

ASSEMBLY CITY

A QUICK-ASSEMBLE ARCHITECTURE FOR A TIME OF EMERGENCIES

WE LIVE IN A TIME DEFINED BY EMERGENCIES – CLIMATE, HOUSING, AND SOCIAL– AND ARCHITECTURE HAS THE DUTY TO EXPLORE NEW WAYS OF BUILDING AND LIVING BY PROPOSING REVERSIBLE, LIVING SPACES PREPARED TO EMBRACE UNCERTAINTY. ASSEMBLY CITY IS A PROPOSAL FOR A NEW KIND OF CONTEMPORARY URBANITY: A HABITABLE, PREFABRICATED, AND DEMOUNTABLE INFRASTRUCTURE, CAPABLE OF REDUCING EMISSIONS AND ACCELERATING THE URBAN RESPONSE TO THE GROWING NEED FOR HOUSING. THE BUILDING IS AN EXTENSION OF THE LANDSCAPE AND CONNECTS TO THE SITE'S GREEN AND WATER SYSTEMS. IT BECOMES A NEW SYMBOL FOR THE CITY OF AMERSFOORT: A

SYMBOL NOT SHAPED BY FORM, BUT BY EMPATHY TOWARD THE ENVIRONMENT AND ITS INHABITANTS,

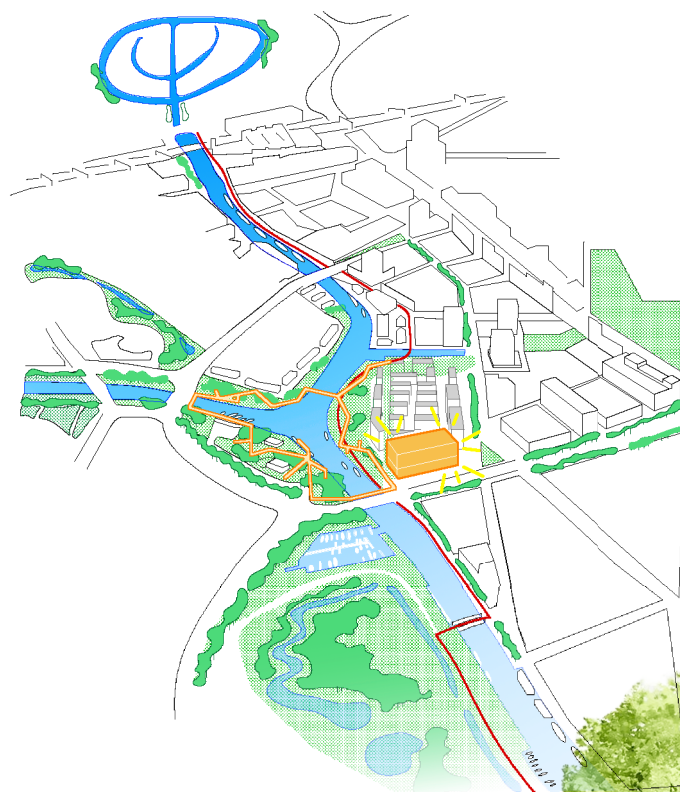
ASSEMBLY CITY IS ALSO A CITY OF ASSEMBLY: A HORIZONTAL WAY OF LIVING, WITHOUT HIERARCHIES, WHERE HOUSING, SPORTS, AND NATURE COEXIST AS PARTS OF THE SAME ECOSYSTEM. THE COLLECTIVE SPACES AND 150 DWELLINGS ARE UNDERSTOOD AS PLACES FOR CARE, ACTIVITY, AND ENCOUNTER – SPACES TO LIVE AND TO WORK. IT IS NOT A CLOSED BUILDING, BUT AN OPEN INFRASTRUCTURE: A FLEXIBLE FRAMEWORK FOR FAIRER AND SHARED WAYS OF LIFE, PREPARED TO FACE THE CHALLENGES OF THE FUTURE.

Amersfoort grows around water, landscape and infrastructure. At the northern edge of the Isselt district, Koppelbrug marks a threshold –where the city meets nature, and the rhythm of urban life begins to shift.

Assembly City anchors this point of transition with a new kind of urban form: not a closed object, but an open system. Rooted in the regional green-blue network, the project extends the ecological corridor along the Eem, connecting the city to its landscape.

Next to the iconic drawbridge, it becomes a new gate to Amersfoort –a civic presence that hosts housing, sport and community life. Its unified form emerges from the logic of prefabrication: fast, light, reversible and low-impact.

This is not an architecture of permanence, but of care and adaptability. A structure prepared for change –and a soft icon for a city that looks forward.



A gentle icon for Amersfoort, open to life, sport and shared care. With the aesthetics of prefabrication, and rooted in water and greenery, the building becomes part of the Eem's landscape.



The ground floor is more than structure – it's a public sports plaza. It opens to the park and welcomes everyday movement and collective activity.

The ground floor is a civic base. A 28×48 m column-free court becomes a central hub for indoor sport, surrounded by changing rooms, flexible rooms, and an open porch connected to the park.

This level is a hybrid: part plaza, part park, part building. It hosts collective activity, supports daily movement, and enables encounters across generations. Open yet sheltered, it becomes a place for play, care and community.

Along the canal, a sports ribbon unfolds: paths, play areas, water activities, and outdoor fitness zones stretch through the neighbourhood. The building's base acts as its engine –connecting and energising public life. Sport becomes landscape. Architecture becomes infrastructure for an active, inclusive and healthy urban ecology.

A NEW URBAN SYMBOL

A clear and unified form marks the northern gate of Amersfoort – recognisable, symbolic, and scaled to the city edge. Not born from form but from care, coexistence and resilience.

LIVING WITH NATURE

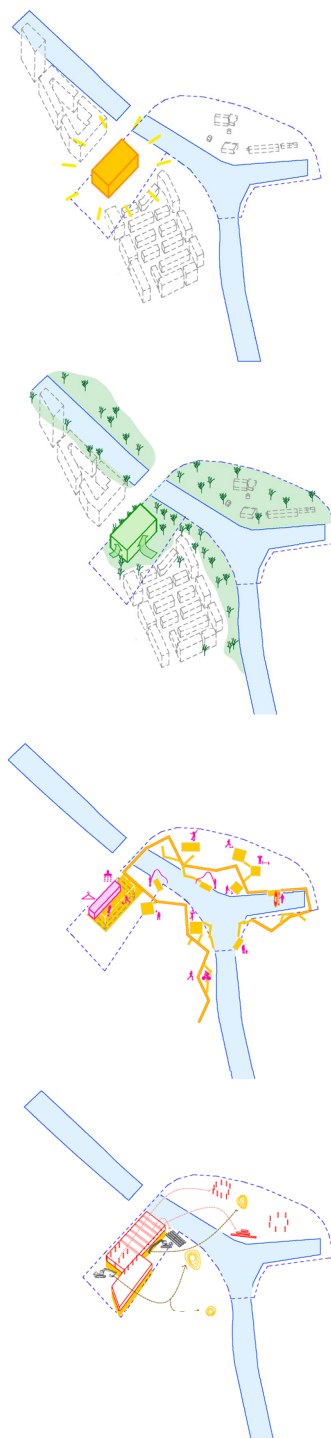
The building blends into the park, where nature climbs façades, enters patios and covers roofs. It becomes part of the ecosystem – a habitat for people and other species.

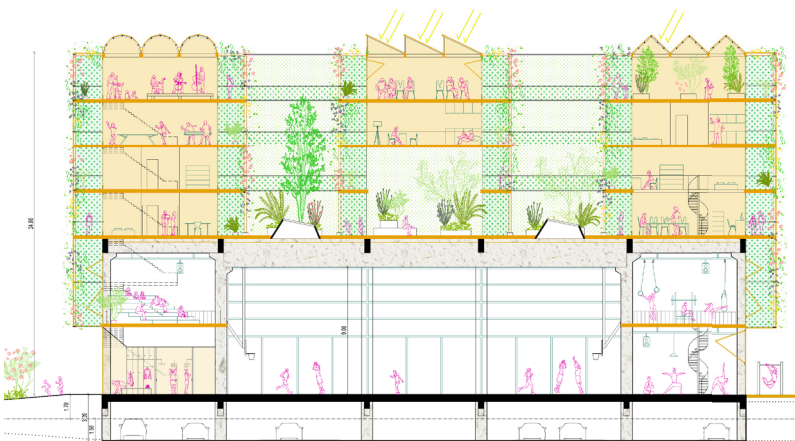
SPORTS BOULEVARD

Sport stretches along the canal like a ribbon becoming a public infrastructure for health and movement. The ground floor is a civic porch with changing rooms

DEMOLITION WITHOUT WASTE

The existing industrial hall is dismantled, not erased. Its structural elements are reused to build elements on the new park, while the soil from the parking excavation shapes new topographies.





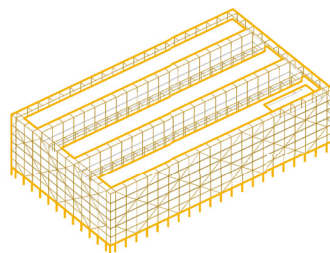
Assembly City is a response to a time of emergencies — climate, housing, care. Rather than a finished object, it is a system: prefabricated, demountable, fast to build and ready to adapt. It hosts 150 dwellings, but also much more: it is a public square, a park, a sports facility, a neighbourhood hub.

The structure is clear and open: parking underground, sport and community at ground level, housing above, and nature throughout. This logic enables reversibility, diversity, and an architecture that supports transformation.

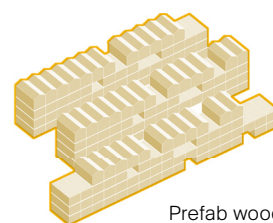
Like a forest canopy, the building shades and shelters life. It stands lightly over the landscape, not to dominate it, but to belong to it. A civic gesture for a collective future.

Assembly City is not built —it is assembled. Dry systems allow fast and low-carbon construction. Prefabricated concrete beams and columns form the civic base, using recycled aggregates from the demolition on site. Above, CLT units are stacked to form the housing levels.

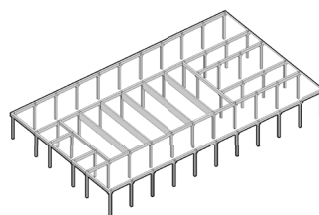
All elements are designed for reversibility and reuse: the project does not erase, but builds upon. Excavated soil becomes topography; dismantled materials become park furniture. The structure is not a limit, but a support for change.



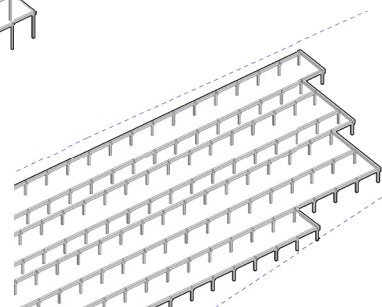
Soft wood exterior
façade



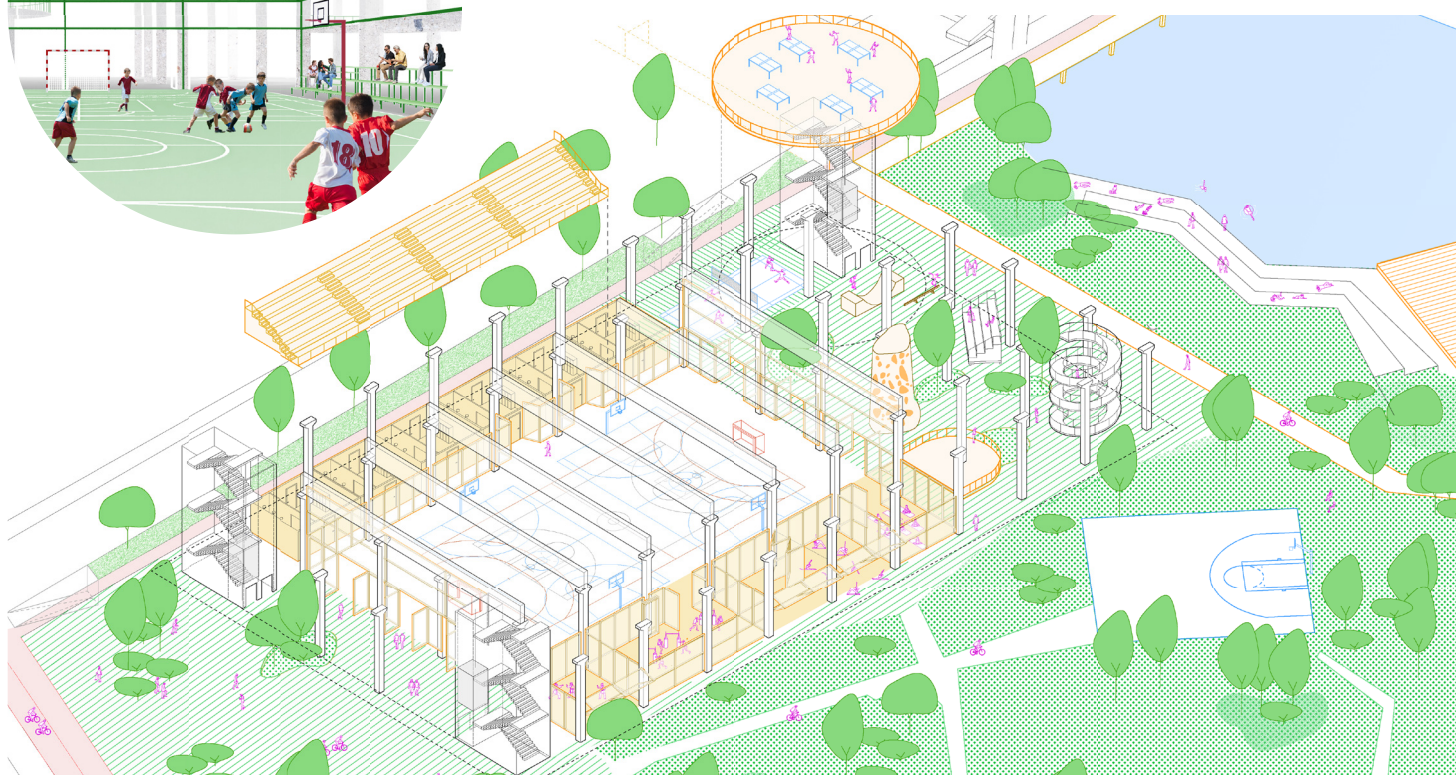
Prefab wood
living units

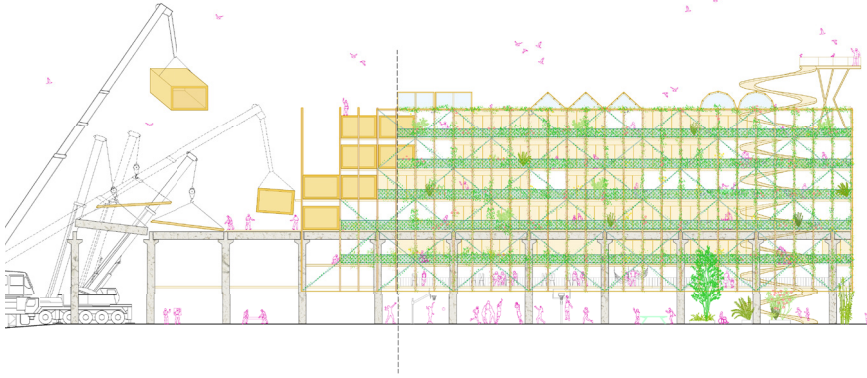


Prefab concrete civic
base with recycled
aggregates

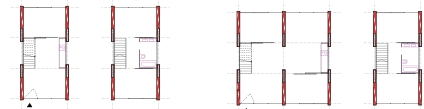


Prefab basement with ground reuse

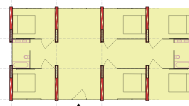




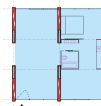
- Studio (30 m²) for individuals or young couples
- 2-bedroom unit (60 m²) for small families or flat-shares
- 4-bedroom unit (90 m²) for expanded households: a queer couple with a child and a close friend, two single parents raising kids together, or multigenerational families.



Duplex, stacked vertically, offer spatial variety and independence.



Cluster, support student housing or co-living formats with shared kitchens and bathrooms



House + workshop combines domestic life with productive space

The housing system is modular, flexible and inclusive. Starting from a 30 m² unit, it allows aggregation into a wide range of typologies: studios, family units, duplexes, co-living clusters and house-workshop combinations.

Homes are grouped around shared terraces and walkways that host everyday interaction. Kitchens, workshops and community rooms extend life beyond the private, creating a porous mat where domesticity and collaboration mix.

The building's envelope is a wooden frame that hosts balconies, stairs and vegetation —a soft edge that filters light, air, and sound, and supports the shared life of the residents.



Walkways and terraces become spaces to share life, surrounded by sun, air, plants and animals. Architecture that every day brings people together.