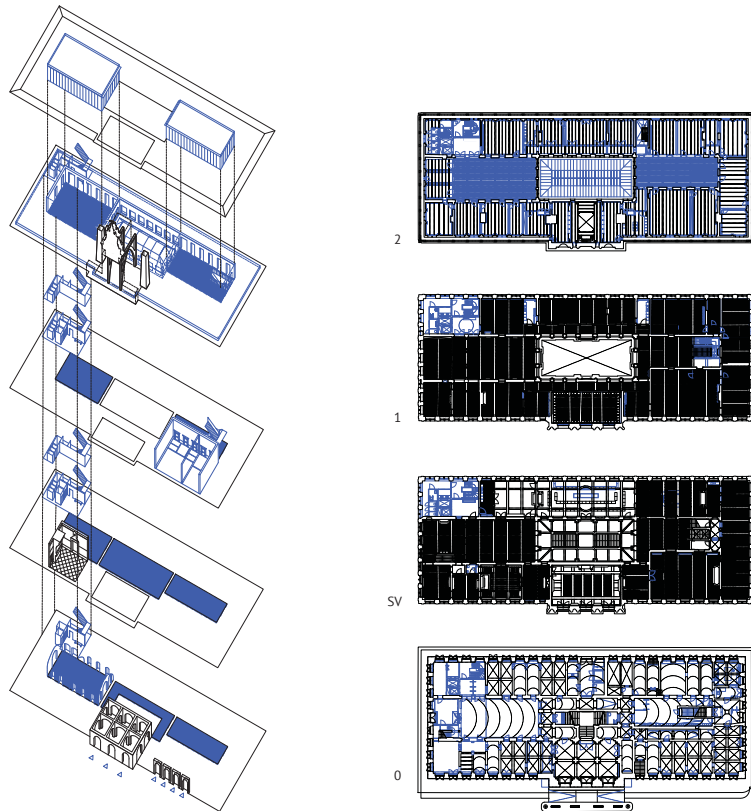


## Project Description:

Antwerp city hall is the most important Renaissance building in the Low Countries. Soon after its completion, this monument from 1564 (now a World Heritage Site) was acclaimed internationally. The main changes the building underwent in the 19th century, when the courtyard was covered, and the staircases renewed. Of a similar order is the current transformation: another valuable structural build campaign. The current design dealt mainly with the third floor, which until recently played no significant role in the architecture. Replacing the two central old roof trusses with a steel structure with overhead lights creates attractive vestibules that open up the surrounding spaces and transform them into usable office environments.

The architecture of the current interventions responds to and accentuates the old asymmetry of the floor plan. The new interventions of the vestibules as well as the staircases show the same concern as the 19th-century: a weighed-up modernisation.



Programme  
Renovation City Hall

Location  
Stadhuis Antwerpen  
Grote Markt 1, Antwerpen

Client  
City of Antwerp – AG Vespa, Antwerp

Architect  
HUB, Antwerp (www.hub.eu)  
Origin Architecture & Engineering, Brussels (www.origin.eu)  
Bureau Bouwtechniek, Antwerp

Execution architect  
Bureau Bouwtechniek

Restoration architect  
Origin architecture & engineering

Engineers  
BAS, Kessel-Lo (stability)  
RCR, Herent (special techniques)  
Daidalos-Peutz, Leuven (building physics)  
Fire Protection (fire safety)

General contractor  
Monument, Ingelmunster

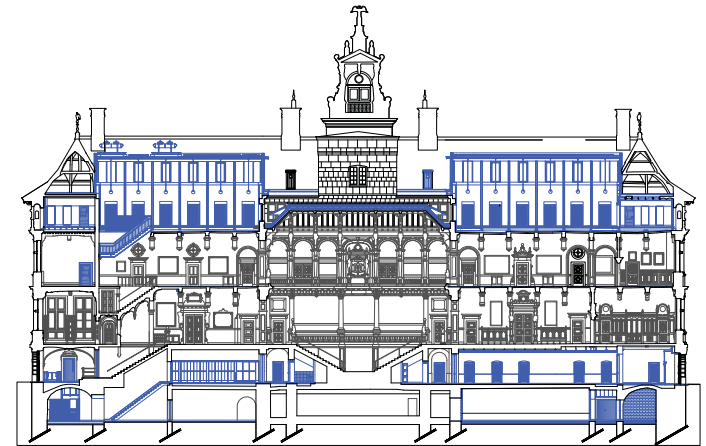
Completion  
March 2022

Total floor area 10,300 m<sup>2</sup>

Budget  
€ 21,835,770 (excl. VAT and fees)

Axonometry and floor plans showing in blue the central existing and new vestibules, added on the second floor as a continuation of the existing. A new circulation core is located in the south-west corner.

Longitudinal section with view of the new interventions in blue. On the second floor the two new volumes, on the ground floor the reconstructed central circulation rooms.



View on the restored front façade seen from the Grand Place. As the façade is an iconic image, it was important to preserve the view completely. The new interventions are therefore not visible from the Grand Place  
Image ©Stijn Bollaert