

EXPLANATORY NOTE



1.

THE MAIN CONCEPT

Memory is the architecture of our identity. The main leitmotiv of the project - the emphasis on boundaries of the destroyed historical building, concentrating on functionality and a uniform volumetric expression. The main colour - a natural colour "sienna", which represents the old German brick. It is an element of composition that gives meaning to and sectionally accents the old buildings of Vokieciu str. This principle seeks to control the scalability of the space. Every section marks the gates of "the beginning" or emphasizes the historical transversal streets. Even though it is an accurate marking of the old buildings, architectural means attempt to adjust the space to modern needs, leaving a less formal meaning. This double encoding answers to the professional task and to the public expectations. The zones of active movement are located on one side to avoid the intersecting movement flows. The designed element and zones become a symbol of the past and a divide that ensures a comfortable functional zoning, too.



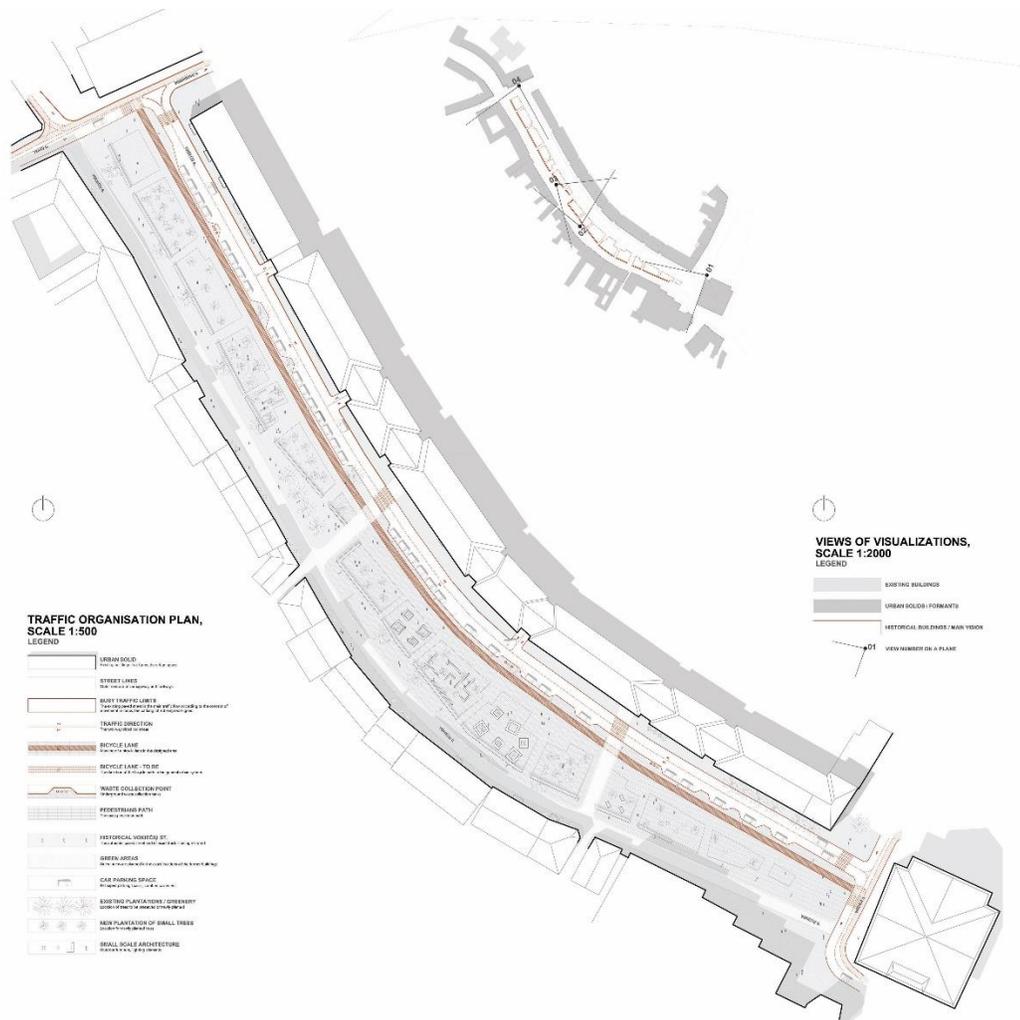
URBAN CONTEXT

Vokiečių str. Is in the very heart of the Old Town of Vilnius near the Vilnius City Hall. The urban context is very rich in history, so the main idea is to find the lost identity of the place. One of the main problems here is the lost spatial parameters, so recreating and emphasizing the historic transversal streets and boundaries of historical building gives the place a unique character that represents both history and lost identity of the place.



THE BRICK WALL AS A LOST IDENTITY

The urban solid, that represents historical boundaries is the main element of the place. It becomes a composite tool to solve the multi-layered problems of the spaces. The external boundary of "the wall" becomes a public space for gatherings or celebrations, and the inside of "the wall" creates individual spaces - their adjustment depends on the area in the territory. At the ends of the street, there are entrances, coffee shops' zones, active and passive leisure areas, and at the center - a memorial to the historical surroundings and to the people who used to live here. The risen elements of the memorial wall mark an undefeated hope of the nation. At the same time, it is the most important area of the square. The space in front of the memorial is meant for gatherings, celebrations, commemorations.



TRAFFIC ORGANISATION PLAN

Currently, Vokieciu str. is perceived as a transitional area and the priority of movement is based on the principle of power. Seeking to optimise the movement of transport in the area, it is divided into two parts - active and passive. The passive movement area is dedicated to pedestrians. Taking into account the recommendations for traffic organisation, the historical, stone-paved part of Vokieciu str. becomes a pedestrian zone - car traffic and parking lots are eliminated.

Meanwhile, the active movement area is located in the newer part of Vokieciu str., leaving two-way car traffic with 3 intended accesses to the yards of residential houses. The traffic is organised according to the old town "loops". The parking lots are transformed, increasing their quantity and changing the parking direction from across to along the street. Intersecting transitional flows are solved by installing a bicycle path in the new part of Vokieciu str. by the transport route, leaving it solely to the residents and service staff. The bicycle path is straight, parallelly located by the car path, but separated from it by a strip of greenery. Separating active movement from pedestrians, two main paths emerge that are connected by transversal connectors, marking the locations of the arches in the former buildings.



NEW ELEMENTS IN HISTORICAL BOUNDARIES TO EMPHASIZE MODERNITY

The whole territory can be seen as one place, where historical boundaries mark the green areas with small scale architecture elements - newly planted short trees, terraces and modular outdoors furniture. It all creates cozy spaces, inviting to stop by. The feeling of privacy is essential to these spaces - it provides more than merely transitional sense to the area. Newly planted trees are decorative, not tall, so that it does not block the main views of the surroundings but creates a personal space feeling.



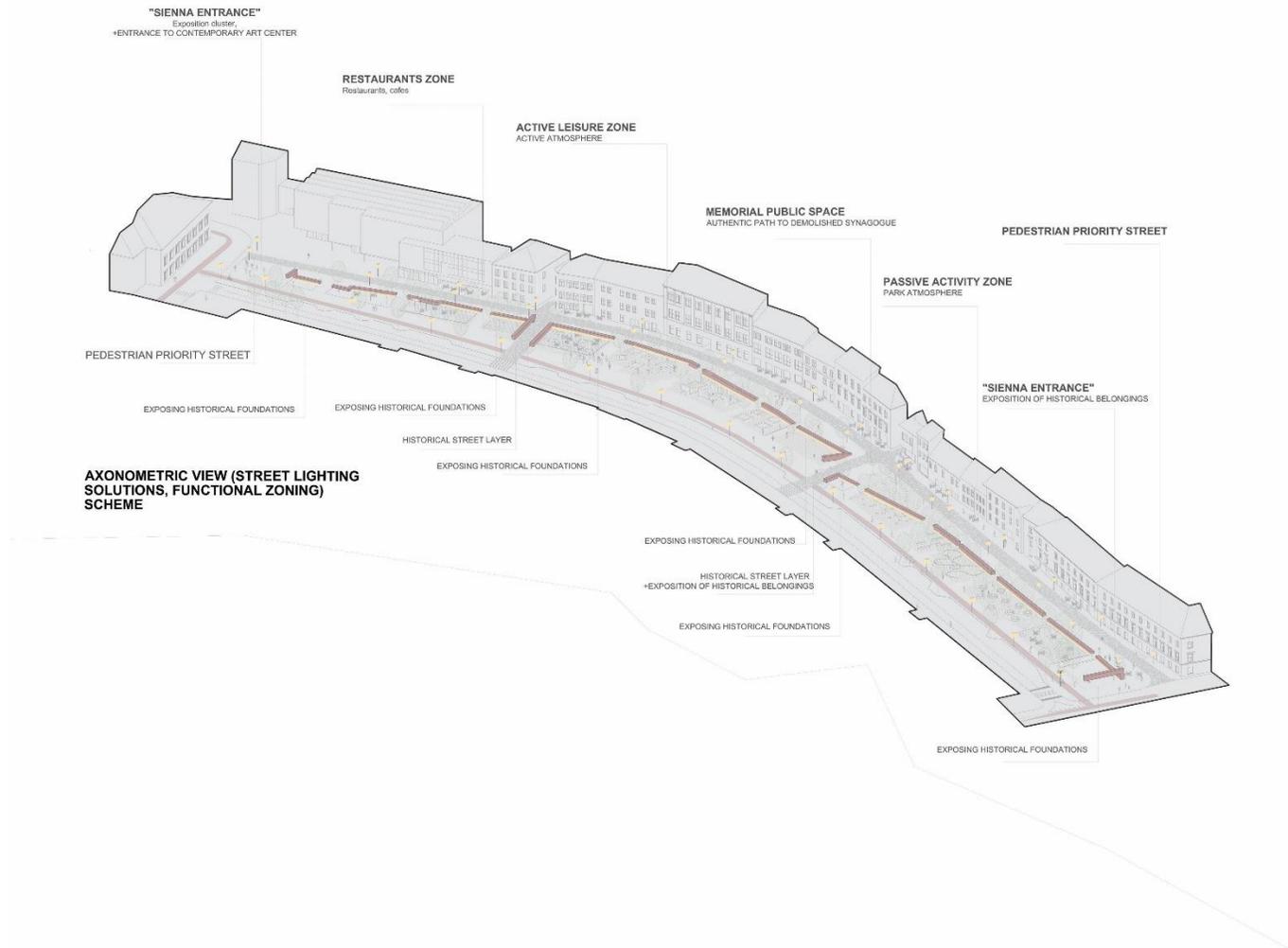
INVITATIONAL LANDMARKS TO THE TERRITORY

In the most representative areas (visualisations 01 and 04), the wall converts into accentuated entrances, the "gates" to the territory. The area by the CAC (ŠMC) is dedicated to experimental spaces, informal gatherings, outdoor coffee shops. The "gates" of Traku-Dominikonu streets are meant to expose the cultural layer, to introduce the visitor with the history. Therefore, these two sections mark the time between the past and the future



TRANSVERSIONAL STREETS AND GREEN AREAS

The sections in the middle are separated considering historical transversional streets, accentuating them with informal volumes. These are the places where you want to stop and look around. At the same time, these are the places seen in perspective, a kind of gate, marking an important historical location



FUNCTIONAL ZONING

In other locations, active and passive zones take place - small islets that can transform into terraces, playgrounds, outdoor coffee shops, etc. These places invite to stop, stay and enjoy the tranquillity while staying in the centre of the old town. For this feeling to be reinforced, the transition zones must be properly addressed.