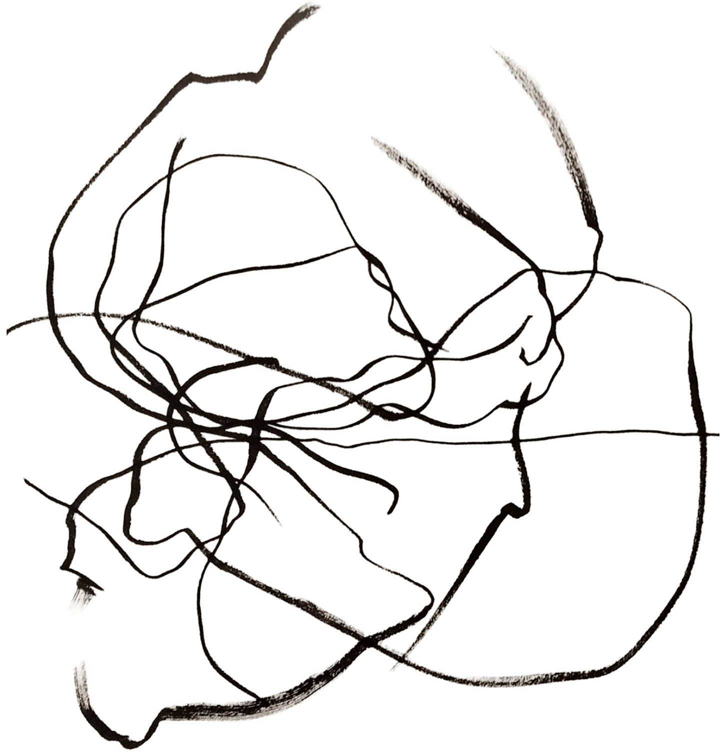
ATTUNING THE LIVING RUIN

A3 Master thesis

CONTEMPLATION, RUINOSITY, AND CARE ALONG THE SCHIE



Master of Science Architecture, Urbanism & Building Sciences
Landscape Architecture Track

Date: June 8, 2026

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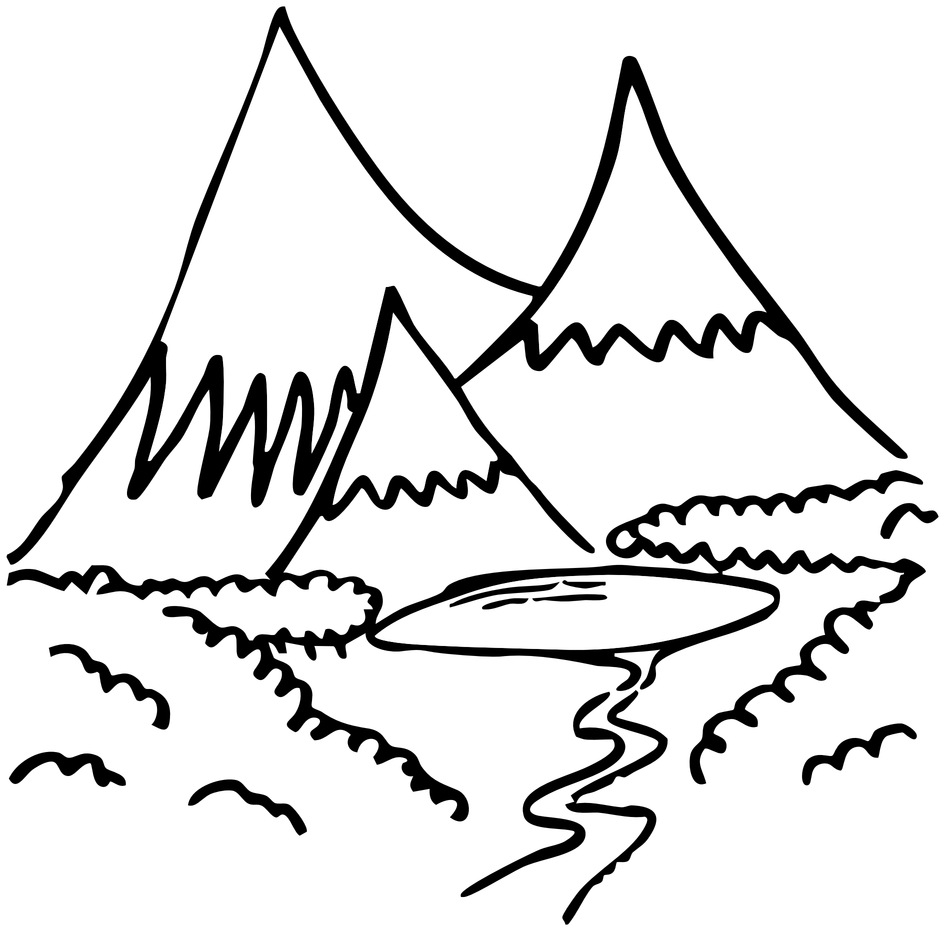
Student number: 6060307

Lab: Reading Places - A Deep Map

Main Mentor: Saskia de Wit
Second Mentor: Suzana Milinović
Delegate Robert Gorny

Sublieme natuur



Rest ruimte, Spontane natuur

Gewaardeerd

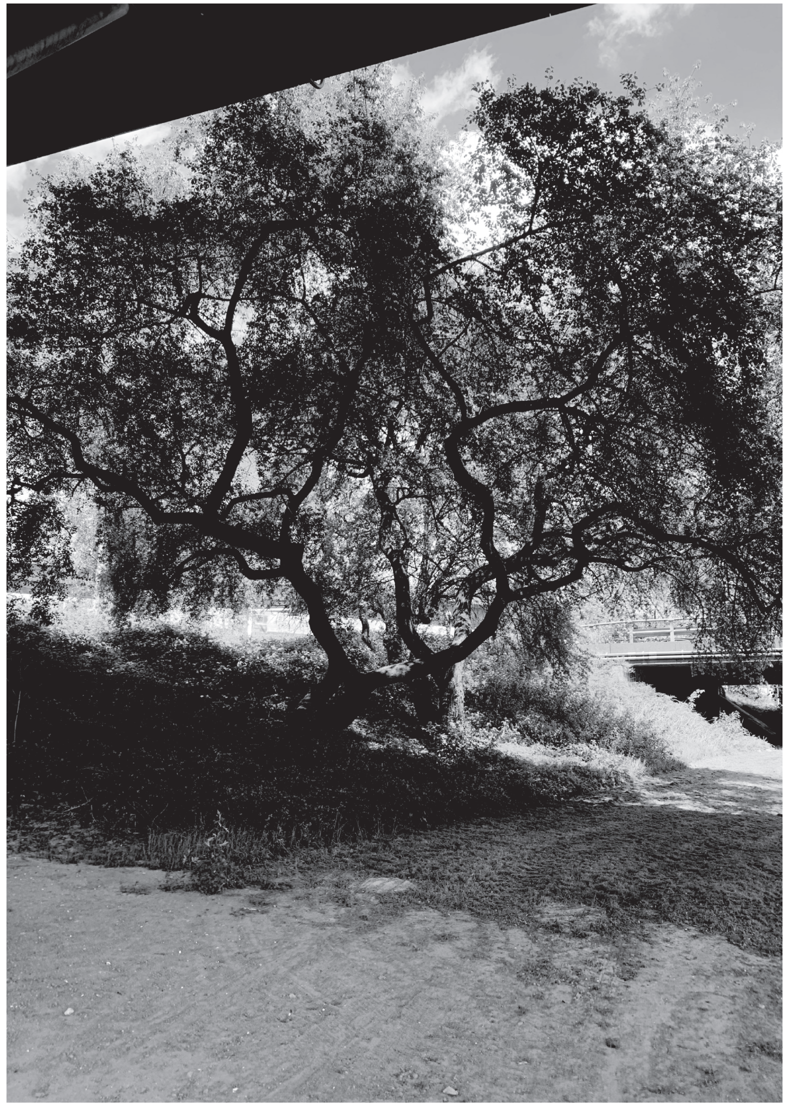
Niet eens erkend

Verwoest

Wat is een restruimte?

Plek tussen functies

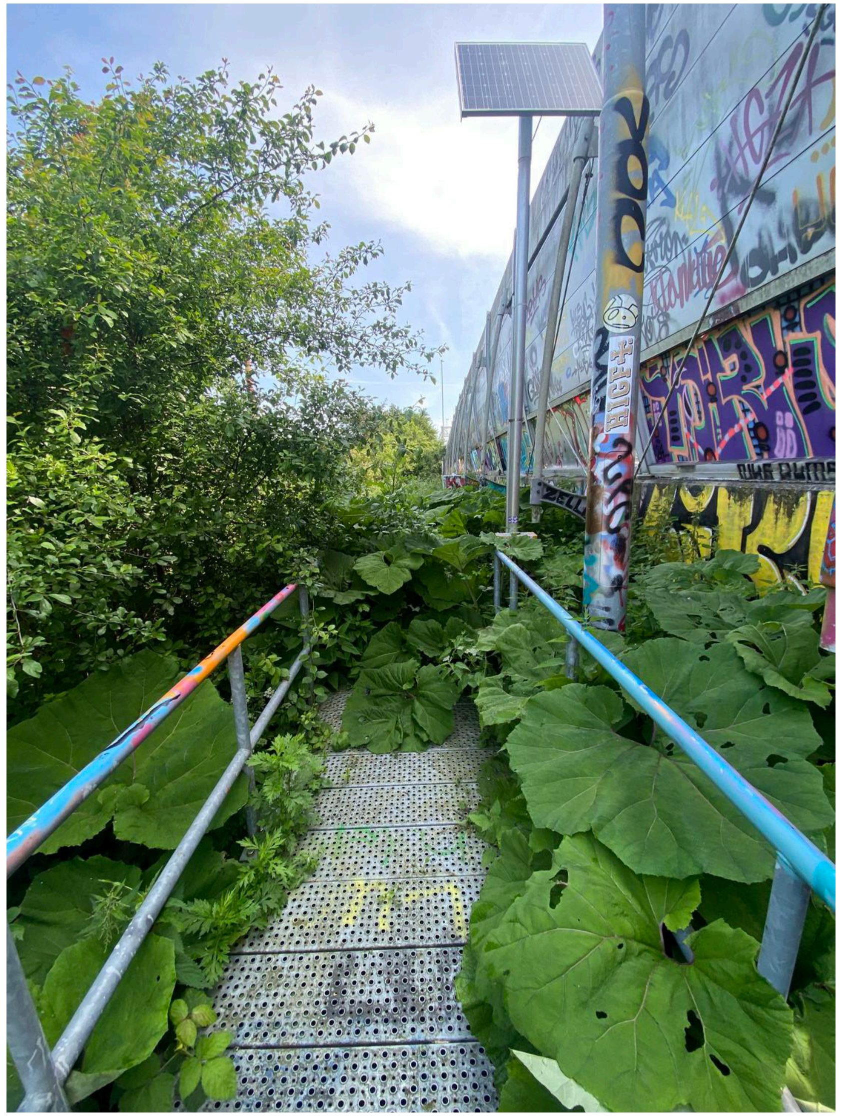
Zonder duidelijke eigenaar



Verstopte hoekjes

Niet leeg, maar ongepland

Ecologische en meer-dan-menselijke waarde



Een thuis voor wie weinig stem heeft

Kan vele vormen aannemen

De plek is niet leeg.

Ze leeft, maar is moeilijk leesbaar.

Van kijken naar Ontwerpen

Onderzoek

De plek leren zien

Wat is hier waardevol?

Het raamwerk

Ontwerp

De vijf momenten

Ontwerpen met tijd

Conclusie

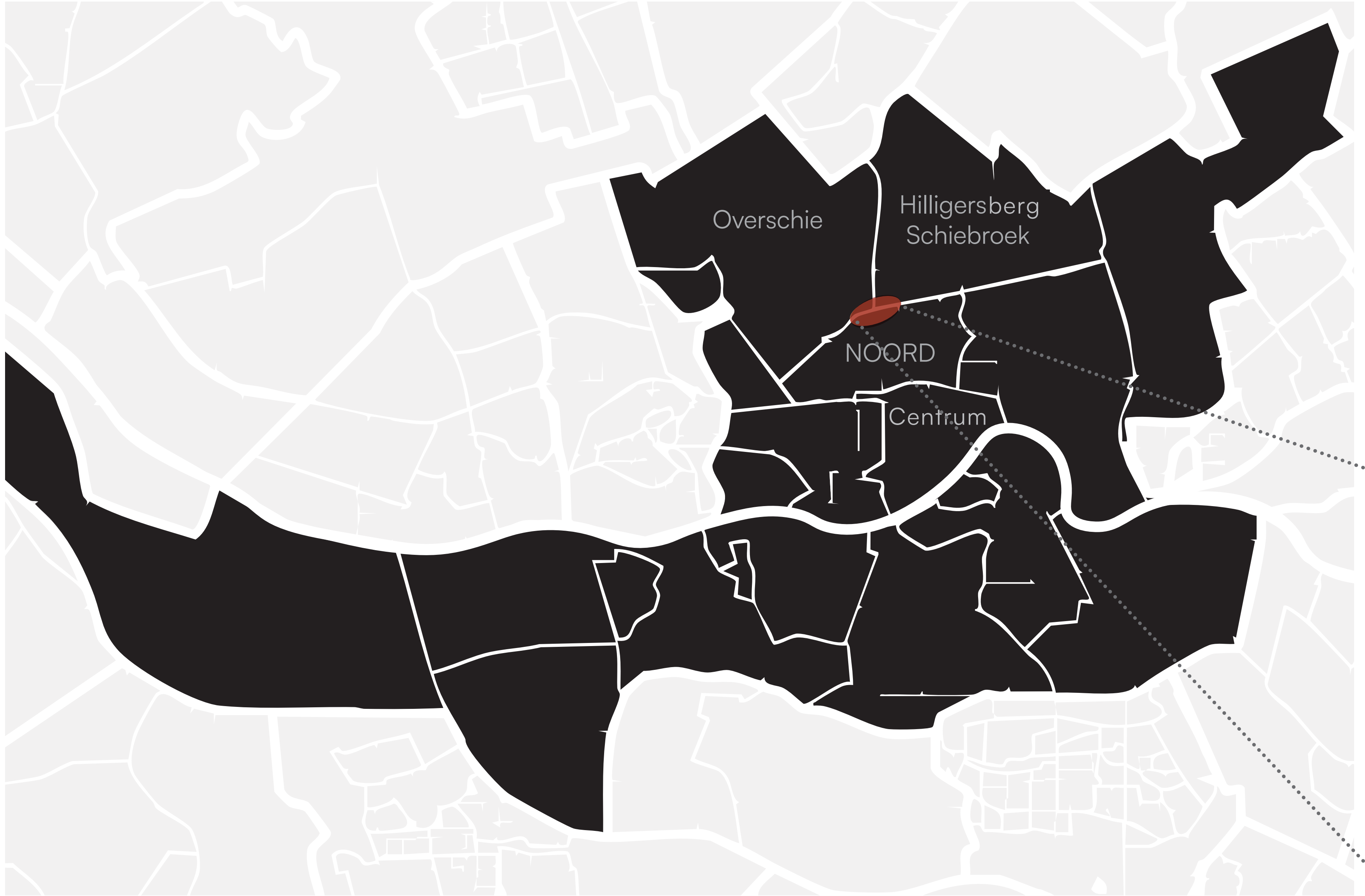
Verbondenheid

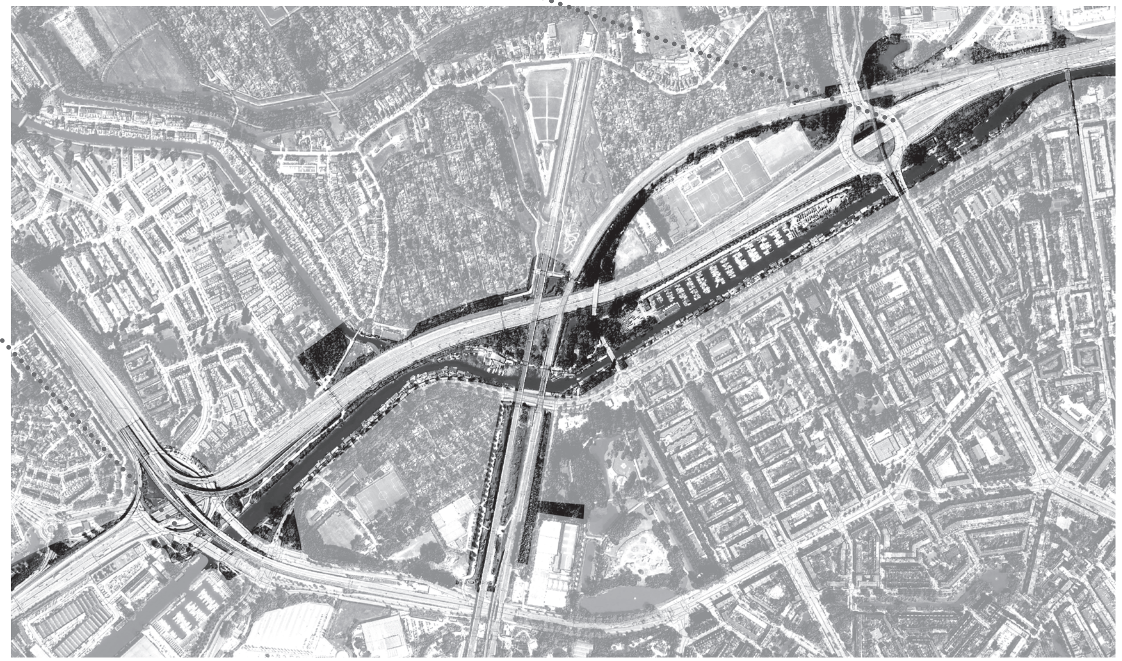
Stap 1

De plek leren zien

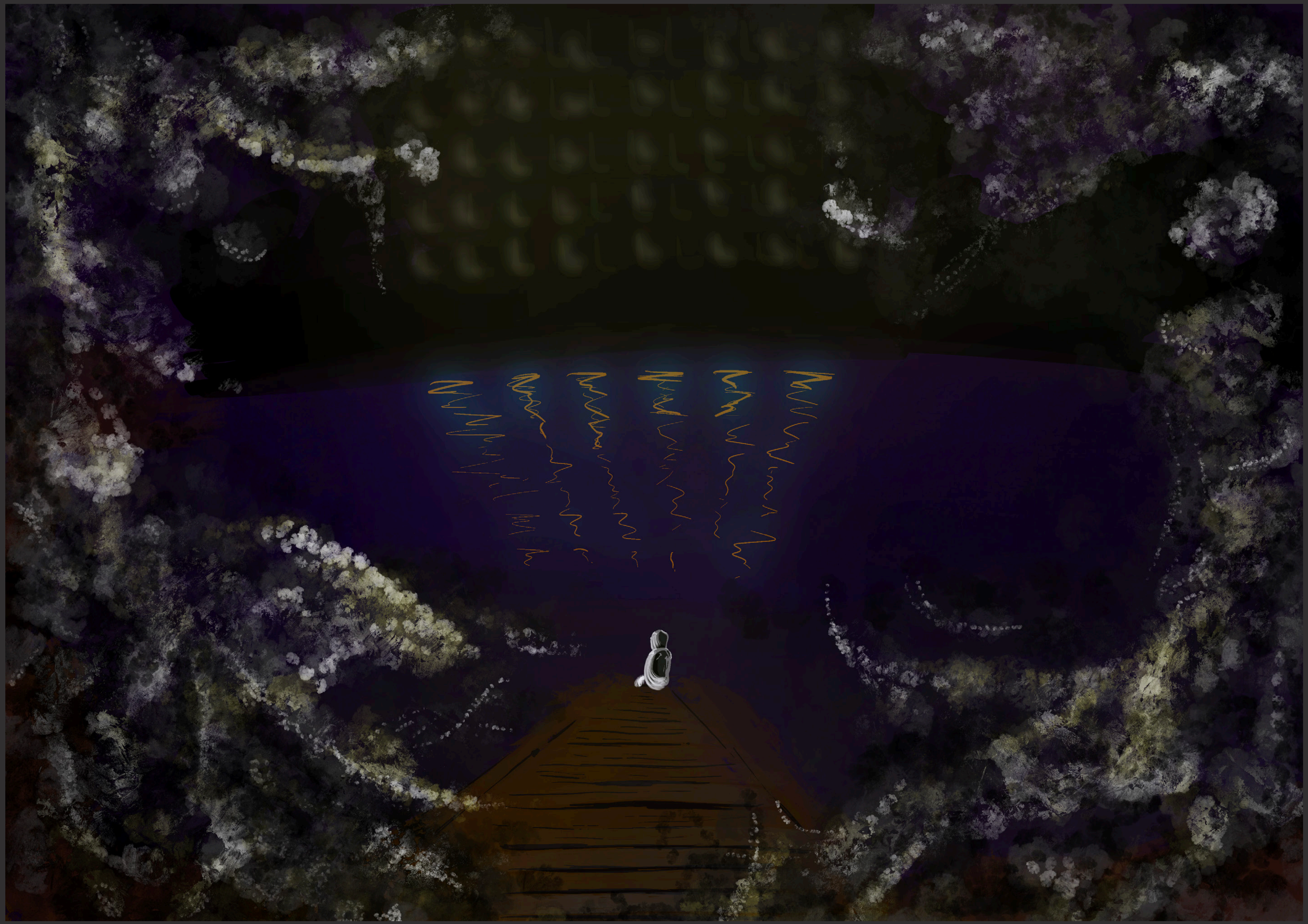
Rotterdam

Een vergeten rand tussen wijken, water en infrastructuur.



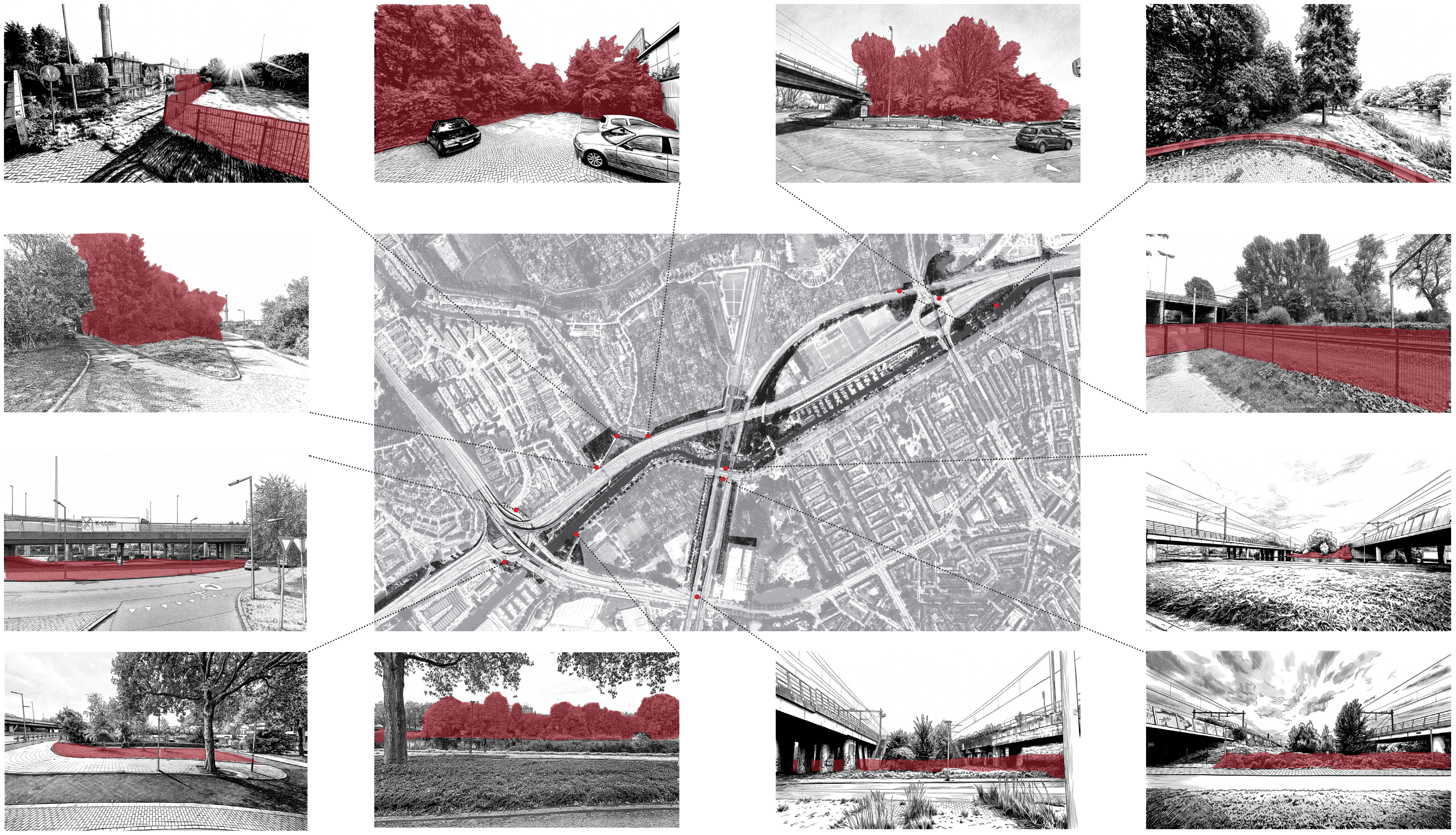


Eerste ontmoeting: stilte in de restruimte

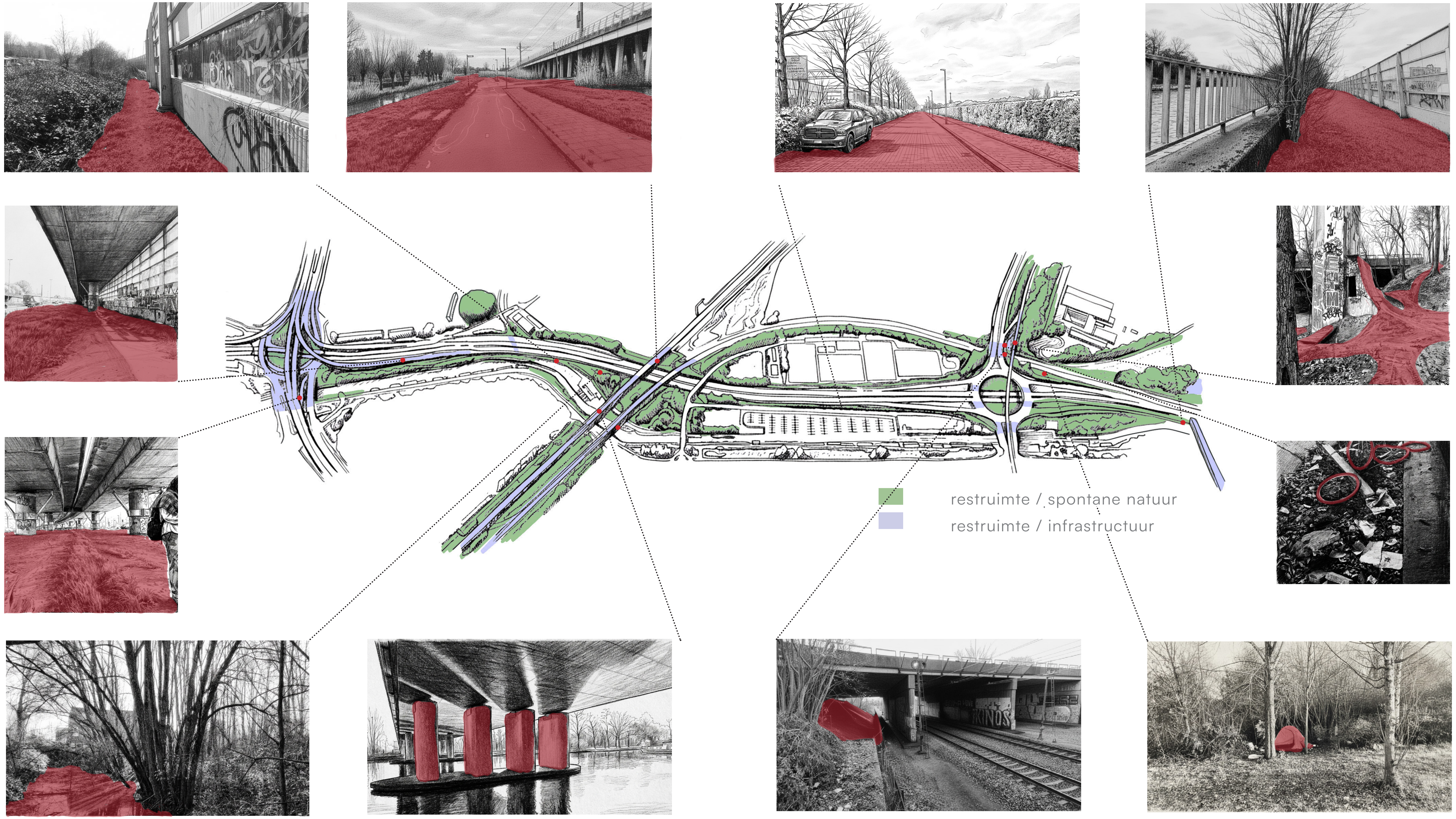


Een onverwacht moment van stilte werd het begin van de ontwerpvraag.

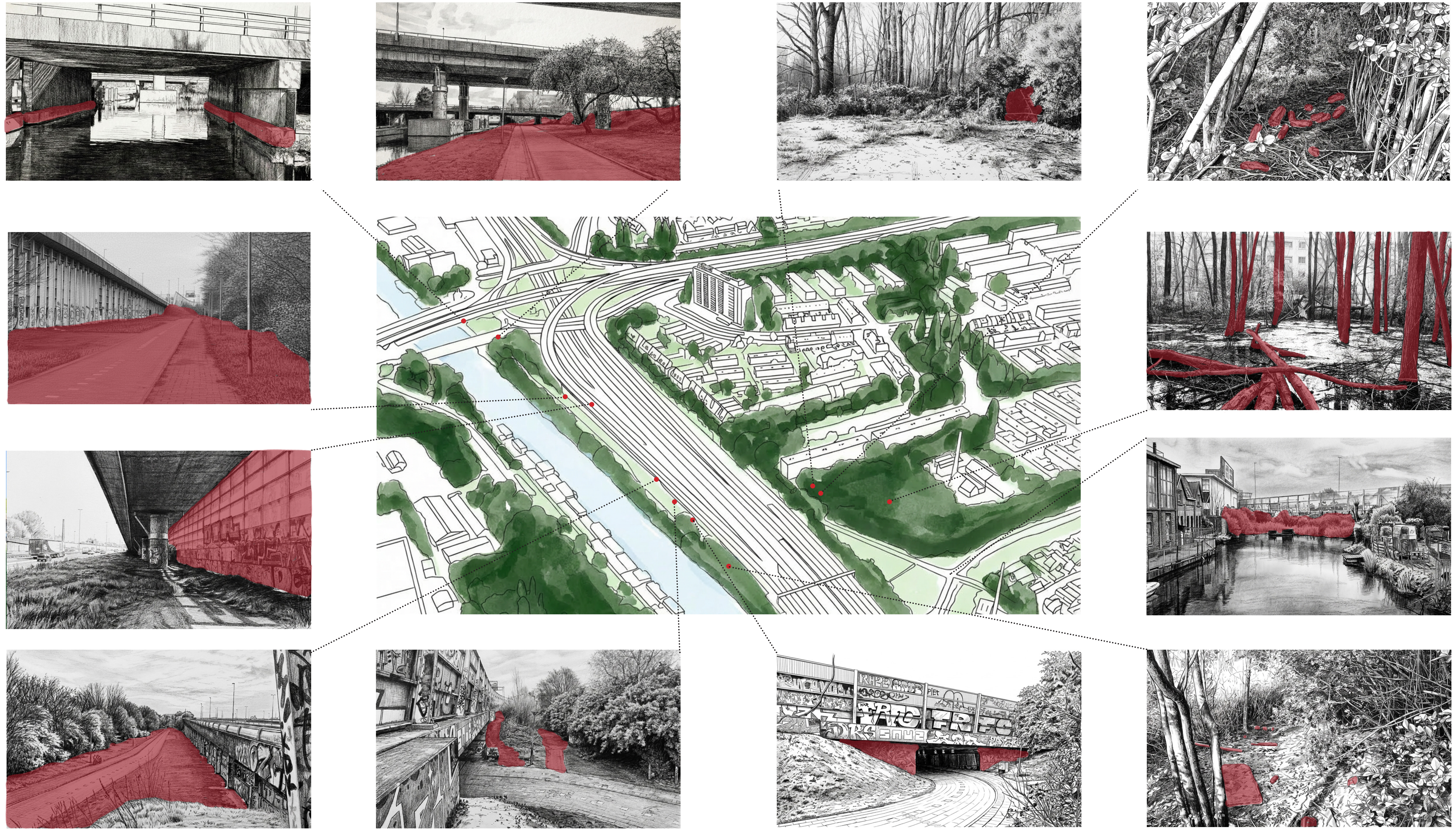
Betreden van de restruimte: onduidelijke randen en openingen



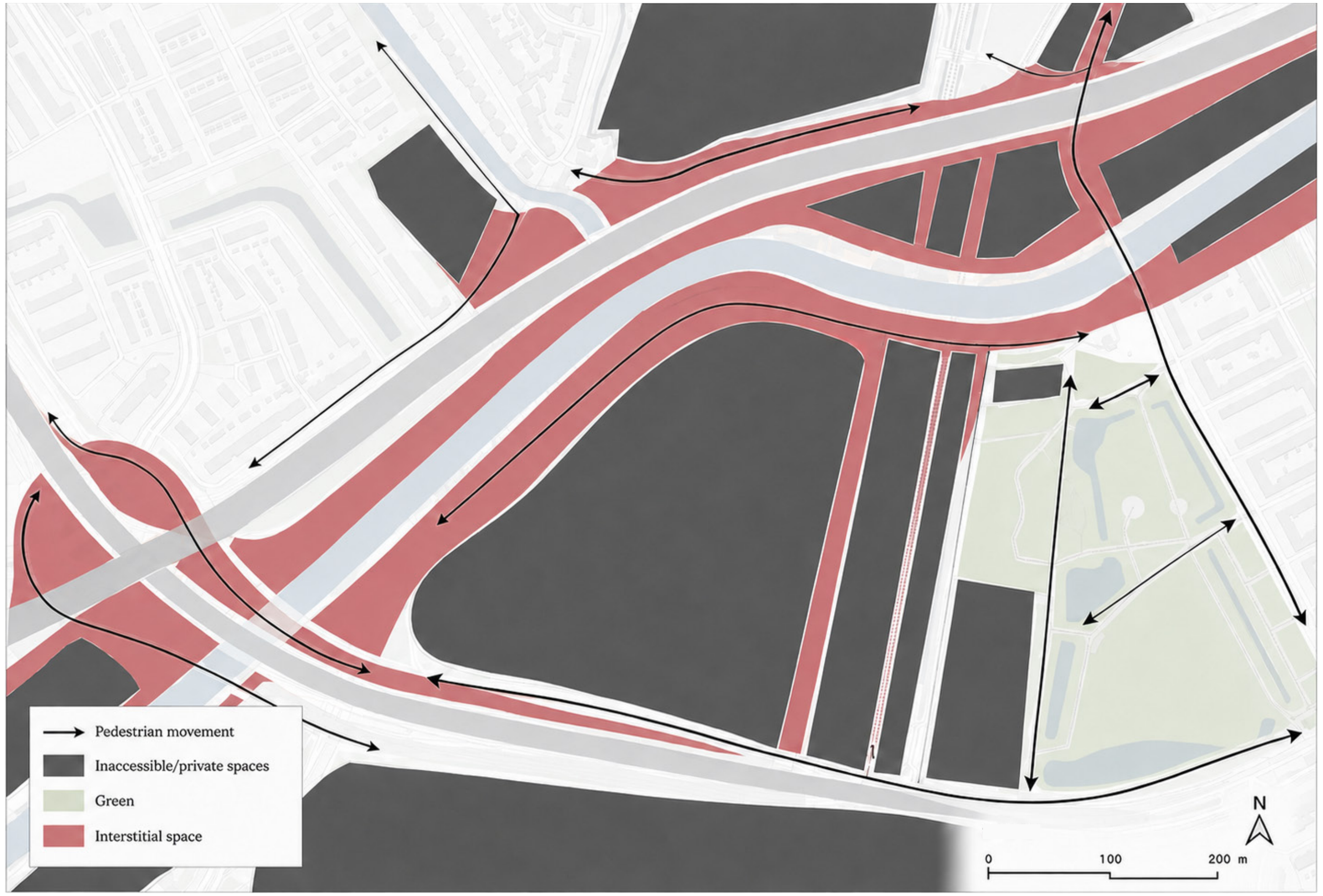
Eenmaal binnen



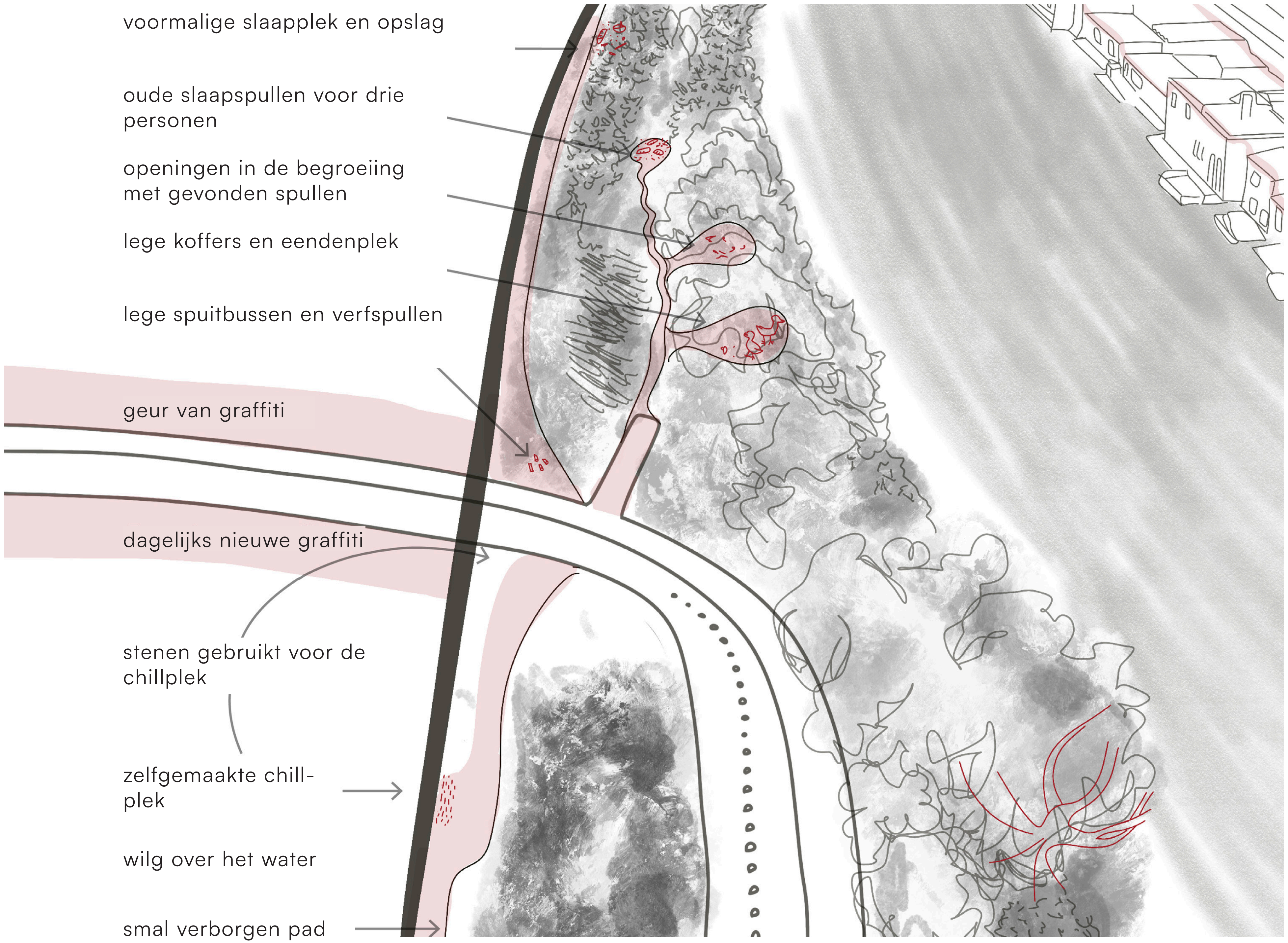
De gekozen strook



Aanwezig, maar niet beschikbaar



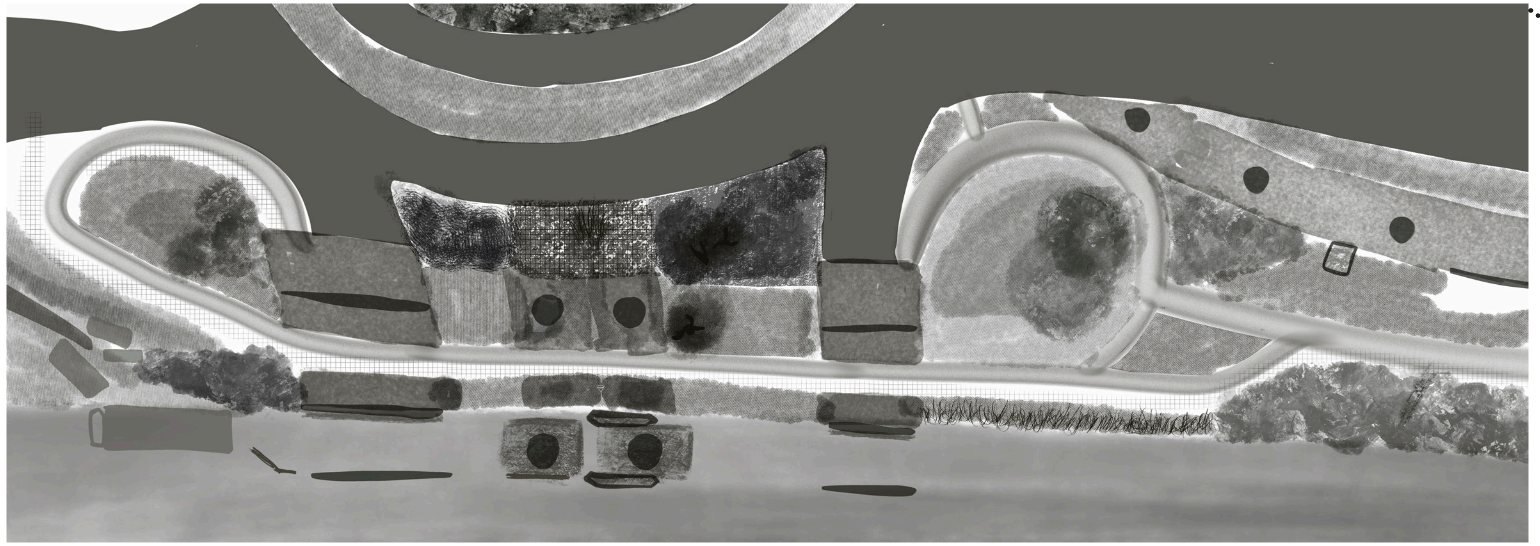
De plek is al in gebruik



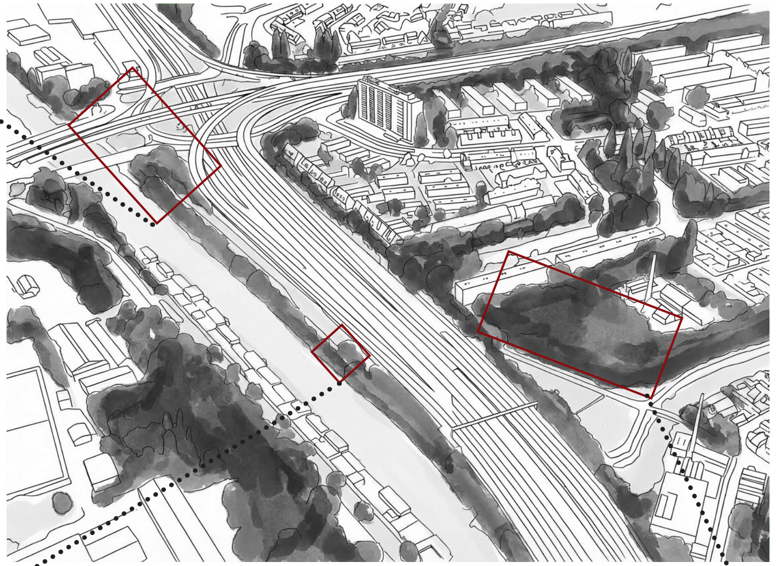
stap 2

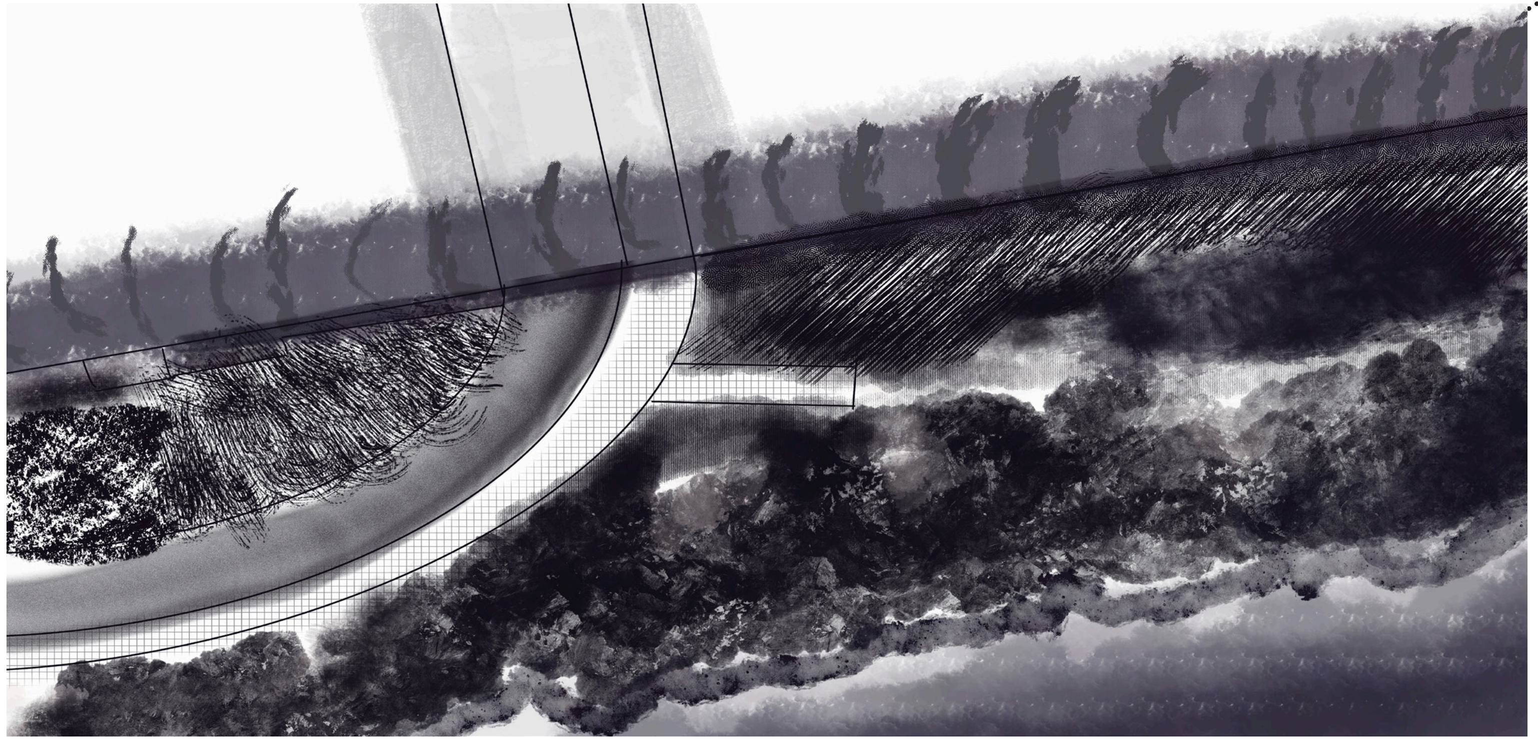
Lezen van de latente kwaliteiten

Drie verdichtingen van infrastructuur, gebruik en natuur

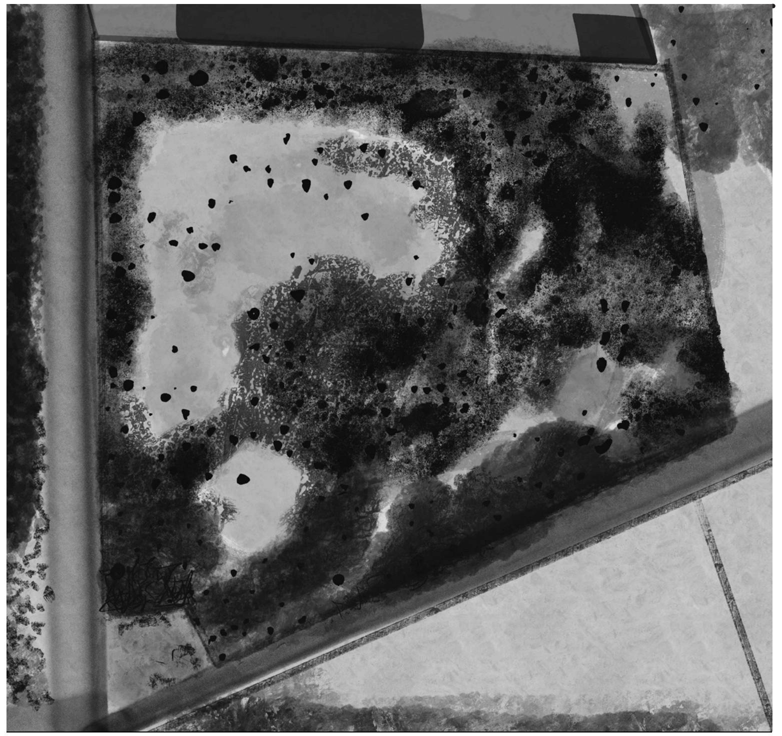


bruggengebied



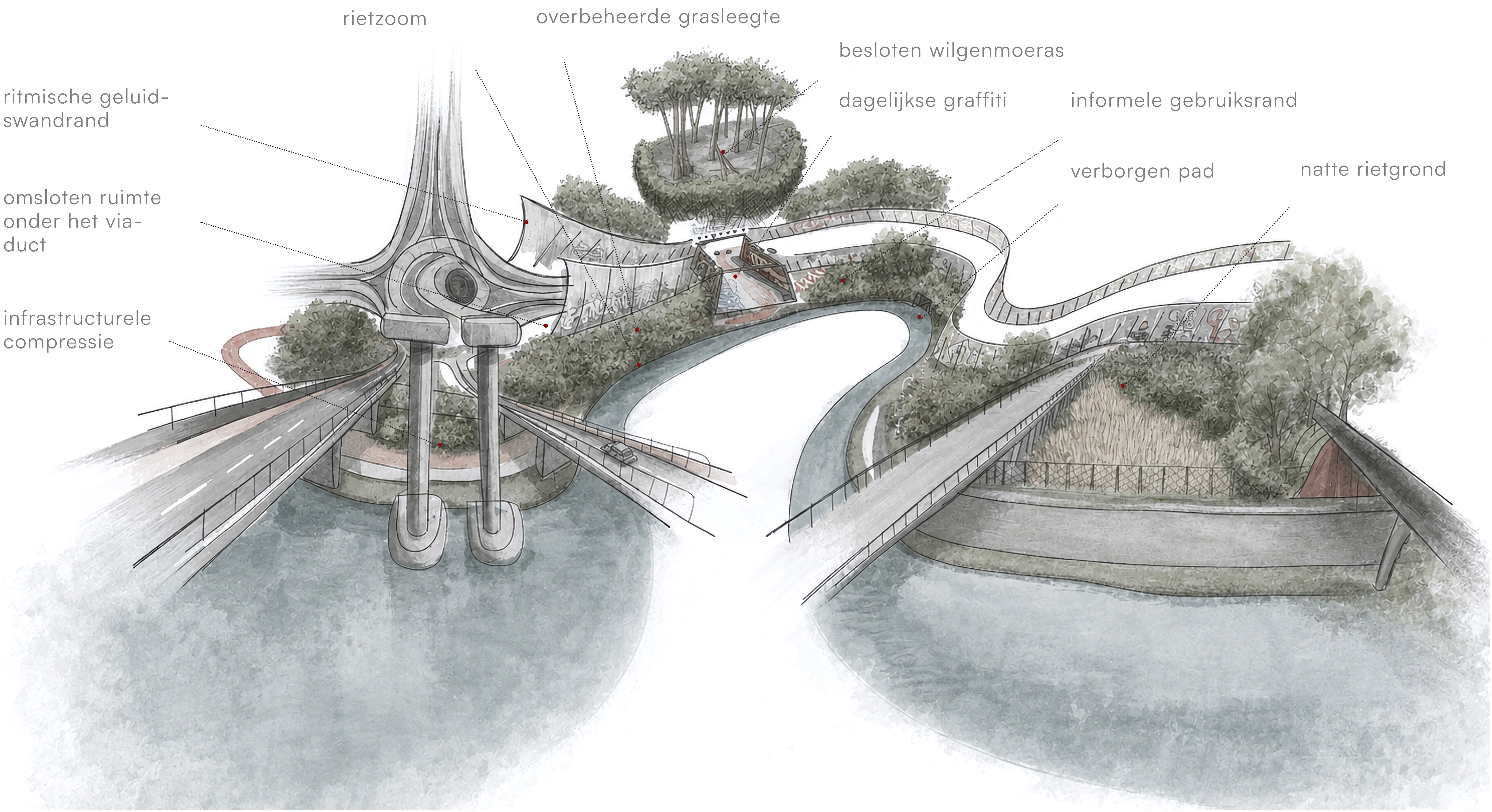


graffititunnel en informele schuilrand



wilgenmoeras

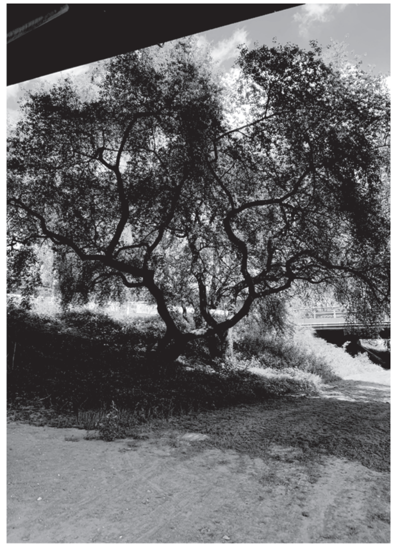
De plek als veld van druk, beschutting en traagheid



Vertraging is al latent aanwezig

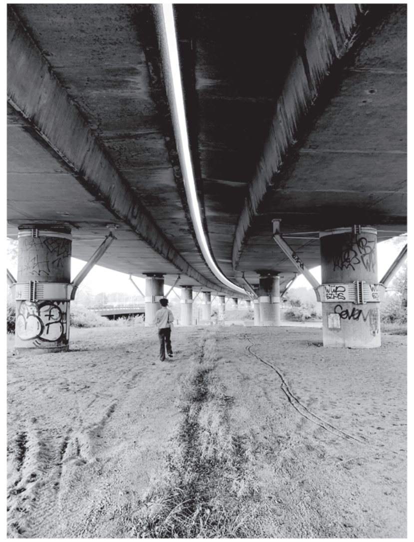
Zachte omsluiting
+
informeel pad
:
geleidelijke overgang van beweging naar pauze.

Stil water
+
reflectie
:
gelaagde afstand die ruimtelijke rust oproept.



Mystieke boom
+
donkere omsluiting
:
trekt aandacht terug naar elementaire aan-
wezigheid.

Herhaalde liggers
+
gereflecteerd licht
:
ritmische leegte die de waarneming vertraagt.

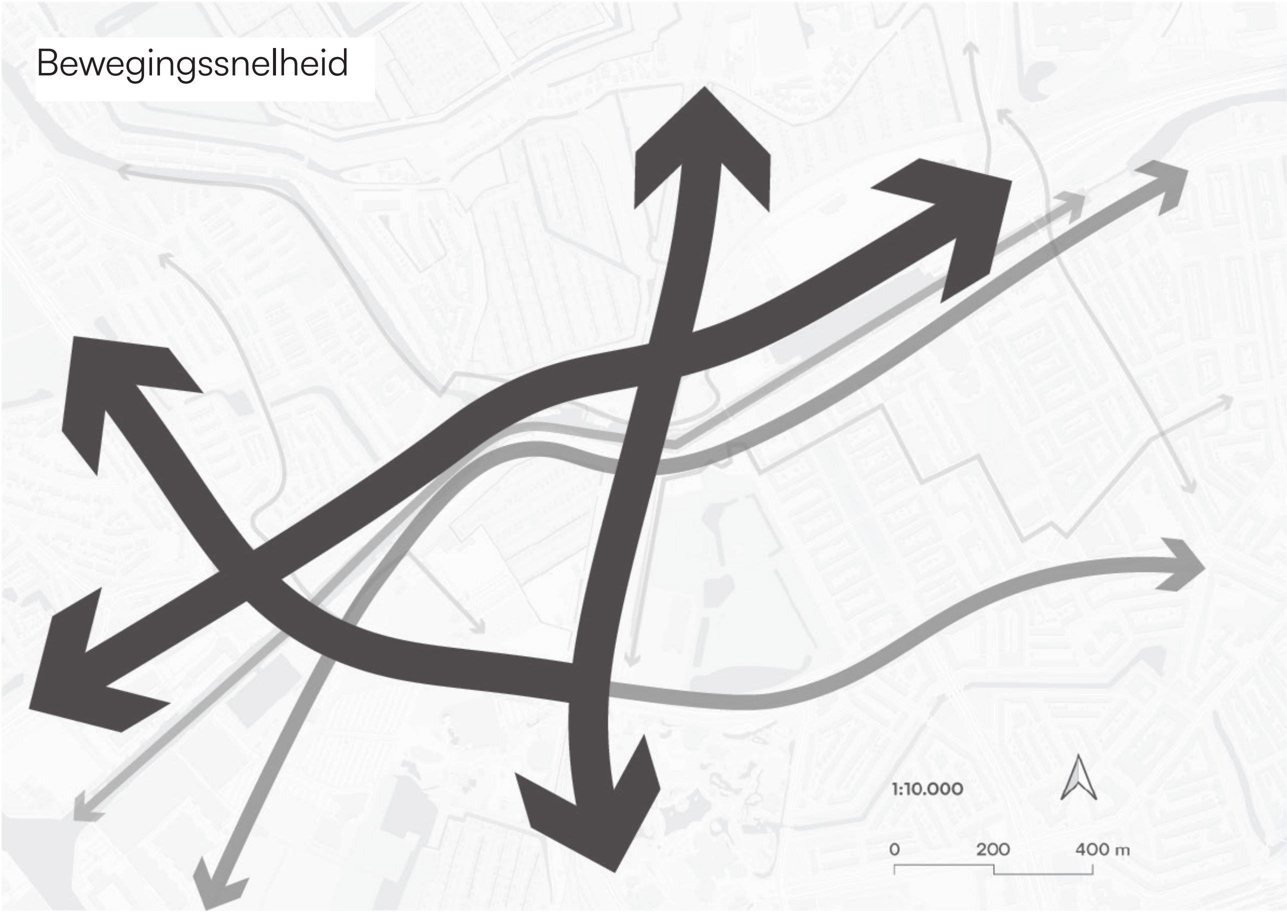


Gedempt licht
+
lineaire omsluiting
:
stedelijke sporen worden een stille vertelling.

Verval
+
blootstelling
:
samenhang binnen afbrokkelende menselijke controle.

Sterke omsluiting
+
licht aan het einde
:
verscherpte aandacht door compres
sie en ontlading.

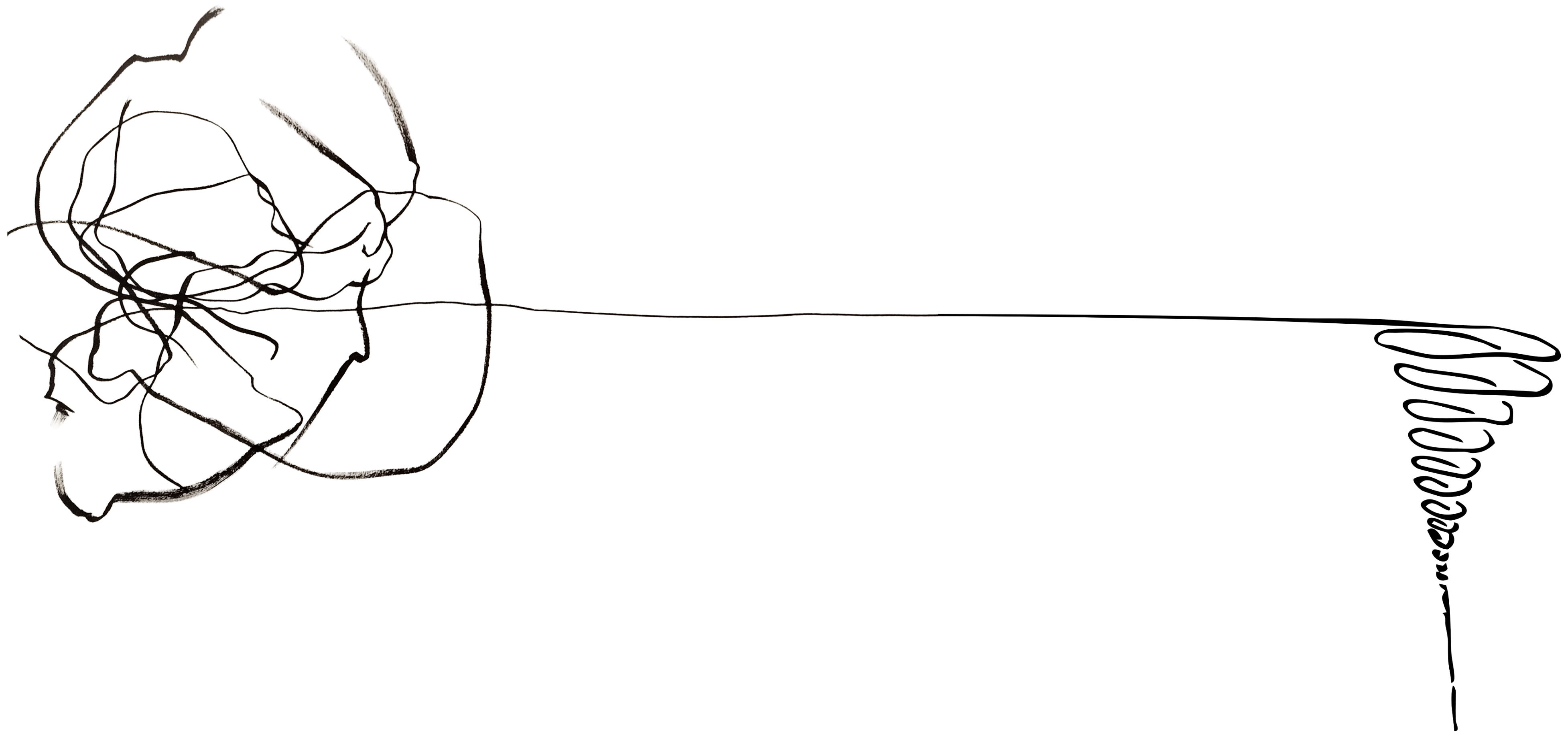
Belemmering van vertraging en leesbaarheid



Stap 3

Het raamwerk

Van stedelijke snelheid naar belichaamde aandacht

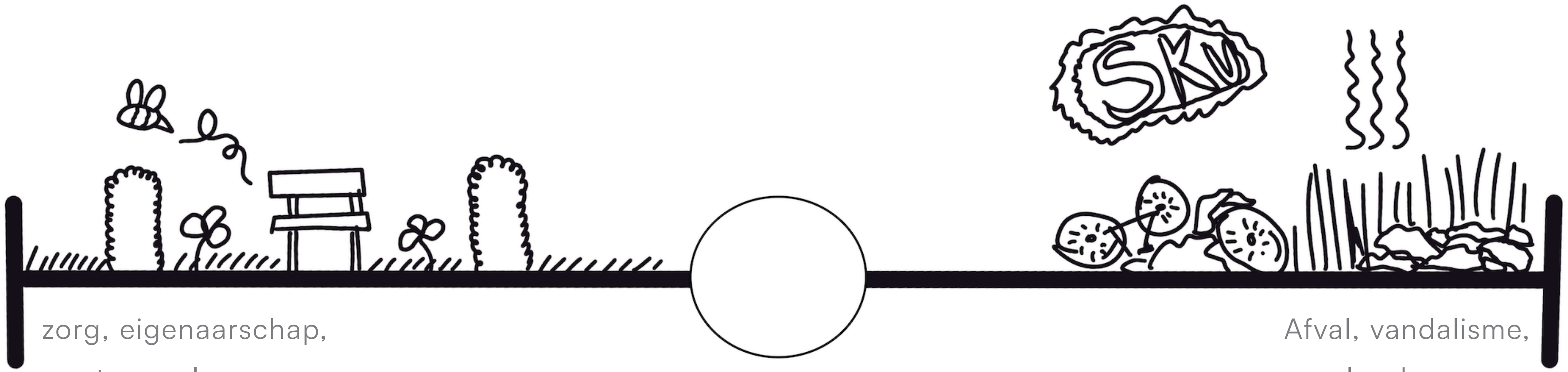


De derde positie

Conventionele Parklogica

Ruinositeit

Restlogica



zorg, eigenaarschap,
vaste regels

Afval, vandalisme,
onleesbare zorg

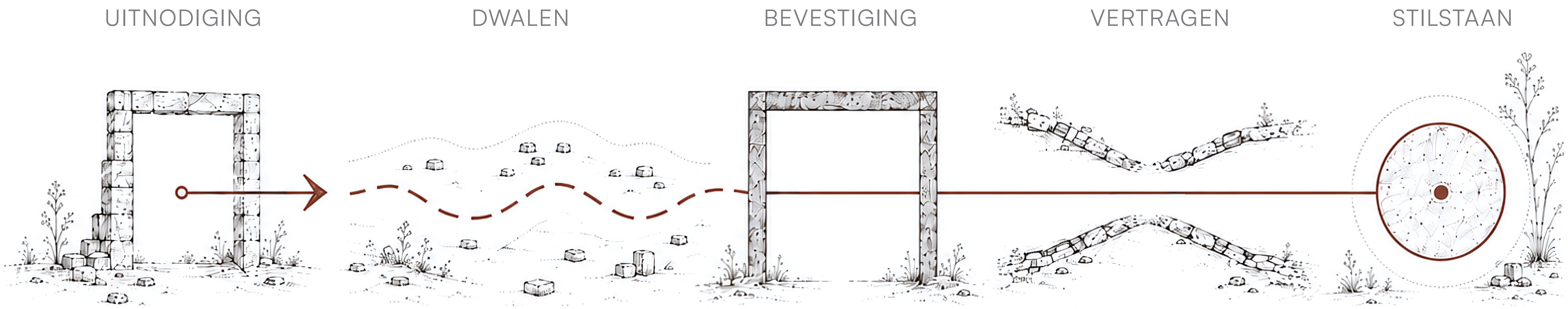
te schoon, kwetsbaar, af

leesbaar genoeg om te be-
treden, open genoeg om te
verouderen

onleesbaar, onveilig, afges-
chreven

Ontwerpen in de restruimte betekent balanceren tussen overcontrole en verwaarlozing

Vijf ruimtelijke momenten



Het ontwerp

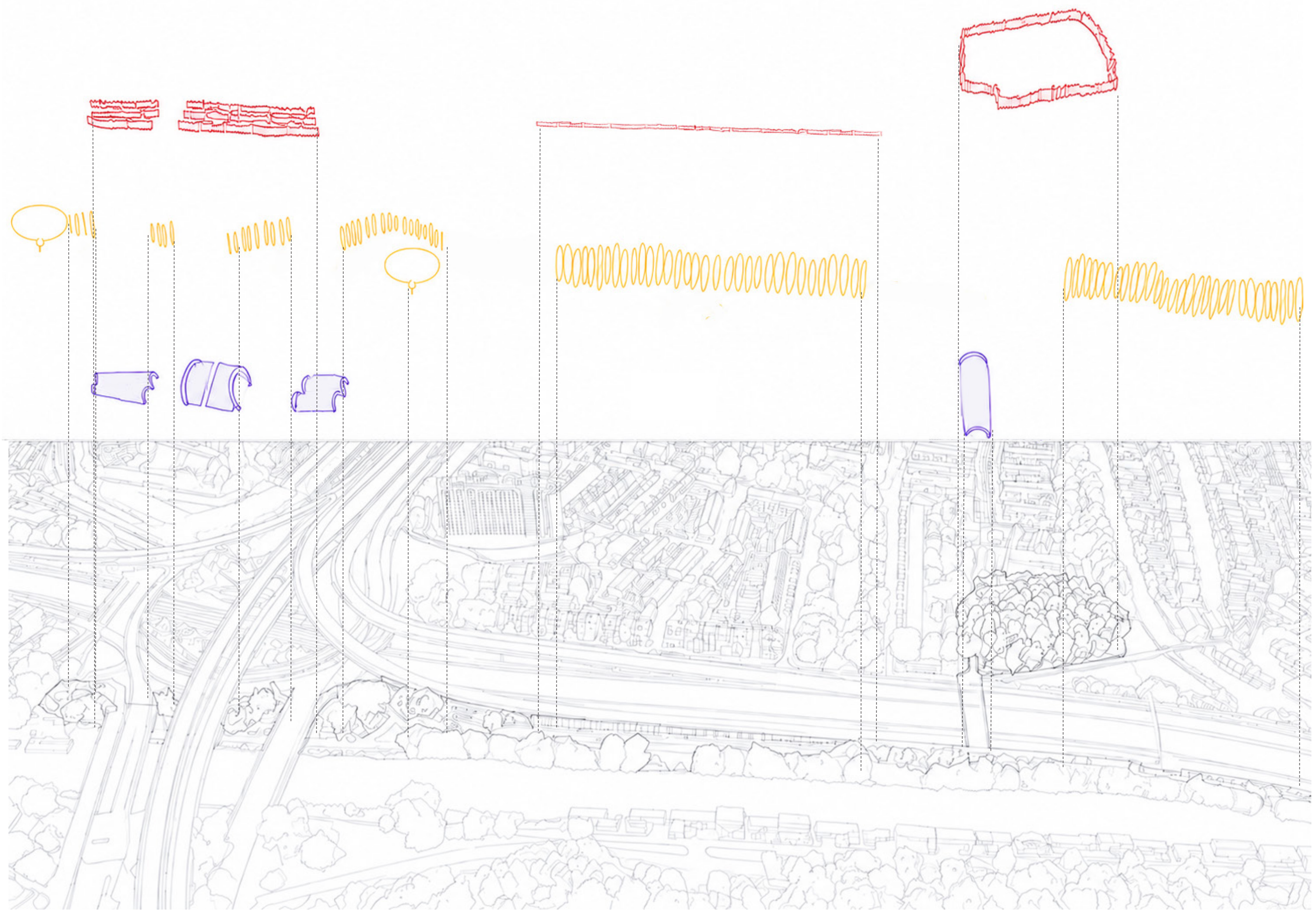
De route die vertraagt

Ontwerptoolbox: randen, bomen en drempels

Sturende randen

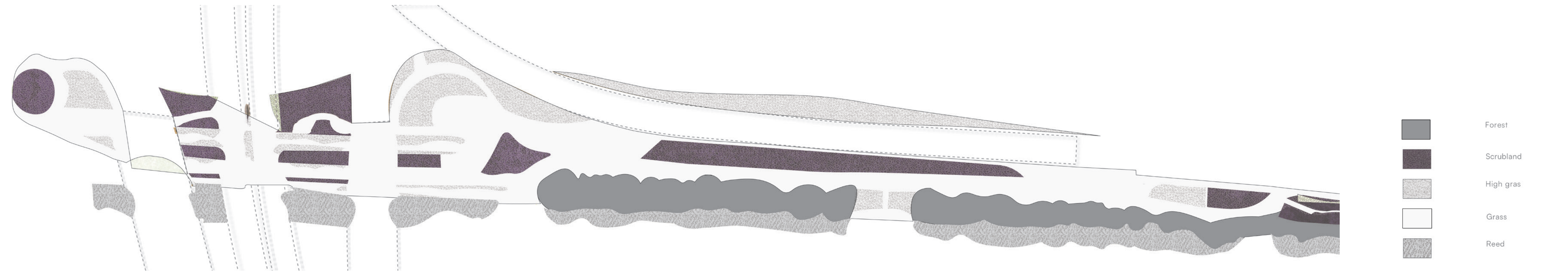
Boomraamwerk

Drempels

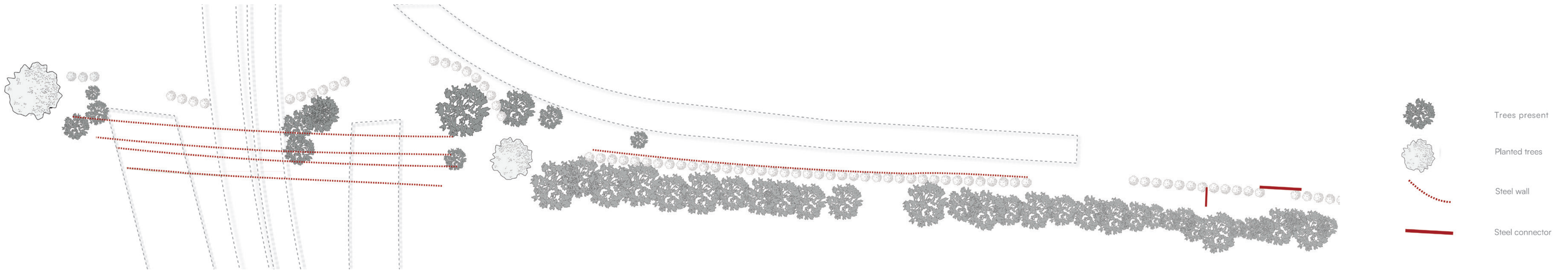


Het ontwerp als gelaagd raamwerk

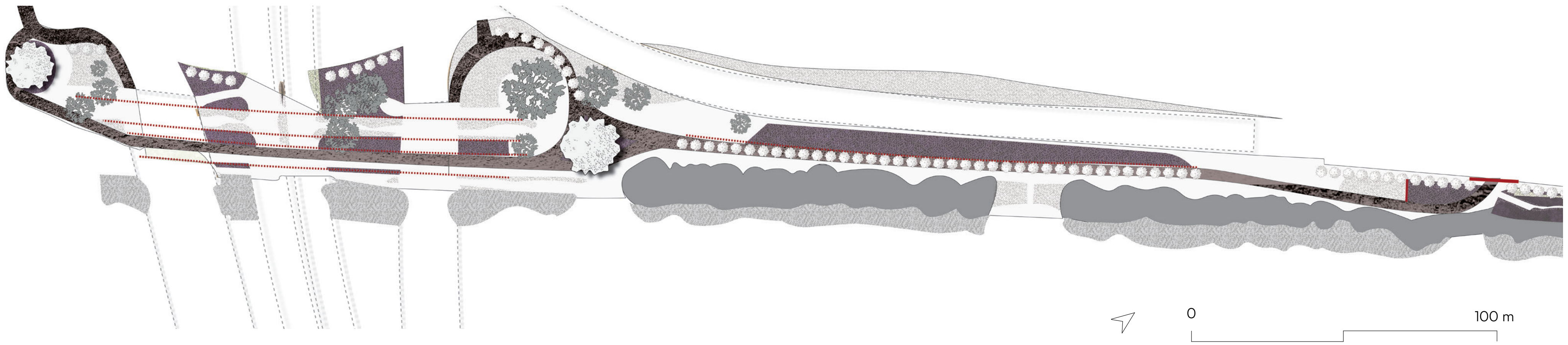
BEGROEIING



RAAMWERK

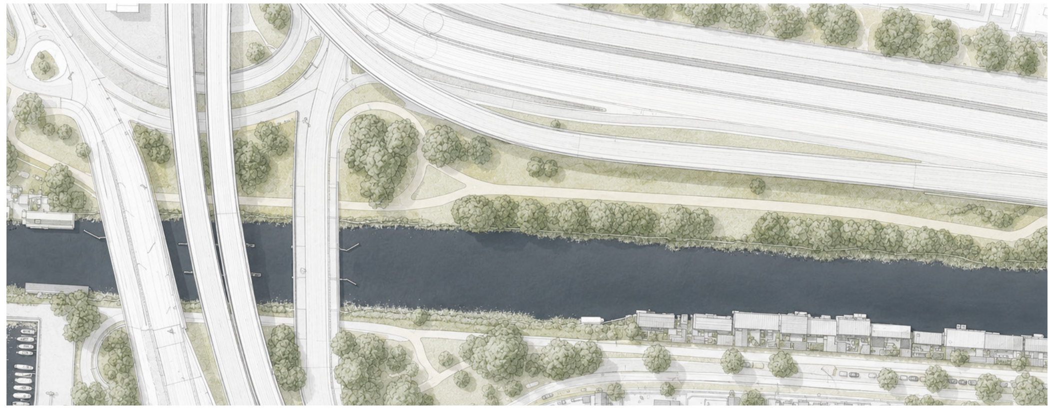


COMPOSITIE



Kaart: De strook

Stalen wand
Stalen verbinder
riet
Struweel en ondergroei
Hoog gras
gras
Schie
Omliggende infrastructuur
Bestaande struiken
Bestaande bomen

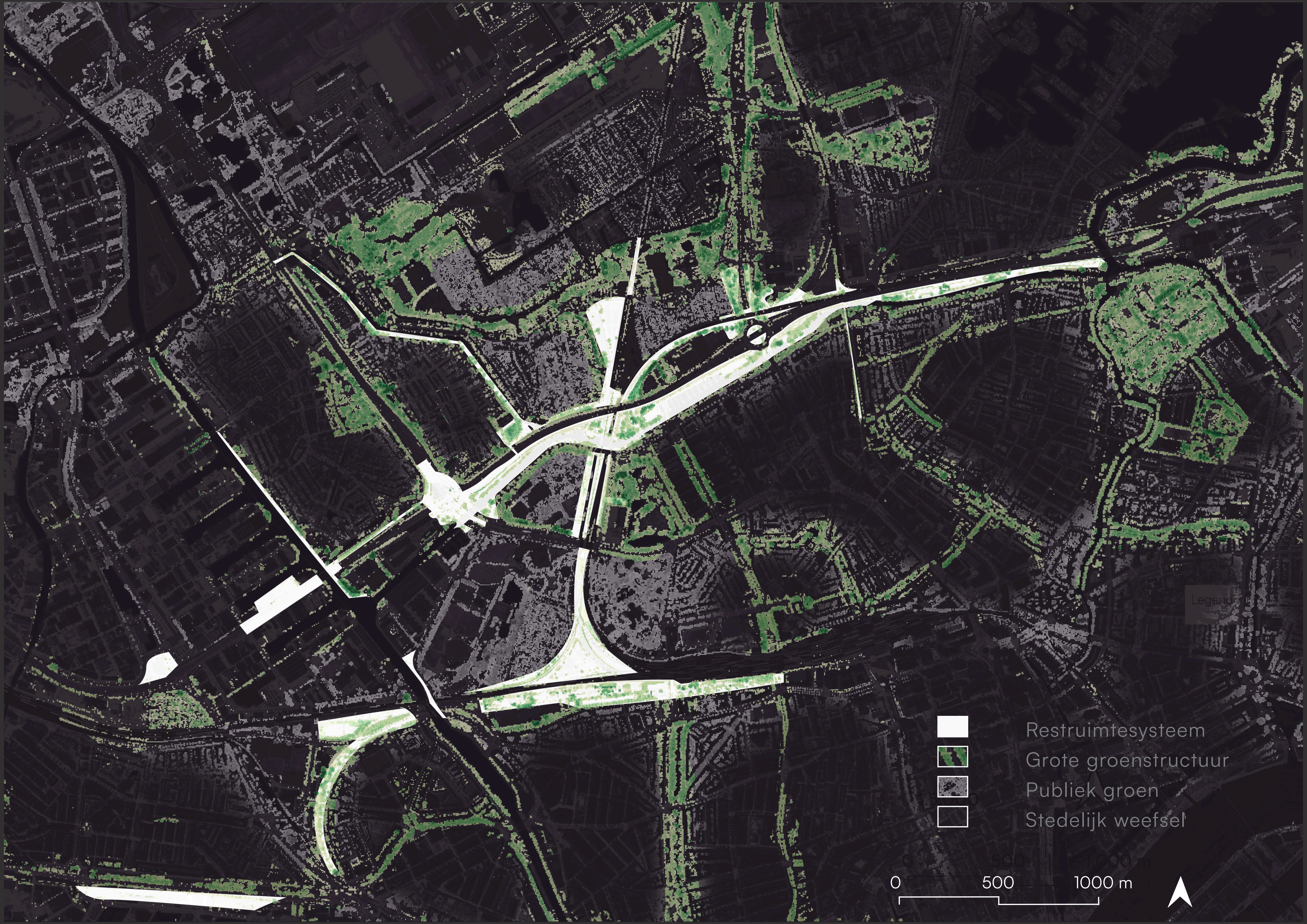


Bestaande situatie

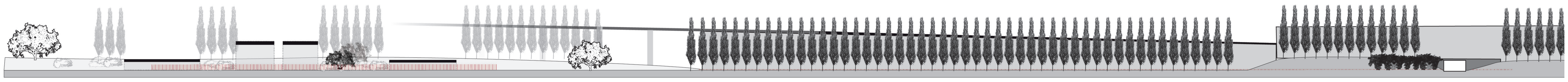
Ontwerp

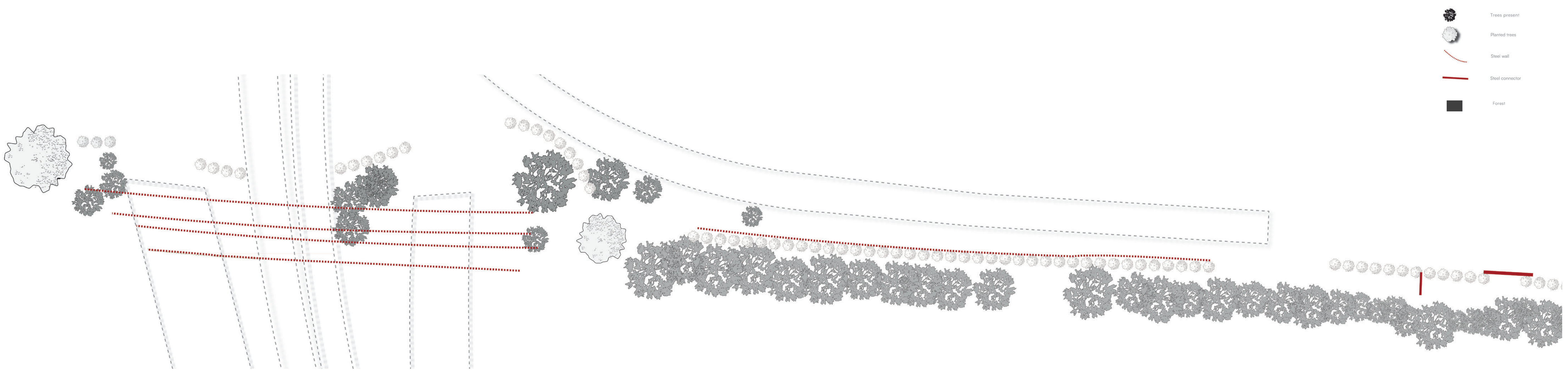
0
100 m

De Schie als groter systeem



Bomen als ruimtelijk instrument





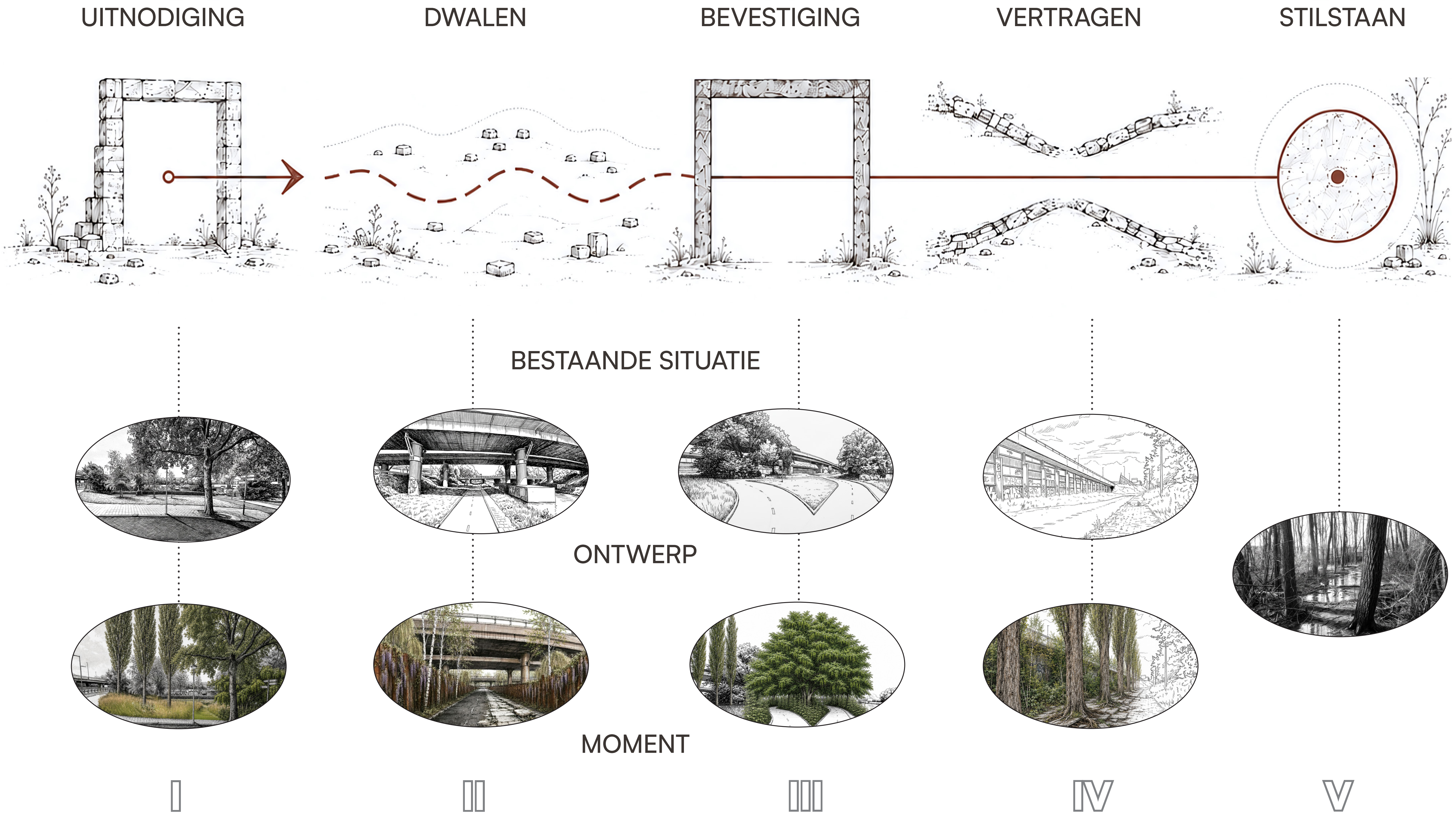
Staalrand
=
drempel en oriëntatie

Bestaande boomgroepen
=
pauze en compressie

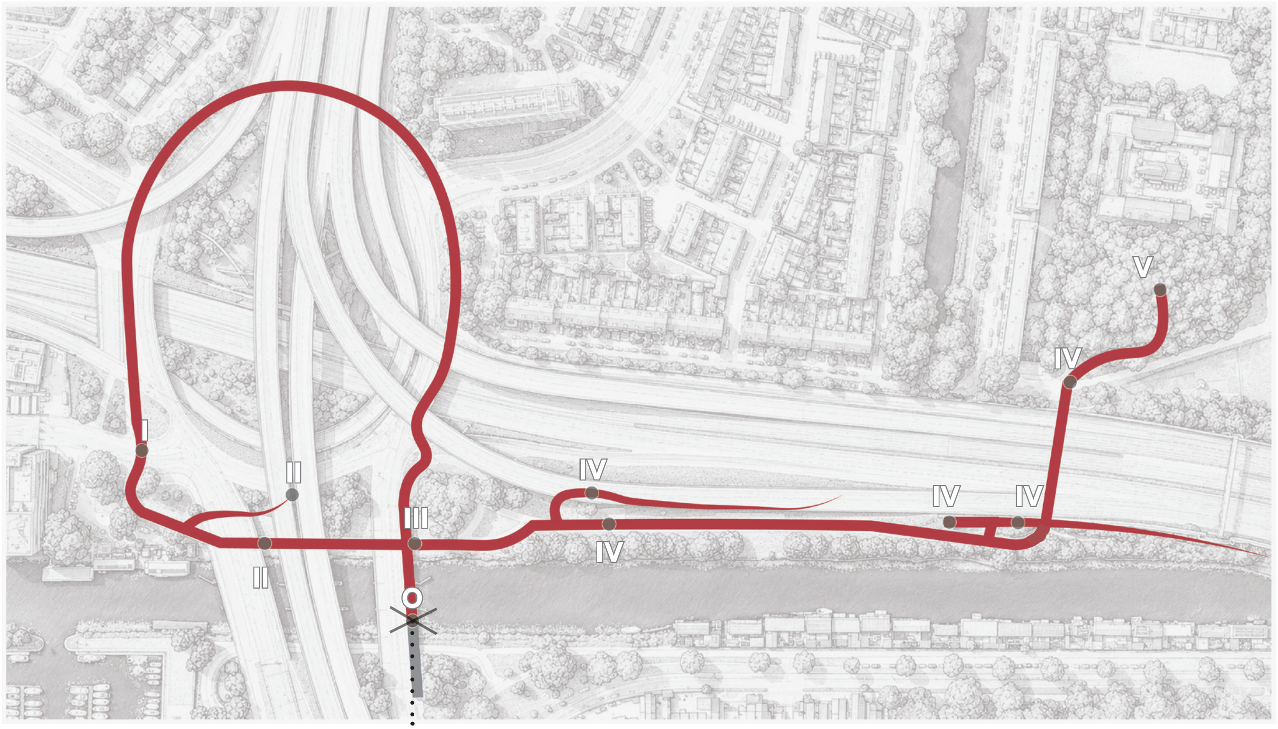
Populierenrij
=
ritme en richting

Boomkroon
=
beschutting en omsluiting

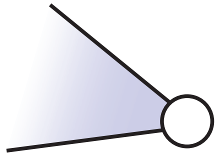
De route als reeks ervaringen



We lopen door de route



Waar je nu bent



Impressie

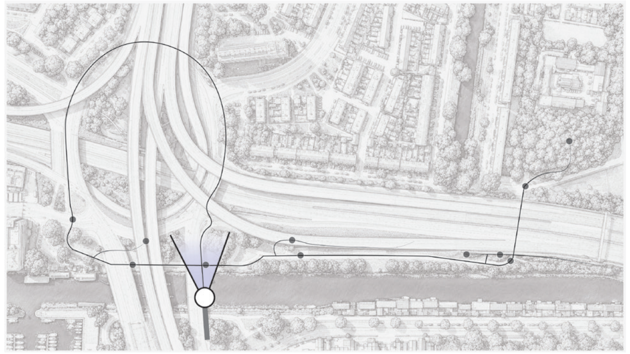
A

a

Doorsnede

Kaart

Naderen vanuit stedelijke snelheid

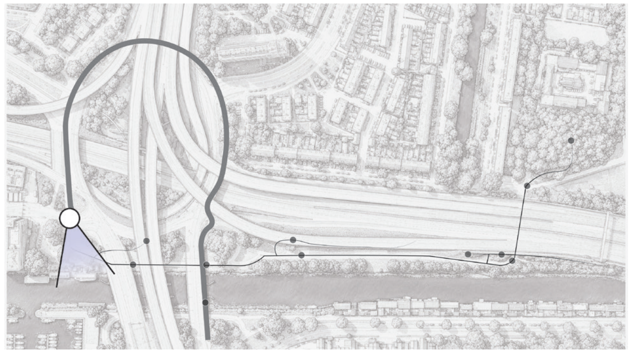


Positie

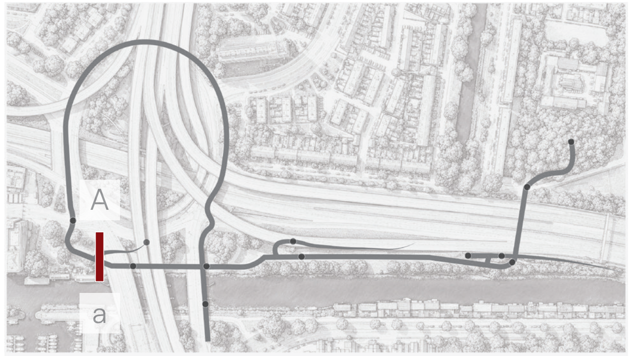
Bestaande situatie

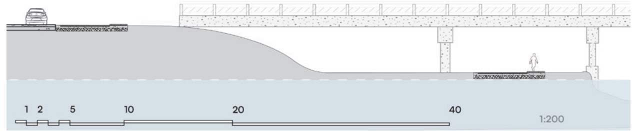
Ontwerp ingreep

Moment I: Uitnodiging

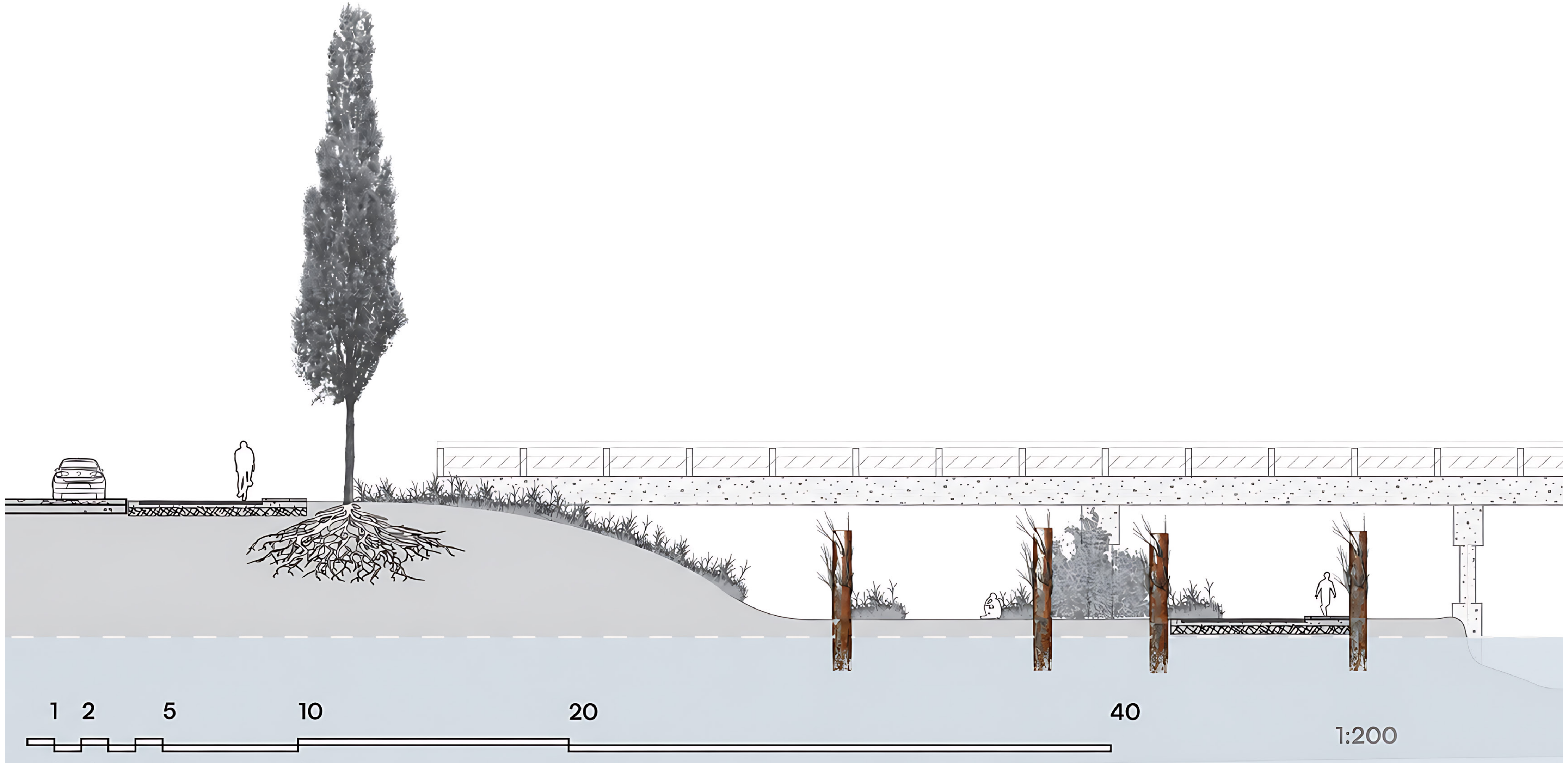


Doorsnede: drempel naar de restruimte



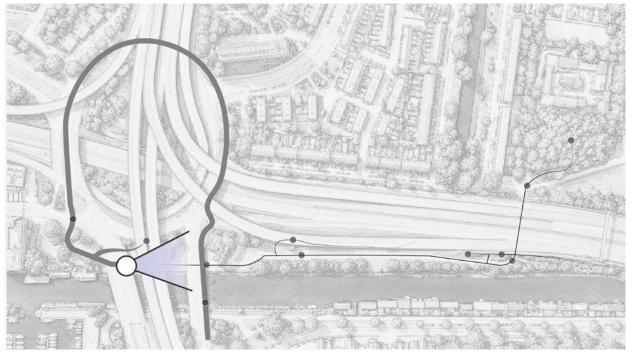


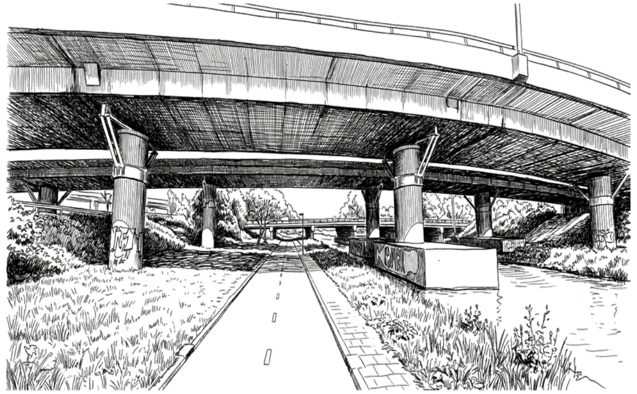
Bestaande situatie



A Ontwerp implementatie a

Moment II: Dwalen





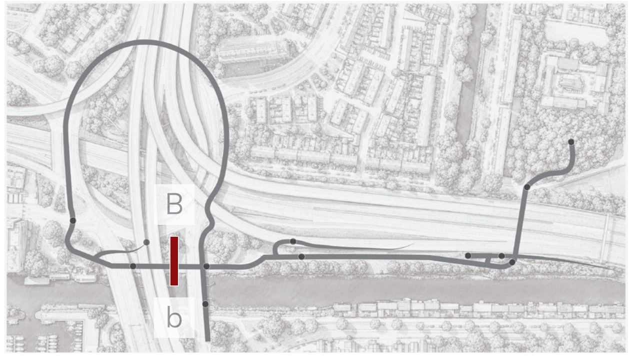
Staal, Baluwe regen en Wilg over tijd

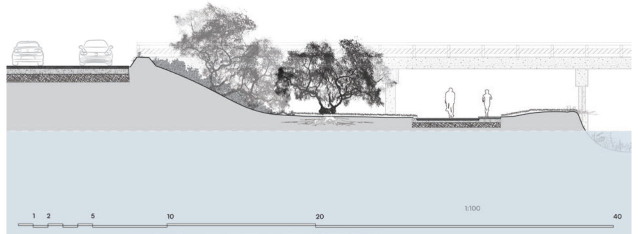
Blauwe regen

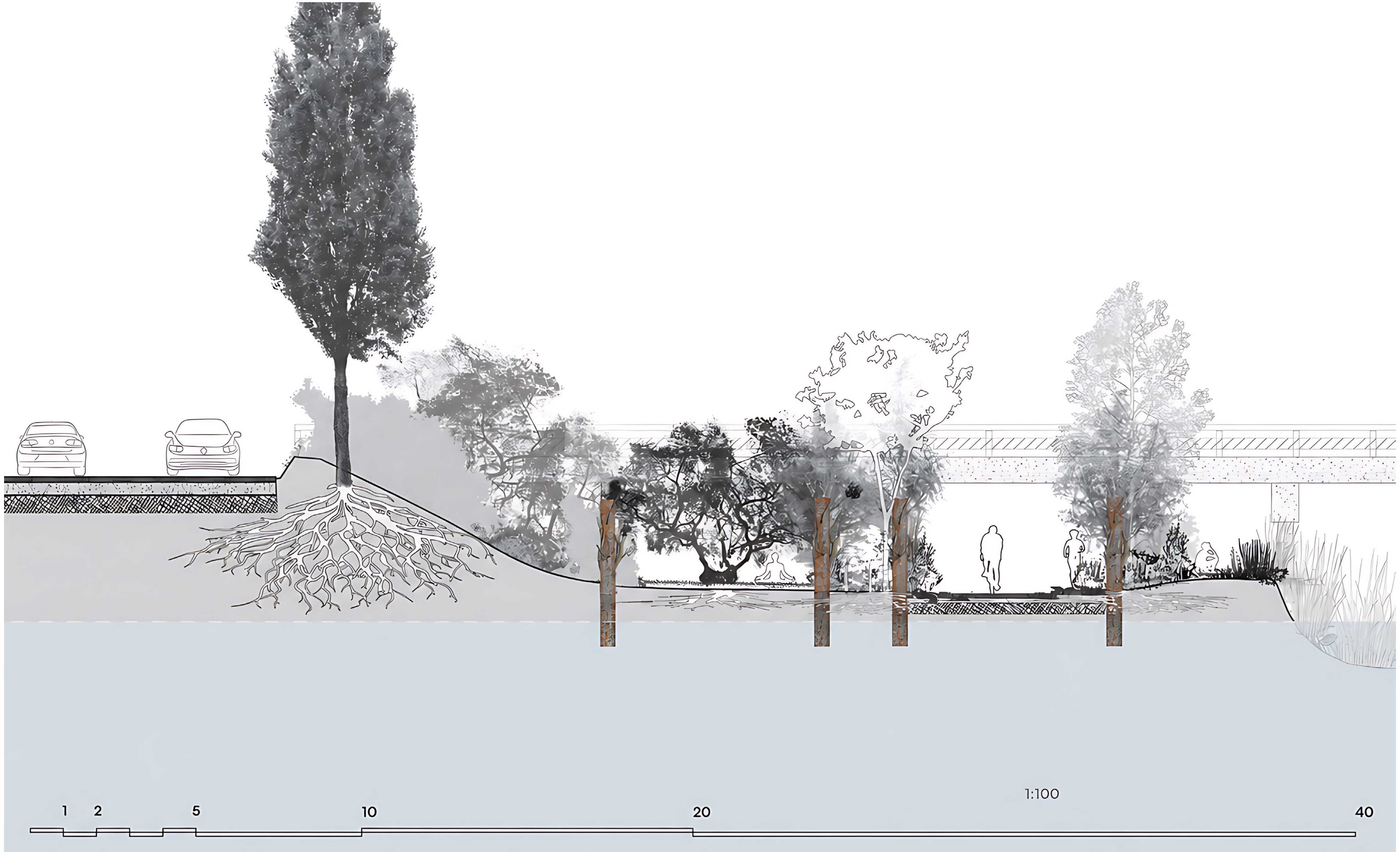
Wilg

Groei als mede-ontwerper

Doorsnede: staalrand als raamwerk

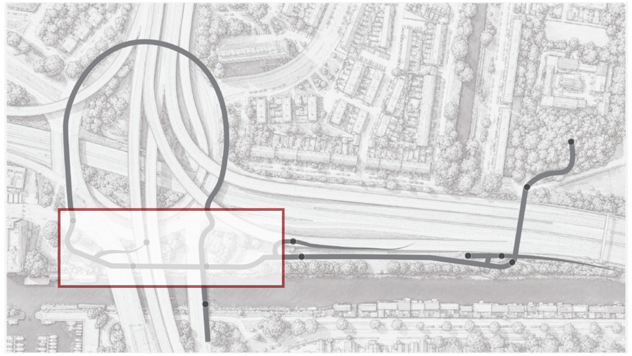


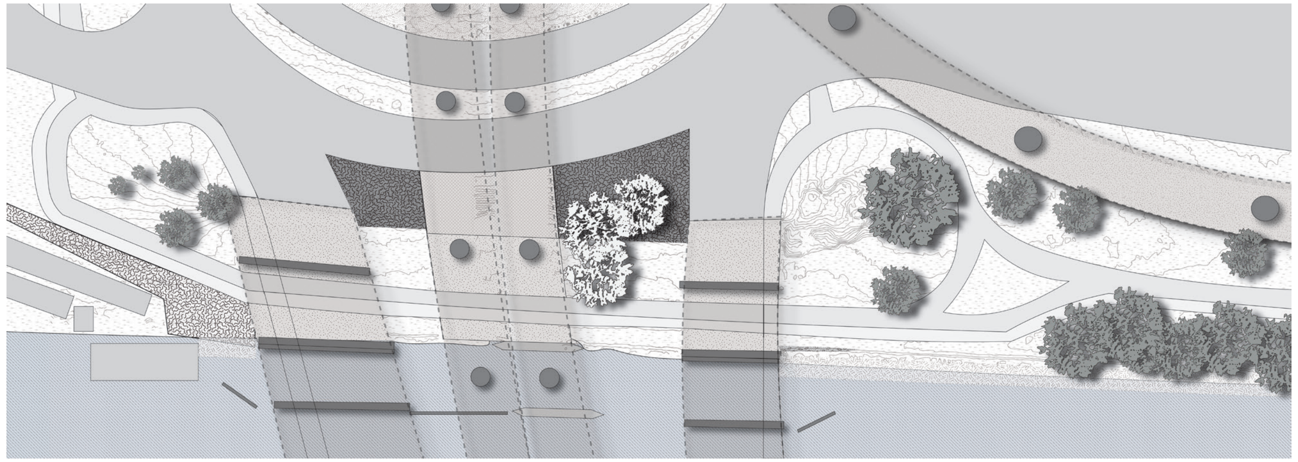




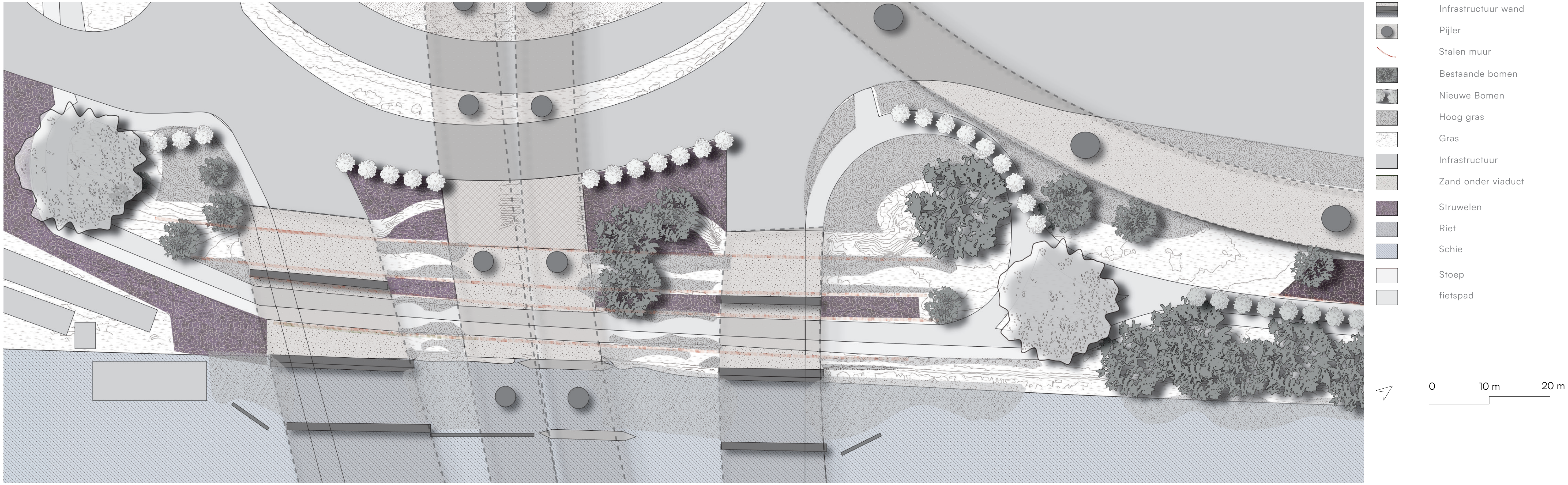
B b

Toepassing van de toolbox: het bruggengebied



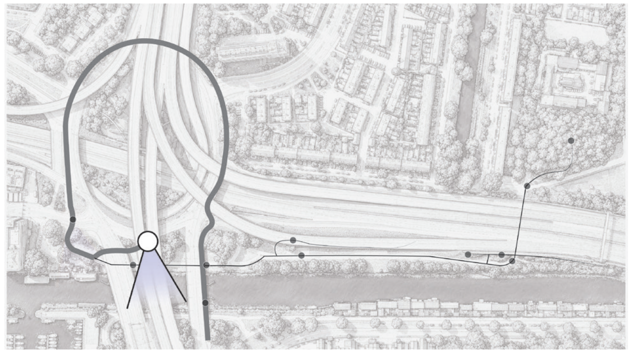


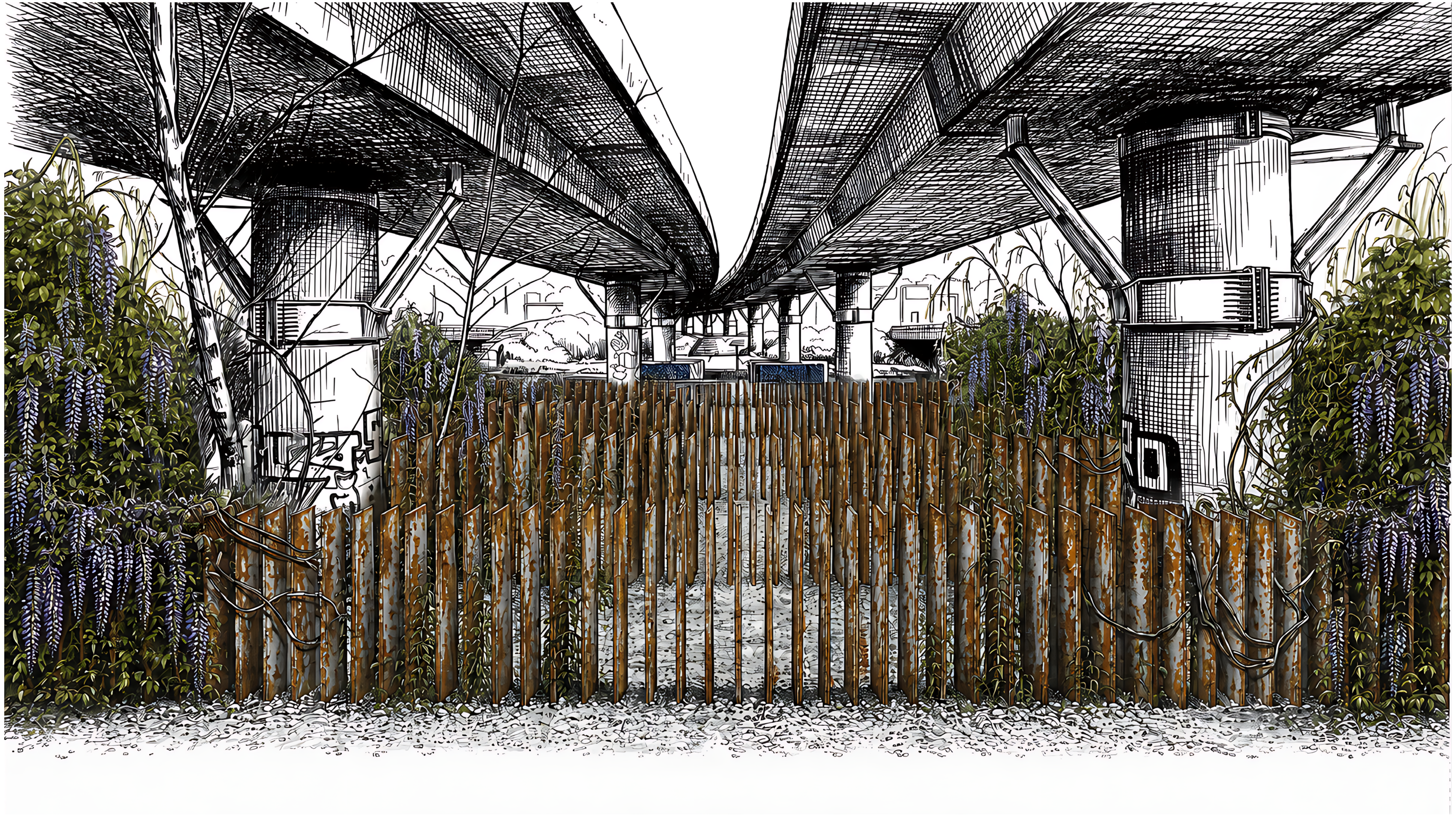
Bestaande situatie

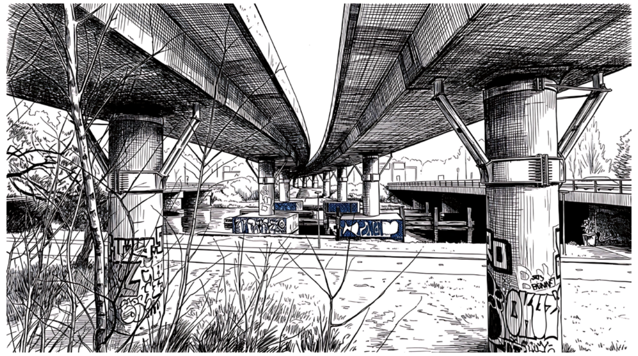


Ontwerp

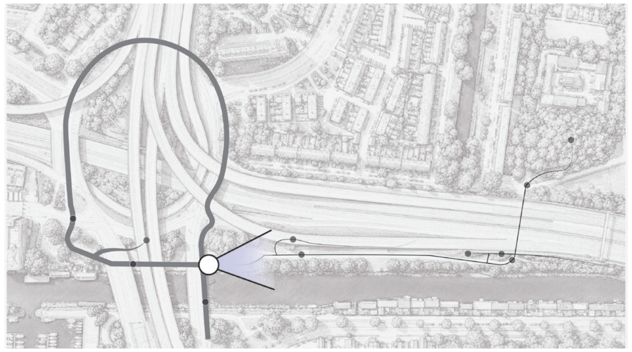
Moment II: Dwalen met houvast

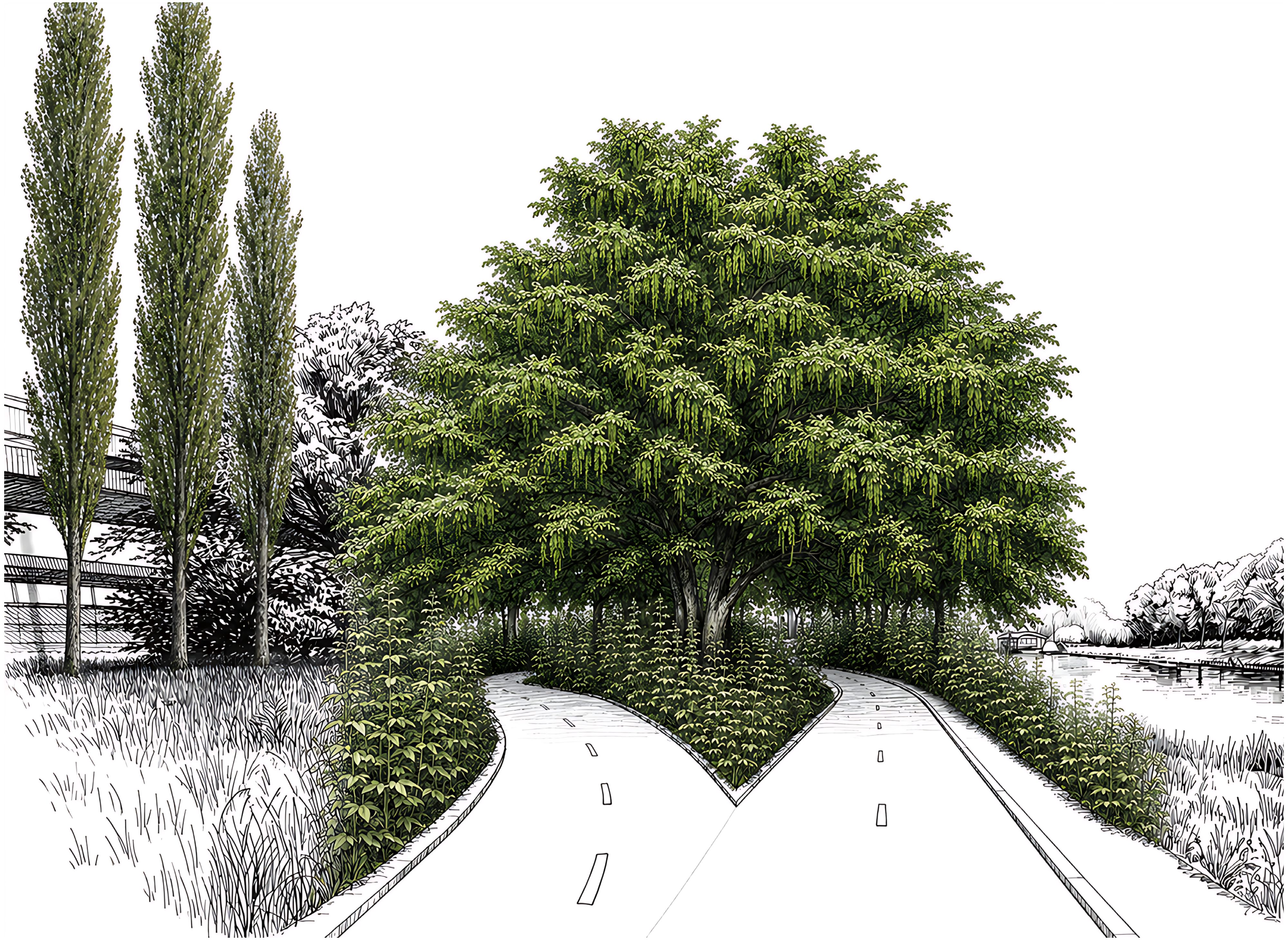




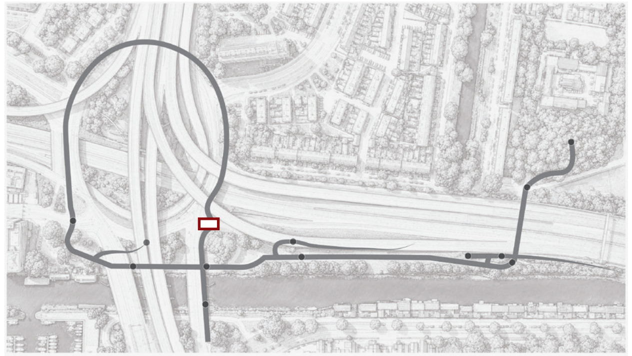


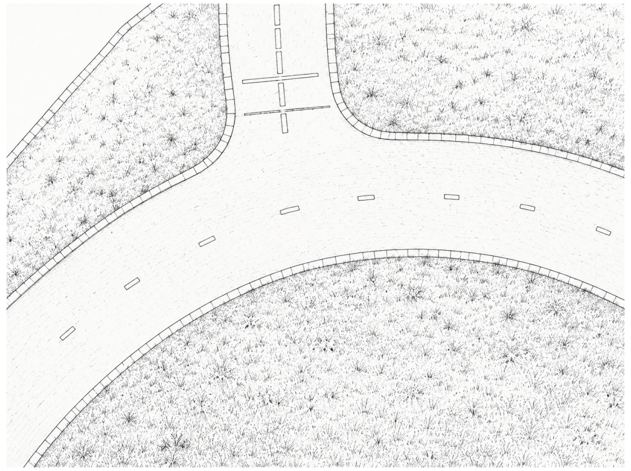
Moment III: Bevestiging



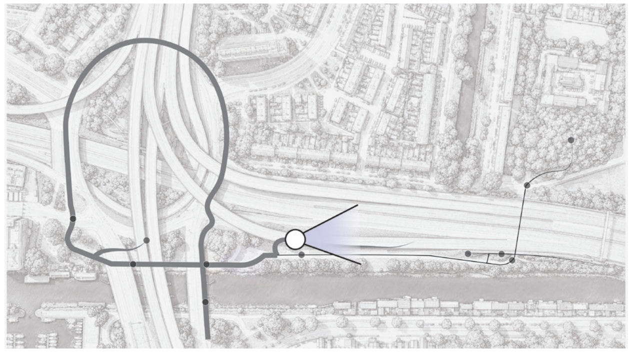


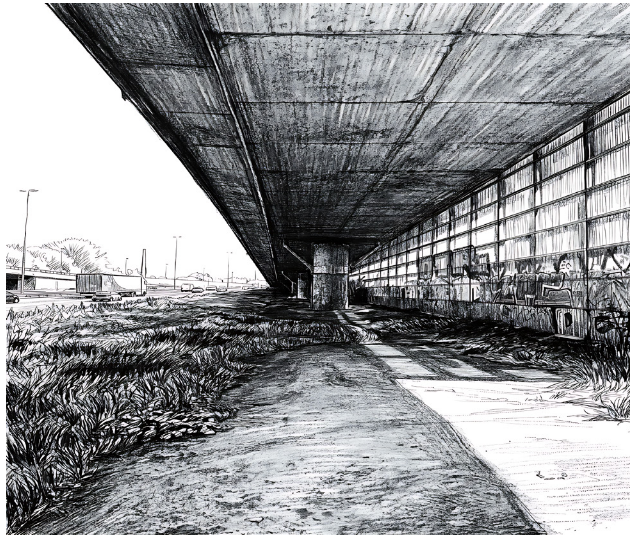
Drempel: afstappen



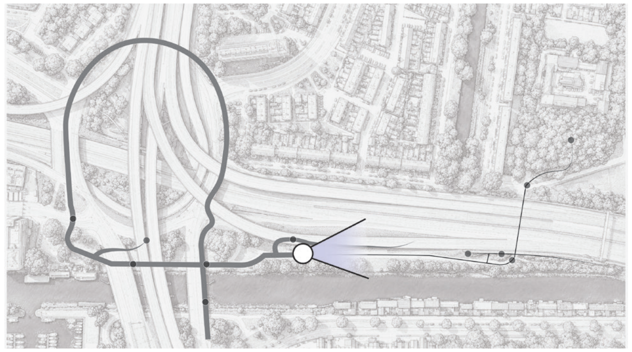


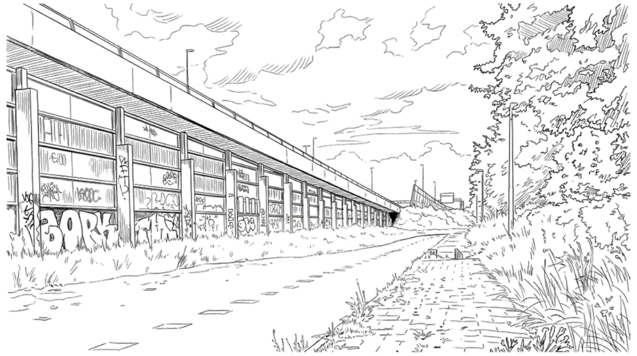
Moment IV: Het doodlopende pad als sein om te stoppen



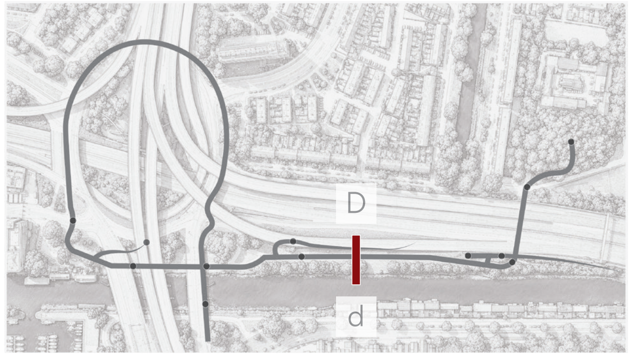


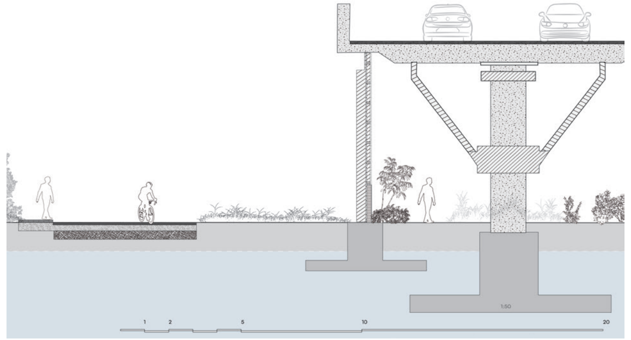
Moment IV: Vertragen

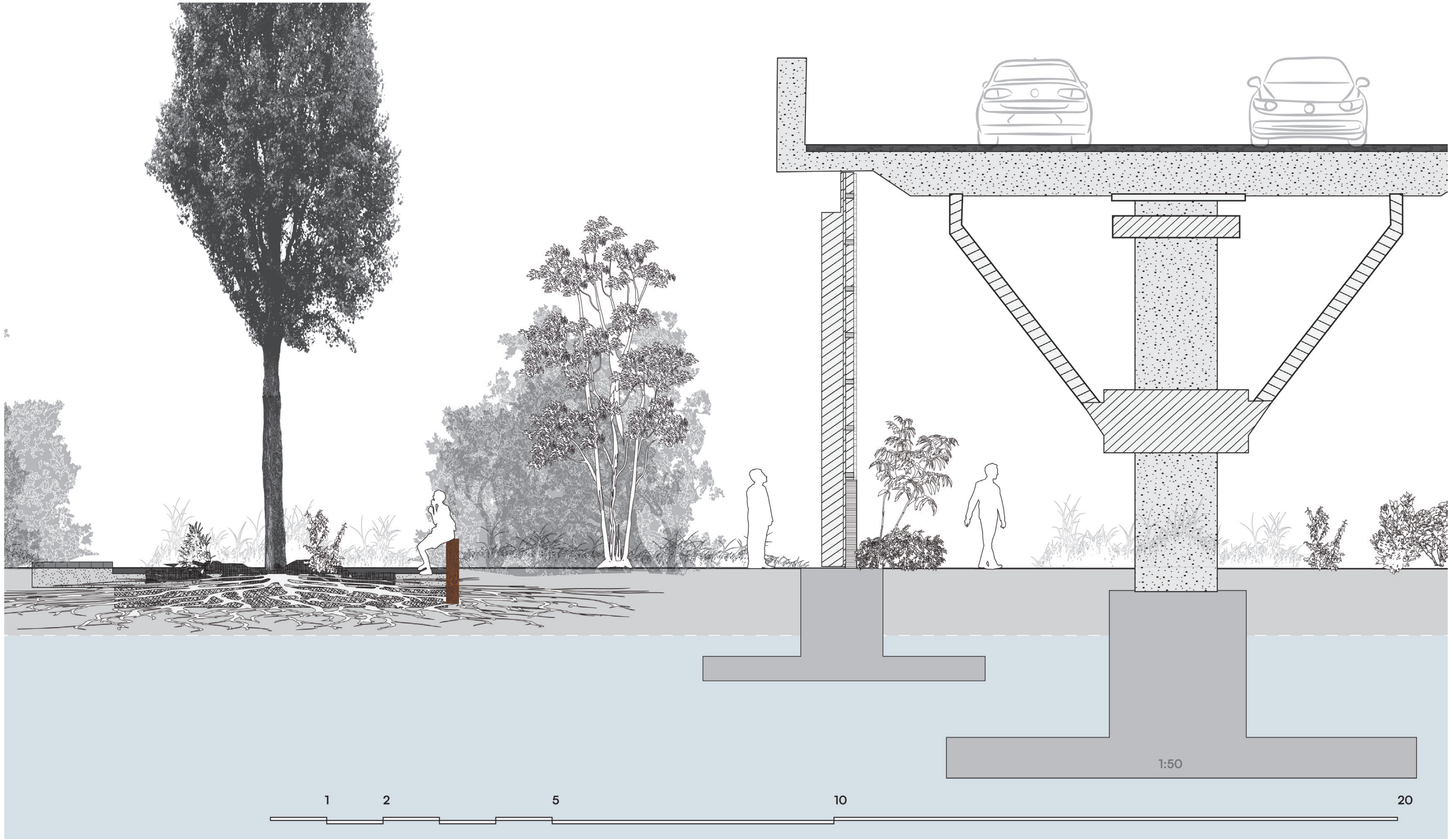




Doorsnede: grondweerstand



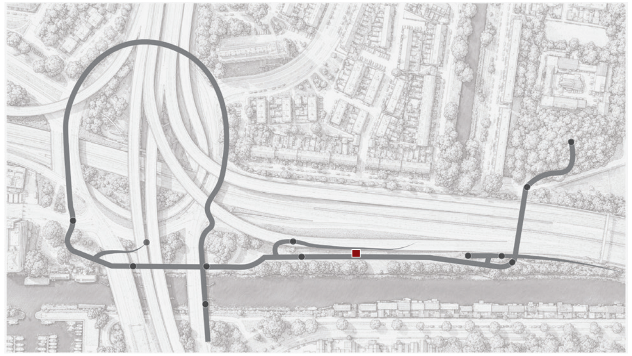


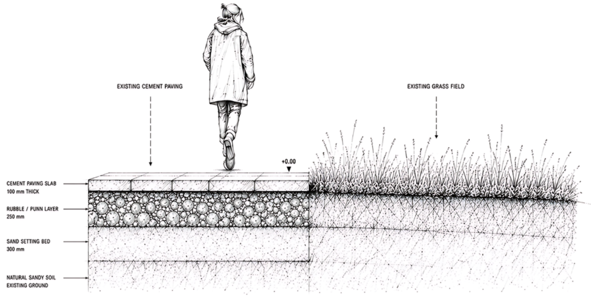


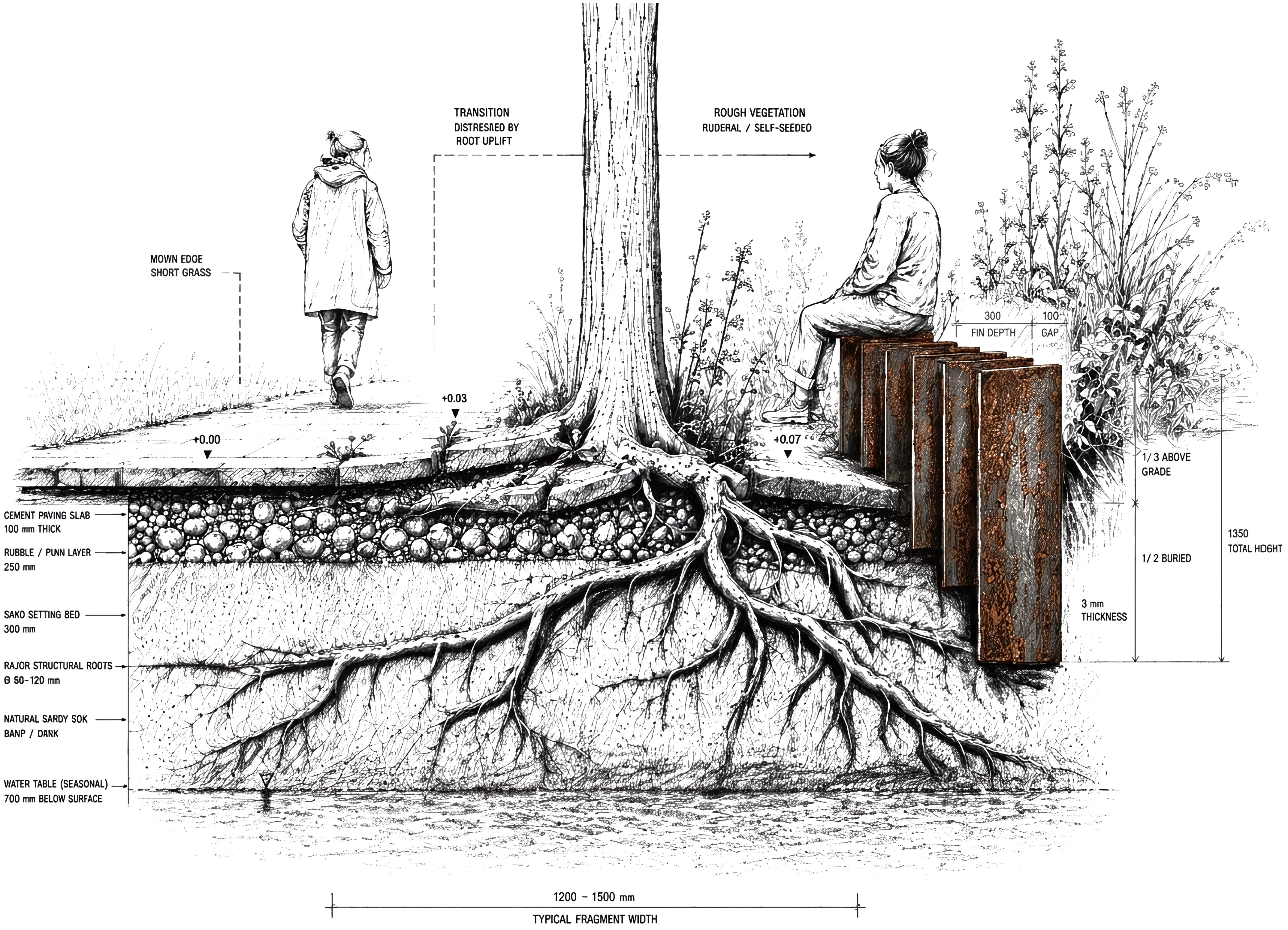
d

D

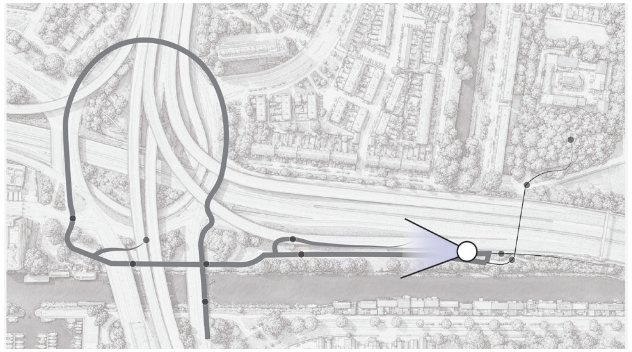
Wortels als vertraging



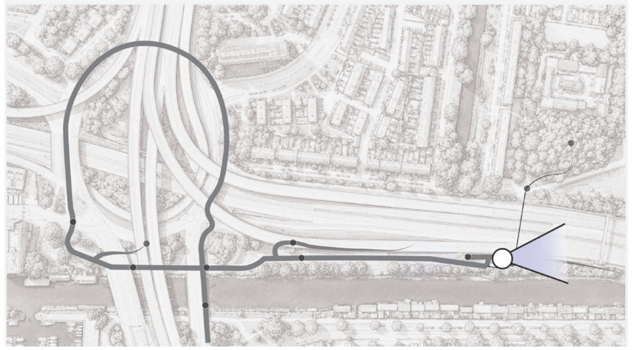




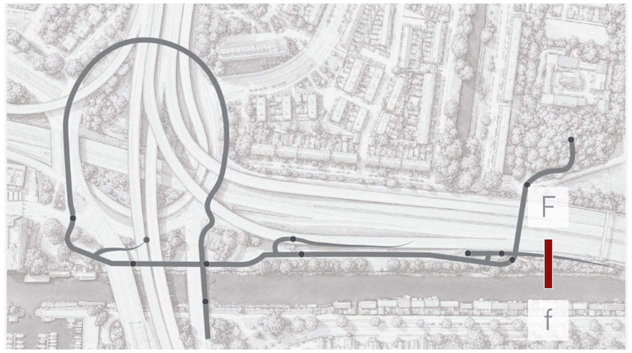
Moment V: Stilstaan

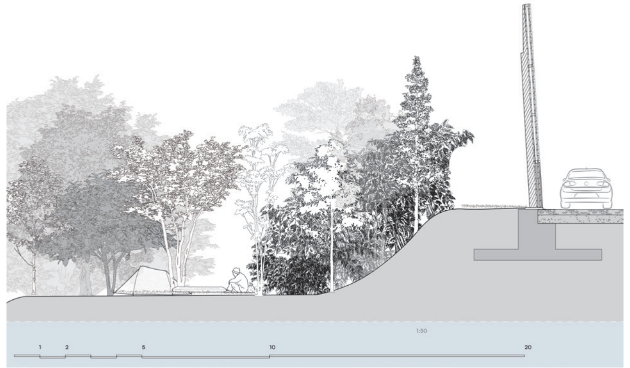


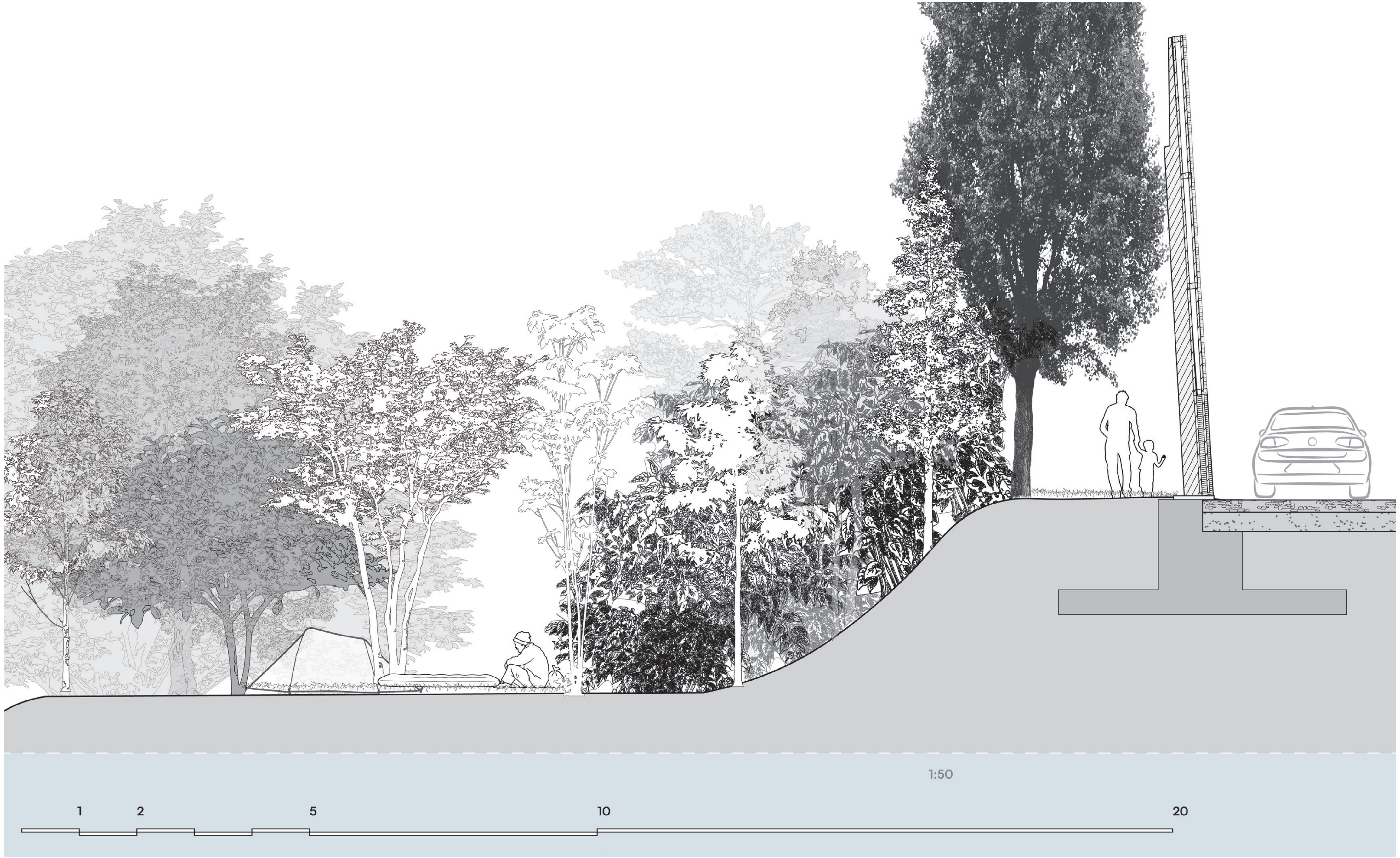
Beschermende drempel



Samen bestaan zonder alles open te leggen

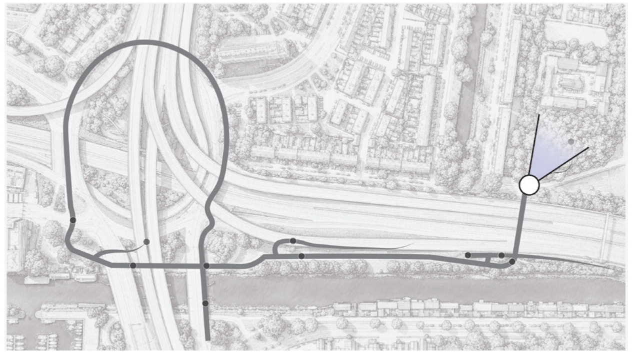


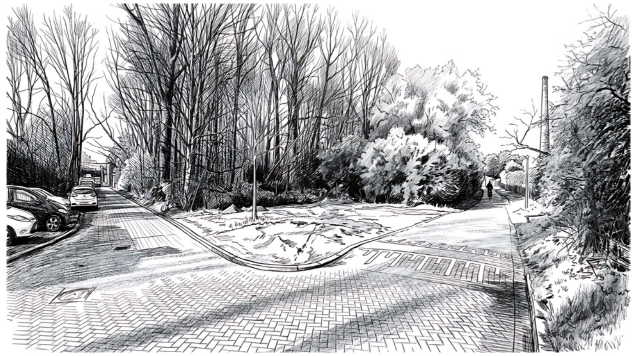


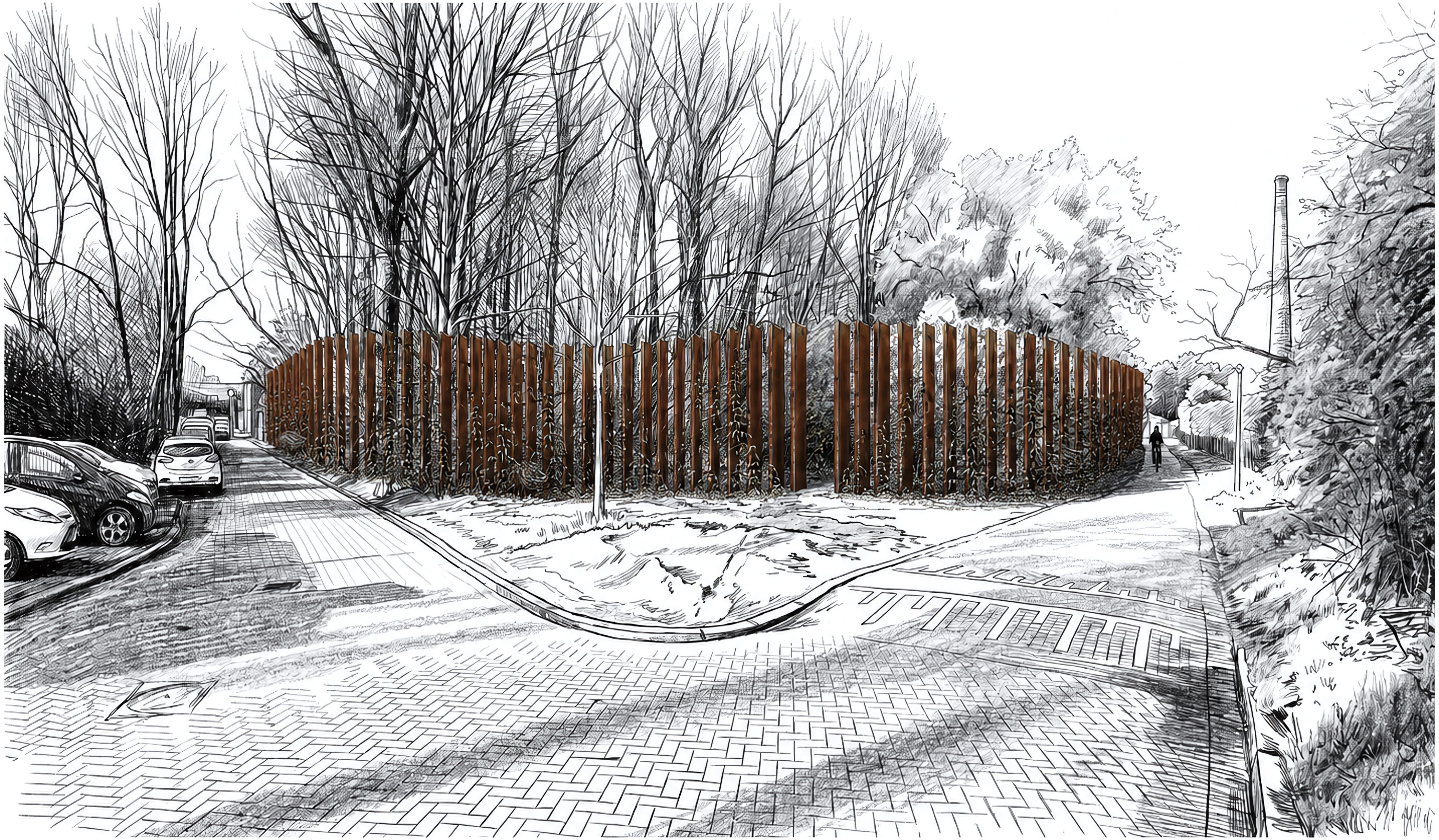


f F

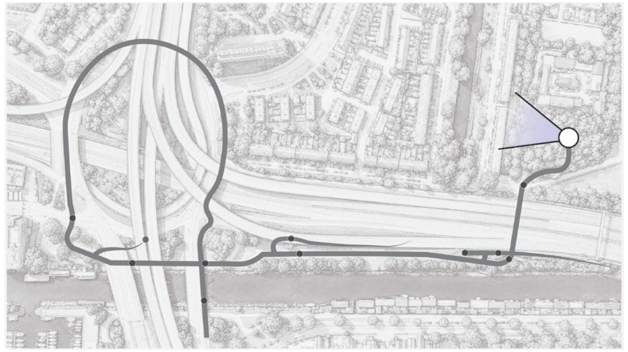
Verborgen kamer







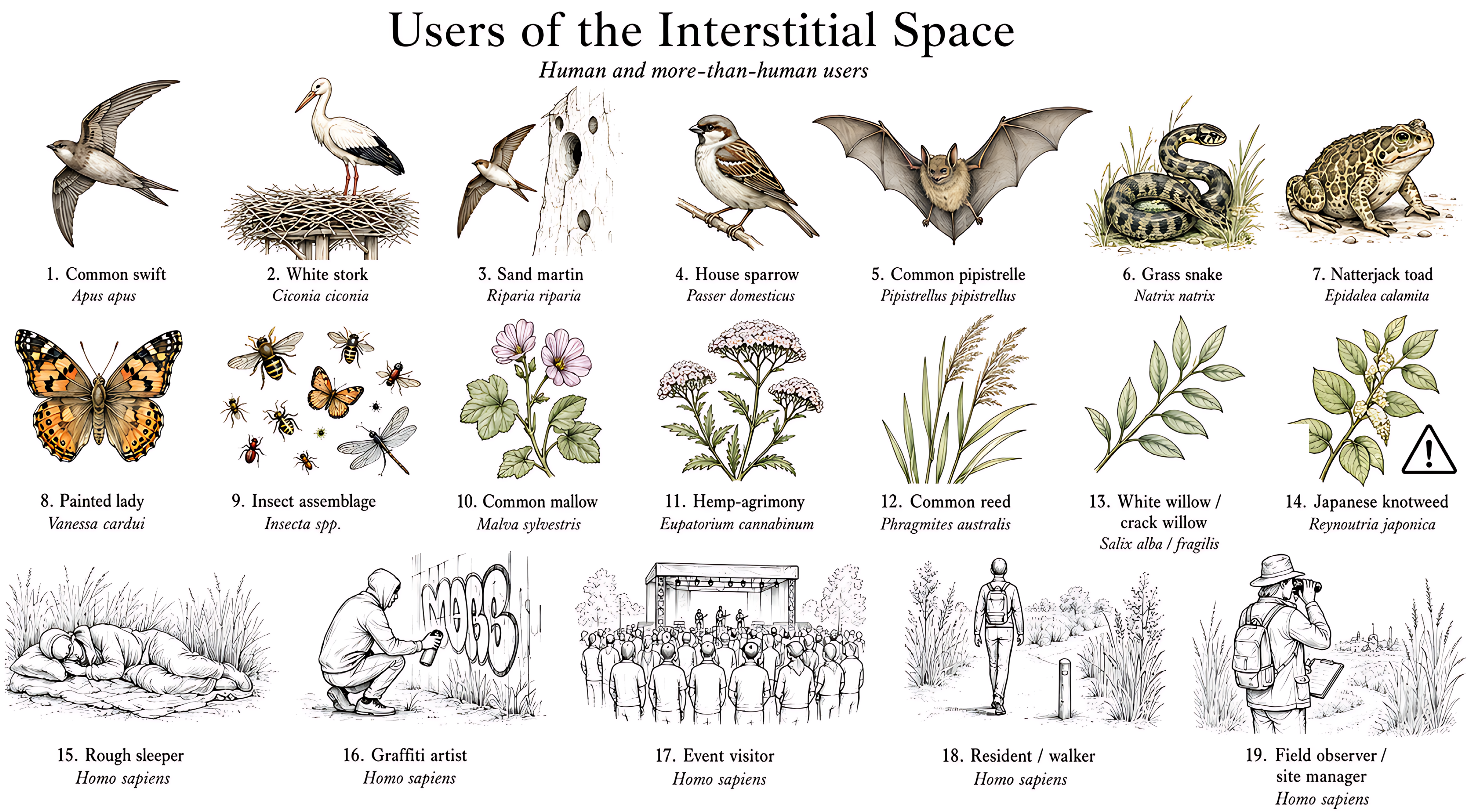
Wilgenmoeras: waar het ontwerp terugtreedt



Het ontwerp

Tijd als Architect

Waarom luisteren naar een veranderlijke restruimte?



Actoren van verandering

1. Ruimtelijk Raamwerk

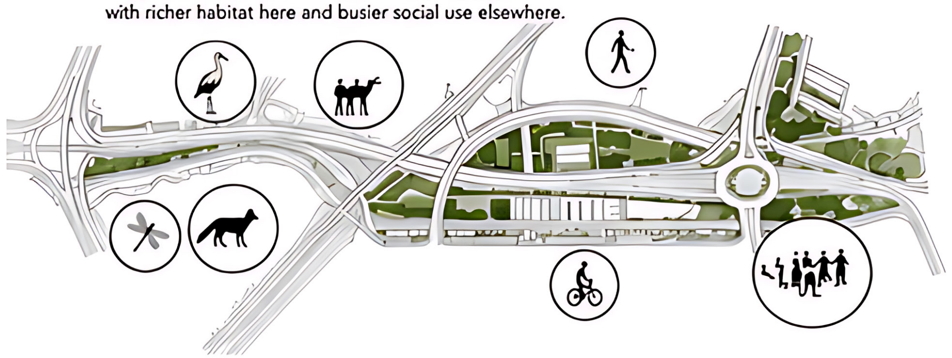
2. Menselijke gerbuikers

3. Meer dan menselijke gerbuikers

Luisteren naar potentie

4 DIFFERENTIATED MOSAIC ACROSS THE SYSTEM

Adaptive management creates a broader mosaic,
with richer habitat here and busier social use elsewhere.



0 125 250 500m

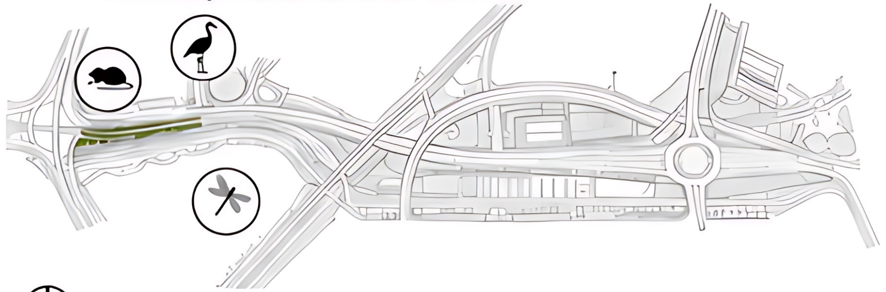
meadow · scrubland / open · infrastructure

forest	shrubland	high meadow	low meadow	reed
1 / YEAR DENSE OVERGROWN CLEARING	1 / 2–5 YEARS PRUNING	1 / 2–5 YEARS MOSAIC HAY CUTTING	6 / YEAR FREQUENT MOWING	1 / YEAR REED CUTTING

ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT CREATES A DIFFERENTIATED MOSAIC ACROSS THE WIDER SYSTEM
THIS CUIST EDGE OFFERS PRET RICH HARITAT FOR STORK, FOX AND MANY SPECIES,
WHILE SOCIAL USE IS FOCUSED ELSEWHERE.

3 VEGETATION AND SPECIES RESPOND

Reduced cutting increases shelter, insects, birds and minor.



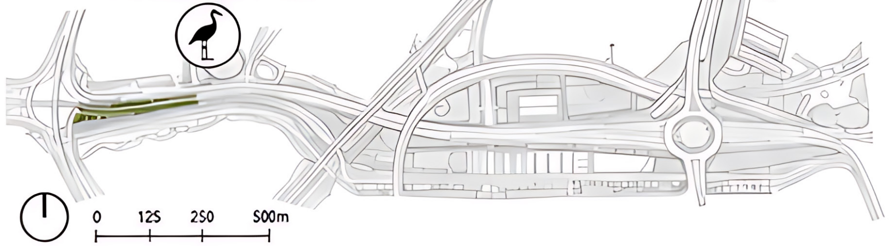
0 125 250 500m

forest	shrubland	high meadow	low meadow	reed
1 / YEAR DENSE OVERGROWN CLEARING	1 / 2–5 YEARS PRUNING	1 / 2–5 YEARS MOSAIC HAY CUTTING	6 / YEAR FREQUENT MOWING	1 / YEAR REED CUTTING

REDUCED CUTTING CREATES SHELTER AND RICH FLOWERS, ATTRACTING INSECTS,
MICE, FROGS AND OTHER FAUNA. CUIST FRINGE USERS—ROUGH SLEEPER AND
GRAFFED ARTIST—ALSO OCCUPY THIS EDGE.

2 STORK ARRIVES / READING THE SYSTEM

The stork reveals habitat potential and
maintenance begins to falton.



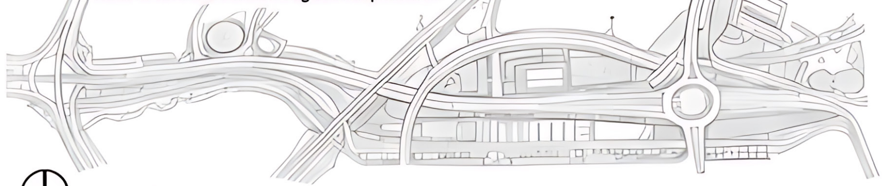
0 125 250 500m

forest	shrubland	high meadow	low meadow	reed
1 / YEAR DENSE OVERGROWN CLEARING	1 / 2–5 YEARS PRUNING	1 / YEAR MOSAIC HAY CUTTING	6 / YEAR FREQUENT MOWING	1 / YEAR REED CUTTING

THE STORK REVEALS HABITAT POTENTIAL
MAINTENANCE BEGINS TO RESPOND.

1 CURRENT SITUATION

Fine vegetation types are present.
with scattered use and strong habitat potential.



0 125 250 500m

forest	shrubland	high meadow	low meadow	reed
1 / YEAR DENSE OVERGROWN CLEARING	1 / 2–5 YEARS PRUNING	1 / YEAR MOSAIC HAY CUTTING	6 / YEAR FREQUENT MOWING	1 / YEAR REED CUTTING

THE SYSTEM ALREADY CONTAINS FIVE VEGETATION TYPES AND SCATTERED USE.
HABITAT POTENTIAL IS HIGH.

Gereedschap voor luisterend beheer

01 WALK	02 RECORD	03 READ CLAIMS	04 CHOOSE RESPONSE	05 INTERVENE MINIMALLY	06 REVISIT
Move slowly. Observe broadly.	Note conditions, uses, traces, conflicts.	Identify who or what is here, what is valued, what is at risk.	Ask: what does this place need to thrive, not just function?	Support, strengthen, open, protect. Touch lightly.	Return. Re-read. Adjust.

CLAIMANTS
many claims, one field

HUMAN
- walker
- cyclist
- youth group
- rough sleeper
- graffiti writer
- maintenance worker

MORE-THAN-HUMAN
- bird
- insect
- willow
- poplar roots
- water
- steel / weathering

	CLAIMANT / AGENT	OBSERVED CLAIM (BEFORE)	LISTENING RESPONSE	MAINTENANCE DECISION (non-intervention first)	SPATIAL CONDITION PRODUCED (AFTER)
1	Pedestrian / main path	path uneven, exposed, unclear wayfinding	keep movement possible	keep edges open; remove only what blocks passage	legible slow route through open field
2	Pedestrian / secondary path	desire line, narrowing trail, seasonal mud	allow wandering, but not everywhere	phase mowing; allow partial narrowing; no hard surfacing	slower movement, more attention
3	Youth group / enclosure	recurring presence, gathering, territorial claim	tolerate and spatially hold the claim	prune selectively; keep partial cover and one visible opening	semi-enclosed chill space; one opening maintained
4	Rough sleeper / temporary shelter	bedding, stored objects, exposed sleeping	protect from exposure, monitor safely	leave cover; do not clear immediately; act only on danger or conflict	more sheltered, tucked into cover; still informal
5	Graffiti writer / valued graffiti wall	active wall, fresh layers, cultural value	give space to expression	reveal wall: remove low hanging branches, prune low vegetation; do not erase	graffiti more visible, appreciated from passing path
6	Wall where graffiti is discouraged	unwanted spread into quiet or ecological zones	redirect without policing	encourage climbing growth and shrubs to veil wall; do not paint or smooth	wall softened and hidden by vegetation; pressure redirected
7	Bird / nesting thicket	dense shrub, seasonal nesting, low disturbance	protect and retreat	no cutting in nesting period; shift mowing edge away	denser, quieter, less accessible
8	Insect / pollinator zone	flowering tall grass, sunny edge, rough ground	nourish and connect	late cut only; rotational mowing; leave refuges and bare ground	flower-rich mosaic; nectar and habitat abundant
9	Willow / wet hollow	wet soil, willow suckers, shade, puddling	hold water, hold space	leave wetness and shade; no drainage; thin only if movement safety needed	wetter, more enclosed, marsh-like pocket
10	Poplar roots / cracked asphalt	root pressure, lifted pavement, cracking surface	let the ground open, keep passing possible elsewhere	do not repair broken concrete; allow cracking and uplift to continue; only indicate or maintain a safe route beside it	root pressure and ruinosity become more visible
11	Wisteria / climbing growth	steel or wall slowly colonised	let it overtake and weave	do not prune; allow full climbing growth and seasonal thickening	structure and vegetation merge into living ruinosity
12	Resting state / no strong claim	no urgent use, no blockage, no safety issue	let succession speak	leave untouched; return only for periodic observation	baseline vegetation grammar returns

TOOL PALETTE
listening instruments for adaptive care

- observe & listen
- light touch
- guide & weave
- protect & shelter
- strengthen access
- let grow wild
- add habitat
- repair carefully
- leave untouched
- reopen threshold
- allow succession
- support expression

BASELINE VEGETATION GRAMMAR
resting state baseline

When no strong claim overrides the system, the corridor returns to its basic vegetation grammar.

De restruimte blijft veranderen

Een toekomst die niet af is

Conclusie

Verbondenheid is een veranderende relatie tussen lichaam, plek, materiaal, soorten en zorg en plek

Dank voor het luisteren

Appendix

Research Question:

How can the latent contemplative and ruinous qualities of interstitial spaces along the Schie be spatially framed as an armature for contemplative attunement with nature? ”

Design Assignment

How can contemplative and ruinous experiences be evoked in the interstitial space of Stadspark-West

Een toekomst die niet af is

Threshold of intervention

LEAST INTERVENTION — MOST SPATIAL GUIDANCE

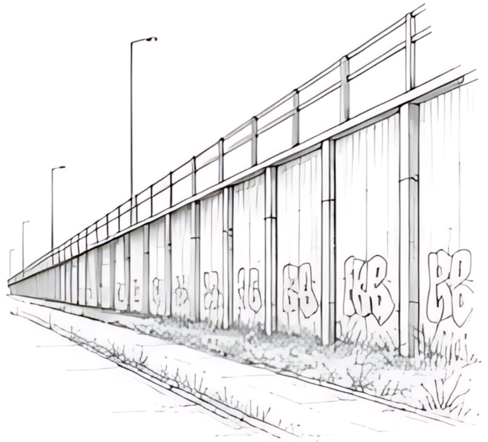
1. **leave untouched**
   already attuned
2. **light cue**
   potential present,
   entry unclear
3. **frame**
   depth present, no trust
4. **slow**
   movement too fast
5. **hold**
   attention possible,
   pause missing

Site conditions on the Schie

swamp forest

under-viaduct edge
threshold

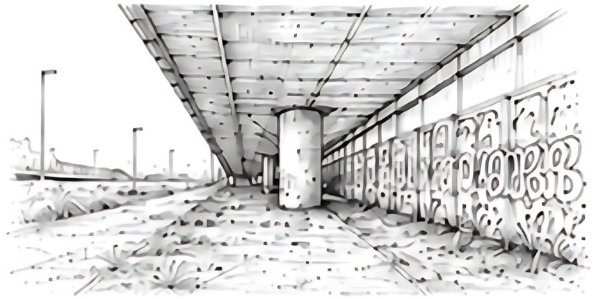
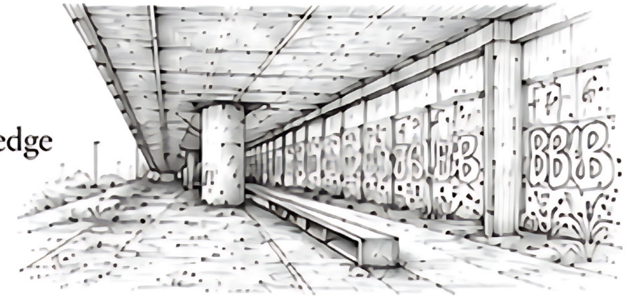
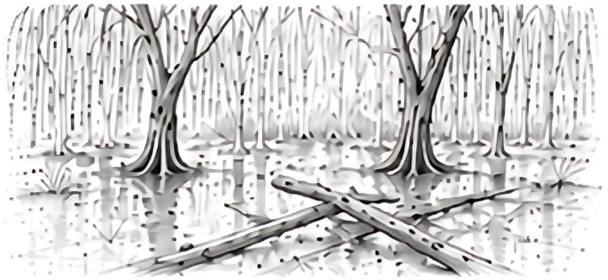
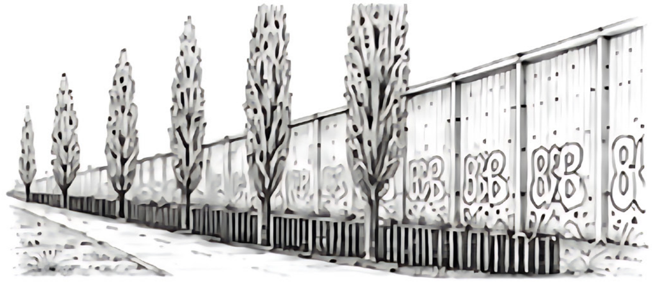
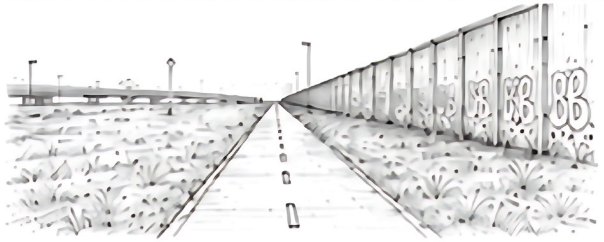
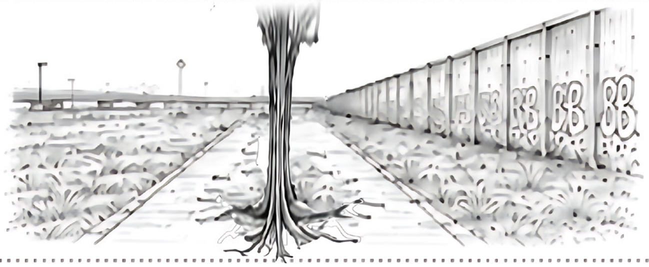
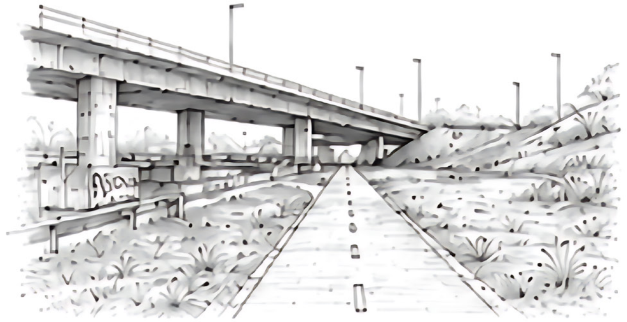
underpass



hard edge beside infrastructure
rhythm and confirmation

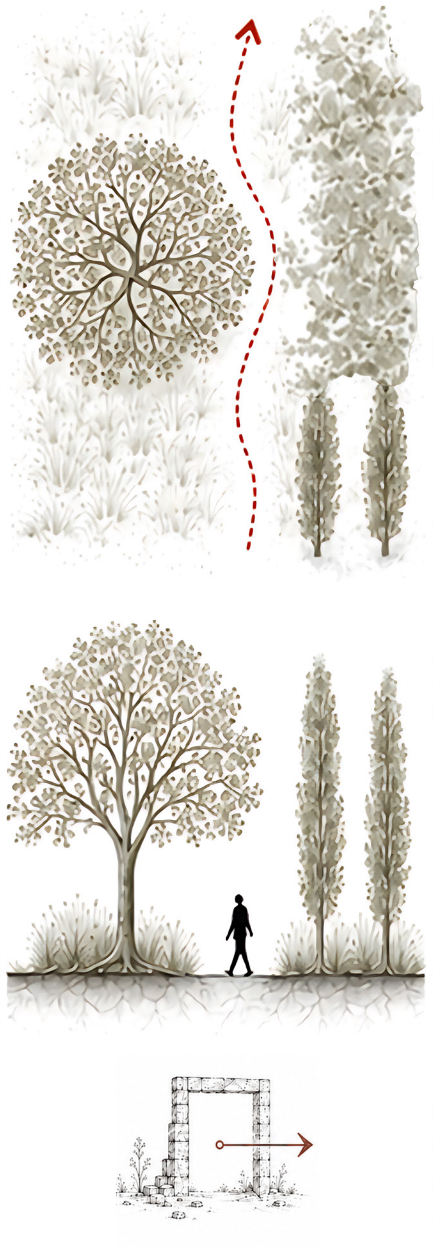
empty bike path
standing still

Spatial mechanism

	site condition		bodily shift	design move	
1		**under-viaduct shadow** sheltered, cool, dim, acoustically contained	slow and listen	light sit / rest edge	
2		**swamp forest** wet, quiet, unpredictable, slippery ground	pause and sense wetness	hold back	
3		**hard edge infrastructure** exposed, linear, no shelter, strong visual flow	orient and continue	edge rhythm / armature	
4		**bike path** straight, open, fast potential, little friction	adjust pace	break the underground	
5		**infrastructural threshold** exposed and sheltered choice present, low definition	deviate and enter	light cue	

Spatial tests

01



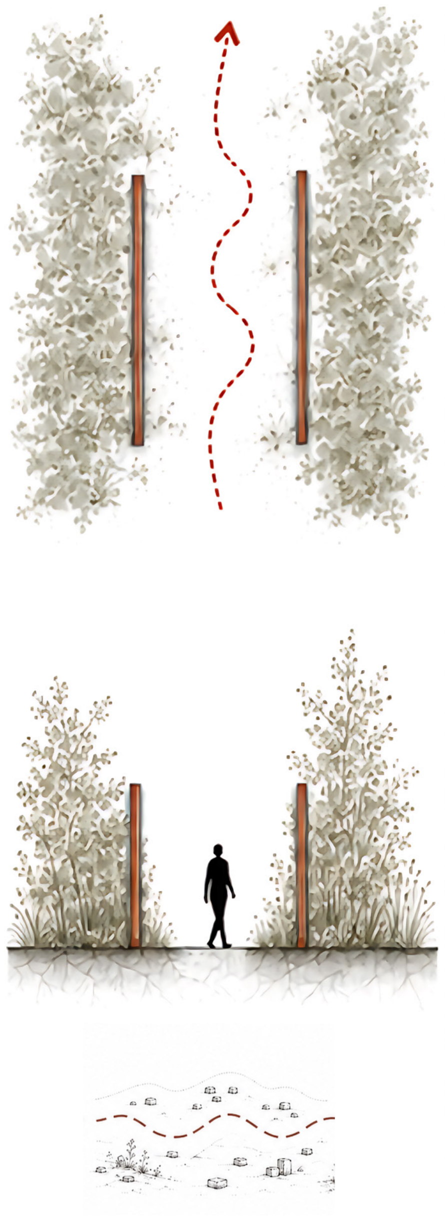
Invitation

Condition: subtle entry

Design test: visible cue

Body effect: enter without forcing

02



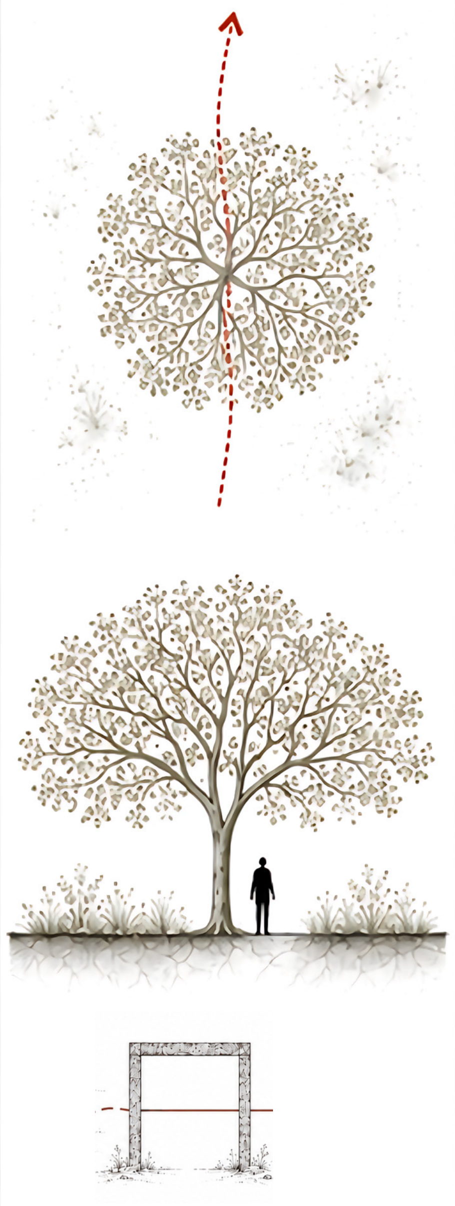
Wandering

Condition: between steel walls

Design test: loose route

Body effect: slow exploration

03



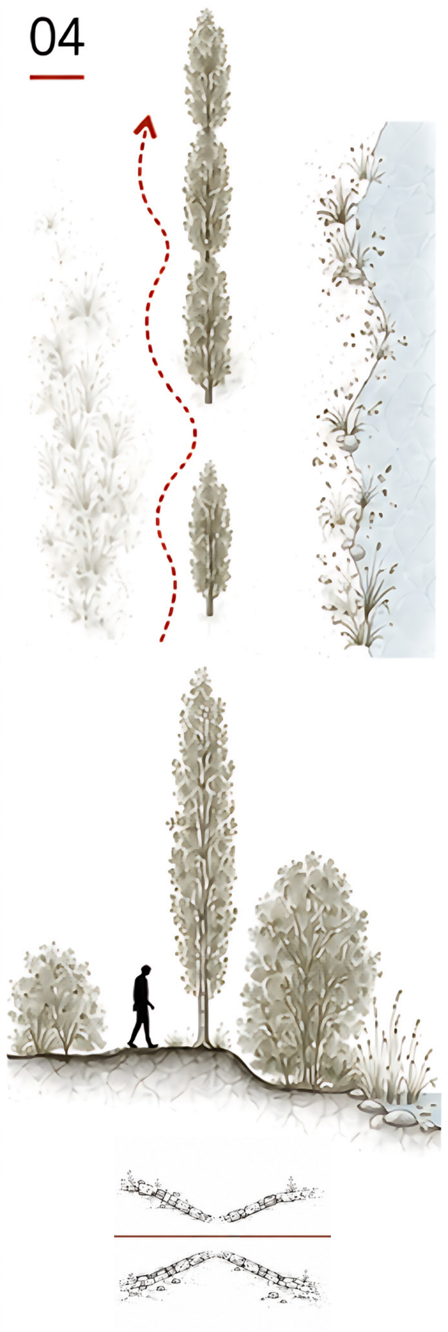
Confirmation

Condition: beneath the wingnut

Design test: repetition and recognition

Body effect: orientation and trust

04



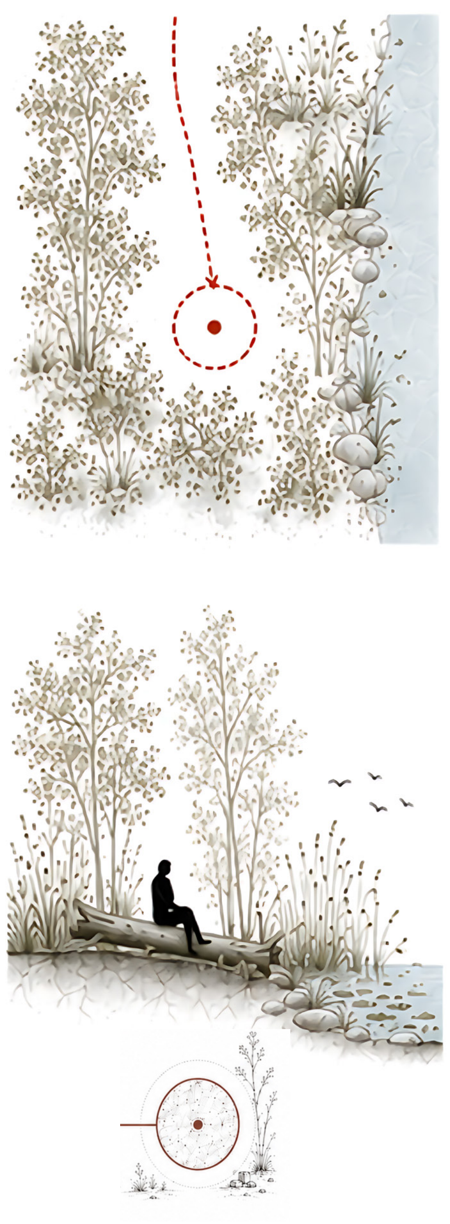
Slowing down

Condition: poplars break the path

Design test: friction and succession

Body effect: shorter step, lower gaze

05



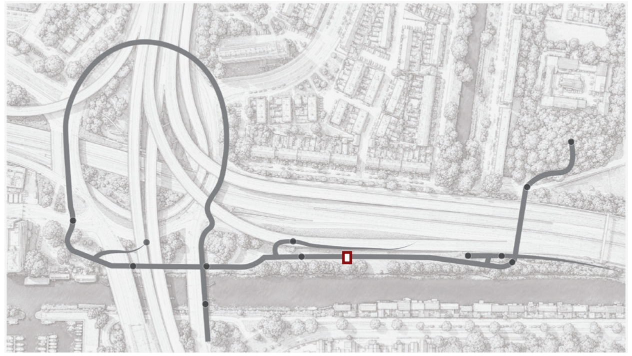
Standing still

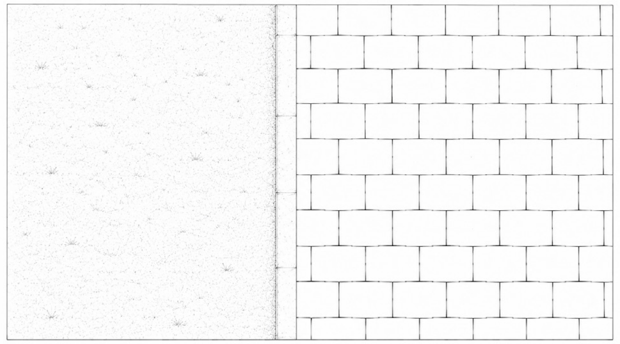
Condition: hidden swamp pocket

Design test: held pause

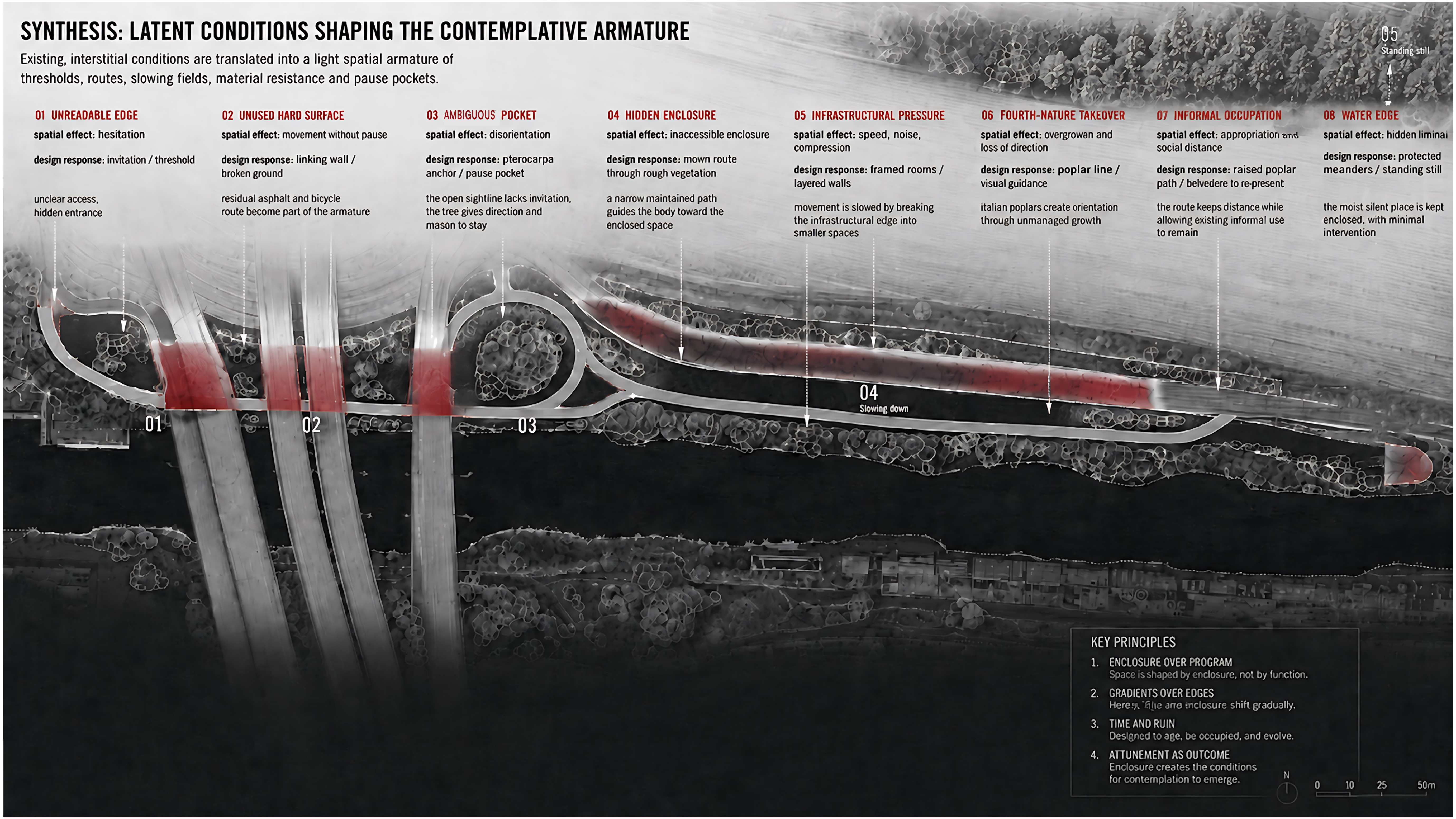
Body effect: remain and attune

Zoom in





Synthesis



SYNTHESIS: LATENT CONDITIONS SHAPING THE CONTEMPLATIVE ARMATURE
Existing, interstitial conditions are translated into a light spatial armature of thresholds, routes, slowing fields, material resistance and pause pockets.
01 UNREADABLE EDGE
spatial effect: hesitation
design response: invitation / threshold
unclear access, hidden entrance
02 UNUSED HARD SURFACE
spatial effect: movement without pause
design response: linking wall / broken ground
residual asphalt and bicycle route become part of the armature
03 AMBIGUOUS POCKET
spatial effect: disorientation
design response: pterocarpa anchor / pause pocket
the open sightline lacks invitation, the tree gives direction and mason to stay
04 HIDDEN ENCLOSURE
spatial effect: inaccessible enclosure
design response: mown route through rough vegetation
a narrow maintained path guides the body toward the enclosed space
05 INFRASTRUCTURAL PRESSURE
spatial effect: speed, noise, compression
design response: framed rooms / layered walls
movement is slowed by breaking the infrastructural edge into smaller spaces
06 FOURTH-NATURE TAKEOVER
spatial effect: overgrown and loss of direction
design response: poplar line / visual guidance
italian poplars create orientation through unmanaged growth
07 INFORMAL OCCUPATION
spatial effect: appropriation and social distance
design response: raised poplar path / belvedere to re-present
the route keeps distance while allowing existing informal use to remain
08 WATER EDGE
spatial effect: hidden liminal
design response: protected meanders / standing still
the moist silent place is kept enclosed, with minimal intervention
05
Standing still
01
02
03
04
Slowing down
KEY PRINCIPLES
1. ENCLOSURE OVER PROGRAM
Space is shaped by enclosure, not by function.
2. GRADIENTS OVER EDGES
Here and enclosure shift gradually.
3. TIME AND RUIN
Designed to age, be occupied, and evolve.
4. ATTUNEMENT AS OUTCOME
Enclosure creates the conditions for contemplation to emerge.
N
0
10
25
50m

1. FAUNA: VOGELS

1. Gierzwaluw
Apus apus

- **Needs:** nest holes in facades and roof edges
- **Prefers:** hard urban edges near open flight space; little disturbance near buildings
- **Maintenance:** no renovation or demolition in breeding season (mei–aug)

2. Ooievaar
Ciconia ciconia

- **Needs:** high nesting place at forest edge and quiet breeding conditions
- **Prefers:** open foraging ground near rough meadow or wet grassland
- **Maintenance:** avoid mowing machines near nest in breeding season (mrt–aug)

3. Oeverzwaluw
Riparia riparia

- **Needs:** steep sandy banks with nesting holes
- **Prefers:** undisturbed waterside edge with exposed sand
- **Maintenance:** no bank hardening or excavation in breeding season (apr–jul)

4. Huismus
Passer domesticus

- **Needs:** dense shrubs plus cavities in buildings
- **Prefers:** seed-rich vegetation, shelter, and edges between city and rough greenery
- **Maintenance:** do not heavily prune shelter shrubs before winter

2. FAUNA: ZOOGDIEREN EN REPTIELEN

5. Dwergvleermuis
Pipistrellus pipistrellus

- **Needs:** dark corridor, insect-rich airspace, and roost opportunities
- **Prefers:** dead wood, tree lines, and no night lighting
- **Maintenance:** keep corridor dark after sunset

6. Ringslang
Natrix natrix

- **Needs:** high grass, compost or rotting wood, and calm edge zones
- **Prefers:** sunny rough vegetation near water and undisturbed banks
- **Maintenance:** no mowing in mei–jul; provide compost or wood pile as breeding place

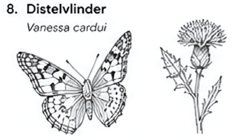
7. Rugstreeppad
Bufo calamita

- **Needs:** open sandy ground and shallow temporary pools
- **Prefers:** sparse pioneer terrain, not dense grass
- **Maintenance:** keep patches of bare sand open; do not sow them in

ⓘ **Note:** Seasons in Dutch abbreviations — mrt (maart), apr (april), mei (mei), jul (juli), aug (augustus), sept (september).

3. INSECTEN

8. Distelvlinder
Vanessa cardui



- **Needs:** nectar plants and host plants
- **Prefers:** distels, kaasjeskruid, koninginnenkruid, and flower-rich rough grass
- **Maintenance:** do not remove thistles as weeds

9. Insectenmassa

- **Needs:** diverse unmanaged vegetation and zero chemical control
- **Prefers:** layered flowering vegetation and seasonal continuity
- **Maintenance:** mow in phases so some flowering vegetation always remains

4. FLORA EN VEGETATIE

10. Kaasjeskruid
Malva sylvestris

- **Needs:** open lightly disturbed soil
- **Prefers:** path edges, fences, and riverbank transitions
- **Maintenance:** leave rough path margins unmown

11. Koninginnenkruid
Eupatorium cannabinum

- **Needs:** moist nutrient-rich soil
- **Prefers:** waterside edges and humid polder conditions
- **Maintenance:** do not mow before flowering ends (sept)

12. Riet
Phragmites australis

- **Needs:** wet nutrient-rich soil and slow or still water
- **Prefers:** shoreline strips and shallow wet edges
- **Maintenance:** mow in phases; remove at most one-third per year

13. Wilg / Schietwilg
Salix alba / fragilis

- **Needs:** moist to wet soil and room to develop
- **Prefers:** banks, polder edges, and fast-growing woodland structure
- **Maintenance:** pollard at most once every 3 years; never clear all at once

14. Japanse duizendknoop
Reynoutria japonica

⚠

- **Needs:** almost no niche limitation once established
- **Prefers:** disturbed ground across all zones
- **Maintenance:** active control required; otherwise biodiversity collapses

5. HUMAN USERS OF THE INTERSTITIAL SPACE

15. Rough sleeper / zwerver

- **Needs:** thermal comfort, privacy, and minimal enforcement
- **Prefers:** sheltered high grass and hidden edge conditions
- **Maintenance:** avoid routine mowing and hard pruning in occupied refuge areas

16. Graffiti artiest

- **Needs:** access, anonymity, and long concrete walls
- **Prefers:** seasonal vegetative screening and darkness
- **Maintenance:** keep shrub edge near walls relatively unlit and not over-pruned

17. Evenementbezoeker

- **Needs:** temporary access and a wild-looking setting
- **Prefers:** open routes with rough scenery as backdrop
- **Maintenance:** keep paths open during events, then allow recovery time afterward

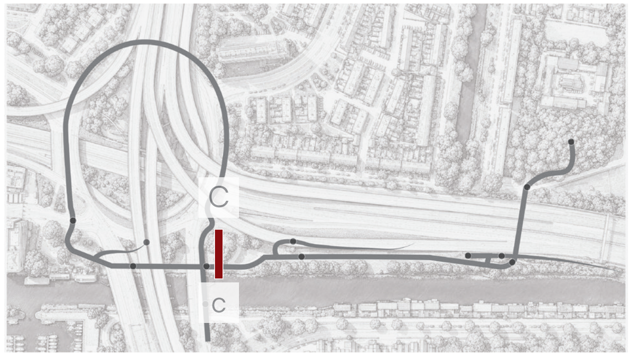
18. Buurtbewoner / wandelaar

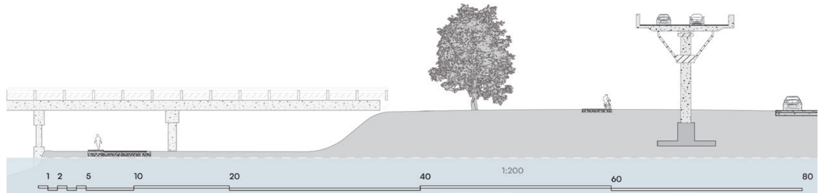
- **Needs:** accessible path, some visibility, and a place to pause
- **Prefers:** low grass along the path with rougher vegetation set back 2–3 m
- **Maintenance:** maintain a readable edge along walking routes

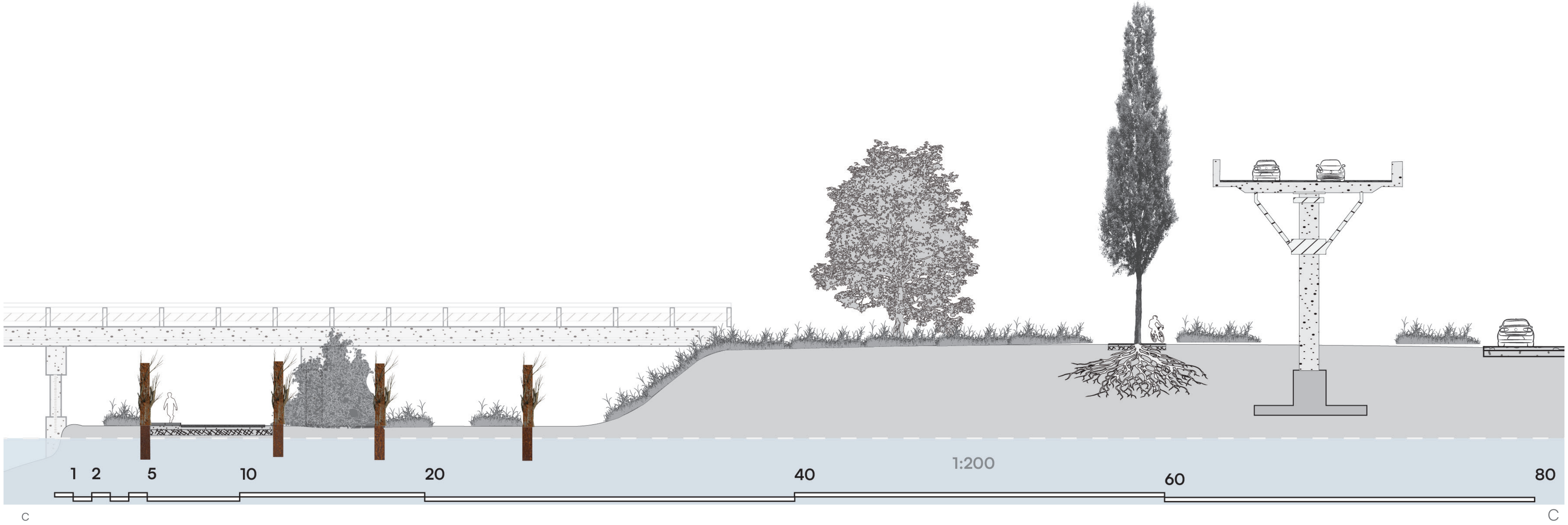
19. Veld-observator / beheerder

- **Needs:** periodic access and ability to read ecological and social signals
- **Prefers:** flexible routes and direct contact with changing site conditions
- **Maintenance:** adaptive management; react to what is observed rather than fixed schedules

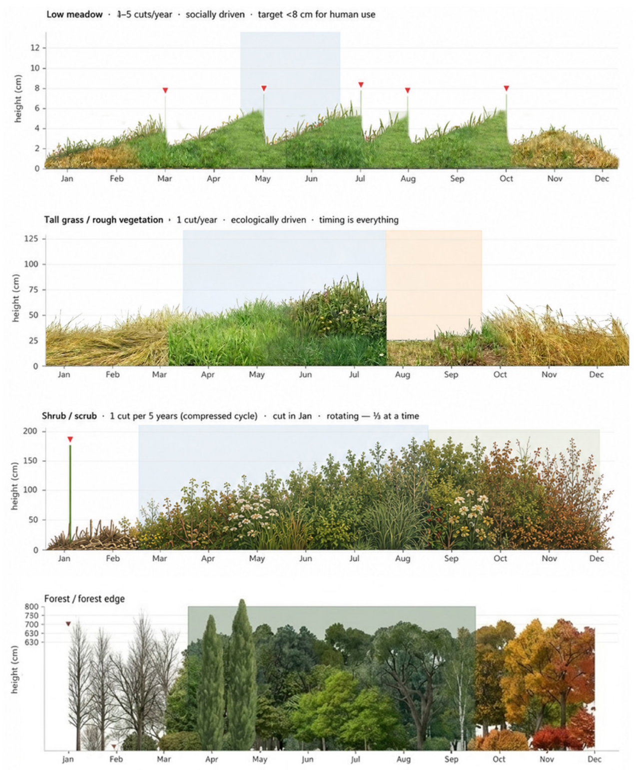
Section: Confirmation

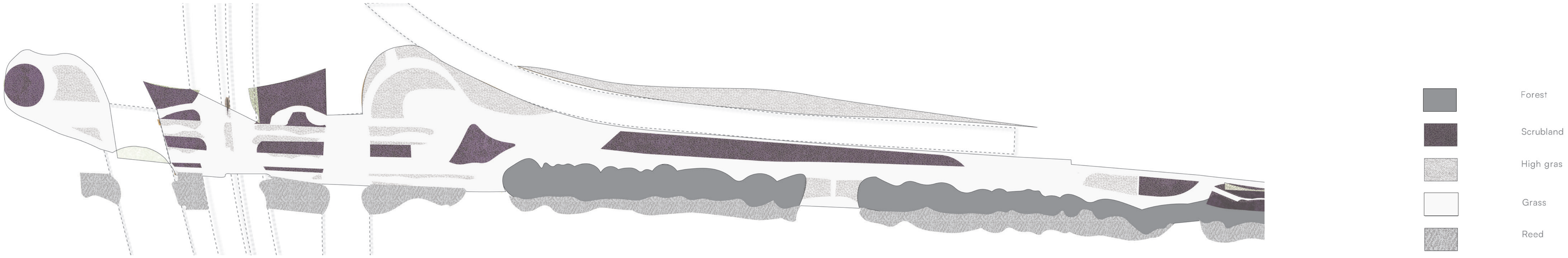




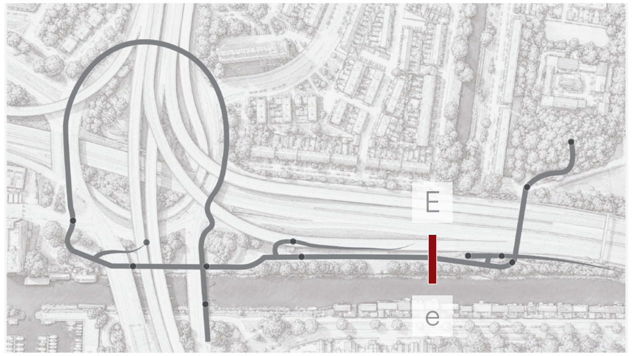


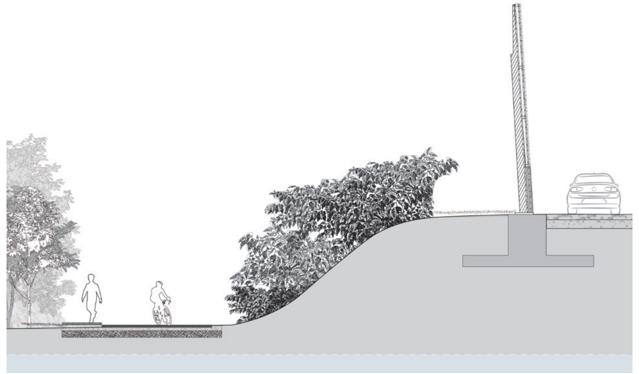
The More-than-human users

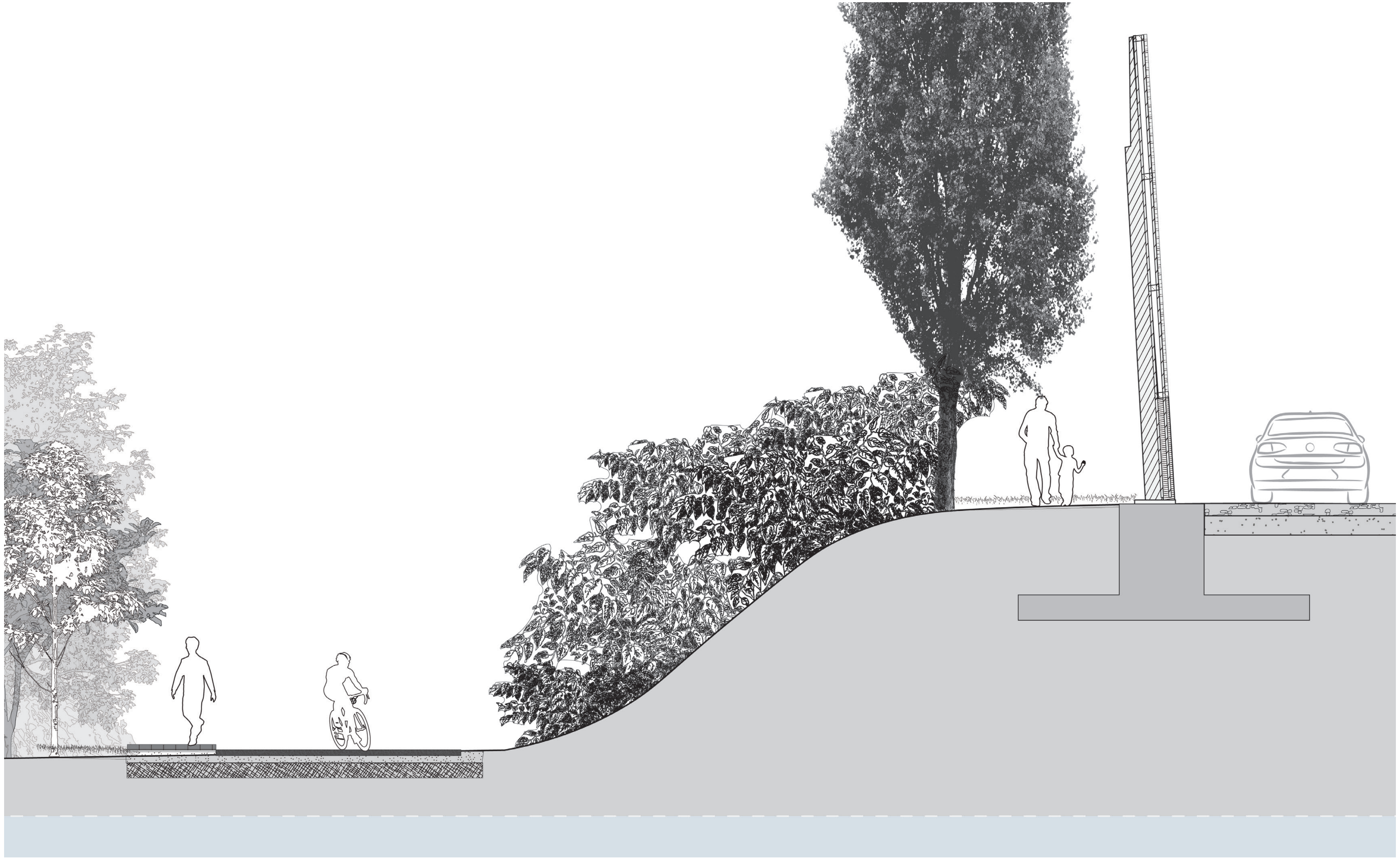




Section: Sightline and Edge







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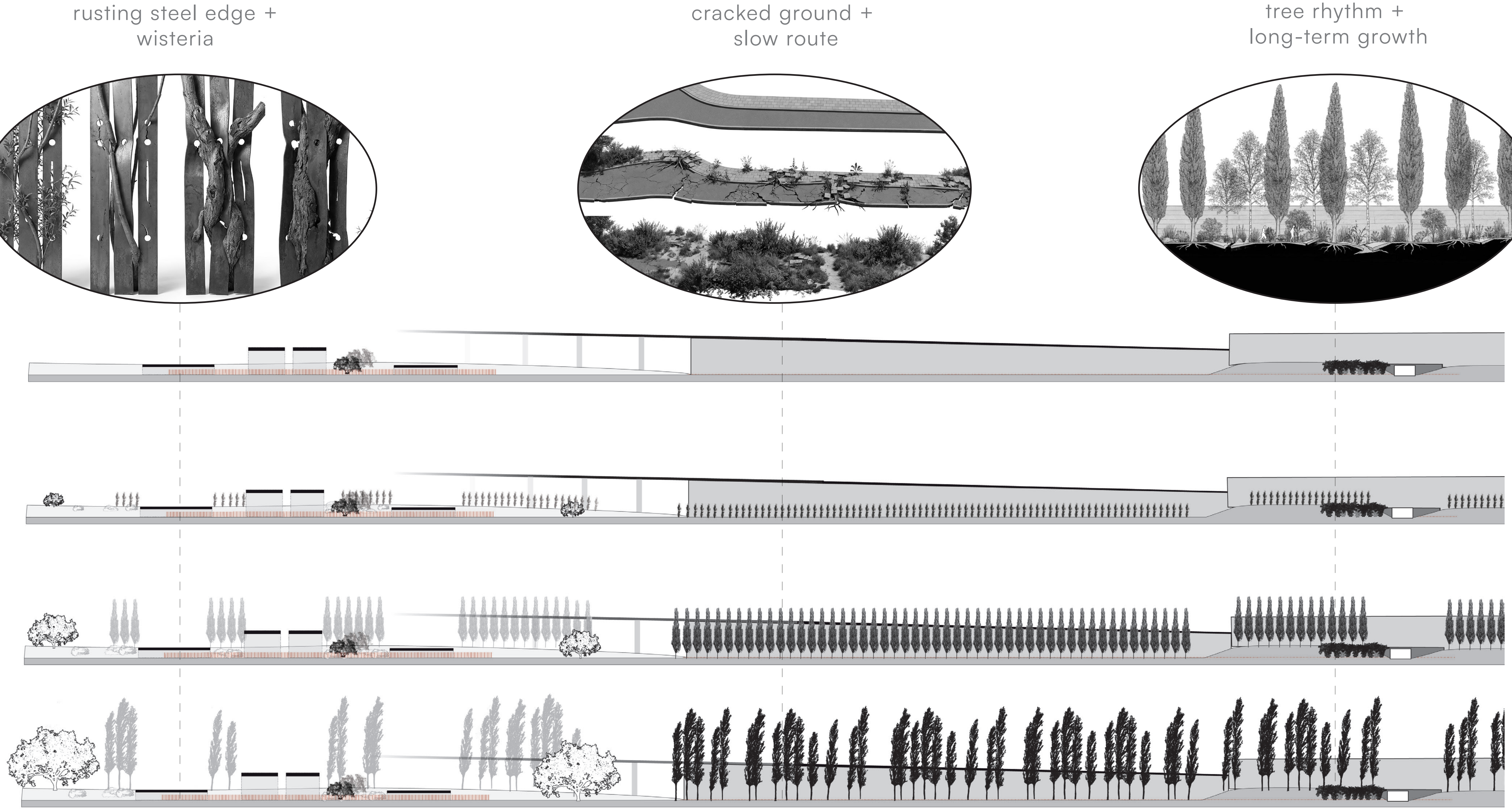
The armature



Human users

Ruinous Characteristics in the Schie Interstitial

Partial mowing
+
leaves uneven terrain
:
maintenance slows down and leaves the ground spatially unresolved.

Hidden wet pocket
+
willow enclosure
:
succession creates shelter where access and maintenance weaken.

Self-made chill spot
+
nettle recolonisation
:
spontaneous growth reclaims hard surface after use.

Exposed roots
+
Fractured ground
:
living growth reveals the force that gradually deforms fixed ground.

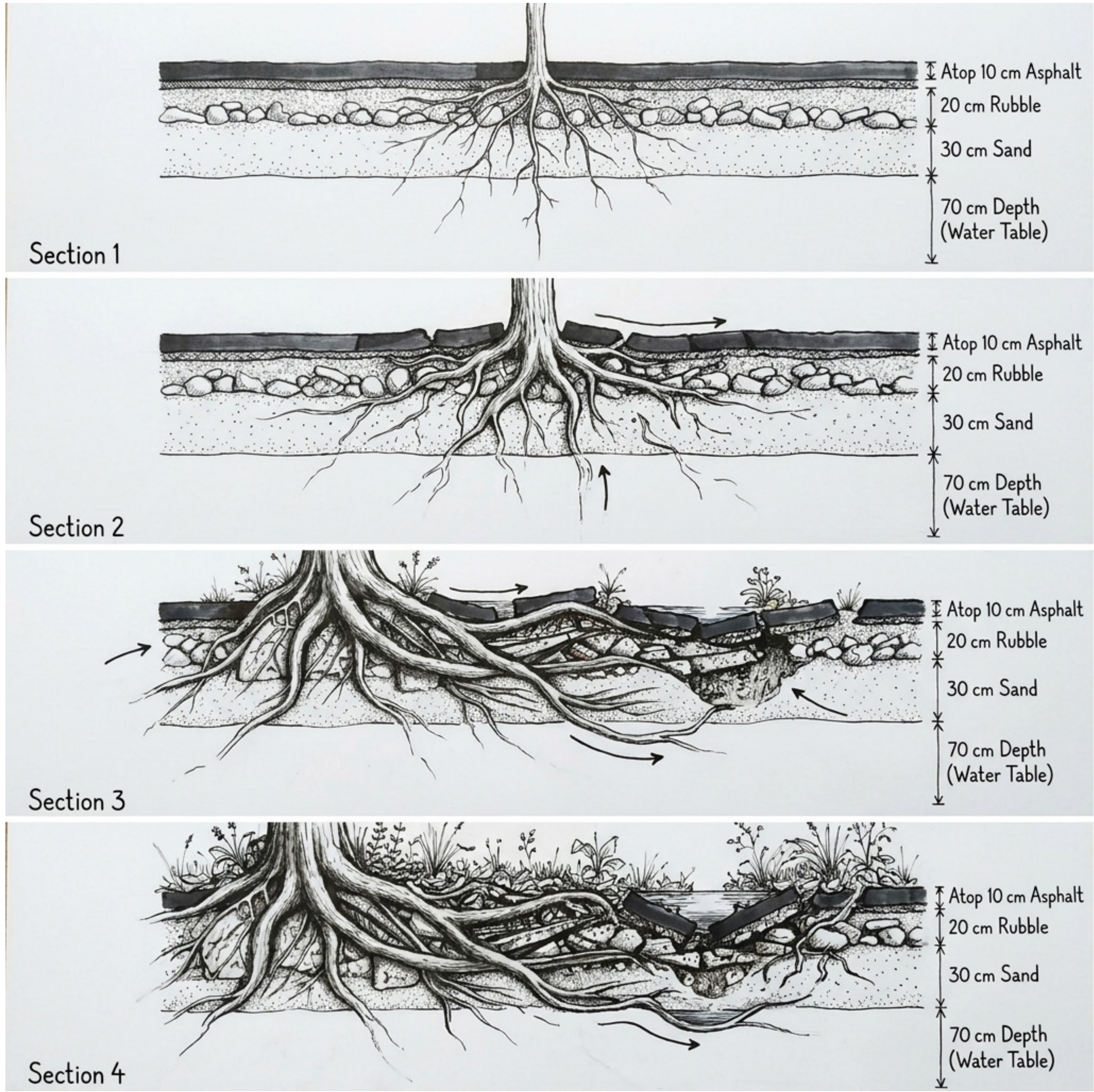
Overgrown vines
+
fallen tree structure
:
growth turns collapse into a new spatial frame.

Abandoned rail infrastructure
+
material decay
:
technical order loosens while its linear trace remains legible.

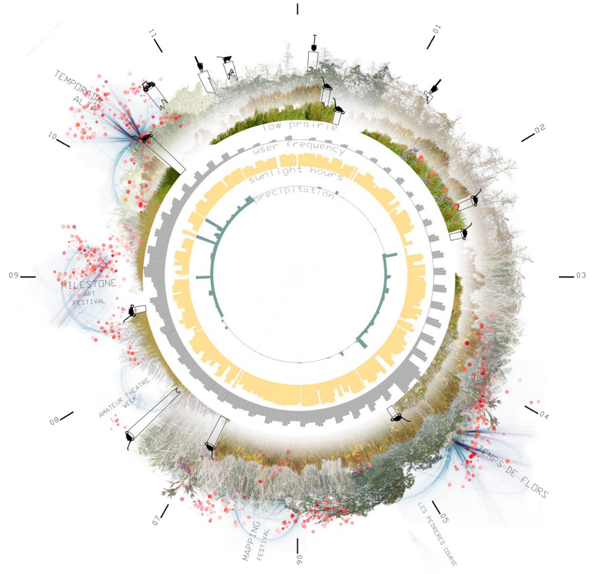
Former shelter
+
overgrowth
:
occupation, neglect and succession become difficult to separate.

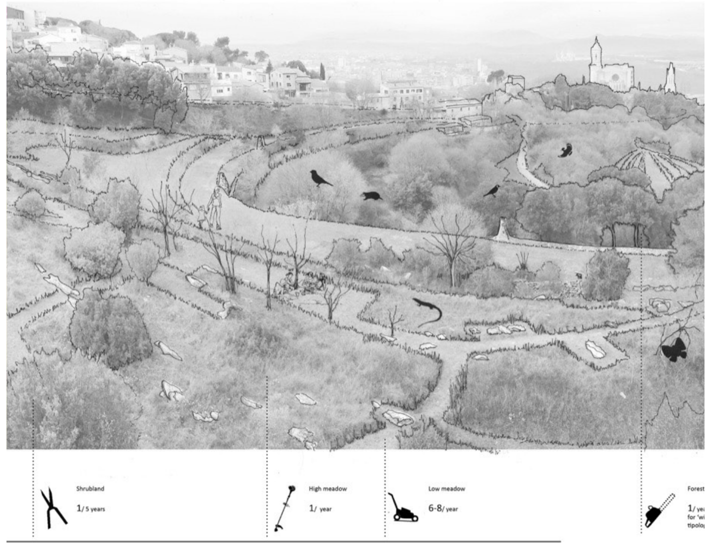
The cue to stop

Ground below / root pressure



Precedent I, Girona's Shores

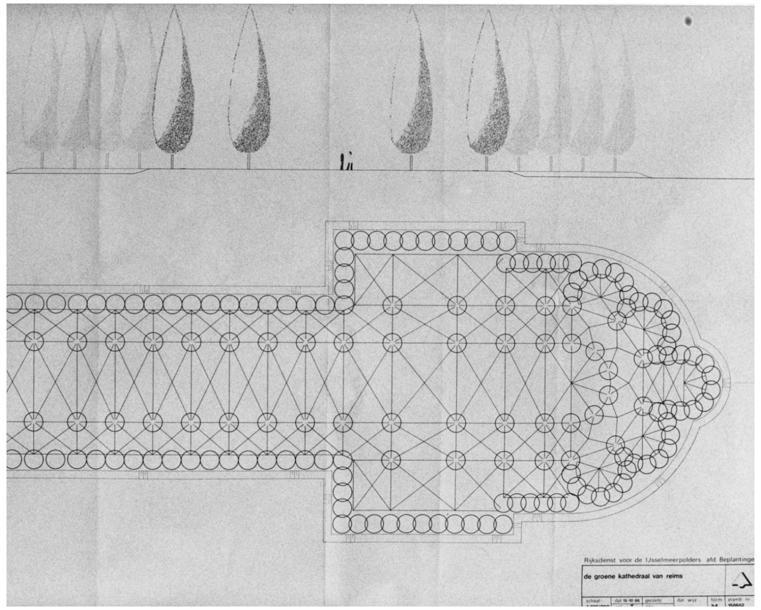




Precedent II, The Eco-Cathedral

Precedent III, Broken Asphalt and Fourth Nature

Precedent IV, De Groene Kathedraal



Precedent V, Wisteria and Ruin Contrast

Precedent VI, Selective guidance

Garden

Interstitial

Precedent VII, Composition

Landschaftspark Duisburg-Nord

A strong frame allows wildness to re-
main legible.

Precedent VIII, Michael Singer

structure as marker

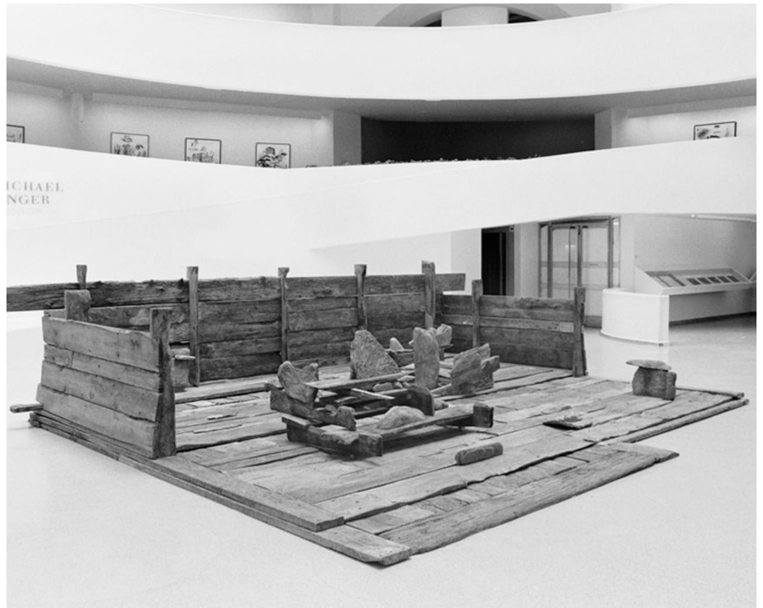
small interventions make edges and clear-ings perceptible

material as process

the frame remains open to weather, growth and decay

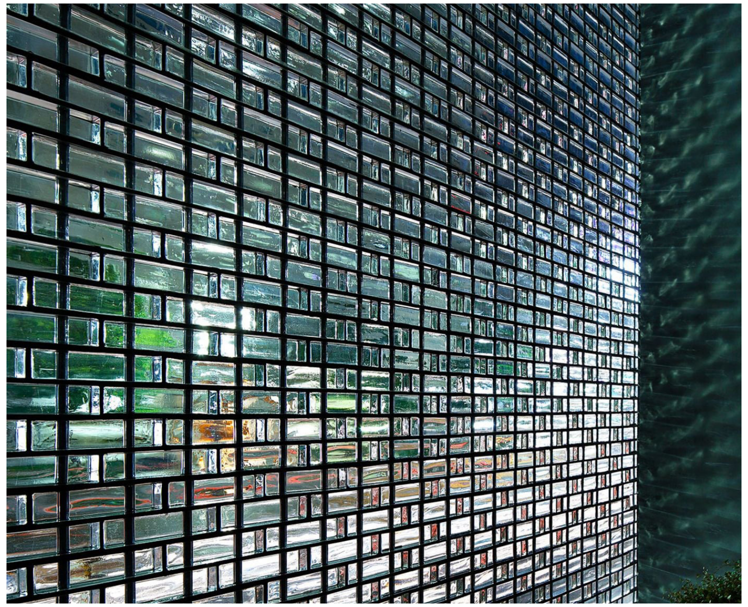
design as listening

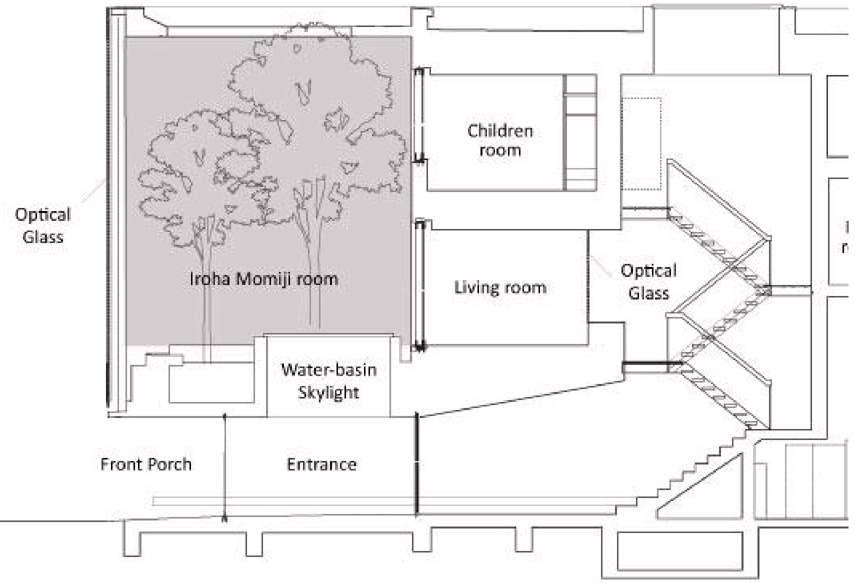
the intervention follows existing site forces



Observatorium Nieuw-Terbregge

Precedent IX, Contemplation

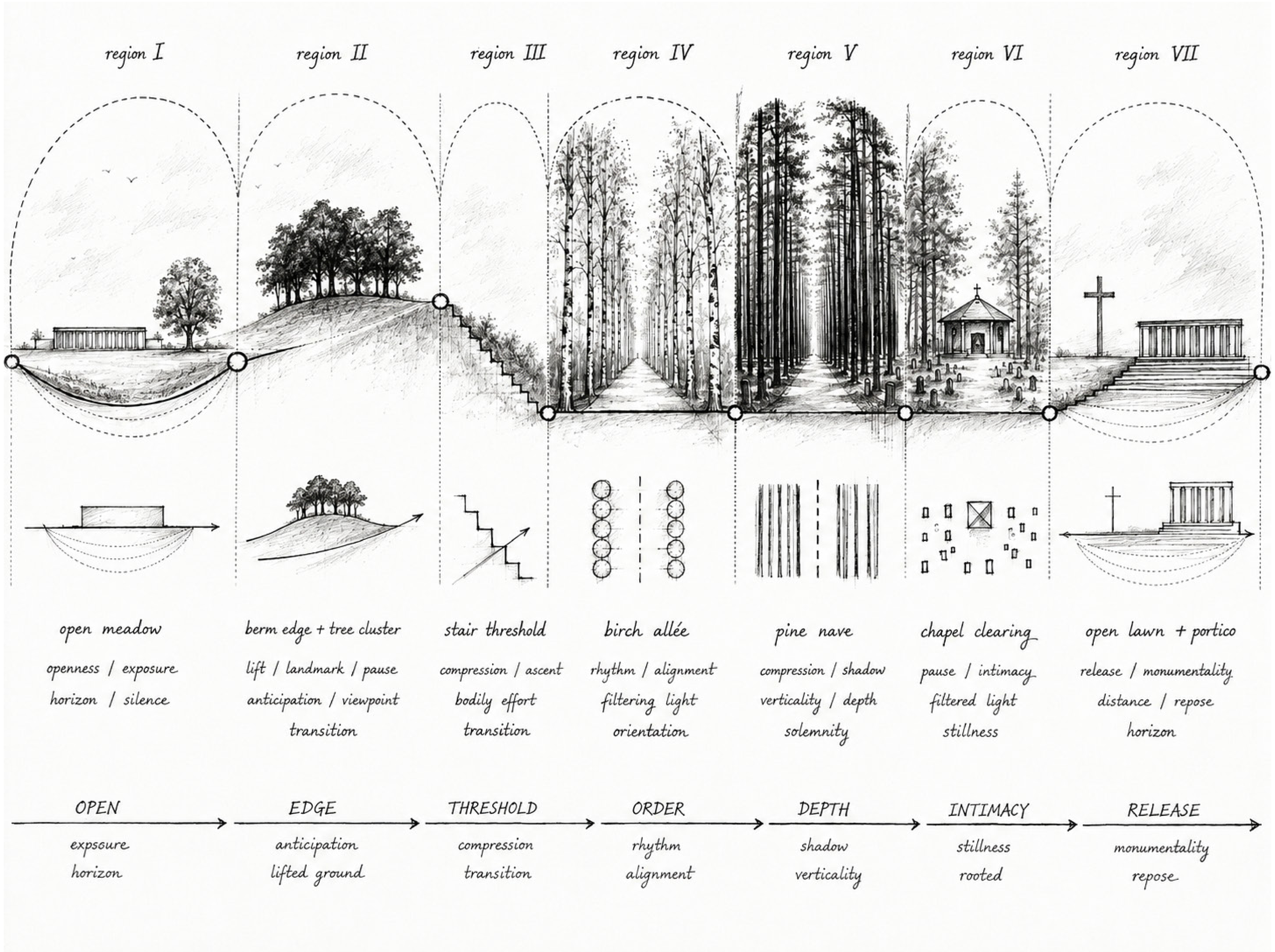




Precedent X: Plum Village

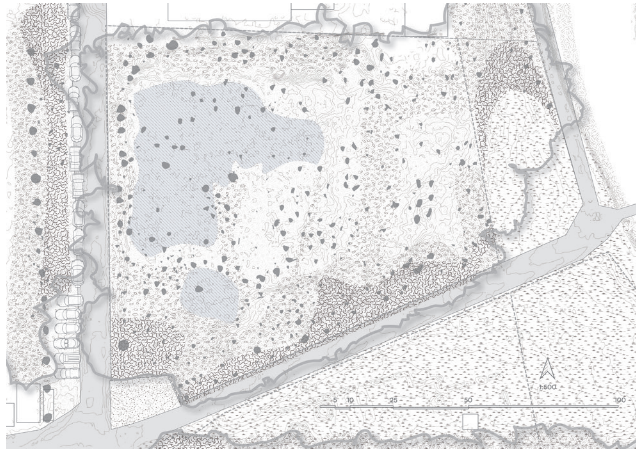
Walking, rhythm and ordinary attention

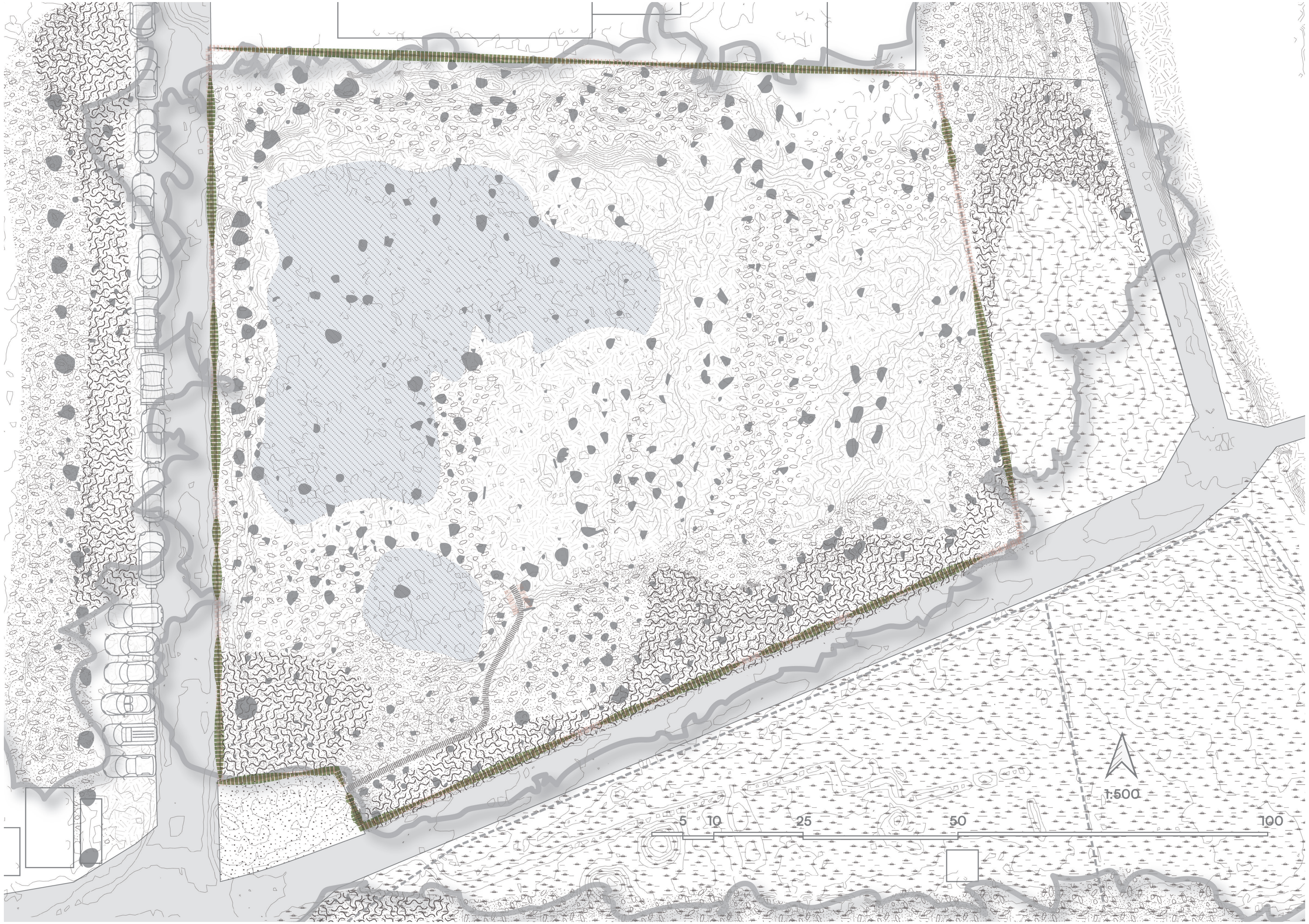
Precedent XI: Tree Architecture



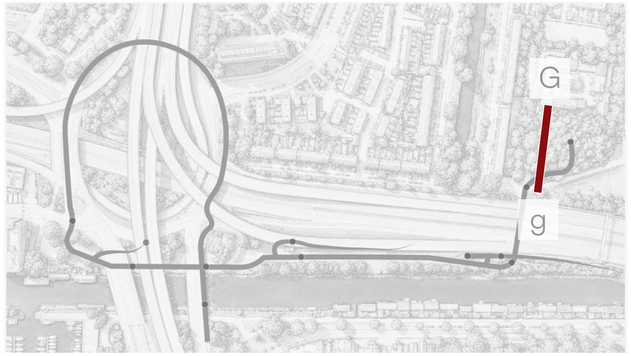
region I
region II
region III
region IV
region V
region VI
region VII
open meadow
openness / exposure
horizon / silence
berm edge + tree cluster
lift / landmark / pause
anticipation / viewpoint
transition
stair threshold
compression / ascent
bodily effort
transition
birch allée
rhythm / alignment
filtering light
orientation
pine nave
compression / shadow
verticality / depth
solemnity
chapel clearing
pause / intimacy
filtered light
stillness
open lawn + portico
release / monumentality
distance / repose
horizon
OPEN
expsoure
horizon
EDGE
anticipation
lifted ground
THRESHOLD
compression
transition
ORDER
rhythm
alignment
DEPTH
shadow
verticality
INTIMACY
stillness
rooted
RELEASE
monumentality
repose

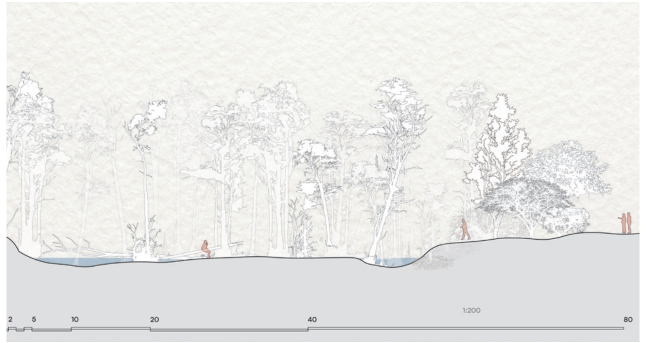
Plan: Willow forest

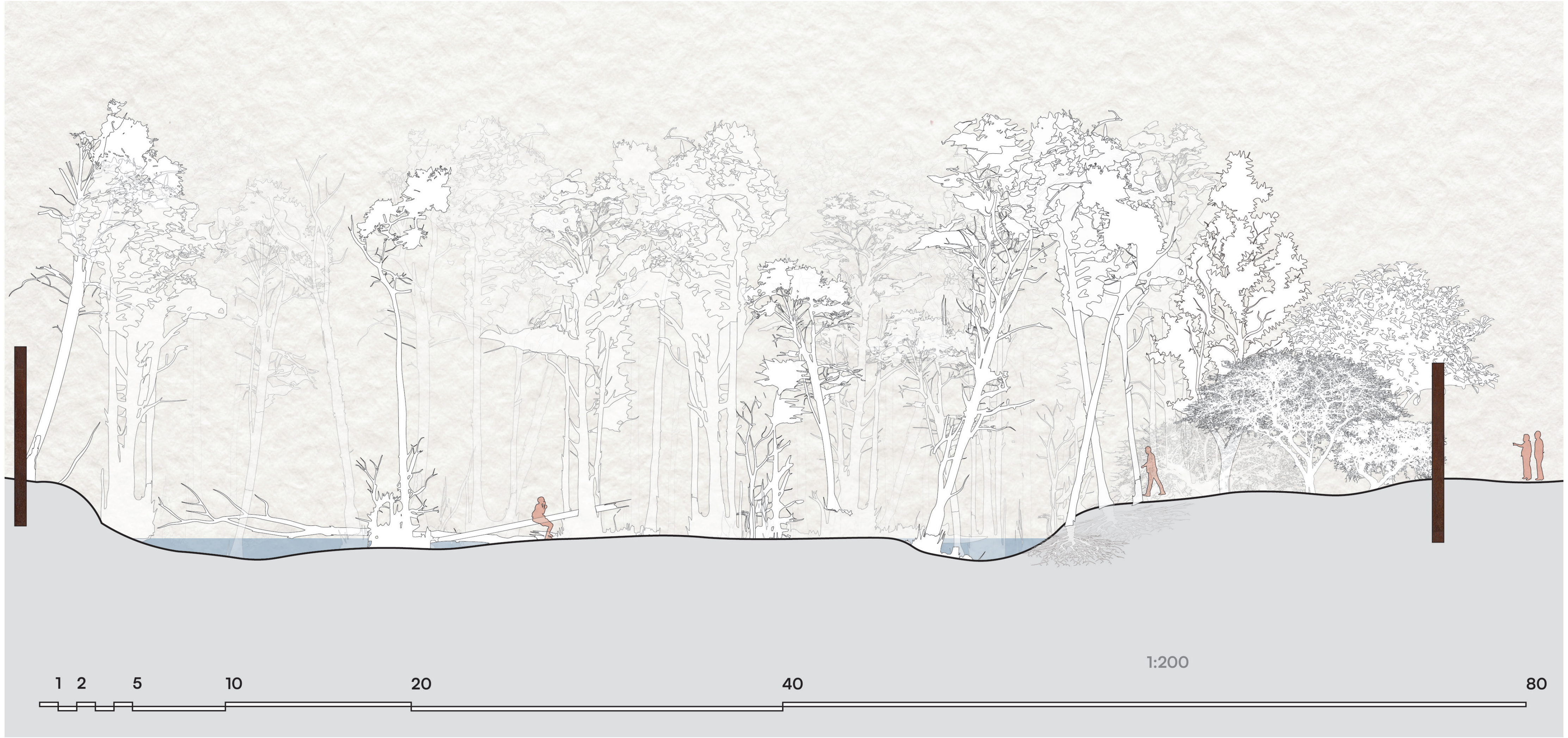




Section: Wet hollow







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Stakeholder Analysis — Vegetation Type vs. User

Schie Interstitial Space, Rotterdam · What does each vegetation type offer each user? · Long-term perspective

Stakeholder	Low Meadow 6–8×/year	Tall Grass 1×/year	Shrub 1×/5 years	Forest 1×/year
HUMAN USE				
Rough sleepers	No shelter, exposed	Seasonal cover	Good cover, winter too	Best cover, thermal comfort
Graffiti artists	No camouflage	Seasonal screen	Good screen	Access limited by vegetation
Recreation / Stadspark West	Accessible, clear	Hard to enter, tick risk	Paths disappear	Dark, less inviting
RA Month / IABR / Festivals	Neutral backdrop	Wild aesthetic, photogenic	Interesting venue	Atmospheric
Municipality / manager	Highest cost: 6–8×/year	Low cost: 1×/year	Occasional capital works	Clearing, occasional
MORE-THAN-HUMAN — FAUNA				
White stork / swift / sand martin	Little food, nest disturbance	Good insect base	Nesting at shrub edge	Forest edge: ideal
House sparrow / pipistrelle	Little cover, few insects	Good foraging	Nesting in shrubs	Cavities, crevices
Grass snake / natterjack toad	No egg site, no microclimate	Seasonal, vulnerable	Compost zones, dead wood	Fallen logs: ideal
Painted lady + insects	No nectar plants	Good bloom, mowing destroys	Flower-rich edge	Closed canopy = little bloom
MORE-THAN-HUMAN — FLORA				
★ Common mallow	Mown before flowering	Flowers, timing risk	Flowers in light gaps	Too dark under canopy
★ Hemp agrimony	Mown before flowering	Flowers, timing risk	Grows along edge	Too dark
Japanese knotweed	Suppressed by mowing	Dominates, displaces all	Unbeatable in shrub zone	Takes over forest edge

Vegetation Needs & Management per User — Schie Interstitial Space, Rotterdam

ROTTERDAM NOORD · MAINTENANCE PLAN v4 · HUMAN + MORE-THAN-HUMAN USE

Vegetation action key:

maintain · expand · thicken / let age · seasonal management only · reduce / avoid · essential — do not touch · warning — active control needed · — not applicable

Species / user	Latin name	Low grass 6–8x/yr	Tall grass 1x/yr	Shrub 1x/5yr	Forest 1x/yr	Shore / water edge	Veg. change?	Access change?	*VEGETATION MANAGEMENT*
HUMAN USE									
Rough sleeper *Homo urbanus*		avoid	maintain	expand	expand	—	veg	access	Let shrub + forest grow without annual cutting. Expand dense vegetation near sleeping zones as buffer. No enforcement inside shrub/forest core. People on outer paths only — not into the vegetation interior.
Graffiti artist *Homo pictor*		avoid	seasonal	expand	seasonal	—	veg	access	Let screen alongside wall grow shrub → 4th Nature. No pruning on wall side. Low grass in front of wall can go. People on path ok. Vegetation strip along wall is working space — do not clear.
Festival / IABR / Trek *Event visitor*		maintain	maintain	maintain	maintain	—	both	access	Nothing needs to change — wild aesthetics is the product. No permanent paths through vegetation. Temporarily welcome everywhere. Recovery rest ≥4 weeks after event. No infrastructure left behind.
MORE-THAN-HUMAN — FAUNA									
White stork *Ciconia ciconia*		avoid	maintain	maintain	let age	maintain	veg	access	Extend forest edge toward water. Reduce low grass near nest — too exposed and mowing noise is harmful. Path ≥30 m from nesting zone. No machines or people near nest May–Aug.
Common swift *Apus apus*		—	expand	—	—	—	veg	access	No pruning next to walls — nest cavities must stay intact. Increase tall grass to boost insect density. No machines along walls May–Aug. People ok but zero vibration or construction.
House sparrow *Passer domesticus*		reduce	maintain	expand	let age	—	veg	access	Expand + thicken shrub layer as nesting habitat. Leave dead wood. Reduce low grass in favour of rough zones. No pruning in nesting zone Mar–Aug. Tolerant of people at distance.
Common pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pipistrellus*		avoid	expand	maintain	let age	maintain	veg	access	Dead wood must stay — it is bat roost. Let forest age so cavities form. Low grass has zero value. No artificial light in foraging area. People away from forest zone at night May–Jul (maternity).
Sand martin *Riparia riparia*		—	—	—	—	essential	veg	access	Keep riverbank steep — never excavate or reinforce. Shore zone: 4th Nature, zero intervention. Not about plants — about earth structure. People strictly away from riverbank May–Aug. Distance ≥10 m. No machines.
Grass snake *Natrix natrix*		avoid	essential	maintain	let age	seasonal	veg	access	Maintain + expand tall grass as core habitat. Leave dead wood and fallen logs — nesting sites. Create more messy corners. Core zone no access ever. Mowing NEVER May–Jul. People on outer paths only.
Natterjack toad *Epidalea calamita*		avoid	seasonal	maintain	—	essential	veg	access	Pond edge + muddy margin: 4th Nature, untouched. Keep tall grass along water. Never harden or mow bank. People away from pond edge Mar–Jun (spawning). Walkway set back from water.
Painted lady + insects *Vanessa cardui et al.*		avoid	essential	maintain	avoid	maintain	veg	access	Phased mowing — never all at once. Always leave flowering patches in tall grass. No mowing mallow before September. People anywhere, but no machines in flowering zones. Walkers do not disturb.
MORE-THAN-HUMAN — FLORA									
Common mallow *Malva sylvestris*		avoid	seasonal	maintain	avoid	essential	veg	access	Never mow before flowering (blooms until Nov). Keep warm steep banks free of shade. Let seed self-disperse. No machines Sep–Nov. Plant not sensitive to people — only to mowing regime.
Hemp agrimony *Eupatorium cannabinum*		avoid	seasonal	maintain	avoid	essential	veg	access	Keep moist rough ground along shore. No mowing Aug–Oct (nectar peak). Reduce low grass along waterfront for rough vegetation. No machines Aug–Oct in shore zone. People may look, not trample.
Japanese knotweed *Reynoutria japonica*		maintain	warning!	warning!	warning!	warning!	veg	access	4th Nature is DANGEROUS here — full takeover in 3–5 yr without intervention. Only low grass suppresses it. Phased cutting + remove all cuttings. Never flail. Active monitoring required. Volunteer cutting sessions Sep–Oct. No mechanical flailing by municipality.

easy to slow down and attune -> not much design need

in the contrary

URBAN PRESSURE
road, speed, traffic, exposure

open, hard, fast
the city sets the pace

FILTER
sound wall, viaduct, shadow, rough ground,
ruderal vegetation

partial enclosure, acoustic and visual filtering
the pace is slowed and reframed

LUWTE POCKET
slower body, framed sky, water, pause

protected, open in front
city withdrawn through water and vegetation
a reason to remain