

CULTURAL & SOCIAL CENTER

Sviatoslav Richter Birthplace
Zhytomyr · Ukraine

Sviatoslav Richter House – House Concordia – House Caritas

The Government of Zhytomyr

Administration:
CARITAS Ukraine

Organisation:
EUROGOLD Industries Zhytomyr

November 2007
<http://www.sviatoslavrichterhouse.info>

A Home for Children and Music

realized by world-wide sponsoring



*“Put a small piano in a truck and drive out on country roads; take time to discover new scenery;
stop in a pretty place where there is a good church;
upload the piano and tell the residents;
give a concert;
offer flowers to the people who have been so kind as to attend; leave again.”*

Sviatoslav Richter, pianist





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Mission Statement:

Introduction

In the 21st century, the vision of the global village is becoming a reality. Marketplaces from diverse national entities are uniting into one, connecting the entire globe as well as affecting the international economy. As a result, the location of production is shifting from local material/labor/consumer-uniting entities to an open system of worldwide hotspots, in which each economic situation determines each hotspot's role in the global economy.

As a result, the role of the nation is becoming less and less important. A nation's influence on formulating, nurturing, and administering its society diminishes as international networks gain more and more influence on local economic prosperity. This shift in development increases the responsibilities on our part as global manufacturers beyond merely producing goods and providing labor. Social, educational, and cultural responsibilities (to list only a few of many) are duties in which our involvement will be vital to a prosperous future for our production locations.

The "Cultural and Social Center – Sviatoslav Richter Birthplace" is a project that puts this vision into action.

Homeless Children

The social services of the region of Zhytomyr—which has a population of about 1.4 million—reports approximately 1,200 homeless children and about 10,000 children living in a highly unstable social environment. These children have no access to any kind of support at the present time.

The “Cultural and Social Center – Sviatoslav Richter Birthplace” project has been made possible through the generous provision of four vacant buildings by the Government of Zhytomyr. In December 2006, House Concordia was opened. Based on the model of SOS Kinderdorf and realized by Concordia Social Projects, Austria, in cooperation with Eurogold Industries, it provides accommodation for six families and care for 60 children. Next to House Concordia, House Caritas I & II are ready to be renovated and will provide accommodation for nine families with up to 100 children.

The birthplace of the great Ukrainian pianist, Sviatoslav Richter, in the center of Zhytomyr, will be the key building for this program. With its cultural and social programs, in addition to accommodation for two families with 20 children, it will provide a public platform for the project. Overall, the project has the potential to provide the following services:

- the preservation of Sviatoslav Richter’s birthplace
- accommodation for two families with 20 homeless children in the Sviatoslav Richter House
- accommodation for up to 160 children in House Concordia and House Caritas I & II
- a street kitchen
- an emergency shelter for abused women with children
- an exhibition space to show the life and work of the world famous Ukrainian pianist Sviatoslav Richter
- music education for homeless children in the facility
- publicity for the institution through in-house cultural events / concerts

The synergy effect of combining a social program in the form of a center for homeless children with a cultural place of importance (the birthplace of Sviatoslav Richter), in addition to a program providing music education for the children, ensures the long-term success of such a center. One of Sviatoslav Richter’s lifelong concerns – to bring music to the people – will be carried on in the program of this project. To add even a little music to a child’s life can make a huge difference. One of the most successful examples of this strategy is the Venezuelan project, “El Sistema”, in which music education is given for free to the children of the poor in the *vavelas* (slums) of Caracas as well as in rural areas. The possibility of expressing themselves through music channels their energy away from drugs and crime and has even brought some of them international recognition.

The enthusiasm for keeping the memory of the Ukraine’s most revered musician alive, as well as the opportunity to bring musical events to the neighborhood, will help to sustain this center for years to come.

CARITAS Ukraine & Eurogold Industries Zhytomyr

It is the goal of Eurogold Industries Zhytomyr to establish a place for this center by renovating and adapting the birthplace of Sviatoslav Richter. Combined in this effort will be the renovation of House Caritas I & II and an upgrade of House Concordia. Eurogold Industries will also develop an administrative structure with its partner CARITAS Ukraine, a well-known, internationally active organization that helps people in need around the world. CARITAS Ukraine will monitor the proper distribution of funds and will provide for the social and spiritual care of up to 180 homeless children.

After completion of the necessary work on the three buildings, their administration will be transferred to CARITAS Ukraine. The social arrangement will be organized according to the SOS Kinderdorf system, in which families with up to ten homeless children form independent entities. The families are directly sponsored by the Ukrainian government so that the administrator, CARITAS Ukraine, will not have to provide any funds for their living expenses. The cultural part of the project – the Sviatoslav Richter Museum in cooperation with the philharmonic Orchestra of Zhytomyr, the musical education program for the children, and occasional music performances at the center – will be carried out by the University of Zhytomyr, Department of Music in coordination with CARITAS Ukraine. The philharmonic Orchestra of Zhytomyr has agreed to provide photographic material and a grand

piano, which was used by S. Richter for the project.

For the maintenance of the buildings in the years to come, a trust fund of about 8% of the overall construction budget will be established. Co-founders and sponsors will receive a clear transcript of all funds and their application by CARITAS Ukraine. The renovation and adaptation of the buildings will be performed in sequence and will proceed as funds become available.

A board presided by CARITAS Ukraine, the social services of the region of Zhytomyr, and Eurogold Industries will supervise activities and make all further decisions. In addition, the Vitaliy Klitschko Foundation Kiev has been confirmed for this project as a consultant and mediator.

Since 2003, Eurogold Industries has been one of the main manufacturers in Zhytomyr. Addressing their social responsibility, Eurogold Industries is the initiator of the “Cultural and Social Center – Sviatoslav Richter Birthplace” and will maintain their engagement throughout the entire project.

Sviatoslav Richter

“Music must be given to those who love it. I want to give free concerts; that’s the answer.”

Sviatoslav Richter was born in 1915 in Zhytomyr to a German expatriate father and a Russian mother. He was for the most part self-taught, although his father (who was a pianist and organist) and one of his father’s pupils provided him with a basic education in music. Even at an early age, Richter was an excellent sight-reader, and practiced regularly with local opera and ballet companies. He developed a lifelong passion for opera, vocal, and chamber music, a passion which found its full expression in the festivals he established in Grange de Meslay, France, and in Moscow, at the Pushkin Museum. He started to work at the Odessa Opera where he accompanied the rehearsals.

While he very much enjoyed performing for an audience, Richter hated having to plan concerts years in advance, and in later years, took to playing on very short notice in small, mostly darkened halls, with only a spot light lighting the score. Richter claimed that this setting helped the audience focus on the music being performed, rather than on extraneous and irrelevant matters (such as the performer’s grimaces and gestures).

In 1986, Richter embarked on a six-month tour of Siberia, possibly giving as many as 150 recitals, at times performing in small towns that did not even have a concert hall. It is said that after one such concert, the members of the audience (who had never heard classical music performed before), gathered in the middle of the hall and started swaying from side to side to celebrate the performer. During his later years Richter did not only contemplate giving concerts free of charge, but did this when possible.

Richter died in 1997 at the Kreml Hospital, Moscow due to a heart attack after a long period of depression caused by his inability to perform in public. At the time of his death, Richter was learning Schubert’s *Fünf Klavierstücke*, D. 459.

The Buildings

House Concordia and House Caritas I are two three-story apartment buildings built in the 1950s. House Caritas II is a two-story structure located right next to the above-mentioned buildings. Both buildings have the same floor plan. House Concordia’s exterior and roof are fully renovated, as are the apartments inside. Only the basement would need to be adapted for workshops and other activities. House Caritas I & II are still waiting for a complete interior and exterior renovation. The construction documents and the bidding have already been completed.

Built in the late 19th century, the Sviatoslav Richter House is a one-story L-shaped structure with a partial basement. The front portion is parallel to the street at about a 20-meter distance and features a symmetrical façade with a central entrance and two wings. Although the building’s layout shows a spacious villa with a separate servant’s quarter, it is apparent that the building must have been adapted several times throughout his lifetime.

The structure was constructed with solid 50-cm brick walls and features some ornamental brickwork along the front façade. It is currently in poor condition. The city has put up a new roof on the front portion of the building in order to protect it from collapse, but portions of the roof in the back are still missing. Parts of the ceilings have collapsed, most of the plaster of the interior wall has come down, and the floors are completely destroyed.

Proposed Program for the Sviatoslav Richter House

The new organization of the building proposes a common entrance area for all functions of the building from which a porter will monitor all the public and semi-public services of the house. The street kitchen will be composed of two rooms to the right of the entrance. The emergency shelter for women and the bathroom facilities will be towards the back. To the left, one will enter the main hall for cultural activities and music performances. Further on will be two rooms designated for the Sviatoslav Richter Museum, as well as a storage space.

There will also be a loggia connected to the entrance area that will provide a common vestibule for the two apartments for the families with the homeless children. This loggia will be the only new addition to the building. It is necessary to allow for an effective use of the existing space and to provide a good buffer (only passively heated) between the living areas and the children's playground in the garden. Each apartment will have a living/dining area, a kitchen, four bedrooms and two bathrooms. A portion of the basement, accessible from the loggia, will also be allocated to the apartments for storage. The other part of the basement, which has a separate entrance, will be allocated to the mechanical system.

Net floor areas:

total		515 m²	[gross: 764 m²]
entrance area w/bathrooms	41 m ²		
social service wing	street kitchen	35 m ²	
	women's shelter	21 m ²	
music wing	hall (approx. 50 seats)	72 m ²	
	museum	22 m ²	
family wing	loggia	31 m ²	
	apartment 1	104 m ²	
	apartment 2	111 m ²	
basement	storage	45 m ²	
	mechanical room	33 m ²	

Guidelines for the Renovation of the Sviatoslav Richter House

To keep up the historic value of the Sviatoslav Richter's birthplace, it is recommended that the front portion of the building be restored to its original appearance. Some research towards this aim will still be conducted. It is necessary to repair some of the ornamental brick work, to sandblast the façade's brickwork, and to seal its surface. Any kind of thermal upgrade of this portion of the building can be done only on the floor, the roof, and, if necessary, on some portions of the inside of the exterior walls.

The back of the building – the family wing – demands a better thermal insulation. Here, exterior insulation boards with a plaster finish will be applied. Care will be taken to clearly separate this exterior intervention from the front portion of the house.

The addition of the loggia will be treated as an independent object that is attached to the existing building. A discreet design of this structure will not disturb the building's origin and will add some sunlight to the northwestern side through an array of skylight sheds.

Because of the big window openings and the need for split frames, a high-quality window system, preferably of wood, is necessary.

For the interior finishes, durability and simple maintenance are important. The walls will be finished with cement or clay-based stucco. The flooring will be wood in the living areas, and tile or painted cast plaster in all the common areas. A good thermal and moisture insulation from the ground is essential for all the floors. The roof will be insulated in the attic.

Basic furniture will be provided. Again, durability is of the most importance. Most of the furniture will be built in for spacial economy.

Because of the expected rise in energy costs (especially in the Ukraine), a ground or water source heat pump system is being planned to provide the greatest possible independence from fossile energy sources and the lowest running costs. Futher, a solar hot water system will also provide additional support for the expected high demand for hot water – up to 100% in the summer months. Due to the high occupancy, a forced ventilation system with a heat-recovering function is needed to avoid massive heat losses caused by permanently uncontrolled ventilation.

Budget Estimation

The budgets for House Caritas I & II and House Concordia have been confirmed.

The budget estimation for the Sviatoslav Richter House is based on the gross area of the building (ground floor and basement), with a price of 750 euros/square meter (1150 USD are estimated by the planning department of the city of Zhytomyr, 9-2007) for the complete renovation of the ground floor, 1000 euros/square meter for the new enclosed veranda, and 400 euros/square meter for a basic renovation of the basement. Additionally, the costs for the mechanical systems, the general costs for planning, and site supervision have been outlined.

House Concordia		
basement renovation	400 m ²	40,000
House Caritas I		
complete renovation, 3 stories / 6 apartments	1,200 m ²	230,000
House Caritas II		
complete renovation, 2 stories / 4 apartments	800 m ²	160,000
Playground for all three buildings above		10,000
Sviatoslav Richter House		
ground floor (existing)	595 m ²	446,250
ground floor (new)	35 m ²	35,000
basement	134 m ²	53,600
planning and site supervision		73,700
Maintenance (trust fund deposit)		80,000
Total (in Euro)		1,128,550

Additional costs for energy efficient mechanical systems:

heat pump system	
water source	26,800
ground source	59,600
infloor heating (requirement for heat pump system)	45,000
solar hot water system	20,000
forced ventilation system	18,000

Sponsoring

Only your help will make it possible to realize this project. We offer two possibilities to make a contribution to this project:

Co-founders are kindly asked to contribute Euro **30,000**.

We will provide you with the project logo – presenting you as a sponsor – to be placed on your website and/or print media.

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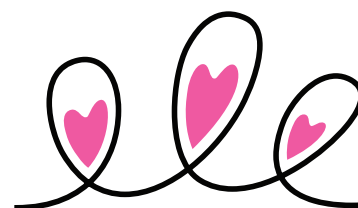
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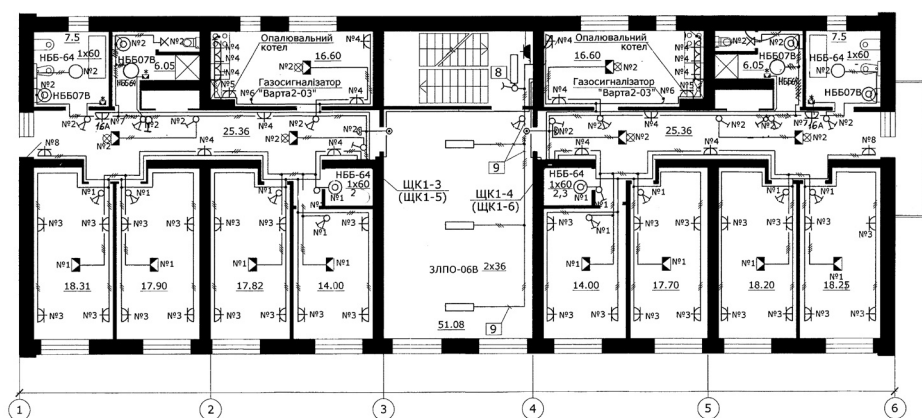
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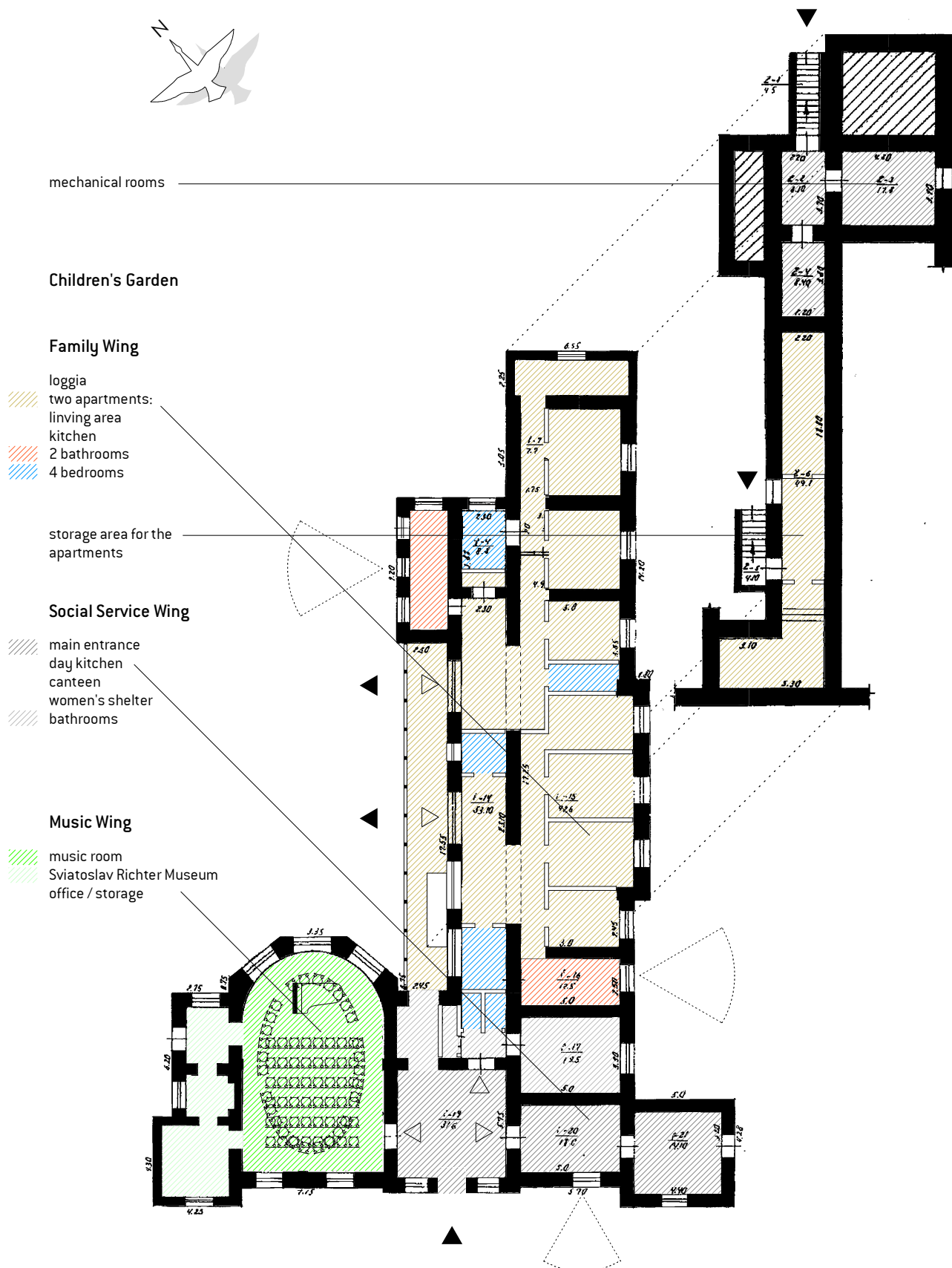


House Caritas I and House Concordia with a typical floor plan

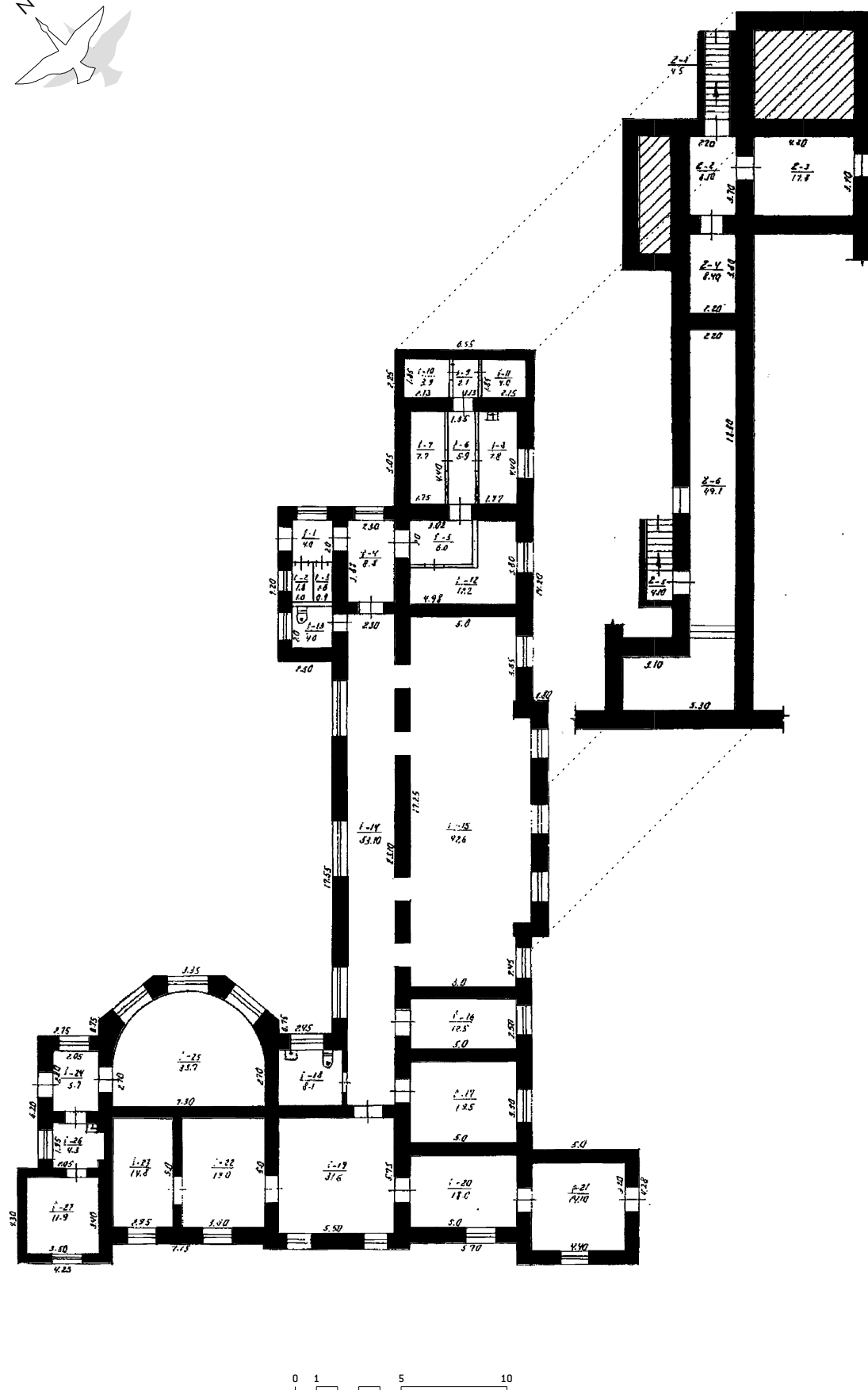
Sviatoslav Richter House



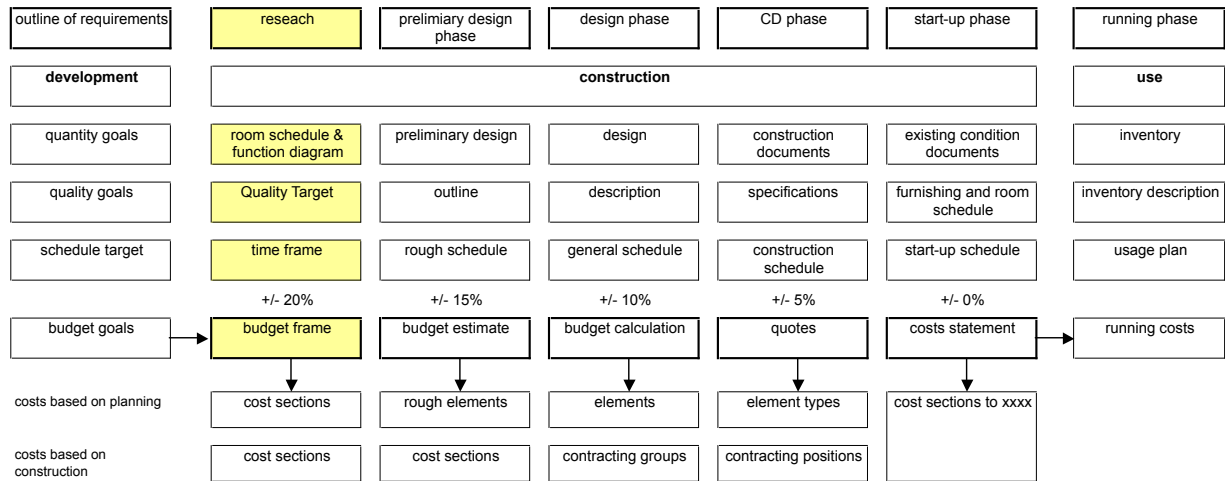
Exterior and interior condition of the Sviatoslav Richter House



Proposed ground floor and basement plan



Ground floor and basement, existing condition

[illegible]



supported by:

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