Healing Landscapes

A laboratory of well-being in an
ex-psychiatric Hospital in Florence

by Federica Sanchez
P5

Flowscapes Graduation Studio
Mentors: Saskia de Wit, Luc Willekens
MSc Landscape Architecture | TU Delft | November 2018

"I dwell in the city and the city dwells in me"

from 'The Eyes of the Skin', by Juhani Pallasmaa

What is “Health”?

“Health is not merely the absence of disease or infirmity, but a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being.”

World Health Organization, 1948.

Determinants of Health:

Income and social status

Education

Physical environment

Employment

Social support networks

Culture

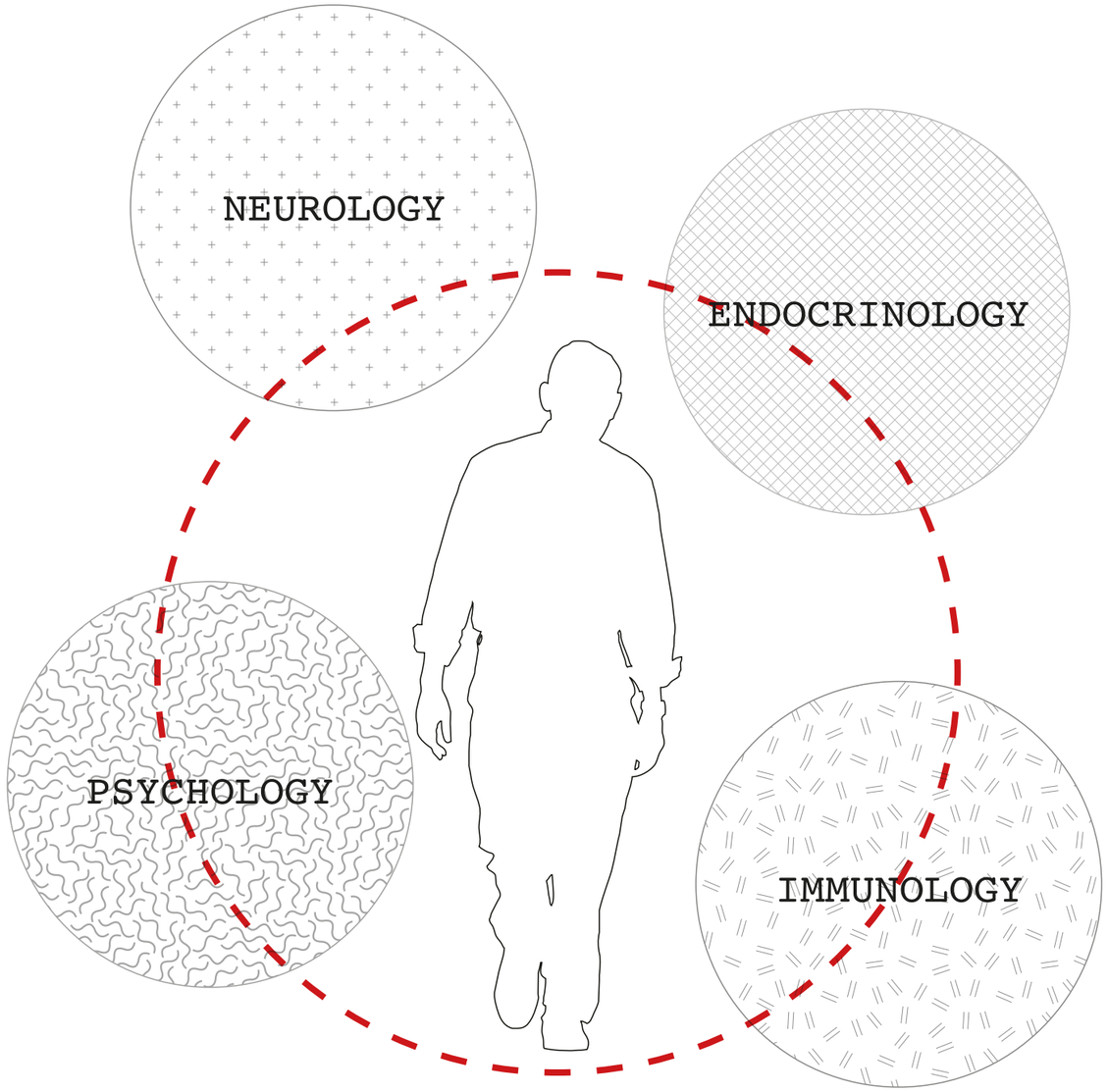
Genetics

Personal behaviour

Health services

Gender

The World Health Organization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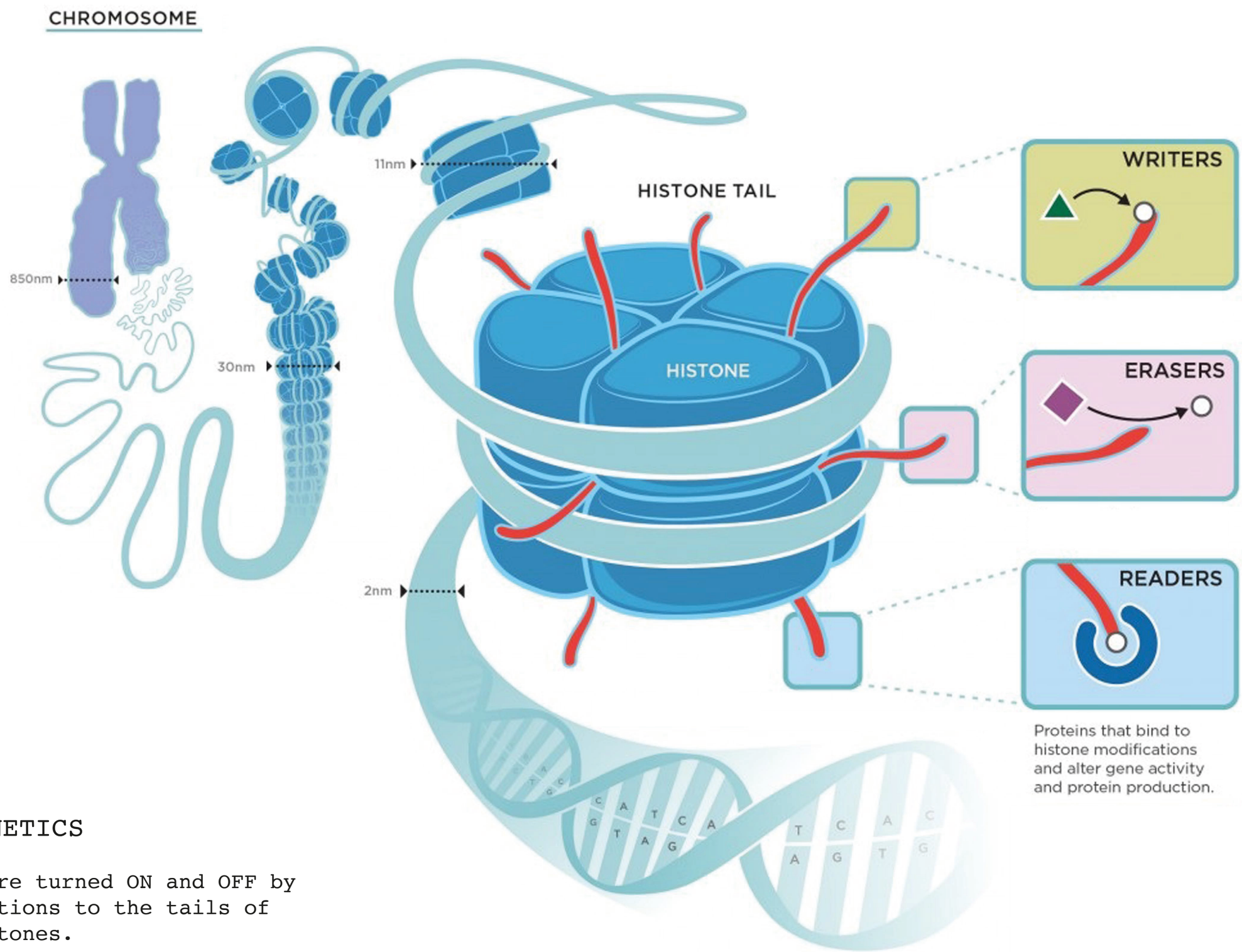
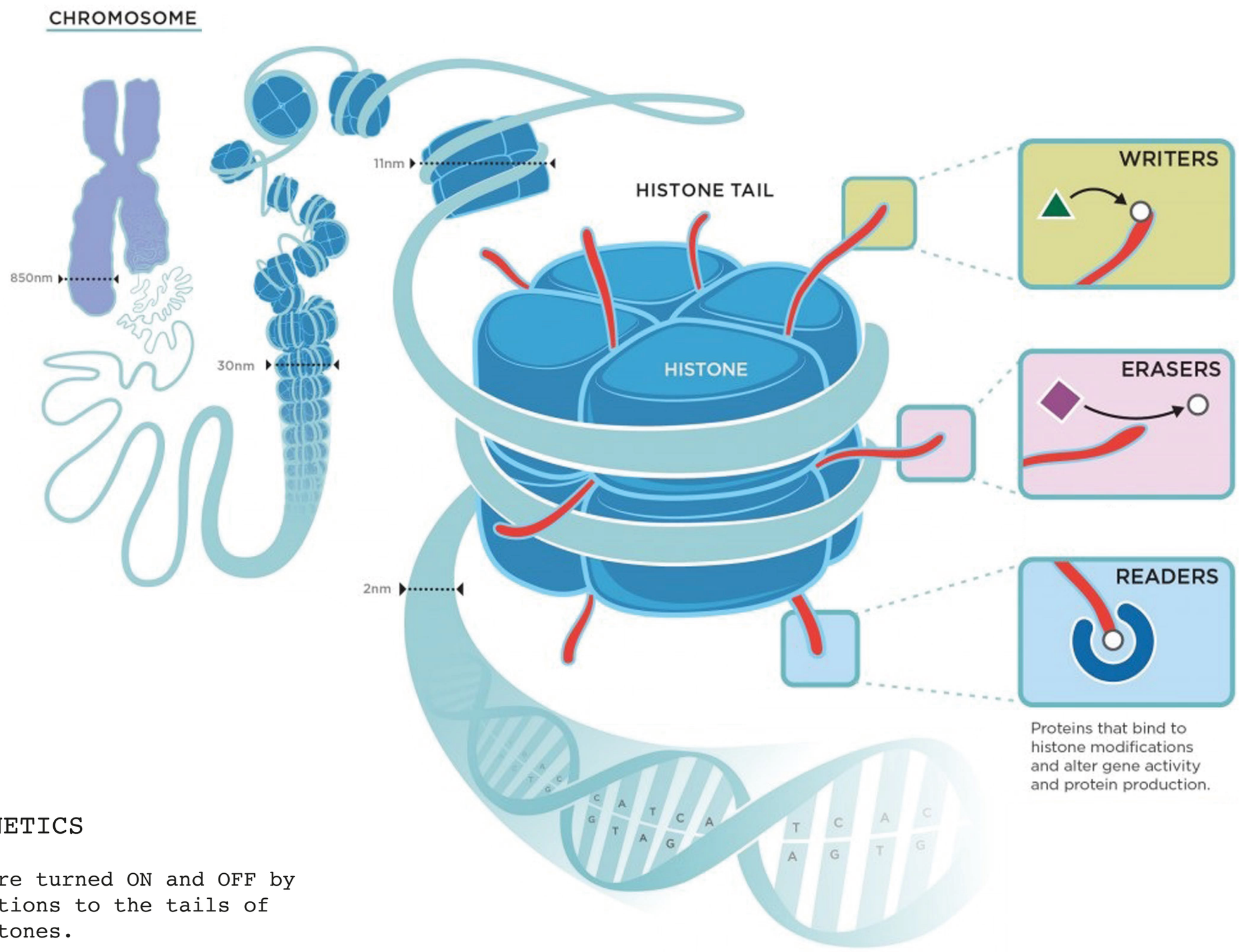
ENDOCRINOLOGY
PSYCHOLOGY
IMMUNOLOGY



EPIGENETICS

Genes are turned ON and OFF by modifications to the tails of the histones.

Richard E. Ballermann, 2012.



EPIGENETICS

Genes are turned ON and OFF by modifications to the tails of the histones.

City center of Milan, 2017

San Salvi Psychiatric Hospital

Pianta
di
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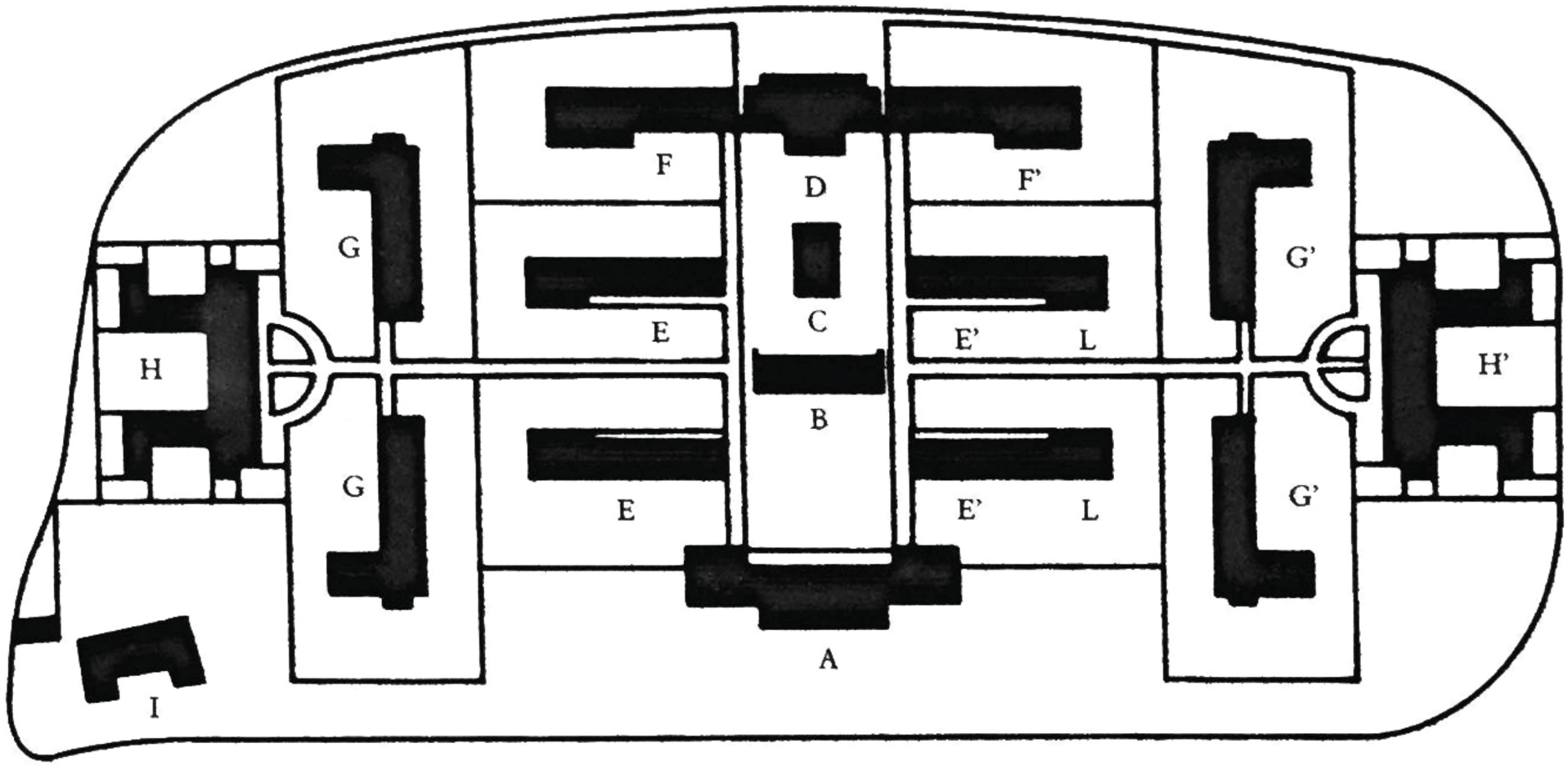
e
suoi contorni
Redatta ed incisa da L. Balatri
1896
2 km

PLANIMETRIA GENERALE



Masterplan of San Salvi, 1891

Drawing therapy, San Salvi, 1970s

- Local health board
- Care homes
- Schools
- Religious complex
- Bar
- Pharmacy
- Other activities /no use
- Chille de la Balanza

Silvana Abbondanza and Claudio Ascoli, heads of Chille de la Balanza

"SAN SALVI CITTA' APERTA"

"SAN SALVI OPEN CITY"

Used

Partially abandoned

Abandoned

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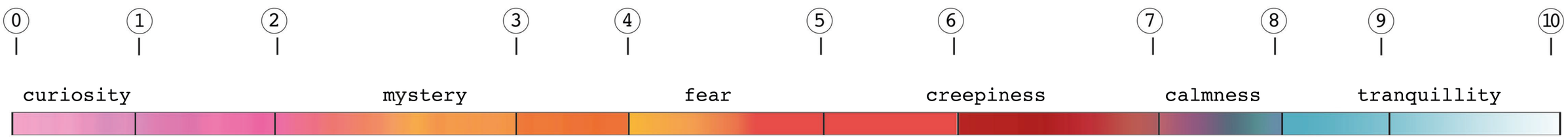
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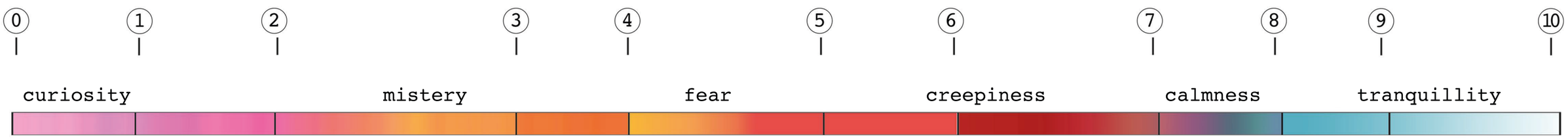
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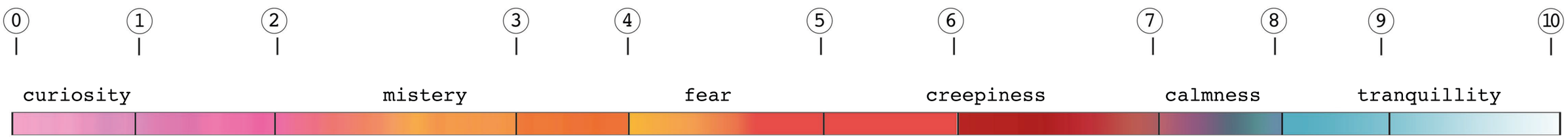
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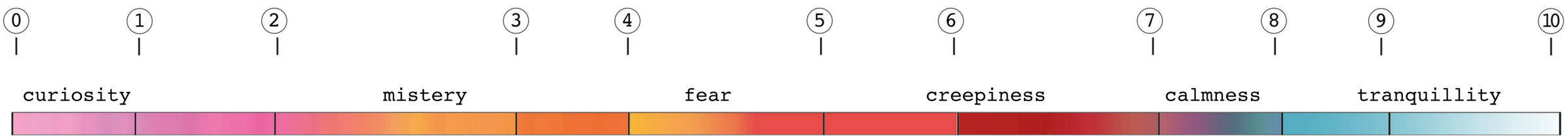
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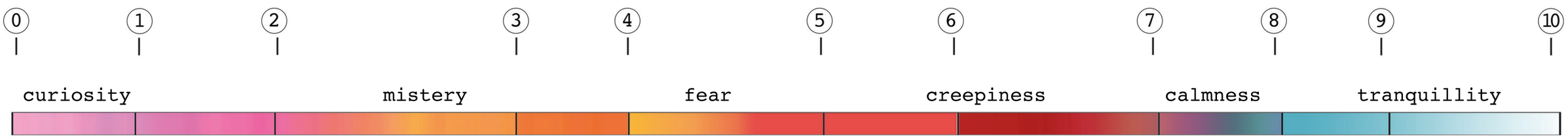
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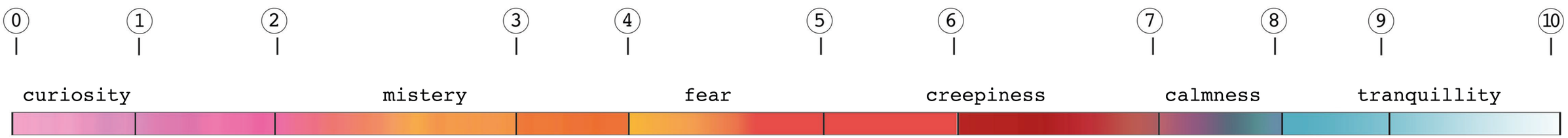
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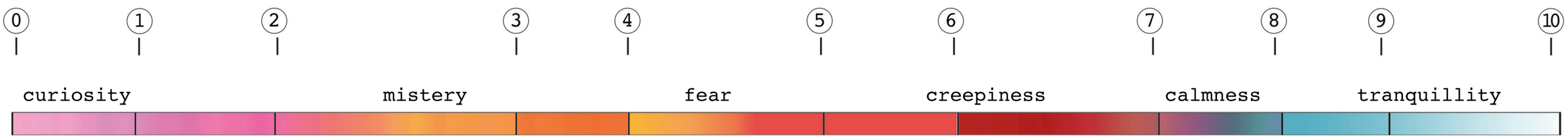
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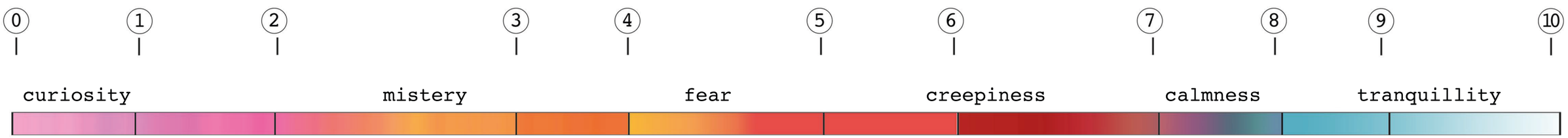
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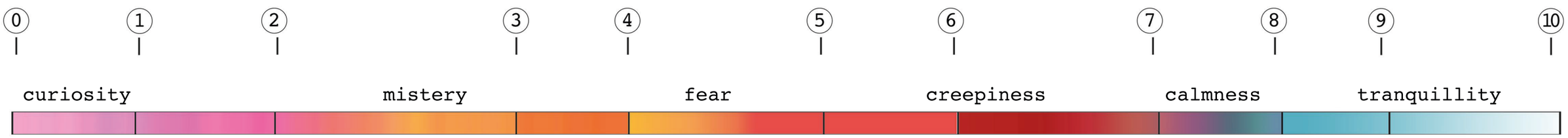
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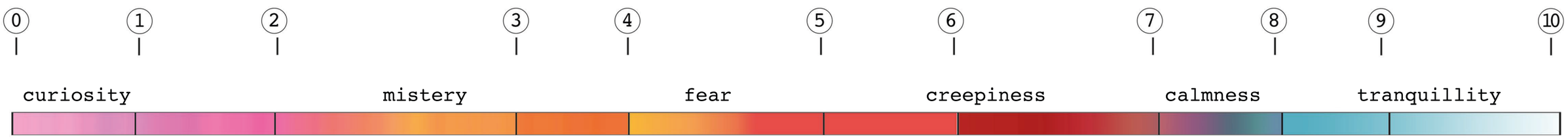
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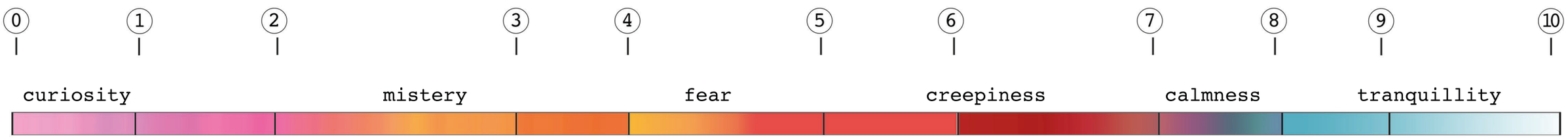
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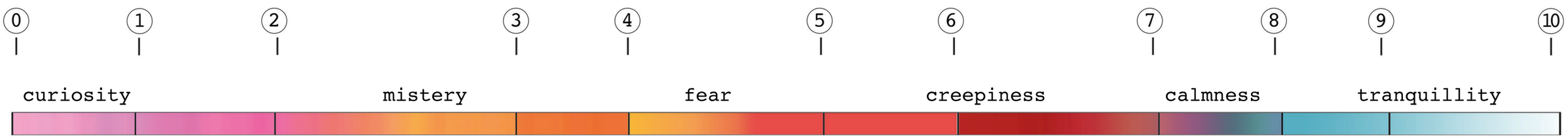
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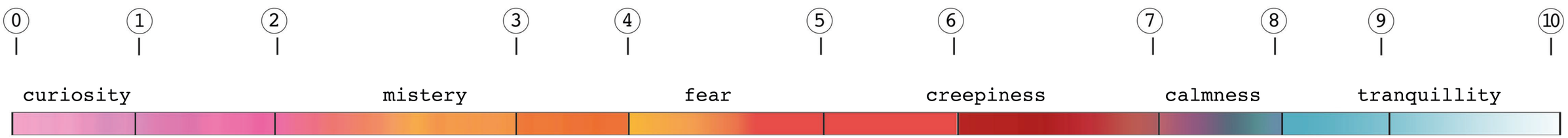
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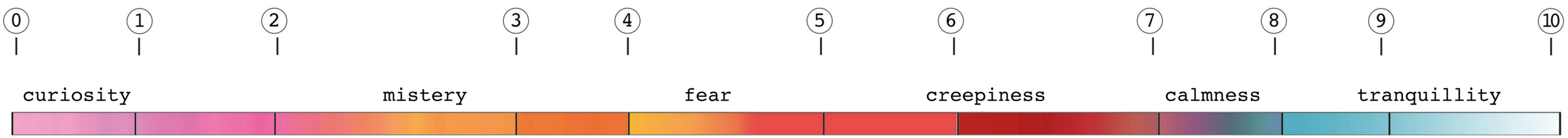
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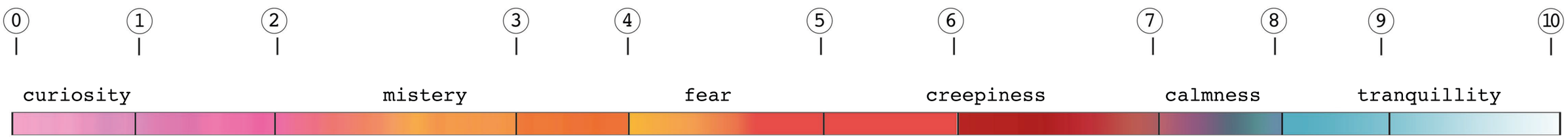
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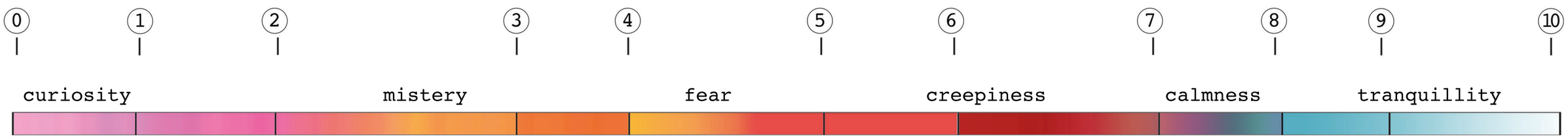
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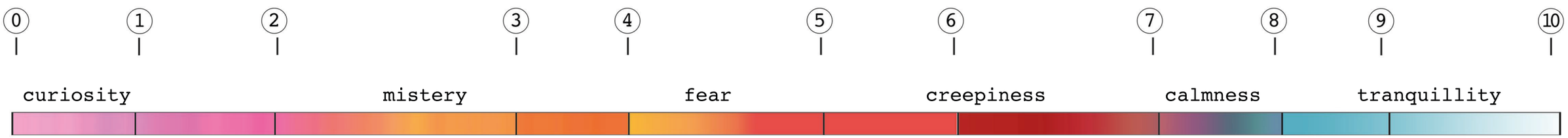
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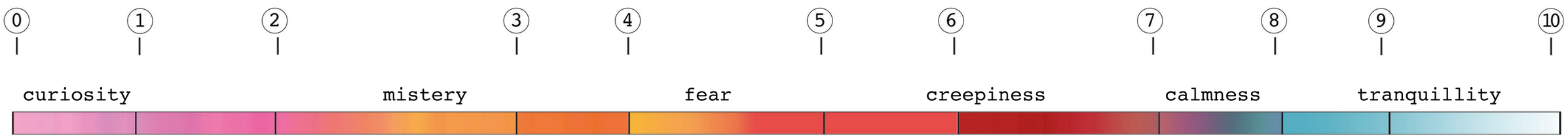
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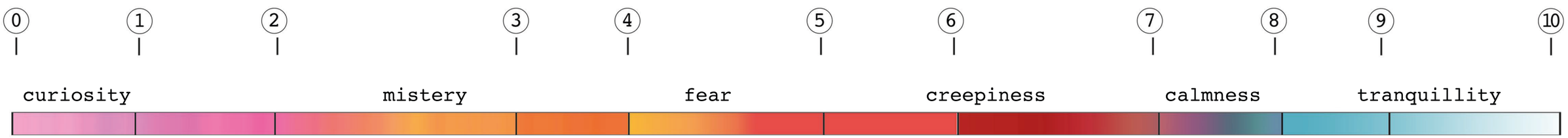
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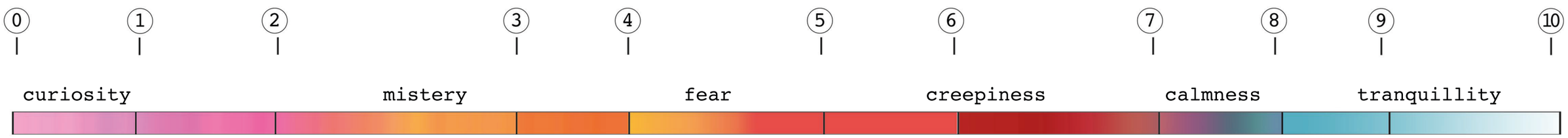
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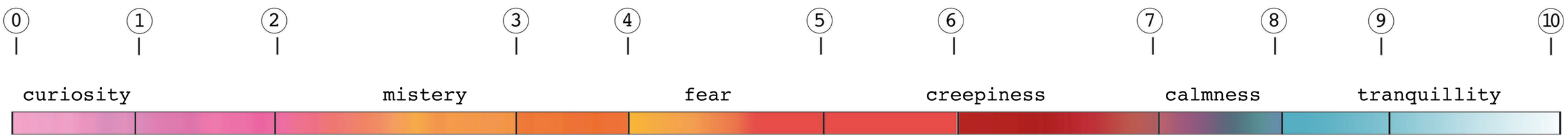
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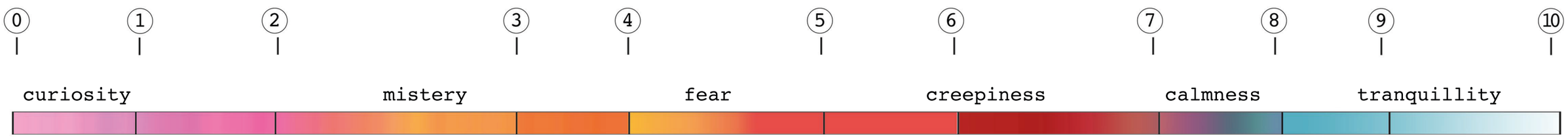
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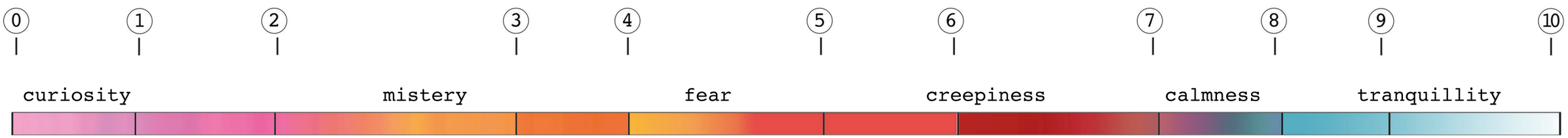
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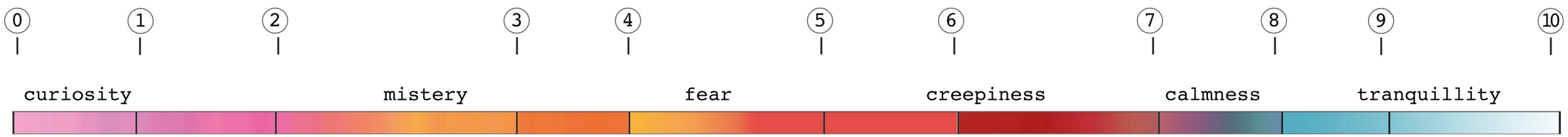
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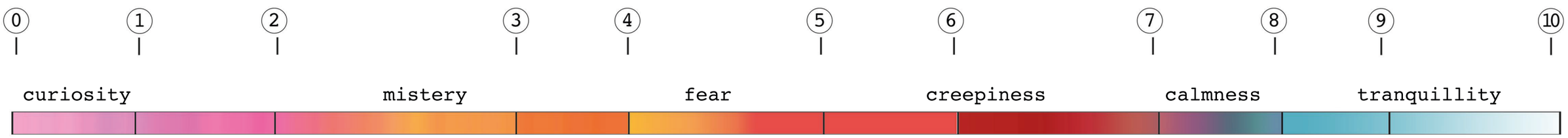
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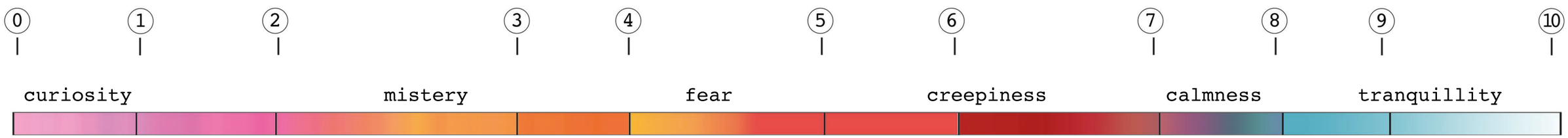
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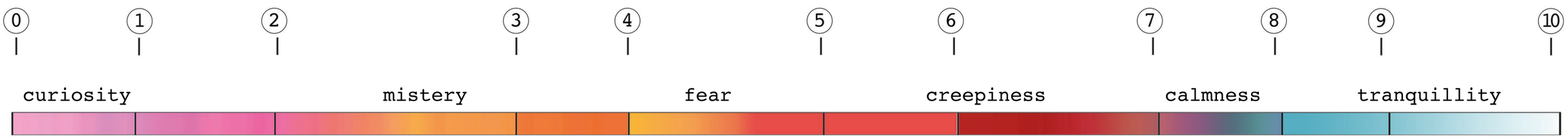
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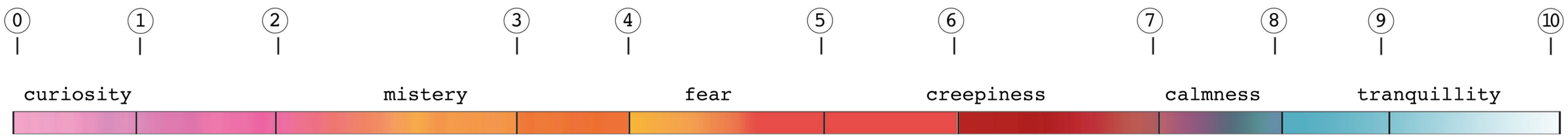
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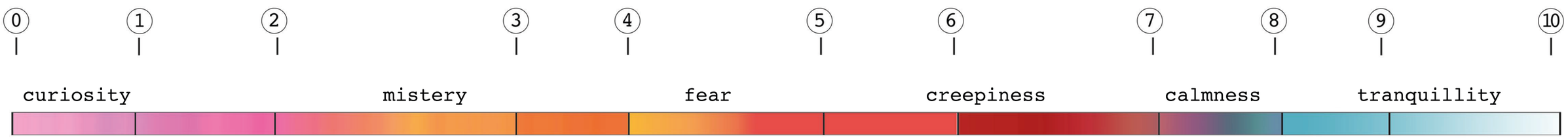
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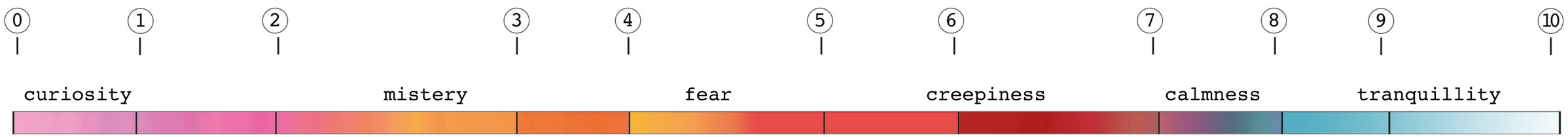
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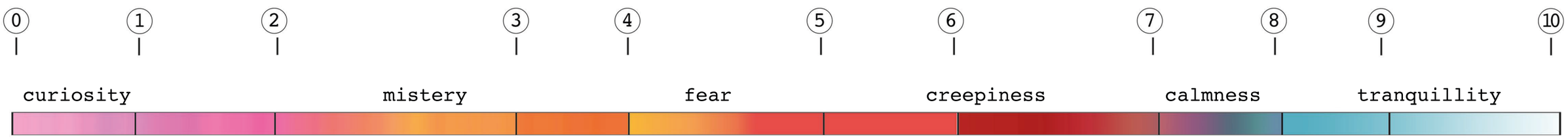
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Emotions

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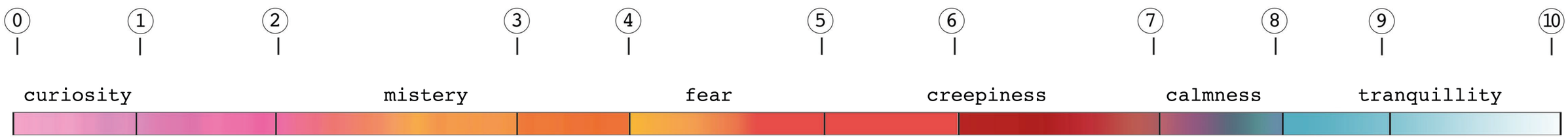
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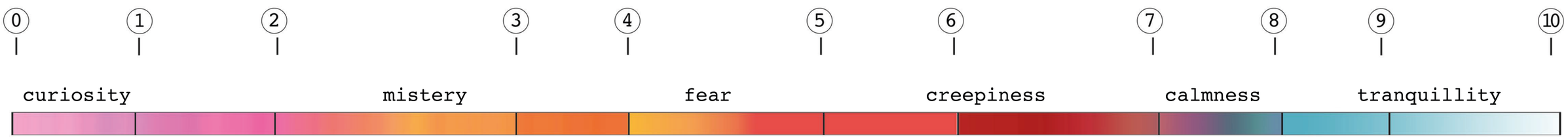
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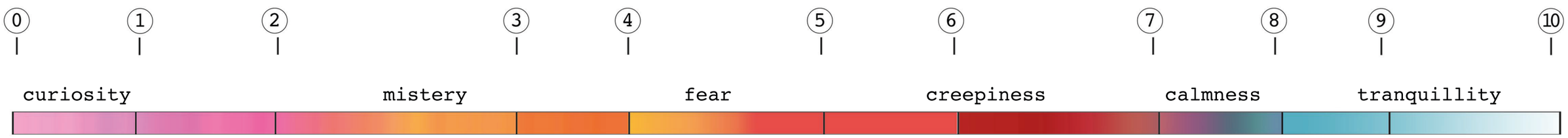
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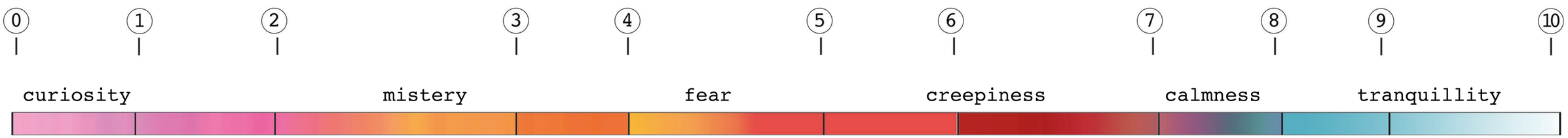
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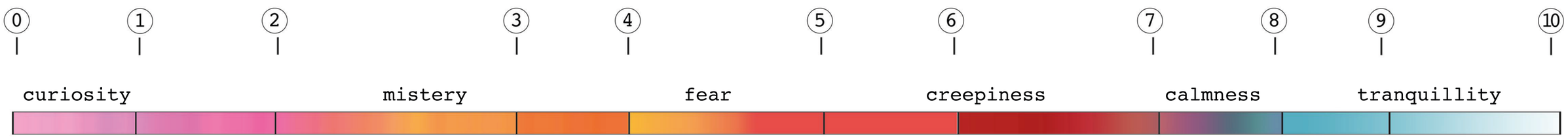
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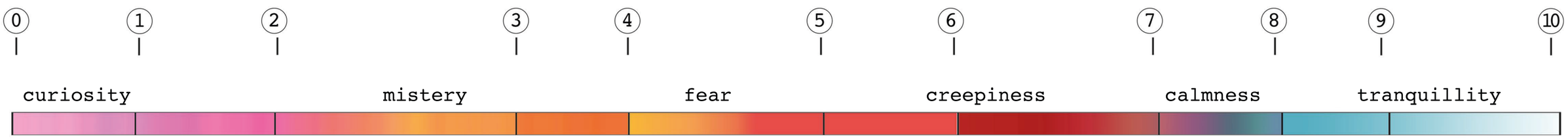
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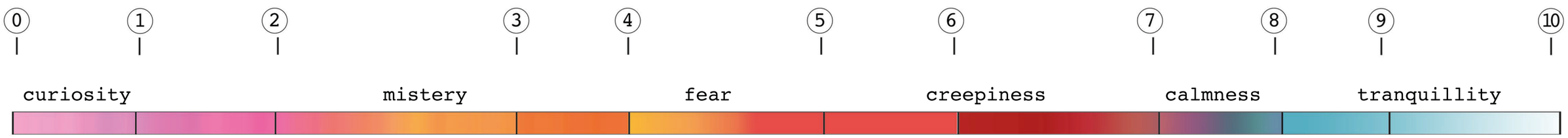
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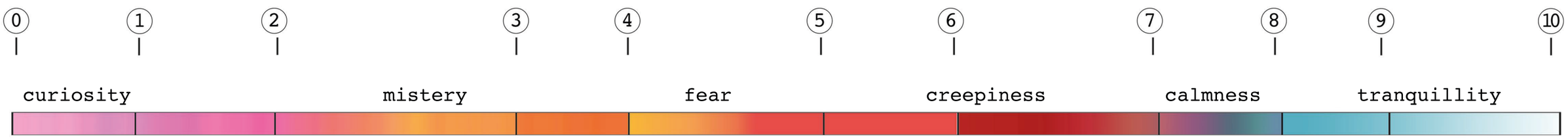
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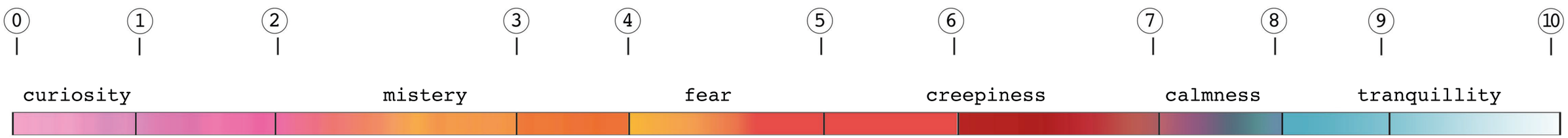
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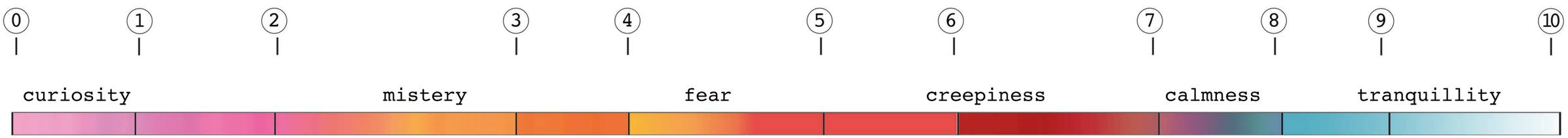
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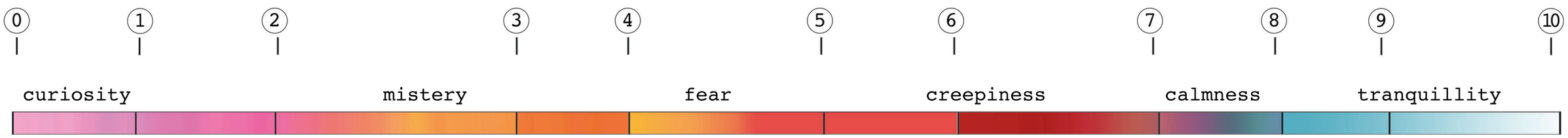
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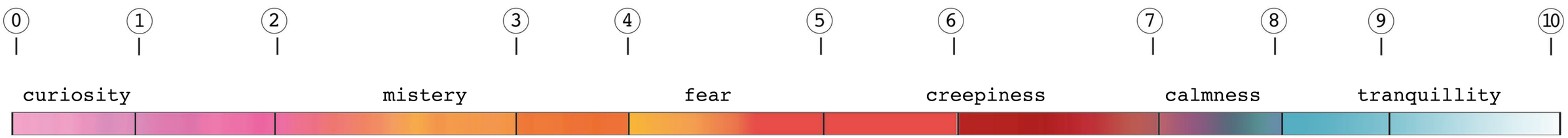
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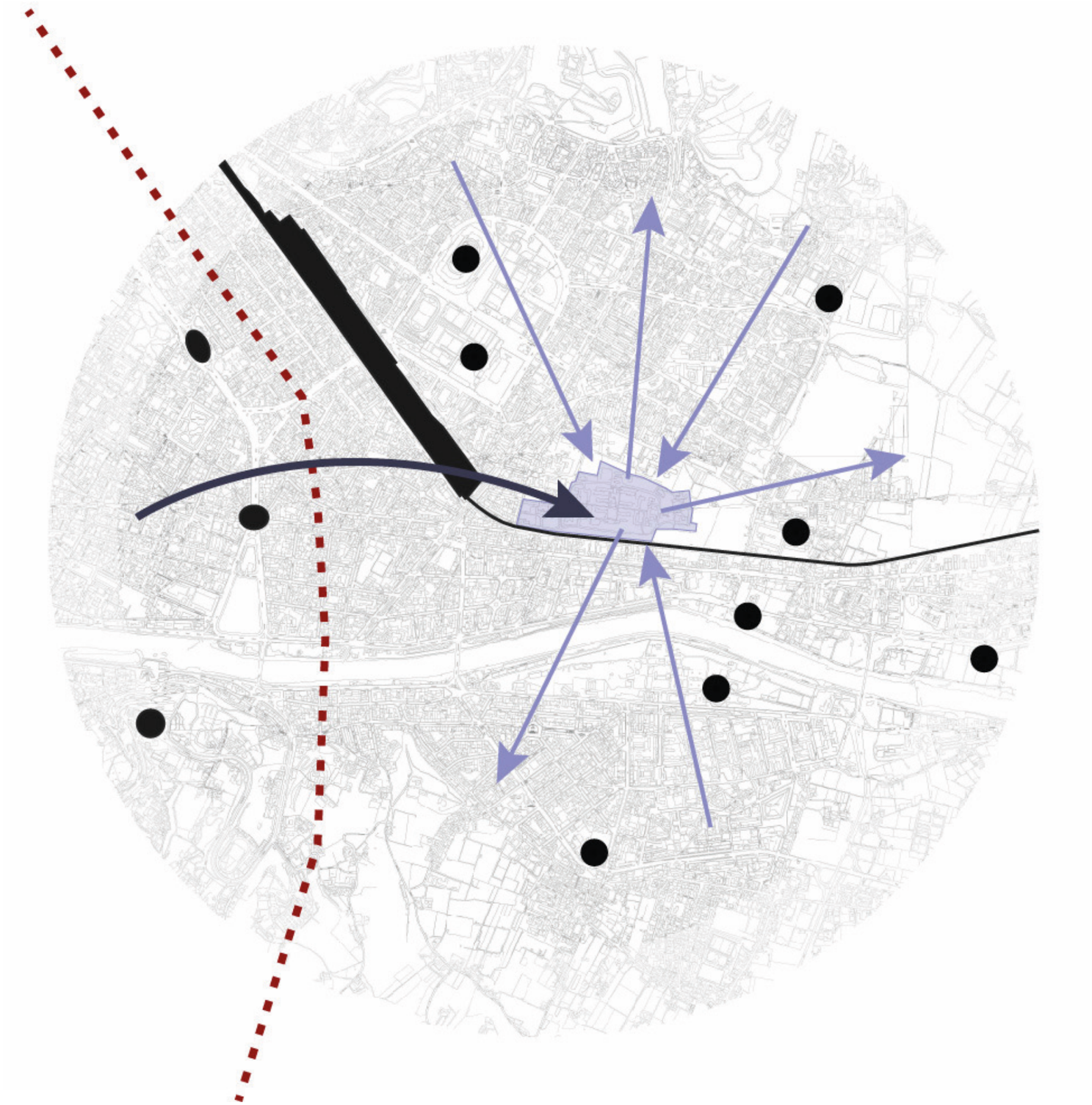
Emotions

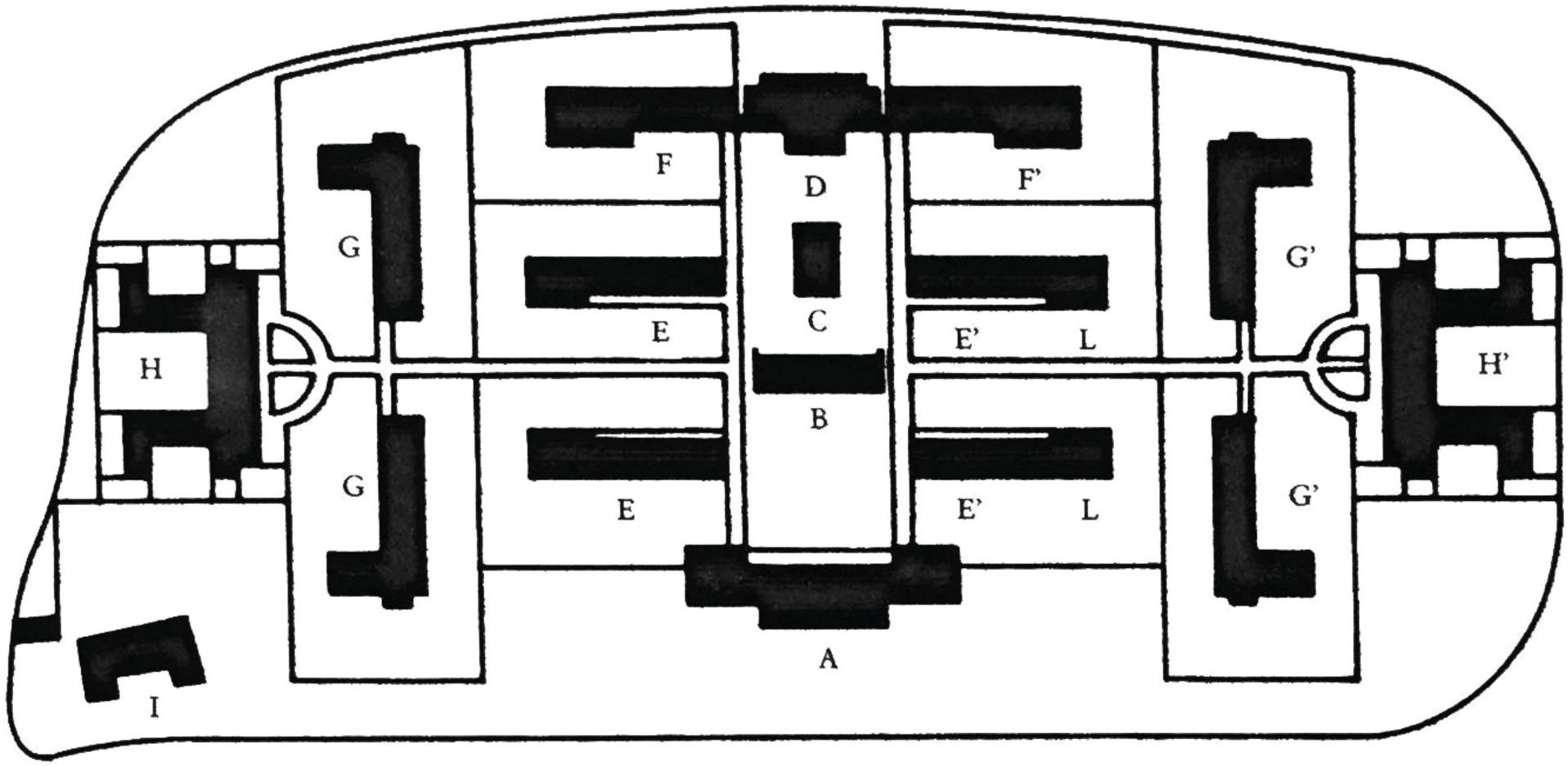
Remarkable structures

Public buildings

Conclusions of the analysis



Planimetria Generale



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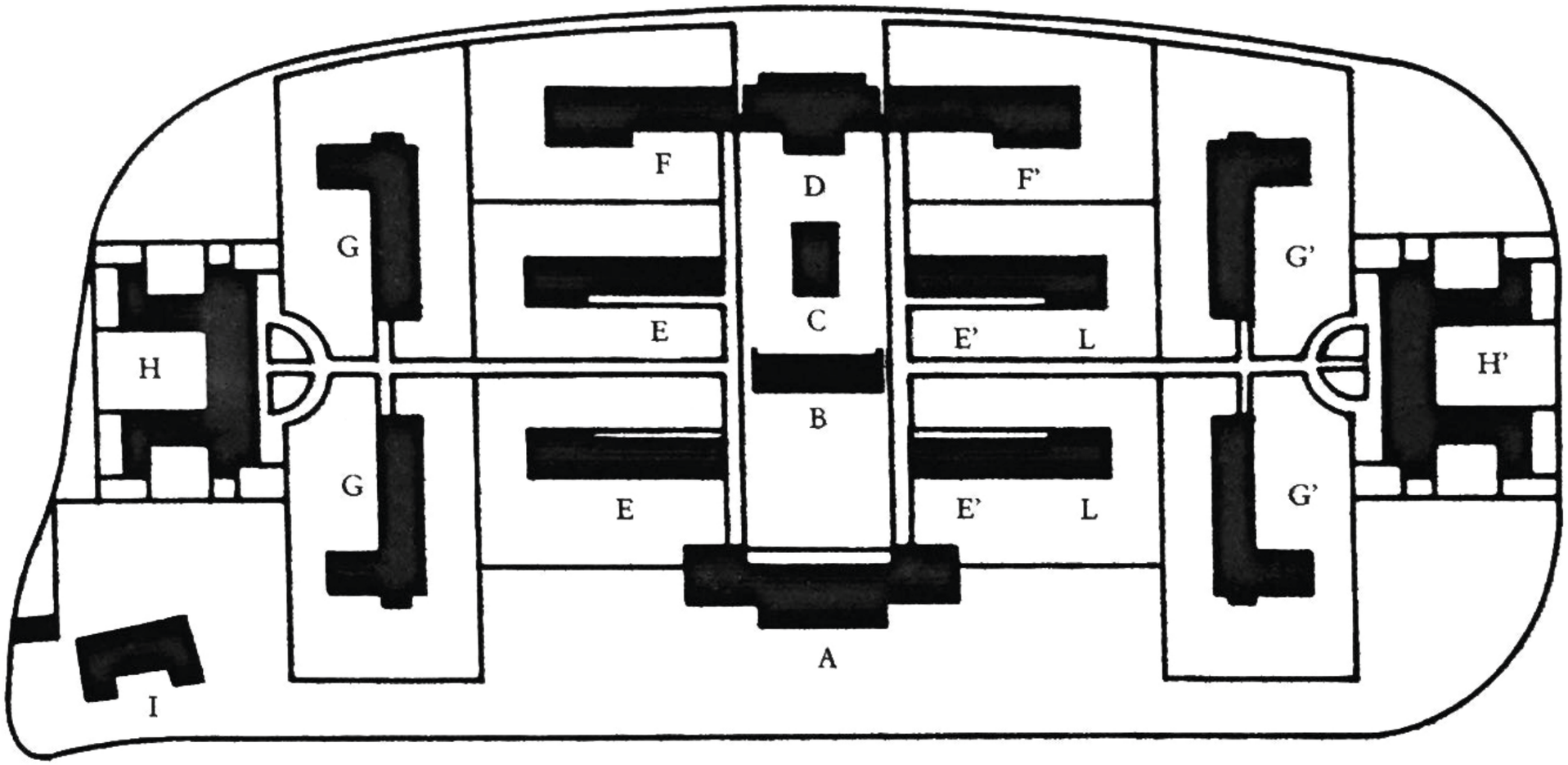


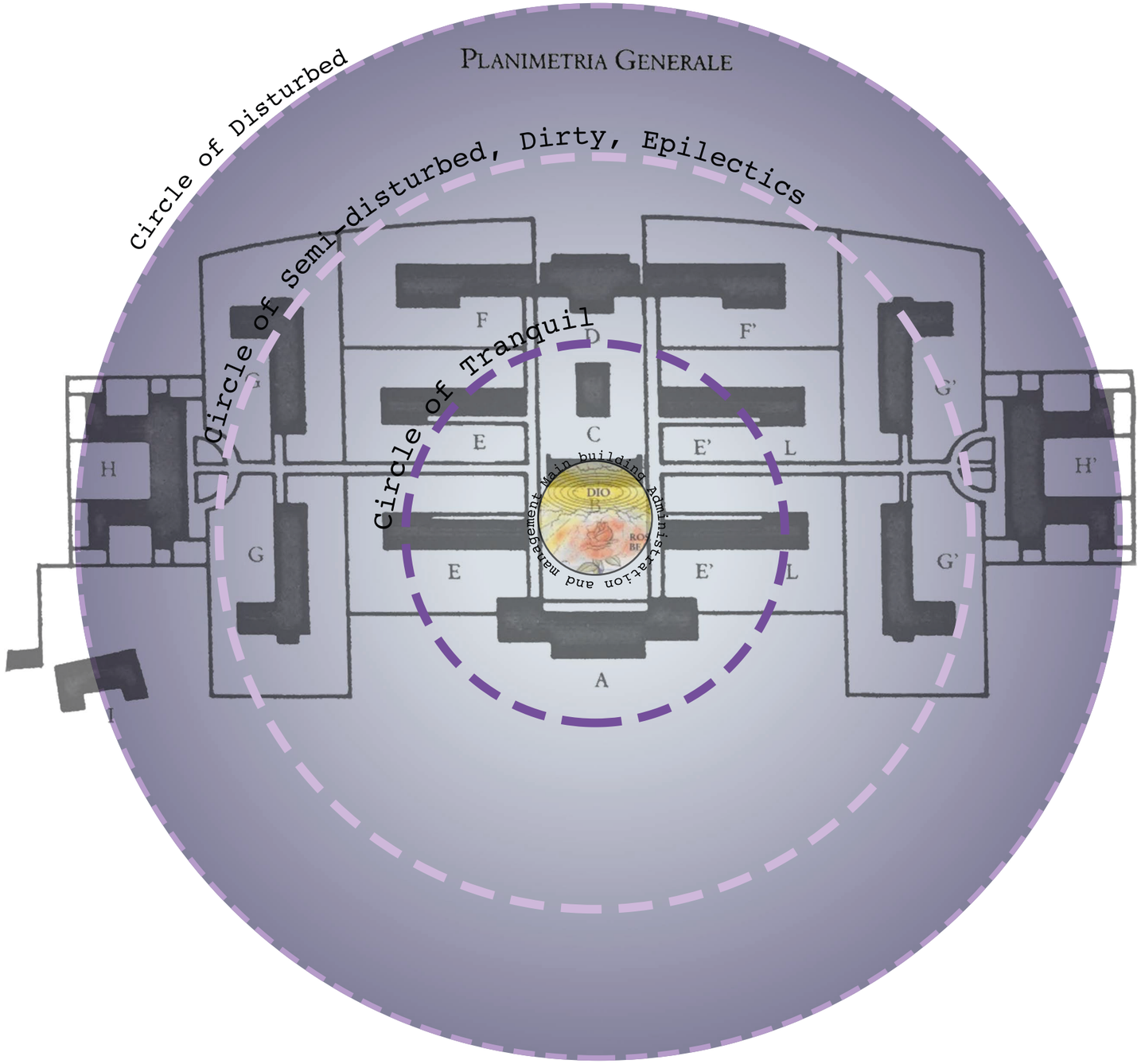
Masterplan of San Salvi, 1891

A,B,C,D : Management and Administration offices

E,F,L : Tranquil pavilions

G : Semi-disturbed, Dirty, Epileptics pavilions

H : Disturbed pavilions


Circle of Disturbed
Circle of Semi-disturbed, Dirty, Epilectics
Circle of Tranquil
Planimetria Generale
Main building Administration and management
F
D
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G
G'
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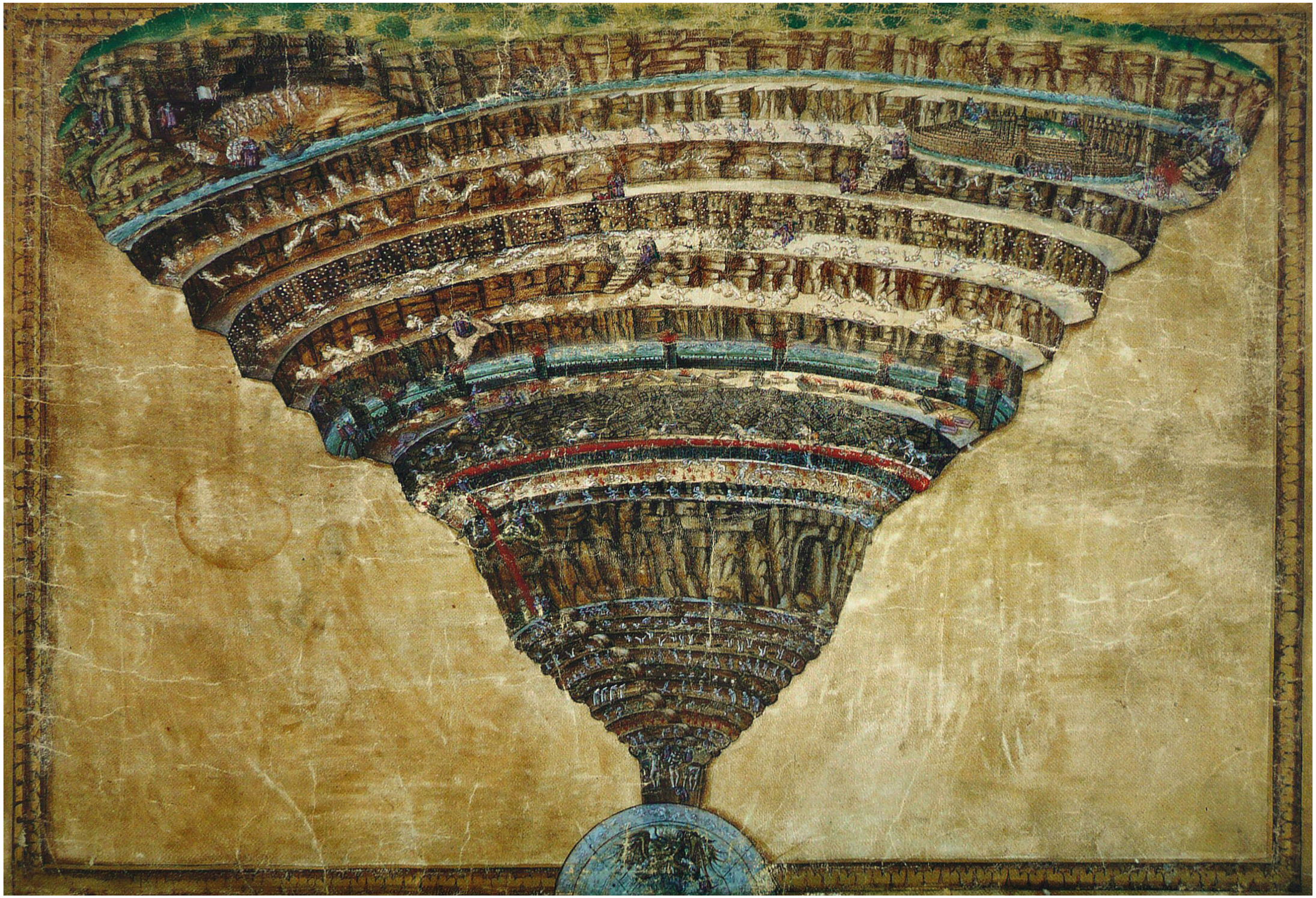
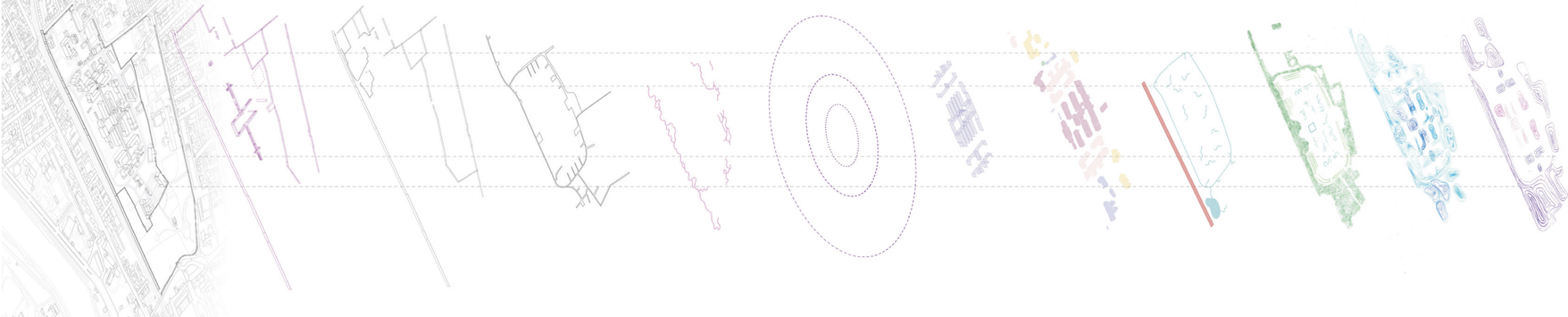
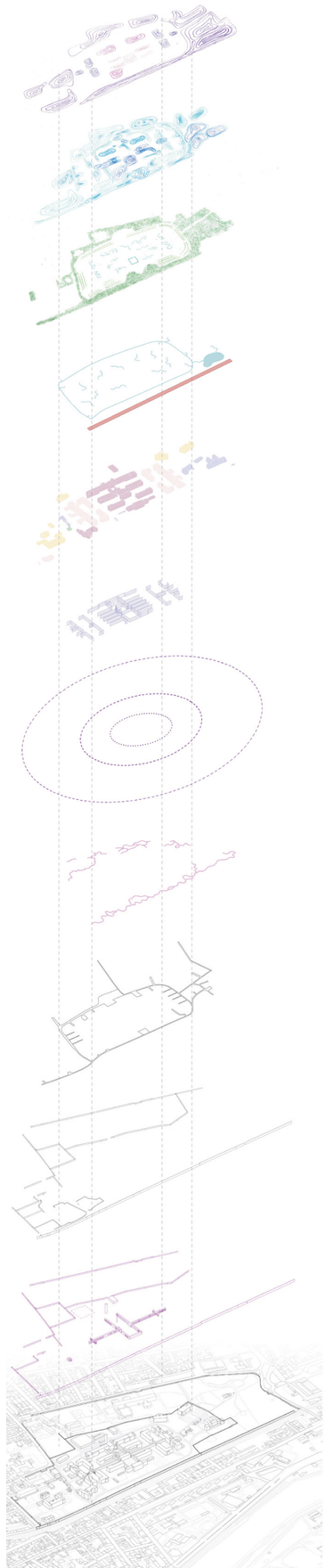


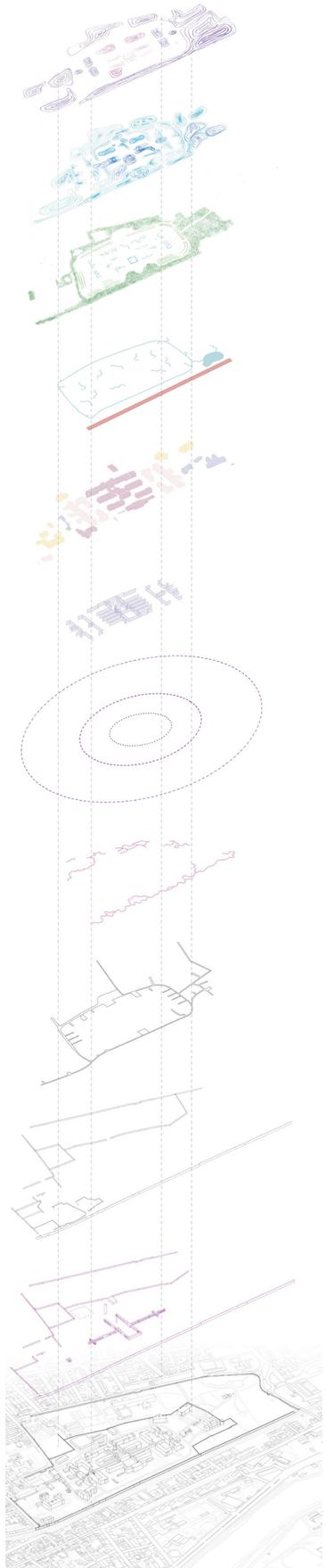
Map of Hell, drawing by Botticelli for the Divine Comedy





Wall

Relics

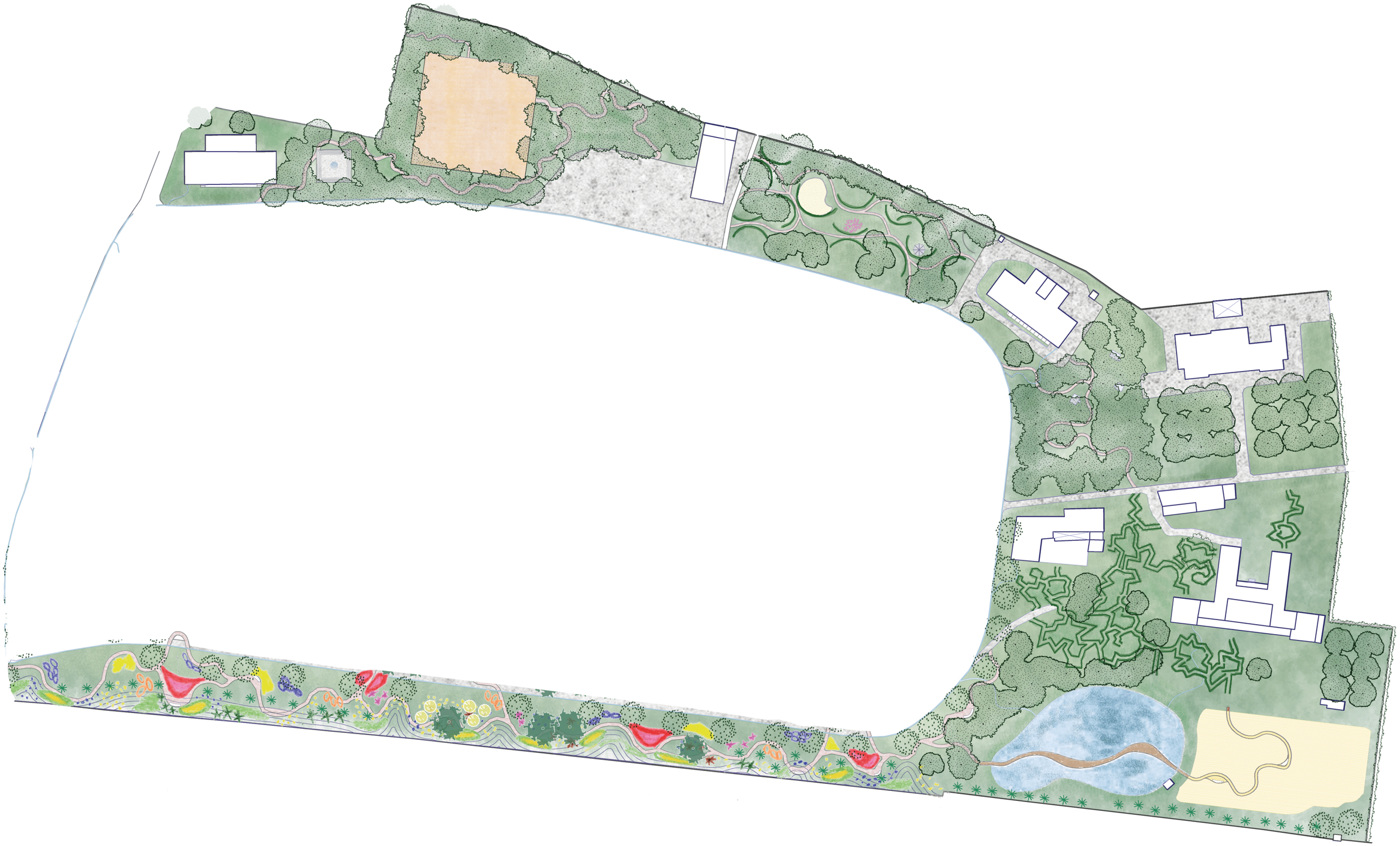


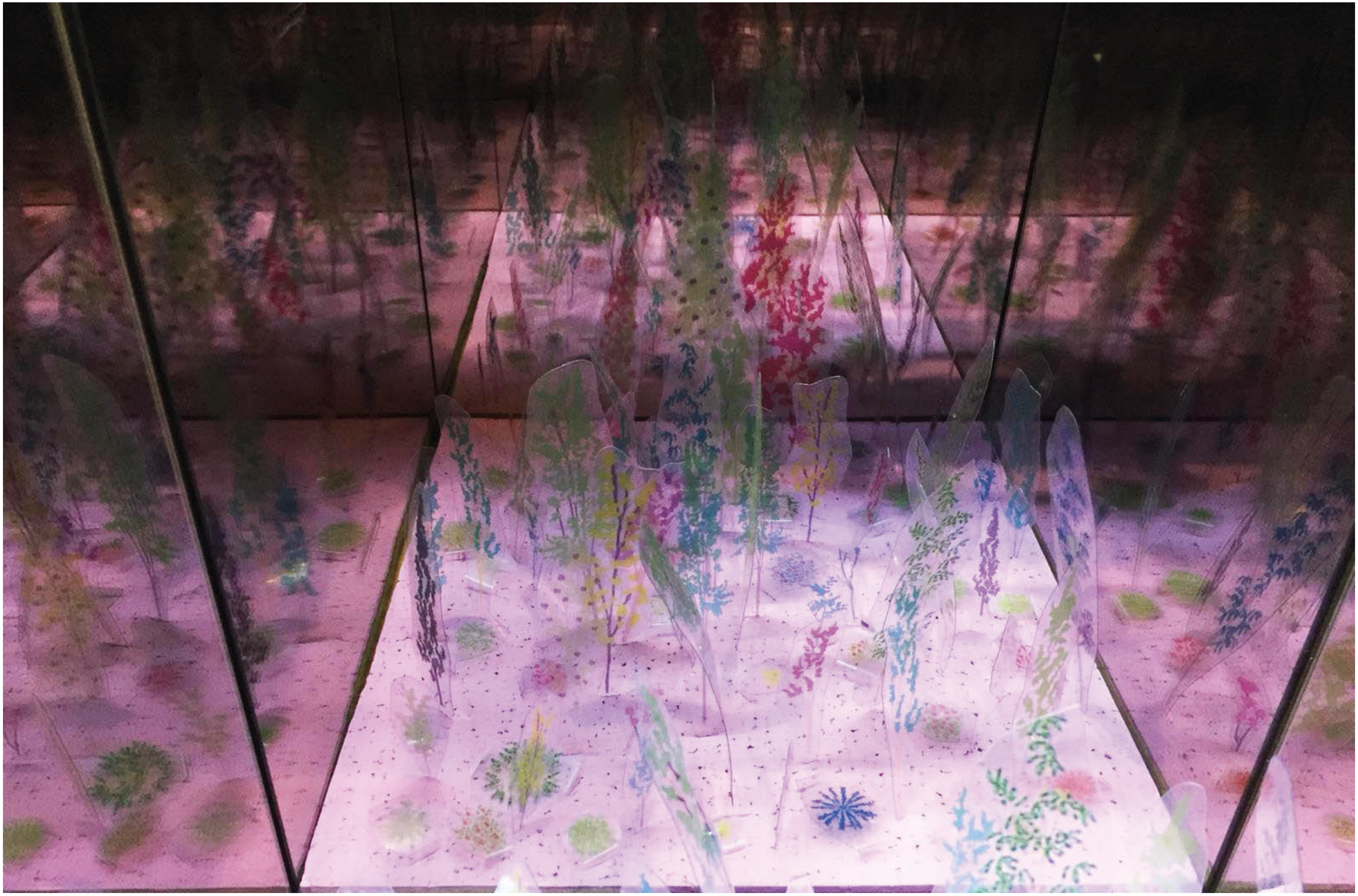
Wall

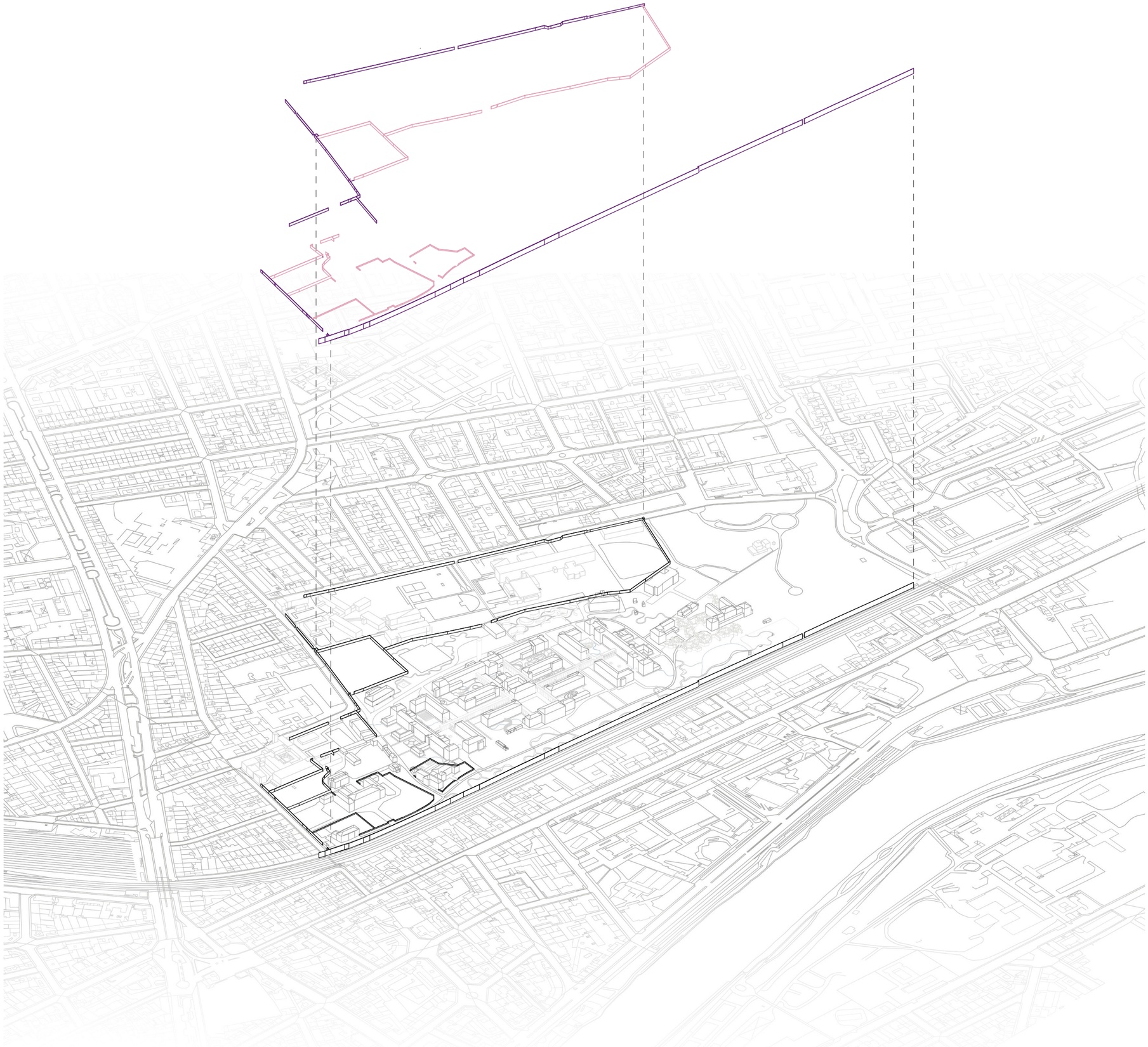
Relics

Masterplan

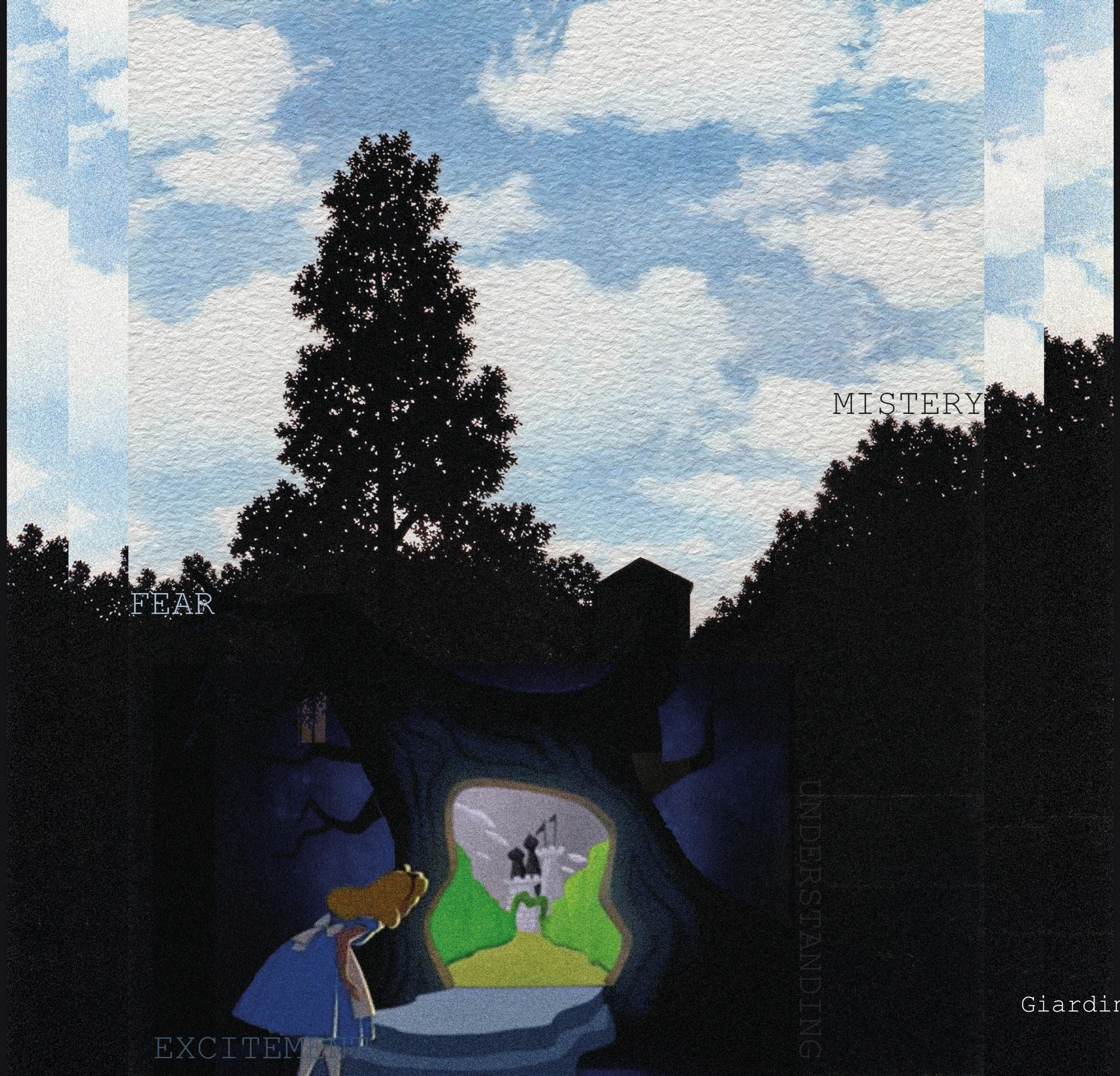
Masterplan







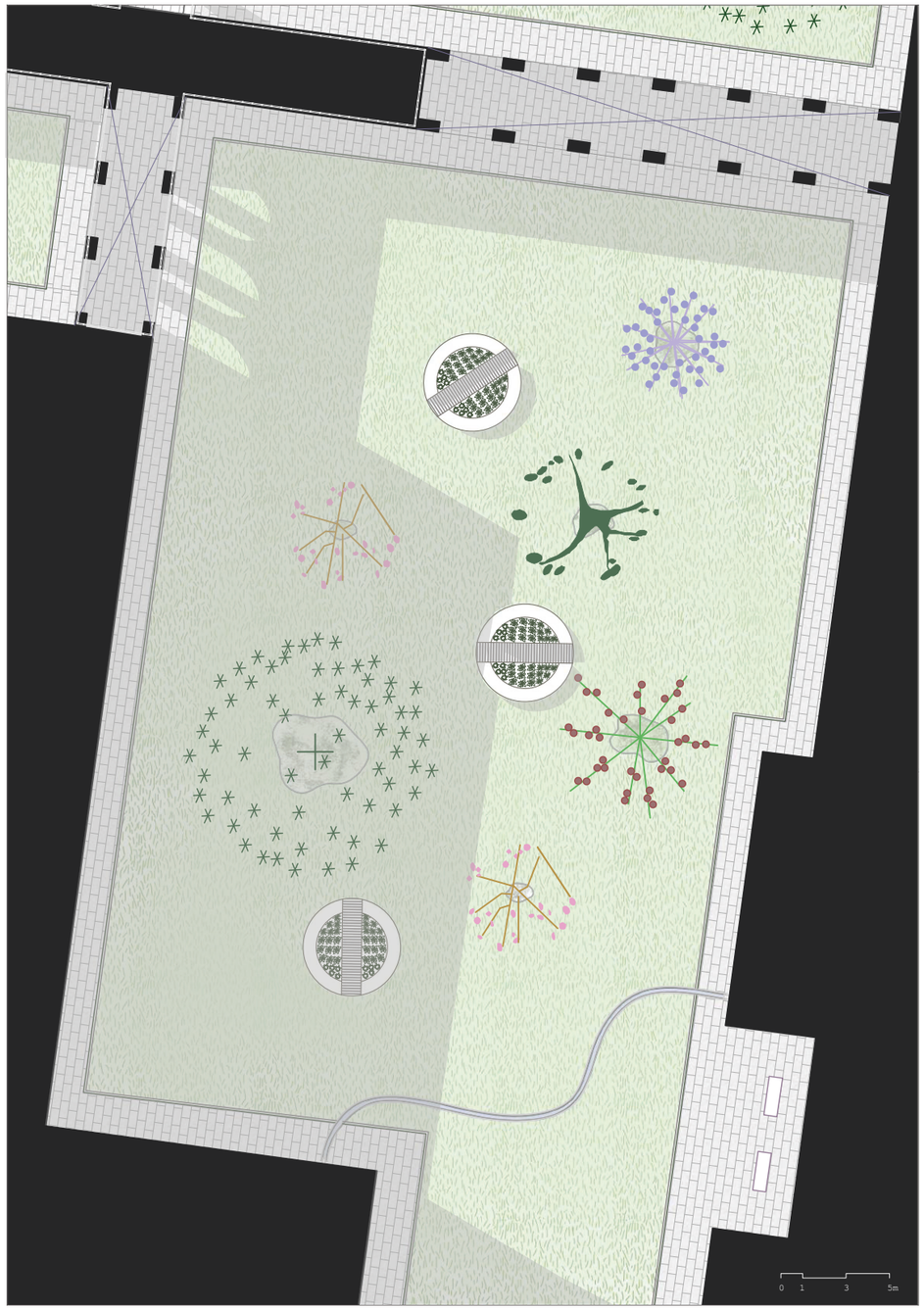
Wall - Layer of the relics



Giardino Segreto

Sports field, forest and Piazza 13 Dicembre

Piazza 13 Dicembre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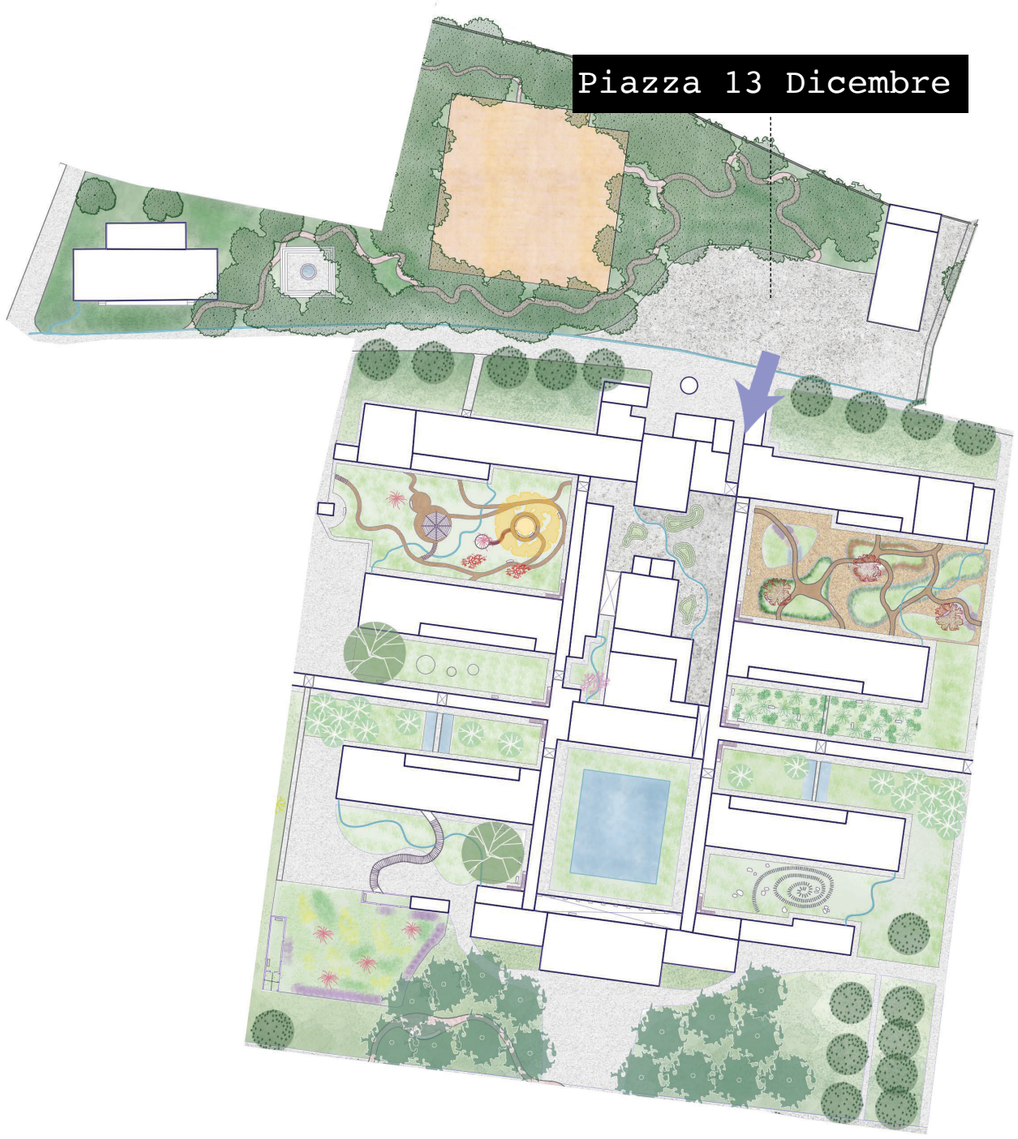
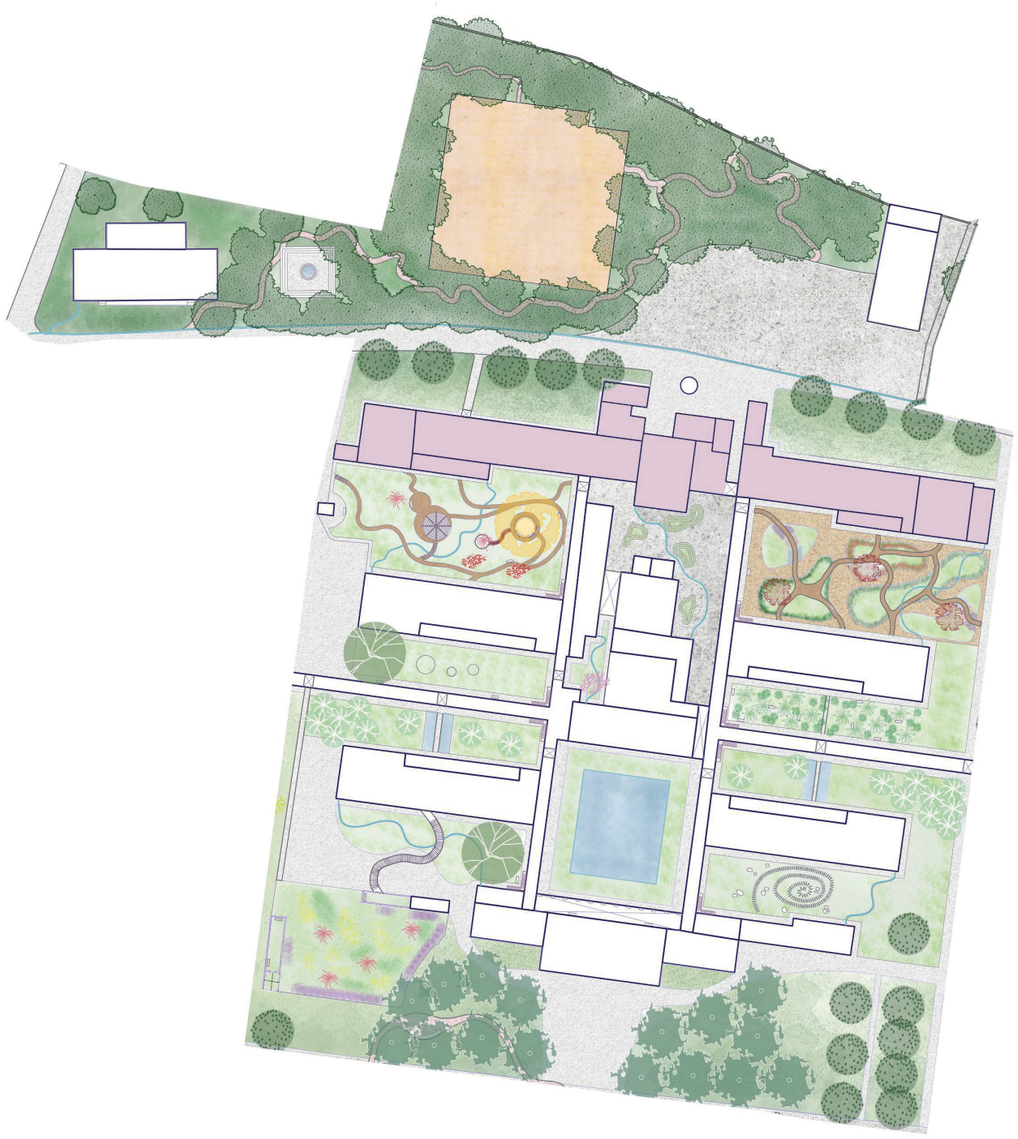
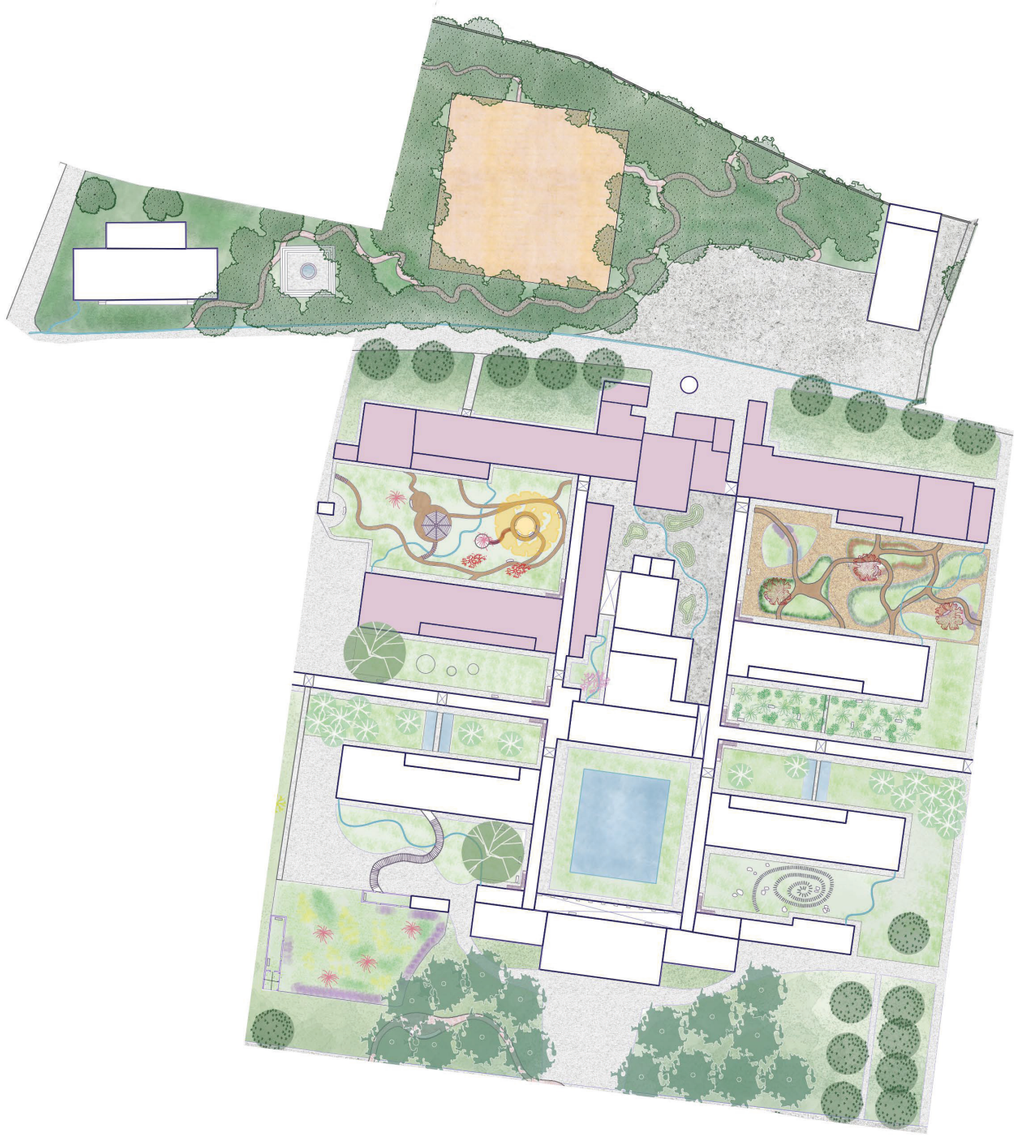
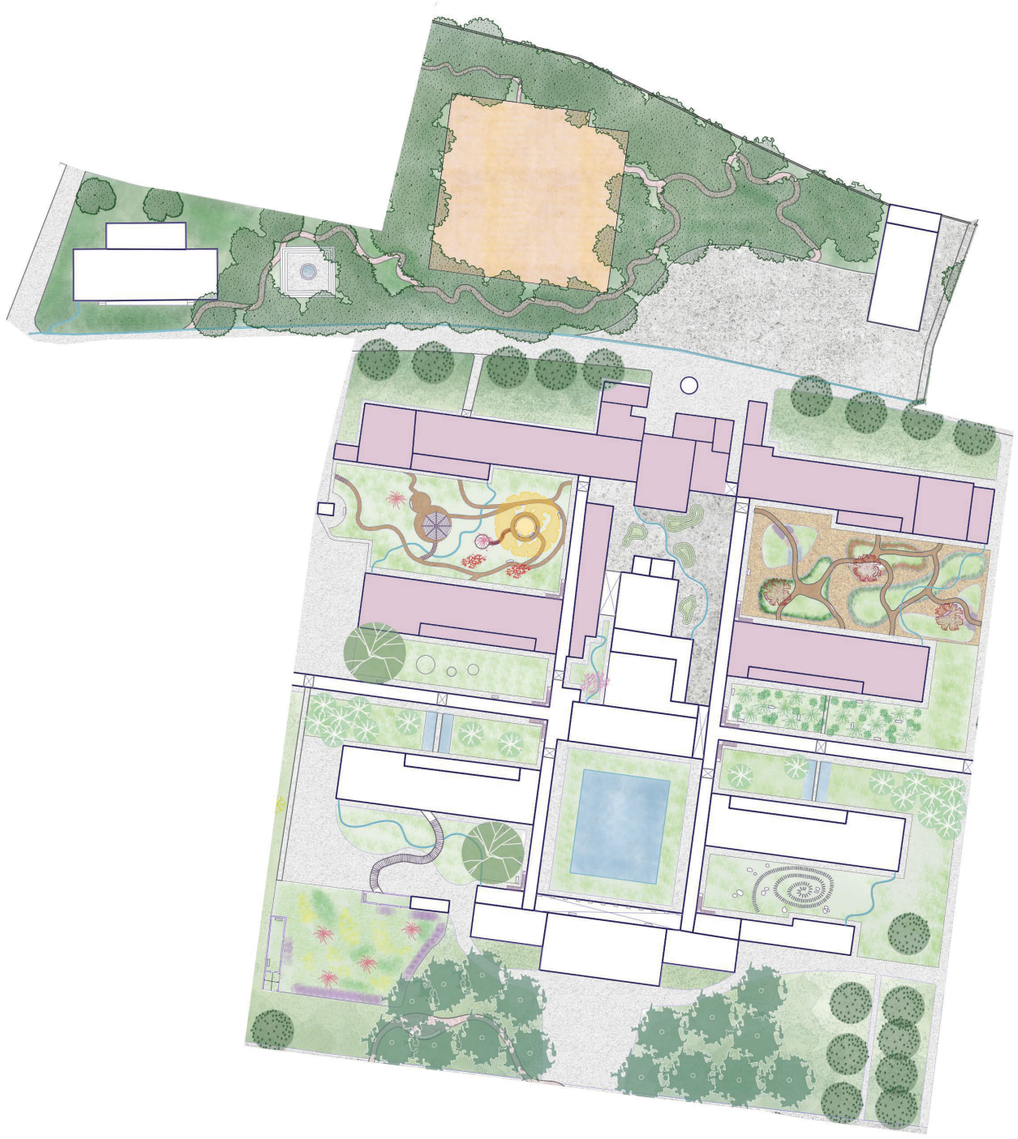
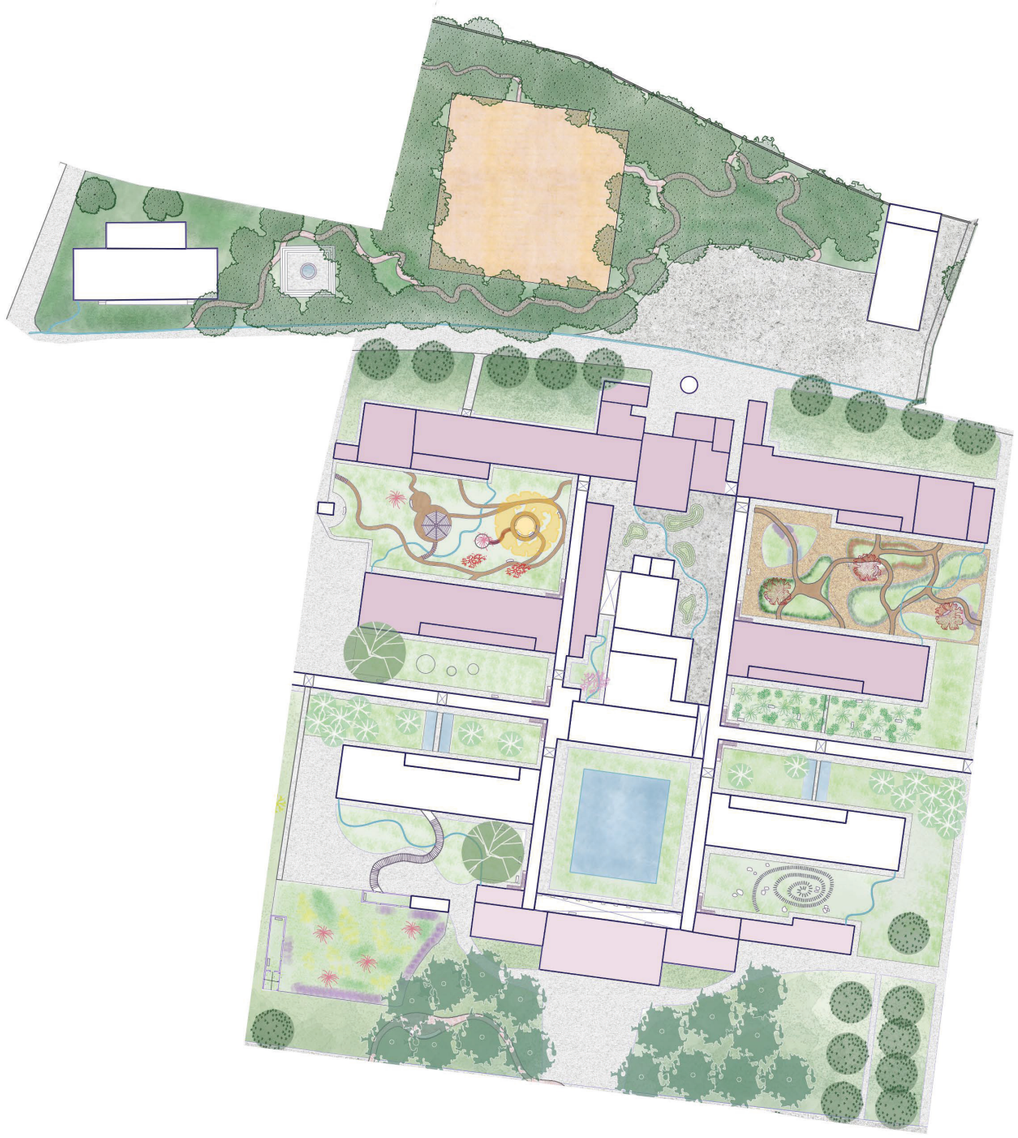
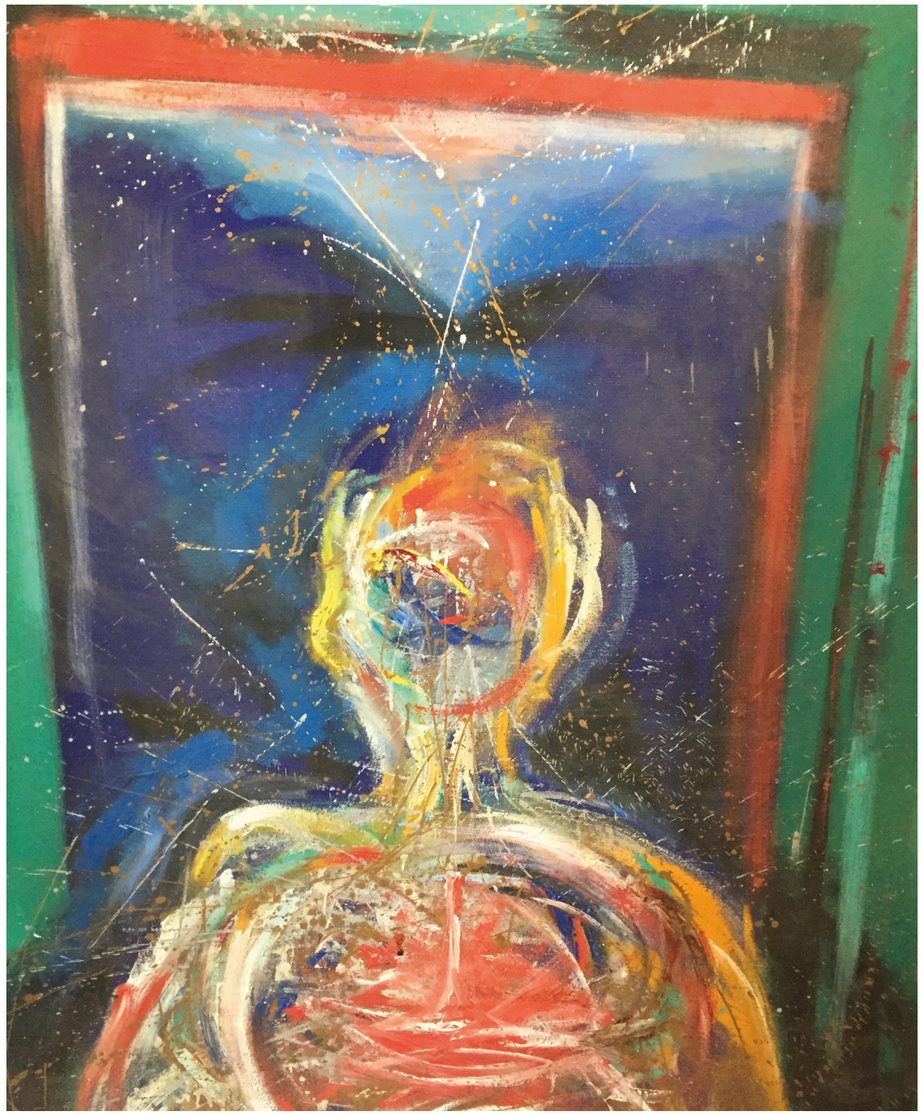

Piazza 13 Dicembre





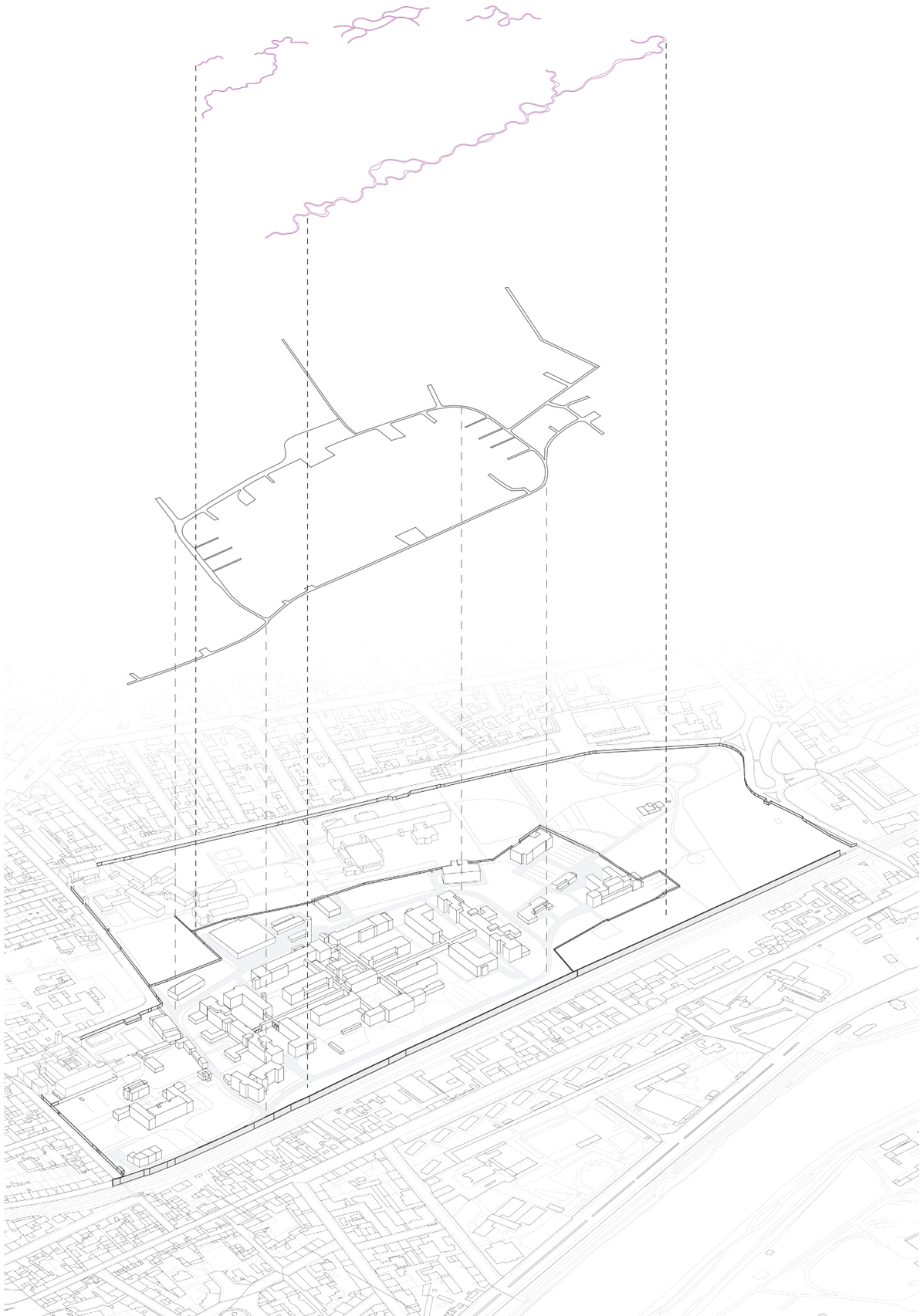


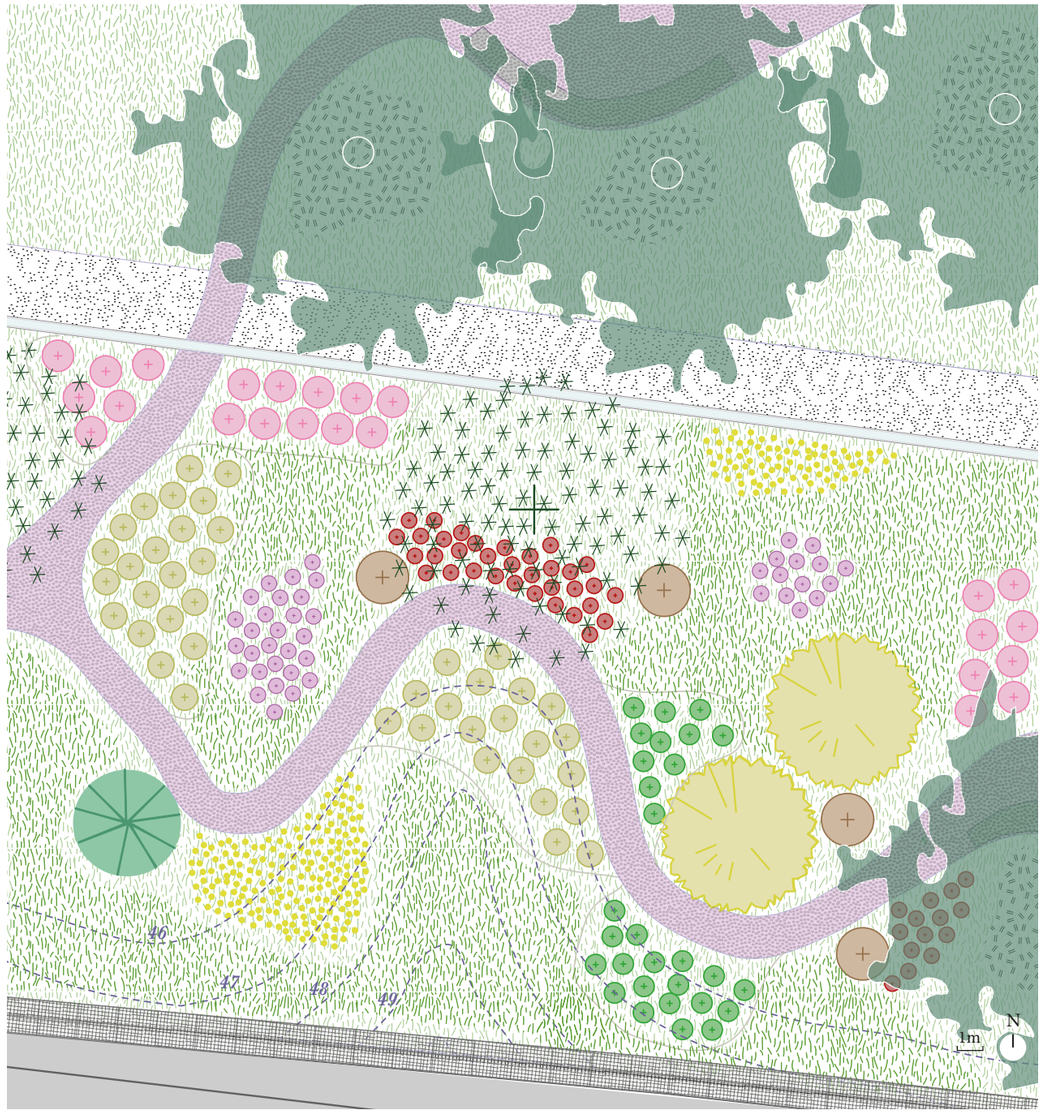




Reflection Garden

Masterplan


Added road
Existing road



Detail from the Hill - Forest

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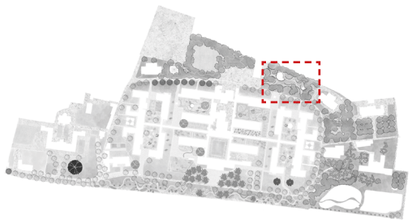
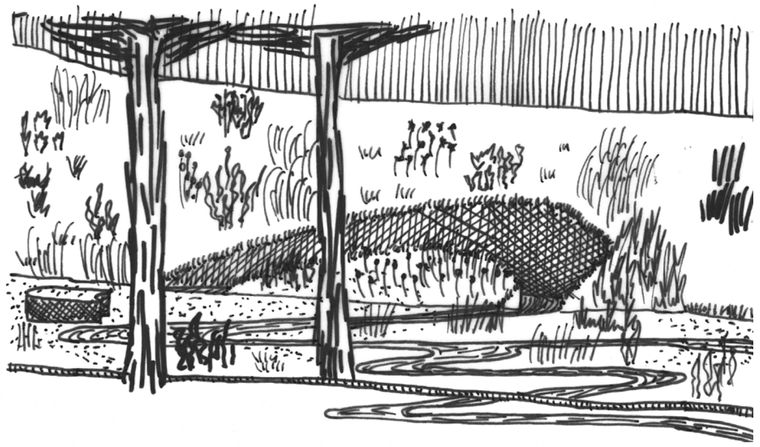
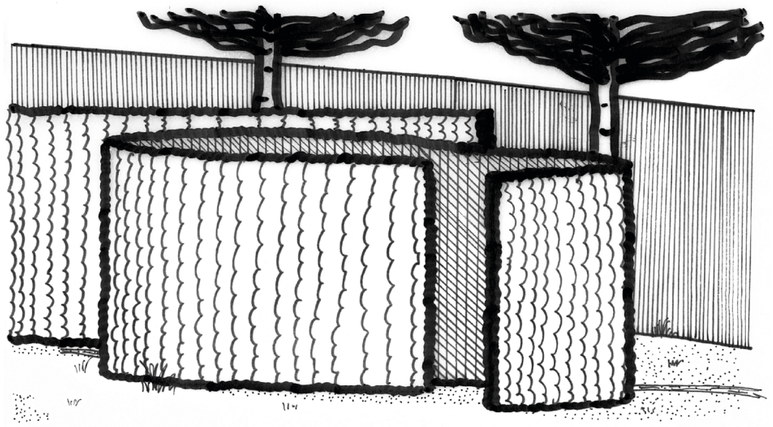
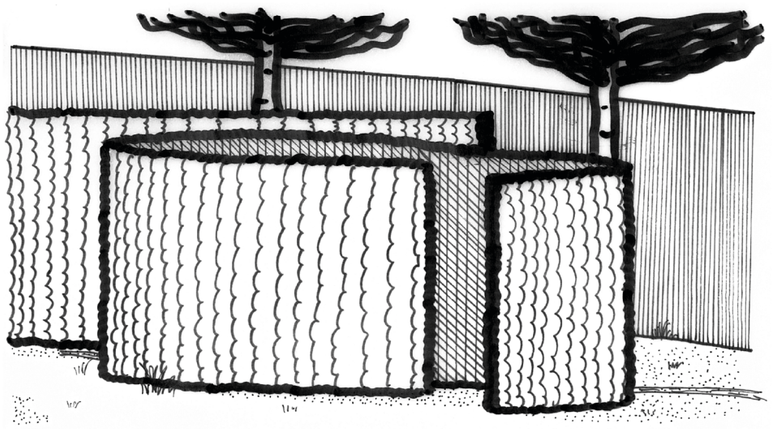
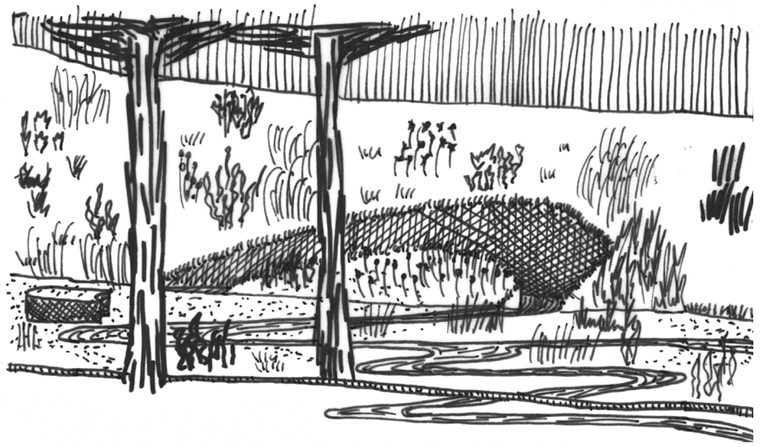
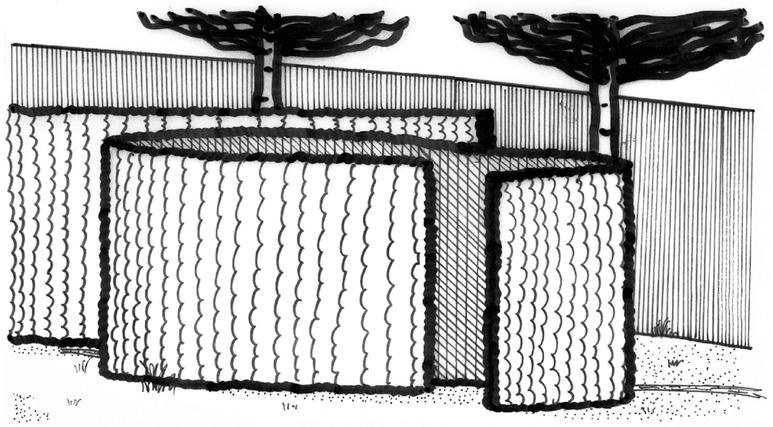




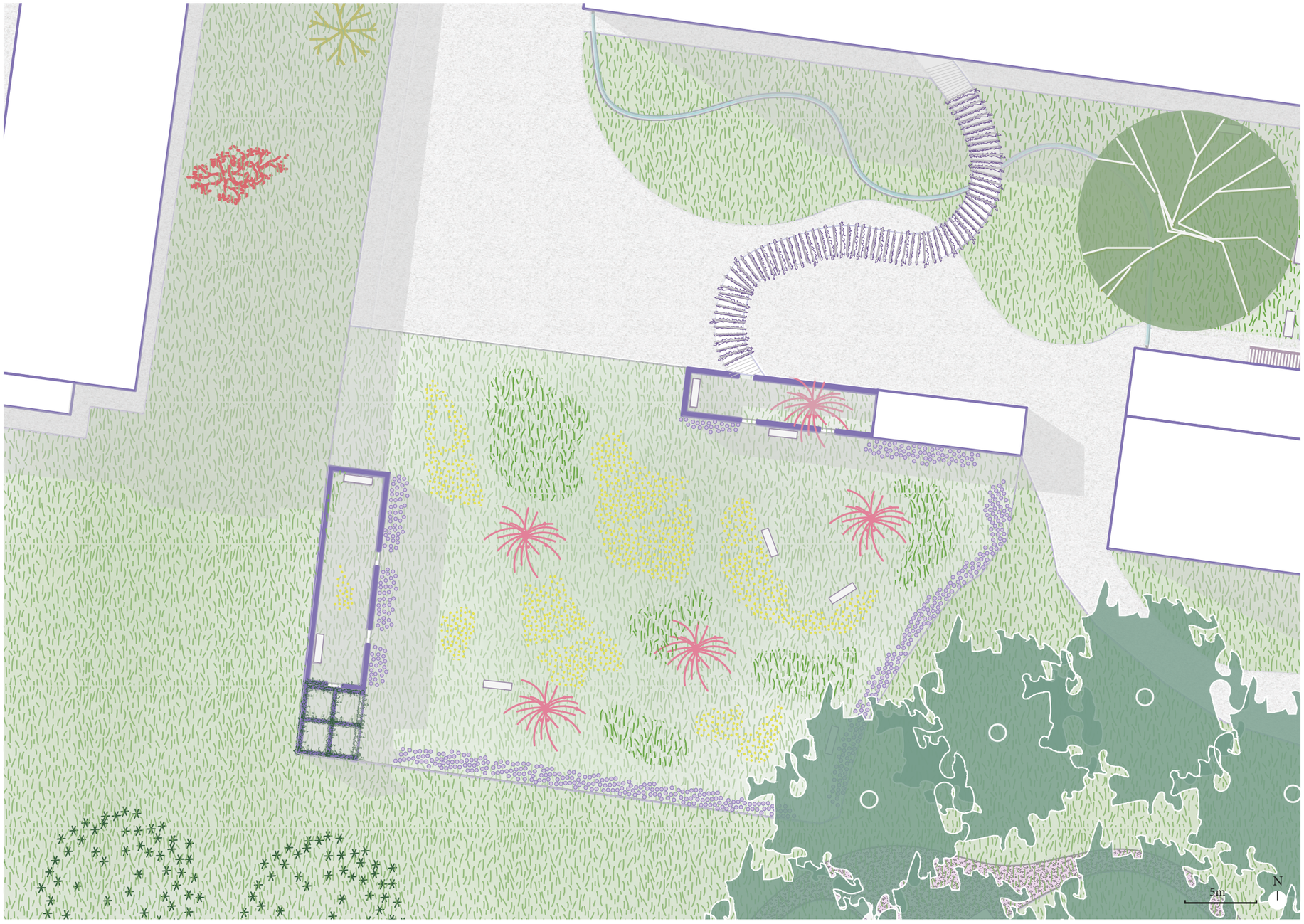








CONTEMPLATION
SAFETY
ENGAGING
DIFFERENT TEXTURES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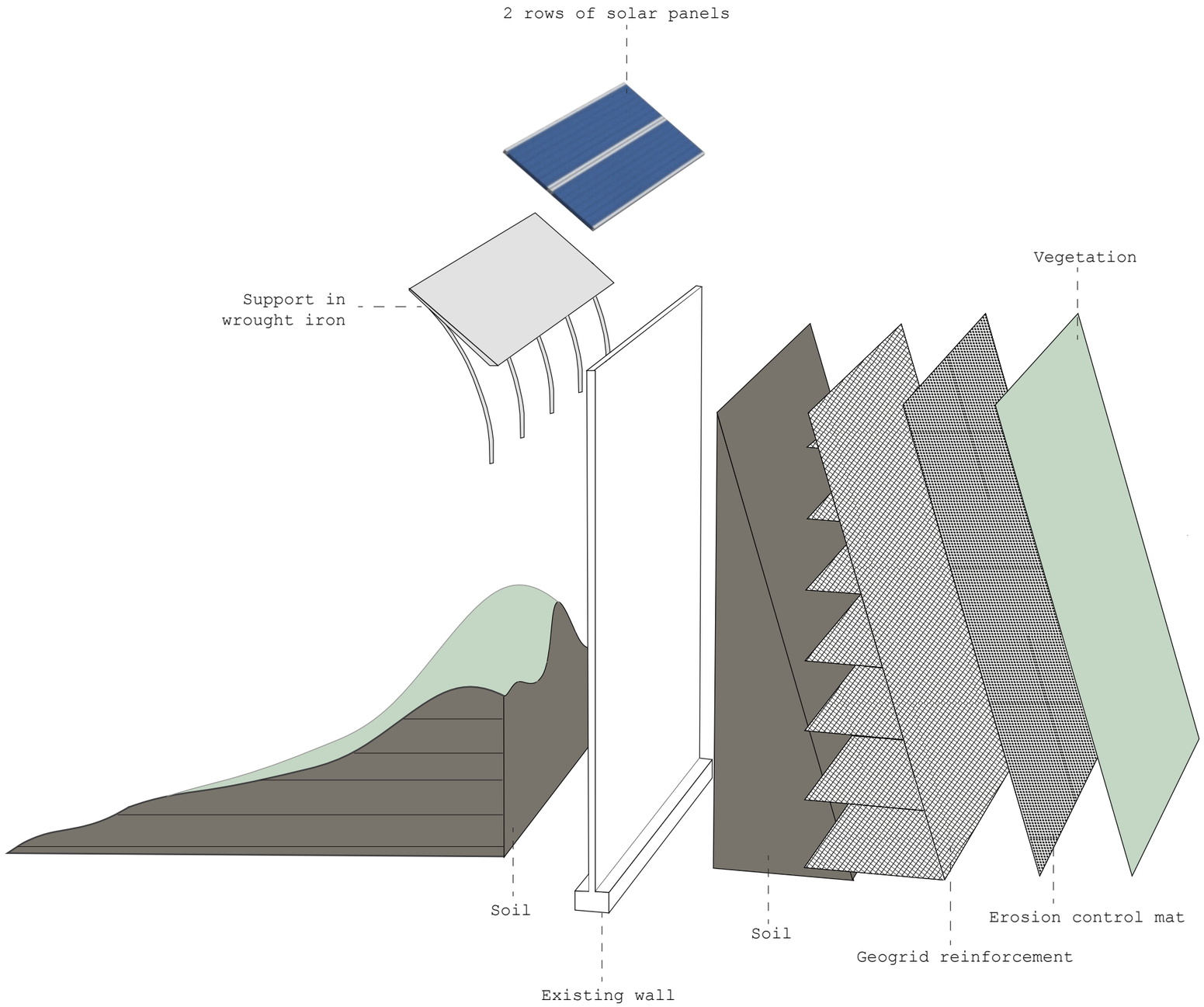
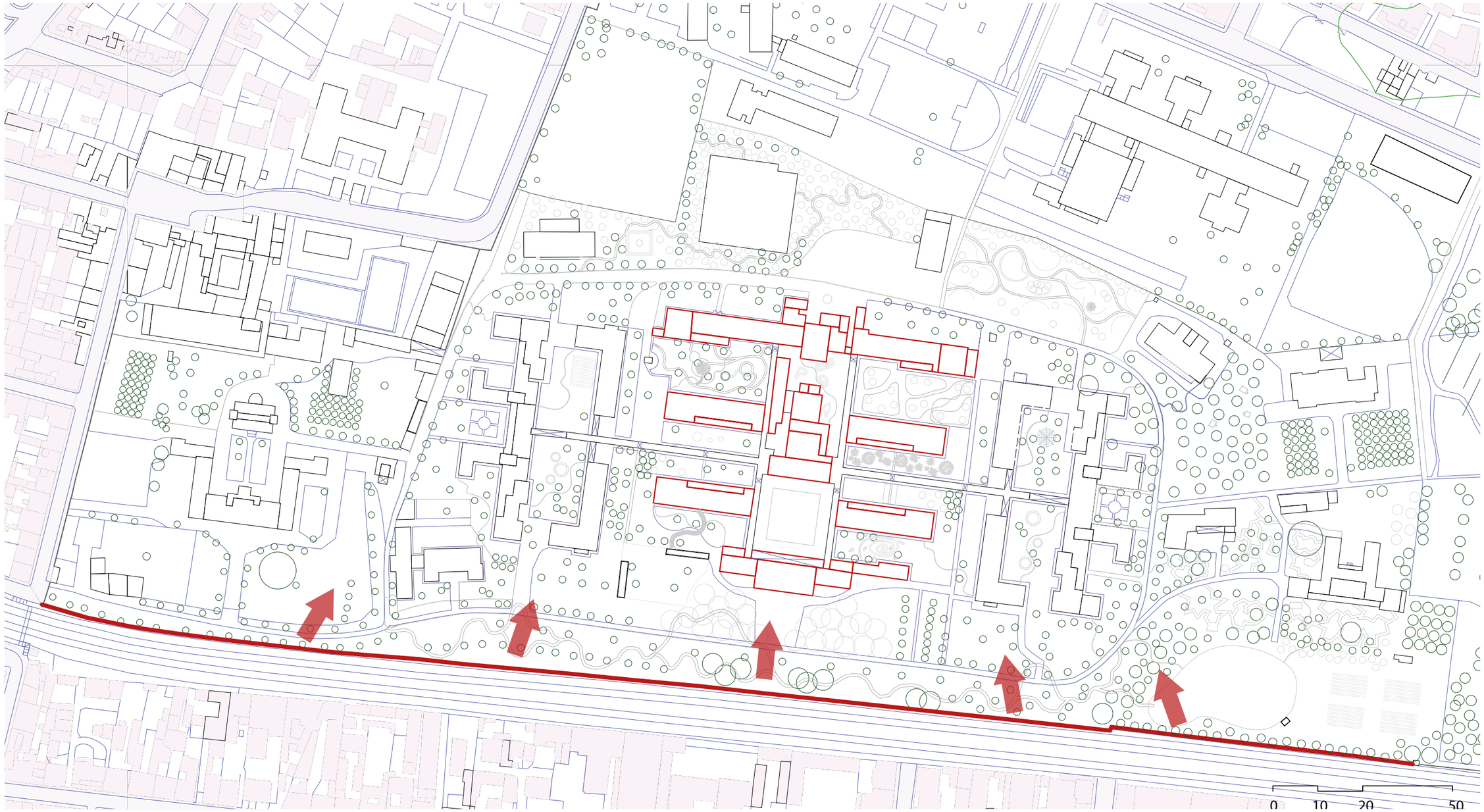
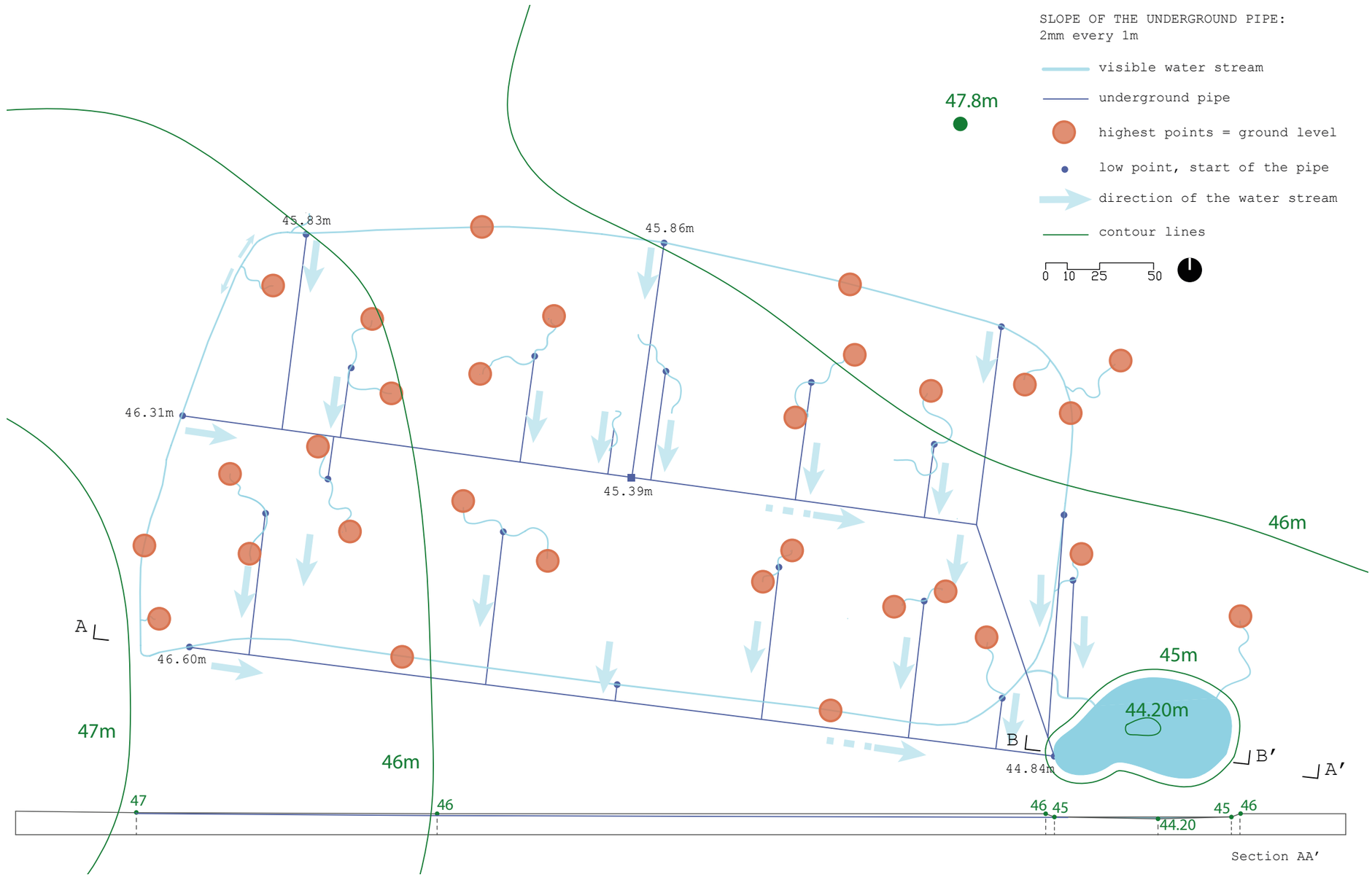


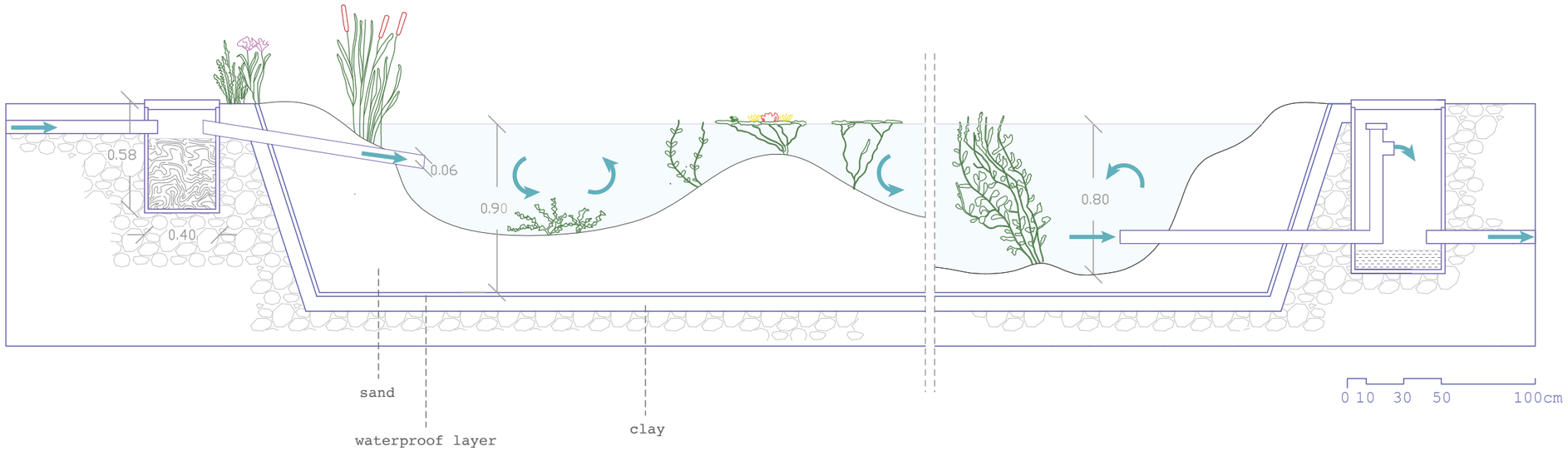
Exploded view of sound-absorbent green barrier applied on existing wall



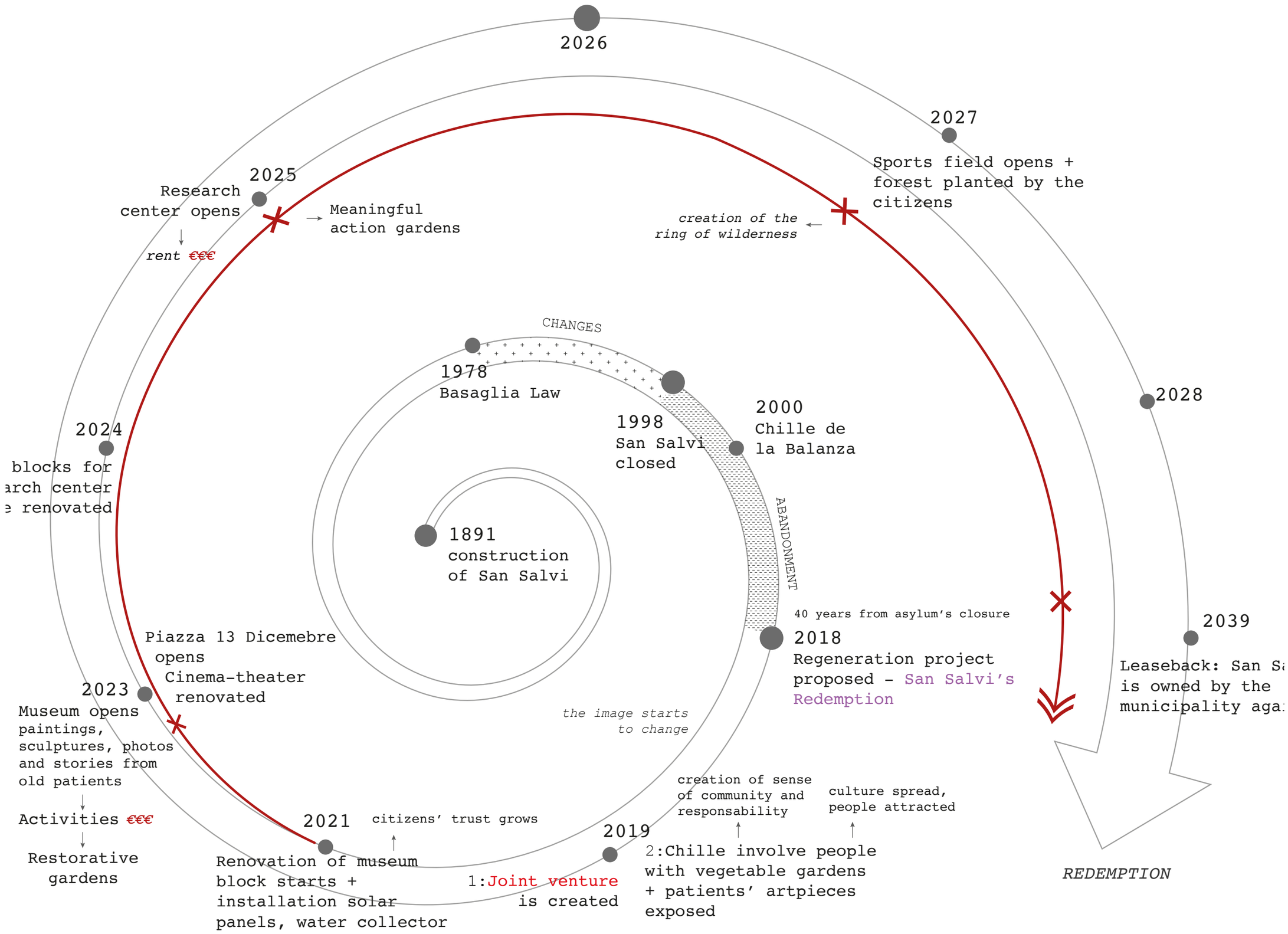
Layer of Sustainability - Solar Panels



Layer of Sustainability - Water collector



Phytoremediation system


2026
2027
Sports field opens + forest planted by the citizens
2025
Research center opens
rent €€€
Meaningful action gardens
creation of the ring of wilderness
CHANGES
1978
Basaglia Law
2000
Chille de la Balanza
1998
San Salvi closed
2028
2024
blocks for arch center e renovated
1891
construction of San Salvi
ABANDONMENT
40 years from asylum's closure
2018
Regeneration project proposed - San Salvi's Redemption
2039
Leaseback: San Sa is owned by the municipality aga
Piazza 13 Dicemebre opens
Cinema-theater renovated
2023
Museum opens
paintings, sculptures, photos and stories from old patients
Activities €€€
Restorative gardens
the image starts to change
creation of sense of community and responsability
culture spread, people attracted
2021
citizens' trust grows
Renovation of museum block starts + installation solar panels, water collector
2019
1:Joint venture is created
2:Chille involve people with vegetable gardens + patients' artpieces exposed
REDEMPTION