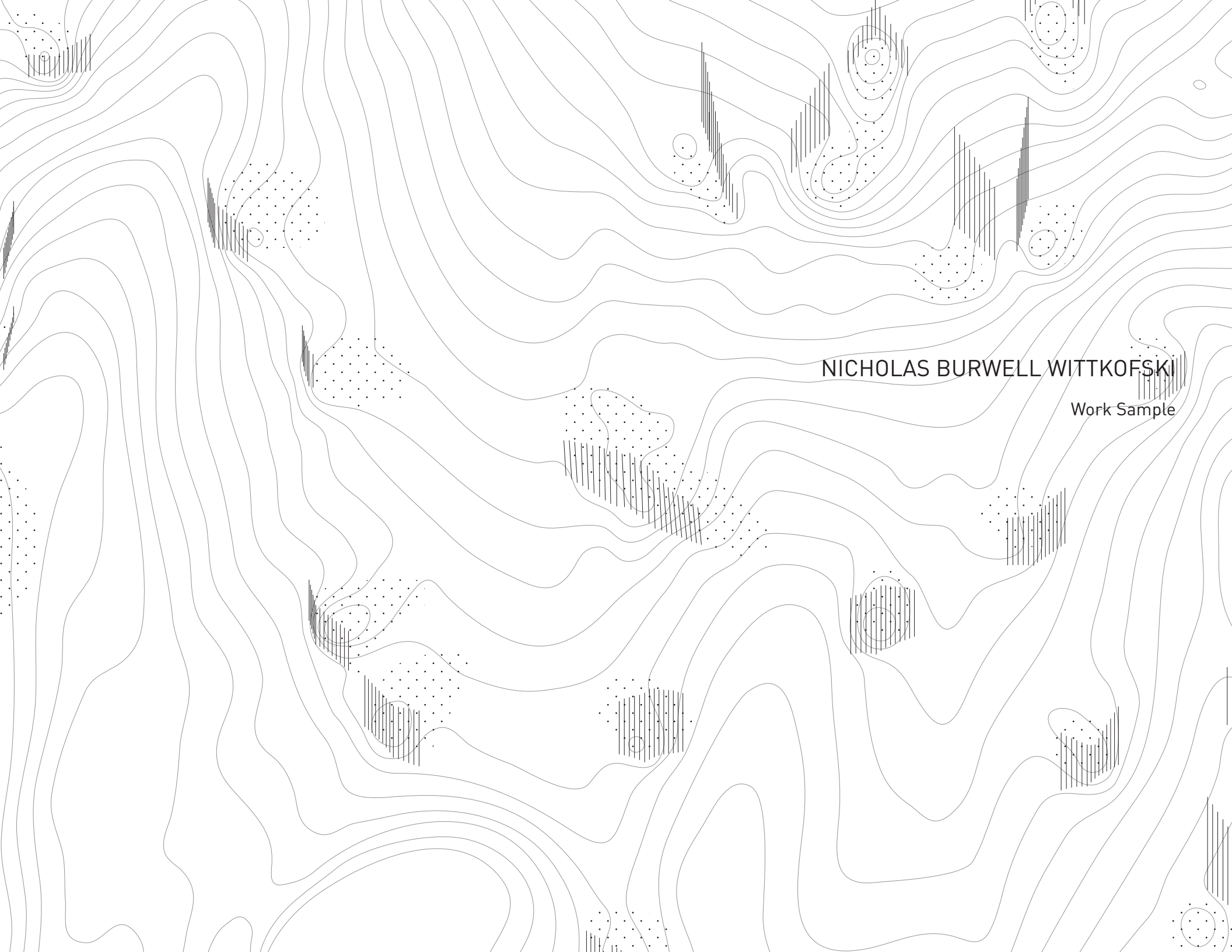


NICHOLAS BURWELL WITTKOFSKI

Work Sample

RESUME

EDUCATION

2006-2011
BFA CRAFT AND MATERIAL STUDIES
Virginia Commonwealth University

2017-Present
MLA CANDIDATE-2020
University of Virginia

PROGRAMS

2018
VICENZA PROGRAM
Honed observational and analytical skills over 5 weeks through drawing in the Veneto.
Professors: Charles Menefee, Luis Pancorbo, and Ines Martin-Rubles.

LANDSCAPE STUDIES INITIATIVE
Germany
Documented experiential qualities of Park Muskau through audio and video recording, photography, and hand sketching.
Professors: Michael Lee and Beth Meyer

WORK EXPERIENCE

2011-2015
POTTER-Freelance

2012-2014; 2016-2017
GARDENER-SWW Landscape Design LLC
Worked closely with clients to install, maintain, and manage garden designs.

2019
TEACHING ASSISTANT-Vicenza Program
Assisted in instructing students on interrogating sites and systems through analytical hand drawing in the Veneto.
Professors: Luis Pancorbo and Ines Martin-Rubles

RESEARCH ASSISTANT-Julie Bargmann
Engaged in research on sites of abandon, novel ecologies, shrinking cities, and social justice design.

FELLOWSHIPS

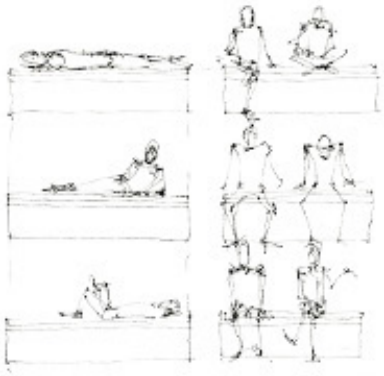
2015
ALLEGHENY MOUNTAIN INSTITUTE
Practiced organic farming methods while studying food accessibility and security, nutrition, small animal husbandry and permaculture design. Engaged in community outreach and development.

CERTIFICATIONS

2015
PERMACULTURE DESIGN CERTIFICATE
Allegheny Mountain Institute

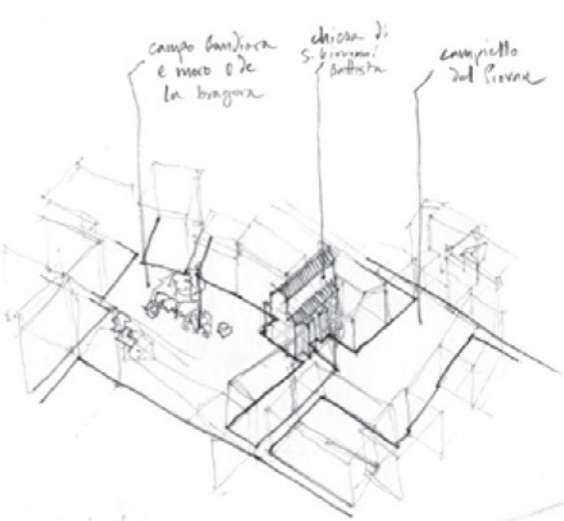
SKILLS

HAND SKETCHING	Advanced
AUTOCAD	Advanced
RHINO	Advanced
ADOBE ILLUSTRATOR	Advanced
PHYSICAL MODEL MAKING	Intermediate
ADOBE PHOTOSHOP	Intermediate
ADOBE INDESIGN	Intermediate
ADOBE AFTEREFFECTS	Novice
ARC GIS	Fundamental Awareness
LUMION	Fundamental Awareness



STUDIES FROM THE VENETO

As a student of the Vicenza Program in the summer of 2018 and a teaching assistant in the summer of 2019, I had the opportunity to observe and study constructed spaces built by masters such as Palladio and Scarpa as well as the layered historical, ecological and cultural landscapes of Northern Italy. The course enforced the idea of using drawing as a tool of analysis and honed observation. Drawing is a means of questioning and revelation.



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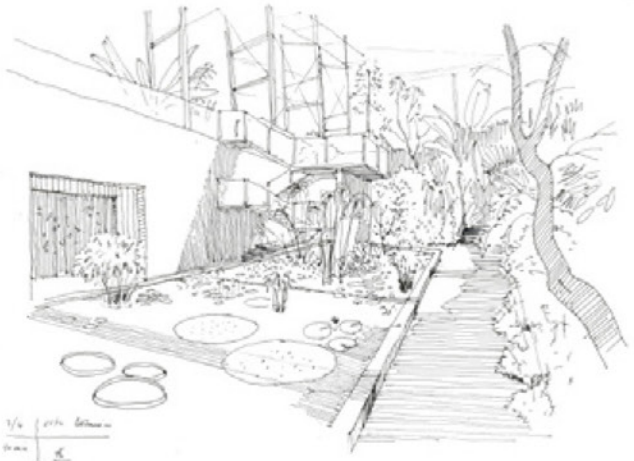

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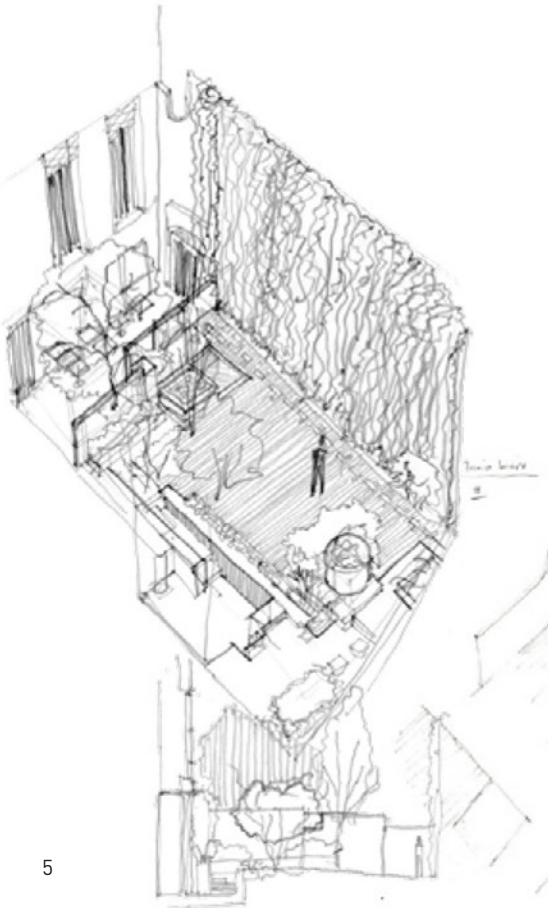

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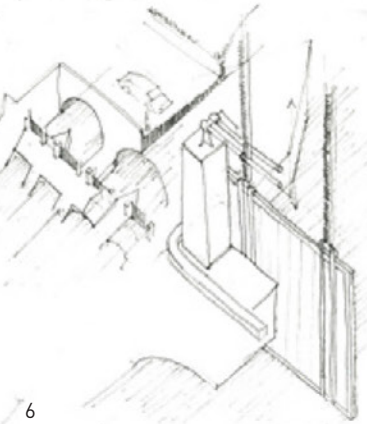

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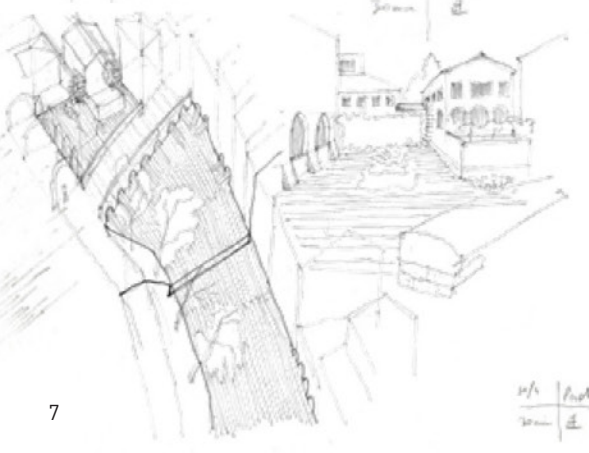

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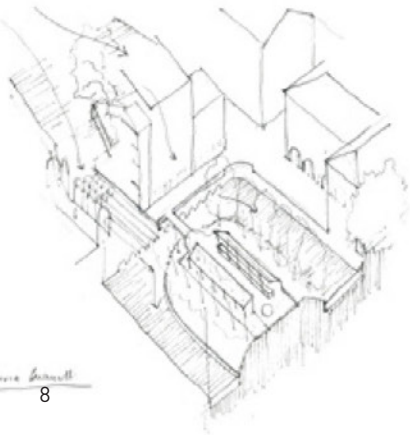

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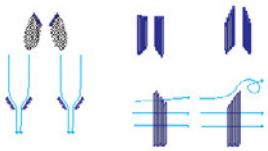
1. Campo Studies, Venice; 2. Orto Botanico, Padua; 3. Piazza dei Signori, Vicenza; 4. Piazza dei Signori, Vicenza; 5. Fondazione Querini Stampalia, Venice; 6. Sluice Gates, Treviso; 7. Waterway Study, Treviso; 8. Pescheria Buranelli, Treviso.

ACCUMULATION AND DISPERSAL TRAIL

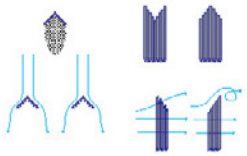
Sited at Observatory Hill in Charlottesville, Virginia, this project alters the formation of leaf litter and erosional sediment along with the distribution of tree nuts and samaras through the implementation of concrete pillar configurations. These pillars affect wind flows in the canopy and subcanopy levels of the forest, and through the creation of wind eddies, carry samaras further to desired germination points.

Where the pillars meet the forest floor, accumulation occurs, which over time compact and create more desireable pathways for humans.

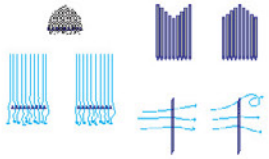
GUIDES AND INCREASES AIR FLOW



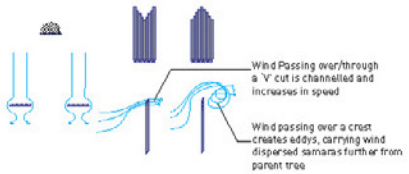
DIVIDES AIR CURRENT

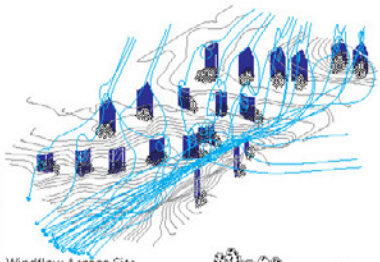


DECREASES AIR CURRENT AND ALLOWS TRANSFER OF LEAF LITTER AND EROSIONAL SEDIMENT



IMPEDES AIR CURRENT



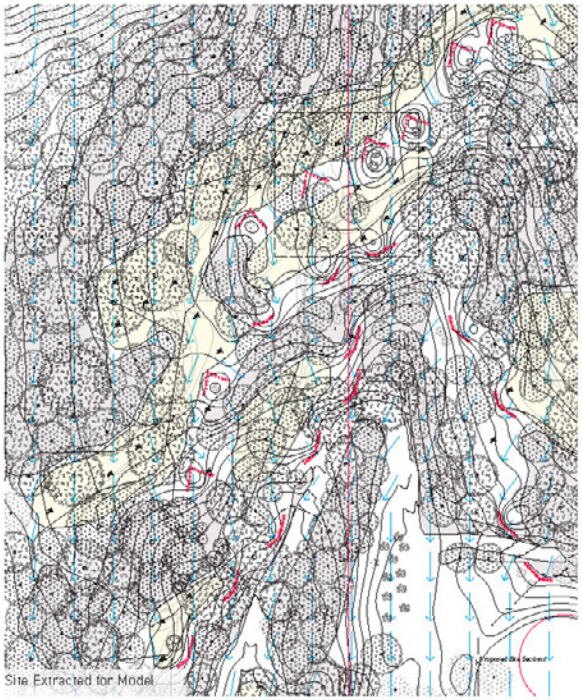


Windflow Across Site

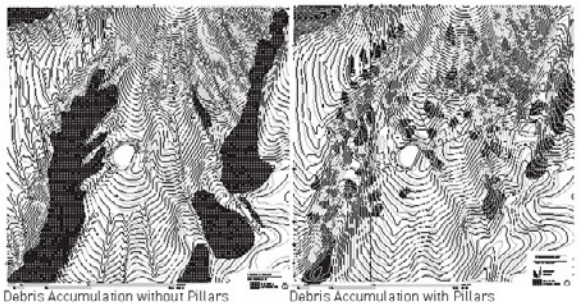
Debris Collection

Tree Species Dispersal

Site Model
Plaster, Acyrlic, Paraffin Wax
Replicating Debris Accumulation (Wax)
on Proposed Site

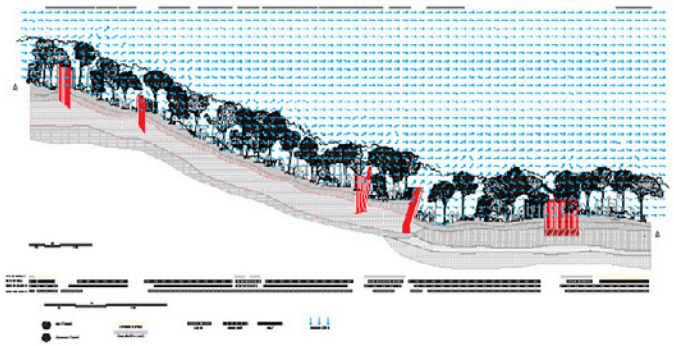


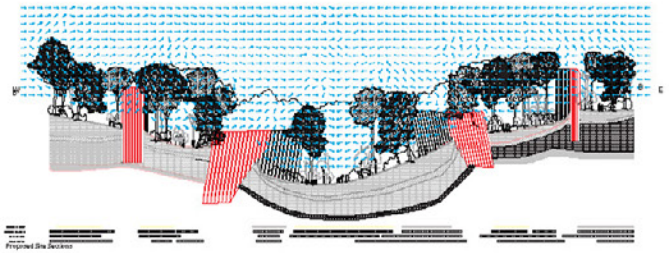
Site Extracted for Model



Debris Accumulation without Pillars

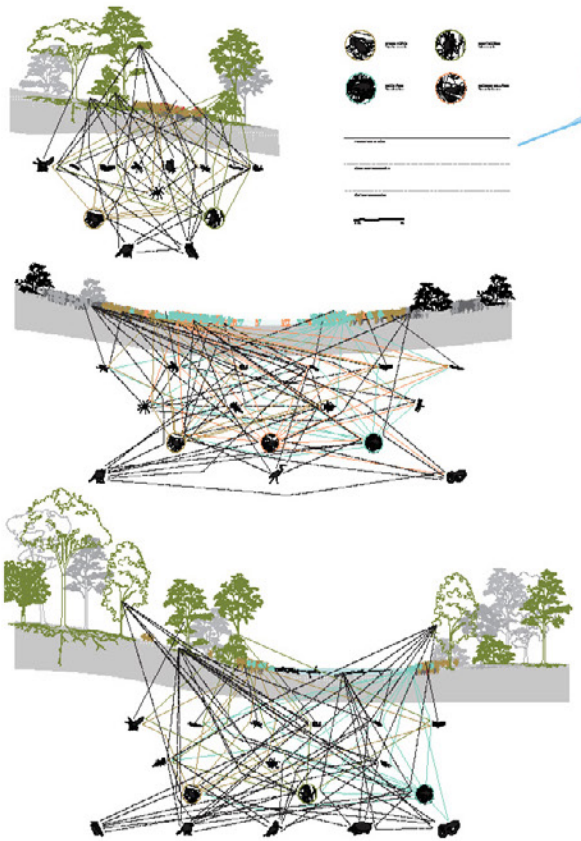
Debris Accumulation with Pillars

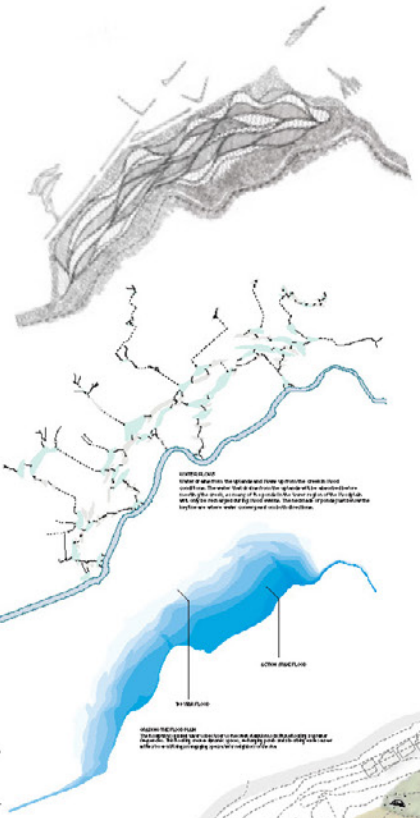


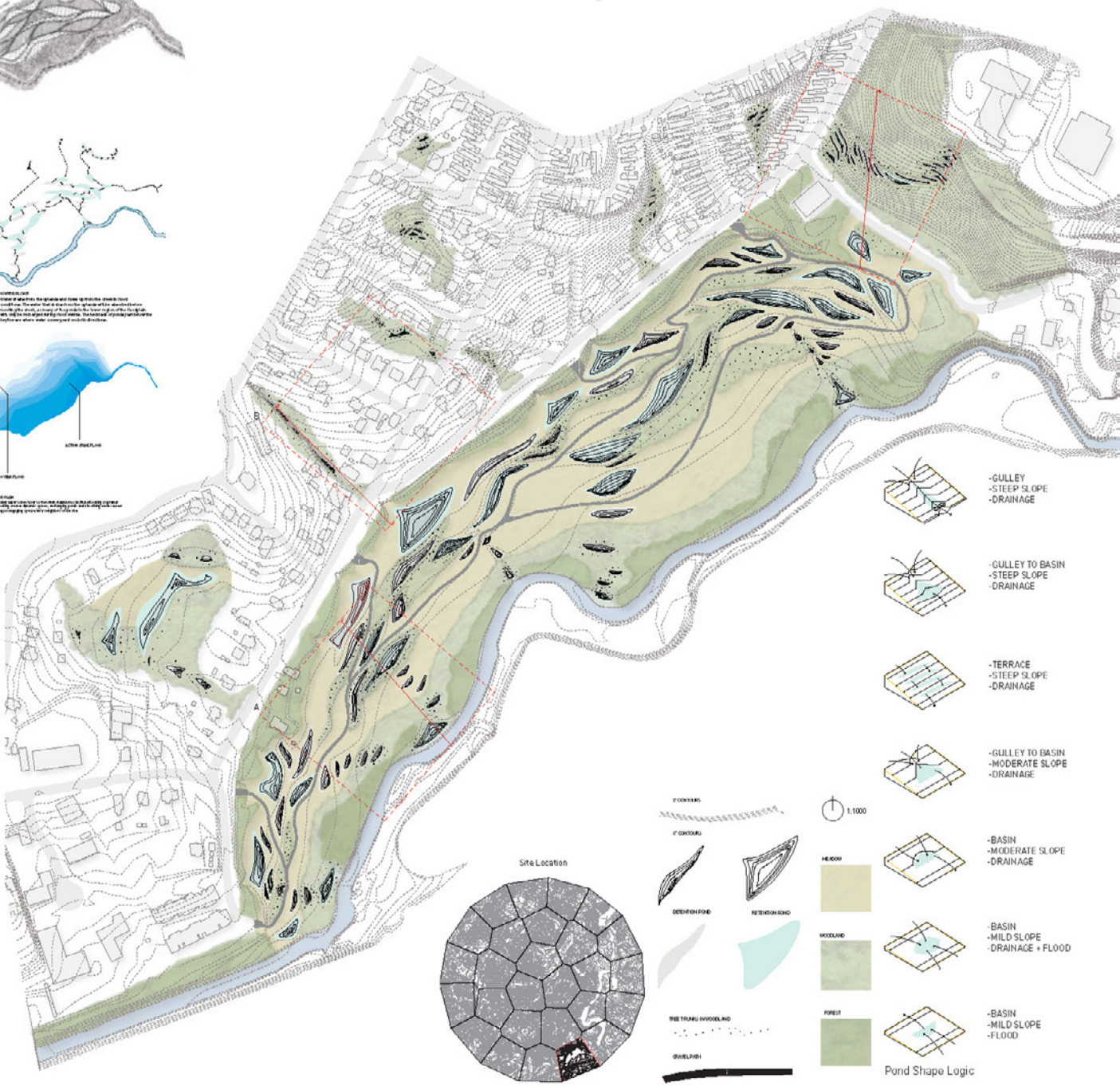


MOORE'S CREEK WETLANDS

These wetlands are reimagined as a sensory and performative landscape, reaching into the uplands through ecotones merging the human and biological experience. By creating a network of ponds that mitigate surface runoff and facilitate flooding in the wetlands, new habitats are created and old ones enhanced. By extending habitat into neighboring backyards, wildlife emerges from the wetland habitat and occupies human territory. The wetlands are now a network of ponds within meadow and woodland landscape typologies. As a result of the regrading, the site floods in stages, recharging ponds and serving as a spectacle to visitors to the site. In the same way that the water drains from the uplands and rises from the creek during flooding, humans descend to the wetlands while wildlife ascends to the uplands.







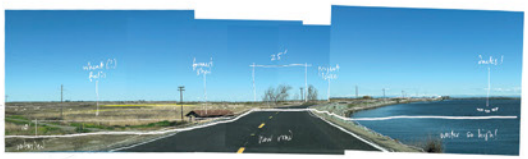
REMARSHING THE DELTA

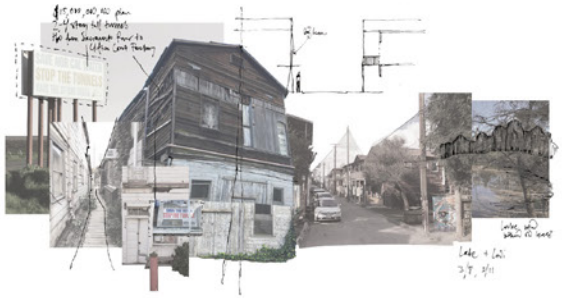
In order to address the threat of subsidence, flooding, and the destruction of valuable bird and fish habitat in the California Delta, a major part of this group proposal entailed the selection of key border islands along the Delta's eastern edge.

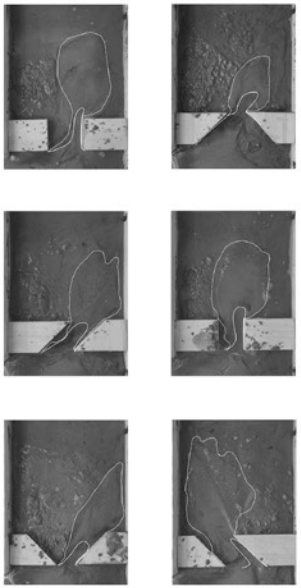
After the site visit, our proposal entailed a systematic approac, where strategic breaches to the levees were introduced based on analysis of from physical modelling on two scales: the island and the levee.

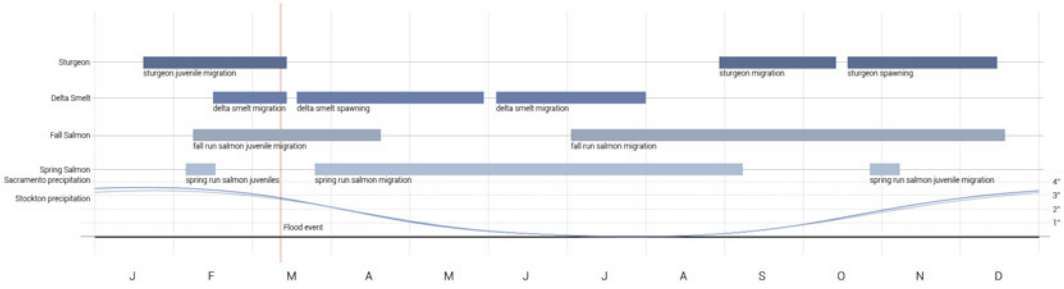
The proposal is focused in two parts: first on reestablishing selected swaths of land and water as large ecological patches in the landscape, ensuring that this portion of California continues to serve as a corridor for the Pacific Flyway, as well as providing important niches for migratory fish species whose habitat has been eradicated by dredging and the destruction of the historic marsh.

Secondly, but no less important, is to provide a flood buffer zone to established human populations, such as the city of Stockton.





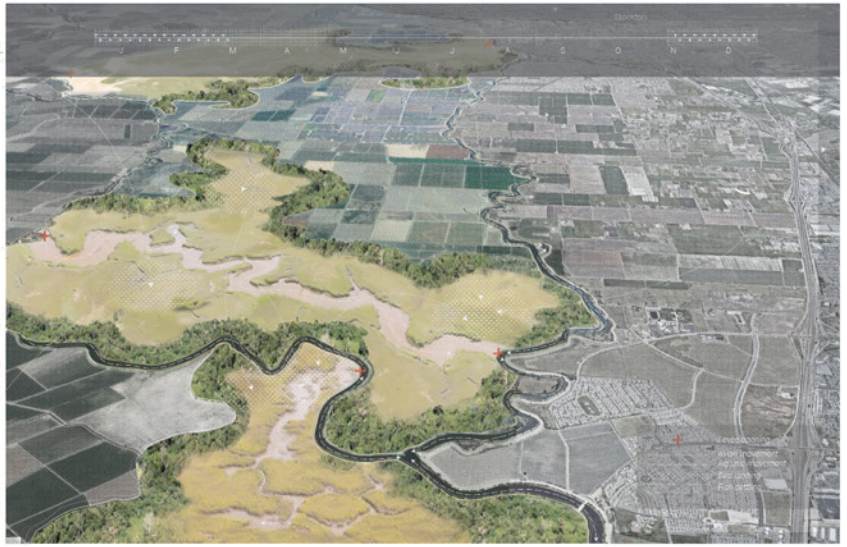




After examining the patterns of breaching and subsidence, those that are under 5' subsided are deemed permissable to breaching. It so happens that those islands are located on the periphery of the delta, abutting the most heavily populated communities in the region.

Considering the history of marshland removal and the consequences that has on migrating populations of both fish and birds, the reintroduction of expansive marshes is long overdue.

Ecological concern is not the only driver of this intervention, but flood protection to heavily urbanized areas with high population is also a priority. The distributary breaches draw upland flood waters down, slow and absorb the potentially devastating impact it would have.



The marshes created on the delta edge offer flood suppression and protection to cities, such as Stockton, to the East. Their creation reintroduce valuable habitat areas lost in the original levee and agricultural construction, including slow water routes for fish populations, grazing and nesting grounds for the migrating waterfowl, as well as seasonal hunting and fishing for Californians.