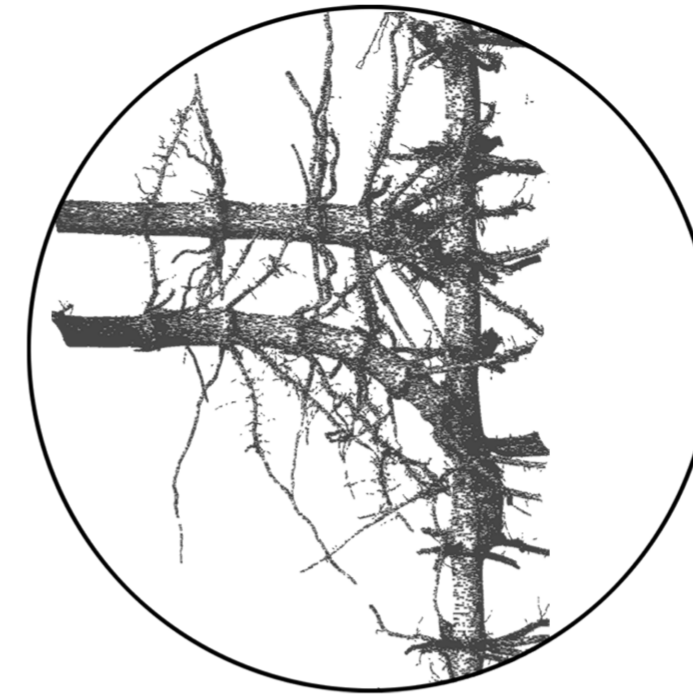


RHIZOME ISLES

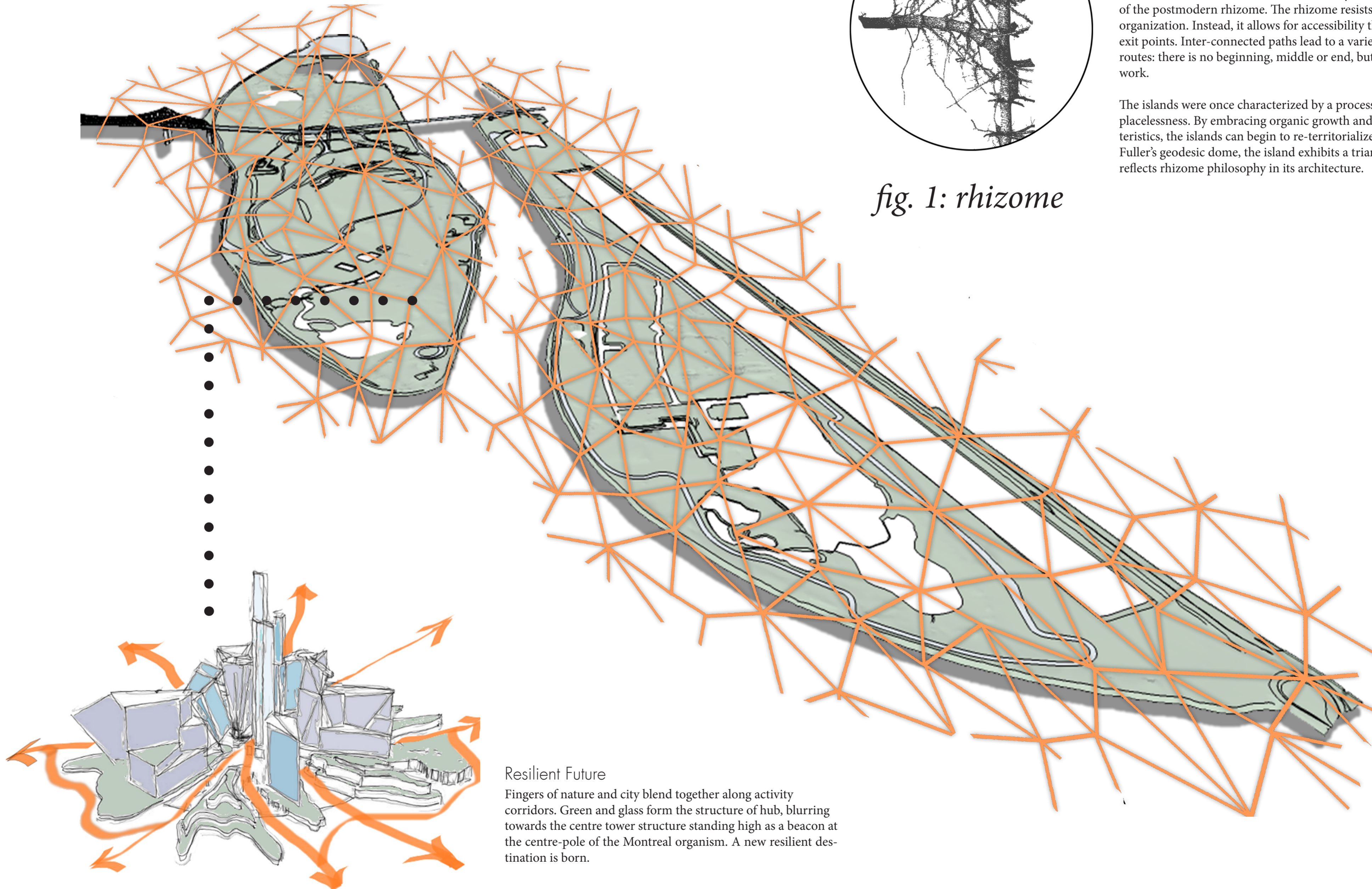


Modernism is characterized by progress, cause and effect, and linearity. The islands once acted as an exhibit of modernist ideals by showcasing technological advancement, scientific knowledge and rationality.

On Rhizome Isles, modernism and linearity are replaced by the concept of the postmodern rhizome. The rhizome resists chronology, causality and organization. Instead, it allows for accessibility through multiple entry and exit points. Inter-connected paths lead to a variety of interpretations and routes: there is no beginning, middle or end, but instead a continuous network.

The islands were once characterized by a process of de-territorialization and placelessness. By embracing organic growth and the rhizome's root characteristics, the islands can begin to re-territorialize. Inspired by Buckminster Fuller's geodesic dome, the island exhibits a triangular nodal pattern and reflects rhizome philosophy in its architecture.

fig. 1: rhizome

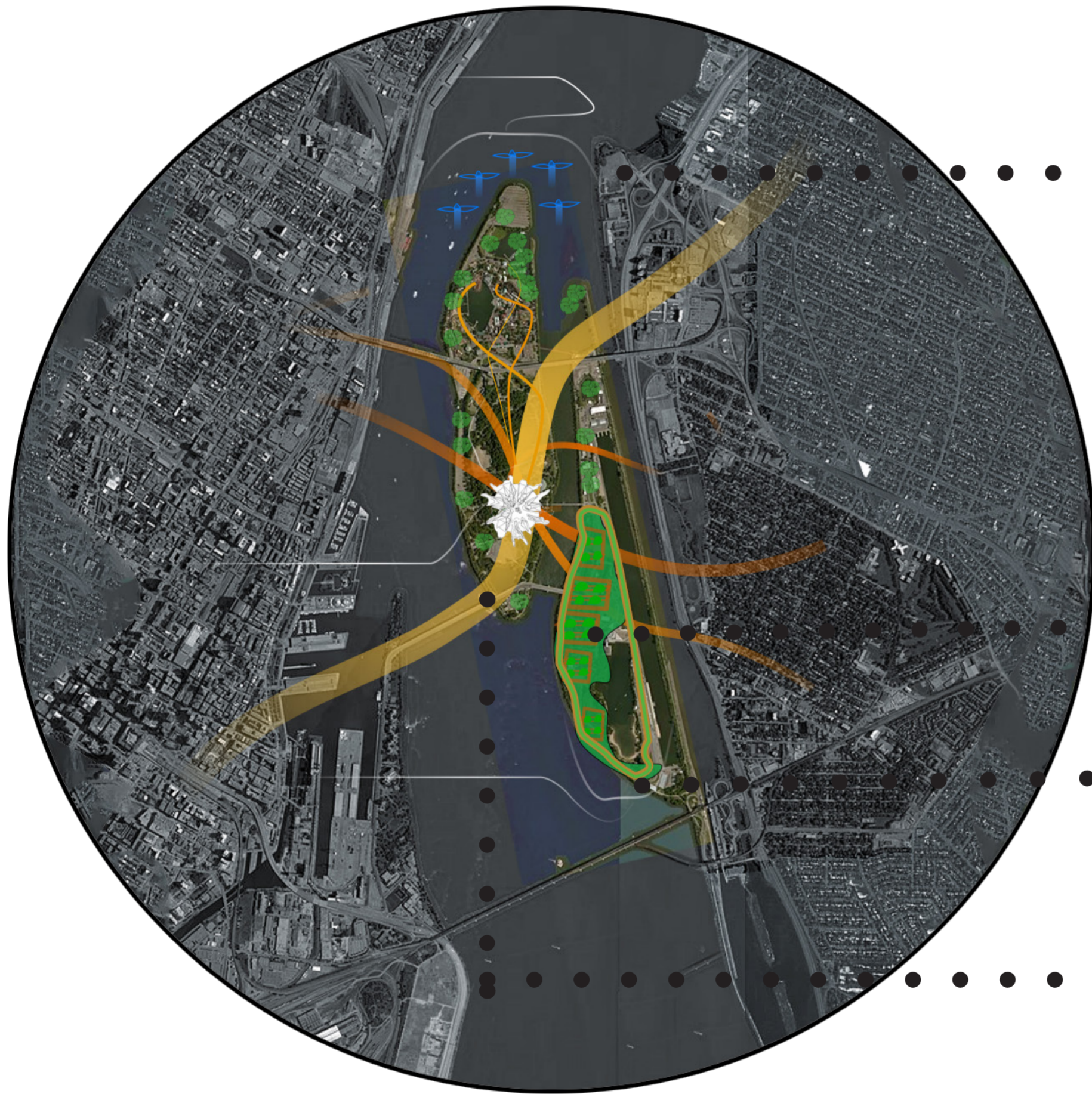


Resilient Future

Fingers of nature and city blend together along activity corridors. Green and glass form the structure of hub, blurring towards the centre tower structure standing high as a beacon at the centre-pole of the Montreal organism. A new resilient destination is born.

MUTUALISM

A principle of rhizome philosophy and a form of symbiosis, mutualism reflects a relationship between two organisms that is beneficial for both parties. The city provides entertainment and economic activity, while the island provides food, energy and an escape from urban life.



ENERGY

Hydroelectric generating stations (river turbines) surrounding the islands in the St. Lawrence provide a clean energy source for the islands.

FOOD

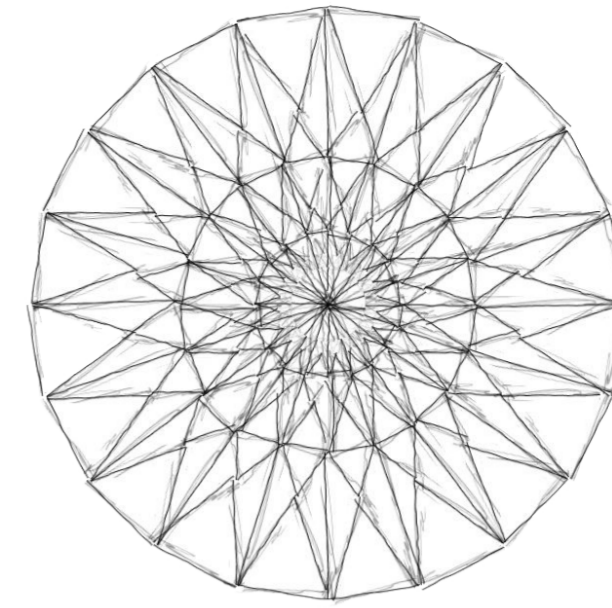
Vertical farming facilities provide food for the City of Montreal, contributing to the mutualistic relationship.

BIOLOGICAL PROMENADE

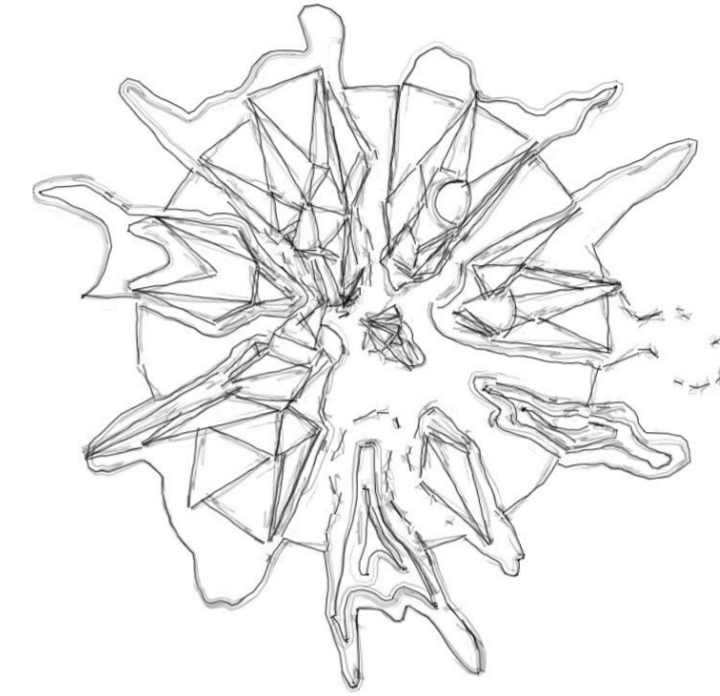
Botanical gardens on Ile St-Helene incorporate leisure, education and the provision of food. The formula one race track is now a promenade that celebrates the river in its natural state.

BRIDGE

The passive solar design of the living roof protects from the hot summer sun with ivy and vines. In winter, the solar wall helps reflect the heat from the winter sun onto the path and protecting travellers from cold St. Lawrence winds. The sides of the structure include stormwater bioswales to collect rainwater. The bridges act as efficient conduits for people, energy and water between islands.



Fuller's geodesic dome is an important visual legacy of Expo '67. The lattice of triangles form a sphere in a web of connections; its strength in efficiency and connectivity are key elements in both modernism and rhizome designs. A version of the structure is laid flat at the centre of Ile-St-Helene near Jean Drapeau metro station to form the framework to build a new hub of activity.



Breaking down the modernist structural elements of the geodesic design through erosion of natural activity lines connecting activity areas in Montreal to return the Archipelago to its place as a destination of efficient and natural connection.

