

# 12x: Jardins sous la loupe



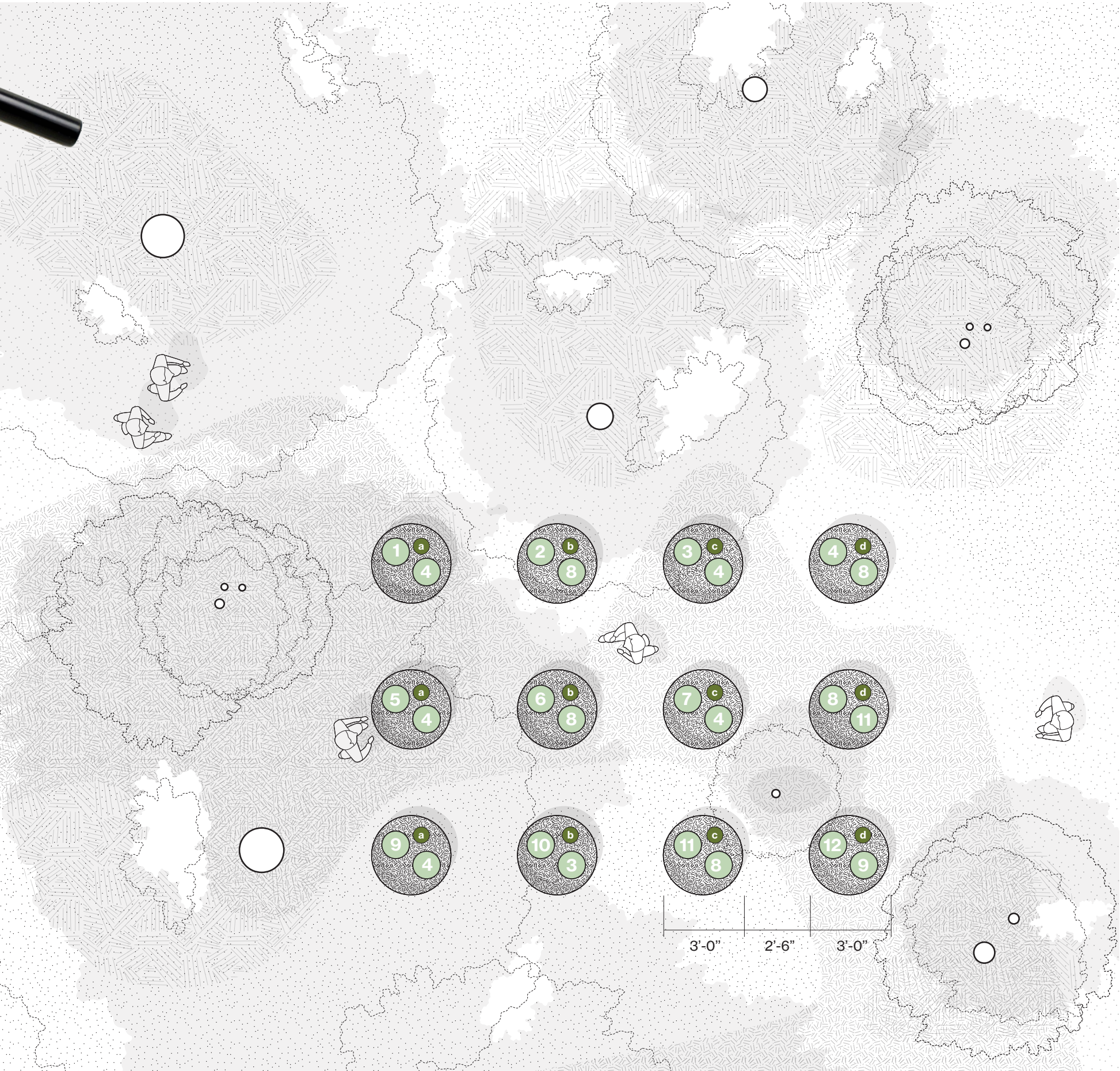
'Les loupes' are cylindrical planters of cold-rolled steel, painted to match the yellow of the forest: the yellow of Reford Garden's birch tree leaves in autumn. Like oversized petri dishes or precious fossils in a curiosity cabinet, 'les loupes' isolate small patches of indigenous flora, bringing their details to our attention. Yet unlike the petri dish specimens or 'curiosities' held behind glass, 'les loupes' invite a closer reading of the flora and its relationships to the broader local ecosystem. The bright yellow steel planters draw our attention to details that we overlook on the forest floor and in the understory. The contrast of the grid with the natural organization of the forest complicates the notion of an 'empty' clearing. Each container experiences varying environmental conditions that influence the outcome of the plantings, welcoming unexpected visitors – seeds, birds, squirrels, and leaves. The plantings are indigenous flora chosen for their varying levels of seasonal interest and minute details that call us to look closer and examine them in their context. Key to the project is curiosity and playfulness. Science is not just for the lab! We encourage visitors to look into 'les loupes', open your eyes to the ecology of possibility, and examine a habitat in detail – you might see a treasure hidden in plain sight!

## Perennials

- 1 Wild Columbine / *Aquilegia canadensis*
- 2 Wild Bergamot / *Monarda fistulosa*
- 3 Canadian Wild Ginger / *Asarum canadense*
- 4 Northern Maidenhair Fern / *Adiantum pedatum*
- 5 Wintergreen / *Chimaphila maculate*
- 6 Autumn Sneezeweed / *Helenium autumnale*
- 7 Jack-in-the-Pulpit / *Arisaema triphyllum*
- 8 Christmas Fern / *Polystichum*
- 9 Twinflower / *Linnaea borealis*
- 10 Painted Trillium / *Trillium undulatum*
- 11 Swamp milkweed / *Asclepias incarnata*
- 12 Northern Lady Fern / *Athyrium filix-femina*

## Mosses and Lichens

- a Reindeer lichen / *Cladonia stellaris*
- b Stairstep moss / *Hylocomium splendens*
- c Red-stemmed feathermoss / *Pleurozium schreberi*
- d Knight's plume moss / *Ptilium cristacastrensis*



Planting Plan Showing placement of 'les loupes' in the existing white spruce - birch forest condition





Section, Summer Showing the scale of the planting beds and their relationship to native material on-site

0 1 2m

