



ARCHITECTURE AS AN ACT OF HEALING

VISION FOR CONFLICT AND POST-CONFLICT TERRITORIES

BORDER WALLS AS A GLOBAL PHENOMENON



Figure 1;

Berlin wall 1962
Photographer unknown,
in Rem Koolhaas, S, M, L, XL



Figure 2;

Western Sahara, 2016
Evan Schneider
Moroccan wall

[WALLS] WORLD



Since the end of the Cold War in 1989 there have been over **26,000 km** of physical elevated border, that is, six times what existed before. and the idea of a “**Borderless**” world has gained traction, symbolizing globalization, technological connectivity, and the free flow of goods, ideas, and people.

However, paradoxically, the physical manifestation of borders has only **Intensified**. The construction of walls and barriers at national borders has surged, reflecting a growing desire to control migration, security, and territorial integrity.

This duality underscores a striking contradiction: as the world becomes more interconnected in theory, it simultaneously reinforces physical separations, highlighting the tension between ideals of openness and the realities of political and social division.



Figure 3;

Cape Town, 2016
Johnny Miller



Figure 4;

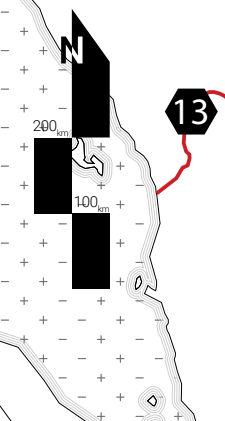
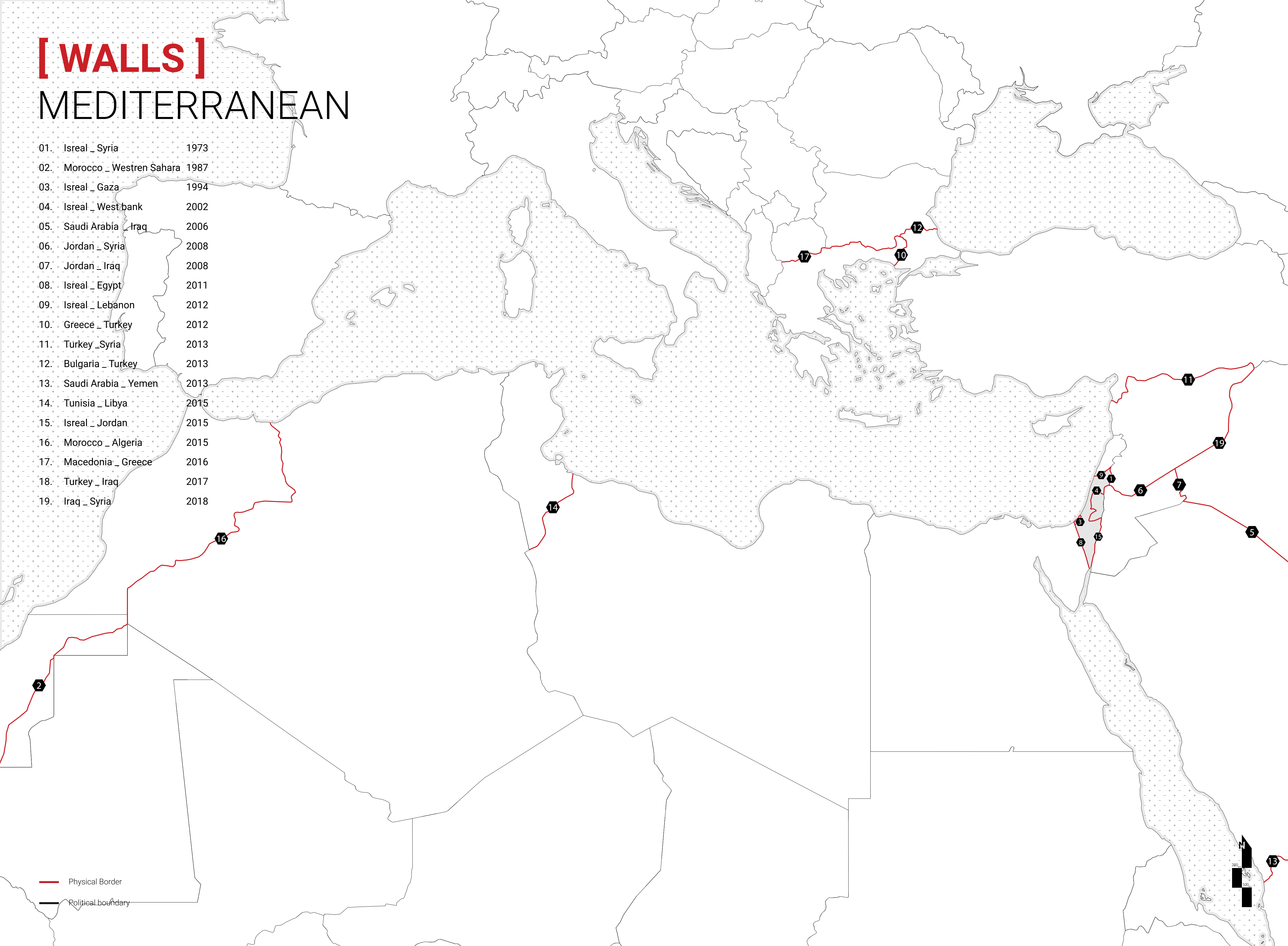
East Jerusalem, 2003
Lefteris Pitarakis

[WALLS]

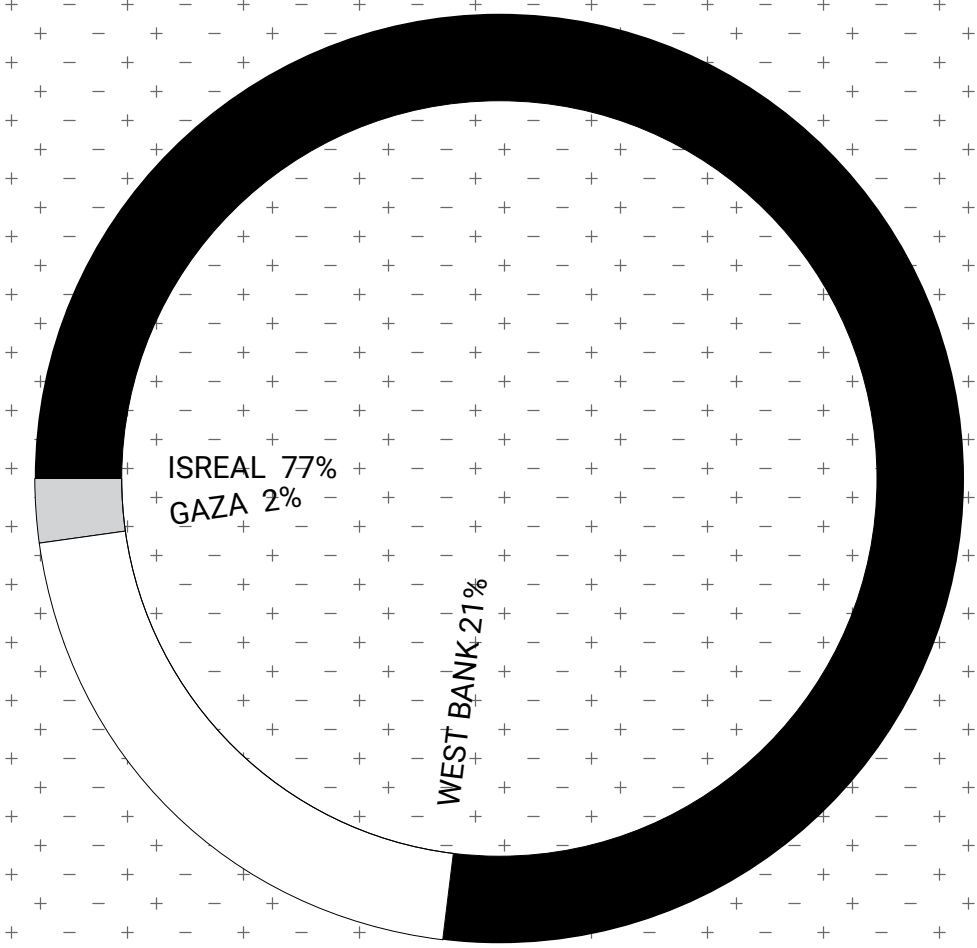
MEDITERRANEAN

01. Isreal _ Syria 1973
02. Morocco _ Westren Sahara 1987
03. Isreal _ Gaza 1994
04. Isreal _ West bank 2002
05. Saudi Arabia _ Iraq 2006
06. Jórdan _ Syria 2008
07. Jórdan _ Iraq 2008
08. Isreal _ Egypt 2011
09. Isreal _ Lebanon 2012
10. Greece _ Turkey 2012
11. Turkey _ Syria 2013
12. Bulgaria _ Turkey 2013
13. Saudi Arabia _ Yemen 2013
14. Tunisia _ Libya 2015
15. Isreal _ Jordan 2015
16. Morocco _ Algeria 2015
17. Macedonia _ Greece 2016
18. Turkey _ Iraq 2017
19. Iraq _ Syria 2018

— Physical Border
— Political boundary



[PALESTINE] TERRITORIAL DIVISION



*GAZA

ISREAL
*48' Palastine,

*LEBANON,

SYRIA
*Golan Heights,

WEST BANK

*Jerusalem,

EGYPT
*Sinai Peninsula,

JORDAN

- Wall border
- Conquered land
- Political boundary





Figure 7;

Bethlehem, 2022
Oded Balilty



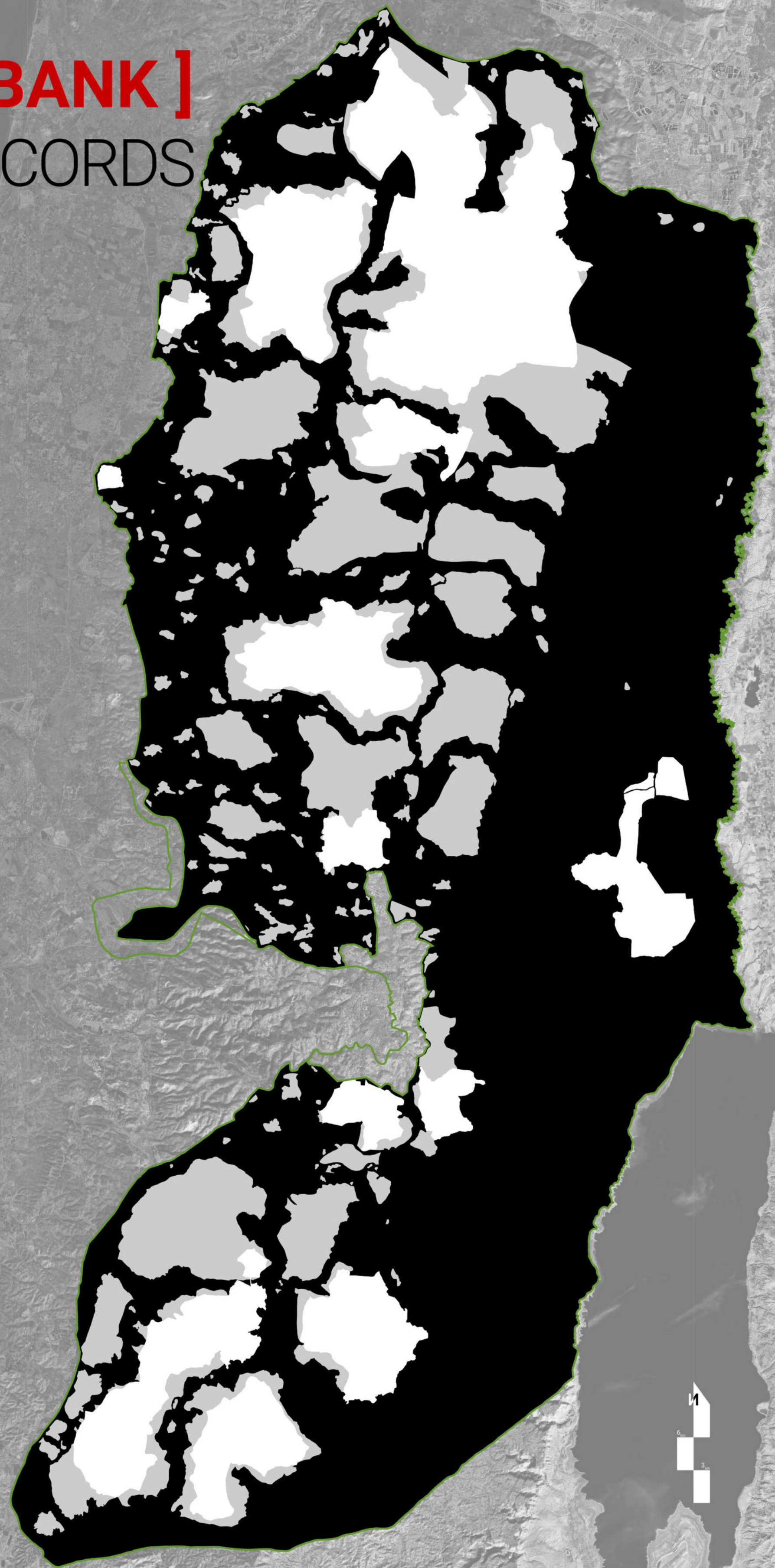
Figure 8;

Abu Dis, Jerusalem, 2022
Oded Balilty

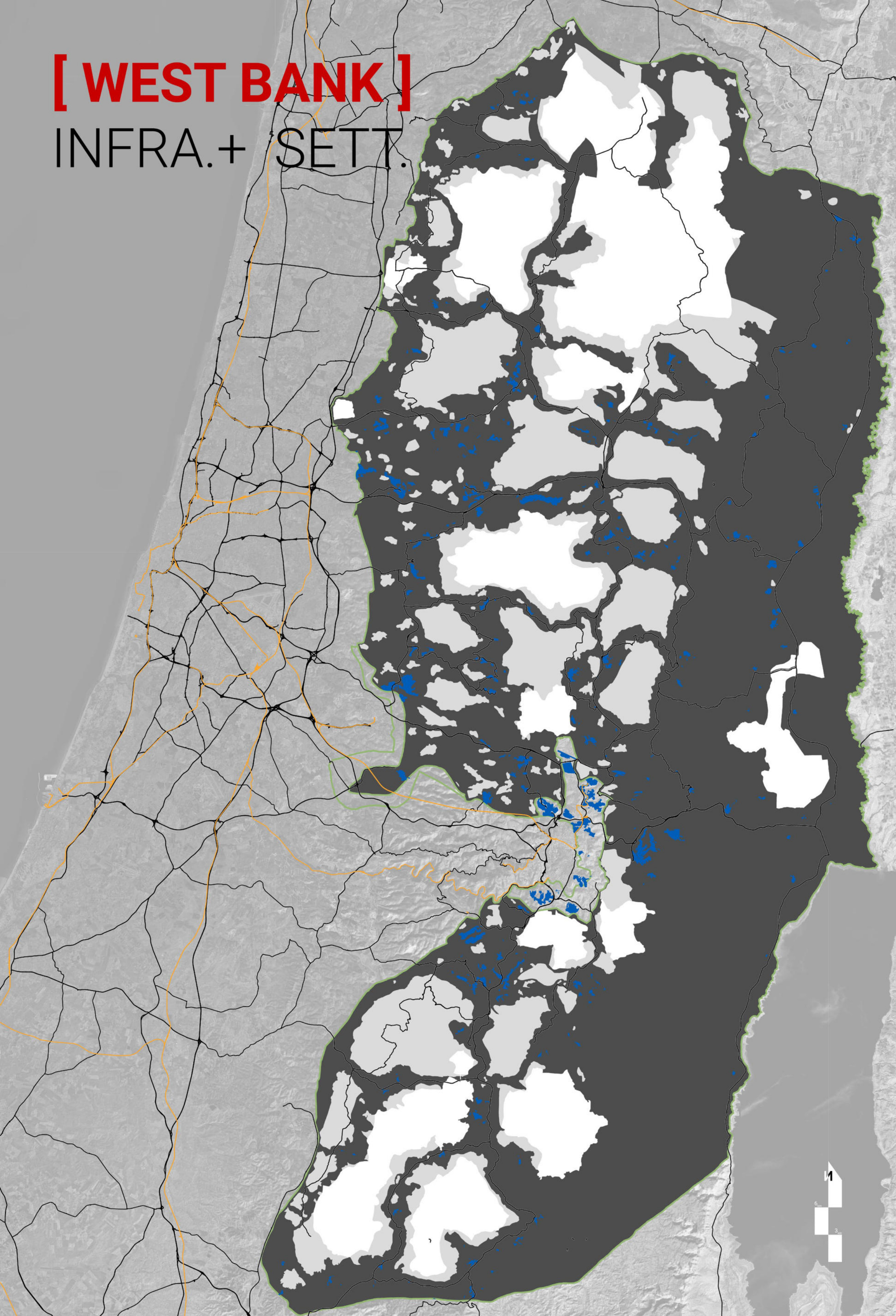
[WEST BANK]

OSLO ACCORDS

1995

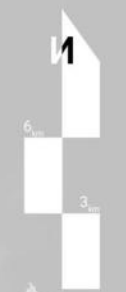
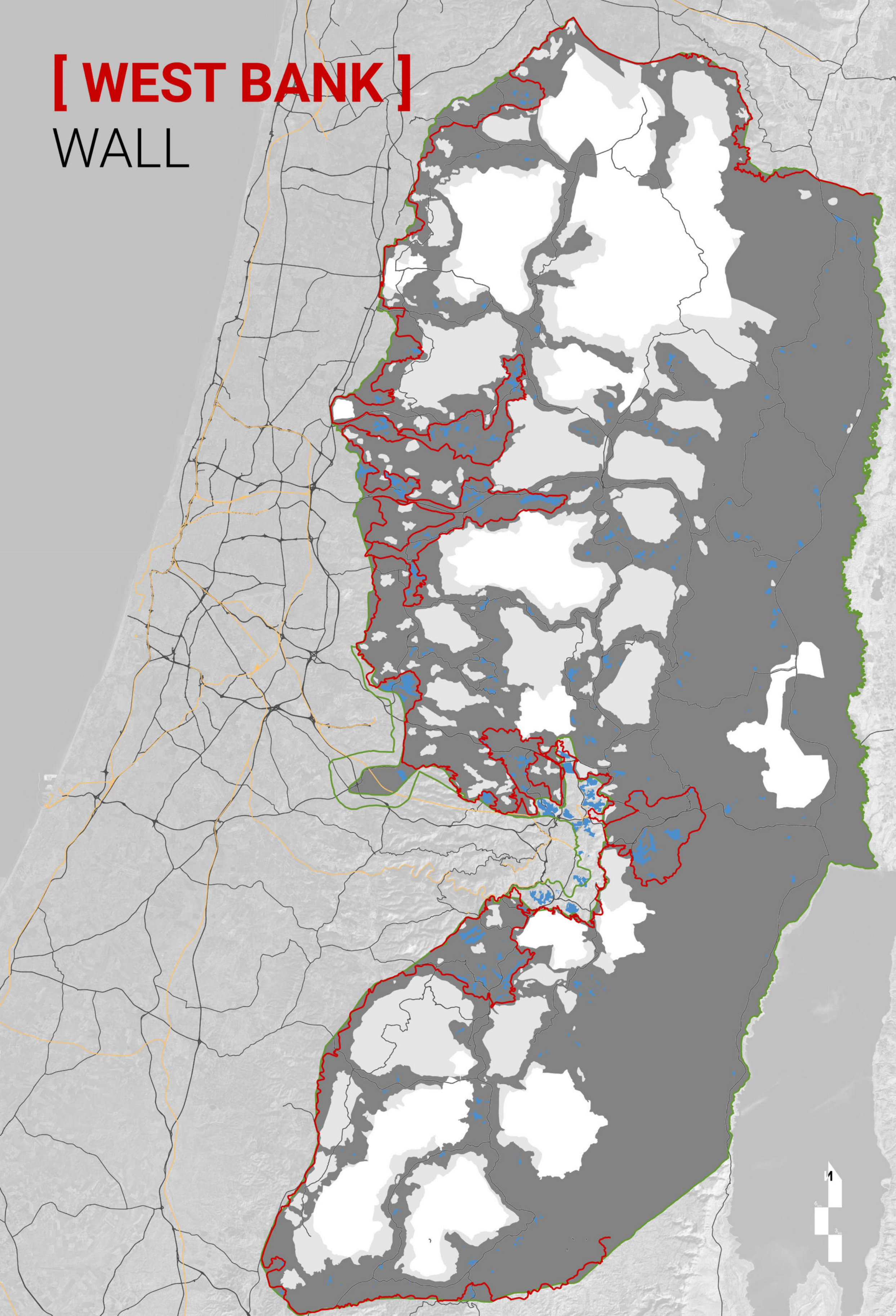


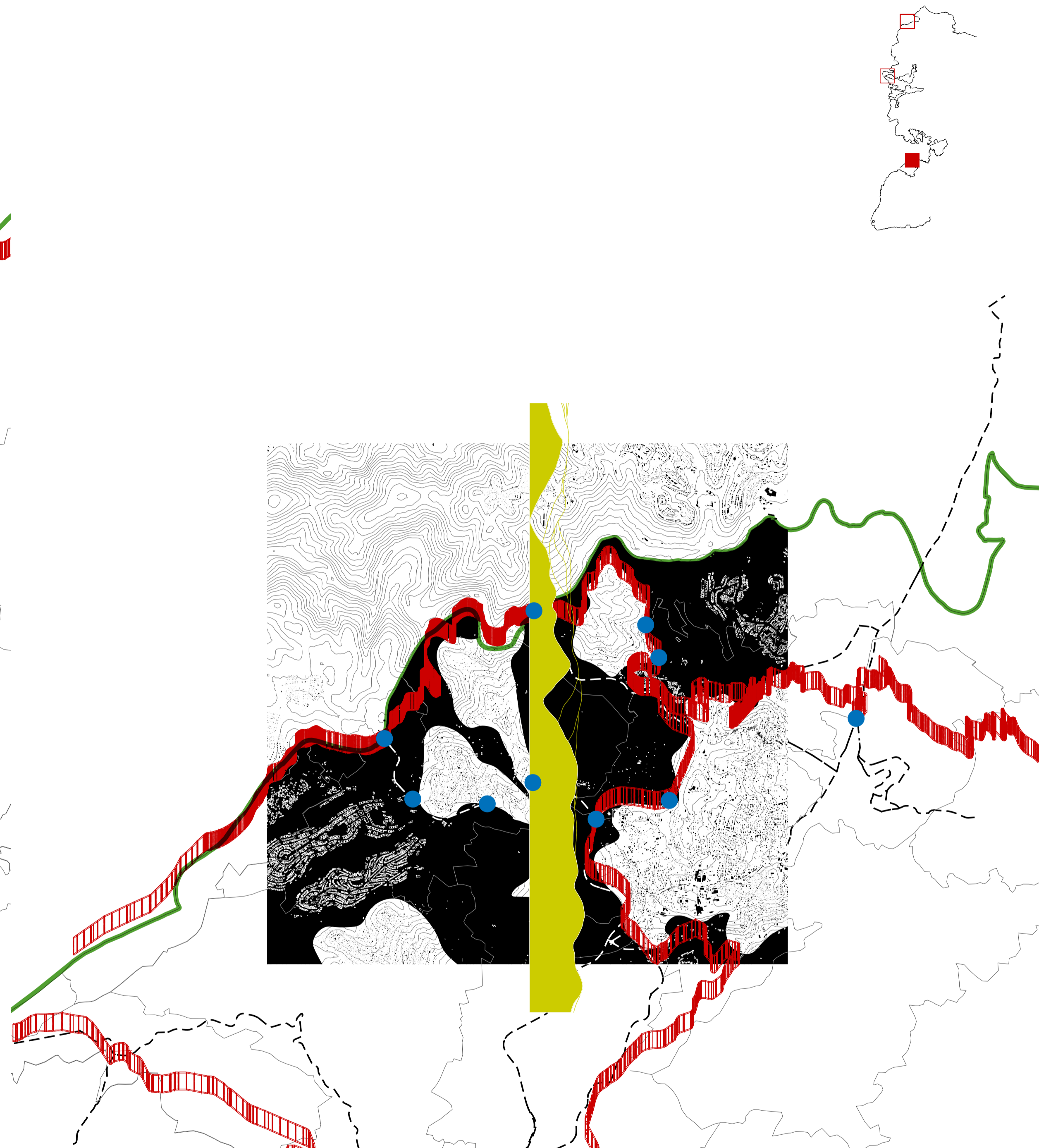
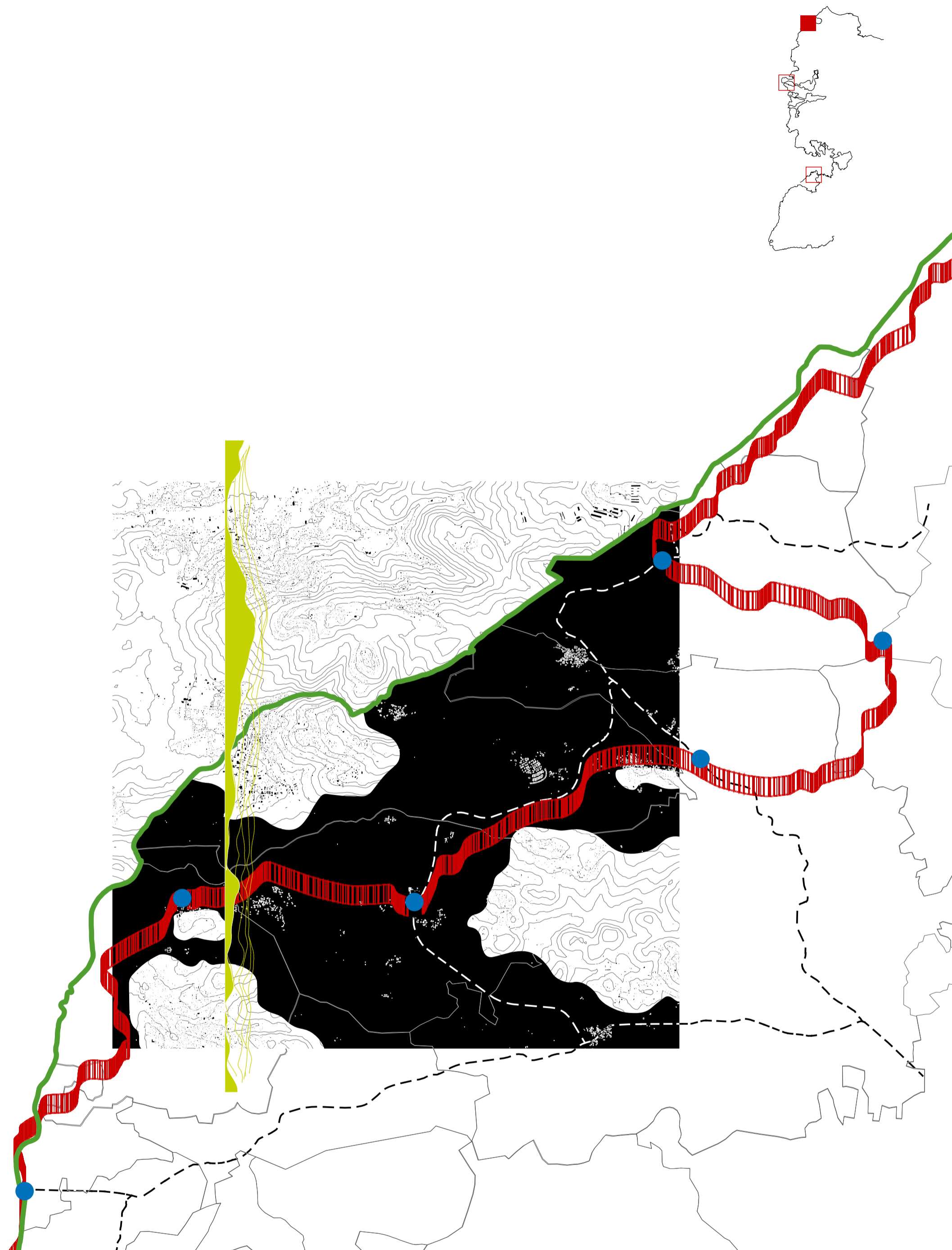
[WEST BANK]
INFRA. + SETT.



[WEST BANK]

WALL





“Oceanic Islands”

An island is any piece of land that is surrounded by water.

An island is any object lost in an endless extension of a uniform element.

As such, islands are isolated.

They are remote, separated, and

Islands can be continental or oceanic.

In his *L'île*, Gaston Deleuryze divides islands into the oceanic and the continental. Oceanic ones are “essential islands”. Continental ones are “accidental, derivative”.

Oceanic islands are the radical islands that are isolated, not only in space but also in time.

Oceanic islands have no past.

Oceanic islands need to contain everything, because they cannot rely on anything else.

Oceanic islands are fortresses (and fortresses are always doomed to surrender).

Oceanic islands are linked to what exists close by or far away, sometime before.

They are the islands that previous-ly contained.

Oceanic islands are fragments. Continental islands can be part of a larger ensemble: an archipelago, a city, a Nation

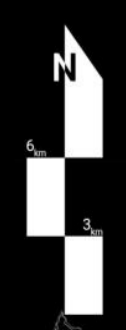
BORDER **WALLS** AS ARCHITECTURE

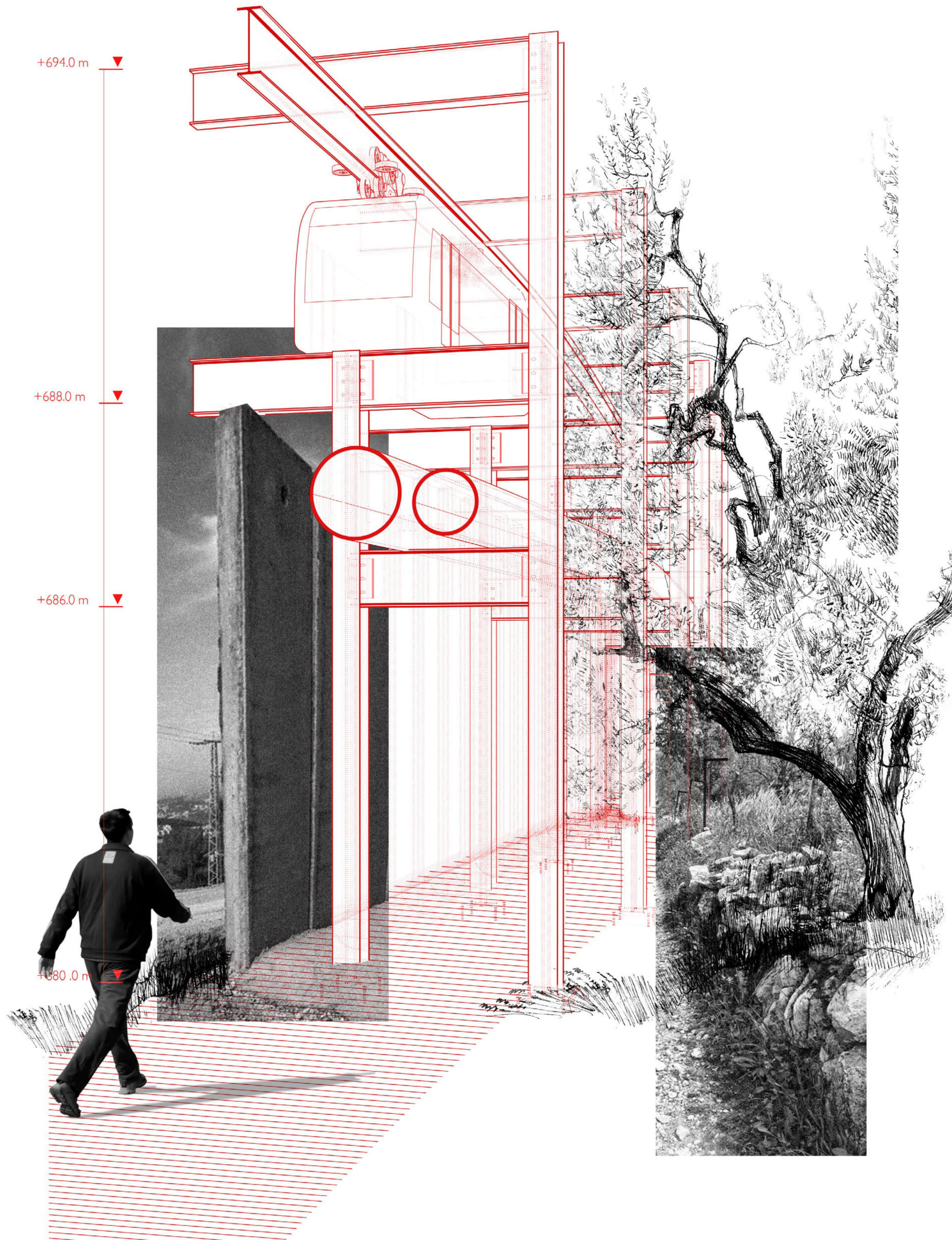
134 HUB

35°09'27.2"E

31°44'20.5"N

116





Olive Culture House Olive
Culture House Olive Cul-

In-
fra-
s-
tuc-
ture

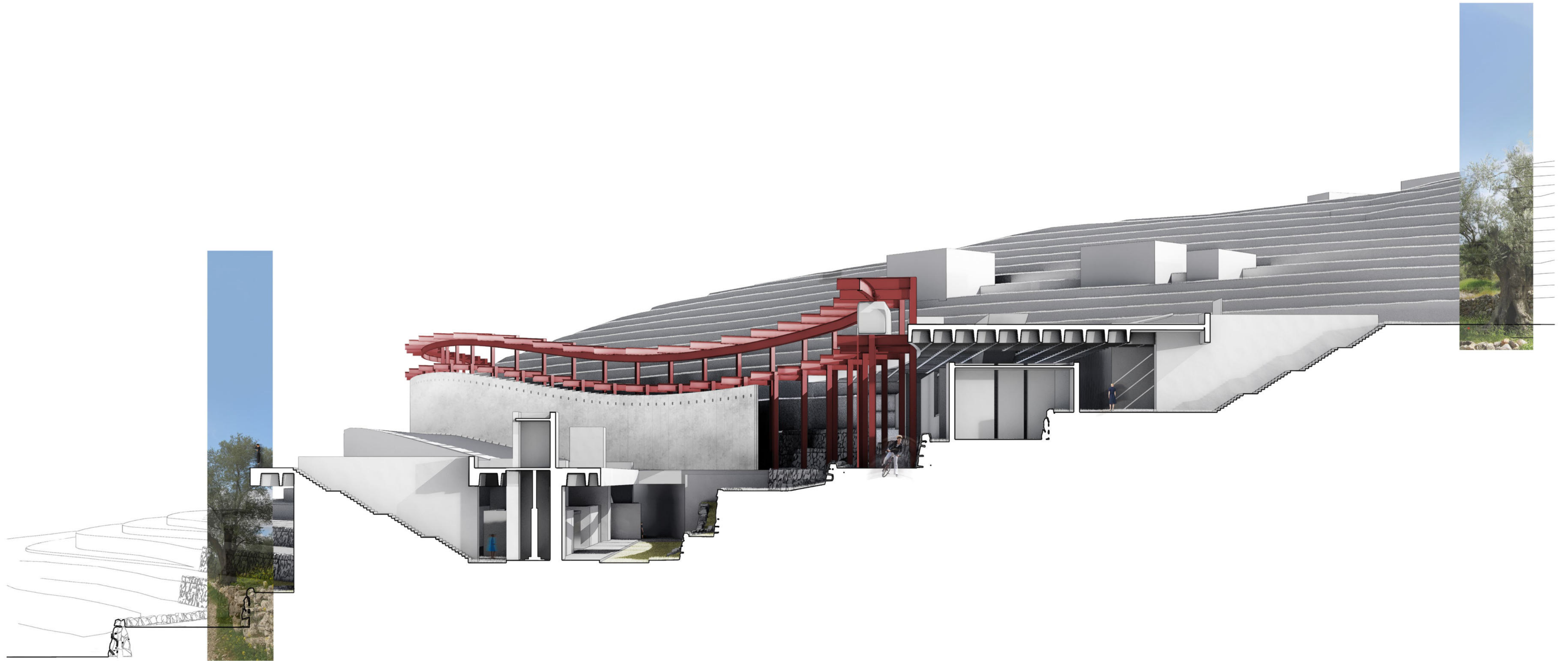
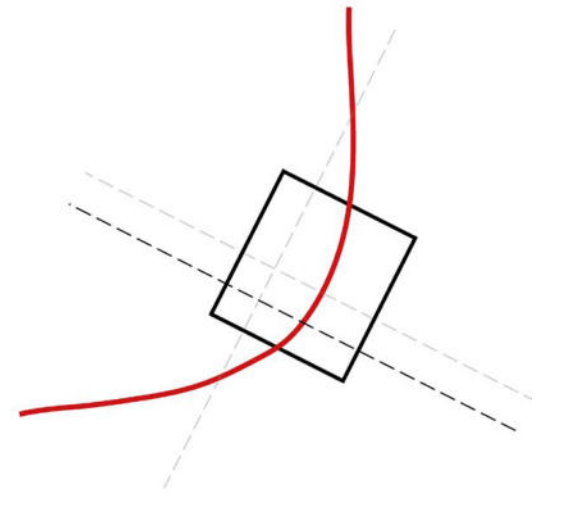
Olive Oil House Water
Olive Oil House Harvesting





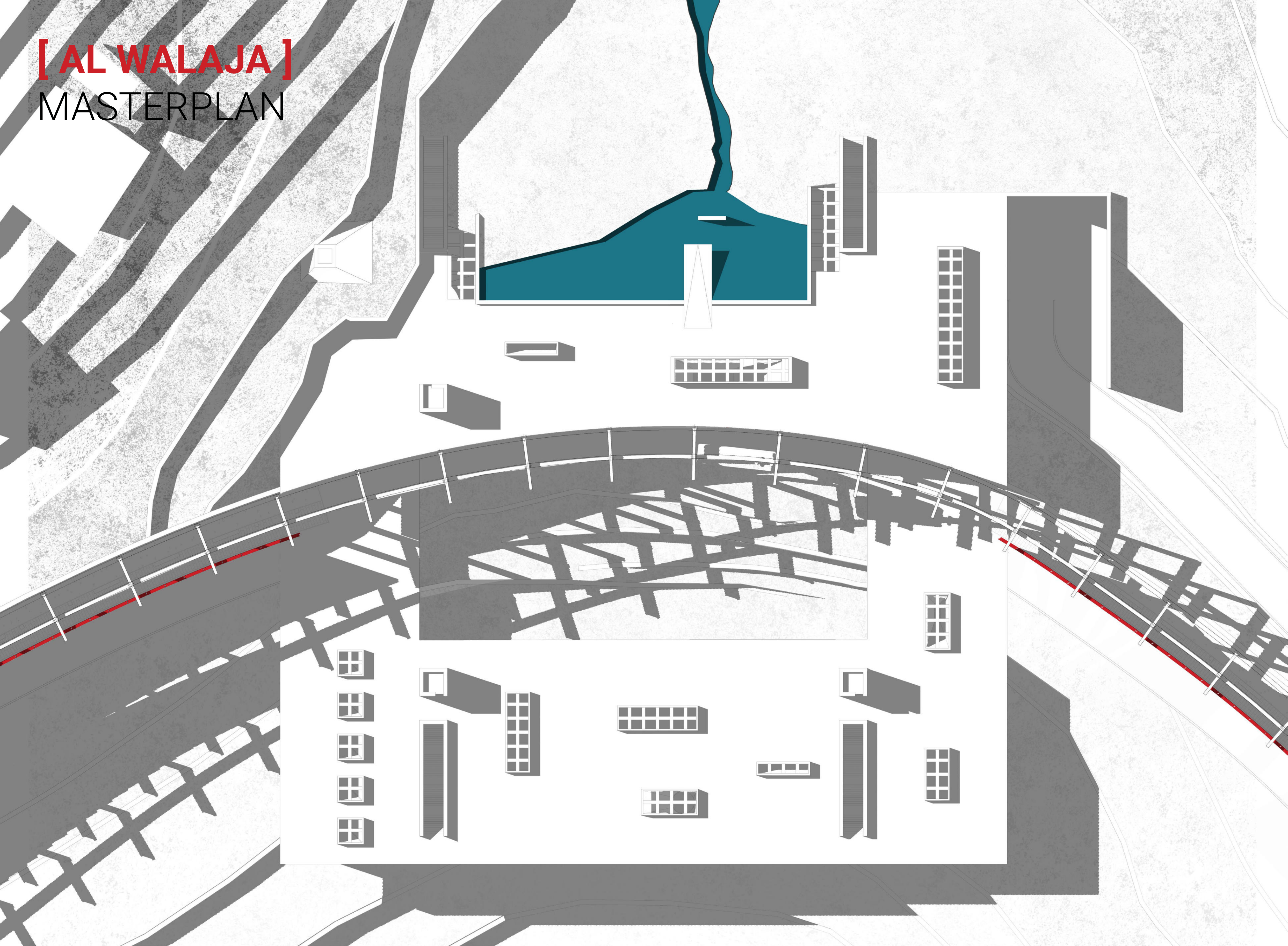
[AL WALAJA]

SECTION B-B



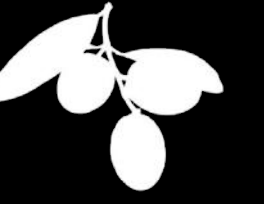


[AL WALAJA]
MASTERPLAN

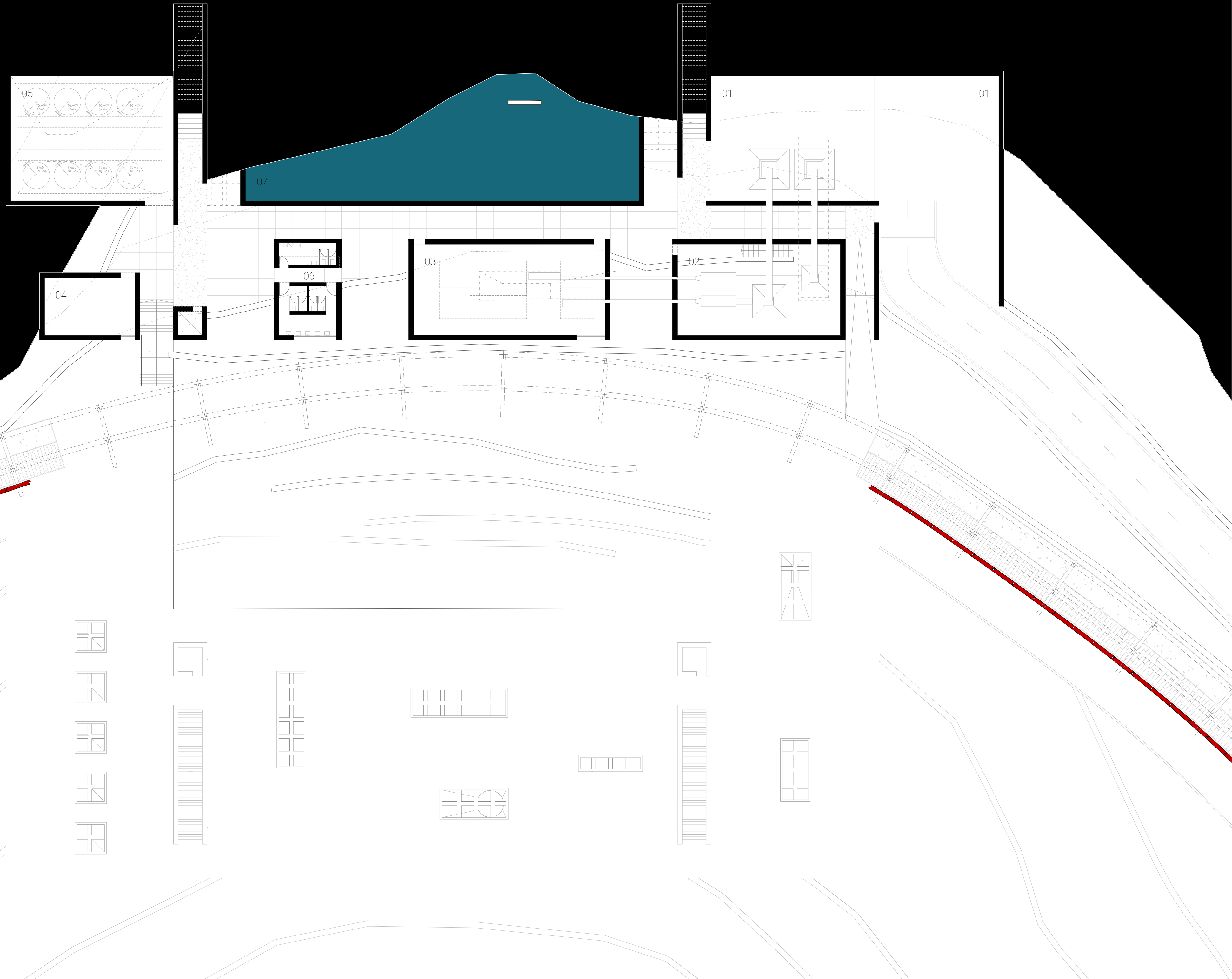


[PLAN] +691.00m

Olive Oil House



- 01>Loading zone
- 02>Cleaning & leaf removal
- 03>Oil extraction [crushing_malaxation_centrifugation]
- 04>Bottling area
- 05>Product storage tanks
- 06>Hygienic services
- 07>Collected water filtration and management

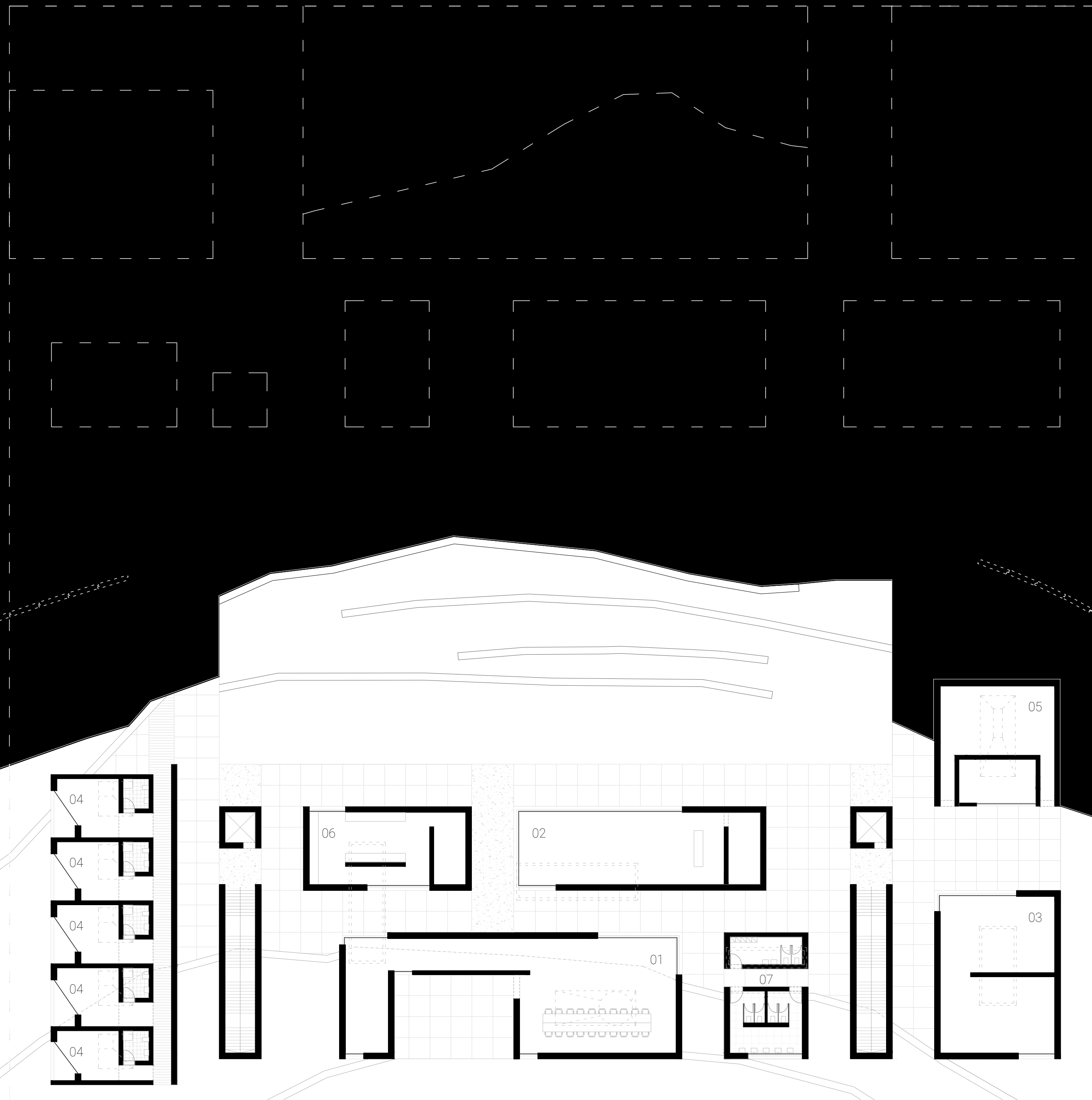


[PLAN] + 679.00m

Olive Culture House



- 01_Olive oil tasting _ flavors of the land
- 02_Product shop & local goods
- 03_Agricultural education and workshop space
- 04_Guest accomodation
- 05_Administration office
- 06_Service kitchen
- 07_Hygienic services









Vallet, E. (Ed.). (2014). *Borders, fences and walls: State of insecurity*. Routledge

Shoshan, M. (2010). *Atlas of the conflict: Israel–Palestine*. O10 Publishers.

Garcia, C., & Frankowski, N. (2022). *A manual of anti-racist architecture education*. LOUDREADERS / WAI Think Tank.

Weizman, E. (2007). *Hollow land: Israel's architecture of occupation*. Verso.

Koolhaas, R., Mau, B., Sigler, J., & Werleemann, H. (1995). *S, M, L, XL*. Monacelli Press.

Koolhaas, R. (1972). *Exodus, or the voluntary prisoners of architecture*. Architectural Association.

Ghidoni, M. (Ed.). (2011). *San Rocco: Islands* (Issue No. 1). San Rocco.

Sennett, R. (2018). *Building and dwelling: Ethics for the city*. Allen Lane.

Solà-Morales, I. de. (1995). *Terrain vague*. In C. Davidson (Ed.), *Anyplace* (pp. 118–123). MIT Press.

B'Tselem. (n.d.). *B'Tselem: The Israeli information center for human rights in the Occupied Territories*. Retrieved July 6, 2025, from <https://www.btselem.org/>

United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs – occupied Palestinian territory (OCHA oPt). (n.d.). *OCHA oPt*. Retrieved July 6, 2025, from <https://www.ochaopt.org/>