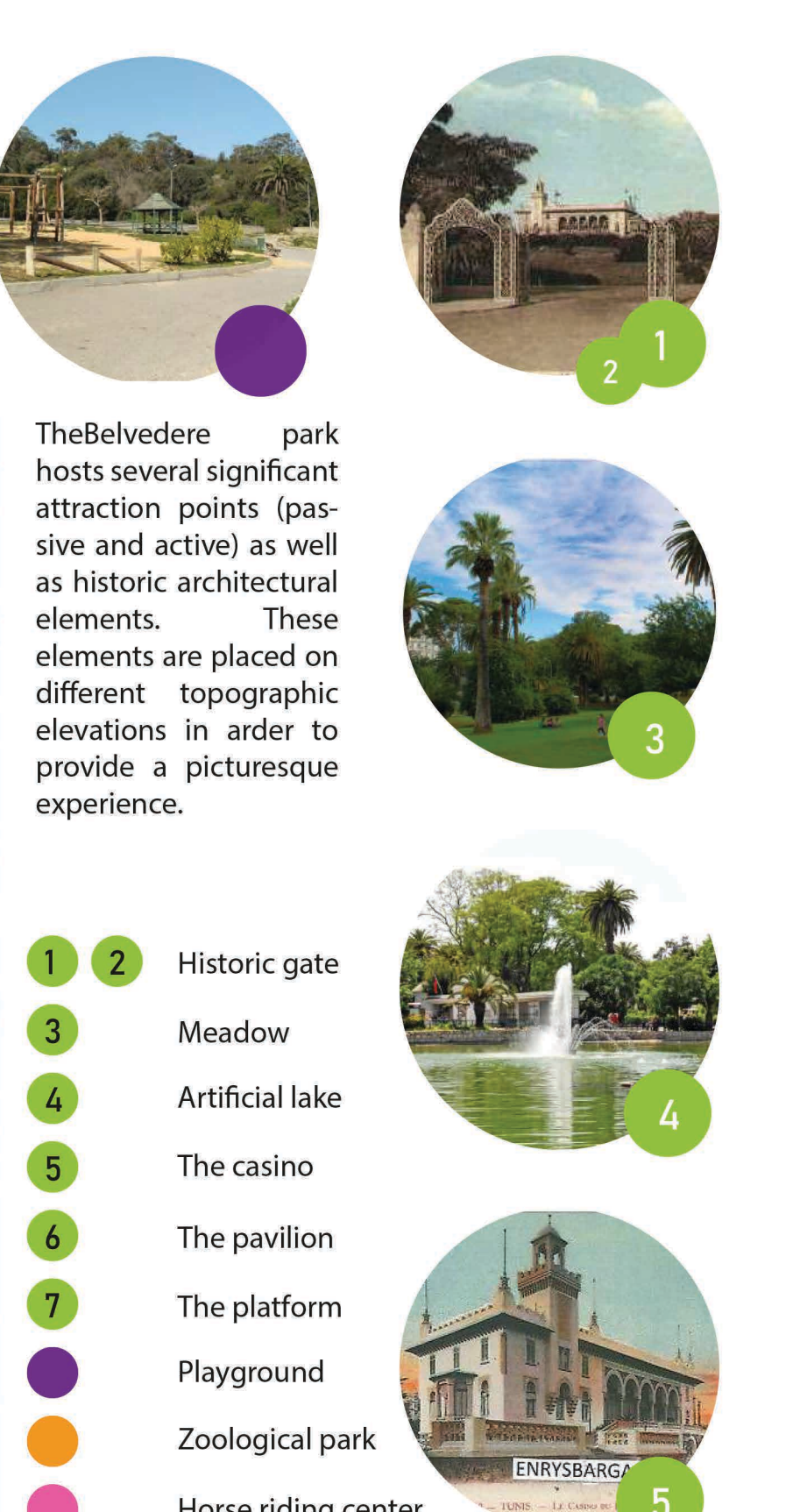
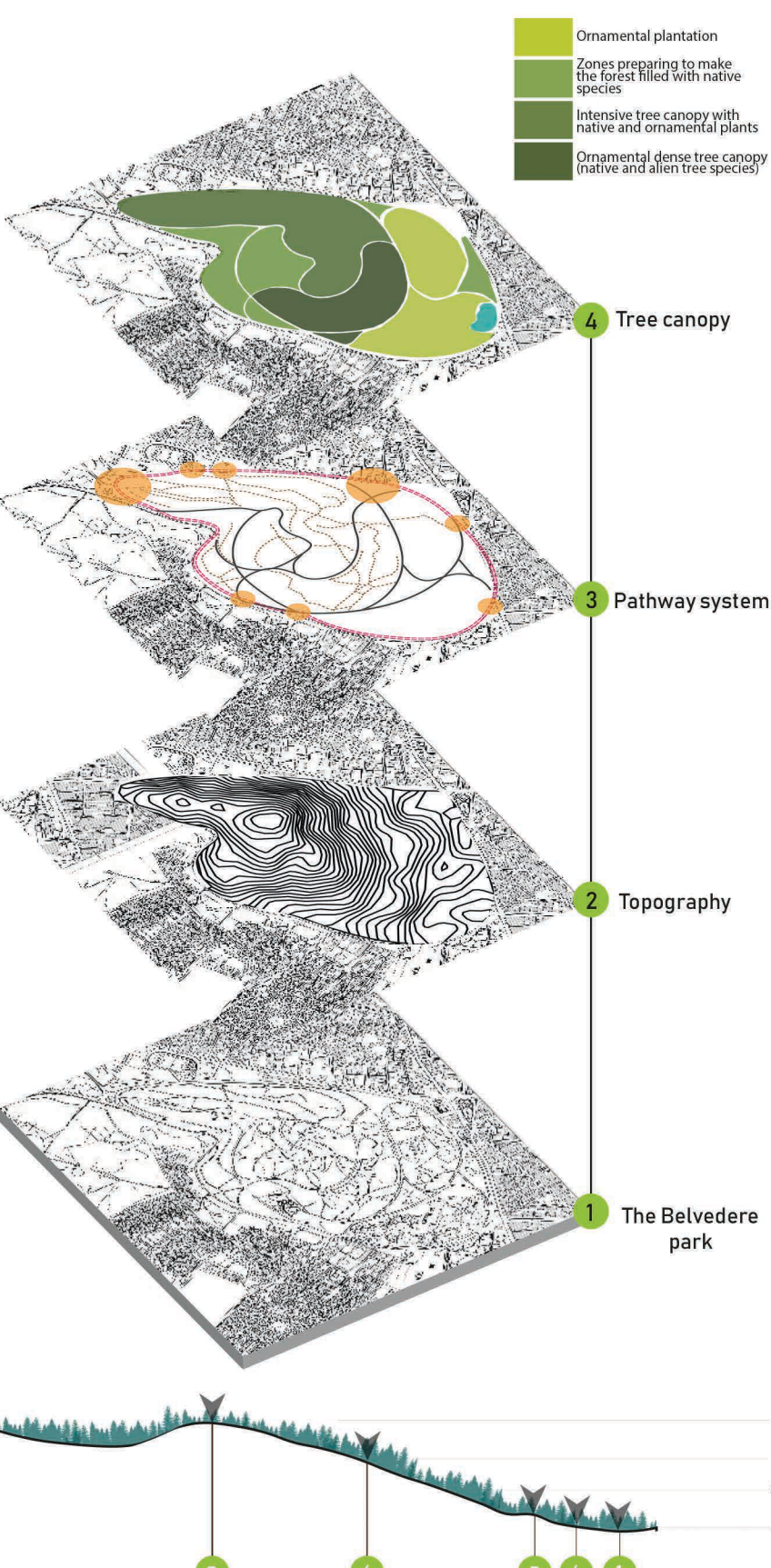


The Belvedere Park has an English land-scape design defined by nature-like space form and the curving pathways following the contour lines and the attraction elements, it spreads out on 110 hectares. The vegetation is relatively dense as we can note that 40% of the surface is hard-scape and 60% of the surface is vegetat-ed with a rich tree ornamental tree canopy. The park is designed by, LAFORCADE, who was influenced by the great tradition of romantic gar-dens that flourished in London and Paris. The beginning of the works started in 1892 and completed in 1987. However, the Park was officially opened to the public ten years after works were started, presenting various cen-tres of interest such as the platform, the koukba, the casino, the urban structure around the park has become denser, the surrounding functions converted from residential to administrative and commercial, which led to a significant change in the type of usage of the given space. Despite the significant changes in the urban structure around the Belvedere, the park maintained its original structure and attraction points, although a zoological park (13 Ha) and vast meadows were designed in order to satisfy the needs of citizens. Nowadays, the Belvedere Park is devalued due to lack of maintenance and intensive usage of visitors, therefore a reconstruction process is needed in order to preserve its cultural and ecological heritage. The design proposal was based on historic photographs and maps as well as several previous academic researches and study cases in order to produce decent treatment for the Bel-vedere, the

park was divided into three main sections based on the existing state, tree canopy, topography, functions, and the intensity of usage, as each section must have a different type of treatment. Moreover, contemporary design concepts were included, the adaptation to the climate of the region is required; therefore the application of the xeriscape principals was considered as a suitable solution; therefore, the newly designed elements were based on this concept such as the trail, the playground and the sitting area. Indeed, the historical element of the park required a restoration process based on the historical documents that describe the original state; the intervention included the pavilion and the historic gate. The design in the given park was not restricted only on physical features, but also sev-eral intangible aspects, the visual connections of the space were highlighted as they are consid-ered as a central feature of the picturesque English garden. The design was based on three central axes:
- Ecological aspects, by using sustainable and natural materials such as cobbles stones and permeable asphalt as well as the restriction of vehicular circulation inside the park.
- Social aspects, by creating a new urban plaza in order to develop a new entrance to the park and improving the accessibility as well as solving the car parking issues.
- Cultural aspects, by restoring the devalued historical elements inside the park in order to improve the existing attraction points and conserve the architectural heritage.



SWOT ANALYSIS

