RESEARCH REPORT

AR3AP100 | MSc3 | Public Building Graduation Studio 2022-2023 Public

Condenser | New Urban Lounge & Commons

Title of the Project

MAF' Center in Friedrichshain, Berlin

Author

THIRDSPACE HOSTING

BINARY OPPOSITES

THIRDSPACE

Hosting Binary Opposites

A RPEE Center in Friedrichshain, Berlin

(none edit/photoshop)

31/01/23

Research-by-Design

Public Building Graduation Studio (Berlin)

AR3AP100 Research-by-Design
MSc Architecture, Technische Universiteit Delft

Academic year 2022/2023

Table of Contents

Chapter II: Characterization of Thirdspace
Taking own position with theoretical framework and observational fieldwork

CHARACTERIZATION OF THIRDSPACE

The contribution of Soja's perspective to this study is that it allows us to see space as space of resistance. Soja has drawn on Lefebvre's writings to reach this argument and has particularly emphasised the aspect of space in terms of inclusivity for diversities. Soja indicates the need for a struggle against homogenisation and shows the Third Space as a space for this struggle. Throughout the chapter, the way in which Soja arrived at this argument was searched and the following came up.

Soja's emphasis on political resistance is clear and visible in his analysis on Lefebvre. He begins by analysing Lefebvre's political position within Marxism. He describes Lefebvre as a 'nomadic Marxist' (Soja, 1996, p. 33). According to him, Lefebvre's position was "constantly open and flexible, always reacting to dogmatic closure, never satisfied with permanent construction or fixed totalisation. " (Soja, 1996, p. 32) According to him, this position of Lefebvre being open to new visions to avoid static formations is referred to by Soja as radical open perspective; it means the possibility of combining differences and otherness/otherness. His attempt in the context of political action can be described as an attempt to find a way to respond to "growing problems of poverty, racism, sexual discrimination and environmental degradation. " (Soja, 1996, p. 1).

In addition, Soja argues that the real world is inhabited by multiple subjects who have many and often changing identities. According to Soja, multiple communities of resistance, consist of multiple different peripheral or marginal identities to resist the multiple forms of oppression.
Here we come to the point that the space of multiple communities of resistance from multiple different **peripheral or marginal identities** is also defined by Soja as Third Space.

Also, Soja indicates that these spaces are meeting places of radical openness and possibility. This term about space being 'radical openness' is related to Lefebvre's transgressive conceptualisation of lived space. Connecting the meaning of radical openness to Lefebvre's conceptualisation of space reinforces the radical openness that Soja tries to convey as Third Space; the space where all spaces are (Soja, 1996, p. 56). It is also the space that seeks differences, an Otherness/Otherness (Soja, 1996, p. 34). At the physical front, as Soja illustrated in his analysis on Amsterdam, this means, **firstly**, a space made up of **opposites** and complex spaces. **Secondly**, one that is radically open to **peripheral or marginal identities**, such as the simultaneous existence of the city's tolerated and planned resting place for hard-drug addicts and a church on the same site (Soja, 1996, p. 282).

Approach Map (notation system)
1. Collecting opposites
2. Collecting peripheral or marginal identities

Unfolding the border map (from deconstructing to reconstructing)
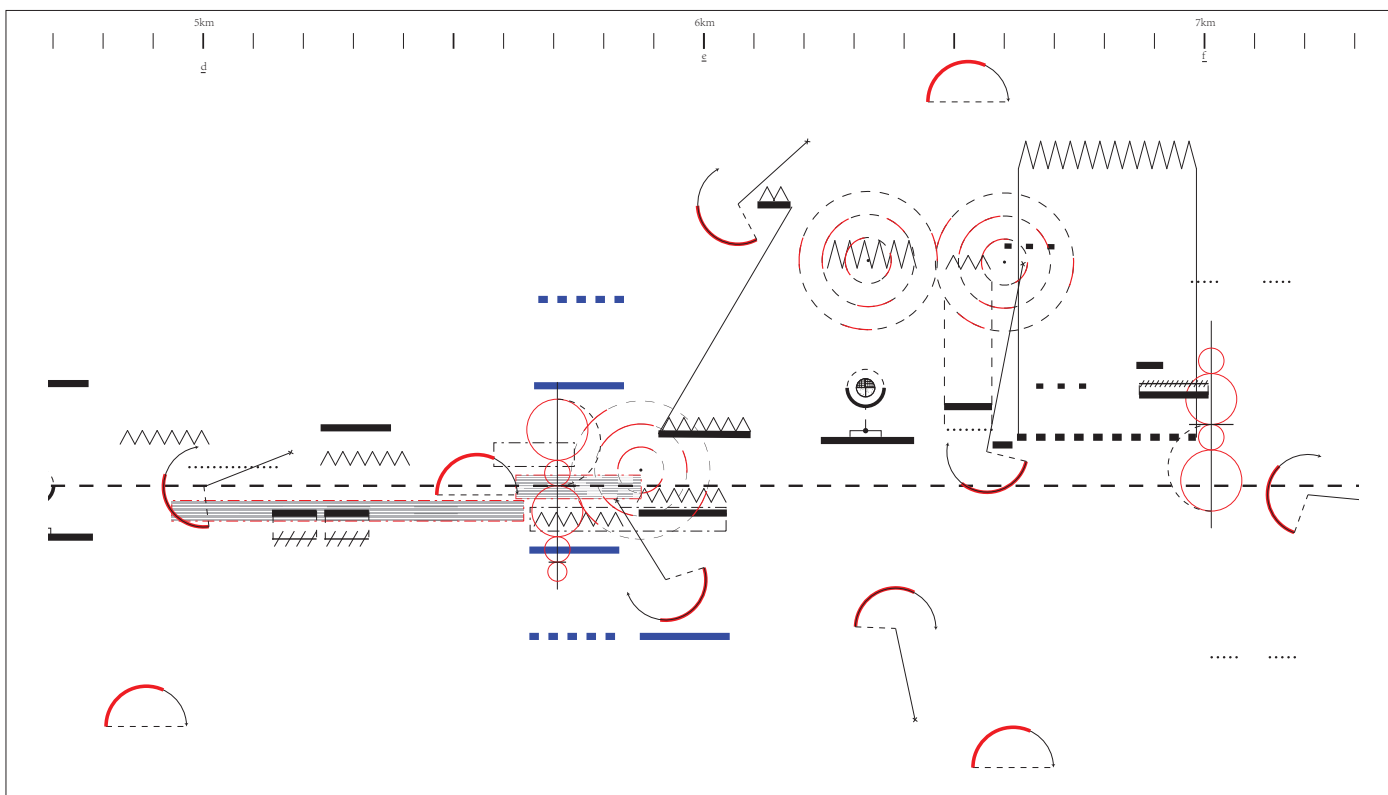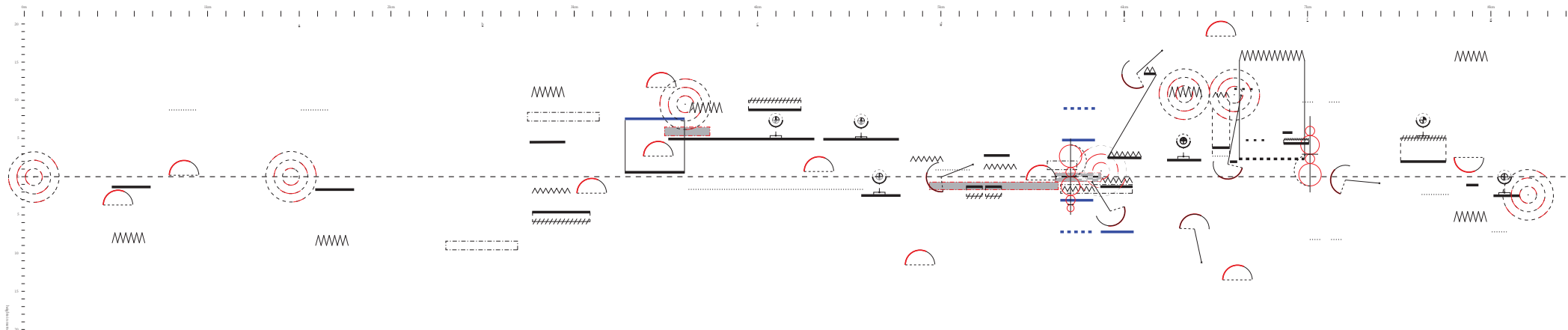
where they all come together (degree of intensity)

Thirdspace, also has the potential to push its boundaries by theorising the relations between not only centrality and marginality, but **also all binary oppositions**. In particular, his focus on Lefebvre's deconstruction of the binary logic in thinking about space and other complexities of the modern world make clear various recombinations of binary oppositions in the struggle over the right to the city and the right to be different. (Soja, 1996, p. 100) Beginning with the discussion of multiple identities, Hetherington argues, that the idea of centrality and marginality should be seen together without dividing them into binary oppositions. Other binary opposites, summarised by Soja as the "knowable and unknowable, real and imagined life-world of experiences, emotions, events and political choices existentially shaped by generative and problematic interactions between centres and peripheries, the abstract and the concrete, the passionate spaces of the conceptual and the lived." (Soja, 1996, p. 101) Because of these combined features, we can identify this quality of Thirdspace as '**the notion of collecting/ hosting binary oppossites'**. Thirdspace is the space that makes centres and periphery or central and marginal possible, but also public and private, the conceptual and the lived, commerce and culture, and hegemony and counter-hegemony.

1. centre and periphery
'they had come from the periphery to the centre and had created a new space of resistance on the streets. Their political position was the "thirdspace of political choice," (Soja, 1996, p. 280). He also illustrates this position through an analysis of hooks.
"She (hooks) chooses a space that is __simultaneously__ central and marginal, a difficult and risky place, filled with contradictions and ambiguities, with dangers but also with new possibilities: a Thirdspace of political choice.
" (Soja, 1996, p. 97).

2. the public and the private
The focus here is not on whether street spaces are structured in physical or functional terms as public or private. Instead, the real focus is on how the spaces, which are supposed to be physically and functionally public/private, have become private/public spaces **through alternative uses.**

3. lived space and conceptual space
Soja established these terms by following Lefebvre's analysis on space (Firstspace perspective and Secondspace perspective). He identifies the Firstspace perspective as the focus on the real world and the Secondspace perspective as the interpretation of this reality using 'imagined' representations of space. (Soja, 1996, p. 58). After an extensive analysis of Lefebvre's arguments, Soja is more interested in alternative ways of combining these binaries. Space can be identified as the combination of perceived and conceived, Firstspace and Secondspace, real and imagined, spatial practice and representations of space. This is the 'r**eal _and_ imagined**' space, the 'spaces of representation', **or Thirdspace.**

4. commerce and culture
The simultaneous intensity of for-profit and non-profit activities with the purpose of cultural services can lead to space **being between** two different types of activities and the spatiality being required by them.

5. hegemony and counter-hegemony
He argues that abandoning the logic of binary opposition can provide a new vision to analyse spaces as the '**fields of resistance**'. These are the fields of resistance to the hegemonic order arising from all forms of oppression, **including** gender, class and race (Soja, 1996, p. 68). Ultimately, these counter-spaces have the potential to bring **together** all the subordinated, peripheral or marginalised (Soja, 1996, p. 84).

So spaces such as streets with "women's centres, alternative bookstores, meeting places for environmental groups, whether mainstream or more radical, animal rights networks, a few remnants of the once flourishing peace movement, gay and lesbian cafes and clubs, and a large number of small anarchist groups" support the formation of alternative lifestyles and their political resistance (Soja, 1996, p. 3).

Approach Assembly
- Thirdspace 'collect/hosts' binary opposites (layering 1-5)
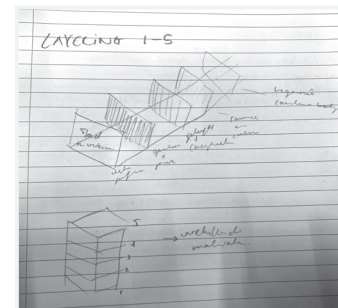
sketch

Chapter III: Thirdspace Urban Program
Concept model (physical) staging binairy opposites

*Binary opposites - **Layering***

*From this layering, the **mainpoint** in this model is that Soja makes a distinction in resistance (**identities**) and the **use of space**. The resistances, don't have to only be protesters, but can also be transvestites, prostitutes. The use of space is related on profit and non-profit institutions and how several countries can organise the physical elements differently (e.g. prison fences).*

Thirdspace Urban Program
Concept model (physical) staging binairy opposites
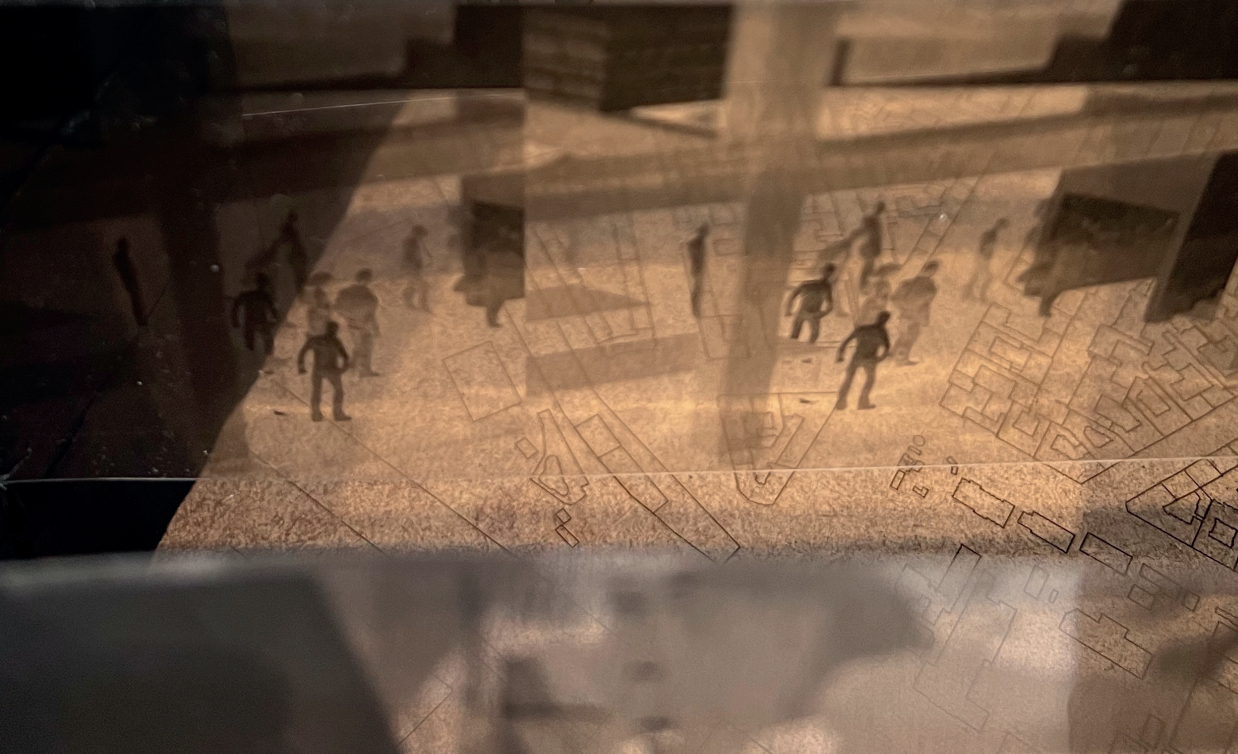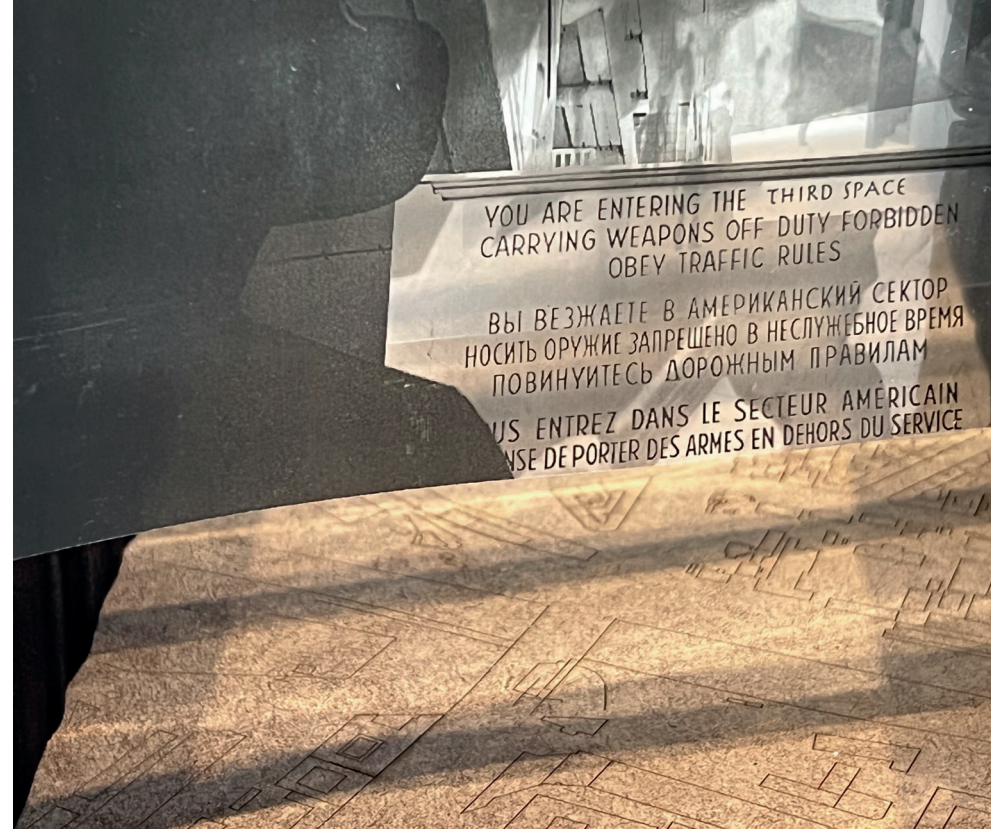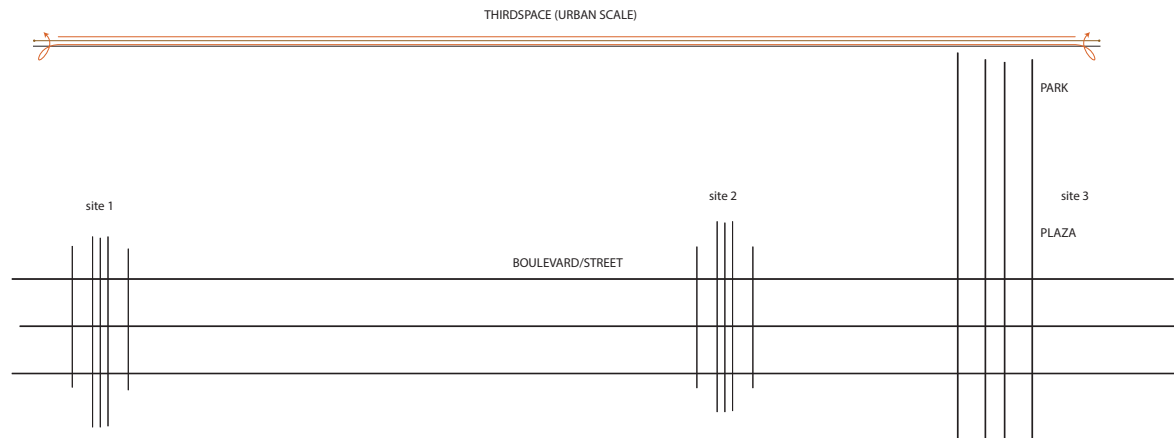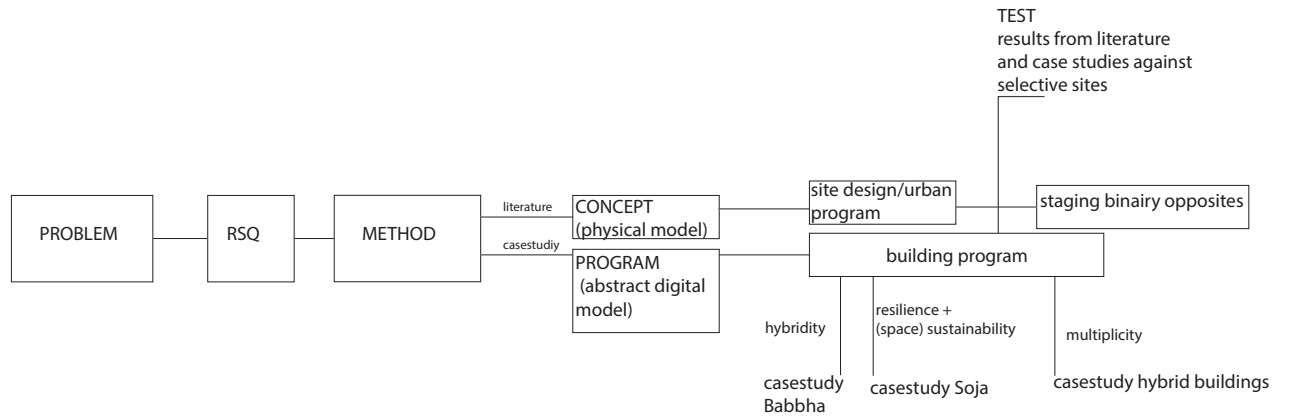
Chapter IV: Thirdspace Building Program

Concept model (digital) Spatial Triad

Multiplicity, Hybridity, (space) Sustainability, Resilience

In the following three parts, focus is on the foundational concepts of the studio assignment:
 multiplicity, hybridity, sustainability, and resilience.

From the case studies, the four concepts are defined;

1.   **URBAN program**/site design: **staging t**he binary opposites

2.   **Building Program, case studies** Thirdspace related;
-   casestudy Babbha (hybridity)
-   casestudy Soja (resilience + (space) sustainability)
-   casestudy hybrid buildings (multiplicity)

TEST
results from literature
and case studies against
selective sites

PROBLEM → RSQ → METHOD

literature → CONCEPT (physical model)

casestudiy → PROGRAM (abstract digital model)

site design/urban program

staging binairy opposites

building program

hybridity — casestudy Babbha

resilience + (space) sustainability — casestudy Soja

multiplicity — casestudy hybrid buildings

THIRDSPACE (URBAN SCALE)

PARK

site 1   site 2   site 3

PLAZA

BOULEVARD/STREET

*3- What **functions** does the third space have in the case study and its relation to the users?*

BUILDING PROGRAM

casestudy Babbha - Hybridity

rebel figure
negation --> negotiation --> hybridity

casestudy Soja - Resilience (mental and physical) + (space) sustainability
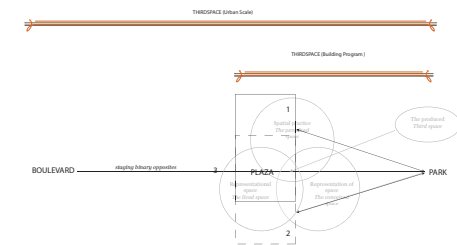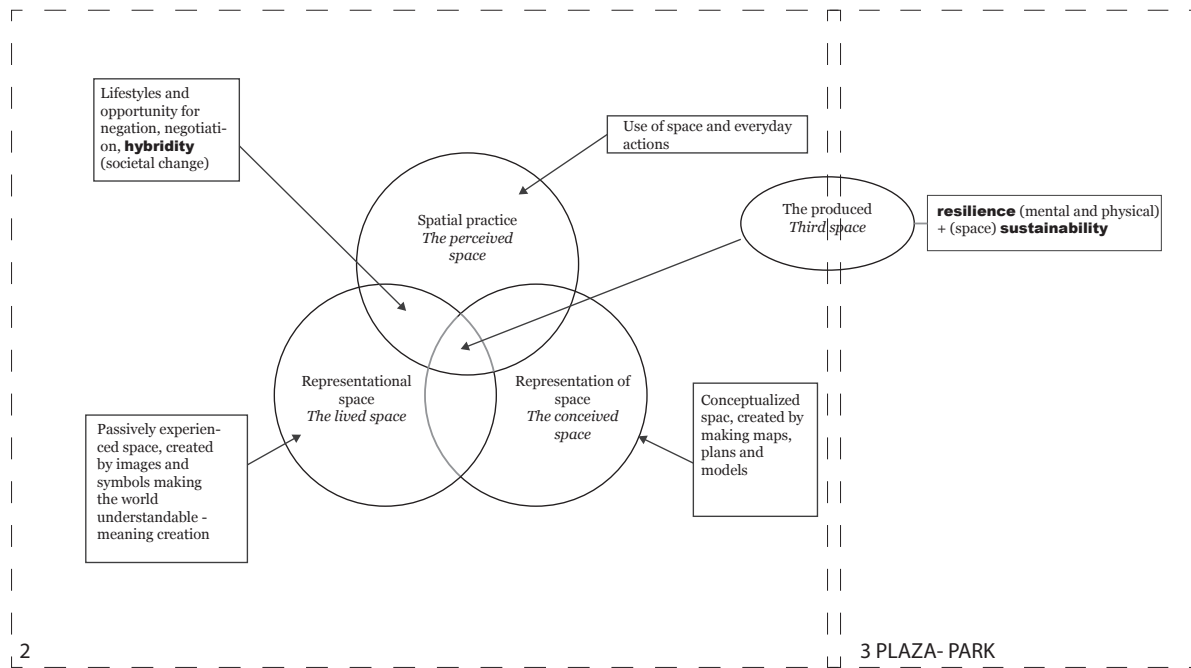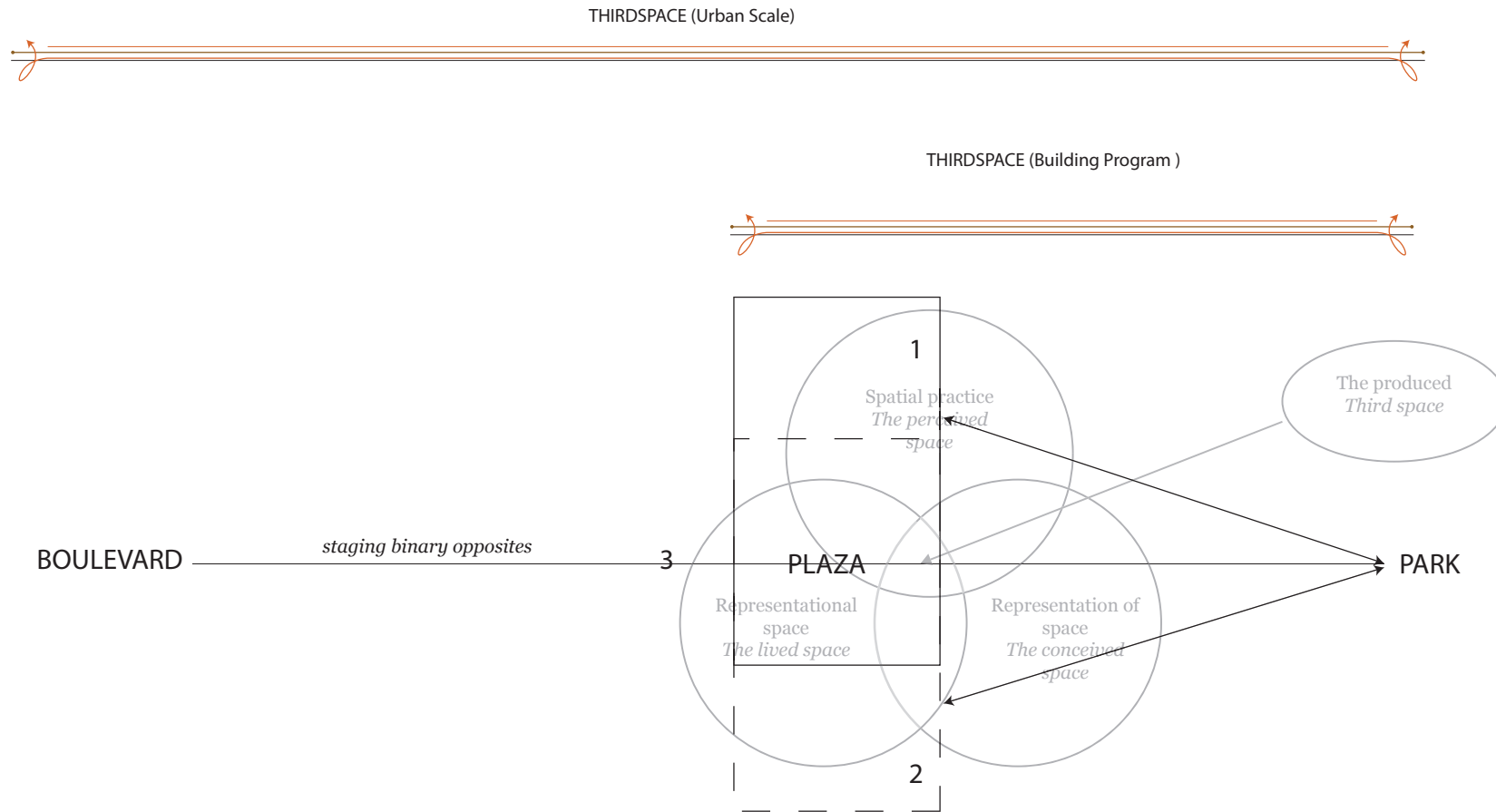
Lifestyles and opportunity for negation, negotiation, **hybridity** (societal change)

Use of space and everyday actions

Spatial practice
The perceived space

The produced
Third space

resilience (mental and physical) + (space) **sustainability**

Representational space
The lived space

Representation of space
The conceived space

Conceptualized spac, created by making maps, plans and models

Passively experienced space, created by images and symbols making the world understandable - meaning creation

2

3 PLAZA- PARK

THIRDSPACE (Urban Scale)

THIRDSPACE (Building Program)

Spatial practice
The perceived space

The produced
Third space

BOULEVARD

staging binary opposites

3

PLAZA

Representational space
The lived space

Representation of space
The conceived space

PARK

1

2

DIAGRAM PROGRAM THRIDPSACE

THIRDSPACE (Urban Scale)

THIRDSPACE (Building Program)

1

The produced
Third space

Spatial practice
*The perceived
space*

BOULEVARD ———— *staging binary opposites* ———— 3 ———— PLAZA ————————→ PARK

Representational
space
The lived space

Representation of
space
*The conceived
space*

2

CONCLUSION   DIGITAL MODEL

THE DIGITAL CONCEPT MODEL is based on Lefebvre's spatial Triad and Soja's study, which I concluded:

- The perceived space is the use of space and everyday actions (spatial practice)
- The lived space or representational space: is passively experienced space, created by images symbols making the world understandable.
- the conceived space or representation of space is conceptualized space created by maps models etc.

So i**n between them** there is a produced thirdspace, that makes mental and physical resilience and space sustainability possible. I based the digital building programme on this;

- **Element 1** is a plate that can actually be filled with other functions. In this project, I chose that as a museum, but so it can also be filled with other function.
- **Element 2**, is based on the activities of media professionals and the common. such as public committee room, but also not public, atelier for common, consultation room with computers/charts manuscripts etc.
- **Element 3** represents the plaza and the park.

The model shows that these elements do not cross, but rather overlap. So, the model as a whole represents the third space.
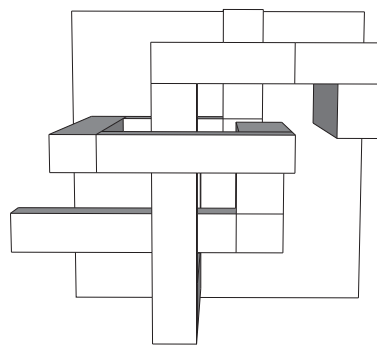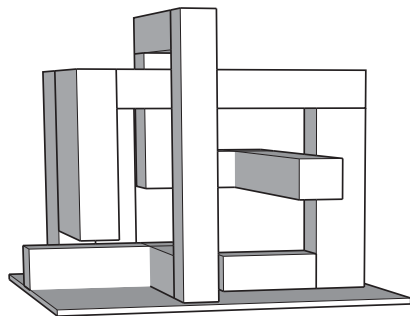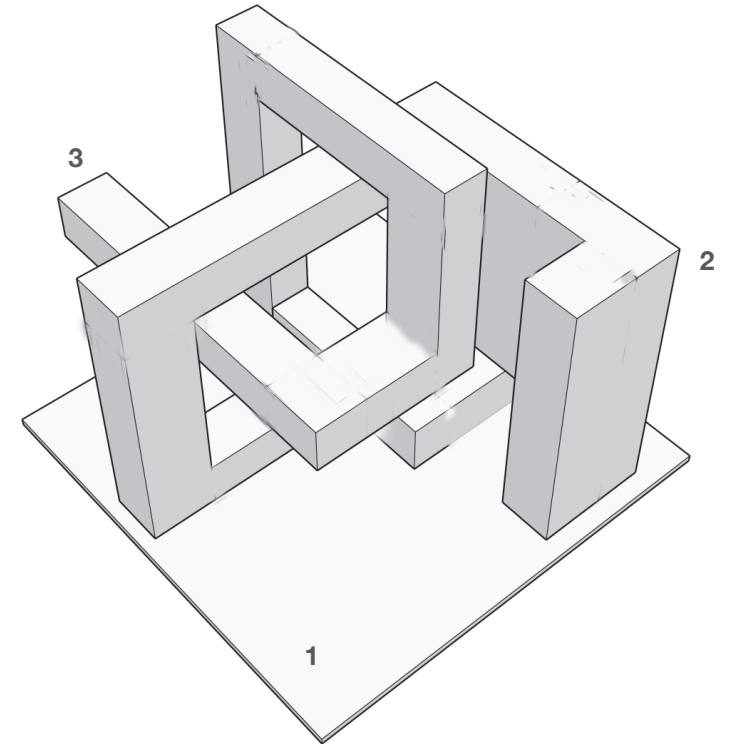
Chapter V: Project Design (PD)
Selective Site Conditions
Building Program

POWER

site 4

site 3

site 2

site 1

strikes &
voting rights

N

| primair structure | ▬▬▬ | secundair structure | ▬▬ | mass | ▬ |
| circulation | ▬ | legal art | ▪▪▪▪ | illegal art | ▪▪▪▪ | railways | ▬ ▬ |

park   ● musea   ⊗ transit point

'leasure' area: events/concerts/shops include cafe&restaurants   ⊠ criminal hotspot (warschauer bridge)
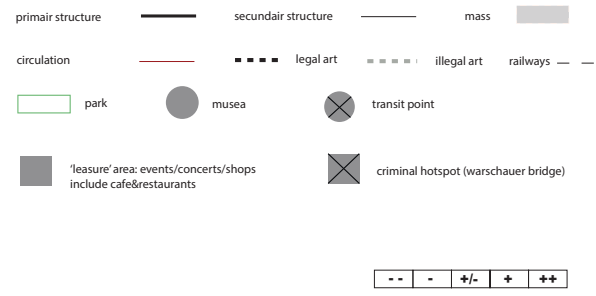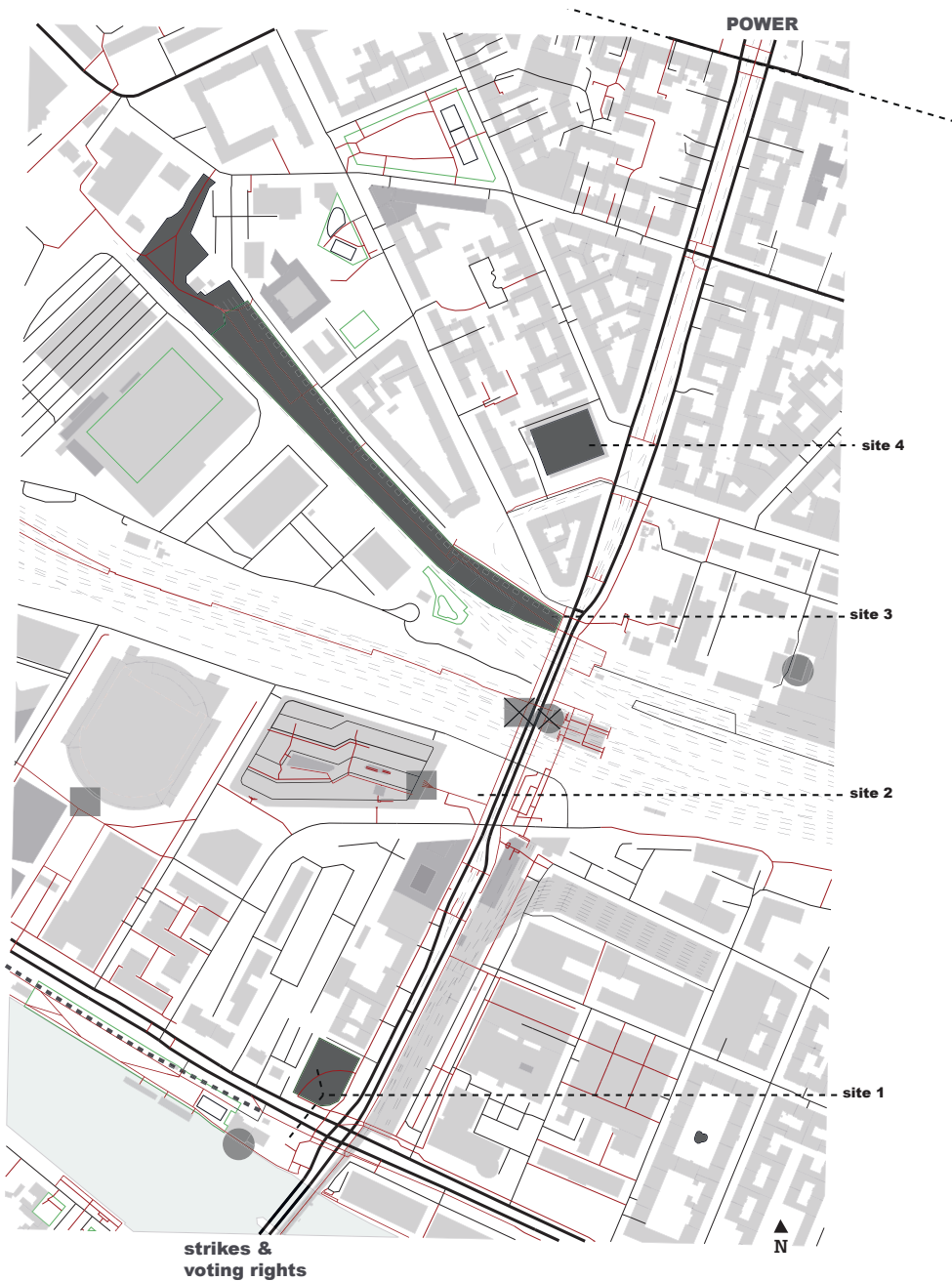
| - - | - | +/- | + | ++ |

| criteria	site 1	site 2	site 3	site 4
none development through history	- -	- -	++	-
centre **and** perifery	+/-	-	++	+/-
transit point (circulation from north and south directions)	-	++	++	-
criminal hotspot	-	+	++	- -

The park can be long stretched, but it can also be a square

The plaza is variable, can be completely enclosed surrounded, or a part surrounded, but can also be a space that acts as a centre.
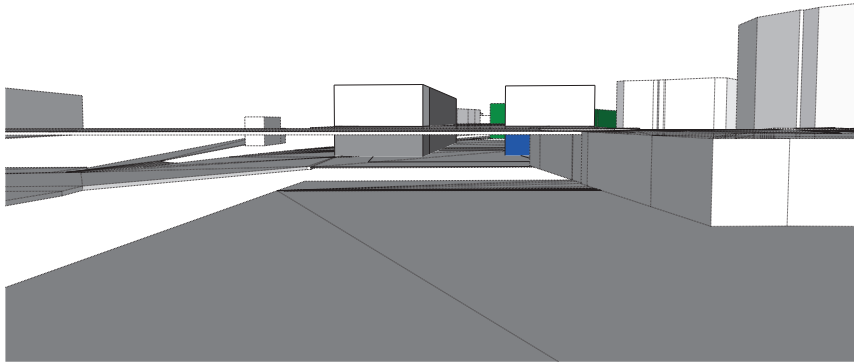
These **have** an **impact** on the siting/mass/size/shape of buildings 1 and 2 (Museum and Media)

Museum (Building 1)

Media (Building 2)

Prerequisite Program

Park

Plaza
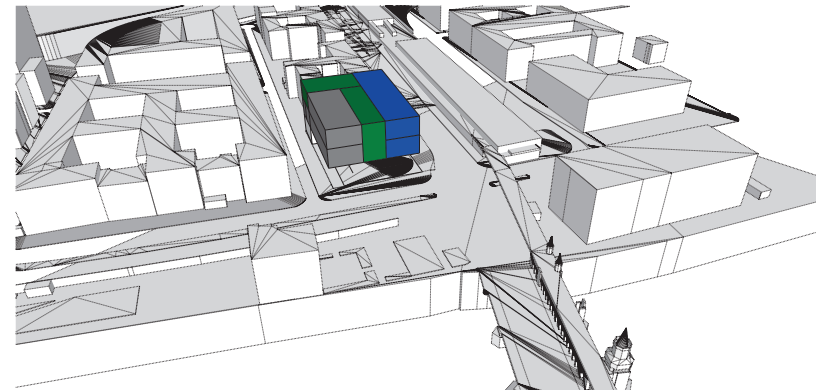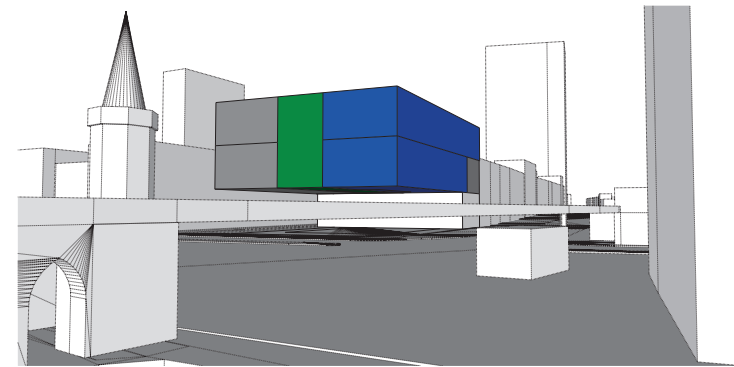
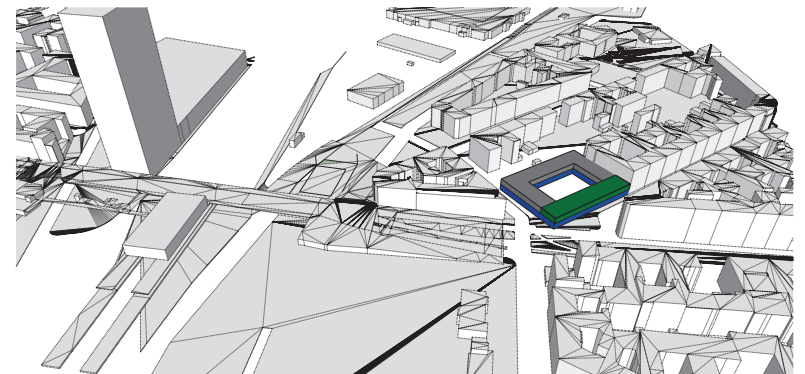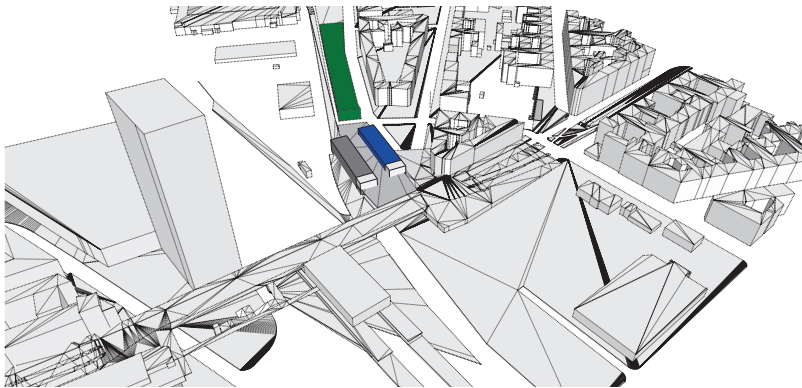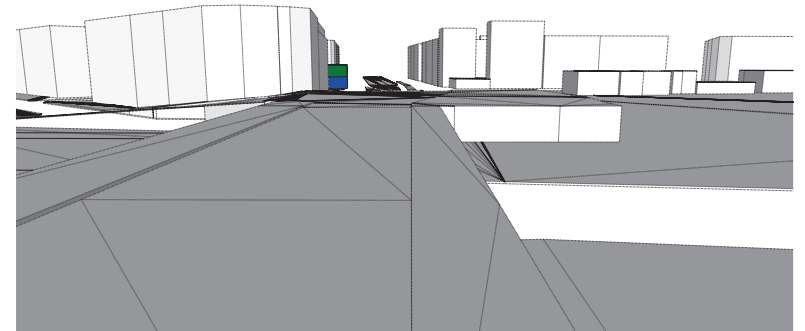*site 2*

site 3

CONCLUSION-2   GRADATION

There is a gradation in being plaza or park.

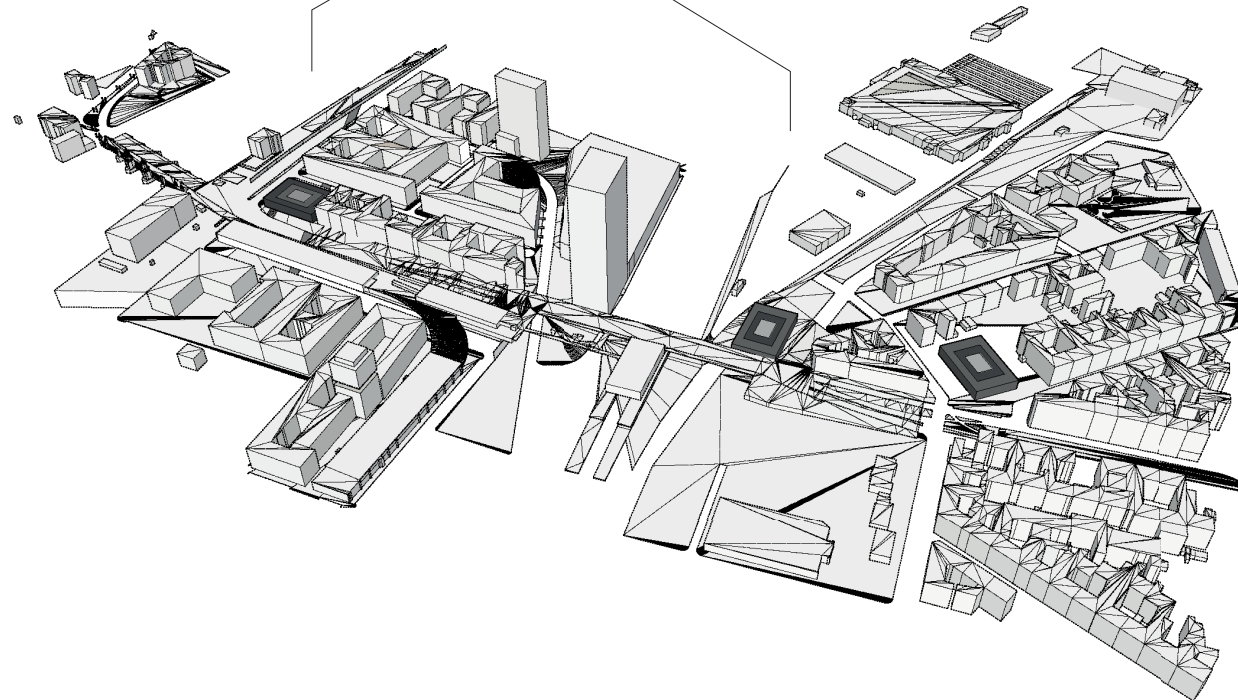site 2   site 1   site 3
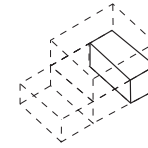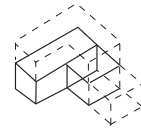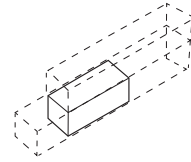
GRADATION **PARK**
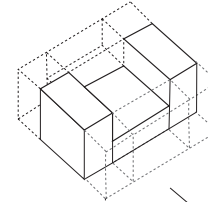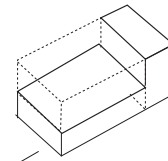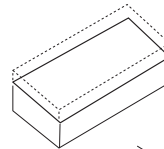
GRADATION **PLAZA**

Showing also the gradation in the digital model
Vertical element represents the park.
Horizontal element represents the plaza.

1

5 Back office staff

3 Cloakroom

9 exhibition

8 Main reading room

2 Reception area

4 Visitors circulation

6 Acquisition and catalo- graphy

8 second reading room - newspapers

1 main entrance

BOULEVARD — *staging binary opposites* — 3 — PLAZA — 9 exhibition — 11 cafe/restaurant — PARK

3 entrance cafe/restaurant

14 (public) commitee room

7 consultation room - computers

11 atelier

12 editorial offices/profes- sionals

7 consultation room - manuscripts

14 meeting rooms

13 editorial meeting

15 hall   15 commitee rooms

7 consultation room - charts

10 study room

2

2 secondary entrance

Chapter VI: Schematic Design (PD)
Urban Strategy
Building Strategy

Urban Strategy

Protestroute with

stopovers

Context Section 1:1000

- programs : exchange, events (auditorium/lecture hall), atrium axo, plaza, urban canvas
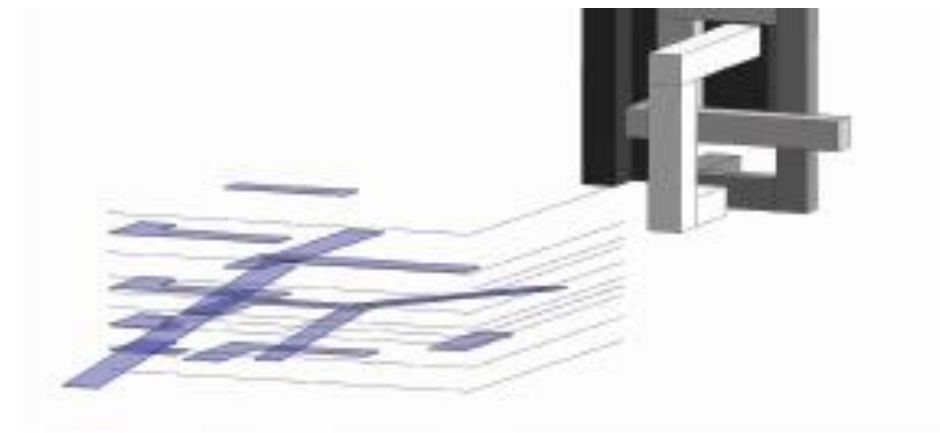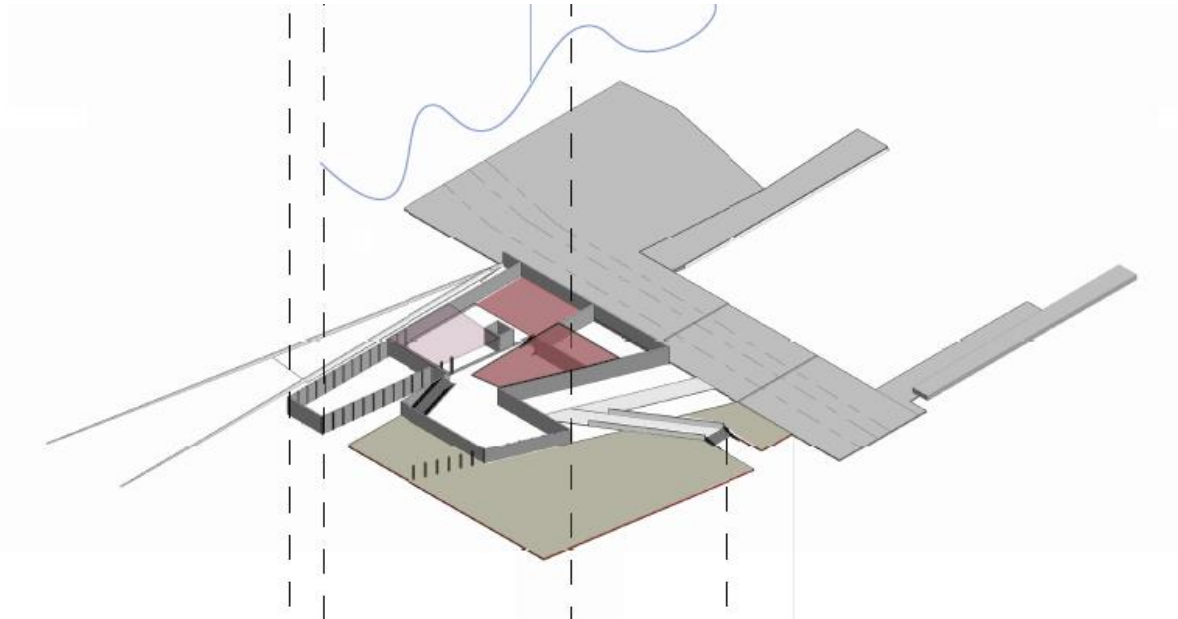
- Building strategy: axo atrium (facade)

rebel figure

casestudy Babbha - Hybridity   negation --> negotiation --> hybridity   casestudy Soja - Resilience (mental and physical) + (space) sustainability

Lifestyles and opportunity for negation, negotiation, **hybridity** (societal change)

Use of space and everyday actions

Spatial practice
The perceived space

The produced
Third space

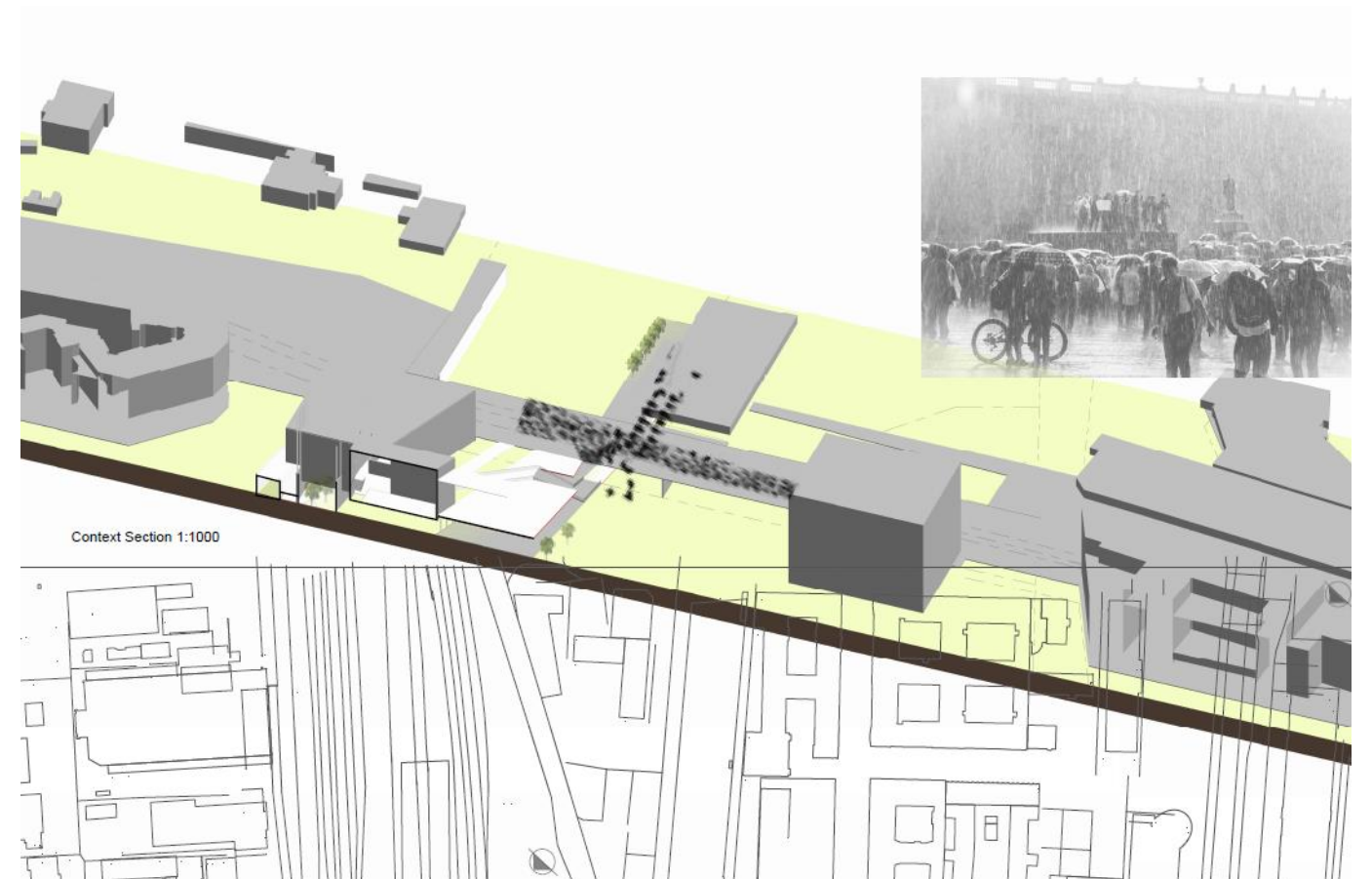**resilience** (mental and physical) + (space) **sustainability**

Passively experienced space, created by images and symbols making the world understandable - meaning creation

Representational space
The lived space

Representation of space
The conceived space

Conceptualized spac, created by making maps, plans and models

2

3 PLAZA- PARK

Program (axo, references)

Figure 1. (a) Bernard Tschumi's Competition

I would have died if I had spent a month in that cell. The fear was very intense.

Literature and Case studies

Literature

Bhabha, Homi K. (2004). The Location of Culture; Bhabha's Hybridity and the Third Space in Postcolonial Discourse

Cubitt, S. (2013). The Politics of the Line. In: Jonathan Harris and Richard Koeck, eds. Picasso and the Politics of Representation: War and Peace in the Era of the Cold War and Since. Liverpool, UK: Liverpool University Press, pp. 69-88.

"Difference, Democracy and the City." In The Promise of the City: Space, Identity, and Politics in Contemporary Social Thought, 162-185. Berkeley, London, Los Angeles: University of California Press, 2001.

Edward W. Soja (1996). Thirdspace. Cambridge: Blackwell Publishers.

Fraser, N. "Politics, Culture and Public Sphere: Toward a Postmodern Conception." In Social Postmodernism: Beyond Identity Politics, edited by L. Nicholson and S. Seidman, 287-312. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1995.

Foucault, M., & Miskowiec, J. (1986). Of Other Spaces. diacritics, 16(1), 22-27.

Fyfe, N. R. "Introduction: Reading the Street." In Images of the Street: Planning, Identity, and Control in Public Space, edited by N. R. Fyfe, 1-13. London and New York: Routledge, 1998.

Keith, M. and Pile, S. "The Politics of Place, The Place of Politics." In Place and the Politics of Identity, edited by Michael Keith and Steve Pile, 1-41. USA and Canada: Routledge, 1993.

Massey, D. "Politics and Space/Time." In Place and the Politics of Identity, edited by M. Keith and S. Pile, 141-162. USA and Canada: Routledge, 1993.

Soja, E. Thirdspace. Cambridge: Blackwell Publishers, 1996.

"Spaces of Exclusion: Home, Locality, Nation." In Geographies of Exclusion: Society and Difference in the West, 90-119. London and New York: Routledge, 1995.

Sudradjat, I. (2012). Foucault, the Other Spaces, and Human Behaviour. Procedia-Social and Behavioural Sciences, 36, 28-34.

Wilson, J. Q., & Kelling, G. L. (1982). Broken windows: The police and neighborhood safety. Broken Windows: The Police and Neighborhood Safety.

(The "Broken Window Theory" developed by Wilson and Kelling (1982) identified four elements essential to crime: law, offender, target and place).

Case studies

Bernard Tschumi, Museum in Athens, 2009

OMA, ZKM Center, Zentrum fur Kunst und Medientechnologie, Karlsruhe, 1989

Toyo Ito, Sendai Mediatheque, 2001

Lina Bo Bardi, Museo de Arte de Sao Paulo, 1968

RCR Arquitectes, La Lira theatre public domain,Spain, 2011

MVRDV, Villa VPRO, 1997

CIVIC architects, Train station, Library, Adaptive Reuse, Tilburg, 2019

OMA, Axel Springer Campus, Berlin, 2019

OMA, De Kunsthal, Rotterdam, 1988-1989
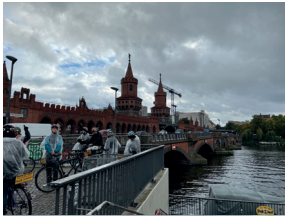
M space Architects, DADFA Community Mall, Bangkok, 2018

Studio Bernardo Secchi & Paola Viganò, Theaterplein, Antwerp, 2015

David Chipperfield, Turner Contemporary, Margate, 2011

exhibition public
space
(entrance third-
space)

startpoint
protestroute

space use by
streetmusicians/outing
ther voice

lecture/talks
and
open-air workshops (recor-
ding by outsiders/seen and
be seen)

plaza
protestspace
+
multifunctional
space

endpoint
'symbol of resistance'

recordings (tv-radio)
space use by professionals
and diverse identities

recordings/broadcasts on
music, politics and charity

BUILDING PROGRAM
> 3750 m2

endpoint/island
'symbol of resistance'
1750 m2
wal

galery rich/midclass

necessary functions
750 m2

common

Media

professionals
public and non paied

PLAZA-PARK

Appendix II Pictures sites and spots

spot 1　　exhibition public
space
(entrance thirdspace)

site 1/　　lecture/talks
spot 2　　and
open-air workshops (recording
by outsiders/seen and
be seen)

spot 3　　space use by
streetmusicians/outing
ther voice

Appendix III   Montage/Collage (assignment, week2)