

Acoustics Consultant:	NAGATA ACOUSTICS, Inc.
Architect:	Arata Isozaki & Associates
Owners:	Shufunotomo Co., Ltd.
Sound & Communications:	NAGATA ACOUSTICS, Inc.
Construction Cost:	¥ 7,000 Million JPY

Casals Hall, named after Pablo Casals, was opened in Tokyo in October 1987. The hall, with 511 seats, was planned and designed exclusively for chamber music and smaller ensembles.

The room shape is typical shoebox with side balconies and flat ground floor. The side walls of the main floor are of pre-cast concrete panels imitating draperies in order to scatter sound reflections. The upper part of the side walls and ceiling are finished with laminated gypsum boards of a minimum thickness of 24mm to avoid excess absorption at low frequencies.

Just after the opening of the hall, the excessive liveness of the stage space designed in consideration of the future installation of the organ was pointed out by a few music players and some members of the audience, especially in piano recitals. In March 1997, an organ with 41 stops was installed at the front part of the hall as part of the 10th anniversary festivities. This organ, designed by J. Ahrendt, is the first baroque style organ for 16th-17th century organ music in Japan. After the installation of the organ, the problem of excess liveness has been resolved.

BUILDING DETAILS AND ACOUSTICS DATA

Location 1-6 kanda-surugadai, chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 101-0062, Japan

Tel 03-3294-1229

Seating Capacity 511

Room Volume 6,060 CM

Surface Area 2,260 SM

Stage Area 150 SM

Reverberation Time (Mid-Frequency)

Unoccupied 1.7 sec

Occupied 1.4 sec

Finishing Materials

Ceiling : 2-3 layers of gypsum board (12 mm x 2-3)

Stage Wall : 40 mm artificial wood

Lower Side Wall : 40 mm pre-cast concrete panel

Upper Side Wall : 20 mm artificial wood

Floor : 20 mm wooden board on concrete

Seat : Upholstered

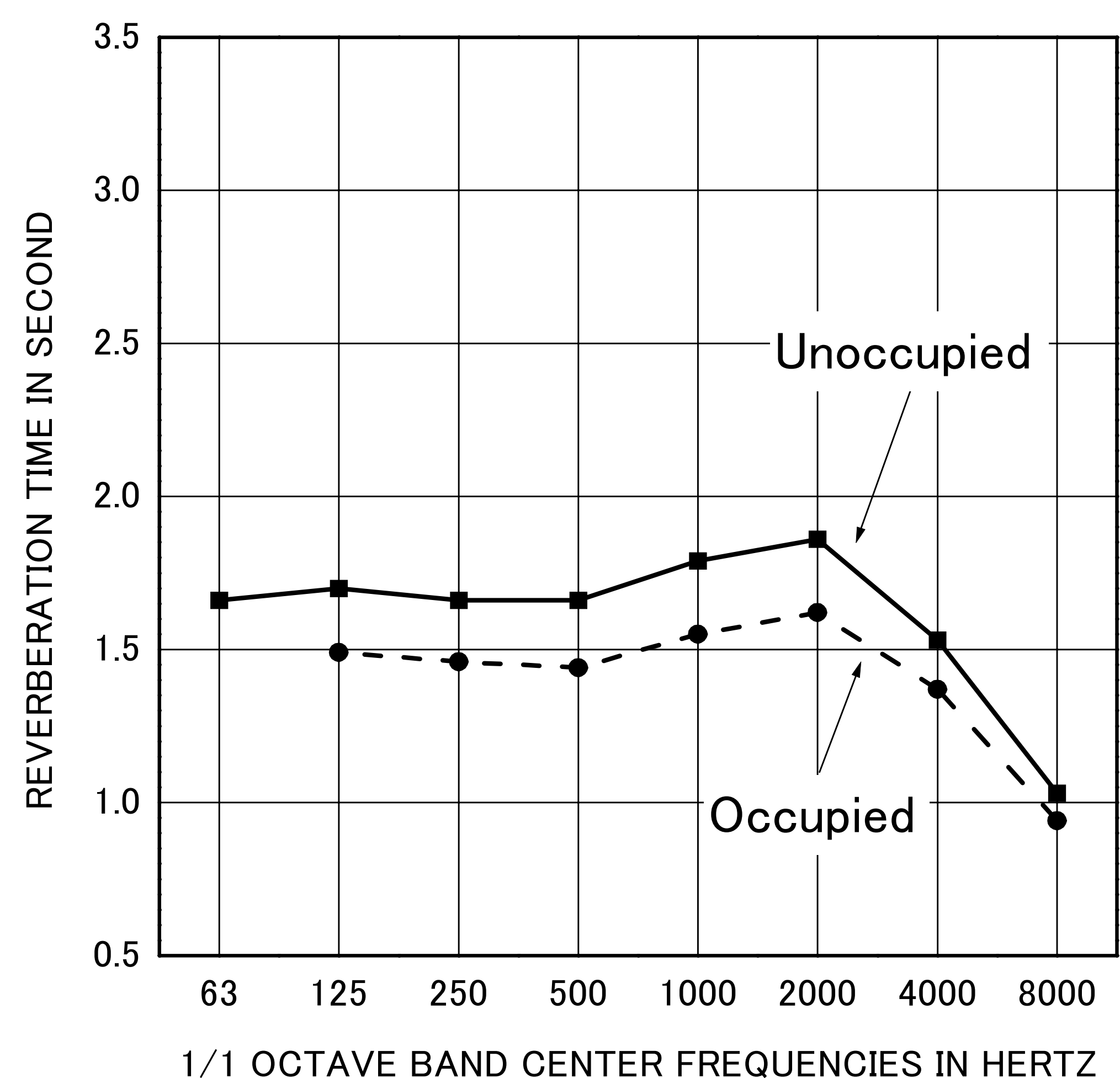
Organ : 41 stops (Jürgen Ahrend, Germany)

Noise Level : NC-15

Other Facilities : Vories Hall (100-150 seats)

Total Cost : ¥ 7,000 Million JPY

Total Floor Area : 22,232 SM



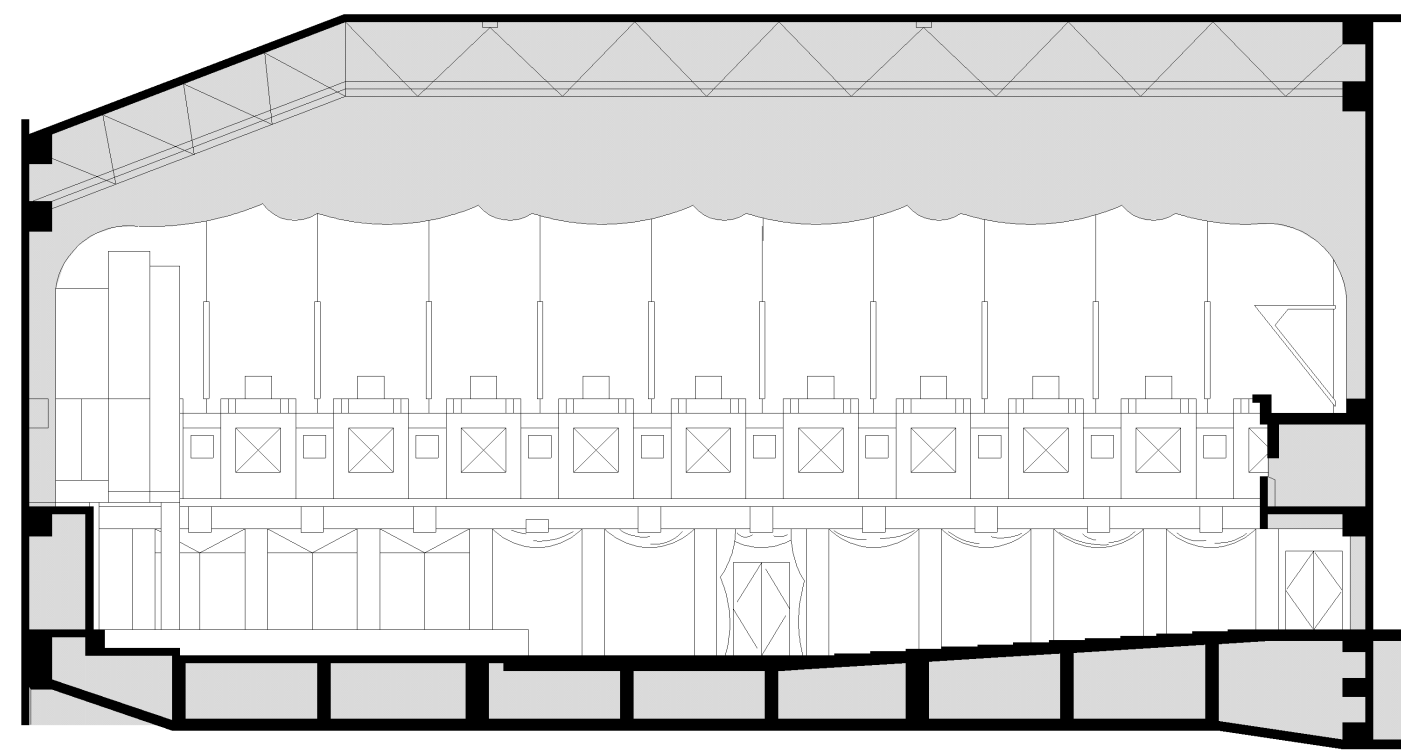
REVERBERATION TIME

CASALS HALL

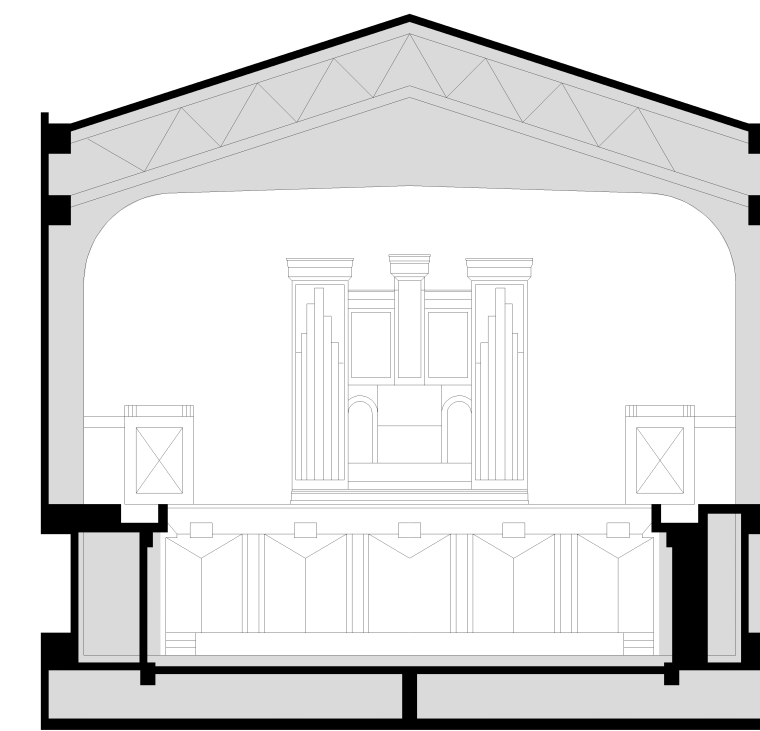
TOKYO JAPAN

1987

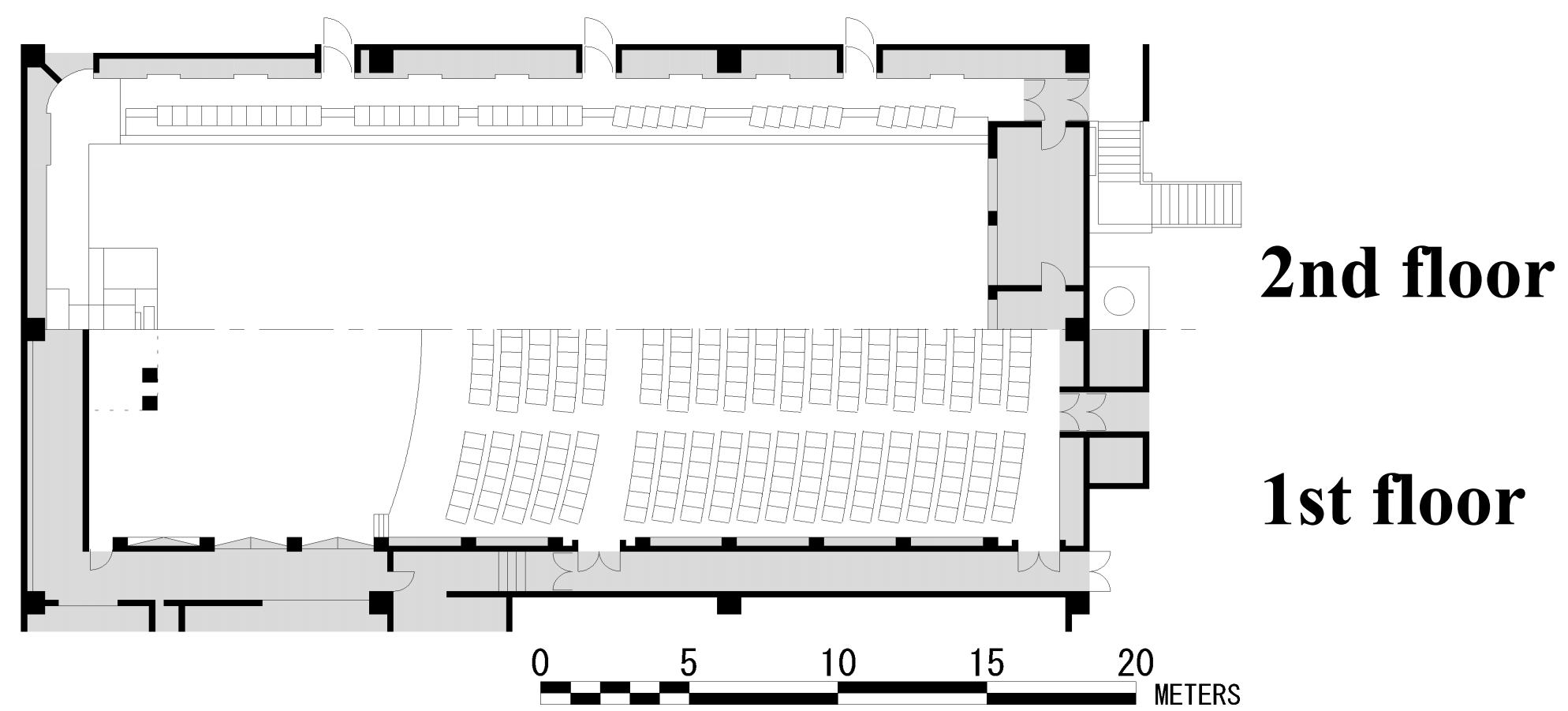
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ACOUSTICS



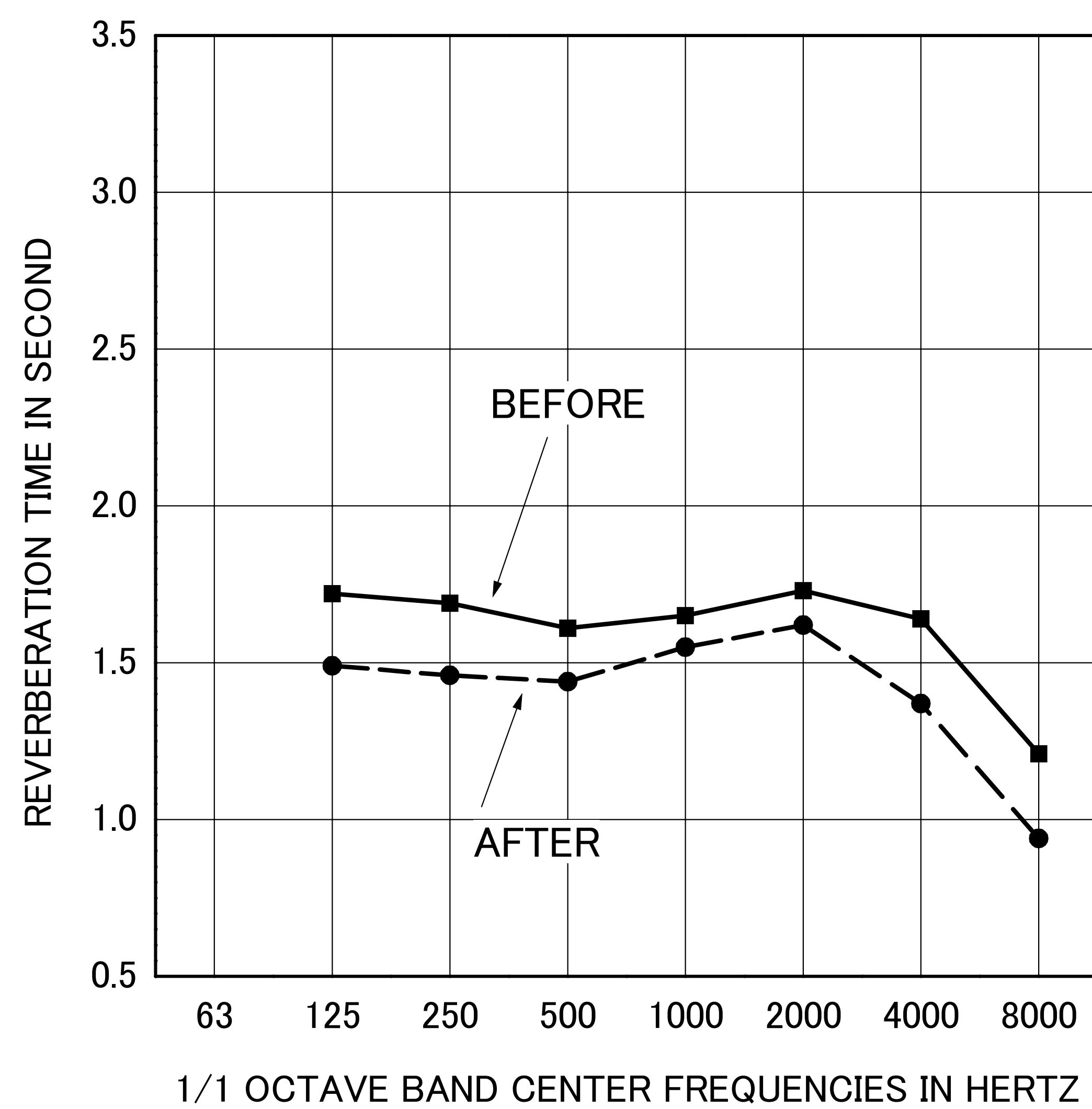
LONGITUDINAL SECTION



TRANSVERS SECTION



PLAN



REVERBERATION TIME (OCCUPIED)
BEFORE / AFTER ORGAN INSTLATION



SIDE WALL
(PRE-CAST CONCRETE PANEL)