

ACCESSIBILITY RETROFIT: LA MAISON DU TOURISME

Isabella (Izzy)
De Andrade

SITE ANALYSIS

Address: 70 Rue Houdan
(South entrance to Jardin de la Ménagerie)

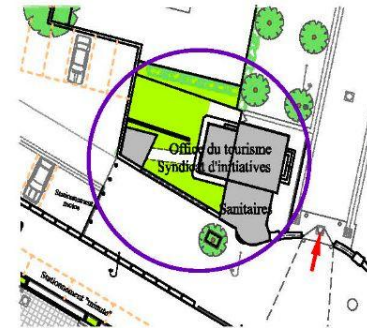
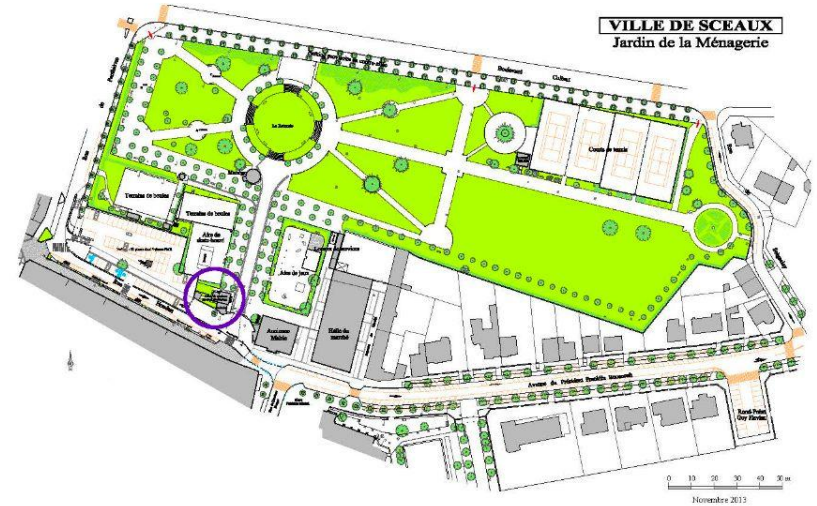
Immediate neighbors:

- skatepark
- parking lot
- public toilette
- the original entrance gate to the Jardin de la Ménagerie of Sceaux

Demographic: mostly 70+ years old

Key Actors:

- architect
- the mayor
- les architectes des bâtiments de France (ABF)



Ville de Sceaux - Jardin de la Ménagerie
Site Plan from Class Drive Folder

SITE ANALYSIS

Existing Qualities:

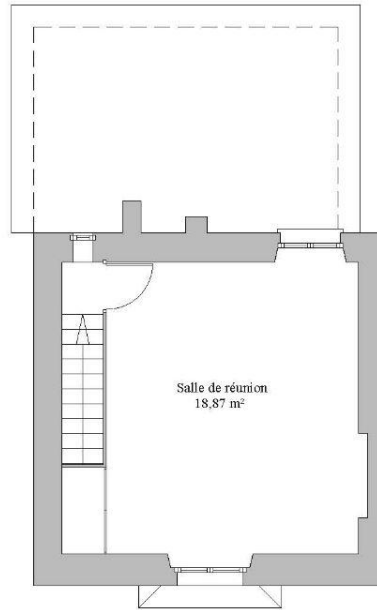
- small building, about 5,60m x 8,90m floor
- grounds are considered a site classé
- 3 stairs leading up to main entrance of building - currently no handicap access
- substantial "backyard" space behind building, largely unused
- empty shed in "backyard" once used for landscape tools
- mix of private (staff) and public space
- roughly 20 in-person visitors per day



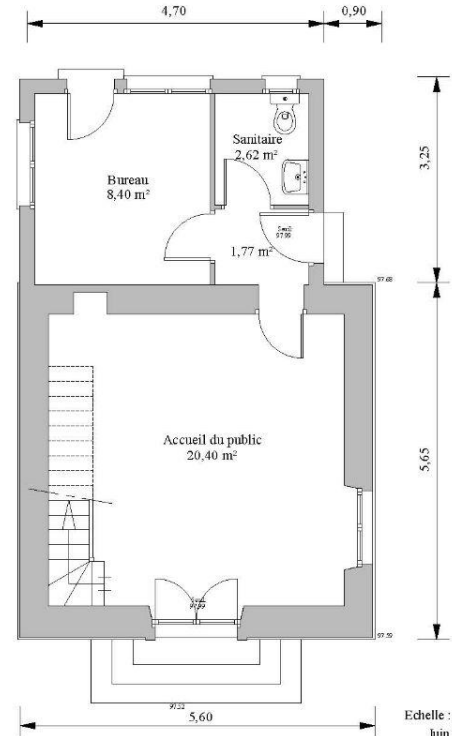
Maison du Tourisme - Current Entrance
Site Photos

SITE ANALYSIS

Etage



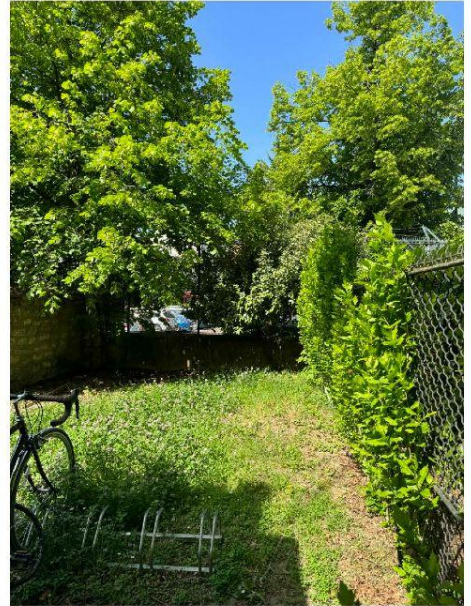
Rez-de-chaussée



SITE ANALYSIS



Maison du Tourisme "Backyard"
Site Photos



INTERVIEW: GUILLAUME MAURI

Background:

- director of the Maison du Tourisme
- MdT is a cultural center, organizing cultural events and activities in Sceaux
- now also producing merch / souvenirs for events, would like to sell more in MdT

Public Access Building:

- public access to the building on first floor
- upper floor and downstairs bureau are employees only, needed for storage space
- previous rejections for front and side ramp interventions



Retour en images - Hanami
2025

48 photos



CULTURE

Vernissage du Salon des
Artistes scénés

22 photos



CULTURE

Vernissage de l'exposition
La Tanière, quatre
complices en peinture

8 photos



SPORT

Retour en images - 49e
Cross de Sceaux 2025

73 photos



ANIMATION

Retour en images : Noël
des enfants 2024

215 photos



SPORT

Retour en images : Sceaux
fête les Jeux !

26 photos



SPORT

Ouverture du site de
célébration de Sceaux

20 photos



TRANSITION ET
DÉVELOPPEMENT
LOCAL

Retour en images - 2e
édition du Printemps des
transitions

63 photos



SPORT

Retour en images - Relais
de la Flamme olympique à
Sceaux

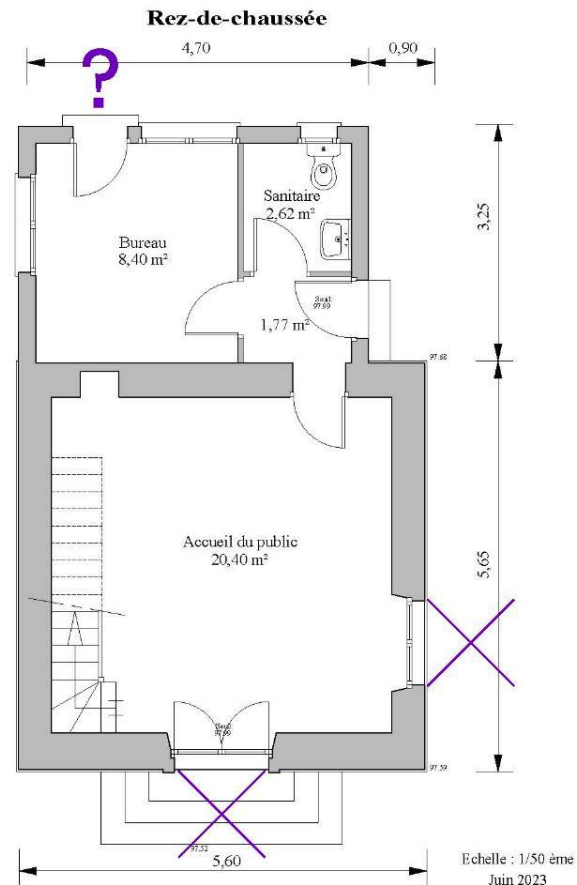
10 photos

INTERVIEW: GUILLAUME MAURI

TOP PRIORITY:
accessibility

- since it is a public
service building,
Monsieur Mauri wants
necessary
accessibility upgrades
to be made in order
to properly serve the
public and the
community of Sceaux

SECOND PRIORITY:
souvenir sales :)



BENCHMARK

Opera Garnier

- accessibility retrofit by Wittur in 2010
- implemented a lift that aesthetically matches the Opera Garnier's architecture, history, and design
- expense of adding a lift to the MdT may not be justifiable given its size and program



Opera Garnier Elevators
Photos from Wittur website

PROPOSAL

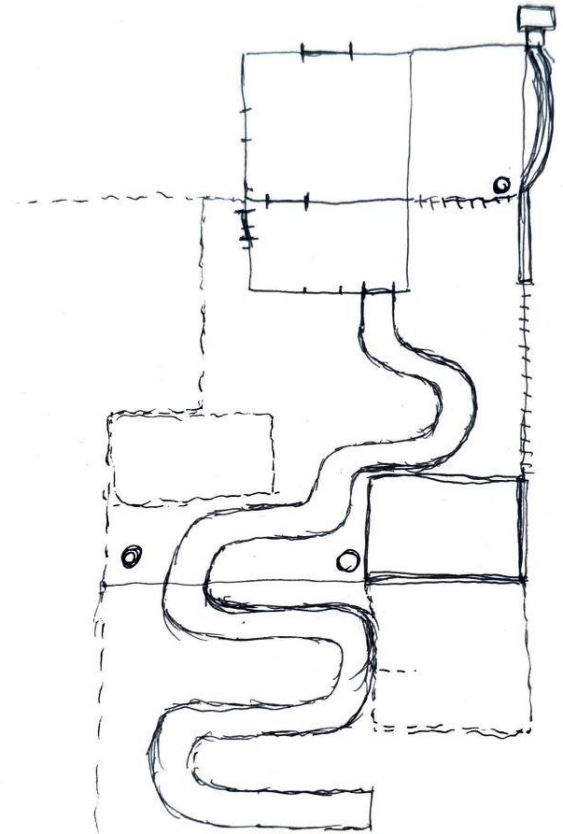
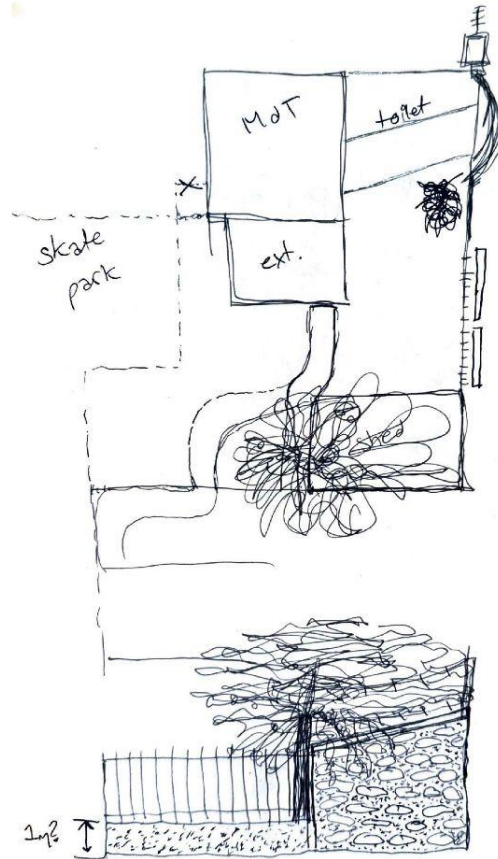
An accessibility retrofit that balances respect for site heritage and historical preservation, while fulfilling the need for modern accessibility accommodations

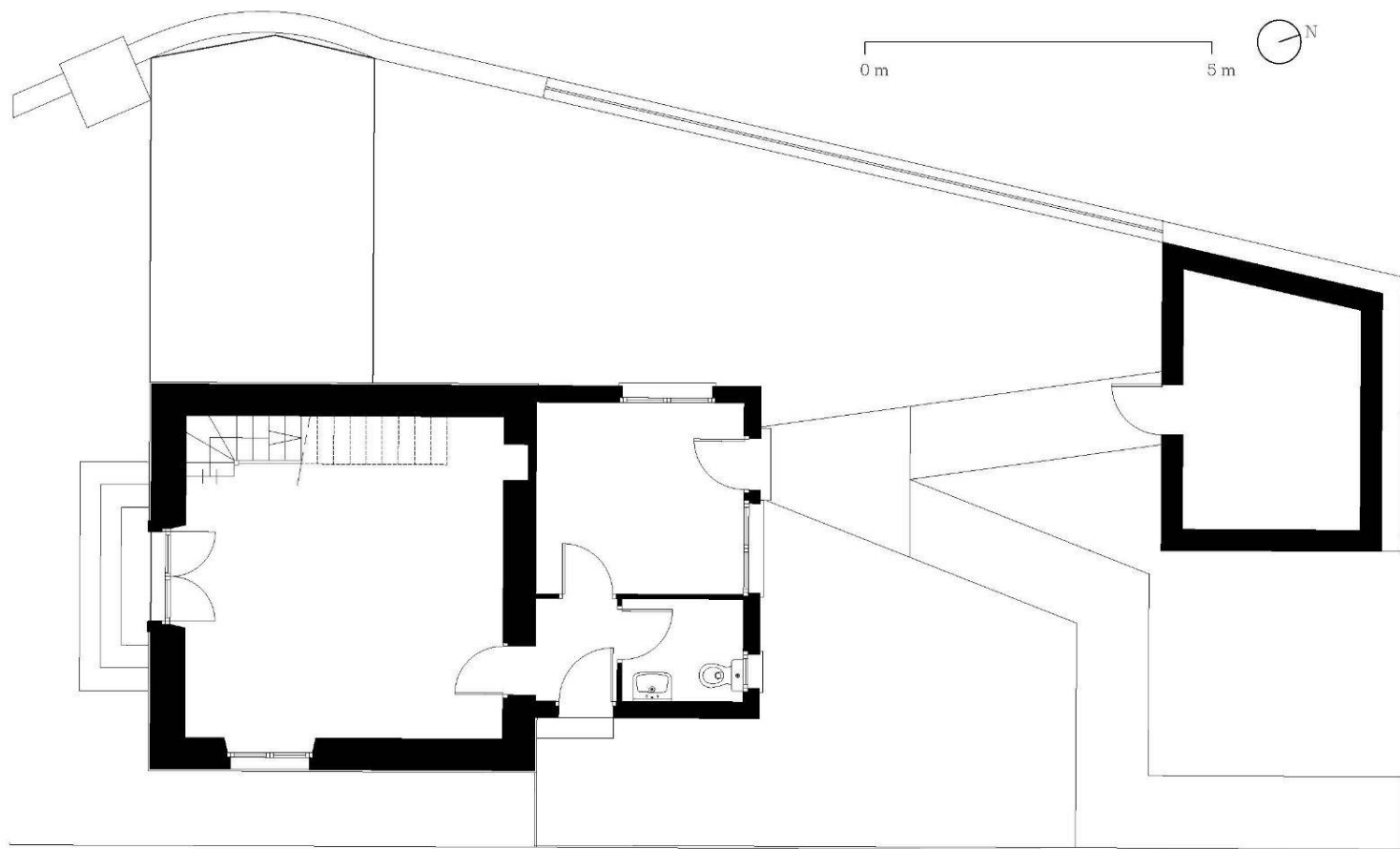
- “backyard” hidden from regular entrance view
- not touching original park walls
- using stones from existing path and soil/earth for the ramp



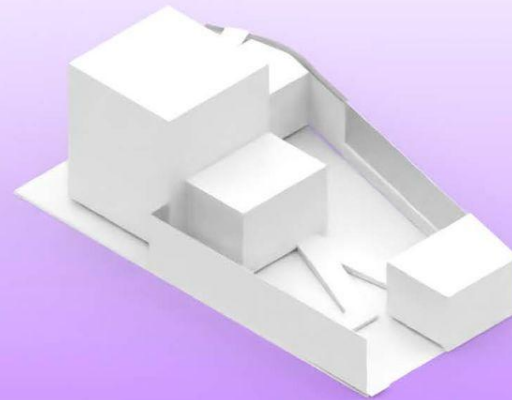
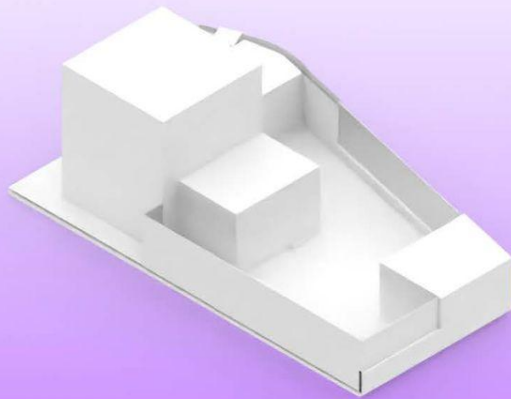
Maison du Tourisme - “Backyard” Shed
Site Photos

PROPOSAL





Site Intervention Drawing
Floor Plan



Axonometric View of Original Site vs Site with Intervention
RhinoCeros Render

CONCLUSIONS

Authenticity of the Maison du Tourisme can be preserved by:

- working with parts of the site that are not the original building
 - the annex
 - the shed
- adding the ramp at the back side of the site so as to not disrupt iconic views of the park
- using the existing stone for the path to match aesthetics
- keeping the intervention mostly outdoors and on top of the soil, to allow for the potential to reverse it later

Sceaux Tourisme Event Photos:
<https://tourisme.sceaux.fr/galerie>

Opera Garnier Elevators:
<https://www.wittur.com/en/wittur-group-old/reference-projects/lift-modernization-at-the-palais-garnier-paris-france.aspx>



SOURCES