# Unbuilt Spaces In Lille And Nablus A Key Issue For Urban Development
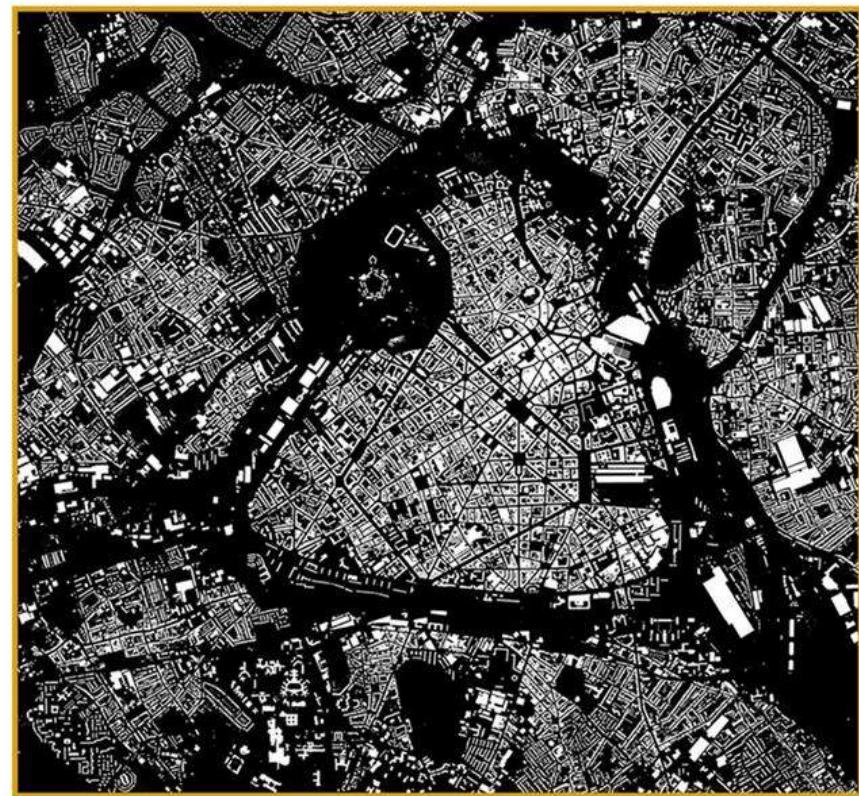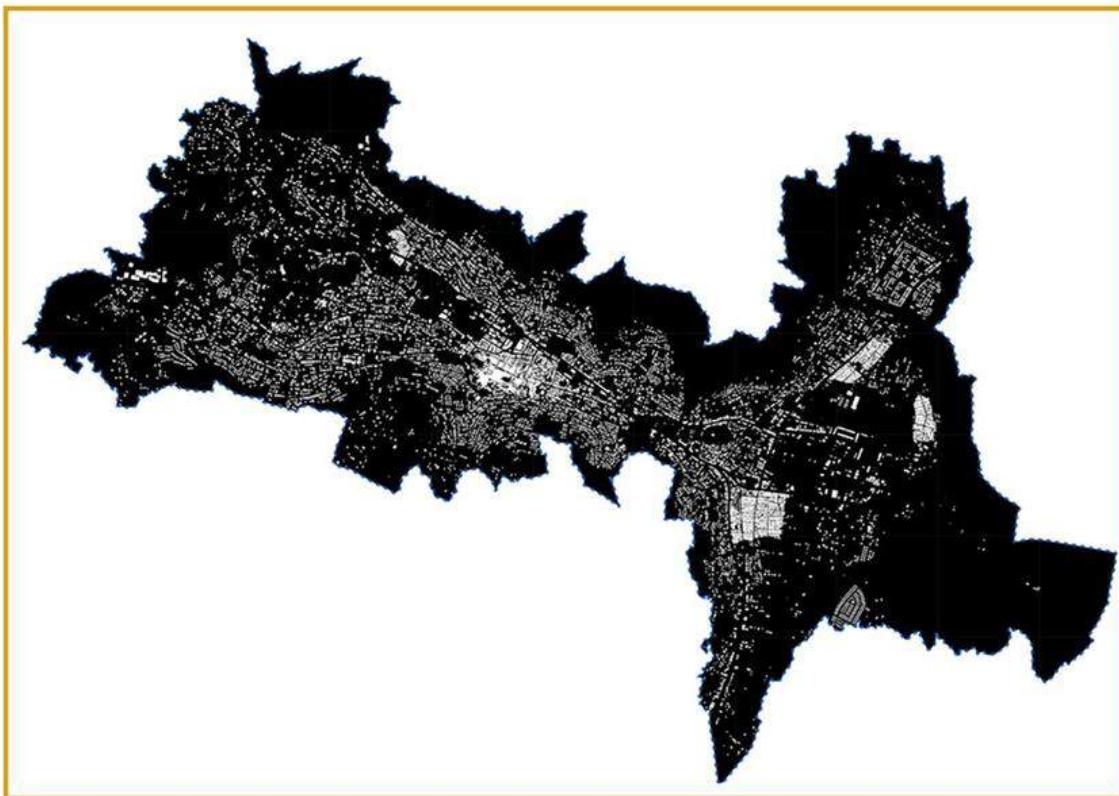
Institut d'Aménagement et d'Urbanisme de Lille
M2 Urbanisme et Aménagement

Working Team

JARRAR Hoda
ABURAS Hala
DIEVAL Marie
OUTTIER Nicolas

ABUAISHEH Amir
DALMONT Louise
COMBES Typhaine
DOURA Claire-Zoé

Professional Supervisors

Matthieu GOETZKE   Clémence POTTIER
Sidonie CAQUANT   Benoit PONCELET

Academic Supervisors

Pauline BOSREDON
Marie-Thérèse GREGORIS

All pictures, maps and drawings which have no source are made by us.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Acknowledgements

INTRODUCTION

Our work is part of the decentralized cooperation agreements between the cities of Lille and Nablus including their municipalities, the CAUE du Nord and the Universities Lille 1 and An-Najah. This cooperation in urban planning aims to bring knowledge and ultimately some leads of urban development projects.

A cooperation between two cities is a stage to exchange views and to discuss about common issues while both cities have to improve their urban development. The two cities have chosen to give them a concrete medium in order to go deeper on the exchange, and to test out their ideas. Two sites have been chosen in both cities: the Saint-Sauveur area in Lille and the Governorate area in Nablus. Both sites are mainly under the control of municipalities. They also represent an opportunity for both cities because they offer available lands in the middle of the city for new projects. The Saint-Sauveur and the Governorate areas are key issues for urban development.

Lille and Nablus have to find a way to manage the urban development in order to avoid the waste of land, to reinforce social links and to save public money. In other words : finding a sustainable way of development. In this aim the question of making dense cities appeared as an option that should be studied. In our workshop, the goal was to understand the vision of each other in the development of their city and to learn from each other.

COOPERATION BETWEEN LILLE AND NABLUS

COOPERATION ABOUT URBAN DEVELOPMENT

OUR WORK
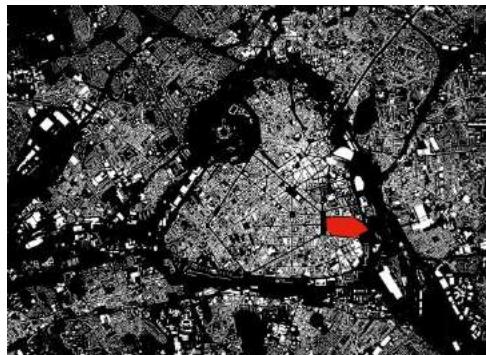
Work proceeding

The first few months we were separated. Each group tried to appropriate the subject. Both groups read, made field work, and explored several leads to understand and analyze unbuilt spaces.

After we gathered in Lille, we spent time to understand the vision of each other on these particular spaces and on both cities in general. To this aim we discussed a lot and took help from pictures, maps, books and documents. It was sometimes hard to work at eight and to understand the wish of every member of the cooperation. We had difficulties to bound the subject. But at this time we didn't want to restrict ourselves too much to have a better understanding of each other.

Then we chose themes to analyze the unbuilt spaces more deeply: permeability, temporality, scales, uses. We tried different ways to understand and to illustrate them.

Finally we tried to apply it in a way to elaborate leads of project for Saint-Sauveur and the governorate area. We split ourselves in three groups: the first group studying and understanding desirable urban development plans for both cities. The two other groups for Saint-Sauveur and the Governorate area.

During all of our work finding equal information and data for both cities was also a big issue.

Three months part time

French student in Lille:
-What are unbuilt spaces?
- Attempt to make a typology
- Reading about conception of these spaces, their history, and their perception today.

Palestinian students in Nablus:
-What are unbuilt spaces?
- Attempt to make a typology

Two weeks full time

General discussion:
-Which type of development is wanted by both cities ?
-How projects are set up? With which actors?
- Which are the current issues of urban development today?
- Discussion about how each one perceives unbuilt spaces in Lille and Nablus?

Two weeks full time

Find a methodology to analyze unbuilt spaces:
-Which tool can be used to analyze them?
-On which theory can we base our work?
-How to represent them?

One month full time

Common basis:
-Which vision for both cities?
-Which issues?
-Why apply a sustainable development plan?

Lead of project for Saint-Sauveur district:
-How to design in-between spaces?
-How to preserve intimate spaces and offer meeting spaces for inhabitants?

Lead of project for governorate area :
-How to solve the issues of not enough parks and recreation spaces ?
- How to highlight the eastern part of Nablus?

I. MANAGING URBAN GROWTH

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT'S **3E** NVIRONMENT

Q
U CONOMY
I
T
Y

ENVIRONMENT *:* Density helps to fight urban sprawl, air pollution and traffic congestion, or to increase biodiversity. Etc.

ECONOMY *:* Dense cities do it better in terms of innovation, creativity, productivity. Etc

EQUITY *:* Density usually means more social diversity and social life. Also, it leads people to vote for progressive political parties that promote the community-building.

DENSITY IS A KEY ISSUE TO A SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Now that we know that, the next step is to figure out what is the *right density*. Because the risk is to content ourself with a simple idea of sustainable cities which could be sum up in a kind of a magic formula : a Sustainable city = density + transit + mixed-use + bike lanes + making driving and parking less attractive. Also, even density has got disadvantages : noise, traffic, pollution, loss of contact with nature. Etc.

Truth be said, our cities will need innovative and sophisticated answers to produce the density we all want, the *right density*. An accepted and even popular density. Indeed, for the moment, people have a very bad perception of density. Mostly because of wrong ideas and prejudices built up throughout the times after pretty bad urban experiences. And we still don't know how to make them appreciate, if not love, high-density cities.

Our work is inscribed in this quest for the *right density*. Thus, we were asked to think about those unbuilt spaces that make the urban density more liveable and bearable for the people. More precisely, we've been working on :

1. **The unbuilt spaces (or intermediate spaces) in-between the space of private intimacy and the common spaces (like streets or public spaces).**

2. **Parks in a context of dramatic urban sprawling and thereby non-density.**

1.1. URBAN GROWTH AND THE SPRAWL

There are **3 scenarios** of urban growth. To show that, we made an imaginary city with imaginary borders. It shows 3 scenario of urban growth. In white are the vacant areas and in gray are the built spaces. The point is to show that managing the sprawl is the most realistic and efficient way to deal with the urban growth of a city.

City Before Expansion
— City Boundary

A Sprawling (Random way)

Nablus current grow: the unplanned sprawling which happened for each city in order to develop led to kill the land and many other problems appeared, the unplanned sprawling is against sustainability.

B Stop Sprawling

Prevent sprawling
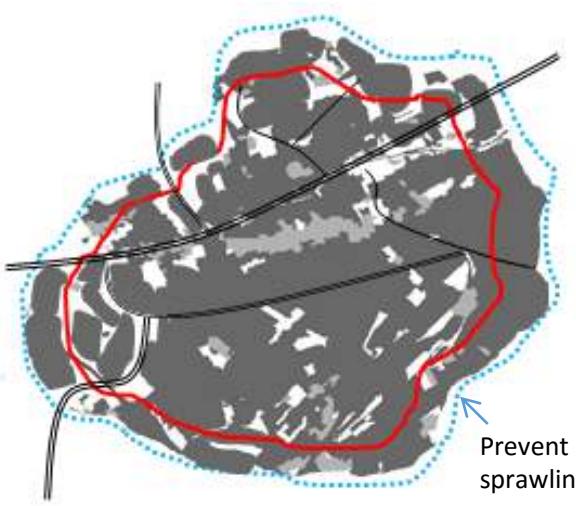
Lille Metropolitan area project: after the unplanned sprawling, they decided to stop the expansion by applying for sustainability by appling urban renewal and densification in order to develop the metropolitan area but this **is not realistic** at all.

C Managing The Sprawling

To manage the growth according to sustainable development criteria, while keeping on sprawling, we should understand that the sprawl has to be managed. We could fill in the vacant spaces within the city while sprawling so that it would be managed. This is true **Nablus** and **Lille.**

Why Nablus and Lille should manage the sprawl

URBAN SPRAWL NEVER CONTAINED ITSELF

Lille's sprawl since the 19th century:
The city experienced a massive economic and demographic growth during the 19th century. It went on throughout the 20th century at the metropolitan scale.
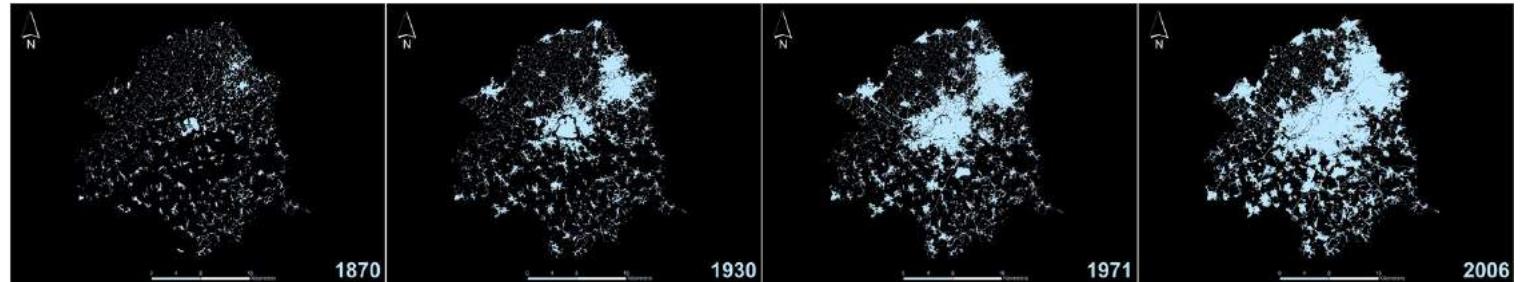
Nablus' sprawl throughout the times:
Since the end of the 19th century, Nablus is sprawling outside the border of the old city according to economic and demographic reasons.
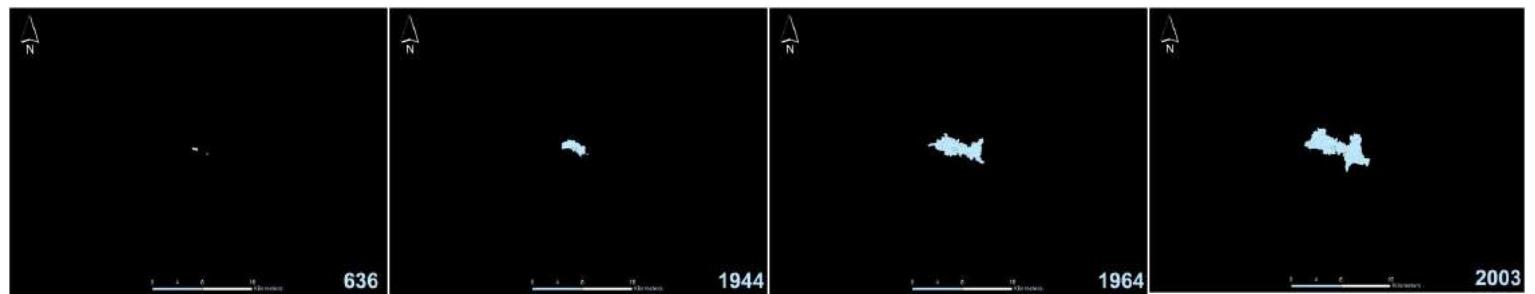
The failures of urban sprawl: the example of Lille

DESTRUCTION OF AGRICULTURAL LANDS

Between **40.000** and **90.000 hectares** of agricultural land disappeared each year in France (2000-2012)

PRIMACY OF THE CAR

Whereas **42%** of the households in Lille doesn't own an automobile

AIR POLLUTION

30.9 μg/m3 : The rate of air pollution with fine particles in Lille (limit recommended by the World Health Organisation : 25 μg/m).

ZONING

Sprawl usually go together with strict zoning rules. It resulted functional and social divisions which « destroyed » the city.

WASTE OF PUBLIC MONEY

A city which is sprawling costs a lot in terms of public infrastructures (roads, power grids, sewage. Etc.) and amenities (cultural or sport equipments. Etc.)

BIODIVERSITY

The biodiversty and the ecological continuum is permanently damaged

1.2. MANAGING URBAN GROWTH WITH THE DENSITY

What is density?
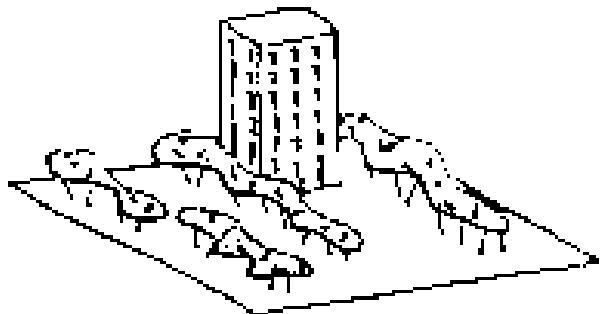
DENSITY IS NOT AN URBAN FORM

Density doesn't have to mean high-rise buildings, it's the idea of compactness and continuity of the building.

DENSITY IS A MEASURE

"Human density" = inhabitants/km²

"Housing density" = dwelling/hectare

"Building density" = the number of built m²/hectare

DENSITY IS ALSO A FEELING

Many other factors also come into account :
* the quality of the public spaces
* the image of the city/neighborhood,
* the urban atmosphere,
* the nature in the cities,
* etc.

Source: CEREMA.

Why density?

AGAINST SPRAWL AND ITS DISADVANTAGES

DENSE CITIES DO BETTER

Economists, urban planners, and place makers have found density to be associated with many things from greater energy efficiency to higher levels of skilled and talented people, higher rates of innovation, and higher income.

Density brings people and firms closer together which makes it easier to share and exchange information, invent new technologies and launch new firms.
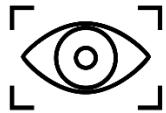
GREATER SAFETY

Safety and security are important quality-of-life factors. Density improves visual access to public spaces. Jane Jacobs highlighted the fact that maintaining "eyes on the street" helps keep neighborhoods safe.

RISK MANAGEMENT

During natural disasters, tight neighborhoods and centralized infrastructures recovered more quickly than spread-out areas.

SOCIAL DIVERSITY

Density makes social diversity within the city more effective. It enhances the social link between the citizens after the sprawl and zoning « destroyed » the city and its basic functions: people gathered together in a built space.

How to promote density (and even high-density)?

Some principles can lead the action to promote an Urban density in Lille or in Nablus.

1. **PLAN FOR LONG-TERM GROWTH AND RENEWAL**

Density needs a **broad** and **diversified approach** to be effective and **accepted by the people**.

Lille's new metropolitan strategic plan (SCOT) will try to provide this long-term vision of the sustainable development and urban renewal.

2. **MAKE ENHANCED PUBLIC SPACES**

Make all spaces have multiple uses and users.

Including insfrastructural spaces, for example, a parking lot can be so much more than a surface we expect to be free just to park our cars.

3. **RELIEVE DENSITY WITH VARIETY**

Reducing the sense of being in a crowded space is the issue. Urban designers and architects have a role to play here by designing buildings or spaces of varied heights, widths, scales, and styles.

Using the urban high-rises with low-rises and human-scaled buildings creates a skyline with more character and variety.

4. **FORGE "3P" PARTNERSHIPS**

- "3P" = People/Public/Private

The municipalities and all stakeholders and actors of the urban production need to work together to ensure they are not taking actions that would reduce the quality of life for others.

Also, working with the citizens always makes better and more efficient spaces.

5. **PASS A « DENSITY-FRIENDLY » REGULATION**

In France, the National Assembly passed laws to make real density possible. Several measures aim to do it: percentage of minimal building density, exceptions to the rules of size or the percentage of density, abolition of the maximum percentage of buiding per land or maximum floor-area ratio, etc.

ABOVE ALL, **THE IMAGE OF DENSITY HAS TO CHANGE IN PEOPLE'S MIND.**

PEOPLE HAVE INDEED A VERY NEGATIVE PERCEPTION OF DENSITY.

Why is density unpopular?

Popular imagination also leads people to match density with negative urban forms. For instead, in France, housing projects built during the 1950's and 1960's are very unpopular. People built their perception of density on these housing projects. Here again, wrong ideas stopped the rise of density in cities. Housing projects are indeed less dense than the core of the villages every frenchman idealizes (but that we don't produce anymore). The Haussmanian urban fabric in Paris is the best example of high-density in France. According to the picture people have of density, it should be abhorred. Whereas the Haussmanian part of Paris is the one where most people of the Great Paris want to live.

SCATTERRED HOUSES

HOUSES IN A ROW

EX : 1930's houses

HOUSING PROJECTS

EX : Concorde in Faubourg de Béthune neighborhood

FAUBOURG/SUBURB

EX : Rue du faubourg des Postes

HAUSSMANIAN URBAN FABRIC IN PARIS

BUILDING/HECTARE   **25**   **40**   **70**   **120**   **230**   **400 ...**

SCATTERRED HOUSES IN NABLUS COUNTRYSIDE

INDIVDUAL HOUSES IN SUBURBS

HOUSING PROJECTS

SUFIAN STREET

NABLUS OLD CITY

Many arguments against density are wrong, if not dishonest, such as:

Traffic "nightmare" as number of cars increase

Parking issues and overflowing to neighboring streets

Extreme population density : people always have the feeling their neighbourhoods are already – maybe too – dense

Mobility issues : issues for mobility challenged individuals

Neighbourhood character : it would change. It enhances the idea that density is also a feeling related to very sensitive issues like identity.

Public safety

Pet density : more people means more dogs. That is more animals in parks for recreation and also for elimination.

Danger over **endangered species habitat**

All of this illustrates the fact that **people misunderstand density**. And misunderstanding, as always, leads to fear and eventually rejection. What is at stake for the promoter of density is to **explain to citizens that density can match with a good quality of life**.

Finding the right density
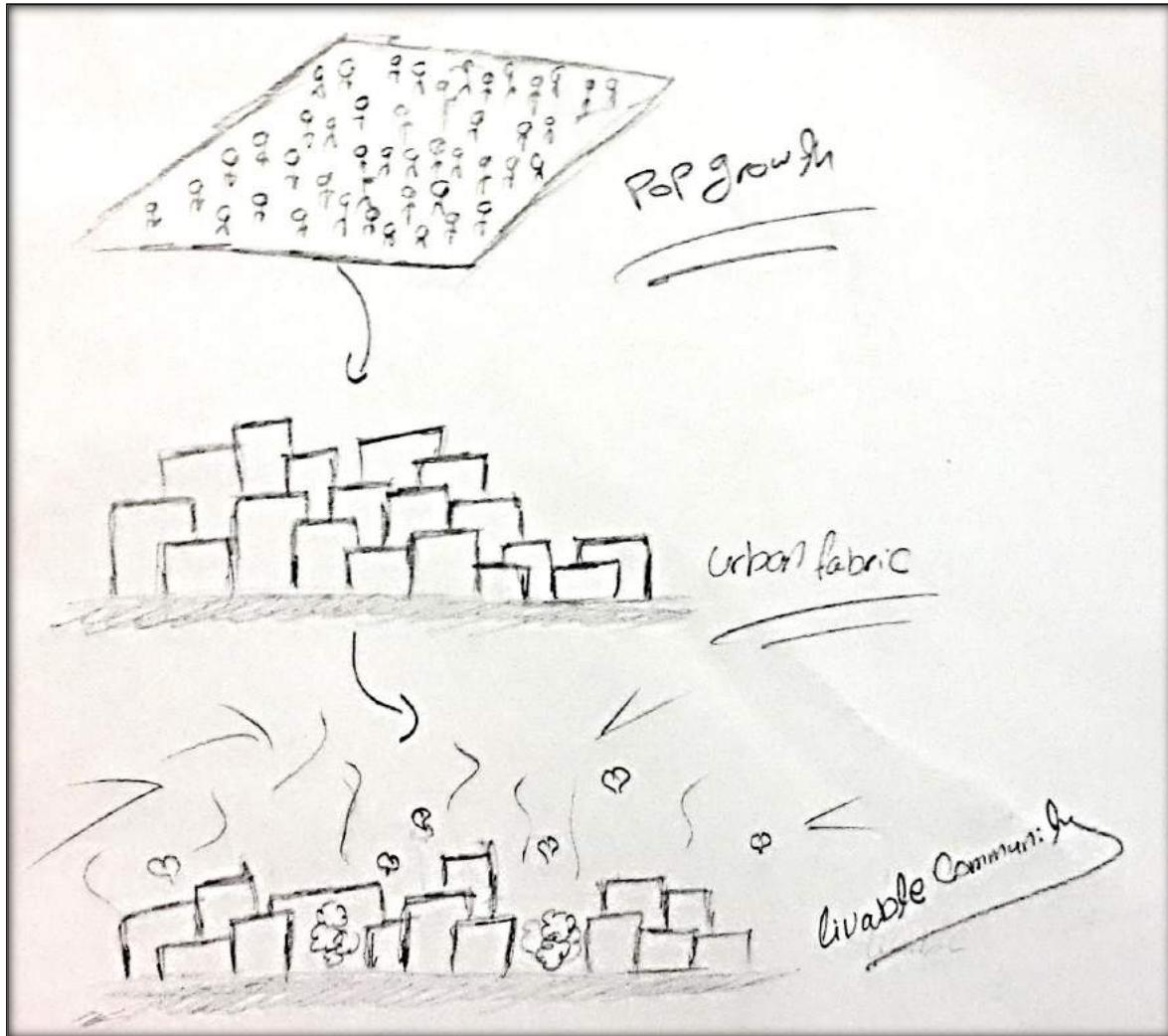
Changing the image of density is one of the trickiest challenges we face as we address the future of our cities.

Because as we put it, density is deeply unpopular. Also, to be honest, the highest densities can bring their own issues, including noise, traffic (cars or pedestrian), air pollution and loss of contact with nature among others.

Finding the right density is important if you want to make people's mind evolve about it.

Until today, no urban planner or designer succeeded to sort this out.

Nearly all the promotion of sustainable and liveable approaches of urban planning seems limited to a magic formula: good living in a city = density + transit + mixed-use + bike lanes + making driving and parking less attractive. But it doesn't make a right and accepted density.

The truth is **the future of high-density cities will go together with sophisticated and innovative ideas and answers.**

The quest for spaces that make density livable

The purpose of our whole work is to produce some of these innovative and sophisticated answers to show density doesn't have to be ugly or scary. That the reality of density is way less scary than hypothetical scenarios

We'll have to prove that there are many ways to make density right. We just have to find them and introduce them to the citizens with patience and pedagogy.

In this way, we were asked to work on 2 different kind of spaces

① **The unbuilt spaces (or empty spaces) in-between the space of private intimacy and the common spaces** (like streets or public spaces)

Here we aimed at proving that the more you analyse and define unbuilt spaces, the more you can optimize them. And working on those unbuilt spaces is as important as working on buildings. They make connexions between spaces. They create different level of intimacy. They make the urban diversity in spatial terms richest.

② **The parks as a tool to manage the urban growth and to make density popular**

We want to illustrate that the more you draw nature to people, the more density become bearable and thereby accepted by   people. Indeed, nature gives to citizens some pockets of respite which softens the bustle of urban life. It plays a decisive role with dense core if the cities.

1.3. THE MANAGEMENT OF URBAN GROWTH IN NABLUS

While working on density issues, we realized that it was not the only one that Nablus has to deal with in order to manage its urban growth. Nablus has indeed many other things to deal with before to think in terms of urban renewal and urban density.

Our work was the opportunity for french and palestianian students to exchange views and discuss about urban issues.

Quickly, the palestinians noticed that Lille achieved its metropolisation long time ago. And that it was a very useful framework to deal with urban growth and sprawl at a more appropriated level.

In this part of our work, we intend to study the opportunity for Nablus City to create its own Metropolitan authorithy, in order to institutionalized its negociation with its neighbours (villages and small towns) about the condition of its development and above all of its sprawl.

Here also, we deepened our work on density to apply it to Nablus. The purpose of this approach is to explain what Nablus should do to promote density and then to manage its sprawl in a sustainable way.

Greater Nablus

THE GREATER CITY

The Greater cities term, is a region consisting of densely populated urban core and less-populated surrounding territories. It includes one or more urban areas, cites, towns and villages. They are all socio-economically tied to the urban core. Like Greater London or Greater Ney York.

The main reasons for making greater cities is to look in the whole community inside these greater cities in one view in terms of development, administration, etc., instead of thinking of each city without the surrounding area.
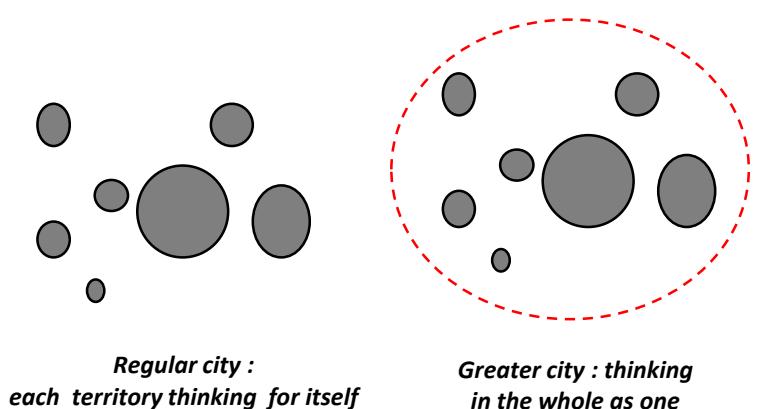
GREATER CITIES' NAMES:

Theoretically	In reality
The Greater London	The Greater London
The Greater New York	The Greater New York
The Greater Nablus	The Greater Nablus
The Greater Lille	European Metropolis of Lille

Regular city :
each territory thinking for itself

Greater city : thinking
in the whole as one

Why greater Nablus?

The Grater Nablus idea appears as a need for sustainable development, because Nablus city is expanding and developing and in order to have sustainable development we have to think of Nablus city with its surrounding communities in one view making Greater Nablus.

We can make Greater Nablus by studying current issues and problems the city faces to begin the right first step by solving and finding sustainable solutions for these issues. Also, while looking at other cities' experiences in order to avoid making the same mistakes.

Land at the west of Nablus

Soufyan Street

How to make greater Nablus?

1. The Lille Metropolitan Area experience

There are many cities in the world following this trend (making greater cities) like Greater London and Greater New York, but according to the cooperation between Lille and Nablus, we will study the experience of the Lille Metropolitan Area.

By looking at Lille Metropolitan Area and how it was initiated we found many common things between the two cites, which makes the need of having a metropolitan area.

1 -Center of department, region
-Attract people (economic)

Lille

Surrounding commune

2 - Population growth
-Economical growth

3 - Expand at the same time as other cities

4 - Central State forced to be metropolitan area in order to apply more efficiency and make balance

5 - Lille and surroundings become metropolitan area but Lille is the center

Steps of Making Lille Metropolitan Area

1 -Center of governorate
-Attract people (economic)

Nablus

Surrounding community

2 -Population growth
- Economical growth

3 - Expansion towards the surrounding communities

4 - Central State decides to make Nablus the center of the northern region.

5 - Greater Nablus: Nablus city with its surroundings

Steps of Making Greater Nablus

2. Avoiding the expansion mistakes of Lille Metropolitan Area

When the city of Lille began expansion making the metropolitan area of Lille, the expansion was not a part of a sustainable plan and thinking, which led to the emergence of many problems on the levels of planning, social and others, which resulted to thinking about applying the concept of sustainability in order to find solutions to the existing problems and to reduce the future ones.

The main mistakes that happened were:

❑**Absorbing the villages**
The cities of Lille, Tourcoing and Roubaix and other towns expanded without thinking about each other, so the cites expanded towards the villages and absorbed them, which led many villages to lose their own identities and character.

❑**Taking up the lands**
During the expansion of the communities and due to the absence of a sustainable plan, the urban sprawl led to the destruction of a lot of fertile agricultural land.
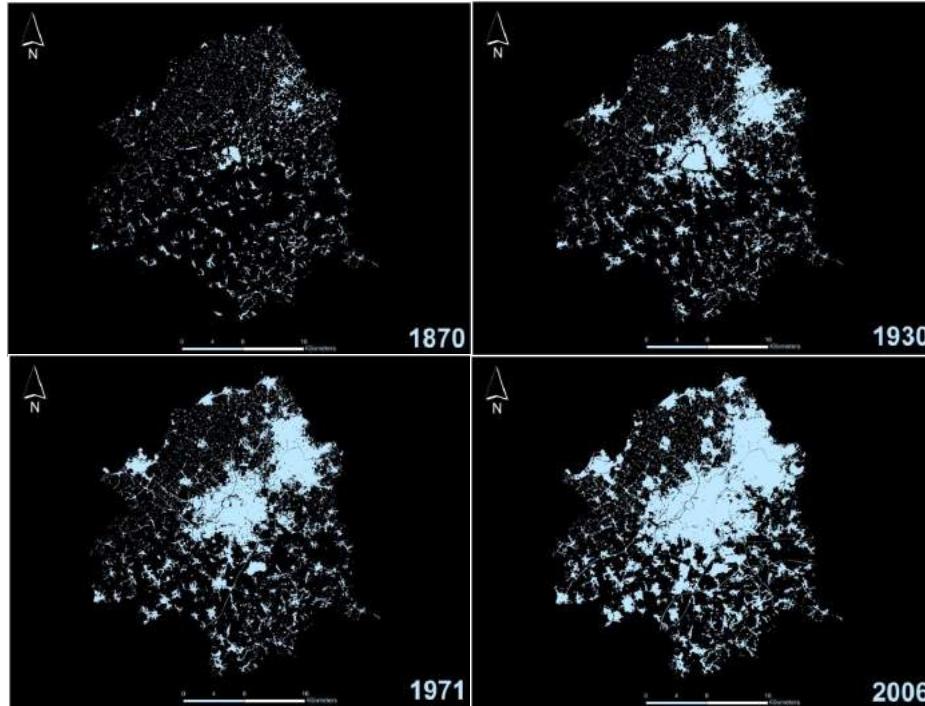
Lille Metropolitan Authority Expansion Map
Source : IGN-CD 59

By looking at the history of expansion of Lille Metropolitan Area, we see that the reason for the expansion in the periods between 1870 and 1930 is the economic growth which causes the presence of industries that attract workers to the city. This is comparable to the expansion of Nablus resulting of the economic growth caused by the presence of old industries.

Between 1971 and 2006, expansion has increased dramatically due to economical and population growth and it was not organized or planned, which led to the absorption of villages and the destruction of lands. The same thing is happening in the city of Nablus, because of population growth and its contacts with the neighboring villages

3. Nablus' current issues

POPULATION GROWTH
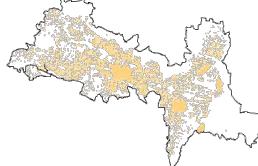
With the continued increase in population growth in Nablus, it requires an increase of services provided to residents.

LAND ISSUE

The importance of land is growing with the population growth and the need to develop and increase the services.

SURROUNDING ISSUE

With the city needed to expand, there were many problems facing the expansion of the city.

1

149,772 inhabitants

2015

Nablus is the third largest city in West Bank in terms of population

The population density is concentrated differently in Nablus: the city center is classified as a higher density in addition to the southern regions, followed by the south-western areas
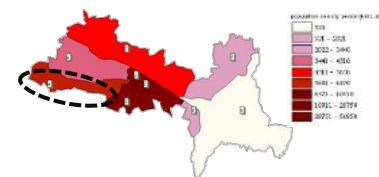
current situation: population density heading towards the southern and western areas .

Increasing population	Concentrated density

2

Most of land in Nablus is private, a lot of public land is outside the boundaries of built-up areas.

The price of land in Nablus is high, forcing residents to buy land outside the city boundaries.

The municipality is facing difficulties in the expropriation of private land because they can't afford the high prices.
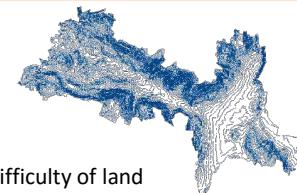
Difficulty of land development in northern and southern sloped regions in order to provide services because of the difficult topography and high cost of development

Private land ownership	High Land Price	land expropriation difficulties	Topography
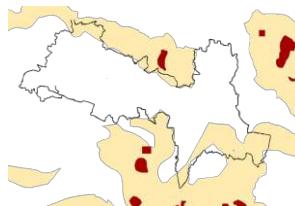
3

The existence of C areas and Israeli settlements near Nablus hinders its expansion in some areas.
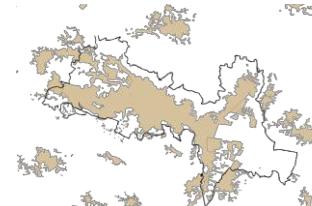
Unorganized urban connection between Nablus and the surrounding villages especially towards the West and the East
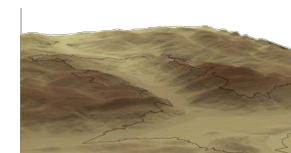
Difficulty of expansion in some areas due to the difficult topography

Israeli occupation restrictions	Connect with villages	Topography

23

Tools for making a sustainable Greater Nablus

The sustainable development term is not always against expansion or sprawling, but with managed sprawling according to sustainable thinking and needs.
In order to make Greater Nablus sustainable there are some tools which need to be considered.

A Thinking as a whole Greater Nablus

Thinking about all of Greater Nablus in one view, applying a sustainable development plan and dividing the projects on Nablus and its surrounding areas

B Managing the sprawl

Managing the sprawl (not randomly) and starting with filling in the city (densification) to use and develop the unused spaces while sprawling slowly.

C Applying sustainable projects

Applying sustainable projects that **solve existing problems** and make the **future better**.

The new park can be considered as a sustainable project, it provides the city with open green spaces and solves social and economical issues, as two components of sustainability.
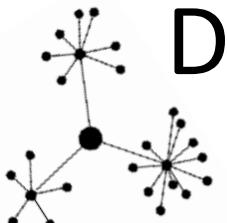
D Decentralization

In order to achieve sustainability, it is necessary to have secondary service areas in Nablus and in Greater Nablus, to provide services to the population without having to go to the center, as well as mitigation of adverse effects such as air pollution and noise, which sustainability seeks to achieve.

Density in Nablus

One of the ways of managing the sprawl in greater Nablus is applying density (filling in the space) before or while sprawling.
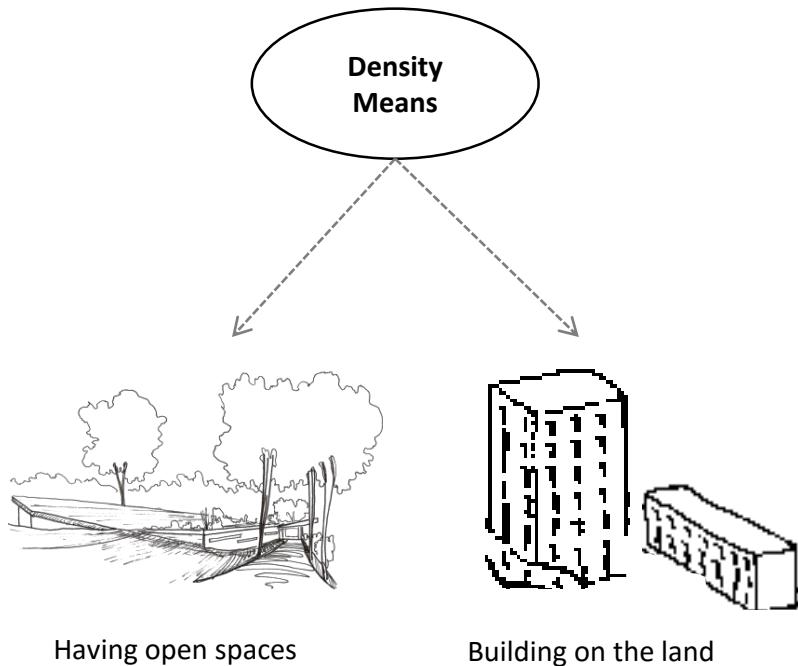
Source : Palestine Investment Fund ,http://pif.ps/old/index.php?lang=ar&page=1245234396364

Having open spaces   Building on the land

Having open spaces: in terms of filling in and building in the city, and with the population growth, the need of open spaces has become more necessary**.**

Building on the lands: by using the vacant areas which are unused and developing them.

How the municipality could lead a land policy in order to implement density within Nablus?

Great Rules

To have more lands to develop on and using more spaces, the municipality has to put rules on some lands for projects, and then a developer (private or public sector) can make a project according to the municipality's strategy. Thus the municipality will not need money but rules.

Buildings Setback in Nablus   Buildings Setback in Lille
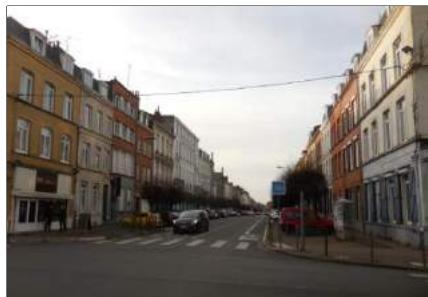
Solution : reduce the setbacks in order to make more spaces and lands and restudy the master plan zones and make mixed uses

No need for money !

For the municipality the money shouldn't be the main thing to control taking lands for public projects

Vacant areas in Nablus

Solution: the municipality decided to consider the lands on the master plan as future developments and put some rules on it, so each developer can be under municipality control by applying the rules and without having to buy the land.
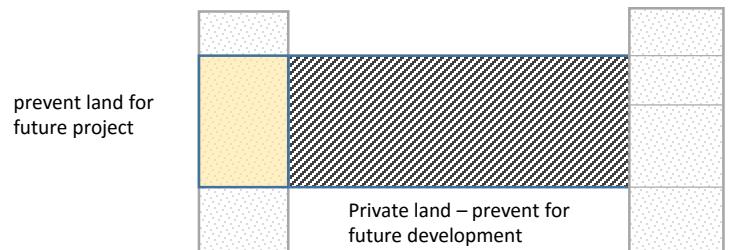
Private land

prevent land for future project

Private land – prevent for future development

II. THE UNBUILT SPACES AS A CONNECTION BETWEEN INTIMACY AND COMMON SPACES

How to make good density?

Density has become a current issue in our cities and we have tried to find solutions to this for decades. Several shapes of buildings answered this challenge such as housing projects. Even though these shapes helped us to solve to the lack of accommodation, we noticed that it didn't work. In fact, the spaces around are empty, people don't appropriate the outside and don't meet anymore. On the other hand, we understood the drawbacks of sprawling, and we chose to make sustainable cities. Given that, we understood that two things were missing in our way to make and to think cities:

1- We have forgotten one step in the urban fabric. We never designed the spaces in-between buildings. We thought for such a long time that designing the building was enough. We didn't think about how to manage these unbuilt spaces located in-between buildings. Being able to understand them and manage them would be a way for us to connect the city, so that we can develop a better way of life. Further more, it can show us how to make sustainable cities, that will adapt and last over time.

2- We didn't take in consideration the notion of perceived density. There is a gap between the real density, and the feeling people can have of it. This biased reality is called perceived density. In a word, perceived density is linked to what is called "crowding".

Processes of perception and evaluation that can lead, or not, to a stressful feeling due to a lack of space or to an excess of people.

Perceived density is based on the sensory perceptions. It means if a place is too noisy, your ears will be requested too much, you will feel the presence of the others too much and feel overcrowded. On the contrary, if a place is always empty, your senses will not be requested, and you will feel alone. In his study, Edward T. Hall defines an existing invisible isolation bubble around everyone. These is a human scale we have to take in consideration to make spaces and keep the intimacy of each person. If people are too close to each other in the urban space, they will feel attacked. He defines four zones of distances between people:

Intimate zone   Private zone   Social zone   Public zone

What about Saint-Sauveur?
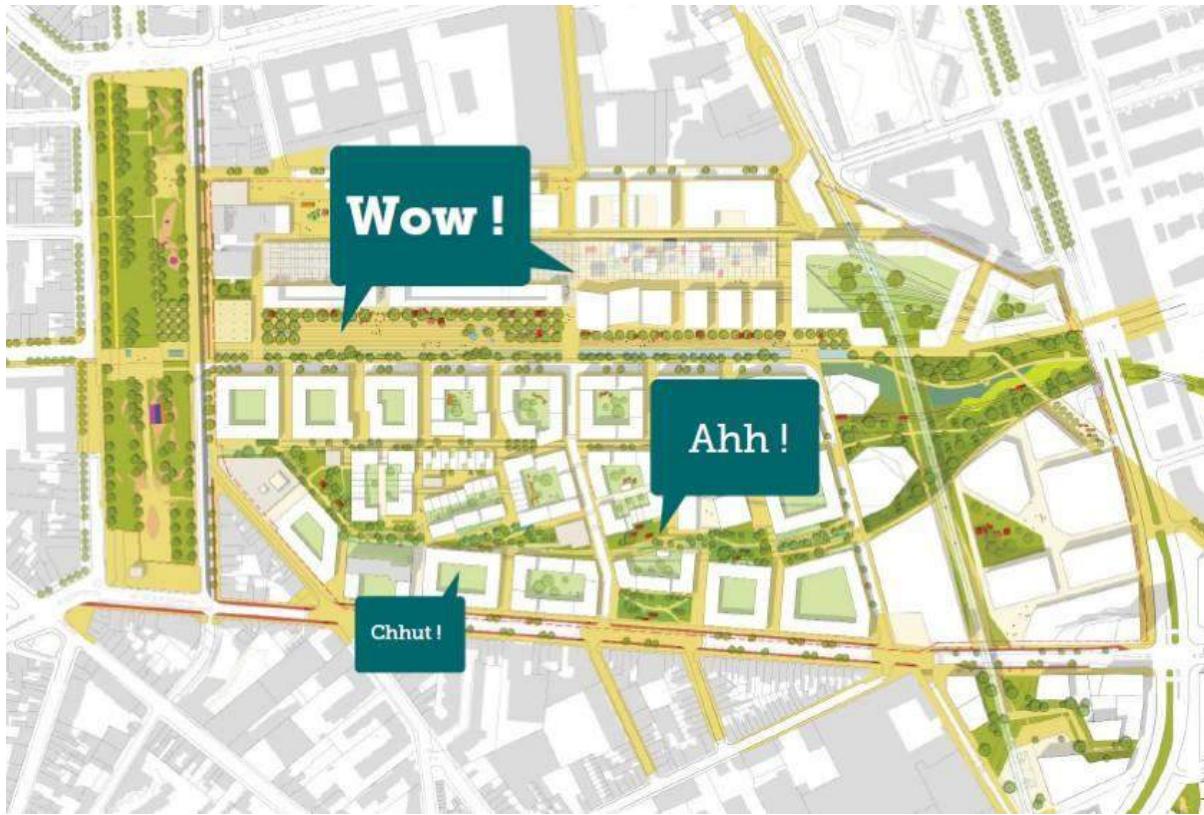
As a new concept, we had to define what are the unbuilt spaces in a city. The final goal is to give some ideas for the Saint-Sauveur project in Lille. More precisely, we have think about the connexion that could exist between buildings in the residential area.

Understanding this particular place means understanding how to make the link and the balance between privacy and publicness in the urban fabric. Which kind of spaces can enforce people to appropriate and use the common spaces, while still keeping their own intimate spaces?

For that, we have to understand where this new concept exists in the current spaces of Lille and Nablus. For that, we have to analyse the stable elements from the urban fabric, and the way they are linked to each other. Thanks to these elements we will have the keys to design unbuilt spaces and make bearable and liveable density.

Our method of proceeding

The first part of the job is to understand the shape of these unbuilt spaces in-between intimate and common areas. We made some fieldwork and chose some places by instinct. We considered that a place appropriated by people is a place people feel good. So we tried to understand what objectively makes people feel good in a place, which elements of the space contribute to it. For that, we analysed the spaces at different scales.
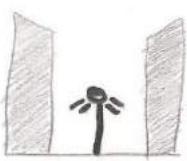
| Body scale | Element scale | Structure scale | Site scale |
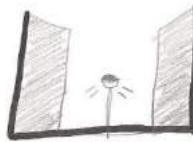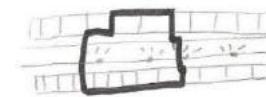
Then, through interviews we wanted to understand what is the perception of people about some unbuilt spaces. Thanks to photos, we want to understand what elements and feelings are important for them to feel good in a place. We asked them if they liked the place, and why. We interviewed people from France and people from West Bank. We wanted to understand the feelings of people according to the urban shapes.

Spaces studied in Lille
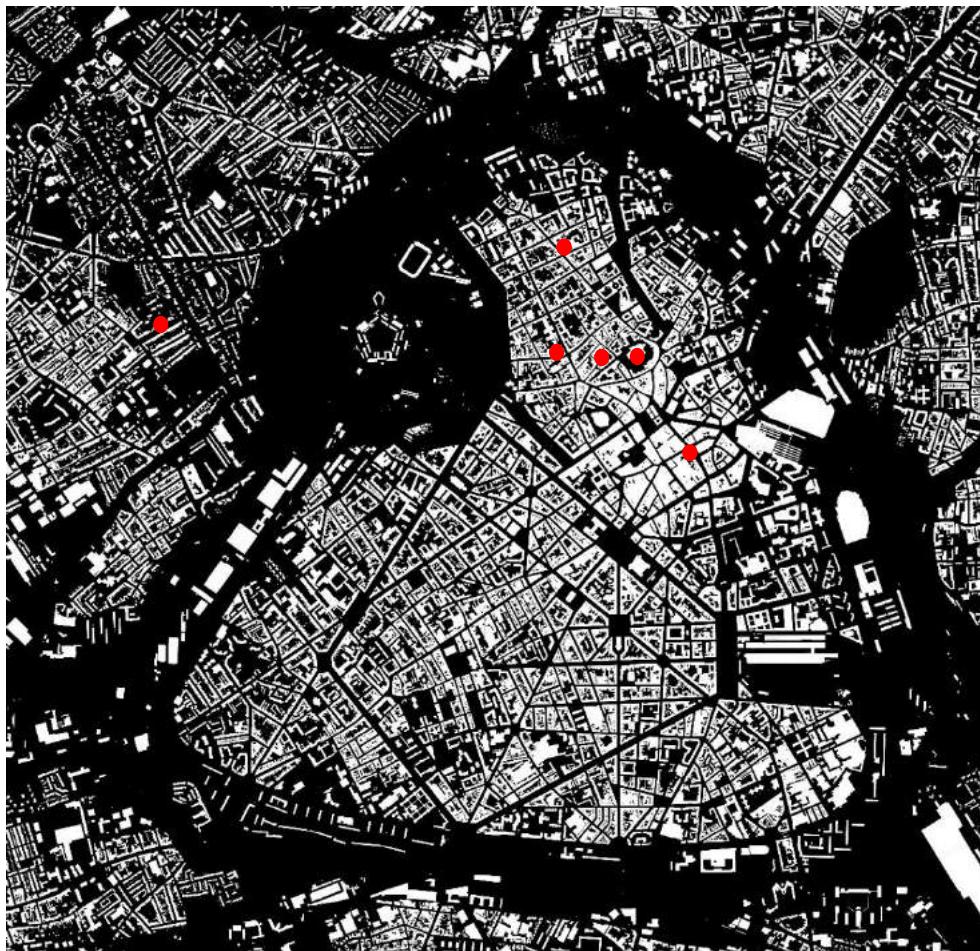
Spaces studied in Nablus
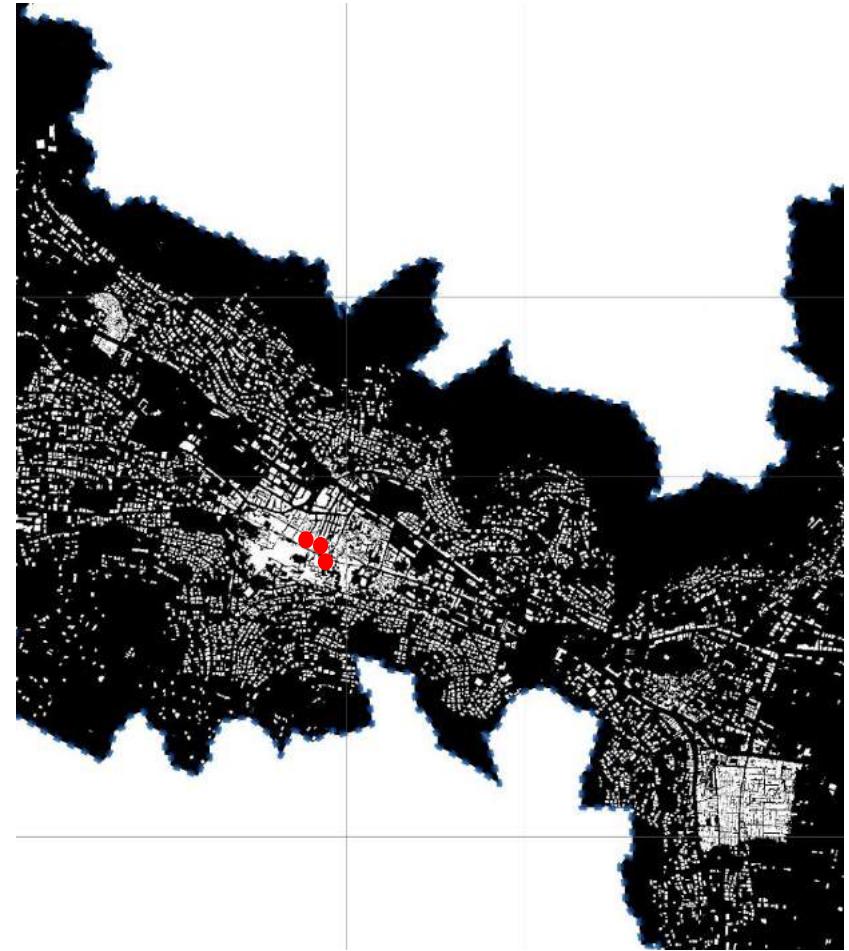
2.1. UNDERSTAND THE SHAPE OF EXISTING UNBUILT SPACES IN LILLE AND IN NABLUS

STATE 1 : THE SITE

Historical and urban
origins
Regulation
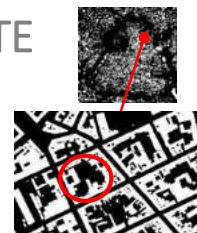
STATE 2 : ELEMENTS AT BODY SCALE

First striking elements in the space, by pictures

An intermediary space to keep a distance between private builts and common space.

A common space with public equipment in the heart of an accommodation block.

The heart of the accommodation block is opened of the public during the day, but the access is discreet (just by two doors).

STATE 3 : COMPOSITION OF THE STRUCTURE

Different degrees of intimacy

INTIMATE   INTERMEDIATE   COMMON

PRIVATE   VEGETATION   CHANGE OF   COVERED PATH   PARKING   SIDEWALK PUBLIC
FURNITURE   GROUND   FURNITURE
                             Fence   Entrance of a dark and
                                           narrow path
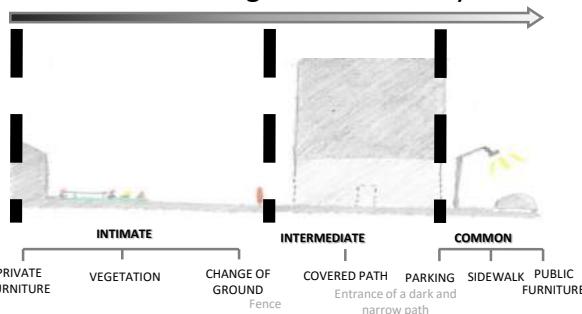
STATE 4 : COMPOSITION OF THE STRUCTURE

Shapes and uses
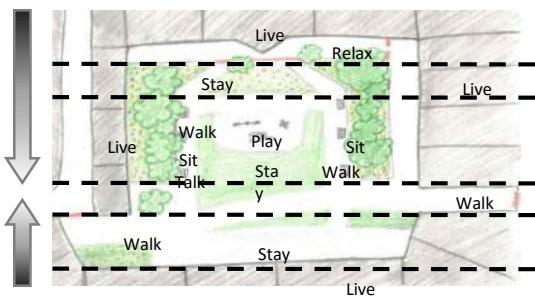
STATE 5 : THE LEVEL OF WELL-BEING'S ESTIMATION

Calculation of the **Gross Local Well-Being**

$$= \; \text{(sun)} \; - \; \text{(ear)} \; + \; \text{(eye)} \; +$$

⭐ Sitting
⭐ Walking
⭐ Talking
⭐ Standing

Cf. Appendice n°2
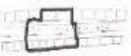
Princesse street setback - Lille

Historical and urban origins :
This part of the Old City started to be inhabited from the 13th century, with the establishment of Saint André church which was located at the crossroads between Saint-André street and Princesse street. This road led to Yper, that was one of the chosen intermediary for trade. This road was really active, so that people began to set up on it out from battlements. During the 18th century, this church was demolished, and relocated.

This was under Louis XIV, with the construction of the Citadelle, this part of the city became under the control of Lille and on the borders of the battlements. The planning set up two main straight and wide streets, Royale street and Neuve Saint-Pierre street. Those two are perpendicularly crossed by four streets, including Princesse street. In this extension, middle-class people came to build their individual houses.

Regulation :
From this street, we can notice that this is the only one which kept its setback. The PLU says that when you have a setback you are obliged to build the fence on the alignment of the other buildings.

FEEL THE ELEMENTS AT BODY SCALE

Separation that makes intermediate spaces between neighbours.

Setback that creates an opening area and a change of landscape for walkers. The outside can benefit from the green area inside.

Accumulation of elements of separation, so that the intimacy from the private space is respected.

A green fence protects the appropriated space.

Personal furniture on the private space: people appropriate the place.

COMPOSITION OF THE STRUCTURE: MAKING A LINK BETWEEN ELEMENTS AND THE DEGREES OF INTIMACY

This place is the most private we studied in Lille. As we said in our methodology, we considered the behaviours of everybody in this place because it is not allowed to enter the private space.

INTIMATE   **COMMON**

PRIVATE FURNITURE	VEGETATION	CHANGE OF GROUND	PARKING	SIDEWALK
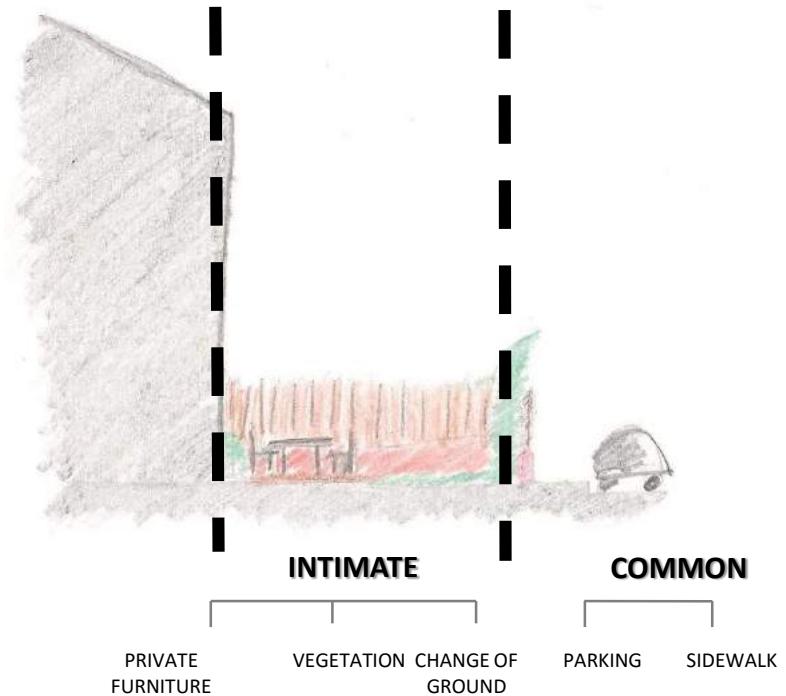
Walls and steps show the difference between built and unbuilt spaces of intimacy.

3 kinds of fences: vegetation, walls and fences to separate the private space from the public one.

34

COMPOSITION OF THE STRUCTURE: SHAPES AND USES

Walk

Play   Walk

Relax

Stay   Talk

Eat

Live

Big fences between the paths and neighbours. Appropriated spaces are fully private and not shared at all.

Change of the alignment that can be enjoyable for the walkers, and that puts the inhabitant in a kind of intimacy.

Big fences between gardens and the street.

Several changes of ground that creates different atmospheres in the appropriate space, according to the different uses.

Steps and changes of level to reach the private space.

ESTIMATE THE LEVEL OF WELL-BEING IN A PLACE

For this part, we tried to set up an indicator that estimated the degree of well-being in the space. This is related to the perceived density. As said in our introduction, perceived density is related to sensitiveness: seeing, talking, hearing, etc. We tried to evaluate those criteria and build our own indicators to compare the different spaces we chose. We called it Gross Local Well-Being. (**GLWB**)

SENSITIVE INDICATORS:

0 dB   100 dB
35 dB

0K Lux   10K Lux
2,37K Lux

Closed   Opened
view   view.

JAN GEHL'S INDICATOR:

☆ Sitting
★ Walking
☆ Talking
☆ Standing

GLWB:

GLWB= Light – Sound + View + JGI

GLWB= 0,24 – 0,35 + 0 + 0,25 = **0,14**

Richez Estate - Lille

Historical and urban origins :
This is a place built according to a systematic and profitable way to make housing. This kind of building is relative to the extension of Lille from 1858. Before this extension, Wazemmes was just a village centre. On the industrial period, investors needed large places to set up their activities. At the same time, they needed a place to establish their workers, and at a time without democratised ways of mobility, it was better to put the workers right next to the factories. To answer this, the head of big factories built what we call "choque" of housing. This means building the same house several times in a limited area. The main idea is to make profit.

The "courées" are typical from these ideas. They were made in order to optimise the land. They began with a little path from the street to a shared yard for the houses. The entrance was kept on the street, as regulation requested, and to optimise the empty land inside the blocks. This allowed to also have a better circulation of the air around the habitations.
We can notice that this shape is common to the surroundings, even if there is more sprawled areas on the east of it. In this part of Lille, we can see that workers lived just beside their bosses.

Regulation :
Public space.

FEEL THE ELEMENTS AT BODY SCALE

From the main street, everybody can reach a narrow passage, but its management prevents outsiders from seeing where it goes. This arrangement gives the feeling that we go into a more private space.

From this narrow passage, housing entrances are perpendicular on right and left to stress the character deprived of these spaces.

Private gardens are separated from the path with walls or fences which block the view.

COMPOSITION OF THE STRUCTURE: MAKING A LINK BETWEEN ELEMENTS AND THE DEGREES OF INTIMACY

This place is the most private we studied in Lille. As we said in our methodology, we considered the behaviours of everybody in this place because it is not allowed to enter the private space.

INTERMEDIATE   INTIMATE   **INTERMEDIATE**   **COMMON**

PEDESTRIAN
PATH

VEGETATION   PRIVATE   PEDESTRIAN   SIDEWALK   PARKING
               FURNITURE   PATH
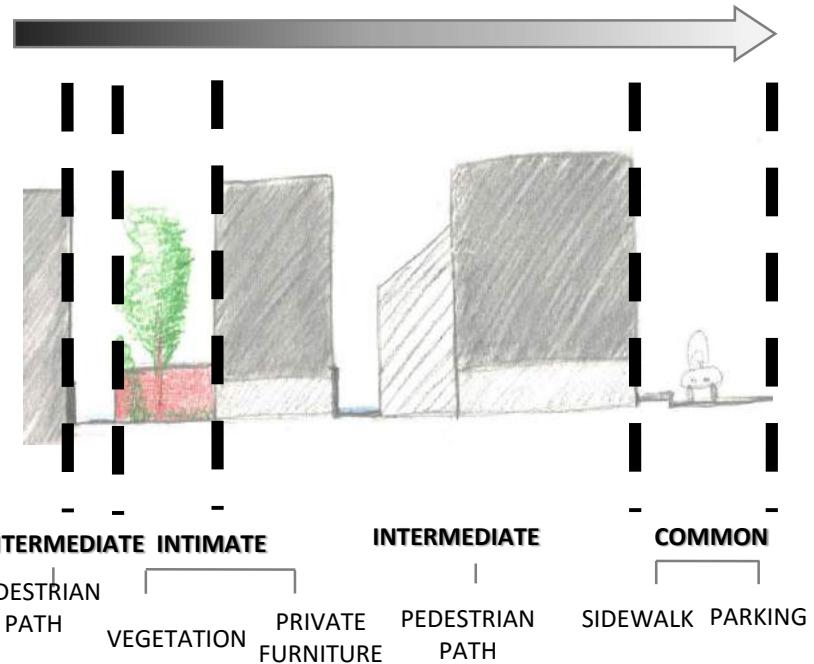
Change of the ground
Difference of alignment

Entrance of a dark
and narrow path

Wall
Fences
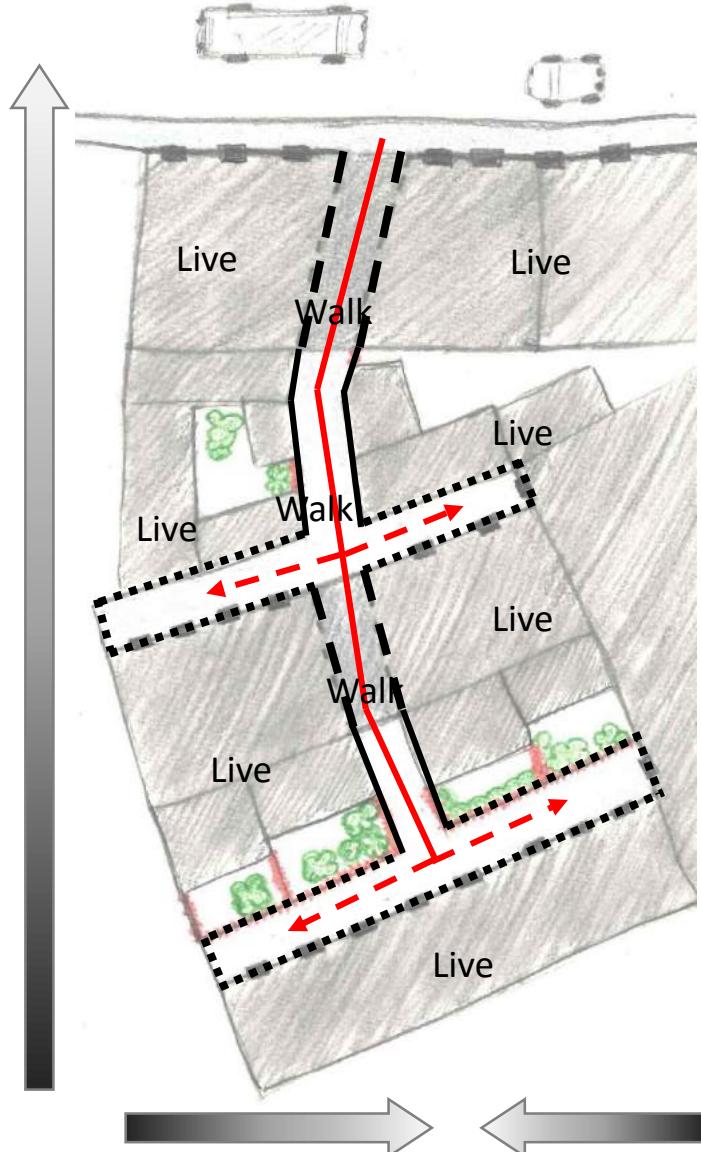
Change of direction from the street that makes a first step to intimacy

Narrow covered space that makes people feel like they enter a private space.

Habitation paths are not perpendicular to the walking ones so that people can guess the entrance of houses, without seeing them.

A second narrow covered space that makes people feel like they enter a private space.

Gardens are hidden from the view of people.

A wall shows the dead end of this place to the walkers.

For this part, we tried to set up an indicator that estimated the degree of well-being in the space. This is related to the perceived density. As said in our introduction, perceived density is related to sensitiveness: seeing, talking, hearing, etc. We tried to evaluate those criteria and build our own indicators to compare the different spaces we chose. We called it Gross Local Well-Being. (**GLWB**)

SENSITIVE INDICATORS:

0 dB   100 dB   0K Lux   10K Lux

35 dB   2,37K Lux

Closed view   Opened view.

JAN GEHL'S INDICATOR:

☆ Sitting
★ Walking
☆ Talking
☆ Standing

GLWB:

GLWB = Light – Sound + View + JGI

GLWB = 0,05- 0,3 + 0,1 + 0,5= **0,35**

Saint-Jean street - Lille

Historical and urban origins :

Saint-Jean street is connected to the main street of Barre's street. The "Haute-Deule" runs alongside this road. Historically, this road connects Lille to the cities in the north of France such as Dunkerque. Inside the city, this street leads to the forum place. That is to say, the central place where religion, politics and economy are organized.

Even if there were some houses before, the parish of Sainte-Catherine is established during the 17th century. The Sainte-Catherine district is connected to the walls of Lille with the extension of 1280. At this time we began to extend the borders of Lille to face the population growth.

The city is organised around several centres defined by religious power, which are churches. So, Sainte Catherine is defined as the centre of this establishment.

Saint-Jean Street was built to connect the south door of the church to the main Barre's street and then to the forum. Its shape is due to the anarchical way of building houses. In fact, the first houses were built and aligned of the Barre's street. Then a second rank of houses was built behind. In a period of demographical pressure, urbanism rules didn't prevail.

Regulation :
Alignment
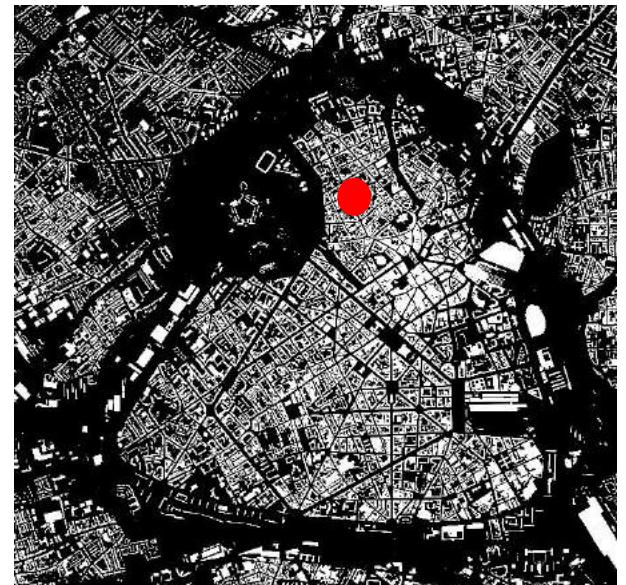
FEEL THE ELEMENTS AT BODY SCALE

The beginning of the street is narrow so that you can only guess what is behind. You have no view on the intimate places.

People appropriate their setbacks with green installations.

This little door from the church to this street guesses the origin of the creation of this street.

Sidewalks are wide with private green installations. Cars parked enclose this space.

No views on the main street when you go out from home.

Cars hide the front doors of houses and draw the street. From here you have no view of the main street.

COMPOSITION OF THE STRUCTURE: MAKING A LINK BETWEEN ELEMENTS AND THE DEGREES OF INTIMACY

This place is the most private we studied in Lille. As we said in our methodology, we considered the behaviours of everybody in this place because it is not allowed to enter the private space.

INTERMEDIATE

COMMON

INTERMEDIATE

PRIVATE VEGETATION FURNITURE

VEGETATION PARKING
SIDEWALK ROAD

PRIVATE VEGETATION FURNITURE

Change of alignment Vegetation

Change of level Vegetation

Change of alignment Vegetation

Obstacles with the bollards and the enclosure of the street, then the big wall of the church.

End of buildings, and enclosure of this little square with trees and bollards.

Green private furniture.
Not a lot of parked cars.

Setbacks are not on the same line.
One way street for the cars so it means there are less cars.

The beginning of the street is narrow

For this part, we tried to set up an indicator that estimated the degree of well-being in the space. This is related to the perceived density. As said in our introduction, perceived density is related to sensitiveness: seeing, talking, hearing, etc. We tried to evaluate those criteria and build our own indicators to compare the different spaces we chose. We called it Gross Local Well-Being. (**GLWB**)

## SENSITIVE INDICATORS:

0 dB — 100 dB

30 dB

0K Lux — 10K Lux

3,1K Lux

Closed view — Opened view.

JAN GEHL'S INDICATOR:

☆ Sitting
★ Walking
★ Talking
★ Standing

GLWB:

GLWB= Light – Sound + View + JGI

GLWB=0,31 – 0,3 + 50+ 0,75 = **1,26**
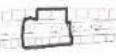
Garden of the abbey of Loos - Lille

Historical and urban origins :

The city of Lille was built in the topographic break which exists between the Basse and the Haute-Deûle. In the North of this elbow, constitutes itself the castrum which represents the presence of earl. The feudal clod in the Southern part shows its power on its flat country.
Under this Southern clod, constitutes the commercial place : the forum. The tracks of various powers which quarrel the territory between Earls and Churches are still present today.

During the 11th century, the Garden of the Abbey of Loos was the Town Hall of the monks of the Abbey Notre-Dame from Loos to Lille.
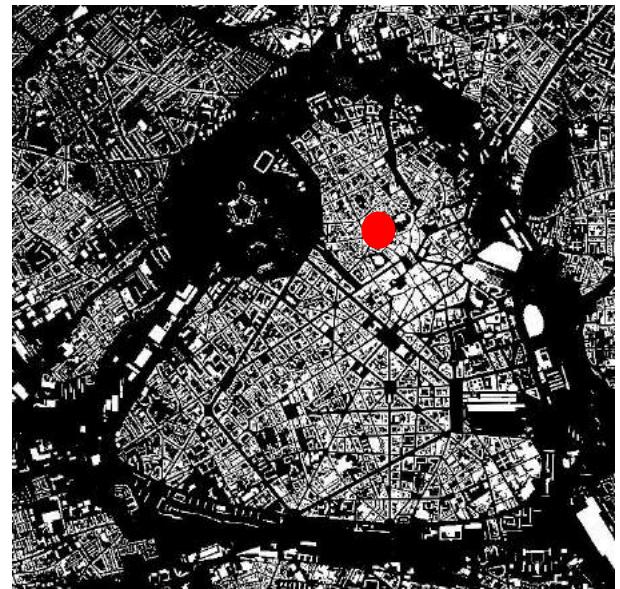
Regulation :
The garden of the Abbey of Loos is situated at the heart of a private accommodation block. However, this open space is common, and opened to the public during the day.

FEEL THE ELEMENTS AT BODY SCALE

An intermediate space to keep a distance between private and common spaces.

A common space with public equipment in the heart of an accommodation block.

The heart of the accommodation block is opened to the public during the day, but the access is discreet (just by two doors).

Everybody can cross the heart of the block thanks to a pedestrian path.

COMPOSITION OF THE STRUCTURE: MAKING A LINK BETWEEN ELEMENTS AND THE DEGREES OF INTIMACY

This place is the most private we studied in Lille. As we said in our methodology, we considered the behaviours of everybody in this place because it is not allowed to enter the private space.
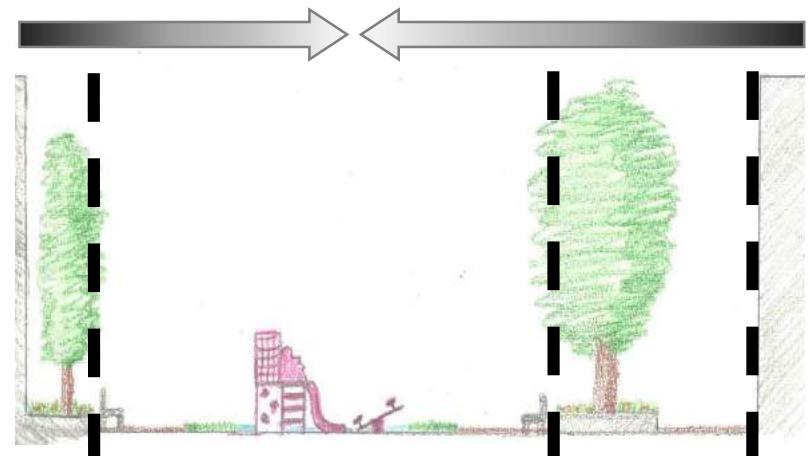
INTERMEDIATE	COMMON			INTERMEDIATE	
VEGETATION	PUBLIC EQUIPMENT	PEDESTRIAN PATH	BENCHES	PRIVATE FURNITURE	VEGETATION

Vegetation
Difference of level

Vegetation
Change of ground
Difference of level

COMPOSITION OF THE STRUCTURE: SHAPES AND USES
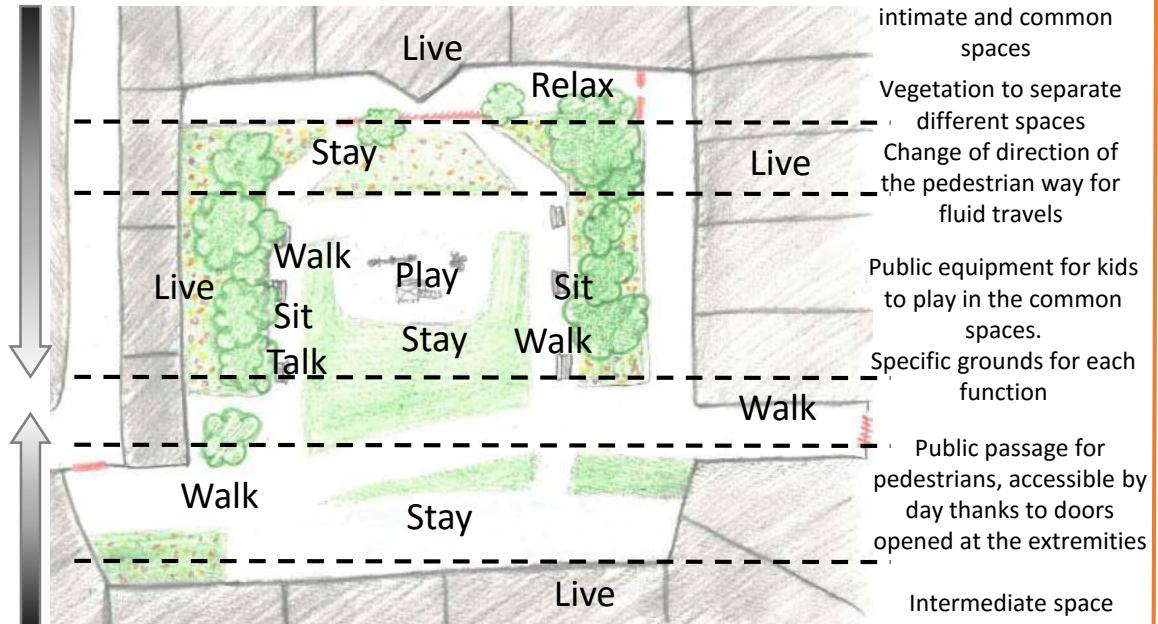
Live

Relax

Stay

Live

Walk

Play

Sit

Live

Sit

Talk

Stay

Walk

Walk

Walk

Stay

Live

Intermediate spaces + fences, putting a distance between intimate and common spaces

Vegetation to separate different spaces

Change of direction of the pedestrian way for fluid travels

Public equipment for kids to play in the common spaces.

Specific grounds for each function

Public passage for pedestrians, accessible by day thanks to doors opened at the extremities

Intermediate space allowing to put a distance between private and public

ESTIMATE THE LEVEL OF WELL-BEING IN A PLACE

For this part, we tried to set up an indicator that estimated the degree of well-being in the space. This is related to the perceived density. As said in our introduction, perceived density is related to sensitiveness: seeing, talking, hearing, etc. We tried to evaluate those criteria and build our own indicators to compare the different spaces we chose. We called it Gross Local Well-Being. (**GLWB**)

SENSITIVE INDICATORS:

0 dB   100 dB   OK Lux   10K Lux

30 dB   3,5K Lux

Closed view   Opened view

JAN GEHL'S INDICATOR:

⭐ Sitting
⭐ Walking
⭐ Talking
⭐ Standing

GLWB:

GLWB= Light – Sound + View + JGI

GLWB=0,35- 0,3+ 0,9+ 1= **1,95**

Notre-Dame-de-la-Treille Cathedral - Lille

Historical and urban origins :

During 11th century, instead of this space there is a feudal clod. A rise of earth, with in the summit a wooden small fort and a watchtower. The set is protected by wooden barricades and circular ditches, which made the bed of the Canal de La Monnaie. Until the end of the 15th century, housing was built around the channels little by little. Later, in 1826, the Clod is shaved to give way to the construction site of the Cathedral Notre-Dame-De-La-Treille.

The industrial revolution in 1860's transformed the space around the Cathedral : for reasons of hygiene the channels were covered .
Today, old channels are reused by the inhabitants as private terraces. Some bridges allowing to cross channels formerly are today still present and used to access the houses.
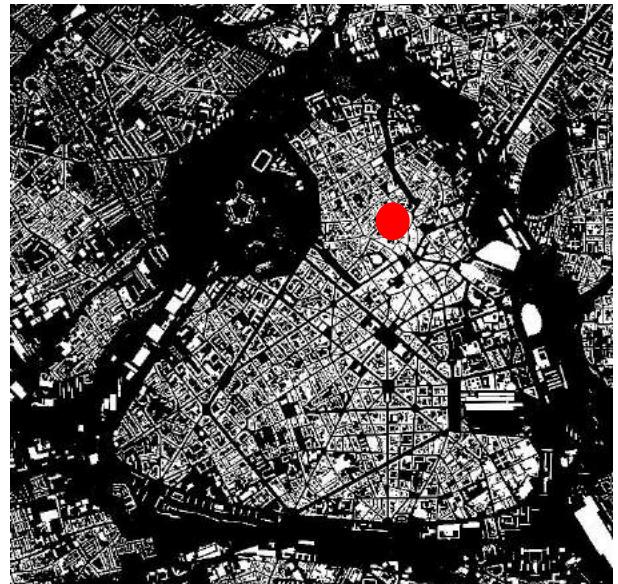
Regulation : Since the 1980's, these spaces around the Cathedral constitute a Conservation Area. Terraces and houses are private, but their demolition or modifications are possible only according to very strict rules.
Squares and green spaces are public, and restaurants can use the squares to put their terraces if they have an authorization of occupation of the public place by the municipality.

FEEL THE ELEMENTS AT BODY SCALE

Appropriation of the public space by the commercial functions with terraces.

The way encourages people to go to a place they can guess but not see from here.

People seem to appropriate their private terraces.

From the public space, the private ones are not visible because of vegetation and the difference of level.


Bridges make a physical link from public and private spaces and at the same time it creates a distance.
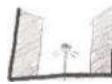
COMPOSITION OF THE STRUCTURE: MAKING A LINK BETWEEN ELEMENTS AND THE DEGREES OF INTIMACY

This place is the most private we studied in Lille. As we said in our methodology, we considered the behaviours of everybody in this place because it is not allowed to enter the private space.

COMMON   **INTERMEDIARY**   **INTIMATE**

PARKING SIDEWALK TERRACES GROUND IN FUNCTION OF USES VEGETATION BENCHES

PRIVATE TERRACES
PRIVATE FURNITURE
VEGETATION

Vegetation
Change of ground

Wall
Fences
Difference of level

Bridges

46

Live

Walk

Talk

Relax

Stay

Play

Play

Sit

Sit

Walk

Stay

Relax

Talk

Live
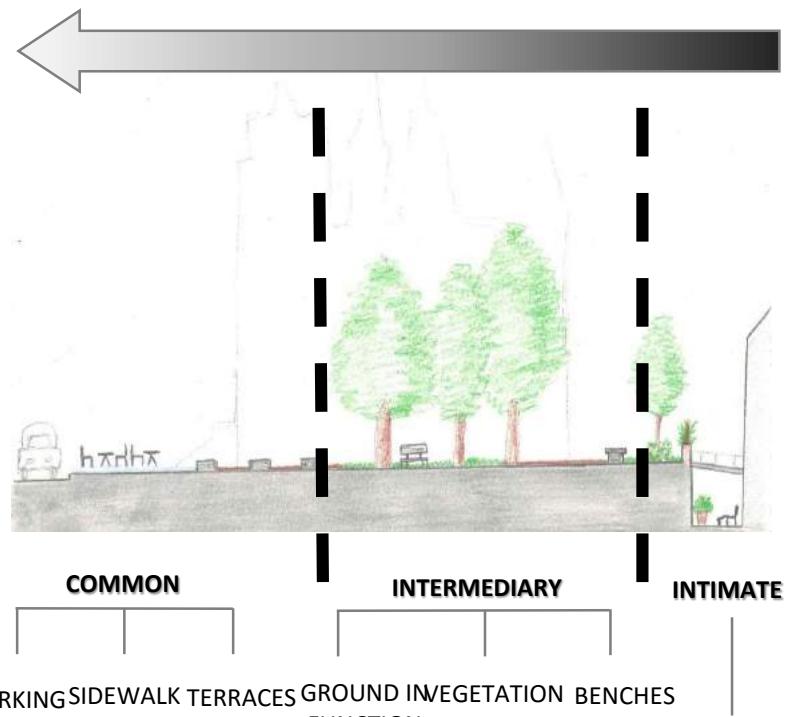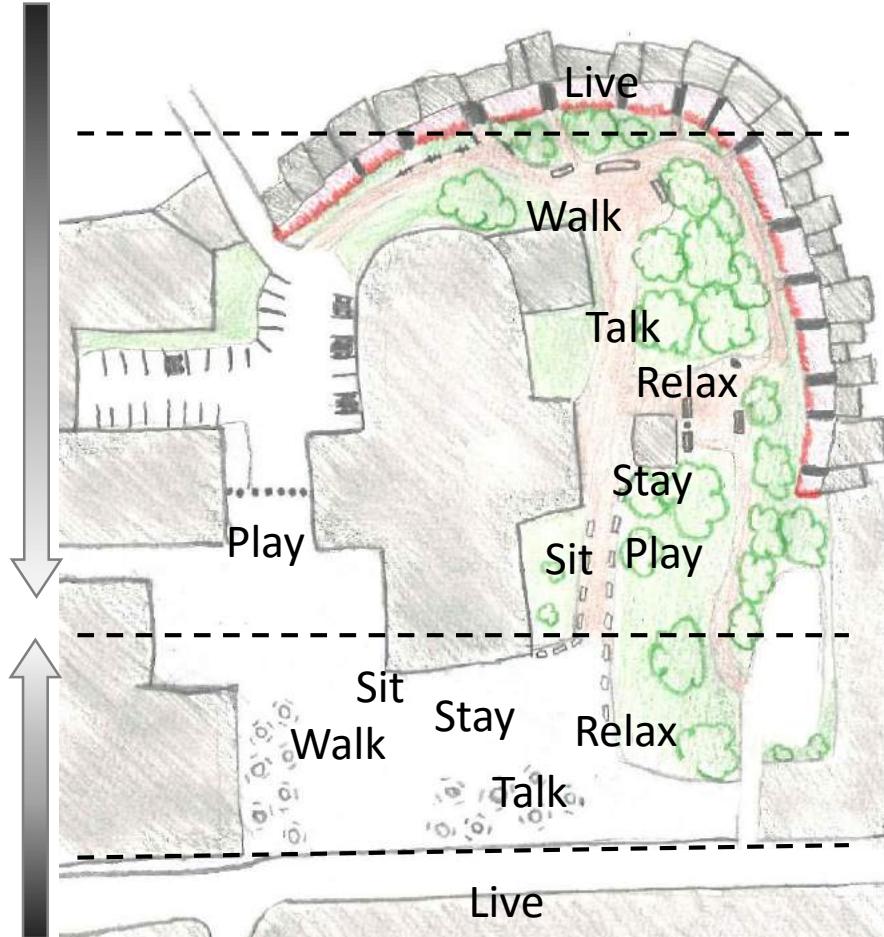
Here private spaces are hidden by the change of level, the setback and vegetation as a fence. The path is designed so that passer-bys are not too close to the terraces.

In this place you have a variation of grounds that define the uses of the space. A way is drawn for the walking use, so that people can lie and sit on the grass without being disturbed by walkers. People appropriate the place. They sit on the benches as much as on the grass.

The forecourt in front of the church makes the space like a public square. There is a mineral ground that can be appropriated by restaurants and bars around. The shape and size of this unbuilt spaces makes it sunny and enjoyable. This generates secondary types of seating: people appropriate steps of the cathedral for example.

For this part, we tried to set up an indicator that estimated the degree of well-being in the space. This is related to the perceived density. As said in our introduction, perceived density is related to sensitiveness: seeing, talking, hearing, etc. We tried to evaluate those criteria and build our own indicators to compare the different spaces we chose. We called it Gross Local Well-Being. (**GLWB**)

SENSITIVE INDICATORS:

0 dB   100 dB
60 dB

0K Lux   10K Lux
8,1K Lux

Closed view   Opened view.
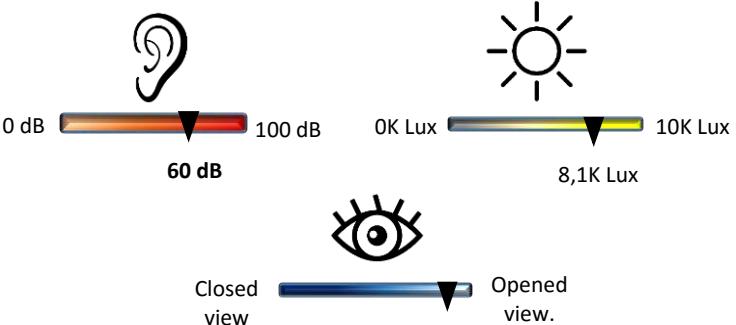
JAN GEHL'S INDICATOR:

Sitting
Walking
Talking
Standing

GLWB: GLWB= Light – Sound + View + JGI

GLWB=0,81 – 0,6+ 0,8+ 1 = **2,01**

47
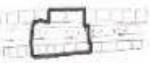
Saint-Maurice Forecourt - Lille

Historical and urban origins :

The Church Saint-Maurice, present from the end of the 11th century was built in a context of extension of the city of Lille southward. It constitutes an important element of the crossroads between Paris, Valenciennes and Tournai.

Under its visible unity, this Gothic church such as it appears today is in fact the result of numerous transformations, from the Middle Ages (14th century) until the last enlargement of 1868.

The dedication to Saint-Maurice is unique in the diocese of Tournai, and the Church is probably situated on the ruins of a Gallo-Roman housing environment and a place of worship dedicated in Mars, proved by its defect of orientation.

Regulation :

The Church Saint-Maurice is a private building but it is open to the public during the day.

The square in front of the church, the forecourt, is totally public.

FEEL THE ELEMENTS AT BODY SCALE

The Saint-Maurice Forecourt is a mark space where people can meet.

Young people on skateboards: public square is appropriated by inhabitants

Vegetation structures the space and separates different spaces : paths for cars/square for pedestrians. Private and religious buildings opened to the public which have an important impact of the public square.

COMPOSITION OF THE STRUCTURE: MAKING A LINK BETWEEN ELEMENTS AND THE DEGREES OF INTIMACY

This place is the most private we studied in Lille. As we said in our methodology, we considered the behaviours of everybody in this place because it is not allowed to enter the private space.
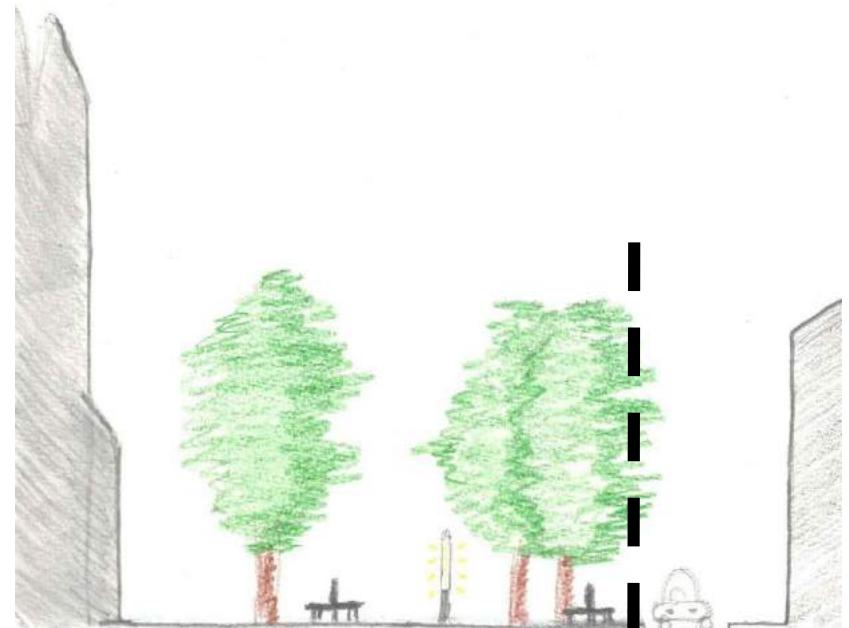
COMMON   **COMMON**

RELIGIOUS AND TOURISTIC MONUMENT   VEGETATION BENCHES   SIDEWALK   CAR

Trees
Change of ground
Difference of level
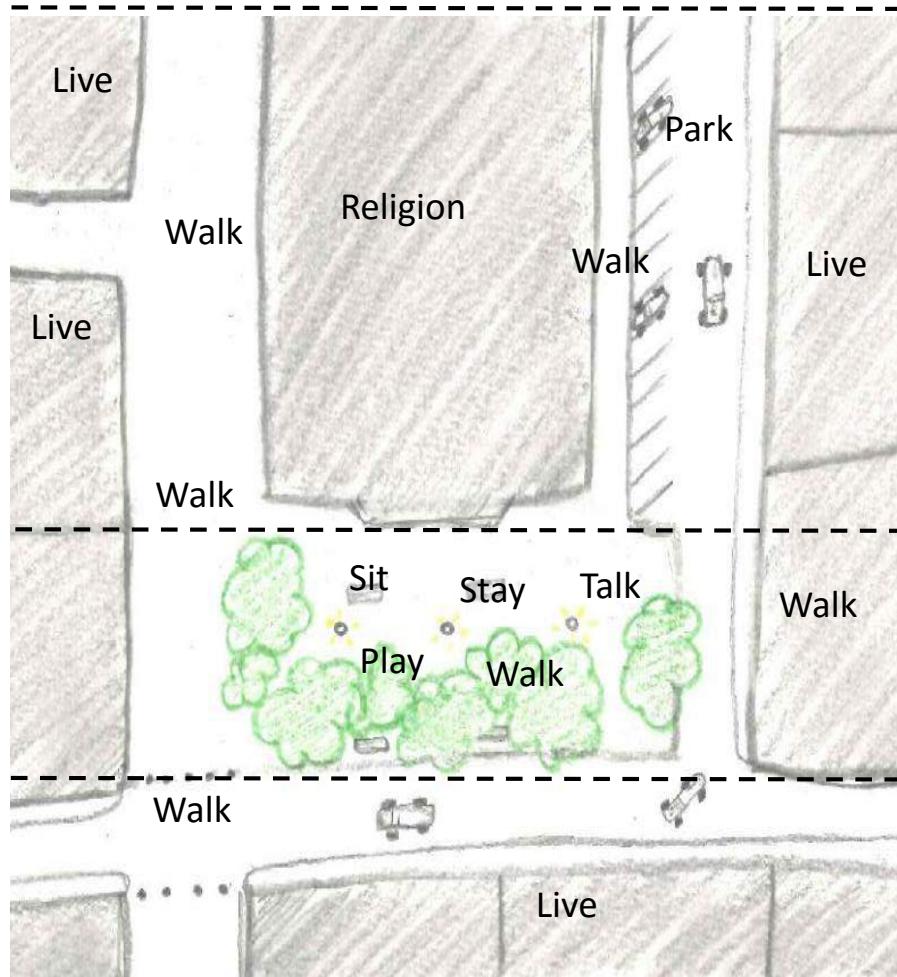
49

Live

Religion

Walk

Park

Walk

Live

Live

Walk

Sit

Stay

Talk

Play

Walk

Walk

Walk

Live

Touristic and religious buildings that give the role of "mark in the city" to the space. It's opened to the public, but it's not an open space. It's practiced only by a part of people.

The square allows the safety for pedestrian circulation, and meetings for people : this space is totally public

Paths for cars : extreme public spaces

For this part, we tried to set up an indicator that estimated the degree of well-being in the space. This is related to the perceived density. As said in our introduction, perceived density is related to sensitiveness: seeing, talking, hearing, etc. We tried to evaluate those criteria and build our own indicators to compare the different spaces we chose. We called it Gross Local Well-Being. (**GLWB**)

SENSITIVE INDICATORS:

0 dB — 100 dB

60 dB

0K Lux — 10K Lux

3,4K Lux

Closed view — Opened view

JAN GEHL'S INDICATOR:

★ Sitting
★ Walking
★ Talking
★ Standing

GLWB:

GLWB= Light – Sound + View + JGI

GLWB=0,34- 0,6+ 0,60+ 1= **1,34**

Summarized Results

	INTIMATE	SEPARATION BETWEEN INTIMATE & INTERMEDIATE	INTERMEDIATE	SEPARATION BETWEEN INTERMEDIATE & COMMON	COMMON	
PRINCESSE STREET		Wall And Step Show The Difference Between Built And Unbuilt Spaces Of Intimacy	Private Furniture Change Of Ground Vegetation	4 Kind Of Fences: Vegetation, Wall And Fence To Separate The Private Space From The Public One	Sidewalk Parking	**0,14**
RICHEZ COURÉE	Private Furniture Vegetation	Change Of The Ground Difference Of Alignment	Pedestrian Path	Entrance Of A Dark And Narrow Path	Sidewalk Parking	**0,35**
SAINT JEAN STREET		Change Of Alignment Vegetation	Private Furniture Vegetation	Change Of Level Vegetation	Vegetation Sidewalk Parking Road	**1,26**
GARDEN OF THE ABBEY OF LOOS		Vegetation Change Of Ground Difference Of Level	Private Furniture Vegetation	Vegetation Difference Of Level	Benches Pedestrian Path Public Equipment	**1,95**
TREILLE	Private Furniture Vegetation Private Terraces	Wall Fences Difference Of Level	Benches Ground In Function Of Uses Vegetation	Vegetation Change Of Ground	Terraces Sidewalk Parking	**2,01**
SAINT MAURICE			Benches Religious And Touristic Monument Vegetation	Trees Change Of Ground Difference Of Level	Sidewalk Car	**1,34**
	PRIVATE FURNITURE VEGETATION CHANGE OF GROUND	**STRONG SEPARATION SUCH AS WALLS OR FENCES.**	**VEGETATION GROUND IN FUNCTION OF USES PUBLIC FURNITURE**	**SLOW TRANSITIONS SUCH AS CHANGE OF GROUND DIFFERENCE OF LEVEL, VEGETATION, NARROW PATH;**	**PUBLIC FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT SIDEWALK PARKING**	

# Hawsh al Naser- Nablus

Historical and urban origins :

Hawsh definition: group of residential houses sharing a single entrance that leads to a shared one or more open squares hawsh Al-Naser has one middle square ,the residents of the hawshes are linked by kinship or some other relationship.

The architectural form of the hawsh's entrance serves several functions according to the need of it's residents. It has a simple shape, resembling the door of a typical residential house. An example of this style can be seen in the entrance of the hawsh Al-Naser which leads to a passage that ends in an open square around which up to eleven buildings are gathered. An adjacent narrow alley radiates from the square and leads to other houses-more than eight- and their entrances which are located along this passage. Theses entrances are the only means of access to these homes .

The hawsh yard is open to the weather. Doors and windows of the houses which surround it open onto it. This was an important social benefits: women took advantage of the privacy granted by the hawsh to sit in the morning to talk and share households tasks. also, the square provided a safe place for children to play

Regulation :
Hawsh Al-Naser: Semi-private "intermediate" passage & middle square
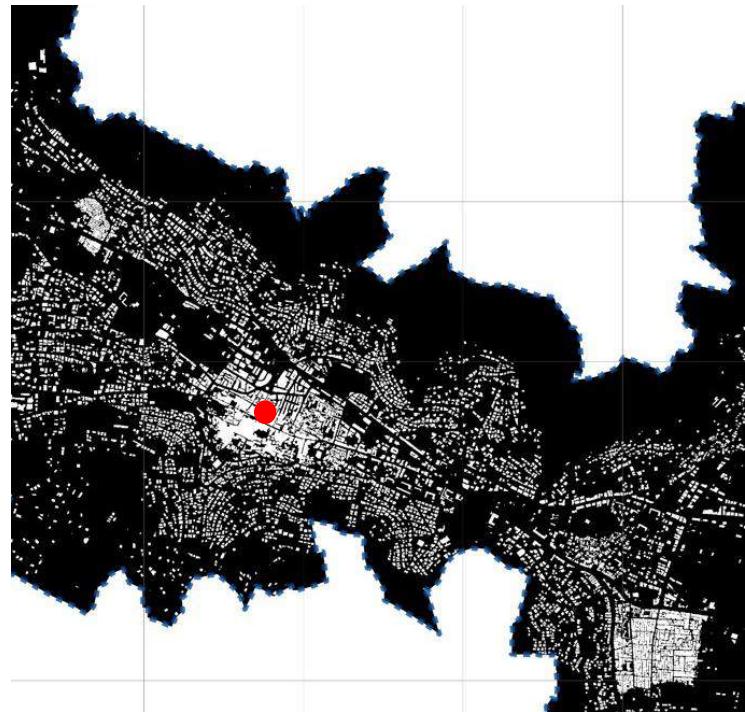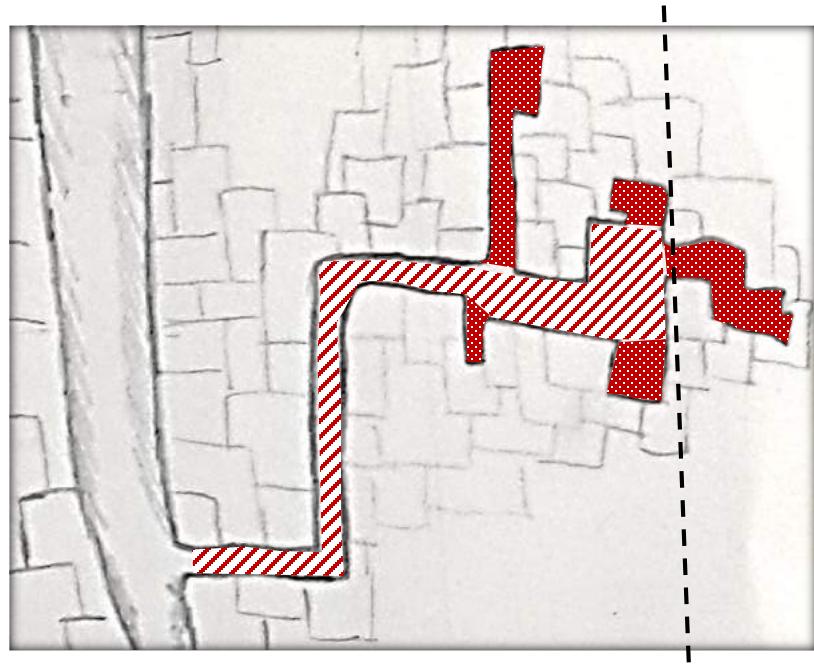
1 Private space

There is a private space in front of
houses. It has another special entrance.

2 Semi-private

Narrow perpendicular paths like a maze. There
are many different people who belong to this
space "share responsibilities" Covered   short
narrow entrances. View from the entrance has a
high degree of privacy
which gives the feeling of privacy and provide a
shelter from an active traffic on "Al-Naser street"

SENSITIVE INDICATORS:

1

Closed view —— Opened view

0 dB —— 100 dB

JAN GEHL'S INDICATOR:

☆ Sitting
★ Walking
★ Talking
☆ Standing

0K Lux —— 10K Lux

SENSITIVE INDICATORS:

2

Closed view —— Opened view

0 dB —— 100 dB

JAN GEHL'S INDICATOR:

☆ Sitting
★ Walking
★ Talking
☆ Standing

0K Lux —— 10K Lux

53
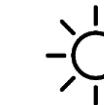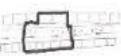
Al-Jitan - NablusHawsh

Historical and urban origins :

Locted in Al-qaryon square and it's called "Al-Jitan" according to Al-Jitan family which was lived there . Hawsh Al-Jitan has tow open squares; one in the middle of the framework and other at the end of the special passage while hawsh Al-Naser has one middle square ,the residents of the hawshes are linked by kinship or some other relationship.

hawsh Al-Jitan has a large wide entrance and elevated from the main street which gives a kind of privacy , followed by an open square that has at its entrance large residential house belonging to the Al-Nabulsi family . An adjacent narrow alley radiates from the square and leads to other houses-more than eight- and their entrances which are located along this passage. Theses entrances are the only means of access to these homes .

We can sum up the social and commercial benefits of the hawsh :
1- it was possible to exploit the main street frontage by building a number of shops with entrances facing the market area .residential buildings by contrast are set back by a suitable distance .
2- the narrow passages which lead to the internal yard of the hawsh or to the entrances of houses are built with just enough room for two people to walk past each other. This means that the camels and other elements cannot entre.


Short passage height t

Height of the passage for camels

Regulation :

Hawsh Al-Jitan : Semi-public "intermediate" passage & middle square
                 Semi-private "intermediate passage & square at the end of passag

FEEL THE ELEMENTS AT BODY SCALE

SHOPS   SHOPS
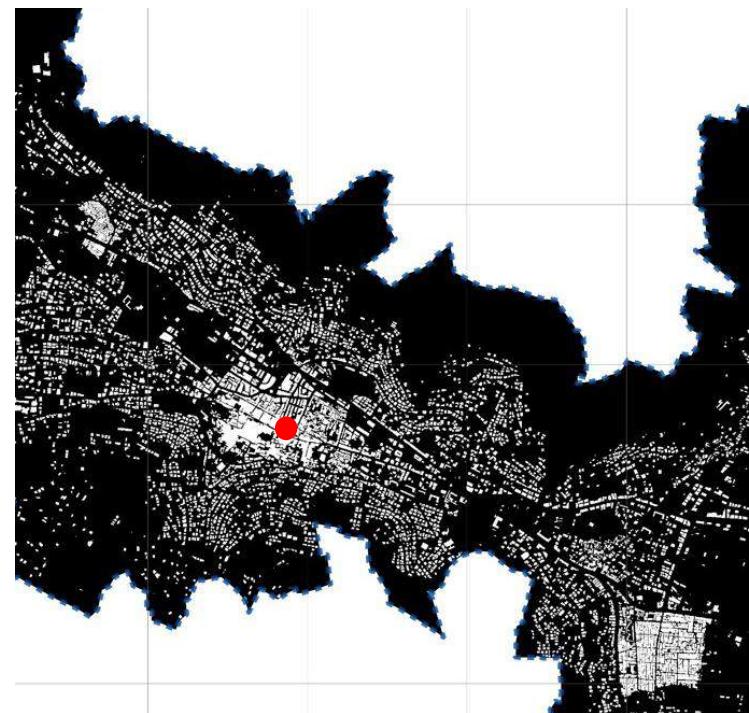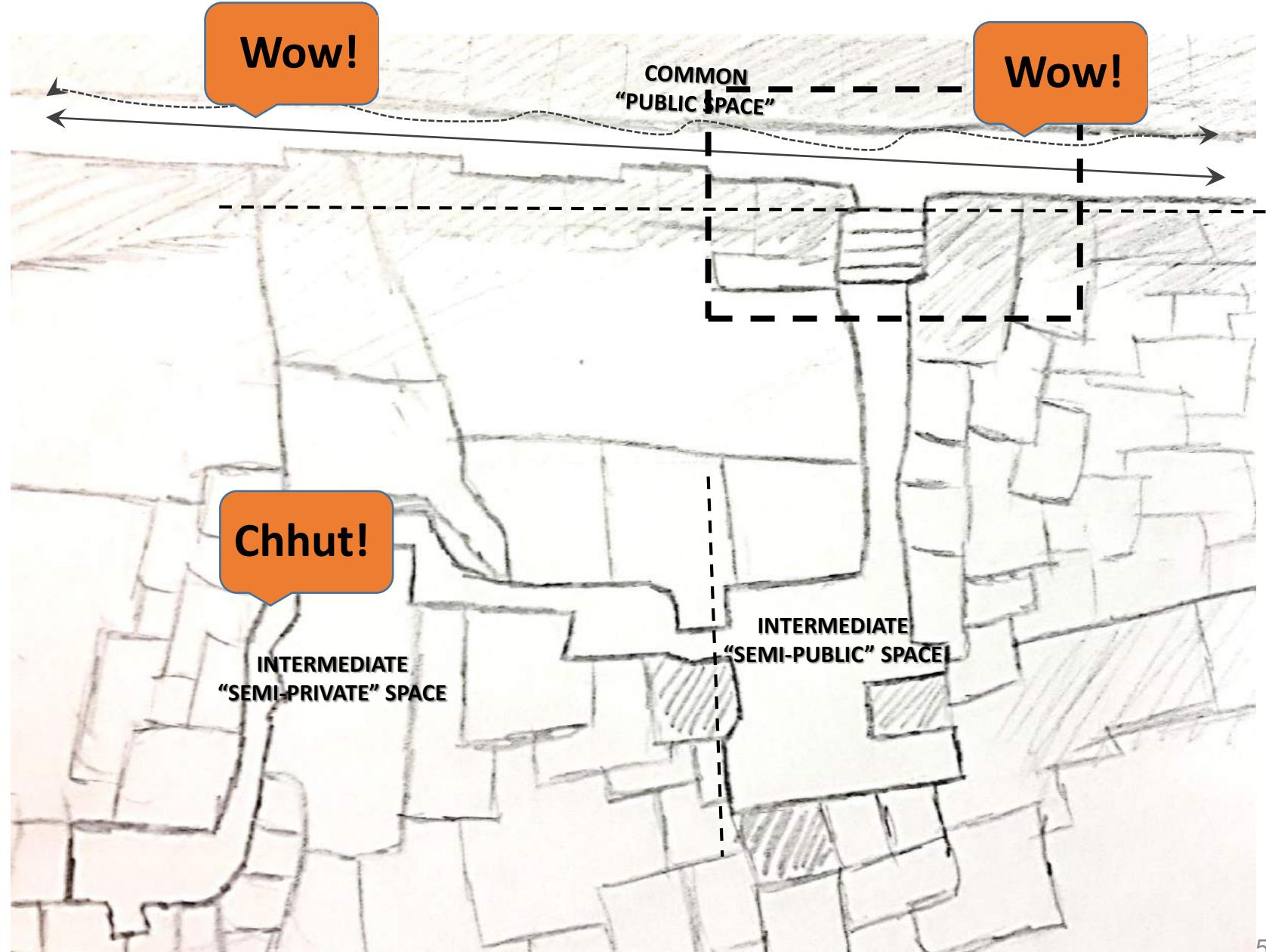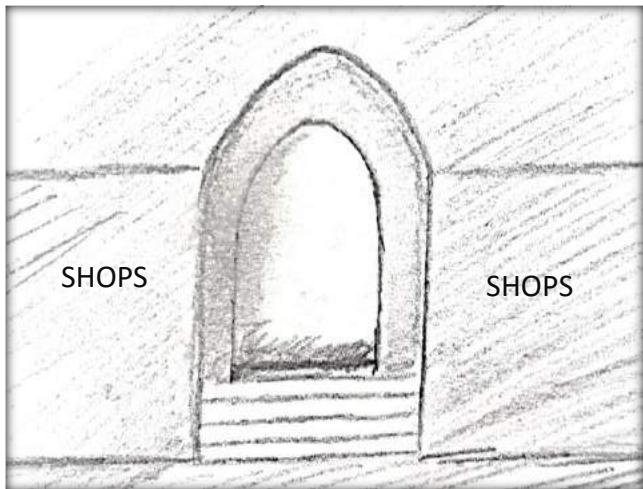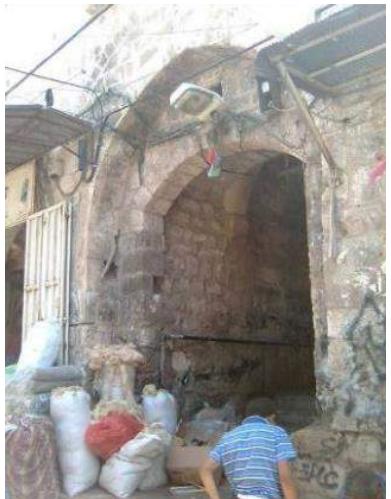
Main entrance of the hawsh
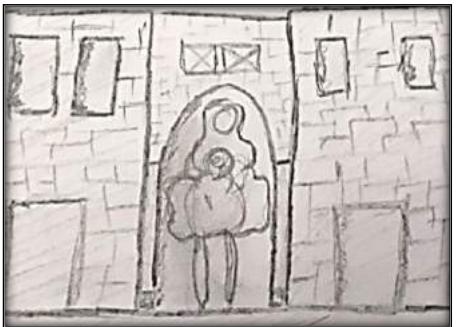
Short passage height   Height of the passage for camels

COMPOSITION OF THE STRUCTURE: MAKE A LINK BETWEEN ELEMENTS AND DEGREES OF INTIMACY

This place is the most private we studied in Lille. As we said in our methodology, we consider the comportment of anybody in this place so that we are not allowed to enter the private space.

LEVEL 2

LEVEL 1

COMMON   **INTERMEDIATE**
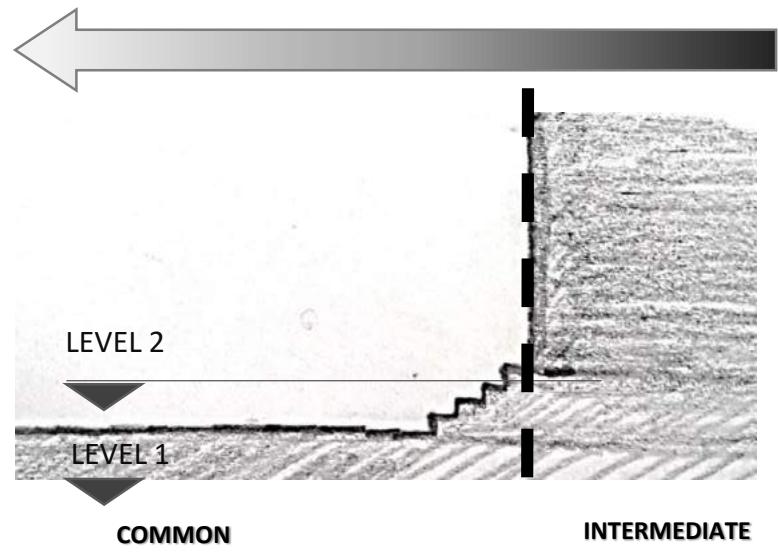
Difference of level
Steps
Sabat (Door Shape)

For Nablus, we had to adapt to the fact we were not there. Because of ot, there are some things we couldn't check, such as the level of light or the level of sound. To have an idea, we guessed them more than we computed them. For this reason, we couldn't build up the Gross Local Well-Being. (**GLWB**)
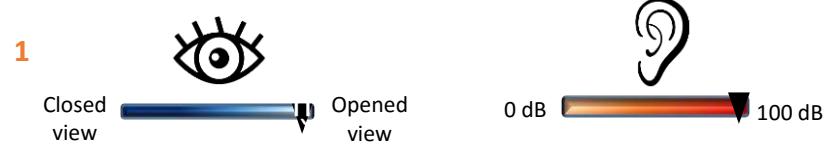
SENSITIVE INDICATORS:

1

Closed view — Opened view

0 dB — 100 dB

OK Lux — 10K Lux

JAN GEHL'S INDICATOR:

⭐ Sitting
⭐ Walking
⭐ Talking
⭐ Standing

SENSITIVE INDICATORS:

2

Closed view — Opened view

0 dB — 100 dB

OK Lux — 10K Lux

JAN GEHL'S INDICATOR:

☆ Sitting
⭐ Walking
⭐ Talking
⭐ Standing

2 Semi-public space
Here the alignment changes with the distinction of the entrance. You also feel a more calm atmosphere.

1 Common "public space"
Pedestrians and cars are sharing the same street.
On this street there are commercial shops.

57
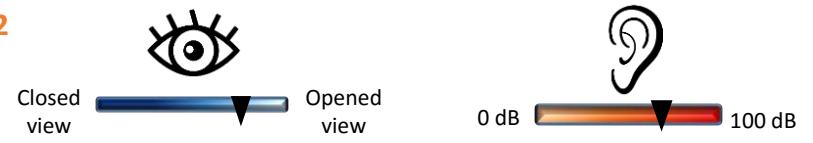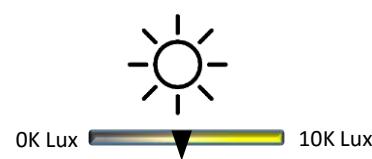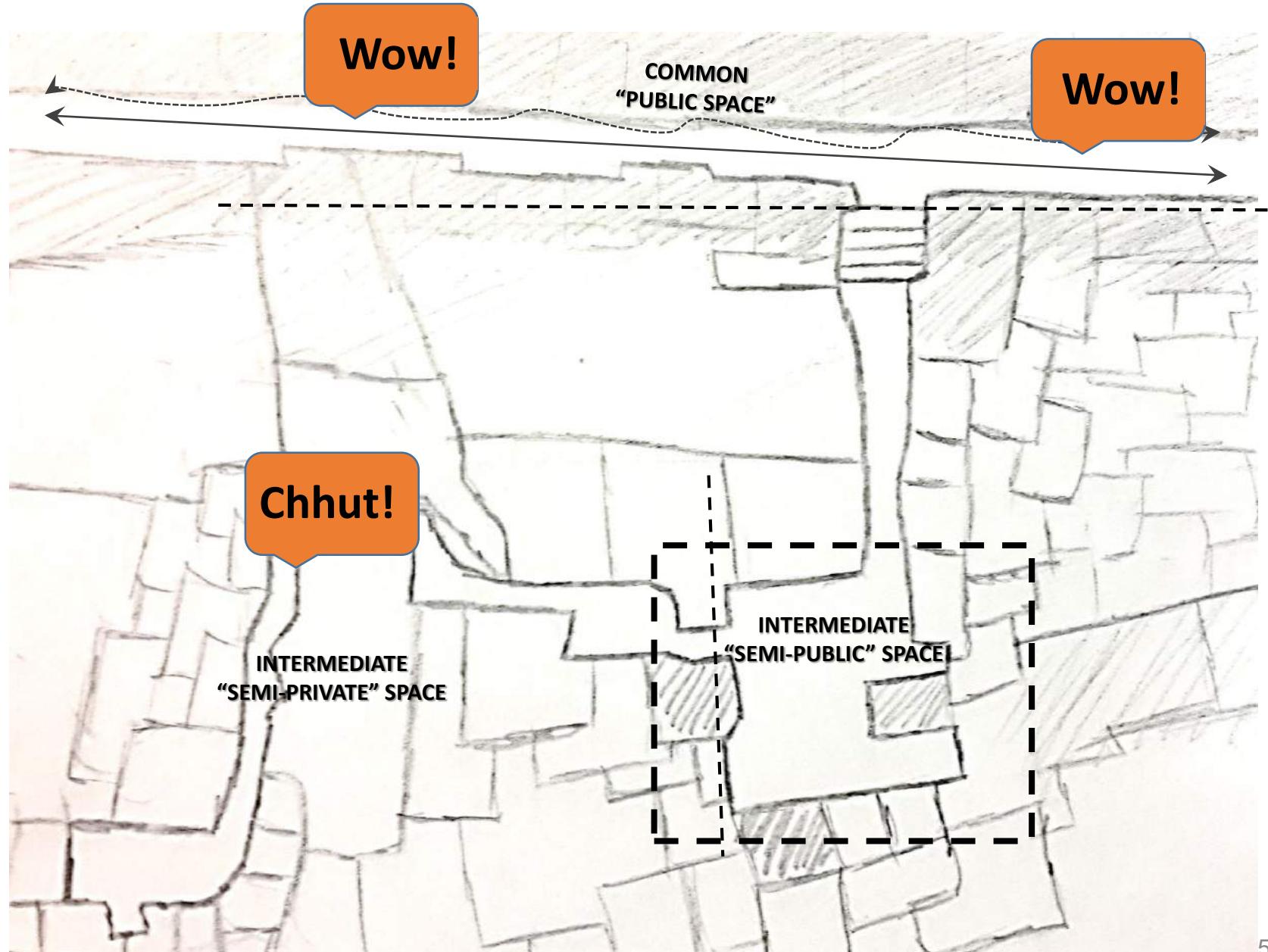
COMPOSITION OF THE STRUCTURE: MAKE A LINK BETWEEN ELEMENTS AND DEGREES OF INTIMACY

This place is the most private we studied in Lille. As we said in our methodology, we consider the comportment of anybody in this place so that we are not allowed to enter the private space.
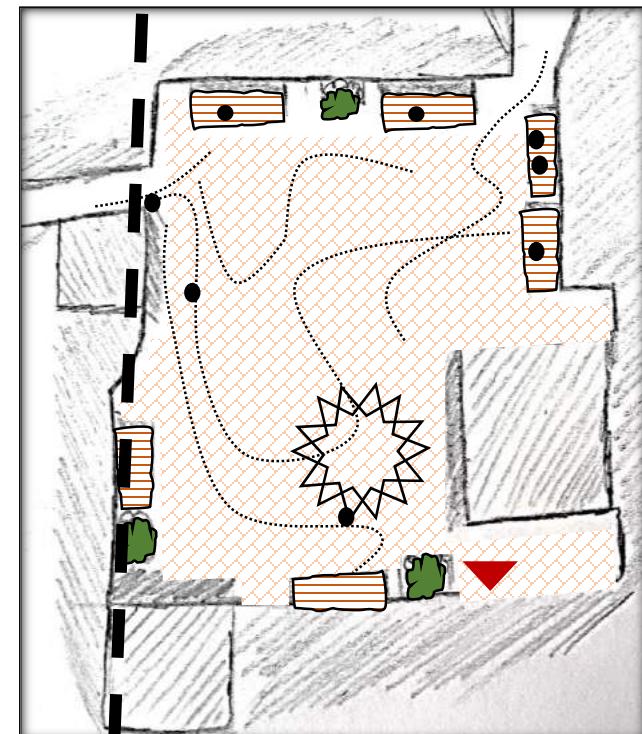

INTIMATE ■

Setback for the door

INTERMEDIATE

URBAN FURNITURE   HANDICRAFTS SHOPS AND
BENCHES , PLANTS   WAREHOUSES
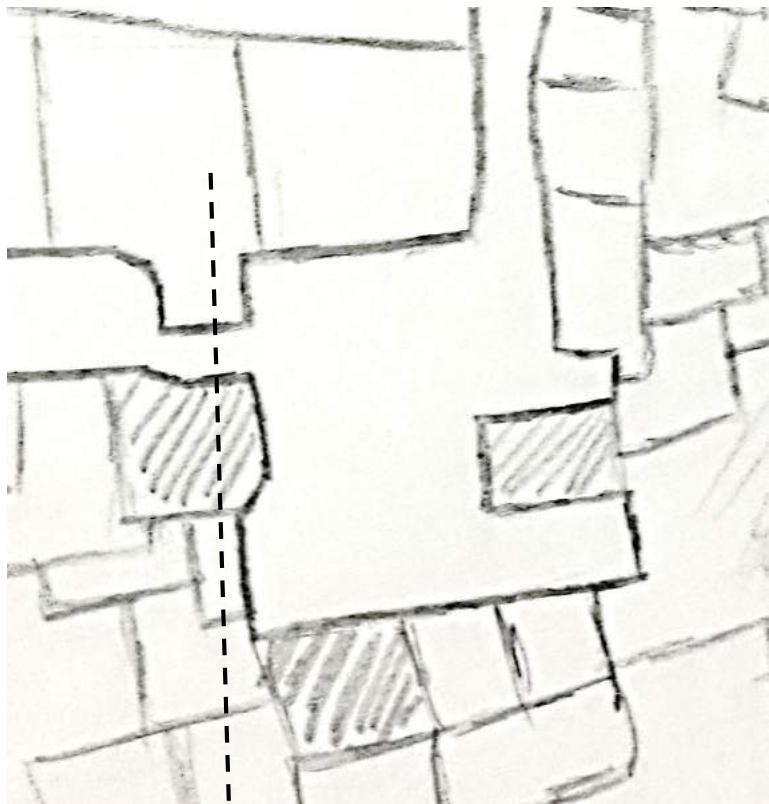
2 Private space.
The home entrance is located behind the building in hawsh square which creates intimacy and privacy

1 Semi-public space
There is open well lighted square. The place is active all the day "according to its location on Al-Naser street"

SENSITIVE INDICATORS:

1

Closed view — Opened view

0 dB — 100 dB

JAN GEHL'S INDICATOR:

⭐ Sitting
⭐ Walking
⭐ Talking
⭐ Standing

0K Lux — 10K Lux

SENSITIVE INDICATORS:

2

Closed view — Opened view

0 dB — 100 dB

JAN GEHL'S INDICATOR:

☆ Sitting
⭐ Walking
⭐ Talking
☆ Standing

0K Lux — 10K Lux

60

Covered narrow entrances lead to houses in an indirect way
transition between common and intimate spaces happen
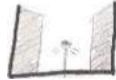
When houses are located directly at the main street. To provide an intimate feeling for the residence, elevation difference by "steps" and entrance shapes provide smooth transition between common and intimate spaces .

entrance   House

INTIMATE

Main entrance on the street

Intermediate
Square

INTIMATE

INTERMEDIATE
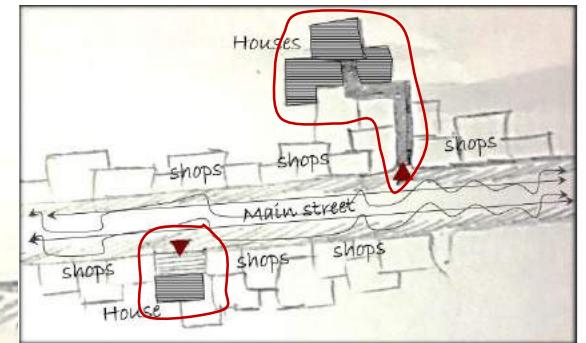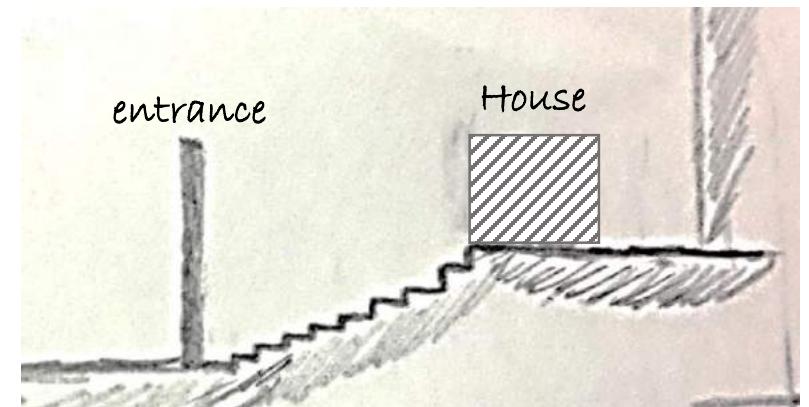
Semi-private
Private activities and
uses of residents

Narrow short entrance
Calm atmosphere

Entrance of the residential
atmosphere

Narrow passage

ESTIMATE THE LEVEL OF WELL-BEING IN A PLACE

SENSITIVE INDICATORS:

0 dB 　　　　　　100 dB　　0K Lux 　　　　　　10K Lux

Closed
view 　　　　　　Opened
view

JAN GEHL'S INDICATOR:

☆ Sitting
★ Walking
★ Talking
☆ Standing

63
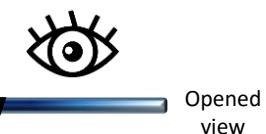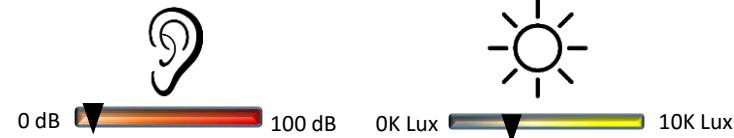
Al-Naser Square - Nablus

Historical and urban origins :

Al-Naser square located at the centre of the old city in front of Al-Naser mosque ,between two main streets "Al-Khan and Al-Nase street" so it's surrounded by commercial shops .

Al-Naser square was a green area "orchard" called "Hadarah" and then it was covered by stones according to order of the governor "mutasaref" in 1884.

All the uses of the ground floors around the squares are commercial while the religious and residential uses are in the upper level so it's an active dynamic space all the day

Regulation :

The most main public space in the old city
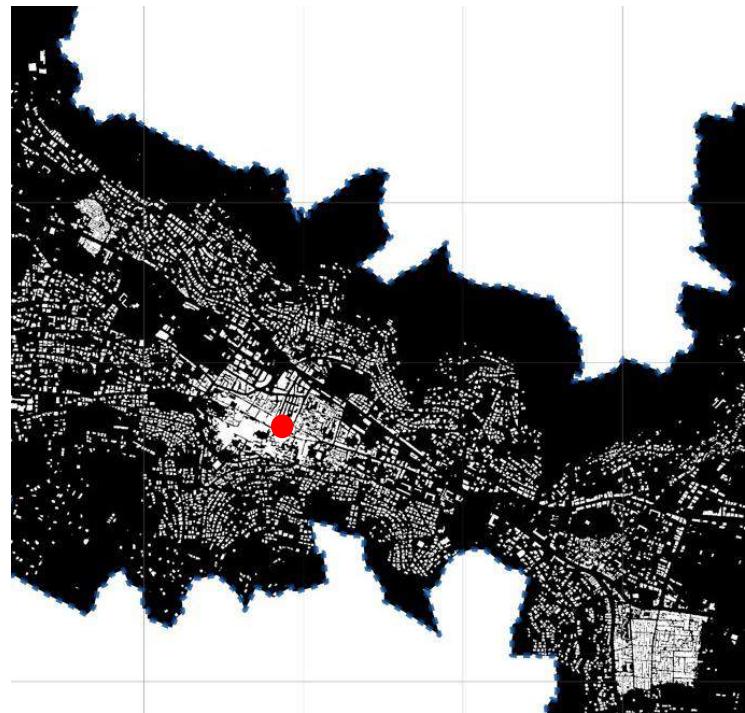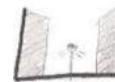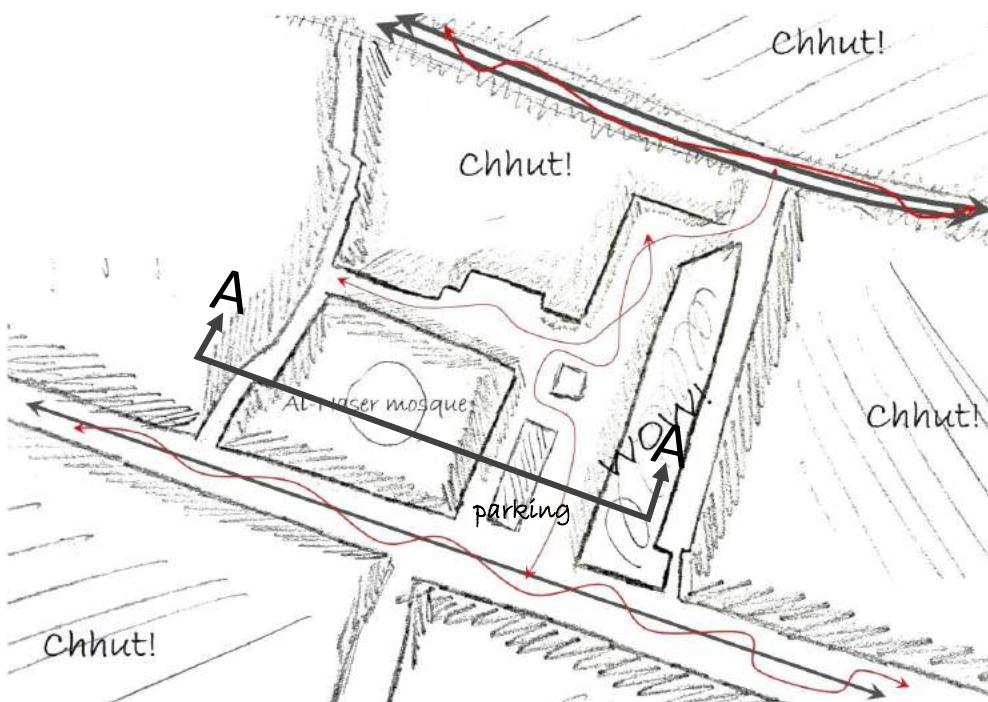
Chhut!

Chhut!

A

Al-Naser mosque

A

parking

WOW!

Chhut!

Chhut!

This place is the most private we studied in Lille. As we said in our methodology, we consider the comportment of anybody in this place so that we are not allowed to enter the private space.


Section A/A

Shops   Al-Naser mosque   Clock tower "landmark"   Shops

COMMON
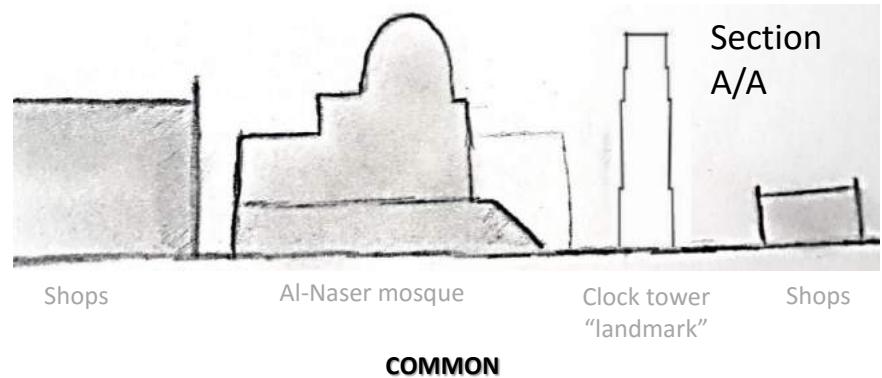
Hatching shows violating each shops on space

Housewares shops

Cloth shops

Tailor shop

Furniture shops

Clothes shops

SENSITIVE INDICATORS:

Closed view — Opened view

0 dB — 100 dB

JAN GEHL'S INDICATOR:

- Sitting
- Walking
- Talking
- Standing

0K Lux — 10K Lux

It is located between two main commercial street Al-Khan and Al-Naser streets, where there are many commercial shops distributed around it. It is central for the presence of Mosque. In the middle there is the Clock Tower which is an attractive element.
Its use change in function of the day., and the square can be used as a parking for traders.

Summarized Results

	INTIMATE	SEPARATION BETWEEN INTIMATE & INTERMEDIATE	Intermediate			SEPARATION BETWEEN INTERMEDIATE &COMMON	COMMON SPACE
			SEMI-PUBLIC	SEPARATION BETWEEN SEMI-PUBLIC & SEMI-PRIVATE	SEMI-PRIVATE		
HAWSH AL-NASER					Narrow path "Zuqaq" like a maze leads to inner square and orientation of the paths "perpendicular on each other" light/shadow Houses openings "widowa&doors "directed toward the path	Covered short narrow entrance	-
HAWSH AL-JITAN		- Elevation difference "steps"	Open well lighted square handicrafts shops and warehouses Public furniture ex; benches , plants, public lights Change of the ground texture	Small narrow entrance Light/shadow - "dark atmosphere at the entrance"	Narrow path like a maze calm atmosphere Private activities and uses of residents	Change the alignment Wide distinctive entrance Elevation difference	
AL-NASER SQUARE		Goods exhibited in front of the shops Elevation difference				Paths width and orientation light/shadow Narrow short entrance	Many commercial shops distributed around it Al-Naser mosque - sometimes it's used as a parking for traders cars Clock tower "Al- - manarah Public furniture "light"

Final Observations

INTIMATE	SEPARATION BETWEEN INTIMATE & INTERMEDIATE	INTERMEDIATE	SEPARATION BETWEEN INTERMEDIATE &COMMON	COMMON SPACE
private furniture vegetation change of ground	strong separation such as walls or fences.	Vegetation ground in function of uses public furniture	slow transitions such as change of ground difference of level, vegetation, narrow path;	public furniture and equipment sidewalk parking

NABLUS

INTIMATE	SEPARATION BETWEEN INTIMATE & INTERMEDIATE	Intermediate			SEPARATION BETWEEN INTERMEDIATE &COMMON	COMMON SPACE
		SEMI-PUBLIC	SEPARATION BETWEEN SEMI-PUBLIC & SEMI-PRIVATE	SEMI-PRIVATE		
	Smooth separation such as distinctive entrance ,light/shadow/paths orientation, steps	Public furniture, ground texture, commercial activities	Smooth separation Small narrow entrance Light/shadow	Narrow path, light/shadow, houses openings, private activities	-Distinctive entrance -elevation difference	Common functions and uses Public furniture "light"

2.2. UNBUILT SPACES AND PERCEPTION

Our method

INTERVIEWS

We want to understand the perceived city, and perceived urban shapes. We put the same interview online for Palestinian (28 participants) and for French (41 participants).
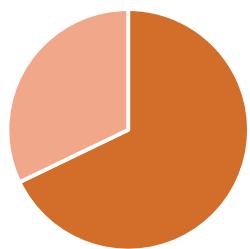
■ Nablus ■ Other cities   ■ Lille ■ Other cities   ■ Male ■ Female
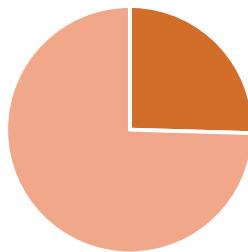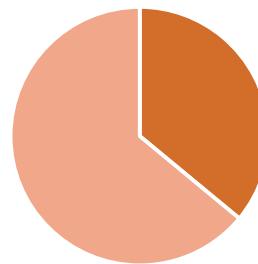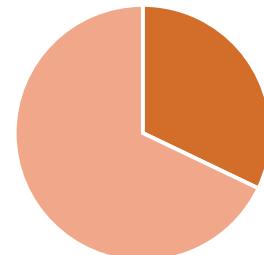
We proposed several photos of elements from urban shapes in Lille and in Nablus to people. We want to understand what are their feelings concerning urban shapes. What people like, what people expect, what they notice in a space. We want to understand which elements makes the quality of a space for them.

From the answers, we made a sum up of the notions that were important for them.We concluded that some principles play a main role in people attraction in one hand and on the other hand make them be far away from these spaces. The following results explain their opinions and reactions.

Eight notions have been highlighted from this survey :

VEGETATION – FURNITURE - LIVABILITY – CROWDING - NOISE, CALM – OVERLOOKING - SHADOW/LIGHT

Way of living and expectations

Where do you spend your free time ?

- at home
- In the park
- sports & hobbies
- other

Palestinians

French
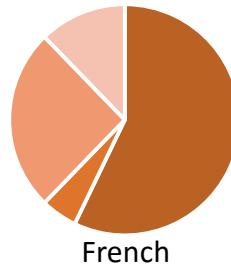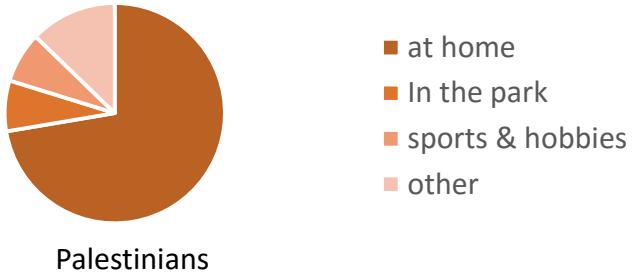
In Nablus and in Lille, people spend most of their time at home. When they are not, they make activity or are in another closed space, and never in the public space.

Do you know your neighbors ?

- a lot
- a little
- never

Palestinians
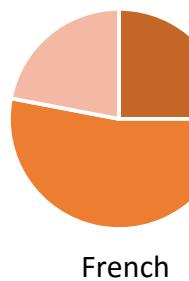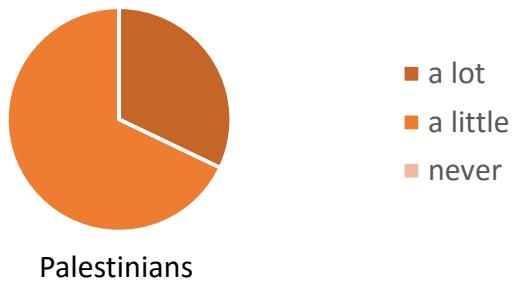
French

We can see from the following results that the majority of Palestinian and French people have a little relations with their neighbors .

Palestinian community doesn't have the third color which is "not at all" whereas French community has 22% .

Do you prefer to make relations with your neighbors ?

- Yes
- No
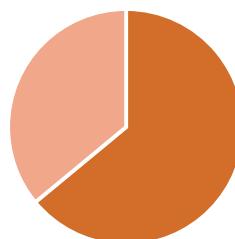
From the charts we can see that there's a will to make a good relationships with others.

Converging Feelings

Coloured	Clean	Calm
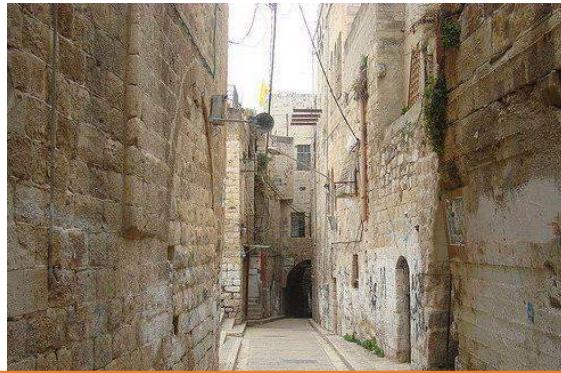
In Nablus

In Lille

Converting Feelings

Lighted

Furniture

Liveable

In Nablus

NOT DOCUMENTED FROM THE INTERVIEW

In Lille

Converting Feelings

| Dark | Narrow | Vegetation |

In Nablus

NOT DOCUMENTED
FROM THE INTERVIEW

In Lille

Converging Feelings

Intimicy	Vacant	Cars

NOT DOCUMENTED FROM THE INTERVIEW
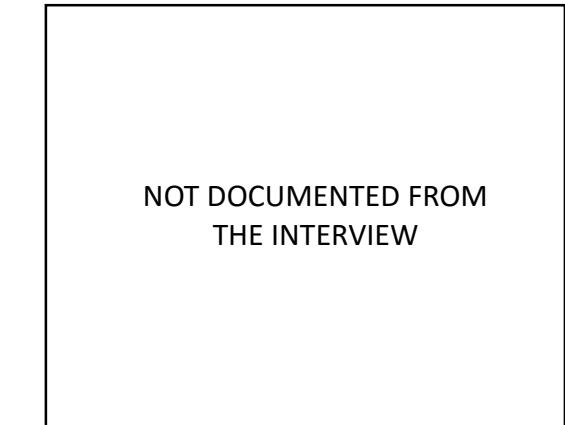
In Nablus

In Lille

DivergingFeelings

What do you think about this place ?

STREET IN NABLUS

■ Palestinian people ■ French people

STREET IN NABLUS
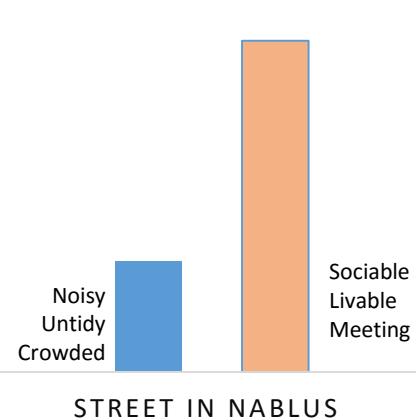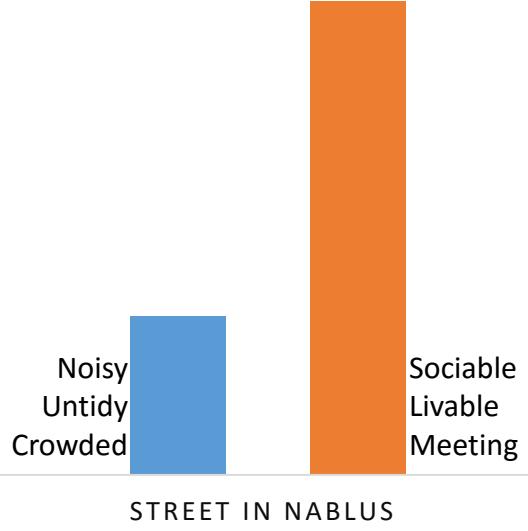
For this photo, we saw there was a gap between Palestinian answers and French answers.

From these answers, we guess that this imaginary plays a main role in it. As we didn't expected this kind of answers, we didn't have the time to check it.

What we guess is to make the same with a French place that have the same shape so that we can understand if those feelings are related to the uses or to the shape of the place.

If it is related to the shape, we should have the same answer for this path, located on the Grand Place of Lille. If it is a question of uses, this will change. According to that we will be able to understand the weight of imagination and living in the perception of a place.

Diverging Feelings

This place in Lille is another example of what we just explained. The feelings are opposite from Lille and Nablus. Is it related to knowledge of the place?

What do you think about this place ?

Clean
Tidy
spaces for cars
and pedestrian
Covered with the
stone

Narrow sidewalk
Enclosed
Cars

STREET IN LILLE

■ Palestinian people   ■ French people

FINAL ORIENTATIONS

The limits and elements that exist between private and public spaces guide the users. We generated standard shapes spaces between the private and the public spaces, the intimate and the shared spaces which seemed to work because they are experienced, they involve an appropriation, relaxation, meetings, as opposed to avoidance. Following this study, we were able to identify some central elements that connect these intermediate spaces.

From the interviews, we can understand there are common expectations and needs from the inhabitants of Lille and Nablus in terms of unbuilt spaces, such as vegetation, or light. Wishes and needs are the same from one culture to another. On the other hand we can see that some places can have opposite reactions. We can suppose that it's linked to the knowledge of the space. There is an imaginary perception of the spaces that can be different from the living perception. This check the impact of perceived density.

In Lille and Nablus, we were able to identify differences and similarities, but also mutual enrichment sources. Specifically, we noted Nablusi elements that allow Lille to intelligently think its density, and urban development.

Which places do you prefer to sit in?

In the garden

or

On the roof

People answer

28% garden

roof 72%
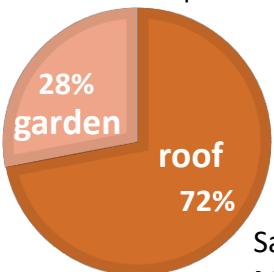
Safety feeling
More intimacy
Calm
Good view

Ideas inspired from the old city to deal with good density:
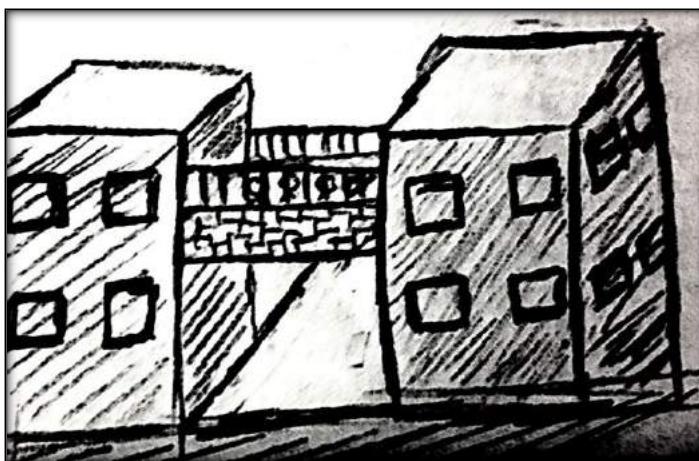
"Sabat": it's a room connecting two houses over the street, it had a special consideration in Islamic city. From Sabat idea we can manage density by using air space in houses or make it a play area for children.

Roofs in the old city have many uses which may be provide a good idea to a make place more livable.

Drying clothes   sitting   Play area

sitting

78

III. DESIGN A PUBLIC UN-BUILT SPACES LEADS OF PROJECT FOR A PARK IN EASTERN NABLUS

Presenting the project

In this part of the report, we will talk about a project in Nablus city which is part of the cooperation between the municipalities of Lille and Nablus and was the focus of discussion in the previous meetings in Nablus Municipality. The project is about developing a park in three adjacent blocks in the eastern part of Nablus city, which are the blocks of Child Happiness Park, Tell Balata Archeological Park and the Martyr's Monument. The following maps show the location of the project with the three separate blocks.

Parks in Nablus City

1 Martyr's Monument location
Source: GIS 2014

2 Child happiness park block
Source: GIS 2014

3 Tell Balata Park
Source: GIS 2014

80

Methodology

As a result of being here in Lille and not having the ability to make any kind of field work in Nablus city, we tried to find some methods which can help us to find the needed information and work properly on this project. And so after a long search and discussion, we followed the following methods:

A web-based survey was made for the people who live in Nablus city in order to have a better understanding for their way of thinking about Nablus city in general and the eastern part of the city in particular. This survey helped us to know more about the ideas of the people who live in Nablus and what they think about the eastern part of the city and if they will go there if a new park was built or not and other different questions about parks in Nablus city (the full survey questions and results are included in the Appendix).

Field work in Lille a field work was conducted in the city of Lille to see some good examples for parks and to try to see how we can create an identity for a park in general. Some parks we visited in Lille are : 1 Jean-Baptiste Lebas, 2 Jardin des géants, 3 Citadelle Vauban, 4 Euratechnologies, 5 Active Park Lille Sud. All of these examples gave us some ideas to find a theme for the park in Nablus.

Graduation project for "Mustafa Humoda" an urban planning student in An-Najah National University in Nablus, who works on the open spaces in general and governorate square (eastern Park project) in particular. He made an analysis of the location with a lot of photos and maps, and so we used his work to have a better understanding of the site and its functions and also because of information shortage since we are not in Nablus.

Information from other sources from Nablus Municipality, we talked to the architect Ola Khayat who works on designing and analyzing the project location and we asked her some detailed questions about it which gave us a further understanding for some issues in the project.

Also, from architect Nasir Arafat, we got information about the history of the electricity buildings on the site, to help us decide if we can consider these buildings as an important element in the park or not.
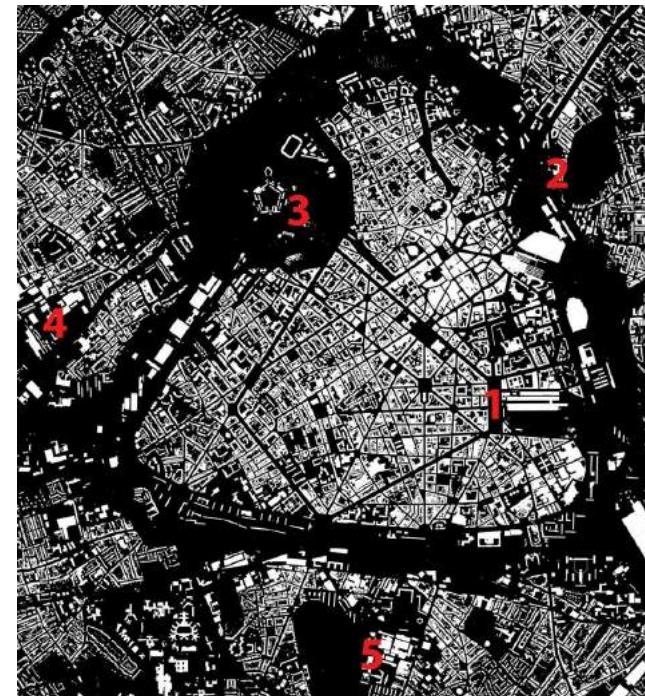
Parks visited in Lille

3.1. A PARK IN EASTERN NABLUS

The project site located on municipality lands

The site chosen for the project is located on the eastern part of Nablus. In this part, the mountains on the north and the south are very close to each other which creates a type of valley in the middle, right on the project site.

As you can see on the map, the lands on the site are either for the municipality, for the governorate or they are private. However, the municipality holds the majority of the lands on the site, and it is one of the very few places where they own and have control over this much land in Nablus.

This is one of the main reasons why this site was chosen for the project, as it is quite complicated for the municipality to buy private lands to build their projects.

So far, the project will only take place on the municipality and governmental lands. However, if it is possible to buy some of the private lands, it will be added to the project.

Legend
- Governmental_Lands
- Private_Lands
- Municipality_Lands

Existing buildings on the site

As you can see on the map below, there is actually a lot of existing buildings on the site, some of which are very old and others which are fairly new. These existing buildings have, for the most part, administrative and technical functions, only a few are private residences or businesses.

Legend

Buildings in the Site discriptio

- Abd Al Aziz House
- Administraion and Bildozers Maintenance
- Administration and Museum
- Agriculture Department Building
- Al Masri House
- Ein Defna fountain & undeground Tanks
- Electricity Station
- Fuel Tanks
- Governorate Buildings
- Ministry of Health
- Mousque
- Municipality Parking for Vehicles
- Old Electricity Building
- Private Property - Mixed Use
- Quarry
- Smithery and Car maintenance

Some buildings in the project location

Administration building and bulldozers maintenance

Ein Defna building (water station)

Old electricity building

Al Masri House

A site at a strategic location

This location is also very strategic because the site is situated between two major roads: one leading to northern cities like Jenin and Tubas and the other leading to southern cities like Ramallah and Jerusalem. These main roads are the only way to enter the city from the East and this creates a good exposure for the site, as anyone entering the city will see it and hopefully want to discover it.

Legend	
🟥	Project_Location
——	main_road
∙∙∙∙∙	Nablus City Borders

Elevation

🟦	790.714 - 940
🟦	641.429 - 790.714
🟩	492.143 - 641.429
🟩	342.857 - 492.143
🟨	193.571 - 342.857
🟧	44.286 - 193.571
🟫	105- - 44.286
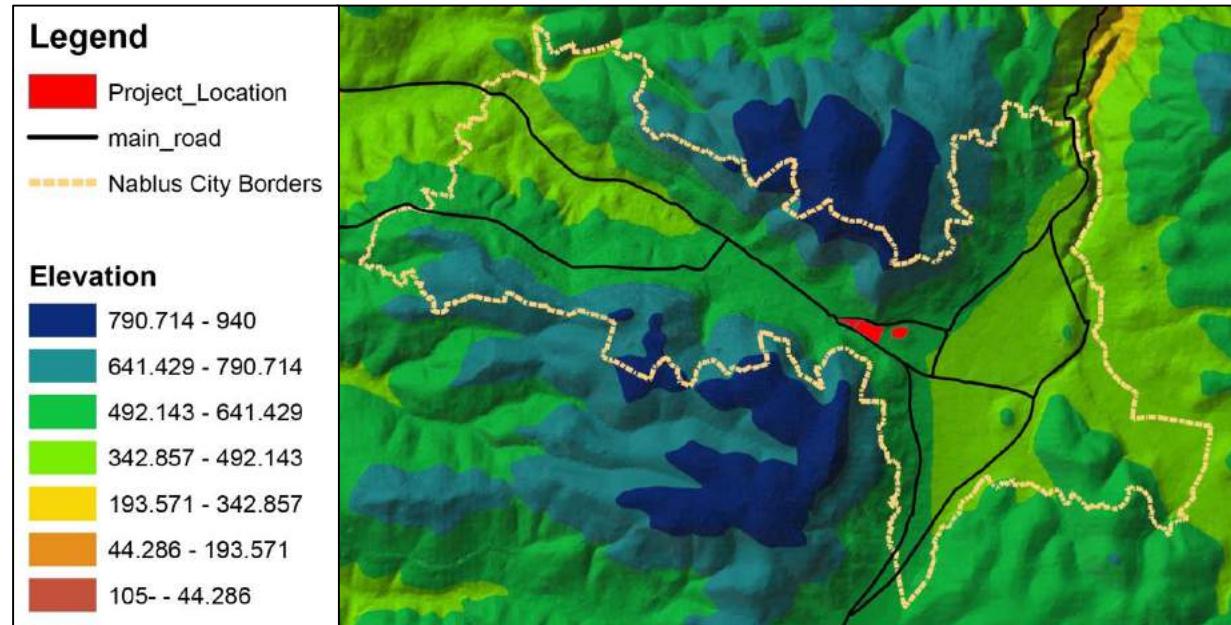
The site is located at the place where the valley is the narrowest, which makes the junction of the eastern part and the city center. The site is only 2 kilometers away from the city center, which makes it very easy to access either by car or by walking.

Routes	Distance (km)	Time Needed in **Minutes**	
		By Car	By walk
—— (blue)	2 km	Not possible	24
—— (red)	2 km	5.8	24
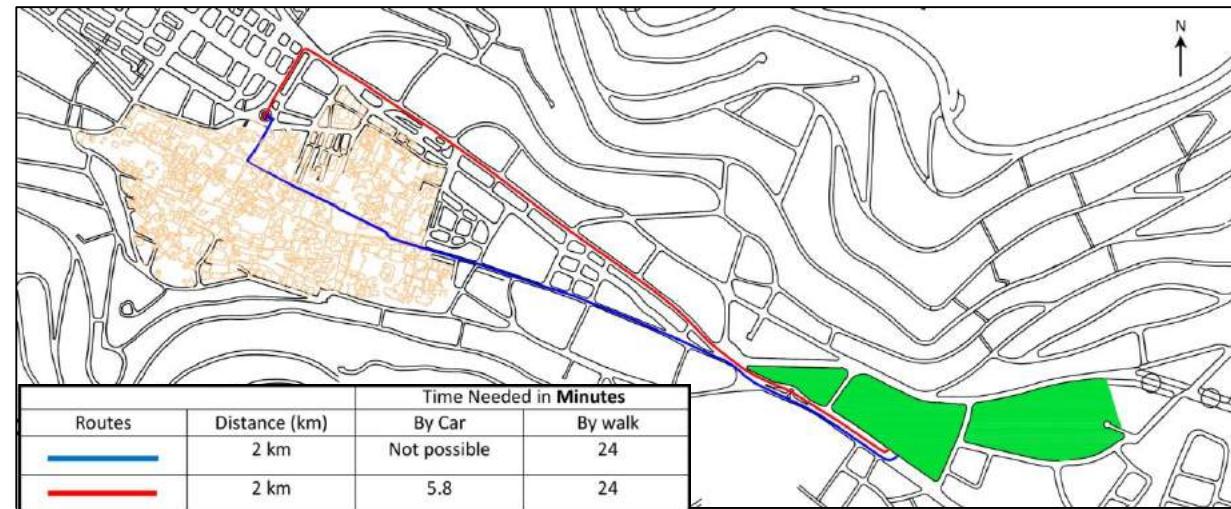
Parks in Nablus : one big park and several smaller ones

Jamal Abdel Nasser park crowded on a week-end
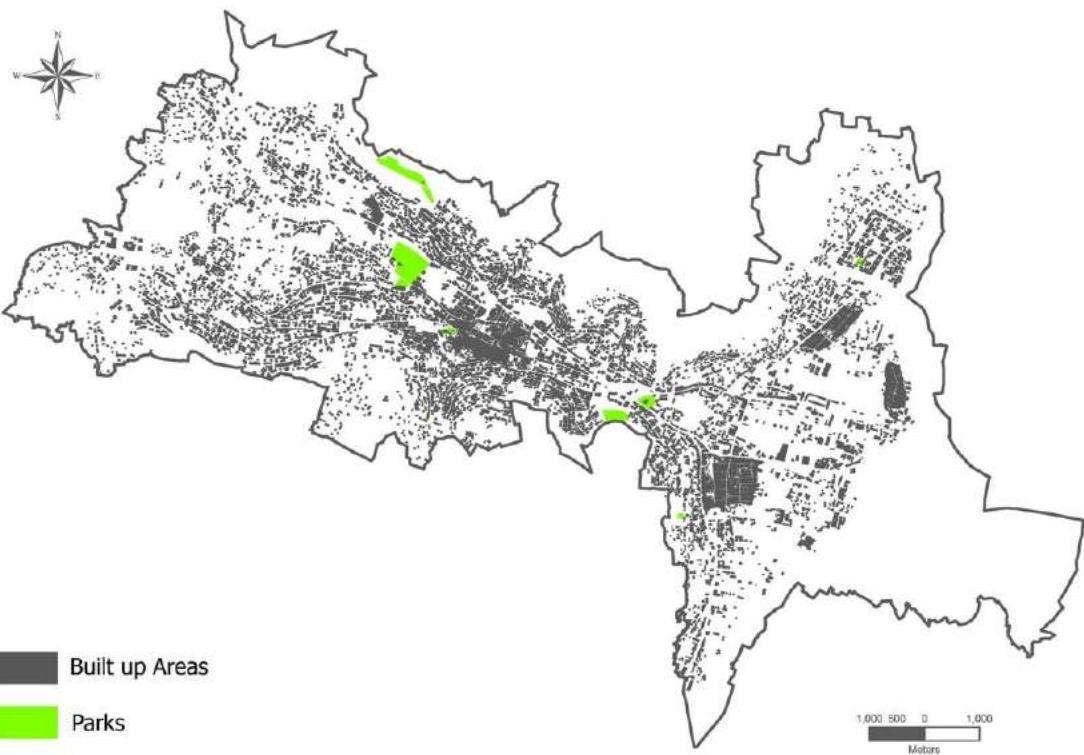
Jamal Abdel Nasser is the biggest park in Nablus and located in the west part of the city. The other ones are smaller. Jamal Abdel Nasser is often crowed during the week-end and holidays, all the tables and playgrounds for children are occupied. Child Happiness Park is located in our study site but this park is only made for children. In our survey, some people asked for a park for all ages.

Child Happiness Park: a paid entrance park
only for children and their families

85

The need for a park in Nablus as a result of the urbanization

95,8% of Nabulsis who answer the survey think that there are not enough parks in Nablus. This opinion is partly the result of the actual urbanization.

The city is expanding with the construction of tower blocks. The bottom of these buildings are abandoned. The inhabitants don't have access to private or collective gardens or roofs like in houses or hawshs. Accessible spaces of nature are also further because of this urbanization and the Israeli occupation.

In the eastern part of the city, the built area will probably expand. A lot of area are vacant. Some farmers abandoned or sell their fields.

Tower blocks in Nablus as a new model of urbanization

Are there enough parks in Nablus city?
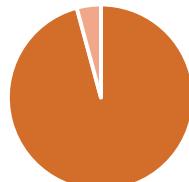
■ No ■ Yes

The eastern part of the city : a lot of vacant area or fields which will be built ?

No garden at the bottom of these towers

Another big park in Nablus

If the park is built only on the municipality and the governmental lands, then it will have an area of approximately 6 Ha. But if the municipality is able to buy the private lands to add to the project, the park will have an area of approximately 11 Ha.

In order to have a general idea about the park's size, we compared different parks in Lille and in Nablus at the same scale to have a more precise picture of the size in our minds.

Jamal Abdel Nasser Park is actually the main and the biggest park in Nablus city, and we can see that the future park on the eastern side of Nablus can be close in size to it. To compare the size of the future park with a park in Lille, we can see that it is approximately the same size as the Active Park in Lille Sud.

Parks in Nablus

Jamal Abdel Nasser Park
area: 7.5 Ha

Nablus Eastern Park
(minimum size)
area: 6 Ha

Nablus Eastern Park
(maximum size)
area: 11 Ha

Parks in Lille

Jean-Baptiste Lebas
area: 3 Ha

Active Park Lille Sud
area: 6 Ha

Jardin des géants
area: 2 Ha

La citadelle
area: 100 Ha

Historical background : the eastern part recently integrated to the city

• **The historical city of Shechem in the heart of the project site :** it was set up in third millennium BC.

• **The project site outside the city after the creation of the Roman city:** after the destruction of Shechem city, the Romans moved the stones to the west to build their new city Neapolis which will become Nablus. In the second map, we can see the roman city plans with the dark brown color and as we can see the Roman city gates located exactly before the park project location (in the green color). So the project location was outside the Roman walls.

Tell Balata
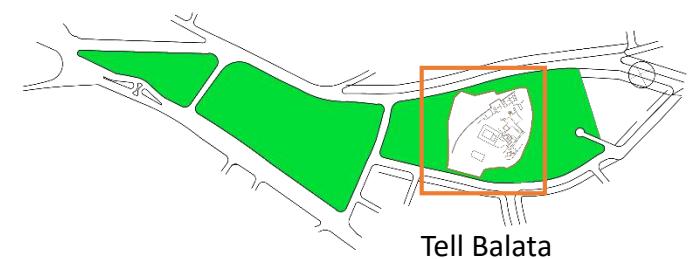
• **The construction of army barracks outside the city and near the project site:** Al-Qeshla (army center) is built in the Ottoman period in 1875. Later it is used by the Jordanian army, then the Israeli army. Today it is the headquarters for the Palestinian security forces. It gathers a prison, a national security center and the ministry of interior.

• **The establishment of the refugee camps as a beginning of the urbanization of the eastern part of Nablus:** After the declaration of the state of Israel in 1948 a lot of Muslim fled conflicts and arrived in Nablus. Three refugee camps were built in 1950. One on the west (Ein Beit al-Ma) and two on the east (Balata and Askar). Askar expanded in 1967 with the creation of new Askar. Balata is the biggest refugee camp of the west bank today. The creation of these camps marked the beginning of the urbanization of the eastern part. Before only two small villages were located in the area.

Balata camp in 1952
Source : nationalgeographic.com

Source: Nablus a city of civilizations- book

88
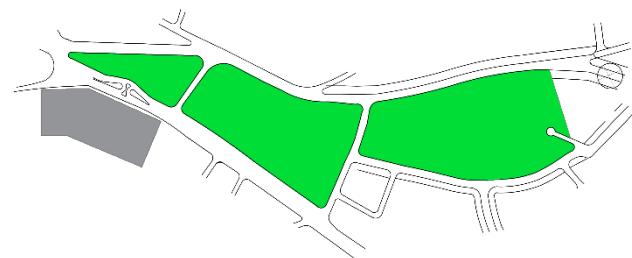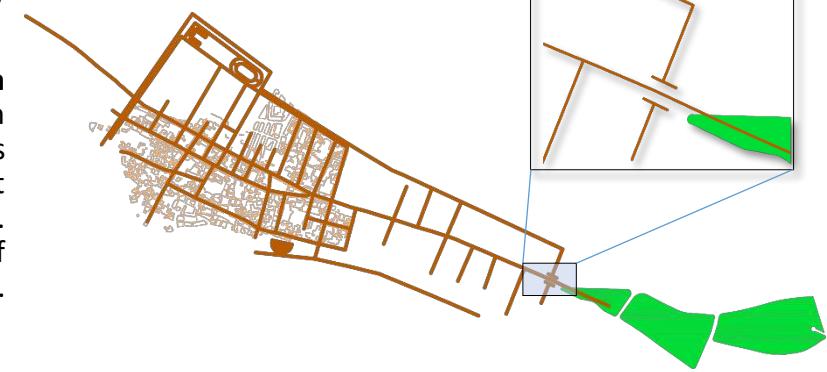
The eastern part of Nablus: a negative image

The survey confirm the bad image of the eastern part of Nablus: 81% of the Nablusis which answered the survey don't go usually to the eastern part of Nablus, here are some reasons they gave: there are no attractions, no reason to go, a lot of problems, no security, no restaurants or coffee shops , a lot of poverty, it's a neglected area, the western part is better.

Negative impact of the industrial Area: one of the most important areas in the eastern part of the city, it has many factories in it which created a negative feeling from the people's point of view because when you mention the eastern part of the city, the first thing that generally comes to the mind is the industrial area as opposed to something attractive.

Existing elements not highlighted enough: for example, Tell Balata archeological park has had excavation work done during the early and middle 20th century and new excavation has been made in 2011. The site has been open to the public and a visitor center has been built, however 54.4% of people who answered our survey had never heard of it before, and 81.1% have never visited the park.

Governorate Buildings: According to the survey results, 40% of the people go to the eastern part of the city because of this place, to make official papers and procedures and it was the biggest percentage between the reasons for going to the east part of the city. Therefore, it can be used as a strong point for the project in which we can attract the people who come here to visit the park instead of coming just for their official papers.

Legend:
- Project Location
- Industrial area
- Old villages
- Refugee camps
- Governorate Buildings
- Main Street

Do you go usually to the eastern part of Nablus?
- Yes
- No

Why do you go to the eastern part of Nablus city?

| To work | To study | Residence | For official papers | Child happiness park | Other reasons |
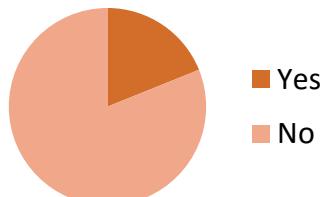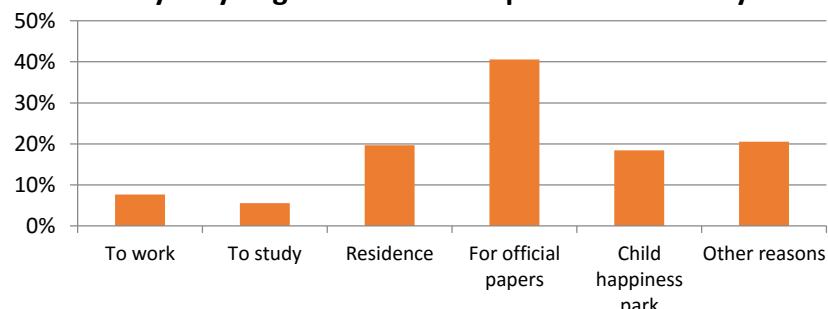
Have you heard of Tell Balata Archeological Park?
- Yes
- No

89
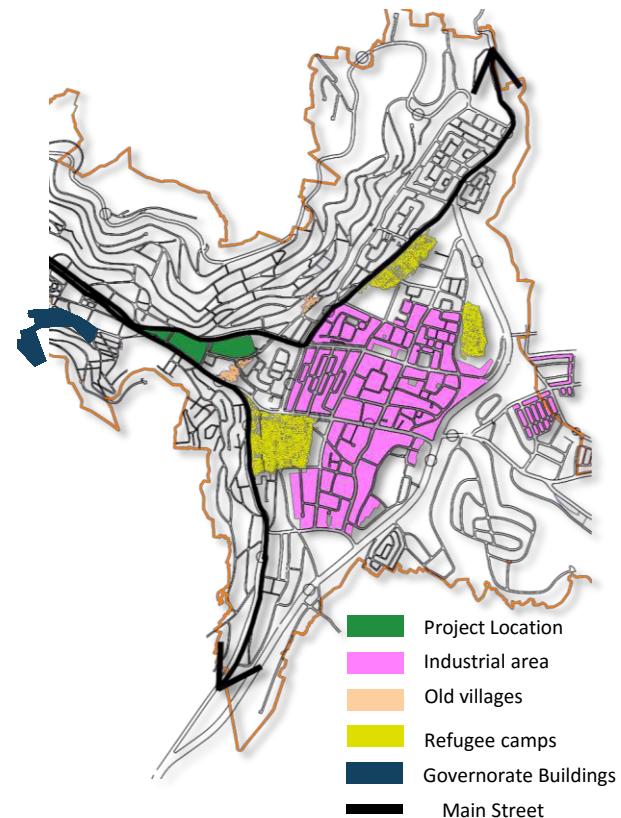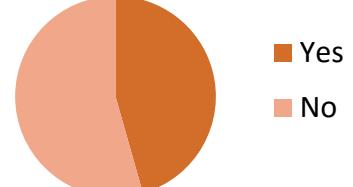
Aim of the project

The project of Child Happiness Park, Tell Balata Archeological park and the Martyr's Monument was an idea from the Nablus municipality to improve the eastern part of the city by creating attractions to make people want to go to the eastern part of the city to have a good time, as opposed to always going to the western part. This park will hopefully help to change the negative image of the eastern part of Nablus.

According to Nablus municipality, the project is still at the first stages and until now the municipality of Nablus is still analyzing the site for the project. Therefore, we focused our work on giving ideas and suggestions about parks in general to help the municipality in finding ideas and solutions for the functions in the park.

The main suggestions from the municipality of Nablus are: a municipal cultural center, outdoor and indoor exhibition spaces, a pedestrian path to connect the three sites, a restaurant, a parking.
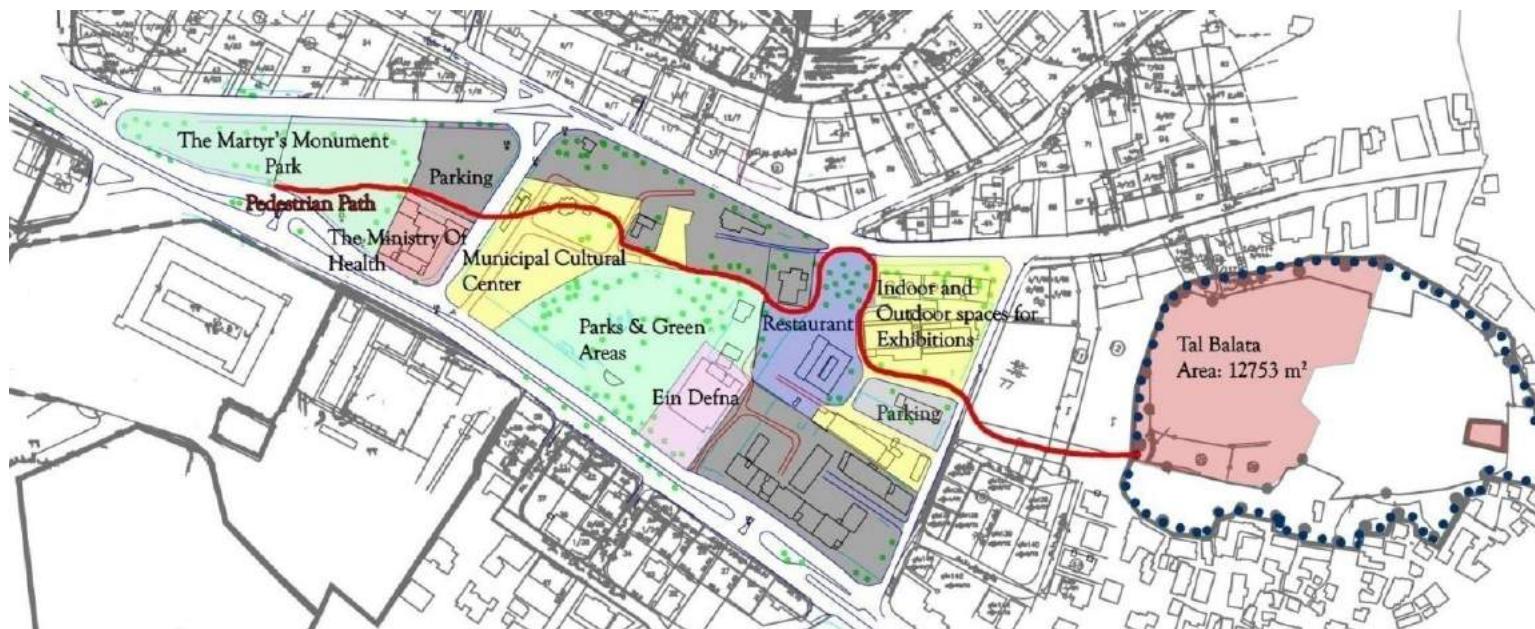
First plan of the project by the municipality of Nablus - Source: Nablus Municipality

And so our work focused mainly on how we can connect the three sites together and to try to find solutions for using the existing buildings on the site, since there are many buildings actually used by the municipality as shown in the pictures below.

3.2. CREATING AN IDENTITY FOR THE PARK

Today, the space which will become the park is divided in different parts. After its creation, the park will still be crossed by roads and some existing buildings which will not be destroyed can also block the view on some of these parts.

The different parts of the future park can have different atmospheres. But linking these different parts of the park will help people to associate Tell Balata and the Martyr's monument as belonging in the same area of leisure in the eastern part of Nablus. The connections can be made physically (comfortable path, views, signs) but also mentally by choosing the same thematic to design the park.

By integrating Tell balata and the Martyr's monument into the same park is a way to encourage inhabitants to visit them. They can go to the park to have leisure and at the same time discover a bit more about the history of the city.

Giving a strong identity to the future park is also a way to differentiate it from the other parks and to make it unique. If the park is too similar to Jamal Abdel Nasser park, the inhabitants of the west side and the east side of the city will not meet in this new park. They will continue to go to the park closest to their home.

==> Giving an identity to unify the park and make it unique
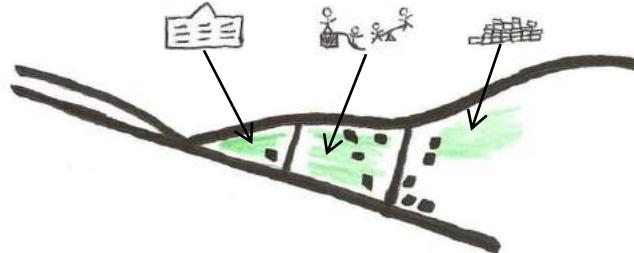
A divided area : three separate blocks

Places separated in mind   Places linked in mind

Make one area of leisure from different spaces
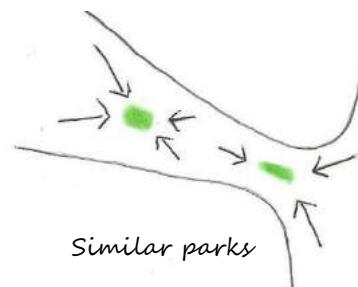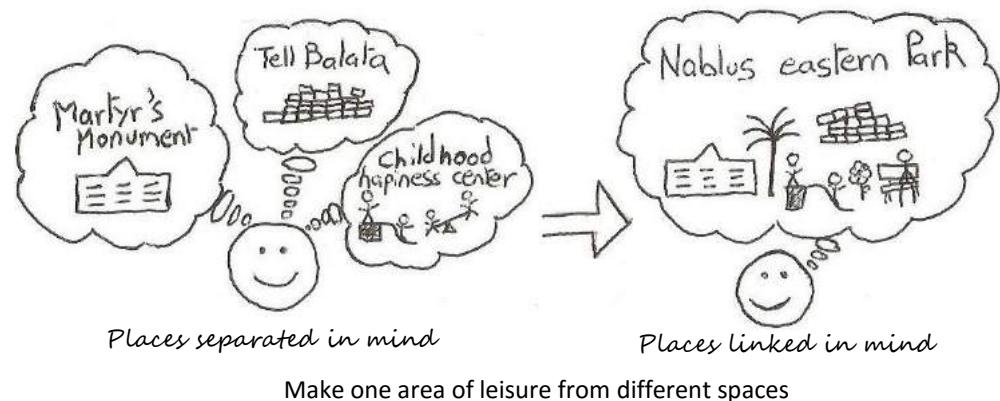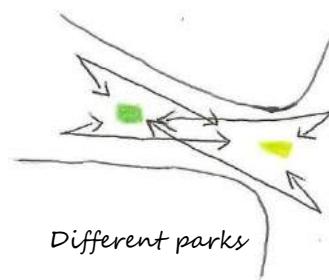
Similar parks   Different parks

Make it unique to attract western and eastern inhabitants

How to create an identity for a park ? Examples in Lille

With our field work in Lille, we were able to identify different ways to create an identity for a park:

- The name *Jardin des Géants (Giants' Garden)* reflects the thematic of this park. Big heads made with vegetation and big chairs throughout the park represents the presence of these giants.

- In Jean-Baptiste Lebas park, the bright red fences ease the identification of the park more than the name. The park is sometimes called "le parc aux grilles rouges" (the park with red fence). The red color is also used for all the furniture (street lamps, dustbins, playgrounds...)

- The garden in front of Euratechnologies and the spaces around are designed to remind us of the industrial past of the district. The street furniture is made of symbolic materials of this industrial time like concrete and rusty metals. The construction of small canals remind the importance of water in the development of the factories.

==> **The identification of a park can be made by a name, colours, materials, design...**

Giant elements in the *Jardin des Géants*

Industrial design in front of Euratechnologie

The red color in the park Jean-Baptiste Lebas

92

Which thematic for Nablus Eastern Park ?

To answer this question we studied the configuration of the site and what was still existing in it. Two main ideas seemed interesting :

| => Highlighting the existing elements which are relative to Nablus history | => The wish to be protected from the surrounding elements as if you were in an oasis |

The archeological site Tell Balata which need to be highlighted to have more visitors.

Presence of harmful elements:

-Main roads surrounding the park: noise and pollution

- Dry climate : burning sun
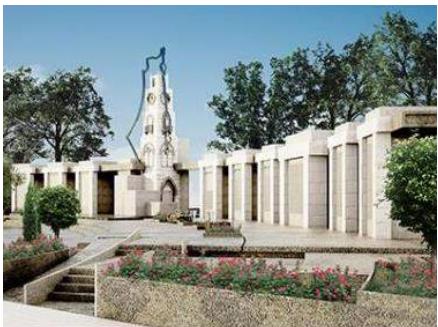
Source : Nablus municipality

The Martyr's Monument which pays tribute to the inhabitants who fought Israeli soldiers to defend their rights, their freedom, their land...

The future park is located in the bottom of the valley. Reinforcing the difference of level between the roads and the park can help to protect the park from the outside.
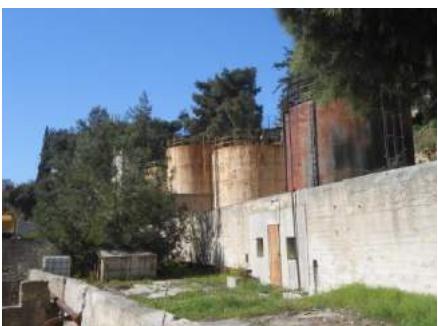
Source : Marie-Thérèse Grégoris

Old electricity buildings and fuels tanks, which were in function from 1957 to 1988.

The yard of Jacob's well is a good example of the benefits of the elevation and the important presence of trees. When you go down the steps to enter inside, you hear less noise and feel cooler.

93

Highlighting the history of Nablus: a park inspired by the traditional Arabic garden

Getting inspiration from traditional Arabic gardens appeared as a mean to link the desire to raise awareness for the inhabitants of Nablus about the history of the city and the wish to create an oasis

Traditional Arabic garden in Nablus:
Since the 10th century approximately, Nablus was called the "Little Damascus" because of its prosperity, the richness of its architecture, and the abundance of its vegetation. The size of the gardens represented the wealth of the inhabitants. The biggest gardens were located in the palaces.
After the earthquake in 1927 and the expansion of the city, the importance of these traditional gardens has decreased. The rich people have left the old city, many gardens and courtyards of hawshs or palaces have been divided or built up. Some of them which are still existing, are not maintained.

Similarities between an oasis and a traditional Arabic garden:
-Abundance of nature, small refreshing areas inside the dry areas (city or desert)
- Importance of irrigation system which are often sophisticated.
-Same organization of the vegetation by layers. First, high evergreen trees to protect the garden from the sun and preserve the humidity of the air. Under these tall trees, smaller trees, bushes and flowers, and on the ground, the water flows bring humidity and irrigates the plants.
- In a garden as in an oasis, trees are used as a filter for the sand, the burning sun, the pollution...
- Clear limitations of the garden or the oasis. The traditional Arabic gardens are usually surrounded by high walls or buildings.

Old garden in the old city of Nablus

Azem Palace in Damascus
Source: www.akdn.org

Oasis in Morocco
Source: famillegrosaventuresaumaroc.overblog.com

How to get the spirit of a traditional Arabic garden ?

The idea is to get the spirit of a traditional Arabic garden without making a copy. It has to be adapted to modern and public uses and it has to fit with the existing buildings, as the old electricity buildings which can be reused.

Some principles of the traditional Arabic garden can be applied to the future park :

-**Presence of canals, fountains and pool water**: to moisturize the air, to provide nice sounds and mask outdoor noises, to add dynamic qualities...

-**Geometrical shapes**: if the park will not be rectangular, it's still possible to make straight canals and alleys as in a traditional Arabic garden.

- **Various species of plants:** it's possible to add different species of plant and trees. Traditionally they were chosen for their scents, their symbolic nature, or because they are evergreen. Green trees, fruit trees, flowers, aromatics plants can be mixed in the same garden.

- **Enclosure**. The enclosure by walls or big hedges as in a traditional Arabic garden can prevent noise and pollution from entering in the park.

Canal of water
Casa palacio del rey moro in Andalusia
Source: cielbleudecastille.blogspot.com

Fountain in a courtyard
Heritage Enrichment Centre Nablus
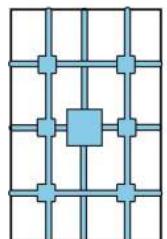
Geometrical shape of water canal
in traditional Arabic garden
Source : www.scholar.najah.edu

Enclosure of garden
Tuqan palace in Nablus

Lemon tree in a garden
Outside the old city in Nablus

Possibility of associating inhabitants to the design of the park

The inhabitants can be integrated to the conception of the park to catch peoples' minds of a traditional Arabic garden.

In Lille, the "garden of cultures" called Mosaic can be an example. It has been created to highlight the different origins of the inhabitants of the metropolitan area in different gardens. For the creation of each garden, a working group of 30 persons (old migrants, children of migrants, representative of associations...) was composed. They developed some prescriptions and advices for the architect and the landscape designer of the park. The creators of Mosaic give more importance to the peoples' minds than to the real design of the traditional gardens in their country of origin. For example in the woven garden small pieces of colourful tissues are hanging on the fences to remind the colours of the dresses of Polish woman.

In Nablus, this work with the inhabitants can also be made with the refugees. In the refugee camps there isn't enough place to have gardens. But they probably still have pictures or stories in their minds about the gardens of their ancestors in Jaffa, Al Led, Al Ramleh...

The woven garden in Mosaic :
To represent the central Europe

A working group with inhabitants
Source : CAUE du Nord

No space for garden :
A street in Balata camp

The Isle Mama Africa in Mosaic:
to represent the west Africa

3.3. WHAT TO DO INSIDE THE PARK ?

After having identified a general theme for the park, we need to think about what we will put in the park to attract people to visit and to make them want to stay and spend time in the park.

In the first plans made by the municipality of Nablus, they had planned different things for the park: the Martyr's monument; a municipal cultural center; parks and green areas; Ein defna (water station); a restaurant; indoor and outdoor exhibition spaces; a parking; and Tell Balata archeological park. We also got some ideas from the online survey that we had the inhabitants of Nablus answer. In one question we asked what was the most important features that a park needed to have in their opinion and they said: places to sit and relax; areas for children to play; places to walk and run; places to play sports and places to eat. At the end of the survey, people were given the option to give suggestions for a future park in the eastern part of Nablus, and some frequent points were made on wanting a secure park, with large green areas, affordable prices for the food, animals in the park, games for children…

After having analyzed all the ideas and suggestions from the municipality and from the inhabitants of Nablus we are making suggestions and giving ideas on what we could put and have inside the future park while compromising what the municipality of Nablus wanted for the project and also what the inhabitants want in a park.

Municipality   Inhabitants
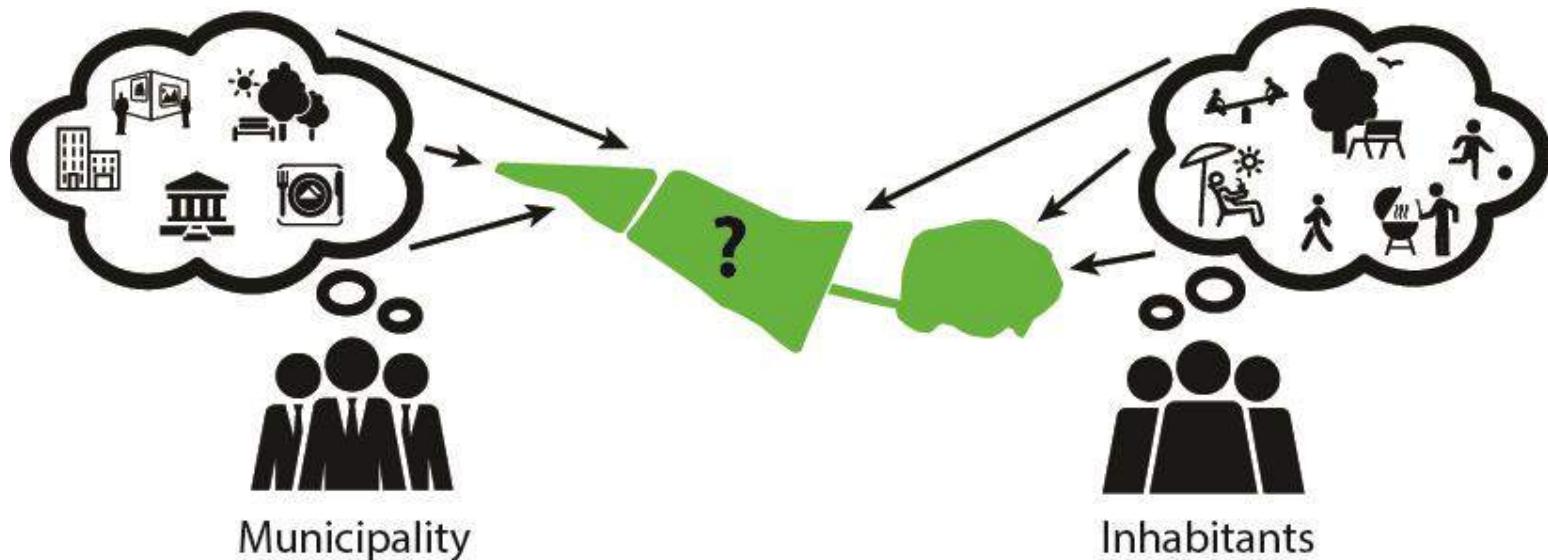
Avoiding an overcrowding of the park

Even though part of the project so far is to keep most of the existing buildings on the site, this could create the problem of an overcrowded park as opposed to a park with large open spaces. In the southern side of Lille, there is a new park where we can find the main community facilities of the district. But because of all the buildings in this area, it doesn't feel as if we are in a park, but more like we are on the yard of the library, in front of the school or at the entrance of the multi-purpose hall. On the project map the entire area is green, but in fact a large part of the "park" is covered by concrete and the green areas are not always accessible.

To avoid having that same feeling happening in the park in Nablus, we recommend to keep as few buildings as possible by only keeping the important buildings. And also, for the buildings that will be kept, we recommend opening them up as much as possible, like the Jardin des Fonderies in Nantes. By creating more outdoor spaces, the buildings will be more integrated with the park instead of overcrowding the park with buildings and creating the feeling of small green spaces in front of those buildings.

Library   Multi-purpose Hall
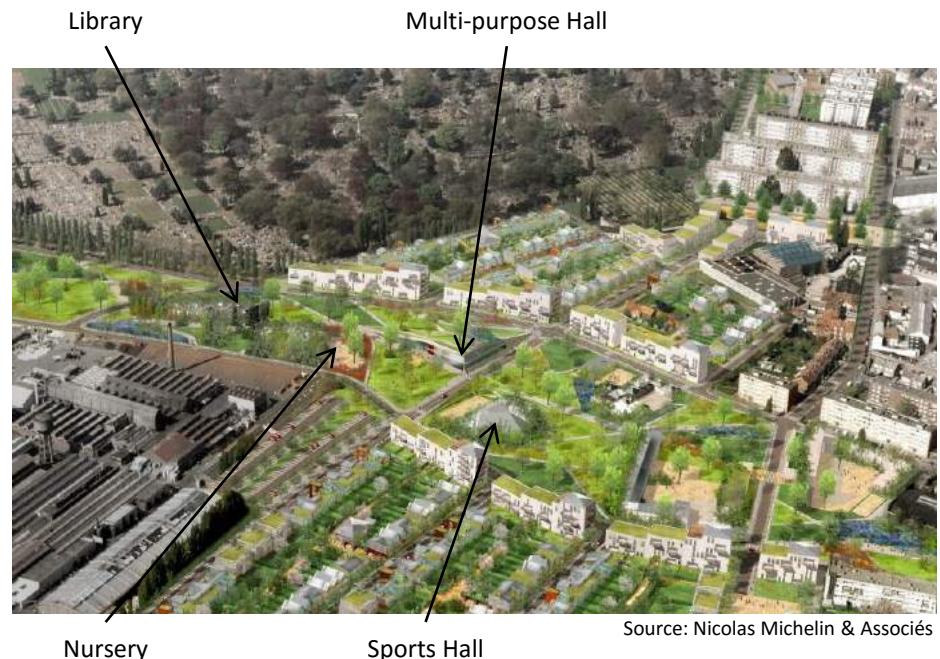
Nursery   Sports Hall   Source: Nicolas Michelin & Associés

Active Park, Lille Sud

Restoring old buildings on the site

As we saw previously, there are a lot of existing buildings on the site. Some of these buildings are very old, and others are fairly new. Part of the project is to restore some of the old buildings and use them for new and different functions.

For the restoration of these old buildings, we could take inspiration from the Jardin des Fonderies in Nantes, which used to be an old foundry. The warehouses were restored and renovated to make an exotic garden while still keeping some industrial equipment to keep evidence of the past. The metallic structure of the warehouses was kept and is now covered by a transparent roof ensuring favorable climatic conditions in the vegetation of the garden.

A similar type of restoration could be applied to some of the old buildings on the site, especially for the old electricity buildings. This would be a nice way to open up the buildings and integrate them to the park while still keeping some elements to serve as evidence of the past.

Old Electricity Building on the project site – Source: M.T. Gregoris

Jardin des Fonderies, Nantes

A warehouse before its renovation
Source: www.jardins.nantes.fr

Warehouse renovated into an exotic garden
Source: www.iledenantes.com

Warehouse renovated into an exotic garden
Source: www.iledenantes.com

Places to walk

Because the area designated for the park is very large (approximately 6 Ha) and also because the park is divided between 3 separate blocks, it is very important to have designated walking paths to guide the users inside and between the different parts of the park.

We have chosen 2 different types of walking paths:
- Simple walking paths made of wood or gravel: to move inside the park from one area to another or between the different functions in the park.
- Green tunnels or tree tunnels: which can create very pleasant walking paths between different locations or between different elements in the same location, and can also be used to isolate the people from undesirable surroundings or noise and to give the feeling of enclosure and the ease of moving towards a specific direction. And in our case it can be an idea for some parts of the path that will connect the parks together.

These paths can be used for people to navigate between different places inside the park, or simply to have a nice stroll or to run.

Gravel Garden Path
Source: www.findspicture.com

Wooden Garden Path
Source: www.doublescribble.net

Rose Canopy Path
Source: www.decorateme.com

Green tunnel, California
Source: www.blog.gardenloversclub.com

Green pathway with an old wall, Hampshire
Source: www.pinterest.com

Places to sit

It's important to have different places to sit inside the park so that many activities can develop and take place in these spaces.

Because of the topography of the site, the park is below the surrounding street's level, therefore, some seating steps are very appropriate for this site. They can be created all around the park and give a great overview of the entire space when seating there.

It's also very important to have a lot of secondary seating features all around the park, meaning some objects whose primary functions are not for seating, but that can be used for that as well. Some very common secondary seating features are low walls, steps, fountains… These features should be distributed evenly all around the park so that even if there are no formal seating place, people can stop anywhere to rest, have a conversation or just enjoy the surroundings.

Another type of seating that should be found in the park is formal seating with tables so that people can do different activities like eating, playing games, working, drawing, etc.

Seating Steps at Olympic Park
Source: www.arup.com

Covered seating area
Source: www.grubstreet.com

Low walls used for seating in Yorkville Park
Source: www.asla.org

Seating feature in Red Ribbon Park
Source: www.archdaily.com

Seating areas with tables, Michigan
Source: www.friedmanrealestate.com

Places to eat

In the first plans that the municipality of Nablus made for the park, part of the project was to build a restaurant inside one of the old electricity buildings. In accordance with the identity that we have selected for this park, it would be a great idea to have a traditional Nablus café or restaurant, like the Jafra café in Amman, which would serve all the traditional products and delicacies from the region like kanafeh for example.

In addition to the restaurant, it's also important to have less formal and more affordable eating options. For that, BBQ equipment in the park is a great alternative so that people can bring their own products and cook and eat outdoors in the park. Designated areas in the park can be dedicated to BBQ and picnicking.

Another great alternative are food trucks. Food from food trucks is generally very affordable and because they are mobile, it's easy to place them anywhere so that people have access to them.

Nabulsi Kanafeh

Traditional Jafra Café in Amman
Source: www.notwithoutmypassport.com

BBQ area in Rosebay Park
Source: www.theintertwine.org

A Food Truck in New York City
Source: www.lamula.fr

Activities

In the first plans for the park project made by the municipality of Nablus, there were also plans to build a municipality cultural center (in the municipality truck parking) and also indoor and outdoor exhibition spaces (in the municipality vehicles administration).

We think that the municipality cultural center is a good idea. As for the exhibitions spaces, it would be a good idea to include the indoor exhibition spaces inside the cultural center instead of designating a whole building specifically for that. And for the outdoor exhibition spaces, mobile outdoor spaces are ideal for temporary exhibitions as they can be placed and removed easily anywhere.

In the Child Happiness Park, there are already sports playing fields and playgrounds for children, however, the playgrounds are not in accordance with our theme. It would be nice to have new playgrounds made of stones similar in appearance to the ones in Tell Balata archeological park to reinforce the identity of the park.

Another great idea for children, is to have a seasonal petting zoo so that the children can interact with some animals. Petting zoos are usually mobile and easy to place and remove anywhere, making them a great option for the warmer months.

Outdoor exhibition
Source: www.onlandscape.co.uk

Outdoor exhibition
Source: www.bttoronto.ca

People on the lawn in Jardin Vauban in Lille
Source: www.lebonbon.fr
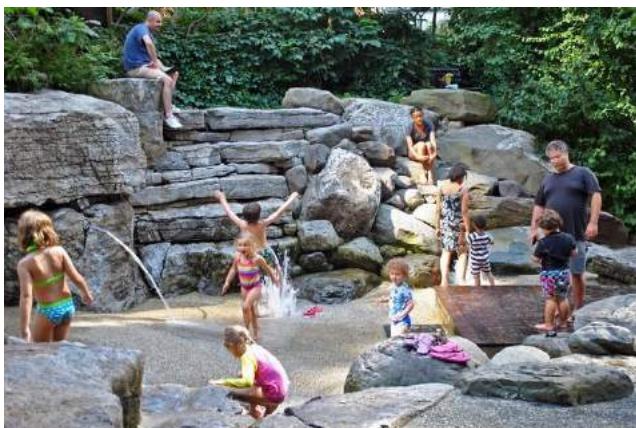
Stone playground in Teardrop Park
Source: www.landscapeperformance.org

Petting zoo in a park
Source: www.alamy.com

Security & visibility

For security purposes, the parks in Nablus are generally enclosed and this new park will be no exception. Enclosing the park will also serve as a way to cancel out the outside noise. However, we don't want the enclosure to seclude the park completely and to lose all visibility when outside of the park. Also, because of the slope on the land, the park is on a lower level than the surrounding streets, so when you are inside the park, you don't have a view of the streets (which are higher) but from the streets you have a view from above which lets you see inside the park from the outside.

We would like to make the park visible from the outside in the frequently used surroundings areas, like in front of the governorate or the ministry of health buildings, to attract people from the outside. We would also like to do the same thing for the areas where you can see the different parts of the park so that people will want to discover and explore the different parts and not stay in one area. A good idea would be to use see-through fences and to add trees or tall bushes behind the fences to block the views from the areas that we want completely closed and also where there is a lot of noise and to leave the fences see-through only in the areas where we want that visibility.

Enclosure and vision permeability of the park

Difference between the park and the sreet levels
View from Child Happiness Park

See-through Trellis Fence
Source: www.colonialfences.com

Pleached Hornbeam Trees
Source: www.ivyclad.com

CONCLUSION

During our work, we understood how difficult it was to be in a cooperation. In fact, the number of stakeholders makes the discussion harder. On top of setting up a harmony in our group of eight, we had to answer the expectations of several partners. Cultural variations in the way of thinking in terms of urban planning was also quite difficult, especially since none of us were having those discussions in our natal language. Even if Lille and Nablus have many diverging points, such as geography, economy or political issues, we noticed that in terms of urban planning their vision can converge. We understood that the main debate was not to stop sprawling or to expand. The most important thing is to find a way to optimize the city in order to build up in a clever way. Our work allowed us to understand it at two scales. The first one is the fine-scale of the residential building. We analyzed the connections between the private and the public, and tried to see how we can make livable cities at the scale of a neighborhood through the comprehension of the elements that makes people feel good in a place. The second is at the scale of the whole city. We thought of a way to change the perception of a part of the city by designing a park. Thinking the identity of this future park was a way for us to be sure that this park will become a reality in people's minds. Preserving mixed-use spaces was also important to answer several needs and to attract people as much as possible.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Book:
- ARAFAT N., 2012, Nablus : City of Civilizations, Nablus, Cultural Heritage Enrichment Center, 317 P.
- BUISSIERE E. (dir), 2000, *Le Grand Lille*, coll L'esprit des villes d'Europe, Fonds Mercator, 271p.
- GEHL J., 2010, *Cities for People,* Island Press, 288p.
- GEHL J., 2011, *Life Between Buildings,* Island Press, 200p.
- PANERAI P., MANGIN D., 1999, *Projet Urbain,* coll Eupalinos, Parenthèses Editions, 185p.
- PAQUOT T., *Le quotidien urbain*, Paris, La Découverte, « Cahiers libres », 2001, 192 pages.
- SOULIER N., 2012, *Reconquérir les rues : Exemple à travers le monde et pistes d'actions*, Les Editions Eugen Ulmer, 288p.

Article
- GILLOT G., 2006 « Du paradis à Dream Park, les jardins dans le monde arabe : Damas, Le Caire, Rabat. », *Annales de géographie* 4/2006 (n° 650) , p. 409-433
- GUIGNET P., 2008, « Cours, courées et corons. Contribution à un cadrage lexicographique, typologique et chronologique de types d'habitat collectif emblématiques de la France du Nord. », *Revue du Nord* 1/2008 (n° 374) , p. 29-47. www.cairn.info/revue-du-nord-2008-1-page-29.htm.

Thesis :
- BARA S., 2010, *The garden in the Islamic architecture, an analytical study of the symbolic significance and architectural function*, An-Najah University, Nablus, 195p.
 https://scholar.najah.edu/sites/default/files/all-thesis/garden_in_islamic_architecture_an_analytical_study.pdf
- TONKISS F., 2014, *Cities by Design The Social Life of Urban, 224p.*

Web site :
- Citylab :
    - BENFIEL K., 2013, 10 Ways to Improve High-Density Cities, http://www.citylab.com/tech/2013/02/ten-ways-improve-high-density-cities/4692/
    - FLORIDA R., 2012, Cities With Denser Cores Do Better, http://www.citylab.com/work/2012/11/cities-denser-cores-do-better/3911/
    - ARIEFF A. 2011 *Designing for Density Doesn't Have to Be Ugly, or Scary, http://www.citylab.com/design/2011/10/designing-for-density-doesnt-have-to-be-ugly/376/*
    - BENFIEL K., 2012, Could Density Actually Reduce Traffic? http://www.citylab.com/commute/2012/06/could-density-actually-reduce-traffic/2219/

Report:
- Cerema Nord Picardie, 2010, *La densité urbaine,* 12p. http://www.nord-picardie.cerema.fr/IMG/pdf/densite_presentation_27_sept_2010b_cle55b133.pdf
- AURAV (agence d'urbanisme Rhône Avignon Vaucluse), 2012, Densités et formes urbaines, 12p.
  http://www.aurav.org/Ressources/Files/02.densites_et_formes_urbaines_web.pdf

Administrative division of Palestine and France

IN NABLUS

Administrative division

Palestine

↓

Regions

↓

Governorates

↓

Local government bodies

↓   ↓   ↓

village   Town   city

Mediterranean Sea

LEBANON

SYRIA

West Bank

Gaza Strip

JORDAN

EGYPT

Gulf of Aqaba
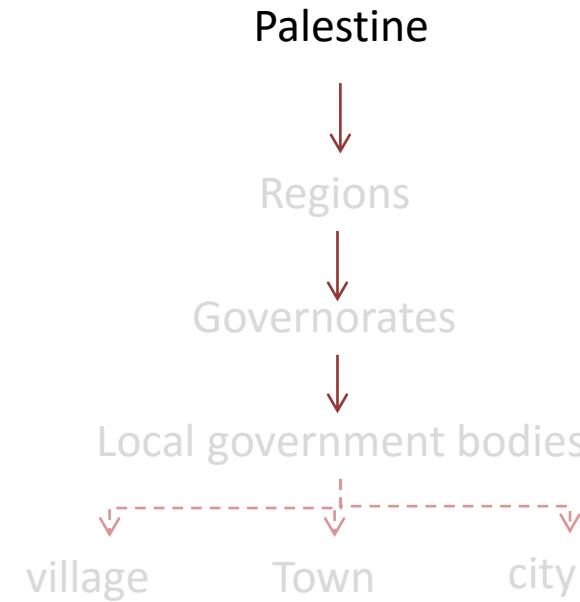
Palestine : Palestine is divided into two place
(Gaza Strip and West Bank)
Institution : Palestinian authority

Size : 6020 km2
         5655 km2 (West Bank)
          365   km2 (Gaza Strip)
POP : 4,680,000
         2,862,485 (West Bank)
         1,819,982 (Gaza Strip)
Density: 777.8 hab/km2

Administrative division

Palestine

↓

Regions

↓

Governorates

↓

Local government bodies

village   Town   city
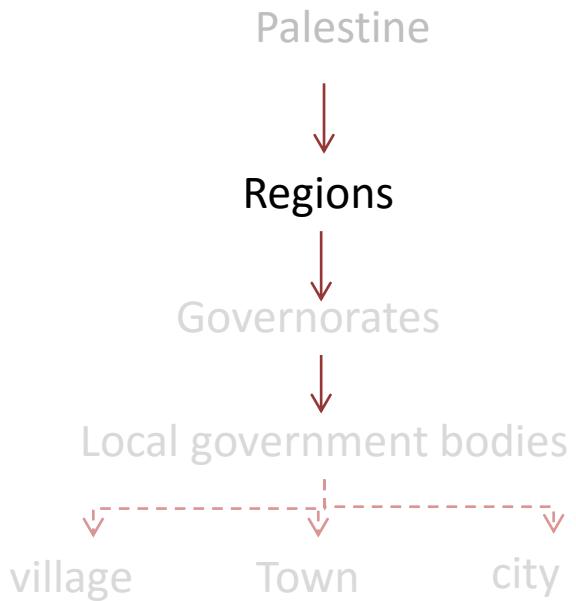
REGIN: Palestine is divided into four
reigns (three in West Bank and one in Gaza Strip)
Responsibility : economic , development ,
Administration
Institution : Region authority

NORTHERN REGION
Size : 223 km2
POP : 372,692 hap
Density: 1671.26 hab/km2

Map labels: N, MEDETARIAN SEA, THE COSTEL REGION, NORTHERN REGION, MIDDLE REGION, SOUTHERN REGION, Jordan, Dead Sea

Administrative division

Palestine

↓

Regions

↓

Governorates

↓

Local government bodies

village   Town   city
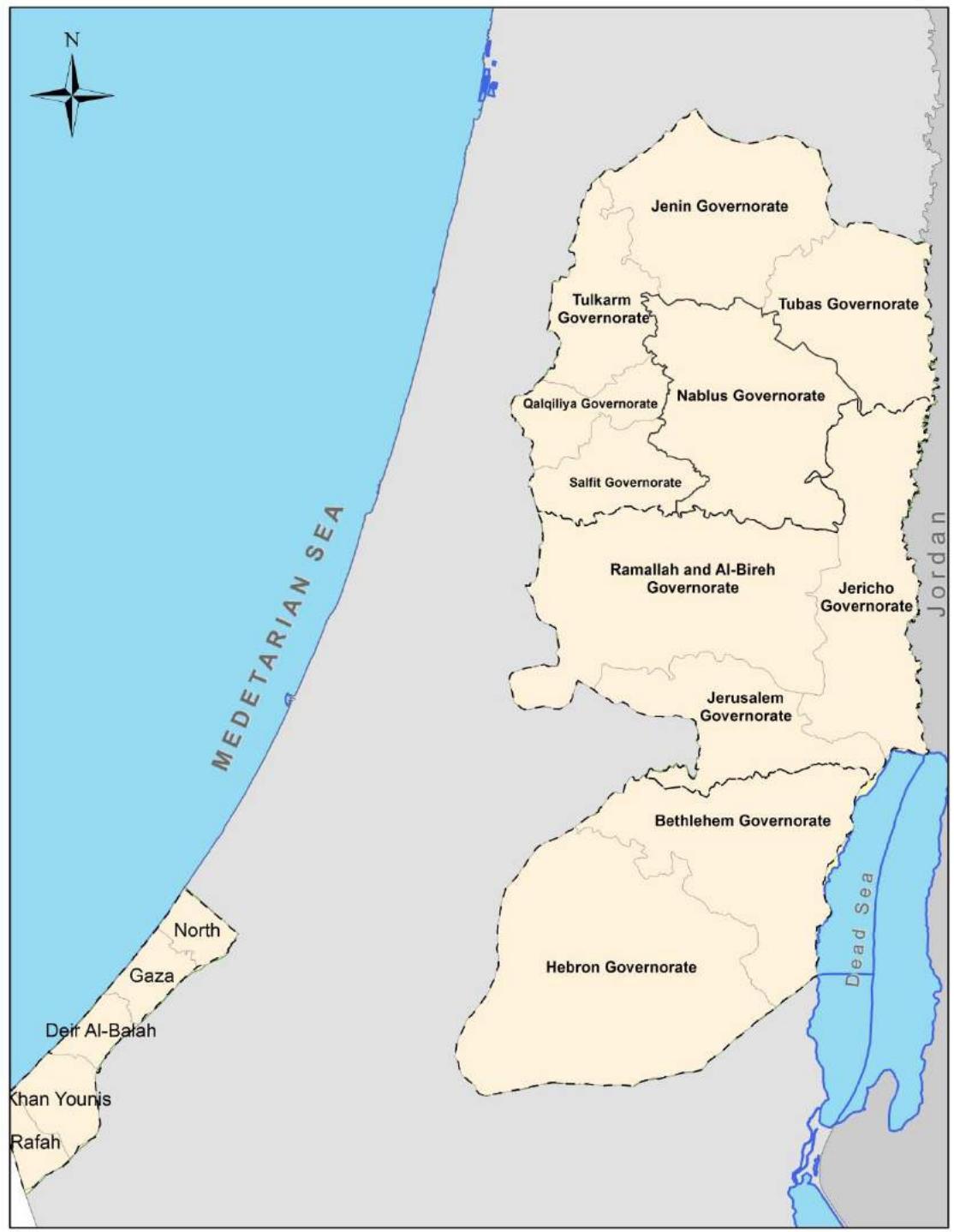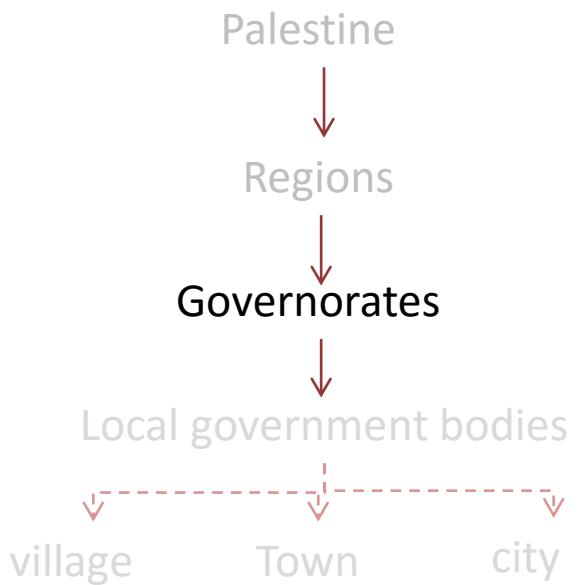
Governorate: there is 16 - governorate in Palestine distribute as 11 in west bank and 4 in Gaza strip.
Responsibility : security , development
Institution : Governorate authority

NABLUS GOVERNORATE
Size:605 km2
POP :380,961 hap
Density : 530 hab/km2

Administrative division

Palestine

↓

Regions

↓

Governorates

↓

Local government bodies
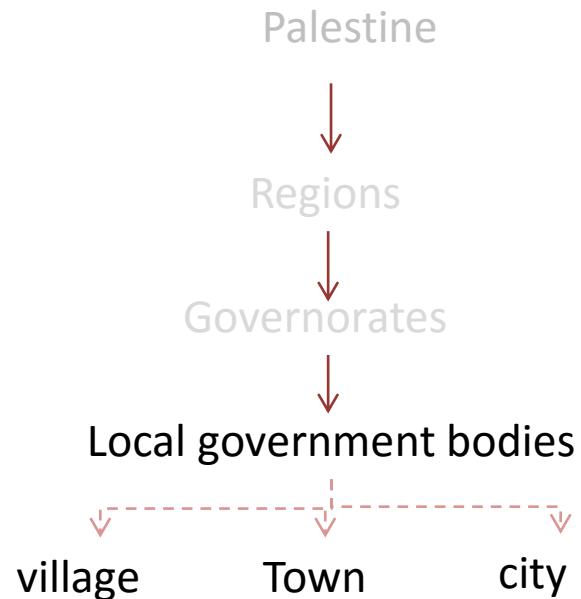
village   Town   city

Local Government: the local government (village, town or city) is consider as municipality and common council
Responsibility: Planning, Economic development , services

IN NABLUS GOVERNORATE
Local government NO: 61
Institution : municipal council , village council

Map labels:

Jenin Governorate
Tubas Governorate
Jericho
Salfit Governorate
Ramallah and Al-Bireh

Bala, El Attara, Kafr Qumman, Silat adh Dhahr, Al Fandaqumiya, Jaba, Siris, Tubas, Buzariya, Burqa, Beit Umrin, Yasid, Sabastiya, Nisf Jubeil, Ramin, Ijnisinya, Bei Lid, En Naqura, Asira esh Shamaliya, Deir Sharaf, Talluza, Kafr Qaddum, Zawata, Qusin, Beit Iba, Azzmut, Beit Wazan, Rafidiya, Askar, Deir al Hatab, Nablus City, Tammun, Jit, Sarra, Balata, Salim, Tell, Kafr Qalil, Beit Dajan, Farata, Immatin, Burin, Rujeeb, Madama, Beit Furik, Asira el Qibliya, Awarta, Urif, Yanon, Deir Istiya, Zeita, Hawwara, Einabus, Jammain, Beita, Qira, Marda, Usorin, Aqraba, Yasuf, Qabalan, Yatma, Jurish, Iskaka, Es Sawiya, Talfit, Qusra, Majdal Bani Fadil, Salfit, Ammuriya, Lubban Sharqiya, Kh.Qais, Qaryut, Jalud, Qawein, Sinjil, Duma, Talfit, Tulluns Aiya, El Mughaiyir

Administrative division

Palestine

↓

Regions

↓

Governorates

↓

Local government bodies

village   Town   **city**

Nablus City:

Responsibility : Planning, Economic development , services

Size : 29 km2
POP : 149,772 hab
Density: 5164.5 hab/km2
Authority : Mayor, municipal council

N

Nisf Jubeil

abastiya

En Naqura

Ijnisinya

Asira esh Shamaliya

Zawata

Beit Iba

Beit Wazan

Jit

Rafidiya

NABLUS

Azzm

Askar

Sarra

Balata

Tell

Kafr Qalil

Burin

Rujeeb

Madama

Asira el Qibliya

Awarta

Urif

nablus master plan

Hawwara

1 0.5 0   1 Kilometers

Einabus

Jammain

Beita

In LILLe

France

↓

Regions

↓

Department

↓

Metropolitan

↓

Commune

France : France is newly composed of 13 REGIONS. Each region has an administrative capital. Lille is the capital of a region named HAUTS-DE-FRANCE

Institutions & Responsabilities

Institutions : Regional council + President

Responsabilities : Economic development, Spatial Planning, High Schools, Vocationnal Training. Etc.

Lille's region :

Population : 5 973 083 hab

Area : 31 813 km2

Density : 190 hab/km2

In LILLe

France

↓

Regions

↓

Department

↓

Metropolitan

↓

Commune

France : France is newly composed of 13 REGIONS. Each region has an administrative capital. Lille is the capital of a region named HAUTS-DE-FRANCE

Institutions & Responsabilities

Institutions : Regional council + President

Responsabilities : Economic development, Spatial Planning, High Schools, Vocationnal Training. Etc.

Lille's region :

Population : 5 973 083 hab

Area : 31 813 km2

Density : 190 hab/km2

In LILLe

France

↓

Regions

↓

Department

↓

Metropolitan

↓

Commune

DEPARTMANT: Lille's region, HAUTS-DE-FRANCE, is divided in 5 DEPARTEMENTS. Lille's DEPARTEMENT is called NORD. Lille is the capital of the NORD

Institutions & Responsabilities

Institutions : Departmental council + President

Responsabilities : Social fileds, Schools, Roads. Etc.

Nord

Population : 2 587 128 hab

Area : 5743 km2

Density : 450 hab/km2

MODEFI THE MAP

In LILLe

Administrative division

France

↓

Regions

↓

Department

↓
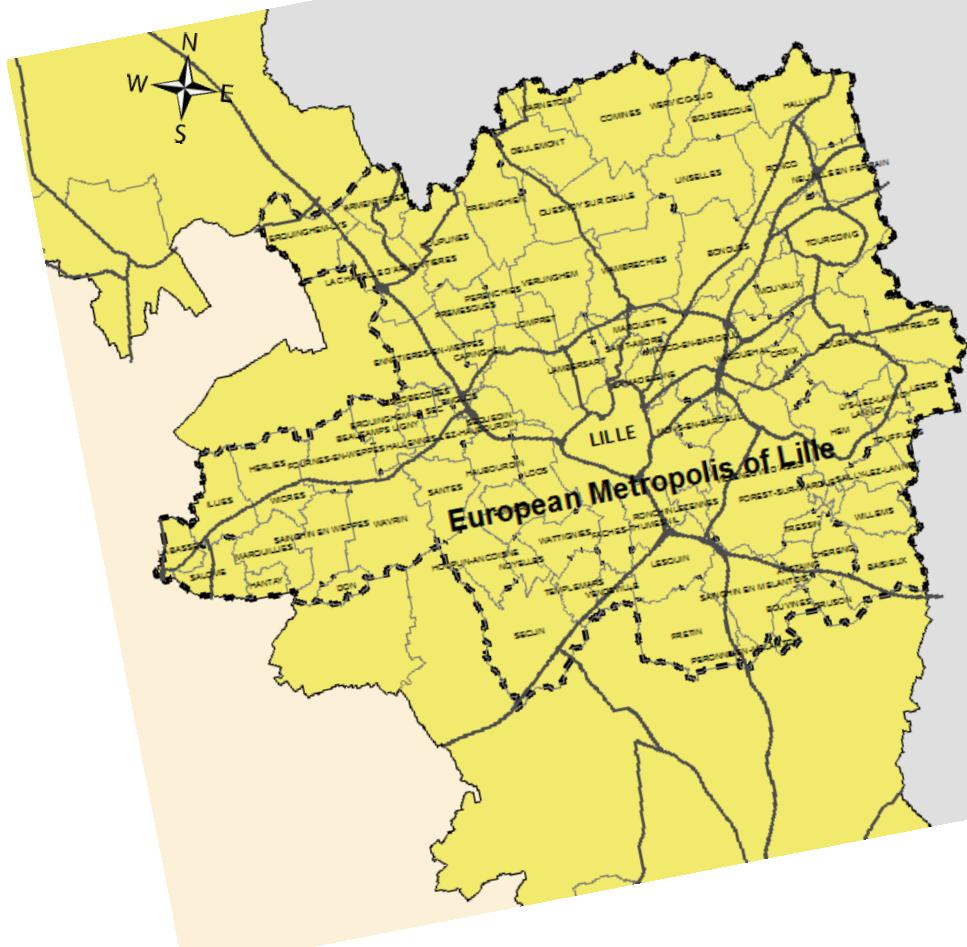
Metropolitan

↓

Commune

Presentation :

The metropolis of Lille is an intercommunal structure founded in 1967 and gathering 85 COMMUNES.
The city of Lille is the historical centre of this metropolis

Institutions & Responsabilities

Institutions : Intercommunal council + President

Responsabilities : Planning, Economic development, Housing policies, Environment, Public Transportations Etc.

Metropolis of Lille :
Population : 1 119 877 hab
Area : 611 km2
Density : 1831 hab/km2

MODEFI THE MAP

In LILLe

Administrative division

France

↓

Regions

↓

Department

↓
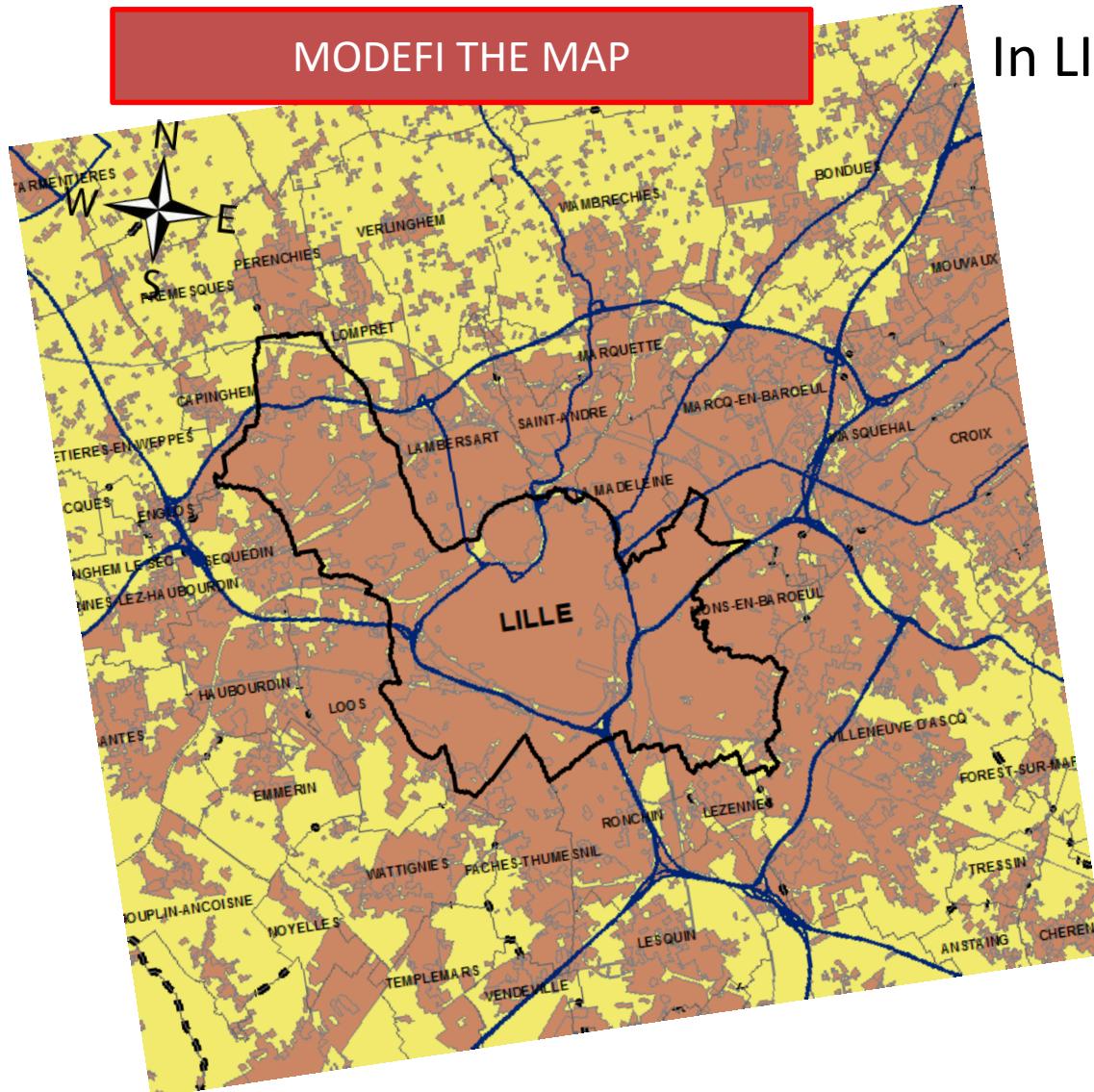
Metropolitan

↓

Commune

CITY of Lille : Lille is a city composed of 10 neighborhood (« *Quartiers* »)

Institutions & Responsabilities

Institutions : Municipal council + Mayor

Responsabilities : Urban Planning, Land Regulation, Heritage Preservation. Etc.

City of Lille
Population : 231 491 hab
Area : 34,83 km2
Density : 6 646 hab/km2

Compare Between Palestine and France
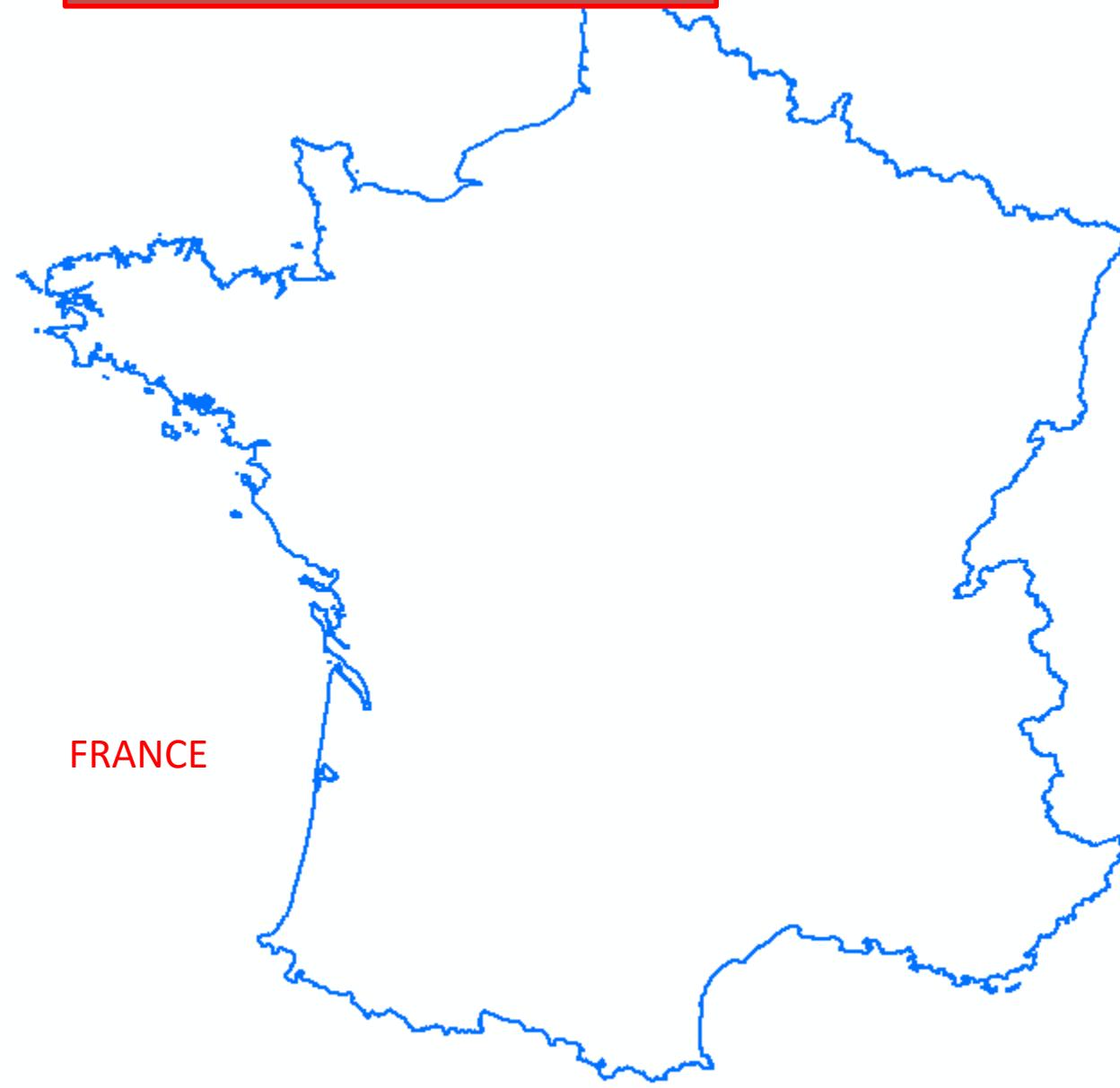
Region

Department

Metropolitan area

Lille City

FRANCE

1:6,000,000 km

re Between Palestine and France

Regional

Governorate

Nablus City

PALESTINE

1:6,000,000 km

SDP (strategic development plan) :

Medium-term Action Plan **(4 years)** development strategy adopted in accordance with the development vision and main strategic objectives for the local community, including the development issues which have priority and development vision , also include the goals ,projects proposed , spatial dimension of the projects and a plan of implementation, monitoring and evaluation

Goals of making SDP

Main Goal : contribute to the development of the reality and future of the local government bodies , improve the services provided to citizens, apply the principle of good governance in local government bodies

Sub-Goal: exploit opportunities and minimize the impact of threats , get the future perceptions by knowing the possibilities and obstacles facing the development of the community

Responsibility :

The local bodies, in collaboration with concerned parties (teams and committees) and under the guidance of the Ministry of Local Government

teams and Committees

➢ **Main planning team**

The formation of this team is beginning before starting the planning process,

Main tasks :the main planning team is who will take responsibility for leading the strategic development planning process and management,

Responsible for preparation : local body (municipal council)Professionals

The members:
- Team Coordinator
- Managers of municipality departments
- Rapporteur of the Strategic Planning Committee (Board Member)
- Experts
- Professionals from the city

➢ **Working specialized Committees**
➢ **The Strategic Planning Committee**
➢ **representatives of stakeholders Committee**
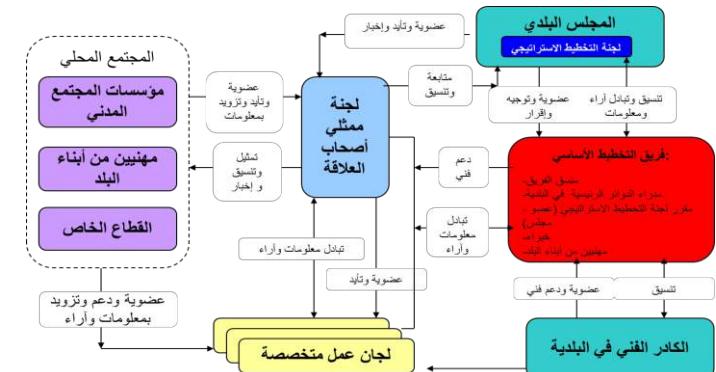
Elaboration of strategic development plan

1 Initialization and prepare
2 Analysis the stakeholders
3 Diagnosis the existing situation
4 Identify community priorities
5 Determining vision and goals
6 Identification and characterization projects
7 Put the implementation and monitoring plan
8 Prepare plan document and achieve its legitimacy
9 Preparations for implementation
10 Build partnership and mobilize resources
11 evaluation
12 Modification and update

First stage
Where are we now ?
Organize and analyze

Second stage
Where we want to go ?
Strategic development framework

Third stage
How do we reach ?
Strategic plan

Fourth stage
What bring us ?
implementation mechanisms

Fifth stage
Did we arrive?
Evaluation and update

Strategic and Master plan relationship

The process of making strategic plan comes before making the master plan , for each master plan that least for 16 years ,it have 4 strategic plan each 4 years

The strategic plan shows the all future projects in 4 years according to the priority .
The first SDP for Nablus city have prepared for (2012-2015)

Nablus Vision 2012-2015

" Nablus, the capital of the economy, education incubator, Homeland of the steadfastness, and title of authenticity "

In the strategic plan the vision is expressed by statement that show the future of the city , The Nablus city vision is focusing in develop the economy

PLANNING LEVELS

National Level

Great principles of Spatial and Urban planning
Urban Planning National Regulation (*RNU*)
Coast and Mountains Laws . etc…

↓

Regional Level

+ *SRADDET* : Regional strategic schema
Various regulations about Water, Agriculture, Environnement, national parks. etc.

↓

Intercommunal Level

SCOT : Strategic plan = Strategic orientations in urban policies (public transportations, public infrastructure, housing, economic development. etc.)

↓

City Level

PLUi : Master Plan = govern the land use + include master plan of Public transportation policy (*PDU*) and Housing policy (*PLH*)

↓

Urban Projects + Building permits

SCOT : the cornerstone of the strategic planning

It is supposed to **coordinate the various public policies concerning the spatial and urban planning** (housing, transportations, amenities, economic developement, shops. etc) for the next **15-20 years**.

It has been recently strenghten and designated as the tool for the **sustainable development** of the french cities.

The SCOT of Lille is currently under way. It is elaborated by a special organisation, made up of 4 intercommunal councils. Each intercommunal council chose some Delegate. Those Delegate compose a Comittee. This Committee is the deliberative body which will eventually adopt the SCOT.

The city of Lille is represented by the Metropolitan authority in the organisation which is in charge of the SCOT.

ELABORATION OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN

Public Consultation *From a simple public meeting to a real work with members of the civil society (inhabitants, associations. etc.)*

Collaboration & Consultation *Some partners have to be included to the process (central state, région, département, Chamber of commerce. etc.)*

"Draft" of the Strategic Plan & Debate *within the Council and with the different partners*

Public inquiry *Around 1 month but can lead to the modification of the draft*

Final adoption of the Strategic Plan

Between 4 and 6 years

"PLUi" MASTER PLAN : Local regulations on land use + Urban Projects

The « local land-use plan », designed at the metropolitan level, contains:

- General policy objectives such as urban renewal rather than greenfield extensions, mixed income neighborhoods, land reserves for infrastructure, modal split, heritage sites, risk management, green belts, protection of natural resources

- A zoning plan

- Zoning rules

- Additional reserves, servitudes and easements

- Recommendations for urban quality

+ The PLUi is also designed by the law to contain the urban projects of the city or metropolitan area. In that way, the Master Plan is composed of various materials, but some have to be very precise about the concrete commitments of the local authority in terms of urban policies. For instead, both master plans for Housing policy and Public Transportation policy are included in the PLUi.

ELABORATION OF THE MASTER PLAN

At the intercommunal OR city scale & In cooperation with : the central state, région, département, Chamber of Commerce

+   are being consulted : Associations, Inhabitants, Representative of disabled people. etc.

"Draft" of the Master Plan & Debate *within the Council and with the different partners*

Public inquiry *Around 1 month*

Final adoption of the Master Plan

Between 18 and 24 months

The Great Urban Project of Lille : The political vision of the future of Lille

The GUP of Lille was established in 2004 by the Mayor of Lille, Martine Aubry, and the Urban planning department of the Municipality.

Its purpose is to describe the political vision the Municipality has for the future of Lille. Here we say "political" in the sense that the very aim of the GUP is to improve the interaction between people within the City. That is, the fundamental role of Politics. And Lille was at that time in a cruel need of politics.

Indeed, Lille has been strike for decades by decline : economic, demographic, social, cultural. Only since the 80's and the smart policies conducted by the former Mayor and prime Minister of France, Pierre Mauroy, Lille has turned over a new leaf. Massive investments in public infrastructure were made. The best illustration is Lille's CBD Euralille. More investments were then successfully completed in various fields : culture, housing, new technologies, health. etc. As a result Lille started to "reborn" as a city able to provide a future to its inhabitants, and first of all to its youth.

But, then, the next step was obviously to start thinking about the way the people of Lille would now live within this "new Lille". Not an easy work for a city that had lost the "sense of the city", after decades of harsh times and franckly disastrous national urban planning approaches.

Martine Aubry, the mayor of Lille, says the aim of the GPU is first to "rebuilt a city" as the space of social link, citizenship, democracy and culture. The exact opposite is what the former urban policies have lead the french cities to : social segregation, zoning, urban sprawl. etc. The Municipality wanted then to build a city of Lille where everybody feels well, confident, free to live as he wants and happy to live with each other.

In order to reach this ambitious objective, the Municipality developed a strategy containing 3 major axes :

1) **Build the city starting from its various neighborhood ("Quartiers")**

The neighborhood are indeed the place where you first live, get to know each other, build your citizenship. etc. The keywords for the neighborhood of Lille would now be : social diversity, rich amenities, decent housing for everybody, density and sustainable development. In other word : Quality of Life within each neighborhood.

2) **Link the people and the spaces**

What induce : Good public or unbuilt spaces, Efficient public transportation, Ways for strolls and bike rides. etc.

3) **Preserve and enhance the heritage of Lille while building the future one**

Here are expected Urban or architectural creativity, Urban renewal, Ambitious urban projects. etc.

Also, the GPU was the opportunity to present and implement a new method of practicing Urban planning : the urban project itself. That means an evolving, iterative and collective project/construction; including many actors and trying to work closer to the inhabitants.

Both the political vision and the method are required for the GPU to succeed. Both are the condition of a more human and liveable city, creative and getting richer to the benefit of all.

APPENDICE 2

MAKING A SPACE MORE USABLE

According to Jan Gehl, if a space makes it attractive to walk, stand, sit, talk, see and hear things, then a broad spectrum of other activities (games, sports, community activities…) will have a basis for development. Therefore, we have chosen to study how the design of open spaces can integrate and incite people to walk, stand, sit, talk, see and hear things. The tolerance and demands for space vary a lot from person to person, within groups of people and from situation to situation so they need to be identified for each space. Special demands for space are also required for the wheeled walking traffic, this includes wheelchairs, baby carriages and strollers, etc.

WALKING

• Firstly, in order for people to walk in a space there needs to be enough **room to walk.** This means that there needs to be enough room for people to walk freely without being disturbed, pushed or having to maneuver too much. Also, the spaces need to be sufficiently narrow and rich in experiences, yet still wide enough to allow room to maneuver.

• There is also the question of density in streets. An acceptable **density in streets** and on sidewalks with two-way pedestrian traffic is around 10 to 15 persons per minute per meter of street width. If the density is increased any further, the pedestrian traffic tends to divide into two parallel opposite lanes, the freedom of movement is more or less lost and people no longer meet but walk behind one another in ranks.

• Because walking is a tiring activity, the **walking distances** that people are willing to do has to be taken into consideration when designing spaces. In ordinary daily situations, for most people an acceptable walking distance is around 400 to 500 meters, and even less for children, old and disabled people. However, the physical walking distance is different from the experienced distance, so if a route is rich in experiences and perceived in stages it will be experienced as a short distance to people as opposed to a straight dull path of the same physical distance.

• Pedestrian traffic is also sensible to the **paving materials and street surface conditions.** Cobblestones, sand, loose gravel and uneven ground surfaces are usually unsuitable, especially for people with walking difficulties. People also tend to avoid wet and slippery pavements, water, mud, snow and slush whenever possible.

8.5 meters sidewalks on the rue Faidherbe

1 meter sidewalks on the rue Basse

Crowded Place Rihour (source: www.blog.sejourning.com)

Less crowded Place Rihour

Paving materials on the Grand Place and in the Vieux-Lille (source: www.lavoixdunord.fr)

STANDING

To start off, we will try to see the **possible reasons why people will stand in an open space**. People can stop for a moment, for example to look at something or to fix something... These are very brief stops that are not influenced by the physical environment, they will stop for these things anywhere. People can stop to talk to someone they met in the space they are in, in this case the physical environment plays a role in the situation, if the space is comfortable for pedestrians, then the conversation will most likely last longer than it would have in an uncomfortable setting. People can also stand for a while, they could be waiting for someone or something or just enjoying the surroundings, this situation is very dependent on the physical environment because people will need to find a good place to stand.

Another popular zone for staying in an open space is one where there is a **half-shade,** this provides the opportunity to be partly hidden in the shade and feeling some kind of protection while still being able to watch the space. Some furnishings like awnings or sunshades can be used for this.

source : www.idgraphique.fr

People will also usually stand next to some kind of **supports** like walls, corners, columns, trees, street lamps... But the reason why people do this is not just to have something to lean against, it's being next to something instead of in the middle of nothing that makes people feel a certain safety. Also, cities that have irregular facades that offer different kind of supports (niches, holes, stairs...) will usually have more people staying outside.

Man waiting in front of the Gare Lille Flandre, in Lille

SITTING

In order for people to want to sit in a space, there must be **good opportunities for sitting.** These good opportunities for sitting can pave the way to various prime attractions in public spaces like eating, reading, knitting, sunbathing, talking, people watching... People are usually a lot more careful when choosing a place to sit than for finding a place to stand, good places to seat are generally where the external conditions are favorable.

As for standing in an open space, when it comes to sitting the **edge-effect** is a key element for similar reasons.

When designing a space, the **placement of seating** furniture must be done according to an analysis of the spatial and functional quality of the space. Benches should be placed in a "small place" within the space that offers intimacy, security, a good orientation and view and possibly a good microclimate.

We can distinguish two types of seating, the first one is the **primary seating** which consists mainly of benched and chairs. This type of seating is provided for the more demanding categories of users, and partly for situations where the need for sitting is limited.

Benche on the Republic Square, in Lille

The other type of seating is the **secondary seating** which consists of multipurpose furnishings or objects whose main purpose is not for seating but can be also used for that matter, for example stairways, pedestals, low walls, steps, fountains... This type of seating is provided essentially for children and young people and are needed for places where the demand for seating is particularly great.

In most cities, there is also a considerable need for benches for people to rest on, especially cities with a high percentage of old people. Benches should be placed at regular intervals (every 100 meters) throughout the city.

People sitting on a low wall on the République square and on the stairs of the Opera, in Lille

SEEING, HEARING AND TALKING

• What we **see** plays an important part when choosing to stay in a place.

In order to have a good distance between the observers and the objects, it's important to dimension large public spaces so that the borders of the space correspond to the limits of the social fields of vision which are 20-25 meters for the maximum distance for seeing facial expressions, and 70-100 meters for the maximum distance for seeing events. Public spaces that take these distances into consideration generally have a good social context. Also, the field of vision and overview of a space needs to be interesting for it's users, so unobstructing sight lines are recommended.

In order for a space to function well in periods of darkness, lighting is essential for pedestrian areas and should be ample and well directed at all times (towards the faces, the walls, the street signs…).

• Whether people will have a conversation or not in a place is greatly influenced by what you can **hear** in this space.

Hearing people and music is valuable and important for the general ambiance of the space and for the physical and psychological well-being of people. However, when the background noises are too high (over 60 dB), which is usually the case in spaces with mixed traffic, it is nearly impossible to have an ordinary conversation without having to raise your voice or having to be too close to the person you are talking to. Ideally, background noises should be between 40 to 50 dB for people to hear most of the other sounds in the space (voices, footsteps…) and for being able to hold a conversation.

• Another important part of open spaces is to have opportunities for **talking** with other people. Generally, we can find three types of conversations.

–   The first one is talking with people one is accompanying, this type of conversation takes place while walking, standing or sitting and isn't really influenced by the physical environment besides the noise level.

–   The second one is talking with acquaintances one meets, this type of conversation will take place regardless of the physical environment, but the conversation may last longer is the space is comfortable.

–   The last type of conversation is talking with strangers, this type of conversation usually happens when the people are feeling at ease, therefore it is greatly influenced by the physical environment. The design of places to sit and to stand in a space can definitely facilitate the creation of opportunities for conversation between acquaintances and also between strangers.
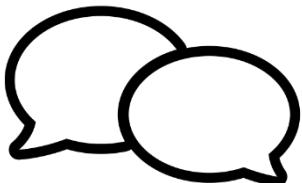
APPENDICE 3

Through this part, we want to feel the temporality of spaces. In fact, we understand that a space can have several uses and functions according to the time, like daily, weekly or even yearly beside the regulations that affect the uses. This show how the people live together. It's necessary to understand how the temporality in varied rhythm society is working. In order to know how the people of different life style use the space. The way of use will be varied cause the needs and rhythm of work and leisure of people are different according to gender , age, and social class . People don't use the public and unbuilt spaces in the same way. Understand behaviors allow us to understand the way we have to build and manage public spaces in order to help people with different life style to cohabitated together. Success in crossing all the rhythm will bring people to support themselves , their differences and density .

Methodology
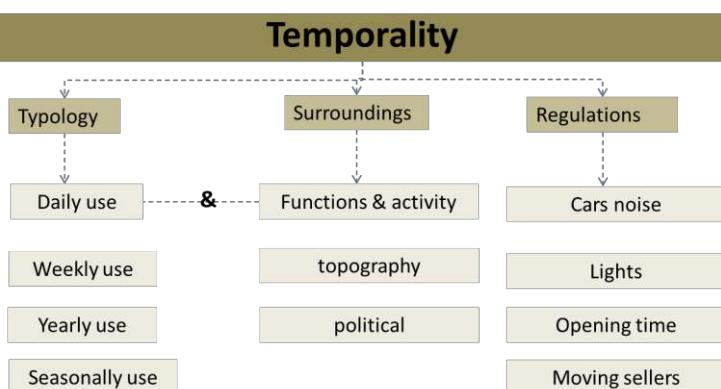

We study the temporality of open space In Nablus and Lille city , we choose city center open space in Nablus , and define how people use the open space according to the time (daily use) .

- **TYPOLOGY – DAILY USE**

AT Morning

Cars movement
People concentration
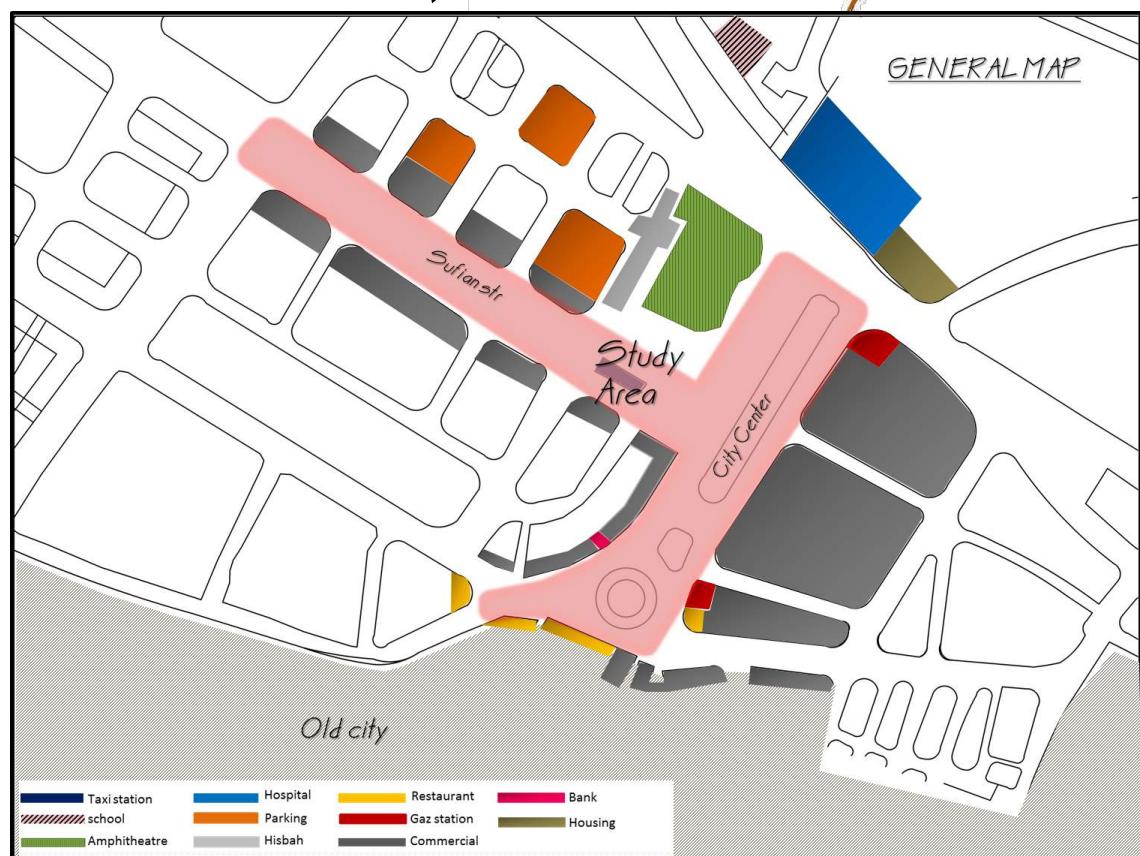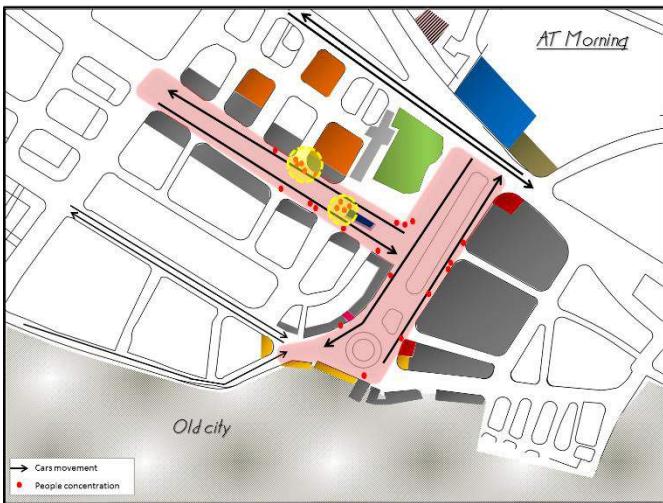
In the morning the pedestrian movements are concentrated near taxi station in order to go to their university and jobs , beside the movement of the cars are not high .

At Midday

Cars movement
People concentration
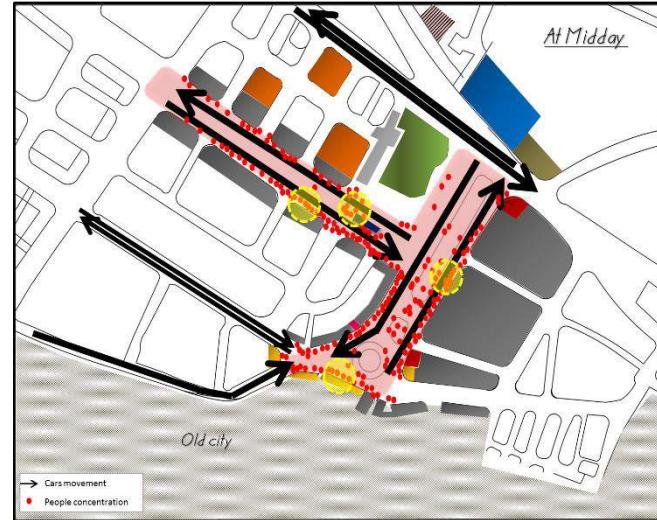
In the midday the people leave their jobs, schools and some students of the university, so the pedestrian movements are concentrated near taxi station and Nablus commercial center (moal) also near restaurant and shops in order to shopping , meet each other and go to the home beside the movement of the cars are so high in this time of the day , it consider as a peak hour.

AT Afternoon

Cars movement
People concentration
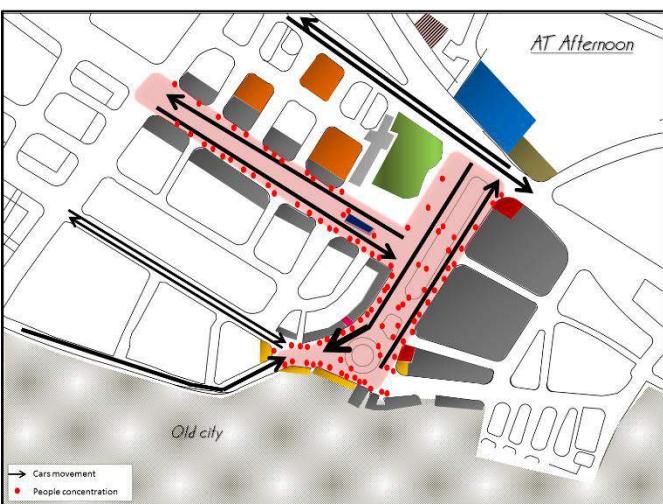
At the afternoon this open space has less movement than midday cause the most of people went to their home but still some of them making shopping or walk in this open space . the pedestrian movements are not concentrated near a clear place and the movement of the cars are so moderate.

At Evening

Cars movement
People concentration
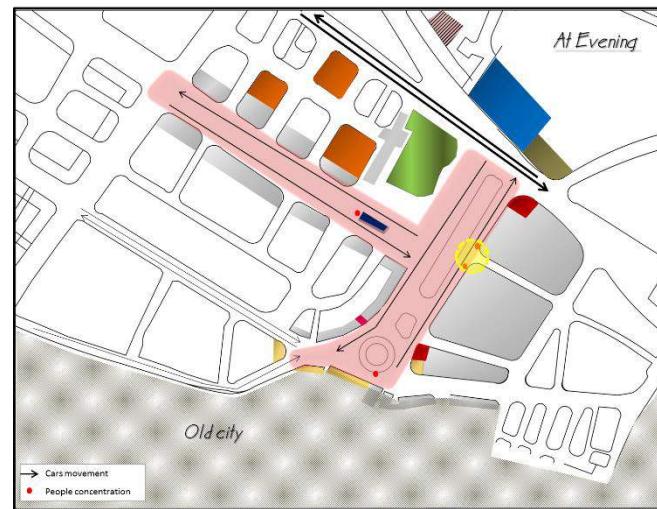
At the evening the open space looks like empty space specially in winter , all of the shops close and there is almost no people their except some boys walk or set near Nablus commercial center , so the movement of pedestrian and cars are less than other time of the day . But in summer we can see a lot of people walk near the commercial center and the roundabout .

10H00

12H00

17H00

20H00

This picture series of Jean Baptiste Lebas in Lille show how the people use the place in deferent time of the day .

APPENDICE 4

Permeability

The permeability of spaces is determined by the possibility of enter a space physically or by the look.

Several elements can be used to regulate the permeability (slide 2).

Their aim can be:
- Ease the identification of the border between spaces with different functions (mobility, leisure, play...) or ownership.
- Control the entrance or the possibility to look or perceive a space.

The choice of elements to regulate the permeability can have an impact for example on:
- The degree of intimacy of spaces in particularly private spaces
- The livability of the street according to the possibility to have interaction between other spaces in particularly private spaces (Cf : Soulier, 2012)
- The feel of safety in public spaces according to the possibility for the inhabitants or other users to watch theses spaces (Cf : Jane Jacobs)
- The understanding of the organization of a space

We can define different types of un-build spaces according to their degree of permeability (cf: l'IAURP, 1971):

Un-built spaces
- Space perceptible
  - Space visible
    - **Space accessible**: Possibility to enter physically this space.
    - **Space visible but non-accessible:** Possibility to look this space but not enter.
  - **Space perceptible but non-visible:** Possibility to guess the existence and the size of the space but not to see it completely.
- **Space non-perceptible:** Impossibility to guess the existence and the size of the space.

High Permeability → Low Permeability

Is the space **accessible**?

Yes

What makes it accessible?
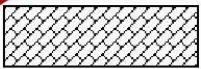
Texture

Contrast

Columns
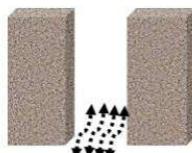
Cubes
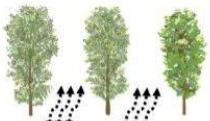
Trees
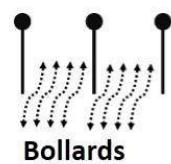
Bollards
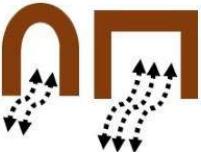
Entrances
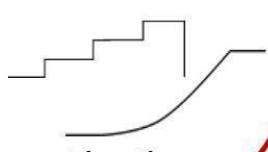
Elevation

What makes it visible?

Fences

Chains

Water

Short wall

Sign

bush

No

Is it **visible**?

Yes

No

Is it **perceptible**?

Yes

No
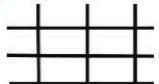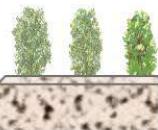
What makes it perceptible?

Tall wall

Big hedge

Interior space

Study site in Lille and Nablus

Area near Jamal Abd Al-Naser park
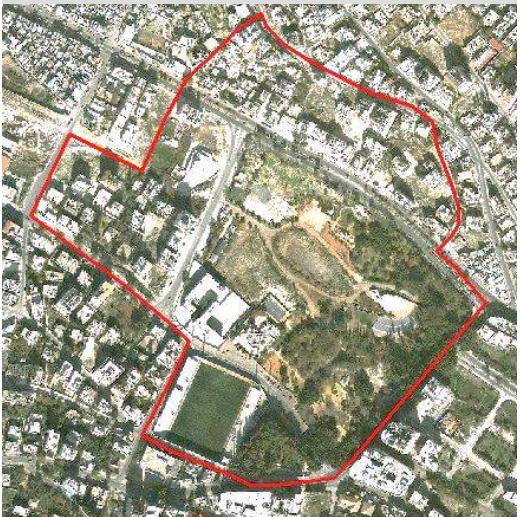
Area in between the district of Vauban and Wazemmes
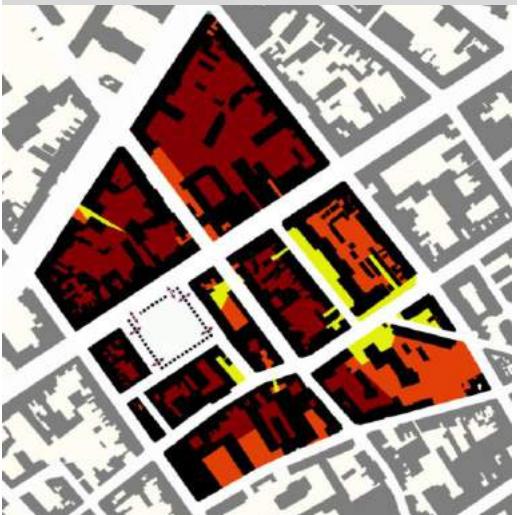
We chose two different areas in Nablus and Lille to study how this elements can be used to regulate the permeability and how perceptible, visible, and accessible places can be laid out. We chose neighborhood with accommodations and different types of public spaces (street, park) in the proximity of the city center.
The study of permeability of spaces is based from the point of view of a pedestrian.

Study area-Lille

Study area-Nablus

Legend

⬜	**Accessible spaces**
‧‧‧‧‧	**Elements restricted the access**
🟨	**Visible spaces non accessible by everybody**
🟧	**Perceptible spaces non visible**
🟥	**Non built spaces and non perceptible**
⬛	**Built spaces**
↔	**Accesses of the park**

Example of accessible, visible or perceptible spaces in Lille.

Private gardens and car parks hide by the surrounded buildings

On the left, there is no visible space that the pedestrian can't enter. The houses are aligned with the street. On the right a small wall topped with fence block the entrance to the yard of the high buildings but not the view.

Visible space

Accessible space

Street | Collective spaces | Private terrace
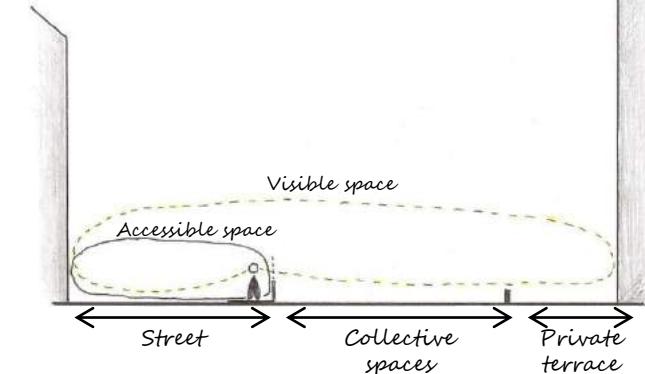
The wall and the gate block the view to the un-built spaces but the organization of the building give an idea of the size of the courtyard.
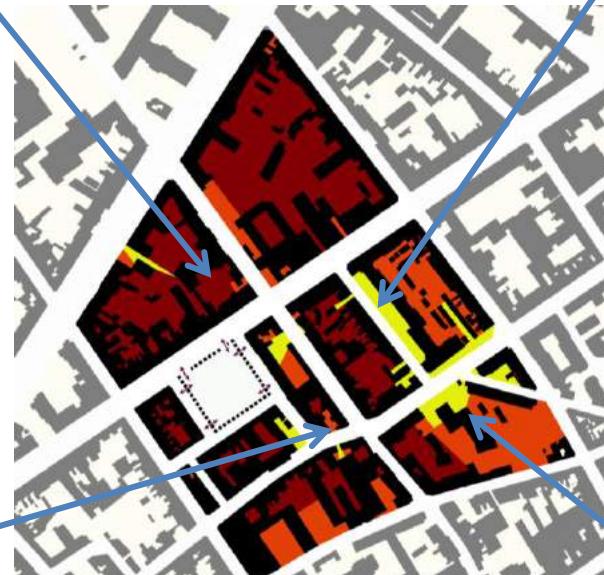
The courtyard in front of the building of this nursing house is visible. But the back of the yard is only perceptible, given more intimacy to the residents.
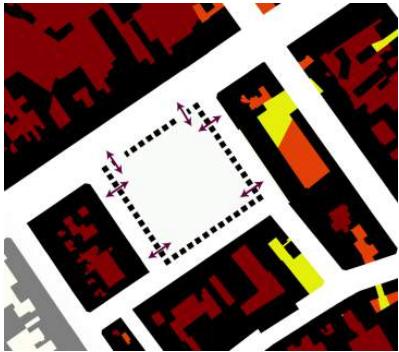
The same space but not the same permeability from every side

The garden of the square Philippe de Girard is an accessible and visible space. But the square is more visible from the main street rue Nationnale than the three other sides. The garden is only separated from the main street by flowers. Several and higher elements separate the garden from the other streets. On the back of the garden lay the playground area surrounded by short fences.

Short wall
Bush   Trees   Fences
Flowers

Street
12m

Playground
6m

Garden
58m

Main Street : Rue Nationnale
20m
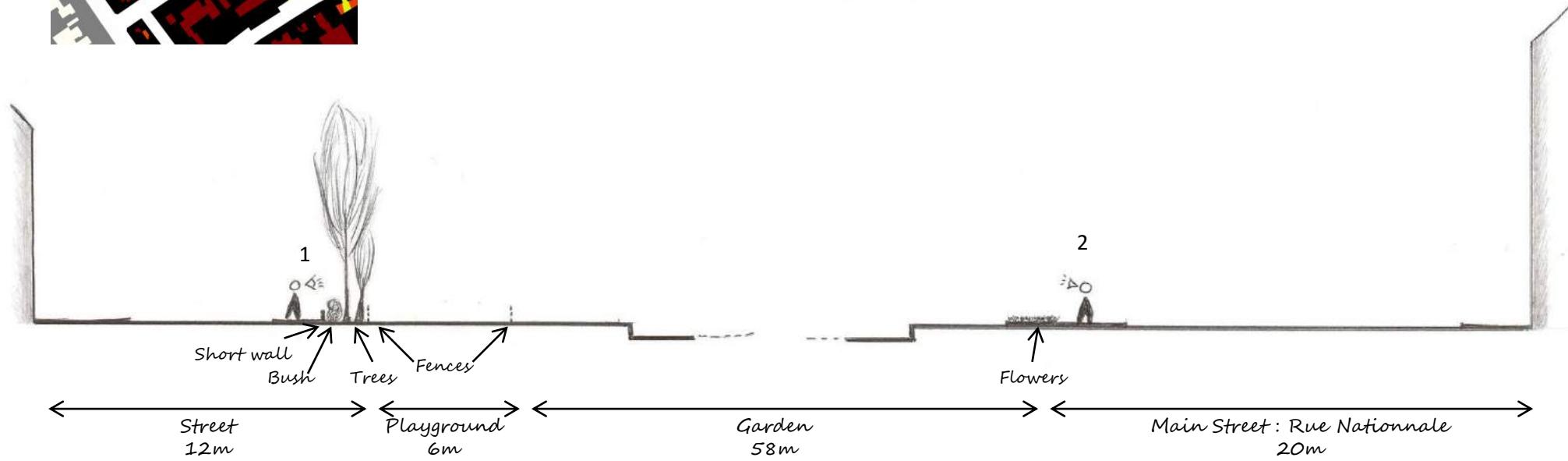
**Visible spaces but surrounding by high wall :
how is it possible in Nablus ?**
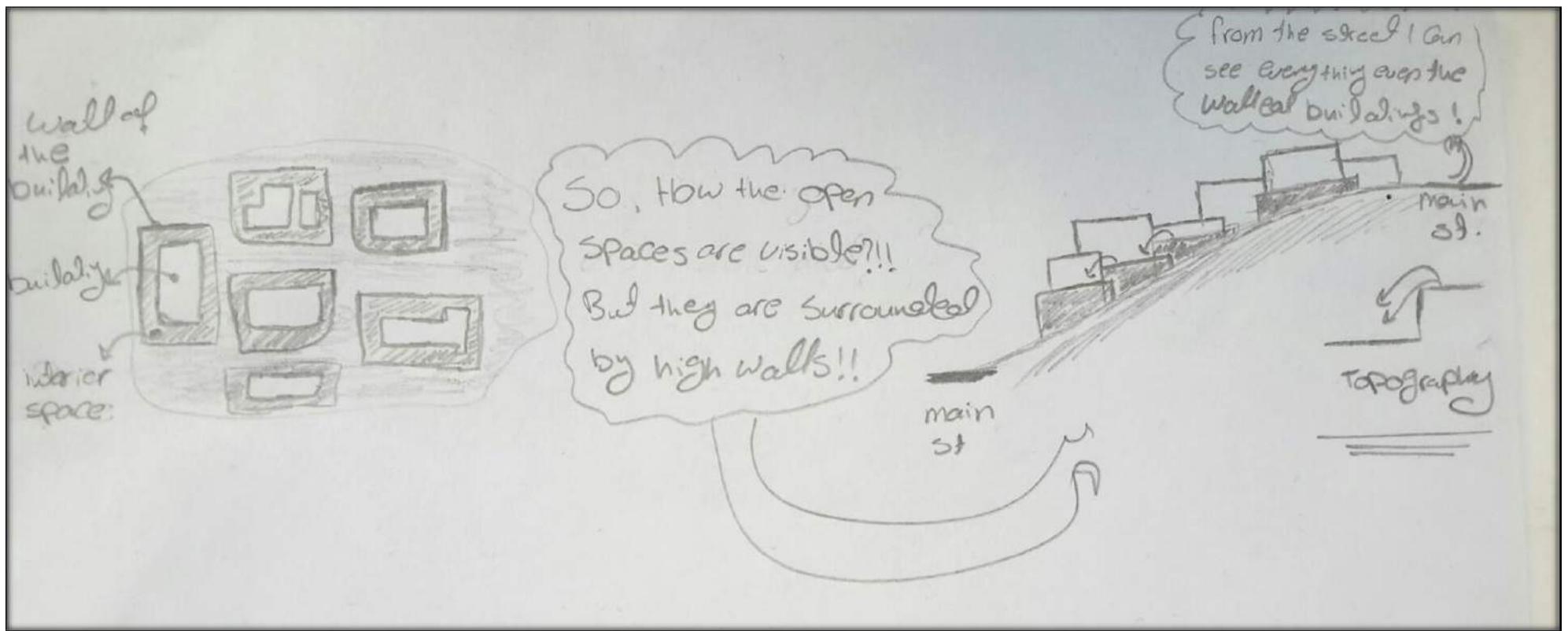
Park Development Project in Nablus City:

1- Gender:
- Male
- Female

2- Age:
- Less than 18
- 18-25
- 26-35
- More than 35

3- Do you live in Nablus city?
- Yes
- No

4- Do you thing that there are enough parks in Nablus city?
- Yes
- No

5- How often do you go to the public parks in Nablus city?
- Never
- Sometimes
- Always

6- Did you hear before about Tal Balata Archaeological park?
- Yes
- No

7- Did you visit Tal Balata Archaeological Park?
- Yes
- No

8- Do you go usually to the eastern part of Nablus City?
- Yes
- No

9- Why do you go to the eastern part of Nablus city?
- I work there
- I study there
- I live there
- I go to do some official papers (ministry of interior and insurance companies and Banks….)
- I go to visit child Happiness park
- Other reasons …….

10- If you don't go the eastern part of the city, why?

……………………………………………………………………………………

11- If there was a beautiful park in the eastern part of the city, would you go ?
- Yes
- No

12- If you would not go, why?

13- **Park elements and components – classify according to the importance**

	Less importance	1	2	3	4	5	More importance
Places to sit and relax	Less importance	1	2	3	4	5	More importance
Places for playgrounds and different sports	Less importance	1	2	3	4	5	More importance
Areas for children playing	Less importance	1	2	3	4	5	More importance
Places to walk and run	Less importance	1	2	3	4	5	More importance
Places for eating	Less importance	1	2	3	4	5	More importance
Cultural centre	Less importance	1	2	3	4	5	More importance
Exhibition	Less importance	1	2	3	4	5	More importance

14- If you have any other elements, you want to be in a park please write it here:

15- If you have any comment, opinion or something you want to say please write it here:

Survey results:

The number of people who answered the survey are 295 persons.

1- Gender:

Male	67.4%
Female	32.6%

2- Age:

Less than 18	9.5%
18-25	56.3%
26-35	23.2%
More than 35	10.9%

3- Do you live in Nablus city?

yes	88.8%
no	11.2%

4- Do you thing there are enough parks in Nablus?

yes	4.2%
no	95.8%

5- How often do you go to the public parks in Nablus city?

Never	18.2%
Sometimes	71.9%
Always	9.8%

6- Did you hear before about Tal Balata Archaeological park?

yes	45.6%
no	54.4%

7- Did you visit Tal Balata Archaeological Park?

yes	18.9%
no	81.1%

8- Do you go usually to the eastern part of Nablus City?

yes	18.9%
no	81.1%

9- Why do you go to the eastern part of Nablus city?

I work there	7.7%
I study there	5.6%
I live there	19.7%
I go to do some official papers	40.6%
I go to visit child Happiness park	18.4%
Other reasons	20.5%

10- If you don't go the eastern part of the city, why?

It's very far	It's not beautiful area
No vital services there	I don't have time
There are no attractions	Neglected area
I don't have work there	No security there
There are no reason to go	Poor area
Uncomfortable area	The western part is better
There are a lot of problems there	No restaurants or coffee shops

11- If there was a beautiful park there, would you go?

yes	82.2%
no	17.8%

12-If you wouldn't go, why?

It's very far and it's just for the people who live there
There are closer parks
Very noisy area
A lot of fights there between people
It's not in the right place (the park)
It's close to the refugee camps
Uncivilized area
No security there
I don't feel safe with my family there
The guys who live there are Troublemakers
I live in the west part of the city
If it was close to the refugee camps , then they will control the park and it will be just for them.
Polluted area because of the factories
There are no law or regulations there
The municipality don't care about the eastern part of the city
The west part is better

13- Park elements and components – classify according to the importance

Places to sit and relax	Less importance	1	2	3	4	5	More importance
		2.2%	0.4%	14.1%	17.3%	66.1%	
Places for playgrounds and different sports	Less importance	1	2	3	4	5	More importance
		2.2%	6.6%	21.5%	22.6%	47.1%	
Areas for children playing	Less importance	1	2	3	4	5	More importance
		5.8%	5.0%	14.0%	17.3%	57.9%	
Places to walk and run	Less importance	1	2	3	4	5	More importance
		4.3%	6.1%	14.4%	19.4%	55.8%	
Places for eating	Less importance	1	2	3	4	5	More importance
		7.6%	11.6%	22.0%	20.9%	37.9%	
Cultural centre	Less importance	1	2	3	4	5	More importance
		9.2%	12.1%	25.0%	24.3%	29.4%	
Exhibition	Less importance	1	2	3	4	5	More importance
		12.9%	16.2%	29.1%	17.3%	24.5%	

14- If you have any other elements, you want to be in a park please write it here:

Special places for girls and families
Games for children
sea life exhibition
Small shops in the park like sweets shops
Public facilities like bathrooms and places to pray
Security centre to put out the bad people
A small zoo
Restaurants with affordable prices
A big parking
Professional security guards to control the park
Wide green areas
Traditional coffee shops or traditional style park
Make fines for the people who destroy any parts of the park or throw garbage on the ground.

15- If you have any comment, opinion or something you want to say please write it here:

It's an important project for the eastern part of the city because there are no attractions in the eastern part
It's better to make a separation between the playing areas for children and the relaxation areas
To be a park for all ages and all types of people and not gust for children or for rich people
to make a very good security in all times and specially at night to prevent the thieves from stealing anything from the park
I wish that we will have beautiful parks to spend our time in it , instead of sitting in the streets
To make it usable in winter and summer by making some covered areas
If this project was something expensive and the people must pay to use it , then I guarantee that it will not success
The eastern part of the city is not safe , and I prefer to make a park in the western part where the city is expanding now