

# agriCITY (an exploration in remediating the parking city)



**1**

Little Rock, Arkansas  
Population: 197,000

Little Rock is situated at the intersection of three geological regions - the Mississippi Embayment, the Gulf Coastal Plain, & the Ouachita Mountains.

Mississippi Alluvial Plain  
Western Embayment

**2**

The Mississippi Alluvial Plain contains some of the richest soils in the country. Beautiful patterns emerge as the region's surface is plotted by agriculture.

**3**

While agriculture accounts for nearly 25% of the state's economy...

Arkansas State Boundary

25%

**4**

Paradoxically, parking accounts for 25% of the surface area of downtown Little Rock - the state's capitol city! Isn't this supposed to be the "natural" state?

Downtown Little Rock Boundary

25%

**7**

Cities are fields of organized complexity made up of interrelated collections of parts. Analyzing the current structure of the city, what are some of the existing collections found within downtown Little Rock?

For the purposes of this project, the downtown perimeter has been defined by three man-made boundaries (two interstates and a railway) and one natural boundary (the Arkansas River).

**6**

1.36 sq mi

Little Rock, Arkansas....

.... as Paris, France

What does downtown Little Rock look like rendered at equal scale with the textures of these iconic cities?

.... as Buenos Aires, Argentina

.... as Manhattan, New York

**5**

How long will it be before the urban fabric of the city has deteriorated into nothing but a sea of surface parking lots? It has so much more potential!

**8**

Street Network

27%

**9**

Surface Parking

25%

**10**

Buildings

20%

**11**

Parks & Plazas

8%

**14**

A 50" x 60" collage on canvas simultaneously followed the digital design process for agriCITY from start to finish, constantly informing decisions made. This series documents that process.

"Cities happen to be problems in organized complexity.... They present situations in which half a dozen or several dozen quantities are all varying simultaneously and in subtly interconnected ways.... The variables are many, but they are not better skelter; they are interrelated into an organic whole." ~Jane Jacobs

**12**

Let's create a palette of existing and new typologies that we can use to remediate the city through collage!

**13**

TYPOLOGY PALETTE

- Parks & Plazas
- Street Market Pavilions
- Urban Agriculture
- Existing Buildings
- Pedestrian Streets
- Urban Regeneration
- Urban Forest
- Pedestrian Bridges
- Enhanced Street Network

**15**

+ Urban Agriculture

19%

**16**

+ Urban Forest

7%

**17**

+ Urban Connections

5%

**18**

+ Urban Regeneration

19%

**19**

The final collage yields an artifact of the design process, expressing the textural qualities of the planning typology concepts through mapped extrusions.