

## 2.5D Playgrounds for Bogota

Stimulate Playful Actions in Public Spaces by Redesigning  
Ground Surfaces into a Constellation of 2.5D Architectural Compositions

Yayun Liu

Method and Analysis  
P5 Presentation  
30/06/2017

<b>1 Background</b>	001
<b>2 Problem</b>	013
<b>3 Implantation</b>	027
<b>4 Configuration</b>	043
<b>5 Form</b>	053
<b>6 Reflection</b>	137

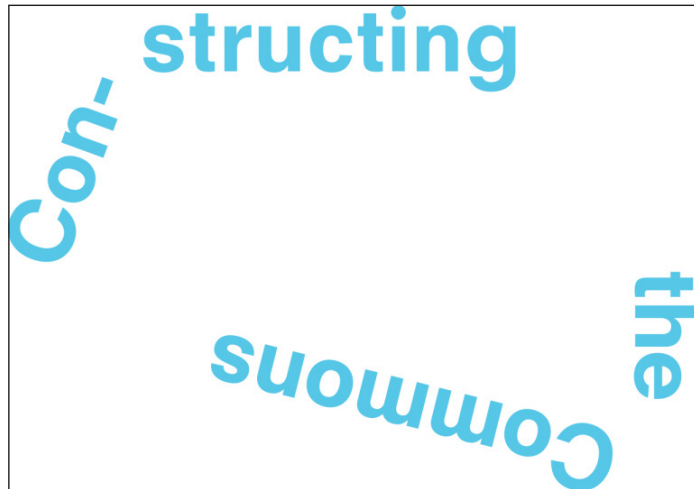




## Background | Segregation

Constructing the Commons in Bogota  
Bogota Location  
Urban Topography  
Segregation

# Constructing the Commons in Bogota



## Constructing the Commons

- Architectural and Urban figures
- Commoning procedure



## Architectural Positions

- Alternative strategies to “strong counter-forms”
- Punctual architectural intervention

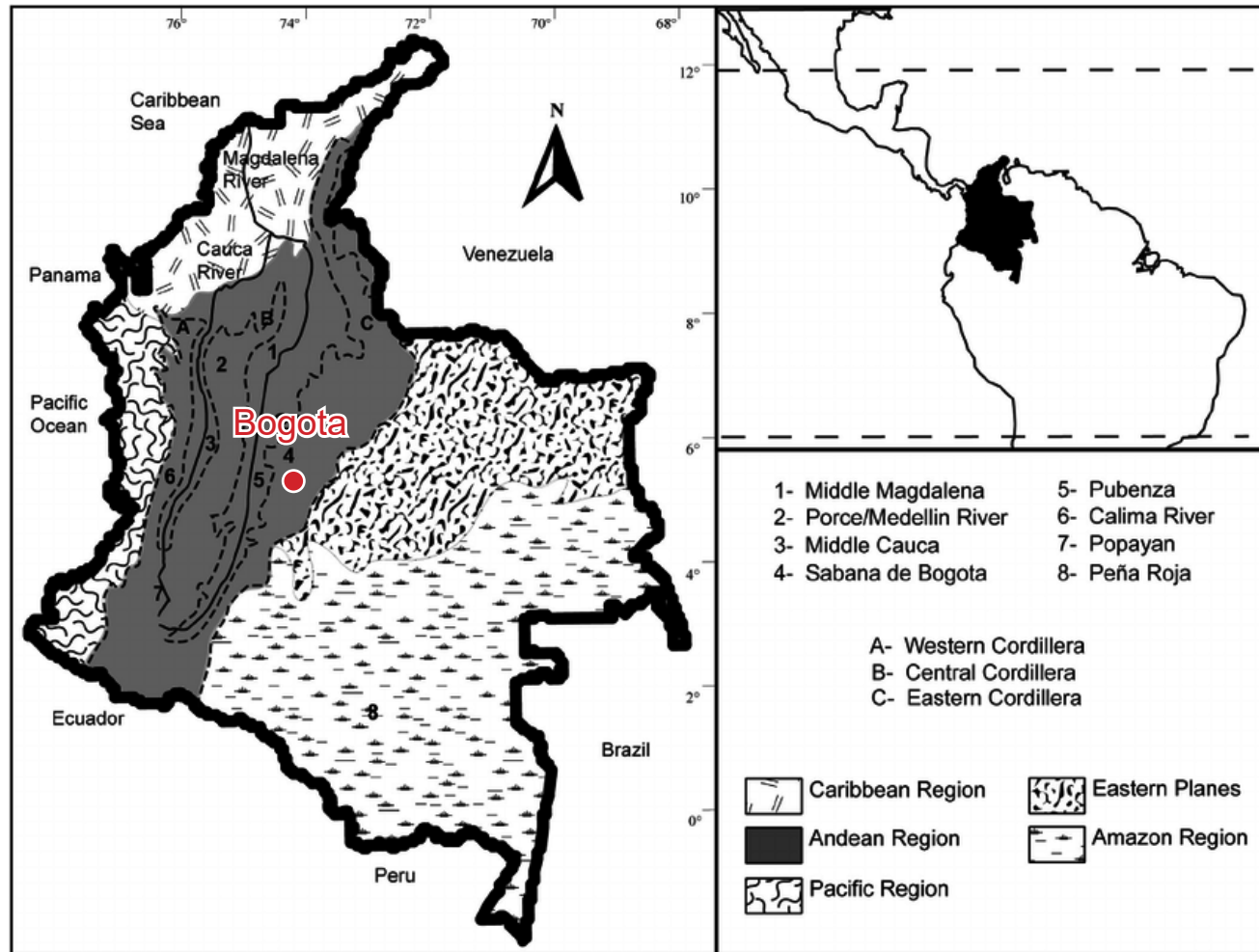


## Transcultural Methods and Positions

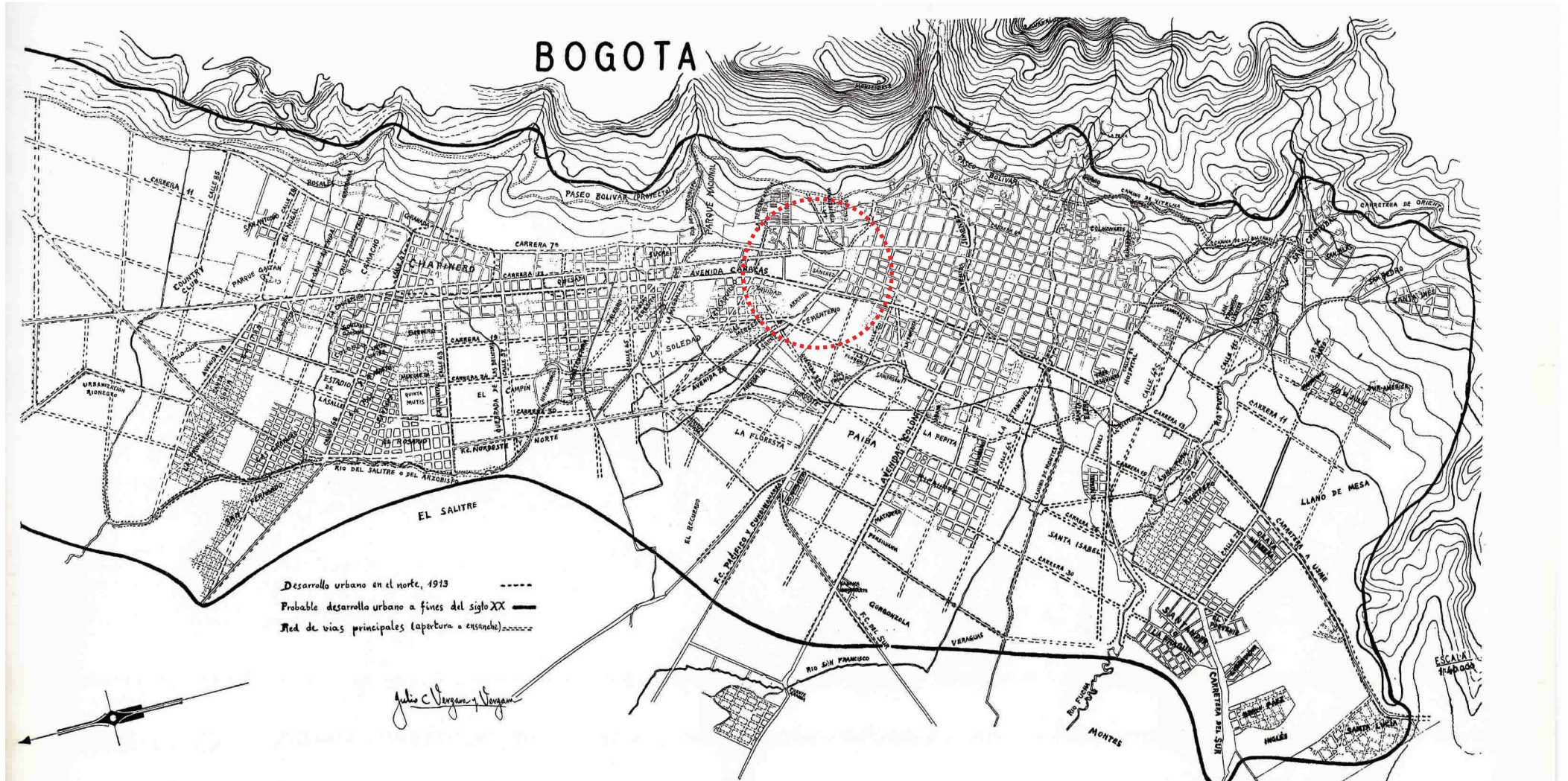
- Adjust existing analytical methods
- Resonate with transcultural urban condition



## Bogota Location



## Urban Topography



Altitude		2600 m above sea level
Climate		Subtropical Highland Climate
East		Monserate Mountain Range
West		Bogota River

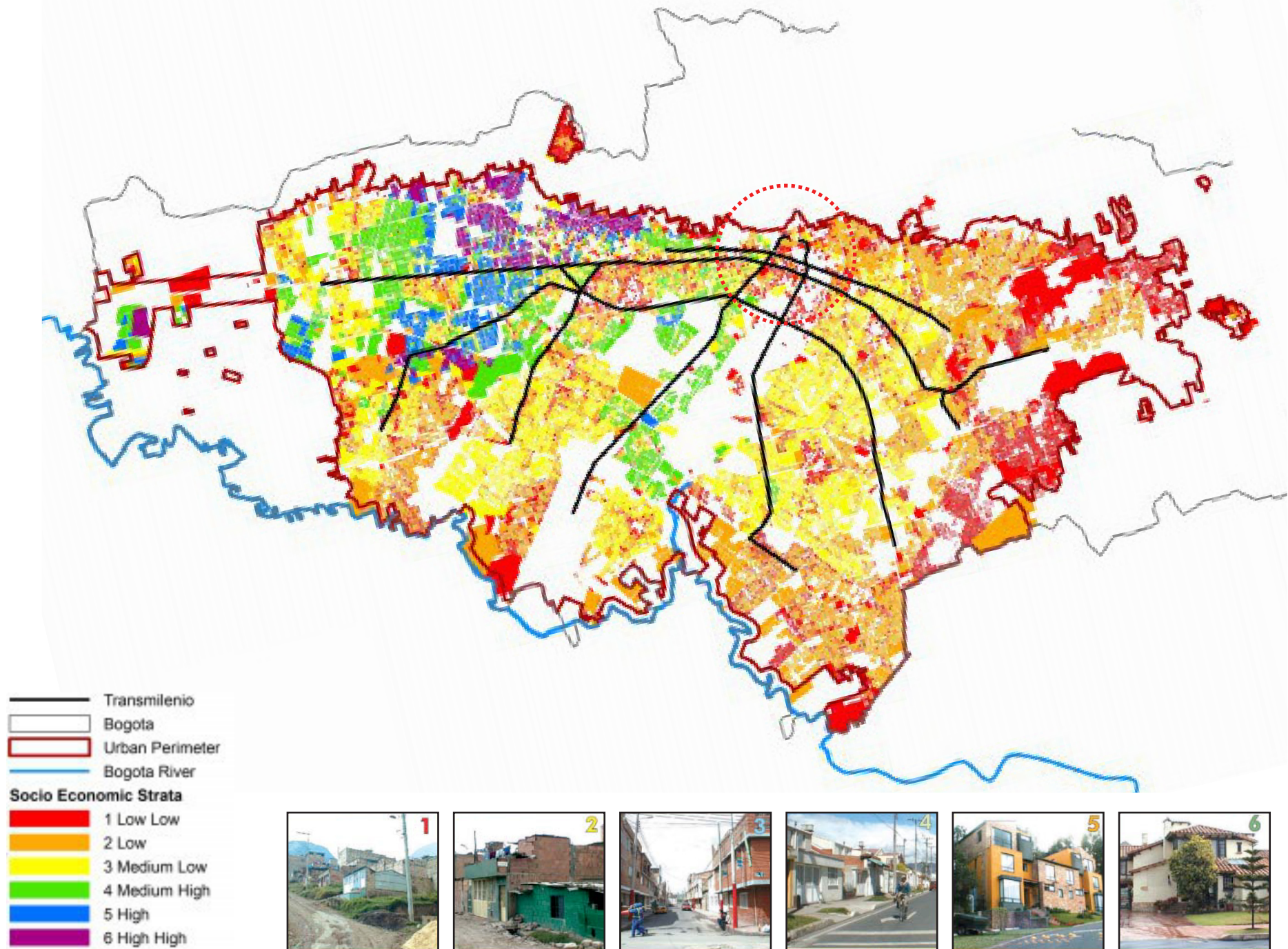
West

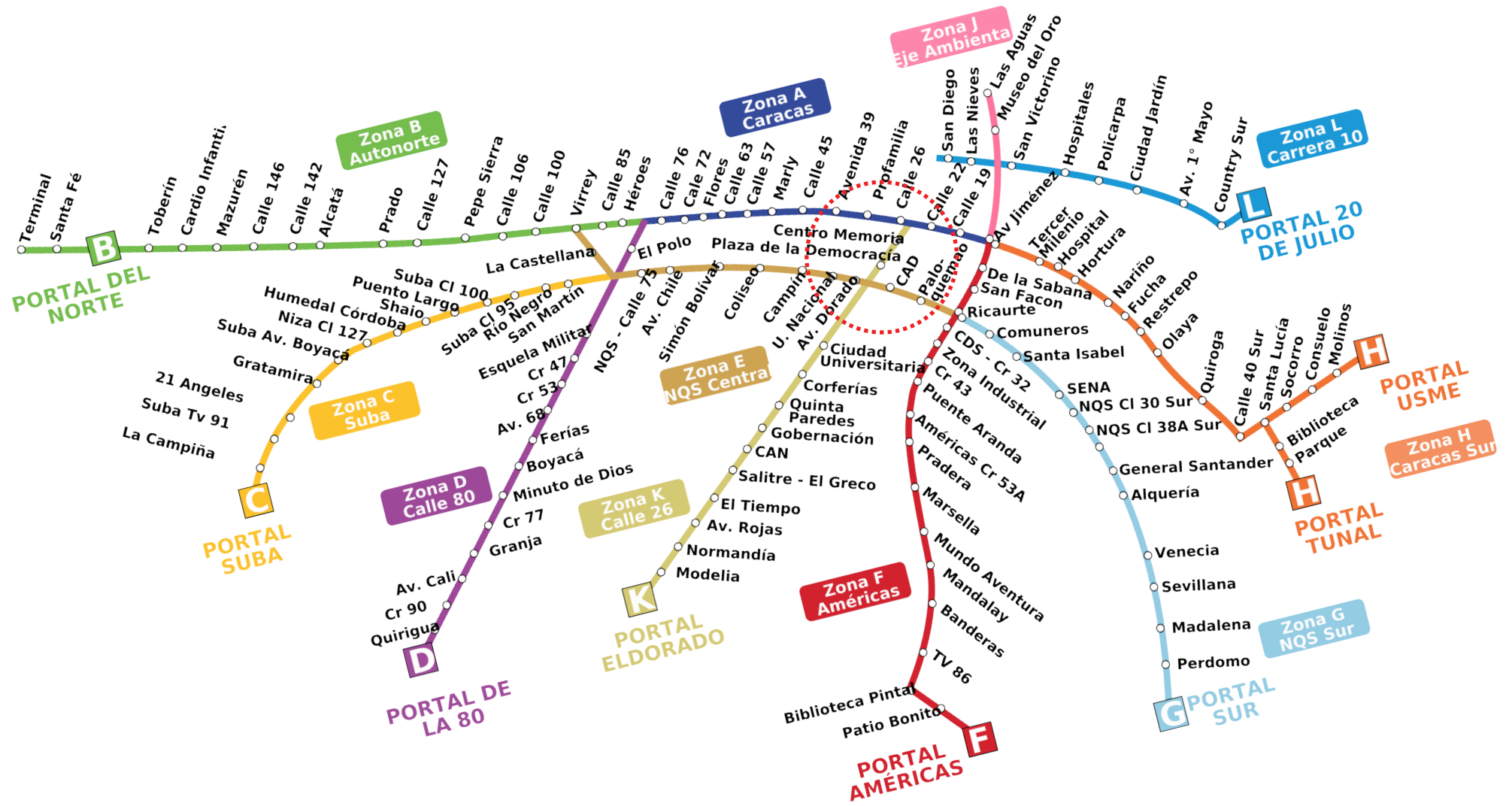


East



## Segregation | Social Stratification





Bogota Transmilenio map



## Segregation | Transportation



Ciclovía



Transmilenio



Metro, 2022-

# Segregation | Architecture in History



Buritaca (Ciudad Perdida) – 800 A.D.



Maloca, Amazon region



Barichara, founded 1705



Capitolio Nacional – Thomas Reed, 1876 – 1926

Before 1500: Pre-Colombian

1500 -1810: Colonial

1810 -1890: Republican



Palacio España, Bogotá – 1926



Seguros Bolívar, Bogotá – Cuéllar Serrano Gómez, 1956

1890 -1930: Neo-Colonial

1930 -1960: Modernist



Residencias El Polo, Bogotá – Guillermo Bermúdez and Rogelio Salmona, 1958

1960 -1990: Salmona Era



## Segregation | Architecture Nowadays



1 | 1610: Saint James Monastery  
2 | 1874: National Museum of Colombia  
3 | 1883: Centennial Park

4 | 1910: Independence Park  
5 | 1950: Extension of 10th Avenue  
6 | 1965: Bavaria Complex

7 | 1970: Independence Park Housing Project  
8 | 1982: International Center





Torres Atrio, 2019  
Richard Rogers, Giancarlo Mazzanti

Bogota, what a segregated city...

What can be an alternative design strategy that results in more punctual architectural interventions?

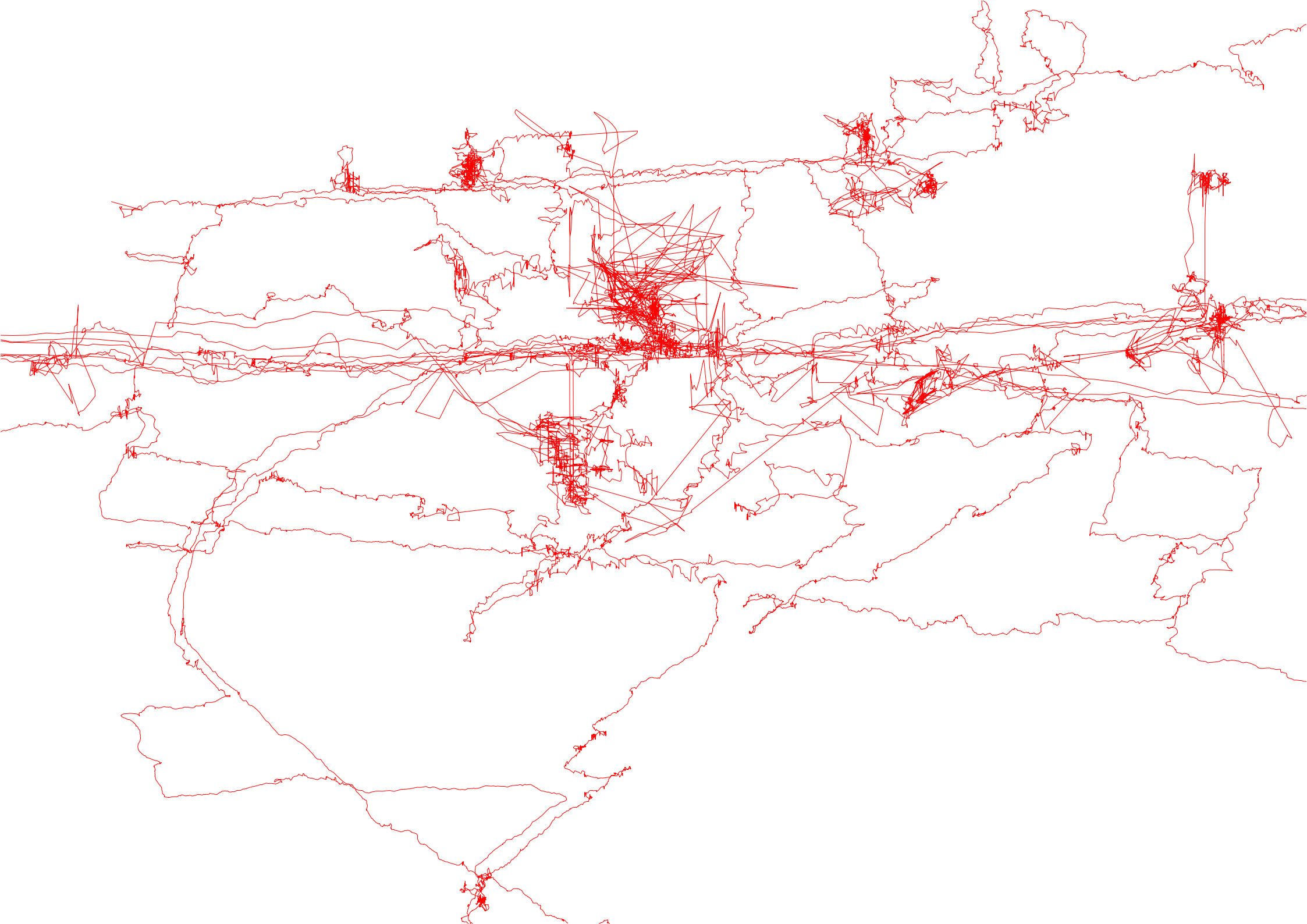




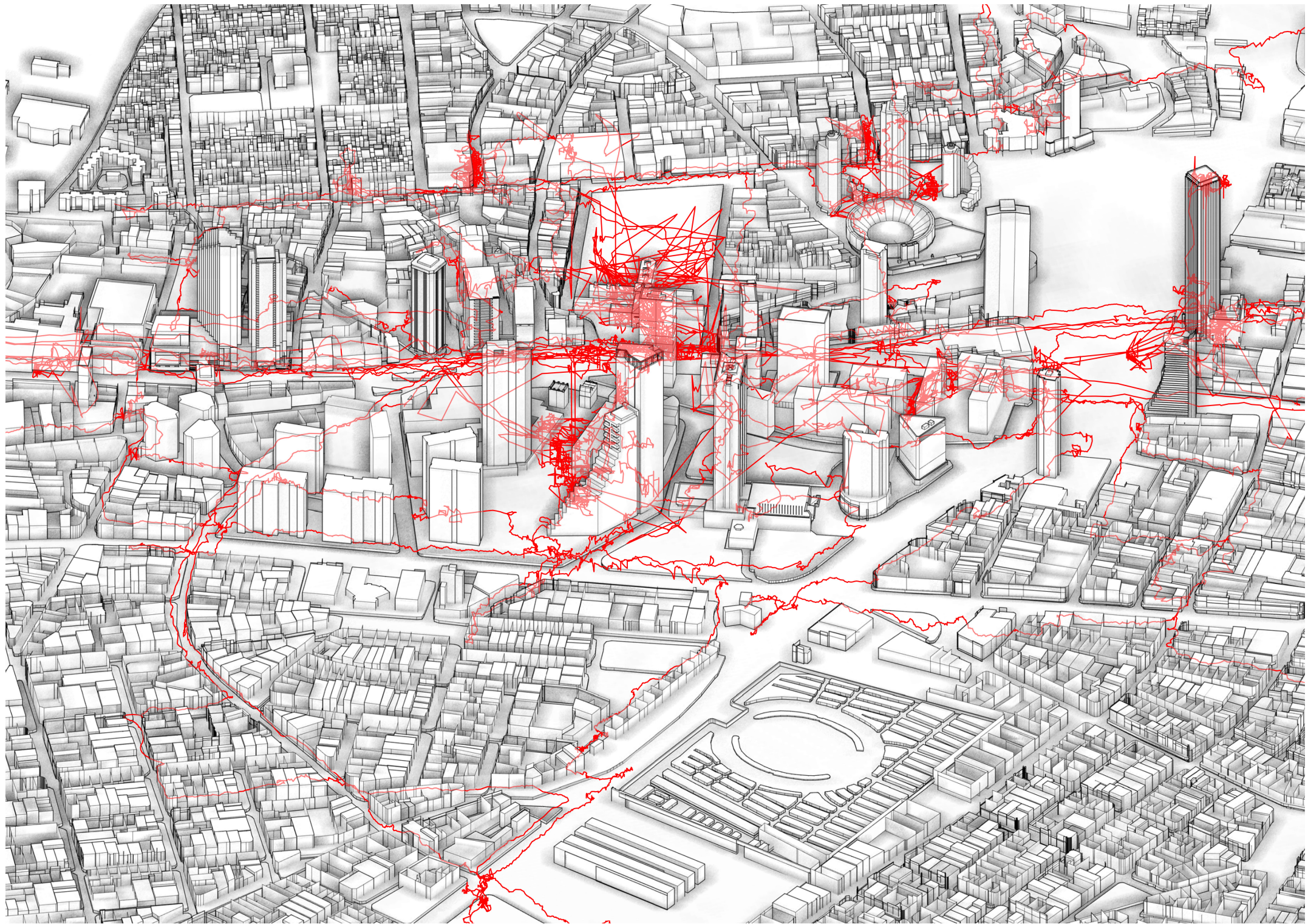
## Problem | Mismatch

Dérive in the City  
Problem Statement  
Research Question

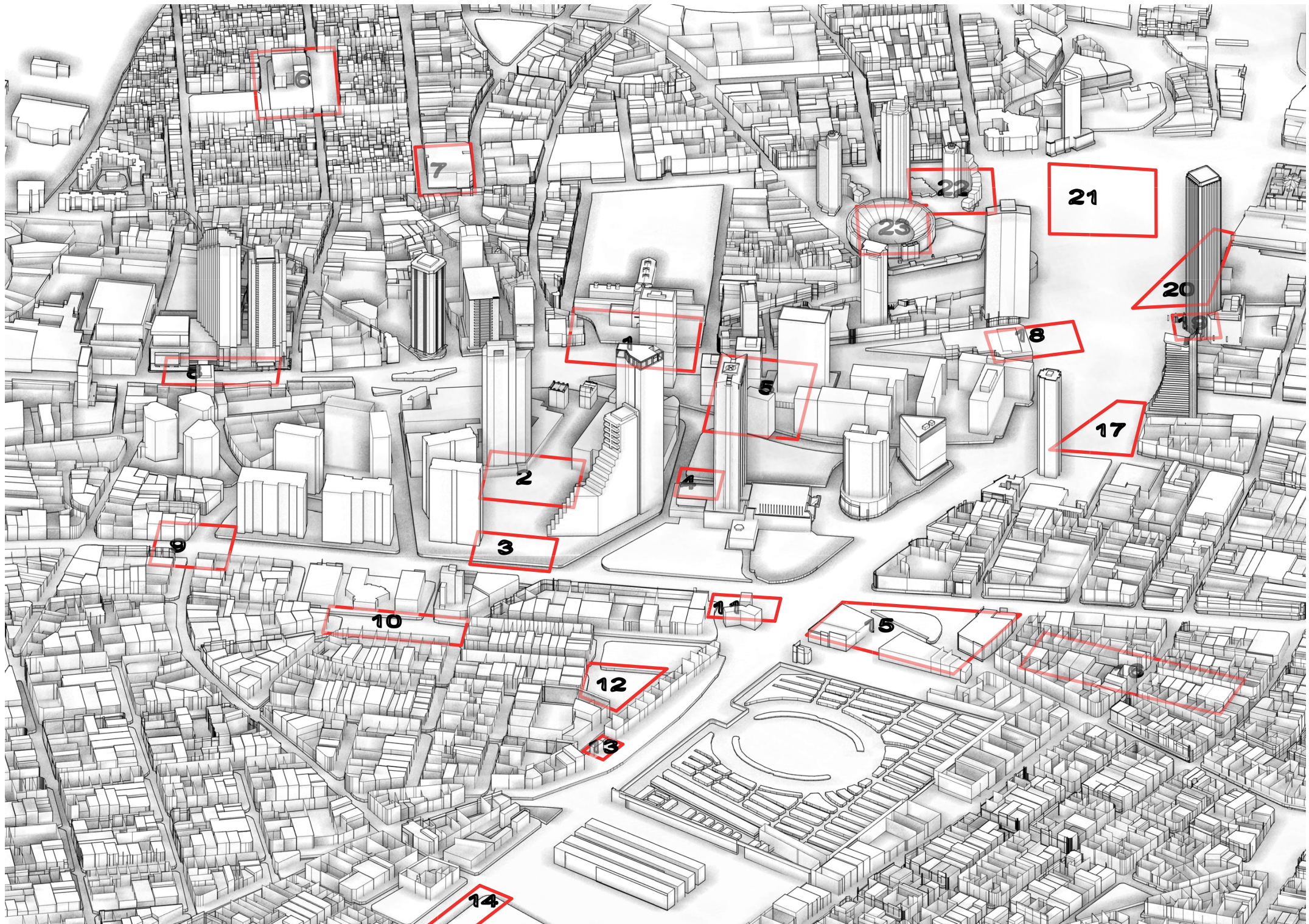








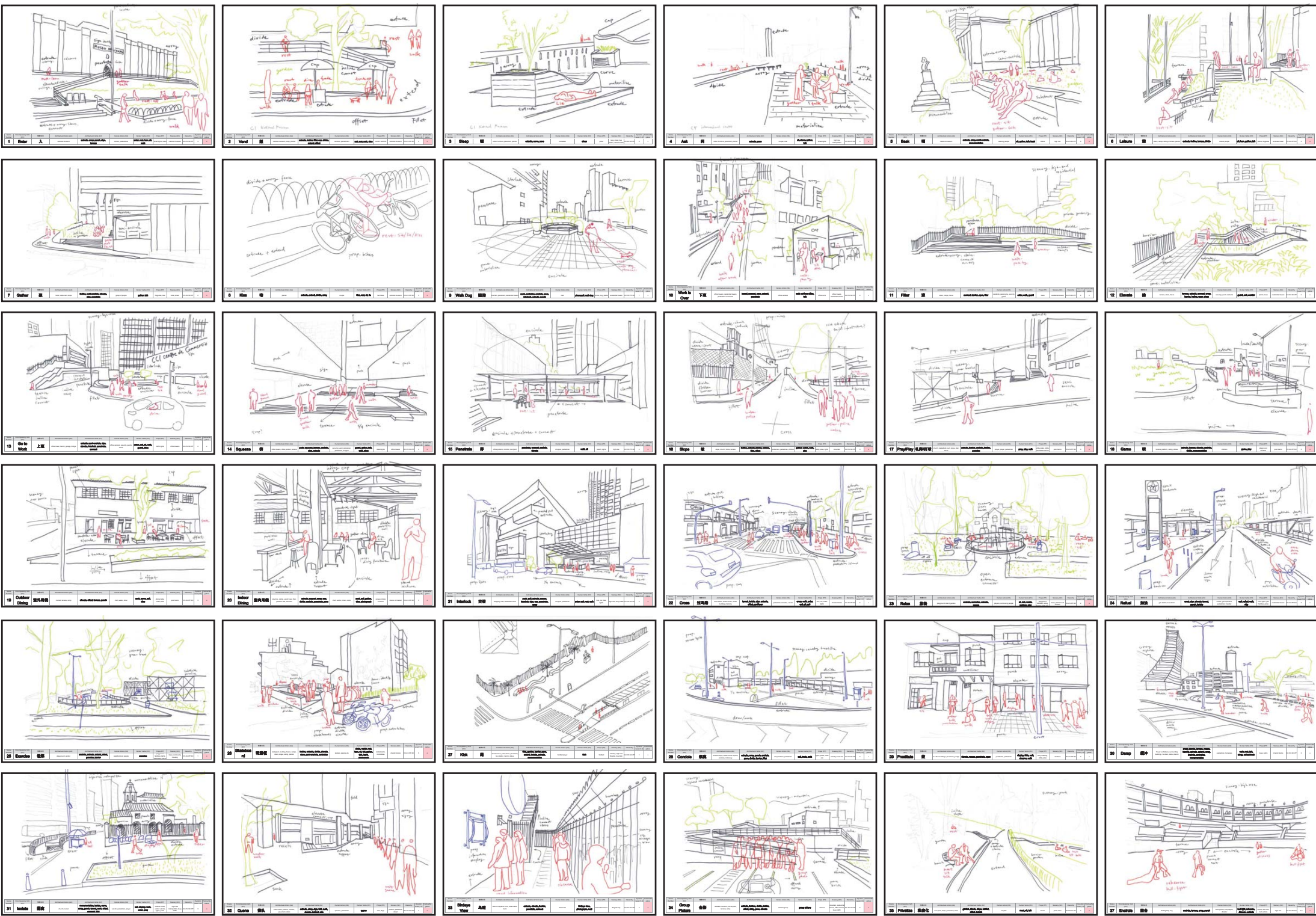




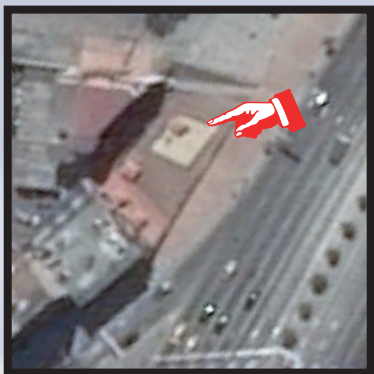






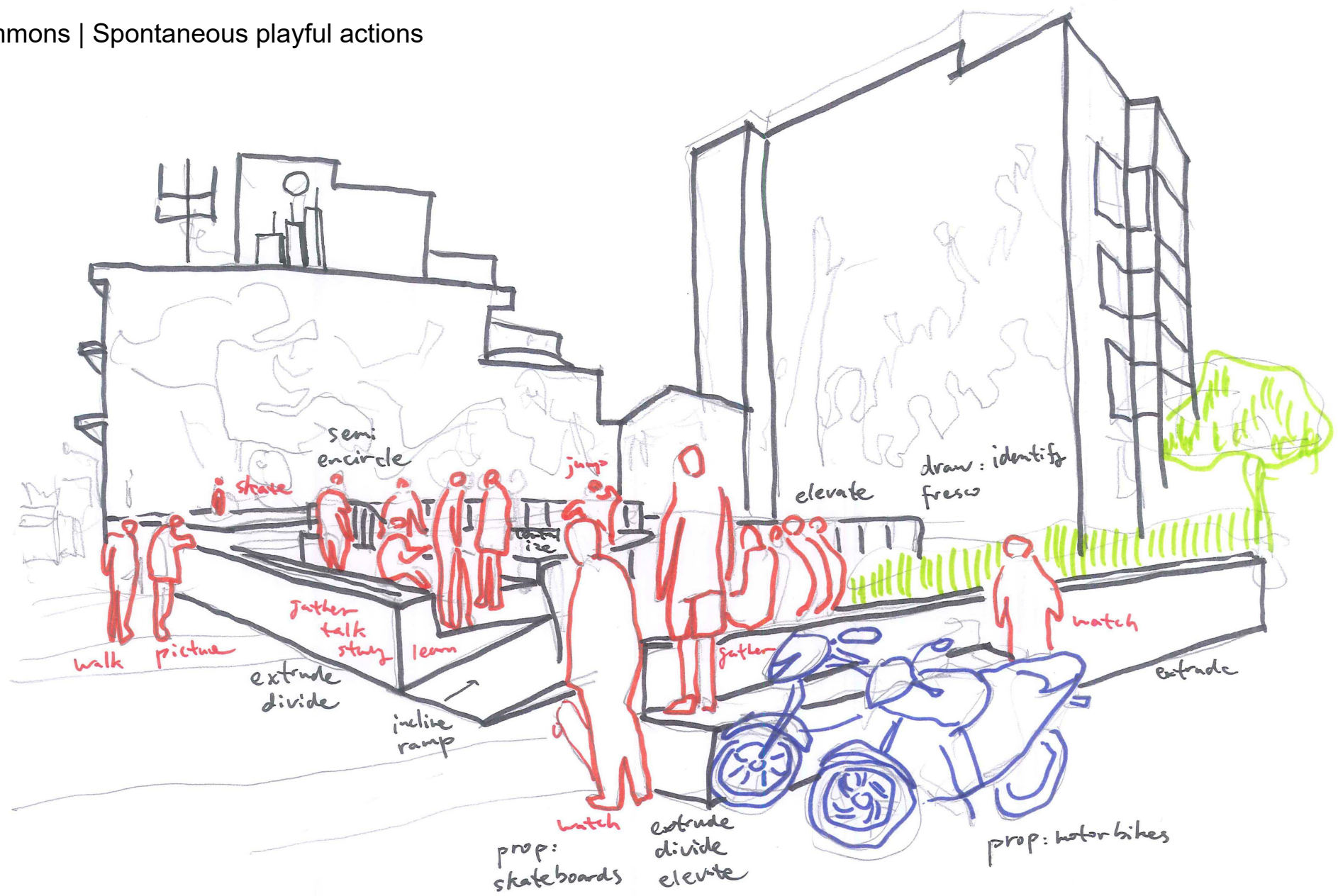








Strong Commons | Spontaneous playful actions



Scene Number	Encompassing Verb (EV)	情景动词	Architectural Actors (AA)	Architectural Verbs (AV)	Human Actors (HA)	Human Verbs (HV)	Props (PP)	Scenery (SC)	Hierarchy	Dynamic Level (1-5)	Positive/Negative
26	Skateboard	玩滑板	skatepark, building, fresco, ramps, stairs, stage, railing, planter	incline, extrude, divide, elevate, draw, semi-encircle, centralize	skaters, passing-by	skate, watch, rest, lean, sit, fall, gather, talk, learn, photograph	skateboards, motorbikes	chaotic blocks	HV-AV-PP-SC	5	o







Commons | Mechanical playful actions

scene: green trees

divide

subdivide panelize

rest circle

exercise

divide circle

extrude

offset

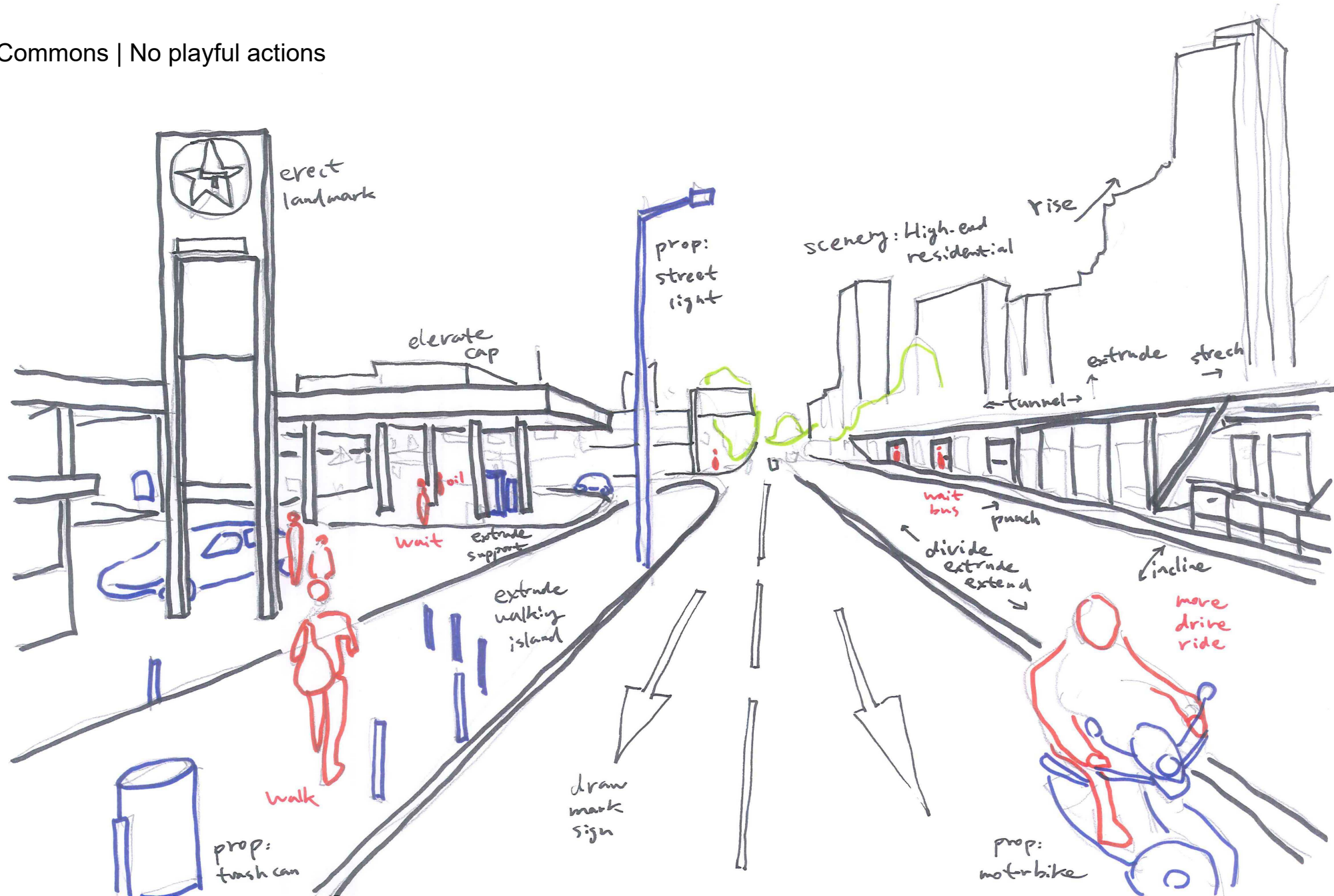
extend

021



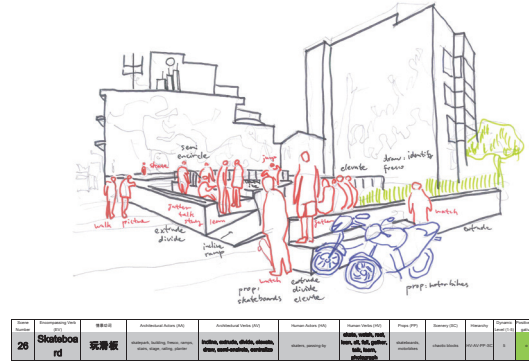


Weak Commons | No playful actions



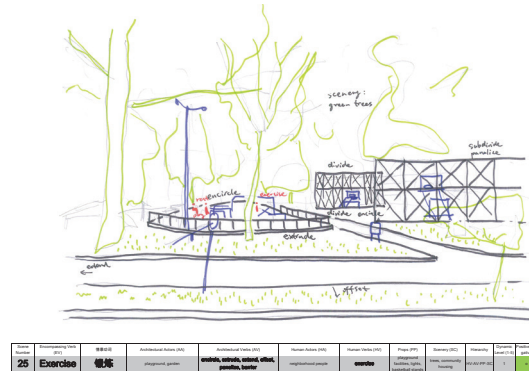
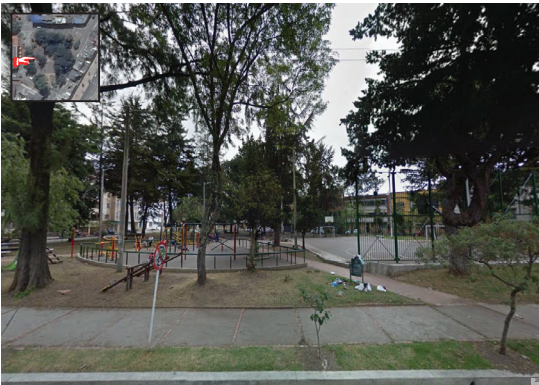
Scene Number	Encompassing Verb (EV)	情景动词	Architectural Actors (AA)	Architectural Verbs (AV)	Human Actors (HA)	Human Verbs (HV)	Props (PP)	Scenery (SC)	Hierarchy	Dynamic Level (1-5)	Positive/Negative
24	Refuel	加油	gas station, bus station	erect, sign, elevate, tunnel, punch, isolate	drivers, gas operators, pedestrian, traveller	wait, refuel, walk, ride	cars, lights, gas facilities, poles	residential towers	HV-AV-PP-SC	3	x

## Summary | 3 Types of Commons



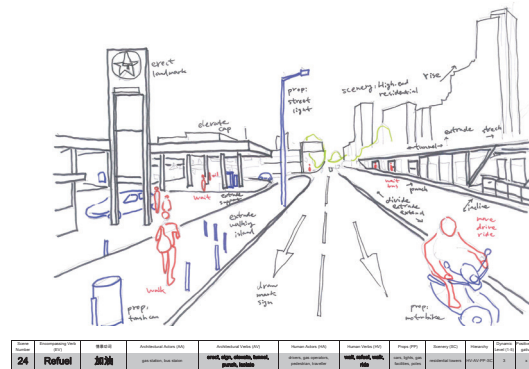
a. Strong Commons | Spontaneous playful actions

Architectural and urban actors stimulate spontaneous playful actions performed by human actors, thus the spaces and social activities are intertwined with each other that a playful commonality is established.



### b. Normal Commons | Mechanical playful actions

In normal urban parks there are some playground equipments, and they do bring some playful actions, however the players have to follow the mechanical function of the equipments.



### c. Weak Commons | No playful actions

Spatial Quality is too poor to bring people together, let along stimulating playful actions.

Rapid development has claimed a lot of public spaces from the city, consequently the rest public spaces have become fragmental leftovers. Many of them remain boring, chaotic, hidden, negative spaces where few people would go; the “commons” become weak.



## Problem Statement

There is a mismatch between spontaneous “playful actions” in Bogota citizens’ daily lives and the poor boring leftover public spaces.

## Research Question

How to construct the commons with the power of play?

How to reactivate the leftover public spaces in central Bogota by architectural interventions that stimulate playful actions?

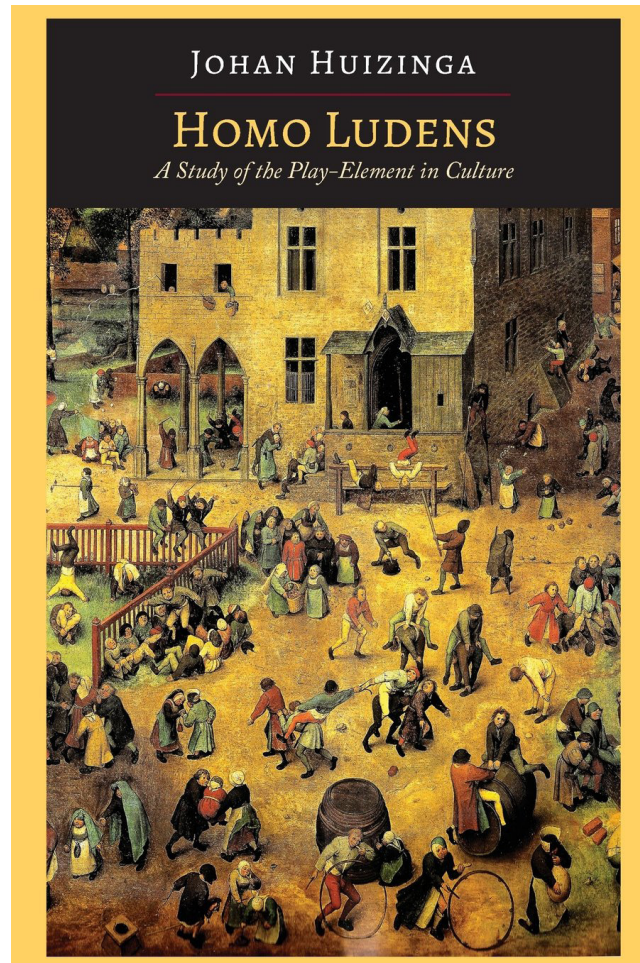




## Implantation | “Playful Abstraction”

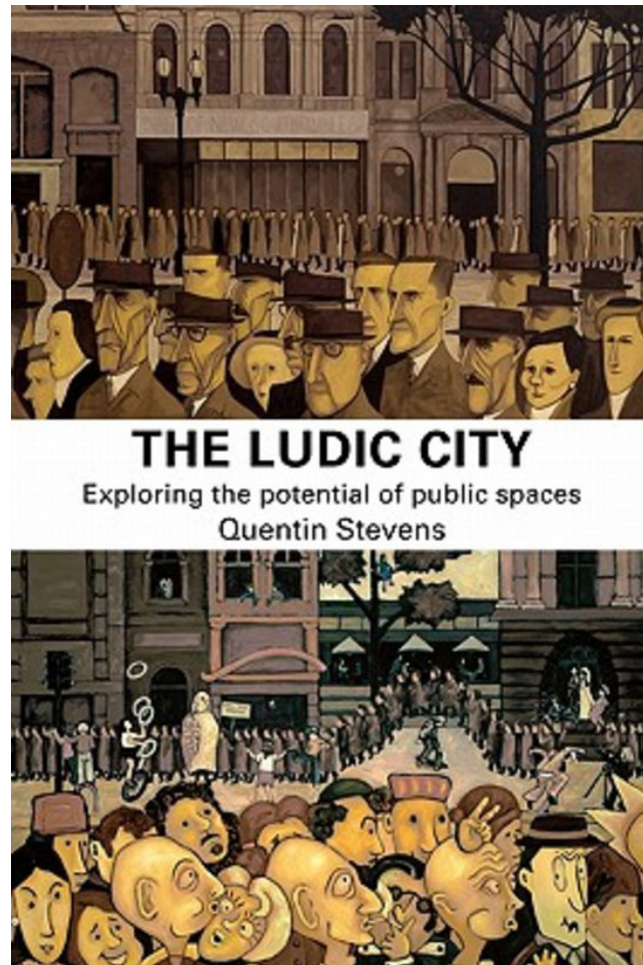
Theoretical Reference  
Playfulness and Abstraction  
“Playful Abstraction” as a Commonality  
Simplicity and Implicity of Ground Surface  
Architectural Position





“Play” might be the origin of many aspects in human culture, such as law, war, knowledge, poetry, art, etc. Johan Huizinga emphasizes the importance of play element in human culture by naming the human species “Homo Ludens” (man the player) instead of “Homo Sapiens” (wise man) or “Homo Faber” (man the maker).

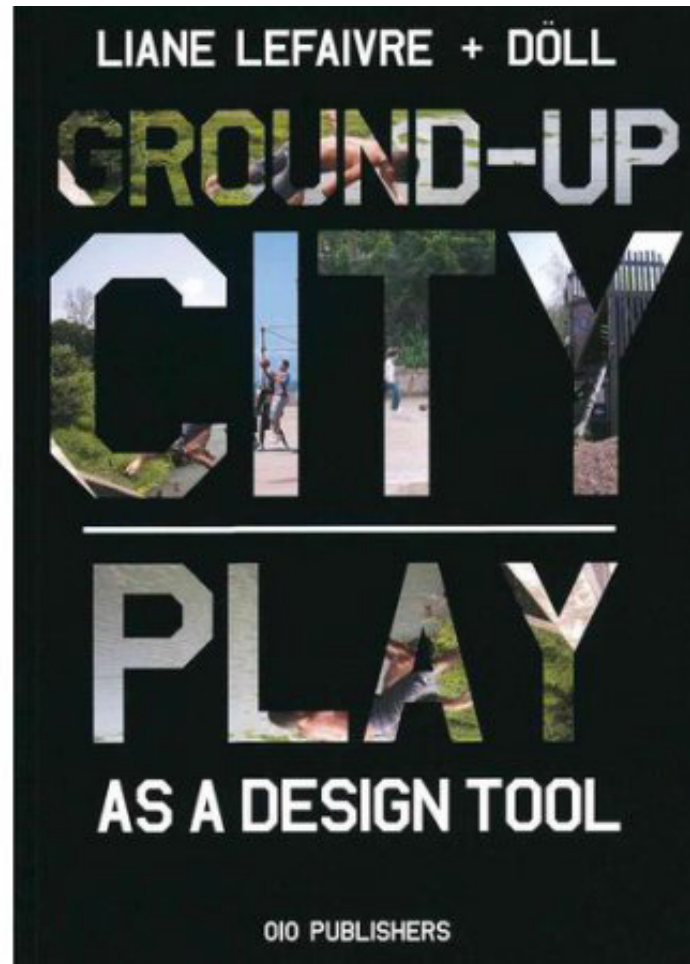




“Play is an important but largely neglected aspect of people’s experience of urban society and urban space...Play reveals the potentials that public spaces offer.”

Quentin Stevens describes the play activity as :

- non-instrumental,
- unpredictable/contingent,
- controversial expenditures of time and energy
- an escape from instrumental social relationships/everyday serious routine



- P - Polycentric**, playgrounds become a network system instead of a single big one;
- I - Interstitial**, playgrounds fit into leftover/in-between spaces instead of cleared area;
- P - Participatory**, playgrounds result from dialogue with users of a particular site.



## Theoretical Reference | “Leaf-tree/house-city diagram”, Aldo van Eyck



The relationship between an individual and the bigger system it belongs to should be like leaf and tree:  
“tree is leaf and leaf is tree / a tree is a tree but it is also a huge leaf / a leaf is a leaf but it is also a tiny tree”.



- In-Between, “Ich und du”, design as means for creating relations between people rather than as goals in itself;
- Site specific/Path-based design, design has to respond to unique situations, to improvise;
- Surface intervention like the snow: when snow falls, the city is taken over by children and becomes a big playground.





What makes a difference between Aldo van Eyck's playgrounds and "normal" ones?

## Playfulness and Abstraction | Comparison

Aldo van Eyck's Playground



First Search Result of  
"Playground" on Google



Abstract  
Modest Simplicity & Elegance  
Care about ground surface  
Spontaneously Suggest playful actions  
Site specific  
Include different users and activities  
Strong Commons

- Representational
- Excessive ingredients
- Obsessed in objects
- Mechanically Define playful actions
- Detached from context
- Exclude other users and activities
- Weak Commons



## “Playful Abstraction” as a Commonality

“Playful Abstraction” is an abstract realm drawn away from practical matters and representational qualities, in which people share as a common resource to engage rejoicing themselves.

### Play (v.)

Old English | **plegan, plegian**

“move rapidly, occupy or busy oneself, exercise; frolic; make sport of, mock; perform music,”

West Germanic | **plegan**

“occupy oneself about”

Old Saxon | **plegan**

“vouch for, take charge of,”

Old Frisian | **plega**

“tend to,”

Middle Dutch | **pleyen**

“to rejoice, be glad,”

German | **pflegen**

“take care of, cultivate”,

Proto-Indo-European root | **dleg-**

“to engage oneself,”

### Abstract (adj.)

Latin **abstractus**

“drawn away,”

Latin past participle of **abstrahere**

“to drag away, detach, pull away, divert;”

also figuratively, from assimilated form of **ab** “off, away from” (see ab-) + **trahere** “to draw,”

from Proto-Indo-European root **tragh-**

“to draw, drag, move”

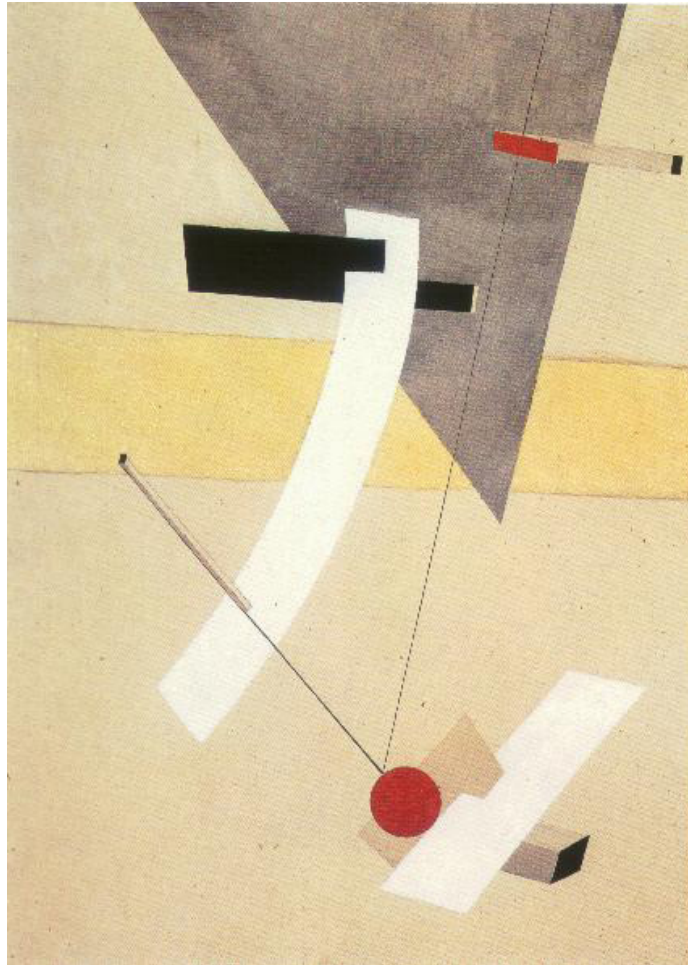
in philosophy,

“withdrawn or separated from material objects or practical matters”

In the fine arts,

“characterized by lack of representational qualities”

## Visual “Playful Abstraction” | Abstract Composition



Point, Curve, Surface Composition

Proun 12E  
El Lissitzky , 1923

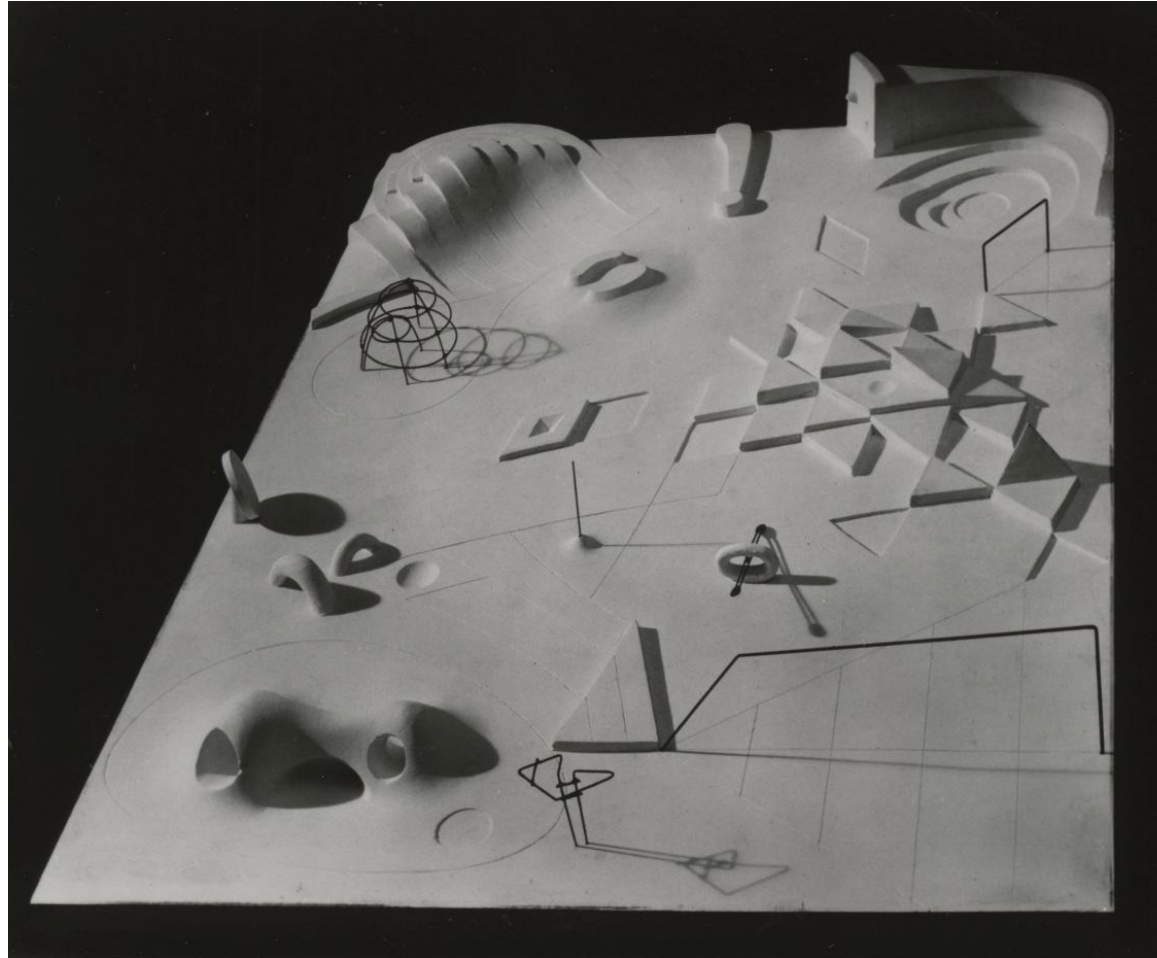




The Vague Edge

Untitled  
Mark Rothko, 1968

## Ground Surface “Playful Abstraction” | Modern Precedents



Geometry Collage and Space in-between

Playground for UN Building, New York  
Isamu Noguchi, 1952



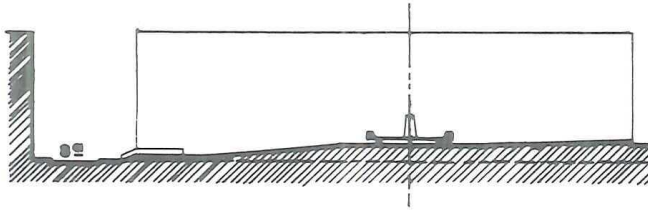
## Ground Surface “Playful Abstraction” | Contemporary Precedents



Undulating Surface

Landhausplatz, Innsbruck, Austria  
LAAC Architekten and Stiefel Kramer Architecture, 2010

## Simplicity and Implicity | Bogota Precedents



Plaza de Bolívar. Foto Scadta, (1930)



Fernando Martínez en la Plaza de Bolívar.



### Folding Surfaces

Plaza de Bolivar in 1930/1960,  
Fernando Martinez



## Simplicity and Implicity | Bogota Precedents



Folding Surfaces / Changing Materials

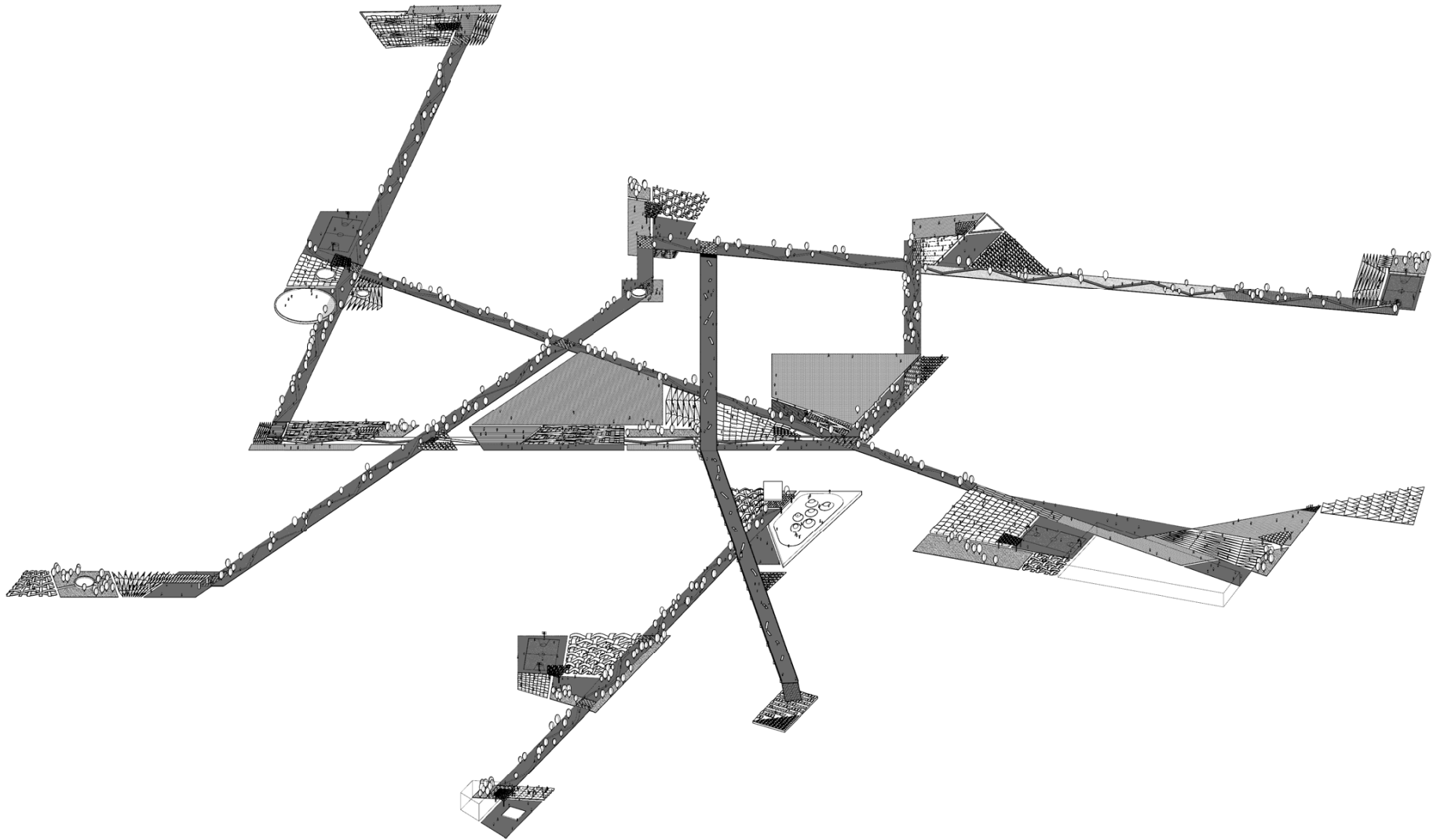
Plaza de San Victorino in 1998/2000,  
Lorenzo Castro

Stimulate playful actions in public spaces by redesigning the ground surface into a constellation of 2.5D architectural compositions.

“2.5D” refers to an abstract composition of the ground surface, including composing different ground materials on the planer dimension (2D), and create minor vertical level difference by sinking, elevating, folding and undulating (0.5D).

These 2.5D compositions are site-specific, meaning each of them should be a unique match with its context. Yet they share a similar architectural language, so that citizens will be able to recongnize that they belong to a polycentric network of playgrounds.





## Configuration | Constellation of Public Spaces

Map Urban Axes  
Locate Interventions  
Pedestrian Connections

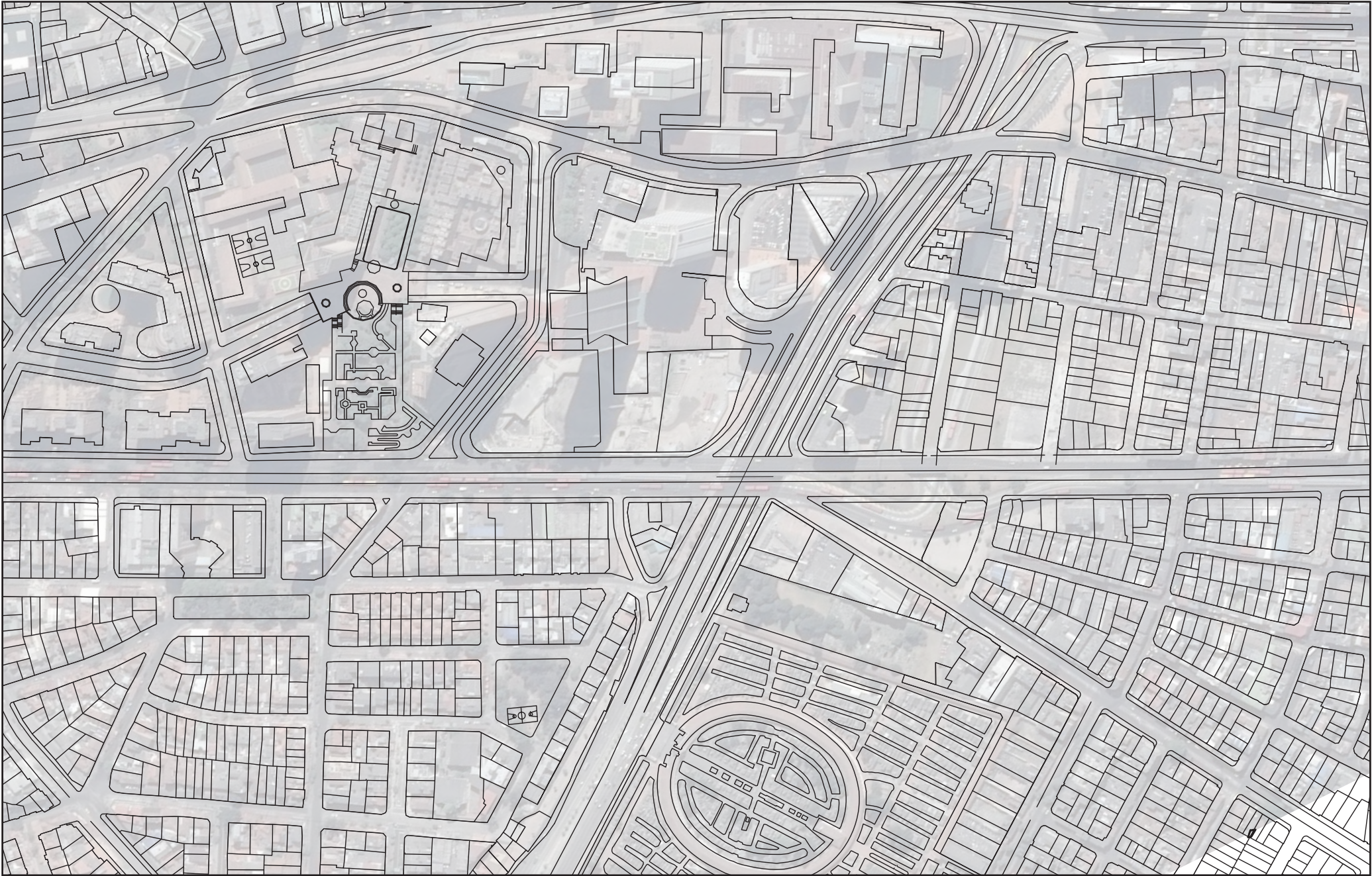


## Map Urban Axes | Topographical Factors





Map Urban Axes | Central Bogota Area





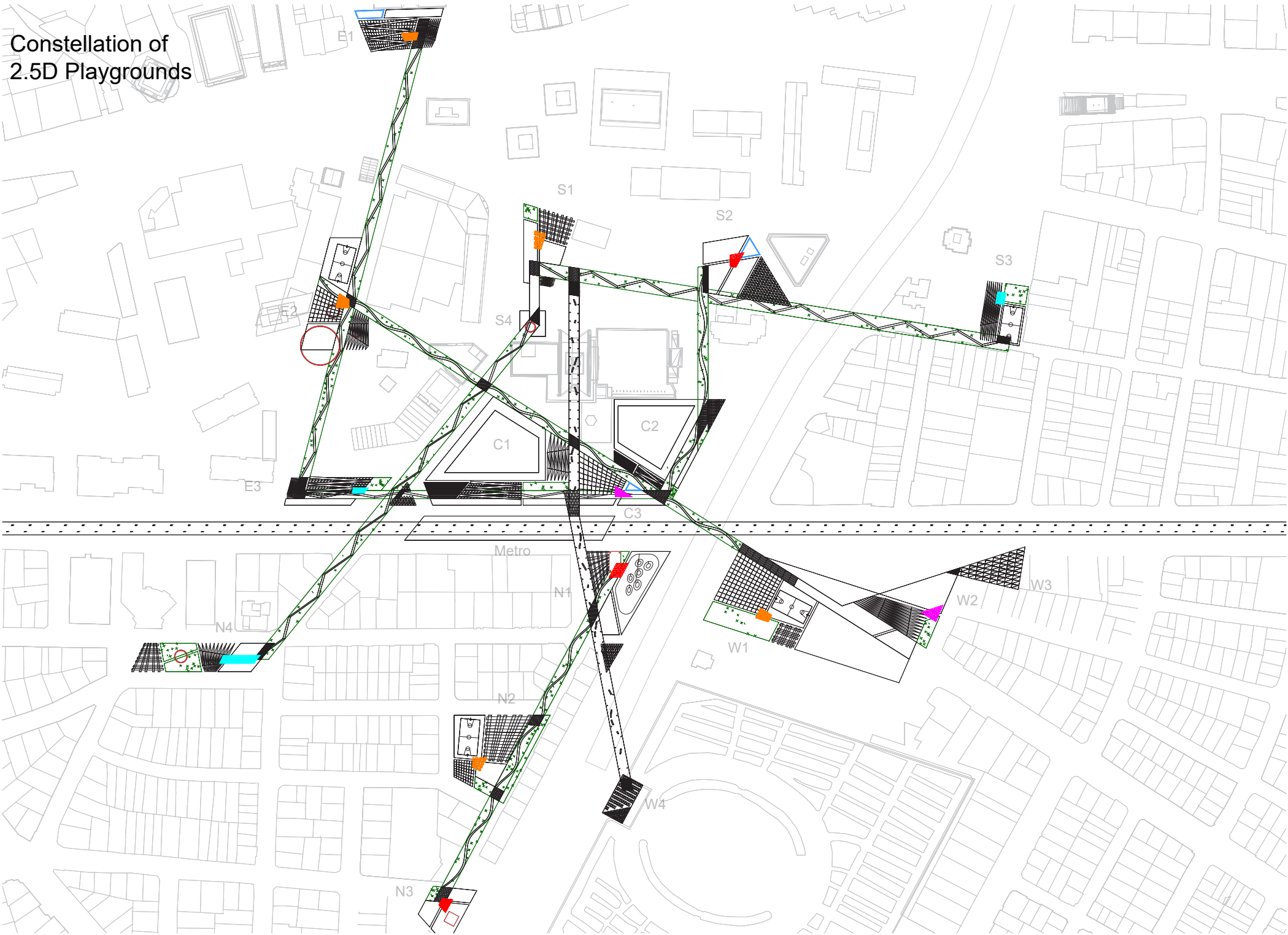




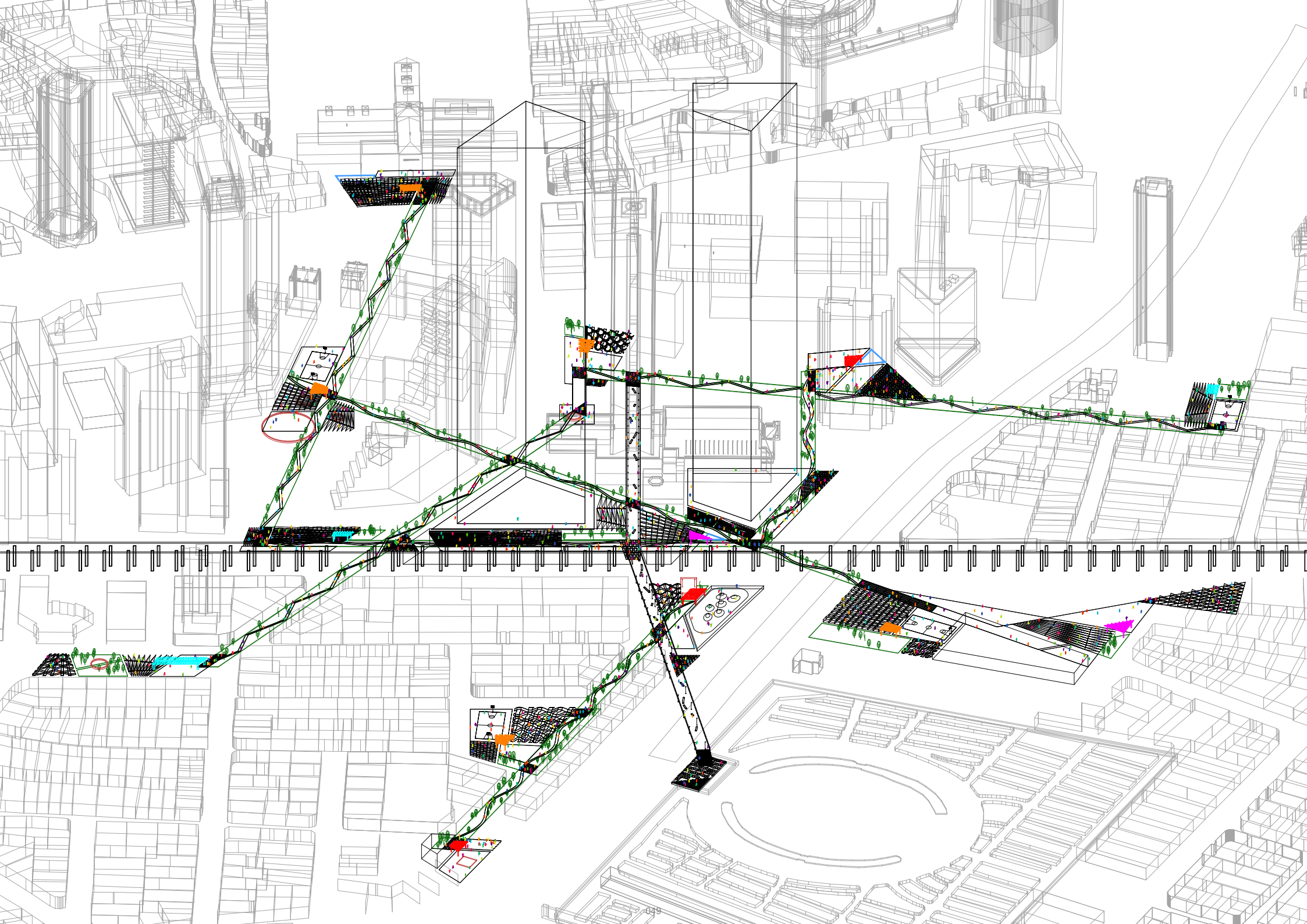
Map Urban Axes | Central Bogota Area



Constellation of  
2.5D Playgrounds







Barrio Armenia



Gas Station

Parque Armenia

Skatepark



Barrio Armenia

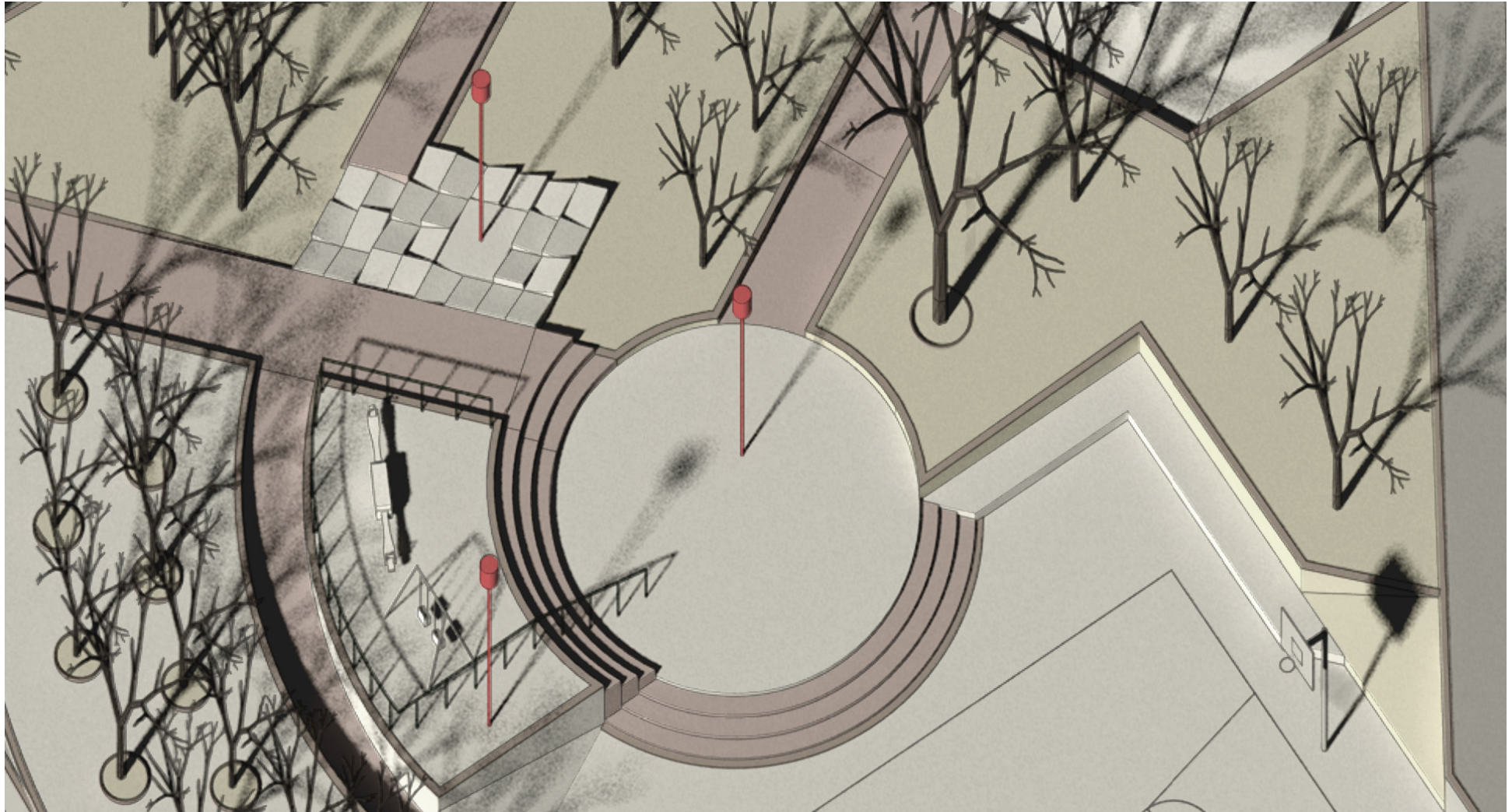
Gas Station

Parque Armenia

Skatepark

However, the “constellation” remains on the urban design strategy level.  
How do the individual playgrounds look like,  
taking the three sites in Barrio Armenia as examples?





## Form | 2.5D Composition

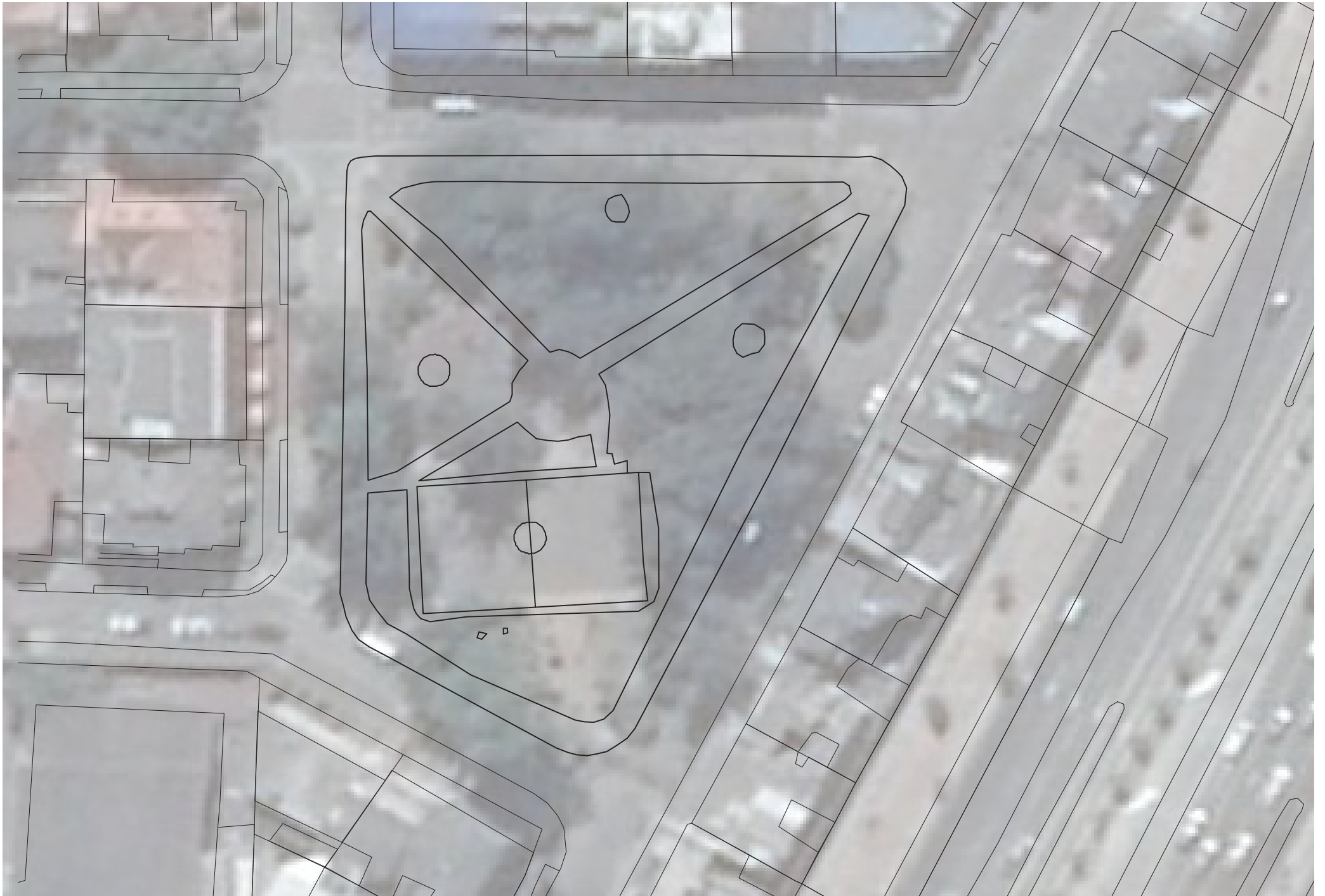
Existing Situation  
Extract Elements  
2D Composition  
2.5D Composition  
Material Composition  
Add-on Playful Surfaces

Parque Armenia

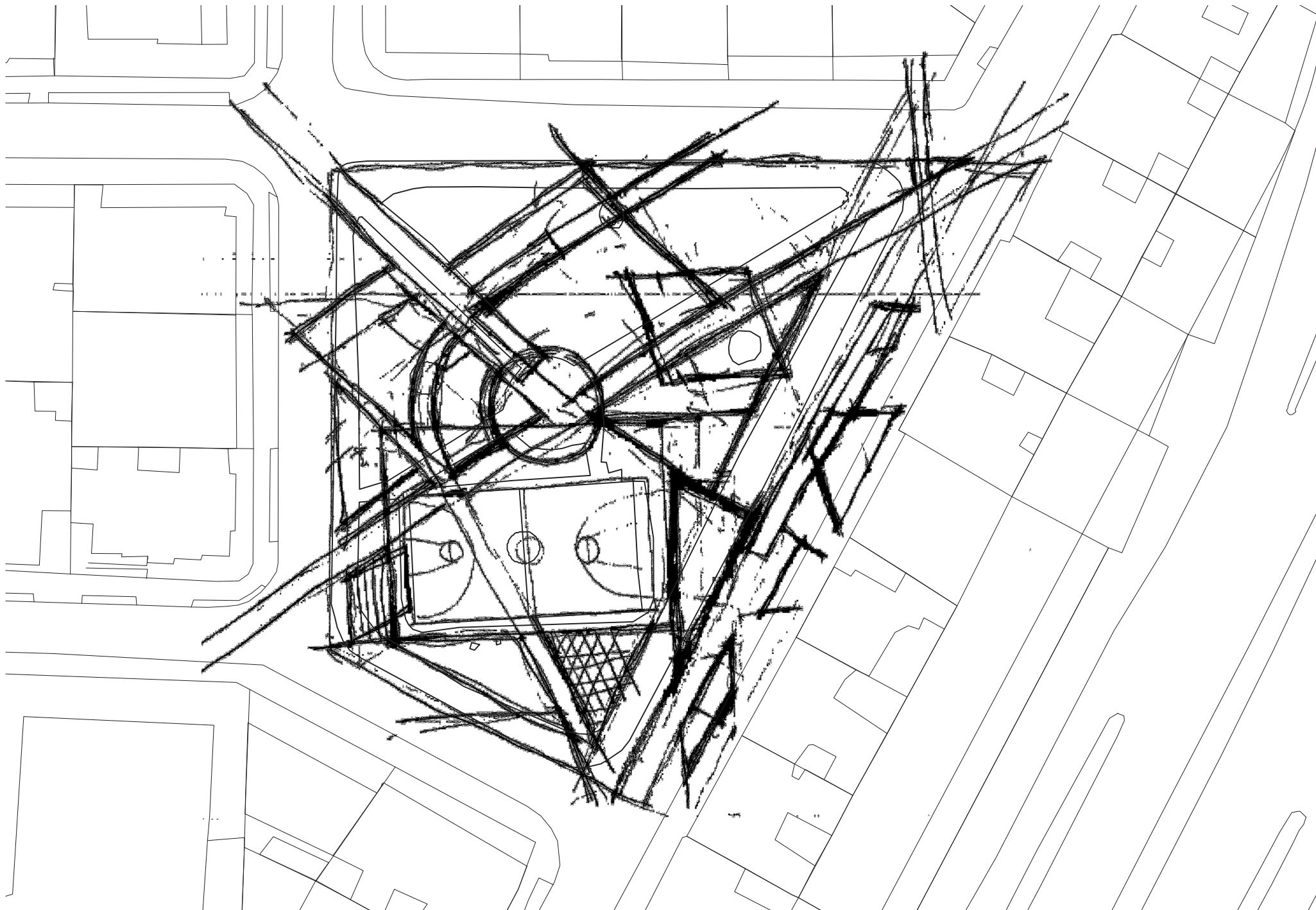


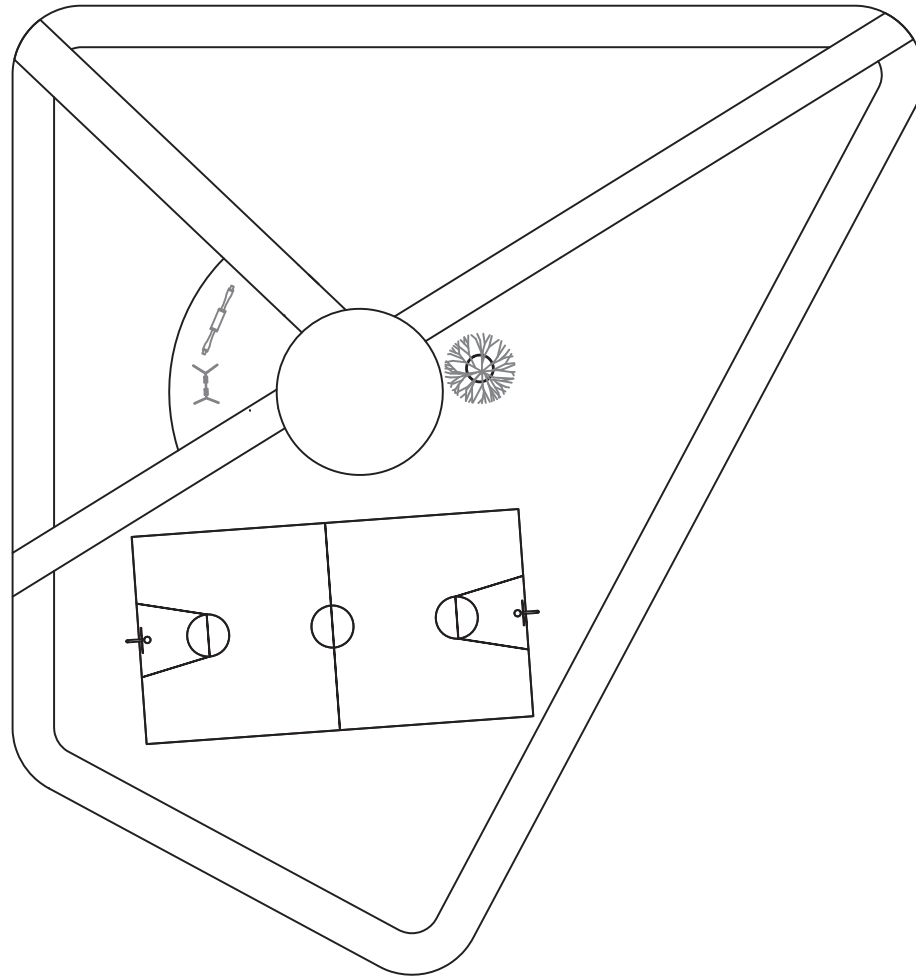
## Parque Armenia | Existing Situation



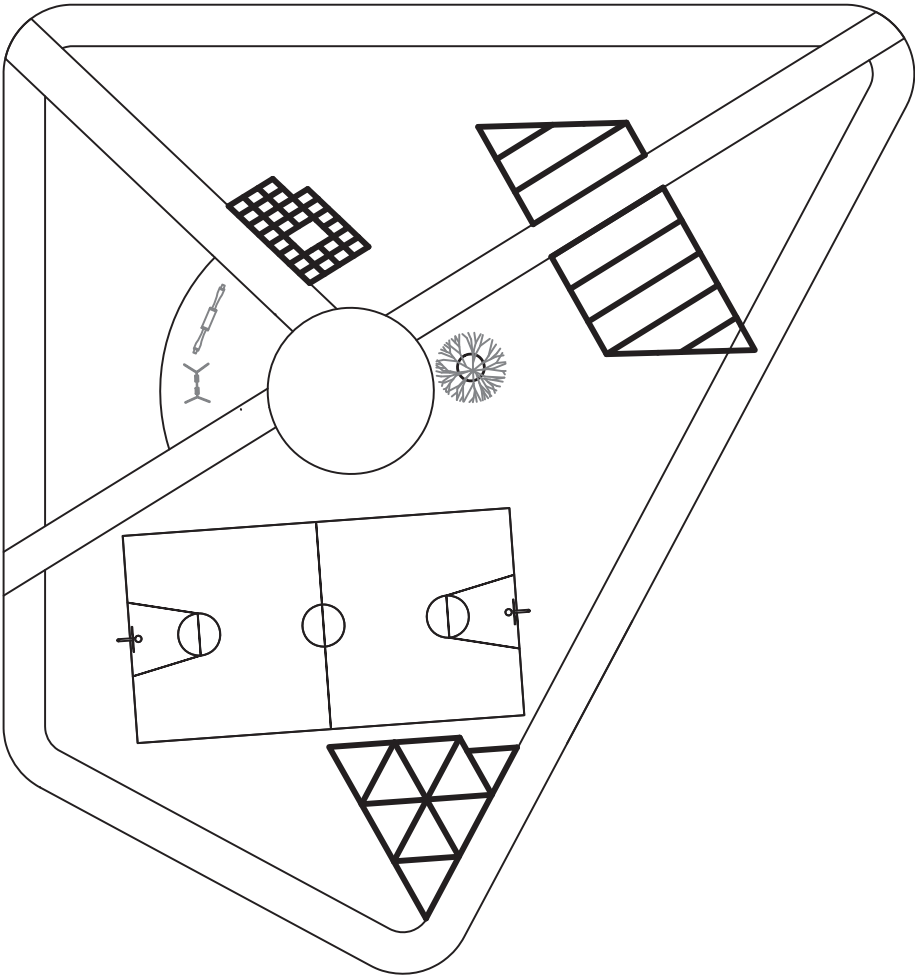


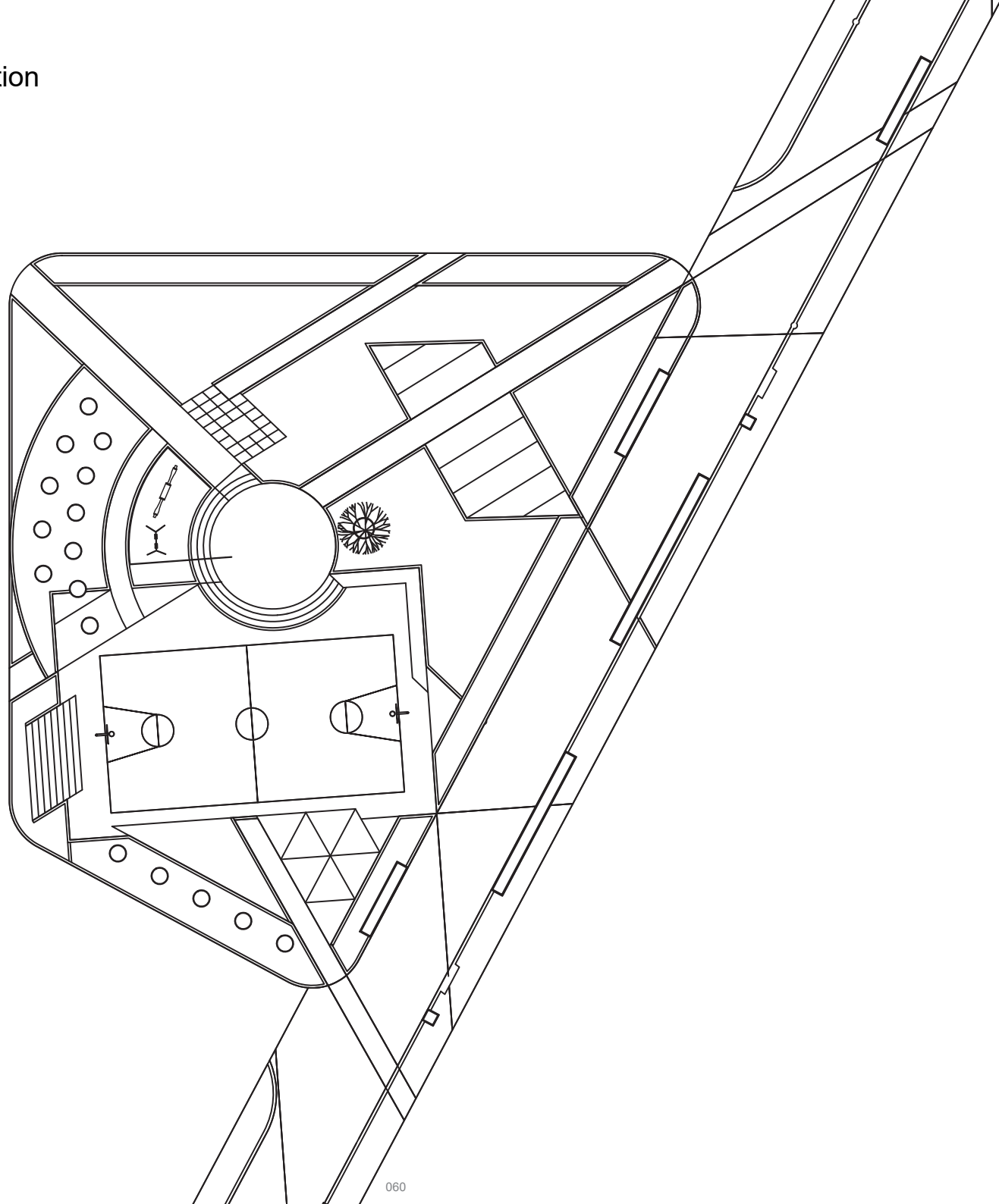








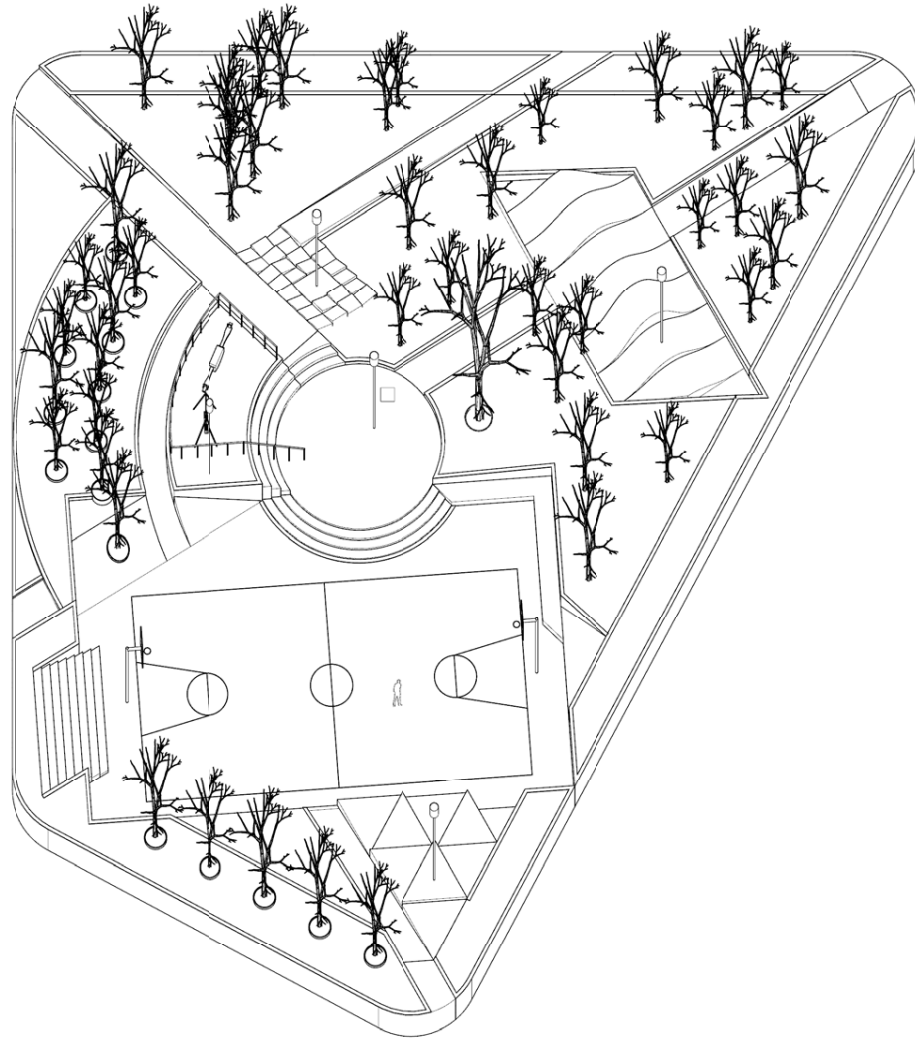






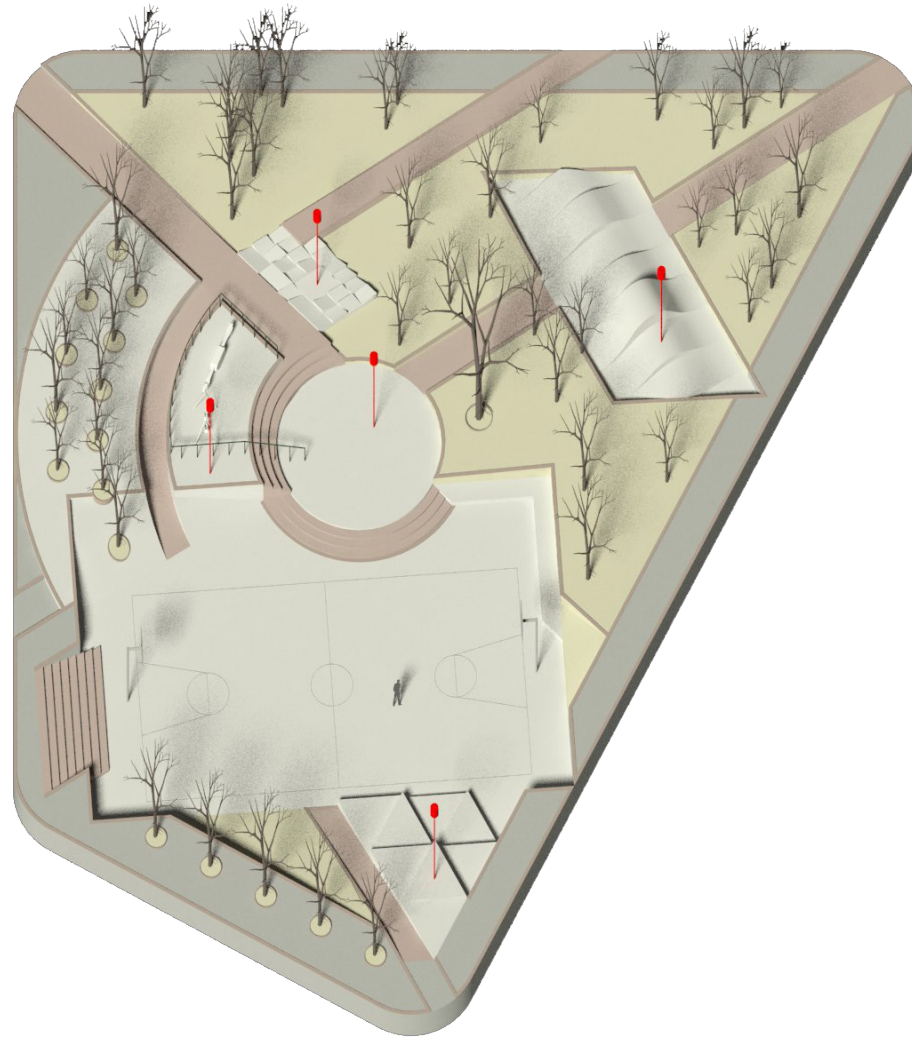


## Parque Armenia | 2.5D Composition

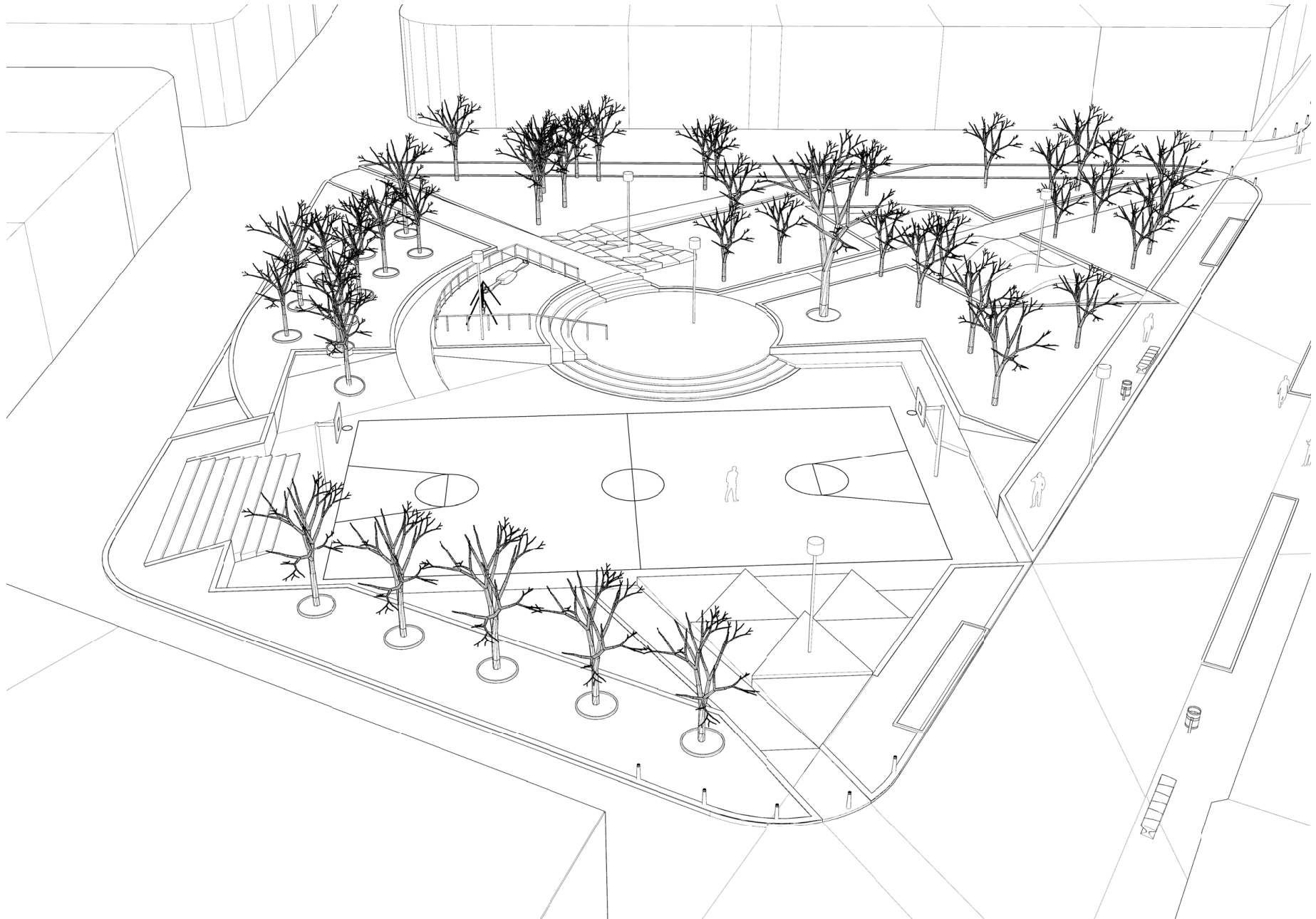




## Parque Armenia | Material Composition

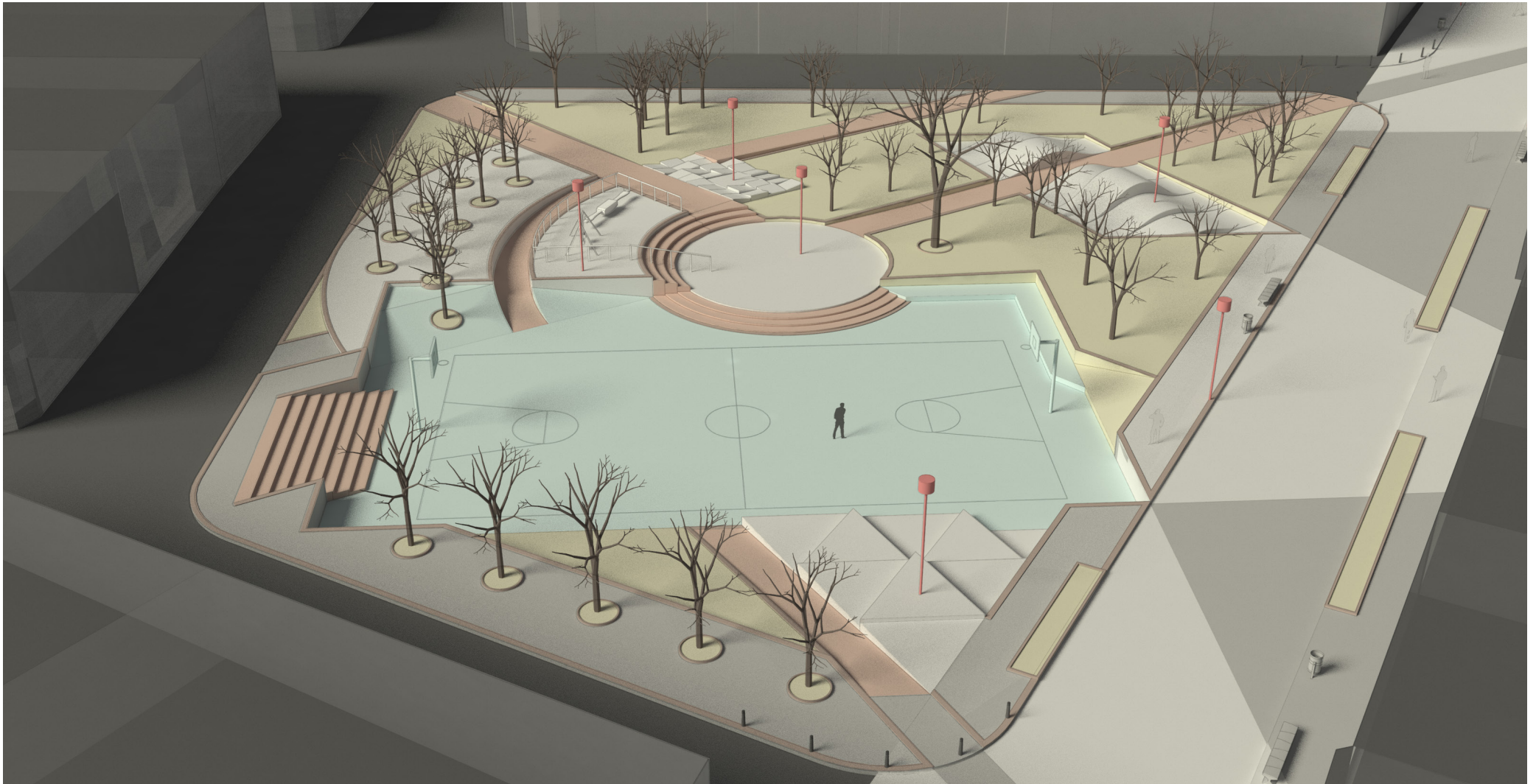


## Parque Armenia | 2.5D Composition





## Parque Armenia | Material Composition



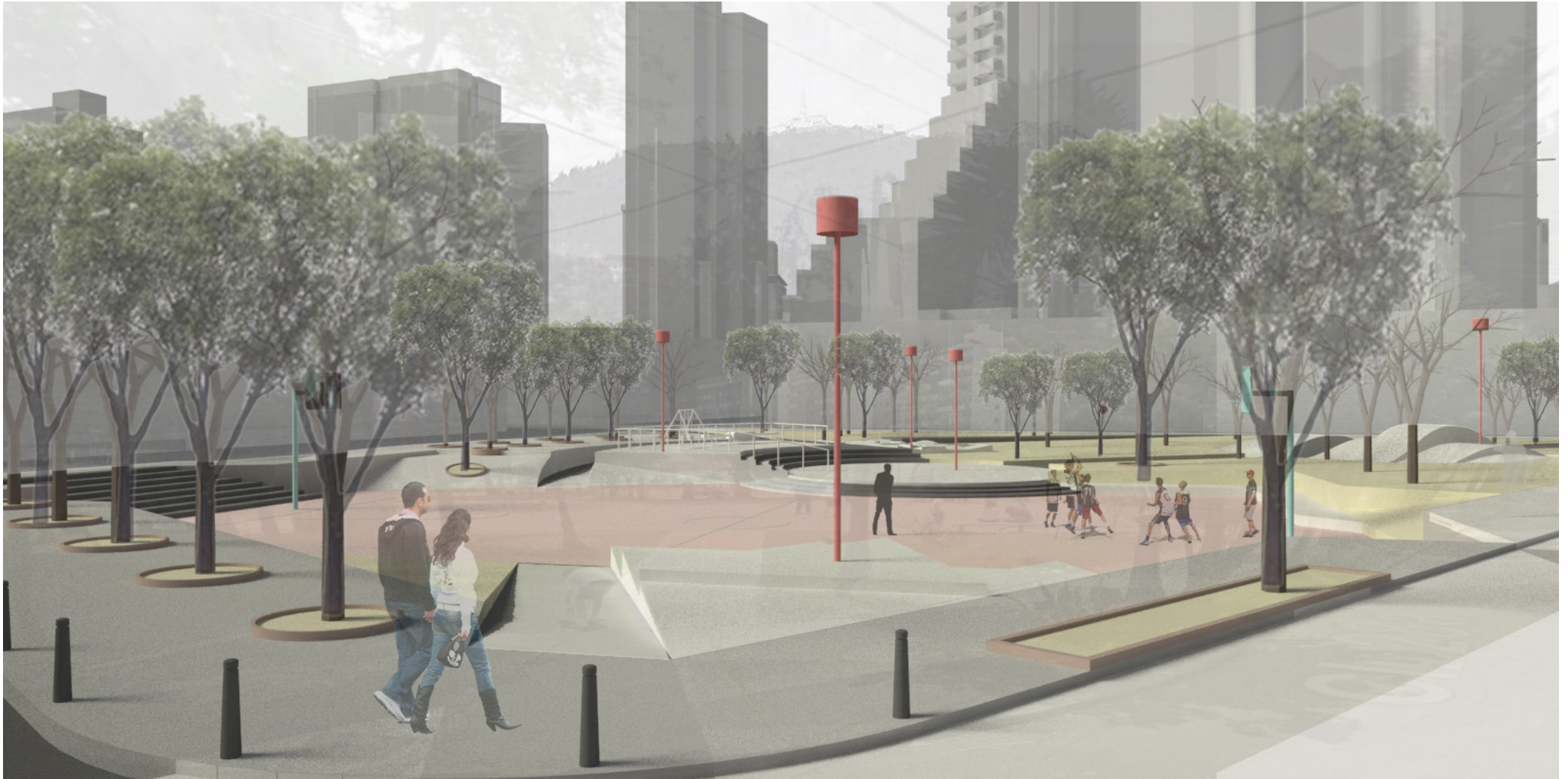


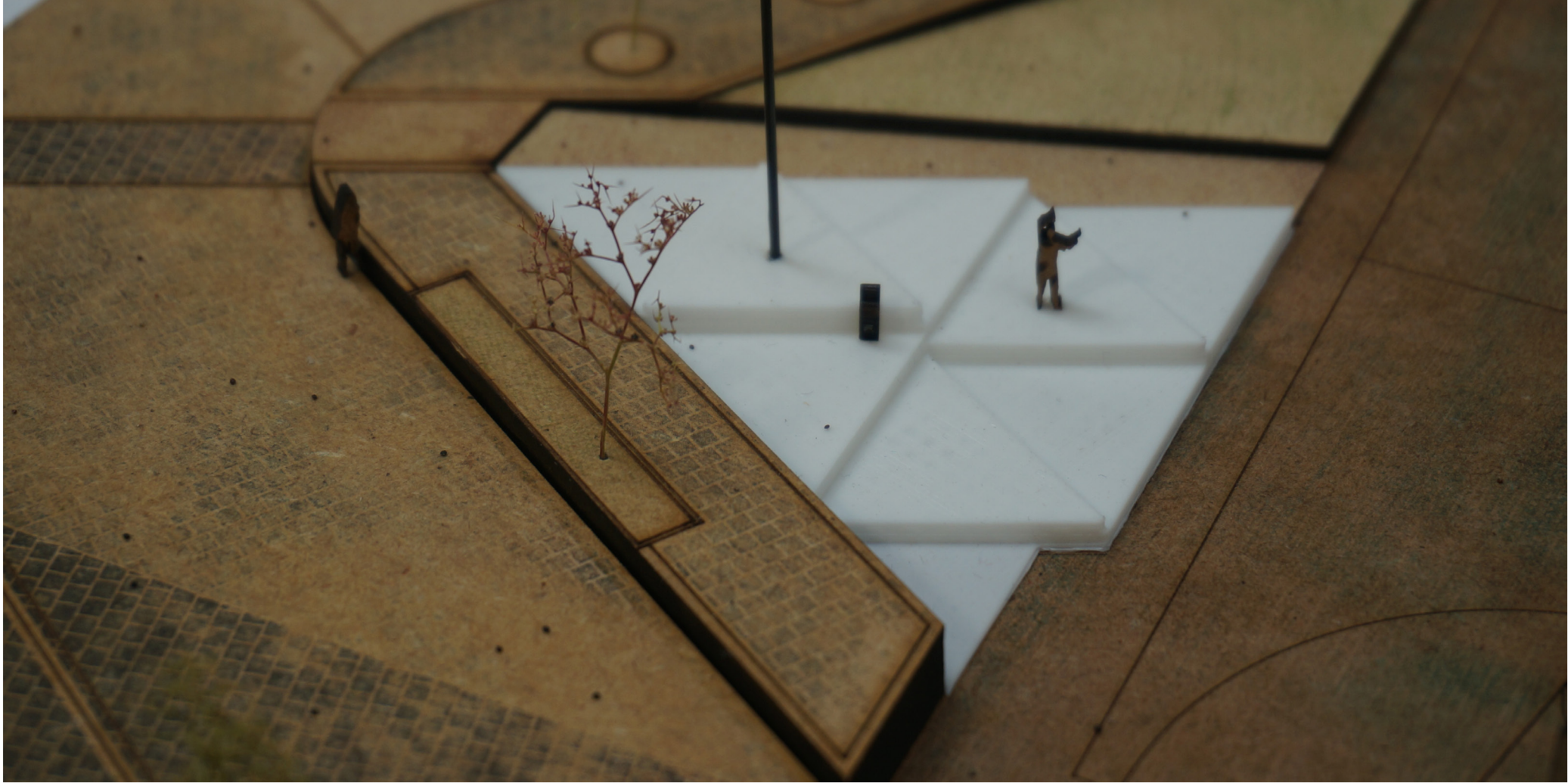
## Parque Armenia | Before





## Parque Armenia | After

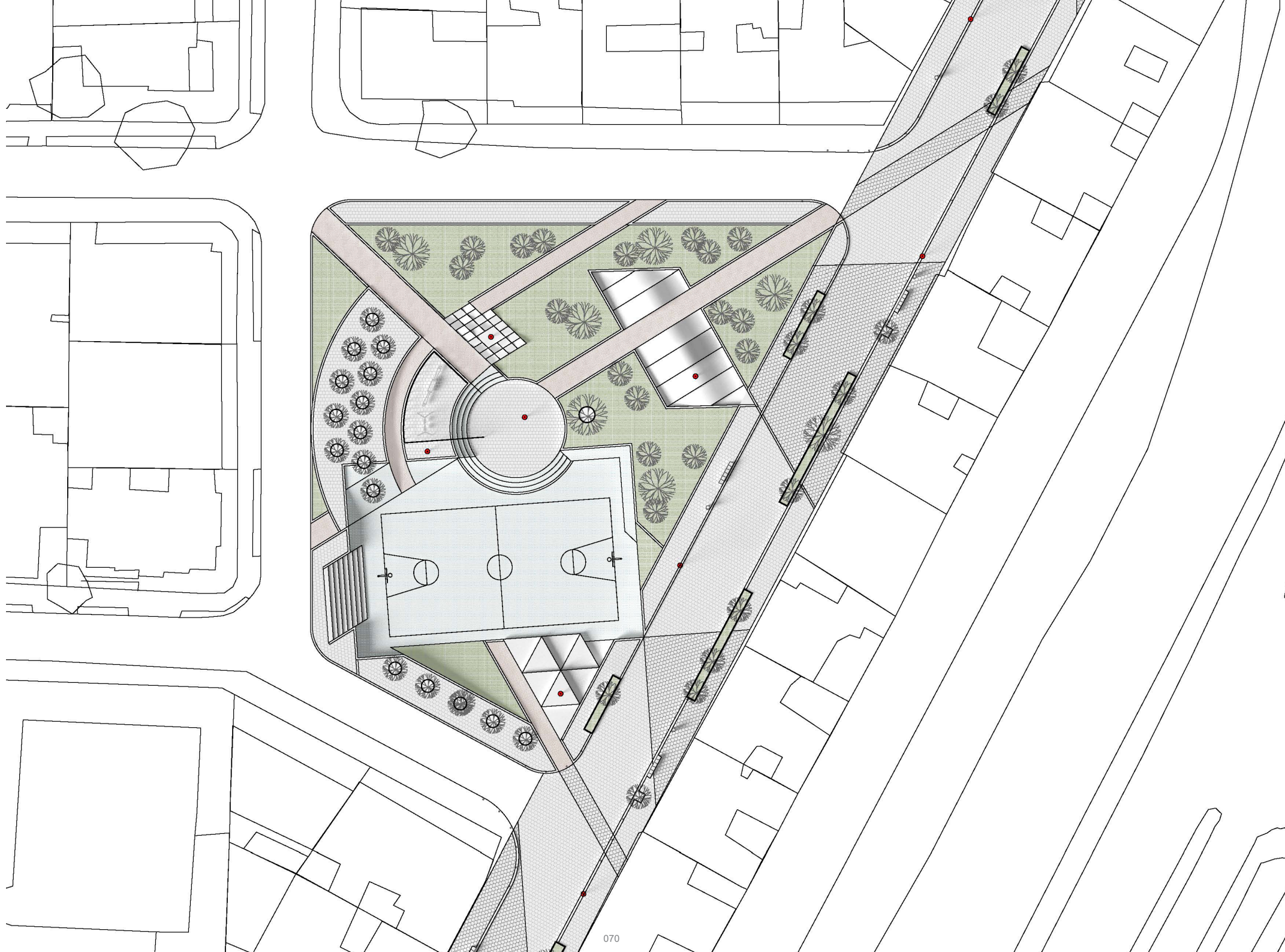




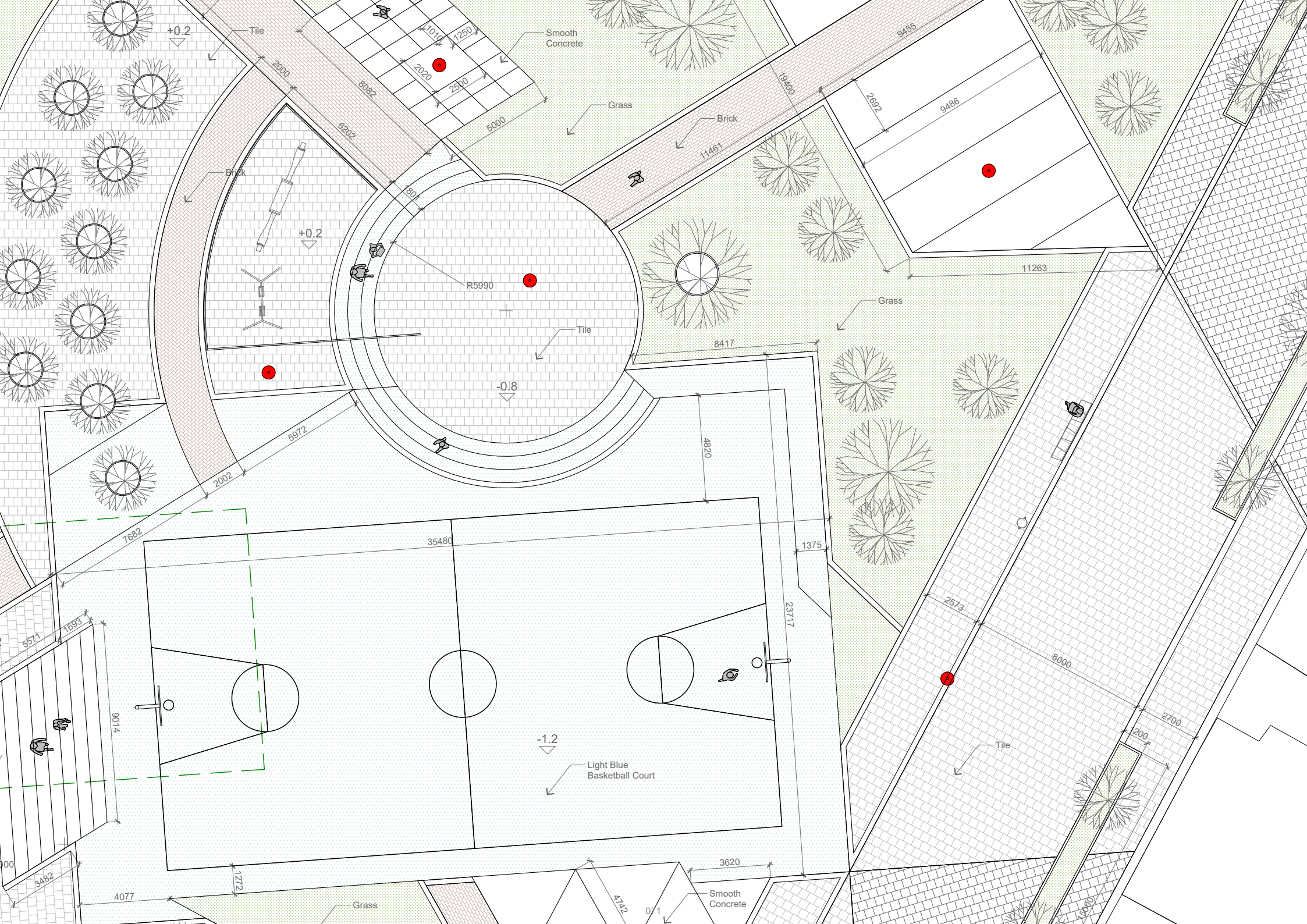




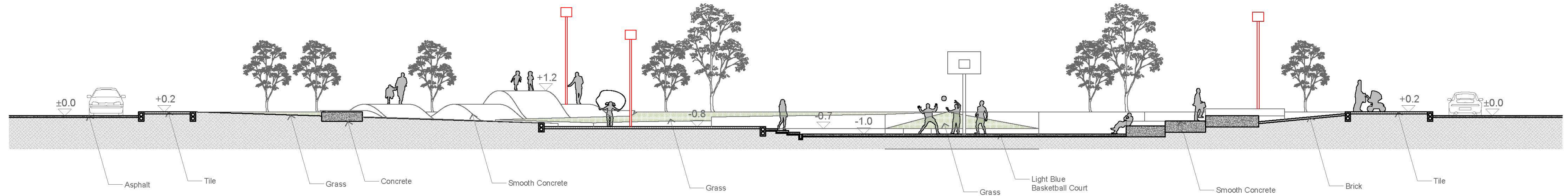




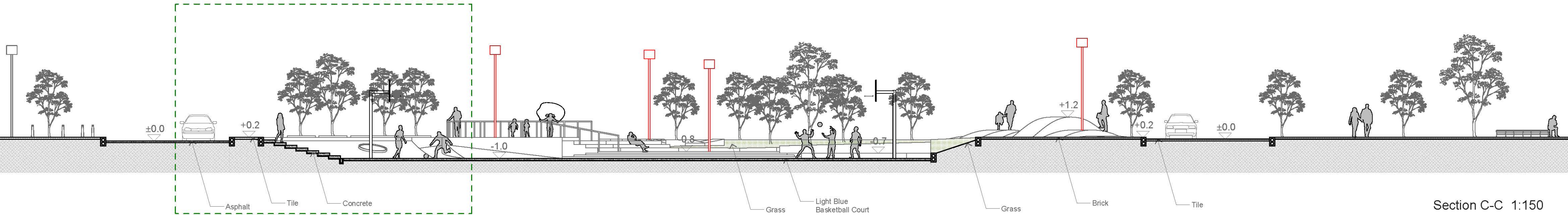






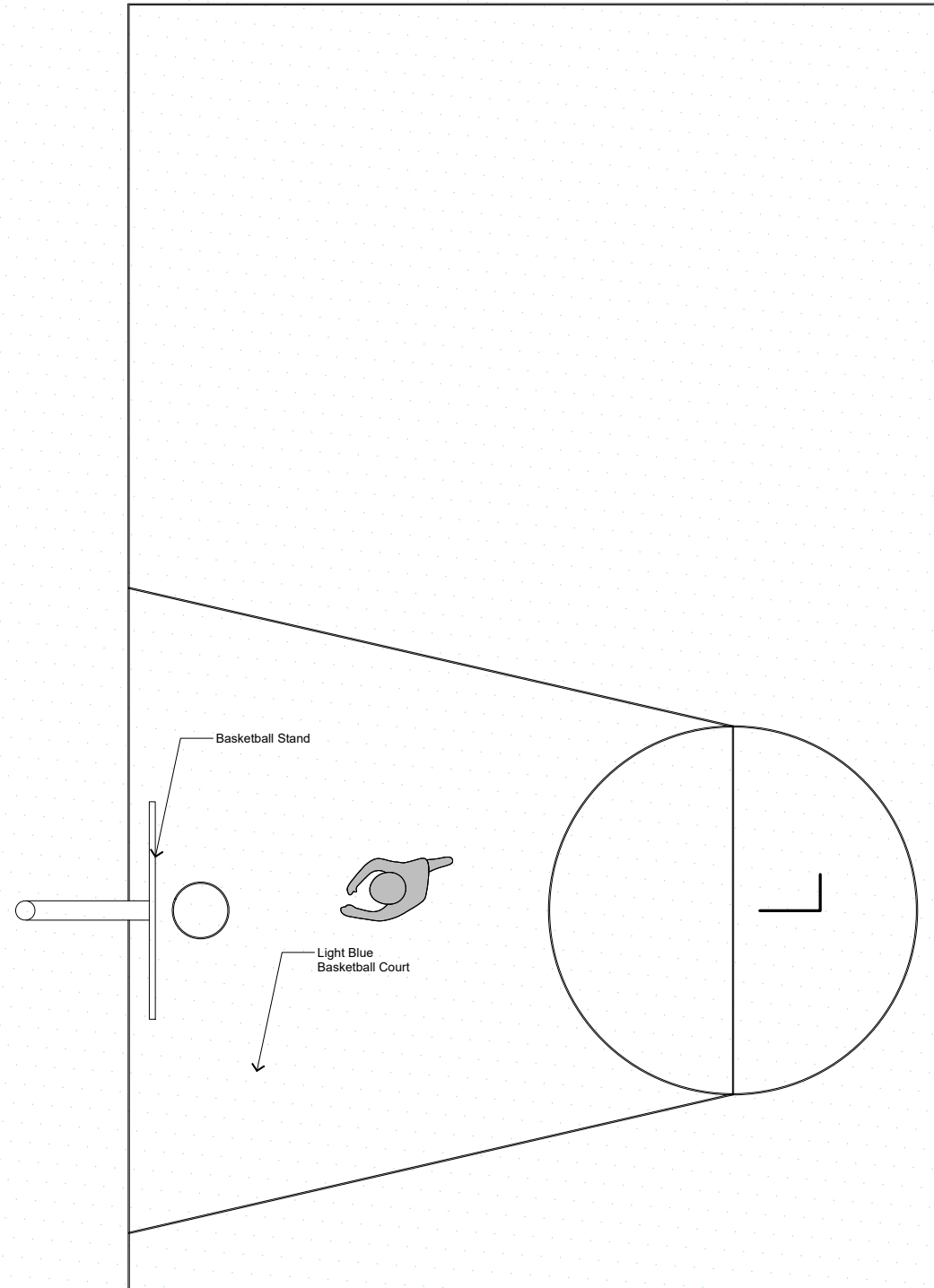
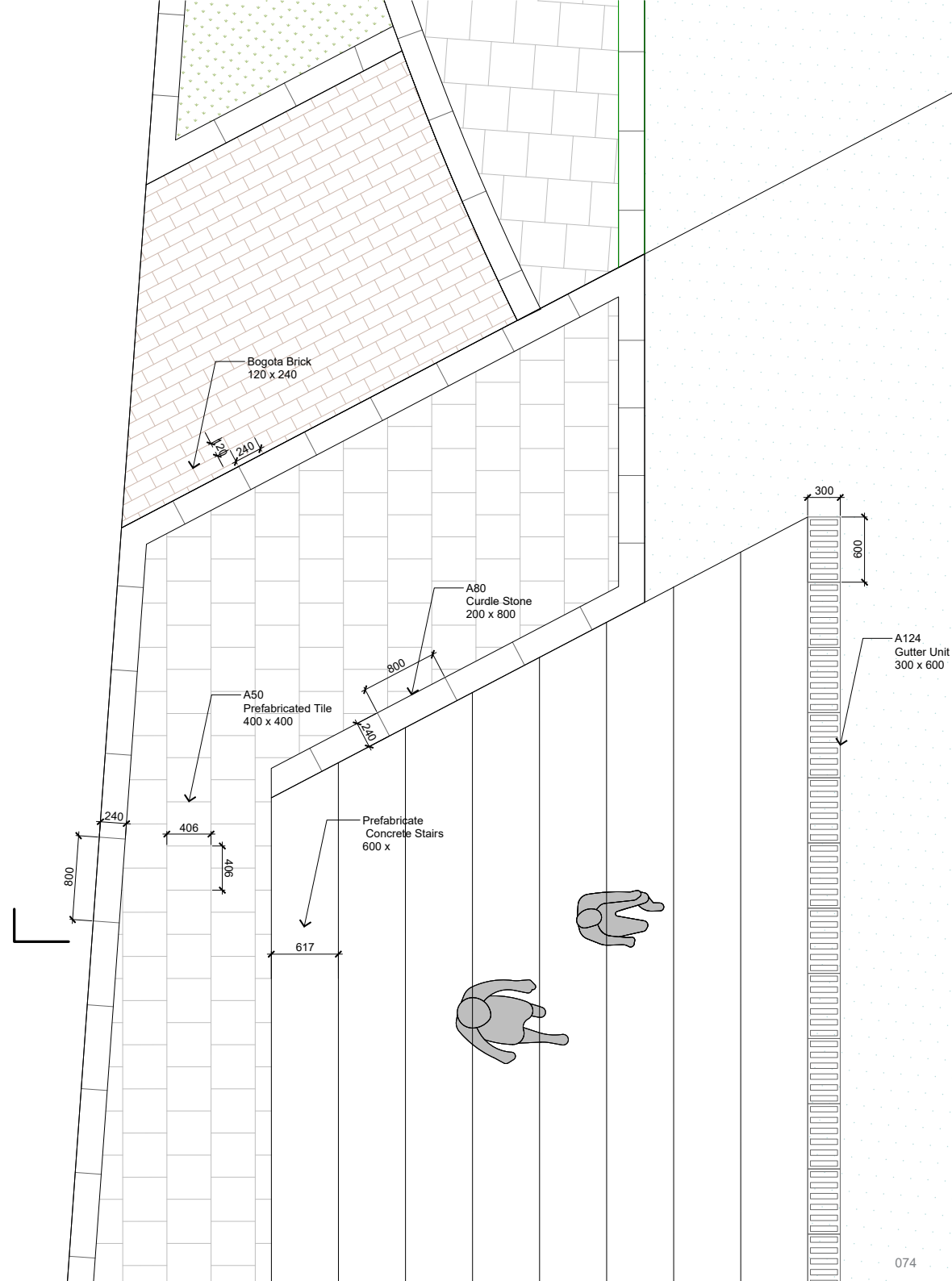


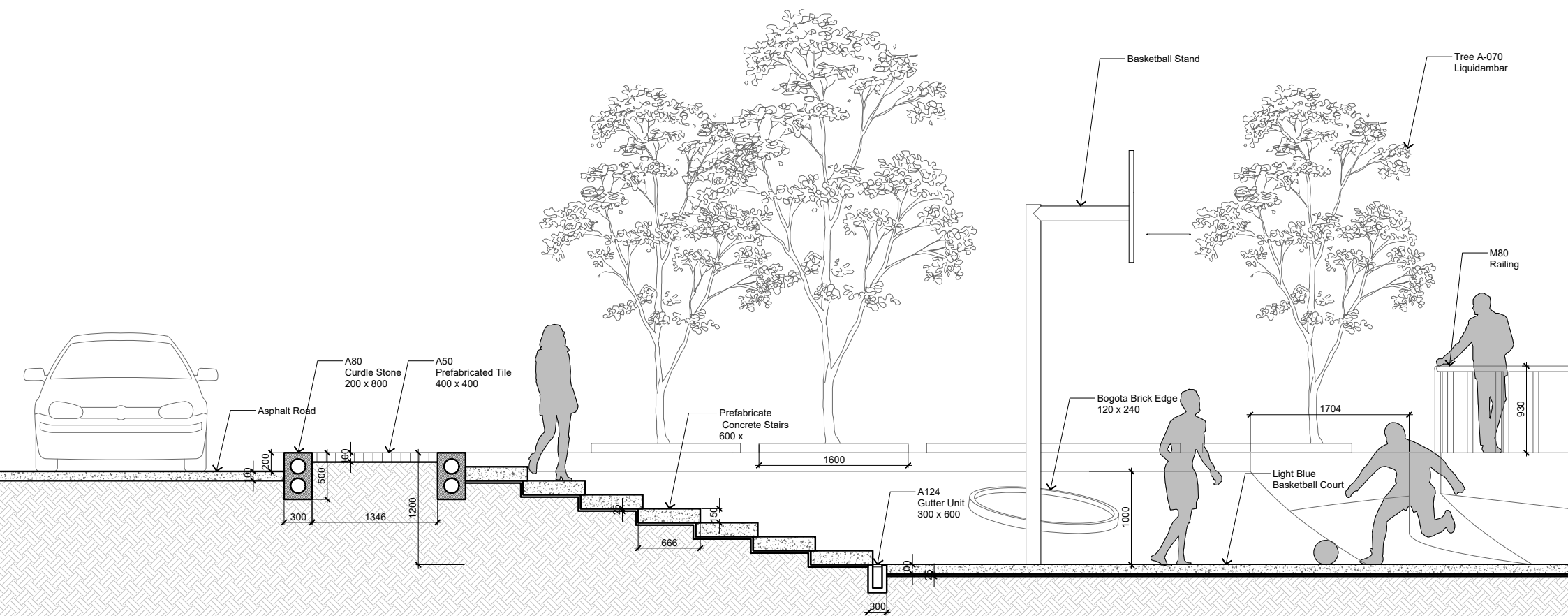
Section D-D 1:150



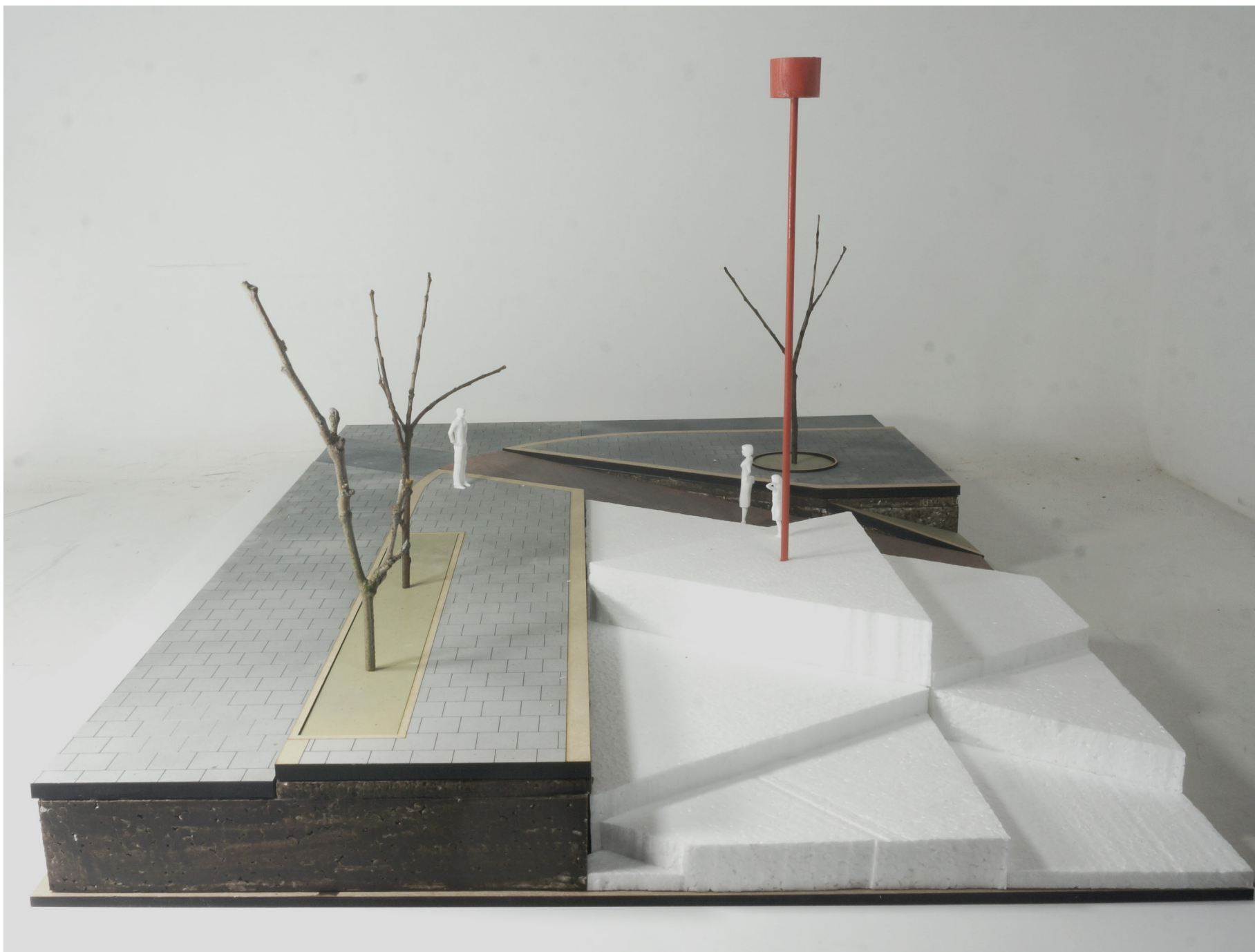
Section C-C 1:150















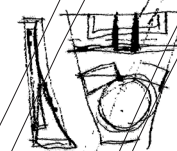
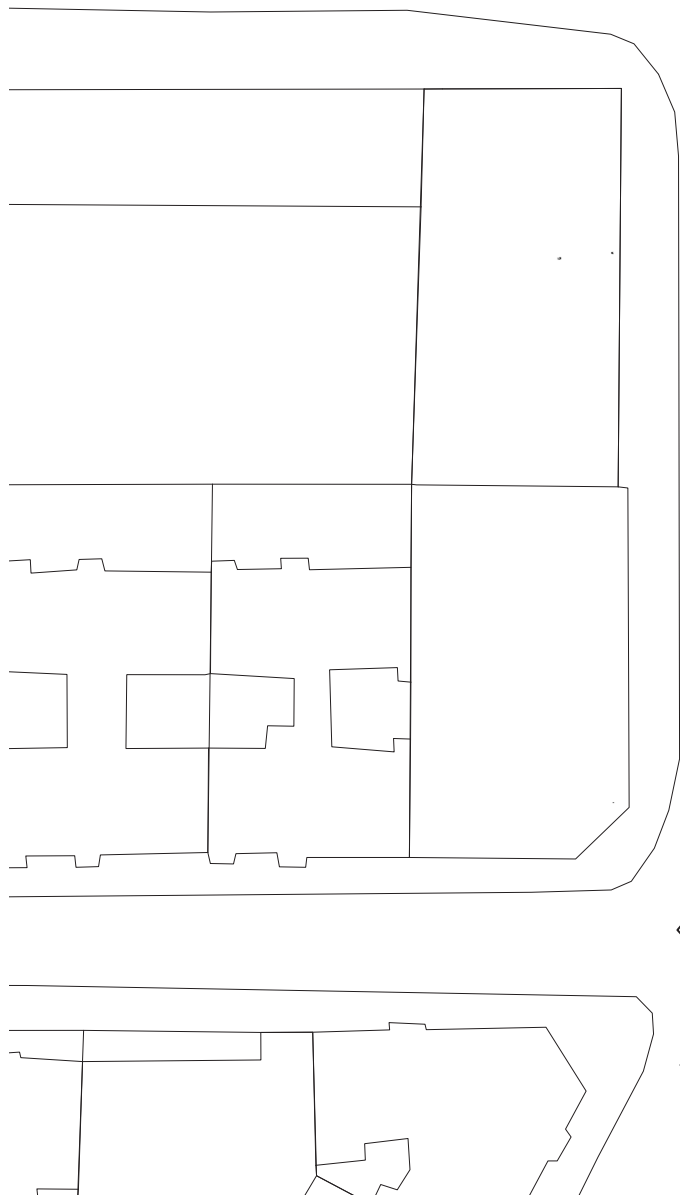
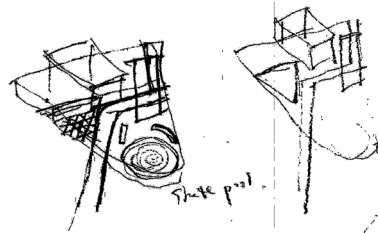
Gas Station

## Gas Station | Existing Situation

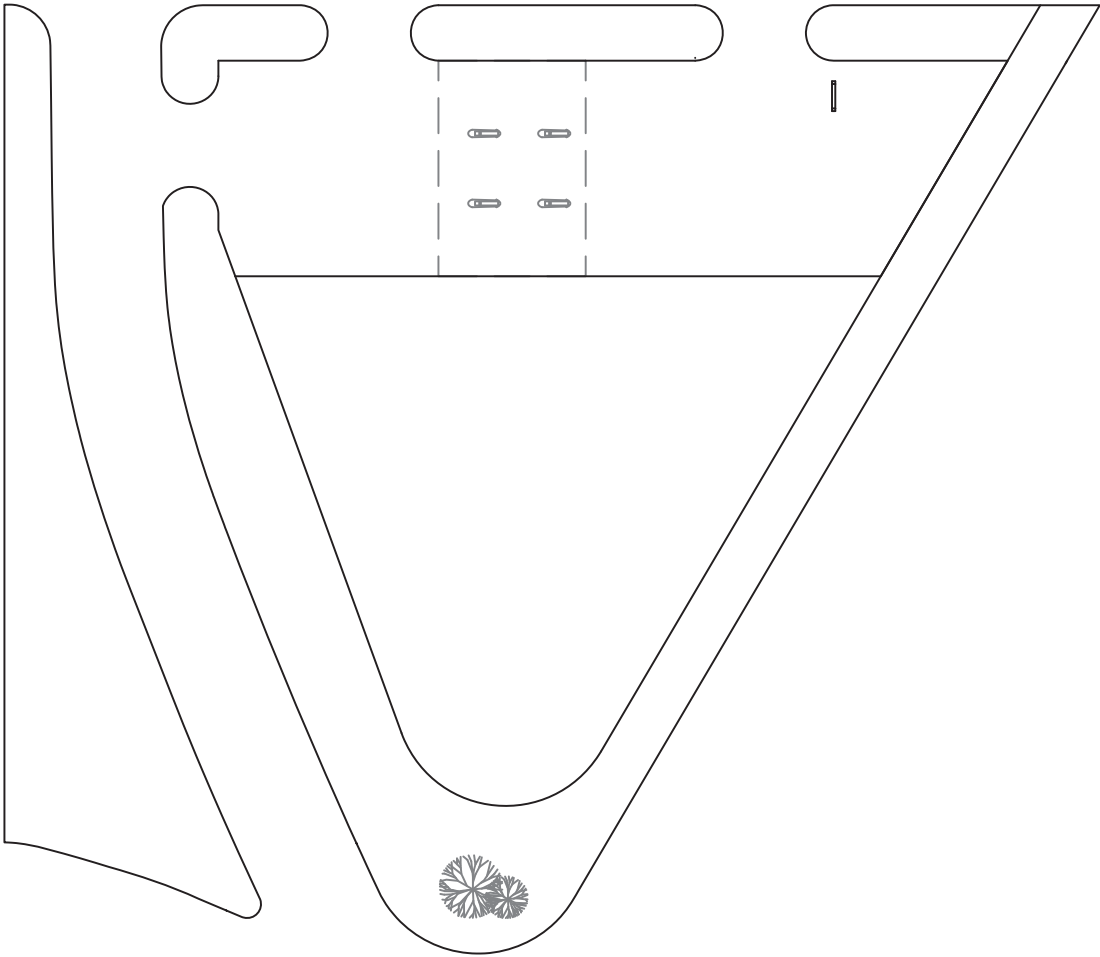


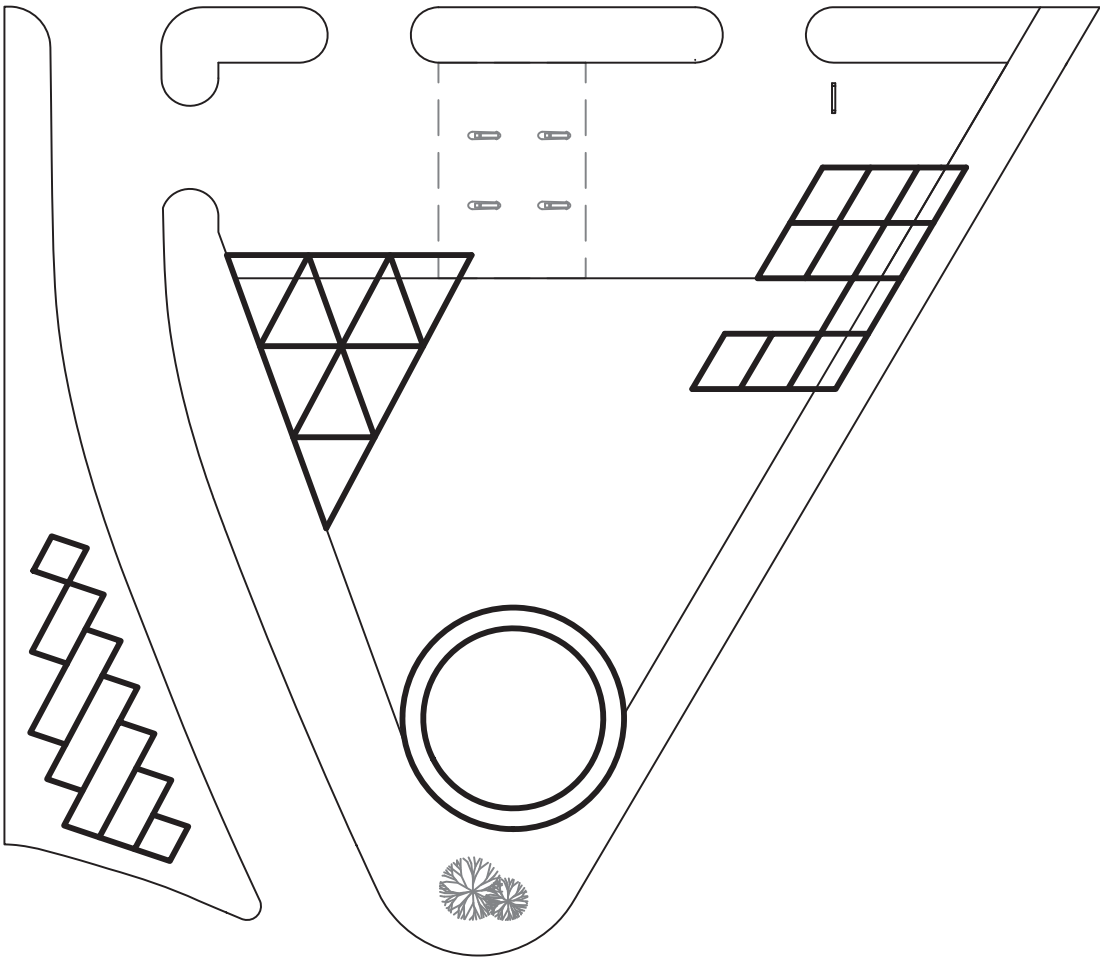




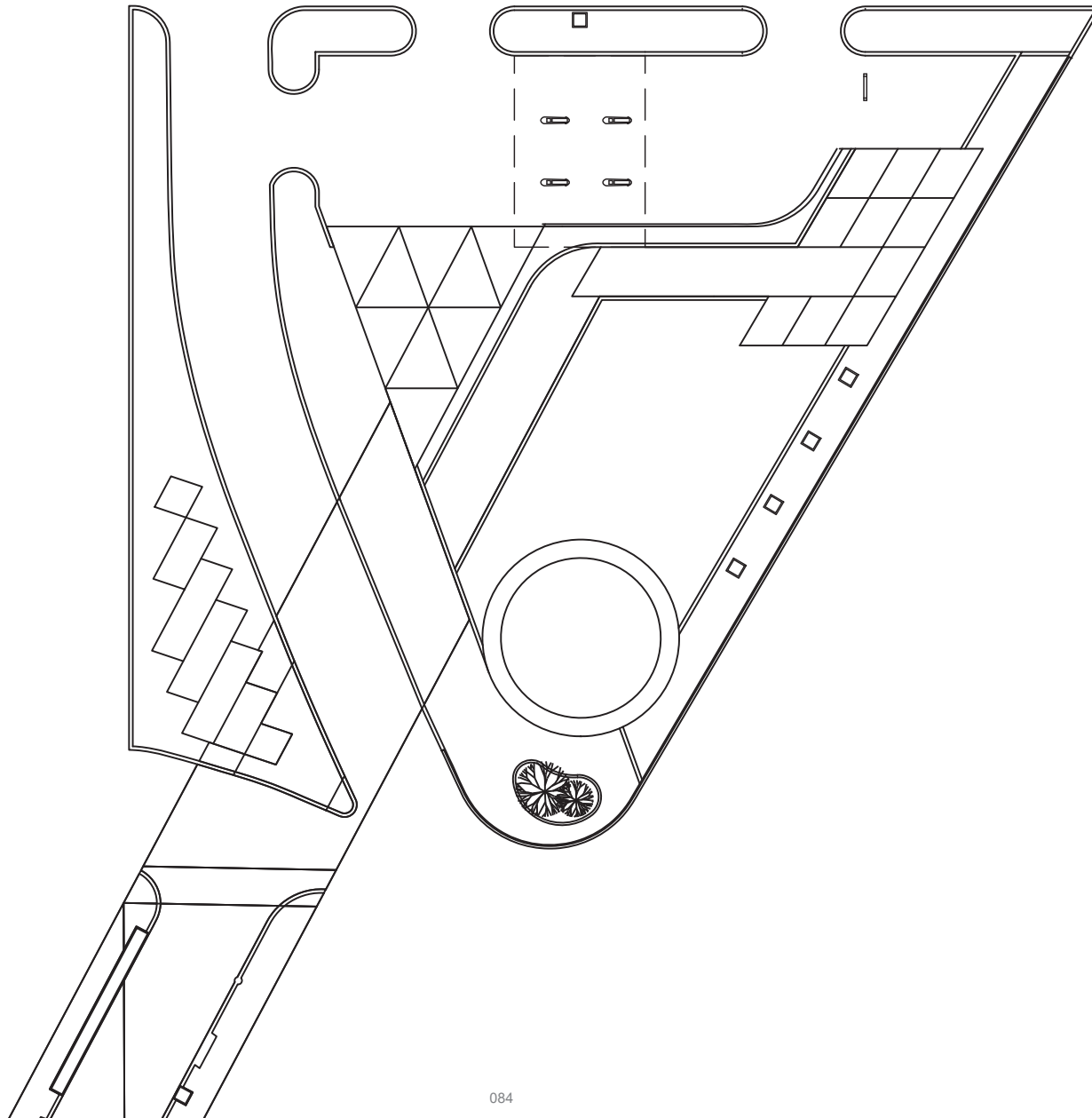


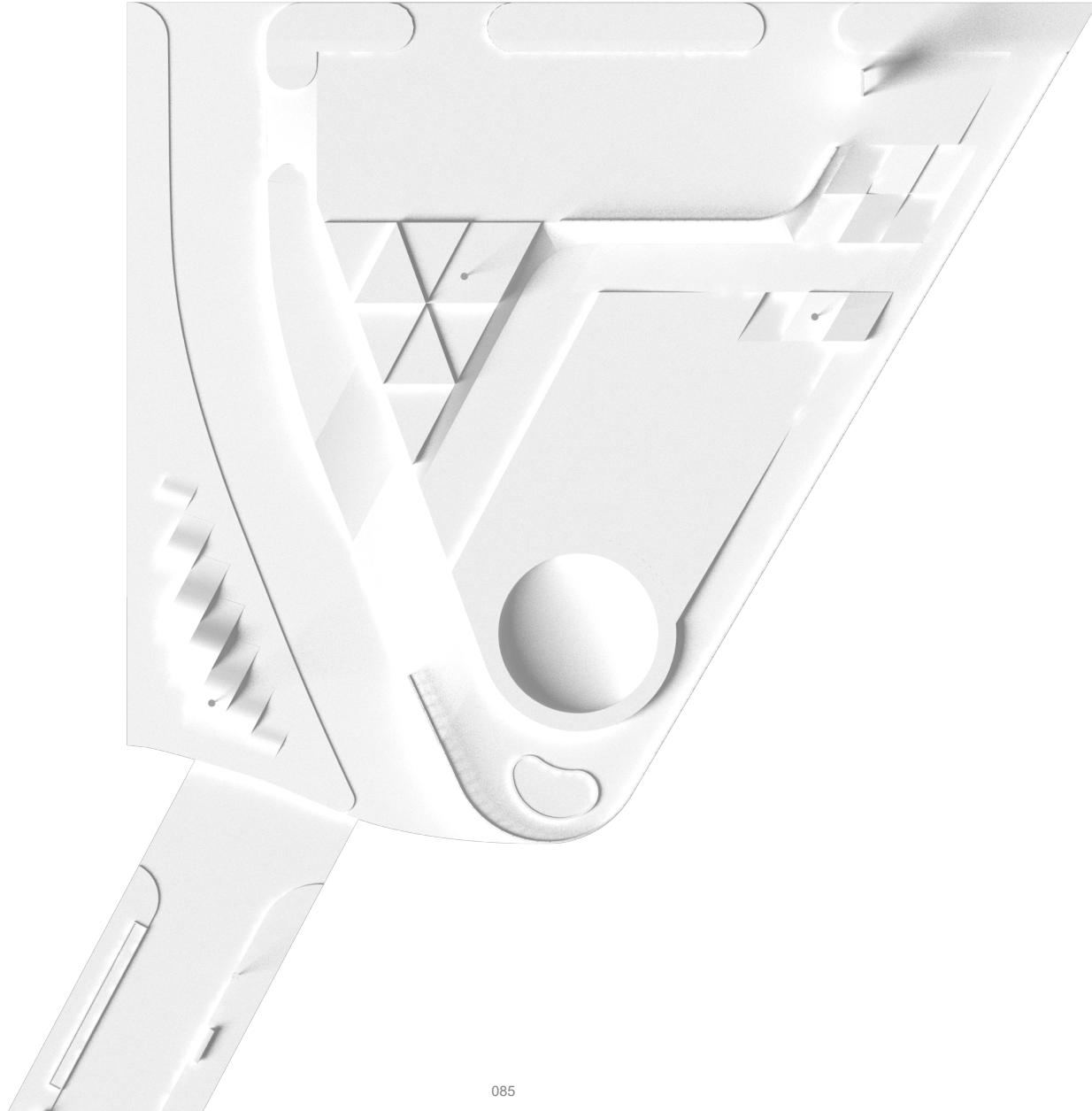






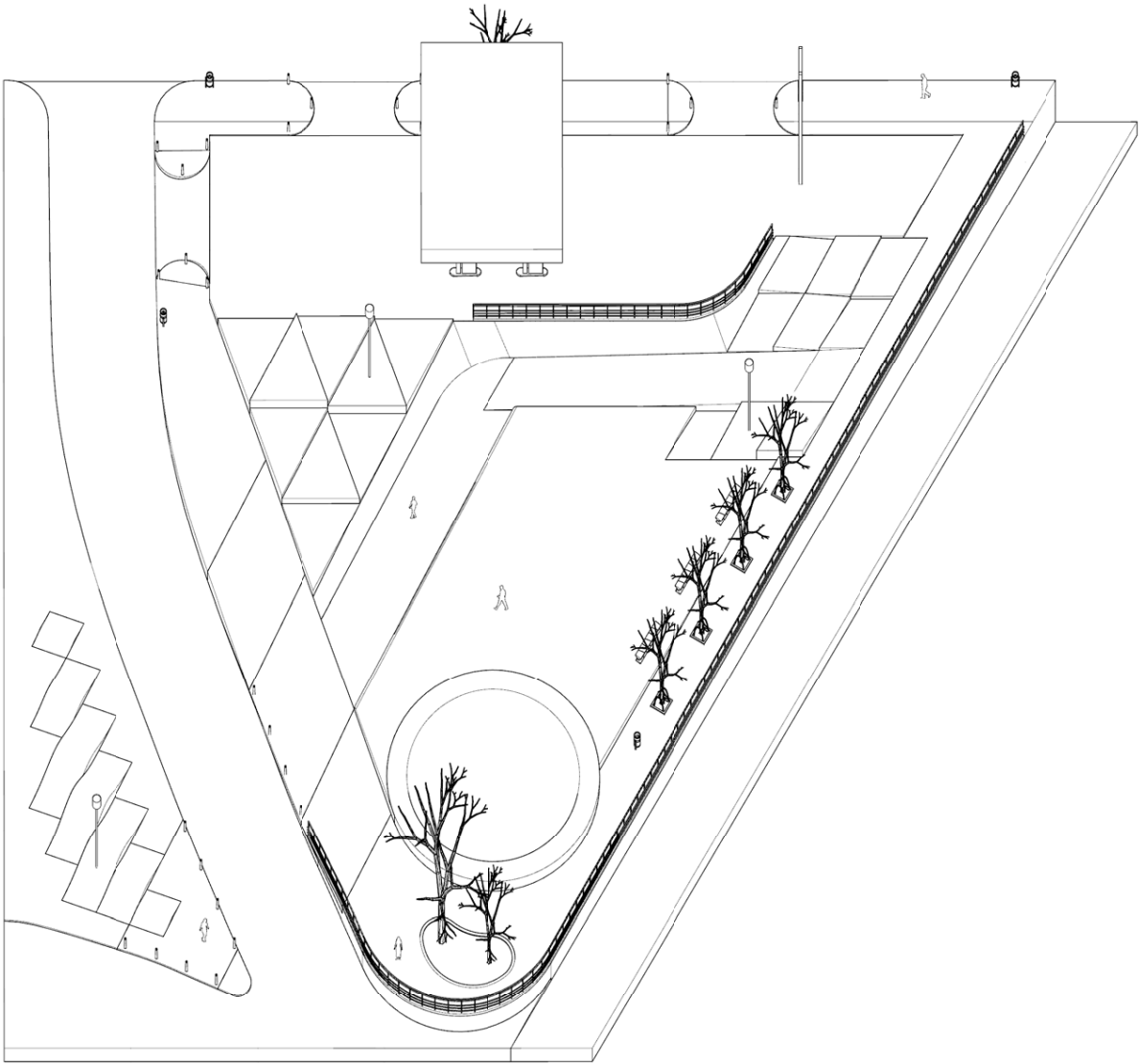


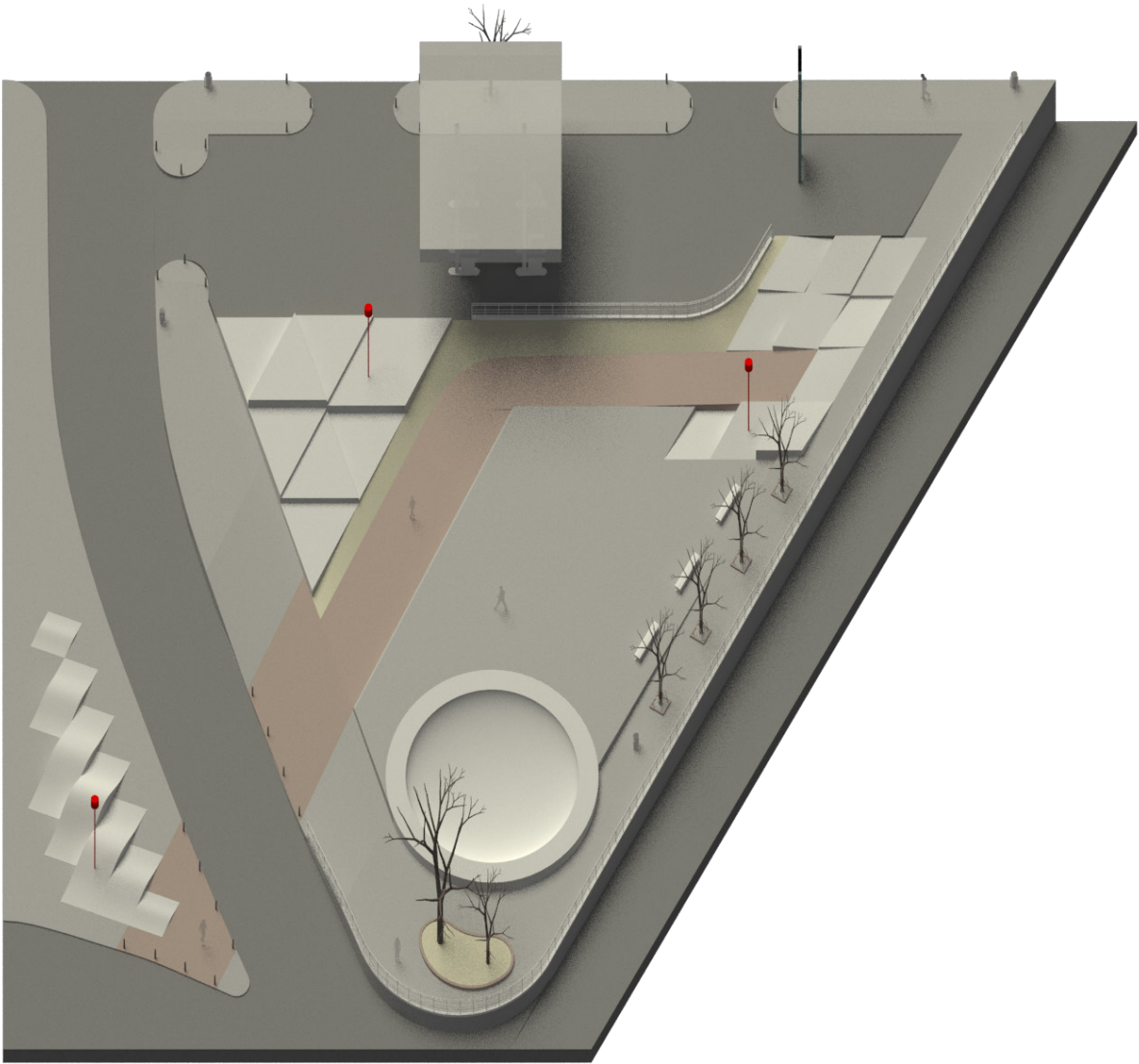






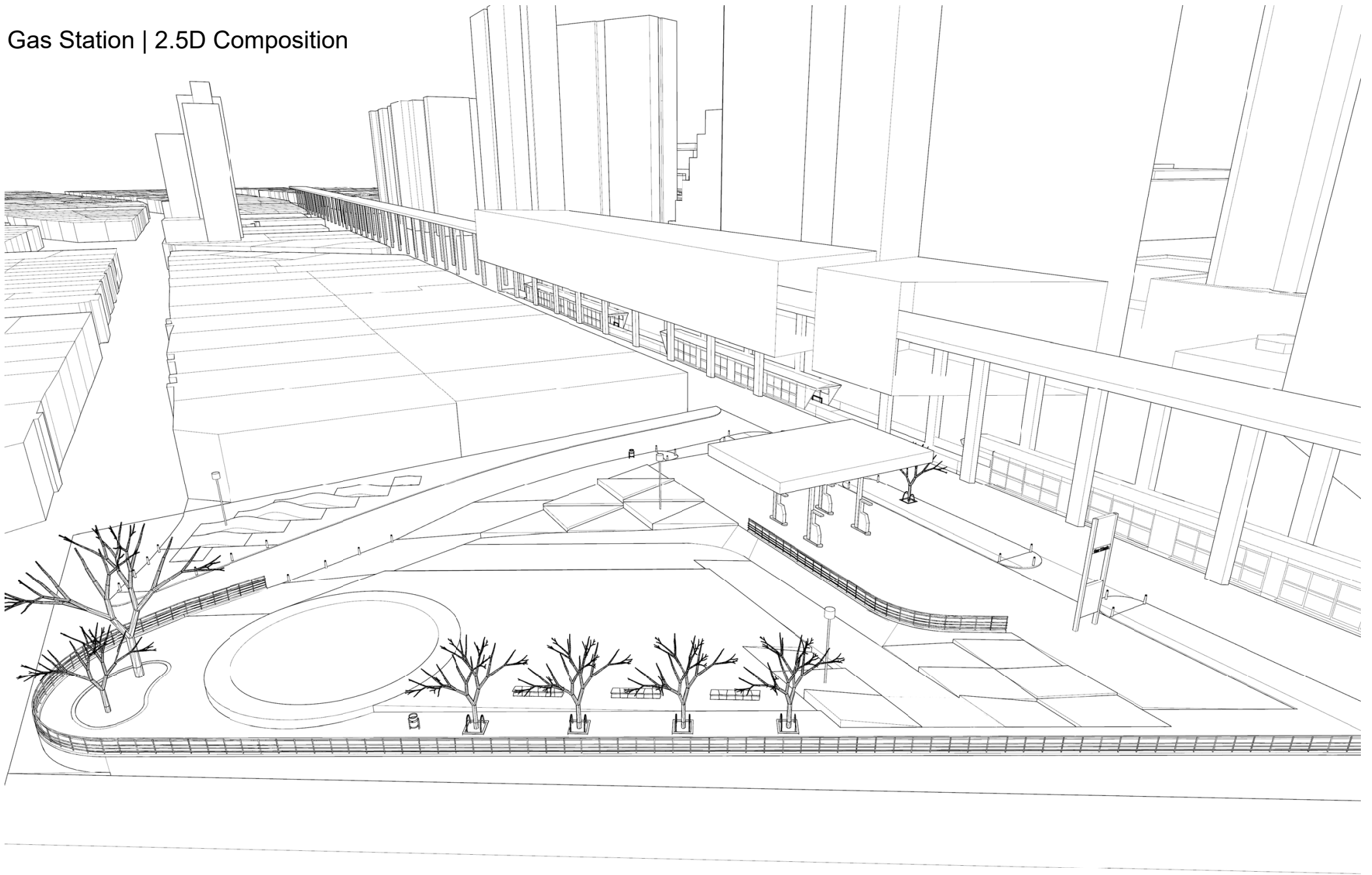
Gas Station | 2.5D Composition



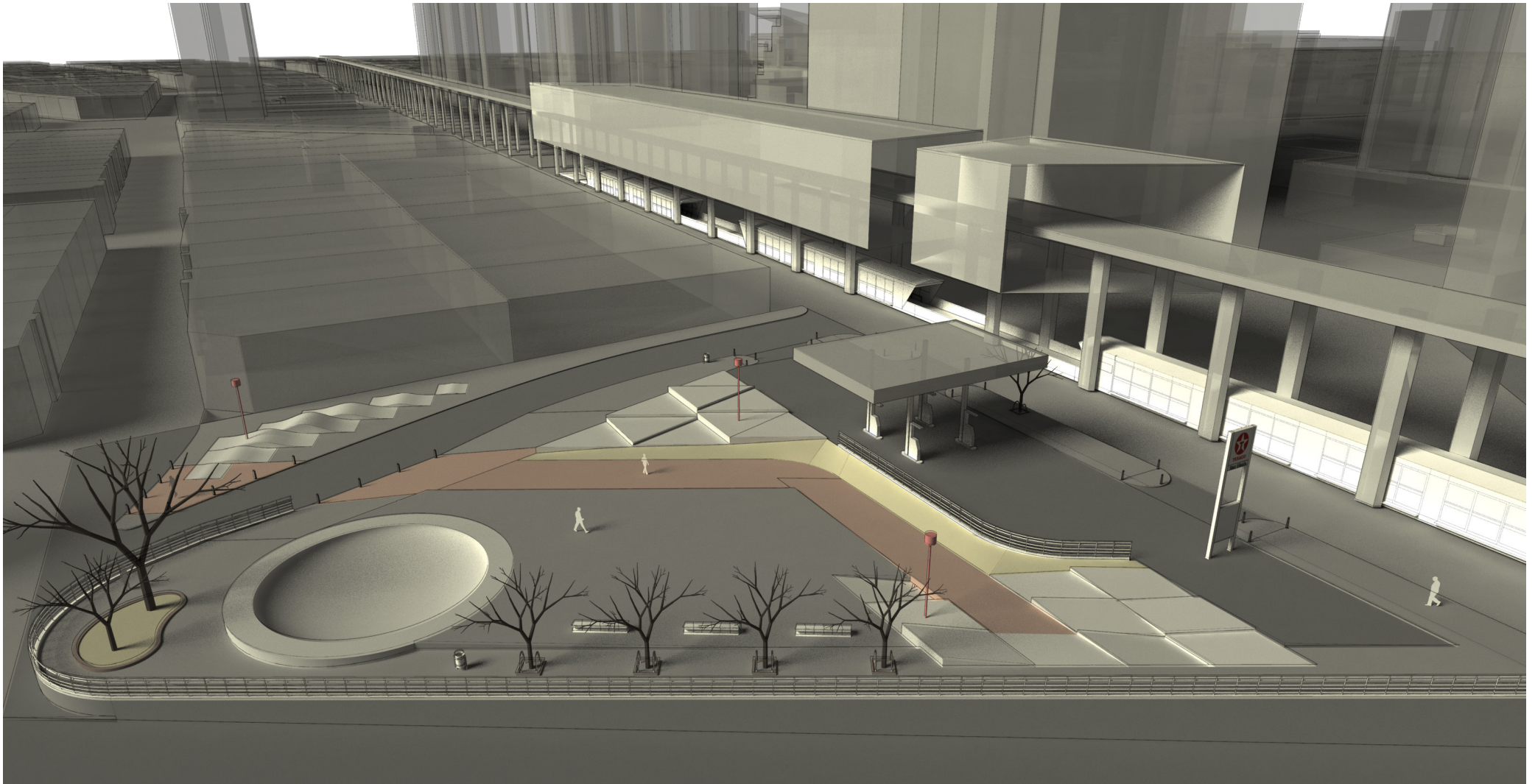




## Gas Station | 2.5D Composition



## Gas Station | Material Composition

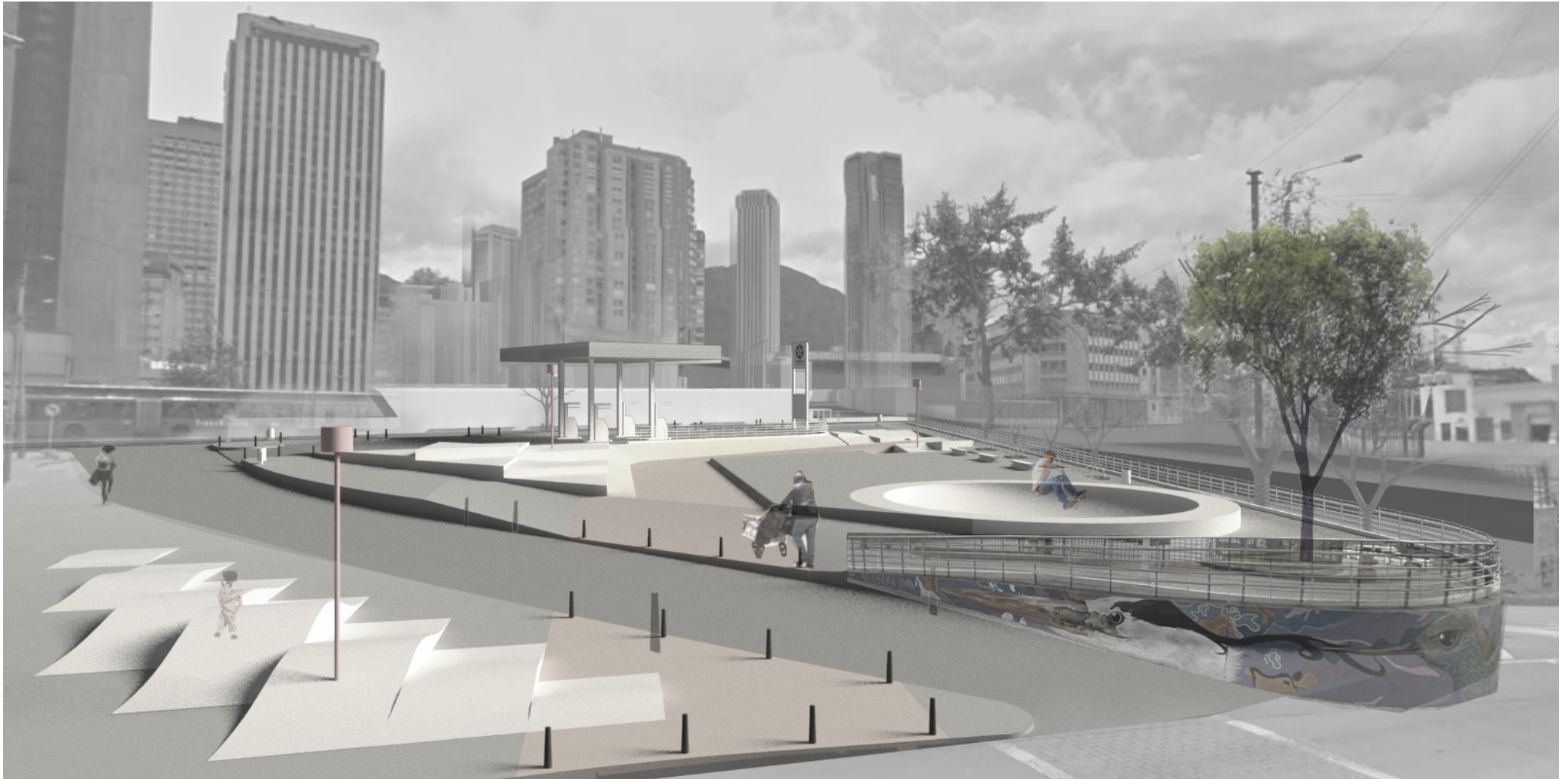




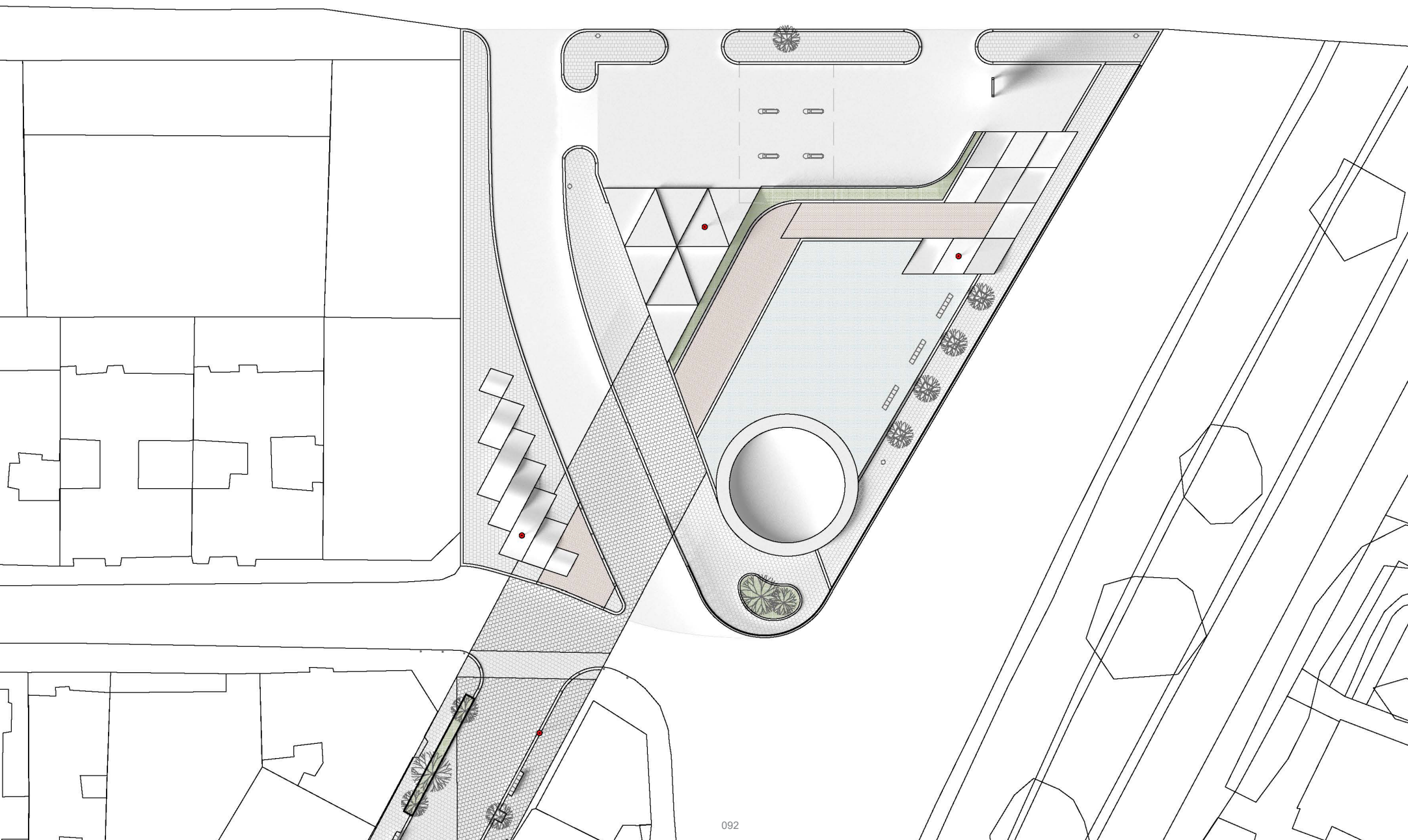
## Gas Station | Before

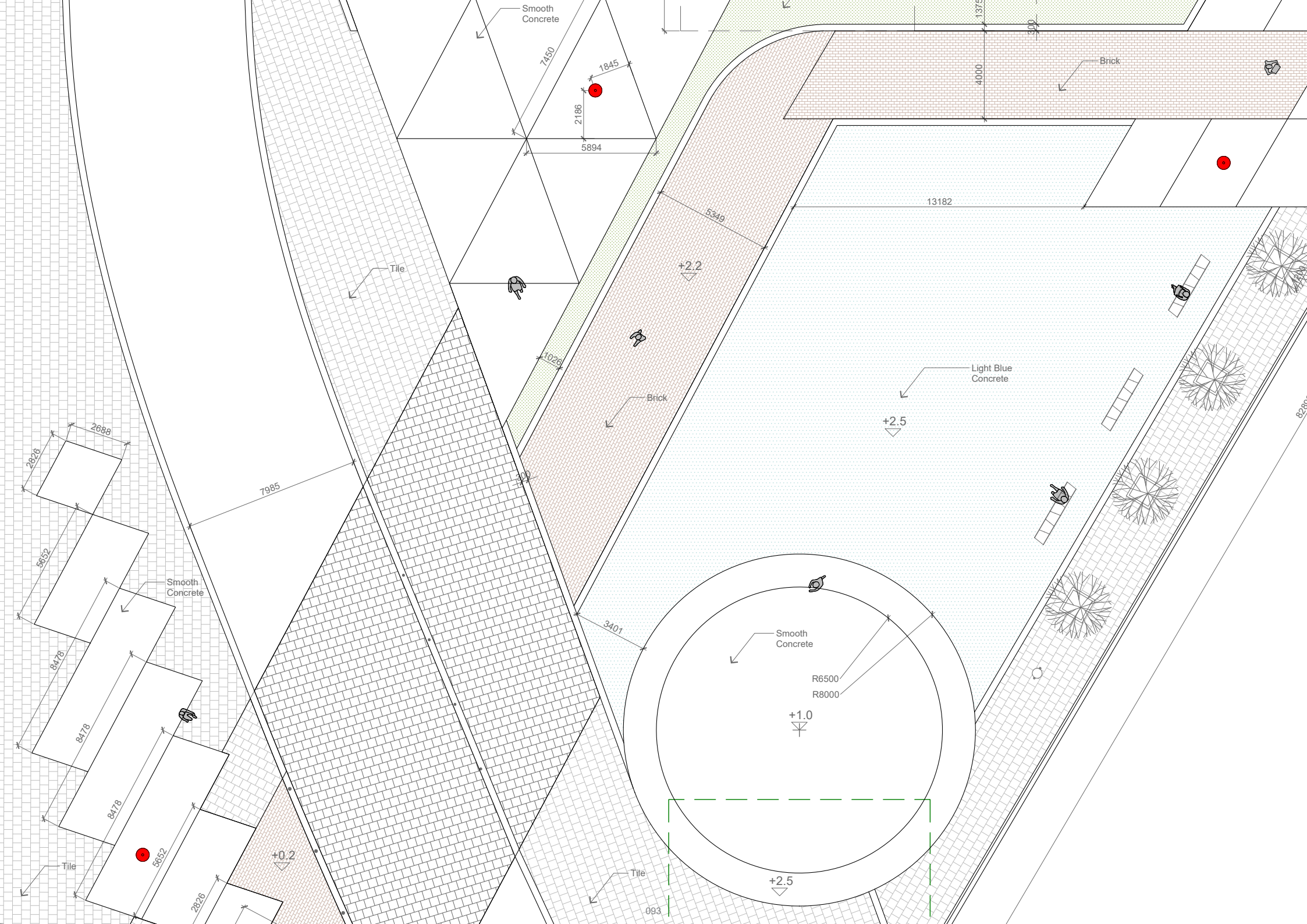


## Gas Station | After

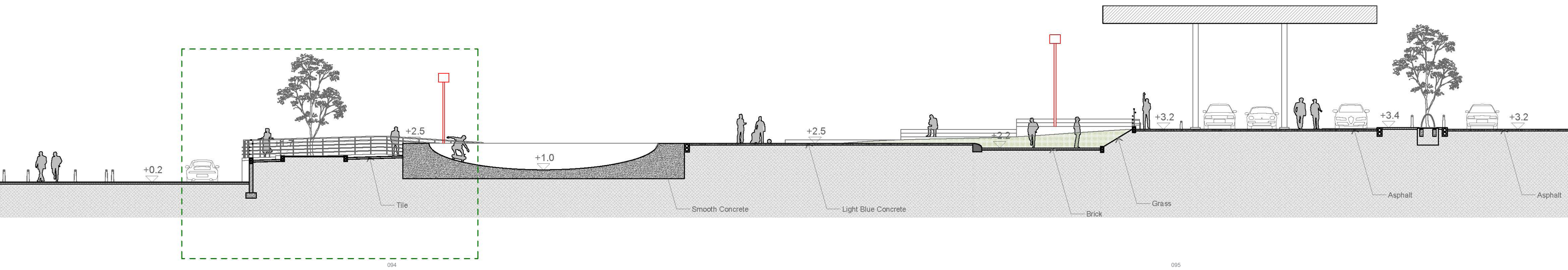
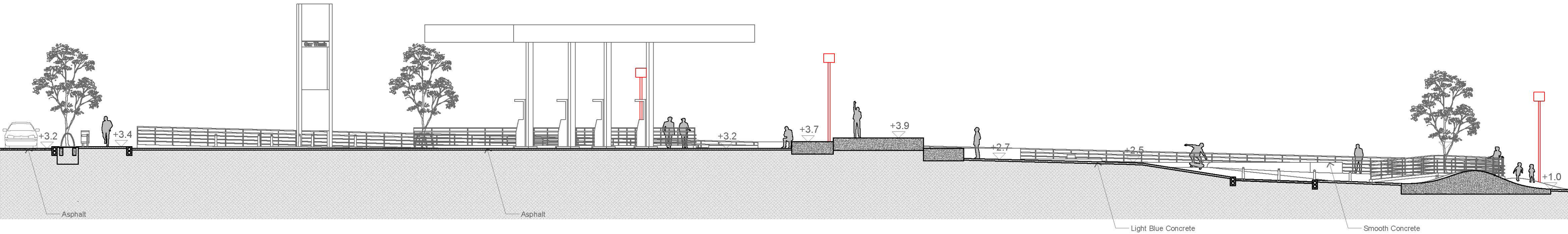




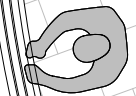
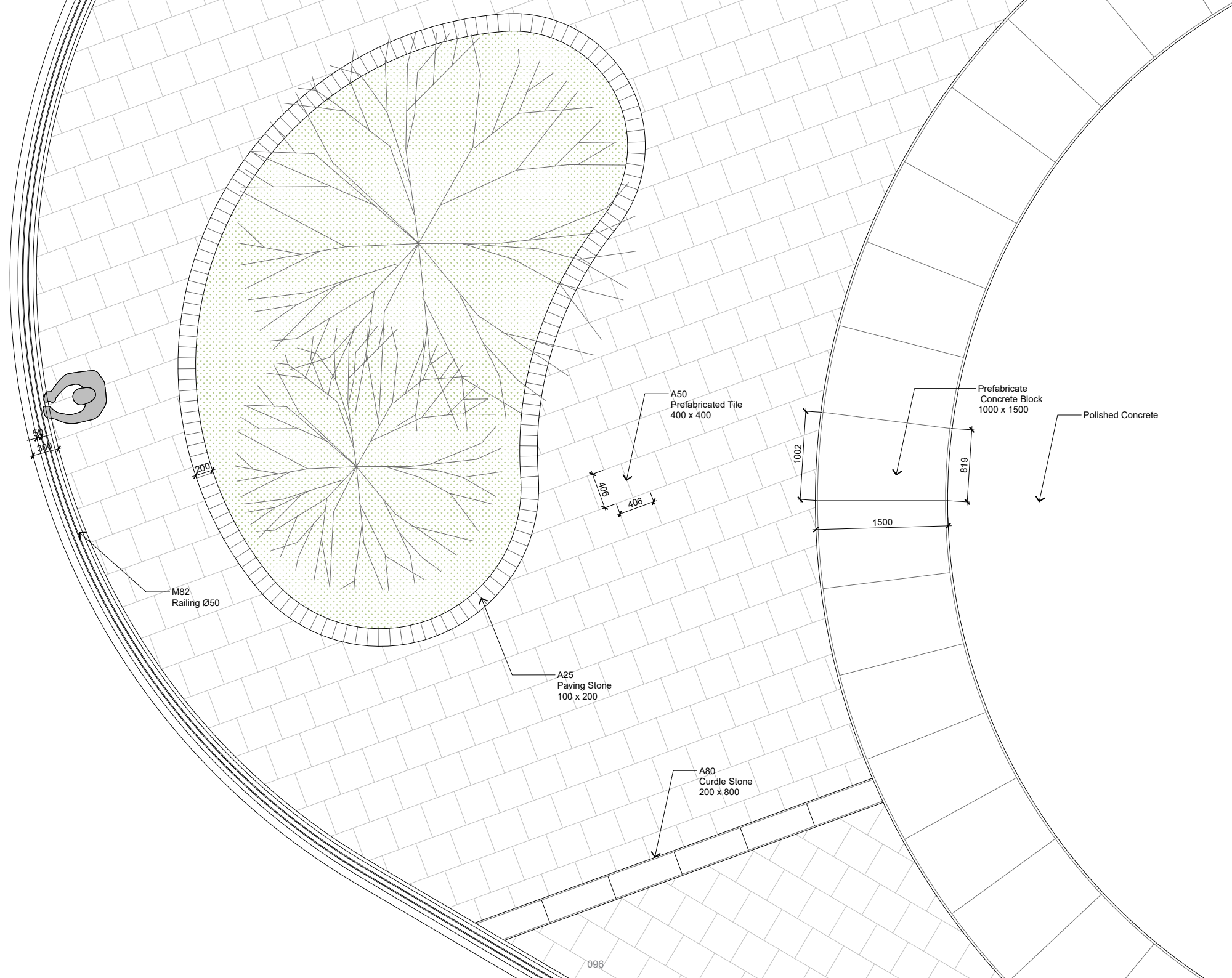












M82  
Railing Ø50

A25  
Paving Stone  
100 x 200

A50  
Prefabricated Tile  
400 x 400

A80  
Curb Stone  
200 x 800

Prefabricate  
Concrete Block  
1000 x 1500

Polished Concrete

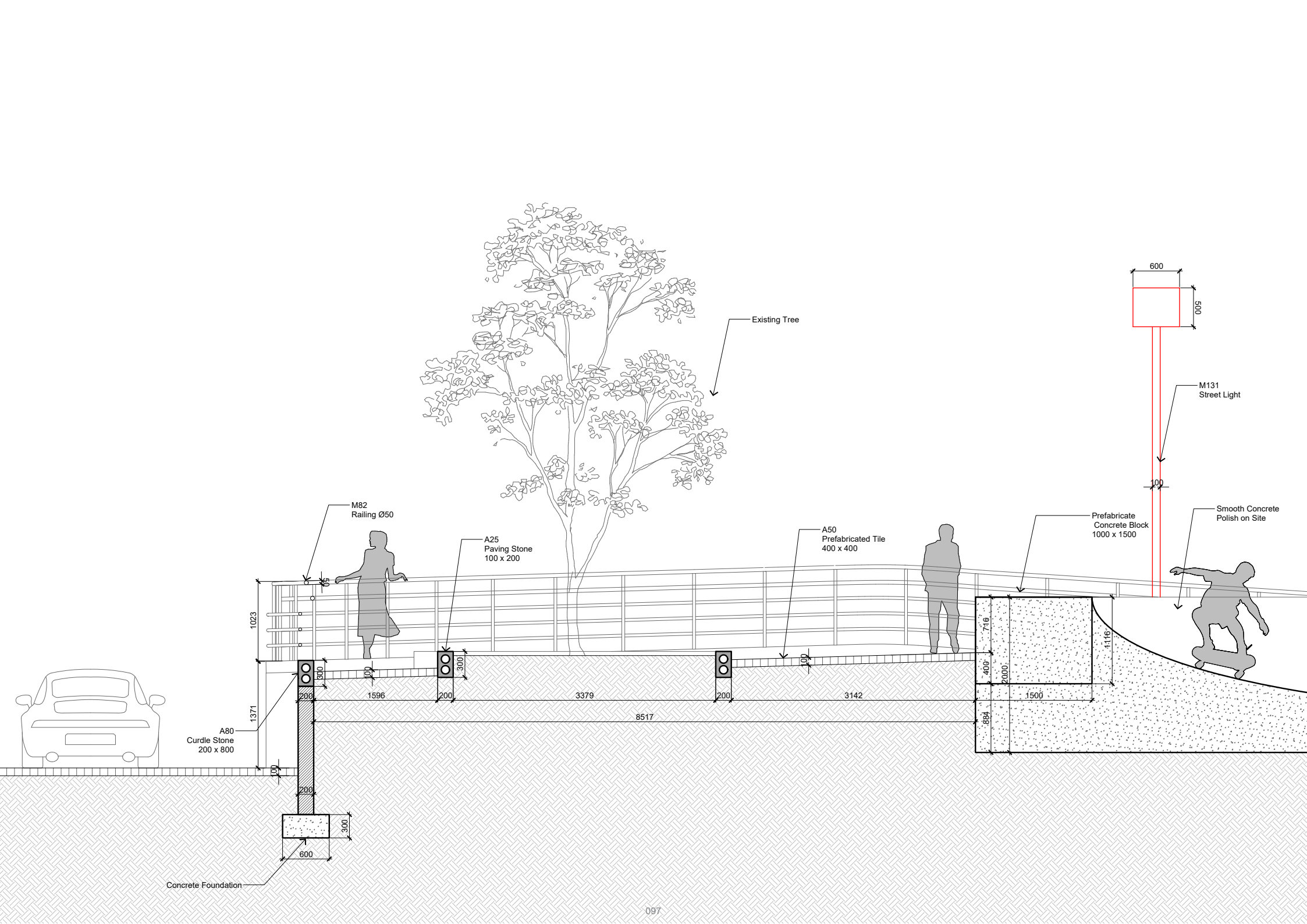
406  
406

1002

1500

819





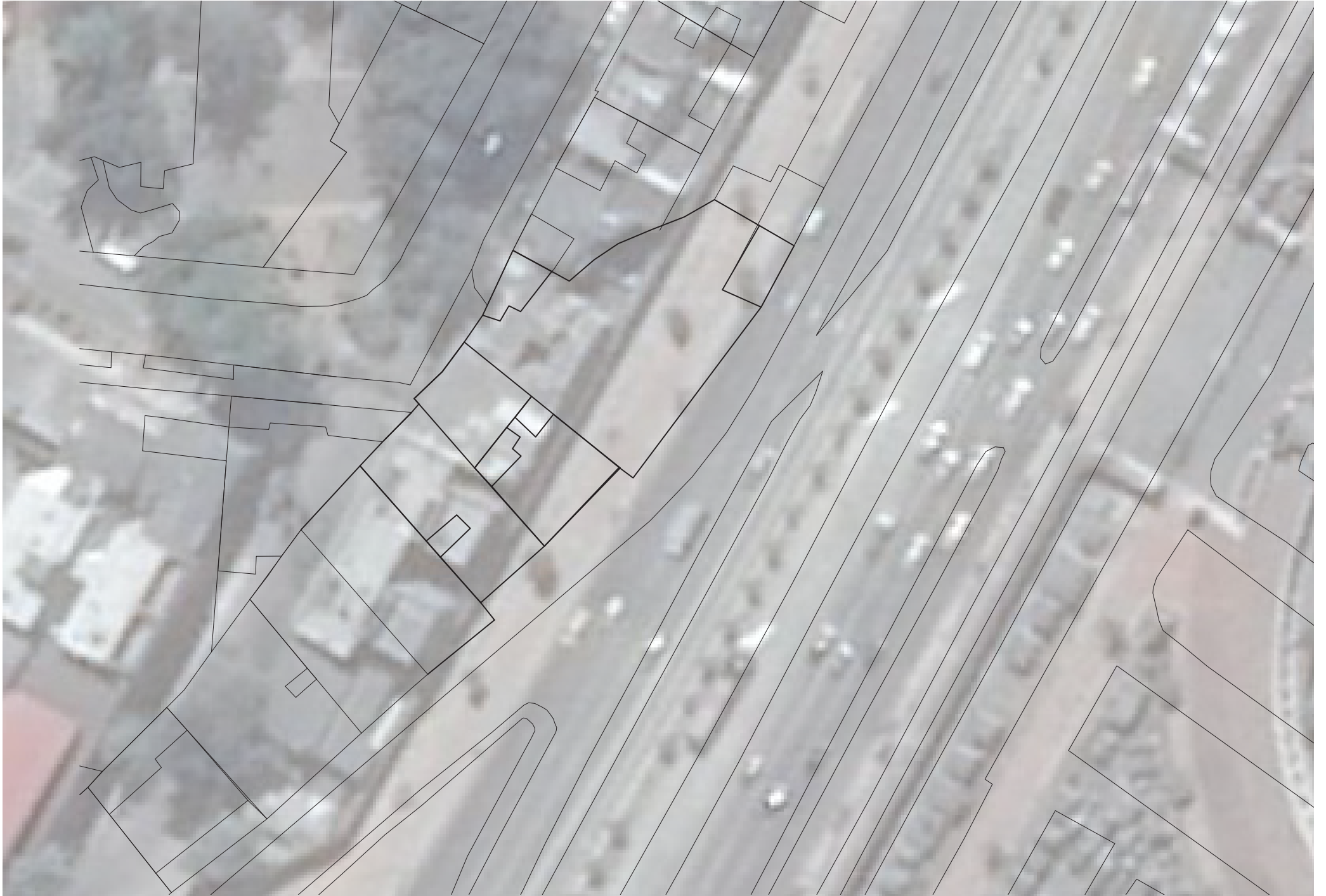
Skatepark



## Skatepark | Existing Situation



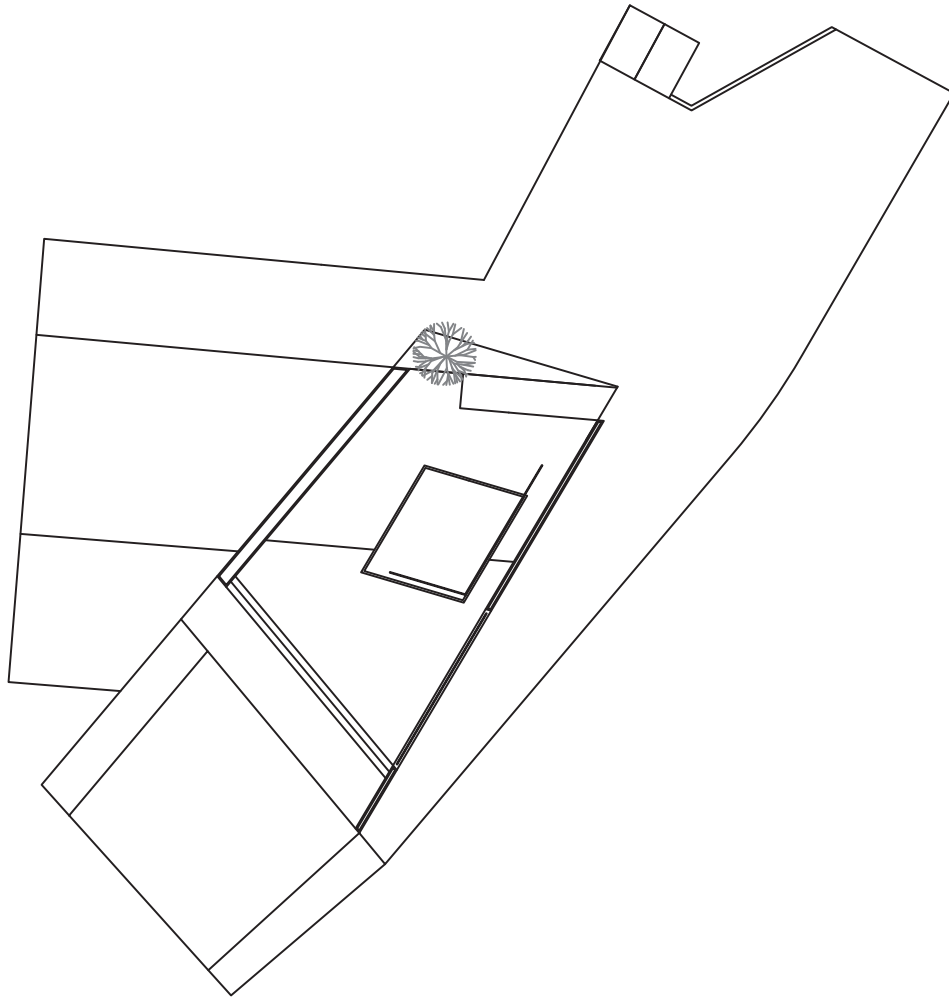




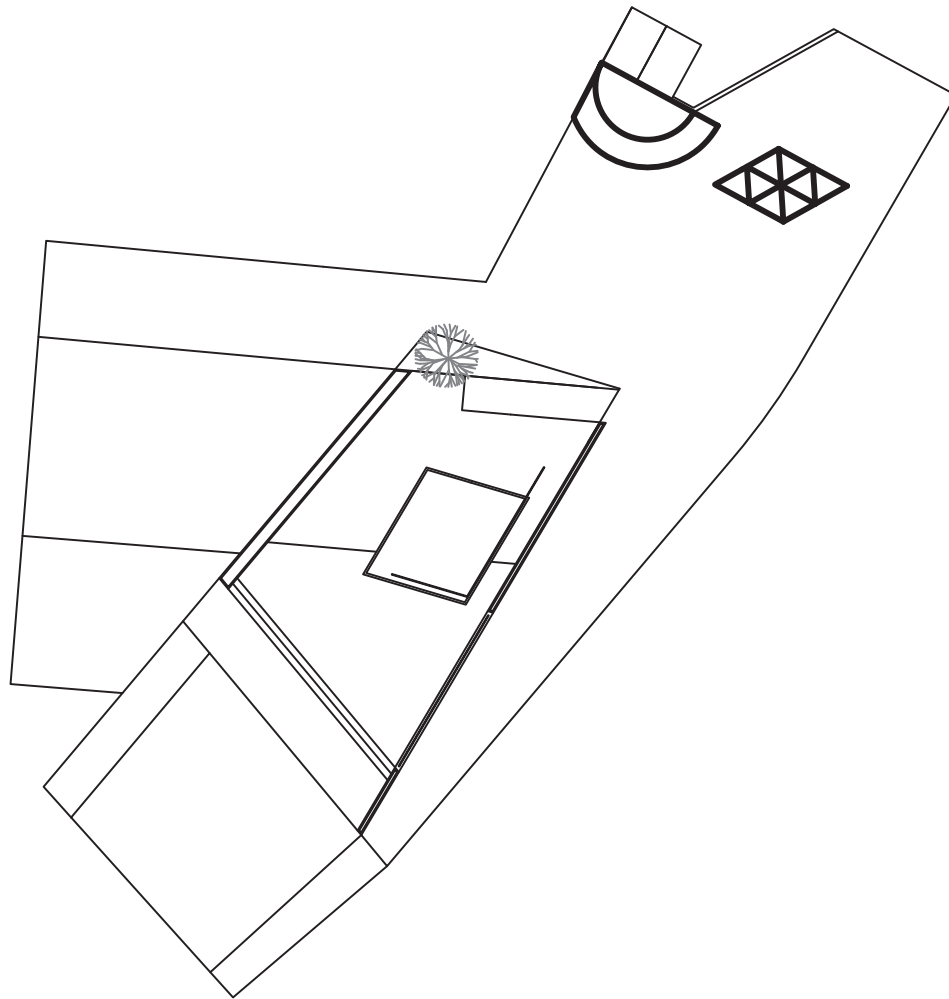




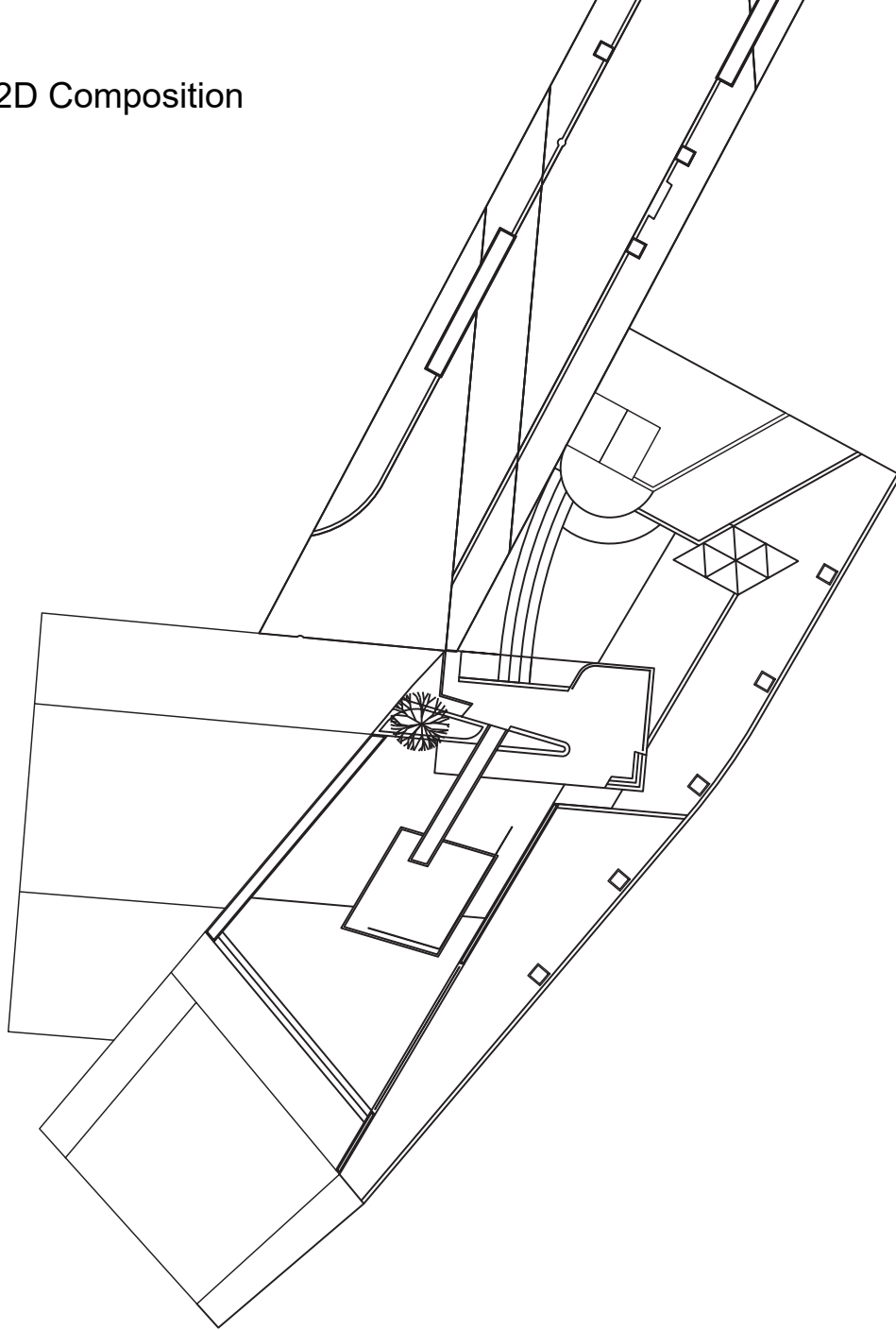
## Skatepark | Extract Elements







## Skatepark | 2D Composition

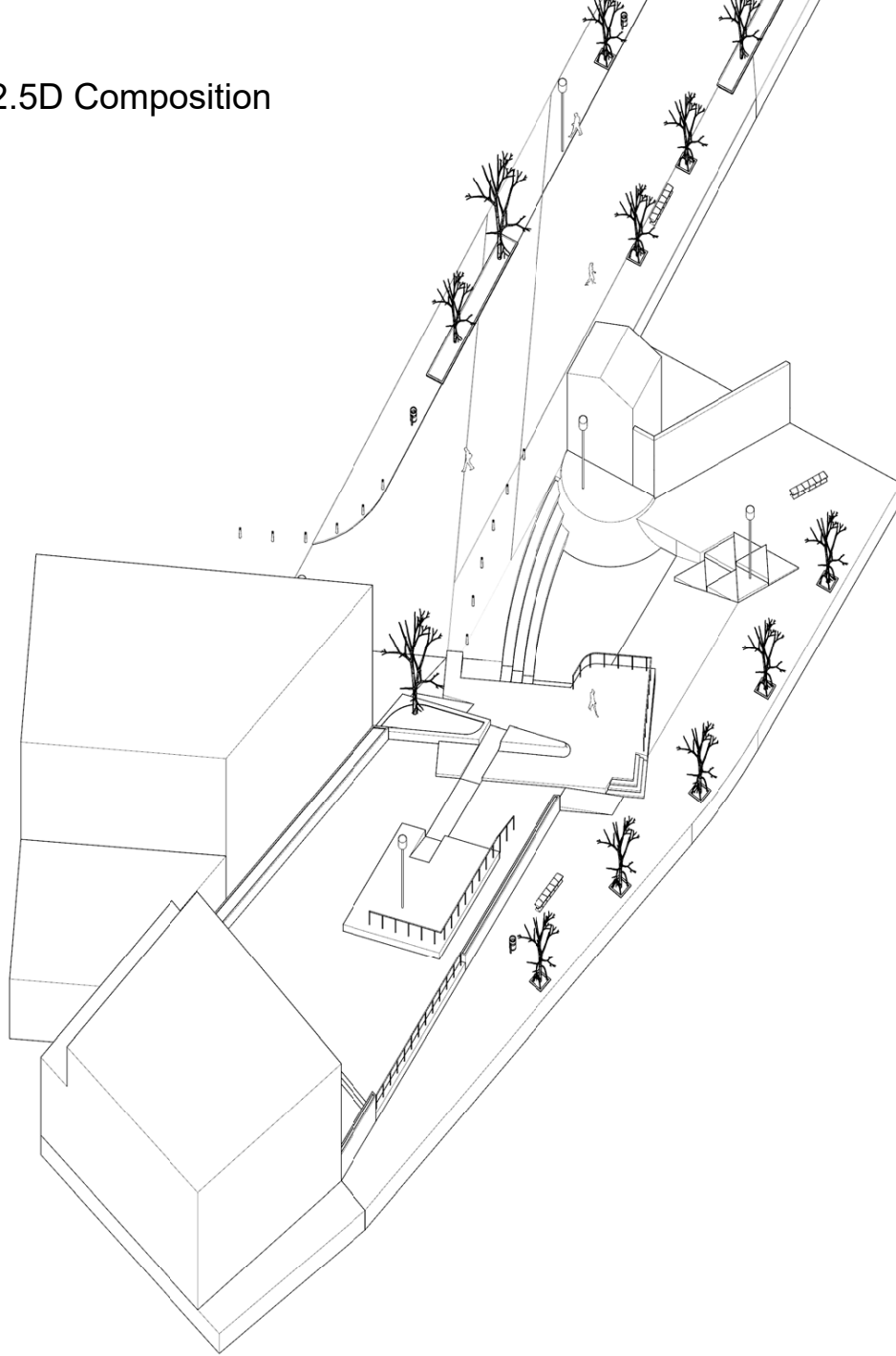




## Skatepark | 2.5D Composition

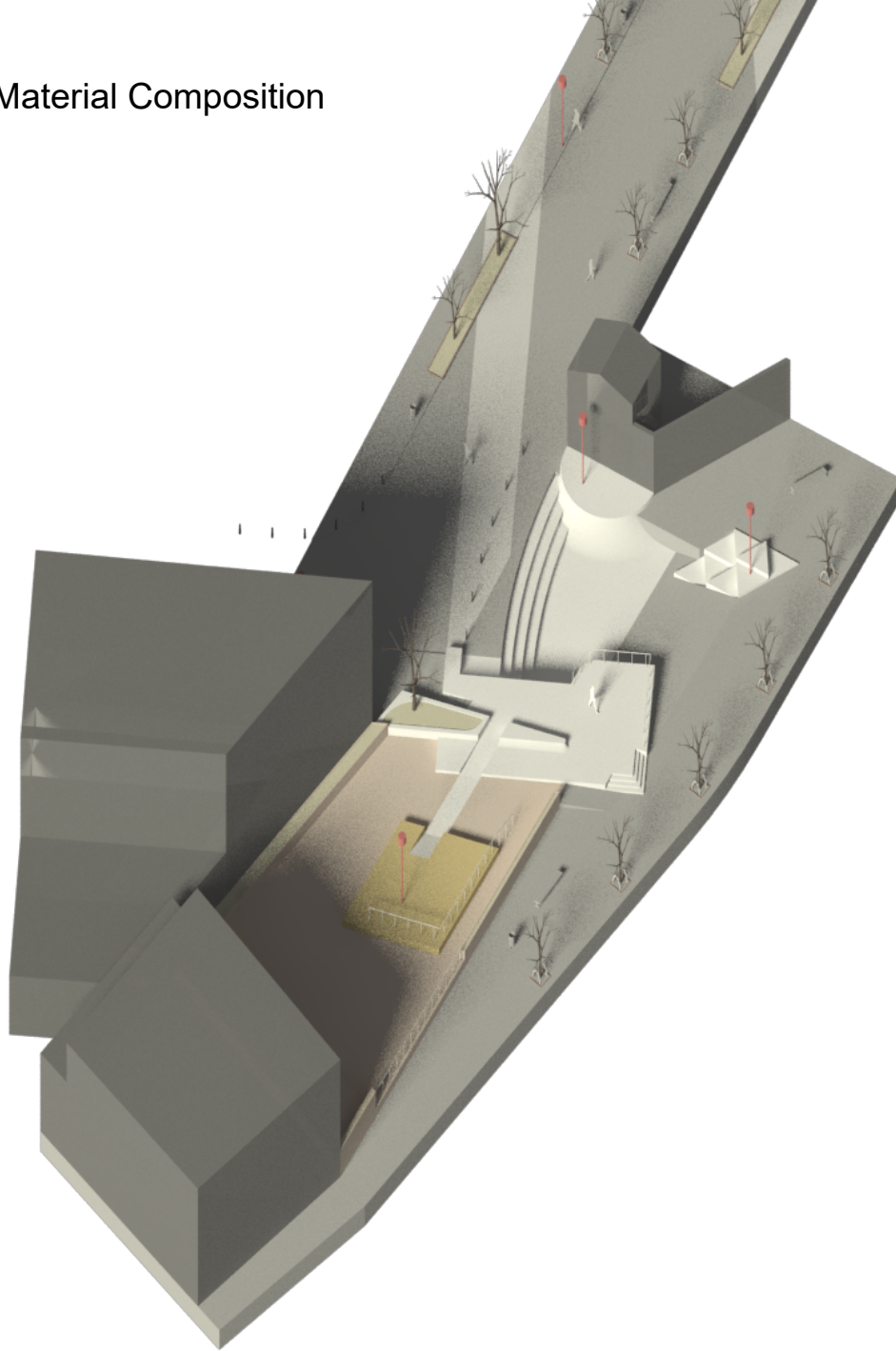


## Skatepark | 2.5D Composition

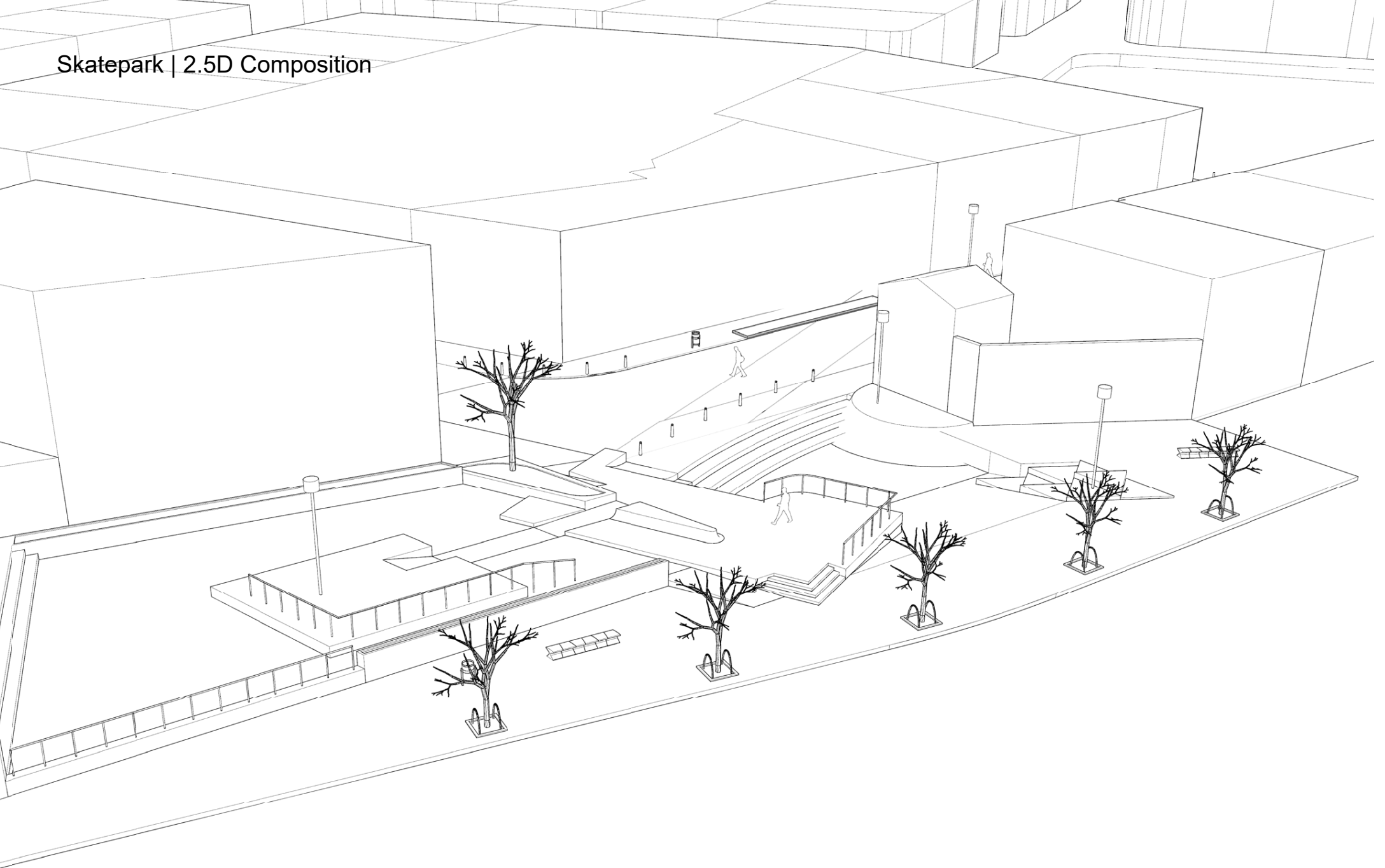




## Skatepark | Material Composition

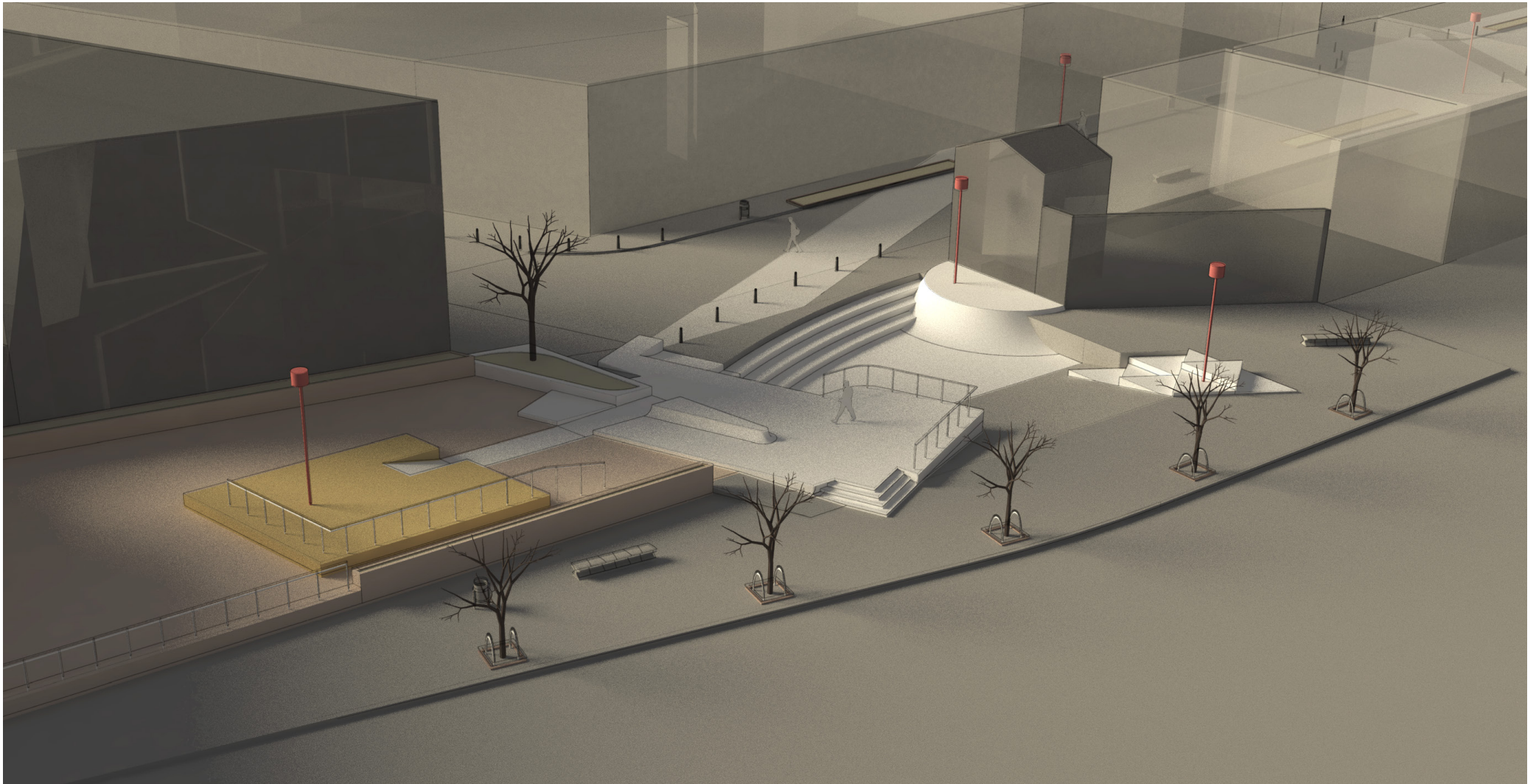


## Skatepark | 2.5D Composition





## Skatepark | Material Composition



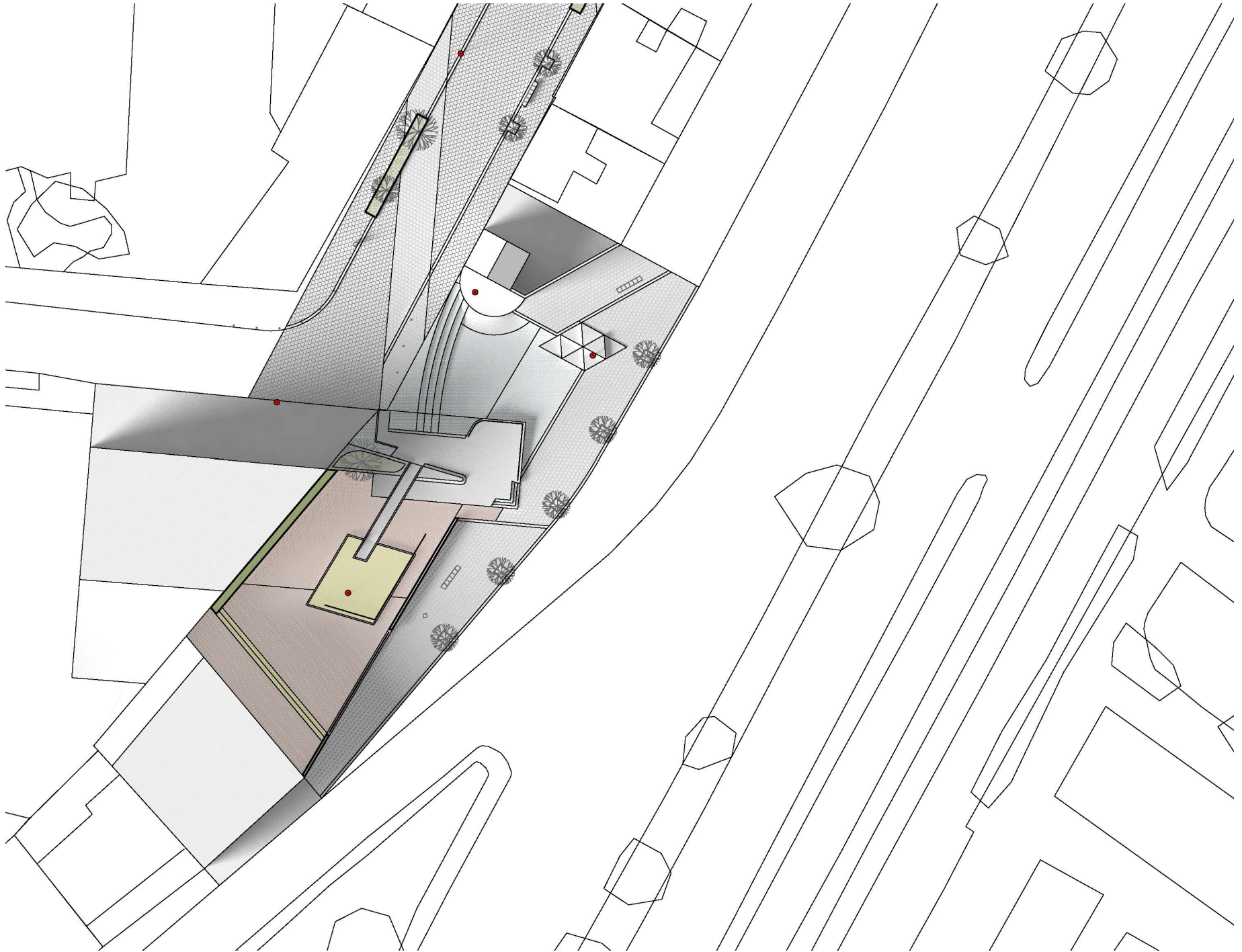
## Skatepark | Before



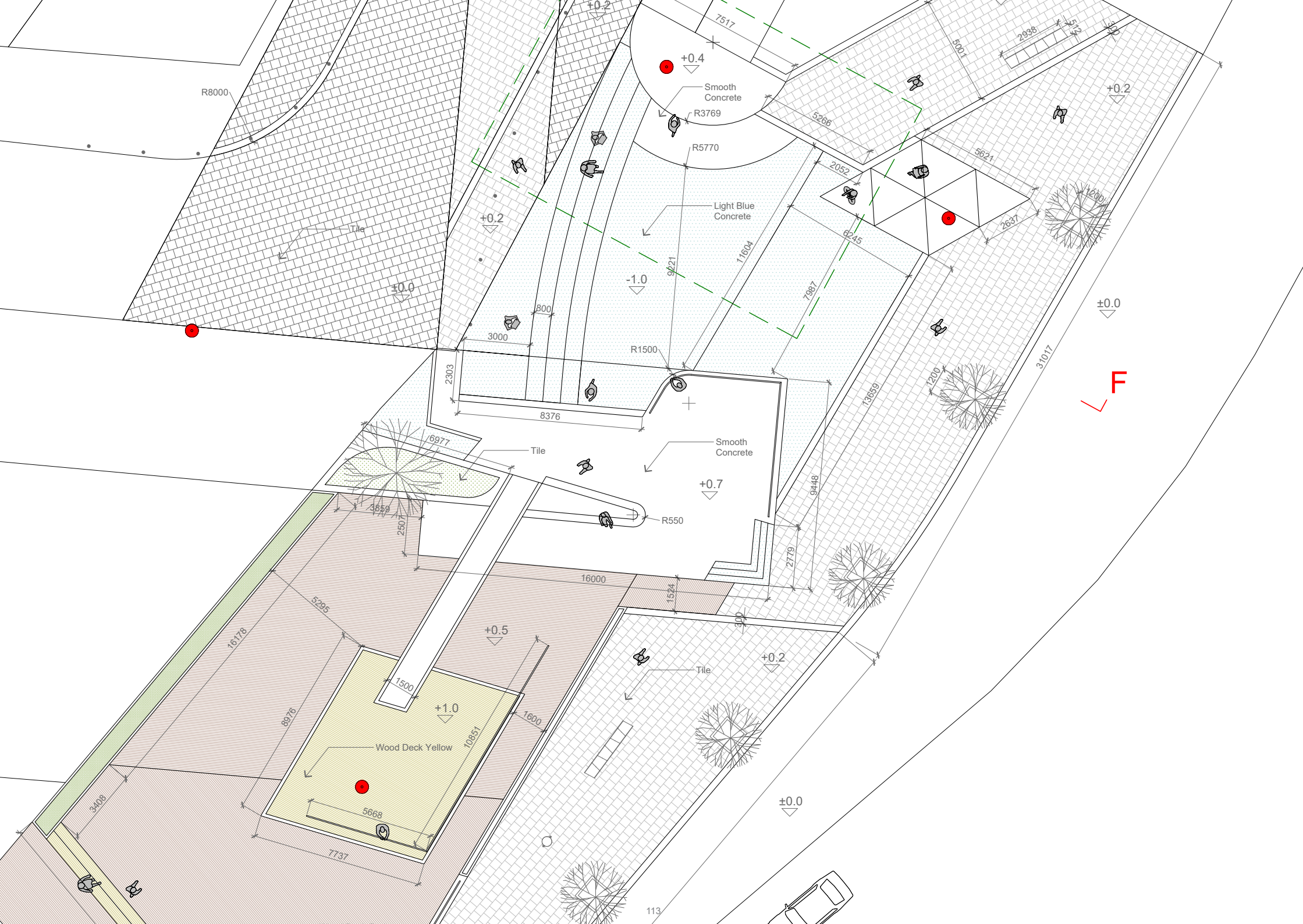


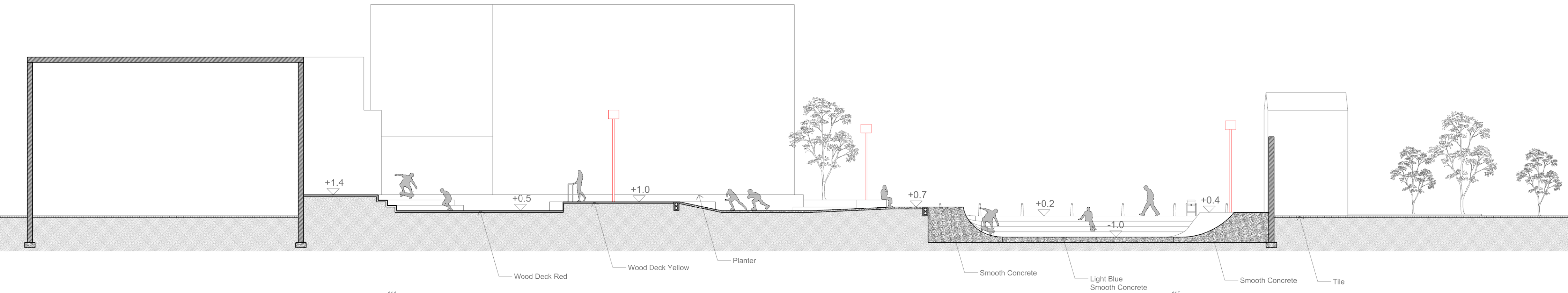
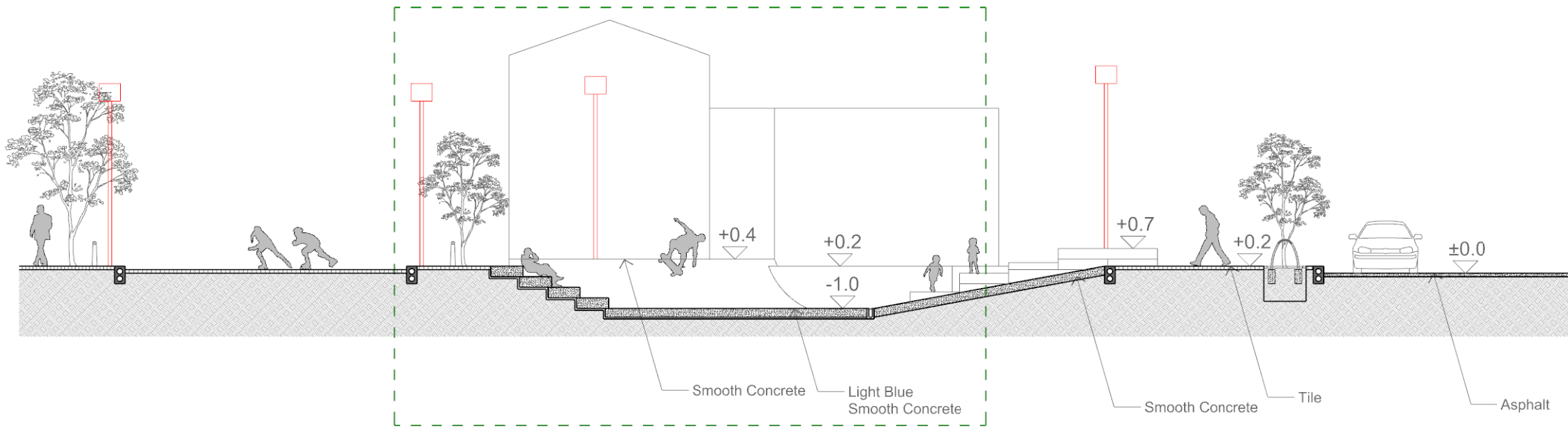
## Skatepark | After



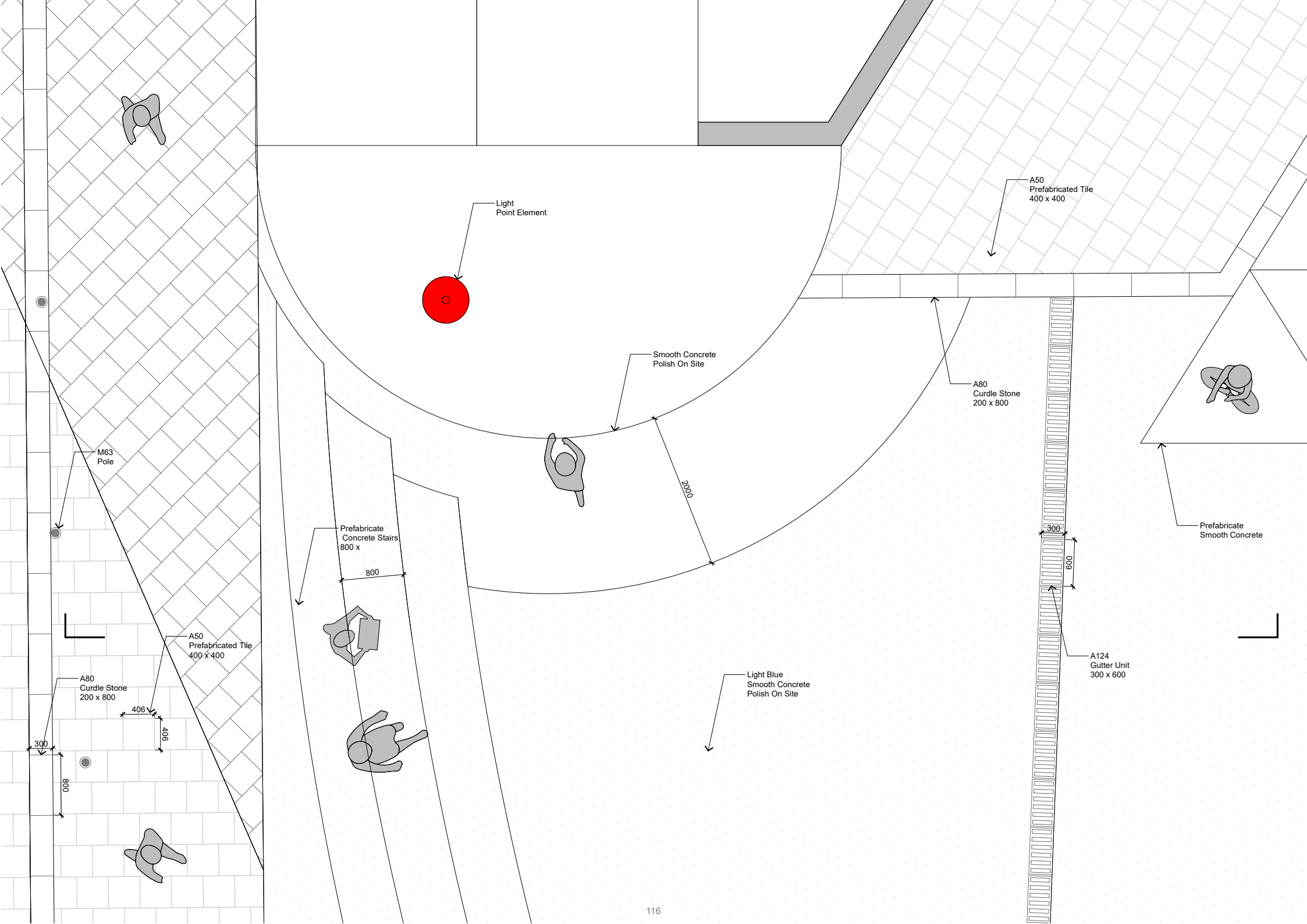


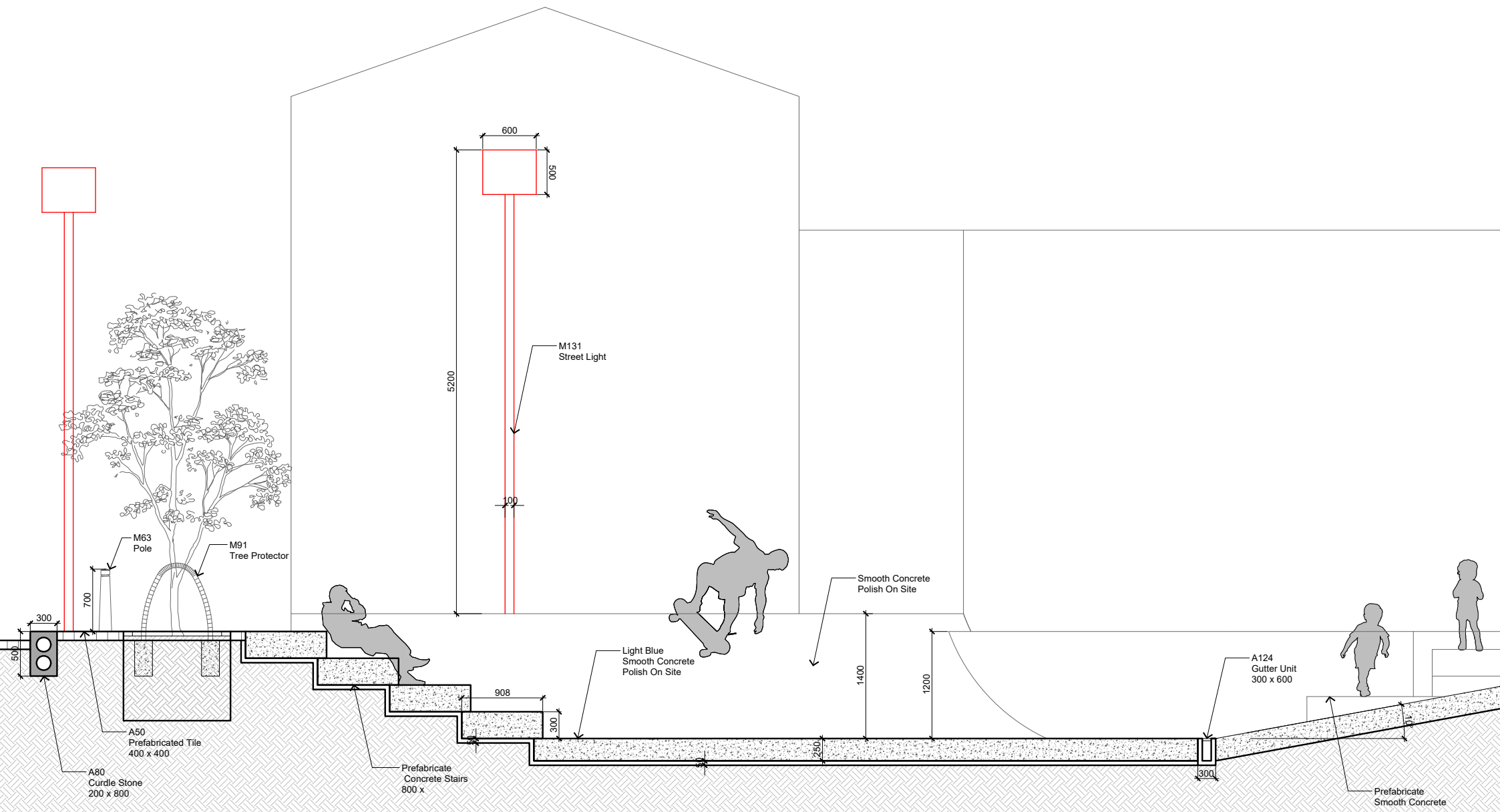










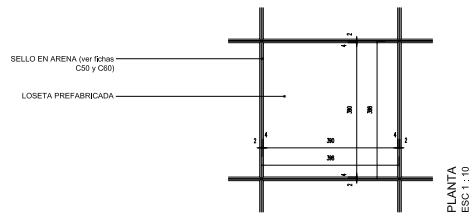




**Add-on Playful Surfaces Manual**  
(Bogota Urban Design Manual Extentsion)



**A** 50



Pieza prefabricada en concreto de 5 MPa de módulo de rotura a 28 días. Se instala sobre una capa de arena o mortero (cuando se emplee una base rígida), con sello de arena entre las juntas. Puede ser bicapa, con un espesor mínimo de 8 mm para la capa superficial.

## 400mm x 400mm x 60mm

### Dimensiones estándar

398mm x 398mm x 60mm

## 2mm

Reinstalar si la base falla. Reemplazar en caso de rotura.

## Taller del Espacio Público - SDP

### Características físicas y mecánicas

Desgast: Máx. 23mm.  
**ENSAYO SEGUN LA NTC: 5 129.** Efectuado en superficie natural en estado húmedo.  
 Número de fricción en áreas peatonales: Min. 35.  
 Número de fricción en áreas vehiculares: Min. 45.  
**PESO APROXIMADO:** 23.04 kg  
**MEDIDAS EN:** milímetros  
**TIPO DE TRAFICO:** Peatonal y vehicular hasta 35 000 ejes C2 G de 8,2t en el periodo de diseño del pavimento (20 años).

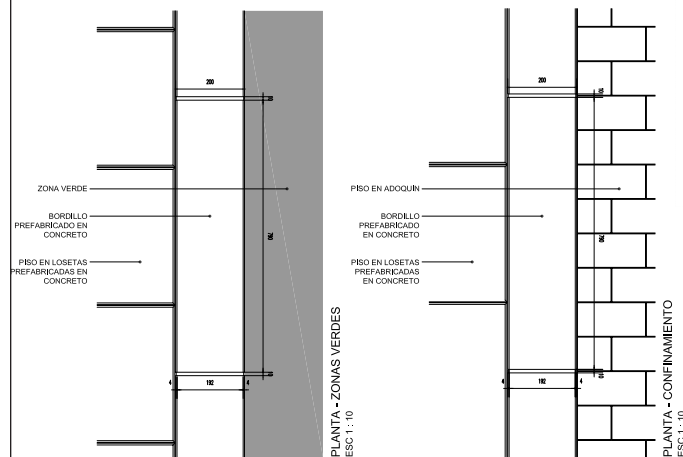
PLANTA  
ESC 1 : 10

SECTION  
ESC 1:5

**A**  
Elementos prefabricados

Secretaría Distrital de Planeación  
Taller del Espacio Público

A 80



Plaza aligerada prefabricada en concreto de 4 MPa de módulo de rotura a 28 días, con acabado liso. Se instala sobre una capa de mortero de nivelación con proporción 1:4, con juntas de 1 centímetro de espesor en mortero 1:3; sirve como confinamiento para cambios de material, o sobresaliendo hasta quinientos centímetros respecto al piso para conformar bordes en zonas verdes.

## 800mm x 200mm x 350mm

### Dimensiones estándar

## Junta estándar

10mm

Reinstalar si la base falla. Reemplazar en caso de rotura.

## Taller del Espacio Público - SDP -

NORMA NTC: 4 109 Bordillos, cunetas y topellantas de concreto.  
PESO APROXIMADO: 101,28 kg  
MEDIDAS EN: milímetros

PLANTA - ZONAS VERDES  
ESC 1 : 10

SECCION - ZONAS VERDES  
ESC 1:10

PLANTA - CONFINAMIENTO  
ESC 1 - 10

SECCION - CONFINAMIENTO  
ESC 1 - 10



Cartilla de Mobiliario Urbano

A

Secretaría Distrital de Planeación  
Taller del Espacio Público

Protector de árbol  
de dos tubos

M

91

PLANTA  
ESC 1 : 20

CORTE  
ESC 1 : 20

Descripción

Es una pieza que busca proteger los árboles de más de tres metros de altura de cualquier posible impacto o de que se apoyen elementos sobre su tronco.

Materiales

Tubo metálico doblado de 2".  
Alternativas: Estructura hecha en polietileno original reforzado con fibra de vidrio, protector UV y resistente al fuego.

Acabados

Pintura electrostática verde RAL 6028.  
En caso de ubicarse en alamedas o en andenes donde existan otros elementos de mobiliario debe ser de color gris RAL 7010. En la alternativa en polietileno, el color debe igualar el requerido para el tubo metálico según el caso.

Mantenimiento

Se debe revisar el estado de la pintura cada año.  
Si presenta abolladuras severas deberá ser reemplazado.

Instalación

Los tubos se entierran 35 cms, en cilindros de concreto de diámetro 20 cms, fundidos en sitio.

Anotaciones

NOTA 1: El corte que se haga en el piso existente para embocar el elemento se debe hacer con cortadora de disco y debe ser de forma rectangular o cuadrada. El acabado de piso del área afectada debe repararse con el mismo material de acabado de cada sitio y continuando las texturas o entramados existentes.  
NOTA 2: Para todos los elementos metálicos pintura electrostática color gris texturizado RAL 7010.

Diana Wiesner Arquitectura y Paisaje

F

200

Tomado del "Manual Verde"

JARDIN BOTANICO DE BOGOTA "JOSE CELESTINO MUTIS"

NOMBRE CIENTIFICO  
(Sinónimo/autor)

*Liquidambar styraciflua*  
L.

NOMBRE(S) COMUN(ES)

Liquidambar (Colombia), Estoraque  
Ocozotli (México), Sweet Gum

ORIGEN

Texas (USA)

Planta

REFERENTE HISTORICO / LITERARIO

Juan Jaquez Chavarría en El Fortune, narró a fuego lento la historia del árbol de la China, trayendo la esencia del Eslaoque.  
Fuente: Guía de árboles, Sandra F. de Bogalá (7)

DIVISION  
Spermatofita

SUBDIVISION  
Angiosperma

CLASE  
Dicotiledónea

ORDEN

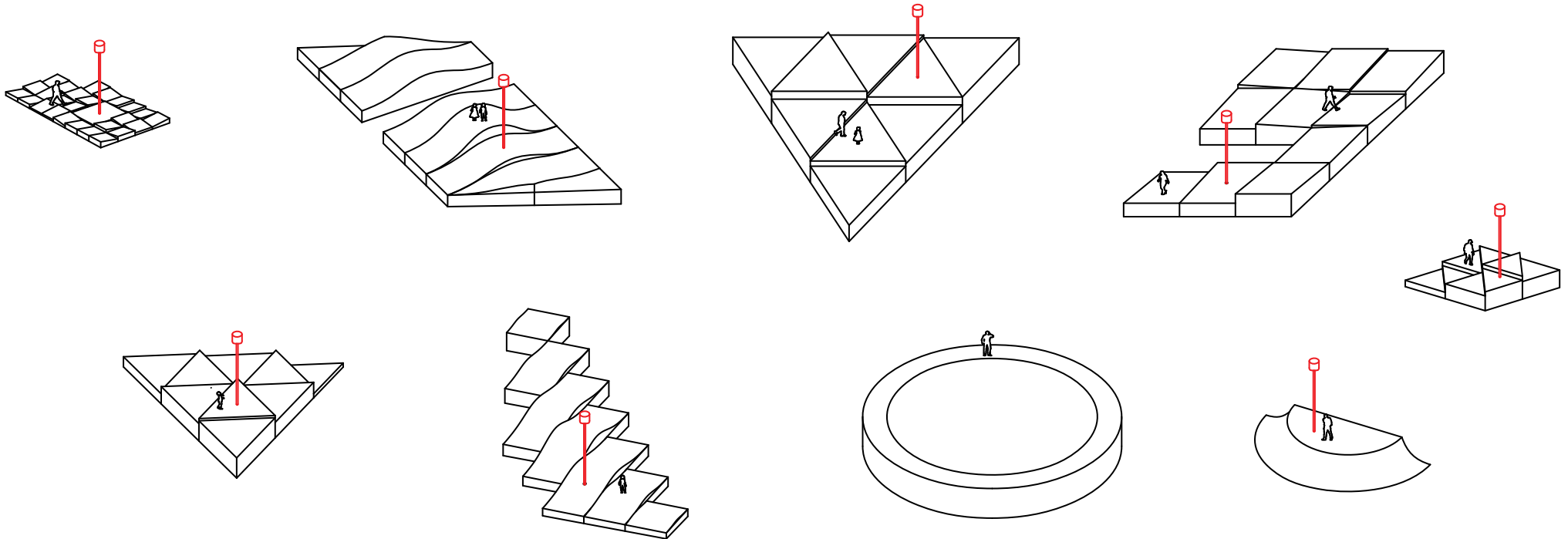
FAMILIA  
Hamamelidaceae

GENERO  
Liquidambar

ESPECIE  
Liquidambar styraciflua

IDENTIFICACION  
1 de 3

## Add-on Playful Surfaces Manual | “Playful Abstraction” as a Commonality



### **Playful**

- Stimulate unpredictable, spontaneous playful actions
- Escape from instrumental serious routine

### **Abstract**

- Draw away from practical matters
- Articulate the abstract geometric composition

### **Commonality**

- Add-on architectural and urban figures that citizens recognize as a constellation
- Commoning procedure that users find their own way to play



# P 01

## Undulating Rectangles

### Description

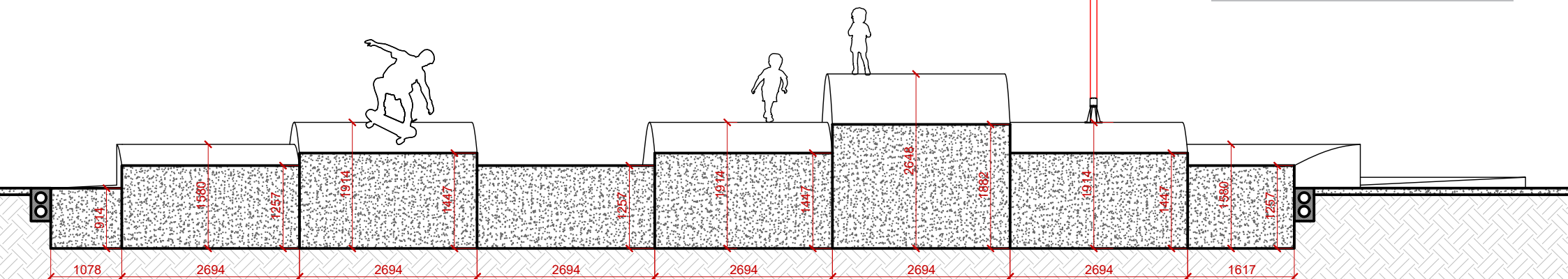
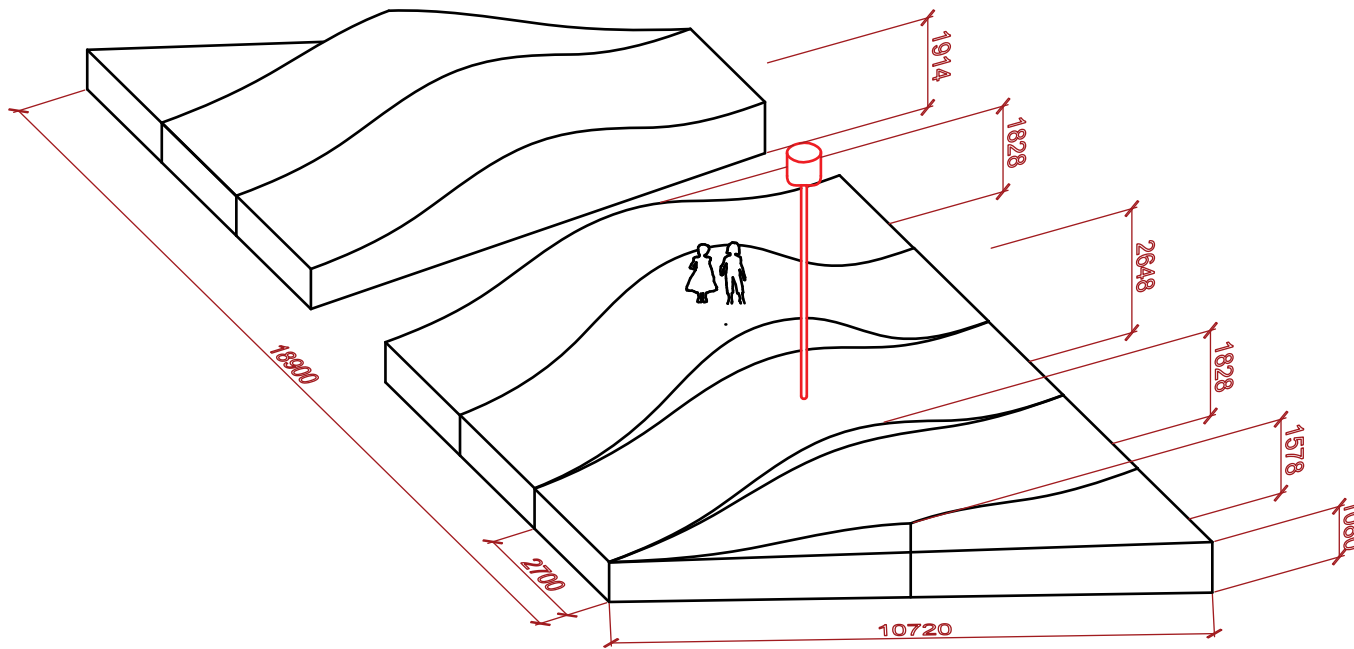
A series of long concrete blocks with undulating top surfaces and various heights

### Material

Smooth Concrete

### Installation

Prefabricate individual pieces in factory, or cast on site then polish until smooth finishing surface



# P 02

## Stepping Triangles

### Description

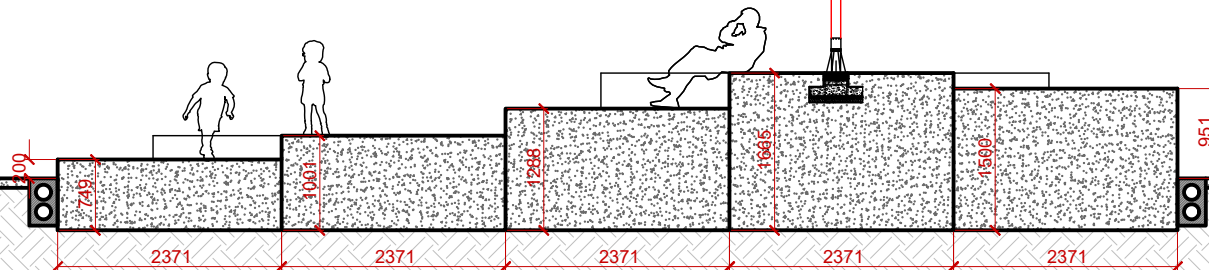
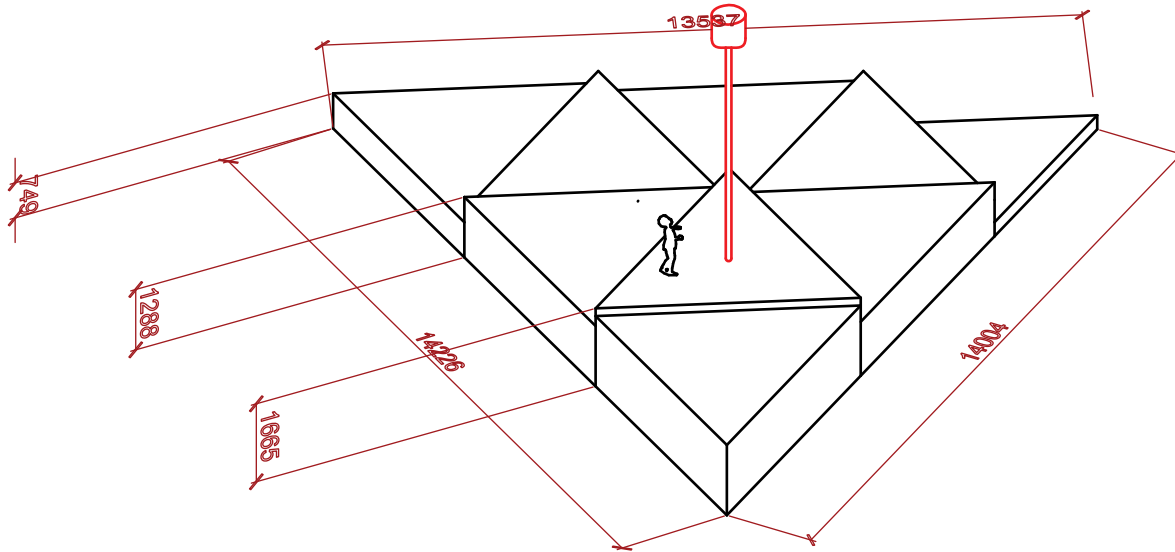
A series of triangle concrete blocks with various heights and form a big terrace

### Material

Smooth Concrete

### Installation

Prefabricate individual pieces in factory, or cast on site then polish until smooth finishing surface





# P 03

## Inclining Parallelograms

### Description

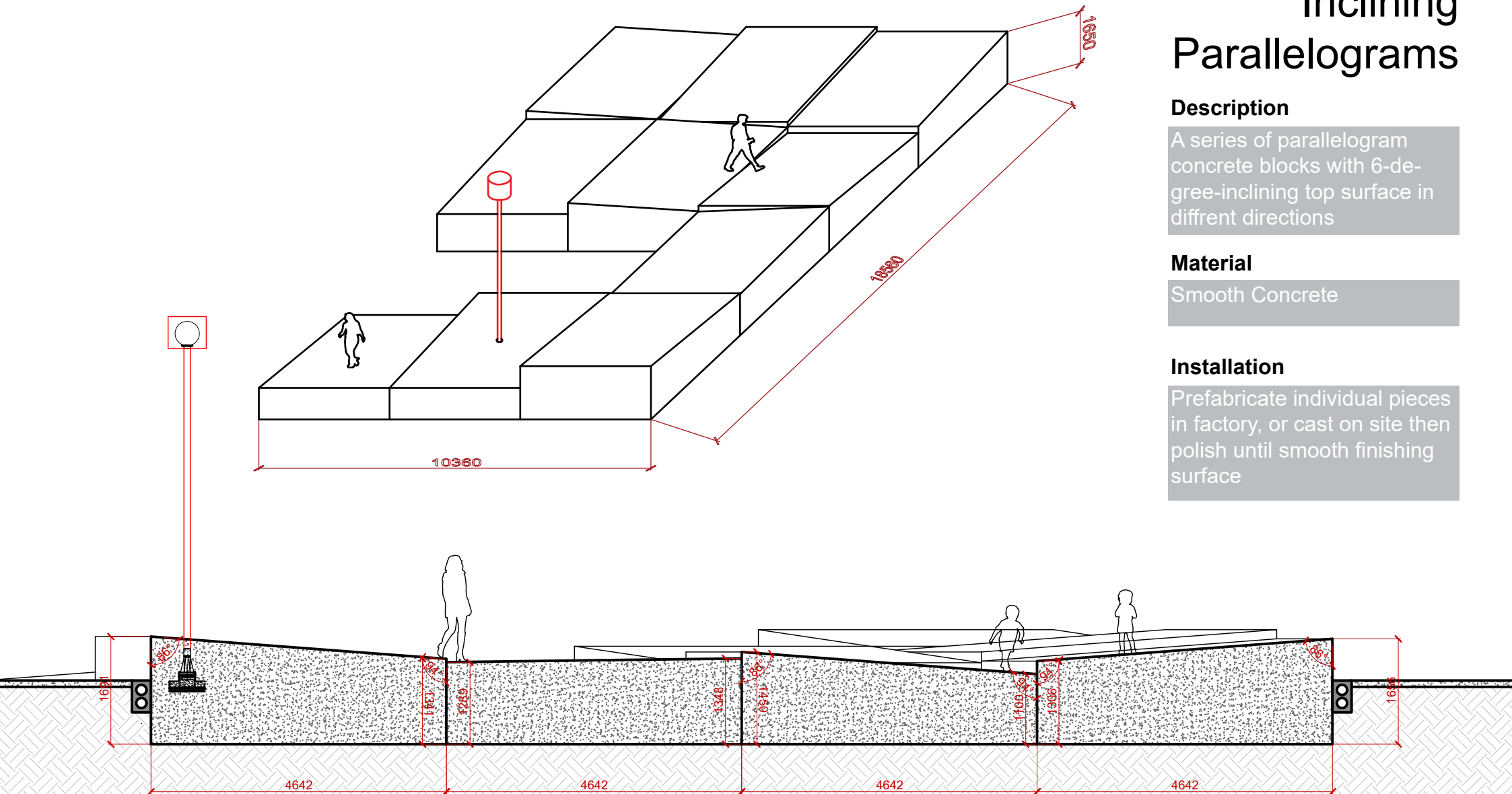
A series of parallelogram concrete blocks with 6-degree-inclining top surface in different directions

### Material

Smooth Concrete

### Installation

Prefabricate individual pieces in factory, or cast on site then polish until smooth finishing surface



# P 04

## Sunken Circle

### Description

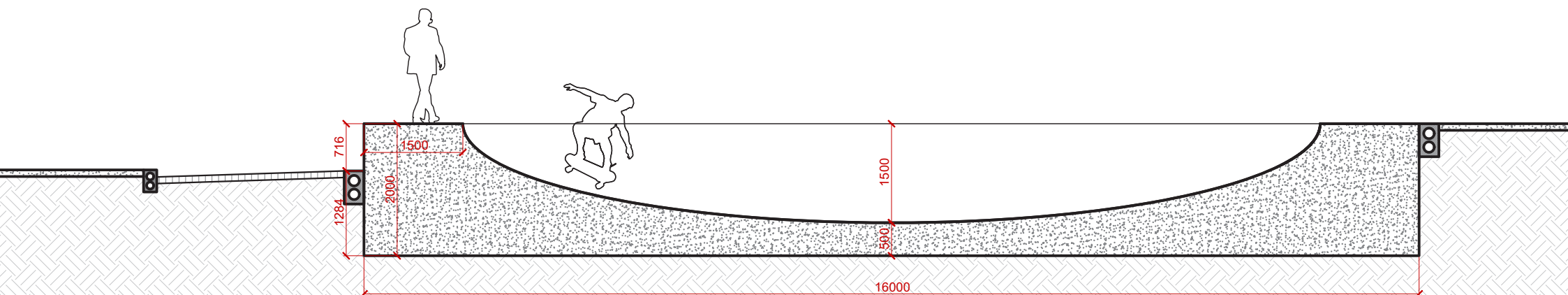
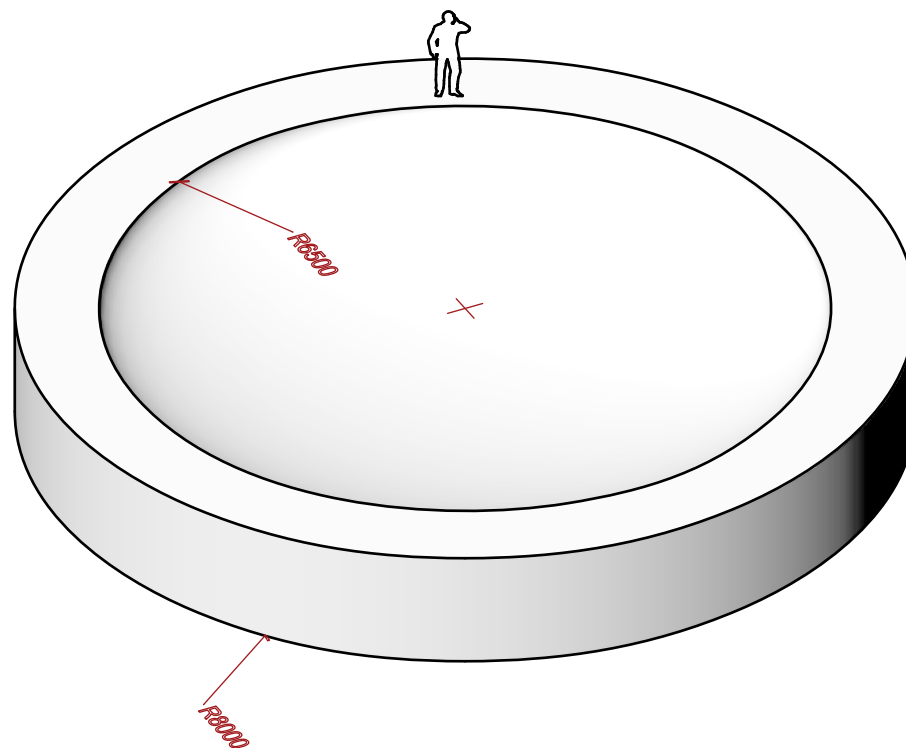
A big circular concrete block with a shallow sunken pool in the middle

### Material

Smooth Concrete

### Installation

Prefabricate fragmental pieces in factory, or cast on site then polish until smooth finishing surface





# P 05

## Truncated Cone

### Description

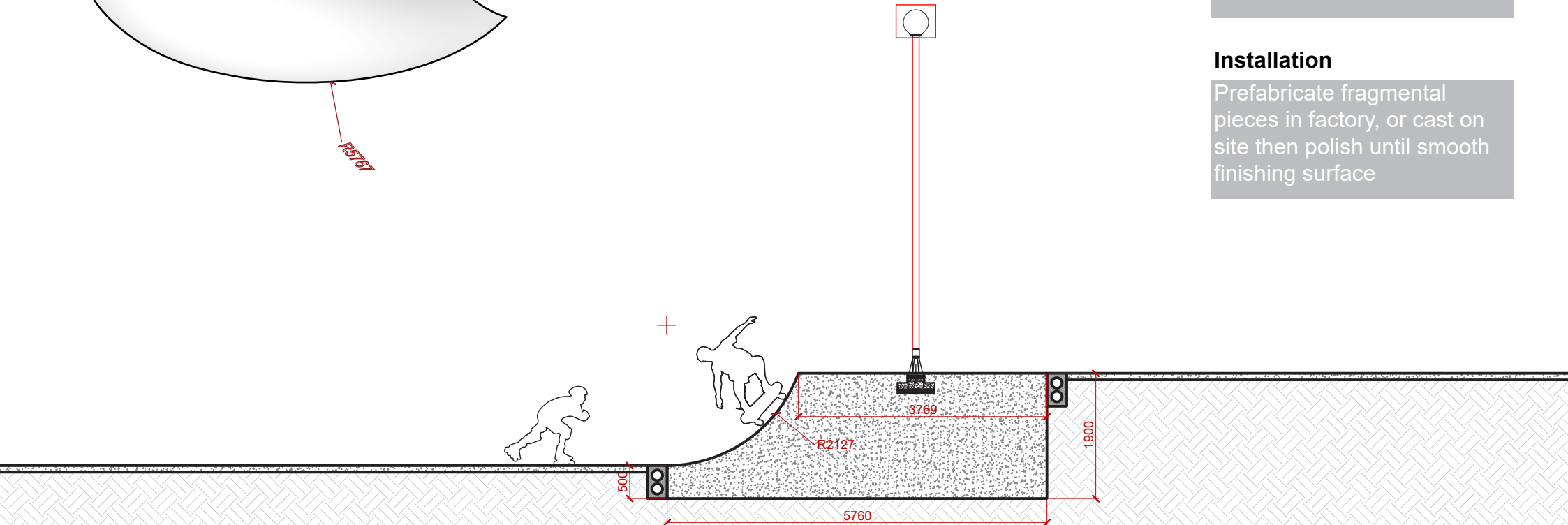
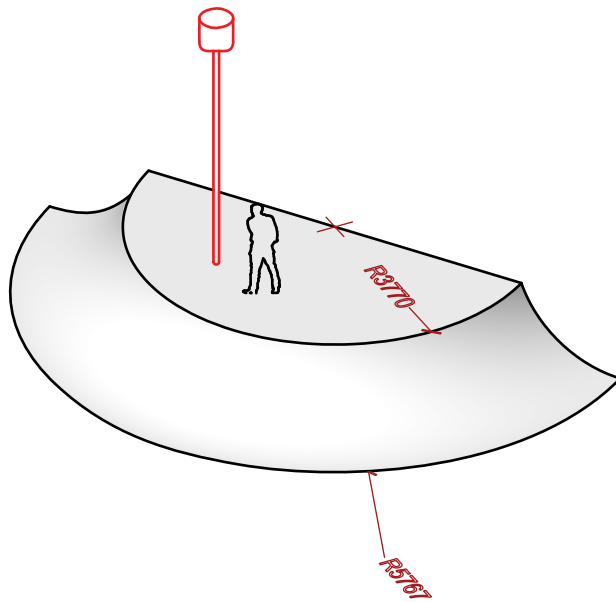
A big truncated-cone-shape concrete block with a smooth surface merging into the flat ground level

### Material

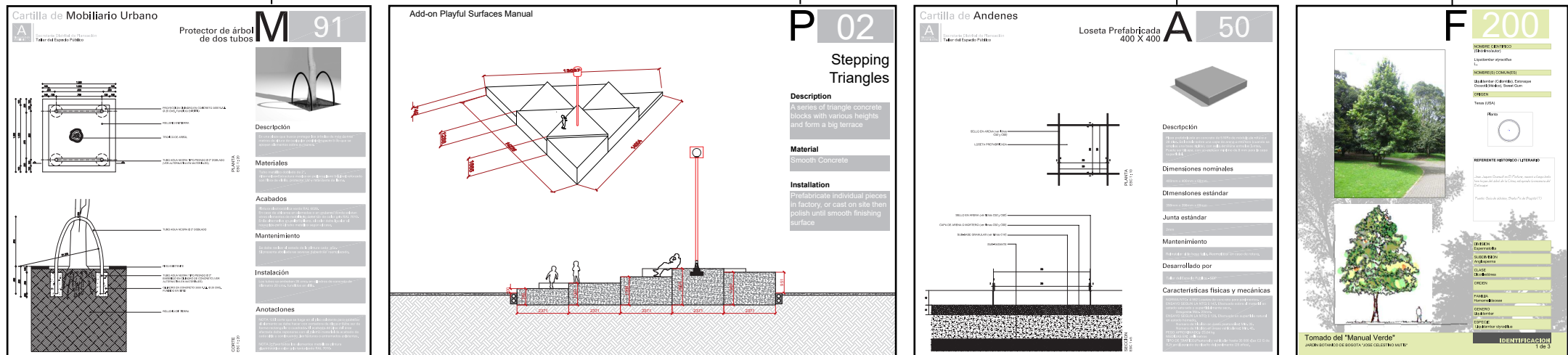
Smooth Concrete

### Installation

Prefabricate fragmental pieces in factory, or cast on site then polish until smooth finishing surface



## Material Ingredients of 2.5D Playgrounds





## Pedestrian Connection



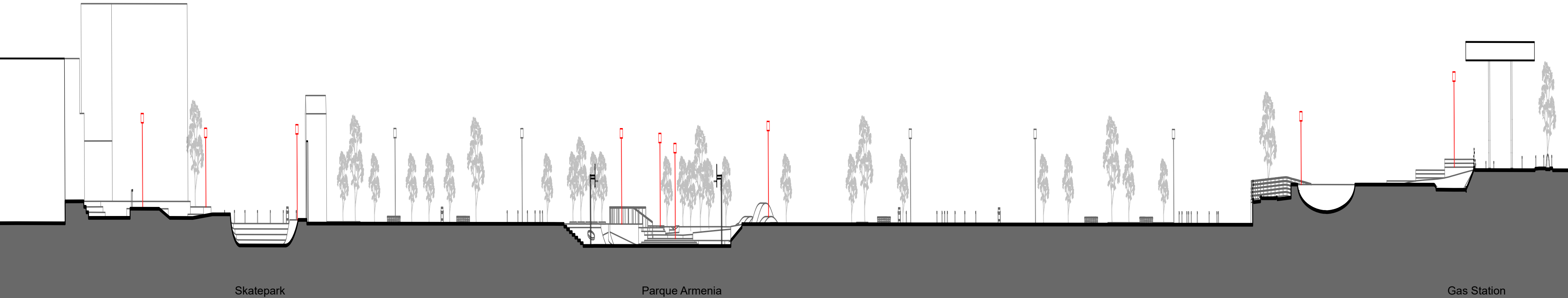


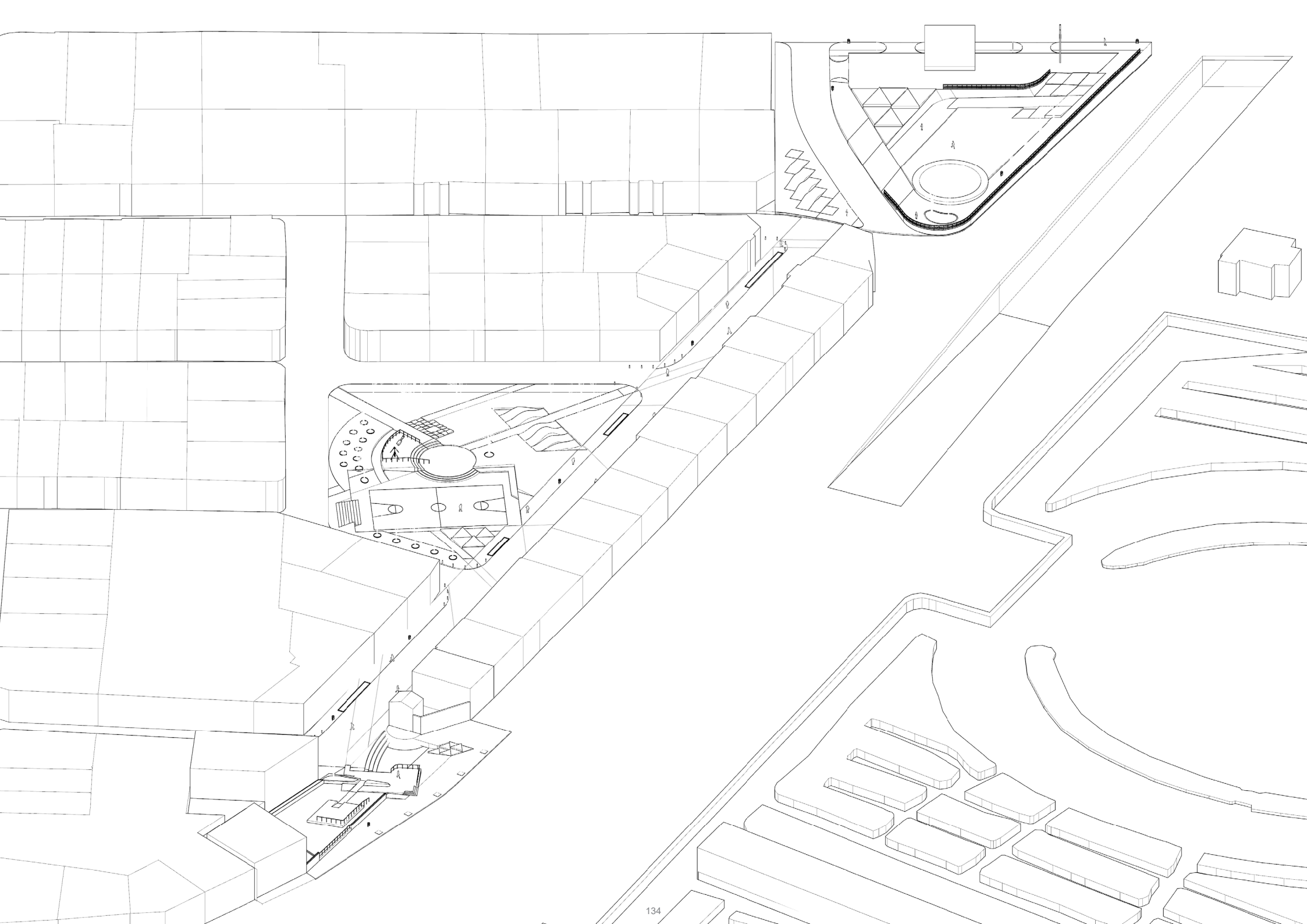
Skatepark

Parque Armenia

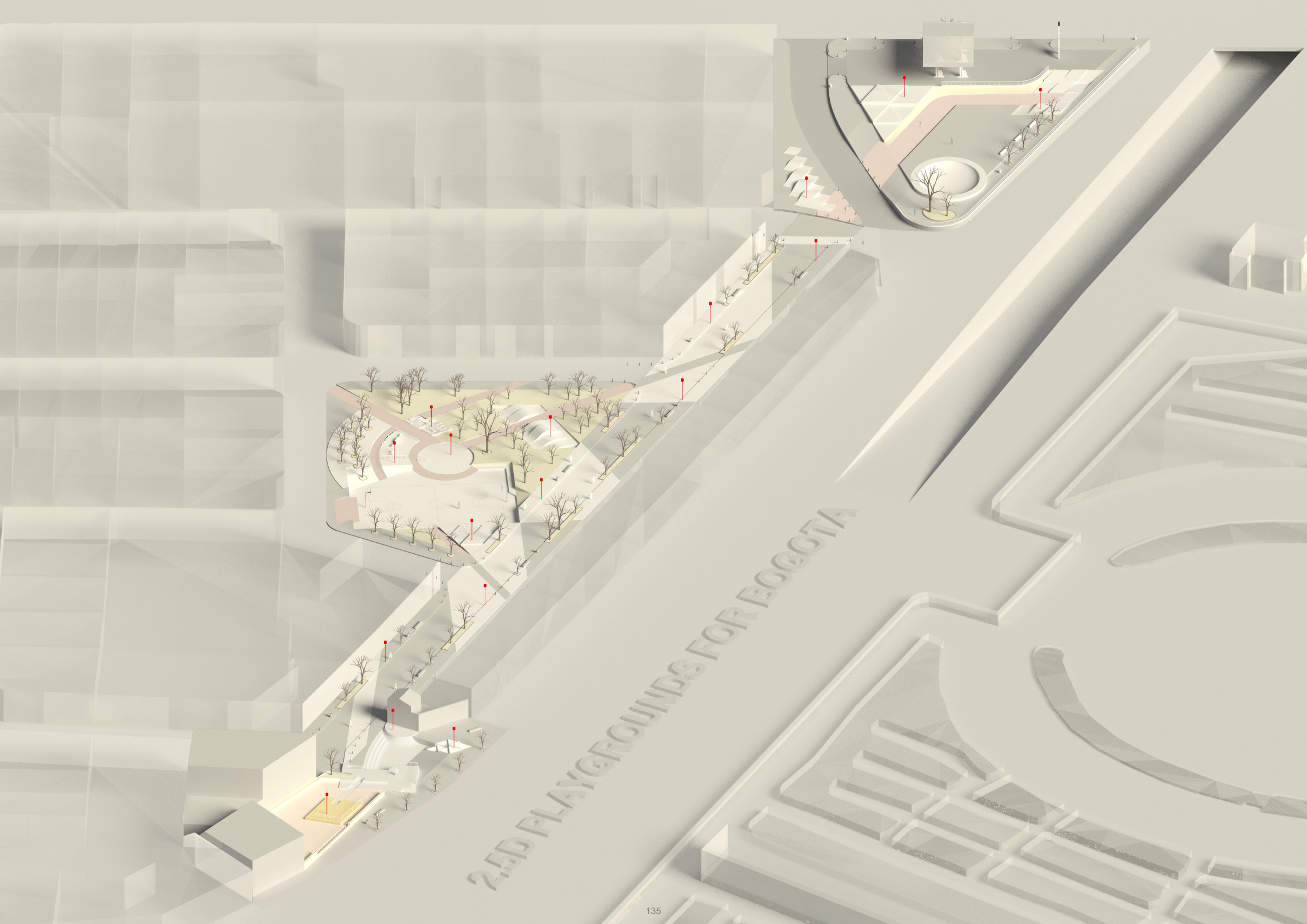
Gas Station



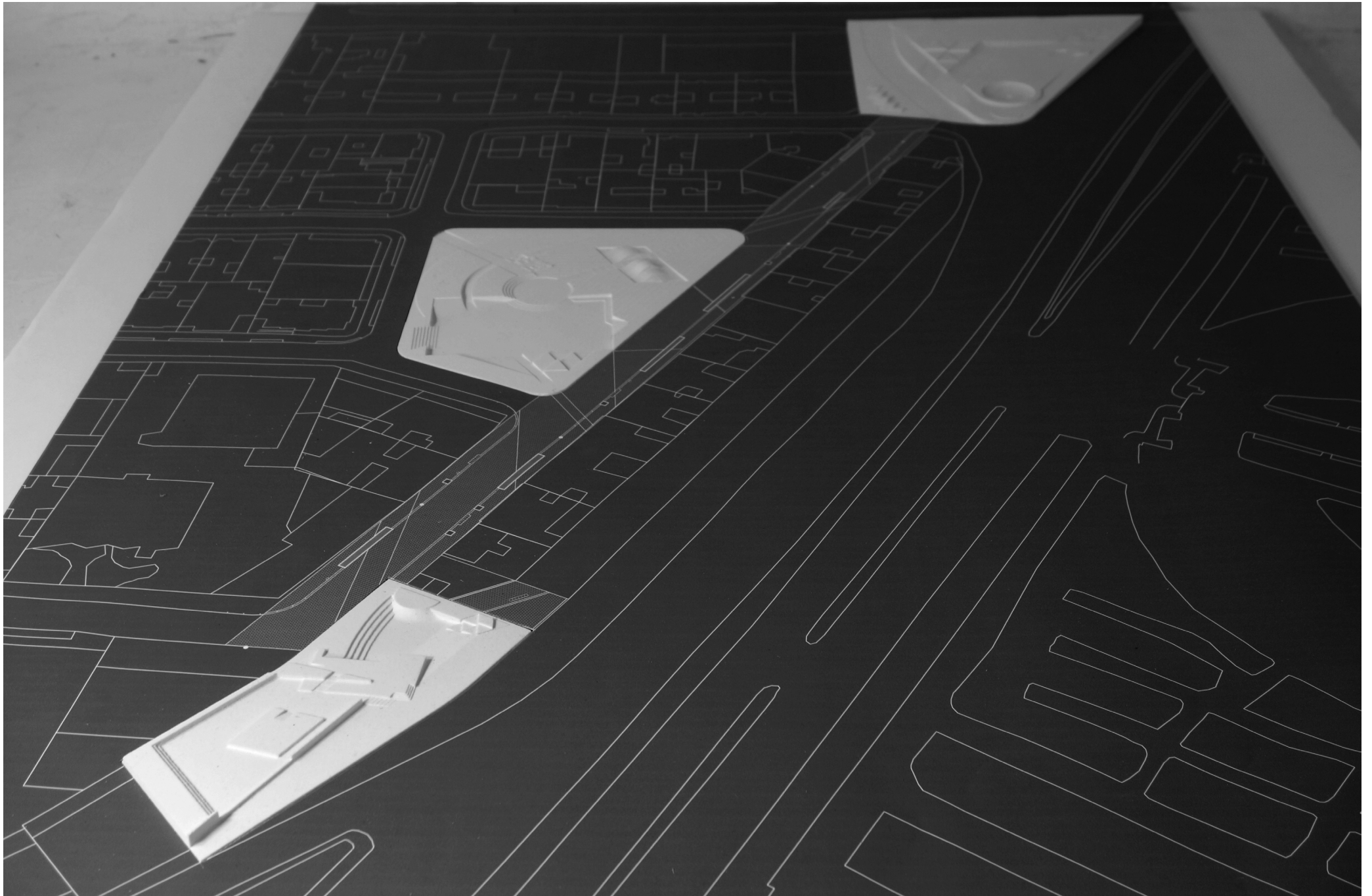










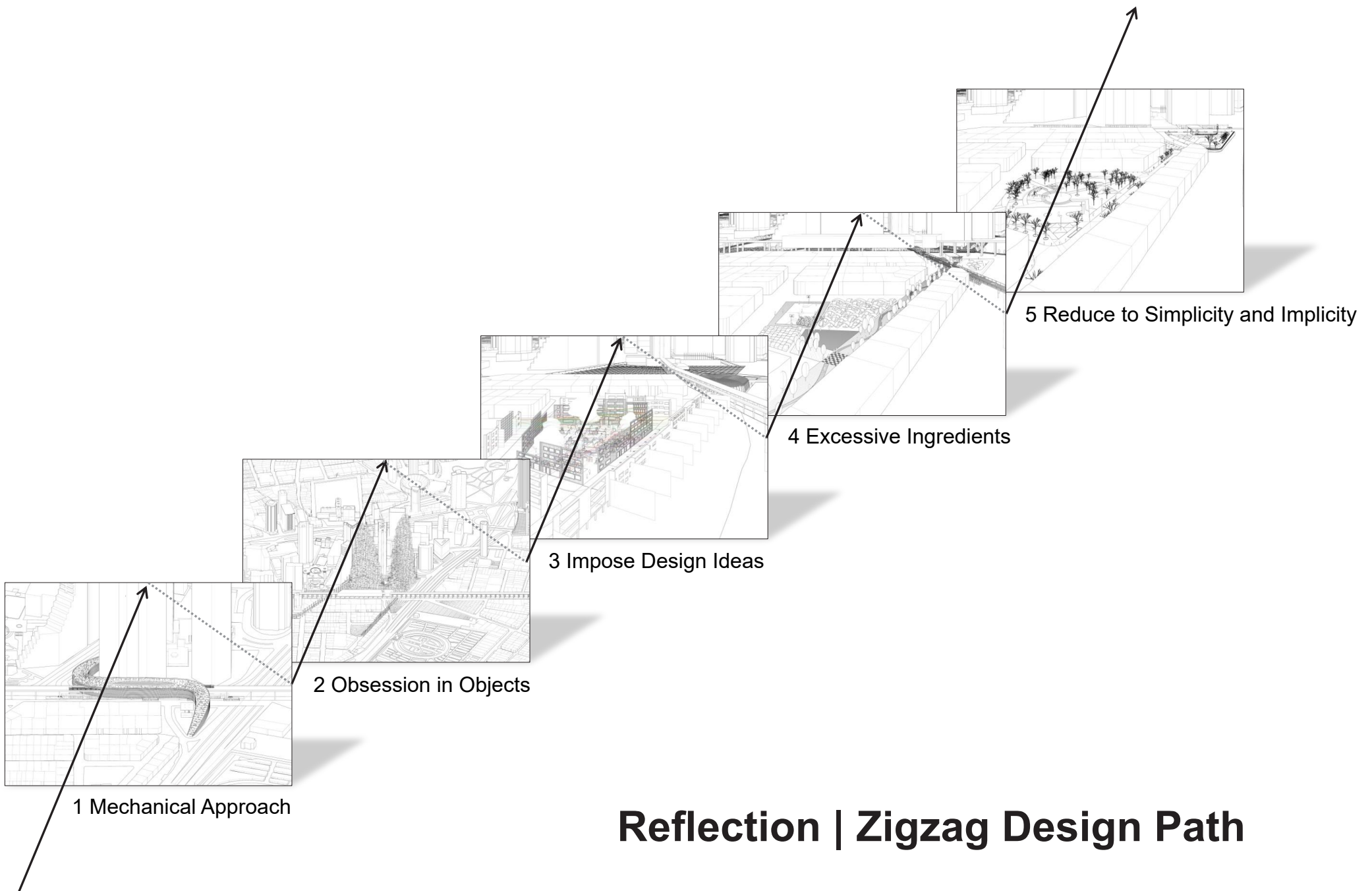




After such series of interventions, I expect that some boring, leftover and fragmental public spaces in central Bogota area will be reactivated by a constellation of exciting “2.5D playgrounds”.

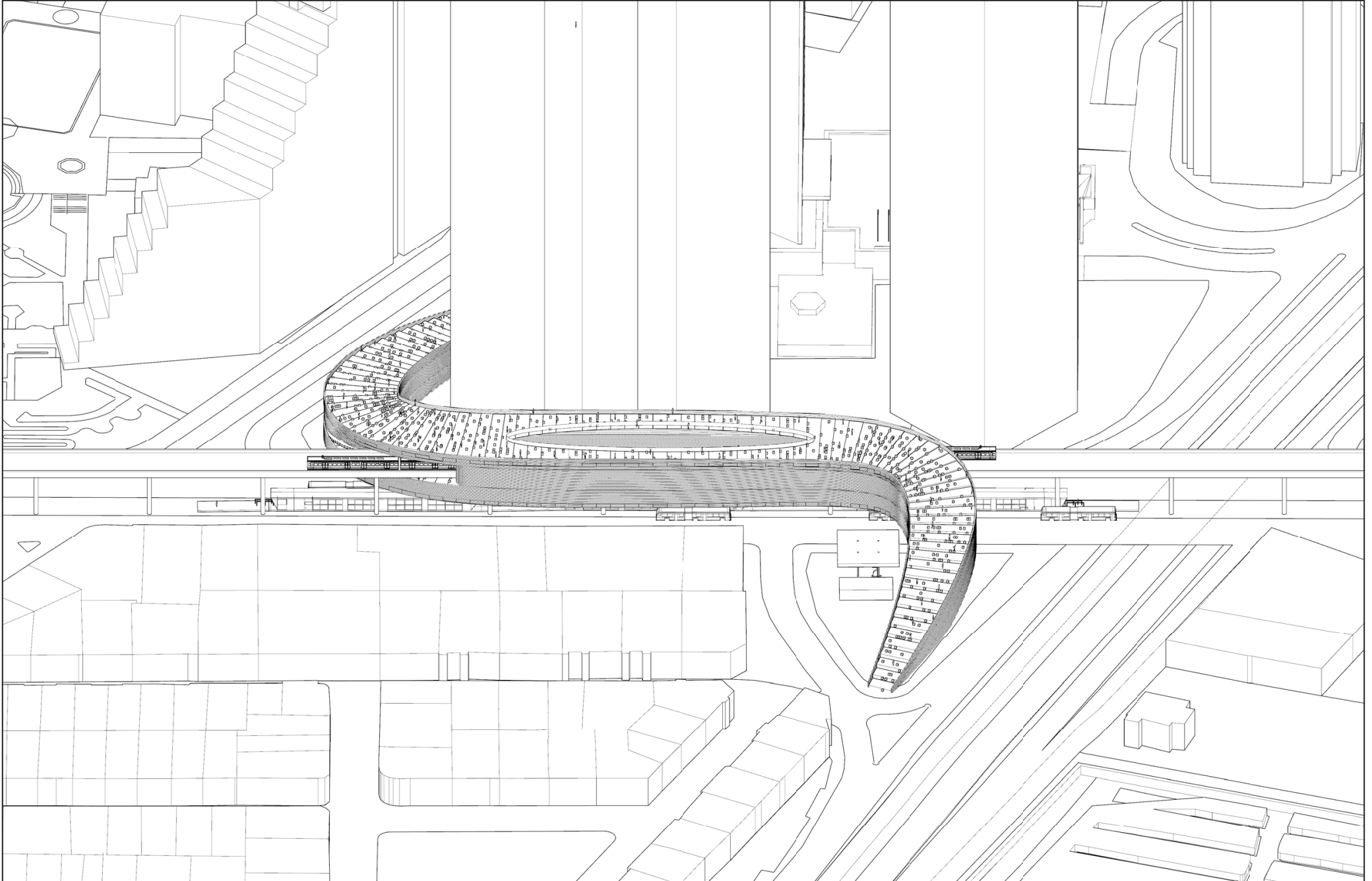
These playgrounds should be unconventional as the playful quality is achieved by manipulating the ground surface instead of adding playful objects. Yet they are humble as the minor level difference and usage of familiar materials enable them to merge into the local context.

I expect that these “2.5D playgrounds” will bring Bogota citizens together, stimulate their playful actions, and enable them to recognize the scattered playgrounds as a constellation of “playful commons”.

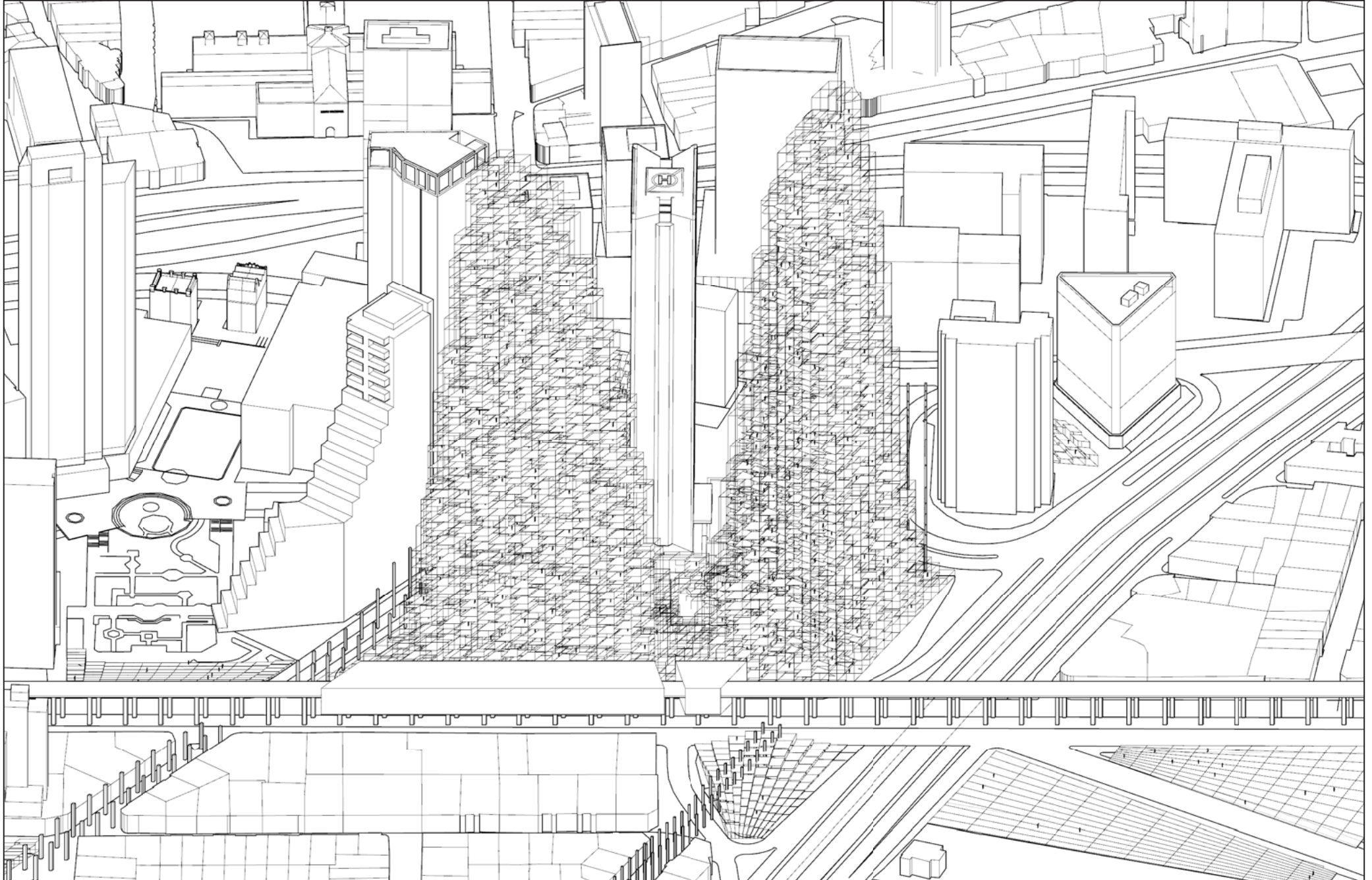




## 1 Mechanical Approach | Metro Station

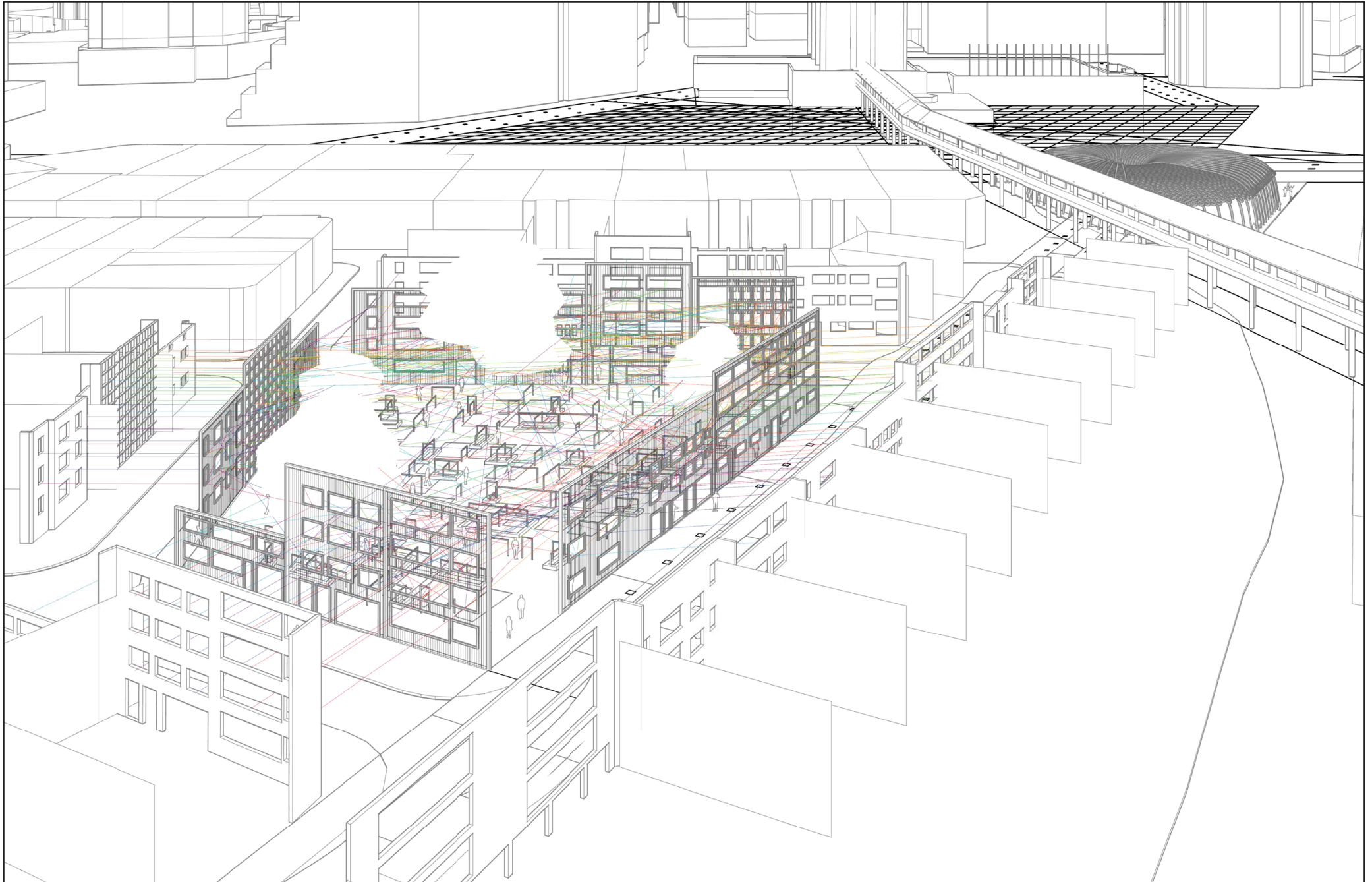


## 2 Obsession in Objects | Alternative Twin Towers

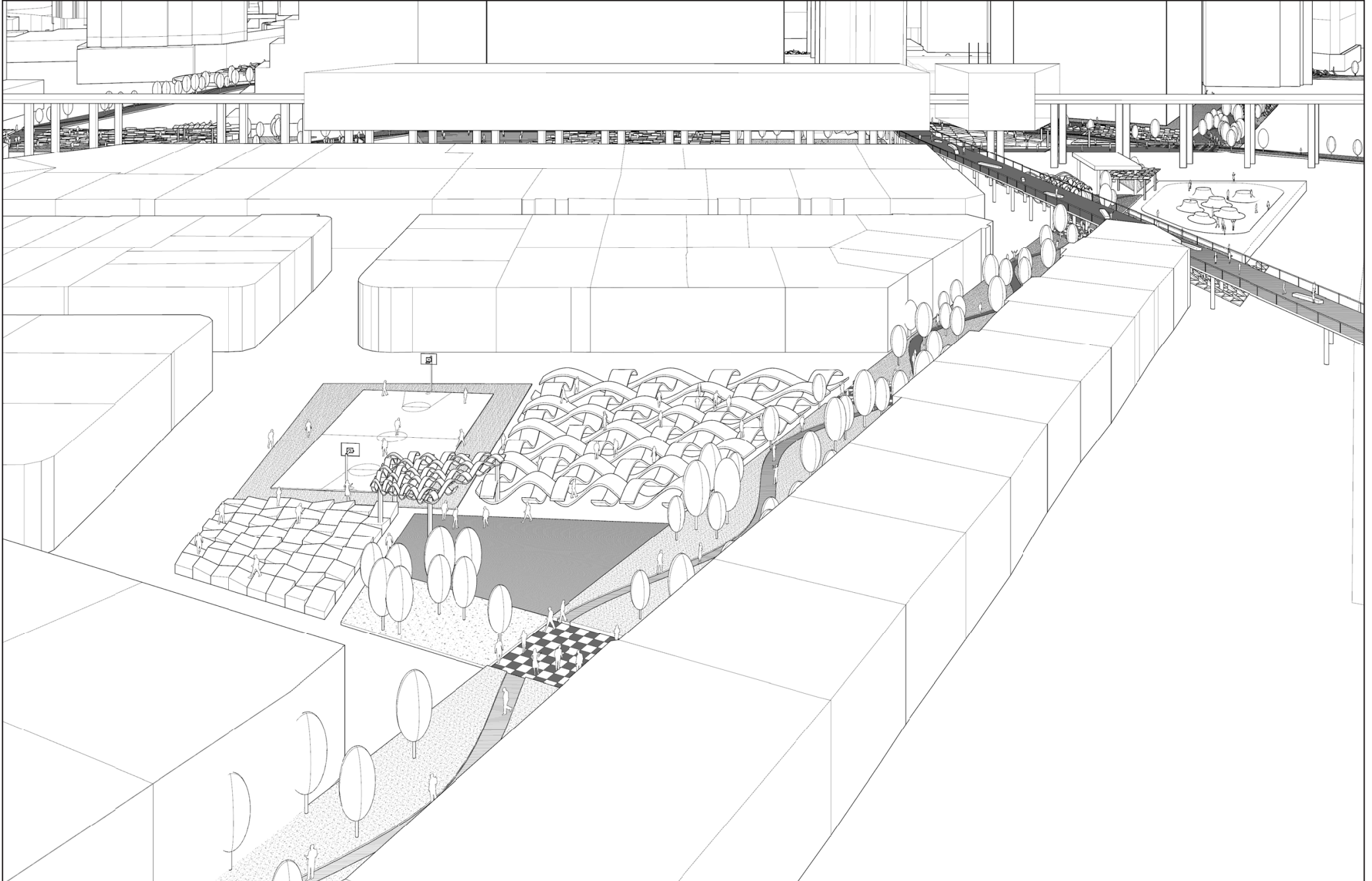




### 3 Impose Design Ideas | Community Games

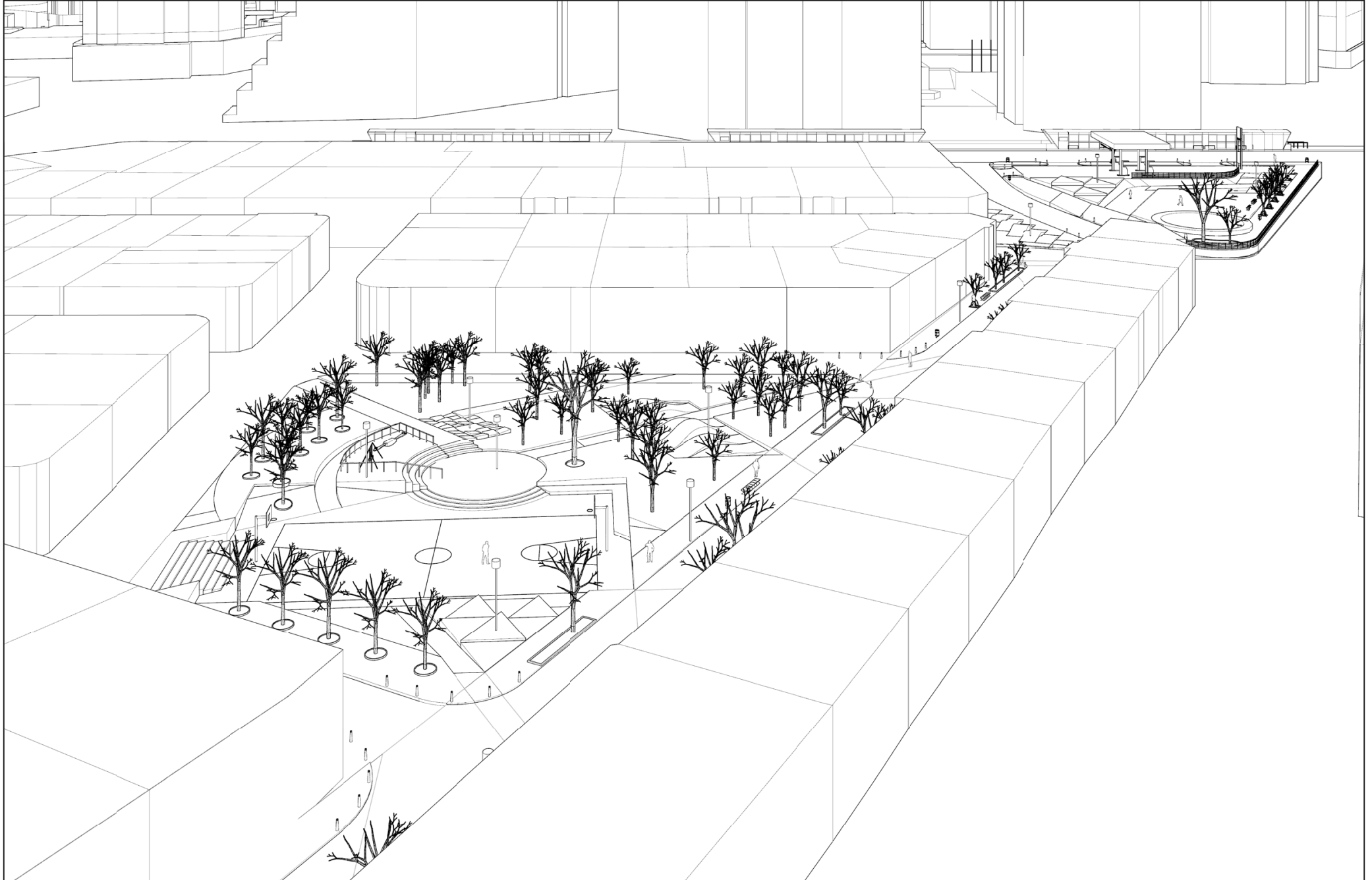


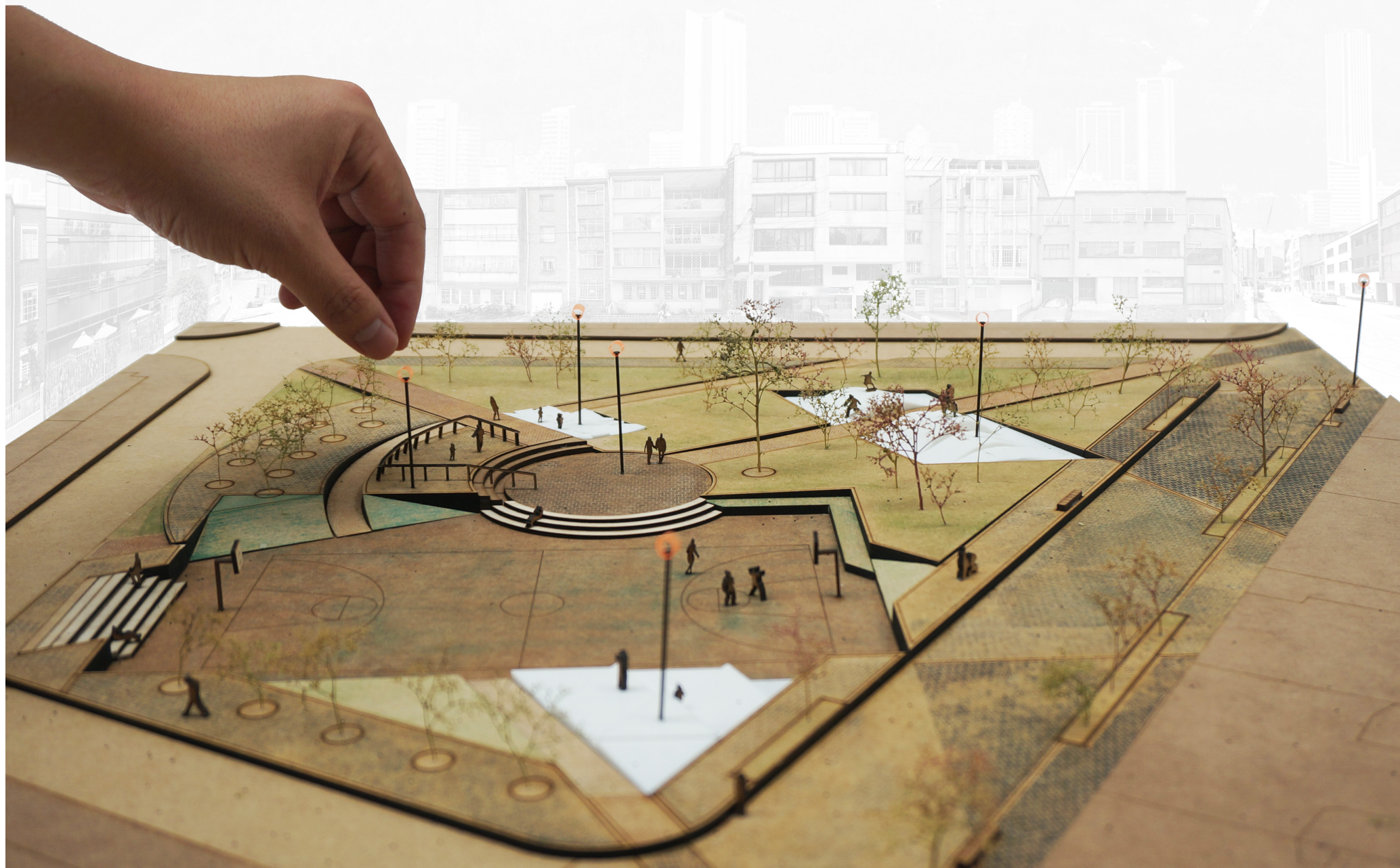
## 4 Excessive Ingredients | Arbitrary Ground Patterns



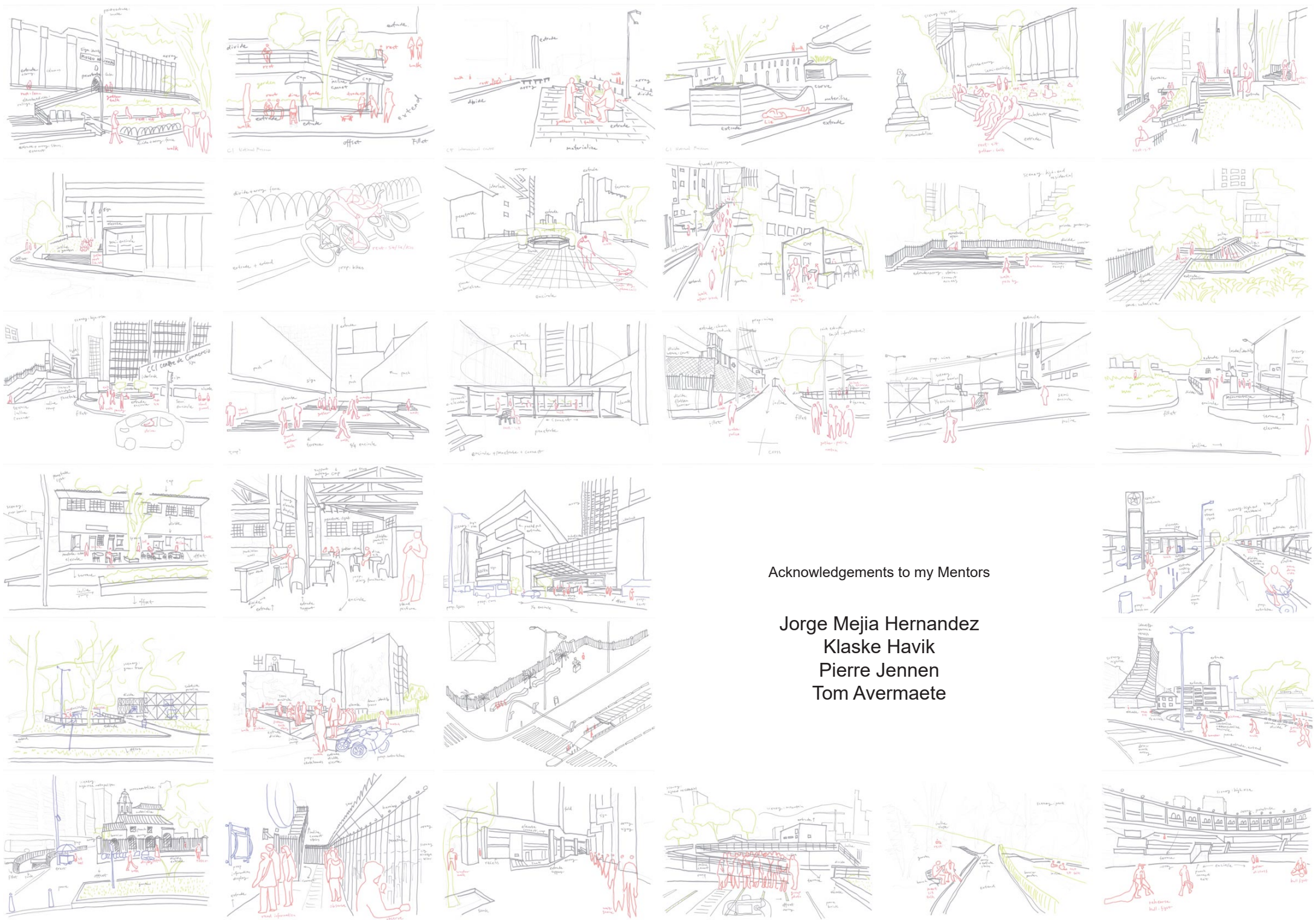


## 5 Reduce to Simplicity and Implicity | 2.5D Playgrounds









Acknowledgements to my Mentors

Jorge Mejia Hernandez  
 Klaske Havik  
 Pierre Jennen  
 Tom Avermaete