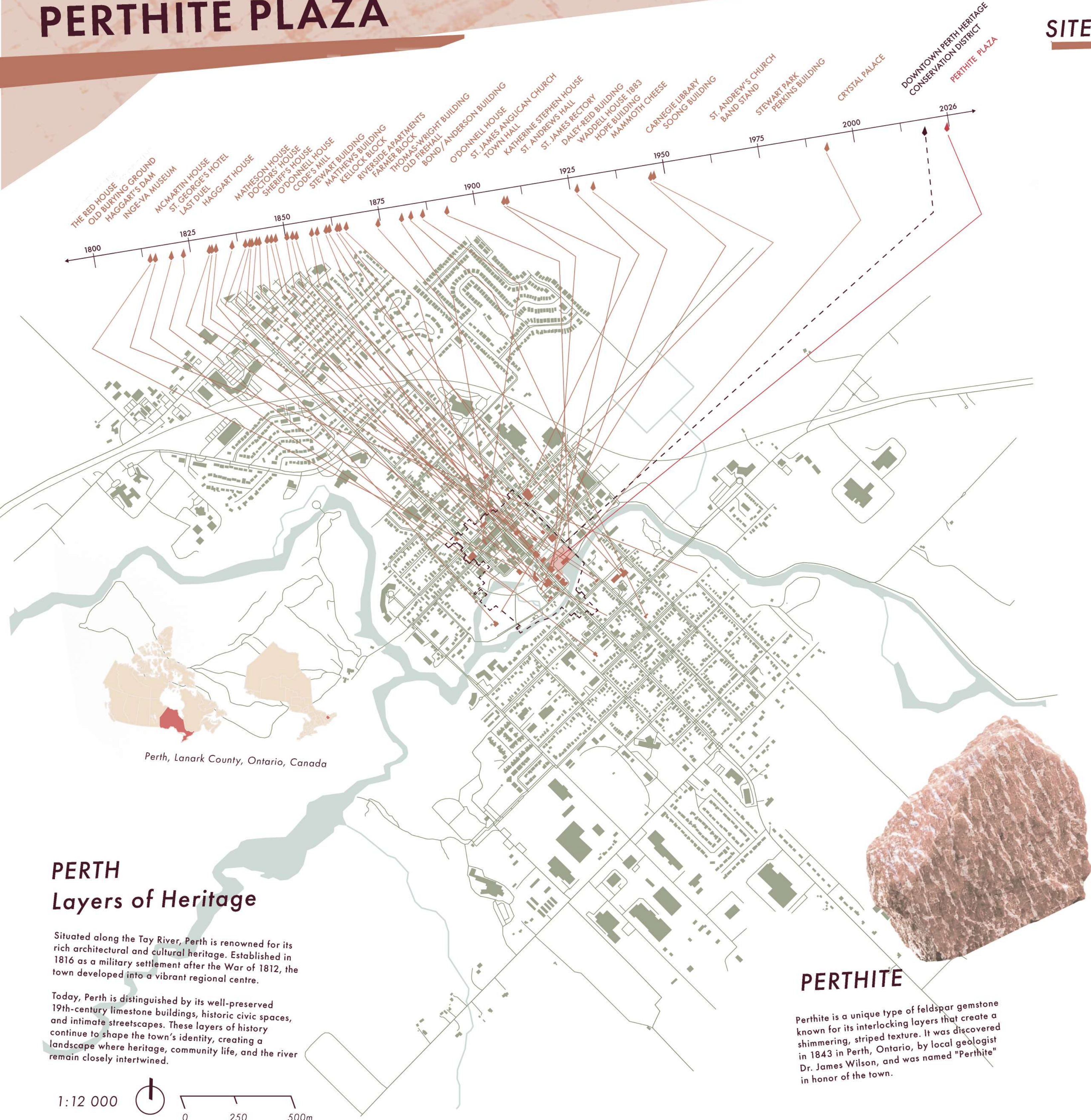
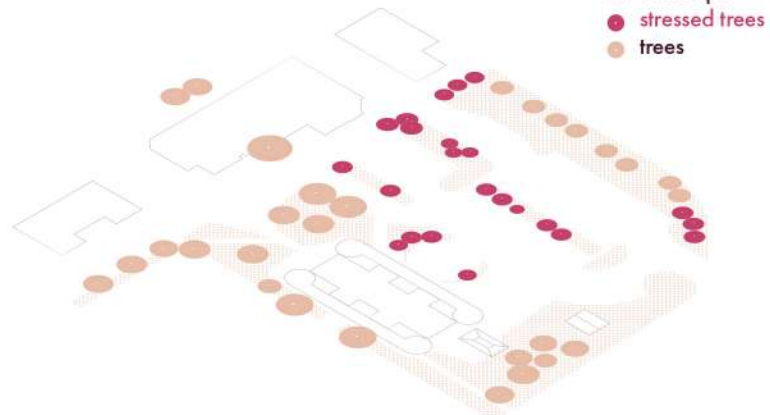


PERTHITE PLAZA

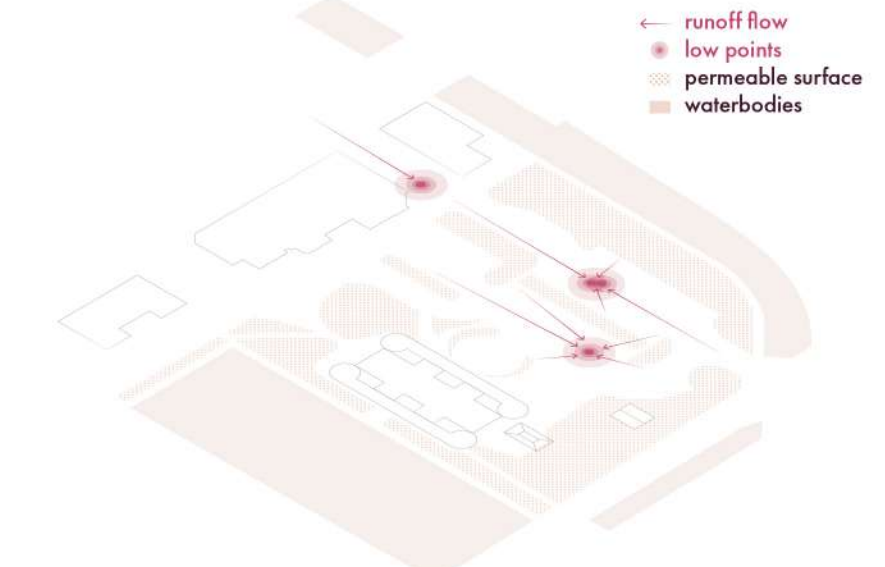
SITE ANALYSIS



Existing Softscapes



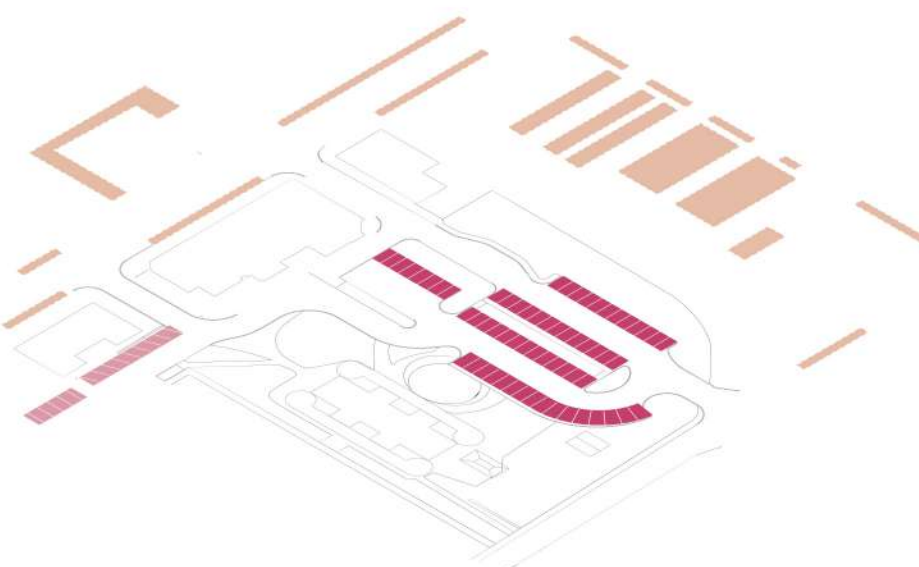
Existing Drainage Patterns



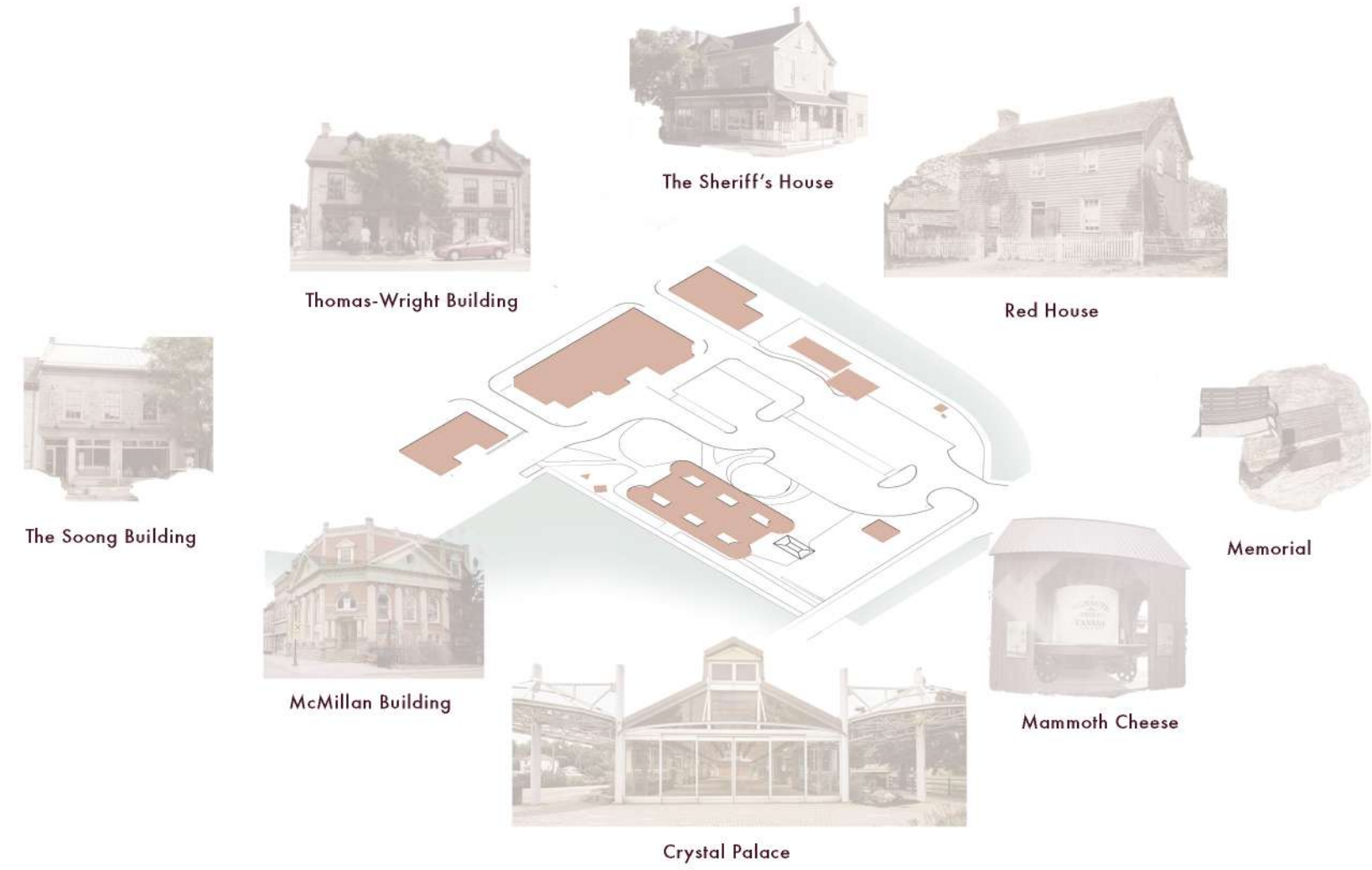
Existing Circulation



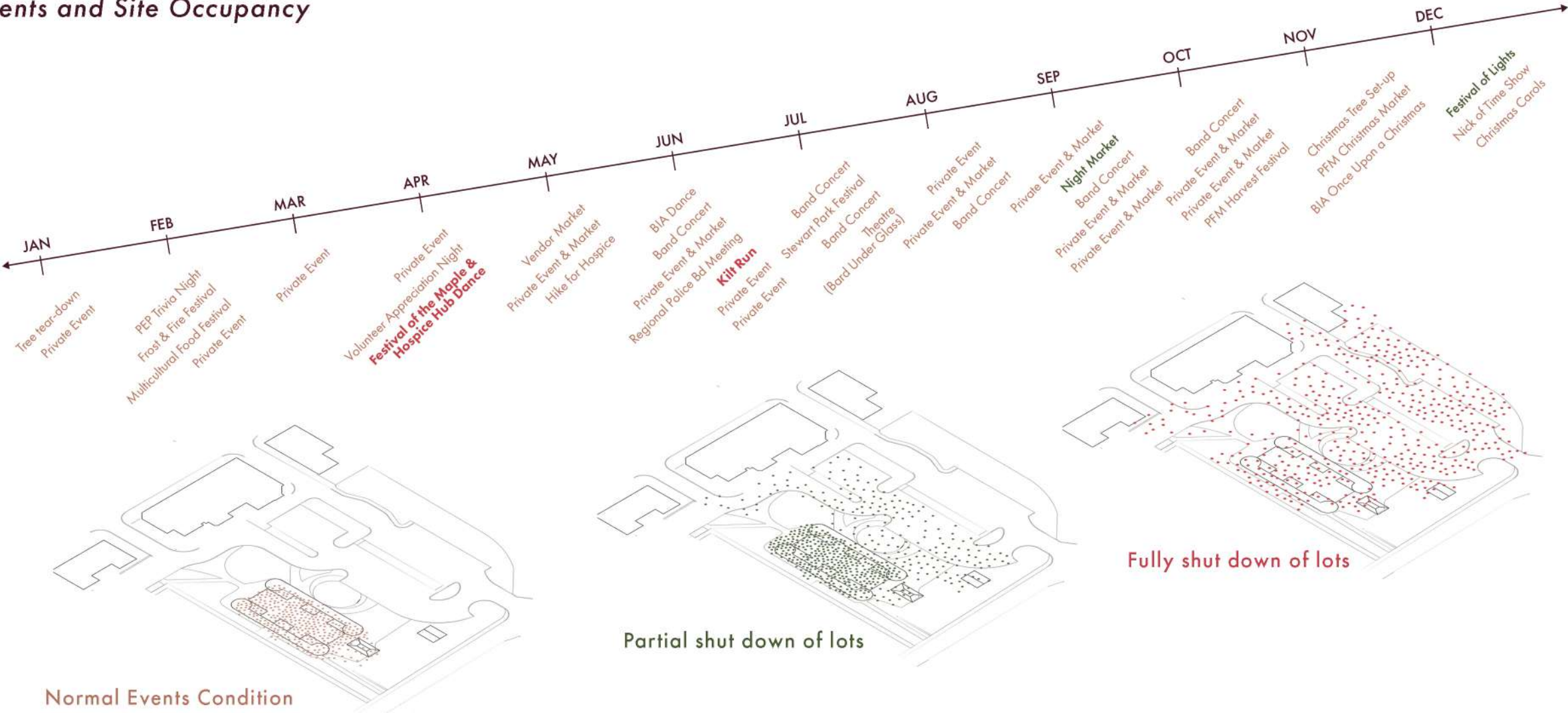
Existing Parking



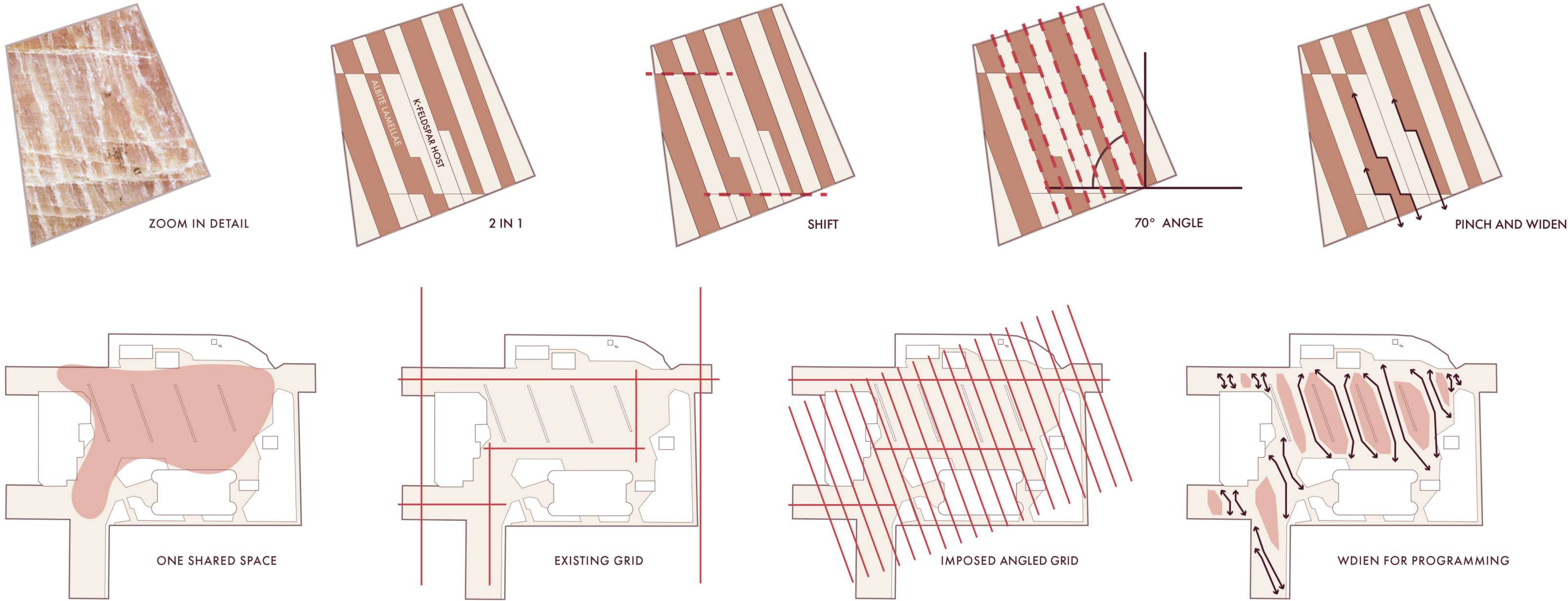
Site Heritage



Events and Site Occupancy



CONCEPT



PLAN + SECTION



PERSPECTIVES



DIAGRAMS



PERTHITE PLAZA

Inspired by **Perthite**, a feldspar gemstone known for its interlocking layers and shimmering striped texture, the design draws from both local geology and cultural identity. Discovered in 1843 in Perth by Dr. James Wilson and named after the town, Perthite serves as both a conceptual and contextual foundation for the project.

Situated along the Tay River, Perth is recognized for its rich architectural heritage. Established in 1816, it developed into a regional centre defined by well preserved nineteenth century limestone buildings, historic civic spaces, and intimate streetscapes. These layers of history continue to shape the town's identity, where heritage, community life, and the river remain closely intertwined. This proposal responds by embedding history into the everyday experience of the site.

Echoing Perthite's formation, where two distinct mineral crystals intergrow into a unified whole, the project merges typically separate urban functions, parking and public gathering, into a single adaptable ground plane. Rather than treating parking as purely utilitarian, it is reimagined as a shared civic surface that evolves throughout the day and across seasons.

The project's formal language derives from Perthite's mineral structure. Its secondary striation, intersecting the primary structure at approximately 70 degrees, informs the site geometry. While the surrounding urban fabric follows an orthogonal grid, the plaza introduces a skewed paving pattern set at a 70 degree angle, creating a dialogue between the existing city and an embedded geological order. This paving extends into adjacent streets, strengthening connections and establishing the plaza as a visible and inviting destination.

Two contrasting paving tones represent Perthite's dual mineral composition. Interlocking bands expand and contract to organize space. Wider bands accommodate parking, gathering, and events, while narrower bands guide pedestrian movement intuitively without reliance on signage. The outward extension of this pattern reinforces the plaza's role as a civic connector, linking it to the surrounding neighbourhood.

Heritage is integrated through bronze markers embedded within the paving, allowing visitors to engage with local stories as they move through the site. A linear water feature introduces seasonal flexibility and serves as a cooling element in summer. An alley of native trees provides shade and spatial definition, while integrated seating supports rest and social interaction.

Adaptability is central to the design. The plaza accommodates daily parking while transforming into a venue for markets, festivals, performances, and civic events. Open, flat, and accessible, it supports a wide range of uses throughout the year.

By translating Perth's geological and cultural layers into a cohesive design language, this proposal creates a unified civic space where infrastructure, heritage, and community life are interwoven, positioning the plaza as both a functional surface and a civic destination.