



# Evangelical Lutheran Church of Geneva

## Presentation of the Renovation Project

Forum on March 22, 2026

Friedrich Lohmann,  
Chairperson of the Church Council



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4. Financial Funding



Our church building:

- constructed 1762-66,
- owned by the Church,
- since 1921 one of the first buildings in Geneva under protection as a cultural monument.



## Last bigger renovation: 1990 - 1992

- Establishment of Cave voûtée as usable space
- Extension of the stair case for access to Cave voûtée
- Rearrangement of the sanctuary (from square to circle, new table and lectern, individual chairs)
- Establishment of community rooms on the third floor



1996 - 1998:  
Renovation of roof and  
facade



2013 - 2017:  
Renovation of most of  
the windows (three-  
layer glass while  
maintaining the  
ancient framework)



2013 - 2017:

Renovation of most of the windows  
(three-layer glass while maintaining  
the ancient framework)

Lesson learnt:

Problems that occurred  
(difficult communication  
with the Cantonal  
monument service, an  
architect who was not  
experienced with the  
specifics of a protected  
building) should be  
avoided in the future.



## 2019 - 2021: Renovation of Cave voûtée

(Removal of the layer of concrete that was put in the 1990's and was cause for damage to the sandstones)

First collaboration with the architect office Féroé.

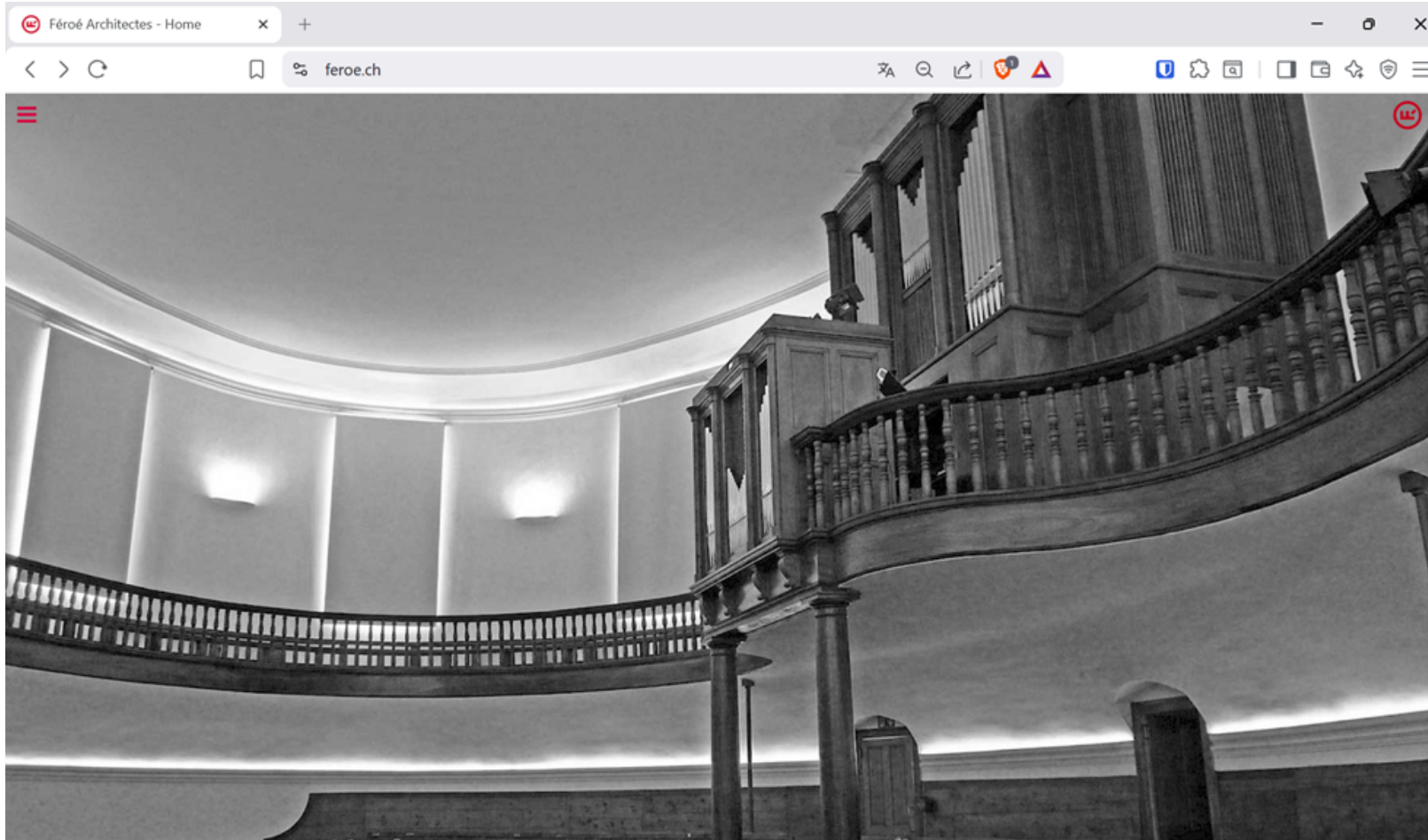


2023:

Renovation of the  
portal



**Planned work,**  
In cooperation with the  
Geneva architect office  
Féroé SA  
(Architect Christian Foehr  
and team)



Temple de Chêne-Bougeries, constructed in 1758,  
renovated by Féroé SA 2005-08

# Féroé SA

- Huge experience with protected monuments, especially church buildings
- Christian Foehr was for a long time member of the cantonal monuments commission



Together with the architect, a project was prepared that combines the following aspects:

- Reinforcement of the statics of the upper floors,
- Improvement of fire protection,
- Better accessibility of all floors for people with reduced mobility,
- Better protection of the cave voûtée against incoming water,
- Renovation of the sanctuary and the rooms on the 3rd floor.



Broken horizontal beam  
in the pastors' apartment

In any case to be done:

- Reinforcement of the statics of the upper floors,
- Improvement of fire protection.



## Cave voûtée:

- Protection against incoming groundwater by the installation of a drainage under the garden,
- New lighting,
- Natural light from Rue de la Fontaine by changes to the door (glass).



## Gemeinderaum:

- Barrier-free access from Rue de la Fontaine,
- Renovation of the ceiling.







(symbolic image)

## Staircase:

- Installation of an elevator between basement (kitchen, WC) and 3rd floor in the middle of the staircase.
- This elevator won't be wheel-chair accessible due to missing space, but it will largely improve accessibility for people with reduced mobility.



## Sanctuary:

- Change of lighting to LED,
- Painting of the walls,
- Renewal of the floor,
- Zone with improved acoustics for people with hearing aids,
- Renewal of the chairs,
- New, more mobile tables,
- Replacement of the rug.



## Garden:

- Installation of a permanent entrance ramp from the side,
- Renovation of the fence,
- Setting of a drainage in the ground,
- New plastering.



## Third floor:

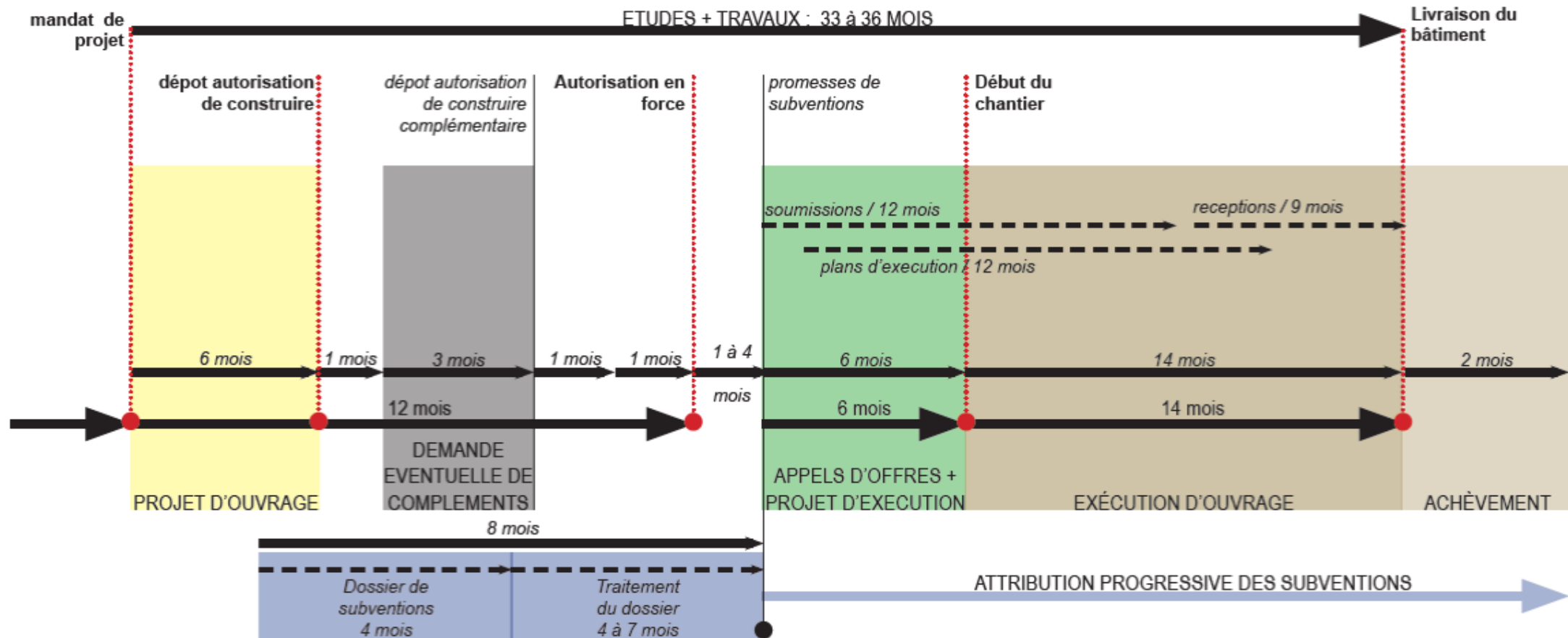
- Renovation of the wooden floor,
- Renovation of the sanitary facilities.

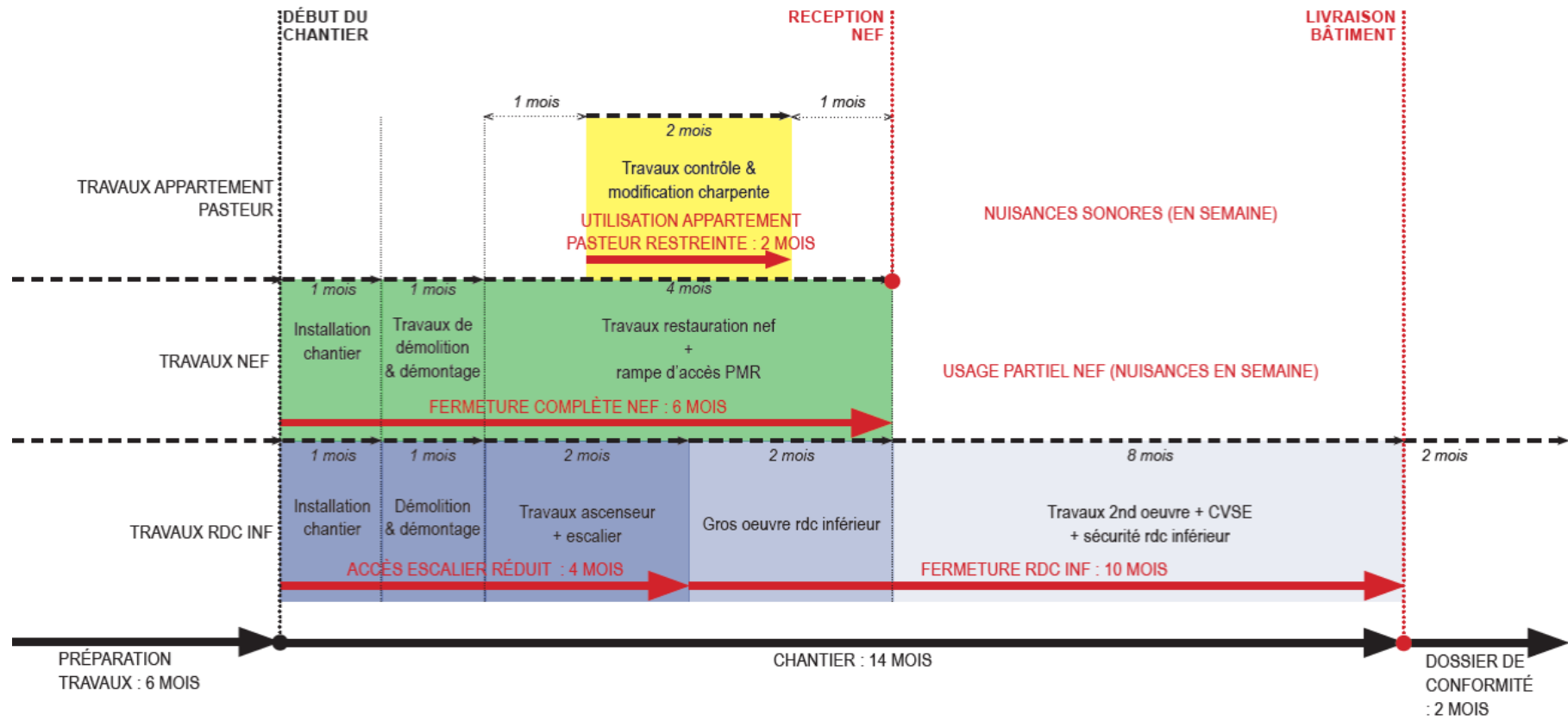


On all floors:

- Installation of a fire and smoke detection system that is directly connected with the Geneva fire brigade,
- Installation of fire-resistant doors to and from the staircase,
- Noise reduction between all floors.

# Timeline







## Financial funding

- The estimated cost is currently 5 Mill. CHF.
- No stone will be moved before funding is secured.
- The aim is to get all funding from institutional sponsors (Fondation Wilsdorf, Loterie Romande).

We are optimistic that we can realize the project as planned:

- The relationship to the Geneva monument service has significantly improved since the building jubilee in 2016 (they sponsored the historic study and an expertise on the statics of the upper floors).
- All requests for funding for projects of our Church and the Petershöfli have been answered favorably in the last years.
- Féroé Architects has a lot of experience and a good reputation (e.g. currently renovation of Temple de la Fusterie).
- The cultural value of our church building was emphasized by the publication of the historic study in cooperation with the Society for the History of Swiss Art. Its maintenance is in public interest.

