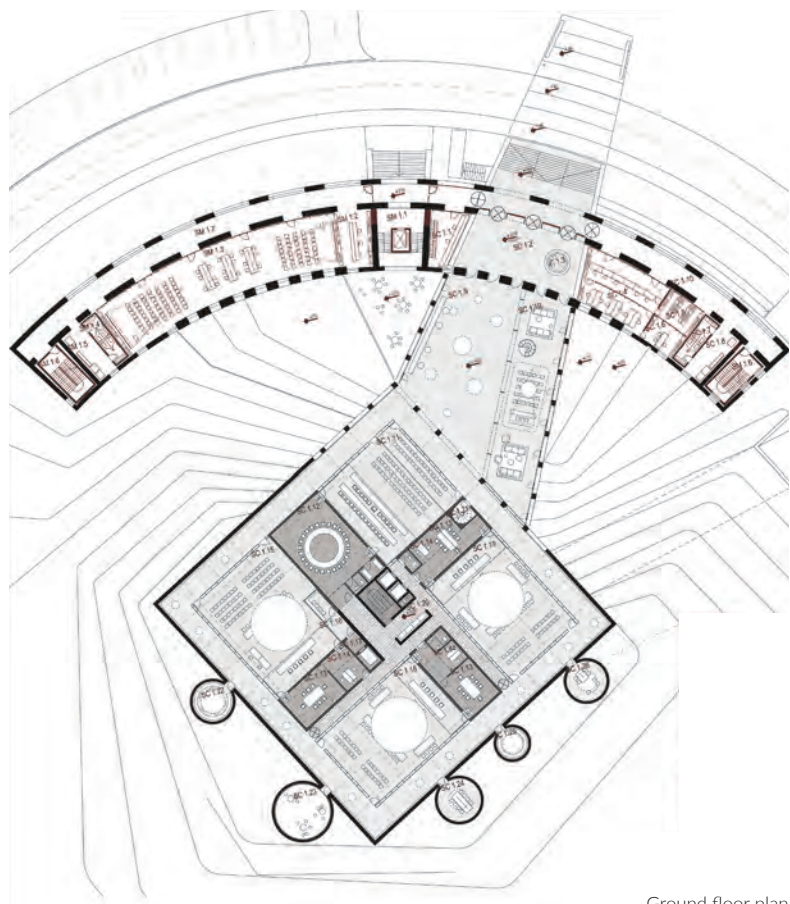
THE SUPREME COURT

The Supreme court is the focal point of the complex, where it is organized a rational - yet aesthetical - machine of Justice, an informal expression of democracy. It is a straightforward efficient superposition of operating bodies, vertically positioned in the shortest possible relative distance, through the means of a vertical circulation core. Underground level contains parkings, archive, maintenance, data center and services. The court Rooms are organized in abstracted ideal layout: the hierarchy of circulations is clarified to an extreme interface: while the public accesses the courtrooms from a peripheral gallery of zenithal light, the judges have a central core lobby interconnecting all the Courts and meeting rooms with no walking distance. Directly above courtrooms is the Research, Publication and Library directorate. This space is the focal point of the complex: on grade with the garden, embraced by the Valle building perspective, it is a high architectural moment in the experience of the whole.

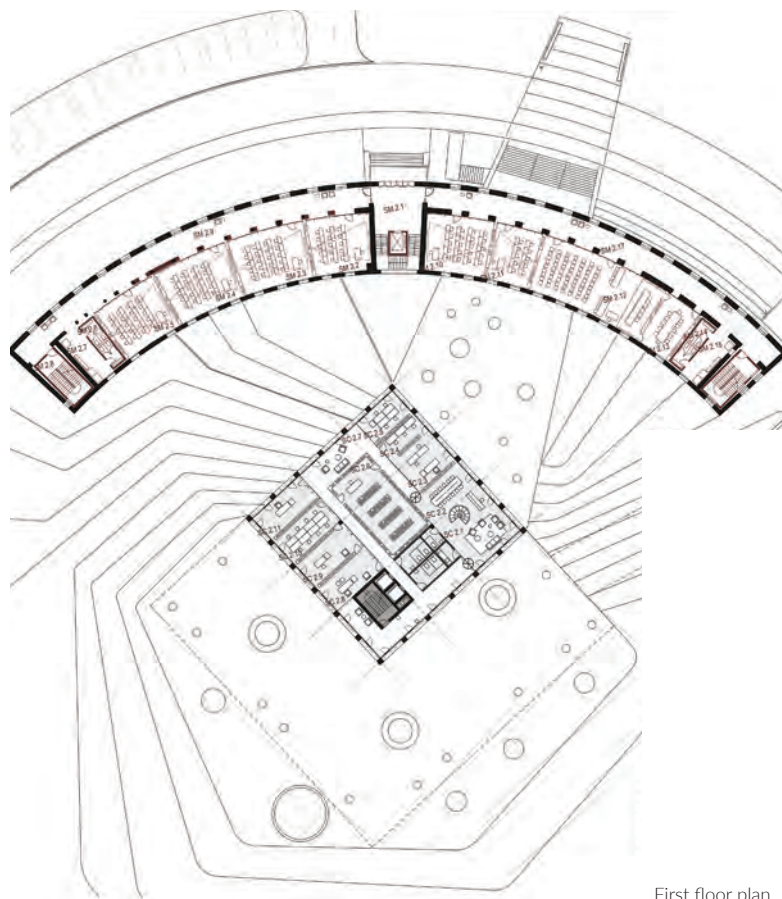


Basement plan

NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES



Ground floor plan



First floor plan

NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES



Above are the office floors of the judicial bodies. They benefit from a radial plan organization, away from old traditional corridors. This in itself can be a vector of change and modernisation: while respecting the conditions of confidentiality, the space itself also suggests a more democratic organization. The lobby around which the judicial offices are gathered invites to collegiality and informal interactions towards the institution's permanent improvement. Finally, above the judicial bodies, the head of Supreme Court is organized in a layout that recalls the same organization than the Public Relation Directorate, democratically-oriented around welcoming lobbies, with a view on the city, just above the roof of the Valle building.

Upper levels plans

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South-West Facade

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The new public "Connector"

NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES



1. Judges floor - reception.
2. Public concourse / lobby Courthouse.
3. Mock trail hall.

NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES



LANDSCAPE

The whole complex is developed in a way to preserve the park to its maximum, with the smallest possible mineralized footprint. The program is compressed around vertical efficiency, instead of using more park footprint. Part of the building (the courtrooms) dissimulates by being covered with the landscape through the means of a vegetal roof. The compactness of the building is one of its key qualities, in terms of circulation efficiency, site preservation, and energy efficiency.

We have worked with Michel Desvigne on solutions for the periphery of the site, and the landscape connection to the rest of the park. We foresee a discreet but efficient protection of the site, blocking escapes or accesses, yet without any visible fence. Inspired by typologies such as Vauban, a principle of French moat has been studied and anticipated.

1. View from the park.
2. Witness waiting room.
3. Court level patio.
4. Detail Facade



4.

STRUCTURE

The structural concept is based on achieving the most optimal solution for both the existing and the new building. The existing Valle building will only be cleaned from all additions and changes that have happened over time. The original structure will be fully preserved.

New programs will then be inserted, like a layer of 'furnishings' into the clean structure of the building. Additional stability will be achieved through insertion of concrete staircase cores at both ends of the building, as well as the elevator core in the existing main staircase of the Valle building. The new building is conceived in simple, straightforward and rational structure. Executed in concrete, cast on site – it provides both the 'skeleton' and the façade of the new court complex – rough and durable, formal and efficient simultaneously. Structural grids are based on a 4,00m module, and multiplied to fit with the program: 8,00m for services and parking, 16,00m for large programs. The public lobby/foyer spaces, connecting the existing and the new building is executed as a series of grids and a single large Vierendeel beam, spanning the congress hall on the lower ground floor.

ENERGY AND SUSTAINABILITY CONCEPT

The new complex will, to a maximum possible degree, strive towards applying the most efficient, yet most discrete mechanical systems. High quality insulation materials, low-e triple glazing for glazed surfaces, as well as computer and manually operated textile screen system, will all contribute to the overall reduction of energy needs of the building. Ideally, the buildings and surrounding greenery are to be organized and designed to utilize maximum passive heating, by envelope characteristics and orientation and, at the same time, require minimum artificial energy for heating and cooling.

NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES

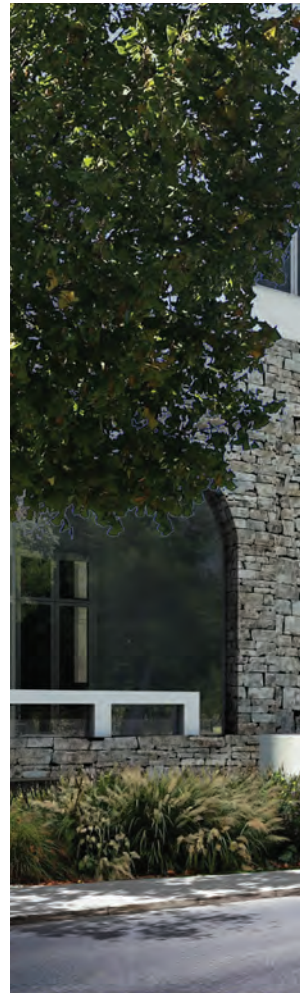
Heating system will be based on energy mix made of district energy and ground energy. The energy source switch will depend on the most effective use at different points of time. To enhance the use of renewable sources, the inclusion of auxiliary biomass boiler will be included in the analysis of energy mix optimization.

Cooling system will use direct energy from the energy piles, ground heat exchangers and/or water wells, whichever proves to be most economically viable, following research on site. Cooling will be done by activation of building thermal mass by cold water directly drawn from these sources. Office units will have additional summer dehumidification provided by unit cooled by water-cooled chillers that will also use water from the ground sources. Building will be designed to utilize free cooling thermal mass activation by means of natural cooling.

Ventilation of courtroom spaces, as well as offices, will be organized in elevated floor cavities, partially cooled (or heated) via heat pump system. Natural ventilation will be used to a maximum degree in all non- public areas and offices.

The decision on the selection of the most appropriate energy source, will be based on the Life Cycle Cost simulations of the energy consumption including all running costs, maintenance cost as well as forecast of energy costs increase for the agreed period of time. The LCC analysis will offer a number of alternative possible packages and scenarios.

The greenery and trees around the buildings will be selected and positioned in such a manner to offer highest level of heat island elimination to all public areas. Trees will be selected and located to create full summer shade for all areas on the first two floors of the building. The selected trees will have dense canopies for maximum summer protection. These trees will lose leaves early in October to allow buildings passive heating. Particular design and pattern of trees, that use available summer winds, will be made to activate natural adiabatic cooling process and create outdoor environment cooler 3 to 4 degrees than the surrounding park. The project will be designed with intent to meet the German Sustainable Building Certificate on a Gold level.



Supreme Court Entrance

NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES



03 AVATELIER + STUDIO VALLE

TEAM COMPOSITION:

Project Coordinator

Tommaso Valle

Landscape Expert

Armand Vokshi

Project Manager

Cesare Valle Jr.

Design Architect

Lucia Mencaroni
Alejandro Ochoa
Natalia Alcocer
Jose Castellitti

Modelling Collaboration

Estanislao Niklison

Grafic Collaboration

Juliana Vélez
Monica Suarez

Expert in Rehabilitation of Historical Buildings

Marco Pretelli

Expert in Historical Buildings

Giulia Favaretto
Micaela Antonucci

Structural Engineer

Michele Rossi
Gianluca Balzarini

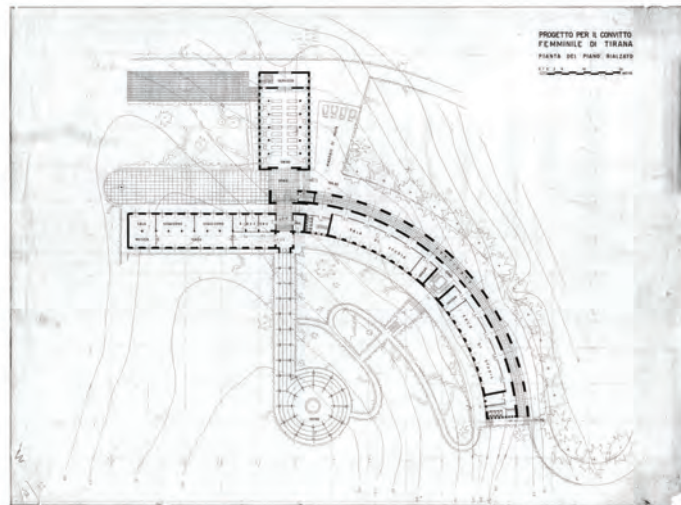
Mechanic Engineer

Adriano Bezzi

Cost Estimator

Gianluca Valle

NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES



The system of degrading terraces, following the contour lines of the park and at the same time, the curved shape of the building of the study rooms, serves to optimize exposure to the sunlight. The base of the curvilinear body is composed of a rhythm of arches, covered with the same stone of the tower. The focus of the connections between the various interior spaces, and these with the park, is the atrium of the main building, bonding of three separate volumes that extend into the surrounding landscape.

ATTENTION TO THE ARBOREAL HERITAGE

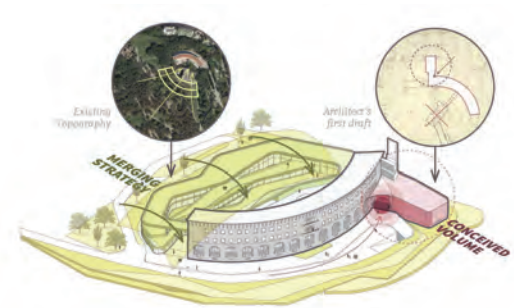
The intervention takes note of the situation from the botanical point of view that it was created around our building; rather, it takes the cue from the needs related to the project to rethink the vegetable environment, also in the light of the historical investigation of the whole built complex. The insertion of parks and gardens in the same period in which the building was built was quite normal, and still exist many testimonies of great cultural and botanical interest. Moreover the project predicts an activity of survey and census and reorganization of the present trees, with the aim to reconfigure, according to the original lines, the presence of the green and the relation between the vegetable parts and the built parts in the site.

LANDSCAPE INSERTION OF THE NEW PARTS

The project assumes as pre-existences not only the curvilinear building, the only testimony of the original project, but also the landscape in which it is located. Even though all that is added to this context will have, on one hand, the aim to (re)bring the surviving building into the closest conditions to the ones that Cesare Valle wanted to create in the '30ies; on the other hand, it will have the aim to limit the annoyance that the new addition should create to the site. So the new volumes will be limited in their vertical extension, organically inserted in the landscape and partially underground in the contour lines of the site; except for the tower that assumes a symbolic meaning in the general idea of the design.

NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES





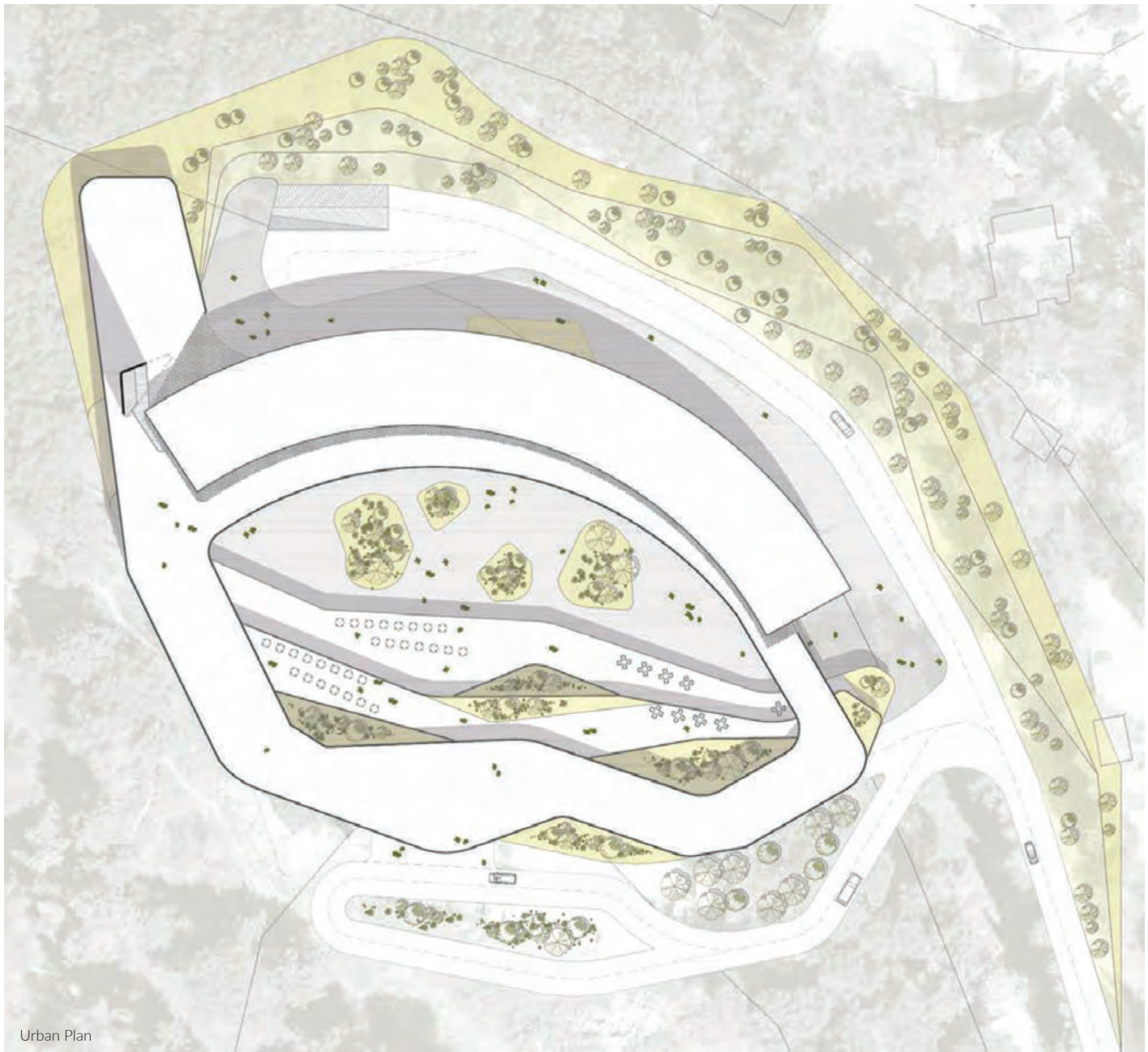
Design Concept

THE BUILDING NOW

From the large complex, determined by the war, it was built only the body of the building of a circular arc, which has been transformed by the Communist Party, in 1949, in the Marxist ideology school. Today it houses the *Fakulteti Gjeologji Miniera* (Faculty of mineral Geology). The building constructed does not respect totally the original project of Valle. On the back facade is absent the stone that was proposed to cover part in the basement of the building and the rhythm of windows is different from that of the initial project. The roof that was realized in the existing building differs from that of the initial project because it is made with two flaps instead of one.

The magistrature school building was constructed in the treed area of the park during the period of the communist regime, it is connected with the building designed by Cesare Valle with a bridge lifted from the ground by a length of 28m. The simple four storey building appears as a parallelepiped set in an elevated relief in relation with the old building the of the current faculty. The functional distribution scheme of this object is very simple with the hallway between and classes on the sideways. The entries to this object are carried through the bridge that connects the main entrance of the faculty as well as the second entry of the building itself.

NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES



Urban Plan

NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES



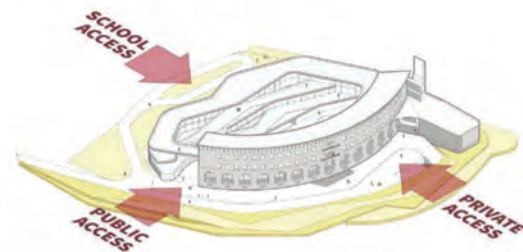
Landscape Strategy



Architectural Program

DESIGN CONCEPT

The Design starts from the analysis of the first project by the Engineer Cesare Valle, from the natural environment of the site, inside the Lake Park of Tirana, and from the attempt to conciliate the historical heritage and the new functions of the existing building with the combination of the new building, for the School of Magistrates, through the idea of a low environmental impact architecture. The area of competition is situated among an important Park of Tirana, Parku i Madh i Tiranes. The area is located between two backbones: the boulevard and the Student City Area. The entrance is on the Gjeneral Nikols street, which comes from the Rruga e Elbasanit hightway, a road which links Tirana with Elbasan. The Rruga Gjeneral Nikols rises along the hill. The road turns of 180 degrees to reach the area. We will take advantage of the opportunity that this competition is giving us by adding value to the use of the Park with the creation of a green path for pedestrians and bicycles. This path will link the two areas of the city crossing the hill and having the central square of our proposal as a focal point.



Access Points

The vehicle entrances will be split for the Supreme Court and the School of Magistrates. The Judges and the inmates will enter along the north side of the facade of the Supreme Court building. They'll have a parking in the basement level of the new added building on the north west side, which will be besides the pedestrian entrance for Judges. A public parking is reserved for the School and visitors through the ground floor of the school of Magistrates, which will be communicated directly to the public central square of the intervention "The forum".

According to the idea of a peaceful communication with nature we localized the parking area in the basements, the underneath part of the School building, to not ruin the Park's environment. A new road comes from the existing one to reach the main entrance to the School on the south west side of the hill using the natural inclination of the territory to approach the highest level of the existing hill, always being respectful to the Park and its trees.

The proposal is composed by two separate buildings, each one of them with a different program; the two buildings are from two different historical periods, which makes the intervention a little more challenging. They are joined formally through the lines of the architectural language subtracted from the form of the territory that also integrates it with the surrounding environment and offer the possibility to appreciate the historical building designed by Cesare Valle. This language wants to reach this target also by a reinterpretation and by a formal reprocessing of the original design choice. The existing building today have lost the essential linguistic aspects from the first design concept and this is the reason why it's very difficult to completely understand it now.

Our proposal tries to give back the original height composition, value that is shown in the never ending Valle's design and it tries to link the old building enclosing it with the new one. The new function assigned to the building is the new Headquarter of the Supreme Court. This function permits to reinterpret the composition aspect offering the possibility to give more value to the building and at the same time giving back the height original design power. The School of Magistrates will be, in the other hand, a contemporary way to give more importance to the ancient building and it gives the possibility to integrate two different languages coming from two different historical periods. This is to demonstrate in which way now Albania looks at the future endorsing its history. The two complex overlook on a big square-garden who represents the "forum", it's going to represent the public space where it could be possible to meet people, lawyers and students to share opinions, to discuss and to participate to the juridical life of the Country. All routes are thought to divide and to optimize the paths and to permit the access also for disabled people everywhere.



NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES

From the Form of the Territory

The two complex overlook on a big square-garden that represents the "forum", public space to meet people, lawyers and students, to share opinions, to discuss and to participate to the juridical life of the Country.

THE NEW HEADQUARTER OF THE SUPREME COURT

The ancient building designed by Cesare Valle will be the new Headquarter of the Supreme Court. This new function entails the necessity for more space. The frame added effort to connect the existing volume with the new one using a coherent language of integrated architecture with environment. The new headquarter represents the juridical rise of the Country. The Justice as a "lighthouse" and as a "forum". It works as a reference point for people and as an inclusive square to share ideas and points of view. A Juridical system that, from the new location on the high hill, it's the new reference point and it's at the service of people and it's at the level of people to demonstrate the high democracy point achieved. We want to propose again a one inclination roof, as it was in the original design, to give back the true formal value to the building. The main façade it's architecturally the best one and it's very close to the first design. For security requirement we have to put glass walls inside the façade arches. On the other hand, we intervene in the south façade to optimize internal paths and trying to give back a status that it has lost during completion.



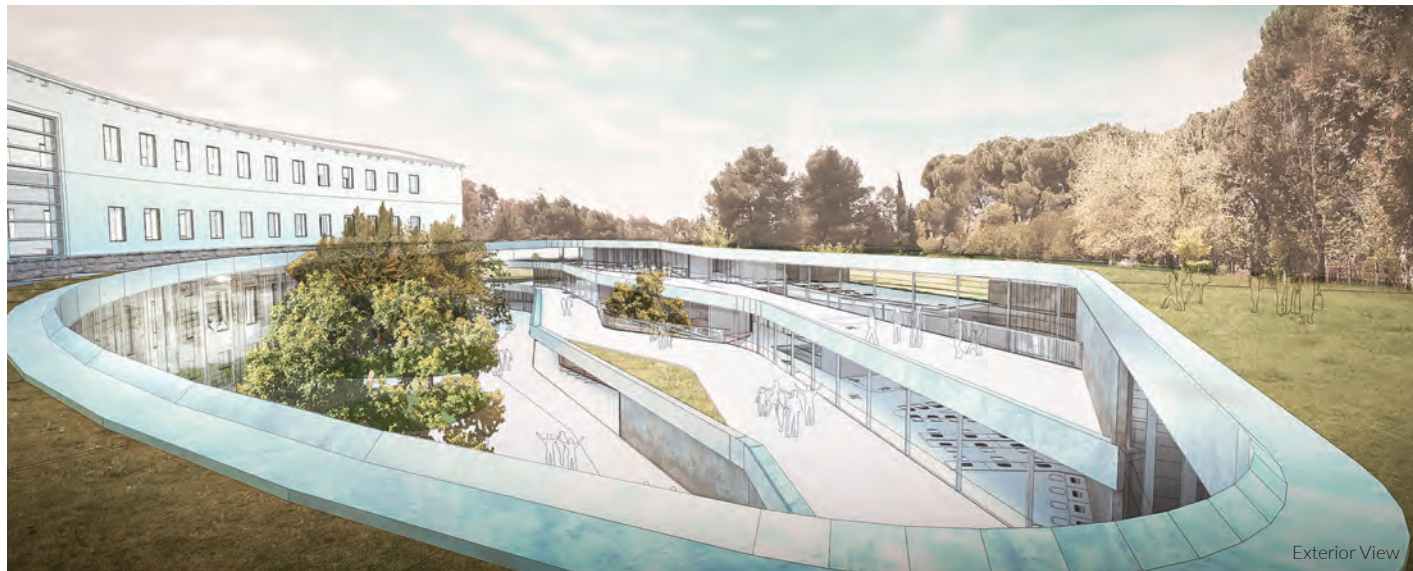
NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES



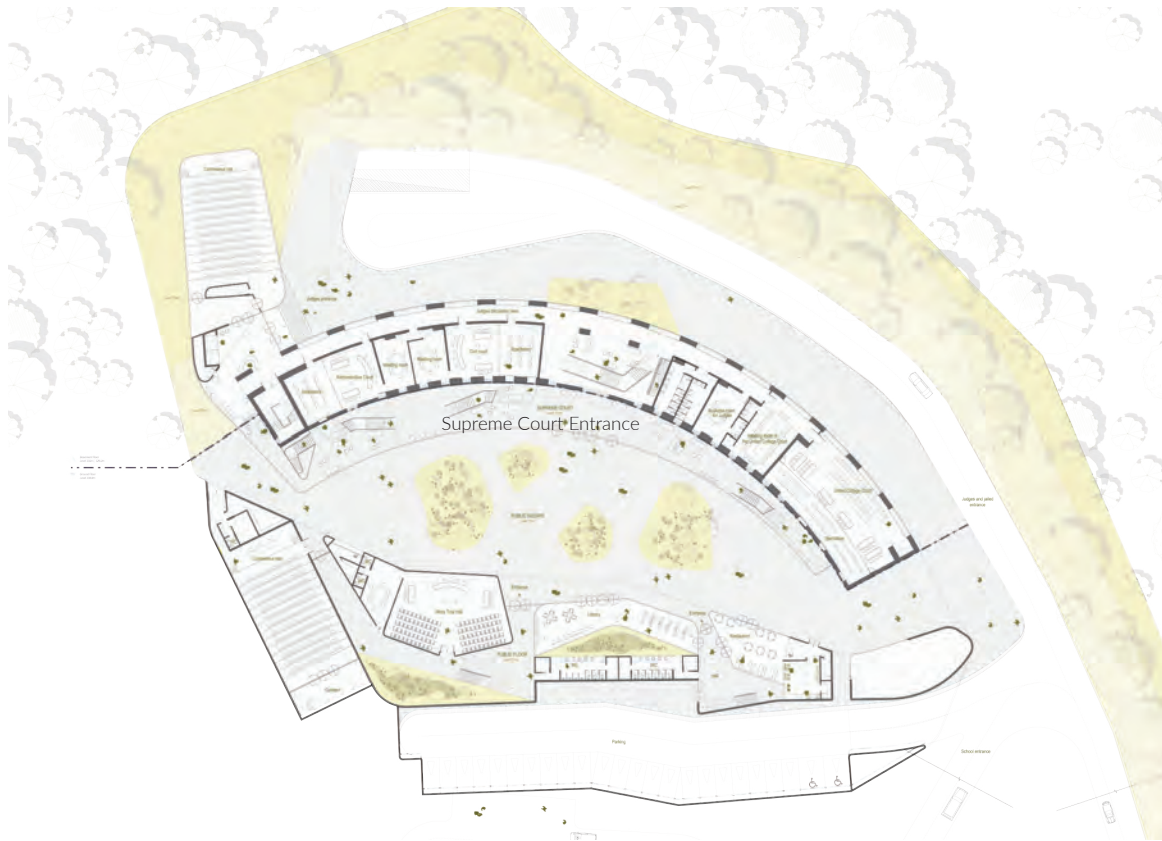
NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES

The public can reach the Civil Courts rooms , Administrative and Units in the ground floor by the stairs outside the existing south facade, inside the new Hall frame. The Ground Floor entrances for judges cross the entrance to the north west, and to the public across the central patio on the south side of the building. Administrative, Civil and United Courts are in the Ground Floor and the Criminal Court is in the Basement. For security, access to the Court is closely controlled through rooms and access paths quite defined. The public enter the Criminal Court from the ground floor on the south side and can reach a stage in echelon raised to the court's echelon to give the possibility to look down the process without interferences Lawyers and texts have access from the southern, allows them to going down to Court and the texts have protected rooms directly connected with the court for more safety, where they can wait for the moment when they're going to testify. The jailed enters from the reserved car park through a path that leads him directly to

one of the three waiting cells, and to be transferred after to the glass box inside the courtroom of the Court. A room next these cells will be assigned to a cop and there will also be a room available to allow prisoners to speak privately with their lawyers. The room for the interview is linked directly to the classroom to allow access to lawyers and will have access from the inmates for security reasons. The judges enter the courtroom through a personal elevator from the north parking or through the connect stairs of their offices. At the Basement level there are the judges cafeteria and rooms available for personnel (drivers, maintenances, cleaning, etc ...) with changing rooms where necessary. On the First Floor are all the judge's offices directly connected with the assistants' rooms . On the Second Floor there are the Library for Judges, the office of the Head of the Supreme Court, the Office of the Chancellor and one of his subordinates ;, the Unit of Research and Public Relations, the Unit of Research, Publications and Library, the office of Prosecutor, Informatics, Security and Finance.



NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES



Ground Floor Plan



Urban Section

NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES

1 First Floor

Level 139.3m

- (21) Judges Office (#2)
- (21) Assistants office
- (2) Meeting Room
- (2) WC

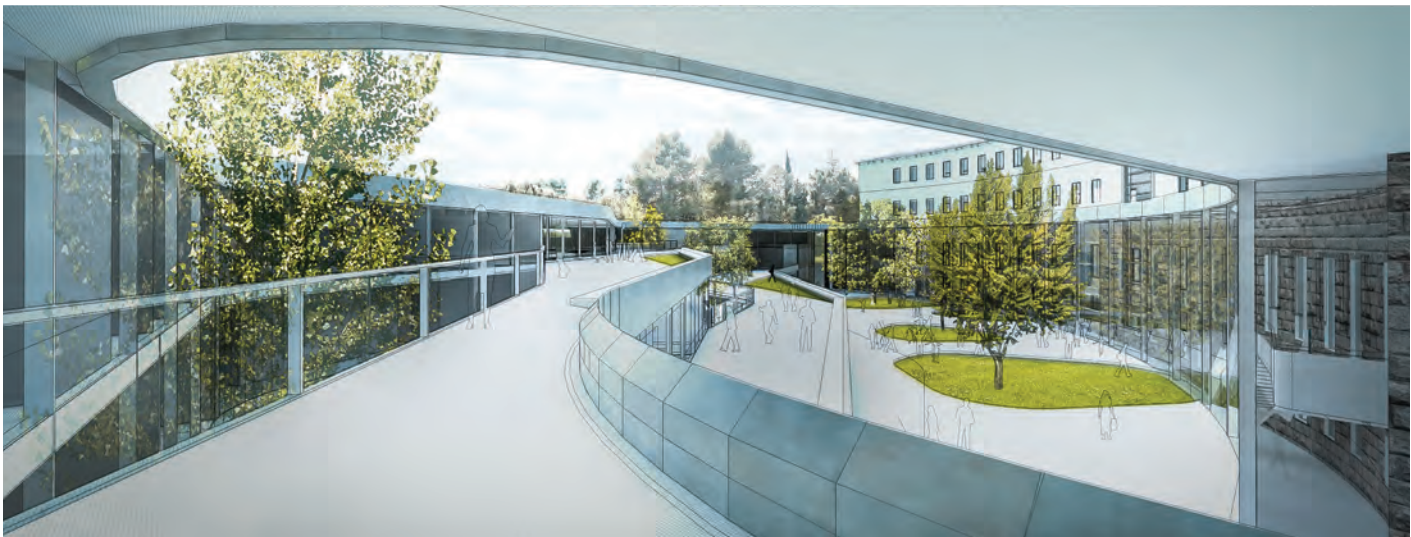
2 Second Floor

Level 144m

- (1) Lawyers Office
- (1) Prosecutors Office
- (1) Judges Library
- (1) Specialist Library
- (1) Head of finance
- (1) Specialist of finance
- (1) Advisors
- (1) Specialist in Security
- (1) Head of Security
- (1) Head of Informatics
- (1) Specialist in Informatics
- (1) Server
- (1) Meeting Room
- (3) Assistants Office
- (4) Judges Office
- (1) Cabinet
- (1) Antechamber
- (1) Research & Publication
- (1) Library
- (1) Specialist in Public Relations
- (1) Chancellor
- (1) Office of the head of the Supreme Court
- (2) WC

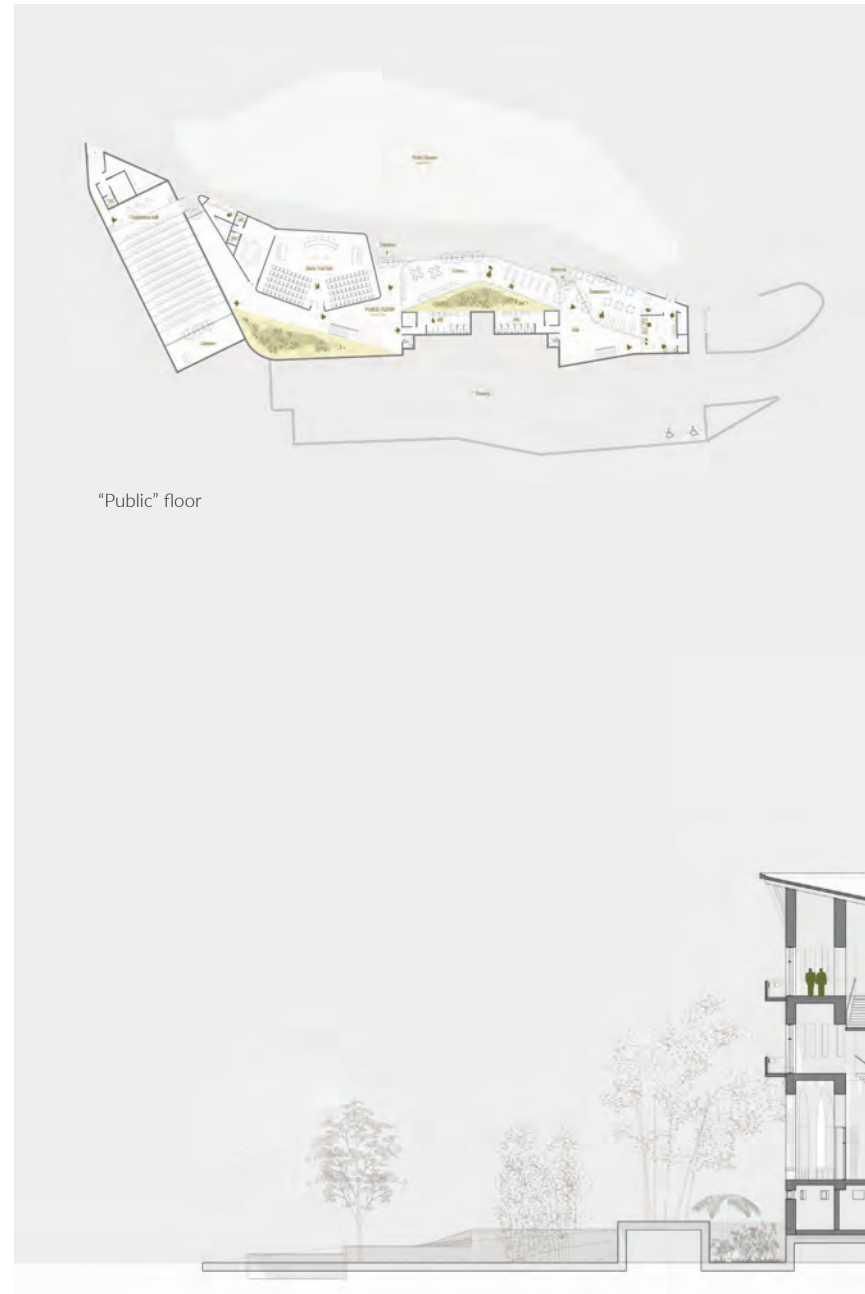
According to the requests we have added a new frame to the West that is on three levels. On the ground floor there is the Conference Hall, a room that can accommodate about 200 spectators, in the basement there will be a room to accommodate the Judges and Prosecutors from overseas while in underground level there will be parking for judges and controlled entry of prisoners that will be transported to the courtroom passing through a safe and exclusive. The detainees transported with cars or vans arrive in a special box that will be closed with special shutters security. In this way, the prisoner will be brought through a controlled path in a holding cell, and from this, he can then be brought to the court for the judicial hearing. An illuminated tower is placed between the two frames, the new one and the existing one. The tower planned in the original project, was not only meant as a landmark of the complex, it was used to connect the parking area with the reserved judges area but also had an important symbolic value. This element is in fact the “guiding light of justice” and will be the exclusive access to the Judges. The location of this new frame and the inclusion of the tower are a reinterpretation of the original design and have been included to try to bring the focus of composition where they had been conceived at first, allowing a better understanding. The public has an exclusive entrance in the garden between the court and the school. This area represents the “Forum”, that is, a square, a public space in which to meet, discuss and exchange opinions as was done in the “Forum Romanum”. The stone on the main façade, from the ground up to the level of the top surface of the floor of the first floor, runs along the short sides but stops abruptly and does not cover the south elevation.

Exterior View

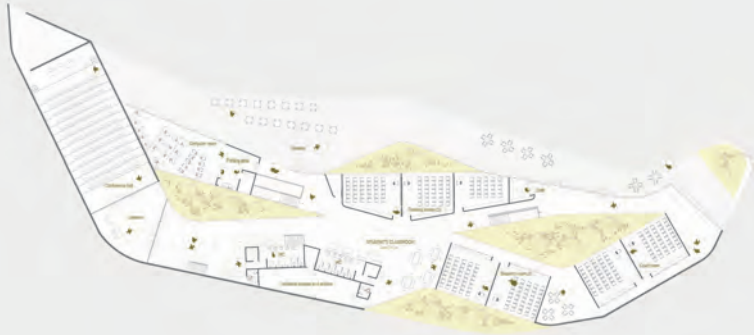


THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES

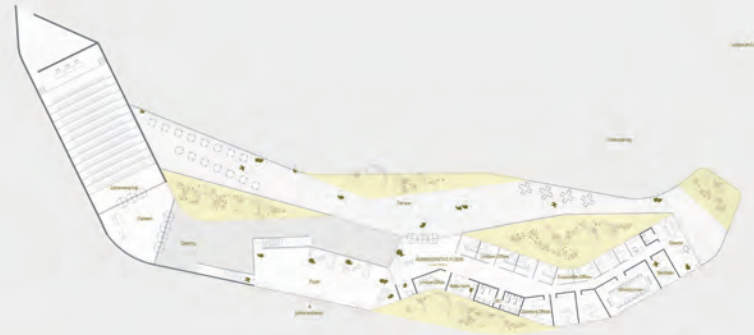
Although the School of Magistrates is linked to the Supreme Court, because that is the place that students will reach at the end of their studies, the two buildings will be two separate and independent entities. They will be bound only by an architectural language that tries to find a connection between the new frame with the park and with the existing historic building. It was decided to demolish the building dating to the eighties, which today already hosts the School of Magistrates, and the corridor linking at currently building Valle de Cesare, to enter a building more in keeping with the large and beautiful park within in which it is located. The building of the new school has been designed following minimum environmental impact. This building is developed on three levels which rest the hills through a building with steps who were the base is on the same central square level in according with the Supreme Court building. The composition form of these frames was born from the topography of the park. There are two entrances. The main entrance to the school is through an imposing double height foyer at the second floor. It can be accessed through a driveway or a pedestrian way. At this floor there is all the administrative School area, to make easily to enjoy the use of all the administrative services without crossing the building. At the same layer there is also the Meeting Room, the entrance to the Conference Hall, the Catering and the Canteen. Two internal courtyards allow offices have natural light and ventilation. The floor below, the first floor, includes all student's classrooms, the training rooms, the Court room, the computer room, the printing house, the technical storage and the archive. Another courtyard is in addition to the two floors that go upstairs. At the lower level there's the ground floor. This is the level of the public square, the square representing the "Forum", an area to interacting and exchange ideas.



NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES



Student's classroom floor



Administrative floor



School Section

NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES

The Morphological Building

The school comes from the hill, respecting the environment, and it hugs the existing building to conclude the first green idea of integration with the nature started at 1937 from a different point of view. This union creates a green square for people. It'll be the location to start a new walk of innovation.

This square symbolically represents the hug between the two building. A hug of the School toward the Court. A hug that touches the existing building but leaving a glass space between them to respect the past bringing it toward the future. The square is the physical point of dialog between the two. Two different languages each one representing their own age and that find interaction through a central space for sharing and comparing. According to this concept, there are spaces and services for public utility as the library, the cafeteria and the Mock Trial Hall. The Conference Hall instead is developed through all three levels. The main access is through the higher frame, while the lower level there will be an emergency exit. It is a hall that will accommodate 200 spectators in an area of 250 sqm.

This School tries to come from the hill, respecting the environment, and it hugs the existing building to conclude the first green idea of integration with the nature started at 1937 from a different point of view. This union creates a green square for people. It'll be the location to start a new walk of innovation for the Country taking care of environment and of history.



NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES



Exterior View

04 CARLOS ARROYO ARCHITECTS + BAC ENGINEERING + LSN + SENAT HALITI

TEAM COMPOSITION:

Carlos Arroyo Architects + BAC Engineering

Carlos Arroyo - Principal architect
Vanessa Cerezo - Project architect
Julia Manzano - Renovation specialist
Alex Krol - Energy specialist
Xavier Aguiló - Structure engineering
David Jimenez Iniesta - Images
Yolanda Herraiz - Images
Stefana Iasevici - Drafting
Paula Currás - Drafting

LSN + Senat Haliti

Lulzim Nuza - Principal architect
Senat Haliti - Principal architect
Aida Bilacaku - Drafting
Alban Pajaziti - Drafting
Jasmin Ademi - Model maker
Klodian Ponosheci - Drafting, 3D modeling
Sokol Belegu - Drafting



The starting point for the project is a radical preservation of the existing buildings, both for their historic value and for their material worth. The historic building by Cesare Valle will be renovated in the most respectful manner, using the original plans to reintroduce important elements for the composition, such as the window patterns.

NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES

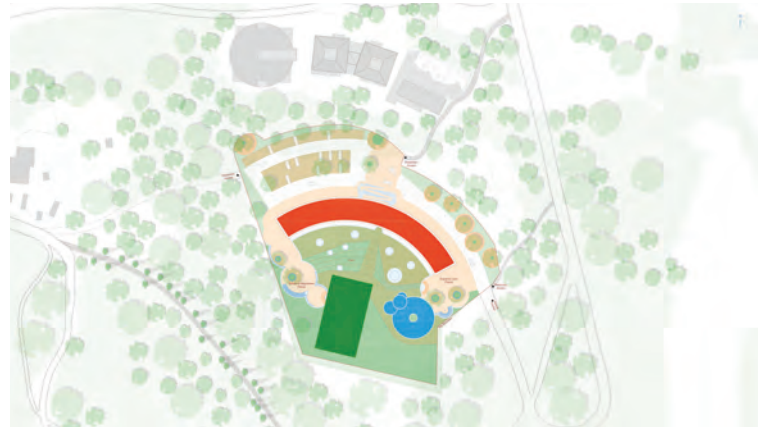


Urban Floor Level

PRESERVATION

The later addition, a heavy brick construction with load-bearing walls with no historic value will also be preserved. The reuse of the existing is a basic criterion of sustainability. The “gray energy” (energy used for the production of something) is often discarded or simply ignored. If we demolish an existing structure and build again, we will use more energy and resources than the most efficient of buildings can save in its life span.

Both constructions will be adapted and updated with the strictest set of criteria for sustainability, leading to very different approaches. In the historic building, the adaptations will be invisible. In the later addition, the adaptation will radically transform the image of the building, using an added skin as a thermodynamic improvement but also as a device to integrate its volume visually in the park.



Site Plan

INTEGRATED ADDITIONS

The new construction is limited to the minimum. The courtrooms and the public lobby could hardly find accommodation in the limited dimensions of the existing areas. The space embraced by the Valle crescent is ideal for this extension, allowing for good functional contact.

The Valle building stands on a rusticated portico, a hard base on top of which a light smooth body rises to capture the sun and the wind. We propose to continue the curved shapes of the portico to create a larger base, housing the wider elements of the program.

The extended base curves in and out either side of the historic crescent, creating separate piazzas for the independent entrances of the Supreme Court and the School of Magistrates. On the other hand, the shared facilities call for a separate construction, so that both halves of the program can relate to them in a smooth independent manner. We propose to place this new volume on top of the expanded base, with the same aim of capturing the light, the air and the views, for the most open functions in the program —library, restaurant and guest rooms.

NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES



View from the Supreme Court Entrance



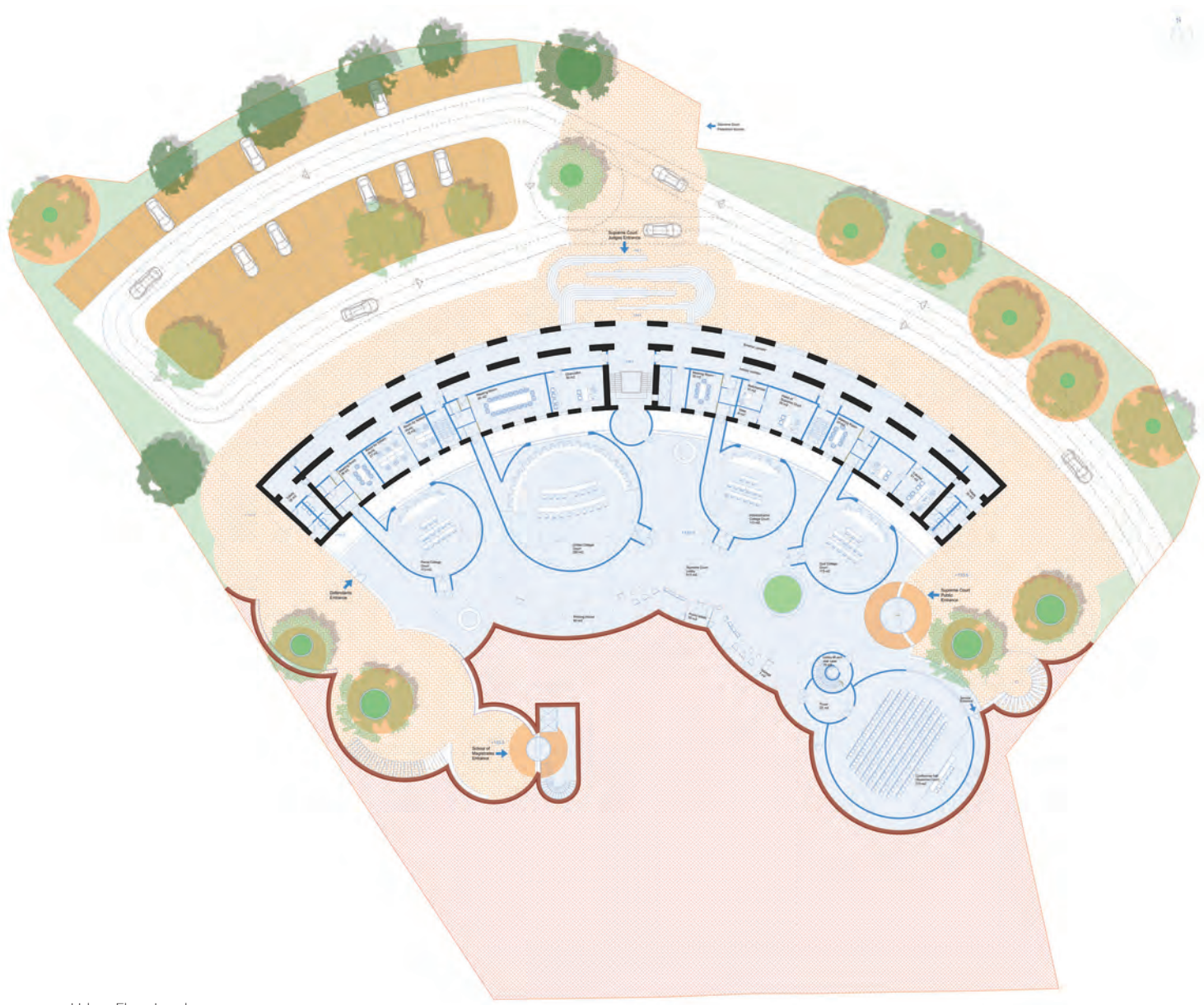
TRANSPARENT BUGNATO RUSTICO

The extended rusticated plinth follows the materiality of the Tuscany inspired “bugnato rustico”, but with a contemporary construction designed for transparency. Slats of stone are CNC cut to the profile of the old stones, but separated for transparency. Looking sideways, the effect is that of a continuation of the old wall. Looking straight onto the surface, the stone almost disappears and the interior space is revealed to us entirely.

TOPOGRAM

The functions and services are arranged according to a topogram, a graphic depiction of the flow in relation to space. The topogram shown full size on panel one is a reading of the brief, but it is proposed here as a first step. In the event of winning the competition, we would propose a series of workshops with all the future users of the building, to fine tune this arrangement, leading to a fully functional version to be used in the development of the final design. This competition proposal is a starting point, not a closed design.

NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES



Urban Floor Level

NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES



View from the Park

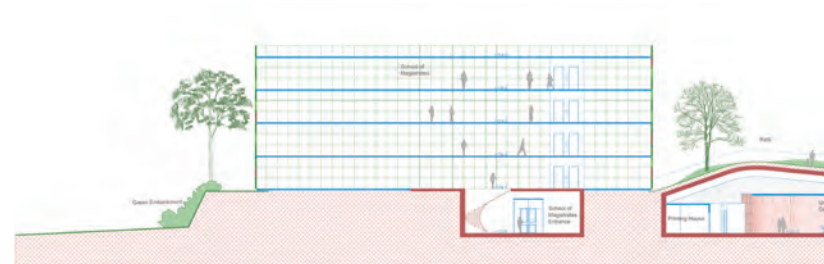
A THERMODYNAMIC PROJECT DESCRIPTION

We propose two possible levels of intervention, a set of minimum measures to improve the energy balance (level 1), and a deeper intervention (level 2) with the aim of achieving a “near zero energy” building. The existing constructions are built with solid, thick load bearing walls with an outstanding thermal inertia. If this mass is managed adequately, hydrothermal levels of comfort can be reached with minimum use of resources, and very low running costs.

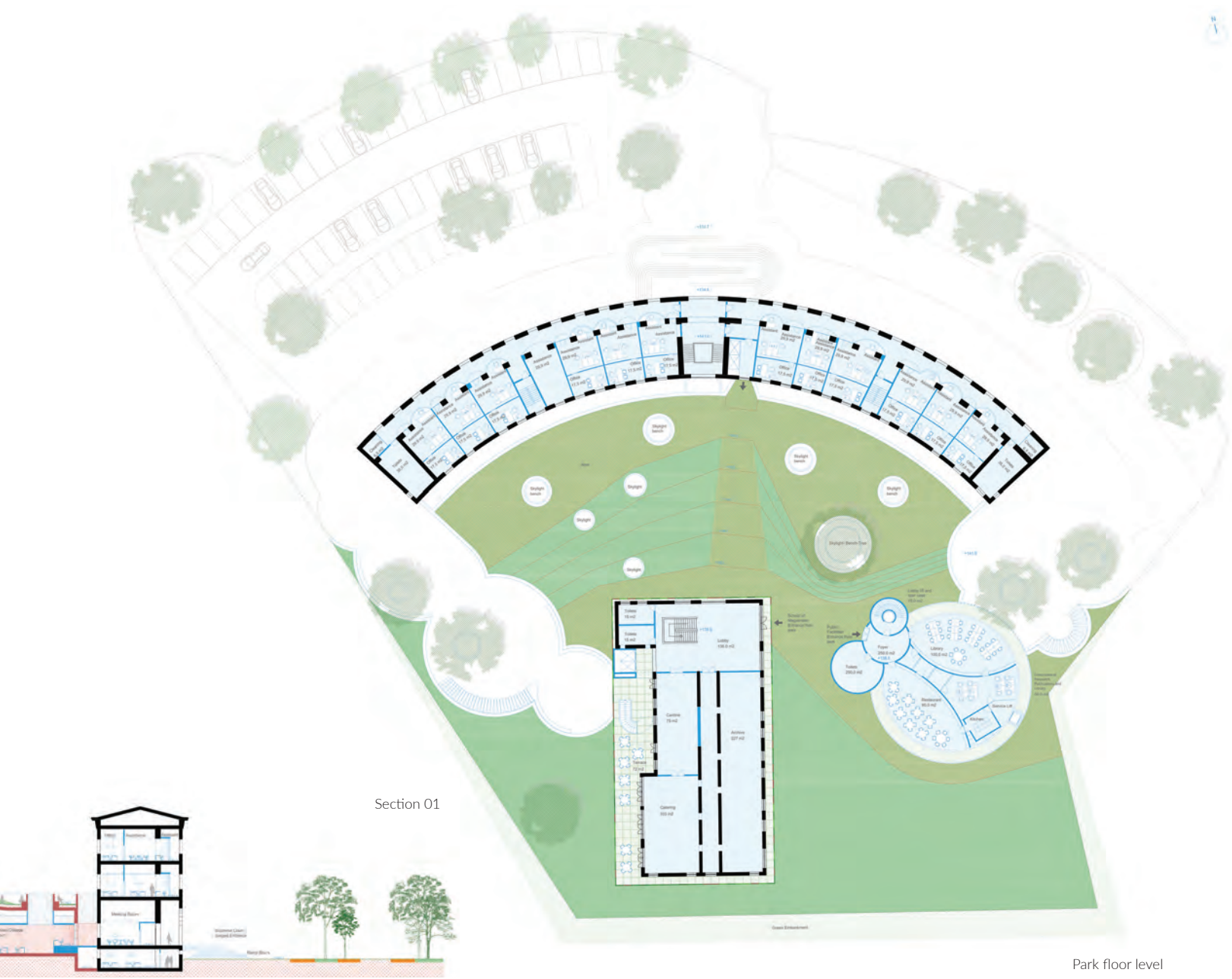
In the warm months, the thermal mass of the thick walls can absorb the heat produced by people and machines, dissipating it during the night.

In the cold months, the mass can absorb the solar radiation during the day, transferring it to the internal space, and keeping it inside the envelope overnight. A strategic intervention in the envelope adding insulation, sealing windows, adding thermal buffers, while at the same time controlling solar paths to minimize solar gains in summer and maximize them in winter, harvesting natural light while controlling glare, can result in an optimum balance.

The main building, which will host the Supreme Court, has a curved longitudinal configuration with the long facades facing North (circulation) and South (rooms). This is a favorable arrangement for energy optimization, both for heating and lighting. The building of the School of Magistrates is a prism, which long facades are oriented to the east and west. Solar filters become a priority in this case, in order to control the low solar angles in the warmer months. It is also built with load bearing brick walls, despite its modernist look.



NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES



LEVEL 1

- Fitting sunscreen film in windows (significantly reducing solar radiation entering the building in addition to avoiding glare and heat gains and losses)
- Reducing infiltration by weather sealing.
- Use of the thermal inertia of buildings for night cooling: the average temperature swing in summer is 14°C. The minimum outside temperature reaches 17°C in August. This requires the thermal mass to be exposed to the outside air, which can be achieved with natural night ventilation, controlled entrances and air extraction.
- Insulation on the envelope: façades. When possible (not on the historical building) they are insulated from the outside, keeping the thermal mass inside for direct exchange. In summer, the heat generated inside is transferred to the thermal mass, which gives back to the indoor environment when it cools at night. If the building of the Supreme Court cannot will clad on the outside for historic reasons, it will be isolated from the inside.
- Reduce internal heat sources: avoid excessive artificial lighting, implement natural light harvesting, use luminaires with lower heat dissipation.
- Maximize use of North portico as controlled air entrance area to the building in summer when the temperature is lower than the temperature of comfort: natural ventilation. Have practicable facade elements and interior partitions to favor natural ventilation without prejudice to the interior comfort (air currents, acoustic comfort).

LEVEL 2

- New windows: Double window system For winter, thermal insulation and thermal buffer. For summer, exterior window must be open to avoid overheating.
- Geothermal ventilation via basement. Pretreatment of air system with impulsion through the interior space or basement on north side.
- System that favors the extraction of hot air from the top of the building (solar chimney).

NEW CONSTRUCTION

In the new constructions between the two existing buildings, vegetation cover is proposed. The heat island effect is reduced, helping to “refresh” the air around the main building, which receives substantial radiation.

Similarly, light colors will be used in the rest of the development above ground, also reducing heat island effect. Most of the new surface is half buried, giving it thermal stability, coupled with the isolation and protection against radiation of the vegetation cover.

CLIMATE CONTROL SYSTEMS

The climate control system is also configured to create a “thermal onion” creating a transition between outer space and inner space, and adapted to the specific use of each space. Energy loss grows exponentially with temperature difference. It is much more efficient to have several layers of climate control, than to attempt to heat or cool the whole building homogeneously up to the door. It is also more comfortable when you enter a building, to find that the temperature in the hall area is only a little different to the outside, so that you do not have to take your coat off immediately, reaching comfort temperature gradually as you reach the inner areas.

Two systems are proposed: constant regime and quick response. The areas of classrooms and offices have a continued occupation, and the thermal inertia is an appropriate strategy, maintaining a constant temperature. However, there are other areas where occupation is not constant, with large fluctuations, and do not need to be climatized most of the time.

As terminal units, a system of inductors (cool beam) that integrates forced ventilation and indoor air quality both with the air conditioning at low temperatures and very little maintenance is incorporated. It requires a computer system that distributes water at low temperature (between 15 and 18 ° C), which will be ideal for a heat pump (ideally a geothermal heat pump or an absorption chiller, which uses solar energy and could double as sanitary water heater) and air handling unit system (AHU) with air renewal pretreated by basement space.

NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES

View from the lobby



NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES



View from the guests room



View from the restaurant



SUPREME COURT

LIGHTING

Use of electricity for lighting can be one of the most significant in service buildings. First we will try to reduce demand, providing enough natural light in all areas, especially in workspaces: offices, classrooms. The interior spaces are illuminated by skylights and light harvesting systems are incorporated by interior mirrors in the most remote areas.

Several light discrimination systems are also incorporated into the scheme, with sensor activated circuits, to make sure that only the darker areas are lit, and only when occupied.

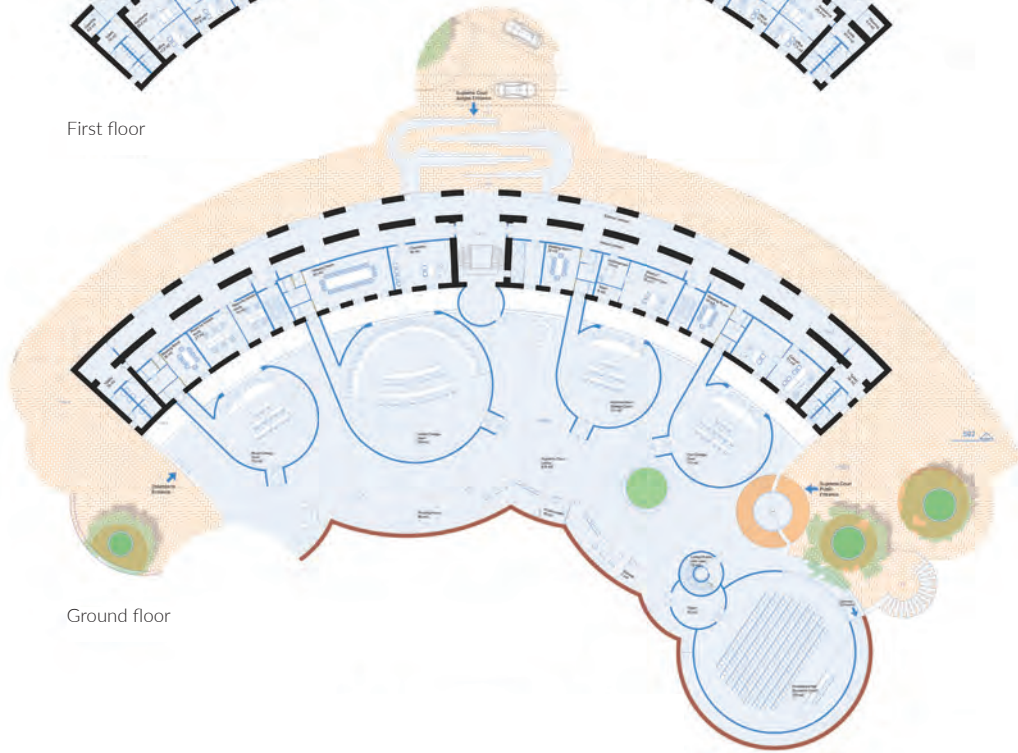
NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES



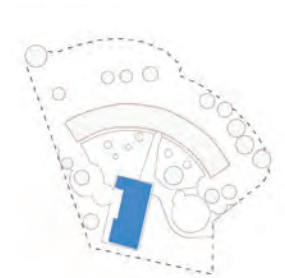
Second floor



First floor



Ground floor



SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES

MATERIAL RESOURCES

Being a rehabilitation, we will take advantage of all demolition materials performing selective demolition.

Materials to maintain: Structure & Envelopes.

Materials to reuse:

- broken marble floors, mosaic fragments, reusing materials and regularizing the surface.
- asphalt or concrete of urbanized areas, crushed and used in drains.

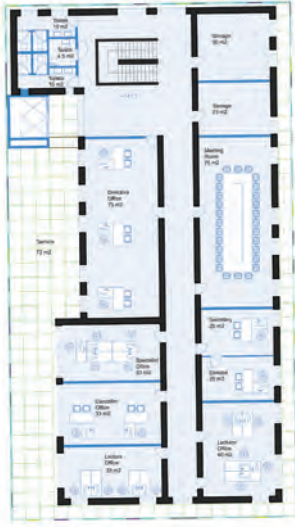
New materials: Materials with lower energy impact (or recycled materials with low environmental impact), plus VOC-free interior materials.

- concrete retaining walls with recycled aggregates from demolition.
- glass made from recycled glass
- if metal structure is used it will be recycled steel
- recycled aluminum joinery with thermal break, and/or wood
- insulation made of wood fibers, recycled cellulose
- furniture boards for baths with pressed recycled polyethylene
- street furniture from recycled plastic profiles
- interior partitions and furniture with boards from recycled carpet and/or wood

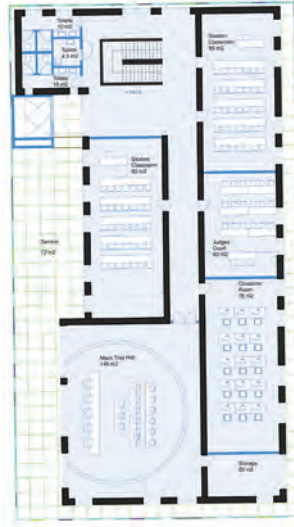


View from the School of Magistrates entrance

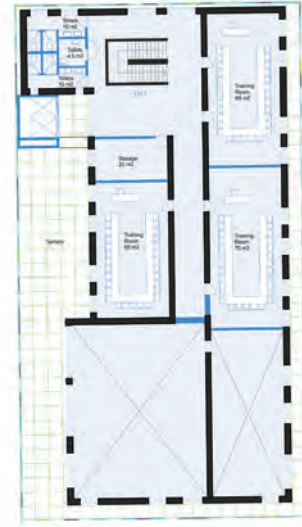
NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES



First floor



Second floor



Third floor



Elevation - School of Magistrates



SHARED FACILITIES

TRANSPORT

Our main target is to promote sustainable means of transportation. Private transport produces much more pollution and carbon emissions, and unnecessarily increases the need for infrastructure.

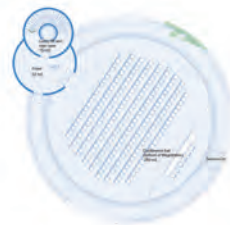
Our proposal considers the following options (in order of priority): pedestrian transport, cycling, public transport or car sharing. To this aim, the following steps are proposed:

- Create or condition the pedestrian routes to enter the building. Signaling points of interest with walking times, e.g. Mother Teresa Square (550m, 7 min), University Stadium (350m, 5 minutes), Faculty of History and Geography and Faculty of Economics, Skanderberg Square (2km, 27 minutes)
- Bicycle paths and secure parking (closed and covered) and signaling travel time to points of interest (given 1 minute for every 200 meters approx) (Skanderberg Square (2km, 10min)
- Marking of public transport: distance to nearest public transport stop: Pogradec Bound Minibus Station (550m, 7 minutes)
- Parking areas with preferred parking for high occupancy vehicles or reduced consumption
- Charging points for electric vehicles with photovoltaics

NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES



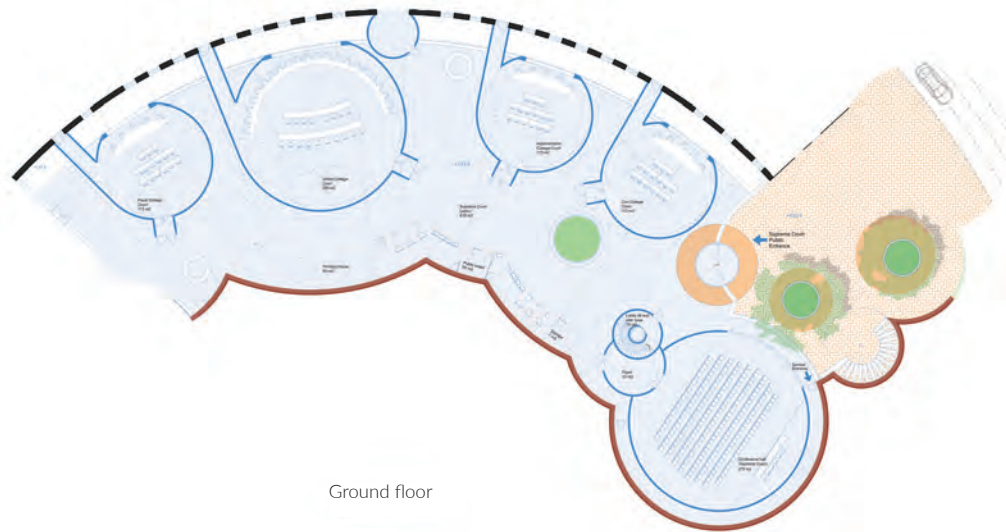
First floor



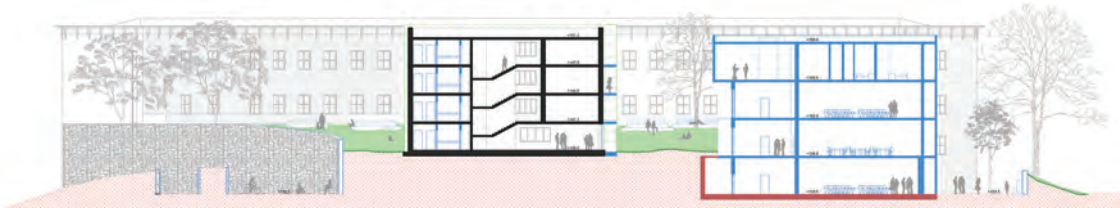
Second floor



Third floor



Ground floor



Section S02

05 CLAUDIO LUCCHIN & ARCHITETTI ASSOCIATI ANGELO RINALDO DANIELA VARNIER

TEAM COMPOSITION:

Team Leader

Claudio Lucchin

Project Manager - Estimator

Angelo Rinaldo

Landscape/Interior design

Daniela Varnier

Estimator/Architect

Marco Mozzarelli

Architect

Michele Capra

Stefania Masuino

Domenico Fogaroli

Roberto Gionta

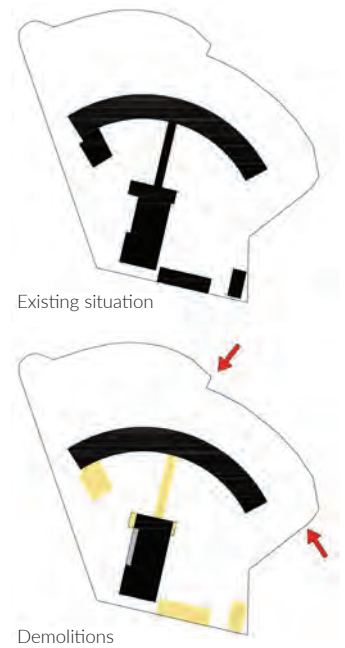
Architect/Urban Designer

Dorina Pllumbi

Ergen Agalliu

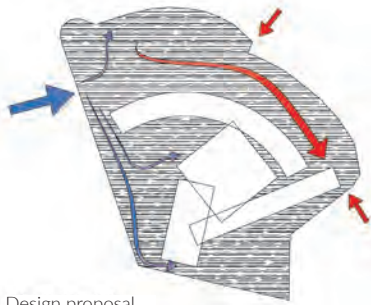
Structural engineer

Primo de Biasi

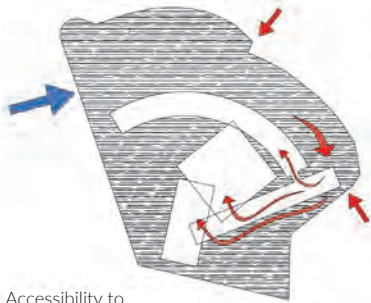


CONTEXT

We see the proposed design area as a very suitable place for this institution. The proximity to the Tirana's Artificial Lake Park, offers no urban noise pollution and it offers the chance an extra public use of the park. The location in the park is a good occasion to revitalize the area: as any big European city, also the capital of Albania needs a structured green area, where it is fundamental to fit a public program. It is of extreme importance for the identity of the park to recognize in it the possibility for a common public space for the inhabitants of Tirana, which has to be easy and safe to access. Having a public function in the park is an opportunity for the preservation of the green area, preventing big speculative overbuilding while keeping the green lung which is located in a really central area compared to the dimensions of the city.



Design proposal



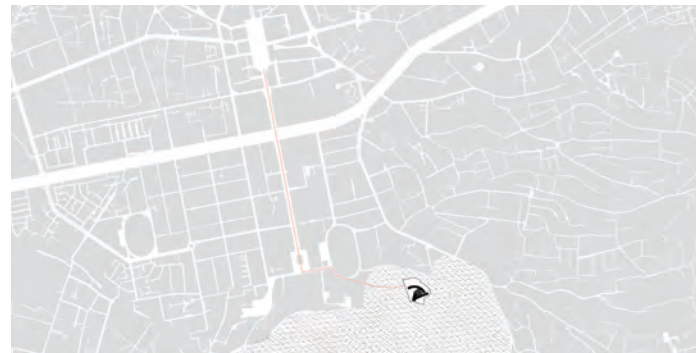
Accessibility to main volumes

The location of the area is really peculiar: on one side there is the peaceful tranquility of the park, and on the other side is the main route of the city. Therefore we propose a new access point to the area, from the side of the main route of the city, the Bulevardi Dëshmorët e Kombit and Sheshi Nënë Tereza, where all the main public institutions are situated. We see this as a good occasion to integrate the Supreme Court and School of Magistrature with the main institutions and give more strength to the Bulevardi Dëshmorët e Kombit.

This choice ensures a direct point of access from the city centre. We see our design as a filter between a really green area, and a built environment. The treatment of the surrounding landscape allows in some spots the trees of the park to be the protagonists, while in some other areas we need to ensure a sense of order, and the green area will be treated as an organized space enhancing a sense of peace and organization.

Aware of the green heritage we are dealing with, we propose our building to be located in the area where the surrounding nature will not be damaged, and we will replant rather than remove the existing trees only where it will be really necessary.

In the respect of the context, a big role is played by the existing buildings. We do recognize the cultural heritage of the historical building, and we see in the white building today already a school of Magistrature, as a potential element to sign another historical moment. In reason of these considerations, we decide to preserve both the existing buildings to make visible the development of the site over time. This choice is also animated by economic considerations.

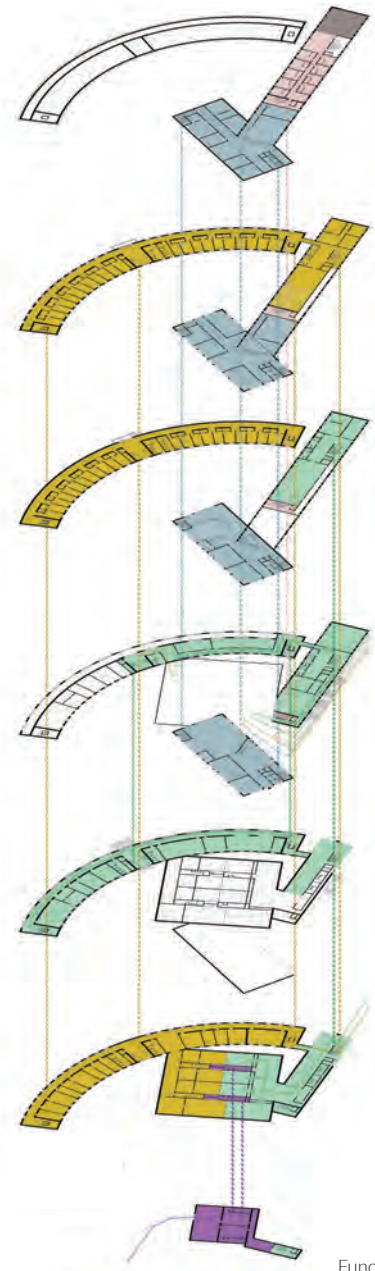


Map of Tirana

NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES

Composition. With its historical heritage site and with the importance of the institution, The Supreme court has all the premises to be a new centrality: we underline its importance with a new access point and with a public square.

The existing volumes are strong shapes, to which is not so obvious and easy to relate. The two buildings together sign an evident axis, which leaves few flexibility if we proceed in the same direction. Thus we change the grammar: to scatter the rigid axality, we propose a juxtaposition of pure geometrical shapes. The result is a poised composition/ensemble, that allows a good connection of the volumes, and which look forward the fluid use of the complex.



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View from the courtyard

With the new intervention, the feeling we aim to get, is to give a tangible sign of a new historical moment. The new building offers the chance for a new point of view.

Supreme Court

RELATION WITH THE EXISTING BUILDINGS

We preserve the historical building, and we plan a delicate restoration of it in order to emphasize its monumental character. In its proximity we keep the current building where the lecture for the magistrates are held and we propose a simpler but stronger shape, a straight parallelepiped. This allows a more organized and cleaner space, ready for newer additions. We decide to remove the existing connection, the bridge between the two buildings because it does not respect the standards of accessibility for disabled people and it does not guarantee the proper connections.

In the building site we have analyzed green and artificial areas. The artificial surfaces are the ones where nature is not really present. Due to the former treatment of the ground, less nature is involved in this artificial area. We underline this area as a possible spot where to settle the new building. While carefully studying the existence buildings, the accessibility to the area and the green area with its trees, we develop a design which merges our concept of connectivity, order and transparency, represented in a monumental view.

In view of the historical significance of the site we decided to keep both existing buildings so that the development of the site over time will be visible from the presence of both old and new. The historical building will be preserved and refurbished. The parallelepiped one will be renovated, it will get a simplification of the shape, in order to recognize it as a simpler and stronger element of the composition.



NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES



NEW BUILDINGS

With this intervention, the feeling we aim to get, is to give a tangible sign of a new historical moment. In relation to the design area, the new building offers the chance for a new point of view. While entering the area we slowly perceive the new complex, as we walk to it we see a continuous change of perspective.

We metaphorically see this as the important moment where the Country changed its perspectives, and the citizenship promoted the change of society and governmental systems. From the point of view of composition, the new building is a volume with a strong presence, quite monumental in its appearance. With its imposing presence the building represents the importance that the institution has in society. The volume is elevated to draw attention to the entrance to the Supreme Court. The ground floor is completely glazed to represent the transparency of power and easy accessibility for everyone, since it is a public institution.

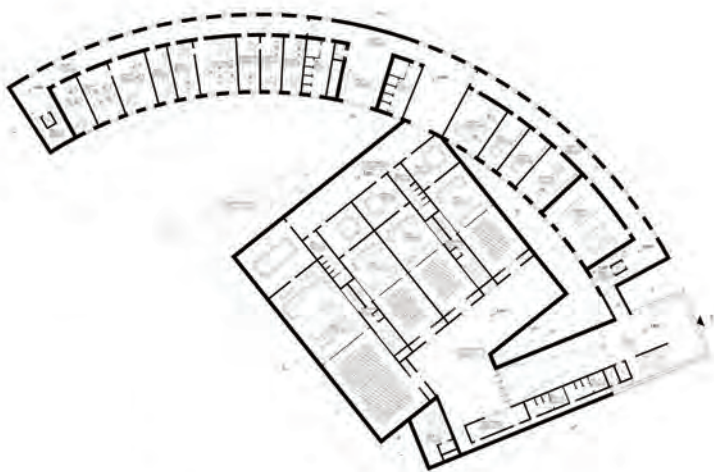


Ground floor

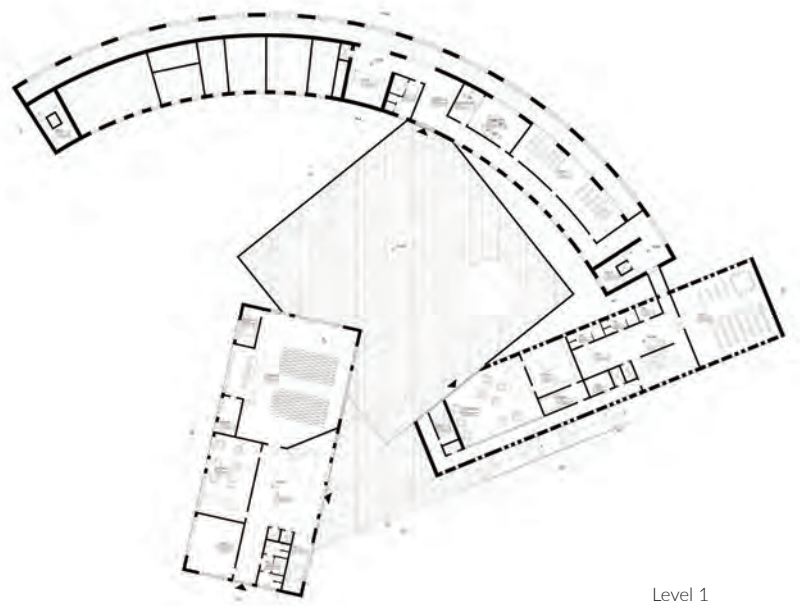
NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES



NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES



Level -1



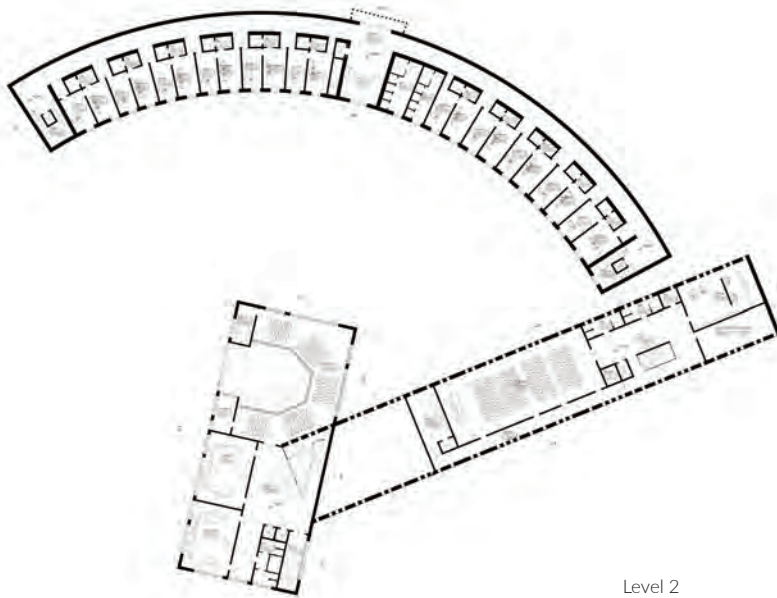
Level 1

The new building serves as the main access to all the functions, thus it is the connection between the two existing buildings and it accommodates all the functions for which there is not enough space in the existing volumes. Particular attention is given to the location of the mutual program, where the library, the conference hall and the restaurant are studied in a way to be accessible for the public, with a separate route for the facilities, without invading the dedicated area for the administrative and security bodies.

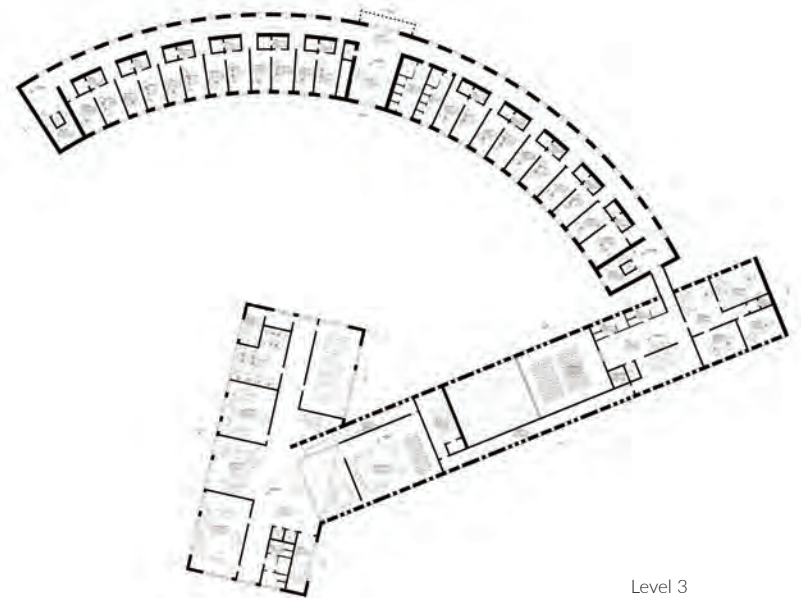
The layout ensures easy access to each part of the institution while making sure that the influx are separate. The visitors are directed in to the appropriate areas while keeping the route to each function of the building detached. The new building represents also the main access to the Court rooms. This is the heart of the complex, where law is enforced.



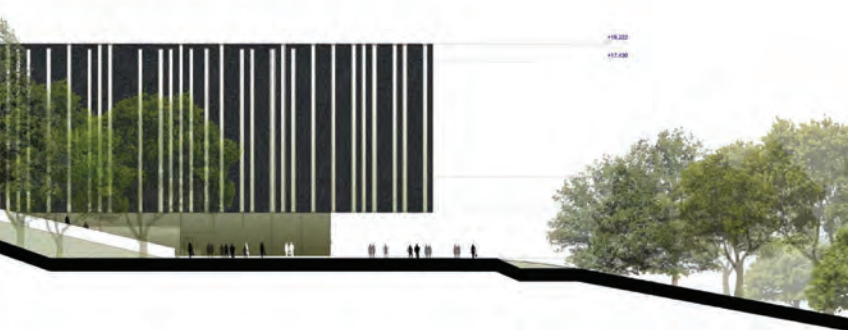
NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES



Level 2



Level 3



In our architectural composition the volume dedicated to the courts is the core around which all three buildings of the institution come together. It is at the same time the place where law is enforced, in the ground floor, and in the upper floor, the square is the occasion for a more informal gathering point. There we have the entrance to the restaurant, the school of magistrate, and a possible access point to the public offices of the Supreme Court (archives and registration offices).

The routes in to the courtrooms are separate. The public uses the main entrance. The judges enter directly from the existing historical building. The defendant uses an entrance at the back of the building and then he directly enters the court rooms via stairs or lift. According to the change of needs through time, the building offers the occasion to open more or less accessibility through the use of a pass for special areas.

The existing volumes are strong shapes, to which is not so obvious and easy to relate. The two buildings together sign an evident axis, which leaves few flexibility if we proceed in the same direction. Thus we change the grammar: to scatter the rigid axiality, we propose a juxtaposition of pure geometrical shapes. The result is a poised composition/ensemble, that allows a good connection of the volumes, and which look forward the fluid use of the complex.

EXTERNAL ACCESSIBILITY

The accessibility to the area is ensured by the new route, coming directly from the boulevard where the main institutions find place. This is an access for cars and pedestrians, while we keep the two existing points of access only for pedestrians. The main entrance split in different flows. Public cars may park at the entrance, and walk there through the main entrance, where we can enter the public offices, the Supreme Court and the

School of Magistrate. A second flow is the one for the defendant. His route is completely dedicated to him with its security. This means that the van of the police can enter the building of the Supreme Court using a ramp that leads in the underground area underneath the courtrooms. This is a reserved access to ensure a high security level and discretion from the media. Finally the flow for the facilities: for the daily loading and unloading of goods for the restaurant, library, conference hall and all the other functions, we provide a special route for the van, which will serve till the backstairs of the new building.

NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES



General view



Supreme Court, Court room

BUILDING ENERGY EFFICIENCY

We actively seek technical solutions that provide the most economical and natural systems for minimizing the environmental impact of the buildings we design. When the design development process allows for technology and architecture to optimize for a minimal environmental impact, we create building-integrated solutions where the architectural design responds to the strategy for ventilation, heating, cooling, lighting, acoustics.

We focus on letting knowledge of local climate, energy resources and building materials and techniques to inform the design from the early stages of design development. We design according to the Net Zero Energy building. A zero energy building, is a building with zero net energy consumption, meaning the total amount of energy used by the building on an annual basis is roughly equal to the amount of renewable energy created on the site. This building consequently do not increase the amount of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. We find of primary importance that such an institution is an example of environment commitment for all its citizens.

NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES



Sections

NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES

Materials and construction methods. The new building will be a load bearing structure in reinforced concrete. The cladding is a dry wall system in stone. This will work like a double skin to ensure the vertical ventilation of the facades. For the historical existing building we propose a respectful restoration with the cleaning up of the façade, and of the interior structure that we will preserve. Particular attention will be given to the connections of the new materials with the existing floors, which we will preserve. The building which will host the School of Magistrate will be renovated simplifying its shape. The constructive method and extended structure will be coherent with its former nature.



School of Magistrates, Hall

NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES

South Elevation



06 SADAR+VUGA + PRG°B R ARCHITEKTUR - WINNING TEAM

TEAM COMPOSITION:

Lead Architect

Jurij Sadar

Architect - Local Expert

Dorian Tytymçe

Landscape

Darja Matjašec

Sustainability Engineer

Markus Krauss

Construction Engineering

Angelo Žigon

Construction Engineer/Cost Estimation

Ylli Karapici

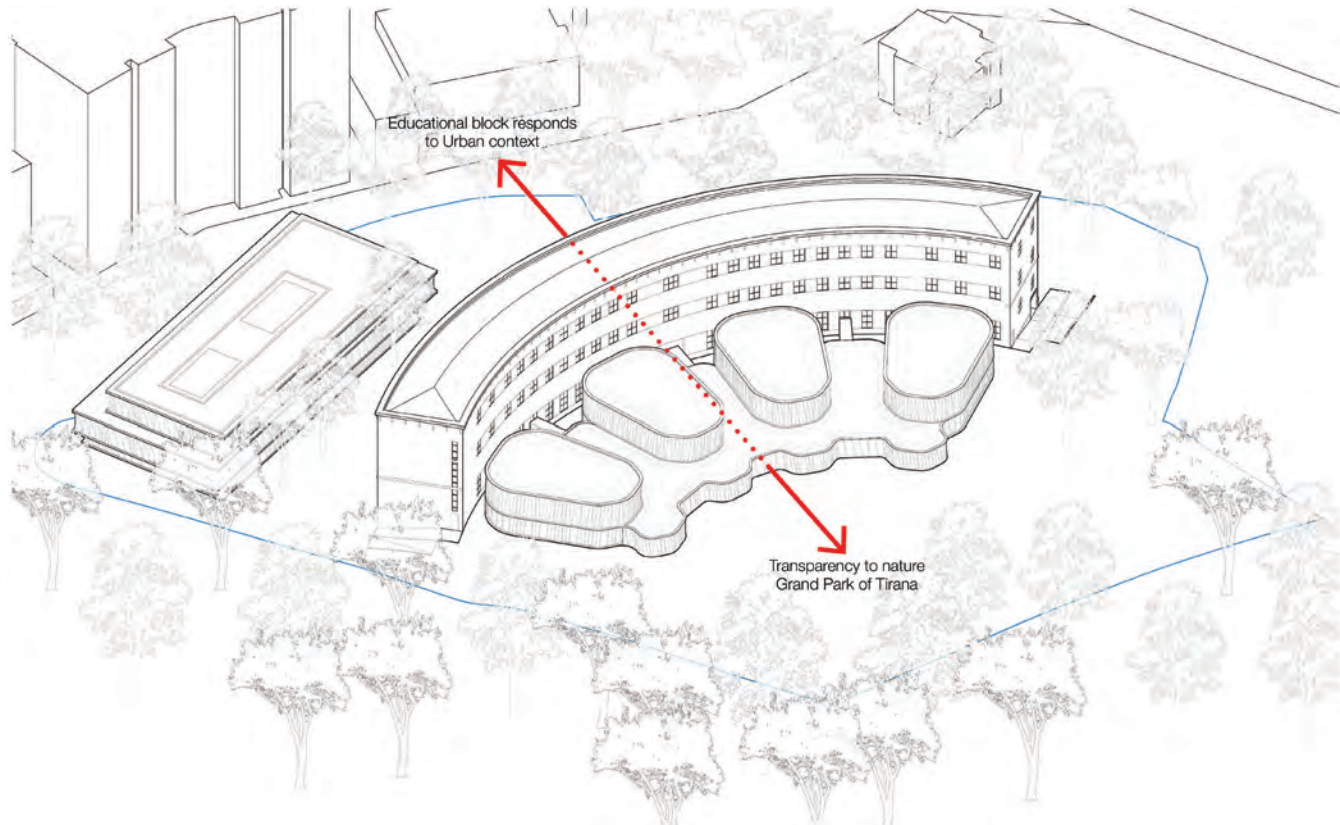
Cultural Heritage

Luise Rellensmann

Cultural Heritage - Local Expert

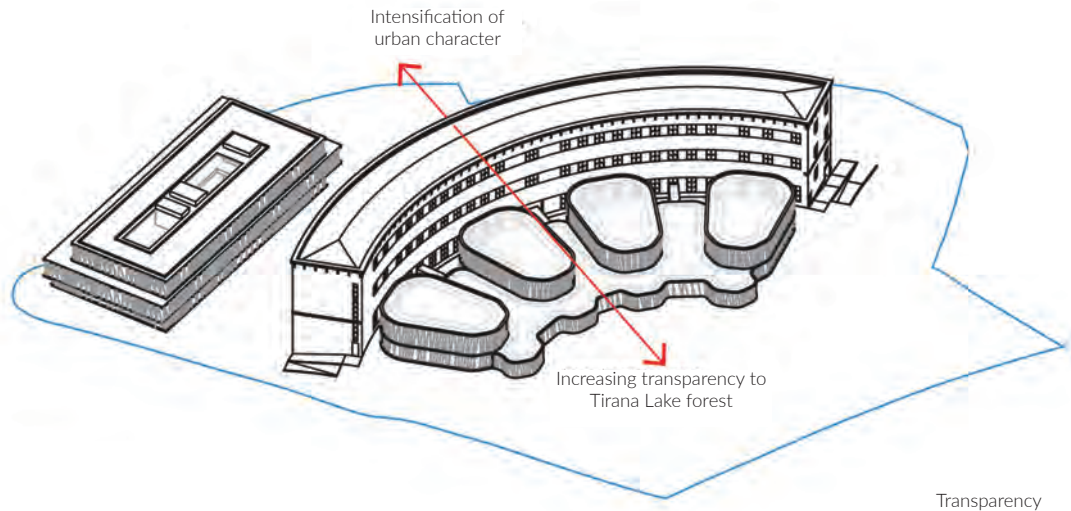
Frida Pashako

NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES



The last 25 years have led to profound transformations, shifting the country to a contemporary democracy, sharing many of the qualities of its European contemporaries. To complement this economic and political transformation, Albania is now making the crucial step of transforming its Judicial System to operate at the highest level of democratic standards. To assist this transformation, it needs the built institutions to facilitate this.

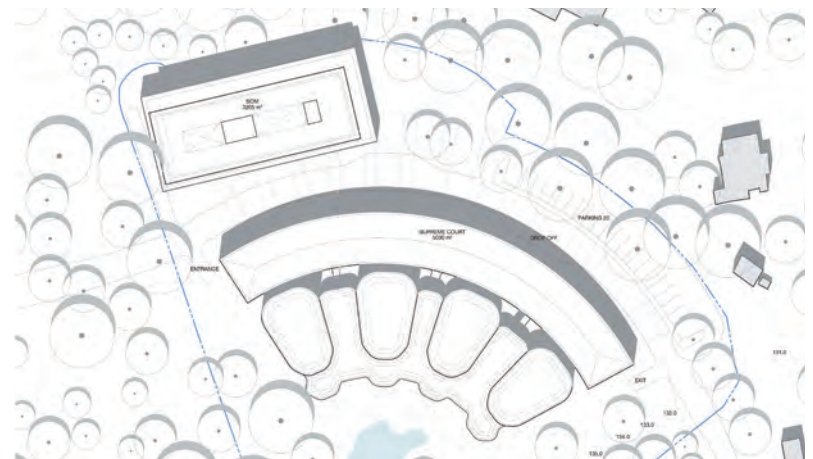
NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES



LIGHTNESS AND TRANSPARENCY

The new Headquarters of the Supreme Court and Magistrates will become a mechanism of justice, efficiency, and transparency. Located in natural setting of Lake Park Tirana, the tranquility of the forest and the strength of the existing Faculty of Geology building define the character of the site. This character is one of remoteness, an urban oasis of sorts. It is close enough to see the city, while being somewhat removed from the noise and commotion of every day urban life.

To become a true institution of justice, it is the role of the architecture to enhance both the best qualities of the natural setting, and introduce the liveliness of the city and the educational institution which will complement the Supreme Court. Therefore an urban strategy was developed that would create an animated urban square, an efficient and independent educational facility, a well organized administration block for judges and their support staff, and four secure but transparent courtrooms with a view into the nature. The project places the architectural objects in an urban relationship to one another, thereby keeping the natural setting and actually enhancing it. One really gets the feeling to step back to nature to seek the truth.

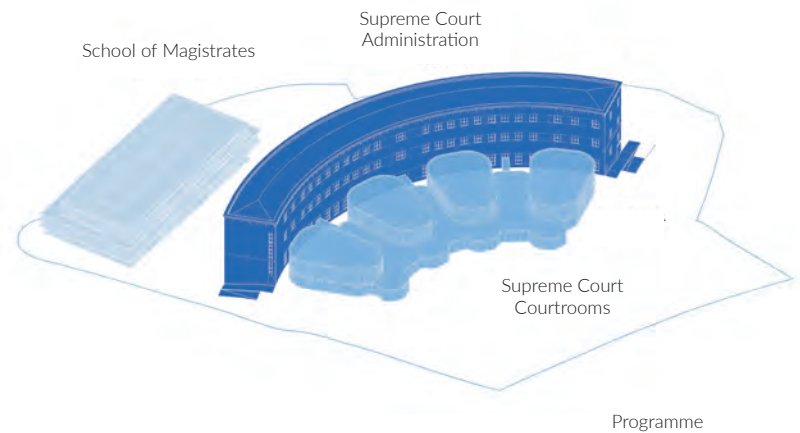


NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES



Context Plan

NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES



SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES

It was chosen to situate the educational block to the north of the site, where it shares most in common with the urban residential blocks which lay at the base of the steep hill to the north of the site. The architecture are three stacked volumes, staggered to provided covered area for dining, solar shading for meeting rooms, and providing balconies for the accommodation facilities located on the top floor. The facade is clad with playful horizontal elements, which act as shading, balcony railing support, and a privacy screen.

The print house is located on the east of the building, near to the Supreme Court, while having the possibility for natural ventilation, and functionally serving both the School of Magistrates and the Supreme Court. On the first floor are the educational and administration spaces, both being acoustically isolated from one another. The office and educational spaces are placed to maximize day lighting, and shaded where needed to provide ideal working conditions. On the top and second floor are located the spaces for lectures offices and accommodations, giving privacy, views, and walkout balconies. The accommodation spaces have independent access for after-hours entry. The School of Magistrates is connected to the Supreme Court administration block with a landscaped urban square to the south, a place that will allow for socialization, and spontaneous interaction between the various users of the institution.

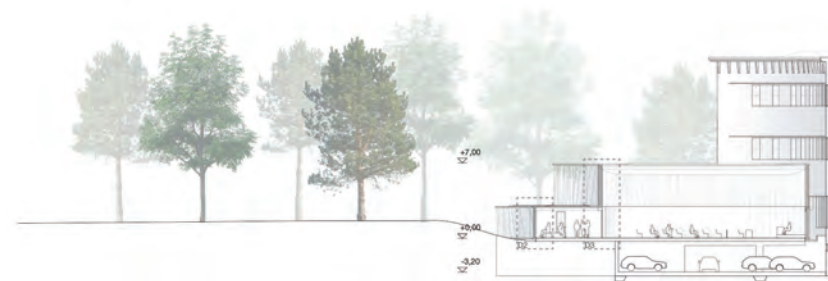
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Supreme Court and School of Magistrates in Forested Context



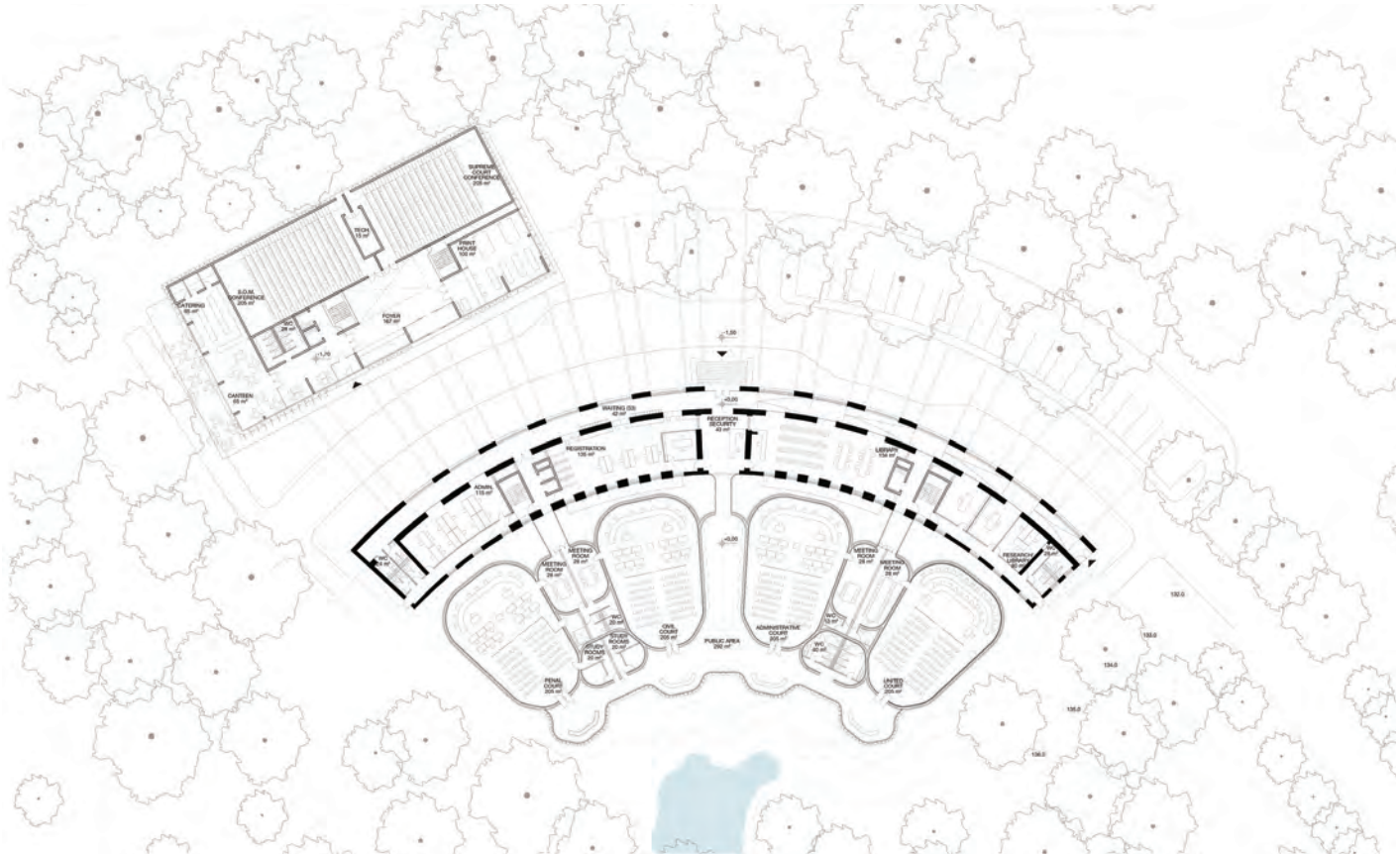
SUPREME COURT

The Supreme Court inhabits the existing Faculty of Geology building, provided all of the necessary judicial services to allow the Supreme Court to operate in the most efficient means possible. The building's main entry is kept, while glazing the arcade for access, security, and environmental reasons. A barrier free ramp is introduced on the east side of the arcade. When one enters the facility they are met by reception, information services and a security check. On the west of the ground floor provides registration, waiting, and administration services for those needing to use the facility. On the east of the ground floor, a library facility is provided for students of law, lawyers or attorneys who need to consult professional documentation. This space can double as a media room when needed.



Transverse Section

NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES



Ground floor plan



The first and second floors are connected with two new enclosed and secure circulation cores, which are directly connected to secure parking for judges when entering the facilities. This vertical circulation can bring the judges both up to their office, down to the courtrooms when they need to serve as an acting judge. Both floors provide meeting rooms and social spaces where the judges, clerks, and secretaries can meet when taking a break from their work. The judges have enclosed work spaces, where they can conduct small meetings and conduct their work in privacy, and their support staff is located directly adjacent to them, for efficient workflow and communication.

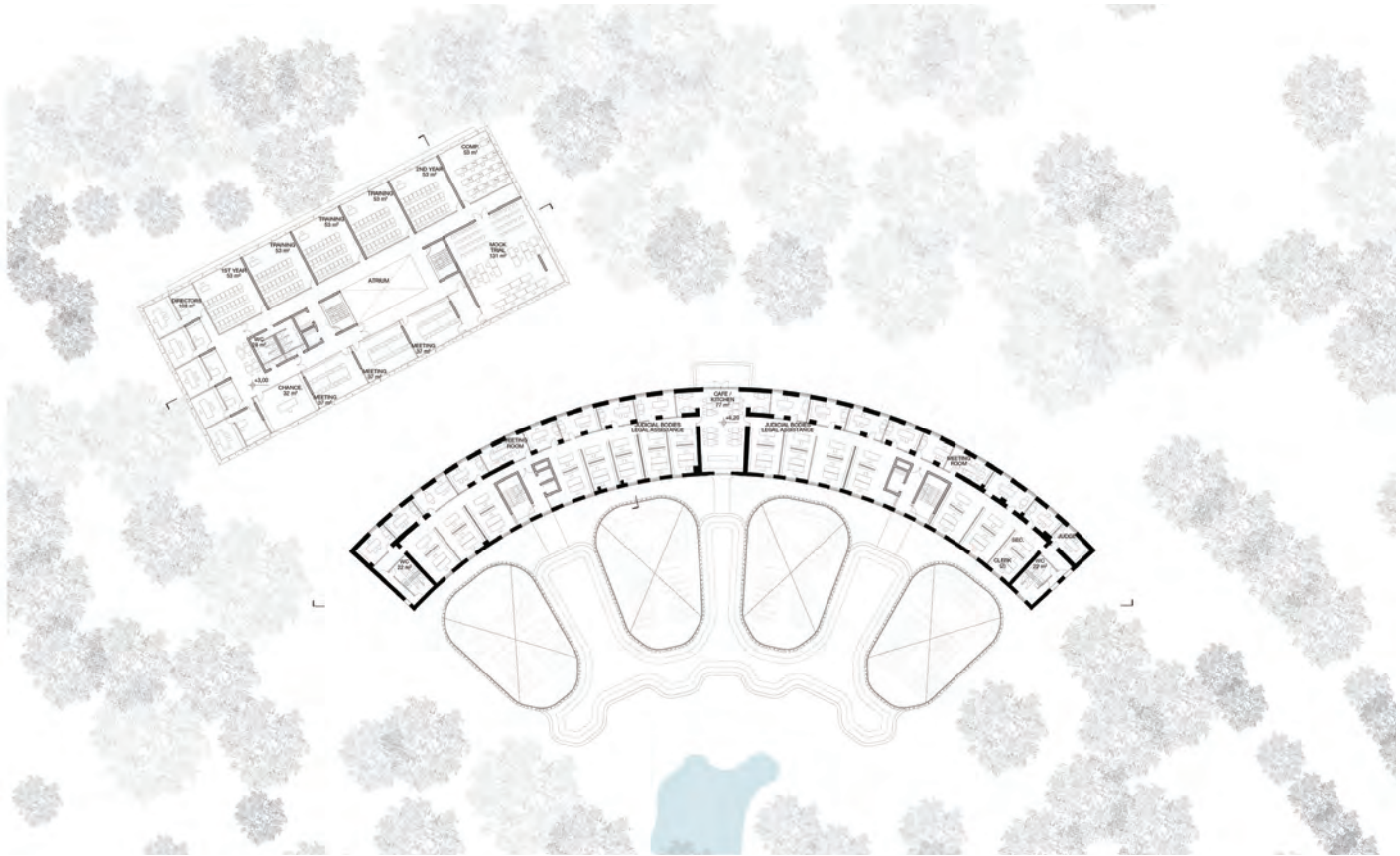
THE COURTROOMS

Before entering the courtrooms, the public passes through a security check to check their mobile devices, baggage, and jackets. The visitor then passes through a representational space, aligned on the building's main North West monumental axis. This space would present the Institutions history and main judicial figures. The individual then enters a buffer space between the Courtrooms, which serves as a waiting space, with frames views into the nature to the south. Benches are provided allowing one to sit in reflection, looking into nature, before what could be a challenging experience. On the west, are located the lawyers and prosecutors study rooms, where they can prepare their documents before their trial.



Waiting Area

NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES



First floor plan



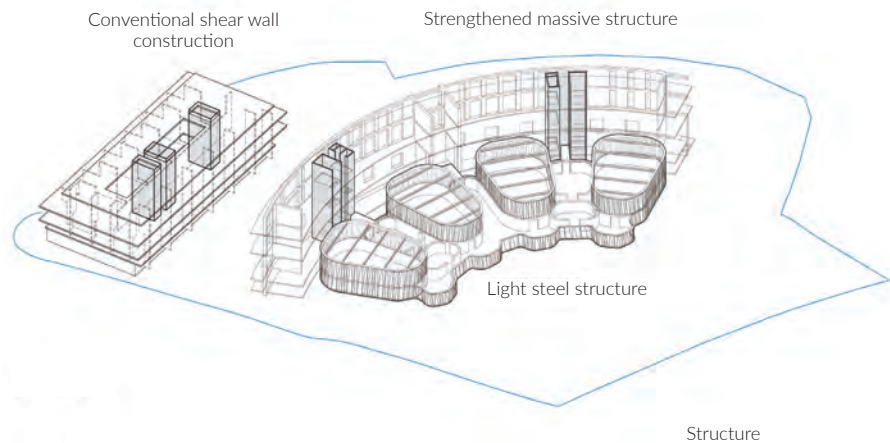
South Elevation

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A neutral material palette was chosen for the buildings, as to not compete with the strength of the existing stone structure, but also as it highlights the power of the new spaces. Natural materials, simple finishes, and transparency are the material characters of the new architecture.

The judges enter the courtroom by coming down the secure vertical core. This leads them over a connecting bridge, and into their meeting rooms. This is a secure space where they can meet before, during, or after a trial to discuss important information in private. It is also a secure zone in the event of security issues.

The courtrooms themselves are transparent volumes, with three meter high wooden clad acoustic walls. The glazing above provides plentiful day lighting, and views into the surrounding forest and of the existing monumental architecture. The ceiling has a fine lattice structure to it, dissolving its scale, thereby enhancing the floating-like nature of the roof above. The glazing is of a high performance value, complemented with shading for environmental comfort.



STRUCTURE

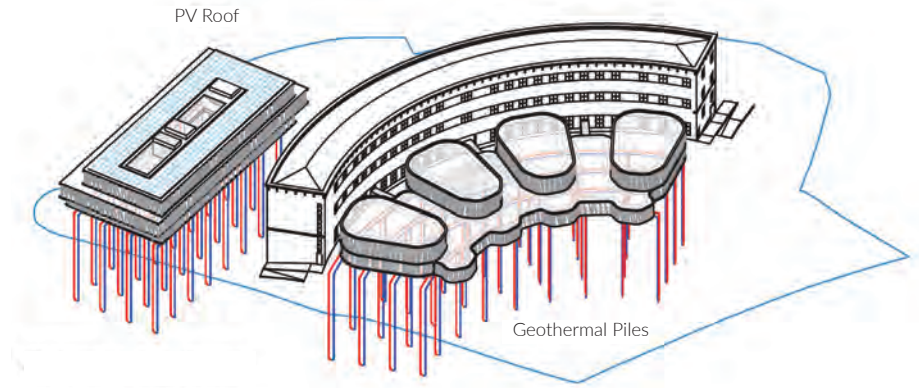
When developing a structural system for each of the three architecture objects, an architectural language had to be developed in conjunction with seismic considerations as Tirana is located in a seismically active zone. For the School of Magistrates, a conventional reinforced concrete system was chosen, with vertical supports from shear walls, with cantilevers being out of steel, and two concrete cores for horizontal stability. The shear walls provided excellent acoustic and fire separation between the various educational and administration services.

In the existing structure two new vertical cores will be introduced which will improve the structures response during earthquakes. The existing non-load bearing walls are removed, and minimal interventions are made for doors and interior glazing on the interior structural wall to the north. Existing walls will be inspected and material samples will be tested in a laboratory to establish their structural performance. Where required, the existing structural walls will be strengthened, and beams will be added.

The Courtrooms will sit upon a covered underground parking, which will provide an excellent engineered foundation for the large volumes above. The radial structure reflects the existing building to the north. For main the Courtroom volumes, the exterior vertical tubular elements act as the structural elements. The vertical elements will take the vertical loads, and diagonal tubes will take the horizontal loads. These filigree elements will be tied together with a ring beam at the base and top, acting as an unified structural system which is both strong and flexible.



Courtroom Interior



Environmental - Active Systems

ENVIRONMENTAL

The environmental and energy strategy focuses on renewable and local resources, lowering long term operational costs of the facility. For the main heating and cooling of the institution a geothermal pile system will be used in combination with a heat pump for both the proposed structures and existing renovated structure. These piles would be located under the proposed School and the underground parking to the south of the existing structure. The energy of the ground is used directly for free cooling in the summer, and for preheating in the cooler months.

Photovoltaic cells on the roof will generate renewable electricity, powering the heat pumps, as well as powering the lighting which will be used after the sun goes down. In the School of Magistrates a fresh air supply system will be used in the main conference rooms, and the training rooms above. This will be complimented with radiant heating and cooling in the ceiling, and will guarantee excellent comfort all year-round. The upper floors with offices and hotel rooms will use natural ventilation, and a radiant ceiling. The facade will incorporate a shading system to prevent overheating. The objective for the existing building is to provide the most comfort with minimal intervention to the historic object. Therefore the exterior plastered walls would be retreated with insulating exterior

plaster, and the interior would also be insulated in accordance with the historical preservation guidelines. New high performance windows would be introduced, which follow the proportions of the original design. On the south a horizontal brise soleil is introduced, to prevent the southern facade from receiving excessive direct sunlight. The ground floor would be conditioned in combination with radiant ceilings, whereas the office floors above would use natural ventilation and radiant ceilings.

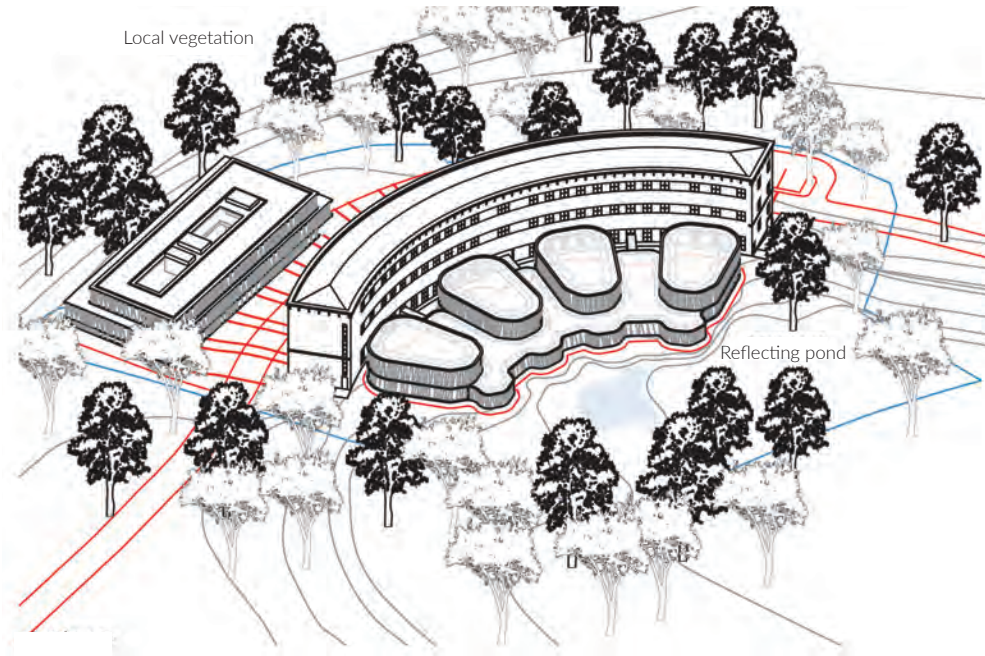
The underground parking would be naturally ventilated, with fresh air openings at both the entrance and the exit, as well as utilizing the two vertical shafts in the existing building. The mechanical space for the Supreme Court offices and Courthouses is located in the underground parking, preventing a major intervention on the existing structure. For the Courtrooms above, fresh air would be brought in through the floor, which is the most comfortable and efficient way to introduce fresh air into a large volume space. This would be complemented with the use of a chilled ceiling, and thermal shading which would be located on the inside of the glass. The glazing itself would be triple glazed with low emissive glass. This will help keep the space at an even temperature, allow for ample daylight penetration, and prevent the penetration of thermal radiation.

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Entrance to Supreme Court and School of Magistrates

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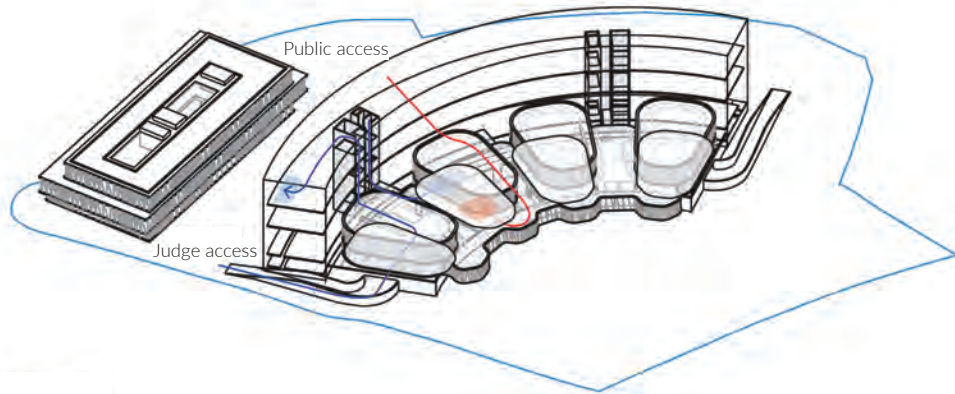


Landscape

LANDSCAPE

As opposed to being additive, the landscape is fundamental to the design approach of the project. By locating the three built objects close together, the nature of the Lake Park is maintained. Through further planting, framing views, and introducing users to the site, this natural character is strengthened. Vegetation and trees are used for their visual qualities, as well as for performative reasons. In the parking on the north of the site, they are used for shading, and they also help add buffer between the School of Magistrates building and the Supreme Court administrative structure. On the Supreme Courthouses, a green roof is used for both insulation, but also to add to the flora and fauna of the site, so that the architecture is integral with the nature.

Additional trees will be introduced to the south of the site where the previous School of Magistrates structure one stood and a water feature will be introduced at the site of its former foundation. The water will provide visual interest, as it will reflect the sky and trees from above, which will be seen by the clerks, secretaries and judges on the first and second floor of the Supreme Court building. It will also provide evaporative cooling during the hot summer months cooling the surrounding forest. All additional vegetation introduced to the site will be of native species, such as *Cupressus sempervirens* and *Celtis australis*.



Circulations

PRESERVATION APPROACH

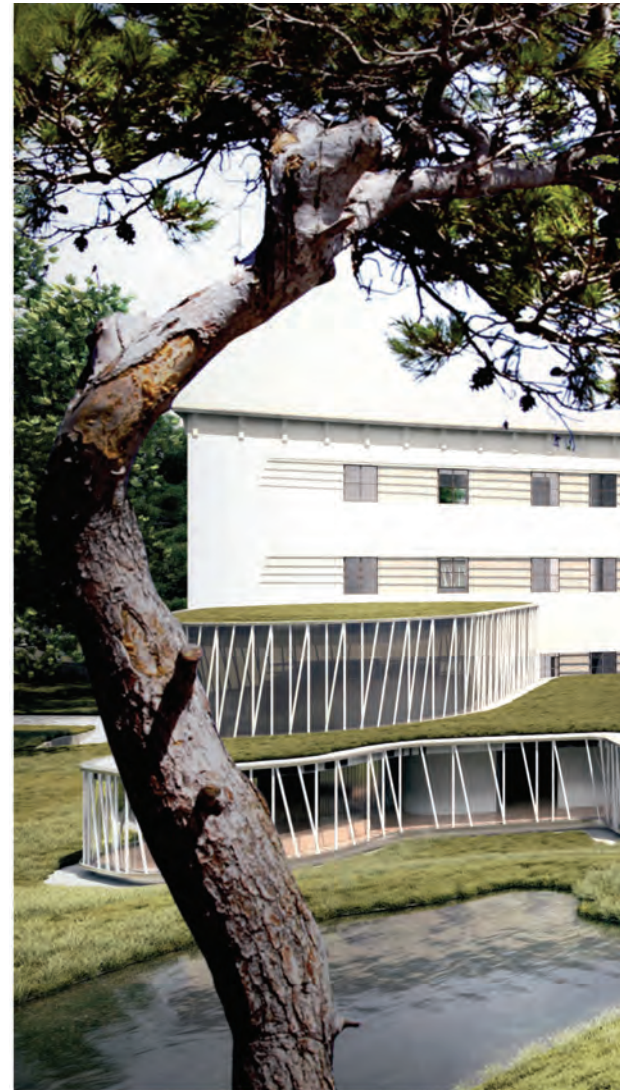
The historical parks themselves as well as the monument building by Cesare Valle are considered the main objects of cultural significance on the site. The design keeps the historical facade of the building, while reintroducing the original window elements, and proposes a new massing which relates to the original design and the urban fabric.

The original design featured the radial building, as well as two adjacent rectilinear structures. As it was intended to be a girl's dormitory, the use of different typologies was important as the different forms would signify to the user the function of the building. A similar strategy was taken for the new design of the Supreme Court and School of Magistrates. Each building has a different typology, to represent its function. The School is a rectilinear block, reflecting the urban surroundings, and educational facilities in general, the existing structure becomes the Supreme Court Administration, and the new Courtrooms are a new typology of the Supreme Court representation its transparency and openness. The lightness and flowing nature contrast the existing structure, which is more massive and dominant, and represent a different philosophy of design, politics, and justice. The new buildings in general do not try and copy or compete with the past, but they do intend to be sensitive to the context and enhance the design of Cesar Valles' rationalist Italian architecture.

FIRE SAFETY

Two enclosed fire stairs are introduced in the existing structure. These will be constructed of reinforced concrete, and will meet all local standards for fire safety. Where needed for ease of circulation the doors will have an 'always open' door swing, which would close in the event of a fire. There are two means of direct escape on the ground floor, with the introduction of two fire escape doors in the south of the east and west facades. The courthouses have two means of egress, one for the judges to the north, and one for the public to the south. An emergency escape door is introduced to the facade on both the east and the west in the waiting areas.

View from forest



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07 ALN | ARCHITEKTURBÜRO LEINHÄUPL+NEUBER GMBH + STUDIOARCH4

TEAM COMPOSITION:

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Civil engineering & Cost estimator

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Felissia Veliu

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Architect & Heritage specialist

Annisa Kryeziu



Among public buildings, courthouse facilities represent a unique and interesting building type: on one hand, for a large portion of the society they present a point of contact with the government, especially the judicial system, and as such, in the eyes of the public, courthouse facilities have a great symbolic value where they represent justice, fairness, and equality among members of the society, which means that the architecture and design of courthouse buildings is charged with meaning and symbolic values.

INTRODUCTION

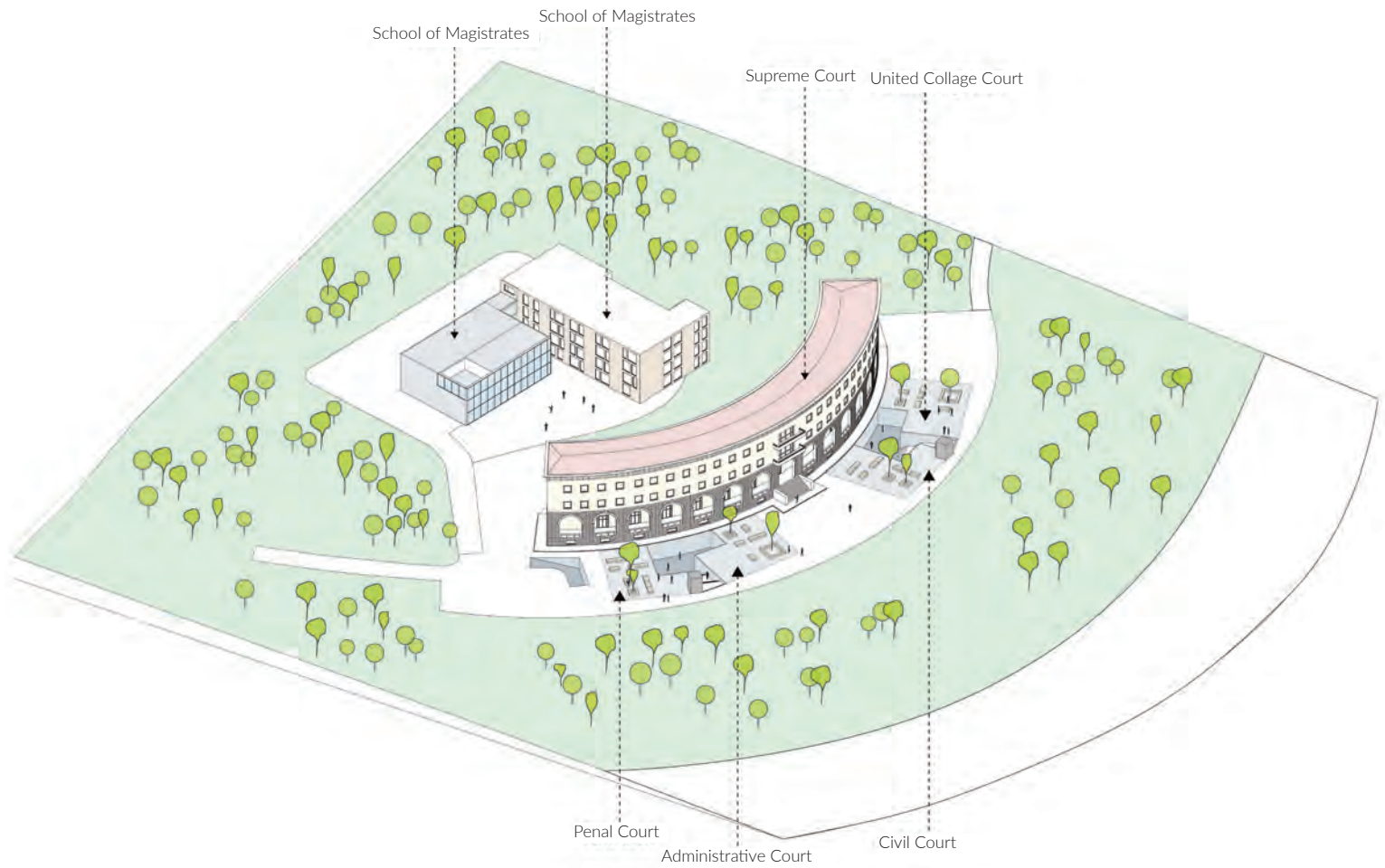
Courthouse buildings have varying architectural styles depending on the subjective interpretation of the designer/s of the aesthetics associated with the values mentioned above as well as the aesthetics of the community for which the courthouse is being designed for and the judicial staff that is involved in the design process. Accordingly, it can be argued that despite the fact courthouse facilities vary to a great extent in their size, complexity, form and configuration, and architectural style, that underlies the designs of many contemporary courthouse facilities, there are well formulated functional structures and patterns that have a formal configuration especially in the design of courtroom floors that are shared among a population of courthouses, and that there is a finite set of these functional structures/patterns that underlie the design of many courtroom floors in courthouse buildings.

WHAT IS THE SUPREME COURT? HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The Supreme Court, based in Tirana, is the highest judicial authority in the Republic of Albania. Its main mission is to examine the request of the parties, the decisions of the courts of lower instances. It is important in the design of the building to understand how the Supreme Court is organized and which are its functions. The Supreme Court is represented by its chairman who is assisted by counselors and support staff.

The Supreme Court is held in two Colleges (criminal and civil), who try appeals for judicial matters according to the rules laid down in the Code of Civil Procedure and the Code of Criminal Procedure. Besides trial Colleges (criminal and civil), the Supreme Court judges are part of the United Colleges, which means the panel of judges composed of all judges of both Chambers.

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CONCEPT

- Restoring the historical layer
- Different private / public layers
- Connection court / magistrate school
- Sustainability / sensibility towards nature

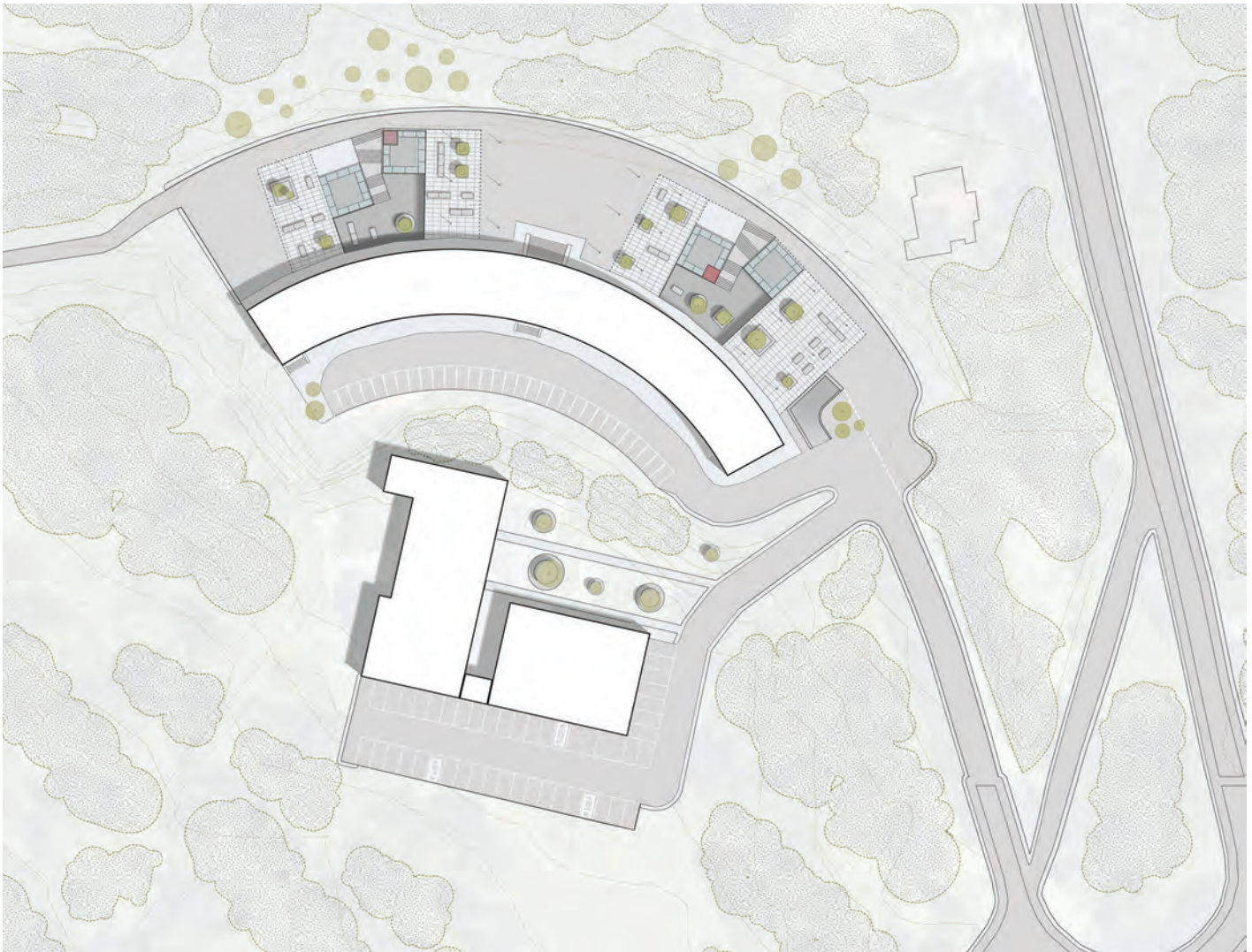
PROBLEMS

Common problems affecting the courts include a lack of space for attorney-client consultations, cramped clerk offices, inadequate space for storing files. A very high number of cases and a relatively low number of courtrooms mean that judges develop trials often in their offices, which in themselves are small and overcrowded. While some courts have separate entrances to the dock, the rest do not. The judges expressed concern about safety in connection with this arrangement, noting that the defendants must pass directly by the bench, although accompanied by police officers, in order to enter the courtroom.



Masterplan layers

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Masterplan

THEORETICAL APPROACH

Design strategies related to public entry point and the facade can be observed in comparison with other strategies range. More specifically, articulation entry, entry-glance, and the creation of inviting entry, along with ensuring transparency inside-out, are the most frequently used strategies. Other groupings include internal strategies (organizational clarity, illumination and inclusion as transparency), and external strategies (exposure, transparency). Interaction strategies also need to be defined and well-developed. For example, discussions on the articulation of entry are very detailed and specific. There are many references to a central atrium space or functional separation serving as agents of the organization.

The same can be said about the lighting and in a lesser extent for inclusion. Overall, cooperation strategies should be defined and well-developed compared with the strategies of internal or external. More specifically, all three interpretations of transparency and entry strategies related to design (articulation of entry, the entry visible and inviting entrance) seems to be in the details. Reducing the impact of imposing security at ports of entry is probably easier. Safety affects the provision of numerous traffic. The design of the court building is in the design flow, where public employee's roads are allocated for security reasons. Design of multiple rotations to the public in such a scenario probably proves to be a very challenging task. Co public officials / social and celebrations in a security situation could prove to be a major area of conflict. Only an internal strategy that seems to have less conflict, is in the field of transparency as lighting. So it appears that some strategies that are more developed and detailed, are where designers experience a relatively conflict-free environment decision.

Less implemented strategy should be those who experience conflict with security or economic considerations. In contemporary architecture, one will witness a growing focus on cooperation strategies, and in a lesser extent in the interior and external strategies to the courthouse.

Design of access points, inviting the public, extended the area with glass facade and roofs, will probably constitute the main point of departure from the designs of the previous courthouses. Due to social, political, economic and technological factors, public areas has been changing. Public and governmental buildings are going through changes, to maintain the level of interaction of the elected government of a democratic society. Opening a relatively new construct, should represent the great momentum that difference. Connectivity between spaces is a fundamental property of Court buildings and thus plays a key role in functionality and working properly the court system. We draw a distinction between visual connections, and paths that connect the physical movement of persons. Visual connections are necessary for orientation, and for creating a coherent picture of a building setting. Nevertheless, because they do not always coincide with paths and roads. The interdependence between visual connections and paths is highly complex, and will be treated in building with unity. Supreme Court has to work properly between Public and semi-Public spaces, the cases themselves and the story behind the idea of justice has to be open and clear in front of the society - the border between the inside and outside has to be invisible. Same rules have to be implemented

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Access, transparency, exposure, clarity of organization, lighting, and inclusion are six different ways, which have been used by Architects in creating new courts.



TYPOLOGIES STUDY

In the case of many institutional buildings, such as courts, program and functional requirements represent the basic elements that will influence the spatial layout of the building and in its final form. Thus, a way to study the courts is to identify functional structures in judicial floors, which will affect the shape and layout of the court through the development of an analytical typology.

The purpose of the analysis is to identify these functional structures that underlie the contemporary design in many courts, and their spatial implications and, through this, to derive conclusions about the similarities and commonalities between them, and to place them as functional prototypes. This research is based on functional structures, based on which it is concluded that two main floors prototypes court type should be analyzed. These can be identified by their geometric, central and linear configuration. This is based on the functional structures that are found.

The purpose of the analytical typology is not to reproduce existing buildings, but to identify the key components or elements of buildings, and describe these together in an overall composition. Typology in the case of this research is based on practical and functional considerations and not in formal ones, although they are closely related. In order to approach the functioning of the court more, we should understand it as organized functional system. This understanding is best done through charts and diagrams, which explicitly presents the court functions and their relationships. After analyzing the different floors plans, they can be grouped into two main first prototypes by their configuration. The essential difference between these two prototypes depends on the location of public space, ie. whether it is centralized between courtrooms and accessed from both sides, or if it is located on the outskirts of configuration and access to courtrooms are only one side of the public space.

A. CENTRAL TYPOLOGIES

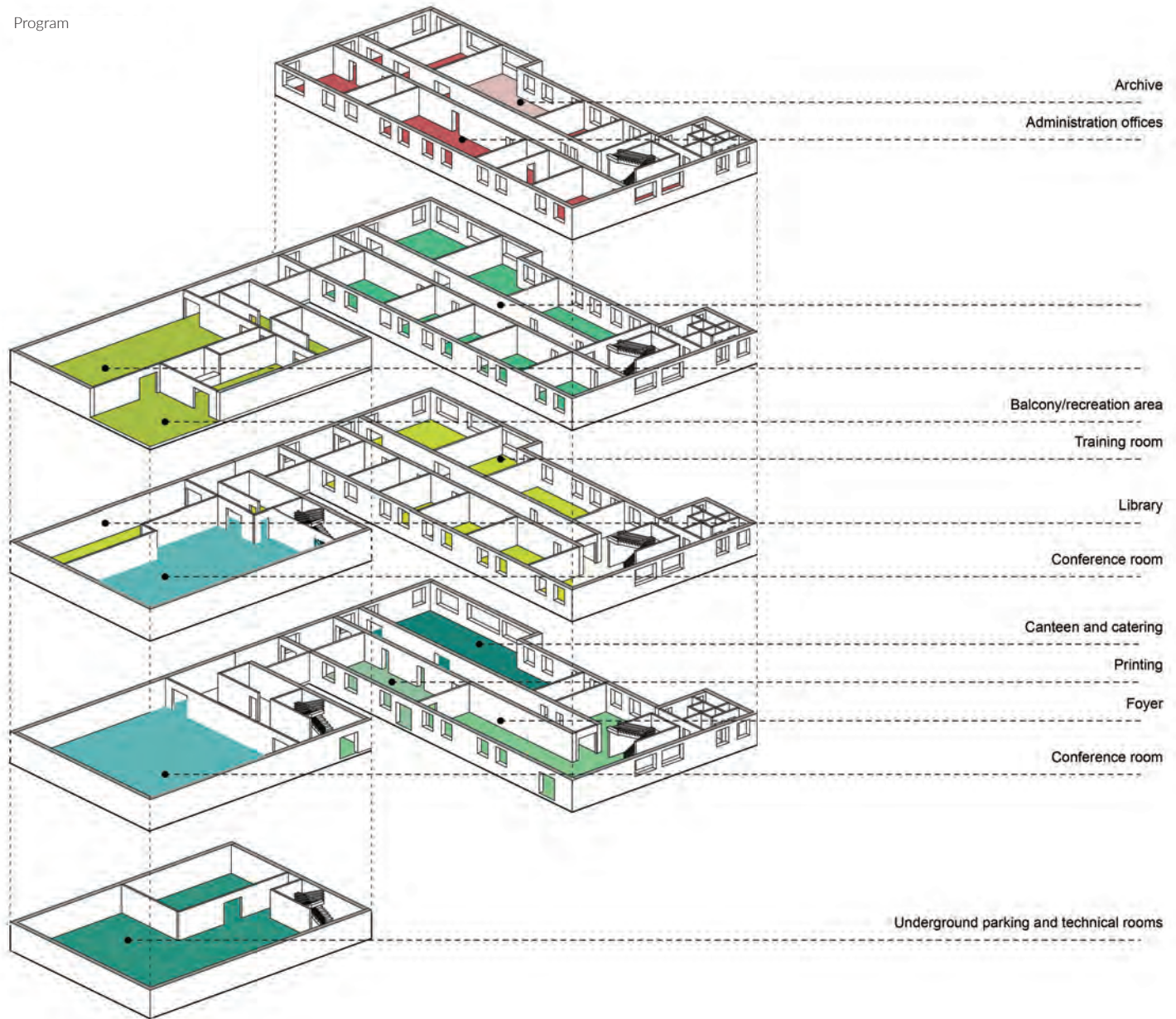
In this prototype, the courtroom floor has a central public space in courtrooms on either side of the central space and limited areas, or private, in the suburbs. In this prototype, public circulation is concentrated in the center of a rectangular shape. Four courtrooms are located in the public area. Private or restricted circulation of linking different parts of the court limited: suites of judges, jury deliberation, support the court and the courtroom, along with limited vertical circulation.

B. LINEAR TYPOLOGIES

In this configuration, public space is linear and is found on one side of the configuration, and courtrooms determine its internal sides. It takes the form of a linear corridor / connector courtroom, deciding between public area and restricted area. In this prototype, the movement takes a linear model in both public and restricted areas.

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Program

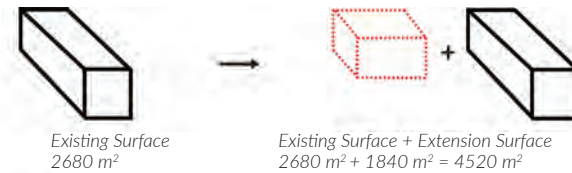
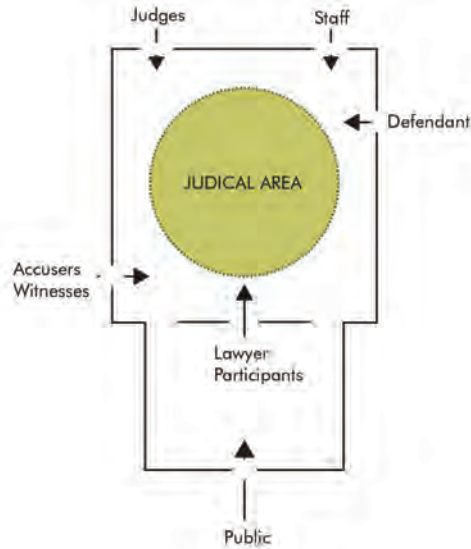


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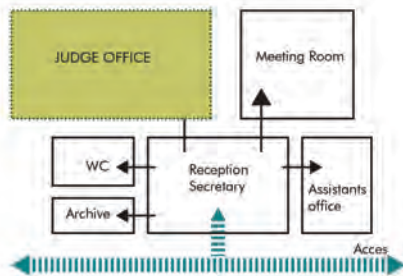


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Diagrams



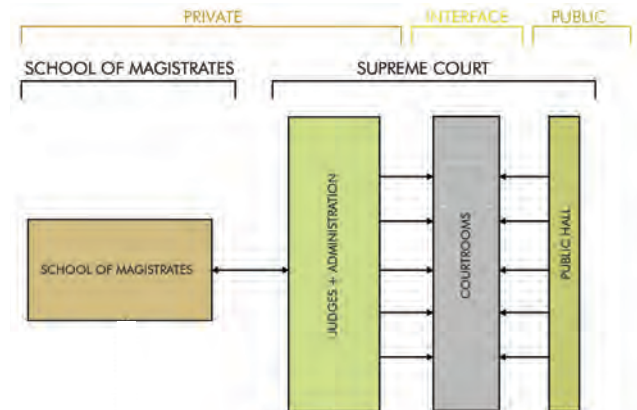
School of Magistrates - extension



In the case of criminal courtrooms, three separate and distinct entry points should be provided; a single public entry point from the public zone, a restricted or private entry point for the judicial officers, court personnel through one or two entry points from the restricted circulation system, and a secured entry point for defendants in custody from the secure circulation system. Usually a wooden railing in a manner that controls movement of the public separates the spectator area and the litigation area.

According to the guidelines, these functions i.e. chambers, support staff workstations, reception area, research attorney offices and conference rooms should be clustered or grouped together along with their services for the better functional and technical reasons. In some cases, all these functions may be in a single room, in others, they may be clustered on the same floor or on separate floors- shortcomings of such clustering may require a small robbing area and a conference room adjacent to each courtroom on courtroom floors, and in some other ones some functions may not be provided at all.

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RESTORING THE HISTORICAL LAYER

A very important part of our vision consists in preserving the historical layer of the existing structure, restoring it where it is needed. The intervention will happen just in the interior part of the building with different ways of organizing the existing space, accommodating the new layout of the juridical administration.

DIFFERENT PRIVATE / PUBLIC LAYERS

One of the approaches consists in the separation and the connection of public and private, allowing the public to penetrate into the building (the principle of transparency and openness for the citizens), but also giving to the administration and to the school the needed privacy. The structure is divided into private (administration, offices, archives), interface (courtrooms) and public. Part of the public space are the open parks (greenery), waiting areas, canteens etc. The access and the movement is organized in order to provide this division of private/public, achieving also the required security of the judges/defendants.

CONNECTION COURT / MAGISTRATE SCHOOL

The magistrate school is a new addition near the Supreme Court and its functions are connected with the court, functioning as cooperating structures. The judges of the supreme court will provide their expertise, their knowledge and help for the new students of the magistrate school, meanwhile the new judges will help and work as assistants for the collegiums of judges. Also, the juridical administration can use the functions (canteen, library, auditorium) of the magistrate school.

SUSTAINABILITY / SENSIBILITY TOWARDS NATURE

We are very sensitive towards nature and want to preserve the green elements of the area. The existing structure and park area are preserved, and the new building will be implemented semi-underground. The upper part of the new courtrooms will be covered in trees and greenery, allowing the light to enter the building, but having a low impact in nature. The light will enter through the patios, and the courtrooms will have artificial light and ventilation.

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SUPREME COURT ADMINISTRATION

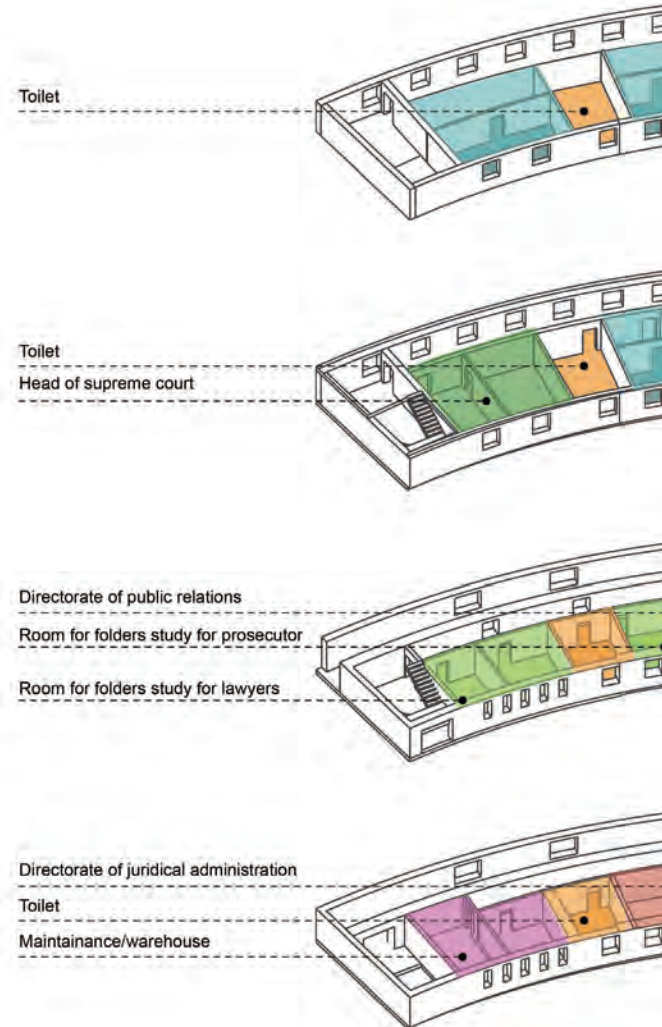
The existing building will be restored and all the administrative functions, juridical body offices, head of the supreme court, etc will be accommodated into this building. Two upper floors will serve as offices for the juridical body, allowing them more privacy from the public eye. The ground floor will accommodate the more public functions such as reception, library, waiting areas etc. Meanwhile the underground floor will serve for the archive, security sector, etc, but also as a connection for the administrative building with the new court rooms. The building is a second category monument, so we will preserve the outside building, but there will be changes in the inside to distribute all the functions

MAGISTRATE SCHOOL

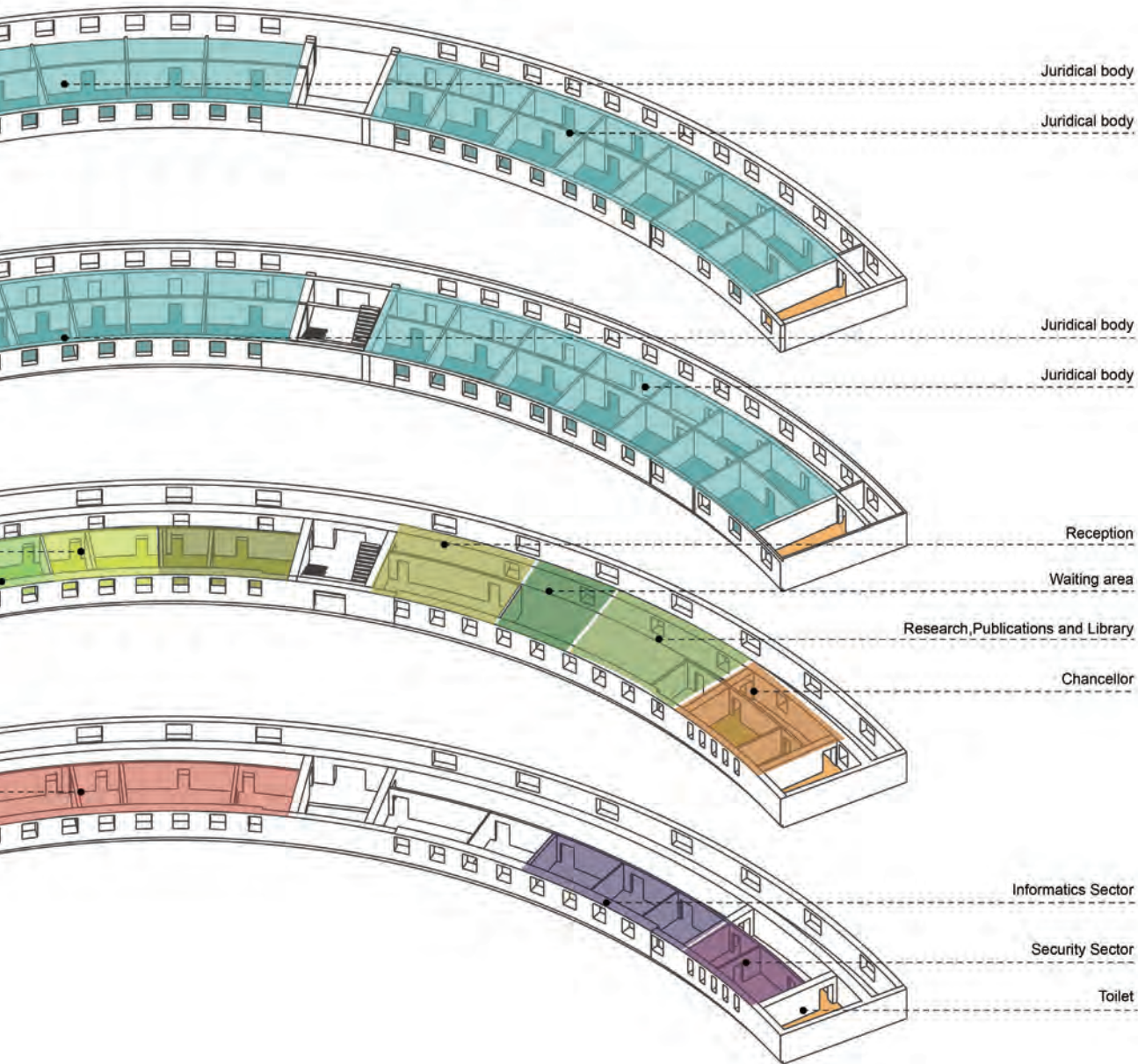
It was impossible to accommodate all the required functions in the existing building, so we are adding an extra, that will serve as a more open and public building with conference rooms, canteen, library etc. The existing building will serve as a space for the students, with classes, workshop rooms, study rooms etc. The two buildings are connected with bridges with each other. In order to give more importance to the monumental building, also considering the fact that the building is in the middle of the park, we wanted to "hide" the new construction, so we are creating this illusion with the facade: glass facade that reflects the surroundings.

COURT ROOMS

According to the requirements, we are adding four different types of court rooms: civil, penal, administrative united college. The penal court room requires high level of security, so we provided every necessary element such as separate entrances, high control, isolation rooms etc. The distribution of the entrances/fluxes is in such way that the administration/ judges will never have direct contact with the public or the criminals. We decided to build the court rooms underground, being in such way less invasive in the surrounding nature, but providing very nice waiting areas for the public. Light is a very important element, allowing natural lighting inside the courts and giving the impression of something very monumental/ intimidating, the feeling that you have to create inside a court room.



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IMPLEMENTATION

The project can be seen as three different elements that work together:

1. The reconstruction of the existing building-Accomodating the administrative / jurors functions.
2. The reconstruction / building of the extension in the magistrate school.
3. The construction of the court rooms as underground spaces.

NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES



08 BUILDING BUILDING + EGA + UHO ARCHITECTS

TEAM COMPOSITION:

Architect & Landscape Architect

Thomas Raynaud

Architect & Cultural Heritage Expert

Elias Guenoun

Architect

Max Turnheim

Adrien Durrmeyer

Local architect & Construction Engineer

Studio Rebus



Mapping the architectural process onto a linear narration is a difficult, reductionist and mostly absurd effort. But we will attempt to achieve it as successfully as possible. Indeed, designing a project is best described as a constant back-and-forth process: one, which takes on a 2-dimensional aspect of mapping a set of diverging ideas. Very similarly to committing or solving a crime, it is a creative process.

On the other hand, presenting the project is analogous to exposing the facts in the courtroom. One must, in a linear fashion, develop the arguments of their case. Creativity is not an issue anymore: the crime is committed.

Courtrooms don't fit in the existing buildings. The first matter we must address is the existence of buildings on the site. We are given a program and decency demands that we verify its compatibility with what we already have. What preexists is an assemblage of a rationalist structure and in immediate proximity, a set of extensions. Their structure implies a specific distribution: a number of rooms distributed by a single lateral or central corridor. Our research shows that the main space of the courthouse - the courtroom - calls for a double distribution where the judging members do not cross the path of the rest of the attendance. In addition, courtrooms don't fit in the existing buildings. Their dimensions are fixed by use and are unbendable. On top of the area they occupy, they must amend to a certain symmetrical order: they cannot be bent in one direction or the other. The only part of the program, which can be fitted inside these historically classified buildings, is the school of magistrates. But it is not as easy as simply changing the sign "faculty of geology" to "school of magistrates". If we simply sum up the total area of this last program, we largely exceed the area of the actual building. After thoroughly revising the infrastructure, the school of magistrate comfortably fits inside the "banana".



Interior view

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At this point, we are left with a simple choice: to destroy what we are allowed to or not to destroy it. After careful analysis of the amortized building blocks (mainly the center building and its footbridge), we understand that they are worth maintaining. We suggest carefully cutting through the center block: it will lose some of its upper floors and the bridge linking to the main curved building will be sectioned, rendering the two autonomous from each other. One could easily imagine taking a break from work, study or a run in the park and having lunch here.



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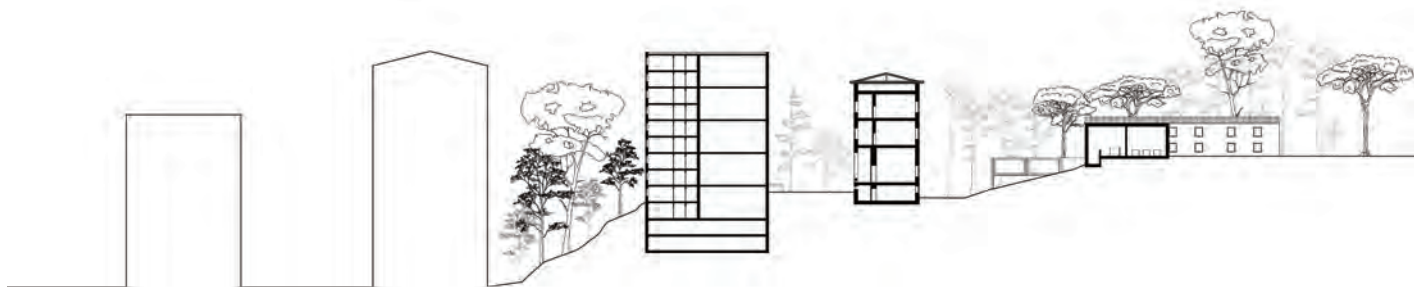


NOW WE HAVE A SITE

Once this is achieved, we can start a second project. Indeed, we have a site: hills, terraces, a landscape, and existing buildings... and a program: the supreme court.

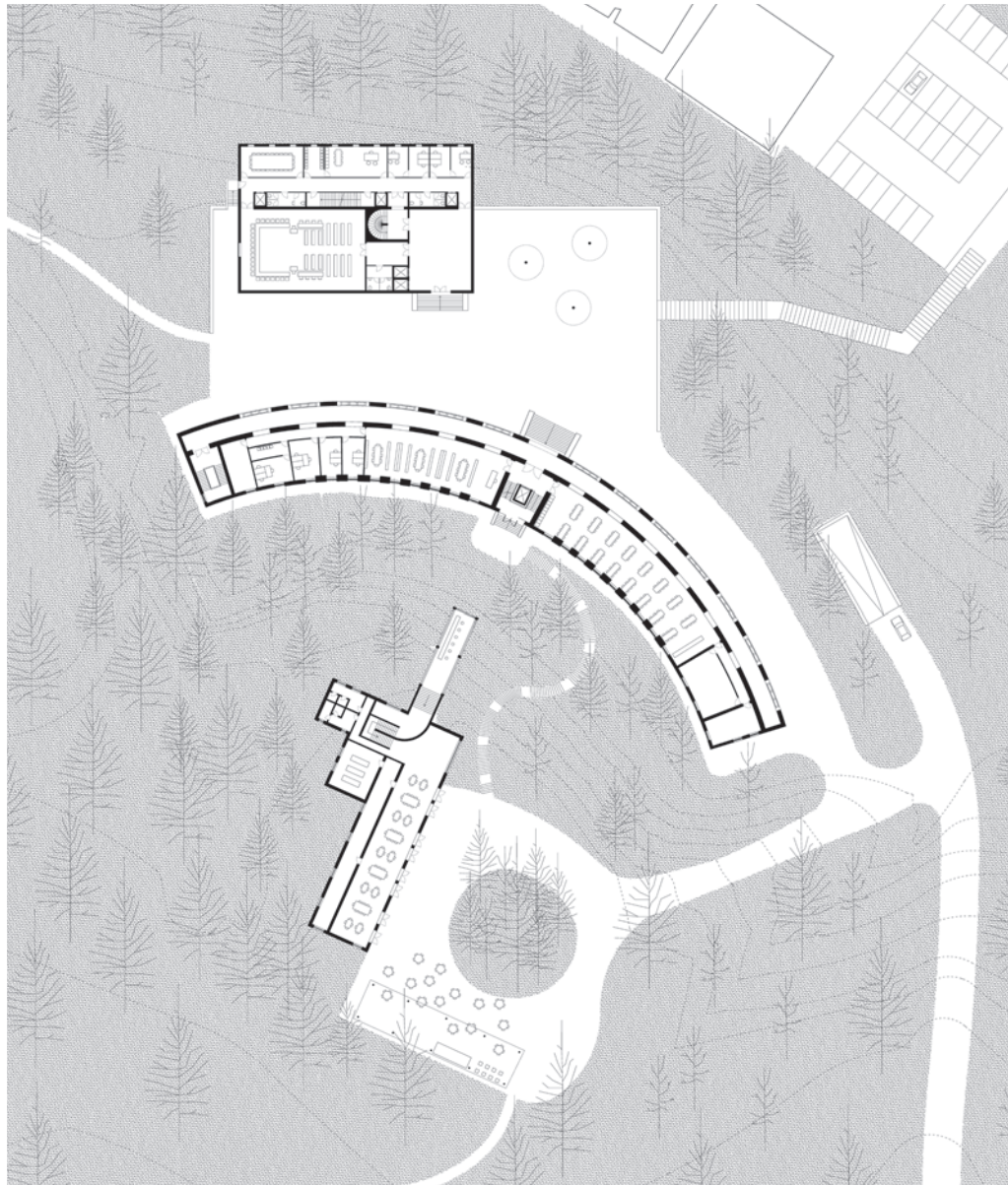
Let us first describe the site. On an exciting topography, lay two buildings. On the north part, closer to the city, the school of magistrates dominates a flat area, a sort of terrace and casts its shade upon it. On the south part, inside the park, and separated from the school by a sort of valley, a low building interacts with the green environment. Two aspects of Tirana coexist without confusion between them: the metropolitan educative institution and the direct relation to nature.

Once we have observed this condition, the placement of the supreme court becomes obvious: its position is on the north side, on the terrace. This placement is not naively justified by the proximity to the school of magistrates but by its profound urban identity as an institution.



Section

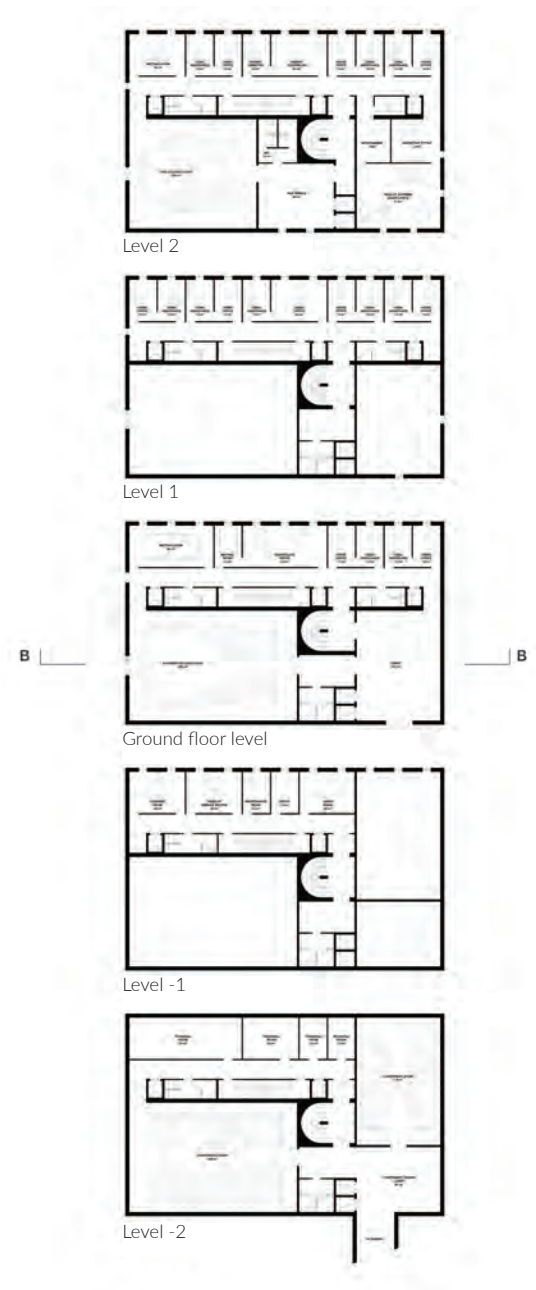
NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES



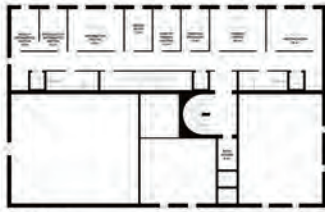
Ground floor plan

When addressing the given program, one could try to sketch a conceptual notion of justice or to innovate spatially and formally in the design of this building. But we feel these attempts are bound to failure. To start the process of designing, we need to understand the idea of justice as the uncreative analysis of the past. To the contrary, plotting or solving a crime is a creative process, one that envisions a multiplicity of scenarios fully embodied in the notorious movie scene of the yarn work, when criminal and investigator play a sort of synchronous dance around action. Where crime-plotting and -solving require a 2-dimensional image, justice, after the investigation has come to an end, must linearly observe one single thread of the yarn work and verify its solidity through proof, not creatively acting but definitively naming. We decide to apply this principle to the design of the supreme court. We thus enter the process of designing a building without creativity. It is not to say that the design process is uncreative; this would be impossible, but the building must embody uncreativity. It must be an instantiation of a known model; there will be no singular effect.

The division is clear and three-folded. The *salle des pas perdus* is a public space. The courtrooms host the space of the sentence isolated from the outside world. The administration and office space is only accessible to the staff.



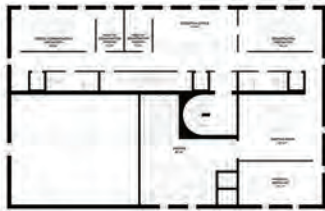
NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES



Level 7



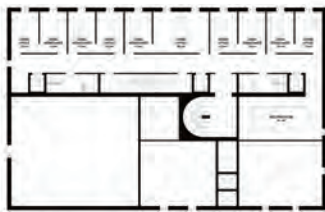
Level 6



Level 5



Level 4



Level 3



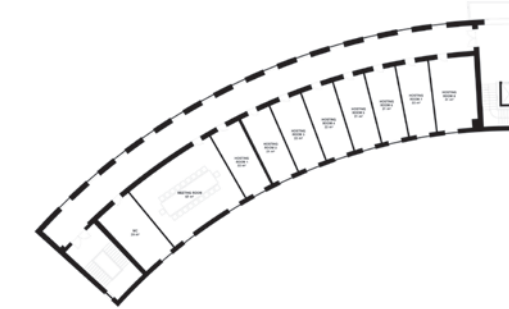
NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES

This triple division implies a given plan. We strive to interpret it in a most compact manner: no waste and rectangular. The project must not be more than the expression of its function. The façades eliminate any notion of fantasy, they separate from the outside world, the sole function of the windows are to shed natural light inside, their design is traced on the model of the ones present on the school of magistrates and simply scaled according to needs.

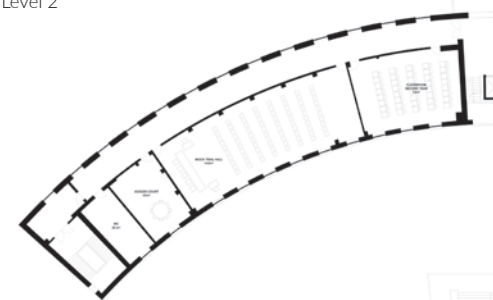
The supreme court is a cost-effective building, though never fragile. While it may appear as almost dull, the arrangement of this block produces four different spatial conditions on our site:

- On the south side, the entrance faces the school of magistrates
- On the west side, a small terrace faces the woods
- On the north side, a more transparent façade dominates the pine trees and the city
- On the east side, a plaza serves as a public space for both the school and the court to accommodate this plaza, the parking space is placed under the terrace. The access is cast off eastwards.

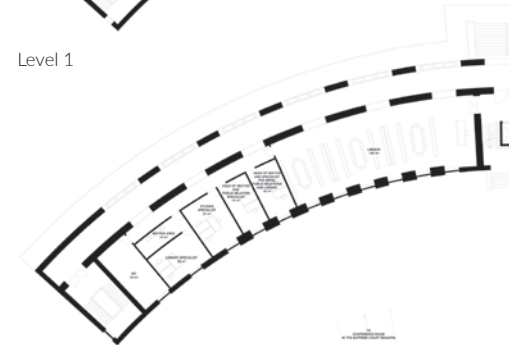
We have generated a well-defined urbanity.



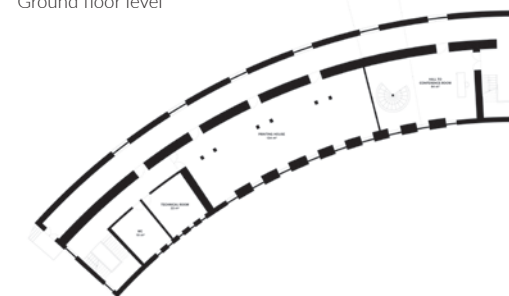
Level 2



Level 1

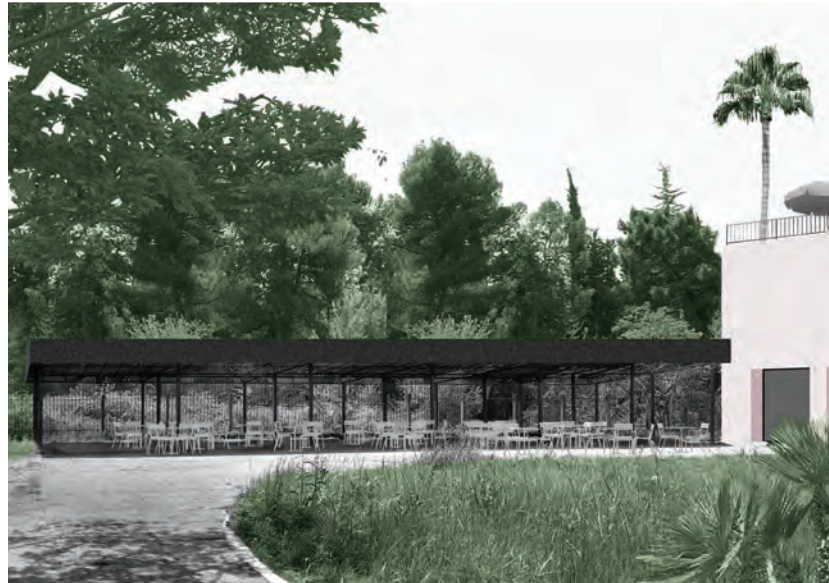
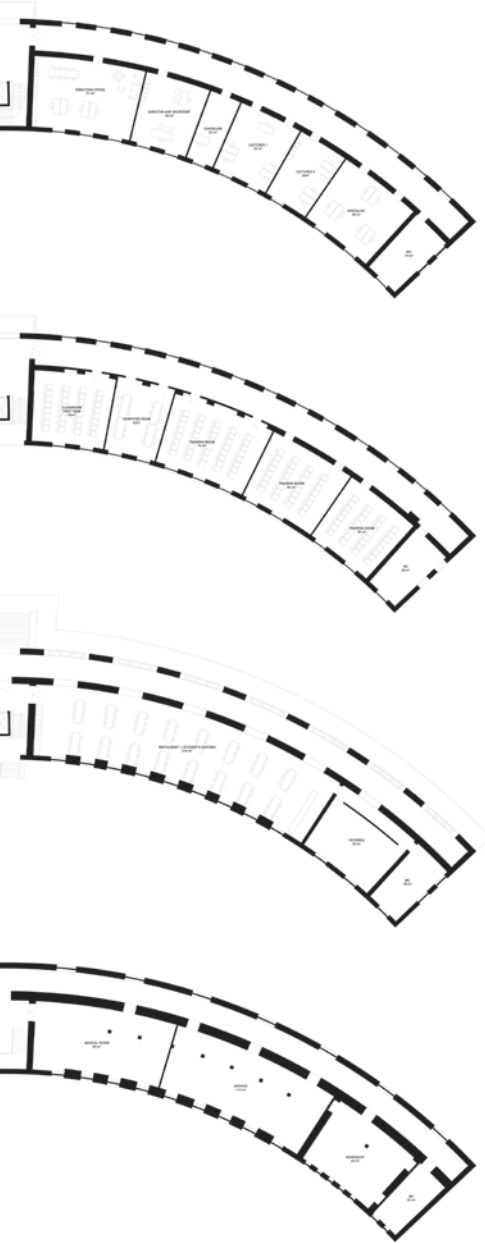


Ground floor level



Level -1

NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES



09 A&I DESIGN + 3TI PROGETTI S.P.A. + N!STUDIO

TEAM COMPOSITION:

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Indrit Hamitit - architect

3TI Progetti S.p.A.

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Paolo Rossi
Benedetta Gaiani
Clelia Scuteri
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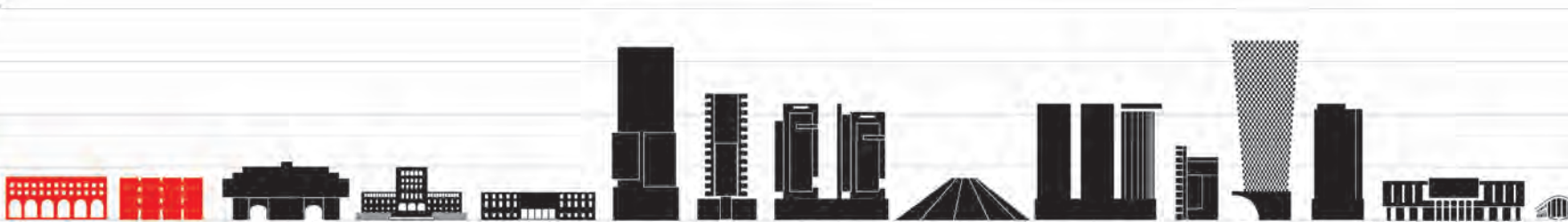
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Paola Moschini
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NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES

The approach to the intervention on historical and cultural heritage, and, similarly, the enhancement of historical centers, has been increasingly consolidating since 1964, when the Charter of Athens was approved and promulgated. It was to conclude a long and winding process that lasted a century and a half, which had finally asserted a more culturally advanced and functional attitude based on a critical rather than dogmatic and ideological approach.

A critical approach based on the theory of restoration by Cesare Brandi.



THE SUPREME COURT AS AN URBAN PLACE FOR THE CITY

The goals of the Competition for the Supreme Court of Tirana necessarily lead to address a variety of issues simultaneously posed by the relationship between the symbolic and ethical aspects of the high judicial office and its possible architectural configuration.

The conception of a new complex dedicated to the highest form of judicial activity for Albania, together with the important education and training activities, leads to reflect on the relationship between architectural space and its symbolic fallout in the urban community. The new judicial complex becomes the place where Justice becomes Training of the ethical collective and individual conscience and leads citizens to have a whole vision of different fields of knowledge in a new approach, as presented by the programmatic document on the basis of the consultation. The Supreme Court is, therefore, seen as a place of 'welcome', open to the citizens, able to stimulate the knowledge and the sharing of a series of activities that are so important for the stability of the state. The choice is, therefore, to locate the most representative functions in the historic building, maintaining and enhancing the main entrance and the ambulatory of the porch.



NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES

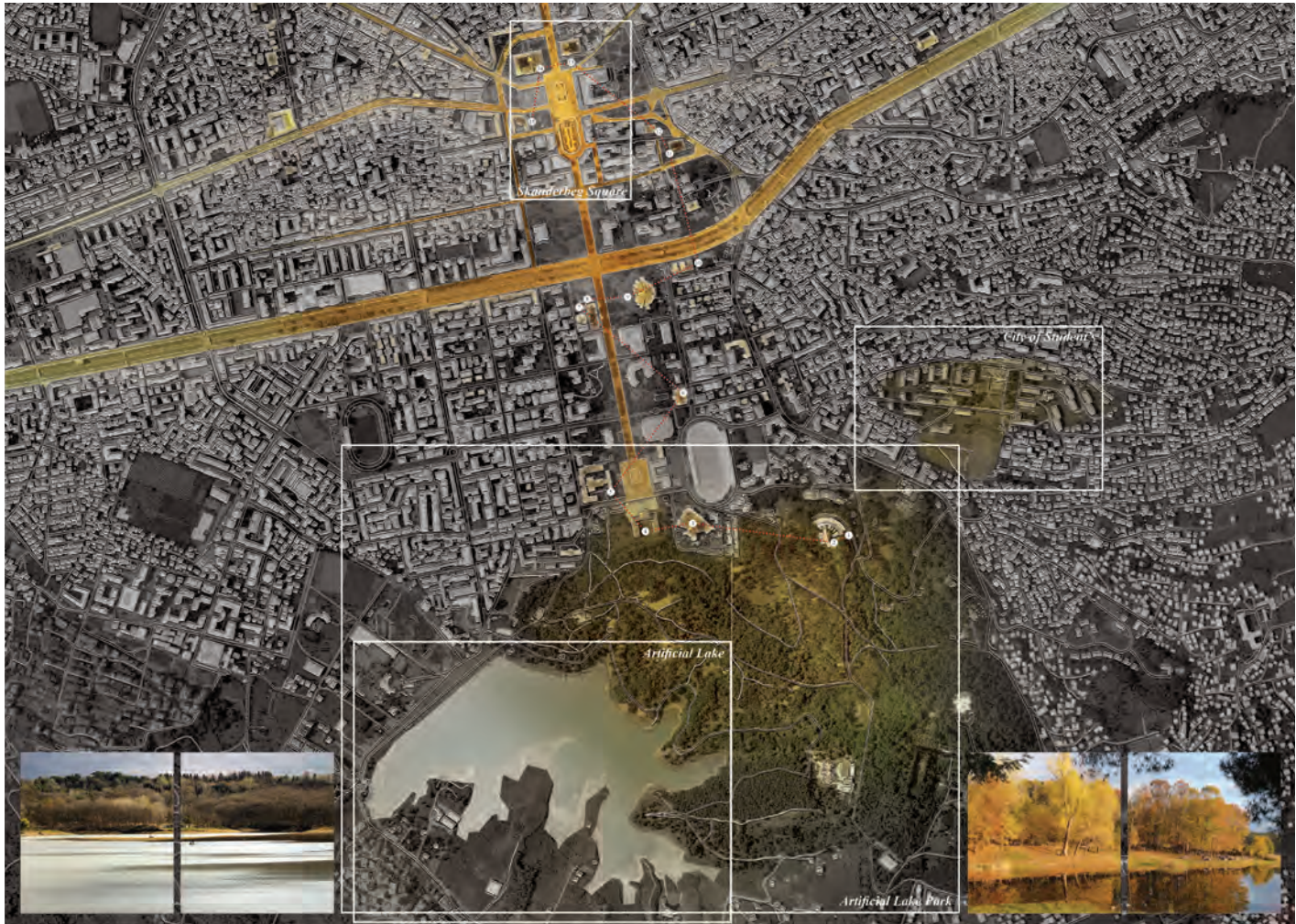
Urban context integration bird's-eye view



URBAN ANALYSIS AND VISION

The buildings of the Supreme Court and School of Magistrates are located on the edge of the Artificial Lake Park and, at the same time, on the edge of the city. This condition of borderscape is an interesting condition, which makes the design solution an exciting occasion for trying to propose a landscape approach to the project. The important institutional functions of the surrounding urban area, as the University at the end of the urban boulevard, and the quality of the Park landscape offer the opportunity to develop a strong connection between these two parts of the city.

The Supreme Court and School of Magistrates will be part of an urban sector where several public functions are already organized: the stadium, playgrounds, restaurants, hotel and open public squares for flexible use. This condition makes the edge of the park a kind of "special zone", a filter between urban and nature where the designed buildings will play a central role. The vision try to secure good accessibility of the area, connecting it to the Grand Lake Park with a pedestrian trail, the landscape design also tries to emphasize structural elements like path systems and vegetation. The need to envision the project as part of a system of green spaces is balanced by the need to integrate it with the urban fabric on the upper side of the site.



Context Plan

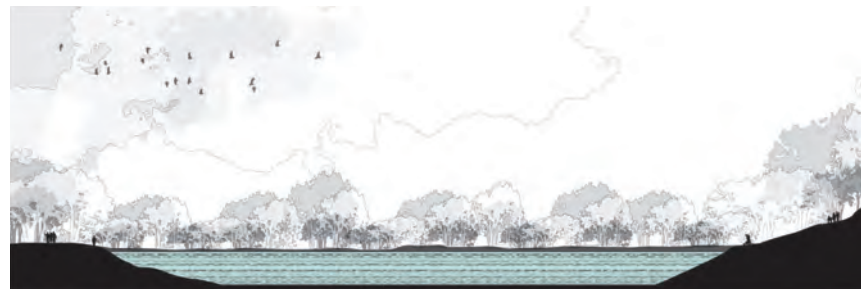
Our design philosophy envisions a new intervention capable of interpreting the intrinsic potentials of the historic building and creates a dialogue which makes the new and the old like two integrated systems, rather than two separate overlapping units, in order to enhance the programmatic choices and the communication strategies.

THE NEW SUPREME COURT AND SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES

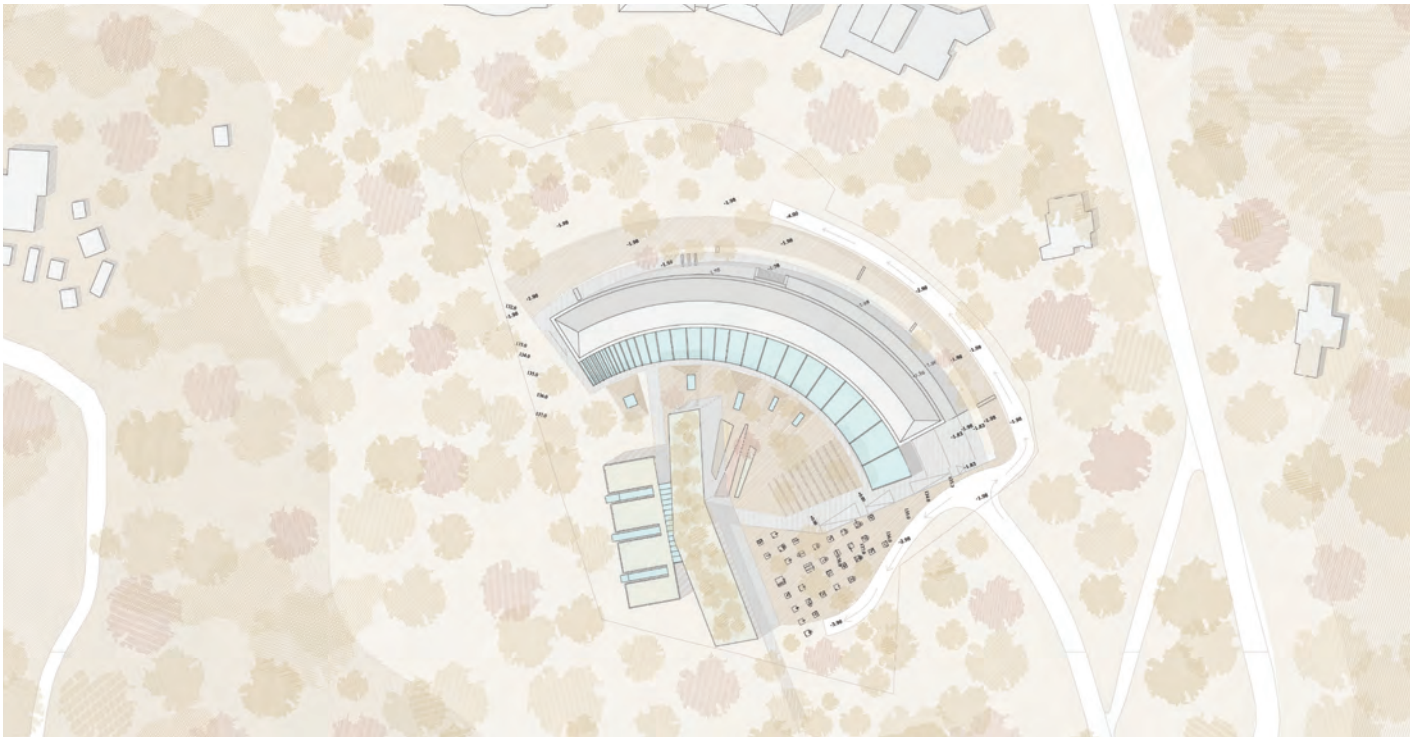
The space of hospitality is identified with the expanded body of the longitudinal porch and opens up in the space of the atrium and the staircase. The current staircase is enhanced as a central core inside the large hall that is configured as a cross spine to the porch. The space of the new atrium extends to reach and connect the new public gallery, which presents itself as a vast triple height fluid space, 'crossed' by suspended walkways, which becomes the terminal element in which all the different sections of the Supreme Court converge and then leave to connect with the School of Magistrates.

The idea of the space of the Gallery of Justice is central to the project, it invites users to explore the void in a creative way and to experience the freedom to configure their own individual path of knowledge, to find oneself in the middle of a sort of osmotic space between the 'historic building and the new addition, from where one has the overall spatial view of the different functional sections and the immediate vision, at a glance, of their physical location at the different floors and in the various buildings of the complex.

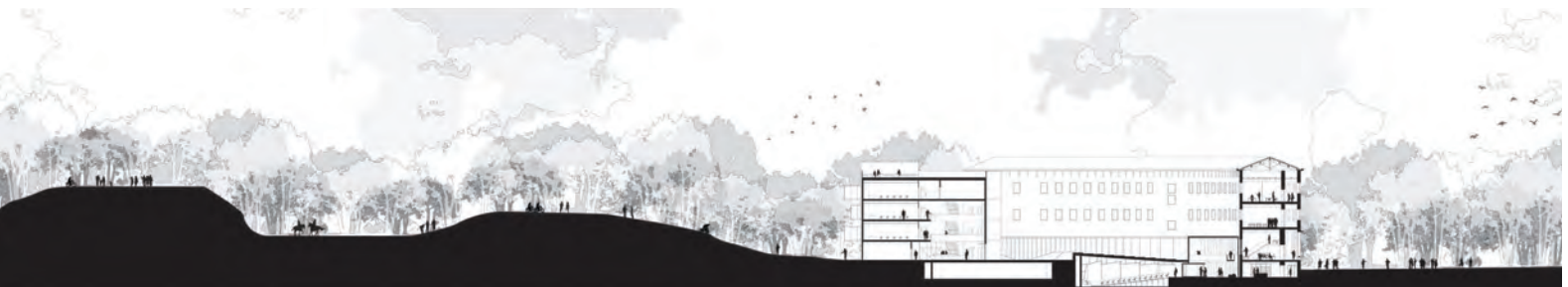
The reception counter, the stairwells in the terminal portions of the building, the elevators, the colored walkways, provide clear indication of the circulation system; the opening of full height passages emphasizes the continuity between the reception space with the new Gallery; display systems and media panels on the walls indicate the location of the universes in the architectural complex and constitute the symbolic entrance 'gate'; in this sense, all the functions have a precise entrance and a clear direction starting from the longitudinal welcome space, this was the challenge of our project; at the end the welcome space naturally leads to the entrance of the connection path with the School of Magistrates and then to the new addition, as well as to the activities of the library, the restaurant and the conference room.



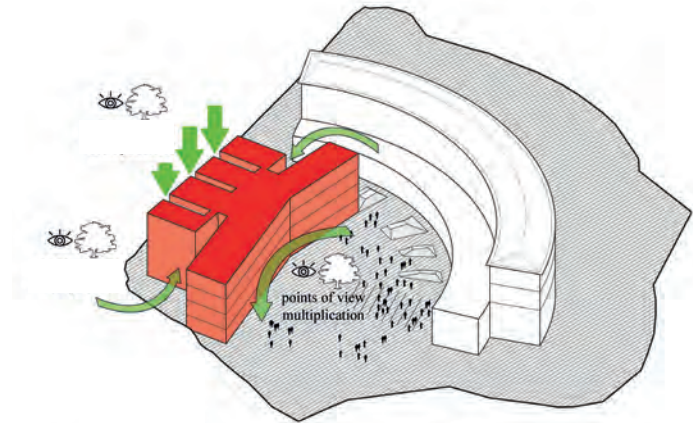
NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES



Site Plan



Context Section



THE NEW LONGITUDINAL COURT

Users will thus experience the immediate and easy control of the whole organization and judicial center. They will be able to choose their own path of knowledge during their stay, without ever losing the 'red thread' of orientation. It is this feeling of orientation in a totally connected space, fluid and hybrid that makes it an ever-changing space, which ensures the user to best express the activities and the consistency and autonomy of the flows.

In the new gallery the two magnetic focuses are the following: first the changing luminosity of the glass roof with its particular cover made with 'blades' of variable density and color, featuring screen prints on the theme of Justice; second the basements volumes that house the collective functions, leaning on the new Gallery like recognizable volumes, around which spaces and activities are fluidly and dynamically organized. Particular attention was given to the proper articulation of public circulation flows and of those reserved to judges and prisoners. The project has followed and interpreted the lines drawn by the extended brief of the competition, sharing and enhancing the fundamental choice of searching for a strong connection among functions and accesses. Therefore, the extension of the gallery retraces the curvilinear profile of the existing building, whereas the extension of the Supreme Court, which overlooks the gallery, is fragmented in a sequence of clearly distinguishable volumes, both in terms of plan

configuration and materials and colors that characterize them. The project is based on this clear recognition of the parties and the interventions that have stratified over time. The outer wall of the gallery consists of a system of glass panels with different color and level of opacity, marking the different functional portions. The glass panels display serigraphs with quotes of important jurists of the Albanian and European history.

On the contrary, the School of the Magistrates is housed in a new building, whose location allows to free part of the green space that becomes an open courtyard of connection between the Supreme Court and the new building. The entrance side privileges the value of the existing building, with its solidity, symbolizing the valuable function of container of documents and knowledge, although punctuated by vertical cuts. The porch is closed with transparent glazing with serigraphy of quotations in order to emphasize the connection with the exterior space.

The new gallery houses the sequence of the new public functional units, including the conference room, the library and the restaurant. The choices related to the new functional layout derive from a careful analysis of the program and the objectives. A fundamental choice was that of overlapping the potential of the spaces with the functional requirements of the program, including the variety of both users and documents paths.

NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES



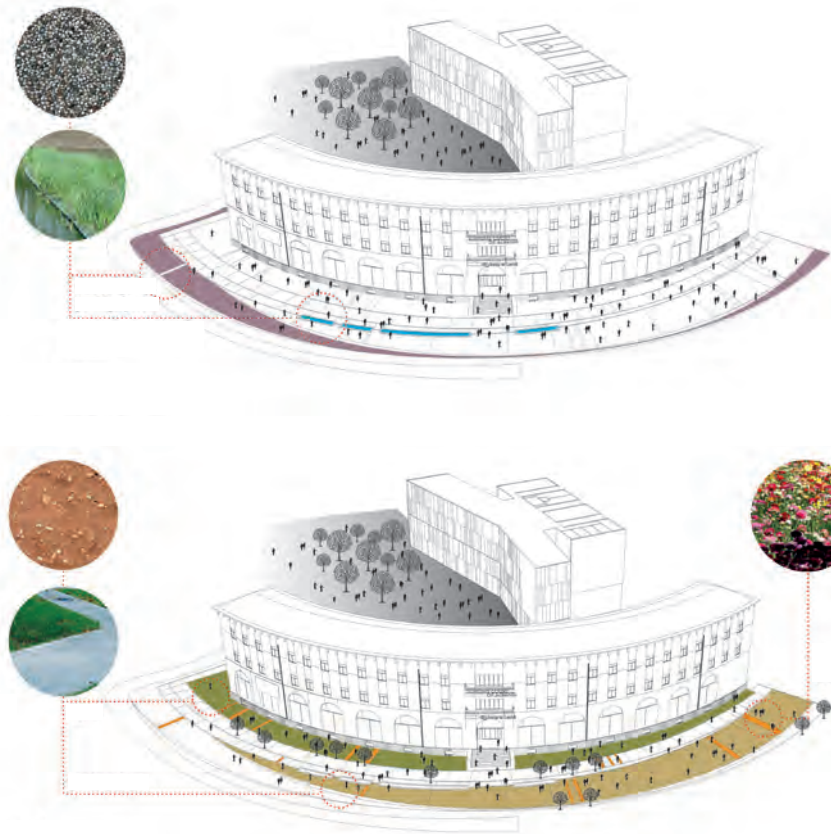
View from South-East

SITE ANALYSIS AND SITE SUSTAINABILITY

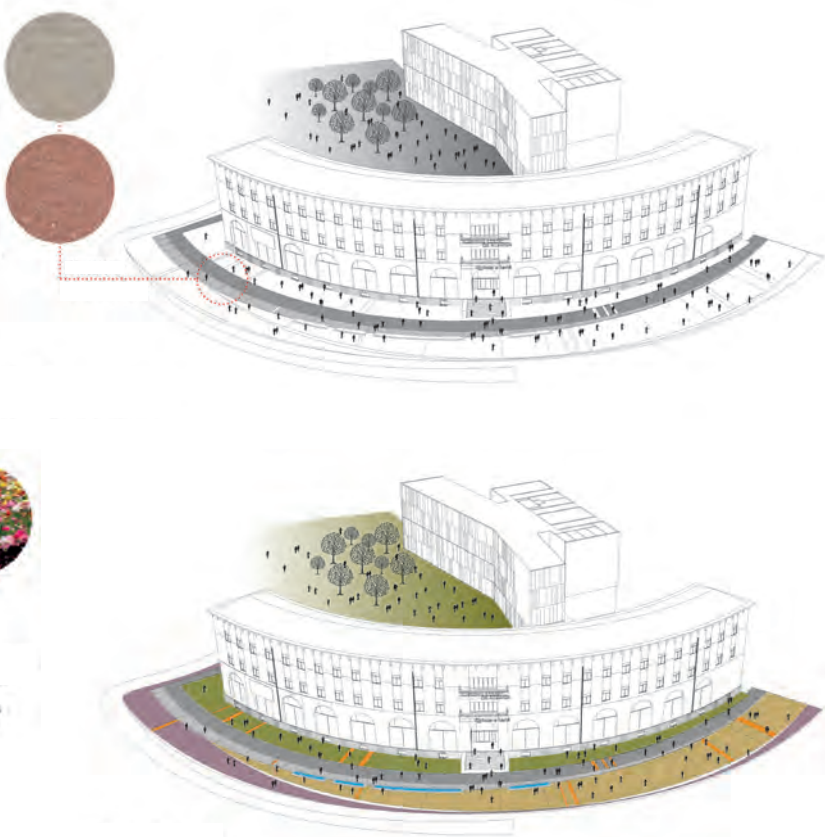
The process for preparing the Landscape Master Plan was initiated with an analysis of the site landscape from several perspectives. Part of the team conducted a reconnaissance of the area to observe and record its basic functionality, character defining features, and the components of the designed landscape such as lighting and furnishings. Another part of the team conducted an evaluation of the landscape from the perspective of its sustainability. Three elements are responsible for the primary definition of the New Headquarter (NH) landscape: the shape of the terrain; the form of the built environment (buildings, paths, and streets); and the space defining characteristics of site vegetation. The NH landscape is also strongly influenced by its surrounding urban context and its place in within the Grand Lake Park.

TOPOGRAPHY

The mountains Elbasan, to the south-west, and the mountain Dajti on the east, frame a large inward looking bowl that acts to subtly connect the east and west parts of the Park and define it as a single place centered in the Tirana slight valley opening to the Adriatic sea. The structure of the future NH landscape is shaped by its underlying topography. The defining features include the slope that separates the former Geology Faculty from the School of Magistrates and forms a podium-like topography where the School of Magistrates is planned to be, adding an element of spatial drama that makes the landscape more interesting and engaging, opening views on the Park and the Lake.



Layer 1 - Rain drainage and collection
Layer 2 - Natural paving materials
Layer 3 - Landscape elements
Final configuration - Layers overlapping

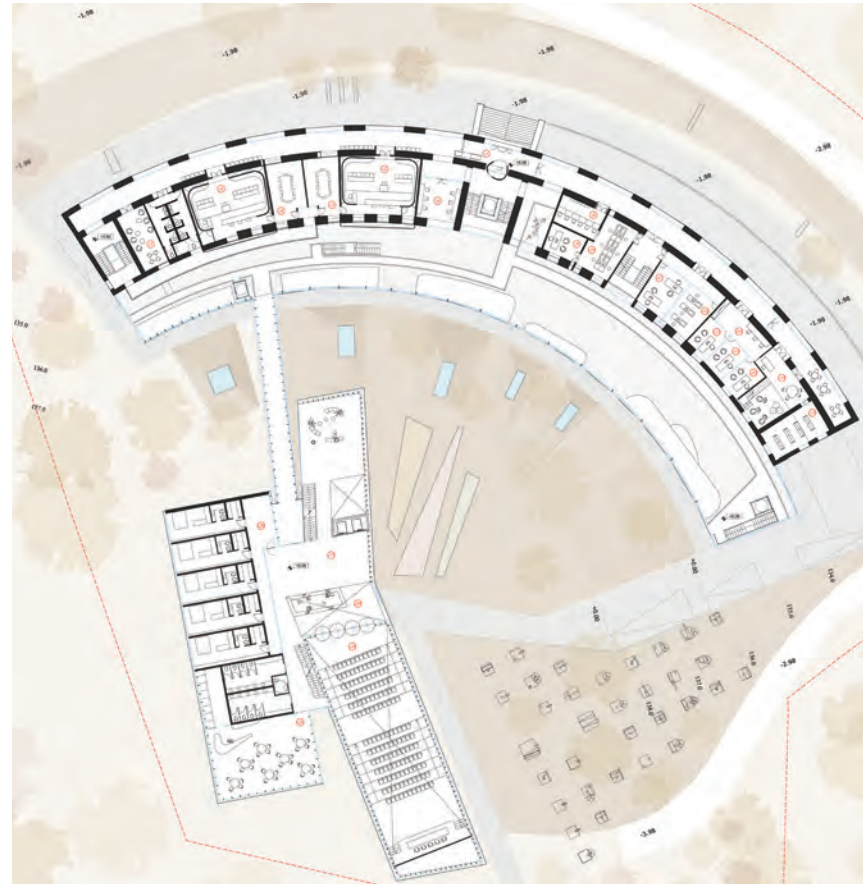


LANDMARKS

The Park context is marked by the presence of the artificial lake, the Saint Procopius Church, the Presidential Palace of Tirana, and memorials to well known Albanian personalities. To the southern end of the park the city zoo and the botanical garden are important features for the inhabitants and visitors usage of the area. The overstory of trees is composed mostly of native species; shrubs, ground covers and lawns are composed of a variety of Mediterranean species, mixed with some ornamental ones. Soil conditions are disturbed throughout most areas with the soils often compacted, low in organic material, and subject to erosion. The existing vegetation on the northern edge of the Park acts as a natural buffer zone.

ECOLOGICAL FUNCTIONS

The ecological functions performed by the existing site landscape have been compromised over time by factors such as engineering of storm water to protect buildings and infrastructure, and aesthetic motives to achieve a certain landscape effect that was not sensitive to the ecology of the region. There is an opportunity to improve the ecological functioning of the site and obtain a higher level of benefit through designs that recognize the importance of a healthy ecology, and the importance of bringing urban environments closer in line with the Park natural systems.

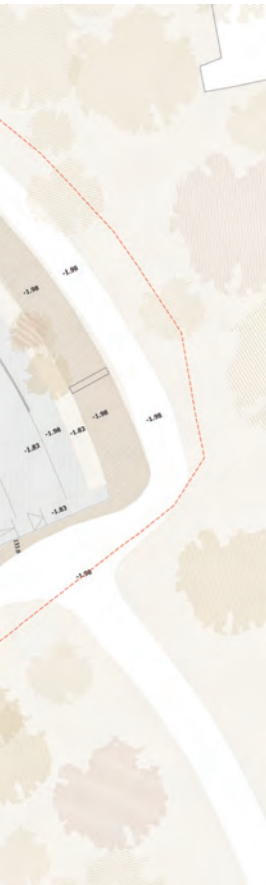


SUPREME COURT BUILDING CONSERVATION STRATEGY

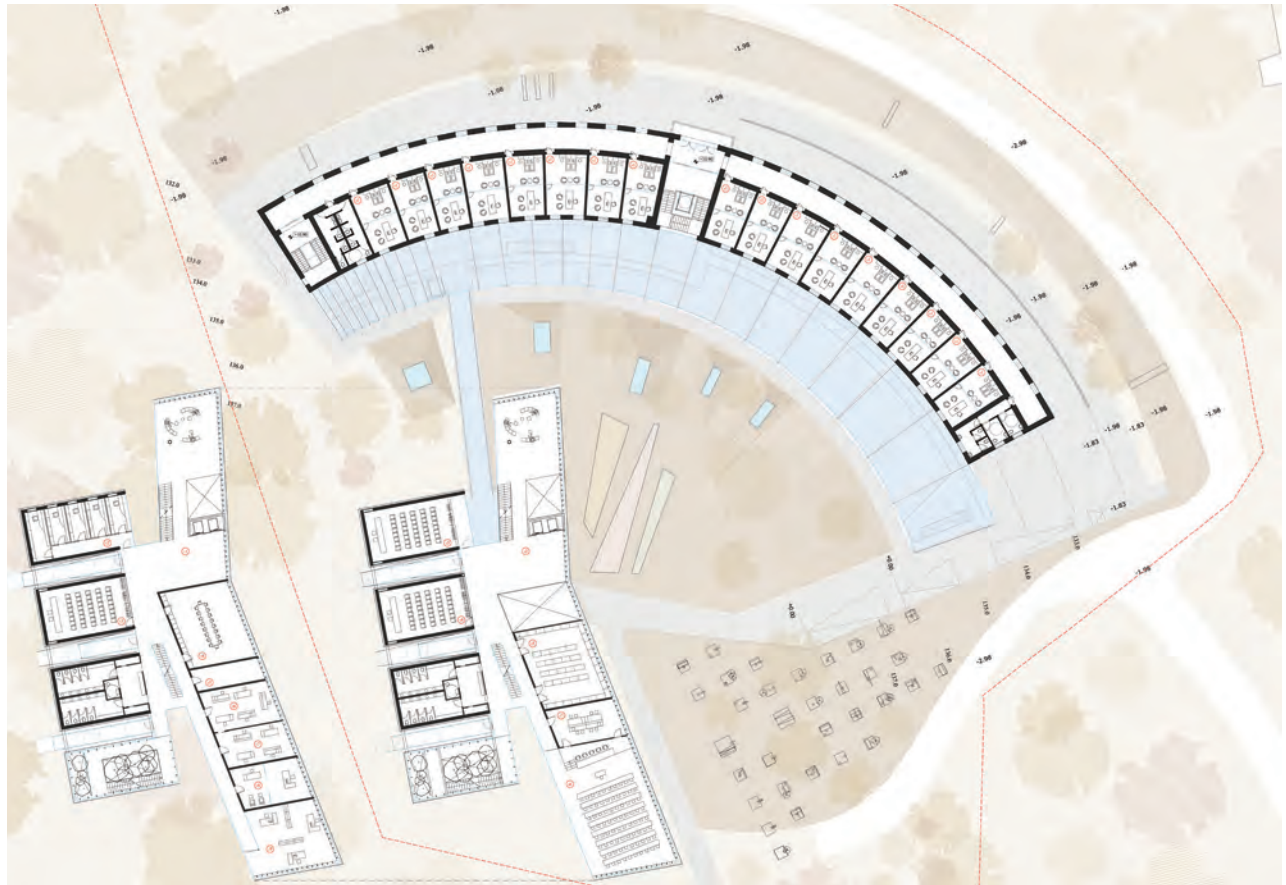
The Supreme Court building, classified as second class by Law 9048, 7.4.2003 For the cultural heritage, has to be restored in order to preserve and enhance its unique and identifying characters that derive not only from design choices but also from the cultural and historical context. The critical analysis of the design and construction phases, along with the possible investigations to be carried out during construction, indicate the need to preserve the original volume and the possibility of intervening on the elevations. It is necessary to integrally preserve the north elevation through a careful cleaning process of the stone cladding (waiting for stratigraphic tests during the construction phase in order to choose the colors). The project considers the closure of the arches of the loggia with big glass panels with invisible frames (located on the inner profile). The same treatment is envisaged for lateral sides.

The southern facade, which is incomplete due to the absence of the coating, has been considered as 'available' for changes in its basement portion. Along this strip the new distribution gallery has been inserted, it is fully glazed to preserve the visually continuity of the facade. The openings of the main staircase will be redesigned and expanded. The roof will be restored. All exterior window frames will be redesigned on the basis of a survey of the existing ones. As for the interiors are concerned, all the vertical connections will be kept, the marble slabs will be cleaned and the missing parts will be integrated or replaced, as well as the original floors in marble chips. Interior partitions will be demolished because the floors will be redesigned to include new functions. The internal doors will be restored in case of particular value or replaced.

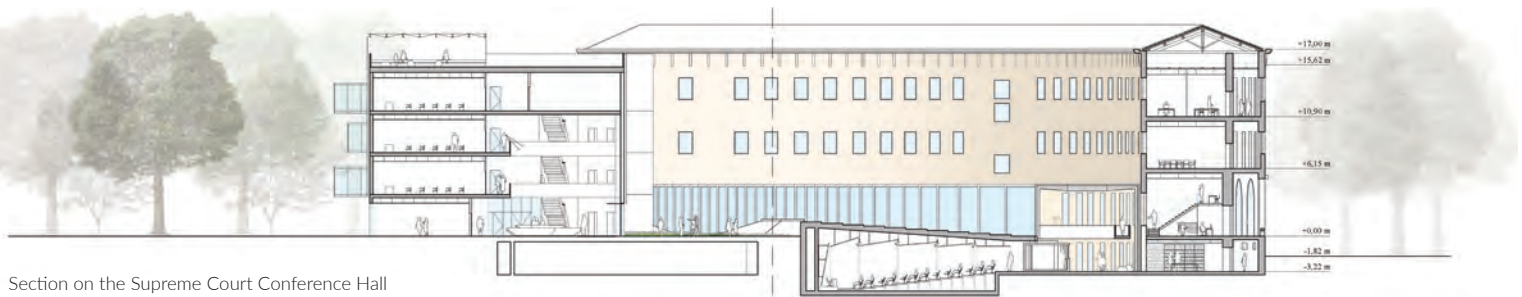
NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES



Ground floor plan



Second & third floor plans



Section on the Supreme Court Conference Hall

THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES

The new School of Magistrates is located on the southern part of the site, laying on a higher topographical level. The new complex is composed of two separate buildings that coexist within the in the same architectural scheme. The building on the east side is four storeys high and, thanks to its regular shape and a slight fold, establishes a peaceful and respectful relationship with the historic building designed by Cesare Valle. In this sense the building renounces to a specific architecture style: the external surface is covered with reflective micro-perforated sheets that help smoothing its insertion in the natural environment and creating a dialogue with the historical building.

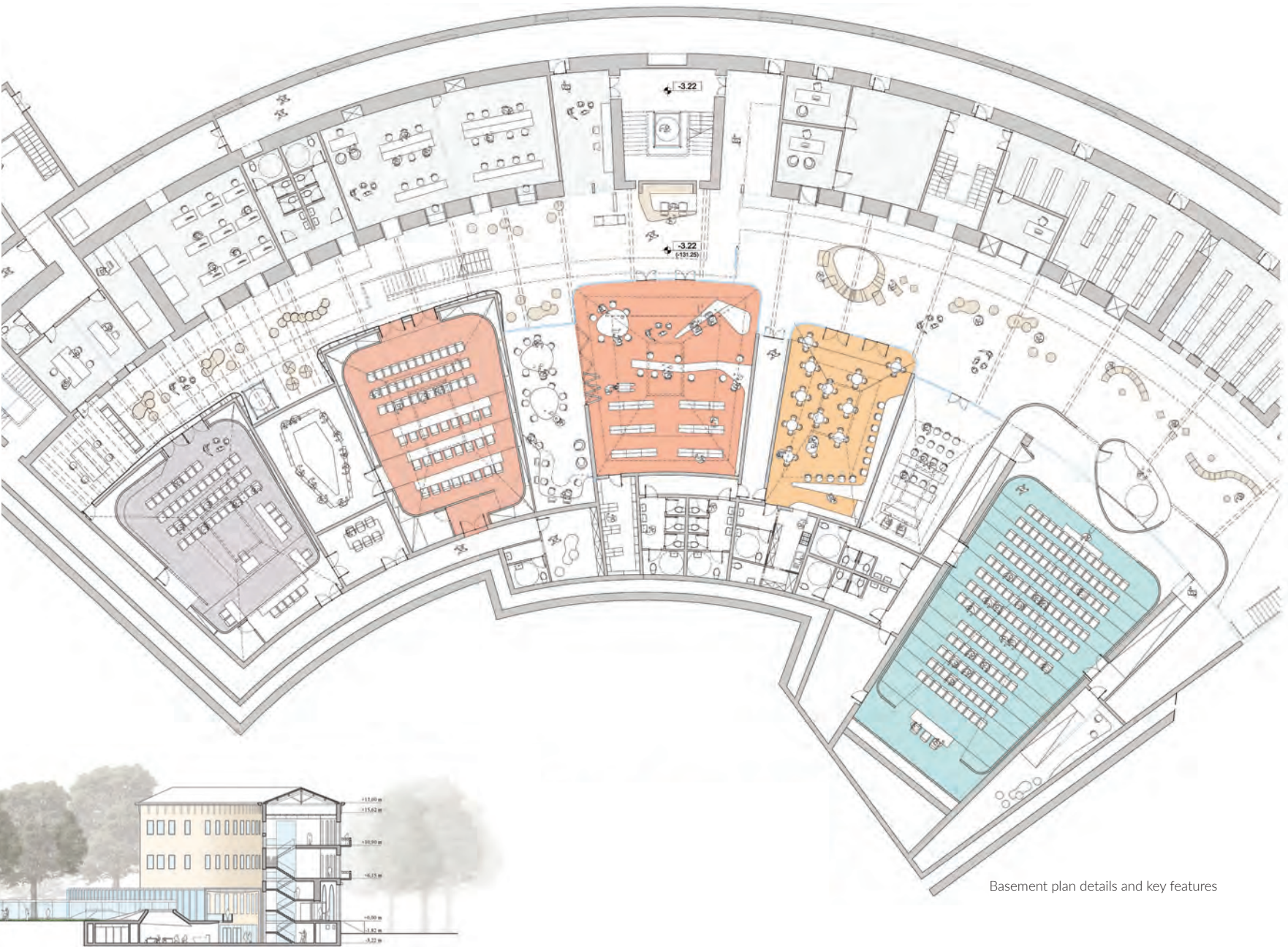
On the west side the building is fragmented into four 5-storey towers and a sequence of overhanging glass volumes that contains the panoramic walkways. This allows to provide the west elevation with a more fragmented aspect in order to facilitate its relationship with the surrounding natural elements of the park and the lake.

Green is the natural element that ties the entire building from the basement floor up to the terrace garden. The school of magistrates is accessible by two separate entrances: the glass walkway that comes from the Supreme Court and by a side access directly connected with the green system and the paths of the inner courtyard. A wide triple-height lobby welcomes visitors and provides access to the vertical distribution systems that lead to the classrooms, offices, panoramic terraces and, finally, to the "sky-park". The collective functions are located on the ground floor: controlled access of visitors, catering areas, double height conference room. The guest house apartments overlook the park and are directly accessible from the main lobby.



Section on the Gallery Restaurant / School of Magistrates East Elevation

NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES



Basement plan details and key features

LANDSCAPE SITE PLAN

The front space of the Supreme Court is designed by the alternate shifting of several arcs, based upon the facade geometry of the main building. It's an open space car free, made of porous gravel paving system and stabilized soil, environmentally friendly because allows the rain to drain over the entire surface. The main pedestrian path is made of bluestone and is intended for different types of users, like man on a wheelchair and women wearing heeled shoes. Some flowers beds are arranged according to the radius on the frontage of the Supreme Court. Due to the different gravel and soil composition the different colours of the ground surface generate a joyful space, in contrast with the severe architecture of the facade, inspiring a positive feeling with respect to the high Institution. Several tree lines paths will add a new characteristic element to the front area, providing at the same time natural shade; the tree's colorful flowers will appear as sequences of different colours lines (the yellow of the Mimosa pseudo acacia, the white of the Prunus Avium, the red of the Punica granatum). Between the path a water canal is designed as the superior part of the underground rain water reservoir, that collect the rainwaters from the site and rooftops. The green space of the New Headquarter is both a destination and a pedestrian route from the core of the Grand Lake Park to the buildings surrounding it. The site have been adapted for multiple events and activities at a wide range of scales, from secluded areas for eating lunch to staging areas for the graduation ceremonies of the Magistrates School. Through the innovative use of various sustainable strategies and technologies, the New Headquarter has also been optimized to capture and control storm water from the site and rooftops, providing supplementary water for the gardens irrigation.



View from North



THE LETTER GARDEN

The main feature of the landscape design is the “Letter Garden”, conceived as a technological hub for the well being of the New Headquarter users, the garden responds to different purposes and is made of a number of vertical plot which are hybrid systems that integrate nature and technology.

The plot are finalized for different functions:

- illuminated letters spelling out the word justice;
- water nebulizer system for microclimate control;
- sound art diffuser;
- vertical axis mini wind turbine;
- optical fiber lighting system;
- fan misting system;
- clocks displaying current time in the major cities of Europe;
- QR code displays for augmented reality;
- banks for relaxing at the bottom of each plot.

In the Letter Garden the existing trees, brought together with technical elements, are intended to create a hybrid landscape, where nature is technically augmented. Approaching the School of Magistrates, the illuminated letters reflects themselves on the mirror facade, spelling out the word “Justice”. Existing vegetation and Vegetation Palette Trees and bushy plants (existing and proposed by the project) cover the majority of the open space and are intended to create a Mediterranean landscape full of colours and fragrances. The existing vegetation is intended to be preserved as much as possible, and new plants will be inserted according to the existing ones. The choice for the vegetation species is guided by the consideration of the future requirements of maintenance, including the consumption of water. In the past, the general philosophy has often been to “maintain the design”. In the future the guiding principle should be to “design for maintenance”. Design for ecological resilience, human use, and aesthetic enjoyment should go hand in hand with an awareness of the implications for maintenance. The maintenance practices of the New Headquarter site will also need to adapt to the requirements of native plantings. The design seeks also to improve the functional ability of the landscape to provide ecosystem services including climate regulation, water management and soil protection.

STRUCTURES

Structural design will approach the complex in two different ways. The new building will be designed according to actual construction method and codes, and it will be seismic resistant. On the existing one several consolidation works will be set up in order to increase seismic resistances. In the new building, the underground structures will be realized by concrete frame with walls along perimeter in order to contain soil pressures and bracing the frame structures against horizontal forces such as seismic acceleration. Elevation instead will be realized using steel frame structures. Underground structures will be designed using a mix of cast in situ concrete and precast elements in order to obtain the maximum space flexibility especially for the areas of conference halls and auditorium. In these areas, frames will be disposed along the perimeter, while precast elements will be posed to cover the hall, through the direction of the maximum span length, building up frame of 5x15 m. For the rest of the underground structures a most common frames of 5x5 m will be used in order to obtain the most suitable space especially for the parking areas. All the floors will be realized using light slabs as predalles one.

For elevation structures, where the school will take place, a steel frame structure will be designed, it will be fixed on the underground concrete

building. Frame will be realized with common web section and for floors corrugate sheets filled with concrete will be used. To increase building seismic safety factor, concrete and steel structures will be connected through seismic insulator devices. These ones will avoid using massive bracing system such as concrete elevator core or façade bracing system, leaving the inner space and façade open to any architectural solution. For the new volumes that will be placed next to the existing one, special seismic joints will be used to avoid pounding phenomena. For the existing building, a consolidation design will be carried out to restore both horizontal and vertical structures such as floors, masonry and concrete beams and columns. Especially all the masonry will be restored in order to face seismic force according to actual codes. This will be obtained using a cam technology, in order to create a post-tension in the masonry element, increasing the ultimate resistance, without changing the architectural façade. Also the concrete elements will be reinforced by wrapping the sections with steel elements or by carbon fibers in order to increase shear and bending ultimate resistance sections. Several elevator concrete cores will be placed in strategic areas in order to increase building bracing to seismic forces.

NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES



1. Supreme Court Gallery internal view
2. School of Magistrates internal view

10 SDARCH TRIVELLI & ASSOCIATI + X-PLAN STUDIO

TEAM COMPOSITION:

Team Leader

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Ornella Mucaj

Engineering

Dimitri Papa

Landscape Architecture

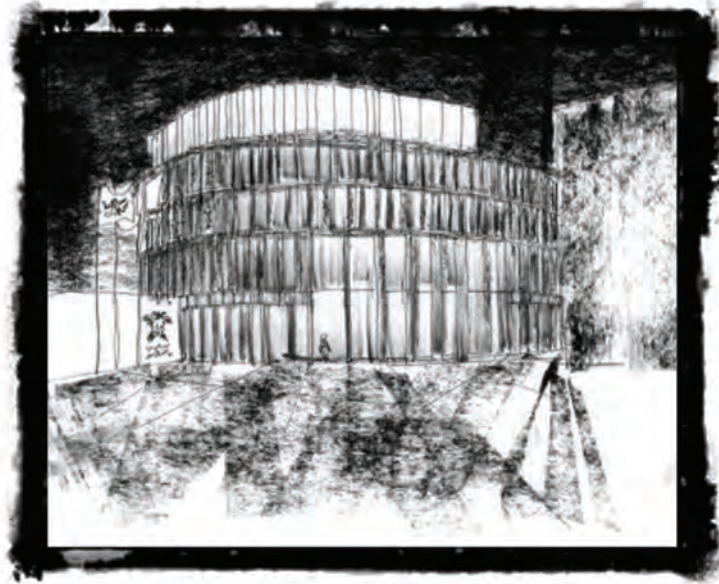
Silvia Calatroni

Historian

Florian Nepravishta

Design Coordination Engineering

Ardit Jonuzi



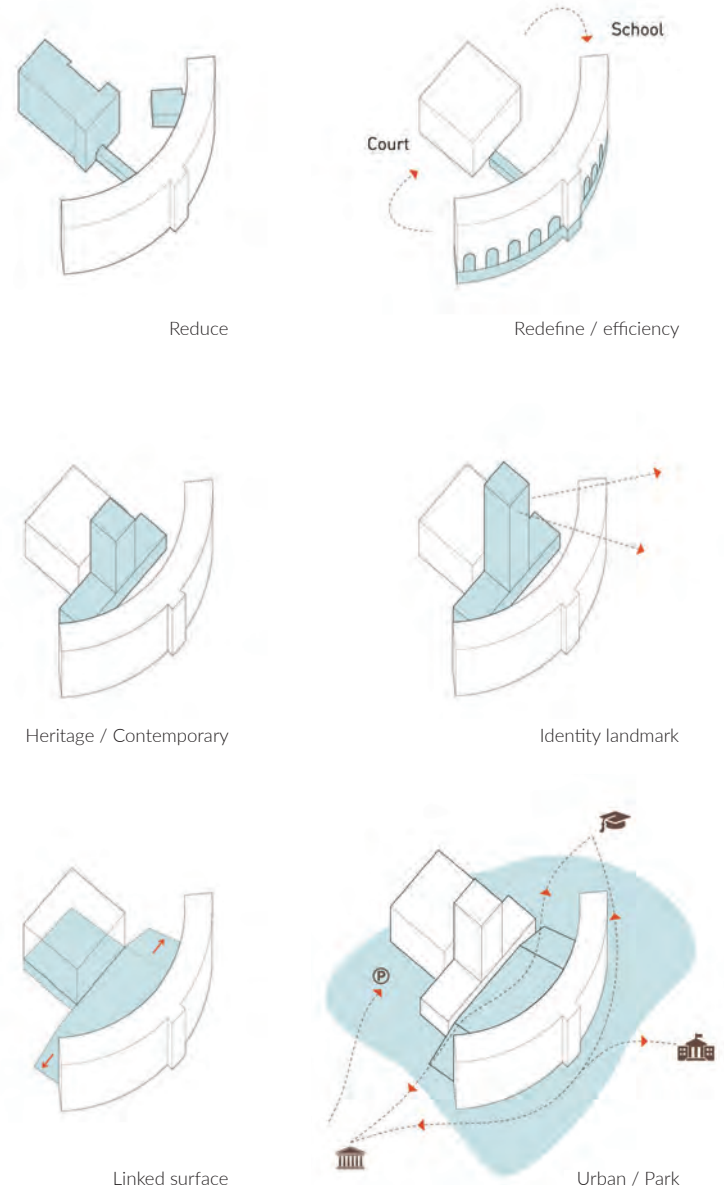
The site project is therefore on a constant broken paths but still recognizable, are readable in the weak footpaths in the nature trails and composed of different hierarchies. The current buildings are characterized, in the arrangement, shape and firmness, with a strong hierarchical relationship between them, in which the curvilinear building designed by Valley prevails on the rest, thus defining a strong back and a main. The same back is a service space with a terminal point.

URBAN CONTEXT AND LANDSCAPE

The site project is located in the south of the city of Tirana, in the park “Parku i Madh Kodrat and Liqeni”, the access is from the street “General Nikolos” which is mainly pedestrian street with limited car traffic. It ranks in the center of gravity position than some urban elements significant to some future functions that are references in the city (Sheraton Hotel, the University Politeknik Tiranes, future Student City and Academic). The continuity of the paths is broken inside the park and to the urban system of Sheshi Nene Tereza closed to the building for the discontinuity with Skerdilajd Llagami.

The existing buildings of the competition belong to the architectural history of Tirana, the building designed by Valley in 1939/40 is listed as 2nd class building, while the bridge connection and the building shaped straight is not subject to any protection. The competition area is located inside a park system as one of the architectural emergencies that belong to a single conceptual idea (Presidential Palace, restaurants, ...). The park is designed as a natural place with some parts more formal, essentially crossed by pedestrian paths that connect the nodes of a network, single parts and elements of different architectural quality and different functions, but also belonging to the urban memory. The complex of buildings subject to competition have previously had different destinations and different “reputation” until came to us as school, and today, as buildings with a memory file that have hosted teachers and students.

The project proposal modifies this hierarchy bringing greater balance in the spatial arrangement of architectural and enhancing the urban void so the buildings themselves are the scene and backdrop of the open space. The landscape becomes a place to cross and where to stop, extension of the architecture and architecture itself. The access is confirmed by the current path and the historic building is the focus of two systems: in one between the two buildings becomes more urban, to caliber and dimensions and the other, between the building and the park, defines the continuity with the Supreme Court, to and from the network-city park, characterized more as a public realm with the design of green rooms “in between” the park facing the porch of the historic building, as in-between architectural space. We designed four different landscape systems related one to each other, the porch as outdoor space but inside the building, the central area as a space for passageways and, the crown of green rooms that define the transition between the park and built system.



NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES



Site plan

DESIGN APPROACH AND CONCEPT

The brief of the competition initially requested for the maintenance of the linear building, which was supposed to be protected. The update of the Brief allowed to alter, demolish or replace part of the whole. This new perspective and functional analysis and activities covered in the future school and in future the Court to reconsider the initial concept and to develop an alternative strategy that would be able to accommodate the needs expressed in Brief and to equip the two buildings of the required efficiency. We have developed design strategies / action that are resumed in keywords (Reduce, Do Not, Redefine - Efficiency - Image, Linked Surface, Heritage contemporary, Identity - Landmark, Urban-Park, Renew, Abstraction). The result of the analysis of the required surface, the links and the relationships between the activities had not confirmed the real need to allocate one specific function in one of the buildings. The maintenance of the Supreme Court in the historic building would have required, but for functional needs, the combination of spaces connected to accommodate Courtrooms would otherwise not have been able to find adequate size and shape inside of the semi-circular building.

The Valle building also has a clear architectural features: the use of architectural language inspired by a kind of regionalism (rustic basement and roof structures) on a floor plan of type "Community". The curvilinear building was not reflected the emphasis of the monumental public buildings of Italian design of the time, the same porch while being symmetrical

stems a asymmetrical plan. Adding extensions built today would confirm this contradiction. Characterization and use of this historic building has assigned to the same precise connotation: a building for education.

We took the opportunity to confirm the intended use of the building completely redefining the functional diagram, confirming the historical memory of what it was delivered to us. The project proposes a more significant degree of conservation oriented not so much the subject material itself but to the preservation of the historical memory of the use of the building. The memory of the user, and citizens; thus defining an intervention strategy:

- keep the school in the current building for education, renovating it;
- design a new building that has the new contemporary features to accommodate the Supreme Court.

The two structures form a new node of the network city-park. This approach has enabled us to provide high efficiency at both planimetric features and delivering an architectural image, already congruent, to the two buildings that dialogue by establishing a joint relationship between them and in the relationships with the landscape. The new Supreme Court building is a new building that solves all the problems and complexities of internal spatial distribution of a building of its kind presenting itself as a repeatable diagram.

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Visualizations

BUILDING CONSERVATION CONCEPT

Before describing the different stages of intervention design in unfinished work of Cesare Valle for “Convitto femminile – Tirana” it is good to reflect on the concept of restoration of an object with historic value, which has undergone changes. Reflections on these kinds of topics have always been the major subject of debate by researchers, academics or supervisory.

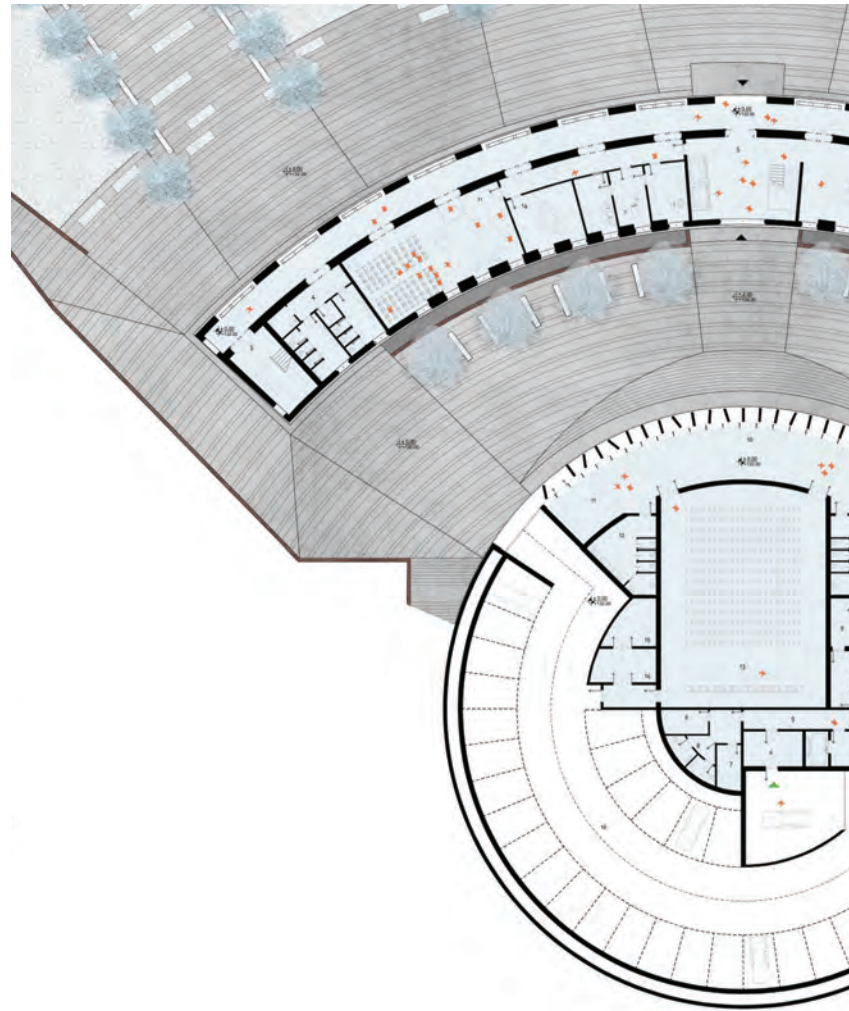
We can briefly summarize some discussions with various hypotheses and conflicting opinions, such as:

1. Opposing or denial of the historic original building. Demolition of a large part to rebuild in another language.
2. Imitation and citation historic original building. Reconstruction in the same way, creating often fake elements.
3. Continuity with the existing building.

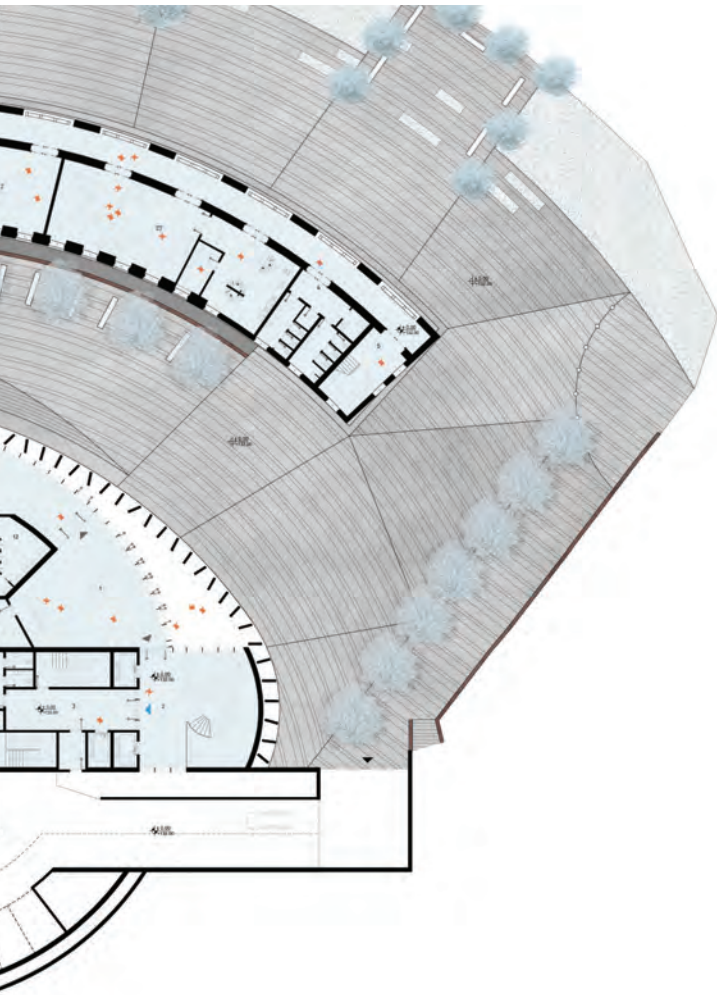
The hypothesis of the intervention of which we can call “continuity and dialogue” with the existing one, is used in both projects, and creates a legitimate conviction of coexistence between what was and what will be. This is the main architectural approach. All this is a guarantee for the survival of the existing facility, which is deteriorated. Thus, the building, even by the competition brief, is defined as 2nd category monument of culture, which will be restored and re-used.

It should also specify the concept of conservation to be used, that there was not only meant collecting details to preserve, but also had a vision of unity, that make up substitution of parts already irreversible damaged, with the new, to make possible the coexistence of the whole. This kind of approach demonstrates that the whole project will become not only the space, but also the interpretation of the characteristic time through space. To prove again what was said above, it is worth adding a further interpretation of the concept of conservation and / or protection. Undoubtedly, that any building is the constant change in time (in our case in the current state of degradation, it has a negative sense), so maintain no means “to stick intervention”, but to intervene with conviction that existing buildings is an irreplaceable communication tool in the past, and is an equilibrium factor of our existence. Things that are left untouched remain stopped. To preserve and revitalize you should intervene by modifying reality, without losing the original nature and character of the work, having always a balance between formal and functional elements. But turn these last two factors is contrary to what is done in new construction.

Finally, the project that follows will be present basic concept that accompanies all the action, it is worth to say, compatibility between existing and innovation, where modernity lies in the fact that the relationship is always created with the logic of historic cities stratifications as from ancient times.



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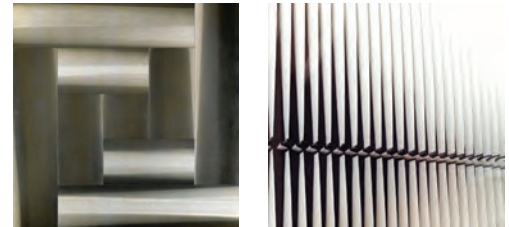


Ground floor



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Any kind of design action to be pursued in a building with historical value cannot bypass a fundamental architecture topic that has to do with dialogue among historical building and innovative intervention needed to apply in order to make building survive. Such a dialogue should not only be the recovery of all the elements that make a building considered as historic, but also provide accurate and correct modifications. Necessarily this is done through the introduction of new facilities, which should have a continuation character with original chronology.

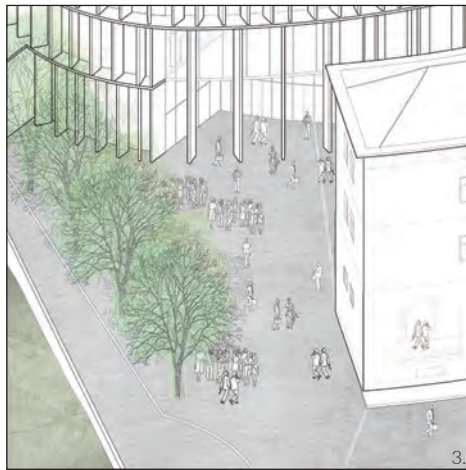
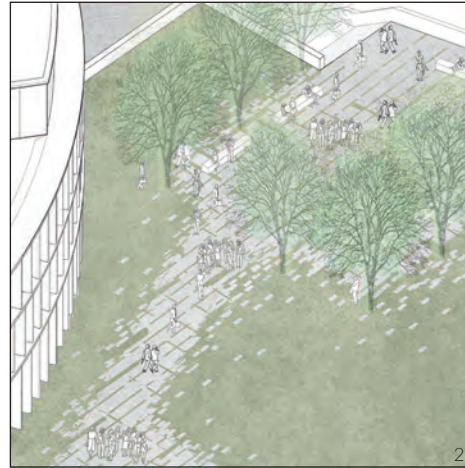
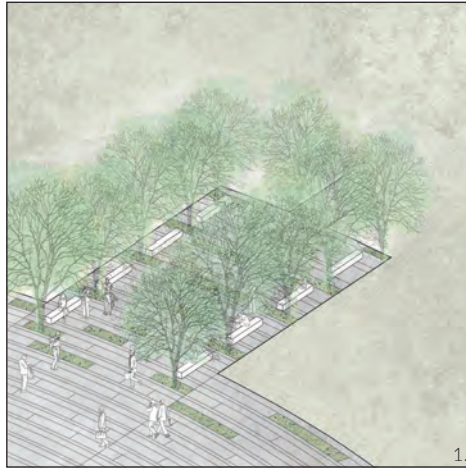


Materiology



East Elevation

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1. Public Realm. The edge of the park facing the north elevation of the future School.
2. Identity. Entrance to the complex area have a "y" shape.
3. Urban space. The in-between space of the buildings.
4. Off Space. The continuity of the space in the park

Integrated landscape design.

THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES' BUILDING

The project of restoration and rehabilitation of the Faculty of Geology and Mining, was conducted through a series of design phases, which brought not only the development of a accurate architectural survey and the historical-bibliographic analysis, but the adaptation of the existing building with the new use destination of School of Magistrates.

First phase has to do with a thorough review of the design duty, based mainly in key documents and drawings that emerged from the research conducted by a group of design in archives and libraries as well as on-site inspections. This research made possible the development of various compliance tests of use compatibility of the new functions in two buildings provided for the development of the whole complex. From the analysis it turned out that the best use to be housed in the building of the Faculty of Geology and Mining was the use for the School of Magistrates. This solution from one side has complied with all the requirements of the design brief and on the other hand respect the methodological criteria of restoration and redevelopment widely described in the first part of this report.

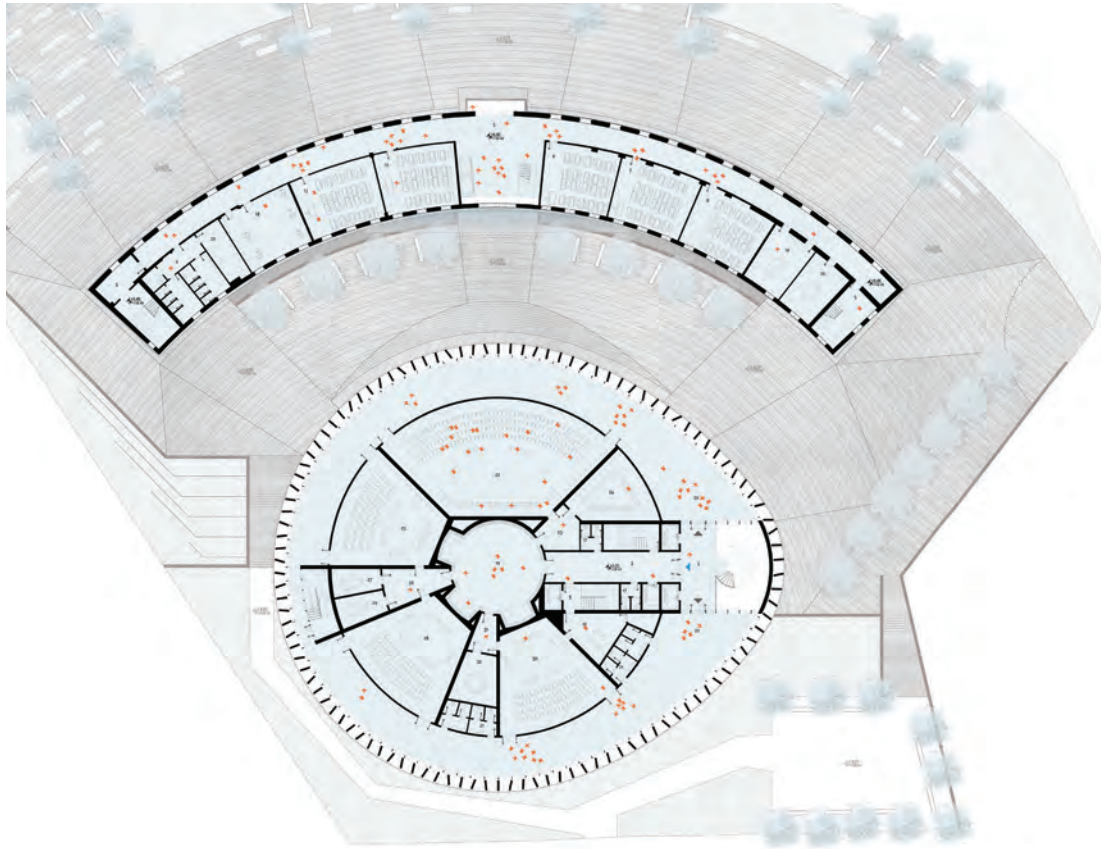
Second phase served for the preparation of all necessary drawings for the destruction of some walls not brace for adapting the use of new, as well as demolition of some structural elements to prepare the intervention of strengthening and adoption of anti-seismic norms.

Third phase defines the architectural project with all its component parts and in two parts. The first part provides accommodation of the School of Magistrates with all new uses required by the design tasks, which are distributed within the existing building of the Faculty of Geology and Mining.

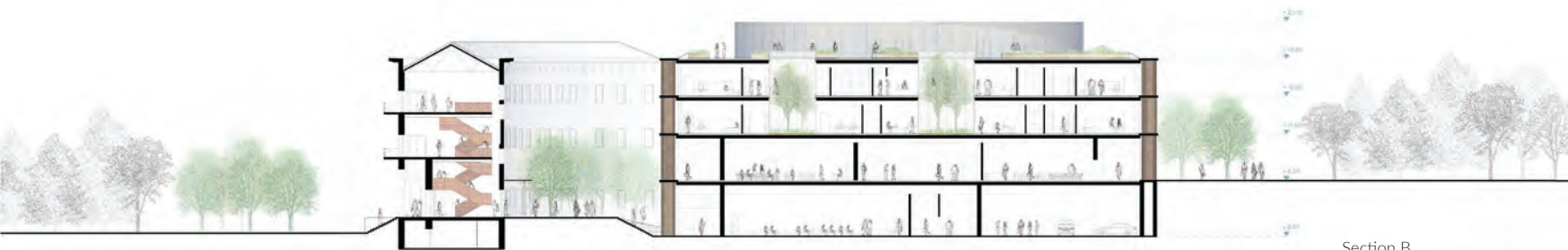
Intervention in the existing building consists of:

- formulate the main corpus with open lobby and stairs, and the location of two elevators.
- Construction of emergency stairs in the east wing of the building that will be used and placed bedrooms on the second floor of the building.
- Reconstruction of roofs
- thermal insulation of walls with internal bonnet system with high thermal performance.
- Establishment of thermal window according to the original model
- Restoration of wooden doors and replacing damaged ones. The second has to do with the placement of the external connection to the new building of the High Court.
- A platform connecting the new building with the old one through Pandus on both sides made it possible the access by persons with disabilities. This platform connects to the existing building in the central part of the hall. It is placed at a distance of 2 meters from the wall perimeter.

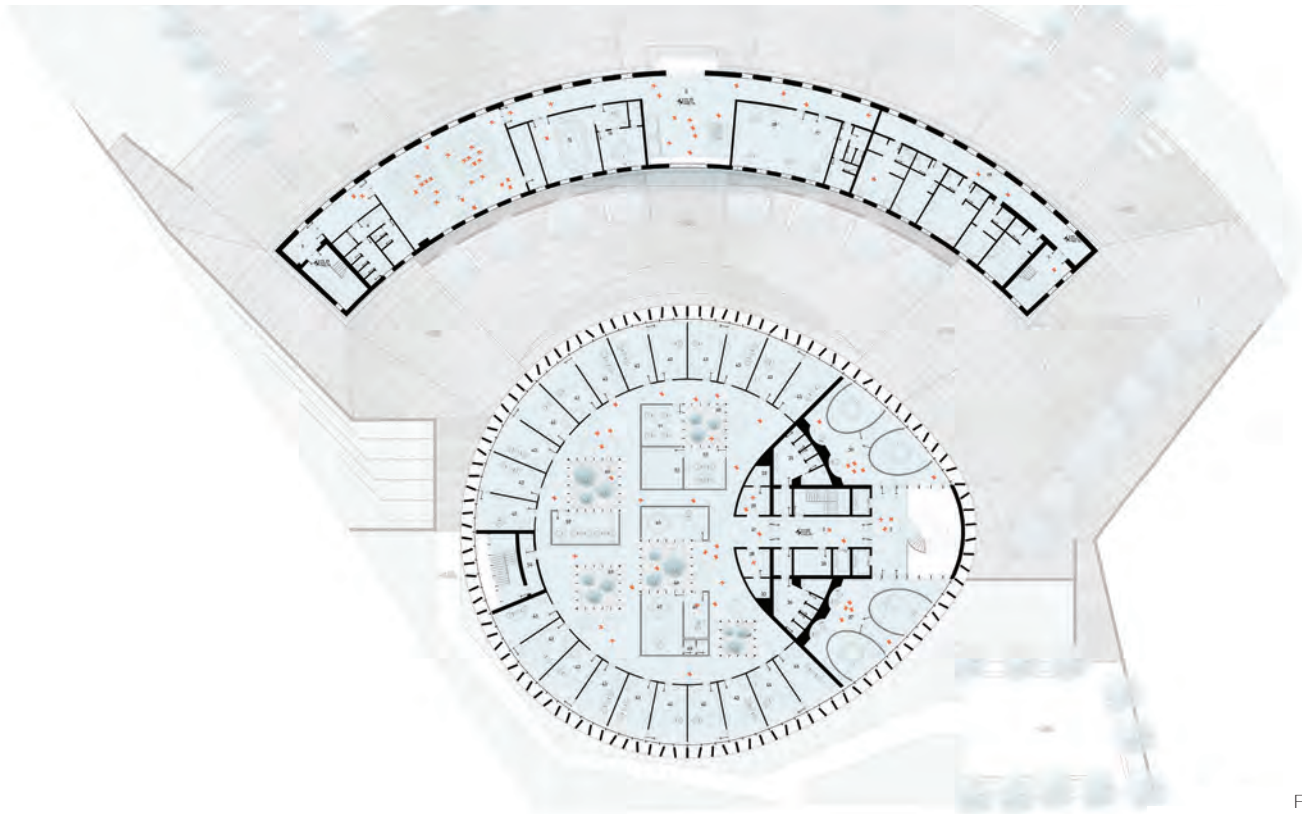
NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES



First floor



Section B



First floor

THE COURT SUPREME BUILDING

The Supreme Court Building is among a 6.500 m² building in 5 storeys with 29 parking places, in one floor. All the previewed activities of the Brief are included in the building with the optimization of the surface of the Courtrooms and an optimized diagram of fluxes.

The core of the building is the "Judge lobby" at the center of the Courtroom floor where the team of the judges and the judges pass through before entering in the ante room of the Courtroom. It is a common space of the Jury Panels. The entrance to the building is in the north facade facing the main entrance to the complex, in the same side there is the reserved car entrance to the parking placed in the basement. The defendant will enter, by car, in the basement and will follow a separate way to the defendant area placed at the first floor near the Penal Courtroom. The public entrance is at the ground floor from where the users can also reach the common conference hall, the horizontal and vertical distribution separates the area

in public area and private one (judges and employees of the Court) or under gate control access. The roof garden is a public space directly connected to the bar and library from where is possible to have a spectacular view of the city and allows the citizen to spend their time in a public building.

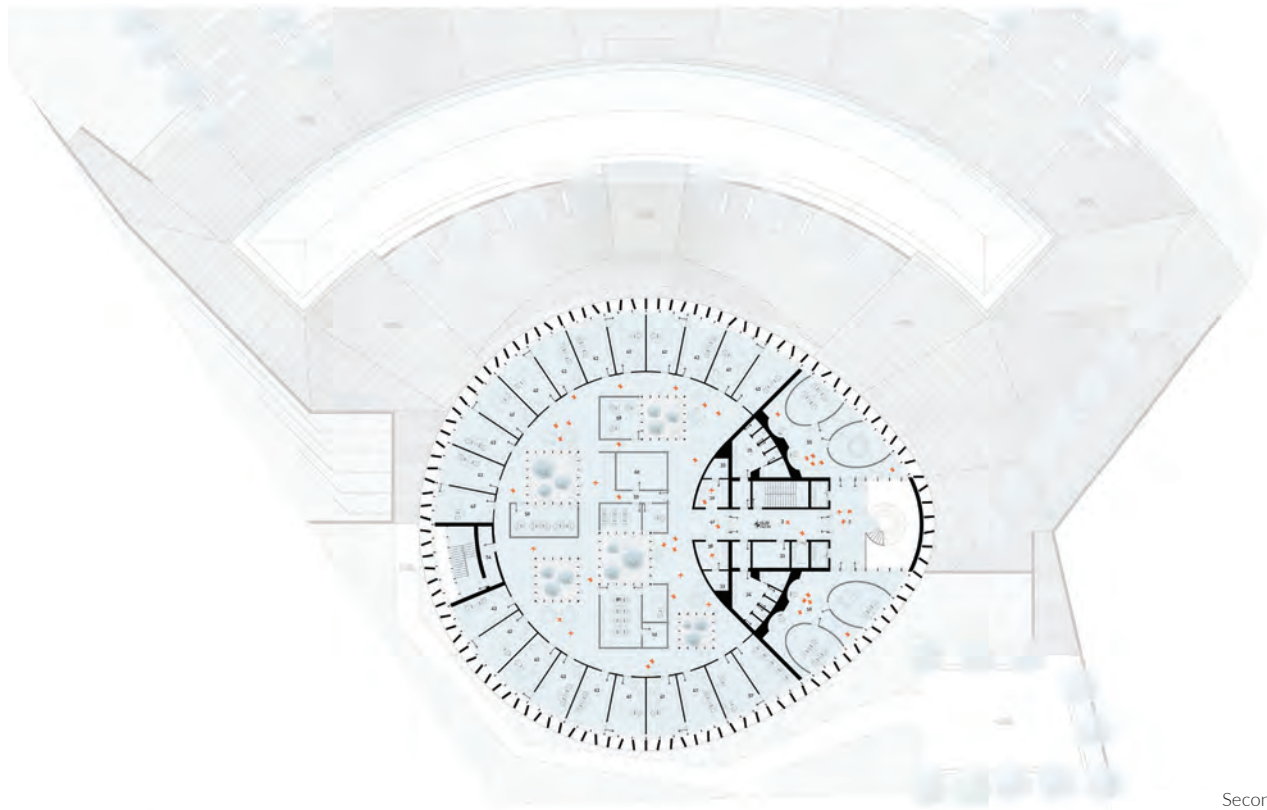
Facade Materials

The whole building have two cladding materials a metal brushed bronze for the opaque vertical elements and a kapilux glass (transparent white insulated glass) for the main staircase and the facade of the fourth floor.

Sustainability and quality of the indoor environment

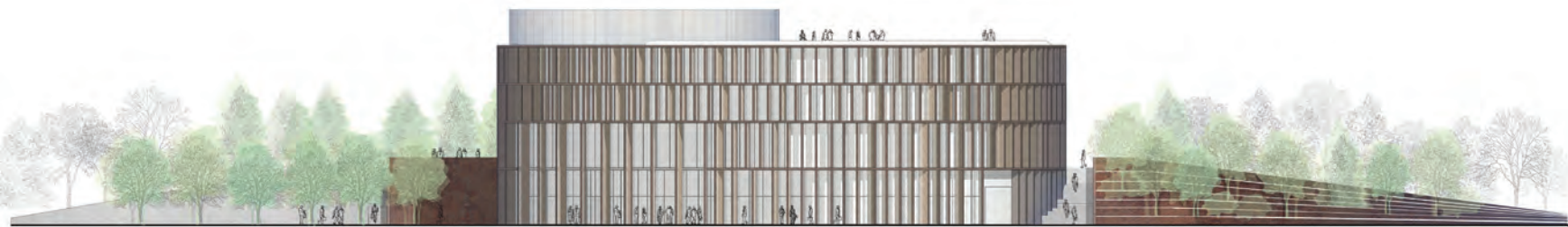
The transparent envelope behind the vertical bronze elements is protected by the direct sun by the geometry and depth of the opaque elements to optimize the building performance during the summer time and the winter time. The natural light is present in all the office spaces.

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Second floor

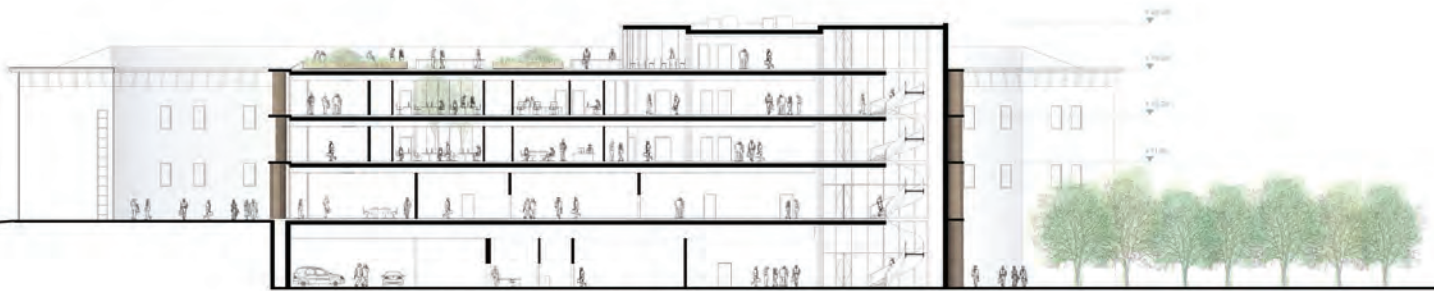
North Elevation



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One floor underground and three floors above ground, the new Supreme Court will have as main functions office facilities and Courtrooms. The building is designed and calculated with 3D frames, giving priority to both directions of the object to guarantee the displacement allowed by external loads, mainly seismic. The object type is based on fundamentals as 'knock plates', under columns. Plates have a height of 100 cm, with two grills and steel bars up and down respectively. The columns have square cross-sectional shape, rectangular or circular with size in view of the charges they face. Horizontal structures, the cover of the basement and on the ground floors are monolithic, type of slabs with thickness of 25cm or 30cm untensioned, because of the short length they cover. In the calculations of the beams are placed trapezoidal or triangular loads coming from the slab and uniform loads coming from the walls.

Section A



NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT & THE SCHOOL OF MAGISTRATES



STRUCTURAL CONCEPT

The existing structure is represented by vertical masonry elements and horizontal reinforced concrete slab with joist supported in one direction with ceramic fillings. The separating walls are also in masonry. The project of the existing structure consists in the remodeling of the stairs cage, the creation of a suitable room for setting of two cages of elevators, the demolition of some division walls and the two upper floors slab with the total removal of the retaining wall in the existing hall.

Due to structural interventions will be the replacement of slabs of the two upper floors and of the ground floor and the basement floor which will be rebuilt because of differences of destination what makes a difference in structure and other parameters. The evaluation of the condition and seismic risk of the building with a mixed structure will be done with the help of Eurocodes 1,2 and 6. Also we will evaluate the existing building and its behavior taking into consideration the new geologic seismic studies done in our country and especially in the building site.

Once the evaluation of the existing condition is done the study suggests and will give the necessary reinforced provisions to bring the structure in the right parameters. The study and the project of the reinforcement will be done also in the context of the protection of such a building with aim of the protection of the human life and the cultural heritage of our country. It will also study in detail the possibility of redesign the plan of the structures through methods of kinematic analysis and the use of micro elements.

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Bird's eye view

INTERNATIONAL ARCHITECTURE DESIGN COMPETITION

Re-designing the New Headquarters of the
Supreme Court & the School of Magistrates
Tirana, Albania

No. 7



AKPT
AGJENCIA KOMBETARE E
PLANIFIKIMIT TE TERRITORIT



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