

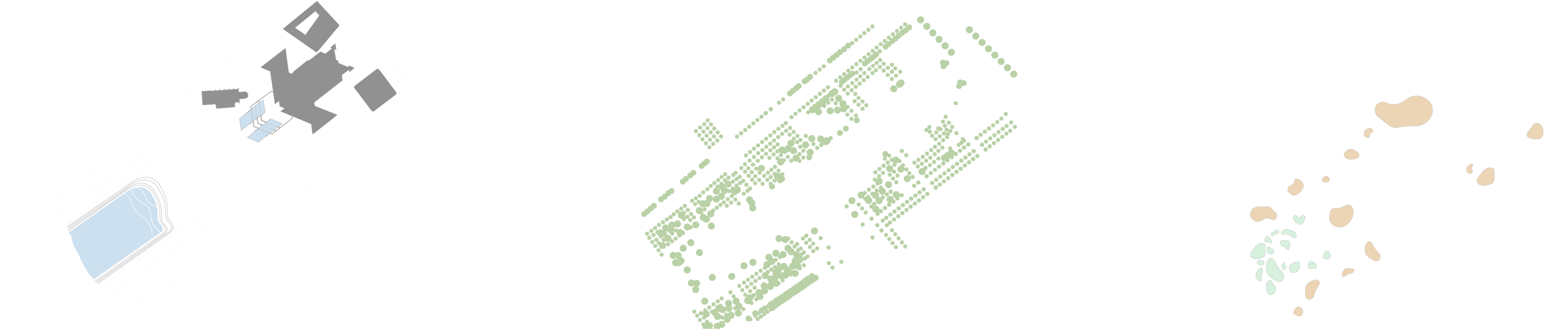


The first area used - water area:
We plan to draw a kind of pocket from the Spree into the city in order to enlarge the area where one comes into contact with the water. In addition, the significance of the banks of the Spree in the centre of Berlin as a recreational area is to be made more visible. Seating steps facing the water surface are to offer a lot of space to linger. These seating steps, the repetition of water cascades from the existing design in front of the Marx-Engels Forum, turn the water basin into a kind of amphitheatre. Islands of different shapes rise from the water surface, some of which have separated from the water and can be found scattered around the square. One of these islands is a plateau on which a sculptural pavilion is placed. This pavilion is intended to provide permanent space for a café, but also space for temporary offerings, such as exhibitions or other cultural events.

The Berlin Islands are not only intended to be eye-catchers, but as green islands they are also a symbol for the many green spaces within Berlin. These islands sitting in the water will be made more tangible by a wooden footbridge and should convey the feeling of a nature trail right in Berlin. The water surface is intended to have an enchanted effect on users, which is to be enhanced by a sea of water lily blossoms. The islands that rise out of the water and are distributed along the edge of the square offer space for new uses. The majority of the islands are green spaces, partly ornamental plantings with high maintenance requirements, but also low-maintenance beds. Possible plant species that we envisage for this would be various Allrum varieties and globe thistles.

The planting areas should have seating edges where people can sit and relax. Near the TV tower there is an island with a volleyball court and other sports facilities. Some of the islands should also include playground equipment for younger residents and visitors. This diversity of uses is intended to ensure that everyone feels welcome in the centre of Berlin.

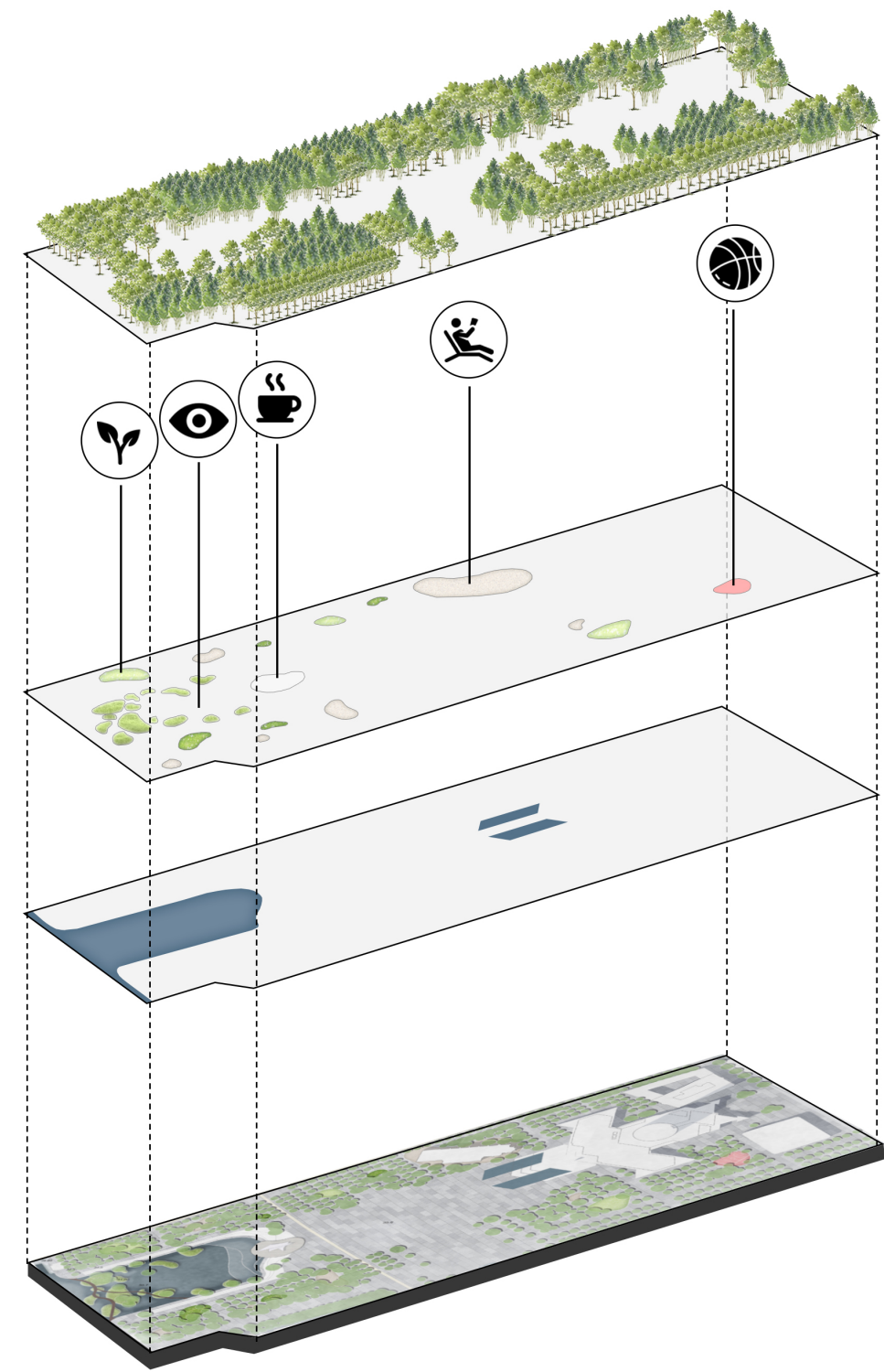
The second area used - Platz der Demokratie:
Inserted in the green frame, is a gathering space in front of the red town hall, which is the seat of the Governing Mayor, the Senate Chancellery and the meeting place of the Senate of Berlin. This square area is intended to provide space for demonstrations and other gatherings of Berlin citizens.



The Berlin Islands

Area within the area

The redesign of the Marx-Engels and Rathaus Forum
„The Free Centre“



The central open space in the middle of Berlin should merge into a large whole, attract people and invite them to linger, as well as offer opportunities for development. One of the connecting elements of the open space is the spacious paved square, which offers free space for movement for city residents and visitors. Furthermore, a framing green corridor connects the square, which includes many of the existing trees and is complemented by a grid of new plantings. This canopy runs irregularly along the central area of the square. The course of some medieval alleys is made recognisable by openings in the rows of trees. These openings form inviting entrance situations in some places.

Today, Berlin's waterways are a centre of attraction for many people. The Spree in particular was rediscovered not so long ago as an identification and recreational space for the centre of Berlin. In the past, it was seen first and foremost as a traffic and transport artery; its banks functioned as traffic-related locations for industrial plants and not as recreational space.

