

KARIN DOM

CONCEPTION

ACCESSIBILITY. The building is entirely designed horizontally. An open plan with interconnecting spaces located within one main floor where the connection with nature and the existing terrain is sought-after. The sense of connection and the link between inside and out is conceptually derived from the clenched fist and the opened human hand. The senses (fingers) open up or close to the building (palm). Our desire is to achieve dynamics and diversity through this exact connection, to make the building pulsate inwards and outwards - from a fully closed mass directed towards its inner core to an open to the outside world volume.

MORPHOLOGY OF THE BUILDING

The building will be perceived in the distance as a linear structure, although generally it will not be fully seen in its entirety. The building is designed with two main volumes and one semi-underground level which is almost imperceptible.

Although the conceptual design makes use of the whole available plot, it incorporates two distinct inner courtyards which create a protective semi-closed microclimate with lots of vegetation and provide sunlight for the inner parts of the building. "The main courtyard" is used as a transitional space through which the main building entrance is reached. It also functions as a playground for the Montessori center and an area where the visitor creates his initial impressions of the building – it is here where the first feeling of a strong connection with the nature is manifested. The secondary courtyard is formed at a lower level, following the existing topography of the terrain. The general feeling here is more intimate. This yard is also connected with the surrounding areas around the building at the bottom of the property as it is possible to pass under the main building level.

The two courtyards together with the lobby form the horizontal axis of the building. All rooms related to diagnostics and intervention with children are organized around that axis. In the Montessori center and the Medical center there are also two spaces connecting with nature - two light wells are designed to preserve the existing trees.

FUNCTIONAL SCHEME

The main entrance of the building is designed in the northwestern part of the property. The extension of the provided street will be used for temporary parking for people with reduced mobility. Underground parking is also accessible from this area by a two way car ramp.

The functional program is flexible and adaptive, distributed as follows: all the spaces related to work with children are placed at the main level; at the semi level - below the main floor are situated the technical rooms, the underground parking and the rooms for hydrotherapy. The training center and the administration quarters are placed above the main level. The lobby is the intersection point of the horizontal and the vertical communication axis. It is in direct visual contact with the main courtyards and the staircase with the elevator. The space is additionally emphasized by the upper glazing that goes through the first floor as well. The layout of the building is based on the concept of transitional spaces called N-gawa, which derives originally from the Japanese traditional architecture. It gives the

connection between the interior of the building and the nature outside. Each and every room is connected both outwards with the natural environment and inwards with the enclosed yards - this provides health and comfort, as for 85% of the spaces the connection in both directions can be achieved at the same time.

The inner yards and their surrounding space will cover the need for integrated playgrounds for children and raised garden bed.

BUILDING MATERIALS

The primary construction of the building is reinforced concrete. The exterior and interior are counting on wood elements. The predominant façade material is natural wood which contributes for the sensory impact and the connection with the environment. The grid of the façade is in rhythm with the windows and provides a human scale. The building has the possibility to be open or fully closed to the outside world, which is achieved by opening or closing the wood panels in front of the windows. The image of the facades will not be unambiguous. The opening and closing of the shutters of different premises, on different floors will lead to a dynamic and diverse appearance of the facades.

The interior is also dominated by wood- its texture, natural color and atmosphere. The floor is monochrome, neutral, covered with self-leveling screed in the common zones and specialized plastic floor finishes in the necessary rooms. The ceilings are designed also in light colors - the used materials are latex paint or wood elements.

The sustainable development of the building is achieved by landscaping its roofs, which will provide the comfort of habitation- the thermal mass will be a buffer for the cold winters and warm summers. The roof of the building is organized as a recreation space for the visitors of the training center and the administration of Karin dom. Again, the priority is the connection with nature- the grassed roof and the direct connection to tree crowns.

UNDERGROUND FLOOR AREA - 600m²

SEMI UNDERGROUD FLOOR AREA - 170m²

TOTAL BUILD - UP AREA - 1735m²

TOTAL LANDSCAPED AREA - 1970m²

> INNERYARDS & TERRAIN - 950m²

> GREEN ROOFS - 1020m²

PARKING - 20 CARS

BUDGET – 1 450 000 EU