architecture as archaeology
This architecture is a renovation of a brick warehouse built in 1896. It was designed and built to storage cocoons and uses the latest technology of 120 years ago. Eventually it became a national listed building and a preservation and renovation project was planned to transform it to a community center for the city of Honjo.
We had 2 ways to approach the design of the building. One is the detachable seismic reinforcement, where we carefully observed the warehouse and discovered the different dimension and construction systems used. The second is preserving the traces of the buildings conversions as the representation of the accumulated events of the past. We reconstructed history by connecting the historical fragments left. This is an archaeology way of designing in architecture.