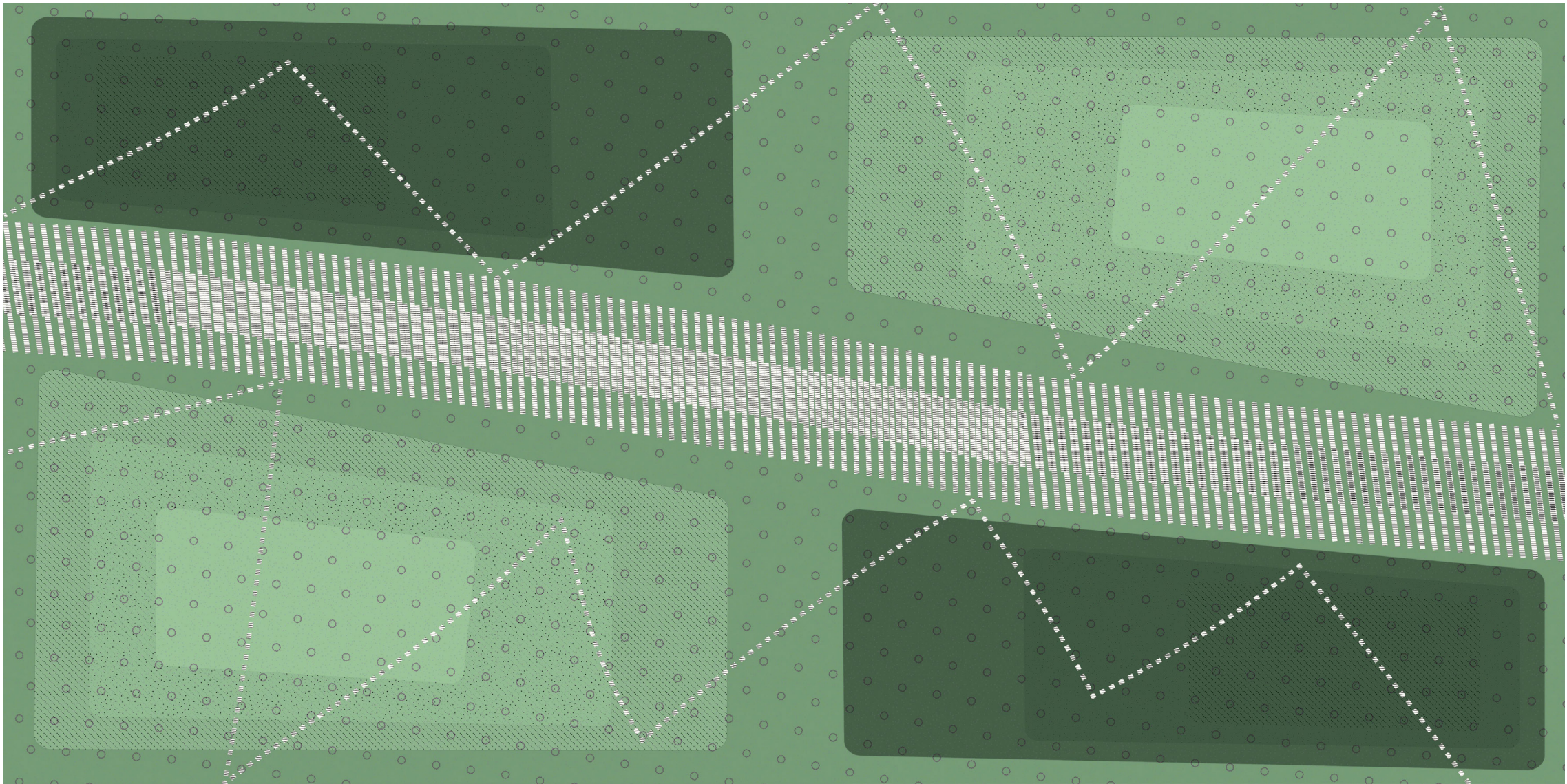


FUTURE DRIFTS

The year of the first International Garden Festival, priority plant species were identified for habitat protection in the St. Lawrence Vision 2000 Action Plan (Le Fleuve newsletter, March 1999). One of the species identified was the Anticosti Aster, which comes from a cross between the New York Aster (stable) and Rush Aster (at risk). 25 years later, despite habitat protections, they remain imperiled species.

This garden is posed as a question on the past and future. If New York and Rush Asters crossed again, what would that look like? How would varieties of Philadelphia Fleabane and Goldenrod contribute to the conversation? What possible futures can be seeded by these species' interactions?

As people walk through this garden, they are immersed in drifts of Asters, held back by woven dune fencing. This fencing material is also layered and embedded into the ground as a delineation of a path that asters (and other spontaneous vegetation) can grow up between. Repeated foot traffic along the wooden path will wear access into the site, defining how far the plants can drift into the site.



Plan View: 10 x 20m

suggested plants:

- New York Aster (*Symphyotrichum novi-belgii*)
- New England Aster (*Symphyotrichum novae-angliae*)
- White Panicked Aster (*Symphyotrichum lanceolatum*)
- Calico Aster (*Symphyotrichum lateriflorus*)
- Flat-topped White Aster (*Doellingaria umbellata*)
- Downy Goldenrod (*Solidago puberula*)
- Canada Goldenrod (*Solidago canadensis*)
- Philadelphia Fleabane (*Erigeron philadelphicus*)

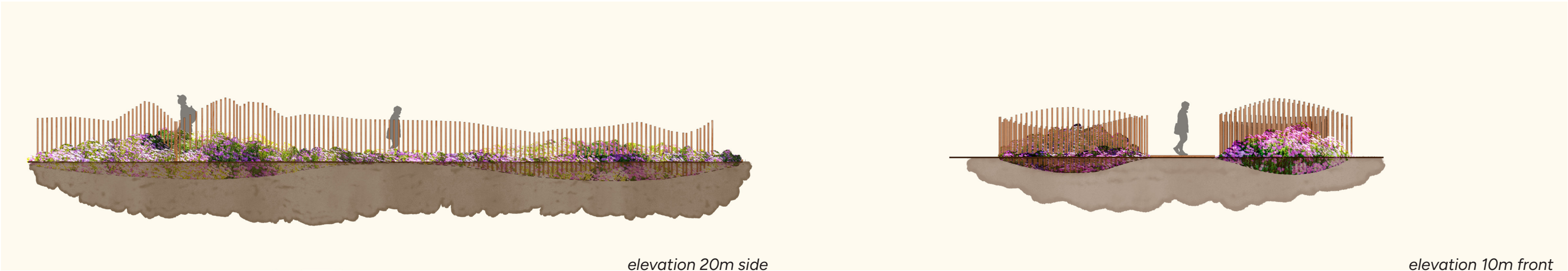


ASTER FUTURES

Using related species to the ones identified for habitat protection in 1999 allows for questions on ecological possibilities. Are species crossing in today's conditions more suitable for resiliency to our future ecological and environmental realities? Topography changes (and related moisture differences) will allow a diverse set of conditions for these asters to potentially cross within. Questions on the conditions of our future ecologies take on the form of this garden.



perspective view



elevation 20m side

elevation 10m front