

SABRINA CARERI

BURP, MLA





Sabrina Careri
URBAN PLANNER +
LANDSCAPE DESIGNER

RESUME

PROFILE

As a detail-oriented and energetic professional, I strive for continuous learning and put my all into every challenge. I have successfully graduated with a Master of Landscape Architecture degree, which provided me with a strong foundation in technical and graphic design principles, as well as the ability to translate theoretical knowledge into practical solutions. I lead as the Lab Manager at Toronto Metropolitan University's Ecological Design Lab, a design research and advocacy studio specializing in landscape planning, nature-based solutions and advancing city resilience.

I also hold a Bachelor of Urban and Regional Planning degree, providing me with a deep understanding of planning policy and land use complexities. Over the past seven years, I successfully completed several design concepts, courses, and workshops for both faculty and professional clients, showcasing my ability to thrive in both individual and collaborative settings.

I approach every project with a high aptitude for learning and a dedication to personal and professional growth. I am particularly passionate about ecological connectivity practices, restoration, and the potential for storytelling, placemaking, and healing through design and nature in urban spaces.

SELECT EXPERIENCE

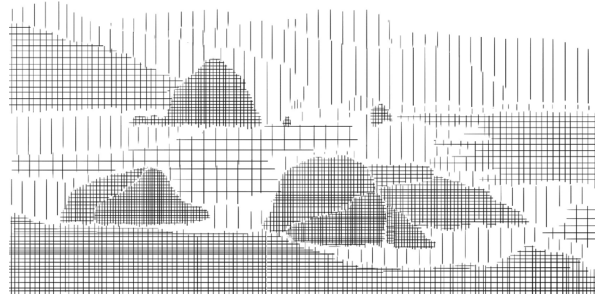
Ecological Design Lab Toronto Metropolitan University Toronto, Ontario <i>Lab Manager: Senior Associate & Project Coordinator</i> 2021 - present	DiverCity Lab Toronto Metropolitan University Toronto, Ontario <i>Research Assistant</i> 2019 - 2021
The National Environmental Treasure Vancouver, British Columbia <i>Graphic Design & Communications Consultant</i> 2024 - present	Client Planning + Design Consultancy Toronto Metropolitan University Clients include: the Downtown Brampton BIA; the Regional Municipality of Durham and the Town of Ajax; and the Guangzhou Academy of Fine Arts <i>Junior Planner</i> 2020 - 2021
American Museum of Natural History, Student Conference on Conservation Science University at Buffalo New York, New York <i>Workshop Lead: Telling Species Stories</i> June 2024 - November 2024	

EDUCATION

Master of Landscape Architecture University of British Columbia Vancouver, BC 2021 - 2024	Bachelor of Urban and Regional Planning Toronto Metropolitan University Toronto, ON 2017 - 2021
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TECHNICAL PROFICIENCY

Adobe Photoshop	Autodesk Revit	Model-Making
Adobe InDesign	Analog + Digital Drawing	Rhino 3D
Adobe Illustrator	Lumion	QGIS
AutoCAD	Microsoft Office	



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PROJECTS

FASHION, DEATH, AND RE-BIRTH

06

REGENERATING MILAN'S DECOMMISSIONED
RAIL YARDS TOWARDS ECOLOGICAL,
SPIRITUAL, AND CULTURAL ATTUNEMENT

Graduate Thesis Project

EMERGENT PARK

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RE-WILDING PLAY FOR LIFE TO FIND A WAY

Landscape Comprehensive Design Studio

CREATIVE CONFLUENCE

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RE-IMAGINING THE CULTURAL PRECINCT -
HARMONIZING URBAN ARTISTRY WITH
URBAN NATURE

Architecture + Landscape Design Studio III

FASHION, DEATH, AND RE-BIRTH

REGENERATING MILAN'S DECOMMISSIONED RAIL YARDS TOWARDS ECOLOGICAL, SPIRITUAL, AND CULTURAL ATTUNEMENT

Graduate Thesis Project

WINTER 2024

Faculty Supervisor: Sara Jacobs

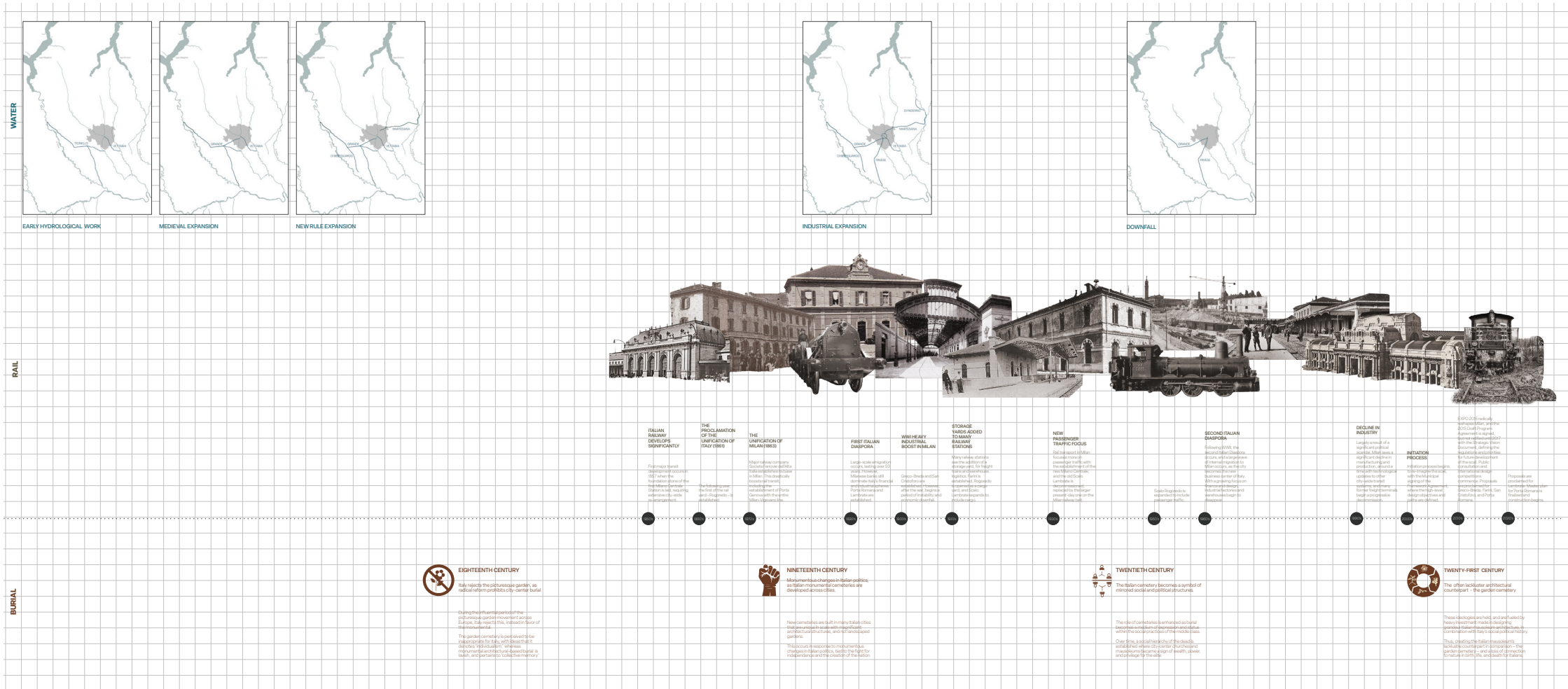
External Supervisors: Lacey Barr, Valeria Pagliaro

Fashion, Death, and Re-birth challenges the dominant practices used in designing landscapes of grief and memory, within the context of Italian cemeteries, to reveal new approaches better suited to provide healing and celebration, at two of Milan's decommissioned rail yards – Porta Genova and San Cristoforo. In establishing connections between the cultural significance of Italian architecture and Italian fashion, this project puts emotion and landscapes of personal and cultural significance - in this case, agriculture, water, and industry - at the center of storytelling and placemaking through design.

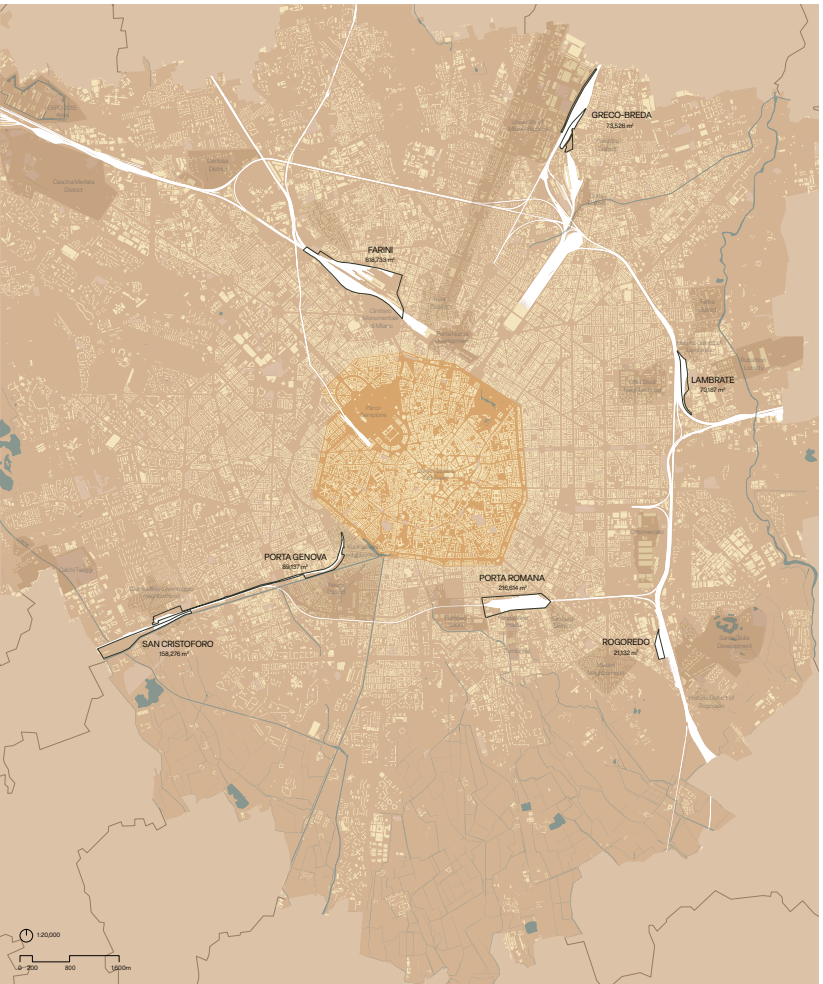
By designing for spiritual rejuvenation through experiences of culture and ecology at Milan's historic Naviglio Grande, in this project I position landscape design as a tool to which we can rekindle our innate human connection to nature through life, and in death.



Boschivo Degli Alberi Sacri a place for refection at the flowered lawns, towards the Landform Mausoleum - Mausoleo in Terra



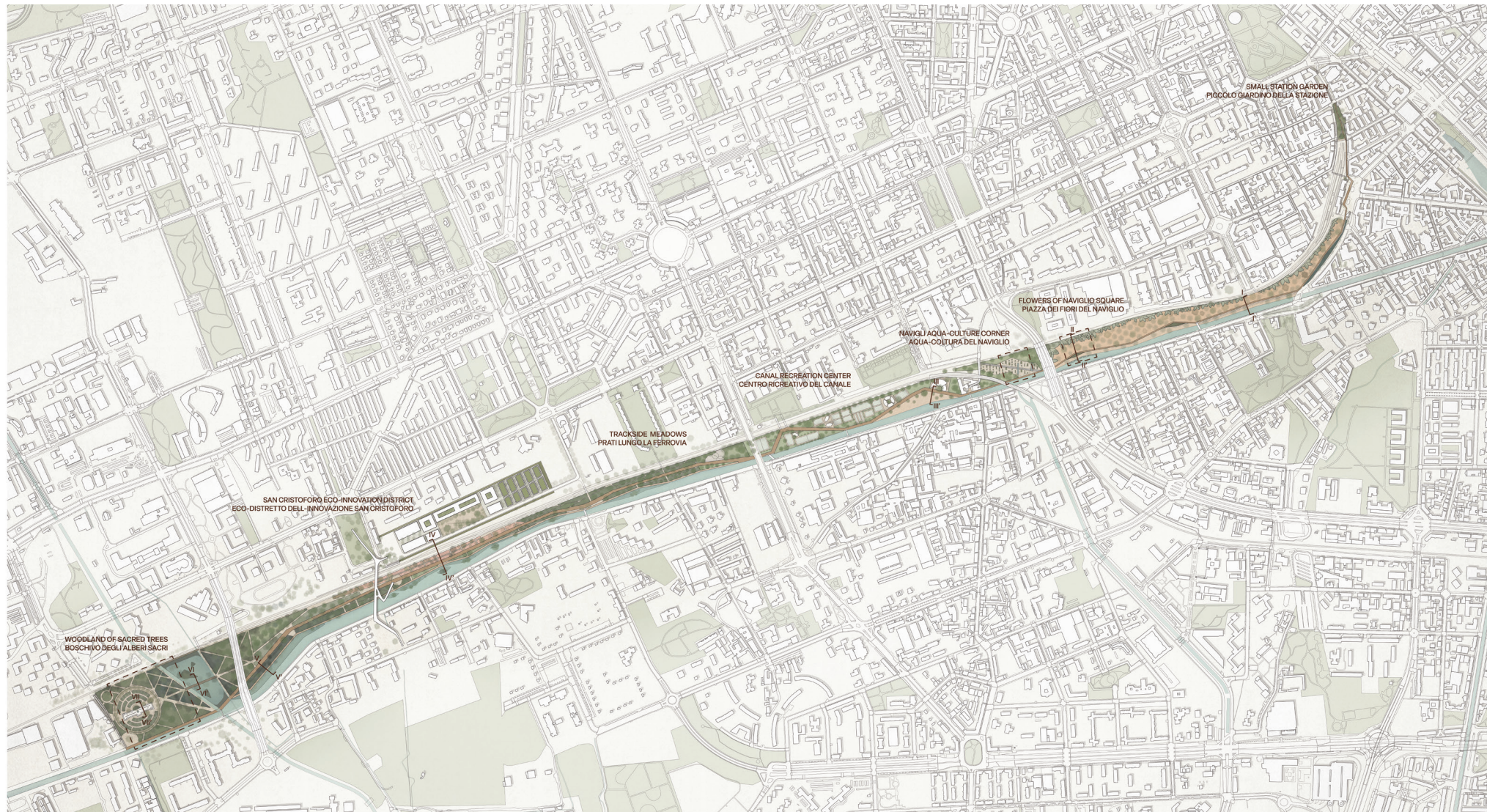
Triple timeline graphic, summarizing the historical contexts of burial in Italy, as well as rail transport and the Navigli water system of Milan



Italy's historic aspiration for "monumentality" has been shaped by a variety of societal and cultural factors that trace back to the Middle Ages. This led to the creation of Italy's iconic mausoleums, and losing cultural ties to natural systems in burial practices.

Since Milan's reclamation of the rail yards in the 1990s, extensive discussions have surrounded the transformation of the 1.3 million m² brownfield, made of seven decommissioned rail yards. Once a symbol of industrial prosperity, these sites reflect Milan's shift away from industry and the social and cultural upheavals of the past century.

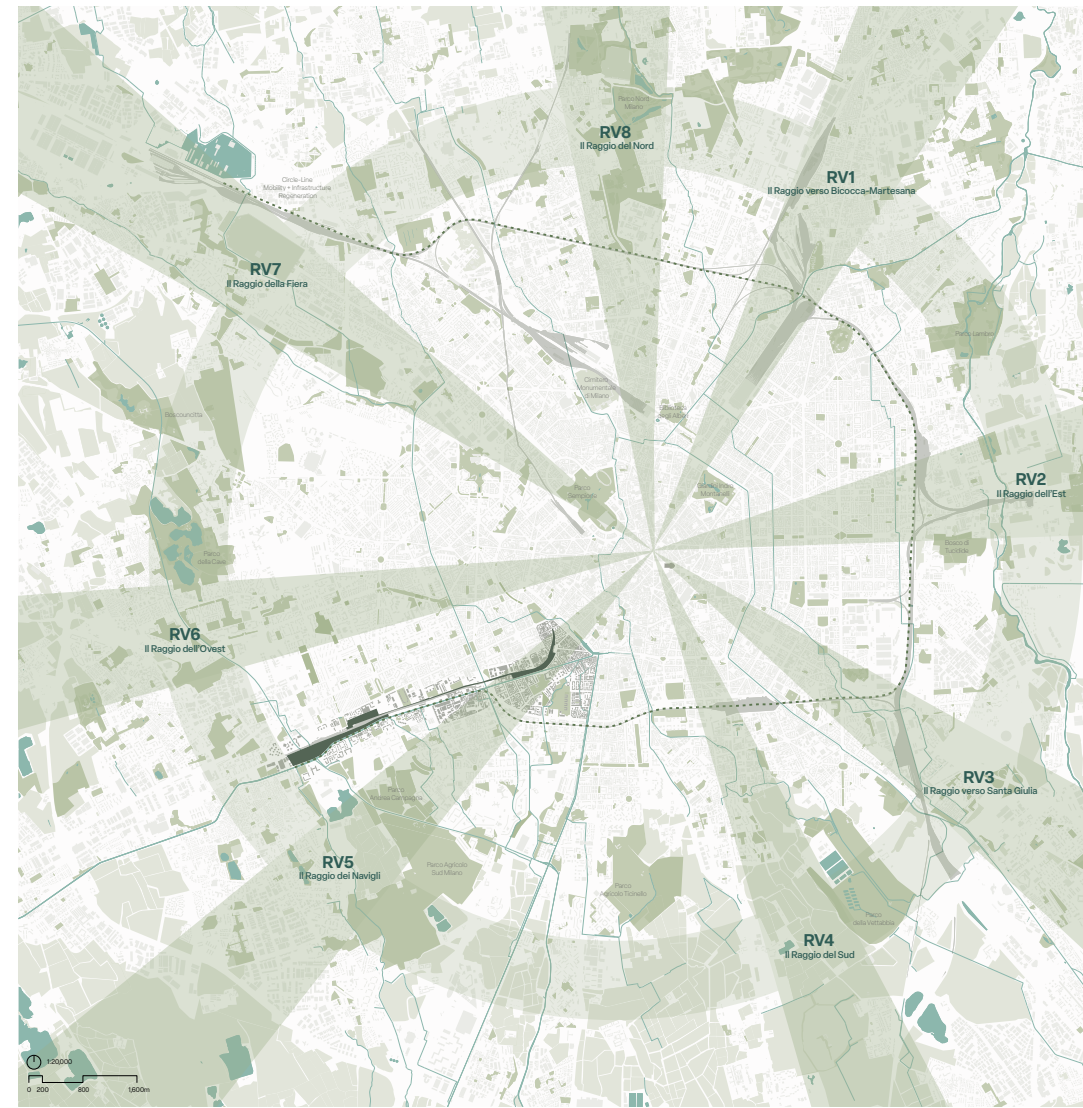
The Navigli is a historic water system of six canals, once connected around the city center. Originally a medieval moat, they became fully functional during Milan's industrial era, but by the early 1900s, when rail transit replaced waterways, these urban canals were soon buried – except for the Naviglio Grande and Naviglio Pavese.



PORTA GENOVA - SAN CRISTOFORO MASTER PLAN
1:4000



Scali Porta Genova and San Cristoforo, a place for ecological, spiritual, and cultural harmony, rendered master plan

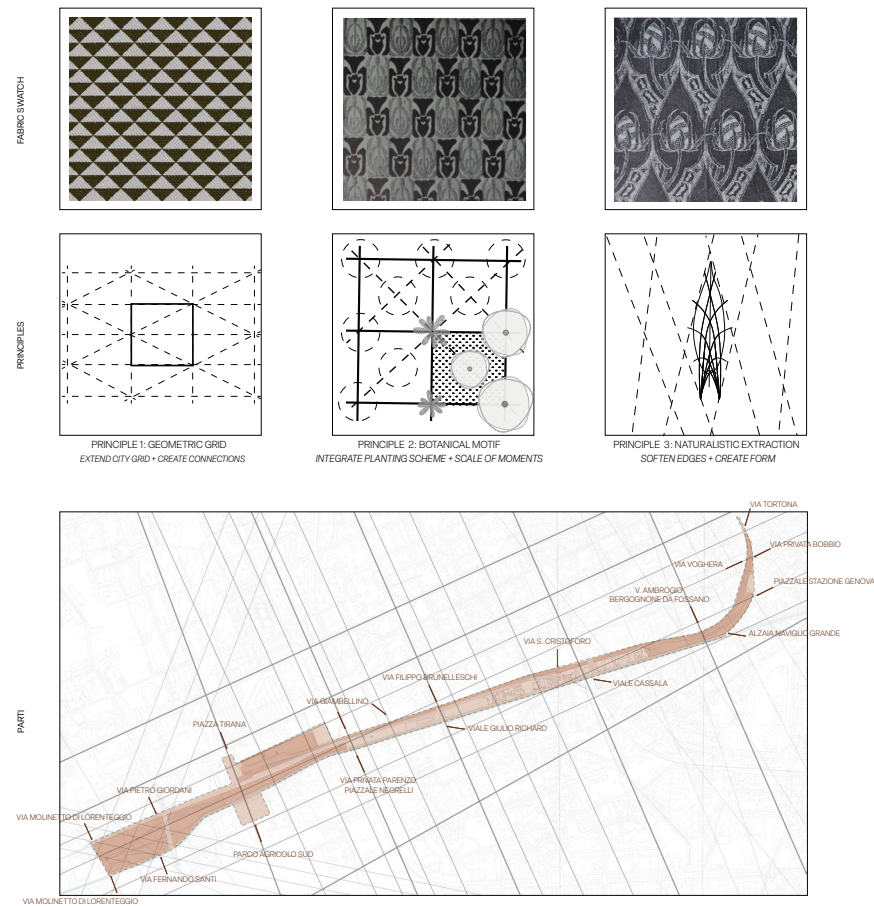


Raggi Verdi Map - Milan's Blue-Green Vision

The design aims to foster ecological, spiritual, and cultural attunement by creating opportunities for these pillars to intersect. My approach intends to decentralize the Navigli, and to enhance existing site conditions by extending them, rather than introducing new typologies.

Ultimately, the proposal is envisioned as a path for spiritual rejuvenation, through acts of engaging in culture with community, and engaging with nature through restored ecology. My design is a love letter to my Italian heritage; a longing for the cultural roots I feel distant from.

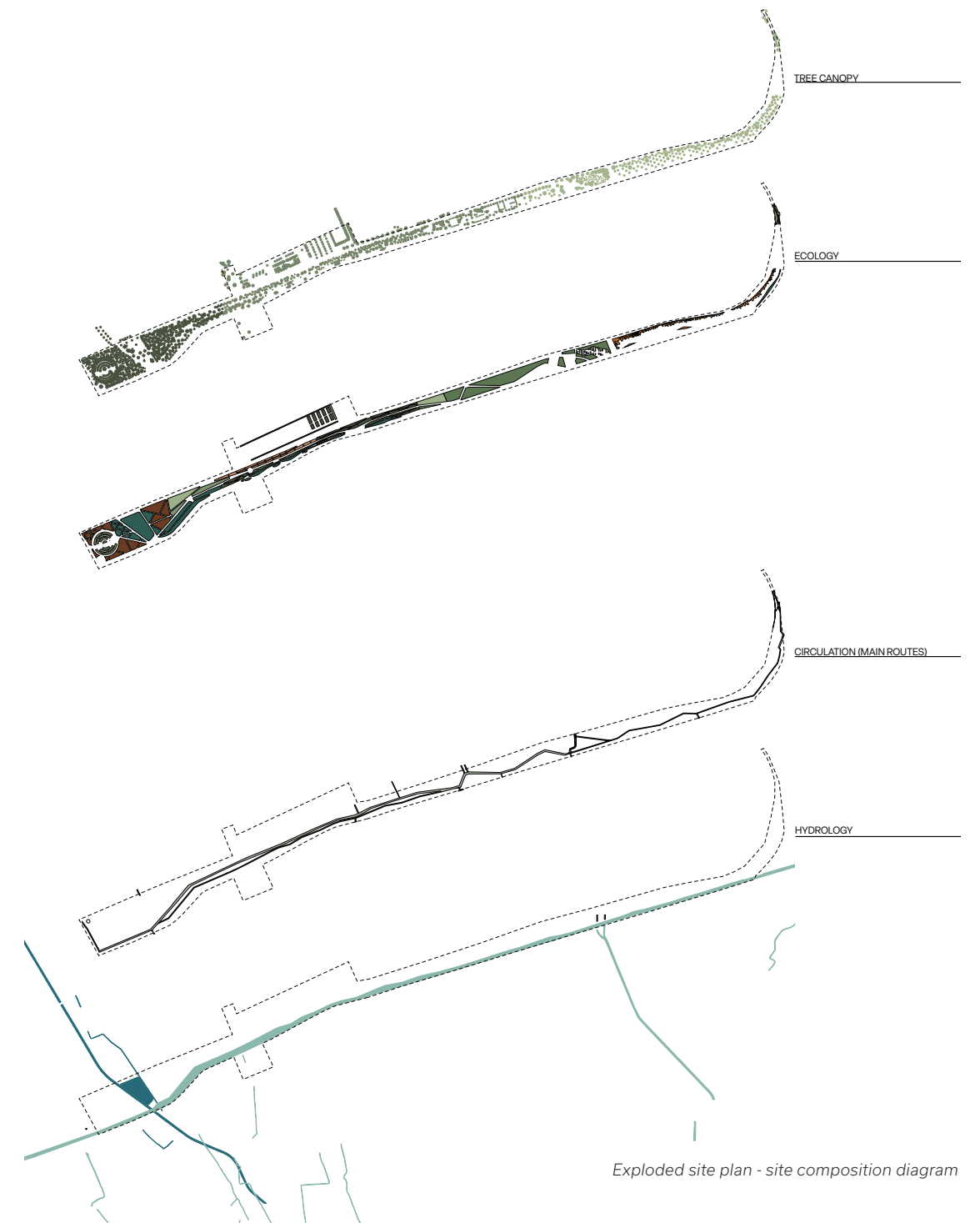
My project aligns with Raggi Verdi, a 2005 vision adopted by Milan that establishes eight ecological connections from the center of Milan with its green belt. The Porta Genova - San Cristoforo rail yards sit between RV 5 and RV 6 and is the southern-most end to the future city-wide mobility corridor.



Finding form from fashion, design parti diagram

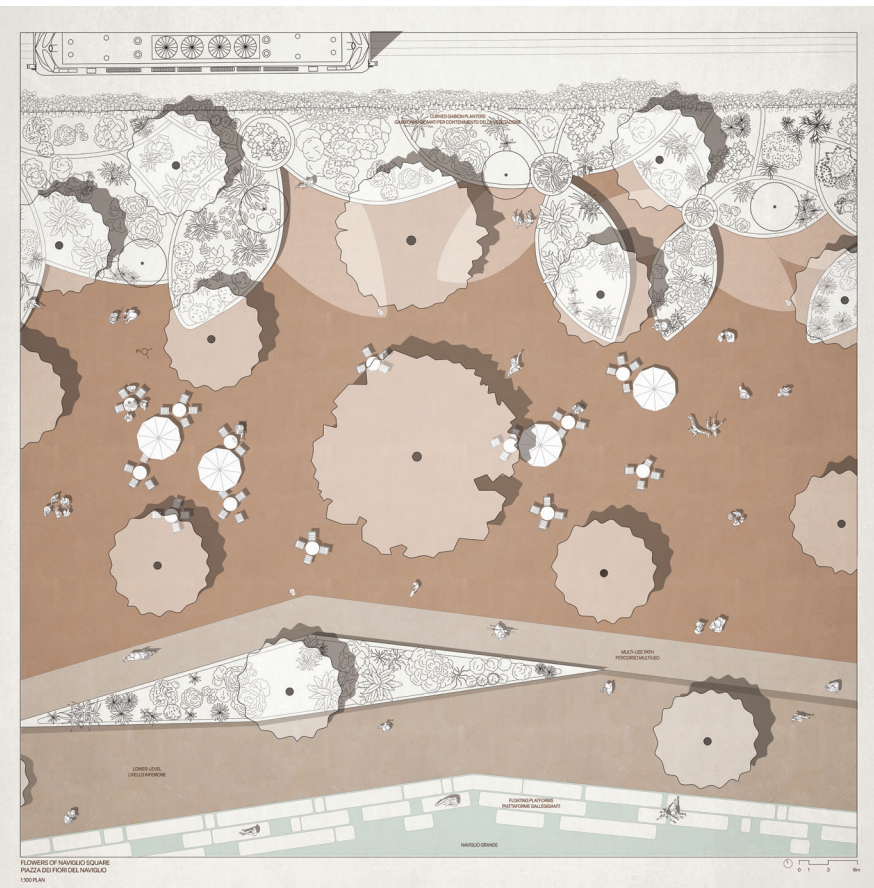


Site analysis sketches of Scalo San Cristoforo



Exploded site plan - site composition diagram

The site design celebrates Milanese heritage by linking it to fashion, reflecting Italian design principles rooted in textile production. Traditional Italian fabrics were studied to identify design elements, notably geometric grids overlaid with botanical motifs, which are then abstracted into naturalistic forms. These principles were applied to the site's paving, circulation, and vegetation by extending the city grid, aiming to decentralize the Navigli district.

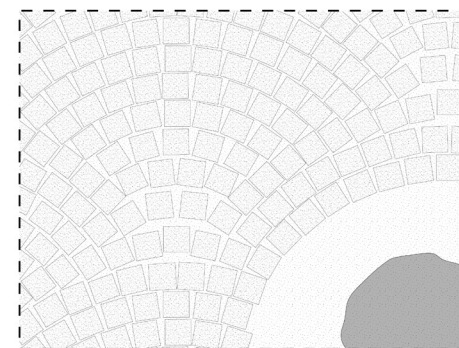


Piazza dei Fiori del Naviglio detail rendered plan

The Piazza Dei Fiori Del Naviglio was envisioned as a traditional Italian piazza which can accommodate for large events, and the great number of tourists that frequent Porta Genova, due to the historic Navigli District. Porta Genova often hosts two culturally significant events - the monthly antique Navigli flea, as well as smaller design installations during design / fashion weeks.



P1 - Piazza dei Fiori del Naviglio during design week



Piazza dei Fiori del Naviglio paving detail



Piazza dei Fiori del Naviglio section through the widest area during the Antique Navigli Flea



Piazza dei Fiori del Naviglio section through the narrowest area

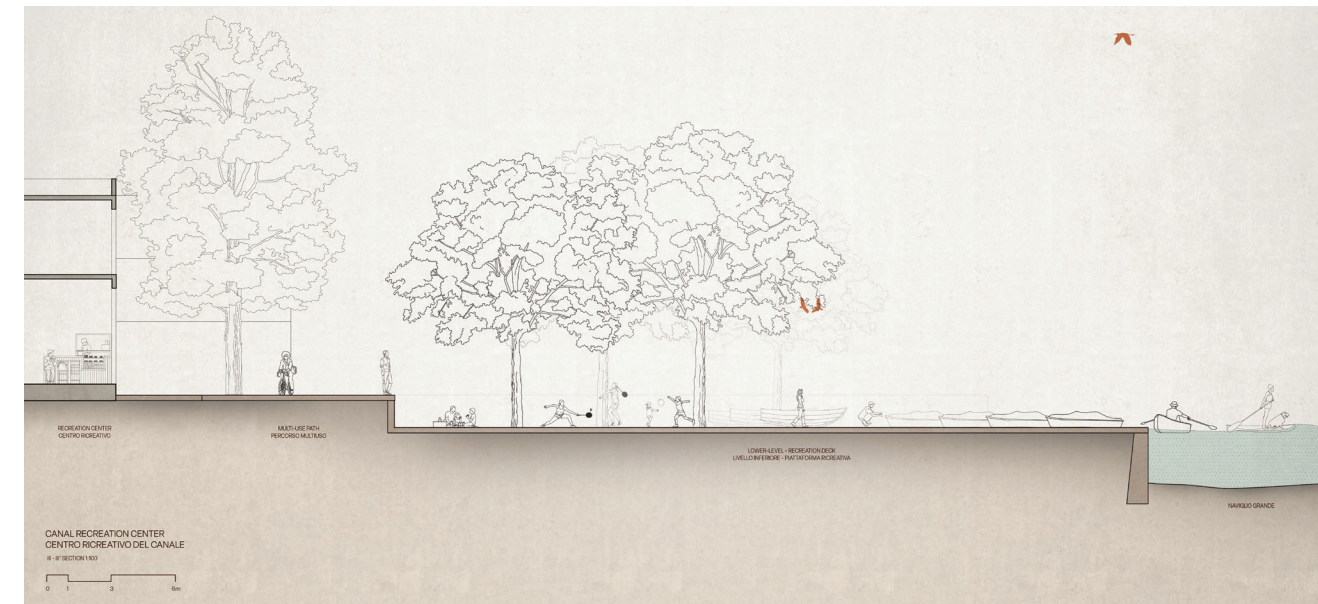


Aqua-Coltura Del Naviglio detail rendered plan



Aqua-Coltura Del Naviglio, as a gathering space for community agriculture (Nonno in frame front)

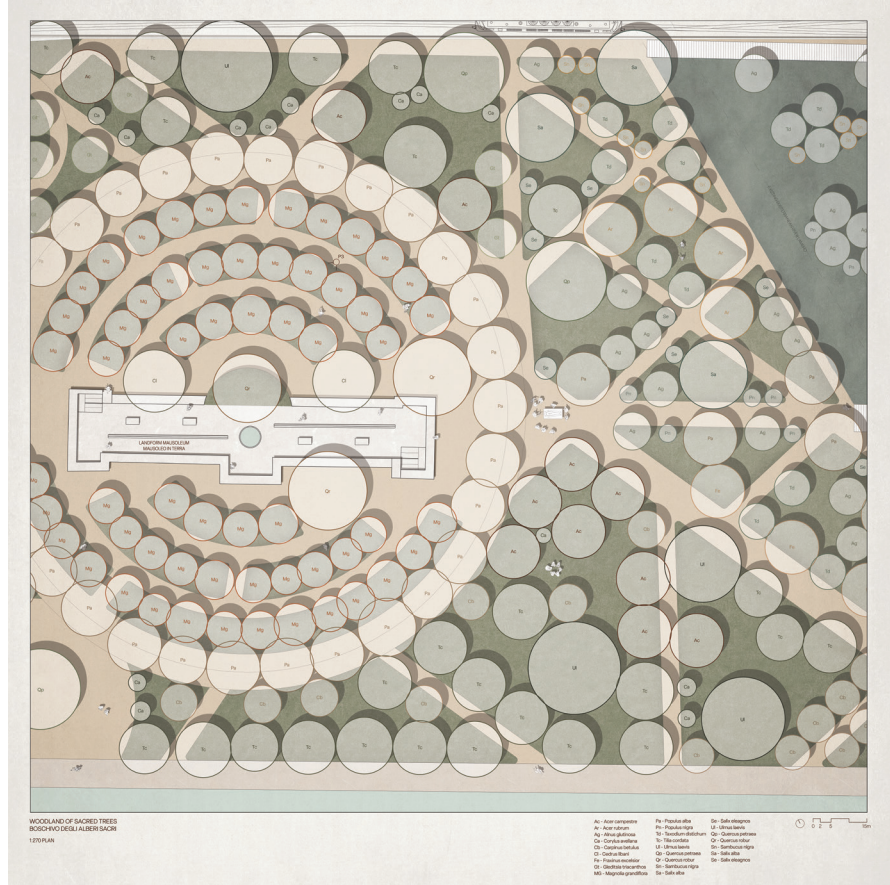
The Aqua-Coltura Del Naviglio tells the story of Milanese agricultural heritage, in a way that is tangible at a community level. It would serve as a central cultural space to engage in landscape tending, where individuals can celebrate their shared love for the land which sustains them.



Centro Ricreativo Del Canale section through recreation deck and building

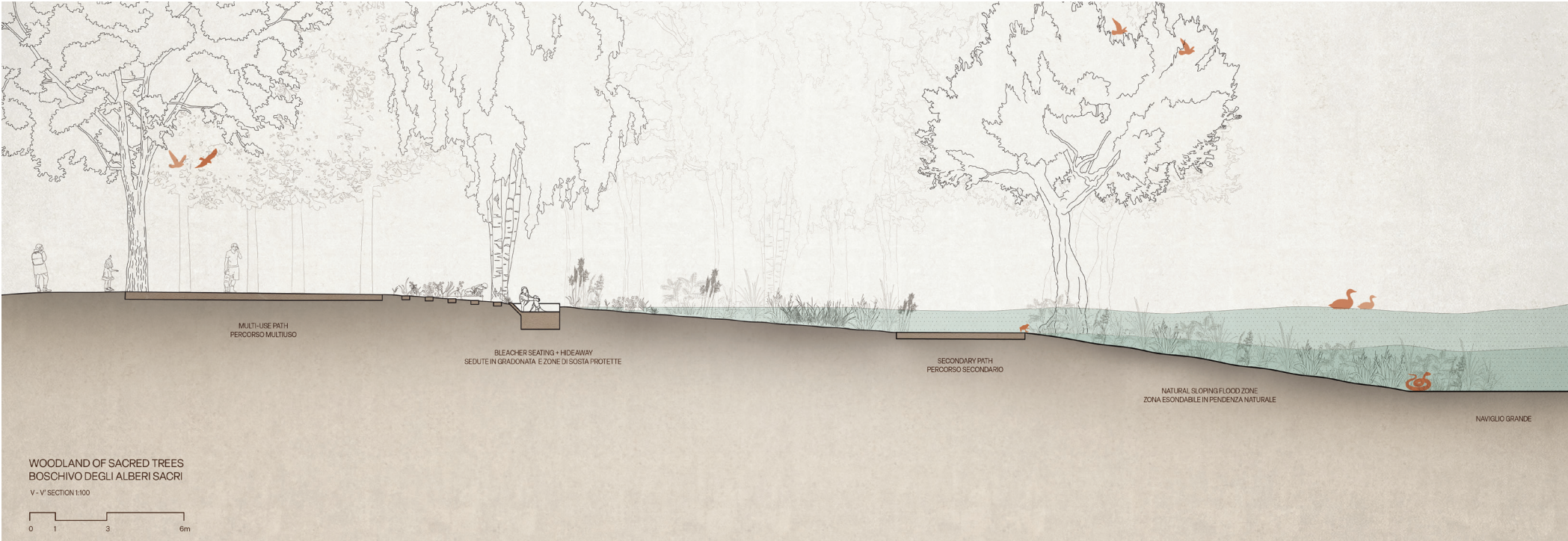


Site section through the Prati Lungo La Ferrovia to the Eco-Distretto Dell-Innovazione San Cristoforo

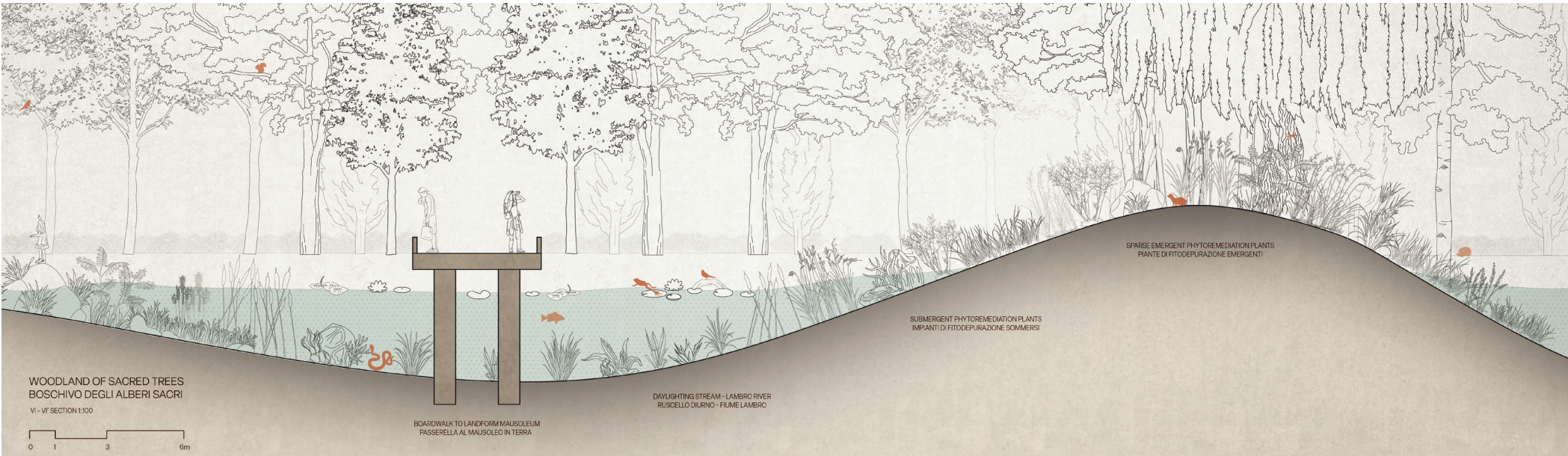


Boschivo Degli Alberi Sacri detail rendered plan

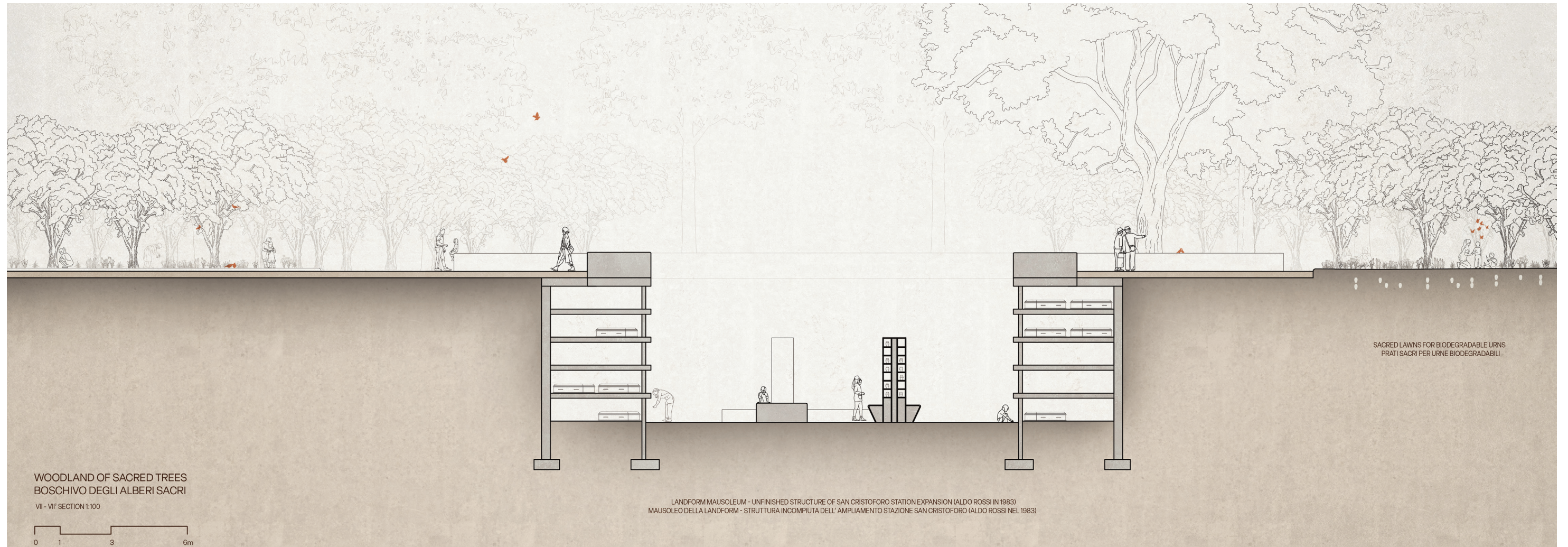
The Boschivo Degli Alberi Sacri houses a phytoremediation wetland within a typical Lombardy woodland habitat, and is centered around the Landform Mausoleum - Mousoleo in Terra. This space was designed with a focus on particular tree species which hold heavy cultural significance, celebrating Milanese landscape heritage.



Section through the Boschivo Degli Alberi Sacri to the Naviglio Grande



Section through the Boschivo Degli Alberi Sacri at the phytoremediation wetland



Section through the Boschivo Degli Alberi Sacri at the Landform Mausoleum – Mausoleo in Terra

The Landform Mausoleum re-imagines Italian monumental design by using the footprint of an unfinished station into the ground, to create crypts and niches. This approach utilizes existing infrastructure, conserving land and symbolically reconnecting individuals with the earth. Centered on storytelling through design, it represents a transition and journey into the afterlife, by embodying renewal through descent and ascent.

EMERGENT PARK

RE-WILDING PLAY FOR LIFE TO FIND A WAY

Landscape Comprehensive Design Studio

WINTER 2023

With James Gray & Shruti Misra

Emergent Park, located in Vancouver's Olympic Village, presents an opportunity to envision new ways of thinking about re-wilding cities in the context of waterfront design. Initially inspired by the present-day resilient urban plant and animal species, our proposal utilizes innovative "cracked" typologies across varying scales of design, to foster opportunities for exploration and the emergence of life.

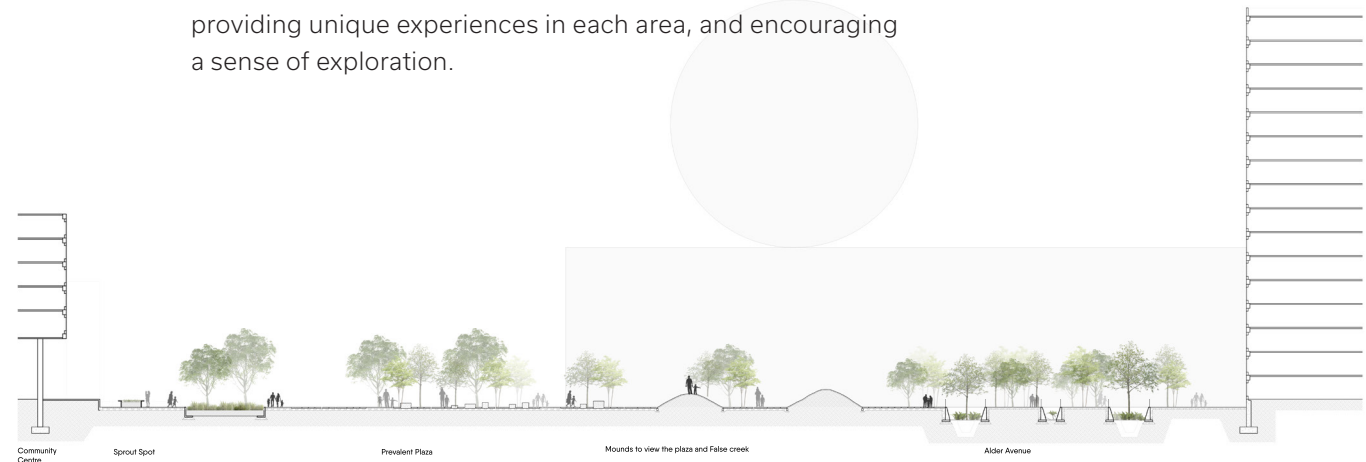
These typologies and design principles were applied to programming and topography on a larger scale, and then material and planting on a smaller scale. The aim is to continuously craft unpredictable experiences that await discovery in the cracks at Emergent Park.



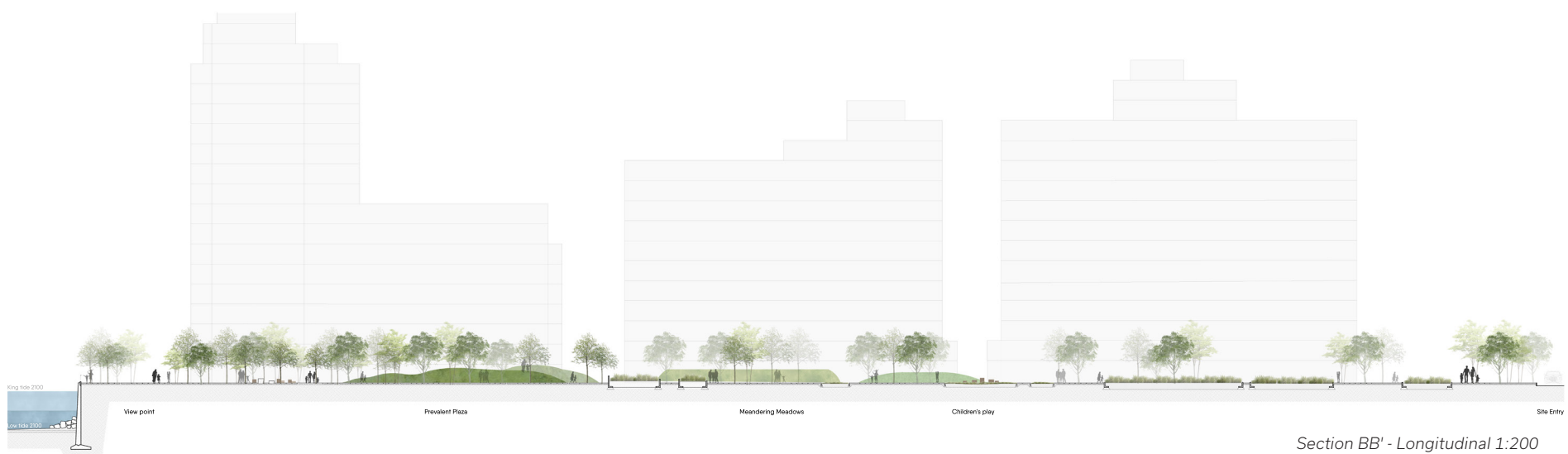
Meandering Meadow, Facing North



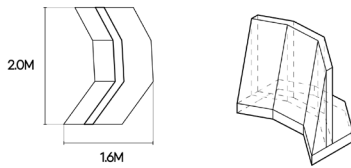
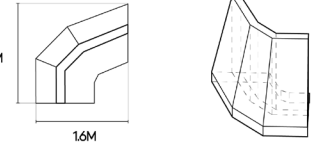
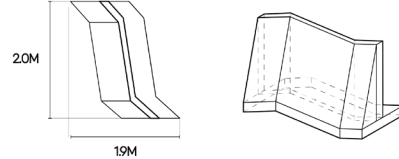
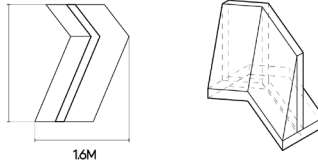
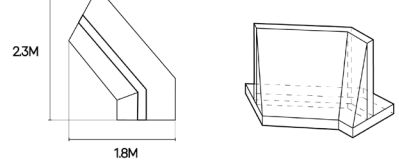
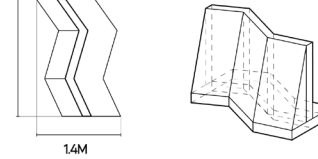
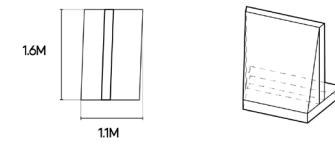
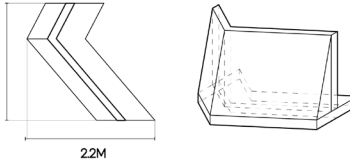
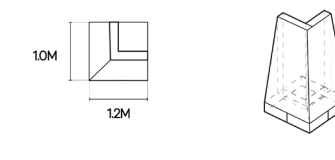
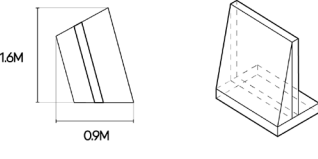
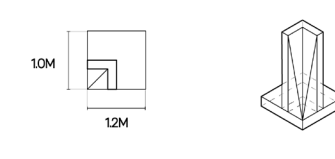
At the largest scale, Emergent Park functions as a crack within the urban fabric, where large trees grow from the cracks in concrete, and every niche is full of life. Through programming, the larger scale site design is intended to promote a sense discovery, using seven thematic zones, providing unique experiences in each area, and encouraging a sense of exploration.



Section AA' - Transverse 1:200

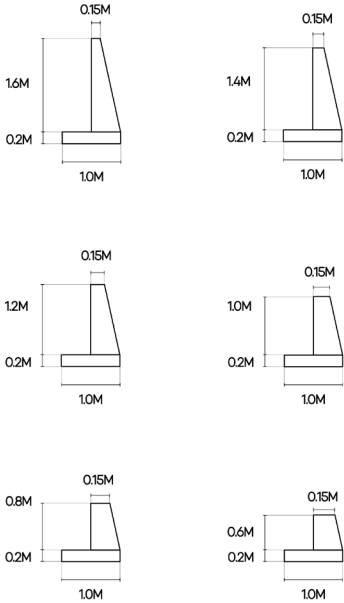


Section BB' - Longitudinal 1:200

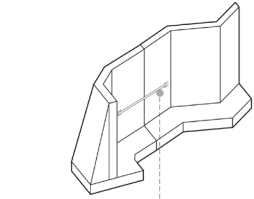
Modular system designed for the construction of the articulated edges Scale 1:50	F. 
A. 	G. 
B. 	H. 
C. 	I. 
D. 	J. 
E. 	K. 

At an intermediate scale, a sense of spontaneity is created using irregular forms, which fall under the categorization of five varying crack typologies, constructed by an intricate modular system designed by the team.

SECTION

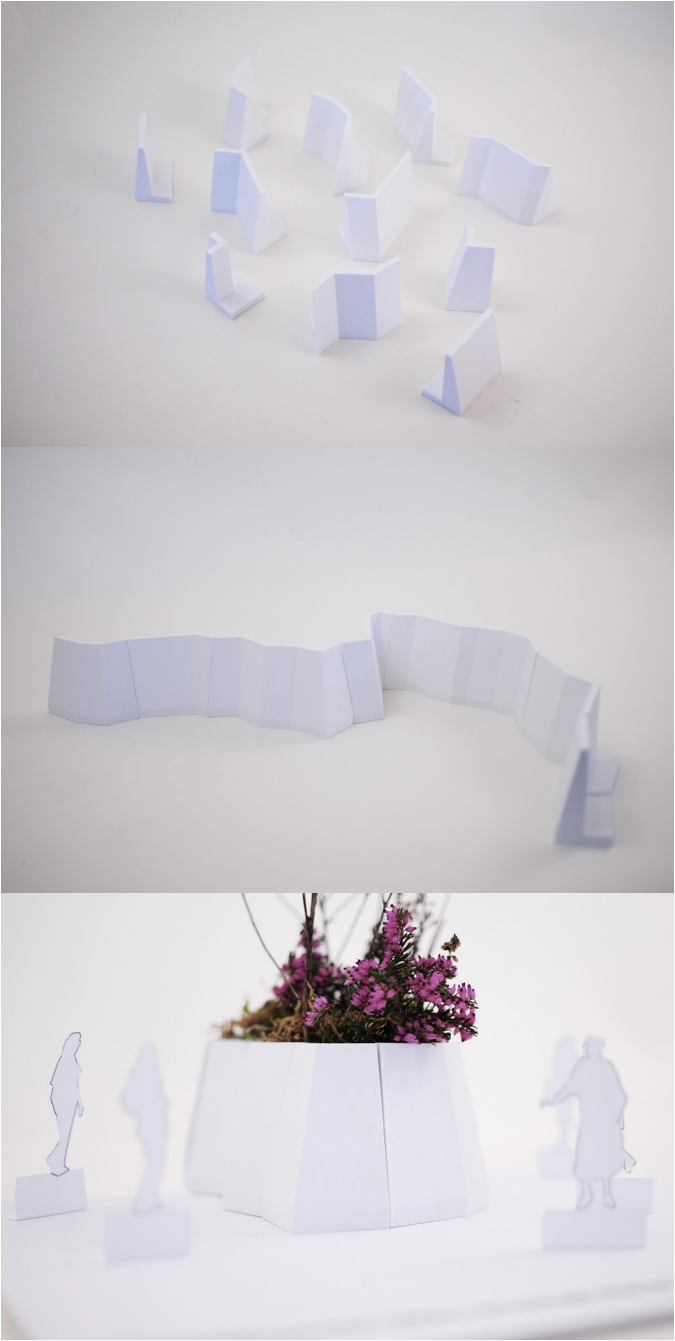


CONNECTION

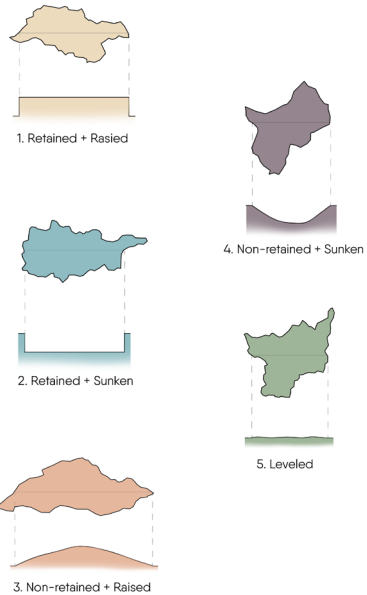


Solid steel base connector with steel pins

Concrete Module Legend

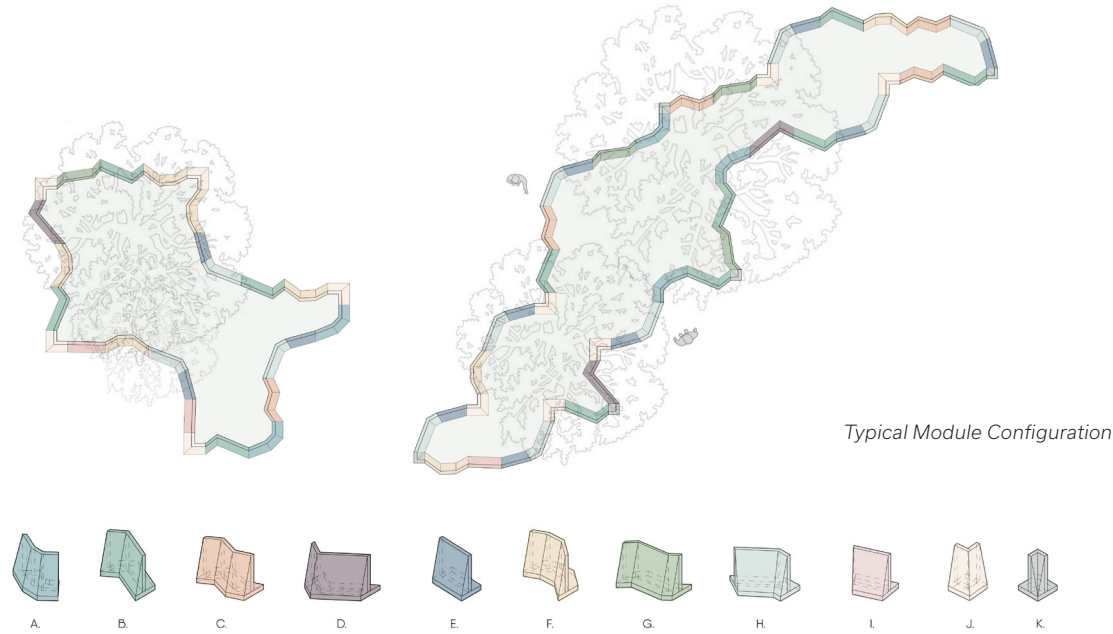


Concrete Module 3D Printed 1:50



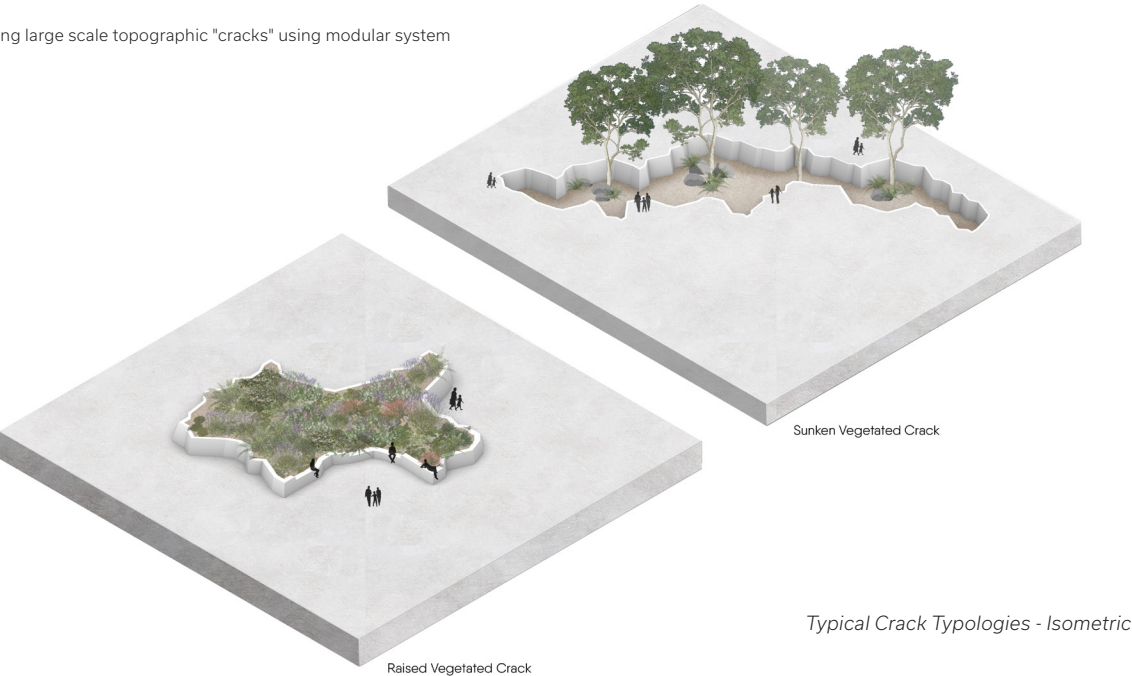
Crack Typologies Diagram

Using modular system to construct retained vegetated mounds / depressions

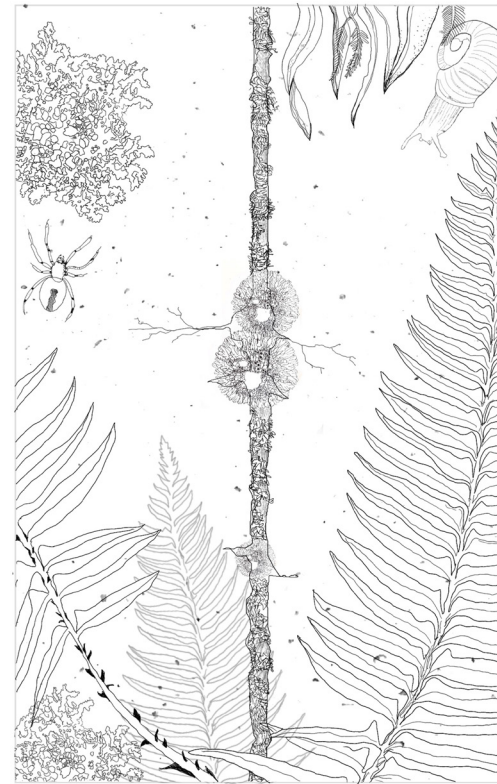
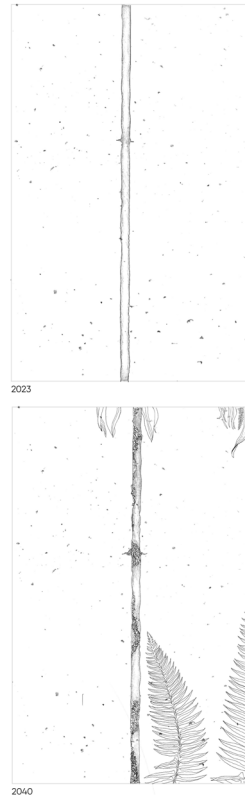


Prevalent Plaza, Facing North

Creating large scale topographic "cracks" using modular system



Alder Avenue, Facing North



2050
Exploring Temporality Through the Life Cycle of a Crack

At the smallest scale, the materials are intended to weather and create nooks that are inhabited by microorganisms, as well as various urban plant and animal species.

This is accomplished through the strategic use of material that will crack over time, in combination with a planting schedule made of highly resilient urban vegetation.



PLAN
1:30



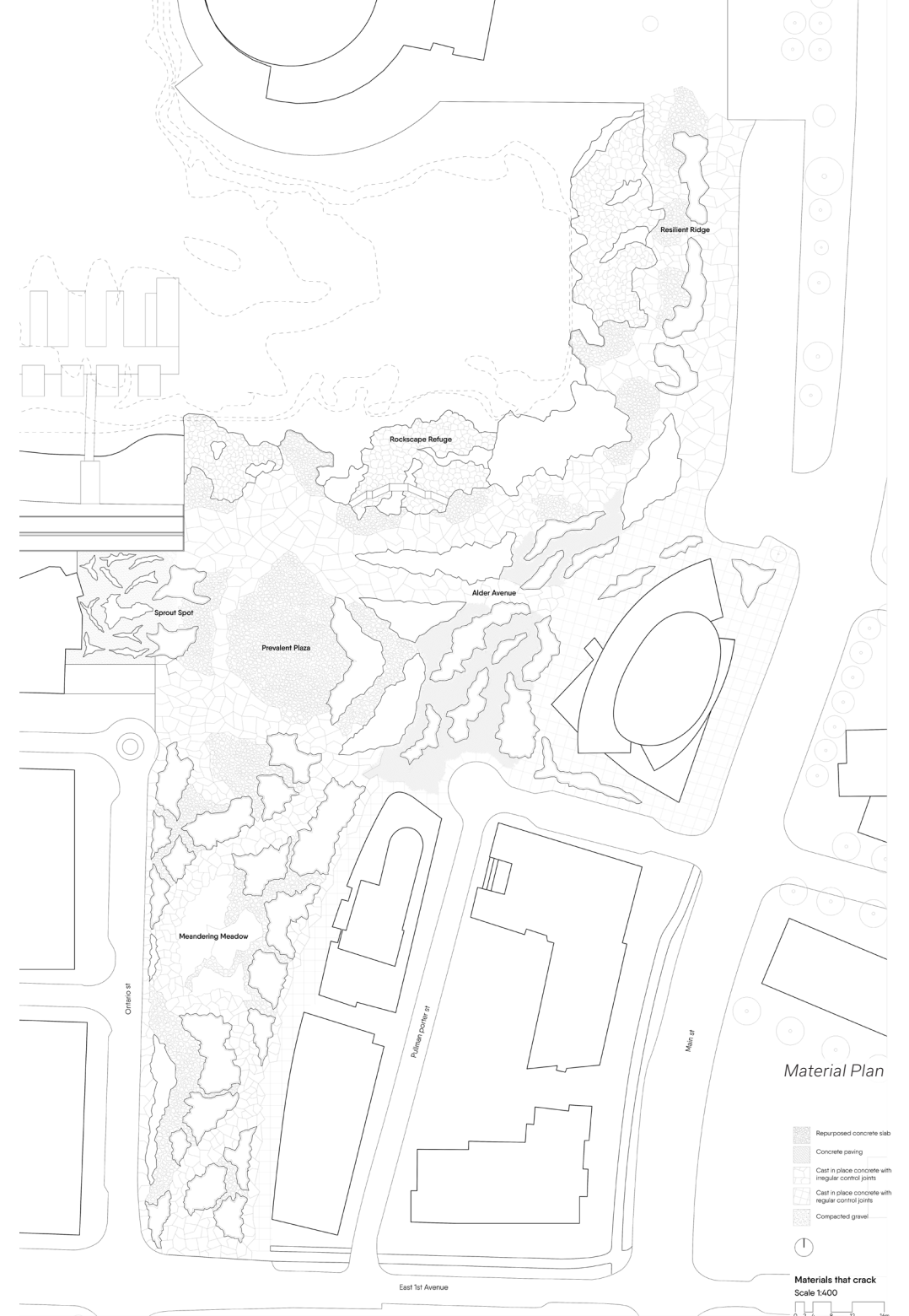
CIP concrete paving

Concrete seating attached to module using SS angle

SECTION
1:30

0 0.25 0.5 1m

Meandering Meadow - Elevated Planting Details



Material Plan

- Repurposed concrete slab
- Concrete paving
- Cast in place concrete with regular control joints
- Cast in place concrete with regular control joints
- Compacted gravel



Materials that crack
Scale 1:400

0 2 4 8 12 16m

CREATIVE CONFLUENCE

RE-IMAGINING THE CULTURAL PRECINCT - HARMONIZING URBAN ARTISTRY WITH URBAN NATURE

Architecture + Landscape Design Studio III

FALL 2022

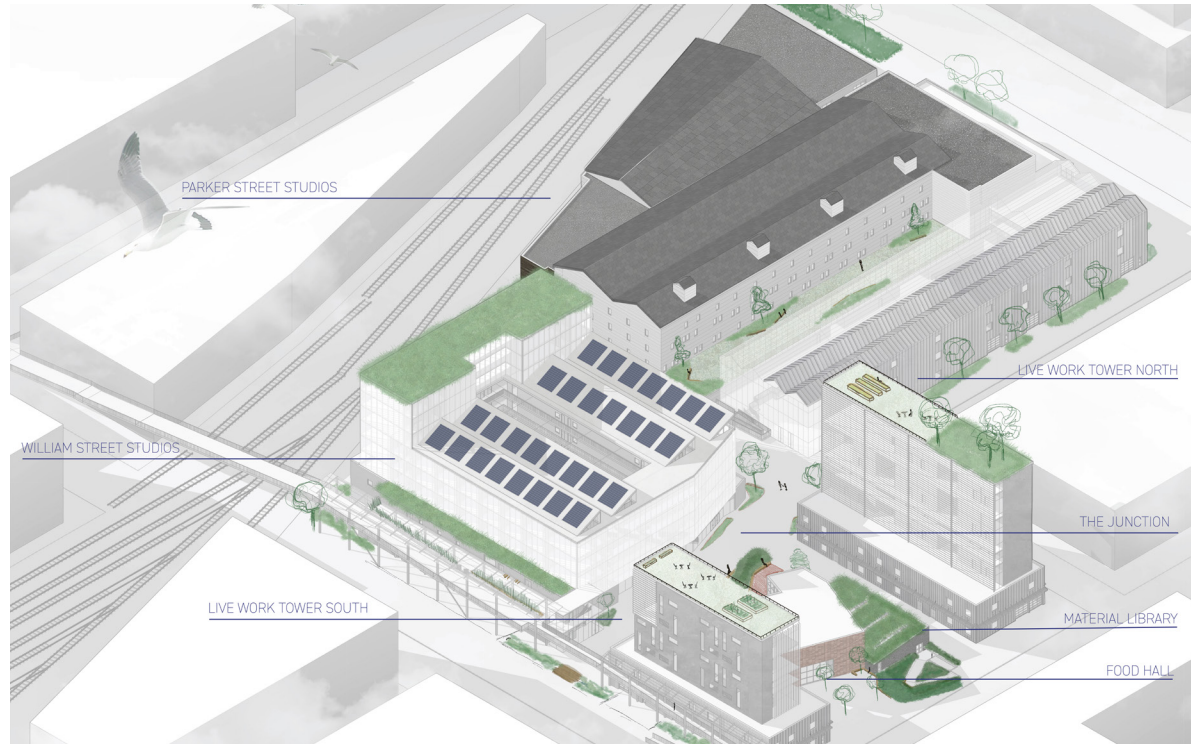
With Lauren Johnson & Bronte Mutukistna

Located in the False Creek Flats area of Vancouver, the cultural precinct is home to the beloved Parker St. Studios, where over 200 local artists are based, in addition countless other businesses that provide essential goods servicing greater Vancouver.

Our design process was inspired by the citywide appreciation for local art and small businesses, an admiration that converges at Cultural Precinct, alongside the recognition of limited access to urban nature for the residents of this area. By fusing artistic expression and green space at the forefront of design, this project proposes a new concept that preserves the unique architectural forms and interior of Parker St. Studios, all the while revitalizing the creative heart of the city.



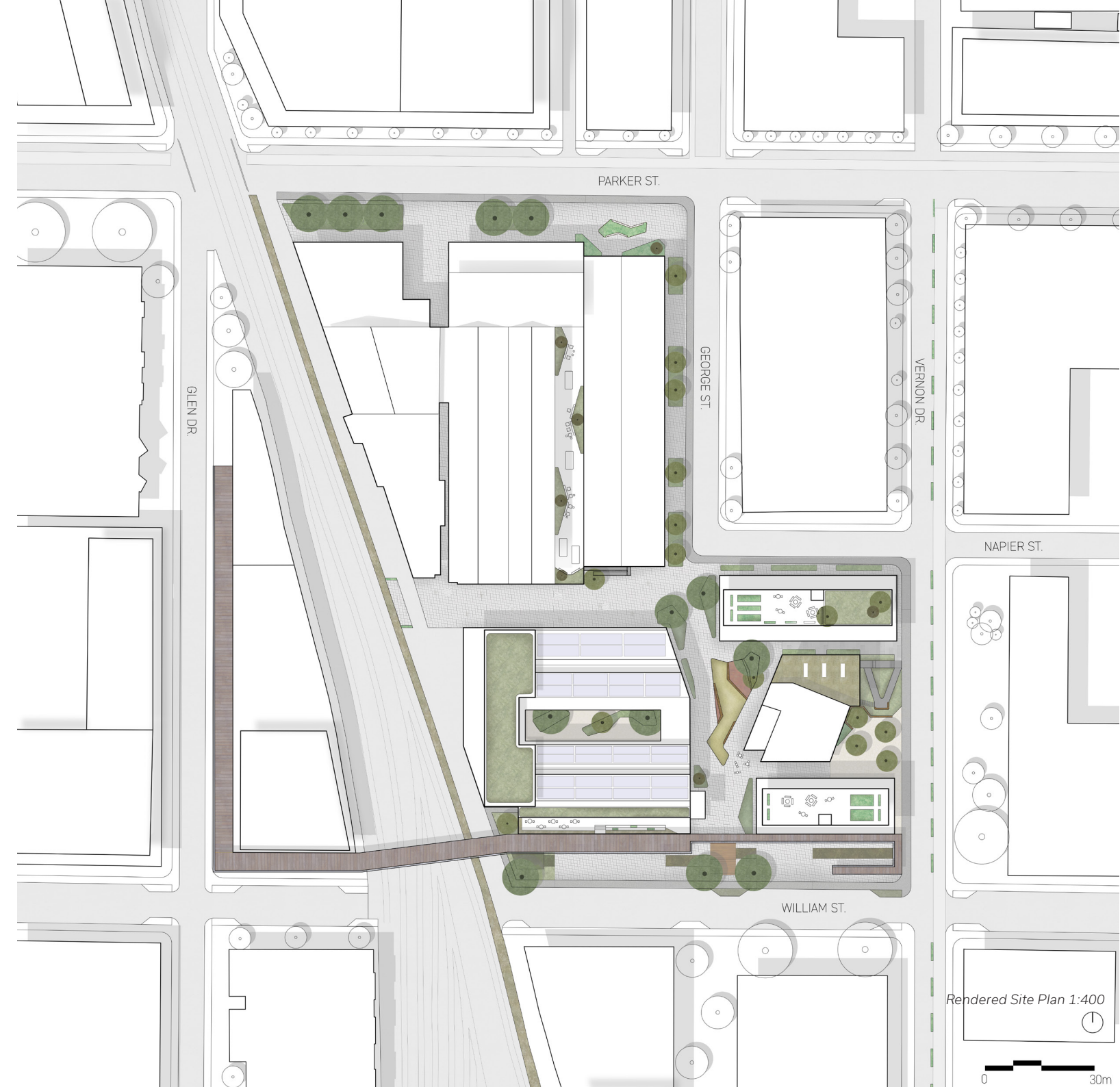
Material Library Interior



Rendered Site Axonometric

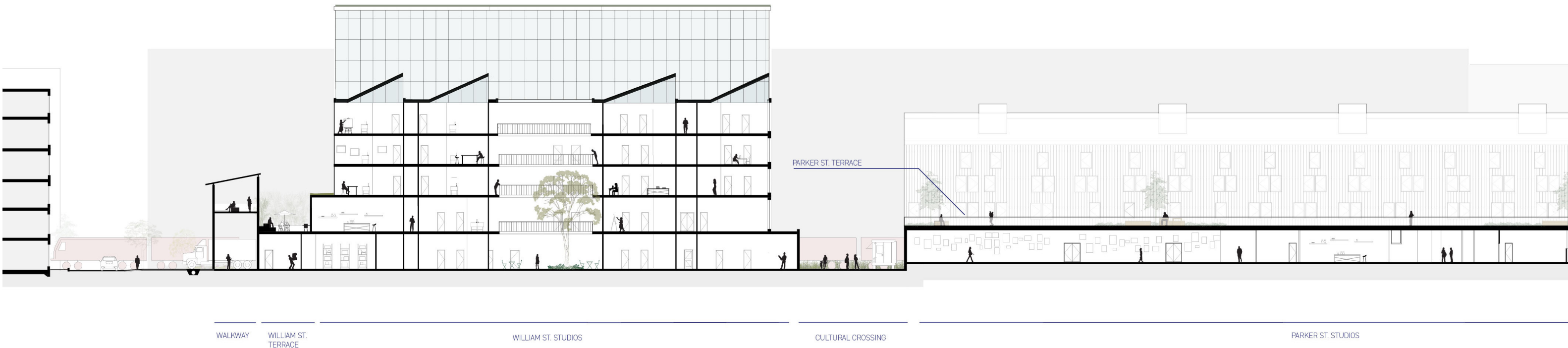
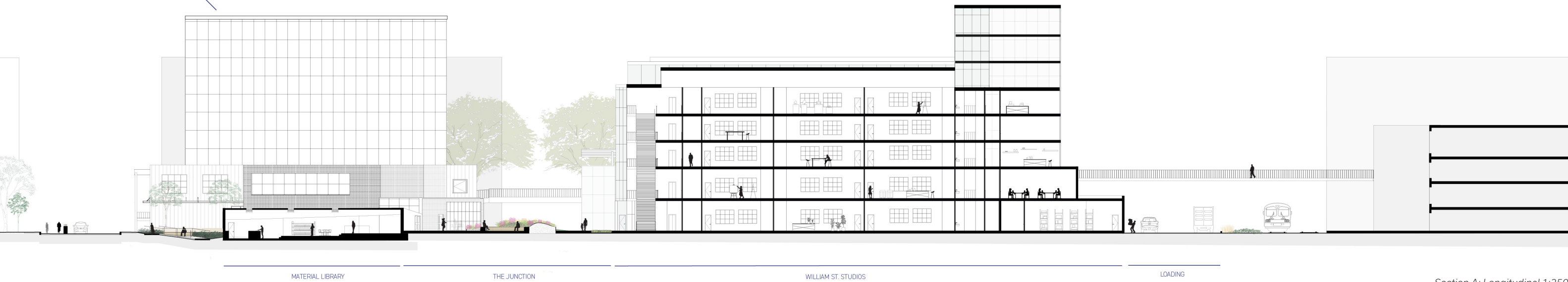
Through the design of a series of buildings housing a mix of studio spaces, industrial units, retail, and live-work opportunities, this design for the cultural precinct brings forward a multi-use district of innovation.

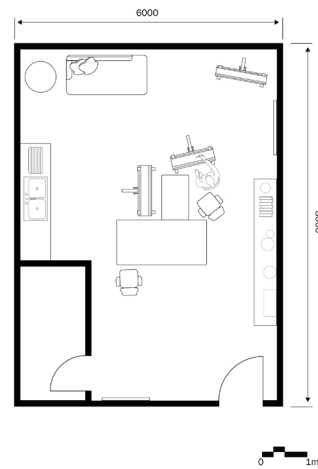
The Junction sits at the heart of the design, acting as the central node of the project, where art and nature coalesce. Decisions to materials were made for the building facades to provide adequate density, while still producing an inhabitable, porous, and ecologically- and culturally-rich public realm.



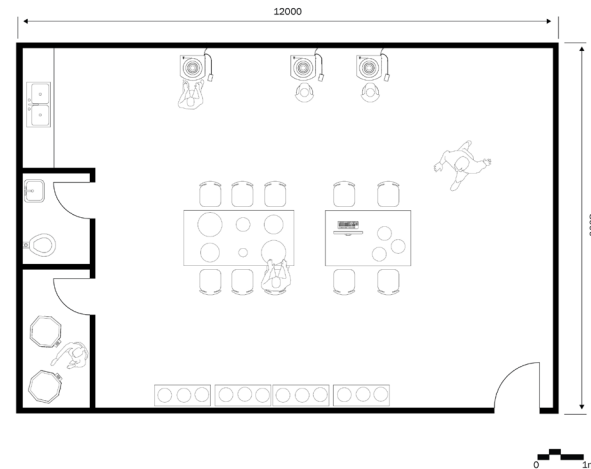
Rendered Site Plan 1:400

SOUTH LIVE WORK TOWER

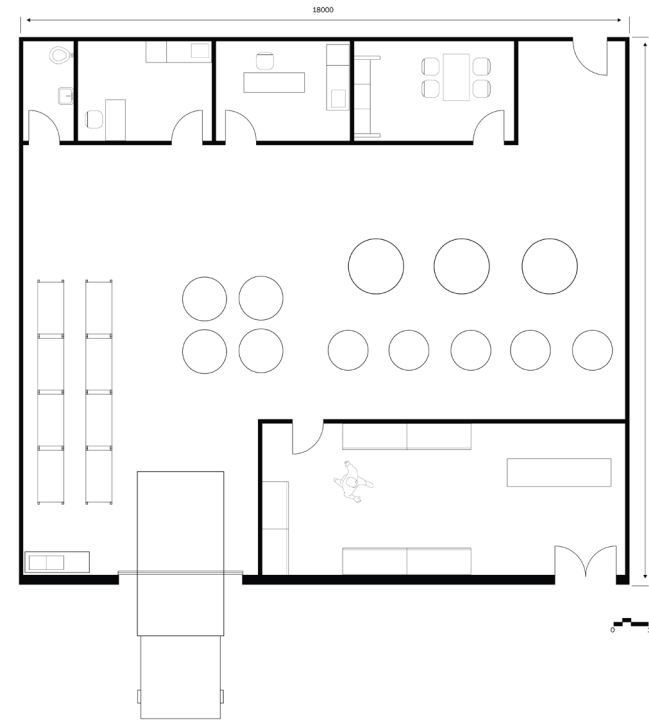




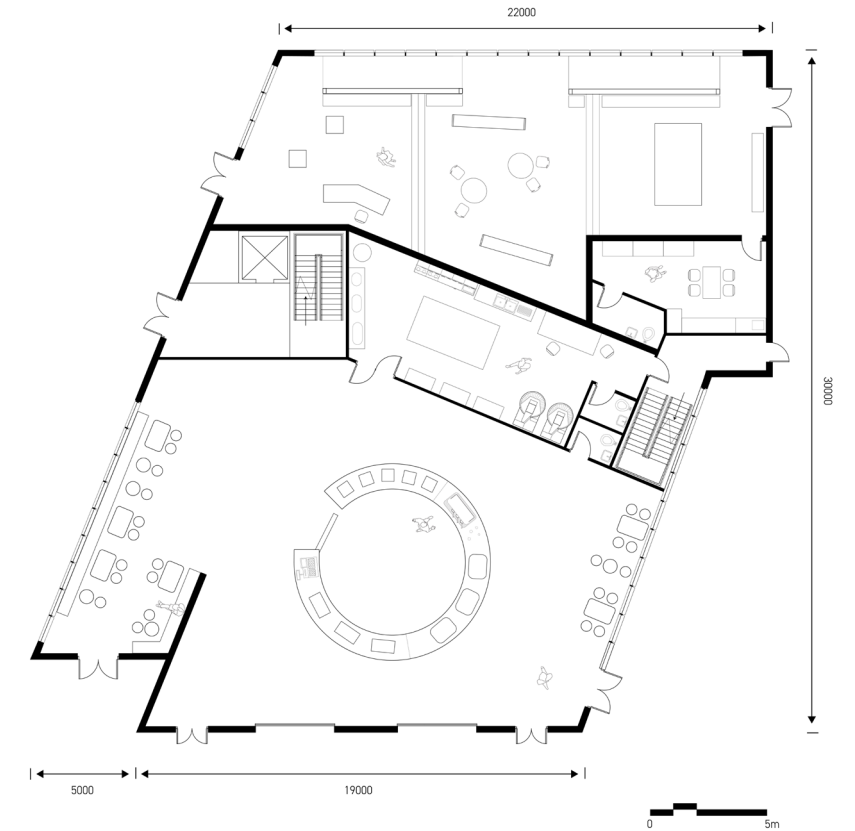
Single Small Studio 1:50



Shared Large Studio 1:50



Light Industrial + Retail 1:75



Material Library + Food Hall 1:100

Interior Design - Typical Unit Plans

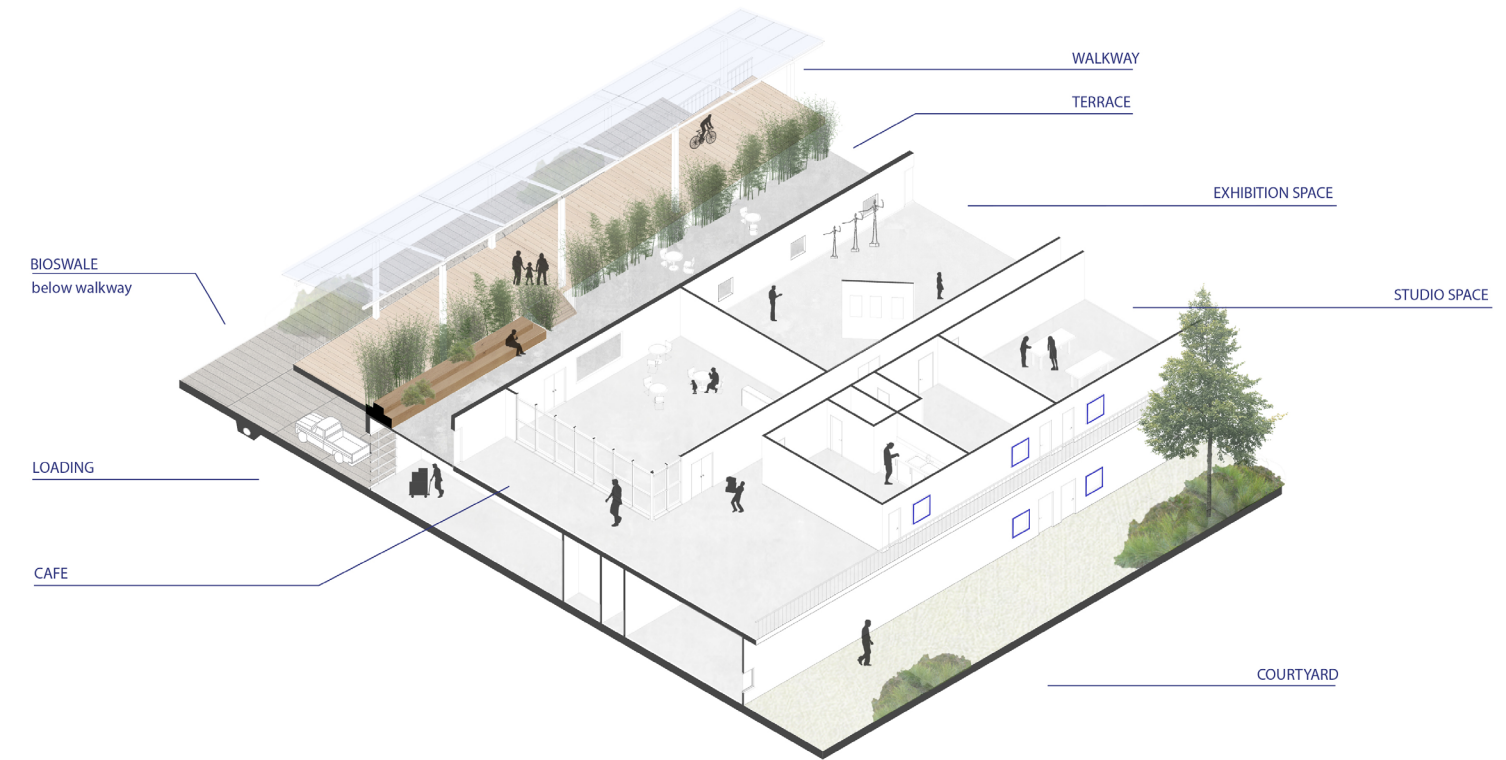
Our team included typical interior configurations in the proposal for the various types of units across the site. These design considerations played a crucial role in ensuring that interior spaces are not only visually pleasing, but are also designed to meet their intended purpose effectively for the people who may live and work within them.

The Material Library and Food Hall aim to activate the Junction and create a destination for individuals across the city. The Material Library is a landform building, and houses innovative materials allowing for exploration and discovery, symbolizing the arts and culture that are central to the Precinct. The Food Hall is a one stop shop for dry goods and hot foods to better support local artists and residents.



1000 Parker St. Studios Atrium

As part of the new design, the iconic Parker St. Studios building will undergo architectural upgrades to improve performance, while still preserving its unique character. The design includes an addition along George St., providing the artists with new studio spaces, as well as a new public glass atrium for them to convene and share their work.



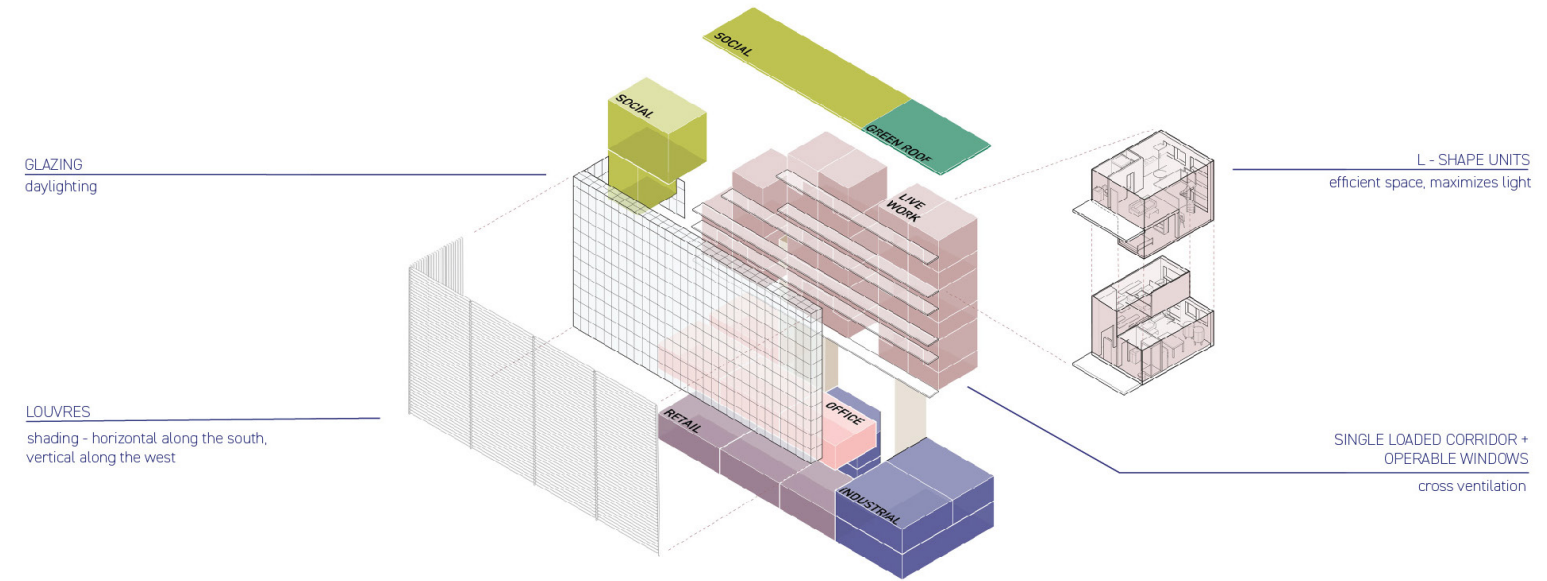
Section Axonometric - William St. Studios Public Walkway

William St. Studios will be an all-new building composed of a mix of studio and retail spaces. The building develops a duality in providing both an inward focused and outward looking design. It features private moments for artists, as well as a pedestrian bridge with commercial opportunities, integrated into the building on the second floor.



The Junction Central Node

The Junction serves as the central public hub, located across from the Material Library and Food Hall. Designed to accommodate large gatherings and events, it features a central mound accented with seasonal planting, surrounded by seating. This area acts as a destination, while also facilitating movement throughout the Precinct.



Exploded Axonometric - Live-work Towers

The final addition to the Precinct, will be the all-new live-work towers. These high-rise buildings provide more affordable housing options for local artists and for the community. The buildings feature green-roofs, joint community spaces, and innovative architectural design strategies that optimize the building performance and thermal comfort.

THANK-YOU

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