

## **Earthworks, natural soil – artificial soil**

*How is open ground perceived in an urban context? Can a park once again become a 'nurturing' place?*

### *History*

Parc de Valency lies at the western end of the route – the starting point, at the border of Lausanne and Prilly. Historically, it was an area of country homes for city dwellers, where Lausanne's wealthy spent their summers until the turn of the 20th century. Attached to the Prélaz domain, it was initially the bishop's property before changing hands several times. Following a local petition, the city purchased it, turning it into a public park from 1934-39. During World War II, the park became a potato field (thanks to the Wahlen plan). With its topography and as a result of multiple earthworks, the park's soil is not really original or natural, it is as man-made as it is elsewhere in the city.

### *Description*

The upper, flat area of the park is laid out in a French formal style, with a regular pattern and a double row of lime trees. The lower, sloping part is freer, much like an English park. Devoid of the asphalt that covers its borders, the park has open ground qualities, with a double row of tall trees, lawns and flowery meadows and an unobstructed view of the lake.

### *Uses*

Nowadays the park is much appreciated by people from all backgrounds. Many families frequent it, reflecting the diversity of the working-class, yet increasingly gentrified neighbouring districts. The playgrounds and especially the free-of-charge swimming pool in the summer attract hordes of children. In the upper area of the park, under the tall trees, older people enjoy the Italian tradition of passeggiata, a gentle stroll to socialise and show off their elegance. In the paths along the slope, dog owners let their hounds scamper around. In the summer, open air cinema sessions and workshops of all sorts take place. A neighbourhood parents' association has given new impetus to the pétanque club, with parties in the evening. In the summertime, a few homeless people sometimes sleep in the central grove.

### *Challenges*

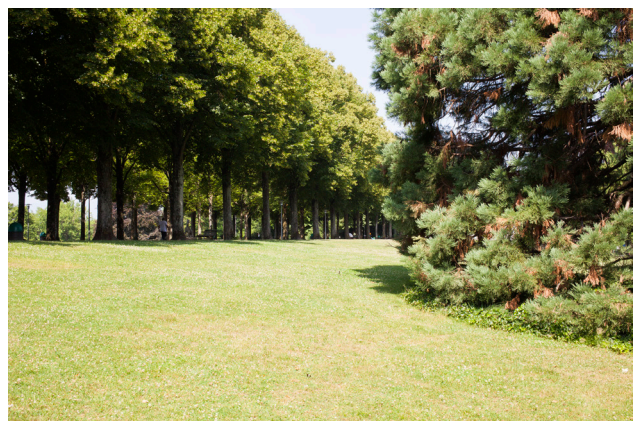
As the city densifies, public spaces and especially parks – the city's lungs – gain in importance. People use them more and more. Parks become a neighbourhood's focus where social bonds are formed. The city's residents need to recharge their batteries in close-by natural areas. The growing success of parks raises the question of their capacity to resist the pressures of increasingly intensive use.

### *Questions*

What is open ground in the city? Does it deserve particular attention? Is it at risk even in parks? Are parks living organisms and thus mortal? How does one keep parks alive while catering to an ever-growing public?

# A. Parc de Valency

DS\_Site-A  
lausanne jardins 2019 / competition  
Association Jardin Urbain  
24 August 2017



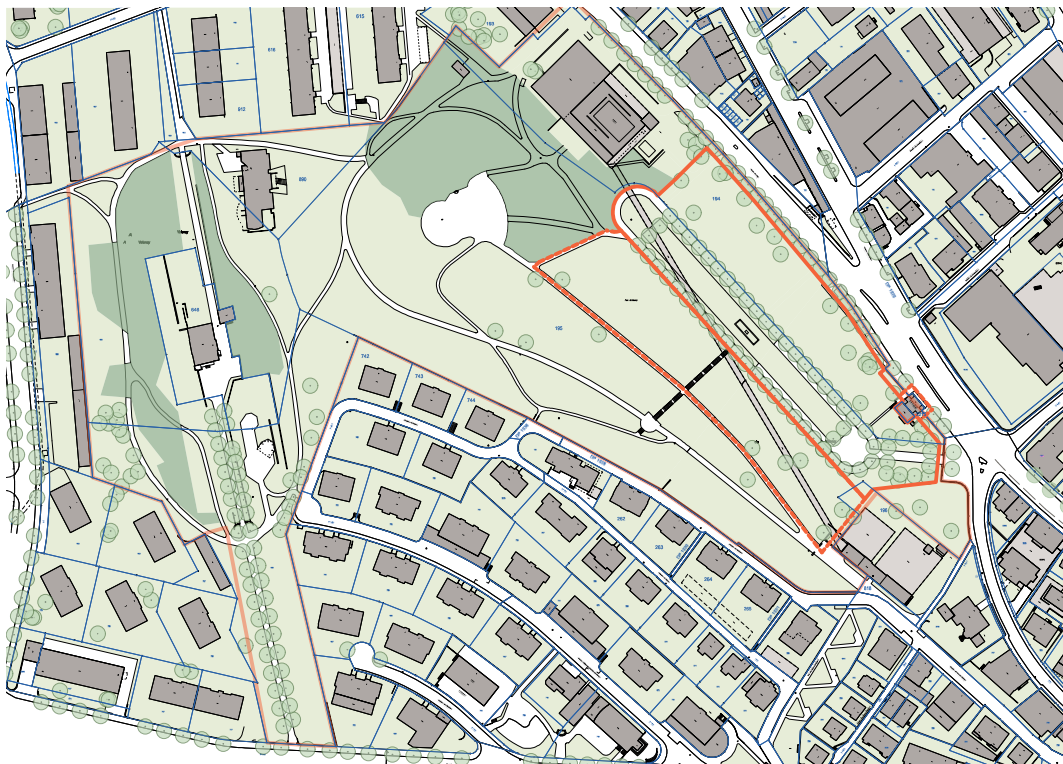


# A. Parc de Valency

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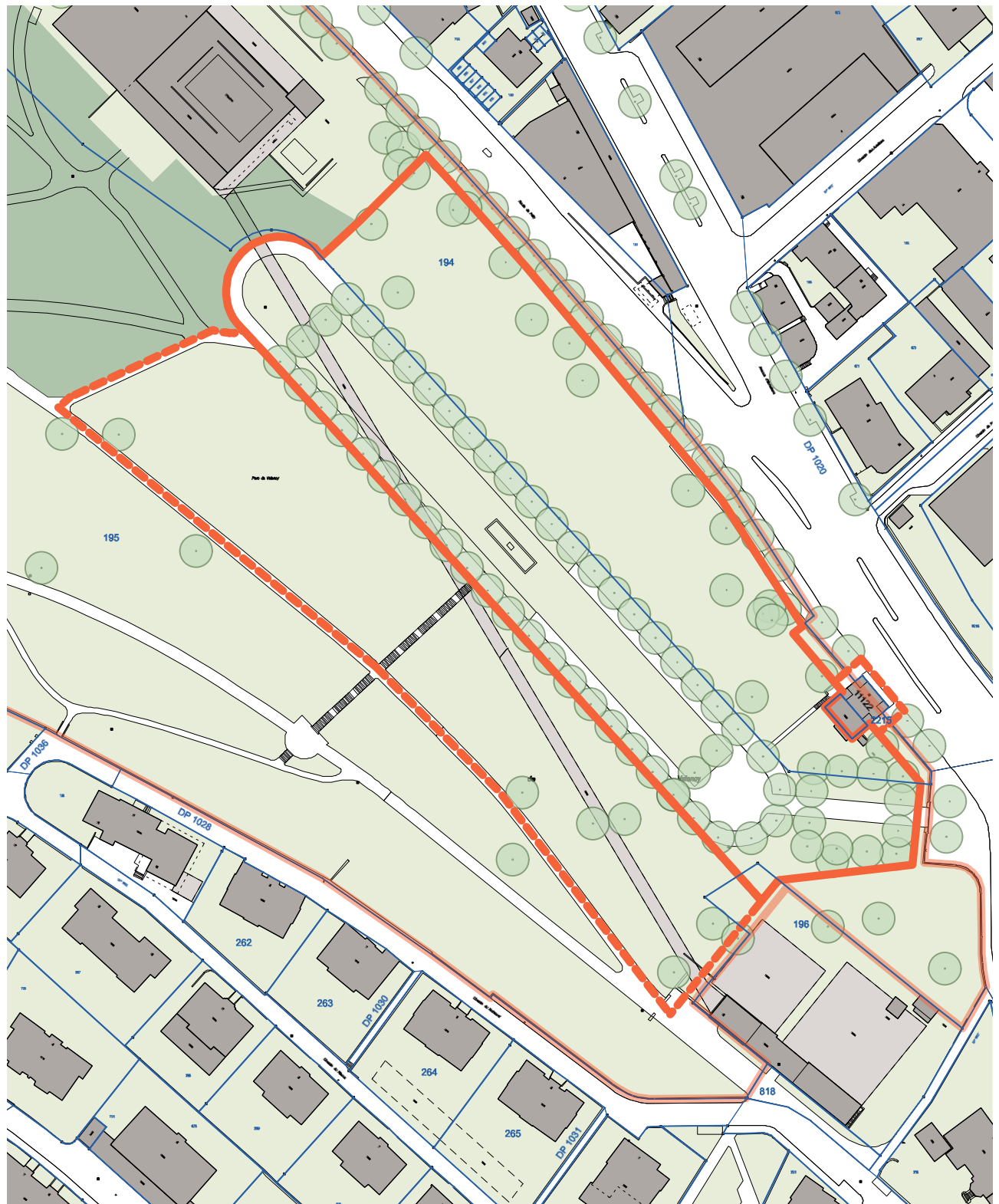
Lausanne Jardins 2019 route



----- Competition area  
----- Area under consideration

# A. Parc de Valency

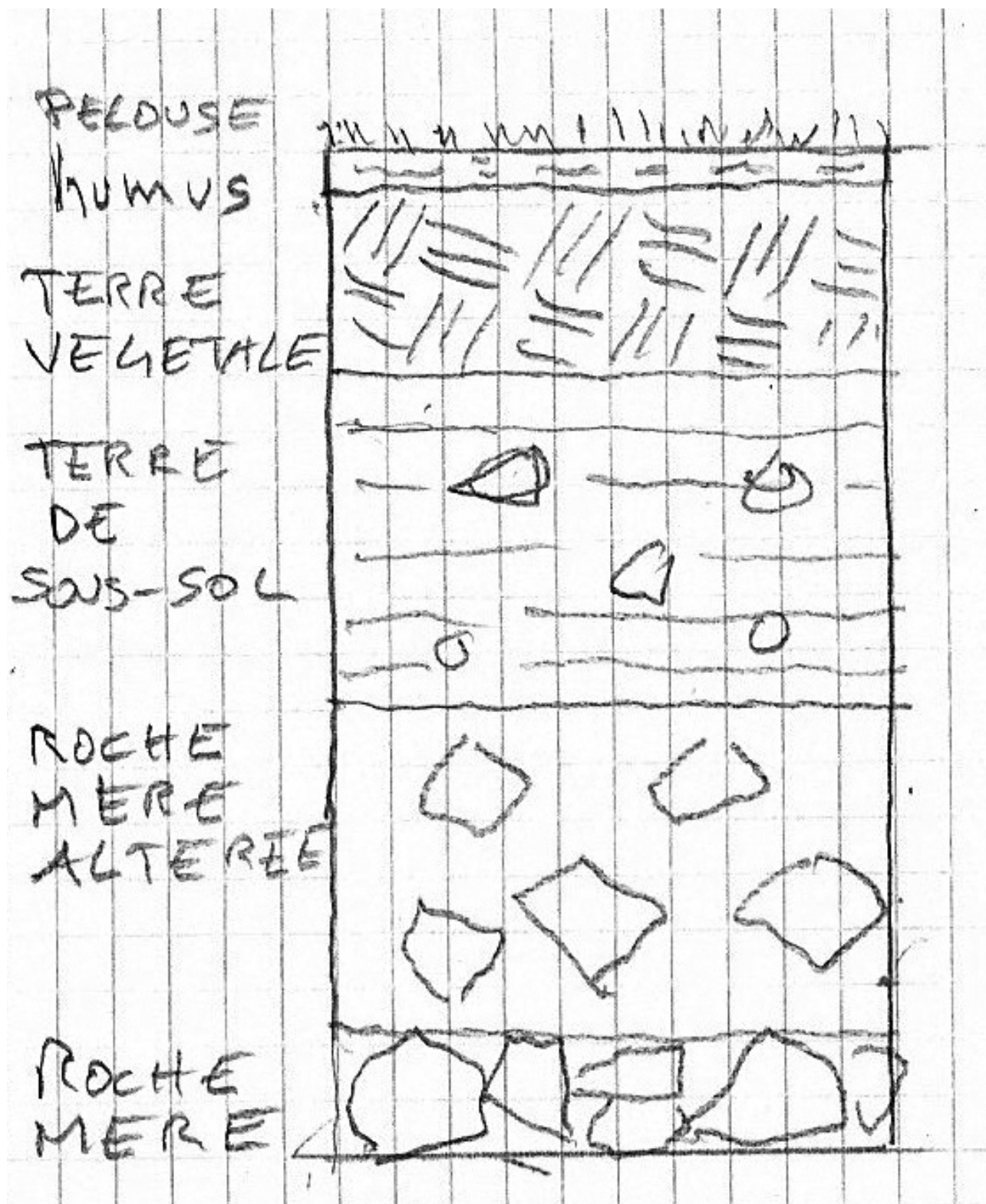
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24 August 2017



----- Competition area  
——— Area under consideration

scale: 1/500<sup>e</sup>





Soil profile

### **Maintenance, the gardener's work, nature in the city**

#### *Abandoned garden or small eco-friendly park?*

##### *History*

Before the creation of Valency Park, the 1906 petition demanding green public spaces in the west of the city first resulted in a small park in Montétan. In 1930, the city repurchased the plot from the Children's Hospice that has been located opposite since 1912. It was the last plot available in the great old domain of William de Charrière de Severy, descendant of a local illustrious family of soldiers and female authors. The purchase agreement contained a clause to protect the Children's Hospice, prohibiting further construction. Even the idea of building public toilets was dropped. The park was opened in the summer of 1931. But in that same year, residents from the west returned to the fray, arguing that the promenade was too small and that with Montriond, Mon-Repos and Denantou parks, other neighbourhoods enjoyed significantly larger public spaces. In the following years, they would obtain Valency Park.

##### *Description*

Overlooking the street, the square is surrounded by hornbeams pruned into arches, as is often the case in Lausanne, suggesting that this is a neat little neighbourhood park. The reality is quite different: The ground is covered with gravel, which is being swallowed up by wild grass through lack of use. There are two hardwood trees, a few benches and the feeling of a place in waiting that is barely maintained, revegetating itself in the absence of passers-by.

##### *Uses*

The square is seldom used. There are a few pigeons and a few people walking their dogs or doing some exercise or sometimes small groups of teenagers drinking beer.

##### *Challenges*

This small square with its uncertain fate raises the issue of the contemporary image of public spaces. Modes of maintenance have changed. In the name of biodiversity, we now let weeds grow. This apparent complacency is not always easily understood by the public. Is that what is meant by nature in the city? By letting these weeds spread, are we not planting the seeds of other undesirable occupations? The question of coexistence between people and nature in an urban context arises.

##### *Questions*

Desertion or recapture? Neglected interstice or eco-friendly square? Do the sprawling plants chase away a certain type of user? Are nature and human presence compatible? Neglected by people but not by nature, does the park really need to be recaptured?



## B. Square de Montétan

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# B. Square de Montétan

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Lausanne Jardins 2019 route

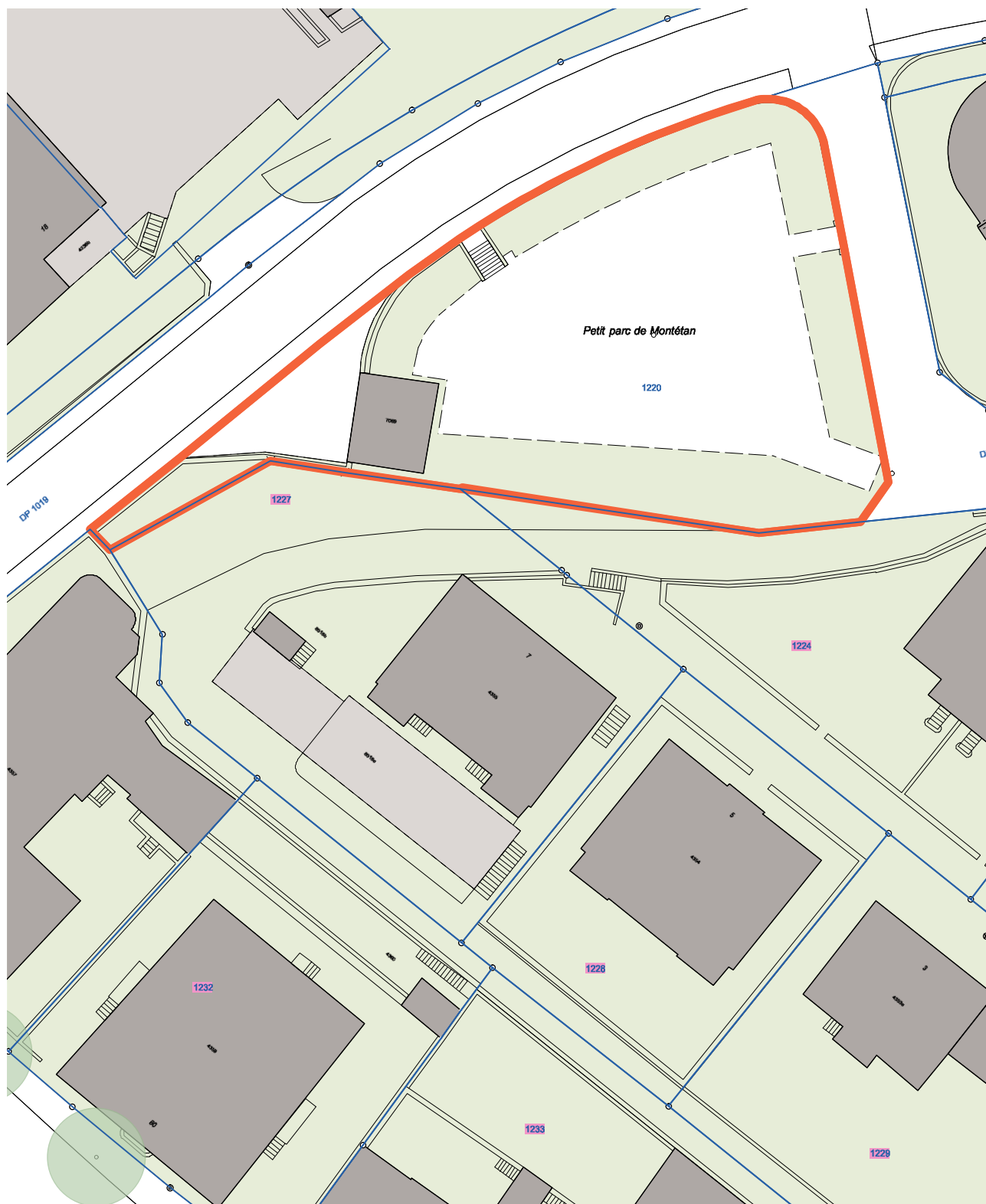


Competition area



# B. Square de Montétan

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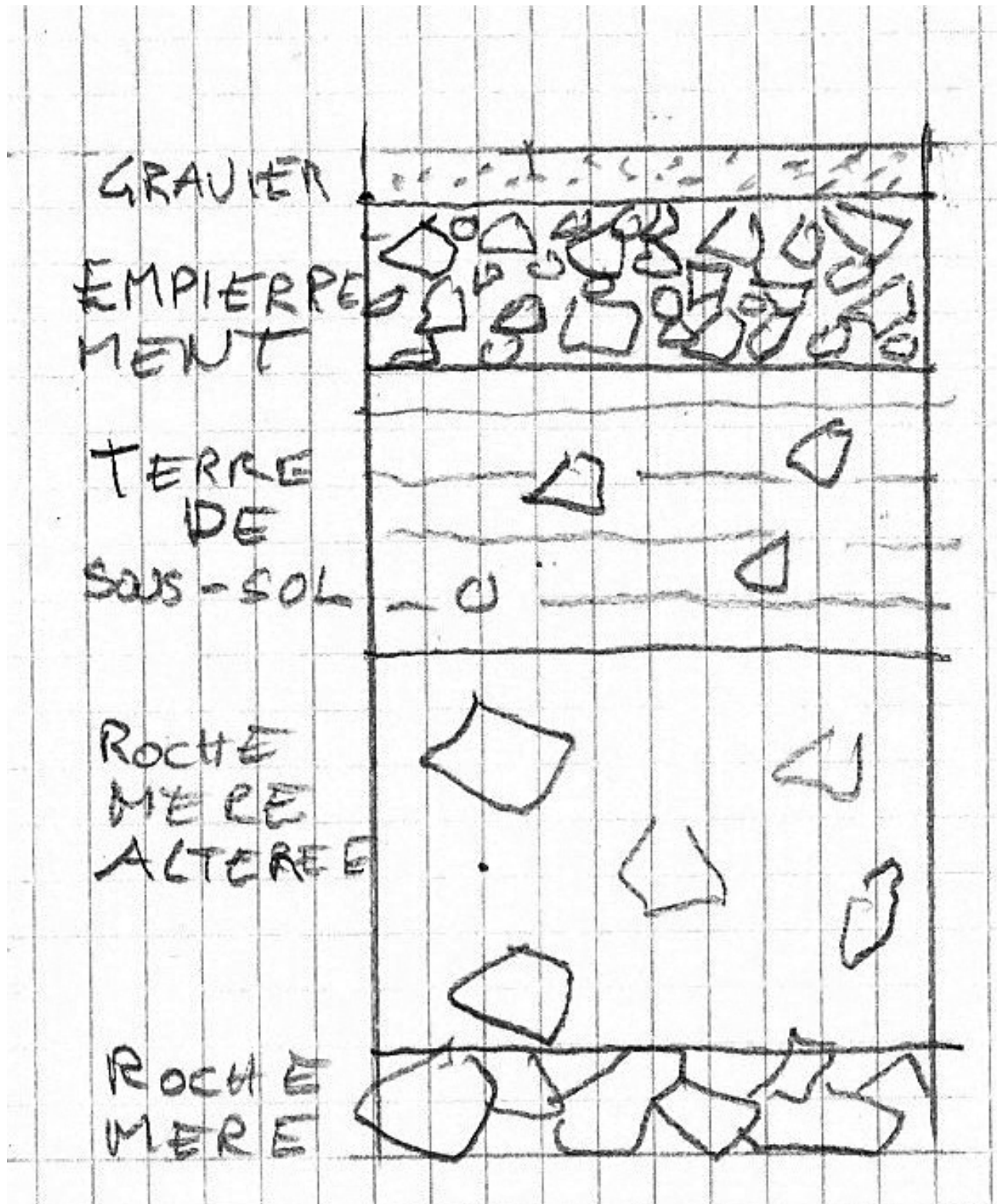


Competition area

scale: 1/500°

## B. Square de Montétan

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Soil profile



## Car/public space rivalry

### *Vertical gardens to leave the ground free for cars?*

#### *History*

The retaining wall probably came before Saint-Paul's Church, when the hillside was used for vineyards. It was expanded when the building was erected in 1908-1909. The parcel of land at the foot of the wall has now been replaced by garages and a car park.

#### *Description*

At the top of the wall is the church and its esplanade. At the foot, an open area, the only infill that interrupts the alignment in Avenue d'Echallens. Now it is occupied by cars and garages. In between, the retaining wall, one of the sturdiest in the city, retains the earth behind its layers of bricks, enabling a handful of plant species to grow there. The wall seems like the only possible place for a garden.

#### *Uses*

Saint-Paul's Church is frequented by Lausanne's Eritrean community. Next to the church, the esplanade hosts the courtyard of the childcare centre, located in the lower level of the church, with a few games for the kids. At street level, there are rows of open garages, an outdoor car park and in the corner, amidst scaffolding, the terrace of a bar. The shape and smaller size of the former petrol station, eligible for heritage protection, breaks with the appearance of Avenue d'Echallens.

#### *Challenges*

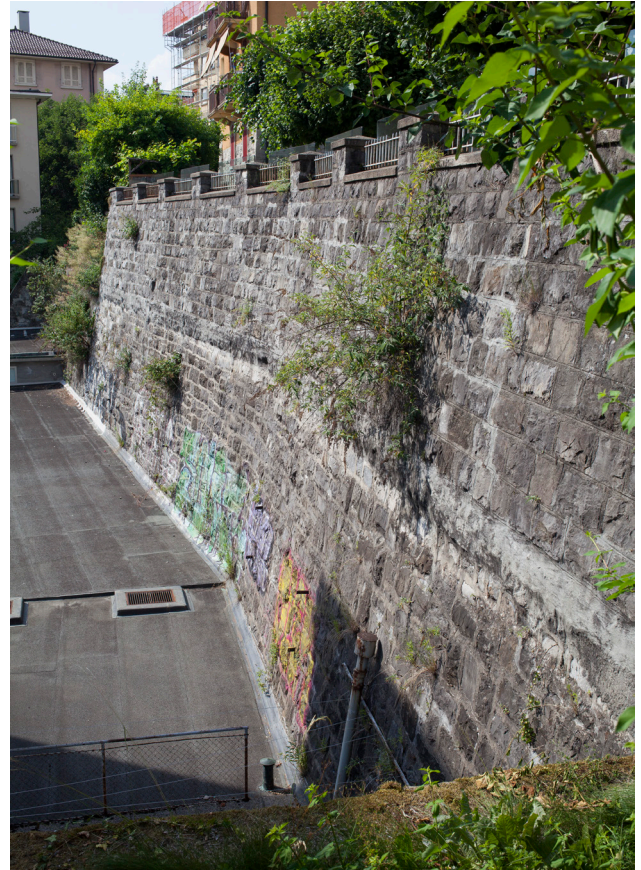
The only unbuilt parcel of land on the north side of the street, this open area is more valuable than it appears. One would imagine a garden, a square, a small playground: A place to meet, watch passers-by and take in the view over the lake and the Alps. Nowadays cars have this privilege. The retaining wall remains, the only available area for a ground-breaking vertical garden.

#### *Questions*

The revegetation of walls and façades as an alternative to the lack of space on the ground?

# C. Soutènement de Saint-Paul

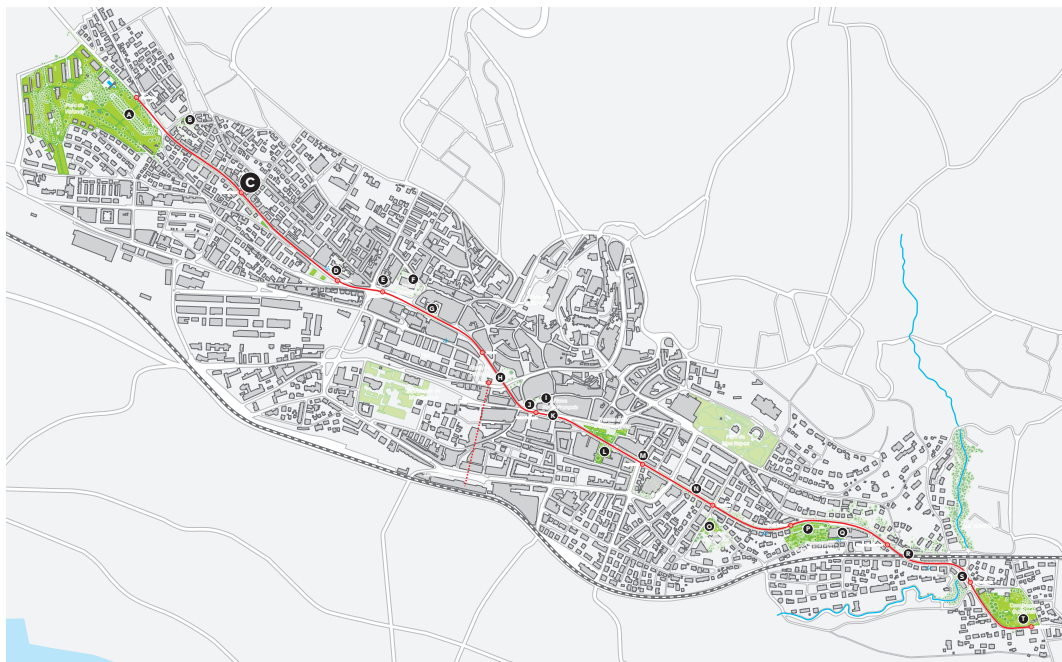
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# C. Soutènement de Saint-Paul

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24 August 2017



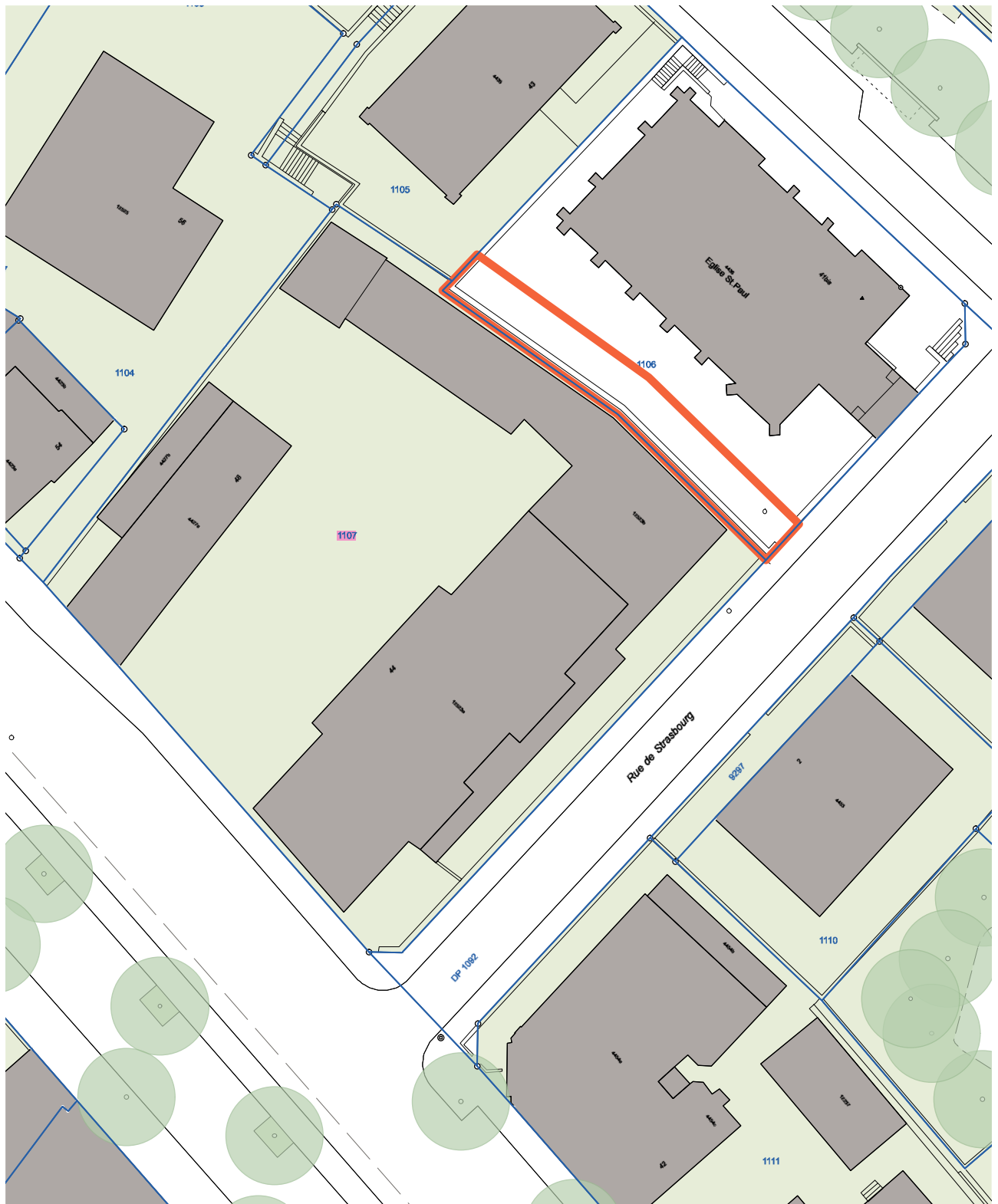
Lausanne Jardins 2019 route



Competition area

# C. Soutènement de Saint-Paul

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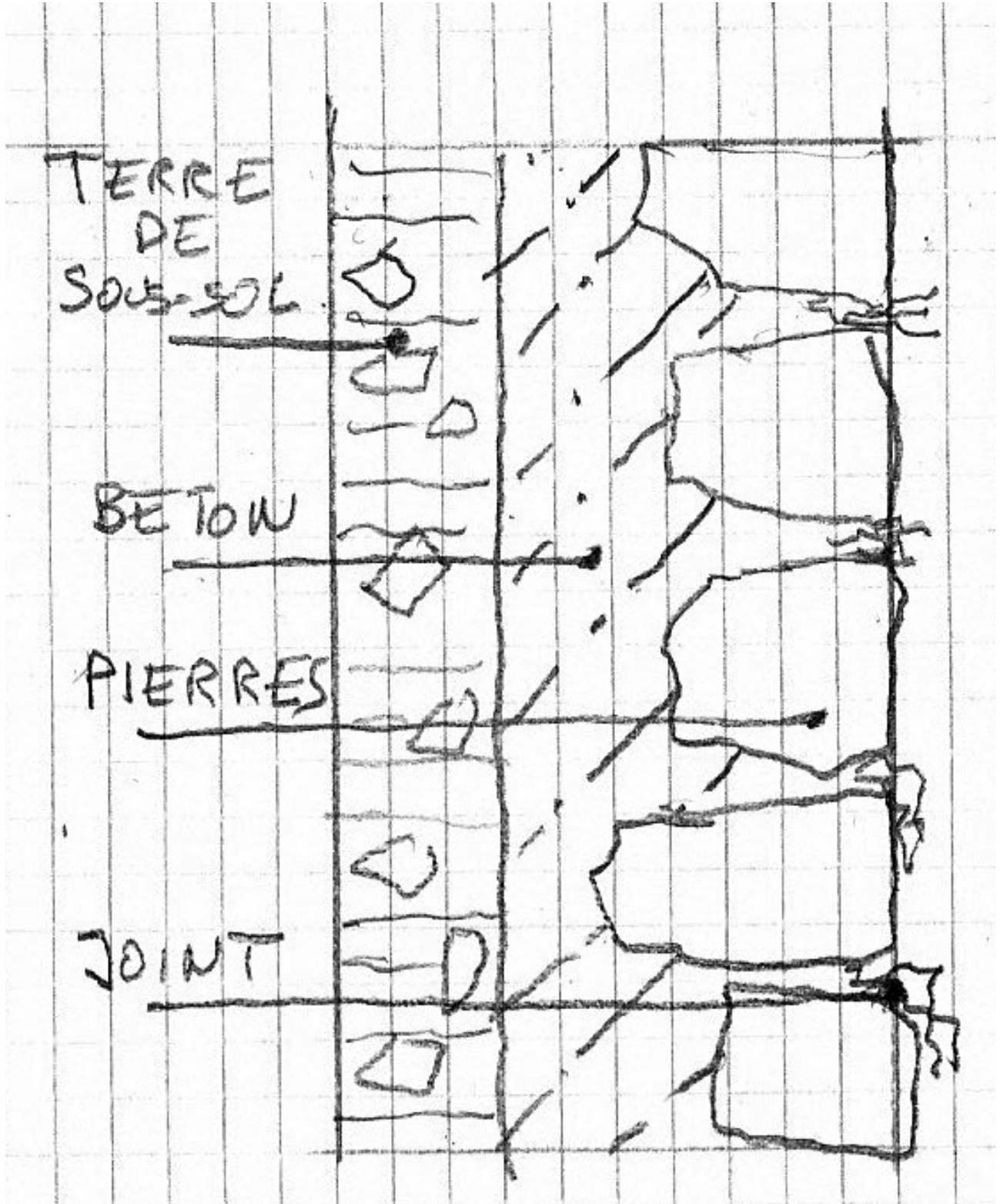
Competition area

scale: 1/500<sup>e</sup>



## C. Soutènement de Saint-Paul

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24 August 2017



Soil profile

## Stumps and old tree roots

### *What place for old trees in the city?*

#### *History*

This semi-public garden belongs to the Blind Institute (now Jules-Gonin Hospital) created in 1843. Originally, tall trees grew there, most of which have been felled in the last few years.

#### *Description*

Here and there, large stumps appear, where people sit and reflect. The garden ends with a curious balcony, cantilevered above the long wall that lines Avenue d'Echallens. For Lausanne Jardins, organisers hope to make the site accessible from the street via a temporary stairway.

#### *Uses*

This balcony offers an exceptional view over the lake, enjoyed only by the hospital's staff and patients.

#### *Challenges*

Why all those venerable stumps? Why were these trees felled? Too old, too tall, too dangerous? Should trees in the city receive palliative care or should they be replaced as soon as possible? Should we keep their nostalgic remains or reinvent their function?

#### *Questions*

What role do tree stumps and dead wood play in biodiversity?



# D. Jardin des Souches

**DS\_Site-D**  
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24 August 2017

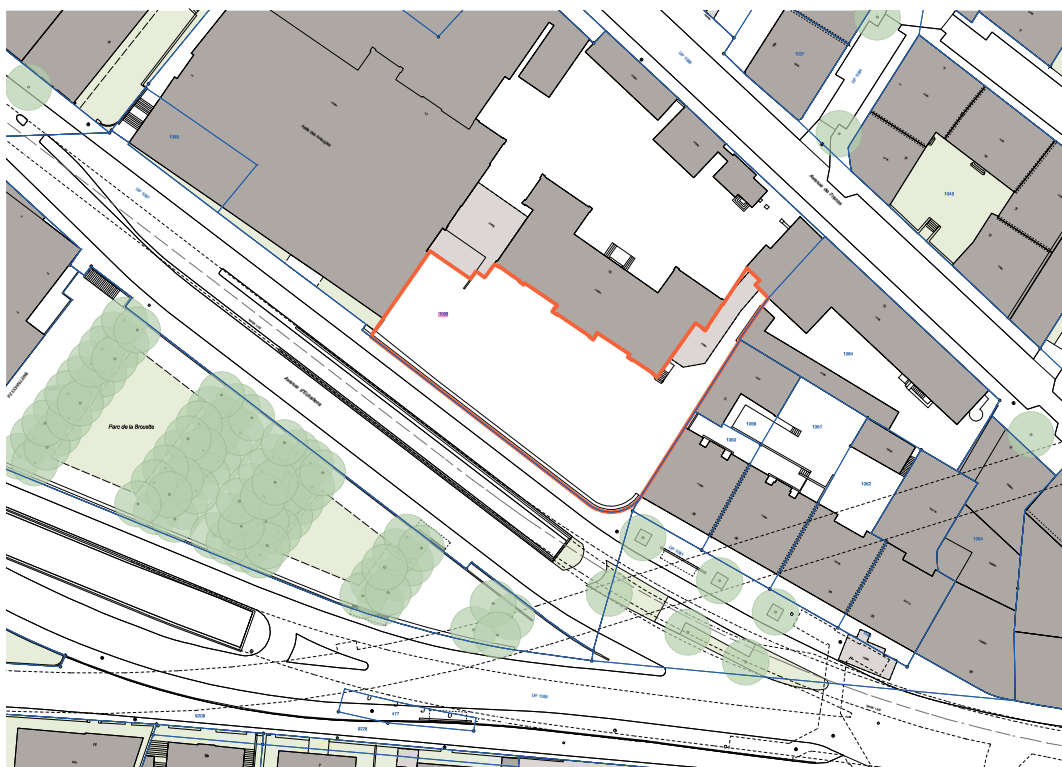


# D. Jardin des Souches

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Lausanne Jardins 2019 route



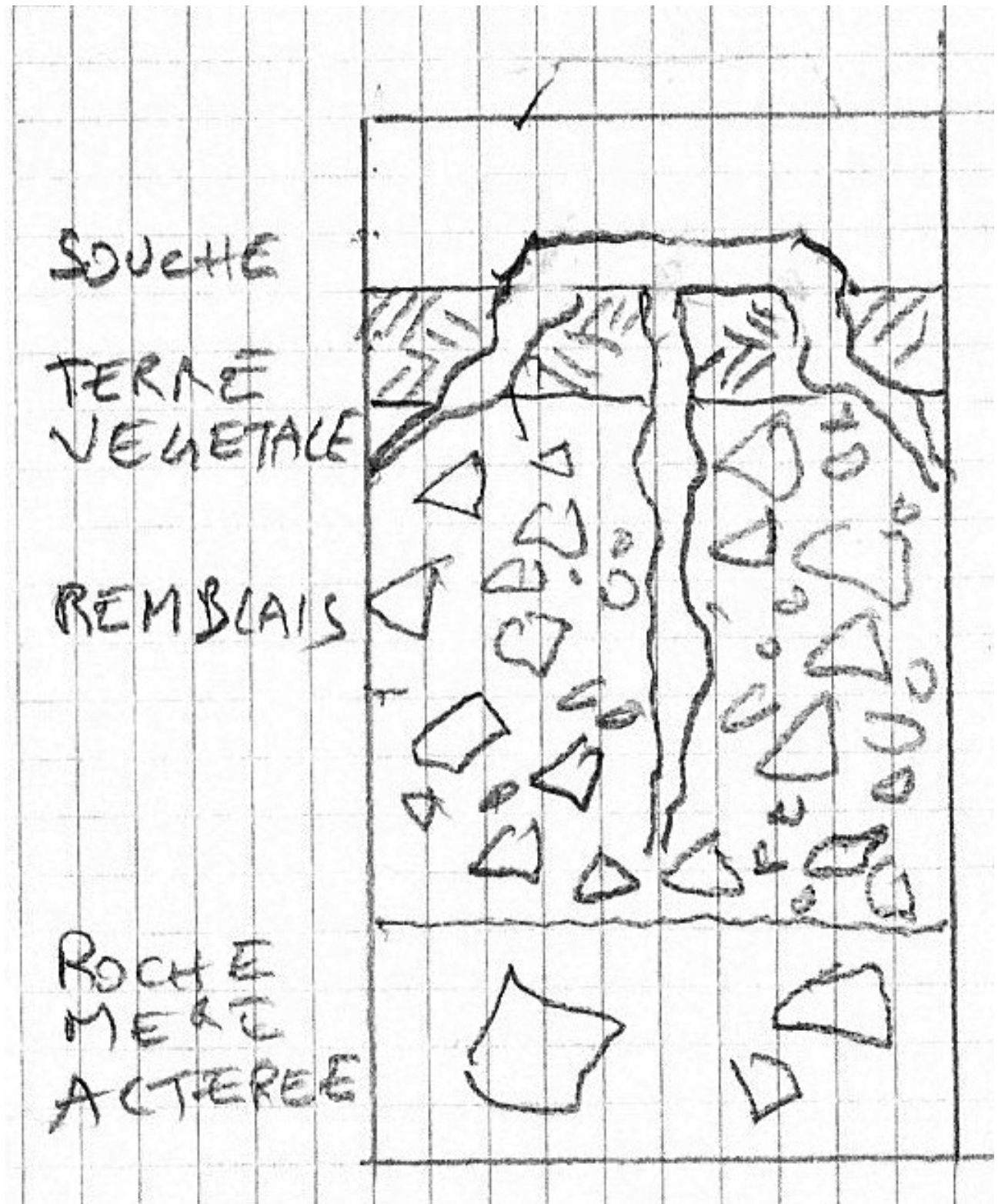
Competition area



# D. Jardin des Souches

DS\_Site-D  
lausanne jardins 2019 / competition  
Association Jardin Urbain  
24 August 2017





Soil profile

## Inside/outside

### *Inner courtyard or giant pot?*

#### *History*

Outside the historic city walls, for a long time Chauderon Square was nothing but vineyards and fields. With the construction of the Great Bridge and the reinforcement of the east-west axis, the area saw more and more people walking through it. Chauderon was actually a trading centre for horses and hay. The square also housed a cemetery until it was replaced by the LEB station. Until the construction of the Galfetti Tower in 1992, the place was a dead-end that housed a grain merchant, a café and a photographer's. Typical of the tendenza Ticinese school, the courtyard is the result of a competition launched in 1987 and won by architects Aurelio Galfetti and Mario Botta.

#### *Description*

The dark and unwelcoming inner circular courtyard offers no other landscape than itself. Concrete, stone, glass. Colonnades, handrails, passageways. And rays of light.

#### *Uses*

A powerful architectural gesture aimed at indelibly marking its territory, it is now somewhat unloved by Lausanne's residents. At best, it is sometimes a traffic thoroughfare, even though life sometimes unexpectedly spurts up from the 'No Name' night club beneath.

#### *Challenges*

One would love to replace the harshness of a seemingly bygone era with modern values: earth, plants, air, light, life. Will the courtyard's coolness and draughts become qualities as global warming increases?

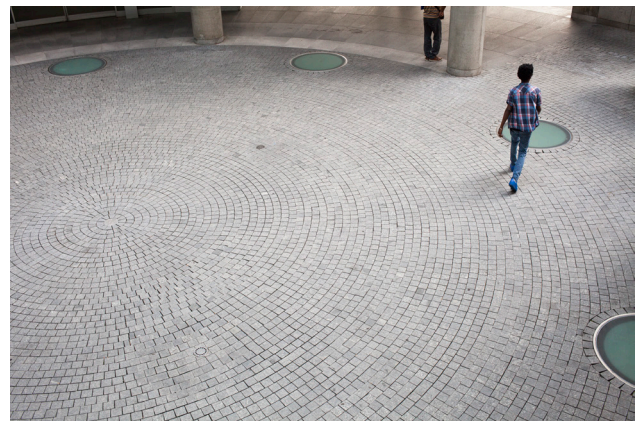
#### *Questions*

Can a garden save the atmosphere of this mineral silo? How does one cool cities?



# E. Cour Galfetti

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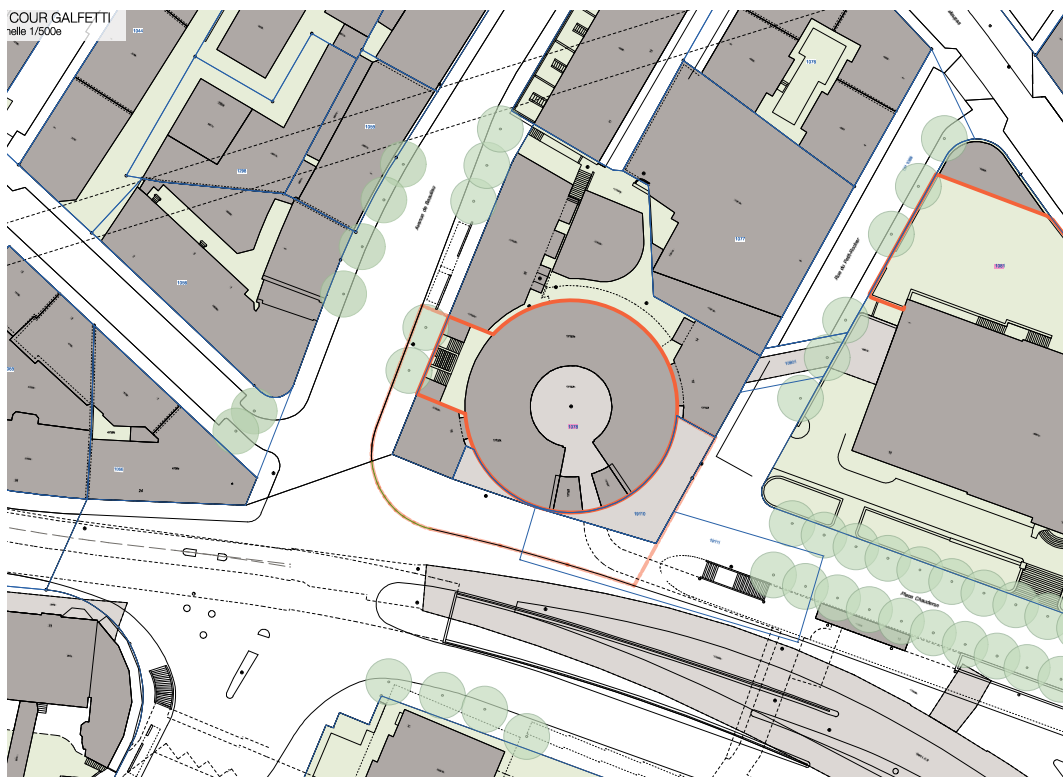


# E. Cour Galfetti

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Lausanne Jardins 2019 route

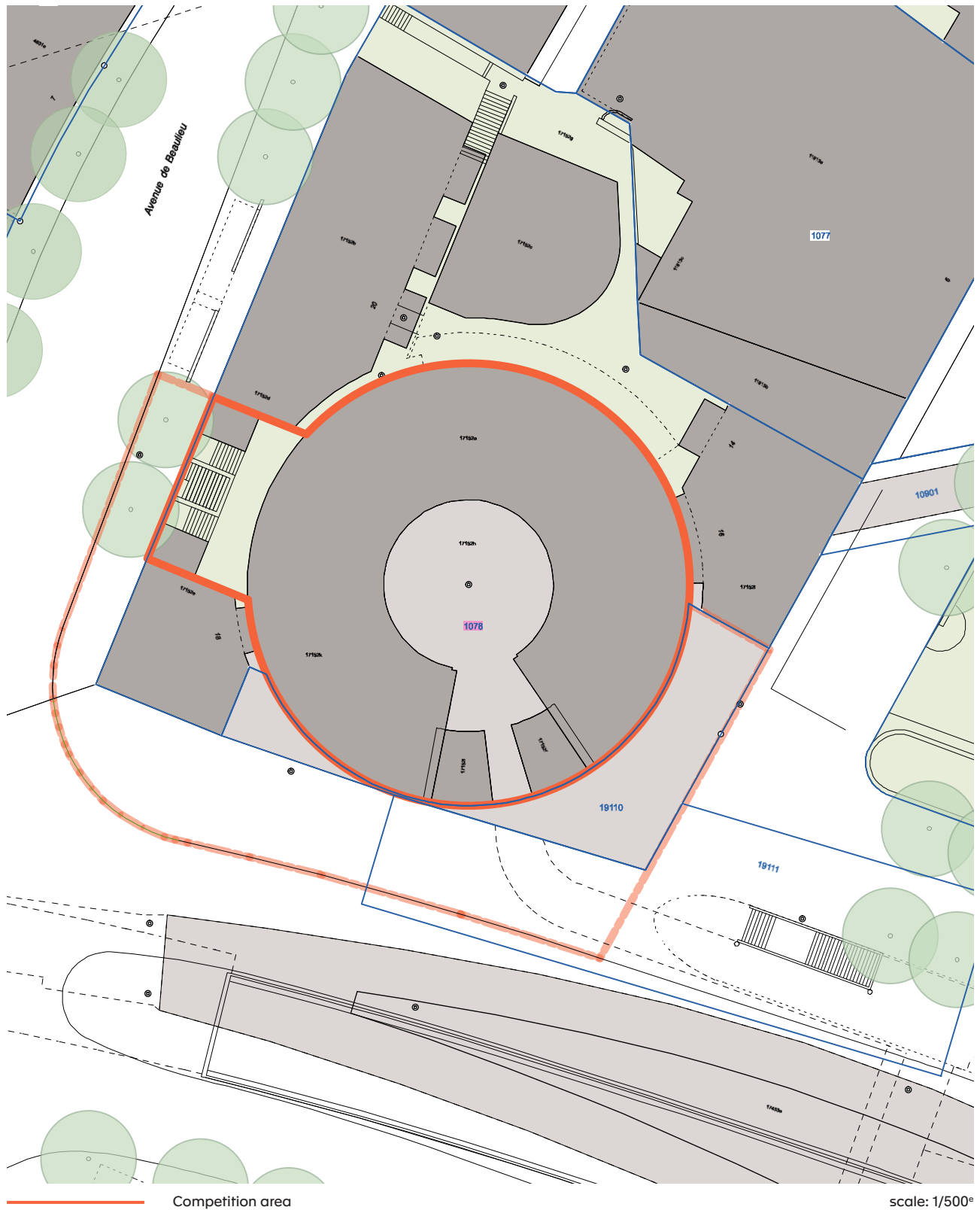


Competition area

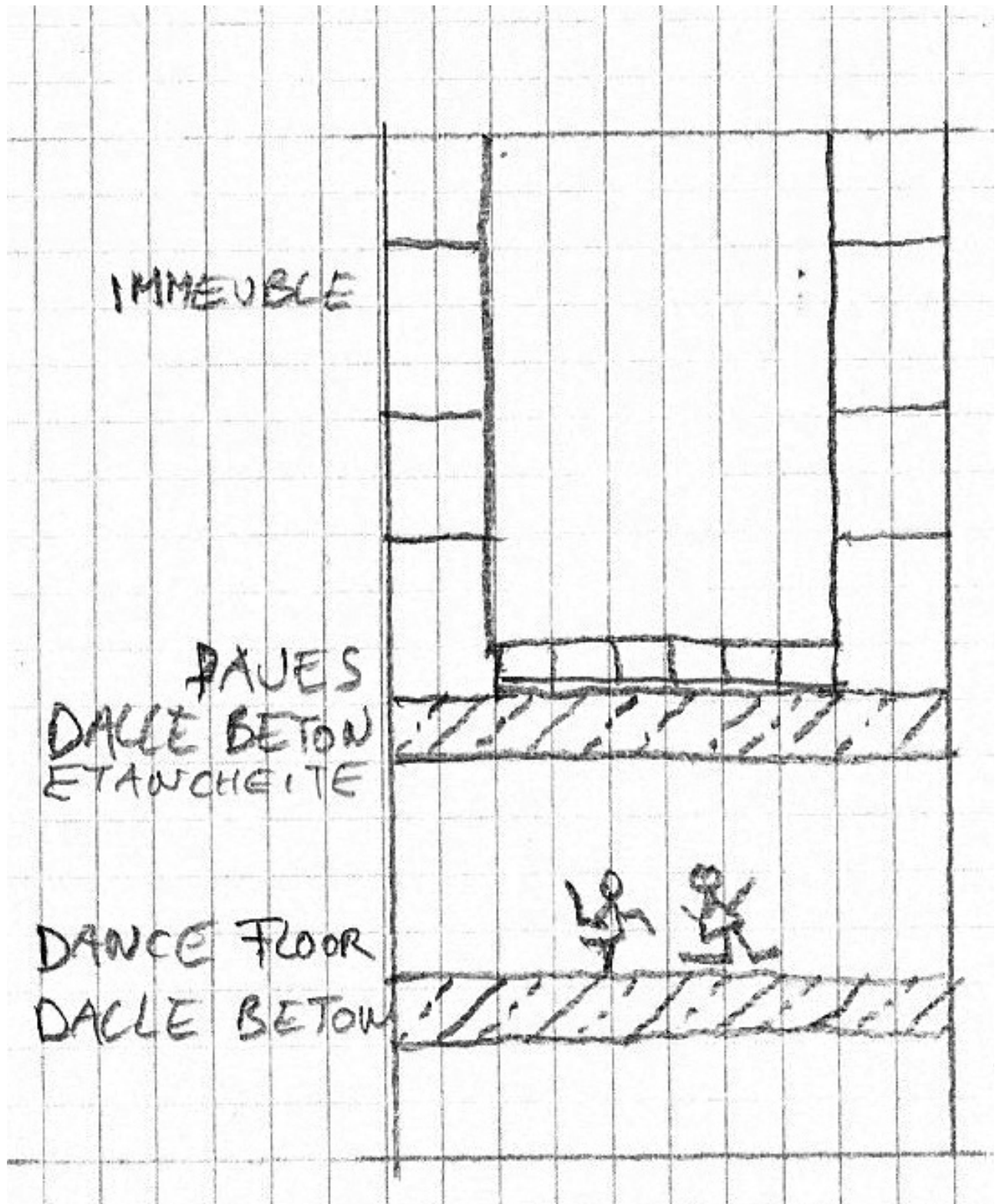


# E. Cour Galfetti

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Soil profile

### Enclosed space, the origin of the garden

*Open/closed: Who does the ground belong to?*

#### *History*

Residual space stuck between two axes, just beneath the historic building of the Vaud mortgage credit institution, a neo-baroque building from the early 20th century, made out of molasses, solid like a vault, with frescoes representing the Canton's districts. It is now occupied by the BCV, successor to the mortgage credit institution.

#### *Description*

The car park is covered in cobblestones and lawn and planted with trees. A small park lies at the eastern tip of the site. The whole area is sealed off by an imposing elegant and impassable wrought-iron fence.

#### *Uses*

The site serves as a car park for the bank. The garden is open to the public.

#### *Challenges*

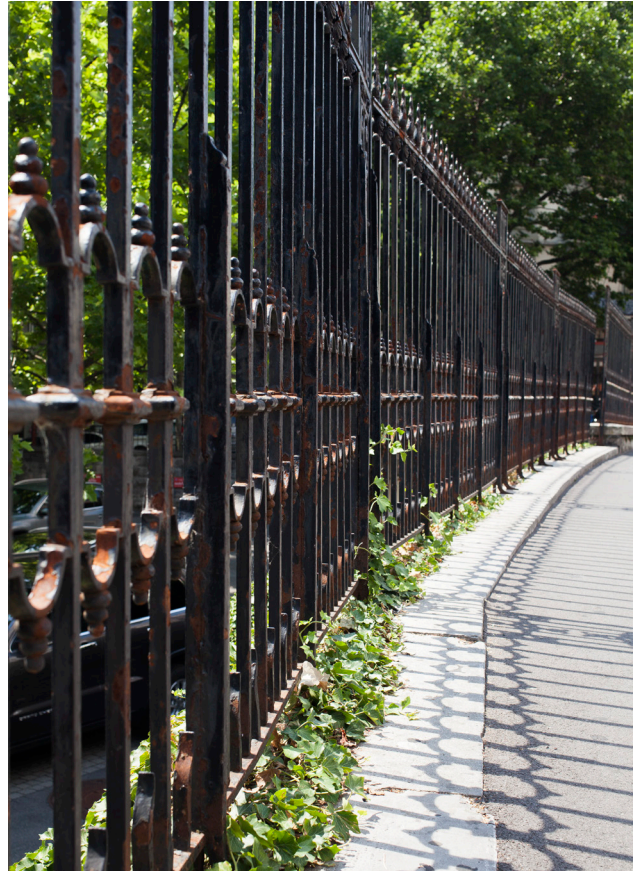
This deserted and enclosed garden in the middle of the city reveals itself through the fence and taunts passers-by on the outside. Who does it belong to? Is it as private as it appears? What does this spiky fence mean, keeping taxpayers on the outside of this institution, which in actual fact, to some extent, belongs to them?

#### *Questions*

Who does the ground belong to? Can a fence highlight this paradox? Can a fence serve as a prop for a garden?

## F. Enceinte de la BCV

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24 August 2017





# F. Enceinte de la BCV

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lausanne jardins 2019 / competition  
Association Jardin Urbain  
24 August 2017



Lausanne Jardins 2019 route



Competition area

# F. Enceinte de la BCV

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24 August 2017

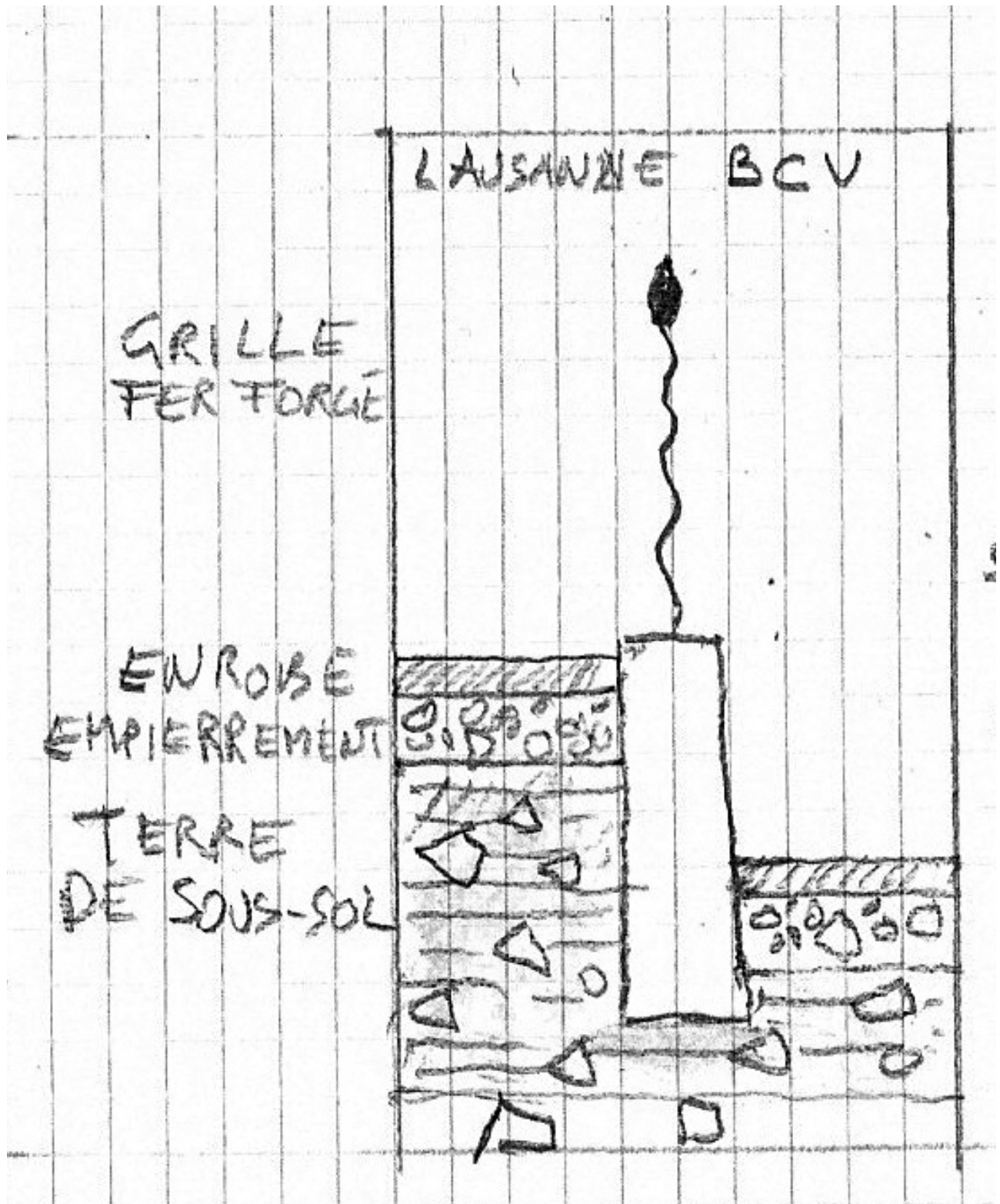


Competition area

scale: 1/500<sup>e</sup>

## F. Enceinte de la BCV

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lausanne jardins 2019 / competition  
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Soil profile



## Urban soil treatment

### *Furnished or congested soil?*

#### *History*

The word *terreaux* ('compost') comes from the embankment, since this place sits beneath the city's old fortifications, lined by a ditch and a path. Over time, the area has filled up, and become narrower and more over-grown.

#### *Description*

A thoroughfare, but crossing is difficult and confusing for the uninitiated. You need a ramp, stairs and handrails to cross. The ground, which was open and empty at the foot of the old fortifications, is layered with decades of human intervention.

#### *Uses*

Between the deconsecrated church (now a cultural space) and Gallery Humus, which focuses on humour, incongruity and eroticism, people come to eat their midday snacks on the stairs, the benches and wherever they can. In the summer, the place is quite busy. It's a thoroughfare too.

#### *Challenges*

Congestion is a plague that erodes public spaces. Can a garden add a little clarity, a little order?

#### *Question*

How can one cure this type of landscape?

# G. Labyrinthe des Terreaux

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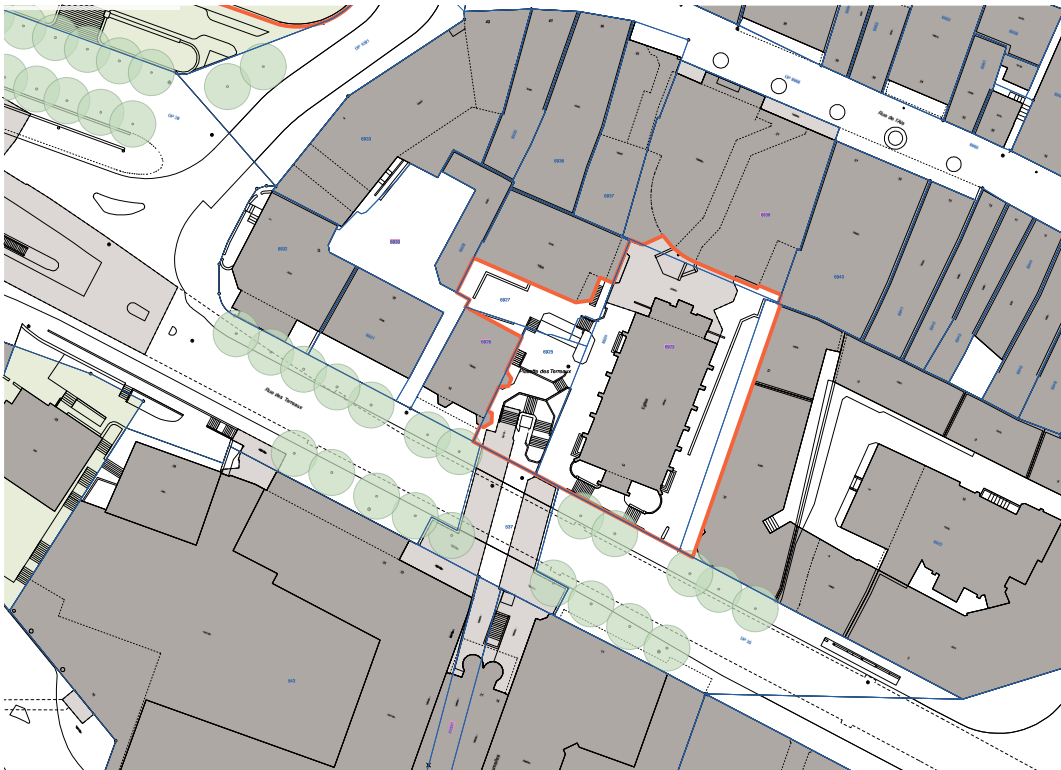


# G. Labyrinthe des Terreaux

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Association Jardin Urbain  
24 August 2017



Lausanne Jardins 2019 route



Competition area



# G. Labyrinthe des Terreaux

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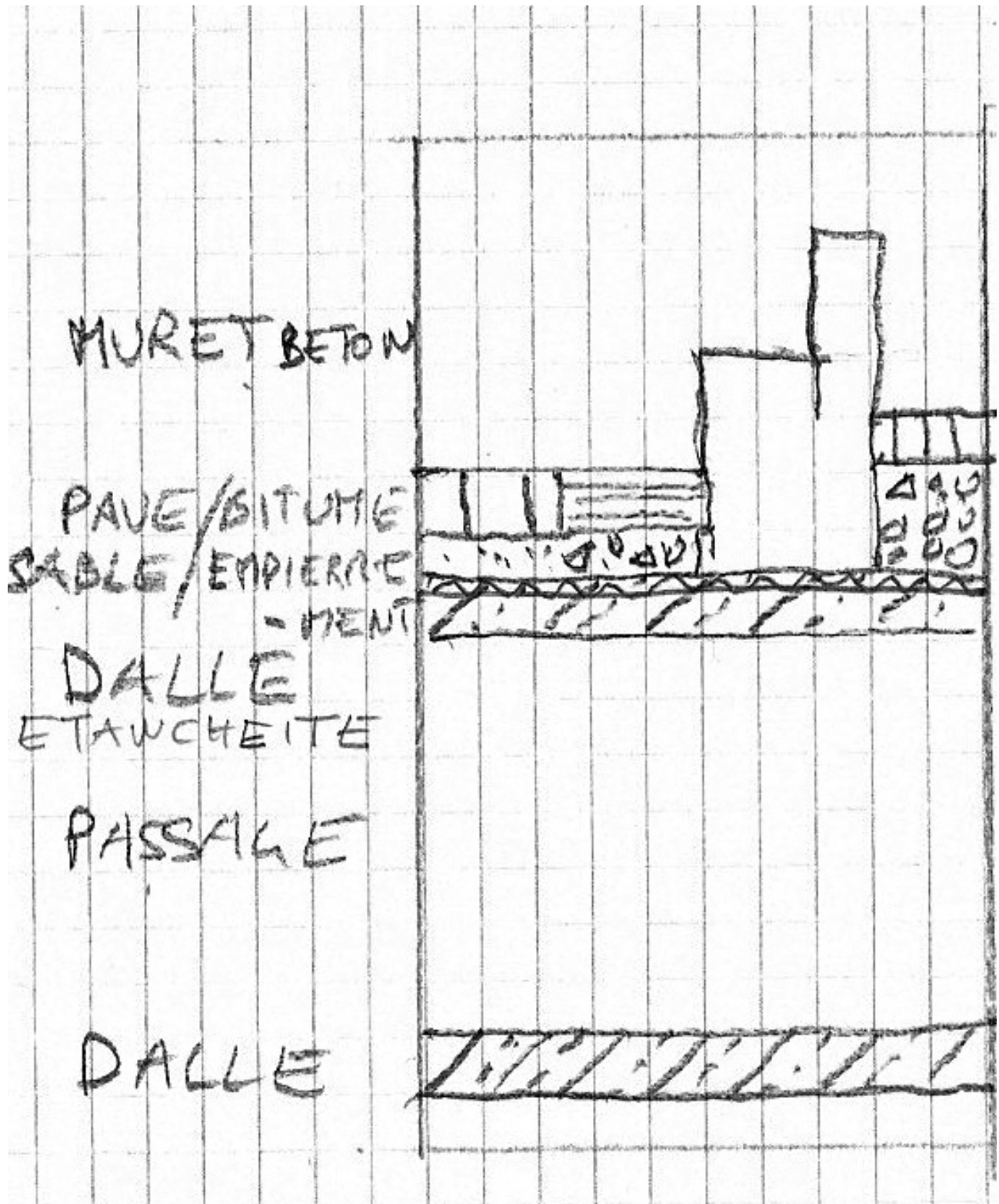


Competition area

scale: 1/500<sup>e</sup>

# G. Labyrinthe des Terreaux

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24 August 2017



Soil profile

## **Hanging gardens, off the ground, the pavement**

### *Babylosanne?*

#### *History*

The Great Bridge was first called 'Pont Pichard', after the Canton's visionary engineer Adrien Pichard who, in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, undertook to ease the crossing of Lausanne. Opened to traffic in 1844, it was 25 metres high and 175 metres long over two levels, with 19 upper and 6 lower arches. Crossing the Flon area, it bridged the working-class lower town, connecting the high-class people above. The lower level was buried in 1874 when the Flon was filled in.

#### *Description*

When the Flon valley was filled in, from 1872 onwards, the six lower arches of the bridge were buried, lowering the bridge from 25 to 13 metres. It was widened twice after that, in 1892 and 1933 from 9.9 to 15 metres. The precarious handrails do not meet current standards and have been temporarily replaced in some areas. In their current state, they cannot bear the weight of planters or anything else.

#### *Uses*

This bridge has helped change the structure of the city, with the development of a strong east-west axis outside the walls. Still widely used today, it is due to be closed to cars in favour of pedestrians, bikes and buses from 2022 onwards.

#### *Challenges*

The bridge demonstrates the victory of engineering over nature, construction over nature's chaotic topology. The city controls its territory, forcing it to meet its needs (thoroughfare and trading), even if it means burying rivers and getting rid of land.

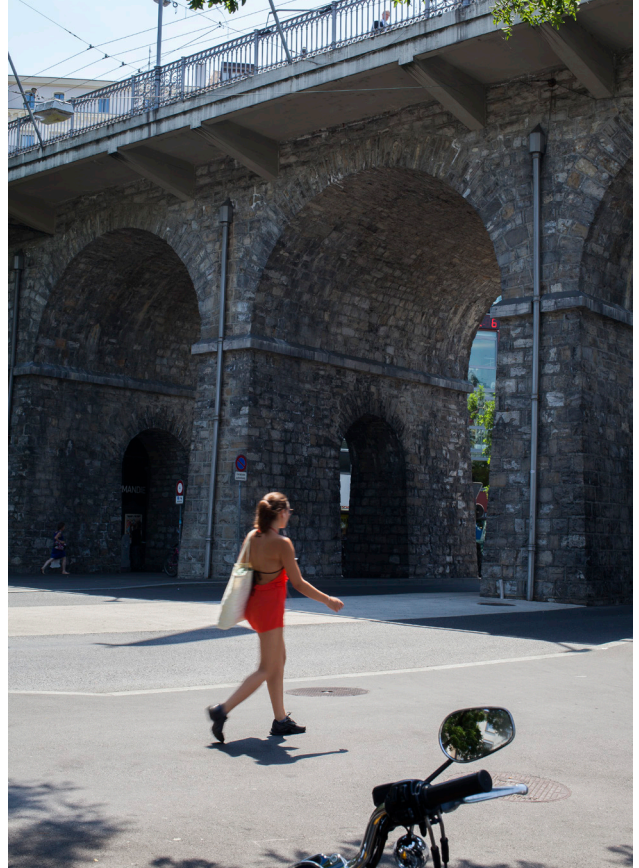
#### *Question*

Off-the-ground, hanging: How can a garden fit in this new urban context?



# H. Trottoir nord du Grand-Pont

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24 August 2017



# H. Trottoir nord du Grand-Pont

DS\_Site-H  
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Lausanne Jardins 2019 route

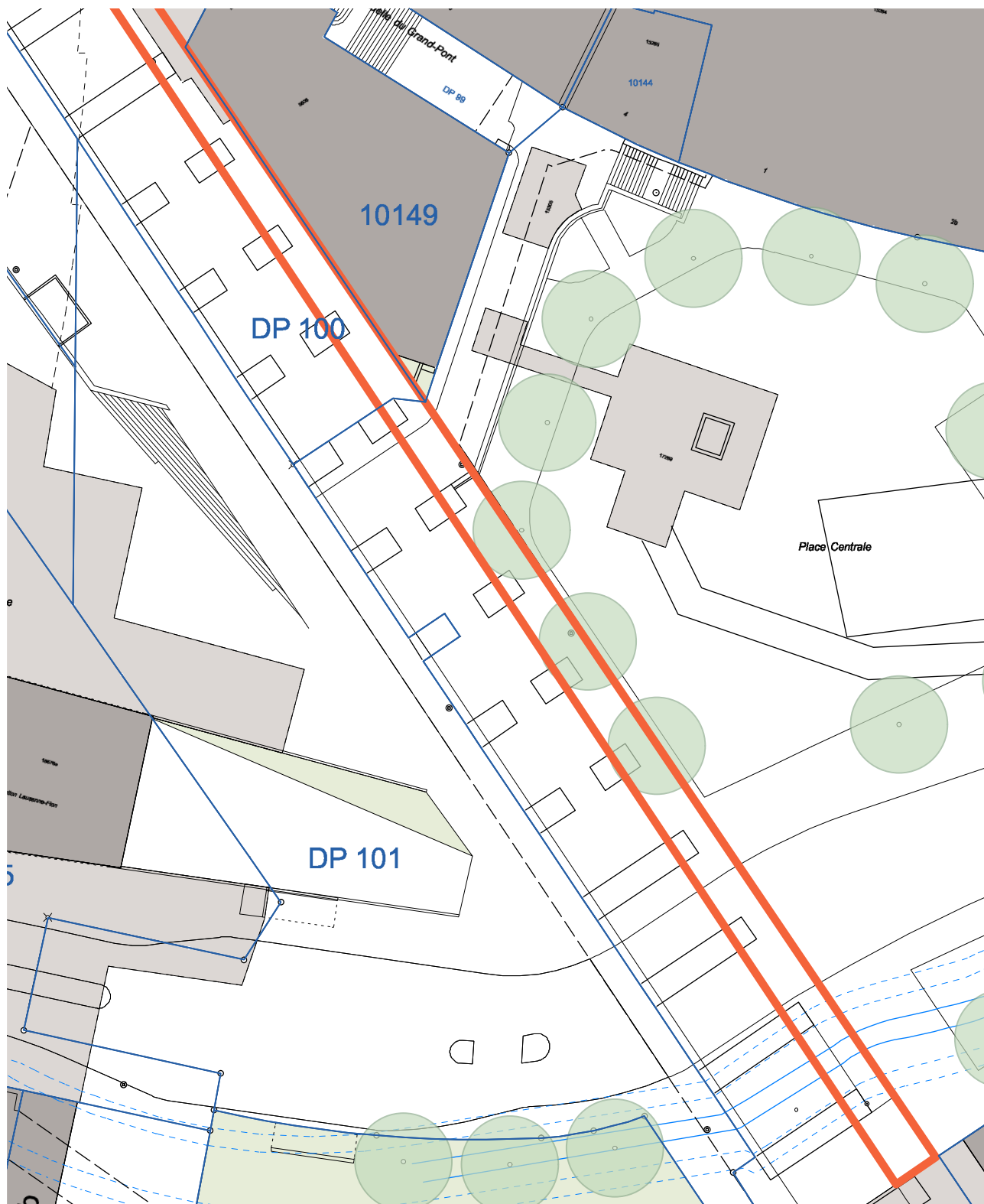


Competition area



# H. Trottoir nord du Grand-Pont

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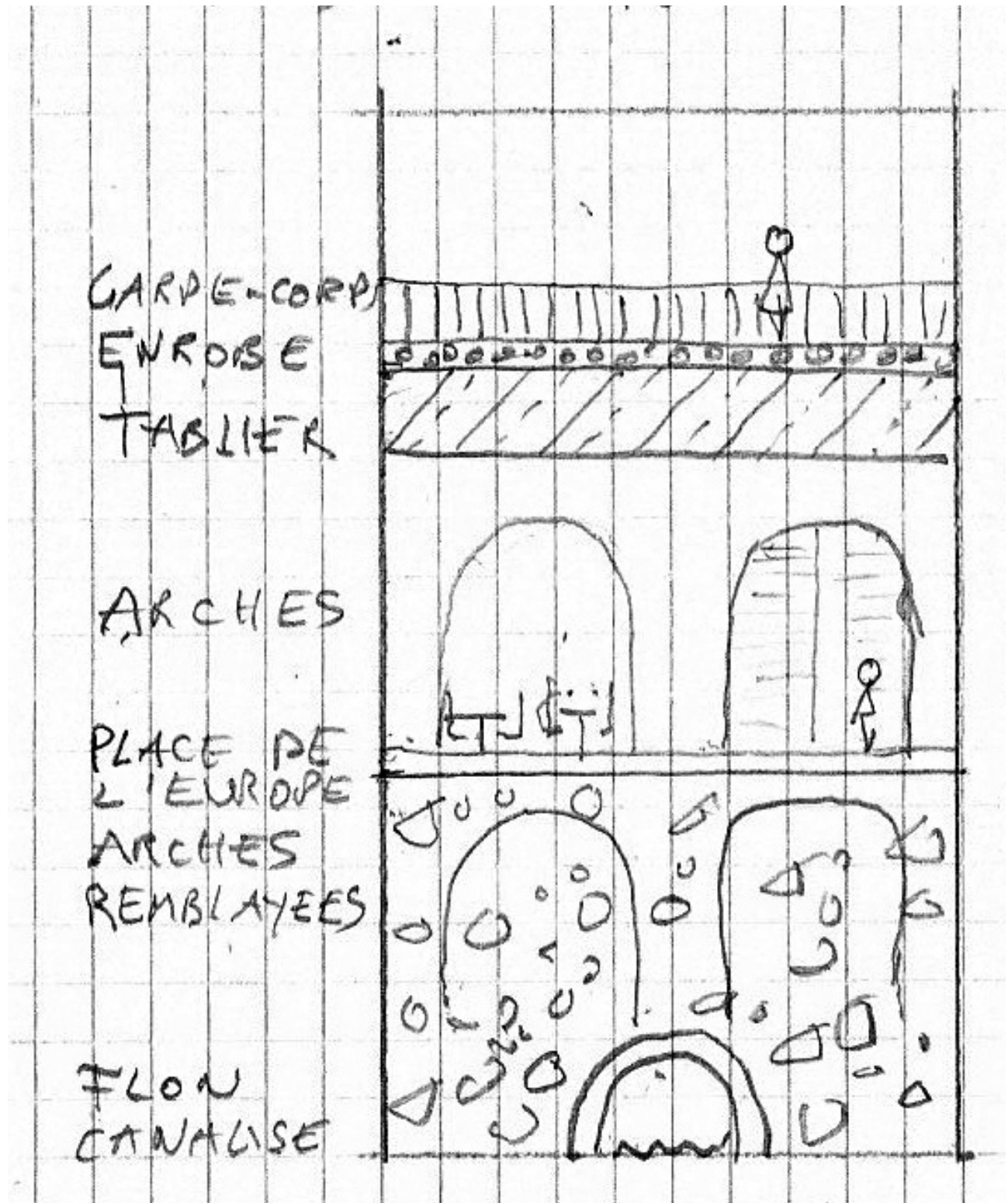
Competition area

scale: 1/500°



# H. Trottoir nord du Grand-Pont

DS\_Site-H  
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Soil profile

## **Scarcity of open ground in the city = scarcity of tall trees in the city** *Crowns and roots, a perfect mirror?*

### *History*

Six big plane trees, as tall as the surrounding buildings, are rooted in the northern part of Saint-François. Before, there was a street that was also used as a market square. The trees were probably planted here in the early 80s, before that area of the square was pedestrianised. The exogenous essence of plane trees, usually found in southern cities, are successful in Switzerland too and appear unpollarded, as in Saint-François, or pollarded on the shores of the lake. The pollarding is aimed at restricting their growth and preserving views of the lake.

### *Description*

Thousands of square metres of leaves and bark make up a solid, united and eternal canopy, indifferent to pollution. Tree trunks that are restricted to the minimum are surrounded by cobblestones. A tall crown of over 5 metres for trees that can reach 20 metres in height. Plane trees seem capable of bearing anything, and yet they are threatened by a fatal disease, canker stain, which is gaining ground in the north. Significant protection measures have been taken in the last few years in Geneva, the first city affected in Switzerland. Will plane trees disappear as elms have?

### *Uses*

These trees are appreciated by birds and passers-by alike, providing a little shade for the latter on hot summer days. They offer a lush green view from the surrounding buildings. Trees provide important services to cities: Their role in the carbon cycle is essential, but they also act as natural air conditioners, not mentioning their soothing 'social' effect.

### *Challenges*

What happens in the subsoil between these six giants? Underground activity between trees of the same species is well-known: the meaningful give-and-take of sharing immunity and the effects of solidarity. Complex streams flow from one subject to the next, often via fungi, sometimes via direct channels 'built' by the trees themselves. A high-density network, the emergence of which actually only gives a more individualistic and very simplified reflection of the subterranean reality.

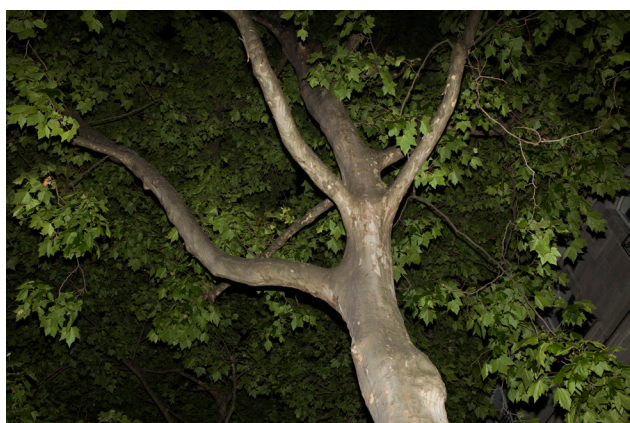
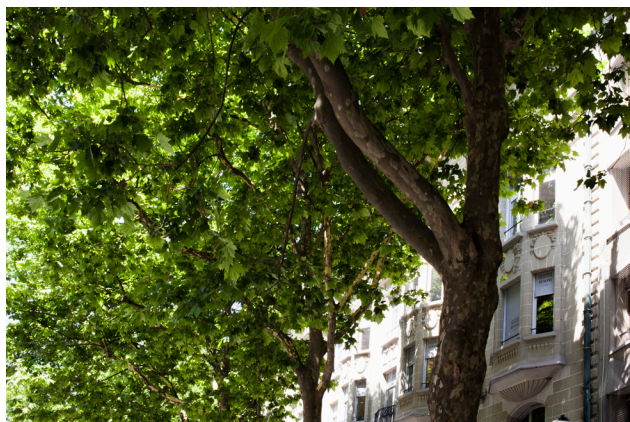
### *Questions*

To what extent does the quality of the subsoil directly affect the beauty and health of a tree? Does beauty on the surface reflect subterranean beauty?



# I. Grands arbres de Saint-François

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24 August 2017





# I. Grands arbres de Saint-François

DS\_Site-I

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Lausanne Jardins 2019 route



Competition area

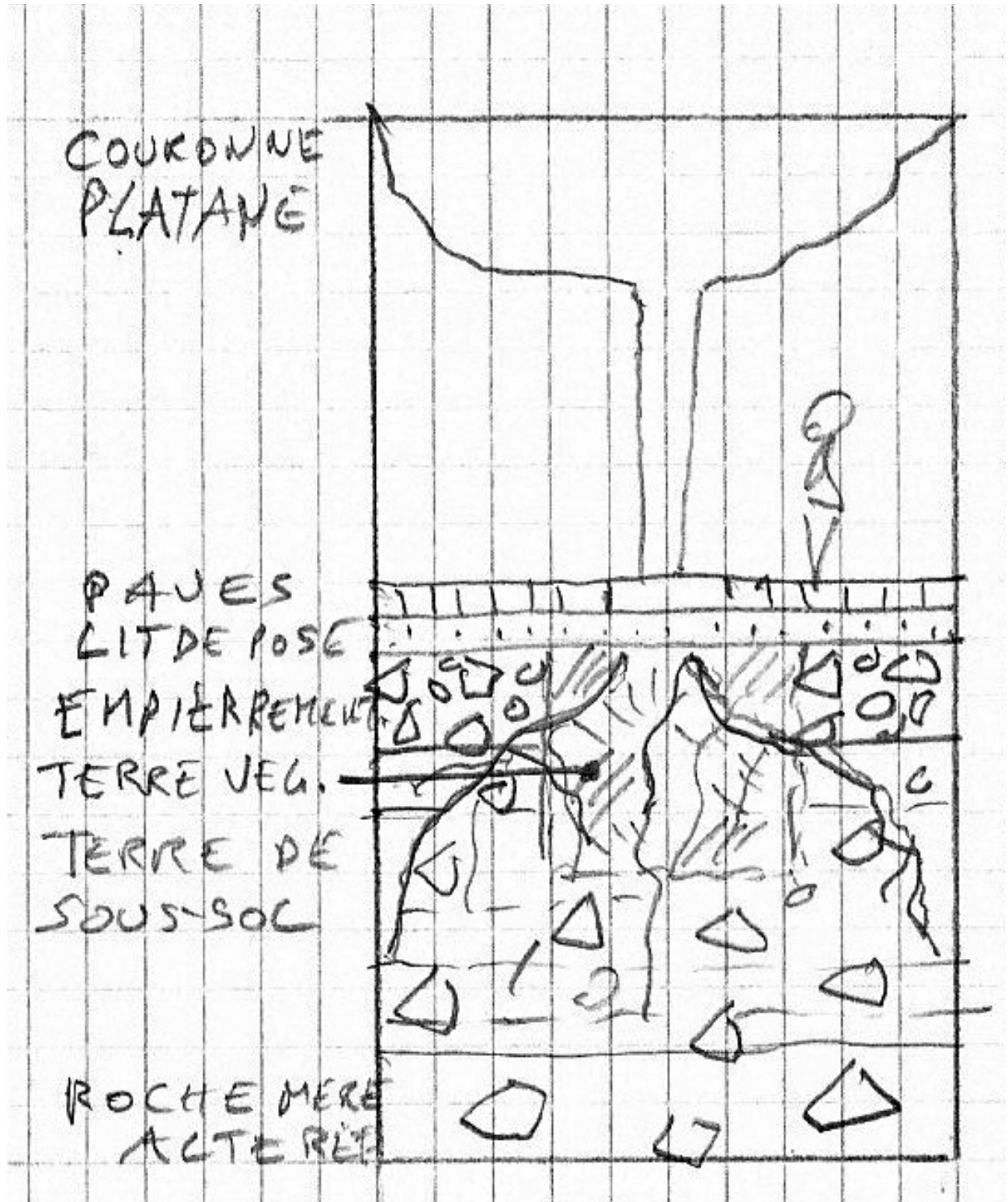
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# I. Grands arbres de Saint-François

DS\_Site-I  
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24 August 2017



Soil profile



## Living basements, underground gardens

### *Pedestrians: City rats?*

#### *History*

The northern part of Saint-François Square is pedestrian-only since the town council's decision in 1976, but the southern part is still open to cars and buses for the moment. Pedestrians have underground passageways. A little signage, some stairs and a ramp, and off they go, down into the western and eastern tunnels, built, as the pediment states, in 1980.

#### *Description*

A dark and inhospitable passageway lined with abandoned shop fronts, accessible to the north via escalators. Pallid neon light, faded mosaic on the walls, peeling Klein-blue steel beams and a skid-proof lino-Lego floor, typical of the 1980s: This is the décor offered to Lausanne's residents for the last 40 years.

#### *Uses*

Pedestrians in a hurry to leave the place. Abandoned shop fronts, a photo booth.

#### *Challenges*

In the medium term, the 'Strong Axes Project' plans to reduce car traffic on the surface, which would make this underground passageway obsolete. Should cars disappear from the surface, what would become of all these underground passageways, car parks and shelters?

#### *Questions*

Is the urban underground transformable? Could it be given a second lease of life?

# J. Passage Saint-François « ouest »

DS\_Site-J  
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24 August 2017





# J. Passage Saint-François « ouest »

DS\_Site-J

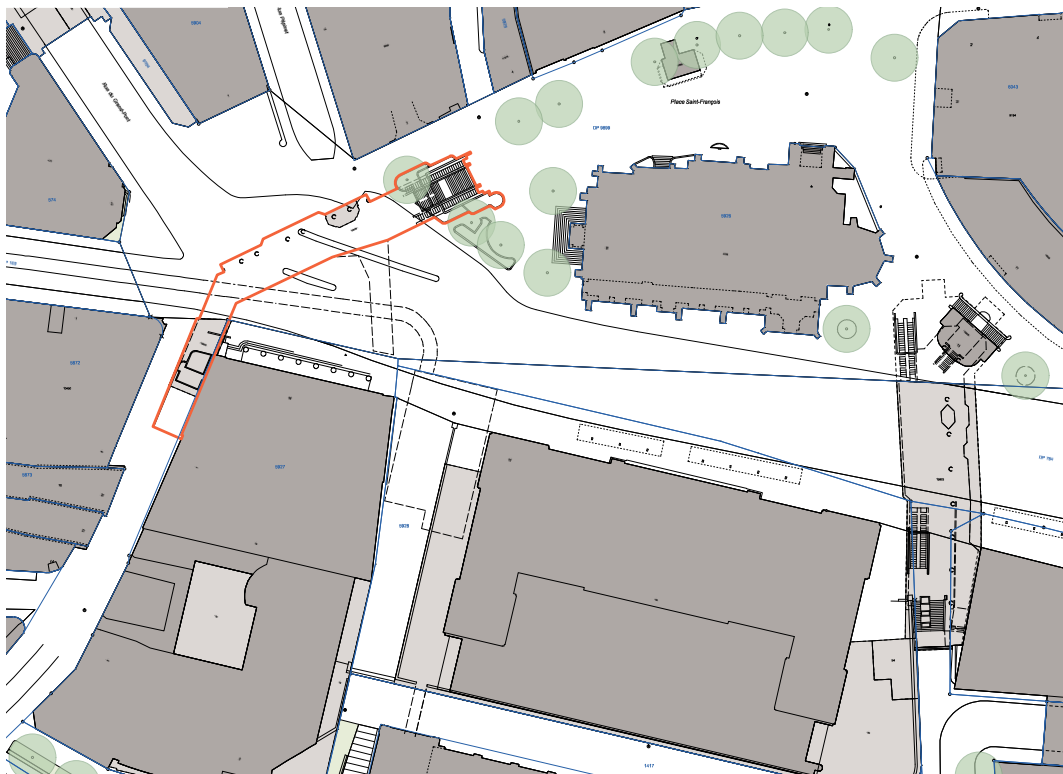
lausanne jardins 2019 / competition

Association Jardin Urbain

24 August 2017



Lausanne Jardins 2019 route

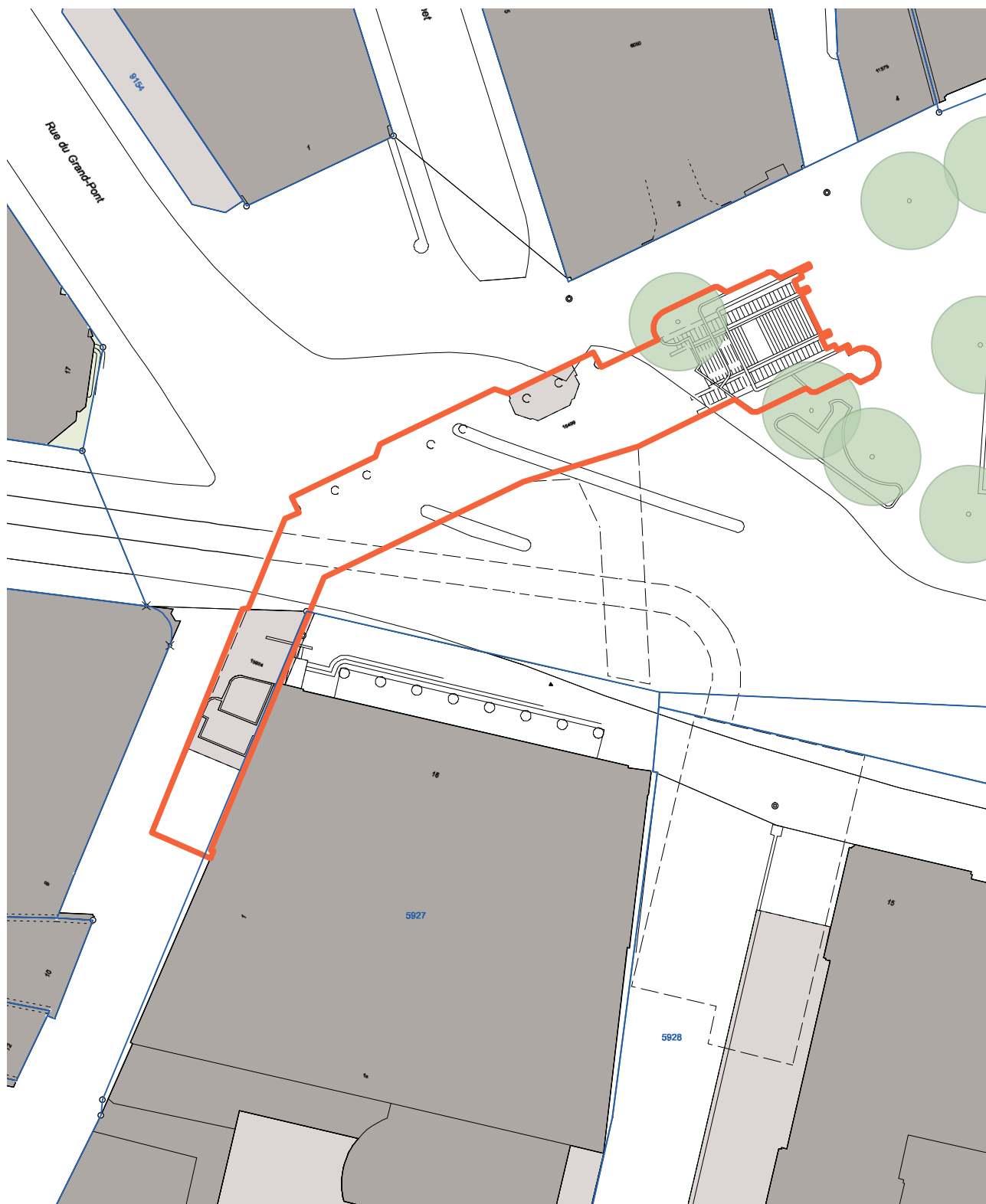


Competition area



# J. Passage Saint-François « ouest »

DS\_Site-J  
lausanne jardins 2019 / competition  
Association Jardin Urbain  
24 August 2017

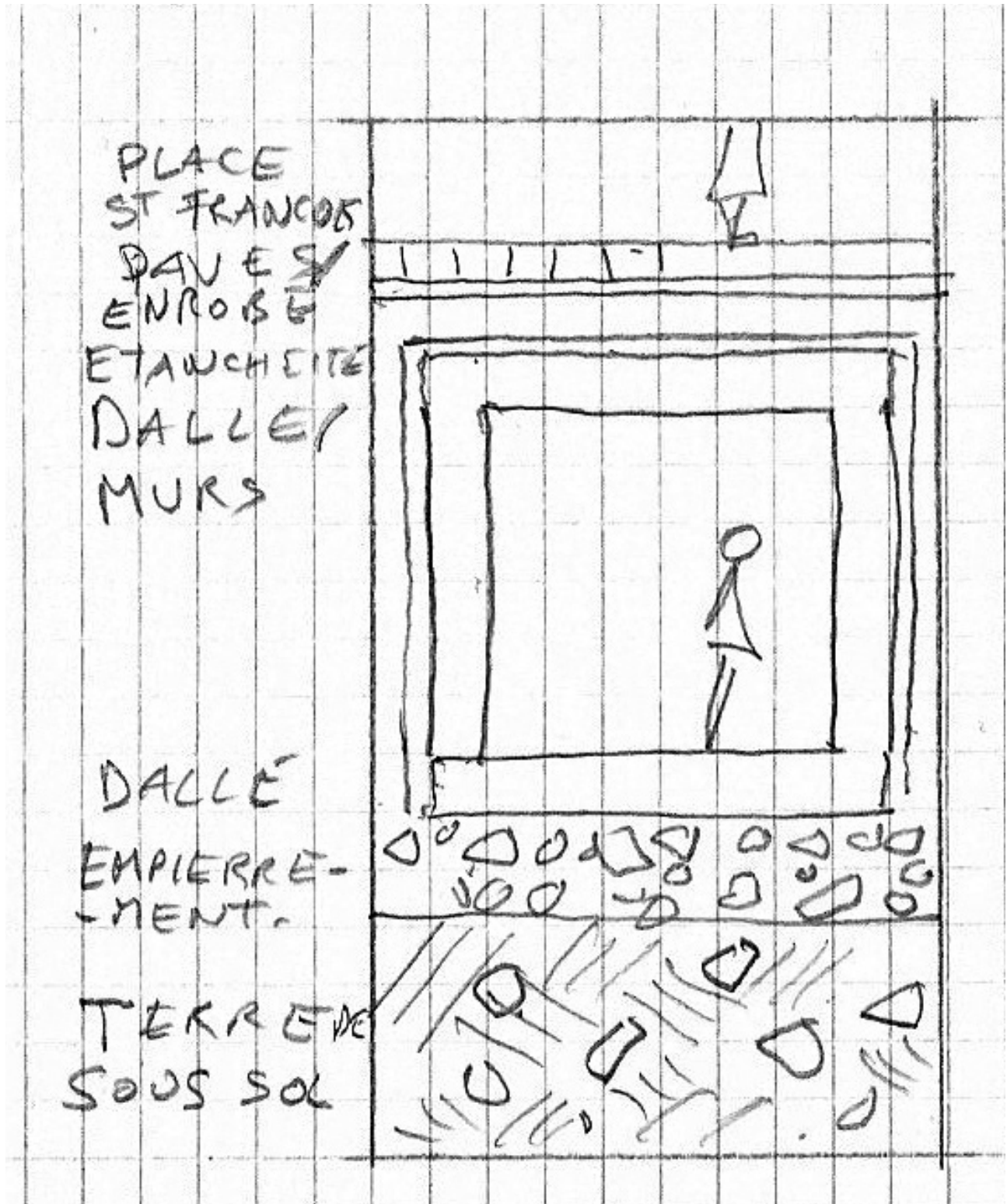


Competition area

scale: 1/500<sup>e</sup>

## J. Passage Saint-François « ouest »

DS\_Site-J  
lausanne jardins 2019 / competition  
Association Jardin Urbain  
24 August 2017



Soil profile

## Living basements, underground gardens

### *Pedestrians: City rats?*

#### *History*

This passage, like the first one, connects the northern part of Saint-François square, which has been pedestrian-only since the town council's decision in 1976, with the southern part, crossed by several traffic lanes for cars and buses, where pedestrians are forced to go underground to come out the other side. As the pediment states, both tunnels were built at the same time in 1980.

#### *Description*

Like its western counterpart, access to the eastern underground passageway is via escalators. As dark, low-ceilinged and inhospitable as its twin brother, it features the same dark grey linoleum floor and pallid neon light.

#### *Uses*

Pedestrians in a hurry to leave the place, although some 15,000 transit through here every day; increasingly rare shops; abandoned shop fronts, except for the legendary Caran d'Ache shop window with its automatons. The only lively place is the public toilet, a meeting place for gay people. There was a project that planned to install a bakery and renovate the public toilet, but it seems this has now been abandoned.

#### *Challenges*

Can we give new lustre to this pedestrian tunnel, which connects the city's historic buildings?

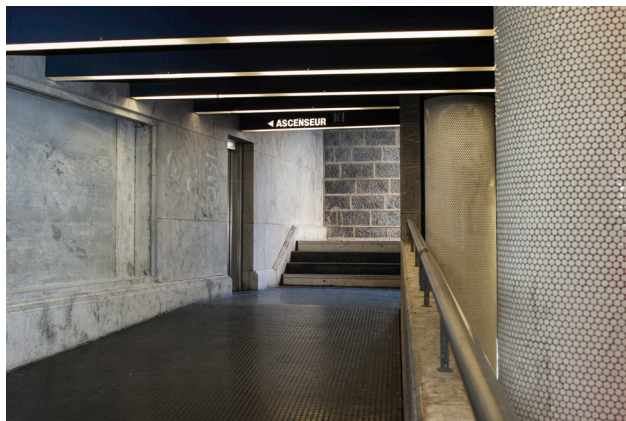
#### *Questions*

Is it possible to have gardens underground? How can this place be made more pleasant and even attractive to passers-by?



# K. Passage Saint-François « est »

DS\_Site-K  
lausanne jardins 2019 / competition  
Association Jardin Urbain  
24 August 2017

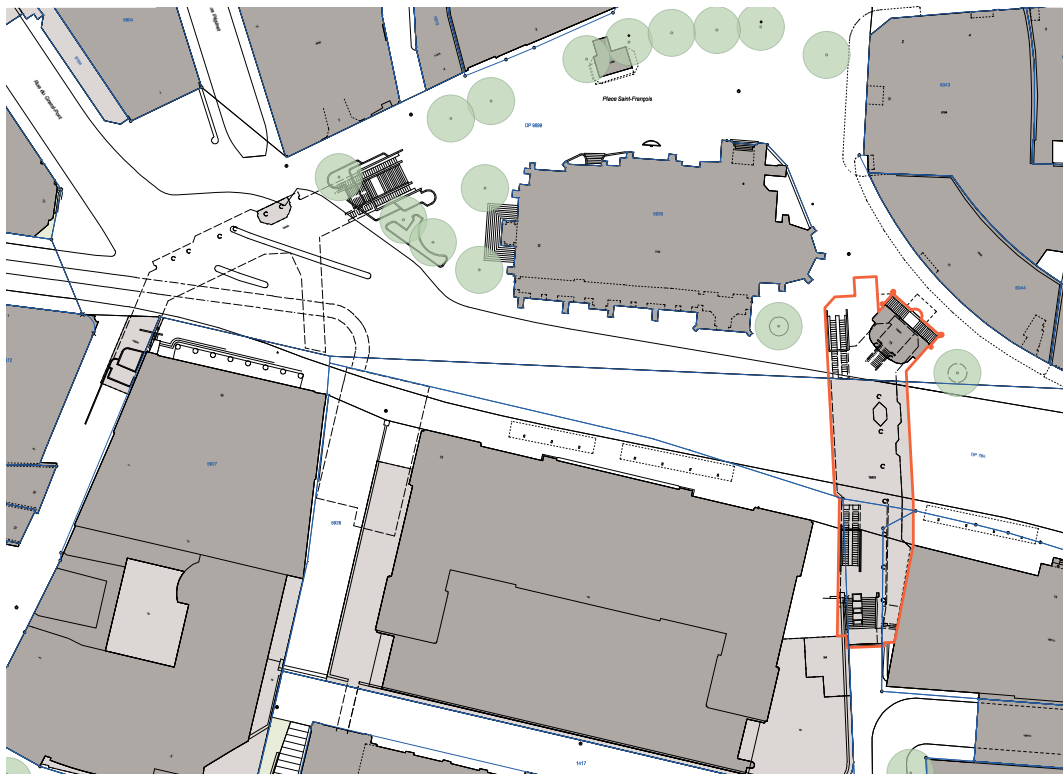


# K. Passage Saint-François « est »

DS\_Site-K  
lausanne jardins 2019 / competition  
Association Jardin Urbain  
24 August 2017



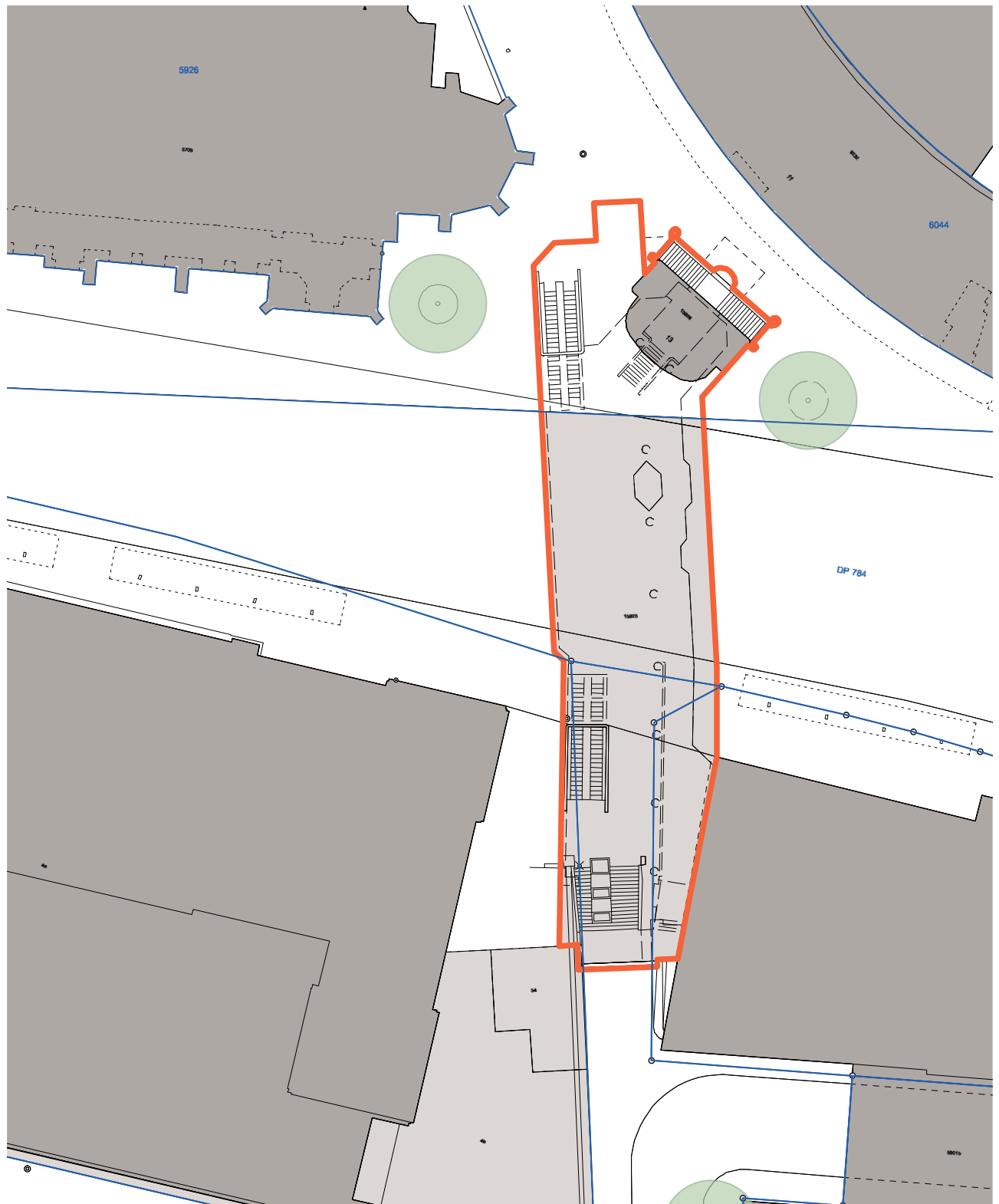
Lausanne Jardins 2019 route



Competition area

# K. Passage Saint-François « est »

DS\_Site-K  
lausanne jardins 2019 / competition  
Association Jardin Urbain  
24 August 2017



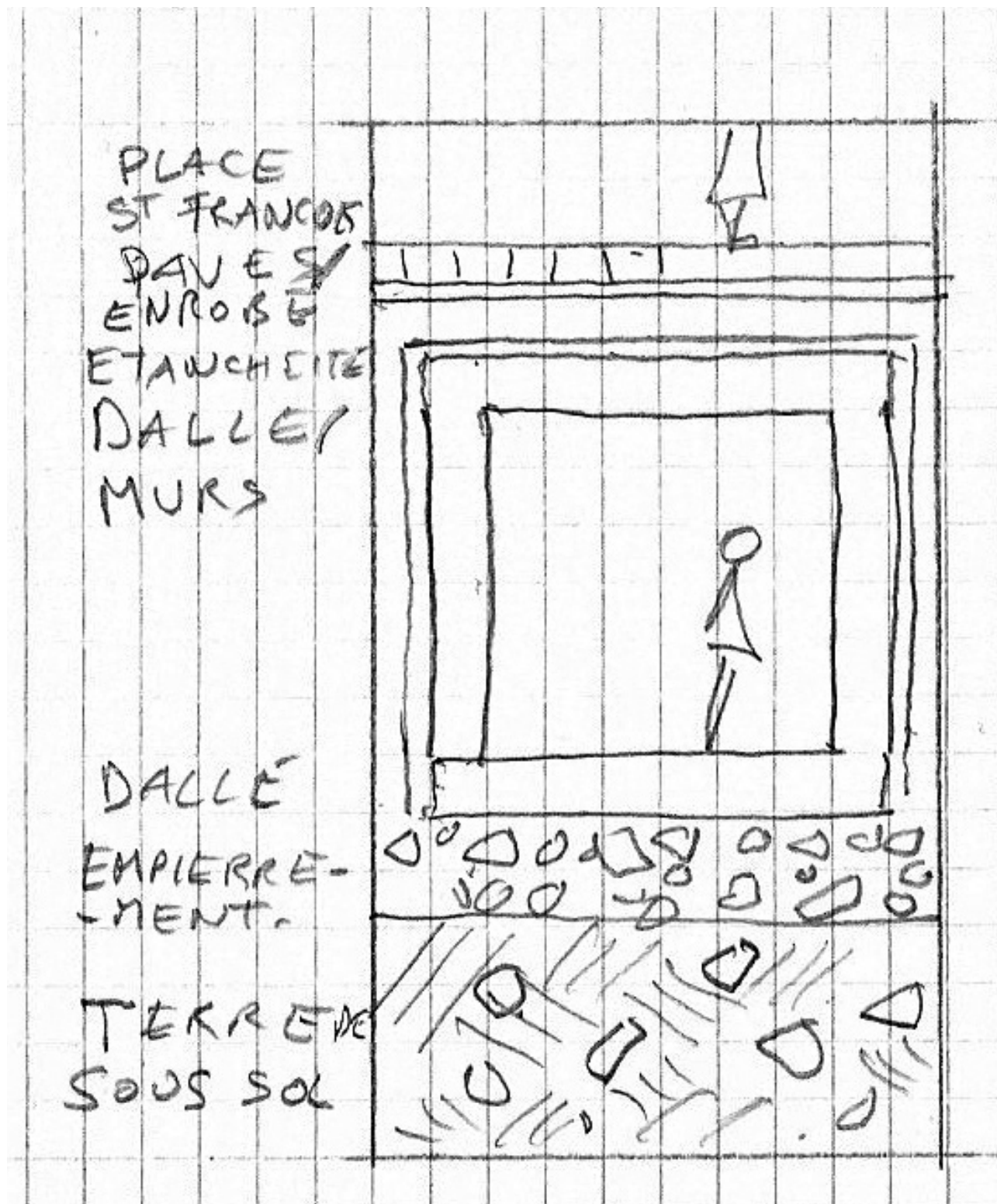
Competition area

scale: 1/500<sup>e</sup>



## K. Passage Saint-François « est »

DS\_Site-K  
lausanne jardins 2019 / competition  
Association Jardin Urbain  
24 August 2017



Soil profile

## The soil, a place of memory

*What story does the city's soil tell us?*

### *History*

Between the Lausanne Opera and the illustrious Capitole cinema, now operated by the Swiss Film Archive, lies a little-known park: the Jean-Villard Gilles promenade, created in 1982. This old bit of countryside was once owned by a family of photographers, the De Jonghs, whose workshop was located at Avenue du Théâtre 6. The villa built on the property was demolished in 1971 and the site became slowly overgrown, according to press reports of the time. After much discussion and several abandoned projects, the city decided to transform it into a public park in 1979. From 1980 onwards, the *Jardins du Théâtre* ('Theatre Gardens') were created and a small sylvan theatre was built on the northern part of the site. In 1982, after the death of poet Jean Villard-Gilles, the promenade was renamed in his honour and a bronze statue erected there.

### *Description*

In the east, the promenade morphs into the terrace of the Café du Théâtre. In the middle, a small amphitheatre is enjoyed by picnickers in the summer. Further down, a children's playground. And in the centre, the statue of Jean-Villard Gilles and his three bells. There is also a path that meanders like the Venoge, a river dear to the poet. Jean-Villard Gilles sang the glory of this land like no other.

### *Uses*

Frequently used by employees from surrounding offices for their lunch break.

### *Challenges*

The soil is a living memory, on a geological as well as human-life scale. How can we make this memory clearer or more evident? Can a landscape in its most man-made form, i.e. an urban public space, pay tribute to mankind's memory?

### *Questions*

The memory of the soil, what the soil of the city tells us about its history and human destinies.



# L. Promenade Jean-Villard-Gilles

DS\_Site-L  
lausanne jardins 2019 / competition  
Association Jardin Urbain  
24 August 2017



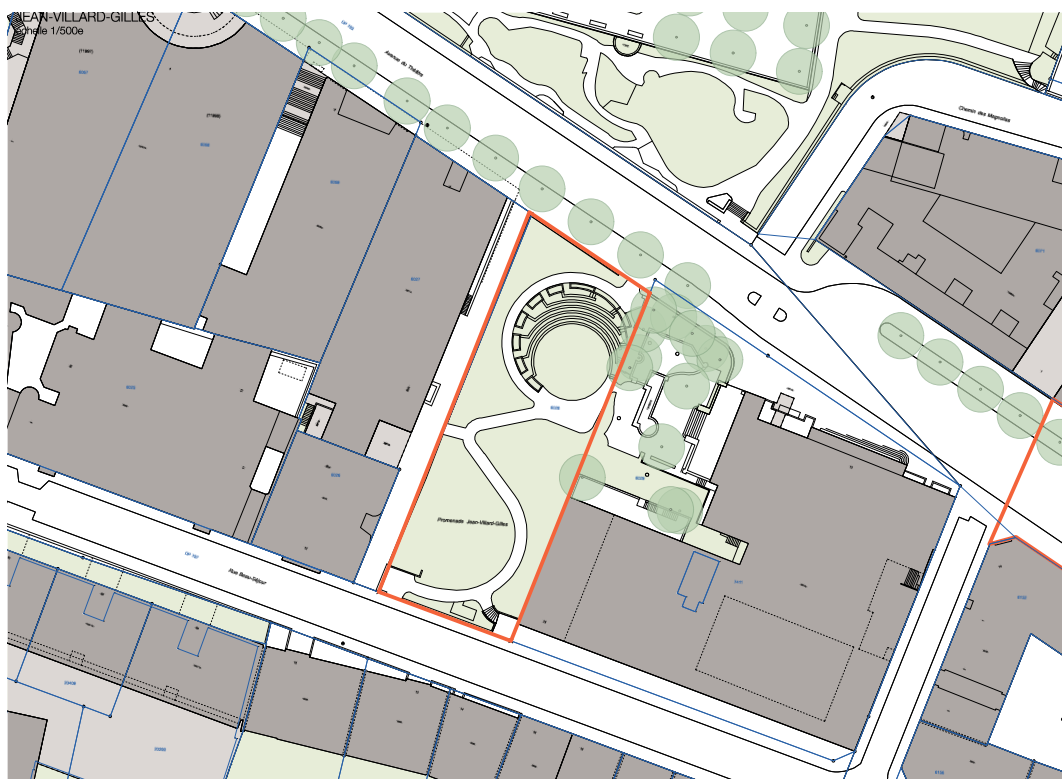


# L. Promenade Jean-Villard-Gilles

DS\_Site-L  
lausanne jardins 2019 / competition  
Association Jardin Urbain  
24 August 2017



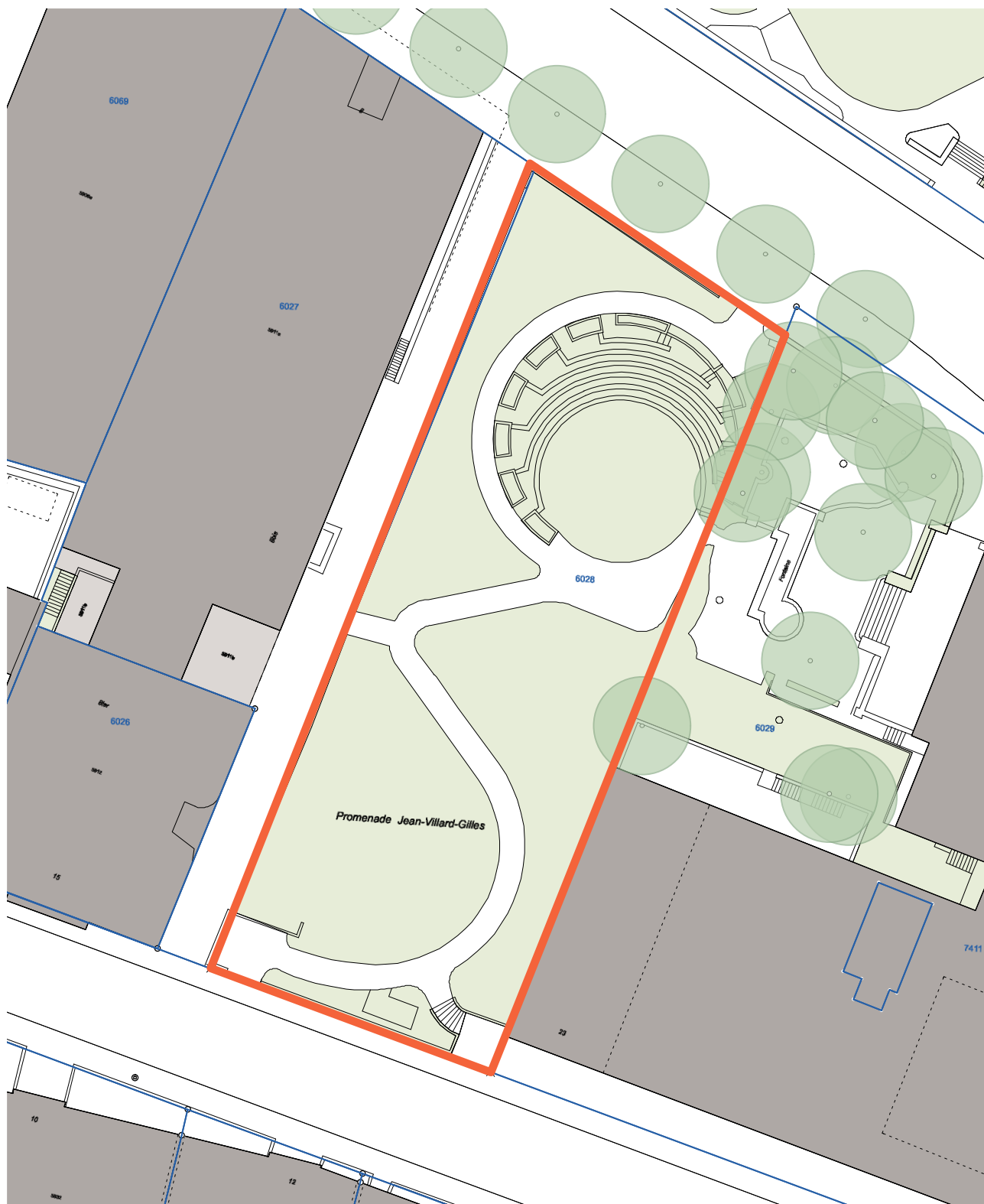
Lausanne Jardins 2019 route



Competition area

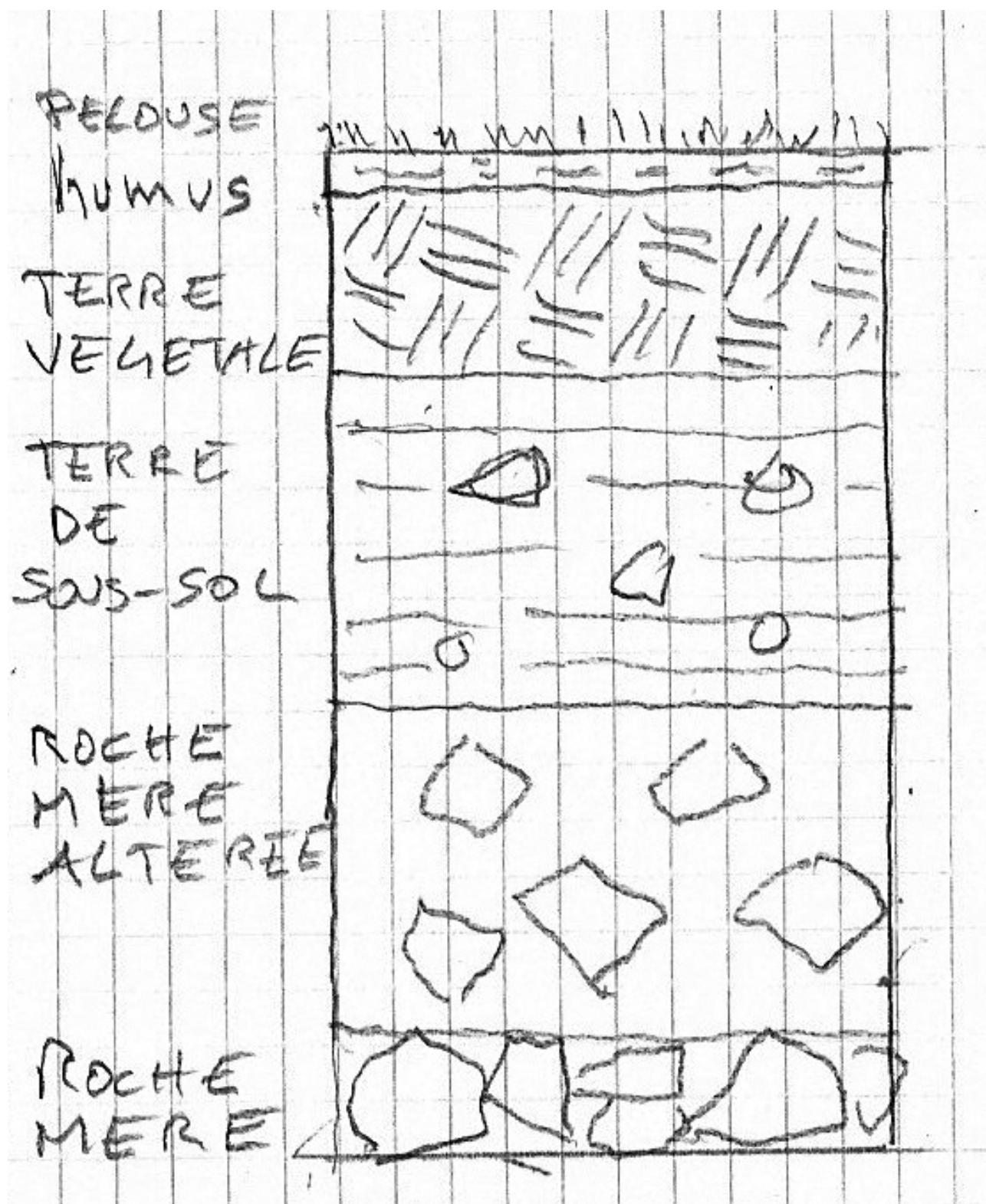
# L. Promenade Jean-Villard-Gilles

DS\_Site-L  
lausanne jardins 2019 / competition  
Association Jardin Urbain  
24 August 2017



Competition area

scale: 1/500°



Soil profile



## Comfort in the public space

### *Flowery crossroads, pretty crossroads?*

#### *History*

The name *Georgette* comes from 'little gorge' because in this place flowed a stream and a small path meandering from the Etraz neighbourhood to Ouchy. At that time, Ouchy was still separated from Lausanne by countryside. The official opening of the railway station in 1856, 500 metres south of the city, changed everything. But the slopes to get there were too steep and difficult to negotiate. A couple of parallel boulevards were built which were more comfortable, Avenue du Théâtre in 1867 and the first part of Avenue de Rumine in 1873, which includes the Georgette crossroads.

#### *Description*

Georgette lies at the intersection of these 'axes of comfort'. On its pavements flower pots share the space with road markings for blind people, which are quite explicit here since the library for the visually impaired is right next door.

#### *Uses*

The Georgette crossroads is saturated with cars. Pedestrian traffic is regulated by four sets of traffic lights. It is one of the city's most awkward crossroads, but also one which seems to awaken a desire for a garden or flowers to appear here.

#### *Challenges*

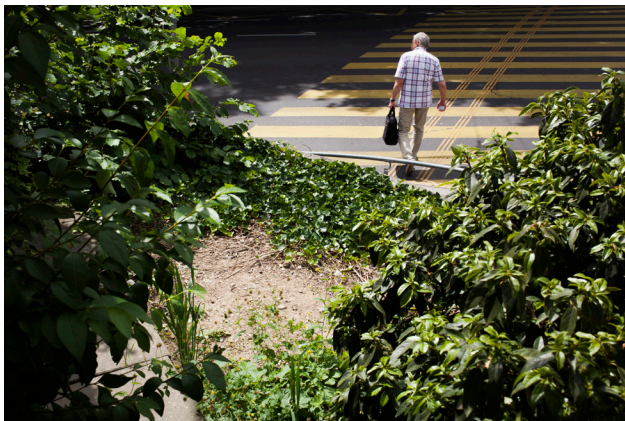
An attempt at recolonization like the 'street gardens' in Japan that Michel Butor describes in his book? 'These pots and boxes seem to reflect a collective demand: To take an urbanised area from the city and give it back to its residents. Here, strategies of daily life carry the day and opponents can't do anything about it. The city's Roads Department leaves them alone and benevolent users maintain this common good.'

#### *Questions*

Can flowers save a crossroads? How can we add comfort to the public space?

# M. Croisée de Georgette

DS\_Site-M  
lausanne jardins 2019 / competition  
Association Jardin Urbain  
24 August 2017

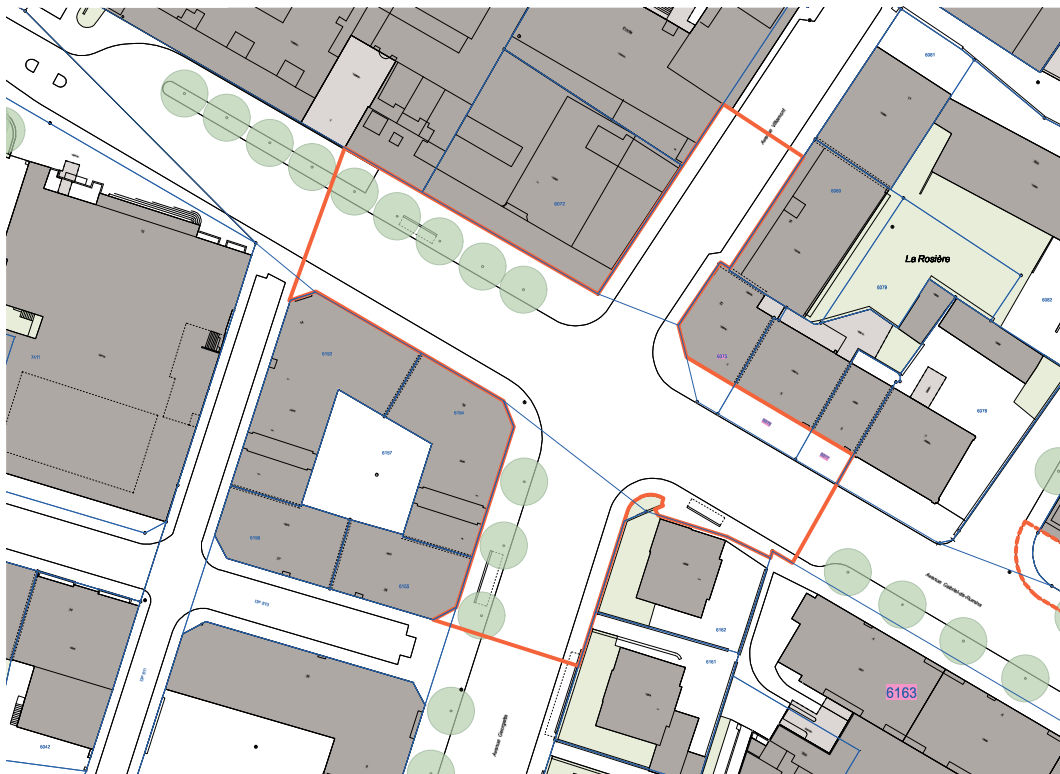


# M. Croisée de Georgette

DS\_Site-M  
lausanne jardins 2019 / competition  
Association Jardin Urbain  
24 August 2017



Lausanne Jardins 2019 route

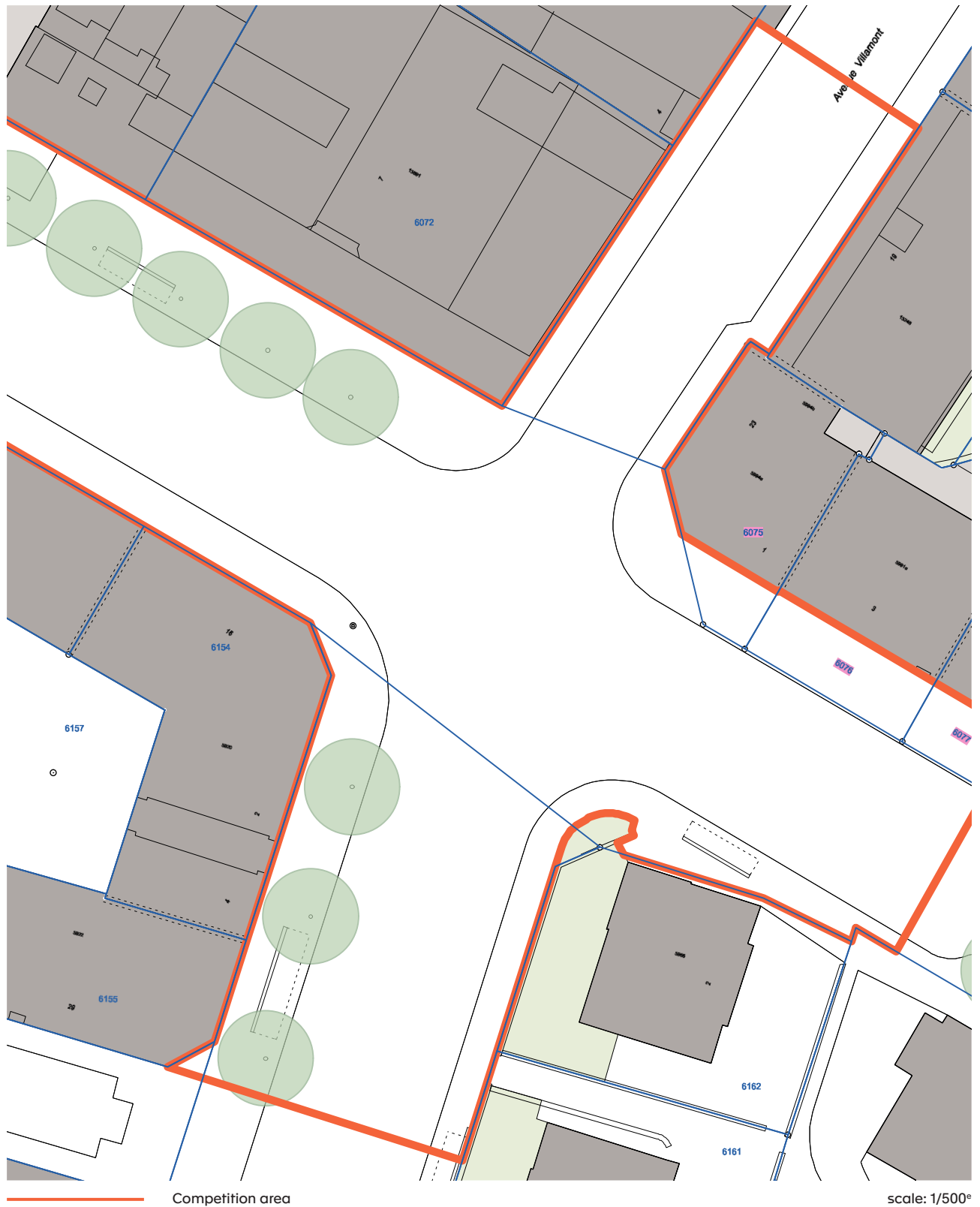


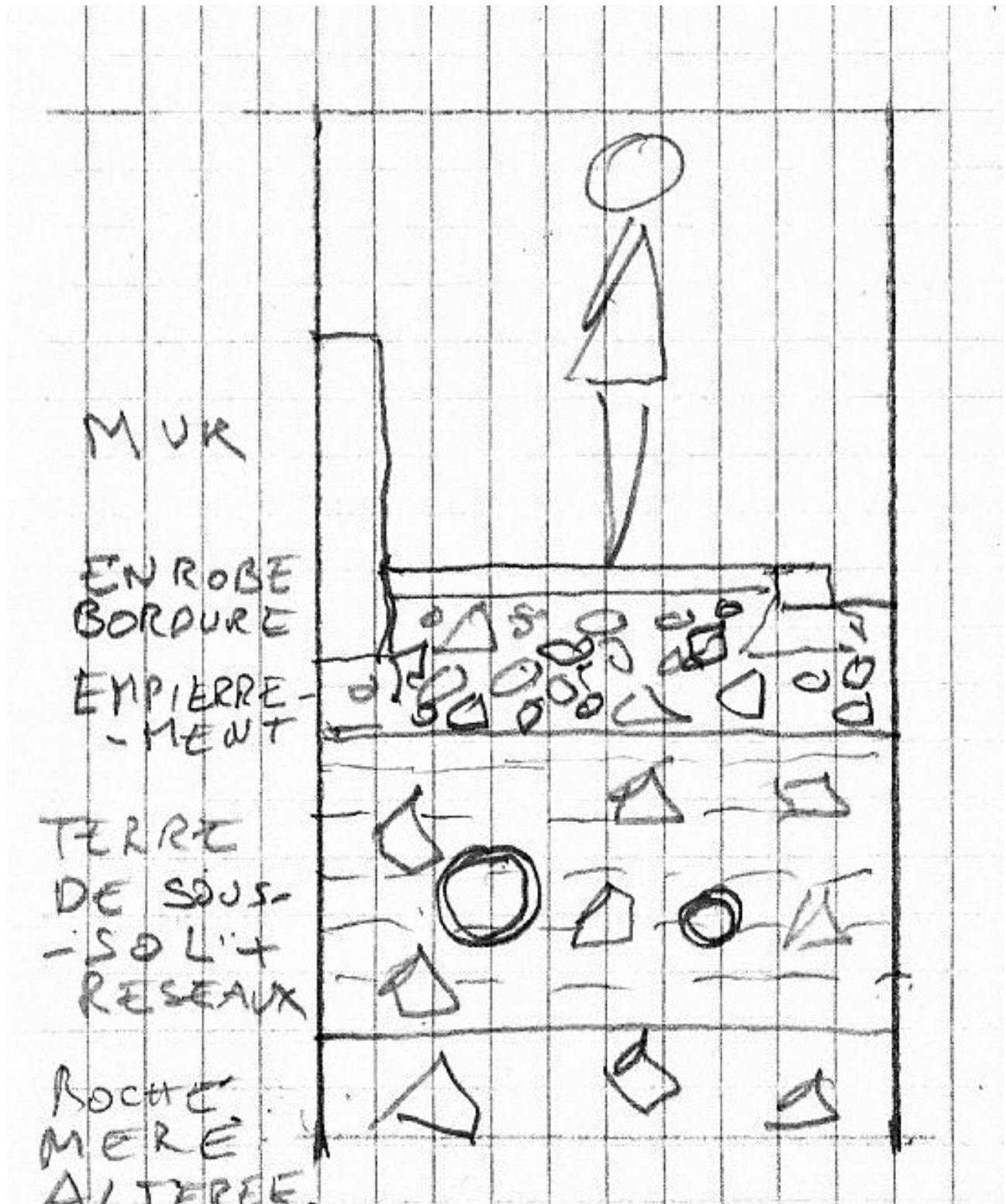
Competition area



# M. Croisée de Georgette

DS\_Site-M  
lausanne jardins 2019 / competition  
Association Jardin Urbain  
24 August 2017





Soil profile

## **Between street and building/public and private, an outdoor ground floor**

### *Front gardens, a foreign culture?*

#### *History*

The front gardens were laid out at the same time as the apartment blocks and featured on their respective plans. In 1952 for apartment blocks no. 9 to 11 as well as no. 13, and in 1933 for the adjacent building, which includes no. 25 to 31.

#### *Description*

Strips of grass between the buildings and the pavement, these front gardens mark the end of the commercial and active city centre at this very point in the urban network and the beginning of the residential zone. Front gardens are an Anglo-Saxon tradition. In residential districts in Amsterdam, New York and London, they share in the quality of street life, without hiding behind a thuja hedge as is often the case in Latin cultures.

#### *Uses*

These front gardens do not have a specific purpose. They are not used for afternoon tea or to grow tomatoes. Nevertheless, passers-by respect these small areas that play to perfection their buffer role between private and public space. On the face of it, no sign of disrespect or vandalism.

#### *Challenges*

The open ground flower beds in Rumine are an exception in Lausanne: No hedge, no fence, just a small wall, a few shrubs and a lawn carpeted with daisies are enough to establish a unique and courteous relationship with the street. The banality of these green spaces is but a façade: What would the street look like if they were lined with a hedge or a wall?

#### *Questions*

What is the value of these buffer areas, neither public nor private, even if small in size? How can one enhance them without altering them? How can one improve the comfort of the residents on the ground floor and office employees of the building at 11 Avenue de Rumine?



# N. Front gardens de Rumine

**DS\_Site-N**  
lausanne jardins 2019 / competition  
Association Jardin Urbain  
24 August 2017





# N. Front gardens de Rumine

DS\_Site-N  
lausanne jardins 2019 / competition  
Association Jardin Urbain  
24 August 2017



Lausanne Jardins 2019 route



Competition area  
Area under consideration

# N. Front gardens de Rumine

DS\_Site-N  
lausanne jardins 2019 / competition  
Association Jardin Urbain  
24 August 2017



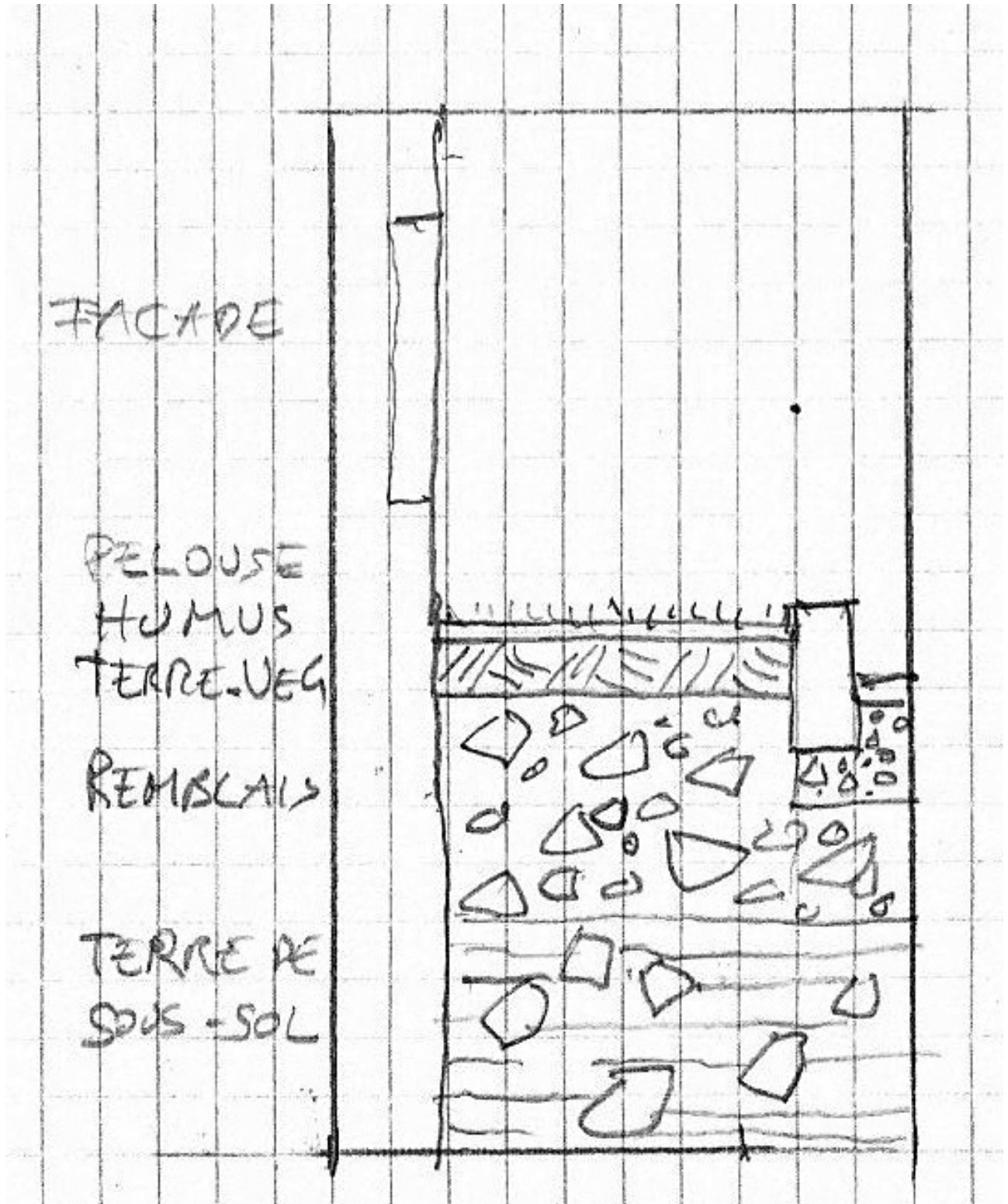
Competition area  
Area under consideration

scale: 1/500<sup>e</sup>



# N. Front gardens de Rumine

DS\_Site-N  
lausanne jardins 2019 / competition  
Association Jardin Urbain  
24 August 2017



Soil profile

## Schools in parks

### *Neighbourhood park or schoolyard?*

#### *History*

What was initially a promenade takes its name from harvest month (July) in the revolutionary calendar. The André family from Nyon, which became one of the largest seed and cereal trading groups in the world, had its headquarters built here by Jean Tschumy in 1959 and offered the site to the city on the proviso that this symbolic name was given to it.

#### *Description*

Trees, lawns, pathways and a paved square, a few playground elements and benches to sit on: The layout is simple and typical of neighbourhood parks. The area is not lined by fences.

#### *Uses*

During the day, at break time, students take over the area and use it as their schoolyard. Outside school hours, the schoolyard/park is a living and meeting area for the neighbourhood's residents. It becomes a public space like any other, a key element in the social cohesion of the neighbourhood.

#### *Challenges*

The Messidor promenade now houses a school, even though public spaces cannot be built on by virtue of their nature. With the exception of schools, owing to lack of space, one derogates from the building prohibition to build nurseries and schools, at least in Switzerland. Elsewhere, the use of school grounds is strictly reserved for break time.

#### *Questions*

How does one balance various uses while meeting the needs of both students and residents? Can yards become living areas for a whole neighbourhood?



# O. Préau Messidor

DS\_Site-O  
lausanne jardins 2019 / competition  
Association Jardin Urbain  
24 August 2017





# O. Préau Messidor

DS\_Site-O  
lausanne jardins 2019 / competition  
Association Jardin Urbain  
24 August 2017



Parcours Lausanne Jardins 2019



Competition area

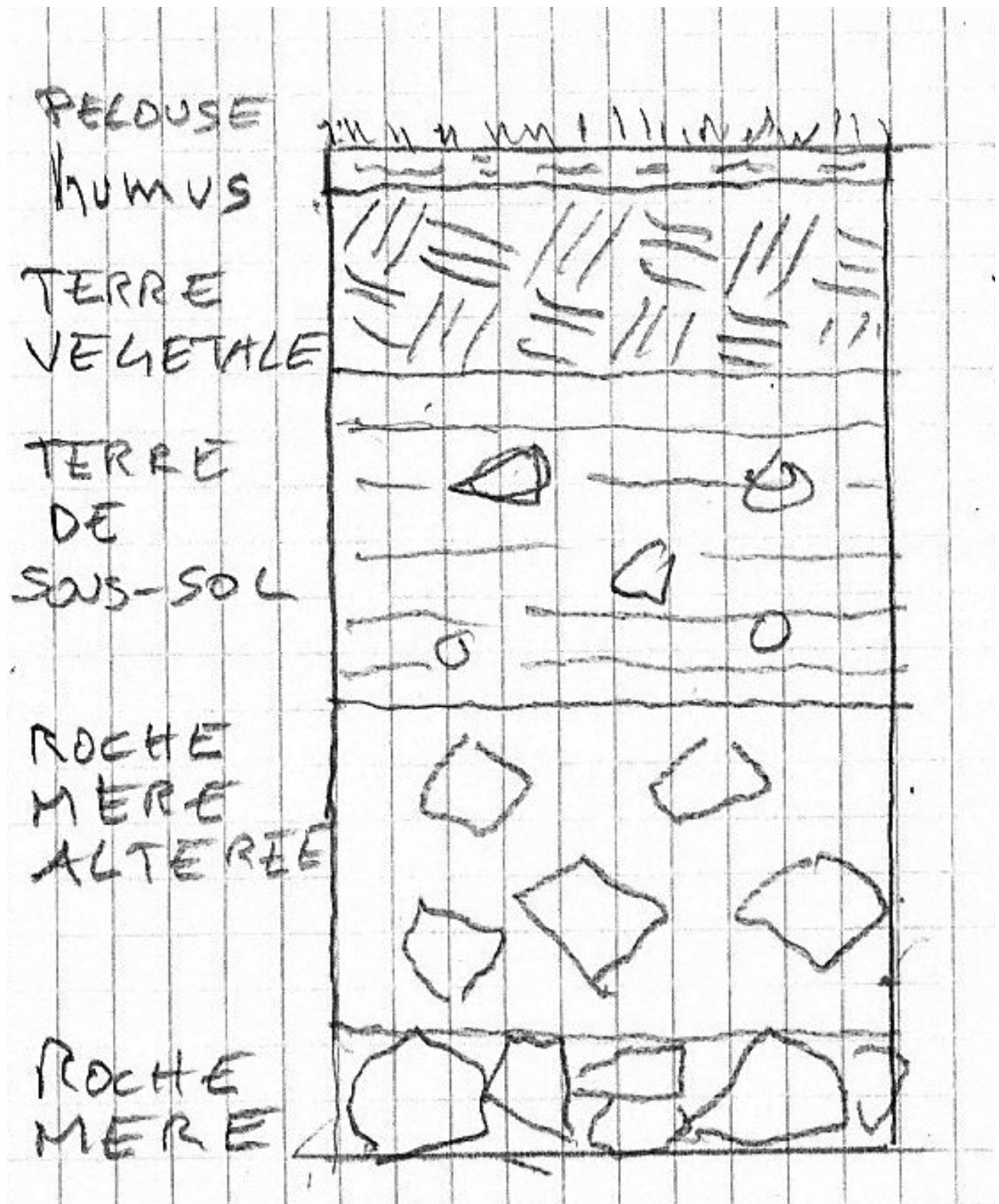
# O. Préau Messidor

DS\_Site-O  
lausanne jardins 2019 / competition  
Association Jardin Urbain  
24 August 2017



Competition area

scale: 1/500°



Soil profile



## **Sloping park, botanical collection**

### *Plant museum or living park?*

#### *History*

Long occupied by vineyards, this place was meant to give rise to a large building. In 1899, residents submitted a petition against it, highlighting the importance of safeguarding viewpoints for the public. The parcel of land was offered to the city in 1903 by the Mercier family, who had the first underground in Lausanne built (La Ficelle) and the Flon valley filled in. The park was officially opened in 1910.

#### *Description*

Everything here was designed in symmetry: the stairs, the meandering pathway and even the trees at the time. The park houses 350 different species, including cucumber, handkerchief and caramel trees, making this Lausanne's unofficial arboretum.

#### *Uses*

With its location, view, plants, benches and games for children, the park has something for everyone. Yet, it remains fairly quiet, strangely passive, with only a handful of walkers and beer-drinkers passing through.

#### *Challenges*

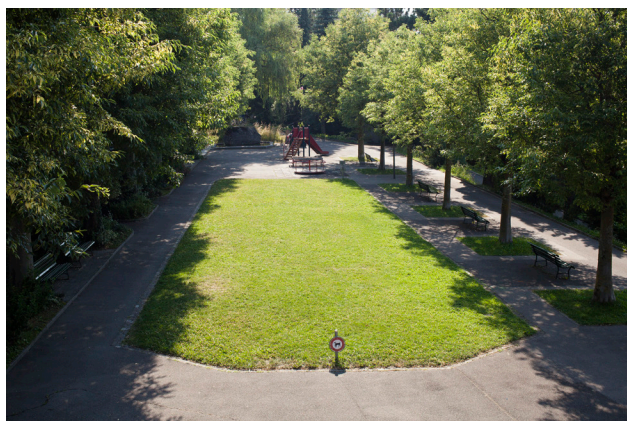
What makes a public park successful? What elements make a garden attractive?  
Are open ground and trees enough?

#### *Questions*

How does one bring this promenade to life? What installation could make this park livelier?

# P. Promenade Jean-Jacques Mercier

DS\_Site-P  
lausanne jardins 2019 / competition  
Association Jardin Urbain  
24 August 2017





# P. Promenade Jean-Jacques Mercier

DS\_Site-P

lausanne jardins 2019 / competition

Association Jardin Urbain

24 August 2017



Lausanne Jardins 2019 route

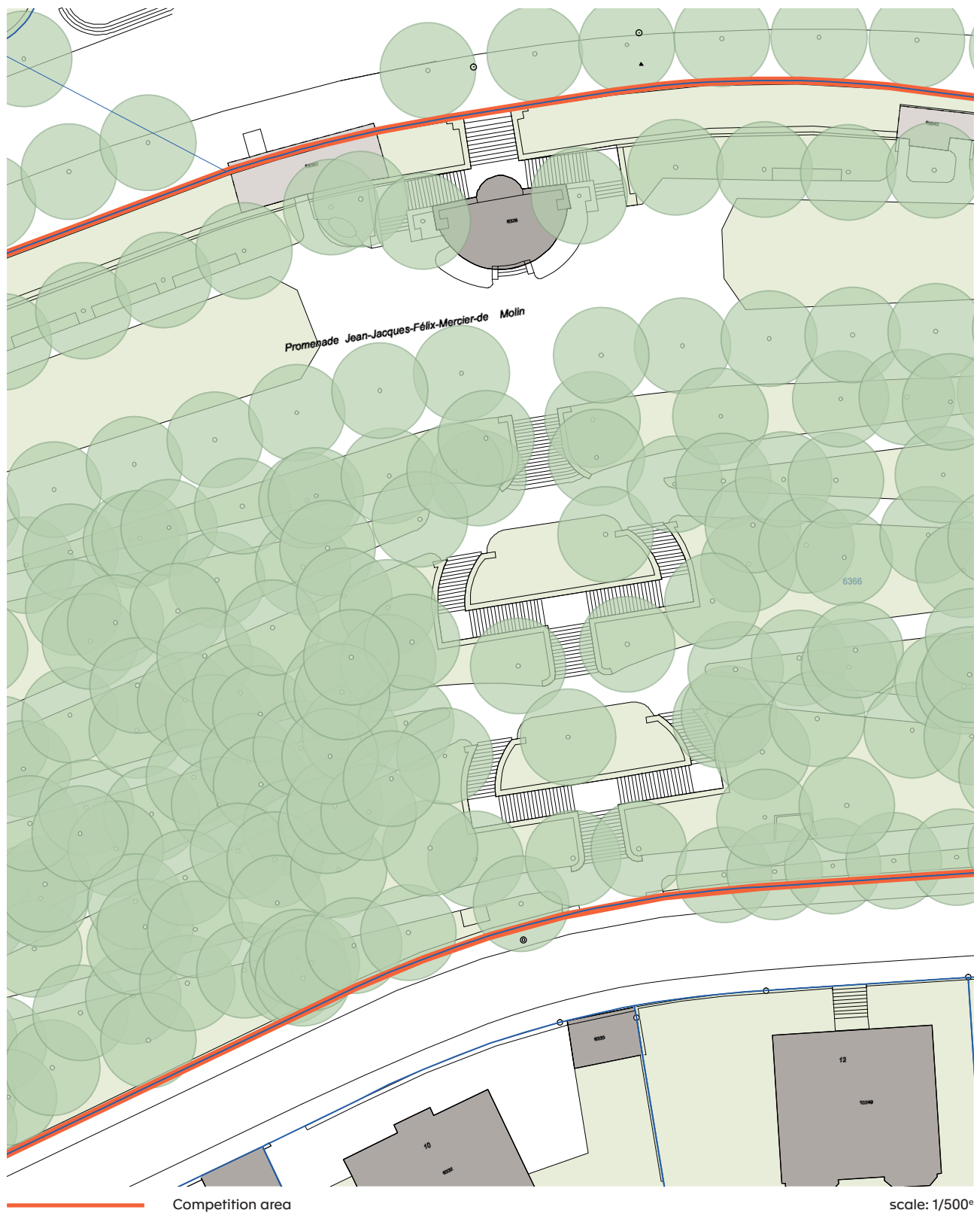


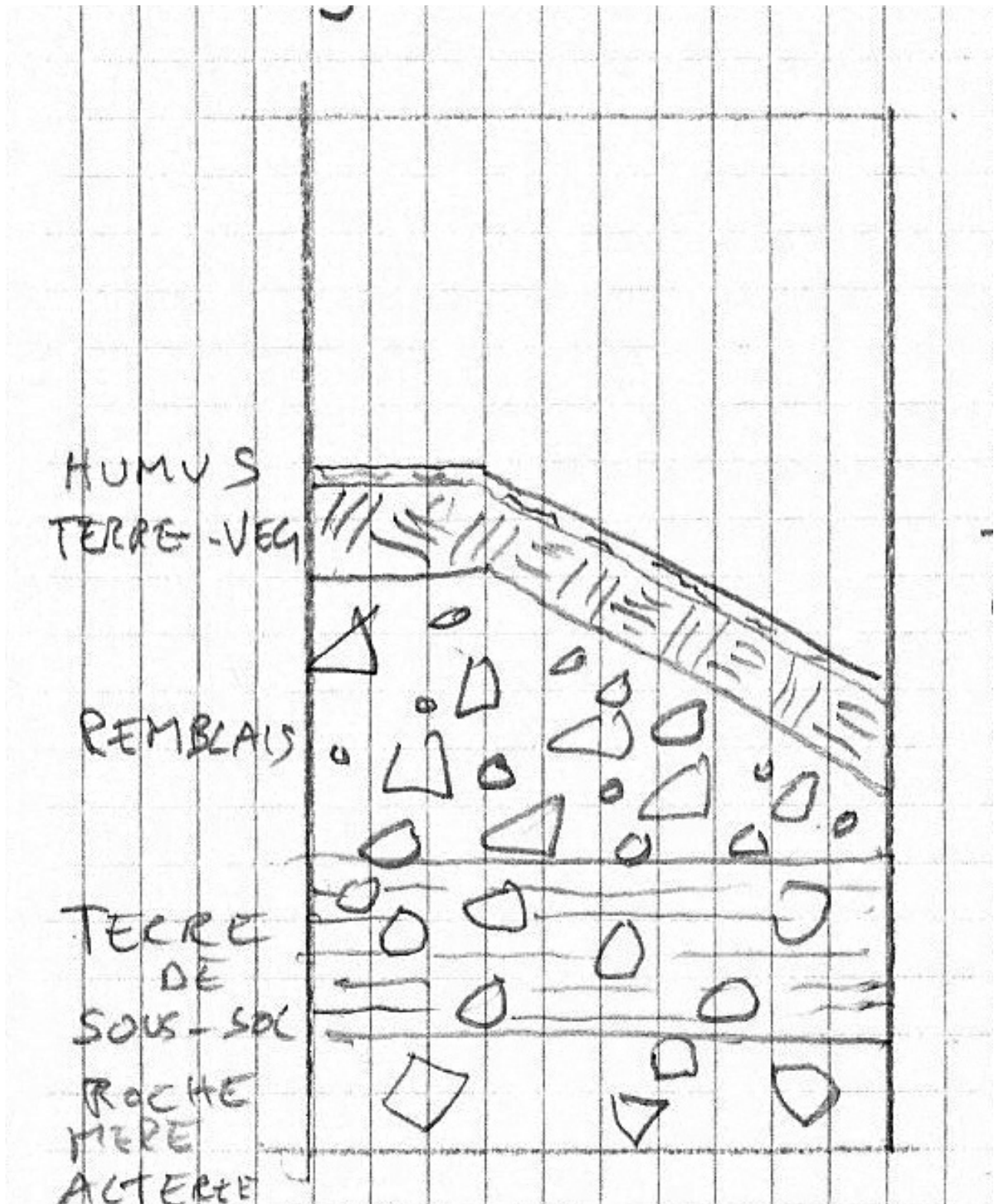
Competition area



# P. Promenade Jean-Jacques Mercier

DS\_Site-P  
lausanne jardins 2019 / competition  
Association Jardin Urbain  
24 August 2017





Soil profile

## Great landscape and spiritual dimension

*Spiritual garden or car park? A car park on sacred soil? What about God in all this?*

### *History*

Officially opened in 1972, the church addressed strong demographic growth in the east of Lausanne in the post-war period. It is now part of a parish and school complex that spreads over five superimposed terraces to combat the lack of space and the slope.

### *Description*

The place is used as a car park, forecourt and belvedere. It offers one of the most spectacular views over the Alps and Lake Geneva. La Côte is visible in the West and the tip of the lake can be seen in the East, on the Valais side. Opposite, the Alpine skyline separates the waters of Lake Geneva from the celestial sphere. A badly maintained planter box lines the forecourt.

### *Uses*

This area with its exceptional panorama is reserved for parked cars. To enter into communion with this great, essentially divine landscape from which one could enjoy the view continuously, one has to squeeze through parked cars.

### *Challenges*

What is the spiritual meaning of gardens today?

### *Question*

How can one create a link between garden and church?



# Q. Parvis Saint-Jacques

**DS\_Site-Q**  
lausanne jardins 2019 / competition  
Association Jardin Urbain  
24 August 2017



# Q. Parvis Saint-Jacques

DS\_Site-Q  
lausanne jardins 2019 / competition  
Association Jardin Urbain  
24 August 2017



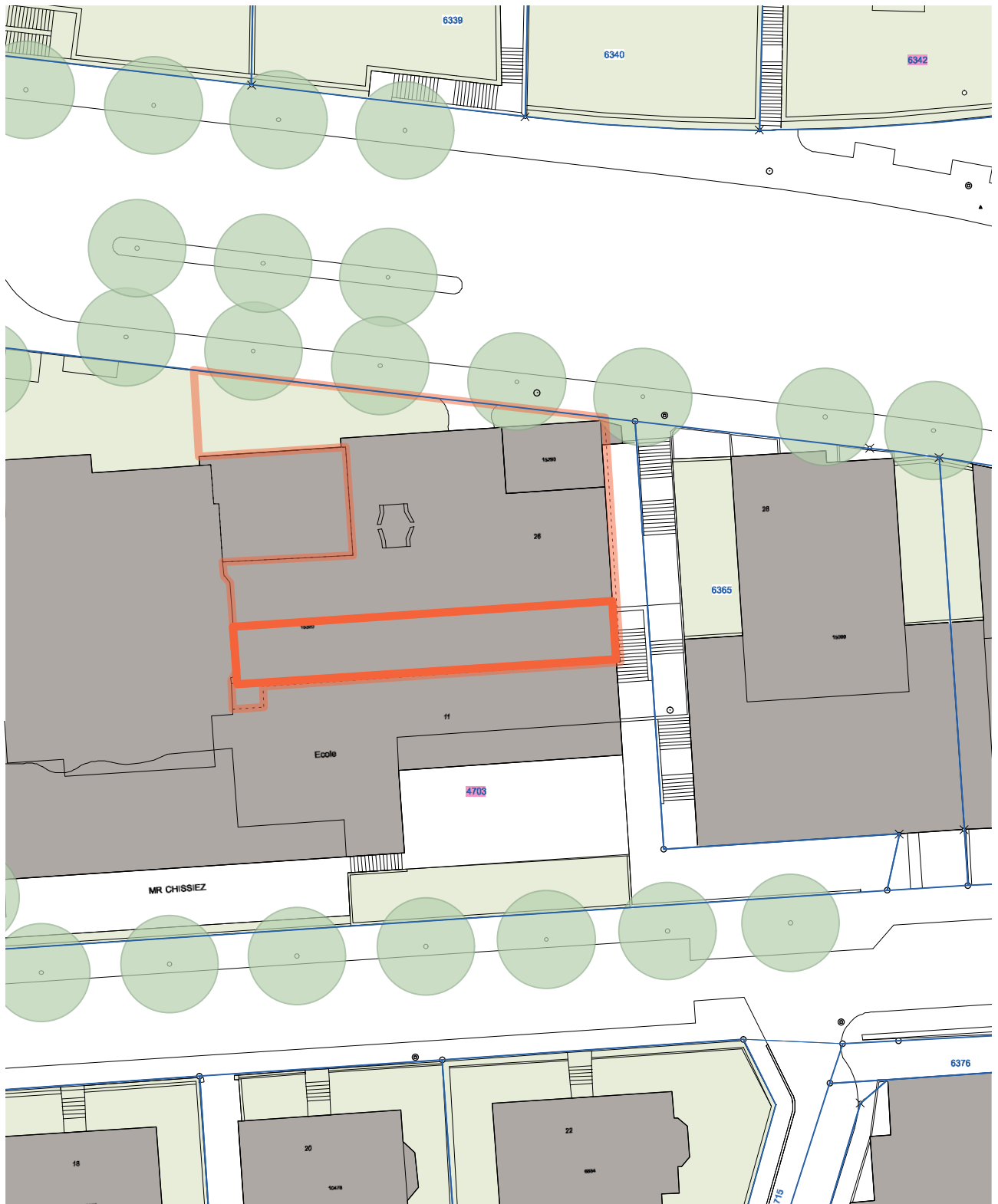
Lausanne Jardins 2019 route



Competition area  
Area under consideration

# Q. Parvis Saint-Jacques

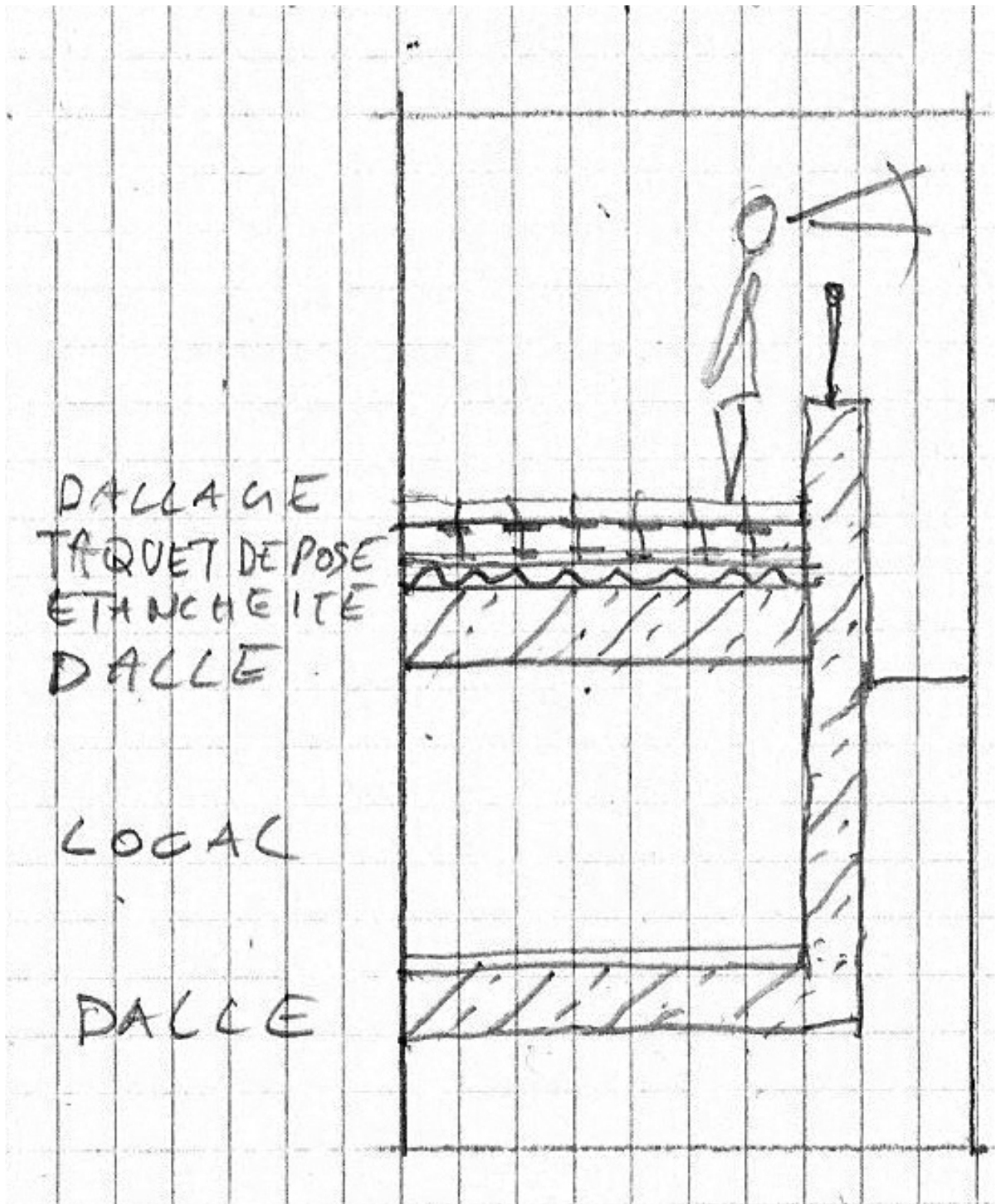
DS\_Site-Q  
lausanne jardins 2019 / competition  
Association Jardin Urbain  
24 August 2017



Competition area  
Area under consideration

scale: 1/500<sup>e</sup>





Soil profile

## Mobility and biodiversity

### *Railway cuttings: Neglected or ecological corridors?*

#### *History*

This cutting lines the Lausanne-Fribourg railway officially opened in 1862. It is well kept by Swiss Federal Railways: Traffic security has priority and no tree or bush would dare grow there.

#### *Description*

The cutting has a very steep slope, which makes it look almost like a wall. It is covered in grass, regularly mowed and with no particular value at first glance.

#### *Uses*

The meadow here is of no other use than visual.

#### *Challenges*

For passengers coming in from Vevey, this passage marks the entrance into Lausanne. Yet, railway cuttings are usually perceived as marginal areas where nature is secondary. However, in the heart of cities, landscaped railway cuttings are an asset since they constitute 'nature reservoirs' that help enhance the landscape, combat global warming and improve biodiversity. Isn't there some potential there to develop a more remarkable project?

#### *Questions*

Passageway or biological corridor? How can one enhance the landscape and ecological appeal of railway cuttings?



# R. Talus CFF

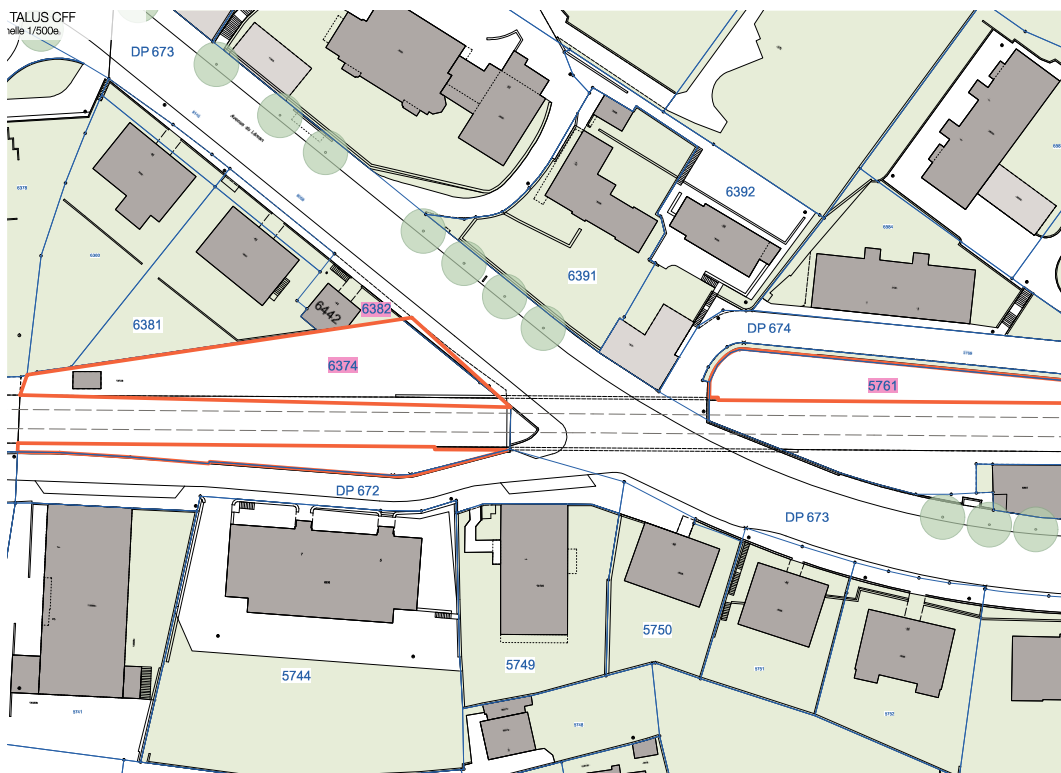
DS\_Site-R  
lausanne jardins 2019 / competition  
Association Jardin Urbain  
24 August 2017



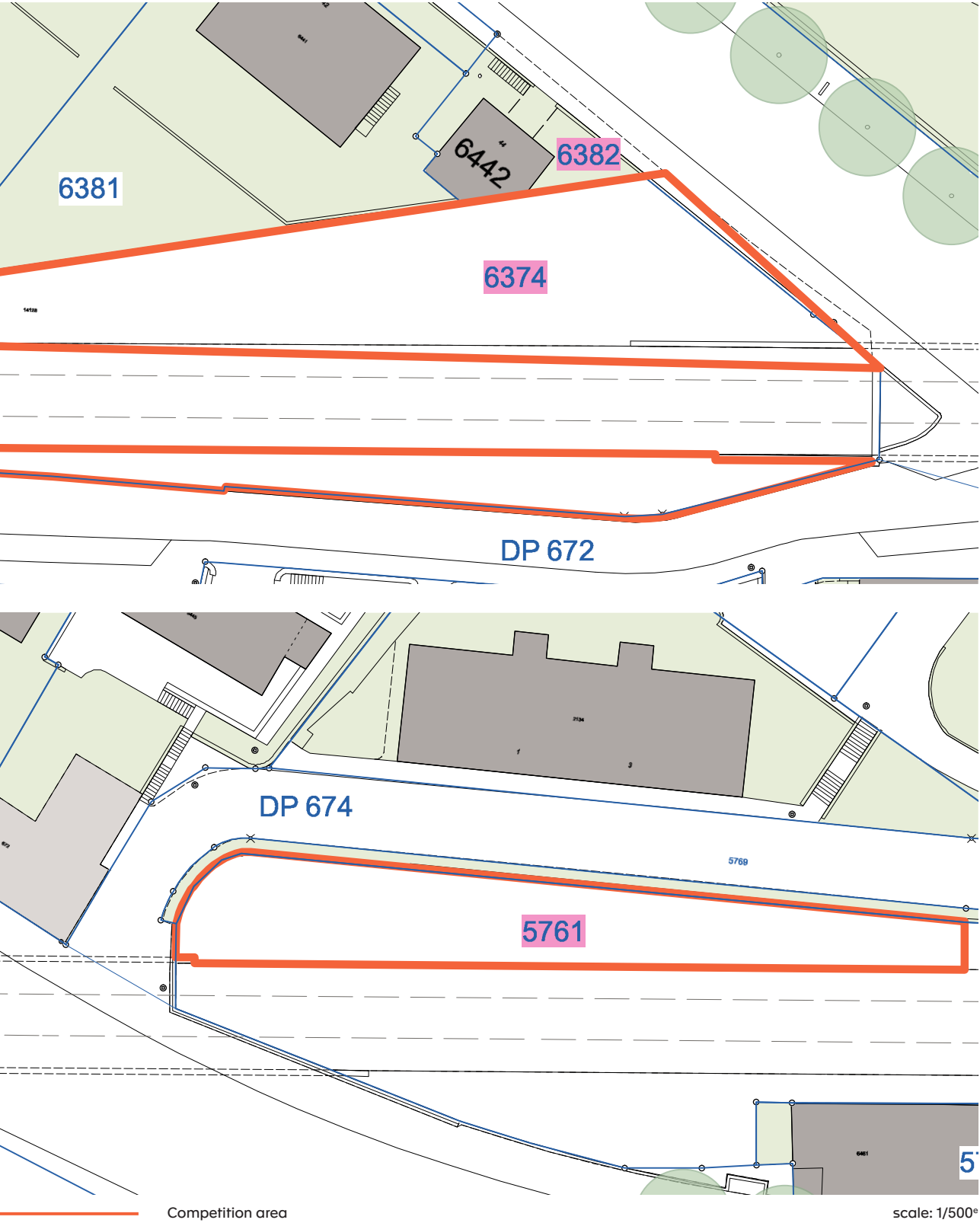


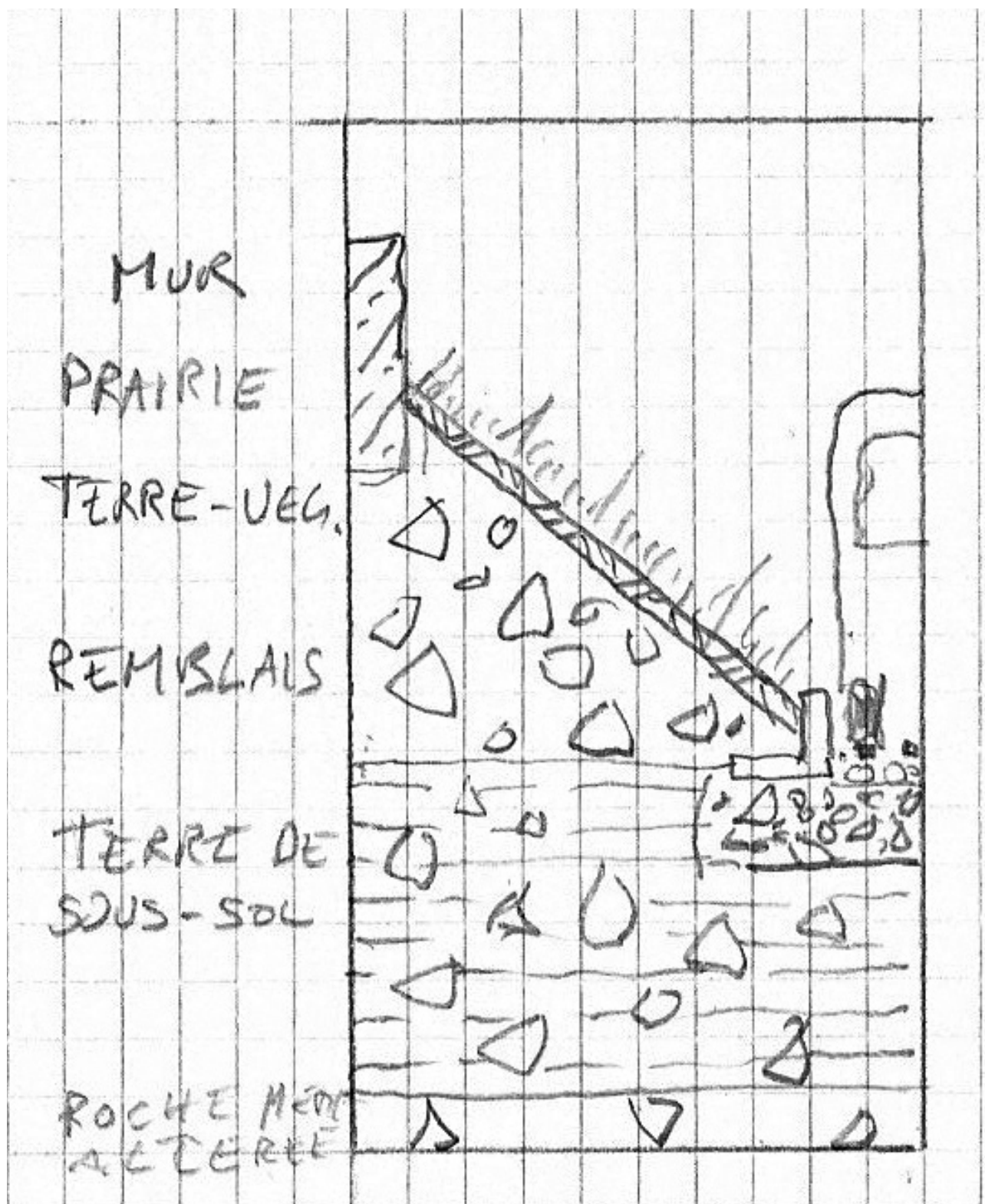


Lausanne Jardins 2019 route



Competition area





Soil profile



## The place and role of rivers in the city as boundaries

*Rivers: Precious biotopes or administrative boundaries?*

### History

On a territorial level, the Vuachère valley can be crossed along its whole length and appears like a green and blue artery, a clean cut. The torrent drops 315 metres over 8 kilometres, from the upper part of the city to Lake Geneva, from the dry landscape of Praz-Séchaud to the lake.

### Description

On an administrative and town level, one crosses the Vuachère crosswise between Lausanne and Pully for a few seconds, often without even seeing it. Buried, hidden and negated, the Vuachère flows under the road, at the bottom of a ravine, hidden from the city which it borders along its eastern boundary. A rubbish tip lines the access path to the river, upstream of the canal.

### Uses

Strollers and nature lovers enjoy walking the length of the river along Chemin de la Vuachère (also called 'the fox's trail' in French) between Les Croisettes in Epalinges and Ouchy. On an ecologic level, the river plays an important role: It creates perfect and vital living areas for many species that live close to rivers (birds, insects, reptiles, small mammals). It also ensures continuity between the upper and lower parts of the city, enabling species to move freely.

### Challenges

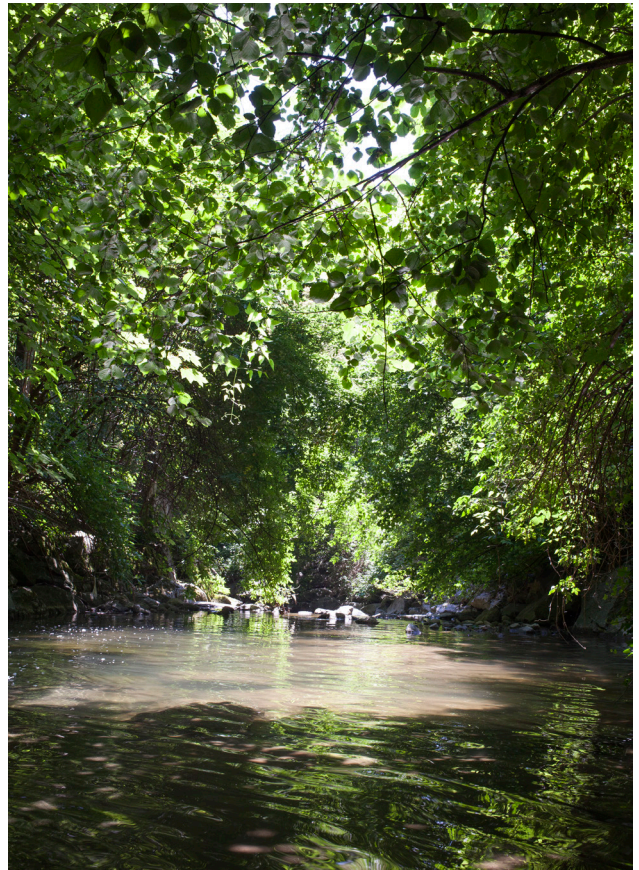
What is the role of rivers in cities nowadays, in the absence of millers and tanners?  
Are they possible vectors for urban quality or a continuous source of problems to be monitored?

### Questions

Rivers: Precious biotopes or administrative boundaries? How can one stage and enhance natural elements hidden from the city?

# S. Vuachère River

DS\_Site-S  
lausanne jardins 2019 / competition  
Association Jardin Urbain  
24 August 2017





# S. Vuachère River

DS\_Site-S

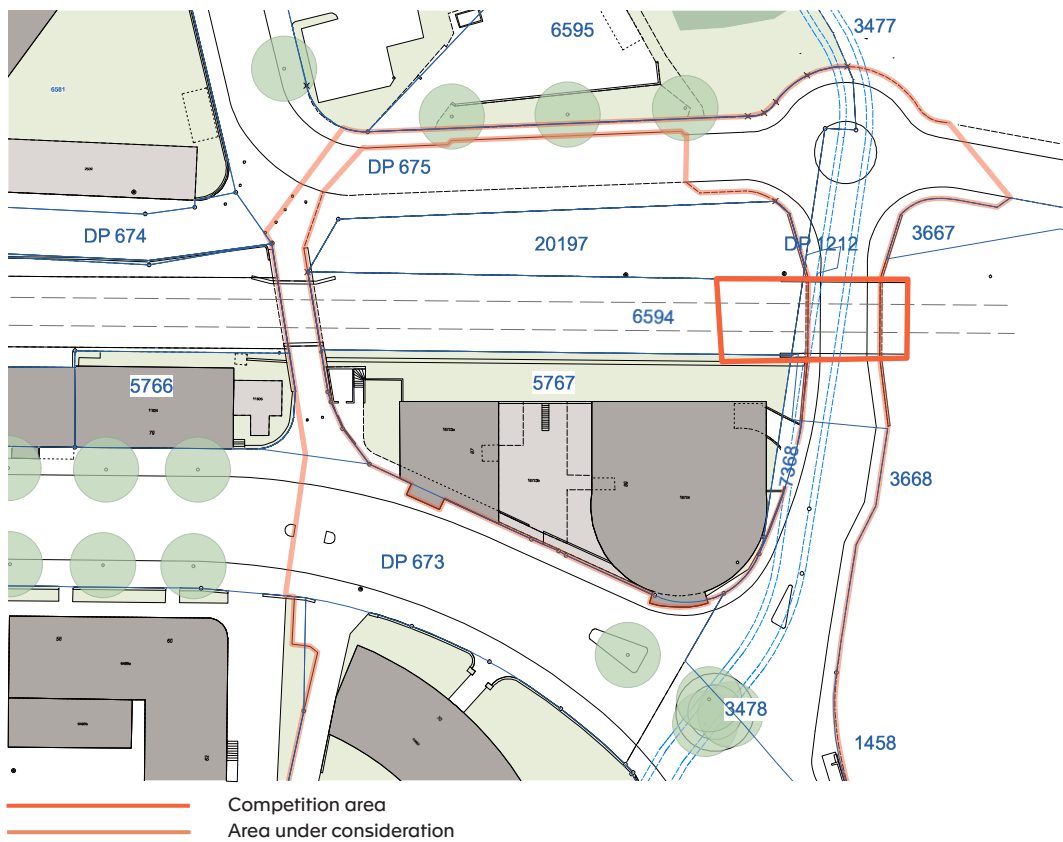
lausanne jardins 2019 / competition

Association Jardin Urbain

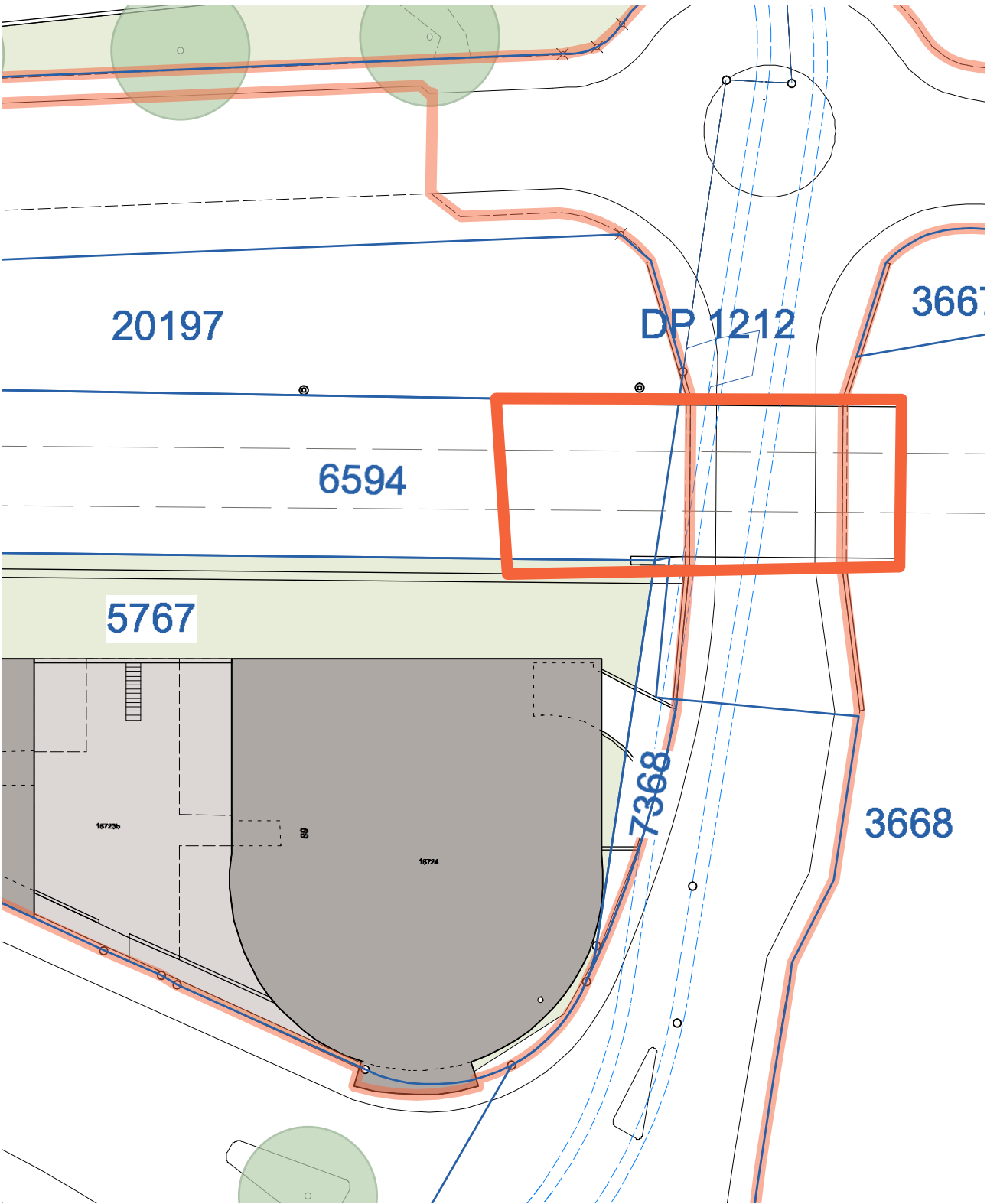
24 August 2017



Lausanne Jardins 2019 route

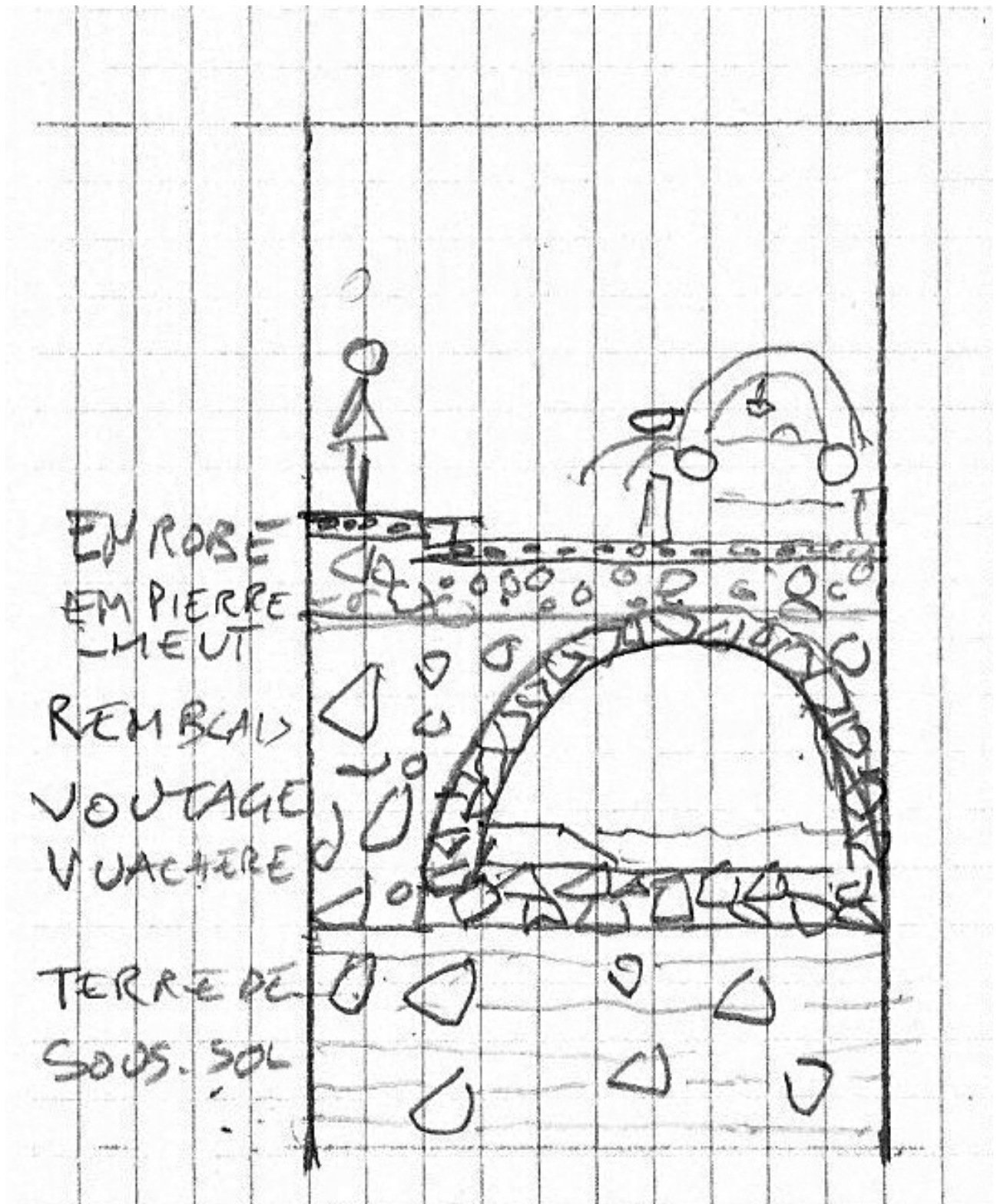






Competition area  
Area under consideration

scale: 1/500°



Soil profile

## The place of fauna in the city

*Can there be a healthy coexistence between city-dwellers and wild animals?*

### History

At the eastern end of the route, Parc Guillemain also used to be countryside. The property, which was initially called La Peraudettaz, included a mansion and outhouses, which still stand. The place welcomed a young hero of Vaud independence at the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, Samson Reymondin, who was arrested and imprisoned several times. When Etienne Guillemain bought the property in 1851, it still covered 23,000 m<sup>2</sup>. His descendants gave the park to the city in 1944.

### Description

Parc Guillemain, unlike its Lausanne counterpart Parc Valency, is characterised by its range of amenities: playground, paddling pool, public toilets, and even a deer park.

### Uses

Nowadays, the park's lawns, its playground and paddling pool are very busy. And it is still inhabited by residents on all levels: foxes, birds, hedgehogs and squirrels in the narrow woods, butterflies and insects in the meadow, earthworms, moles and centipedes underground, deer in the animal park...

### Challenges

The return of wildlife to the city is a reliable indicator of the good health of urban ecosystems. It is also a first step for the city to reconnect with the countryside. The concept of urban biodiversity is still young on a historical level. Until the development of the first parks in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, the city was closed to nature. What is Parc Guillemain: A Noah's ark? A paradise for earthworms? A place of detention?

### Questions

What is the role and place of wildlife in the city? What is the relationship between open ground and animal life?



# T. Parc Guillemin

DS\_Site-T  
lausanne jardins 2019 / competition  
Association Jardin Urbain  
24 August 2017



## T. Parc Guillemain

DS\_Site-T

lausanne jardins 2019 / competition

Association Jardin Urbain

24 August 2017



Parcours Lausanne Jardins 2019





# T. Parc Guillemin

DS\_Site-T  
lausanne jardins 2019 / competition  
Association Jardin Urbain  
24 August 2017



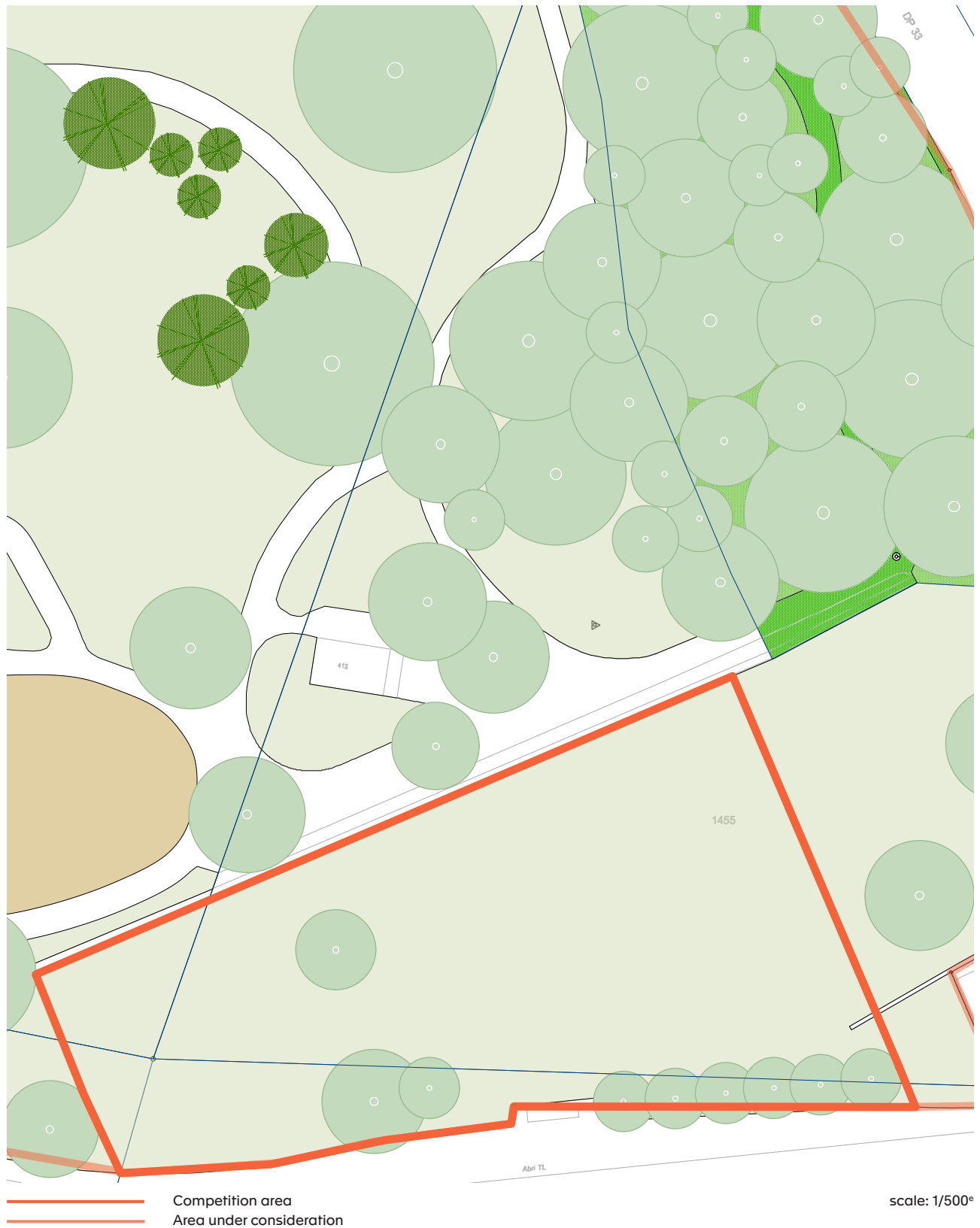
Competition area  
Area under consideration

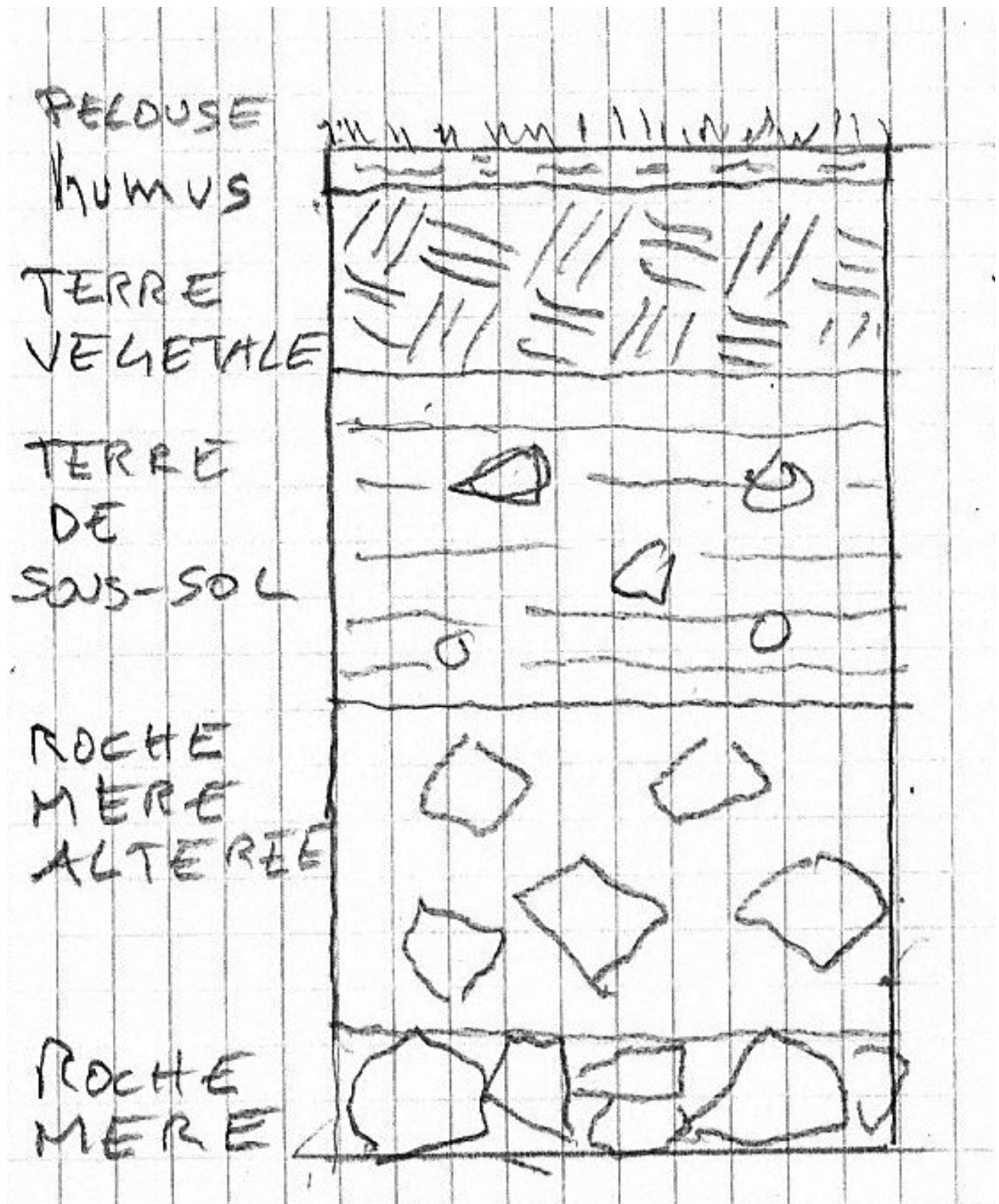
scale: 1/500°



# T. Parc Guillemin

DS\_Site-T  
lausanne jardins 2019 / competition  
Association Jardin Urbain  
24 August 2017





Soil profile