

Foreword

Introduction

CONTENTS

1. The Wilderness Idea

- 1.1 Origins
- 1.2 Perspectives of wilderness
- 1.3 What is 'natural'?
- 1.4 The Wilderness Idea
- 1.5 Why look at wilderness models?

2. Situating Wilderness

- 2.1 Looking at a matrix
- 2.2 Establishing a base reference

3. The wilderness character

- 3.1 Amplification of the premise what makes it wild?
- 3.2 Reading order in Wilderness Ways of seeing
- (i) Landscape within landscapes
- (ii) Biodiversity and species variation Ecological niche
- (iii) Hierarchy
- (iv) Layered-ness depth, storeys
- (v) Patterns Community and population
- (vi) Edges
- (vii) Thresholds
- (viii) Transitions
- (ix) Temporality
- (x) Persistence
- (xi) Death and decay
- 3.3 The wilderness construct

4. Wilderness around us

- 4.1 Wilderness in terms of scales
- 4.2 Enumerating typologies

5. Investigating Wilderness in the urban realm

- 5.1 Wilderness character assessment
- 5.2 Site studies
- (i) Transient wilderness II_Remnant forest patches

Site 01 - Wetlands Site 02 - Forest stands

(ii) Novel wilderness V_Vacant lots - without boundaries

Site 03 - Empty lot with water body (peri-urban)
VI_Vacant lots - with boundaries
Site 04 - Empty lot (Urban)

Site 04 - Empty lot (Urban)

VII Enclosed walls - institutions

Site 05 - Institutions

6. Applying the wilderness idea

- 6.1 An approach towards application
- 6.2 The framework

Annexure



The density and layered-ness of the landscape accentuates the quality of the wild. Here there are multiple horizontal and vertical layers that make the landscape appear complex

The forms start to merge into one another, their arrangements start to speak a different language as compared to usual designed landscapes

Fig 3.1.3- A.T.I.R.A., University area, Ahmedabad

Ground covers forming patterns of growth as per favorable conditions of light, soil and moisture. Movement trails start to form from the negatives of the growth patterns. these appear more temporal rather than definitive.

Branches of trees broken forces of change, lying on the ground as part of the landscape. Ground covers growing around the branch - micro landscapes forming and integrating the death and decay

Fig 3.1.4- Thol wetlands boundaries, Ahmedabad outskirts



3.1.3 Complexity

Wilderness demonstrates a certain sense of complexity in its physical appearance. The number or typology of species, the mannerisms in which the horizontal and vertical layers start to occur, all add to this complexity. These appear complex ,as the intermingling of the species speaks of the many layers of interrelationships.



3.1.4 Adaptations

The wilderness patch appears to adapt well to the situation it is present in. All elements within the wilderness parcel - biotic or abiotic, play an integral form in these adaptations and demonstrate the resilience of the parcel. These are often visible as 'scars' implying traces, engraving the nature of their events as clues within the landscape defining a certain progress.

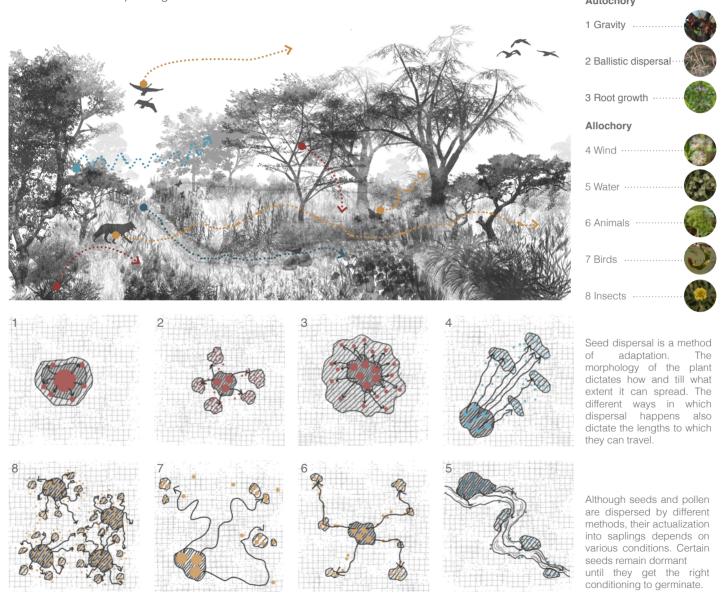




3.2.11 Prolifacy

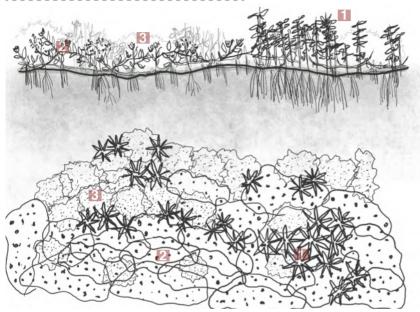
Wilderness comes with the promise of life. The fecundity of wilderness parcels depends on the various processes that allow for its growth, reproduction, spread and start determining the extents by which a particular population will persist and also how the community would start to form. The various ways in which wild species spread and disperse are by wind, water, pollinator species, birds and other fauna, fecal matter of these animals, soil and by their own root growth. Plants vary greatly in morphology (their forms and structures) and in their reproductive biology. Certain characteristics make plants easy to establish and grow, while other characteristics make planting difficult.

Autochory



Composition 2

- Taller plant species occurring in masses and clumps
- Root structures hollow floating with roots occurring at nodes and clamping to the mud.
- Filler grasses that persist longer than the water dependent species.





Structure

The structure for this category appears as drifts and clumps of herbs and small shrubs. The form of these species grow as either clumps with branches as tufts, which give shapes that are undulated. These herbs are more dominant during monsoon and post monsoon seasons and perish or wither away in pinch seasons, giving a very temporal landscape to the setting. Some species are also harvested for their edible and medicinal values.



Structure plant that is more prominent



Supporting fillers that adds to the massing



Filler species that acts as the base layer













Water logged areas display a different set of grassy compositions, with indicators of water moisture in terms of the community present. Some plants start occurring repetitively and species with similar morphology can be identified, broad leaves, without needle like spines. These occur as large massings as compared to the other grassy types.

Ipomoea aquatica spreads laterally and blossoms during monsoon seasons, making a great filler plant for seasonally occurring water logging. This along with vertical structured species such as *Hygrophila auriculata* are visually harmonious









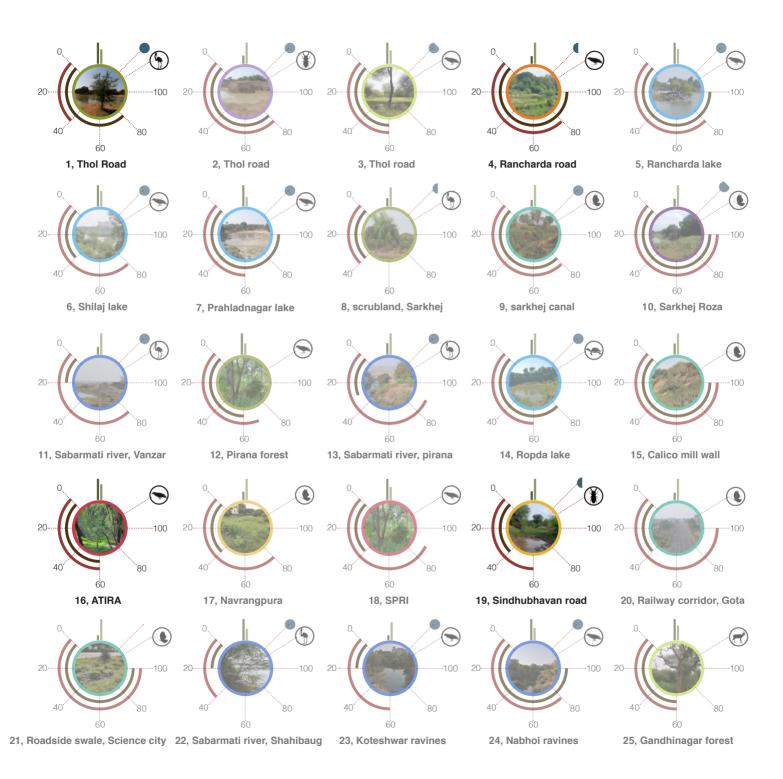












The grain map is a segment from the larger parcel, an area frequented as trails and the rushes of water as open and scattered with a few clusters of vegetation. Other open patches with very fine grain reveal dense under-storey present. There are some large canopies overlapping to form a shaded patch. Other areas with small sapling and shrubs form smaller clusters hindering free movement. The water edges seem devoid of large vegetation owing to the long periods of water inundation. The traces of the movement of water in the form of swales on the site are visible as thick long white strokes in the grey textures.

Reading the grain

