BRICOLAGE CITY

Densification

System of connections

Flood risk and system of bioswale

Legend
AS8
Ringbaan-Zuid
The longhouse-Linear typology
The tower
The student house
The house-atelier
The shared pavilion

Legend
AS8
Ringbaan-Zuid
Green corridors
Green public spaces
Cross-connection
Longitudinal connection

Flood depth associated with severe precipitation (140mm/2h)
0-10 cm
10-15 cm
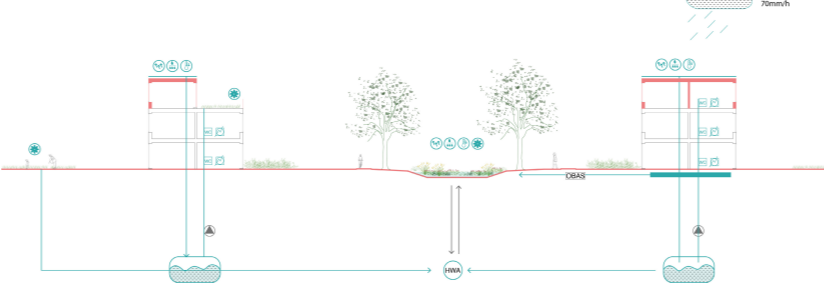15-20 cm
20-30 cm
>30 cm
bioswale
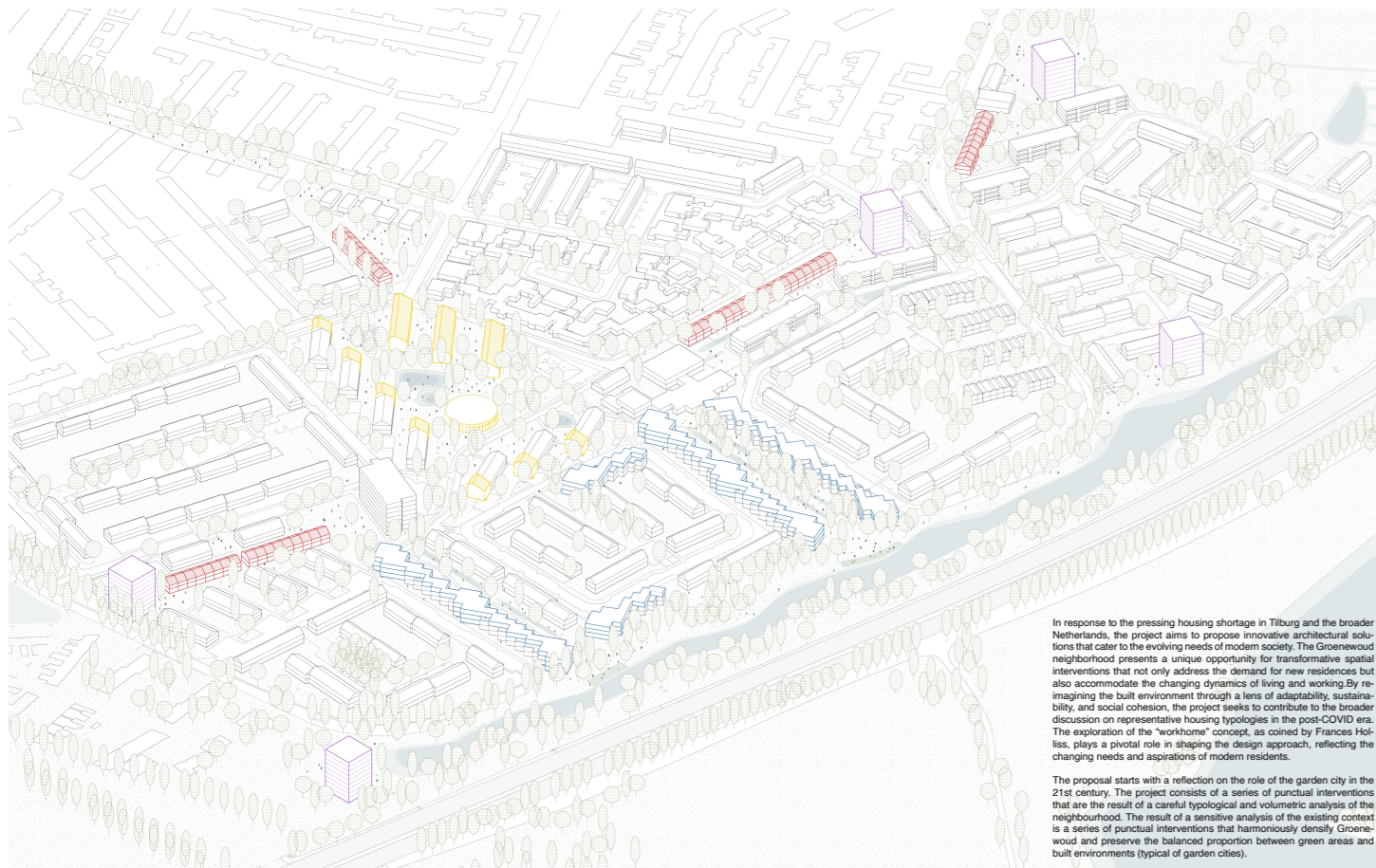
In response to the pressing housing shortage in Tilburg and the broader Netherlands, the project aims to propose innovative architectural solutions that cater to the evolving needs of modern society. The Groenewoud neighborhood presents a unique opportunity for transformative spatial interventions that not only address the demand for new residences but also accommodate the changing dynamics of living and working. By re-imagining the built environment through a lens of adaptability, sustainability, and social cohesion, the project seeks to contribute to the broader discussion on representative housing typologies in the post-COVID era. The exploration of the "workhome" concept, as coined by Frances Holliss, plays a pivotal role in shaping the design approach, reflecting the changing needs and aspirations of modern residents.

The proposal starts with a reflection on the role of the garden city in the 21st century. The project consists of a series of punctual interventions that are the result of a careful typological and volumetric analysis of the neighbourhood. The result of a sensitive analysis of the existing context is a series of punctual interventions that harmoniously densify Groenewoud and preserve the balanced proportion between green areas and built environments (typical of garden cities).
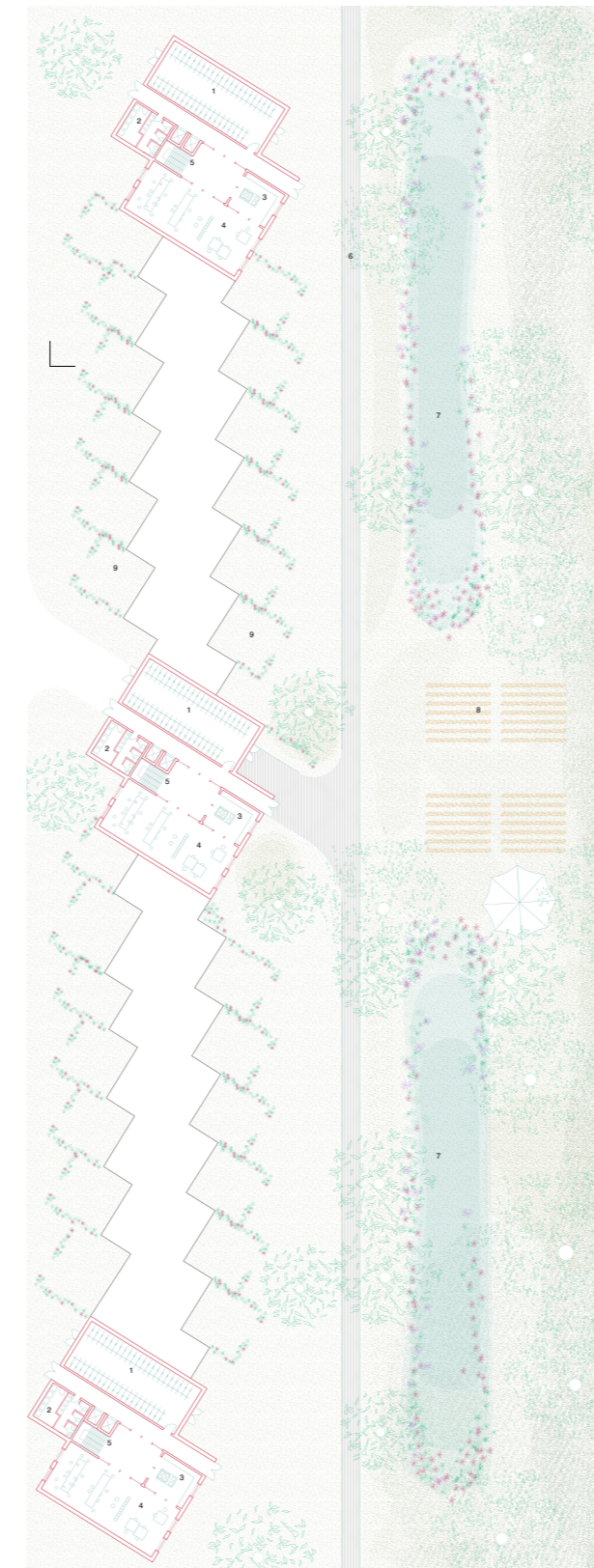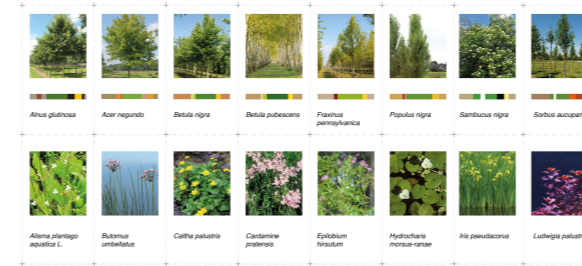
Bioswale system

Dealing with existing buildings

The student house

Legend
GF
1 Bike parking
2 Trash
3 Shared kitchen
4 Study space and common areas
5 Access to the rooms

6 Bike path
7 Bioswale
8 Common gardens
9 Private garden

1F
10 Storage
11 Room
12 Shared terrace
13 Laundry

Acknowledging the growing challenges posed by climate change, the project addresses potential flood risks through a comprehensive flood risk analysis. The proposal includes the incorporation of bioswales, landscape elements designed to manage stormwater, and a diverse vegetation palette that aids in water absorption and retention.
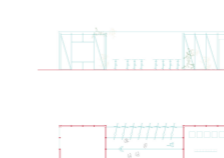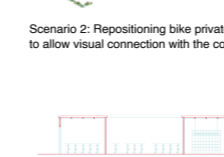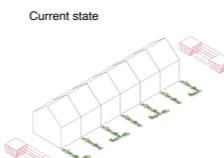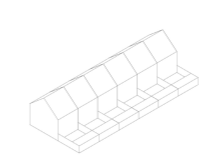
The strategic placement of bioswales, combined with the implementation of sustainable landscaping practices, not only enhances the neighbourhood's resilience but also contributes to the overall ecological health of the area. All the selected trees and plants fall within Tilburg hardiness zone (8a).

Involving the extension of the existing buildings in Ardennenlaan, Vogezenlaan, and Juralaan, the student house exemplifies the combination of living and studying spaces. The repetition of volumes in the existing building provides each house with multiple orientations, fostering a strong connection to the outdoors. The ground floor serves as a communal hub, offering shared spaces (kitchens, dining rooms, and study areas) and facilitating interaction and community-building among students. Moreover, the top floor hosts shared gardens, fostering a sense of camaraderie and shared responsibility among the tower's inhabitants.

Rethink thresholds

Green borders

Current state

Scenario 1: Shared bike storages

Scenario 2: Repositioning bike private storages to allow visual connection with the context
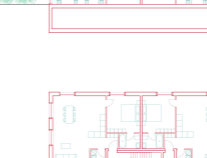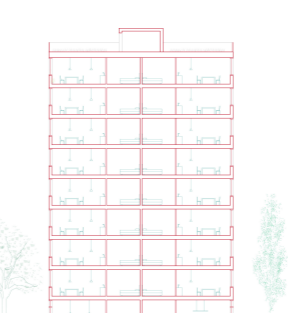
Bike parking and storage, scale 1:200

The design redefines spatial boundaries by incorporating vegetation as a pivotal element. The existing brick walls are transformed into green limits. Green spaces act as natural dividers, delineating private, semi-public, and public areas within the residential complex. The strategic placement of vegetation fosters a sense of harmony and balance, enhancing the quality of life for residents and promoting a strong sense of community.
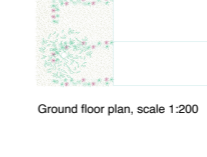
Ground floor plan, scale 1:200

First floor plan, scale 1:200
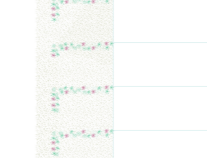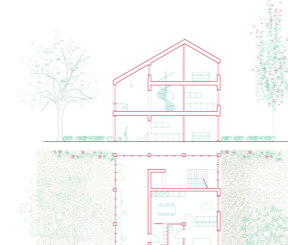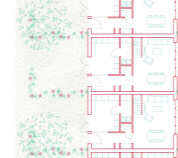
New construction

The tower

First floor plan, scale 1:200

The longhouse

Ground floor plan, scale 1:200

The house-atelier (shared)

Ground floor plan, scale 1:200

Legend
1 Bike parking
2 Storage and laundry
3 Shared spaces
4 Apartment 60m2
5 Terraces and shared gardens

Legend
1 Bike parking
2 Storage and laundry
3 Shared spaces
4 Apartment 60m2
5 Duplex apartment 120 m2

Symbolizing the city's boundaries and offering captivating views of the Dutch landscape, the tower integrates seamlessly with its surroundings. The permeable ground floor offers shared amenities and workspaces, promoting inclusivity and collaboration. The upper floors comprise traditional apartments. Finally, the top floor hosts shared gardens, fostering a sense of camaraderie and shared responsibility among the tower's inhabitants.

Inspired by the classic row-house typology, the longhouse epitomizes a balanced interplay of function and aesthetics. Each module, measuring 9x6 meters, emphasizes efficiency and spatial quality. The ground floor is dedicated to shared communal spaces. On the first floor, one of the two bedrooms is thoughtfully connected to a mezzanine floor, harnessing the roof's incline for enhanced utility and space optimization.

Cultivating a collaborative living experience, the shared atelier house comprises six modules, arranged to foster community engagement. On each floor, the apartments are complemented by a shared workspace area in front, inviting a dynamic exchange of ideas and talents.
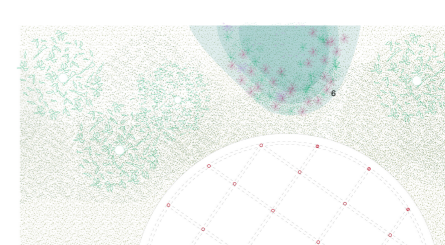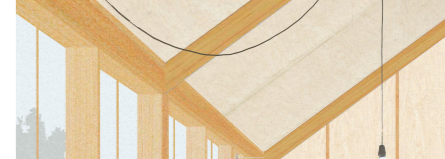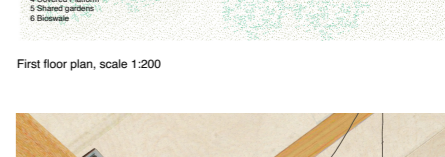
Dealing with existing buildings

The house-atelier (single module)

Ground floor plan, scale 1:200

Legend
1 Existing building
2 Atelier shared space
3 Apartment 60m2
4 Duplex apartment 120 m2

Embodying creativity and productivity, the atelier house module harmoniously attaches to the existing buildings in the central park. Drawing inspiration from the pitched roof concept, the new volume rises from the existing building's height (two floors) while following the same roof slope, reaching an additional floor. Each floor accommodates an apartment with one bedroom, juxtaposed with an adjacent workspace/atelier area.

Activating the park

The shared pavilion

First floor plan, scale 1:200

Legend
1 Storage/ tools for gardening
2 Toilets
3 Shared Kitchen
4 Covered Platform
5 Shared gardens
6 Bioswale

The student house

The house-atelier