

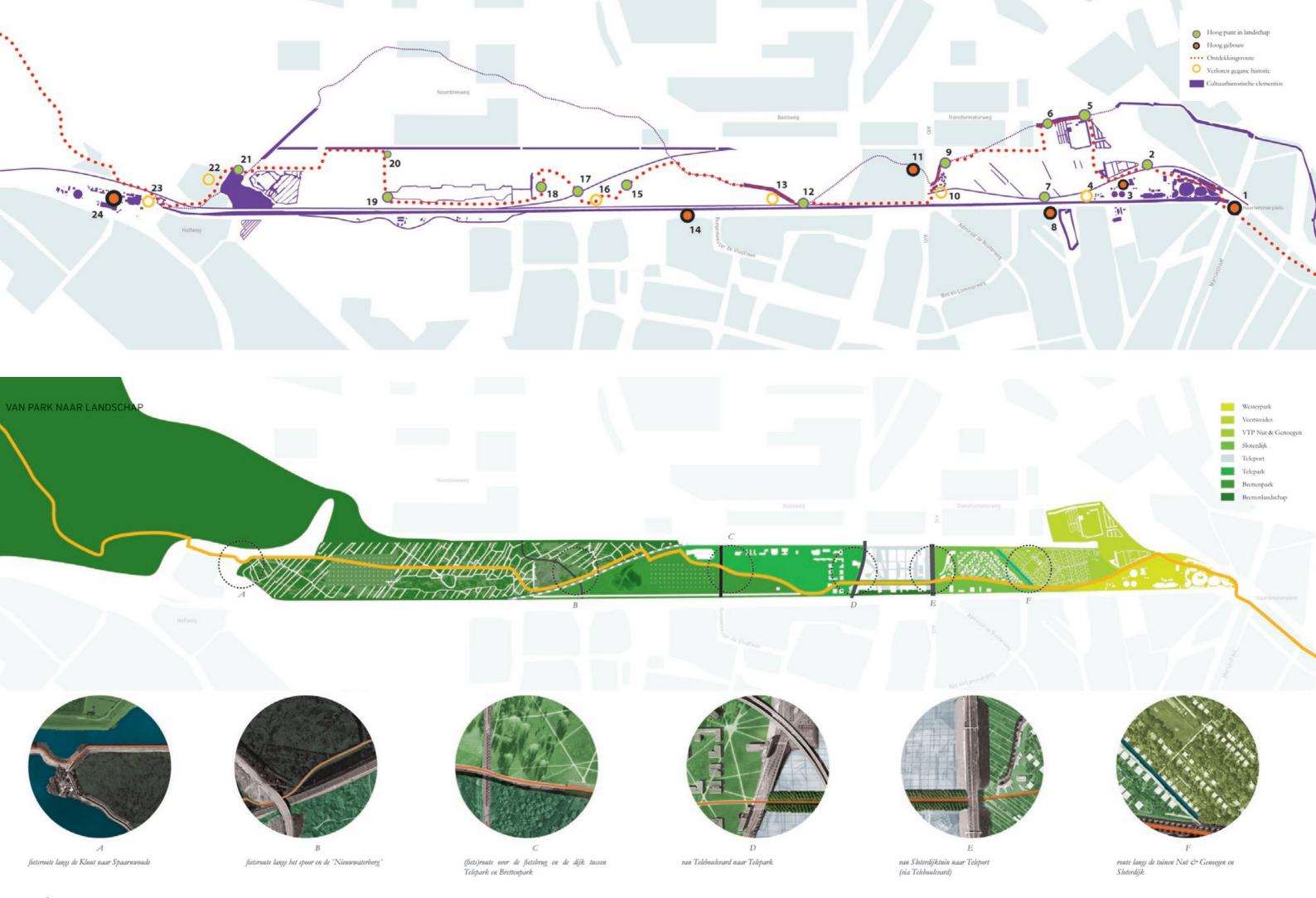
Brettenzone · Amsterdam



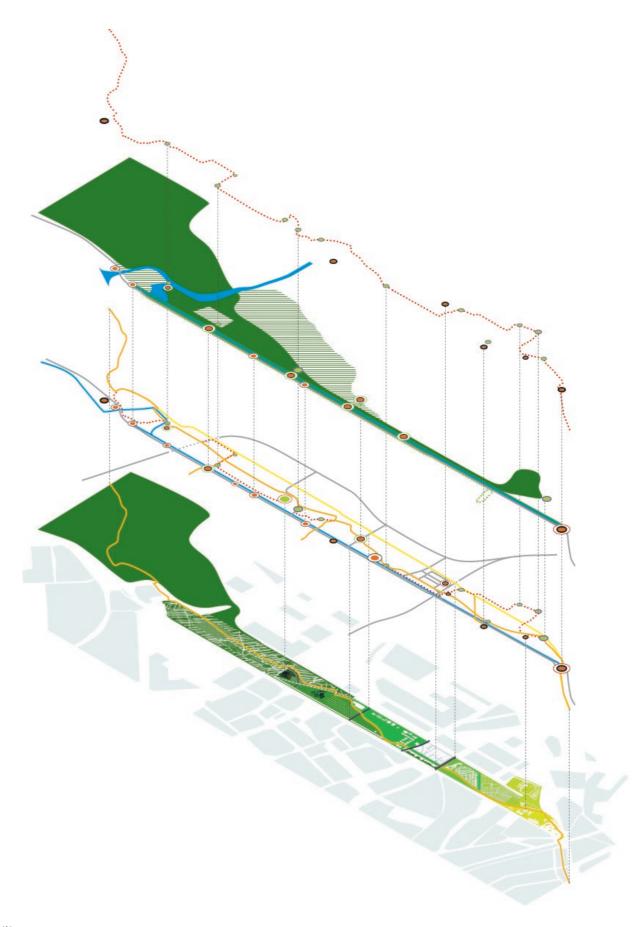
A future for 1200 years of history
Historical research by the National Agency for
Cultural Heritage and the municipal archive on the
'Brettenzone', a rather unknown 9 kilometer by
500 meter strip of land in the west of Amsterdam,
revealed that relics from 1200 years of history are
still extant in the area. Although designated to be
a green recreational area and one of the green
'wedges' bringing nature and air into the city, it
was never fully realized as such, leaving the area
subjected to numerous ill-considered and halfexecuted, overlapping plans. The result is not only
an open-air museum of planning failures, but also a
rich yet incoherent collection of atmospheres and
incidents.

Löhmann's developed a vision for the transformation process of the Brettenzone, which does justice to the abundance of historical layers and relics. Rather than a futile attempt to plan and design the whole area, this vision consists of a number of complementary strategies, varying in scale and time span. The vision aims to rediscover and reuse existing qualities and potentials of the zone by developing coherence in the existing collection of elements. Historical remnants and places gain in meaning and are opened up for experience.

The vision was published as the concluding part in a historical atlas about the Brettenzone 'Tussen Haarlemmerpoort en Halfweg; Historische atlas van de Brettenzone in Amsterdam', TOTH, 2010.







Credits

Size

Client Rijksdienst voor het Cultureel Erfgoed · Amsterdam

405 ha

Project architect Heike Löhmann

Collaborators Marcus Kempers · David de Bruijn

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