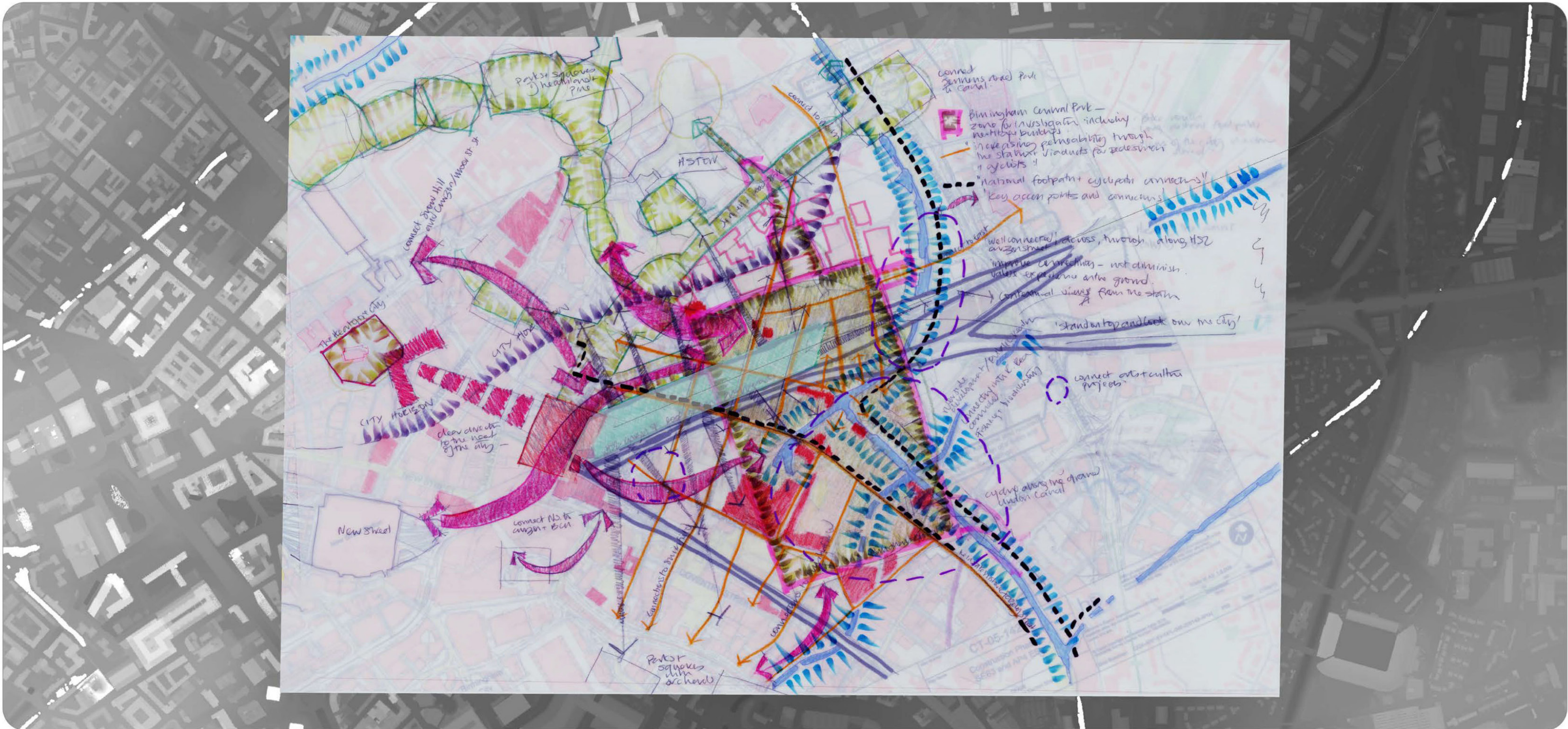
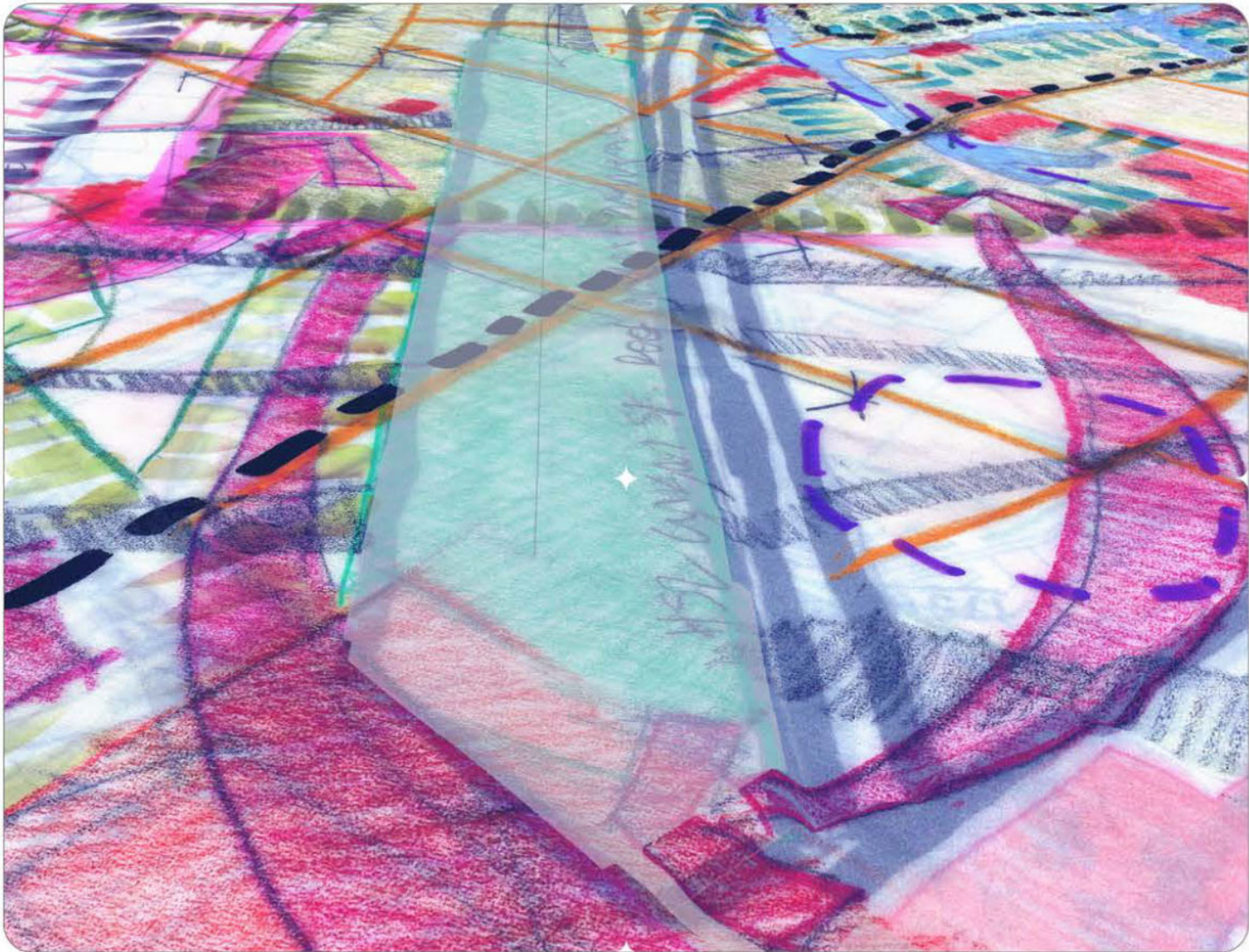
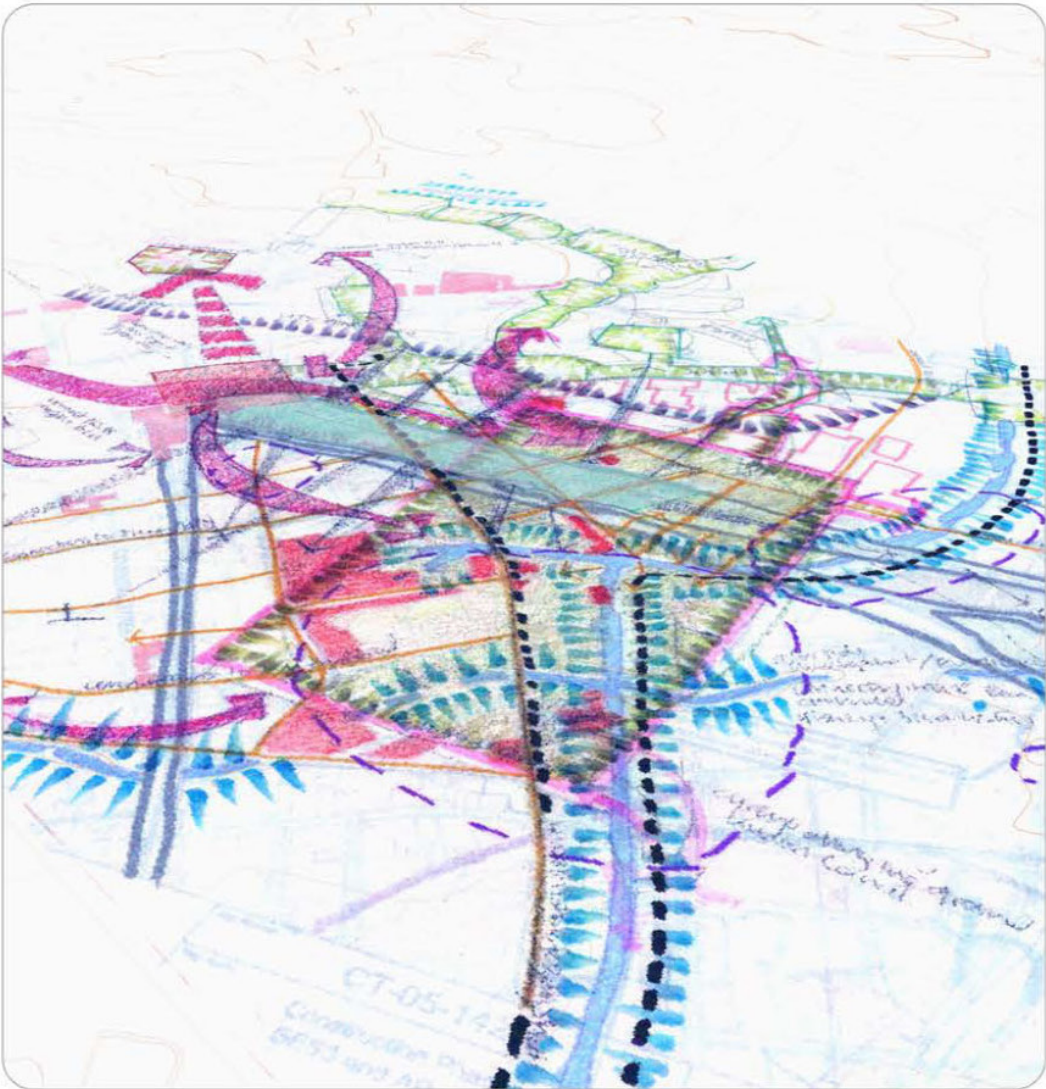
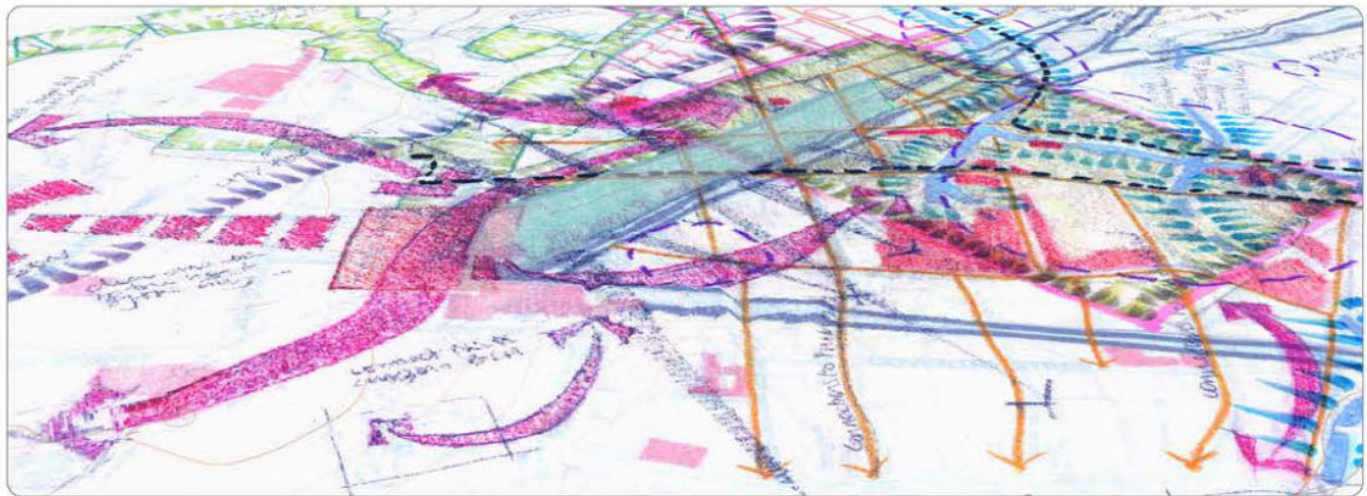
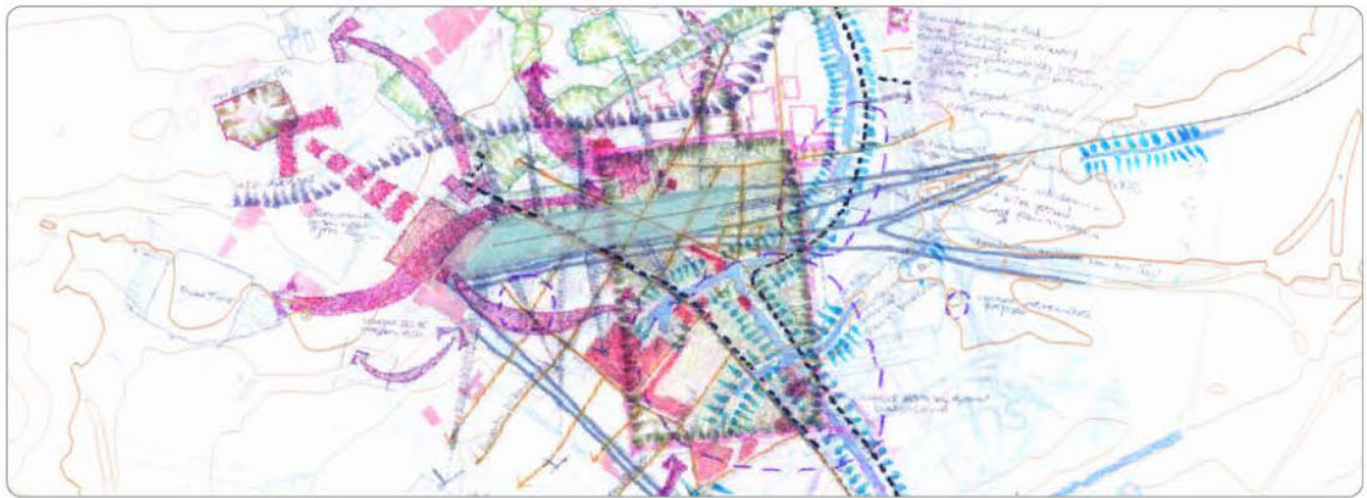


PROFESSOR KATHRYN MOORE

DR ANASTASIA NIKOLOGIANNI, DR ALEX ALBANS AND DR PAUL CURETON



The Project seeks to establish a new kind of National Park for the West Midlands. This immense rolling landscape, the crucible of the industrial revolution, the nexus of the UK's major agricultural regions, with its complex infrastructure of canals, highways and byways married to some of the most beautiful, forgotten areas in Britain awaits a re-imagining for millions of people with the creation of a West Midland National Park.

With the youngest, fastest growing, most diverse population in the UK, the imminent arrival of HS2, the hosting of City of Culture 2021 and the Commonwealth Games, the West Midlands has a unique opportunity to re-discover a vast, hidden landscape that has been largely overlooked and undervalued for decades. The West Midlands plateau, a watershed between two of the largest river systems in the United Kingdom, is one of the most geologically diverse regions in the world. Previously an area of dense woodland, its matrix of valleys stretches from the Black Country, the crucible of the industrial revolution, to Birmingham, once the city of a thousand trades and now one of the most rapidly developing business hubs in Europe, from Medieval Coventry to the Saxon town

of Tamworth. This immense rolling landscape, the nexus of the UK's major agricultural regions, with its complex infrastructure of canals, highways and byways is married to some of the most beautiful, forgotten areas in Britain and awaits a re-imagining for millions of people with the creation of a West Midland National Park.

Rekindling and re-inventing the connection between communities and the space they inhabit, recognising the pride people take in that space, the suburban or rural is very much a modern, contemporary view of how the West Midlands landscapes work. This is what the West Midlands National Park is all about. With 1,000 miles of tracks and trails, 1,000 lakes and 1,000 miles of rivers and streams and more canals than Venice. A mighty, rolling landscape with an abundance of woodland, heathland, hills and valleys with open country, working farms, small villages and larger towns.

Find out more about the project:  
<https://www.bcu.ac.uk/research/-centres-of-excellence/catid/projects/creating-a-national-park-for-the-west-midlands>  
Contact us: @CATiDLandscape

