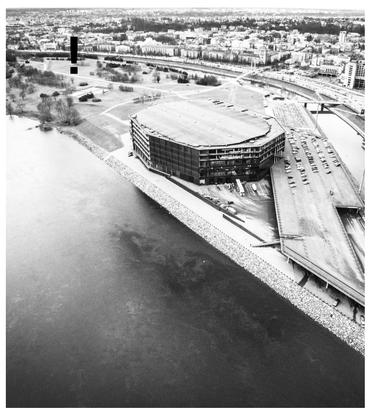
1 NEMUNAS ISLAND IS THE REAL PARK OF KAUNAS

Nemunas Island is the main park of Kaunas, the best recreational zone for taking a stroll, doing sports and enjoying nature.

2 WHY ANOTHER BUILDING?

The Island has already one building, the Zalguiris Arena, creating and artificial platform.

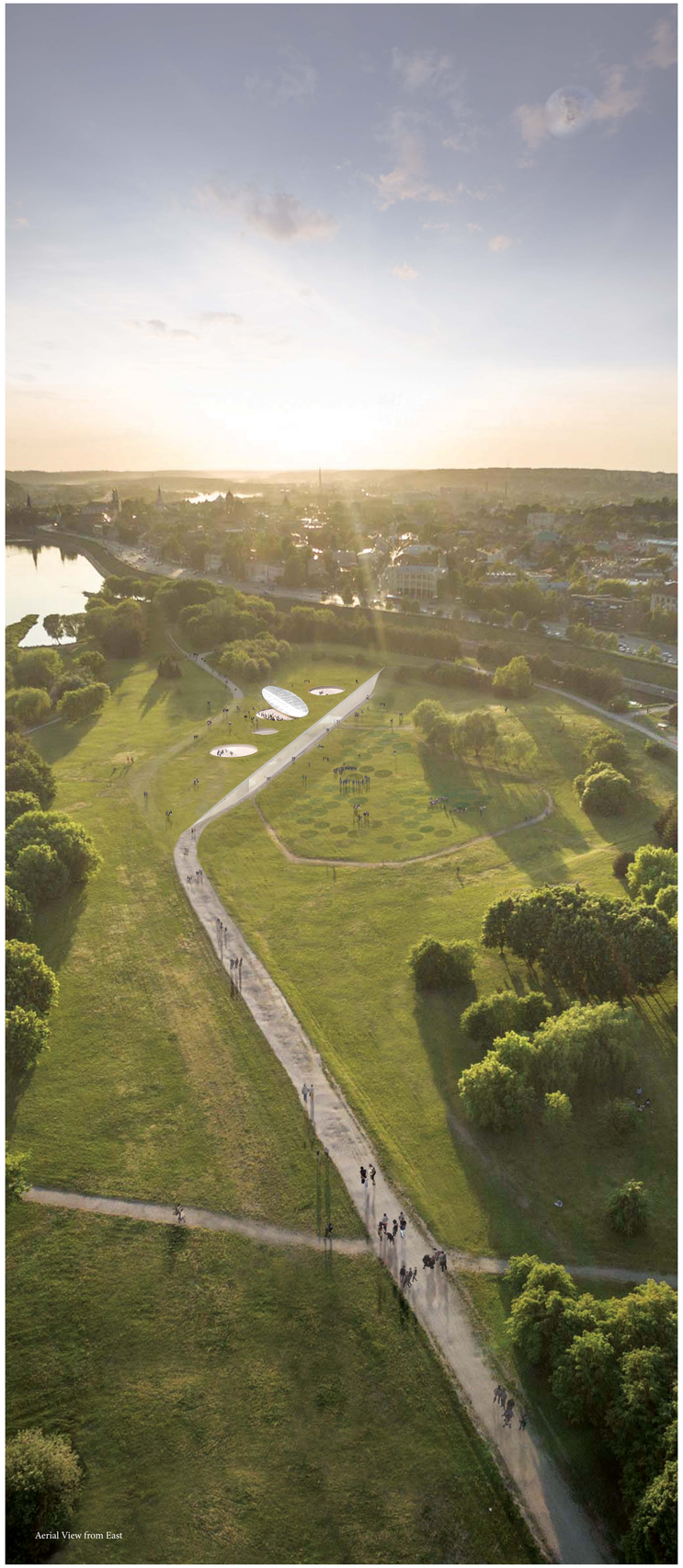


3 PRESERVE THE REMAINING PARK

What if, instead of designing a new building, the proposal follows what is already there, (the guidelines of the site) to find a natural connection with nature, with Nemunas Island?

The proposal takes advantage of the natural slope and the different topographical levels of the island. Following the main road that crosses the island from the Zalguiris Arena East to West. The New Nemunas Island Museum will take advantage of the natural slope that already exits.

Circular perforations will allow to access the Science Museum from above creating at the same time an open-air space to host Science screenings and events in the Summer.



Aerial View from East

Scale: 1/4000
Site Plan

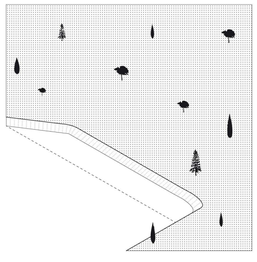
Northeast Elevation

1 Activation of the Topography
The main road that crosses the island from east to west divides the park in 2 different topographical levels: +28m to the south; +24m to the north. The proposal takes advantage of the main road circulation and the natural slope to allocate the Science Center.

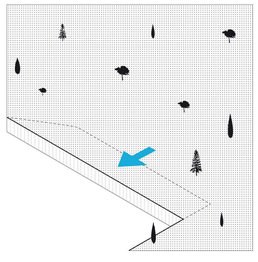
1.1 The Roof: Extension of the Park
The upper limit of the Center is an extension of the park, a horizontal green plane in which constitutes the top entrance.
Circular perforations allow accessing the Science Museum from above creating at the same time an open-air space to host Science screenings and events in the summer.

1.2 The Ground: Access from the City
Ground access is a green platform able to generate outdoor activities in summer, in which those who come from the Zalguiris Arena will access from above and those coming from the city bridge will access to the ground floor.

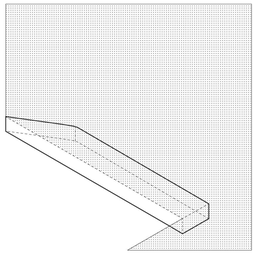
2. The Science Museum is In-Between
An existing slope allocates a space crowned by an upper horizontal plane, which is an extension of the park. Nothing more, but nothing less.



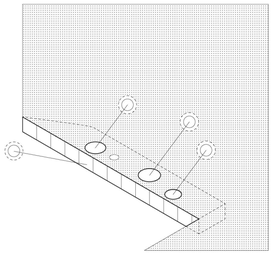
1 **PARK / NATURAL SLOPE**



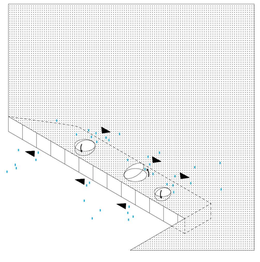
2 **EXTENSION OF THE PARK**



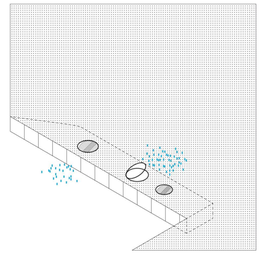
3 **SCIENCE ISLAND CENTER**



4 **NATURAL LIGHT**



5 **ACCESS**



6 **EVENTS**

View from the City

While Natural Science and Astronomy study celestial objects, references to the stars and the sun have been present in a multitude of architectural projects since the beginning of time; a presence that has oscillated between its magical, religious and romantic character.

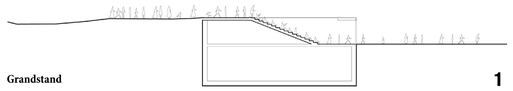
This proposal offers a new sun for Kaunas, a bright, shinning sun that evidences the fact that **Science is always awake searching for new answers, in an island where the sun never sets.**

Solar Energy and LED

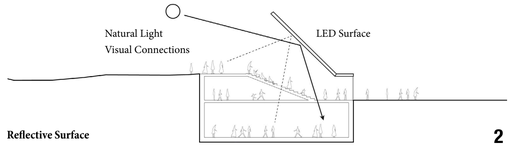
The complex will be equipped with large arrays of solar panels, which supply part of the building's energy requirements. The upper disc will have a specialized surface finish using a multitude of LEDS that will light up the building throughout the night.

We would like to design the Science island Museum as a landmark that symbolizes Nemunas Island. It would be a landmark appropriate for this new era, in the context of us who live in the 21st century.

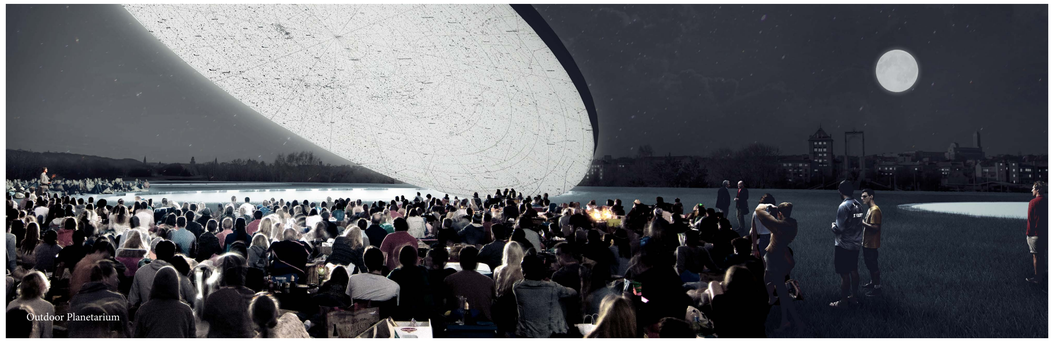
We believe that a landmark of a new era, rather than simply being an object of prominence, should be like an oasis where everyone, locals and visitors, feel the energy of the environment. It requires an appeal that naturally leads us towards this place, as if discovering an oasis in the desert.



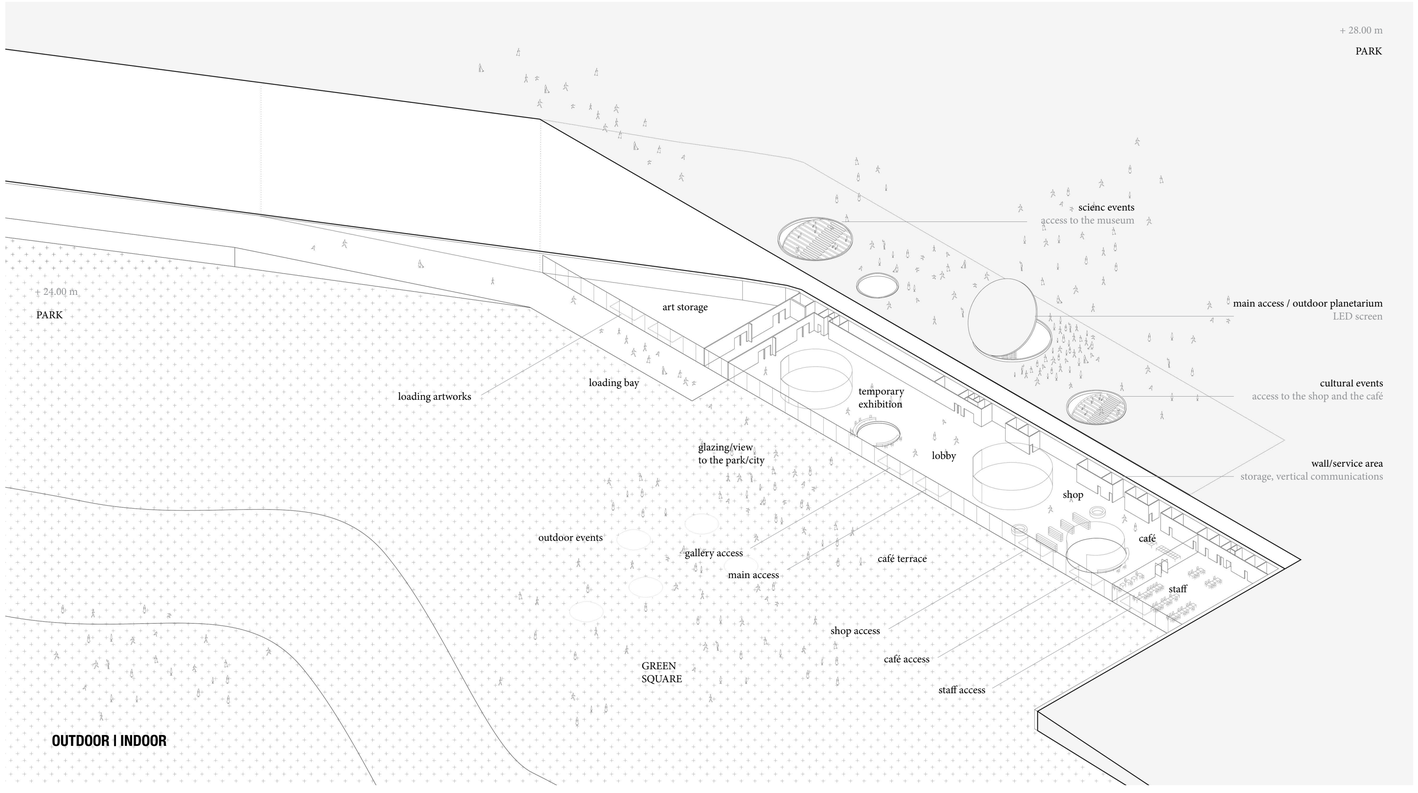
Grandstand **1**



Reflective Surface **2**



Outdoor Planetarium



1. FRONT OF THE HOUSE
1.1 Entrance Hall
1.2 Information / Reception
1.3 Cloakroom
1.4 Sanitation facilities

2. VISITOR AMENITIES
2.1 Science Centre Shop
2.2 Shop office
2.3 Shop storage
2.4 Cafeteria
2.5 Sanitation facilities
2.6 Main Kitchen
2.7 Kitchen Storage

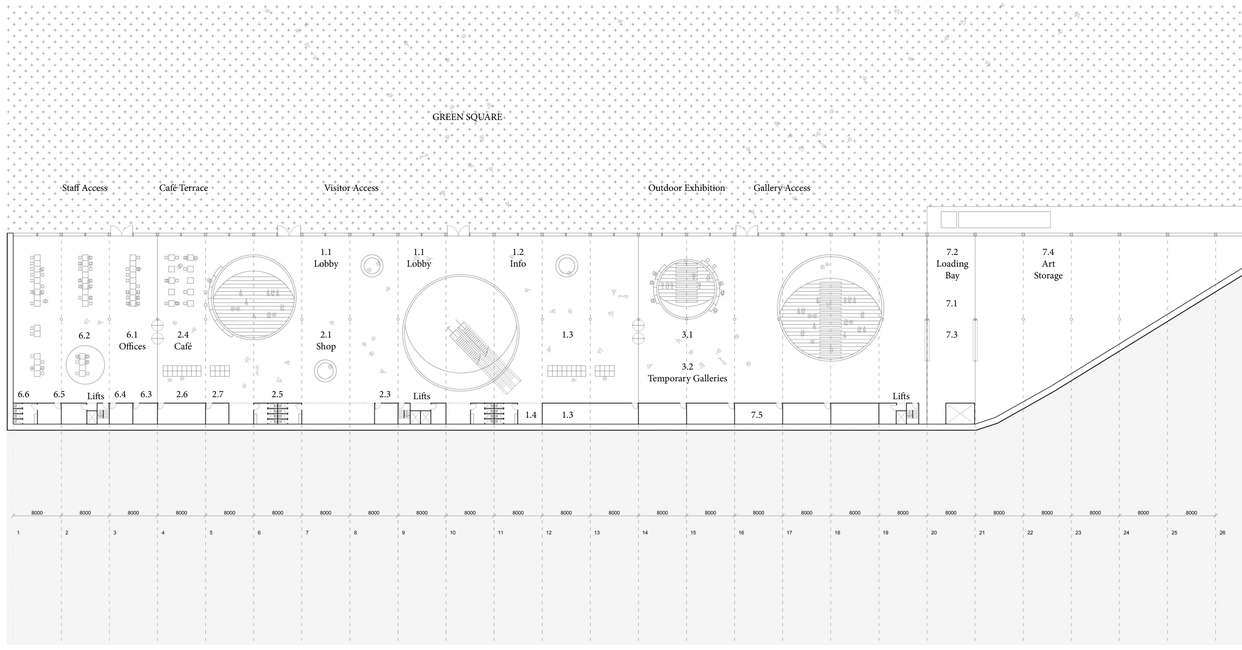
3. TEMPORARY GALLERIES
3.1 Introductory Space
3.2 Main Space

4. PERMANENT GALLERIES

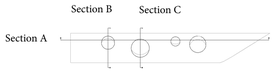
5. EVENT SPACES

6. STAFF SPACES
6.1 Office space
6.2 Meeting Room
6.3 Copy / Resource Room
6.4 Archive storage
6.5 Staff Room
6.6 Sanitation Facilities

7. BACK OF THE HOUSE
7.1 Security
7.2 Loading Bay
7.3 Delivery, packing, create storage
7.4 Preparation space and storage
7.5 Storage



Scale: 1/500
Ground Floor



Park enters the Science Museum

The project takes advantage of the natural topography of the park to facilitate access to the Science Center from the city.

From a gentle downhill terraced topography it is accessed from the park through the north facade of the building.

As one approaches the island from a distance, one can glimpse a circular shape appearing on horizon.

As one approaches closer in the island the land, the Science Museum reveals itself amidst the trees, and further overlaps with the topography island, allowing one to experience the vast landscape. Those who visit can experience a landscape that deeply engraves itself in memory, arriving at the island. As this project will be continuous to the park, people who visit the location can explore the succession of spaces at their leisure, gazing upon the ocean and the city.

Access from the Zalguiris Arena

The spatial and functional organization of the building responds to the synthesis of a public park and three patios. The spatial sequence is as follows:

Patio 1
Down the first stands we are at the courtyard entrance, from which you enter the temporary Exhibition Space.

Patio 2
Under the canopy is the main entrance. An escalator gives access to the lobby from which you can access the Museum, bookshop and cafe.

Patio 3
Finally, at the western entrance, grandstands from which you can access directly the shop and café but also enjoy the views to the city.

Scale: 1/500
Northeast Elevation / Summer

View from the Café

1. FRONT OF THE HOUSE

2. VISITOR AMENITIES

3. TEMPORARY GALLERIES

4. PERMANENT GALLERIES
4.1 Introductory Space
4.2 Gallery 1 | Human
4.3 Gallery 2 | Machine
4.4 Gallery 3 | Nature / Ecology

5. EVENT SPACES
5.1 Black Box flexible space
5.2 Virtual Planetarium
5.3 Outdoor Planetarium
5.4 Research Laboratories
5.5 Experimentorium
5.6 Sanitation Facilities

6. STAFF SPACES

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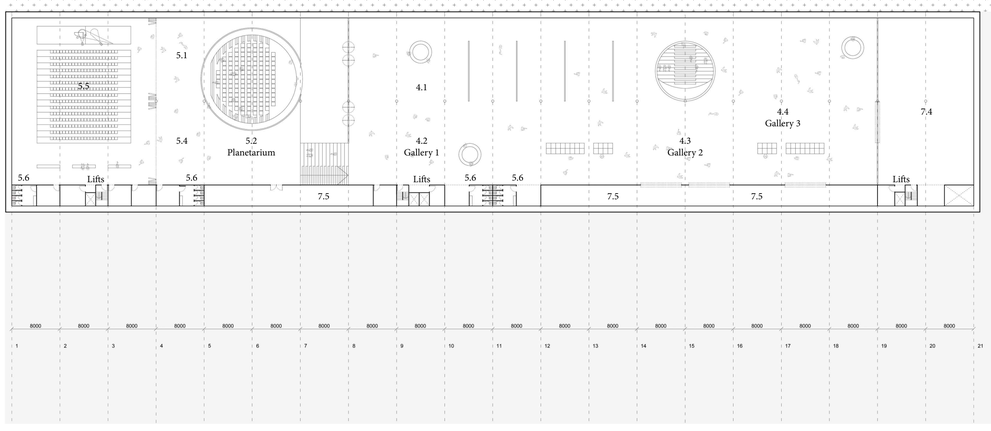
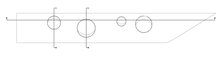


Scale: 1/500
Ground Floor

Section B
Section C
Section A



THE ISLAND AND THE SCIENCE

The Museum is an intermediary between Nemunas Island and Science.

Activation
Evoking gravity, weightlessness and nature, we try to find ways of giving concrete expression to phenomena that is usually invisible.

In the Ground floor, the lobbies, entrance areas and public circulation spread outwards towards the park and Kaunas and engender transitional spaces.

On the roof, the circular access points are like public stages and natural seating areas, appearing in the park and also engaging with the Science activities in the Museum.

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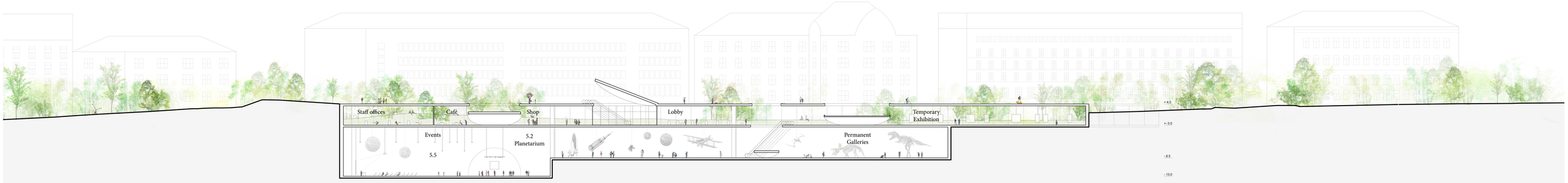
It would be a landmark appropriate for this new era, in the context of us who live in the 21st century.

We believe that a landmark of a new era, rather than simply being an object of prominence, should be like an oasis where everyone, locals and visitors, feel the energy of the environment. It requires an appeal that naturally leads us towards this place, as if discovering an oasis in the desert.



Scale: 1/500
Section A / Summer

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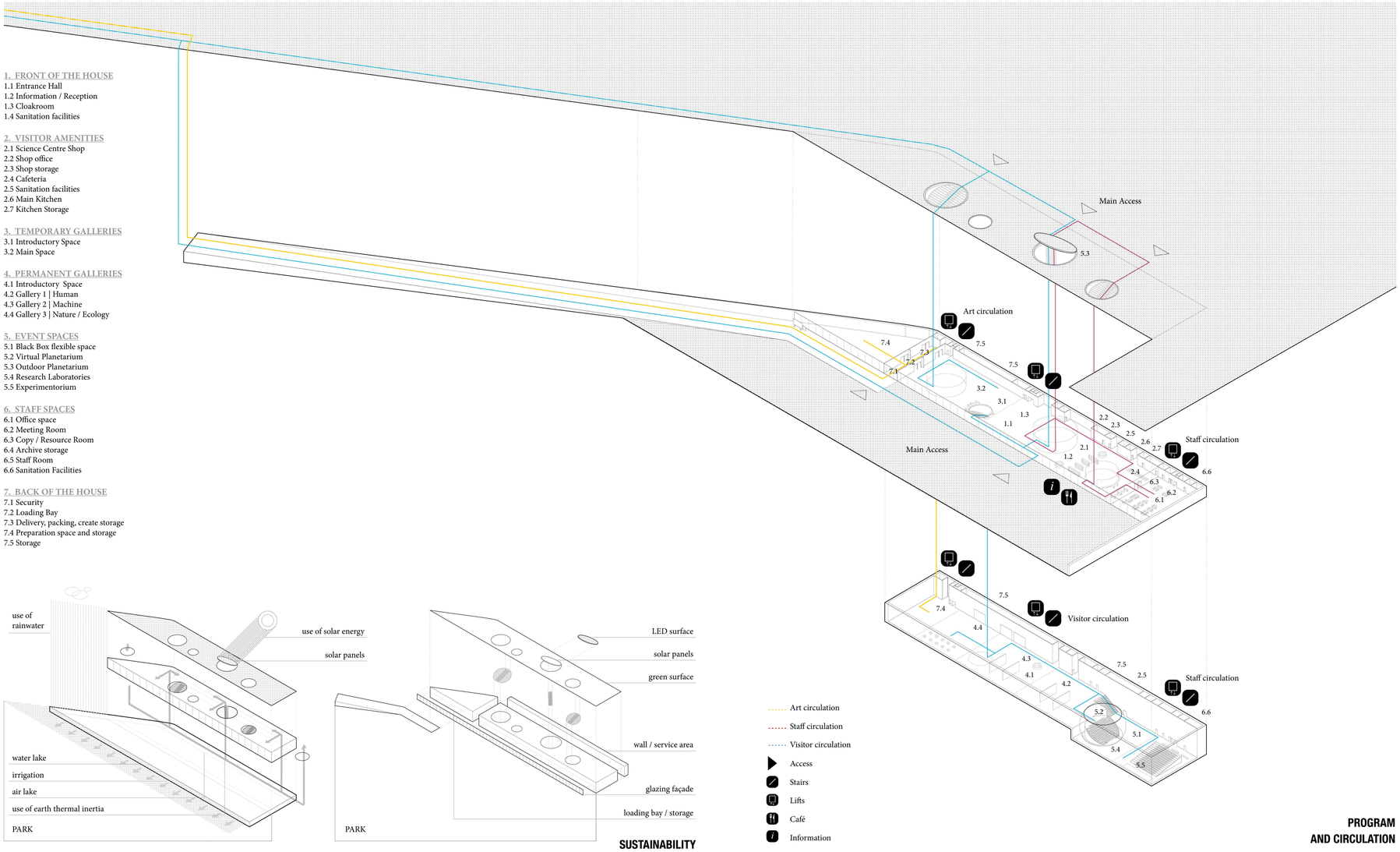
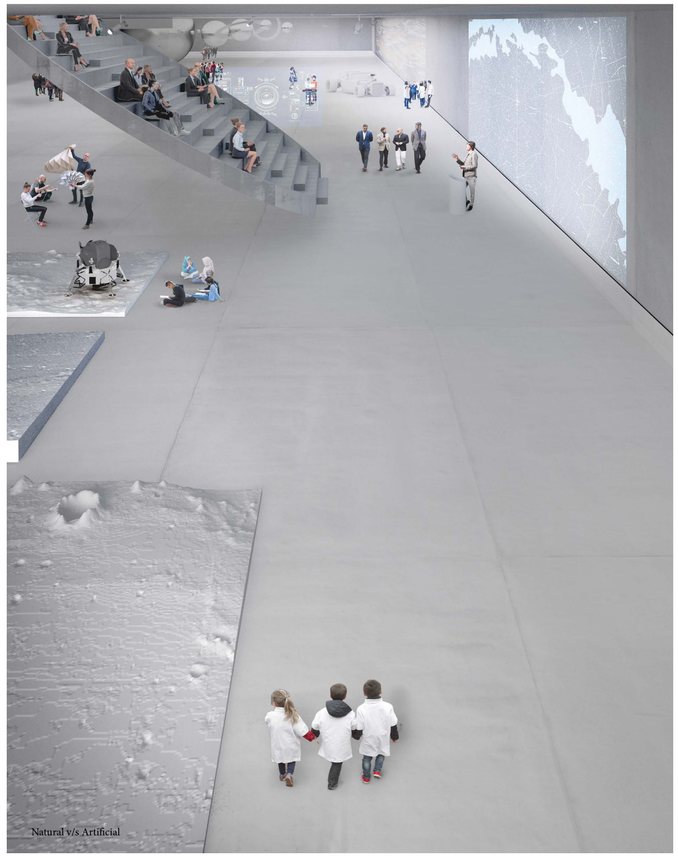
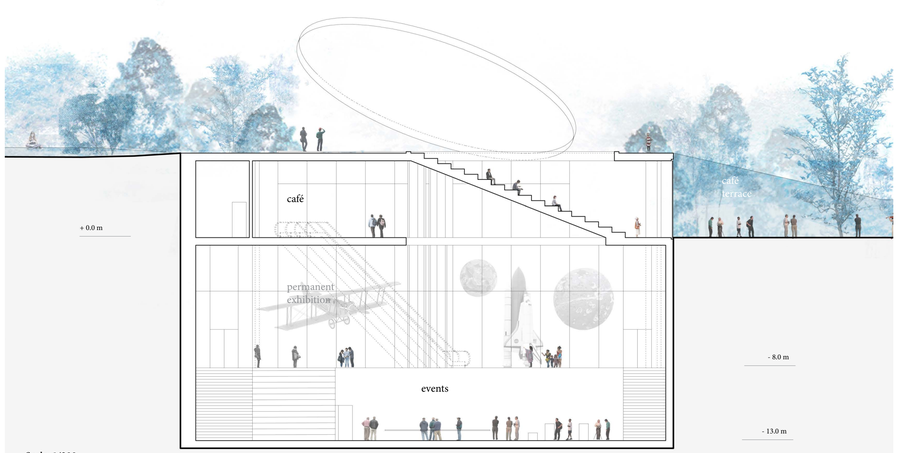
SUSTAINABILITY

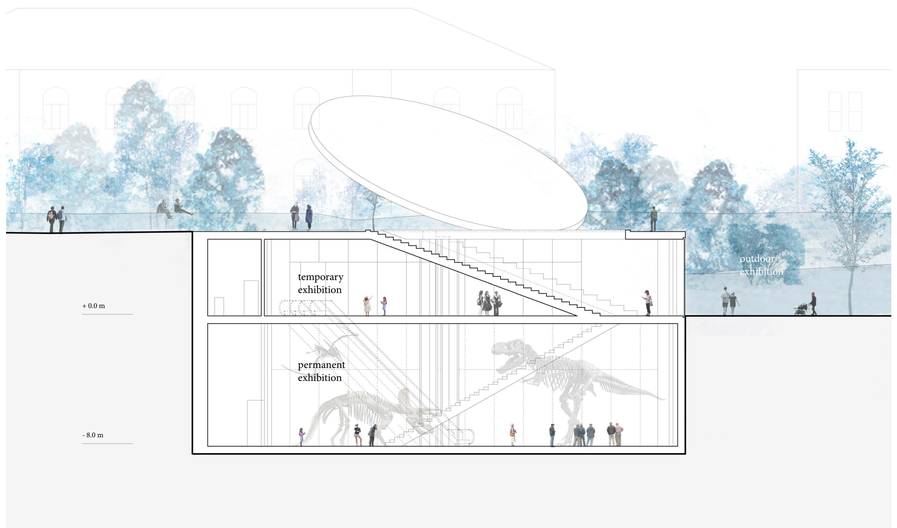


PROGRAM AND CIRCULATION





Scale: 1/200
Section B / Winter



Scale: 1/200
Section C / Winter