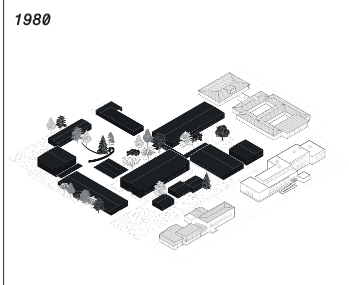
CAEN(FR)
LE CHEMIN VERT

# CITÉ / ÉCOLE

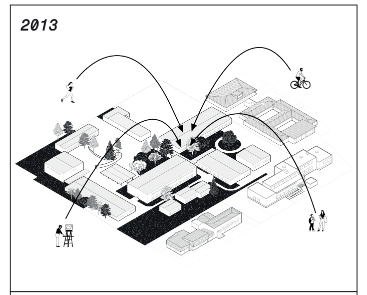
learning through the city

### 1980



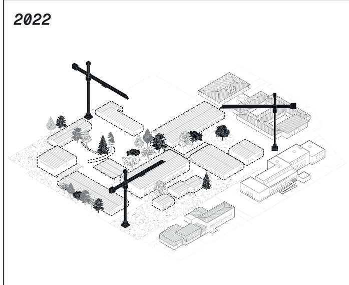
Albert Jacquard middle school is at the heart of the neighbourhood. Many residents of Chemin Vert spend their youth there. This education facility is considered by residents as a place of sharing and connection. Fostering intergenerational exchange and strengthening the sense of mutual support.

### 2013



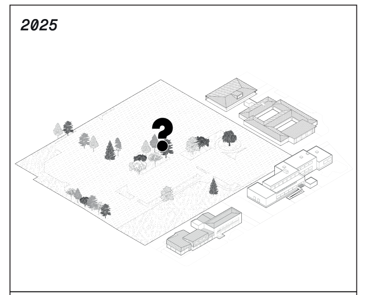
Despite strong efforts by parents to keep it open, the middle school is now permanently closing. In the meantime, local community organizations are temporarily occupying the vacant building.

### 2022



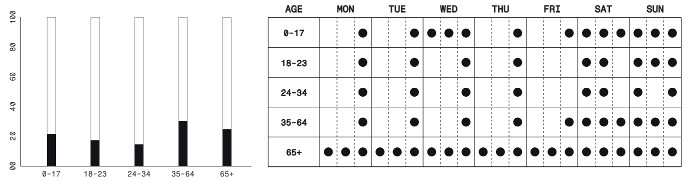
The demolition of the old school buildings has begun. Only the former cafeteria and the library are being preserved. The decline in the site activity has led to secondary issues in the neighbourhood, such as the loss of appeal of the shopping hall.

### 2025



Little remains of what was once Albert Jacquard middle school. At the heart of this empty space, a few large trees still stand. One question persists : what future awaits what is now called the Albert Jacquard site?

### EMPLOI DU TEMPS HEBDOMADAIRE - *WEEKLY SCHEDULE*



| SCHEDULE | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT | SUN |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8h00-12h00 | street market<br>**market square** | gardening lesson<br>**socio-cultural center** | drawing lesson<br>**great workshops** | yoga session<br>**medical-sports center** | pottery workshop<br>**great workshops** | street market<br>**market square** | cooking lesson<br>**canteen** |
| 12h00-13h30 | cooking lesson<br>**canteen** | pilates session<br>**medical-sports center** | community meal<br>**canteen** | cooking lesson<br>**canteen** | pilates session<br>**medical-sports center** | book signing<br>**library** | community meal<br>**canteen** |
| 14h00-16h00 | pilates session<br>**medical-sports center** | dance session<br>**medical-sports center** | tutoring<br>**great workshops** | first aid training session<br>**medical-sports center** | dance session<br>**medical-sports center** | basketball game<br>**medical-sports center** | tutoring<br>**great workshops** |
| 16h00-18h00 | gardening lesson<br>**socio-cultural center** | yoga session<br>**medical-sports center** | pottery workshop<br>**great workshops** | tutoring<br>**great workshops** | drawing lesson<br>**great workshops** | gardening lesson<br>**socio-cultural center** | poetry competition<br>**garden of words** |
| 18h00-20h00 | bike sale event<br>**socio-cultural center** | urban furniture workshop<br>**great workshops** | basketball game<br>**socio-cultural center** | cooking lesson<br>**canteen** | herb gathering<br>**socio-cultural center** | bike repair workshop<br>**great workshops** | public speaking contest<br>**chatter courtyard** |
| 20h00-22h00 | community meal<br>**canteen** | | | public lecture<br>**chatter courtyard** | neighbourhood party<br>**canteen** | coffeehouse concert<br>**canteen** | |

The project aims to establish a true neighborhood schedule, conceived as a civic school where everyone can get involved. It draws on the memory of the former middle school, reimagined in an allegorical way, to structure collective life. Taking into account the local demographics and the varying availability of residents, the project aspires to bring life to the spaces throughout the week. This dynamic promotes the sharing of knowledge and encourages active participation from all in the neighborhood's life.

**1 REGIE DE QUARTIER**

ACTIVITIES :
- EMPLOYMENT REINTEGRATION SUPPORT
- GREEN SPACE MANAGEMENT
- SETTING UP URBAN FURNITURE

**2 ASSOCIATION SPORT ET LOISIR**

ACTIVITIES :
- SPORTS EDUCATION
- ORGANIZATION OF SPORTS EVENTS

**3 LA CENTRIFUGEUZ**

ACTIVITIES :
- ART EDUCATION
- CULTURAL AND ARTS EVENT MANAGEMENT

**4 LE RELAIS SCOLAIRE**

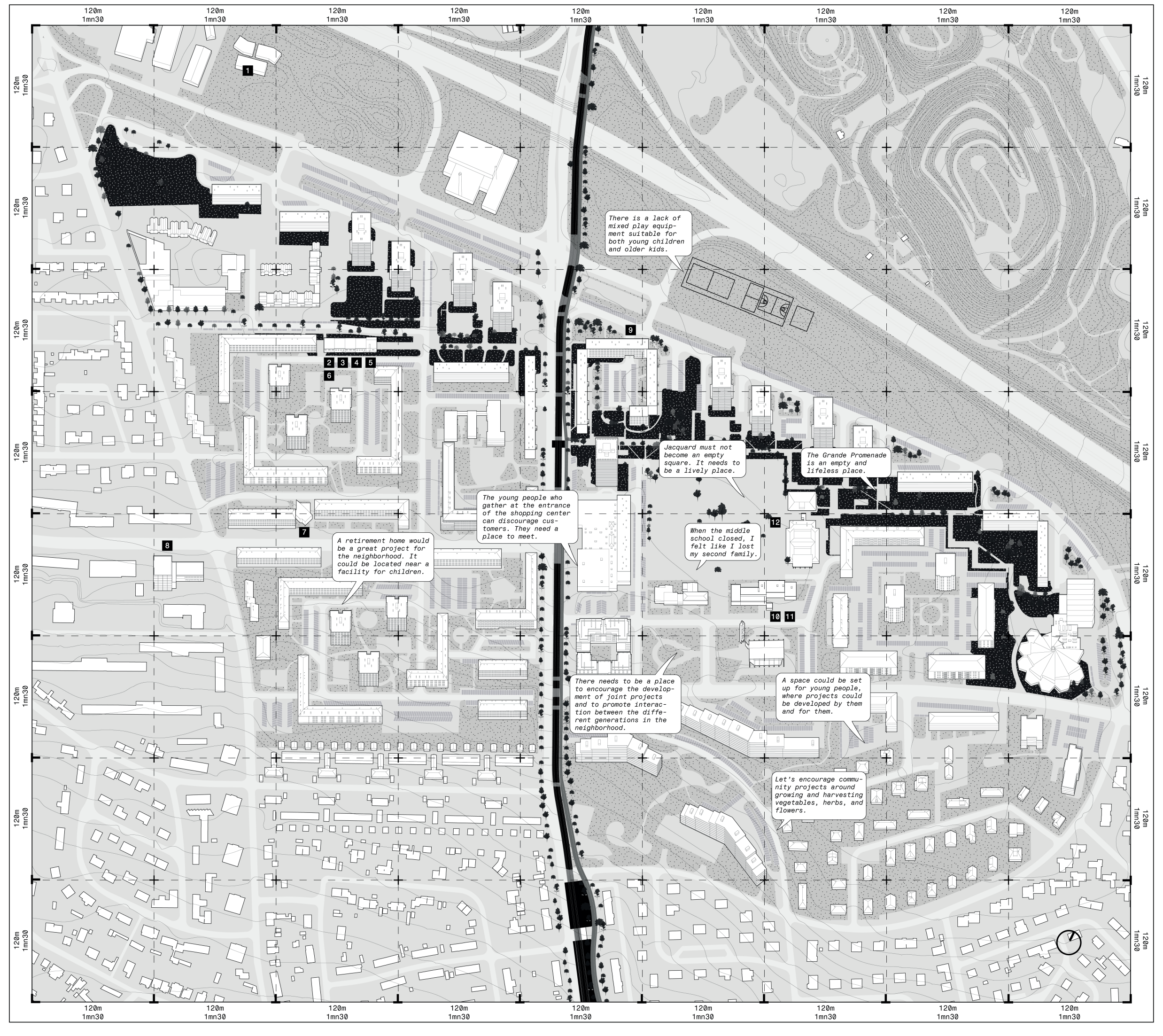
ACTIVITIES :
- TUTORING
- SUPPORTING YOUNG PEOPLE IN THEIR SCHOOL PATH

**5 LE CONSEIL CITOYEN**

ACTIVITIES :
- NEIGHBORHOOD MANAGEMENT
- FACILITATING DIALOGUE AMONG NEIGHBORHOOD STAKEHOLDERS

**6 VELISOL**

ACTIVITIES :
- BIKE REPAIR WORKSHOPS
- SECOND-HAND BIKE SALES
- SPORTS EVENT ORGANIZATION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There is a lack of mixed play equipment suitable for both young children and older kids.
Jacquard must not become an empty square. It needs to be a lively place.
The Grande Promenade is an empty and lifeless place.
The young people who gather at the entrance of the shopping center can discourage customers. They need a place to meet.
A retirement home would be a great project for the neighborhood. It could be located near a facility for children.
When the middle school closed, I felt like I lost my second family.
There needs to be a place to encourage the development of joint projects and to promote interaction between the different generations in the neighborhood.
A space could be set up for young people, where projects could be developed by them and for them.
Let's encourage community projects around growing and harvesting vegetables, herbs, and flowers.

**7 SERVICES POUR UNE VIE AUTONOME**

ACTIVITIES :
- SUPPORT FOR THE ELDERLY
- HOME SERVICES
- DISABILITY SUPPORT

**8 MJC LE SILLON**

ACTIVITIES :
- CULTURAL EVENTS
- SOCIO-EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

**9 LES PETITS DEBROUILLARDS**

ACTIVITIES :
- SCIENCE EDUCATION
- DIY ACTIVITIES
- CIVIC ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

**10 CENTRE SOCIO-CULTUREL**

ACTIVITIES :
- CULTURAL EVENTS
- SOCIO-EDUCATIONAL INITIATIVES

**11 ASSOCIATION DES JARDINS FAMILIAUX**

ACTIVITIES :
- MANAGEMENT OF COMMUNITY GARDENS
- GARDENING EDUCATION
- CULTURAL EVENTS FOCUSED ON NATURE

**12 POLE DE VIE DES QUARTIERS NORD**

ACTIVITIES :
- MUNICIPAL SUPPORT CENTER
- ADMINISTRATIVE TASKS

### Cartographie des ressources immatérielles

Le quartier dispose d'un patrimoine social et humain significatif, incarné par les acteurs locaux engagés. Bien que de nombreux espaces verts soient présents, leur potentiel reste sous-exploité. Le patrimoine matériel, quant à lui, a été largement démantelé. Le renouvellement urbain du quartier s'appuie dès lors sur des ressources immatérielles essentielles : les savoir-faire humains, un tissu associatif structuré, la mémoire des lieux ainsi que l'engagement des habitants. Ces éléments, issus de multiples concertations, ont guidé la programmation et constituent le fondement du projet urbain à venir.

### *Map of intangible resources*

*The neighbourhood has significant social and human heritage, embodied by committed local stakeholders. Although many green spaces exist, their potential remains underutilized. The physical heritage, meanwhile, has largely been dismantled. The neighbourhood's urban renewal therefore relies on essential intangible resources: human skills, a structured network of associations, the memory of the place, and residents' engagement. These elements, drawn from public consultations, have guided the programming and form the foundation of the upcoming urban project.*

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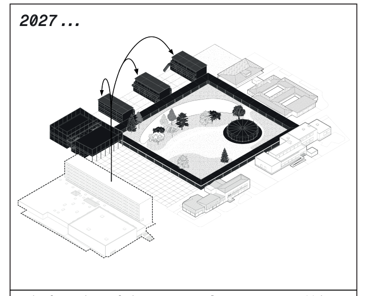
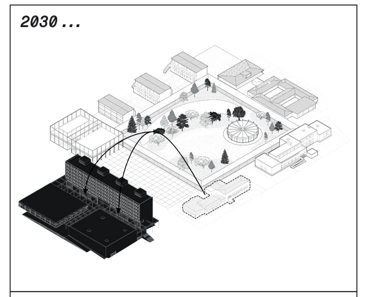
### 2027 ...



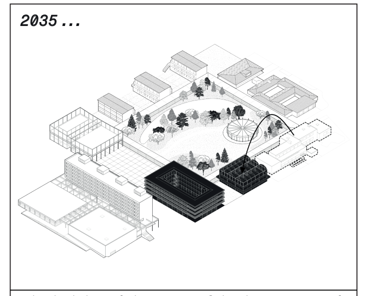
The first phase of the project involves constructing 24 housing units and relocating residents from the Molière complex. It also includes building the covered walkway, creating the central park, and developing the medical-sports center alongside the community-run bar.

### 2030 ...



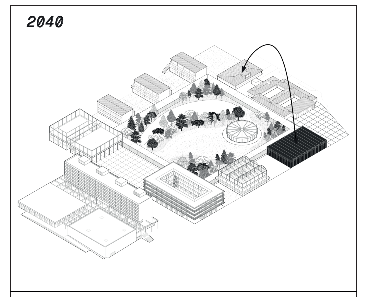
The second phase of the project includes the redevelopment of the Molière hall and the opening of a passage connecting the new tram station to the heart of the site. The post office and the bank are relocated into the newly created commercial spaces.

### 2035 ...

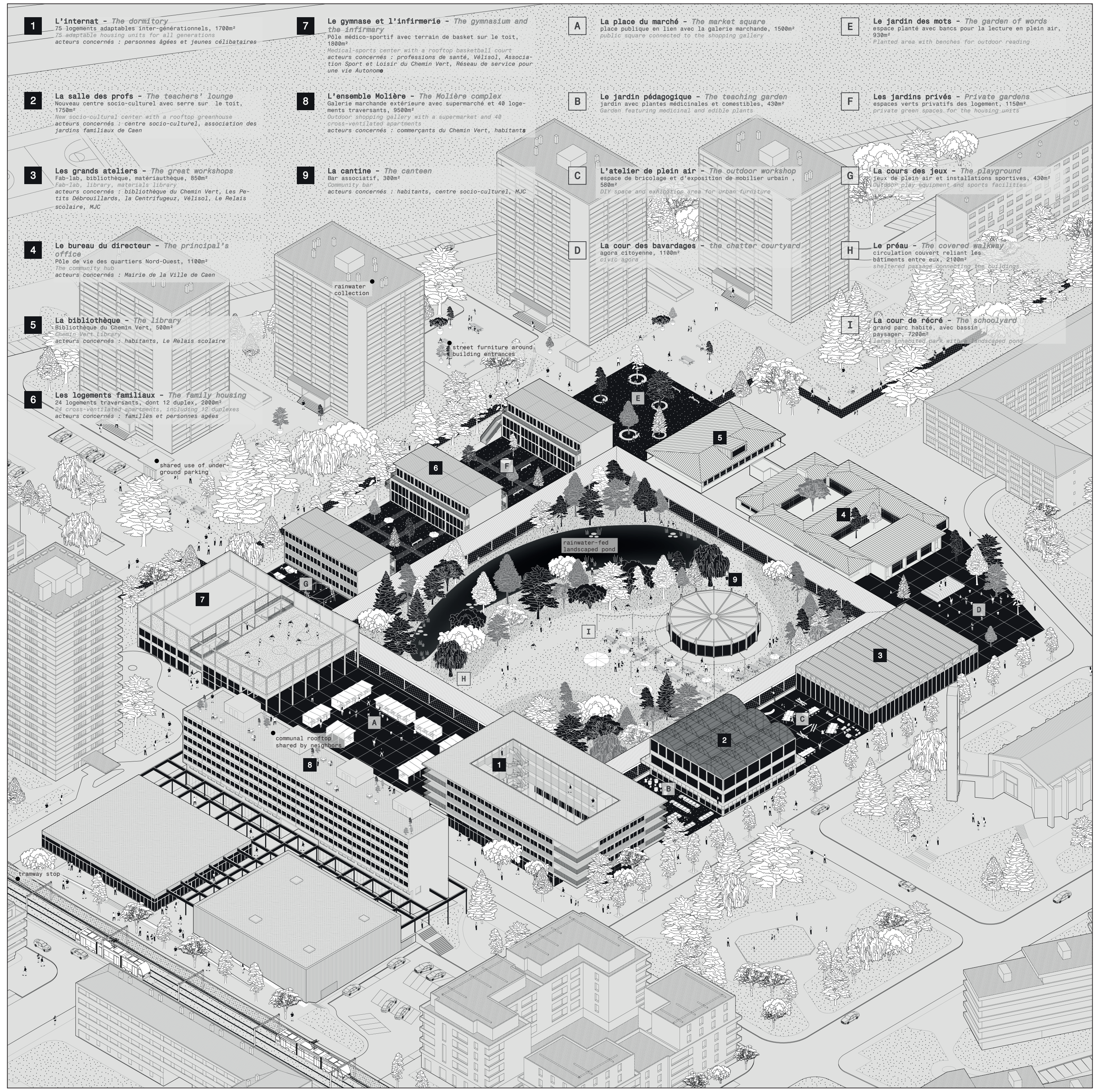


The third phase of the project includes the construction of the intergenerational residence as well as a new and more open socio-cultural center wich also integrates a shared rooftop greenhouse.

### 2040



The final phase of the project includes the construction of the great workshops wich will function as an extension of the existing library.



**1 L'internat** - *The dormitory*
75 logements adaptables inter-générationnels, 1700m²
*75 adaptable housing units for all generations*
acteurs concernés : personnes âgées et jeunes célibataires

**2 La salle des profs** - *The teachers' lounge*
Nouveau centre socio-culturel avec serre sur le toit, 1750m²
*New socio-cultural center with a rooftop greenhouse*
acteurs concernés : centre socio-culturel, association des jardins familiaux de Caen

**3 Les grands ateliers** - *The great workshops*
Fab-lab, bibliothèque, matériauthèque, 850m²
*Fab-lab, library, materials library*
acteurs concernés : bibliothèque du Chemin Vert, Les Petits Débrouillards, la Centrifugeuz, Vélisol, Le Relais scolaire, MJC

**4 Le bureau du directeur** - *The principal's office*
Pôle de vie des quartiers Nord-Ouest, 1100m²
*The community hub*
acteurs concernés : Mairie de la Ville de Caen

**5 La bibliothèque** - *The library*
Bibliothèque du Chemin Vert, 500m²
*Chemin Vert Library*
acteurs concernés : habitants, Le Relais scolaire

**6 Les logements familiaux** - *The family housing*
24 logements traversants, dont 12 duplex, 2000m²
*24 cross-ventilated apartments, including 12 duplexes*
acteurs concernés : familles et personnes agées

**7 Le gymnase et l'infirmerie** - *The gymnasium and the infirmary*
Pôle médico-sportif avec terrain de basket sur le toit, 1800m²
*Medical-sports center with a rooftop basketball court*
acteurs concernés : professions de santé, Vélisol, Association Sport et Loisir du Chemin Vert, Réseau de service pour une vie Autonome

**8 L'ensemble Molière** - *The Molière complex*
Galerie marchande extérieure avec supermarché et 40 logements traversants, 9500m²
*Outdoor shopping gallery with a supermarket and 40 cross-ventilated apartments*
acteurs concernés : commerçants du Chemin Vert, habitants

**9 La cantine** - *The canteen*
Bar associatif, 300m²
*Community bar*
acteurs concernés : habitants, centre socio-culturel, MJC

**A La place du marché** - *The market square*
place publique en lien avec la galerie marchande, 1500m²
*public square connected to the shopping gallery*

**B Le jardin pédagogique** - *The teaching garden*
jardin avec plantes médicinales et comestibles, 430m²
*Garden featuring medicinal and edible plants*

**C L'atelier de plein air** - *The outdoor workshop*
espace de bricolage et d'exposition de mobilier urbain, 580m²
*DIY space and exhibition area for urban furniture*

**D La cour des bavardages** - *the chatter courtyard*
agora citoyenne, 1100m²
*civic agora*

**E Le jardin des mots** - *The garden of words*
espace planté avec bancs pour la lecture en plein air, 930m²
*Planted area with benches for outdoor reading*

**F Les jardins privés** - *Private gardens*
espaces verts privatifs des logement, 1150m²
*private green spaces for the housing units*

**G La cours des jeux** - *The playground*
jeux de plein air et installations sportives, 430m²
*Outdoor play equipment and sports facilities*

**H Le préau** - *The covered walkway*
circulation couvert reliant les bâtiments entre eux, 2100m²
*sheltered passage connecting the buildings*

**I La cour de récré** - *The schoolyard*
grand parc habité, avec bassin paysager, 7200m²
*large inhabited park with a landscaped pond*

rainwater collection
street furniture around building entrances
shared use of underground parking
rainwater-fed landscaped pond
communal rooftop shared by neighbors
tramway stop
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### La cité éducative Albert Jacquard

Le projet s'inspire de la typologie des espaces éducatifs pour proposer un nouveau modèle urbain. Chaque bâtiment incarne une fonction d'une école, structurant le quartier autour de plusieurs projets complémentaires. Un grand auvent unit les différents éléments et délimite un vaste parc habité. Au coeur, un bassin alimenté par la récupération des eaux pluviales, crée un îlot de fraîcheur. Les espaces publics entre les bâtiments se déploient en placettes thématisées, chacune pensée pour accompagner et renforcer la fonction des équipements voisins. En mobilisant le réseau associatif local, le quartier associe logements et équipements publics pour amplifier la vie collective déjà présente dans le quartier. L'objectif principal est de favoriser le foisonnement des savoir-faire humains, pour donner naissance à un quartier dynamique et créatif.

### *Albert Jacquard's learning city*

*The project draws inspiration from the typology of educational spaces to propose a new urban mode. Each building embodies a school function, structuring the neighborhood around several complementary initiatives. A large covered walkway unites the different elements and defines a vast inhabited park. At its heart, a pond fed by rainwater collection creates a cool oasis. The public spaces between the buildings unfold into themed squares, each designed to support and enhance the function of the adjacent facilities. By engaging the local community network, the neighborhood combines housing and public amenities to amplify the collective life already present. The main goal is to foster the flourishing of human skills, giving rise to a dynamic and creative district.*

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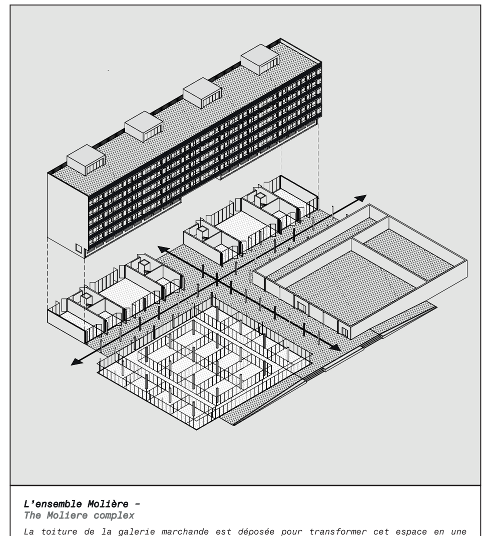
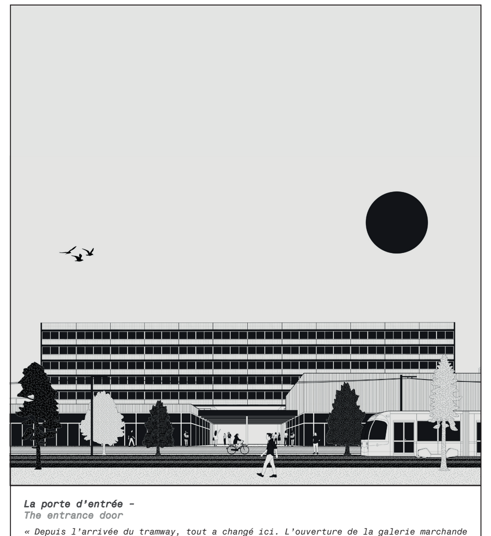


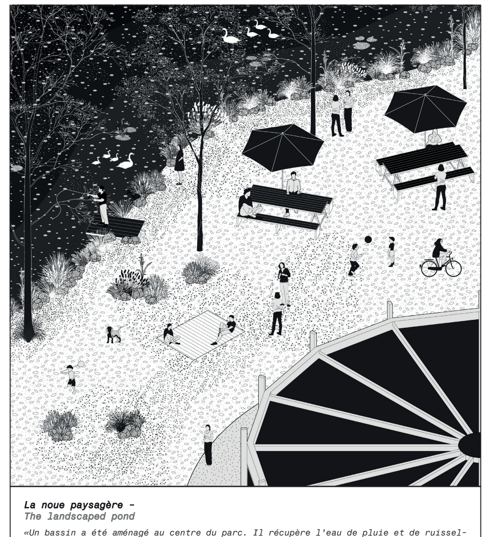
***L'ensemble Molière -***
*The Moliere complex*

*La toiture de la galerie marchande est déposée pour transformer cet espace en une rue commerçante à ciel ouvert. Les commerces sont restructurés, avec des façades plus transparentes. Un nouvel axe est percé en direction du site Jacquard, créant une meilleure connexion urbaine. Dans la barre, les logements sont rénovés, et les balcons sont transformés en jardins d'hiver.*
*The roof of the shopping gallery is removed to transform this space into an open-air shopping street. The shops are restructured with more transparent façades. A new axis is created leading towards the Jacquard site, improving urban connectivity. In the housing block, the apartments are renovated, and the balconies are converted into winter gardens.*



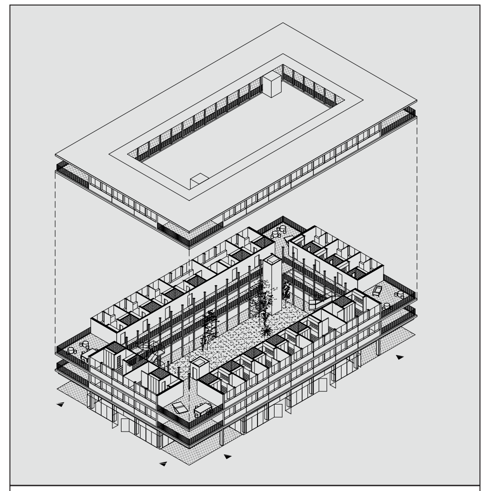
***La porte d'entrée -***
*The entrance door*

*« Depuis l'arrivée du tramway, tout a changé ici. L'ouverture de la galerie marchande a créé une vraie rue d'entrée, plus accueillante. La barre Molière, qu'on voyait souvent comme une séparation, est maintenant devenue un vrai repère, une porte qui nous invite à entrer dans le quartier. Ça donne un nouveau souffle à notre quartier, on s'y sent vraiment plus connecté.»*
*«Since the arrival of the tramway, everything has changed here. The opening of the shopping gallery created a real entrance street, much more welcoming. The Molière complex, which used to be seen as a barrier, has now become a true landmark, a gateway inviting us into the neighbourhood. It brings new life to our area, we truly feel more connected.»*



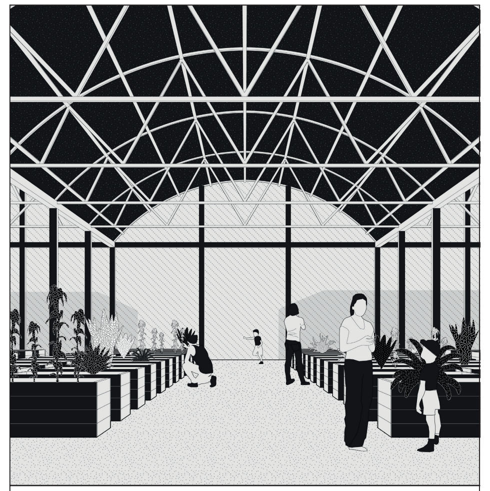
***La noue paysagère -***
*The landscaped pond*

*«Un bassin a été aménagé au centre du parc. Il récupère l'eau de pluie et de ruissellement, et quand il fait très chaud, ça apporte un vrai souffle de fraîcheur. Petit à petit, la nature y a repris sa place : on y voit des plantes, des oiseaux, des insectes… Et le week-end, les habitants viennent s'y poser, pique-niquer, profiter du calme au bord de l'eau.»*
*«A pond has been created at the center of the park. It collects rainwater and runoff water, and on very hot days, it brings a refreshing breeze. Gradually, nature has reclaimed its place there: you can see plants, birds, insects... On weekends, residents come to relax, picnic, and enjoy the calm by the water.»*



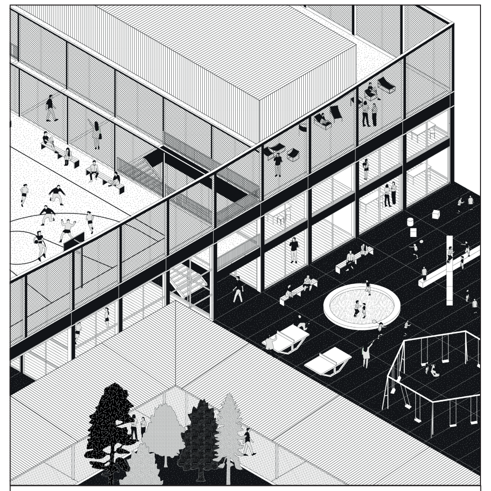
***L'internat, la résidence intergénérationnelle -***
*The dormitory*

*La résidence mêle logements pour seniors et étudiants, organisés autour d'un patio végétalisé. Les circulations en coursives partagées favorisent les échanges, tandis que de larges espaces communs situés aux angles du bâtiment créent du lien entre les générations.*
*The residence combines senior and student housing, organized around a landscaped courtyard. Shared corridor walkways encourage interaction, while large common areas located at the building's corners foster connections between generations.*



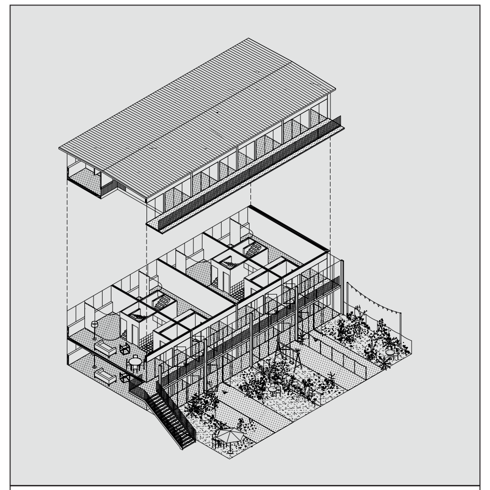
***La serre du centre socio-culturel -***
*The greenhouse*

*«Ils ont installé une serre pour les habitants, c'est à la fois un lieu d'apprentissage et de partage. On y apprend à jardiner, les enfants y viennent avec l'école, et c'est là qu'on fait pousser les plantes pour végétaliser le quartier. Il y a même des plantes comestibles qu'on peut cultiver ensemble.»*
*«They've installed a greenhouse for the residents — it's both a place for learning and sharing. People learn how to garden there, children come with their school, and it's where we grow the plants used to green the neighbourhood. There are even edible plants that we can grow together.»*



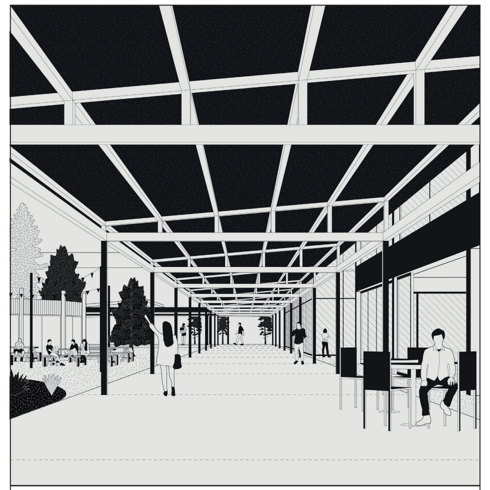
***Le gymnase et la cour des jeux -***
*The gymnasium and the playground*

*«Ici, on trouve des espaces sportifs en plein air, avec des jeux adaptés à tous les âges pour les enfants. Sur le toit, les terrains de basket offrent une vue imprenable sur le quartier, un vrai terrain de jeu en hauteur. Le pôle médical, quant à lui, encourage la pratique sportive comme un élément essentiel du bien-être et de la santé.»*
*«Here, there are outdoor sports areas with play equipment suitable for children of all ages. On the roof, the basketball courts offer a stunning view of the neighbourhood — a real playground up high. The medical center, meanwhile, promotes sports as an essential part of wellness and health.»*



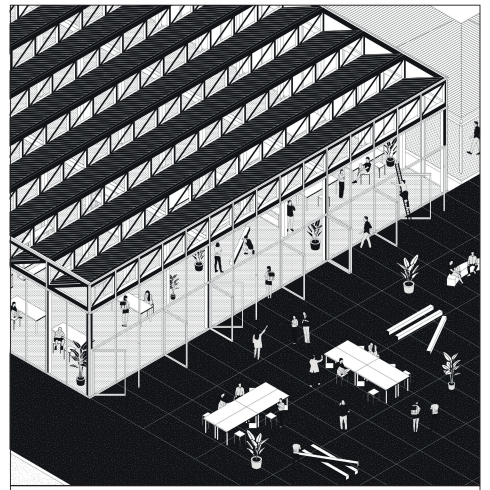
***Les logements familiaux -***
*The family housing*

*Les logements intermédiaires bénéficient d'une typologie traversante. Les cellules en rez-de-chaussée sont conçues pour accueillir les personnes à mobilité réduite. Chaque logement dispose d'un espace extérieur privatif. Les appartements à l'étage sont des duplex. Les places vacantes des parkings souterrains des tours adjacentes sont mutualisées afin d'éviter la création de nouvelles places.*
*The family housing features a cross section design. Ground-floor units are designed to accommodate people with reduced mobility. Each apartment has a private outdoor space. Apartments on the upper floor feature a duplex layout. Vacant spaces in the underground parking of the adjacent tower buildings are shared to avoid creating new parking spots.*



***Le préau -***
*The covered walkway*

*«Ce nouveau auvent, c'est plus qu'un simple abri. Il fait écho à ceux du collège Jacquard, comme un morceau de mémoire du quartier. Il relie les lieux, les gens, et devient un vrai point de rencontre. On y installe du mobilier, prolongeant naturellement les bâtiments. Et au travers, on accède à un espace plus calme, presque à l'écart : le parc habité.»*
*«This new canopy is more than just a shelter. It echoes those of the Jacquard middle school, like a fragment of the neighbourhood's memory. It connects places and people, becoming a true meeting point. Furniture is installed, naturally extending the buildings. And through it, you reach a quieter space, almost tucked away — the inhabited park.»*



***Les grands ateliers et l'atelier de plein air -***
*The great workshops and the outdoor workspace*

*«Ils ont aménagé une grande halle qui rassemble tous les savoirs du quartier. On y trouve des ateliers de fabrication, des cours spontanés, une bourse aux vélos… C'est un lieu vivant, en lien avec la bibliothèque, où se croisent échanges et créations. e. Juste à côté, des espaces extérieurs permettent d'organiser des activités en plein air, pour que tout le monde puisse en profiter.»*
*«They've set up a large hall that brings together all the neighbourhood's knowledge. There are maker workshops, spontaneous classes, a bike exchange… It's a lively place, connected to the library, where exchanges and creations happen. Right next door, outdoor spaces allow for activities to be enjoyed by everyone.»*