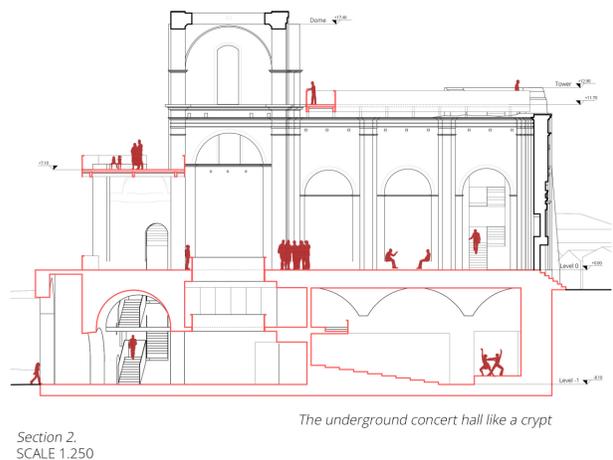
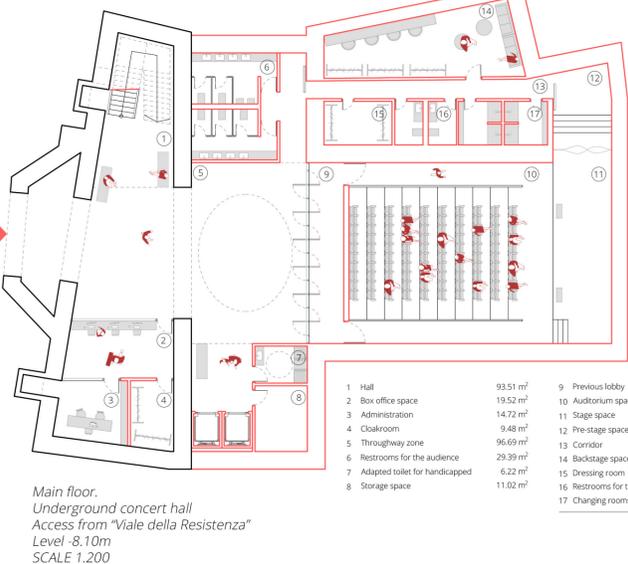
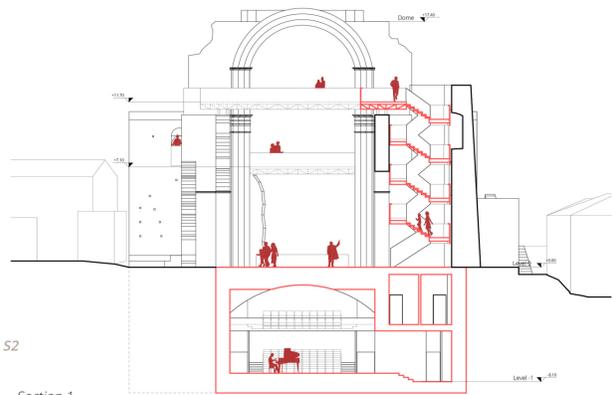
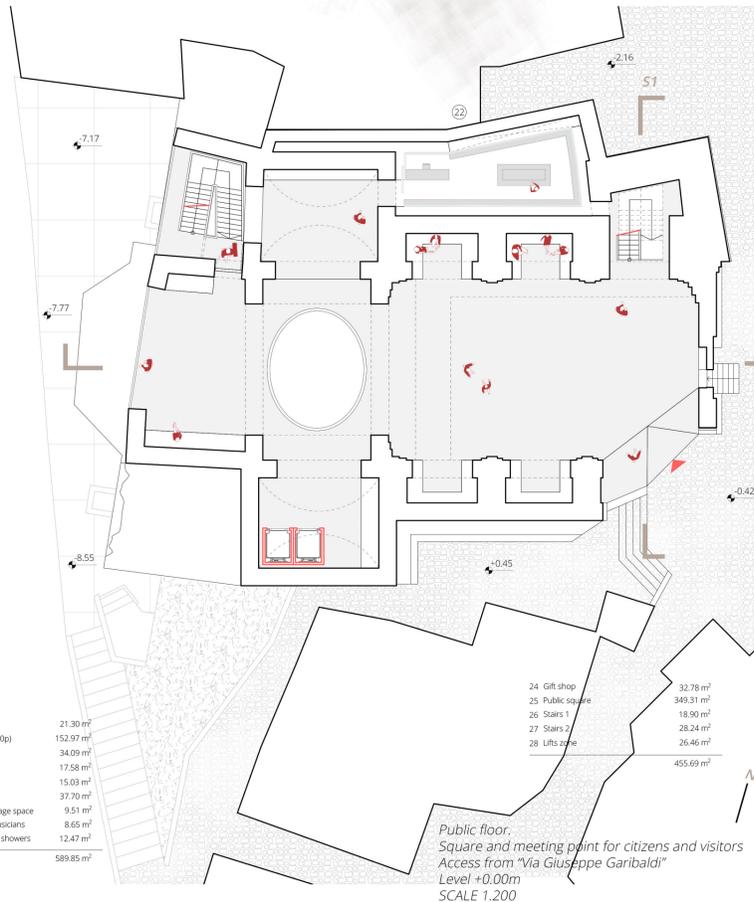
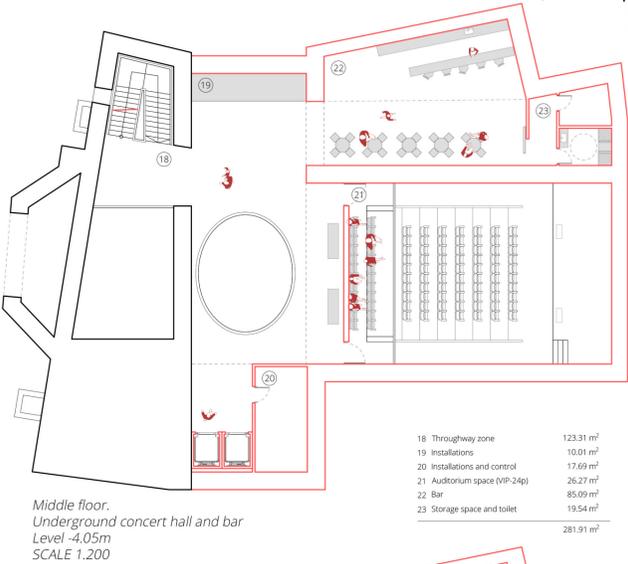


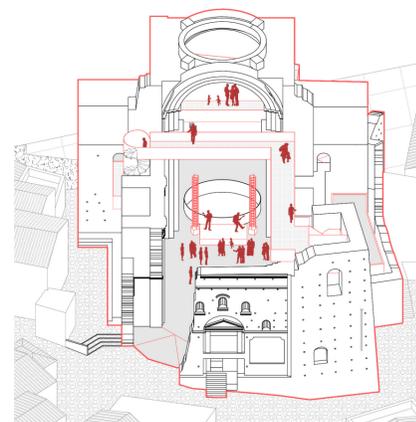
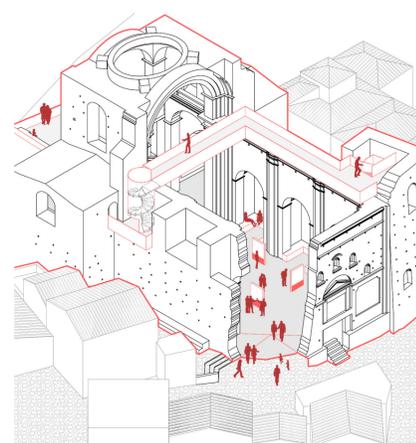
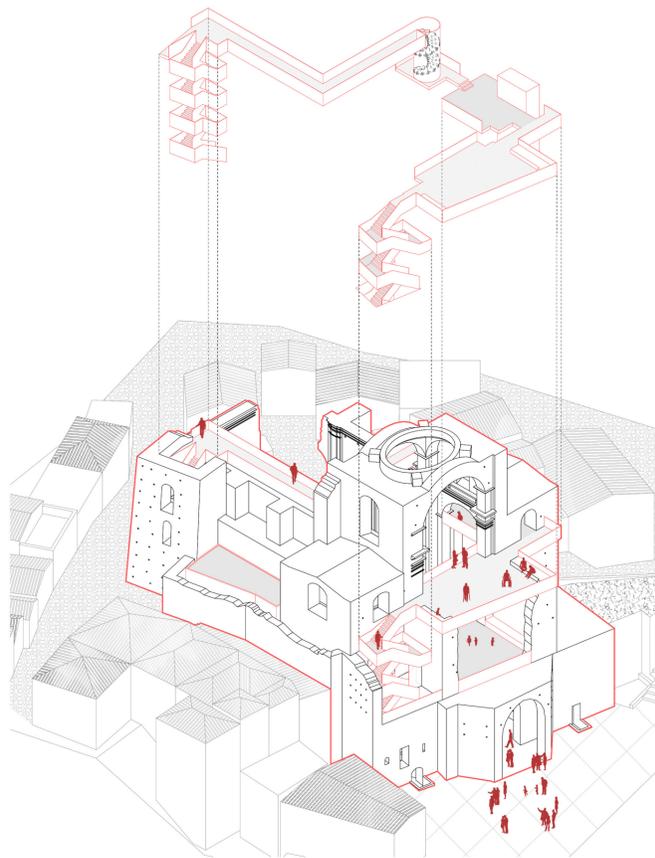
it was not fallen, it was a square!!!

Grottole is a town that has just over 2,200 citizens, of which only 300 live in its historic center, which has about 600 abandoned homes. Actually, there are several attractive points in the city such as the "Chiesa Madre Parrocchia Santa Maria Maggiore" or the "Castello Sichiulfo", but after a little investigation, it is not difficult to realize the lack of free space and spaces for enjoyment and stay that have its citizens. There are no places to rest, sit or admire the views, like the Rio Basento valley.

All the nearby "landmarks" and public squares have been located on this plan, and only two (▼) of the 4 squares that we find in the historic center have public furniture to sit on.



The project yields the perception of the church space at diverse elevations



Working with any ruin is a challenge, but in this case, the intrinsic beauty of the "Chiesa Diruta" is undeniable, a discovered space, in which the passage of time can be clearly visualized, being as it is currently an epicenter, a meeting point, a living heritage.

Bearing in mind the conception of the ruin as a monument in itself, to be preserved, without trying to rebuild or distort what exists are essential keys from the first moment. The project does not try to fill the space, but to live the void and put it in value.

It is proposed to maintain the level 0 of the church as a new public square, so that the citizens can take over it, holding open-air concerts or exhibitions, only with the treatment of the pavement and the relevant repairs and reinforcements of the walls.

Taking advantage of the unevenness between "Viale della Resistenza" and "Via Giuseppe Garibaldi", the entire program, with the exception of the store that is located at elevation +0.00m, is located under the church, generating a buried architecture, based on one's own pre-existence. In this way, we find a public entrance to the concert hall from the "Viale della Resistenza" at level -8.10m, while the entrance to the square is maintained by the "Via Giuseppe Garibaldi".

In addition, it is possible to access the level of the square from the concert hall thanks to a large core of stairs that is the only one that takes center stage from the avenue, and which also gives access to the upper tour.

To access the new walkways from the square, we also have another core of stairs located in the tower, which leads to a new viewpoint from which the elevated visit would begin.

In this way, the tour can be done in both directions without the need to go back. In addition, the elevators, located on one side of the transept, also rise, making it possible for handicapped people and senior citizens to access the viewpoint located on the main facade.

All these walkways and stairs are separated from the pre-existence, using beams and light structures so as not to have to use pillars that interrupt the space of the square, supporting or anchoring to the existing walls.

With this proposal, the aim is to bring citizens closer to the church, making it possible to use and enjoy the walkways, viewpoints and the plaza without having to go through the concert hall or have it open.