FOOD URBANISM: SCENARIO MODELING

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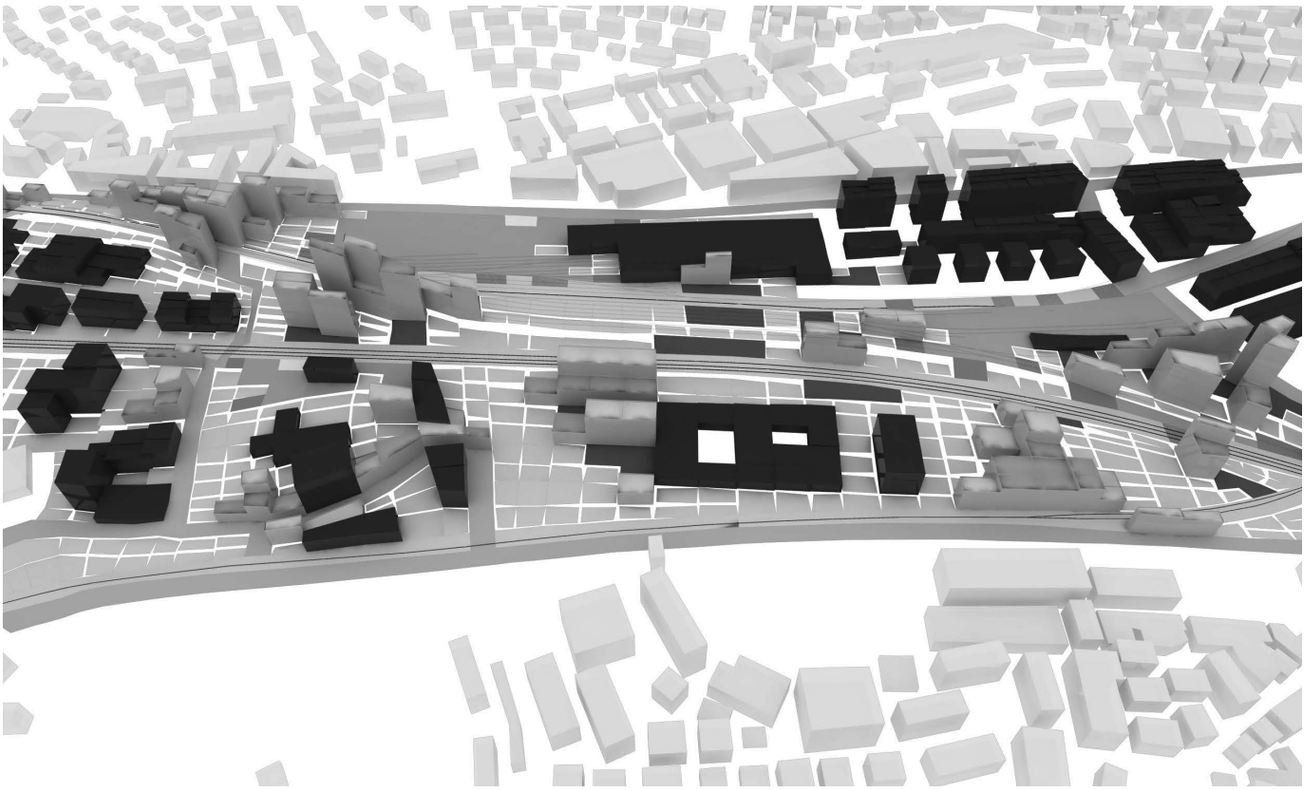
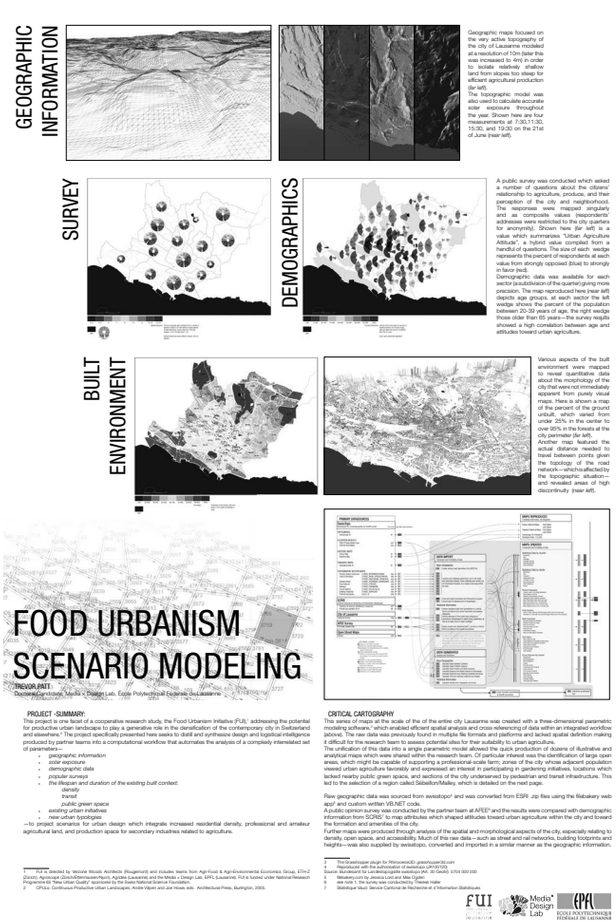


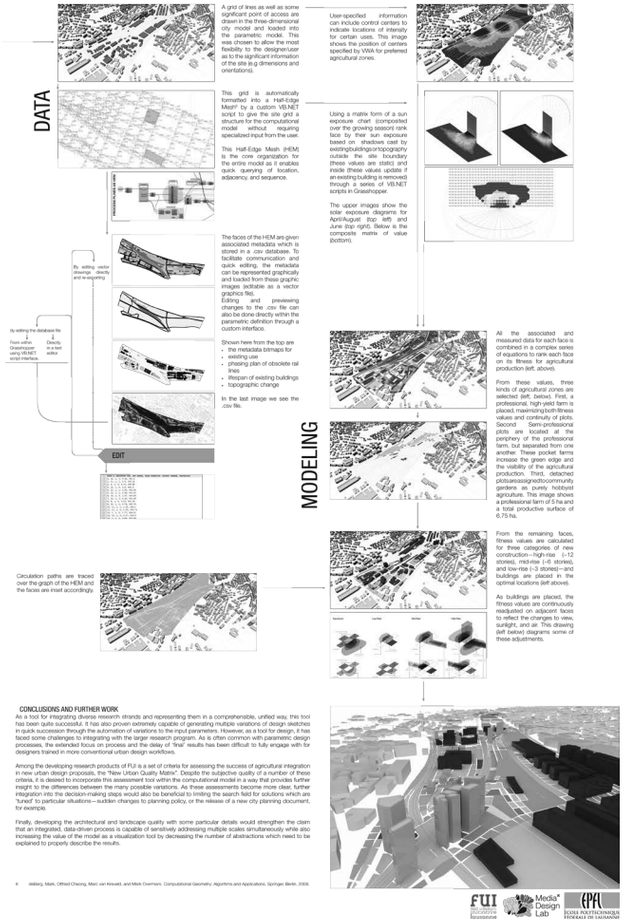
1 Rendered perspective of an urban scenario combining productive agricultural land with densification on the site of a former railway storage spur (Patt 2013)

This project comprises one facet of a cooperative research study, the Food Urbanism Initiative, which addresses the potential for productive urban landscape to play a generative role in the densification of the contemporary city, in Switzerland and elsewhere. The aspect of the project specifically presented here seeks to distill and synthesize design and logistical intelligence produced by partner teams into a computational workflow that automates the analysis of a complexly interrelated set of parameters to project scenarios for urban design that integrate increased residential density, professional and amateur agricultural land, and production space for secondary industries related to agriculture.

Because the partner teams are continually refining or producing new information in parallel with the development of this design engine, adaptability and flexibility are essential to the definition of the project.

Finally, generative urban modeling activates this information through the interrelationships of spatial and programmatic requirements of urbanity.





TREVOR PATT is a Ph.D candidate at the École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne. His research is directed toward expanding the interface of architectural and urban design in theory and in practice through computational design methods.