

# PAV LIVING ROOM

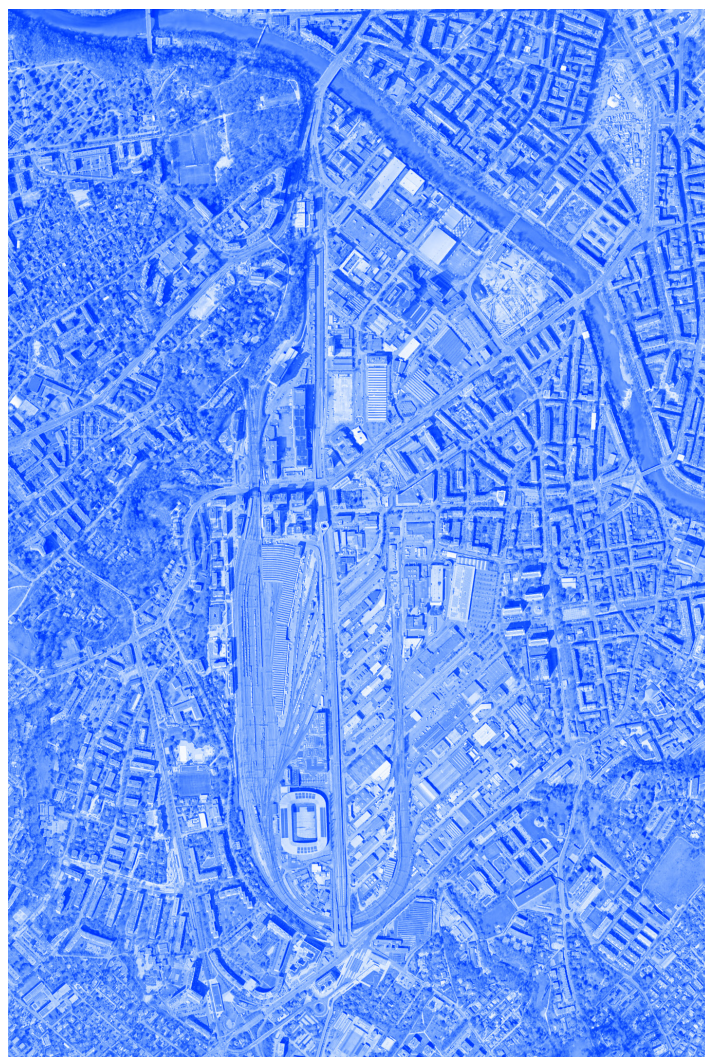
PAV living room is an applied research project on the conditions and opportunities of urban spaces in transformation, exploring new methods of urban design and representation by engaging with the site in its present state. Developed through in situ experiments, it takes as its case study the evolving industrial zone of Praille-Acacias-Vernets (PAV) in Geneva.

● Covering 140 hectares, the Praille-Acacias-Vernets area holds significant potential for urban transformation due to its central geographic location within the canton and its considerable size. Although it is ultimately intended to host new residential, commercial, and recreational districts, it remains closely tied today to ongoing industrial activities, largely due to existing surface rights. Its transformation—complex in terms of programming, spatial structure, and land ownership—will unfold over an extended time frame, spanning several decades.

This prolonged temporality invites a rethinking of urban planning methods. It reveals new opportunities and suggests that the transitional phase should not be seen merely as a period of waiting between an initial state and a future project, but rather as a state in itself—durable, evolving, and inhabited.

● PAV living room aligns itself with this transformation by exploring the urbanistic potentials involved in inhabiting a zone in transition. The territory is considered as a constantly evolving, complex, and multilayered landscape, made up of built and unbuilt structures, visible and invisible practices, and individual and collective imaginaries. Understanding these dynamics requires deep, situated knowledge: observing, experimenting, and engaging become essential actions to uncover the full range of latent resources within the territory. Sustaining a sensitive dialogue, PAV living room is based on a close and contextually aware reading of the multiplicity of the site.

● PAV living room unfolds through several formats: in situ interventions, a magazine, and a scenographic device. The magazine and scenographic device aim to support and document the in situ experiments logistically and to extend the reflections they generate. The in situ interventions themselves are the core of PAV living room. They encompass a variety of forms proposed by a diverse range of contributors from artistic, architectural, urban planning, landscape, and social backgrounds.

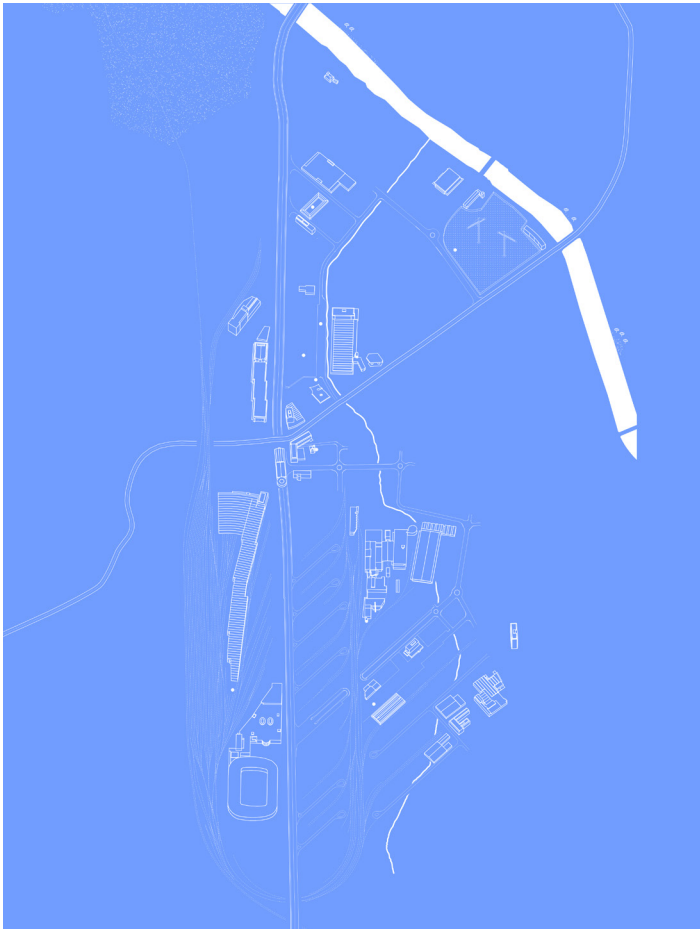


Prairie Acacias Vernets  
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Through their collective nature, these interventions bring together multiple perspectives and open up new viewpoints for both participants and the public on ways of inhabiting the territory.

\* Surface rights separate land ownership from ownership of the buildings constructed on it: they grant the holder the right to build, own, and maintain one or more structures on land owned by someone else, for a limited period ranging from 30 to 100 years.  
<https://www.ftige.ch/droit-de-superficie>

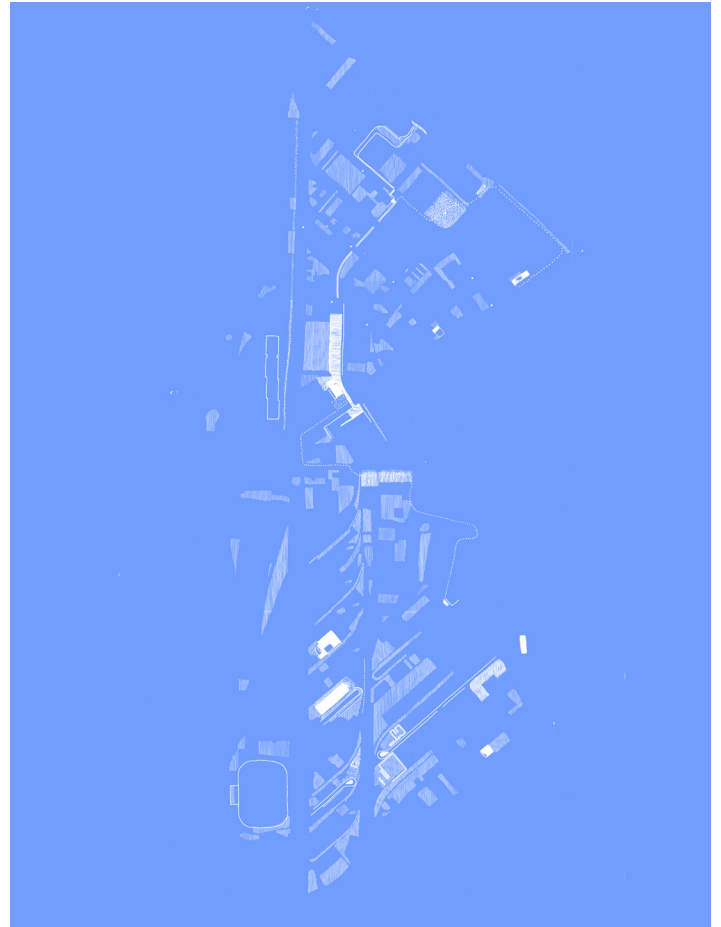
● The first edition of the in situ intervention program, held in 2023, enabled an initial exploration and discovery of the Praille-Acacias-Vernets area. Through performances, installations, and discussions, it revealed the visible and invisible structures of the PAV: its voids, its uses, its anchors, its multiplicity. A sensitive, situated, and embodied map was collectively drawn, outlining spaces that embody the opportunities present in the PAV and showing how they can be inhabited.



Spaces of opportunities, PAV living room 01, 2023  
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● In 2024, *midnight spaces*, the second edition of the in situ interventions, continued this mapping by focusing on an archipelago of suspended spaces—spaces in waiting, full of potential for interpretation, appropriation, and projection. Through embodied gestures of reappropriation, we explored their plurality and possible futures, bringing their latent richness to light.

● For this third edition, PAV living room continues its exploration of the spatio-temporal figures of the PAV, focusing



Midnight Spaces, PAV living room 02, 2024  
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on possible articulations between the different space-times present on the site. This new phase is centered on the notion of sequence—on the fragile weaving of heterogeneous, situated imaginaries. By articulating divergent narratives, this edition aims to develop interpretations of the territory that, beyond isolated activations, become tools for territorial articulation shaped by multiple subjectivities.

Ultimately, PAV living room seeks to offer a complementary approach to traditional planning tools—one grounded in situated practices, narratives, and experiences. By making visible the flexible dynamics already at play and the territory's sensory qualities, the project aims not only to reveal what exists but also to open up new pathways for evolution. Through its exploration of forms of inhabiting and the urban strategies they imply, it contributes to building a reading of the territory and a foundation for complementary actions.