

# Narrating the Landscape

*A disclosure of marginal stories shaping the  
land and soul of Western Liguria*

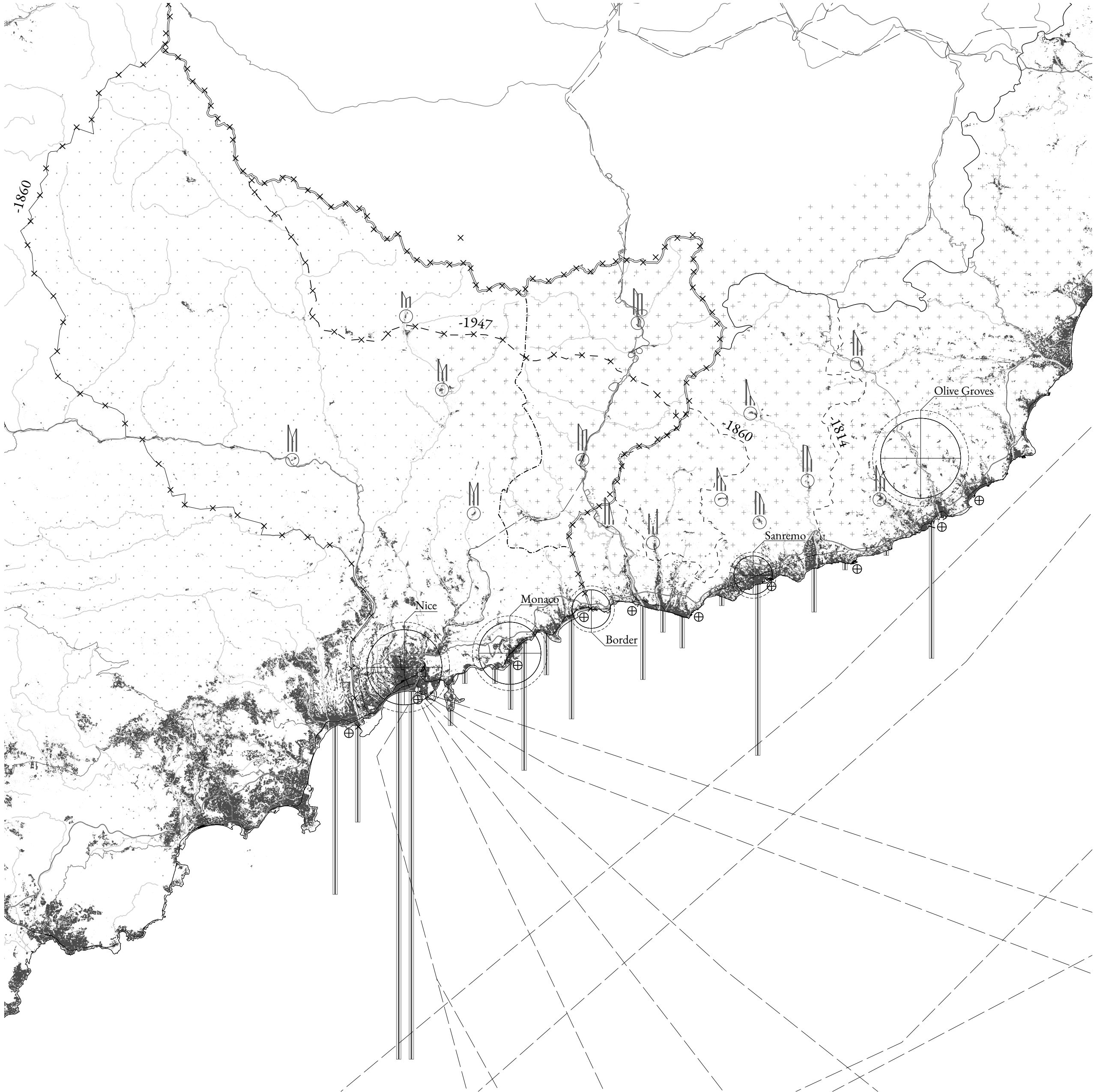












*Historical-Cultural Map*





*Inland*







*Seaward*



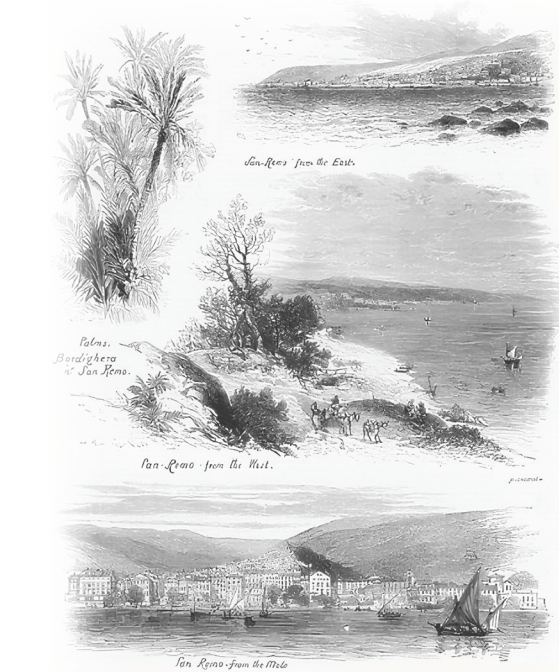


Fig. 1

Meaning of the Landscape



Fig. 3

Global to Local



Fig. 5

Shifted Identities

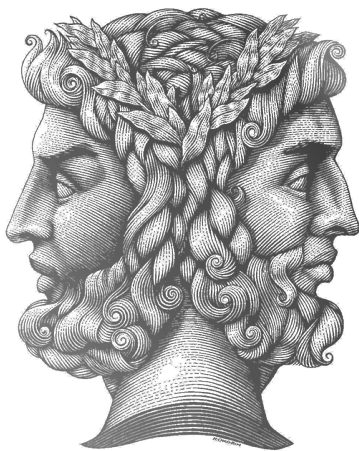


Fig. 2

Aprico and Opaco

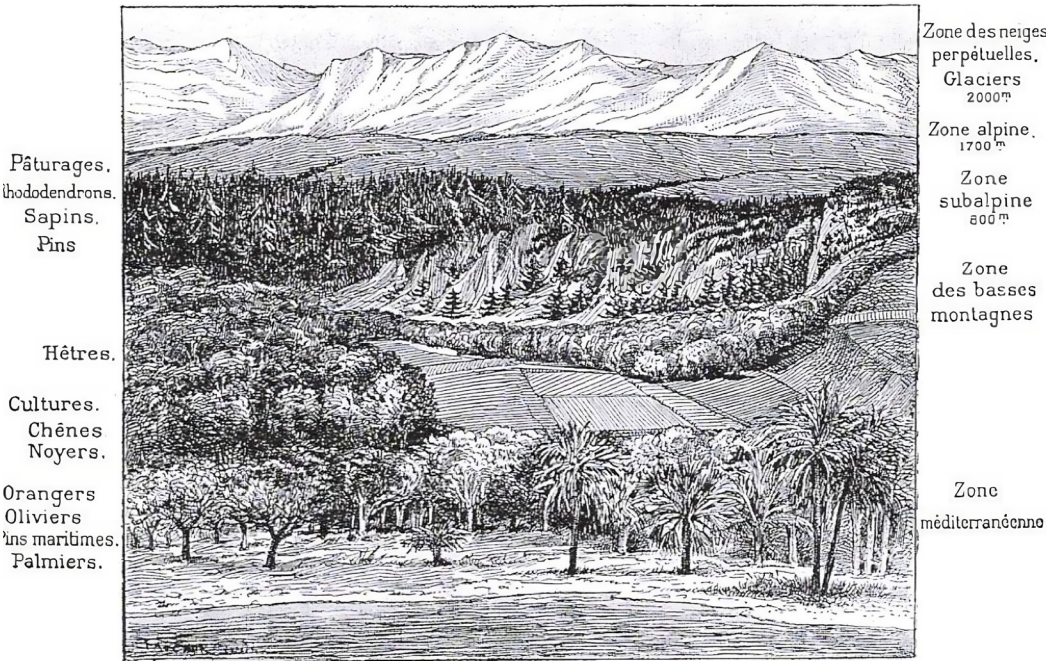


Fig. 4

Humanized Landscape

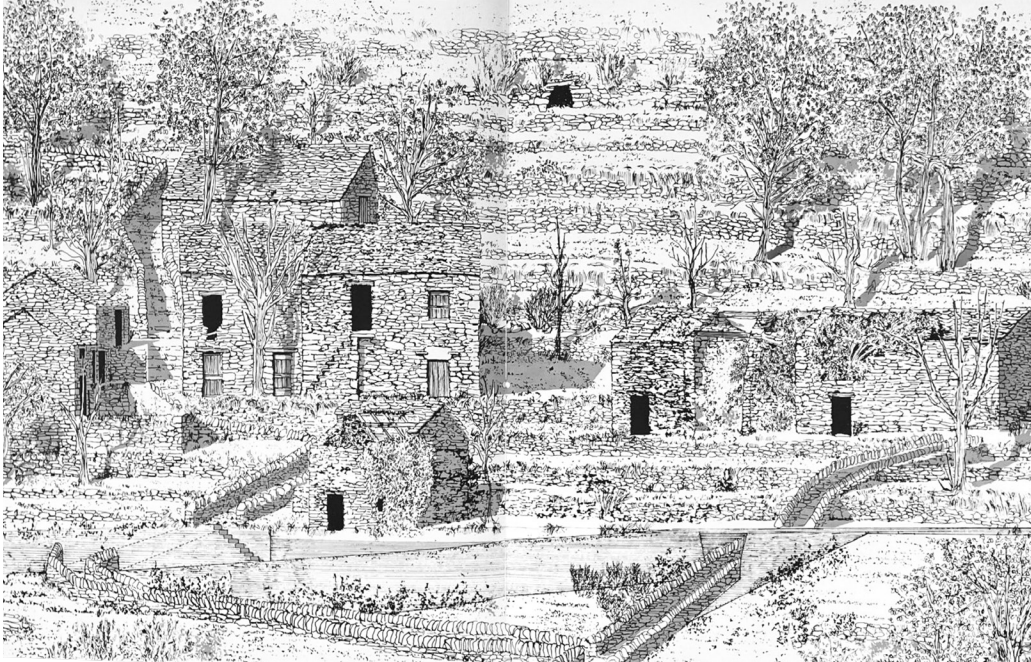


Fig. 6

Cultural Landscape





Fig. 7

*Environmental*



Fig. 8

*Cultural*



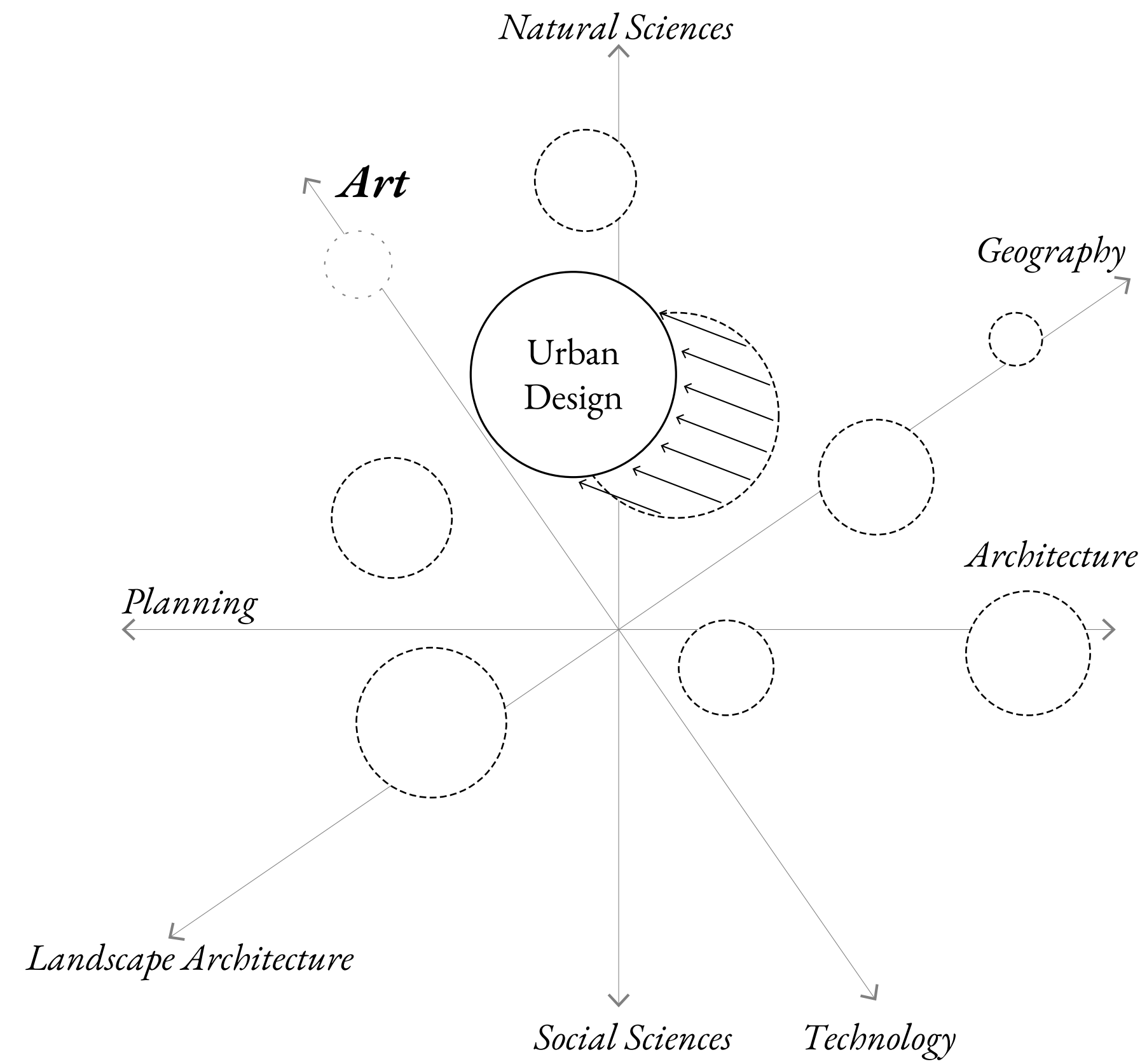
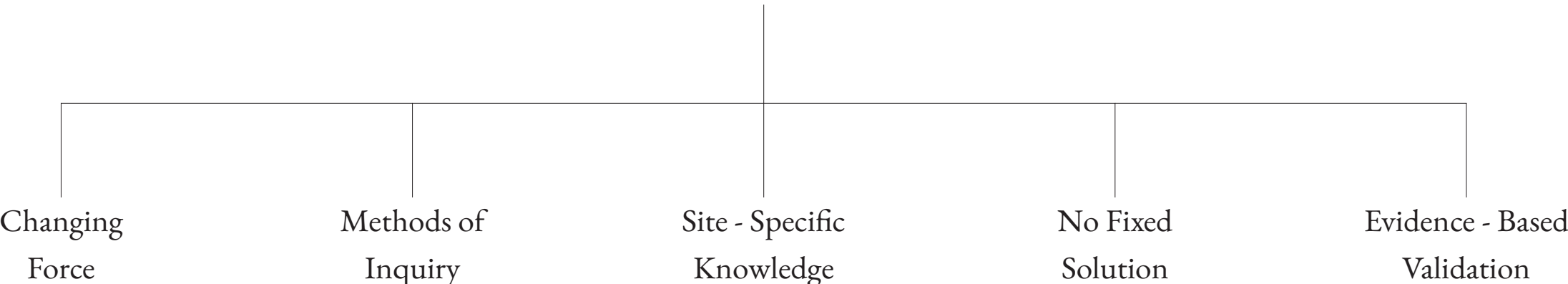


Fig. 9

*In the context of ecological and cultural  
fragility of the Maritime Alps,  
how can a culture-based approach to urban  
design, along with a comprehensive understanding  
of territorial structures, help mitigate  
environmental risks and restore the  
identity of the place?*

*In the context of ecological and cultural  
fragility of the Maritime Alps,  
how can a culture-based approach to urban  
design, along with a comprehensive understanding  
of territorial structures, help mitigate  
environmental risks and restore the  
identity of the place?*

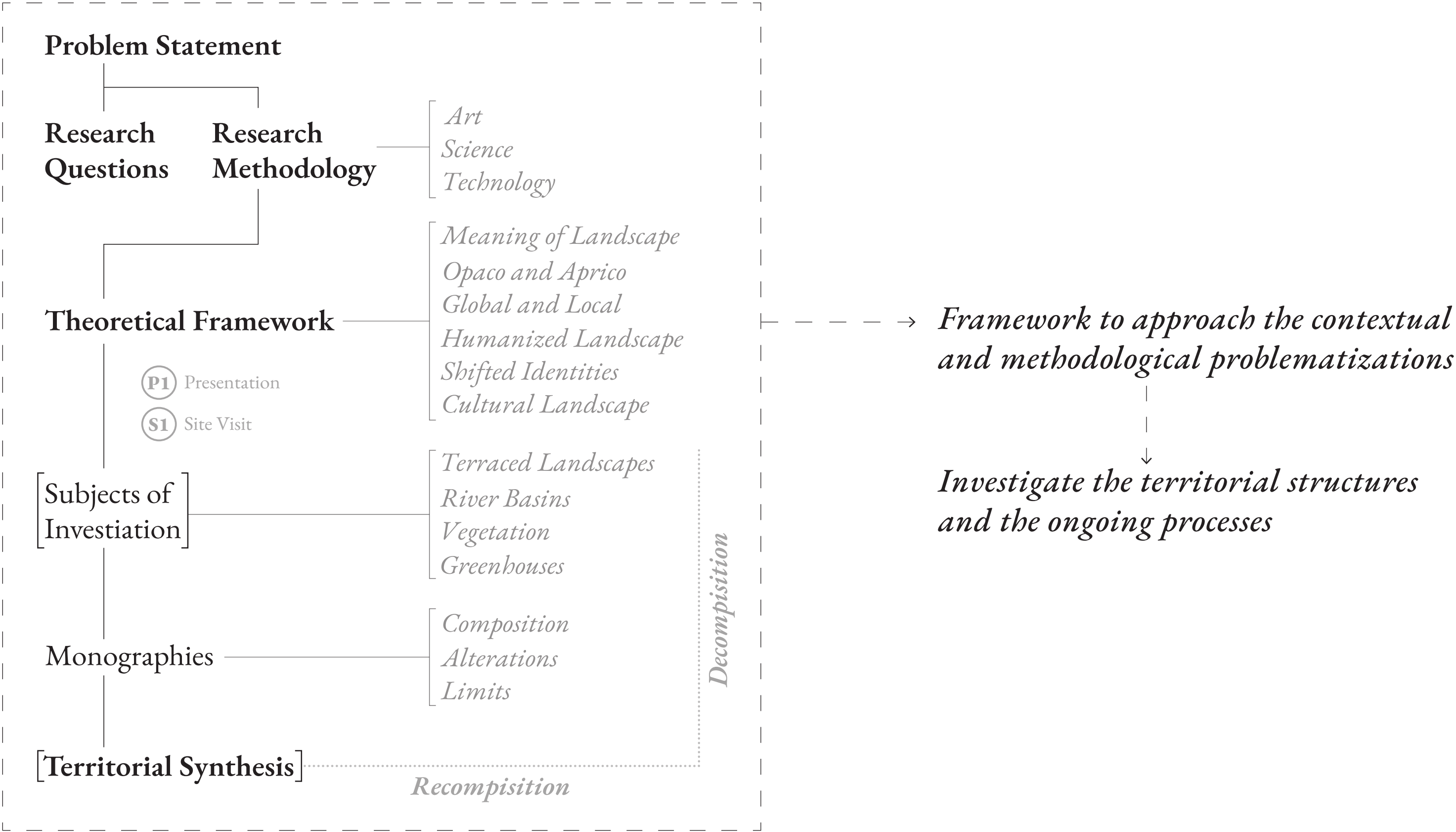
*culture-based approach*

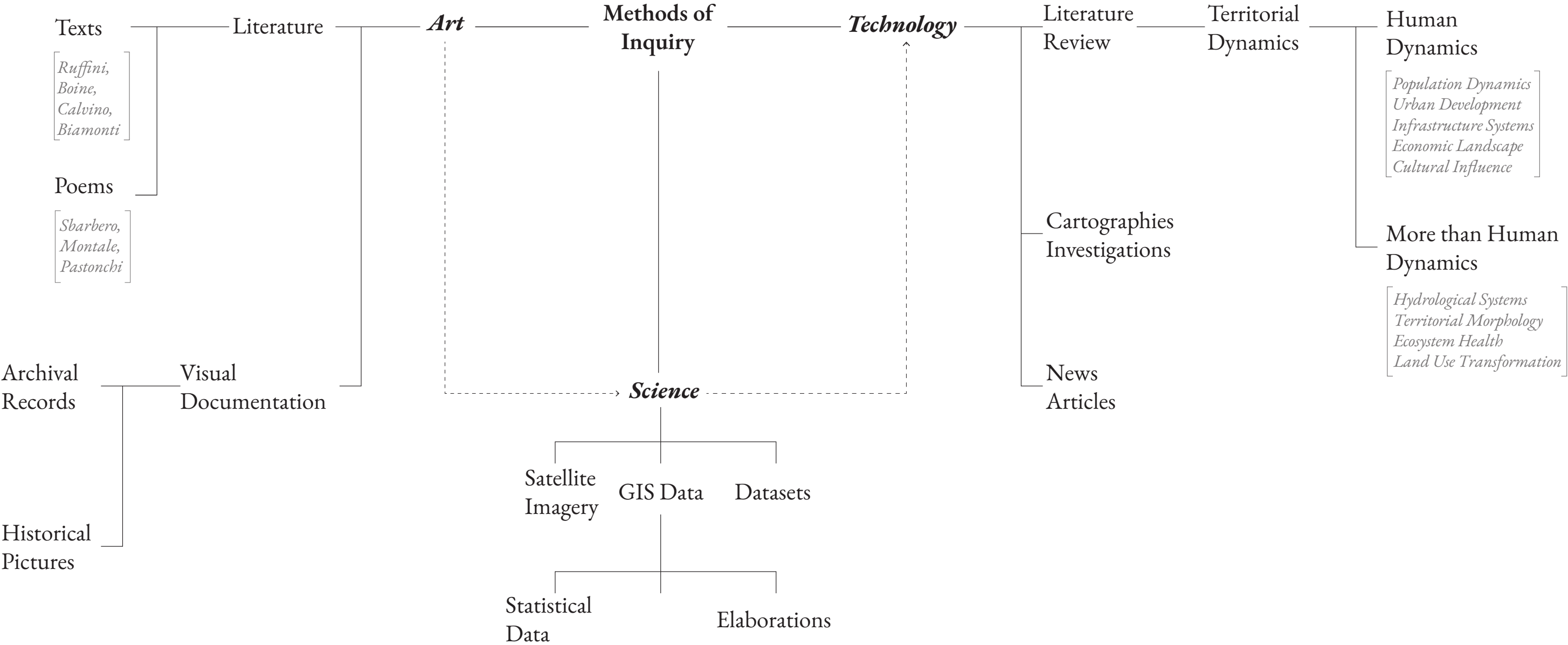


*Research Question*

Problematization

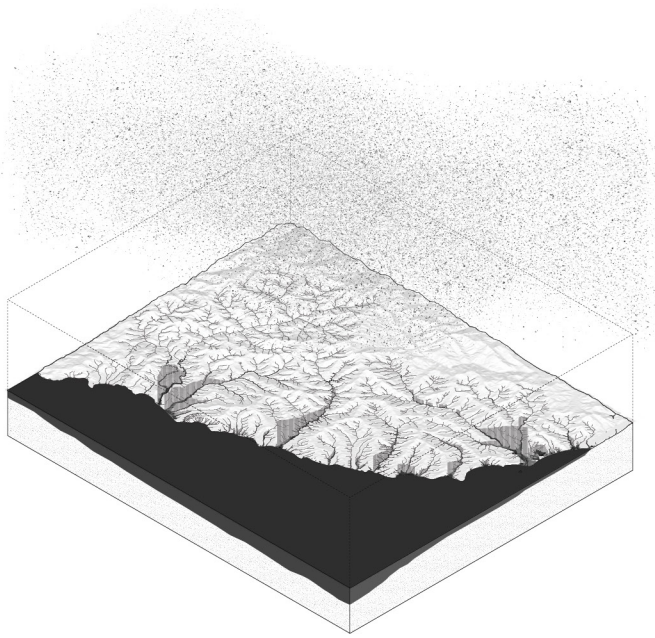
*In the context of ecological and cultural  
fragility of the Maritime Alps,  
how can a culture-based approach to urban  
design, along with a comprehensive understanding  
of territorial structures, help mitigate  
environmental risks and restore the  
identity of the place?*



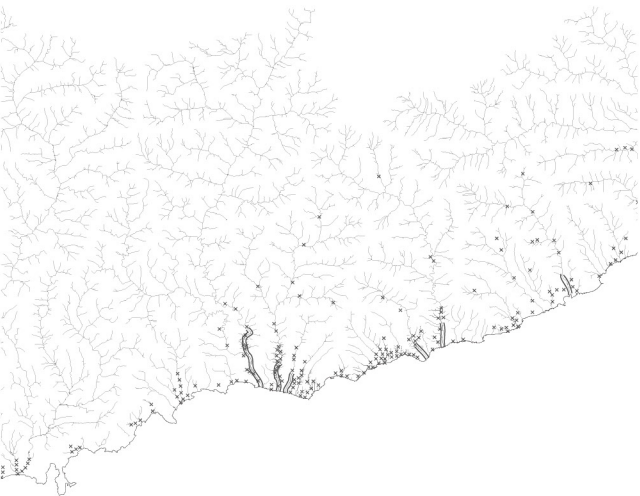




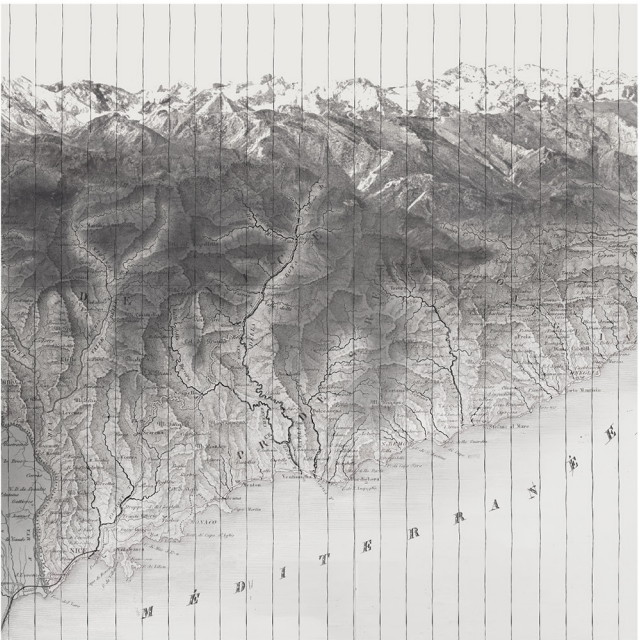
Limit



Alteration



Composition



Flora

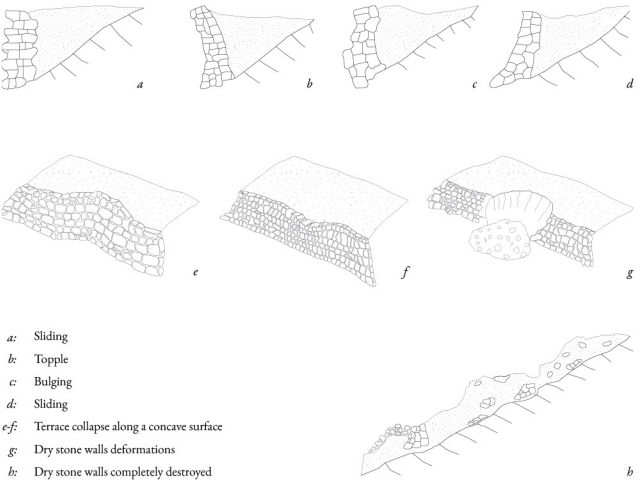
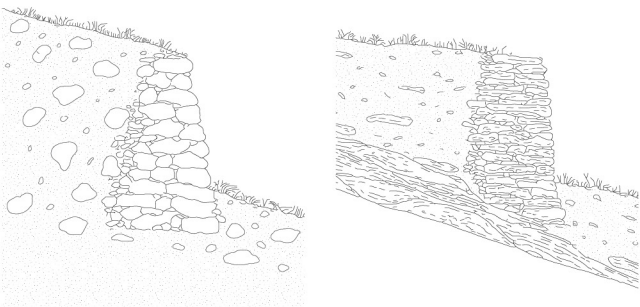


L	Palms trees	Flowers harvesting	Agave	Olive Groves	Abandoned Olive Groves	Reforestation	Forest
A							
S	Shortland	Olive Groves				Olive Groves	

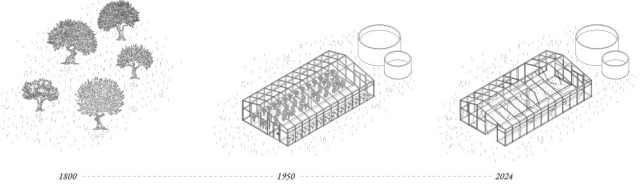
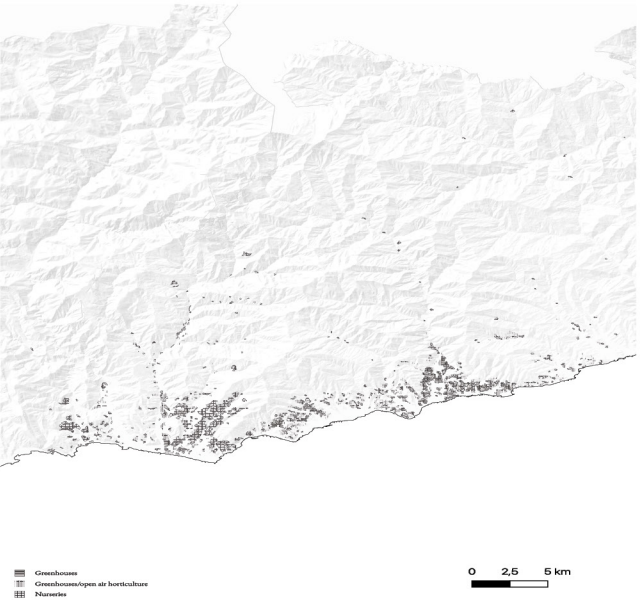
L = long durée, A = alteration, S = subtraction



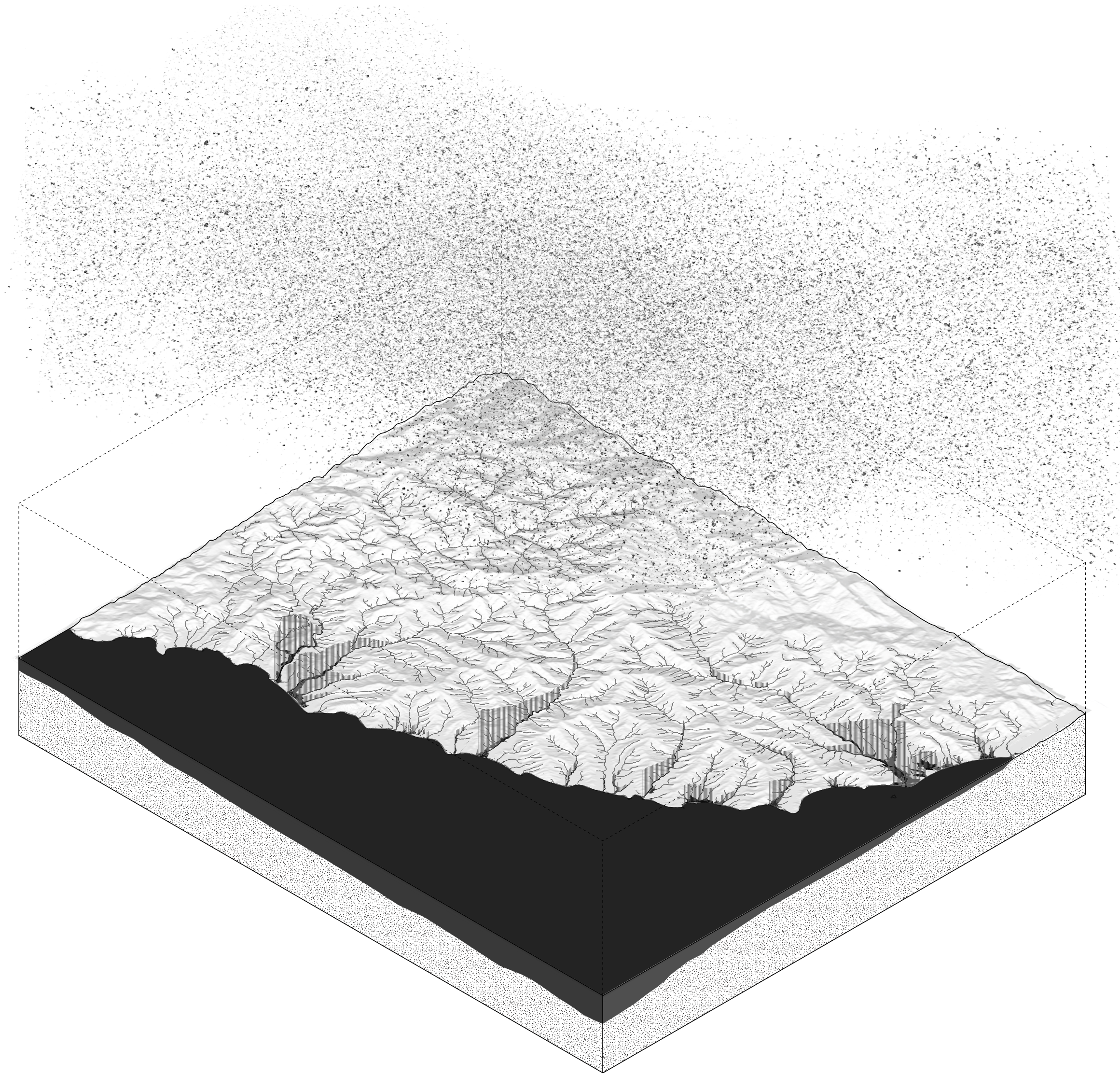
Terraced Landscapes



Horticultural Structures









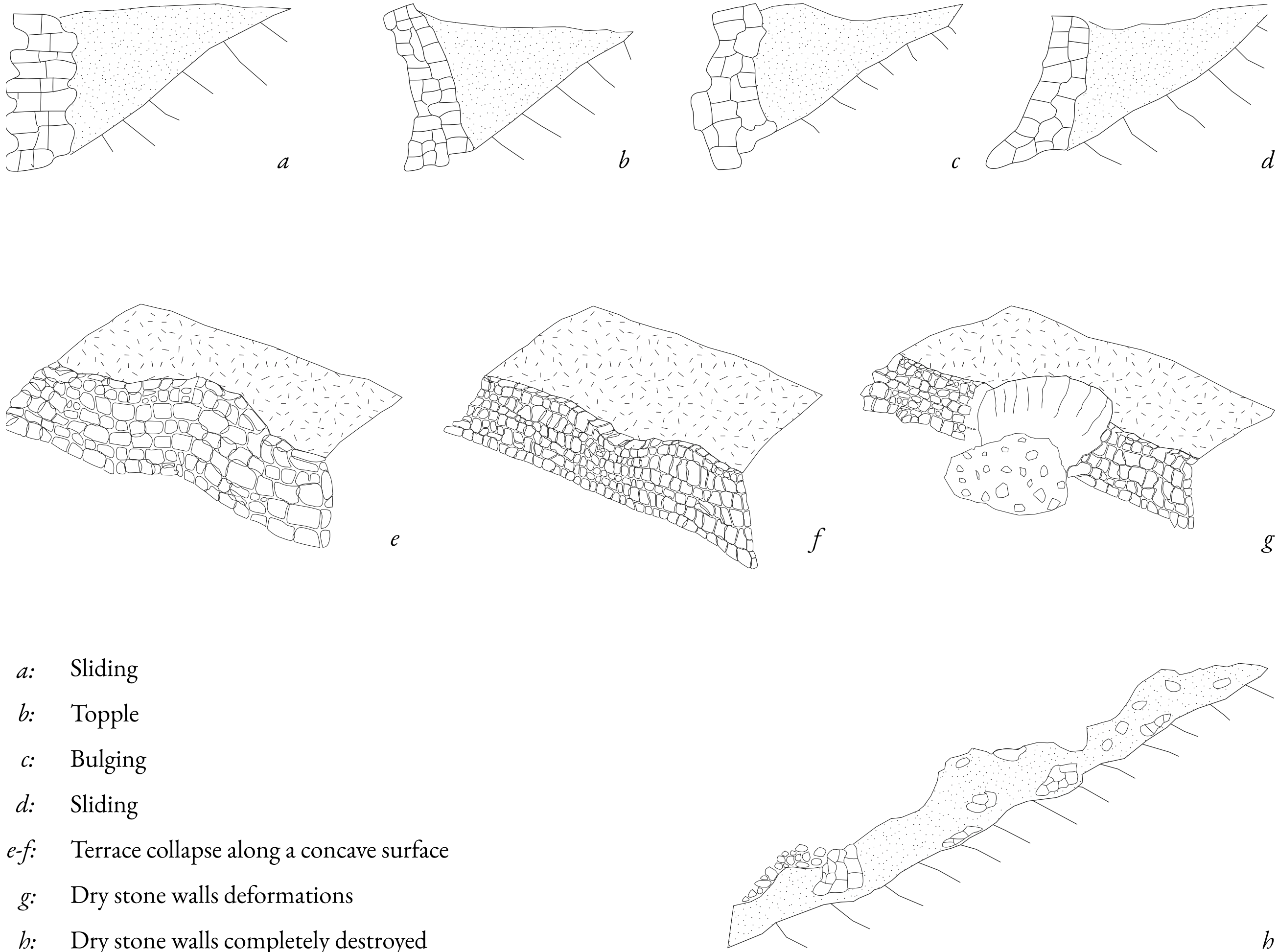


Alteration

L	Agrumes		Olive Groves		Abandoned Olive Groves	Forests	
A	Palm trees	Flowers harvesting				Reforestation	
S	Horticulture	Olive Groves				Olive Groves	

L = long durée, A = alteration, S = subtraction



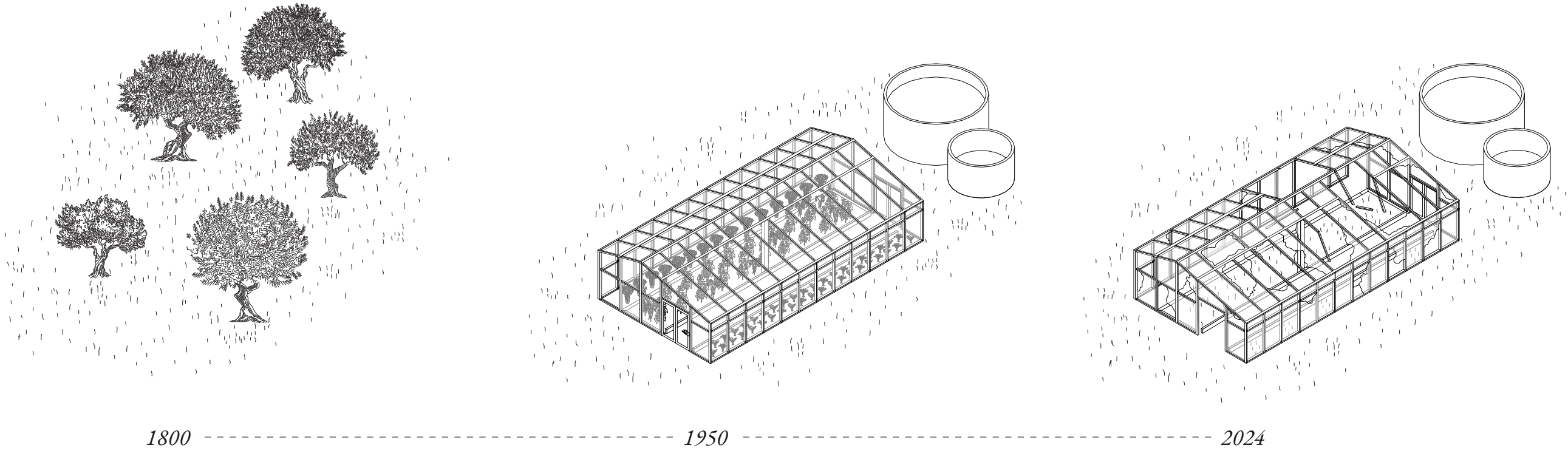


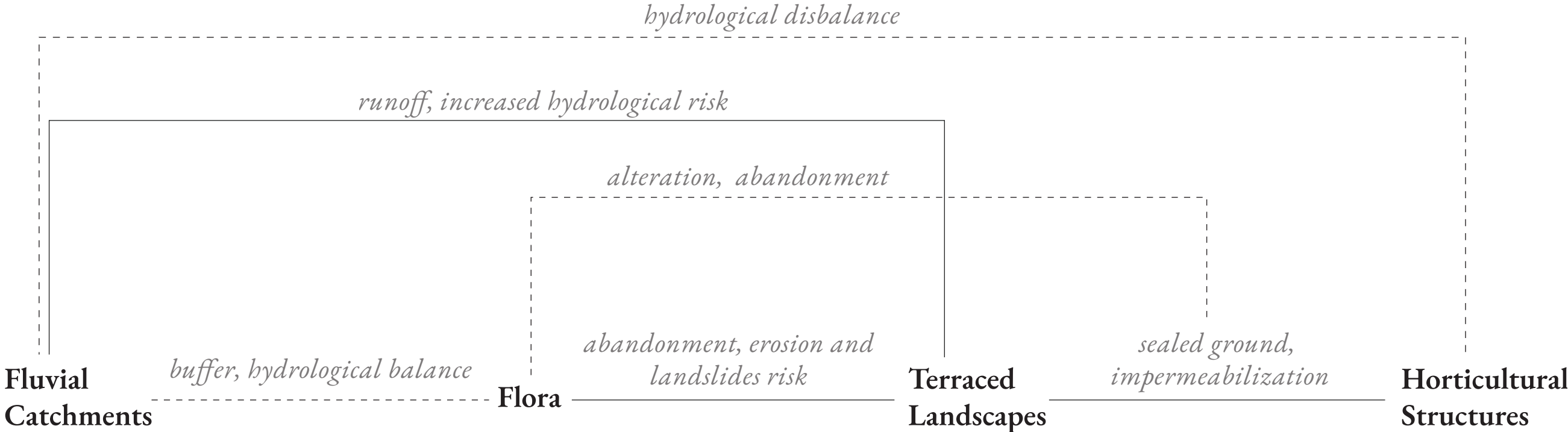
- a*: Sliding
- b*: Topple
- c*: Bulging
- d*: Sliding
- e-f*: Terrace collapse along a concave surface
- g*: Dry stone walls deformations
- h*: Dry stone walls completely destroyed

Fig. 10

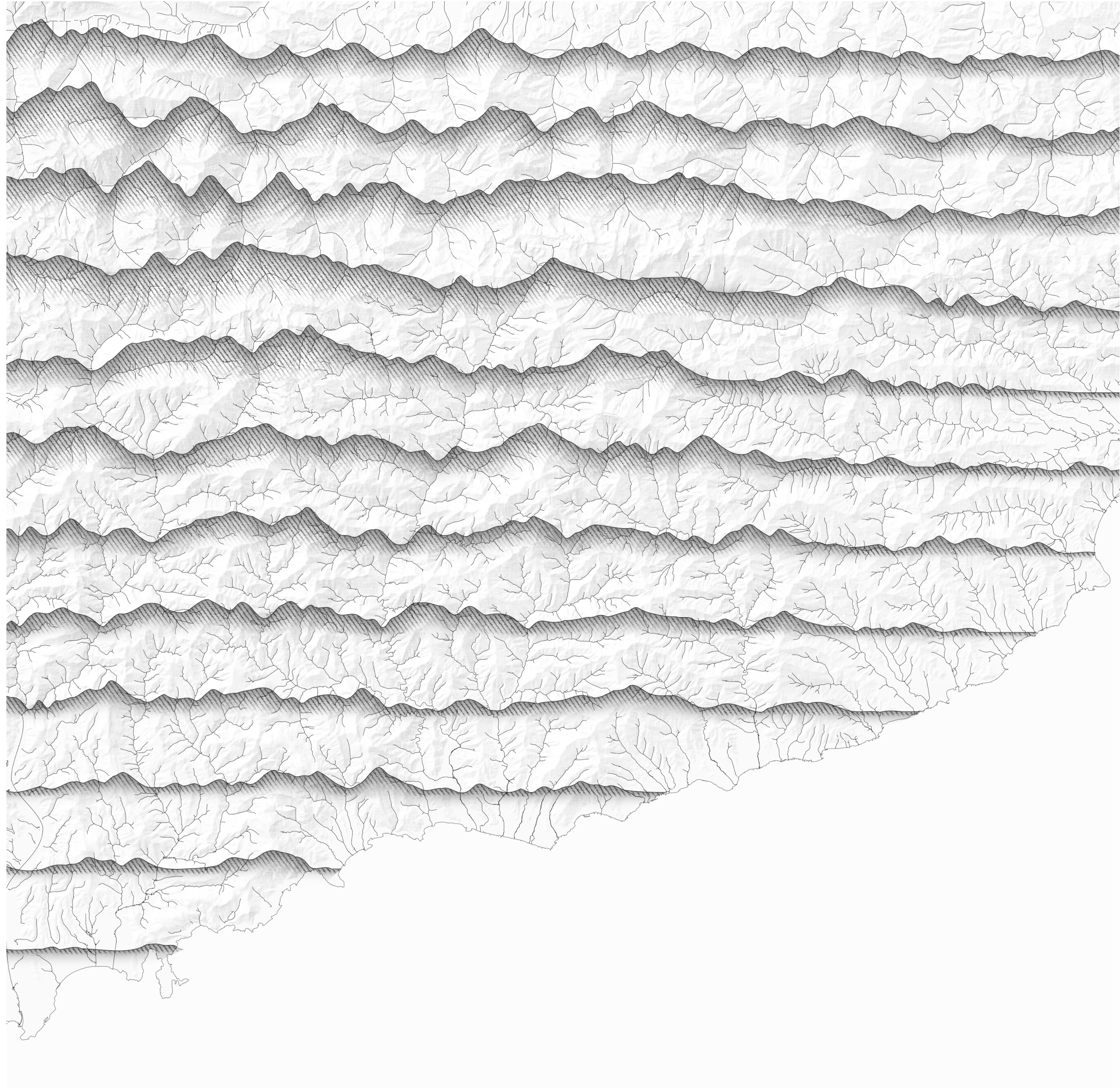
Limit

- Greenhouses
- Greenhouses/open air horticulture
- Nurseries



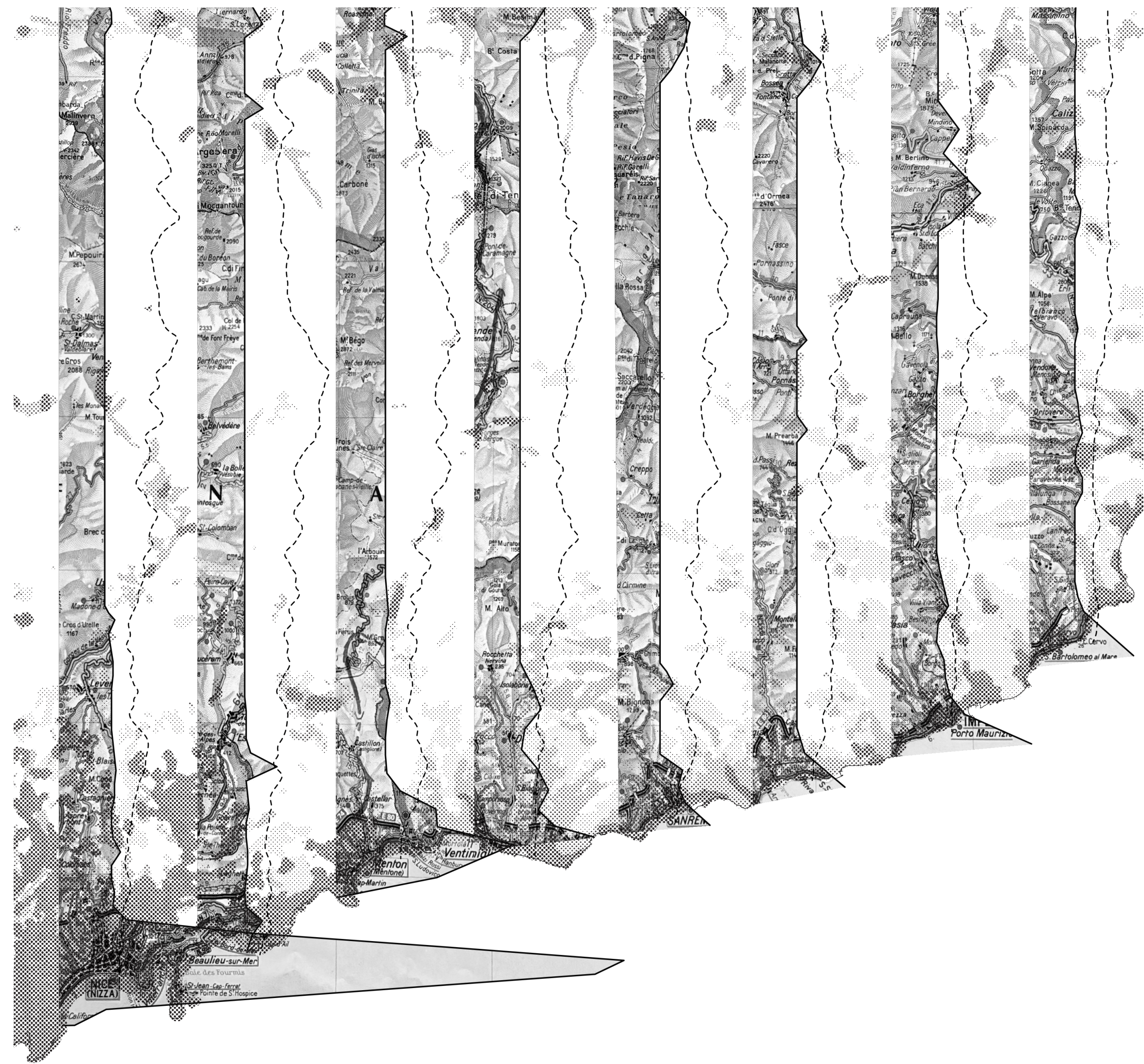




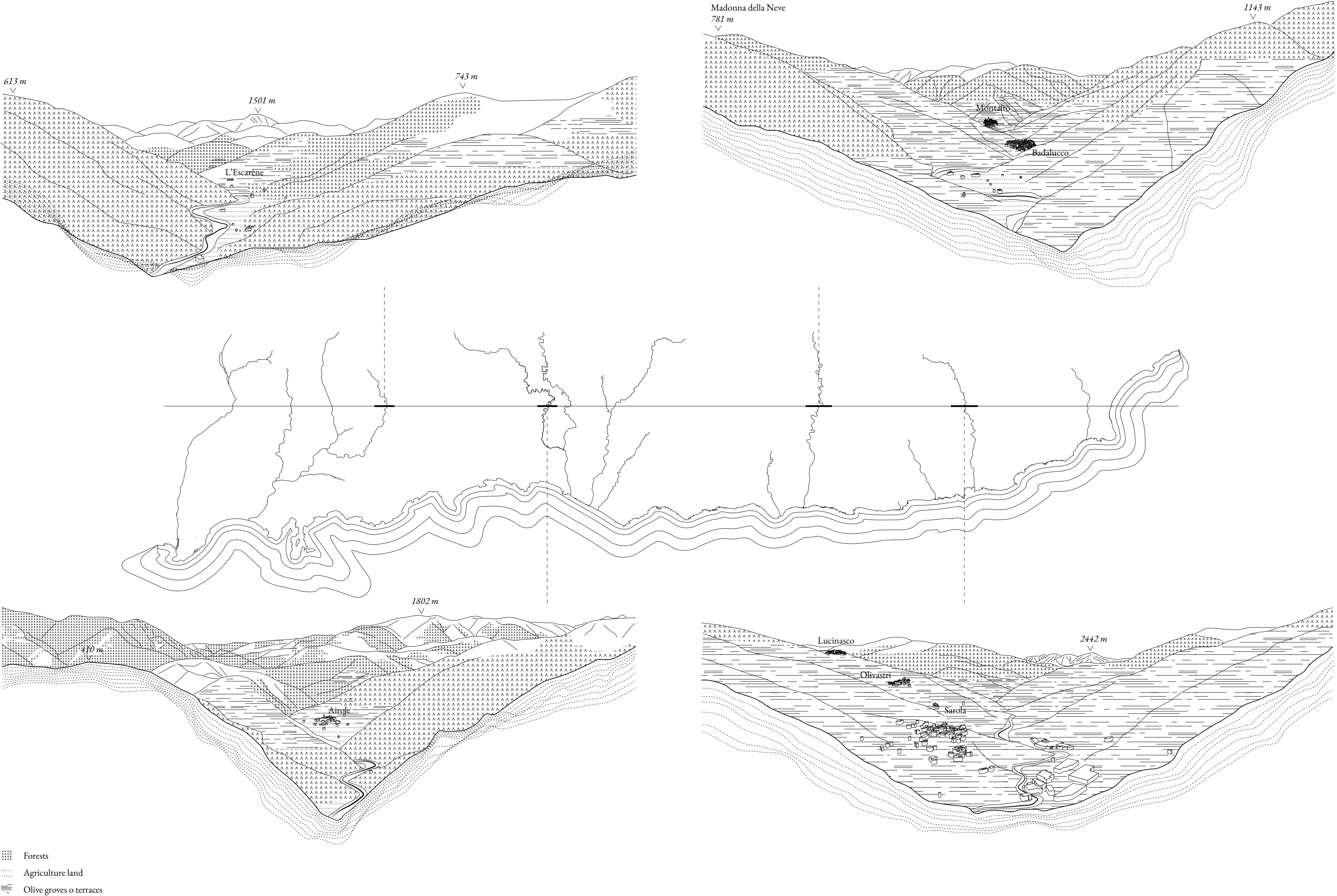


*Topographical sections*

















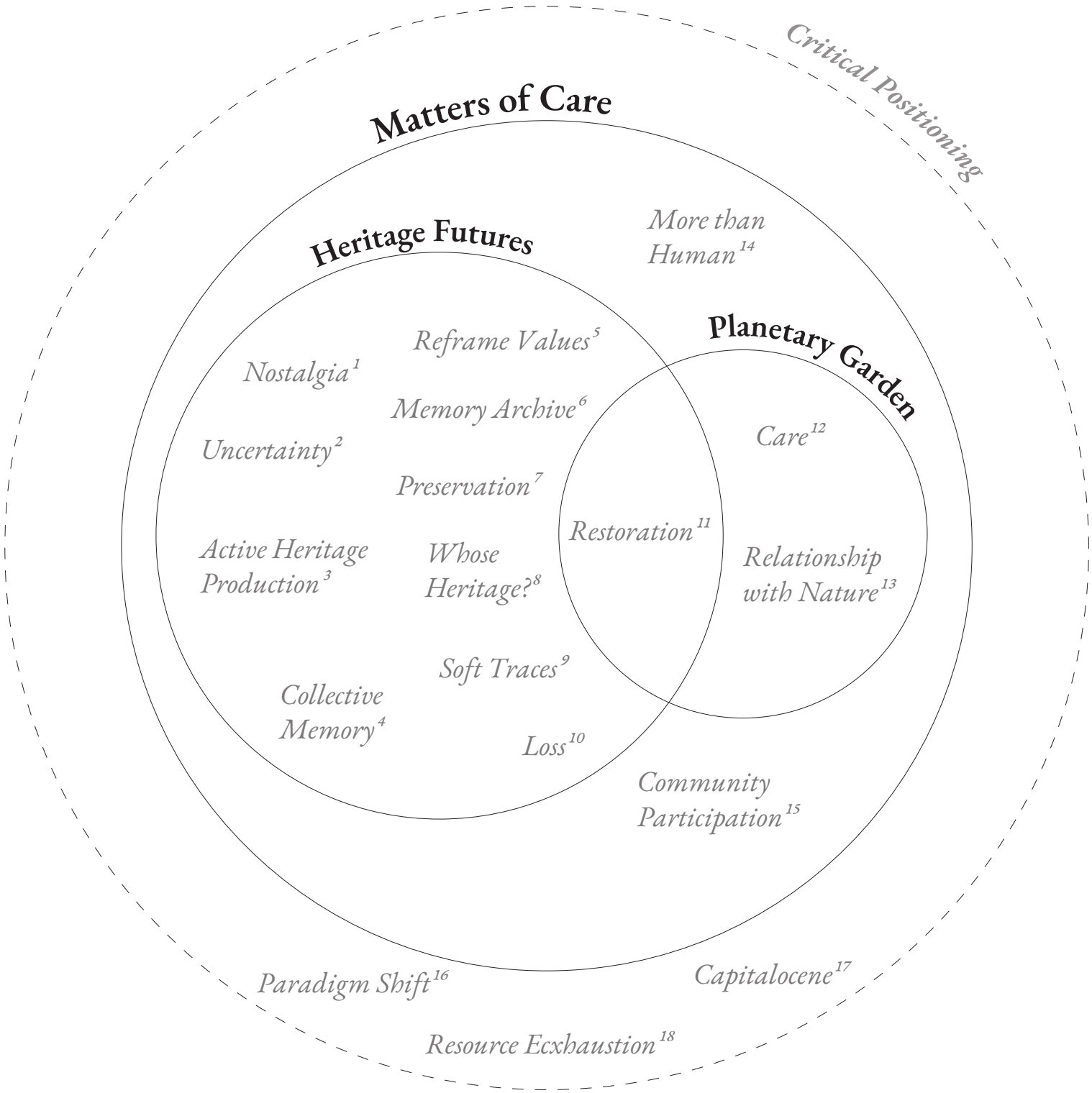


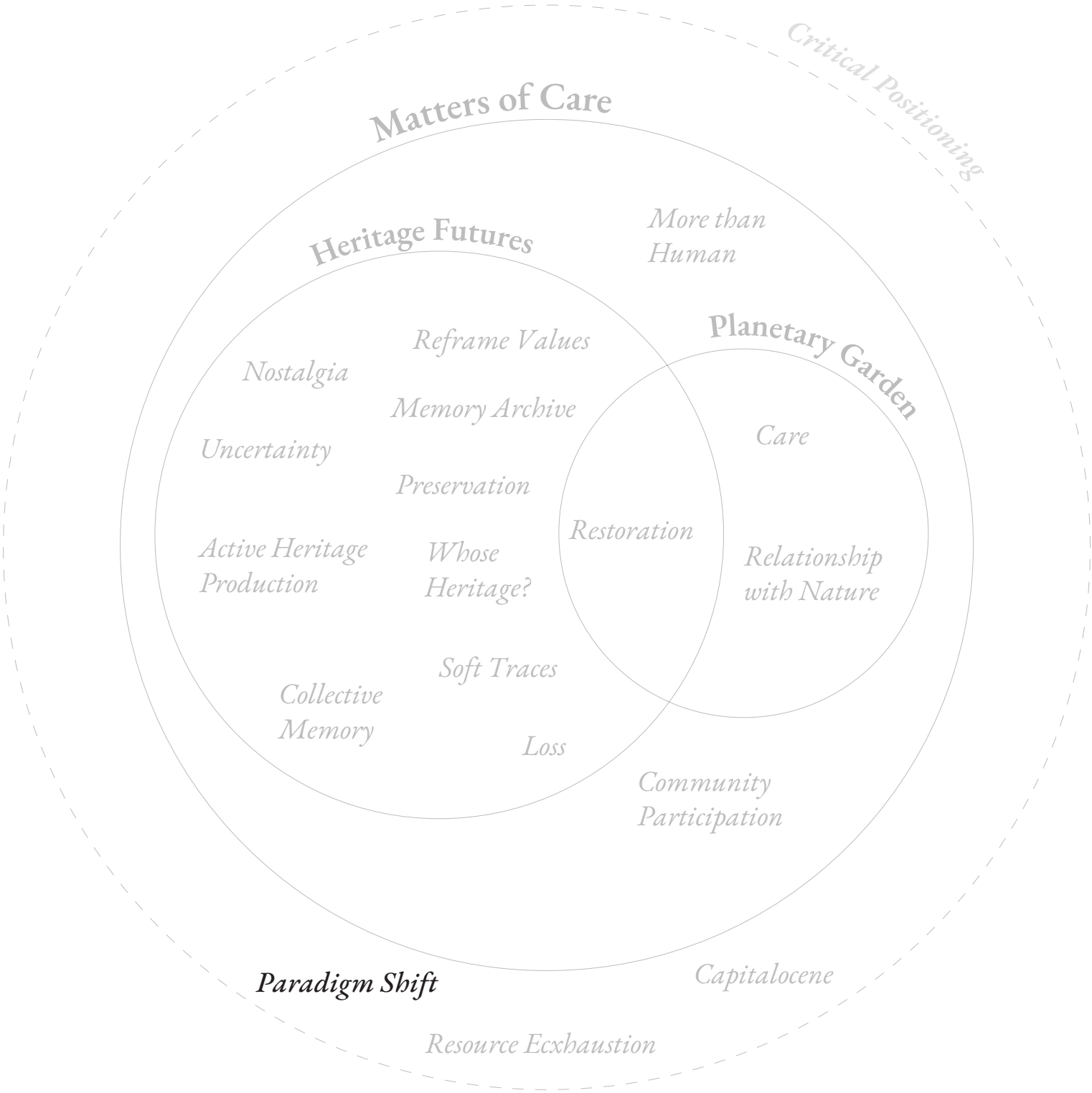
*“Is it possible to take without impoverishing, to consume without degrading, to produce without exhausting, to live without destroying?”*

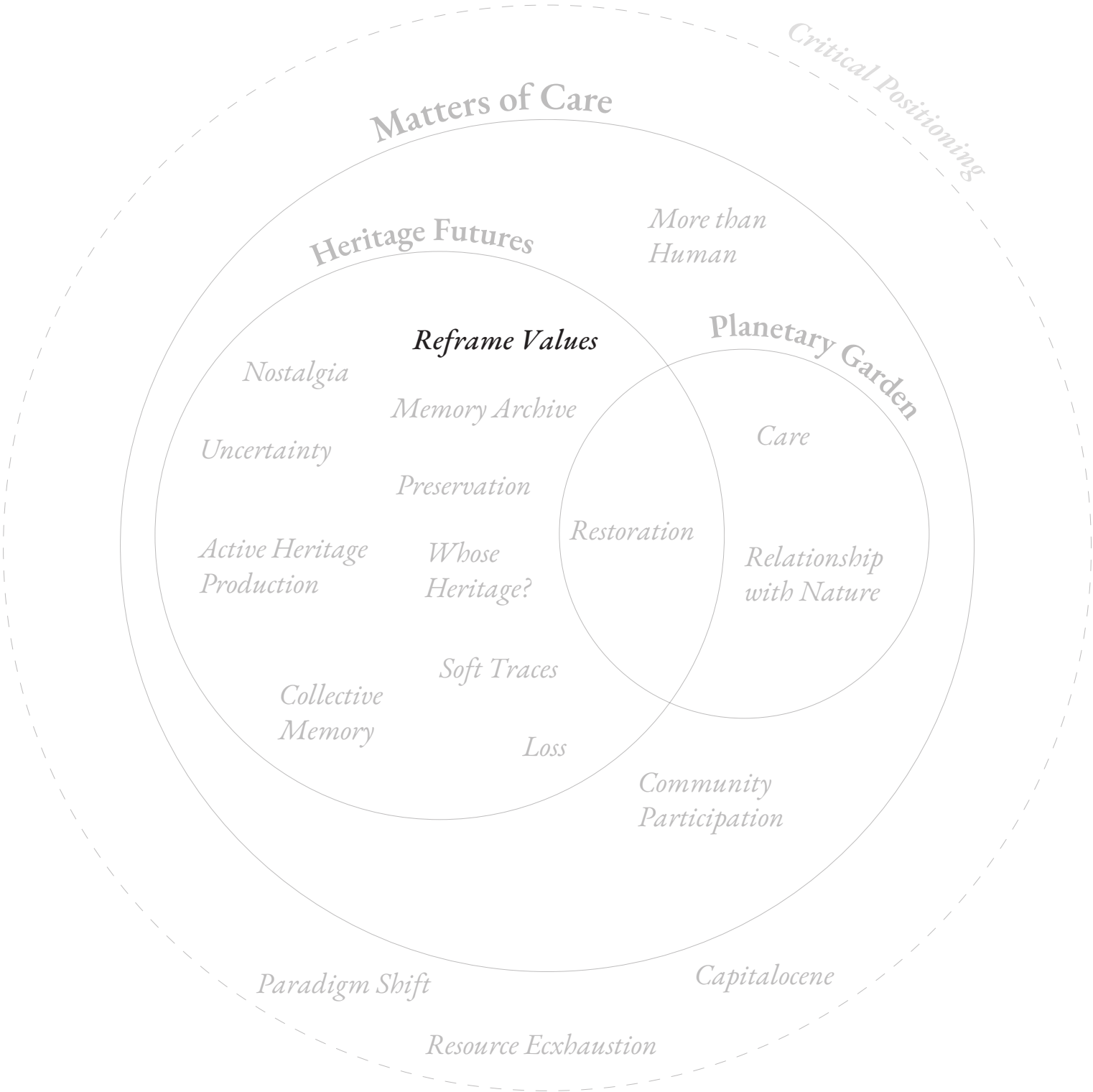
(Clément, 2015, p. 36)

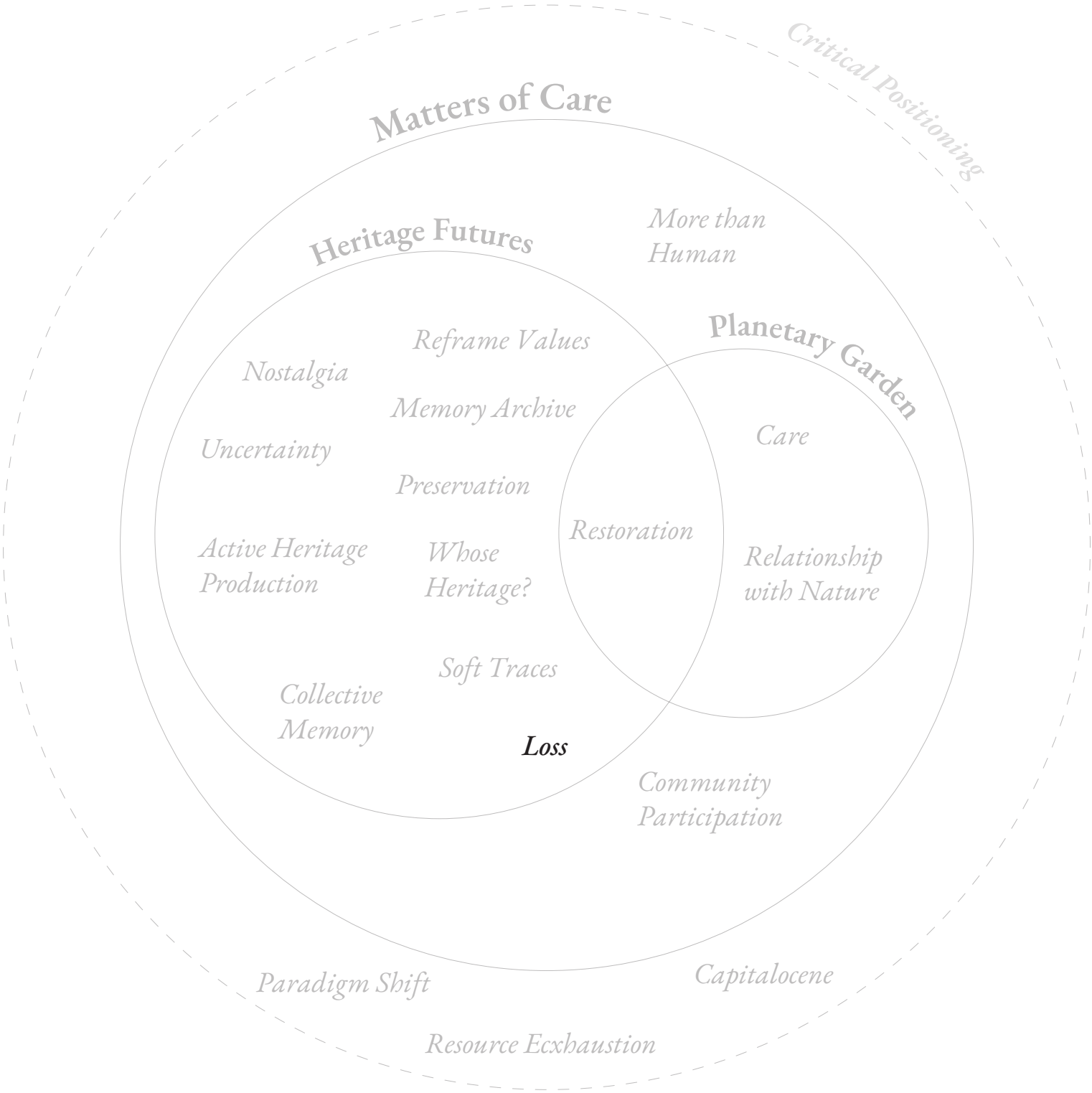
*“What worlds are being maintained and at the expense of which others?”*

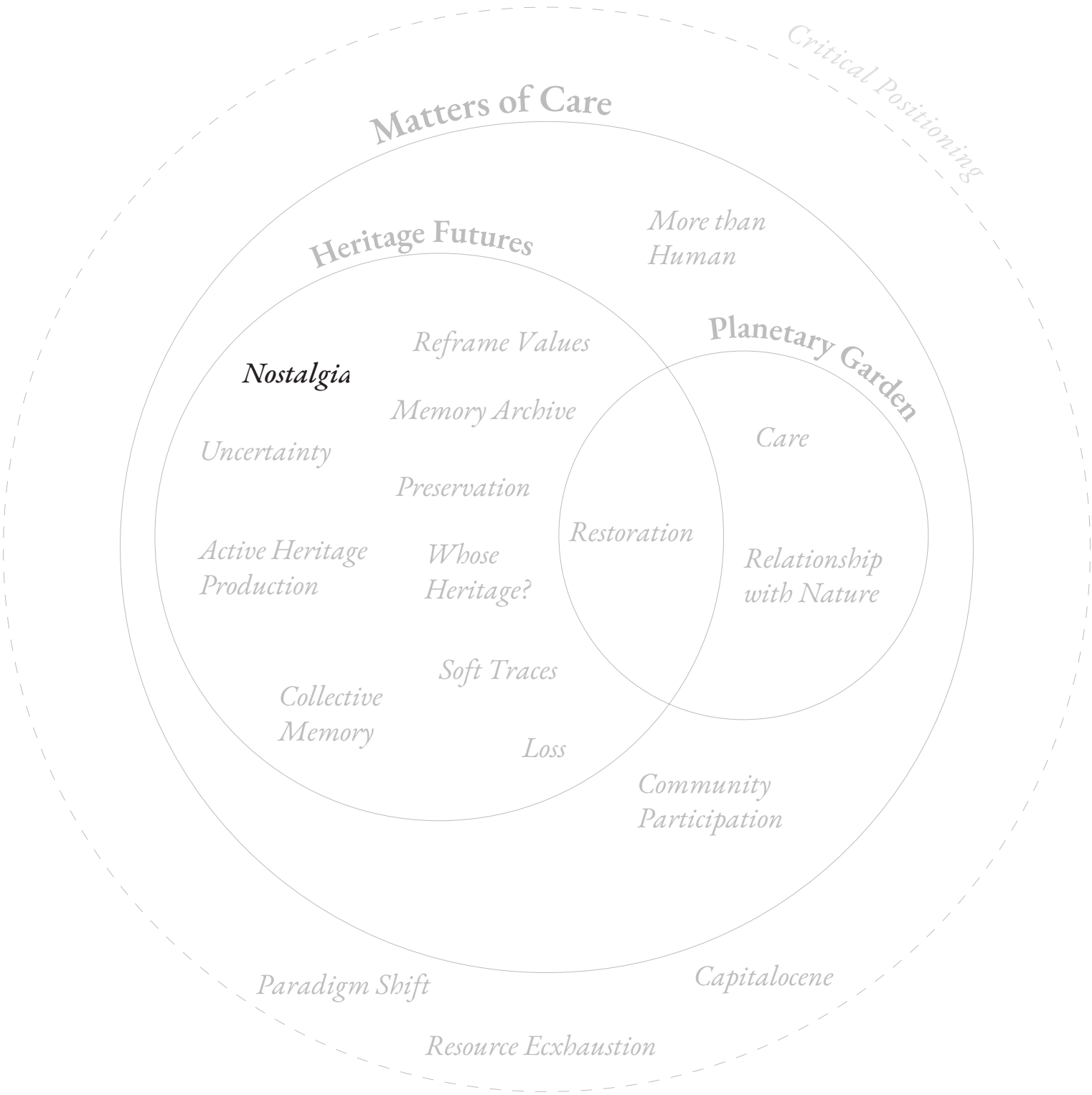
(De la Bellacasa, 2017, p. 44)



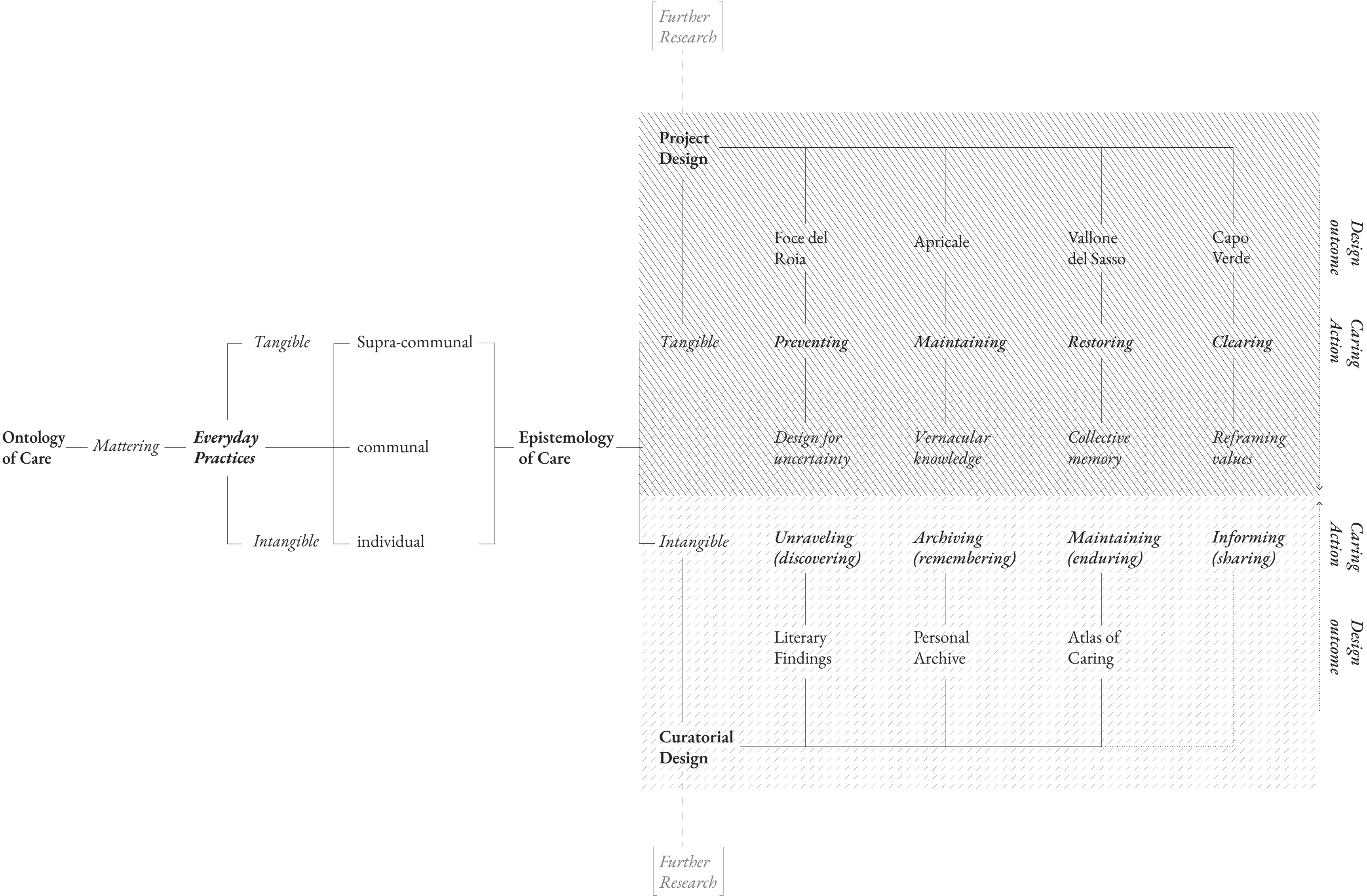
















*Sites*

- 1 Apricale
- 2 Vallone dei Sassi, Bordighera
- 3 Capo Verde, Sanremo
- 4 Foce del Roja, Ventimiglia









Fig. 11



Fig. 12



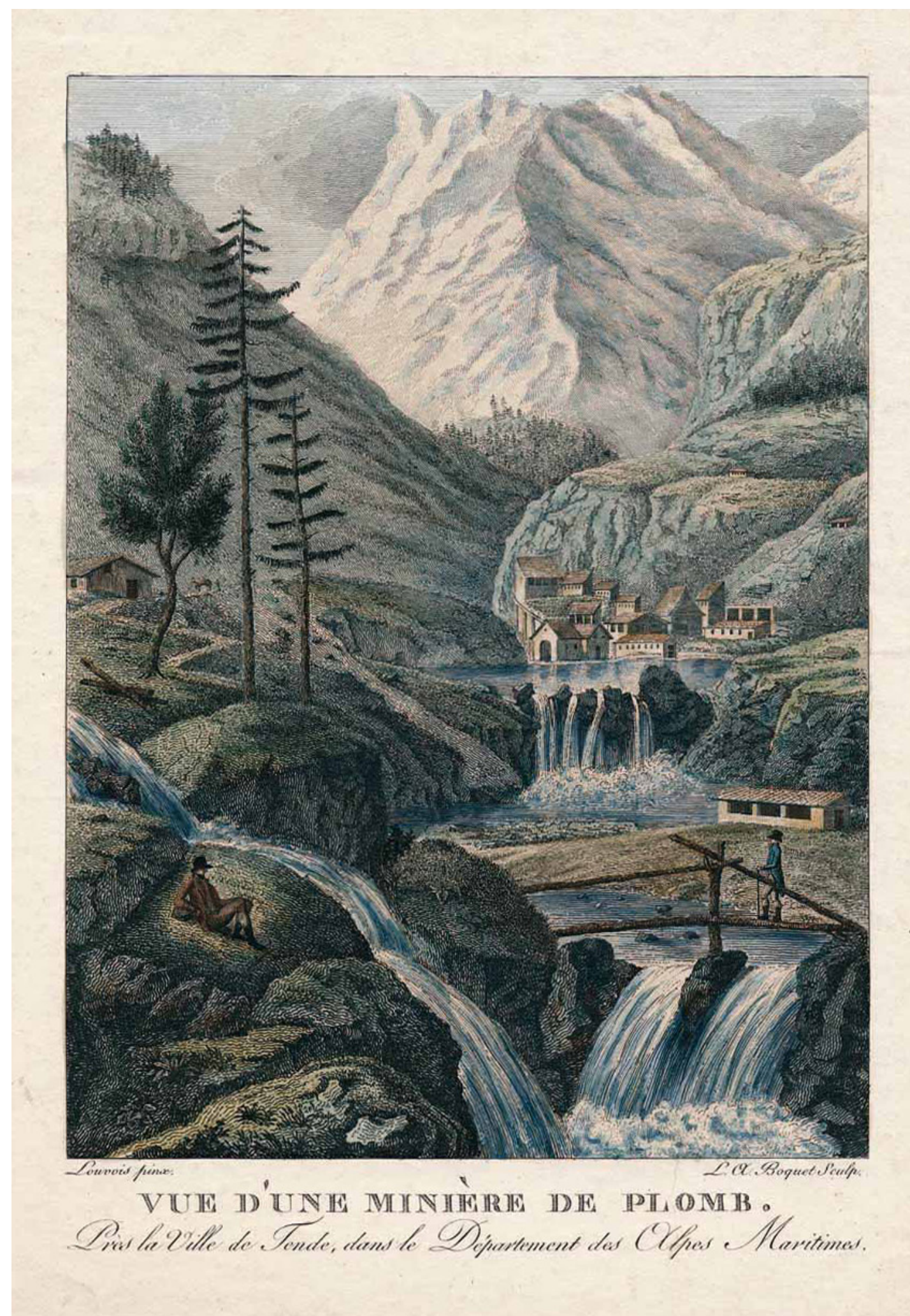
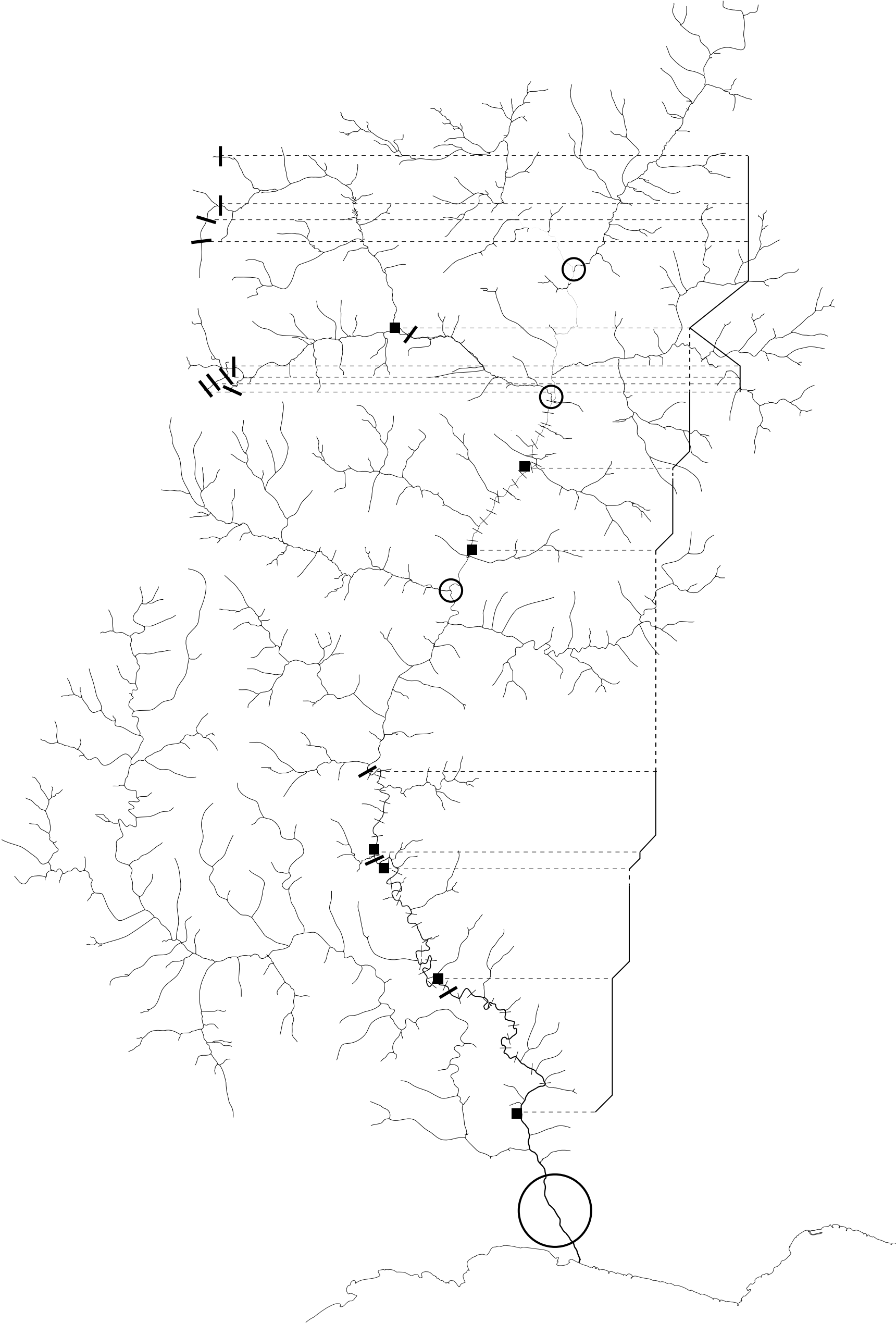


Fig. 13

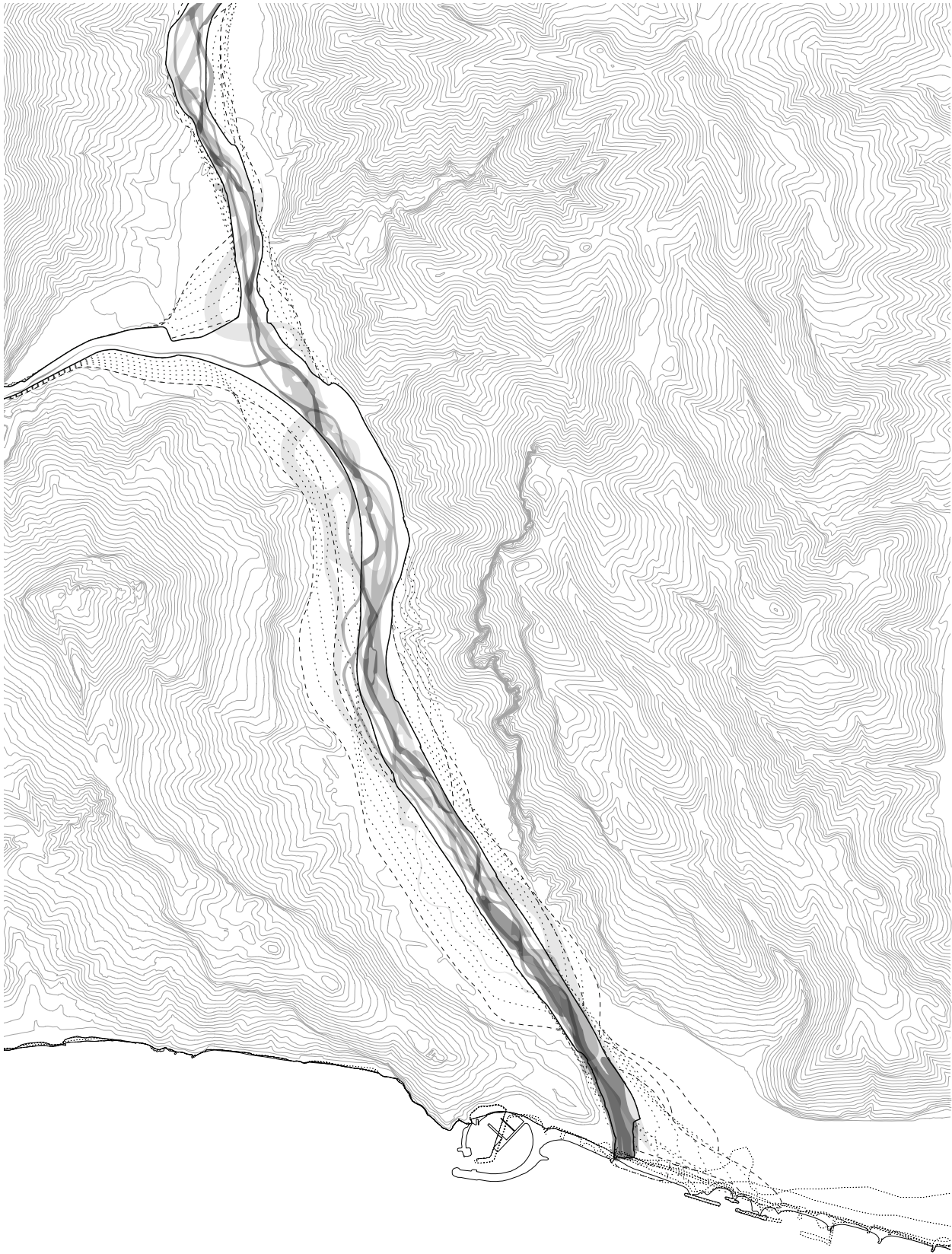




*River Basin Scale*

- Dams
- Hydroelectrical plants
- River Basin occupied
- ⊥ Canyons





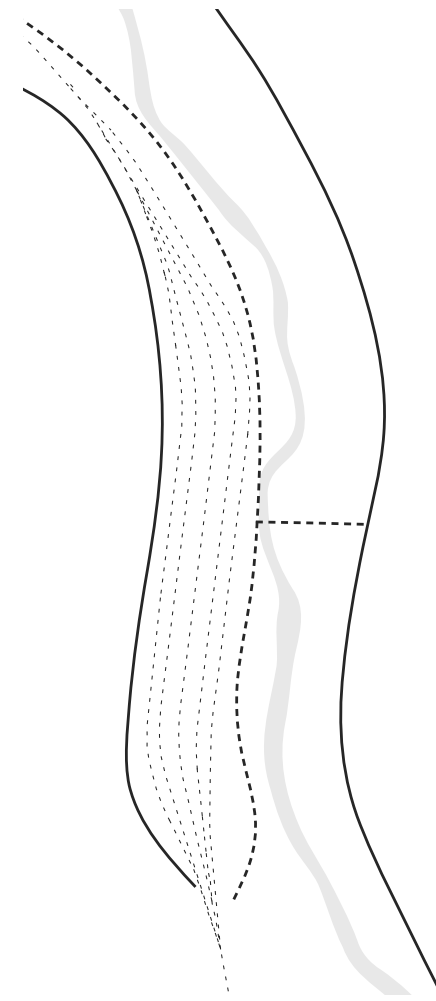
*Evolution of Riverbed*

- Catchment alteration since 1300
- ..... Coastal Alterations since 1500
- █ Flows alterations since 1966
- Embankment 1985-1993
- - - Embankment post 2000
- ..... Culverted Rivers
- - Flood Risk
- Bridges
- ▨ Dense Vegetation in the Riverbed
- ▤ Scarce Vegetation in the Riverbed
- ▧ Industrial Areas
- ▩ Infrastructure
- ▦ Trains Deposit
- ▨ Commercial Areas
- ▤ Agriculture/Abandoned Land

0 1 2 km

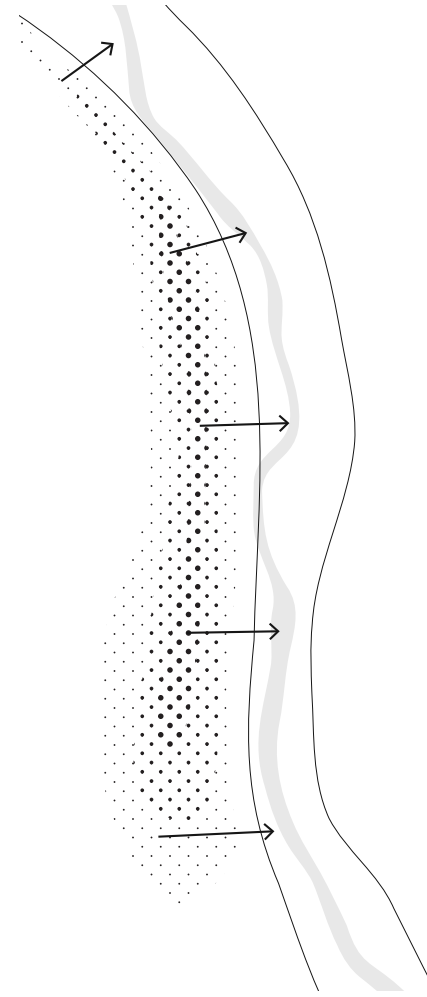






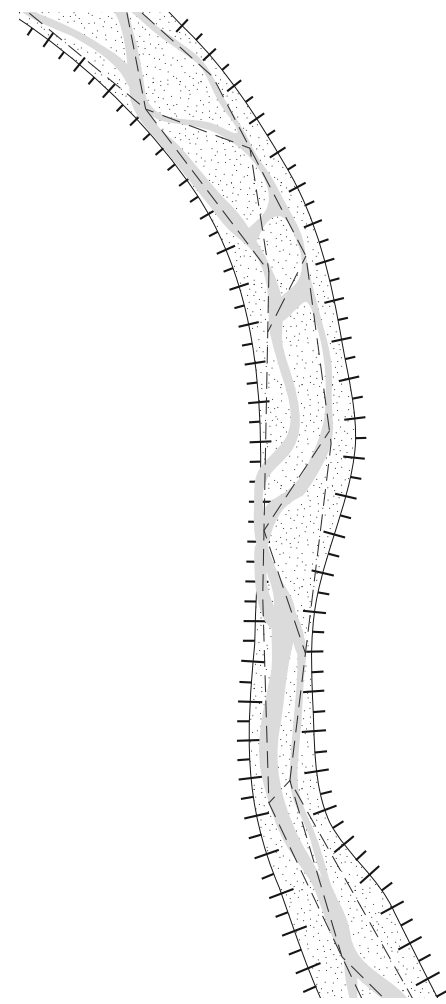
*Infrastructure  
Removal*





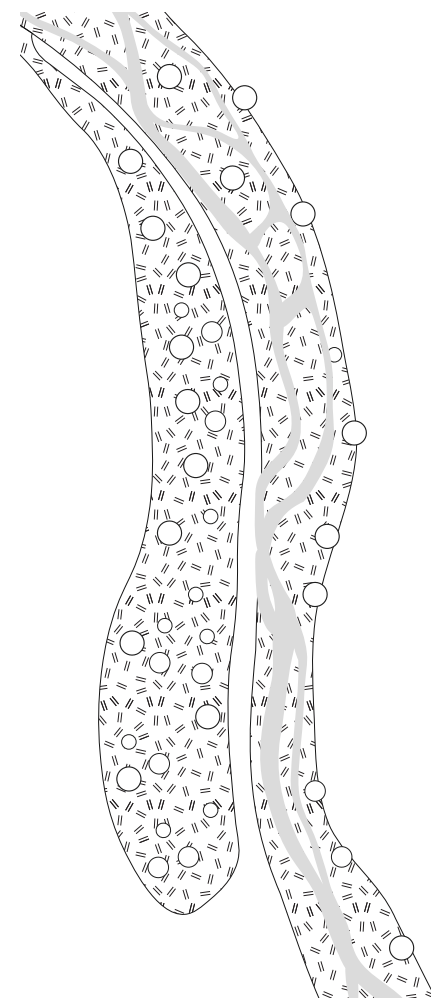
*Carryover  
of Soil*





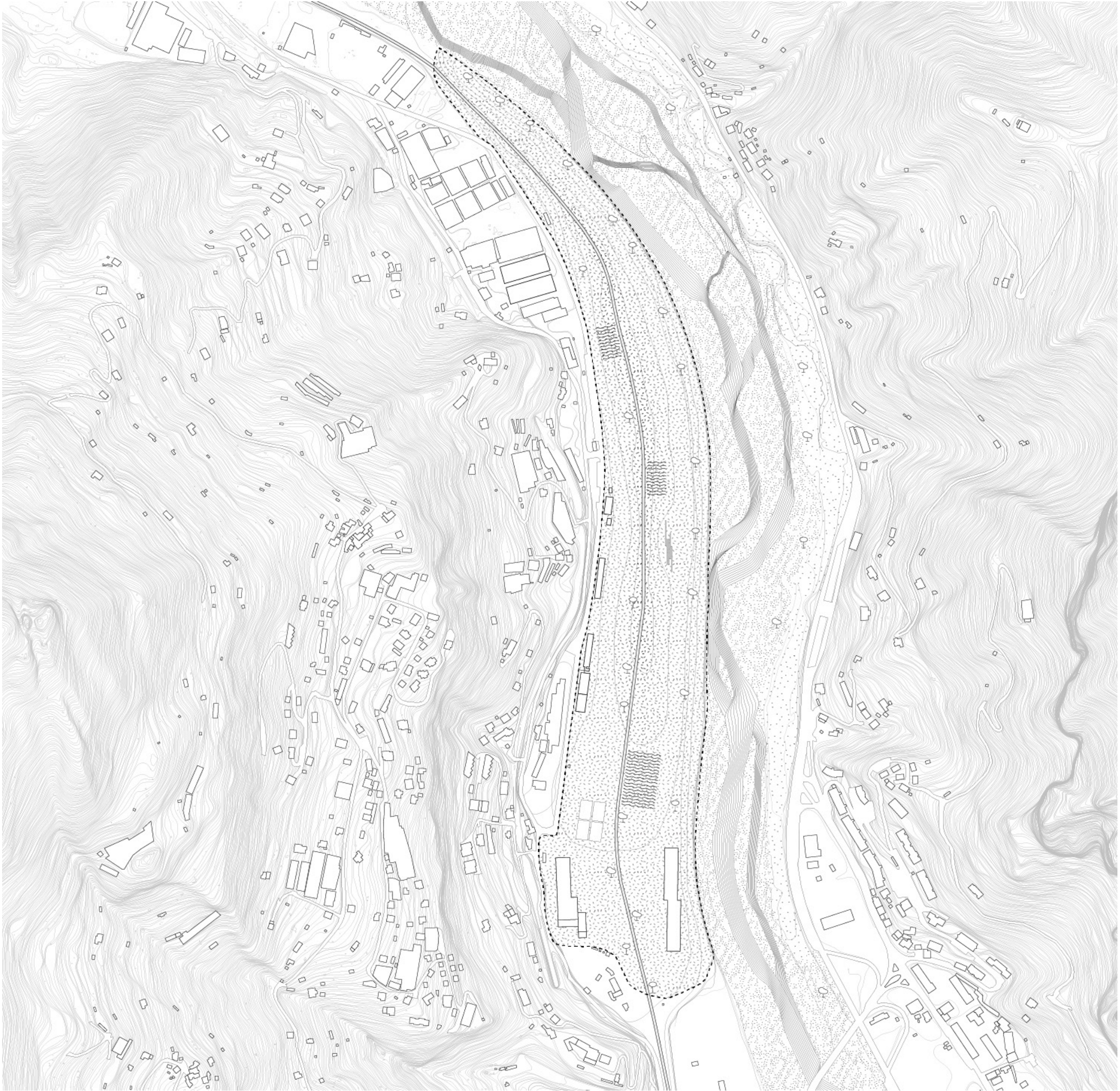
*River  
Renaturalization*





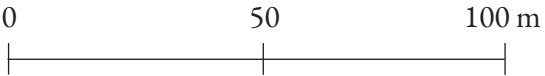
*Additional  
Vegetation*



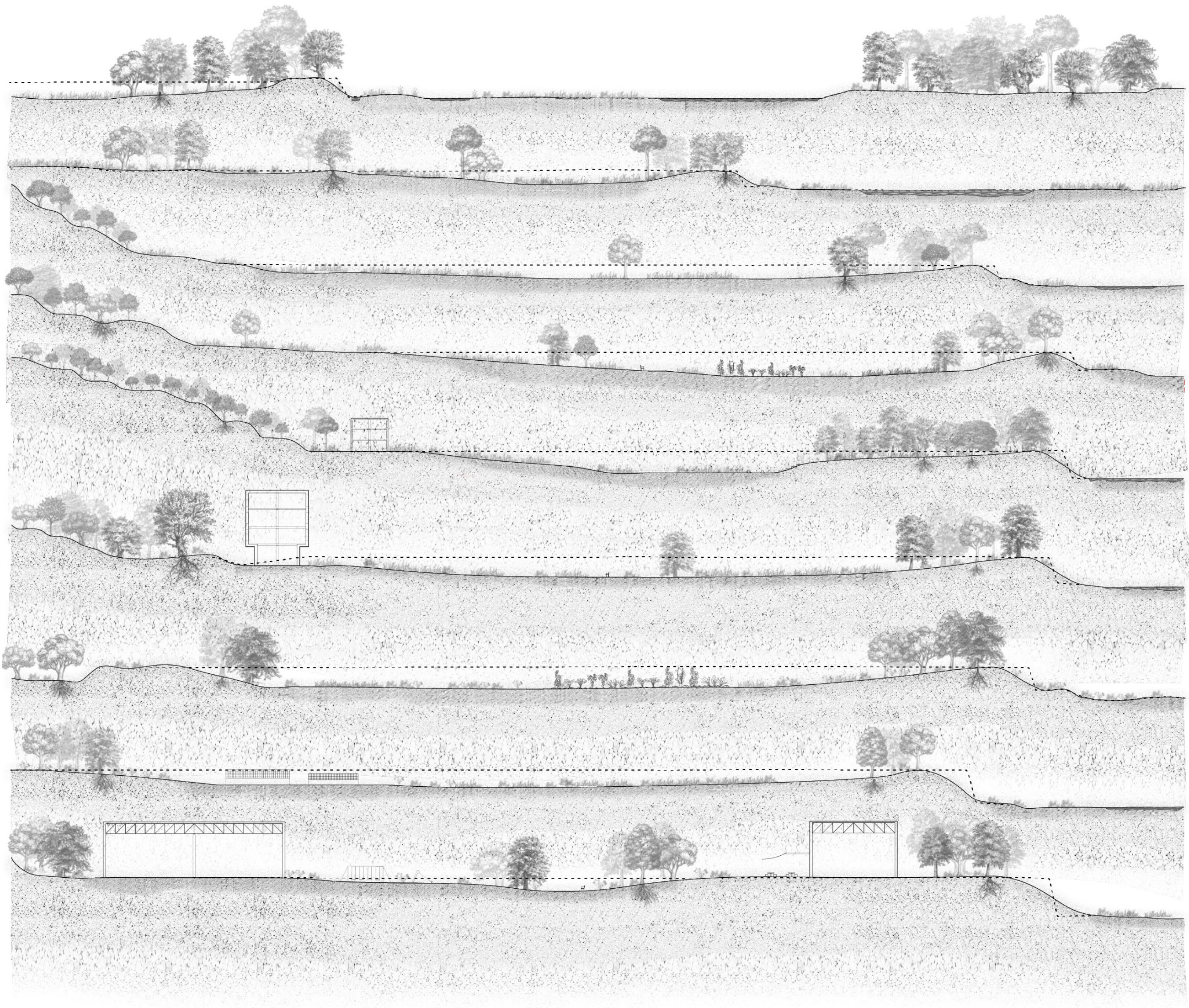


*Floodable Park*

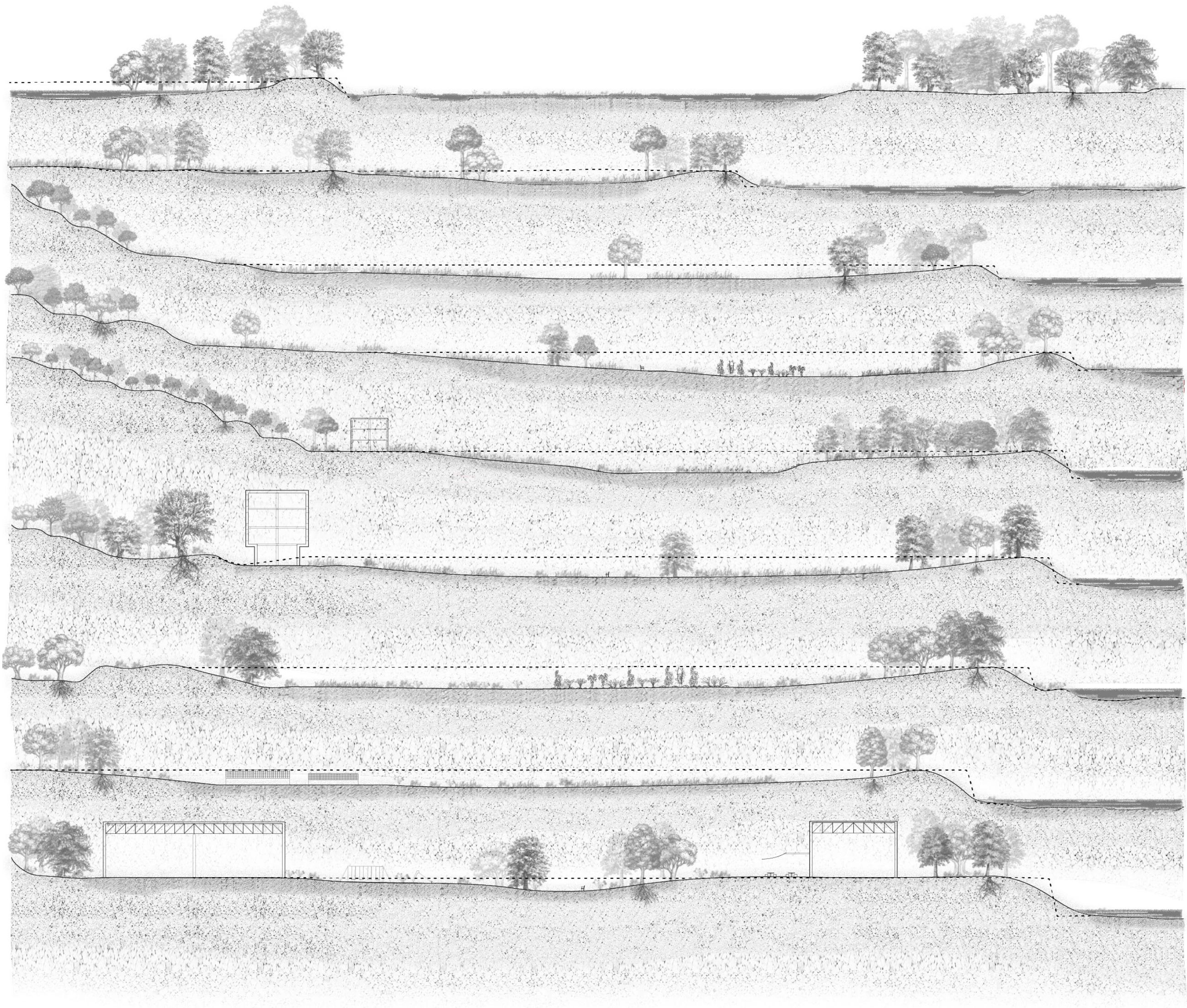
- Additional vegetation sites
- Community gardens
- Floodable park
- Intervention limit
- Naturalized river bed
- Naturalized river



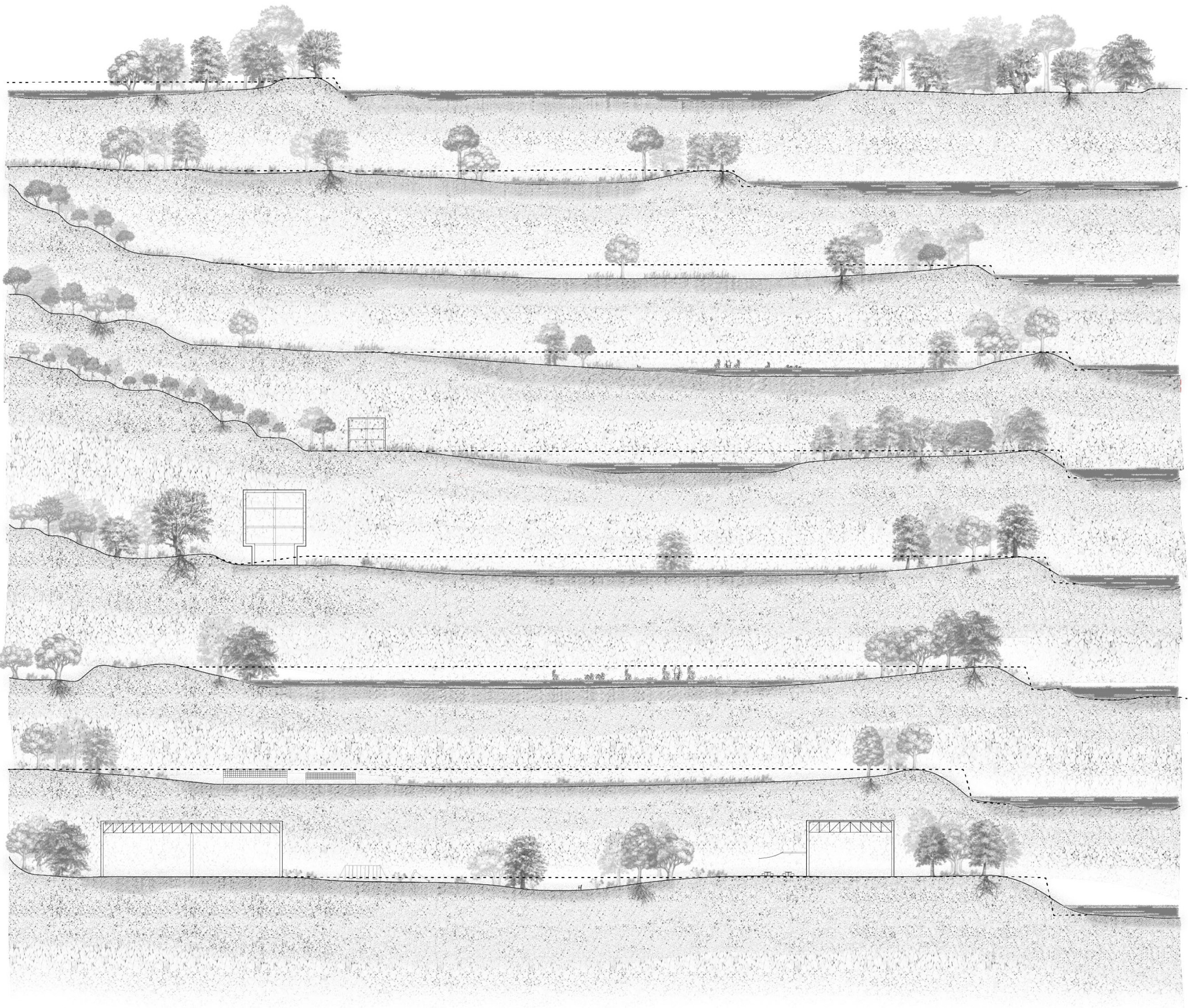




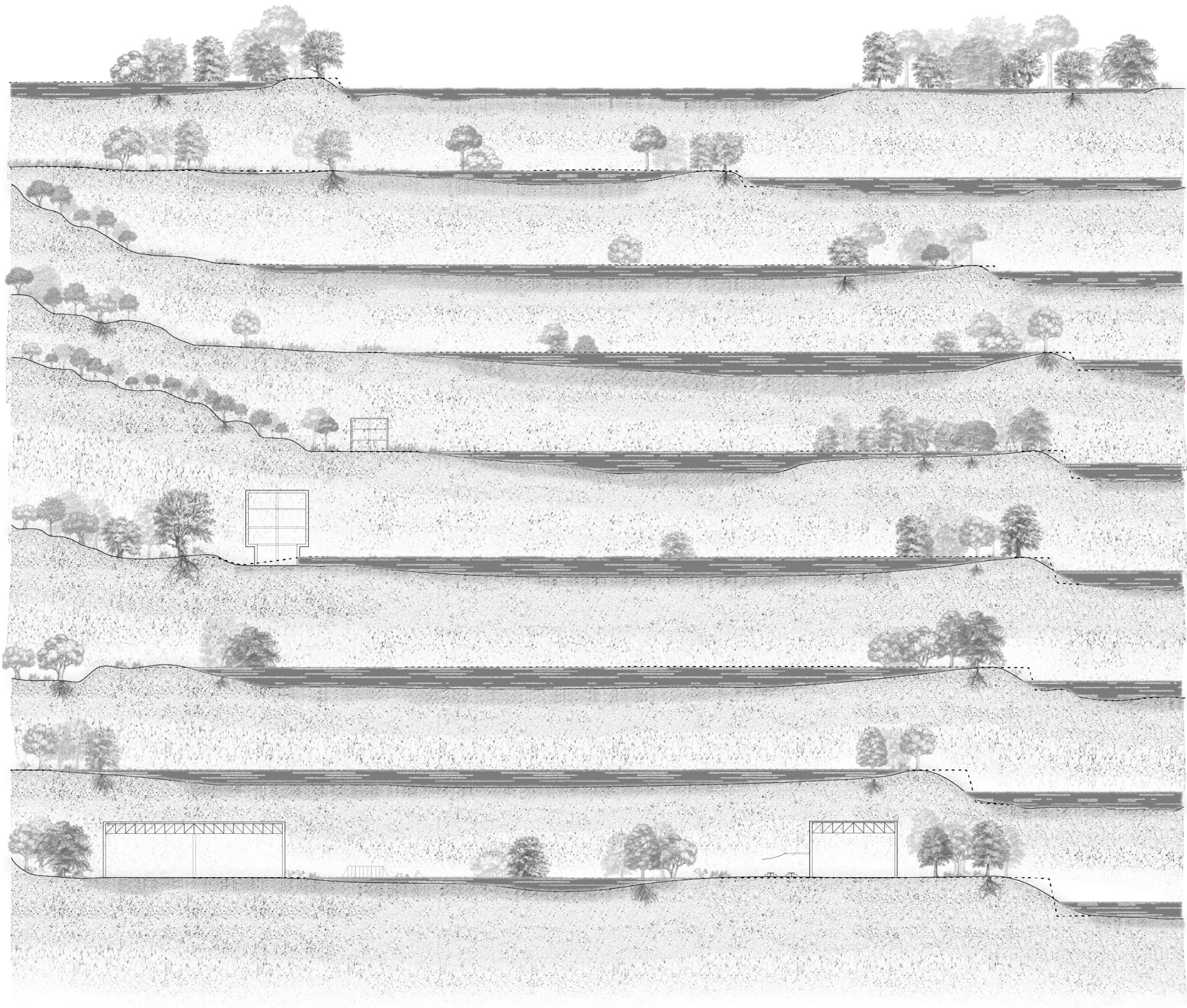




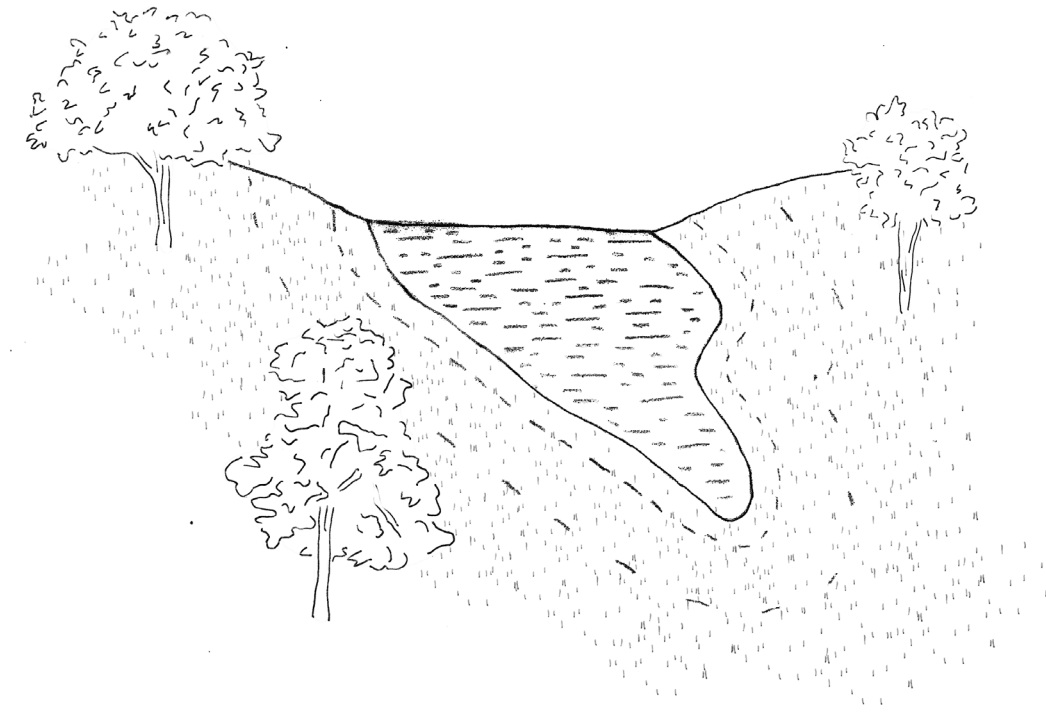












*Design for  
Uncertainty*

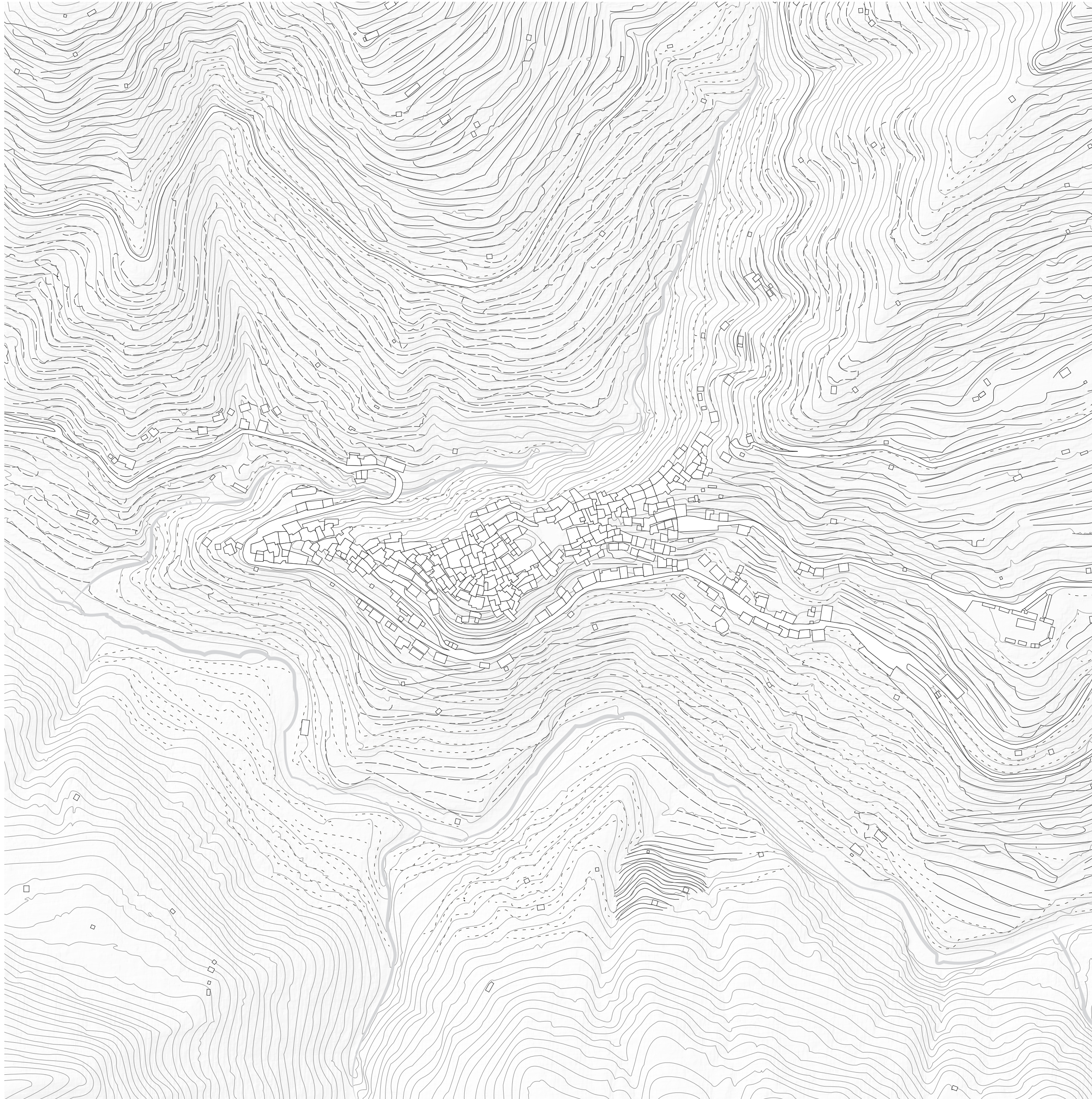












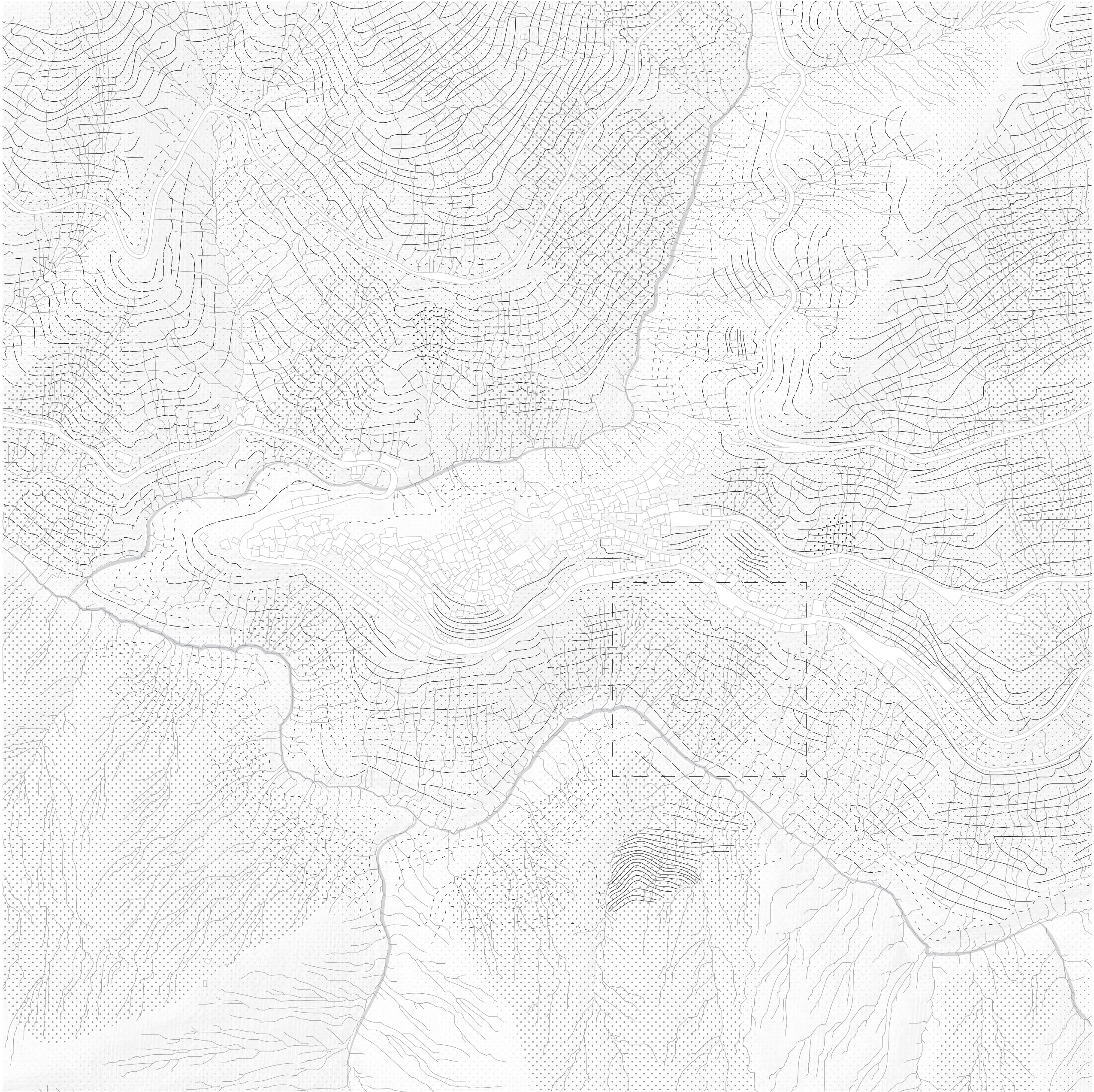
***Terraced Landscape Composition***

- Dry-stone walls in use
- Traces of dry-stone walls
- ... Traces of dry stone walls

0 100 200 m

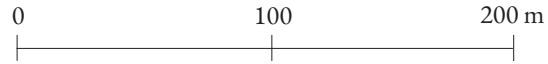




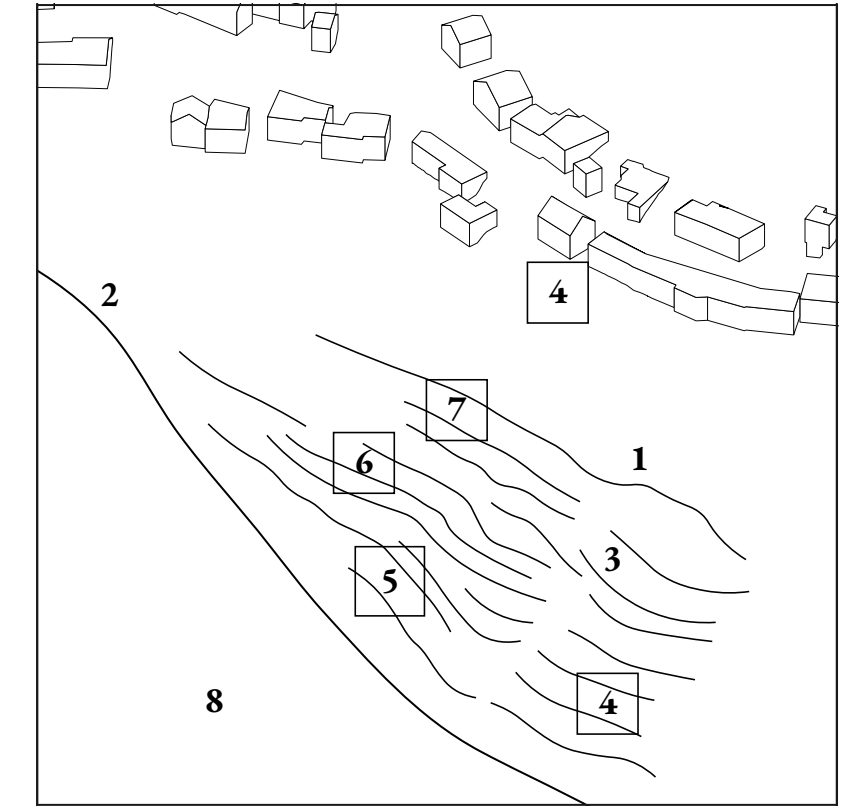


*Geohydrological Risk*

- Very high risk of Landslide
- High risk of Landslide
- Medium risk of Landslide
- Low risk of Landslide
- Runoff
- Dry-stone walls in use
- Traces of dry-stone walls
- Traces of dry stone walls

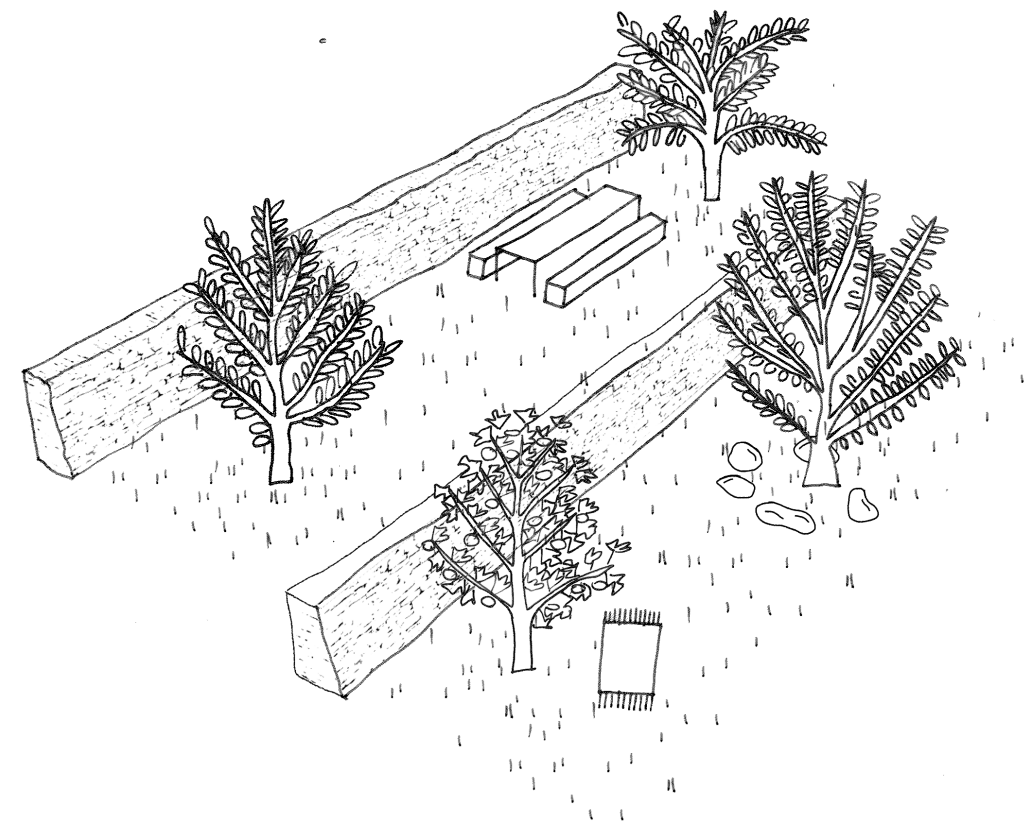






1. Restoration terraces
2. Restoration path
3. Recovery olive grove
4. Creation community vegetable gardens
5. Art Residency
6. Workshop spaces
7. Shelters and community furniture
8. Rewilding





*Vernacular  
Knowledge*









Fig. 14





Fig. 15



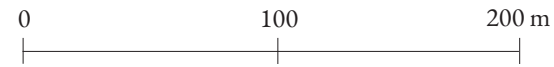
Fig. 16





*Horticultural Structures Composition*

- Greenhouses in use
- Greenhouses already dismantled
- Greenhouses in bad conditions
- Abandoned Greenhouses
- Shade nets
- Cisterns

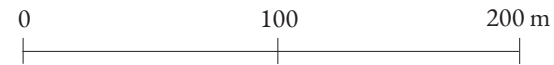




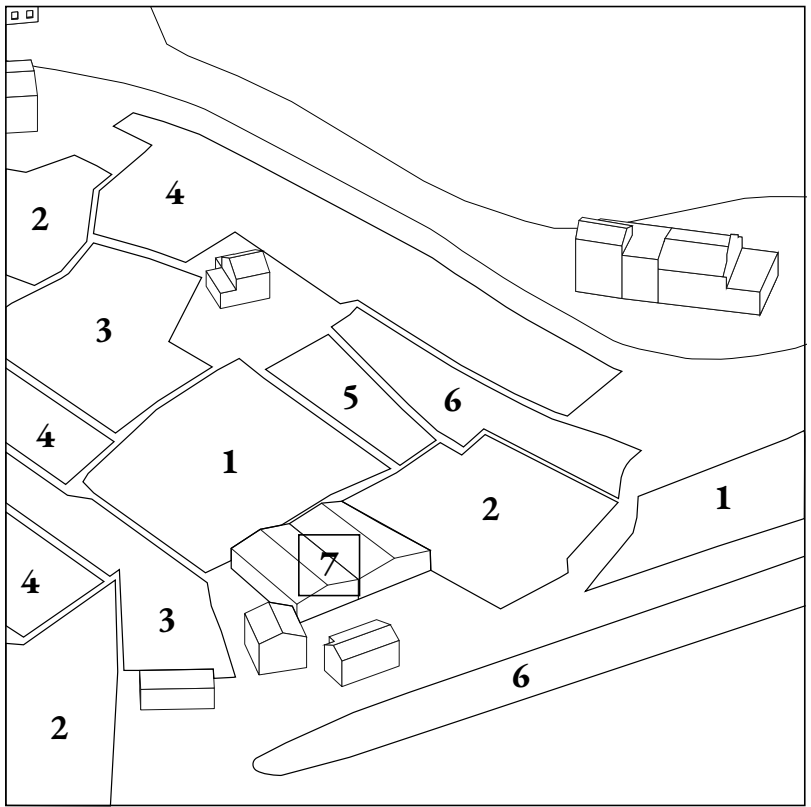
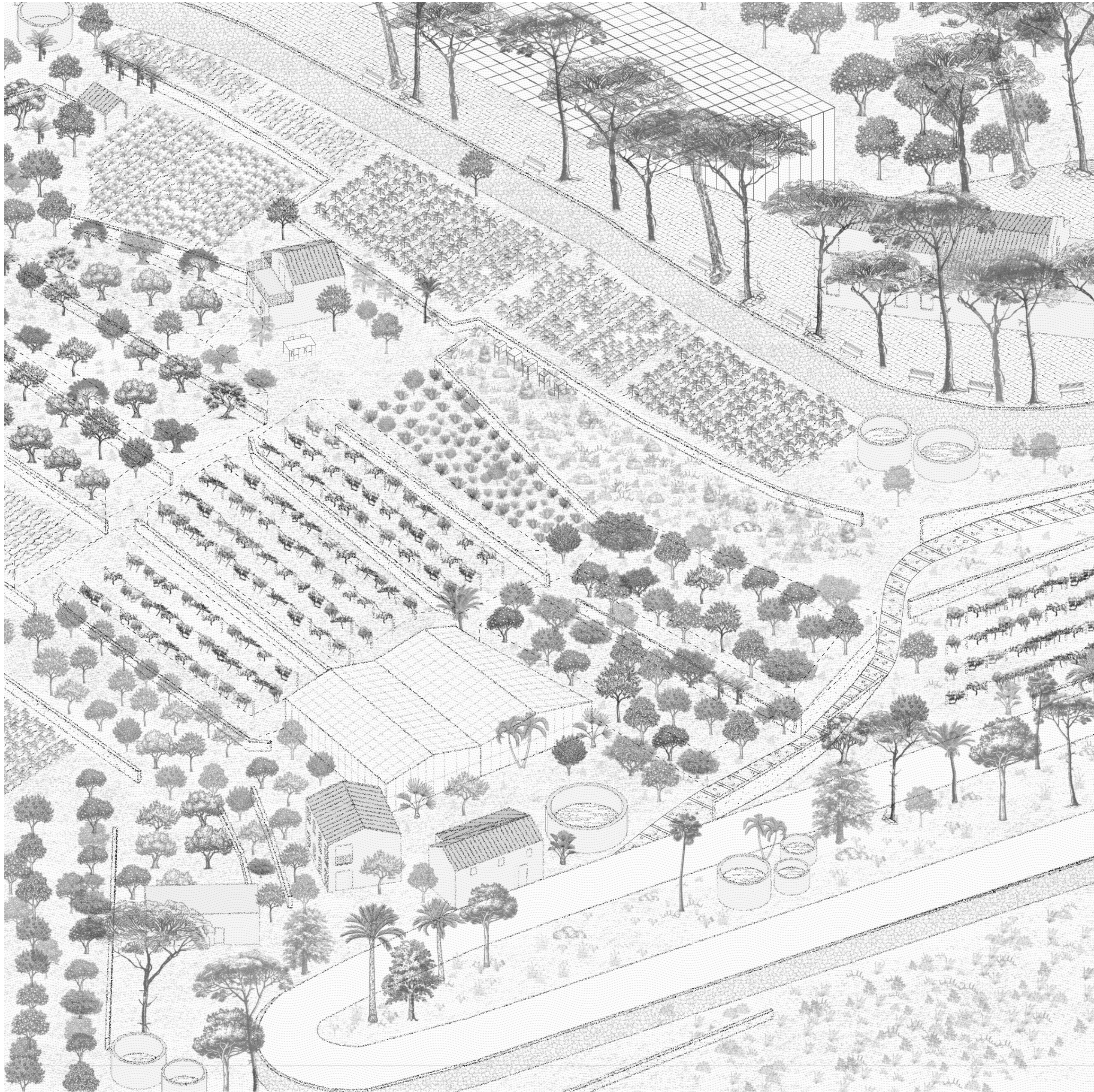


Land Use Design Proposal

- Greenhouses in use
- Vineyards
- Vegetable gardens and harvests
- Orchards
- Olive groves
- Rewilding areas
- Cisterns







- 1. Vineyards
- 2. Orchard
- 3. Olive grove
- 4. Begetable garden
- 5. Shrubs cultivation
- 6. Third Landscapes
- 7. Restored greenhouse








*Greenhouse Clusters*


















- Greenhouses and vegetable gardens
- Nurseries
- Greenhouses and agricultural land
- Complex agricultural patterns
- Coastal Greenhouses patches
- Valley Greenhouses patches
- Slopes Greenhouses patches



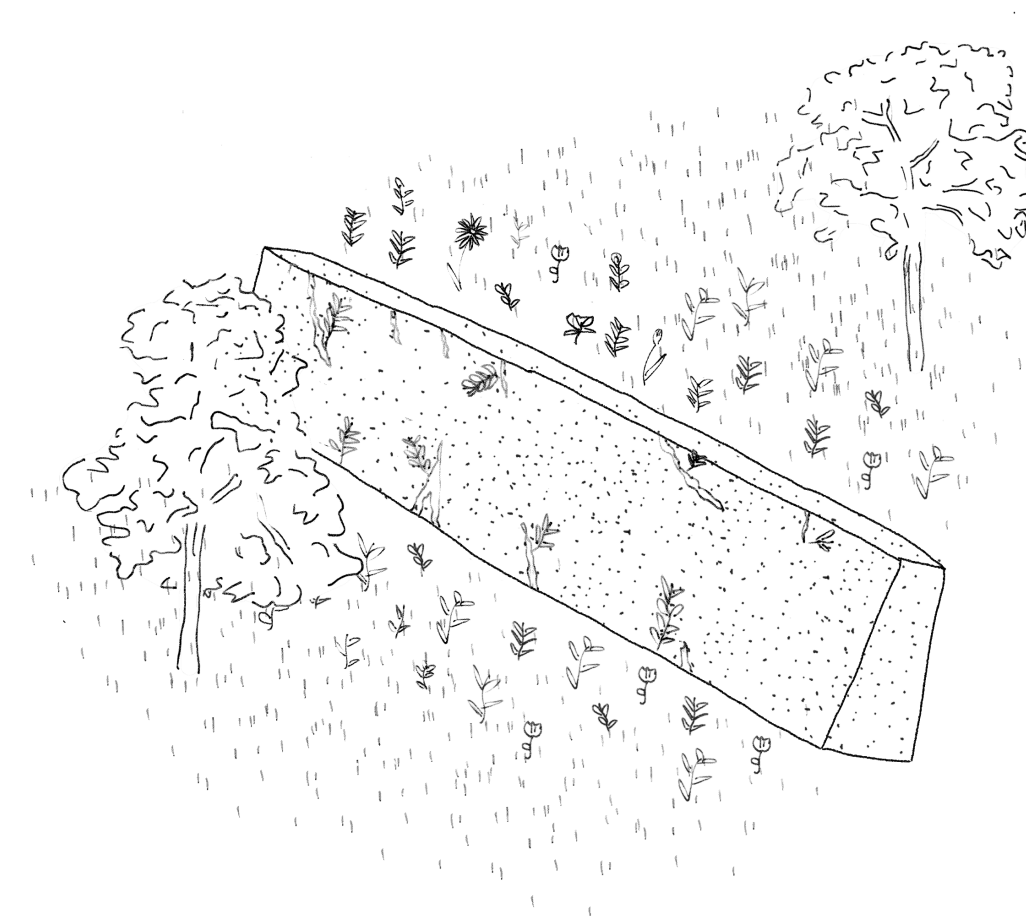


Greenhouse Clusters

-  Supplemental Value
-  Contingent Value
-  Cardinal Value

	Mountain district	Coastal district	Floodplain district
Maintenance of existing structures			
Buffer areas and room for the river			
Clearence of obsolete structures			
Rewilding processes			
Olive groves			
Orchards and other wooden plants			
Reforestation processes			





*Reframing  
Values*













Fig. 18



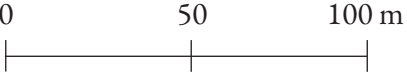
Fig. 19



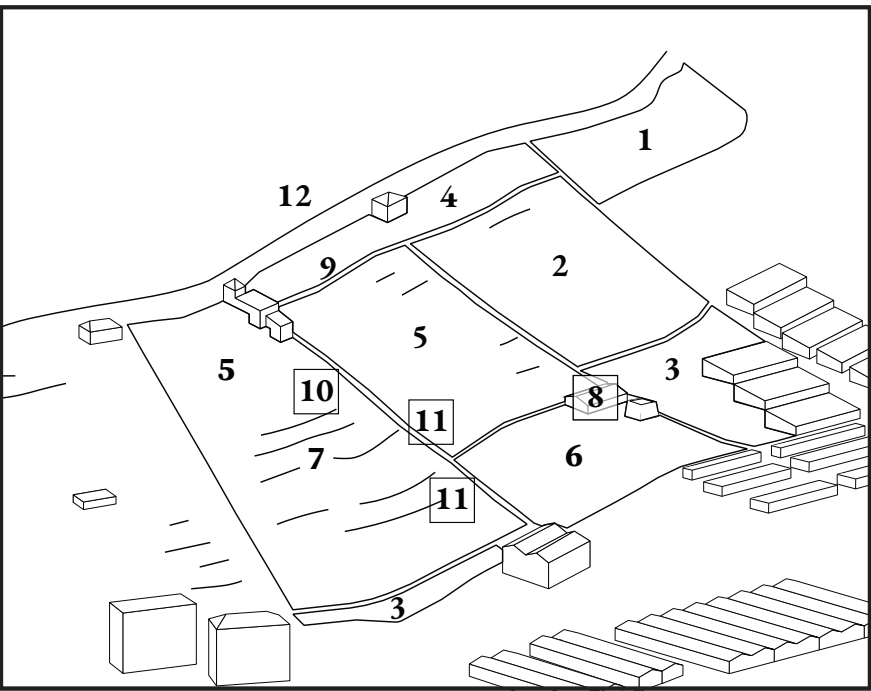


Valley-Scale Design

- Additional vegetation sites
- Palm groves improvement
- Waterfall restoration
- Path restoration
- Puntual intervention sites
- Valley delimitation
- Terraced landscape







- 1. Maintenance ancient palm grove
- 2. Polycultural system
- 3. Vegetable gardens
- 4. Community facilities
- 5. Beodo ecological and educational garden
- 6. Experimental garden
- 7. Restoration of terraces
- 8. Nursery for plants
- 9. Events auditorium
- 10. Community crops
- 11. Old buildings restoration
- 12. Restoration Beodo path



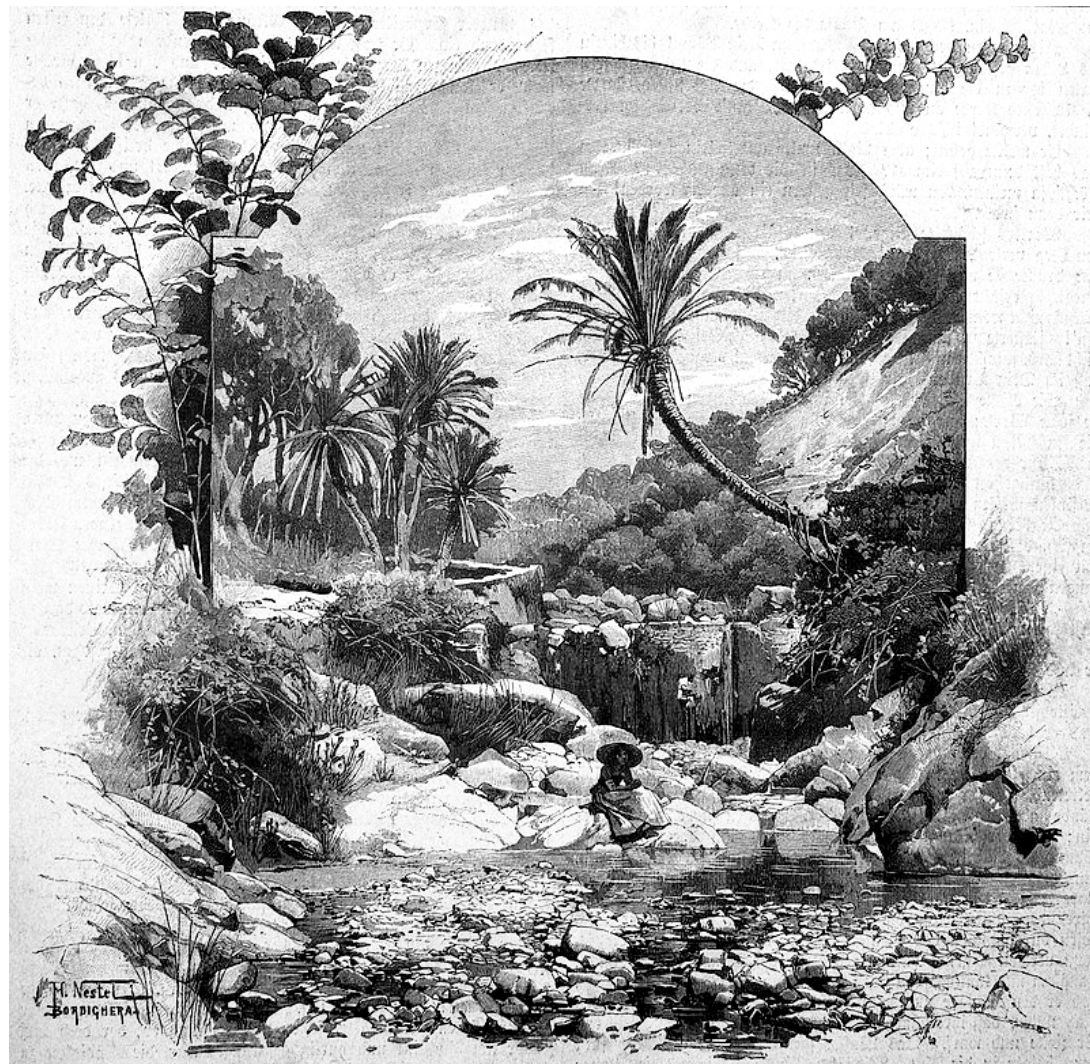


Fig. 20

*Preceding*

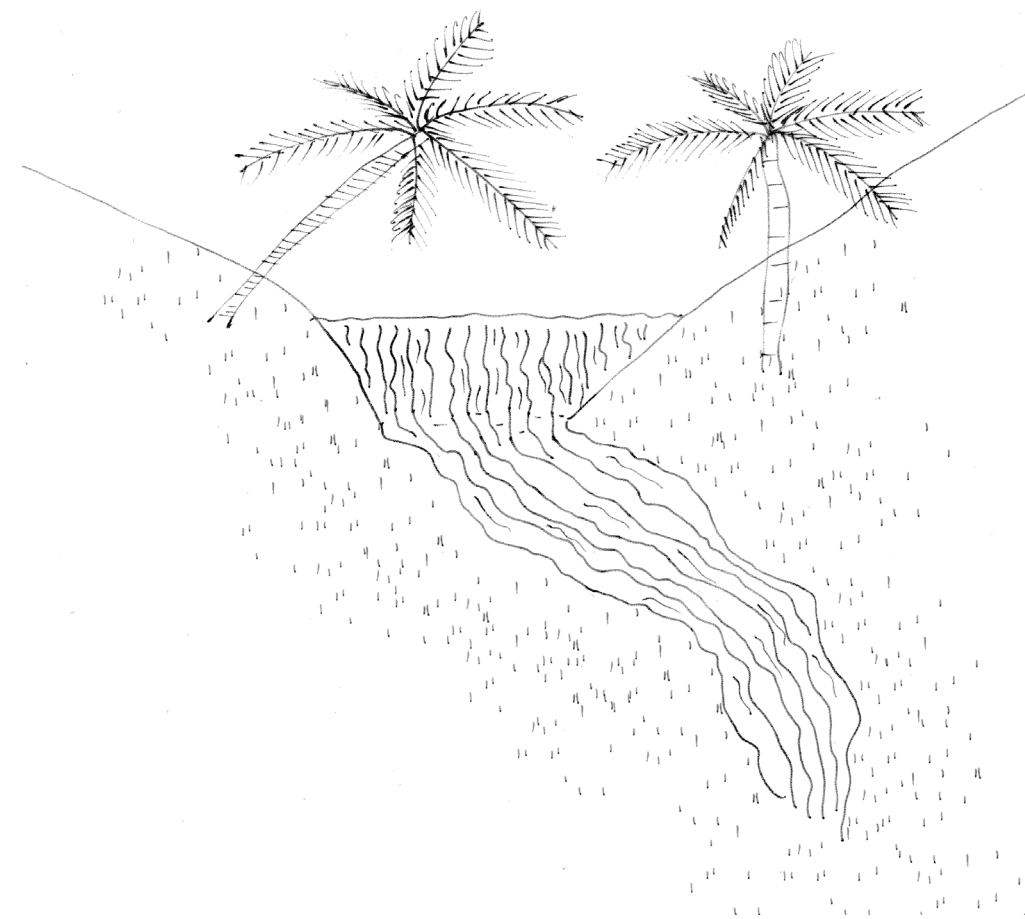


*Ongoing*



*Envisioned*



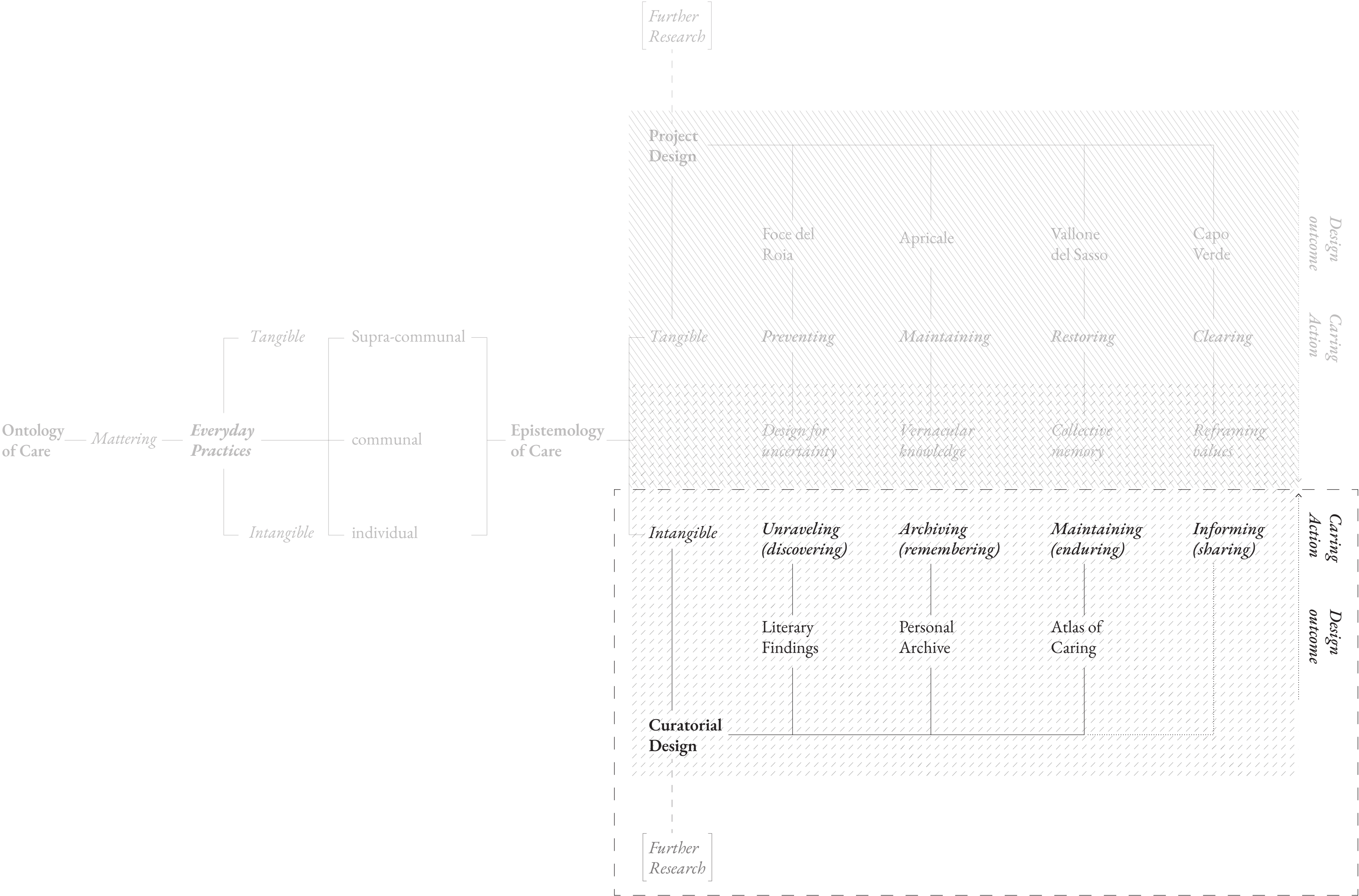


*Collective  
Memory*



Assessing Care as a Design Action

Intangible Design





*This thesis explores the essence of caring practices, guided by Maria Puig de la Bellacasa's concept of "Matters of Care," through a curatorial project. By examining informal digital archives, personal collections, and community initiatives, it reveals how everyday rituals and habits, often seen as ephemeral, actively shape and value communal existence, culminating in a tripartite archive of multidisciplinary practices of care.*



*“Numerous towns and villages, some gracefully seated on the shore, bathing their feet in the silvery waves, some stretching up the mountain sides like a flock of sheep, or thrown picturesquely aside a lofty bridge, with here and there a solitary sanctuary perched high on a sea-washed cliff, or half lost in a forest of verdure at the head of some glen; marble palaces and painted villas emerging from sunny vineyards, gaily flowering gardens, or groves of orange and lemon trees; myriads of white casini with green jalousies, scattered all over hills, once sterile, but now their scanty soil propped up by the terrace shelving above terrace, clothed to the top with olive-trees,—all and everything, in short, of man’s handiwork, betokens the activity and ingenuity of a tasteful and richly-endowed race.”*

Ruffini G. (1855). Il Dottor Antonio, pp. 1-2



*“The fever of cement had taken hold of the Riviera.  
[...] New buildings vied to rise higher than one another,  
while in between, the owners of the old houses stretched  
their necks to catch glimpses of the extensions above.”  
Calvino I. (1963).*

La Speculazione Edilizia, p. 163



*“If we do not connect landscapes to history, we cannot recognize them as a heritage of more or less shared images which, depending on the interpretation we give them, establish or re-establish the identity of local societies in continuous evolution; in the same way, albeit on a different scale, landscapes themselves contribute to the construction of the evolving identities of the individuals who compose such societies.”*

Quaini M. (2007). Quale paesaggio per la Liguria del nuovo Millennio? p. 483

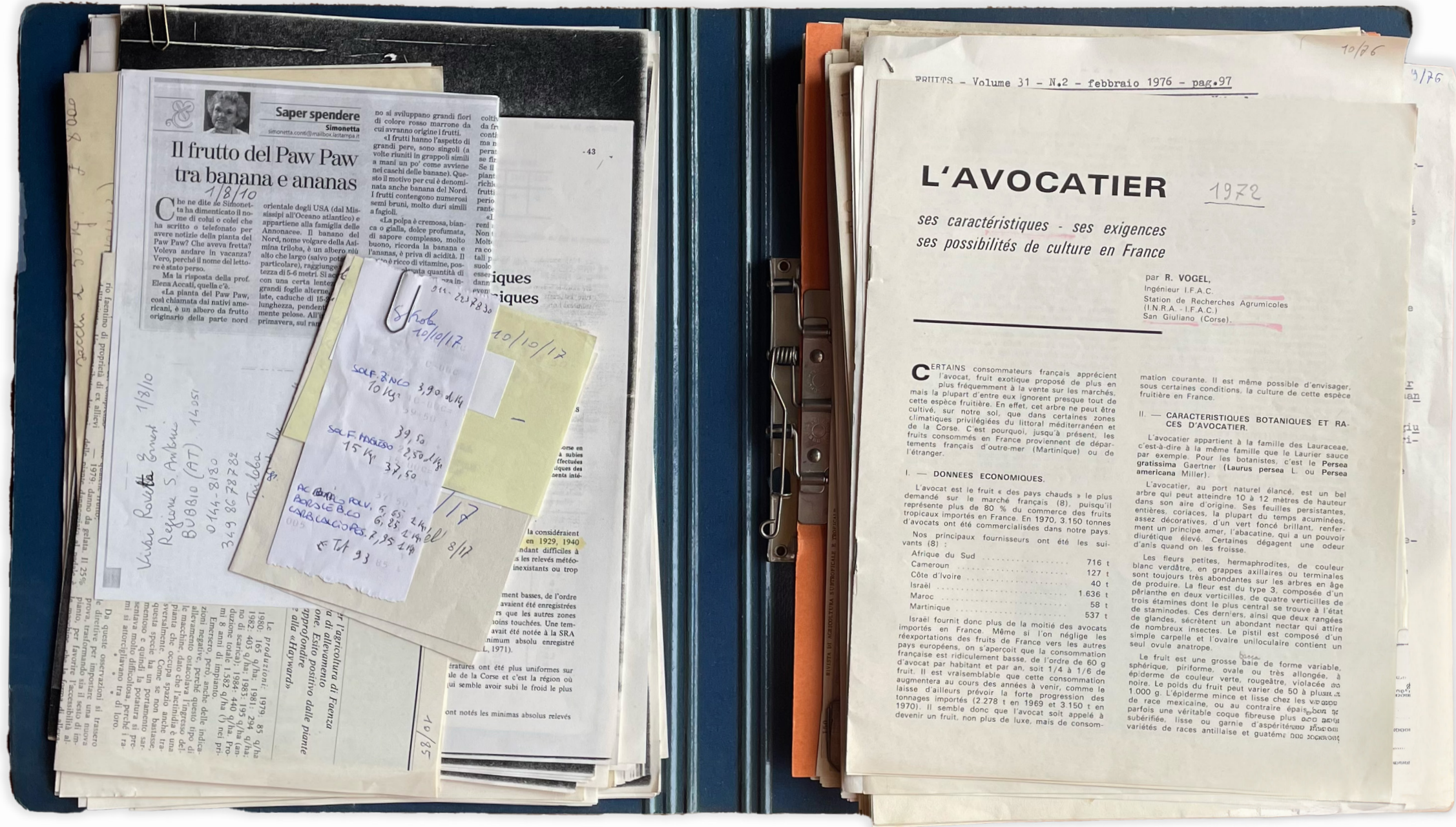








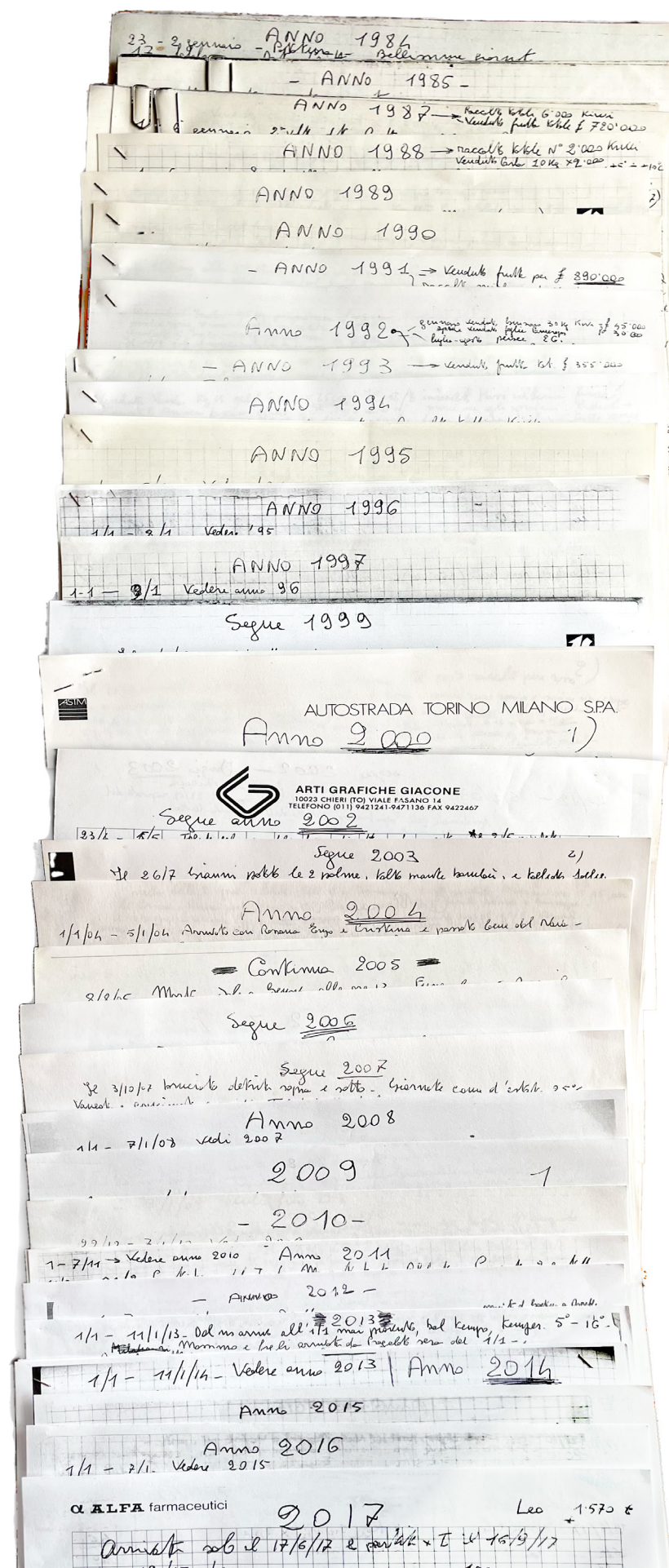












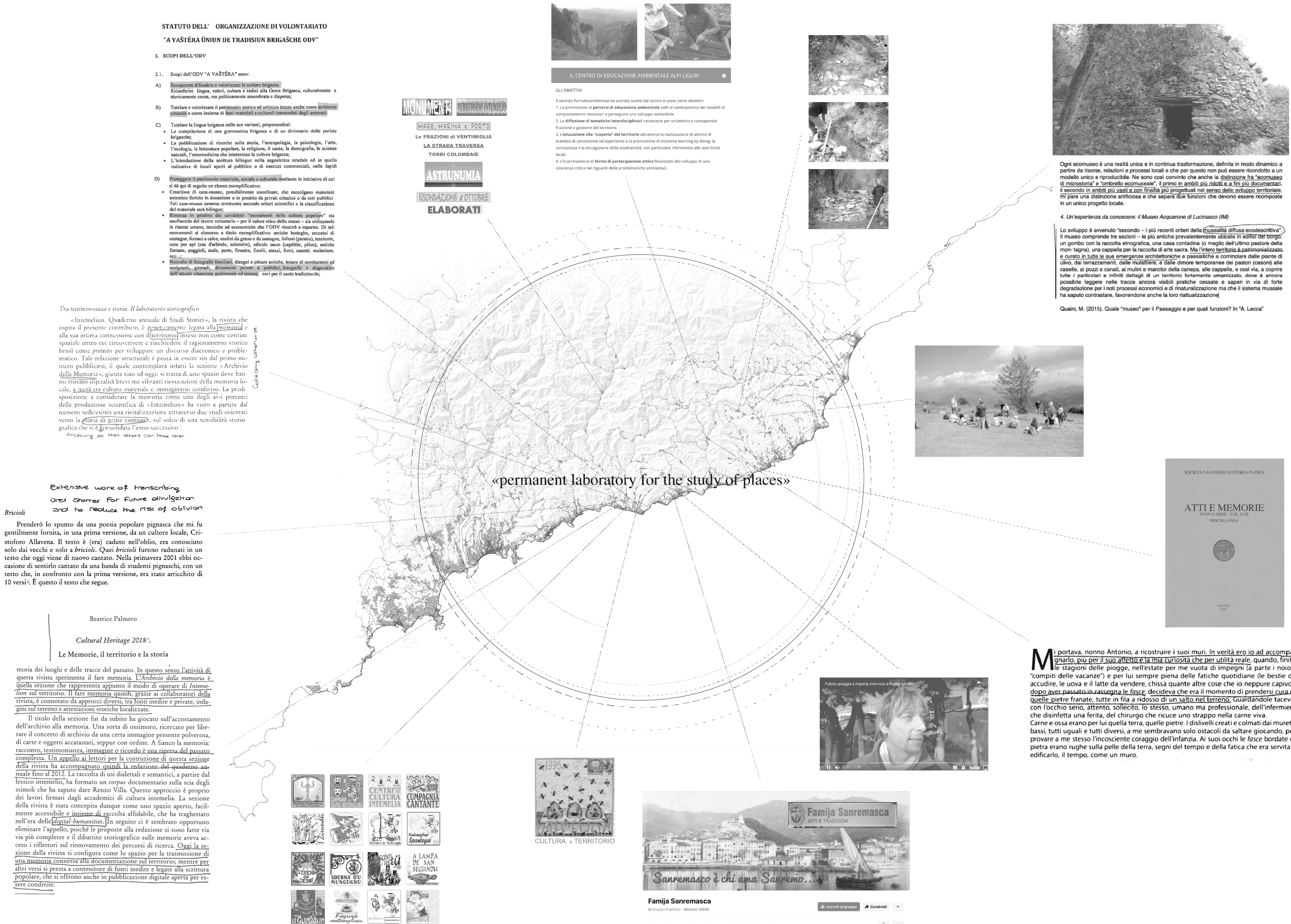




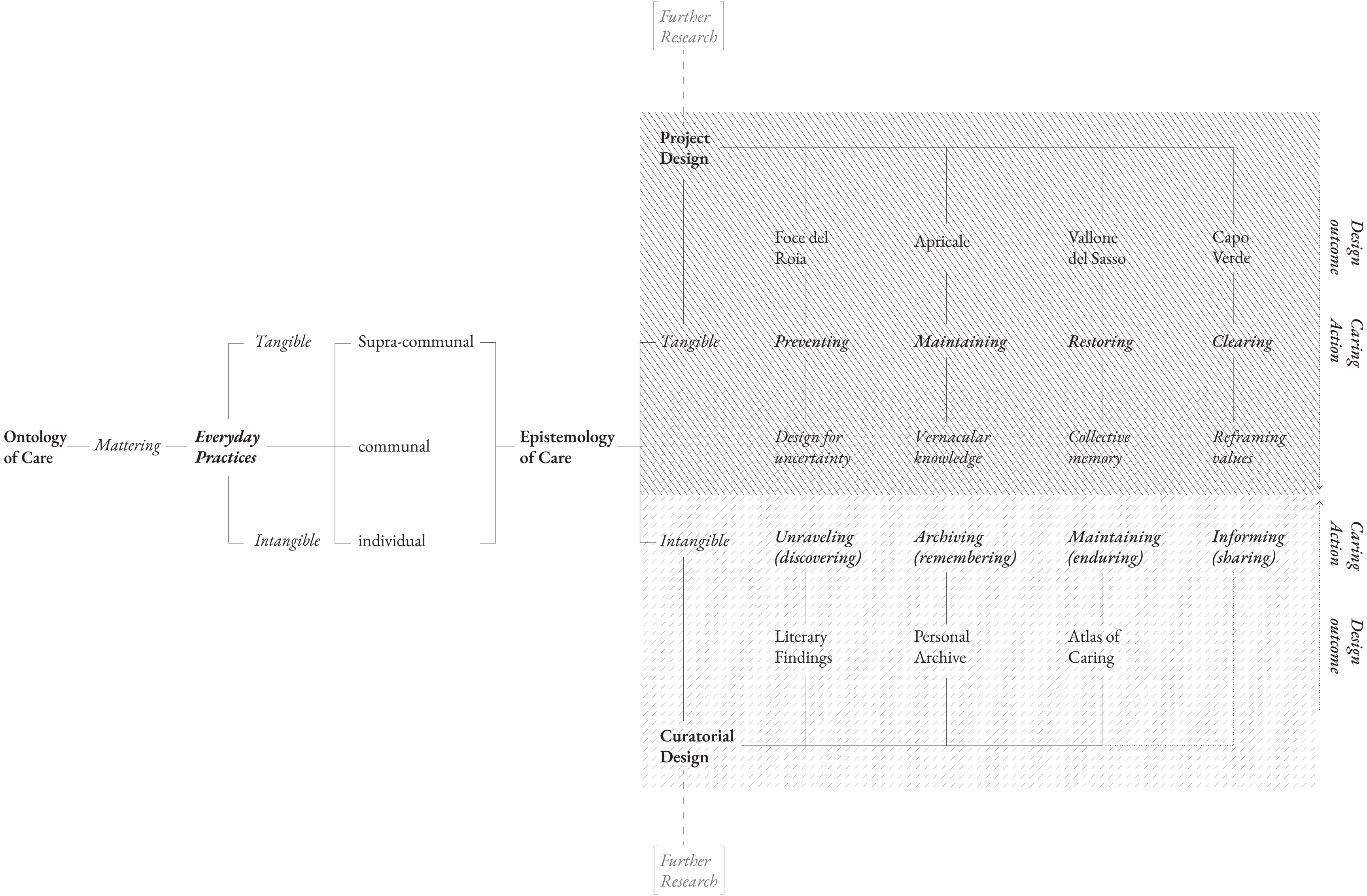




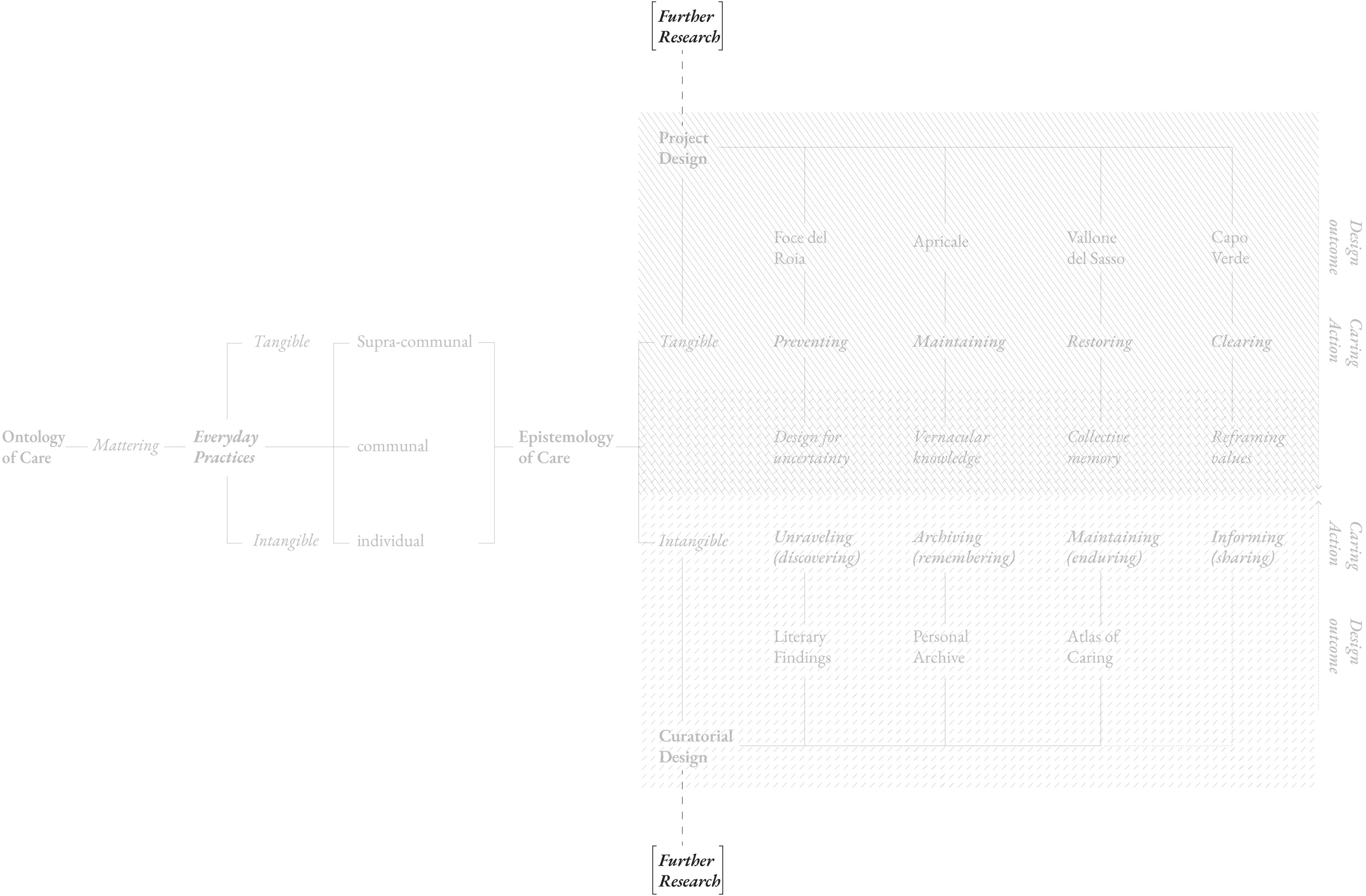


















*Thank you*



Figures

Fig. 1: Sketches at San Remo. Illustration for The Graphic, 13 November 1875. Retrieved from <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1023879401074361/media>

Fig. 2: Drawing of the Roman God Janus. Reprinted with permission of the artist, Andrey Kokorin

Fig. 3: Historical postcard from Sanremo. Retrieved from <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1023879401074361/media>

Fig. 4: Baches (2001). Agumiculture-azureenne-terroir

Fig. 5: View of Bussana Vecchia after the Earthquake. Retrieved from <https://www.facebook.com/groups/254989184676680/>

Fig. 6: Historical Landscape Liguria. In Spalla G. (1984) L’architettura popolare in Liguria

Fig. 7-8: disaster after the flood in St. Martin Vésubie. Retrieved from <https://www.150ansinondations.com/2020-gloria-ajaccio-the-cevennes-and-alex/>

Fig. 9: The domain of Urban Design. Adapted from Ghosh, Mainak & Nag, Sanjib & Roy, Satyaki. (2015). Evolving Process of Application of Methodology for Visual Perception of Urban Place: Case Study of Kolkata. DOI: 10.1007/978-81-322-2232-3\_39

Fig. 10: Mechanisms of Terraced Landscape Breakage. Adapted from “The Outstanding Terraced Landscape of the Cinque Terre Coastal Slopes (Eastern Liguria)” by Pierluigi Brandolini (2017) p. 241. In Mauro Soldati and Mauro Marchetti (Eds.), “Landscapes and Landforms of Italy”. Springer.

Fig. 11: Eugène Isabey (1861). Ventimiglia, View from the East (Vigliani Collection).

Fig. 12: Edward Lear (1865) Edward Lear. (Christie’s Collection).

Fig. 13: Auguste de Louvois, Melle Boquet (1812), depicting a view of a lead mine near the city of Tende, in the Alpes-Maritimes department, extracted from “Nice et ses environs, 1812.

Fig. 14: “Raccolta di margherite nella Riviera Ligure” (1942). Image A00140297. Archivio Luce.

Fig. 15-16: historical aeral view of River Roia mouth. 1960. Fototeca Geoportale Regione Liguria. 1973

Fig. 17: The Health Office of Bordighera in the mid-18th century in the work of Matteo Vinzoni. In E. Marengo, Manuscript Topographic and Chorographic Maps of Liguria and its immediate surround-ings preserved in the Royal State Archive of Genoa, Genoa 1931, pp. 37-38. Retrieved from <https://liguriaponente.wordpress.com/2018/08/02/il-commissariato-di-bordighera-a-meta-xviii-secolo-nellopera-di-matteo-vinzoni/>

Fig. 18-19: Claude Monet (1884), Palm Trees Bordighera

Fig. 20: Under the Palms of Val di Sasso near Bordighera. (Referring to the image on page 133). After an original drawing by H. Nestel.

Fig. 21  
Atti e Memorie, nuova serie (1967-2022) - Storia Patria. (2022, April 17). Storia Patria. <https://www.storiapatriasavona.it/archivio-pubblicazioni/atti-e-memorie-n-s-1967-2012/>

Bologna, C. (2014). La pietra, la terra, le radici. Retrieved from A Lecca, Pagine di storia cultura e tradizioni alla scoperta della Valle Impero, p. 84-89.

Domenica 21 Agosto 2016, sull’erba del Prau reparau, lungo le pendici del Monte Guardiabella (Aurigo), si è svolta la terza edizione de “A giurnà du fèn”. Retrieved from A Lecca, Pagine di storia cultura e tradizioni alla scoperta della Valle Impero (2013).

Famija Sanremasca. Facebook group. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1023879401074361/>

Image credit by <https://ilsamsaradeilibri.it/lucinasco-museo-diffuso-lazzaro-acquarone/>

Image credit to Alessandro Giacobbe, L’arte di utilizzare i Maixei. Retrieved from A Lecca, Pagine di storia cultura e tradizioni alla scoperta della Valle Impero (2013).

Infoparcomendatica. (n.d.). Educazione ambientale | Parco Alpi Liguri. <https://parconaturalealpiliguri.it/educazione-ambientale/>

Mamone, G. Il laboratorio storiografico “Voci dal baule”. Dalla storia di gente comune alla storia in comune. In Intemelion, cultura e territorio. N

19, 2013.

Maccario. (n.d.-b). Home. <https://www.cumpagniadiventemigliusi.it/>

Palmero, B. (2018). Le Memorie, il territorio e la storia. Retrieved from Intemelion, p. 159-169. In Intemelion, cultura e territorio. N 24, 2018.

Quaini, M. (2015). Quale “Museo” per il Paesaggio e per quali funzioni? Retrieved from <https://www.a-lecca.it/pdf/riviste/2015.pdf?1706098717>

Riviera 24. (2022, November 20). Pulizia Spiaggia a Imperia, intervista Mattia Serafini. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=msE1dPUvRp4>

Statuto | A Vastera. (n.d.). <https://vastera.it/statuto/>

Forner, W. Per una archeologia della memoria. Bricioli sparsi della tematica popolare del pastore. Retrieved from Intemelio, n9 2002, pp. 5-28.