



# HASTAHANA PARK & PLAZA



*\*Ottoman, Austro-Hungarian and Yugoslav Urban Morphologies of Sarajevo.*

Sarajevo is a very unique urban area shaped by the different sovereign powers it has hosted throughout history.

Its east-to-west expansion along the Miljacka River has revealed various urban fabrics across the city as representations of diverse socio-cultural structures and a rich history. From the organic Ottoman urban fabric nourished by Islamic traditions to the socialist urban perspective of the Yugoslavian era, all these different periods together define a layered morphology and culture.

Despite its modest size, the city has always been an important hub for the country and region. After the destruction of the recent past, today as the capital of Bosnia and Herzegovina, it leads the country's economic, political and cultural development with a dynamic social structure.

The competition area is located adjacent to the Marsala Tita Street, which connects the historical city center to the modern city. It is at the center of a dense urban movement with commercial and public buildings around it. Considering the traces of the historical heritage within its borders, the well-preserved rich character of its immediate surroundings and the current urban use, it has the potential to transform into a vibrant public space.

## HASTAHANA PARK & PLAZA

### Layers & Traces

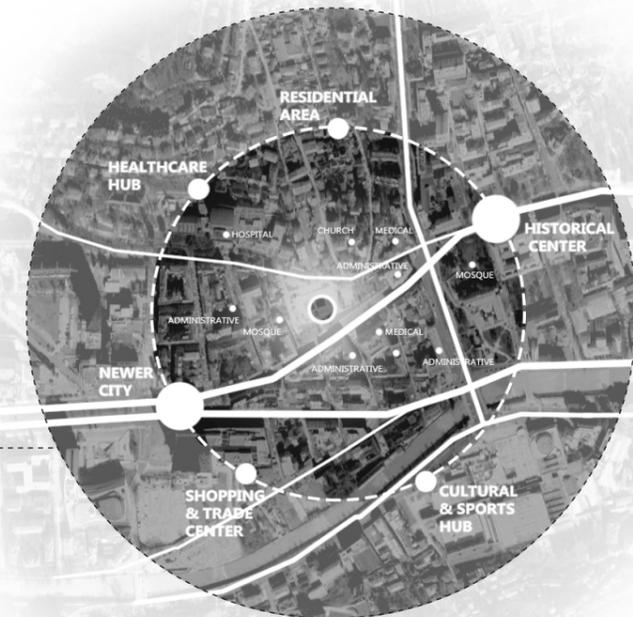
The visible and disappearing traces of a lost monument define the current character of the site. Despite the absence of the demolished Ottoman Hastahana structure in situ, the remaining level conditions, retaining walls and entrance still stand as strong clues of a loss, instead of hiding it.

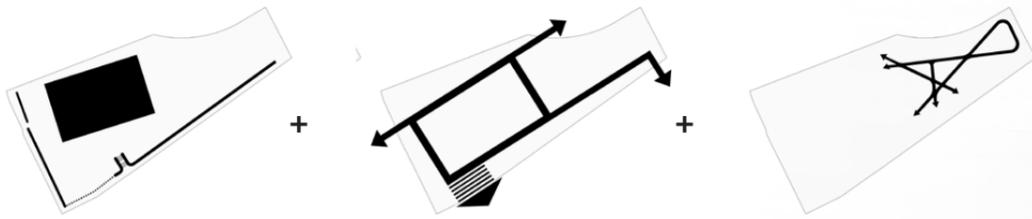
In a city like Sarajevo, where different layers overlap for centuries, context and traces represent both wounds and healing. Trying to overcome the ghost of a lost monument with its vitality, the competition area resembles the holistic story of the city after its not far tragedies.

Today, the place, which is also registered as an archaeological site, is surrounded by various characters. The Austro-Hungarian heritage urban grid and buildings, Ottoman-era mosques and recent architectural character together define a smaller reflection of the city's overall richness.

**How can we redefine an urban void as a meaningful space with the memory of a ghost monument ?**

**How can we establish a dialogue between the existing layers and lost traces of the context while creating a vibrant and contemporary public space?**





**Layer 01- Culture & History**

Lost & Remaining Traces  
*Ottoman Heritage*

**Layer 02- Accessibility**

Integration to the Urban Grid  
*Austro-Hungarian Heritage*

**Layer 03- Leisure & Ecology**

A Fresh Microenvironment  
*Contemporary City*

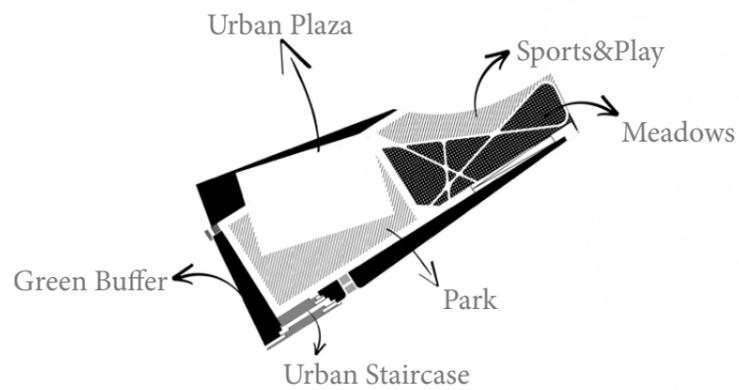
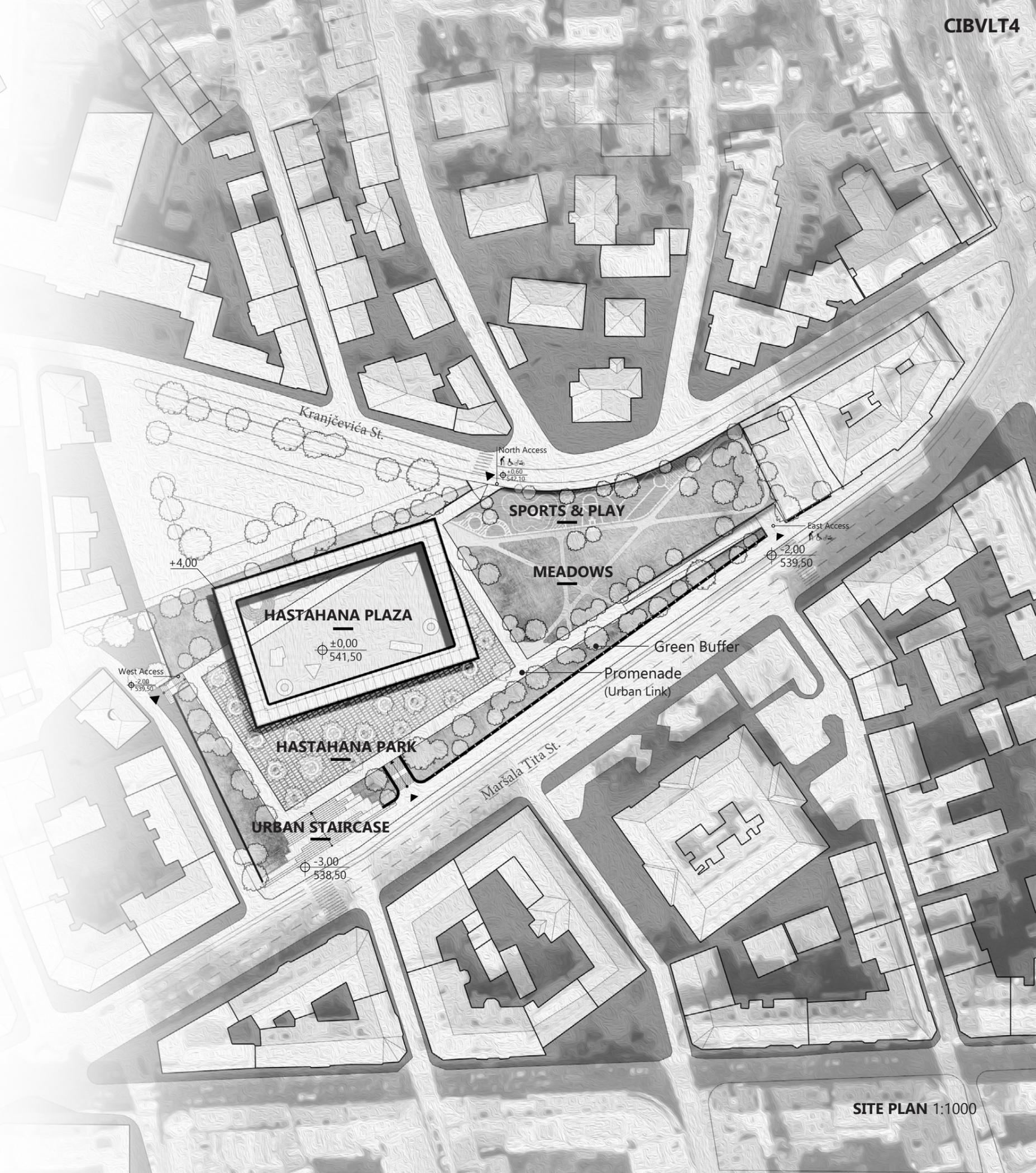
The design aims to overcome the current challenges of the site and create an ecologically, socially and culturally sustainable public space that remembers and evokes its unique character. Thus, it aims to define an urban catalyst that will have power to inspire not only its environment but the entire city

**The concept is structured around the idea of redefining the existing void of the demolished Ottoman ‘Hastahana’ as an urban plaza and creating a strong accessibility with the surrounding context. It aims to re-spatialize and commemorate the lost heritage in this way by creating an elegant canopy structure that functions as a sheltered gallery space, framing and emphasizing the void. Thus, it aims to bring a modest landmark to the modern city.**

A continuous promenade, oriented parallel to the neighboring Austro-Hungarian urban grid, defines the main circulation within the park together with a grand urban staircase, partially removing the existing retaining wall facing Marsala Tita Street. This intervention opens the elevated park surface and the plaza to the city with a strong connection, also referring to two important periods in the city’s history.

The grid (urban promenade) and preserved historical traces define the two main overlapping and intersecting layers of the proposal. The inside, outside and interspaces of this relationship form the various zones proposed in the design.

The overall strategy aims to create an accessible urban space for people of all ages and to activate the potential of the site and its citizens with maximum interaction. While preserving its ties to the identity and history of the place, it offers a wide variety of activities and events.



*'A holistic approach to sustainability is an important input of the project. It is aimed to create a layered public space where citizens can contribute on a socially, culturally and ecologically democratic basis.'*

### **Accessibility & Urban Integration**

The redefined connectivity strategy in the proposal creates an urban promenade as the heart of the overall circulation and expands into the surrounding urban grid through various access points.

At the southwest corner, the grand urban staircase becomes the main entrance to the park and the plaza. It faces Marsala Tita Street, which has a direct connection to the city's existing public transport system. The eastern corner of the inner promenade is opened to the street as a ramp, providing a barrier-free and easy access and it extends to the Magribija Mosque in the west, preserving the existing connection. The northern entrance, facing Kranjčevića Street, is redefined as a low ramp at the corner of the site for a second easy access point connecting the upper city to the park.

### **Culture & History**

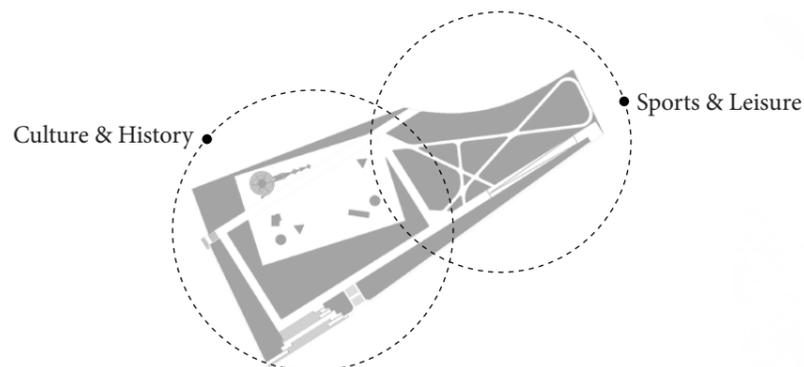
Despite the lack of design and spatial organization, the competition area currently functions as an important open space for the public. Therefore, the approach aims to revitalize the area with respecting to its current meaning and historical process.

Covering the void of the demolished structure, the proposed urban plaza defines a wide open space that will be activated with different scenarios throughout the year. With the surrounding metal canopy and the sheltered gallery underneath, the plaza can host exhibitions, art events, concerts and festivals within. Existing Sternenweg sculpture as an important artistic symbol for the place, is proposed to be preserved partially and relocated in the square. Together with the urban steps and the park in between, area defines the culture and history-oriented heart of the project.

### **Sports & Leisure**

The eastern half of the park, separated by the urban promenade, functions as a sports and leisure oriented zone. This part, accompanied by meadows with lush vegetation, creates an inner oasis for active and passive recreation.

While the northern edge is planned to be home to the sports and play area, which includes a playground, half court, skate park and outdoor table-tennis, the central and southern part becomes a large green space as an ecological microenvironment.



**Ecological Sustainability**

The design approaches the soft and hard landscape strategy of the project from a sensitive ecological perspective. To activate a local living microenvironment, it is aimed to protect the entire existing tree community, recover existing soil and maximize the ratio of vegetation and permeable surface.

Planting strategy supports and reinforces the overall concept. The peripheral zone between the project area boundary and the urban promenade acts as a green buffer with dense tree communities and low-lying ground cover plants that require minimal maintenance and water. The edges of the site thus isolate the inner space from the urban atmosphere and help create a peaceful environment.

Between the urban staircase and the plaza, with the beautiful autumn colors of the beech trees and the circular seats surrounding them, the Hastahana park gains a special identity.

In the eastern half of the park, meadows among the trees along the promenade encourage the development of a greater diversity of species within the area. Local tall grasses, low shrubs and wildflowers create a colorful natural landscape scene that stimulates the senses. This diversity also allows for the emergence of a microfauna and pollination.

The overall material catalog of hardscape and furnitures reflects the goal of sustainability on another level. Recycled corten steel is proposed in the urban square and park area, both for the canopy structure and partly for furnitures. Recycled urbanite blocks and granite cubic stones are used for paving, emphasizing the historical background of the particular area.

Considering that the project area is a registered archeological site, the concrete is excluded from the sub-floor layers and is proposed only in a permeable form and limited surface area around the park in relation to factors such as durability and economic efficiency. For meadows zone, natural soil becomes the only material for both the walking surface and the lower layers.



**\*Currently**

Surface Use:

*%60 impermeable  
%40 vegetated*



**\*Proposal**

Soil Recovery & Increasing Vegetation

*%60 vegetated*



**\*Natural Filtration**

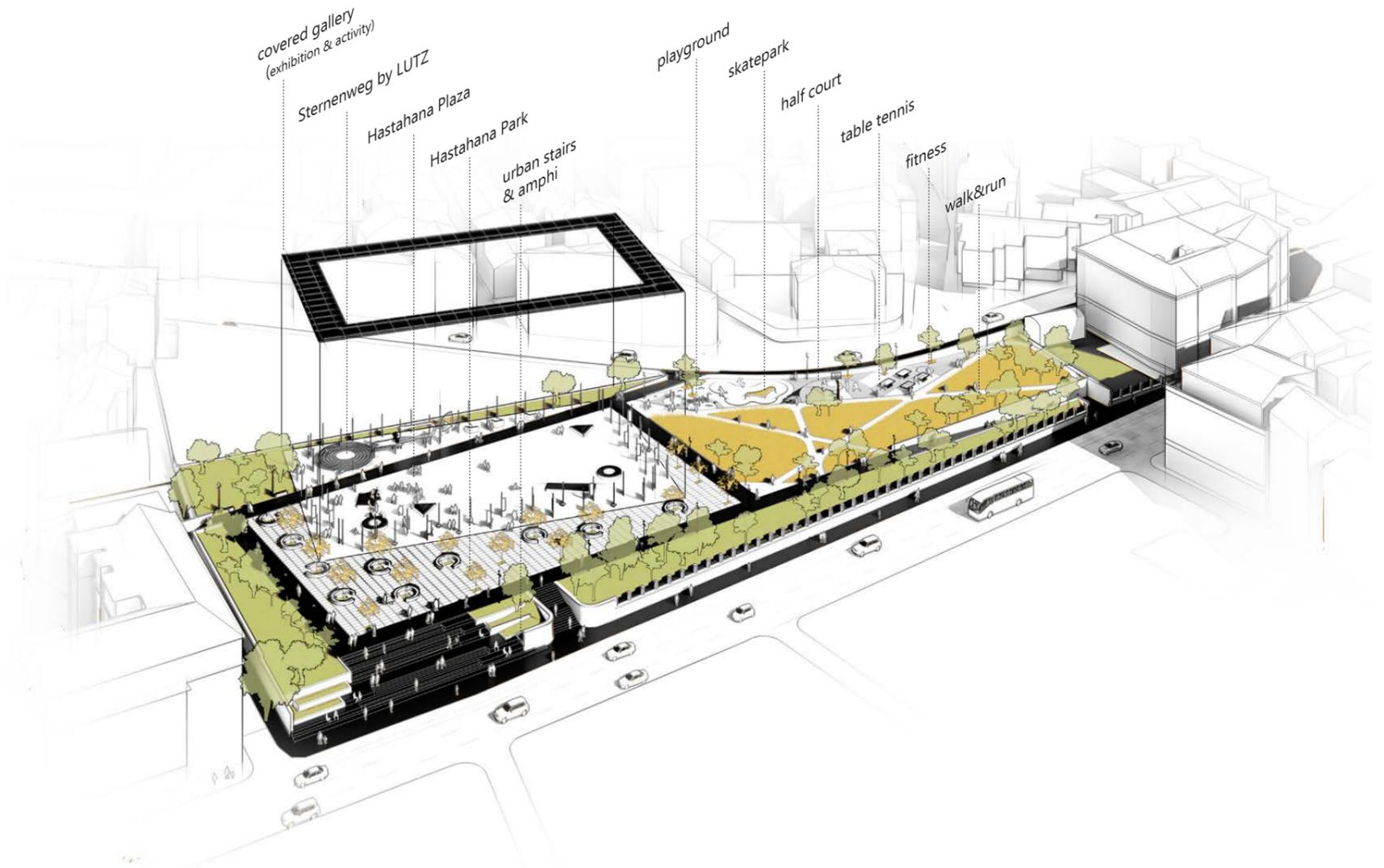
Porous materials for soft & hard landscape

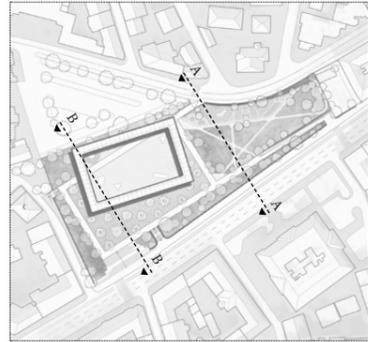
*%80 permeable*



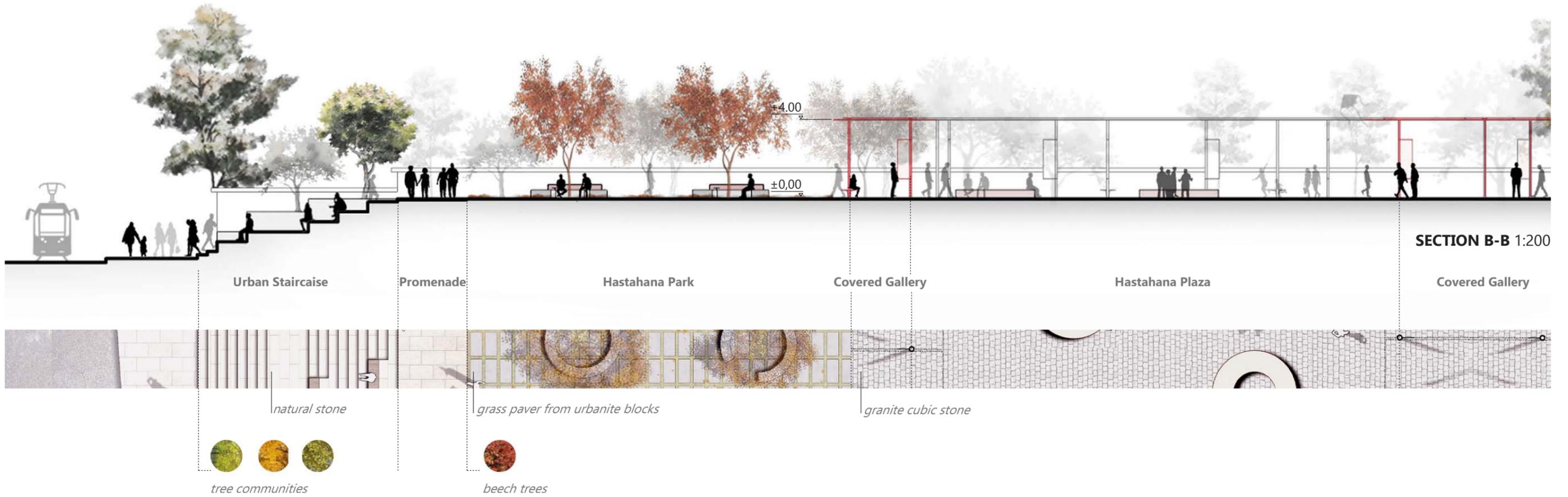
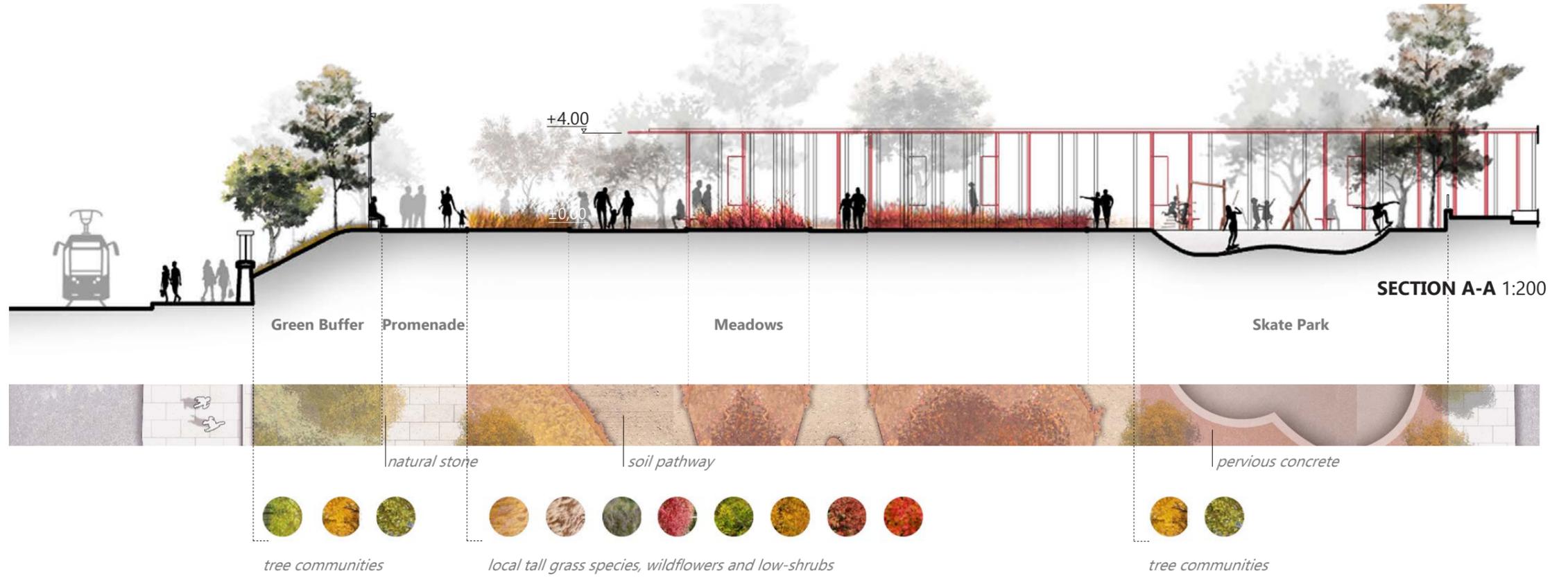
**\*Biodiversity**

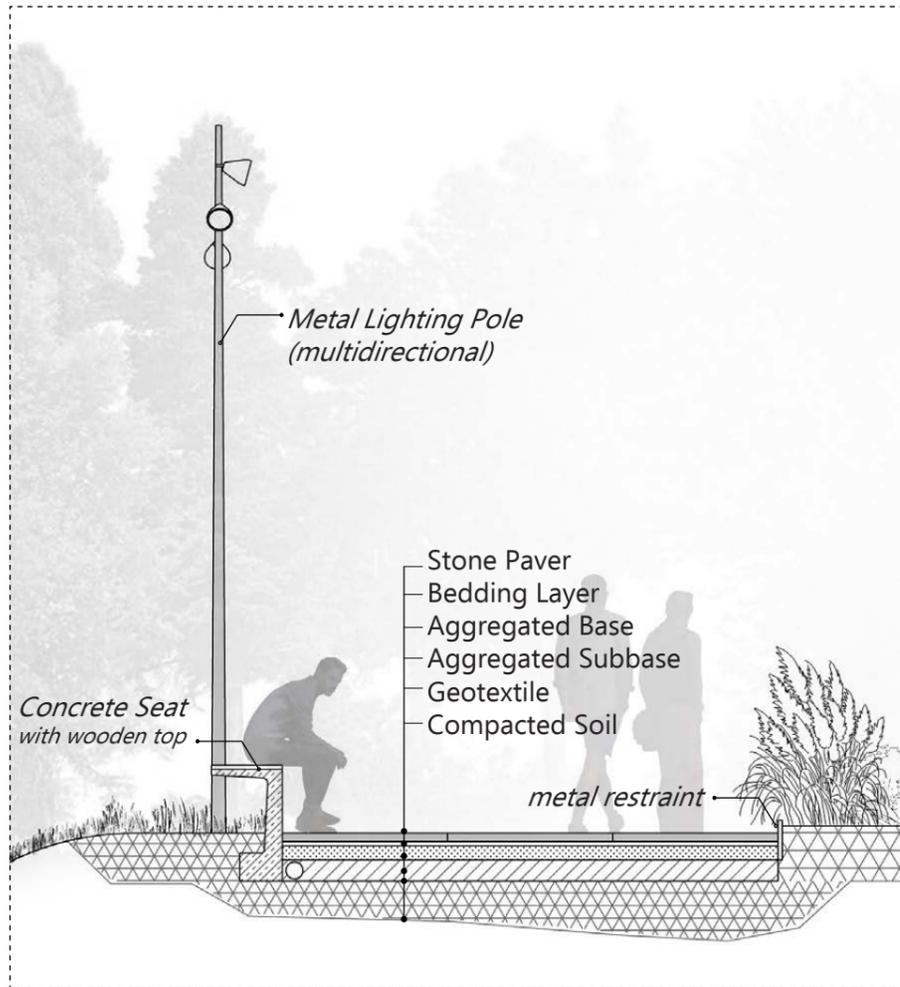
A greater diversity of species for a vibrant micro environment.



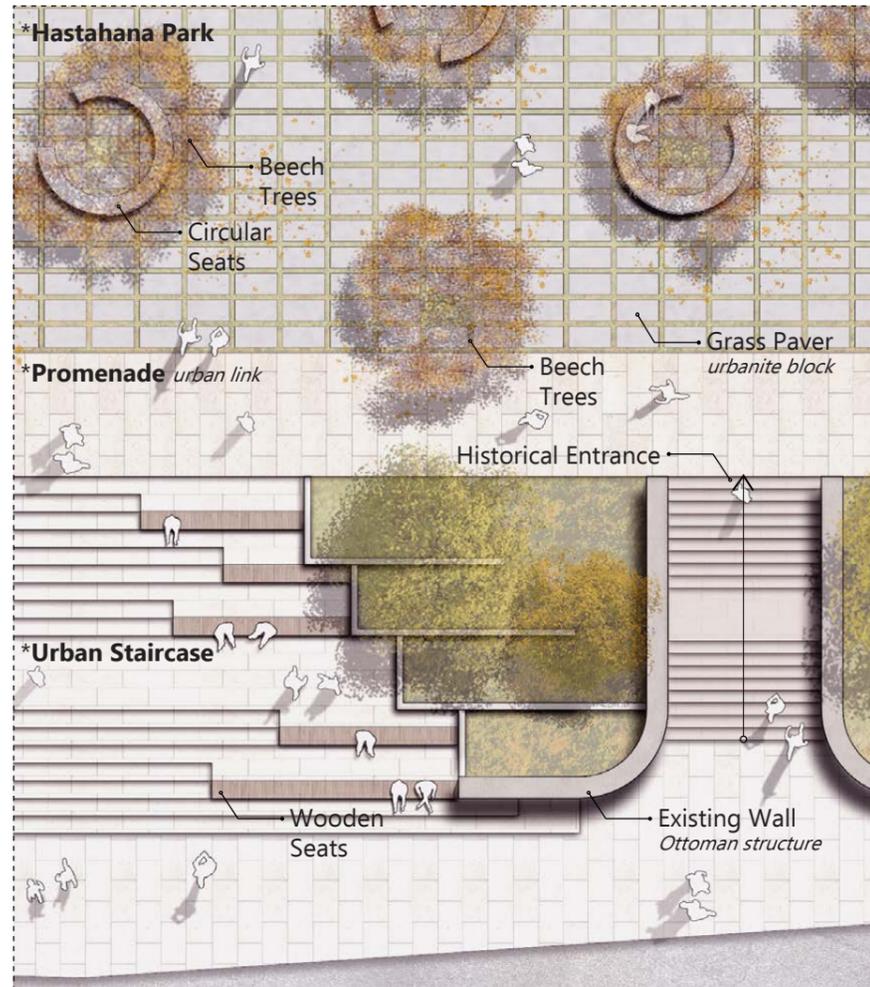


\*key plan

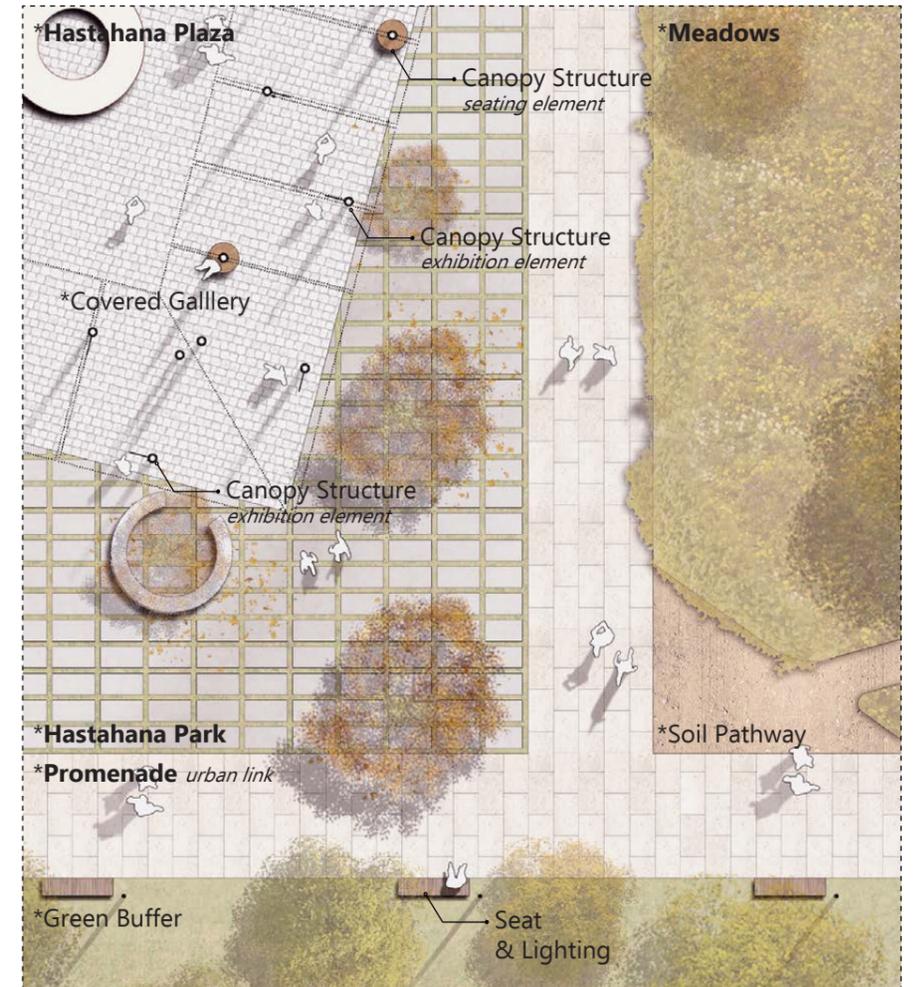




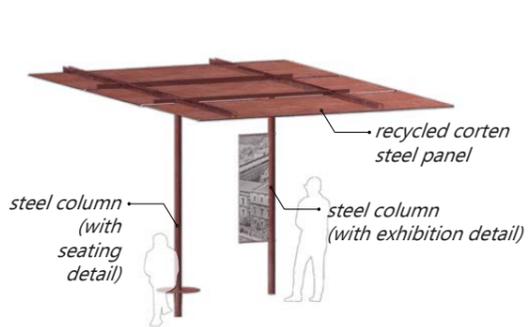
DETAIL 01 - 1:50



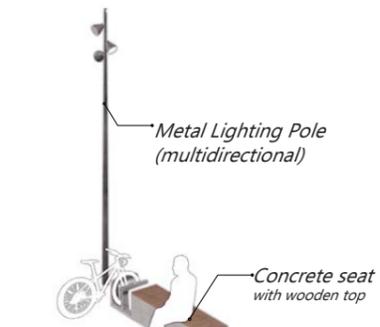
PARTIAL PLAN 1:200  
URBAN STAIRCASE & HASTAHANA PARK



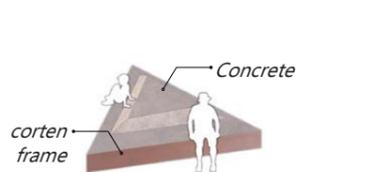
PARTIAL PLAN 1:200  
PROMENADE & SQUARE & MEADOWS



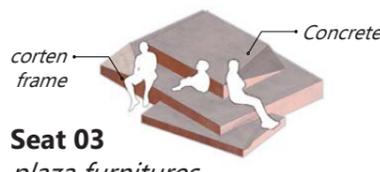
Canopy Structure  
typical section



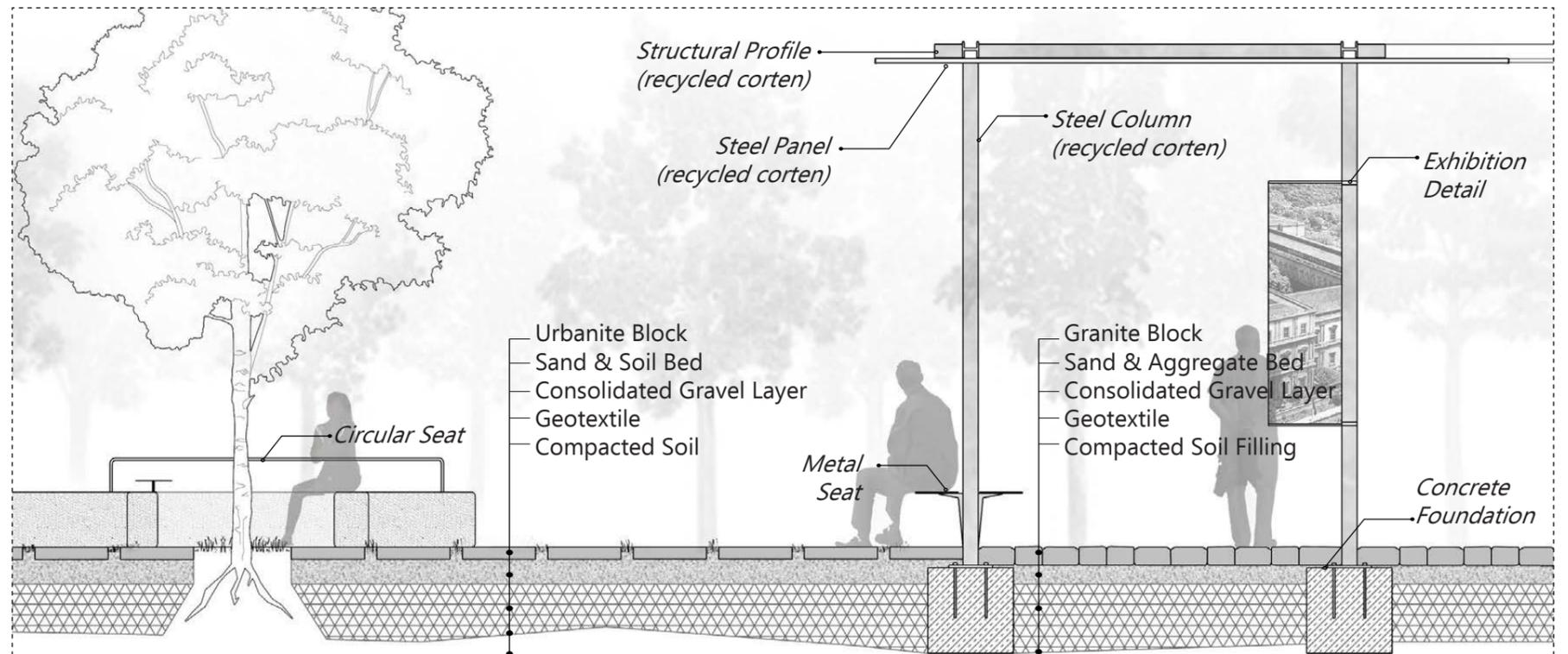
Seat 01  
promenade



Seat 02  
Hastahana Park



Seat 03  
plaza furnitures



DETAIL 02 - 1:50