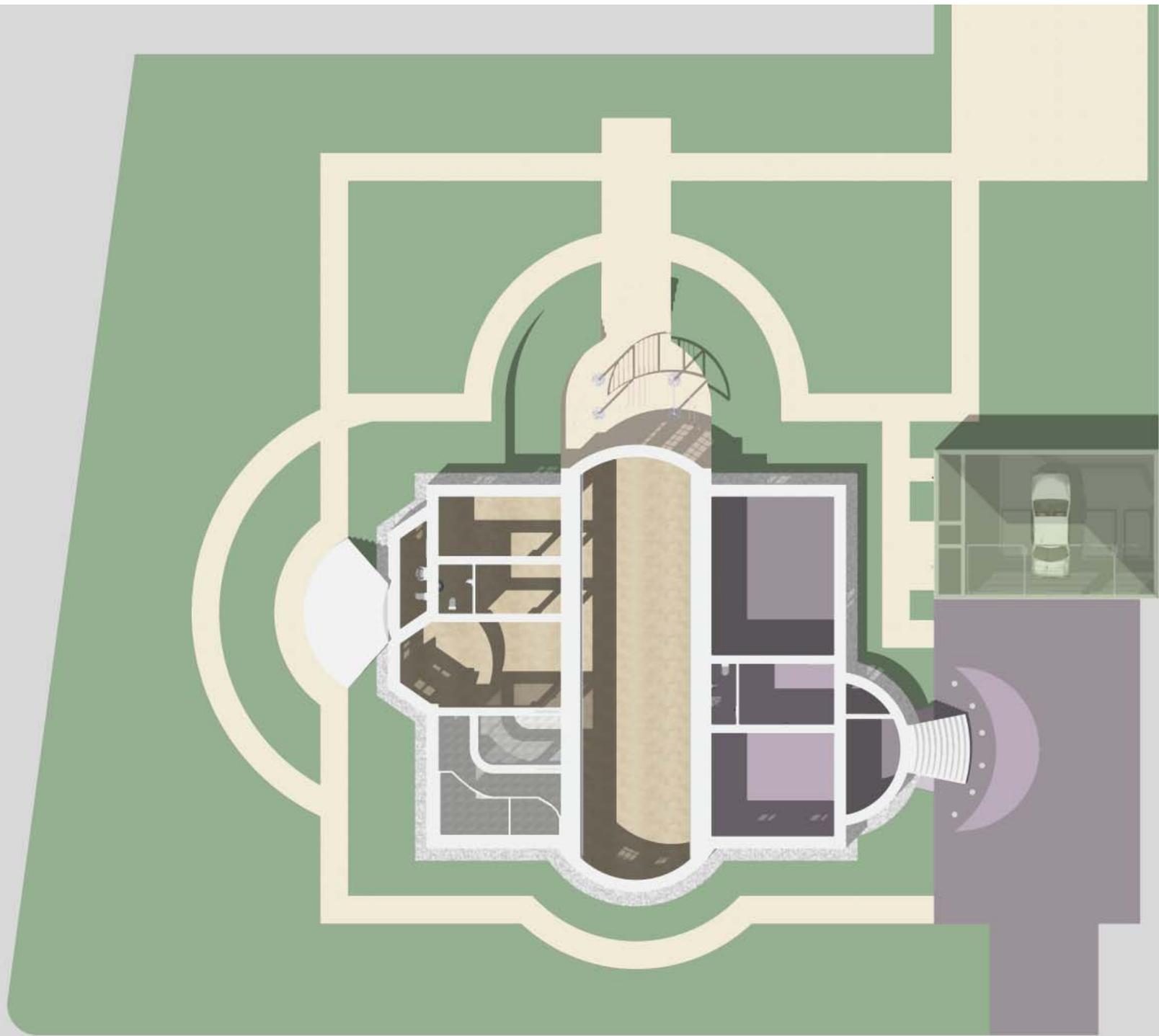
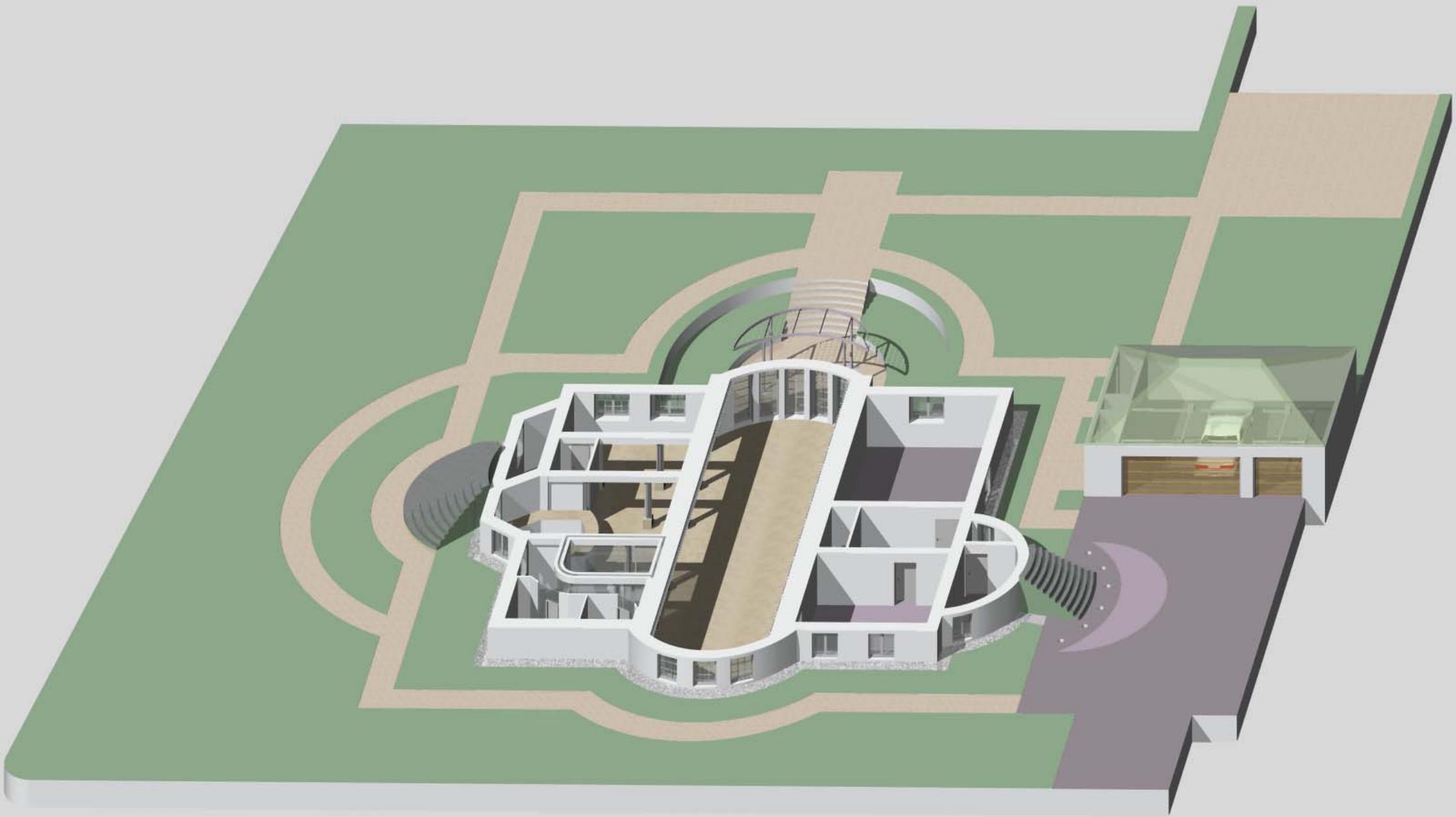




Embassy of Malaysia - Ambassador's Residence | Willdenowstr. 20 | 12203 Berlin | Preliminary Design | 06.09.10
mab - Mathewson Architektur Berlin | Albrechtstrasse 122 | 12099 Berlin | info@ma-b.net





General issues

The Ambassador's Residence is an impressive 1920's villa, excellently located in one of Berlin's premier neighbourhoods and erected in the "German Landhaus" tradition common to this era of Berlin architecture.

The major renovation works carried out in the early 1990's by the former owner on the one hand assured the preservation of the historic structure. On the other hand, the previous owner pursued a penchant for Pseudo-Classical architecture, for example in the swimming pool and sauna area of the cellar, where a moderately successful attempt was made to create a "Roman Bath" architectural ambience. Today, this architectural approach seems outdated and at best questionable.

This same general approach was followed in the driveway area, where stone pavement was laid to simulate paving patterns reminiscent of Renaissance Rome, such as at Michealangelo's *Piazza del Campidoglio*, but non-related to the strong local architectural traditions in Berlin.

Now, both of these sections of the residence show major structural wear and damages: the pool area suffers from serious leakage into the technical cellar under the pool, and the driveway stone plates are loose and dangerous to cross, especially when visitors unaccustomed to the place arrive for their first visit.

These structural problems necessitate short-term repair works, in order to prevent further damages occurring to adjacent sections, and to create a representational ambience appropriate to the use as the Ambassador's Residence of Malaysia.

Architectural Strategy

Addressing the above mentioned structural deficiencies also offers the opportunity to correct some of the problematic architectural decisions perpetrated by the previous owner.

The new cellar space is conceived as a light-filled, generously open space.

In contrast to the current fake "opulence", a general reduction of architectural elements and a resultant representative enrichment of the space with elegant, high-quality materials is foreseen.

Whereas the ambience of the upper floors of the residence is opulent, polished and formal, a more relaxed, nature-connected feel is proposed for the new cellar spaces. This will be achieved through use of elegant natural materials such as ceramic floor tile plates, and soft textile surfaces.

The new driveway deploys genuine natural-stone cobblestone pavers common to Berlin's streets and plazas and interconnects the property into the larger tradition of Berlin's public spaces.

Planned measures

As costs for repairing the moisture problems in the pool would be prohibitive it has been decided to cover over the pool and enliven the new space as an additional reception space for the ambassador's functions. From here, garden events can be serviced with banquet serving. Additionally, the space offers shelter for garden events in the event of unfavourable weather conditions.

To replace the current wall murals with inappropriate quasi-Roman motives, a new museum-like wall is foreseen along the entire length of the space. This wall offers the opportunity to imbue the space with a subdued, and welcoming, Malaysian quality. For example, typical cloth such as "batik" or other traditional textiles from Malaysia could be mounted on large format frames and displayed inexpensively. The new wall can also be used as a projection surface for showing presentations or media events. The new wall is emphasised as the main architectural element of the design by a continuous strip of lighting at its base and by another strip of cove lighting strip along its top edge. The upper cove lighting strip is mirrored along the entire length of the opposite side of the central space, to ensure ample light in the cellar space and to underscore the dramatic length of the room.

The central space and the adjacent areas all receive new flooring. The preferred alternative – for cost and architectural reasons – is the deployment of large-format ceramic tiles. These meet code requirements for anti-slippage (R9 quality), and imbue the space with an elegant quality that underscores the above mentioned architectural approach. New technology allows use of large-format tiles 30x120 cm / 60 x 120 cm that will create a spacious generous ambience in the new space. To assure a sense of warmth and welcoming friendliness the colour "hellbraun", a warm, light brown colour is proposed for the new tiles. Alternatively, the new flooring can be laid in Travertine stone, but this would generate extra costs and also result in a more historic atmosphere that is not the preferred architectural solution.

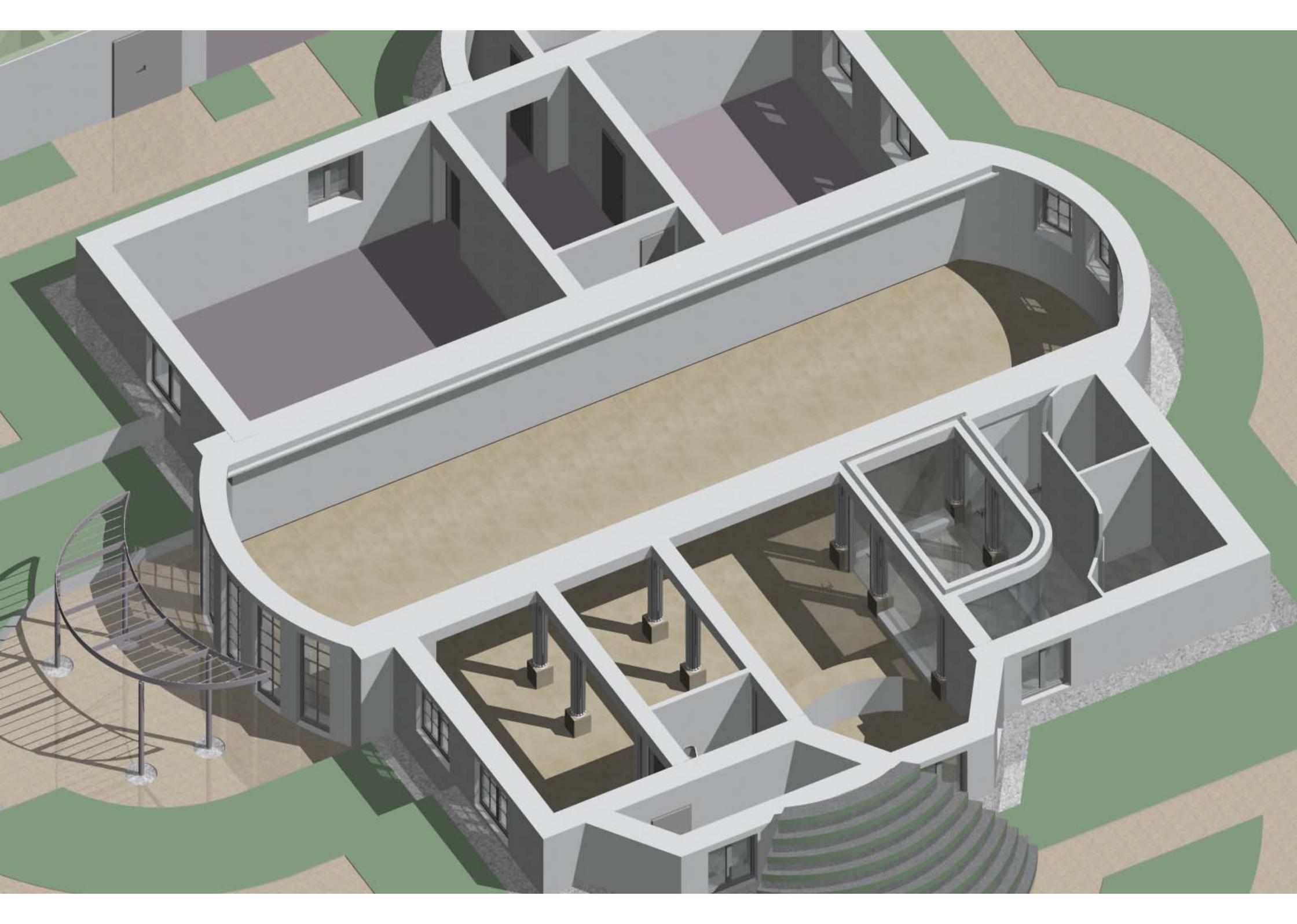
Whereas the current sauna area now flows into the rest of the space, the design foresees closing the sauna section off from the rest of the space with new dry-wall wall elements. A new shower will be provided in this separate section to replace the current shower in the future main event space.

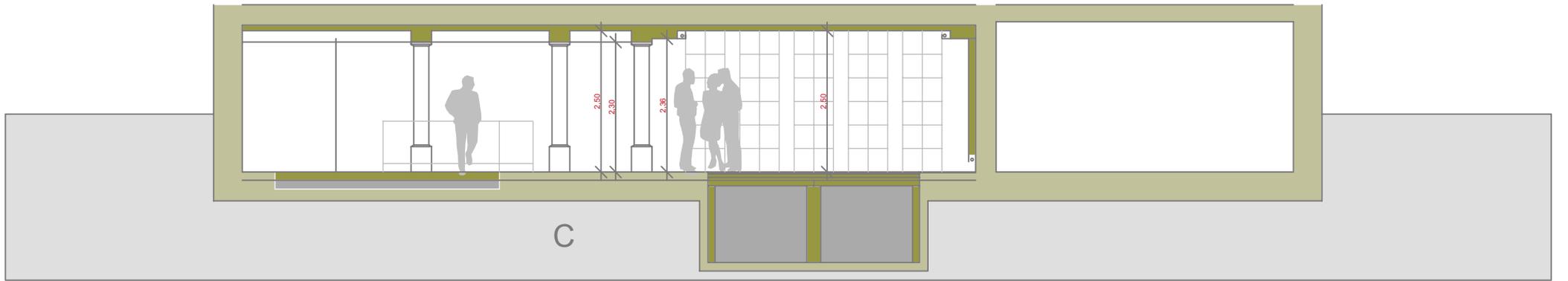
The current shower/whirlpool area will be brought to the same floor height as the rest of the space and outfitted with a serving counter for use at social events. The counter is designed with a curved profile to echo the apsis-like spaces already found in the existing building's architecture.

The wine cellar space will be outfitted with a modern kitchen unit to serve as the back-up space during events in the main space.

A new pergola element has been designed to accentuate the garden entrance to the main cellar space and create a new focus at the transition between indoor and out door spaces. The pergola will be constructed in slender steel elements and painted anthracite grey to blend with the existing grey features in the façade and gardens. The pergola will be covered with climbing plants that will shade the cellar space during summer months.

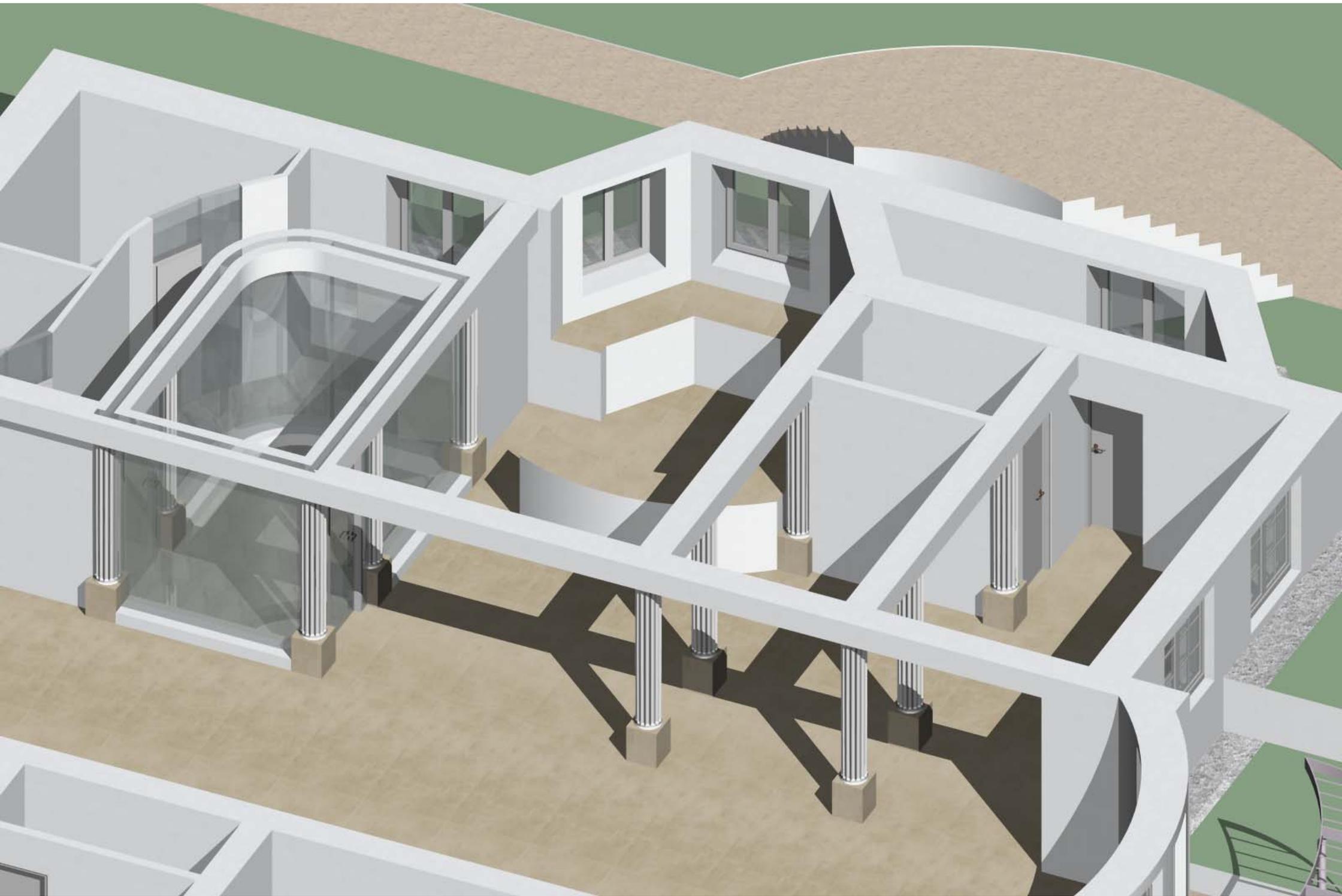
The new driveway is foreseen as a new surface of anthracite grey cobblestone pavement made of natural stone, as is typical of many Berlin public spaces. To accentuate the entrance a crescent-shaped section of the cobblestones will be laid in natural granite cobblestone in a light grey colour. The existing problematic night lighting situation will be alleviated by mounting of sunken lighting fixtures that will illuminate the path for visitors and also be directed onto the residence's facades to highlight the architectural features there during evening hours.

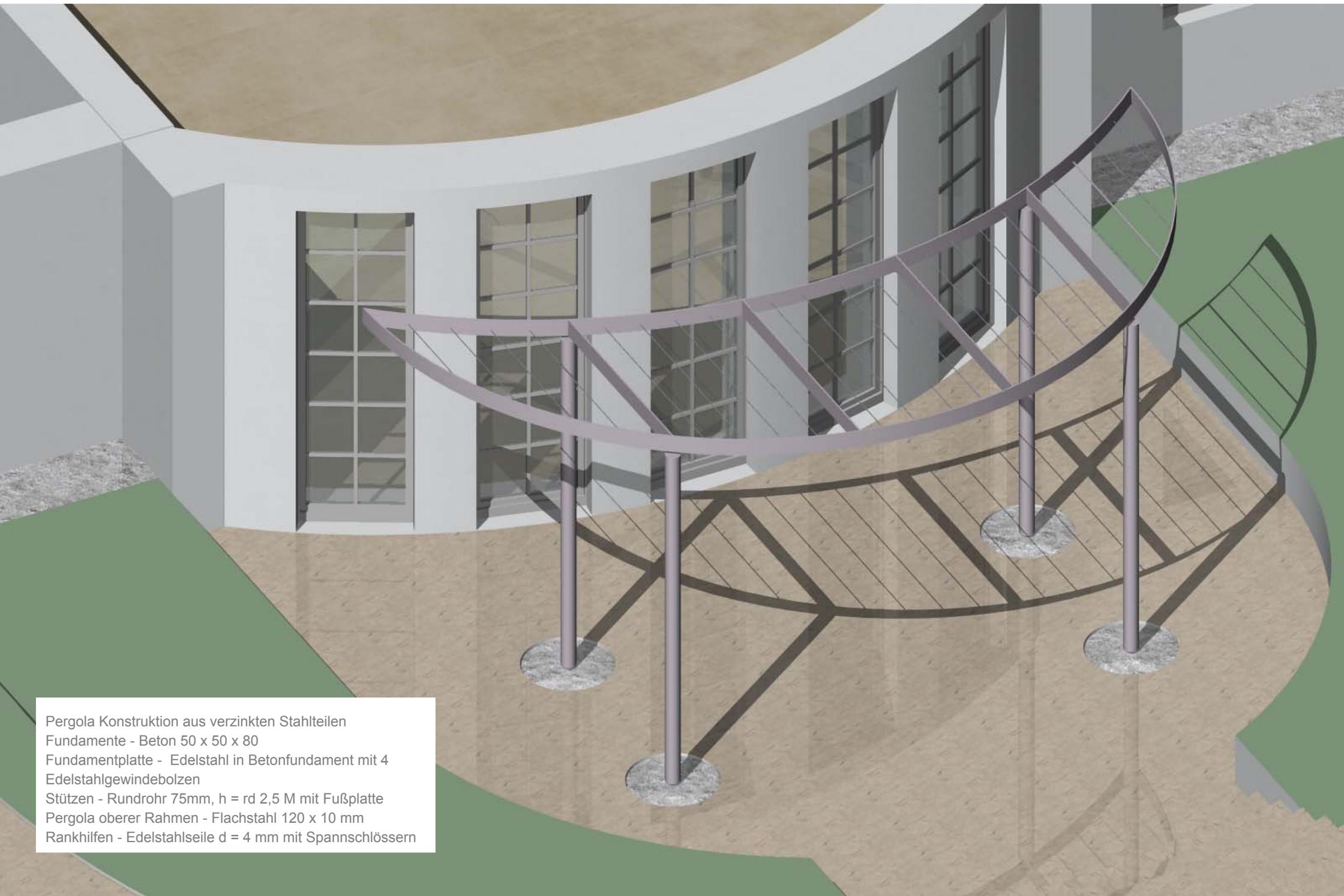




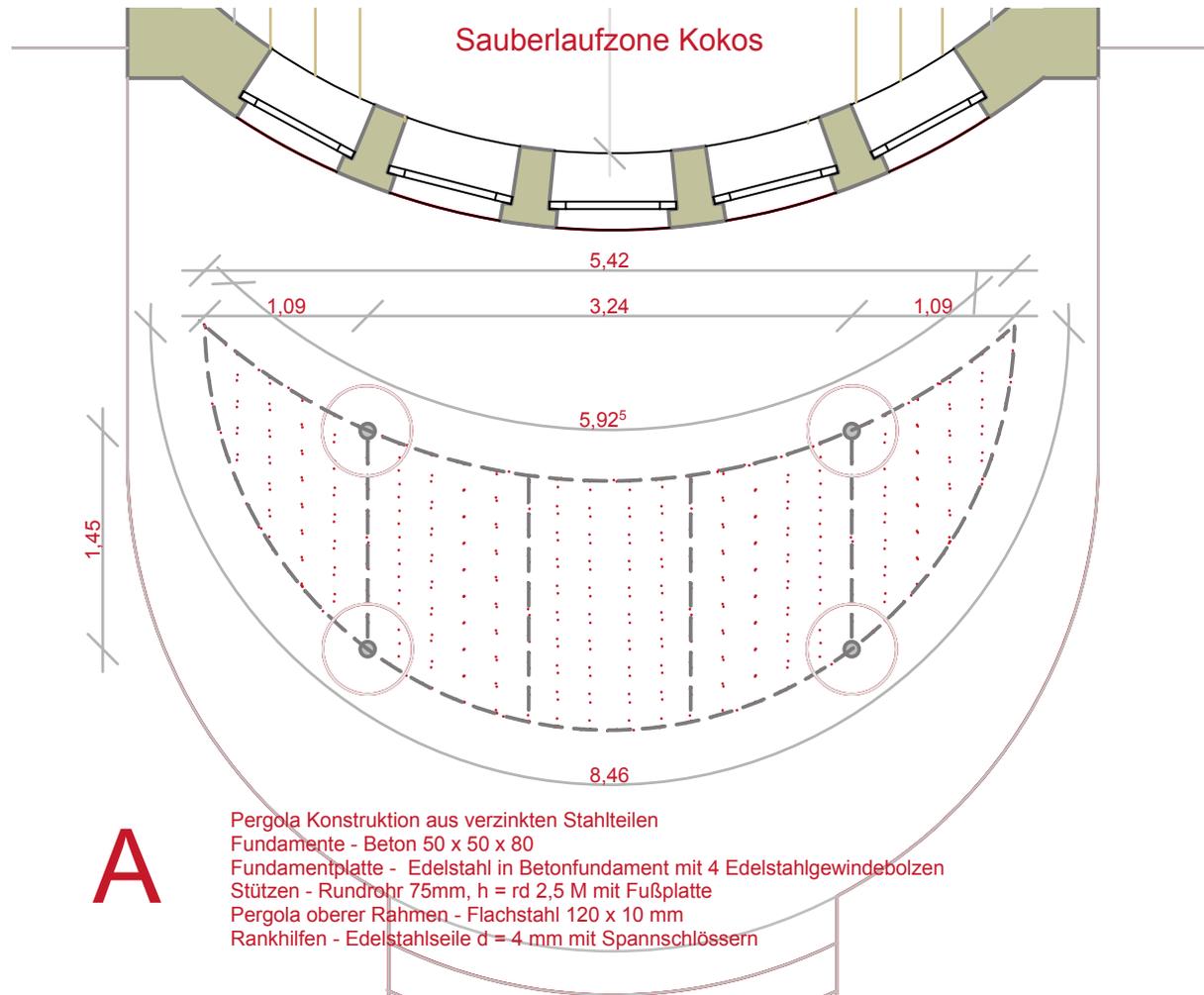


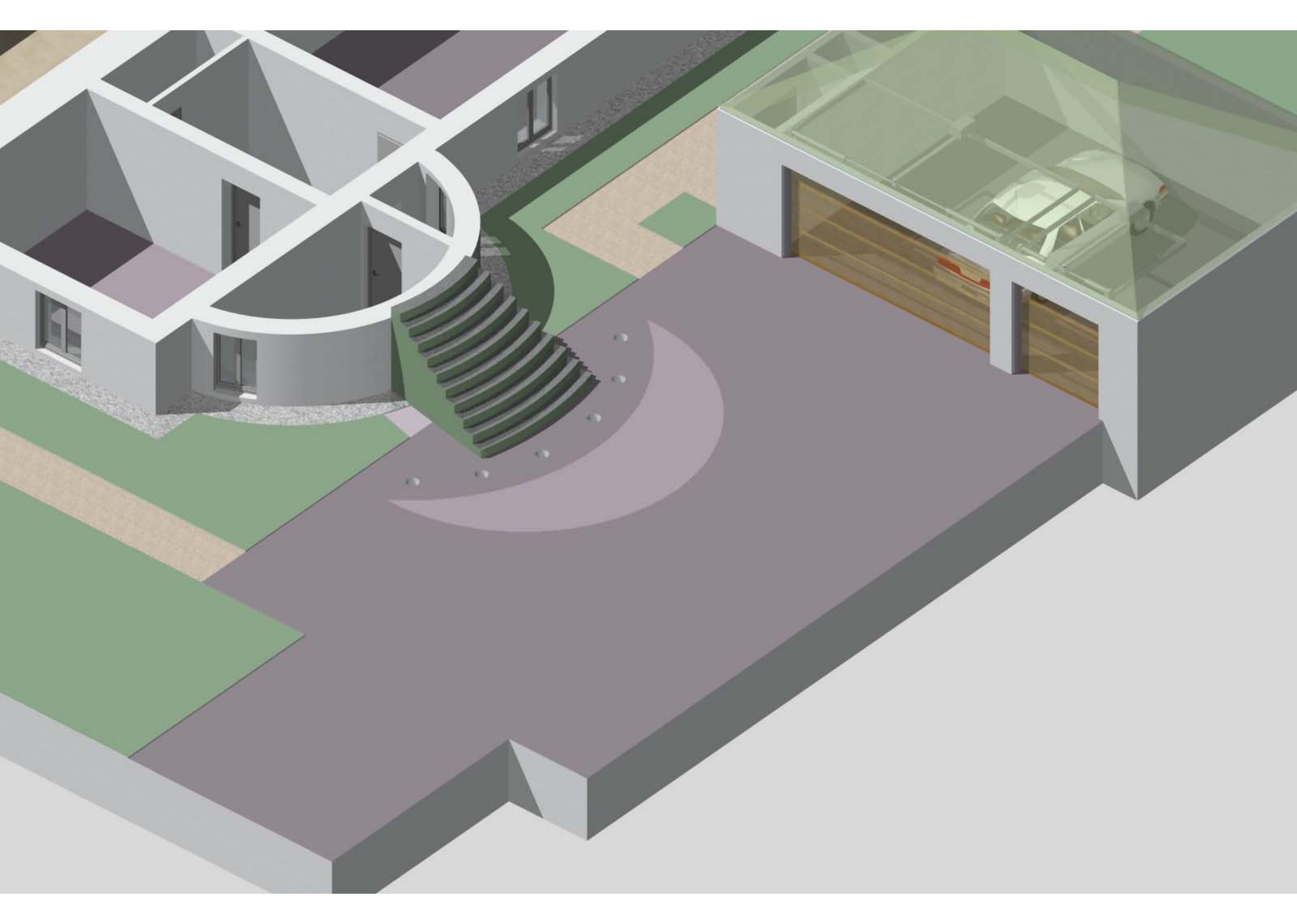


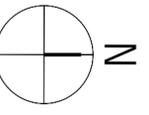




Pergola Konstruktion aus verzinkten Stahlteilen
Fundamente - Beton 50 x 50 x 80
Fundamentplatte - Edelstahl in Betonfundament mit 4
Edelstahlgewindebolzen
Stützen - Rundrohr 75mm, h = rd 2,5 M mit Fußplatte
Pergola oberer Rahmen - Flachstahl 120 x 10 mm
Rankhilfen - Edelstahlseile d = 4 mm mit Spanschlössern







- Wand Bestand
- Abbruch
- Wärmedämmung
- Neubau Mauerwerk
- Neubau Beton

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Alle angegebenen Höhen verstehen sich über OKFFB.
Die ausführenden Firmen und die Bauleitung sind für die Konstruktion der Ausführung und Prüfung sämtlicher Maße verantwortlich.
Bei Abweichung muß der Architekt sofort benachrichtigt werden.
Dieser Plan ist nur in Übereinstimmung mit der Statik, der Ausführungsplanung Haustechnik und Elektro der Fachplaner gültig.
Alle Maße sind am Bau zu prüfen!

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Planinhalt:
Ausführungsplanung
Grundriss Vorfahrt

Datum: 07.10.10	Maßstab: 1:50
Bearbeitung: STÖ	Index:
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