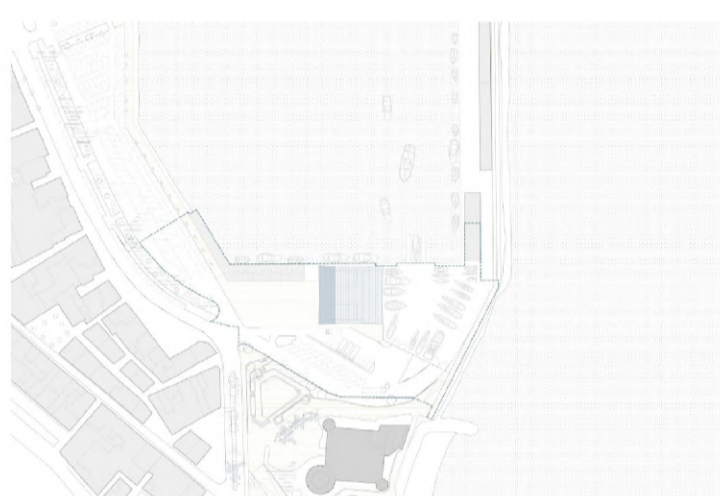


Territory



Situation



Site

The greenhouses of western Almería extend to almost touch the sea in the Port of Roquetas. To the east, Cabo de Gata serves as a backdrop to a rich landscape of boats that reminds us of the importance of the sea in the history of this land. This project aims to mediate between both worlds, greenhouses and boats.

One of the goals of the project is to improve the Port-City relationship and for this the first decision is to free the area of old buildings to create new synergies with the city, grouping different uses in a single volume: fish market, restaurant, commercial premises and facilities rooms. The character and position of the building - dominating the Port from its southern end - is conditioned by its relationship with the Santa Ana Castle, which marks the location and height of the building according to the visual relationships between it and the landscape.

For professionals, the fish market is a process, it must be a perfect, modern and functional machine. That is why the first floor is a direct reflection of the work cycle and functional flows, from the arrival of the fish at the dock to its departure on the trucks. The auction room, like a courtyard, is the heart of the building, a double-height space, illuminated on its upper perimeter, around which the rest of the processes circulate.

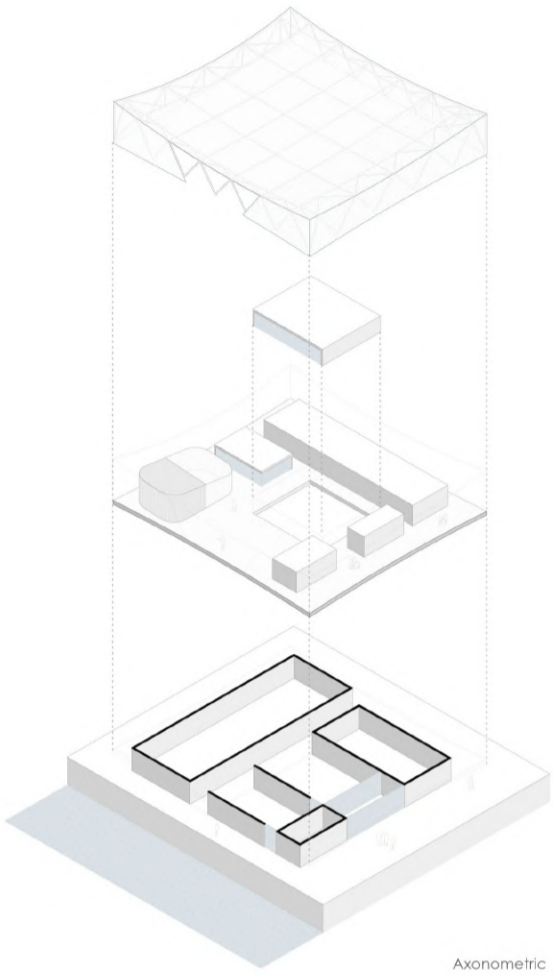
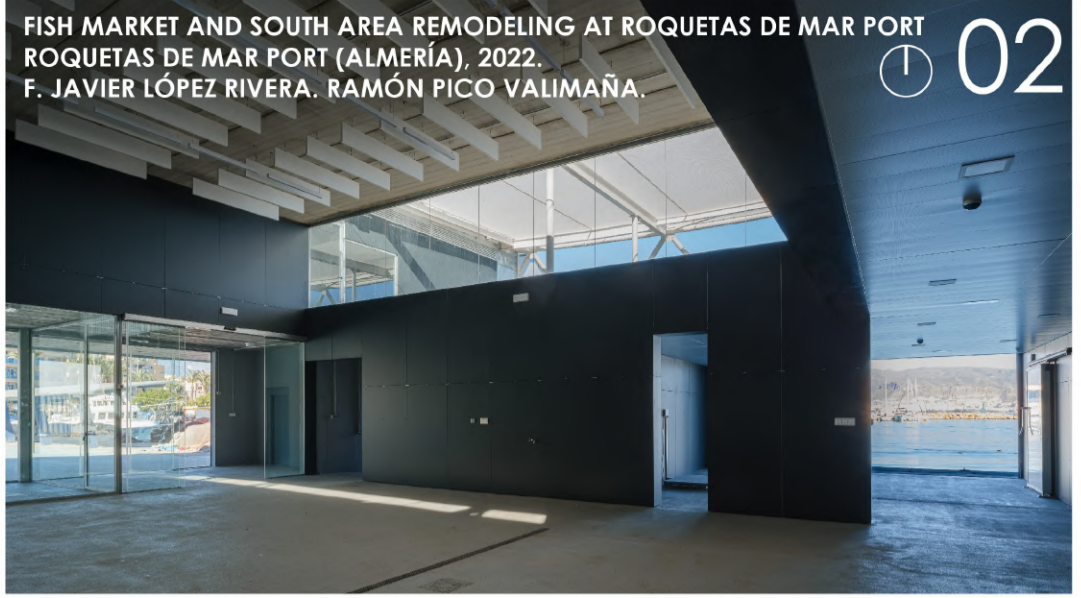
For the visitor, the daily processes become a spectacle. This means that there is a special interest in highlighting products and craft systems such as the unique swordfish quartering, for which the building aims to be very open and receptive to outside gazes but at the same time controlled in its circulations.

Its open condition to the city starts in a large covered porch to the west, in which a glass exposes the fish market and allows to contemplate from the outside the claim of the auction courtyard. The second floor is a unitary space like a greenhouse under whose textile envelope unfolds an interior landscape of small volumes that enclose restricted uses: kitchen, offices, toilets, facilities, warehouses... The visitor circulates between them to contemplate the work of auctions and handling, as well as to access the cafeteria and its privileged terrace.

At the constructive level, the building presents a triple ascending reading: the ground floor is made of reinforced concrete, very tectonic, industrial and robust. On the post-tensioned slab that covers it, rests the graceful and light upper floor, with metal structure boxes and light slabs. The whole is topped by the curved metal structure that supports the textile envelope - micro-perforated, perforated or filled - that covers the facades and roof.

For the city, the new building aims to be a tribute to the world of the sea in the soft curves, tension and texture of its envelope: sails, nets, ropes... provide silhouettes, colors and even materials for the building. Its image aims to be attractive, singling it out without falling into the shout. It is about leaving anonymity to enhance a new role, that of tourist attraction, which is highly complementary to the main activity of the building and its role in the city.

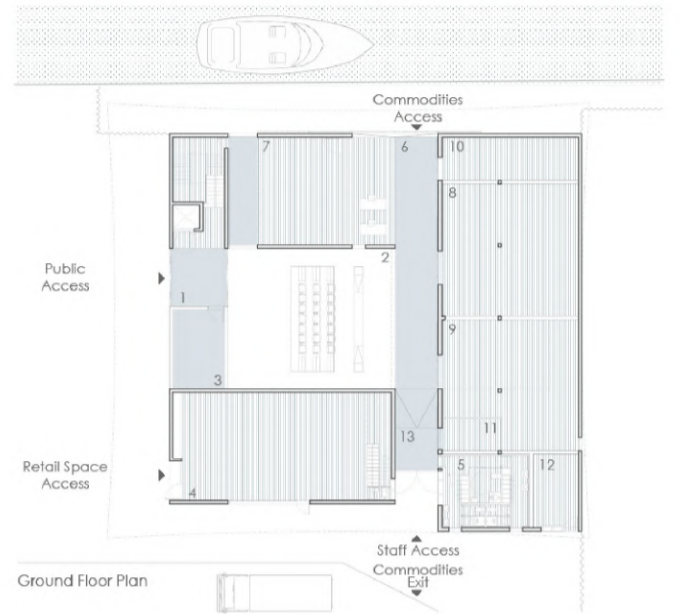




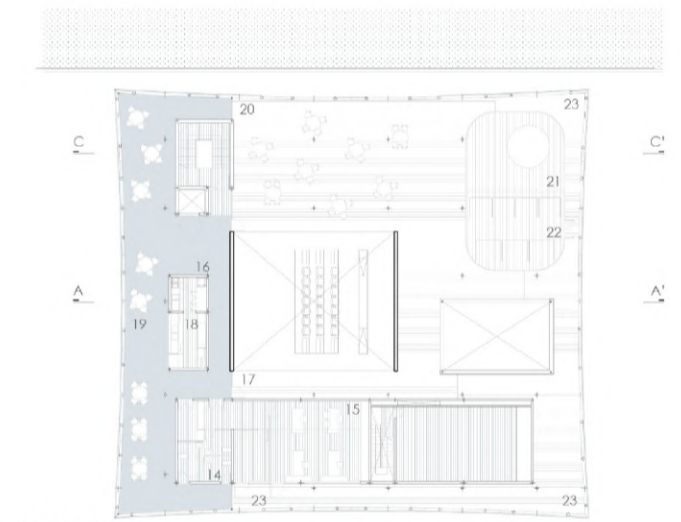
Axonometric

Caption - Distribution Floor Plans

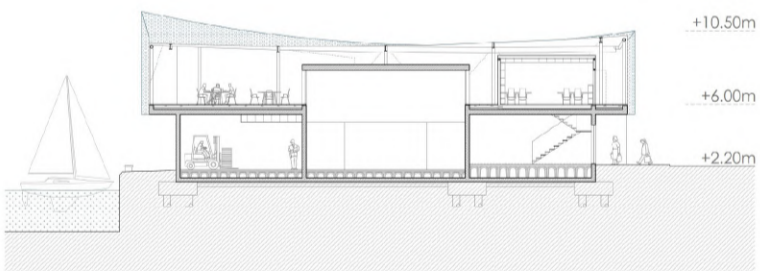
- 01 Entrance Hall.
- 02 Auction Room.
- 03 Fish Market.
- 04 Retail Space.
- 05 Locker Room/Staff Toilets.
- 06 Labelling/Weighing Area.
- 07 Containers Warehouse.
- 08 Preserving Chamber.
- 09 Handling Room.
- 10 Freezing Chamber.
- 11 Seizures Chamber.
- 12 Warehouse.
- 13 Circulation area.
- 14 Toilets.
- 15 Office.
- 16 Hall.
- 17 Observing Gallery.
- 18 Bar (Server area).
- 19 Bar (Served area).
- 20 Terrace / Viewpoint.
- 21 Ice Machine.
- 22 Machinery Room.
- 23 Maintenance Gallery.



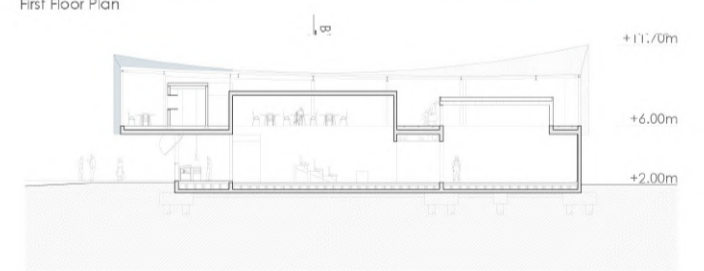
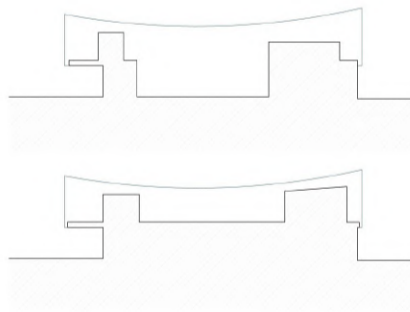
Ground Floor Plan



First Floor Plan

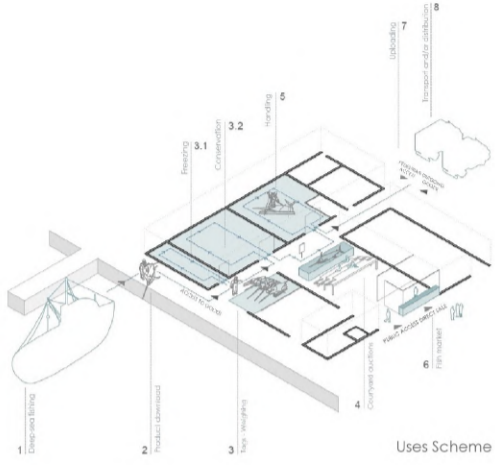
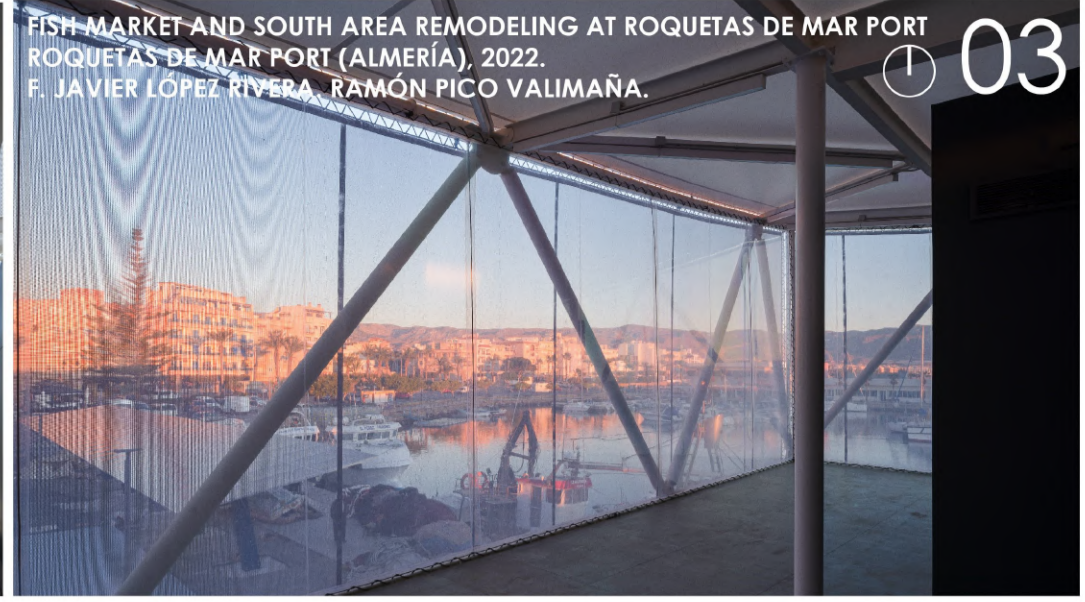


Section B-B'



Section A-A'





The building is located at coordinates 36° 75 '47" N 2° 60' 57" W, practically at sea level, with the main access façade facing west. The prevailing winds are from the east and west, of considerable intensity, frequently exceeding 60 km/h. The closest climatic data come from the weather station at Almería Airport, located some 30 km to the east.

According to the Köppen climate classification, the climate of the city of Almería is warm arid (BWh). With an annual rainfall of 200 mm, Almería ranks as the driest city in continental Europe and one of the driest in the Mediterranean Basin. Rainfall is very low (25 days per year on average), and there is little monthly temperature range, with temperatures ranging from 17°C and 9°C in January to 31°C and 23°C in August. Temperatures rarely rise above 40 °C due to warm air masses from the Sahara. Winters are very mild and summers are hot. Almería is the only city in continental Europe that has never recorded frost.

With an average of 2994 hours of sunshine and 108 completely clear days a year, it is one of the sunniest cities in Europe. The average annual temperature is 19.1 °C. The water temperature in the winter months (about 17 °C) is warmer than the air temperature (16.5 °C). The average humidity is 65 %, with an average of 26 rainy days per year, November being the wettest month.

