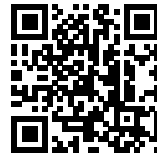




## ENSAE PARISTECH: CAPTURING THE LANDSCAPE

*Posted on September 17, 2019 by martabuges*



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When we discovered the immense sky and the plateau devoid of physical constraints, we sought, by a simple form and an abstract writing, to capture the landscape. The vibrating proximity of the edge of the woods revealed an intuition related to the material: it was necessary, in this country site, to touch the ground gently. To that end, we chose to design the project as a steel exoskeleton.



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Inscribed in a 80 m x 80 m square, the building is an open, welcoming and urban place, but it borrows the notion of an interior landscape from the shape of the cloister. The continuous 3.05 m x 2.10 m grid made with HEB profiles measuring 24 cm x 24cm, weaves the entire project and draws its architecture.

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With no intermediate support points, metal beams (PRS) with a span of 15 m connect one façade to the other. They are connected to the exostructure by reduced steel connectors of 15 cm x 15 cm to limit their impact.

The structural grid was built like a giant Meccano structure and, appearing on the horizon like a spidery figure, it emphasizes the mainly dry nature of the site.

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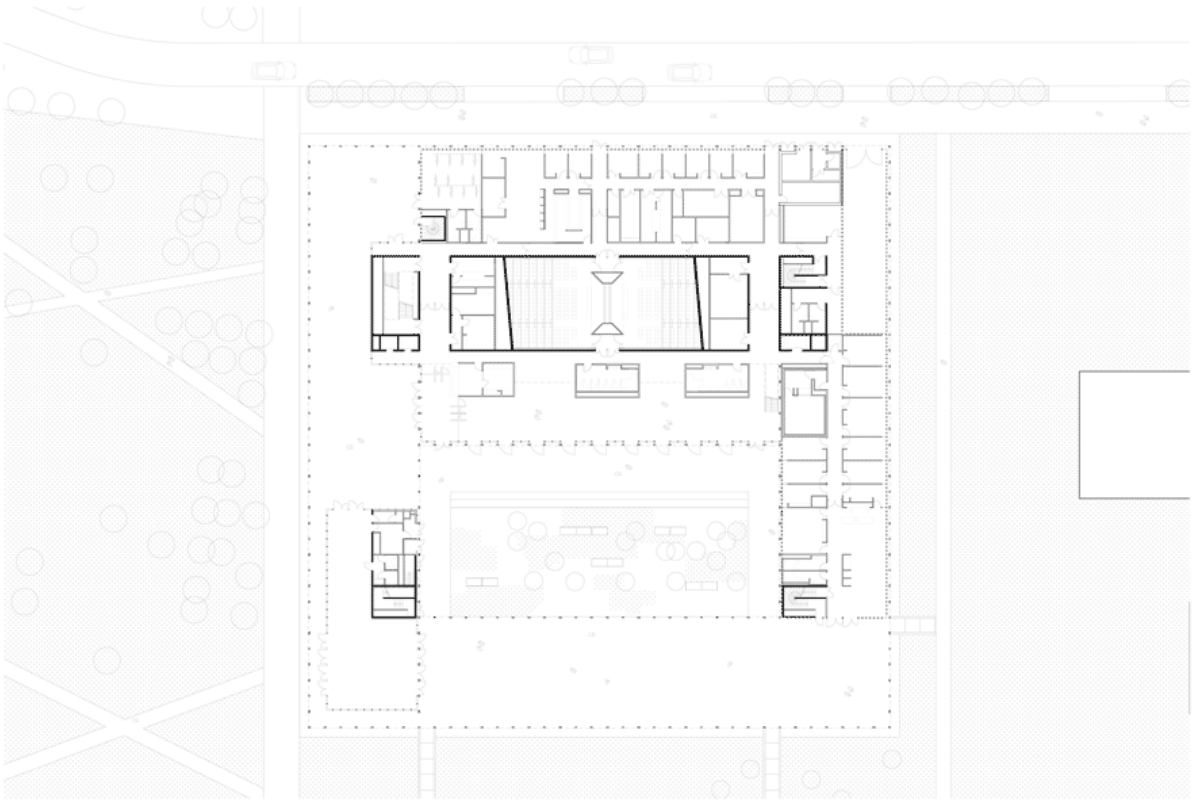
Inside, the structure remains present because it is always visible, recalling that the constructive expression lies at the root of both the order and the meaning: "I no longer separate the idea of the temple from that of its edification," (*Eupalinos*, Paul Valéry).

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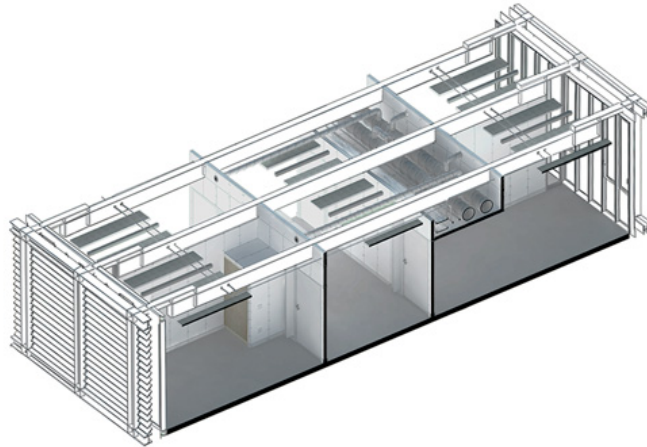
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