



2011: fisk generating station operates at south fork turning basin studies show increases in adjacent childhood asthma rates lawsuits from city, state, and national organizations pend protests and community actions take place regularly

2011:



2040: fisk gallery and exhibition space thrives with adjacent redeveloped artist lofts industrial infrastructure is reused as planting and recreation infrastructure solar canopies provide shading for weekend market and events urban agriculture and/or ethanol production integrated into site

2040:



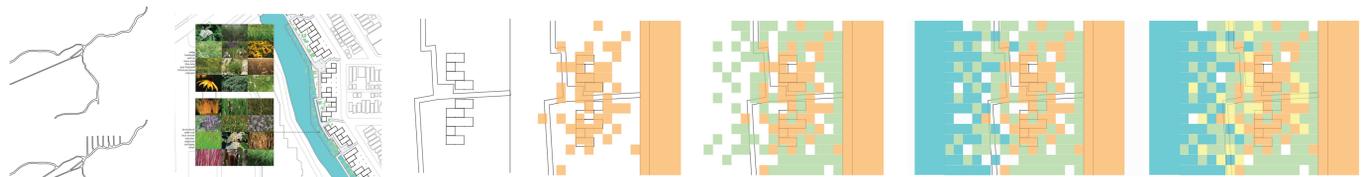
1900: refuse and slime from the stockyards fills bubbly creek eutrophic stream environment lacks oxygen and supports no ecology contamination leading to disease results in reversal of chicago river

1900:

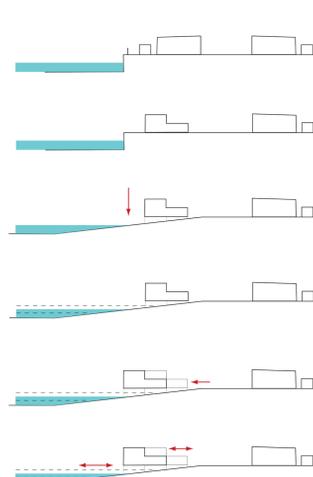
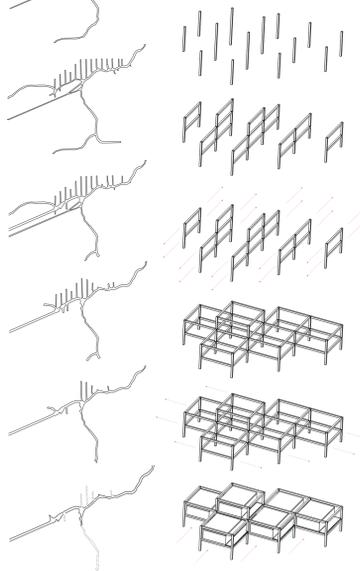


2030: softened edge allows natural systems to develop for remediation ecology provides animal habitat and recreation environment development along water's edge restores lost site density

2030:



the evolution of the south fork turning basin



the industrial edge of the chicago river, filled with defunct barge slips and empty lots, can be reinterpreted to encourage socially positive use of leftover urban space. steps taken ensure that the Chicago river remains a viable asset for our future, not simply a workhorse of our history. the removal of corrugated sheet piling and the reestablishment of a riparian zone signifies transition from industrial to recreational use and provides a remediation strategy as well as development opportunities. the South Fork Turning Basin gives specific context for the exploration of this strategy. extensive historical and social research reveals incentives for removal of Fisk (coal-fired) generating station from use - the turning basin's only active receiver of barge shipments. desire to regenerate this site for recreation and social use abounds in collaboration with the Cermak Creative Industries district, the Pilsen arts district and UIC. the area becomes a cultural focal point and healthy asset instead of a dangerous liability, and serves to draw increasing densities, justifying adjacent developments of riverwalk and water's edge communities.

the development proposal for bubbly creek (essentially a large industrial slip) avoids cul-de-sac filled 'ladders' that enhance separation between city and river (people and nature, built and unbuilt) but rather celebrate their connection by pushing the existing street grid further towards this newly graded edge, inviting both new and old users to engage a new permeable boundary.

a built solution arises when permeable land is extended through grading but desire for economic use remains. it provides incentive for investment and increased density to support social programs. elevated modular systems is viable in wet or dry conditions and at varying scales according to the specifics of the site. boardwalk elements also provide public recreation opportunities without direct water contact during initial years of remediation as well as connection to adjacent commercial and transit hubs.



2011: industrial storage and empty sites surround south fork turning basin vacant industrial corridor erases neighborhood interaction with river impermeable sheet-piling edge denies access for recreational use

2011:



2050: water's edge development allows community access to waterfront softened boundaries encourage ecological and social permeability access allows year-round vitality of redeveloped turning basin

2050:

