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# **CONSTRUCTION OF AN ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING IN KLUIZEN, BELGIUM**

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## Abstract

The following Bachelor Final Project is a technical assignment of an administrative building located in Nieuweweg 30 - 9940 Evergem - Kluizem (Belgium). Include a site installation plan, principal section, additional detailed drawings, a technical study, a comparative study and schedule, using MS Project. In order to monitor the progress of the works, several visits were made to the building site.

After studying the way buildings are made in Belgium, a comparative with the Spanish method is done. This is the main reason why I chose to do my final project abroad, so I could learn different ways of construction and maybe some new techniques.

**Key words:** comparative study, detailed drawing, principal section, schedule, site installation.

## Acknowledgements

Thank you to everyone who helped me in carrying out my work: my academic tutor in Belgium Bart Craeye, David Peters and Frank Verplanken from KaHo Sint-Lieven; Jean-Marie Goemaere and Frederick Clarysse, from De Coene Construct NV and my academic tutor in Spain M<sup>a</sup> José Vidal Lucas, from Polytechnic University of Valencia.

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# Chapter 1.

## Introduction

The following project is about the construction of an administrative building in Kluizen, Belgium.

The building site has no adjacent buildings, so there is as much room as needed for the equipment. Also the tower crane can be placed outside the building and they only need to consider the height of the own building when transferring materials. Vehicles can enter the building site and place the materials on the stockage area, near the entry and the tower crane.

The water table had to be lowered and stay at -5.55 m. The construction itself consists of a basement, ground floor and first floor with impermeable roofs (see plan 2). Foundations are made by piles in the whole building. Wall foundations with beams, both made of in situ concrete, are used in the basement. The rest of the building is supported by in situ concrete beams. Stairs consist of 6 parts of prefabricated steps, going around the elevator, which is covered by concrete blocks walls. Floors are made by prefabricated slabs 15x120cm with a layer of in situ concrete and electrowelded mesh 150x150mm on top. All concrete used is C30/37 GB EE3 S3, both in situ and prefabricated. The steel used for the reinforcement is BE500S, while the electrowelded mesh type is BE500SD.

The slopes of the top roofs are made with prefabricated beams with different heights, which support the slabs and the rest of the layers. On the roofs of the first floor the slope is created by aerated concrete. All ledges are made by cellular concrete YTONG coated of insulation.

The façade is composed of brickwork of thermoblock 29cm, insulation, an air cavity and another brickwork on the outside. This building is meant to demand as no energy as possible so thick insulation (15-25 cm of cellular glass UTHERMWALL R 5.2) is used all over, as well as insulating materials, such as cellular concrete or thermoblock.

That is why well insulated joinery is also used. However, there is heating in the floors, in case it is needed. Ceilings are composed by suspended ceiling with 5cm of acoustic insulation. Walls are finished with plasterwork.

# Chapter 2.

## Site instalation plan

Location of the construction crane on site, radius, lifting capacity and lift capacity at max. radius. The construction has no adjacent buildings, so the only restriction for the tower crane is the building itself.

Location for temporary storage of material and consumer goods.

Location of site offices and building supervisor's offices.

Location of temporary site access roads and their construction.

Location of available utilities.

HSE measures.

*See plan 1*

# Chapter 3.

## Principal section

Broken longitudinal section of the building of study, to scale 1:50.

Plans of ground floor and first floor indicate where the section comes from.

On the section are also indicated the additional detailed drawings.

These are the main elements shown on the section:

- Pile foundations.
- Basement of in situ concrete beams and walls.
- Prefabricated stairs.
- Floors of prefabricated slabs with electrowelded mesh and a layer of concrete on top.
- Walls of concrete blocks, prefabricated concrete or thermoblock bricks. View leyend.
- Façade covered by 2 x 10 cm of insulation, 4 c of air cavity and ceramic bricks on the outside.

*See plan 2*

# Chapter 4.

## Detailed drawings

Ten detailed drawings to scale 1:10 of relevant constructive building joints from the principal section.

*See plans 3.1 to 3.10*

# Chapter 5.

## Technical study

The subject of the technical study is the elevator pit. It is made of in situ concrete C30/37 GB EE3 SE with reinforcement BE 500 S. It has pile foundations, like the whole building.

The lowest level the concrete will be is -4.4 m, so according to what the laboratory calculated, water table must stay at least 1 m under the slab.

*See plan 4*

# Chapter 6.

## Comparative study

The comparative study is focused on the columns. It aims to prove which material -bricks, in situ concrete or prefabricated concrete- is the best option for these elements.

After studying the pros and cons of each material, the prefabricated concrete is the one that best suits, since its high price is offset by the short execution and good resistance of the material.

*See plan 5*

# Chapter 7.

## Schedule

Works were started on August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014 and it is planned to finish the building by January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2015.

Main activities and their durations are included on the schedule.

*See Gantt of the works.*

# Chapter 8.

## Conclusion

The main difference I noticed between the way buildings are made in Spain and in Belgium is the structure.

Prefabricated elements are commonly used in Belgium, like in the construction assigned. As the drawings show, prefabricated slabs are the main element of the floors, which rest on the lower floor walls and columns. This means both floors and walls are part of the building structure.

In Spain the main kind of building has an in situ concrete structure, including columns, beams and stairs. First all the structure is done, followed by the roof. After this, brickworks can start, so they will not be a part of the structure.

# Chapter 9.

## Appendix

Class notes from Polytechnic University of Valencia

Class notes from Project Management 3, at KaHo Sint-Lieven

[http://www.construmatica.com/construpedia/Ejecuci%C3%B3n\\_de\\_Pilares](http://www.construmatica.com/construpedia/Ejecuci%C3%B3n_de_Pilares)

[http://www.construmatica.com/construpedia/Ventajas\\_y\\_Desventajas\\_de\\_la\\_Construcci%C3%B3n\\_Prefabricada](http://www.construmatica.com/construpedia/Ventajas_y_Desventajas_de_la_Construcci%C3%B3n_Prefabricada)

[http://www.construmatica.com/construpedia/Tecnolog%C3%ADa\\_de\\_la\\_Construcci%C3%B3n\\_-Estructuras,\\_Cerramientos\\_y\\_Materiales\\_de\\_Impermeabilizaci%C3%B3n:\\_Prefabricados\\_Utilizados\\_en\\_Sistemas\\_Estructurales](http://www.construmatica.com/construpedia/Tecnolog%C3%ADa_de_la_Construcci%C3%B3n_-Estructuras,_Cerramientos_y_Materiales_de_Impermeabilizaci%C3%B3n:_Prefabricados_Utilizados_en_Sistemas_Estructurales)

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[http://www.construmatica.com/construpedia/Reglas\\_Generales\\_de\\_Ejecuci%C3%B3n\\_de\\_Muros\\_con\\_Bloque\\_Termoarcilla](http://www.construmatica.com/construpedia/Reglas_Generales_de_Ejecuci%C3%B3n_de_Muros_con_Bloque_Termoarcilla)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ha0\\_KGNu8gw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ha0_KGNu8gw)

## Annex

Plan 1. Site installation plan

Plan 2. Principal section

Plans 3.1-3.10. Additional detailed drawings

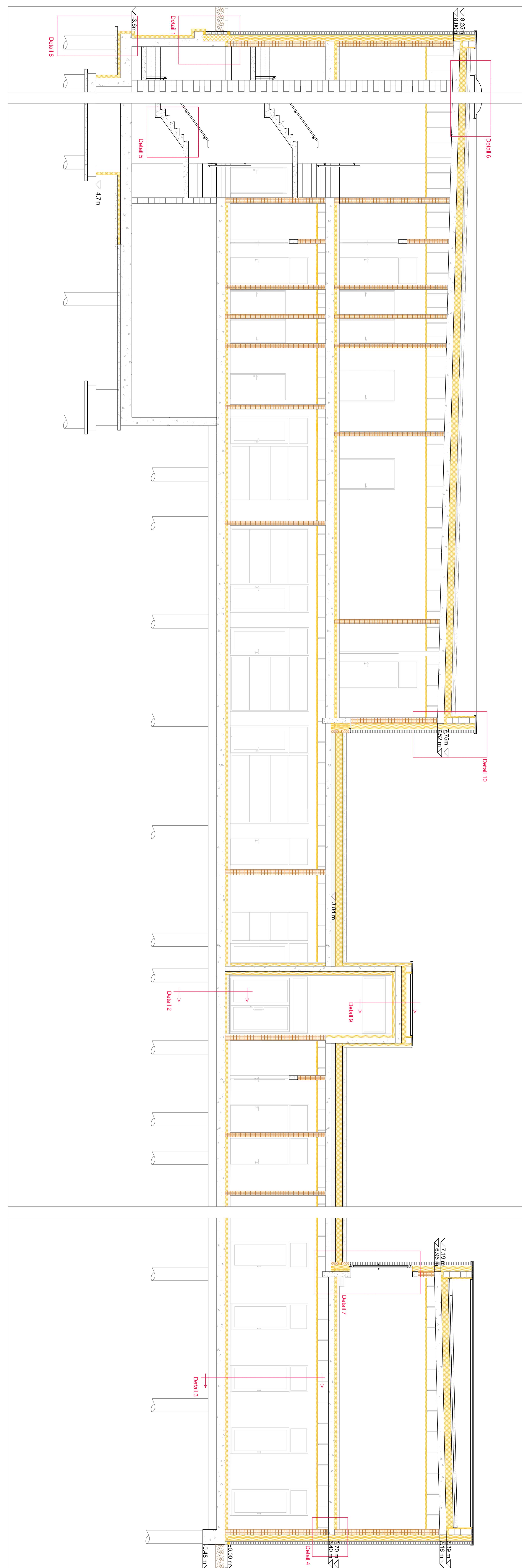
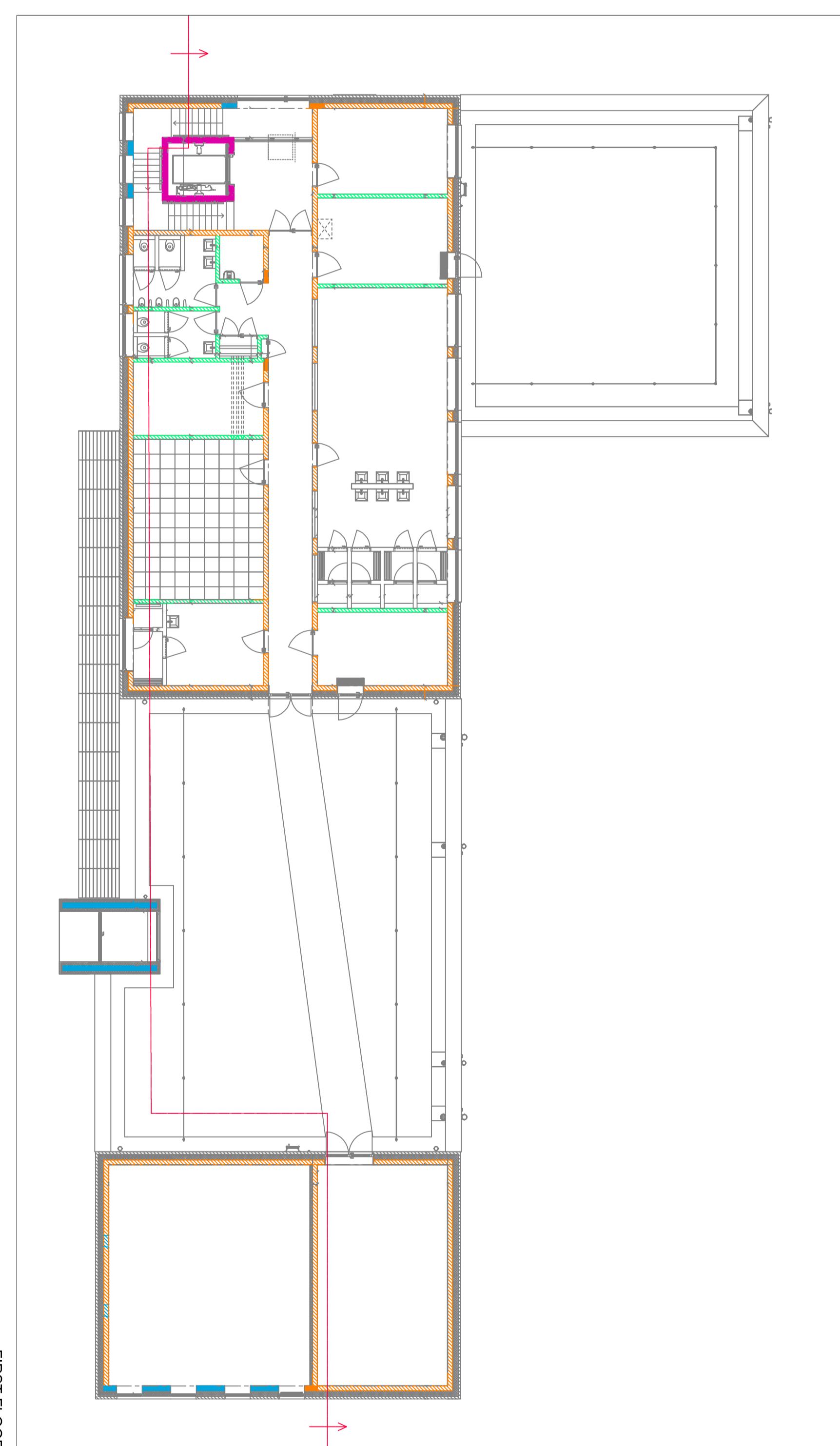
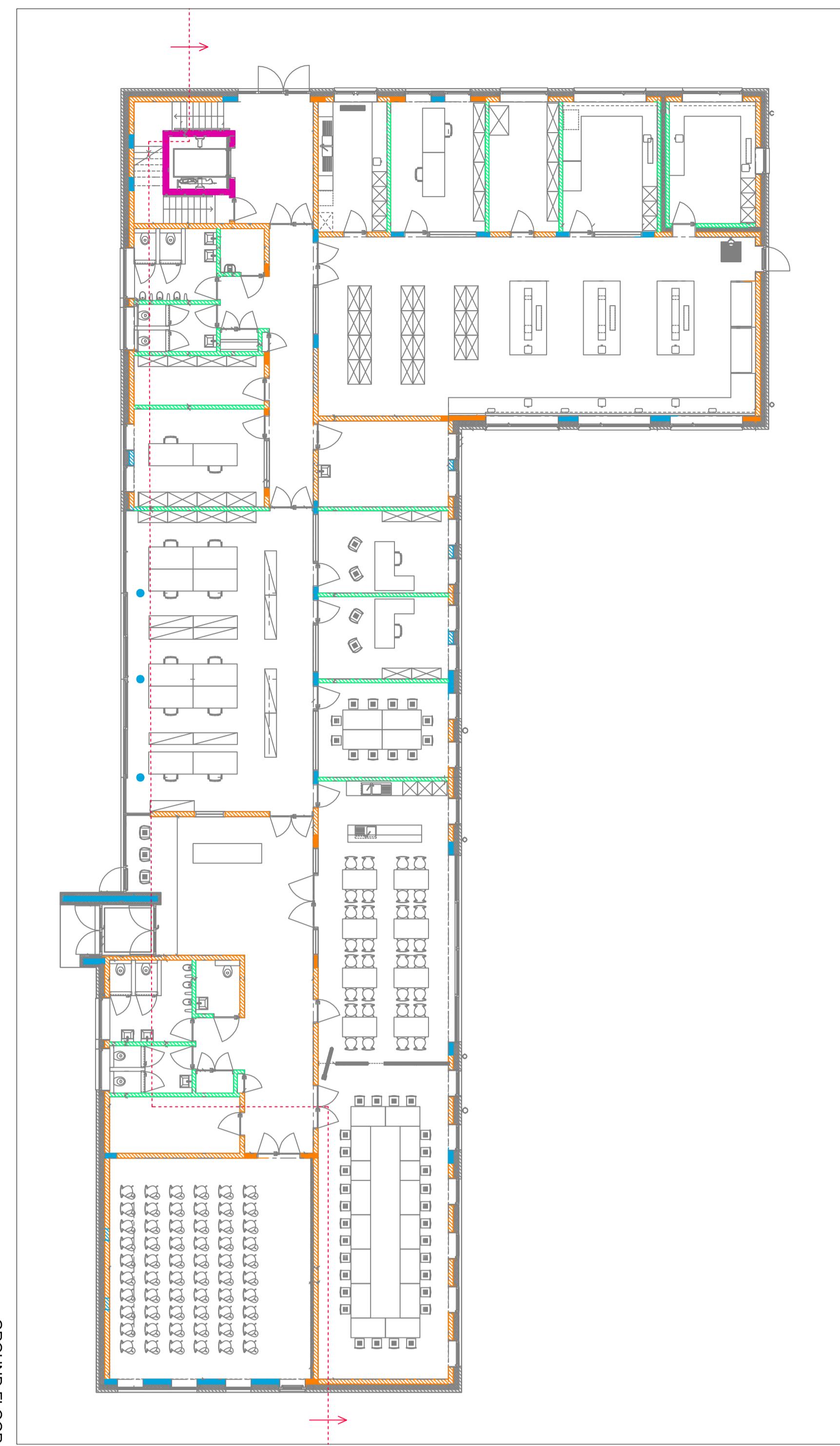
Plan 4. Technical study

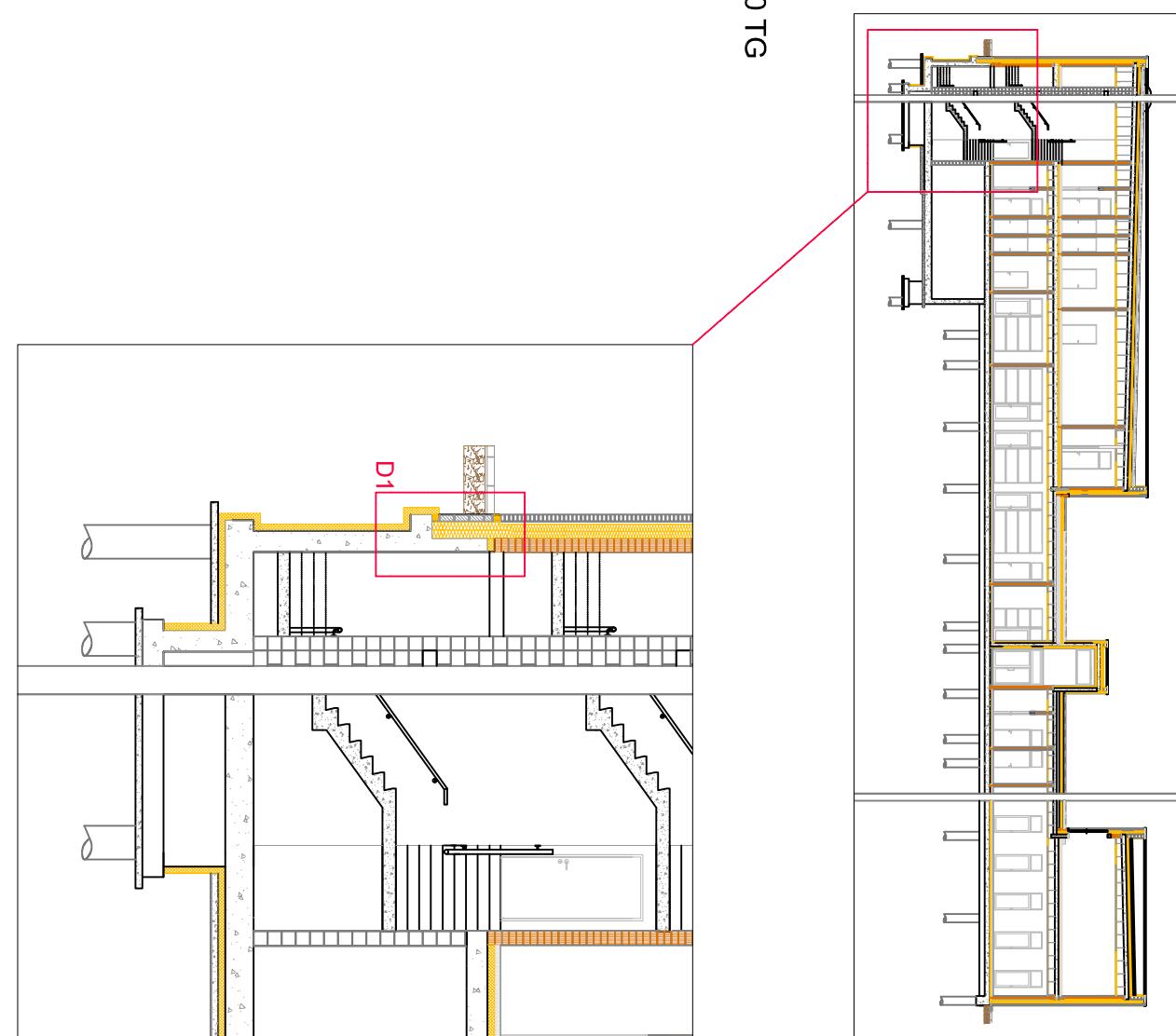
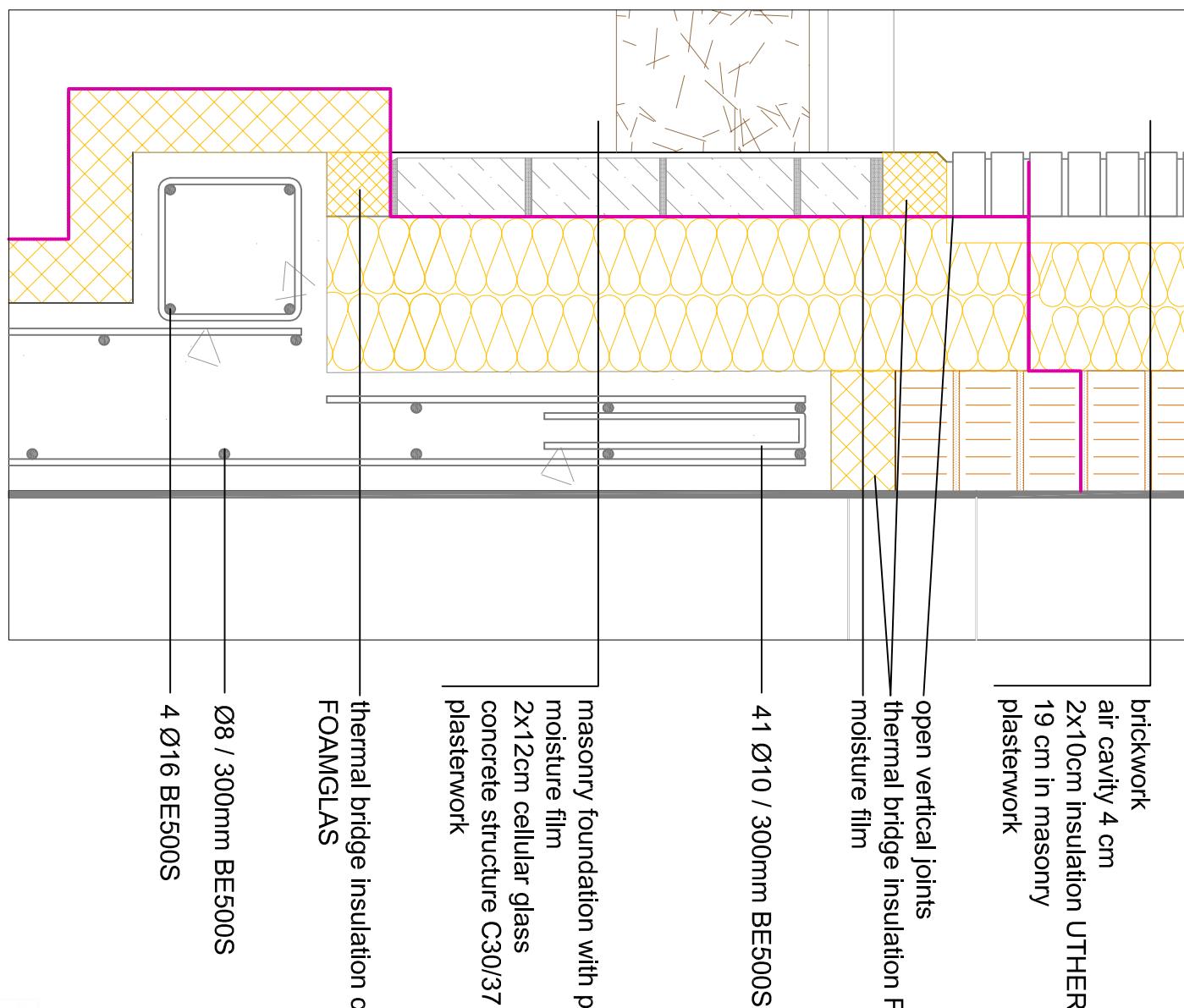
Plan 5. Comparative study

Gantt of the works

Pictures of the construction







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PART 3. DETAIL 1

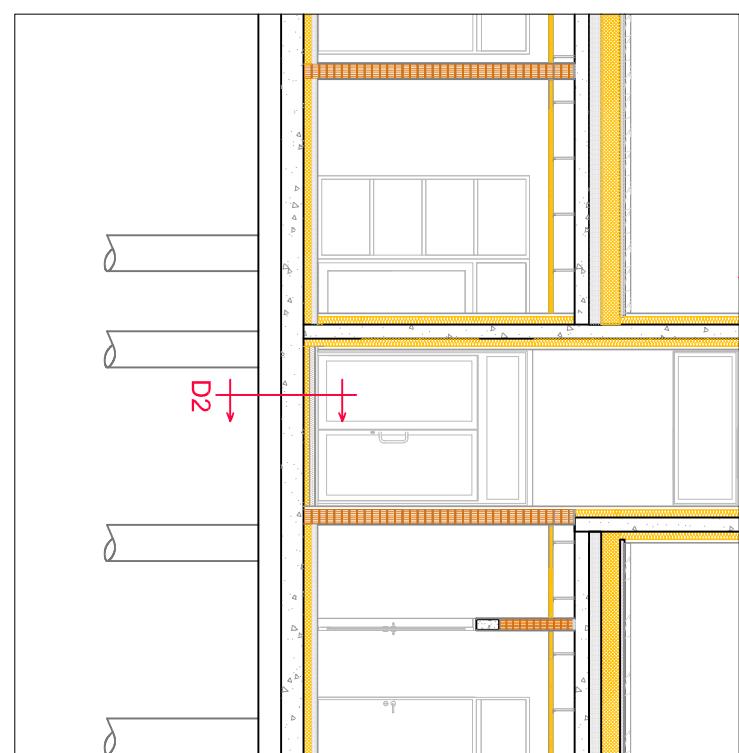
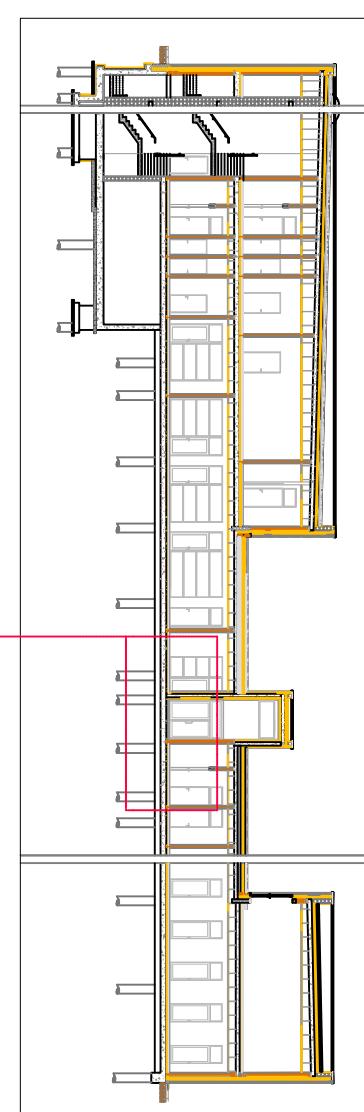
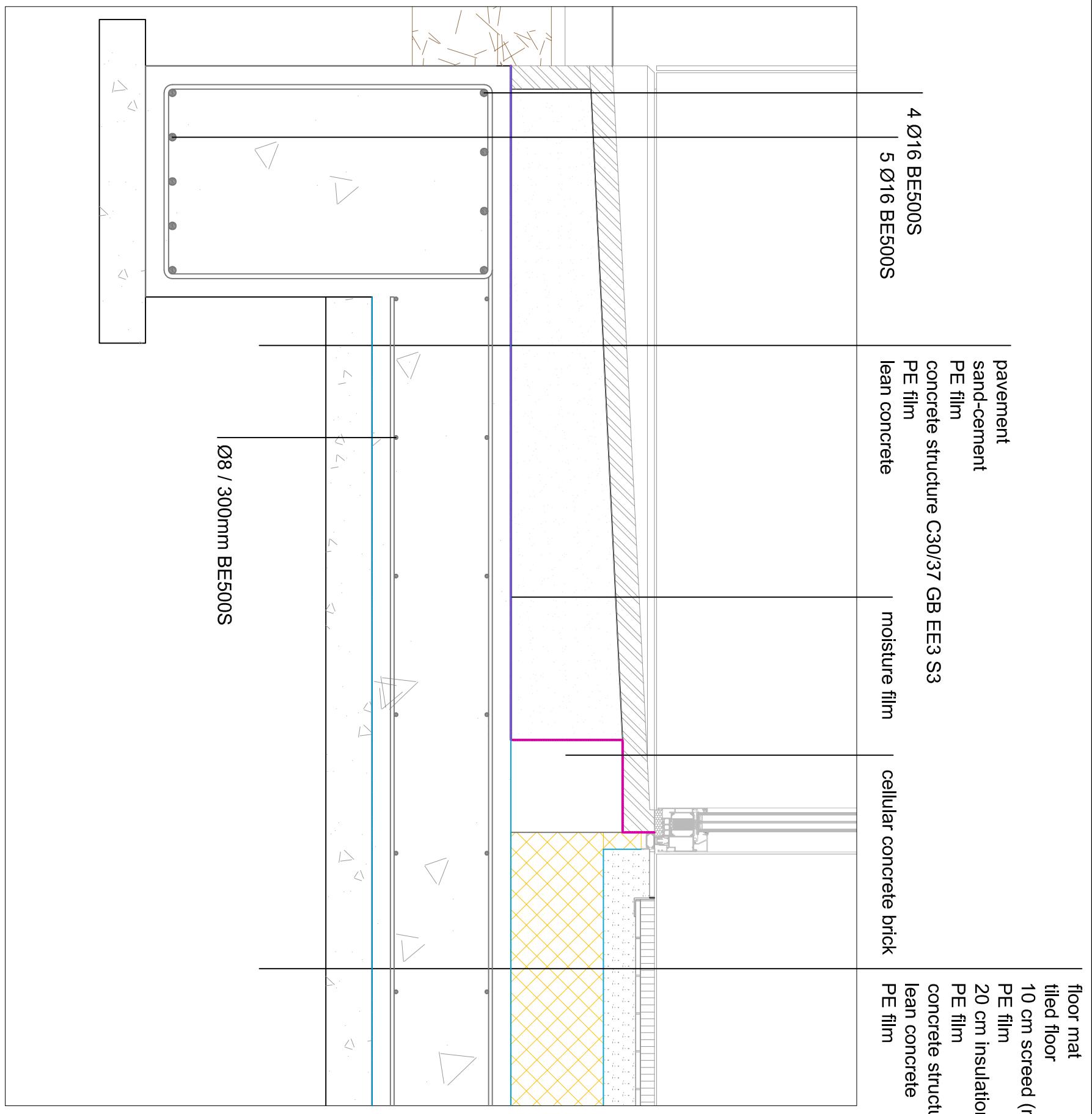
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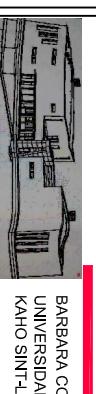
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PLAN  
3.1



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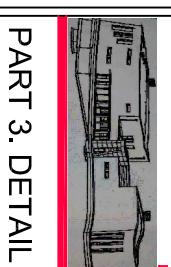


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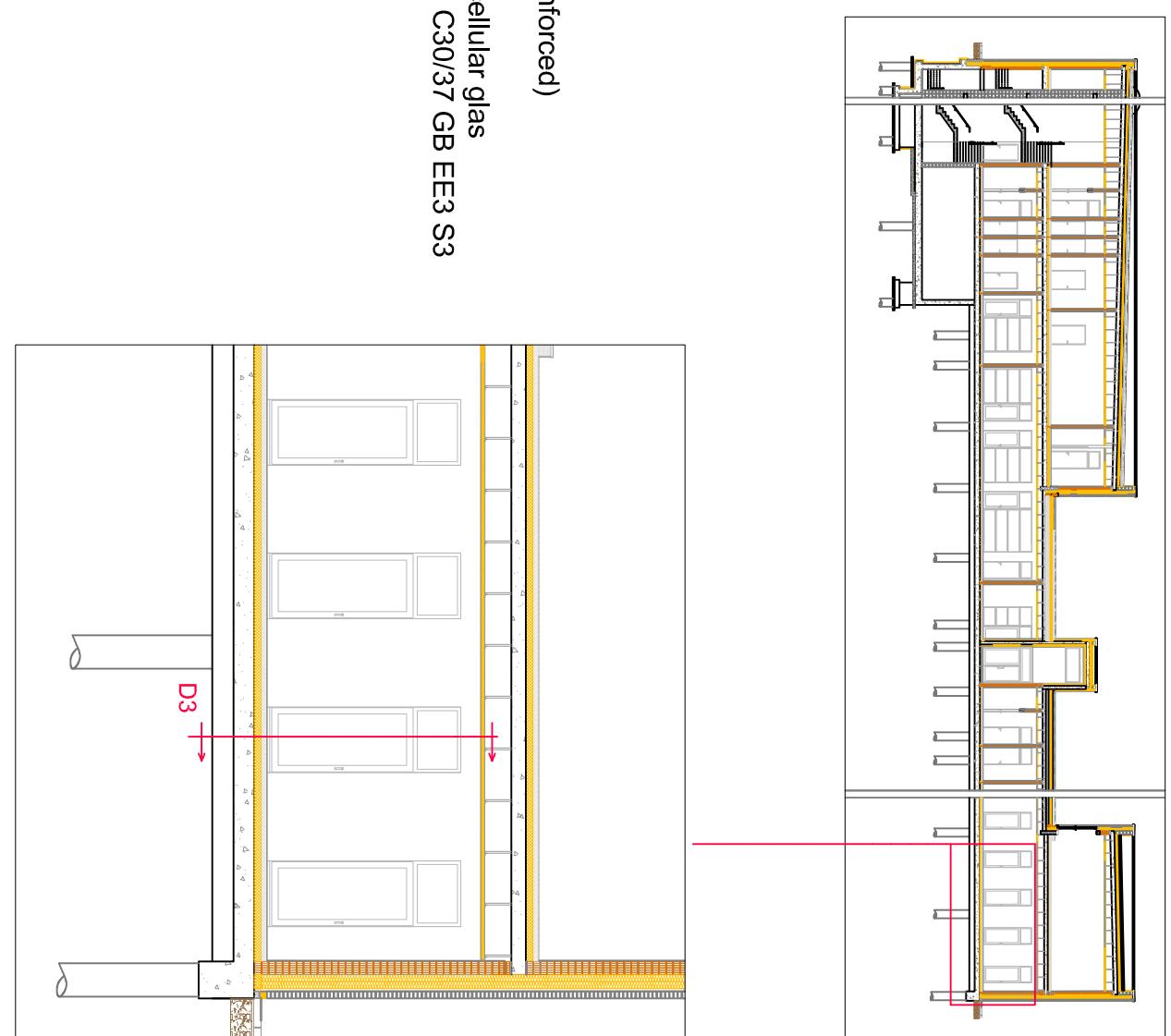
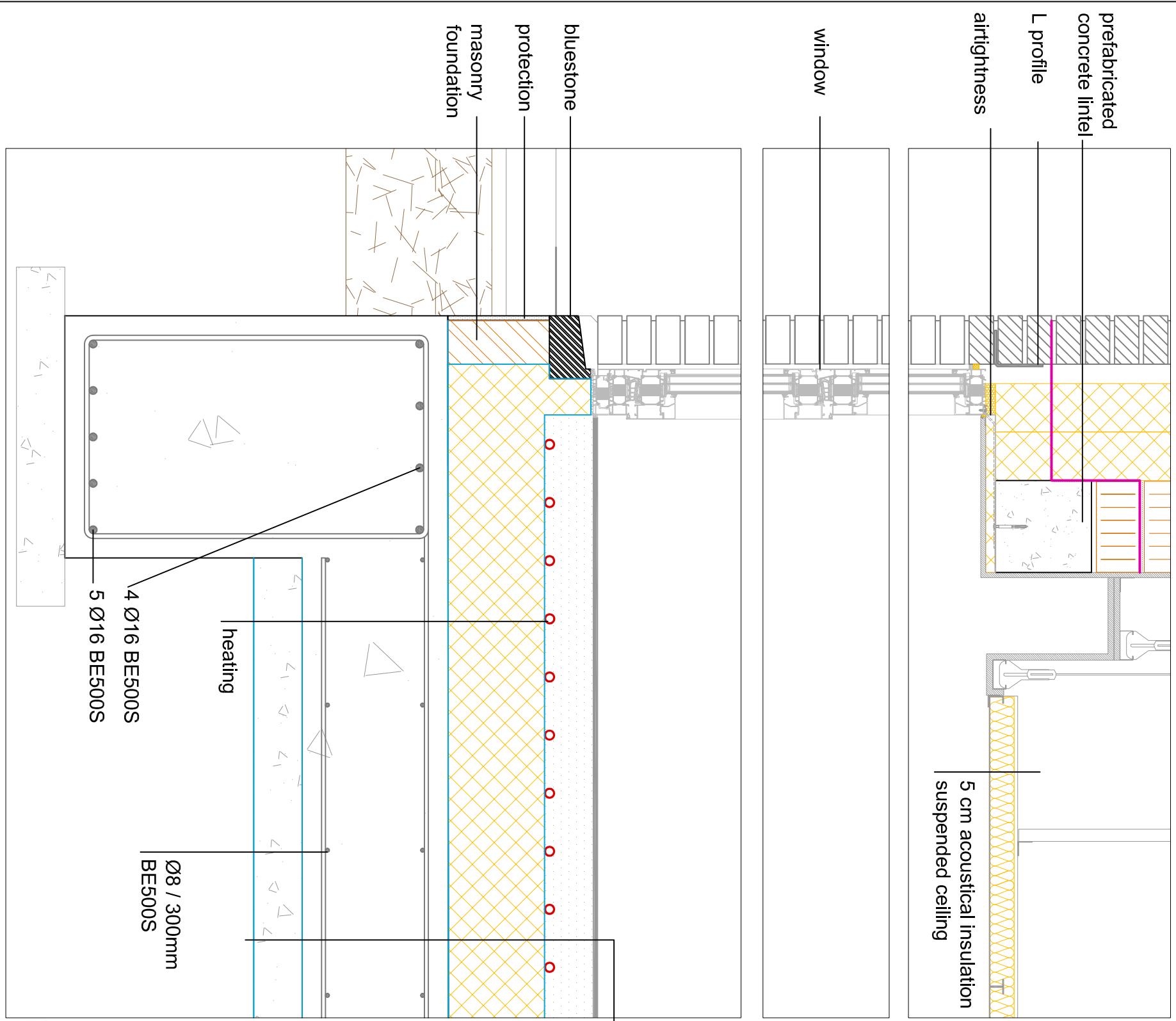
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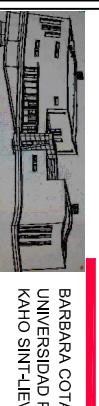
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PLAN  
3.2

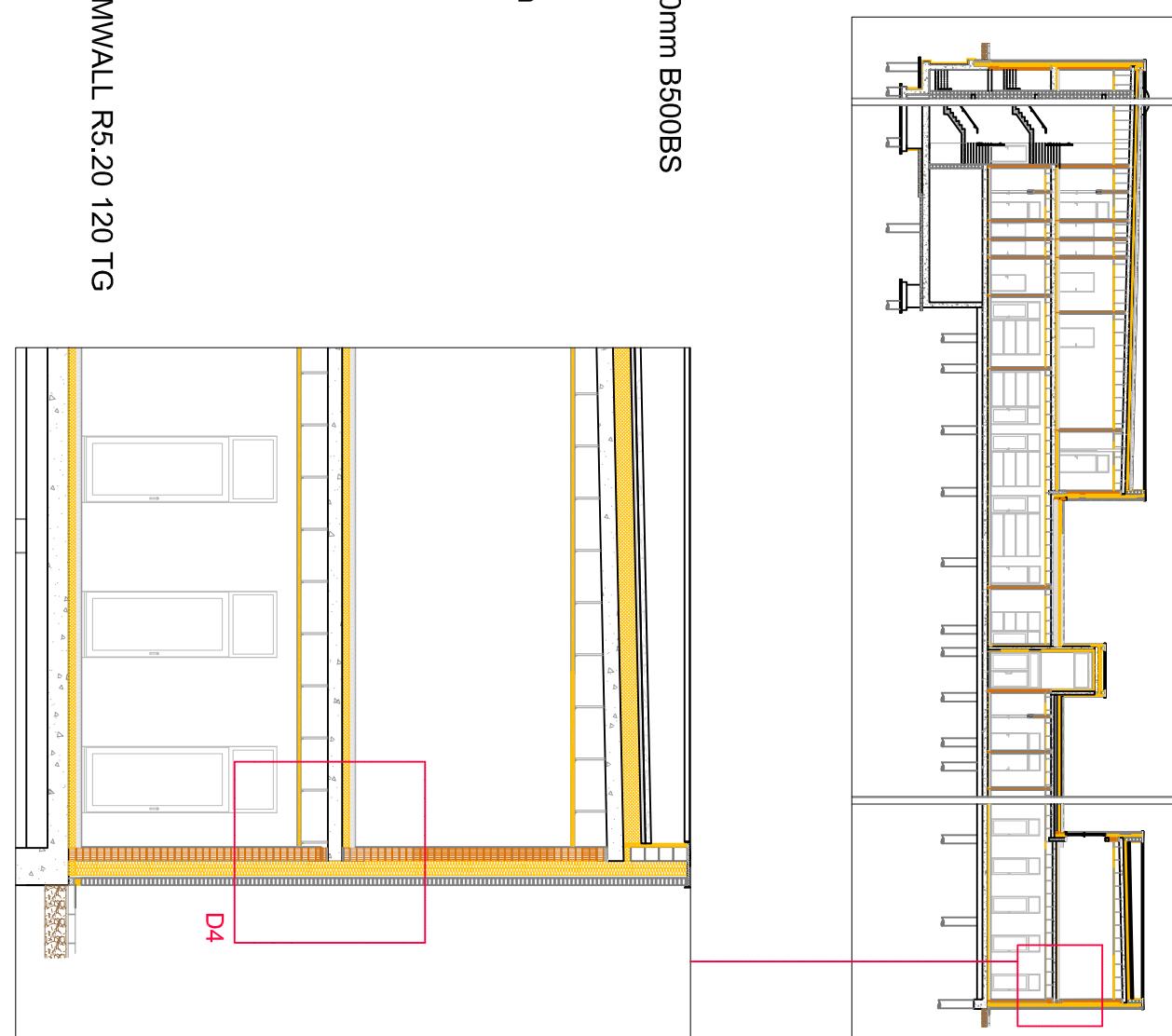
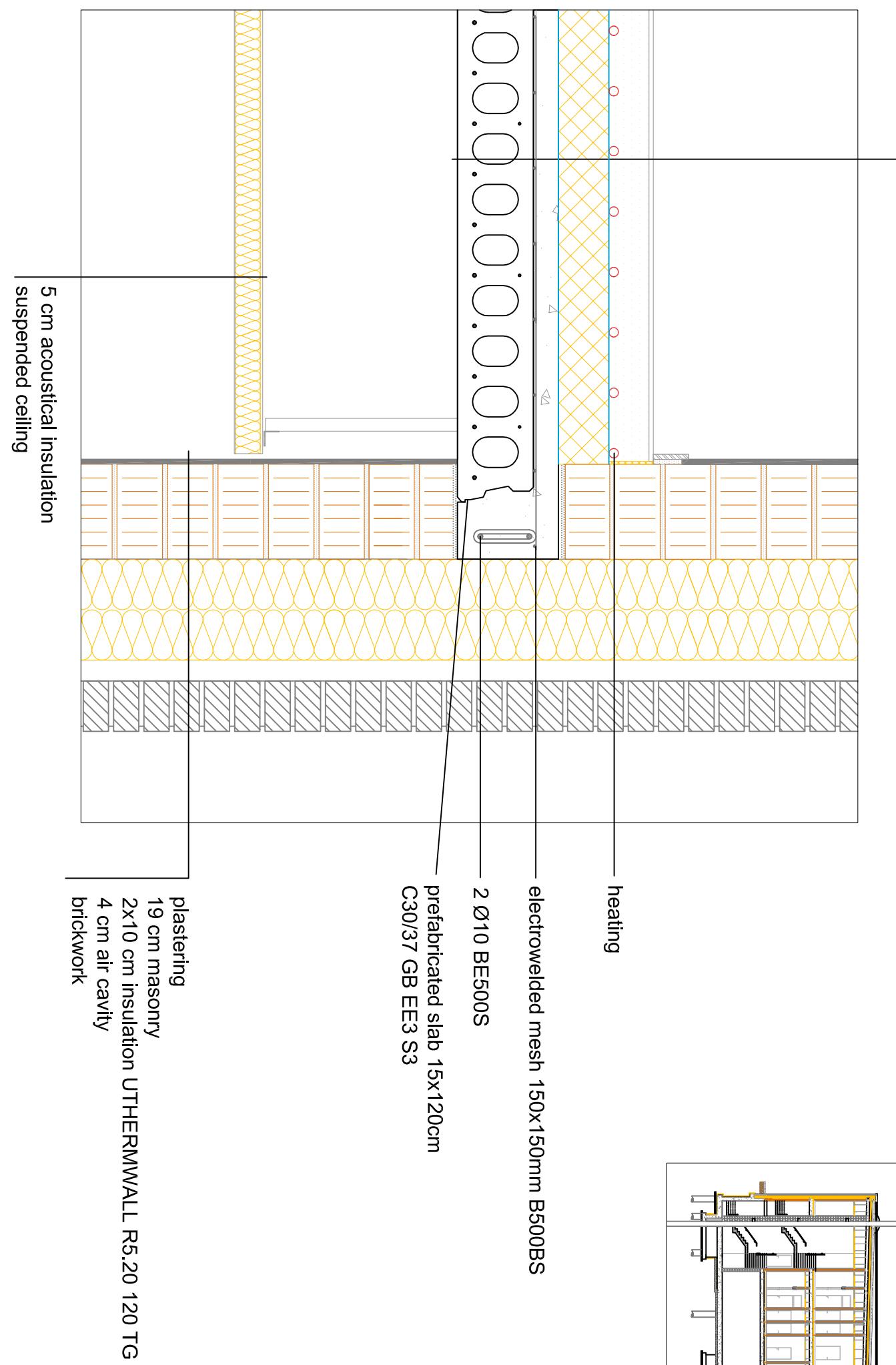


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bluestone  
 legbed  
 PE-foil  
 10 cm insulation cellular glas  
 PE-foil  
 concrete structure C30/37 GB EE3 S3



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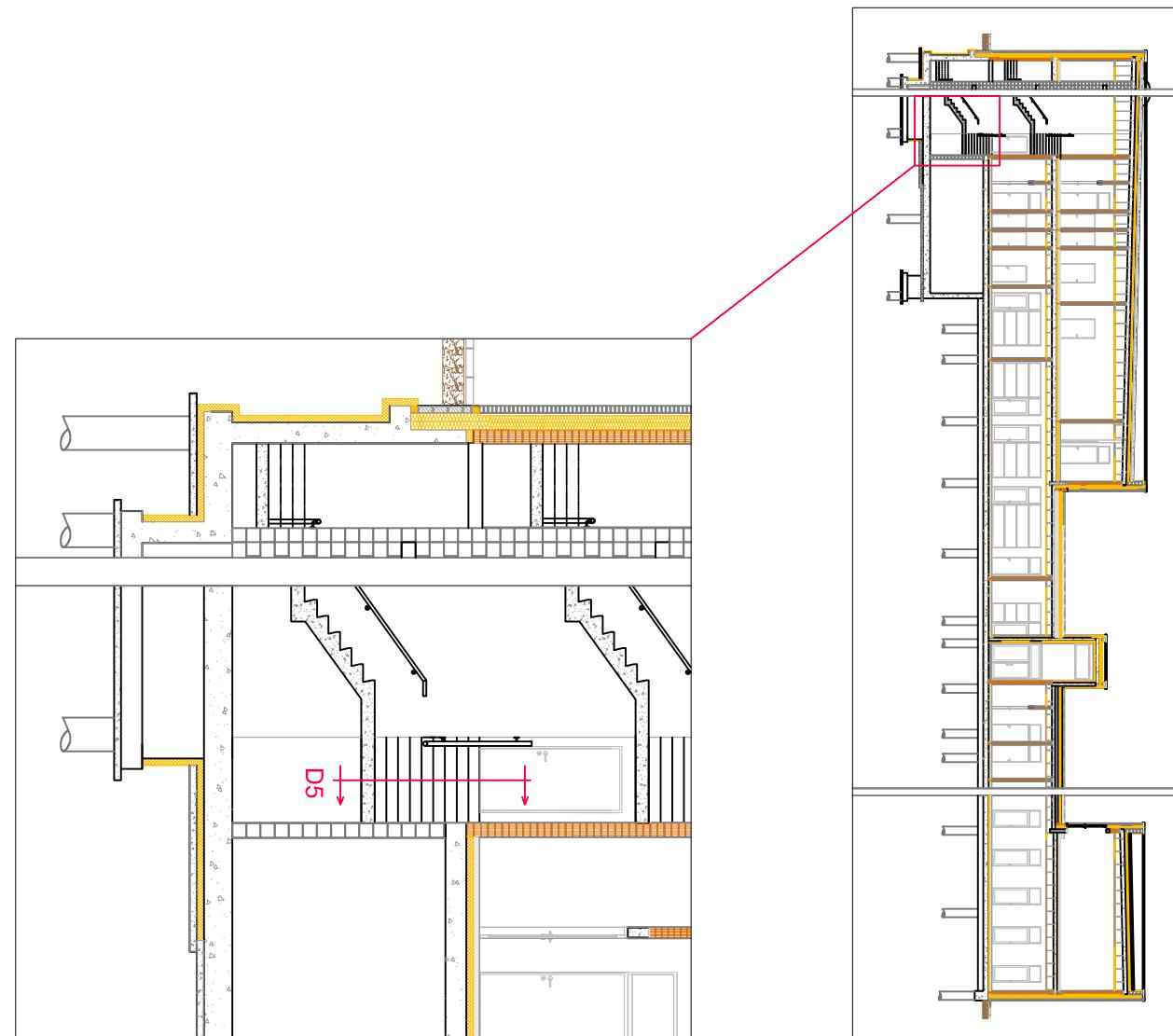
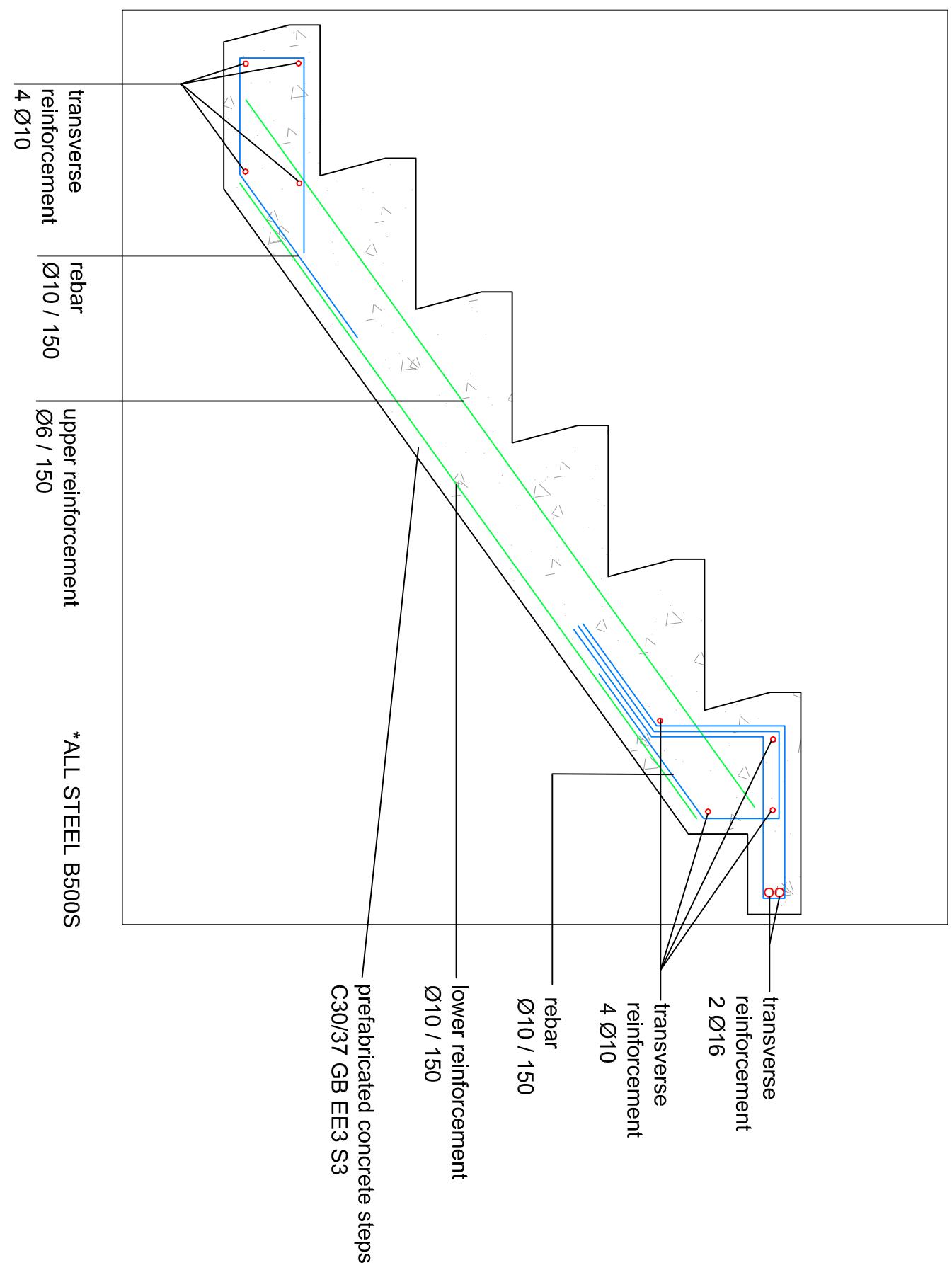
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PART 3. DETAIL 4

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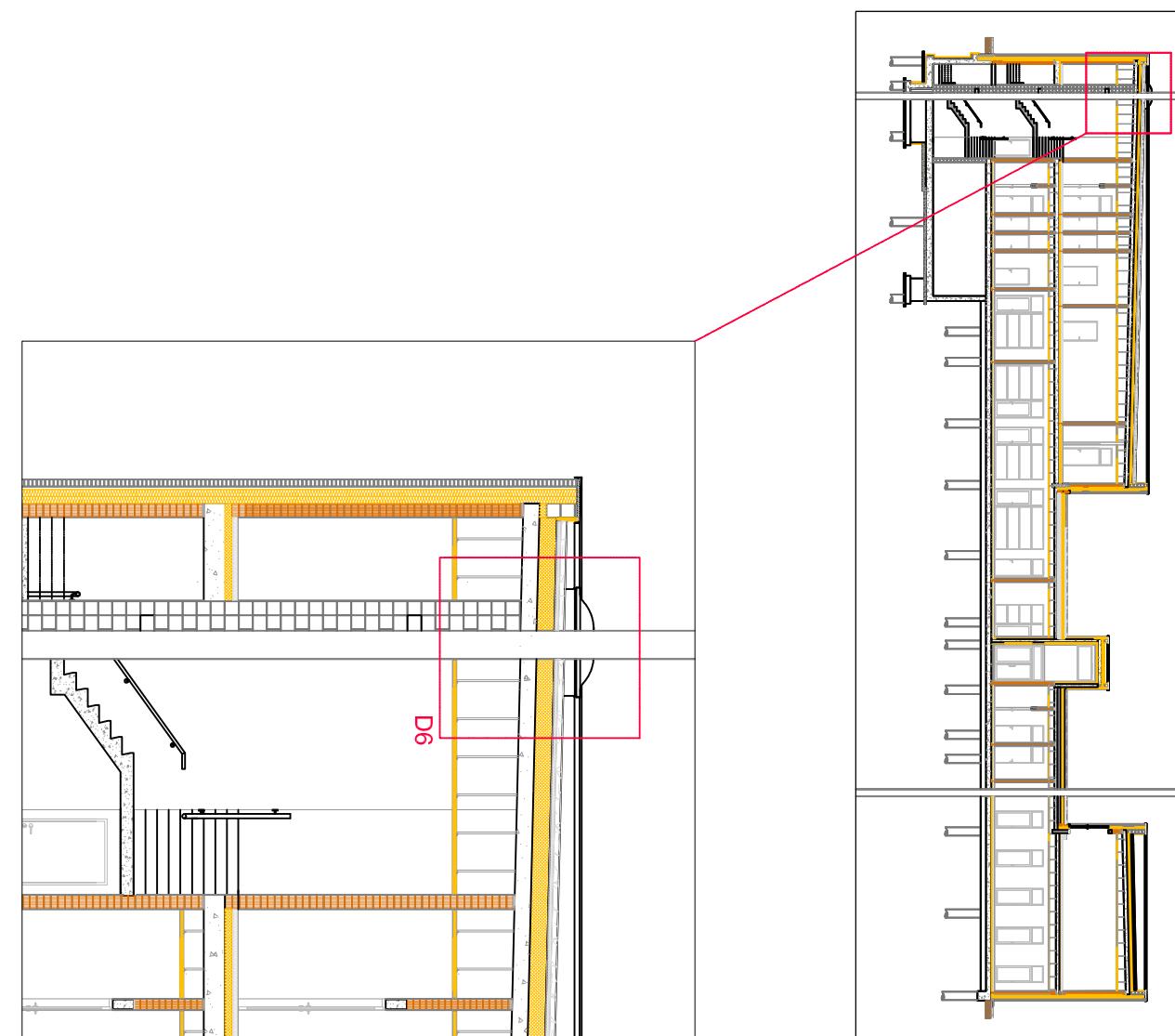
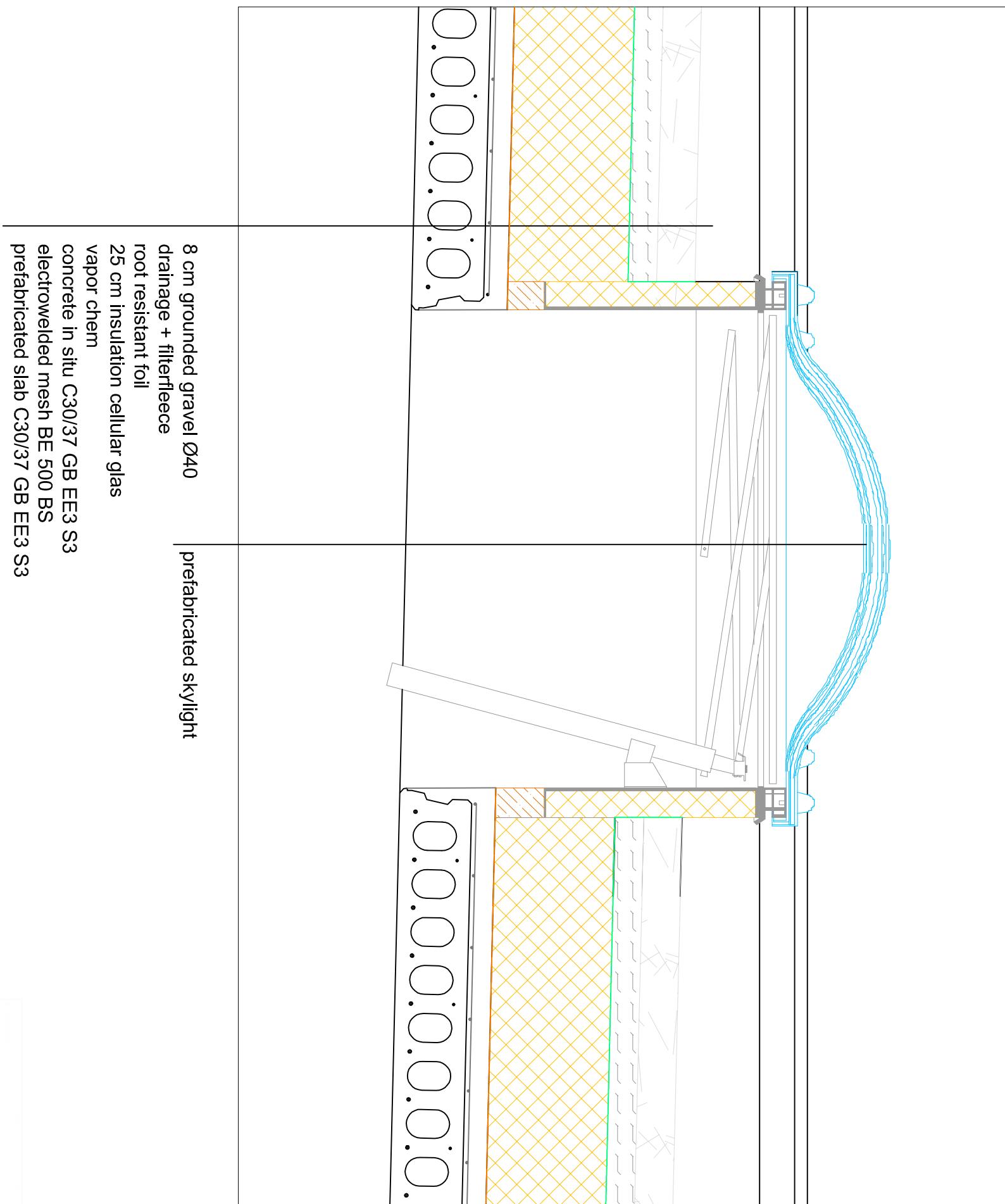
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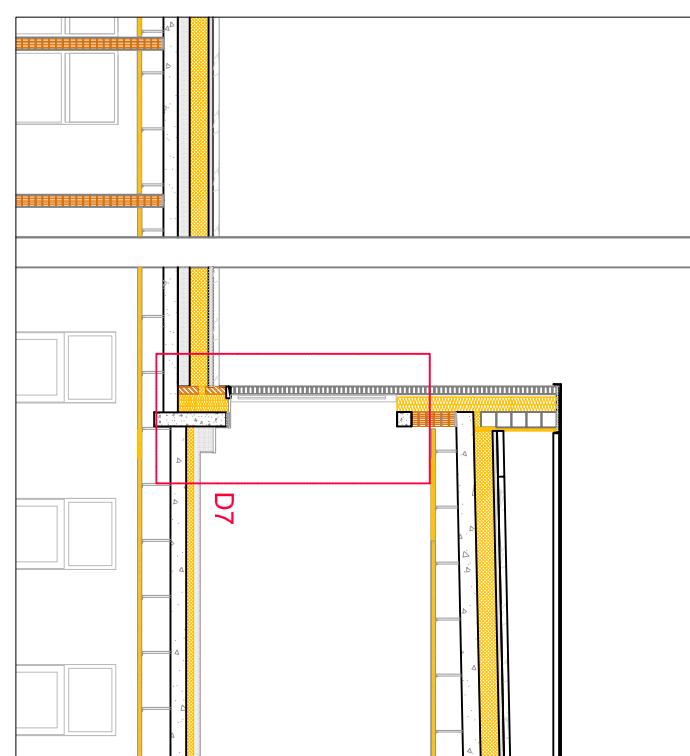
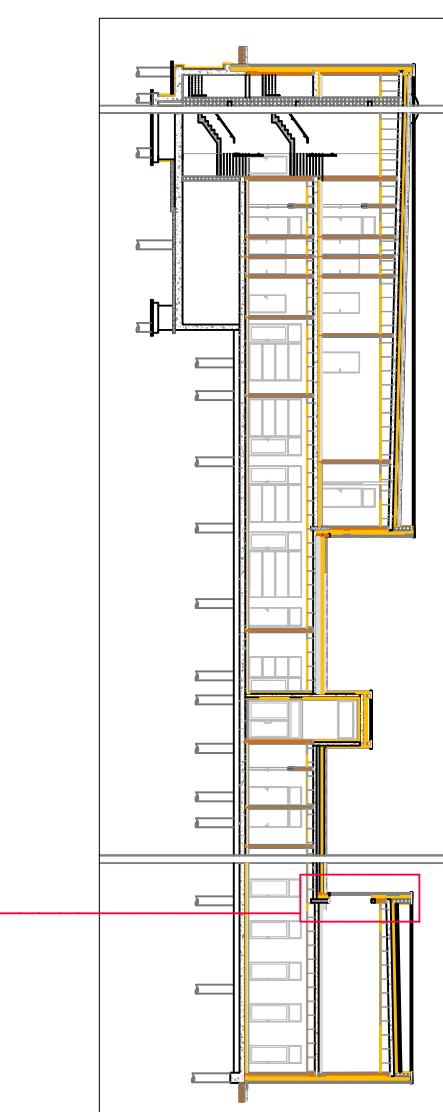
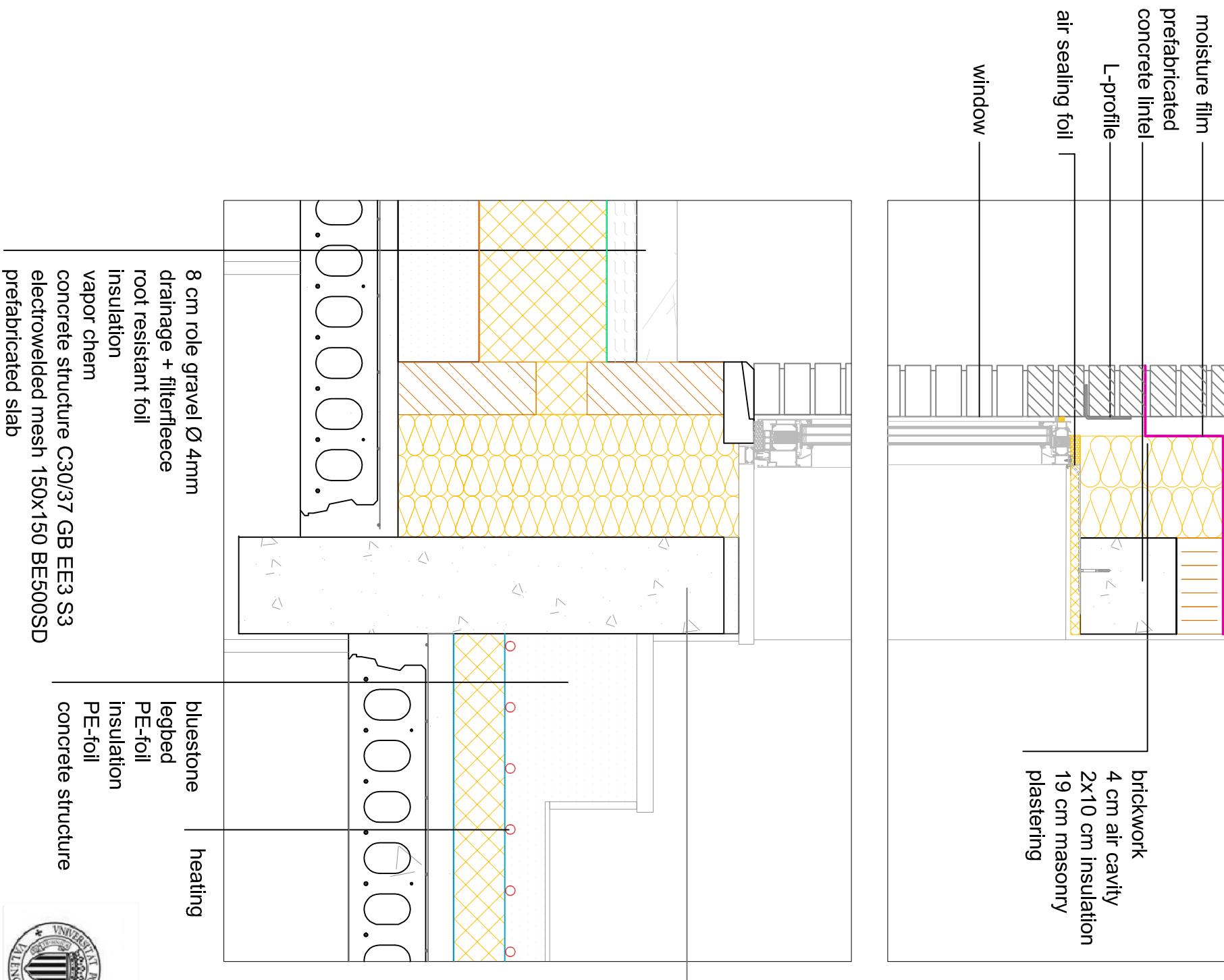


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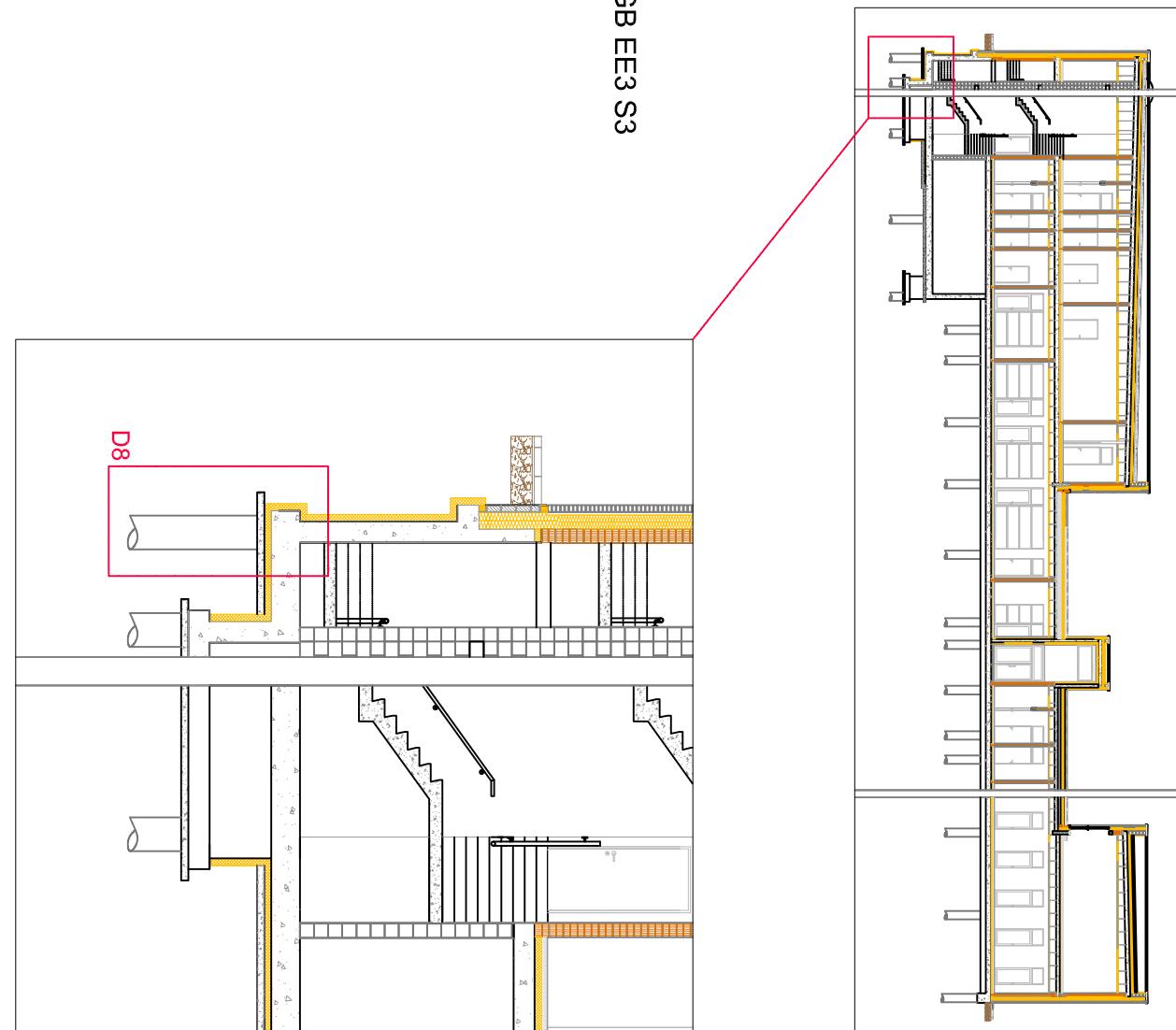
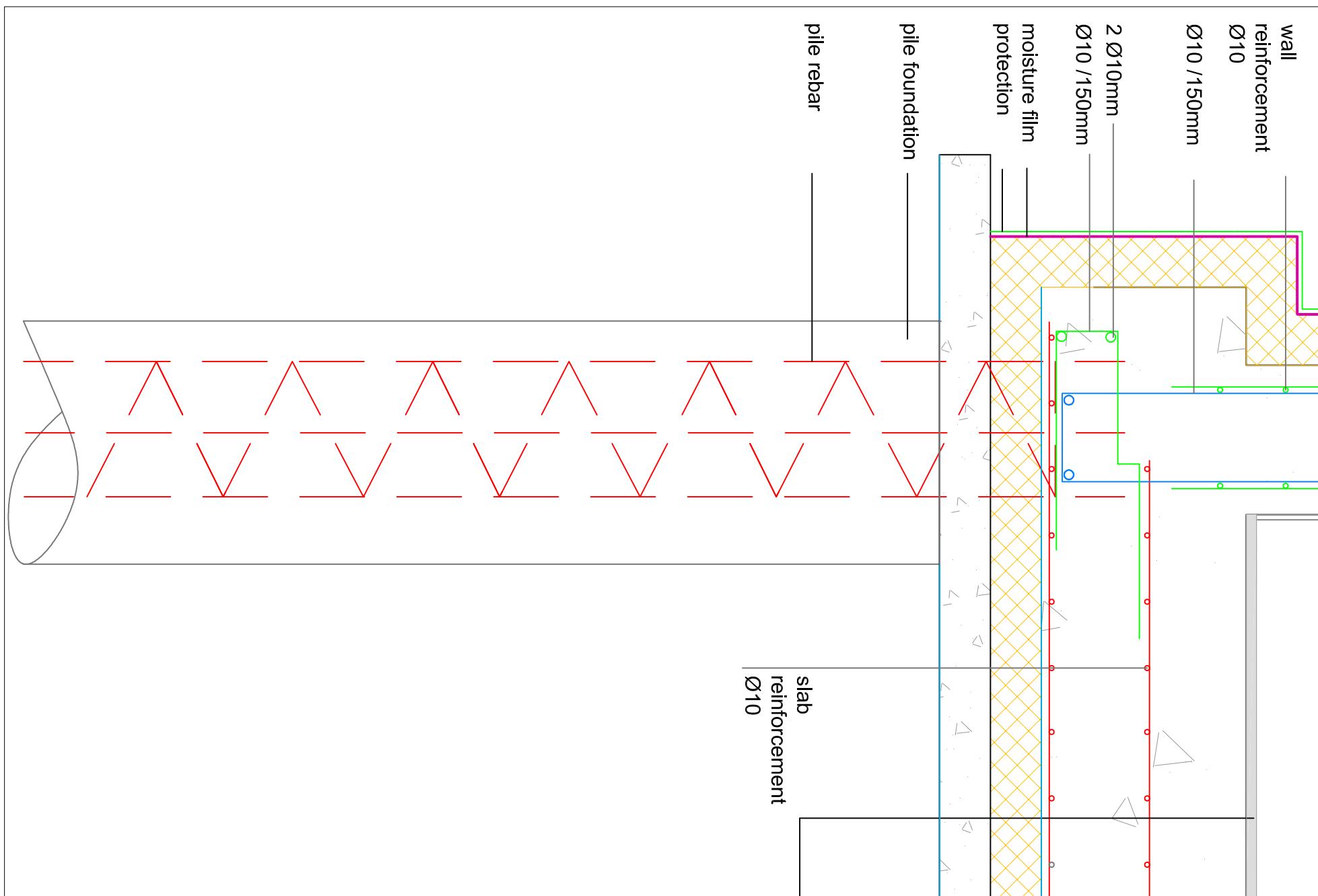
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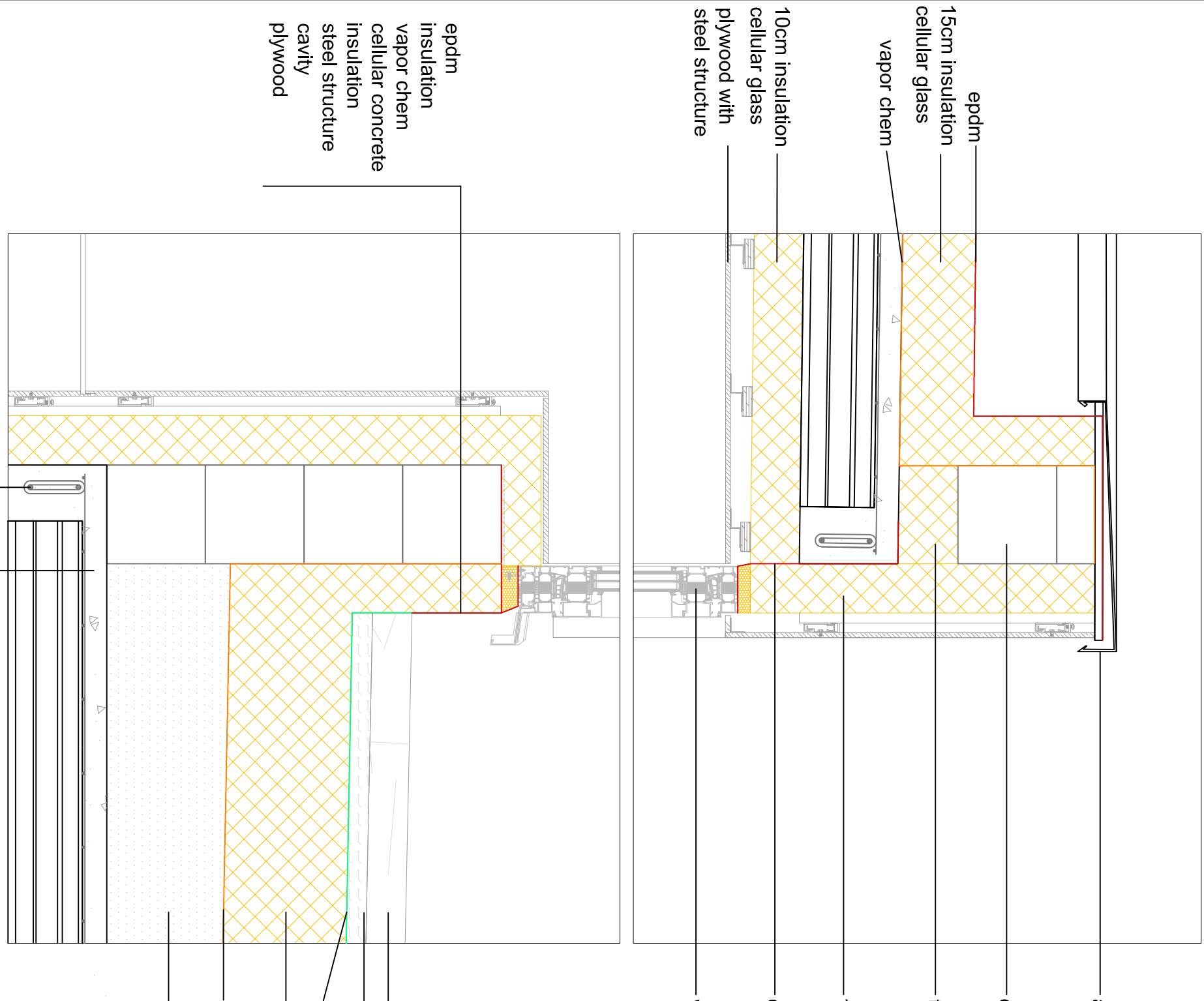


PART 3. DETAIL 7

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PLAN  
3.7

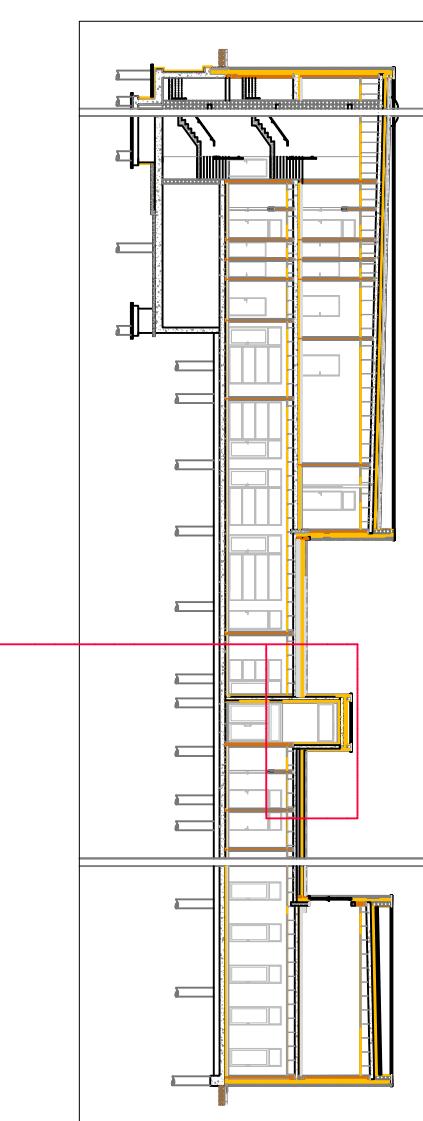
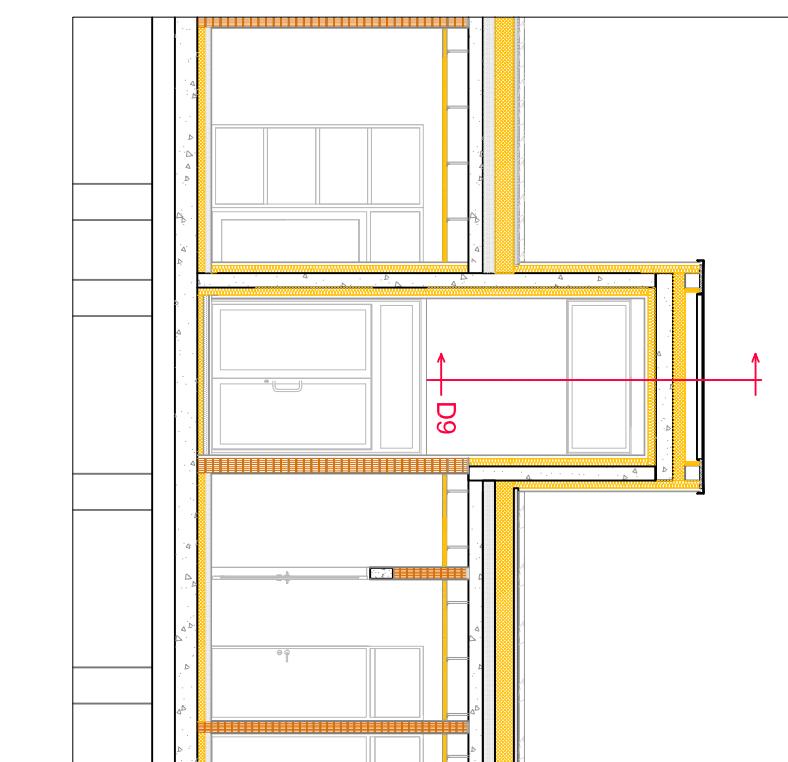




aluminum edge profile  
cellular concrete  
thermal bridge insulation  
epdm  
10 cm insulation  
window

concrete structure C30/37 GB EE3 S3  
electrowelded mesh 150X150 BE500BS  
prefabricated slab 15x120 cm C30/37 GB EE3 S3

2 Ø10  
BE500S



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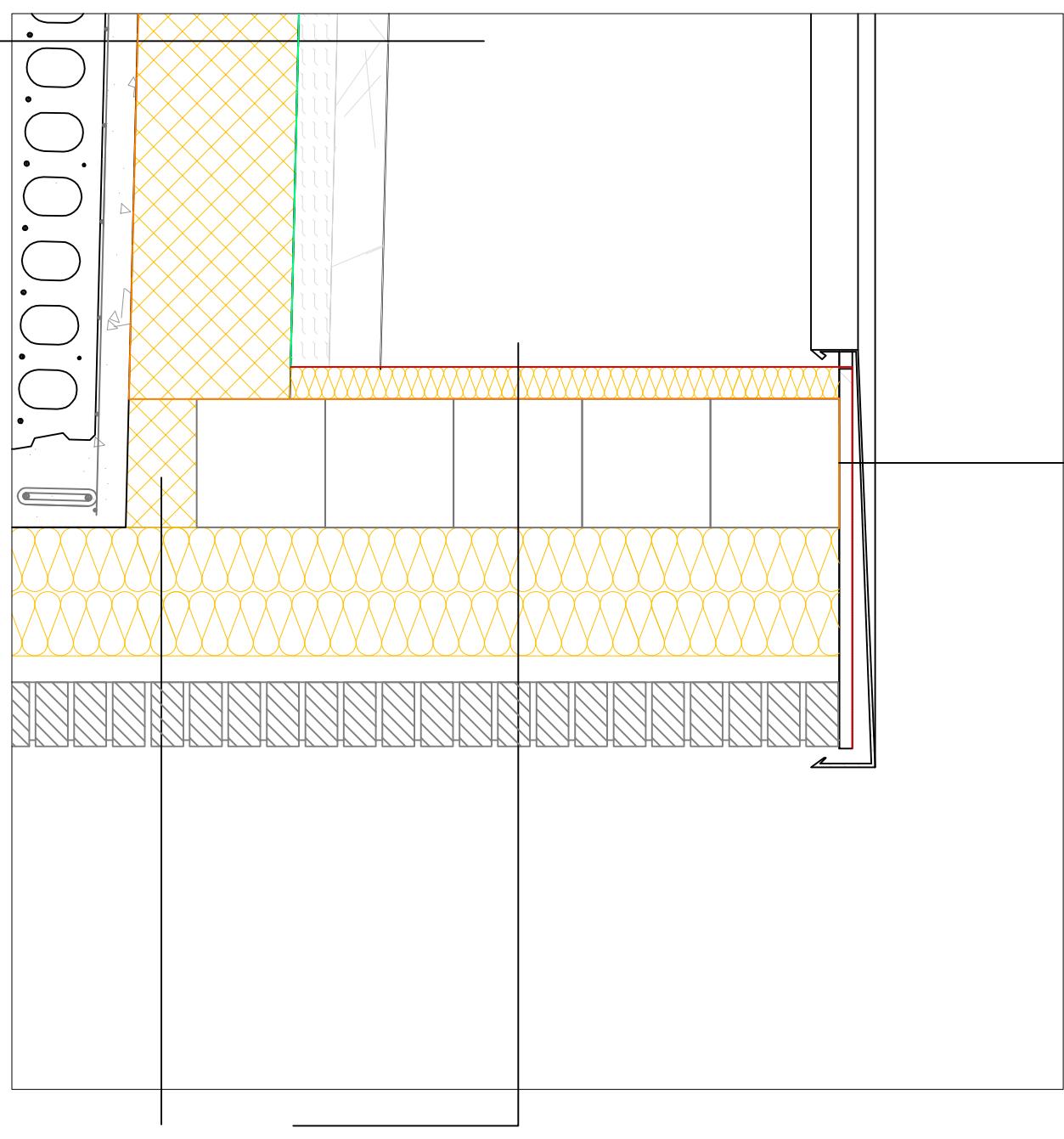


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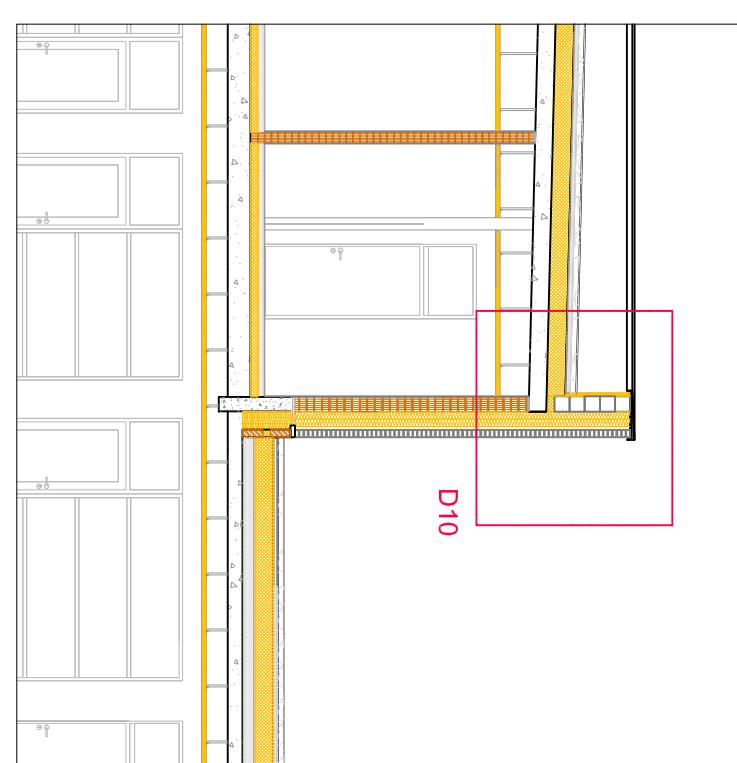
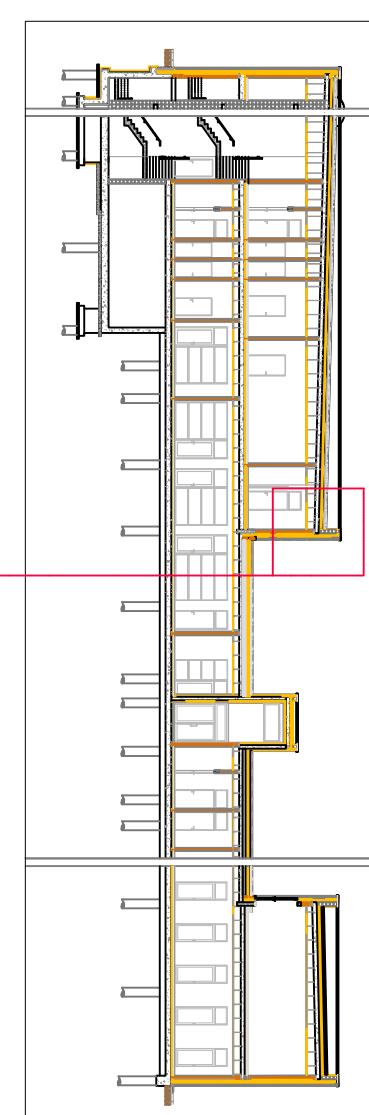
PLAN  
3.9

aluminium edge profile  
EPDM  
waterproof plywood  
vapor chem

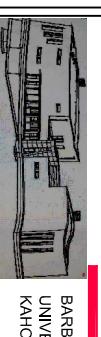


EPDM  
5 cm insulation Uthermwall R5.20  
vapor chem  
20 cm cellular concrete  
2 x 10 cm insulation Uthermwall R5.20  
4 cm cavity  
brickwork

thermal bridge insulation  
cellular glass

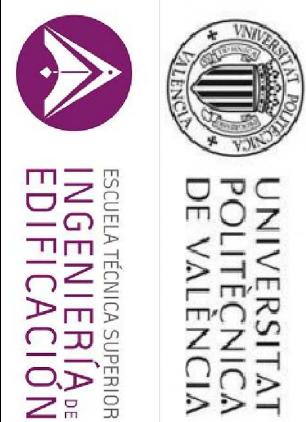


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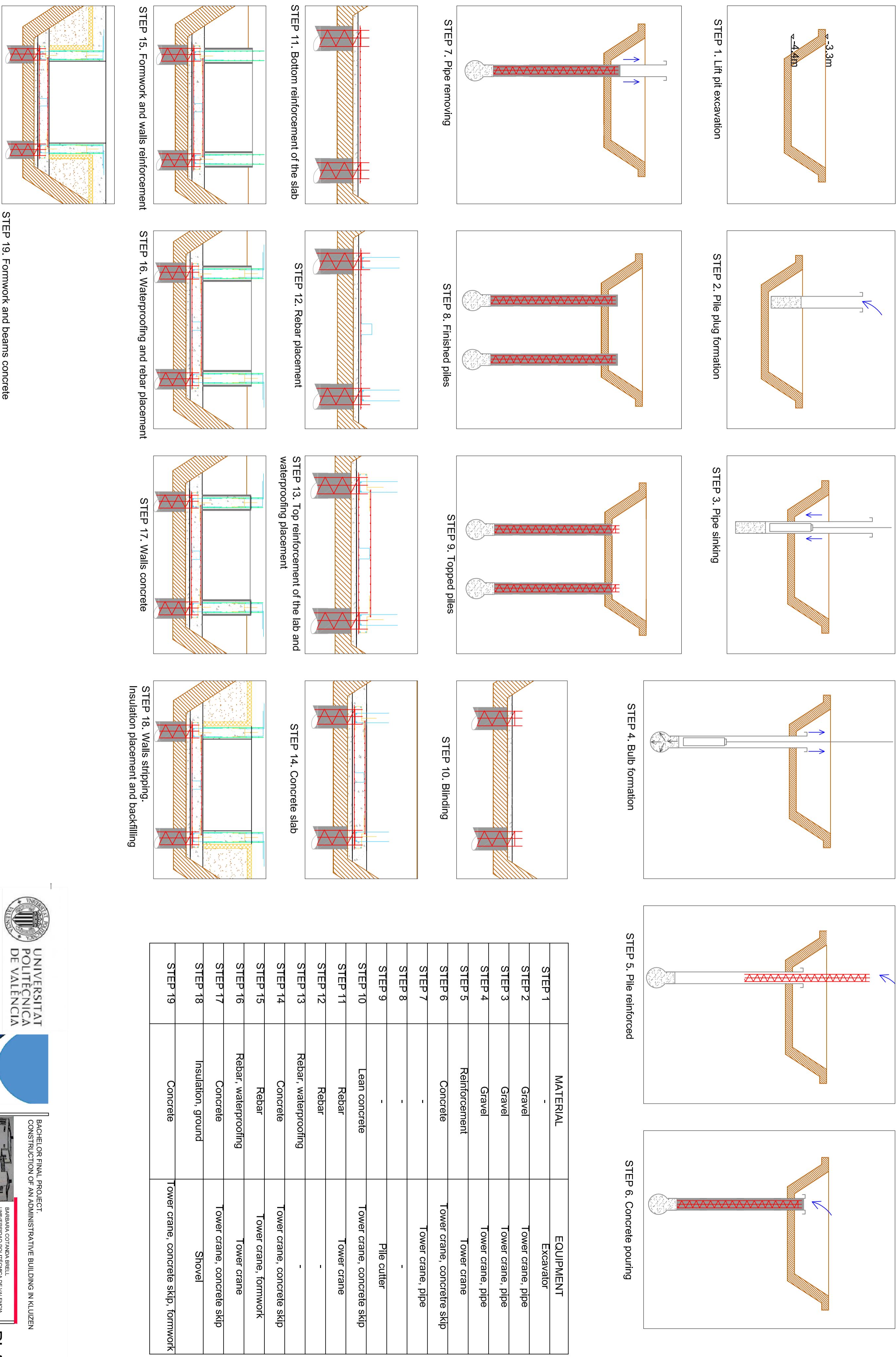
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PART 3. DETAIL 10

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PLAN  
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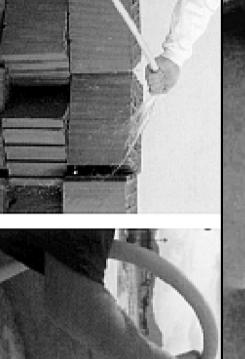
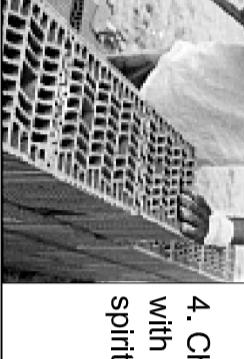
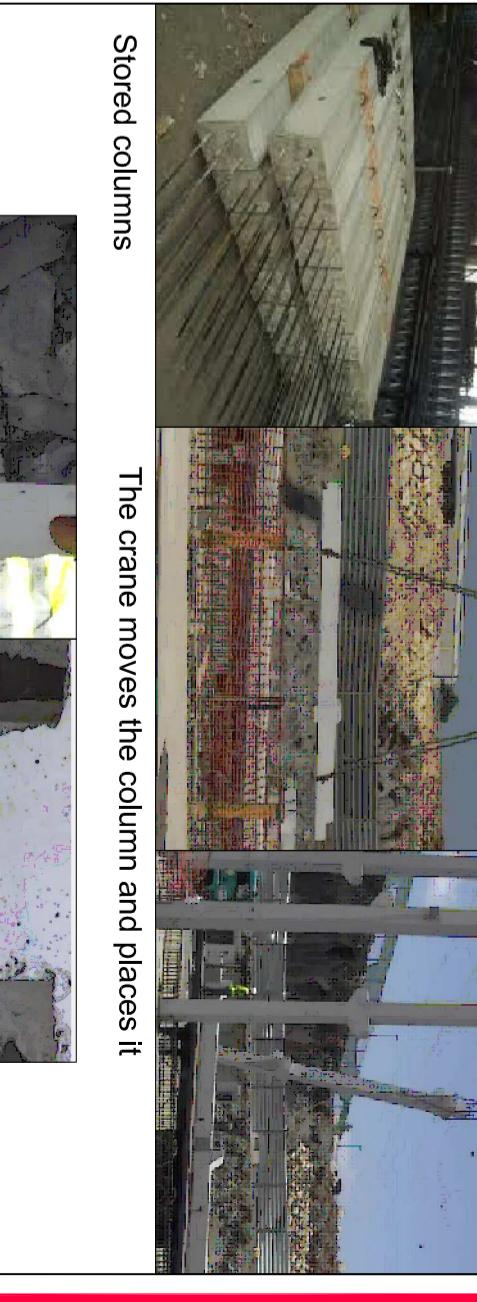
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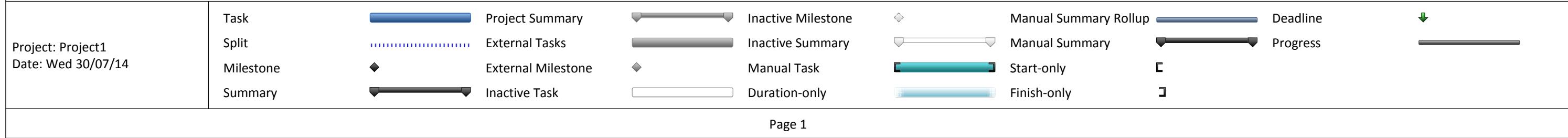


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PLAN  
4

COLUMNS 2.80 x 1.00 m	BRICKS	IN SITU CONCRETE	PREFABRICATED CONCRETE
IMPLEMENTATION			
	 <p>1. Wet the pieces before placing them</p> <p>Note that some pieces need to be cut</p>  <p>2. Spread a layer mortar and place the piece on it. Use a string as a guide</p>  <p>3. Hit the pieces with a rubber mallet so that the mortar gets into the gaps</p>  <p>4. Check levels with a spirit level</p>	 <p>1. Rebar</p> <p>2. Formwork</p> <p>3. Concrete</p> <p>Labourers place the reinforcement cage before assembling the formwork. Then the concrete can be poured; when it is cured they remove the formwork.</p>	 <p>1. Stored columns</p> <p>2. The crane moves the column and places it</p> <p>3. Labourers place the column in the exact position and fix it with bolts and nuts</p>
MATERIALS	Bricks Mortar	Reinforcement cage Concrete	Prefabricated columns Bolts and nuts
EQUIPMENT	String or line Line pins Spirit level and plumb rule Brick trowel Scaffold	Spacers Formwork Truck mixer Plumb Scaffold	Tower crane
EFFICIENCY	Labourer_0.4h/m <sup>2</sup>	Labourer_0.285h/m <sup>3</sup>	Labourer_0.25h/unit
TOTAL DURATION PER FLOOR (18 COLUMNS)	Labourer_0.4h/m <sup>2</sup> · 2.8m <sup>2</sup> = 1.12h · 18 = 20.16h	Labourer_0.285h/m <sup>3</sup> · 0.532m <sup>3</sup> = 0.15162h + waiting days until the concrete gets cured	0.25h
COST	Bricks_0.95€/u · 56 = 53.2€ Mortar_133.3€/m <sup>3</sup> · 0.5225m <sup>3</sup> = 69.65 € Labourer_17.24€/h · 0.4h = 6.9€ TOTAL/COLUMN = 129.75€	TOTAL = 2.335.5€	Spacer_0.06€/u · 12 = 0.72€ Reinforcement cage_120kg · 1€/kg = 120€ Formwork ('10 times)_10.60€/m <sup>2</sup> · 16m <sup>2</sup> = 169.6€ / 10 = 16.9€ TOTAL/COLUMN = 355.624€
PROS / CONS	<b>PROS</b> Manufacturing Cheap materials Easy construction method	<b>CONS</b> Less resistance Need to check levels	<b>PROS</b> Manufacturing Proper resistance Good quality materials
CONCLUSION	According to the data above, the brick column is the cheapest one, but it could cause some resistance problems, so it should be discarded.	The materials needed for the in situ concrete column can be reached easily, although it has waiting times, it is a good option since it is properly resistant.	The main problem of the prefabricated elements is the existence of a manufacturer on the nearby to the building site. If it is, then this is the best option, because its high price is offset by the short execution time and its resistance

ID	Task Mode	Task Name	Duration	Start	Finish	Predecessors	Last	September			October			November			D	
								05/08	12/08	19/08	26/08	02/09	09/09	16/09	23/09	30/09	07/10	14/10
1	grid	START	646 days	Mon 12/08/13	Mon 01/02/16													
2	grid	1. Dewatering	130 days	Mon 12/08/13	Fri 07/02/14													
3	grid	2. Dig	11 days	Wed 21/08/13	Wed 04/09/13	SS+7 days												
4	grid	3. Pile foundations	18 days	Wed 21/08/13	Fri 13/09/13	2SS+7 days												
5	grid	4. Lift pit	12 days	Mon 10/02/14	Tue 25/02/14	2;4												
6	grid	<b>5. Basement</b>	<b>30 days</b>	<b>Wed 26/02/14</b>	<b>Tue 08/04/14</b>													
7	grid	5.1. Slab	9 days	Wed 26/02/14	Mon 10/03/14	5												
8	grid	5.2. Walls	21 days	Tue 11/03/14	Tue 08/04/14	7												
9	grid	<b>6. Ground floor</b>	<b>30 days</b>	<b>Wed 09/04/14</b>	<b>Tue 20/05/14</b>													
10	grid	6.1. Floor	10 days	Wed 09/04/14	Tue 22/04/14	8												
11	grid	6.2. Prefab staircase	1 day	Wed 23/04/14	Wed 23/04/14	10												
12	grid	6.3. Prefab elements	2 days	Thu 24/04/14	Fri 25/04/14	11												
13	grid	6.4. Brickworks	15 days	Mon 28/04/14	Fri 16/05/14	12												
14	grid	6.5. Prefab lintels	2 days	Mon 19/05/14	Tue 20/05/14	13												
15	grid	<b>7. First floor</b>	<b>20 days</b>	<b>Wed 21/05/14</b>	<b>Tue 17/06/14</b>													
16	grid	7.1. Floor	5 days	Wed 21/05/14	Tue 27/05/14	14												
17	grid	7.2. Prefab staircase	1 day	Wed 28/05/14	Wed 28/05/14	16												
18	grid	7.3. Prefab elements	2 days	Thu 29/05/14	Fri 30/05/14	17												
19	grid	7.4. Brickworks	10 days	Mon 02/06/14	Fri 13/06/14	18												
20	grid	7.5. Prefab lintels	2 days	Mon 16/06/14	Tue 17/06/14	19												
21	grid	<b>8. Roof</b>	<b>20 days</b>	<b>Wed 18/06/14</b>	<b>Tue 15/07/14</b>													
22	grid	8.1. Floor	5 days	Wed 18/06/14	Tue 24/06/14	20												
23	grid	8.2. Ledge	10 days	Wed 25/06/14	Tue 08/07/14	22												
24	grid	8.3. Finishings	5 days	Wed 09/07/14	Tue 15/07/14	23												
25	grid	9. Parament	74 days	Wed 30/04/14	Mon 11/08/14	9SS+15 days												
26	grid	10. Installations	27 days	Mon 16/06/14	Tue 22/07/14	19;25SS+1 day												
27	grid	11. External joinery	41 days	Mon 23/06/14	Mon 18/08/14	25SS+38 days												
28	grid	12. Finishings	104 days	Tue 19/08/14	Fri 09/01/15	26;27												
29	grid	END	1 day	Mon 12/01/15	Mon 12/01/15	28;24												





July	August				September				October				November				December				January								
30/06	07/07	14/07	21/07	28/07	04/08	11/08	18/08	25/08	01/09	08/09	15/09	22/09	29/09	06/10	13/10	20/10	27/10	03/11	10/11	17/11	24/11	01/12	08/12	15/12	22/12	29/12	05/01	12/01	19/01

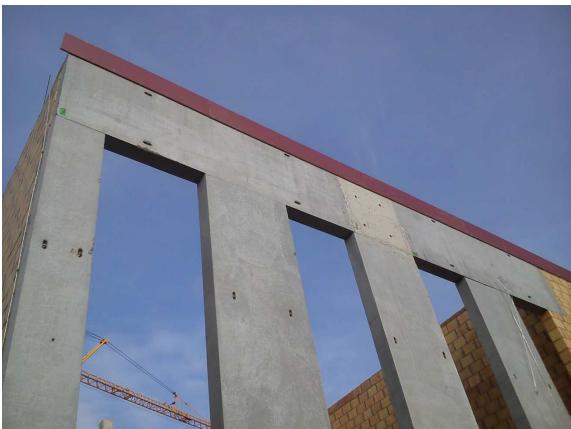


Project: Project1 Date: Wed 30/07/14	Task		Project Summary		Inactive Milestone			Manual Summary Rollup		Deadline	
	Split		External Tasks		Inactive Summary			Manual Summary		Progress	
	Milestone		External Milestone		Manual Task			Start-only			
	Summary		Inactive Task		Duration-only			Finish-only			

March 4<sup>th</sup> 2014



April 3<sup>rd</sup> 2014



April 29<sup>th</sup> 2014



May 22<sup>nd</sup> 2014

