

Extension of the psychiatry for children and adolescents, Trier (GER)

project **Extension of the psychiatry for children and adolescents at the clinical center 'Mutterhaus der Borromäerinnen' in Trier**

awarding authority **Klinikum Mutterhaus der Borromäerinnen GmbH, Trier (GER)**

award **2nd prize, restricted realisation competition**

services **WW+, Esch-sur-Alzette (LUX) / Trier (GER) architecture**

architecture in cooperation with atelier Pro, Den Haag (NL)

facts **- two open group homes with 10 beds each, divided in 6 rooms and living areas
- nursing center and doctors' room with adjacent rooms
- therapy and parents area
- location of the new buildings in a sensitive intra-urban monument area**

publications **Deutsches Architektenblatt (GER) (02/2017)**

dates and numbers

gfa **1.214 m²**

ufa **626 m²**

gv **4.006 m³**

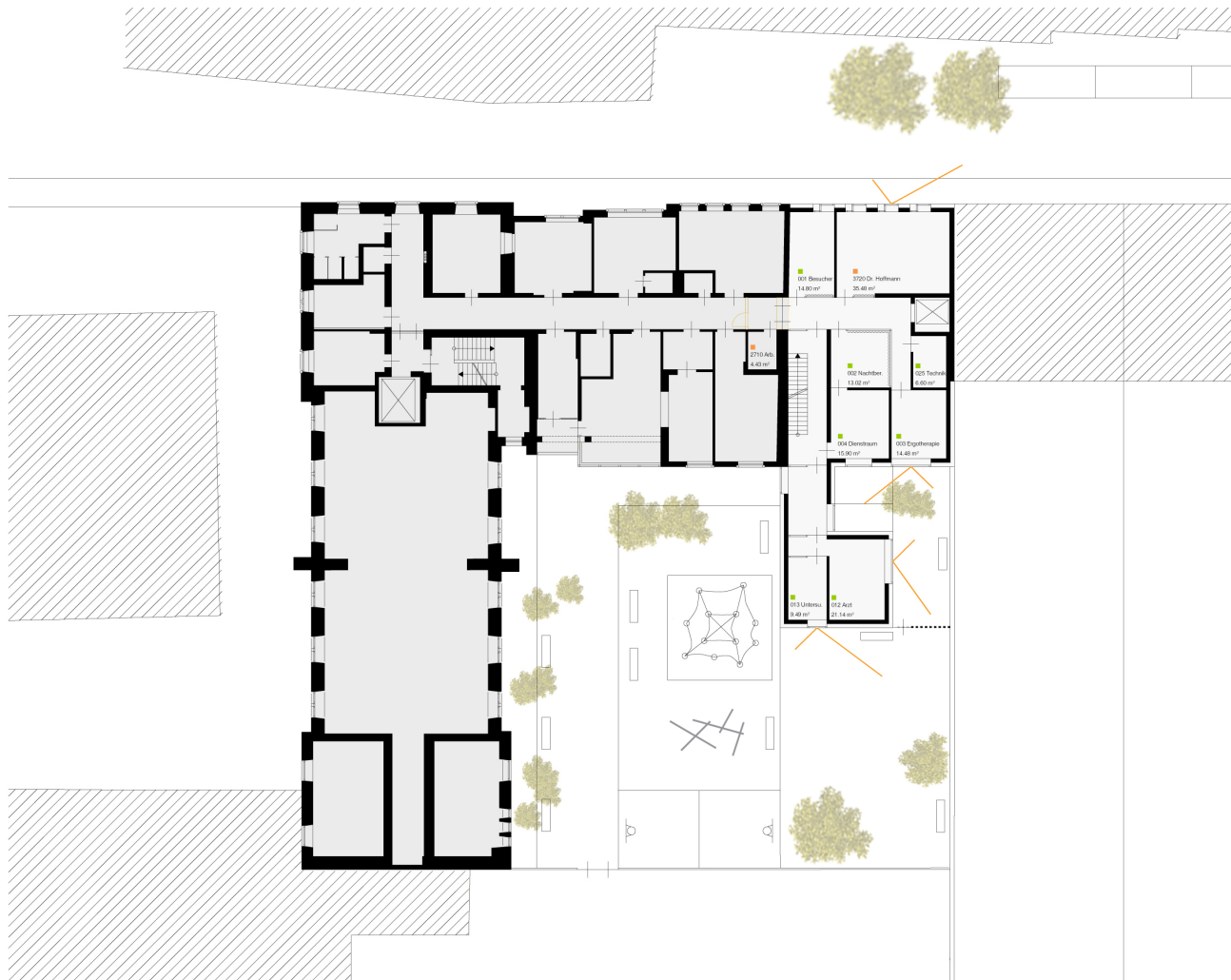
competition phase **08/2016 - 10/2016**

Design concept

Krahenstraße is located in a protected monument zone. As an extension to Johannisstraße, it provides the connection from Trier's historic old town to the Moselle. The street is traffic-calmed and flanked by side-gabled houses from the 15th to the 19th century. Only rarely disrupted by new structures, this protected historical area showcases itself as a 400m long coherent section. The design features a building that seamlessly integrates with the streetscape of Krahenstraße. Existing building angles and façade lines are incorporated and continue the lines of the surrounding structures. The eaves of the new building concur with or emulate those of the neighbouring structures. The historical punctuated façade of the surrounding buildings will be given a contemporary treatment in the new construction, allowing it to harmoniously blend into the existing building ensemble. Retaining or integrating the existing façade into the new building serves no useful purpose. The floor slabs, offset from the neighbouring buildings, and the associated parapet and lintel heights of the window openings conflict with the required connection to the functions of the houses at 7 & 8 Krahenstraße. The same parameters apply to the rearward, south-facing courtyard. The existing buildings' angles and heights are also continued in the new construction. The building line of the existing buildings is respected. To meet the spatial specifications, additional surfaces must be generated. In line with the inner courtyard structures that are relatively common in this area, we therefore propose a rear building in the garden of the plot of 6 Krahenstraße. As a free-standing volume, connected only via the required second structural escape route, it stands apart from the main building and as such maintains a distance from both the new building as well as the neighbouring plot of land. Neighbouring interests remain unaffected. Thanks to the open spaces that are created, the rooms in the main house and in the annex can be fitted with appropriately dimensioned glazing. Enclosed interior surfaces that receive no natural daylight are kept to a minimum, providing the rooms that house permanent residents with a view to the



site plan



ground floor



elevation 'Krahenstraße'



elevation inner courtyard

outside. These rooms are provided with natural light all day long and can be naturally ventilated. Closely following the principle that a connection to nature is conducive to psychological recovery, a bright and friendly atmosphere, for both staff and residents, is created. The circulation areas of the building, which due to their layout in terms of space and design undergo a functional extension in relation to the other surfaces, support the specifically targeted degree of transparency. This results, both spatially and visually, in an intertwining of various room zones. This has a positive influence on the internal communication as well as the interaction between the KJP and the neighbouring quarter.

Access

The KJP ward at Klinikum Mutterhaus der Borromäerinnen is accessed at ground level with level access. The existing main entrance is retained. The new building has a secondary side entrance. All the floors are individually linked internally. The required second structural escape route in the new building connects the floors vertically to one another. The roof skylight provides natural light to the single-flight staircase as well as the internal halls. A bed elevator allows for heavy or cumbersome objects to be transported. The cellar has sufficient storage space for the entire extension building, with potential use for further workrooms. To optimise costs, the rear house will have no basement. To deliver hospital beds and food to the wards, the underground connection linking the KJP buildings with the main Klinikum house can if necessary be extended to the new building.

Materials and construction

In terms of the choice of materials, the new construction is significantly based on the surrounding buildings. A plastered masonry construction is therefore proposed. The texture and the colouring of the plaster façade create connections to the adjacent structures. The openings feature timber aluminium windows and local slate is used for the roof cladding. The listed footprint remains unchanged from the perspective of Krahenstraße and the character of the protected historical zone is retained, respectively restored. The free-standing volume of the solitary structure is clad by a wooden façade, which together with the playfully positioned window openings supports the sought-after residential character of the KJP. Similarly to a garden house, the appearance of the annex provides young patients with a feeling of home and security.

Sustainability

A design has been created that provides its users with a sense of direction and security thanks to its form and clear structure. The architectonic concept foresees a compact building form in a bid to reduce built-up surfaces and in favour of as green an environment as possible. The material and energy concept has been deliberately designed to feature just a few durable and sustainable materials. The scaling down to just a few materials results in robust, durable surfaces causing the least environmental damage possible, which are easy to maintain and remain attractive over a long period of time. Allaying fears, providing distraction, an optimistic outlook and reassurance... all this can be achieved by appropriately designed rooms. Warm natural materials and colours provide a positive environment, which can contribute significantly to the healing and recovery process.