

Design Studio 5 .

ER-ARCH-BA_501 -Architectural Design 5. - Integrated

The task for the autumn semester is to design an **art centre** in the rural old town city centre of **Eger**, Hungary.

Site:

Near the legendary castle which has been built into the collective consciousness of the whole nation, the site is located in the centre of Eger, on the banks of the Eger stream, in a historic urban fabric. Our design brief for this semester is to design a community building on this site, with a programme that takes into account the needs of the city. The site and its proximate surroundings could be ideal for an innovative, mixed-function, small-town building that could provide a complex response to the architectural and urban scale issues arising from the context.

The function is to design an art centre that is open to the community, including a café with exhibition spaces, studios and accommodation facilities.

The partial protection and extension of the existing greenery, opening them up as a public park and also the redesign of the adjacent public spaces, linking the site to the Eger stream, using architectural, landscape and urban design tools, are also part of the design brief.

Planning area and guidelines:

- Ensure the accessibility, serviceability and operability of the building as a public institution by providing appropriate infrastructure. (corridors, restrooms, storage spaces etc.)
- The extent of the existing green areas is a matter of design choice, but the most dominant and valuable trees, or parts of them, should be retained if possible.
- The scale of the proposed building(s) should be determined as a result of an analysis of the wider context, the urban fabric, and the existing building. Also consider to create an intensive connection between the adjacent public spaces and between the new building. Accessibility for disabled must be provided.
- The volume of the new building should be harmonised with the scale of its surroundings, although its height may differ from its neighbours where justified.
- The use of materials and architectural appearance can be designed by everyone, with great freedom, taking into account the historical values of the old town centre and the castle. It is important to be familiarised with the relevant local regulation plans and to remember that we are talking about a historic environment.
- The landscaping design of the surroundings is also an integral part of the task. The building must be accessible to service vehicles.
- The design concept and the spatial relationships of the proposed new building should also take into account the architectural and technical aspects of environmental awareness and sustainability.

- The feasibility of a basement level can be considered, taking into account the possibility that remains of medieval basement systems may be found.
- Finalising the architectural programme is part of the task.

It is necessary to visit the site and get to know the neighbourhood, as well as to study the architecture of similar institutions, centres in Hungary and abroad.

Art Centre architectural programme:

Public spaces:

- café terrace with connection to the adjacent public spaces (circa 50-60 m²), possibly a mini-bakery, a small shop, could be even in the same space as the café (optional programme element)
- book, artwork and giftshop
- workshop spaces and multifunctional studios (textile, wood, craft activities etc.)
- public toilets serving all public needs in the building (designed in accordance with the hungarian building regulations)
- art gallery and a small lecture room (multifunctional room), where it is possible to organise local cultural events, mini-conferences, club events, educational lectures, concerts, occasional exhibitions, small fairs (maximum capacity of about 60 people, floor space of about 70-80 m²)
- small furniture storage attached to the lecture room to facilitate rearrangement
- any additional rooms required (lobbies, staircases, lifts, mechanical rooms etc.)
- outdoor areas for active recreation (orchard, vegetable and herb garden, relaxation garden, greenhouse for hobby gardening)

Private areas:

- small office unit for the administrative management of the institution and for the organisation of events (max 20 m²)
- staff toilets for the staff and service areas (designed in accordance with the hungarian building regulations)
- apartments, 1 or 2 bed units (capacity to be discussed), living rooms have en-suite bathrooms and are accessible for disabled
- necessary service areas (corridores, stairs, elevators, engineering spaces, etc.)
- storage for bicycles (designed in accordance with the hungarian building regulations)