

TERRA CONTINUA

VUATTOUX THIERRY

Master Thesis HS20
VOLUPTAS Chair Charbonnet / Heiz ETHZ

1

CHALLENGES OF GLOBAL GOVERNANCE

I

How do we become sensitive to the challenges of global governance and the shaping of territories it implies in a worldwide range of engagement?

The United Nations together with all other International Organisations based in Geneva are part of the cooperative, multilateral shaping of globalisation. Hence it seems natural that Global Geneva aims at representing the common interests of a population belonging to the entire world, referring and acting on a global scale; at the present moment, the organisations increasingly face a number of structural problems and complexities. Their physical position in particular, with its univocal relationship towards the city of Geneva and the indifference to the wider territory needs to be questioned, regarding its potential to the image of global, relatable, entities.

Global Governance faces the challenge to assemble an idea of equal access to (global) space. It is thus to rework the specialities on every scale and to create the connection between the individual and the surrounding (earth); building up to a planetary being.



POSTCARD ÉDITION JAEGER GENÈVE, 586 - LE PALAIS DES NATIONS ET LA CHAÎNE DU MONT BLANC (c. 1937)

“Although declarations or predictions of a borderless world have become somewhat ubiquitous over the last twenty years, state borders remain one of the most basic and visible features of the international system. While it is true that a range of issues, like environmental change, migration, or international trade, highlight the growing interaction and interdependence between different places around the world, borders continue to play a central role in shaping, dividing, and uniting the world’s societies, economies, and ecosystems.”

ALEXANDER C. DIENER AND JOSHUA HAGEN, THEORIZING BORDERS IN A 'BORDERLESS WORLD' (2009)

“Since international borders will clearly remain important components of the international system for the foreseeable future, it is imperative to understand how they figure in contemporary economic, environmental, cultural, and geopolitical debates. Borders (or more specifically a state’s external terrestrial boundaries) have evolved in meaning throughout history but have been traditionally defined as ‘the physical and highly visible lines of separation between political, social and economic spaces’ (Newman 2006, 144). [...] From the global and the national, to the local and micro-scales of socio-spatial activity, borders are now understood as formal and informal institutions of spatial and social practice, as well as physical and symbolic markers of difference (Newman and Passi 1998; Van Houtum et al. 2005).”

ALEXANDER C. DIENER AND JOSHUA HAGEN, THEORIZING BORDERS IN A 'BORDERLESS WORLD' (2009)



THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF Human Rights

WHEREAS recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world,

WHEREAS disregard and contempt for human rights have resulted in barbarous acts which have outraged the conscience of mankind, and the advent of a world in which human beings shall enjoy freedom of speech and belief and freedom from fear and want has been proclaimed as the highest aspiration of the common people,

WHEREAS it is essential, if man is not to be compelled to have recourse, as a last resort, to rebellion against tyranny and oppression, that human rights should be protected by the rule of law,

WHEREAS it is essential to promote the development of friendly relations among nations,

WHEREAS the peoples of the United Nations have in the Charter reaffirmed their faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of men and women and have

determined to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom,

WHEREAS Member States have pledged themselves to achieve, in co-operation with the United Nations, the promotion of universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

WHEREAS a common understanding of these rights and freedoms is of the greatest importance for the full realisation of this pledge,

NOW THEREFORE THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

PROCLAIMS this Universal Declaration of Human Rights as a common standard of achievement for all peoples and all nations, to the end that every individual and every organ of society, keeping this Declaration constantly in mind, shall strive by teaching and education to promote respect for these rights and freedoms and by progressive measures, national and international, to secure their universal and effective recognition and observance, both among the peoples of Member States themselves and among the peoples of territories under their jurisdiction.

ARTICLE 1 — All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood.

ARTICLE 2 — 1. Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.
2. Furthermore, no distinction shall be made on the basis of the political, jurisdictional or international status of the country or

ARTICLE 11 — 1. Everyone has the right to seek and to enjoy in other countries asylum from persecution.
2. This right may not be invoked in the case of prosecutions genuinely arising from non-political crimes or from acts contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations.

ARTICLE 15 — 1. Everyone has the right to a nationality.
2. No one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his nationality nor denied the right to change his nationality.

ation insuring for himself and his family an existence worthy of human dignity, and supplemented, if necessary, by other means of social protection.

ARTICLE 20 — 1. Everyone has the right to form and to join trade unions for the protection of his interests.

ARTICLE 24 — Everyone has the right to rest and leisure, including reasonable limitation of working hours and periodic holidays with pay.

ARTICLE 1 — All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood.

this Declaration and against any incitement to such discrimination.

ARTICLE 8 — Everyone has the right to an effective remedy by the competent national tribunals for acts violating the fundamental

ARTICLE 19 — Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas

and fundamental freedoms. It shall promote understanding, tolerance and friendship among all nations, racial or religious groups, and shall further the activities of the United Nations for the maintenance of peace.

ARTICLE 13 — 1. Everyone has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each state.

right to be presumed innocent until proved guilty according to law in a public trial at which he has had all the guarantees necessary for his defence.

ARTICLE 14 — 1. No one shall be held guilty of any penal offence on account of any act or omission which did not constitute a penal offence, under national or international law, at the time when it was committed. Nor shall a heavier penalty be imposed than the one that was applicable at the time the penal offence was committed.

ARTICLE 12 — No one shall be subjected to arbitrary interference with his privacy, family, home or correspondence, nor to attacks upon his honour and reputation. Everyone has the right to the protection of the law against such interference or attacks.

ARTICLE 13 — 1. Everyone has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each state.
2. Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country.

ARTICLE 21 — 1. The will of the people shall be the basis of the authority of government; this will shall be expressed in periodic and genuine elections which shall be by universal and equal suffrage and shall be held by secret vote or by equivalent free voting procedures.

ARTICLE 22 — Everyone, as a member of society, has the right to social security and is entitled to realisation, through national effort and international co-operation and in accordance with the organisation and resources of each State, of the economic, social and cultural rights indispensable for his dignity and the free development of his personality.

ARTICLE 23 — 1. Everyone has the right to work, to free choice of employment, to just and favourable conditions of work and to protection against unemployment.

ARTICLE 24 — 1. Everyone has the right to work, to free choice of employment, to just and favourable conditions of work and to protection against unemployment.
2. Everyone, without any discrimination, has the right to equal pay for equal work.
3. Everyone who works has the right to just and favourable remuneration

ARTICLE 26 — Everyone is entitled to a social and international order in which the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration can be fully realized.

ARTICLE 29 — 1. Everyone has duties to the community in which alone the free and full development of his personality is possible.

ARTICLE 30 — Nothing in this Declaration may be interpreted as implying for any State, group or person any right to engage in any activity or to perform any act aimed at the destruction of any of the rights and freedoms set forth herein.

UNITED NATIONS

Adopted by the United Nations General Assembly at its 183rd meeting, held in Paris on 10 December, 1948

Revised by U.N. Department of Public Information

UNITED NATIONS, THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS (1948)

“In suggesting a necessarily dialectical relationship between the individual and the [society], Harvey helps to point the way to conceive of the right to the world. It is concerned with the individual (as well as collective) right to access global resources – among them, global space – so as to be able to realize the most basic of human rights: the right to a dignified life. But because this requires changing oneself and changing the world – not least by allowing for freedom of movement, residence, and work across national boundaries – it involves the exercise of collective power to reshape globalization and its associated spatialities.”

JOSEPH NEVINS, THE RIGHT TO THE WORLD (2017)



KATSUSHIKA HOKUSAI, THIRTY-SIX VIEWS OF MT. FUJI - HODOGAYA ON THE TOKAIDO (1830-1832)



UNITED NATIONS ARCHIVES AT GENEVA, VIEW TO LAC LÉMAN AND MONT BLANC FROM BARTHOLONI ESTATE (1920)

“Mit der Einsicht in die Welthaftigkeit unserer Existenz (von unserer physischen bis zu unserer kognitiven Existenz) ist die grundlegende Prämisse des anthropischen Prinzips – die Annahme einer Weltfremdheit des Menschen, einer prinzipiellen Disparität zwischen Mensch und Welt – hinfällig geworden.”

„Der Mensch steht nicht [...] als einzigartiges Wesen dem Rest der Welt gegenüber, sondern ist ein von Grund auf welthaftes Wesen. Nicht homo humanus, sondern homo mundanus ist die zutreffende Bestimmung [sic!] des Menschen“

WOLFGANG WELSCH, HOMO MUNDANUS (2012)



HORACE REVILLIOD, VUE DE LA CAMPAGNE DE VAREMBÉ (ca. 1850)

2

PROSPECTIVE RELATIONSHIP

II

After all, the typical landscape surrounding *Jardin des Nations* goes beyond the specificities of a single city, providing strong orientation points: its majority of English gardens, its modernist continuous topography, the width and openness of the Lac Léman basin and the sublime summit of the Mont Blanc – the ever-present vanishing point.

In fact, *Jardin des Nations* stands aligned with the extraordinary geological formations of the Jura Mountains, one of the oldest geological ranges in Europe which has forced early scientists to rethink the timeline of the earth's formation, giving the name to an entire geological epoch, the Jurassic, reordering the timeframes by which we know the planet's development.

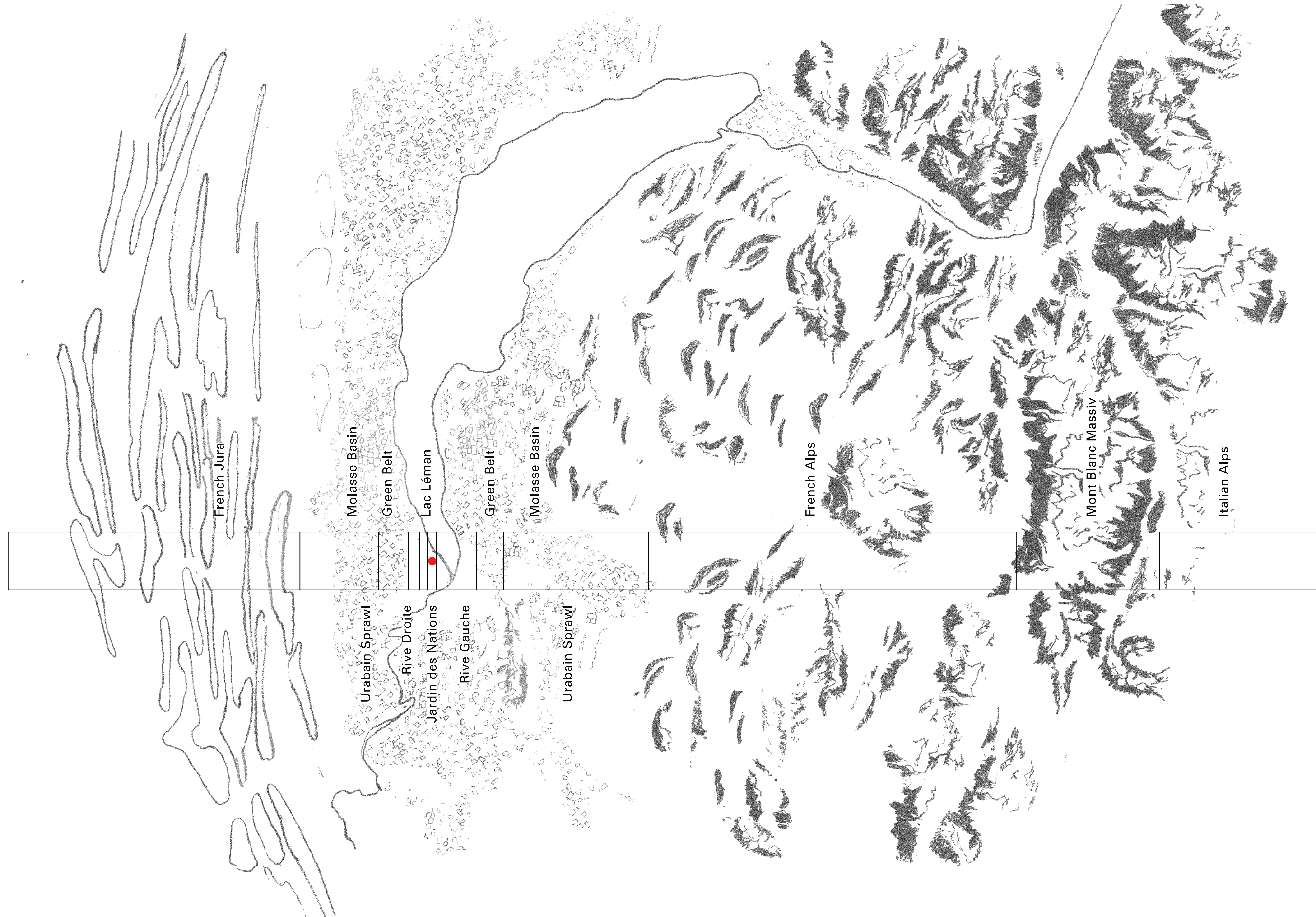
Incidentally or not (considering the geological ideal flatness of the Molasse Basin aligning with the historically weightful mountain range) the European Organisation for Nuclear Research, CERN, with its 27 km long circular Large Hadron Collider and a planned 100 km long Future Circular Collider, both hidden some 100 meters below the ground, align in the imaginary strip towards UN, facing the Alps. The mission of the CERN is to investigate the fundamental building blocks of matter and their interactions, trying to understand the structure and the history of our universe.

On the other end of the imaginary line, stands the highest portion of the Alpine range, with the summit of the Mont Blanc reaching 4808 metres of height.



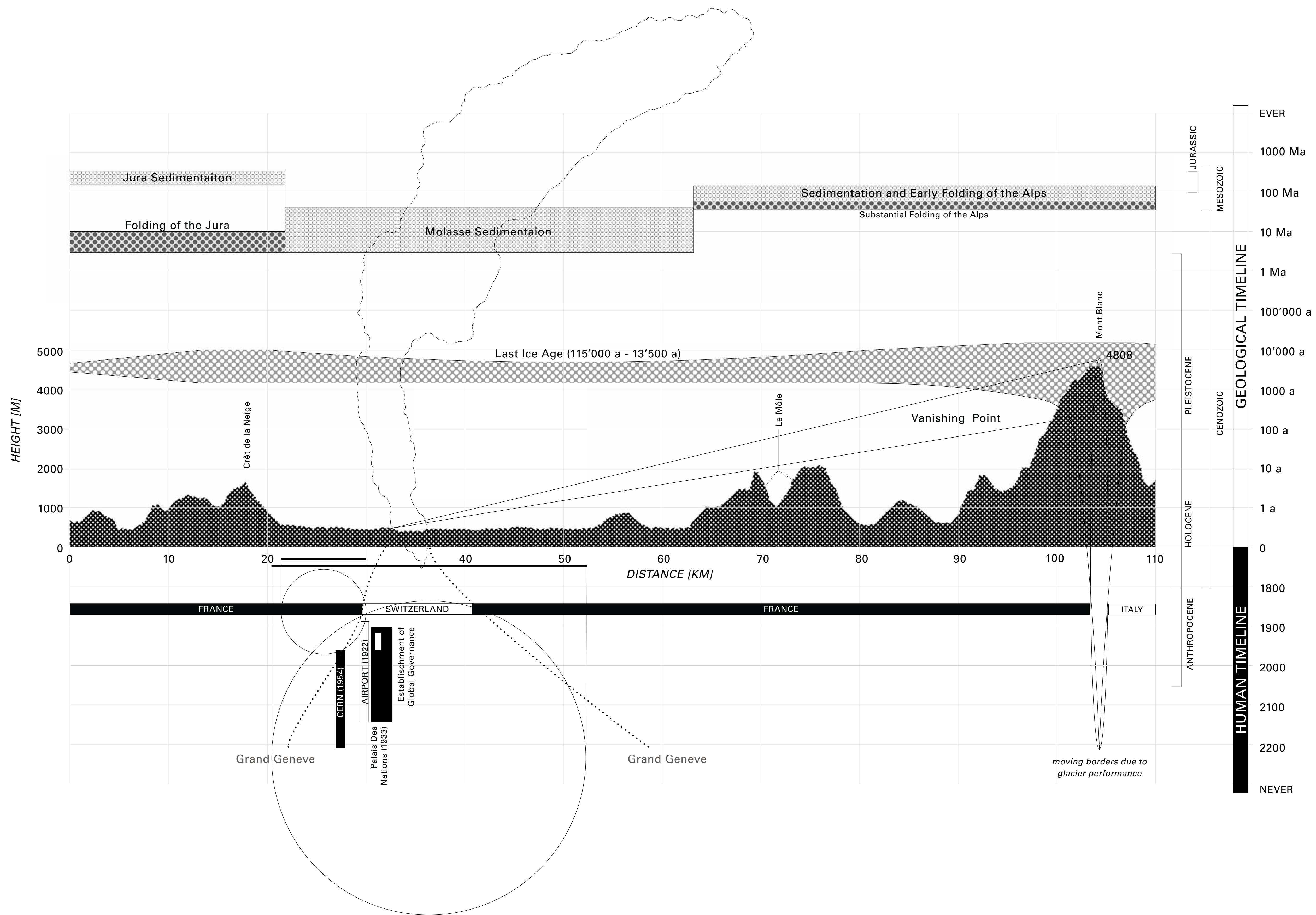
CONTEXT OF JARDIN DES NATIONS

ORTHOFOTO 1/20'000



GEOGRAPHICAL ALIGNEMENT

GEOLOGICAL FORMATIONS OF JURA, MOLASSE BASIN AND ALPS



TIME-SCALE-RELATION STUDY

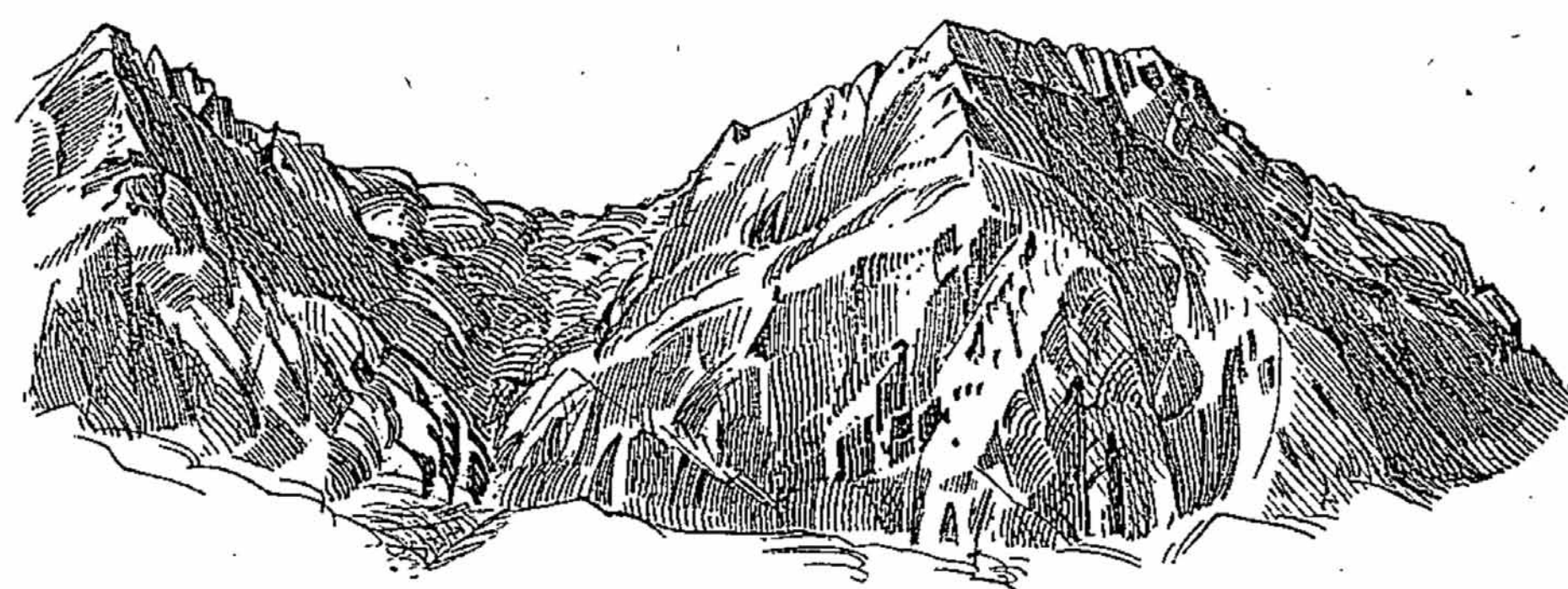
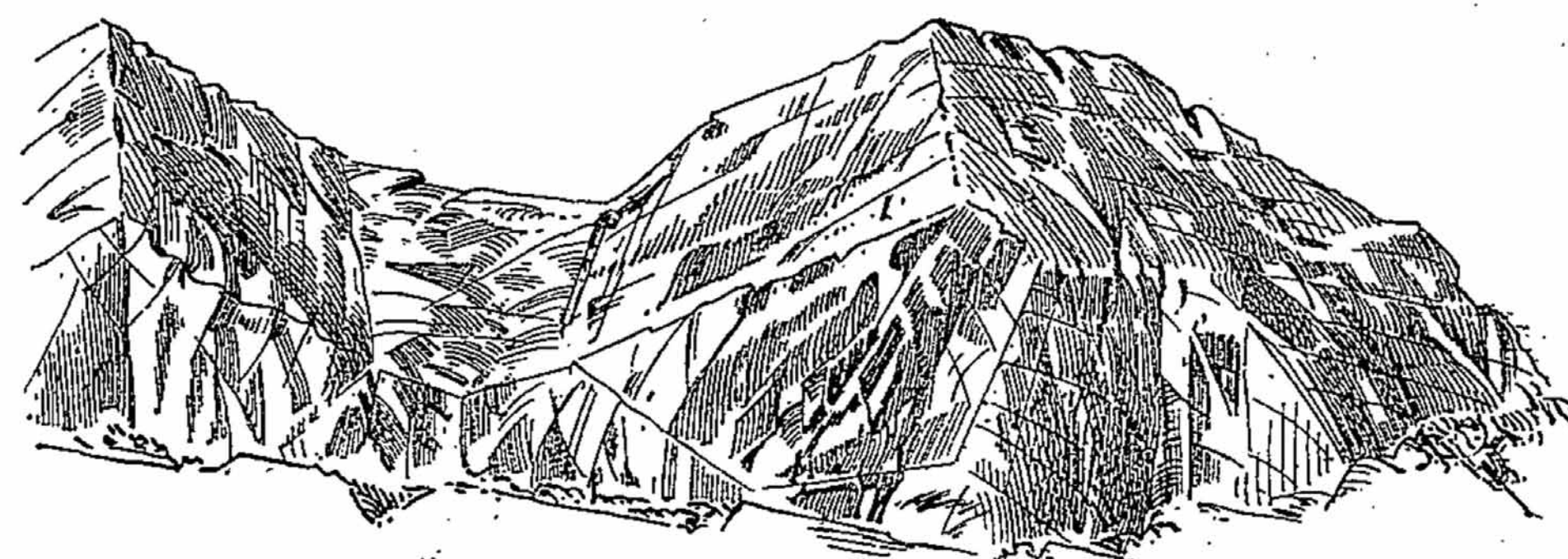
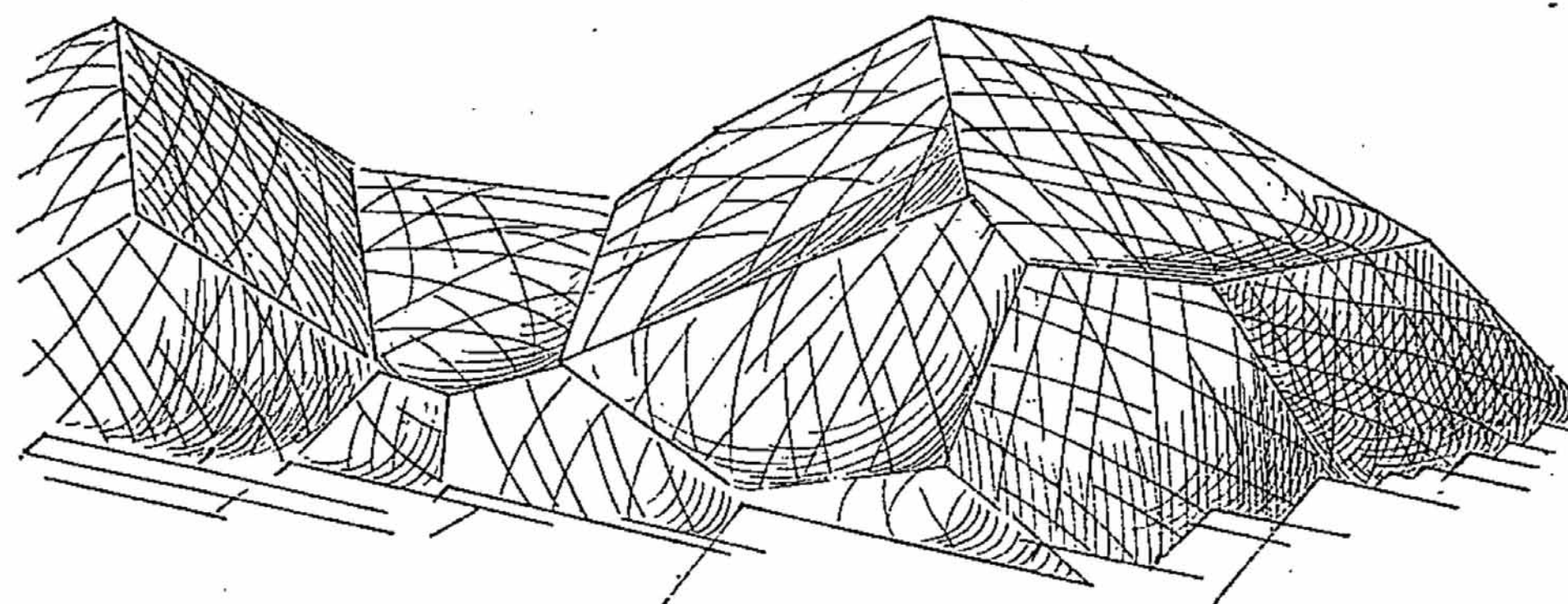
TOPOGRAPHICAL SECTION FROM FRENCH JURA TO MONT BLANC



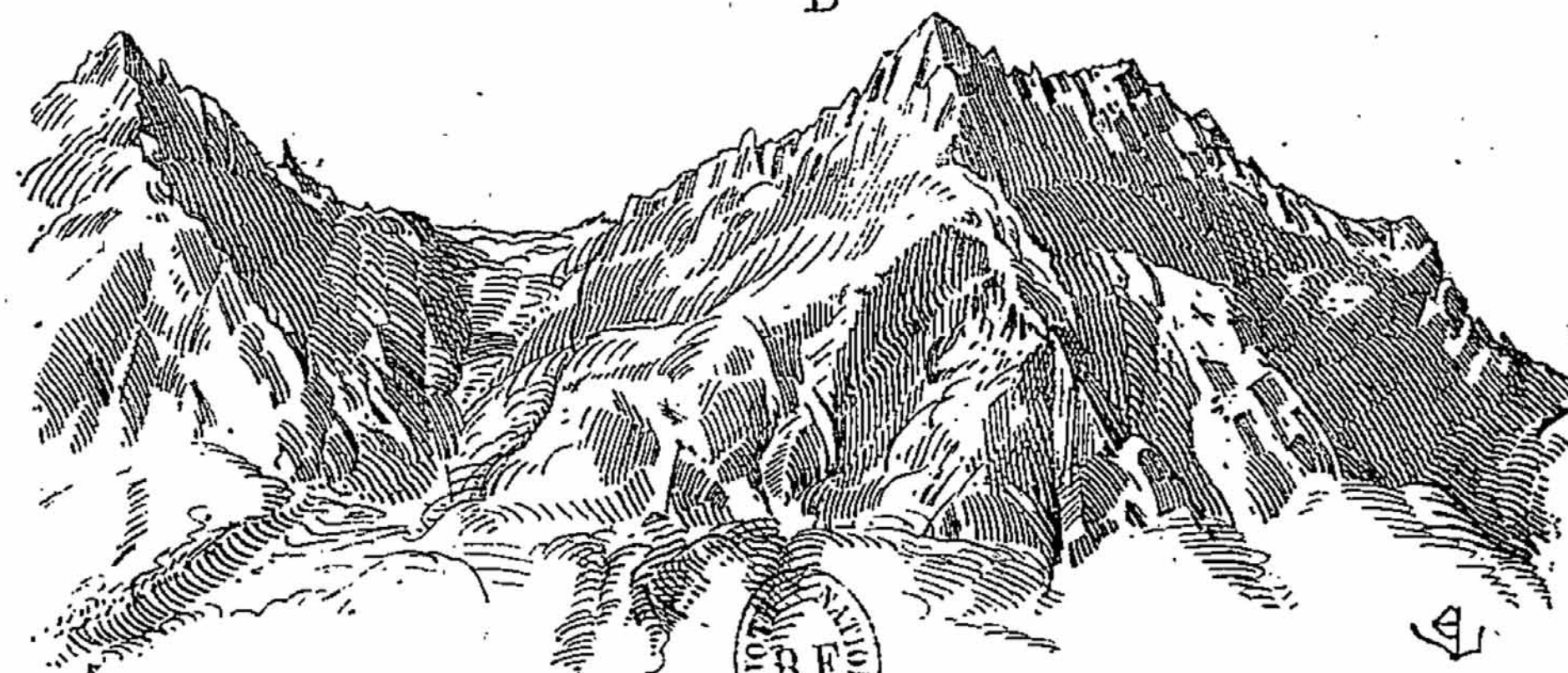
VOLZ, DESCENT OF HORACE-BÉNÉDICT DE SAUSSURE FROM THE SUMMIT OF MONT BLANC (c.1790)

CHAPITRE IV.

A



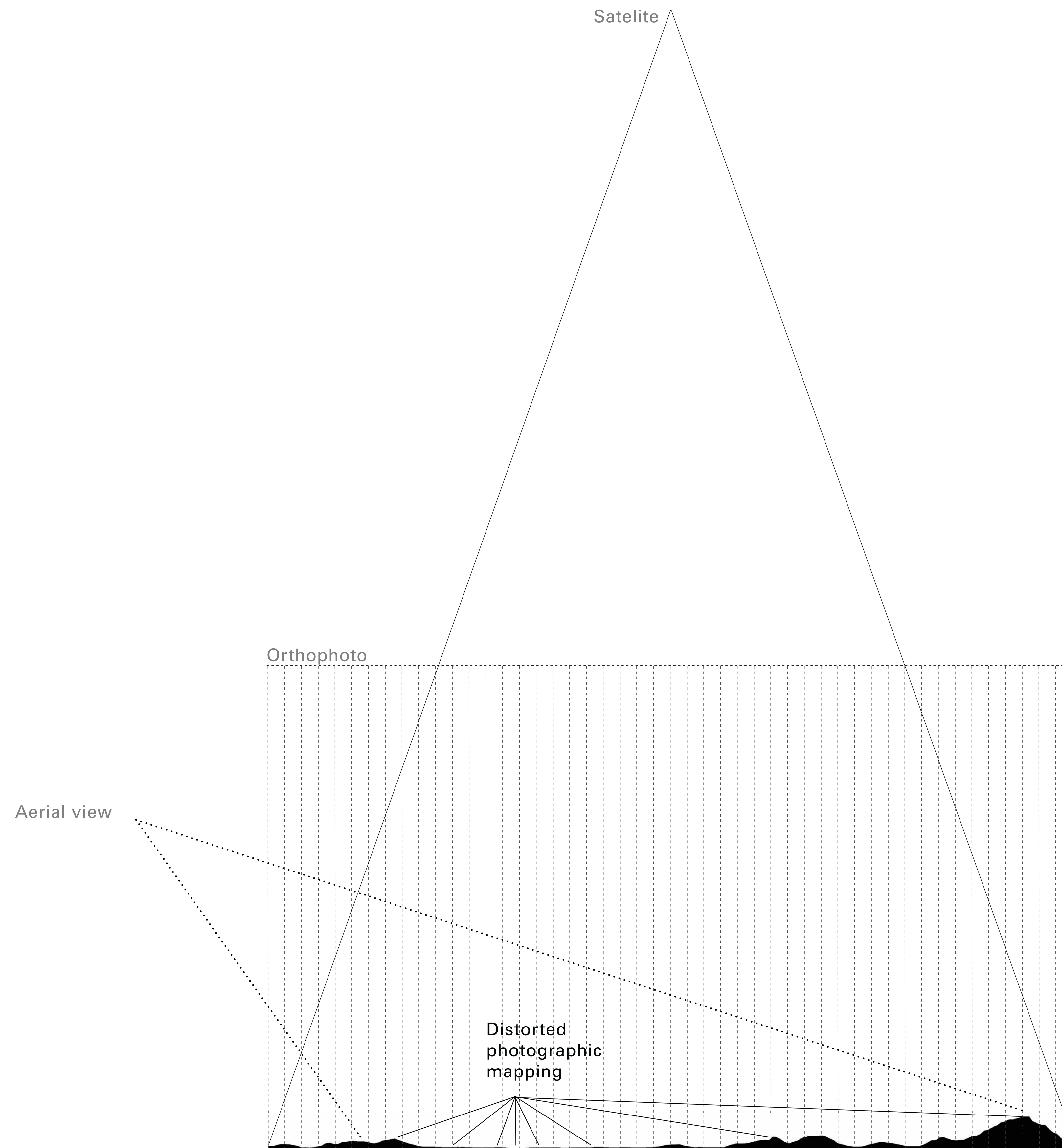
B



36 bis. — Modifications apportées à un sommet. (P. 76.)

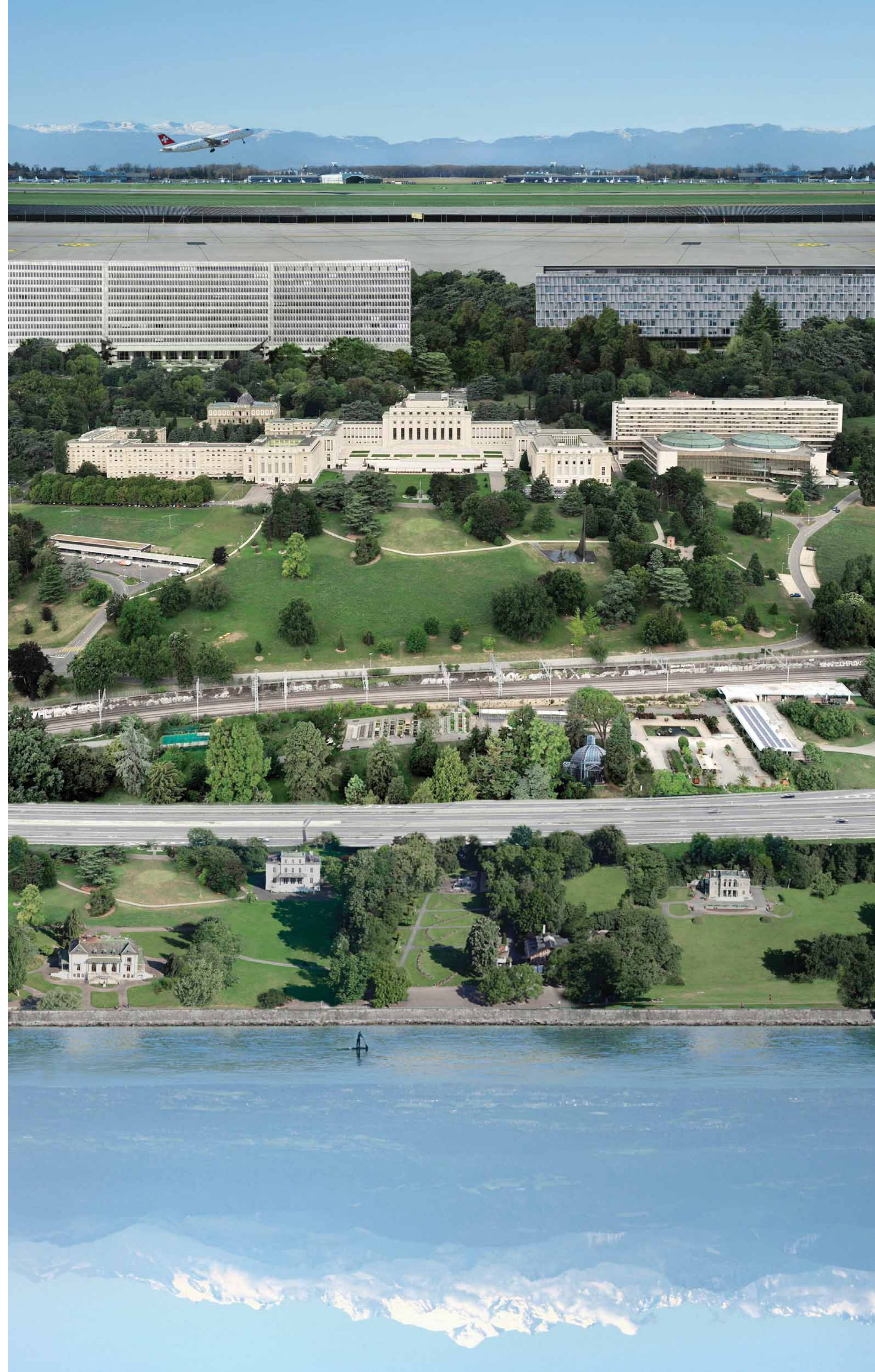
“To analyse carefully a group of mountains, the manner in which they were formed, and the causes of their ruin; to discover the order in which the phenomena of upheaval occurred, the conditions in virtue of which they have resisted or endured the action of atmospheric agents, to note the chronology of their history, is to devote oneself to a work of methodical analysis which is, on a grander scale, analogous to that to which the practical architect and the archaeologist applies himself when drawing conclusions from the study of buildings.”

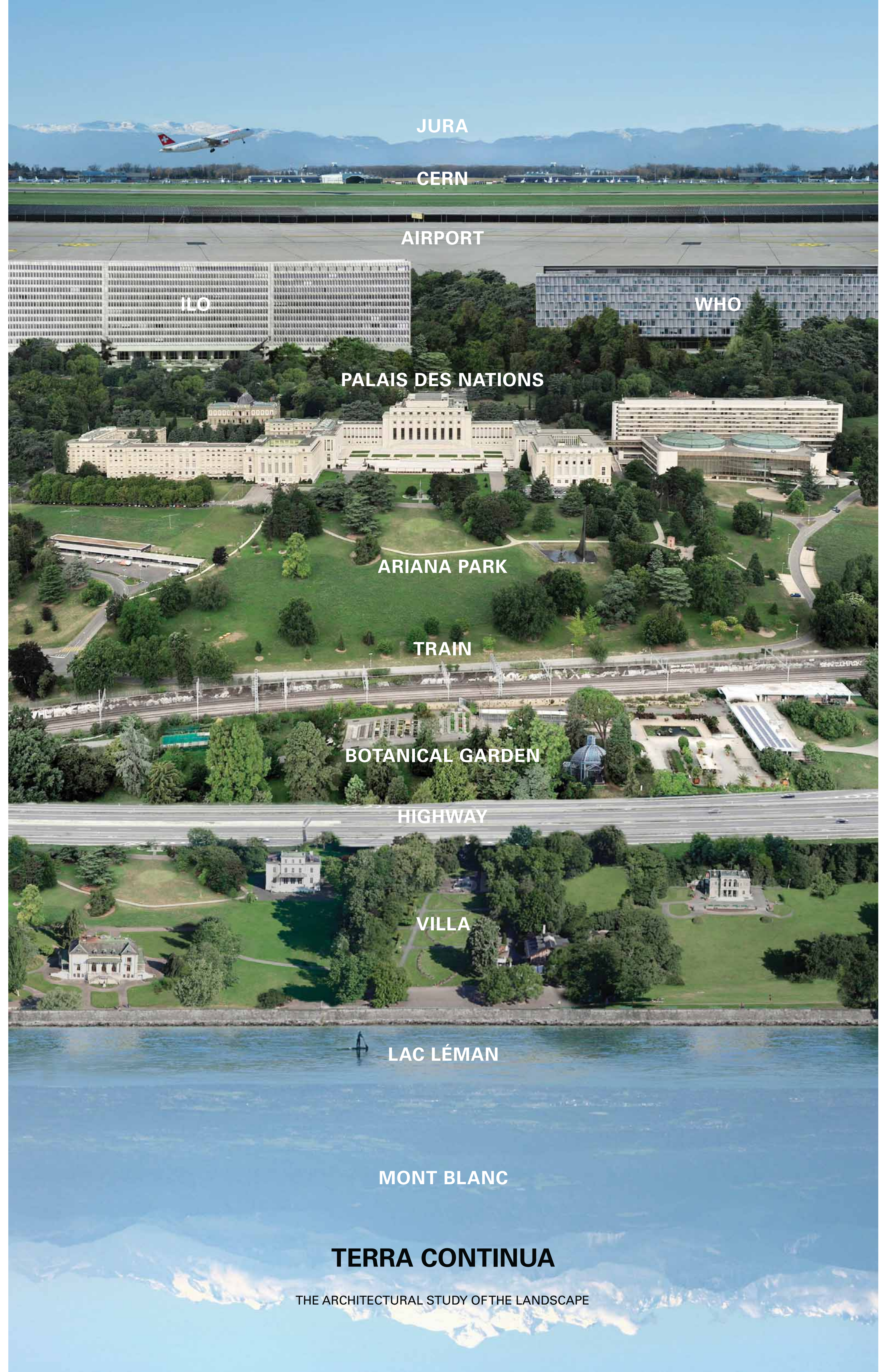
EUGÈNE VIOLLET-LE-DUC, LE MASSIF DU MONT-BLANC (1868–1876)



METHODICAL ANALYSIS

THE DISTORTED PHOTOGRAPHIC MAPPING IN RELATION





JURA

CERN

AIRPORT

WHO

PALAIS DES NATIONS

ARIANA PARK

TRAIN

BOTANICAL GARDEN

HIGHWAY

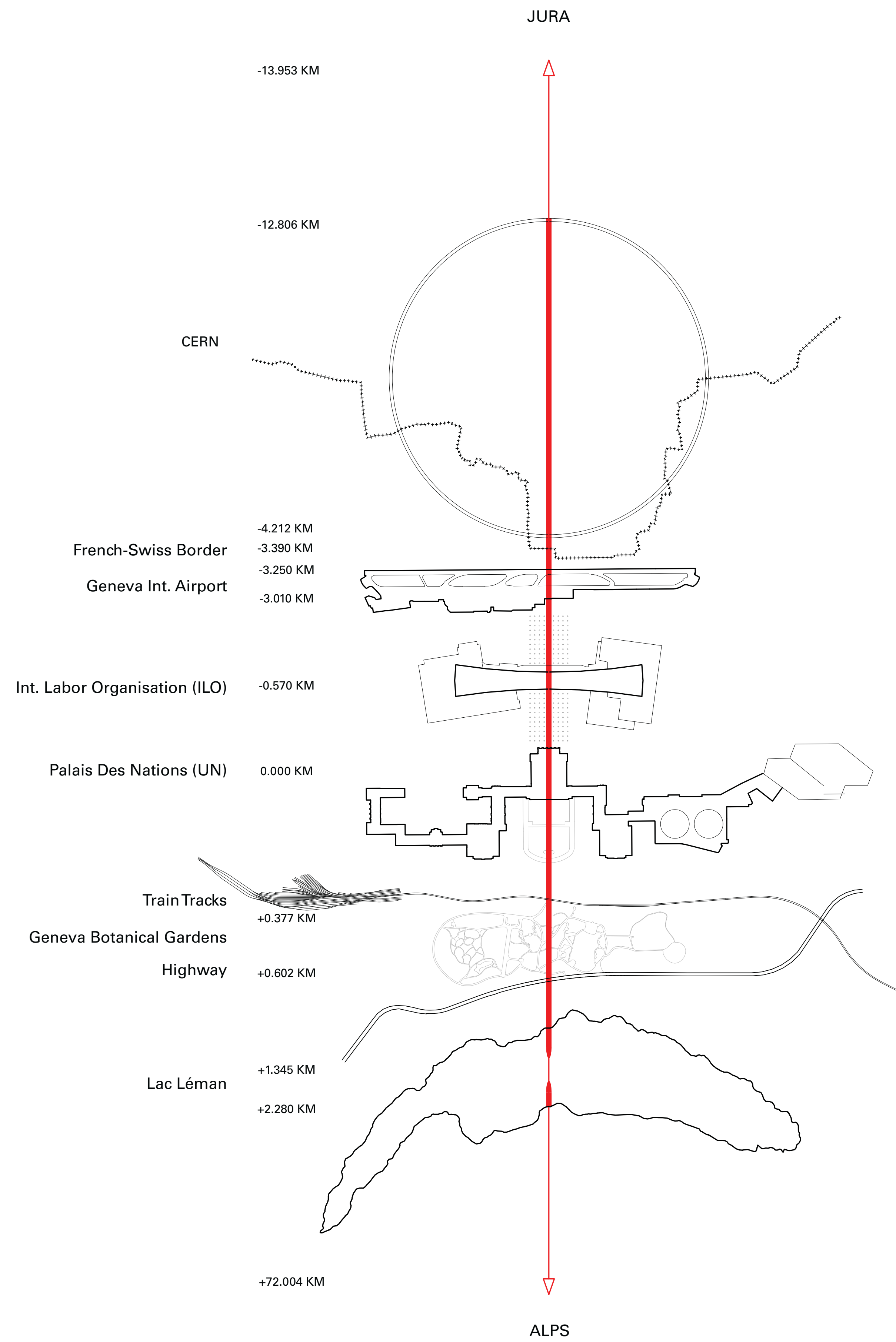
VILLA

LAC LÉMAN

MONT BLANC

TERRA CONTINUA

THE ARCHITECTURAL STUDY OF THE LANDSCAPE



TRANSVERSAL LINE

CROSSING BORDERS FROM JURATO THE ALPS

3

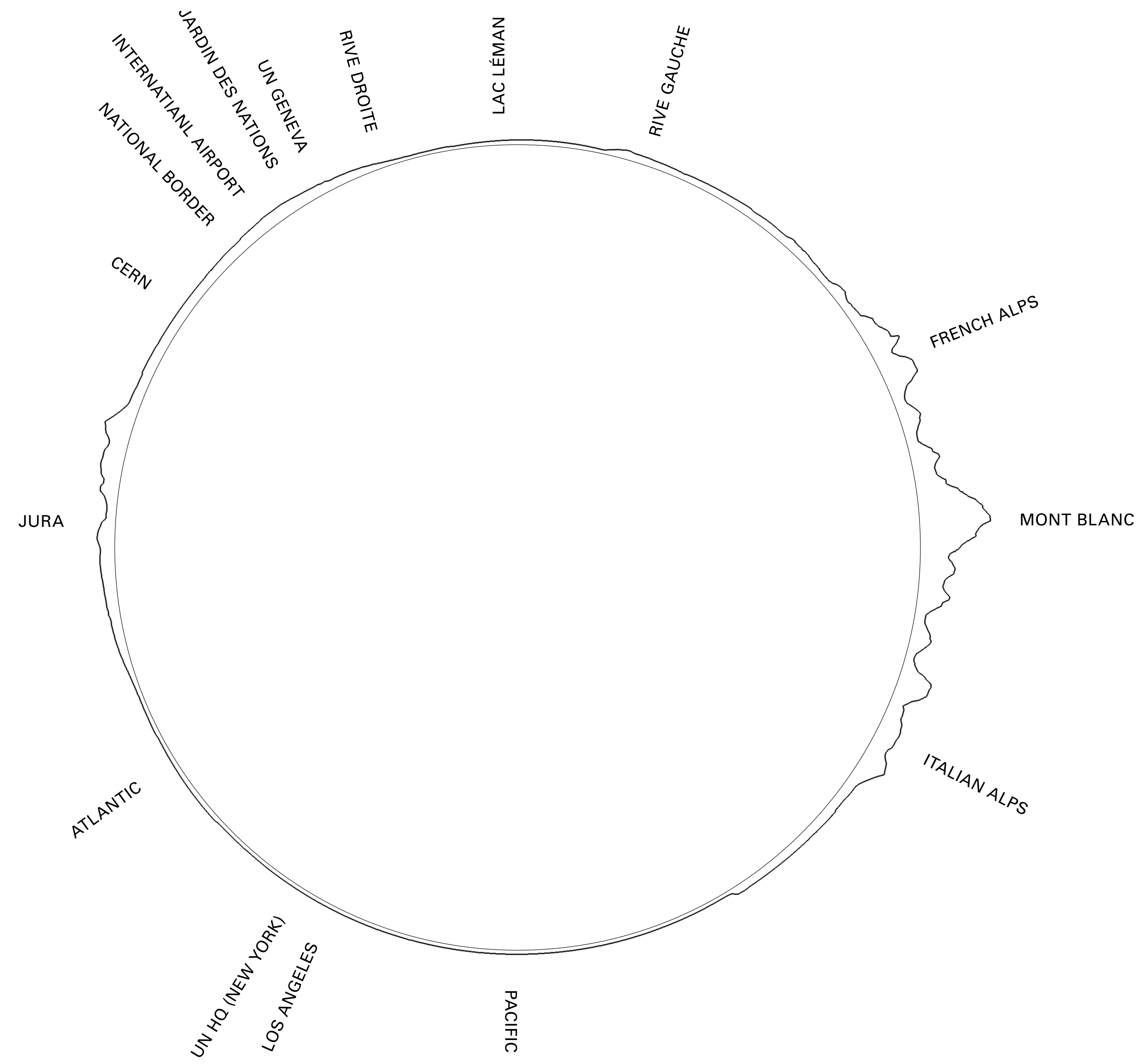
THE STRIP

III

Historically, the landscape has been on one side objective to scientific research with global impact and on the other, seen as subject of some sort of metaphysical relationship, one, it seems, behind which the UN has hidden itself – keeping in mind the true ambition of the peaceful borderless world the organisation is aiming at.

What if we seek to tackle these issues by starting to reshape the landscape, generating an alignment between these diverse entities and thus making it a laboratory with a global ambition? To promote a Jura-Alps-Transit means therefore to propel the vision of a continuous, seamless landscape, overcoming all existing borders and divisions. It envisions a strip, a stretched surface going from the Jura chain to the Alps, generating an open territory.

In a world filled with asymmetries of power and wealth, an imagined meridian with the UN as its origin brings the international organizations to a borderless, timeless dimension in which every culture, every world citizen can belong. An out-dated image – the monumental and static classicist facades of the UN palace – is restored with a dynamic and permeable landscape, which aims the important reconnection with nature, recognising its ambiguity and yet its importance.

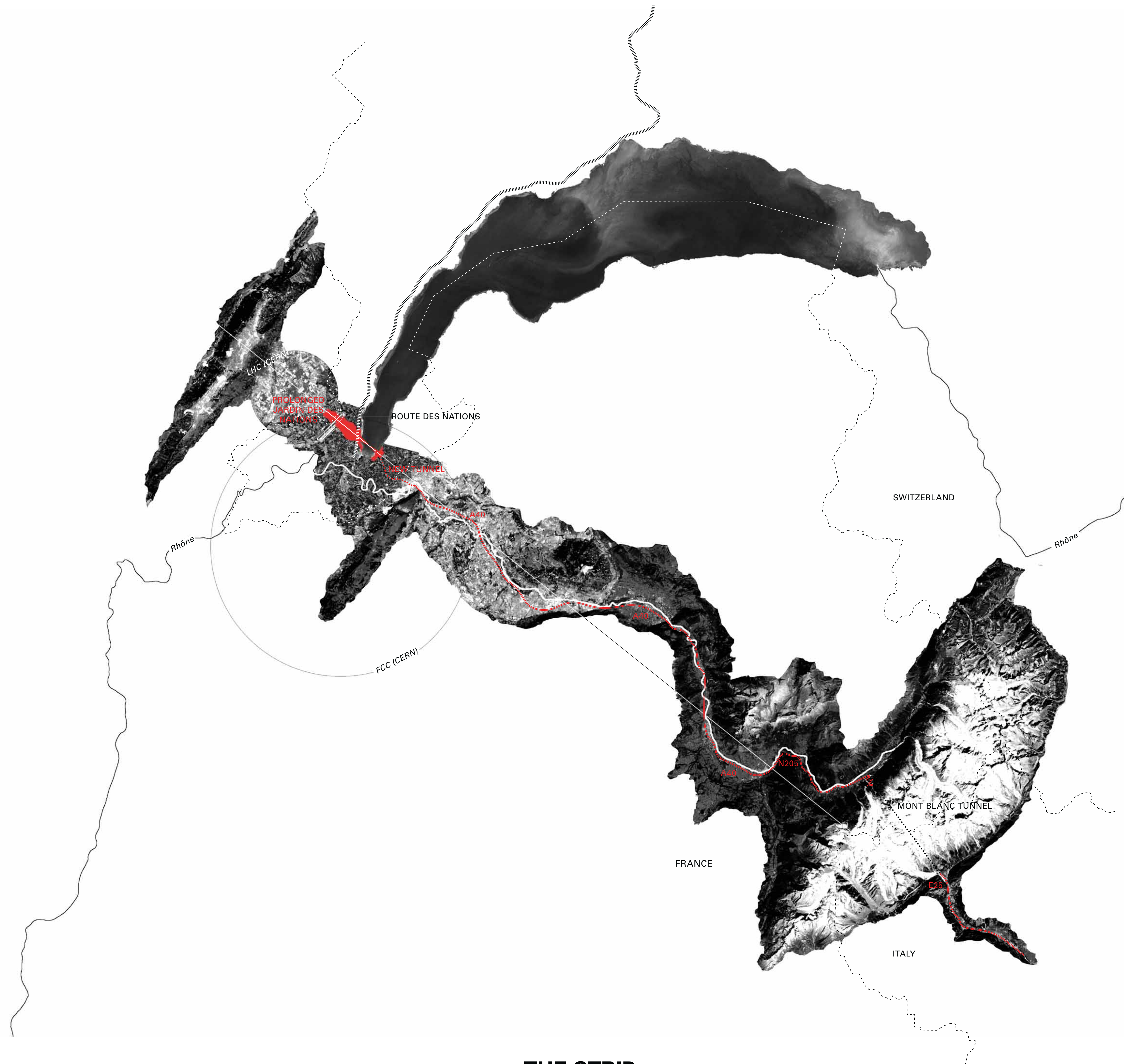


UN MT

UNITED NATIONS MERIDIAN

“The territory no longer precedes the map, nor survives it. Henceforth, it is the map that precedes the territory – precession of simulacra – it is the map that engenders the territory and if we were to revive the fable today, it would be the territory whose shreds are slowly rotting across the map.”

JEAN BAUDRILLARD, SIMULACRES ET SIMULATION ([1981] 1983)



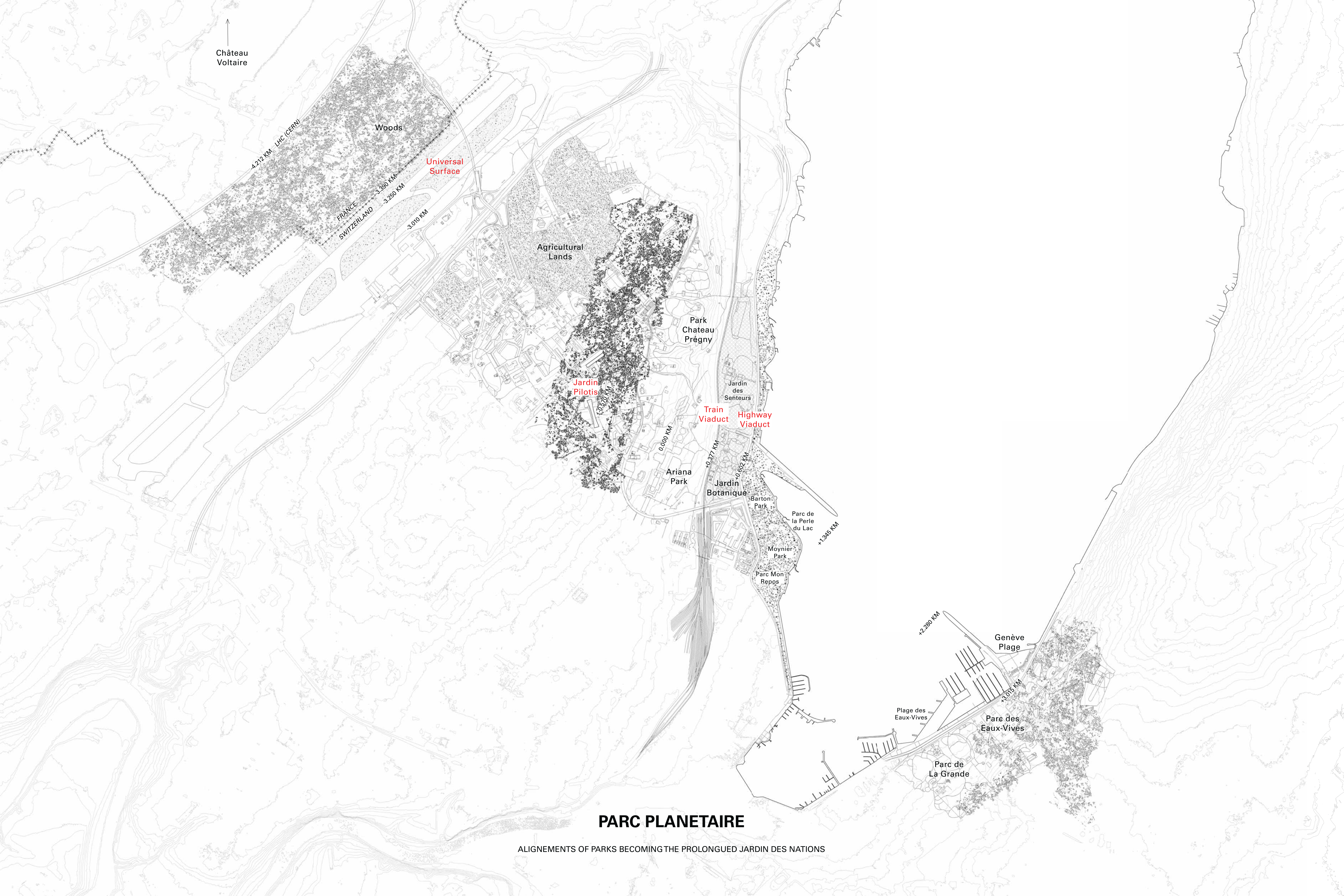
THE STRIP

TERRITORIAL INTERCONNECTIVITY



ROUTE PLANETAIRE

THE NEW ITINERARY FOR CAR AND PUBLIC TRANSPORT



Château
Voltaire

4.22 KM LHC (CERN)

Woods

Universal
Surface

FRANCE
SWITZERLAND

3.380 KM

3.280 KM

3.010 KM

Agricultural
Lands

Jardin
Pilotis

0.520 KM

Park
Château
Prégny

Jardin
des
Senteurs

Train
Viaduct

Highway
Viaduct

0.000 KM

0.377 KM

0.602 KM

Ariana
Park

Jardin
Botanique

Barton
Park

Parc de
la Perle
du Lac

+1.345 KM

Moynier
Park

Parc Mon
Repos

+2.280 KM

Genève
Plage

Plage des
Eaux-Vives

Parc des
Eaux-Vives

+3.015 KM

Parc de
La Grande

PARC PLANETAIRE

ALIGNEMENTS OF PARKS BECOMING THE PROLONGUED JARDIN DES NATIONS

4

NATURE OF BORDERS

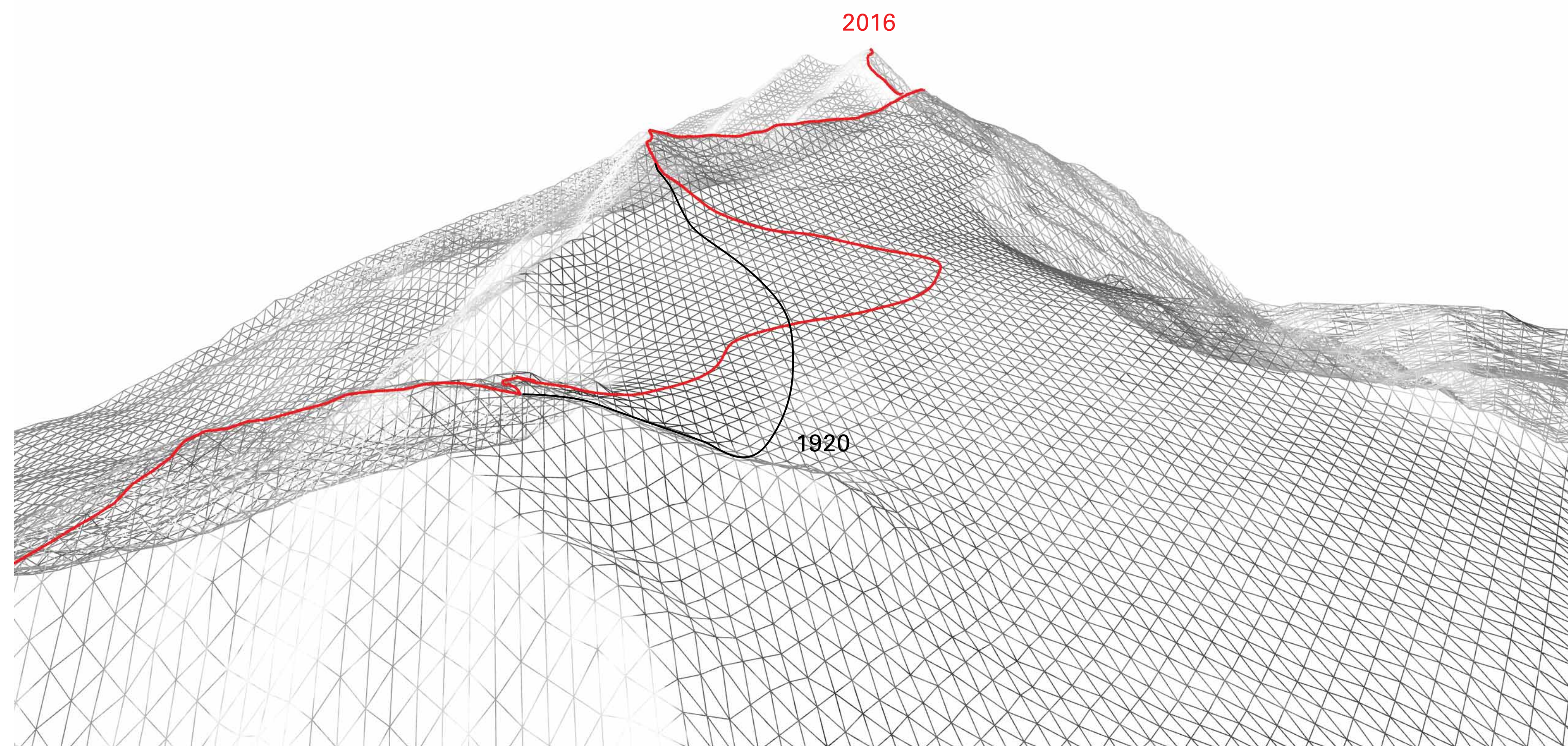
IV

However, an invisible ephemerality looms over the steadiness of the Alps shown in the project *Italian Limes* that records the melting of glaciers and thus the daily change of the national borders between Italy and Switzerland.

The example of a boundary in motion is ultimately not exceptional in this imaginary line. Following is the national border between France and Switzerland, a diplomatic issue of long negotiations for the independence of Geneva, occurred around 1815, later joining the Swiss Federal States and the re-negotiations, when building the international airport. Also, the boundaries of Lac Léman whose water level fluctuates artificially in height regulated by power plants in the course of the Rhône, are of a legislative nature; an inter-cantonal law directs the height to 372.3 meter over sea with annual lowering of roughly a half a meter in April to clean the boundaries. It is assumed that the level of Léman would be subject to annual fluctuations of two meters without human influence.

“After all, maps seem like a god solution: they offer a framework that takes into account the stability of the physical dimensions, on top of which it is easy to add the moving boundaries of settlements, kingdoms, commerce, or armies. Fine, but what happens when it is the physical boundaries themselves that have to be mapped? Maps inspire a politic settled in the relatively stable frame of natural borders. But how to redraw these lines in the midst of ecological mutation?”

BRUNO LATOUR, A MOVING BORDER (2018)



MOVING BORDER

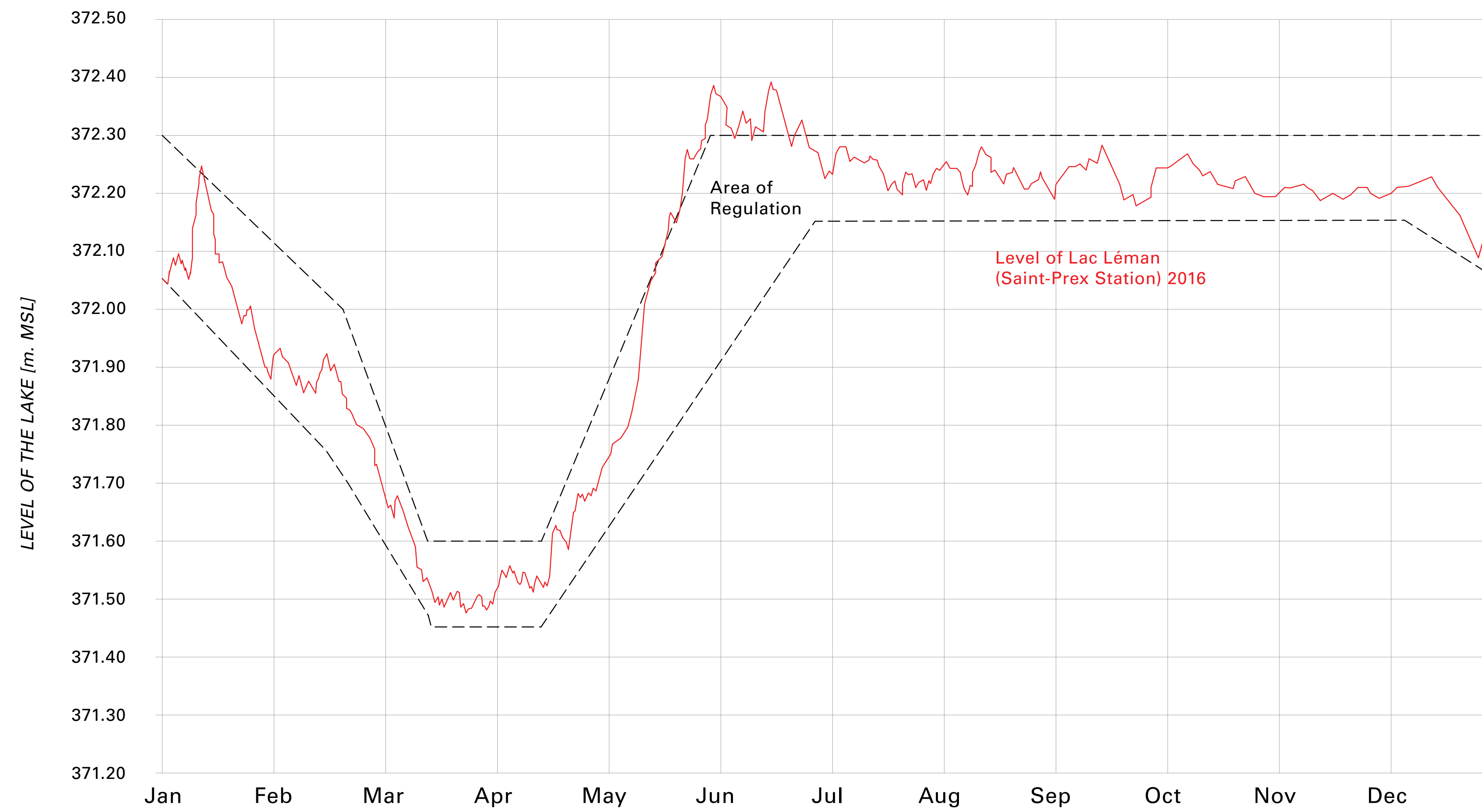
ITALIAN LIMES, MOVMENT OFTHE AUSTRIAN ITALIAN BORDER ON MT. SIMILAUN

“Due to global warming and shrinking glaciers, a considerable shift of the glacial watershed has been detected—and accordingly of the coinciding national borders. A new definition of ‘moving border’ has thus been introduced by the Italian Parliament into national legislation. In order to track the movement of the Austrian–Italian border, a grid of 25 solar-powered sensors has been installed on the surface of a glacier at the foot of Mt. Similaun. Once every 2 hours the sensors record position data, allowing for the automated mapping of the line.”

ITALIAN LIMES, MAPPING THE ITALIAN-AUSTRIAN BORDER AT THE GLACIER AT MT. SIMILAUN (2016)



ITALIAN LIMES, SENSOR TRACKING MOVMENT OF GLACIER ON THE MT. SIMILAUN (2016)



FLUCTUATING BOUNDARY

EVOLUTION OF THE LEVEL OF THE LAC LÉMAN (LIMNOLOGICAL STATION OF SAINT-PREX) IN THE YEAR 2016

**Règlement sur la manoeuvre de
l'ouvrage de régularisation du
niveau du lac Léman à Genève**

L 2 15.03

du 17 septembre 1997 (Entrée en vigueur : 1^{er} juillet 1997)

Le CONSEIL D'ETAT de la République et canton de Genève,
vu l'article 5 de l'acte intercantonal concernant la correction et la régularisation de l'écoulement des eaux du lac
Léman entre les cantons de Genève, de Vaud et du Valais, du 11 septembre 1984 (ci-après : acte intercantonal),
arrête :

Art. 1 Objectif de régularisation du niveau du lac

¹ L'ouvrage (barrage, usine hydroélectrique et écluse) dit du Seujet, sis à Genève entre les ponts de la
Coulouvrenière et de Sous-Terre, a pour but de maintenir les eaux du lac entre les cotes 371,70 m s.m. et 372,30
m s.m. (référence RPN 373,60 m s.m.).

² Les mesures limnimétriques définissant le niveau du lac sont faites à Saint-Prex (canton de Vaud).

Art. 2 Niveaux mensuels

Les manoeuvres des vannes mobiles du barrage (y compris de l'écluse) et des organes d'obturation des machines
de l'usine hydroélectrique accolée au barrage doivent être coordonnées et effectuées de telle sorte que le niveau
du lac soit maintenu comme suit :

<i>mois</i>	<i>cote (m s.m.)</i>
janvier	372,10
février	371,90
mars	371,80
avril	371,70 (minimum)
mai	371,70 (minimum)
juin à décembre	372,30 (maximum)

Art. 3 Années bissextiles

Chaque année bissextile, le niveau du lac est abaissé à la cote 371,50 m s.m. pour une période de quatre
semaines, si possible du 15 mars au 15 avril, pour permettre les travaux de construction et de réparation sur les
rives et bords du lac.

Art. 4 Concession aux Services industriels de Genève

¹ En application de l'article 13 de l'acte intercantonal, l'Etat de Genève a accordé la concession aux Services
industriels de Genève de la force hydraulique d'une section du Rhône pour l'exploitation d'une usine
hydroélectrique dite du Seujet située entre les ponts de la Coulouvrenière et de Sous-Terre. A ce titre, les
Services industriels de Genève (ci-après : le concessionnaire) assurent l'exploitation et la surveillance de
l'ouvrage.

² Le concessionnaire de la chute peut disposer des installations pour produire de l'énergie électrique par
l'ouvrage et par les usines hydroélectriques de l'aval en respectant les cotes fixées aux articles 1 à 3 du présent
règlement.

Art. 5 Crues de l'Arve

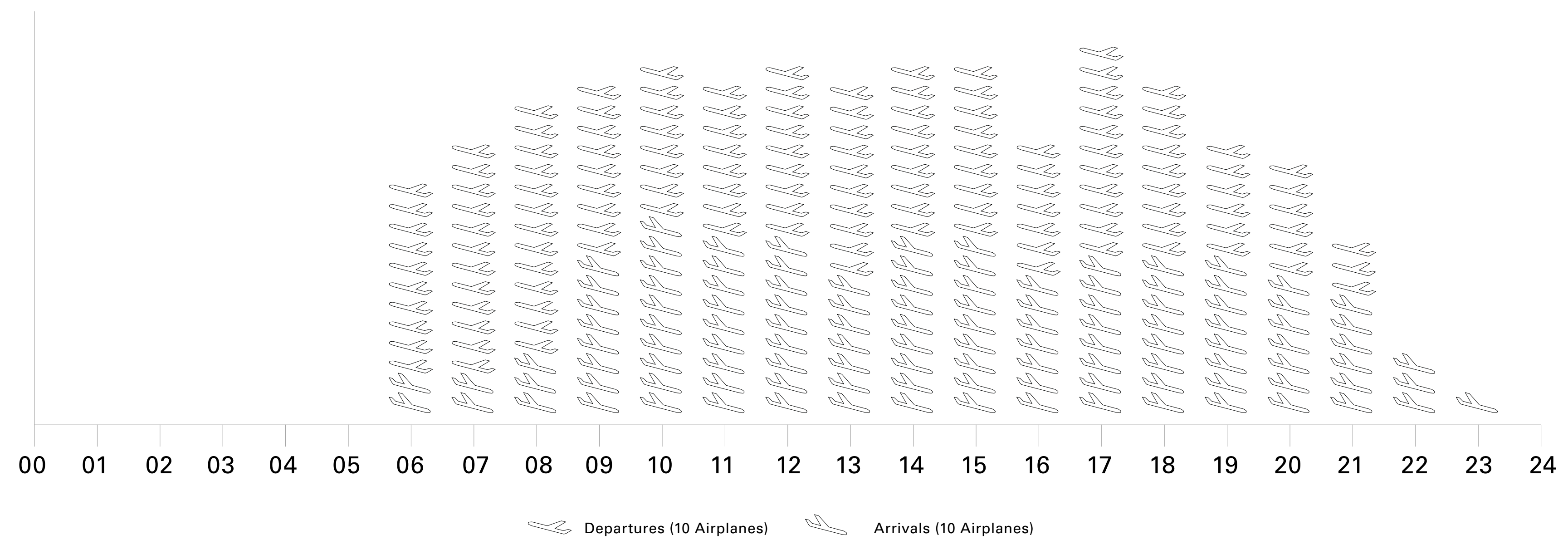
Lorsque par suite de crues de l'Arve entravant le débit du Rhône la chute disponible à l'ouvrage devient
inférieure à 1,0 m, le concessionnaire peut manoeuvrer de façon à maintenir la chute à 1,0 m en respectant
toutefois les niveaux du lac prescrits aux articles 1 à 3 du présent règlement.

Art. 6 Instructions de l'Etat

Si des circonstances particulières le justifient, le département de l'intérieur, de l'agriculture et de
l'environnement peut en tout temps donner des instructions concernant les volumes et débits à évacuer par
l'ouvrage dit du Seujet.



SUB-REC (PAILLEX GILBERT), LIMNOLOGICAL STUDY 27 JUIN 2011. MR-1 (2011)



FREQUENCY LIMITATION

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE DIAGRAM

Mouvements du mois de novembre 2019

PERIODES	MOUVEMENTS NOCTURNES TOTAUX				NATURE DES MOUVEMENTS ENTRE 00:30 et 05:59		
	2019	2018	VAR.	VAR. %		2019	2018
22:00 - 22:59	Atterrissages: 409	435	-26	- 6.0%	Sanitaires	Atterrissages: 2	2
	Décollages: 33	45	-12	- 26.7%		Décollages: 1	2
	442	480	-38	- 7.9%		3	4
23:00 - 23:59	Atterrissages: 116	158	-42	- 26.6%	Vols d'Etats et Militaires	Atterrissages: 0	1
	Décollages: 9	8	+1	+ 12.5%			0
	125	166	-41	- 24.7%		0	1
00:00 - 00:29	Atterrissages: 3	6	-3	- 50.0%			
	3	6	-3	- 50.0%			
00:30 - 05:59	Atterrissages: 2	3	-1	- 33.3%			
	Décollages: 1	2	-1	- 50.0%			
	3	5	-2	- 40.0%			
22:00 - 05:59	Atterrissages: 530	602	-72	- 12.0%			
	Décollages: 43	55	-12	- 21.8%			
	573	657	-84	- 12.8%			

Mouvements entre 00:30 et 05:59 du mois de novembre 2019

Date	Type d'aéronef	Classe de bruit	Atterrissage / Décollage	Local Ab/Td Time	Remarques	
20.11.19	EUROCOPTER	EC35	-	Décollages	01:06	Vol sanitaire
20.11.19	EUROCOPTER	EC35	-	Atterrissages	02:45	Vol sanitaire
23.11.19	CANADAIR CL-600/601/604/605 CH	CL60	5	Atterrissages	04:15	Vol sanitaire



BIBLIOTHÈQUE DE GENÈVE, GENEVA AIRPORT TERRACE OF THE REFRESHMENT BAR, NEAR THE TARMAC OF THE COINTRIN AIRPORT (DATED BETWEEN 1949 - 1960)

5

TERRA CONTINUA

V

By inserting itself in the alignment of the topographical, historical and cultural demarcations, and by dialoguing with a temporality much wider than the Anthropocene, the proposed *Jardin des Nations* becomes a large parc facing the Léman, the Alps, and the world.

Terra Continua acts on several layers, promoting the overcoming of different borders: the passing is conditioned among others by the frequency of planes, the regulations of national borders, the opening of security borders of private property (UN) and the fluctuation of the level of the lake.

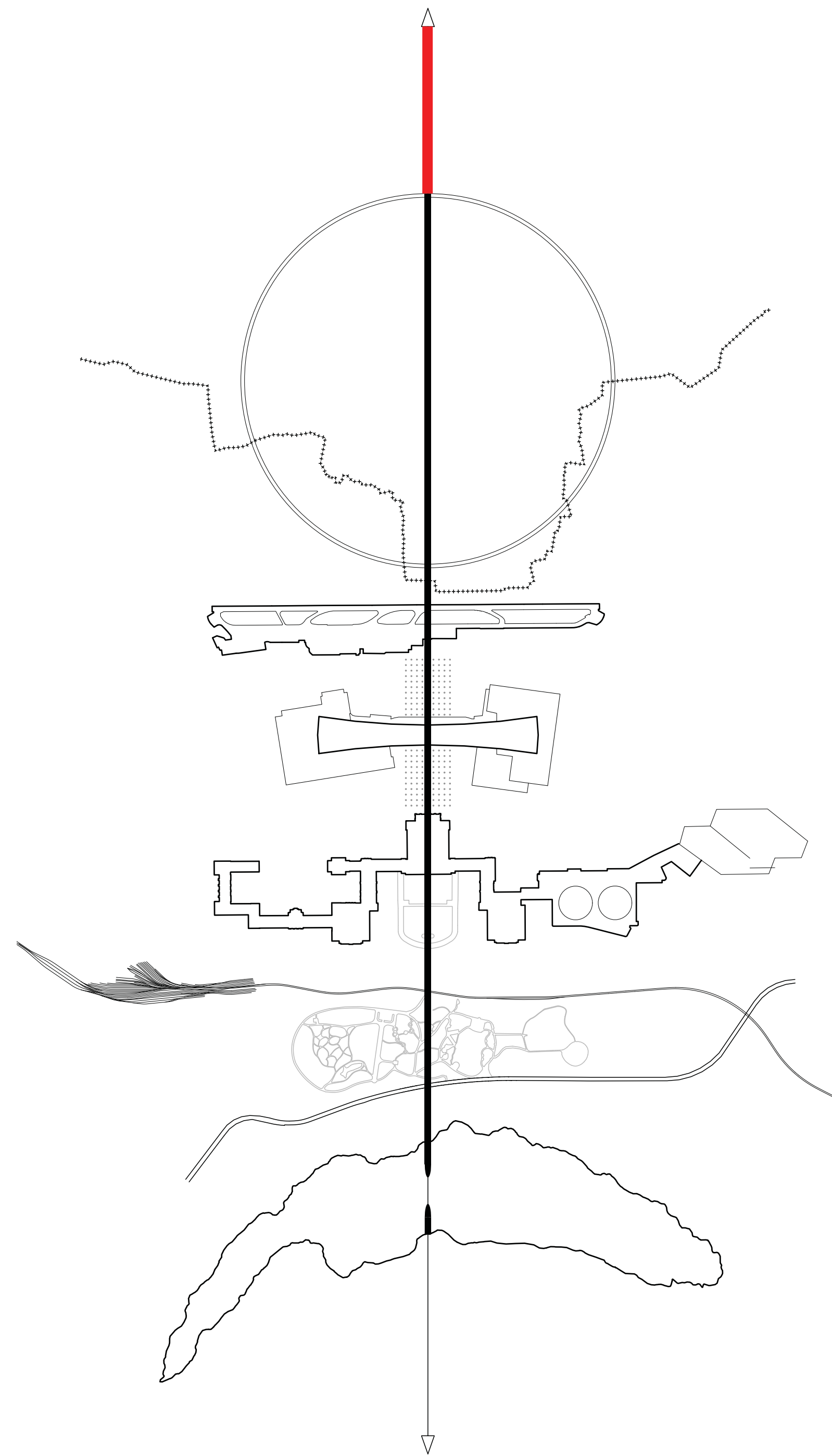
The spectrum of traversing physical, technical, legislative, political, commercial, metaphysical, supernatural and natural borders, reaching from local to global, is subject to the inhabitation of the space, as well as to the everyday passing and crossing of the *Jardin des Nations*. On the other hand, it becomes a single enormous event moving from Jura through the *Palais des Nations* to the Alps that re-strengthens the ambiguous relationship to nature.

The transversal crossing of *Terra Continua* at several speeds, and particularly the walk through the layering, renders visible the movements of the landscape and the constant changes of borders and boundaries at different scales. It is the birth of *homo mundanus*, a being of worldliness.

“La topologie est au paysage ce que la tectonique est à l’architecture. Il s’agit de comprendre, à travers tous ses degrés de nuances, les différentes surfaces d’un territoire donné, c’est-à-dire la différence de potentiel entre une surface plissée et une surface lisse, entre une orientation clémente et une localisation difficile.”

CHRISTOPHE GIROT: TRACÉS 2017 / 16-17 (2017)

JURA



JURASSIC VIEW

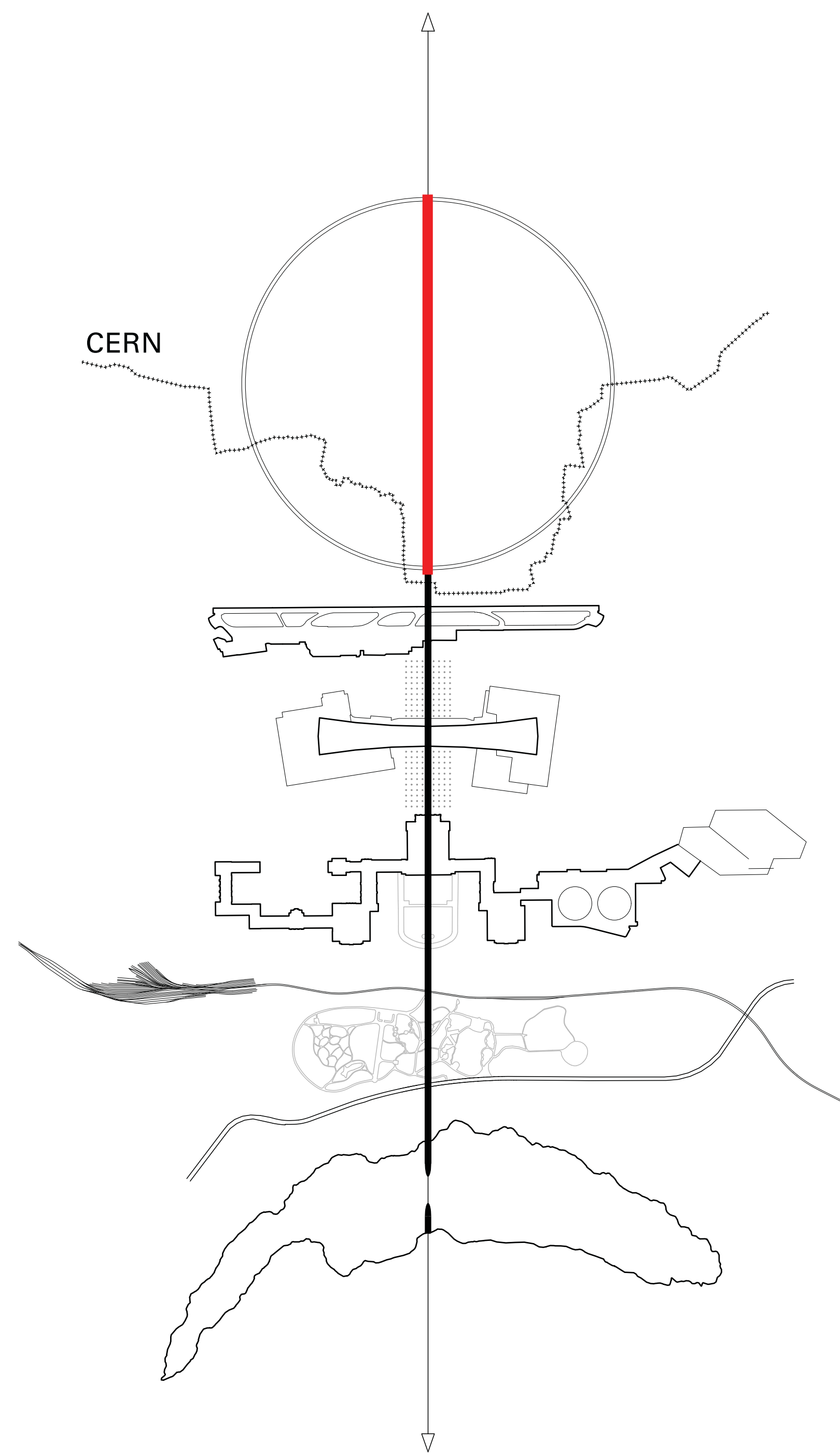
JURA



The Jurassic View spans the territory between the two Poles – the Jura and the Alps – of the imagined meridian with the UN as its centre. The significance of this landscape for us in imagining the earth's deep past can be seen in the fact that the Jura is the source of the well-known term 'Jurassic' ('Jura' translates as 'forest mountains'). The mountain range gave their name to an entire geological epoch, one that reordered the timeframes by which we know the planet's development. It is just over 220 years since Alexander von Humboldt, an advocate both of romantic philosophy, and an early pioneer of systematic geophysical measurements, coined this term, 'Jurassic'.

JURASSIC VIEW

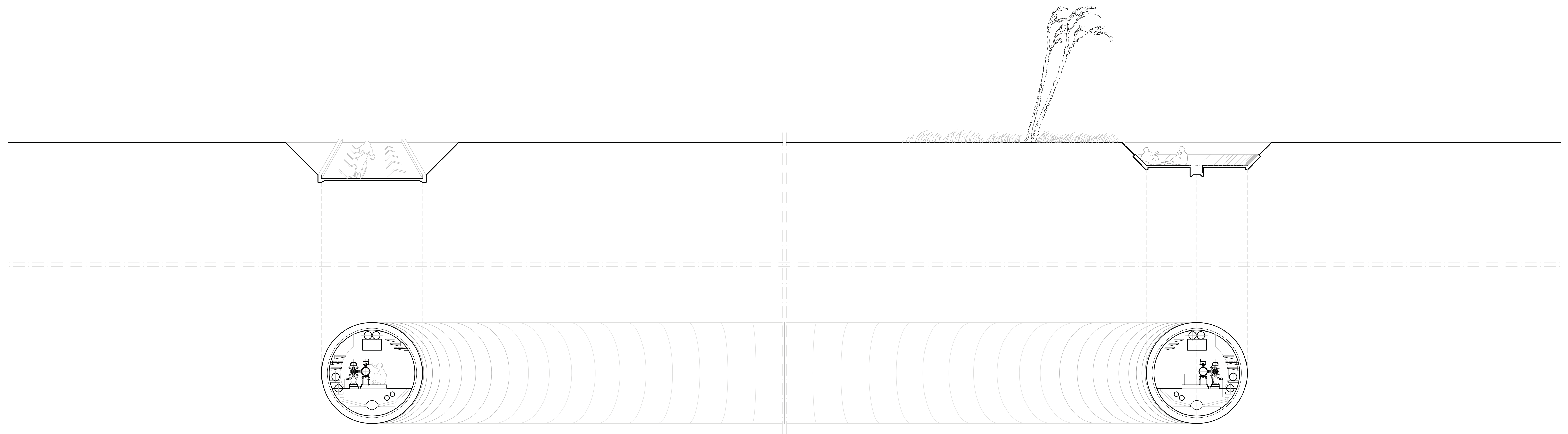
JURA



A STEADY CURVE

CERN



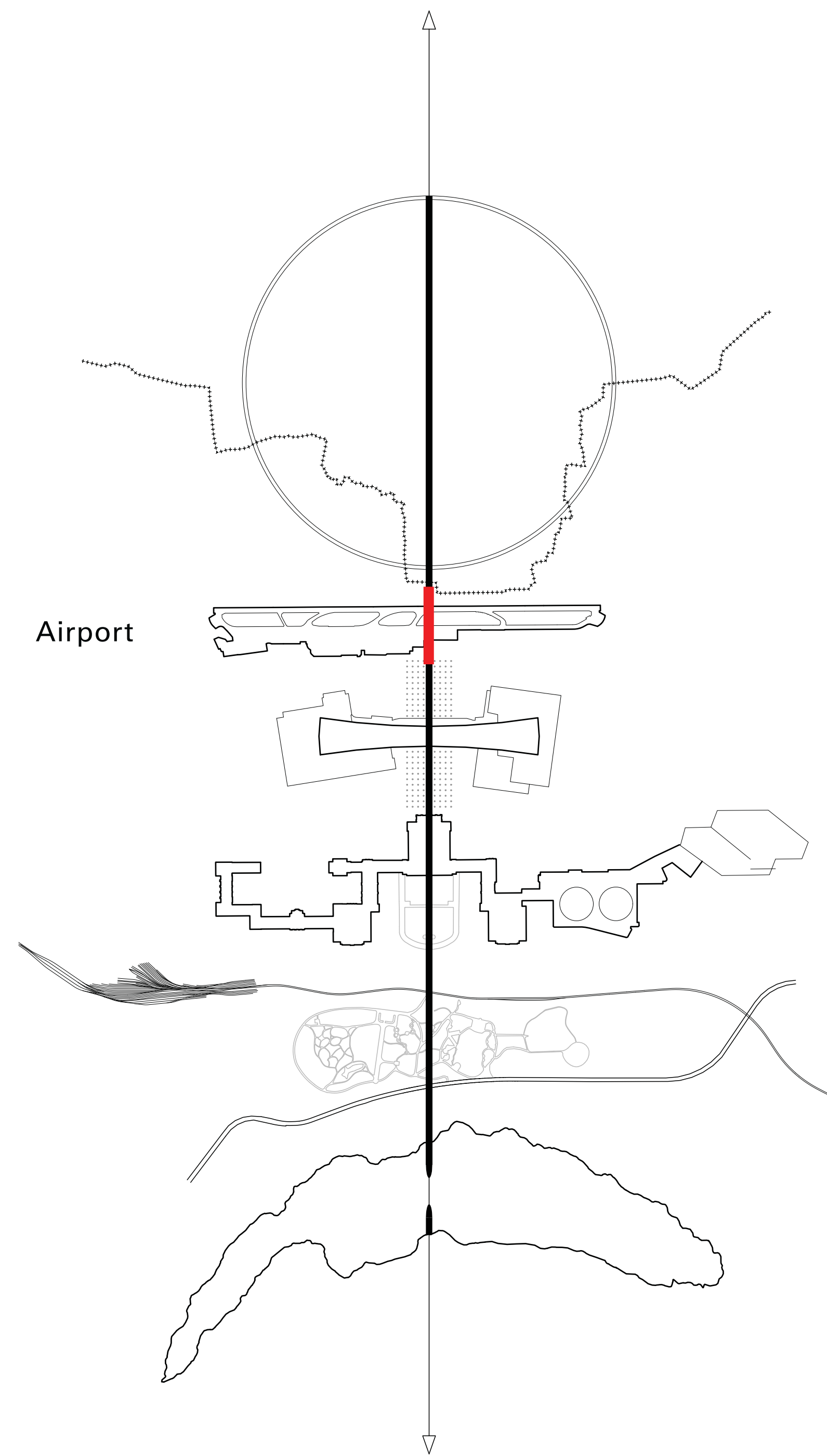


A STEADY CURVE

CERN 1/100

In the scope of Terra Continua, the mostly invisible facilities of CERN's research organisation distributed over Swiss and French territory become part of the reshaping of the landscape and making national borders unnoticed on a micro scale. The circular LHC Tunnel therefore has physical consequences at the exact position on the top surface, becoming a steady curve of interactions and movement. The concealed frontiers of science and technology unite not only people from all over the world to push the forefront of human knowledge, but to generate a wider understanding of on the scale of human integration with the earth.

A STEADY CURVE



Airport

A UNIVERSAL SURFACE

AIRPORT

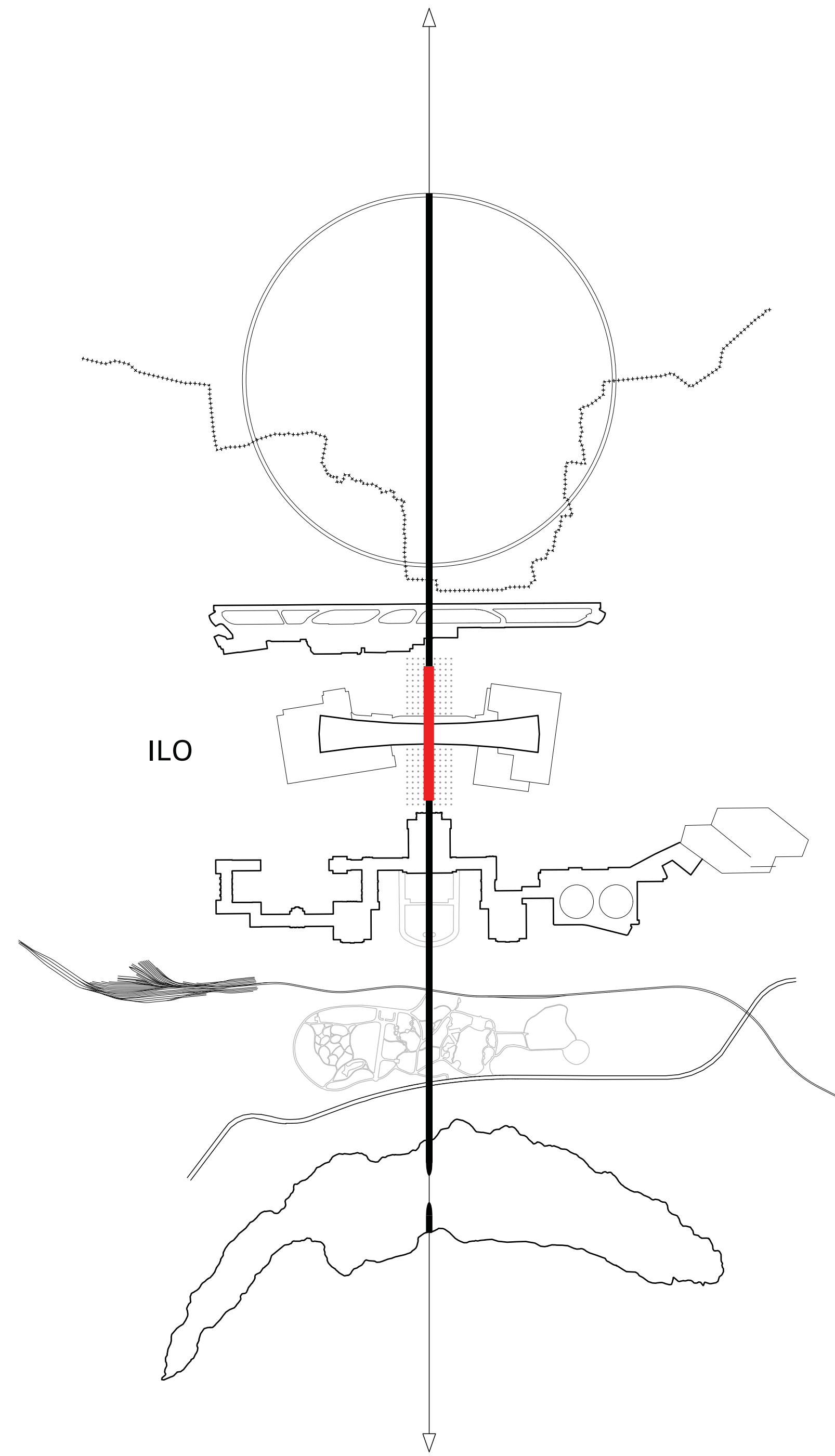


Geneva Airport marks a large cut in the landscape. On the other hand it has been a revival of internationalism in Geneva to some extent, after traveling became desirable aside the Grand Tour.

The distance of the over 4 kilometre long area becomes an issue of ‘border crossing’ at times when the airport is not in use or has little frequency. Between 0:30 and 6:00 in the morning the arrival and departure of airplanes is close to zero. During that time, the tarmac is opened for pedestrians. Additionally, time slots at specific weekdays and Sundays are being negotiated to enter and inhabit the large landmark to become an event of gathering.

A UNIVERSAL SURFACE

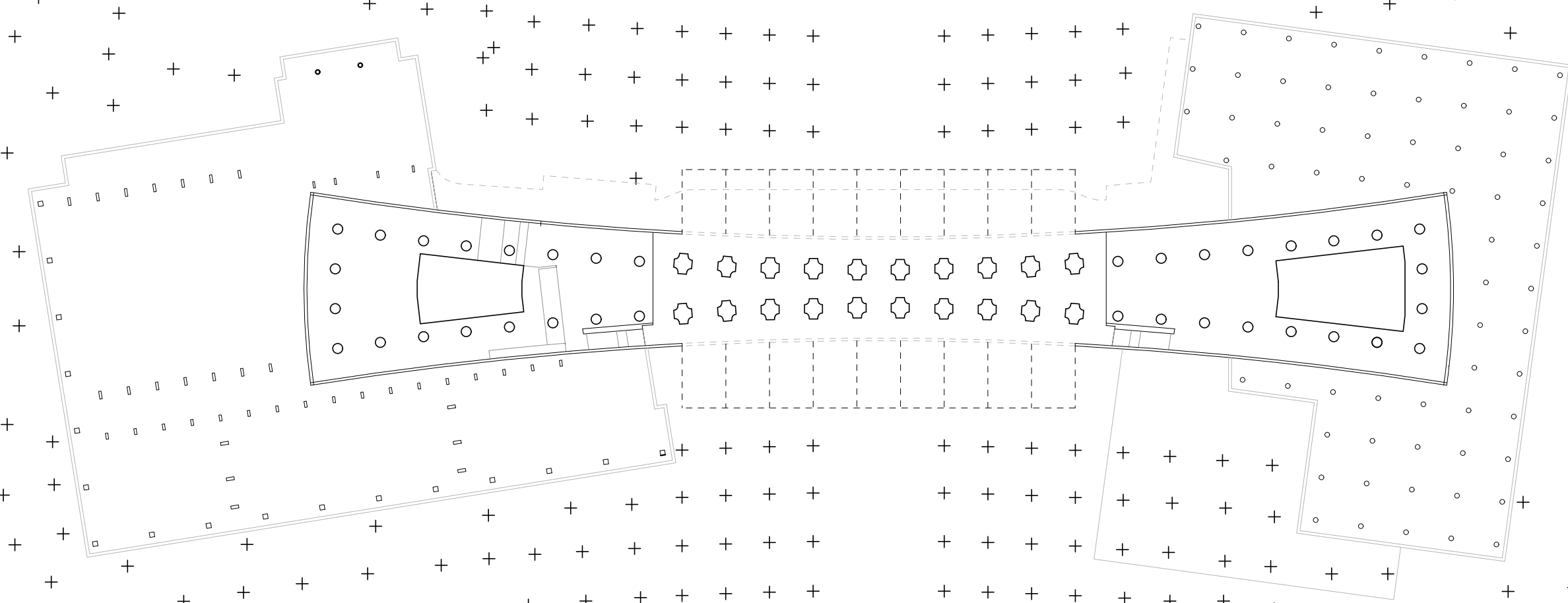
AIRPORT



JARDIN PILOTIS

ILO





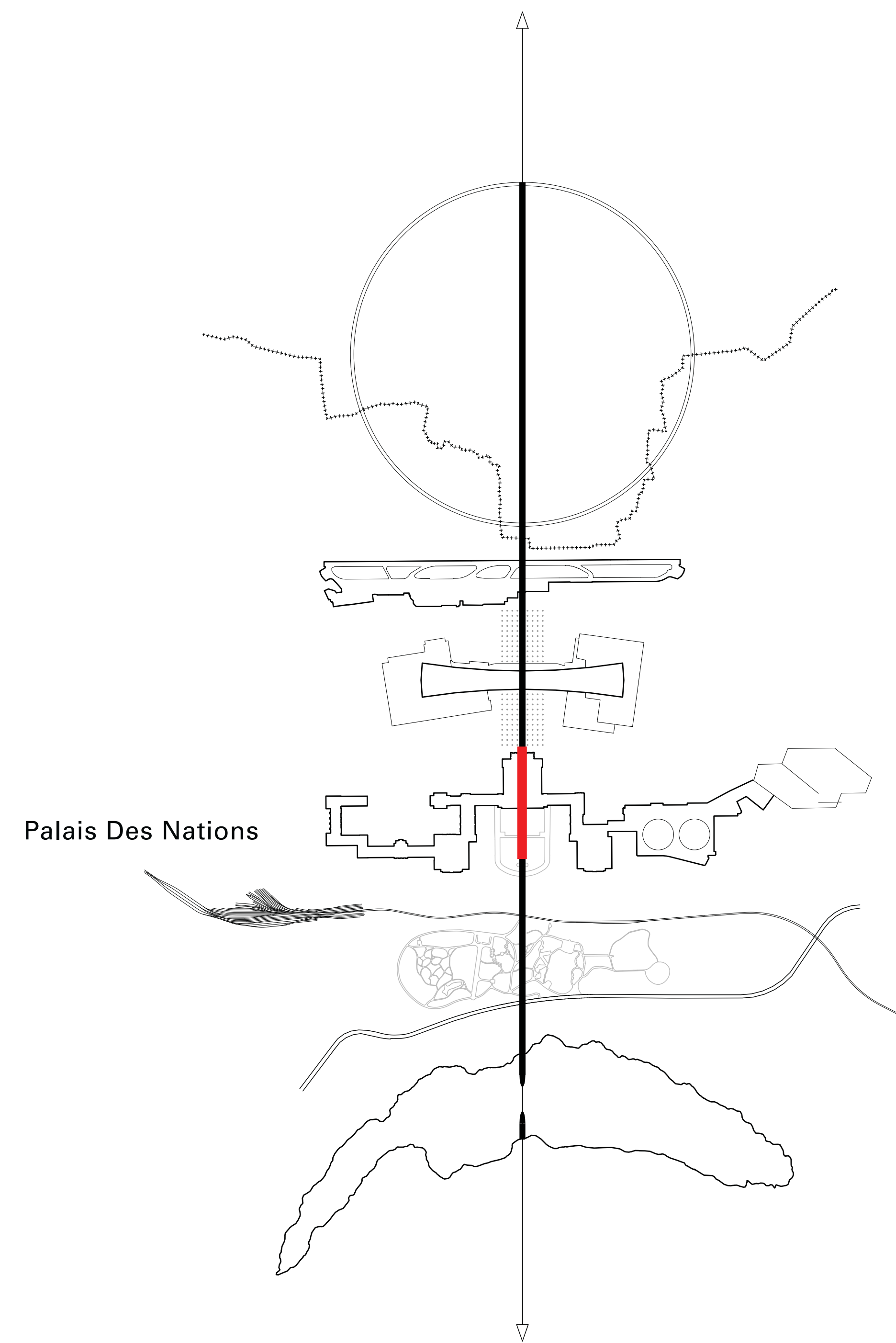
JARDIN PILOTIS

ILO 1/1000

The unrevealed quality of a fluent topography is being reintroduced with the new permeability of the *Jardin Pilotis* in form of the planetary woods.

Likewise to the arrival of modernist reshaping of the topography there has been a history of gardening right aside. Between 1870 and 1892, Julie de Rothschild extended the parks of Château de Pregny and transformed it into a picturesque Alpine garden designed by Jules Allemand that was opened to the public two days in a week. During this time more than 1500 trees had been brought from the surrounding regions.

The foreseen act of planting by each international organisation turns them into a metaphorical gardener, that understands that crucial role of nature for the health, creativity and prosperity of the society and the earth.

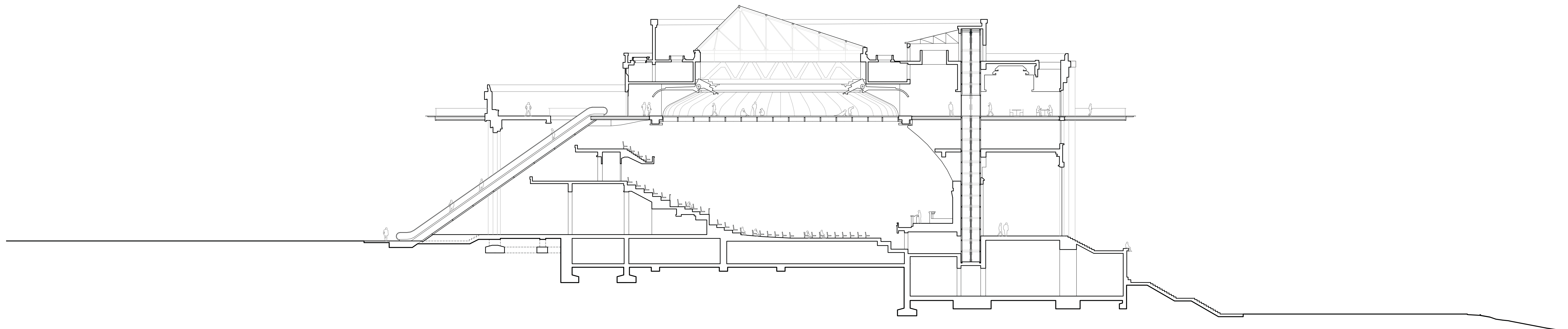


Palais Des Nations

SUMMIT MEETING

PALAIS DES NATIONS 1/250





SUMMIT MEETING

PALAIS DES NATIONS 1/250

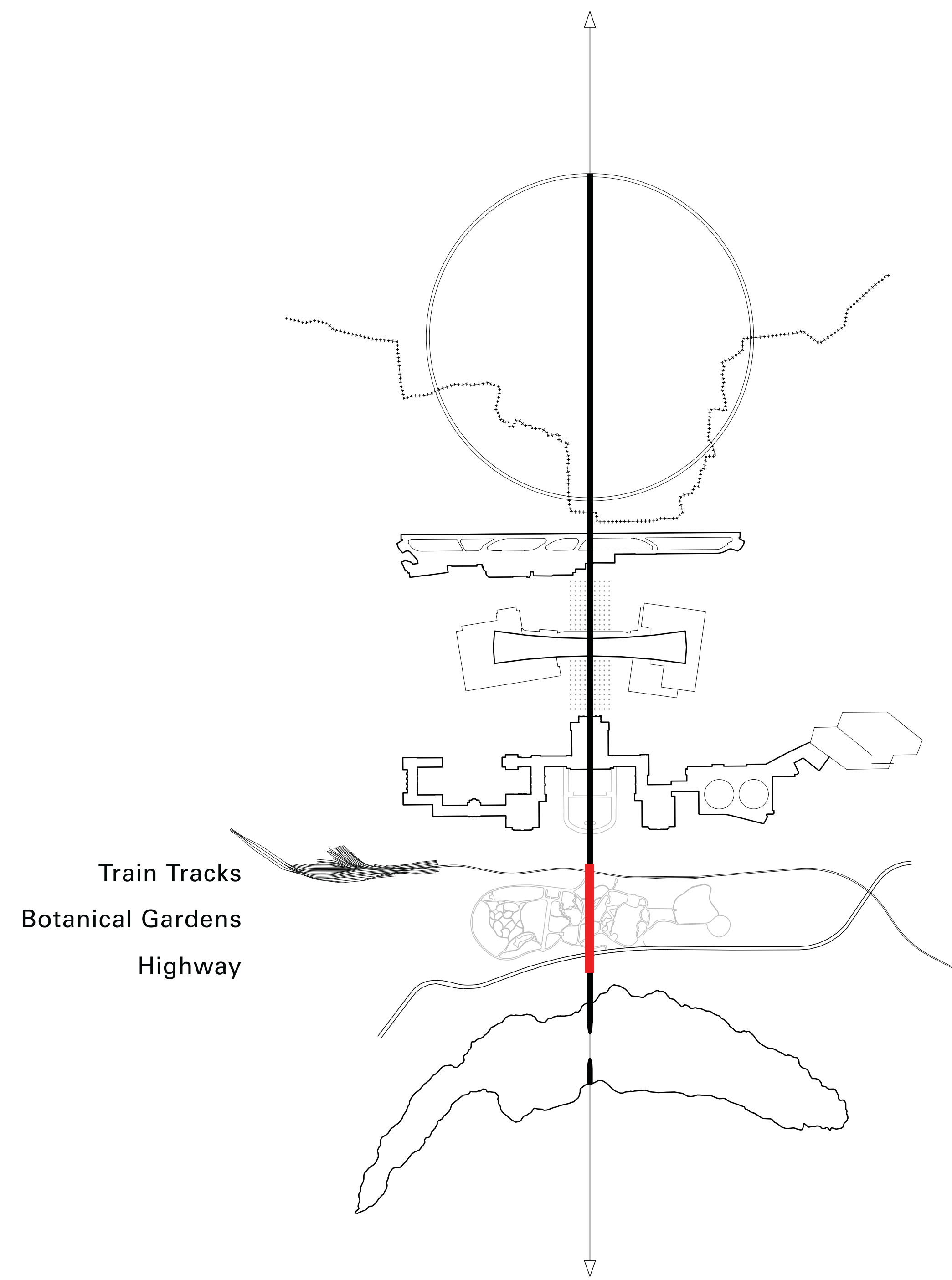
The distance of the United Nations to the public is on a local scale not at least the feeling from the inaccessibility of the *Palais des Nations* itself.

One of the changing moments of openness and interconnectivity on local as much as on global scale is stated by Manuel Castells as the following: “In order to survive in the new context of global governance, the nation states morphed into a different form. Not a global government, as some have prophesied, but a network of national and international political actors jointly exercising global governance. Then, 9/11 happened and the world changed.” Today the surrounding of the palace is fenced, despite the fact that it is Geneva property.

Crossing the building on a transversal path is not to bring the public together with the everyday of diplomacy but marking the point zero of global governance in the renewed relation to its facing territory.

SUMMIT MEETING

PALAIS DES NATIONS

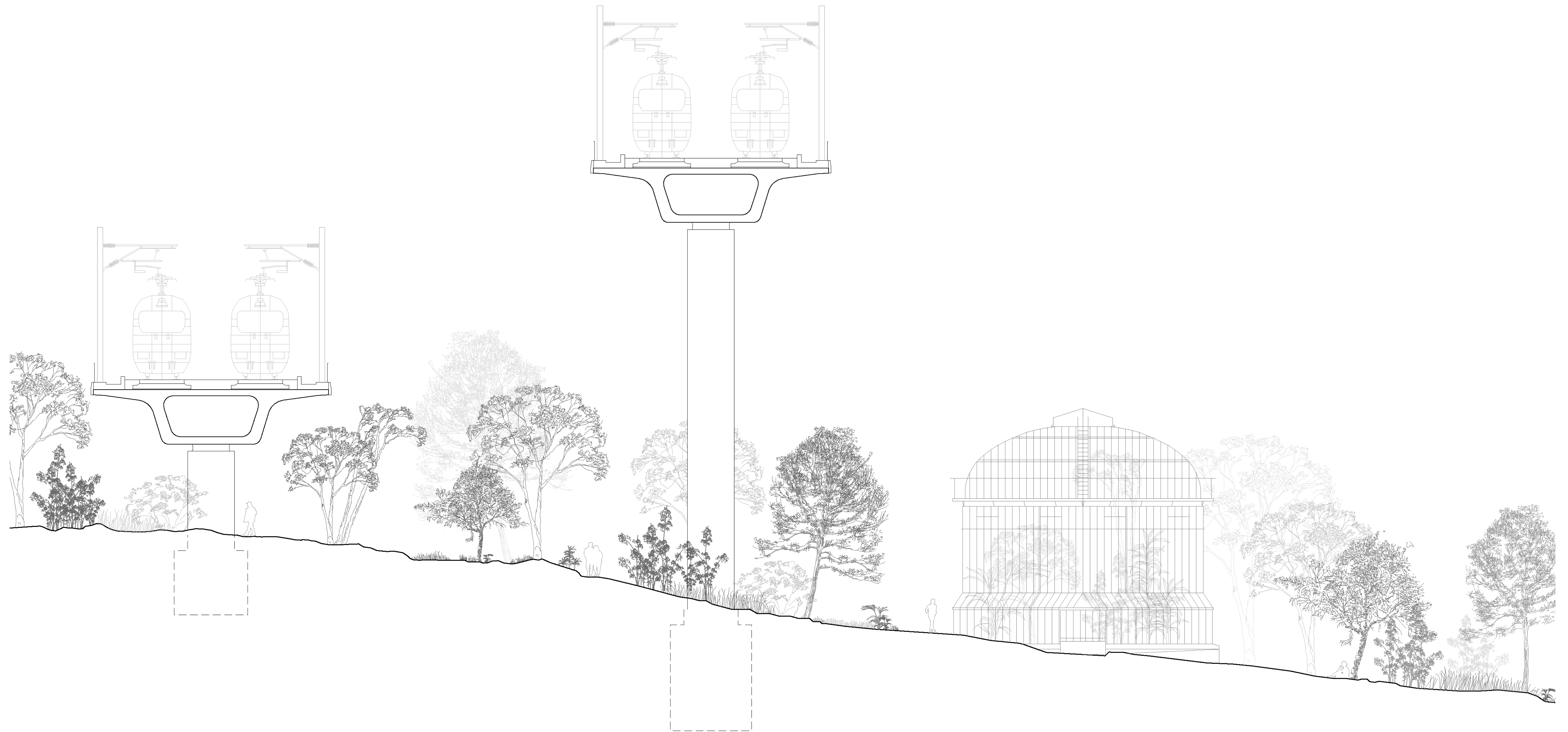


Train Tracks
Botanical Gardens
Highway

PEAK IN JARDIN BOTANIQUE

TRAINTRACKS, BOTANICAL GARDENS



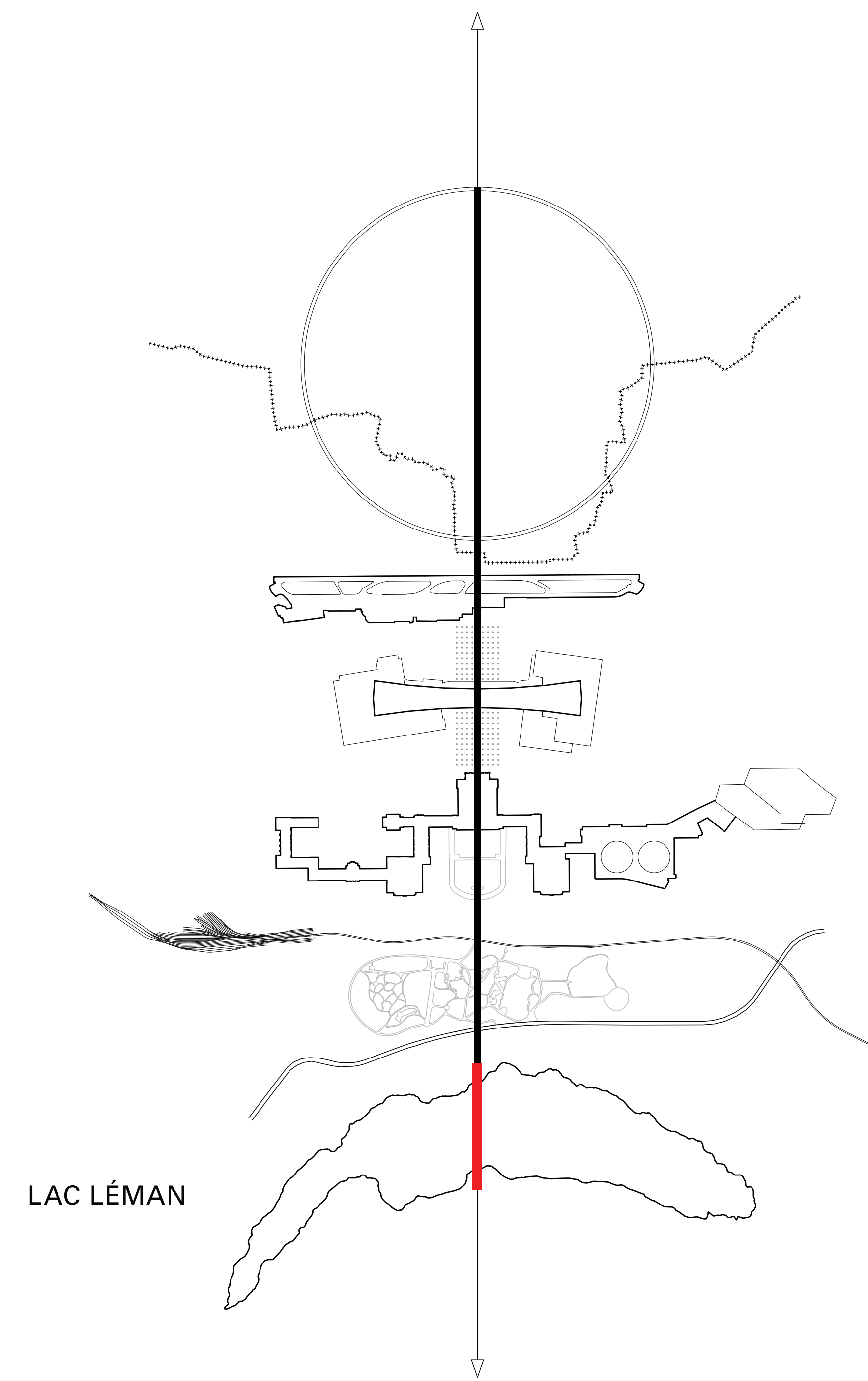


PEAK IN JARDIN BOTANIQUE

TRAINTRACKS, BOTANICAL GARDENS, 1/100

Geneva's large botanical garden is the result of a culture of botany. From their faraway Englishmen sent colonial possessions such as seeds, cuttings, bulbs and rhizomes to Geneva to be planted in the various English Gardens. The botanical gardens were situated in the former Parc des Bastions between 1902 and 1904, and the building known as the "Console" was erected.

By elevating the train tracks and the highway to Lausanne the squeezed in garden dissolves again into the surrounding. The neighbouring activities and programs enter the atmosphere of worldliness.

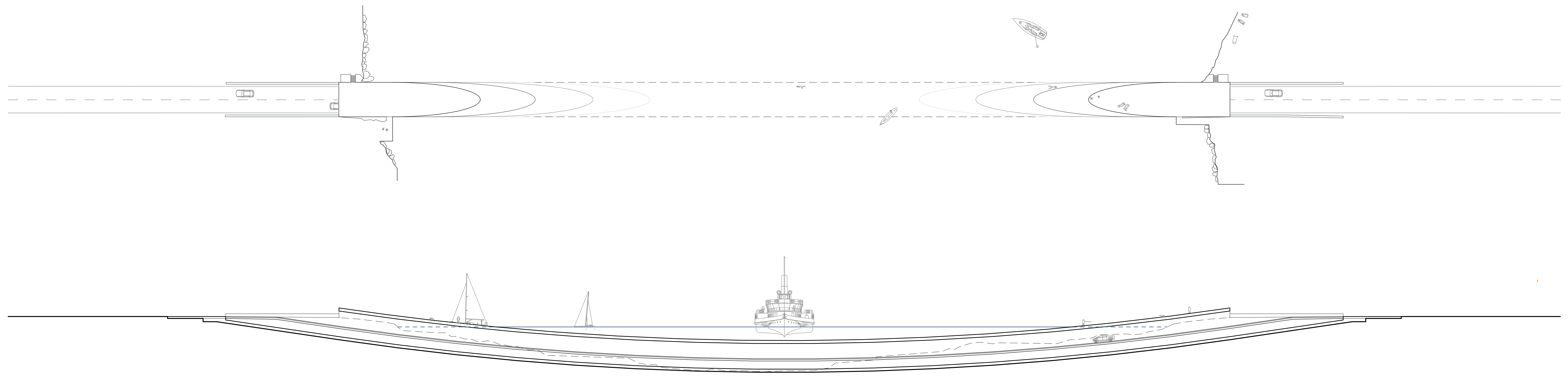


LAC LÉMAN

IMMERSION POINT

LAC LÉMAN





IMMERSION POINT

LAC LÉMAN 1/500

Crossing Lac Léman – an on-going discussion since the 19th century – is being re-discussed in the Jura-Mont-Blanc Transit. The contemporary era has seen the resurgence of numerous bridge projects and lively political debates on ‘la rade,’ but the realisation of such continuity failed either at the local voting of the Canton Geneva or the wider complexity of various actors involved. Today the two shores still face each other.

A new immersed tunnel allows the crossing by car and public transport, articulated not as an iconic monument, but a rather carefully integrated gesture into the landscape. Apart from crossing the lake, the roof of the smooth immersion of the concrete tunnel into the lake becomes a lively surface, a beach for pedestrians that is marked by the fluctuation of the legislated level of the lake. The annual lowering of the level in April leads to a substantial variation of the point of immersion of the top surface by a few hundred meters, where at the lowest point the two sides almost touch each other.

IMMERSION POINT

LAC LÉMAN

JURA

CERN

AIRPORT

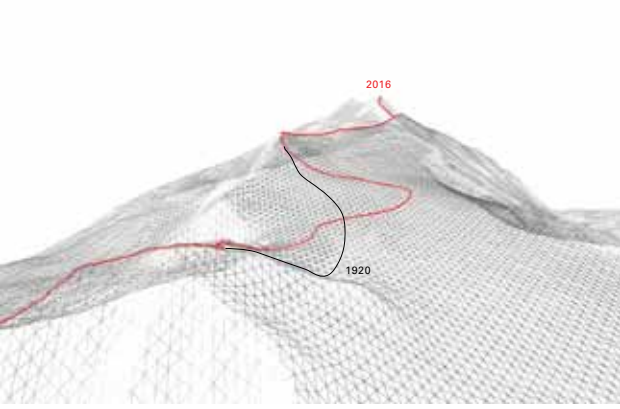
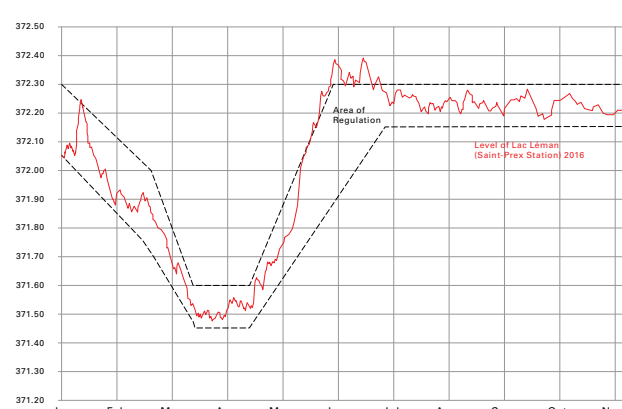
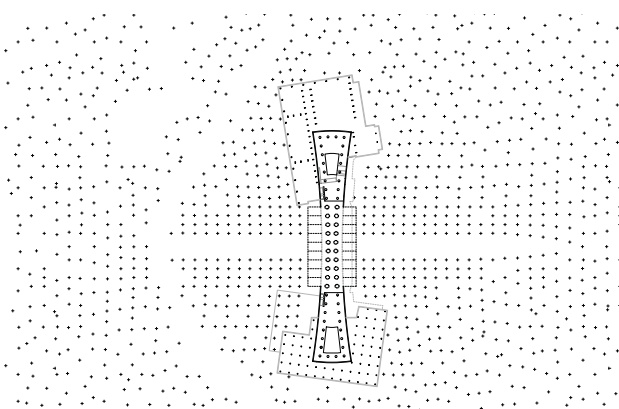
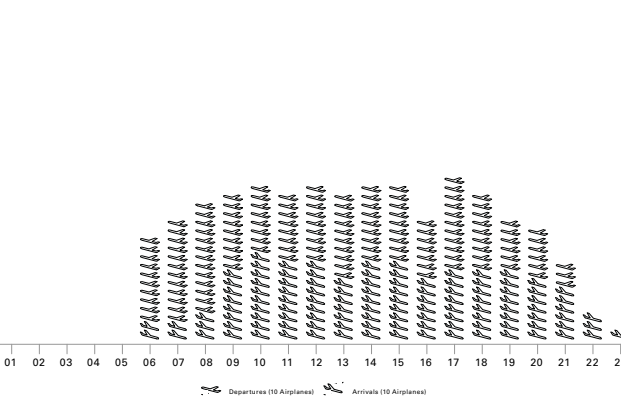
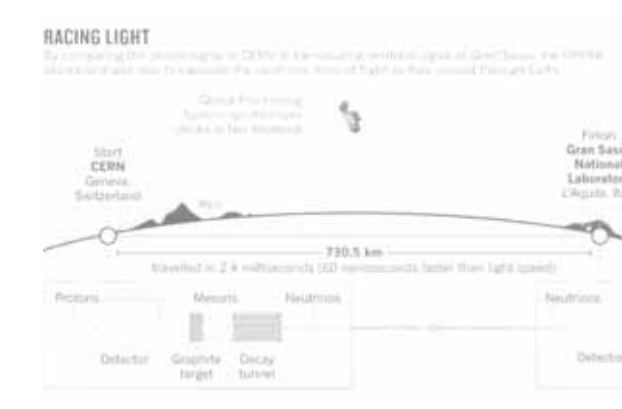
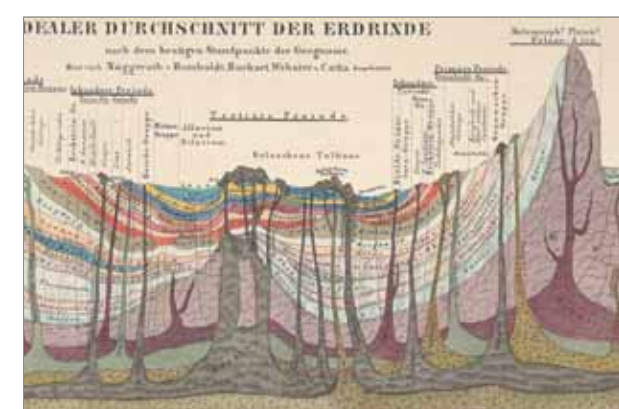
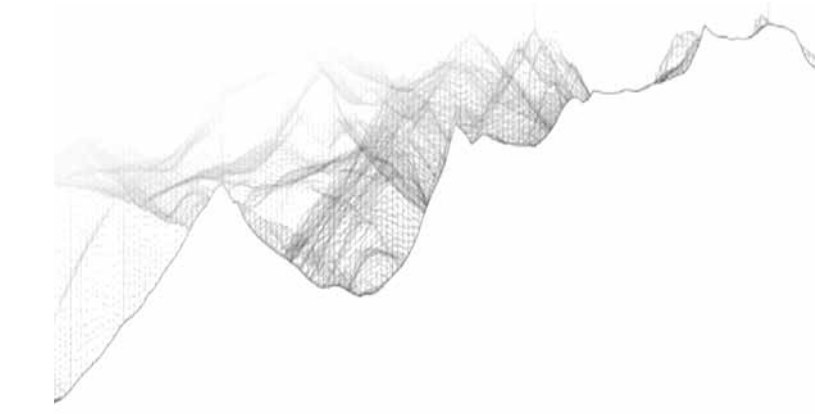
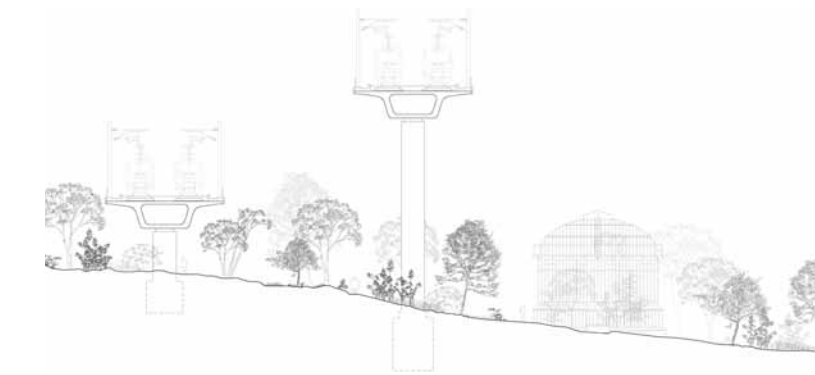
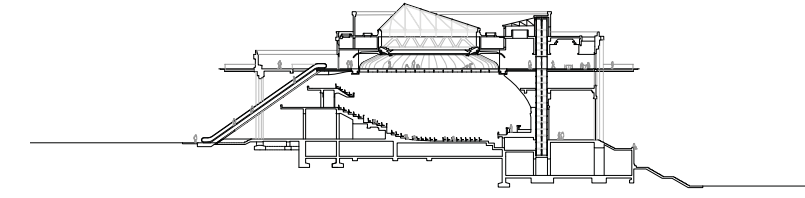
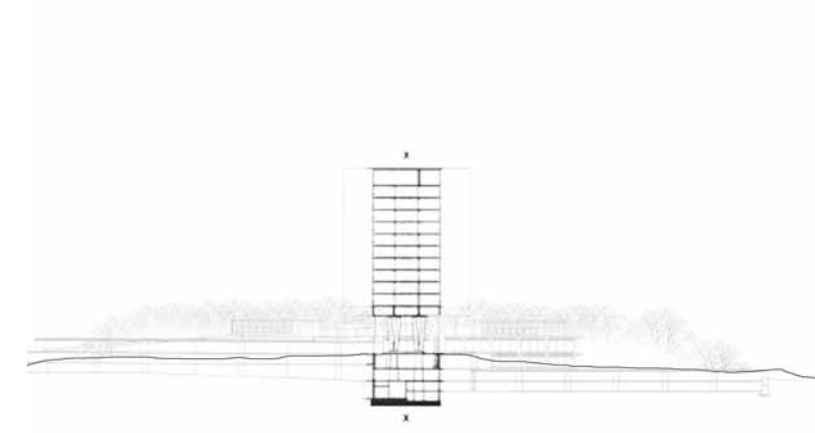
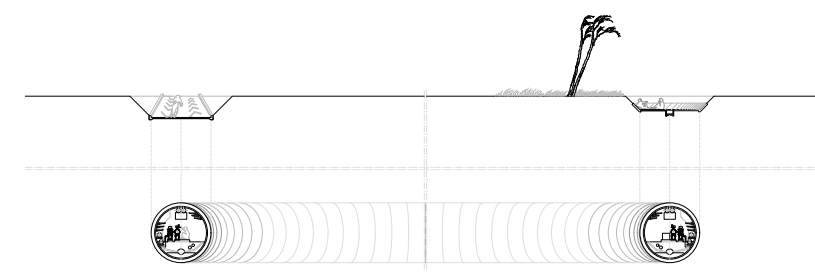
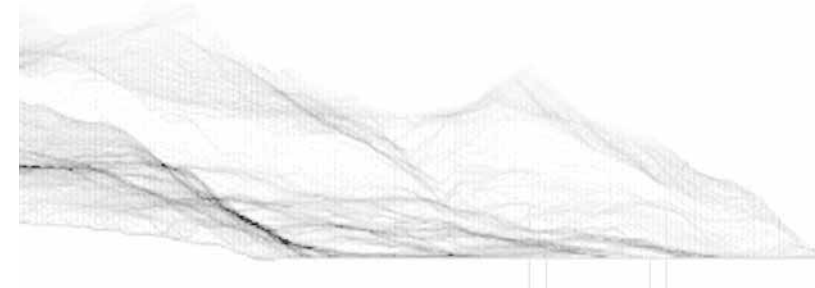
ILO

UN

BOT. GARDEN

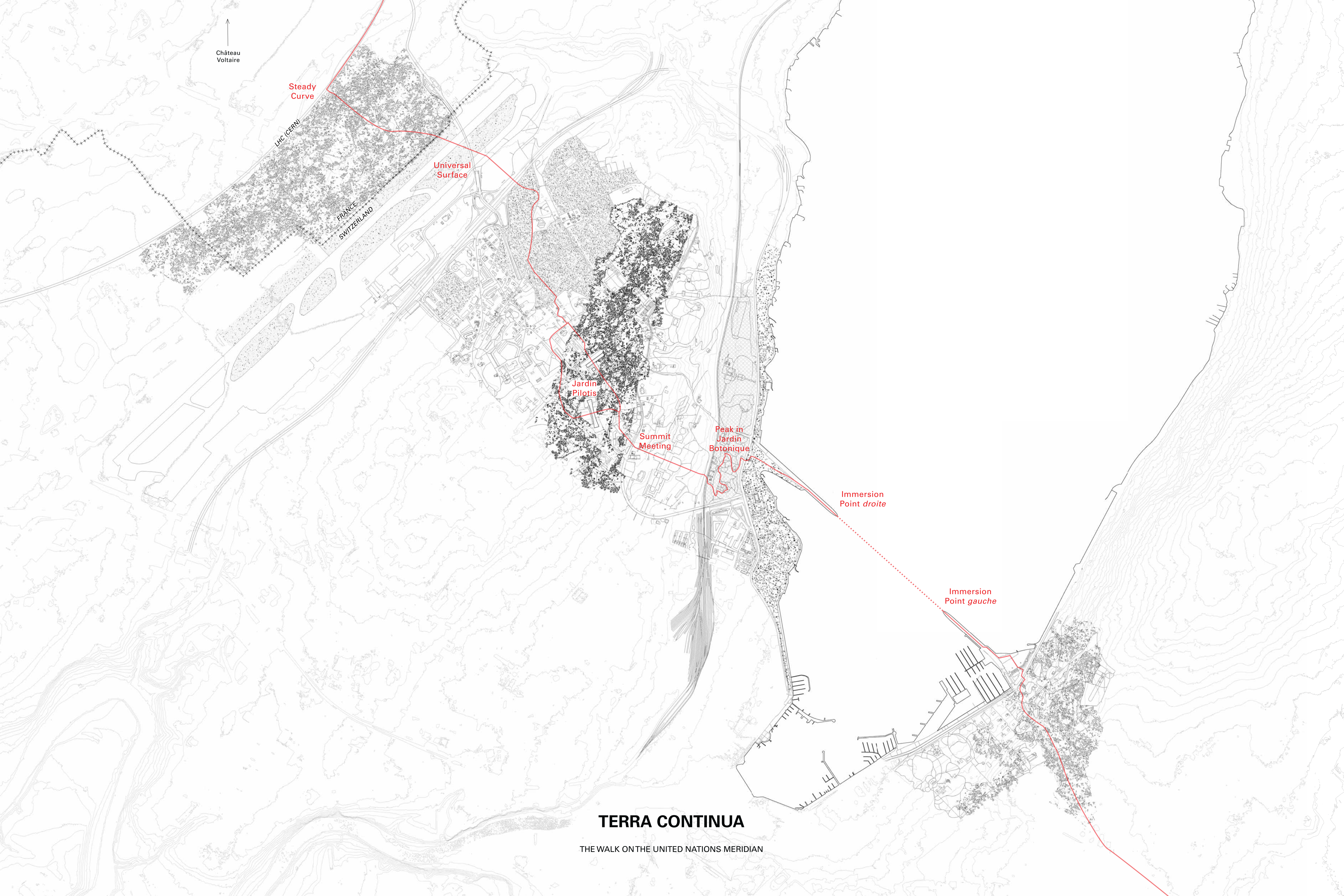
LÉMAN

ALPS



TERRA CONTINUA

THE WALK ON THE UNITED NATIONS MERIDIAN



Château
Voltaire

Steady
Curve

LHC (CERN)

FRANCE
SWITZERLAND

Universal
Surface

Jardin
Pilotis

Summit
Meeting

Peak in
Jardin
Botanique

Immersion
Point droite

Immersion
Point gauche

TERRA CONTINUA

THE WALK ON THE UNITED NATIONS MERIDIAN

Terra Continua stretches out across a planetary meridian, where every world citizen engages as a gardener, a scientist, a diplomat and a tourist in his own landscapes.