



Creative Fellow 

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An Excercise in Feral Cartographies



An Exercise in Feral Cartographies

While dealing with various regimes of invisibility of self-sustained urban ecologies in the cities, the most unexpected turn occurred with realization that such areas are not colored green in Google Maps, whereas golf playground is. This led me to question whether the practice of drawing maps, could be anything but abstract and exclusive. Here, we investigate how maps escape from its colonial heritage. We exercise escape through debunking Google maps, collective drawing, scale drawings, feral cartography.



Cycling Tour
around Feral
Cartography
September
2023

INSIGHTS

Feral cartography is based on the analysis of failures of general urban plans and other spatial documents to record, recognize, protect, and maintain self-sustained urban ecologies with zoning policies.

Feral cartography is a logic constructed to render visible what urban development makes invisible. It is the presentation of various typologies of feral sites across scales (continental, regional, city). It is the construction of The Other City.

Certain parallel between the unregulated status of feral lands and creative collectives that engage with them is established in the study as well, due to the fact that thoughtful engagement with such sites inevitably requests more subtle programming and delicate onsite interventions than those prescribed by general zoning policies and plans.

The study exercises feral cartography as a collective act, as an act of redrawing complexities, as an act of visibility, the act of justice.



The general map
used as a base for
urban planners
depicts one sole
information:
land parcellation /
ownership

Lendava, Slovenia

Troubles in
Cartography

CREATIVE ENDEAVOUR

The study looks into modes of representation of unregulated urban space (in press, legislation, heritage strategies, urban narratives/memory) before directing main focus on the practices of drawing, specifically into drawing cartographies. The study is organized in a visual essay to showcase lack of existent categorizations in the face of nature-culture thinking practices. Visual analysis is set in binary oppositions: before-after, recorded-unrecorded, included-excluded, planned-unplanned, preserved-extinct. This tactic serves to stage conflict while putting two characters of spatial representations in close proximity:

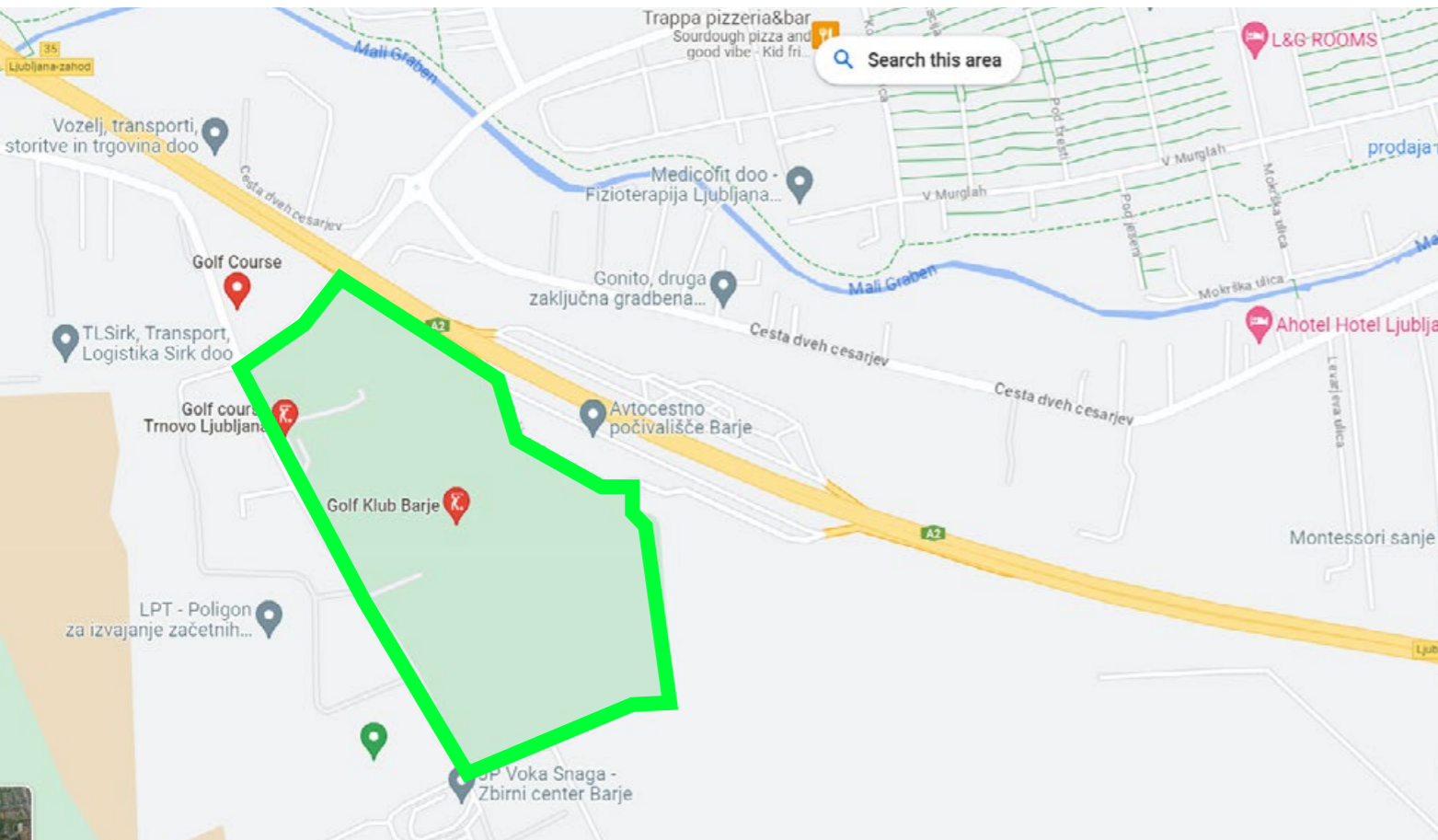
(a) When used as a tool of dominant logic practices in drawing produce regimes of invisibility

(b) When used to construct what is otherwise unseen practices in drawing bear the potential to rupture any given reality, and introduces previously overlooked situations, categories and actors thus re-contextualise the limits of visible but also limit the territory of extraction

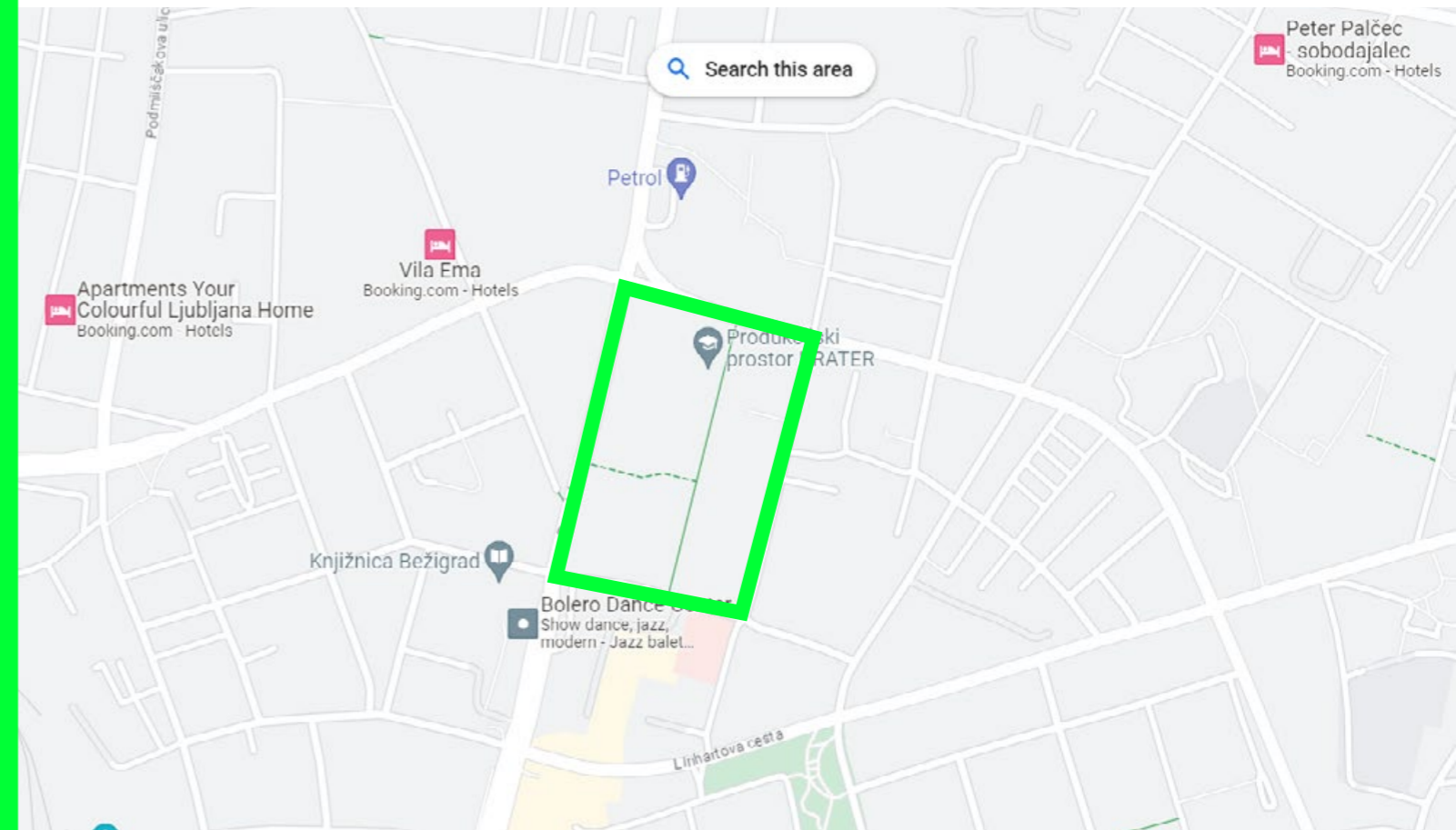
The study thus initiates with the assumption that both popular cartography and urban planning are highly biased in the way they draw/record space and relations in space. But it also claims that the same mode of representation could work otherwise, to represent what was previously omitted.

It relays on the assumption that the way we draw spatial relations shape: (1) the way we read space as socio-economical-ecological manifestation, (2) the way we percieve accessibilty (open and enclosed spaces) (3) the way we relate to nature, other humans and other-than-humans .

For this, I look into the modes of representations of self-sustained ecosystems, ones that are not programmed, cultivated or maintained by the authority of urban planning. These feral lands can't be predicted, they operate uninvited, as per rule at the sites that experienced anthropogenic stress, environmental and societal damage. For this reason, feral activities are often left out of sight and bureaucratic documents.



Green golf playground, Ljubljana Google Maps default view



Blank Krater self-sustained ecosystem, Ljubljana Google Maps default view

What does the color green stand for?
Google maps default view records Golf
Playground monoculture as green, whereas
Krater biodiverse self-sustained nature is grey.
Gray stands for urbanized or buildable areas.

The sin
of the
color green



Golf playground/monoculture, Google Maps satelit, 2023

Krater/self-sustained ecosystem, drone frame, 2022

Krater is an ecosystem, a production laboratory, and a practice of composting anthropocentric perceptions of what it means to work, live, and earn while cultivating ground for difficult questions. Krater community sprouted from the neglected, crater-like construction site near the city centre of Ljubljana, Slovenia, in 2020. Krater's urban grounds¹ interconnect more than 212 species and represent an irreplaceable stepping-stone corridor between Ljubljana's eastern and western forests. Krater (approx. 18.000 m²) is planned to be entirely excavated and built over with the Palace of Justice.

The sin
of the
color green

CREATIVE ENDEAVOUR

With the shift in the socio-political context from socialism to an open market economy that took place after the demise of Yugoslavia, it became common practice that state/commonly-owned land was either transformed into privately-owned real estate or left abandoned for an indefinite period of time. (Cukic, Timotijevic 2020). As a result, some prominent cityscapes that had previously accommodated public infrastructure (e.g. cinemas, cultural centers), industry (in this study e.g. Zink Smelting Plant, Celje, Rog Factory Ljubljana) or military applications (in this study e.g. Krater) were repurposed, and following the 2008 crisis, kept in a state of never finished construction sites. Invisible on planning documents, these largely overlooked yet highly dynamic green spaces have the capacity to regulate the climate, enhance biodiversity, provide irreplaceable ecological infrastructure, and give rise to research platforms for learning about eco-cultural regeneration.

If the citizen's role is often limited solely to the consumers and admirers of urban parks and forests, then these anthropogenic ecosystems, populated with invasive and other feral plants, human infrastructures, and fugitive compounds ask us for active, attentive engagement. They call for a new generation of care workers to practice slow disturbance through the nurturing of interspecies collaborations, able to recognise the educational, ecological, and cultural value of spontaneous ecologies. Instead of treating them as precarious landscapes on the road to extinction at the hands of human-centric infrastructures, the following contribution explores feral ecosystems as creative laboratories of multispecies encounters and care. (Mežnaric Osole, Sretenovic, 2023)



Krater:
former military complex, officially pending construction site, planned as the Palace of Justice, is currently self-sustained ecosystem supported by creative collective Ljubljana, Slovenia

Feral
Cartography
Typology of
pioneering
ecosystem

<i>Abies alba</i>	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	<i>Mycelis muralis</i>	<i>Mycelis muralis</i>	<i>Schizophyllum commune</i>
<i>Acer negundo</i>	<i>Daedaleopsis confragosa</i>	<i>Mycena arcangeliana</i>	<i>Mycena arcangeliana</i>	<i>Scrophularia nodosa</i>
<i>Acer platanoides</i>	<i>Daucus carota</i>	<i>Myosotis arvensis</i>	<i>Myosotis arvensis</i>	<i>Setaria pumila</i>
<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	<i>Diploxys tenuifolia</i>	<i>Parus major</i>	<i>Parus major</i>	<i>Setaria viridis</i>
<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>	<i>Epilobium ciliatum</i>	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	<i>Silene latifolia</i>
<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	<i>Epilobium ciliatum</i>	<i>Petasites albus</i>	<i>Petasites albus</i>	<i>Silene vulgaris</i>
<i>Ajuga reptans</i>	<i>Epipactis helleborine</i>	<i>Phlebiopsis crassa</i>	<i>Phlebiopsis crassa</i>	<i>Sitta europaea</i>
<i>Ambrosia artemisiifolia</i>	<i>Erigeron annuus</i>	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>	<i>Solanum dulcamara</i>
<i>Anagallis arvensis</i>	<i>Eriothacus rubecula</i>	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	<i>Solanum nigrum</i>
<i>Arctium minus</i>	<i>Eupatorium cannabinum</i>	<i>Picea sp.</i>	<i>Picea sp.</i>	<i>Solidago canadensis</i>
<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	<i>Euphorbia helioscopia</i>	<i>Picus viridis</i>	<i>Picus viridis</i>	<i>Solidago gigantea</i>
<i>Aricia agestis</i>	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>	<i>Sonchus asper</i>
<i>Artemisia vulgaris</i>	<i>Fomes fomentarius</i>	<i>Pieris mannii</i>	<i>Pieris mannii</i>	<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i>
<i>Arum italicum</i>	<i>Fragaria vesca</i>	<i>Pieris rapae</i>	<i>Pieris rapae</i>	<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>
<i>Asplenium ruta-muraria</i>	<i>Frangula alnus</i>	<i>Pinus nigra</i>	<i>Pinus nigra</i>	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>
<i>Berberis thunbergii</i>	<i>Fumaria officinalis</i>	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>
<i>Buddleja davidii</i>	<i>Galium aparine</i>	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	<i>Suillus bovinus</i>
<i>Calamagrostis epigejos</i>	<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	<i>Plantago major</i>	<i>Plantago major</i>	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>
<i>Calluna vulgaris</i>	<i>Gonepteryx rhamni</i>	<i>Platanus orientalis</i>	<i>Platanus orientalis</i>	<i>Symphytum officinale</i>
<i>Cardamine hirsuta</i>	<i>Graphosoma lineatum</i>	<i>Poa pratensis</i>	<i>Poa pratensis</i>	<i>Taraxacum officinale</i>
<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	<i>Hedera helix</i>	<i>Polygonum persicaria</i>	<i>Polygonum persicaria</i>	<i>Taxus baccata</i>
<i>Carpinus betulus</i>	<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>	<i>Tilia platyphyllos</i>
<i>Centaurea jacea</i>	<i>Hypholoma fasciculare</i>	<i>Populus alba</i>	<i>Populus alba</i>	<i>Tilia tomentosa</i>
<i>Chelidonium majus</i>	<i>Inula conyza</i>	<i>Populus nigra</i>	<i>Populus nigra</i>	<i>Trametes hirsuta</i>
<i>Chenopodium album</i>	<i>Knautia arvensis</i>	<i>Populus tremula</i>	<i>Populus tremula</i>	<i>Trametes versicolor</i>
<i>Chrysomela populi</i>	<i>Kretzschmaria deusta</i>	<i>Potentilla (Dasiphora) fruticosa</i>	<i>Potentilla (Dasiphora) fruticosa</i>	<i>Trifolium dubium</i>
<i>Cichorium intybus</i>	<i>Larus michahellis</i>	<i>Potentilla reptans</i>	<i>Potentilla reptans</i>	<i>Trifolium pratense</i>
<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	<i>Lenzites betulina</i>	<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	<i>Triticum ssp.</i>
<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	<i>Trametes betulina</i>	<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	<i>Turdus merula</i>
<i>Clematis vitalba</i>	<i>Leontodon hispidus</i>	<i>Prunus cerasifera</i>	<i>Prunus cerasifera</i>	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>
<i>Clinopodium vulgare</i>	<i>Leptidea sinapis/reali</i>	<i>Prunus laurocerasus</i>	<i>Prunus laurocerasus</i>	<i>Tussilago farfara</i>
<i>Cotias croceus</i>	<i>Leucanthemum</i>	<i>Pyracantha coccinea</i>	<i>Pyracantha coccinea</i>	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>
<i>Columba livia domestica</i>	<i>ircutianum</i>	<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	<i>Verbascum austriacum</i>
<i>Columba palumbus</i>	<i>Ligustrum vulgare</i>	<i>Reynoutria (Fallopia) japonica</i>	<i>Reynoutria (Fallopia) japonica</i>	<i>Verbena officinalis</i>
<i>Cornus sanguinea</i>	<i>Lonicera maackii</i>	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	<i>Veronica chamaedrys</i>
<i>Corvus cornix</i>	<i>Lonicera nitida</i>	<i>Rosa canina</i>	<i>Rosa canina</i>	<i>Veronica hederifolia</i>
<i>Corvus monedula</i>	<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	<i>Rosa canina</i>	<i>Rosa canina</i>	<i>Veronica perfoliata</i>
<i>Corylus avellana</i>	<i>Mahonia aquifolium</i>	<i>Rosa canina</i>	<i>Rosa canina</i>	<i>Viola hirta</i>
<i>Cotoneaster sp.</i>	<i>Malus domestica</i>	<i>Rosa canina</i>	<i>Rosa canina</i>	<i>Volvariella g</i>
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	<i>Maniola juratina</i>	<i>Rosa canina</i>	<i>Rosa canina</i>	<i>Volvariella g</i>
<i>Crepis biennis</i>	<i>Medicago lupulina</i>	<i>Rosa canina</i>	<i>Rosa canina</i>	
<i>Cupido argiades</i>	<i>Medicago sativa</i>	<i>Rosa canina</i>	<i>Rosa canina</i>	
<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>	<i>Melilotus alba</i>	<i>Rosa canina</i>	<i>Rosa canina</i>	

Krater:
List of species
of pioneering
ecosystem

↓ Cinkarna Landscape manipulation timeline



1870, Gaberje outskirts © Muzej novejšje zgodovine Celje



1875, Cinkarna initiated industry development © Muzej novejšje zgodovine Celje



Vogljajna river marshes © Muzej novejšje zgodovine Celje



Waste disposal site from the roasting of sulfites for the production of sulfuric acid © MNZC



2005, Destruction of the complex spreaded asbestos from rooftops, © MNZC



Succession was occasionally cleaned up, © MNZC



Former Zinkarna Smelting Plant:

Transformation from agricultural land to industrial land, to post-industrial ruins, to pioneering ecosystem - feral land

Celje, Slovenia



Former Zinkarna
Smelting Plant:

Pioneering ecosystem
at post-industrial land-
scape. The “soil” is
so contaminated with
heavy metals that it is
permitted to be
deposited at landfill.

Celje, Slovenia

Feral
Cartography

Typology of
irreparable-
damage



**Former Zinkarna
Smelting Plant:**

**Surrounded by river
flows, soil gradually
erodes into the wa-
ter endangering the
whole Sava river
valley.**

Celje, Slovenia

CREATIVE PROCESS

Without operational policies or legal advocacy tools developed to formalize the value of abandoned (feral) sites, neither area of the Zink Smelting Plant receives urgently needed attention nor Krater's multispecies community is granted visibility. Krater, for example was planned to be entirely replaced with the Palace of Justice, conjoining three courts of justice and the adjacent park (2021). Going three stories under the ground, it would excavate the whole area. Within the tendering framework of a national architectural competition, Krater's site was evidently understood as a tabula rasa.

This left me with the question of why feral activities are often left out of sight and bureaucratic documents. These feral lands can't be predicted, they operate uninvited, as per rule at the sites that experienced anthropogenic stress, environmental and societal damage. Their timeframe is temporal. For this, I look into the modes of representations of self-sustained ecosystems, ones that are not programmed, cultivated or maintained by the authority of urban planning.

Krater case is not alone, it is a recognizable practice of reproducing urban regeneration by cleaning up unsightly mess (whether invasive plants, urban nature, civil initiatives, squatting, homeless etc). In the following section study presents transitional histories of some of this sites in Ljubljana (urban scale) in Slovenia (regional scale) in Europe (continental scale) to find repetitions and alliances in trans/local context. Most of the case studies are in danger of extinction, others are extinct.

Seeing Krater not as the plot of land limited by its administrative borders, but as a web, interconnected into green transits of Ljubljana, is crucial to stop further fragmentation of green areas in the city – the main problem with radical erasure of such sites is that we cut the routes of the wildlife. When green areas are not close enough, large enough or biodiverse enough this is how at the large scale urbanization affects the decrease in biodiversity and eventually species extinction.

Feral
Cartography
Regimes of
Invisibilty

Regime of invisibility 1

Urban memory &
Lack of awareness of the city
as a common good

Once there is a construction fence enclosing certain city territory, rare are those who ask what happens beyond that fence. The fence states that there is some authority taking care of the place, and is not to be seen or interrupted. The fence is a corrective measure, propaganda of urban transition, signal that there is something unfit with the place behind.

Fenced and forgotten for the past 28 years, Krater site started to evolve into pioneering ecosystem. As none of the development plans took the root of success, a diverse community of plants, mycelium, soil-organisms and others initiated the site's regeneration cycles. Today the site calls attention for its vibrant and highly biodiverse urban ecosystem, a botanist, landscape architect and writer Gilles Clément would categorise it as a "third" landscape.

photo: Amadeja Smrekar



Regime of invisibility 2

Press

The press tends to create a negative narrative around abandoned regions of the city, exposing their “uselessness” instead of seeing public potential, empowering commons or advocating for new kinds of guardianship of spaces. Such discourse treats plot of land only in its capacity to produce profit, especially notable in the Krater’s case: “We’ve been investigating how long we will have to witness this disgrace or why the state, which is chronically short of money, is not selling one of Ljubljana’s prime lands at the time when real estate prices are at record highs. For a quarter of a century there has been a hole in the area of former artillery barracks, one of the best locations in Ljubljana. Why? How much longer will we witness such disgrace?” (Finance, 2019)

The Krater was rejected as a left-over place, press caused public trauma, being completely unable to see what is actually happening at the site. By researching the media coverage it became obvious that our work can’t limit itself only at the practice on the site but it must become the practice of rewording public discourse in order to repair the predominant narrative on untamed urban grounds.



PoselDANES
NOVICE OSEBNE FINANCE SLOVENIJA ZNA SANJSKA

Prazna zemljišča v državni lasti povzročajo škodo

Od večjih zemljišč, predvidenih za gradnjo, pa v bližnji prihodnosti še ni pričakovana začetka del na zemljiščih v lasti države. Ta so na Bežigravskem dvoru, Parmovi ulici in Križankah, kjer naj bi zrasel novi NUK. Zemljišče ob Masarykovi cesti je v lasti Mežice ob občine Ljubljana.

inovačevalce blokov ob gradbeni jami v Bežigravskem dvoru sta te dni razveselila traktor in bager v uporabi. V jami, ki sta čistila zaraščene površine. Na družbenih omrežjih so se nekateri celo spraševali, ali čiščenje zemljišča pomeni, da država, ki v bližnji prihodnosti na tem zemljišču ne namerava graditi, namerava urejeno zemljišče kot začasen park nameniti ljudem.

Projekti v Ljubljani: Bežigravski dvor

nam neuresničenih projektov v Ljubljani, zanje je doslej zapravila več milijard evrov. Več nadaljevanjih bomo razkrivali vzorec nenehnega omahovanja in odklona od prvotnih razvojnih projektov. Eden od projektov z najdaljšo brado je



Namesto sodišča za Bežigradom gobe

V gradbeni jami pri soseski Bežigravski dvor bo po napovedih že jeseni zaživel kreativni prostor Krater, ki je plod večletnih prizadevanj, da država do začetka gradnje dopusti začasno rabo. Prostor bo v osnovi namenjen predelavi invazivnih rastlin, dostopen pa bo tudi širši javnosti.



Zakaj je na območju nekdanje topniške vojašnice, eni najboljših ljubljanskih lokacij, že četrto stoletje luknja in koliko časa jo bomo morali še gledati

PETRA SOVDAT, VASILIJ KRIVEC

Regime of invisibility 3

Legislation

In order to incorporate self-sustained urban ecologies into urban planning processes, there is a need to implement legislative redefinitions of green spaces.

At the moment Slovenian legislation differentiate between four types of green areas (Z) (Uradni list republike Slovenije) appearing in the category of “built areas”

- (a) ZS - areas for relaxation, recreation, and sports
- (b) ZP - parks
- (c) ZD - other cultivated green spaces
- (d) ZK - cemeteries

There are two other categories, agricultural land and forest land. The green space of the city is understood as the net area covered not the volume (soil ecosystem is excluded) as a relational living system (web of co-dependant green areas).

Občinski prostorski načrt Mestne občine Ljubljana - strateški del

karta 07

Zasnova zelenih površin

Legenda:

- meja Mestne občine Ljubljana
- celinske vode

Zeleni klini:

- klini zelenega sistema
- naravni zeleni klini

Zelene površine:

- omrežja lokalnih in tematskih parkov
- centralni mestni parki
- gozdovi z izjemno poudarjenimi socialnimi funkcijami

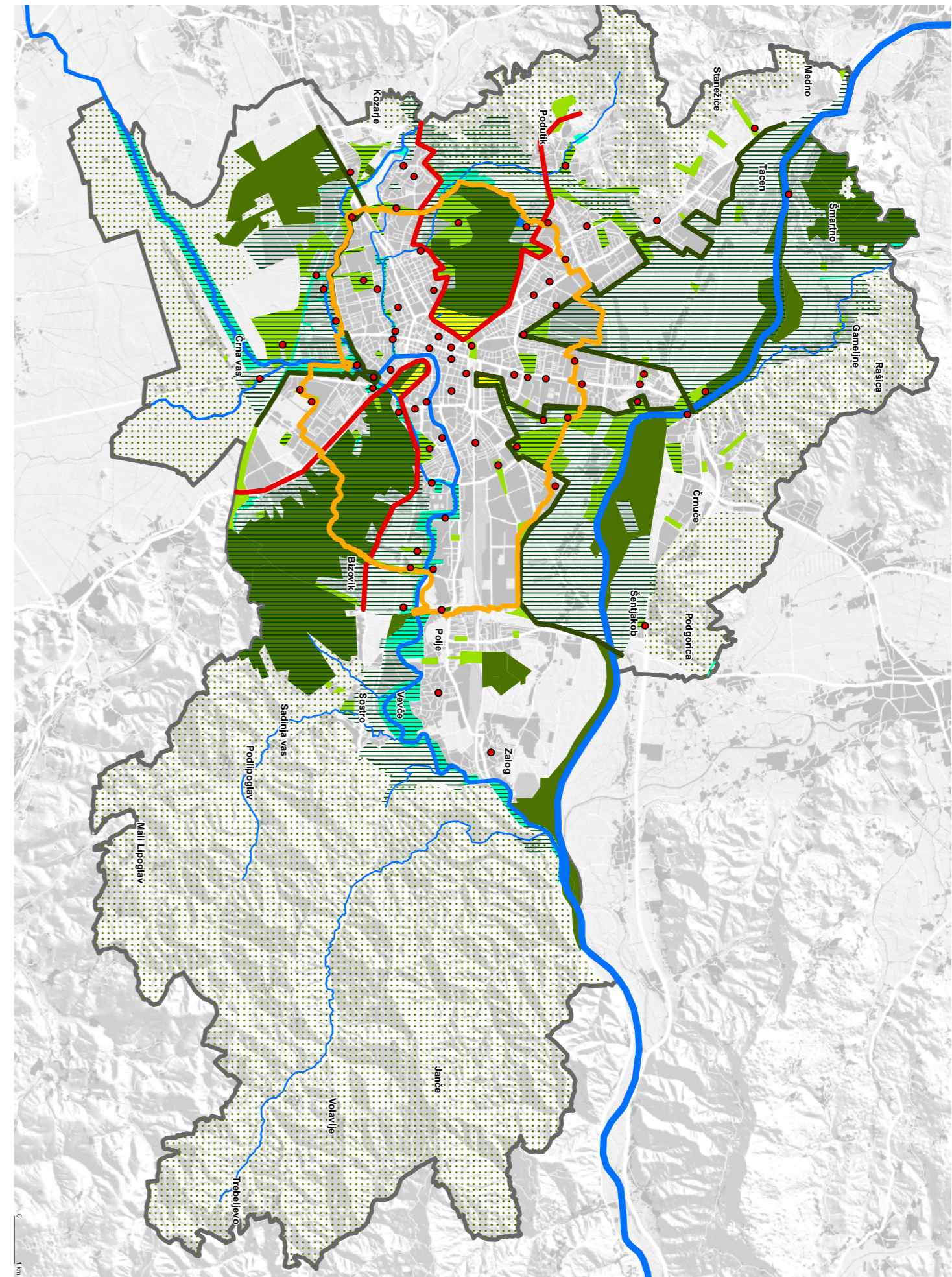
- parkovne površine, rekreacijska območja in pokopališča
- obvodne ureditve in območja protipoplavnih ukrepov
- POT

Območja z usmeritvami zelenega sistema:

- območja z usmeritvami zelenega sistema za varovanje krajinskih značilnosti in rekreacijsko rabo
- območja z usmeritvami zelenega sistema za urejanje in rekonstrukcijo

Zaledje zelenega sistema:

- zaledje zelenega sistema



Regime of invisibility 3

Legislation



Maribor gardens after introduction of “hybrid use” in legislation

Another example of legislative insufficiencies is the case study of Maribor’s gardens. Here I explored links between legislation, floor area of neighborhood greens and cultures of shared space. Namely large parts of Maribor consist of a distinctive city typology of enclosed urban blocks with large biodiverse gardens within the block, used as a common land between neighbors. During 90ies the term “the garden” was replaced with the term “hybrid use” in legislative regulations that order space, with this the green areas were almost entirely extinct - they are mostly paved, either used as parking or for additional buildings. This little shift in legislation allows for intense privatisation of the land and respective extinction of city greens



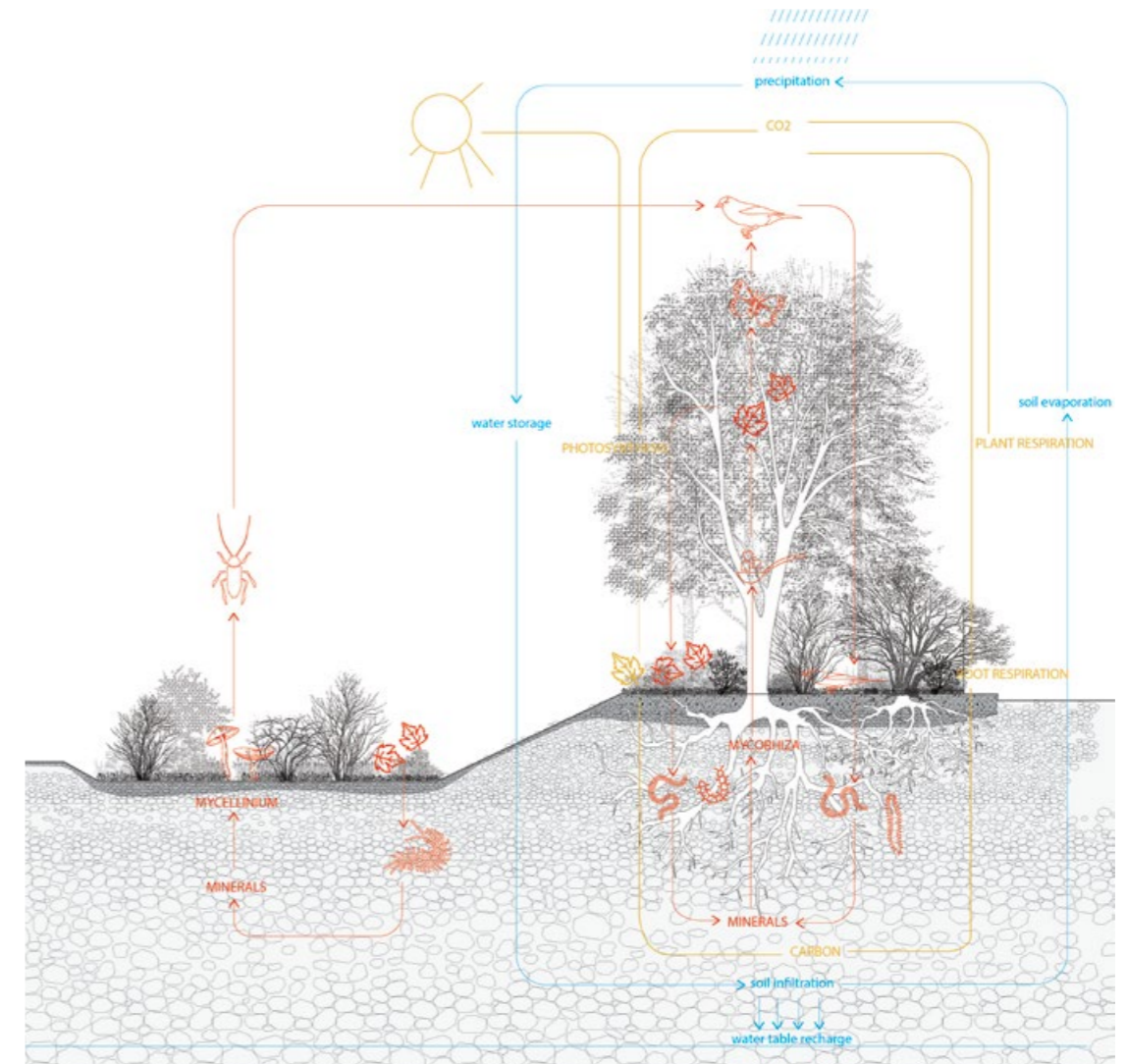
Maribor gardens when term “garden” existed in legislation

State scale
neighbourhood
gardens
before and after
hybrid use

Regime of invisibility 4

Drawing

How many buildable plots of land would we still have if we were able to draw a vivid multispecies community, one that interacts both below and above the ground instead of abstract geometries? The level of abstraction with which architectural documentation is drawn has a direct manifestation in the extractive spatial interventions and invisibility of multispecies communities with their respective ecologies. The following image of the section (Bevk Perović Architects, 2021) showcases soil as an inanimate matter, represented only by a gray field, being entirely abstracted due to the small scale of the drawing. Next to it is the schematic drawing (Jančovičová Chmielewska, 2022) of the soil structure. The second drawing shifts the referential system of thought from outdated urban policies that address ground as an inanimate abstraction to the ground inhabited by multispecies communities acting above, below, and within the Earth's crust while enabling micro- and macro-scale urban regeneration

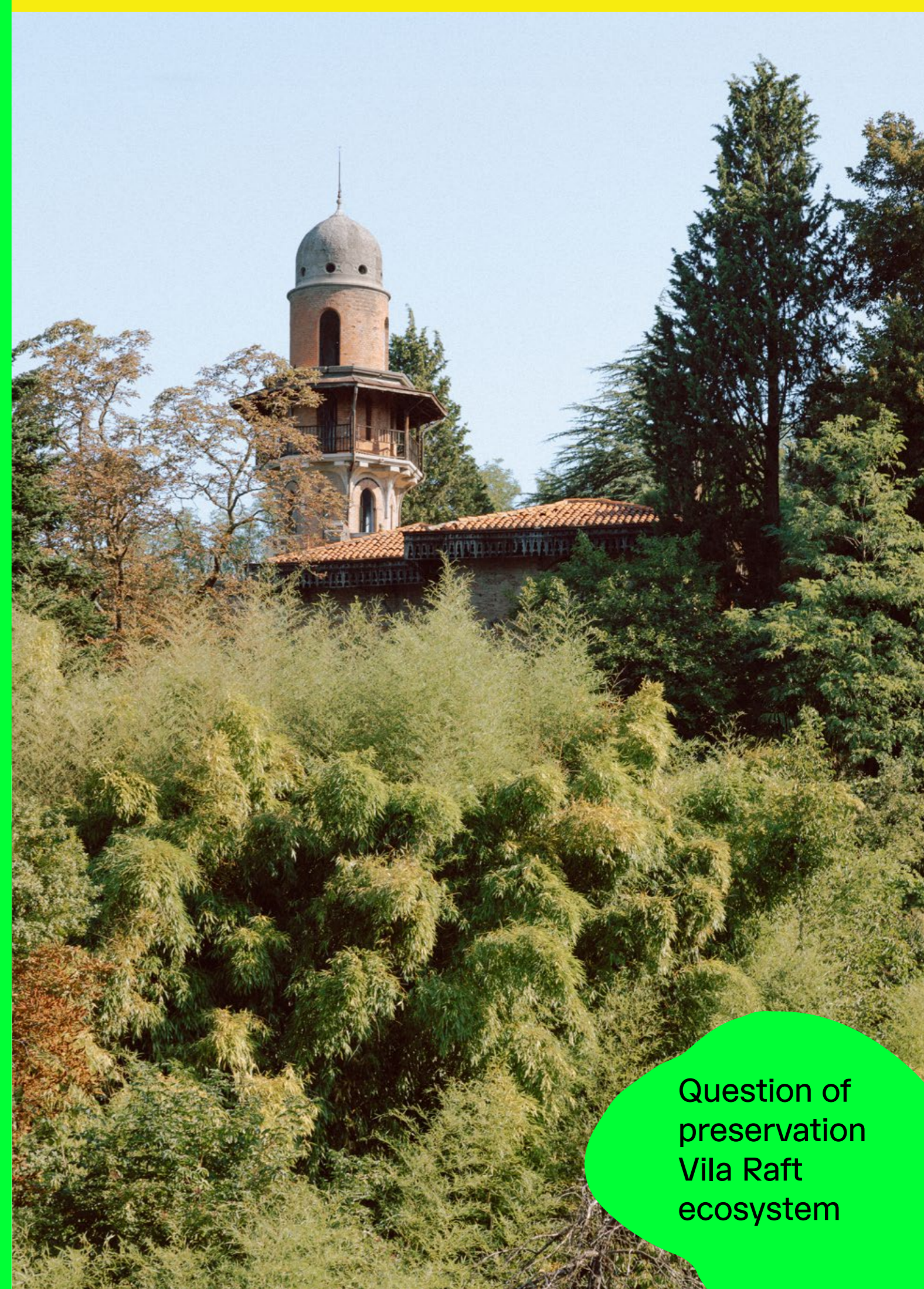


Regime of invisibility 5

What is considered heritage?

Rafut Park and Vila, the original floorplan(down) and the recorded state as of 2021 (right). The floorplan is one of the first preserved landscape architecture plans in Slovenia. To approach Vila Rafut one must first commit a trespass, and then maneuver through the bamboo invasion on what was once a carefully cultivated Rafut's Park, only to arrive at a long-abandoned villa facing out-of-scale vegetation with four blank facades. What authorities understand as heritage is the original floor plan. It means that revitalization of the area will cut overgrown vegetation of the Park, to cancel uncontrollable growth. It seems a real challenge for planning practices to recognize what the place has become while abandoned - the heritage instrument restores in order to reinstall the site to the same ideal point back in time. Left to nature, Vila Rafut and its feral Park was one of the most intriguing places I've ever entered.

photo: Ana Skobe



Question of preservation
Vila Raft
ecosystem

Regime of invisibility 5

What is considered heritage?

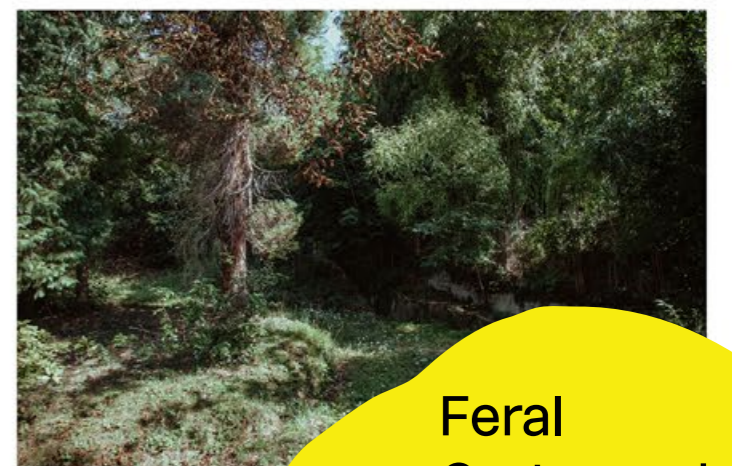
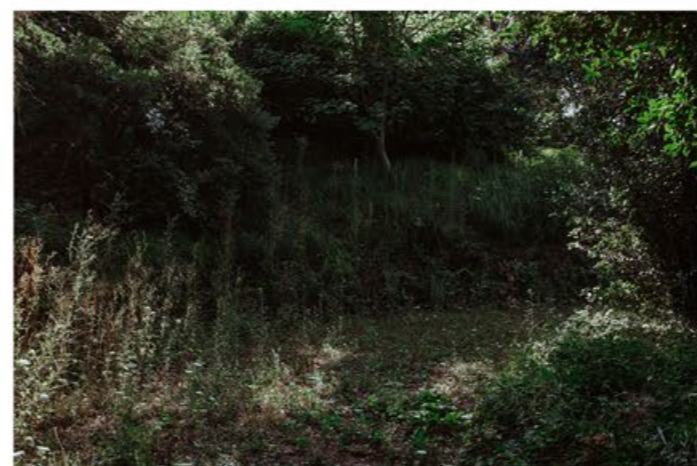
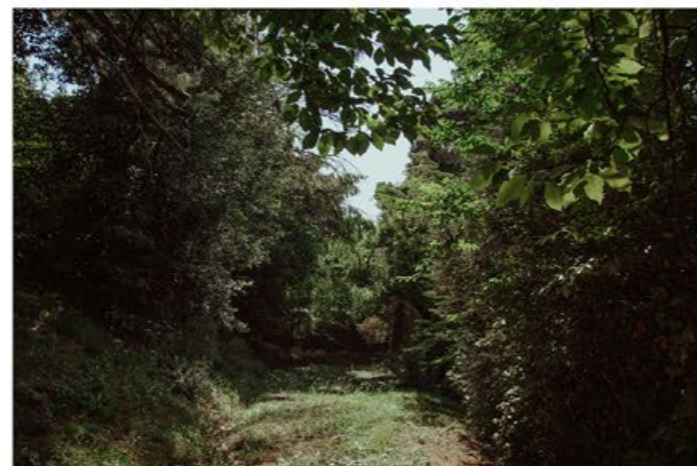


photo: Ana Skobe

Feral
Cartography
Vila Raft
ecosystem,
now extinct

Regime of invisibility 4

Nature Culture split

Cutting down monumental chesnut tree, Renovation of SNT Drama, 2023



Indepth archeological excavations, Renovation of SNT Drama, 2023

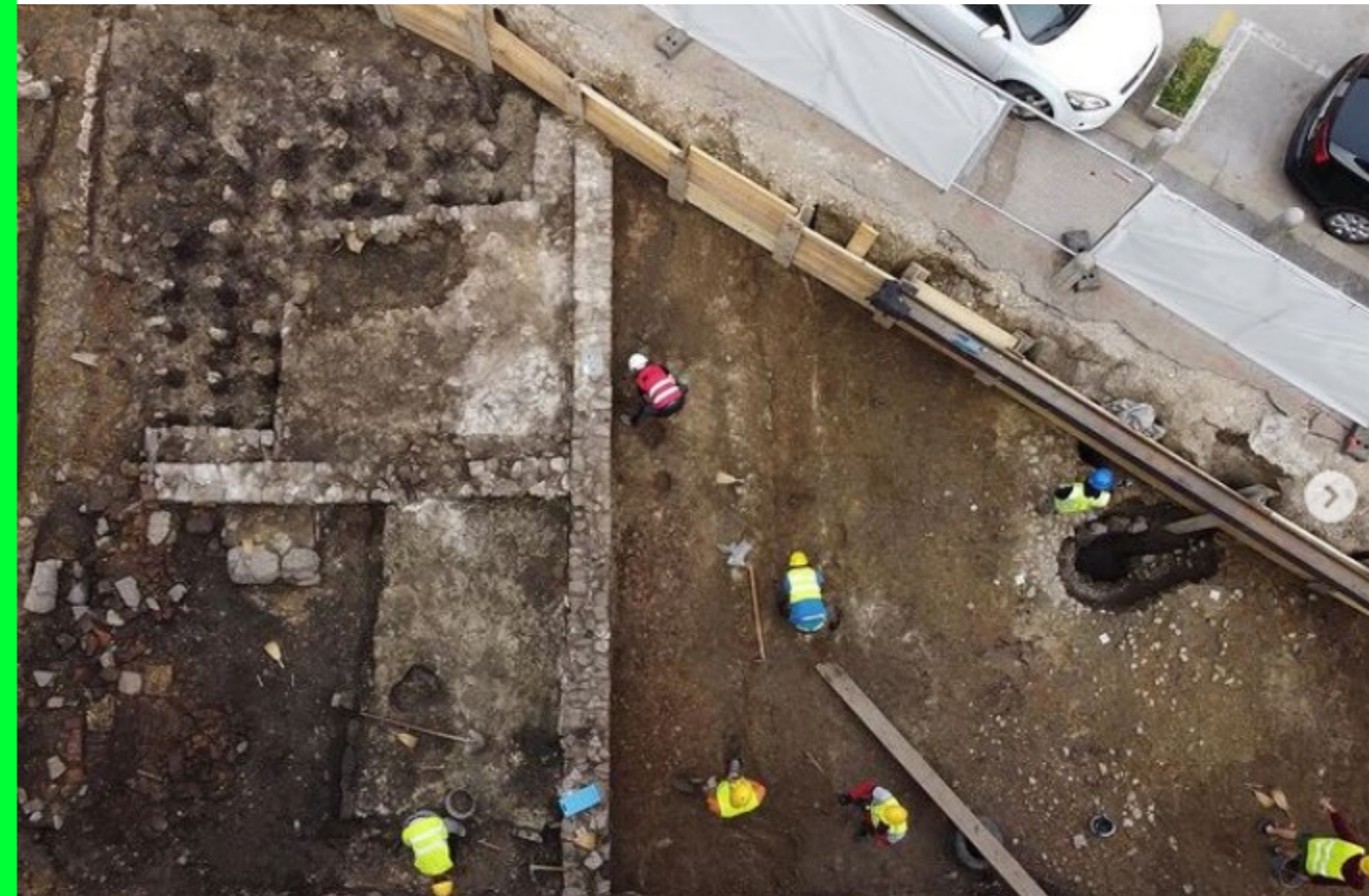


photo:
DELO Newspaper (left)
Slovenian Ministry of culture ig profil (right)

heritage
protocols
perpetuate
nature-culture
split

Regime of invisibility 7

Cartography / what do we map?

Cross-continental Feral Cartography

Recently, many similar collectives inhabited feral lands and engaged with cultural and educational programming across Europe: Krater, Ljubljana (2020); Zakoole Wawerskie, Warsava (2019); Floating University, Berlin (2018); Climavore station, Ireland (2015), Urbaniahoeve, Amsterdam (2015). Within these sites, we can see the paradigm shift in city development, as well as in the ecologies of the cities. Practices and spaces that could be seen as a regress in the past, are in this project systematically supported and cultivated. They are not utopian futures, they are initiatives happening here and now, mostly led by a precarious generation that is under pressure to produce not only the object of its own practice but the whole infrastructure for its work while searching for ways to reject capital-driven relations and work conditions.

Likewise, Krater, the majority of these urban lands are not presented green at Google default view as seen in the next pages.

NEWS | SITE | ASSOCIATION | PROGRAMMES | CALENDAR | REPOSITORY | COOPERATIONS

OPENING HOURS:
Thursday 10-22:00
Friday 10-20:00
Saturday 10-20:00
Sunday 12-20:00
May - October 2022

NEW EUROPEAN BAHHAUS:
We are very happy to announce that Floating is among the winners of the New European Bauhaus Prize 2022

NEWS:
New Article about (Re-)Inventing Ecological Futures 2022 "Mycoesthetics" on Wabers
Read here

NEWSLETTER:
Re-activate the floating newsletter: Sign up to get (un-)regular news about our activities.
Sign up

GUIDED TOURS:
1 hour, 40 min

SUPPORT US:
Donate

Floating University Berlin

A Natureculture learning site

Urban Practice on and in the rainwater retention Pool of former Berlin Tempelhof airPort since 2018.

Learn more about the Site

Learn more about the Project

Current Programs

Climate Care:

KRATER

Krater is an emerging production space for transdisciplinary practices, which sprouted from the neglected, crater-resembling construction site near the city center of Ljubljana. By exploring the potential for world-making projects on the lands of anthropogenic ruins, Krater acts as the situated prototype of a terraforming agency. Site-specific production stations (papermaking workshop, wood workshop & myco-design lab) which consist of open access, ever-evolving workshop spaces, are set to create a dialogue with the impoverished crust of earth colonized with invasive and other feral plants.

Urbaniahoeve is a social lab for urban agriculture that produces food forests in public space and related education and training with locals, in and for their own communities. info@urbaniahoeve.nl

Recent: *Who is We?* Dutch pavilion for the 17th International Architecture Exhibition - La Biennale di Venezia 22.5.-21.11.2021

ZAKOLE

observations | speculations | in action | hardscience

FERALIZING

08/06/2022
SWAMP GATHERING
ZAKOLE

Zakole Wawerskie is a surprisingly wild wetland located between Godow and Wawer Developments in Warsaw, in the immediate vicinity of Trasa Sobieskiego and Trasa Lubelski routes. It hides an old riverbed of the Vistula that used to meander there, as well as former flood lands of the river. Zakole includes a number of naturally diverse areas, such as peat bogs, an alder forest, and reed meadows colonized by numerous creatures. It serves as a natural habitat of the largest number of bird species in the capital city. Moreover, Zakole Wawerskie plays a key role in the ecological water circulation system, besides the role of preventing the more and more acute droughts and the more and more frequent floods, as well as in a broader sense (due to the role of wetlands and biodiversity) in preventing the climate and environmental catastrophe. The question of developing this area has been the subject of a local conflict for years. People who own plots of land there urge for a decision about their futures to be made.

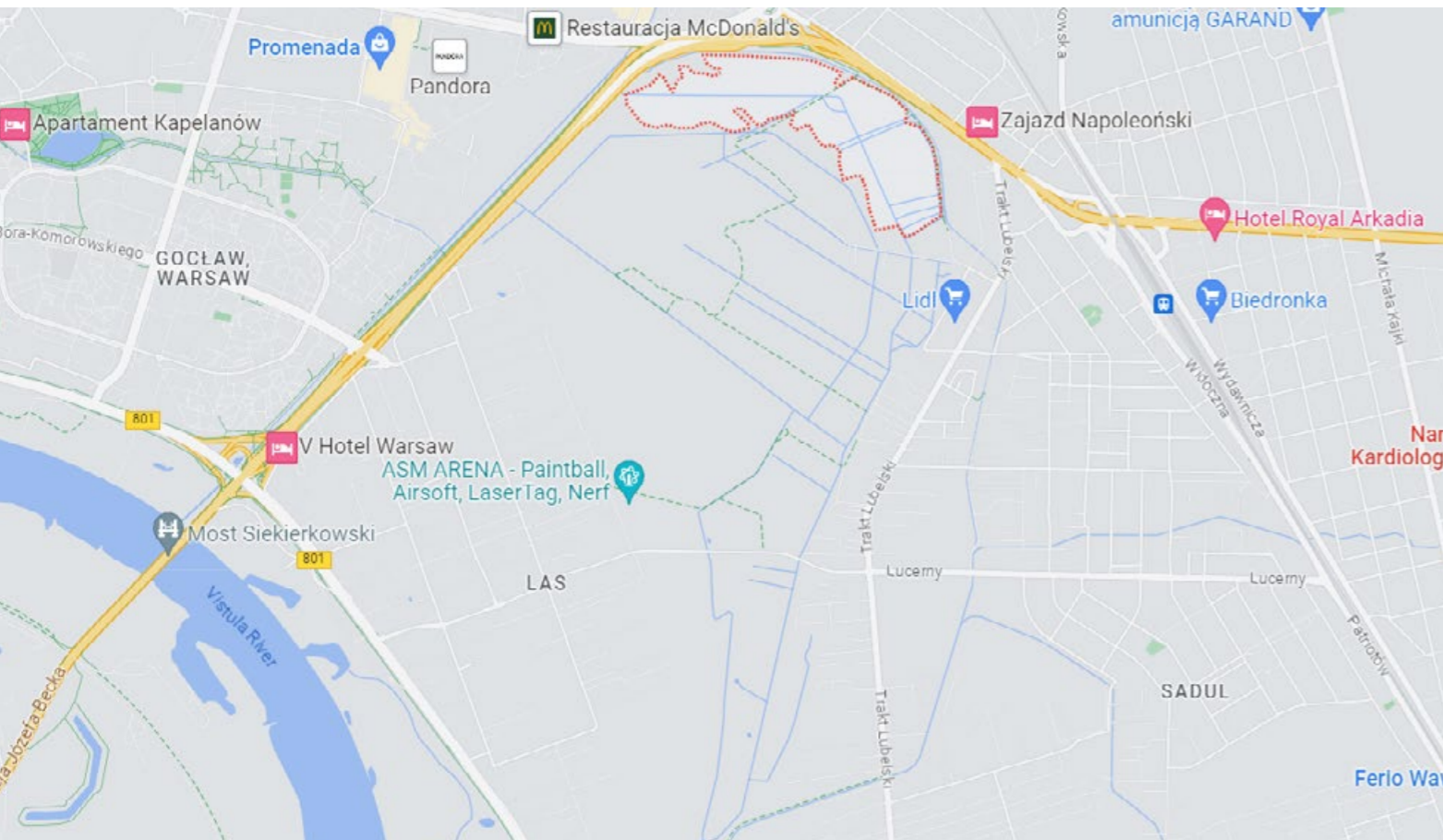
DOLCE MIEBA

The City Needs to Breathe. A Talk with Przemysław Pasek About Zakole Wawerskie and Warsaw's Environmental Protection Policy

Przemysław Pasek – a fifteen-year leader of the "Ja Wisła" Foundation, organising outdoor education for children and volunteering schemes, such as "The Clean Vistula" (Czysta Wisła) – in conversation with Zuzia Derlacz, 2020. What is Zakole Wawerskie today? Seen from an aerial perspective, it is a vast green patch on the right bank of [...]

Regime of invisibility 7

Continental Scale Feral Cartography



Blank Zakole Wetland, Warsaw, Google Maps default view



Green Zakole Wetland, Warsaw, Google Maps satellite view

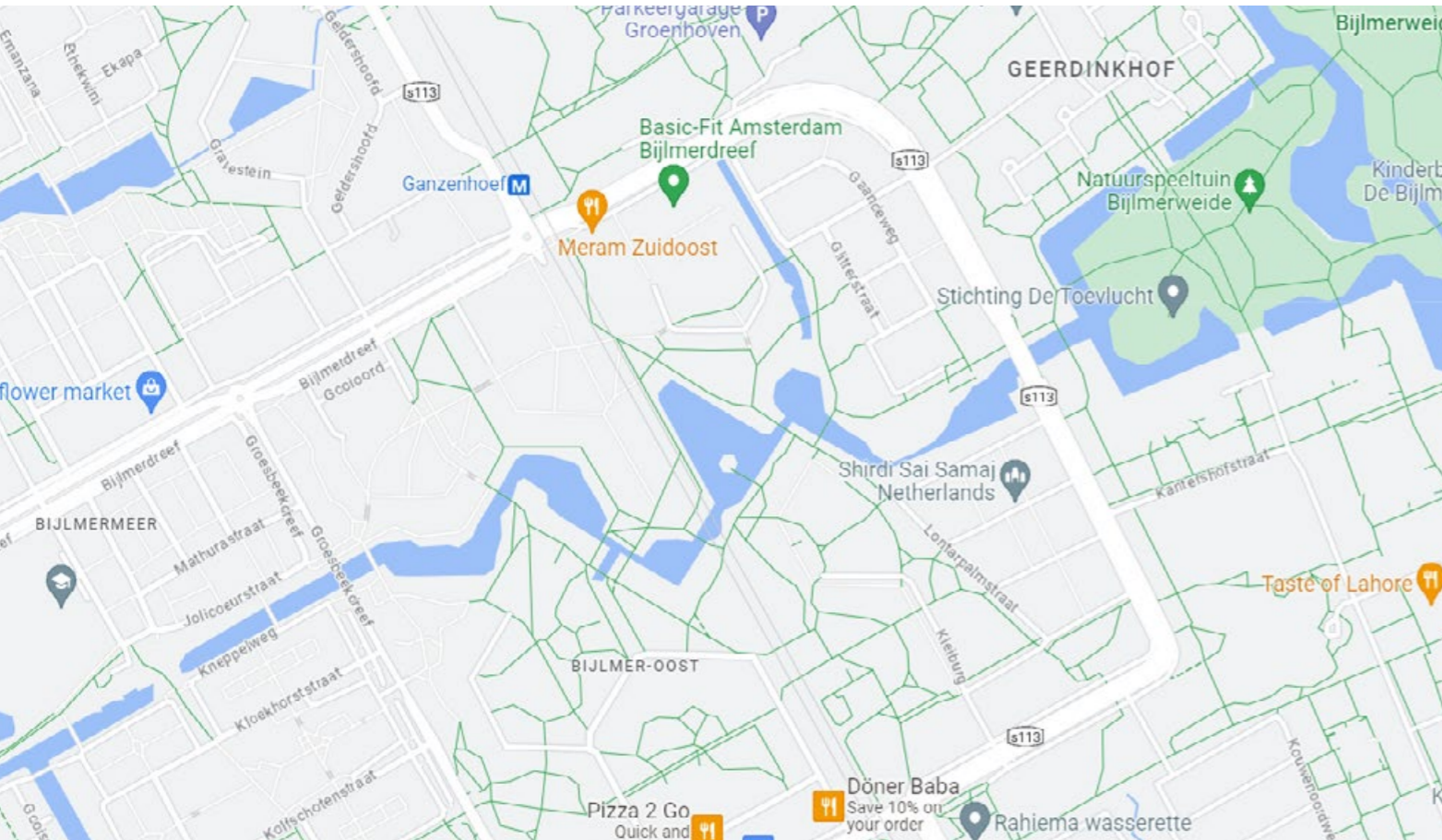
ZAKOLE is a project rooted in a wetland located near the heart of Warsaw. Activities within the ZAKOLE project create possibilities of generating and exchanging various kinds of knowledge: historical and scientific as well as personal, embodied and based on sensory experience. We also gather information about administrative proceedings concerning Zakole Wawerskie and potential scenarios for the future of the area, while constantly asking ourselves how to think about the multispecies right to the city.

(Zakole webpage)

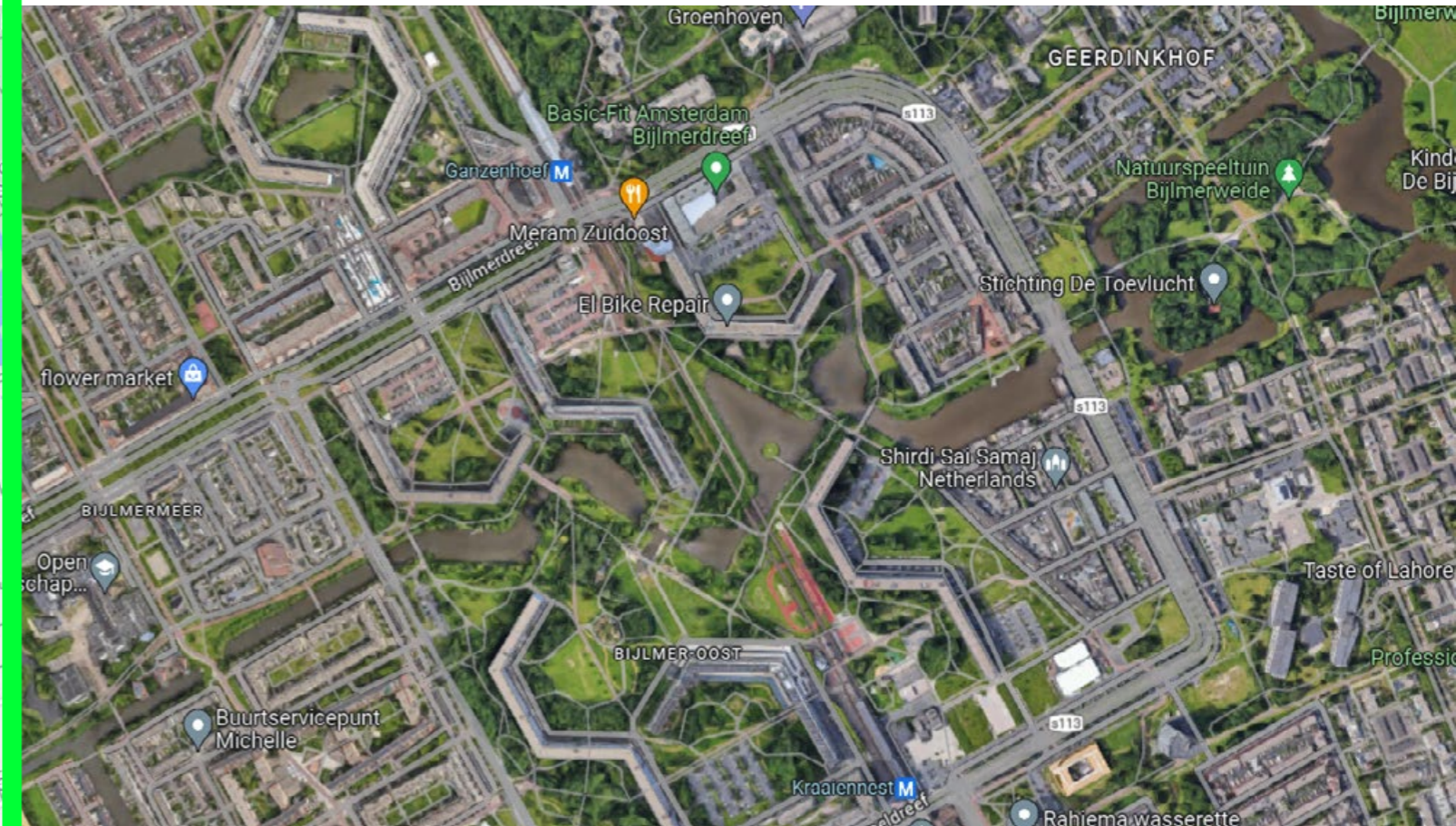
The sin
of the
color green

Regime of invisibility 7

Continental Scale Feral Cartography



Blank Foodforest, Amsterdam Zuidooost, Google Maps default view



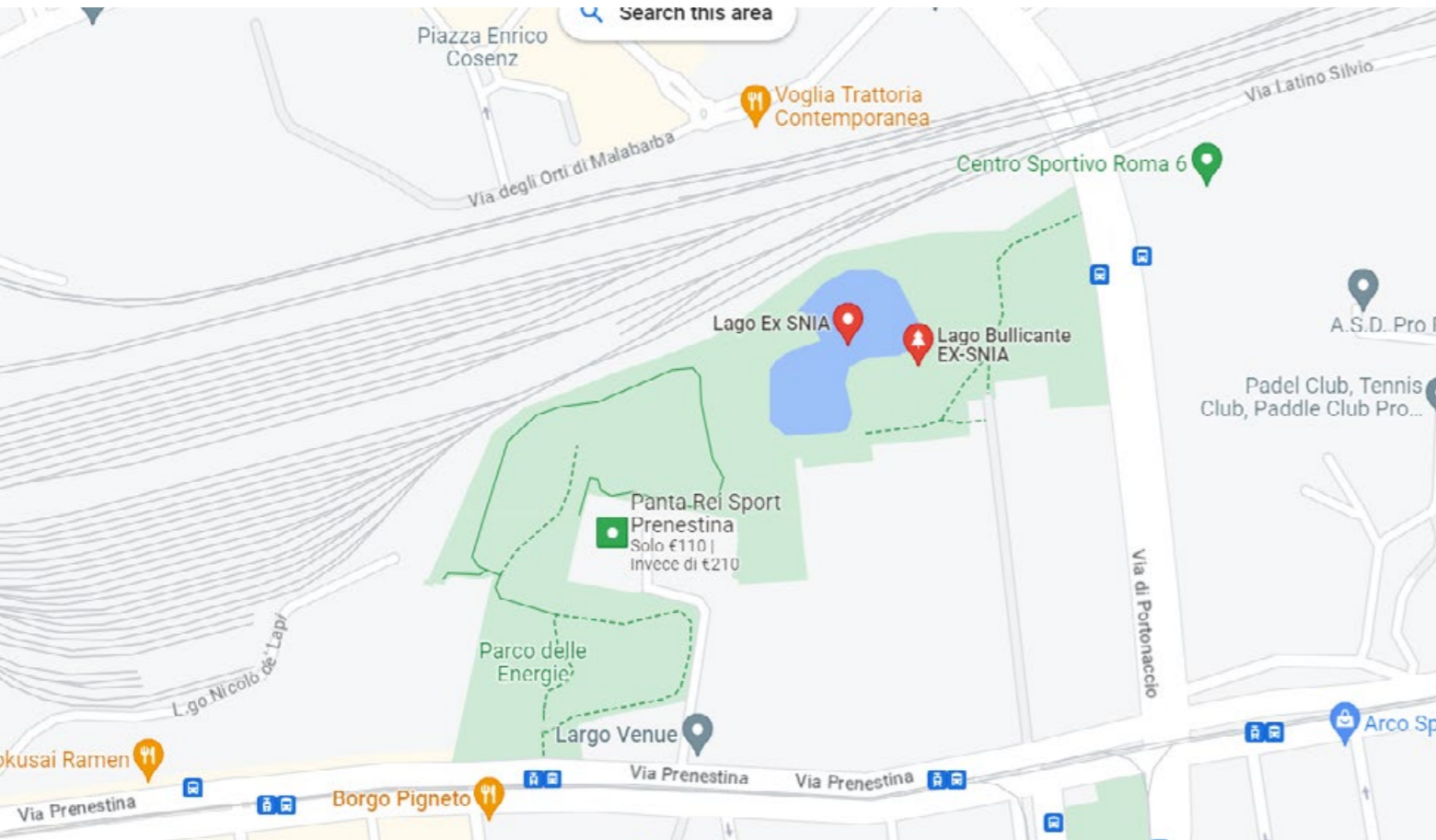
Green Foodforest, Amsterdam Zuidooost, Google Maps default view

URBANIAHOEVE (which means the city as our farmyard) is social lab for urban agriculture that produces food forests in public space and related education and training with locals in and for their local communities. is currently producing a 56 hectare public space food forest in the south east of Amsterdam, in close collaboration with municipal partners and locals. (Debra Solomon)

The sin
of the
color green

Regime of invisibility 7

Continental Scale Feral Cartography



Lago Bulicante, Rome Google Maps default view



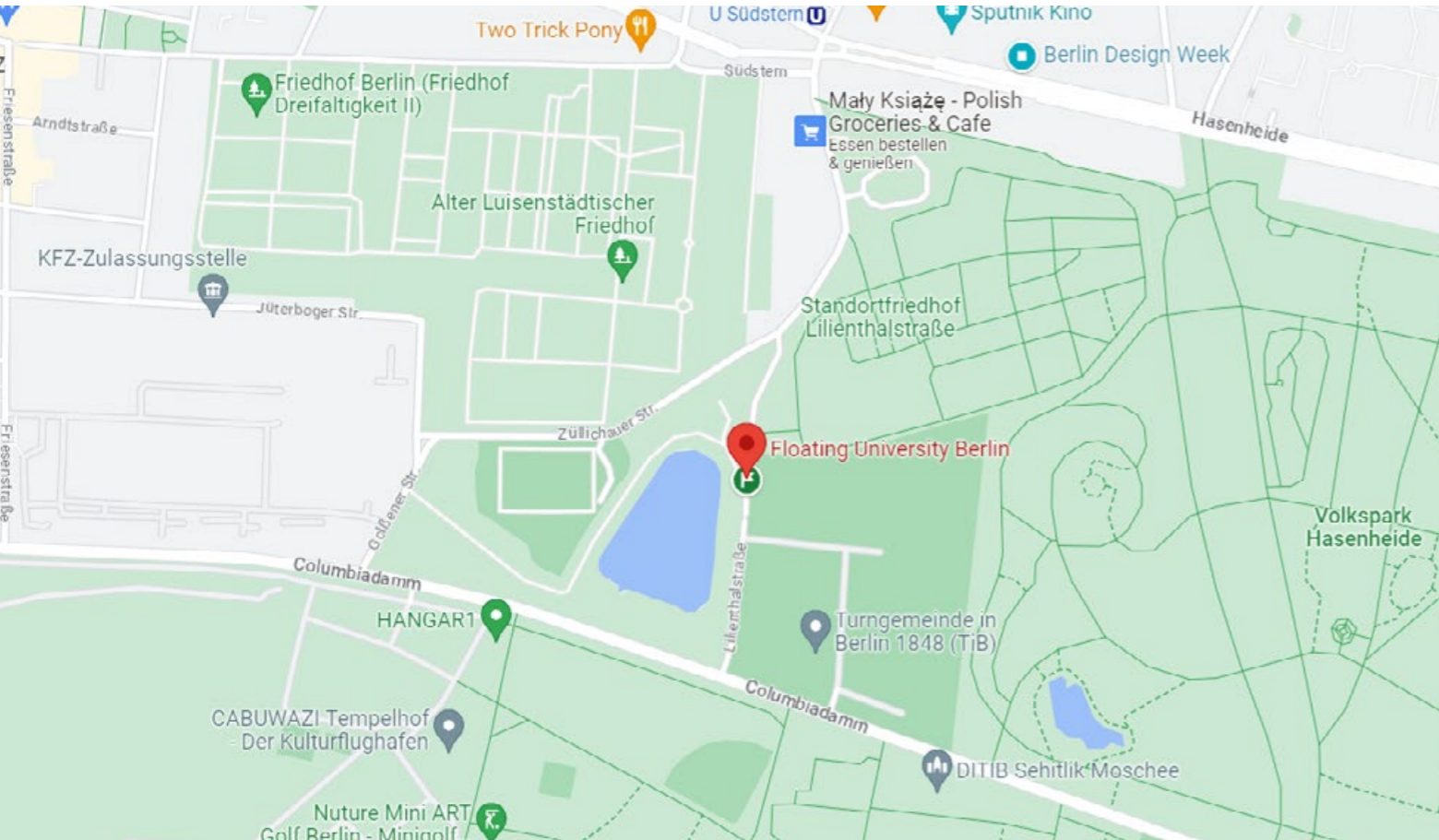
Lago Bulicante, Rome Google Maps satellite view

LAGO BULICANTE "The objective to design a council, as an instrument of shared management and protection of the site, to give life to a governance fed by research, training, planning and continuous programming, of which the lake is the main actor that establishes the limits and sustainability of human action." (Lago Bulicante web page)

Selective
use of
color green

Regime of invisibility 7

Continental Scale Feral Cartography



Blue Floating University marshes, Berlin Google Maps default view



Floating universtiy weland, Berlin Google Maps default view

Floating e.V. is a self organized space and group, where practitioners from a wide range of backgrounds meet to collaborate, co-create and imaginatively work towards futures. It is in solidarity with the history of the site and with the lineage of alternative narratives for urban development that the Floating e.V. situates its mission: to open, maintain, and take care of this unique site while bringing non-disciplinary, radical, and collaborative programs to the public. In other words, it is a place to learn to engage, to embrace the complexity and navigate the entanglements of the world, to imagine and create different forms of living. (Floating university webpage)

Selective
use of
color green

Regime of invisibility 7

Regional Scale Feral Cartography

Each self-sustained urban nature has its own specificities - from the type of anthropogenic stress that it has suffered (e.g post-industrial sites, sites of extraction, the introduction of "exotic" plants to autochthonous ecosystems, paving urban soils, destruction of infrastructure, wastelands) to the unique soil archives, capacity of ecosystem services, geographical determinants, type of vegetation, and potential for production of public space.



Vila Rafut/
Nova Gorica



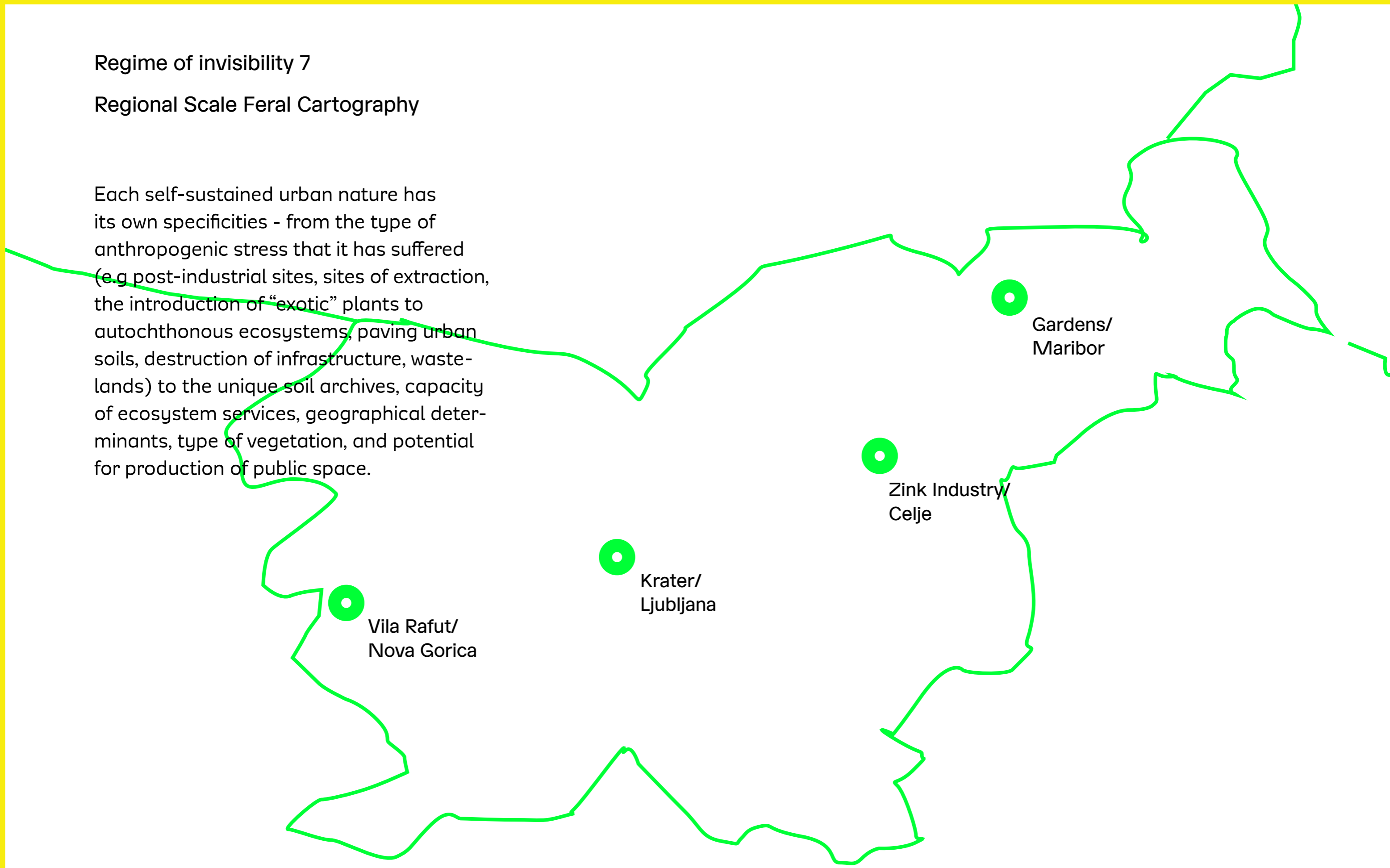
Krater/
Ljubljana



Zink Industry/
Celje



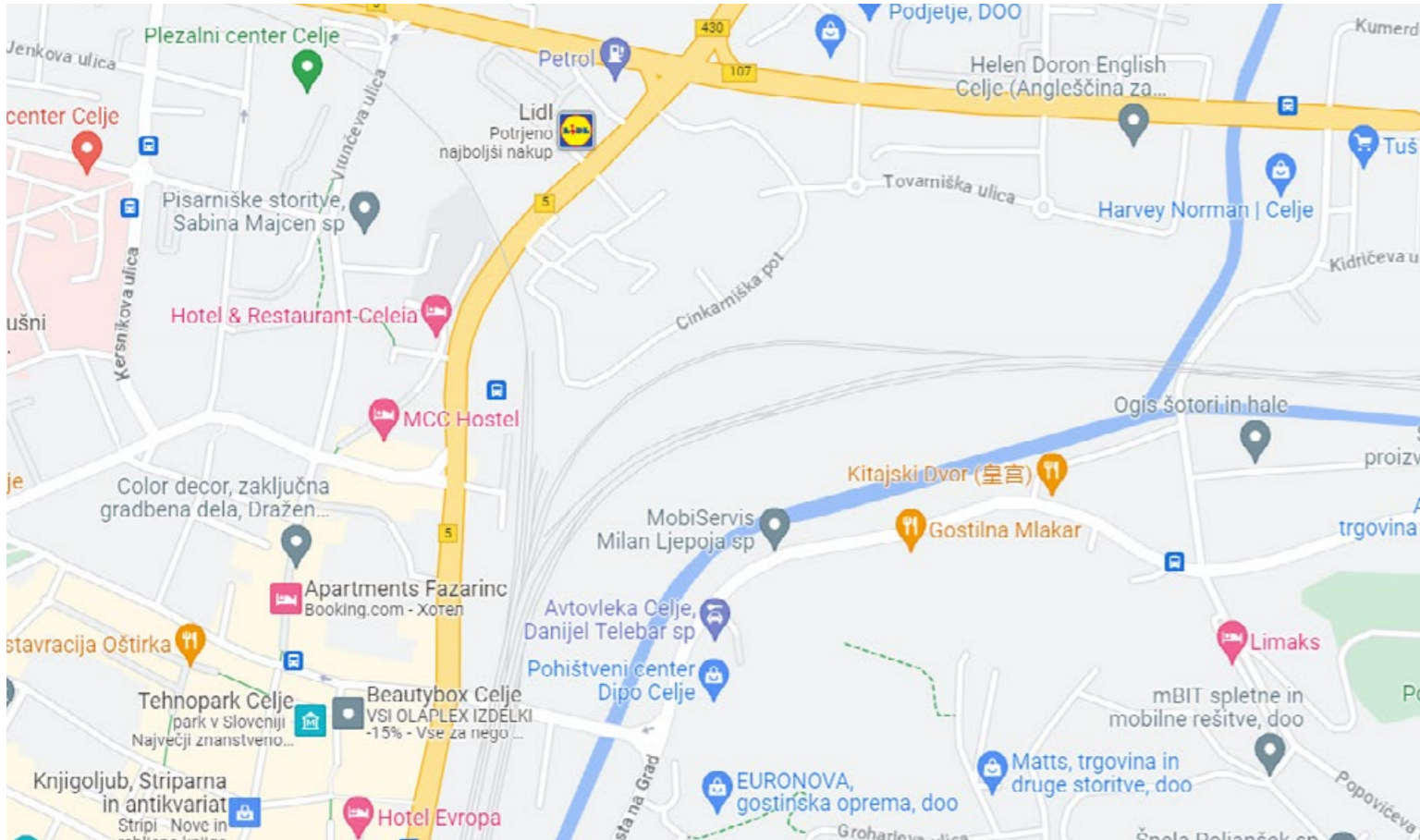
Gardens/
Maribor





Zink Smelting Plant / Celje

look at pp. 11-13



Area of old Zink Factory, Celje Slovenia, Google Maps default view



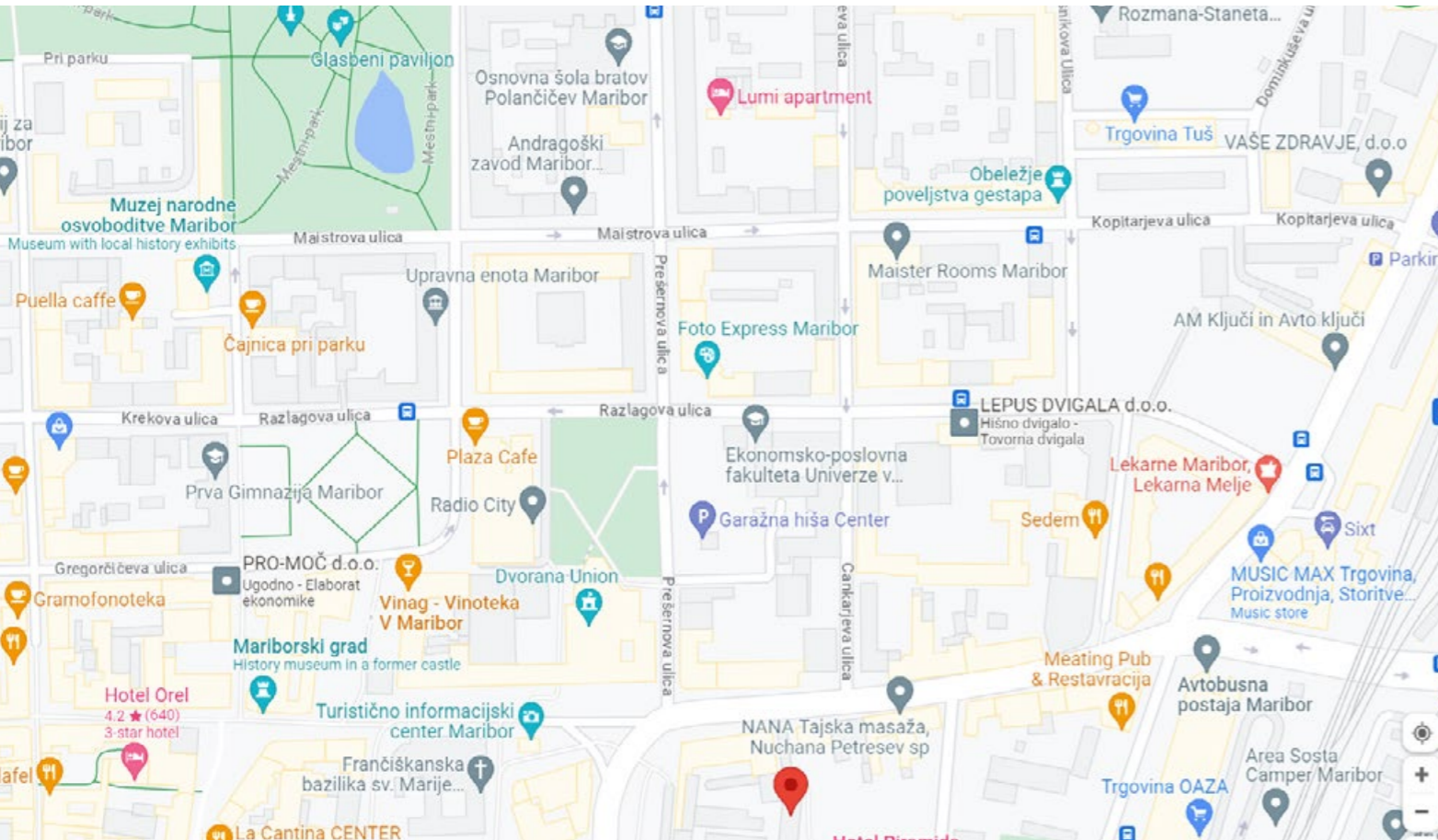
Area of old Zink Factory, Celje Slovenia, Google Maps satellite view

Selective use
of the
color green



Gardens/ Maribor

look at pg 18



Blank gardens within blocks, Maribor Slovenia, Google Maps default



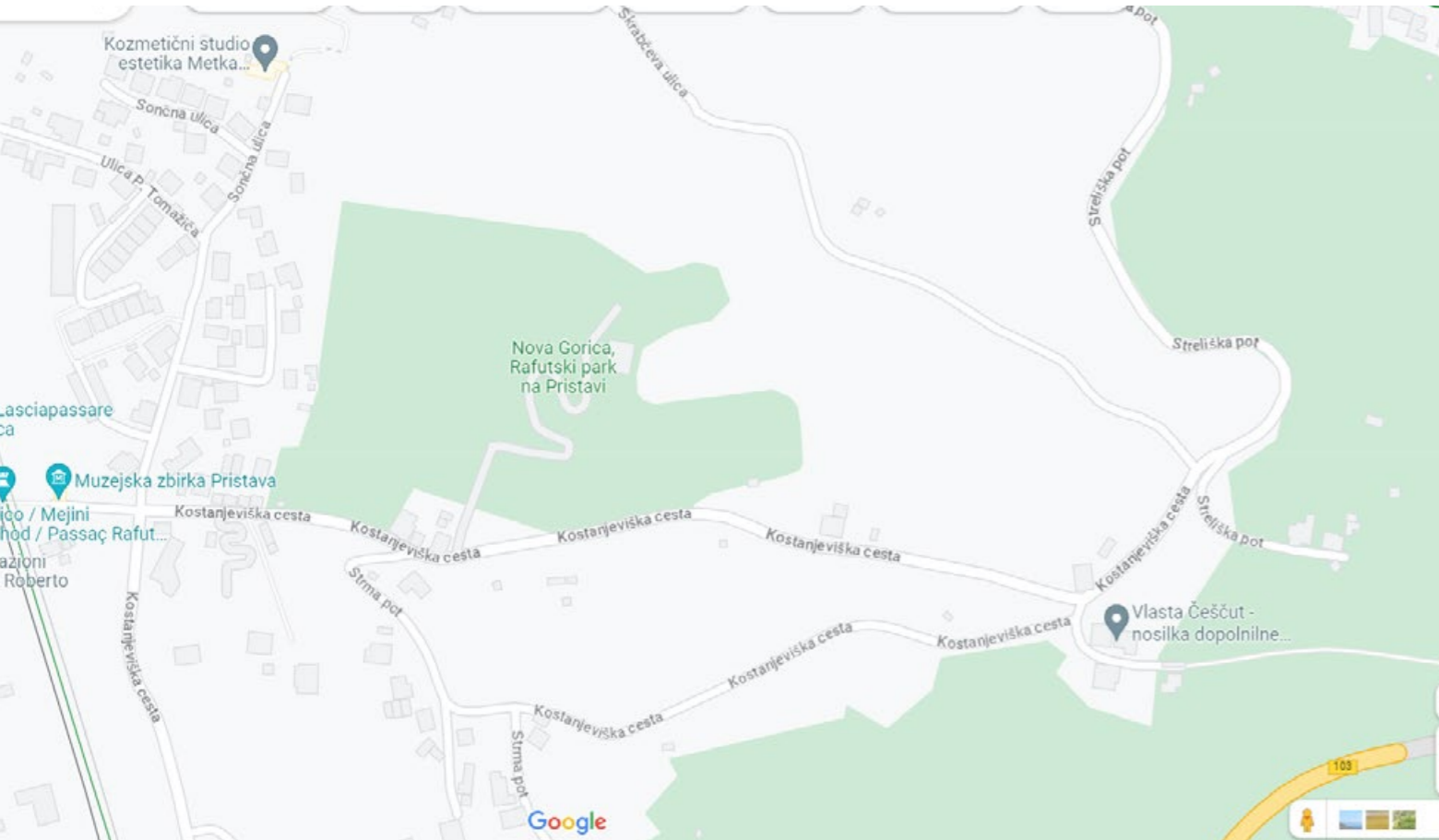
Gardens within blocks, Maribor Slovenia, Google Maps satellite view

Sin of the
color green



Vila Rafut/
Nova Gorica

look at pp 20-21



Feral Rafut's park, Nova Gorica Slovenia, Google Maps default view



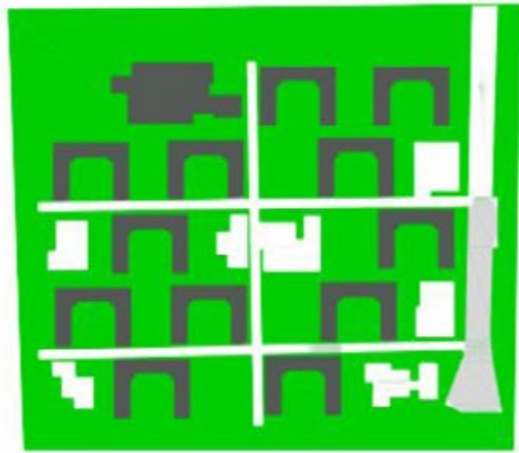
Feral Rafut's Park, Nova Gorica Slovenia, Google Maps satellite view

Selective use
of the color
green

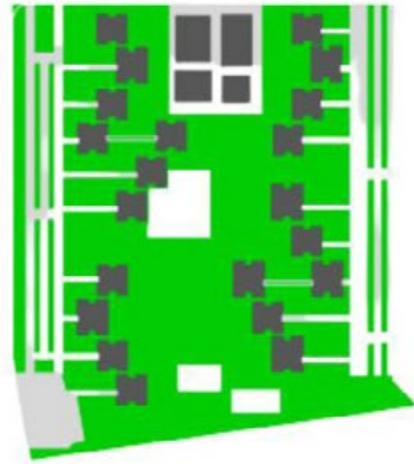
What do you think of
when you think of
urban development?

ANALYSIS AND MAIN INSIGHTS

PARADIGM OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT



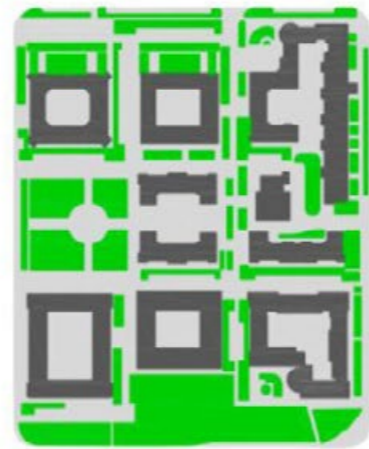
BLOK 45 (1972.) **71%**



BLOK 70a (1985.) **64%**



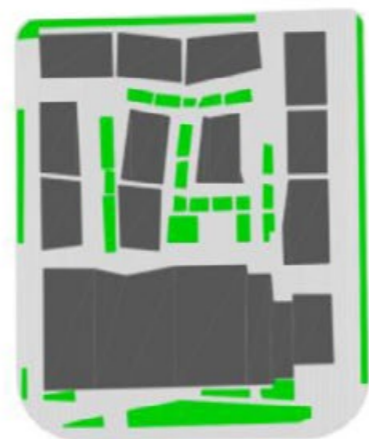
BLOK 19a (1981) **60%**



BLOK 29 (2006.) **23%**



A BLOK (2019.) **14%**



WEST 65 (2022.) **8%**

ZASTUPLJENOST ZELENILA U
NOVOBEOGRADSKIM BLOKOVIMA

The scheme represents the ratio between green and built areas for New Belgrade neighborhoods. In 1972 71% of the area of the worker-housing neighbourhood was green infrastructure. In 2022 8% percent of capitalocentered development is green infrastructure. (Simić, 2022)

What is crucial to understand here is that green areas need respectable space (at least 53ha) and interconnectedness to allow for the highest levels of biodiversity. (Solomon, 2021)

The modernist principles in urbanism (such as neighborhood in a park), although often criticized for its out-of-human scale, in fact, offer a model of urbanization that leaves large green open space between the buildings, while buildings plots occupy the least possible area on the ground. The ecological network here has a high potential to become a public space connector

ANALYSIS AND MAIN INSIGHTS PARADIGM OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT



Bezigrad's Sports park



Petrol corporate building



Palace of Justice

What is considered urban development

ANALYSIS AND MAIN INSIGHTS

PARADIGM OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT

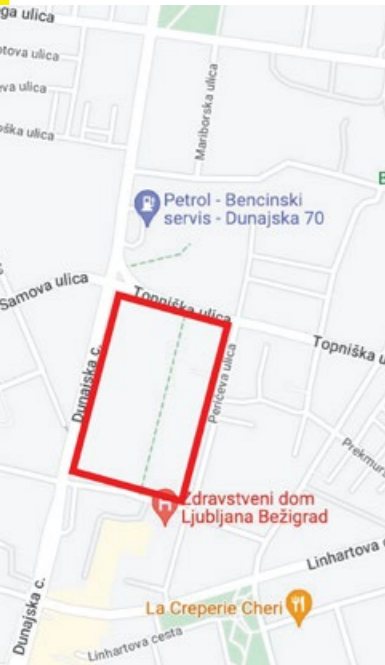


Stages of succession of self-sustained urban ecology at pending construction site 2002-2016: Krater, Ljubljana

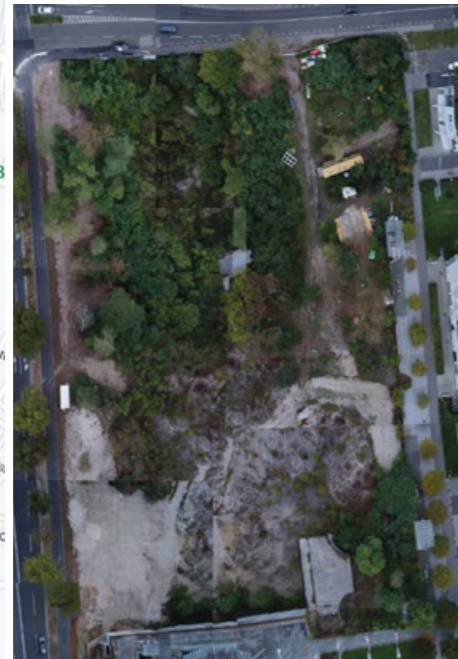
What is
not
considered
urban
development

ANALYSIS AND MAIN INSIGHTS

Feral Cartographies as a zoom-in into the unseen



tabula rasa



1:1000



1:250



1:100



1:10



1:5

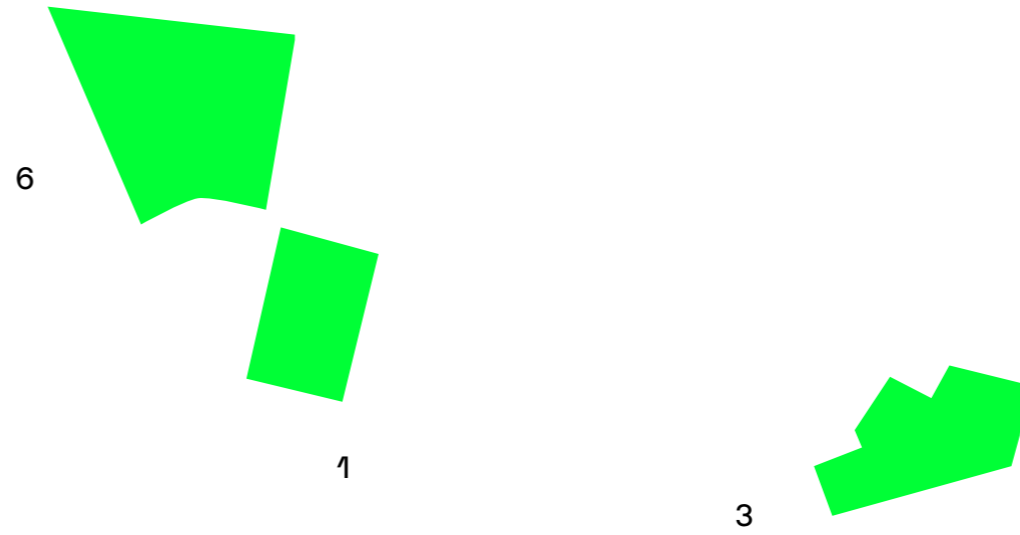


1:1

Zoom in into Krater to find out complexities left out from Google Maps. Starting from tabula-rasa to Krater various scales inhabitants

Overcoming the problem of abstraction in cartography, the infinite-zoom-in principle is tested as a new technique for representing the ever-growing complexities of urban ecologies, without excluding the city dimension. It starts with the satellite view of the city (abstract geometries), continues to depict a network of feral sites, and dives deep into multispecies communities and soil structures. With the close-up, the drawing becomes more and more detailed. This principle can develop into city application and be applied in various cities, but also for educational purposes. Essentially it is testing the capacity of drawing to reconfigure cartography power relations. This aspect is shown only as a principle and will be developed further and in detail following the end of the fellowship.

Troubles in
Cartography



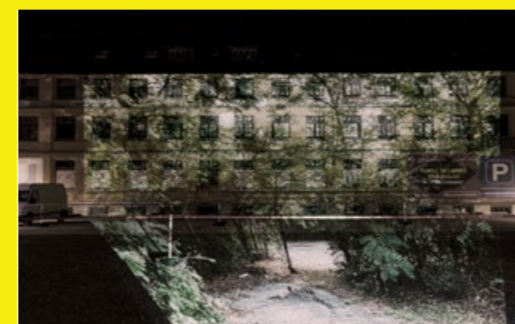
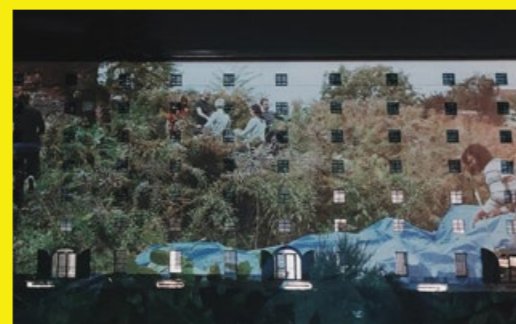
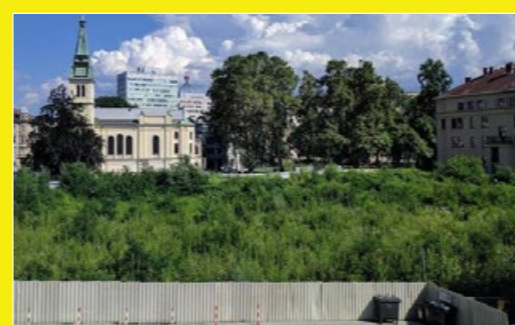
Ljubljana Scale Feral Cartography

With the help of guerilla photography, we visualise politics and tactics used by urban planning to categorize, oversee, and ultimately delete feral city lands. By presenting a timeline of the transformation of several prominent Ljubljana locations, the installation asks: Where did our idea of the city development come from? Why is future city development not planned with feral sites, appreciating the regenerative work of nature on devastated urban lands instead of replacing them with large developments, in most cases benefiting no one but private capital?



ANALYSIS MAIN INSIGHTS

Feral Cartographies case study Ljubljana



Krater to be replaced with the Palace of Justice

Sugar Factory feral ecosystem replaced with Gallery of Contemporary Art

Rice Factory feral ecosystem replaced with Parking Lot

Kolizej construction ecosystem replaced with Parking Lot

Plečnik's stadium to be replaced with Bežigrad sports park complex

Rog bicycle factory replaced with autonomous cultural squat replaced with creative industries

Krater to be replaced with the Palace of Justice



Krater to be replaced
with the Palace of Justice



Krater to be replaced
with the Palace of Justice



Sugar Factory feral ecosystem replaced with Contemporary Gallery



Sugar Factory feral ecosystem replaced with Contemporary Gallery



Sugar Factory feral
ecosystem replaced with
Contemporary Gallery



Rice Factory feral
ecosystem replaced
with Parking Lot



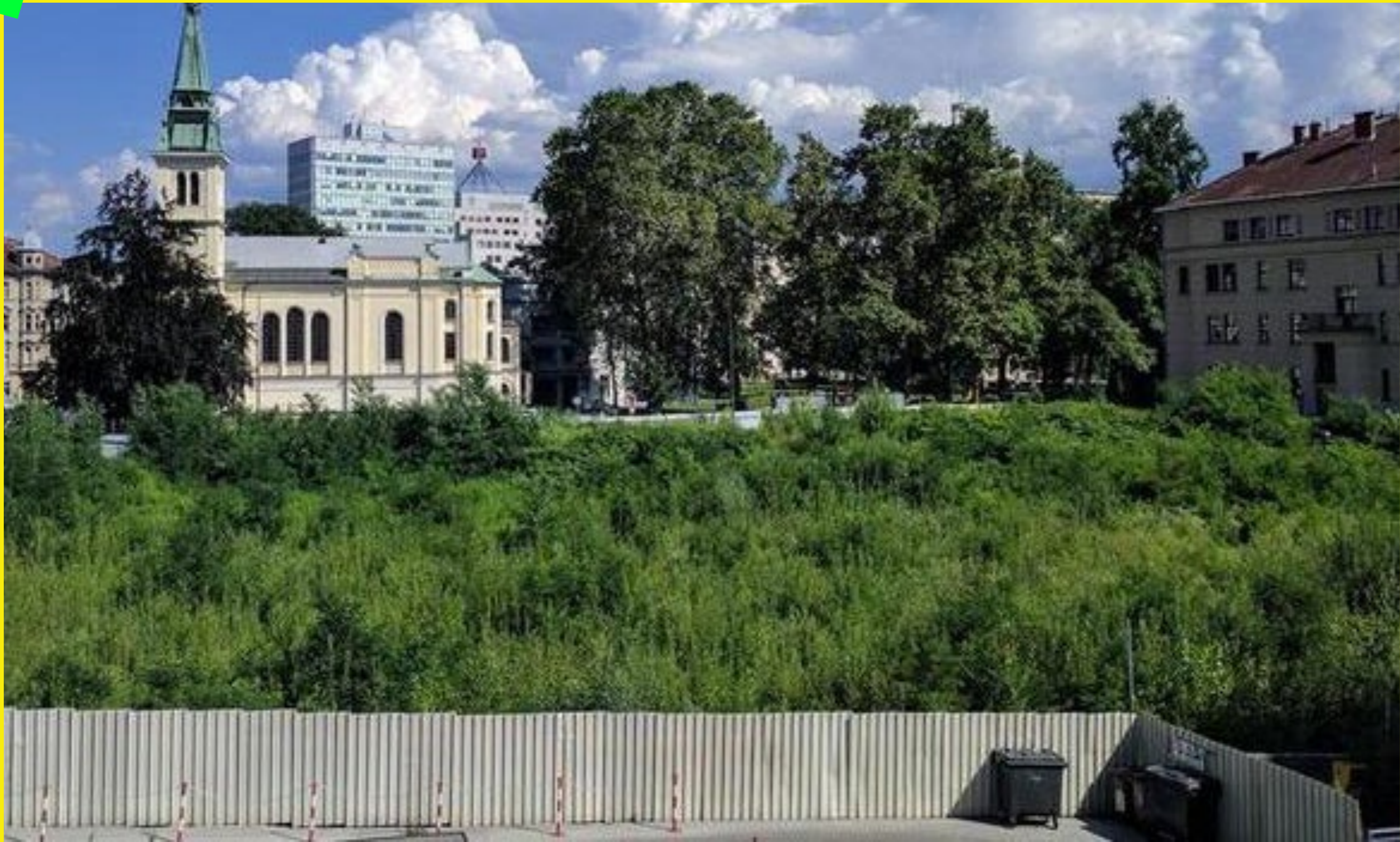
Rice Factory feral
ecosystem replaced
with Parking Lot



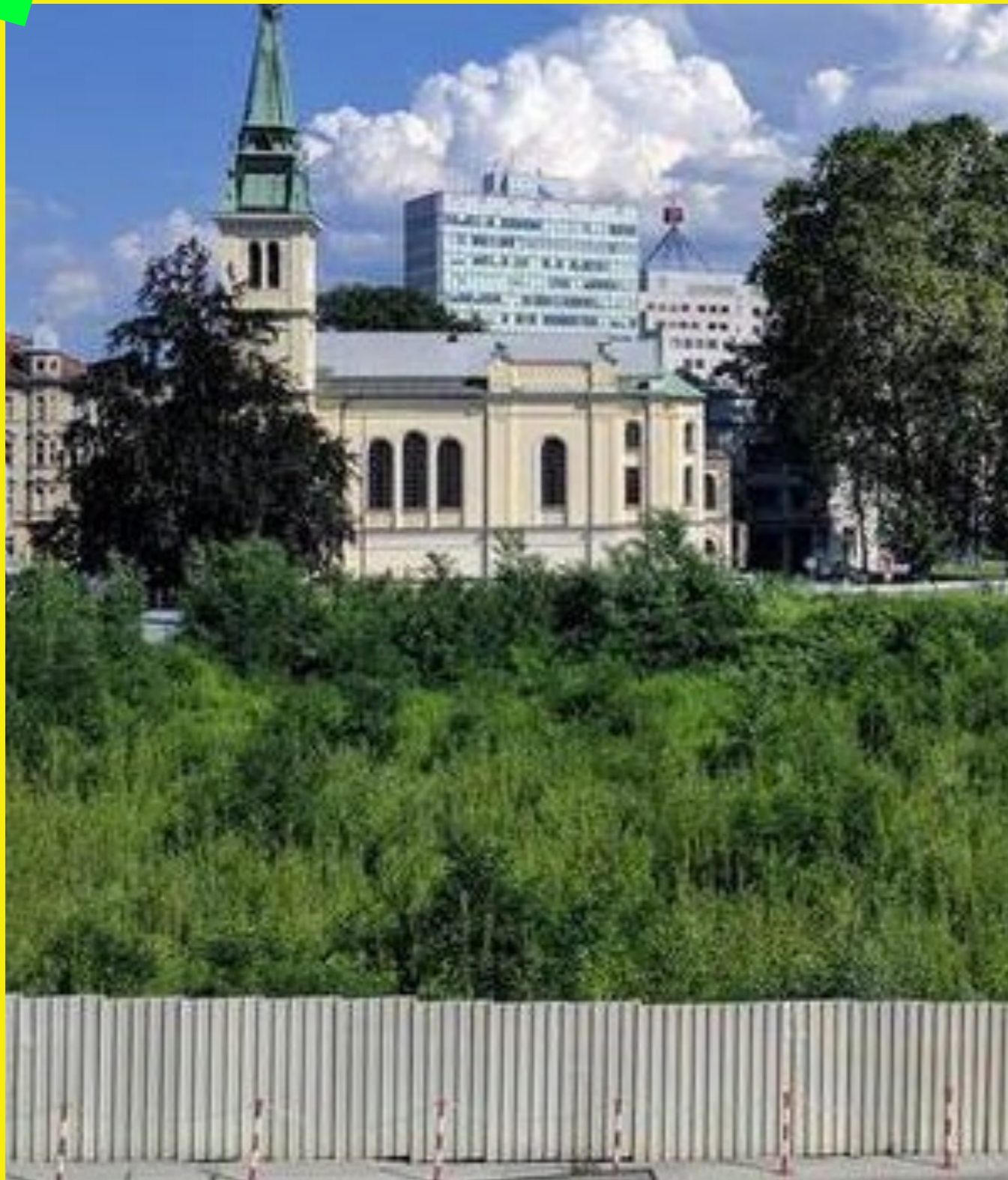
Rice Factory feral ecosystem replaced with Parking Lot



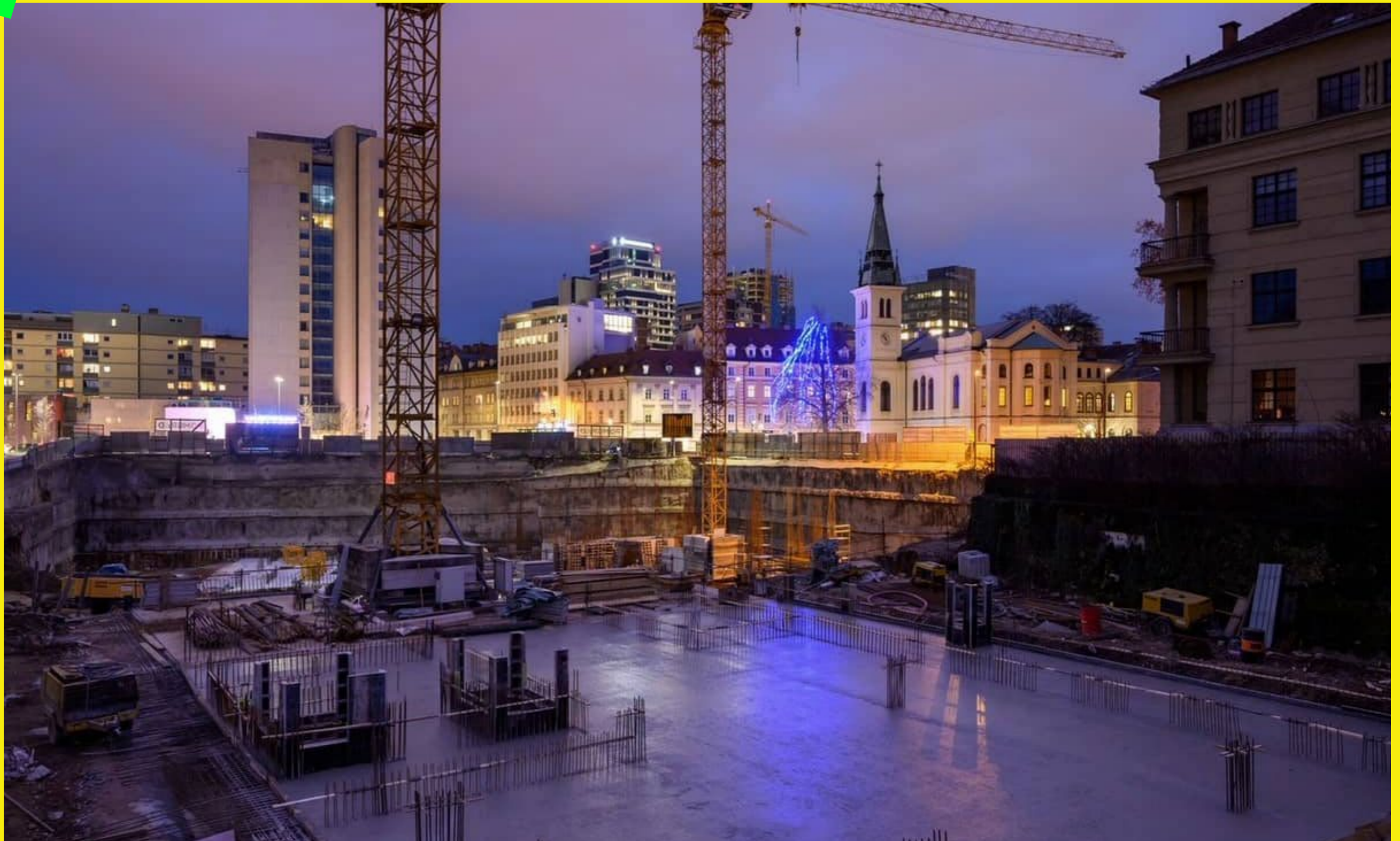
Kolizej construction ecosystem replaced with Parking Lot



Kolizej construction site ecosystem replaced with luxurious housing



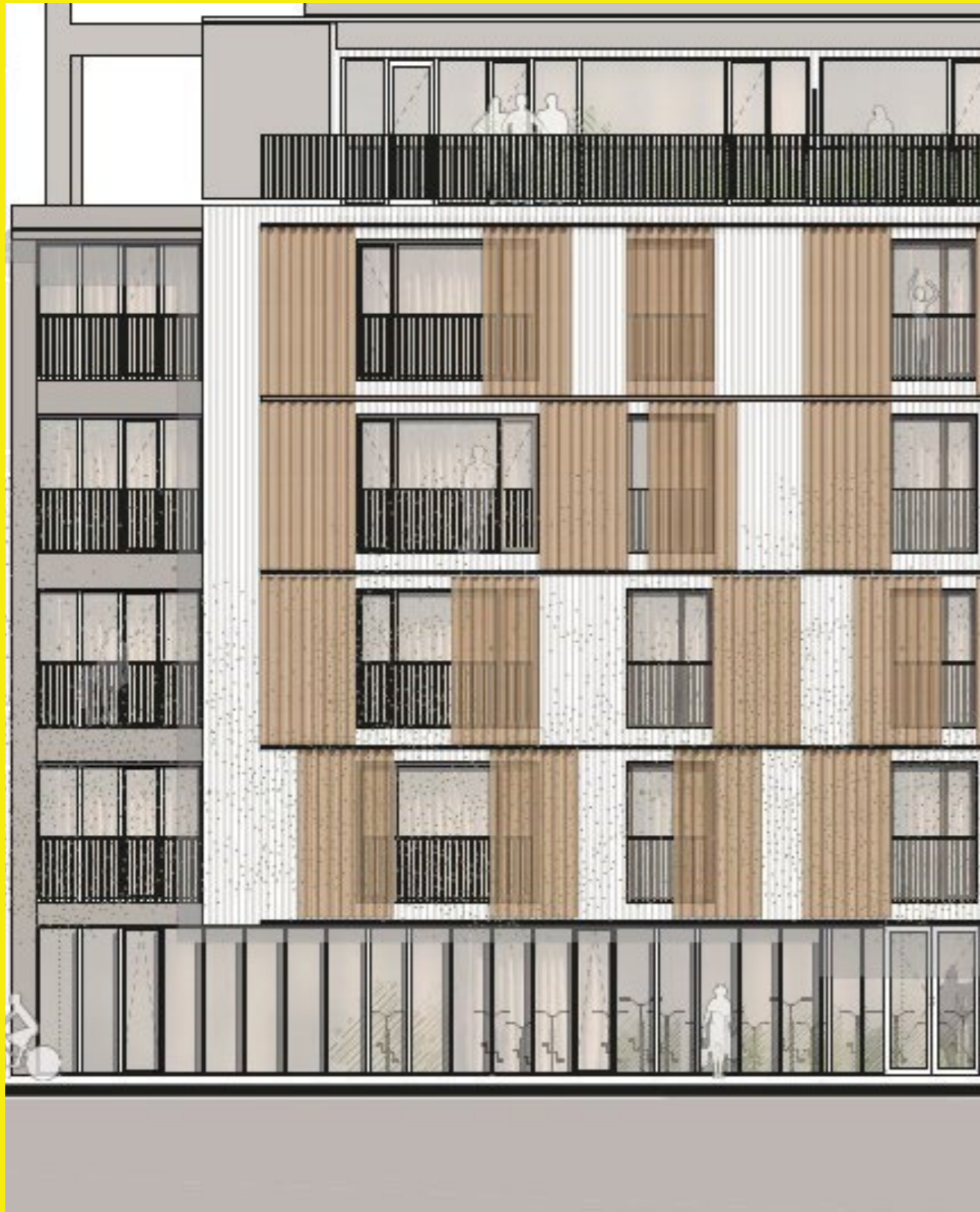
Kolizej construction site ecosystem replaced with luxurious housing



Urban gardens
replaced with
Housing



Urban gardens
replaced with
Housing



Urban gardens
replaced with
Housing



Plečnik's stadium
to be replaced with
Bežigrads sports
park complex



Plečnik's stadium
to be replaced with
Bežigrads sports
park complex



Plečnik's stadium
to be replaced with
Bežigrads sports
park complex



Rog bicycle factory



Rog bicycle factory
replaced with autonomous
culture squat



Rog bicycle factory
replaced with autonomous
culture squat



Foto: Peter Legiša

Rog bicycle factory
replaced with autonomous culture squat
replaced with creative industries by the eviction of Rog squat



Foto: Peter Legiša




Rog bicycle factory
replaced with autonomous culture squat
replaced with creative industries by the eviction of Rog squat



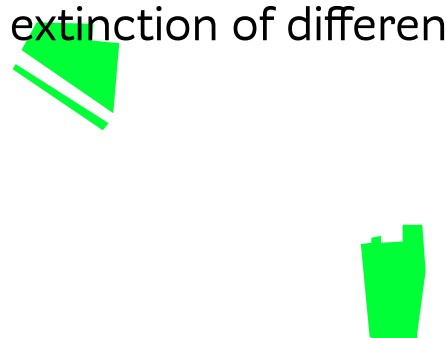


Ljubljana Scale Feral Cartography

The following work developed during the CIRCE fellowship has been awarded by the international jury with an Honorable mention at the 35th Graphic Biennial in Ljubljana, which opened in mid-September with art director Ibrahim Mahama.



Together with the collective, we performed night projections at contested city sites. The projection superimposed photography of feral land to the facades of the buildings that replaced those lands. This superimposition of the past onto the present made visible transformations of city land. This is of crucial importance as many of these developments went unnoticed and without major public reaction. Repeating an action of projection to six different locations, all considered by Municipality representative examples of city prosperity provided an insight into the systematic extinction of different categories of city diversity.



Rice Factory feral
ecosystem replaced
with Parking Lot



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NEČ DREVES

Rice Factory feral
ecosystem replaced
with Parking Lot



Rice Factory feral
ecosystem replaced
with Parking Lot



Kolizej construction site
ecosystem replaced
with luxurious housing



Cukrarna ecosystem
replaced by Contempo-
rary Art Gallery



Plečnik's stadium
to be replaced with
Bežigrad's sports



Plečnik's stadium
to be replaced with
Bežigrad's sports



Plečnik's stadium
to be replaced with
Bežigrad's sports



Rog bicycle factory replaced with
autonomous culture squat
replaced with creative industries
by the eviction of Rog squat



Rog bicycle factory historic
three line entirely cut and
replaced by young threes



Krater self sustained
ecosystem hosts
Krater Collective

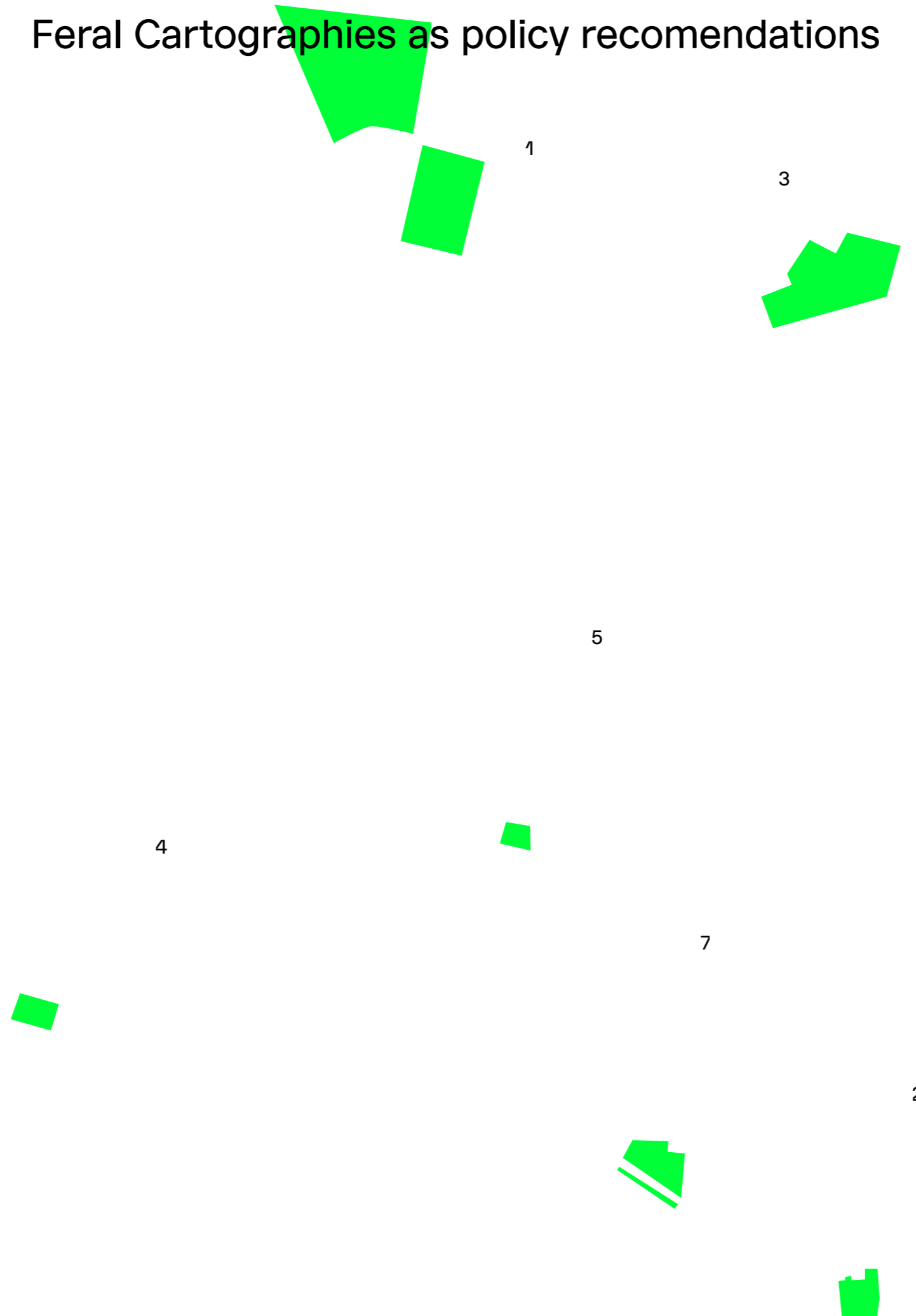


Krater self sustained eco-
system to be replaced with
the Palace of Justice



ANALYSIS AND MAIN INSIGHTS

Feral Cartographies as policy recommendations



ANALYSIS AND MAIN INSIGHTS

in collaboration with: Gaja Mežnarić Osole

1

Implementing community economies as an organising principle

We cannot think about a potent ecological transition without moving our economic practices from extractive to regenerative. Key concepts like community economies, as advocated by J.K. Gibson-Graham, can serve as valuable frameworks for repairing organizational programs and structures based on capitalist-driven operations. Instead of viewing the economy solely as a profit-driven mechanism, the community economies approach encourages a reframing of the economy as a dynamic mesh of diverse exchanges, encompassing both financial and non-financial aspects. This shift in perspective places a strong emphasis on prioritizing the well-being of both human and non-human communities while recognising their interdependence.

By adopting community economy principles, policymakers can empower themselves to facilitate the reclamation of the economy as a shared resource.

2

The Feral Gardener: Adapting new vocational roles in urban green management

In the face of biodiversity loss and climate change, our post-industrial cities need to adapt new approaches to managing public greens. These approaches should involve the design of entirely new public spaces and the revitalization of existing ones, with the aim of creating highly productive green environments that serve multiple purposes, including climate regulation, biodiversity enhancement, food provision, the development of crucial ecological infrastructure, and the establishment of research platforms to facilitate learning about eco-cultural regeneration. If the citizen's role is often limited solely to the users and admirers of urban parks and forests, then contemporary urban greens, populated with exotic, invasive and feral plants, human infrastructures, and fugitive compounds demand active, attentive engagement. Cities would need to start calling for a new generation of land workers who practice slow disturbance through the nurturing of interspecies collaborations.

ANALYSIS AND MAIN INSIGHTS

in collaboration with: Gaja Mežnarić Osole

3

New guidelines for engaging with multispecies ecologies in the cities

In urban landscapes, where cultural heritage guidelines have already established stringent protocols for landscape interventions, it is imperative to integrate eco-cultural assessments into the process as a new policy. This evaluation should consider factors such as the ecology's role as a corridor for wildlife, its critical function as habitat for endangered species, the irreplaceable contributions of soil organisms to fundamental life processes, the maturity of the ecosystem and its impact on the surrounding areas, its seasonal roles, and its cultural and social value. In circumstances where human-centered interventions are unavoidable, land managers should provide a meticulously planned migration strategy of the existing ecology to mitigate the risk of irreparable landscape fragmentation.

4

Protecting 'third landscapes' as sensitive nature reserves

In Slovenian and EU legislative documents, including Natura 2000 and the Slovenian Constitution, numerous directives and regulations for nature protection are already established. However, it is highly advisable to design new protective mechanisms for the emergence of spontaneous urban ecologies—unregulated environments where nature, due to abandonment or neglect, initiates crucial processes of regeneration. Often referred to as 'third landscapes,' a term developed by landscape architect Gilles Clement, these areas typically exemplify pioneering ecosystems that are actively involved in the process of ecological succession. They play host to sensitive processes such as CO₂ sequestration, soil formation, seed proliferation, providing sustenance for bees, and serving as nesting grounds for birds and butterflies. Furthermore, they offer cost-free opportunities for educational and research activities, all set against the backdrop of the ongoing vulnerability due to their precarious status, as they await potential replacement by new urban developments.

ANALYSIS AND MAIN INSIGHTS

in collaboration with: Gaja Mežnarić Osole

5

Culture as a catalyst for fostering transdisciplinary alliances

The regenerative narratives demand adapting various knowledges and tactics which call for transdisciplinary alliances. To reimagine formats in culture that surpass disciplinary separation, we need to encourage diverse collaborations, driving from the expertise of law, ecology, biology, social sciences, etc. These collaborations should address critical questions related to regenerative practices, which are shared across various disciplines and explored and conveyed through the lens of arts and culture concepts, fostering innovative and interdisciplinary approaches.

6

Shifting eco-social volunteerism into paid work

While non-governmental organizations frequently provide people with ecological knowledge through raising awareness events, individuals often find it challenging to leverage this knowledge for both the greater public good and their own livelihoods. As economic precarity increases, voluntary work can inadvertently contribute to further exploitation. Therefore, we strongly advocate for new policies that officially recognize and financially support such educational activities as investments in cultivating 'green citizens'. These individuals can then collaborate to improve urban green spaces and pioneer innovative community-level care approaches. We need to shift from passive audiences to active citizens who are willing to take on this work, but it's crucial to recognize that their efforts should not go uncompensated.

ANALYSIS AND MAIN INSIGHTS

in collaboration with: Gaja Mežnarić Osole

7

Encouraging eco-socially sensitive cultural programming

Cultural programming that operates within the context of a vibrant multispecies ecosystem is inherently responsive to seasonal changes, temperature variations, and unpredictable weather events like heavy rains, droughts, and pathogens like tiger mosquitoes. In contrast to developing a program within the confines of an enclosed cultural space, these programs require deep engagement not only in producing discursive content, curating, and creative, project-related activities but also in actively managing green spaces and perhaps advocating for ecological causes. Importantly, these efforts remain sensitive to seasonal and other ecological shifts and adaptations, which, in turn, influence and inform the overall program activities. When structuring funding schemes for cultural programming, it is advisable to incorporate these dynamic circumstances into the tender formats.

8

Fostering a redefinition of land ownership: from private and public to common

Krater-like sites often face precarity and potential extinction due to their private or state-owned status. Such ownership structures allow the owner to regard the land as inert, awaiting new development for further profit or representational infrastructure. In reality, the land is a shared resource, coexisting with diverse citizens, plants, soil organisms, animals, fungi and bacteria. It should be treated as such, fostering livelihoods for numerous visible and invisible bodies. Policies that promote a shift in the concept of land ownership, fostering the emergence of new urban commons (negotiated through commoning practices by the commoners), have the potential to facilitate novel and responsible forms of land stewardship, including the regeneration of disturbed and damaged ecosystems.

ANALYSIS AND MAIN INSIGHTS

in collaboration with: Gaja Mežnarić Osole

9

**Enabling creative collaboration:
linking Ministries, cultural/educational
institutions, and activism in policy,
programming, and advocacy**

Cultural innovation, fueled by radical ideas, experimental initiatives, and grassroots efforts, has the capacity to unveil novel pathways for progress when it retains its transformative and subversive essence. To achieve this, it should originate from grassroots initiatives and have open pathways to connect with universities, equipping younger generations with up-to-date tools to confront contemporary challenges effectively. Simultaneously, it should be able to serve as an informational resource for policymakers and administrators across various ministry departments, offering recommendations and policy guidelines that facilitate systemic transformation. Creating a corridor between active citizenship, education, and administration has the potential to empower creative communities to play a political role and become a pivotal force in driving the essential eco-social changes.

10

**Implementing a discursive shift in
administration: transitioning from
neoliberal to post-humanist**

By replacing neoliberal discourse with the integration of post-humanist and degrowth concepts into administrative vocabulary, education, and the public sphere, we can effectively steer clear of greenwashing. Shifting away from the perspective that the white European male is the center of the world, towards recognizing the agency of other genders, races, and non-human communities as contributing actors in shaping our contemporary worldlings, would dismantle the greenwashed sustainability measures that still structurally prioritize financial growth and the exploitation of less-privileged-others.

ANALYSIS AND MAIN INSIGHTS

in collaboration with: Gaja Mežnarić Osole

11

Transforming the temporality of regeneration actions

Regeneration projects like Krater require long-term financing and sustained engagement. Short-term projects with durations of 1 to 4 years, in terms of natural evolution and ecological and social implementations, often face the risk of disruption when funding ends prematurely. Both nature and communities need to follow their own rhythms to achieve regeneration. Therefore, we should move beyond designing project-based structures, which may have uncertain continuity, and instead seek out 20-year regeneration plans that generate new opportunities for green employment. This approach would enable us to more effectively and committedly engage in the desired reparatory practices of the land while simultaneously creating a more stable environment for their execution. Public good initiatives should not be subject to competition or precarity!

12

Recognizing the Rights of Nature and Adopting Zöonomy

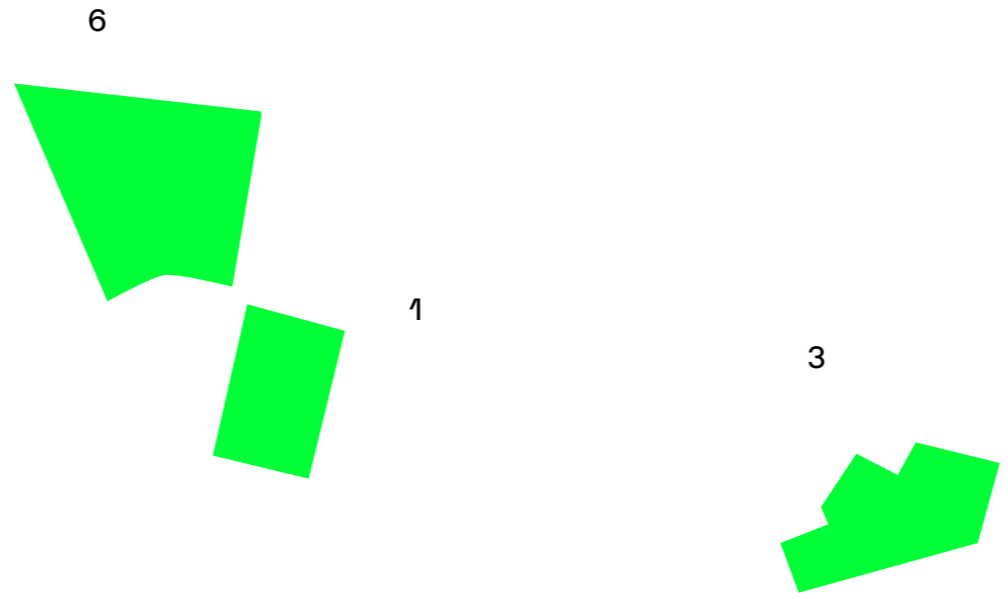
Creative works have the power to inspire alternative worldviews, but the creation of new legal frameworks to protect and uphold these perspectives is an urgent necessity. Practical steps to reconfigure legal systems towards embracing multispecies justice can be found in the Rights of Nature movement, which seeks to grant ecosystems, such as rivers, lakes, and mountains, the same legal rights as humans or corporations. The movement aims to confer the status of a legal person upon environmental entities. Inspired by the Rights of Nature movement, we propose the adoption of an innovative governance approach known as Zöonomy. Developed by artist and researcher Klaas Kuitenbrouwer, this framework advocates for the interests of non-human communities within the operational structures of organizations. Zöonomy enables organizations of all kinds to become “zöops” by incorporating a “Speaker for the Living” as an advisor and observer. This representative serves as a voice for non-human entities, speaking on their behalf to ensure their rights are considered in decision-making processes.



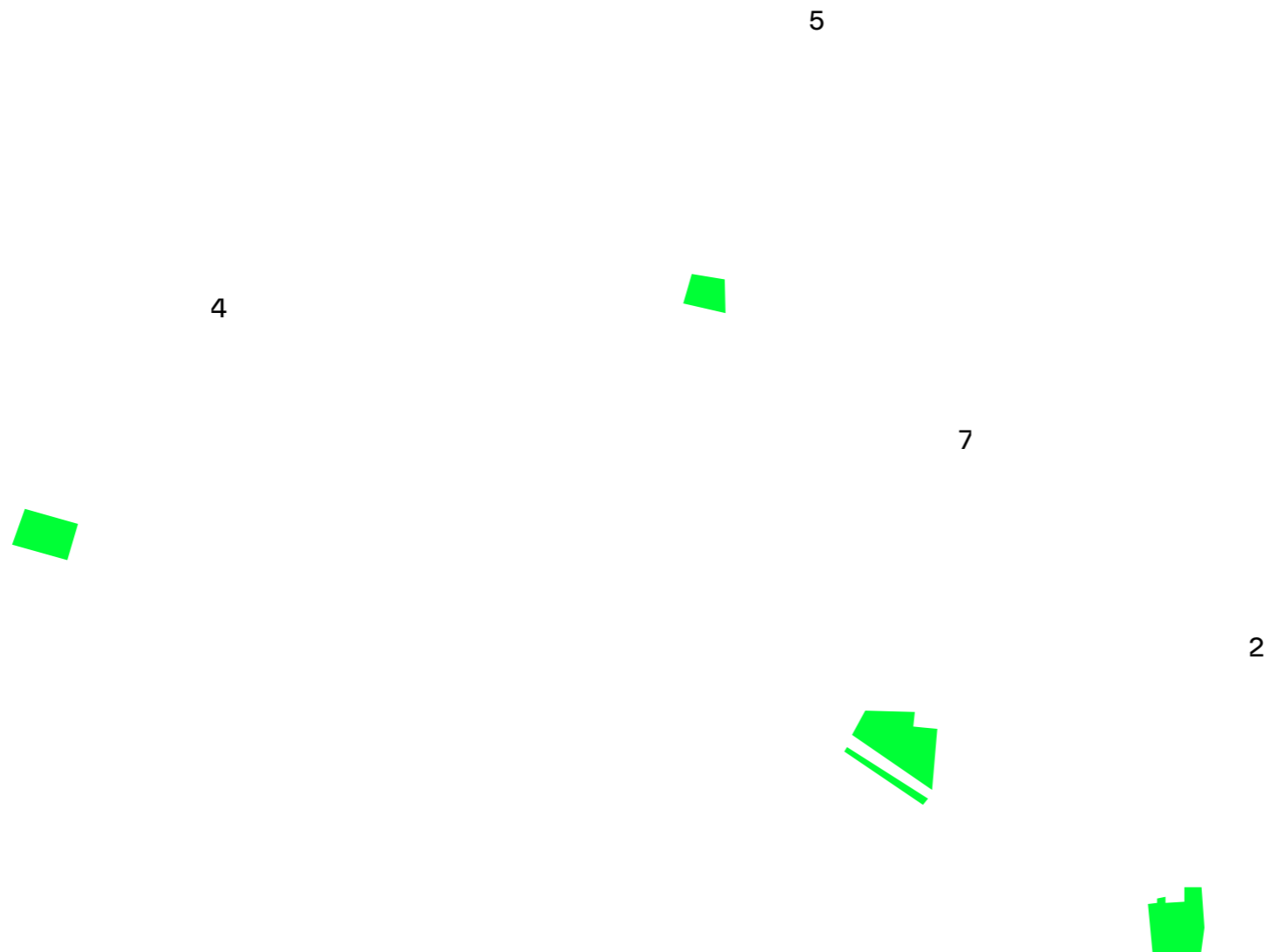
An Exercise in Feral Cartographies

This research is supported by many dear friends whose talent, courage, work and feral creativity to reimagine the world fuel resilience of my own imagination.

Gaja Mežnarić Osole, concepts co-creator Amadeja Smrekar, Žiga Urbajs & Ana Skobe, photographers Katja Martinčič, creative urbanist, Kaja Kisilak, infinite zoom in, Borut Jerman, cultural producer, Marko Turkuš, cinema operator, Katarina Kušar, architect Ministrarstvo prostora, resistance front, Primož Turnšek, microbiologist, Jerneja Ferlež, Petra Čeferin, Sara Deni, Daša Bezjak, Pavlina Japelj, Urška Škerl, Jelena Prljevic, Hana Čurak, Julia Udall, Gilly Karjevski, Debra Solomon, Krater Collective



Feral Cartographies Behind the scenes





of a “profitable space”
cannot be exercised,

Feral
Cartography
City Scale
Lecture
Jun 2023



Feral
Cartography
Movie
Screening
May 2023

Curated by Danica Sretenović
and Gaja Mežnarić Osole

THE SCHOOL OF FERAL GROUNDS

Co-funded by the
European Union



kratercollective and trala_lala_lila_lala

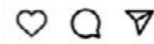
kratercollective Ferals are back keep posted 🐾

The School of Feral Grounds is an educational programme produced by Trajna as part of the @futuredivercities project.

Subscriptions in bio.

The School of Feral Grounds situates cultural practices in the world in which capital-driven economies act as geological forces, terraforming the earth into a place where climate change, social inequality, and species extinction call for urgent collective action. The school acts as a forum for interchange, where reflections, concepts, case studies, and generative exercises invite participants to position urban ecologies within the field of culture by interlinking common notions of the urban and ecology.

In a series of three interactive study modules, participants will dive into diverse topics of urban ecology and different perspectives thereon, together with inspiring guest speakers working in the fields of visual arts and curation, activism, geography, and ecology. The programme is developed and run by architect and theoretician Danica Sretenović and eco-social designer Gaja Mežnarić Osole, and is offered to the public free of charge.



Liked by sara.badovinac and 64 others

MAY 2

Glympse into School of Feral grounds



kratercollective and trala_lala_lila_lala
Krater

kratercollective ▯ The City Scale: Short introduction to the counter-space

with Danica Sretenović

feat guests: Ibrahim Mahama, artist and curator & Urška Škerl, landscape architect ▯

Zoom link in bio.

City scale will take us on a tour around places where the standard criterion of ordering city fails, to unprofitable, worthless territories from the point of view of speculative urbanism. We will track their recent histories of transformations as well as planning techniques used to neutralize their transformative potential: revitalization by the injection of a commercial program; extinction by the slow decay; and preservation in a state of administrative indeterminacy. To shift the paradigm of current urban growth which downfalls in social and environmental inequalities we will oppose the idea of unlimited city growth with feral tactics while discussing the conditions of the new urban.

Following the lecture, Danica will be in a conversation with Ibrahim Mahama & Urška Škel



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MAY 31



Glympse into work for 35th Graphic Biennial

Krater collective

Negotiators: Gaja Mežnarić Osole, Danica Sretenović

Documenter: Amadeja Smrekar

Construction works: Edern F, Louise ...,

Garden keepers: Anamari Hrup, Eva Jera Hanžek, Primož Turnšek, Andrej Koruza, Sebastjan Kovač, Rok Oblak

Feral Occupations: 'Our labor is our infrastructure!'

Title 1: Budget occupations: Feral Contract

Materials: Mashroom speaker Sound & print on paper

Year: 2023

Title 2: Institutional occupations

Materials: Photographic prints, open-air more-than-temporary interventions

Year: 2023

Title 3: Krater on-site occupations

Materials: Events of slow-disturbance:

Feral Cartographies Cycling Tour, Feral Clinic, Sanctuary of Abandoned Plants
open hours

Year: 2023

Title 4: Reader Catalog occupations

Materials: Notweed paper

Year: 2021

A negotiation for relocating the budgets to build temporary infrastructures into invisible/undervalued yet ceaseless work of Krater's multispecies care. To move local cultural economy from modes of extraction to the actions of care Feral occupations take over rupture through several diverse territories of Biennale operations: administration, venues, urban situations, catalog, promotion materials. to move the cultural economy from modes of extractions into the actions of care. The work presented at the biennial starts as an act of radical bureaucracy to avoid subordination of creative labor to serve material-production oriented funding schemes. By enacting a series of site-specific occupations (into the budget scheme, on Krater & in the galleries), collective they aim to recondition what it means to produce regeneratively within the frameworks of local cultural institutions.

Feral Cartographies cycling tour anecdote

At the empty plot of land which once was lively feral ecology guy shouted at cyclists that they should pay parking fees if they want to stay at his lot. When we moved peacefully he started recording us. Little does he know that few nights ago we spent several hours at his plot, projecting extincted ecosystem at what is today deserted parking lot.



name of
Krater other
than human
specie

name of
Krater human
specie

Krater
soil

Krater kolektiv smo generacija
ustvarjalnih delavcev, ki deluje v
zaraščenem gradbišču v Ljubljani.
Da bi se spopadli s planetarnimi
urgencami, smo zbrali pogum
in na novo zarisali svoje poklice,
studie in delovne pogoje. Raznolika
Kraterjanska zaveznitva so
omogočila, da danes Krater ni
"nasedli državni projekt", ampak
javna zemlja mnogih:



svilnasta nožičarka, Gaja Mežnarić Osole, navadna mahonija, Andrej Koruza, tankolistni dvoredec, Danica Sretenović, rumenooki kupido, Rok Oblak, brsljanolistni jetecnik, Primož Turnšek, pelinolistna ambrozija, Sebastjan Kovač, sončni mleček, Anamari Hrup, vrabec, Eva Jera Hanžek, pasje zelišče, Amadeja Smrekar, navadna skrbinka, Altan Jurca Avci, močvirsko ciprje, društvo prostoRož, perzijski jetičnik, navadni bršljan, veliki pajesen, frfotavček, Borut Jerman, crtasta pižamarka, Renata Šifrar, črni bor, širokolistna močvirnica, John Buscarino, navadni rman, Agrodivizija, trepetlika Ministrstvo za Pravosodje, japonski dresnik, Društvo za Permakulturo Slovenije, rdeči bor, Nina Vidlič Ivančič, njivsko grabljišče, Marko Vivoda, Thunbergov cešmin, plazeči petoprstnik, Kaja Kisilak, kosmata ploskocevka, Nina Kozin, smrdljiva krvomočnica, Tamara Lašič Jurković, sivozeleni muhvič, Nika Erjavec, tigrasti komar, Tamara Rijavec, ozkolistni trpotec, Pia Groleger, ostrolistni javor, navadni pelin, Gaja Pegan Nahtigal, navadni glavinec, Aja Golob, hrapava skrbinka, pozidna kušcarica, Zala Metlika, golob grivar, Tatjana Kotnik, čeladnica, Jana Vukšič, bela medena detelja, Mackovo kosteničevje, Filipa Valenčič, navadni srobot, mirtolistno kosteničevje, Iskra Vukšič, vrba, Lotte van der Woude, breskova dresen, Urška Škerl, navadna tisa, srebrna lipa, Zuzana Jančovičova, navadni lešnikar, Justyna Chmielewska, jablana plezajoca lakota, Jane Pirone, kanadska zlata rozga, postovka, jesenska vresa, Barbara Adams, orjaška zlaža rozga, rdečeča zvitocevka,

Hala Abdel Malak, navadni ognjeni trn, navadni gaber, gabez, Zsuzsanna Szegedi, krvavi mleček, Jana Stankić, pozidna rutica, jerebika, Zoltan Puzsár, navadni oman, Benedek Lits, črnoglavka, Angelo Renna, navadna mačja zel, Katherine Boles, lovorikovec, Xavier Acarin, rumeni katanec, enovratni glog, Ola Korbańska, smrdljicka, Iwo Borkowicz, zveplenjaca, Lara Jana Gabriel, zeleni muhvič, Lidija Pranjic, vzhodna plataha, Ajda Biček, navadna robida, navadna kurja češnjica, rdeča topolovka, Tina Božak, citronček, Sieta van Horck, šentjanževka, Andreja Benedejčič, češnjelika sliva, Rens Spanjaard, ripeča zlatica, Lyson Marchessault, rdeča topolovka, navadna črnobina, Manca Hrovat, Katarina Živković, navadni otavčič, črna detelja, Sandra Revuelta, enoletna suholetnica, Kinga Gacsalyi, navadni sporiš, Elias Brun, plazeči skrečnik, Ahmed Othman, beli repui Daniele Cristini, navadni modrin, navadna šušalica, kapusov belin, Debra Solomon, navadni lapuh, Klaas Kuitenbrower, navadna krhlika, navadna nakota, Rok Kranjc, navadna robinija, citronček, Mitja Zagar, admiral, avstrijski lučnik, Daniel Bell, travniška latovka, Jasper Van der Linden, primorski belin, Pedro Jervell, bela metlika, Elizabeta Valeksić, crni topol, črneča ožganka, Neza Novak, vrbji kovaček, Cristian Roman, bukova kresilka, Nina Rojc, navadna rjavka Gorazd Kurent, navadna ivanjščica, Marko Turkuš, navadna pokalica, Karlo Hmeljak, liguster, Aleksandra Kansky, vrednikov jetičnik, Gregor Klemenc, Pisana ploskocevka, Taja Gorjan, sinje zelena, Nina Dolar, rdeča topolovka,

Tina Pernuš, panešplja, Klemen Košir, kavka, Fabio Franz, rumenonogi galeb, Oriol Gracia Vallès, navadna pasja trava, Petra Žumer Štrigl, rdeči dren, Nina Dolar, srhkodlakava vijolica, Bojan Trstenjak Makar, konjska griva, navadni potrošnik, Bianca Eizenbaumer, regrat, Vladimir Borstnik, beli slizek, Damjan Kostič, lisček, navadni jagodnjak, Anna Kotova, navadni osat, plavček, Mladi za podnebno pravičnost, navadna cepillstka, Tjaša Zagorsek, grmasti petoprstnik, Alja Petric, dlakava penuša, Liza Šimnec, dvoletni dimek, Marko Čeh, veliki trpotec, grenkoslad, Jovan Višnjić, mali repinec, lucerna, kislica, ameriški javor, Ajda Bračič, divlje korenje, Edern Haushofer, navadni zajčji lapuh, Pau Ine Llogler, navadna leska, Darinka Pilari, taščica, Monika Tominšek, brezova lenzovka, Lena Penšek, prožna lupljivka, Eva Stopar, velika nožičarka, Zala Velkavrh, navadni divji kostanj, Dasa Bezjak, postovka, Görkem Özdemir, njivski osat, Zavod Bob, navadni šipek, Knjižnica REČI, njivska spominčica, družina Štiglic, repin belin, Mojca Pinterič, pšenica, mala detelja, njegova ekstenca veleposlanik Johan O. Verboom, laški kačnik, robida, iva, škorec, študenti Akademije za likovno umetnost in oblikovanje, sinica, študenti fakultete za arhitekturo, navadna lipa, Kela fotografija, hmeljna meteljka, Nika in Mila Grabar, ljubljanski osnovnošolci, navadni, senožetnik, naključna lokalna skupnost in obiskovalci zobozdravnikov, Katja Martinčič, sraka, neznani brezdomec, smreka, beli topol, iskalci sence in stranisča, kanja, ograja, vrana, kos, zlate ribice, zavrzene rastline, micelij, gmote, ključki

Feral
Cartography
Redrawing
public grounds
May 2023

