

INSERT

BUILDING COMPLEX OF JONUŠAS RADVILA PALACE AND IT'S APPROACHES AT VILNIAUS G. 24, VILNIUS



EXPLANATORY TEXT



1. Urban idea

We aim to restore historical character and integrity to Jonušas Radvila Palace. Over 500 years of history of the Radvila family and one of their palaces in Vilnius is long, rich, and complex. Radvila palace was built, renovated, destroyed, and rebuilt many times though never managed to regain its original expression.

We propose to reconstruct Jonušas Radvila Palace as if we were historians, reconstructing pieces of history – bit by bit discovering fragments of time in archives and historical sources and thoroughly cataloguing them.

Our catalogue of the New Radvila Palace contains existing, already reconstructed wings, restoring the historical appearance of existing wing next to central pavilion, preserving and repurposing structures from various epochs, reconstruction of missing volumes, and exhibition of archeological remains that span through entire lifetime of the complex.

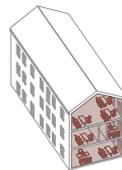
A historical time travel!



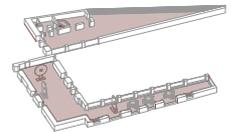
1 CENTRAL PAVILION
Construction of main entrance lobby at the former location of central pavilion



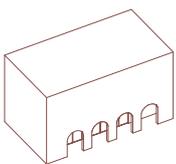
4 COLONNADE
Construction of colonnade at a location of former brick wall with two gates



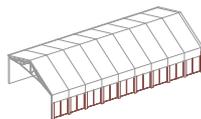
7 STAFF OFFICES
Repurposing of First building into house staff offices



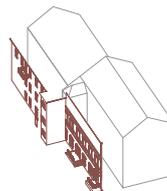
10 COURTYARDS
Inner courtyards for exhibitions and events. Two courtyards will have distinct character - one for Art centre and one for Design



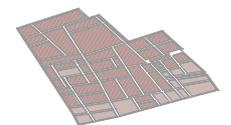
2 MISSING EASTERN WING
Construction of missing eastern wing to house exhibit loading area on ground floor and exhibition spaces on upper levels



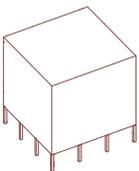
5 MAIN EXHIBITION HALL
Repurposing of sports hall into main exhibition hall



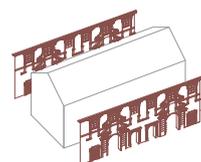
8 SOUTHERN WING
Possible integration of Southern (Liejyklos street) wing into museum complex



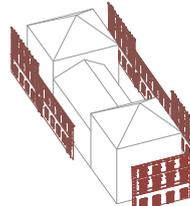
11 ARCHAEOLOGY GARDEN
Plaza with integrated archeological remains, greenery, seating and event areas, contrasting pavements



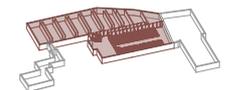
3 SOUTHERN PAVILION
Construction of abstract volume at a location of Southern pavilion to provide shelter for Archaeology garden and house exhibition spaces



6 RESTORATION OF EASTERN WING
Original appearance of eastern wing - demolition of new addition and restoration of facade with arches



9 EXISTING MUSEUM
Integration of existing museum and Northern wing, Northern pavilion and Western pavilion into museum complex



12 BASEMENT
Construction of basement for art storage (under main exhibition hall) and 500-seat art centre (under missing eastern wing)



2. Architectural idea

The coherence between the surviving and reconstructed wings and the new volumes proposed at locations of demolished fragments of the complex is the main architectural idea of our proposal.

The new volumes, in the absence of reliable historical data on their former architectural appearance, are proposed abstract, archetypal, and minimalist. They are contextual with existing volumes in their scale, materiality, and color, but distinguished by simplicity and monumentality.

The terracotta roofs and pavement of the archeological garden contrasts with the humble and monochrome facades in a warm, brown brick color and abundant greenery.

3. Description of the proposed solutions for the competition area

3.1. Functional layout

The public spaces of the complex consist of approaches (public area along Vilniaus Street) and a semi-enclosed courtyard, a colonnade will be installed on the site of the former wall to separate museum space from entirely public approaches. The courtyard is divided into the Archaeology Garden and the Sculpture Park. The boundary between these two zones leads towards the main entrance.

In the inner, closed part of the complex, between the volumes of existing and reconstructed buildings, inner courtyards are installed for outdoor expositions, events and recreation of museum visitors.

3.2. Transport solutions

According to the competition rules, parking spaces are not provided in the territory of the museum complex. Access to service vehicles is solved by access from Vilniaus Street, providing a maneuvering space for 16 m long trucks.

Landscaping design ensures movement of service and special vehicles. The rest of the area is dedicated to pedestrian and bicycle traffic.

3.3. Hard landscaping concept

Both in the main area of the museum complex and at its approaches, we propose integral hard landscaping concept consisting of two contrasting elements. Fragments of the authentic masonry preserved in the Archeology Garden and newly formed brown terracotta pavement with patches of greenery form a rich and varied mosaic, reflecting the history of the area: the thriving Radvilas Garden, the basements of the southern pavilion and the remains of 19th century Vilnius.

In the northern part of the territory, in the Sculpture Park, the pavements are solved as a continuous light coloured granite surface. Neutral in its color solution and expression, creating a backdrop for the contrasting Archeology Garden, the surrounding building facades and the exposition of sculptures.

3.4. Greenery concept

The aim is to preserve the existing greenery, old and valuable trees to the maximum. All the trees that belong to the territory of the Archeology Garden are preserved, they are proposed to be managed, pruned and shaped. Shrubs and islands of lush greenery are formed next to the existing trees.

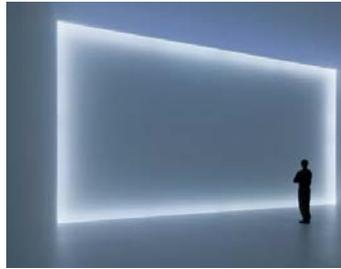
In the rest of the area, the existing trees are removed, leaving a clean square space.



Hard landscaping references



Greenery references



Lighting references

3.5. Lighting solutions

In the main area of the complex we propose to implement contemporary, non-standard lighting solutions. Lighting is integrated into greenery, architectural elements. Instead of decorative facade lighting, the monumental facade planes of the new buildings are proposed to be used for interactive visual art projection installations.

At the approaches to the complex, lighting is addressed by conventional means, by installing lighting supports on the streets and ensuring the appropriate level of illumination.

3.6. Small-scale architectural solutions

It is proposed to install only the most necessary elements of small-scale architecture in order to avoid visual clutter as much as possible and to maintain a clean space in the museum complex. Benches, seating and resting areas are integrated into the architectural elements of the Archeology Garden, billboards and other signage devices are avoided, but it is proposed to preserve the bicycle rental point as an element of sustainable urban mobility.

Only the essential principles of the installation of small architecture are presented above. The solutions are detailed in the later stages of the project.

3.7. Essential sustainable solutions

BREEAM, LEED or another standard for sustainable construction and design will be proposed. More detailed sustainability solutions are developed by forming the task and priorities of the selected sustainable construction standard. The main principles and goals are reduced energy consumption, air and water pollution and conservation of non-renewable resources, as well as maintenance of the local landscape, protection of natural habitats and species.

3.8. Universal design principles

The whole territory of the designed complex and accesses are adapted to all groups of users. In the later stages of the project, the requirements of the ISO 21542: 2011 standard are followed in the development of specific and detailed solutions for compliance with the principles of universal design.

3.9. Site development phasing

It is proposed to implement the Museum complex project in one stage, but there is a possibility in separate stages:

1. Sculpture park and main entrance
2. Archaeology Garden
3. Museum complex approaches



4. Description of the solutions of the designed complex

4.1. Functional layout of the building complex

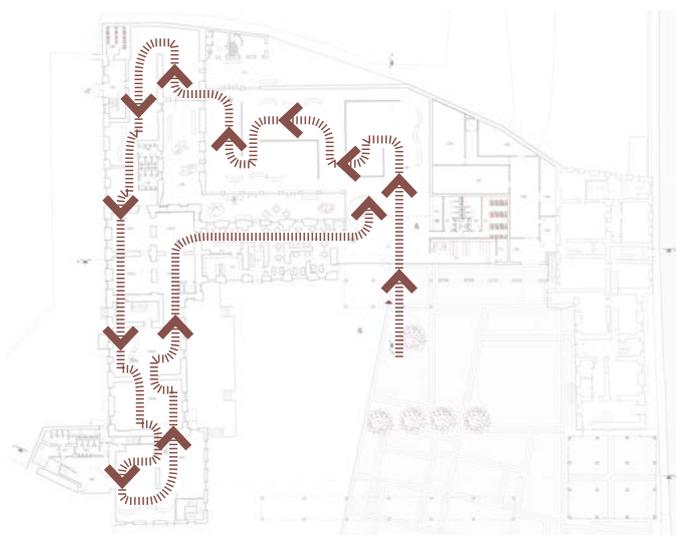
The complex is planned in a U-shape, located around a semi-enclosed courtyard. The main entrance is planned on the site of the former central pavilion through a spacious arrival lobby connecting all functional areas. Direct access from the hall to the exhibition spaces on the ground and upper floors, 500-seat art centre conference hall in the basement of the building, a café, a bookshop and a cloakroom / toilet area.

The service access is organized through the unloading / loading ramp of the exhibits, which is installed between the central pavilion and the southern (Liejyklos Street) wing. Access to the service has a direct connection on one level with the large exhibition space and a freight elevator to art storage in the basement. For the convenience of the museum service, there is also a connection with underground corridors and an elevator between the storerooms and other museum wings.

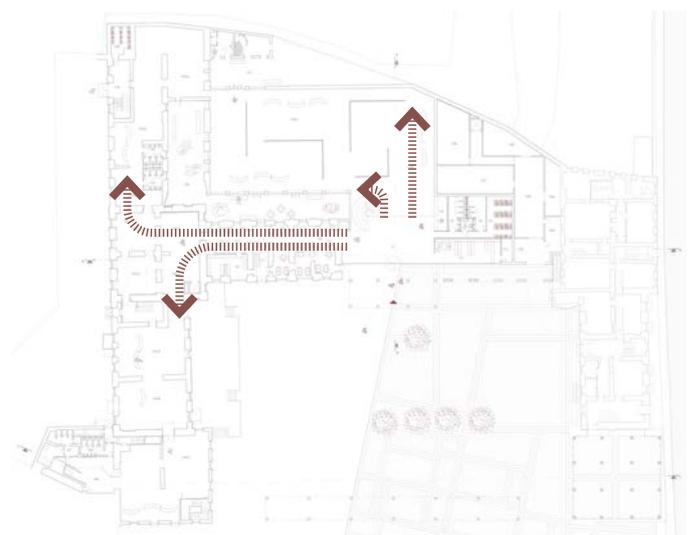
The planning of the exhibition spaces is flexible and allows to organize several autonomous exhibitions at the same time, or to combine them into a single, complex museum experience.

In our proposed functional diagram, the possibility of integrating the southern (Liejyklos Street) wing into the complex was taken into account, so that the entire Radvilų Palace complex could function not only visually, but also functionally as a single unit.

Administrative premises are planned on the 1st and 2nd floors of the north-eastern building, with a separate entrance from the outside, but at the same time with direct access to the exhibition spaces.



Single exhibition space option



Multiple independent exhibition spaces option

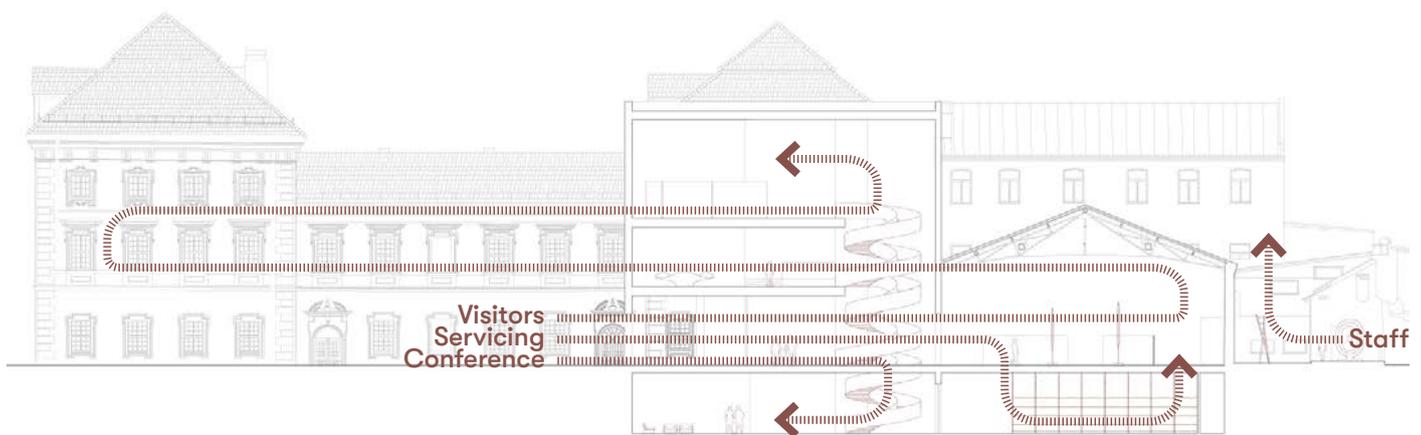
4.2. Movement and flows

There are four main types of flows inside and around museum complex:

1. Museum visitors
2. Art center (conference hall) visitors
3. Service (movement of exhibits)
4. Administration

Museum visitors are treated as the essential and main flow of building users, other flows are distributed in a way that minimally intersects with the flow of museum visitors. Traffic flows from the conference hall in the main hall are directed to the basement of the building.

A separate entrance is formed for the servicing of the museum, connected to the large exhibition hall. Corridors and storage facilities in the underground part of the building, physically separated from the visitors' premises but connected to the upper floors, are used to distribute the exhibits around the complex. The paths of the service flows can also be used in the museum for repairs, changes of expositions and similar works, thus leaving the museum able to function during the works.



Principle flows diagram

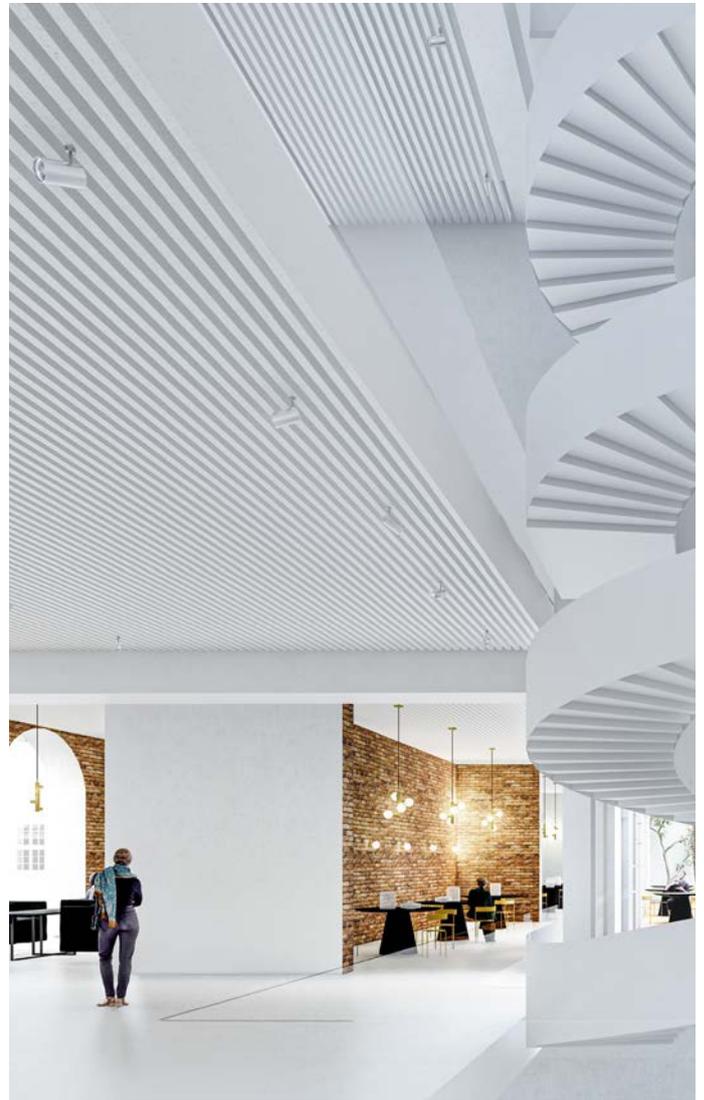
4.3. Materials

The palette of interior and exterior decoration materials of the Jonušas Radvila Palace complex is moderate and minimalist. The aim is for a complex consisting of fragments that were built, reconstructed or restored through different periods to acquire a coherent and cohesive whole. The facades of the historic buildings retain plaster painted in a monochrome palette, in contrast to the roofs of natural terracotta tiles. For the facades of the new volumes, a finish of terrazzo panels of a similar shade is offered, gently distinguishing between the old and the new construction.

A moderate and bright palette of finishing materials is repeated in the interior. For the floor decoration, it is proposed to extend the light terrazzo finishes installed in the restored northern building, the walls and ceilings in the common areas are white surfaces of various textures. The principle of contrast between the light neutral colour scheme and the accent warm ceramic surfaces is also applied in the interiors. The wall decoration is animated by fragments of the exhibited historical masonry. In exhibition halls, the decoration of walls and ceilings can be adapted to a specific exhibition concept needs.



Exterior material palette



Interior material palette

4.4. Sustainable solutions

BREEAM, LEED or another standard for sustainable construction and design will be proposed. More detailed sustainability solutions are developed by forming the task and priorities of the selected sustainable construction standard. The main principles and goals are reduced energy consumption, air and water pollution and conservation of non-renewable resources.

4.5. Structural solutions

In the reconstructed Eastern wing and in the First building housing staff offices, restoration works are planned, preserving the existing heritage structures of load bearing walls and slabs, removing structures of little value. Where applicable previously existed valuable structures are proposed to be rebuilt (such as the ground floor vaulted ceiling).

In newly constructed buildings and buildings without heritage features, new constructions are envisaged in monolithic reinforced concrete as best compatible with the purpose and architectural concept of the designed complex.

4.6. Building services solutions

The aim is to install the most advanced indoor microclimate management systems for Museum complex. Heating, ventilation, cooling and humidity control equipment is planned to be installed in the basements and attics of the building. All engineering systems (including lighting) are planned to be fully automated by installing an advanced automated building management system.

Only the basic principles of installation of engineering systems are presented above. All solutions are developed and detailed in the later stages of the project.

4.7. Fire safety solutions

It is planned to use the existing and newly designed escape stairs for evacuation from the museum building. It is planned to install highly advanced and sensitive fire detection and alarm systems. When designing extinguishing systems, it will be suggested to consider suitable and safe solutions for this type of building (mist-type, gas extinguishing, etc.). During the preparation of the fire safety design, detailed modeling of fire spread scenarios will be planned and the most optimal and safest solutions will be selected.

4.8. Universal design principles

Entire building and the premises that make it up are suitable for all groups of users. In the later stages of the project, the requirements of the ISO 21542: 2011 standard are followed in the development of specific and detailed solutions for compliance with the principles of universal design.

4.9. Construction phases

It is proposed to implement the complex project in one stage, but there is a possibility in separate stages:

1. Reconstruction of the Eastern wing
2. Repurposing of the First building (staff offices)
3. Reconstruction of the former sports hall and installation of art storage under it
4. Construction of a Central pavilion and exhibit loading area with a Art centre in the basement
5. Construction of the Southern pavilion



5. General indicators

Area of the site: 8,028sqm

Intensity of development

- Existing buildings*: 0.70
- New buildings: 0.26
- Total: 0.96

Density of development

- Existing buildings *: 43%
- New buildings: 15%
- Total: 58%

Total area

- Existing buildings *: 6,422sqm
- New buildings: 3,866sqm
- Total: 10,288sqm

Volume

- Existing buildings *: 28,899cbm
- New buildings: 17,861cbm
- Total: 46,760cbm

Number of storeys

- Existing buildings *: 3
- New buildings: 3
- Total: 3

Height:

- Existing buildings *: 23.50m
- New buildings: 17.80m
- Total: 23.50m

* Including Liejyklos street wing and considering demolition of existing buildings.

