

# Refurbishment of the Ministry of Defence

Location  
Paris

Clients  
Ministère de la Défense / Opale Défense

Team  
Ateliers 2/3/4/ (architect + landscape designer) - Egis - Elioth (engineers)

Nature of the project  
Large buildings, Tertiary, Restructuring, Landscape design

Program  
Refurbishment of the « Cité de l'air » :  
Urban and landscape planning, offices and administration  
Restauration, conference Center and library  
Sports Equipments, child care center,  
central Fire Department, logistical and technical buildings., data center

Status  
Built

Area  
Total area 8 ha  
Demolished area 13.500 m<sup>2</sup>  
New building area 6.000 m<sup>2</sup>  
Heavy refurbishment area 47.500 m<sup>2</sup>  
Light refurbishment area 109.000 m<sup>2</sup>  
Outdoor equipments area 5.5 ha

Calendar  
Completion phase 1: september to april 2015  
Completion phase 2: january 2017

Cost  
phase 1 : 172 M €ht  
phase 2 : 30 M €ht

Construction compagnies  
Bouygues

Credits  
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01

Two transformation issues coexist here; a site more than 8 hectares in area but also the now somewhat disparate buildings constructed throughout the previous century.

The transformation depended on two main ideas:

- to make the site a unifying « mat » whilst the visible support of a new, completely pedestrian use of the site; and
- to inscribe this unity upon the buildings themselves.

Cleared of vehicles, the site becomes a vast meadow brought alive by its topography and the large and small building alterations, all decked in a deep brownish rust color. The 3,000-tree plantation, a large water basin, a sculptured staircase reinforce the extraordinary mutation.

As for the transformation of the buildings, it follows an internal logic specific to the typology of each building.

Three main buildings were identified:

- the ENSTA from the 1930s whose rehabilitation demolished the additions that partially disfigured it;
- the base of the elliptical tower with its two radical features – a depth of over 50m in places and the omni-presence of a circular configuration. Without denying it, a new

meaning was given by systematically introducing daylight into the center of the mass; and

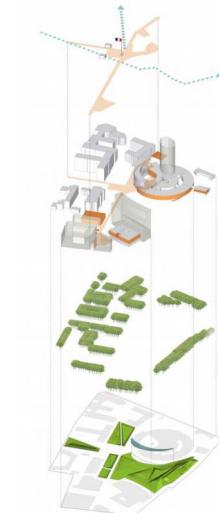
– the residential tower annex with the same excessive depth defect. There too, inserting a patio has given life to the new program.

## légendes

- 01 Bâtiment BC (centre de vie)
- 02 Avant / Après
- 03 Tracés générateurs/ Interventions architecturale/ Intervention paysagères
- 04 Bâtiment BC (centre de vie) : Hall
- 05 Bâtiment BC (centre de vie) : restaurant RIE
- 06 Bâtiment BC (centre de vie) : rdc
- 07 La prairie
- 08 Cour bâtiment BC (centre de vie)
- 09 Mobilier
- 10 Bâtiments 28-30-32 (ENSTA)
- 11 Bâtiments 28-30-32 (ENSTA) : rdc
- 12 Bâtiment 28/30, (ENSTA) : bibliothèque / 30 000 ouvrages
- 13 Bâtiment 28/30 (ENSTA)
- 14 Escaliers de l'ENSTA
- 15 Auditorium de l'ENSTA
- 16 Bâtiment G (centre sportif)
- 17 Bâtiment G (centre sportif) : plans



02



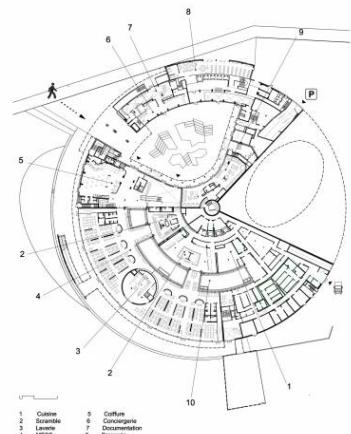
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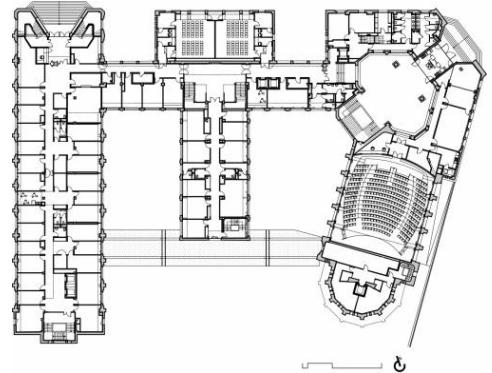




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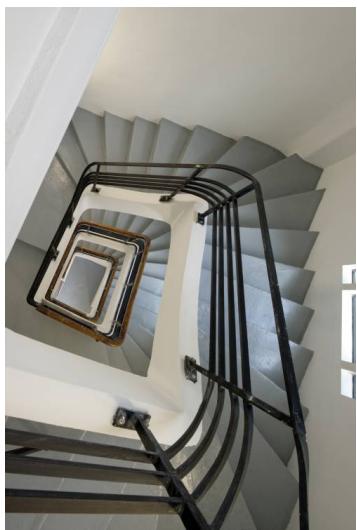
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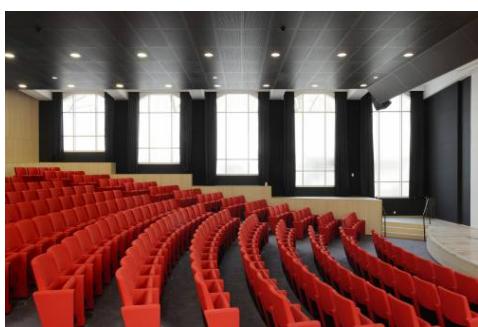
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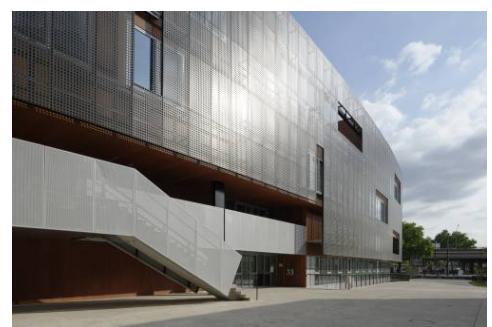
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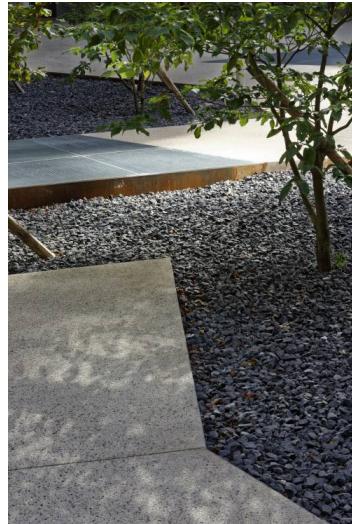
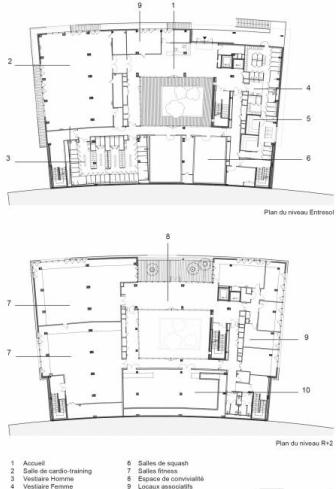
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