RESIDUAL ARCADIA

Inter BAÜ/TU Berlin — Atelier Le Balto — CoRDA/Epoka

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A new narrative for the future of the Durana Region cannot be developed from scratch, we have to start in media res–in the middle of things. Durana's reality, it's fragmented urban growth has to be accepted.

The project Residual Arcadia is aiming at the strengthening of the landscape qualities in the region and the orchestration of urban growth in view of its ecological, social and economic opportunities.

Instead of being controlled by an overall masterplan, the Tirana-Durres corridor will rather gradually deploy its specific qualities if its fragmented texture will be embedded within the overall framework of the cultural landscape of the Durana Region.

The future narrative for Residual Arcadia is composed by two constitutional elements:

1
THE FIELD

2
THE PROMENADES

FIG 1.
Arcadic landscape

FIG 2.
Green Archipelago
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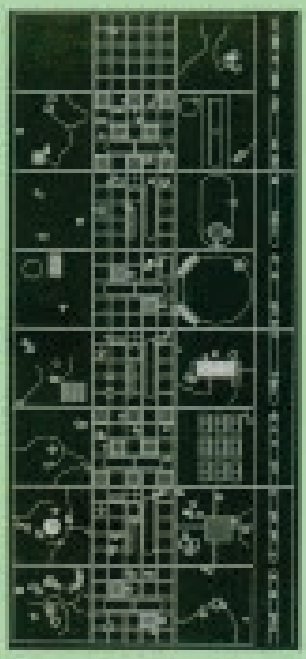

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FIG 2-4. Reference Images for the three programmatic claims

PROGRAMMATIC CLAIMS

PERFORMATIVE PLANNING

Based on the two constitutional elements of the narrative for Residual Arcadia (the field, the promenades) the performance of diverse actors and agencies will be tested through proto-typical interventions aiming at the exploration of the potential oportunities for the future development of the Durana Region.

CULTIVATING THE LANDSCAPE

The main quality of the Durana Region lies in its landscape features: the topography of the Tirana-Durres corridor, its land that has been cultivated by the Albanian people and that is marked by the abundant vegetation of the Mediterranean. Residual Arcadia developes the cultivated landscape of Durana further by paying particular attention to in-between and left-over spaces.

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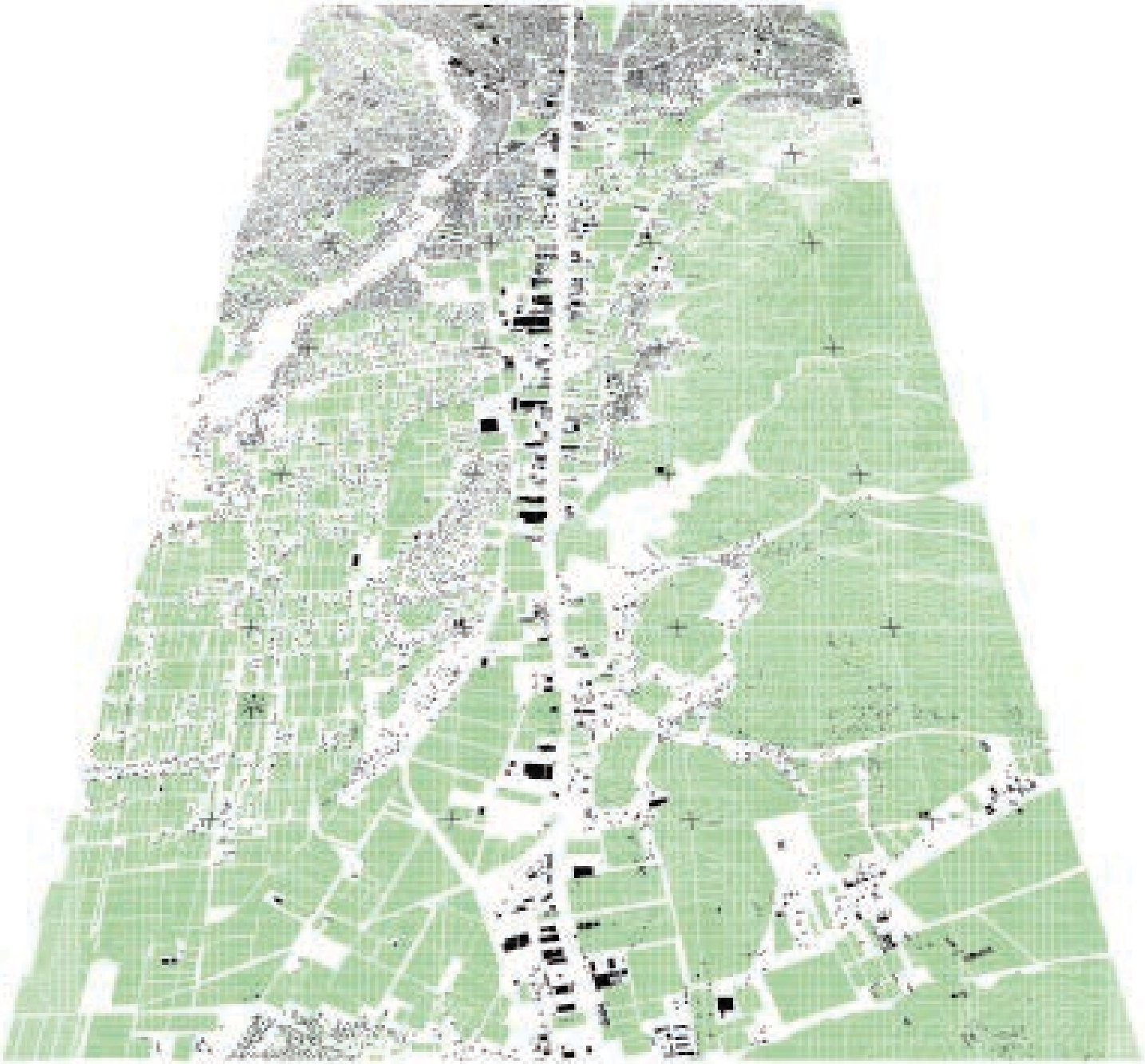
The future vision of Residual Arcadia is anchored in the concept of an archipelago of urban and rural fragments that are embedded in an overall green carped of arcadic landscape. Both, the green carped and the fragmented urbanized patches are to be developed according to negotiation processes and mutual agreements between various comunes and stakeholders.

COORDINATED DIVERSITY

Qualitative improvement of Resdiual Arcadia can only be achieved through coordinated orchestration and with the constructive will of the people. Programmatic diversification, consciousness for natural resources and a certain level of self-organization are crucial preconditions for a new type of living model situated between city and nature.

FIG 6-9. Durand's urbanized landscapes

1
THE FIELD



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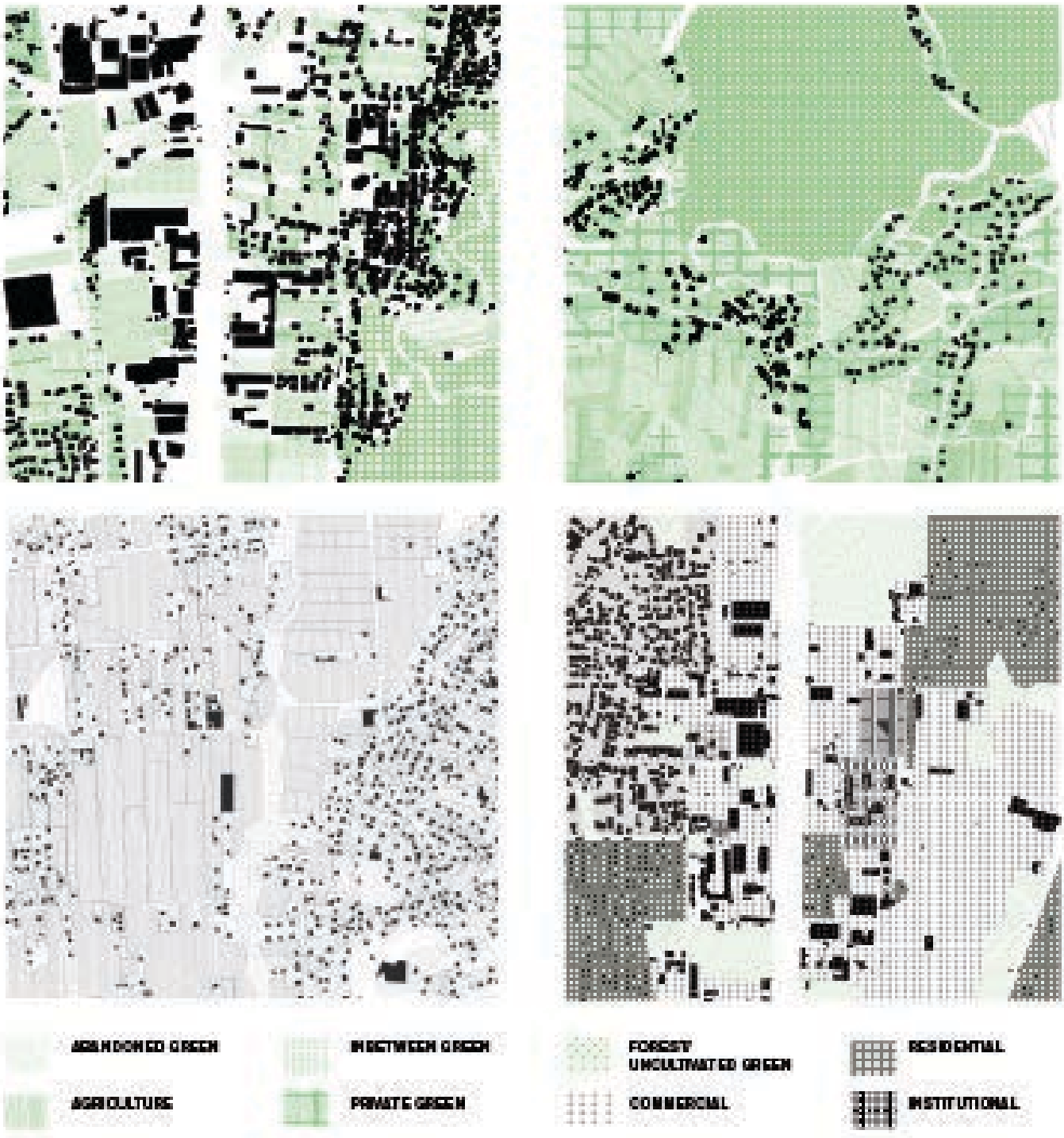
The Durana Region is marked by green spaces that are more and more consumed by urbanization processes resulting in a heterogeneous patchwork that is neither representing the city nor the country side or pristine nature. The project accepts the hybird nature of urban sprawl but considers the landscape as the framework that holds the divers patches together.



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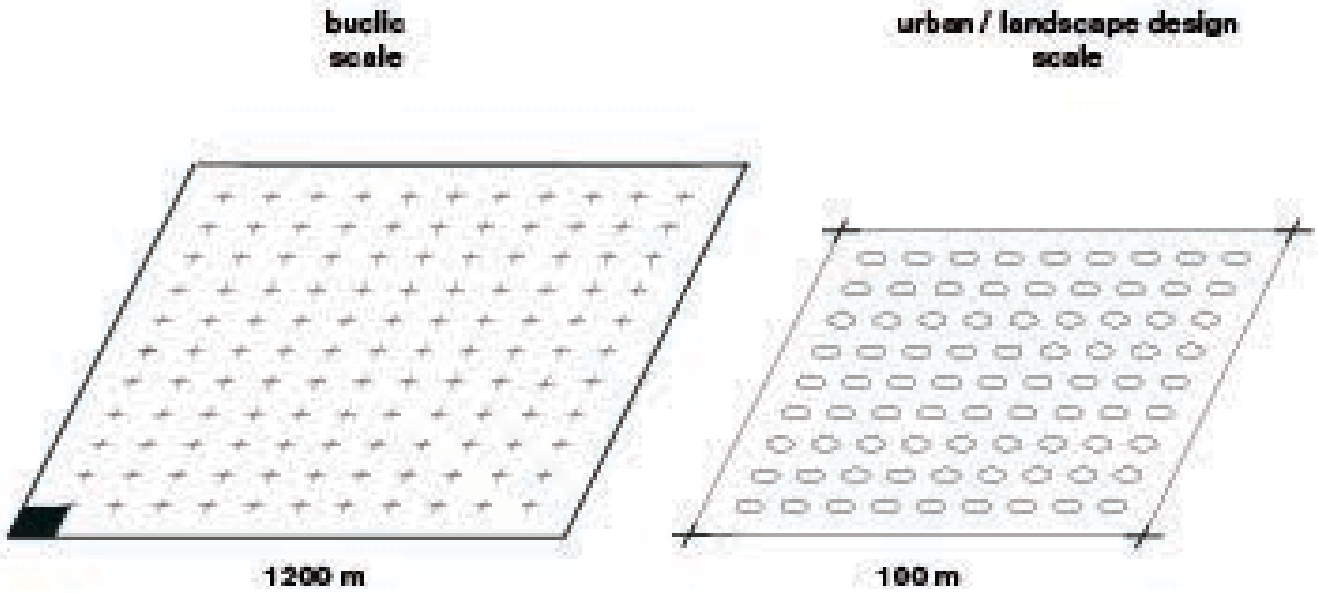

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LANDSCAPE ACTORS

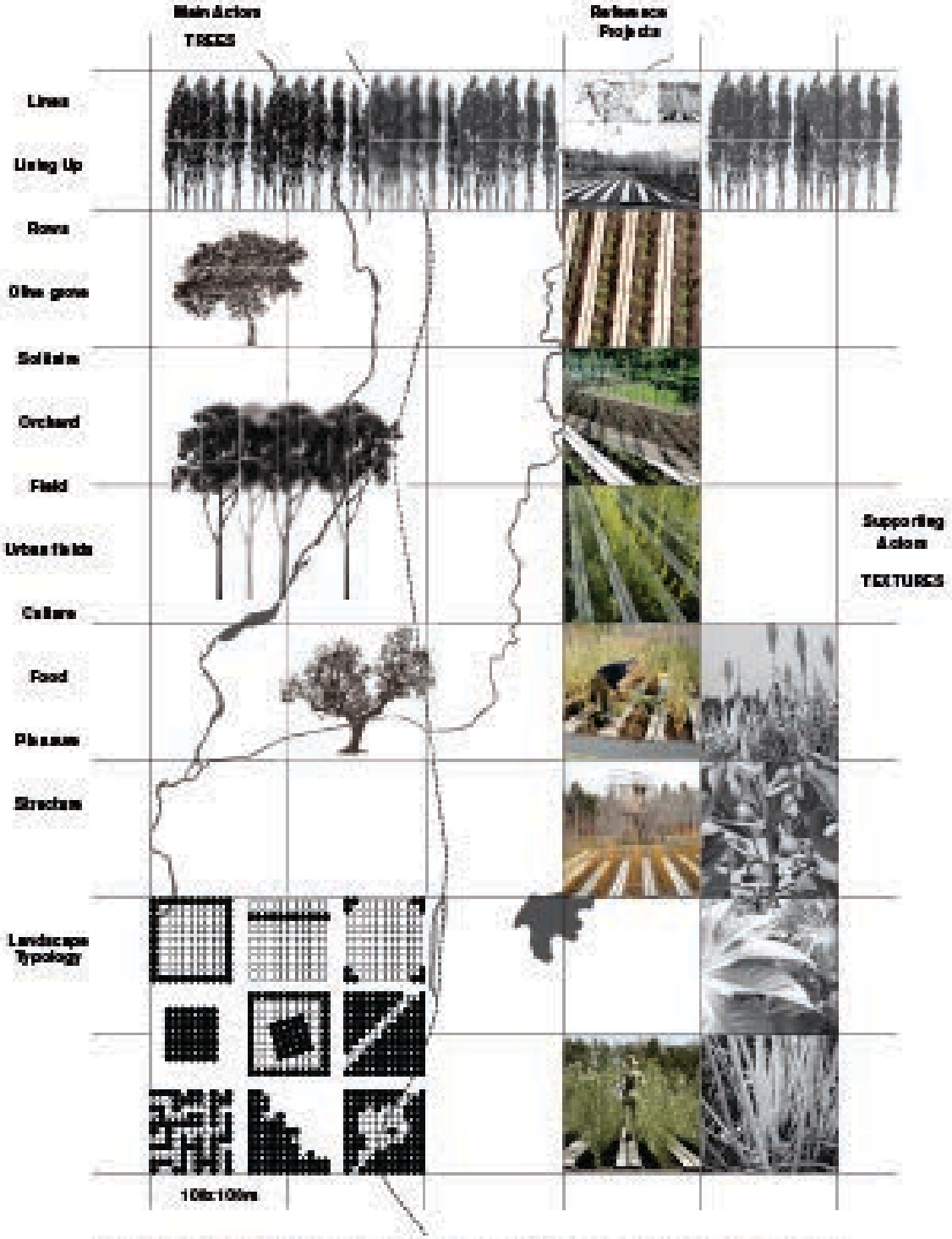


FIG 18. Diagram showing the various ways of using planting actors: a framework, a clearing or the use of lines in the landscape

The planting scheme aims to highlight the site's identity in different scales and places through the introduction of different actors (trees, shrubs, vegetables and climbing plants). The implantation of specific trees provides a tool for territorial measurement and development. They can be used as landmarks along the promenades and stage paths, residual spaces, agriculture & urban landscape.

PLANTING SCHEME

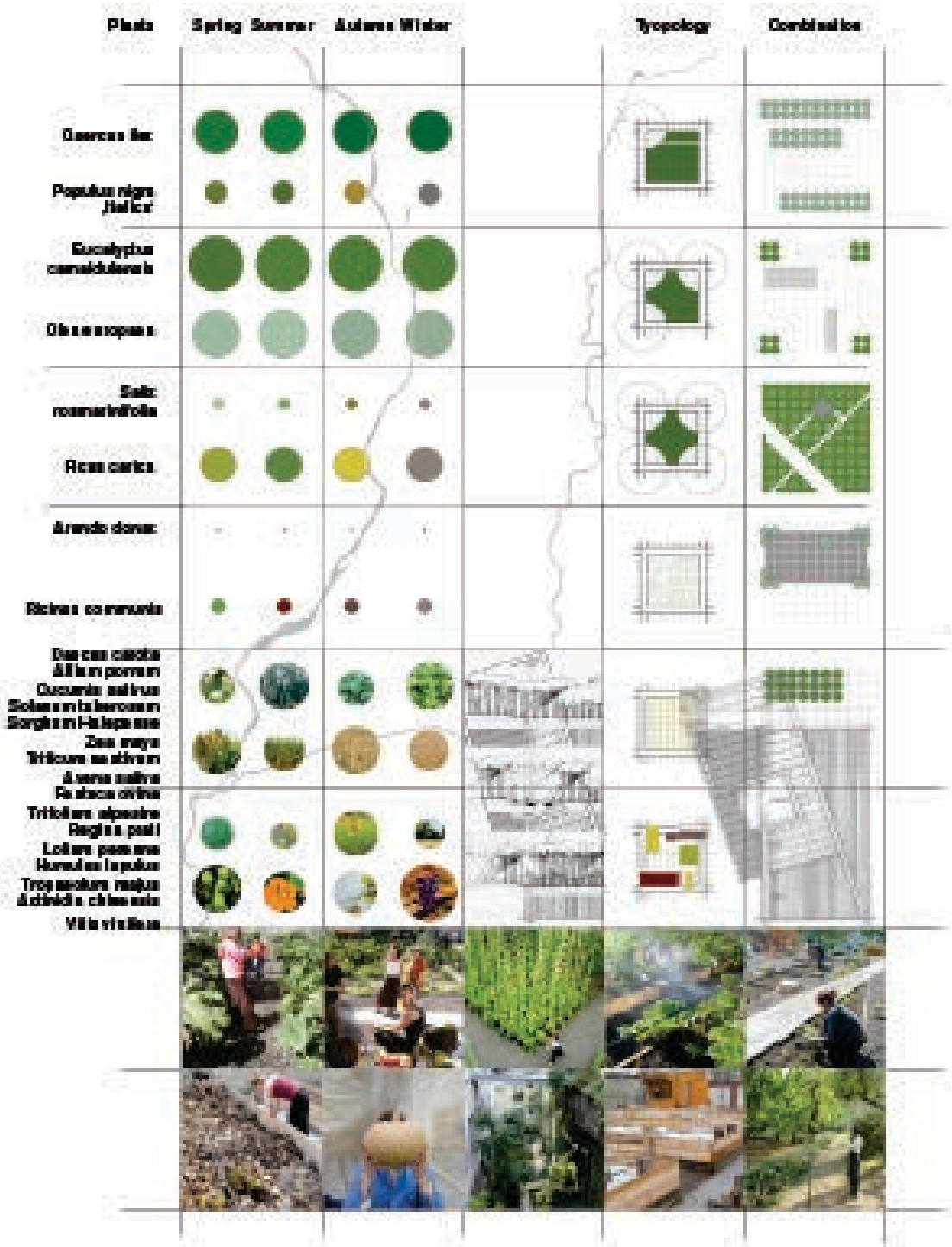


FIG 17. Vocabulary of the planting scheme and its performance during the seasons

An arrangement of trees with lower shrubs and plants will create various atmospheres. This method aims to implant the projects progressively within the sites without adulterate them, but rather amplify their own characteristics. The recognizable and adapted vegetal basis will interweave with the existing landscape as well as encourage and guide agro-tourism within a sustainable agriculture development.

PLANTING SCHEME

FIG 18.
Public policies from ‚People's States Power' organizing collective actions for shaping the landscape.

FIG 19.
‚Voluntary Work' executed by the Albanian people in the 70s.

FIG 20.
Painting representing collective production of infrastructure and agricultural land.

Working the fields collectively is traditionally anchored in Albania pertaining to the socialist period. What has been framed as ‚People's State Power' or ‚Voluntary Work' contributed largely to the construction of infrastructure and the modelling of the landscape for terraced agriculture and for drainage systems in the marchlands. By introducing ‚Activators' the project proposal refers to the performative quality of collective action for the implementation of the planting schemes through ‚Action Gardening'—public happenings the will enhance the identification with the place.

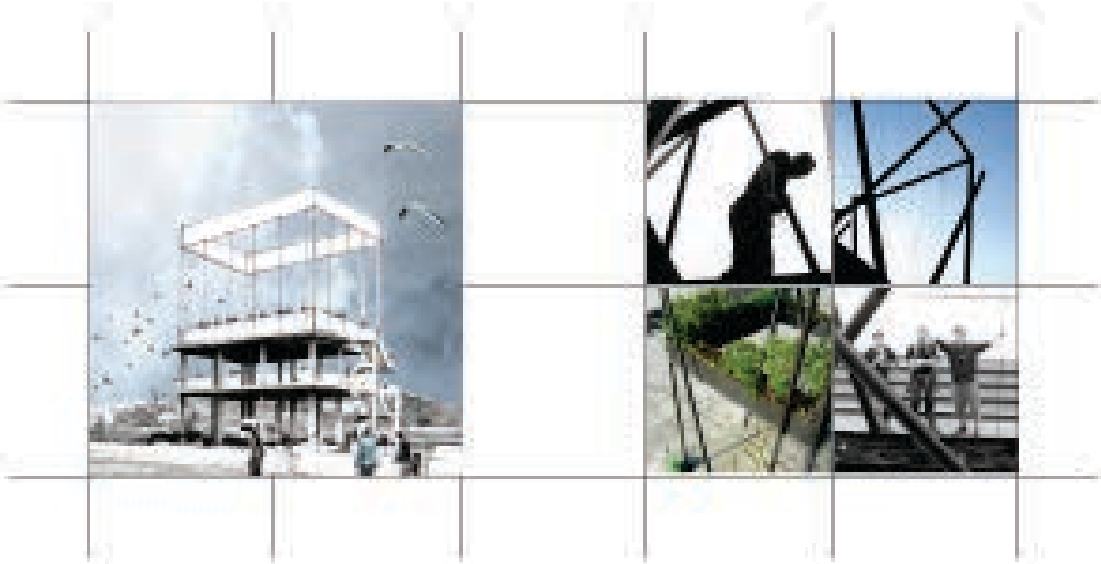
ACTIVATORS

FIG 22. Temporary structures activating the sites during the phase of implementation and creating visibility for the project

‚Activators' are temporary structures that operate as billboards anouncing the planting performance and the installment of public equipments with the contribution of locals, students and other professionals. The ‚activators' remain on a site during the gardening activity and will be removed to another location as soon as the initiation phase of the project is finished.

ACTIVATORS

FIG 21. Introduction of planting patterns as preparation for performing the art of Action Gardening



The landscape architects from Atelier Le Balto are drawing from manifold experiences of planting actions that have been realized in various scales. By installing temporary structures gardening can be realized as cooperative events—activators and green houses serve as storage for equipment but also as land marks by creating visibility for the event.

FIG 23. Temporary structures activating the sites during the phase of implementation

OBSERVATORIES

After activating specific locations with greenery and public equipments observatories will be installed in order to guarantee sustainable develpment of the area on a long-term basis. Observatories are viewing platforms for the contemplation of the Residual Arcadia of Durana. They can also contain public programs such and they act as civic centers for the negotiaton of local planning initiatives.

FIG 24. Observatories for the landscape are marking the field serving as viewing towers and centers for civic action

The observatories are situated along the promenades that cross the longitudinal stretch of the Durana area and they are meeting places for stakeholders, agencies and institutions across local comune structures. As each of the observatories is related to a specific topic they can also extend their function as research centers and laboratories for planning innovation.

FIG 25. Observatory located on the border between bucolic landscape and the fragmented urban

With the creation of various promenades various locations will be linked that can serve as test-sites for the future development of the Durana Region. The promenades are enabling an understanding of the site in direction of the cross section and they serve also as connectors for the longitudinal paths: the highway, the secondary road, the railroad track that will be transformed in a green bicylcle path and the roads in the hinterlands. They are stimulators for the establishment of new mobility concept and they are scenic pathways that enable to experience the cultural landscape of Residual Arcadia.

2
THE PROMENADES

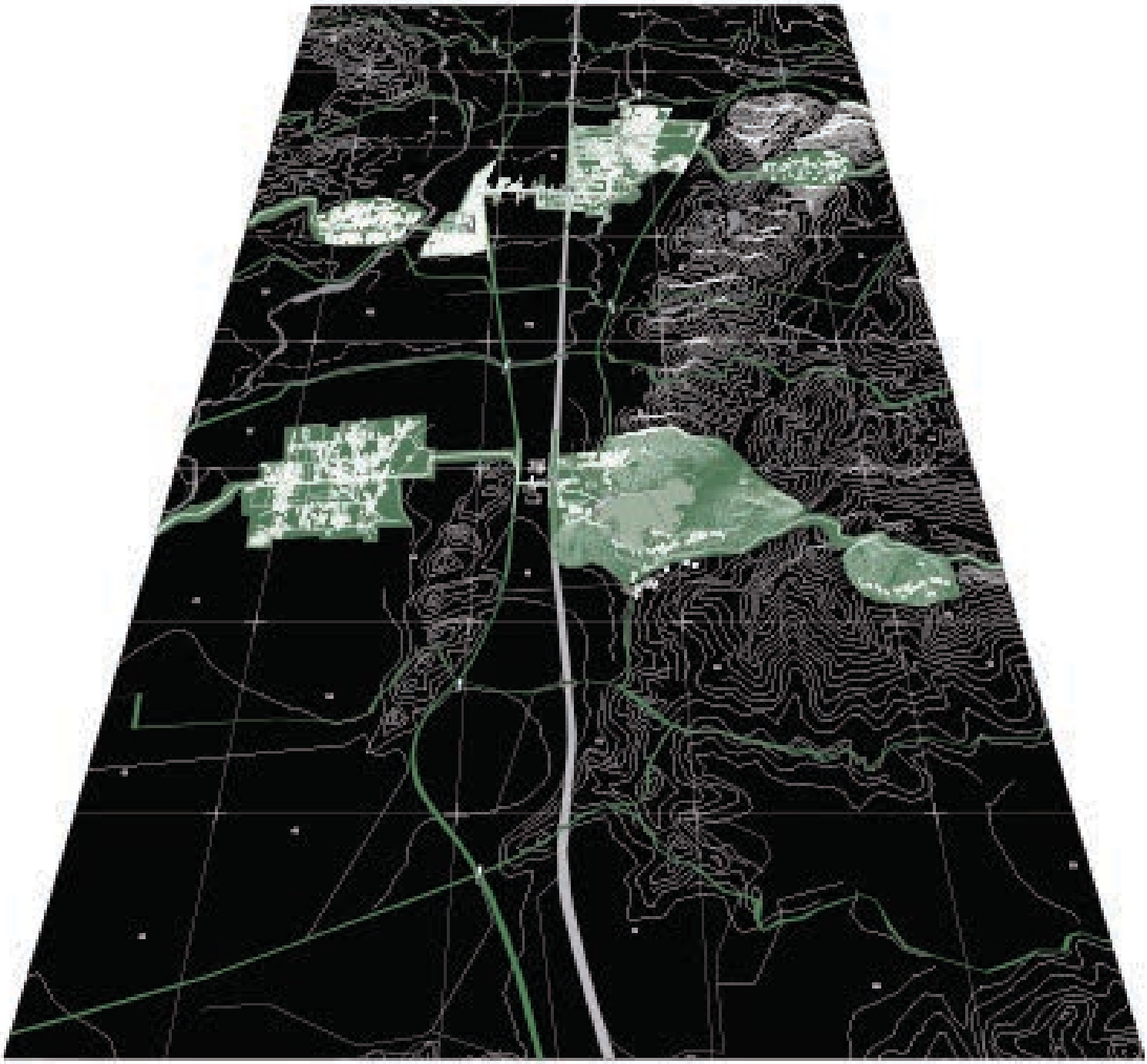
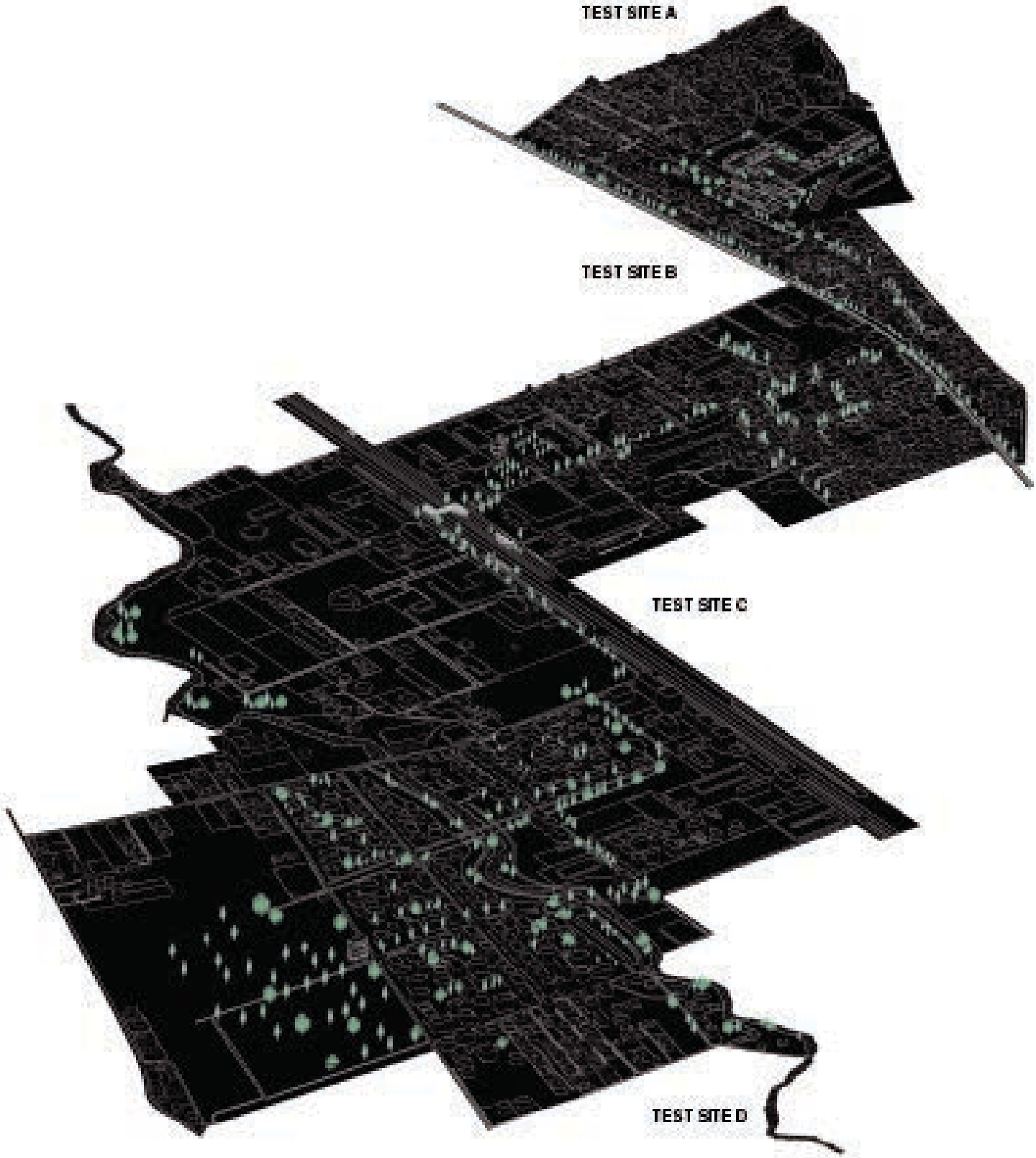
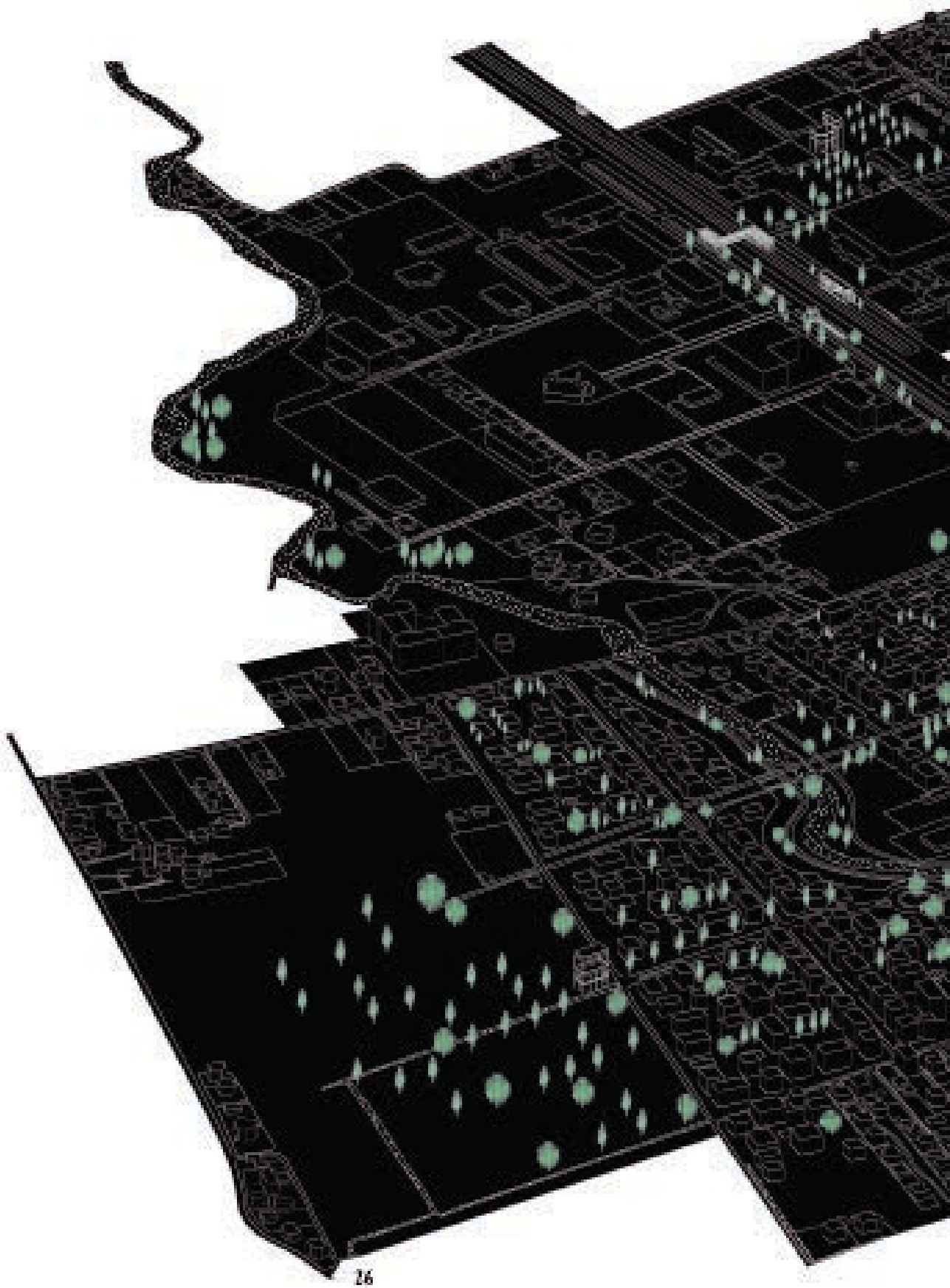
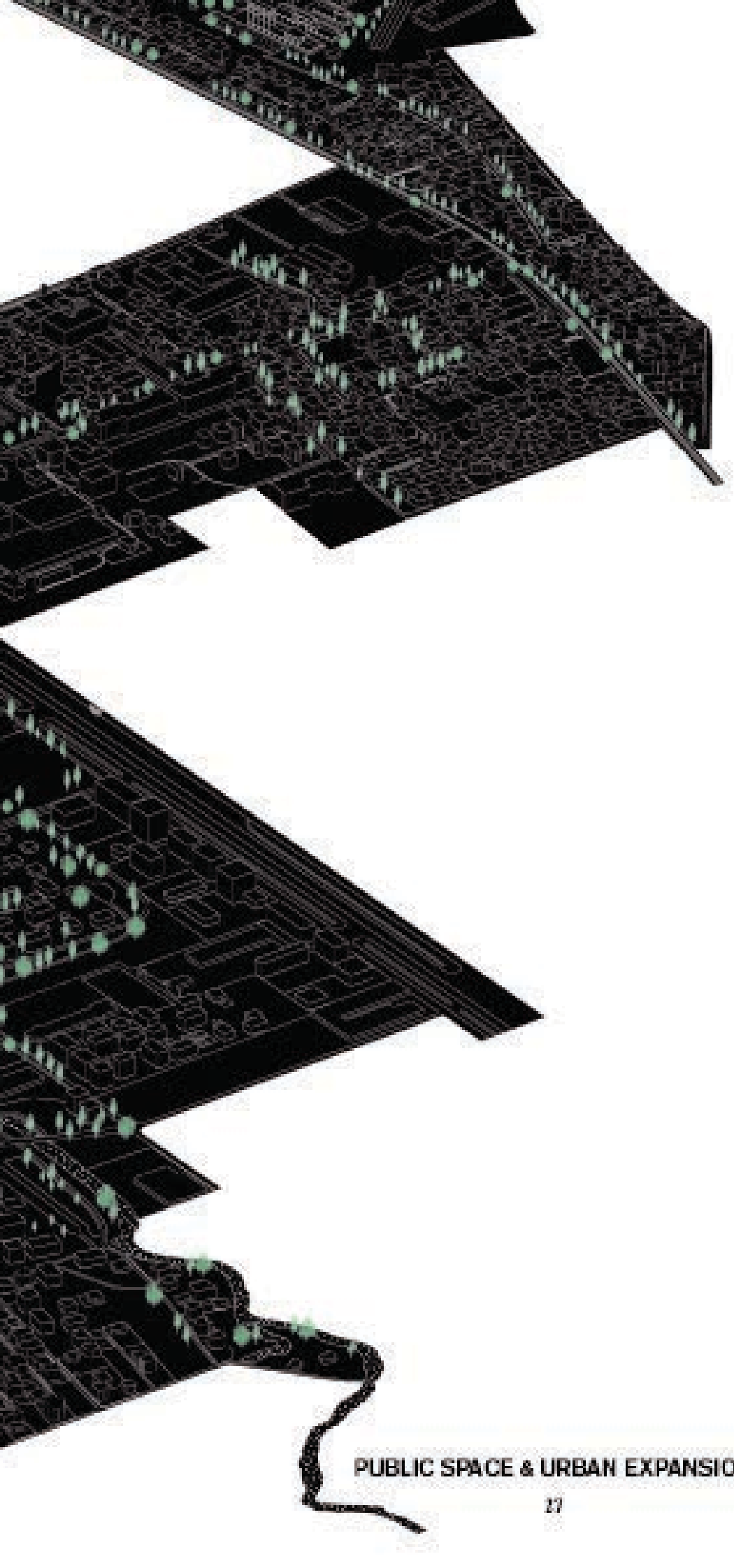


FIG 26. Networ map showing the intersection of diverse paths, activators, observatories and fe-static developments

URBAN PROMENADE





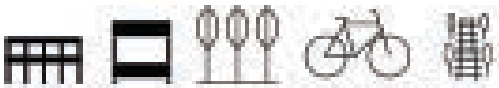


Education, Public Space & Urban Expansion

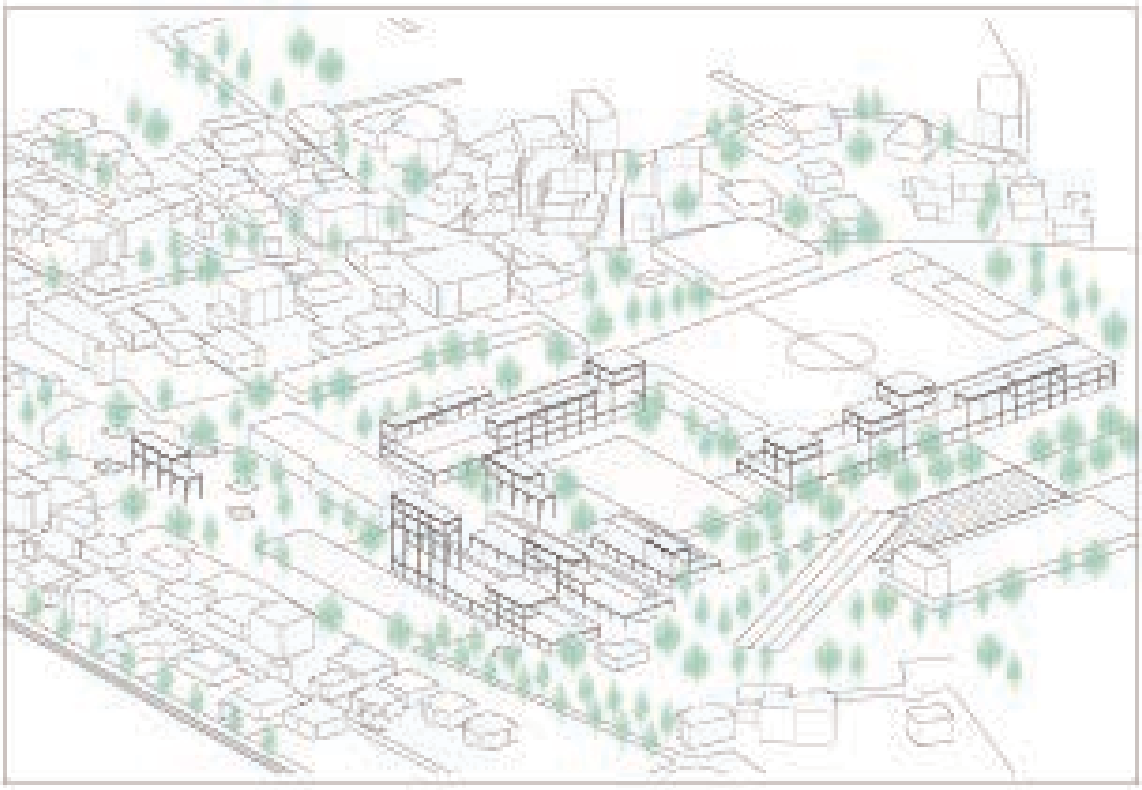
TEST SITE A
Recreation and sports complex

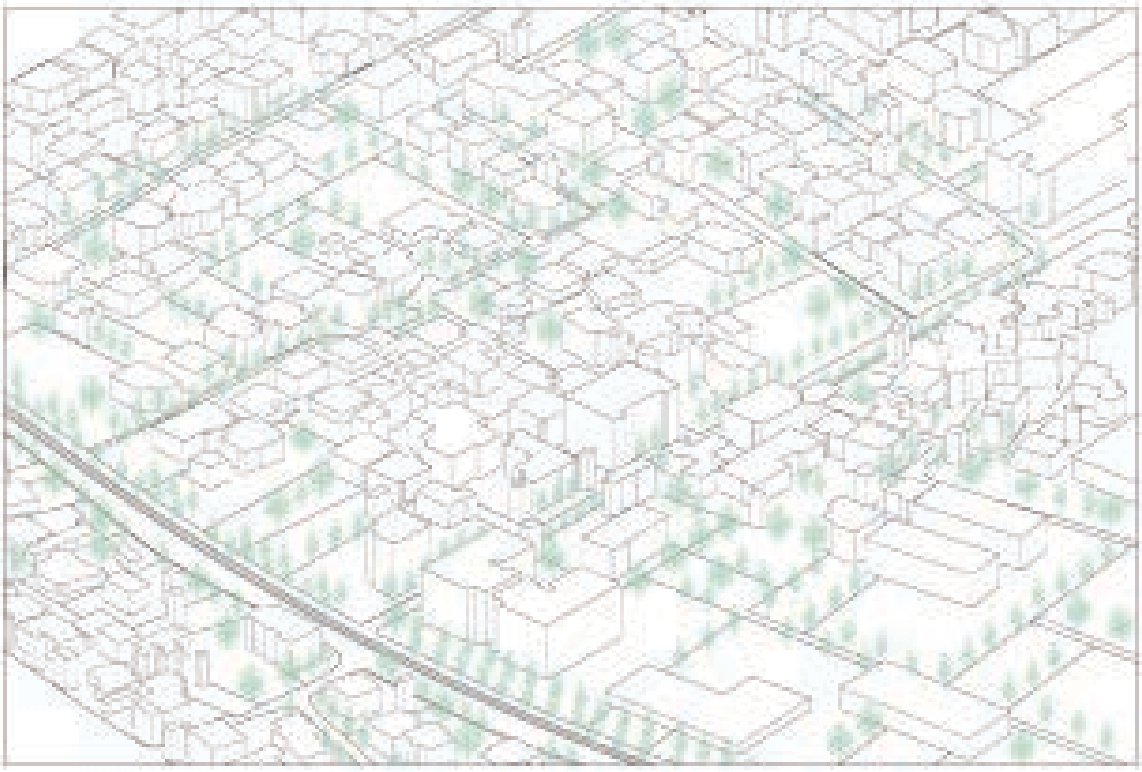
Rehabilitate and adaptate the existing structure for recreation and sport complex.
Introduce plazas within the community.

TEST SITE B
Activation of street & plazas, abandoned railroad



Turn the railroad track into a green bicycle path.
Activate abandoned properties with landscape strategies to revitalize the neighbourhood.



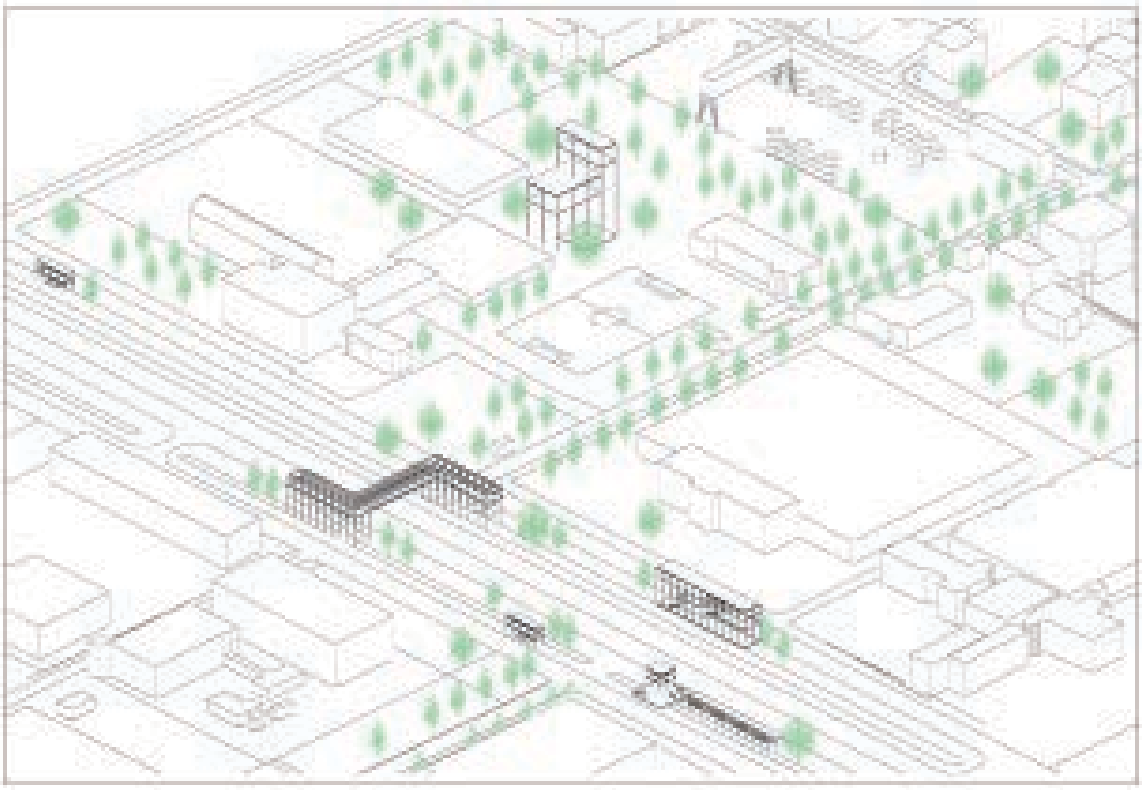


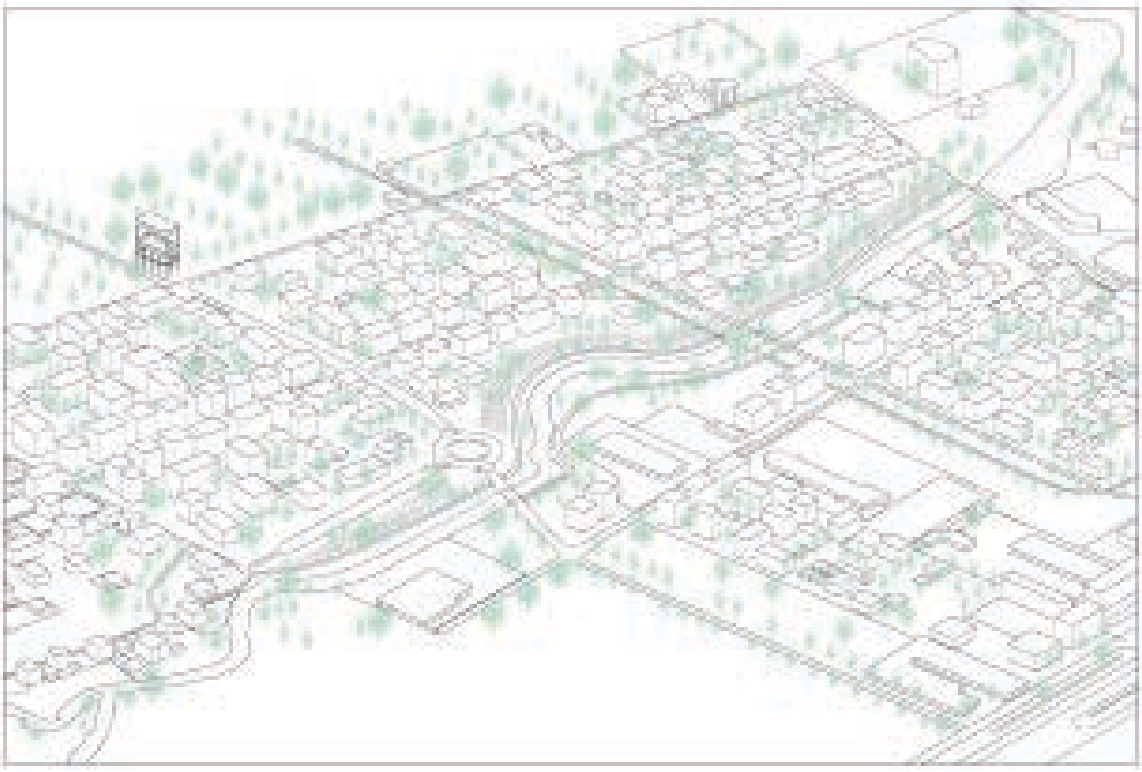
TEST SITE C
Bridging and activation of the secondary street and educational spaces

The bridge structure continues the path for bicycles and pedestrians and provides services, such as market, kiosk and bus stop to activate the secondary street.

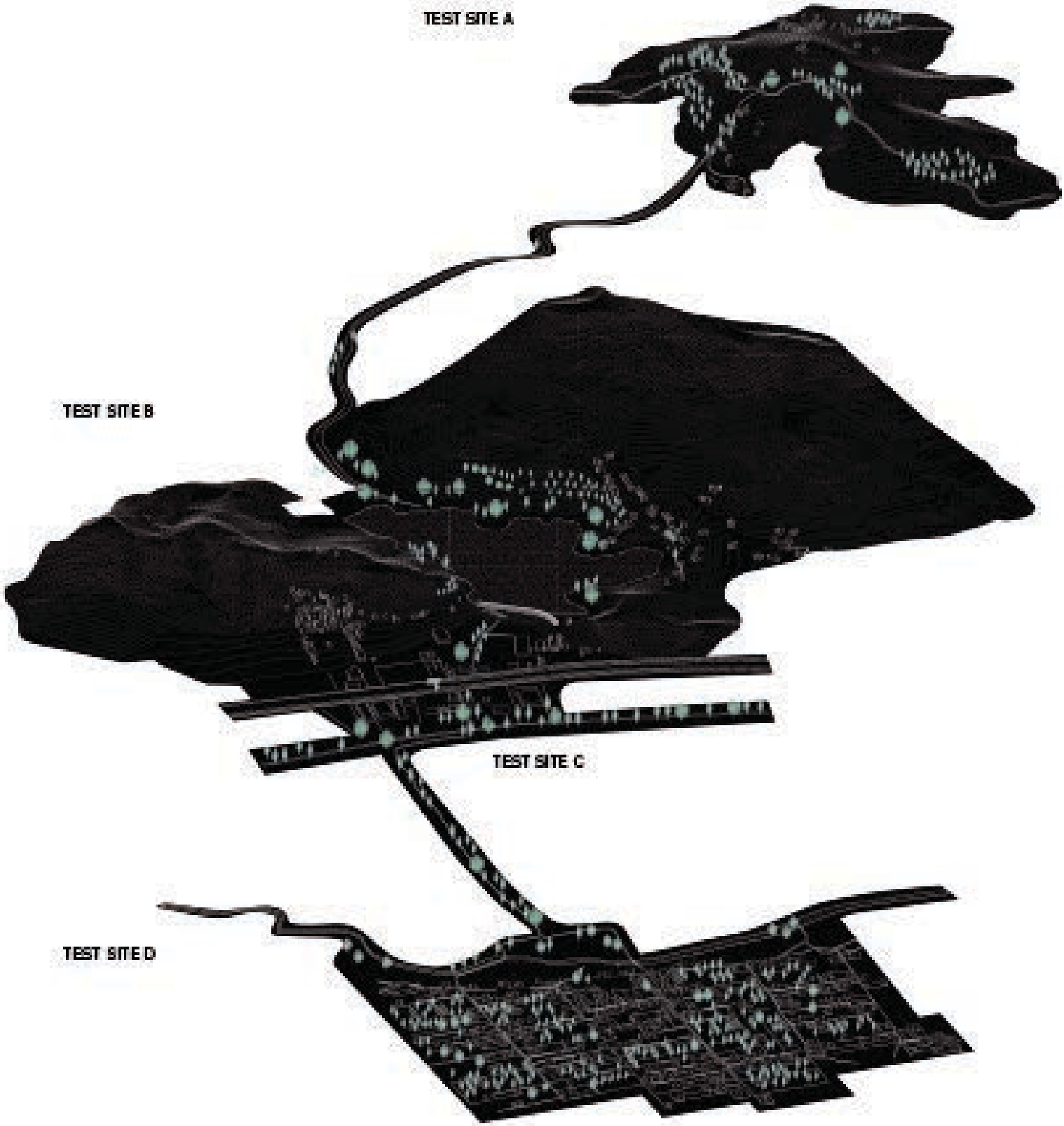
TEST SITE D
Urban expansion and re-naturalization

The re-naturalization works as process of negotiation with the community, by providing building permition in exchange of maintainig the front river.

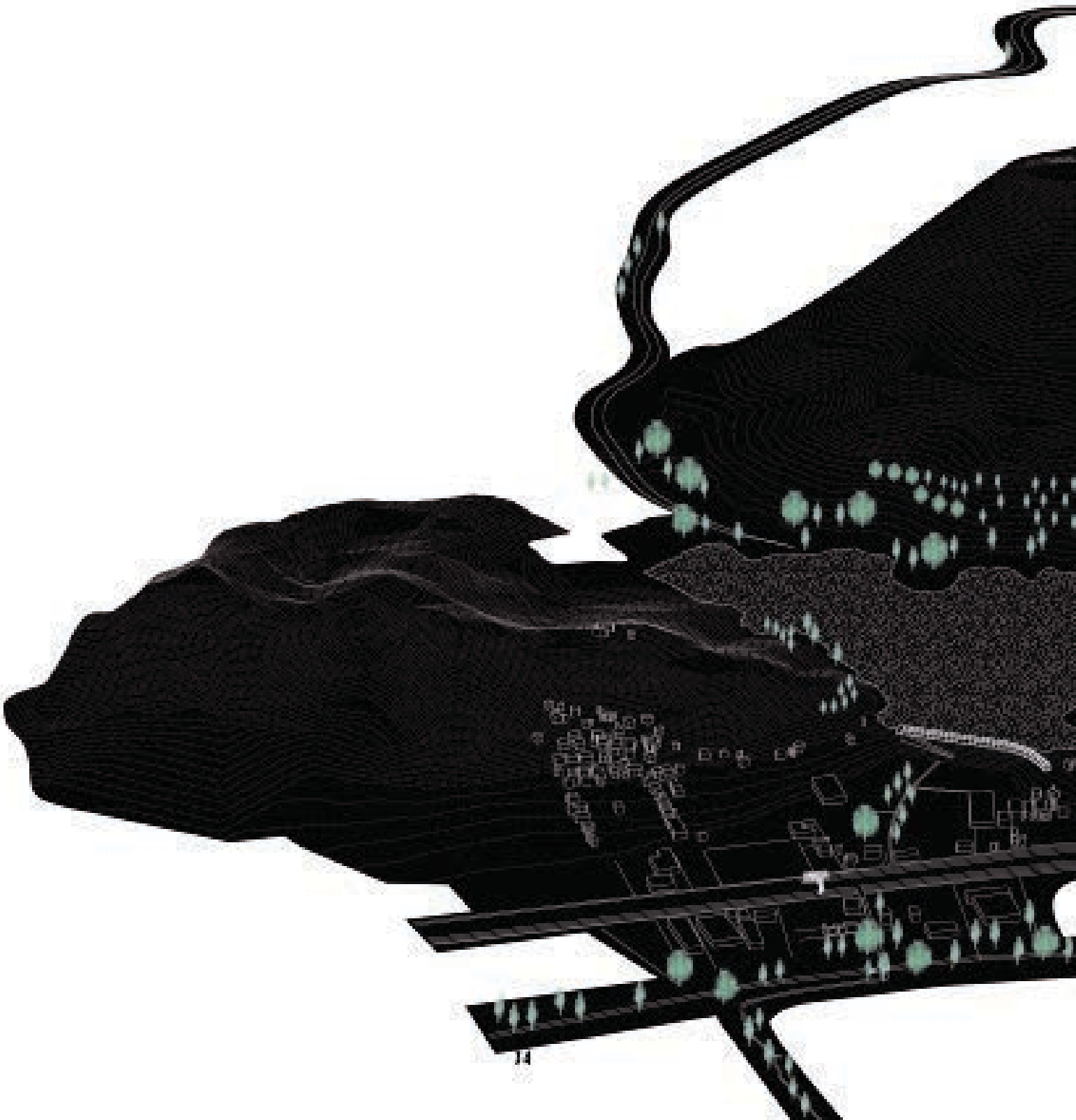




RURAL PROMENADE



AGRICULTURE



Agricultural Production & Recreation

TEST SITE A
Agricultural site in the hills with restaurant

The restaurant, as part of an agro-tourism corridor, benefits the farmers and the development of the local economy.

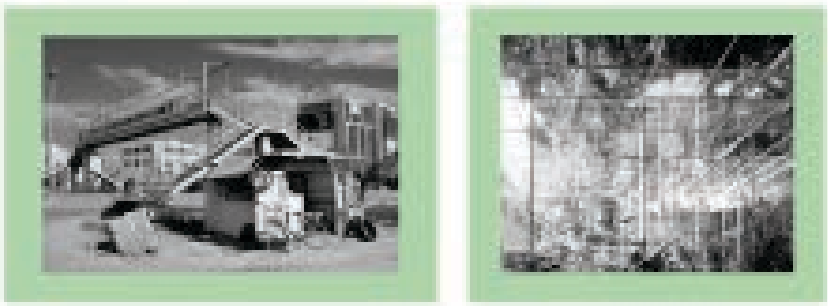
TEST SITE B
Observatory for the landscape with civic center & research laboratory for agriculture

Implement a terraced system to cultive olive trees as part of a community network.
The specific vocation of the territory allows different green houses surrounding the Kashar Lake.
Create a research laboratory for innovative agriculture.

AGRICULTURE

TEST SITE C

Public equipment with green bridge & green railroad path

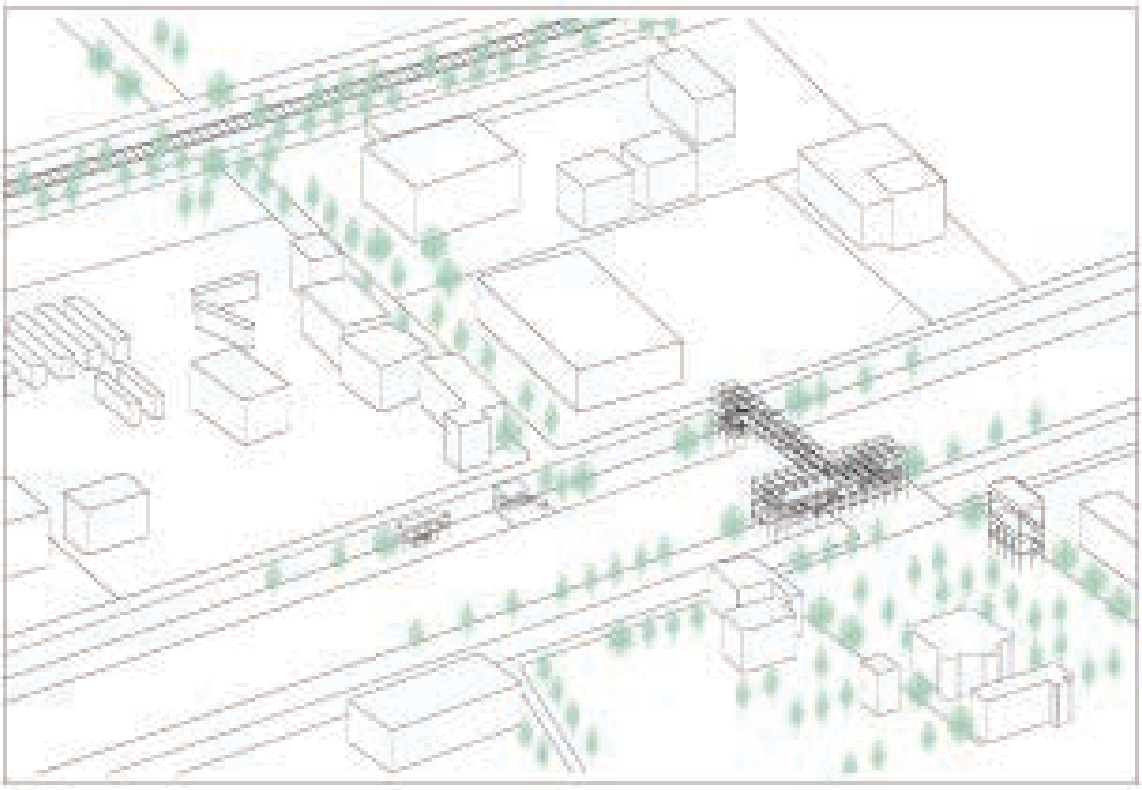


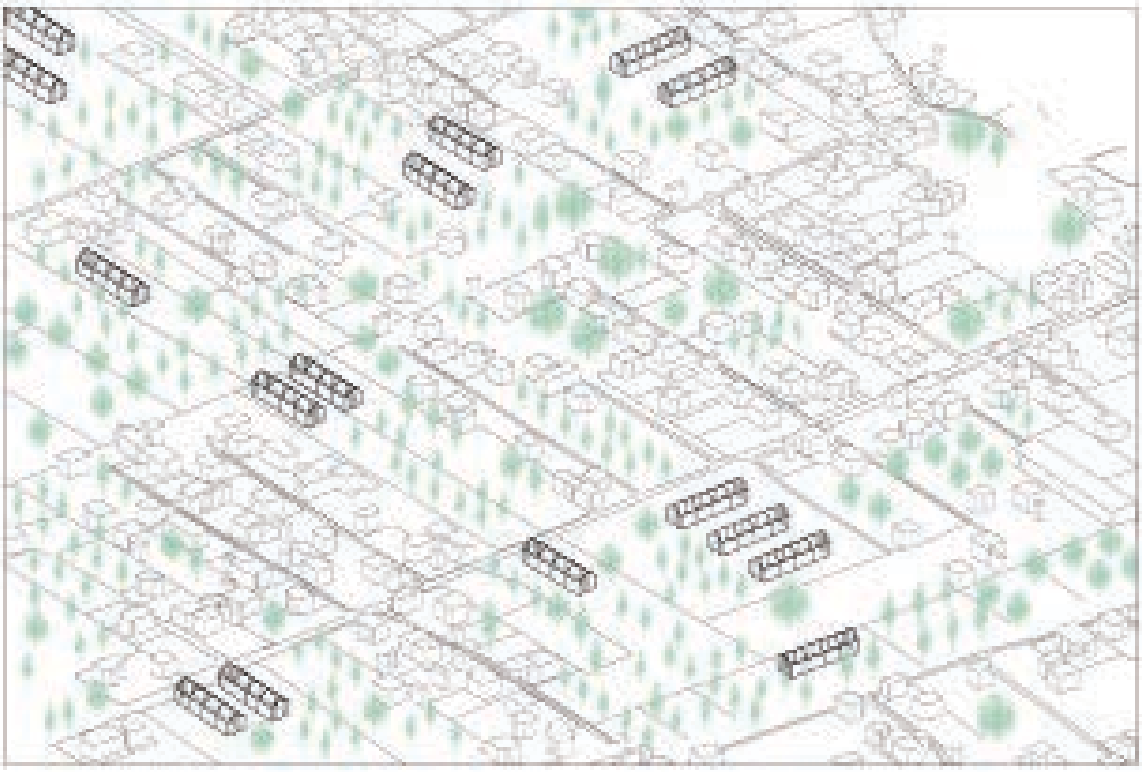
The green treatment on the bridge structure, works as a buffer between the highway and the neighbourhood.
Different services provide a diversified street scape.

TEST SITE D

Green houses as activator for agriculture in flat surfaces

Stimulation of agroforestry to create a more diverse and profitable land-use system.
Prohibit blind walls that restrict the views in favor of interactive property divisions

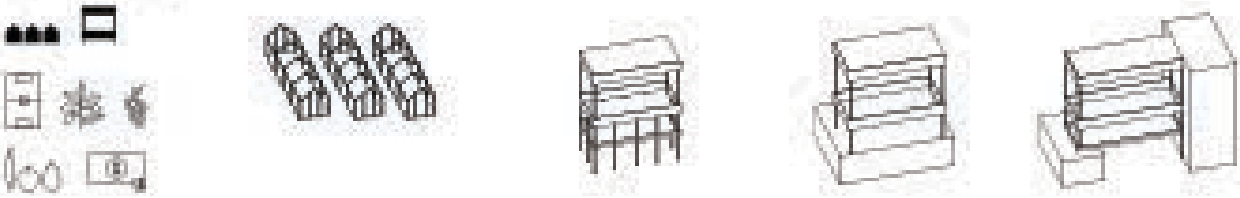




AGRICULTURE

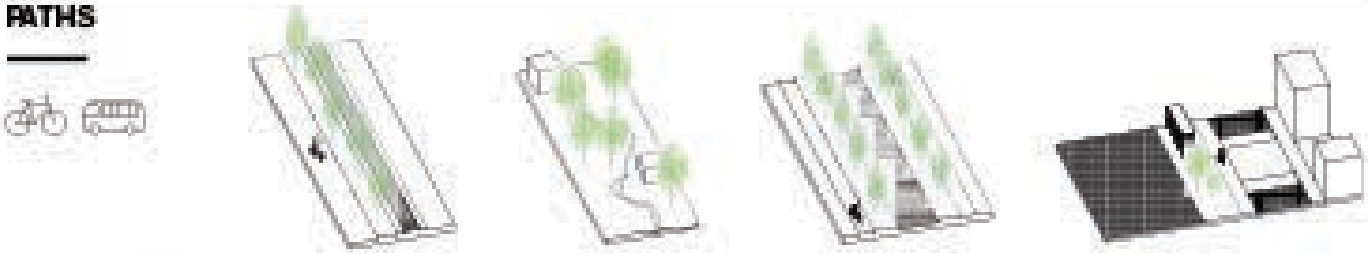
CATALOGUE OF INTERVENTIONS

ACTIVATORS



PLANTING

PATHS



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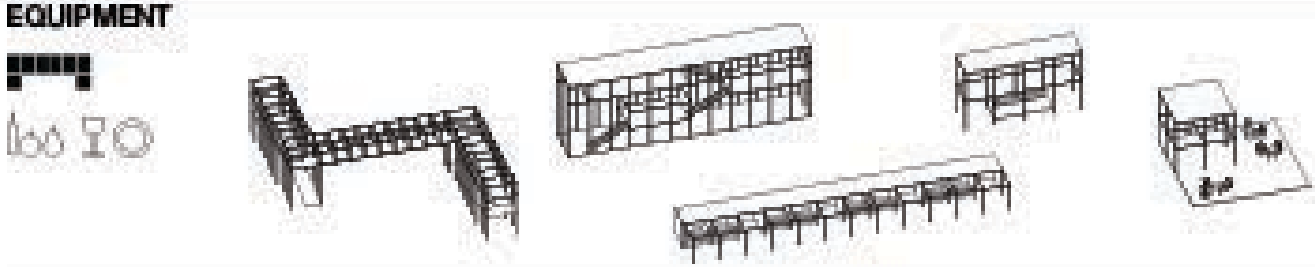

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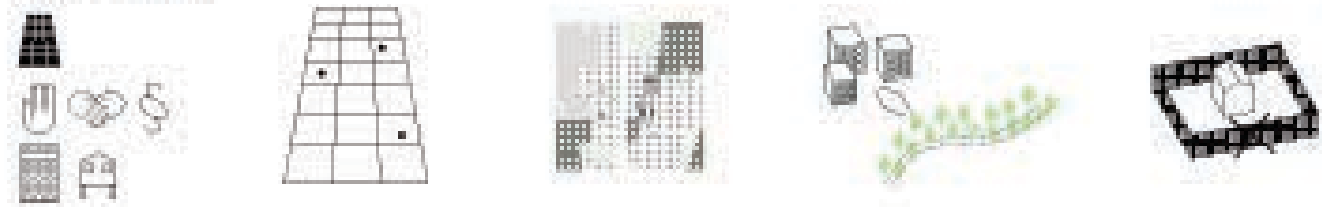
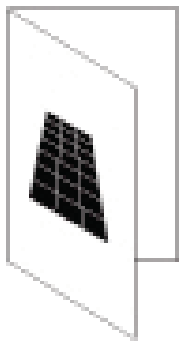
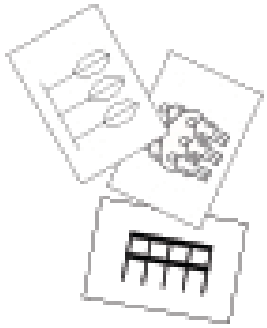


TIMELINE

		Research & Communication	Fast Track & Activation	Slow Track & Consolidation
2014	NOV	Announcement of the Winners Signing of the Contract		
	DEC	Meeting with Stakeholders and Atelier Alberto Design Preparation and Mapping		
2015	JAN	Meeting with Stakeholders and Atelier Alberto Design Preparation and Mapping	Fast Track Execution Design Urban Promenade Rural Promenade	
	FEB	 Communication Organization of the Participants		
	MAR		First Action Gardening Event: Rural/Urban Promenade	Slow Track Execution Design Urban Promenade Rural Promenade
	APR		Implementation of the First Series of Agriculture Interventions Public Equipment	
	MAY	Public Meetings for Slow Track Design Phase		
	JUN			Design Revisio
	JUL	Communication Organization of the Participants	Second Action Gardening Event	
	AUG		Implementation of the First Series of Agriculture Interventions Public Equipment	
	SEP	Public Meetings for Slow Track Execution Phase 1		Implementation of the First Observatory & Public Equipment
	OCT			Design Revision
	NOV	Communication Organization of the Participants	Second Action Gardening Event	
	DEC		Implementation of the First Series of Agriculture Interventions Public Equipment	
2016	JAN	Public Meetings for Slow Track Execution Phase 1		Implementation of the Second Observatory & Public Equipment
	FEB			

PR & COMMUNICATION





In order to mobilze a critical mass for cooperative action perfomative planning is accompanied by advertisement in the form of posters, brochures and postcards that announce specific events.
The PR material also aims at creating public awareness for civic consciousness and constructive will for establishing Residual Arcadia.

INDEX

TEAM

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Regina Vathi, Fitim Miftari, Fiona Mali, Denis Kalaja

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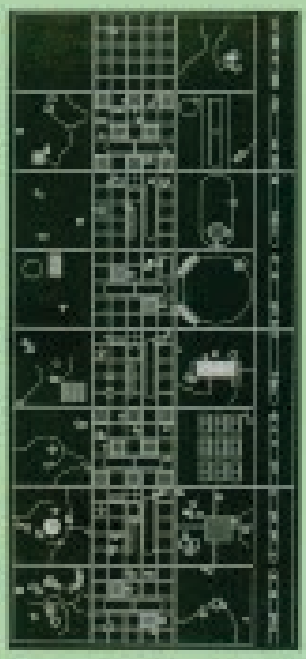

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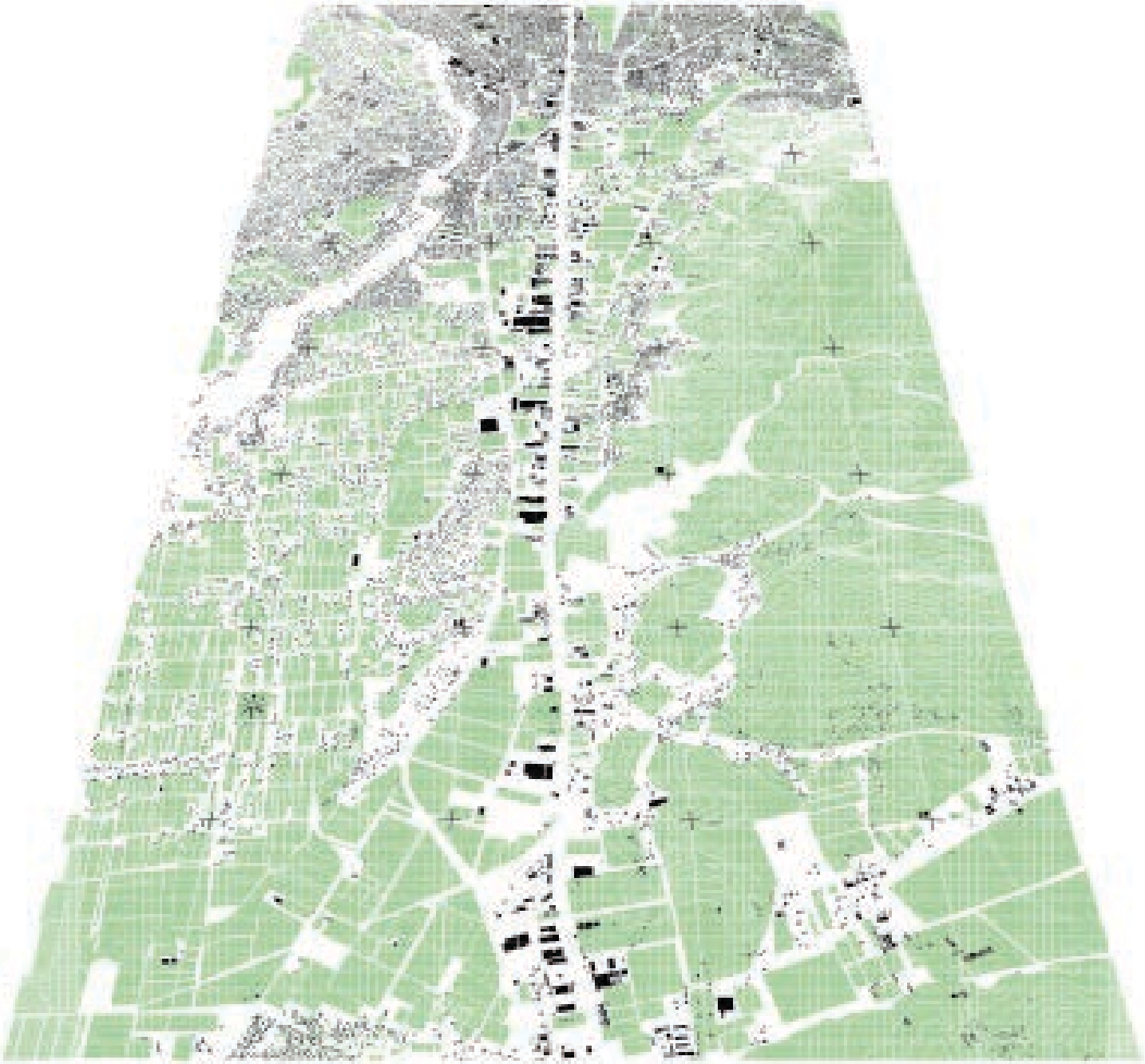

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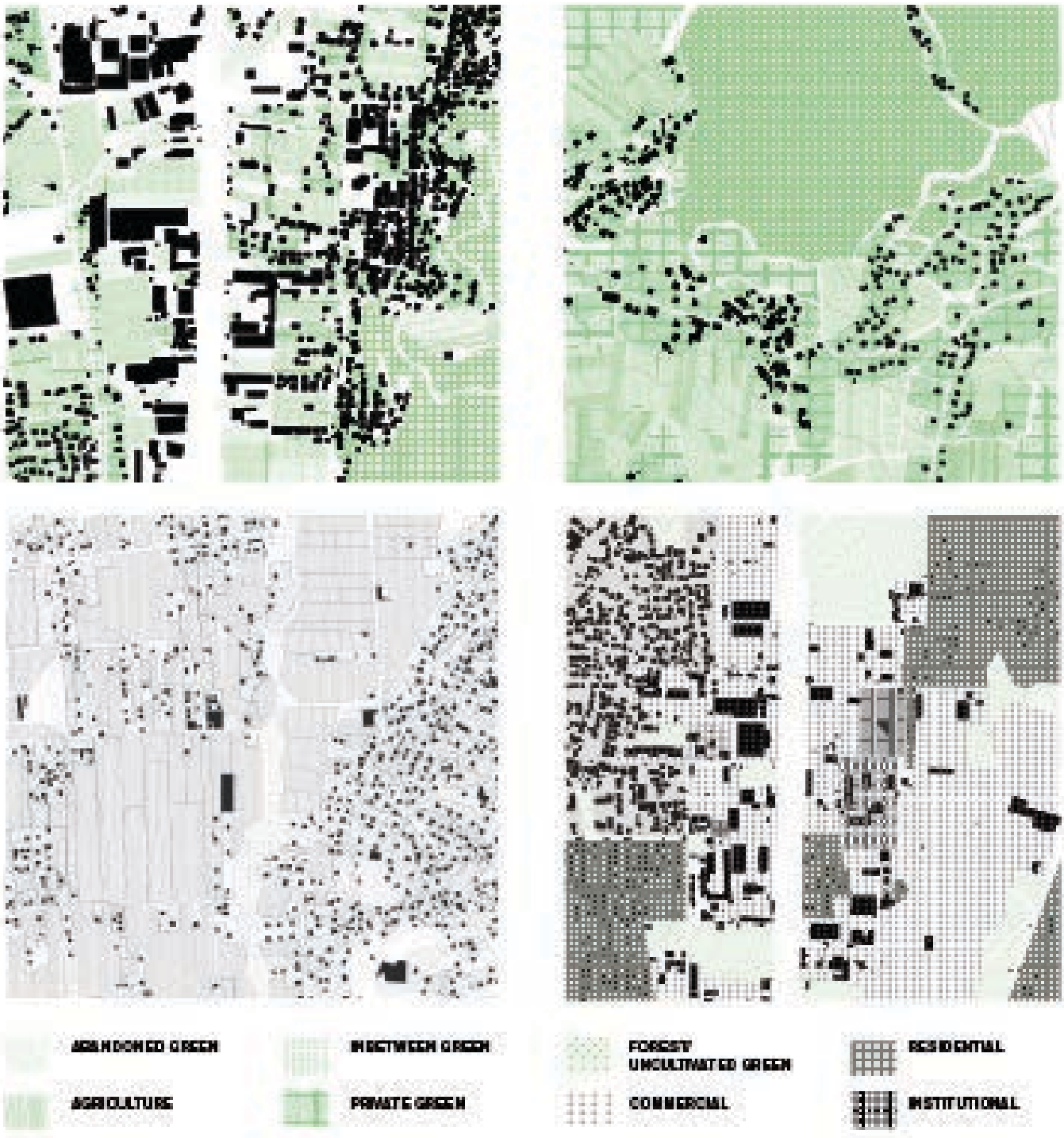

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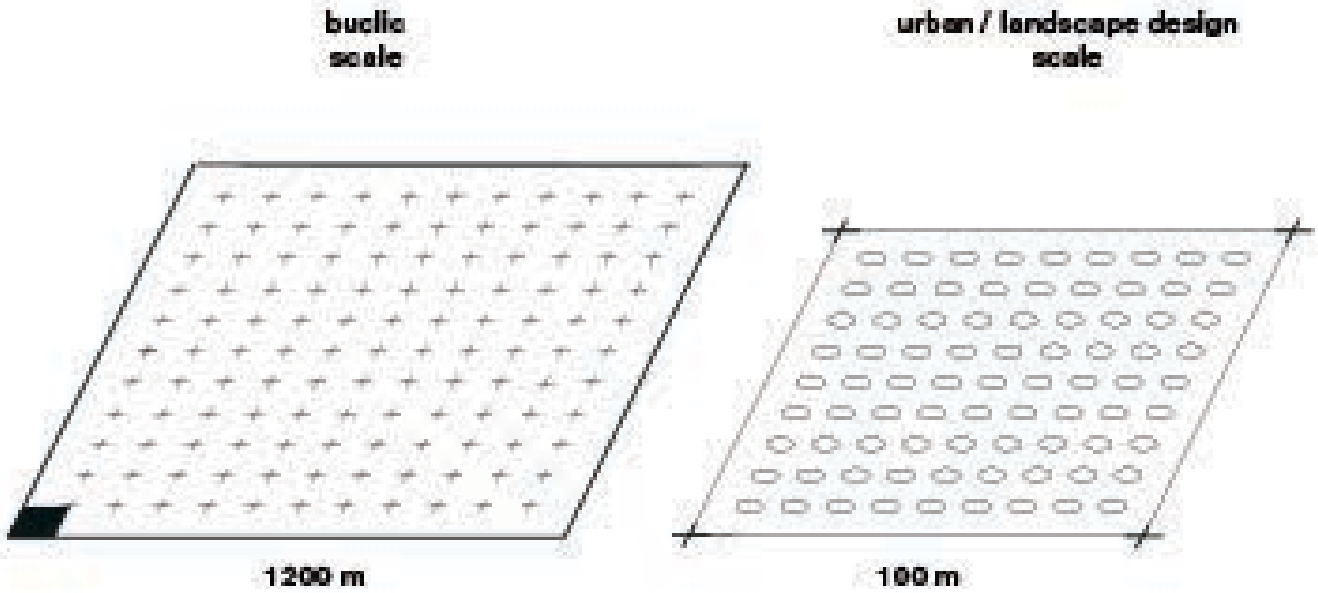

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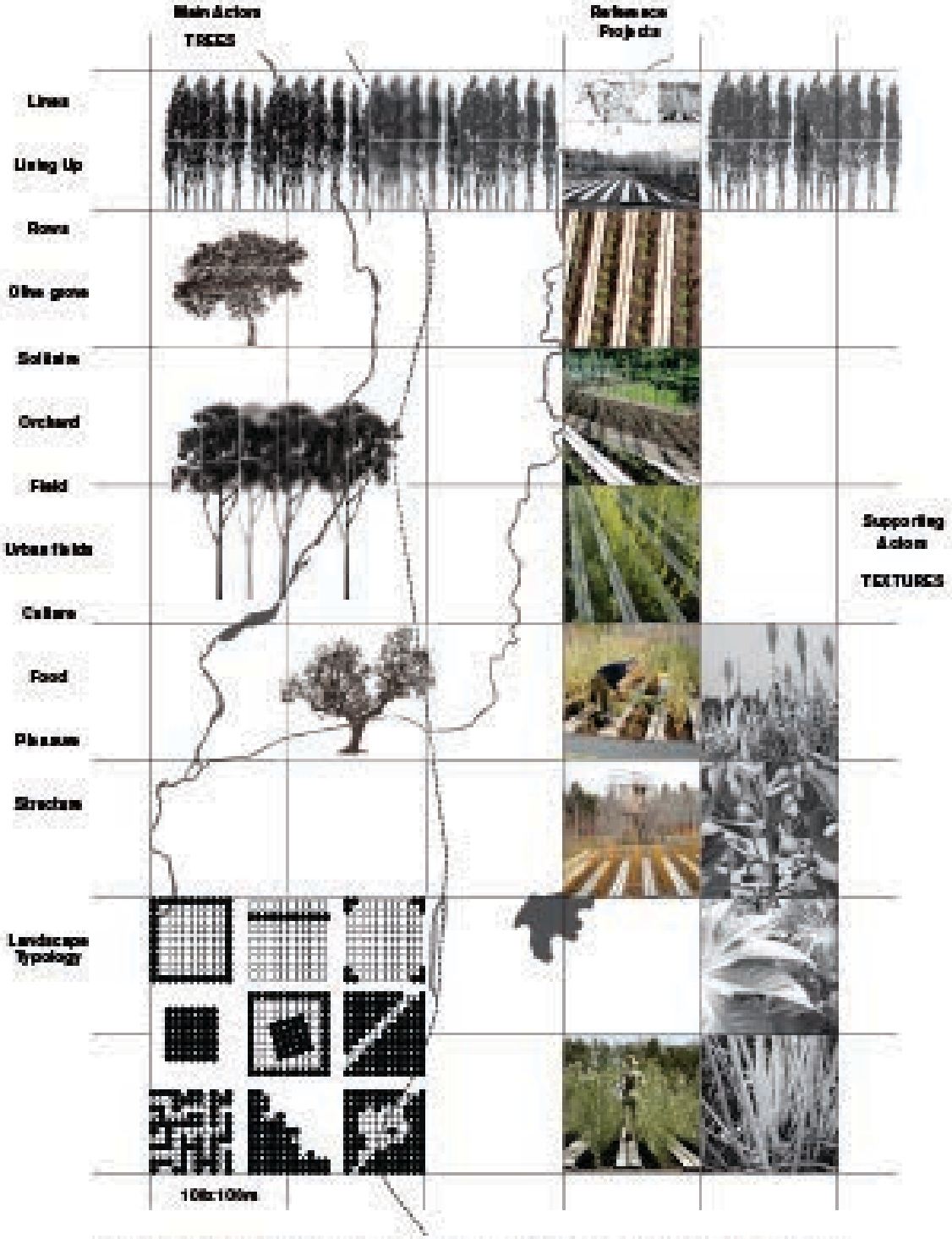


FIG 18. Diagram showing the various ways of using planting actors: a framework, a clearing or the use of lines in the landscape

The planting scheme aims to highlight the site's identity in different scales and places through the introduction of different actors (trees, shrubs, vegetables and climbing plants). The implantation of specific trees provides a tool for territorial measurement and development. They can be used as landmarks along the promenades and stage paths, residual spaces, agriculture & urban landscape.

PLANTING SCHEME

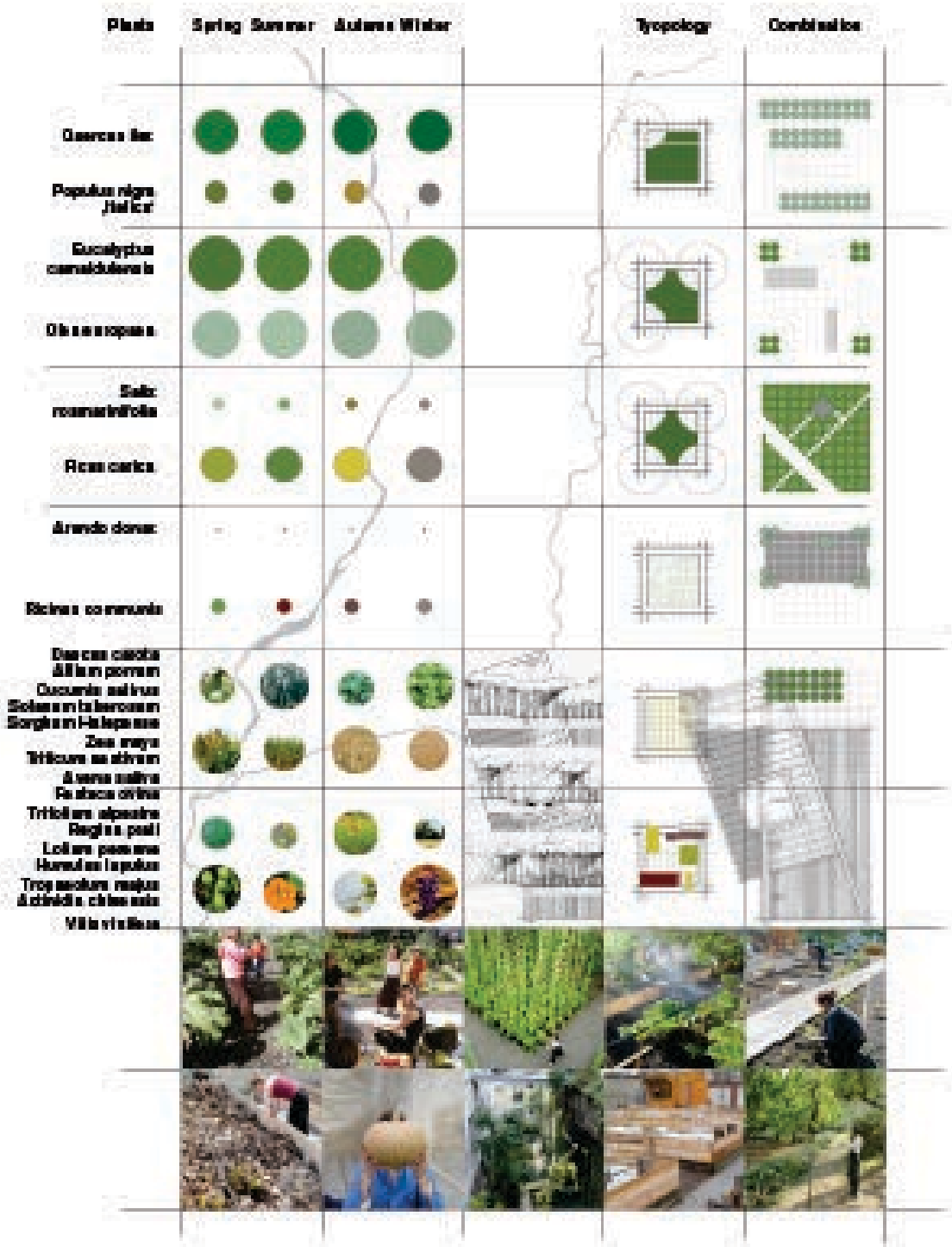


FIG 17. Vocabulary of the planting scheme and its performance during the seasons

An arrangement of trees with lower shrubs and plants will create various atmospheres. This method aims to implant the projects progressively within the sites without adulterate them, but rather amplify their own characteristics. The recognizable and adapted vegetal basis will interweave with the existing landscape as well as encourage and guide agro-tourism within a sustainable agriculture development.

PLANTING SCHEME

FIG 18.
Public policies from ‚People's States Power' organizing collective actions for shaping the landscape.

FIG 19.
‚Voluntary Work' executed by the Albanian people in the 70s.

FIG 20.
Painting representing collective production of infrastructure and agricultural land.

Working the fields collectively is traditionally anchored in Albania pertaining to the socialist period. What has been framed as ‚People's State Power' or ‚Voluntary Work' contributed largely to the construction of infrastructure and the modelling of the landscape for terraced agriculture and for drainage systems in the marchlands. By introducing ‚Activators' the project proposal refers to the performative quality of collective action for the implementation of the planting schemes through ‚Action Gardening'—public happenings the will enhance the identification with the place.

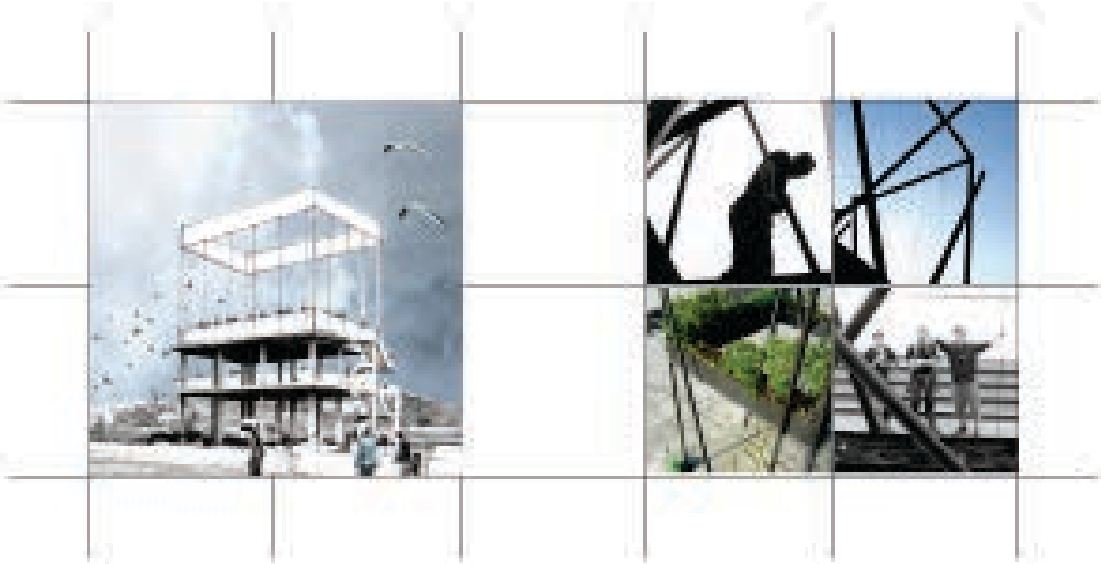
ACTIVATORS

FIG 22. Temporary structures activating the sites during the phase of implementation and creating visibility for the project

‚Activators' are temporary structures that operate as billboards anouncing the planting performance and the installment of public equipments with the contribution of locals, students and other professionals. The ‚activators' remain on a site during the gardening activity and will be removed to another location as soon as the initiation phase of the project is finished.

ACTIVATORS

FIG 21. Introduction of planting patterns as preparation for performing the art of Action Gardening



The landscape architects from Atelier Le Balto are drawing from manifold experiences of planting actions that have been realized in various scales. By installing temporary structures gardening can be realized as cooperative events—activators and green houses serve as storage for equipment but also as land marks by creating visibility for the event.

FIG 23. Temporary structures activating the sites during the phase of implementation

OBSERVATORIES

After activating specific locations with greenery and public equipments observatories will be installed in order to guarantee sustainable develpment of the area on a long-term basis. Observatories are viewing platforms for the contemplation of the Residual Arcadia of Durana. They can also contain public programs such and they act as civic centers for the negotiaton of local planning initiatives.

FIG 24. Observatories for the landscape are marking the field serving as viewing towers and centers for civic action

The observatories are situated along the promenades that cross the longitudinal stretch of the Durana area and they are meeting places for stakeholders, agencies and institutions across local comune structures. As each of the observatories is related to a specific topic they can also extend their function as research centers and laboratories for planning innovation.

FIG 25. Observatory located on the border between bucolic landscape and the fragmented urban

With the creation of various promenades various locations will be linked that can serve as test-sites for the future development of the Durana Region. The promenades are enabling an understanding of the site in direction of the cross section and they serve also as connectors for the longitudinal paths: the highway, the secondary road, the railroad track that will be transformed in a green bicylcle path and the roads in the hinterlands. They are stimulators for the establishment of new mobility concept and they are scenic pathways that enable to experience the cultural landscape of Residual Arcadia.

2
THE PROMENADES

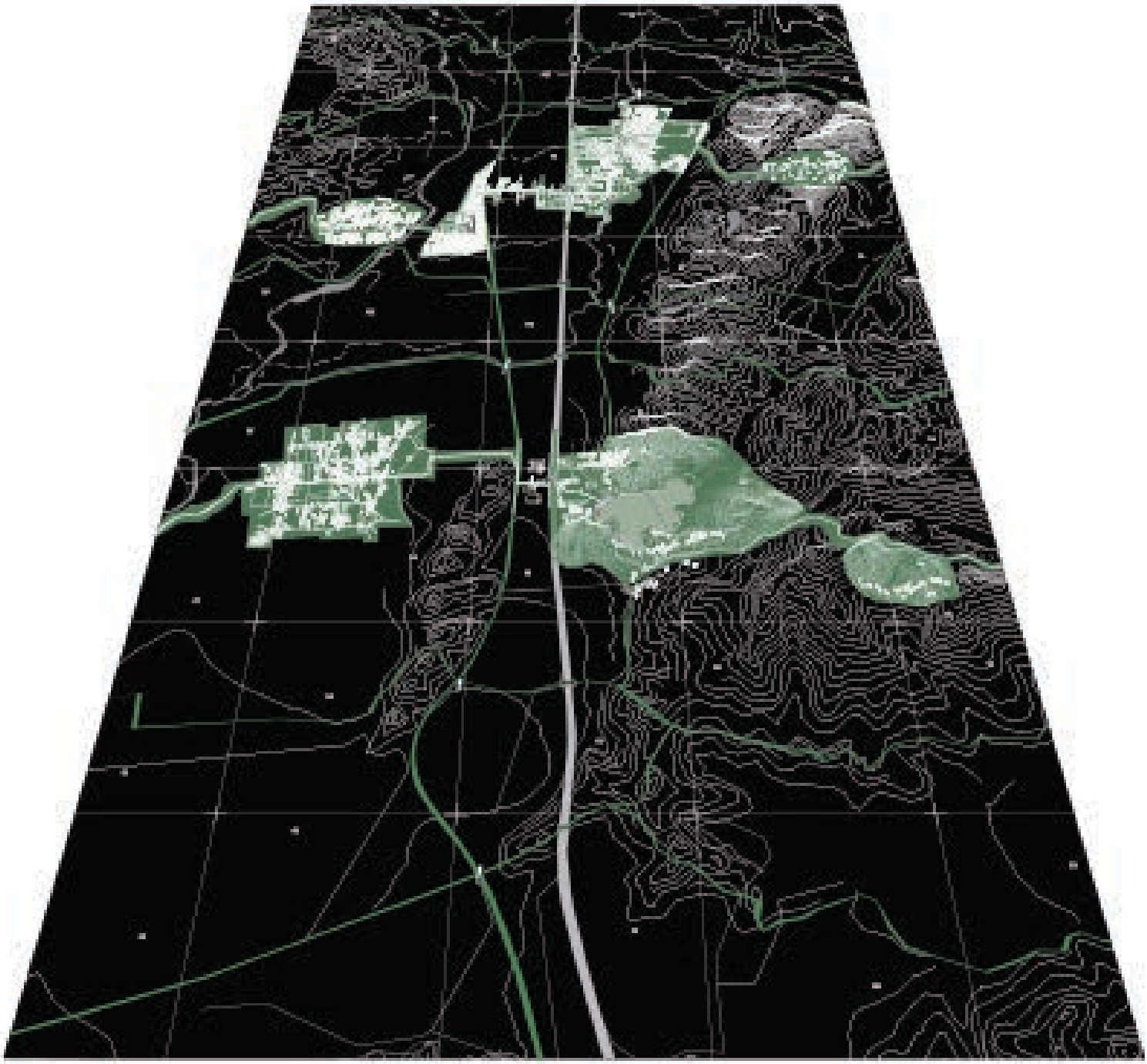
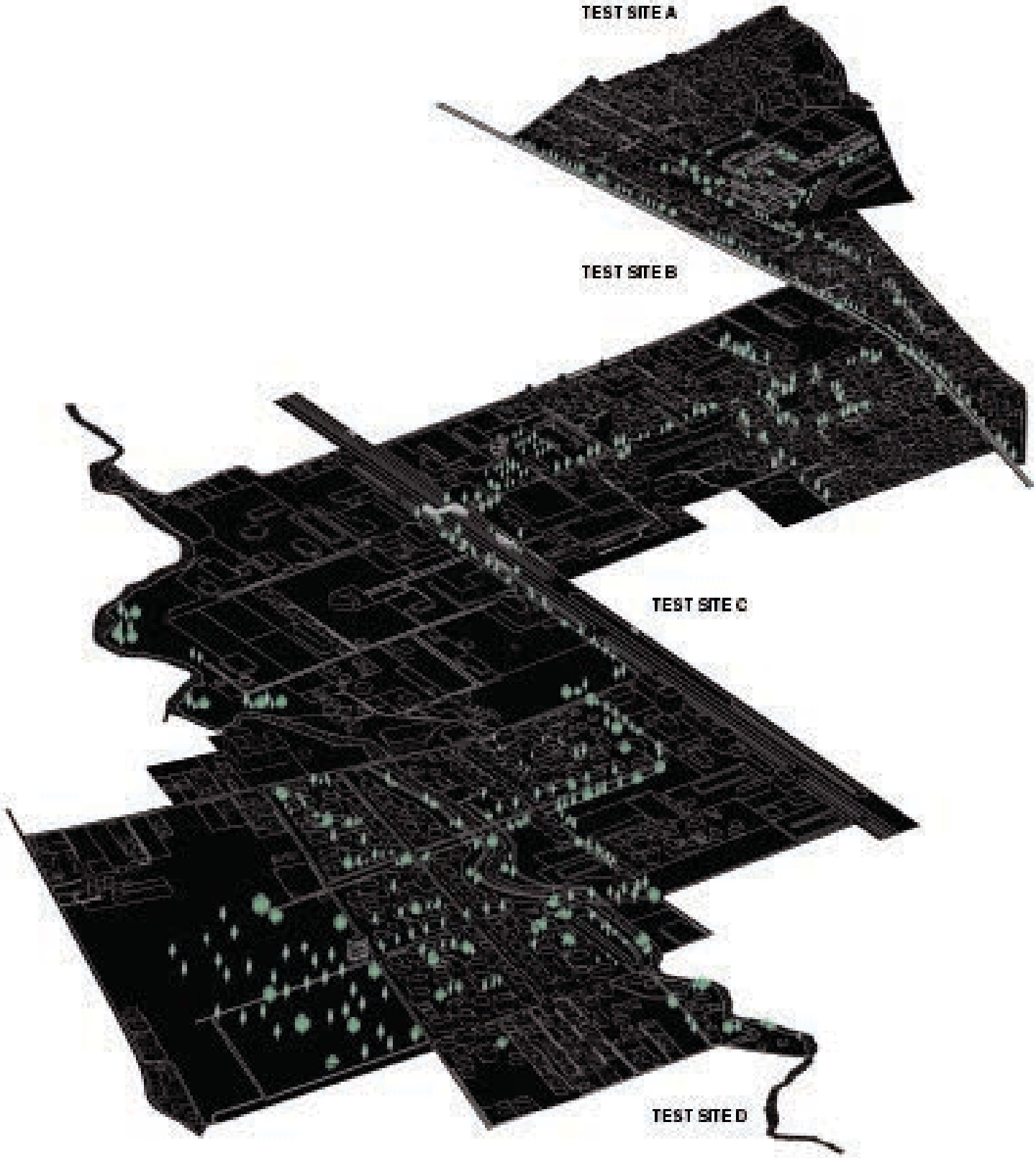
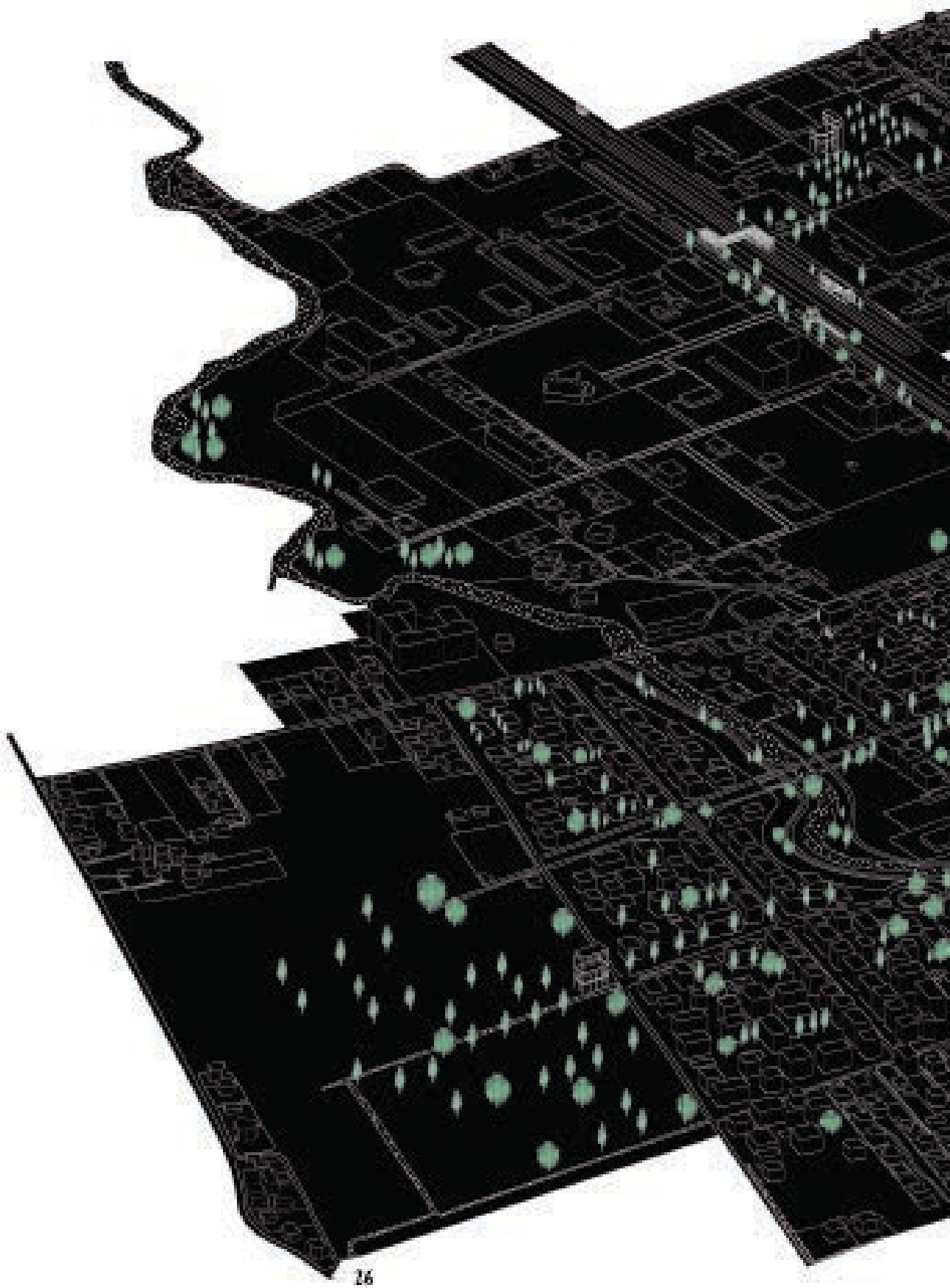
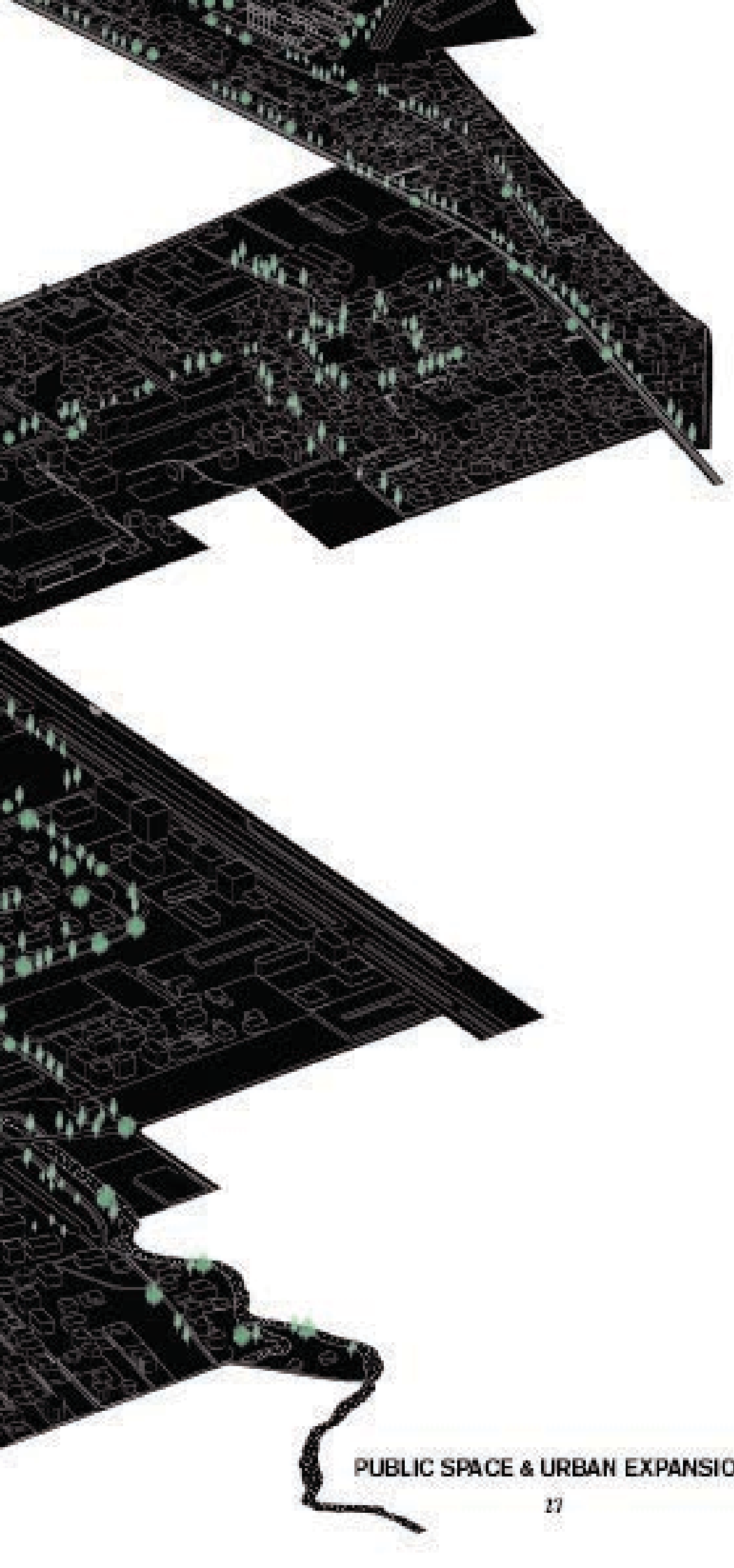


FIG 26. Networ map showing the intersection of diverse paths, activators, observatories and fe-static developments

URBAN PROMENADE





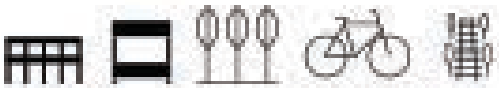


Education, Public Space & Urban Expansion

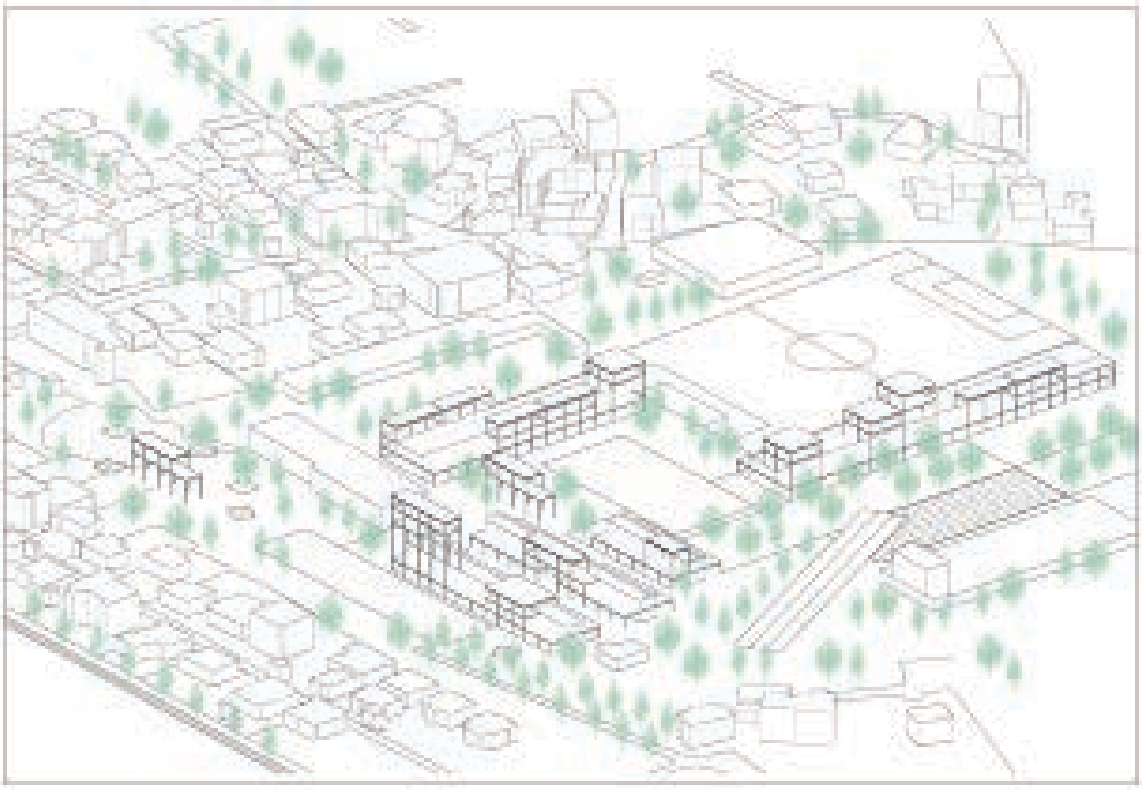
TEST SITE A
Recreation and sports complex

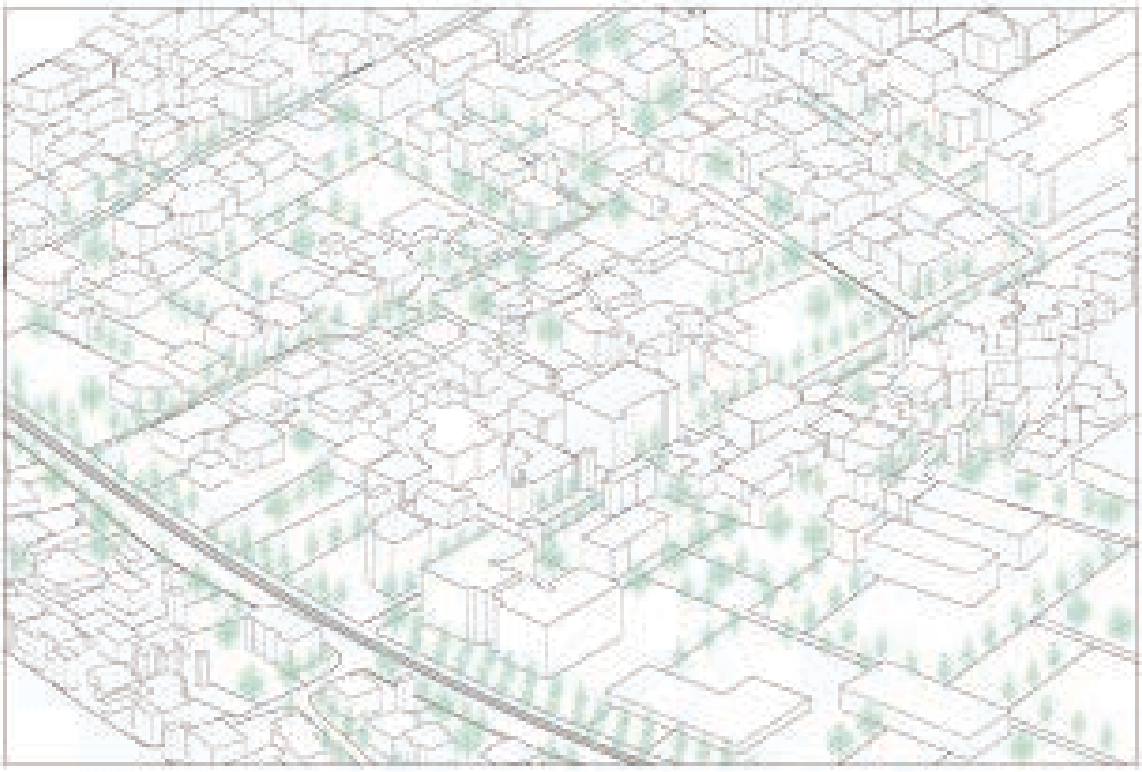
Rehabilitate and adaptate the existing structure for recreation and sport complex.
Introduce plazas within the community.

TEST SITE B
Activation of street & plazas, abandoned railroad



Turn the railroad track into a green bicycle path.
Activate abandoned properties with landscape strategies to revitalize the neighbourhood.



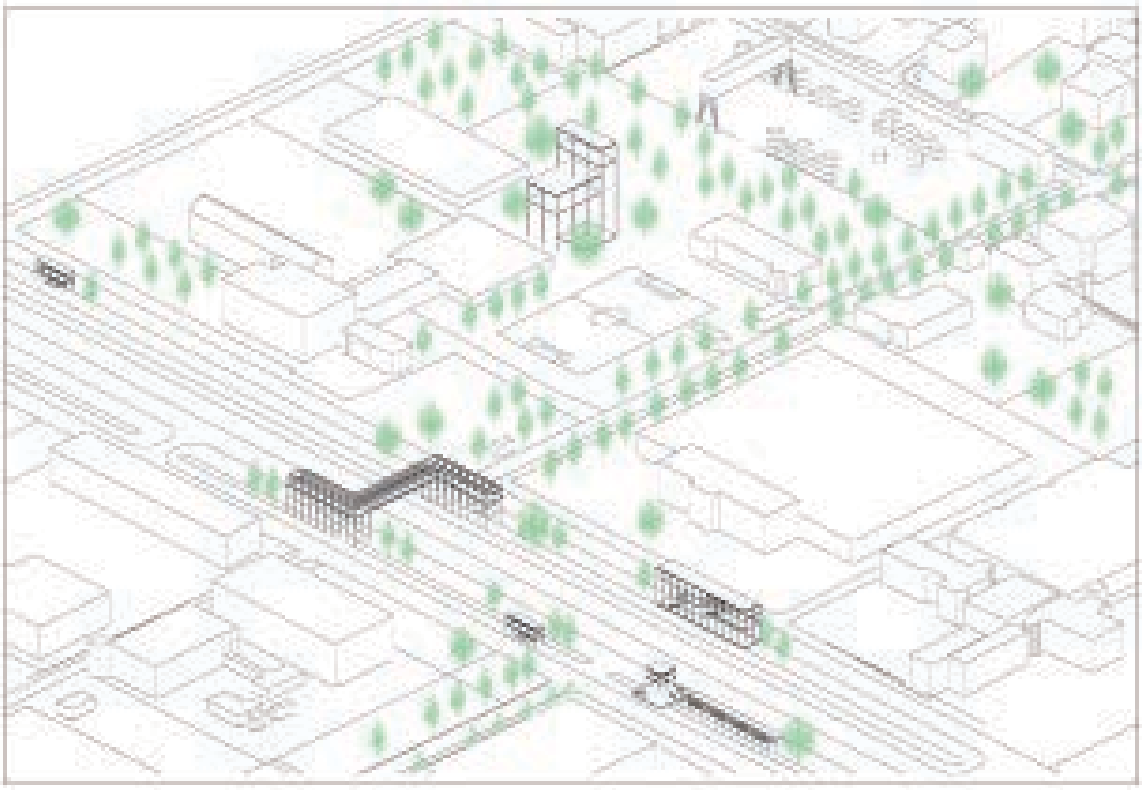


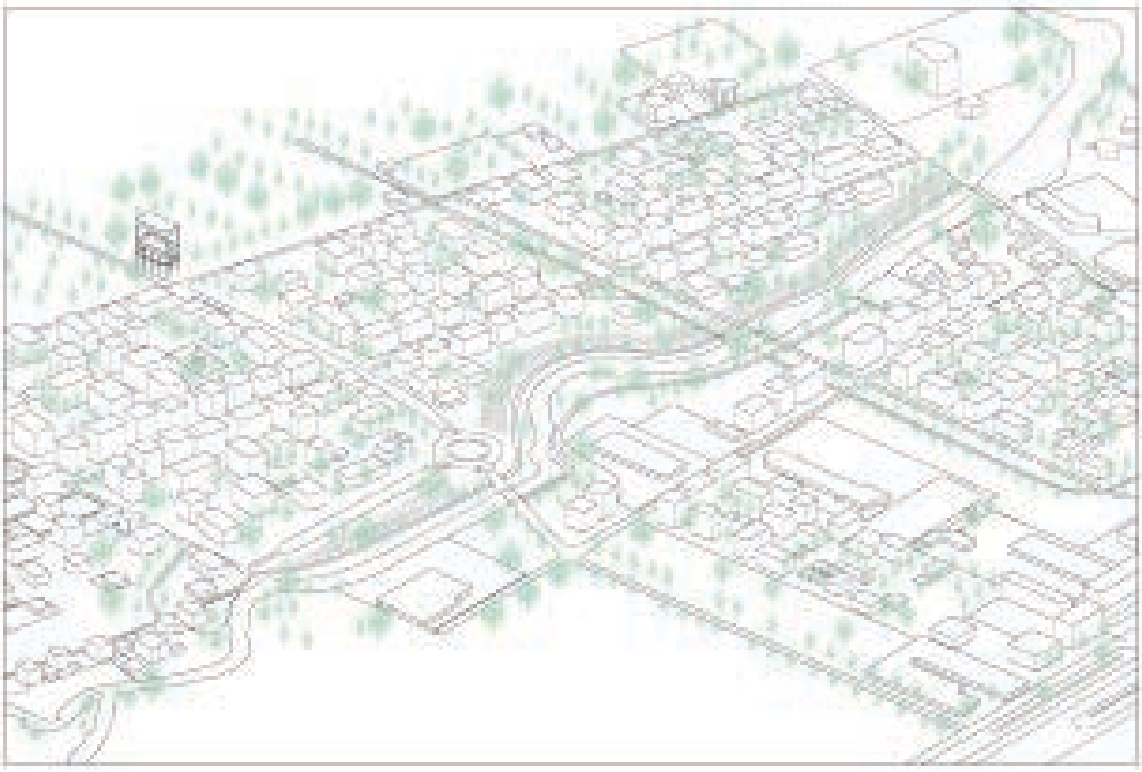
TEST SITE C
Bridging and activation of the secondary street and educational spaces

The bridge structure continues the path for bicycles and pedestrians and provides services, such as market, kiosk and bus stop to activate the secondary street.

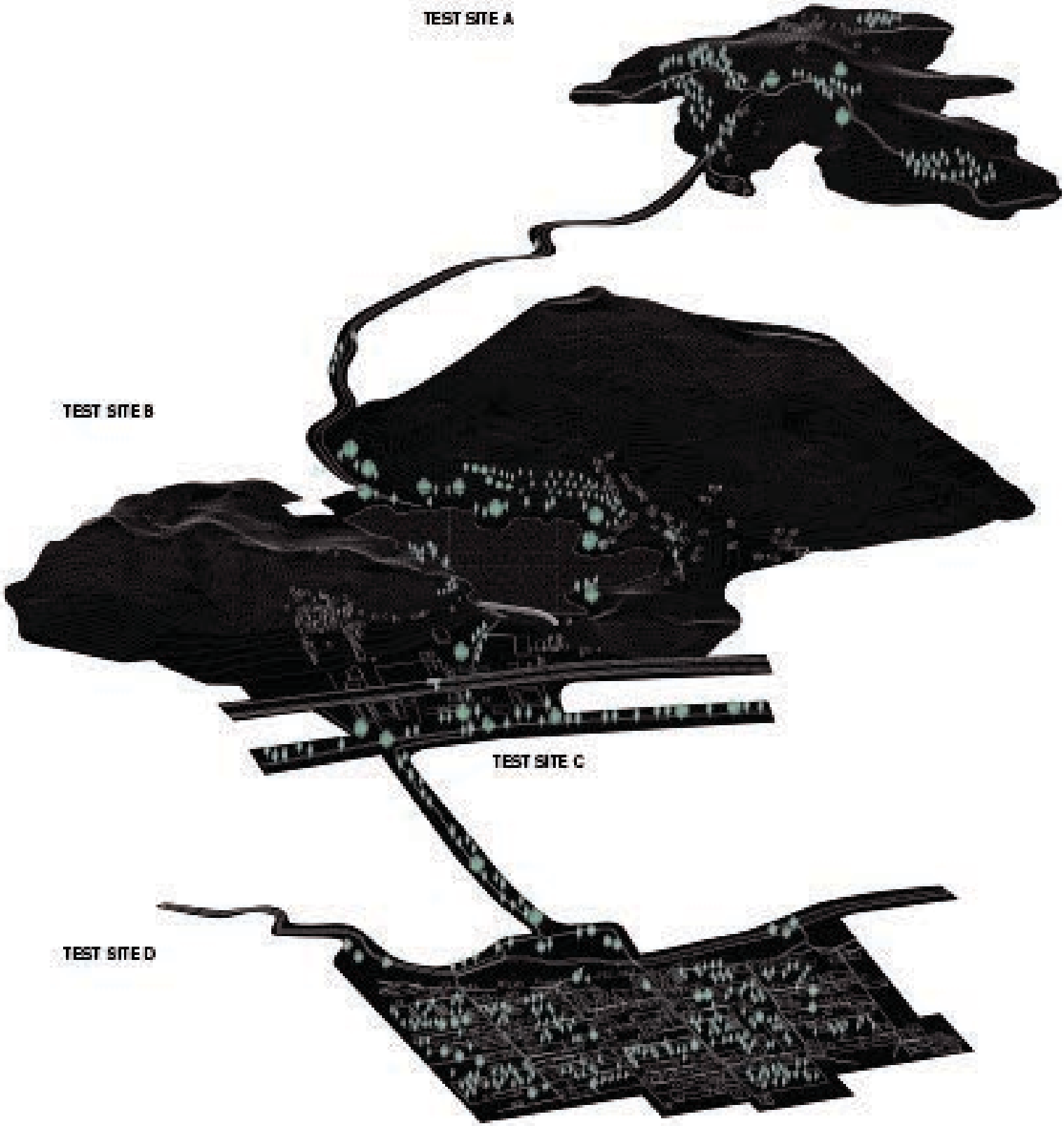
TEST SITE D
Urban expansion and re-naturalization

The re-naturalization works as process of negotiation with the community, by providing building permition in exchange of maintainig the front river.

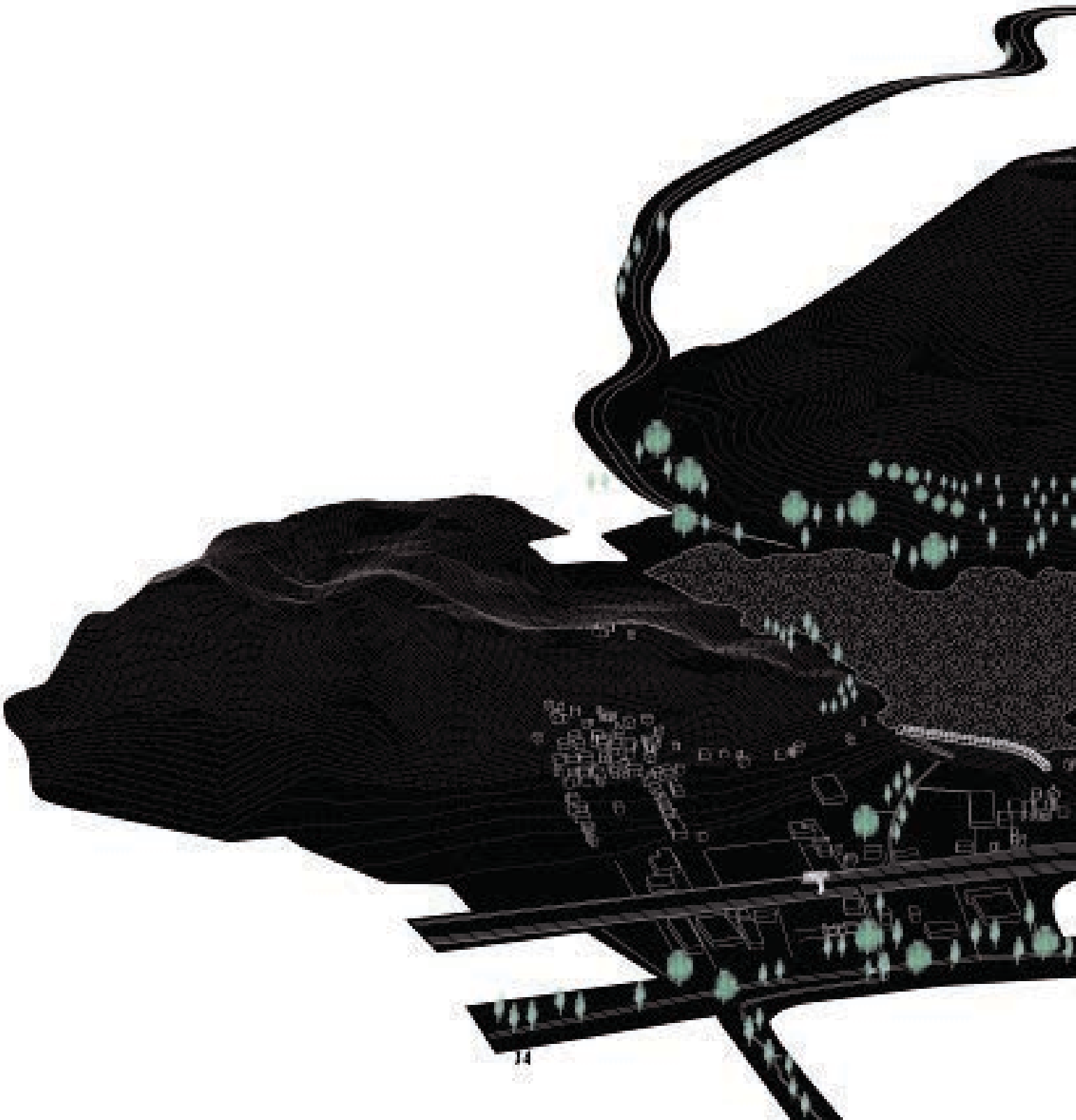




RURAL PROMENADE



AGRICULTURE



Agricultural Production & Recreation

TEST SITE A
Agricultural site in the hills with restaurant

The restaurant, as part of an agro-tourism corridor, benefits the farmers and the development of the local economy.

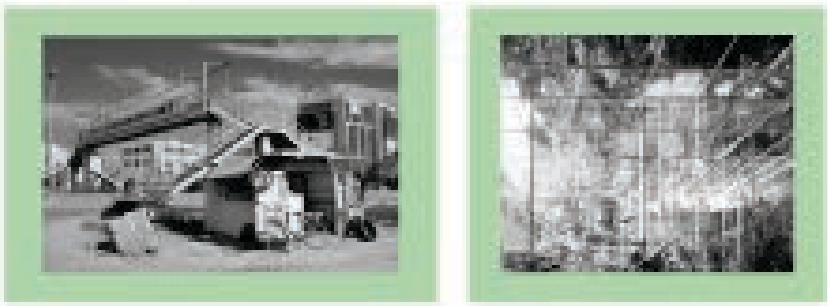
TEST SITE B
Observatory for the landscape with civic center & research laboratory for agriculture

Implement a terraced system to cultive olive trees as part of a community network.
The specific vocation of the territory allows different green houses surrounding the Kashar Lake.
Create a research laboratory for innovative agriculture.

AGRICULTURE

TEST SITE C

Public equipment with green bridge & green railroad path

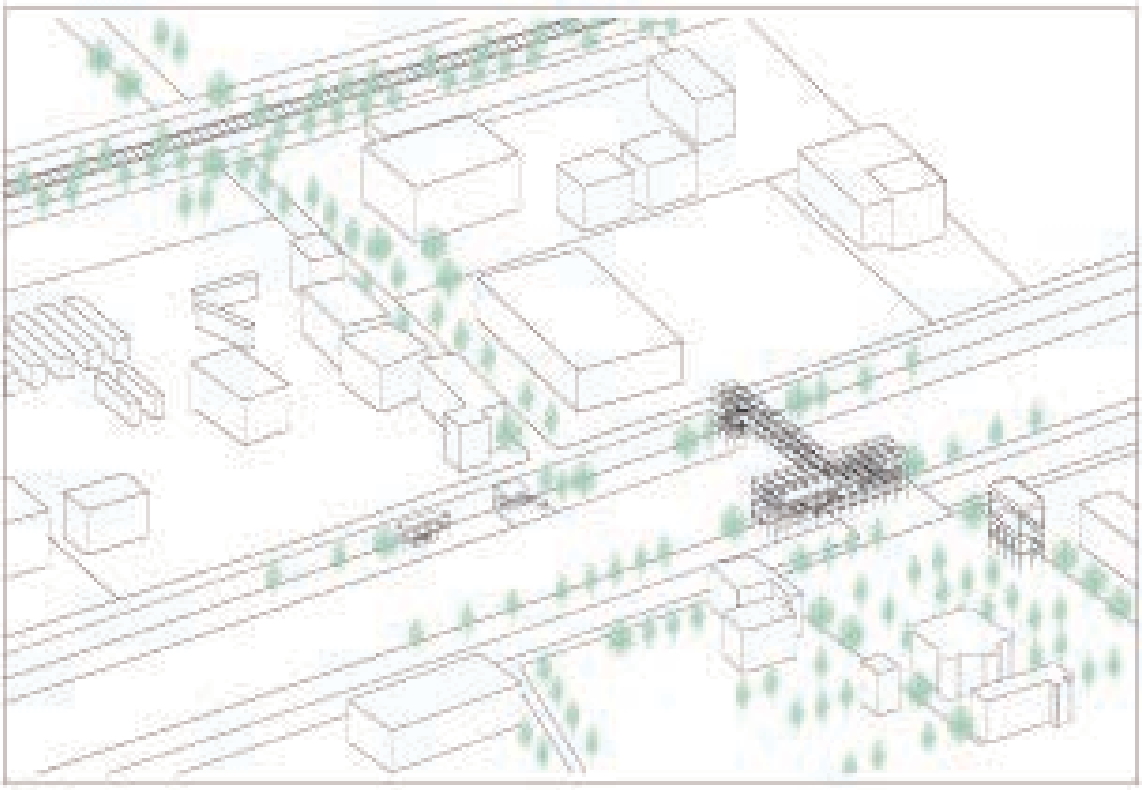


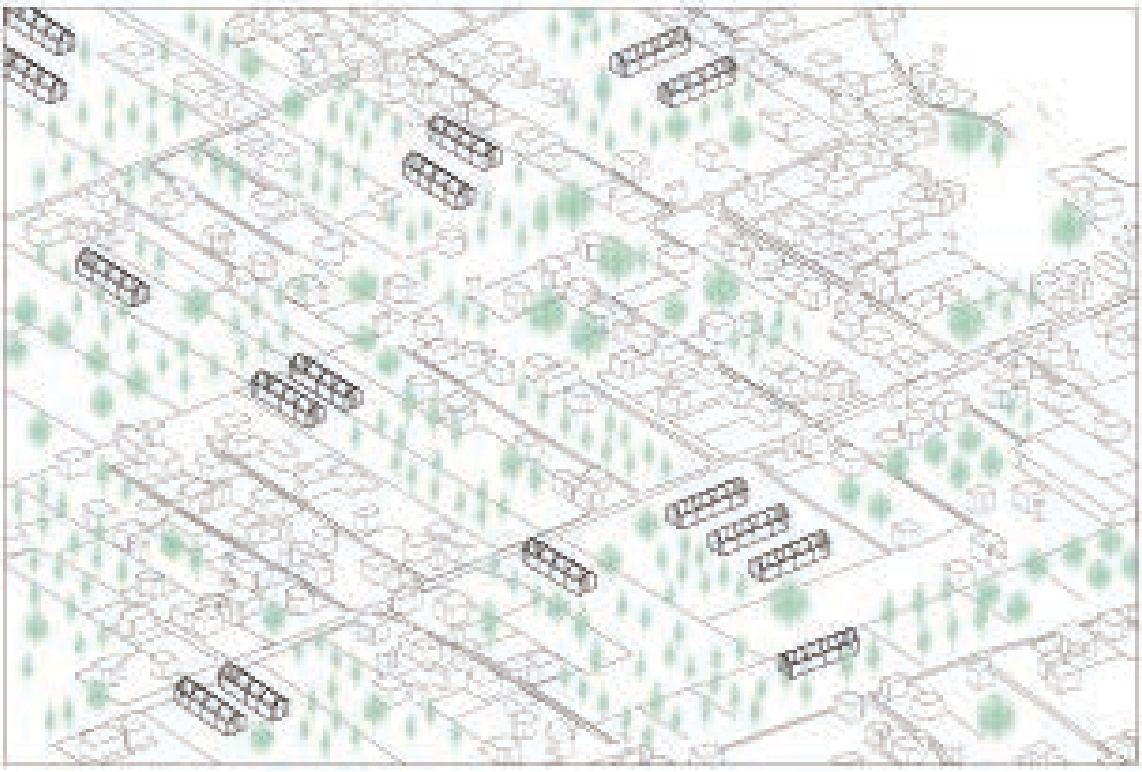
The green treatment on the bridge structure, works as a buffer between the highway and the neighbourhood.
Different services provide a diversified street scape.

TEST SITE D

Green houses as activator for agriculture in flat surfaces

Stimulation of agroforestry to create a more diverse and profitable land-use system.
Prohibit blind walls that restrict the views in favor of interactive property divisions

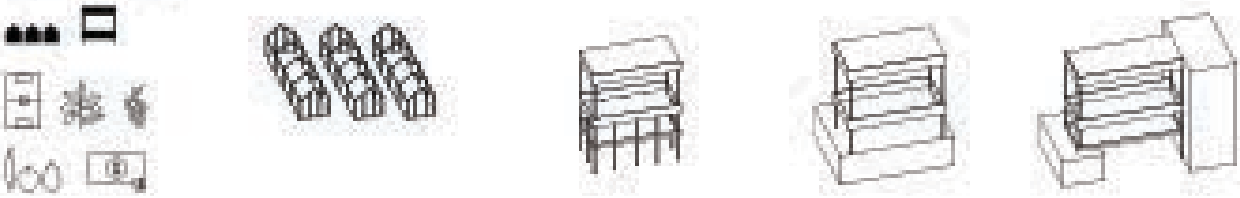




AGRICULTURE

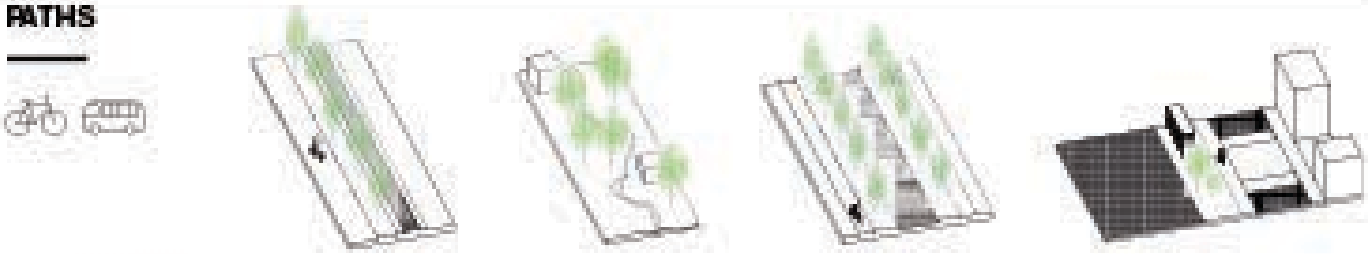
CATALOGUE OF INTERVENTIONS

ACTIVATORS

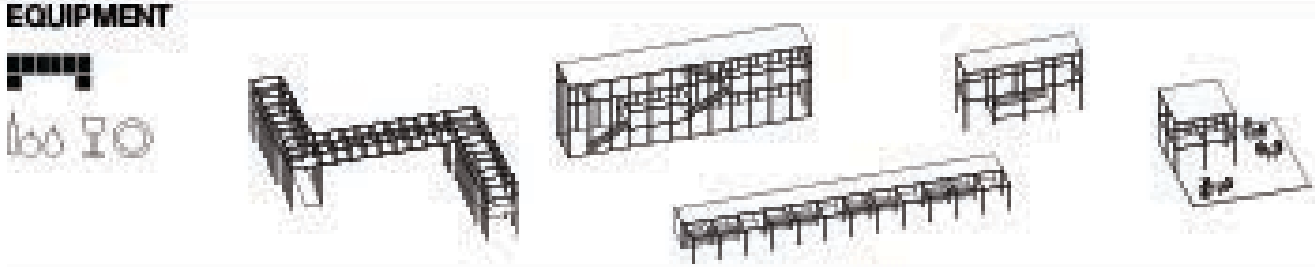


PLANTING

PATHS

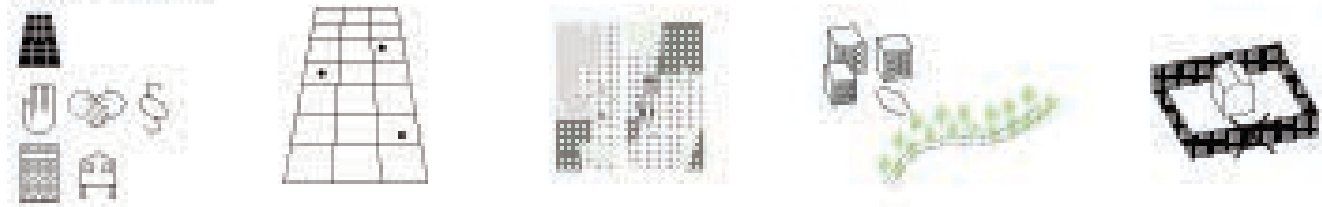


EQUIPMENT



OBSERVATORIES

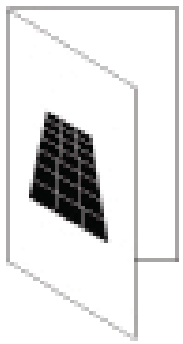
URBAN RULES

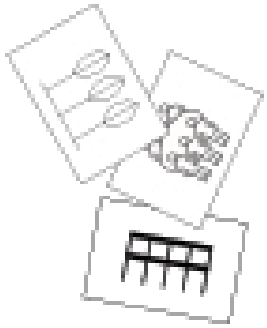


TIMELINE

		Research & Communication	Fast Track & Activation	Slow Track & Consolidation
2014	NOV	Announcement of the Winners Signing of the Contract		
	DEC	Meeting with Stakeholders and Atelier Alberto Design Preparation and Mapping		
2015	JAN	Meeting with Stakeholders and Atelier Alberto Design Preparation and Mapping	Fast Track Execution Design Urban Promenade Rural Promenade	
	FEB	 Communication Organization of the Participants		
	MAR		First Action Gardening Event: Rural/Urban Promenade	Slow Track Execution Design Urban Promenade Rural Promenade
	APR		Implementation of the First Series of Agriculture Interventions Public Equipment	
	MAY	Public Meetings for Slow Track Design Phase		
	JUN			Design Revisio
	JUL	Communication Organization of the Participants	Second Action Gardening Event	
	AUG		Implementation of the First Series of Agriculture Interventions Public Equipment	
	SEP	Public Meetings for Slow Track Execution Phase 1		Implementation of the First Observatory & Public Equipment
	OCT			Design Revision
	NOV	Communication Organization of the Participants	Second Action Gardening Event	
	DEC		Implementation of the First Series of Agriculture Interventions Public Equipment	
2016	JAN	Public Meetings for Slow Track Execution Phase 1		Implementation of the Second Observatory & Public Equipment
	FEB			

PR & COMMUNICATION





In order to mobilze a critical mass for cooperative action perfomative planning is accompanied by advertisement in the form of posters, brochures and postcards that announce specific events.
The PR material also aims at creating public awareness for civic consciousness and constructive will for establishing Residual Arcadia.

INDEX

TEAM

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