

De Hondsrug  
Drenthe, 2020



**From ambiguous borderscapes to pluralism**  
An alternative landscape representation as a way of integrating  
'nature' and 'culture' around the Hunze valley.

P5 Presentation  
Studio Flowscapes - Circular Water Stories  
Farnoosh Bazrafkan  
4623185  
14.01.2022



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1. Representation of Nature: Art & Society
2. Representation of Nature: Drenthe

## Part II

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1. Nature in the Anthropocene
2. Theoretical Framework

## Part III

### Design



**Part I**  
**Introduction**  
**Representation of Nature: Art & Society**



## Nature in Art & Society

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#1 Representation of water in art  
Nature as 'sublime'



## Nature in Art & Society

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#2 Representation of water in art  
Understanding of natural forces



## Nature in Art & Society

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#3 Representation of water in art  
Reclaiming elements of nature



## Nature in Art & Society

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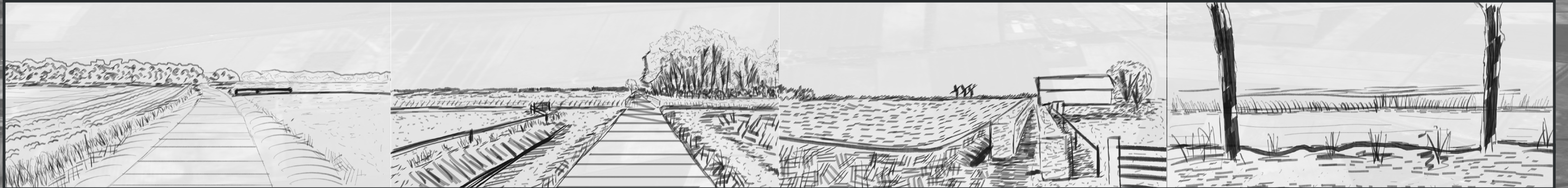
When nature becomes commodity:

How do we care for landscapes outside of our ownership?





“On-land” / unusable lands





**Part I**  
**Introduction**  
**Representation of Nature: Drenthe**



## The Site

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Netherlands Christianized



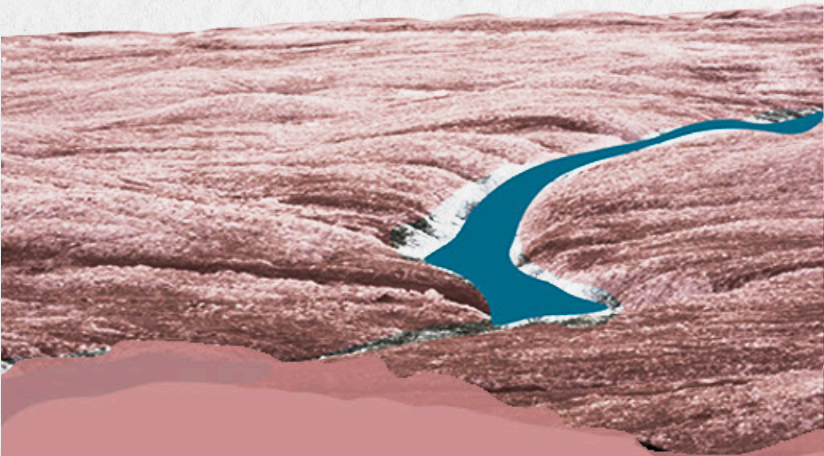
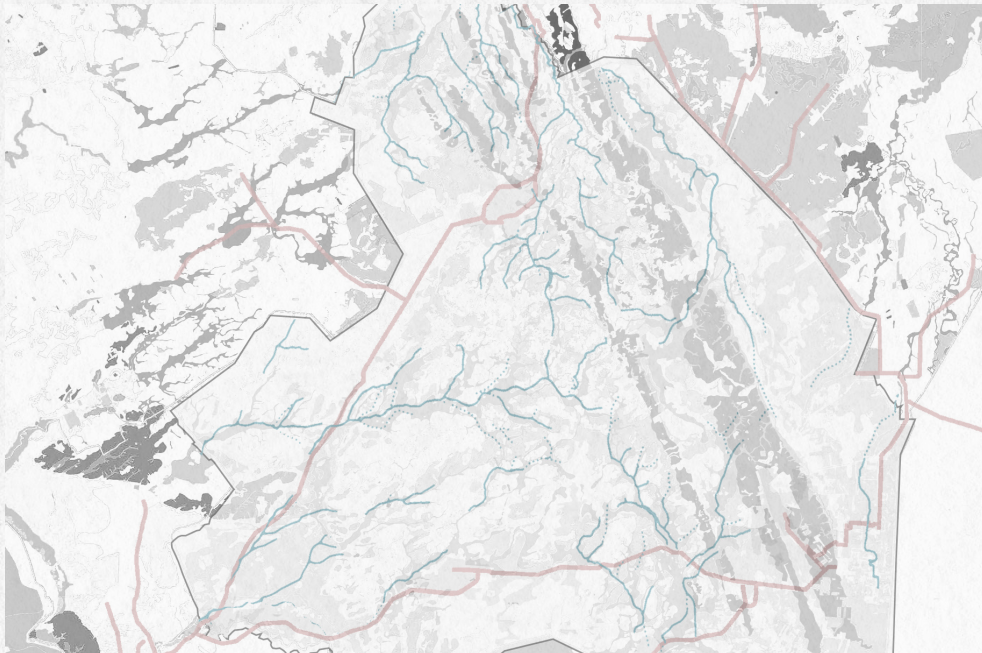
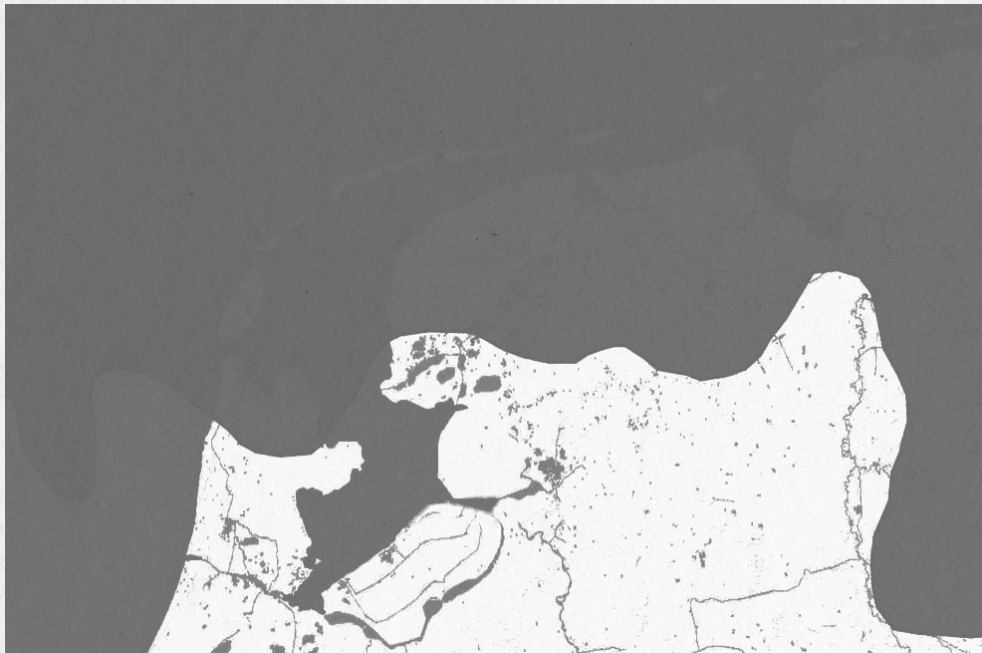
## The Site

“The land of God” ending at Overijssel





Development



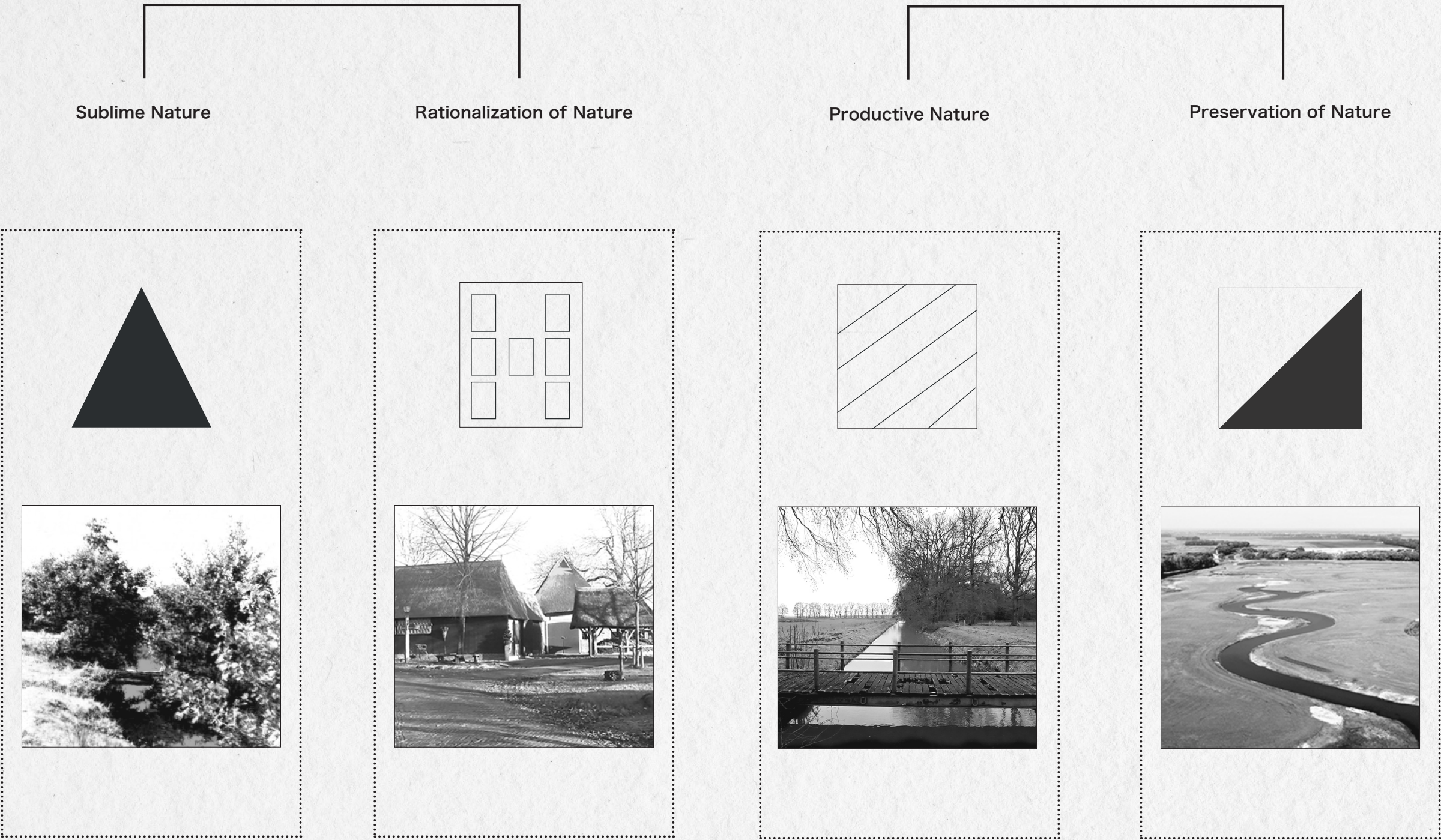
+/- 200.000 B.C  
ICE AGE

+/- 1250  
MIDDLE AGES

+/- 1850  
INDUSTRIALIZATION



# Cultural Lines - An archive of values that captures beliefs on nature



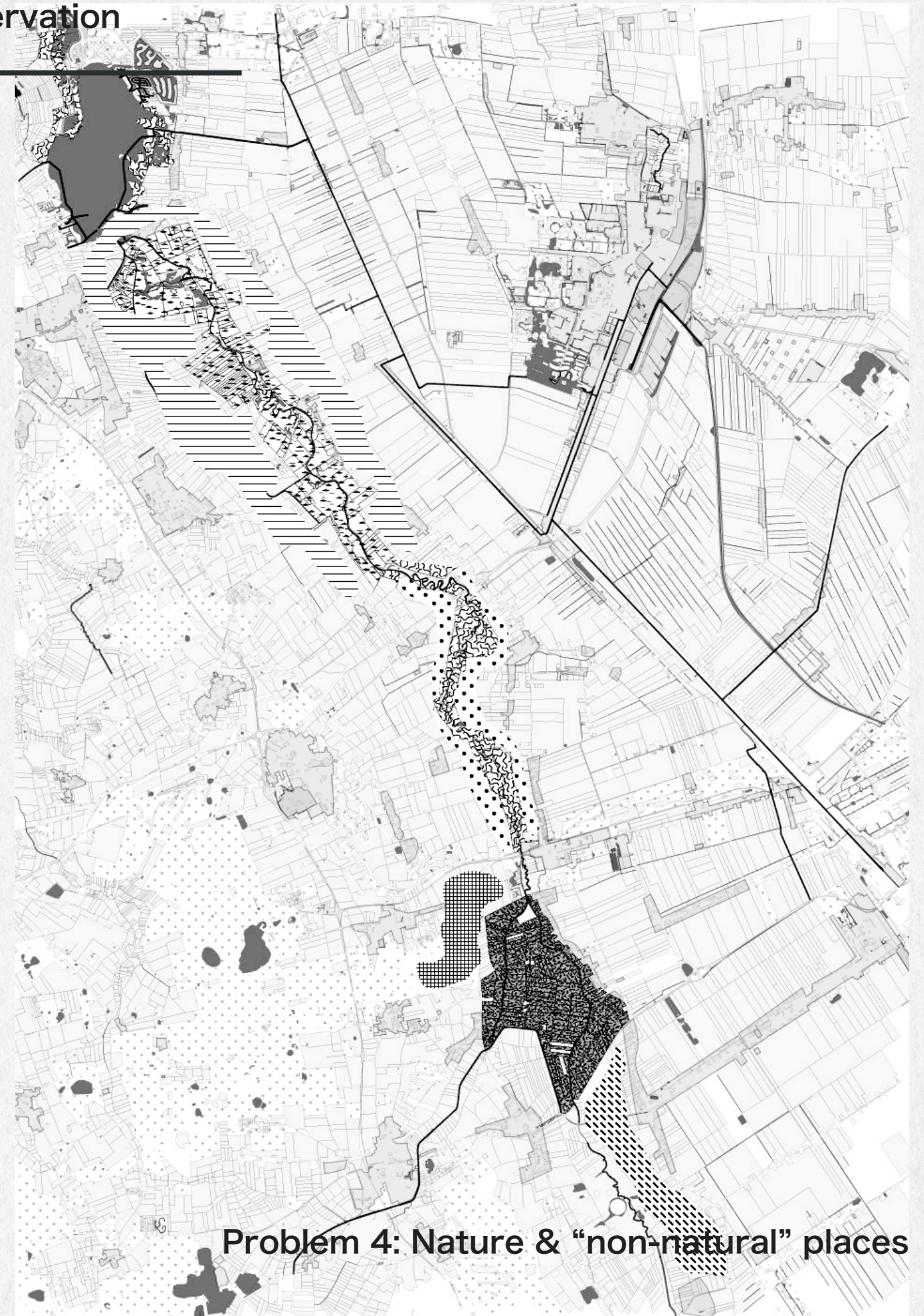
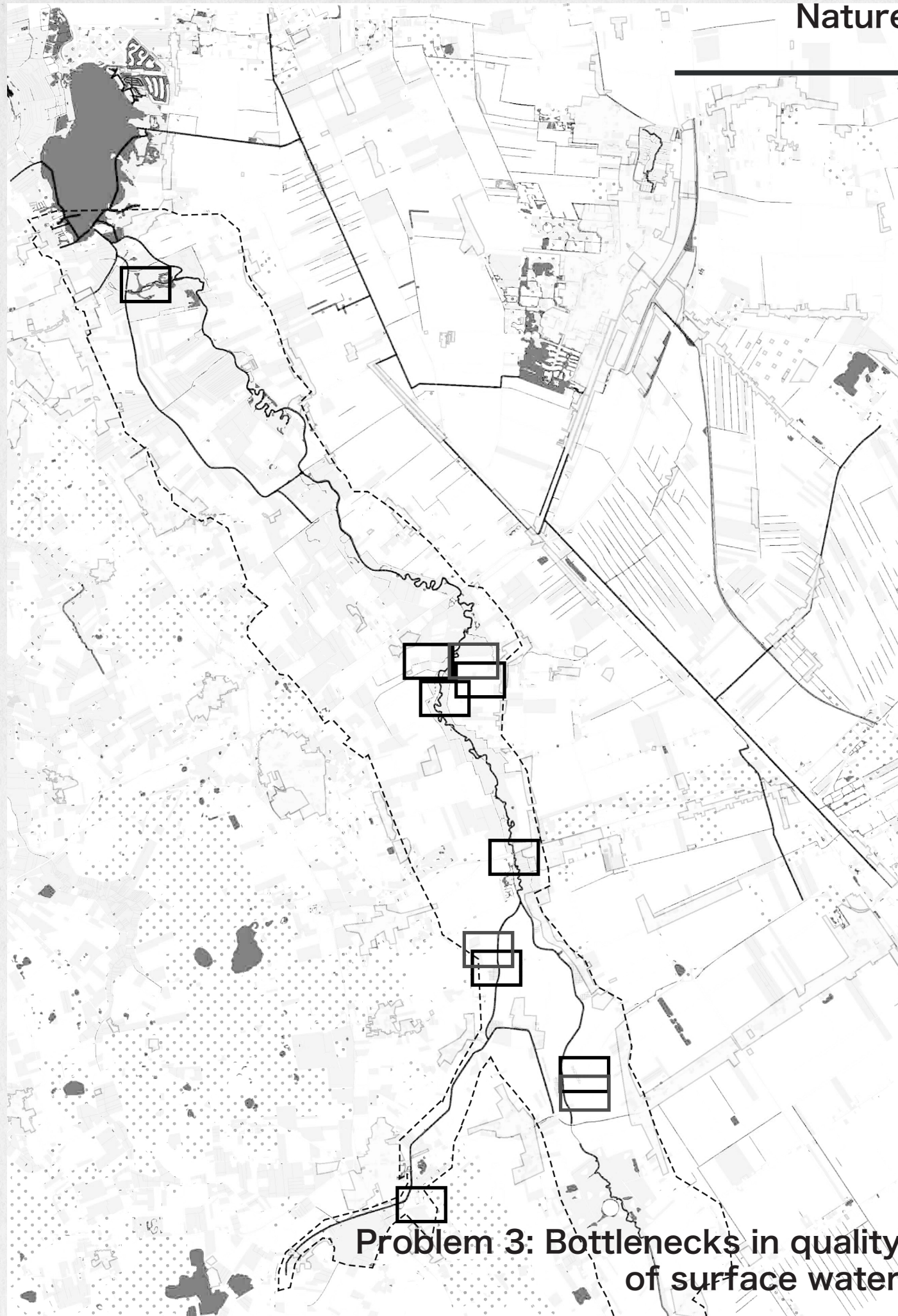


## Nature Preservation





## Nature Preservation

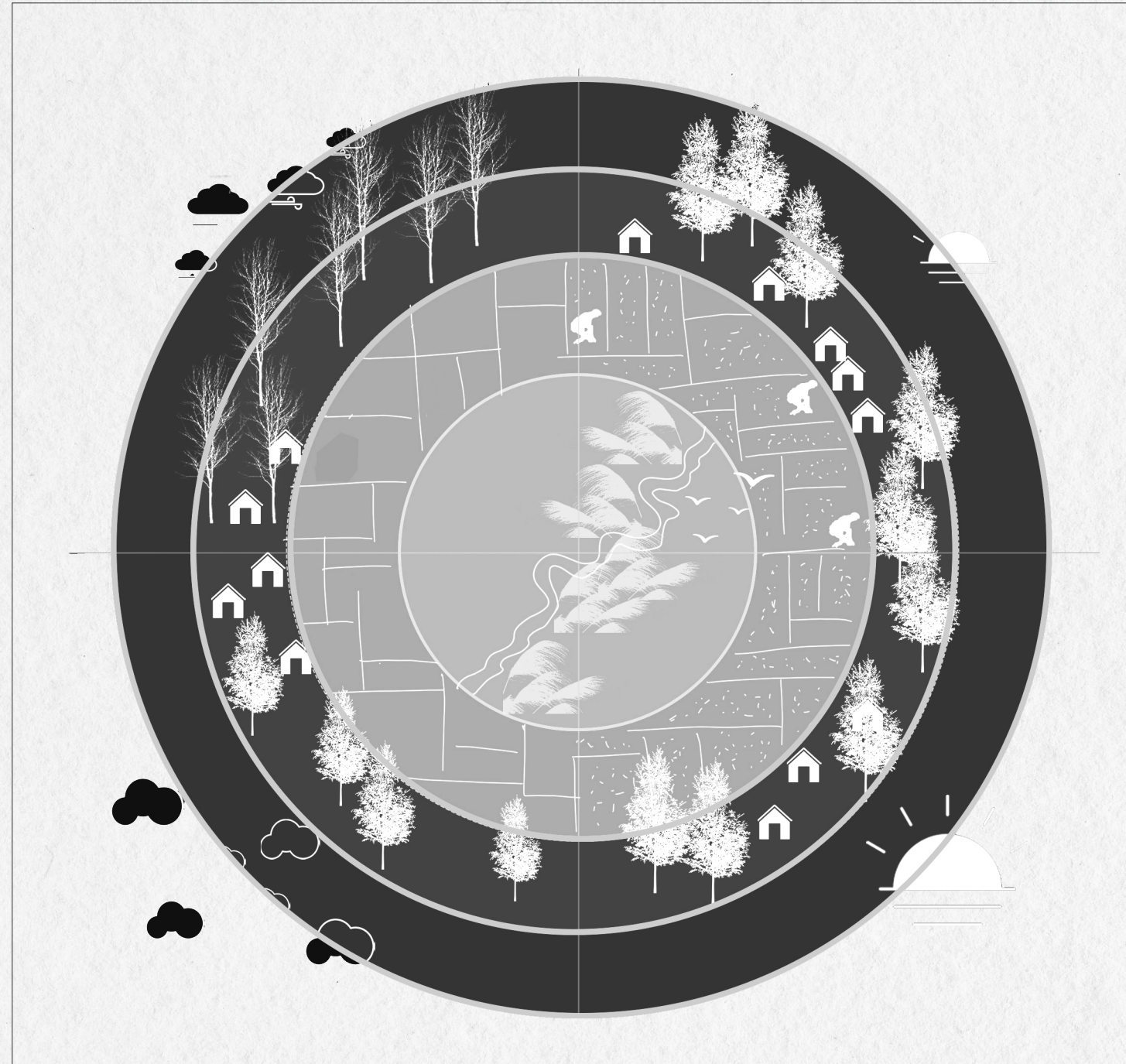




## Dualism between 'nature' and 'culture'

### Different spheres of nature, work and living

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**Part II**  
**Research**  
**Nature in the Anthropocene**

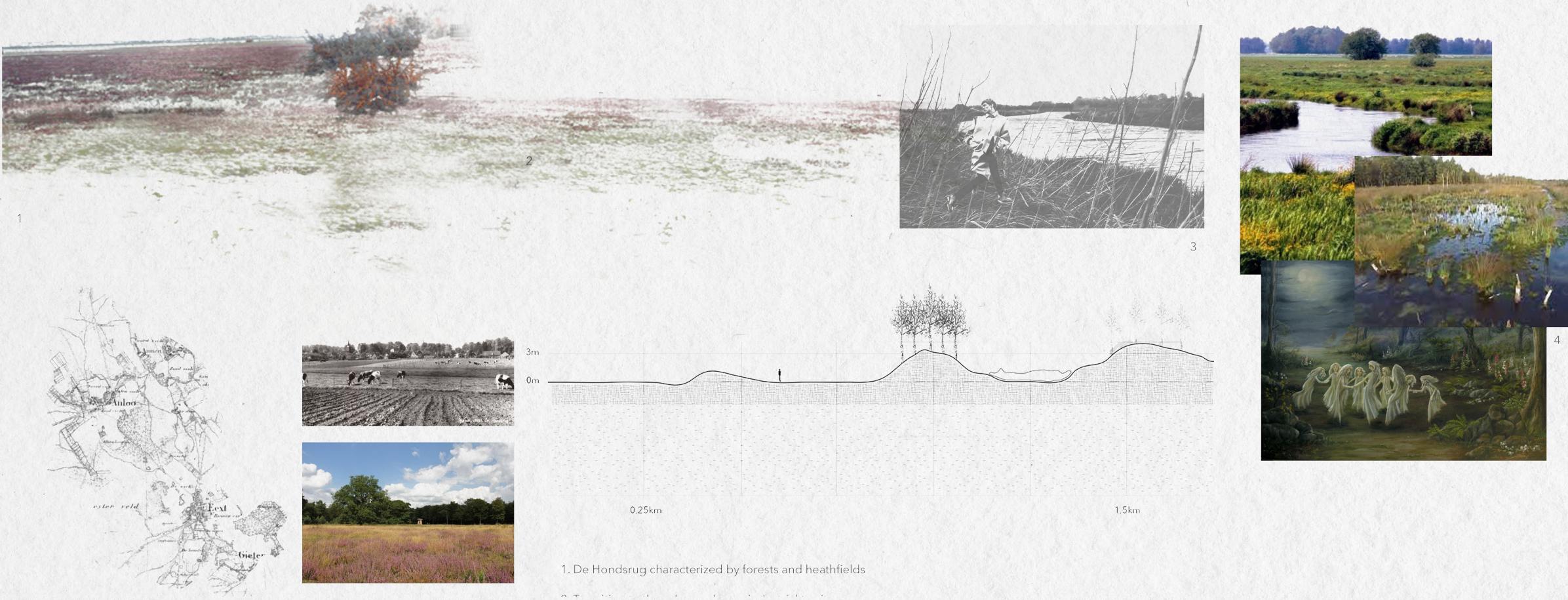


## Effects of Land-Use on Water & Soil





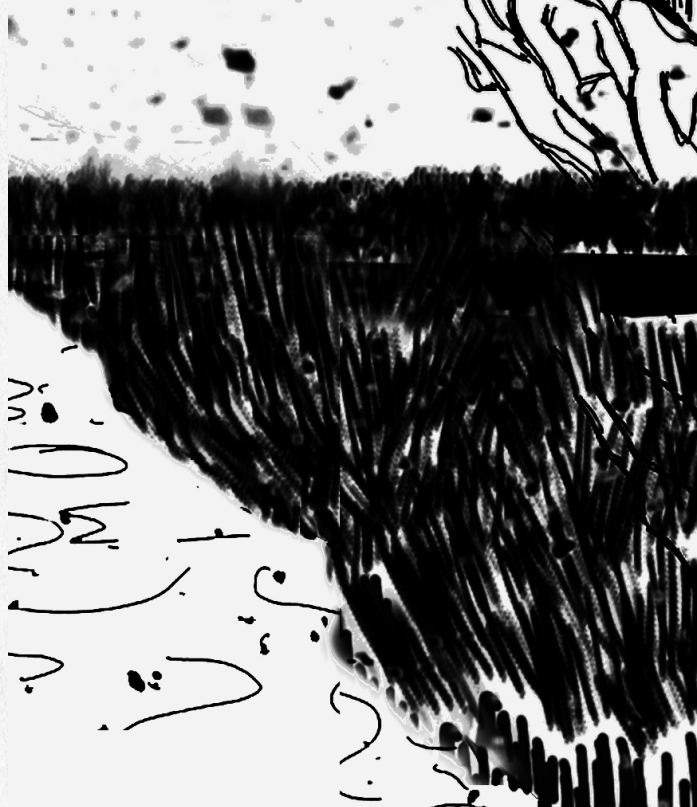
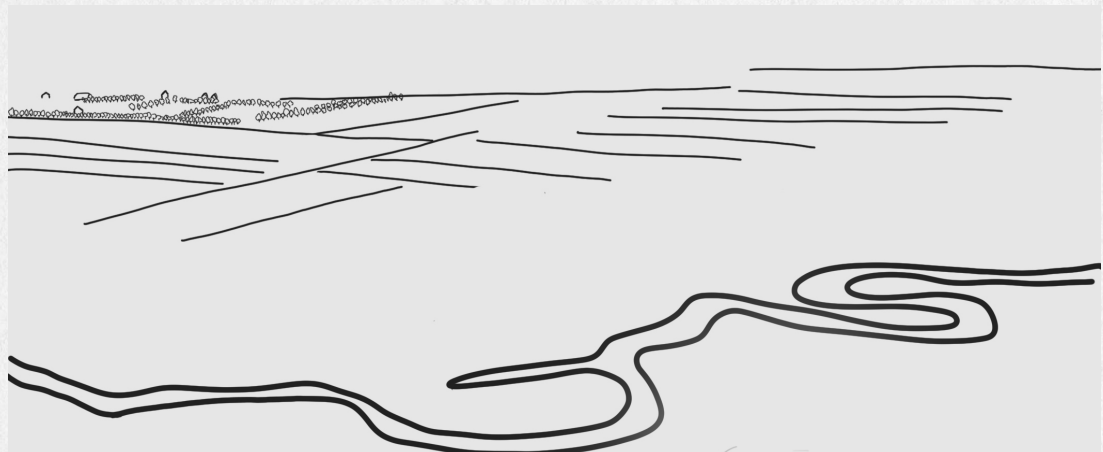
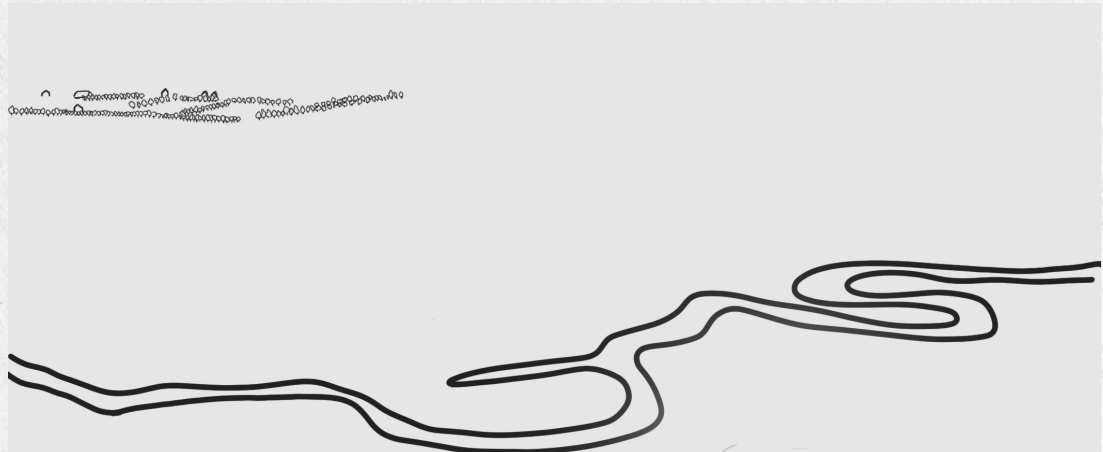
Loss of gradients





# Exclusion of Knowledge & Agency

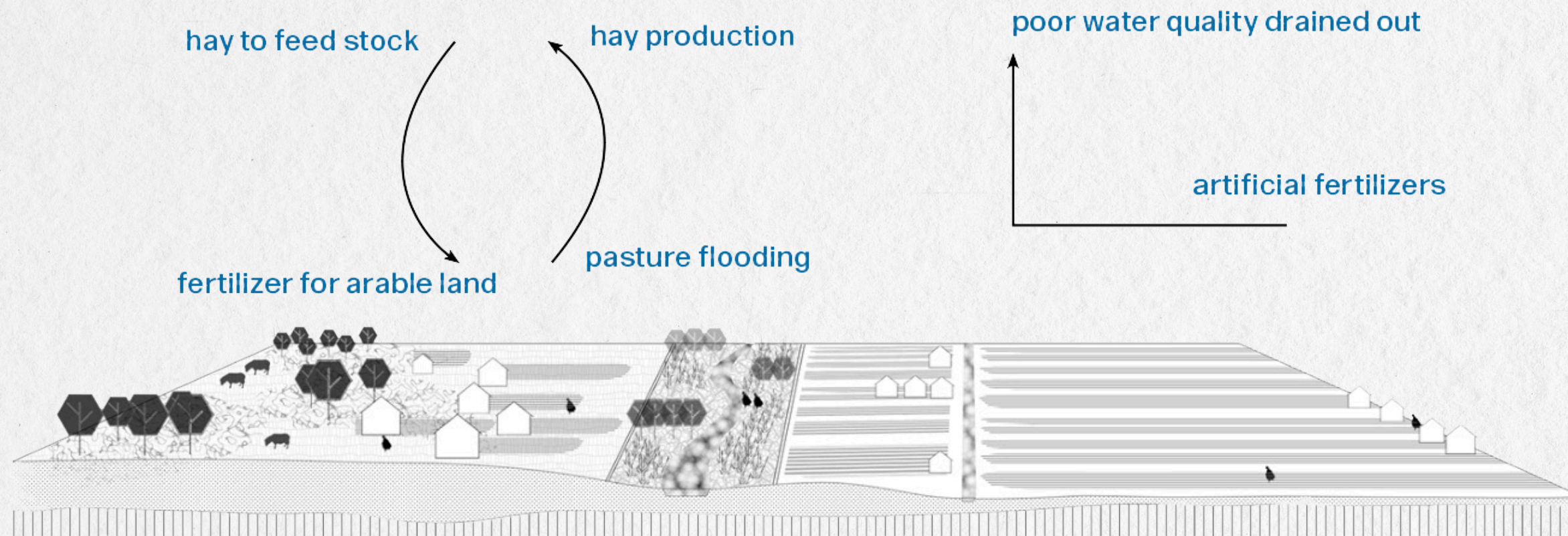
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## Knowledge of the Middle Ages

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# Area of Influence

III PROVINCIAL

I LOCAL

What happens on the x-axis has influence on y.

II REGIONAL



Traverse 1

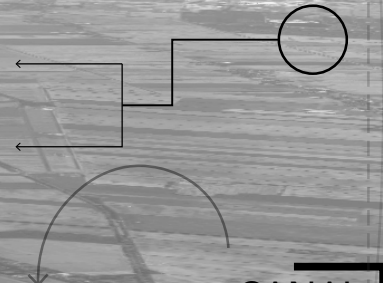
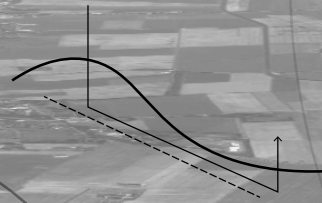
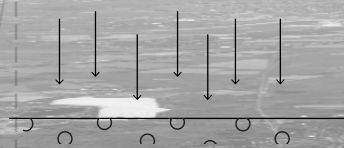
Traverse 2

Traverse 3

### Water source, use & proximity

The seepage water of the Hunze offers water during dry months, acts as water retention during wet months, serves as water discharge for agricultural ditches, and a habitat for flora and fauna.

The aim is to enhance water resources and quality at a local level as an integrative system in order to remove pressure from the Hunze as a single source.



GROUNDWATER EXTRACTION

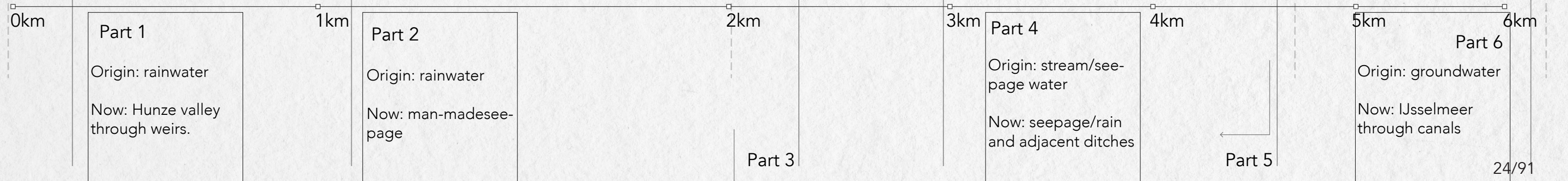
MAIN & SECONDARY DITCHES

STREAM

MAIN & SECONDARY DITCHES

CANAL

LAKES AND DITCHES







What would it mean to push these sites into the same frame? Or to read them together as a story of human living and being part of the landscape?





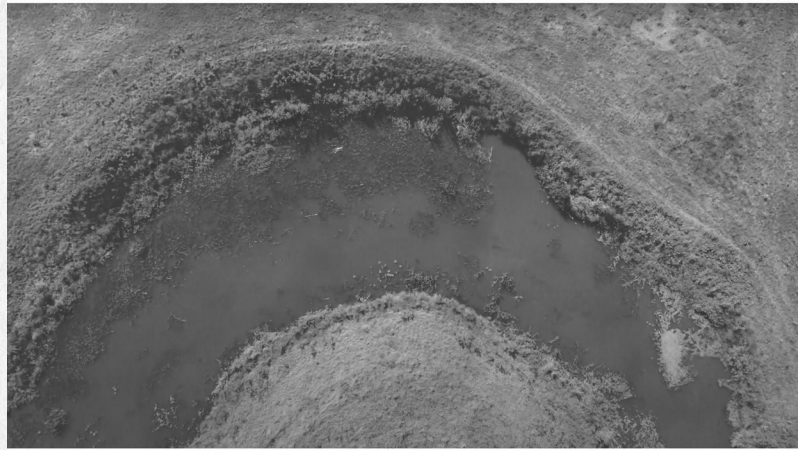
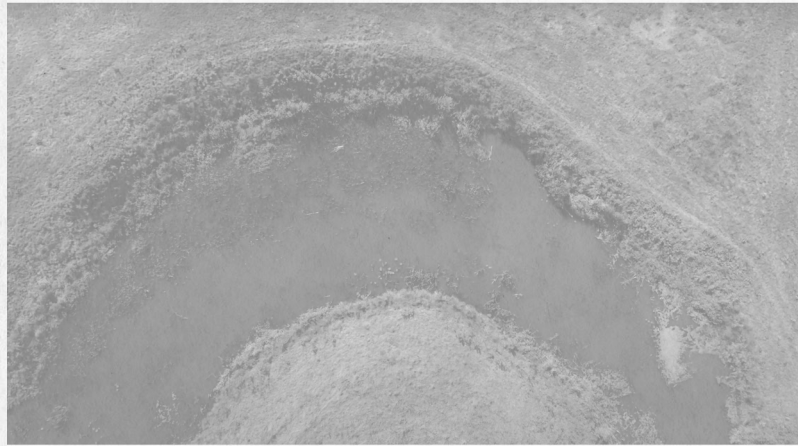
**Part II**  
**Research**  
**Theoretical Framework**



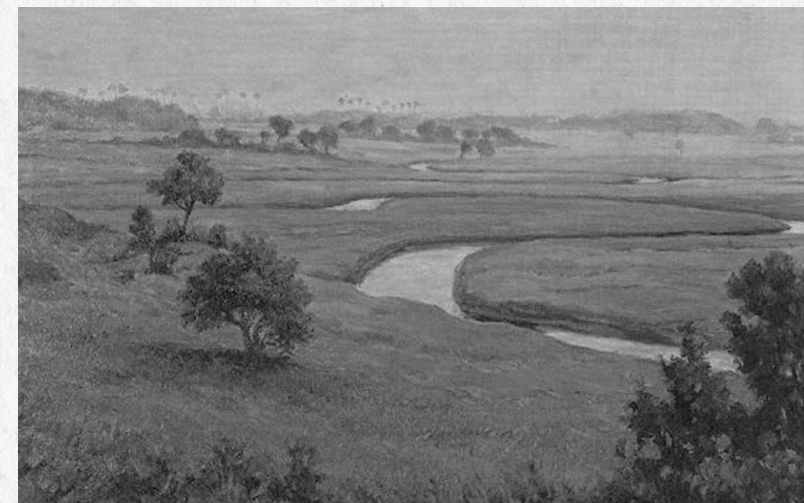
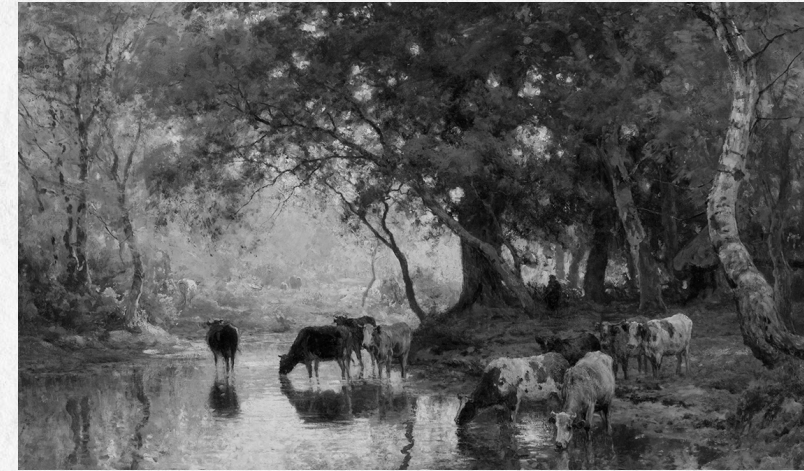
# A Different Narrative

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Landscape as innovation



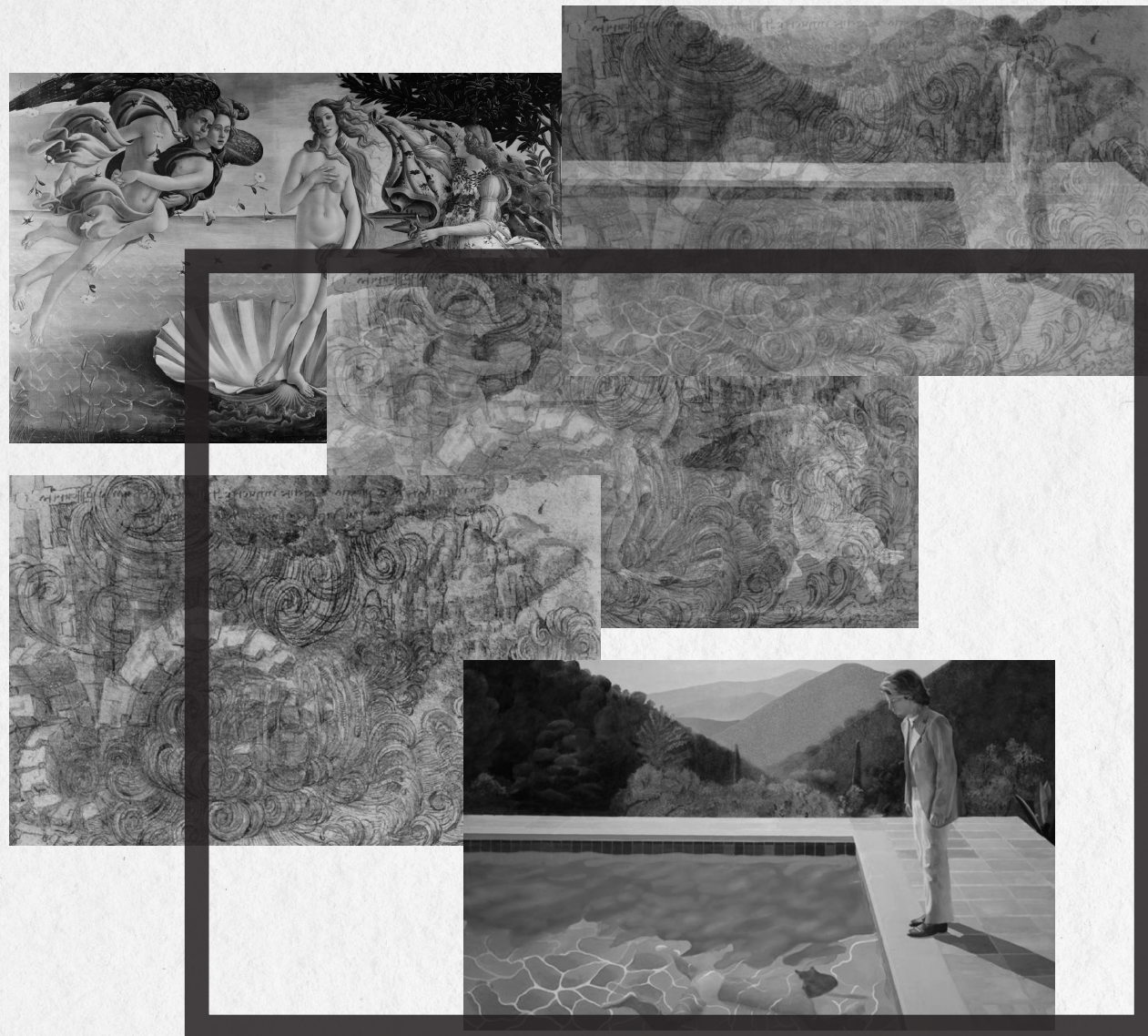
Human perspective & relation to the natural world





# Research

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## **‘Pluralism’**

Nature from an ‘either-or’ to a ‘both-and’ point of view

### **Research question**

How can the now ambiguous borderscapes of the Hunze valley be re-imagined towards a more unitary concept of ‘nature’ and ‘culture’?

### **Hypothesis**

We can design a more unitary landscape through the theoretical framework of ‘pluralism’.

### **Research objective**

There is a responsibility for architects to show how well different functions can go together; to show the value of co-existence.



# Theoretical Framework

## Monism vs. Pluralism: a philosophical notion

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### Monism

For every two goods, there must be one that is better than the other or they are equally valuable.



### Pluralism

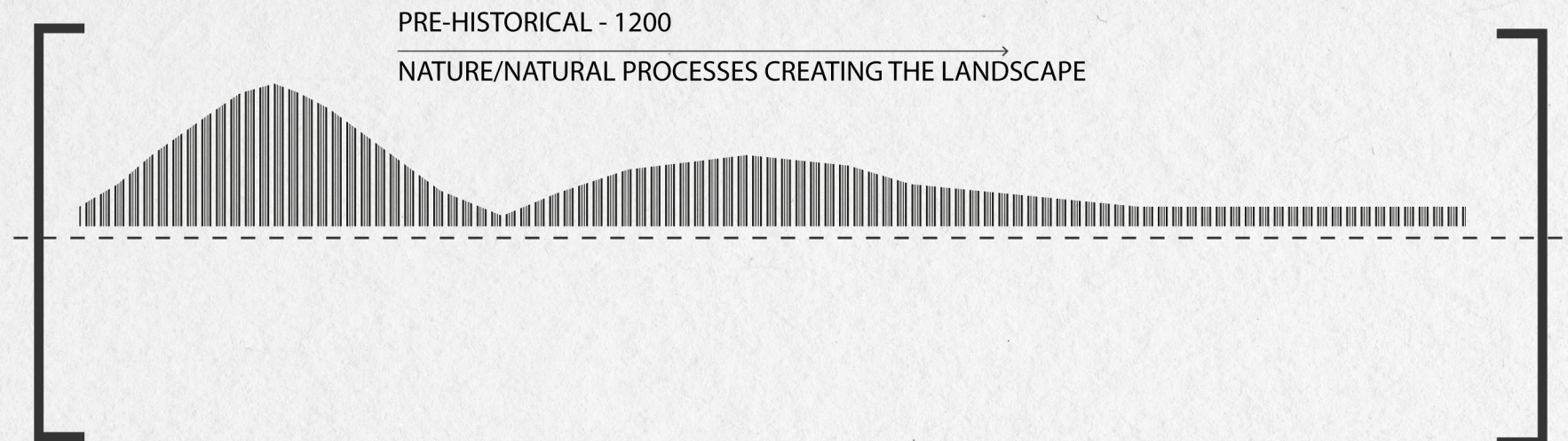
There can be two goods that are not equally valuable, where neither is better than the other.

This is not the same as diversity which also implies a conception of value.

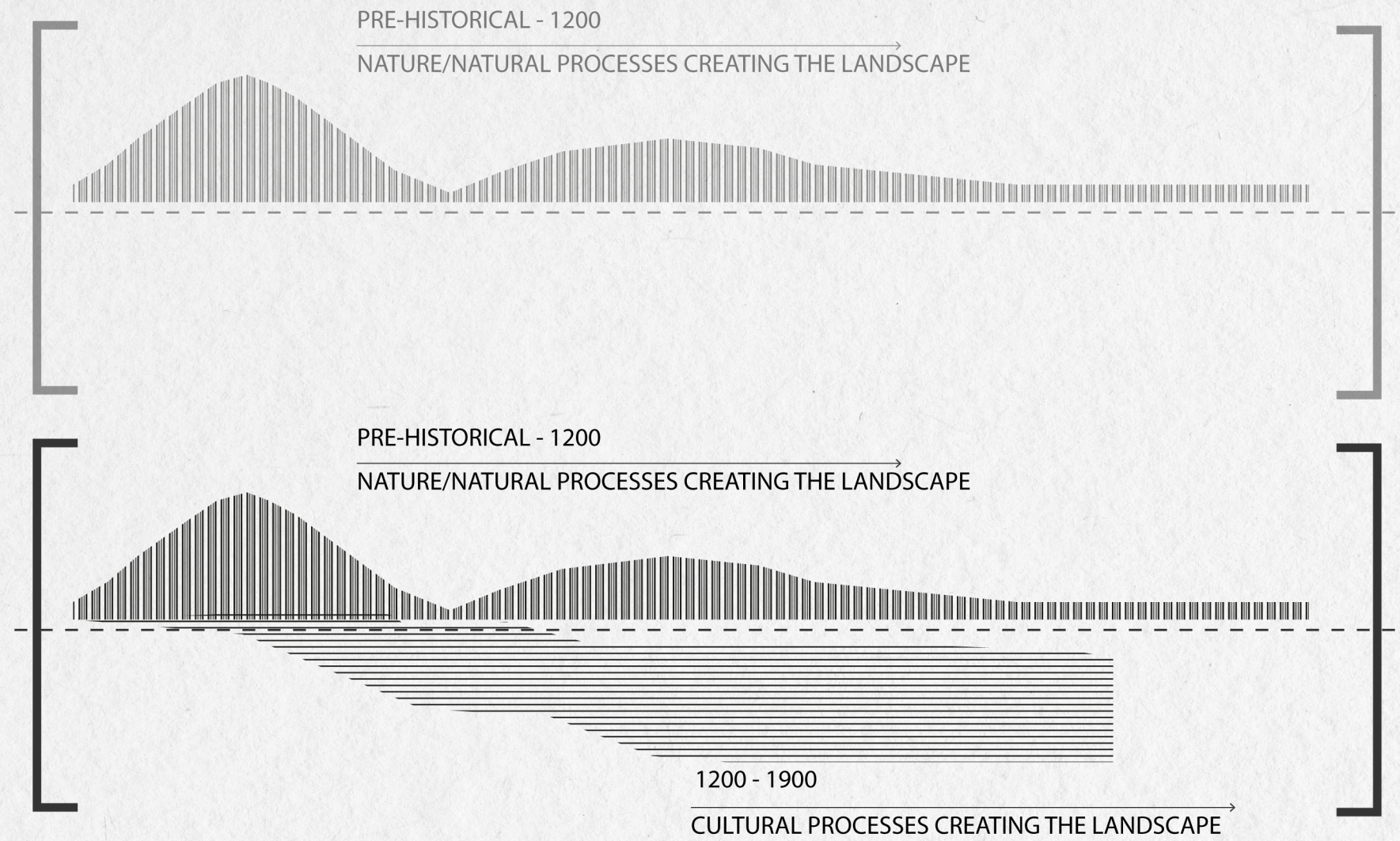


**Pluralism Revisited**  
**Coexistence**

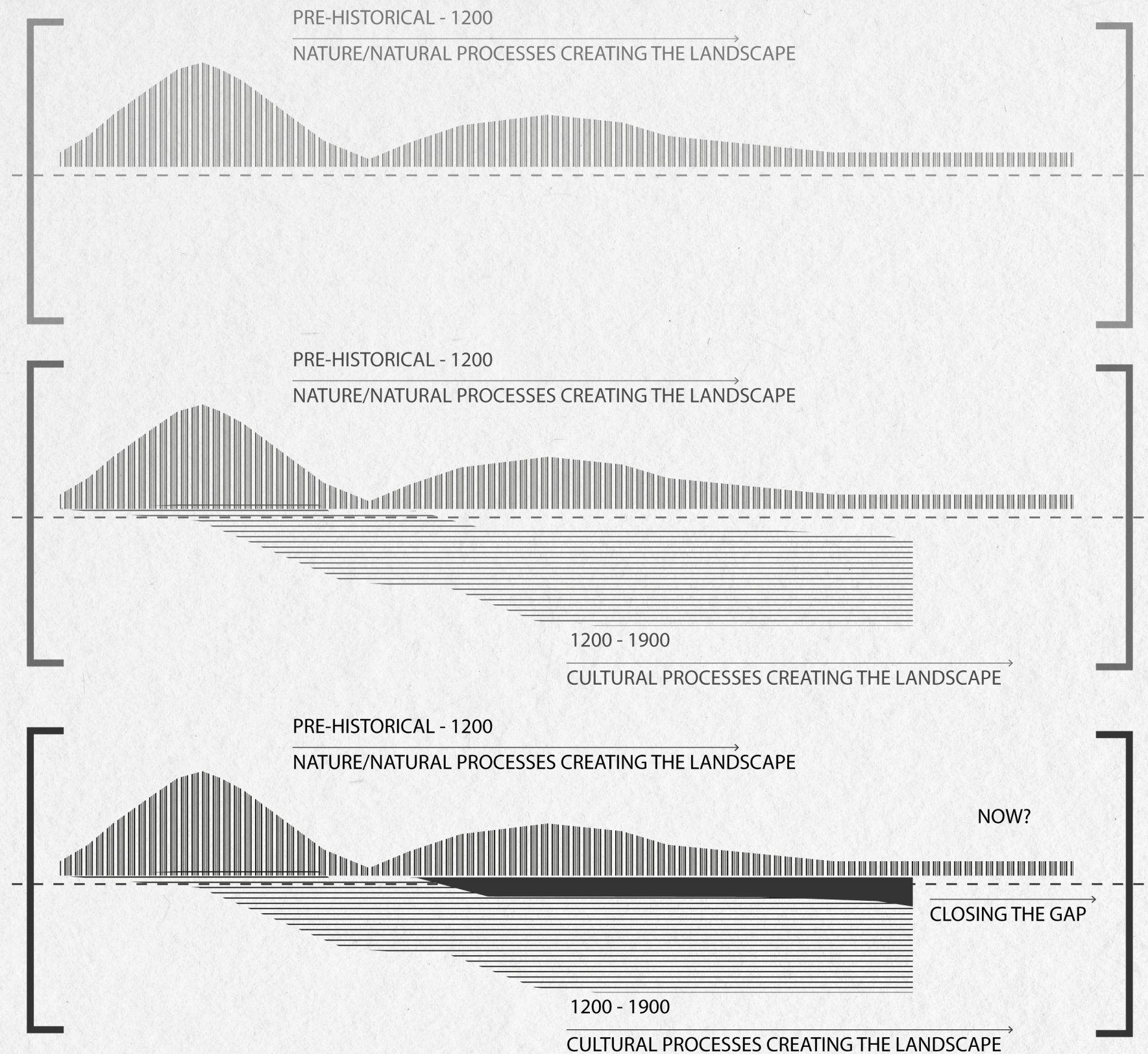




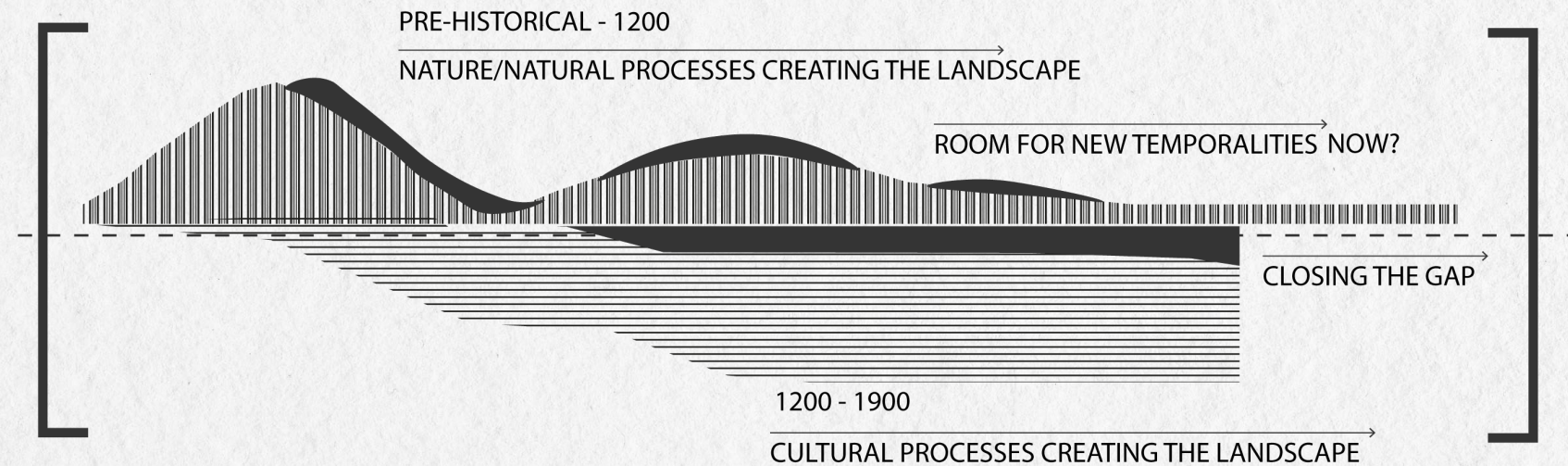
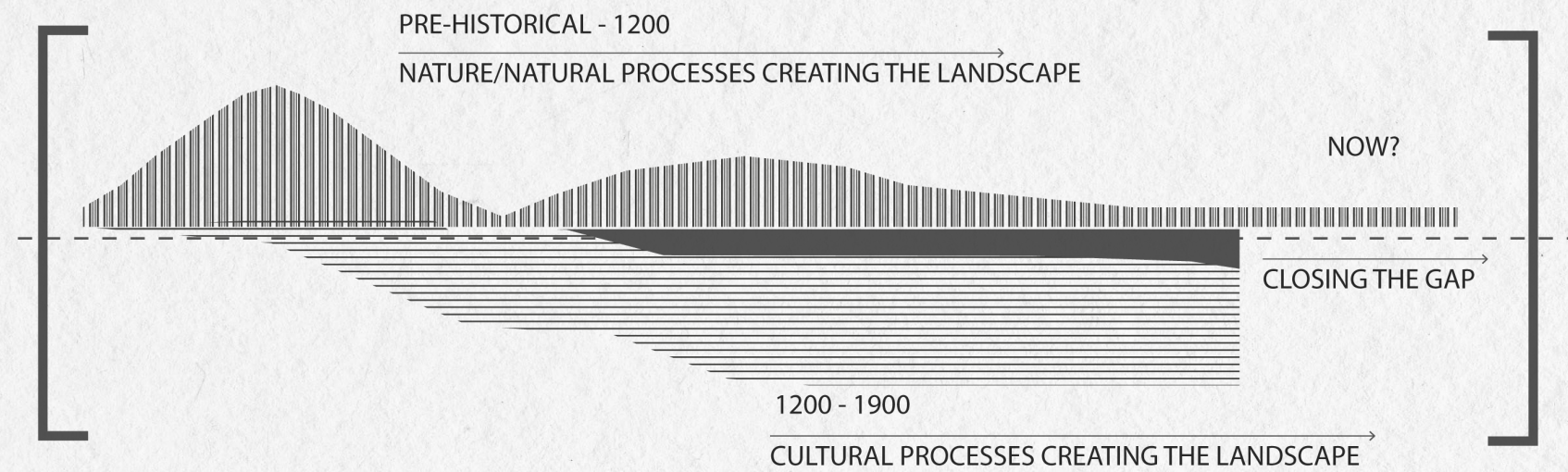
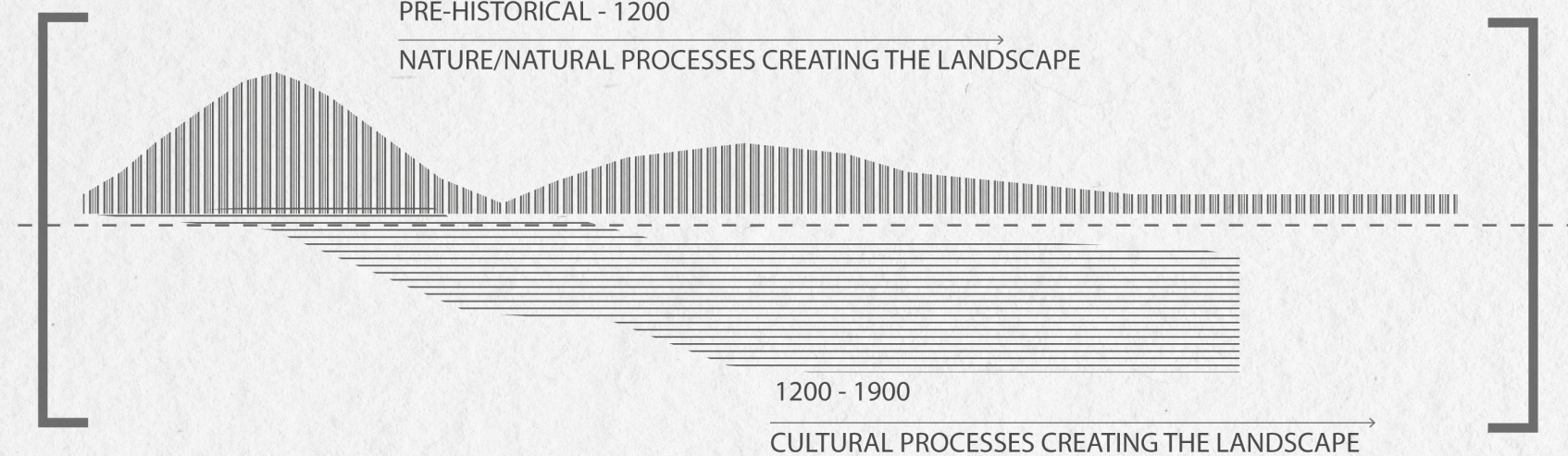
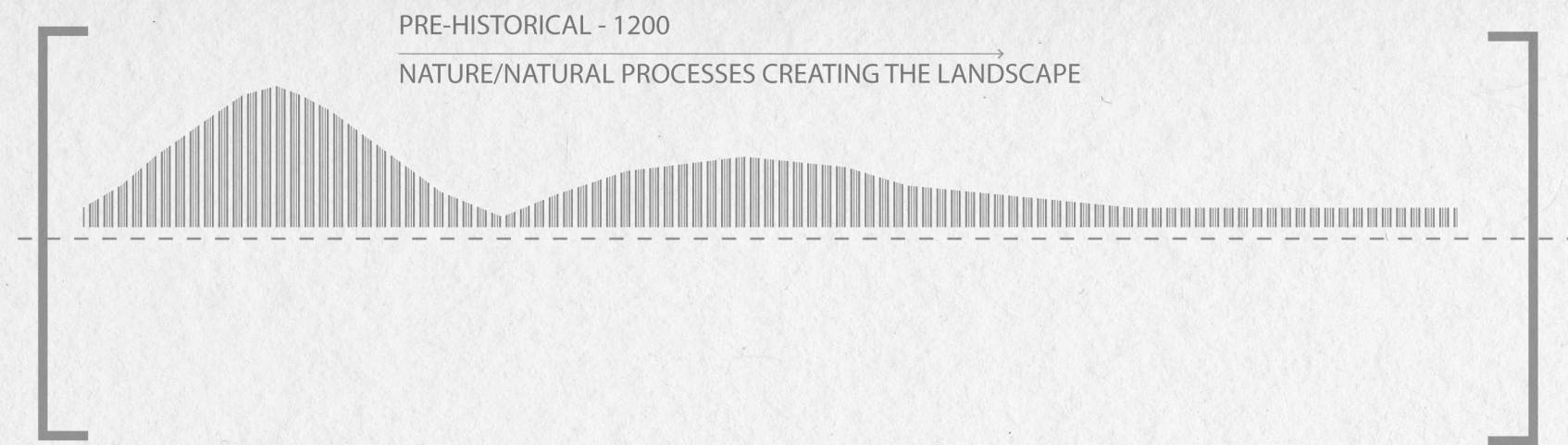










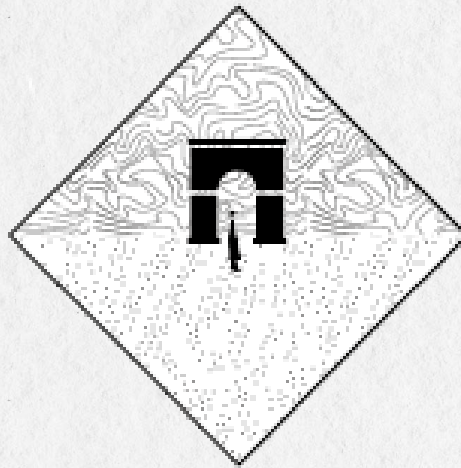




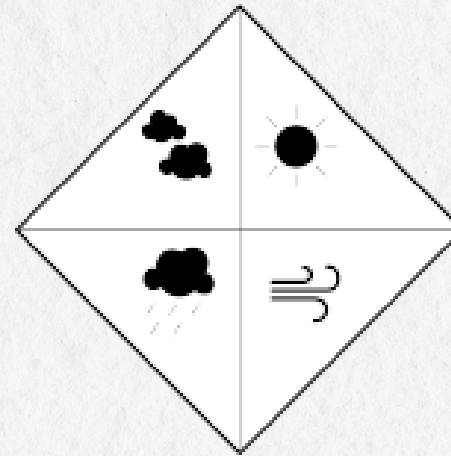
# Pluralism Revisited

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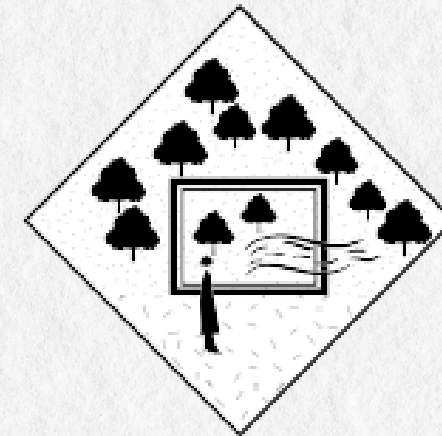
Both - And



Temporality



Interactivity





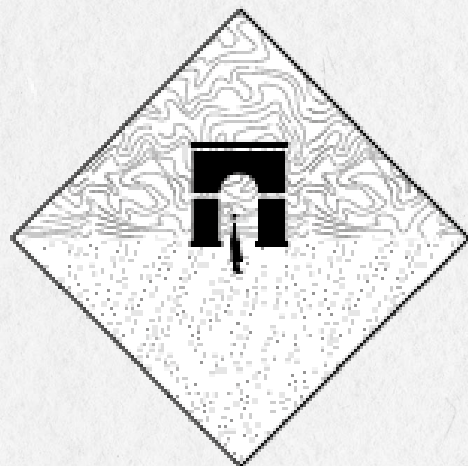
# Pluralism Revisited

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**Both - And**

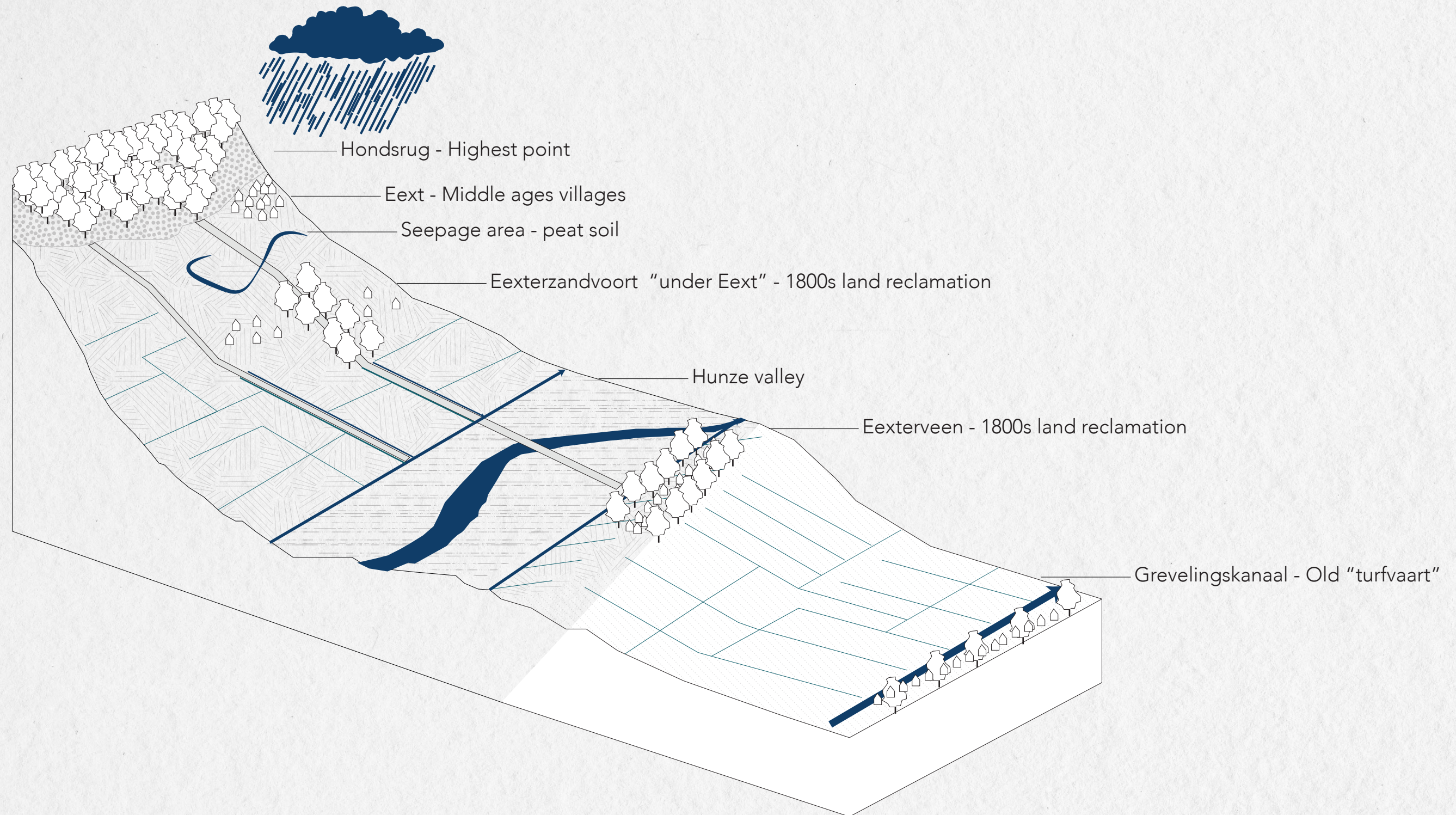
Nature/Culture

Soil  
Water  
Vegetation



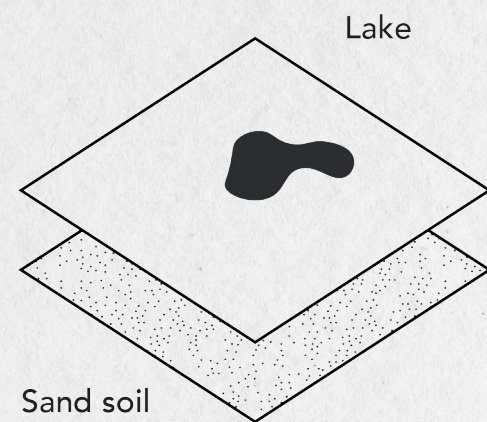


## Both-And The Hunze valley





Hondsrug

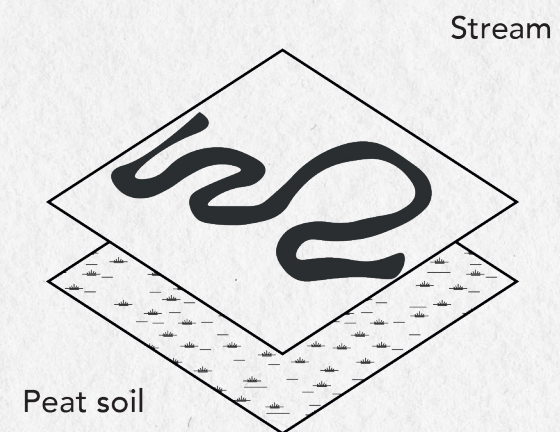


Oak trees

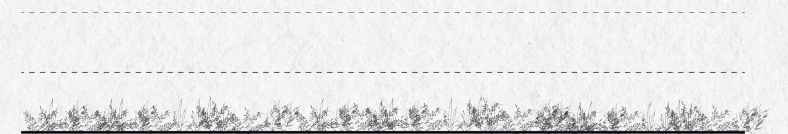


Watertable  
zp 0,7m NAP  
wp 0,7m NAP

Hunze Aa

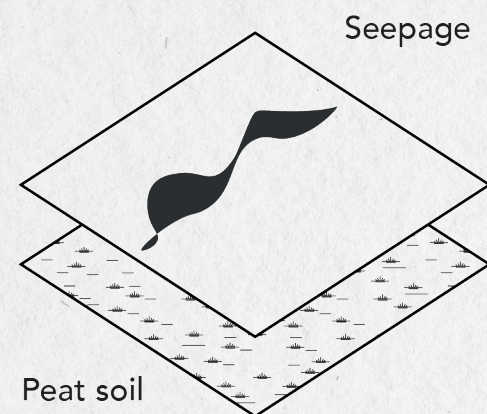


Grasses

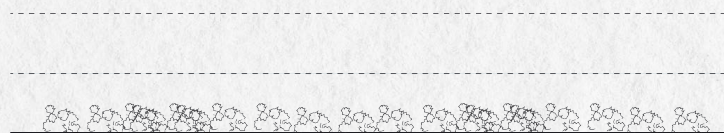


Watertable  
zp 0,53m NAP  
wp 0,53m NAP

Breevenen

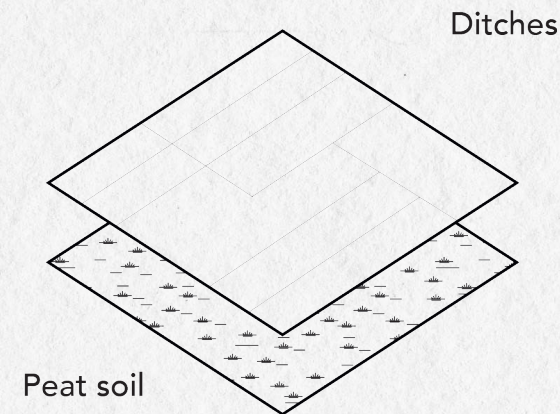


Grass/Reed/Flowers

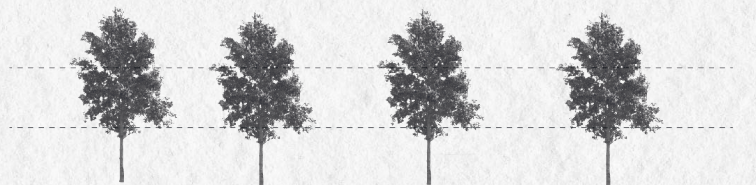


Watertable  
zp 0,65m NAP  
wp 0,3m NAP

Eexterveen

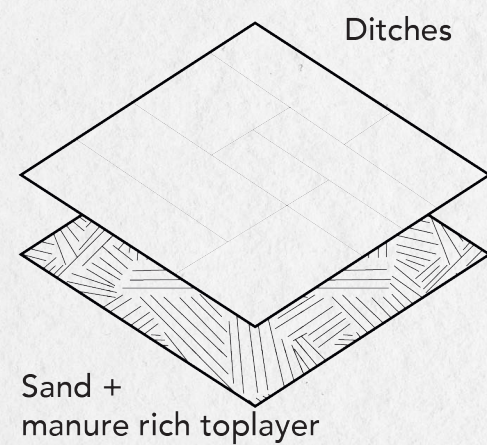


Formal (oak) tree lines

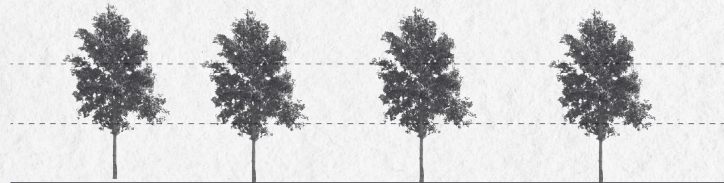


Watertable  
zp 0,3m NAP  
wp -0,05m NAP

Eexterzandvoort

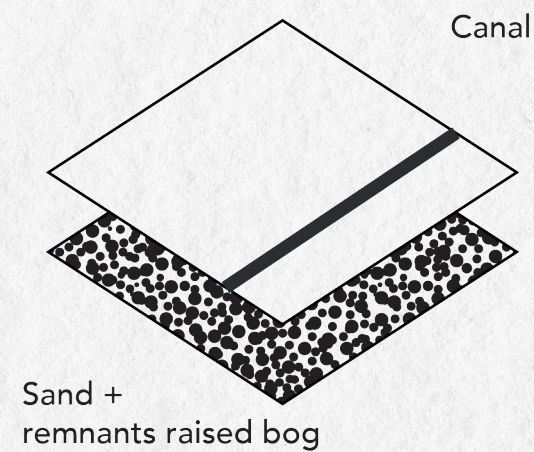


Formal (birch) tree lines



Watertable  
zp 0,4m NAP  
wp -0,05m NAP

Stadskanaal



Grass/Reed



Watertable  
zp 1,2m NAP  
wp 0,85m NAP



# Pluralism Revisited

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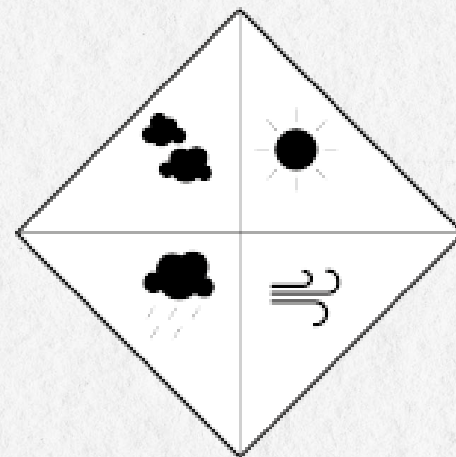
## Temporality

Access & Relating

Tempo: pace, mode of movement

Process: living organisms

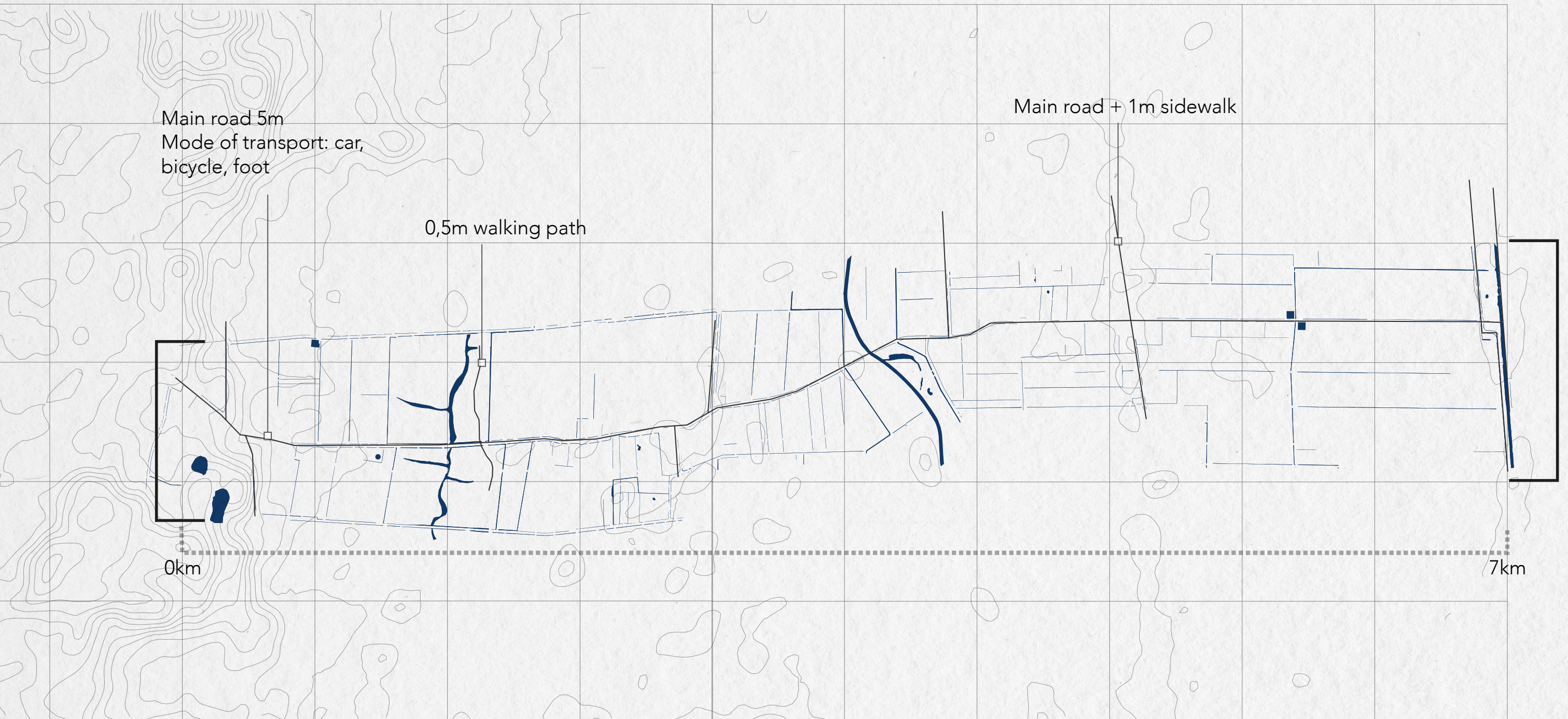
Imagination: remnants, perception





# Tempo

Time as measure of distance & experience





# Imagination

## History & Experience

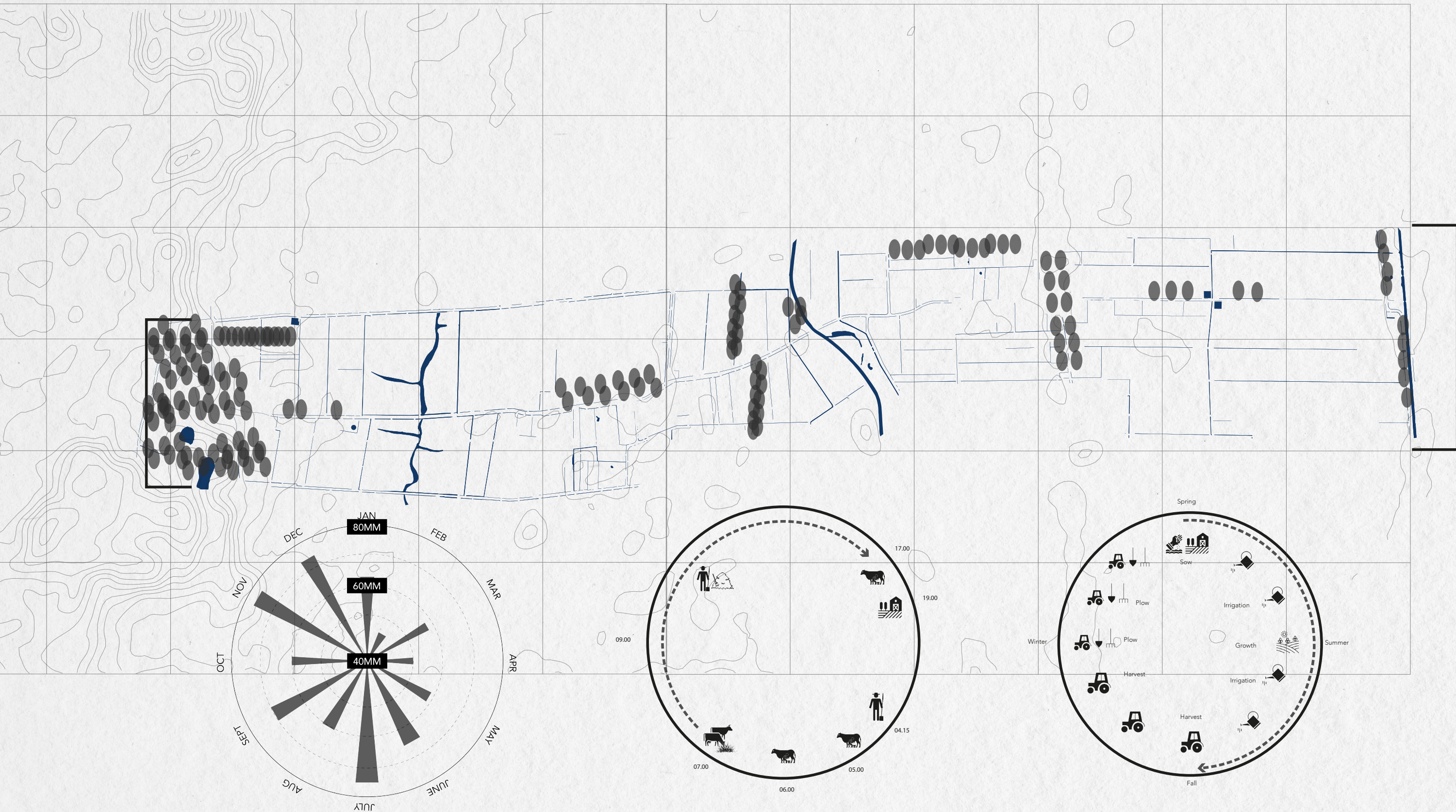
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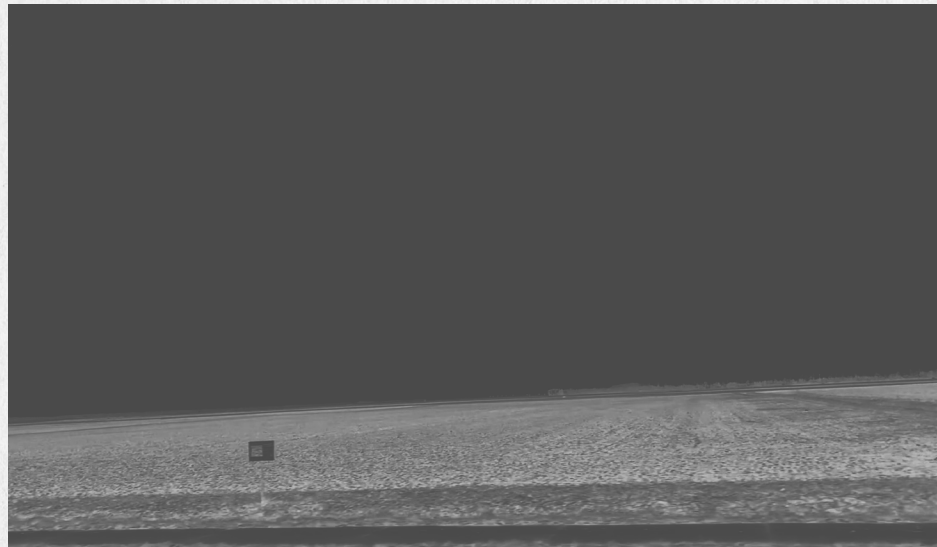
# Process

## Experience of cyclical time

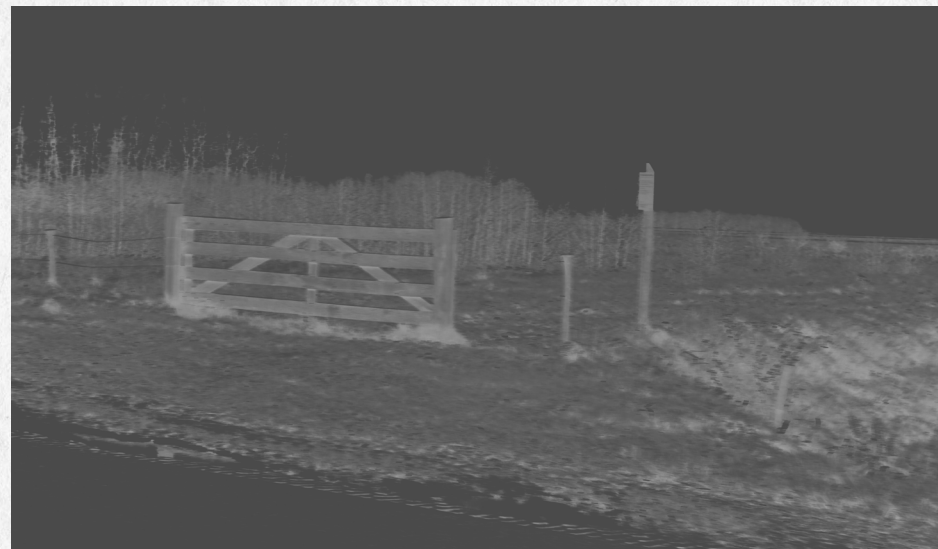




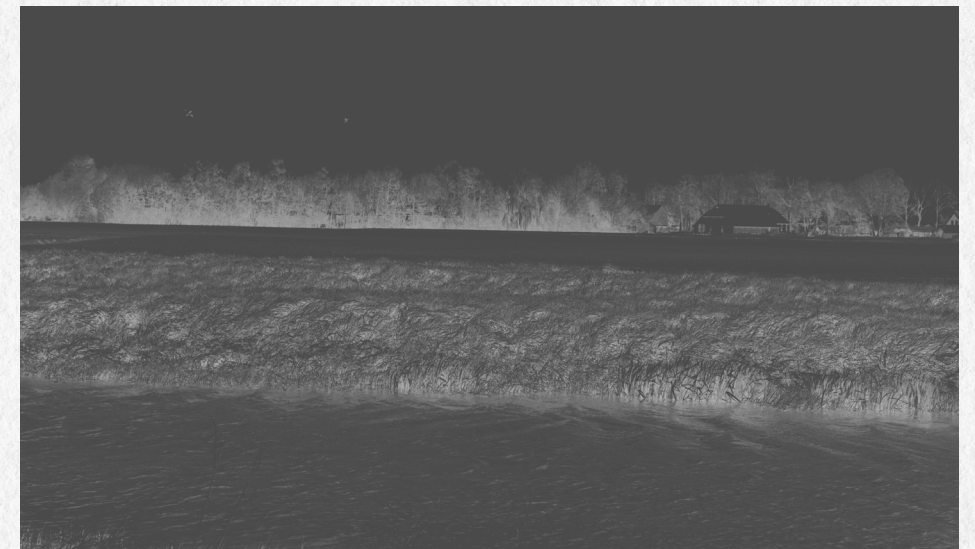
Tempo



Imagination



Process





# Pluralism Revisited

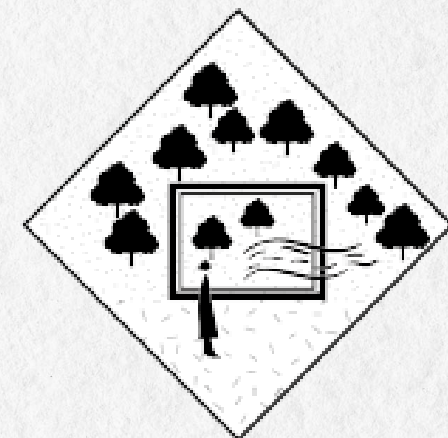
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## Interactivity

Tropes/Association

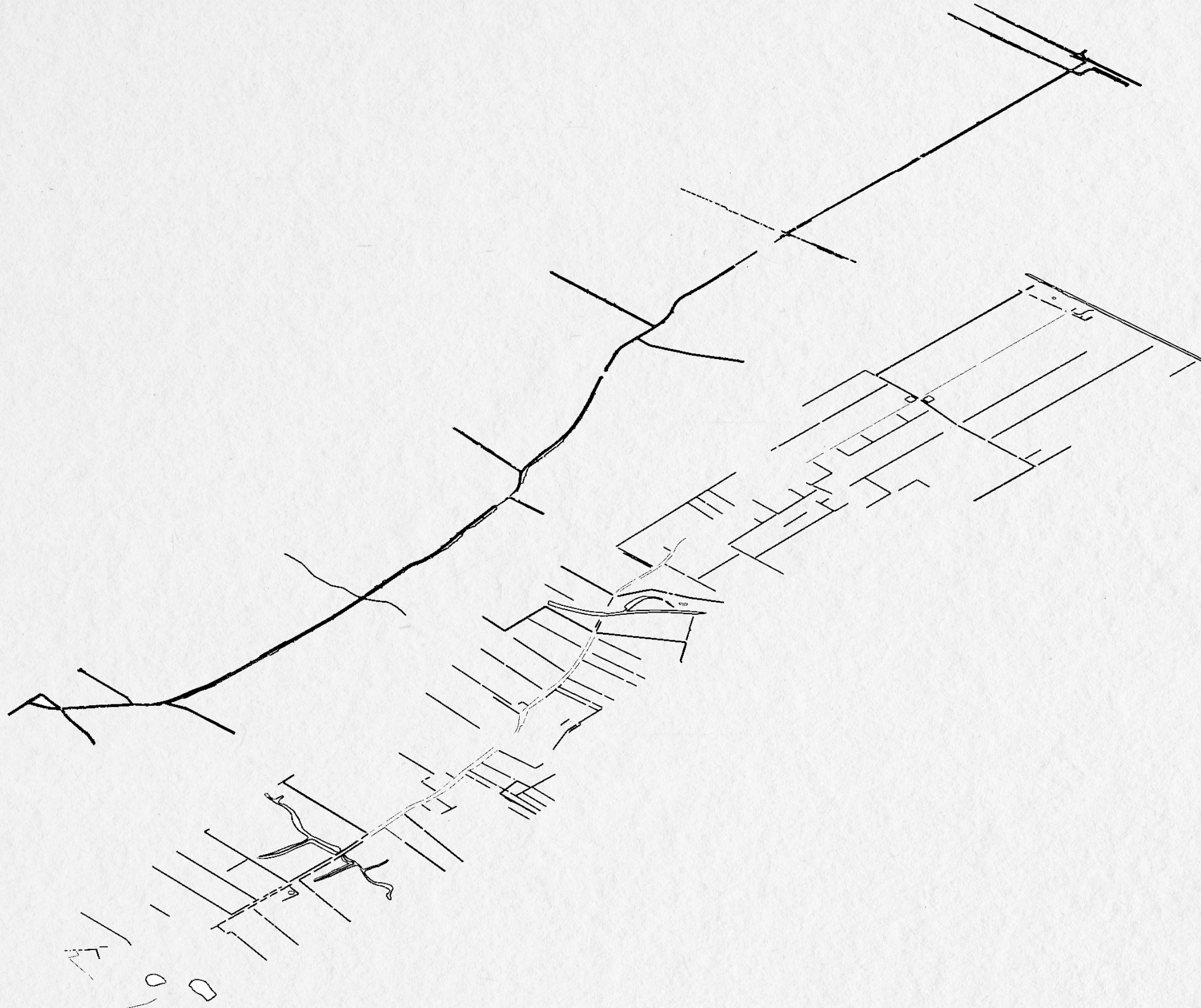
Metonymy

Synecdoche

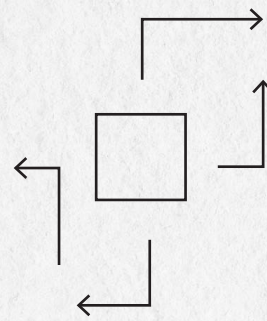
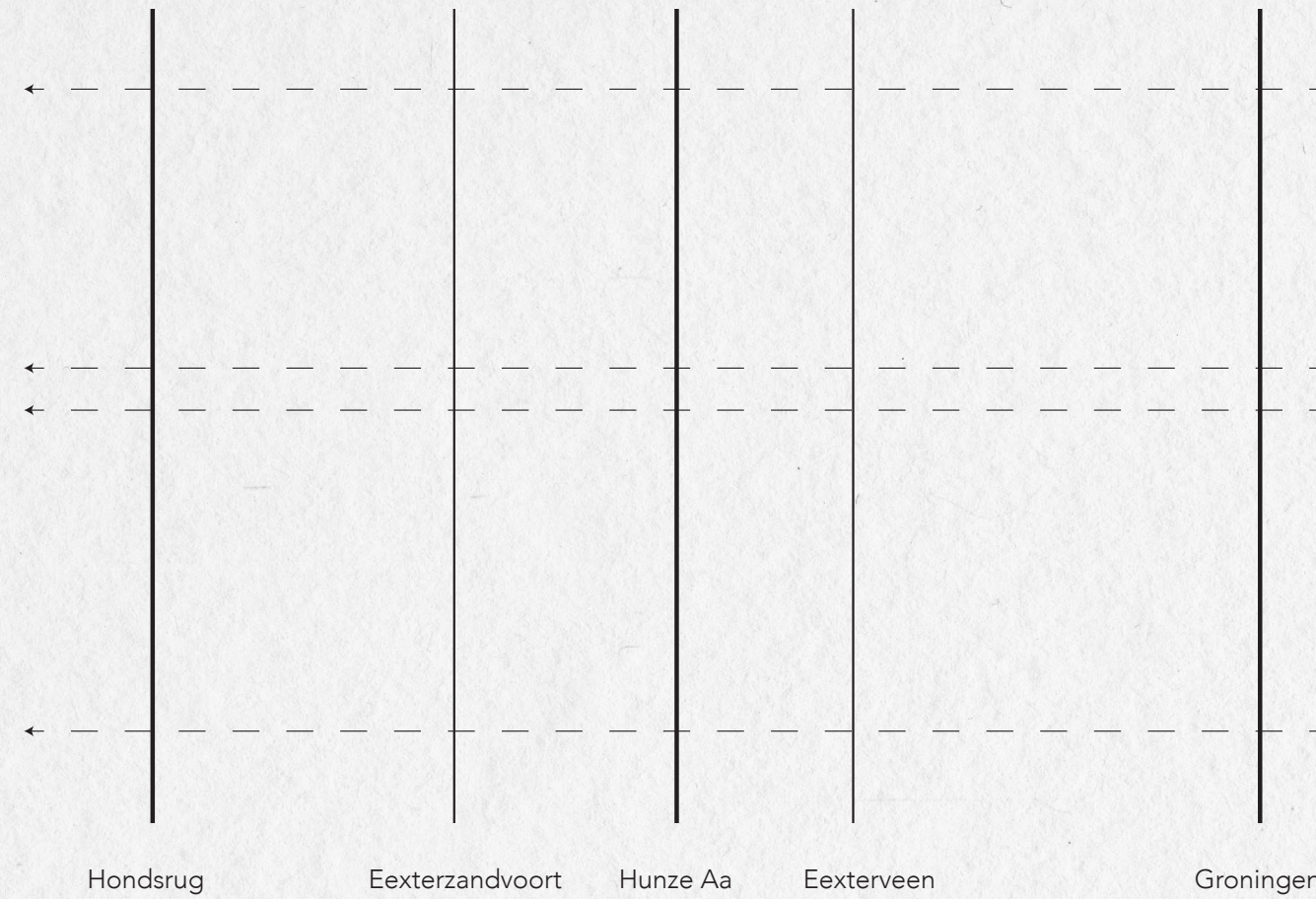




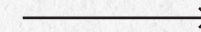
## Current layers



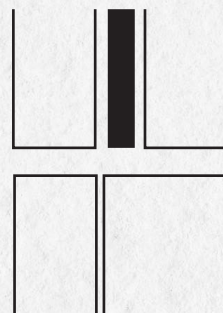




Sometimes the stories are outwards,  
fragmented from the route



Mostly tree patches on sandy soils



Sometimes they are turned inwards,  
hidden behind large farmlands



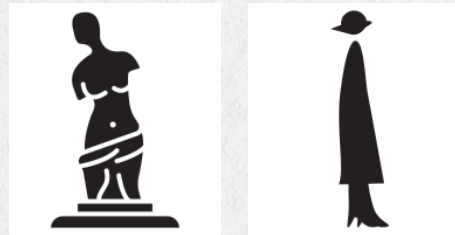
Mostly constructed and reconstructed water area's



# Pluralism Principles

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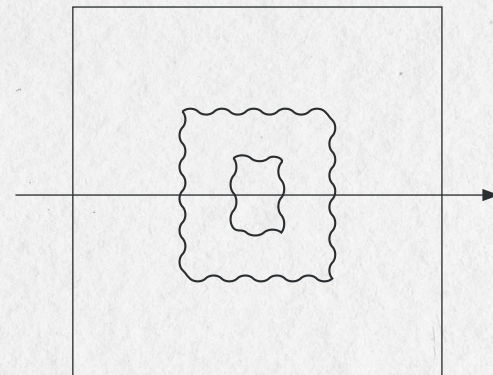
Both - And



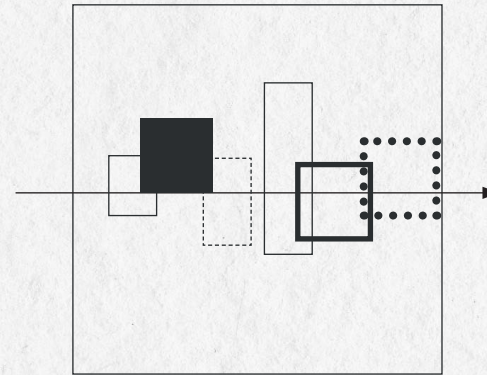
Temporality



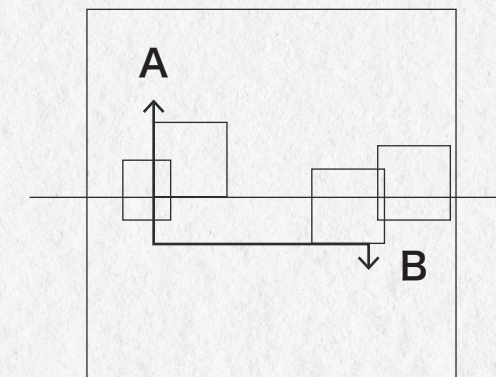
Interactivity



Junction in Space & Time:  
historical places and new  
forms



Slowness & Visibility



Acceptance, Cause & Effect



The Space



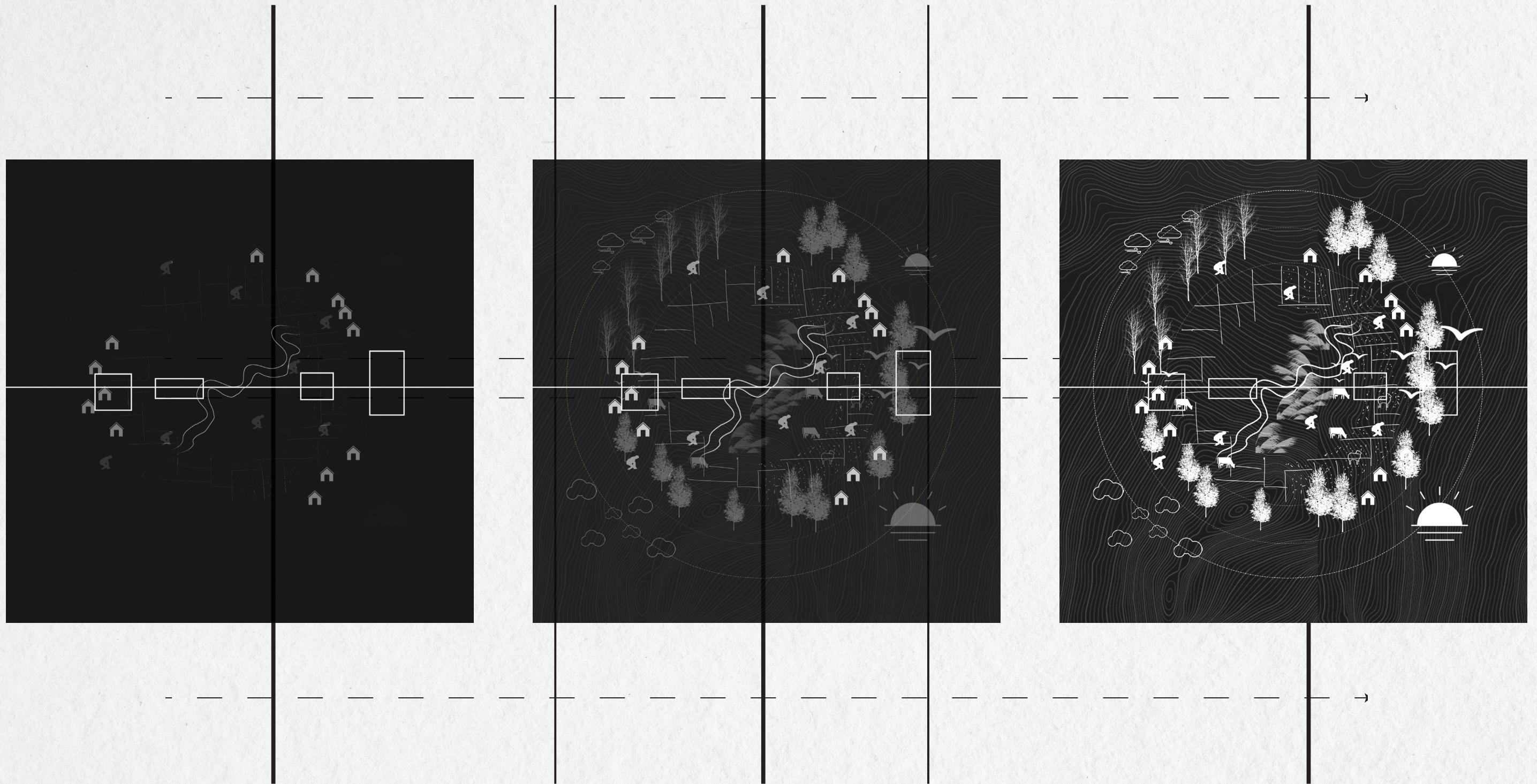
The Object



The (a)Biota



## A Structure of Intermediary Spaces



Hondsrug

Eexterzandvoort

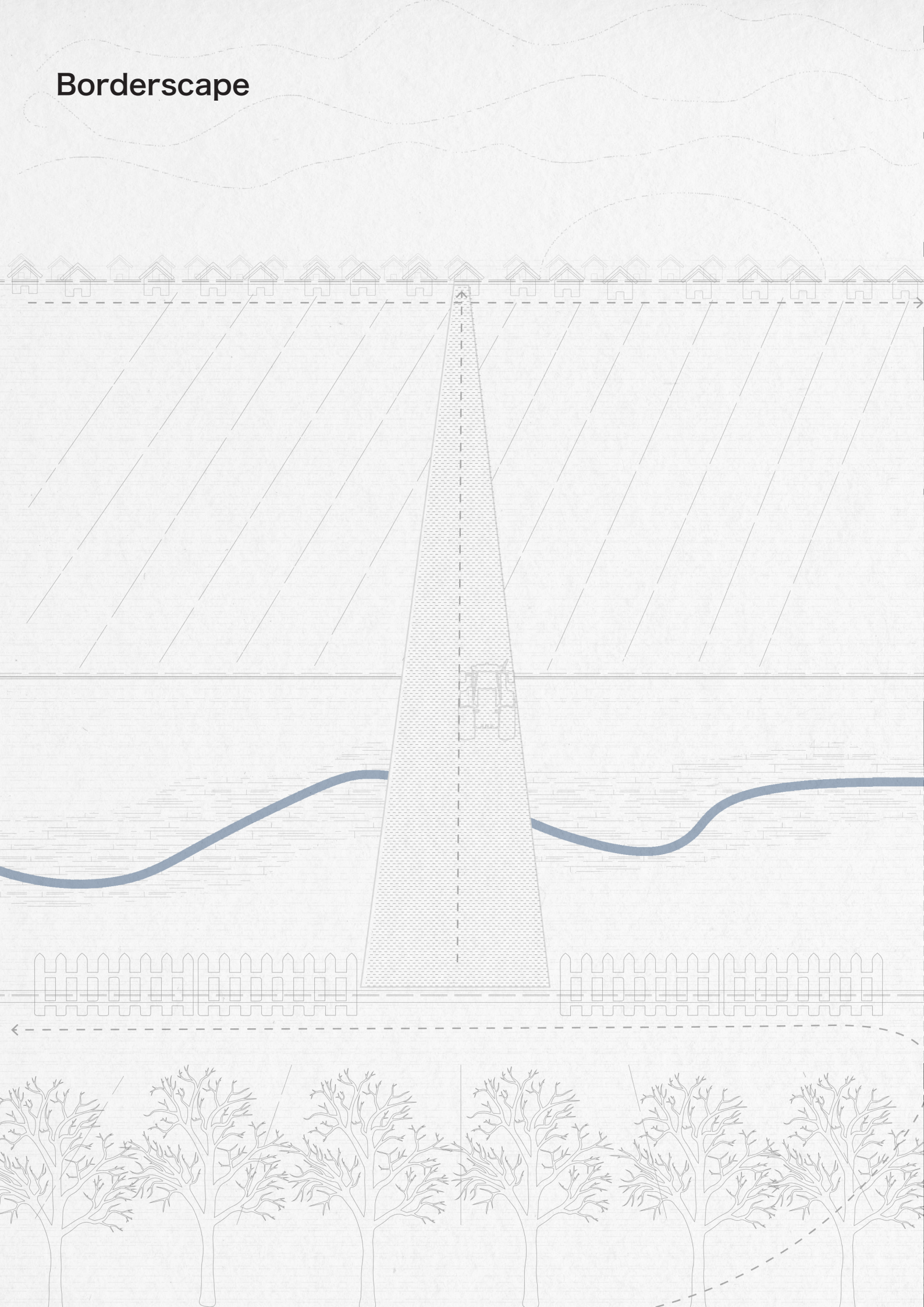
Hunze Aa

Eexterveen

Groningen



# Borderscape



# Borderspace



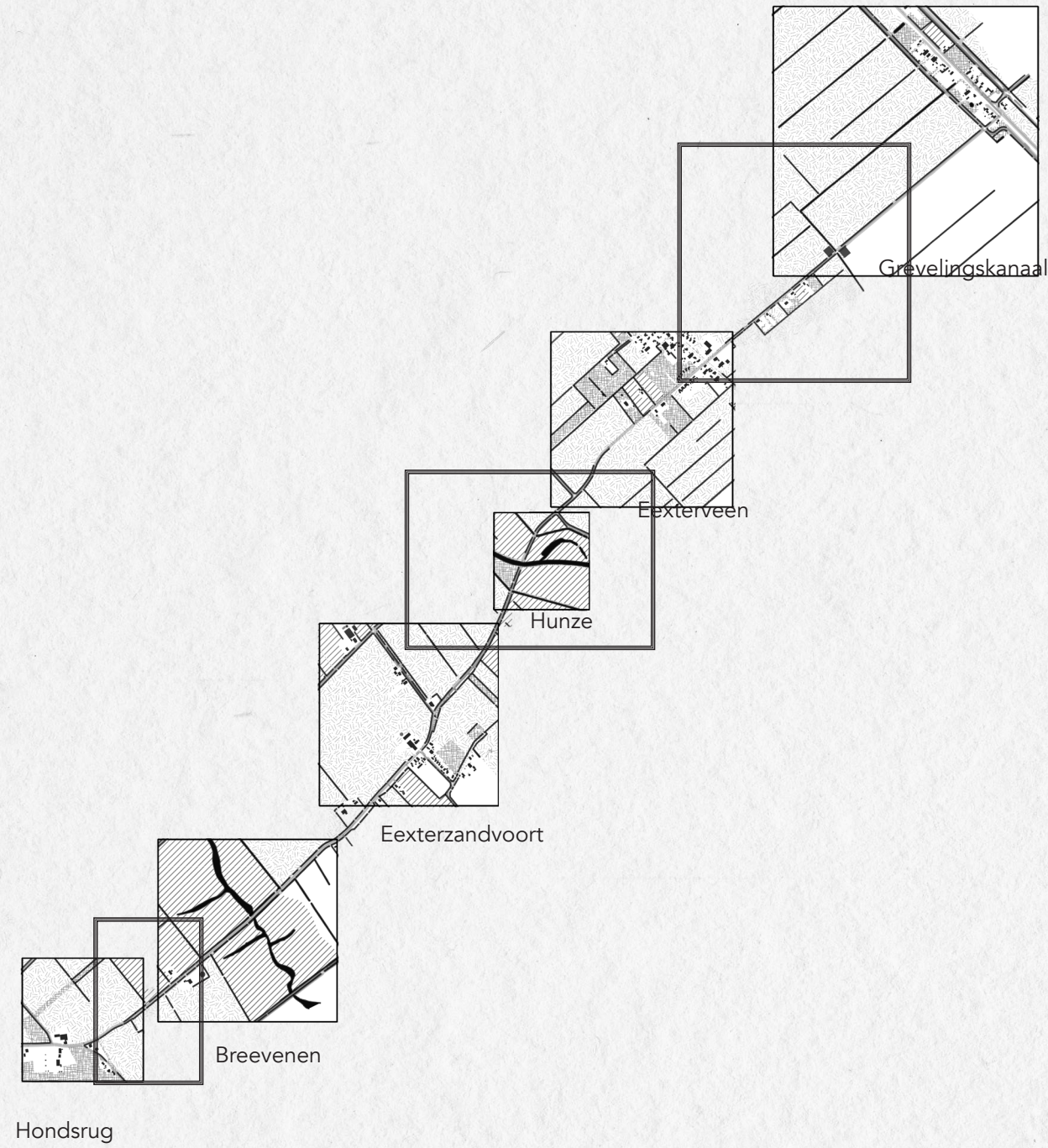


## Part III Design



## Marked Sites: 3 traverses

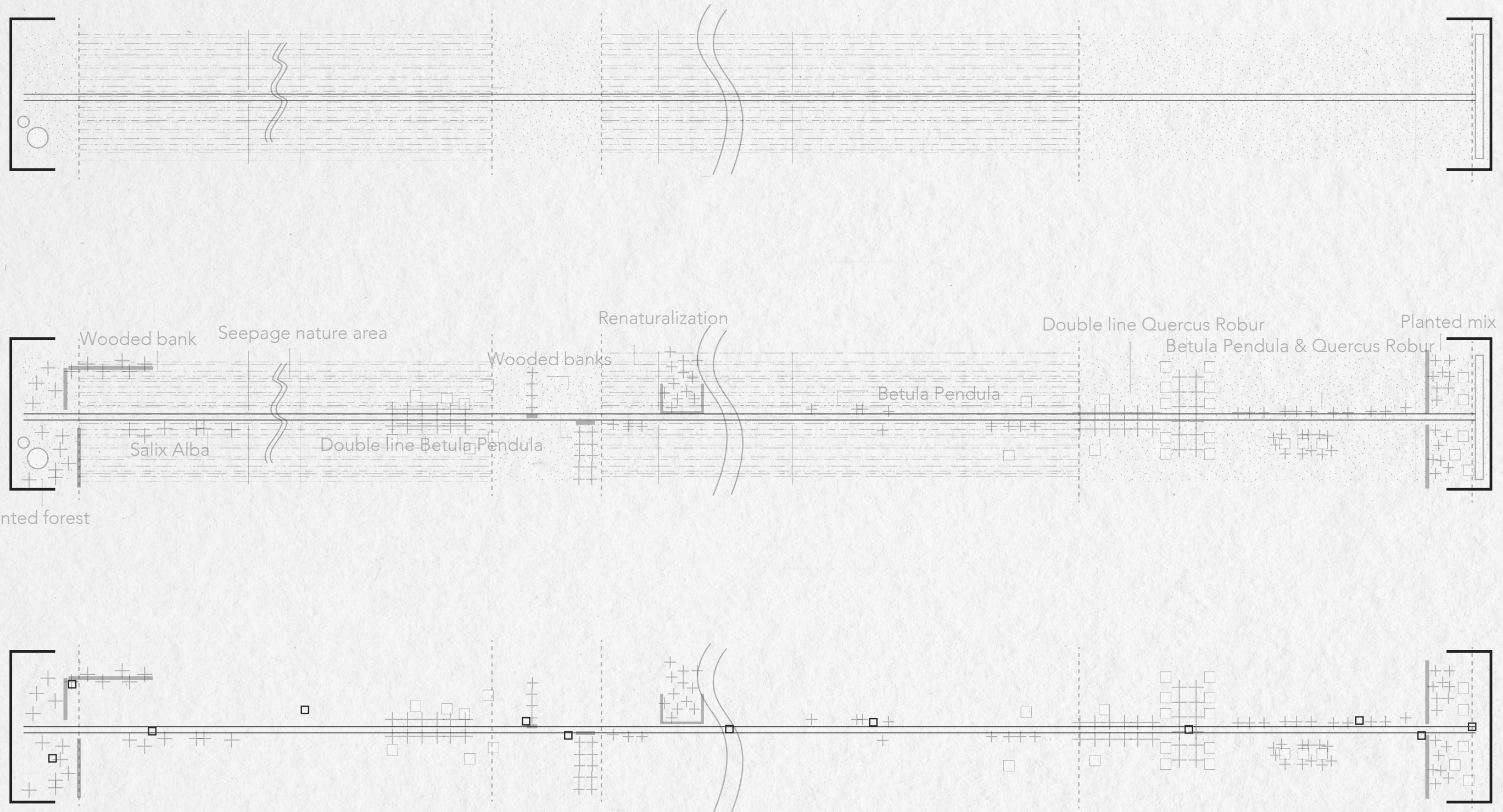
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# Historical Elements

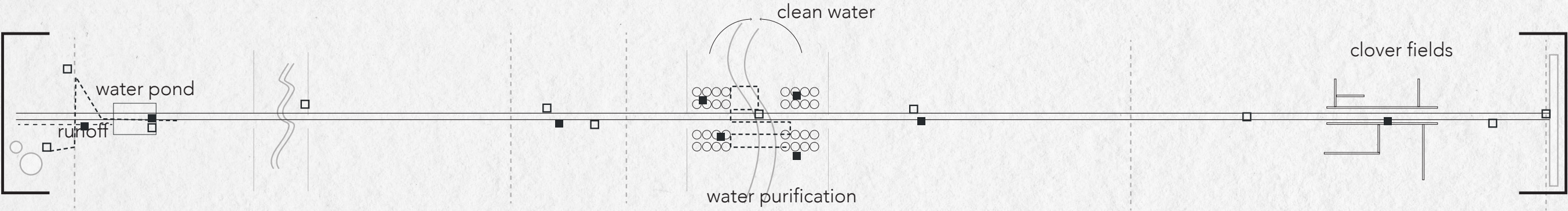
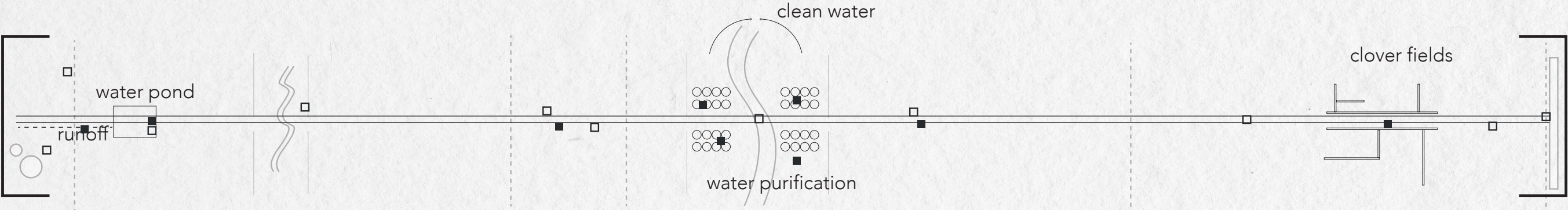
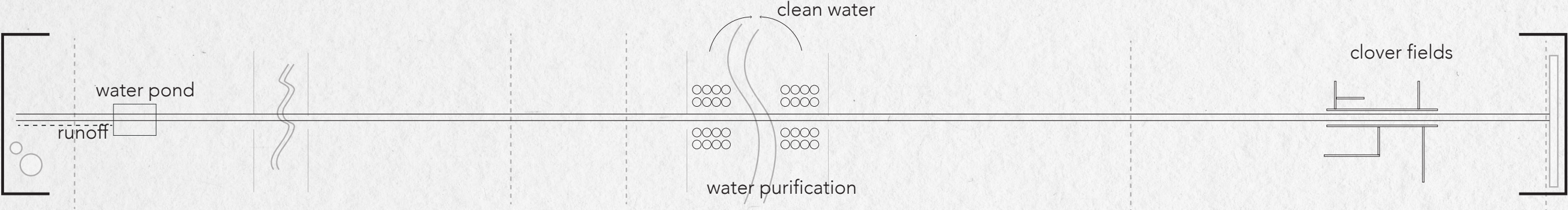
Spatial schemes now: abiotic and biotic characteristics, and marked locations of historical value





# New Temporalities

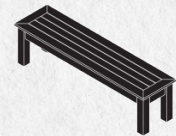
Proposed spatial schemes: water and soil needs, new locations, and connections between them.





# Enabling Interaction

Interaction prototypes



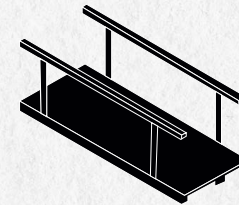
A



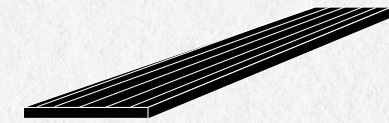
B



C



D



E

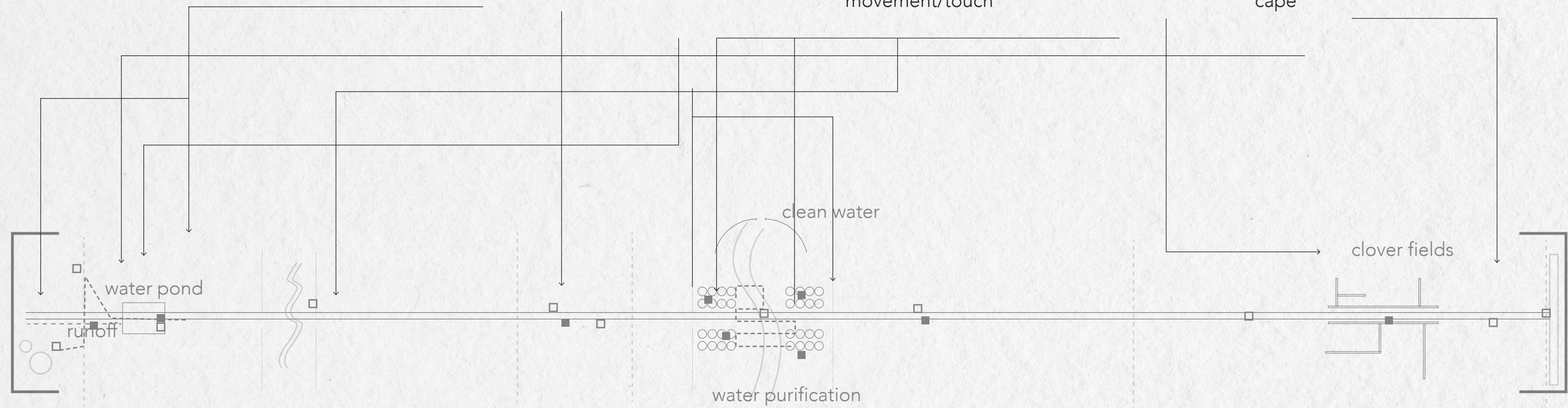
Located at historical reference in the landscape

Communicating front/back of the object

Reinforcing experience through bodily movement/touch

Bridge/ford differentiating hierarchy in waterways

Balcony or overview of the totality on the landscape





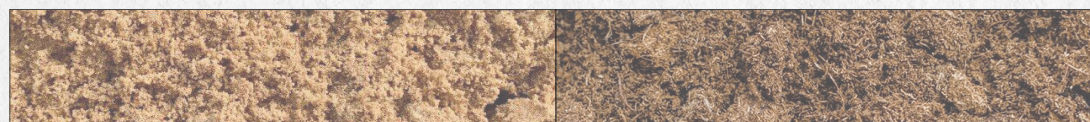
**Traverse 1**  
**The Source**



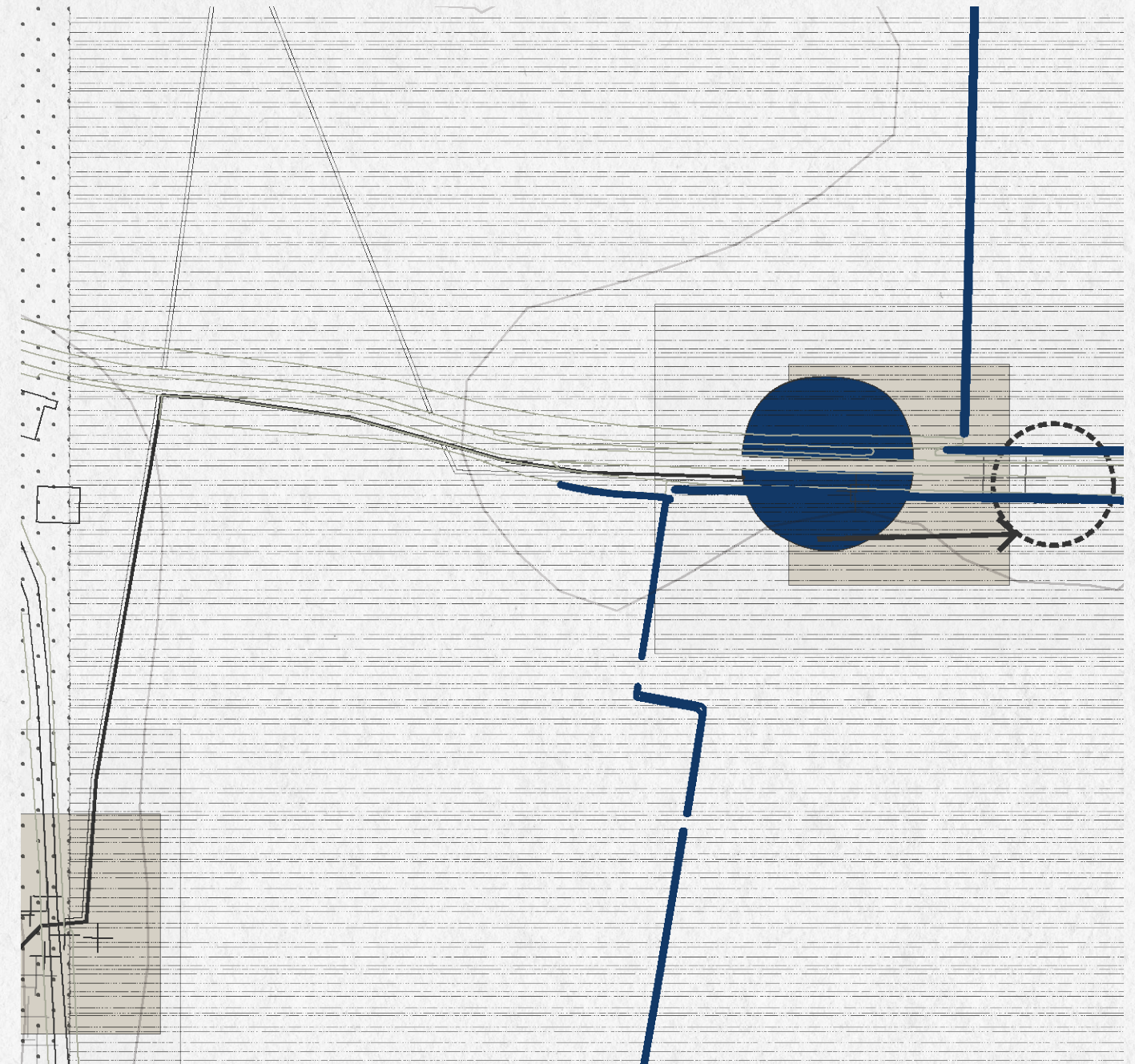










Both-And

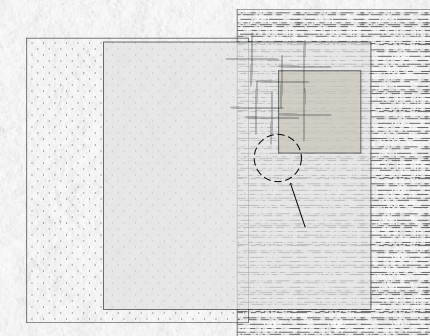
## Historical typologies



## Marked site & New form

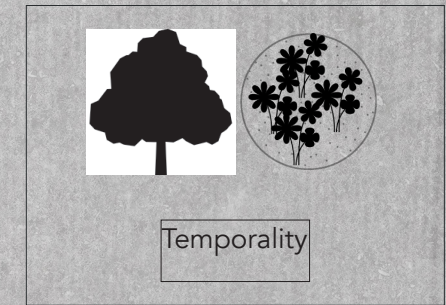


-  Marking the area between road & adjacent parcels
-  Transition in height and soil composition: peat (madeveen)
-  Transition in height and soil composition: sand (podzol)
-  Marking difference in landscape typologies
-  Marked location before/after a transition in landscape typology
-  Watersystem
-  Trees
-  Visual clue of transition





## New temporalities



Imagination: Connecting path between historical site and new form

Process: water and vegetation types

Tempo: Bridge as object of 'slowness'/moment of pause

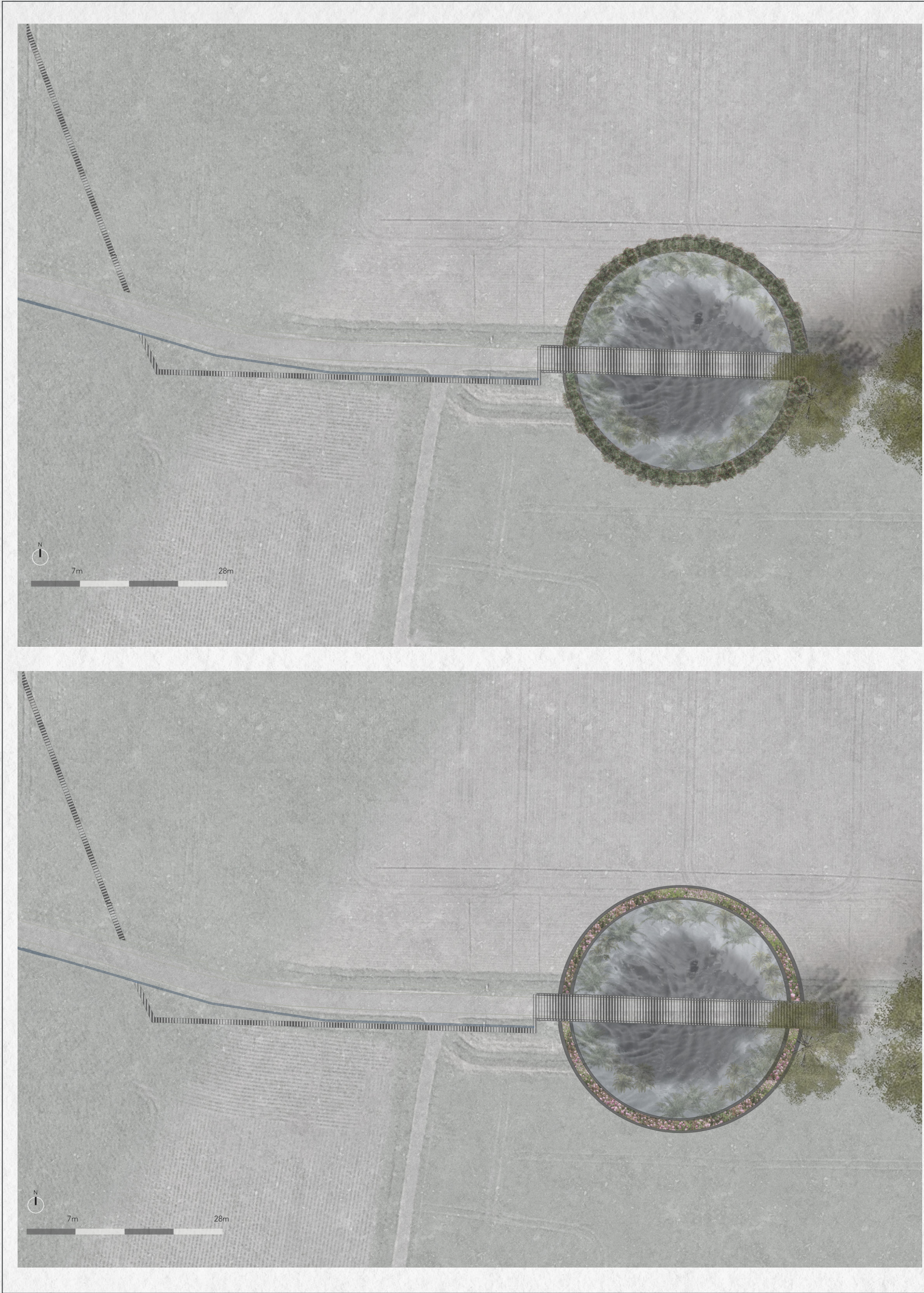
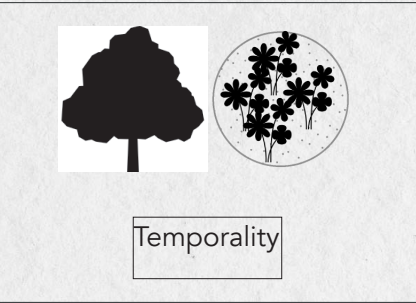


7m

28m

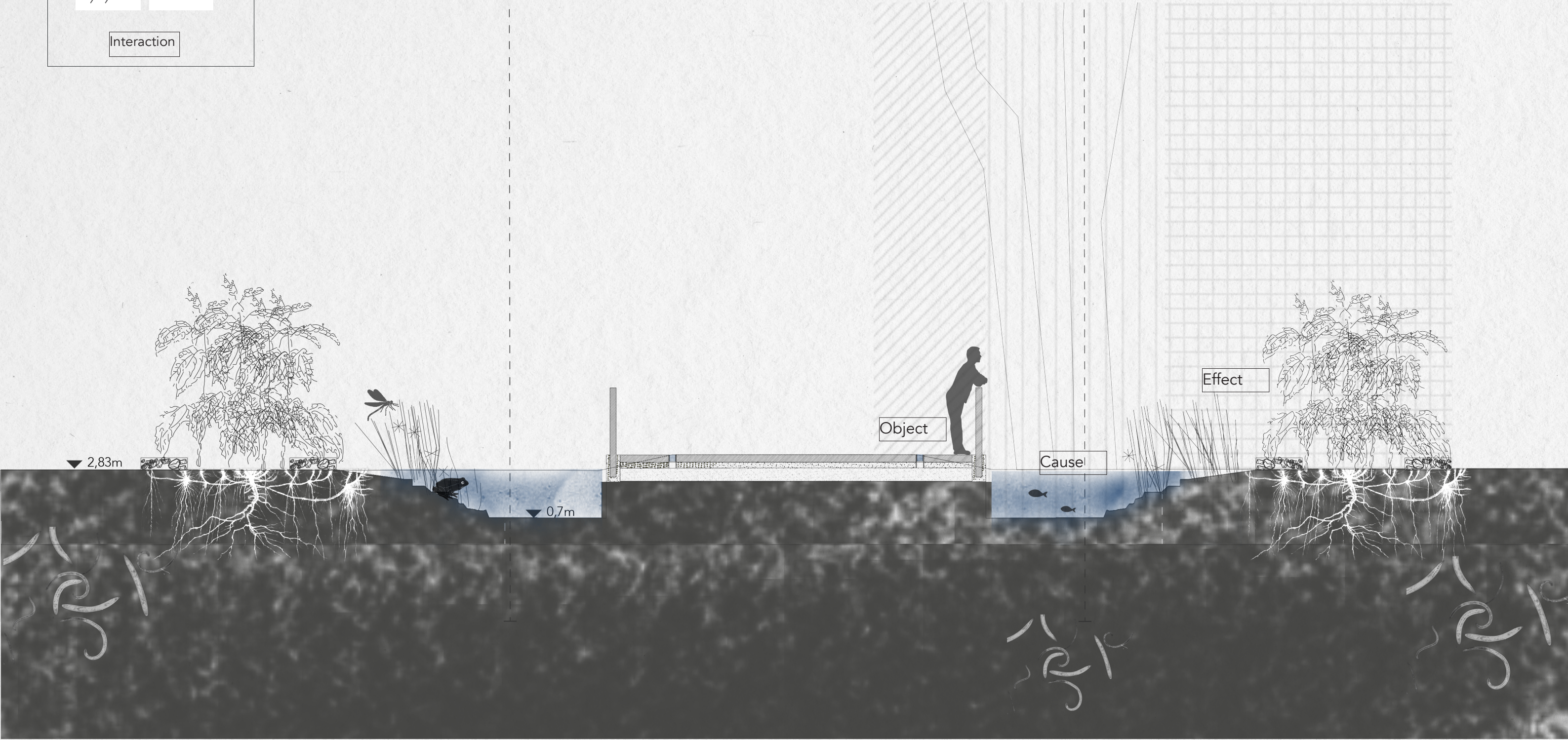
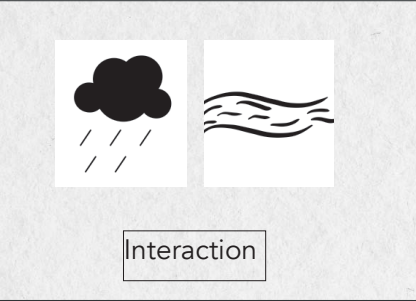


New Temporalities: two possibilities





Enabling interaction





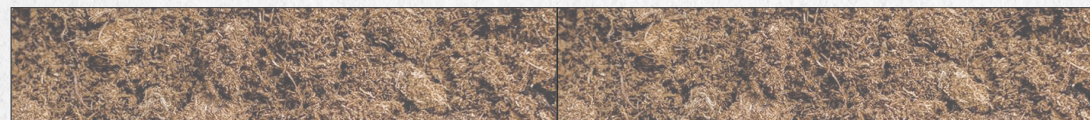
**Traverse 2**  
**The Crossing**



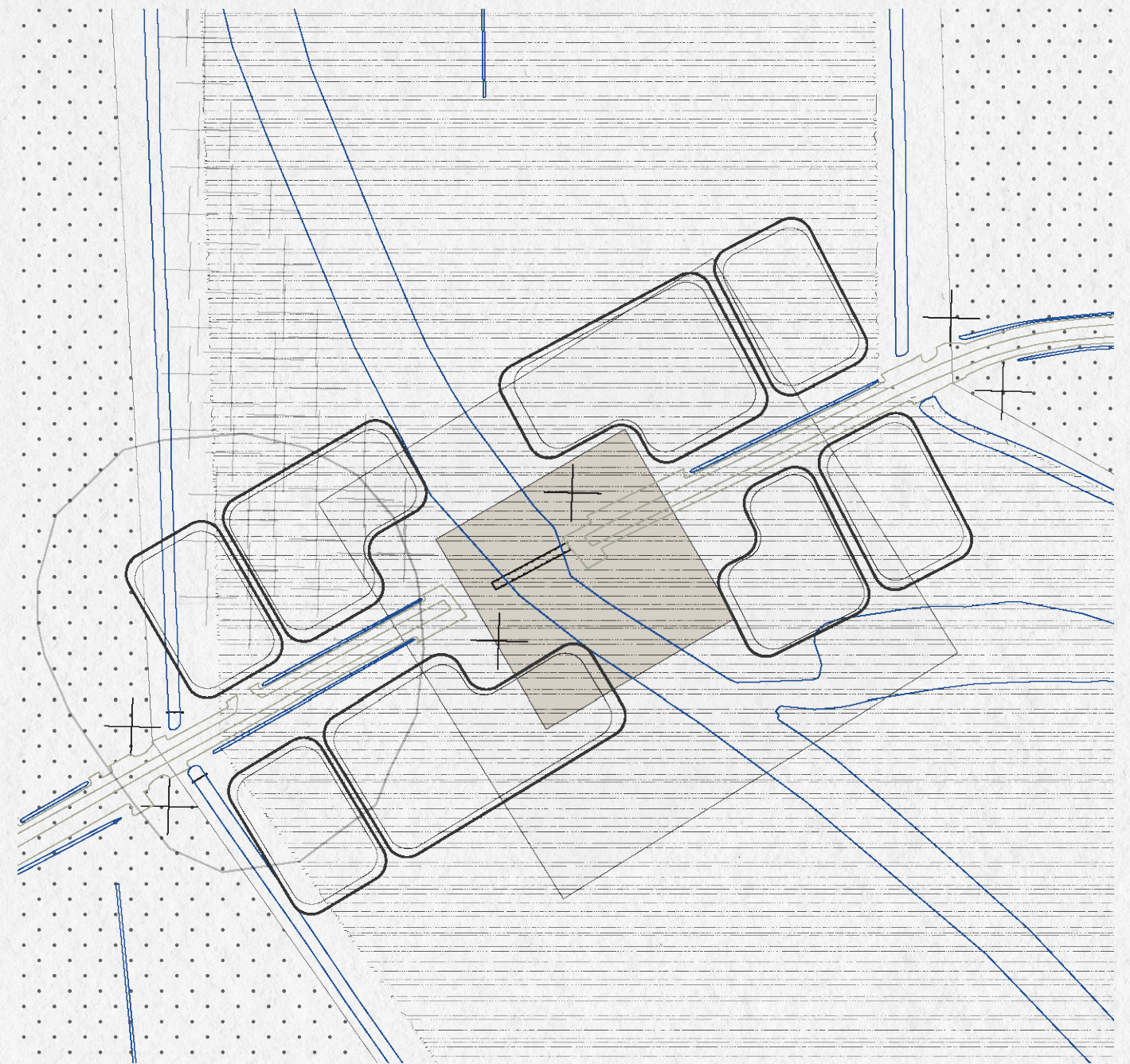










Both-And

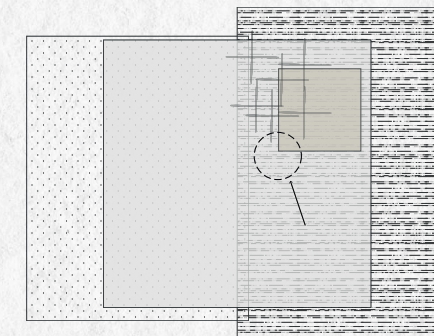
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## New temporalities

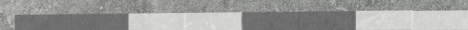
Process: water typology and flow

Tempo: small platforms crossing different water hierarchies

Imagination: the lowest point of the valley, bringing nature inside through enclosure



14m 28m 40m



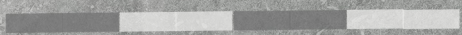
Temporality



# New temporalities

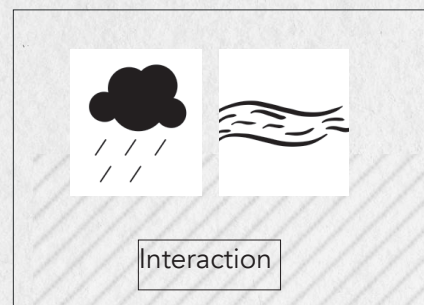


14m 28m 40m



Temporality





Object

▼ 1,52m

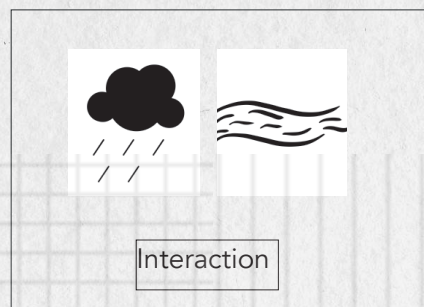
▼ 0,4/0,05m

Cause

▼ 1,3m

Effect

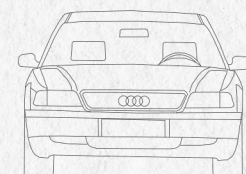




Effect

Cause

Object





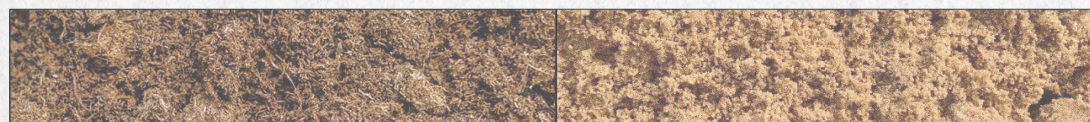
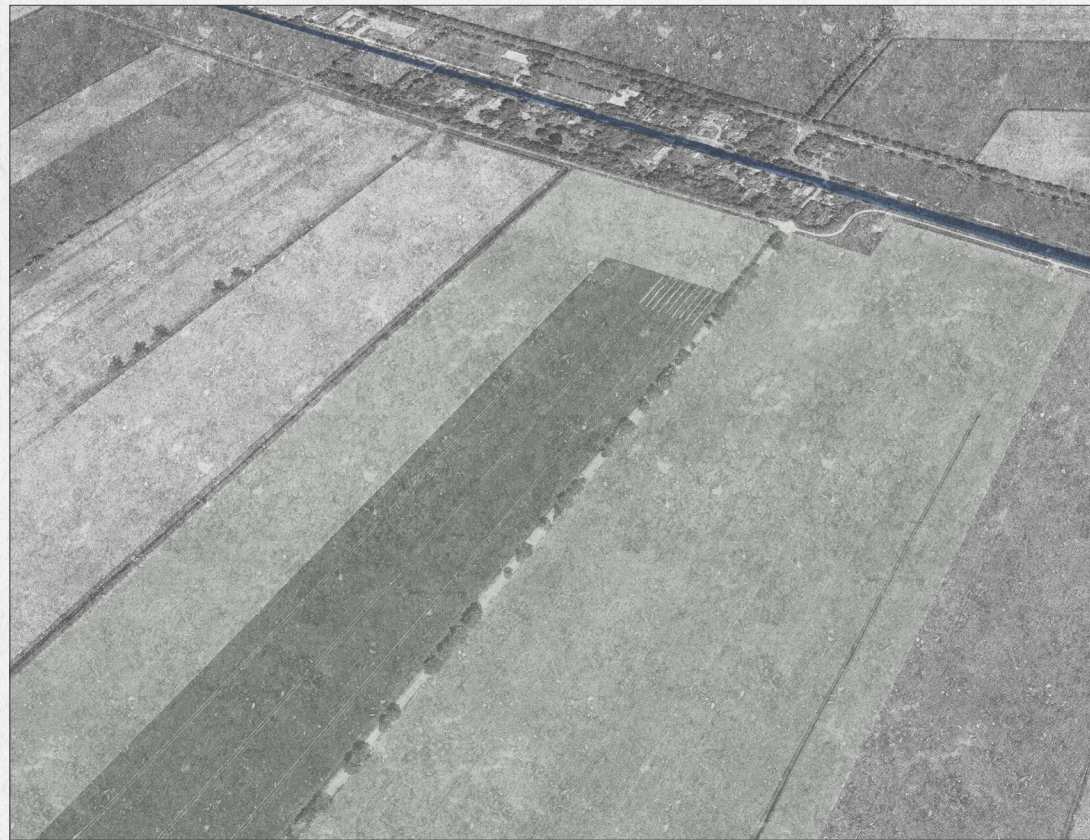
**Traverse 3**  
**The Community**



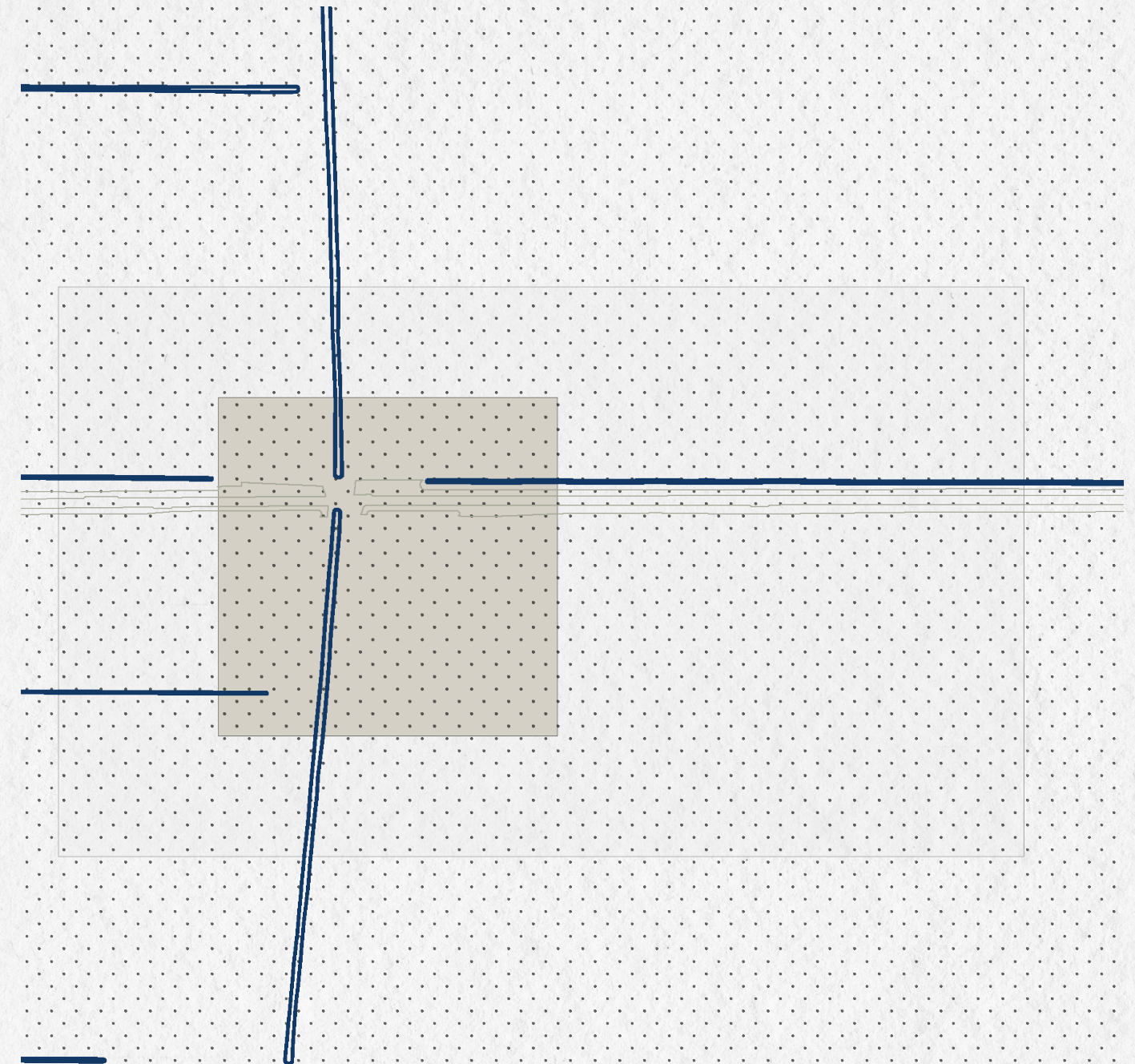


Both-And

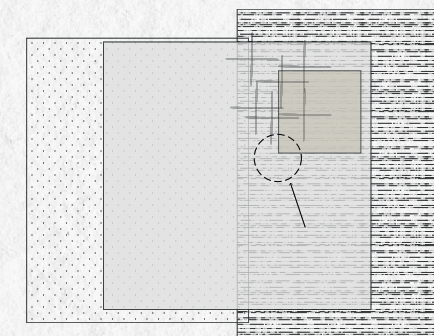
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## New temporalities



Temporality

Process: sown clover-grass mix to capture phosphor in soil, after mowing used as use for livestock

Tempo: path connecting different parcels and communities

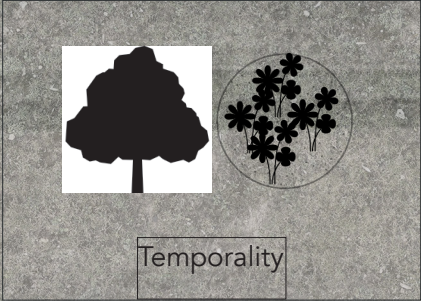
Imagination: long stretched identity of historical parcellation kept and enforced by strips



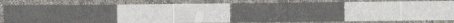
14m 28m 40m



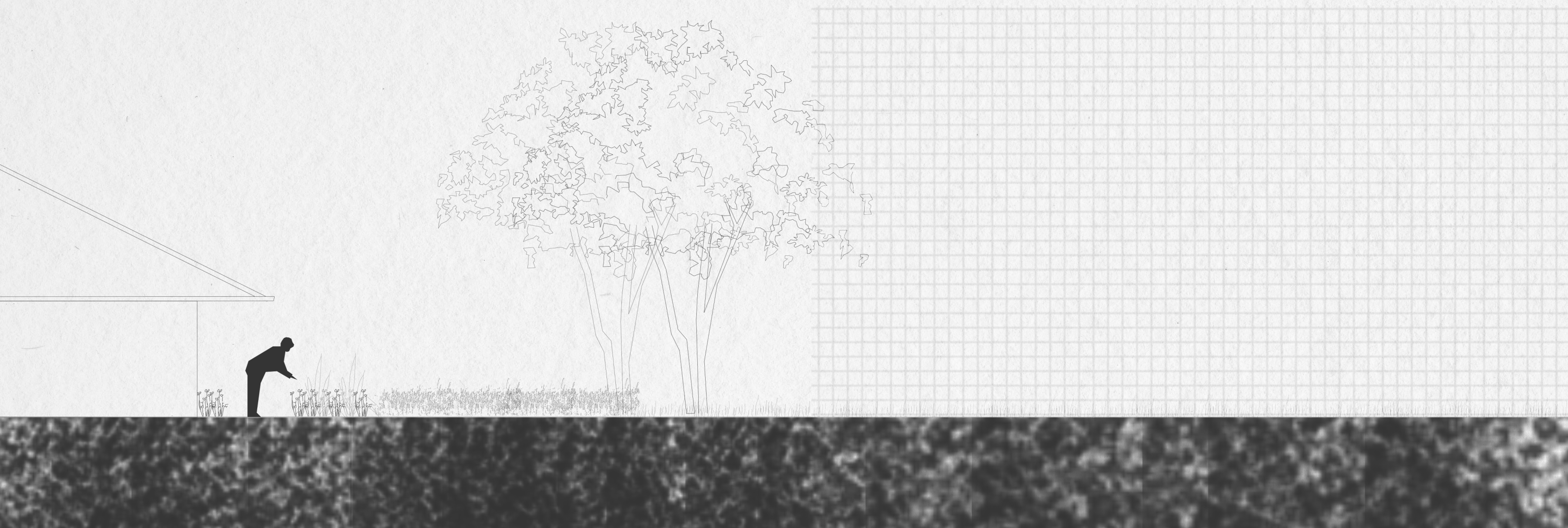
New temporalities



14m 28m 40m











Cause

Effect

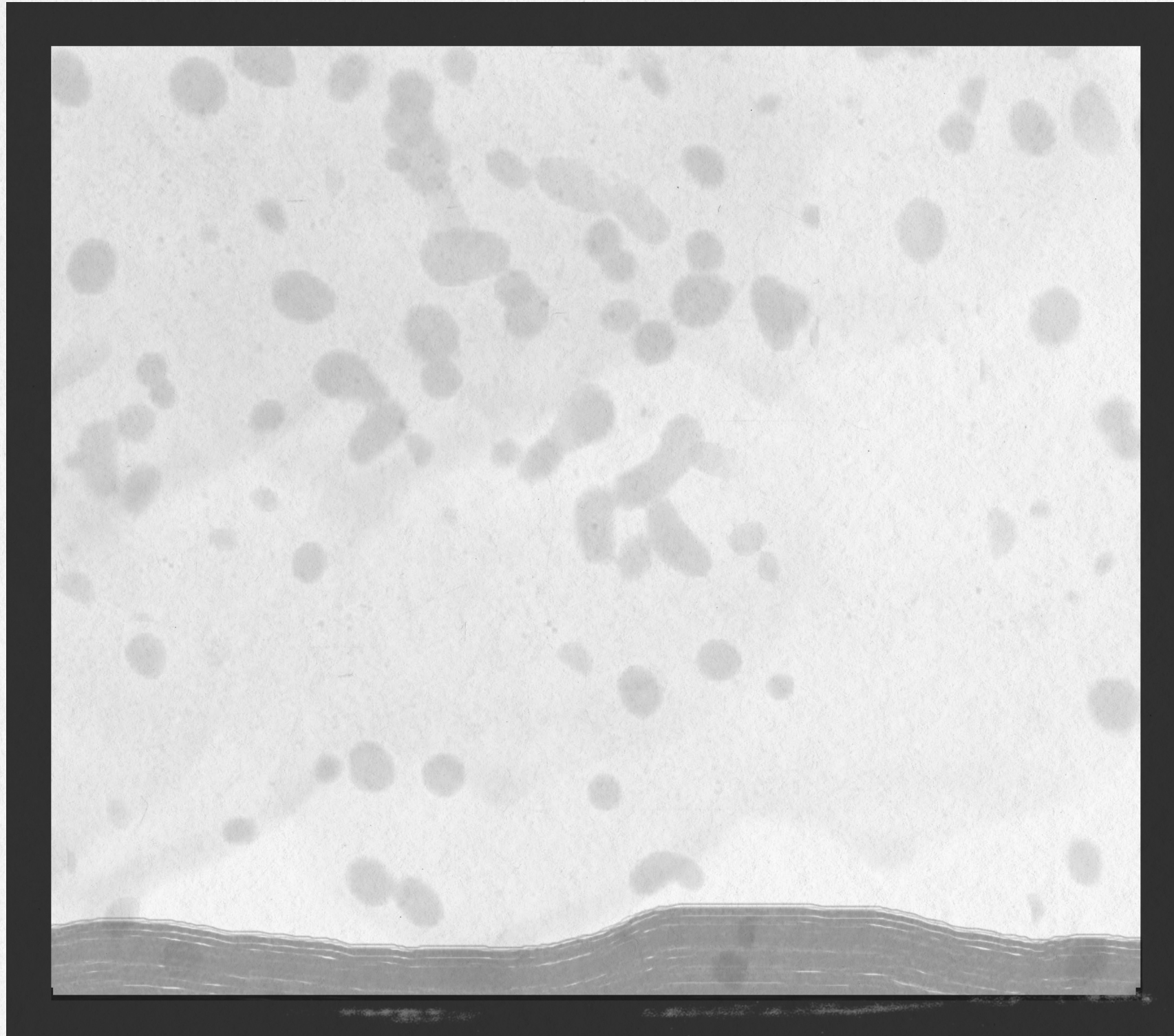
Object



## A journey along borders & spaces



## A Water Story



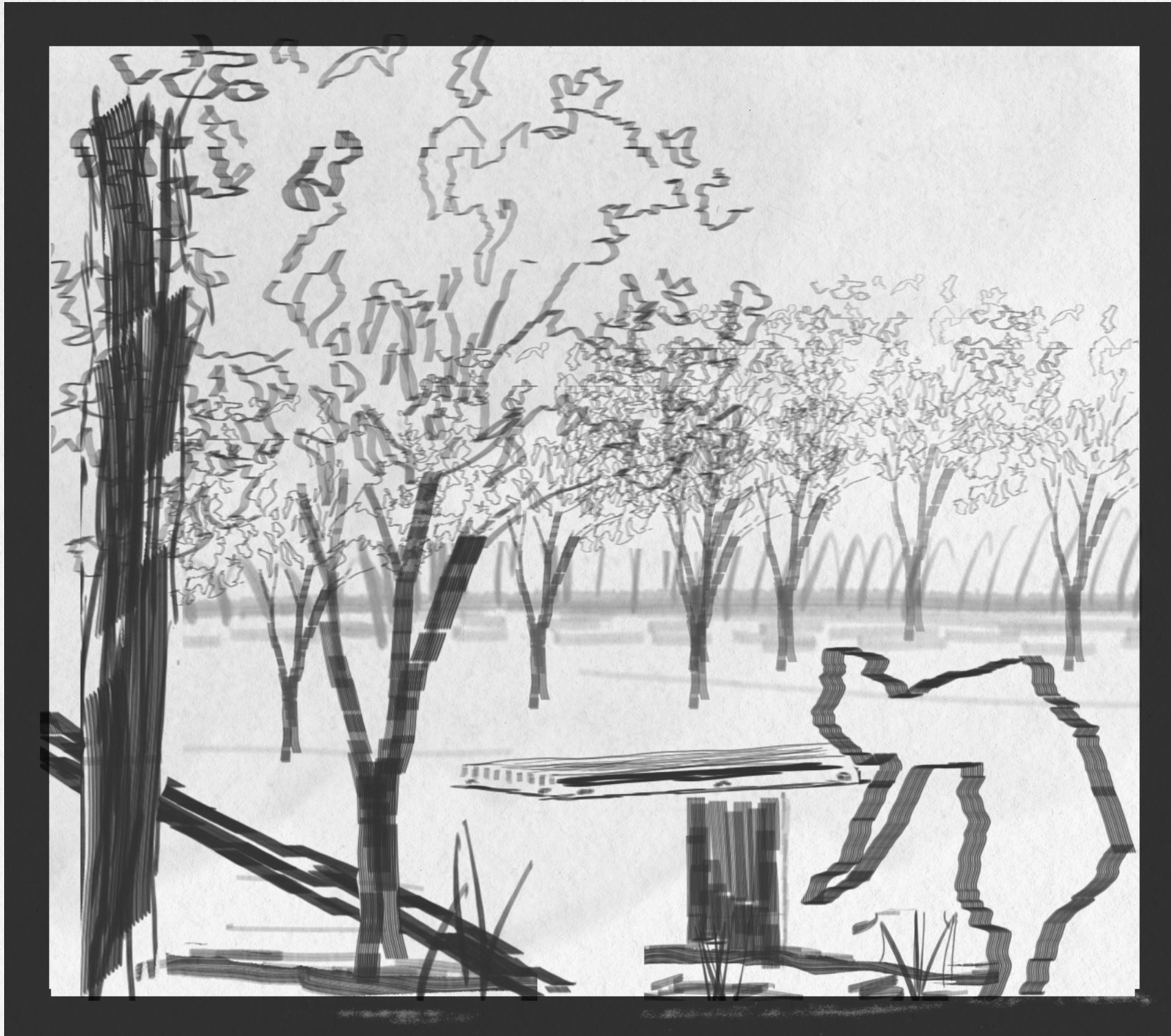


## The historical landscape of the Hondsrug





## The new space & object



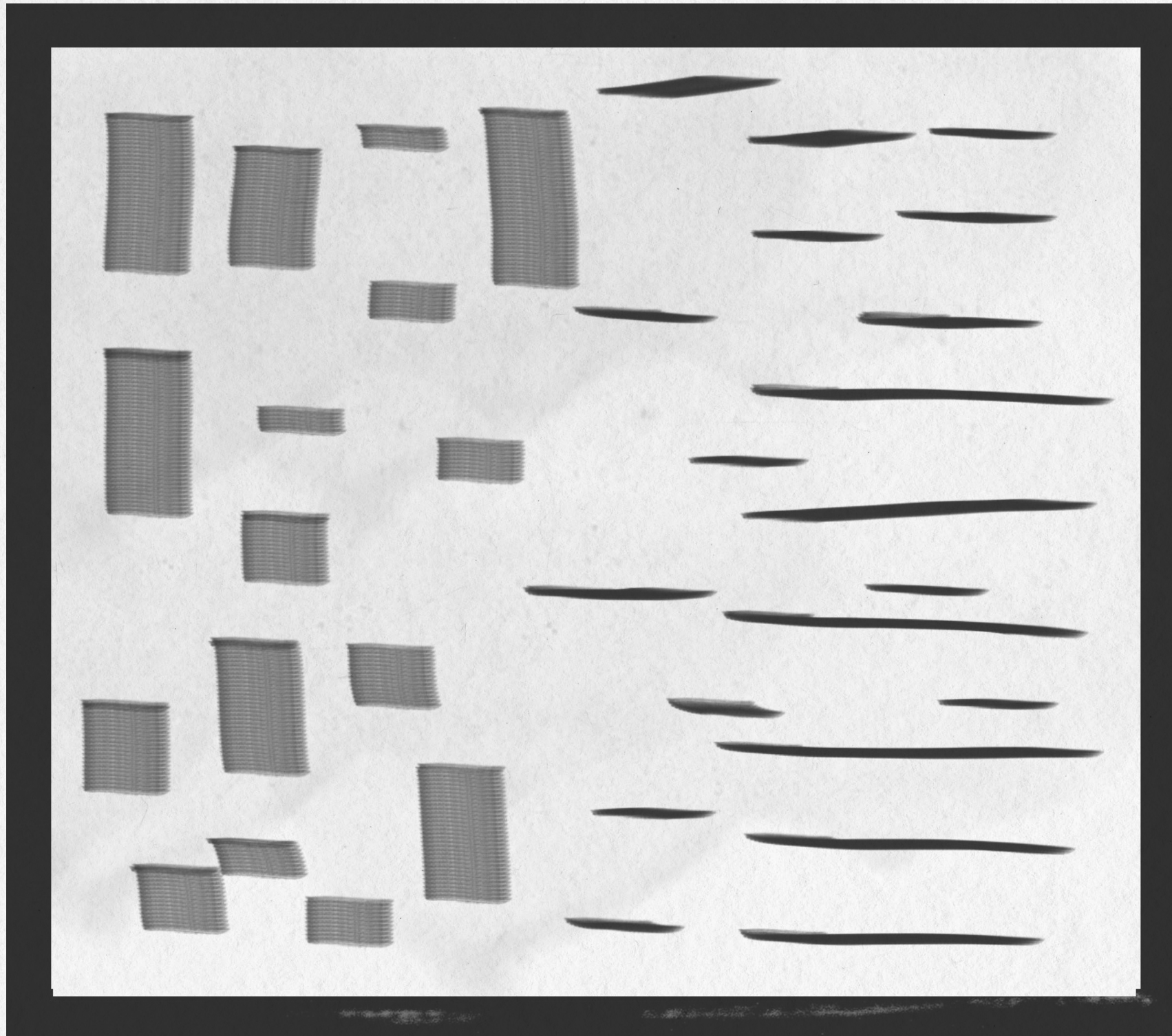


## The border between the Hondsrug & the valley



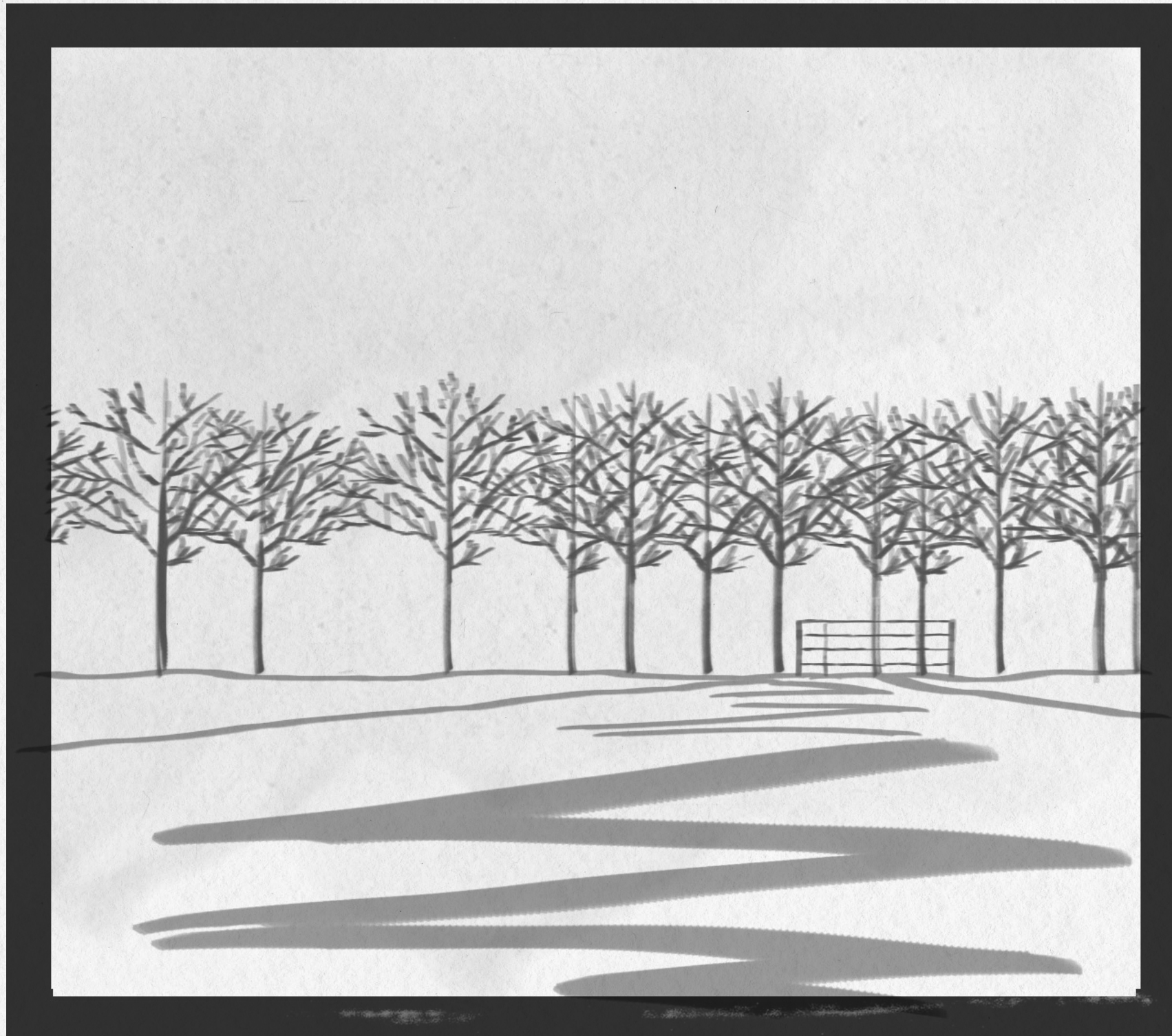


## The soil transition





## The visual clue



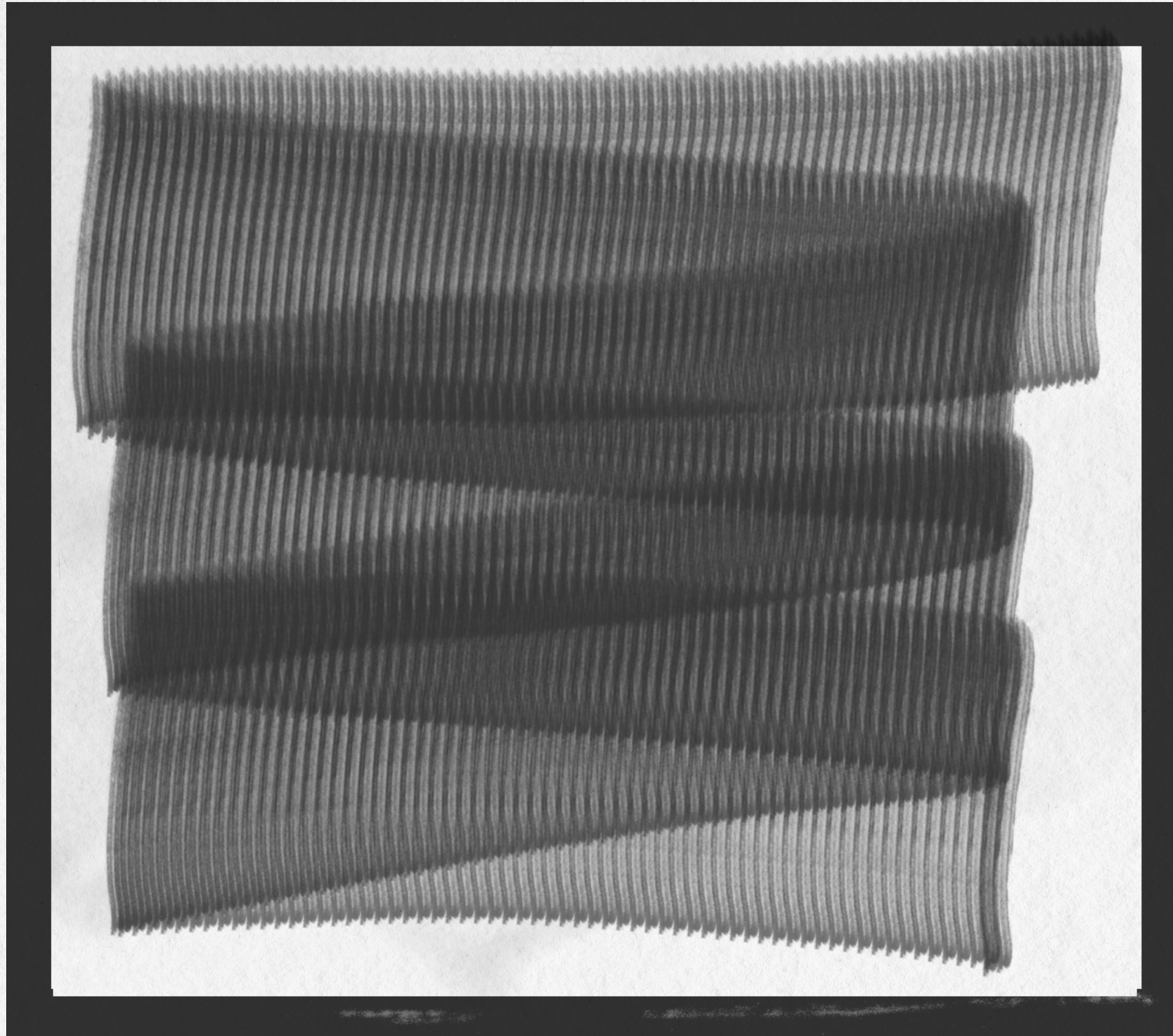


## The new space & object



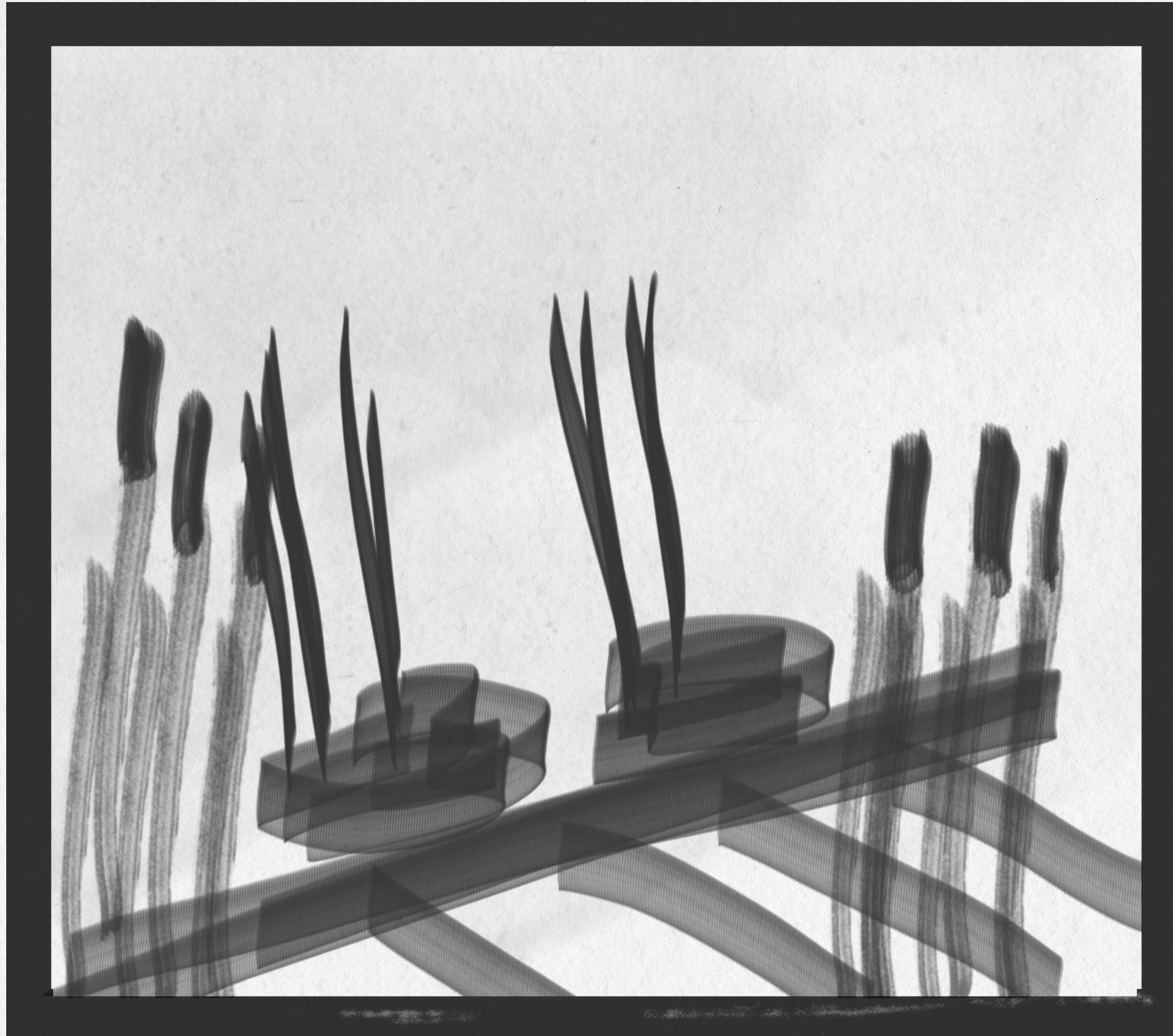


## The soil transition



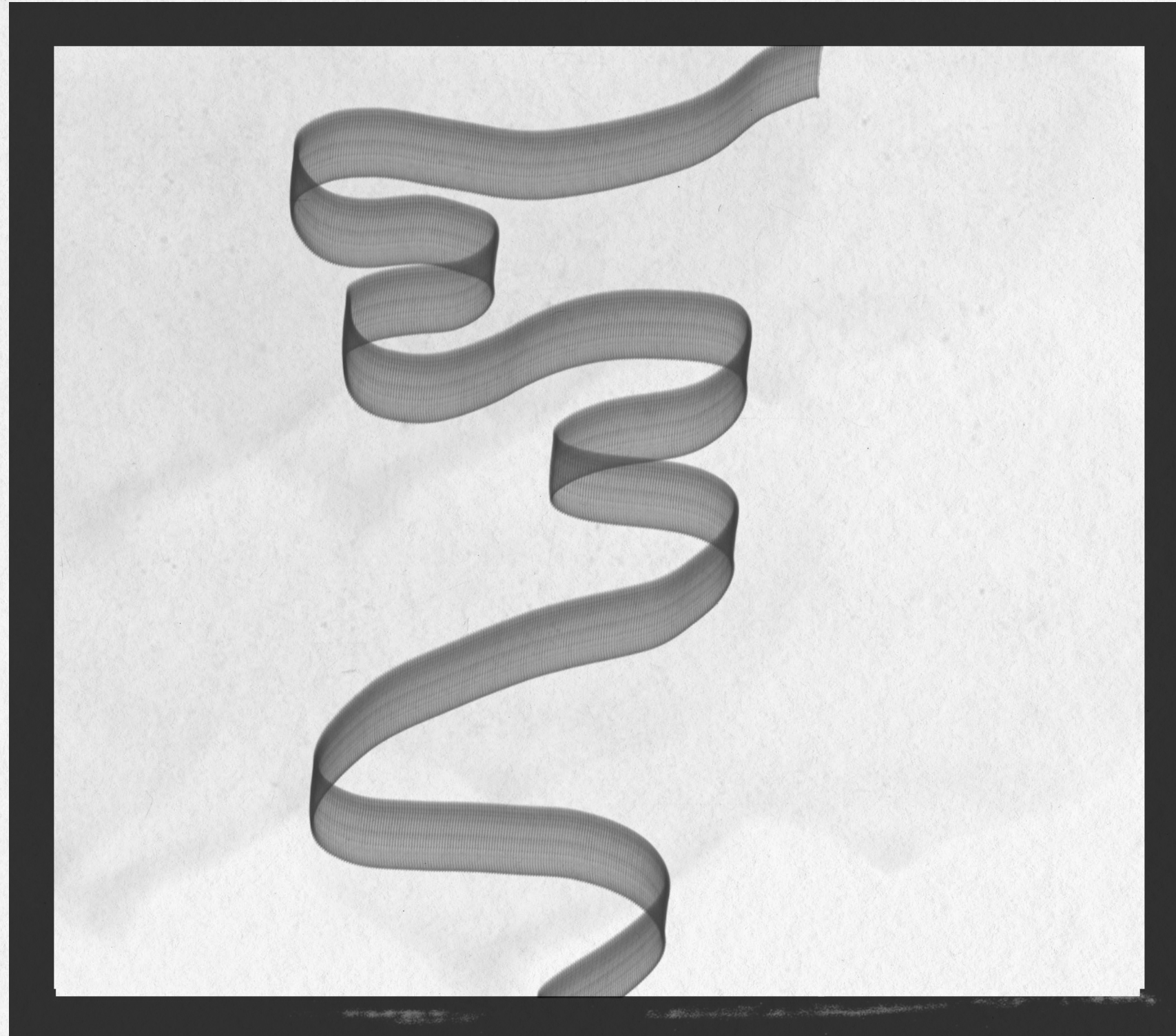


## The new space & object





## The border of the Hunze stream





## The historical landscape of the Hunze stream





## The new space & object



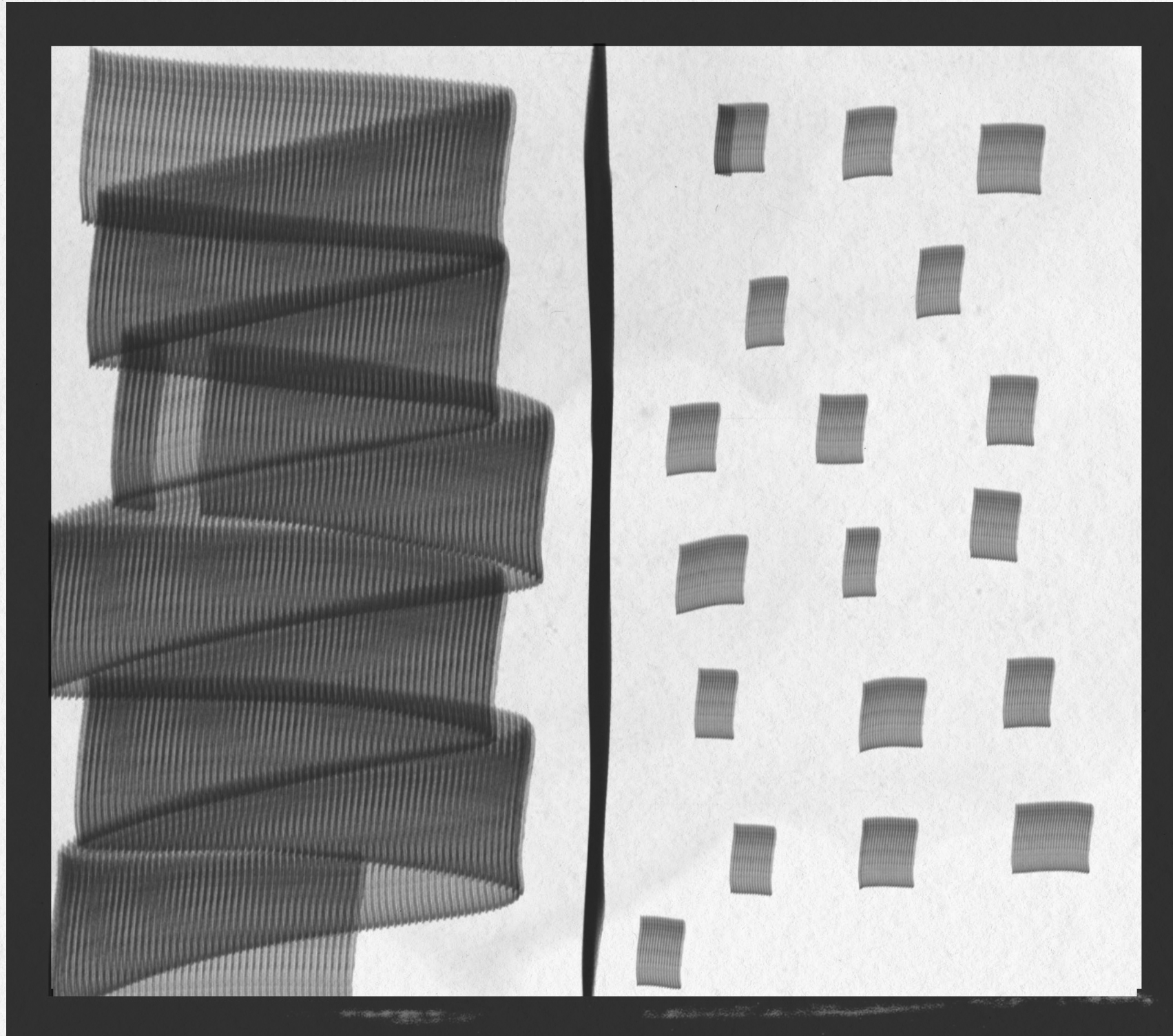


## The visual clue



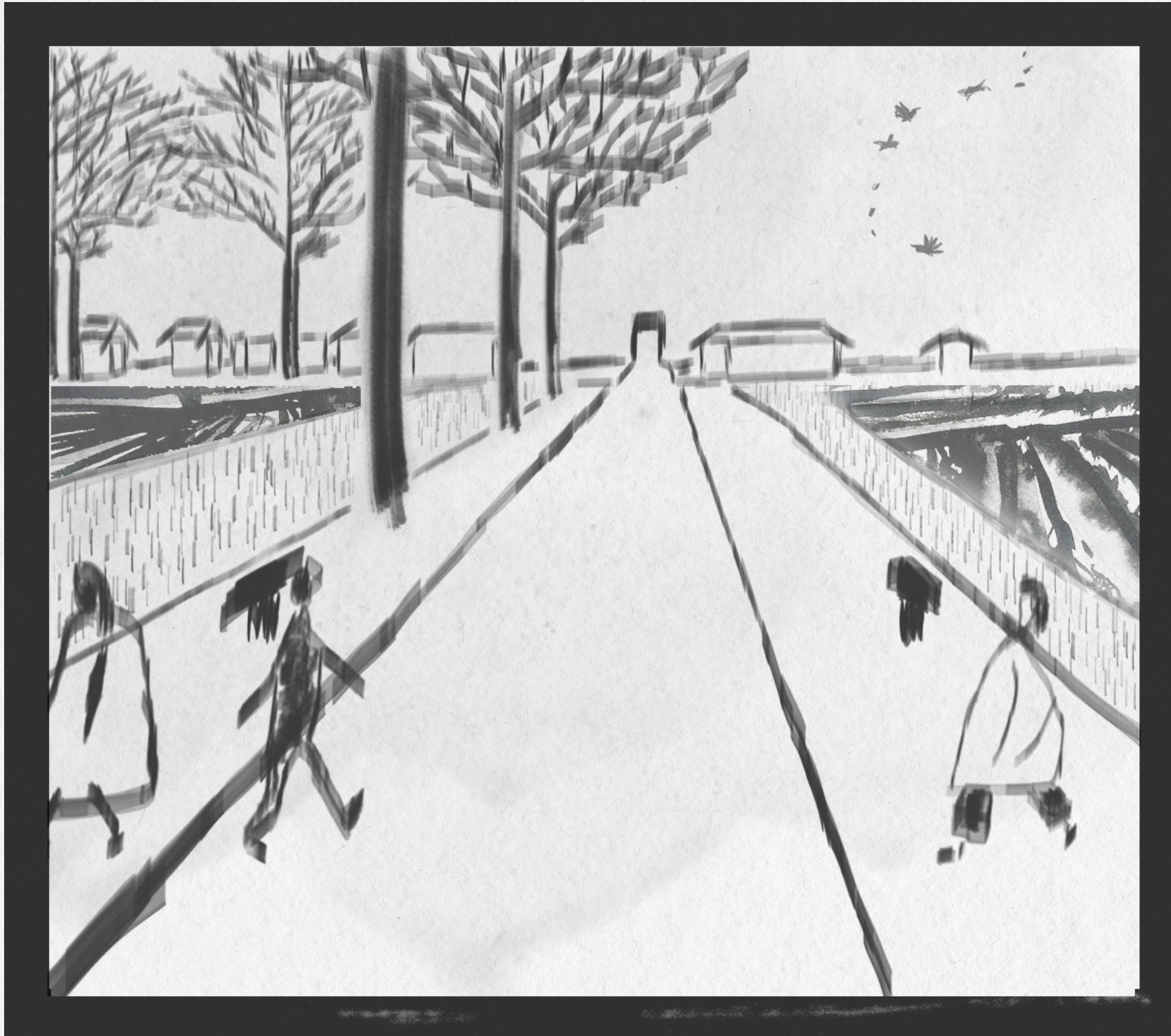


## The soil transition





## The new space & object





Conclusion





# Conclusion

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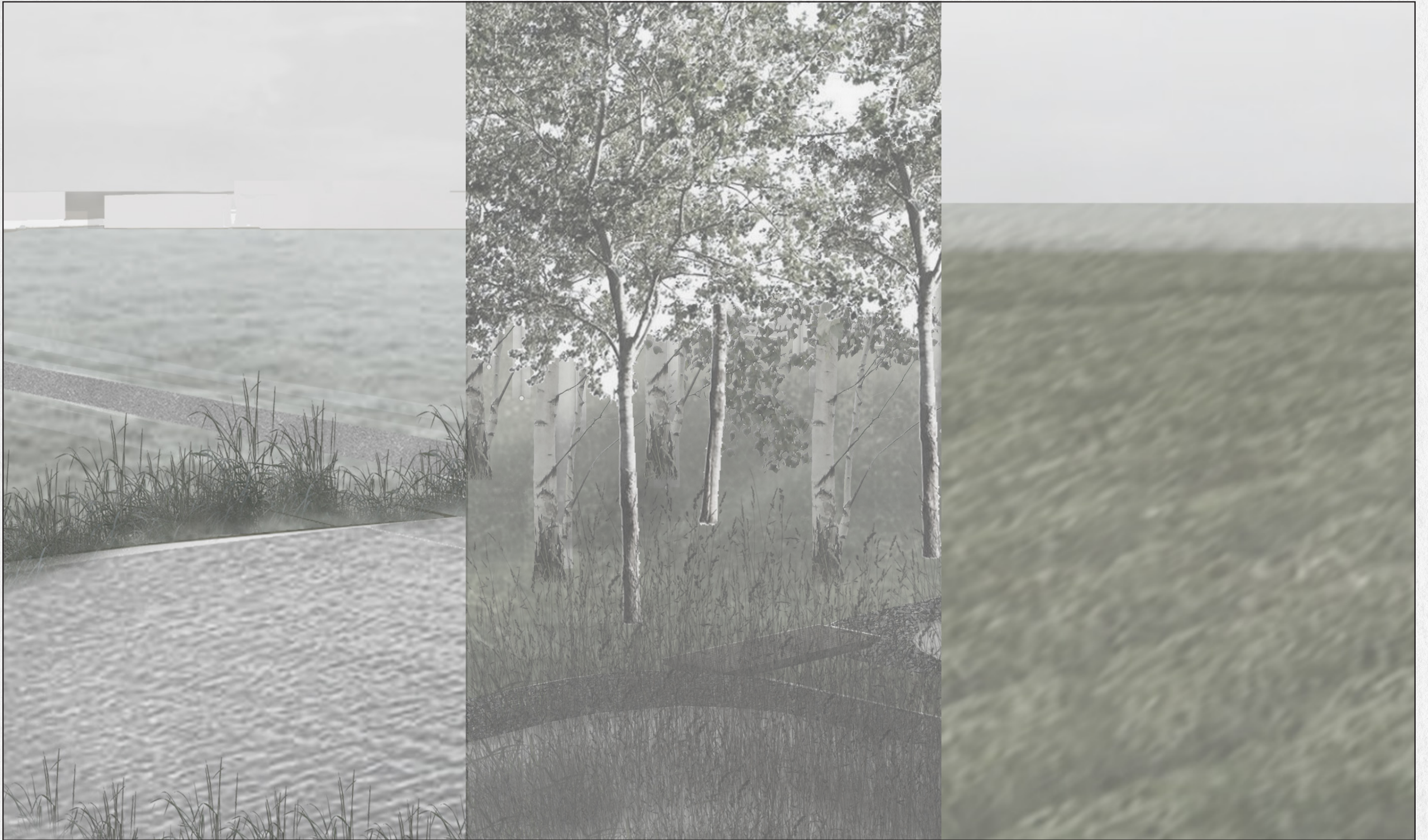
## Hypothesis

We can design a more unitary concept of 'nature' and 'culture' through the theoretical framework of 'pluralism'.

.....



## Impressions of a different narrative rather than a complete design





**Narratives provide not only means to experience but to think. What is the value of landscape architecture if there is not some knowledge gained, or better yet, knowledge shared through experience?**