When the Allier river becomes urban fabric

The Allier as a landscape for the faubourg

Connecting the city and its river is to restore the geographical space within the urban fabric itself. The whole suburbs of Madeleine is thought as an extension of the Allier Park. A web of planted ways and walks connect the river to the new public places in heart of lots.

Our intervention is set up in a process of denaturalization of the urban fabric and the creation of public space. Bearing ourselves on the potential represented by the hearts of the lots, we propose a re-introduction of the enclosures of the discene and the CNSC open spaces and their progressive systematization. The reconquest of the hearts of the lots gives way to meadows all around which are implanted the new topologies.

The weaving of low buildings (individual) and intermedial and small collectives appears over the suburban fabric and offering distant views on the main territory, allowing to integrate the new morphology into the existing suburban fabric.

The hazards of the Allier river

Floodplain meadows

Inhabited as a new means of water, the new urban shape extends the park of Allier to the heart of the suburb of the Madeleine to create a garden-like integral part of the flood management system. The landscape of the suburb evolves according to the flood water level. Meadows, slightly under the level of new ways are transformed into ponds or retention basins. The remaining floodwater is channeled into the river by numerous irrigation and downstream basins. The exit height of ground flows over half-timbered parking lots, integrates the same system of retention of water and transformation of the landscape.

The park as hydraulic system

The whole urban reserve and agricultural parks constitute a flood management system, allowing a progressive and checked submission, in order to balance the level of the Allier river.

At first the water goes up the flood storage which raises several levels, transforming it into paved. Then the ground floors of the buildings constructed on piles are flooded, and the floodplains is regulated through levees. In the Allier, the agricultural park, towards the flood we see breaks which pour downstream in Allier river.