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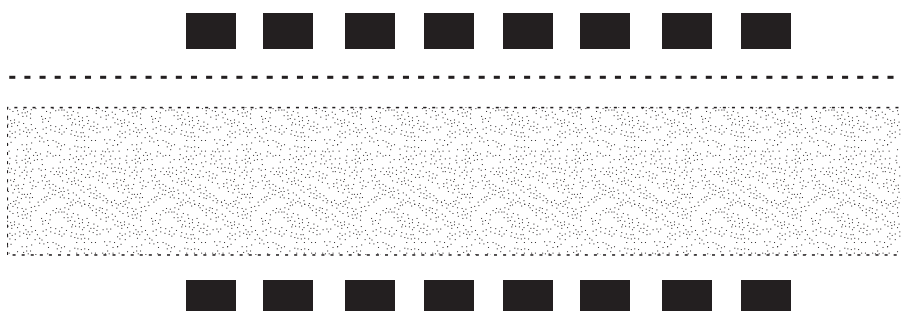
The fieldwork has been crucial for me to understand the necessities and the complexity of the political, social and economical context of the city of Agadir. Coming from a European western context, a shift in the perspective and in the approach proved to be necessary in order to fully address the challenges posed by the location. The theme of the studio “creating the commons” established already the first challenge: dealing with the theme of publicness into an urban context strongly directed toward the privatization of the little available spaces in the city. My intervention must be understood within this framework, as a safeguard of a segment of public space from the pressure of real estate company.

In addition to that, the position that I assume toward the context springs up from a critical reading of the problem-solving approach of the public administration of Agadir and more in general of a certain way of doing urban planning. In the light of this, my intervention becomes not only a mere production of a public space but aims to introduce a new system meant to create discontinuity with the existing economical, cultural and political layout.

Those site specific considerations go hand in hand with the theoretical research and the literature that have been guiding my intervention; the methodological approach to the design can be read as a combination of those two aspects, in a continuous back and forth between specificity and universality.

An important role, during the research, has been played by the analysis of the work that modernist architects made in Agadir after the reconstruction of the city. Besides the cultural and aesthetic value of such interventions, there are important lessons to be learnt that should inform our work as contemporary architects. In the specific, significant accomplishments on the flexibility of the buildings and on the space left for appropriation, have been made by Zevaco, Ecochard and Azagury already in the 50's. My intervention aims to create a bridge with the work of these and other architects, whose principles are valid now more than ever, using it as a point of departure to address pressing architectural and urban issues.

The intervention is focused on a portion of neglected urban space, a terrain vague characterized by the presence of a Oued, a seasonal river which creates an internal border in the city and a barrier between two districts. The neighborhoods facing the urban void are currently turning their back to it and the public administration ignores its existence leaving it in its abandon condition.

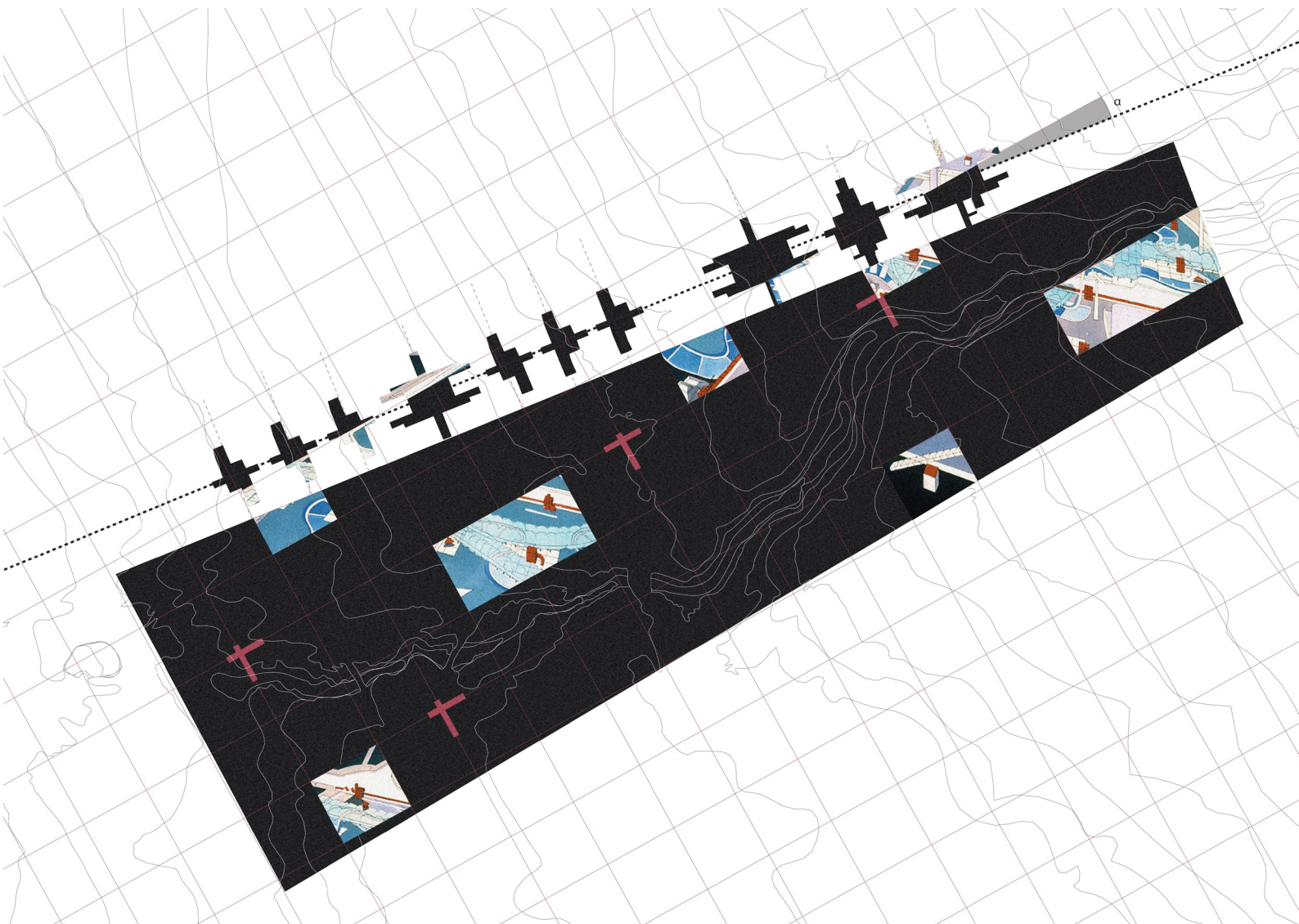


The diagram shows the typical layout of the neighborhoods facing the urban void, the rigidity of the urban fabric is increasing the deconnection

I opted to intervene on a smaller portion of the Oued, towards the outskirts of the city, which represents the point of contact between the landscape and the urban fabric. Since this area has not been absorbed by the widespread urbanization, it still contains the character of the surrounding landscape in terms of soil, textures and colors. It is my intention to preserve and to intensify its singularity by intervening with contrasting architectural elements which do not blend with the landscape.

The theme of the commons is readable in my aim of bridging, through architectural interventions, the city and the landscape and encourage the citizens to discover the potential of the Oued.

Taking into account the political and economical context of Agadir, and the impossibility of achieving a complete requalification of the area of the Oued, I circumscribed my intervention to three punctual projects that are readable as a single intervention. The theoretical framework and the literature constitutes the foundation of my design. A thorough reading of the works and theories of many authors (Aureli, Rossi, Padovan, Aris, Venturi, Kandinsky, Mondrian) is traceable in my proposal. I have been trying to draw consciously by the work of these authors not guided by a mere formal exercise but bringing back those theories to the case study of Agadir, constantly challenging the validity of those theories into an existing urban context.



The diagram/plan express the idea of intervening in the context through a series of separated interventions that are part of the a wider system