

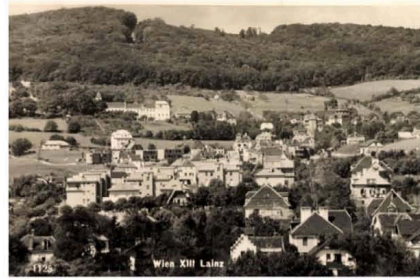
VIENNA: MAINTAINING A HIGH QUALITY OF LIVING

In contemporary **glocal** conditions cities are the key generators of growth. Their social and economic force are the driving force for entire regions: they define the ability to compete with other regions or even countries. In Europe this competitive quality lies in the ability to stimulate innovation, research and education to become a true **knowledge economy**. In order to do this it is necessary to bind people in a sustainable way to the cities and regions as they are the driving force of this economy: they have to become inhabitants.

To bind people your cities means that is necessary to offer a **high quality of living**. In Mercer's annual list of cities with the highest quality of Living Vienna has captured the title as city with the highest Quality of Living in the world, for several years. This is a source of pride, but at the same time one should be cautious: once at the top the only way is down. This requires a **continuous effort** to improve the city.

One of the key factors in Vienna's top position is the abundant and easily accessible **green** areas in and around Vienna. As Vienna's greenest quarter, Hietzing contributes for a large part to Vienna's quality of living. But this contribution to the city as a whole does not mean necessarily that Hietzing has an equally high quality of living. Hietzing's contribution to Vienna comes for the largest part from the Lainzer Tiergarten within its boundaries.

As a residential area Hietzing, and certainly the central part around the Speisingen S-Bahn stop, lies in the **'urban shadow'** cast by the Kunigberg and the Schönbrunn Park. The radial structure of main access roads and public transport pass by the area, making it somewhat 'hidden'. Large industrial developments never came to the area preserving its rural, village-like calm and serenity. The urban



Lainz preserved it's rural feel

development of the area is as **relaxed** as the general atmosphere of the area.

To preserve and further strengthen the quality of living in Vienna as a whole it will be necessary to **diversify the living environments** within the city as much as possible in order to meet the very diverse demands all kinds of (future) inhabitants will have. Through this it will be able to bind inhabitants to the city of Vienna throughout their life. In the twentieth century emphasis was put on the socio-economic diversity of its inhabitants as they were defined through



Hietzing in the 'urban shadow' of the Kunigberg and the Schönbrunn Park

age, social class and ethnic background. These divisions no longer apply. These well-defined boundaries have become vague, and more associative. The term **'lifestyle'**, despite its commercial associations, seems a better term to define the new categories of inhabitants of the city. The new categories cut through the old.

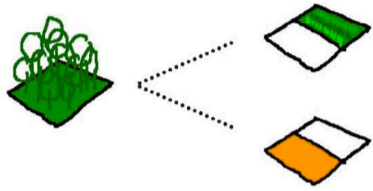
It requires new strategies for people to be brought together.



Main accessroads and train and S-Bahn used to pass by the area

WIDENING THE ACCESS TO HIETZINGS BEAUTY

Hietzing has a relatively old population. This is not a problem in itself. It means that the quality of living Hietzing has to offer is only enjoyed by a smaller part of the larger population of Vienna. In order to make this quality of live **more accessible** to other demographic categories we propose housing for two categories: families and senior citizens of Hietzing who are no longer able to live in their multi story villa's. For the first category **single family homes** are offered. For the latter spacious **apartments** are offered on a single floor.



Densifying Hietzing: some green will go....

Kleingarten: new social and economic character of Hietzing

New (housing) programm in order to diversify



Site as central location for new 'green economy'.



local produce sold in cooperative market



social and educational role!

COLLECTIVE GARDENS: A NEW SENSE OF COMMUNITY

In order to realise the diversification of living environments in Hietzing is si nessecary to **add** new programm. It seems unavoidable that this will be realised at the expense of the characteristic green of Hietzing.

But densification with building is not the only way to density. We propose to density in two way's: by adding the necessary housing programm. but also by transforming the currently 'passive' green

in to (collective) **Kleingarten**. These small scale production gardens can be the basis for redefining Hietzing as a calm, inert but comfortable place to live to a ecological, active part of Vienna without sacrificing its key feature.

At the same time the Kleingarten serve as a way to let current and new inhabitants meet each other. For children it will be a

necessary educational tool.

Through it Hietzing can become the vegetable garden of Vienna. It only needs the infrastructure. For this a vegetable market is offered directly next to the S-bahn station. Centrally located in Hietzing but also connected to what will be the main connection to the rest of Vienna it is a convenient place for inhabitants of

Hietzing to buy produce of the area as part of their daily commute but also for other inhabitants of Vienna to buy fresh produce from their own city.



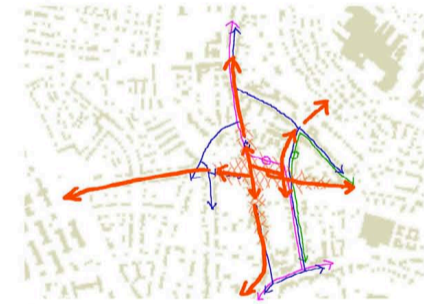
The site at the heart of a local pedestrian network



Current situation: mix of traffic



Design proposal: cars taken of the site



Site as an area for pedestrians and cyclists

NEW TRAFFIC LAYOUT: PEDESTRIANS AND CYCLISTS RULE!

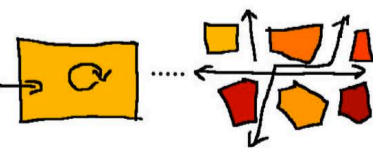
Currently the site is accessible by S-Bahn, bus, tram, car, bicycle and on foot. With the growing intensity of the S-Bahn and the new developement of a micro-centre in Hietzing is unavoidable to make clear decisions and prioritise the flows on and around the site. The site offers excellent connections to the Lainzer Spital (7.5min by foot), the ORF-site (5 min by foot) and even the Lainzer Tiergarten (20 min by bike).

With the potential of the site to develop to a node within the neighbourhood right of way is giving to pedestrians and cyclistst. Cars are taken of the site and will have to follow the Hofwiesengasse a little bit further before turning left to the Lainzerstrasse. As such a pedestrian area becomes possible, with only the tram crossing the site. A smooth, safe connection between tram and S-bahn, the two most dominant ways of public transport becomes possible.

The S-Bahn station is accessed centrally form the site, simplifying orientation and way-finding.

Directly next to the station ample space to store bikes is realised. The new bridge over Hofwiesengass to build the new S-Bahn station is expanded to offer a more solid east-west connection to the playground at the the other side of Hofwiesengasse and further in the

direction of Schönbrunn park.



Siedlung: from closed (social and architectural) unit to open field

A NEW MORPHOLOGY: THE OPEN SIEDLUNG

Within the Generic built mass of Hietzing 'urban' structures stand out: besides the historic cores of the different villages one can recognise the Siedlungen, from the Werkbund Siedlung to the (kind of) Siedlung of Lainzer Krankenhaus and the Super-Siedlung of the ORF site.

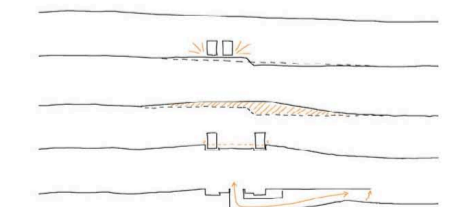
As closed urban and architectural units these Siedlungen show the



Some of the Siedlungen and clusters in Hietzing



Complex morphology on and around the site



New transformation of topography: sound structurally reduced

historic connection between social ambitions and building. The social ambitions of the Siedlung as an 'urban form' continues to exist. But it needs a new definition. With the disappearance of clear social categories, the closed architectural form of the Siedlung does no longer make sense.

For the site we propose a **OPEN SIEDLUNG**: both reacting to the mor-

pholy of the site and to the open, interactive social networks private, collective and public programm is organised on the site.

Following the change of topography brought forward by the initial construction of the S-Bahn, in the new situation the topography is changed a second time: by raising the ground 1,5m the tracks are

sunken into a depression. The retaining walls are constructed as close as possible to the tracks and are lined with sound absorbing material, as such structurally reducing soundlevels.

Open Siedlung



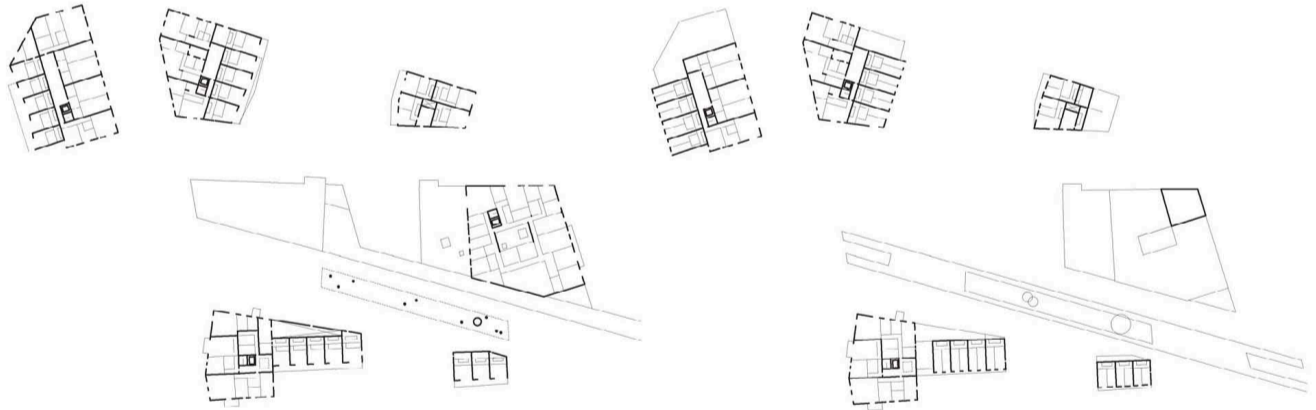
ground floor plan scale 1:500

SENSITIVE CONTEXTUALISM

The new buildings and gardens are designed in careful coordination; both are defined by each other. The site is organised in a sensitive way as to mediate between the different spatial structures on and around the site. At the two main roads, the historic Lainzerstrasse and the Hoefwiesengasse, the main building masses as placed. Facing Lainzerstrasse, at the site a space for pedestrians and cyclists, small scale shops and workshops are found on the ground floor continuing the ribbon of services along this street. Above these shops spacious apartments for older inhabitants of Hietzing are situated. The built mass is stepped 2-3 stories to connect to neighbouring buildings.

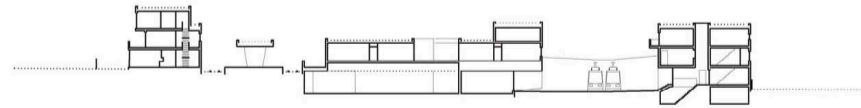
The building lines and orientations are following the existing orientations. At the centre of the site, where the S-Bahn station lies, the different orientations are brought together. The 'alien' nature of the S-Bahn line in relationship to the older context is used as a 'third element' to organize the loose different orientations without promoting or demoting one of them.

The single family homes are all made form the same typological unit: a three story high one-direction facing house with a baywidth of appr. 6 m. This unit is combined in different ways: close to the S-Bahn it closed facade is oriented to the tracks further reducing the possible impact of sound. At the northern part of the sit the houses are combined with the apartments to form mini-blocks with a fitting size in relation to the 'grain' of the village

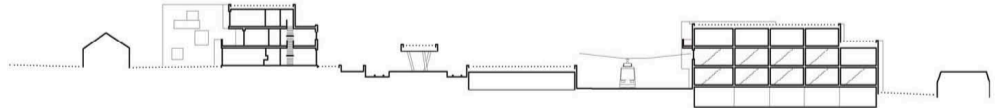


first floor, plan 1:1000

second floor, plan 1:1000



section perpendicular to S-Bahn at the Ambulance station, scale 1:500



section perpendicular to S-Bahn at the bicycle parking, scale 1:500



view in collective garden towards single family homes

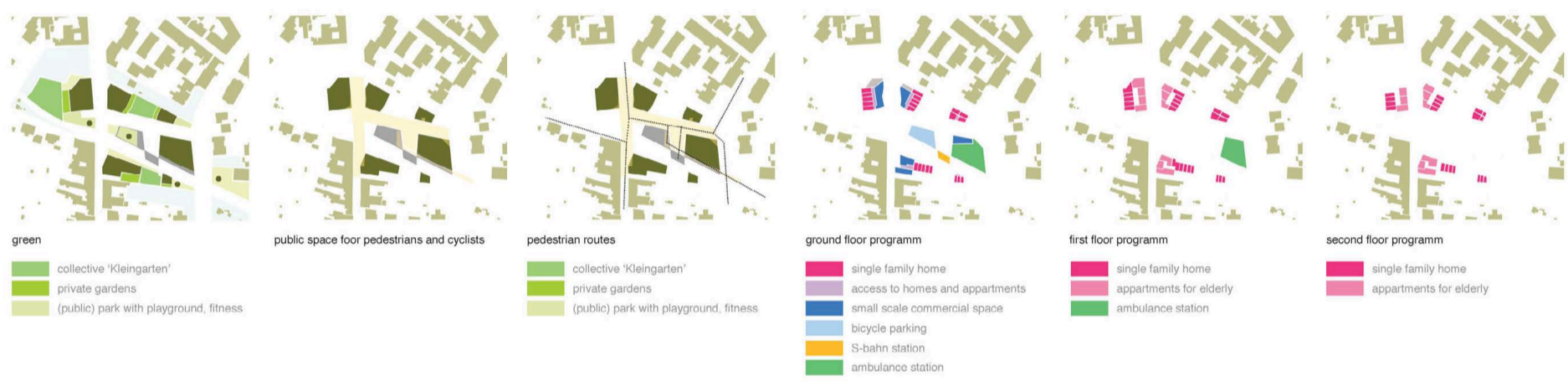


view over Lainzerstrasse towards Speisingen

Open Siedlung



view at ambulance station with vegetable shop, station and bicycle parking, scale 1:500



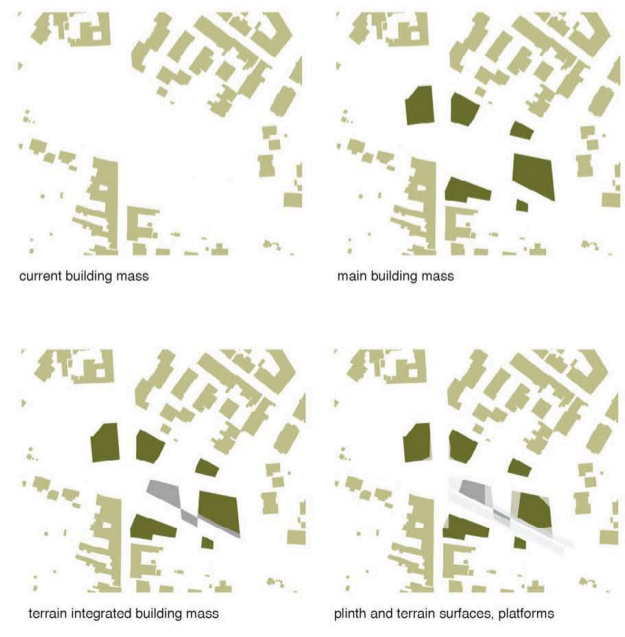
view over Hofwiesengasse towards the ambulance station



view through the site along the tramline: to the right the S-bahn station, to the left housing and collective garden



bird's eyeview to the south east over: central the entrance to the station



Open Siedlung