

Residential Weaving - Porta Portese

Ben Agapos, Myles Blake, Saxon Ewalt, Jaxon Jordan, Samuel Townsend

Actual Condition and Site Analysis



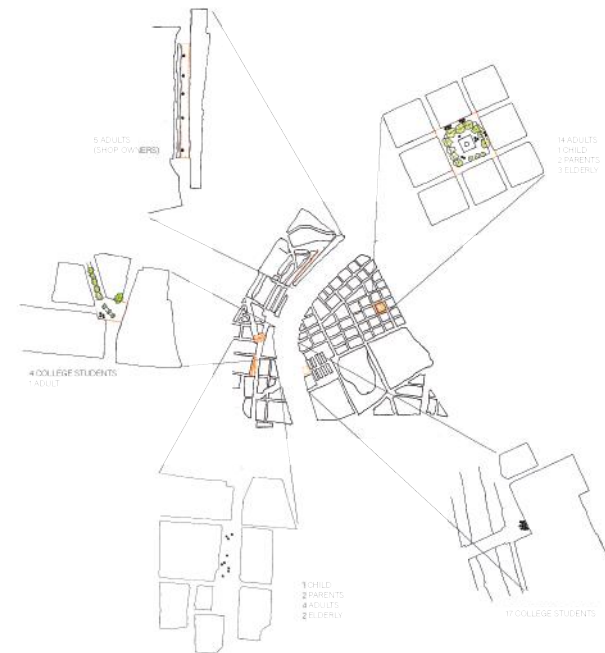
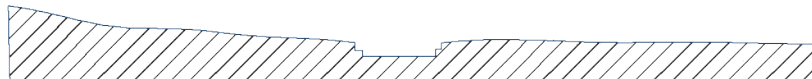
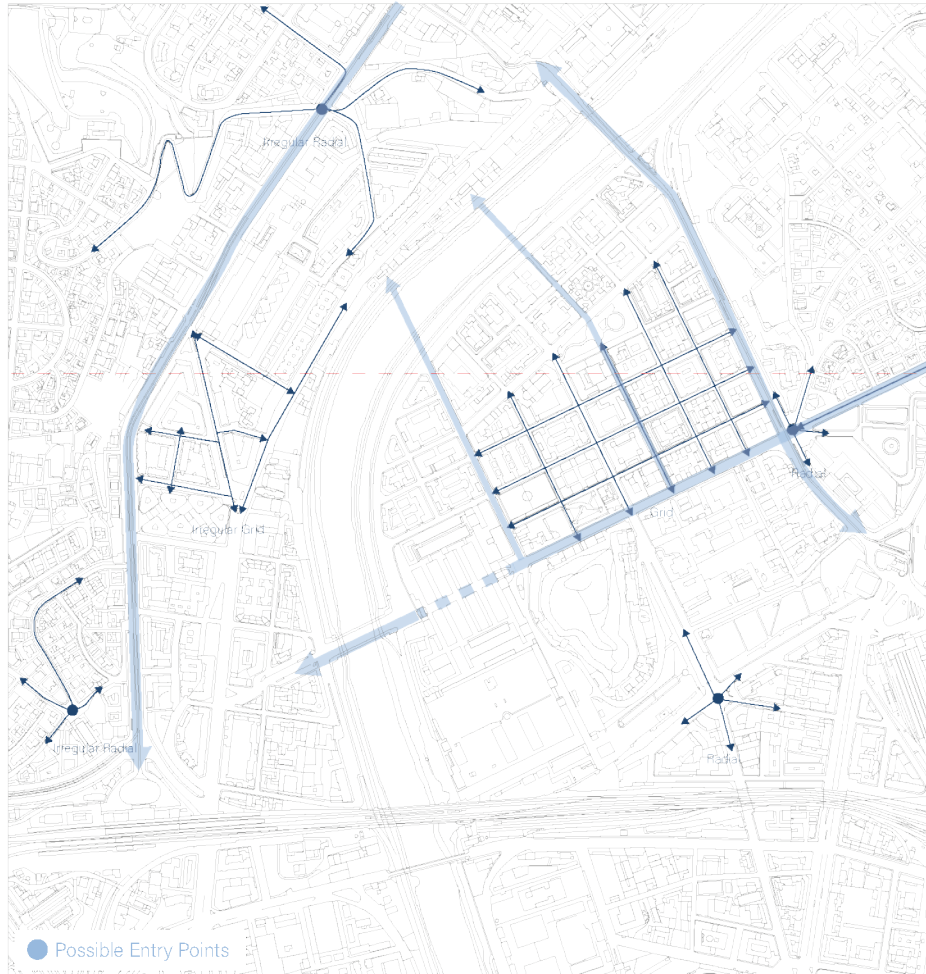
These photos are taken from our initial visit to the site. The left image is the Porta Portese gate, the northern threshold into the site. The right image shows the opposite direction. The first thing we noticed from this visit was the site is fairly desolate, poorly maintained, and has very little life and activity. The second major observation made here is that the cars present are only parked along the side of the road, and very little vehicular traffic moves through the site. These initial observations helped to form the concept for revitalizing the Porta Portese district.



Actual Condition and Site Analysis

During the first phases of site analysis it was critical to study the surrounding context to fully understand Porta Portese. Exploring the street patterns revealed two distinct regions within the area, one on each side of the Tiber River. This investigation led to early conceptual ideas of areas where new entry into the district could be proposed. Aside from concrete analysis, we also studied the condition of life and public spaces in the area. During the weekday, the majority of people congregate in public spaces away from the site, and the site itself is low energy.

Street Patterns and Possible Entry points

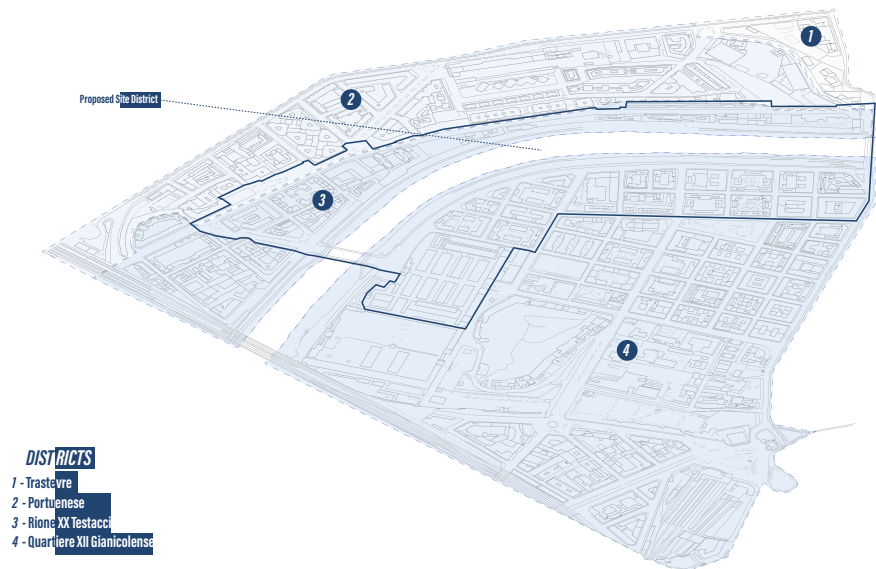


Actual Condition and Site Analysis



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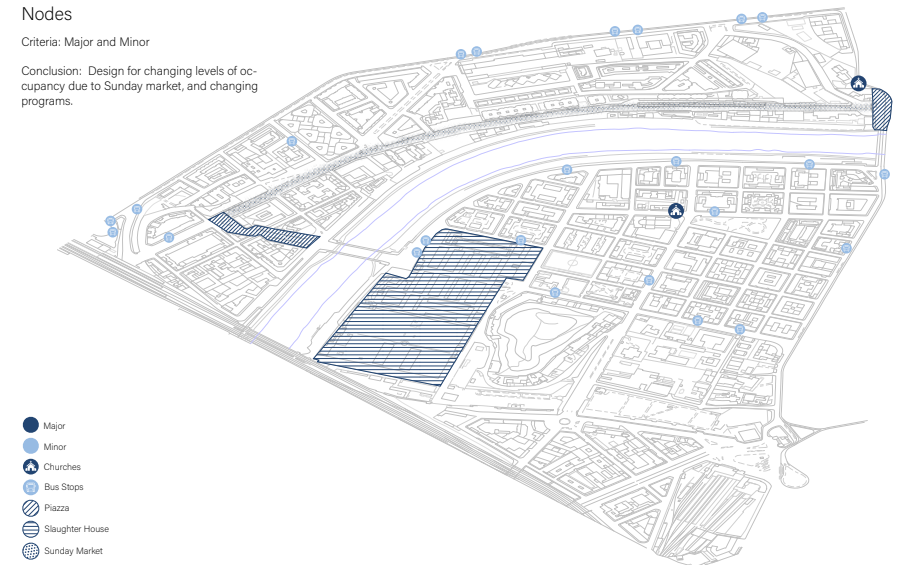
Following the points of Kevin Lynch's site analysis, we dove into research regarding the districts, edges and nodes of the area. This exercise helped us understand the historical value of each area and their individual developments over time, as well as major cultural landmarks and transportation hubs. From these diagrams, it became apparent that the project site is missing major transportation access, and becomes a cultural center during the Porta Portese market on Sunday. The overwhelming need to rectify the two distinct site conditions between market days and the rest of the week became apparent in this stage of analysis.



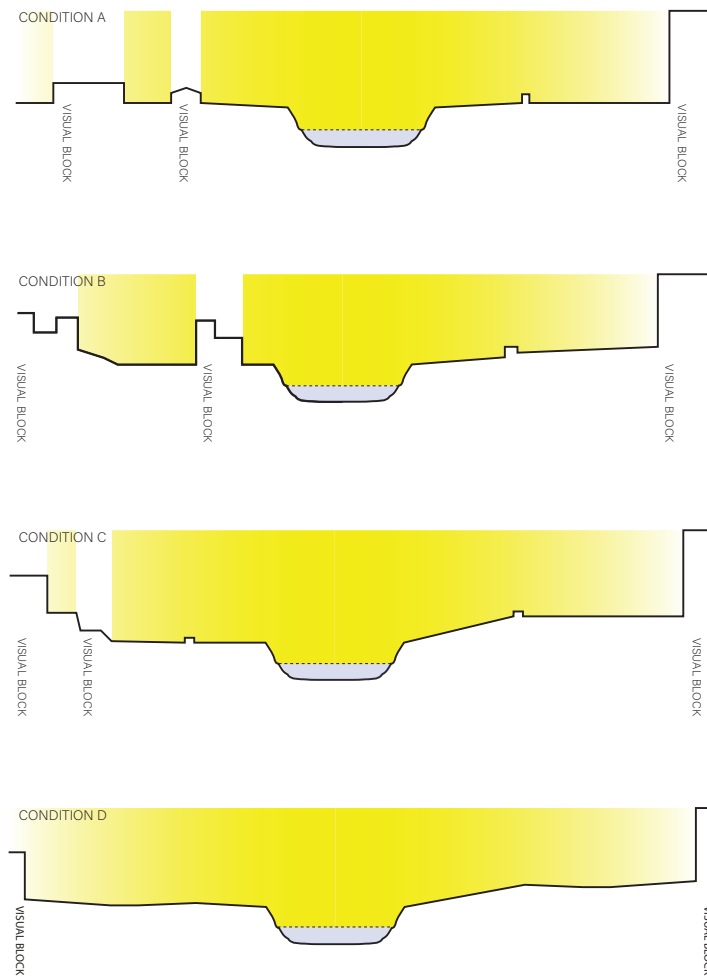
Nodes

Criteria: Major and Minor

Conclusion: Design for changing levels of occupancy due to Sunday market, and changing programs.

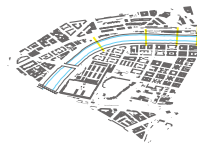


Actual Condition and Site Analysis

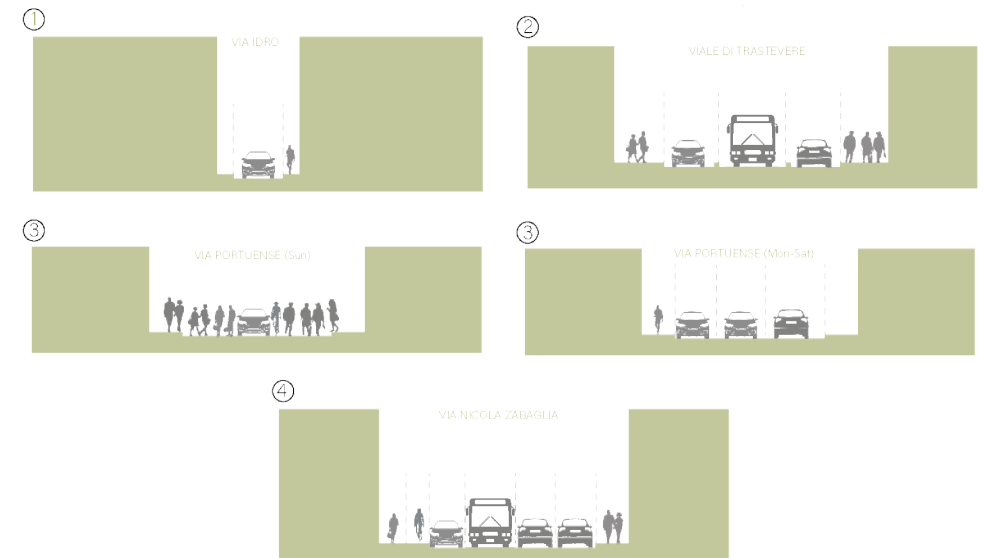


MORPHOLOGY ANALYSIS: VISUAL SECTION

This study shows the different conditions of visual connectivity between both sides of the site. Condition A blocks the visual connection with built elements on the same elevation. Condition B blocks the visual connection with built elements on two or more different elevations. Condition C blocks the visual connection with natural elements on two or more different elevations.

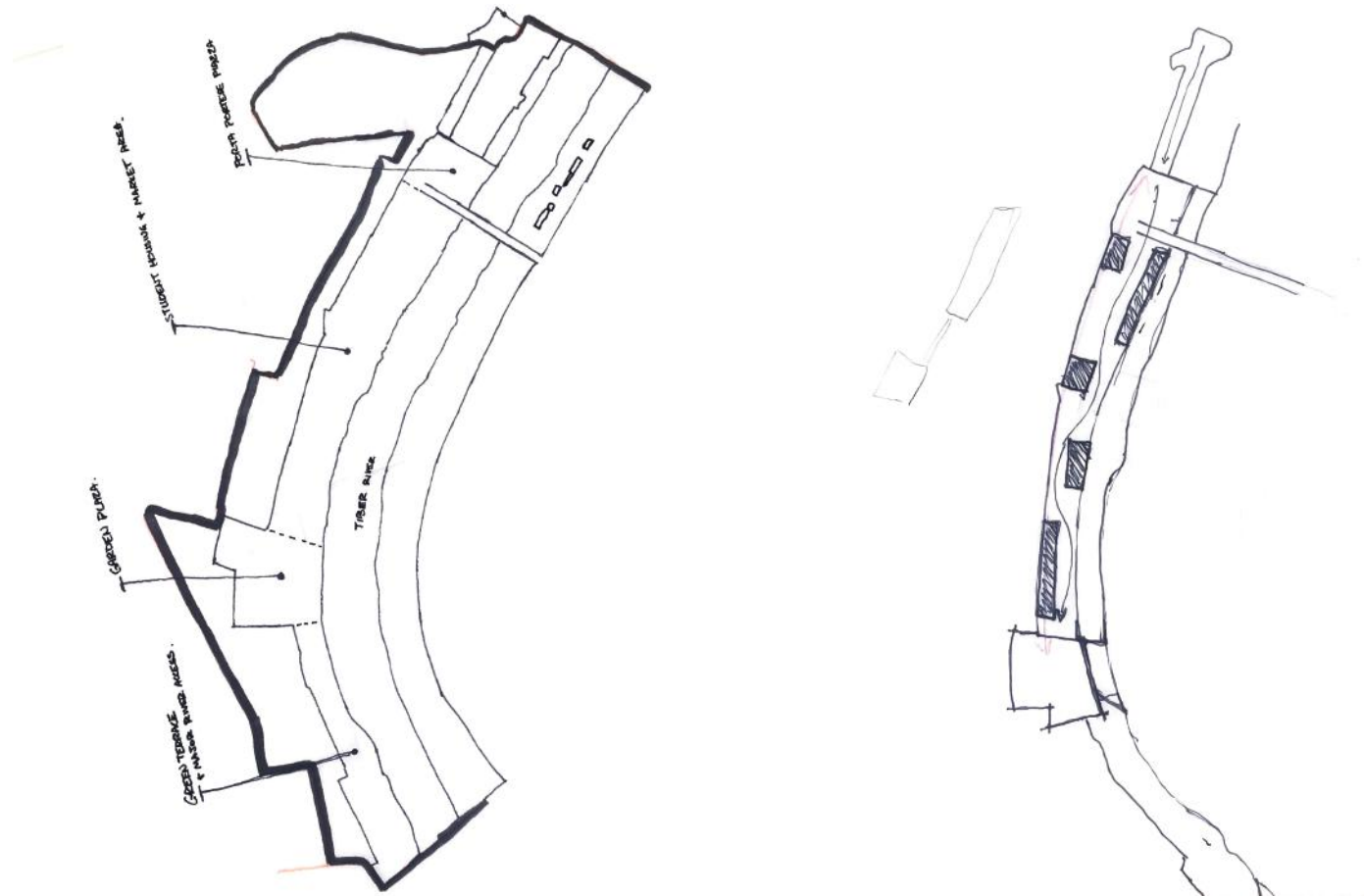


During the final stage of site analysis, we studied the sense of enclosure and visual connections to the Tiber River. It became clear that on the more rigidly developed side of the river there are no visual boundaries, while on the Porta Portese side there is a major boundary that is mostly continuous. Paired with the study of surrounding street ratios, major concepts for our design proposal arise.

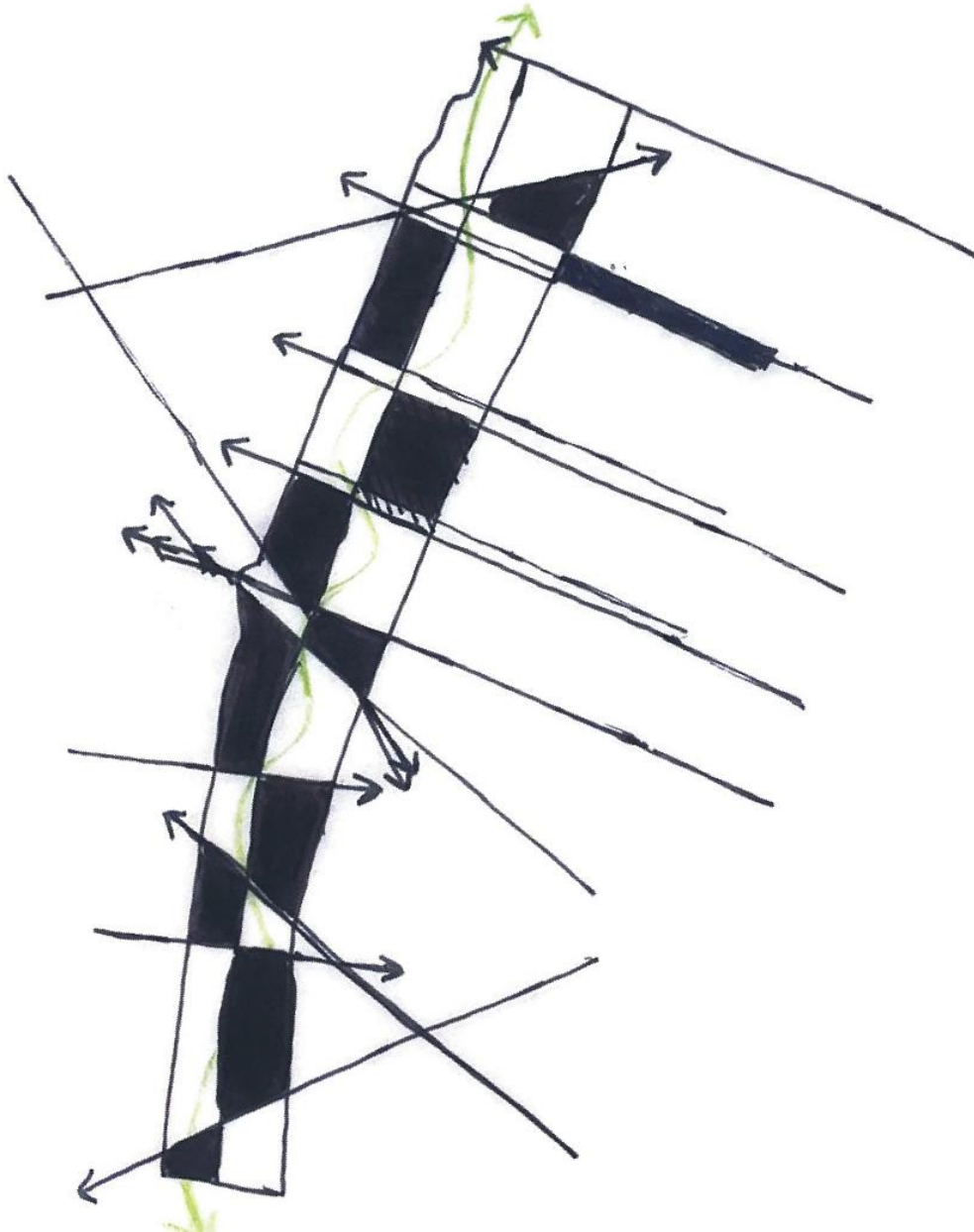


Design Concept

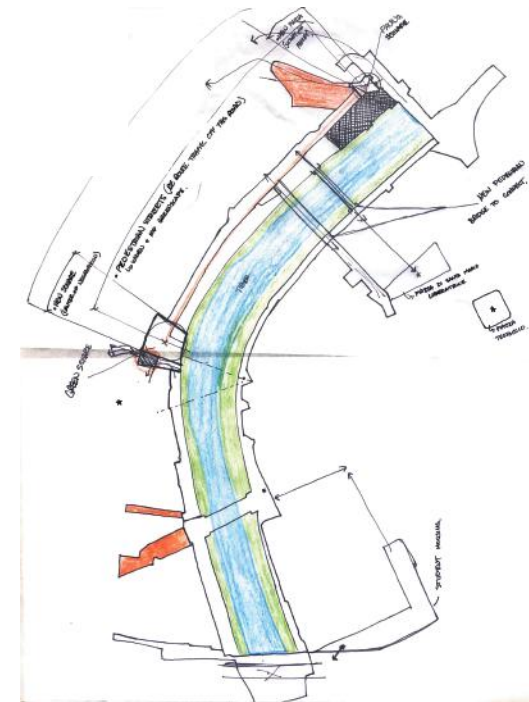
The first step to developing a Master Plan for Porta Portese was to choose an area of focus and divide it into sub-sections, each focusing on providing different amenity to the community. With the sites close relation to college campus, the major idea of the project is to provide housing for people with university connections, channeling student energy to give new life to the area. The student district is proposed early on to create a sequence of public space that weaves the Porta Portese market through the area. Other areas of focus include a hardscape piazza with a new pedestrian bridge, a green piazza, and an area for sport and recreation.



Design Concept



Continuing with the idea of weaving, building masses for the student district were informed through a weaving of two distinct street patterns coming together from areas adjacent to the site, with further subdivision using connections between landmarks in surrounding context. This brings a multi faceted idea of weaving to fruition.



Key Actions

React, Re-Establish, Recirculate, Renew, Reinvigorate

Key Actions

Main Focus of the 10 Principles:

Principle 1: Complete Neighborhoods

Compacted, mixed use neighborhoods where all residents live in close proximity (walking or biking distance) to necessities (schools, markets, healthcare).

Principle 2: People Centered Streets and Low Carbon Mobility

Walking and biking as main transportation, parking and service areas for bikes. Encourage us to use public transportation. Reintroduce vegetation to streetscapes.

Key Actions

Principle 8: Green Spaces, Urban Nature, and Climate Resilience

Provide residents access to high quality green space. Increase the amount of greenery throughout the neighborhood. Provide productive green space.

Principle 9: Sustainable Living

Design fosters sustainable lifestyles and consumption. Reduce consumption based emissions.

Principle 10: Green Economy

Seek to create green jobs with environmental considerations of ecosystem resilience and resource efficiency.

Weaving Porta Portese - Master Plan Proposal

