

# Experiencing the Post-mining Wonder: Reclaiming a New Purpose for Post-mining Landscapes in Quadrilatero Ferrifero<sup>1</sup>

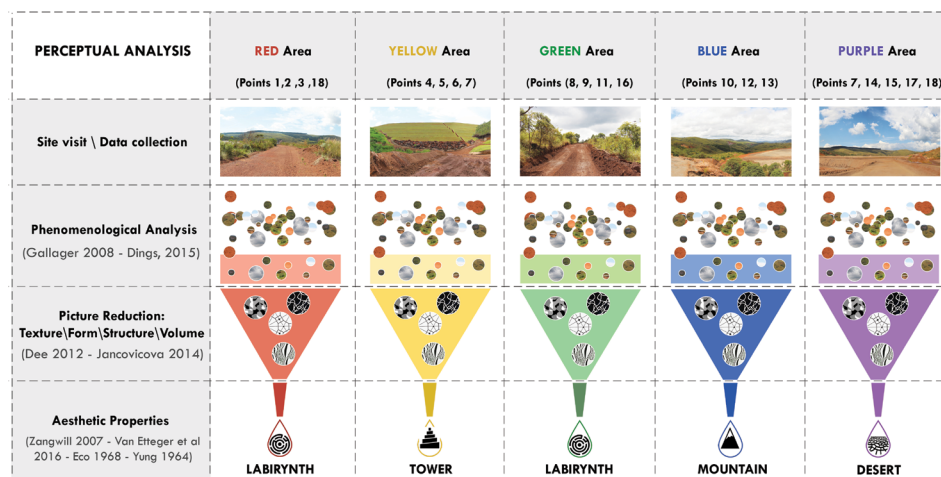
CARLO LEONARDI

Rich imaginative perceptions are often unrelated to hard scientific data. In this project, this dilemma is explicitly addressed by integrating different research methods to examine post-mining landscapes like those in Quadrilatero Ferrifero, Brazil. The imaginative method is phenomenological and includes a gradual development from personal observations to more objective spatial dimensions of the landscape, such as form, texture, structure and volume (figure 1). The final result of this method is a synthesising into archetypal place characters (figure 2).

The more regular scientific data are retrieved from field reports on ecological restoration and a narrative description of events during the mining activity (figure 3). The final combination of the archetypal place characters, the ecological potentials and the mining narrative is then studied by using physical modelling that allow a deep engagement with placemaking (figure 4). This final phase aims at maximising the value of the ‘creative jump’. This jump emphasises creativity as the researcher is able to strive for the best possible spatial synthesis, which comes to both symbolically and ecologically represent different sites (figure 5).

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## REPORT



*Figure 1: Schematic of different forms of perceptual analysis for different areas. (Image: Author's own.)*

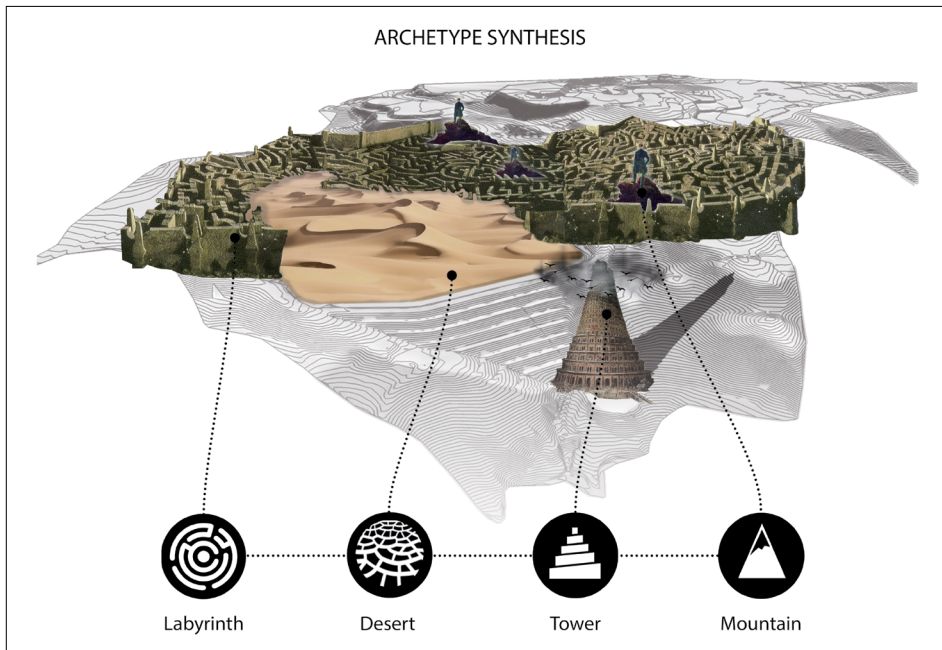


Figure 2: Archetypal synthesis: four archetypal place locations resulting from the perceptual analysis. (Image: Author's own.)

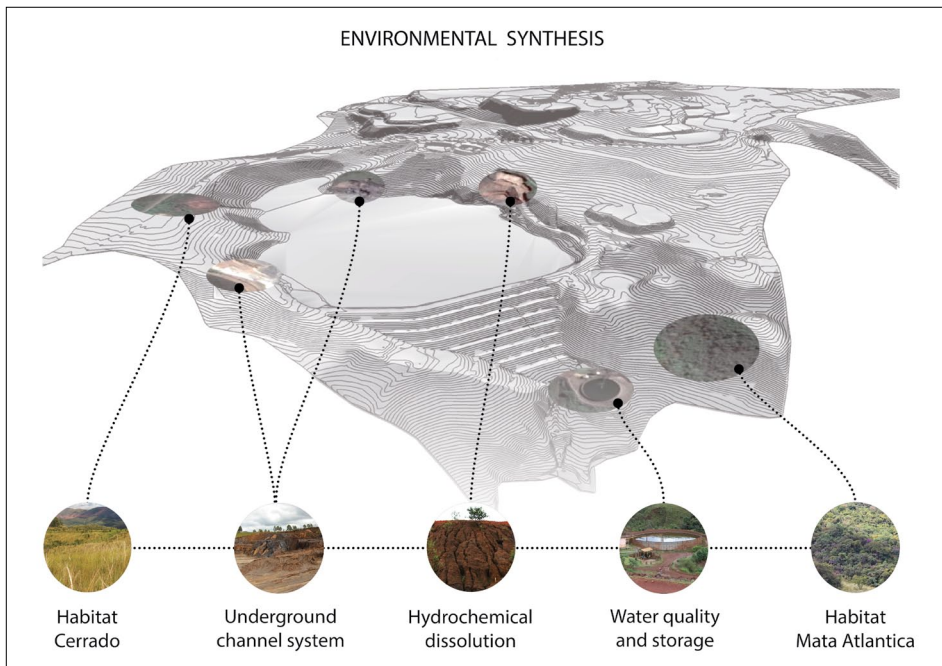


Figure 3: Environmental synthesis: blending of the landscape ecological characteristics and narrative events during the period of mining. (Image: Author's own.)



Figure 4: Interaction with the physical-scale model, in collaboration with Jolanda de Jong, including a water circulation, a wooden base, sand topography, cardboard paths and cress vegetation. (Image: Author's own.)

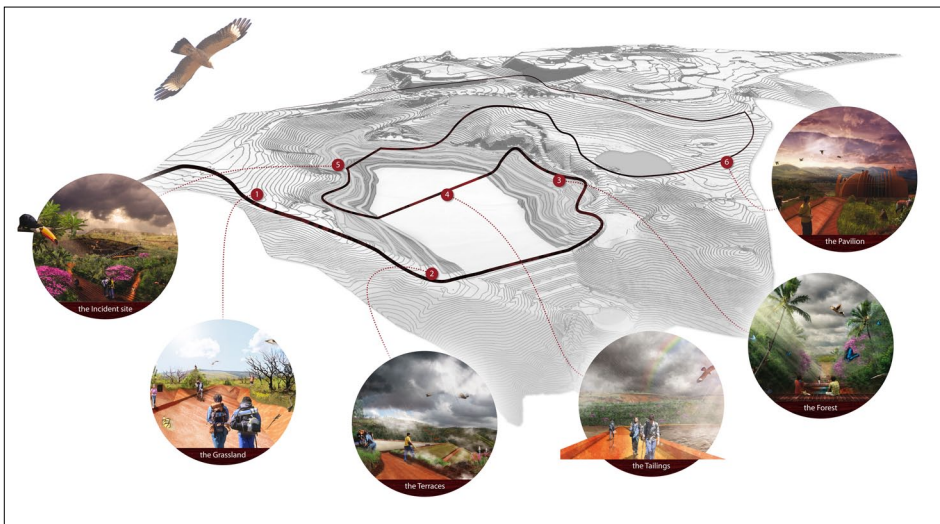


Figure 5: Digital renderings of the transformed post-mining site. (Image: Author's own.)

**NOTE**

1 For the MLA thesis on which this report is based, go to <http://edepot.wur.nl/426587>.