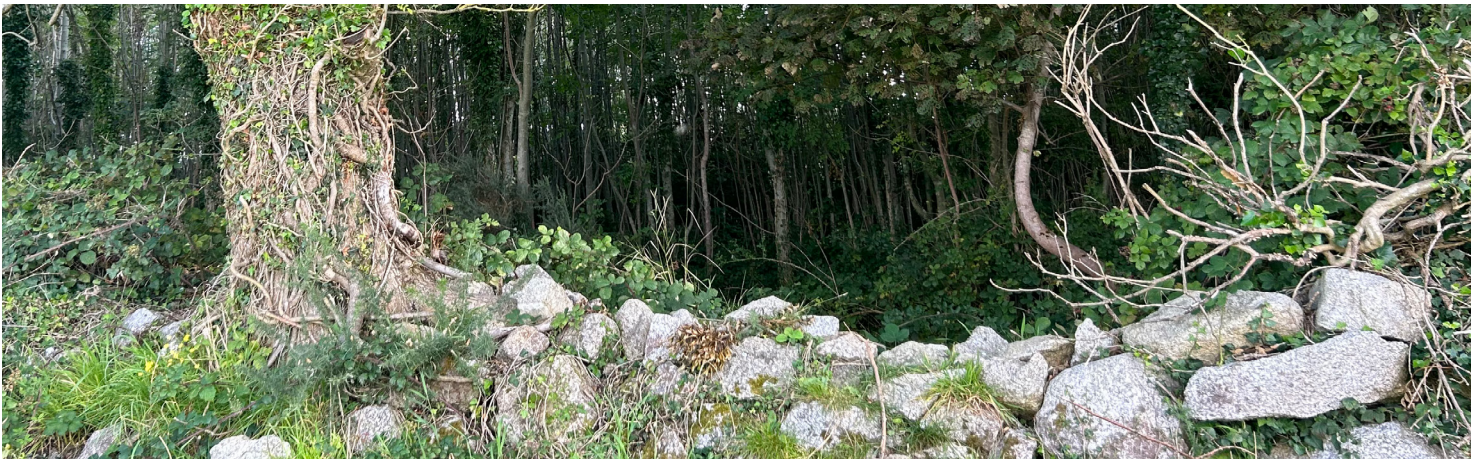# 2.5 Landscape Vision: Texture
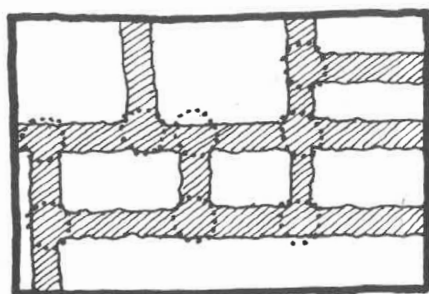
Texture

Cohesiveness + Character + Fabric of Place

Made up of views, knotted trees and old stone and earth walls, the sites texture again enhances its character. The softness of woodland and remains of carved up fallen trees contrast with the hardness of scattered granite with its sparkling glints of mica playfully reflecting the sunlight. The site demonstrates that when left to its own devices mother earth will embrace all these artefacts and blend them like a painter wrapping plants to soften the human imprints
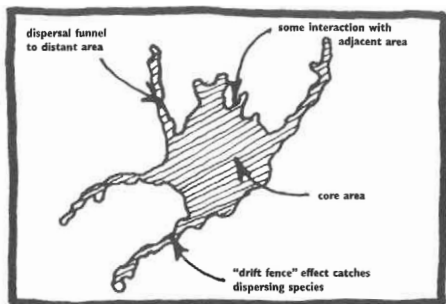
2.6 Landscape Vision: Ecology & Gradation

Ecology First Principles

Intersection Effect

Ecologically optimum "Patch Shape"

Cluster of Stepping Stone

Ecological networks can exist on a number levels and thrive given the opportunity – the flexibility to provide refuges in one cluster connecting with stepping stones or corridors must be considered in the design of modern developments. Going further, and providing connections over and under our settlements can be of huge importance.

Gradation + Natural Succession

The principle of succession in establishing habitats, plant and animal relationships can influence character whilst providing opportunities for existing habitat and the creation of new ones. This in turn, assuming well considered and appropriate to place, will encourage diversity. The site is made up of hedgerow and fields, ecological networks that were taken into consideration in the proposed design. Importantly, the protection and amelioration of soil should be a source of inspiration and driver in the sites restoration and accommodation of human habitation.

2.7 Landscape Vision: Design Principles - A Passage of Time
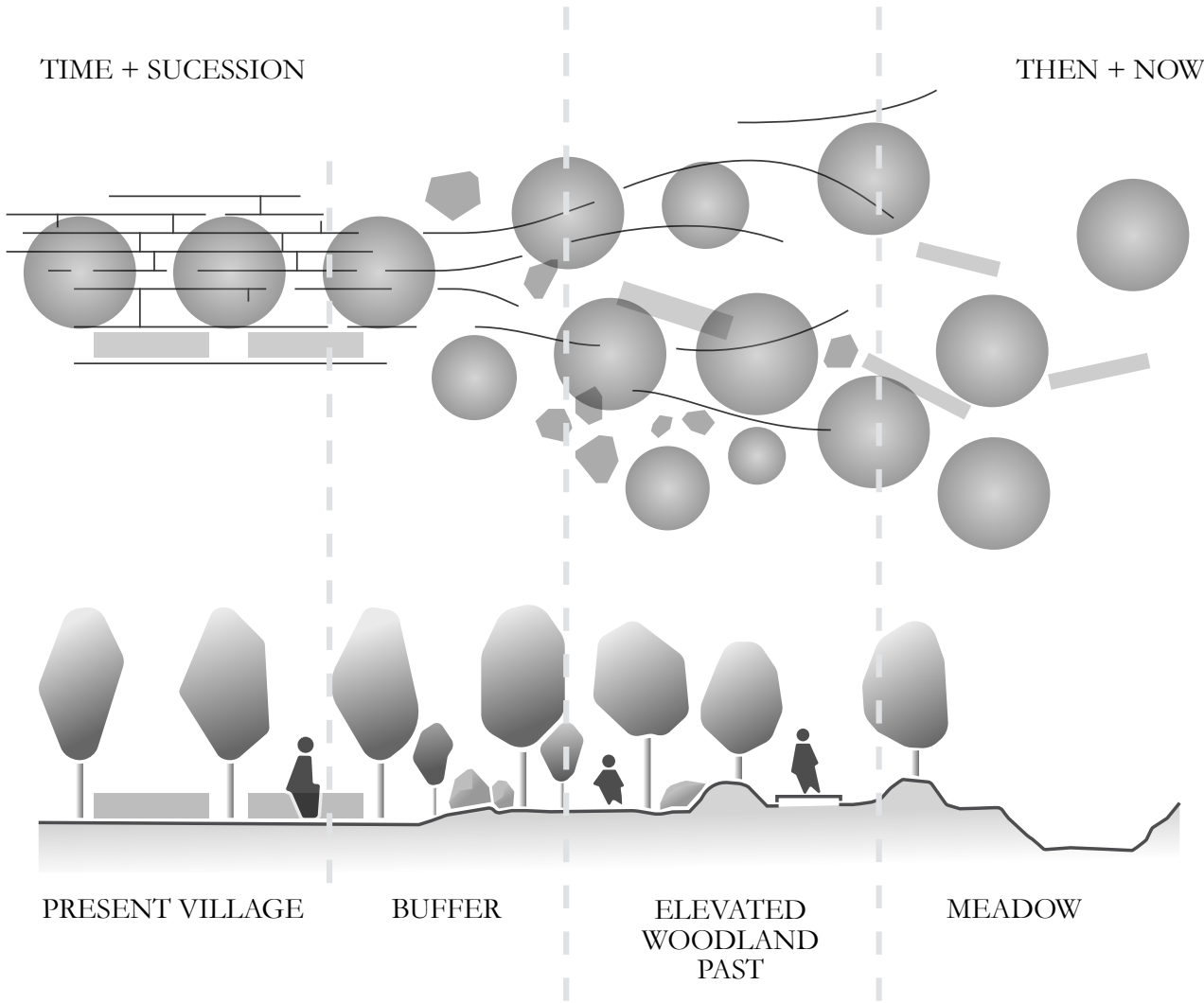

ECOLOGY
Protect + Enhance

COMMUNITY
Active + Vibrant

HISTORY
Embed + Endure

Fundamentally the balance between natural systems and our need to settle need to balance. The human community must adapt and respect the habitat which has historically maintained the sites special character. It must also embrace its protection and overcome our ignorance – be open to learn. Recognising what makes place, by sight, historical significance and a celebration of community will create a well adjusted and safe community to grow and renew with its surroundings.

TIME + SUCESSION

THEN + NOW

PRESENT VILLAGE   BUFFER   ELEVATED WOODLAND PAST   MEADOW

Natural succession can define the sites design language through a gradation of formality and organic organisation structures. Highly active areas can be well organised, practical and conform to straight lines whilst embracing a softness. Less active areas can ebb and flow, allowing spaces to be found and encouraging exploration and discover in our landscapes.
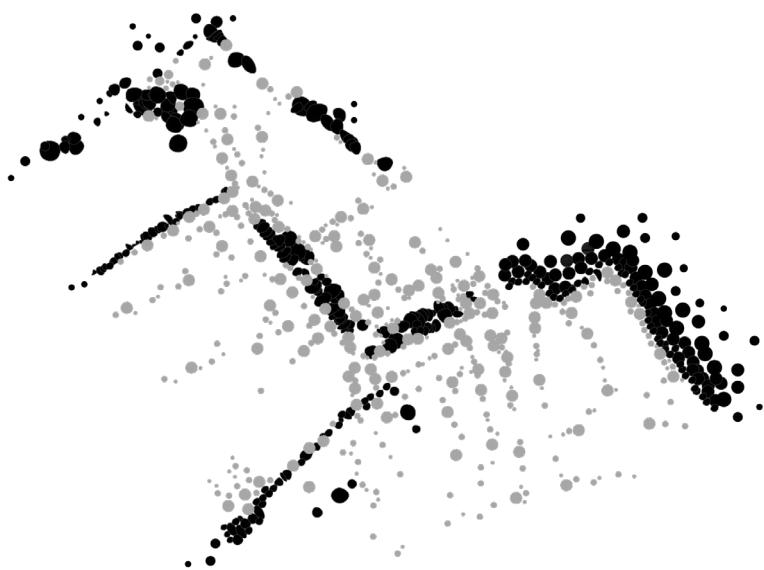
2.8 Landscape Vision: A Collective Response

To Protect The Existing

To Enhance
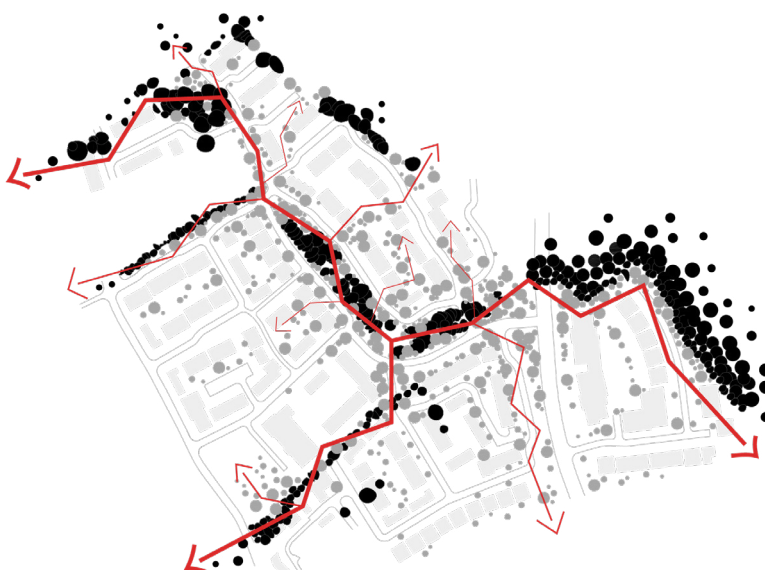

To Integrate

To Balance

The relationship of the site with its context is a celebration of an intense variety of outward facing views to which the development responds wholly. Best captured as glimpse views between tree canopies and hedgerows, the compositions further enhance the landscape experience through the use of borrowed landscape. The scale of spaces, coupled with foreground planting create opportunities for foreshortening and encourage users from one spatial experience to another.

As the development already contains a vast and extensive network of vegetation, it is vital moving foward that the vision bleeds outward from the existing core network of trees and hedgerows. Using the existing network as a "spine", the proposed tree planting scheme will co-exist and enhance this existing network working in harmony with one another. In essence, strengthening the overall site with the proposed vegetation expanding outwards similar to a web from the central corridor of trees and hedgerows.

Integrating the proposed design layout with the many existing accesses that the site has to offer, by creating a vast network of routes throughout the development. In keeping with the multiple varieties of existing vegetation and outward looking views of the development, the site will cater to showcase these natural elements in many different shapes, scales, forms and textures. Furthermore, the design layout has been significantly determined by the current landscape in terms of the structure and essence of route patterns that navigate and encompass the development. Creating spaces and routes that cater for specific locations on the development will encourage integration between elements and hierarchies including the natural and made.
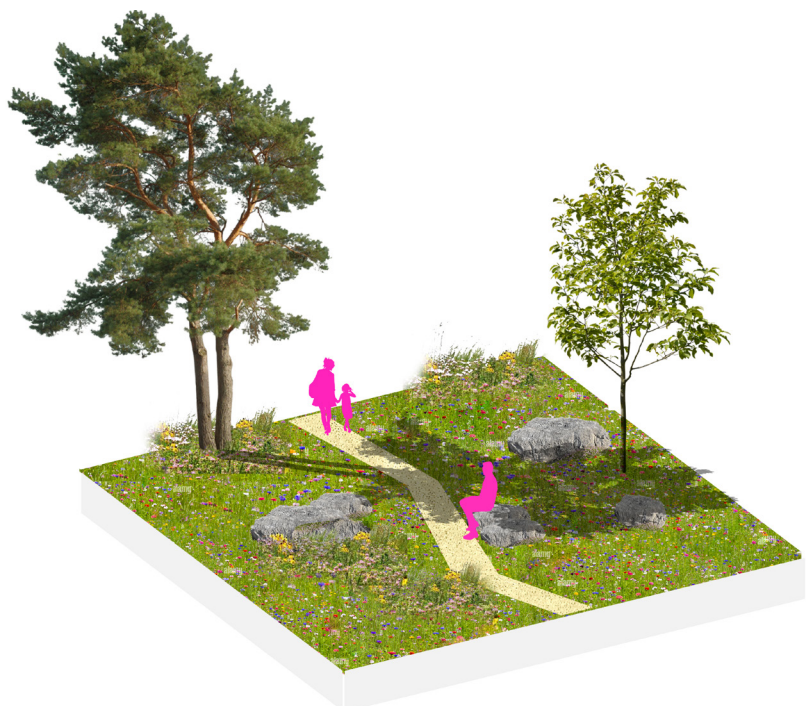
Overall, having a development and design that is well connected and integrated with the existing context and history of the locality is paramount. Respecting and celebrating the rich array and variety of natural elements that have been shaped by humans and nature throughout the ages. Using the existing features of the development as an anchor and pillar has been a key feature of the design process in terms of connecting and creating routes, identifying spatial hierarchies and specific experiences throughout the site. Above all, creating a well balanced and integrated development that showcases the success of merging nature and humans.
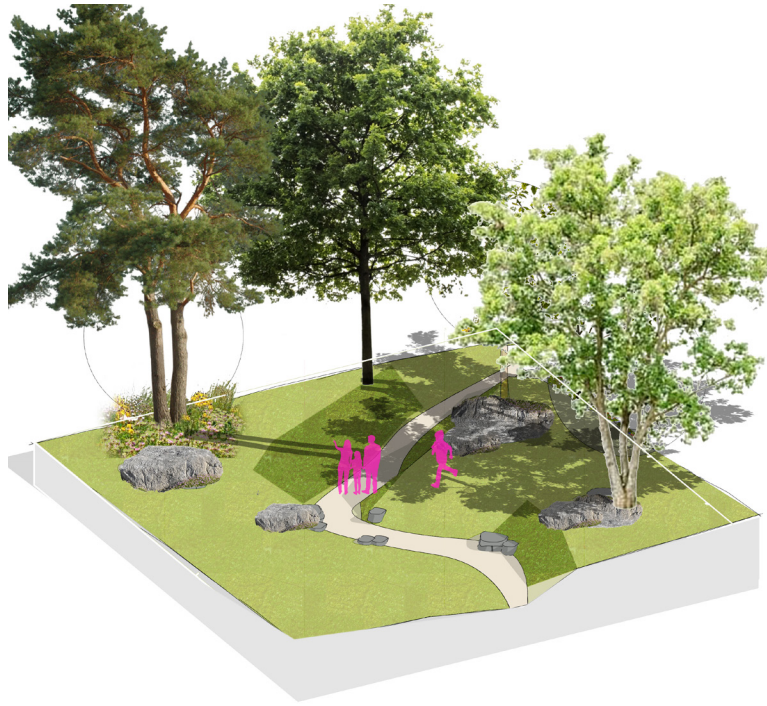
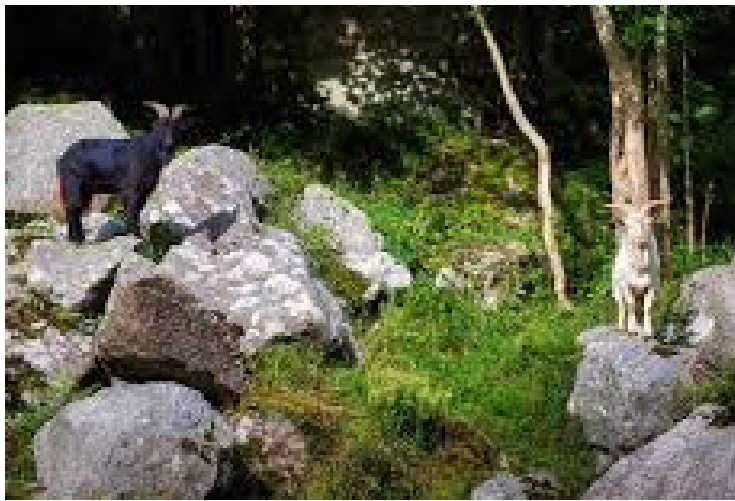# 2.9 Landscape Vision: Typologies & Character

The Moutains

The Meadows

The Mines

The Woodlands

The Scalp Enniskerry

Ballycorus road

Lead Mines Ballycorus

The 'Hallway' Kilternan

Informed by the concept of context, each character area responds to place to which the site has a relationship with in the overall fabric of the landscape – utilising boulders and landform to represent mountains, open meadows pretending to be pasture, crafted depressions imitating the cavernous mines and intimate woodland buffering, protecting and enhancing the woodland 'hallway'.