

New site proposal

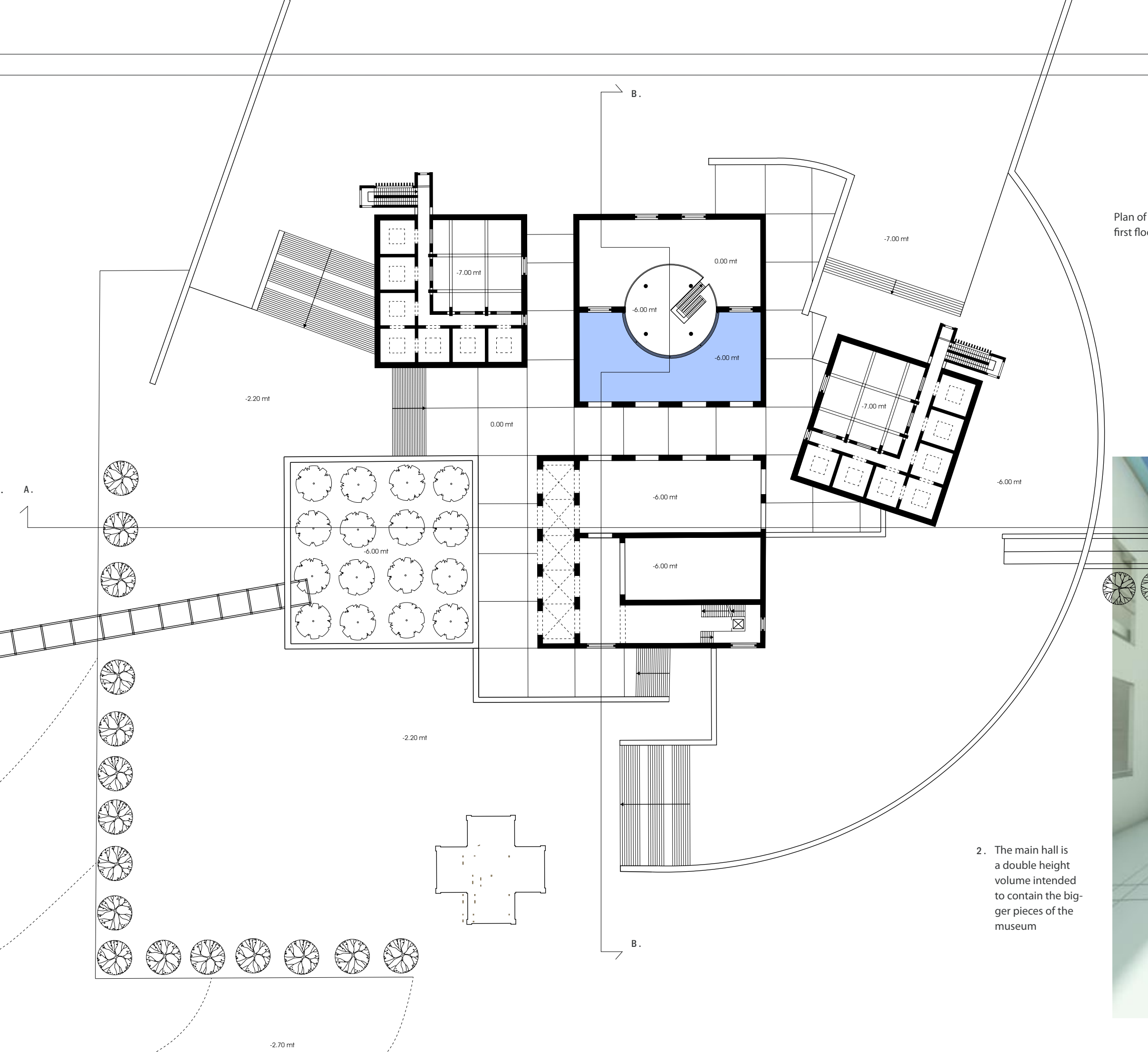
Young Architects exhibition
Palermo, Italy
Jun 2004

I chose to work in an area near the suburb of the city. Here lies the ruins of the supposed ancient summer residence of the Normans, similar to the more famous "La Zisa".

1. The main hall is surrounded by four corridors that lead to the exhibition rooms

The concept
This project was made for an exhibition promoted by the University of Palermo. I chose to work in an area near the suburb of the city. This was close to the ancient psychiatric hospital (now not in use), where lies the ruins of the supposed ancient summer residence of the Normans, similar to the more famous "La Zisa".
Apart from choosing one of the assigned theme areas the exhibition was free, so I decided to work on a proposal for the new site of the Archaeological Museum of Palermo.
Here, the idea is to completely empty the main existing volume leaving the external walls like an evidence of the past and arranging the inside like a sort of open square.
As the main volume is something like a cube I juxtaposed to it another similar volume. Two little cube were placed surrounding the main volume. The two little buildings contain the exhibition rooms.
The connection with the neighbourhood is guaranteed by several ramps and by a raised "promenade" that links to a secondary volume with a secret garden.

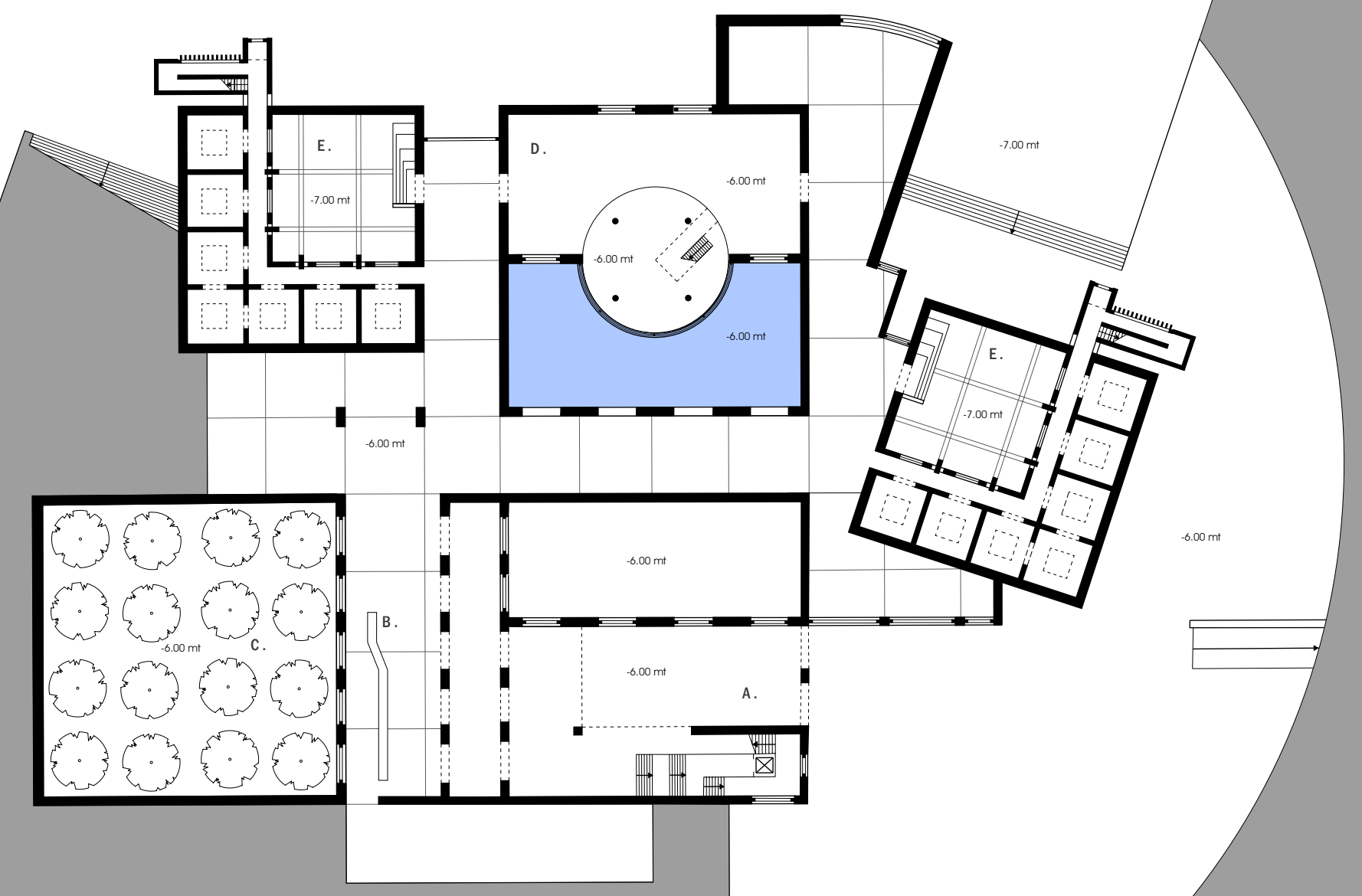
The project
Apart from the general planning, the project focus on the exhibition rooms building.
This building is splitted in two different areas.
The main hall is a double height volume intended to contain the bigger pieces of the museum like some ruins of the ancient greek temple of Selinunte.
This volume is lightened up by a skylight extended to the entire roof and is surrounded by four corridors that lead to the exhibition rooms.
The model was deliberately left in white just to concentrate the attention on geometry and space.



Plan of the first floor

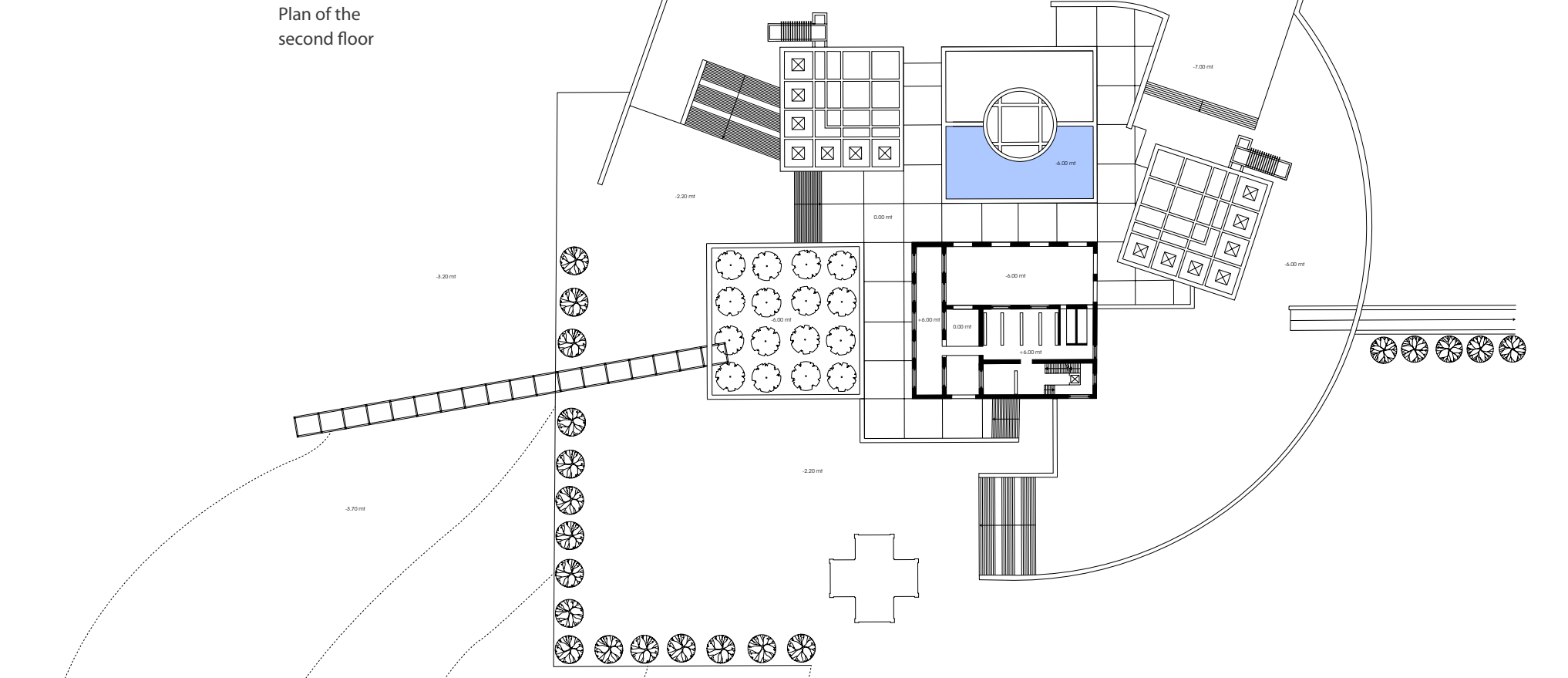


2. The main hall is a double height volume intended to contain the bigger pieces of the museum

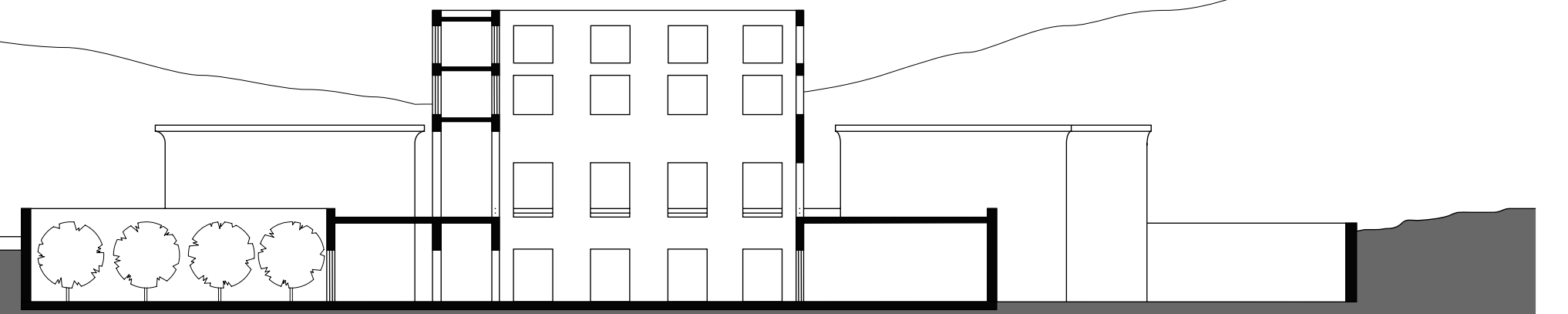


Plan of the basement floor

- A. Entrance hall
- B. Reception
- C. Secret garden
- D. Temporary Exhibitions
- E. Open square

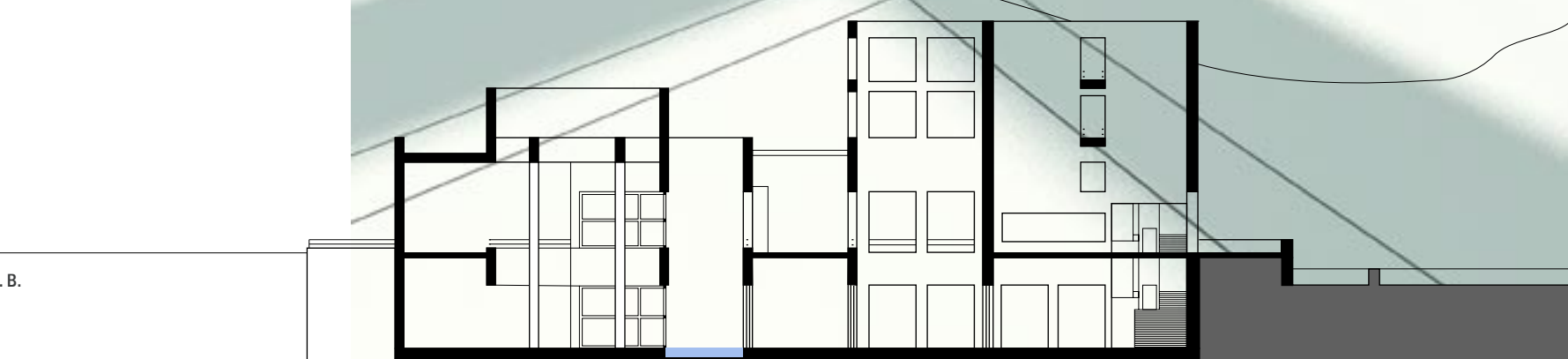


Plan of the second floor



Section A. A.

3. This volume is lightened up by a skylight extended to the entire roof



Section B. B.

