"From dérive point of view cities have psychogeographical contours with constant currents, fixed points and vortexes that strongly discourage into or exit of certain domains." 1

Visiting places one has never seen before, which in my case Cairo at that time, renders the experience of it into a limited number of isolated moments that are pushed into a sequence of narration. A city experience is reduced to a number of words, images or stills that together create a mental context that collapses reality into a collage of singular biased perspectives.

This episodic view of space is transformed and reshaped, reviewing the existing spatial field. A single view subsequently creates several new narratives. Every new perspective retraces previous steps. Within the limitations of personal perspective, space is sensorially presented from singular points at certain moments in time. From the collection of views, smells, sounds etc. we remember certain fragments and ascribe them with a personal value within a spatial context. Portrayed in memory these shreds of space leaves one switching back and forth between perceiving and projecting space.

1 Debord, Guy. Théorie de la dérive. Internationale Situationniste #2 Paris 1958

A Coptic Christian minority in Moqattam (garbage city) are Cairo's informal waste collectors. Because there is no religious objection, they keep pigs that in turn are key in waste processing. Although this social and economic system is counteracted by the city to sanitise the area, these waste streams comprise a high potential. Apart from their financial value they have spatial implications on both an architectural and urban scale, considering the process from dumping to reselling.

Similar to a bottle of wine recalling a specific event, the personal value of waste deteriorates when it's discarded. Being part of a waste stream it 'decomposes' into smaller generic pieces, leaving only traces of memory. Spatially analogous to the waste process, these traces elaborate on past events to the point where it's original shape has become unrecognizable. Retracing their origin allows for personal and speculative interpretations.

This design for a waste processing plant in Cairo offers space for the Zabbaleen to maintain the current waste system, also taking benefit from it on spatial level. While currently waste is stored within the domestic area, this plant allows families to dump, process, store and sell it again elsewhere.