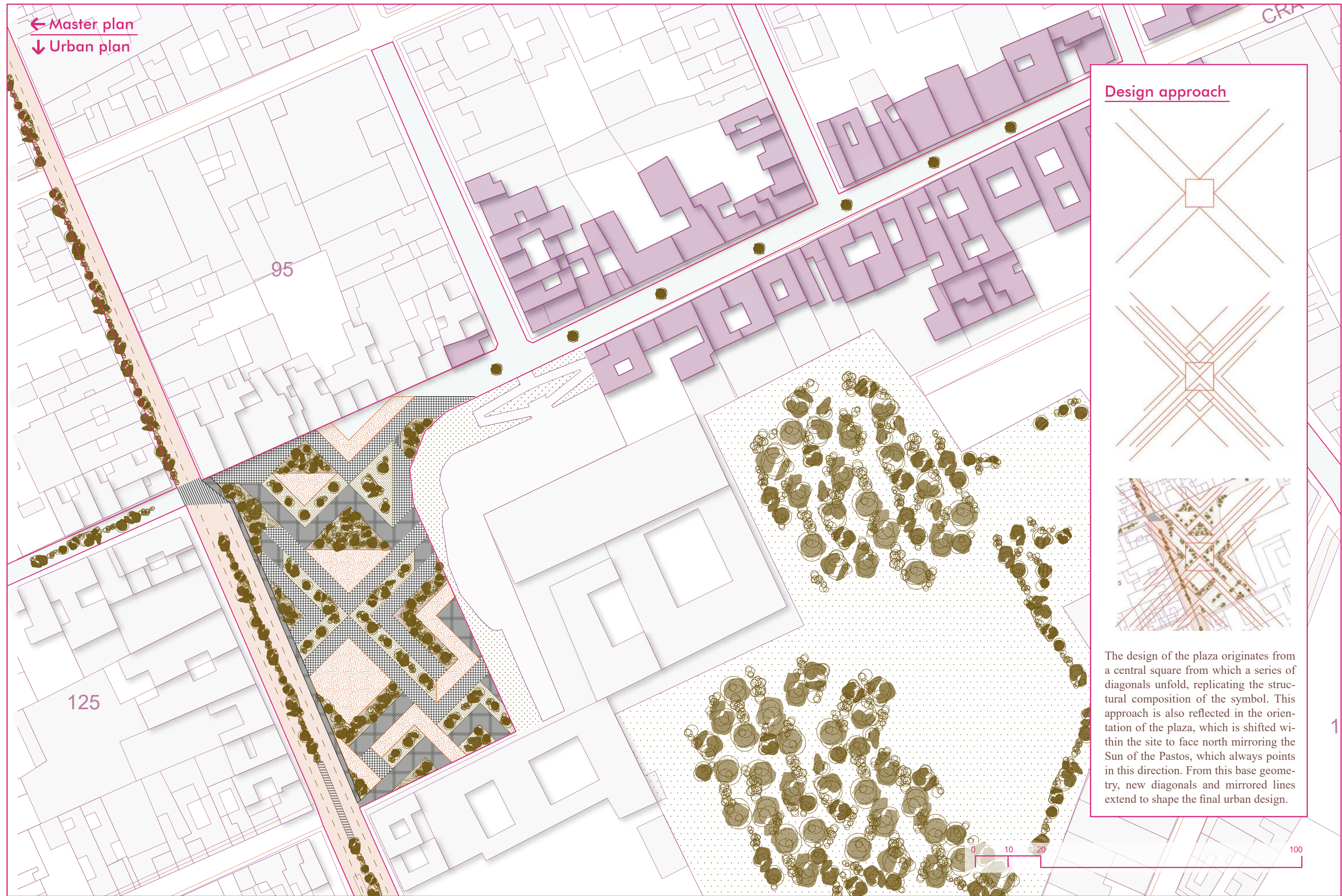
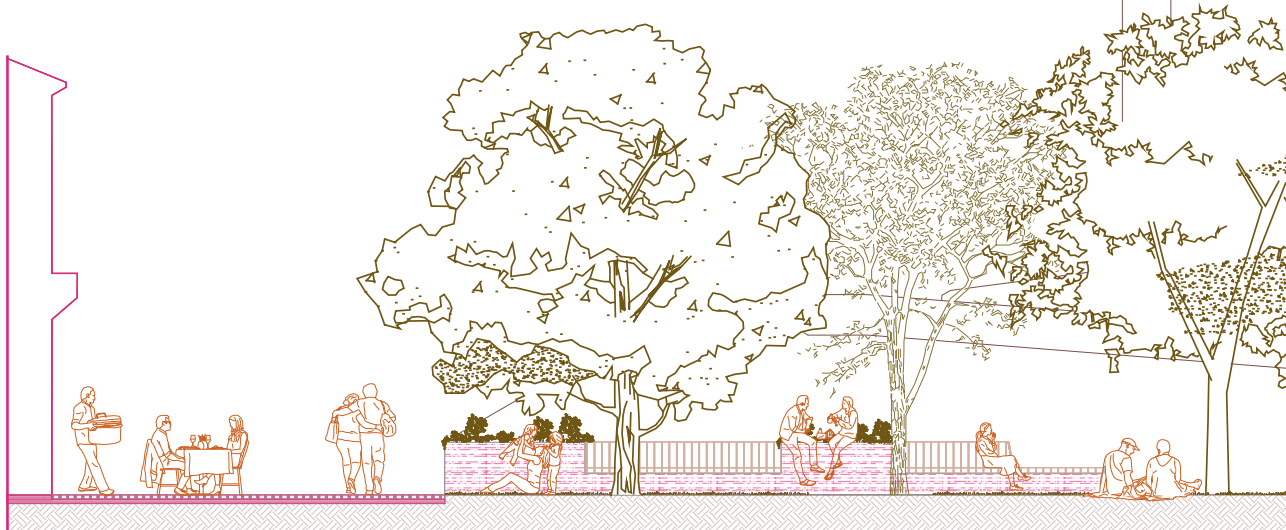


↑
Strategy for urban cohesion: proposal for a pedestrian and heritage circuit.

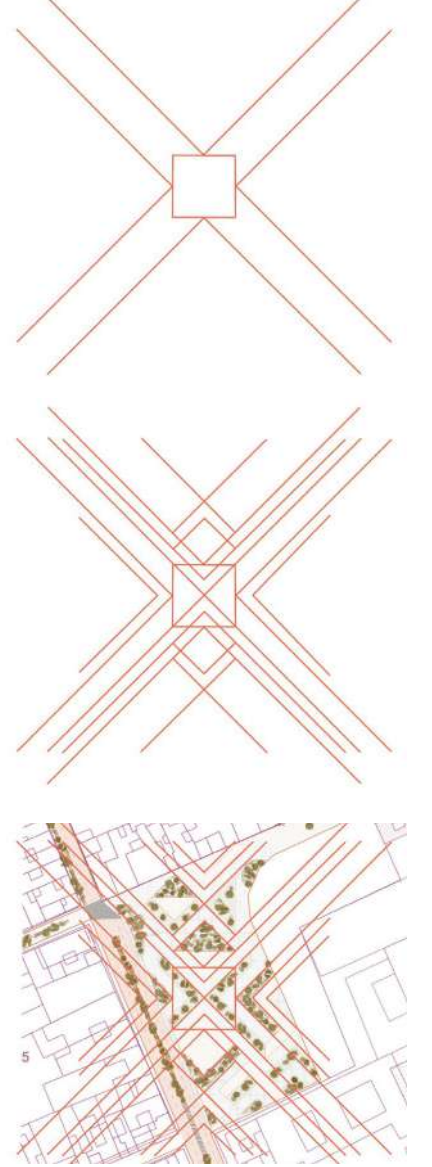
The urban proposal is articulated as a strategy for the revitalization of Pasto's historic center, with the main objective of creating a Cultural and Heritage Circuit that connects the currently fragmented heritage nodes of the city. The focus of the intervention is the articulation of the axis between the Taminango Museum and the Church of Santiago, which is key to linking the proposal with Calle del Colorado. This is achieved by reconfiguring Santiago Street into a pedestrian-priority urban corridor, aiming to unify the landscape and enhance spatial quality. Furthermore, the plan includes the full pedestrianization of Calle del Colorado (from 15th Street to Boyacá Avenue) and the semi-pedestrianization of its extension, which seeks to restore its prominence as a vital axis that stimulates local commerce, encourages pedestrian activity, and strengthens community cohesion.

→
Urban design plan: spatial configuration of Santiago's church square.

The design centers on the reconfiguration of the Santiago Church Square, using the ancestral geometry of the Sol de los Pastos as the spatial matrix. This geometric approach creates a new public space. The strategy is completed by the full pedestrianization of the Calle del Colorado and the creation of transitional green barriers to ensure safe, high-quality public space, ultimately preparing the context for the new Barniz Cultural Center.



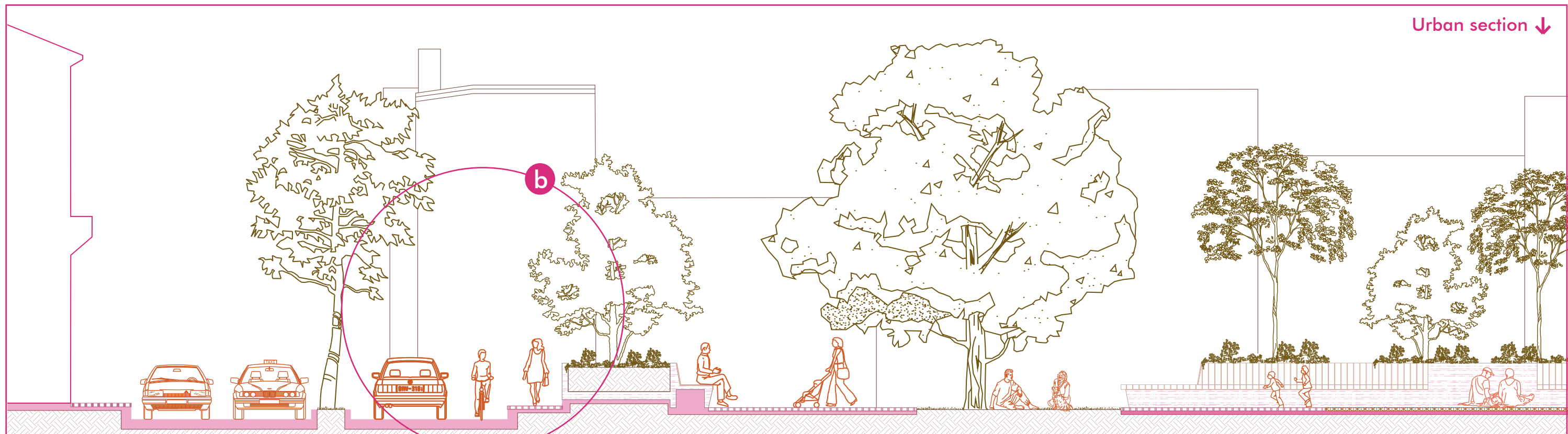
Design approach



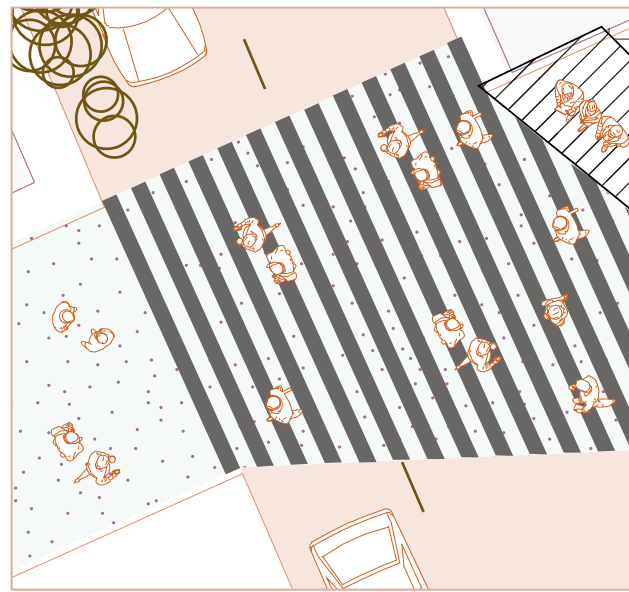
The design of the plaza originates from a central square from which a series of diagonals unfold, replicating the structural composition of the symbol. This approach is also reflected in the orientation of the plaza, which is shifted within the site to face north mirroring the Sun of the Pastos, which always points in this direction. From this base geometry, new diagonals and mirrored lines extend to shape the final urban design.

1

Urban section ↓

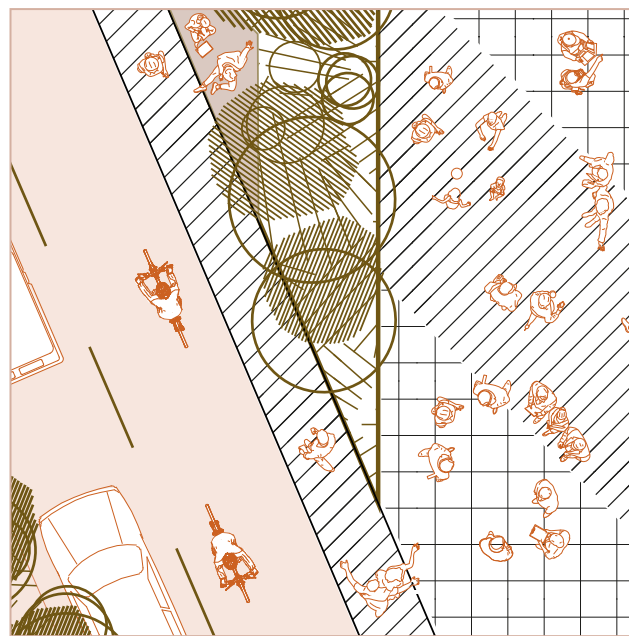


Urban scenes on plan



a. Detail of the pedestrian transition over 12th street towards the new Santiago Square.

The design details the critical pedestrian connection channeling flow from the Taminango Museum into Santiago Square. The intersection with vehicular traffic is managed by a distinct change in pavement texture and a wide, visible crosswalk, which clearly establishes pedestrian priority. Critically, the crosswalk's form opens seamlessly into the plaza, serving as a visual and functional guide toward the new public space.

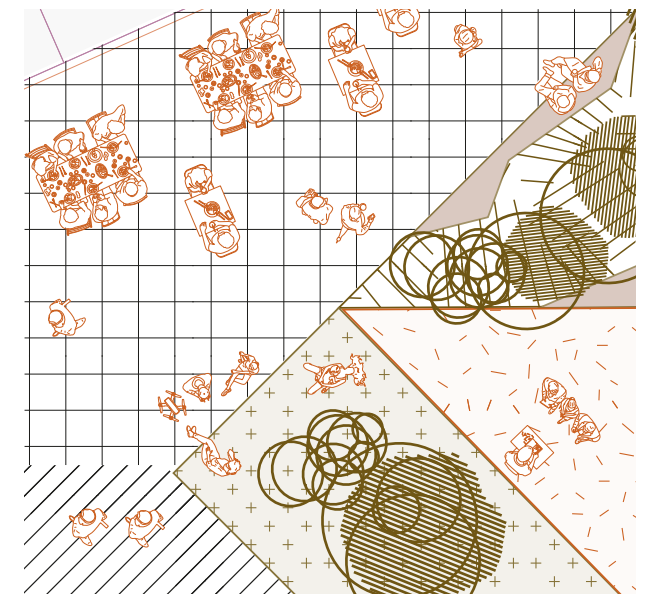


b. Detail of the Plaza – Avenida Boyacá interaction and street edge solution.

Figure b. details the design of the plaza edge adjacent to the busy Avenida Boyacá. The proposal strategically addresses this high-flow intersection by creating a visual and physical barrier aimed at protecting public spaces from traffic. This is achieved through the implementation of continuous planters that serve as a natural barrier against noise and traffic, structuring the transition. Additionally, a bike lane is positioned next to the plaza, functioning as a vital buffer between vehicular traffic and pedestrian life. Despite these boundaries, the plaza remains fully open and accessible via wide access points, ensuring its seamless integration into the urban fabric to promote social and cultural activity.

c. The relationship with the urban fabric and integration of existing uses.

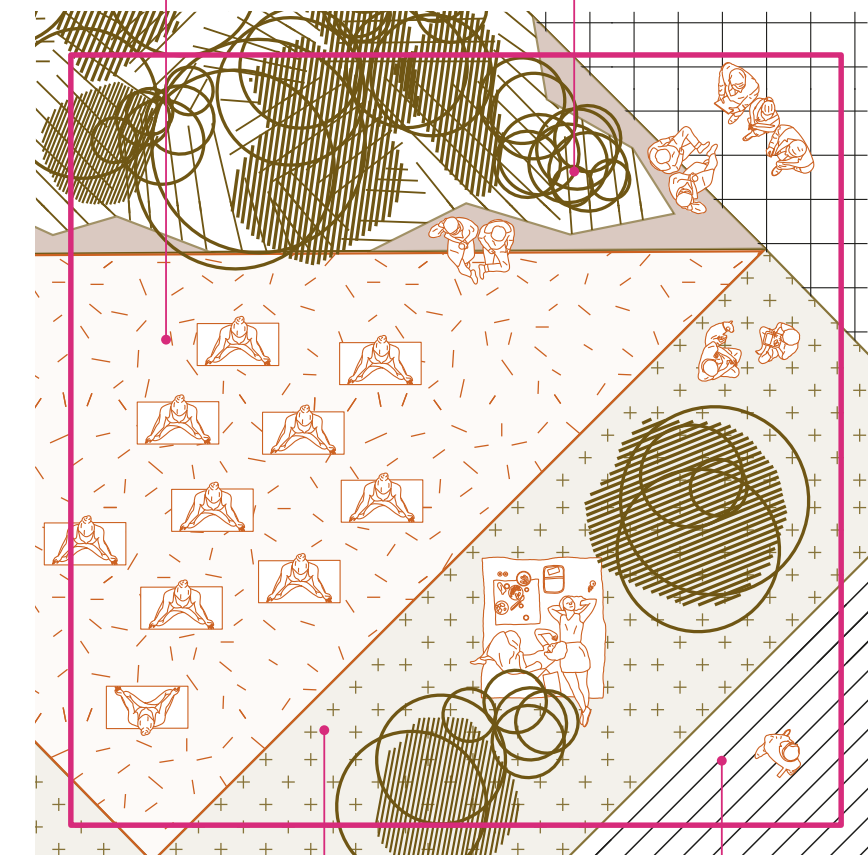
The strategy for spatial integration of the square with the surrounding urban fabric, focuses on incorporating the buildings around it blurring the boundaries between what's public and what's private. In this sense the pavement is strategically designed to delimitate areas that enhance existing uses of the sector, like shops and restaurants by providing a physical space that connects them with the context. At the same time, the new geometries generate a number of spaces for gathering and interaction, with various areas dedicated to different activities.



d. Materials specifications

The material for zones requiring maximum flexibility for recreational and cultural activities is EPDM safety rubber pavement. It was selected for its durability, impact-absorbing properties, and appealing appearance, which collectively create a comfortable and inviting surface that encourages continuous use and prolonged stay.

The planters are designed as elevated concrete elements that contain vegetation and incorporate wooden benches, offering comfortable seating areas. This design creates ideal spaces for social interaction within a more intimate and natural environment.



Aimed at providing thermal comfort and passive rest spaces, these areas offer shade and a natural texture to the plaza. Natural soil and grass are used to contrast with the hard surfaces, enhancing the environmental quality of the square.

These areas, designed to accommodate pedestrian flow, differentiate from the surrounding spaces by the material chosen for them: clay pavers; that offer high durability and create a visual connection with the rest of the Calle del Colorado project.

0 5 10 50

Regulatory context and chromatic analysis

The PEMP (Special Plan for Management and Protection) (2012) constitutes a valuable tool for protecting Pasto’s urban and architectural heritage, providing essential guidelines for the conservation of facades, traditional materials (like clay tiles and smooth plaster), and ornamental elements. It rigorously identifies architectural typologies and recognizes the symbolic value of internal patios and urban proportions, proposing their recovery as part of the heritage fabric.

Nevertheless, the effective implementation of the PEMP faces limitations, as excessively relaxed regulations based on conservation levels can weaken the comprehensive protection of the urban landscape. To strengthen the strategy for architectural recovery on Calle del Colorado, particularly concerning the existing earth tone color palettes promoted by the PEMP, this proposal suggests incorporating a more rigorous tool: the structured chromatic plan.

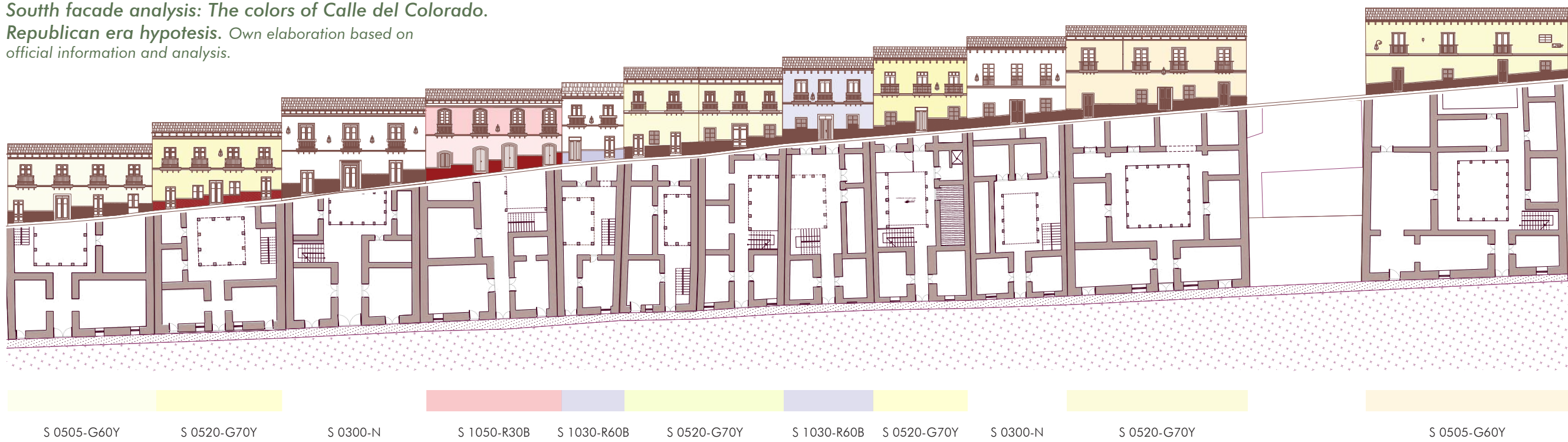
Inspired by the Piano del Colore methodology used in Italian

historic centers, this strategy establishes clear technical and cultural criteria for color management, ensuring visual coherence, respect for original materials, and the preservation of urban identity. Based on this methodology, a detailed analysis of Calle del Colorado was conducted to understand its chromatic heritage and richness, which is documented in the following elevation drawings.



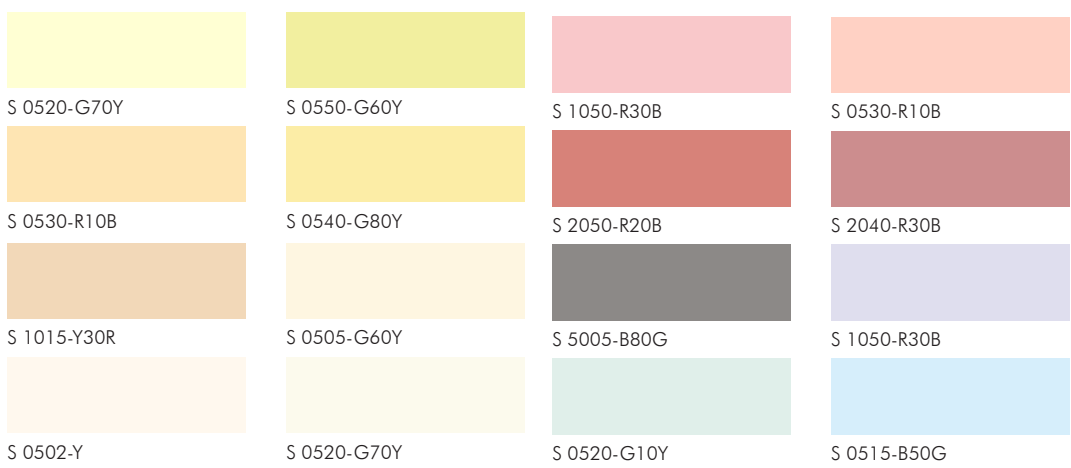
↑ South facade analysis: The colors of Calle del Colorado. Actual state. Own elaboration.

↓ South facade analysis: The colors of Calle del Colorado. Republican era hypothesis. Own elaboration based on official information and analysis.



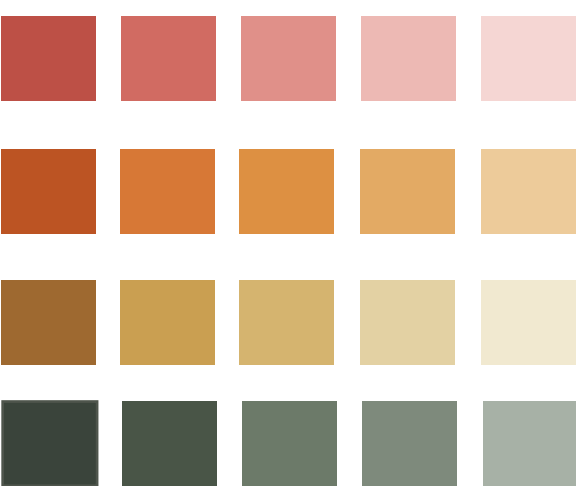
Colors

Different color palettes can be generated that allow achieving a balance, a chromatic average that considers both respect for heritage and integration with the current context. The following palette is composed of the colors obtained from the analysis of the existing facades in Calle del Colorado, as well as the hypothetical facades.

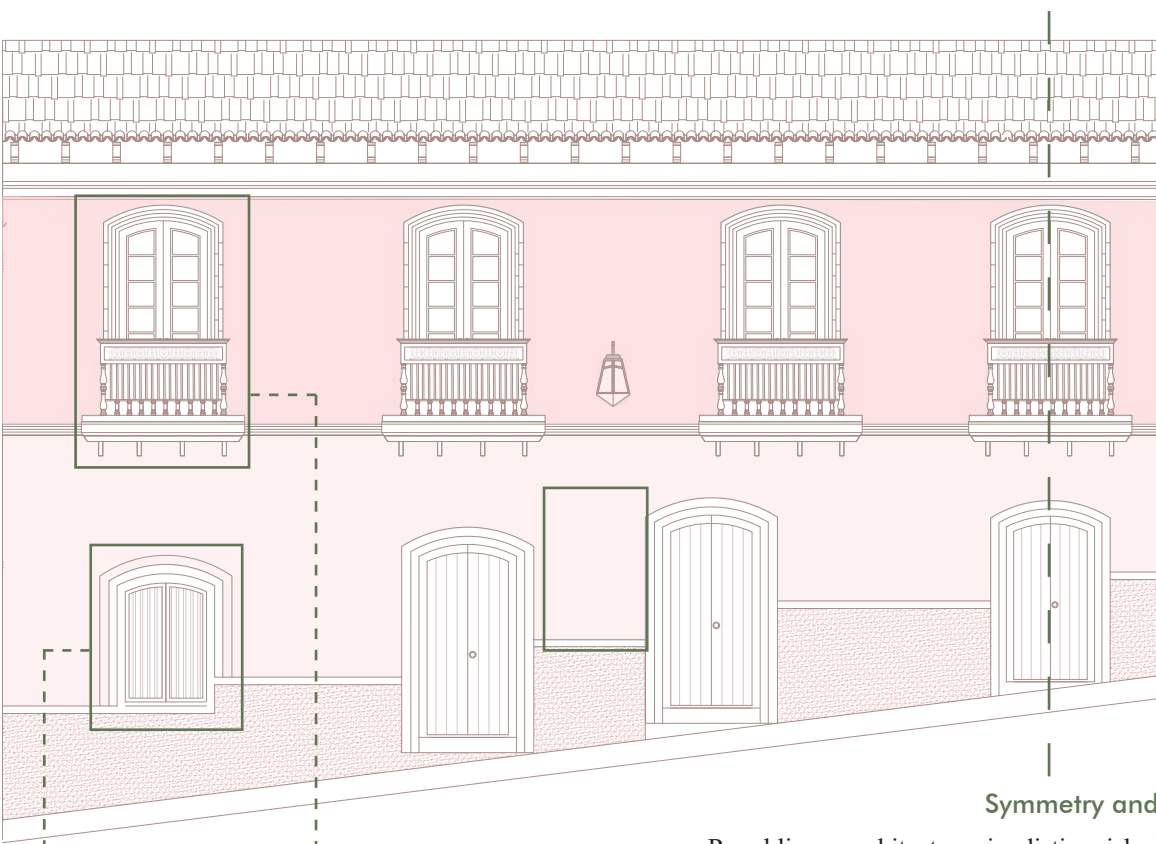


An intermediate color palette was developed that establishes a meeting point between the traditional earth tones recommended by the conservation plan and the hues observed in contemporary adaptations. The goal is to reflect the temporal continuity of the street and express harmony between old and new, preserving the expressive values and authenticity of the architecture.

New color scheme for façades



Comparative aesthetic observations between the original and current façades and visualization of significant architectural modifications.



The wood

During the Republican era, wood played a central role in façades, particularly in doors, windows, and ornamental elements like balconies. These components were not only structural but also aesthetic, contributing to the aesthetic characteristic of the period.

Symmetry and order

Republican architecture is distinguished by a strong sense of order and rhythm in its façades, achieved through the regular repetition of openings often aligned vertically and horizontally to create a balanced composition. The façades follow strict symmetry or a clear proportional logic, with well-defined axes and modular spacing between elements.

Architectural elements adapted to the constructive possibilities of their time, with proportions, materials, and detailing reflecting the available techniques and resources.



changes in proportions and materials

Significant transformation due to the progressive subdivision of the building into smaller commercial units. This fragmentation results from the partial sale or independent rental of spaces, leading to alterations in the original façade.

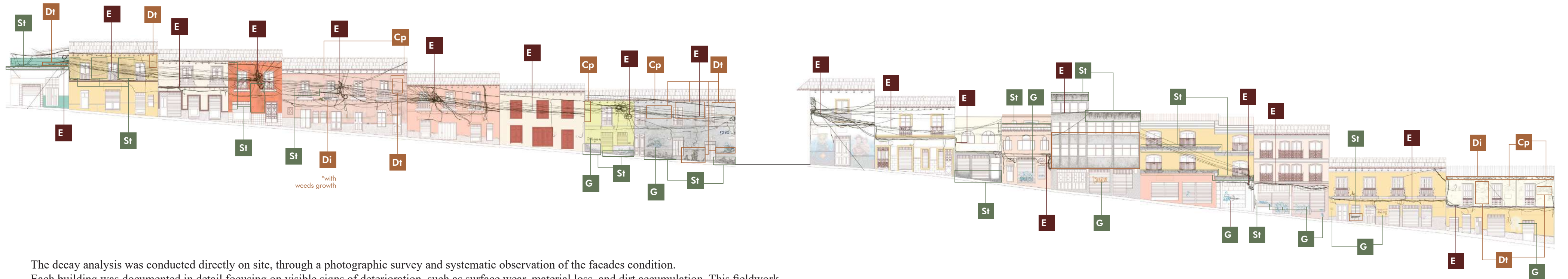
in adaptations original wooden elements can be removed or replaced with lower-cost, readily available materials such as aluminum, steel, or glass. These replacements prioritize durability and security over stylistic coherence, leading to a loss of historic character and material harmony.

In a comparative study between the original design for the facades and their current condition the observations reveal how architecture has reflected the evolving needs of its inhabitants during the republican period and also today. In the past, houses were designed in response to domestic life, climate, and the availability of

materials, while contemporary modifications respond to commercial demands, densification, and changing urban dynamics. These observations lead us to understand architecture as a living system that absorbs and reflects social and economic transformations.



↓ **Facade decay analysis of the houses on Calle del Colorado. North Facade.**
Own elaboration



The decay analysis was conducted directly on site, through a photographic survey and systematic observation of the facades condition. Each building was documented in detail focusing on visible signs of deterioration, such as surface wear, material loss, and dirt accumulation. This fieldwork was then translated into digital drawings allowing us to clearly illustrate and categorize the different levels of decay. In this way the graphic material presented here not only marks the state of conservation of Calle del Colorado explicit, but also provides a precise basis for determining the interventions required. The signs of decay observed along the facades of the houses on Calle del Colorado were classified into six categories:



Di

Disintegration

The facade exhibits significant material breakdown, particularly in areas where the earthen wall has been exposed to prolonged moisture. Portions of the surface appear fragile, powdery, or washed out, with clear signs of structural weakening. This level of deterioration suggests a loss of cohesion within the material itself, commonly caused by water infiltration, poor drainage, or lack of protective coatings.



E

Electrical Wiring

The facade displays an overabundance of visible electrical wiring left exposed. This excess of cables can not only detract from the building's aesthetic appearance but also present potential safety hazards. The cluttered wiring may also contribute to the deterioration of the facade by creating points of stress on the materials or allowing moisture to accumulate around electrical components.



St

Surface Staining

Various types of stains are present on the facade, including those caused by water runoff, atmospheric pollution, and organic residues. Can range in color from dark gray or black to greenish or brown, depending on their origin.

Common sources include dripping water that transports dirt or pollutants and particulate matter from urban environments.



Cp

Crack patterns

Cracks on the facade surface, varying in depth and morphology. These include both superficial and through-passing cracks, which may appear linear or branched. The distribution of cracks suggests the presence of preferential cracking paths, likely associated with underlying structural weaknesses or material degradation.



Dt

Detachment

The facade shows visible signs of detachment, with areas of paint, plaster, or other surface materials peeling or coming loose from the underlying structure. These separations not only compromise the aesthetic appearance of the facade but can also allow moisture to penetrate, leading to further deterioration.



G

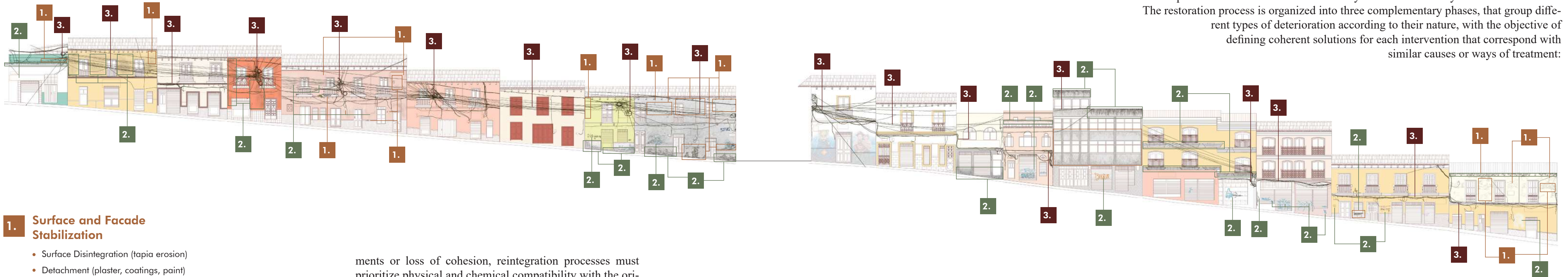
Graffiti

Graffiti is present on the facade surface, indicating human-induced deterioration. Its appearance obscures architectural details and original materials, contributing to the visual degradation of the construction.

↓ **Facade decay analysis of the houses on Calle del Colorado. South Facade.**
Own elaboration



↓ Restoration intervention of the houses on Calle del Colorado. North Facade. Own elaboration



Restoration project

Based on the results of the decay analysis conducted on the façades, we identified the main types of damage and their distribution along Calle del Colorado. In response to these findings, we defined specific intervention criteria that directly address the recovery of the urban ensemble. The restoration process is organized into three complementary phases, that group different types of deterioration according to their nature, with the objective of defining coherent solutions for each intervention that correspond with similar causes or ways of treatment:

1. Surface and Facade Stabilization

- Surface Disintegration (tapia erosion)
- Detachment (plaster, coatings, paint)
- Crack Patterns

Material Consolidation

This is the critical first phase for stabilizing degraded earthen surfaces (like tapia walls). The process involves preparing a compatible earthen slurry (using soil of similar composition to the original wall), sometimes improved with natural stabilizing agents. Applied through brushing, spraying, or gentle injection, the slurry penetrates and binds disaggregated particles, restoring structural integrity without altering the material's natural behavior. After consolidation, voids are filled with earthen repair mortars of matching texture and color to ensure visual continuity.

Cracks Treatment

Following consolidation, visible cracks are cleaned and filled with compatible, flexible, and softer or more permeable mortars than the masonry units to prevent damage to the wall. Waterproofing is also recommended at critical points (like wall tops and around windows) to prevent water infiltration, reducing the risk of future deterioration.

Reattachment of Coatings

For walls with advanced deterioration, like large detach-

ments or loss of cohesion, reintegration processes must prioritize physical and chemical compatibility with the original earthen substrate. The restoration proposal considers the application of replacement mortars based on lime or earth, consistent with the original composition. If the original coating is irrecoverable, the strategy is to reconstruct the visual and material unity of the wall using compatible lime or earth-based mortars that “match, as closely as possible, the existing mortar in colour, texture, and properties”.

2. Surface Cleaning and Visual Recovery

- Graffiti
- Surface Staining and Discoloration

The next phase focuses on restoring the visual composition of the façades and protecting them from deterioration caused by pollutants, biological growth, or vandalism. Cleaning is fundamental, as removing undesired matter (dirt, pollutants, graffiti) prevents degradation and preserves the architectural value of the buildings.

Cleaning and Stain Removal

Selective Cleaning: Depending on the substrate, dry methods (brushing) or wet methods (low-pressure water) are

employed to remove surface deposits. For graffiti, safe biodegradable commercial removers are applied directly and then rinsed. Stain Removal: This is done by assessing the stain and substrate sensitivity, often using alkaline poultices or mild solvents to dissolve and absorb contaminants without altering the wall's original composition.

Surface Protection

Finally, a protective coating is applied to safeguard the facade from dirt accumulation, reduce biological growth, and facilitate future maintenance. Anti-graffiti coatings (sacrificial or semi-permanent) are also applied, ensuring the physical and visual preservation of the façades and their coherent integration within the historic urban ensemble.

3. Infrastructure Integration and Visual Order

- Excessive Electrical Wiring

The objective is to minimize the visual and material impact of infrastructure on the historic fabric, enhancing safety and legibility. Excessive cabling can both visually disrupt and physically damage building materials.

Optimizing installations respects both the aesthetic and safety of the buildings. The procedure, aligned with PEMP guidelines, involves two key actions:

Survey and Removal: Identify and remove all unused or redundant cables, leaving only essential wiring.

Undergrounding of Electrical Networks: Implement a program for burying cables to eliminate visible wiring, thus preserving the façade's visual integrity. These restoration strategies collectively ensure the physical and aesthetic recovery of the historic fabric.

The physical and visual restoration is incomplete without a legal and governmental framework to guarantee long-term preservation.

In Colombia, despite laws obligating preservation, enforcement is weak, and owners of heritage buildings often provide minimal maintenance due to a lack of economic incentives or government support.

The proposal argues that adopting a structure similar to Italy's, combining coercive measures (penalties) with economic incentives (tax benefits/subsidies), is essential to strengthen the PEMP and ensure sustainable, equitable preservation of Pasto's architectural heritage.

↓ Restoration intervention of the houses on Calle del Colorado. South Facade. Own elaboration



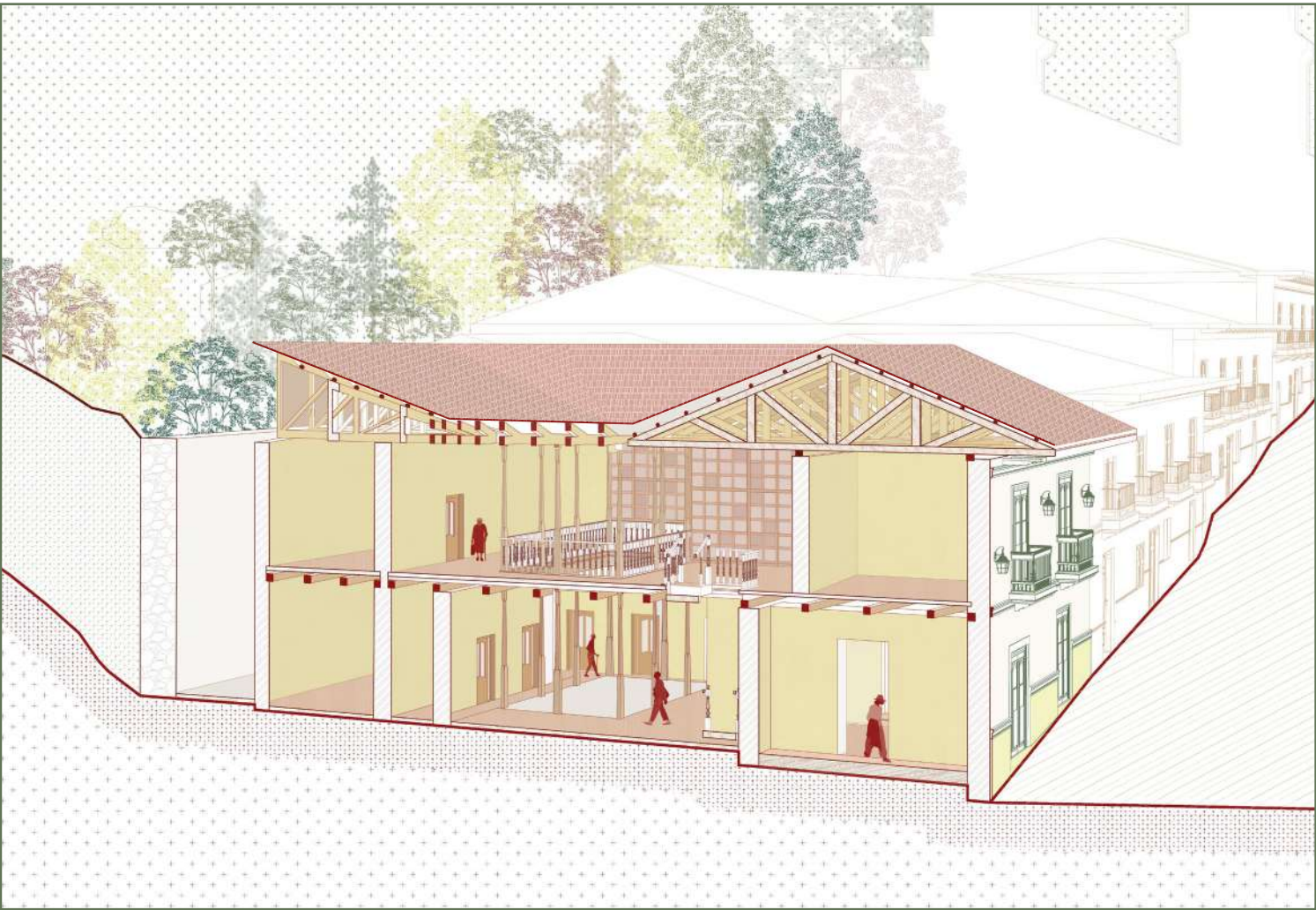


↑ Typological classification on hypotesis floorplan

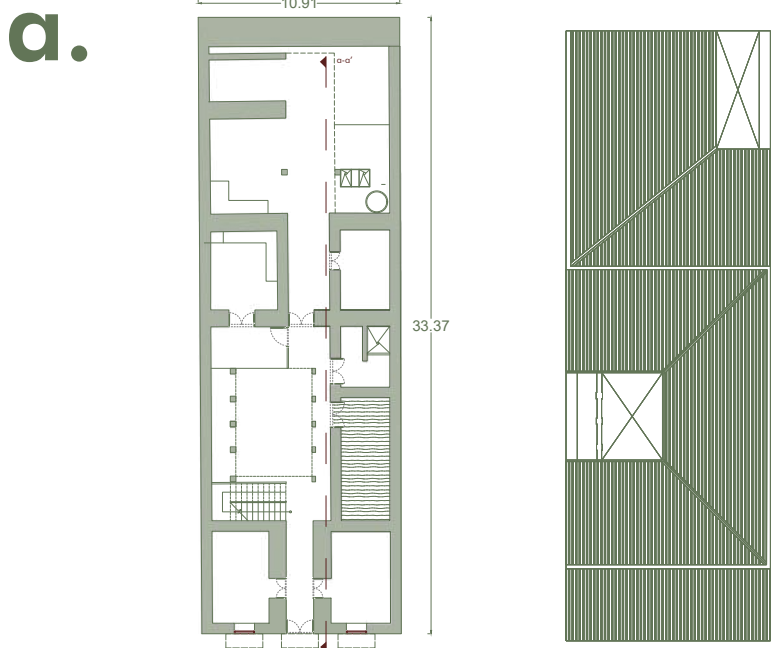
To establish the core architectural values of the historic center, we conducted a thorough typological analysis, based on a hypothesis of the original Republican layouts. By categorizing the housing structures into 4 distinct typologies according to the number and location of patios (house with one side courtyard, house with one central courtyard, house with two side courtyards and house with two central courtyards), we were able to systematically decode the spatial organization, functional hierarchy, and formal values that defined the domestic life of the era. This process was fundamental for understanding the original urban and architectural rhythm, providing a crucial contextual foundation for the subsequent intervention and design stage.

→ Axonometric perspective section, interior view of a typical republican house

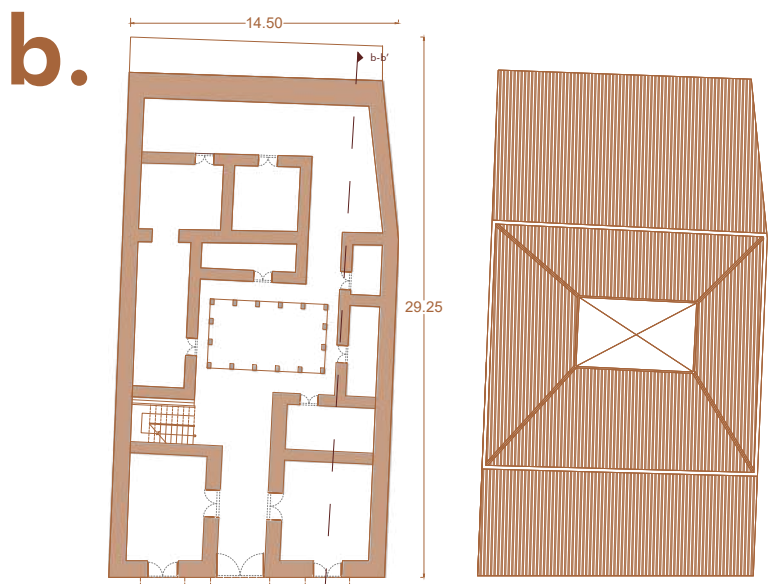
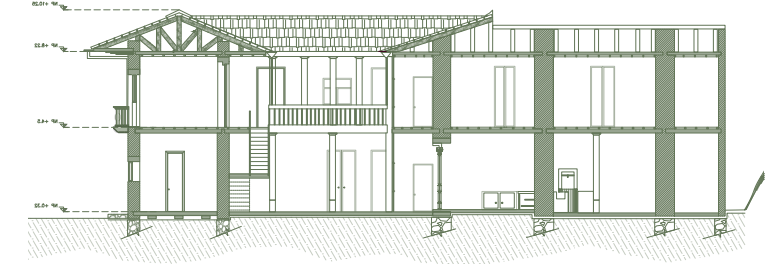
This detailed axonometric perspective cut offers a clear visualization of the spatial organization and internal structure of a typical Republican house, specifically showing the house type 'B'. It effectively illustrates the relationship between the interior spaces, the circulation paths, and the way the dwelling was organized hierarchically. By showing the building in section, the diagram allows for a comprehensive understanding of the original architectural values and how the structure adapted to the sloping terrain characteristic of the area.



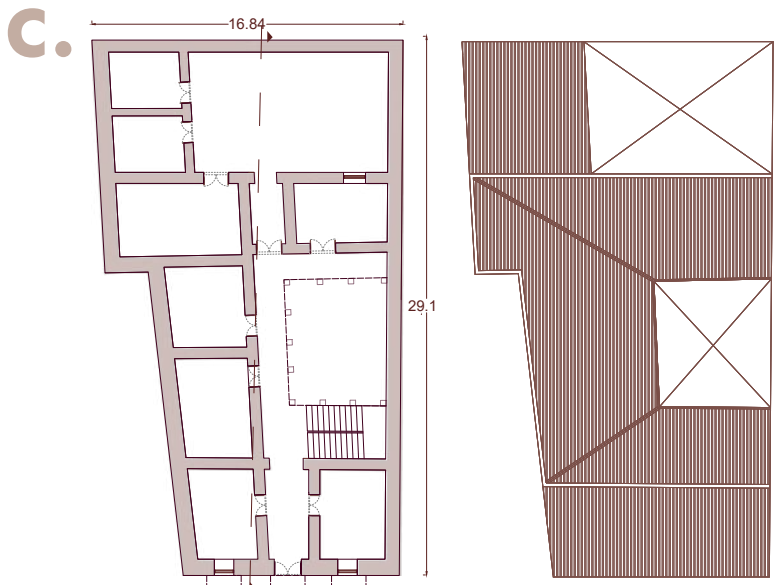
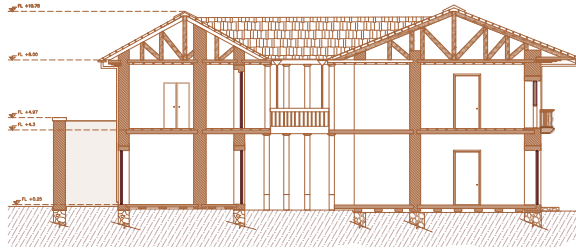
Houses typologies



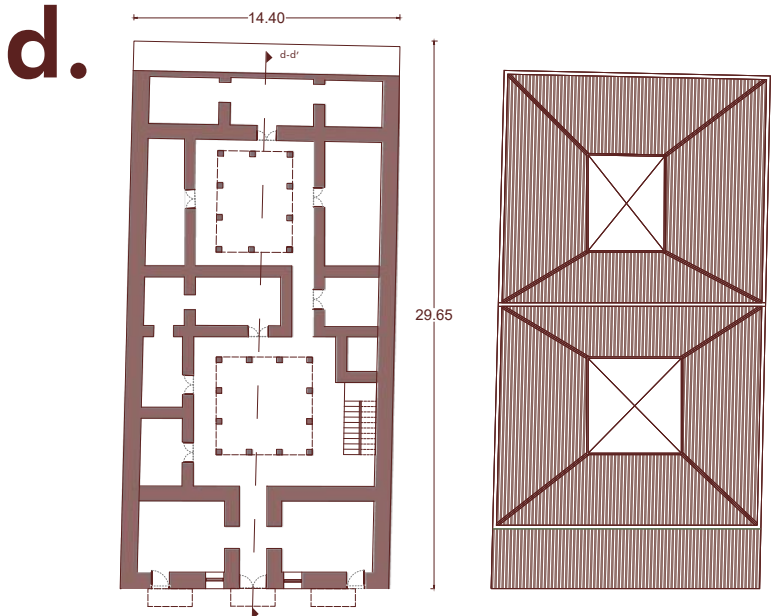
The house with a side courtyard is a typological variation that emerged during the Colombian Republican period in urban areas undergoing modernization. Unlike the traditional central courtyard house, this layout repositions the courtyard to one side, which allowed for improved cross-ventilation and natural lighting. This shift also enabled a clearer separation between public and private spaces within the dwelling. These homes represent a functional and spatial evolution from colonial models, adapting to the transformed Republican urban fabric while incorporating neoclassical decorative elements.



The house with a central courtyard is a classical Republican typological model that consolidated in cities where commerce and domestic life overlapped, it maintains a symmetrical layout organized around a single patio, accessed via a central zaguán. This established a clear spatial hierarchy: commercial rooms faced the street, social/private spaces surrounded the courtyard, and service areas were located toward the rear. This model reflects the adaptation of earlier types to denser urban fabrics, preserving the traditional patio organization while integrating new functional divisions and circulation patterns.



This type maintains a central axial entrance that continues as a long, uninterrupted passage toward the rear of the property. The principal courtyard remains at the heart of the house. Toward the back, a secondary service patio accommodates kitchens, storage areas, and other domestic functions, reinforcing the spatial hierarchy typical of Republican domestic architecture. This reflects an effort to preserve the symbolic and functional importance of the central patio while adjusting circulation and depth to the constraints and needs of evolving urban environments.



The house with two central courtyards represents the most distinguished and aristocratic typology of the Republican period. Its layout is organized around two consecutive patios, each framed by corridors supported by perimeter columns. A central zaguán leads to the first courtyard, reinforcing the ceremonial entrance. The first patio typically hosts the main staircase, while the second courtyard introduces a more private and refined domain where domestic and service functions are arranged. This dual-courtyard configuration reflects the spatial ambition and high social status associated with the era's largest and most prominent urban residences.



The Mopa Mopa Cultural Center

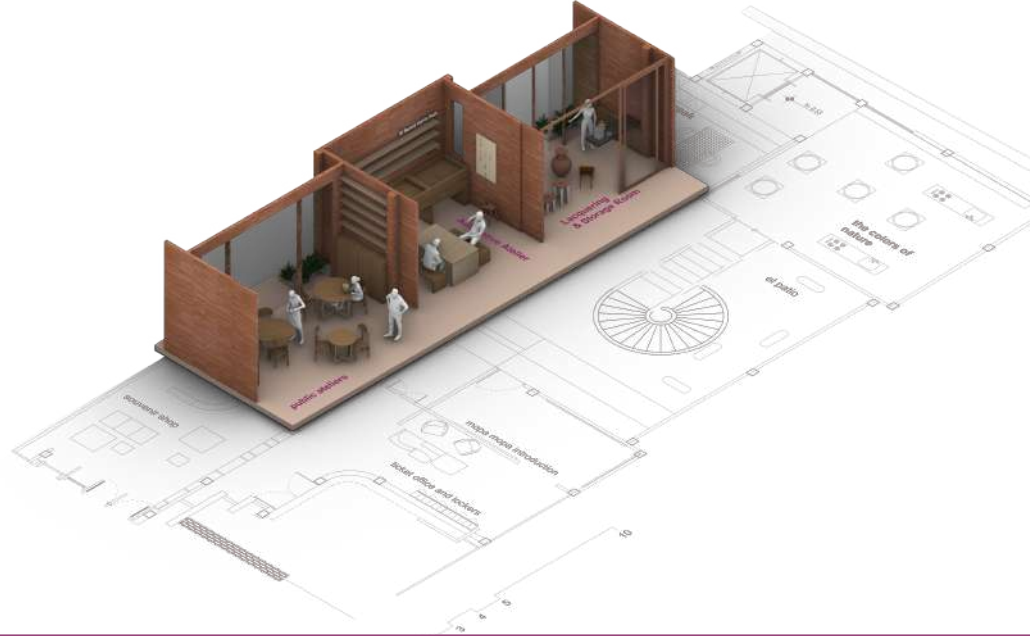
The Mopa The Mopa-Mopa barniz Cultural Center is the architectural culmination of the regeneration proposal, offering a space where the intangible tradition becomes tangible. This building is not a simple museum, but a creation and learning ecosystem that guarantees the permanence and transmission of the craft to future generations. Conceived as a living system, the design is discreetly integrated into Calle del Colorado, while its interior, inspired by the typology of the republican courtyard, offers an experiential journey that connects the exhibition, the active workshop, and community life.

The project’s Building and Its Immediate context: Facade

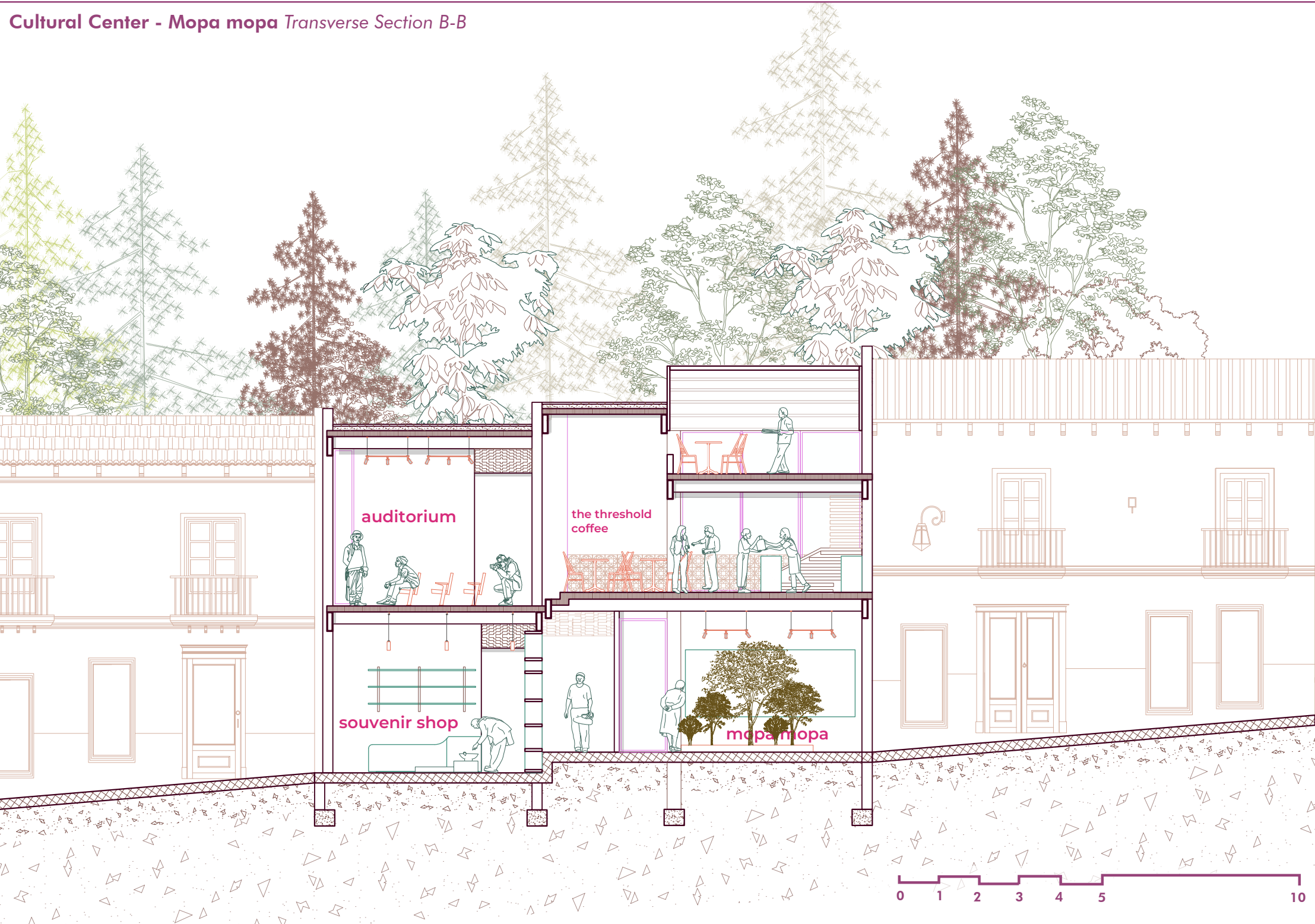


An Immersive Workshop to Reveal the Craft Process: Axonometry

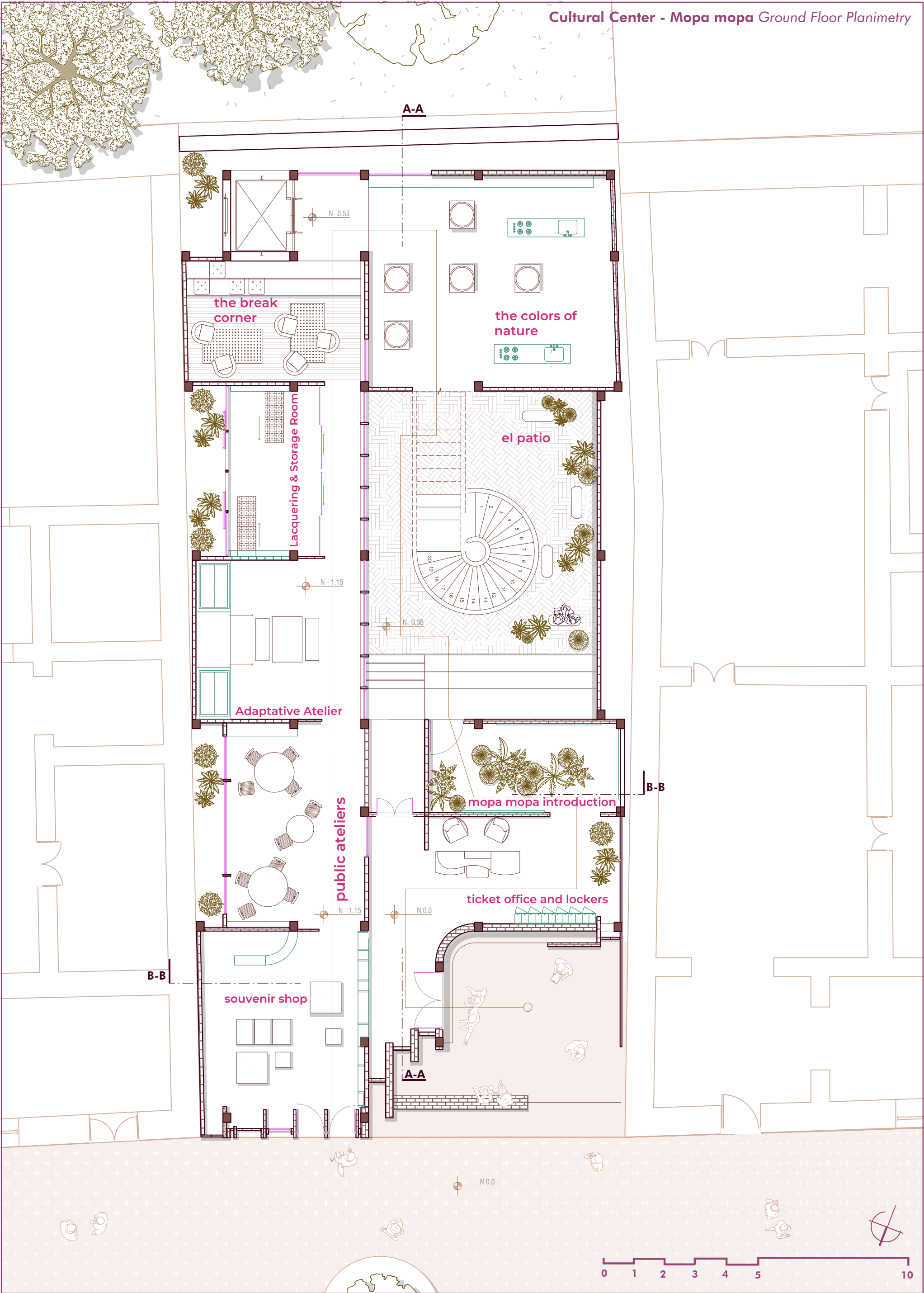
More than a museum, this space functions as an immersive workshop where the craft becomes visible. The arrangement of the ateliers prioritizes transparency, allowing visitors to witness each stage of the process and understand the value of the hands that keep the tradition alive.



Cultural Center - Mopa mopa Transverse Section B-B



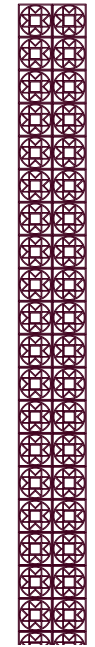
Cultural Center - Mopa mopa Ground Floor Planimetry



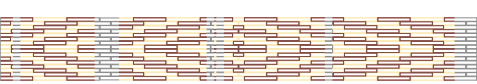
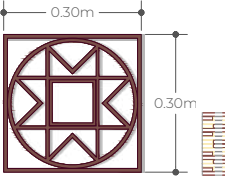
The project's Building and Its Immediate Context: Axonometry →

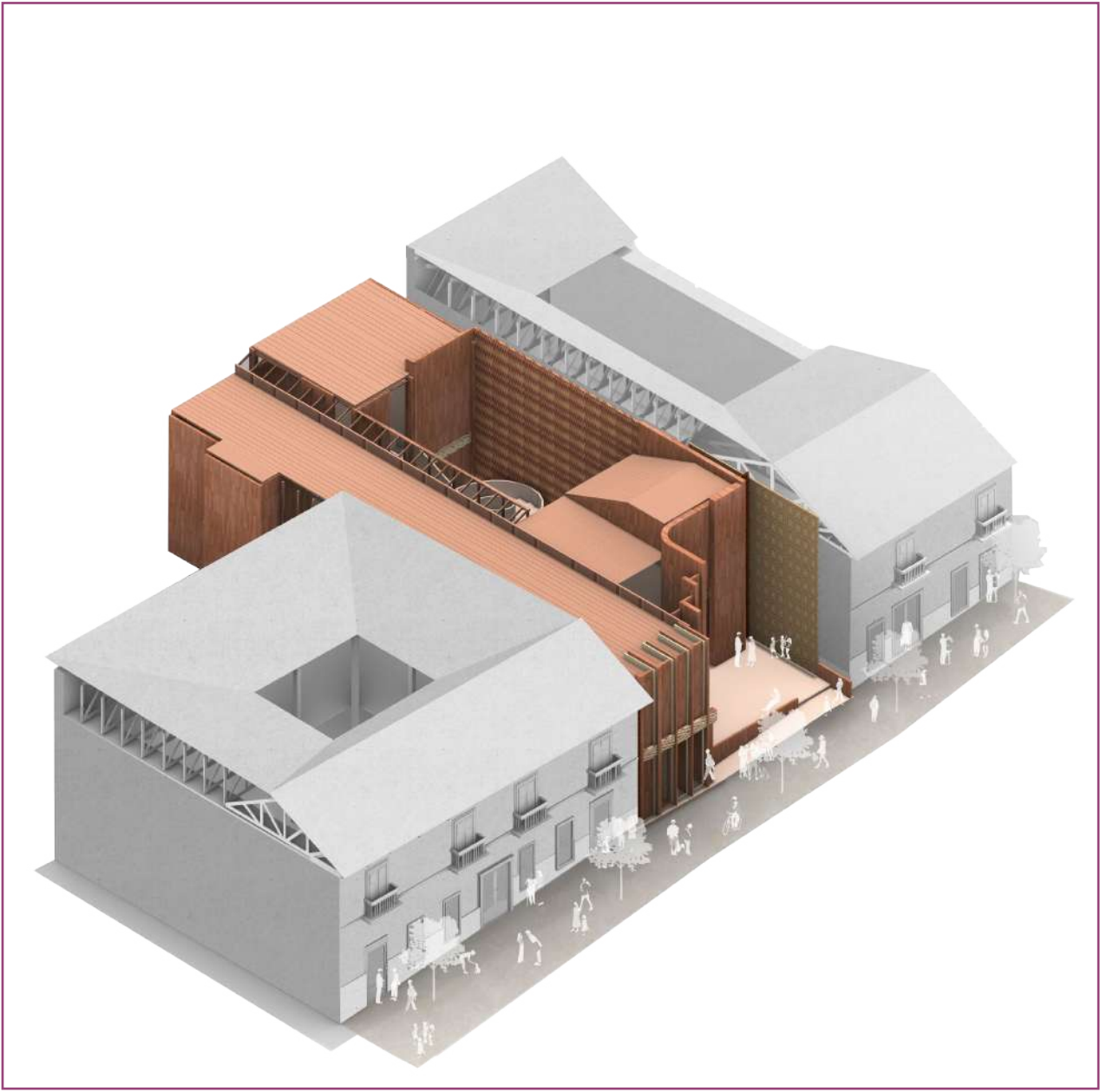
The design of the Varnish Cultural Center is the focal point of the urban regeneration proposal. This axonometric view illustrates the volumetric insertion of the new building in the historic fabric of Calle del Colorado. The proposal respects the alignment and height of the historic façades, but deploys a modern, permeable, and multi-level spatial system towards the interior, guided by the traditional distribution of republican houses with a side courtyard.

The project and its integrating elements ↓



The project incorporates the “Sol de los Pastos” carved in wood as a symbolic and spatial connector between the existing buildings and the new cultural center. Its presence highlights the value of local wood carving, an artisanal tradition deeply rooted in Pasto. In parallel, the brick latticework used on the façade and throughout the interior reinforces the idea of the building as a woven construct. Together, these elements create a continuous fabric that integrates craft, territory, and architecture into a unified expression





↓ Courtyard - Render Image

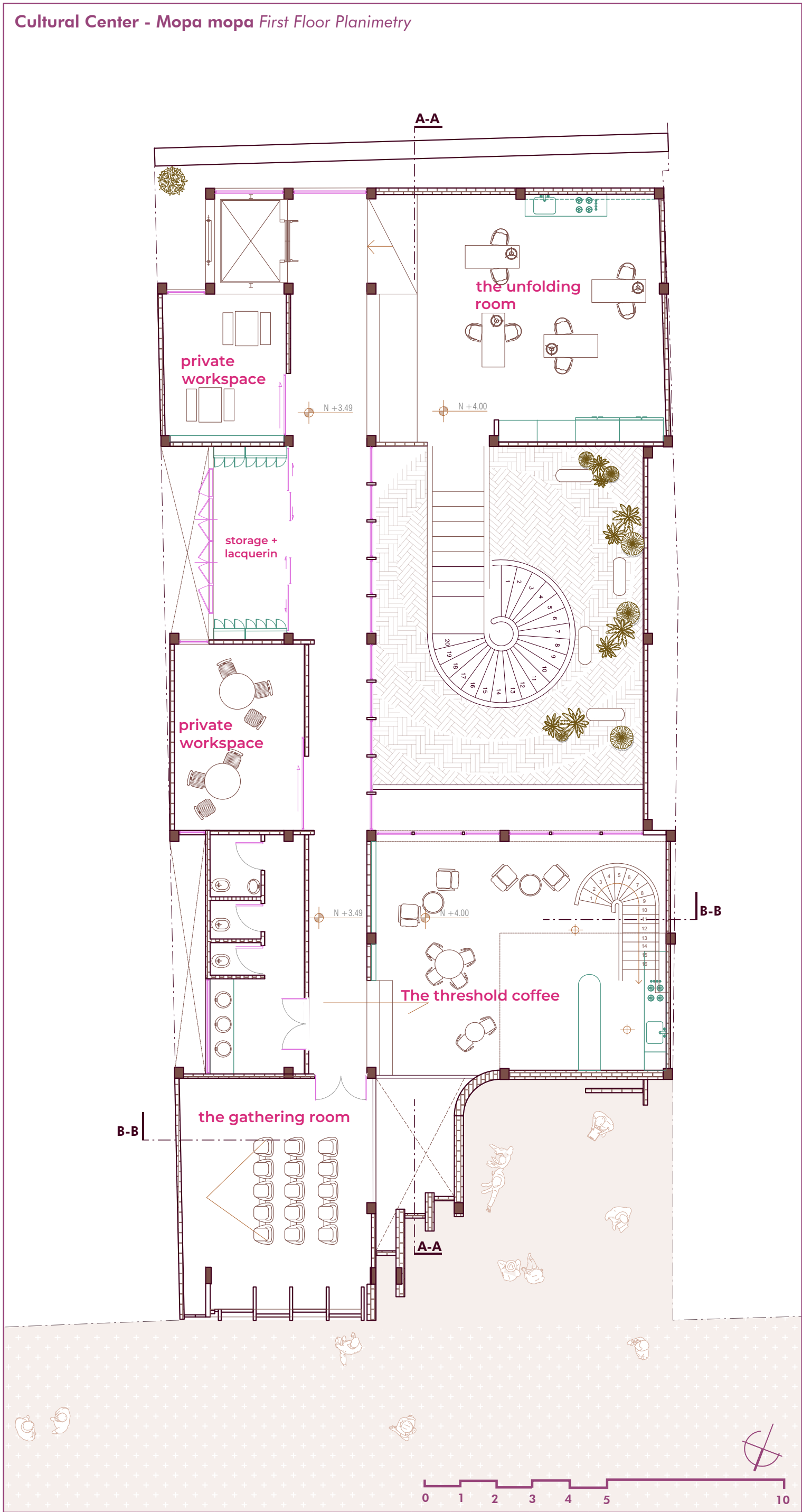
The design of the Mopa-Mopa C.C reinterprets the traditional typology of the republican house with a central courtyard, adapting it to create a modern flow that encourages the experiential learning of Varnish.

The articulating axis of the design is the Central Courtyard. Conceived as an open space for interaction and rest, it becomes essential by reintroducing one of the most valued architectural elements of the historical center. The courtyard not only structures the circulation but also embodies the project's material and cultural intentions: the use of brick as an artisanal, deeply Colombian material; the integration of craftsmanship into the construction itself; and the presence of a contemporary staircase that recalls the vertical connectors characteristic of the period. In this way, the project brings back the courtyard as a spatial, symbolic, and cultural anchor for the entire cultural center.

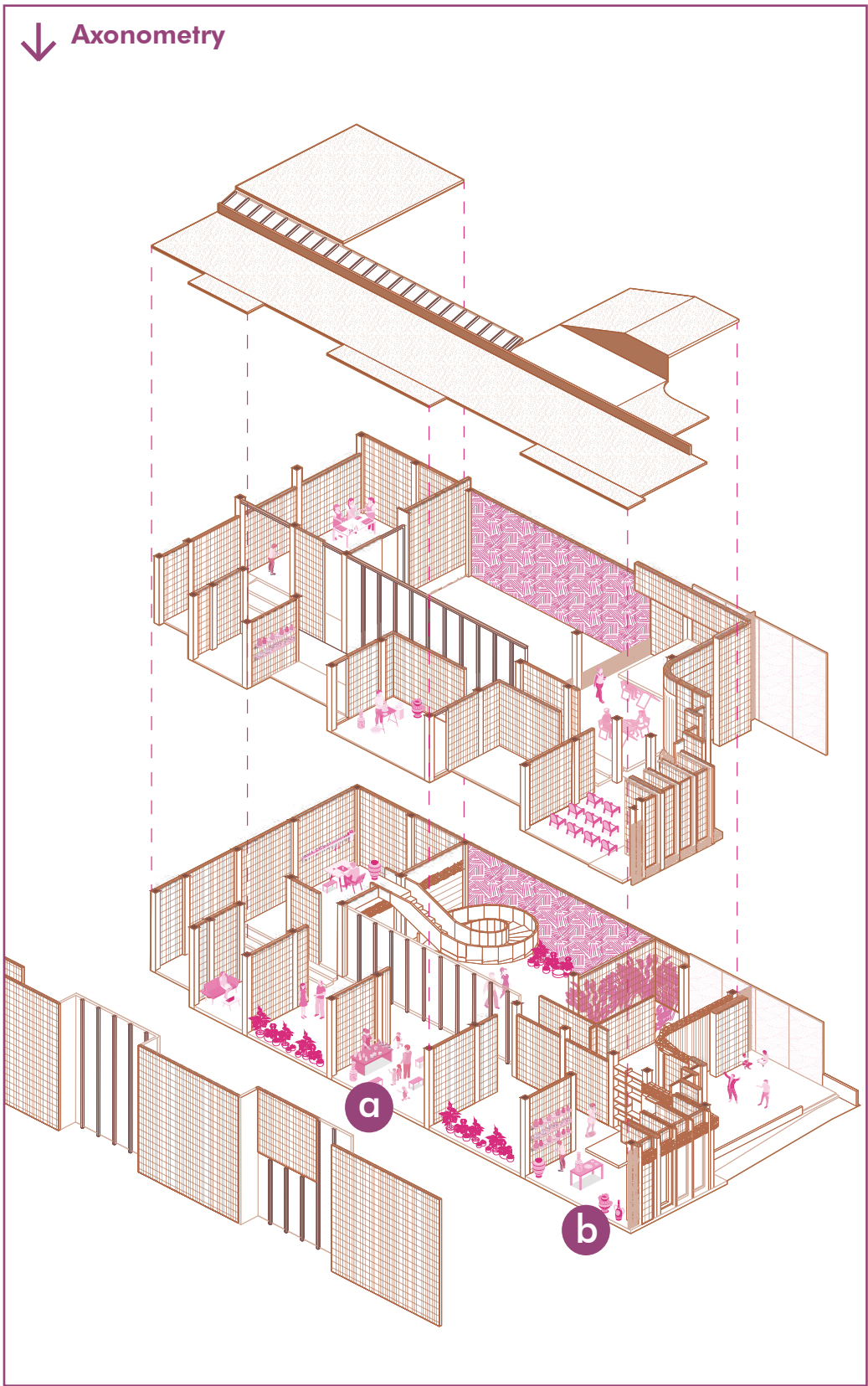
↓ Facade of the Cultural Center Mopa-Mopa - Render Image



Cultural Center - Mopa mopa First Floor Planimetry



Axonometry



Adaptative Workshop - Render



Artcraft shop - Render



Cultural Center - Mopa mopa Longitudinal Section A-A

