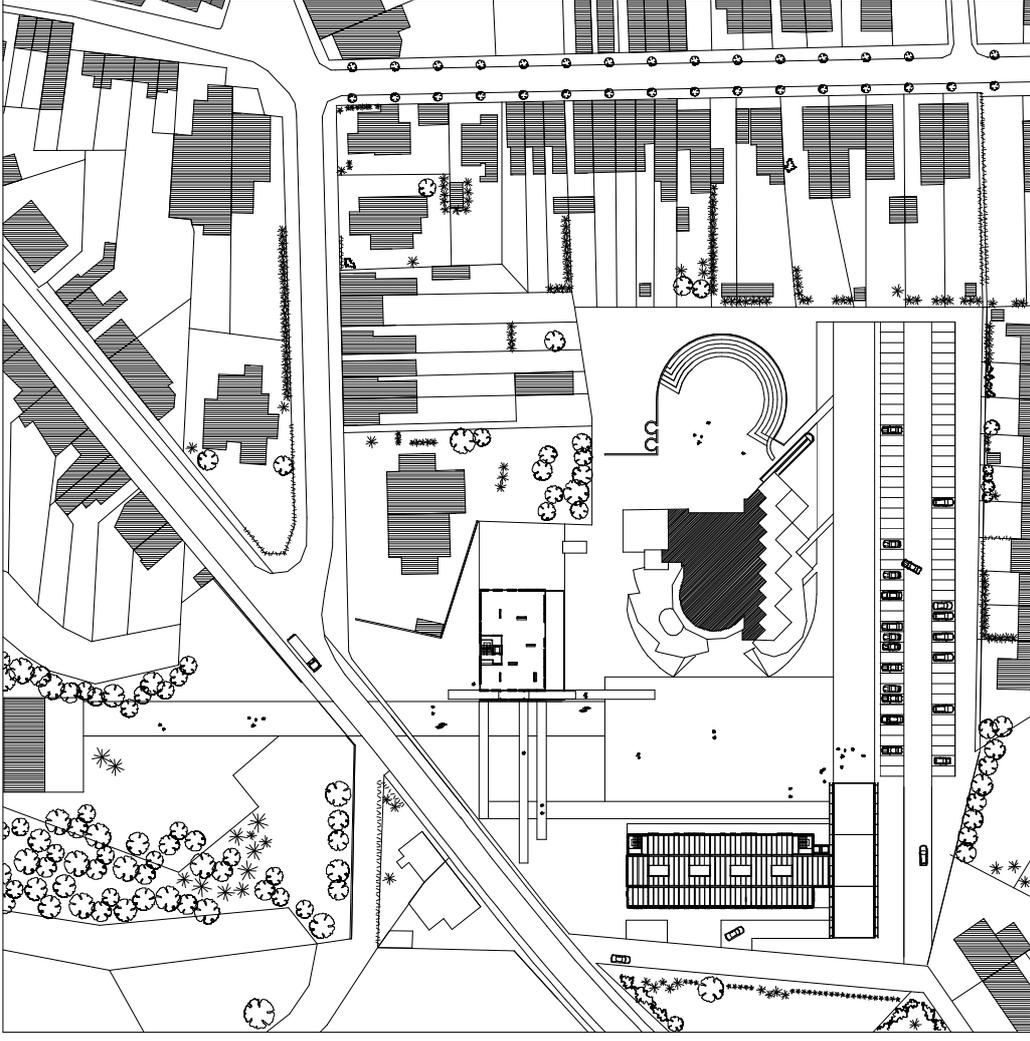




# large projects

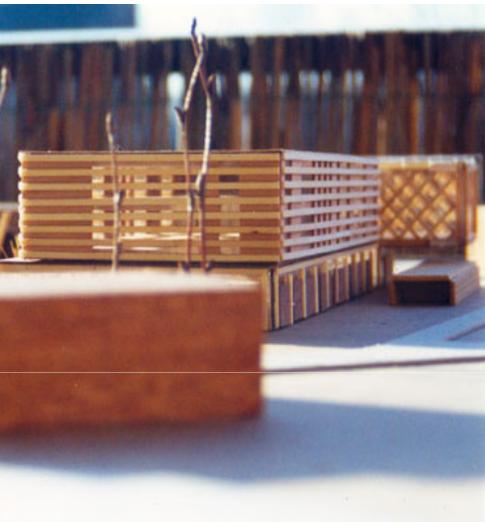
## city hall + library competition krekkel

**architecture:** "het blikveld" is a much talked-about building. despite the fact that it leaves no one untouched, the building itself has no valuable communication partner. its uniqueness consists mainly of the consistent wrapping in a single material: lead. through its softness, the façade literally absorbs impressions; through chemical reaction, it absorbs time. it was a real challenge to find a worthy partner for a building with such a strong identity. the proposed designs aim to create an interesting tension between the three buildings; this was obtained by means of a city hall in timber and a library in concrete. both building materials allow consistent use under a variety of forms. the ensemble of three different single-material buildings creates an interesting tension whilst remaining in peaceful conversation, as if the three buildings complete each other and come to a level of essential evidence.

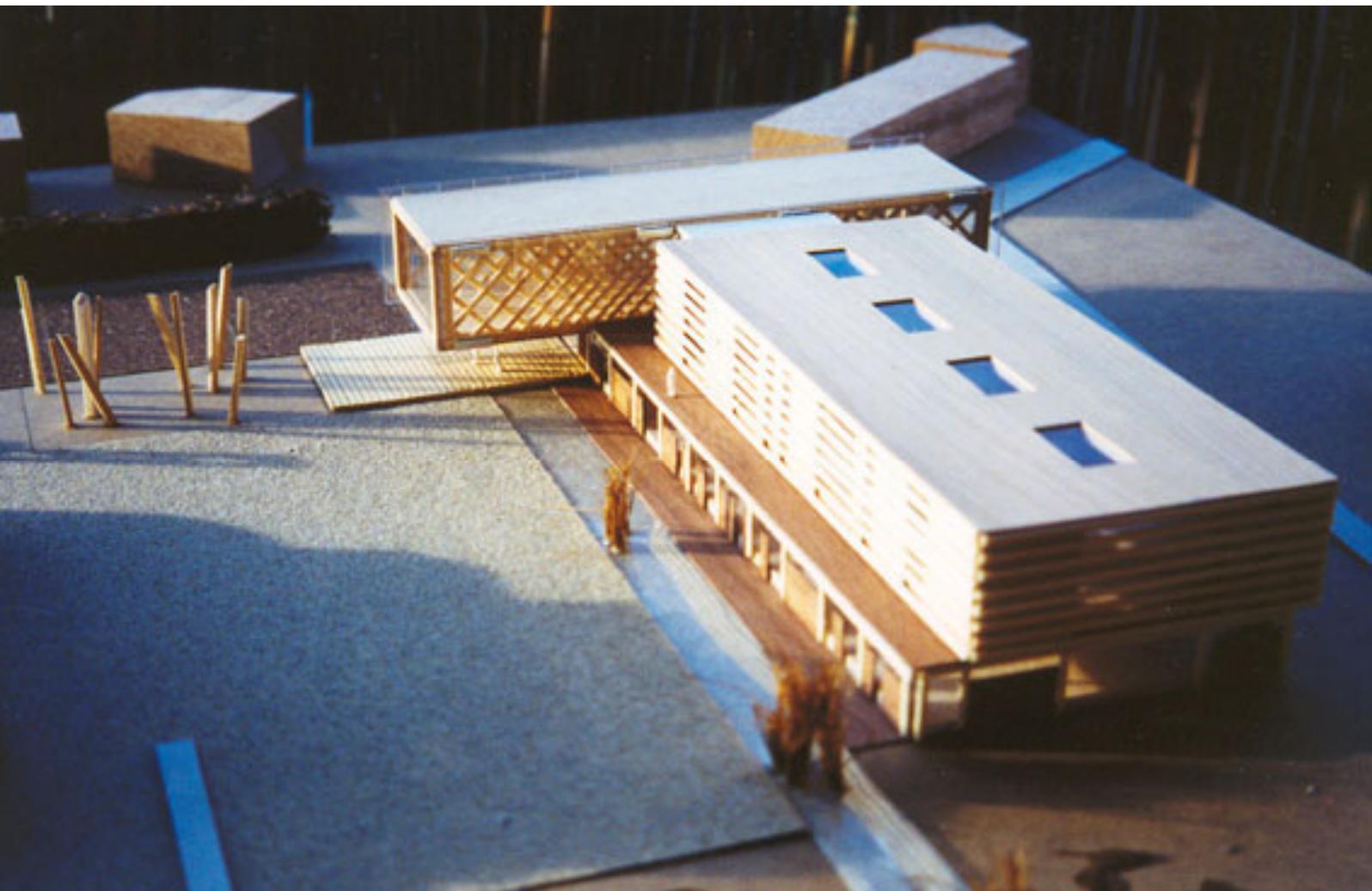




# de krekel



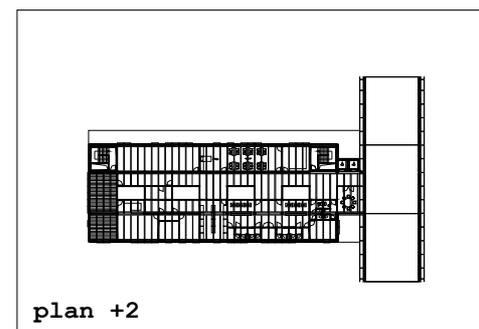
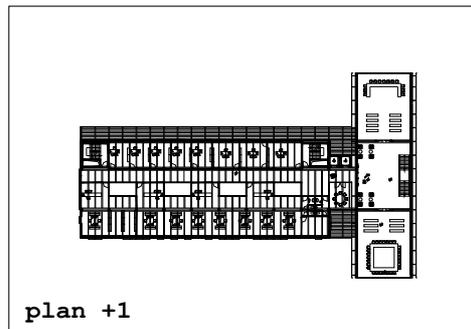
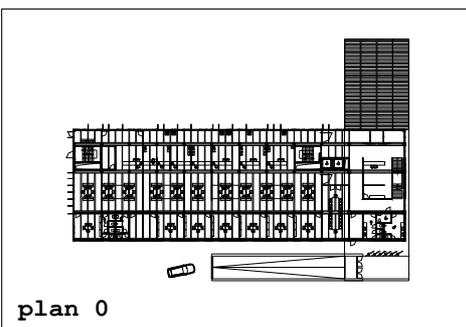
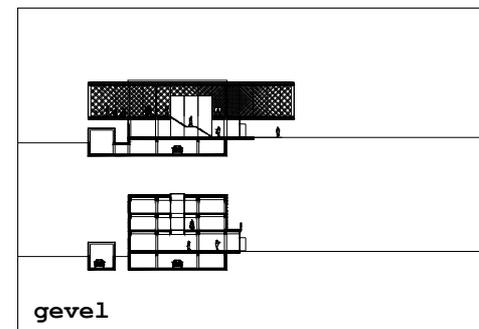
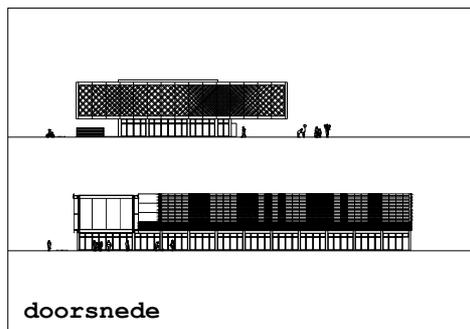
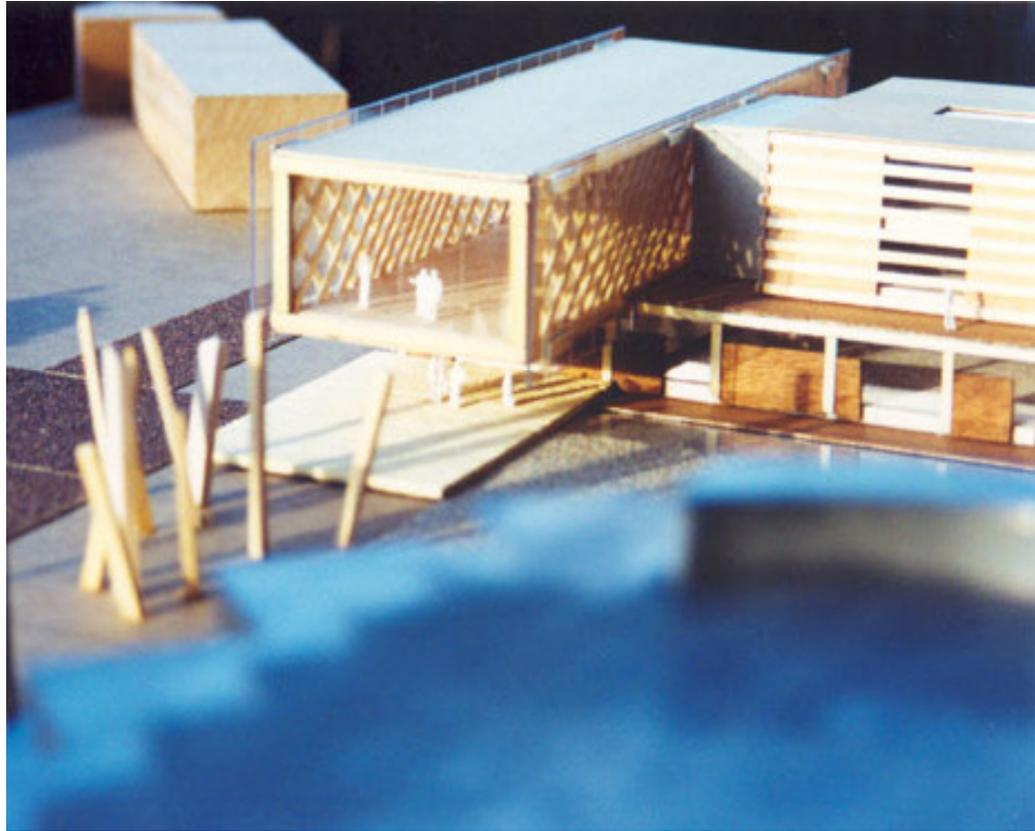
**city hall:** the structure of this construction is completely in timber, in a variety of forms and under different degrees of finishes. in order to create the large span in an economical way, floors and beams are designed in laminated timber. fire safety is obtained through over-dimensioning of the structural elements. the substructure of floors and vertical circulation is in reinforced concrete.





# de krekkel

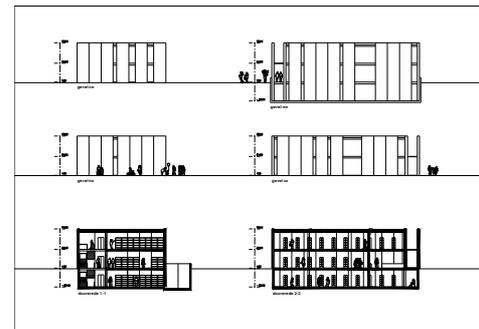
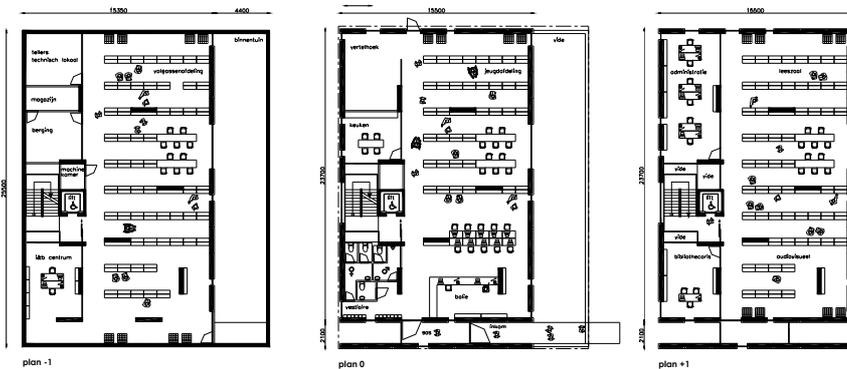
**boardroom:** the volume with meeting room and boardroom is characterised by a 9.6 m span on the short end, and a 12 m cantilever on the long side. the structure is held by a 5m high wall-beam, composed of a network of diagonal beams. the distance between the beams is calculated according to the force they need to withstand: the network is very dense near the columns and lighter towards the cantilevered end. this structural façade is a synthesis of structural and architectural requirements and thus becomes a main feature of this building.



## de krekel



**library:** the building is composed of structural walls and floors of reinforced concrete. the positioning of the walls is a consequence of structural and architectural needs, the façade is a composition of two layers of reinforced concrete with integrated insulation. the use of pre-cast concrete offers several advantages: fire safety, economical and long lasting solution and low maintenance because it can remain untreated.



**project** de krekel  
**function** administratief centrum + bibliotheek  
**with** h. de ruyscher ney & partners erik lockley  
**location** bonheiden belgium  
**year** 2004