



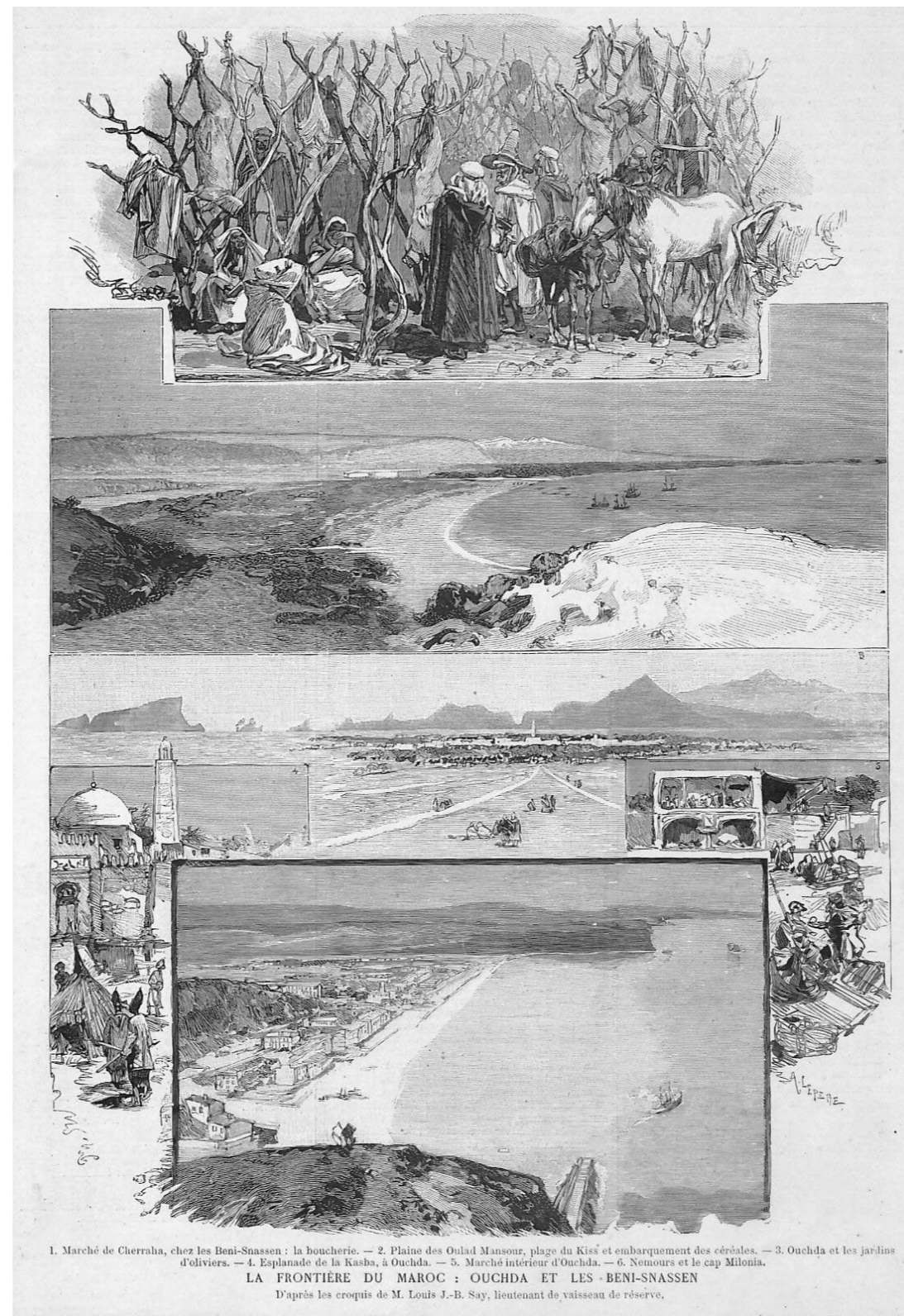
BORDERLESS CONNECTIONS

A TRAVELING MARKET AS AN AGENT OF RESILIENCE AND
CHANGE IN BORDERSCAPES

(IN)VISIBLE STORIES:
SMUGGLING AS PART OF THEIR EVERYDAY LIFE



TRADING ROUTES: CULTURAL SYMBOLS STORED IN THE SHARED MEMORY

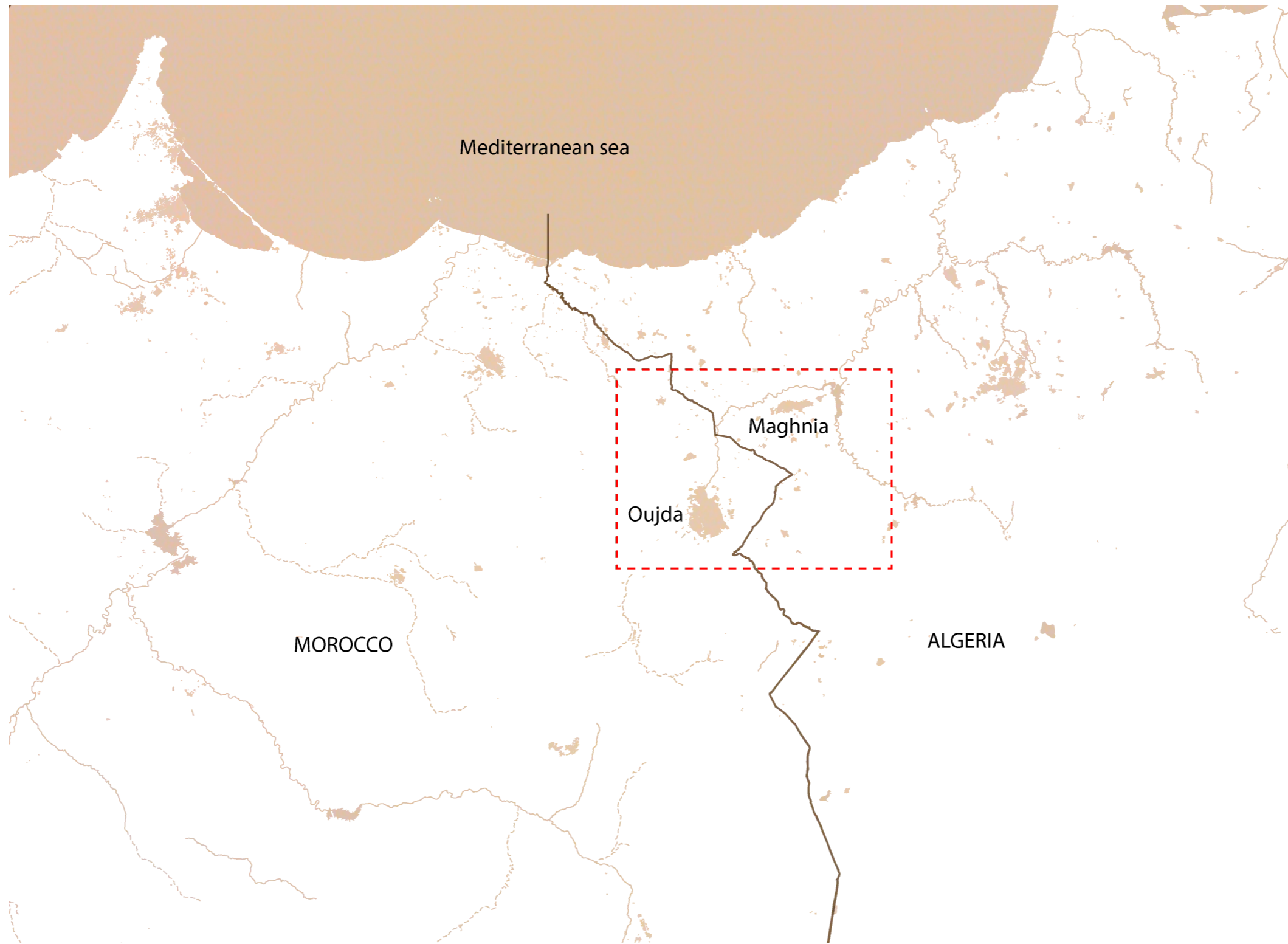


Border representation of Oujda as a trade hub in 1884. Source: <https://www.ebay.fr/itm/371840008782>

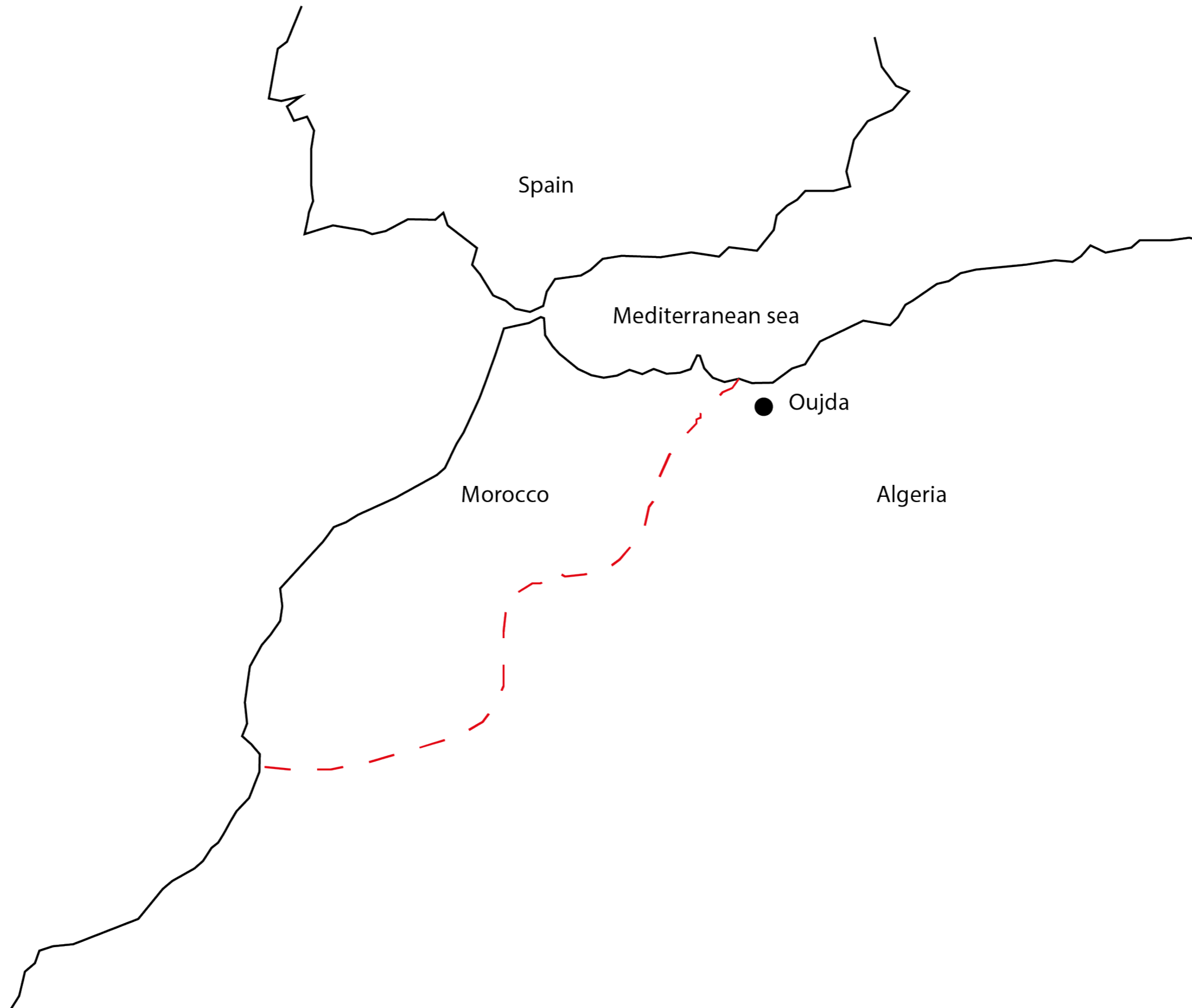
CAPITAL OF NORTH EASTERN MOROCCO



OUJDA AND MAGHNIA: BETWEEN IDENTITIES AND SHARED BORDERS

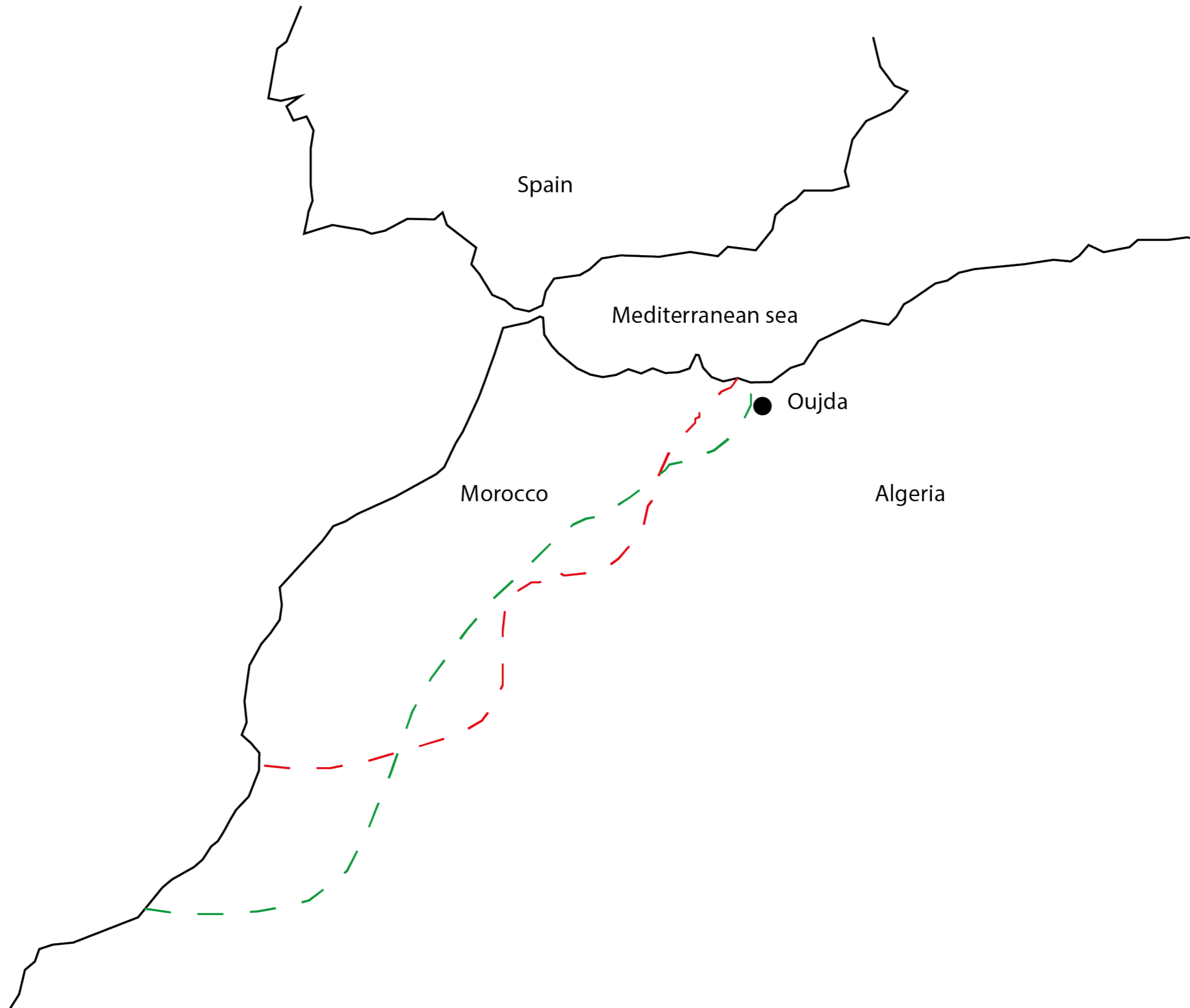


CHANGING BORDERS:
OUJDA ALWAYS BEEN IN TRANSITION
1700

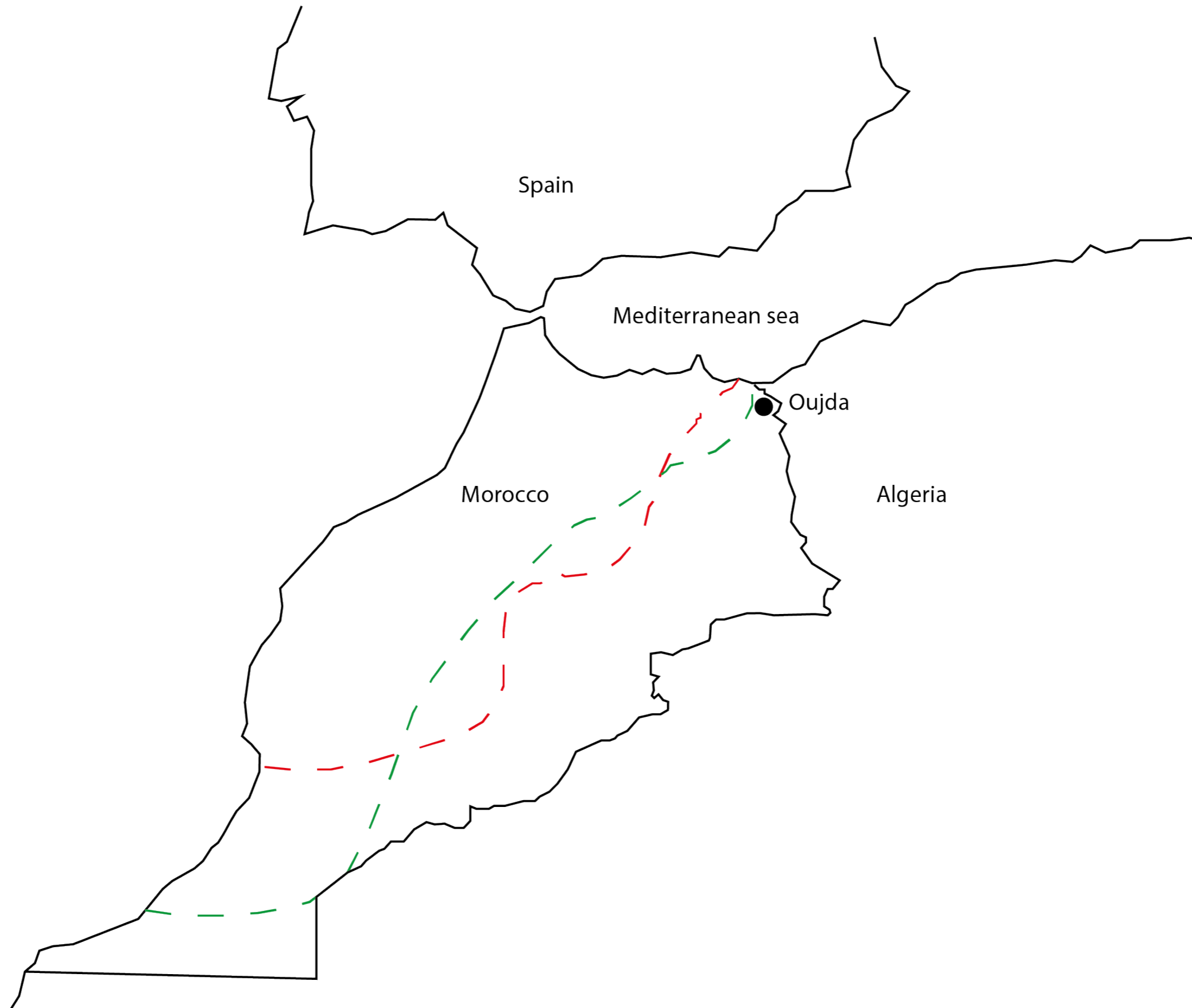


**CHANGING BORDERS:
OUJDA ALWAYS BEEN IN TRANSITION**

1800

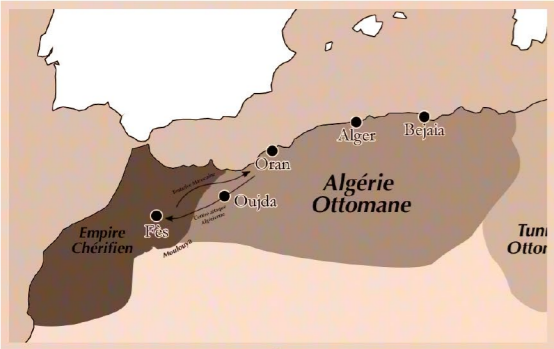


**CHANGING BORDERS:
OUJDA ALWAYS BEEN IN TRANSITION
TODAY**



HISTORICAL OVERVIEW OF OUJDA

Oujda once part of Algeria



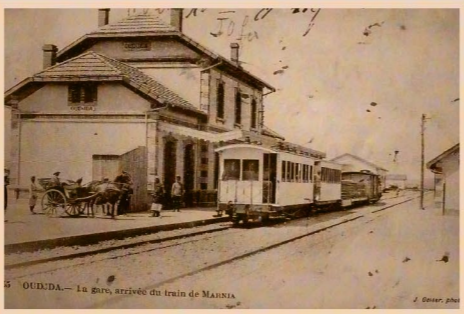
French occupation till 1956



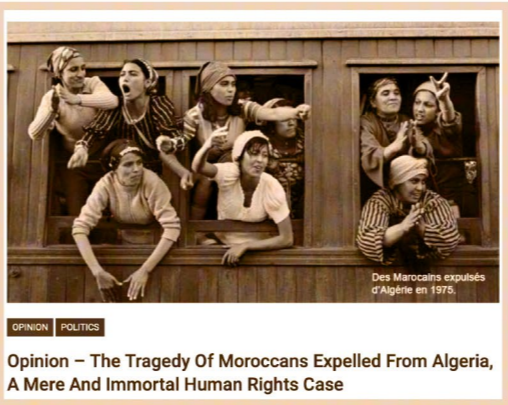
Battle with the French



First train station built



2nd border closing till 1988



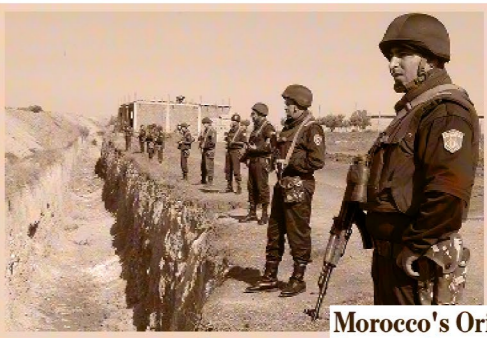
1st border closing till 1964



3th border closing till today



Despite Closed Border, Moroccans and Algerians Find Ways To See Their Loved Ones



Morocco's Oriental Region Soon to Become Important Development Engine - Minister



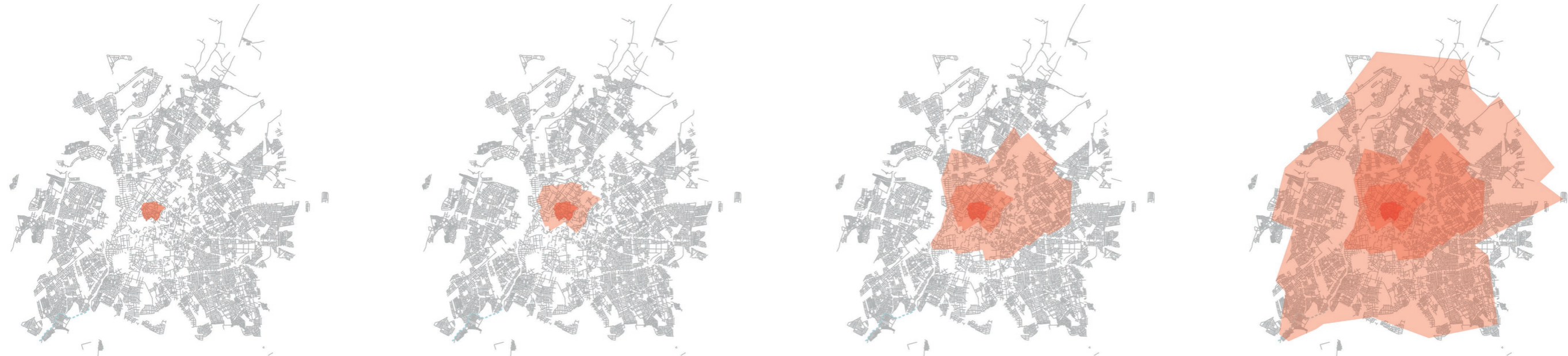
Oujda's fire-ravaged souk - 10 Million to rebuild



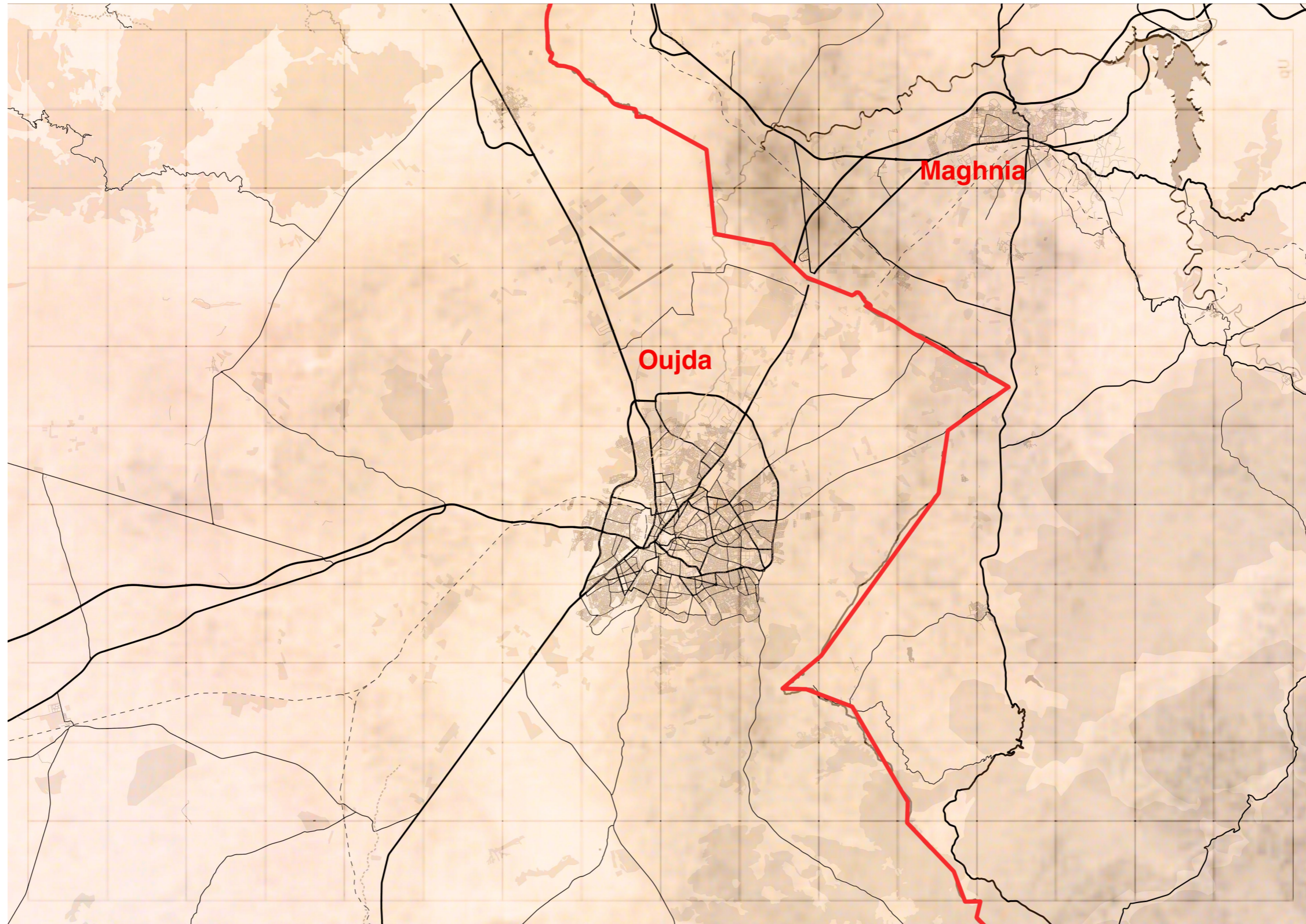
Morocco farmers mourn loss of date palms in border standoff



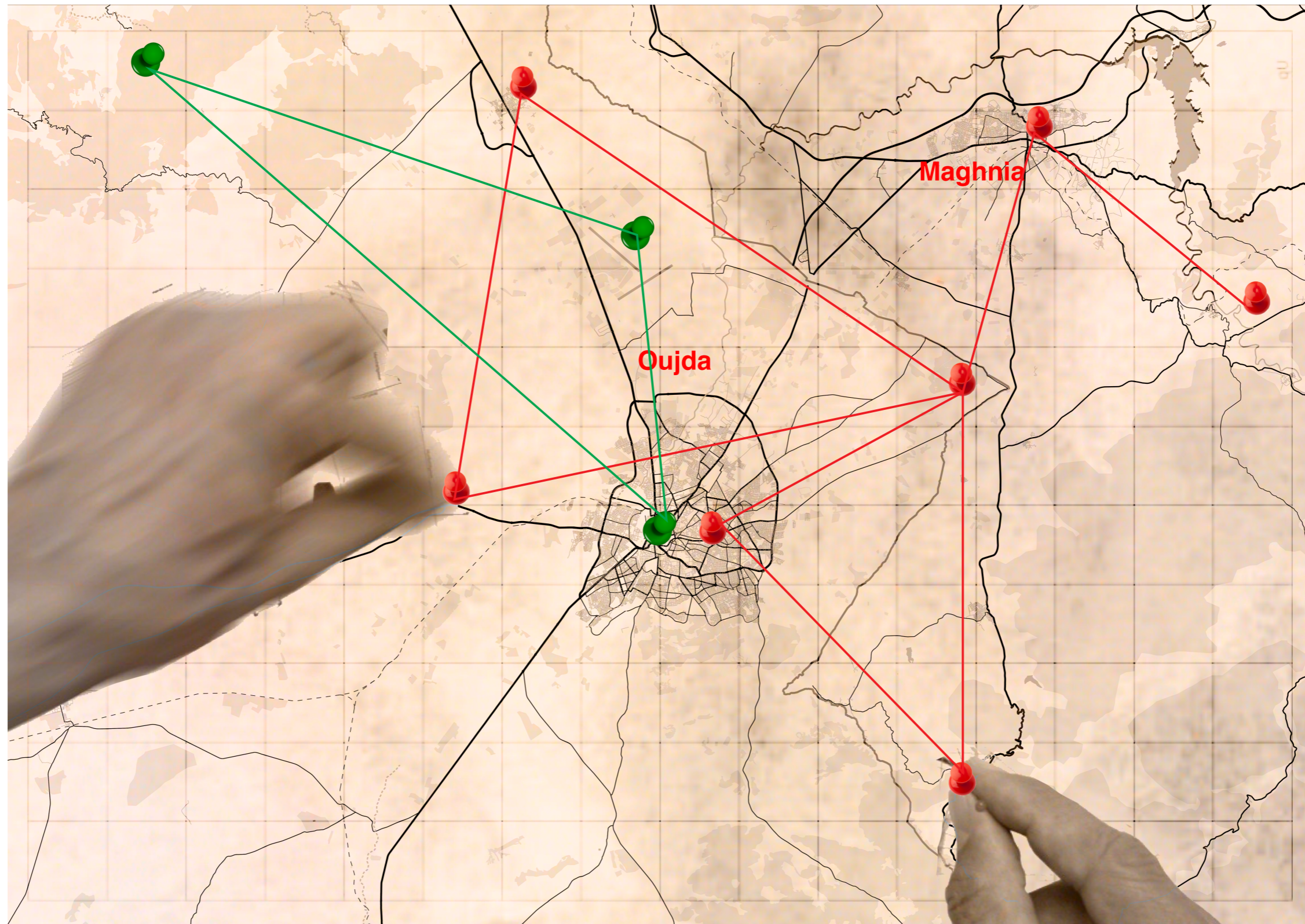
994 1692 1844 1907 1922 1963 1975 1994 2011 2016 2021 2022



PERCEPTION BY THE PUBLIC AS FIXED STRUCTURES ON A FORMAL LEVEL



HIDDEN DYNAMICS THAT EXISTS IN REALITY ON AN INFORMAL LEVEL

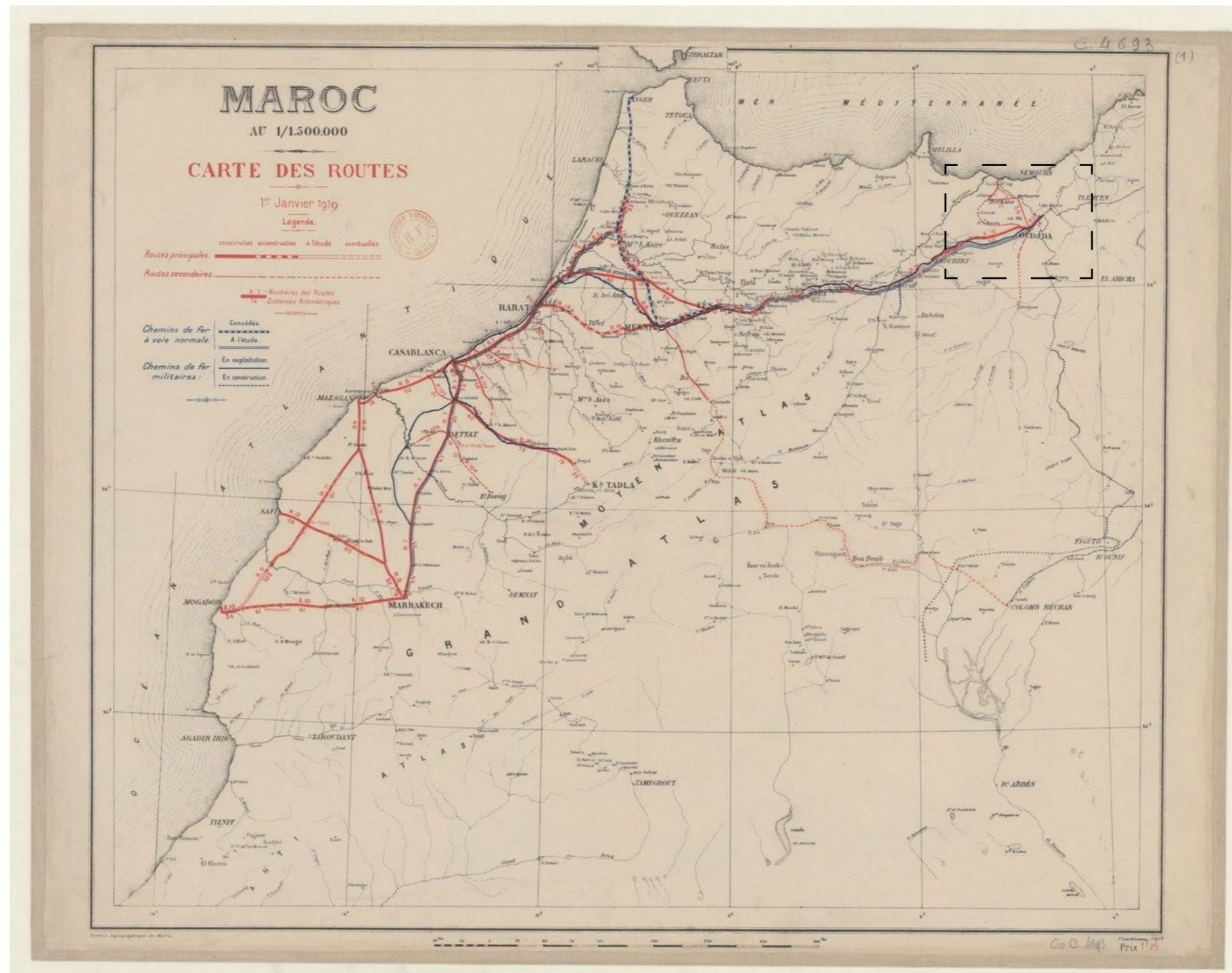


FORMAL FLOWS



INFORMAL FLOWS (FLUENT BORDER)

PERCEPTION BY THE GOVERNMENT AS REMOTE AND PROBLEMATIC SPACES



Source gallica.bnf.fr / Bibliothèque nationale de France

PERCEPTION ON THE MEDIA: YOUTUBE

@azerazerty3113 4 jaar geleden

vous ne pourrez jamais nous diviser

 28

[Beantwoorden](#)

▼ 8 antwoorden

13   Beantwoorden

1 antwoord

@cesthonbon5961 1 jaar geleden (bewerkt)

Au maroc aussi a melilla et ceuta. Il ya des maisons qui sont en espagne et le jardin sur le territoire marocain.

24 Beantwoorden

@makloufmouhli1607 4 jaar geleden

Ce n'est pas un fossé c'est une rivière naturelle et une frontière point et ses images sont une marque fort de sympathie entre nos deux peuples merci à tous ces gens

Beantwoorden

@staifipalestine3225 4 jaar geleden

 4  Beantwoorden

@cecilelegrand8347 2 jaar geleden

Les gens du bled ont vraiment une mentalité différente de celle des gens d'europe au sujet de l'Algérie et du Maroc.
Aucune rivalité entre les 2 pays et beaucoup de cohésion une bonne leçon pour faire taire les mauvaises polémiques

 1 **Beantwoorden**

@mouradzaidi4137 4 jaar geleden

▼ 7 antwoorden

@lahcenea4543 2 jaar geleden

Beaucoup de marocains sont encore en Algérie clandestinement à la recherche du travail

Beantwoorden


▼ 2 antwoorden

Engels (VK)


You will never be able to divide us

Engels (VK)


In Morocco also has melilla and ceuta. There are houses that are in Spain and the garden on Moroccan territory.

Engels (VK) 

It's not a gap, it's a natural river and a border point and its images are a strong mark of sympathy between our two peoples, thank you to all these people

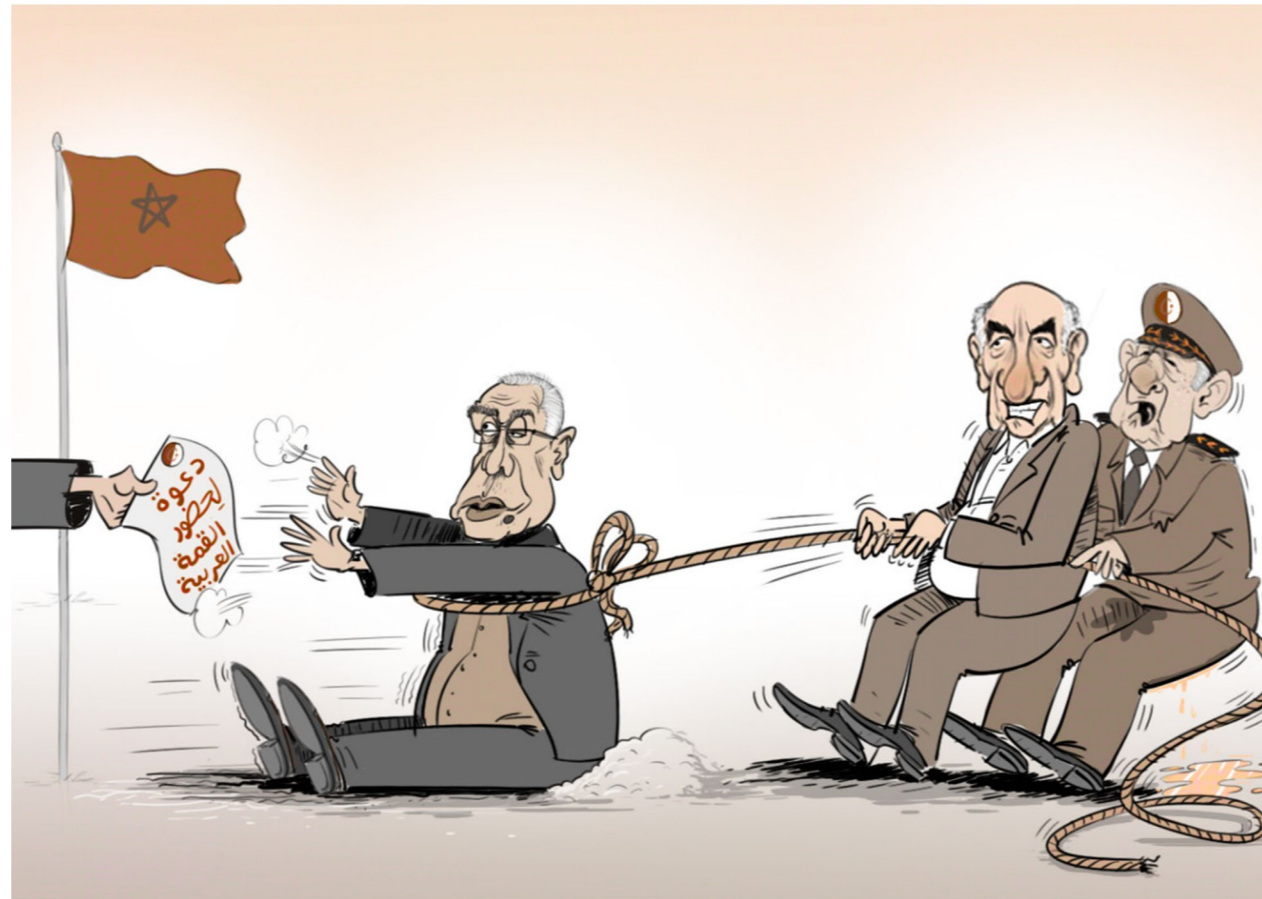
Engels (VK) 

The people of the village really have a different mentality than the people of Europe about Algeria and Morocco. No rivalry between the 2 countries and a lot of cohesion a good lesson to silence the bad polemics

Engels (VK) 

Many Moroccans are still in Algeria clandestinely in search of work

PERCEPTION ON THE MEDIA: COMICS



Source: <https://www.barlamane.com/fr/sommet-arabe-lemissaire-algerien-raille-apres-avoir-quitte-le-ma-roc-en-toute-hate/>

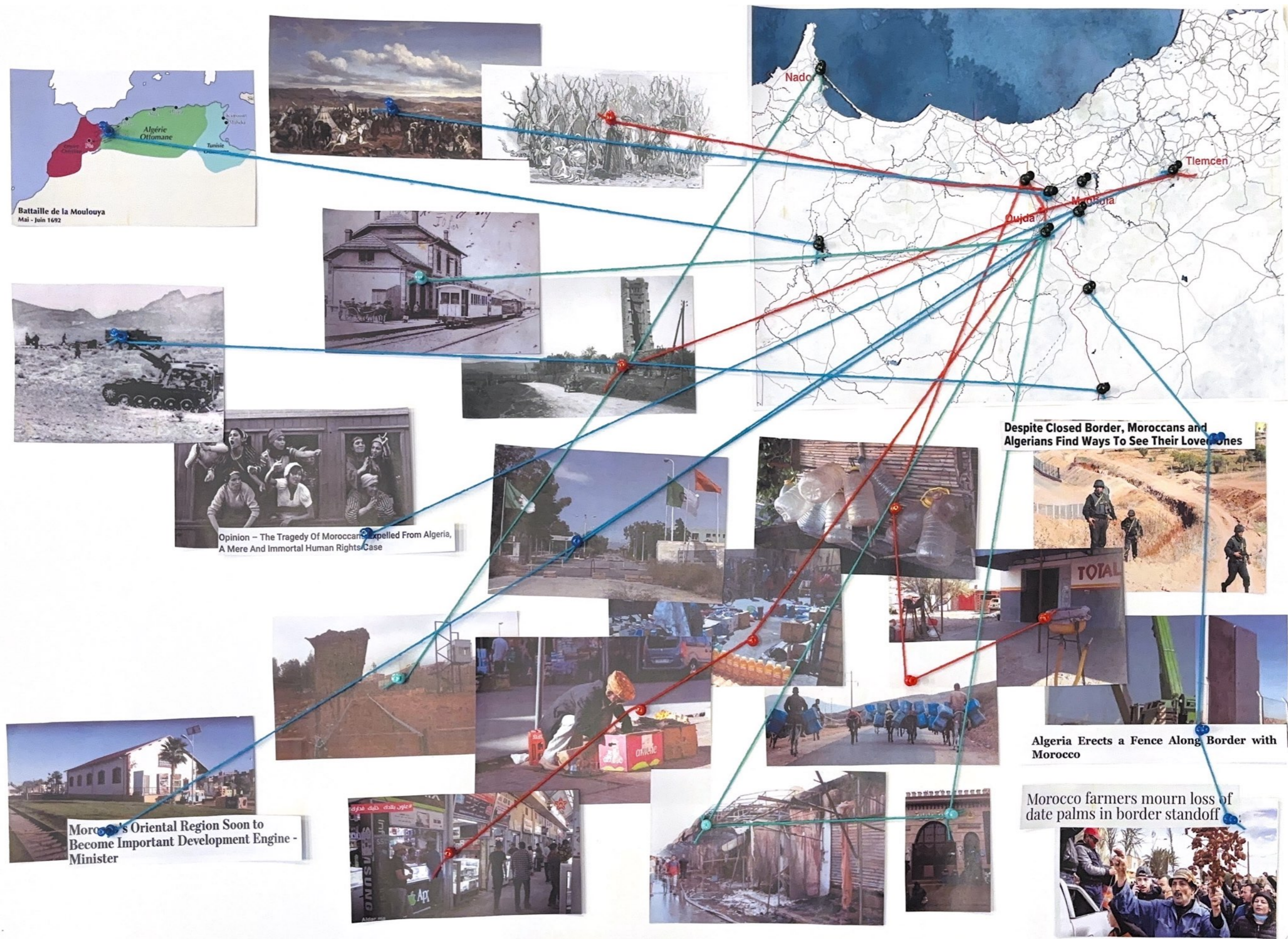
PROBLEM STATEMENT

The general problem is the common perception of borderscapes as marginalized, closed spaces, resulting in a lack of understanding and investments in borderscapes.

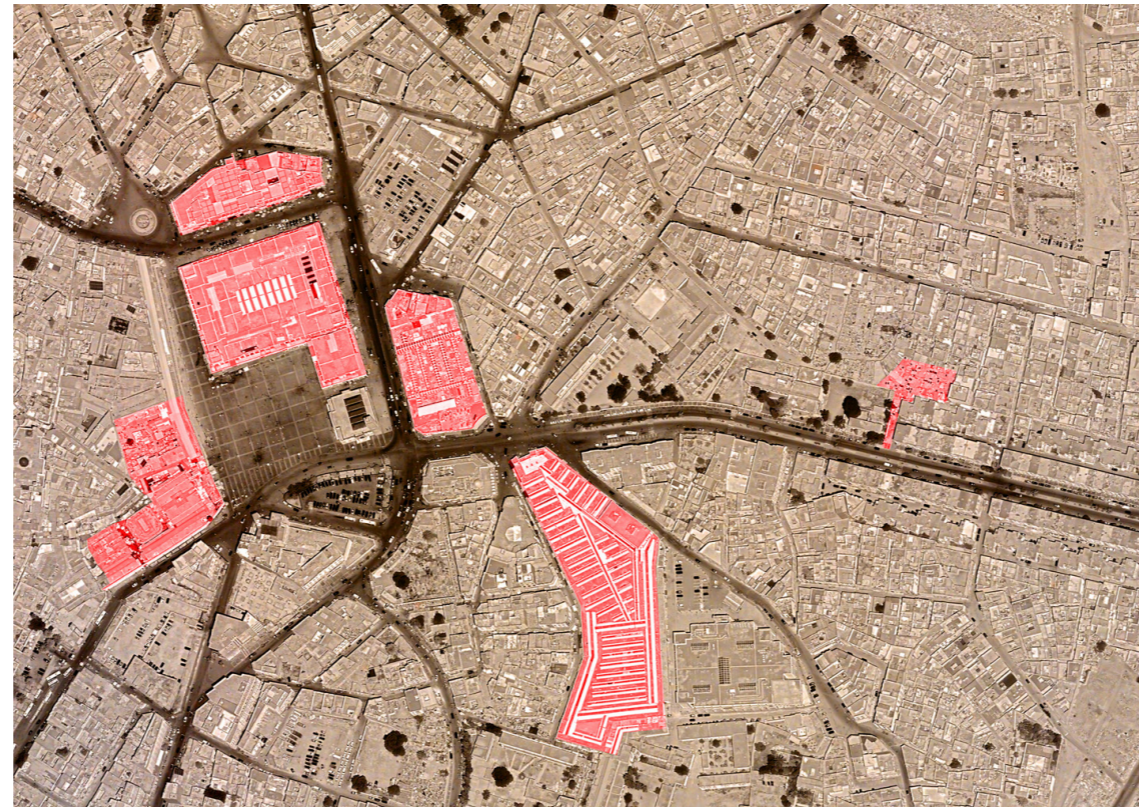
RESEARCH QUESTION

What design strategies can be employed to redefine Oujda's borderscape as spaces of connection and exchange rather than division and separation to support the needs of the border communities?

LIFE ON THE BORDERLAND: DEFYING CONVENTIONAL RULES OF POLITICS



CREATION OF SELF-ORGANIZED MARKETS

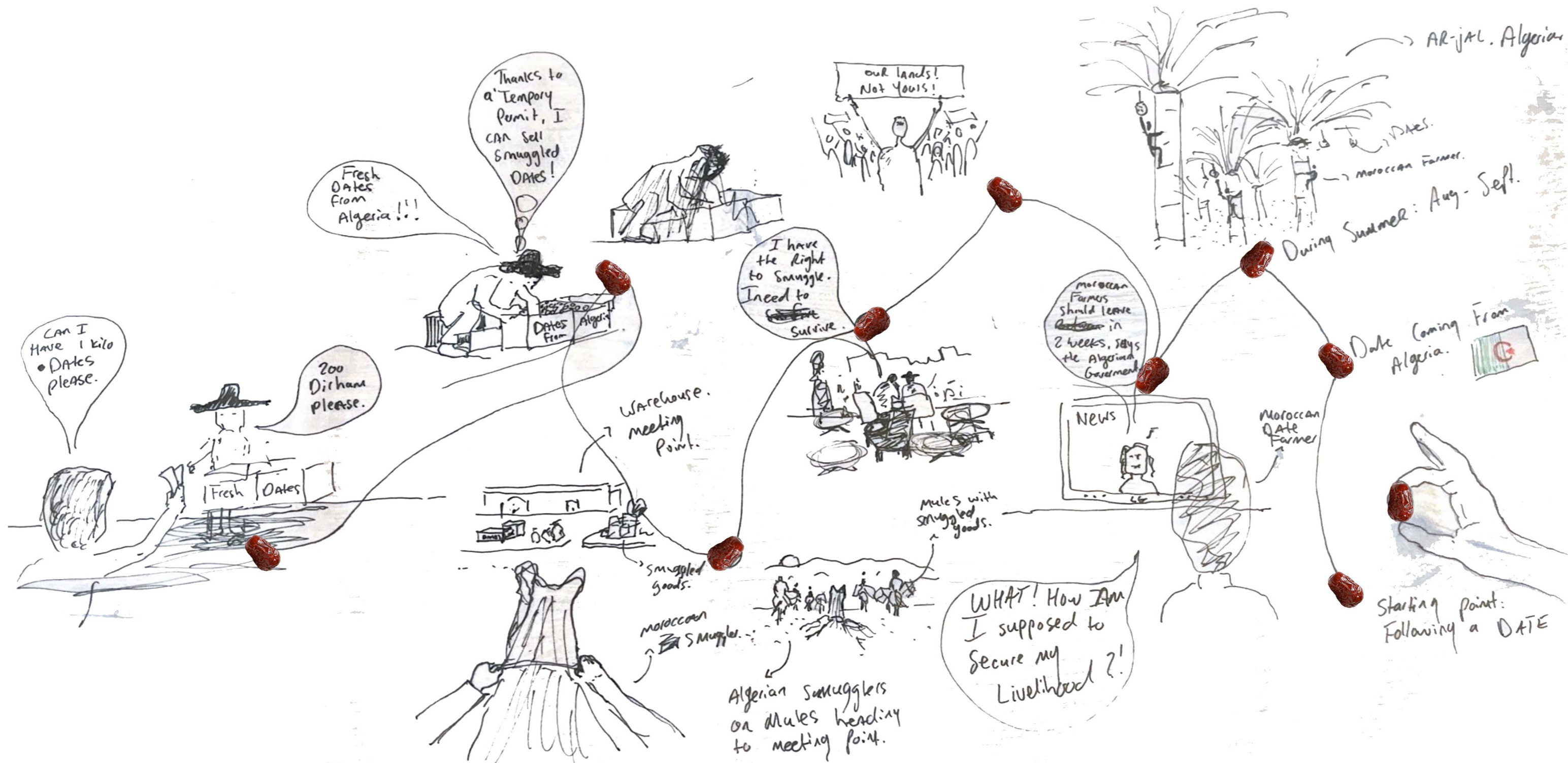


Map of Oujda centre, showing formal and informal market structures (2024). Source: Google earth

HIDDEN FLOWS: UNDERSTANDING INFORMAL TRADE



HIDDEN FLOWS: UNDERSTANDING INFORMAL TRADE



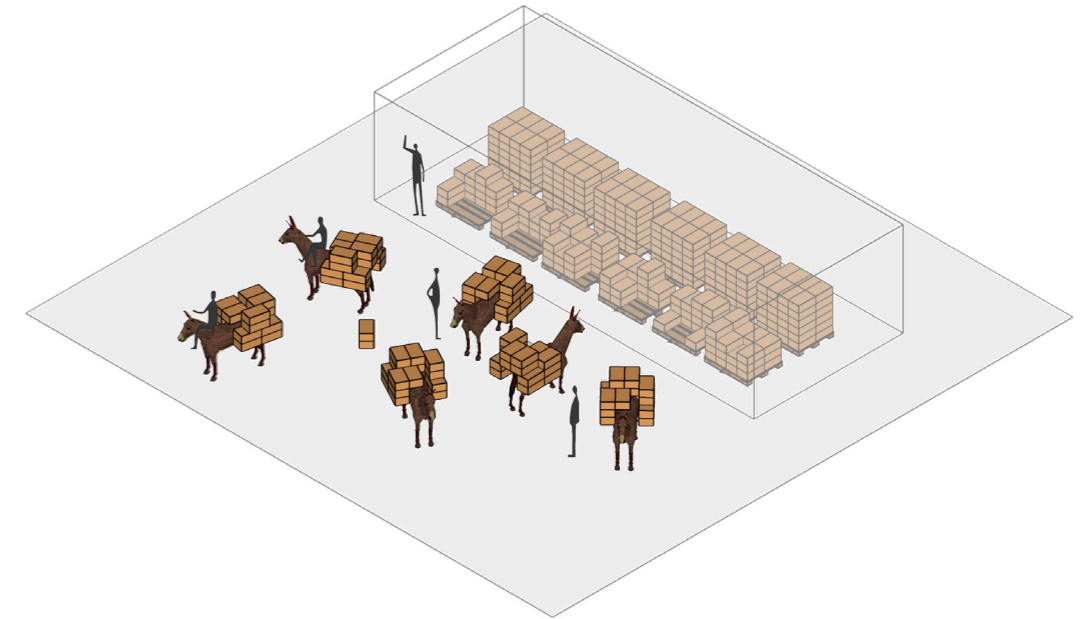
MOROCCAN DATE FARMERS COLLECTING DATES IN ALGERIA

FOR CENTURIES I OWNED
LAND AT THE ALGERIAN
BORDER, NOW I AM
FORCED TO LEAVE MY
OWN LAND



SMUGGLER ACTIVATED

IN THE NIGHT, DATES ARE BEING SORT OUT, READY TO BE
DELIVERED TO THE MOROCCANS

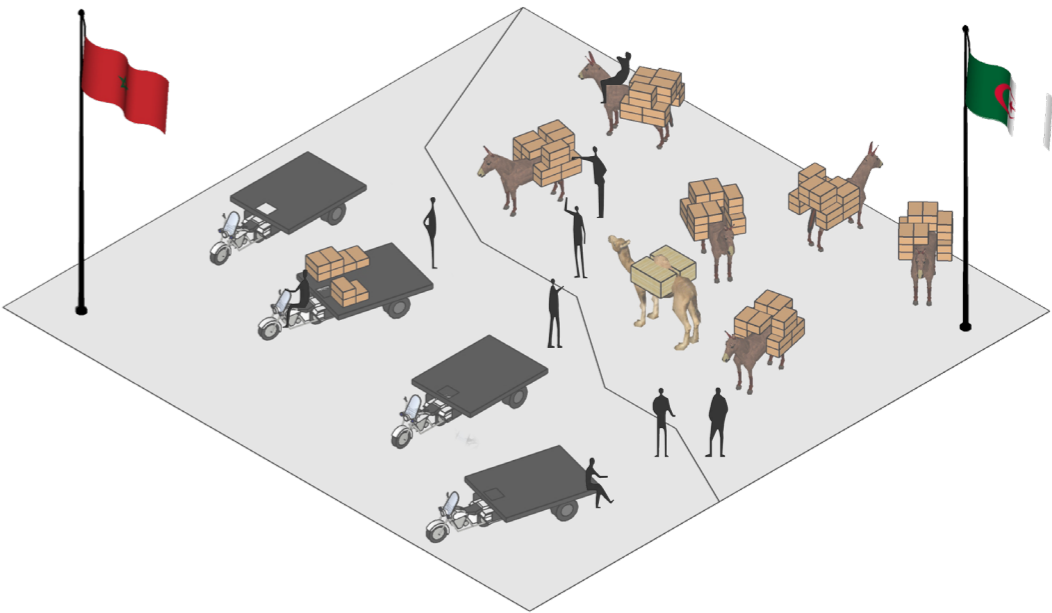


USING MULES INSTEAD
OF CARS TO PREVENT
NOISE



ALGERIANS MEET MOROCCANS AT PRE-ESTABLISHED MEETING
POINTS AT THE BORDER

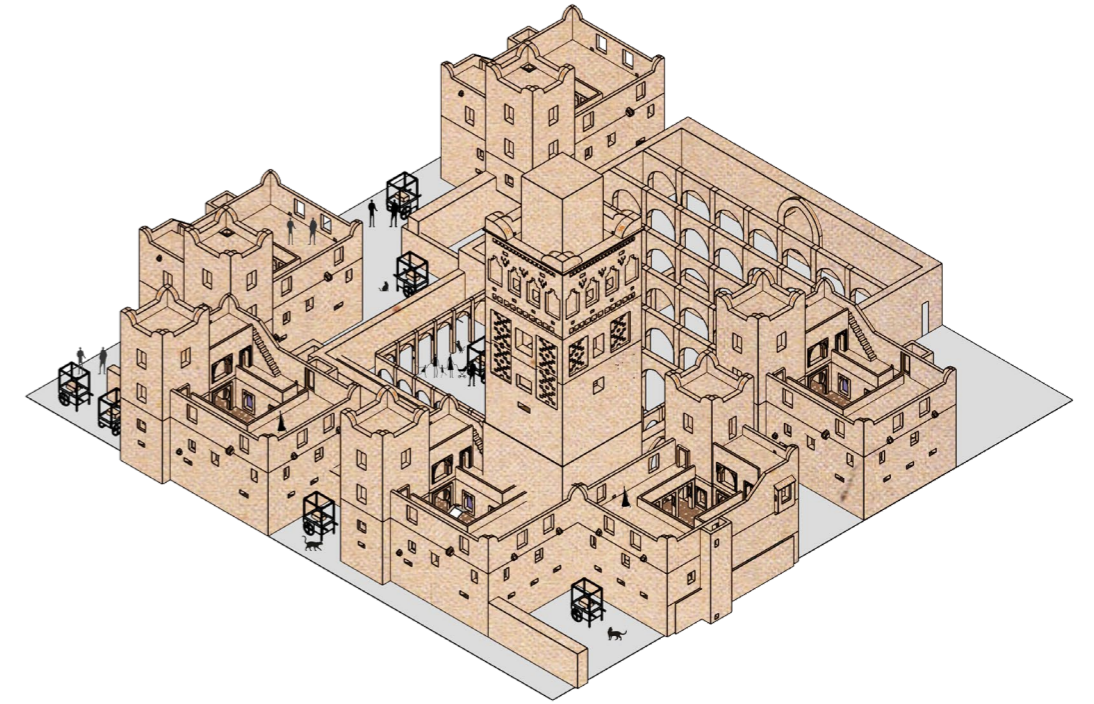
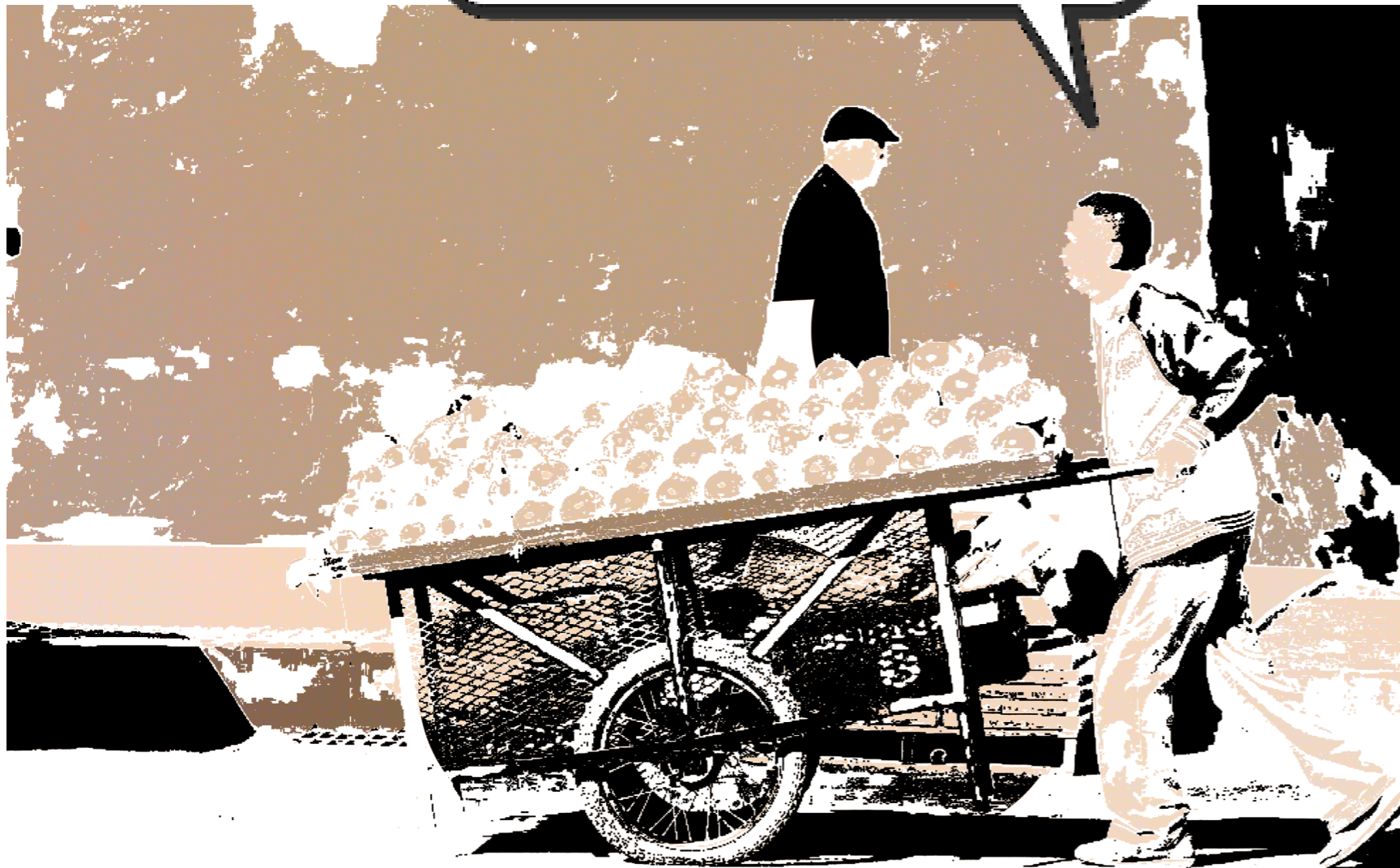
AS PROMISED THE DATES



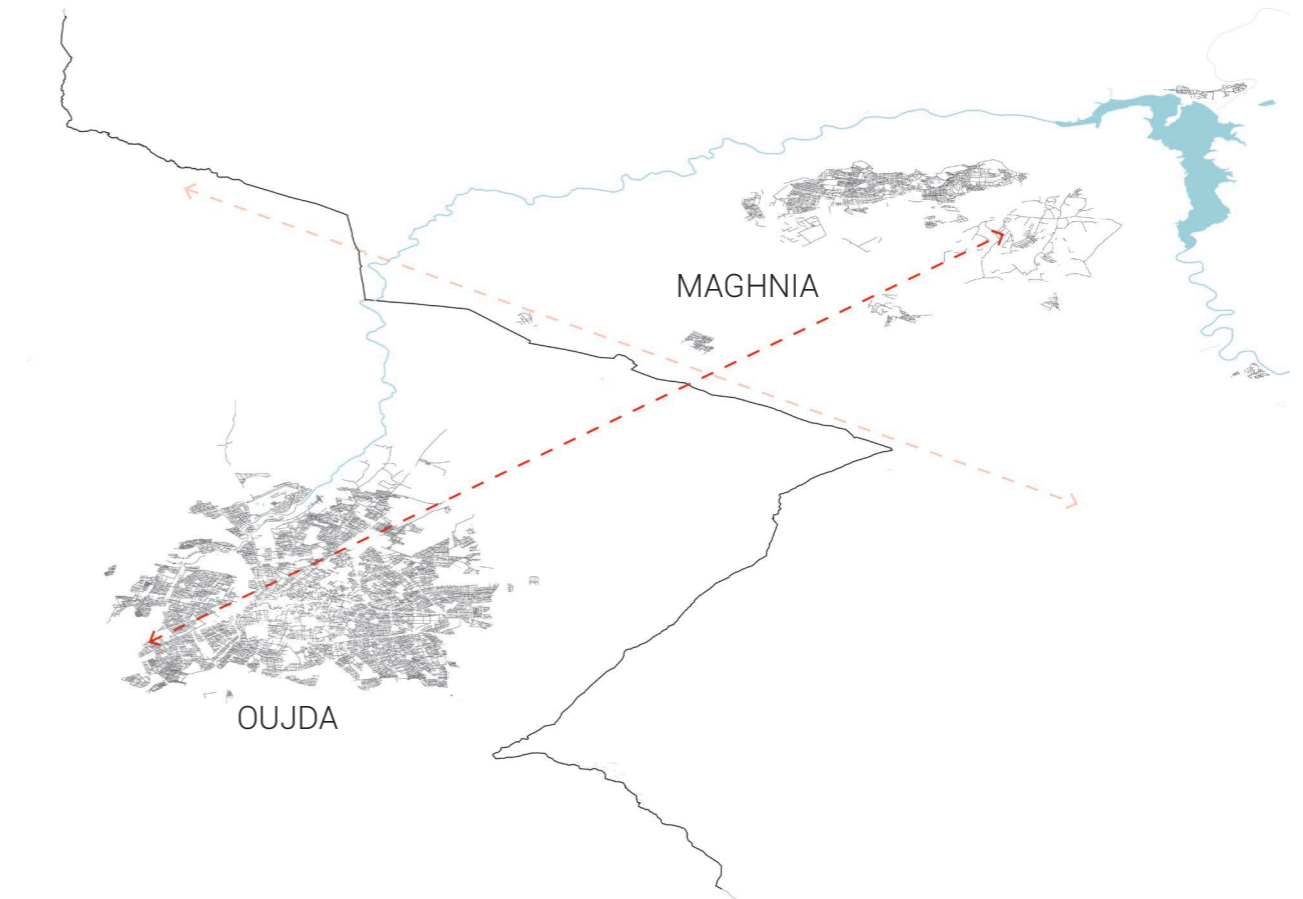
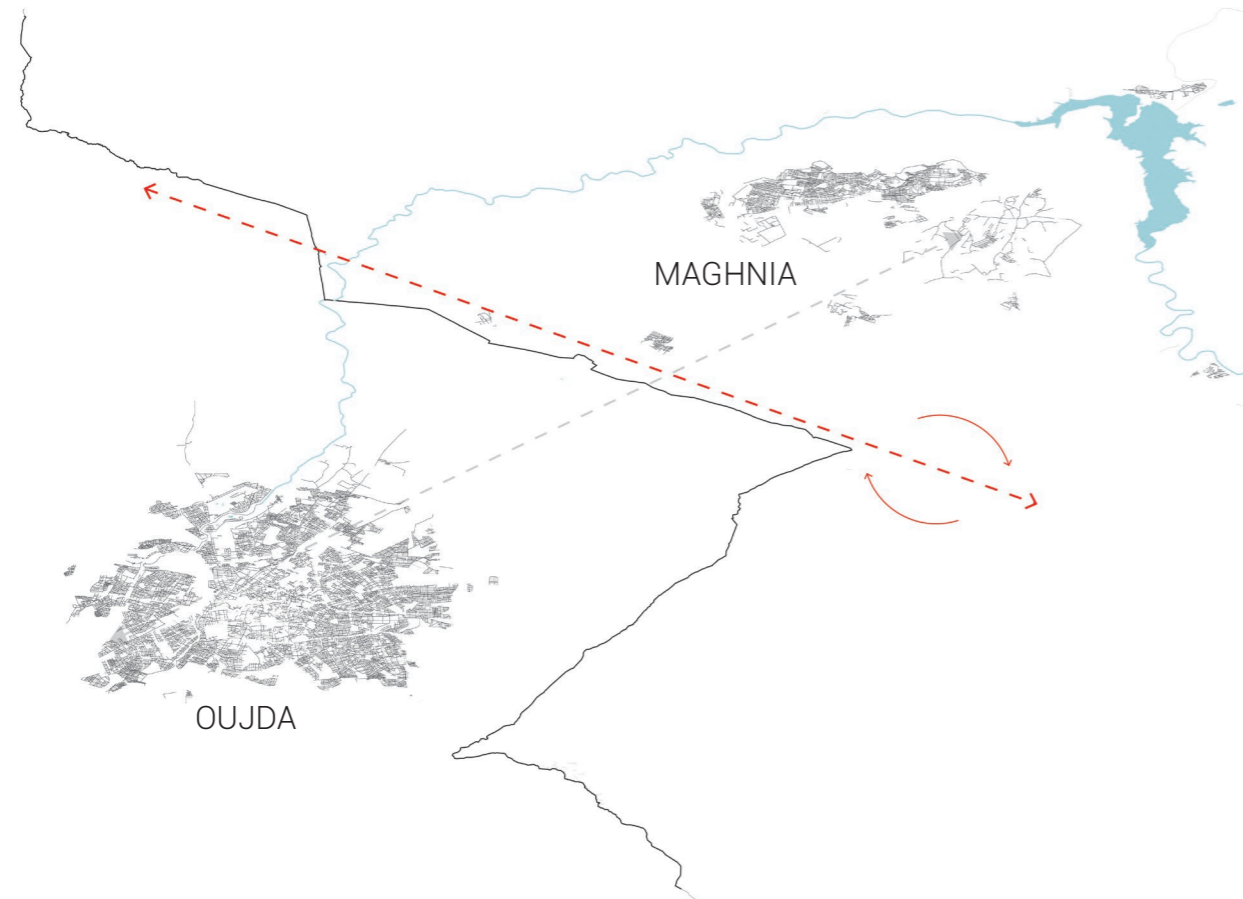
Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet,
consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do
eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore
et dolore magna aliqua. Quis ipsum
suspendisse ultrices gravida. Risus

THE TRAVELING SALESMEN: CONNECTING ISOLATED NEIGHBORHOODS

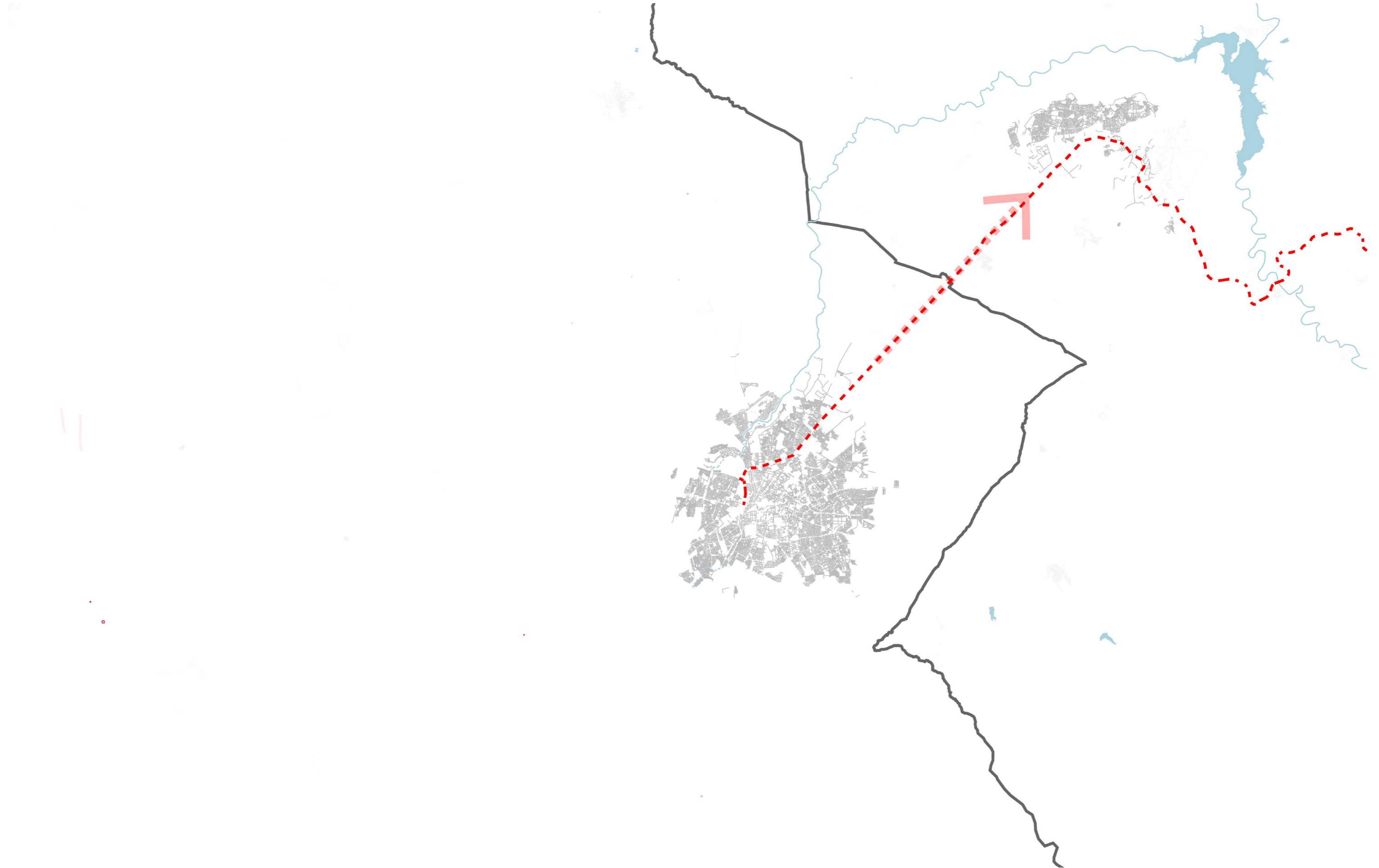
THANKS TO A
TOLARANCE POLICY, I AM
ABLE TO SELL ON THE
STREETS



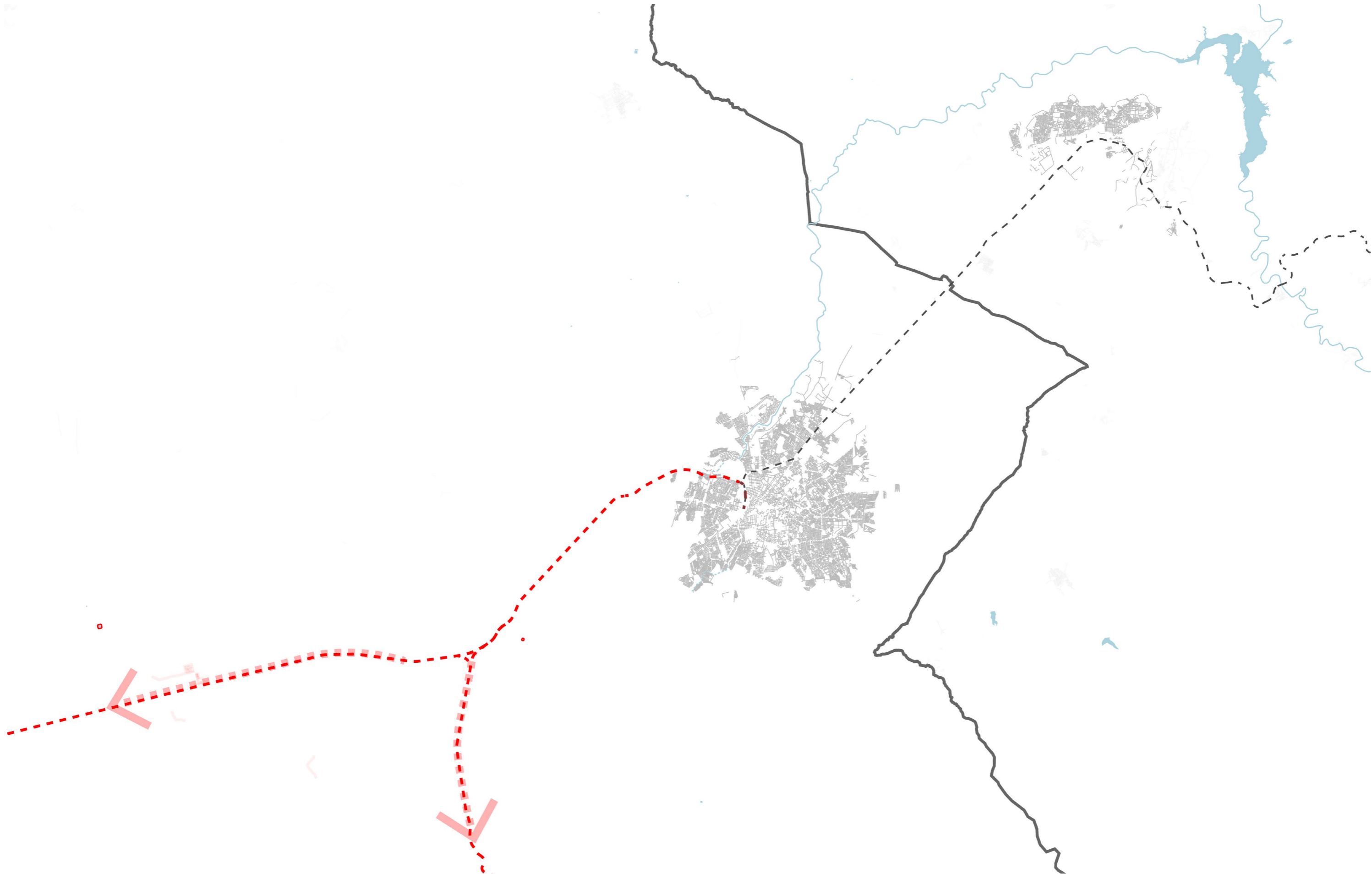
STARTING POINT: CHANGING OUR PERCEPTION FROM A BORDER TO A BORDERSCAPE



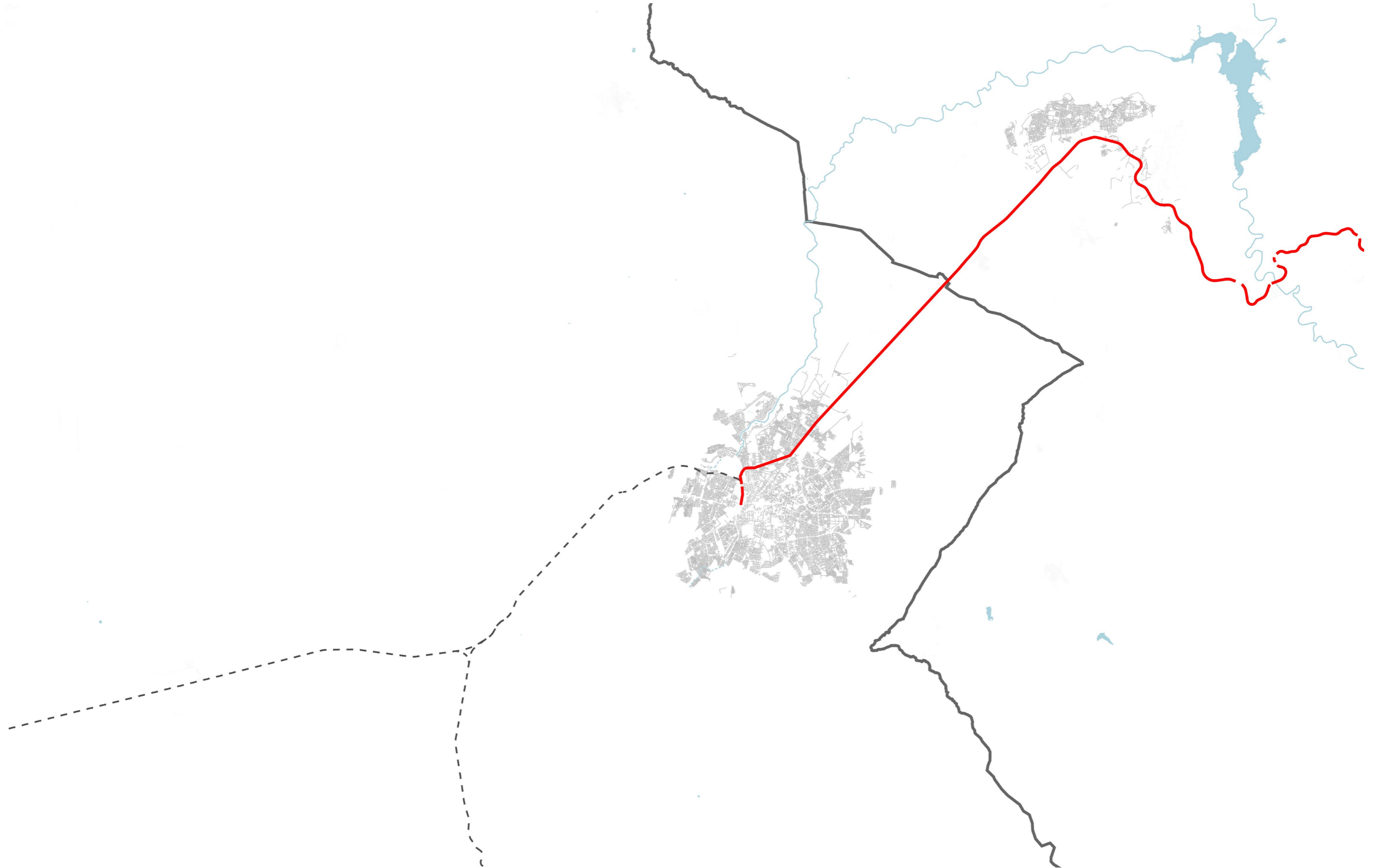
ABANDONED RAILWAY TRACK THAT USED TO CONNECT ALGERIA



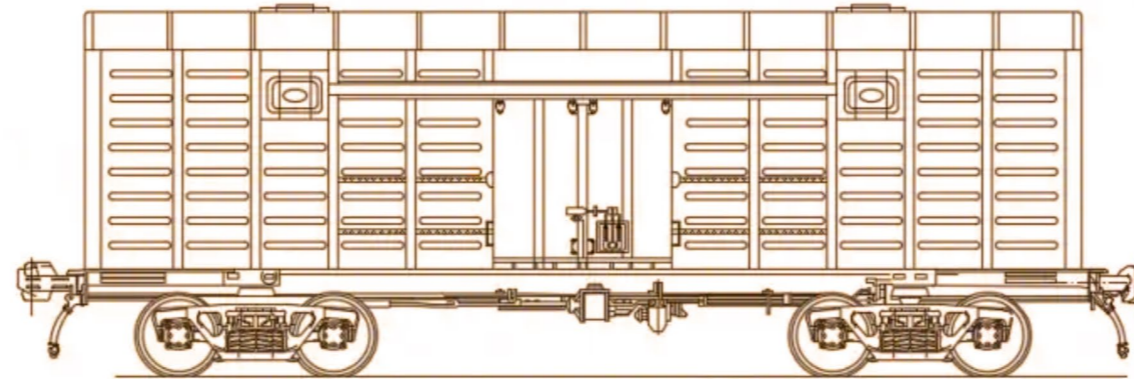
NEW RAILWAY SYSTEM TURNING ITS BACK TO ALGERIA



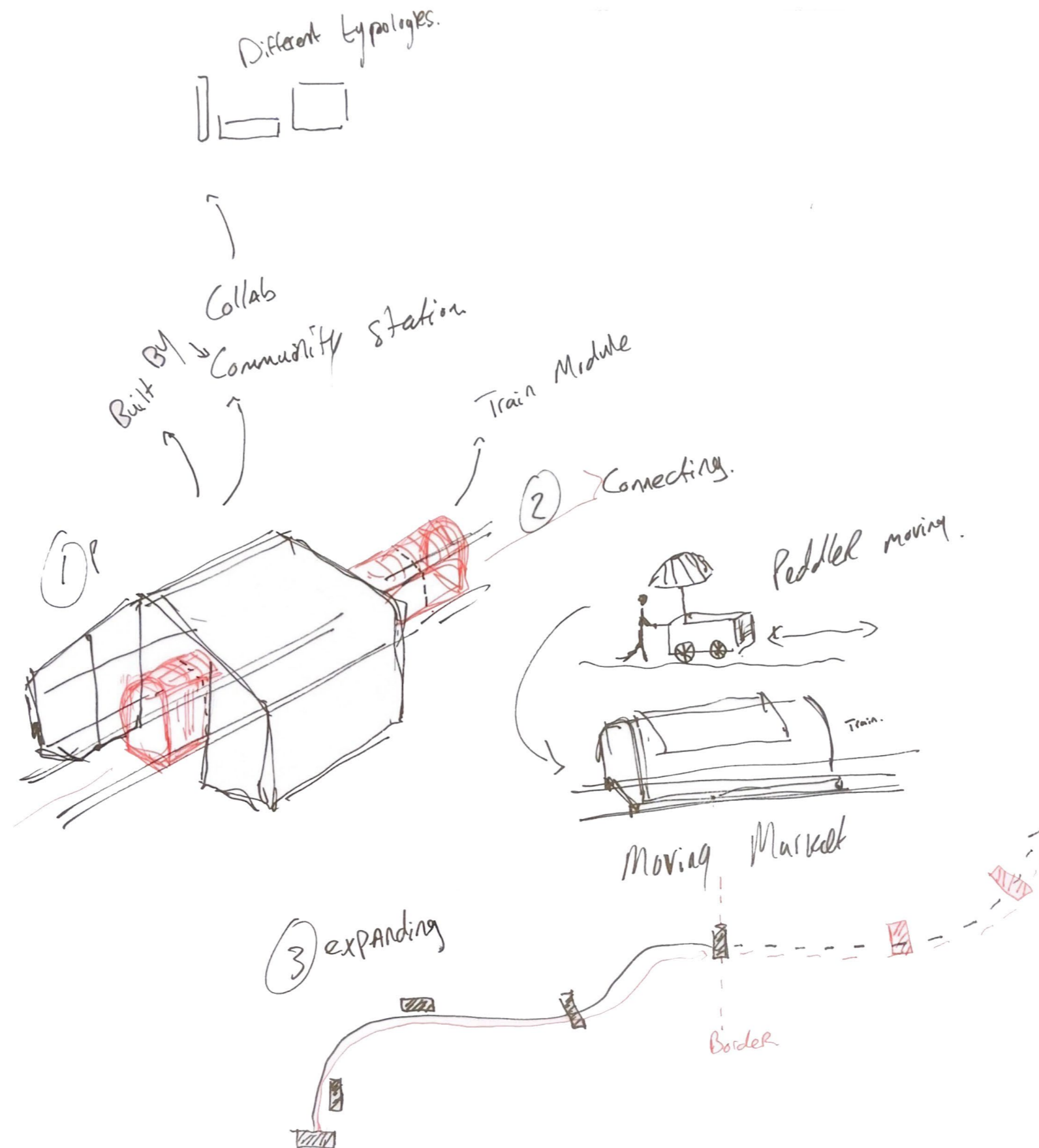
IDENTIFYING NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE BORDERLAND



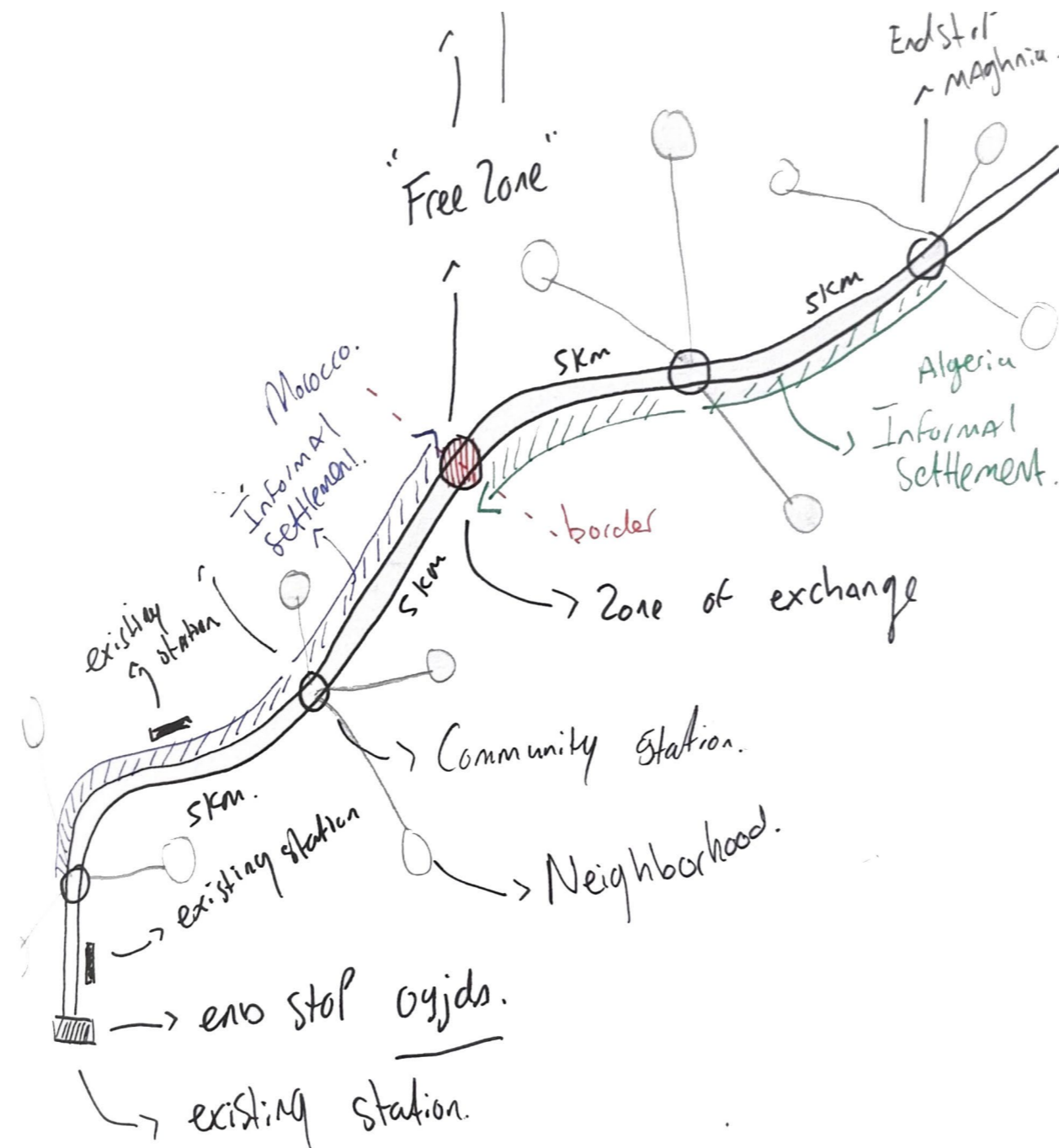
MOVING MARKET: THE INFORMAL AS INSPIRATION FOR RETHINKING URBAN SPACES



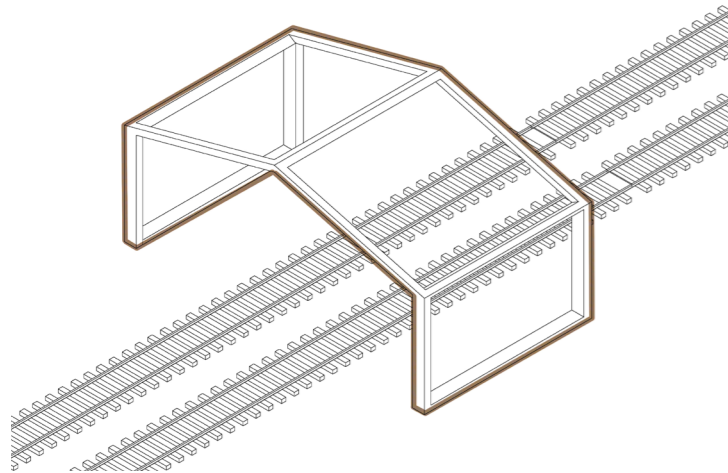
THE HIDDEN PLAN: HOPE AND A NEW FORWARD INTO THE FUTURE



ECONOMIC NETWORK: PLACES FOR SOCIAL AND ECONOMICAL GROWTH

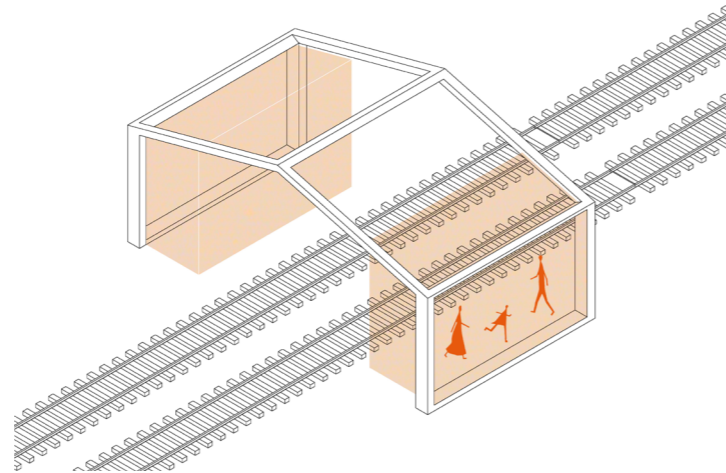


STRATEGY PRINCIPLES



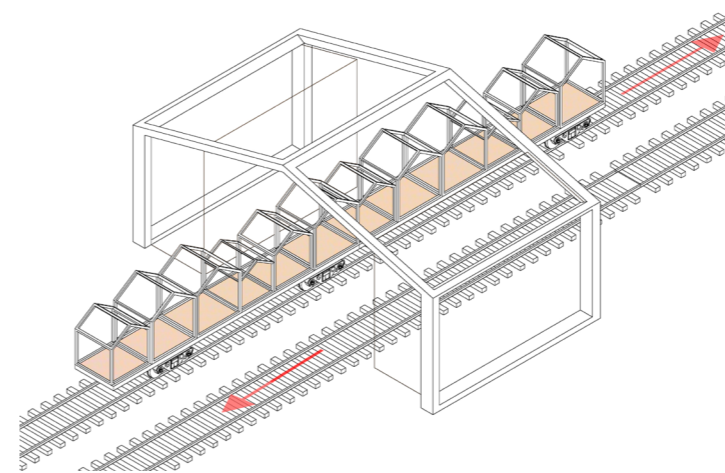
Creating a place for the informal traders

To meet their needs



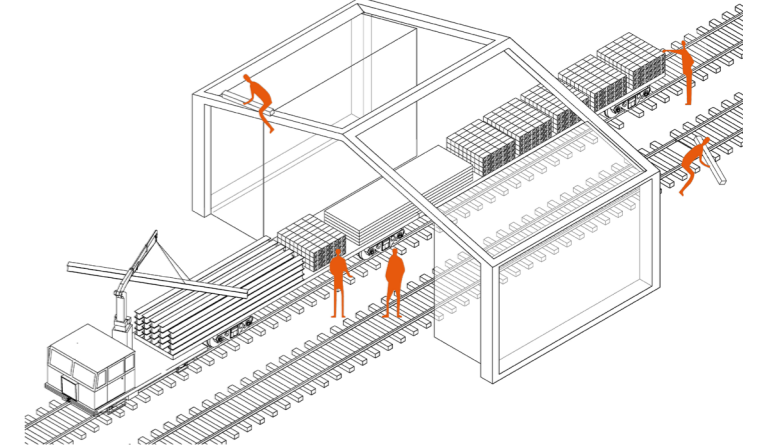
Embracing self organized settlements

Capitalizing on the politics of tolerance



Transient activities

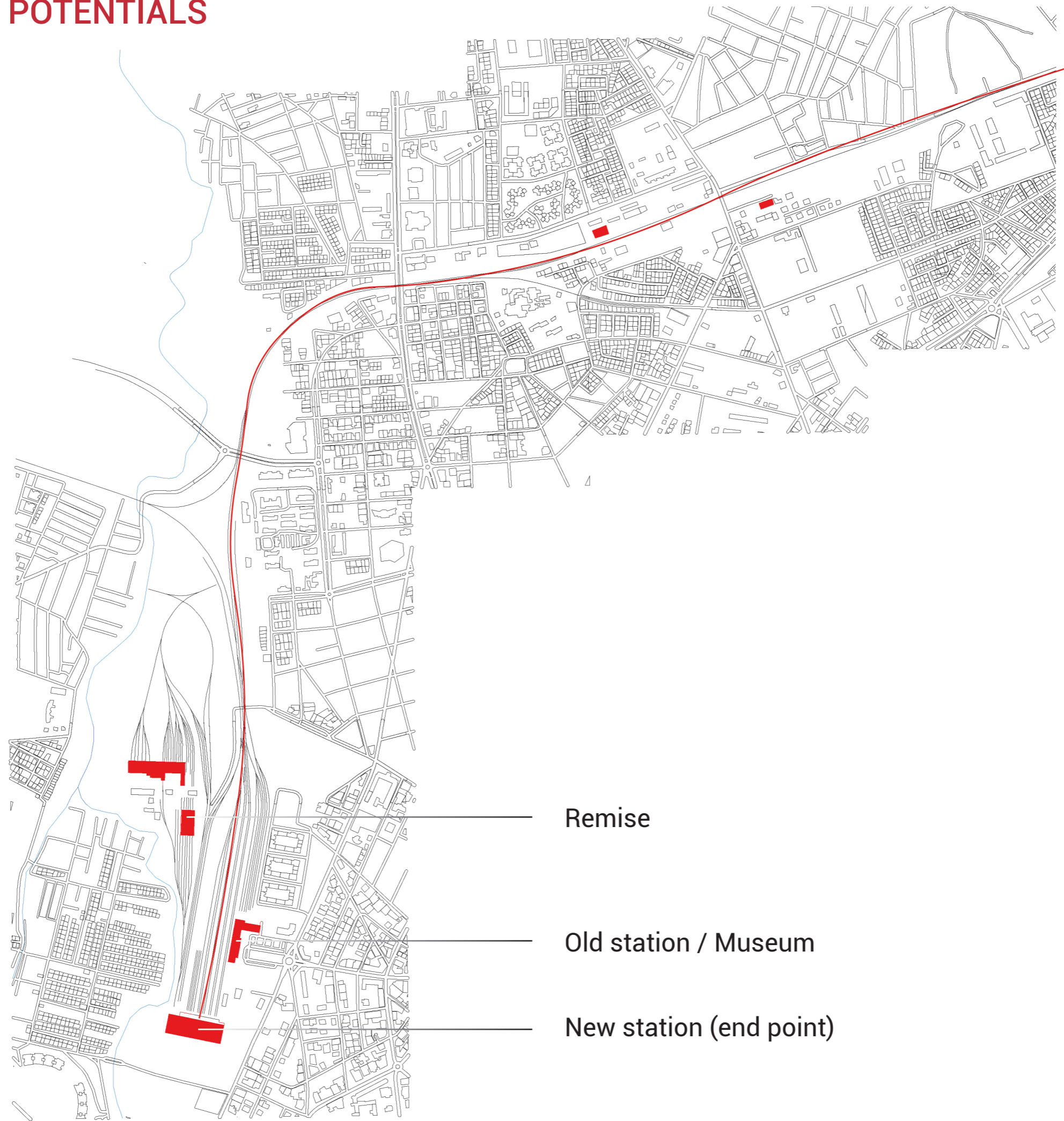
Representing the dynamic qualities of the city



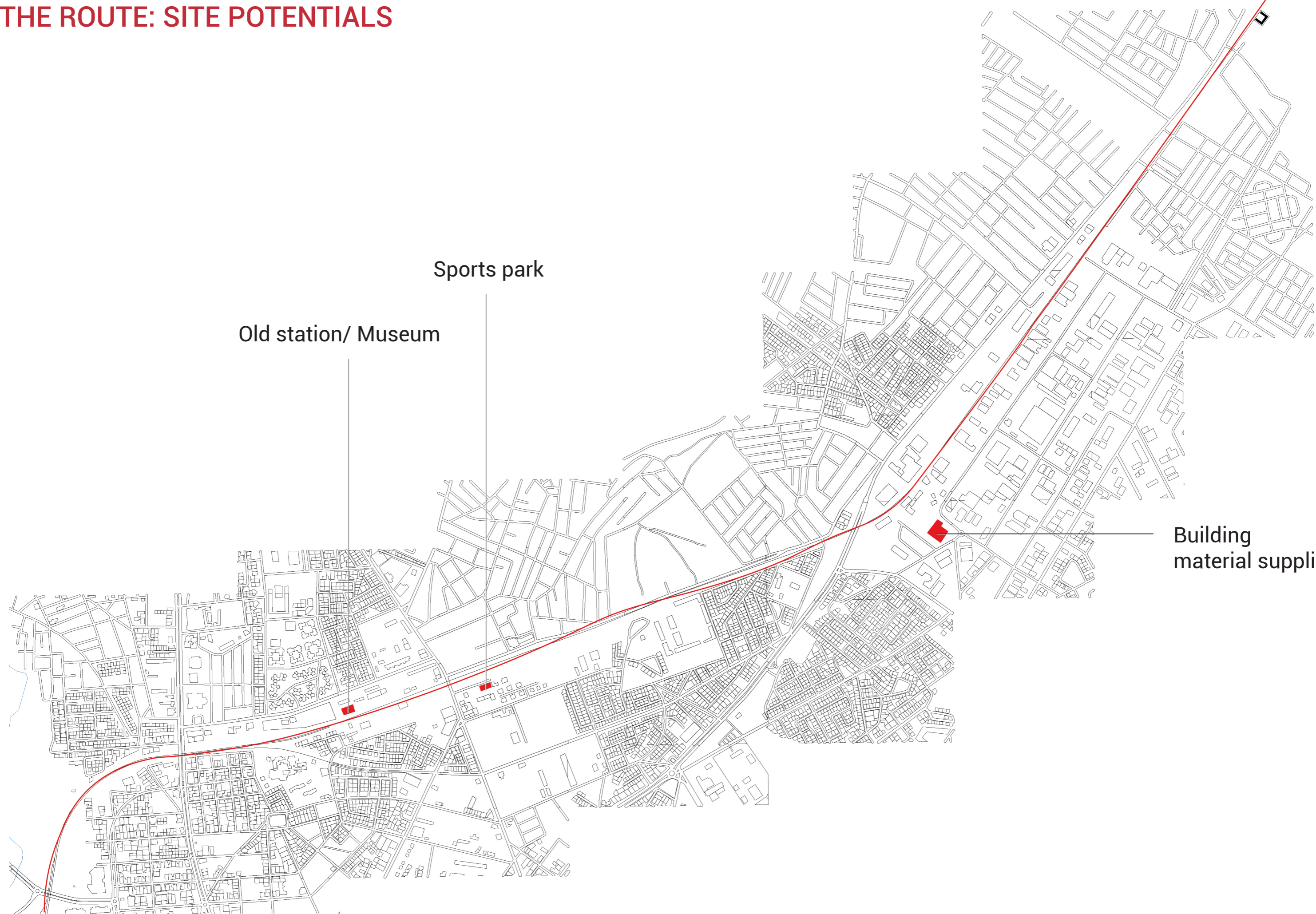
On site construction

The new community stations across the border could be built on location: a sustainable way of building new environments

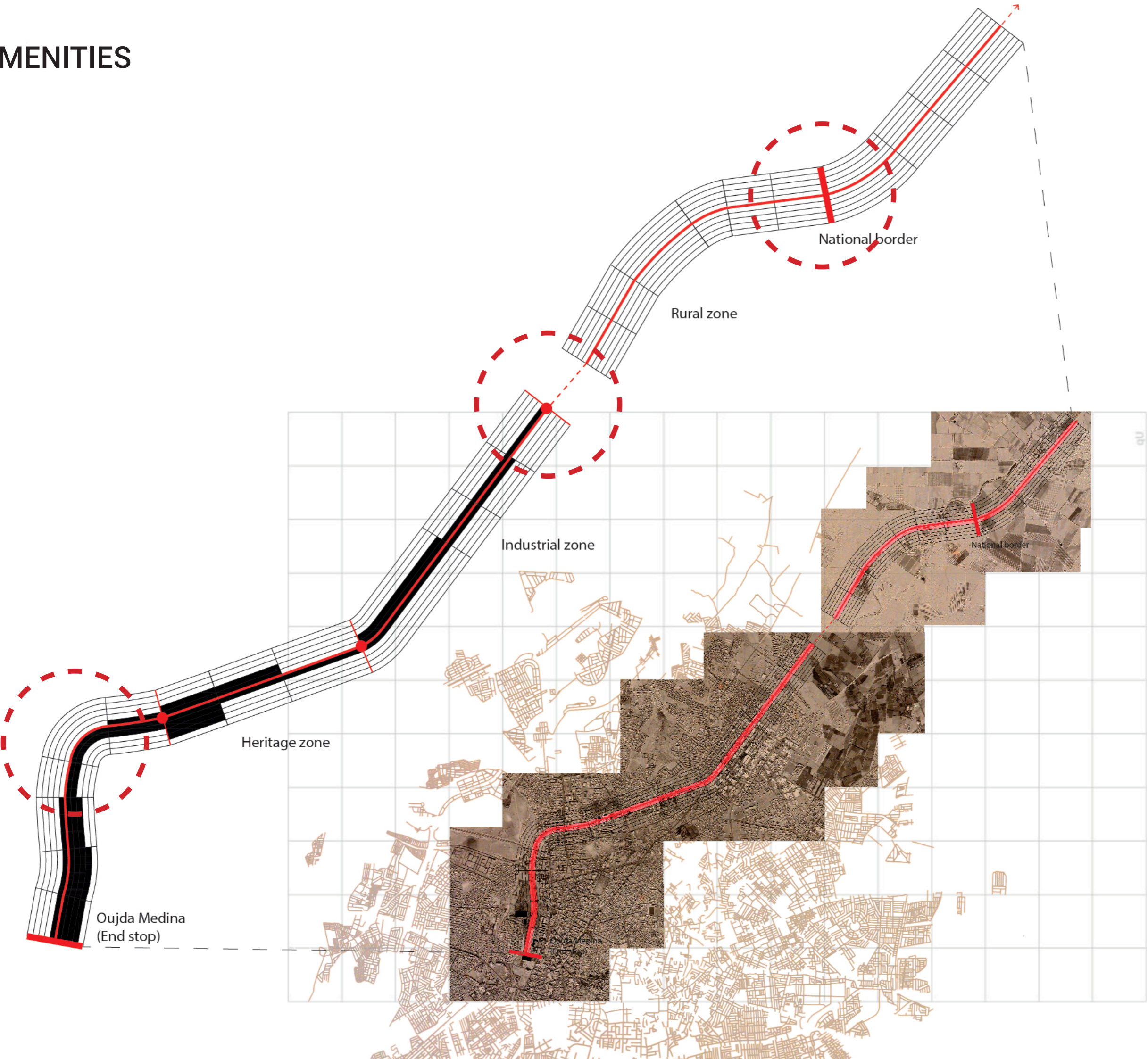
THE ROUTE: SITE POTENTIALS



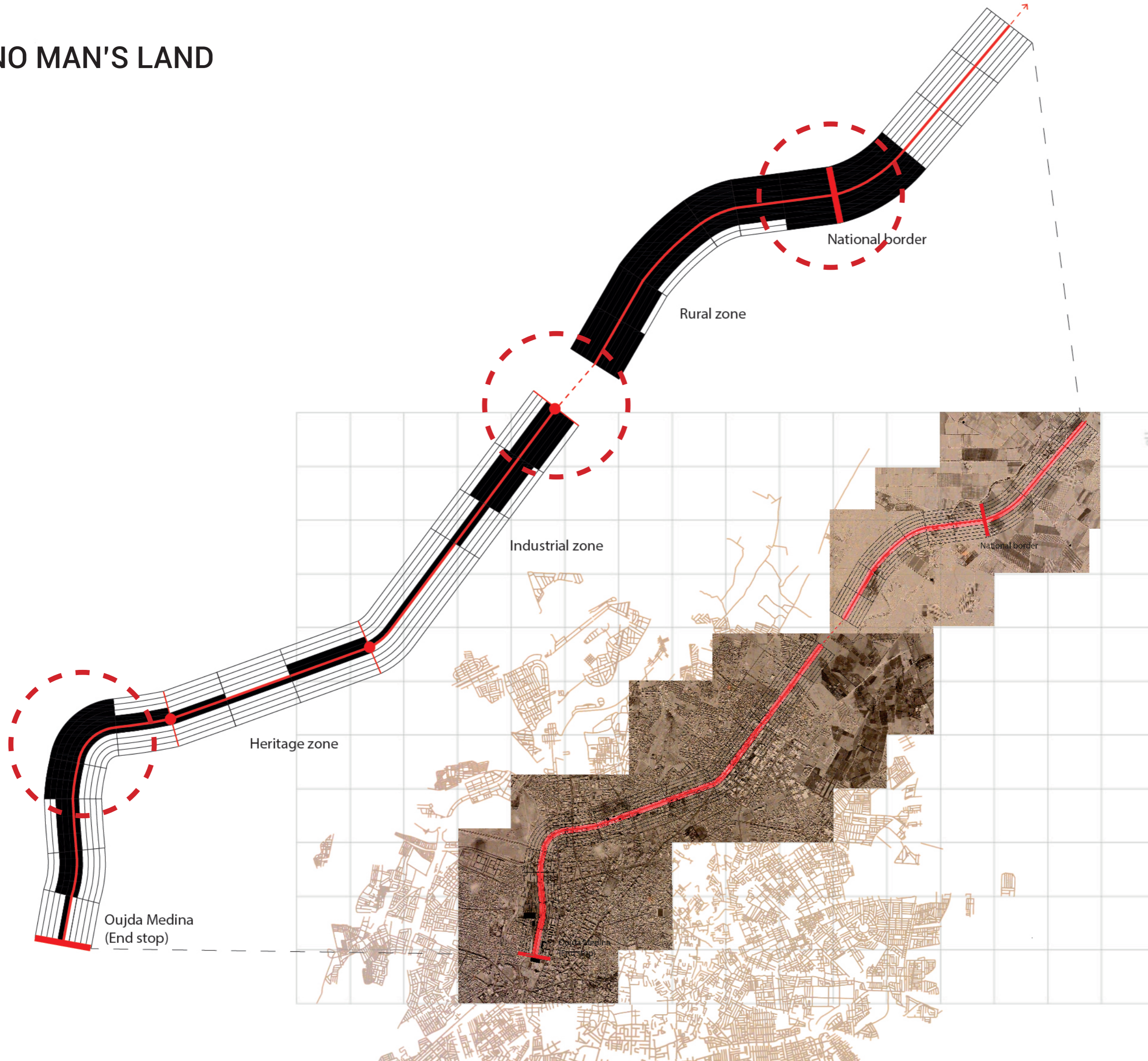
THE ROUTE: SITE POTENTIALS

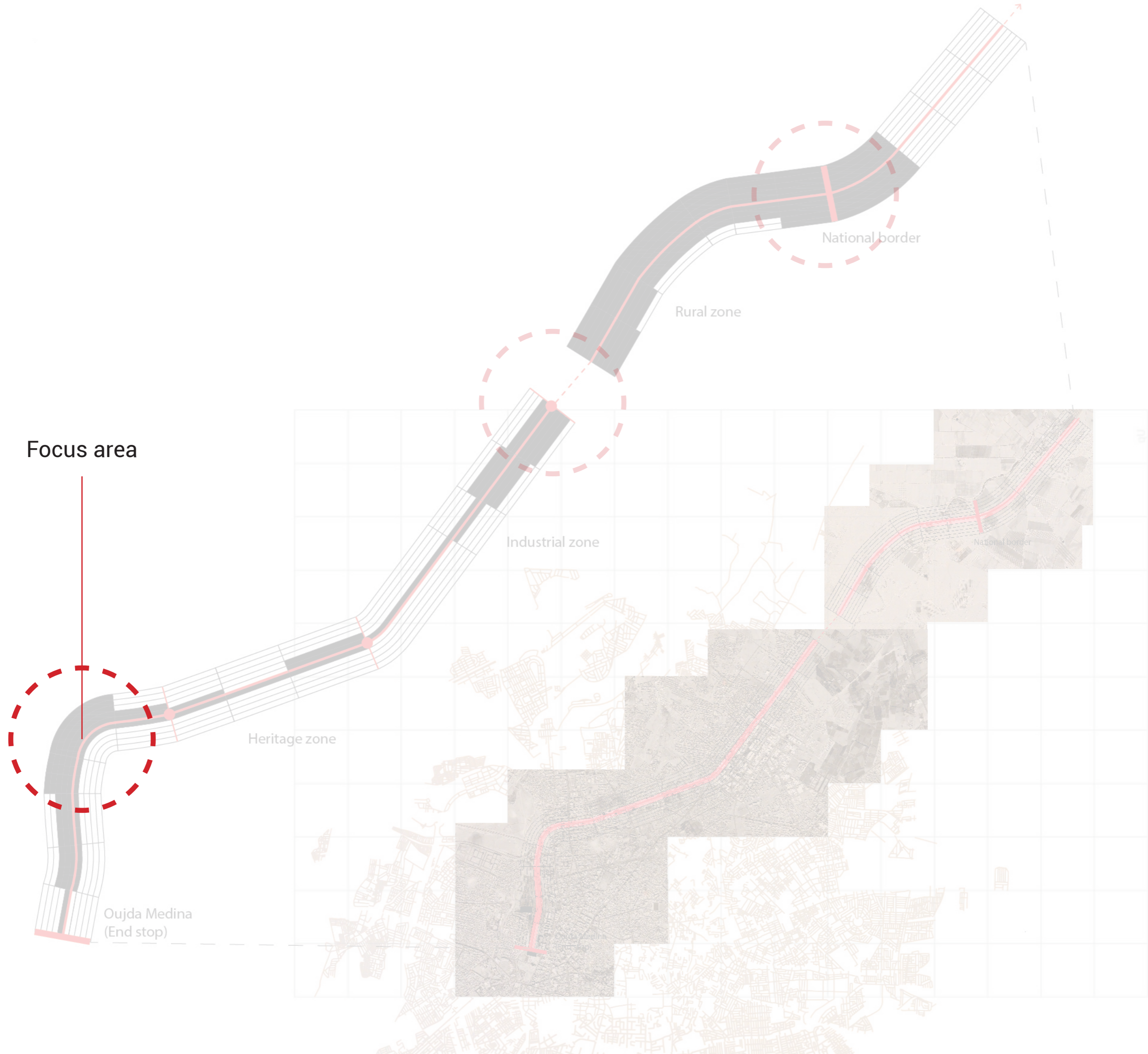


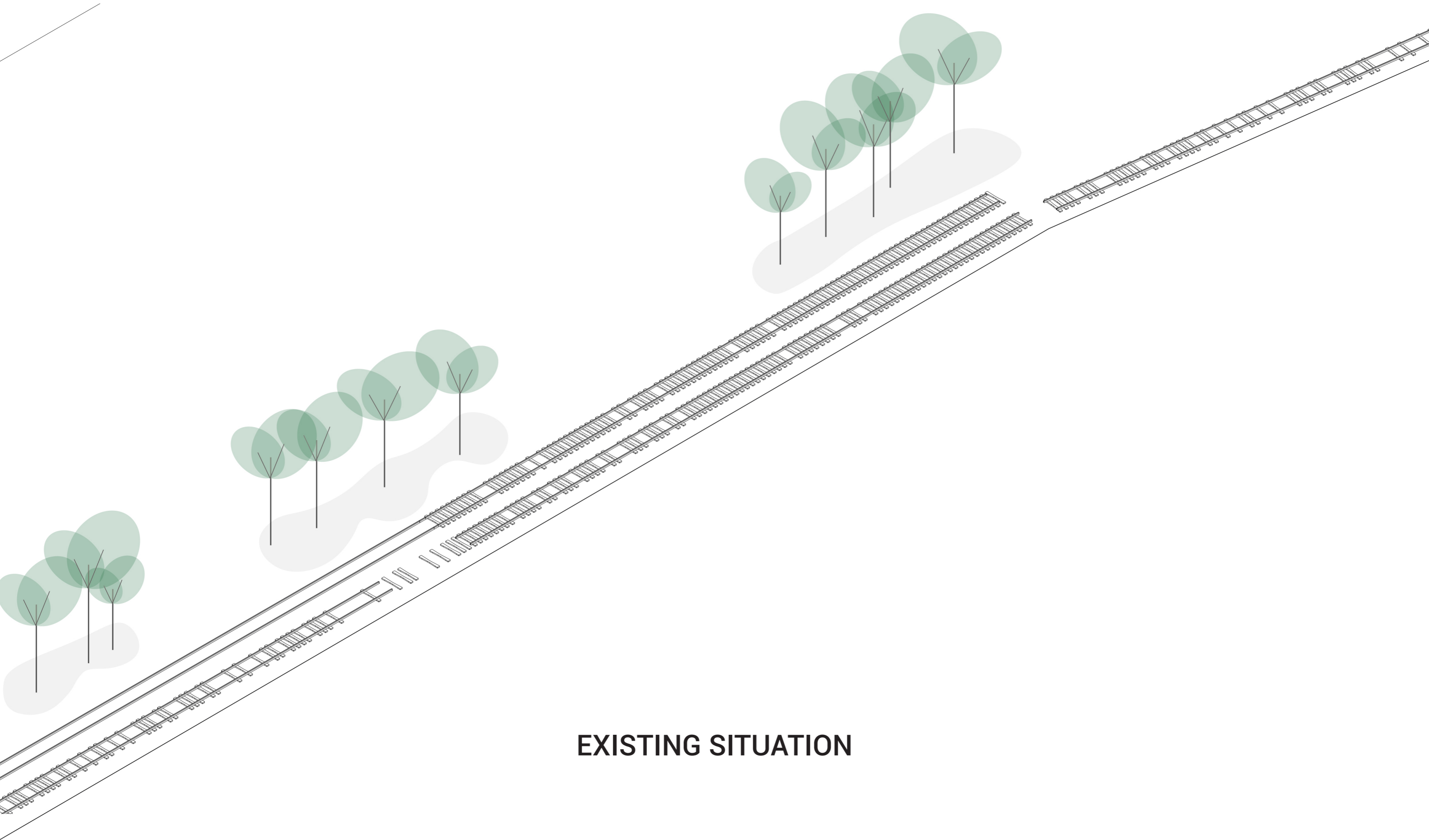
AMENITIES



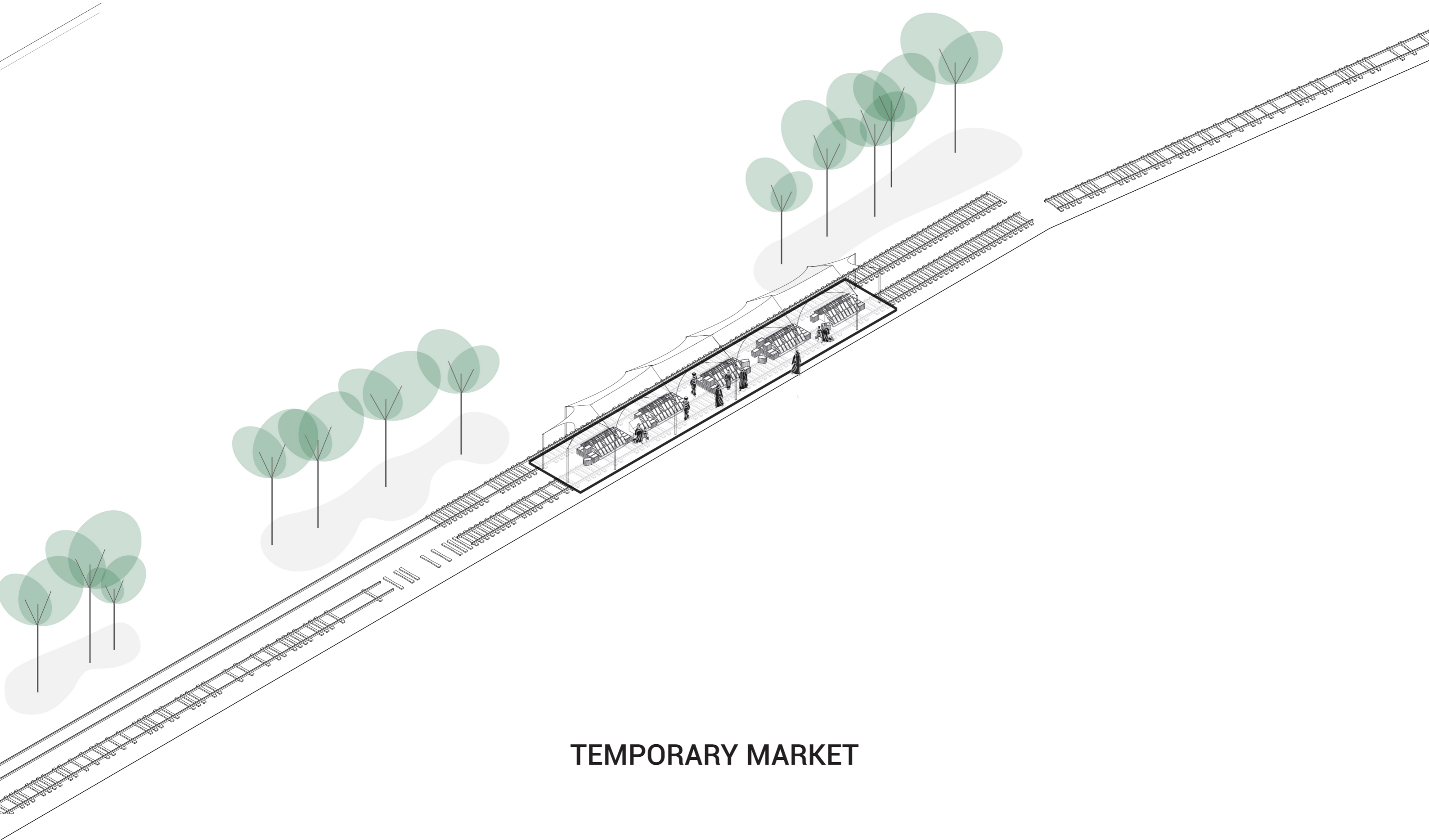
NO MAN'S LAND



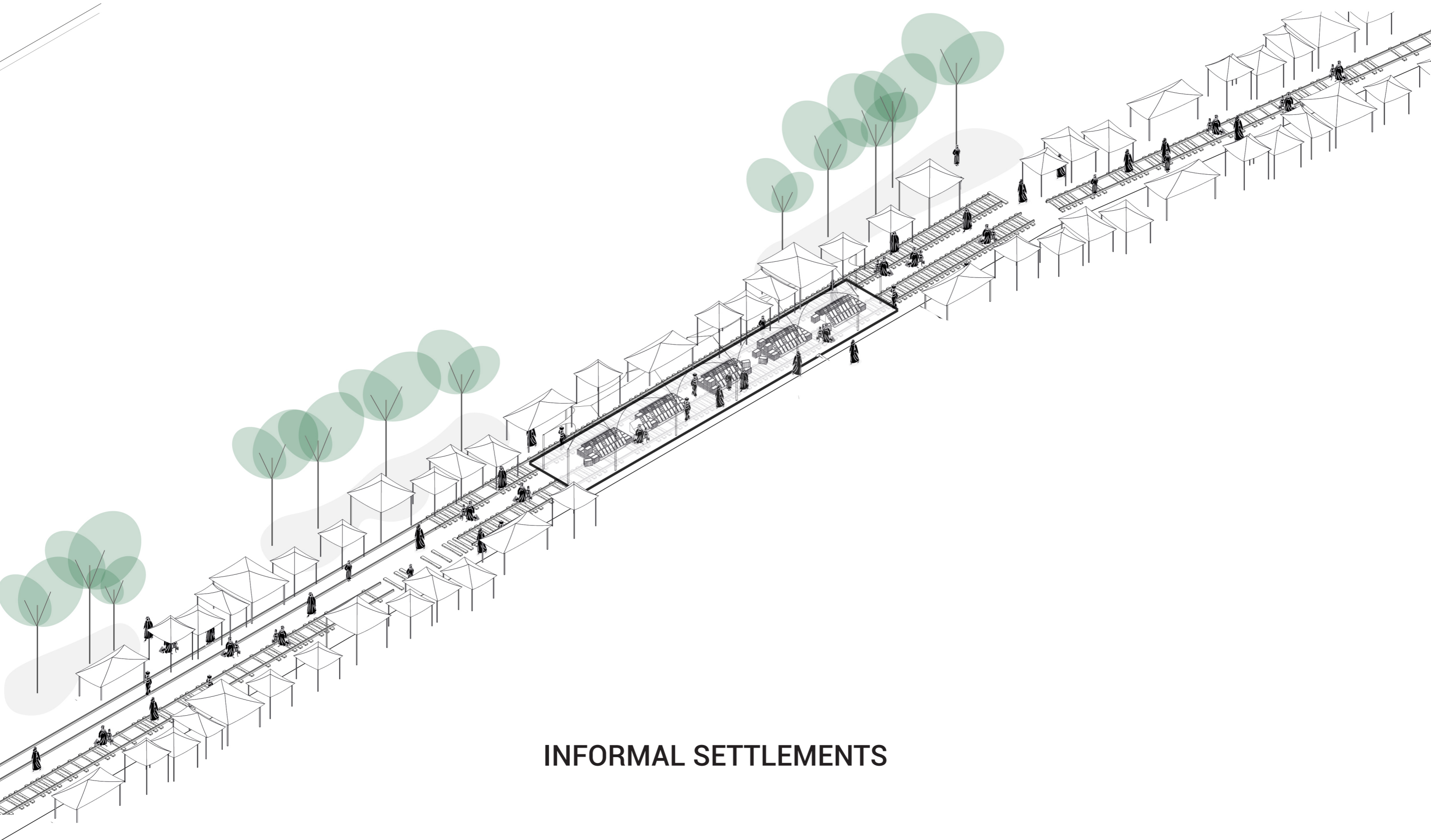




EXISTING SITUATION



TEMPORARY MARKET



INFORMAL SETTLEMENTS

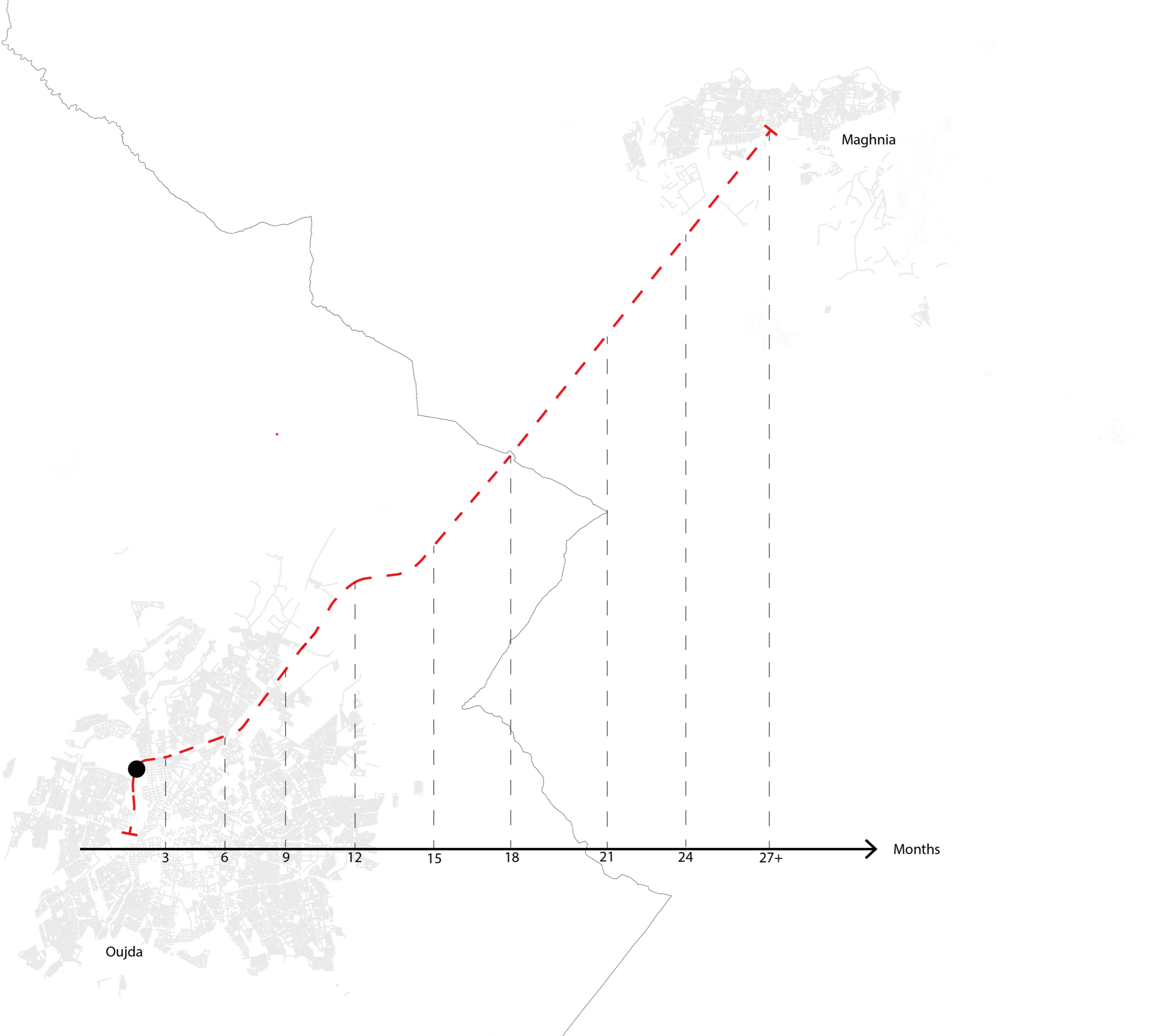


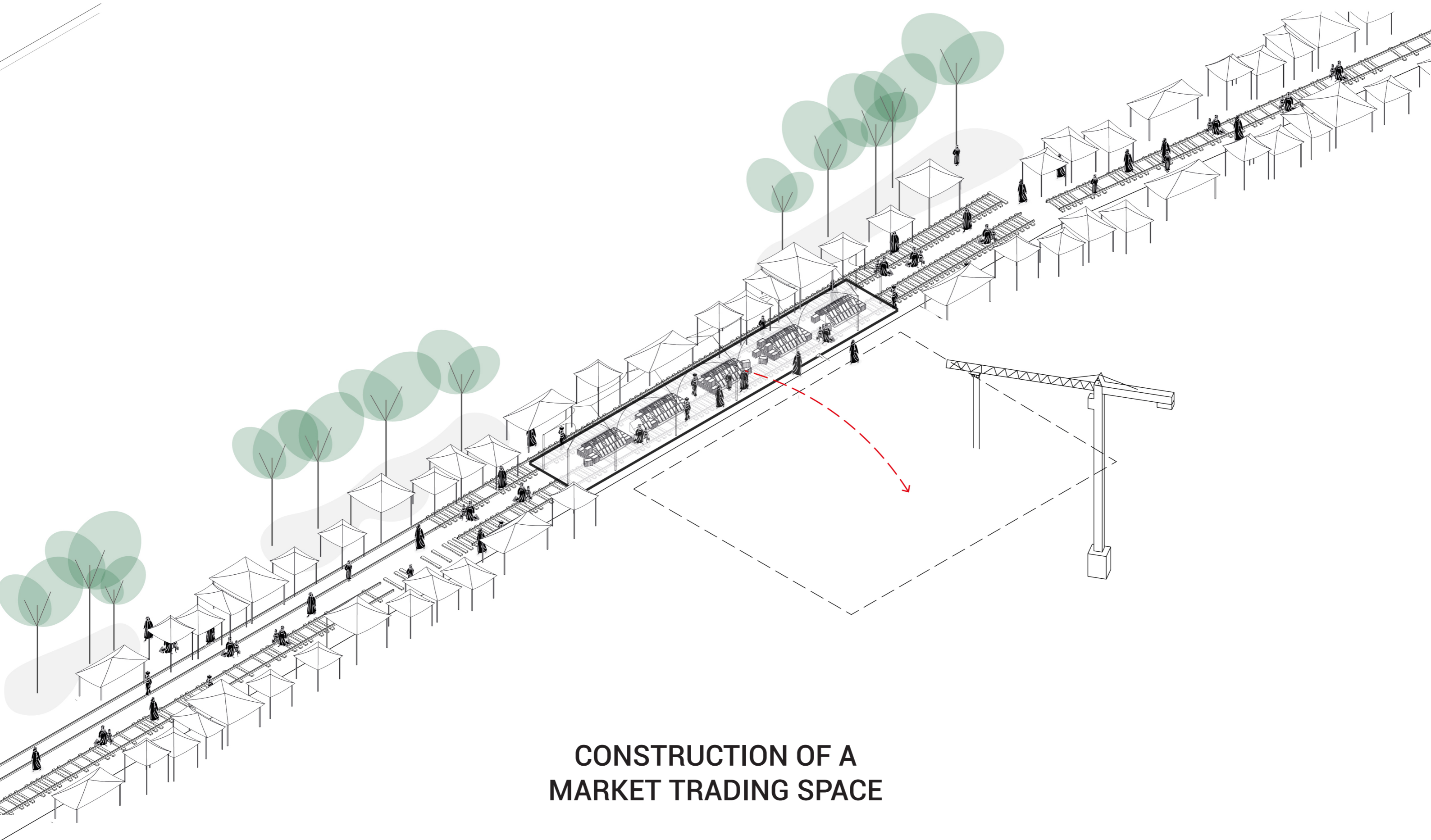
THANKS TO A
TOLARANCE POLICY, I AM
ABLE TO SELL ON THE
STREETS

OCCUPIED ABANDONED RAILROAD WITH INFORMAL TRADE



PHASE 1
FIRST NODE



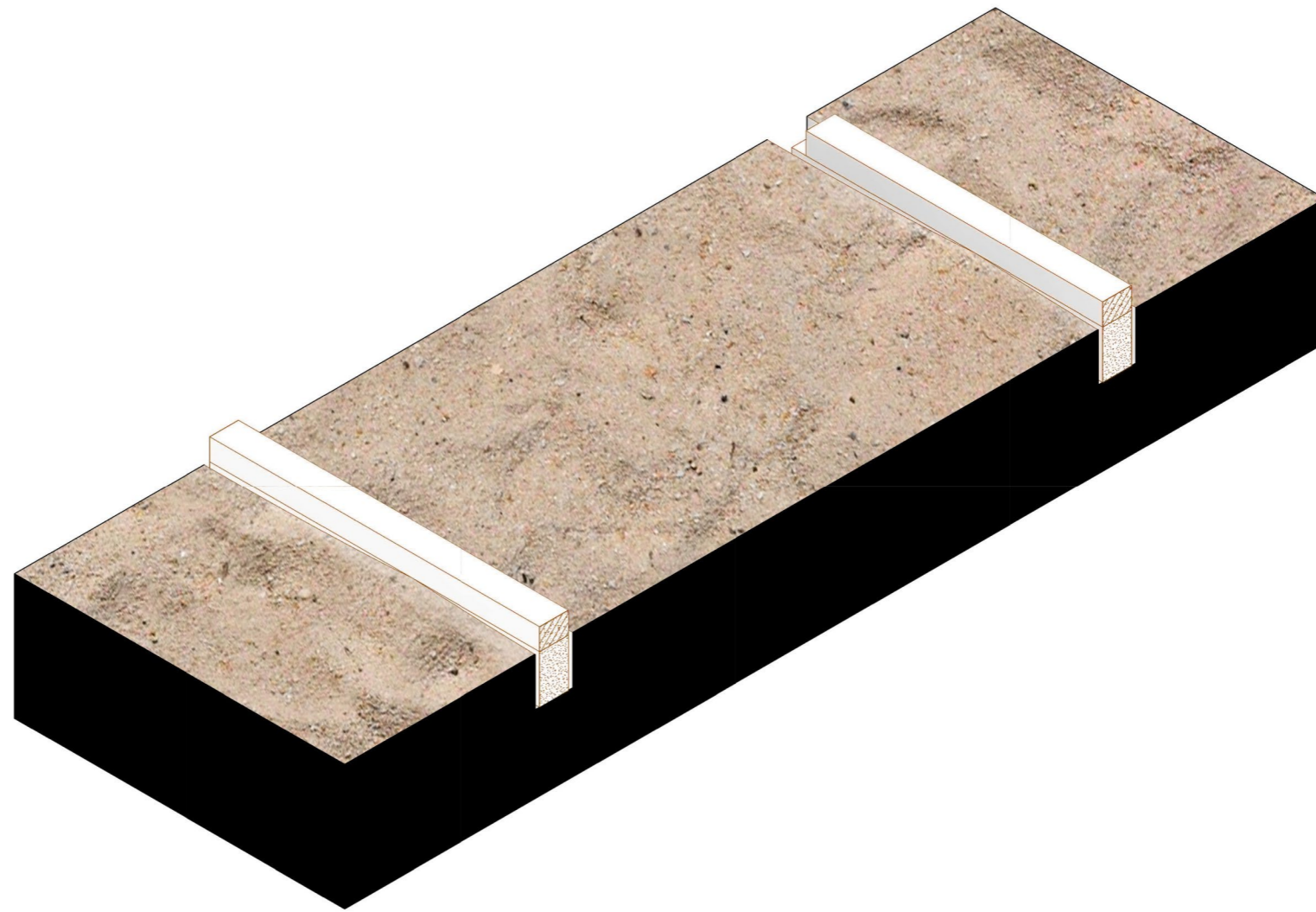


**CONSTRUCTION OF A
MARKET TRADING SPACE**

EXCAVATING THE GROUND

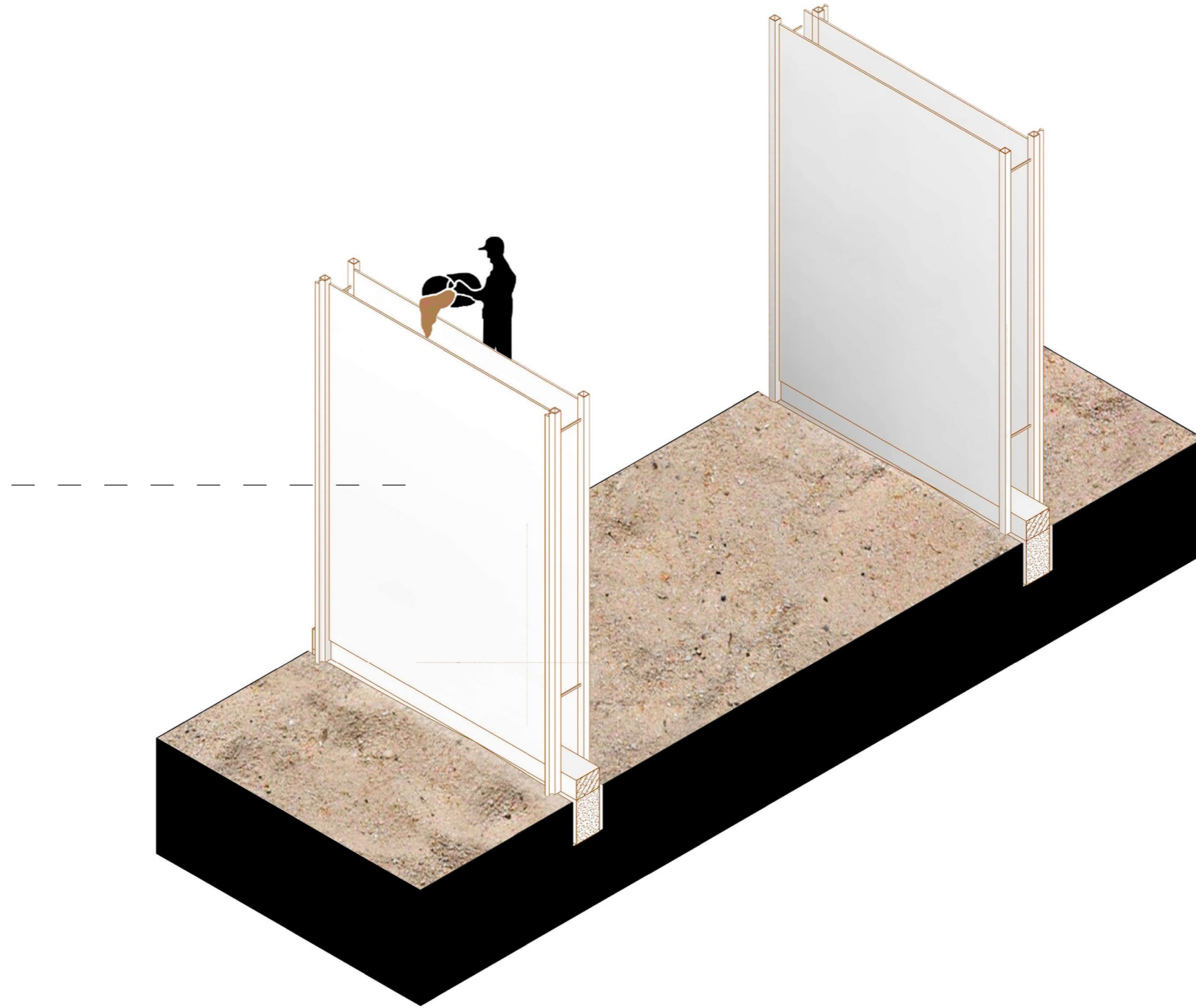


FOUNDATIONS

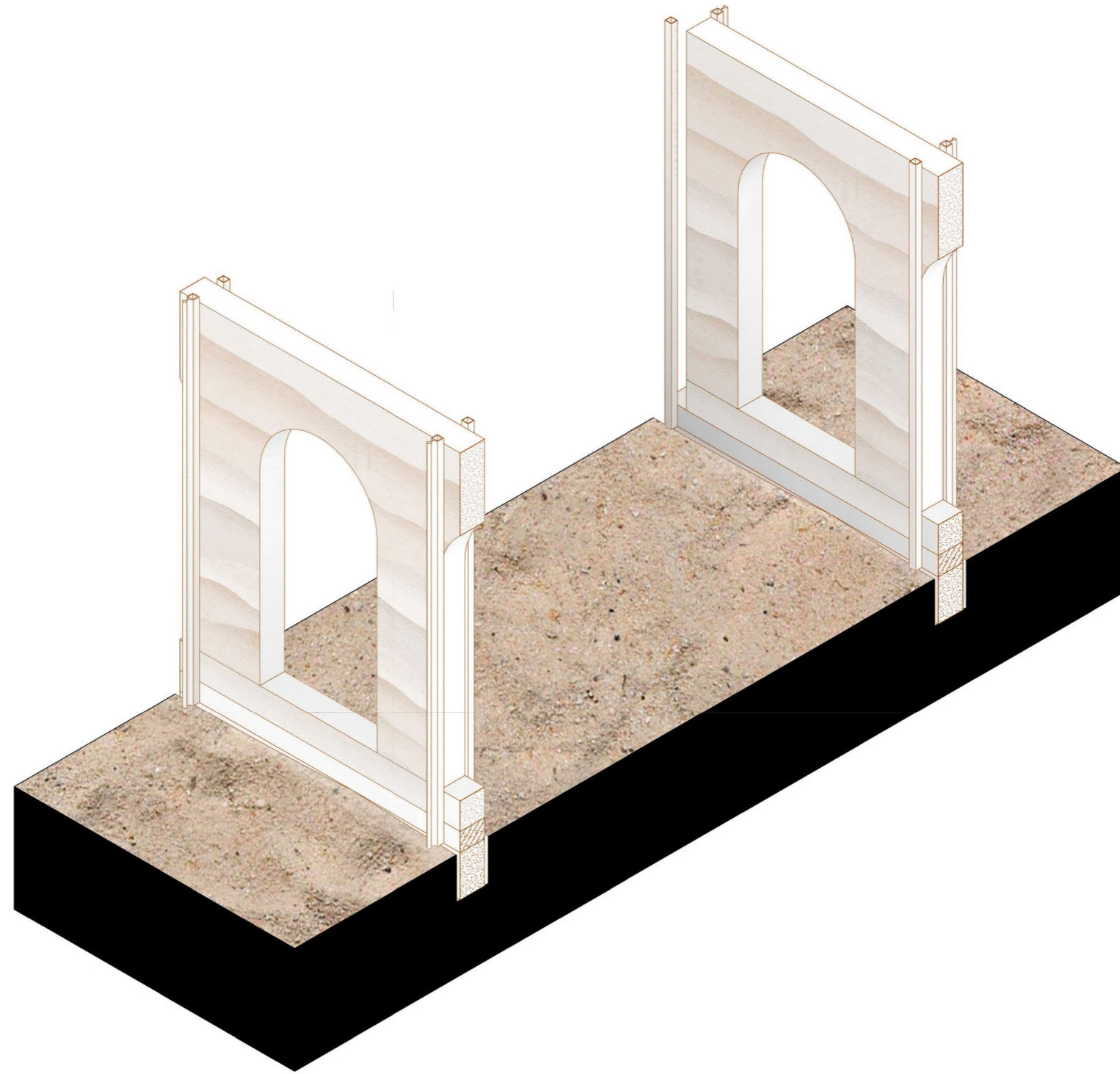


FORMWORK & RE-USING EXCAVATED GROUND

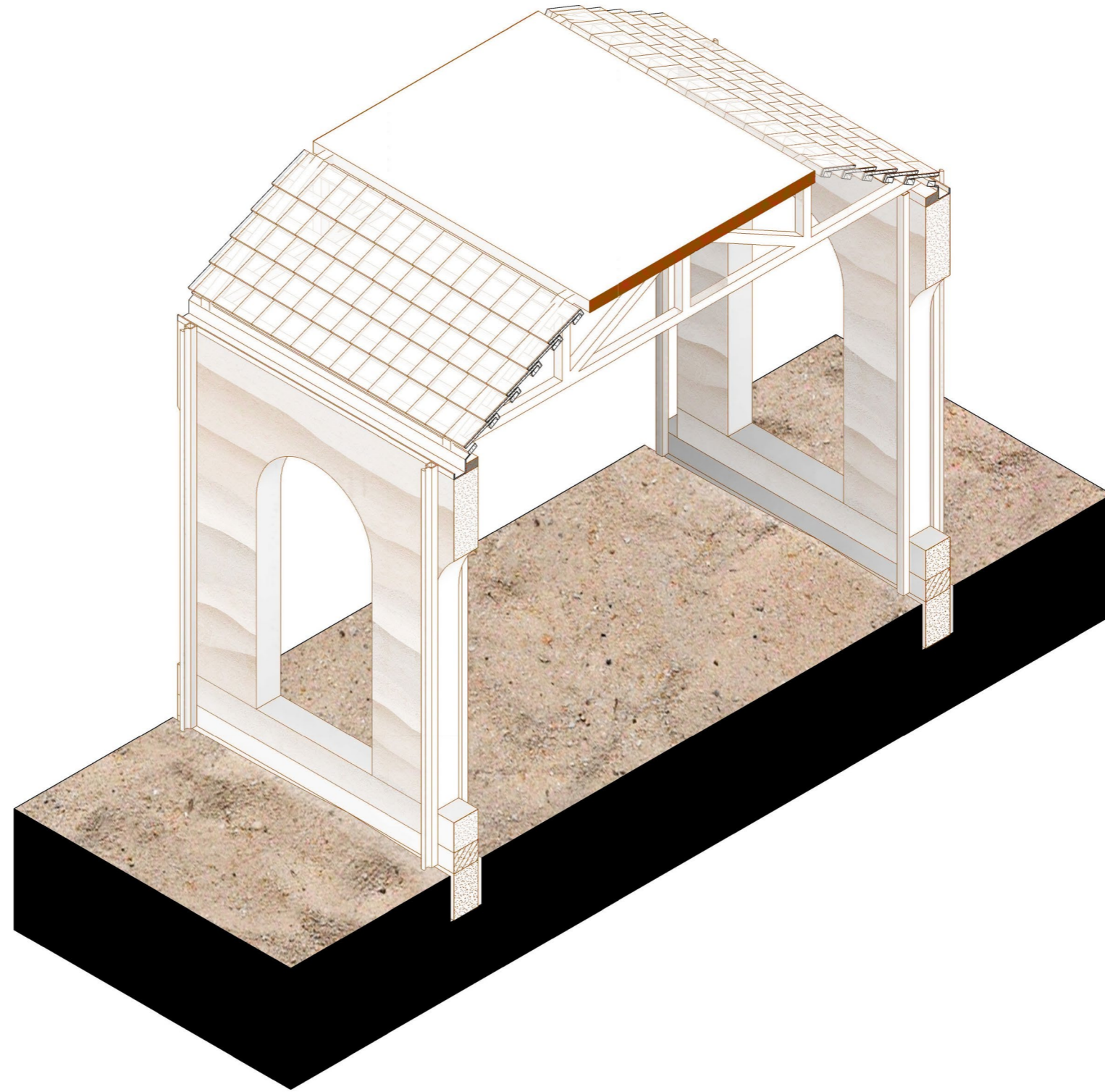
Plywood
formwork

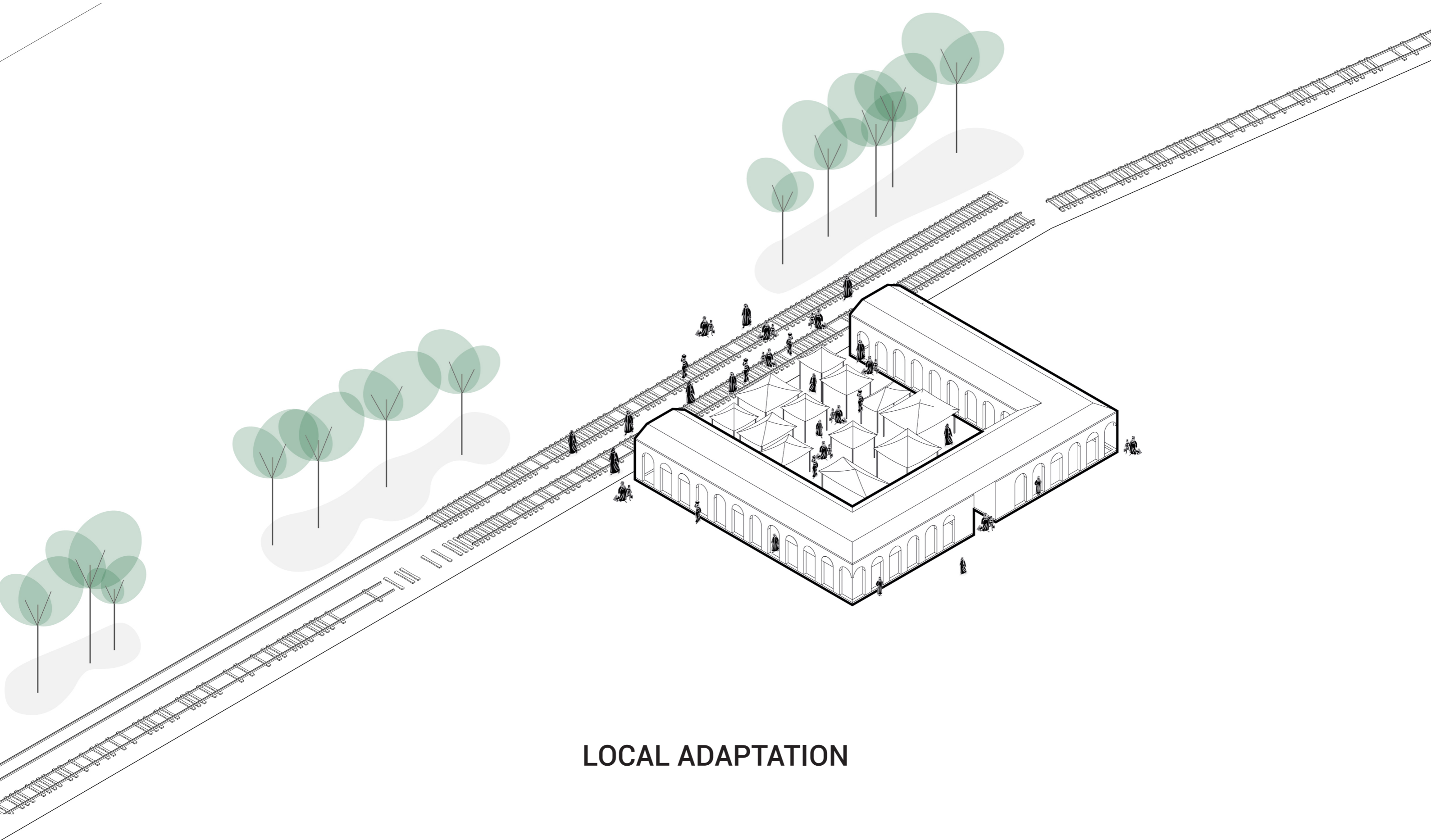


REMOVING PARTLY THE FORMWORK



PLACEMENT OF THE PREFABRICATED ROOF

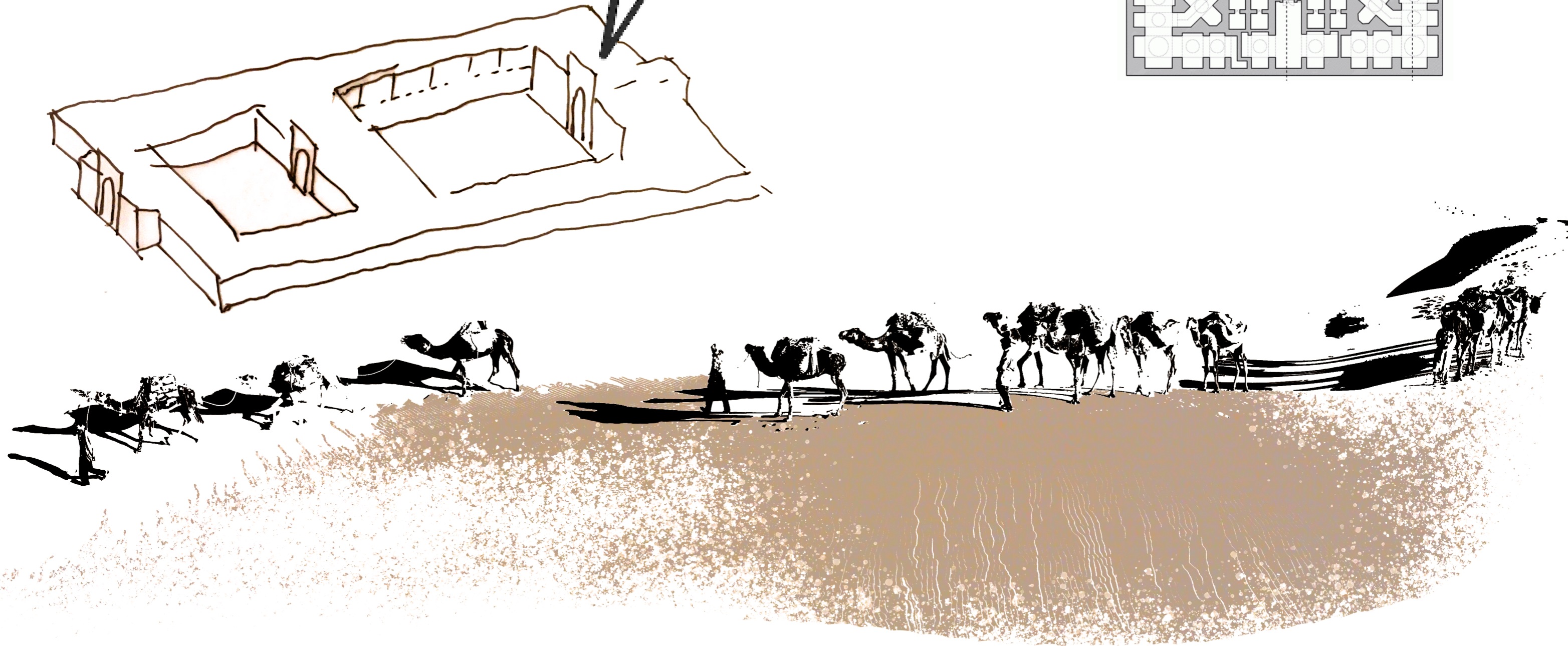
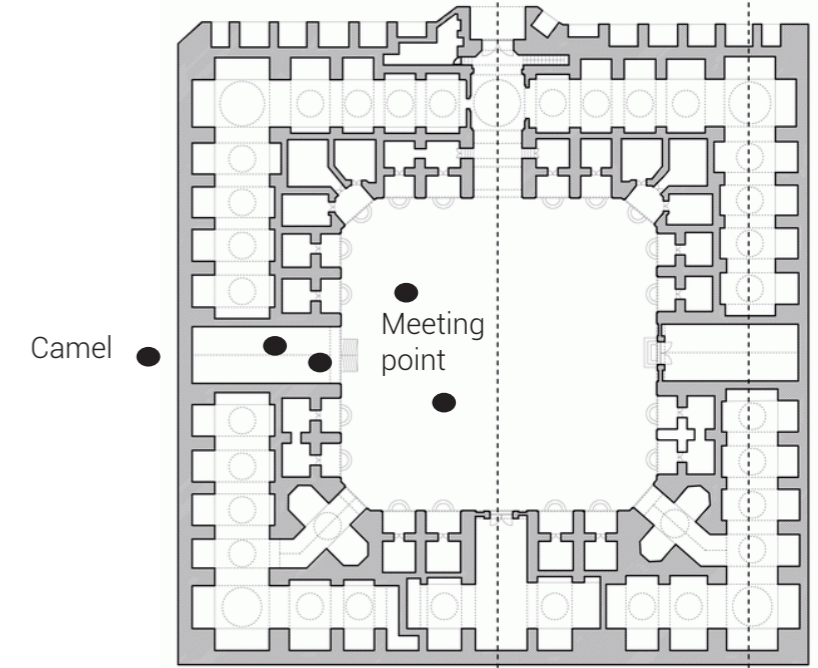




LOCAL ADAPTATION

FORM TRANSLATION

A CARAVANSERAI WAS A
TRADING STOP, TO TAKE
REST AND EXCHANGE
WITH OTHER TRADERS

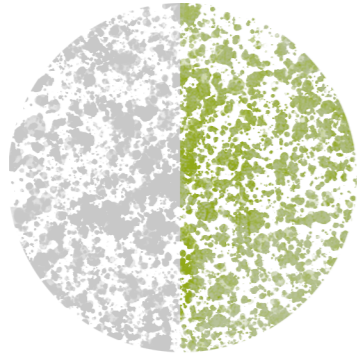




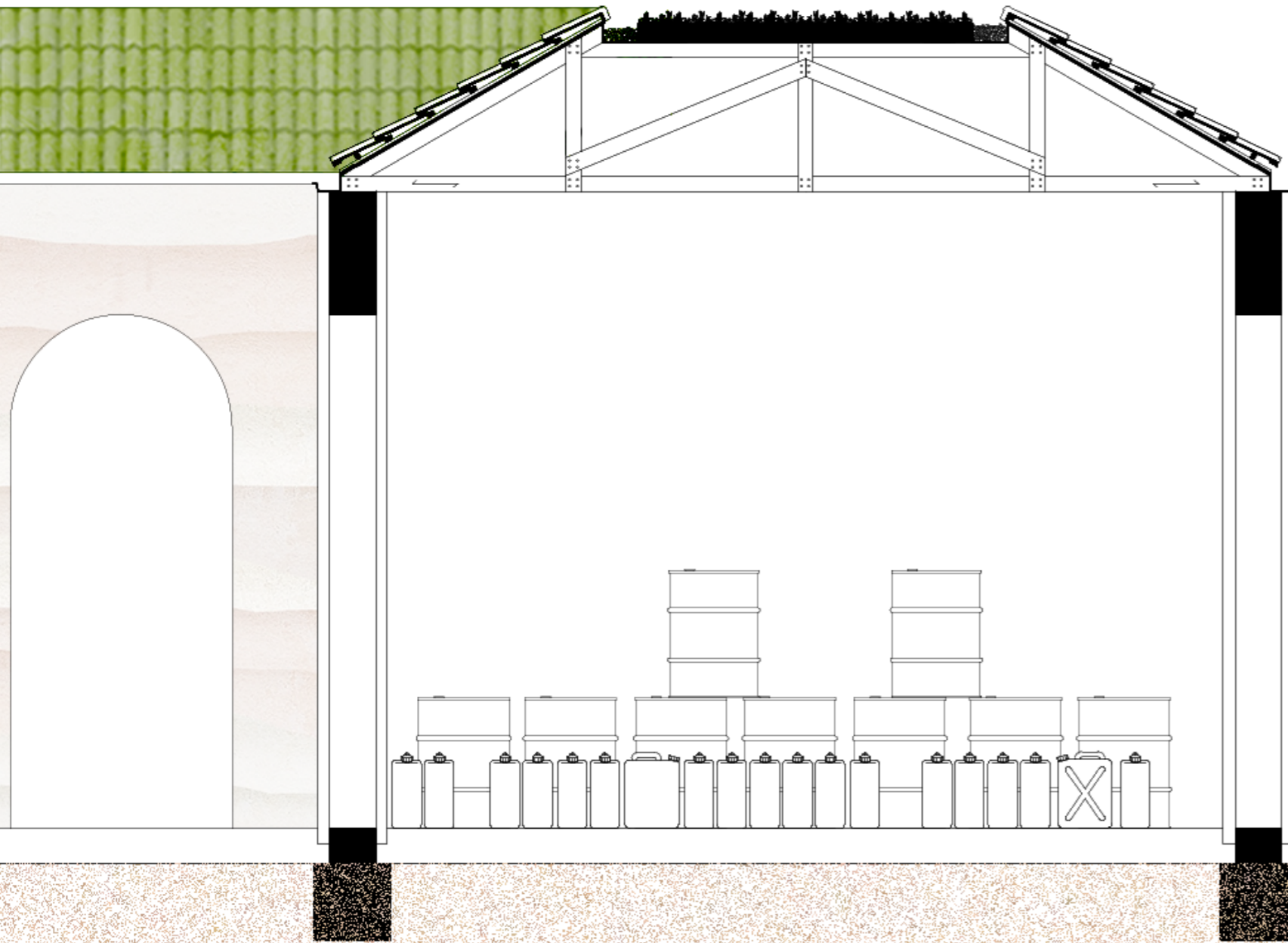
PHASE 1

1. Smuggled petroleum storage
2. Toilets
3. Indoor trading space (scrap metal)
4. Outdoor trading space (agricultural goods)
5. Passage
6. Contemplation room
7. Storage general smuggled products
8. Indoor trading space (household appliances)
9. Waste spaces





A MODERN VERSION OF THE CARAVANSERAI



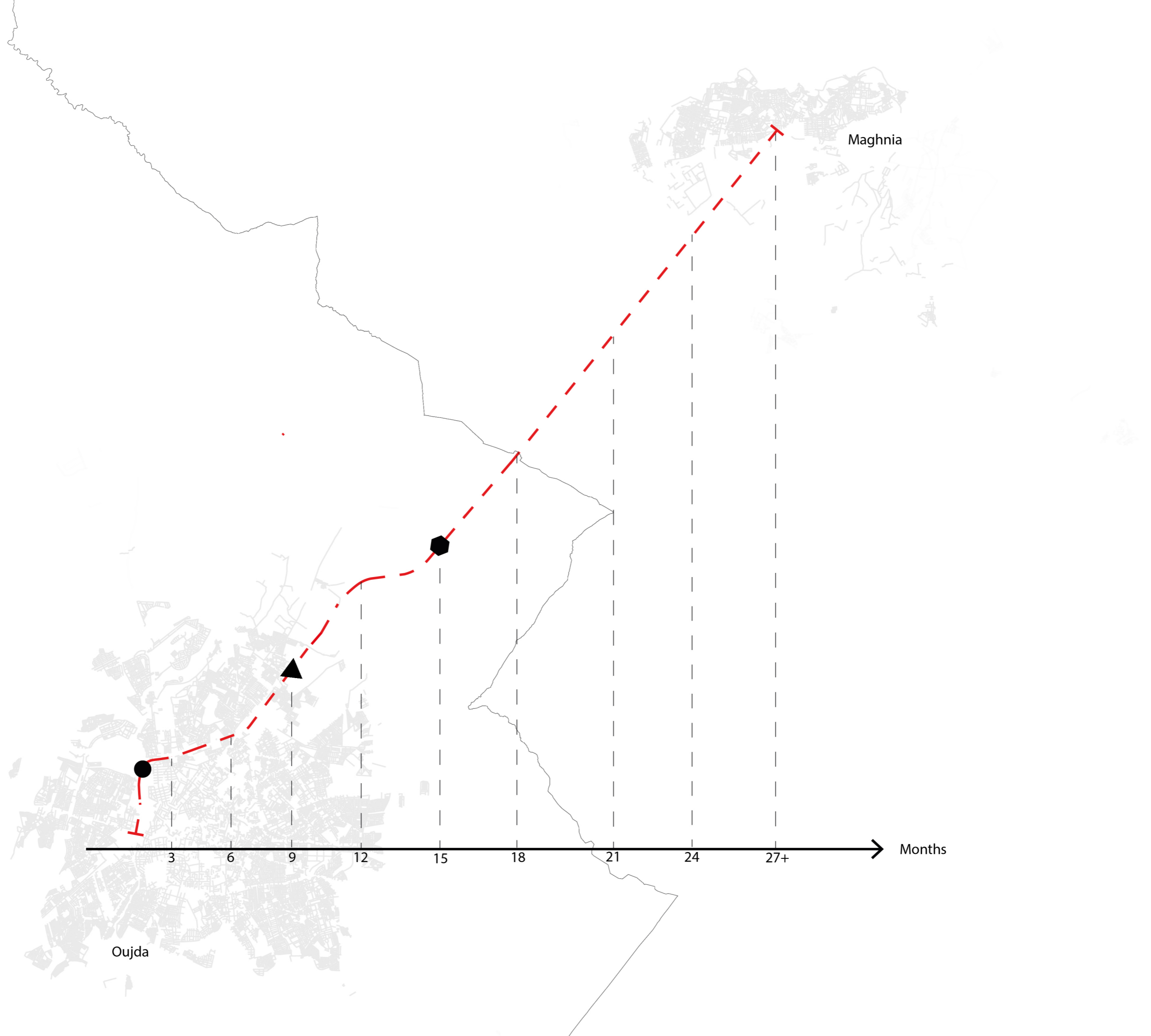
FINALLY A PLACE TO TAKE
A BREAK AND EXCHANGE
WITH OTHER TRADERS

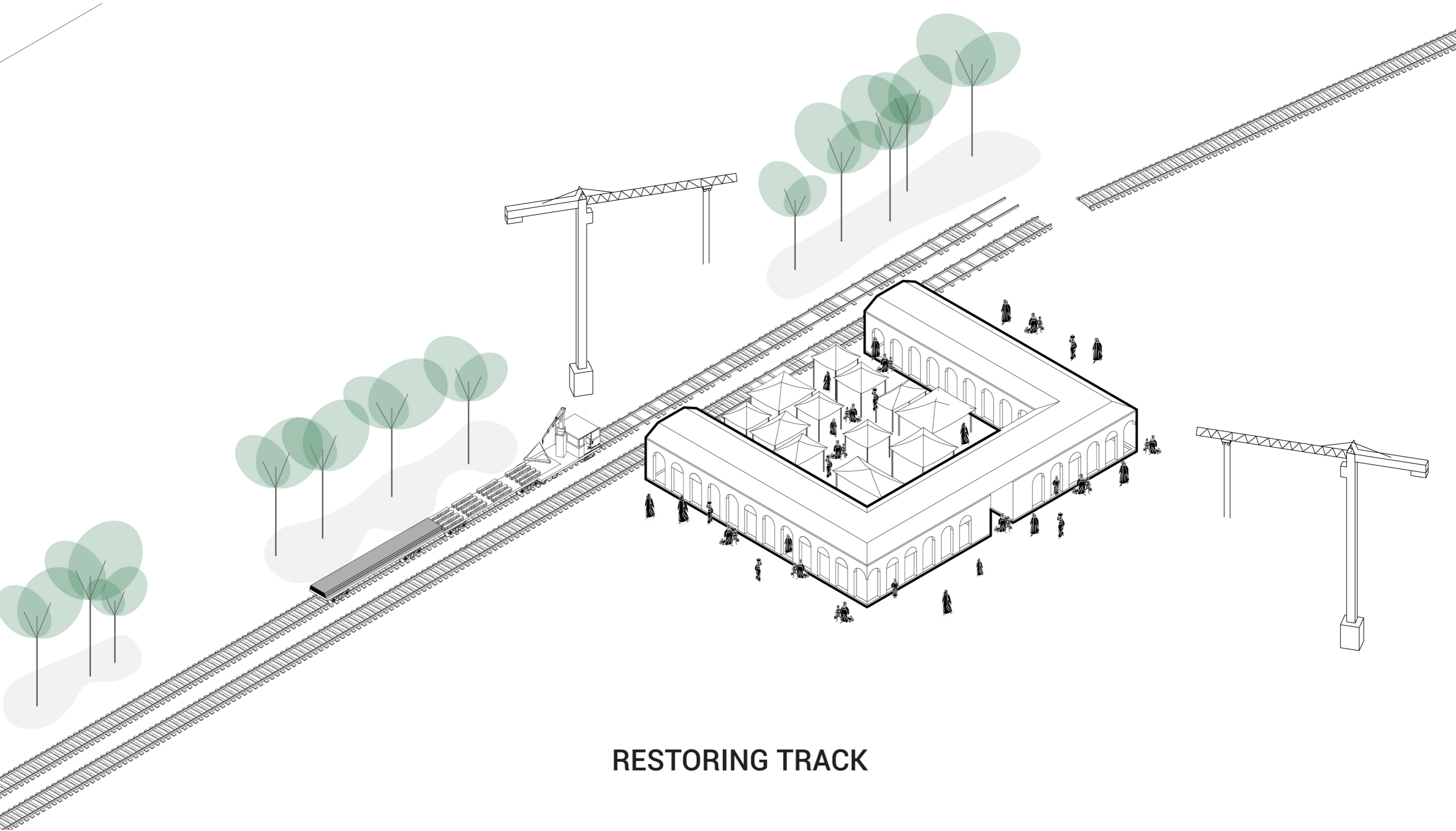


EVERYDAY LIFE, MESSY SPACE OF SMUGGLED PETROLEUM



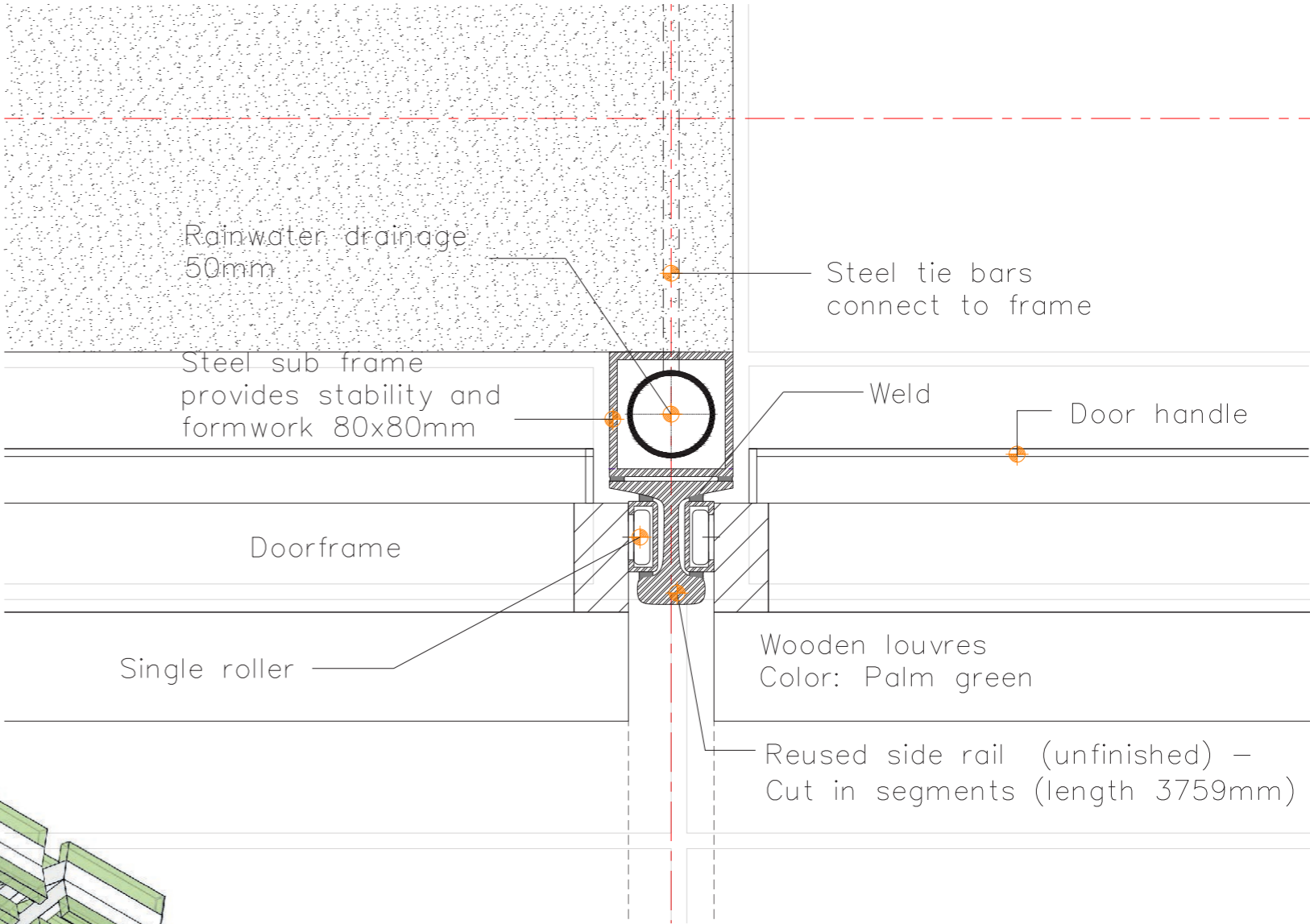
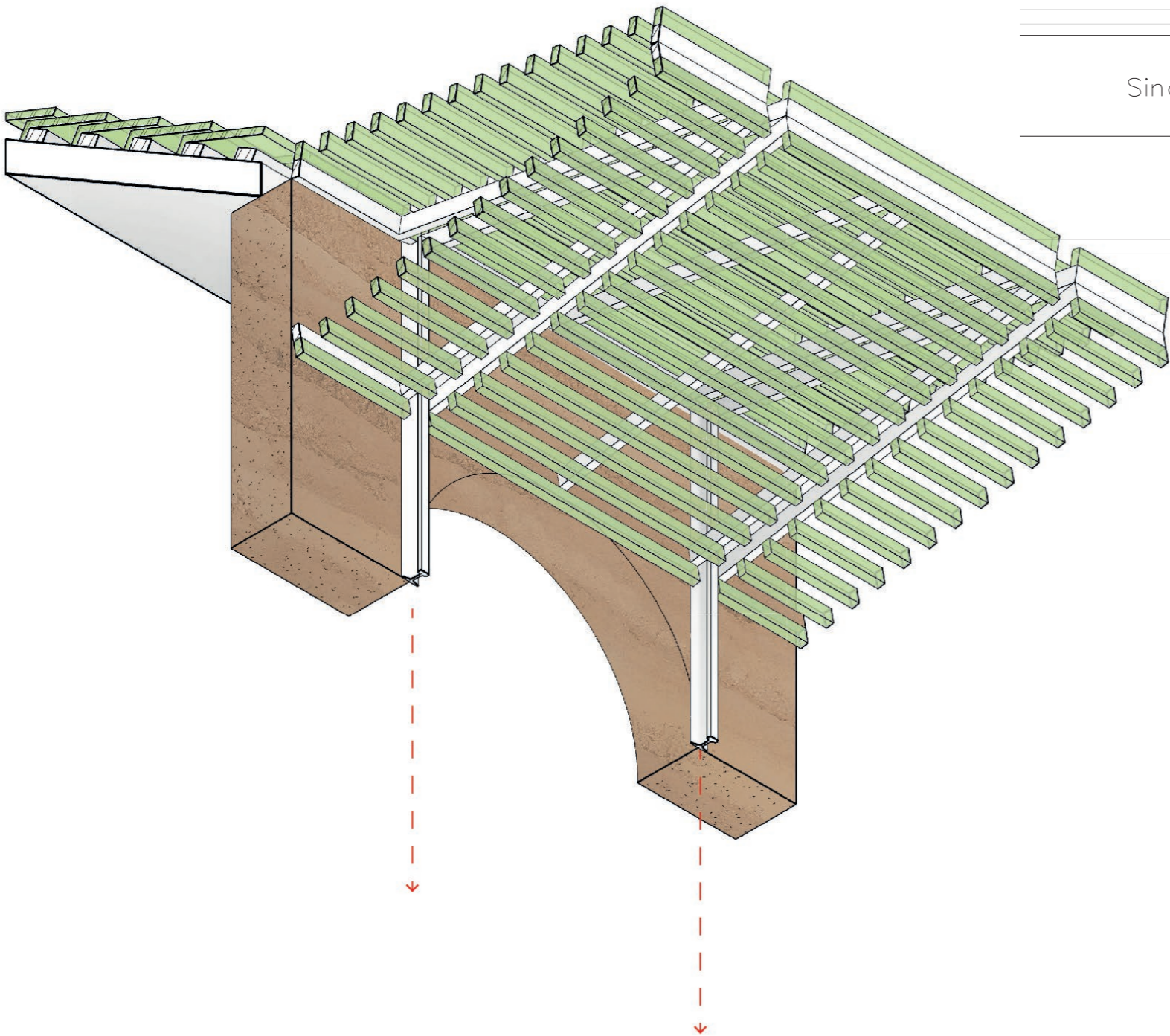
PHASE 2 EXPANDING



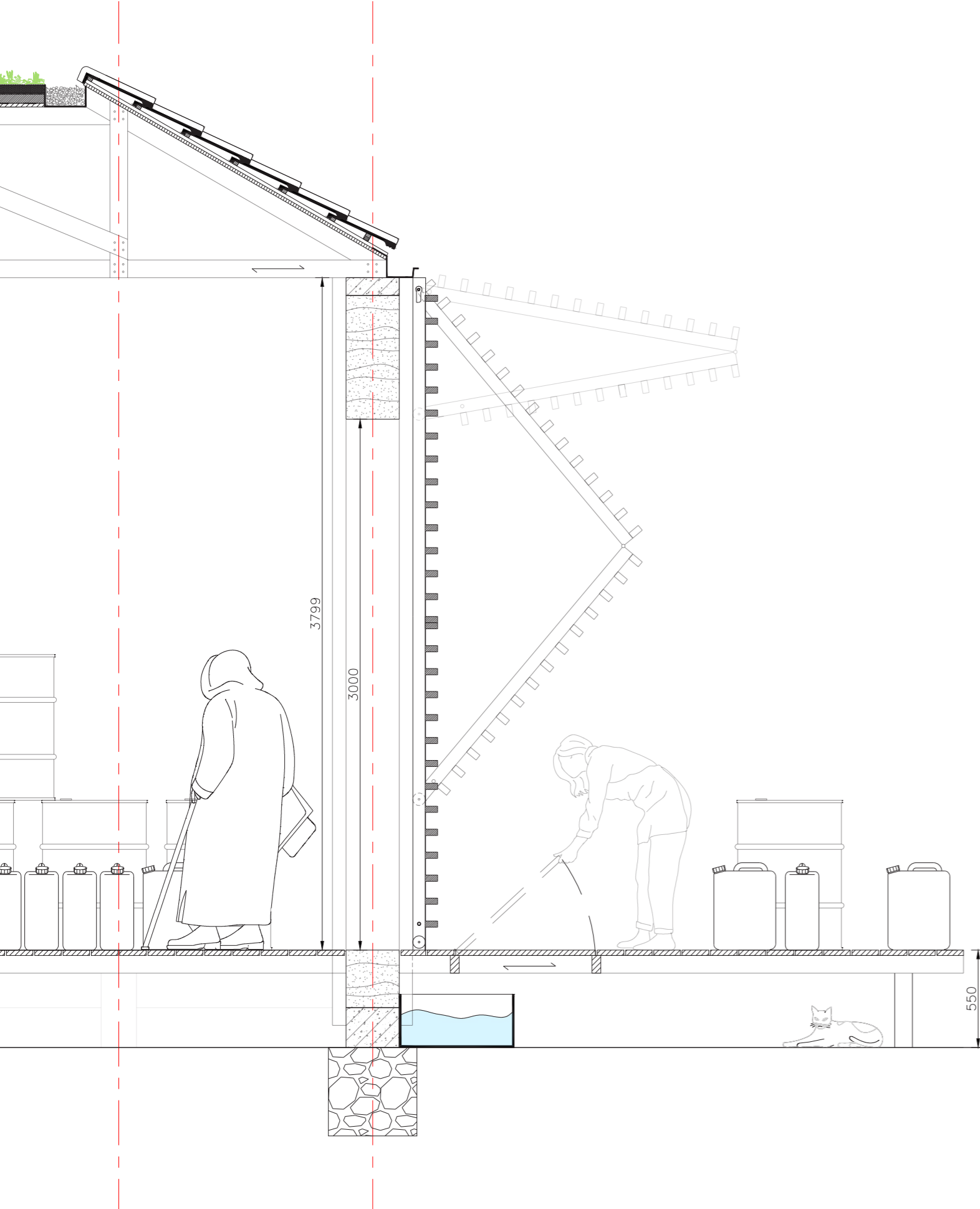


RESTORING TRACK

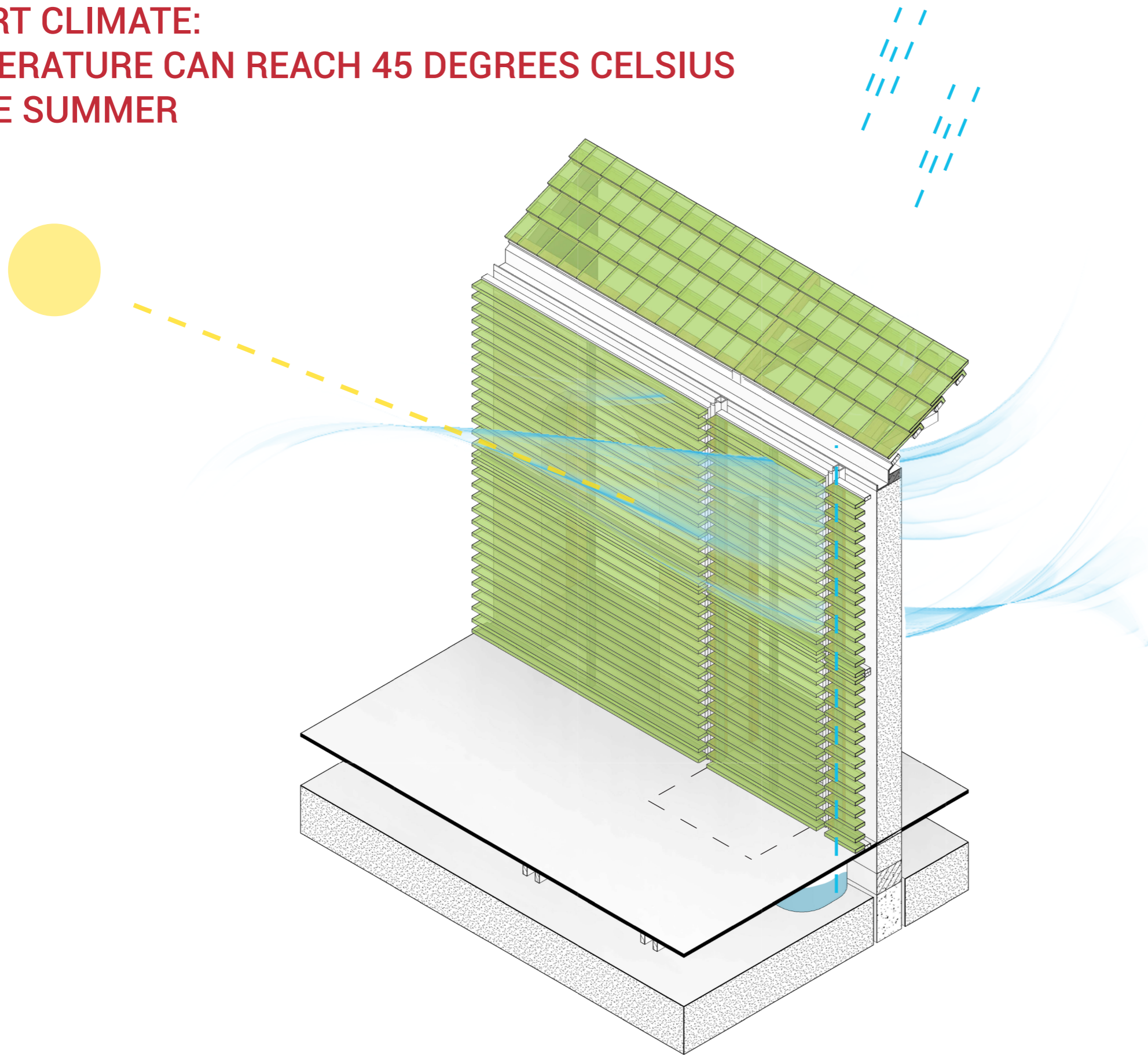
ABANDONED RAILWAY BEAM BECOMES A BUILDING MATERIAL



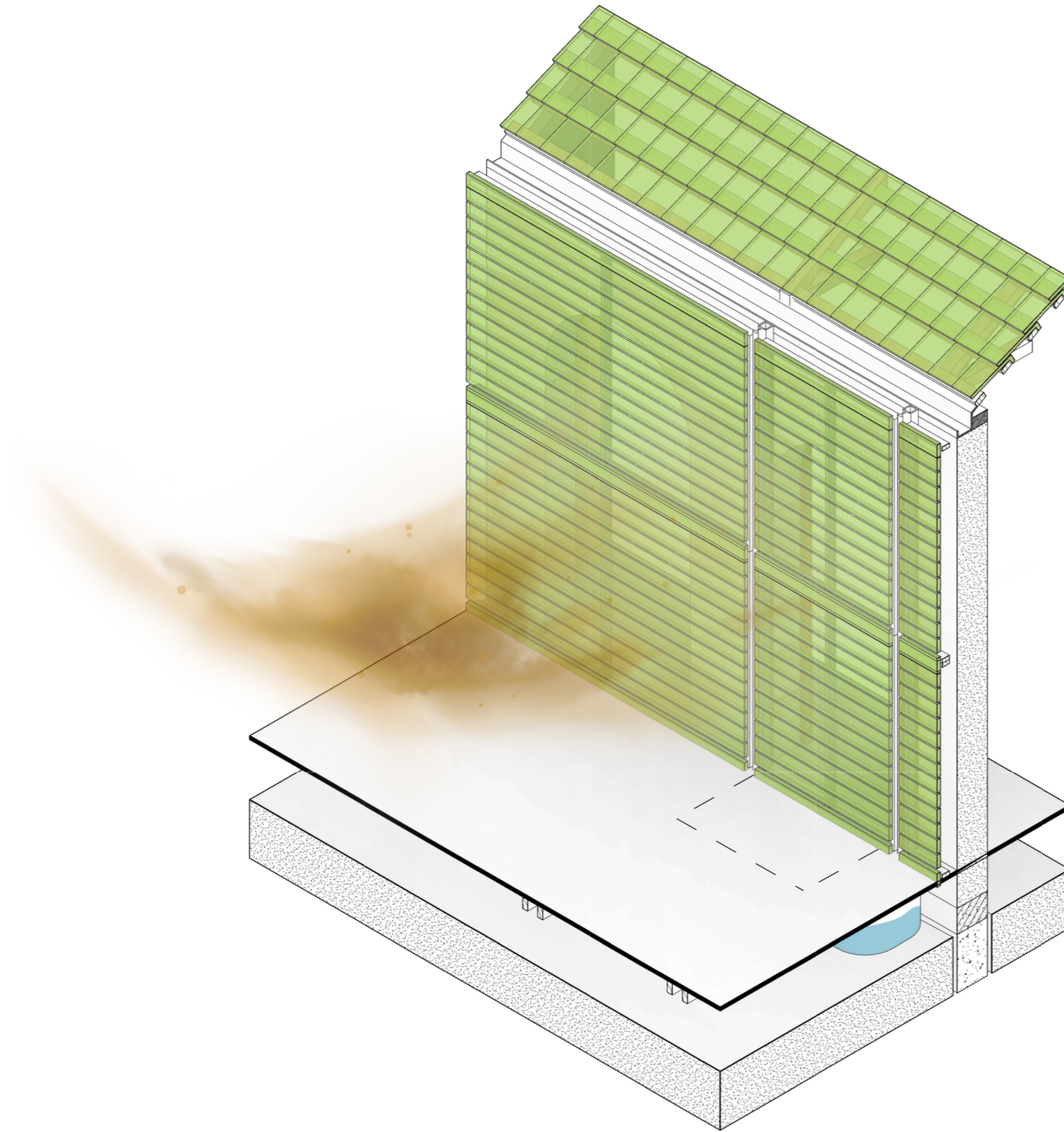
FRAGMENT OF THE NEW SITUATION

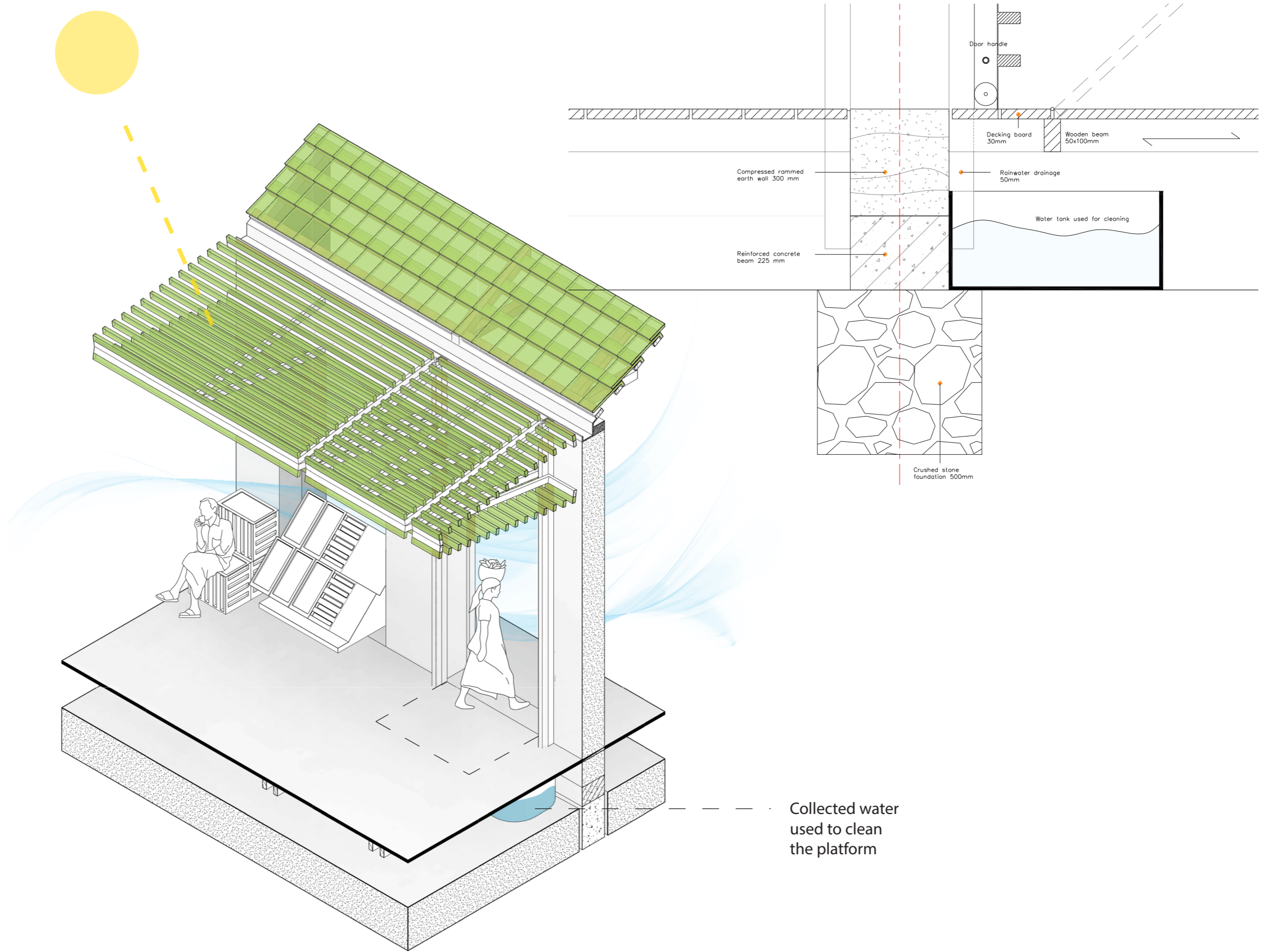


DESERT CLIMATE:
TEMPERATURE CAN REACH 45 DEGREES CELSIUS
IN THE SUMMER

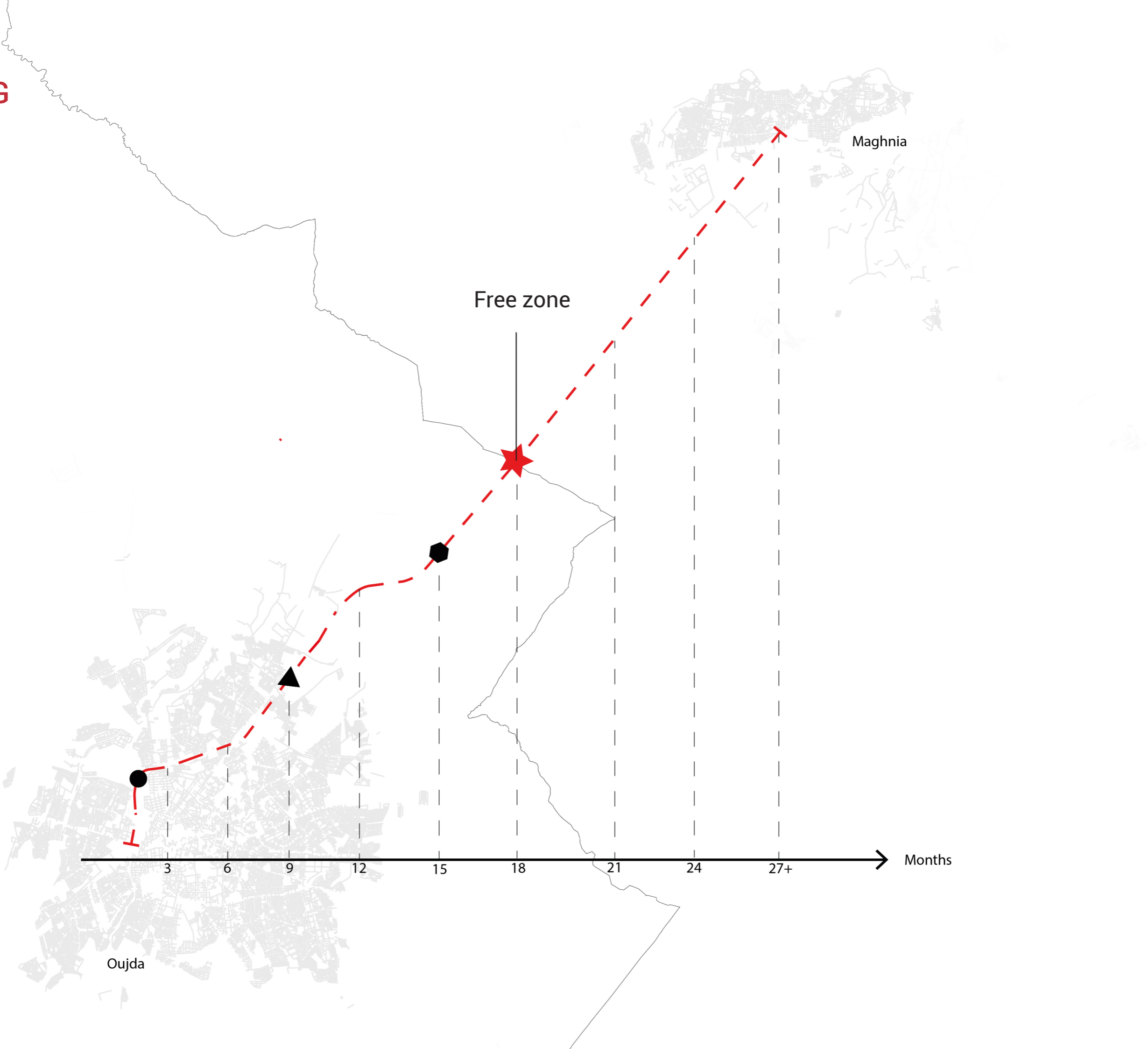


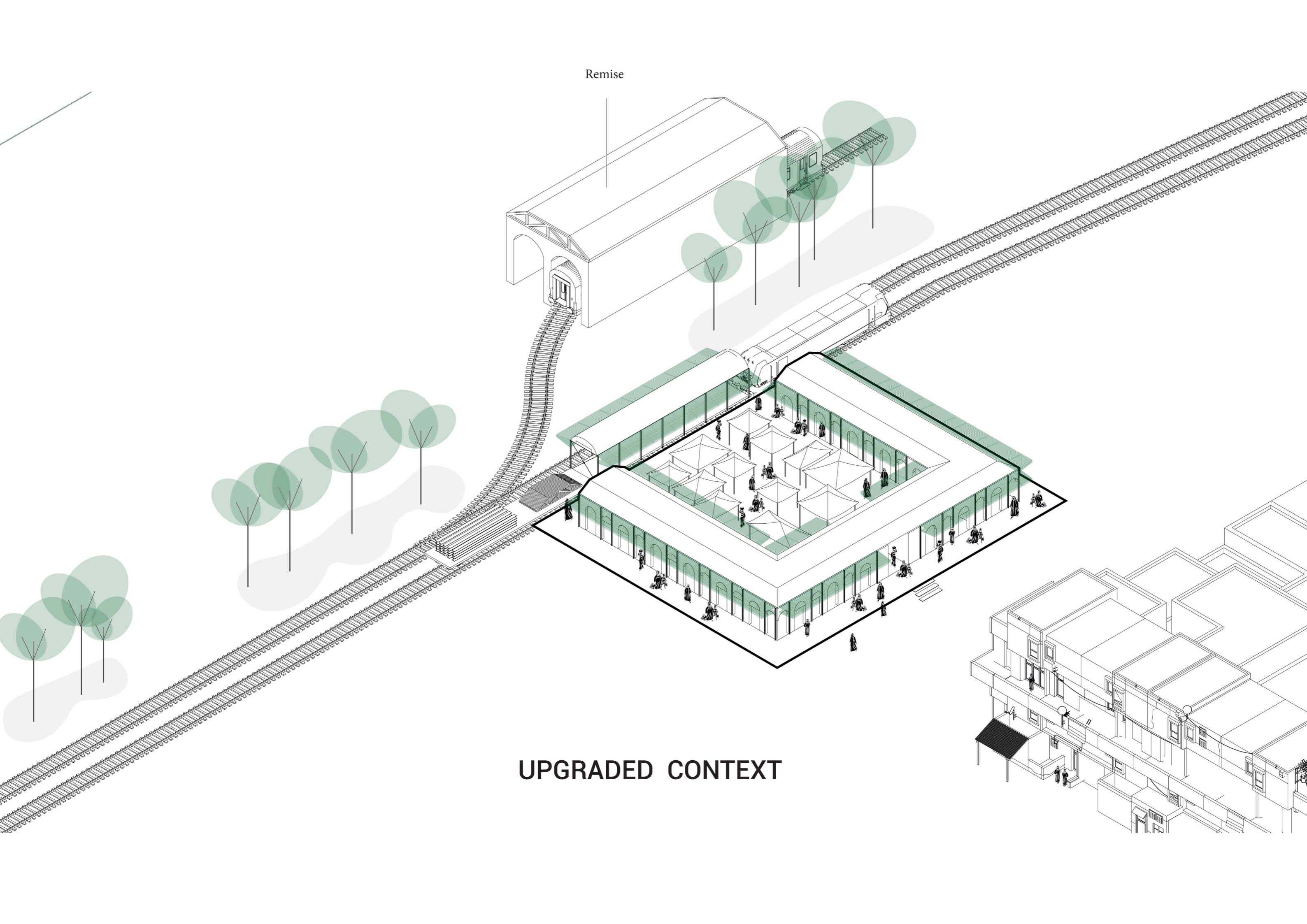
DESERT CLIMATE: SANDSTORM SCENARIO





PHASE 3
CONNECTING

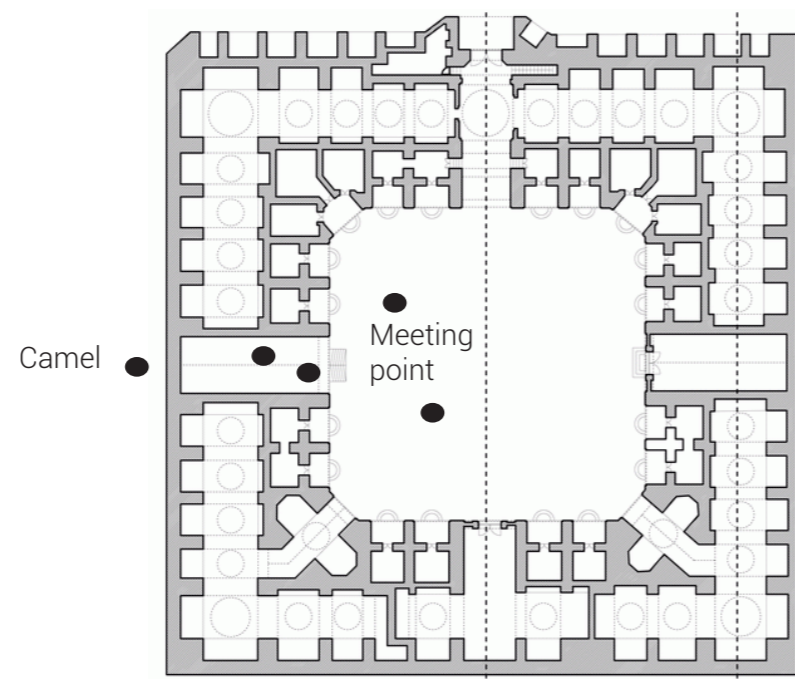




Remise

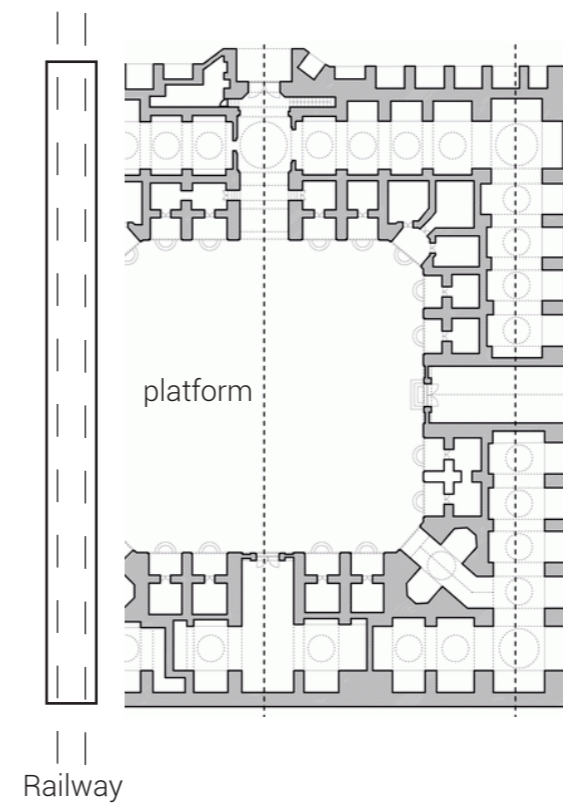
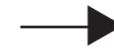
UPGRADED CONTEXT

FORM TRANSLATION



Traditional caravanserai

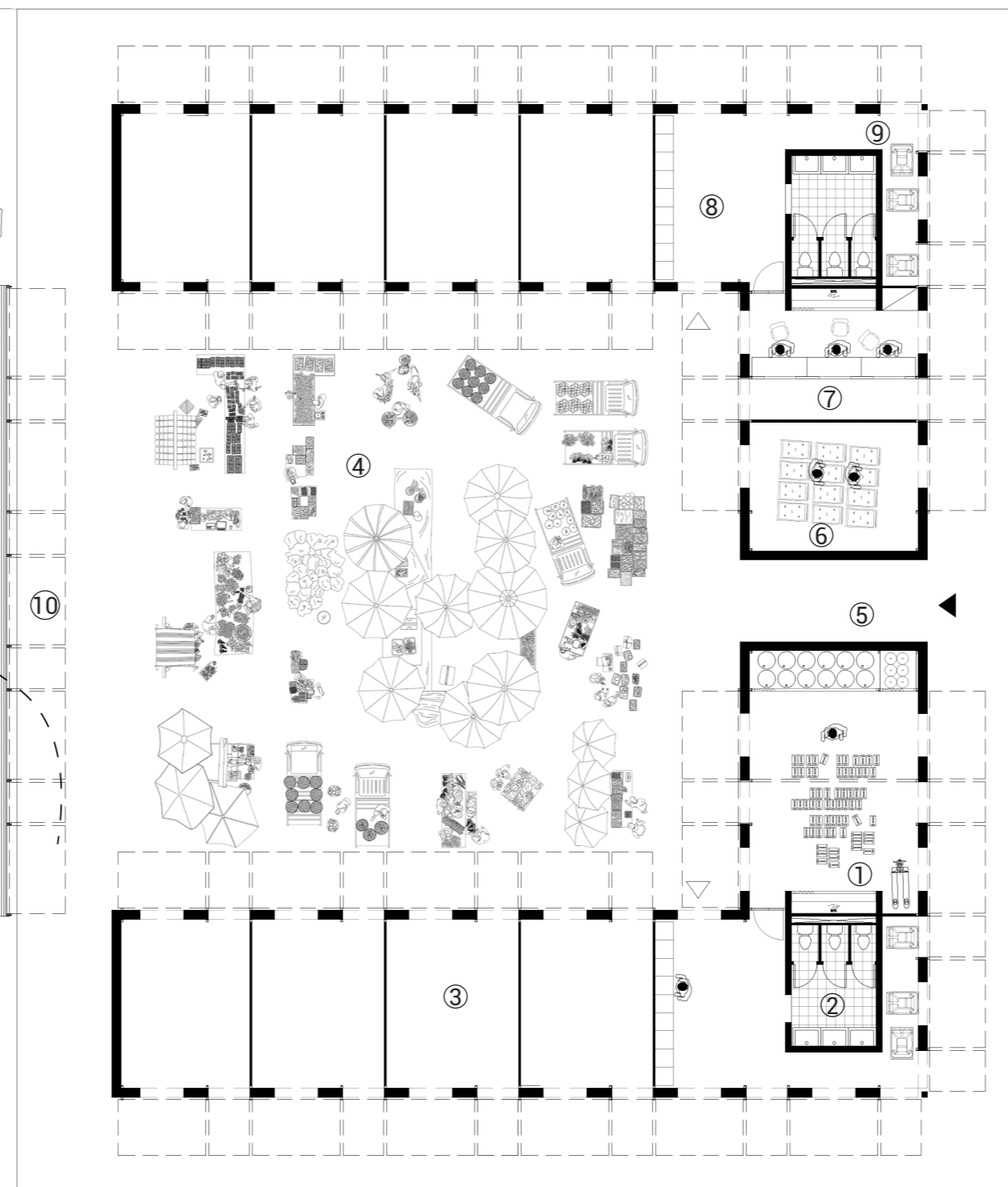
Inspired by the traditional caravanse-rais where traders used to make their stops and exchange ideas.



Modern caravanserai

The community station is a translation of the traditional caravanserai. The train functions as the missing piece of the courtyard typology.

Remise



People are buying tickets and reserving space on the train to exchange products and ideas across districts and with Algeria. However, public movement remains restricted and is permitted only for trading purposes at this time.

PHASE 3

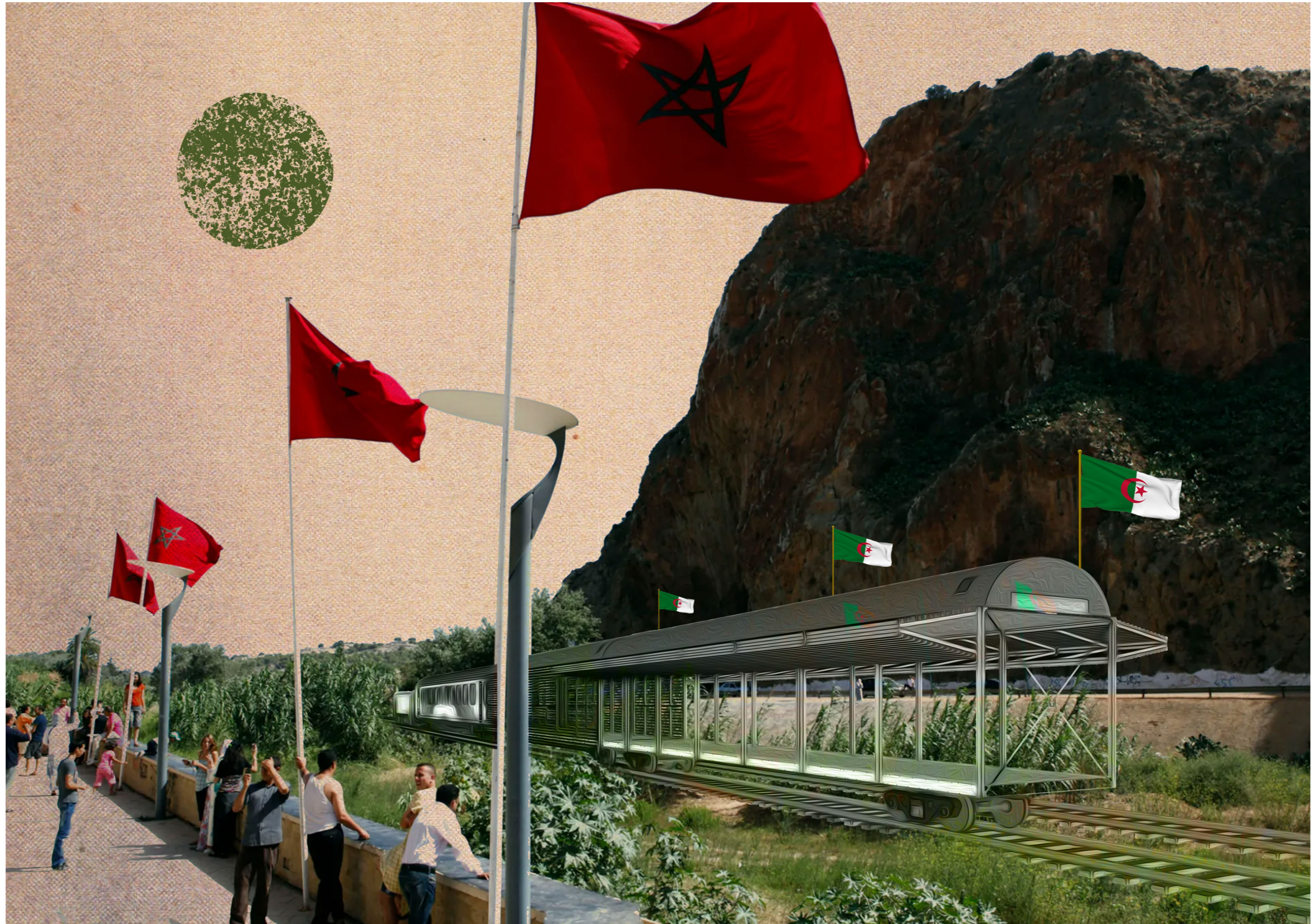
- 1. Smuggled petroleum storage
- 2. Toilets
- 3. Commercial space
- 4. Outdoor trading space (agricultural goods)
- 5. Passage
- 6. Contemplation room
- 7. Ticket office/ reception
- 8. Lockers
- 9. Waste spaces
- 10. Free zone traveling market

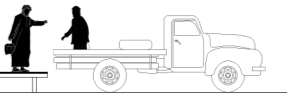
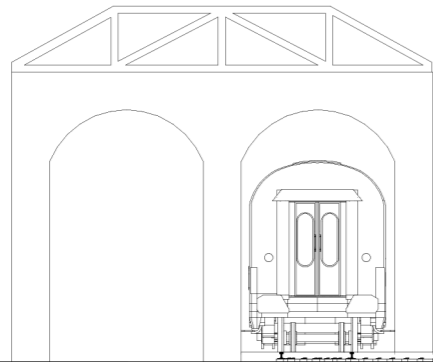
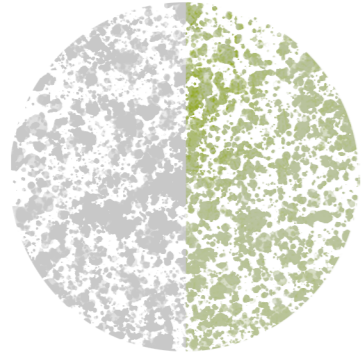


FROM AN EVERYDAY LIFE, MESSY SPACE TO A WELL ORGANIZED STATION



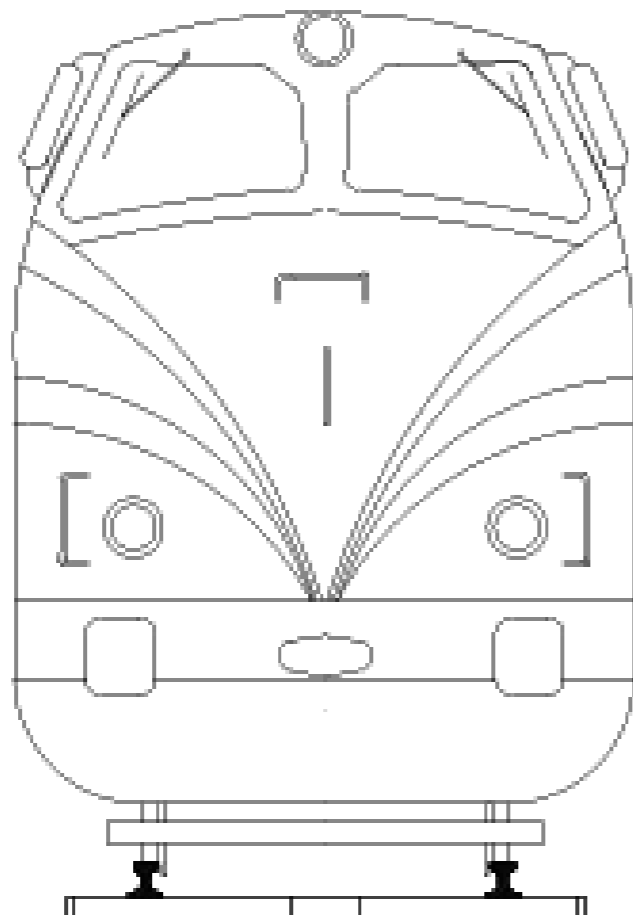
BORDER COMMUNITIES AT THE FREE ZONE WAITING FOR THE TRAIN TO CROSS





THE TRAIN AS A FREE-ZONE MARKET

FOR THE FIRST TIME
SINCE 1994, I CAN
EXCHANGE WITH THE
ALGERIANS LEGALLY

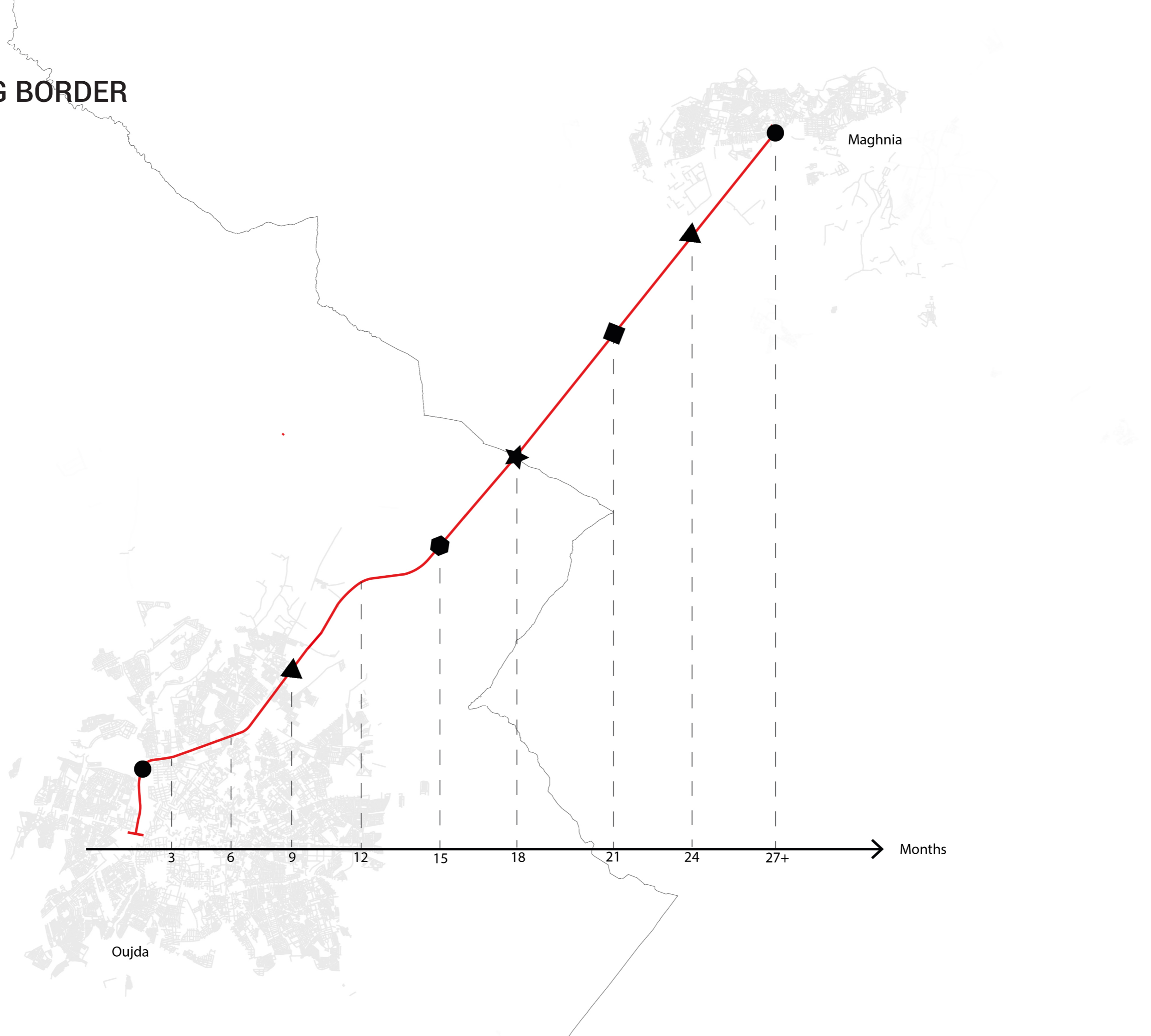


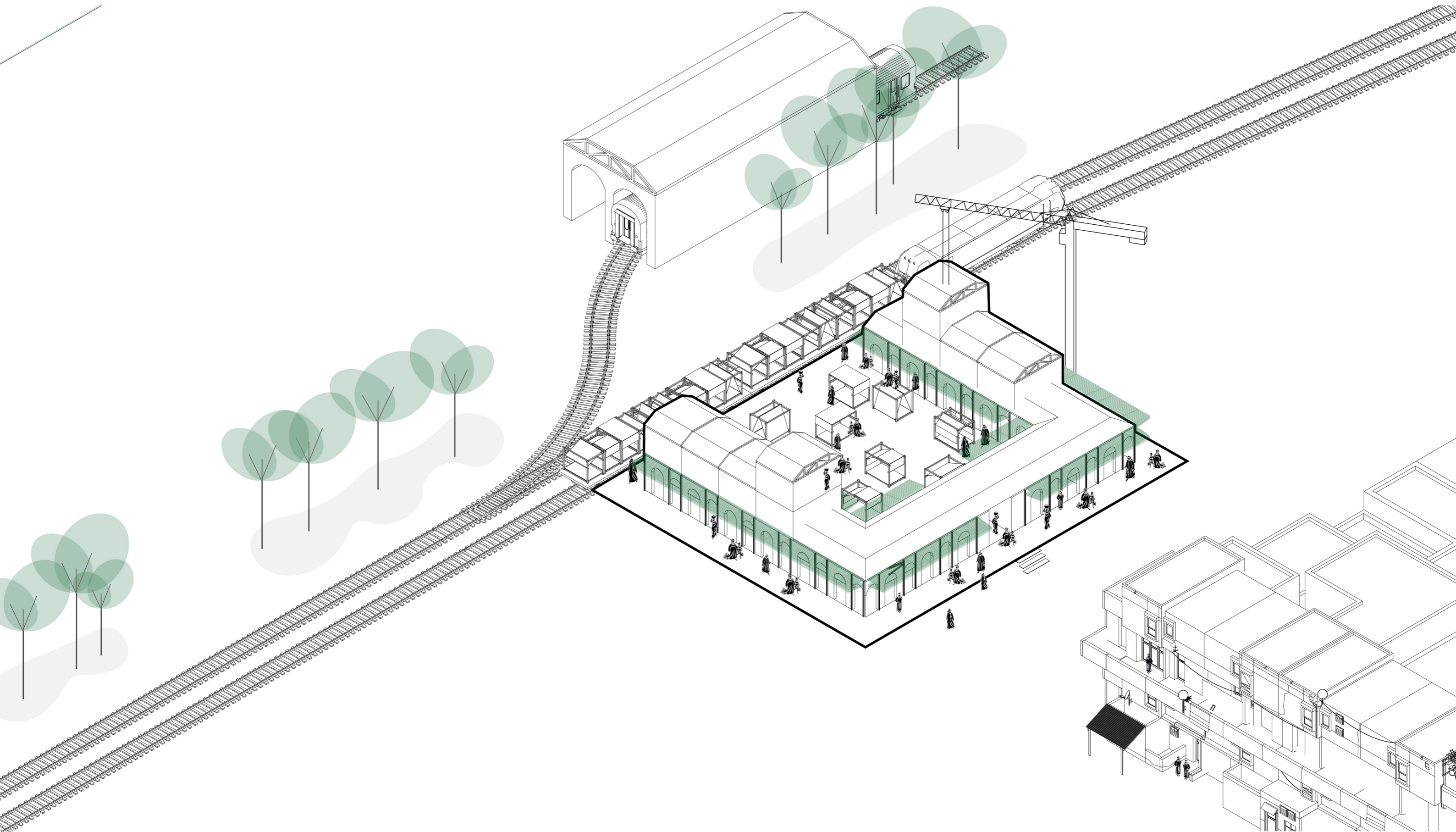
SELL ON THE
**TRAVELING
MARKET**



OUJDA ————— MAGHNIA
ACROSS BORDERS

PHASE 4 RE-OPENING BORDER

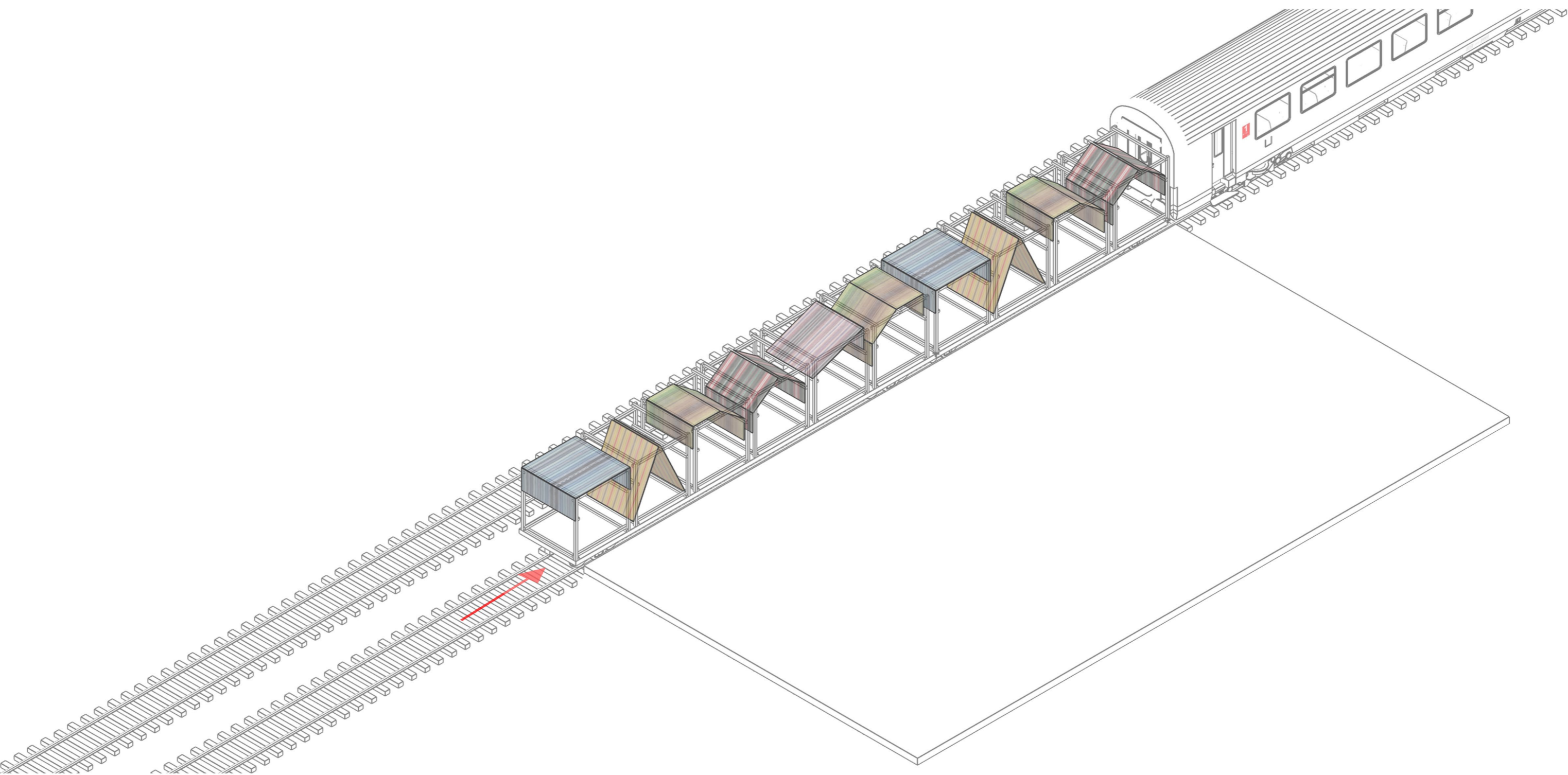


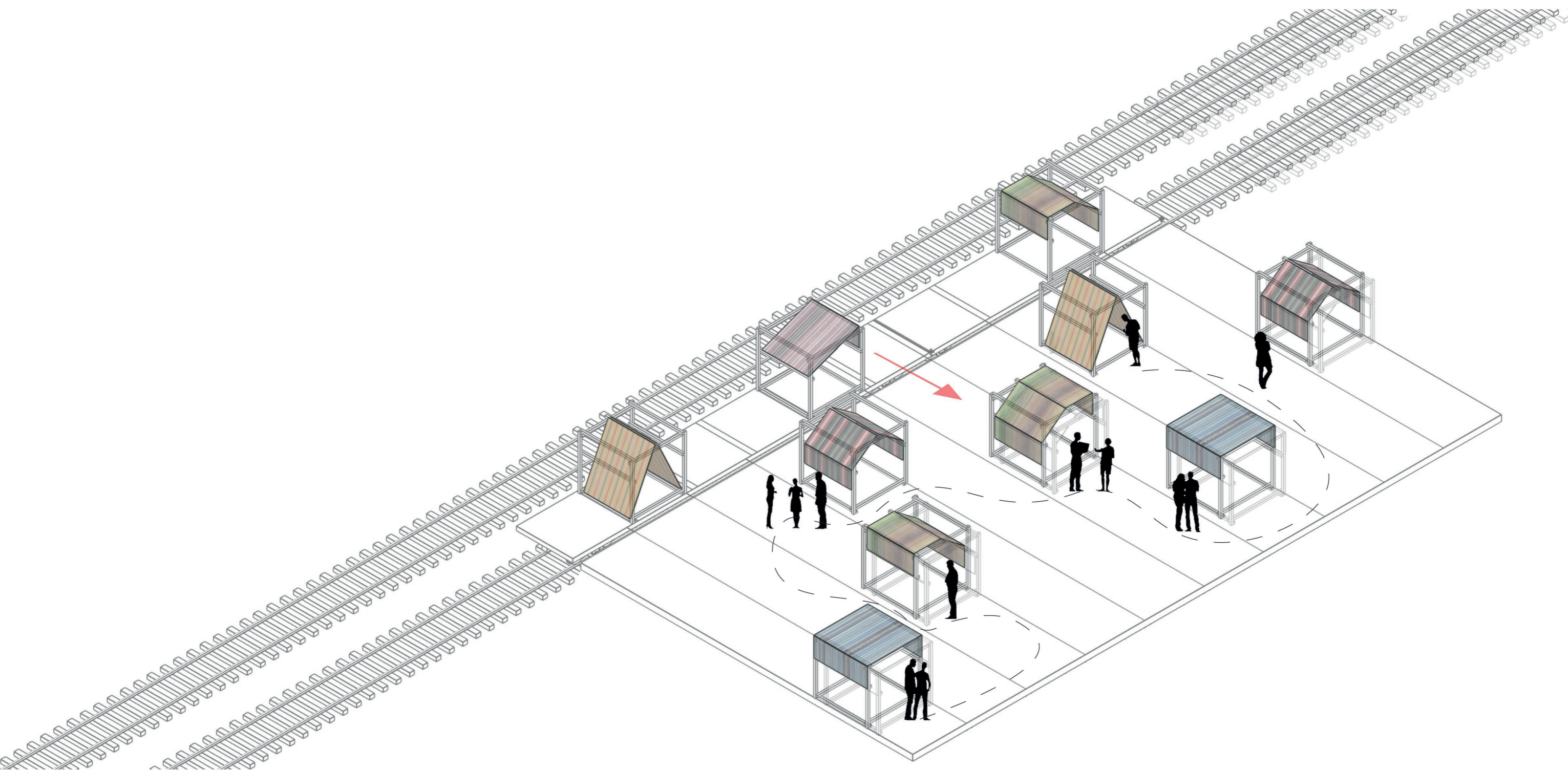


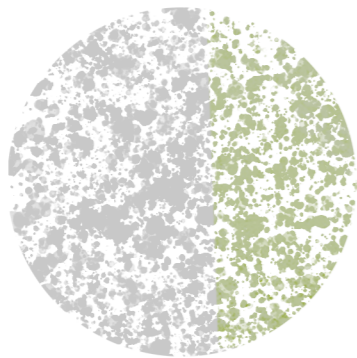
COMMUNITY STATION

OTHERS RESERVED A SELF BUILT STALL FOR THE TRAVELING MARKET

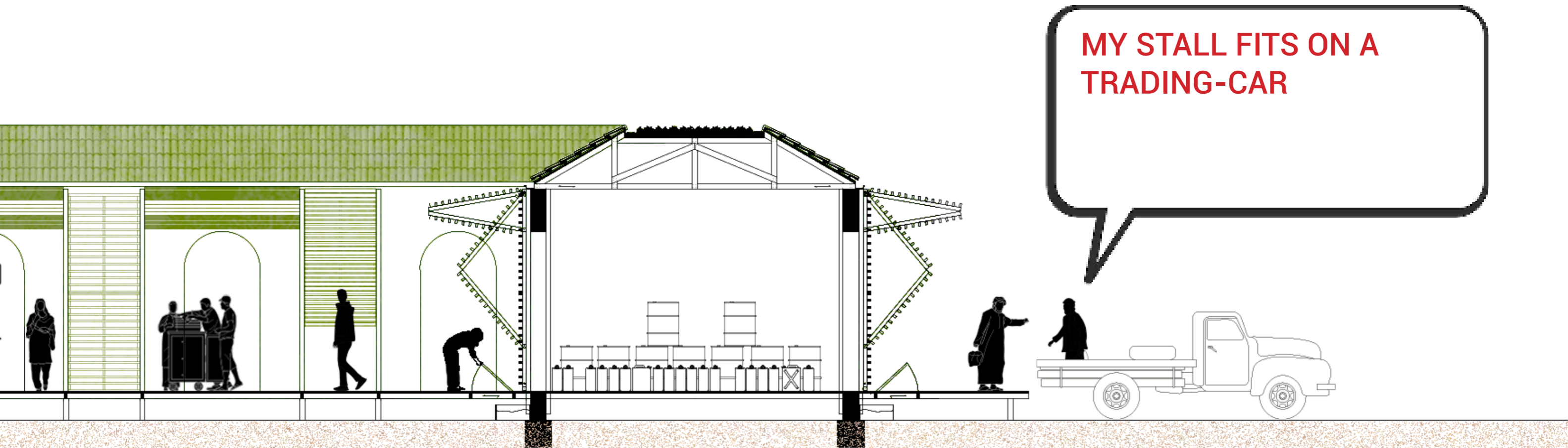


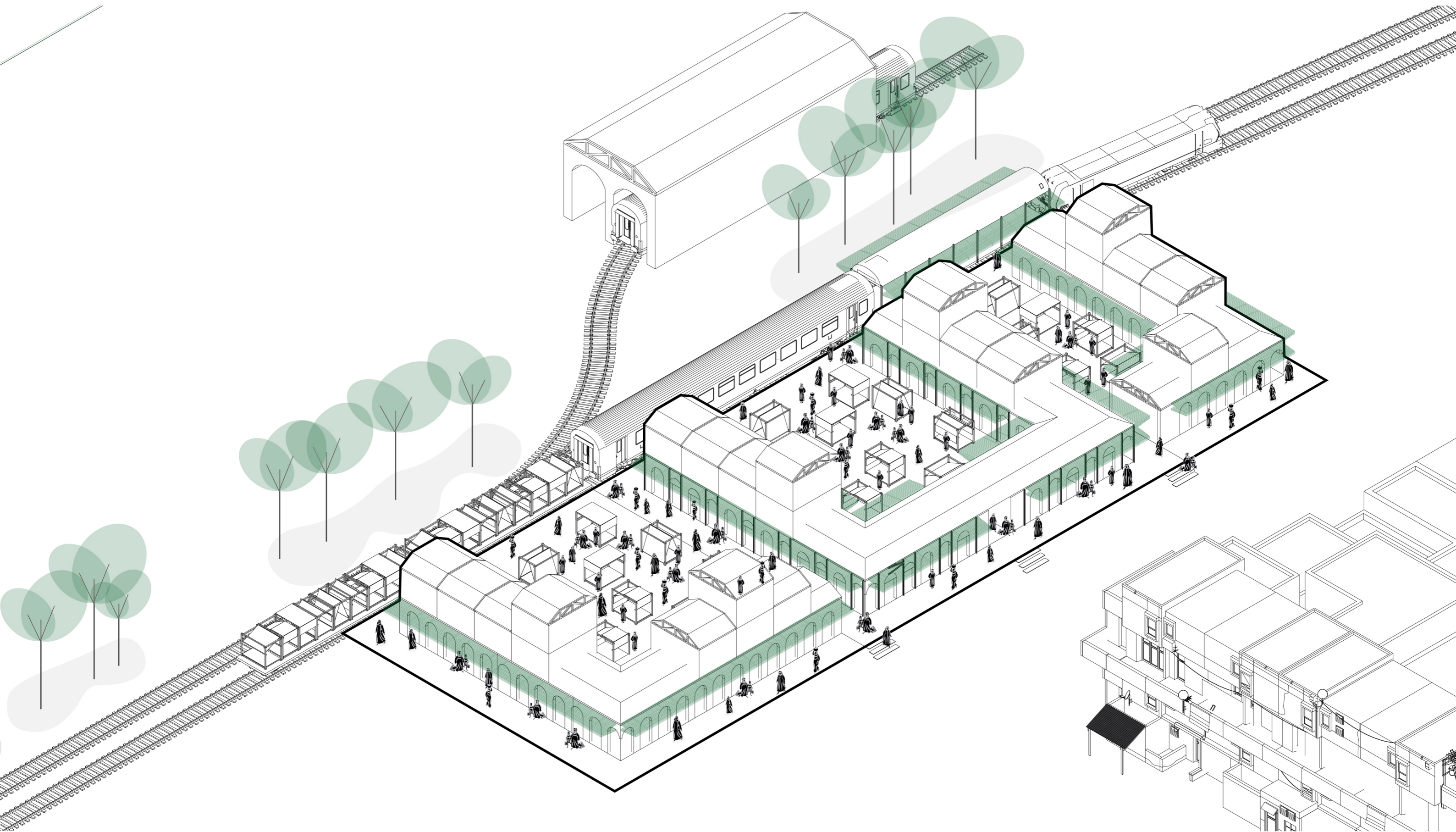






SOME OF THE PRODUCED STALLS CAN ALSO BE
PLACED IN THE SURROUNDING VILLAGES.



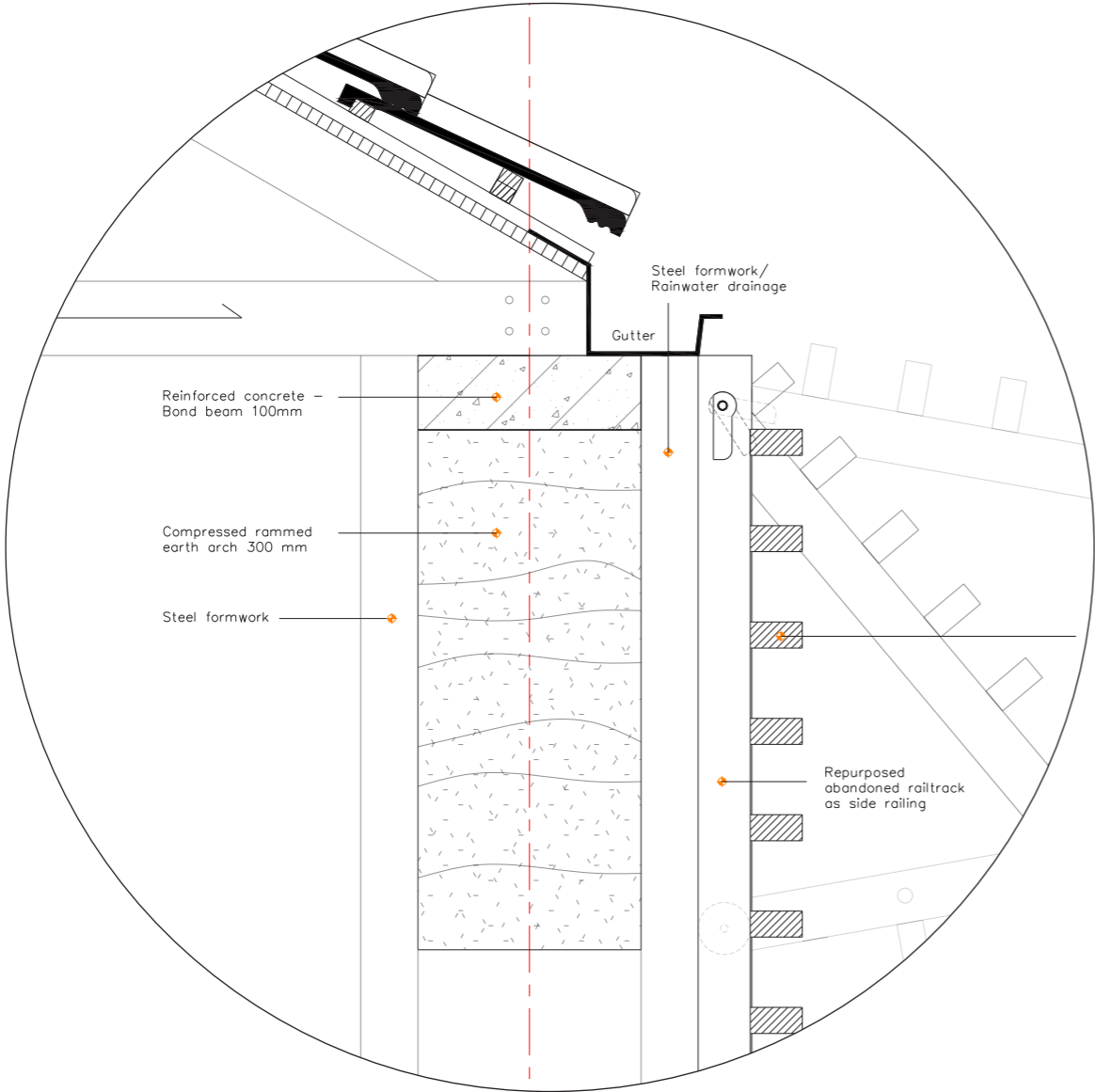


ECONOMIC EXPANSION

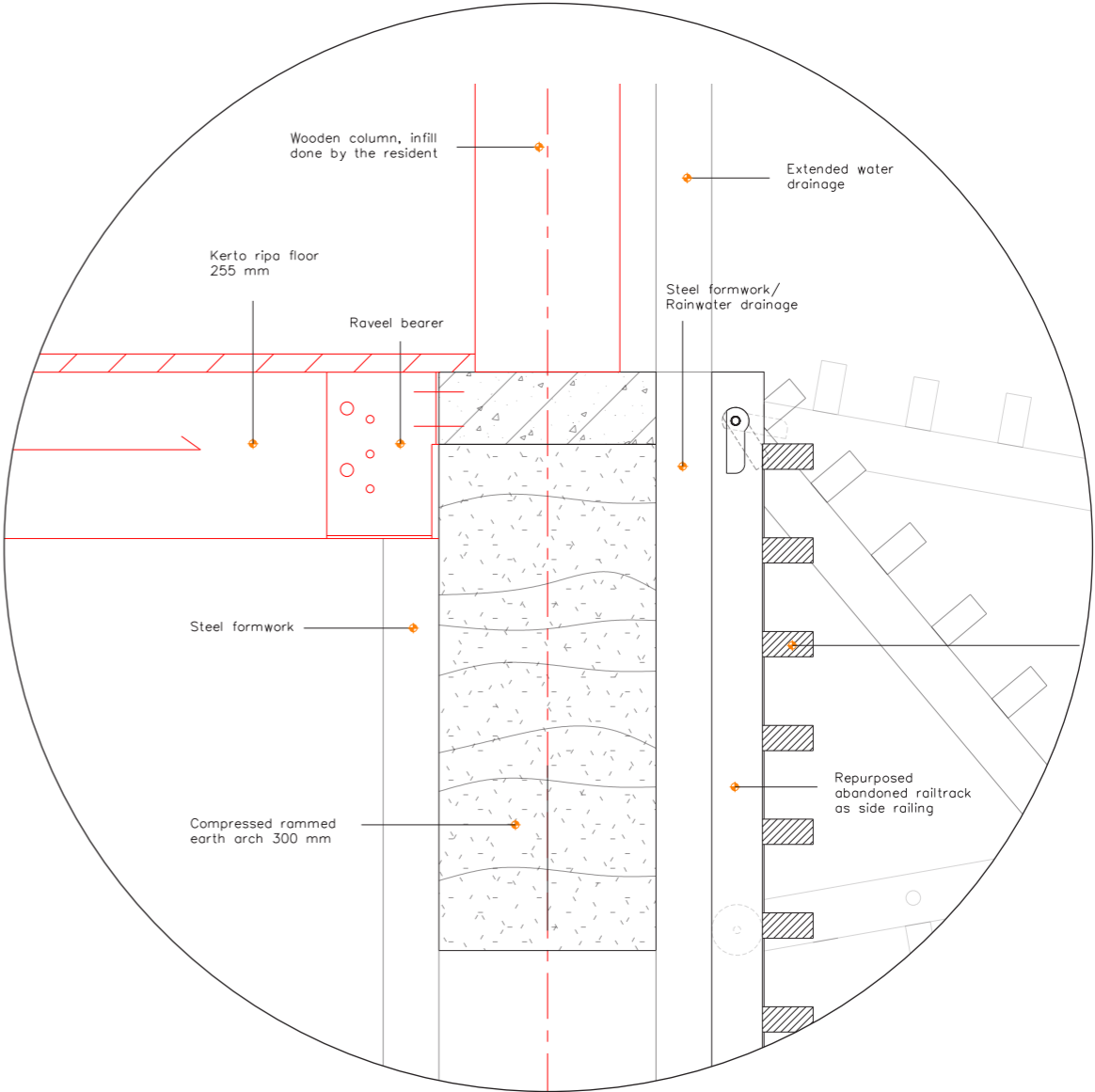
THE ROOFS ARE
PRE-FABRICATED AND
MAKES VERTICAL
EXPANSION POSSIBLE



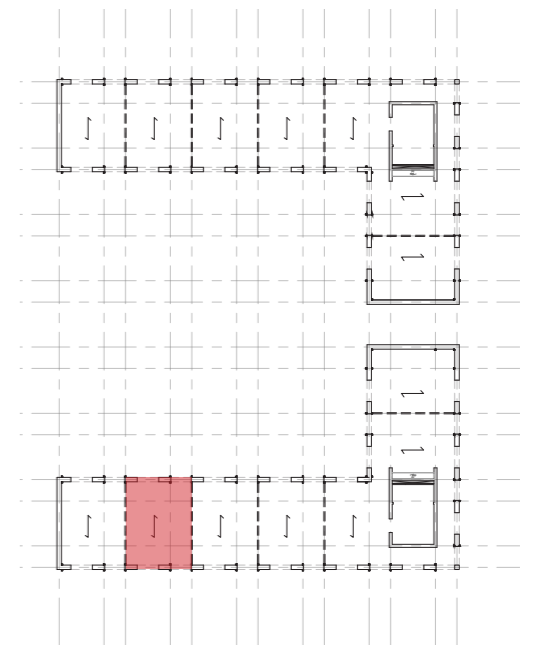
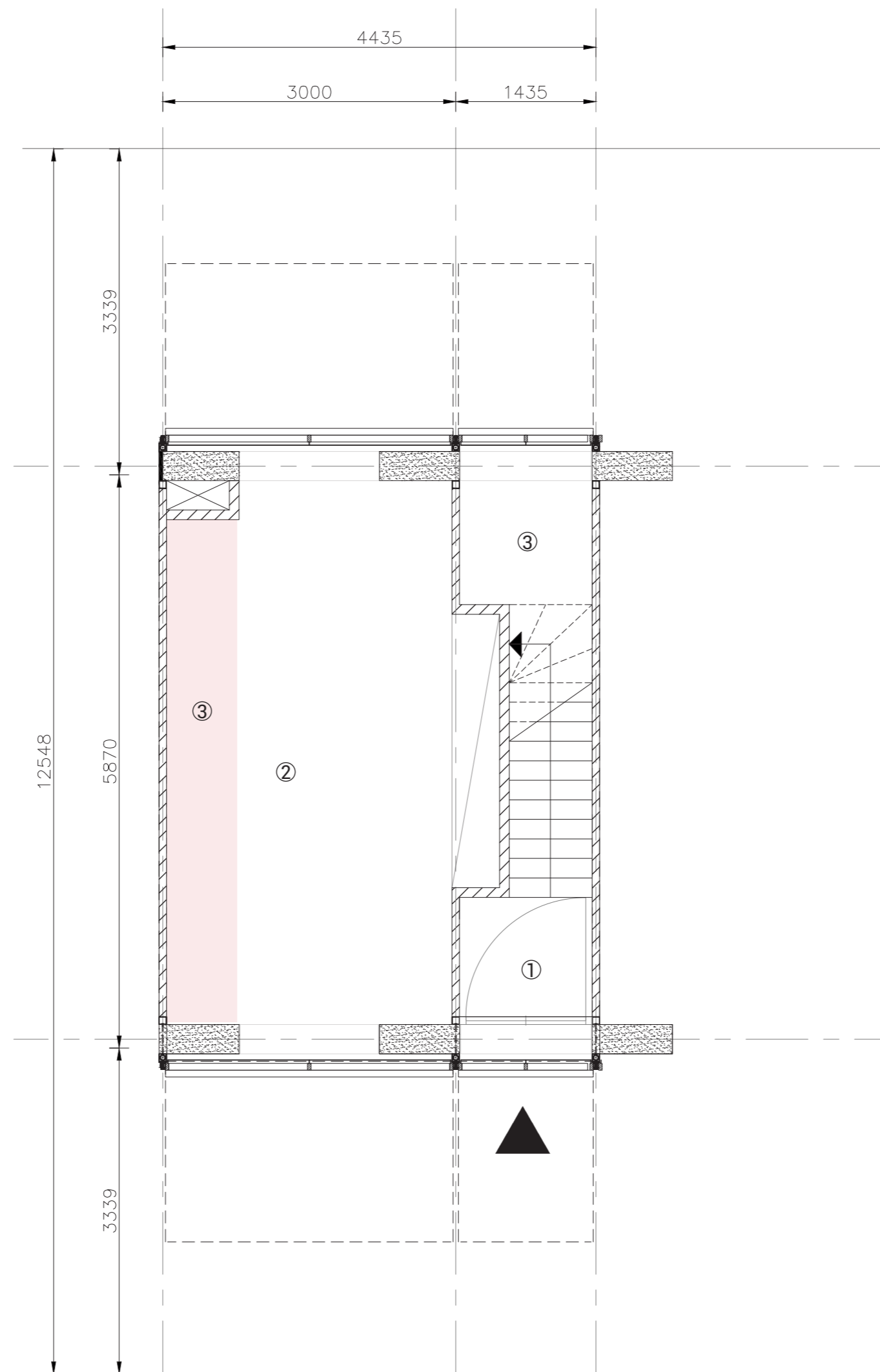
VERTICAL EXPANSION PRINCIPLE



Old situation



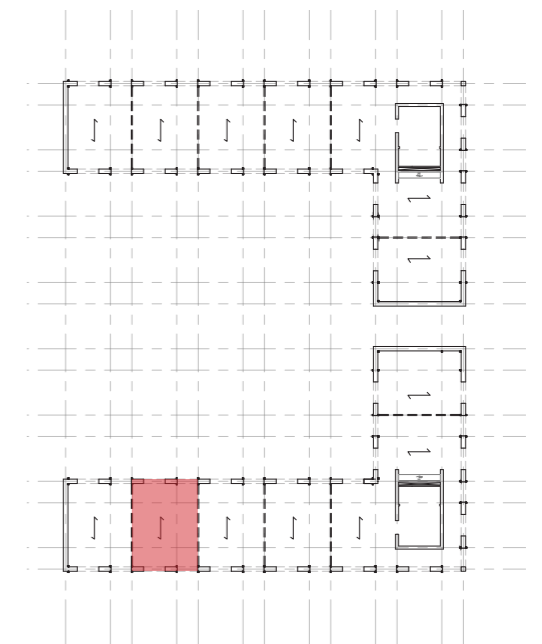
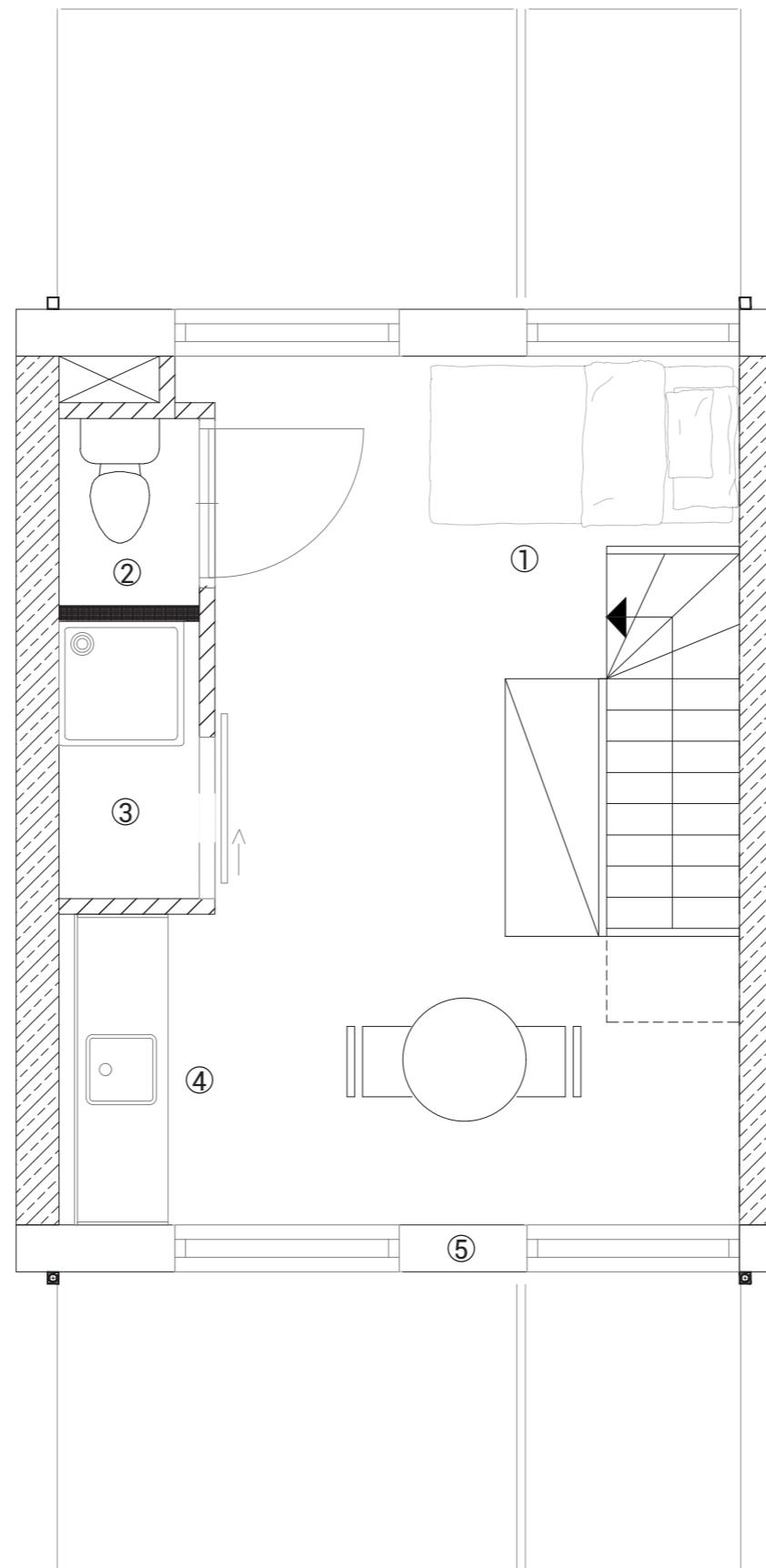
New situation



Standard trading space 25m²

- 1. Entrance apartment
- 2. Commercial space
- 3. Room for services
- 4. Storage space

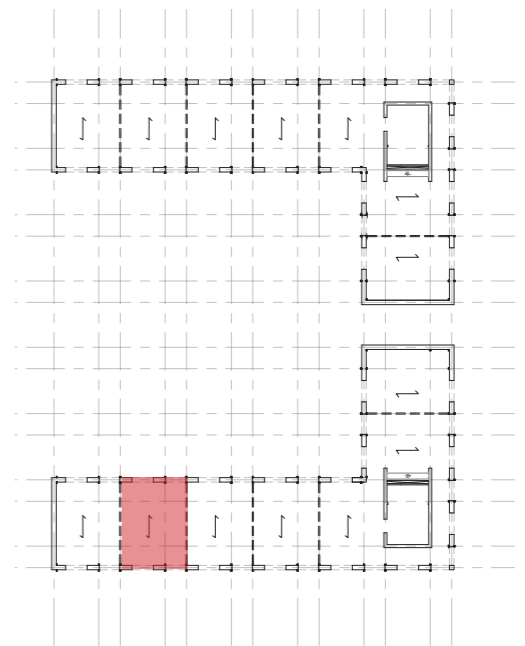
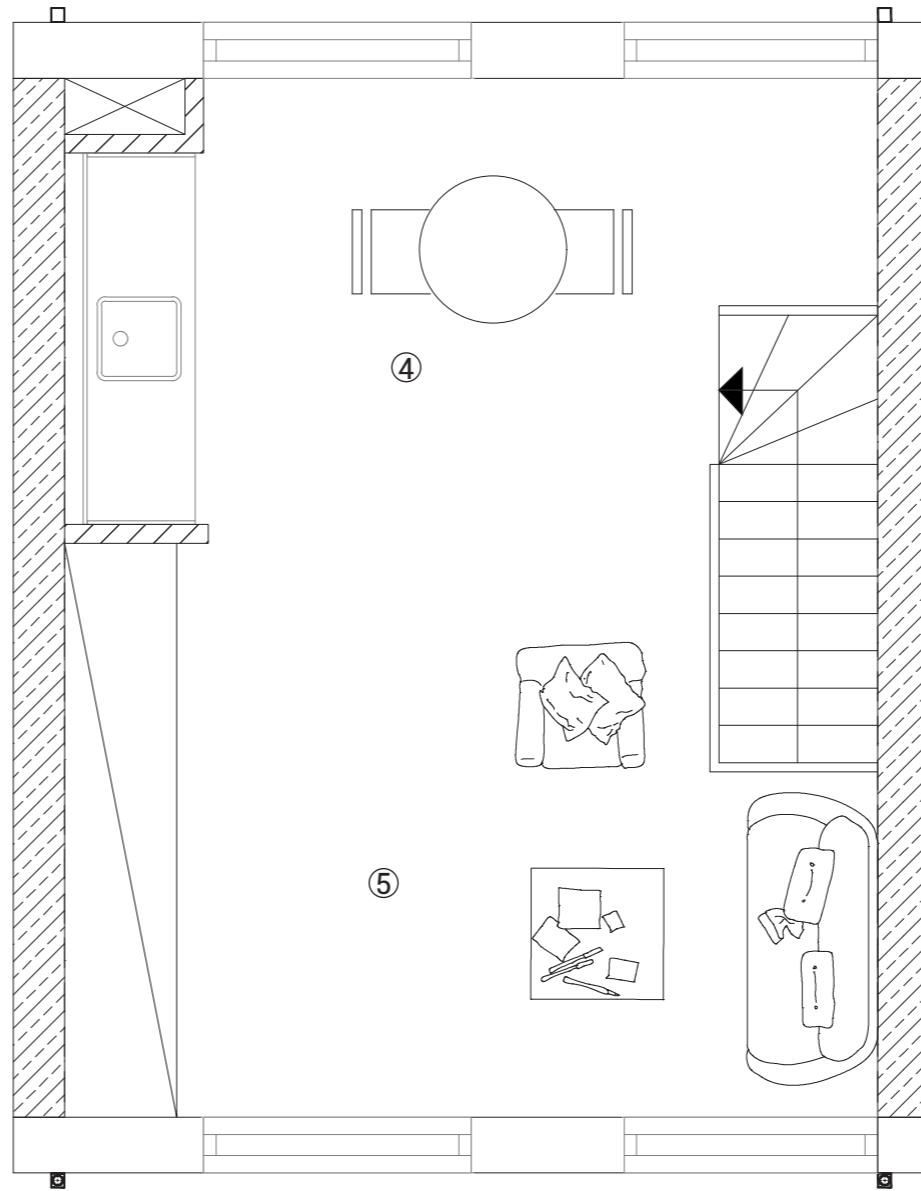
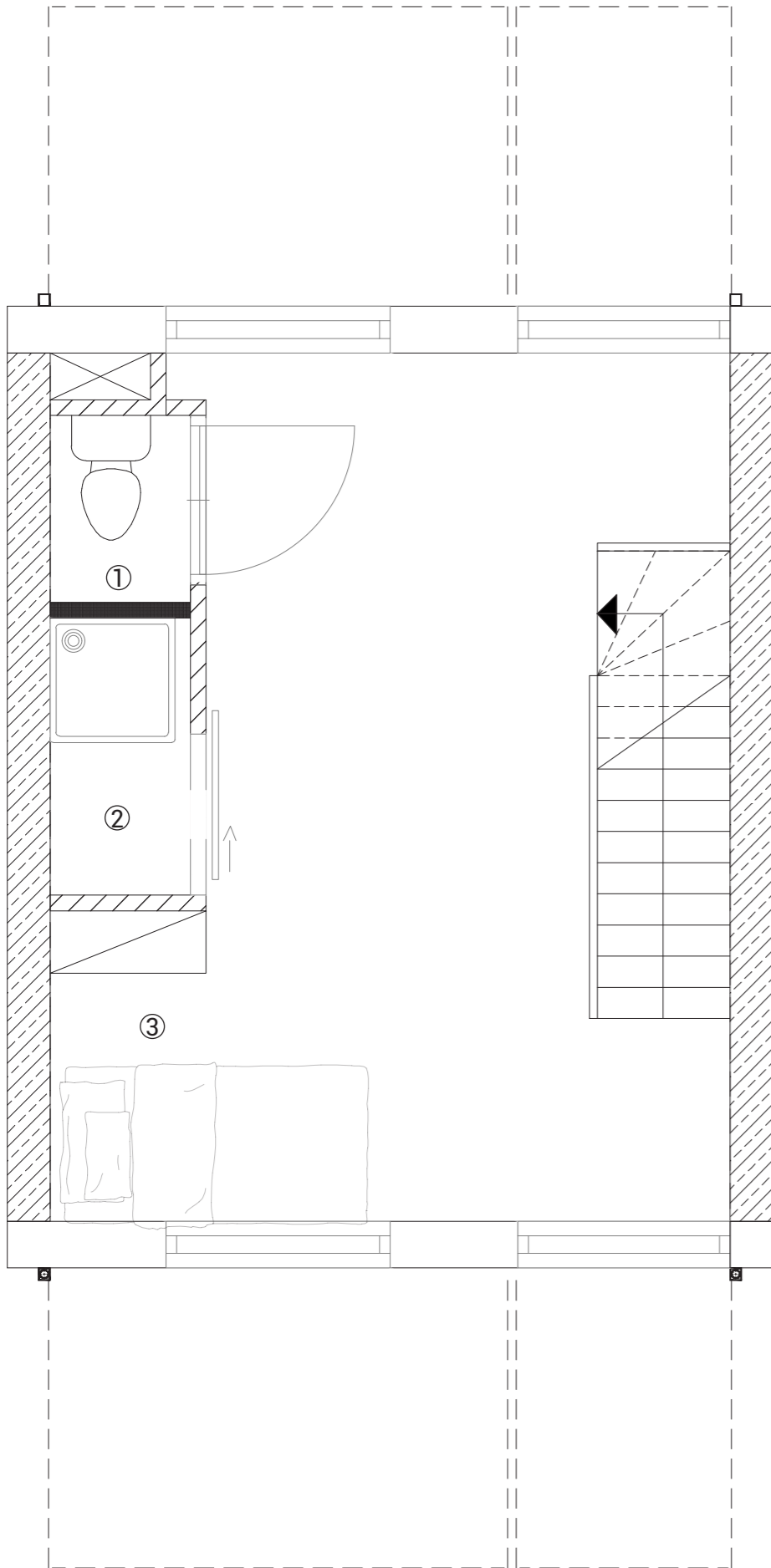




Appartment level 1 25 m2

- 1. Sleeping
- 2. Toilet
- 3. Shower
- 4. Kitchen/ dining space
- 5. Facade according to the choice and budget of the resident





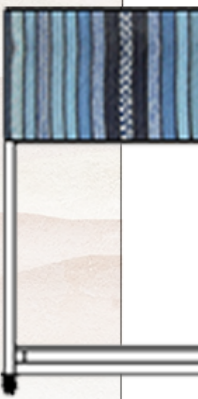
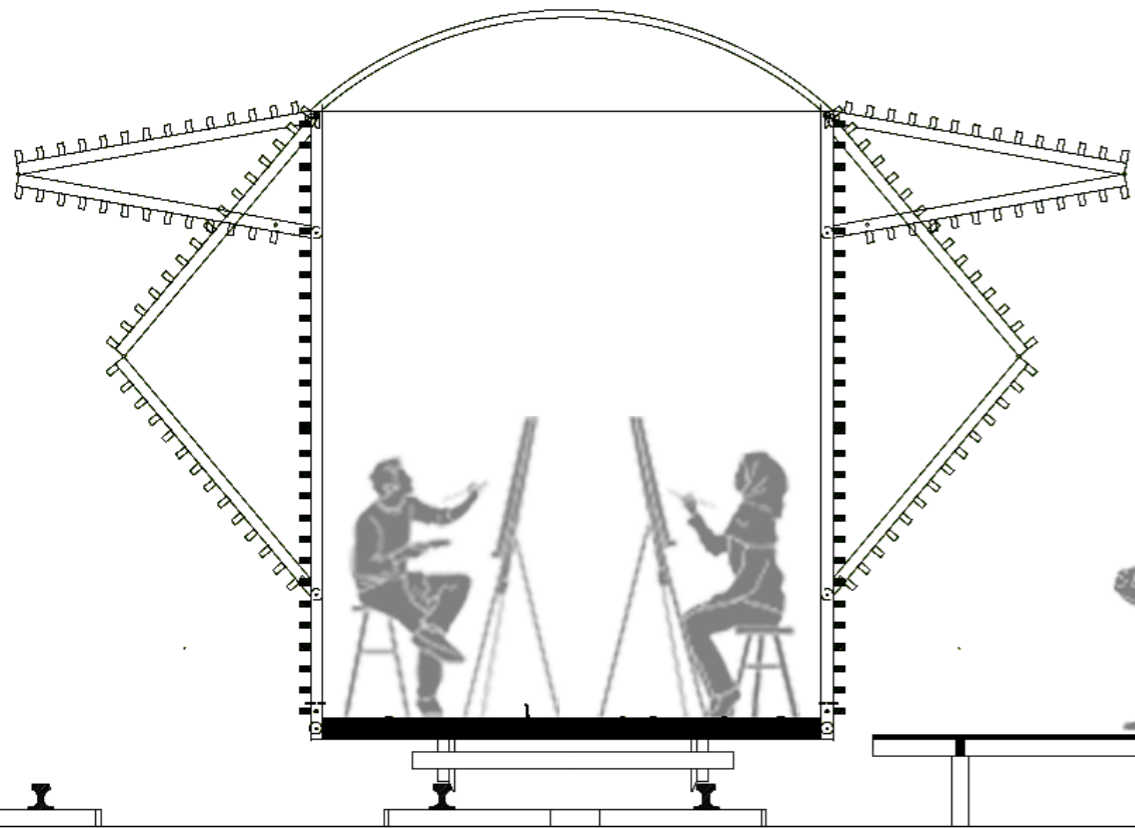
Apartment Type 2 50m2

- 1. Toilet
- 2. Shower
- 3. Sleeping
- 4. Kitchen/ dining space
- 5. living space



THE 'SOCIAL' TRAIN SERVING THE RESIDENTS

ONCE A WEEK, THE
TRAIN OFFERS
COMMUNITY PROGRAMS
AND WORKSHOPS



MASTERPLAN



Access





THE ARCHITECTURE IS THE PROCESS

SELL ON THE
**TRAVELING
MARKET**



**THANK YOU FOR MAKING THIS
JOURNEY MEMORABLE**