

LIVING CITY

A NEW IDENTITY FOR THE STATION AREA



EUROPAN 8 - CHATEAUROUX, FRANCE
CONTENTS:

- 1 CONCEPTUAL APPROACH - SUMMARY
- 2 THEME : SCALES AND MULTIFUNCTIONALITY
- 3 HOUSINGCONCEPT
- 4 PROGRAMME - RELATIONSHIP TO THE PROGRAMMATIC FRAMEWORK PROPOSED BY THE SITE
- 5 SURFACE AREAS - ECONOMIC FEASIBILITY STUDY
- 6 **SUMMAIRE FRANCAISE**
- 7 REDUCED PANELS

-I- CONCEPTUAL APPROACH AND PROBLEMS TACKLED

The Station area of Chateauroux is characterized by a multitude of different urban interfaces and surrounding urban conditions.

To the north a dense and heterogeneous inner city development and to the south a mixed scale housing district, including single family dwellings and apartment blocks. Planted into that small scale housing district a large-scale supermarket with a huge parking lot provides the only public open space in the entire area.

Both are divided by a set of tracks running east to west and both show a lack of high quality, public open spaces. The fraction in the urban web becomes even more apparent considering todays functions which demand for a close integration. Suburban living at the southbank and vital inner city functions such as working, retail, education and entertainment to the north. The area itself lacks a particular identity and urban justification. It only consumes urbanity without contributing to the social live of the city.

Historically the cities development has been altered sincerely by the tracks since the late 19th century.

CONCEPTUAL APPROACH

This diverse urban setting demand for a coherent spatial approach that works equally well at micro and macro scale and which integrates the entire site into one reconcilable and redefined inner-city location. This holistic approach challenges uniform repetition, standardization and strict determination of space. Instead the complex relations of the site are instrumentalized for developing new affiliations and continuities that appeal to all the senses.

Being a result of this interlinked thinking, this urban intervention unlocks the site's potential as a connectional and transitional urban device by exploiting its quality as a transportation node. It provides the sought after high quality open

spaces by reliving it from the restraints of the railway tracks and overcomes the split in the urban fabric. The site is returned to the city and its people and transformed into an integral part of the cities urban web. The neglected area is turned in into a major asset for the city. The cities natural development which was prevented by the rail tracks and associated functions is complemented.

This is archived using a set of strategic interventions and urban tools:

- CONNECTIVITY
- ARTICULATING A NEW IDENTITY
- ATTRACTIVENESS, DESTINATION & DENSITY
- GENERATING PUBLICITY AND A PUBLIC NODE

The principle tool to archive these objectives and to integrate them into one strong urban device is a coherent spatial system derived from the existing urban patterns and the connection of the principal hubs of human activity with each other. This creates a densely programmed yet flexible network of public and semipublic, open and enclosed, dedicated and generic spaces. A number of interlocking indoor and outdoor functions accommodates urban functions which complement the existing urban functions.

ENVISAGE

We envisage a populated and inhabited "urbanized landscape" which effortlessly and unpretentiously connects the two sides and utilizes the sites potential as an undeveloped inner-city lot. The no-man's land is transformed into an uninterrupted spine of publicity and activity, a backbone for future developments and a hub of human activity. As a backbone it will provide structure for future developments, sponsor identity and thus become a focal point of new developments.

CONNECTIVITY AND THE URBAN WEB

An elevated, artificial topography relives the urban functions from the undesirable aspects of train traffic and provides the setting for the changing patterns of collective and individual urban life. Transformative tectonics set spaces, planes and volumes into unforeseen relationships that challenge conventional topographies and spatial codes, generating spatial settings of different scales, characters and speeds.

This urbanized landscape establishes **A MULTITUDE OF CONNECTIVE PATHS BETWEEN EXISTING AND NEW HUBS OF HUMAN ACTIVITY** while making its own stance. These topologies are enacted by architecture of momentum and trajectory.

As an urban intervention, it provides key-qualities to the site and the city:

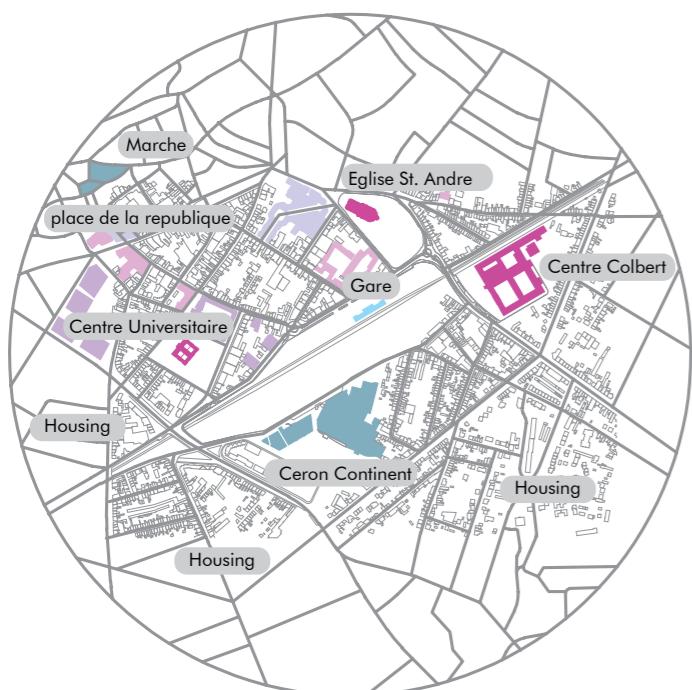
- A HIGH QUALITY PUBLIC SPACE AS A REFUGE OPEN TO SPONTANEOUS AND ORGANIZED URBAN ACTIVITIES WHICH ARE UNACCOUNTED FOR AT PRESENT

- AN ARTICULATED LOCATION THAT COUNTERACTS THE DENSITY AND MESSINESS OF THE ADJOINING NEIGHBORHOOD AND PROVIDES A STRONG SPATIAL BACKBONE FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

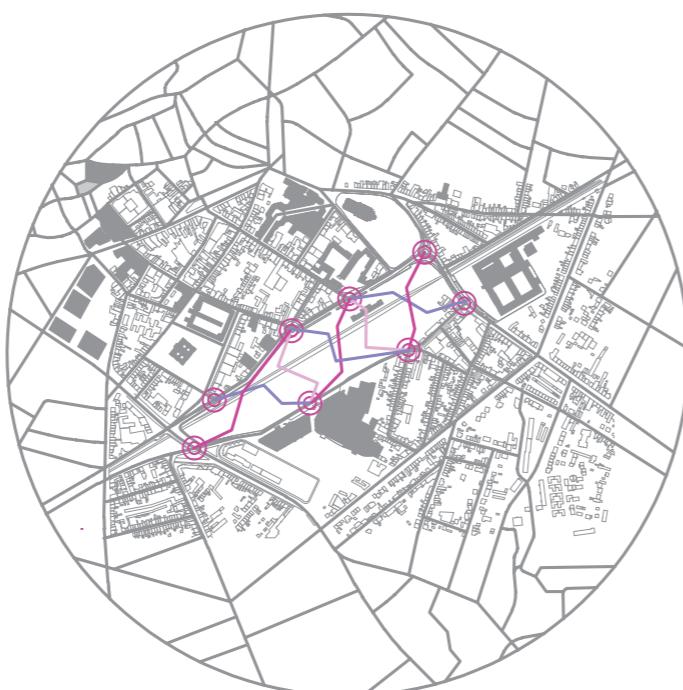
- A SPINE OF UNINTERRUPTED ACTIVITIES AND ENVIRONMENTS, WITH AN IMPORTANT MIX OF DEDICATED AND GENERIC SPACES

- SHORTCUTS CLOSELY LINKING HUBS OF HUMAN ACTIVITY WITH EACH OTHER

Simultaneously it addresses the parking issue by providing parking spaces underneath. In particular this keeps Place Voltaire from being turned into a parking lot and thus improves the setting of the Church St. Andre as an important heritage.



HOLE IN URBAN WEB



AUTOCATALYTIC SET:
connection of urban nodes create shortcuts



MULTIPLE SCALES OF CONNECTIONS



HIERARCHIES

- 2 - THEME : SCALES AND MULTIFUNCTIONALITY

As an urban intervention the project addresses two principal European 8 themes: scales and multifunctionality.

Reaching beyond this classification it is at the core of this project to think about spatial, urban, social and programmatical issues in a more transversal and integrated manner.

The project addresses issues of multiple scales and multifunctionality as an inherent asset of the site. It is designed to work on different levels of scales at the same time, employing a clear hierarchical order from urban scale to immediate scale. The interlocking of public, semipublic and private, dedicated and generic spaces creates a richness of inhabitable environments which are able to address complex issues at a human scale.

The main objectives of this project as an urban intervention are :

- Unlocking the site's potential as a major infrastructural device, integration of the different transportational devices
- Utilizing attractiveness as a link being mediator and destination
- Providing a high quality public realm and refuge
- Providing a backbone for future development and a focal point that triggers reurbanization
- Sponsoring the identity and improving the public's perception of the neighbourhood
- Generating publicity and a social node

The principle tool to archive these objectives and to integrate them into one strong urban device is a coherent spatial system that is derived from the existing urban patterns.

ENGAGING TOPOLOGIES

Conceived from the transformation of the urban web in three-dimensions, this network of nodes ensures a tight integration into the city's spatial patterns, scales, urban systems and urban timeframes while relieving the site from its restraints.

CHANGE AND ADOPTION

Unlocking of the sites potential as a powerful urban device.

Change and alteration over time is a major characteristic of a rich urban development. The ability to adapt to changes and to grow as demand grows therefore is at the core of the project as an urban intervention. The proposed urban system allows for great spatial and programmatic flexibility without compromising its spatial qualities, character, attractiveness and identity. Short-medium- and long-term urban developments are accounted for and integrated into a coherent framework that fosters connectivity and improves vitality and urban life for the entire city.

ARTICULATED IDENTITY

The non-location is transformed into one of the city's most important assets by unlocking its potential as a major hub of human activity with an articulated identity that even sponsors identity to its wider vicinity.

Undoubtedly it will provide a significant contribution in establishing a dedicated Chateauroux Identity and in reinforcing Chateauroux's attractiveness.

To the benefit of the entire city it sponsors identity, improves the city's image, also being articulated to commuters in trains passing by, and fosters future development in the adjacent neighborhoods.

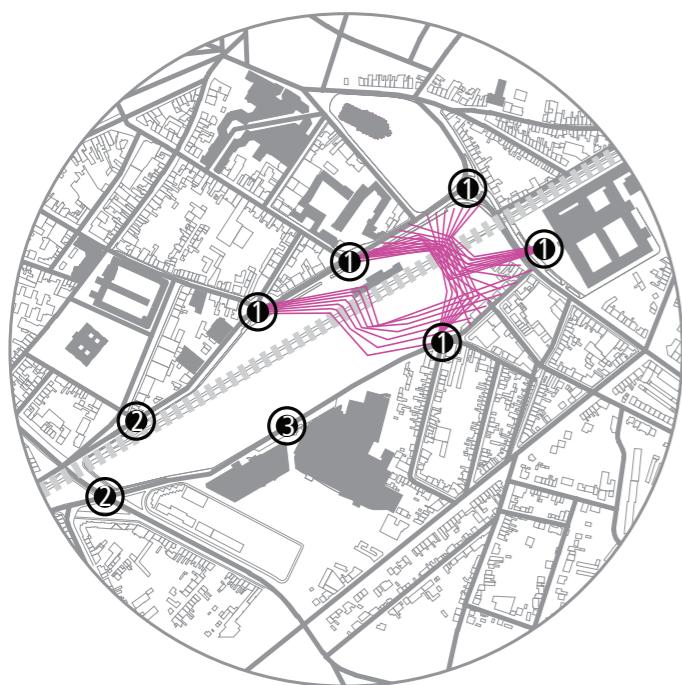
ATTRACTIVENESS, DESTINATION & DENSITY

To create a real and sustainable link it is decisive to reach beyond a purely physical link. An attractive urban setting generates a strong and sustainable, programmatical and spatial link. The principal tool to archive that integration is an inhabited, programmed and intensified landscape. All associated functions and systems contribute to and benefit from that "Urbanized landscape", using it as a central circulation device that draws from its publicity and contributes to its programmatic density. In return this programmatic density contributes to the publicity. This dependency creates strong coherence and interaction.

ATTRACTOR AS LINK

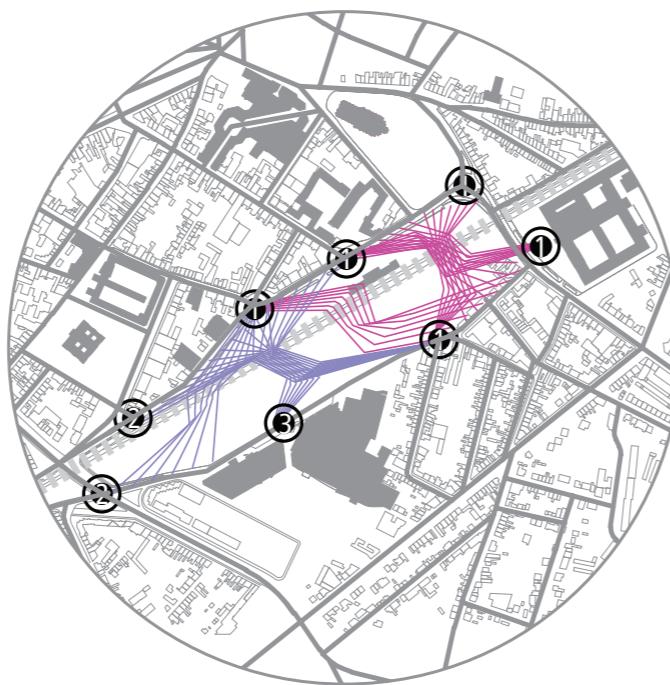
The non-location is turned into an articulated location and destination, a focal point in whose attractiveness generates the real link between the two shores. The potential for a recreational city-park, transport-node, housing and working complement the existing urban functions.

This programmatic and spatial diversity together with the important mix of generic and dedicated spaces urges utilization and adaptation by all kind of different social groups. It ensures a tight integration into the city's social and programmatic fabric covering an extended timeframe.



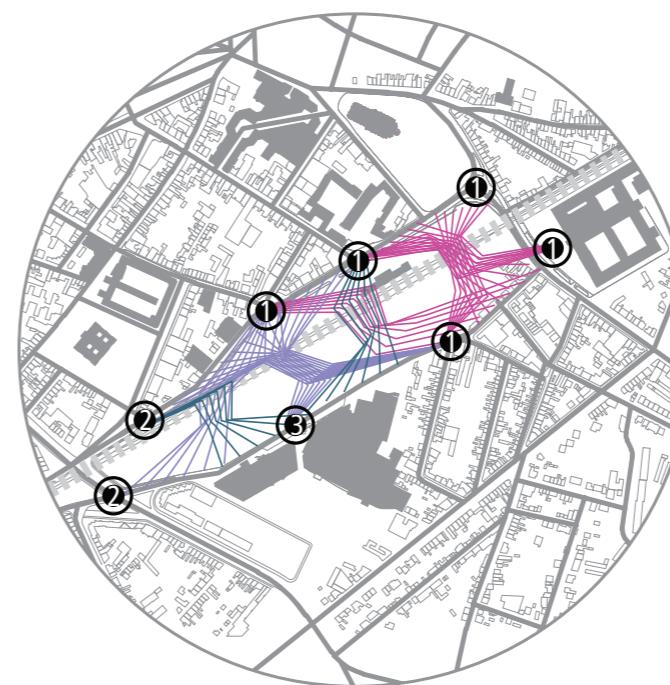
GROWTH AND ADAPTION I-1

- ① Hierarchies
- ↔ Connections Phase 1



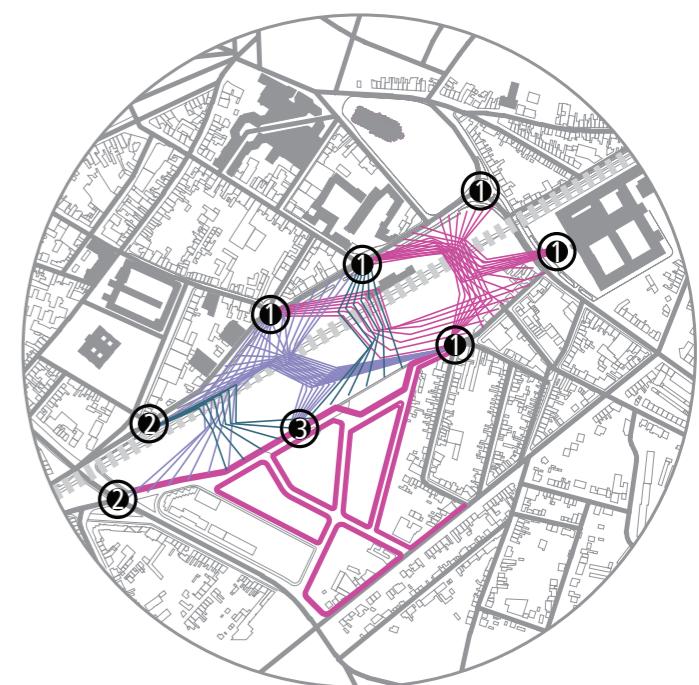
GROWTH AND ADAPTION I-2

- ① Hierarchies
- ↔ Connections Phase 1
- ↔ Connections Phase 2



GROWTH AND ADAPTION I-3

- ① Hierarchies
- ↔ Connections Phase 1
- ↔ Connections Phase 2
- ↔ Connections Phase 3



GROWTH AND ADAPTION I-4

- ① Hierarchies
- ↔ Connections Phase 1
- ↔ Connections Phase 2
- ↔ Connections Phase 3

FOCAL POINT

Using topographic and iconographic approaches, to the benefit of another, promotes the location as both, an integral part of the neighbourhood and a focal point triggering new development. Commuters passing by in train carriages will perceive this intervention on an iconographic level, creating curiosity. This will improve the public's perception of the neighbourhood on a larger scale and even beyond the borders of the city.

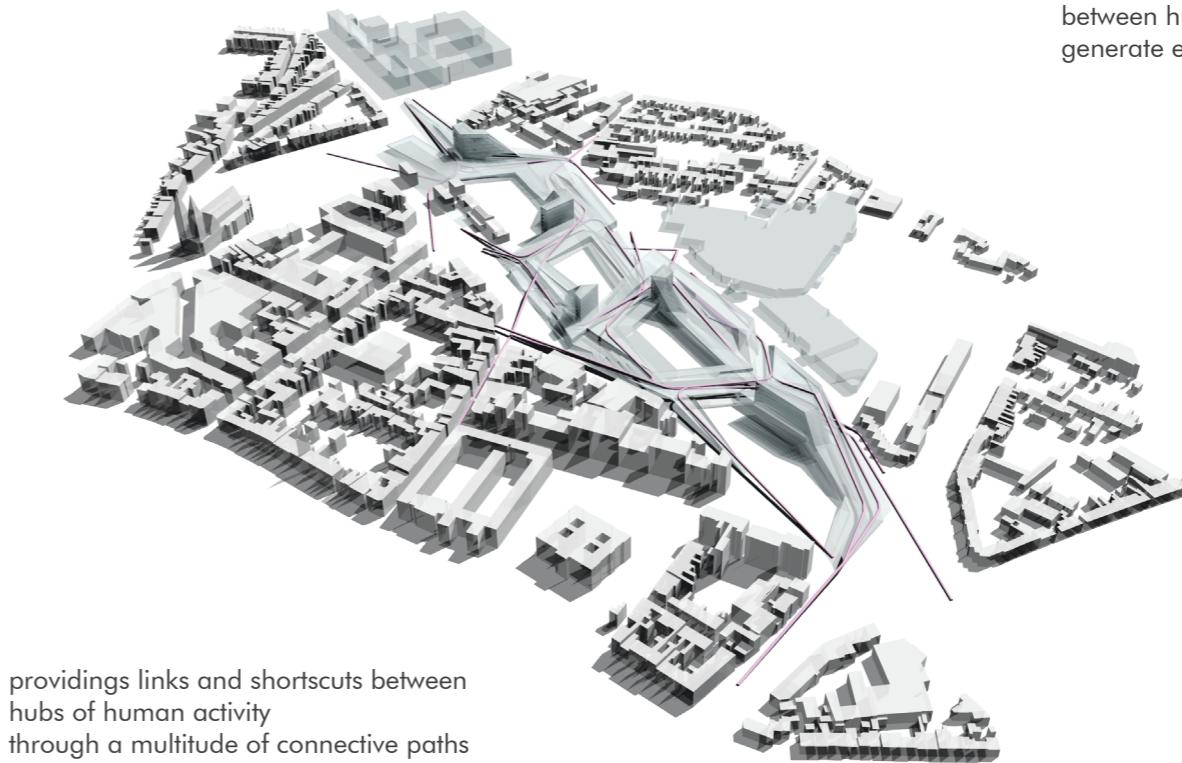
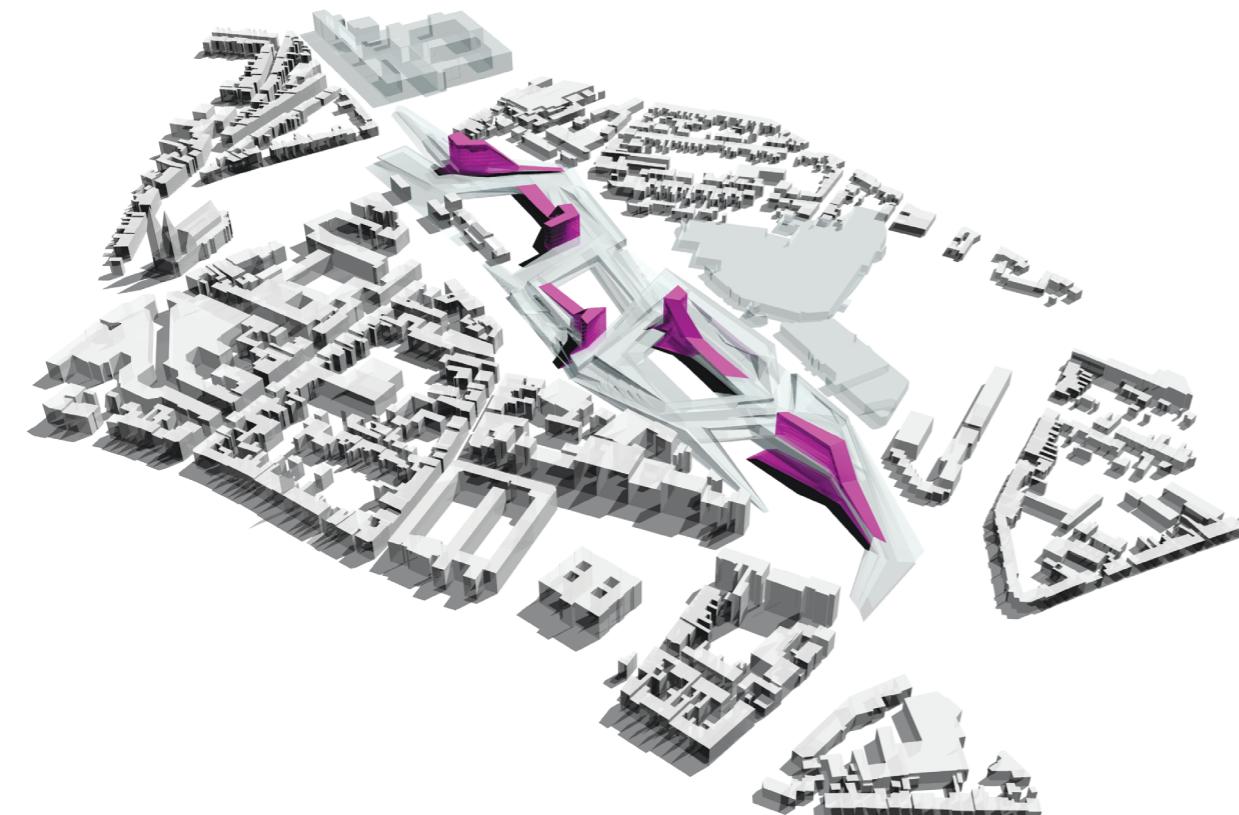
The spatial and programmatic density, diversity and attractiveness, together with the articulation of a major gateway to the city will turn this location into a focal point, triggering redevelopment and reurbanization in the wider neighbourhood.

SCALES AND URBAN CASUALITY

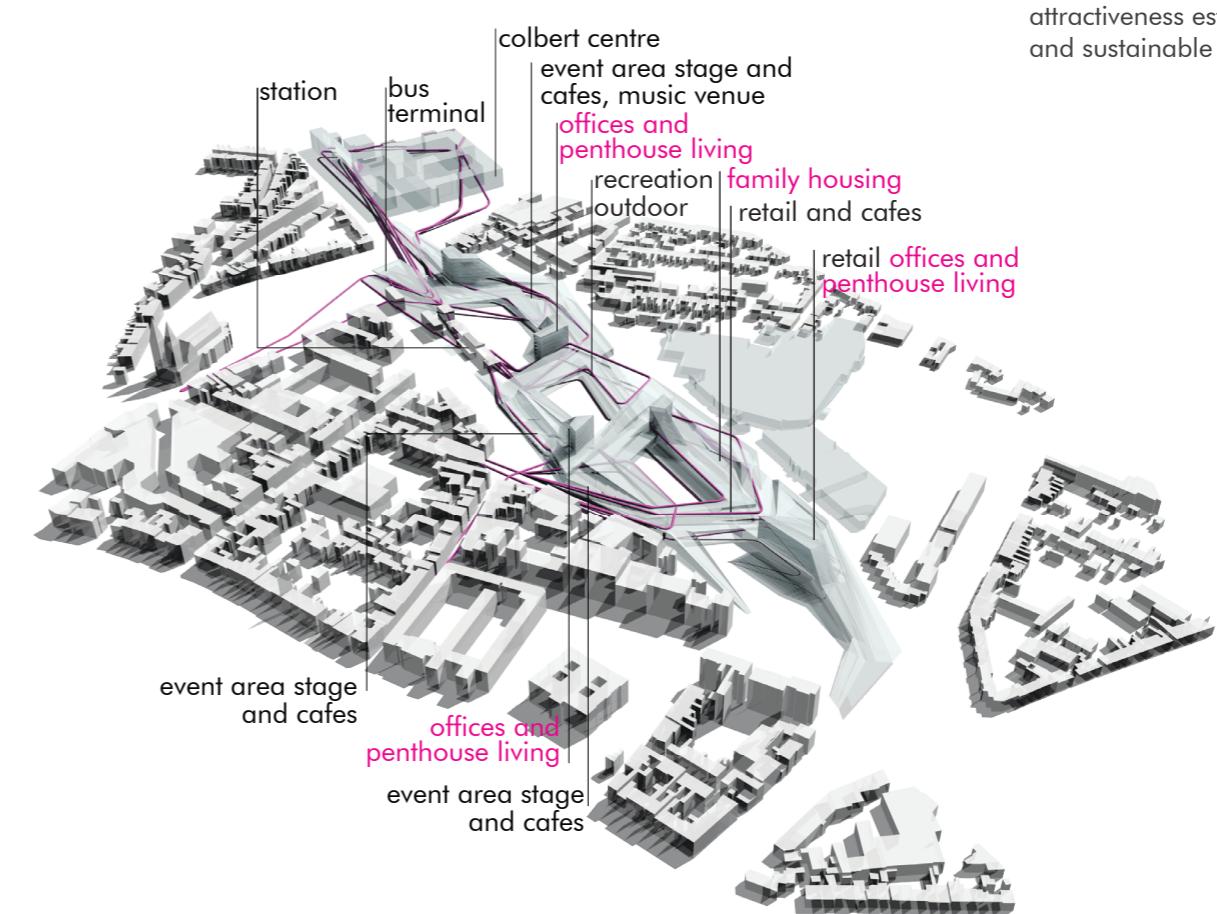
Its relation in scale and morphology to the urban web of the city and its gradual transformation ensures a smooth and natural integration into the urban fabric. This relation in scale operates on three levels, subsequent to each other : materials - surfaces and volumes to promote an "urban casualty" that ensures tight interaction with the surrounding.

This hierarchy of scales allows different **ARTICULATIONS OF THE URBANIZED LANDSCAPE** depending on the immediate surrounding condition while geometrically maintaining strong coherency and relation to the global network. Strong geometric and spatial principles provide originality and spatial coherence. Similar to a tapestry this forms an open network that urges to be customized and taken over by the residents. As an "urbanized landscape" it generates an articulated, iconographic identity while maintaining an unpretentious and casual relation to its vicinity.

This ensures the projects functions on an urban as well as on an immediate, personal scale.



LINKS & redundancy
between hubs of human activities generate extenion of urban web



GENERATOR OF PUBLICITY AND PUBLIC NODE

Density is a key requirement for a rich urban development. Thus, the urban and programmatical setup promotes an intensification spatial and programmatical.

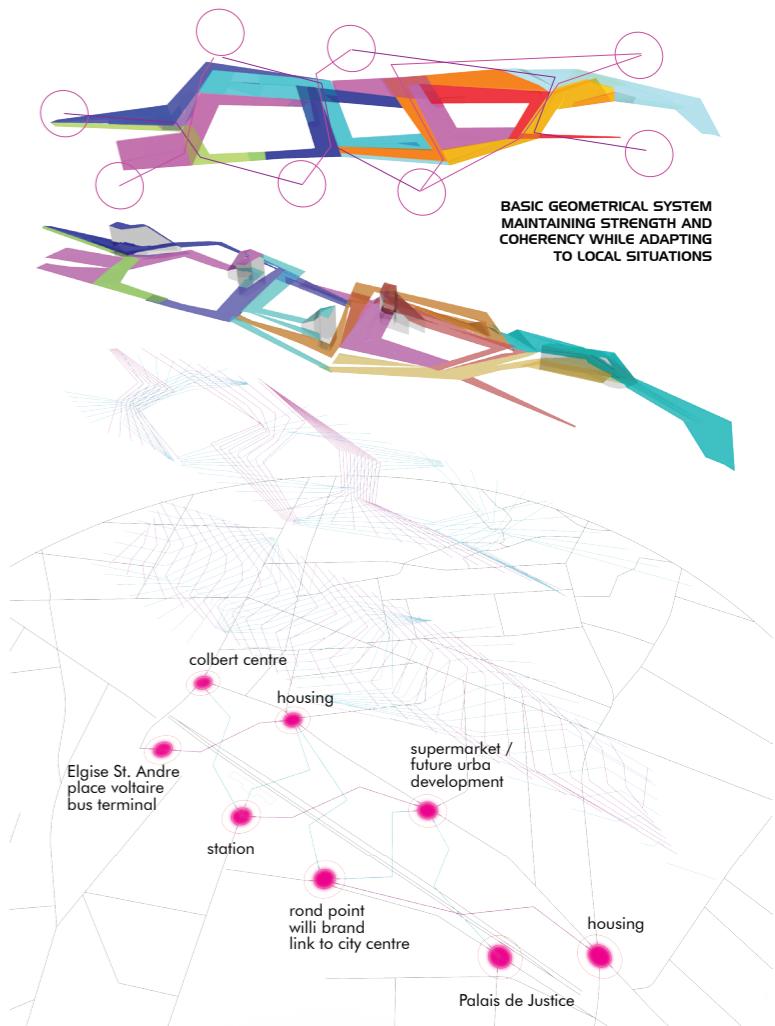
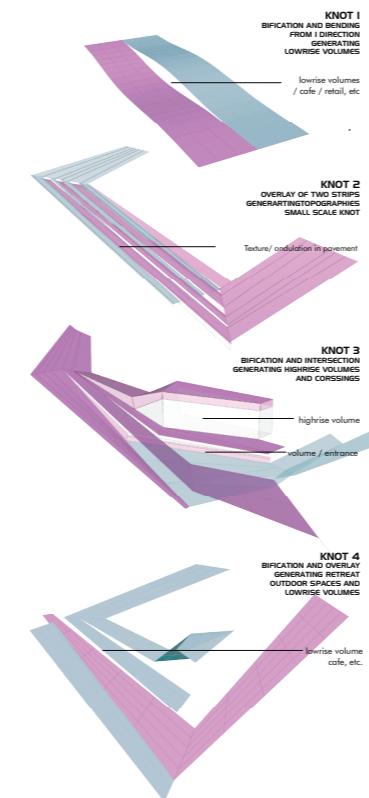
The anchor functions such as workspaces, housing and retail provide the crucial "critical mass" to stimulate an attractive and vital urban live complementing the existing city. As integral part of the urban web, it is also a major circulatory and connectional device used by commuters, leisure-walkers and neighbours. The combination of this will ensure a sufficient number of people to be attracted to exceed that "critical mass".

Rather than drawing publicity from its vicinity, this will render the intervention into a generator of publicity and to the benefit of the neighborhood will foster and sustain a rich urban life.



GEOMETRIC PRINCIPLE

strips folded into each other organizing the space



-3 - PROGRAMMATICAL

The project draws its programmatical strength from the integration of different functions and the associated user-groups into one spatial system. It challenges the modernist paradigms of functional zoning, instead promotes friction, interaction and blurring. Private and public realms, inside and outside interlock and create a flexible in-between zone. This generates a density complementing the existing city functions and generating a high level of urban publicity. Key functions include housing and offices, retail and gastronomy. Other urban functions are associated with high quality public spaces: a jogging track, an alternative setting for the festival of modern dance and music, small scale cultural venues and an inner city retreat for the urban population.

INTERCHANGE

To stimulate a maximum of interaction and friction between these different programmatic functions and to ensure sustainable 24 hour utilization, traditional boundaries between them are blurred and twisted. Within a three-dimensional transformation of the cities grid, topographic and iconographic elements are fused. A smooth transition between surface and volume is the principle tool to archive this close relation.

Together they generate an urbanized landscape of diverse programmatic densities and spatial characters that urge to be utilized and customized. The interlocking of public, semipublic and private, dedicated and generic spaces creates a richness of inhabitable environments which are able to address complex issues at a human scale.

Together with a mixed use scheme of housing, sport, leisure, recreation, education and cultural facilities this will promote the project as an attractive destination and as the new social node of the neighborhood covering an extended timeframe.

INNOVATION

The innovative scope of this project as an urban intervention derives from two principal strategies

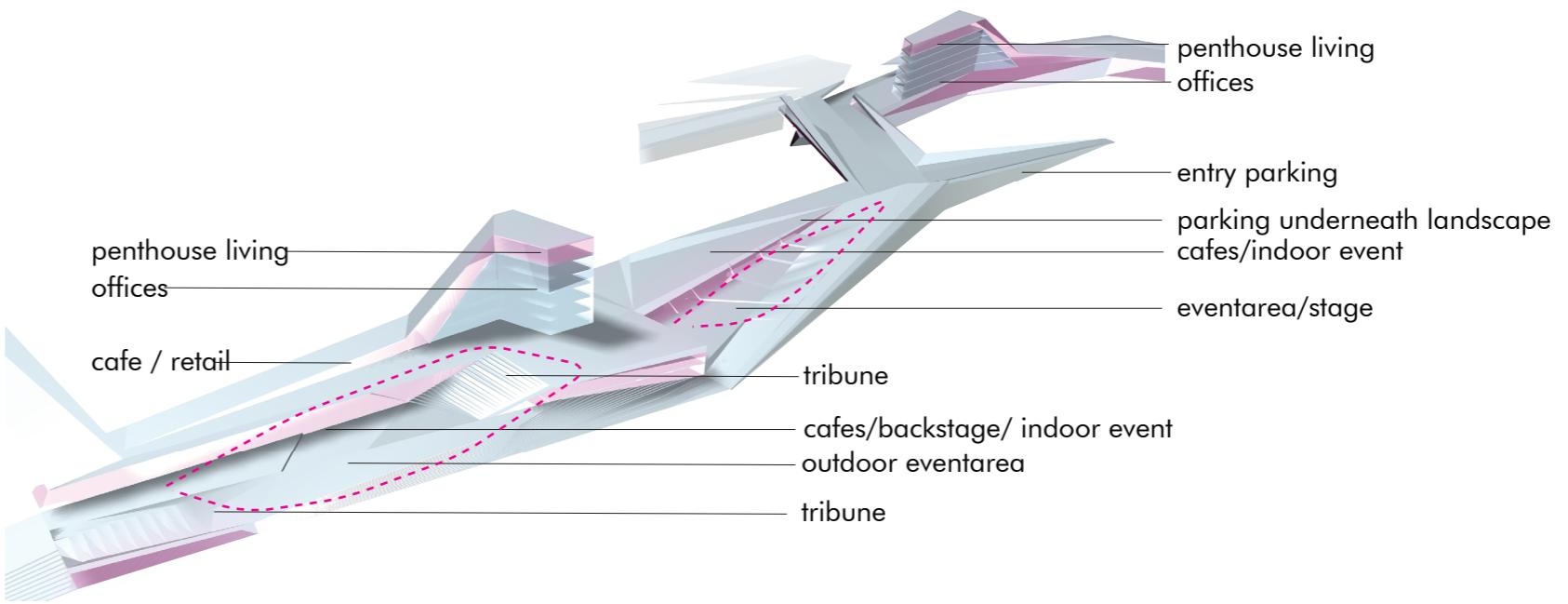
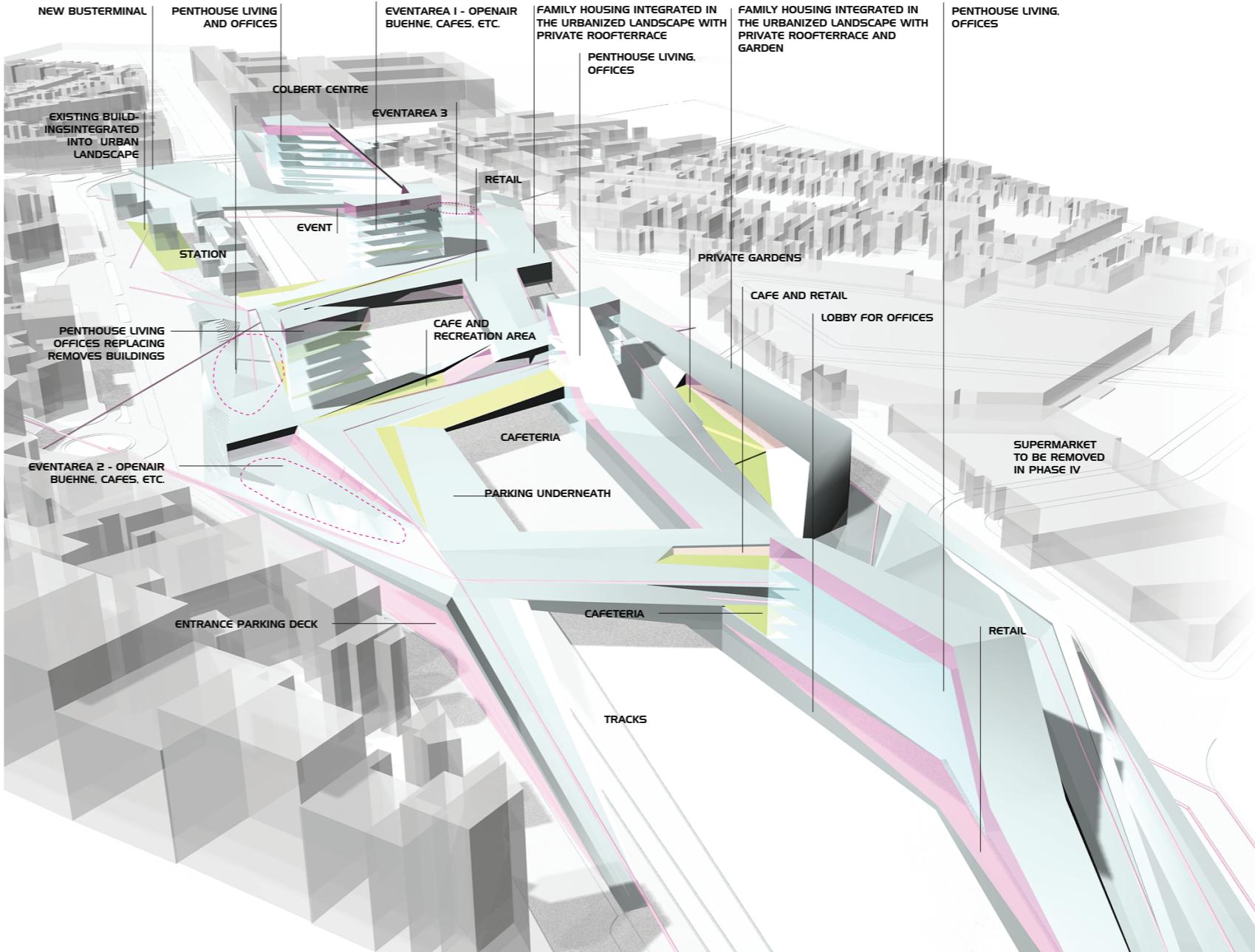
- THE INTEGRAL APPROACH TO LANDSCAPE, URBAN DESIGN, ARCHITECTURE AND PROGRAM
- THE INHERENT APPROACH TO TIME, CHANGE, TRANSFORMATION AND GROWTH

Change being a major characteristic of urban development the ability to adapt to changes without losing coherency, spatial quality and identity is necessarily at the core of every intervention that aims to establish an articulated identity. Therefore its spatial principles and characteristics are designed to allow for changes by assimilating them into a strong yet flexible network. Closely dependant this will again alter the network, adapting to these changes. The basic geometric and spatial principles remain intact and ensure integration and synergy of the different programs by embedding them into a high quality urban network.

Conceived as an urbanized and utilized extension to the cities urban web this project is derived from its three-dimensional transformation and fuses the traditional boundaries between landscape, architecture and urban design. Due to this holistic approach they cannot be broken down into more classical categories.

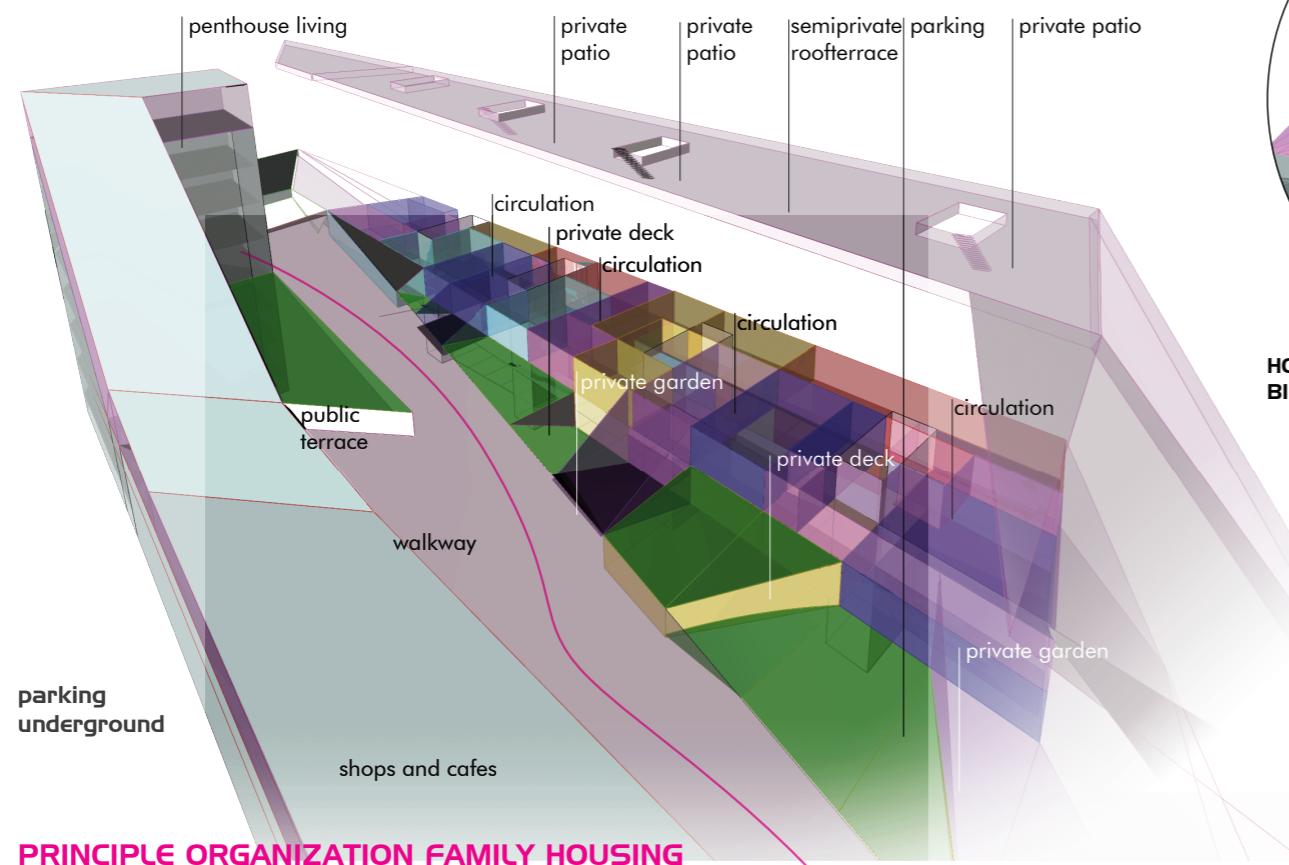
The integral approach to spatial, urban, programmatical, social and architectural issues ensures a densely utilized urban device, capable of archiving multiple objectives in one simple framework. In analogy to a traditional European city, this promotes synergies, interaction, friction and blurring in terms of space, usage and time.

All of which are important pre-requirements to promote, enable and sustain a vital urban life.



- 4 - HOUSING - CONCEPT

Integration of Housingunits in Scapesystem
visual connection to landscape and city, yet a semiprivate retreat



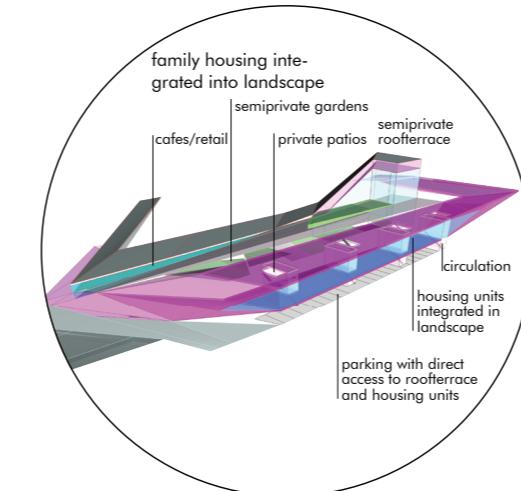
PRINCIPLE ORGANIZATION FAMILY HOUSING

Housing as an important inner-city function is an important programmatic asset. Its layout is designed to promote in-between spaces with a gradient level of privacy.

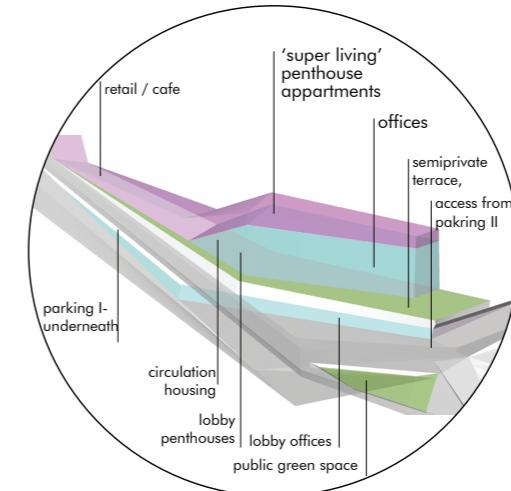
The urbanized landscape extends over the housing units, forming a deck open to all residents that offers an outlook to survey the activities in the landscape and in the city.

Publicly visible, yet detached from the activities and trajectories this deck is semi-private and only accessible to residents. Private patios sunken into this roofscape provide a more intimate setting, yet directly linked to the roof terrace and offer shelter from the sun.

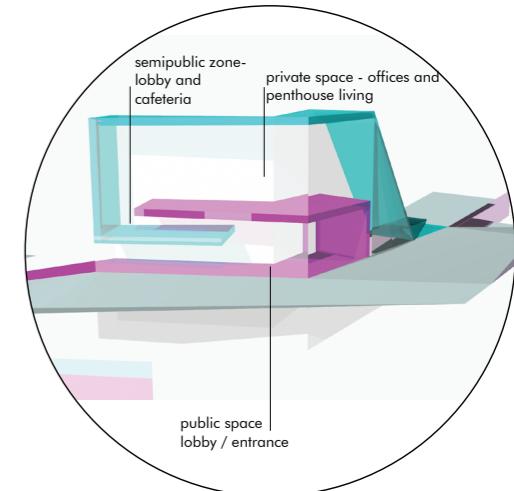
These patios are a circulatory device, providing direct access to the semipublic roof terrace. The housing units are organized in different layouts and sizes around these patios and provide habitat for different types and phases of communal and individual live.



HOUSING CONCEPT FAMILY HOUSING BIFICATION OF THE PRINCIPLE GEOMETRY



HOUSING CONCEPT HIGHRISE PENTHOUSE LIVING



INTERLOCKING INSIDE AND OUTSIDE, PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SPACE

SEMIPUBLIC ROOFTERRACE WITH PATIOS

overlocking the landscape and offering opportunities to survey the activities and urban live in the urbanized landscape and in the city

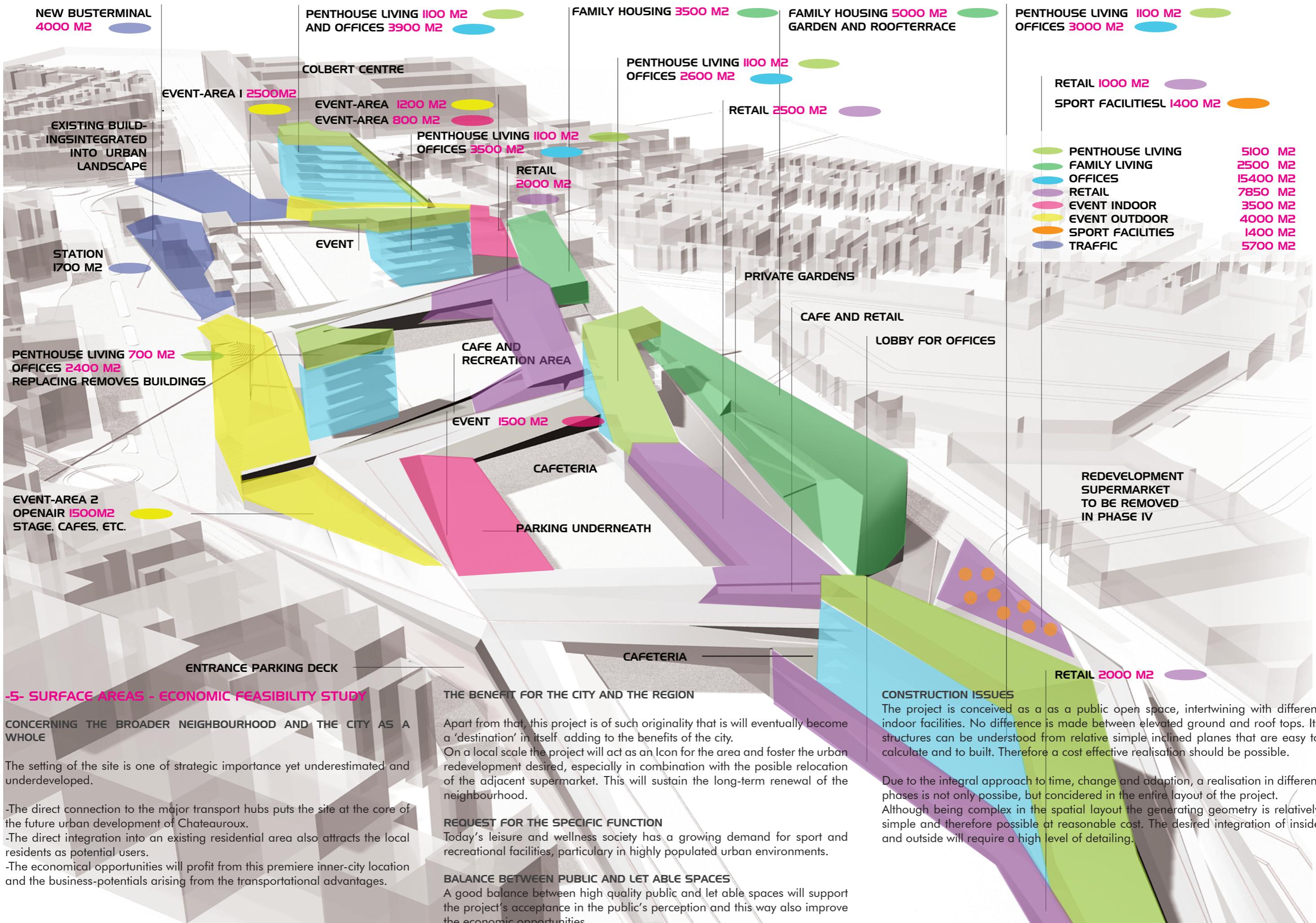


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SUMMAIRE FRANCAISE

CONCEPT GÉNÉRAL : CHATEAUROUX.

Le quartier de la gare de Chateauroux est caractérisé par une multitude de différentes interfaces et conditions urbaines alentour. Au nord, un développement de zone urbaine et au sud un lotissement suburbain accompagné d'un supermarché hors d'échelle. Tout deux sont scindés par un bouquet de rails parcourant d'est en ouest.

Cette scission est à l'évidence un lieu résiduel, pauvre en espaces dédiés au public, aux piétons ou encore à la promenade.

Mettre en place une approche urbaine, spatialement cohérente à petite comme à grande échelle : Le site entier sera donc entièrement requalifier dans le but de créer une zone urbaine indépendante. Cette approche rivalise avec une répétition uniforme, une standardisation et avec une stricte détermination de l'espace. A la place, les relations complexes du site sont instrumentalisées pour un développement de nouvelles affiliations, de nouvelles continuités qui attiraient tous les sens.

Cette intervention déverrouille le potentiel du site comme un dispositif urbain transitoire et connectif en exploitant cette qualité comme un nœud de transfert. Ainsi la recherche d'espace de haute qualité va passer par la restriction du nombres de rails et recoudre la déchirure de la toile urbaine. Le site est retourné vers la cité et ses citoyens. Il est transformé en un intégral réseau urbain. L'ère négligée est retournée en un atout majeur pour la ville.

Le développement naturel de la cité _qui était en un sens bloqué par la voie de chemin de fer_ est rétabli.

Ceci est classement du jeu d'interventions stratégiques et d'outils urbains :

- connectivité.
- exprimer une identité particulière.
- attractivité, destination et densité.
- générer une publicité et un engouement social.

Le principal outil pour classer ces interventions et pour les intégrer à un fort dispositif urbain est un système spatial cohérent dérivé du patron urbain existant et de la connexion des principaux flux humains, entre eux. Cela crée par le programme présent au préalable, un réseau flexible d'espaces publics, semi-publics, ouverts et enclos, dédiés ou générés.

Un certain nombre de fonctions entre intérieur et extérieur accommode les fonctions urbaines qui complètent les fonctions urbaines existantes.

PREVISION.

Nous envisageons un « paysage urbanisé », fréquenté et habité, qui à l'image d'une suture reliera la partie sud de la partie nord. Le no man's land serait alors transformé en une colonne vertébrale forte de nouveaux espaces.

Cette colonne serait alors la structure de futurs développements, assurant l'identité du lieu.

Cette transformation se veut donc être une focalisation de nouveaux développements.

CONNEXION ET TISSU URBAIN.

Une topographie artificielle épargne les fonctions urbaines des aspects indésirables du trafic ferroviaire et fournit la possibilité de changement de motifs dans le collectif de vie urbaine.

La transformation tectonique met en place des espaces, plans, volumes dans des relations imprévues qui défient la topographie conventionnelle et les codes spatiaux.

Le « paysage urbanisé » établit **UNE MULTITUDE DE CHEMINS CONNECTÉS ENTRE L'EXISTANT ET LES NOUVEAUX FOYERS D'ACTIVITÉ HUMAINE**, ceci en une même position. Un système d'espaces, dérivé des lignes urbaines existantes et des principaux foyers d'activités est conçu. Ceci établit une multitude de chemins, de vecteurs communicants entre l'existant et les nouveaux nœuds d'activités, requalifiant l'urbanité du lieu. Conçu par une transformation tridimensionnelle du tissu urbain, ce réseau de nœuds assure

une stricte adaptation aux systèmes et motifs urbains. Ceci permet ainsi une flexibilité spatiale et programmatique, comprenant un développement urbain à moyen et long terme. Ceci sans compromis face au caractère du lieu, à son pouvoir d'attraction et son identité. Cette trame donne un second souffle également à la vie urbaine et à la ville entière qui est implicitement en liaison permanente avec le site ferroviaire.

IDENTITÉ ARTICULÉE.

L'actuelle « non lieu » est transformé en un atout citadin des plus importants. Il désenclave le potentiel du lieu c'est à dire le rapport d'activité humaine couplé avec une identité explicite.

Le site est à présent retourné vers la cité pour compléter son développement naturel. Développement empêché depuis des années par l'existence de la voie de chemin de fer.

Pour contrer l'indésirable aspect du trafic ferroviaire, une dimension artificielle et surélevée est mise en place. Cette dimension produit un changement des flux d'usages urbains auparavant établis.

Un réseau d'espaces privés et semi publiques, public, ouverts et refermés définit le paysage urbanisé et habité, procurant un nouveau caractère particulier à l'ensemble du quartier de la gare.

POUVOIR D'ATTRACTION, DESTINATION ET DENSITÉ.

Atteindre, au-delà d'un lien purement physique, le pouvoir d'attraction est la clef pour générer un lien réel et soutenu.

Pour créer ce lien réel et soutenu, il est nécessaire d'aller au-delà d'un quelconque lien physique. C'est à dire mettre en place une scène urbaine qui, par son attraction générera implicitement le lien recherché.

« ATTRAYANT COMME UN LIEN. »

Le « non lieu » se meut en un endroit articulé et en une destination, en un point focal dont le pouvoir d'attraction génère le réel lien entre les deux rivages. Il s'agit d'un potentiel pour un parc-cité récréatif, pour un nœud de flux, pour du lotissement, comme complément aux fonctions urbaines existantes.

Le programme et la diversité spatiale, ensemble, accompagnés de l'important mélange de générateurs et les espaces consacrés encouragent l'usage et l'adaptation par tout type de groupes sociaux.

Cela assure une juste intégration compte tenu du milieu social et de l'usine programmatique couvrant la durée de la journée, étendue.

ECHELLE ET ACCIDENT.

Cette relation entre l'échelle et la morphologie du tissu urbain ainsi que la transformation graduelle assurent une naturelle intégration dans la fabrique urbaine.

La non présentation de « l'urbanisation accidentée » sera la promotion d'une interaction avec les alentours, assurant un usage soutenu.

Les principes de géométrie et des principes spatiaux fournissent l'originalité et la cohérence spatiale en même temps. Le « paysage urbanisé » génère une identité articulée et iconographique pendant qu'il maintient une relation avec ses environs.

DENSITÉ ET MASSE CRITIQUE.

GÉNÉRATEUR DE PUBLICITÉ ET MILIEU SOCIAL.

La densité est une clé requise pour un développement urbain riche. Ainsi l'installation urbaine et programmatique fait la promotion d'une intensification spatiale et programmatique.

Les fonctions « ancre » proposées pour les espaces de travail, de logements et de magasins approvisionnent cette « masse critique » pour stimuler un dynamisme urbain complétant la ville existante. Etant partie intégrante du tissu urbain, c'est un lieu de circulation majeure et de connections dont les usages sont les travailleurs journaliers, les promeneurs et les riverains.

Ce tout assurera un nombre suffisant de personnes constituant la « masse critique », chargée positivement du pouvoir d'attraction.

Mieux qu'attirer par la publicité de la part des environs, cette masse dans

l'intervention générera par elle-même ce dynamisme. Et cette vie urbaine dynamique sera au bénéfice du voisinage.

PROGRAMME

Le projet dessine sa rigueur programmatique par l'intégration des différents groupes d'usagers dans un seul et même système spatial. Le principal concept volumétrique incluant les fonctions telles que les logements, les commerces et les bureaux est basé sur l'action de rendre flou cette traditionnelle limite. Domaines privés et publics, entrelacés, situés entre intérieures et extérieures, créent un entre-deux flexible qui appartiendra aux deux domaines en même temps.

La fusion des diverses fonctions urbaines relative aux différents groupes sociaux d'individus ne formant qu'un seul généralement une masse critique complétant les fonctions existantes de la cité. Cette fusion génère un niveau élevé de publicité pour le site.

Au même moment, le lieu est partagé entre les résidents, les promeneurs ou bien encore les voisins lointains.

Ces fonctions urbaines sont un potentiel. Potentiel qui contiendrait des aménagements pour les joggers, un emplacement provisoire à festival de musique ou de danse, des centres culturels (aussi bien résidentiels, gastronomiques) et mis à disposition des immeubles de bureaux.

FLOU

Pour stimuler un maximum d'interaction ainsi qu'assurer un potentiel d'utilisation 24h/24, les bordures entre les différentes fonctions du programme sont floutées et entrelacées.

A l'intérieur d'une transformation tridimensionnelle de la trame urbaine, topographique, les éléments iconographiques fusionnent. Ils génèrent un paysage urbanisé constitué de diverses densités programmatiques, d'acteurs spatiaux qui inviteront à l'utilisation et à l'appropriation.

L'entrelacs des espaces public, semi-public et privé, dédiés et générés crée une richesse d'environnements inhabituels qui sont capables d'offrir multiples possibilités à l'échelle humaine.

Mêlé aux logements, au sport, aux loisirs, à la détente, à l'éducation et à la culture, ce flou apportera au projet une image attrayante et un nouvel enjeu social pour le voisinage, tout ceci rythmé par l'emploi du temps journalier.

INNOVATION.

L'échappée innovante du projet comme intervention urbaine provient de deux branches mères :

- L'approche intégrale du paysage, du design urbain, de l'architecture et du programme.
- L'approche inhérente au temps, au changement et à la transformation.

Le changement étant une caractéristique majeure au développement urbain, la possibilité de s'adapter au changement sans perte de cohérence, de caractère et d'identité est nécessairement à l'essence même de toute intervention. Intervention pouvant établir une identité articulée. Par conséquent ces principes spatiaux qu'importe soient-ils, assurent l'authenticité de l'intégration et la synergie des différents programmes inclus dans un réseau urbain de qualité.

Conçu comme une extension urbaine et donc usitée, ce projet est dérivé d'une transformation tridimensionnelle. Il soude les limites entre un travail paysager, l'architecture et le design urbain. Par cette approche intégrale, le projet assure une approche plus innovante que classique.

Cette approche du spatial, de l'urbain, du programmatique, du social et de l'architecture assure une dense occupation du sol, pouvant réduire les différentes problématiques à un seul labeur.

En analogie aux cités traditionnelles européennes, le projet sert la synergie, l'interaction et le flou en termes d'espace, d'usage et de temps.

Tout ce qui constitue une exigence à promouvoir, permettre et à soutenir une vie urbaine dynamique.

**CHANGE AND ADAPTION**

CHANGE AND ALTERATION OVER TIME IS A MAJOR CHARACTERISTIC OF A RICH URBAN DEVELOPMENT.

The ability to adapt to changes and to grow as demand grows therefore is at the core of the project as an urban intervention. THE PROPOSED URBAN SYSTEM ALLOWS FOR GREAT SPATIAL AND PROGRAMMATIC FLEXIBILITY WITHOUT COMPROMISING ITS SPATIAL QUALITIES, CHARACTERS, ATTRACTIVENESS AND IDENTITY.

Short-, medium- and long-term urban developments are accounted for and integrated into a coherent framework that fosters connectivity and improves vitality and urban live for the entire city.

ARTICULATING A NEW IDENTITY**GROWTH AND ADAPTION I-1**

Hierachies

Connections Phase 1

GROWTH AND ADAPTION I-2

Hierachies

Connections Phase 1

GROWTH AND ADAPTION I-3

Hierachies

Connections Phase 1

Connections Phase 2

GROWTH AND ADAPTION I-4

Hierachies

Connections Phase 1

Connections Phase 2

Connections Phase 3

FORMATION OF SPACE**GROWTH AND ADAPTION I-4**

Hierachies

Connections Phase 1

Connections Phase 2

Connections Phase 3

ONE NETWORK, DIFFERENT ARTICULATIONS PRINCIPLES OF GENERATING VOLUME AND SURFACES**KNOT 1**

BIFURCATION AND REGULARISATION FROM A DIRECTION GENERATING LOWRISE VOLUMES

lowrise volumes

/ cafe / retail, etc

KNOT 2

OVERLAY OF TWO STRIPS GENERATING TOPOGRAPHIES SMALL SCALE KNOT

Texture/ undulation in program!

KNOT 3

BIFURCATION AND INTERSECTION GENERATING HIGHRISE VOLUMES AND CORRIDORS

highrise volume

/ volume / entance

KNOT 4

BIFURCATION AND OVERLAY GENERATING RETREAT OUTDOOR SPACES AND LOWRISE VOLUMES

lowrise volume

/ cafe, etc.

PENTHOUSE LIVING.

OFFICES

HIERARCHIES

CONNECTIONS PHASE 1

HIERARCHIES

CONNECTIONS PHASE 2

HIERARCHIES

CONNECTIONS PHASE 3

FAMILY HOUSING WITH PRIVATE GARDEN AND ROOFTERRACE INTEGRATED IN THE SCAPE-SYSTEM

PENTHOUSE LIVING.

OFFICES

HIERARCHIES

CONNECTIONS PHASE 1

HIERARCHIES

CONNECTIONS PHASE 2

PRIVATE GARDENS

CAFE AND RETAIL

HIERARCHIES

CONNECTIONS PHASE 1

HIERARCHIES

CONNECTIONS PHASE 2

REDEVELOPMENT SUPERMARKET TO BE REMOVED IN PHASE IV

CAFE AND RETAIL

HIERARCHIES

CONNECTIONS PHASE 1

HIERARCHIES

CONNECTIONS PHASE 2

CAFFETERIA

CAFFETERIA

HIERARCHIES

CONNECTIONS PHASE 1

HIERARCHIES

CONNECTIONS PHASE 2

TRACKS

TRACKS

HIERARCHIES

CONNECTIONS PHASE 1

HIERARCHIES

CONNECTIONS PHASE 2

CAFETERIA

CAFETERIA

HIERARCHIES

CONNECTIONS PHASE 1

HIERARCHIES

CONNECTIONS PHASE 2

ENTRANCE PARKING DECK

ENTRANCE PARKING DECK

HIERARCHIES

CONNECTIONS PHASE 1

HIERARCHIES

CONNECTIONS PHASE 2

EVENT

EVENT

HIERARCHIES

CONNECTIONS PHASE 1

HIERARCHIES

CONNECTIONS PHASE 2

EVENT AREA 1 - OPEN AIR BUENAS CAFES, ETC.

EVENT AREA 1 - OPEN AIR BUENAS CAFES, ETC.

HIERARCHIES

CONNECTIONS PHASE 1

HIERARCHIES

CONNECTIONS PHASE 2

COLBERT CENTRE

COLBERT CENTRE

HIERARCHIES

CONNECTIONS PHASE 1

HIERARCHIES

CONNECTIONS PHASE 2

EVENT AREA 2 - OPEN AIR STAGE, CAFES, ETC.

EVENT AREA 2 - OPEN AIR STAGE, CAFES, ETC.

HIERARCHIES

CONNECTIONS PHASE 1

HIERARCHIES

CONNECTIONS PHASE 2

EXISTING BUILDINGS INTEGRATED INTO URBAN LANDSCAPE

EXISTING BUILDINGS INTEGRATED INTO URBAN LANDSCAPE

HIERARCHIES

CONNECTIONS PHASE 1

HIERARCHIES

CONNECTIONS PHASE 2

STATION

STATION

HIERARCHIES

CONNECTIONS PHASE 1

HIERARCHIES

CONNECTIONS PHASE 2

EVENT

EVENT

HIERARCHIES

CONNECTIONS PHASE 1

HIERARCHIES

CONNECTIONS PHASE 2

EVENT AREA 3

EVENT AREA 3

HIERARCHIES

CONNECTIONS PHASE 1

HIERARCHIES

CONNECTIVITY AND THE URBAN WEB

An elevated, artificial topography relieves the urban functions from the undesirable aspects of train traffic and provides the setting for the changing patterns of collective and individual urban life. Transformative lectors set spaces, planes and volumes into unforeseen relationships that challenge conventional topographies and spatial codes, generating spatial settings of different scales, characters and speeds.

This urbanized landscape establishes a MULTITUDE OF CONNECTIVE PATHS BETWEEN EXISTING AND NEW HUBS OF HUMAN ACTIVITY while making its own instance. These topologies are enacted by architecture of momentum and trajectory.

LIVING CITY

A NEW IDENTITY FOR THE STATION AREA.

The Station area of Châteauroux is characterized by a MULTITUDE OF DIFFERENT URBAN INTERFACES. The inner City is divided into a southern and a northern part. Rail tracks cut through the cities urban web and generate spaces the adjoining areas.

This DIVERSE URBAN SETTING demands for a COHERENT SPATIAL APPROACH that works equally well at micro and macro scale and which integrates the entire site into one redefined and redefined inner-city location. This HOLISTIC APPROACH challenges uniform repetition, standardization and strict determination of space. Instead the COMPLEX RELATIONS OF THE SITE ARE INSTRUMENTALIZED FOR DEVELOPING NEW AFFILIATIONS AND CONTINUITIES that appeal to all the senses.

The site's potential as a connectional and transitional urban device is unlocked by exploring its quality as a transportation node. It provides the sought after high quality open spaces by RELIEVING IT FROM THE RESTRAINTS OF THE RAILWAY tracks and OVERCOMES THE SKILL IN THE URBAN FABRIC. The neglected area is returned to the city and its people and transformed into an INTEGRAL ASSET OF THE CITIES URBAN WEB. The city's hourl development which was presented by the rail tracks and associated functions is complemented.

AUTOCATALYTIC SET:

connection of urban nodes create shortcuts

HOLE IN URBAN WEB

CHATEAUROUX, FRANCE, EUROPEAN 8

The principle tool to archive this and to INTEGRATE THEM INTO ONE STRONG URBAN DEVICE IS A COHERENT SPATIAL SYSTEM.

An elevated, ARTIFICIAL TOPOGRAPHY provides the setting for the changing patterns of collective and individual urban life. DEFINED FROM THE EXISTING URBAN PATTERNS and the connection of the principal hubs of human activity with each other, a densely programmed yet flexible NETWORK OF PUBLIC AND SEMIPUBLIC OPEN AND ENCLOSED, DEDICATED AND GENERIC SPACES is created.

This URBANIZED LANDSCAPE establishes a multitude of connective paths between existing and new hubs of human activity. Instead the complex lectors set spaces, planes and volumes into unforeseen relationships that challenge conventional topologies and spatial codes, generating spatial settings of different scales, characters and speeds. THESE TOPOLOGIES ARE ENACTED BY ARCHITECTURE OF MOMENTUM AND TRAJECTORY.

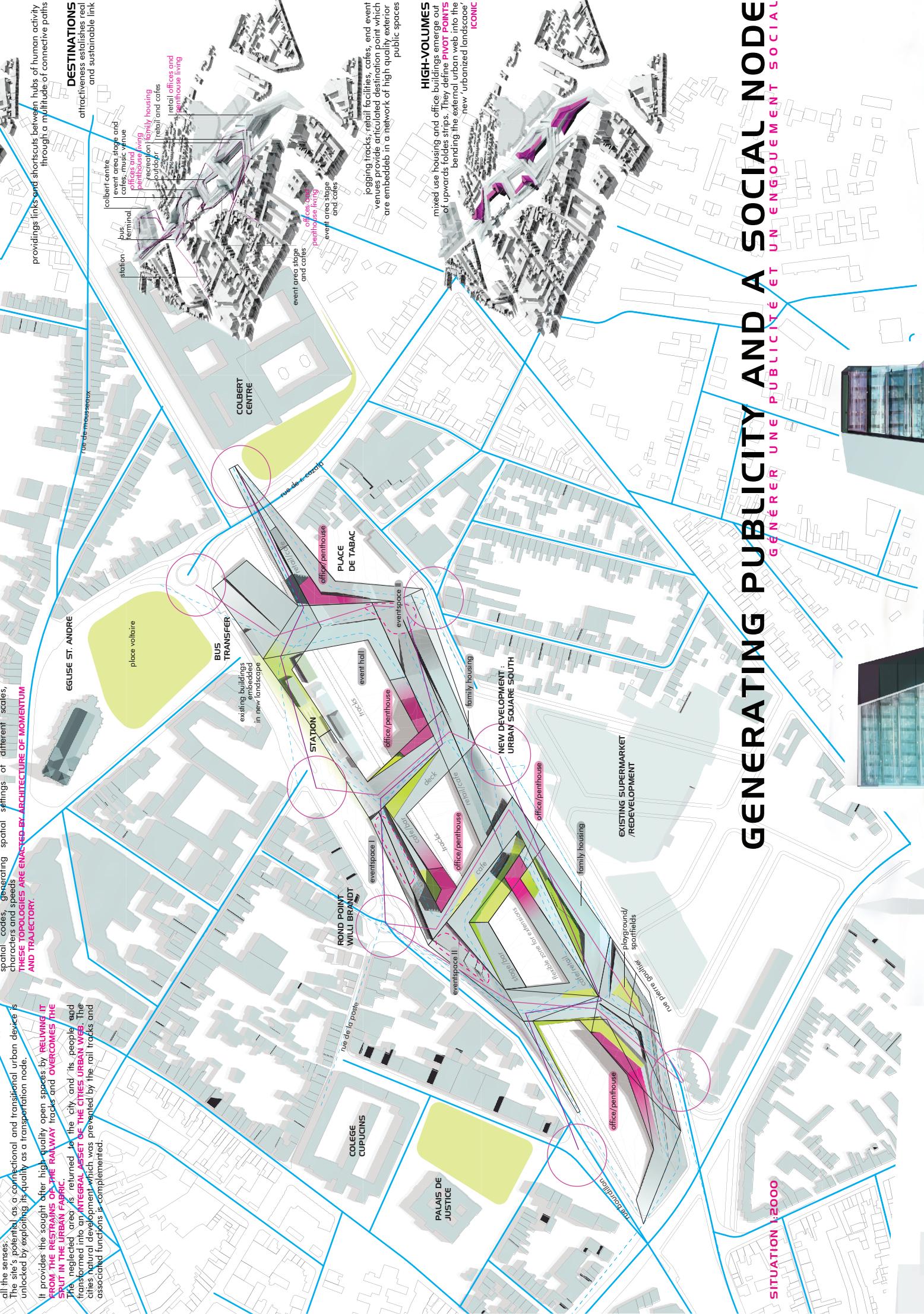
STRATEGIC INTERVENTIONS & URBAN TOOLS

IMPROVING CONNECTIVITY BY FIXING THE URBAN WEB

ARTICULATING A NEW IDENTITY

ATTRACTIVENESS AS LINK, DESTINATION & DENSITY

GENERATING PUBLICITY AND A SOCIAL NODE



GENERATING PUBLICITY AND A SOCIAL NODE

SITUATION 12000

