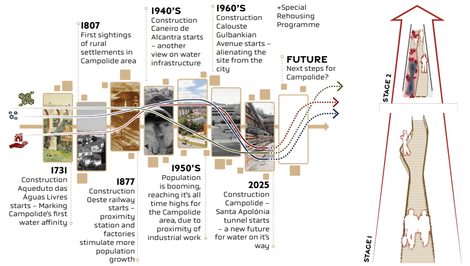
A PLACE CALLED "GROWTH"
– regeneration through contextual evolution



BRIDGING AS IS & TO BE

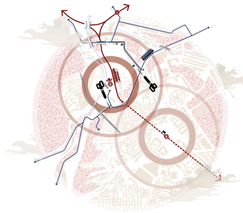
By origin, Campolide has had a continual deep connection to its water, formerly a natural lake to its current role as the location of the drainage tunnel. Primarily transformed by the monumental Aqueduto das Águas Livres, which brought fresh water to the city, the area later hosted flood-control infrastructure, including the tunnels now under construction—like the Campolide–Santa Apolónia drainage tunnel.

In the near future, this relationship with water will evolve again, this time through a civic gesture that bridges not just landscapes, but communities.

We propose a lightweight, modular pedestrian bridge, constructed in CLT–wood and co-built with local residents. Each person will inscribe their name into the planks that they place, transforming the bridge into a collective act of place-making (much like ZUS's Luctsingel bridge in Rotterdam | NL). It will symbolically reconnect the site to Campolide Station and activate surrounding programs.

This bridge will not be a permanent object, but a prefigurative infrastructure, a prototype for civic identity. Once its symbolic role is fulfilled, it will be disassembled and repurposed into pergolas, pavilions, and communal structures throughout the site, maintaining its memory in daily life.

The next stage highlights a permanent bridge with a sculptural structure that filters rainwater, balances hydrology between the site and the new station square, and serves as a vital public connector between the neighborhood, the station, and the city beyond.



VISION: IDENTITY

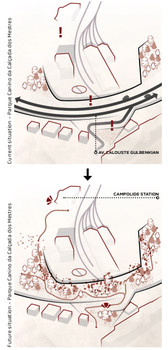
The site has a strong identity rooted in local agriculture and self-sufficiency, whilst acting as a key connector in the urban context with the Monsanto Park and Lisbon's port. It forms the heart between the historic and modern cityscape. This unique position offers the opportunity to shape a future-oriented identity that weaves together ecological heritage, urban infrastructure, and community life. The result is a vibrant new destination that redefines the arrival into Campolide and marks it as a place of transition, regeneration, and possibility.

VISION: FUNCTIONALITY

To unlock the site's full potential, mobility must evolve. Several key interventions are proposed to support this transformation:

1. Rua de Campolide will become a one-way street, creating space for finer-grained programming and enhanced ecological value along the corridor.
2. Avenida Calouste Gulbenkian will be partially closed to improve the connection between Campolide Station and its surroundings. This change has minimal impact, with only CC dos Mestres requiring a simple rerouting.
3. New mobility hubs will be introduced near existing slow mobility nodes to strengthen and encourage sustainable, human-scaled transportation.

IMPROVING CONNECTIVITY



VISION: EXPERIENCE

A place called "Growth" builds upon the existing green corridors surrounding Campolide Station and introduces new ones to form a continuous ecological network across the site. This green framework reveals the hidden underground water systems that once defined the area, bringing them back to the surface through a series of visible water buffers and seasonal wetlands. These interventions not only address climate resilience but also invite residents to engage with water as an everyday presence through play, rest, and observation.

The site itself unfolds as a spatial and ecological gradient: from the dense, forested slopes in the west, where the city meets nature, to the wet, open riverfront in the east. This transition forms the backbone of the design concept, allowing for a shifting relationship between landscape and urban life. Transitioning towards the south from the Campolide station, the landscape widens and opens towards the water, layered with public functions and connections to the wider context of urban and ecological systems of Lisbon.

The intervention anchors itself in a new linear green wedge that stretches from the forested western edge, passes beneath the monumental Aqueduto das Águas Livres, and continues all the way to the port. The aqueduct becomes not just a backdrop but an active part of the public realm. Alongside it, the municipality will construct a new pedestrian and cycling bridge, strengthening the link to Campolide Station and unlocking a new network of slow mobility. Together, these elements form a continuous, porous, and inclusive public space where ecology, heritage, and human experience intertwine.

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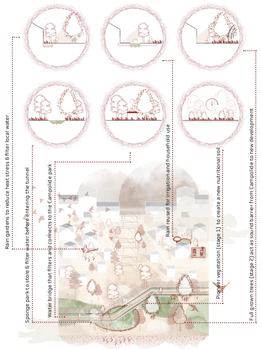
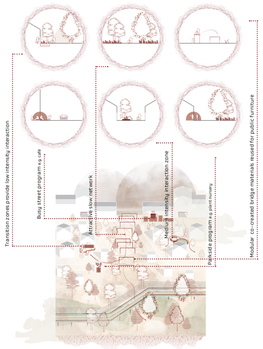
REGENERATION THROUGH -ENVIRONMENTAL & NATURE RESTORATION

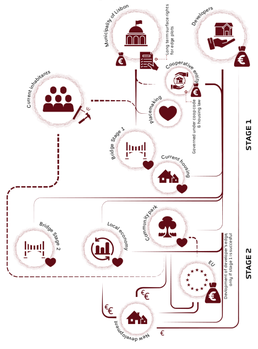
The new Campolide site will primarily restore environmental and natural systems by leveraging the existing landscape qualities and introducing targeted interventions to accommodate water management and enhance biodiversity. From day one, current inhabitants will actively take part in shaping and growing the park, embedding local knowledge, traditions, and everyday care into its development. Through community planting days, stewardship programs, and open decision-making processes, residents become co-authors of the landscape. This long-term involvement not only fosters a sense of ownership, but also cultivates pride in becoming stewards of Campolide's future, a place they can truly call their own.

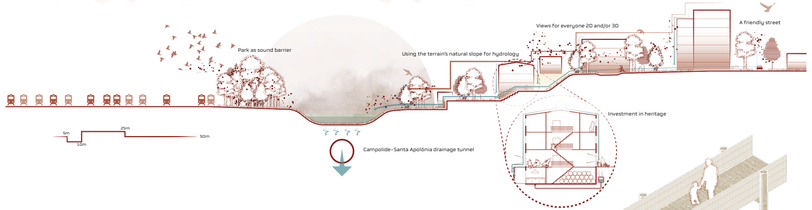


REGENERATION THROUGH -SOCIAL EQUITY & WELLBEING

In Campolide's future, slowness is not a constraint but a value—a deliberate shift toward a more humane, intentional way of living. It's a place where people care for each other, move at a human pace, and cultivate everyday encounters that strengthen social ties. Through a network of slow mobility routes and shared public life, Campolide transforms into a community where well-being, inclusion, and connection are not abstract ideals, but part of daily experience. Streets are no longer defined solely by movement, but reimagined as social spaces for conversation, play, rest, and reflection. They invite pause rather than haste, creating an urban rhythm that supports intergenerational interaction, accessibility, and a deep sense of belonging.







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