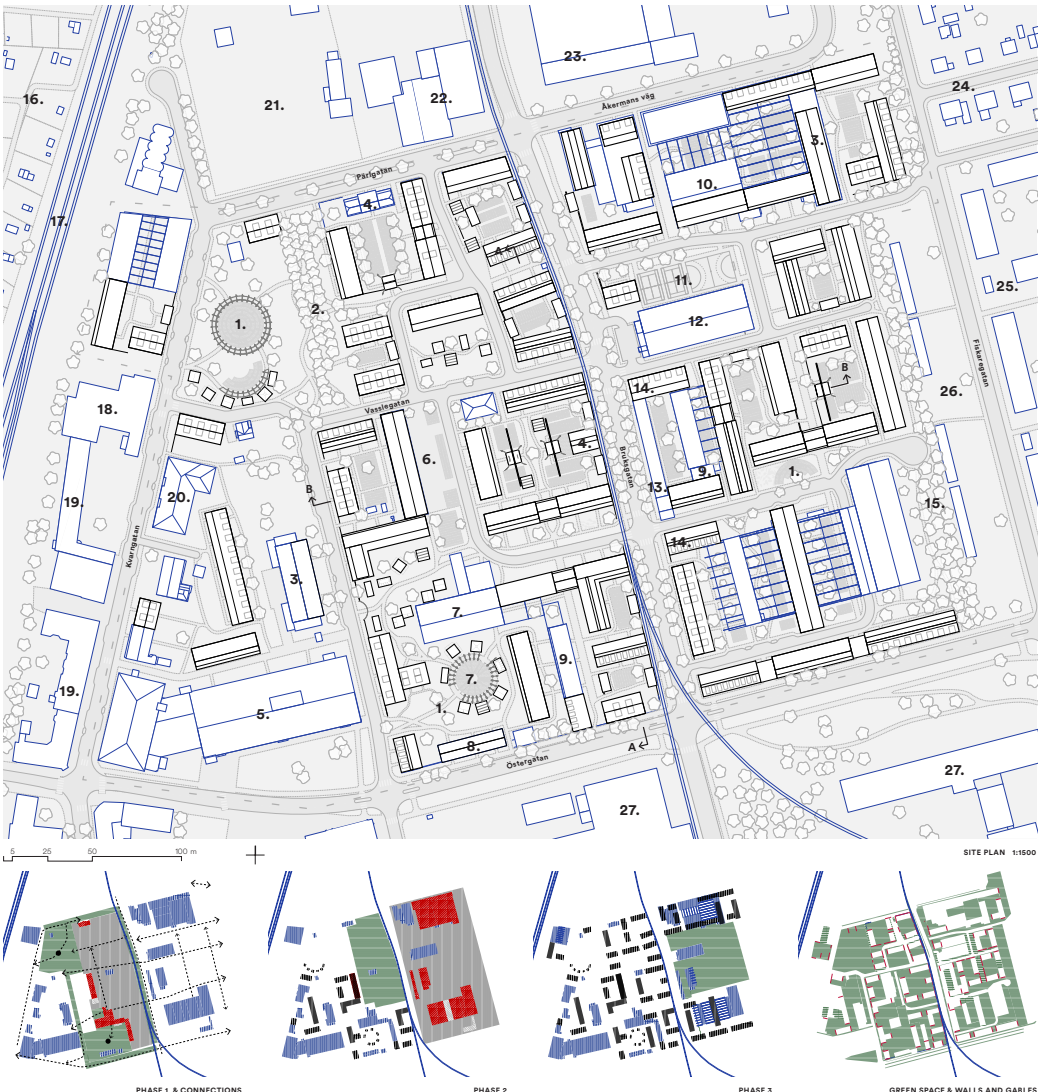
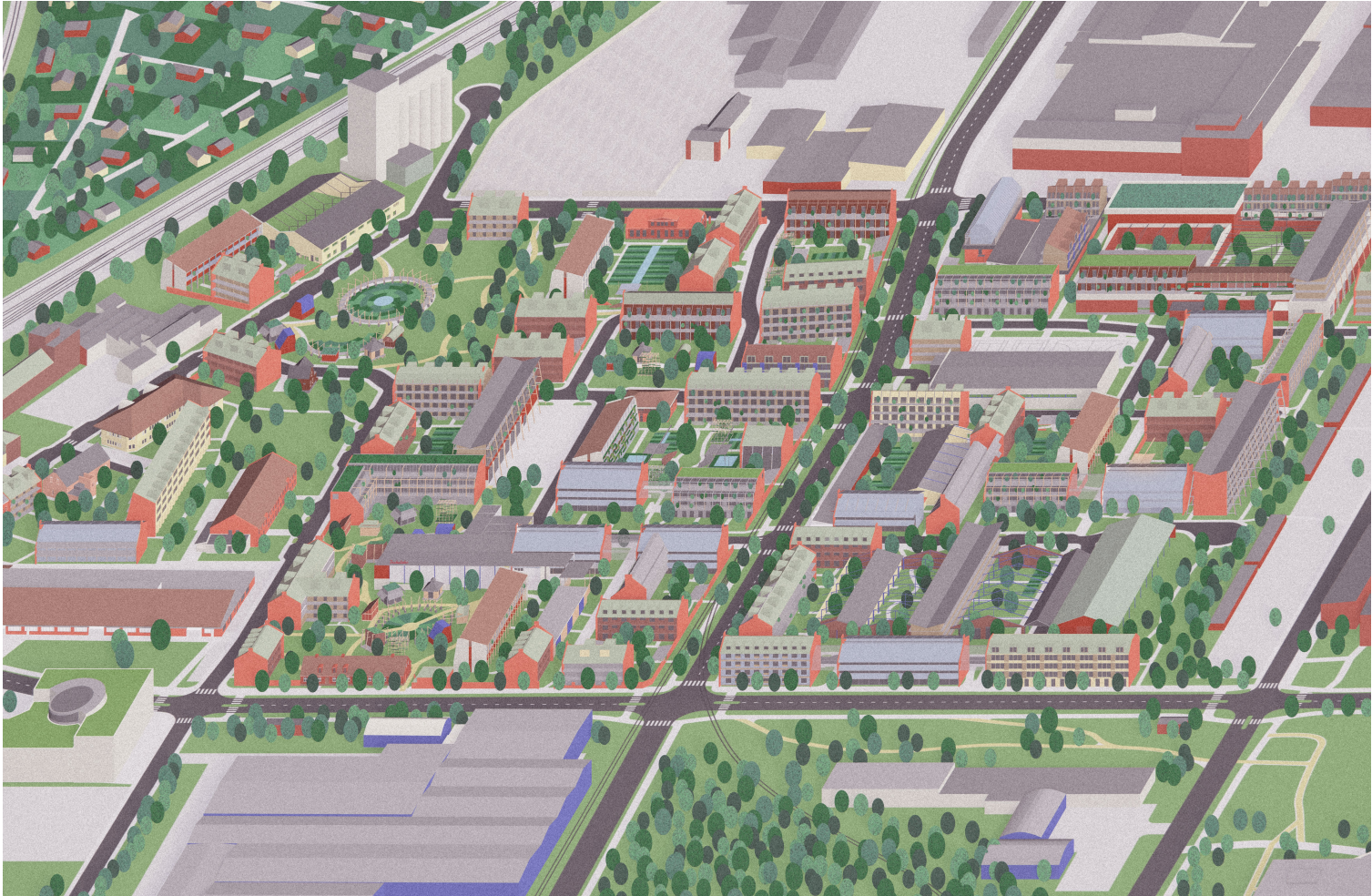




BETWEEN THE WALLS

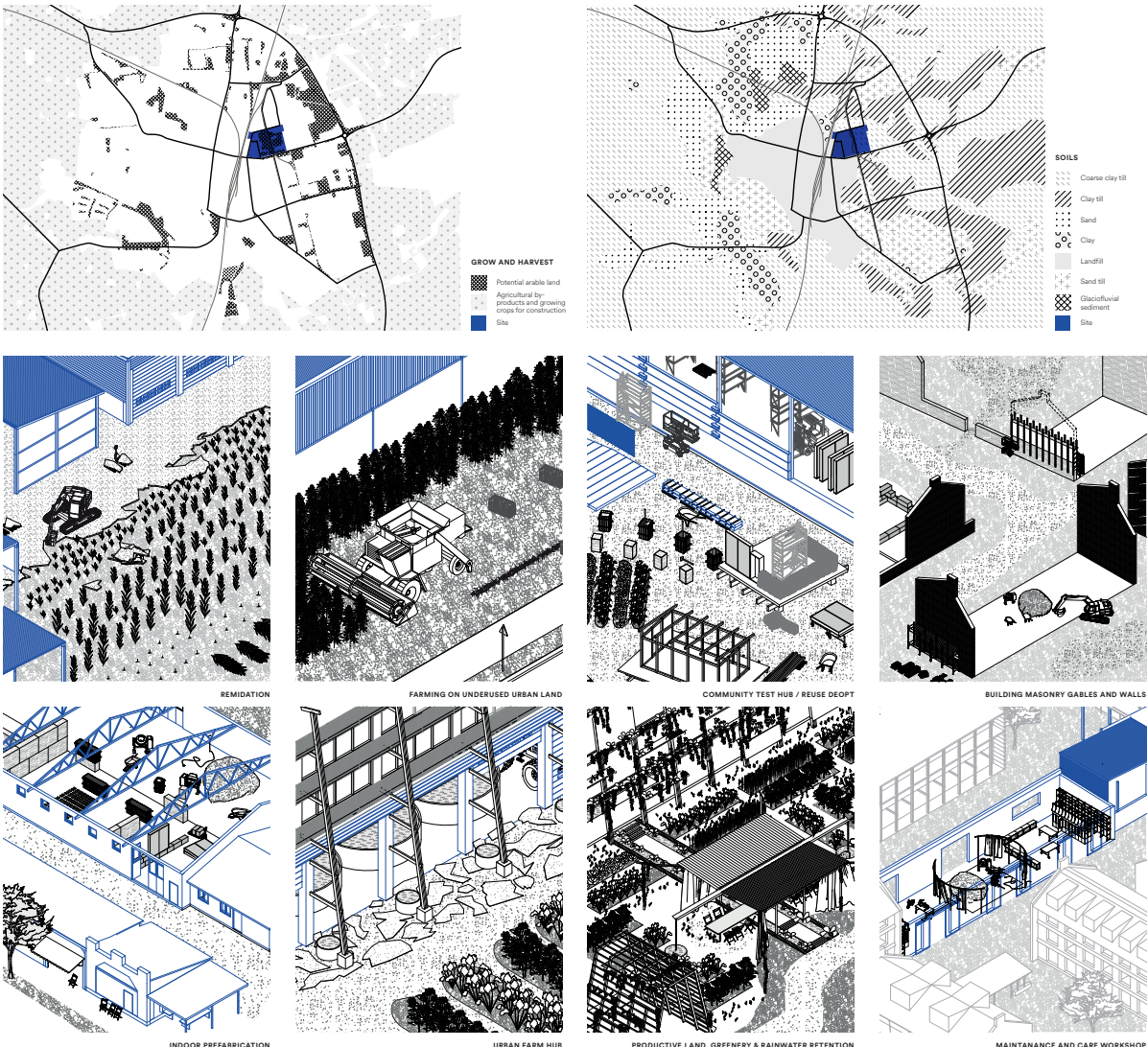
To design responsibly and create robust, livable spaces, we must take control of both the process of development, including resource extraction, and actively shape the conditions for it so it can be carried out with care and positive outcomes. In Eslov there is a great opportunity to shift away from harmful practices and instead support ecosystem restoration and a culture rooted in reuse, the use of bio-based materials, and long-term resilience. Design strategies are essential in ensuring a desirable lifestyle while promoting inclusive greenery and water management.

The transformation of the former industrial blocks begins with the act of remediation and establishing a system of implementing bioregional material as the foundation for development. Its values what already exists, such as buildings, activities, vegetation and infrastructure, allowing new additions to grow from an interplay of preservation and adaptation. The transformation also seeks to strengthen the link between the vibrant city center and the green Bergs district, ensuring connectivity by connecting eastern and western green structures, and integrating inclusive greenery with productive land use. These actions establish a culture for long-term care and climate resilience.

When working with resources that have unpredictable conditions and outcomes, the design strategies for the new additions focus on creating conditions both for a coherent theme, different microclimates, productive land use, and strengthening biodiversity. Inspired by the existing walls and masonry gables in the area, the principle for the new buildings is a concept of in-fills of biomaterial in between two solid gables made of reused materials.

Early in the process, the area is activated for the public by building the park and establishing a collective test hub. The test hub is a place for exploring the use of reused objects and bioregional material, and by prototyping, start a participational and hands-on process of transformation. It has the opportunity to become socially inclusive and strengthen local knowledge and tradition in growing your own construction material.

Between the Walls aims to demonstrate how a neighborhood can live with the earth. The organization of buildings supports both biodiversity and urban cohesion. Systems for food production, water management, and green corridors form the foundations of a robust life. The design integrates existing buildings and walls, offering varied microclimates and intimacy while maintaining closeness to greenery. Through strategic choices, such as material storage, maintenance hubs, and continuous use of natural materials, the neighborhood can be maintained. Symbolically, the use of bio-based materials will allow the area to day return to nature, with only a few walls left standing.



TO TAKE CARE OF THE EARTH

The process begins by restoring polluted land through phytoremediation, regenerating productive soil. Paved surfaces are removed to plant sals, creating habitats for natural vegetation, and improved soil infiltration. Eslov holds great potential to begin growing building materials locally through three scenarios: 1. Cultivating underused urban arable land such as grass lawns and roadside strips. 2. Utilizing local by-products from food production, such as straw and stems. 3. Growing dedicated crops for construction such as hemp and sunflowers.

The region's varied soil types also allow for investigating suitable local extraction sites. At last, reuse through deconstruction at the site is used as a strategic method for responsible material harvesting. Most existing buildings will be preserved through renovation and transformation into residential units, community houses and service facilities. Reusable materials will be part of a system at the site where it will be examined, stored in material depots, to later become part of the new additions.

TO MAKE WITH THE EARTH

The phase of making involves material exploration and collaborative processes involving the project team, local youth and citizens with the outcome of prototype pavilions built at the former recycling center, and youth centers yard. The test hub combined with shared workspaces in industrial halls and sufficient storage space for harvested and dismantled materials, enables the processes of using bio-regional and reused material possible. The existing industrial halls will later be transformed into framed courtyards, becoming inclusive areas between new buildings, offering a living environment closely connected to green spaces. The implementation of straw bale and frame houses alongside building with clay, wood, rammed earth etc. is complemented by, for example, transforming old fences into balcony railings and repurposing deconstructed concrete elements from the recycling center into gables. The phase drives design from, and with, material conditions but the backbone for the solutions is to provide an area for a resilient life.

TO LIVE WITH THE EARTH

Actions for living with the earth are divided into the green systems and the spatial solution. Productive courtyards for local food cultivation are central to the green systems. These are organized by the urban farm located in the repurposed garage of the former recycling center, which serves as a plant nursery, a space for aquaponics, and food distribution. Greenery and water management channels in courtyards and along streets create a diverse and resilient landscape. The buildings are designed to collect and slow down rainwater through a sequence of retention zones. Living with the earth means establishing systems for continuous care. One key element is providing easily accessible maintenance workshops and material storage.

PRODUCTIVE COURTYARD

The productive courtyard, cultivated with crops contained by the farming hub, serves as shared green space for the community. The courtyard is an area with sheltered spots under pavilion

South-facing balconies made from recycled facing and metal grating provide the courtyard, creating shade in open areas and views of the greenery. Enclosed by walls and gables, the courtyard offers semi-privacy and creates an intimate, well-defined outdoor environment.

