

1st Congress of the Society for Urban Ecology
25-27 July 2013 Berlin, Germany
Chairs : L.K. Fichers, I. Kowarik



« French alp plants in front of the Annecy castle »

City of Annecy - localisation

Competition in 2010 for the renovation of the castle forecourt in Annecy.

Completion in 2012

Team leader - Landscape designer :
Eranthis (Lyon)

Landscape architect partner : Philippe Buisson (Paris)

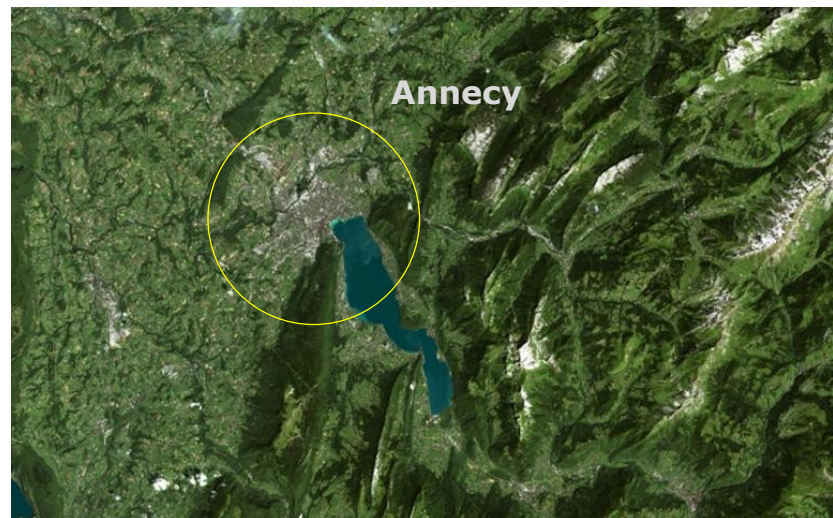
Architect : Christian Drevet (Lyon)

Lighting designer : Eclar (Lyon)

Engineer : Sitétudes (Chambéry)

Garden and landscaping firm : Cholas

Nursery : Cholas (trees) / Sarreil-Baron (alp plants)



Castle square - localisation

Annecy is a small city (about 50 000 inh., 200 000 in the agglomeration) in the French alps, nestled along the lake of the same name.

The castle stands at the front most point of a small mountain, on the topmost part of a hill that sits and dominates the medieval city at its feet as well as the lake.



The castle square – before 2008

Before 2008, the square consisted mainly in a big parking, without any plants.



Photography eranthis

The landscape competition in 2008

Included were about
4500 plants:

- 5 trees

- 170 bushes

- 4300 Flowers

From nearly 50 species

Forecourt square: about
4 000 m²



Design eranthis

The castle square in winter 2012, newly renovated



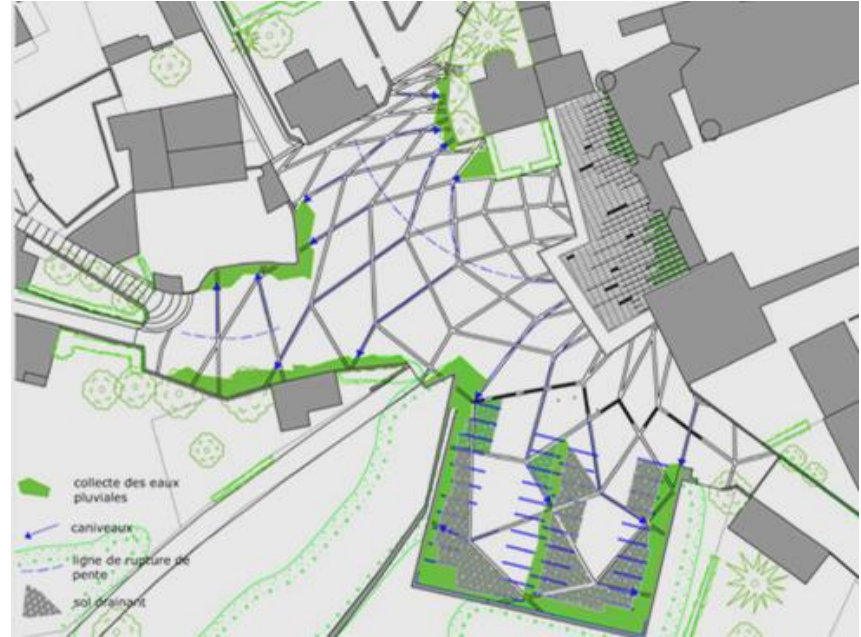
Photography Albert Videt

The castle square project

Development and use of the topography, Rainwater management and peripheric garden creations



Design eranthis



Photography Albert Videt

Agronomic context

Weather in 2008 :

Period of sunshine 1 942 h/year

Rain 906 mm/year

Snow 26 day/year

Storm 32 day/year

Fog 25 day/year

Altitude : 470m

Stone foundation : limestone

Soil : from 0 cm to over 1.50 m



Photogtaphy eranthis

Garden concept

9 gardens varying from dry stone gardens to wet undergrowth gardens designed according to light exposure, natural elements and weather constraints, ground foundations, etc.



Design eranthis



Photography Albert Videt



Photography eranthis

Floral diversity

Trees :

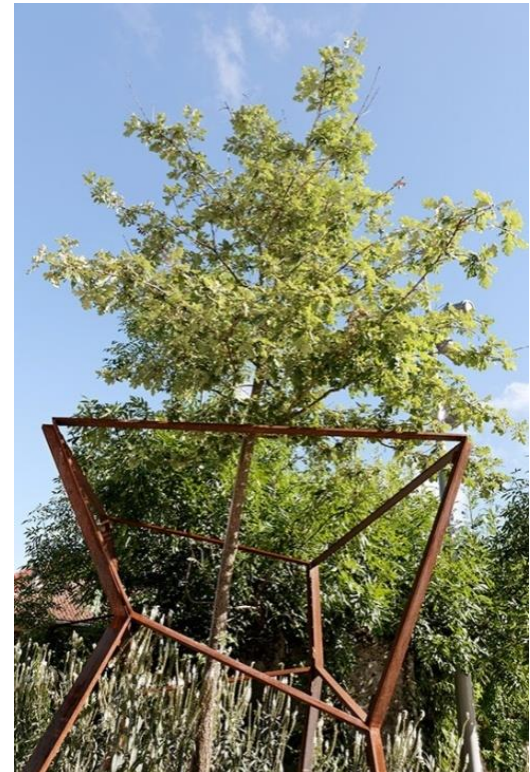
- *Alnus incana* (parking)
- *Sorbus aria*
- *Quercus pubescens*



Photography eranthis

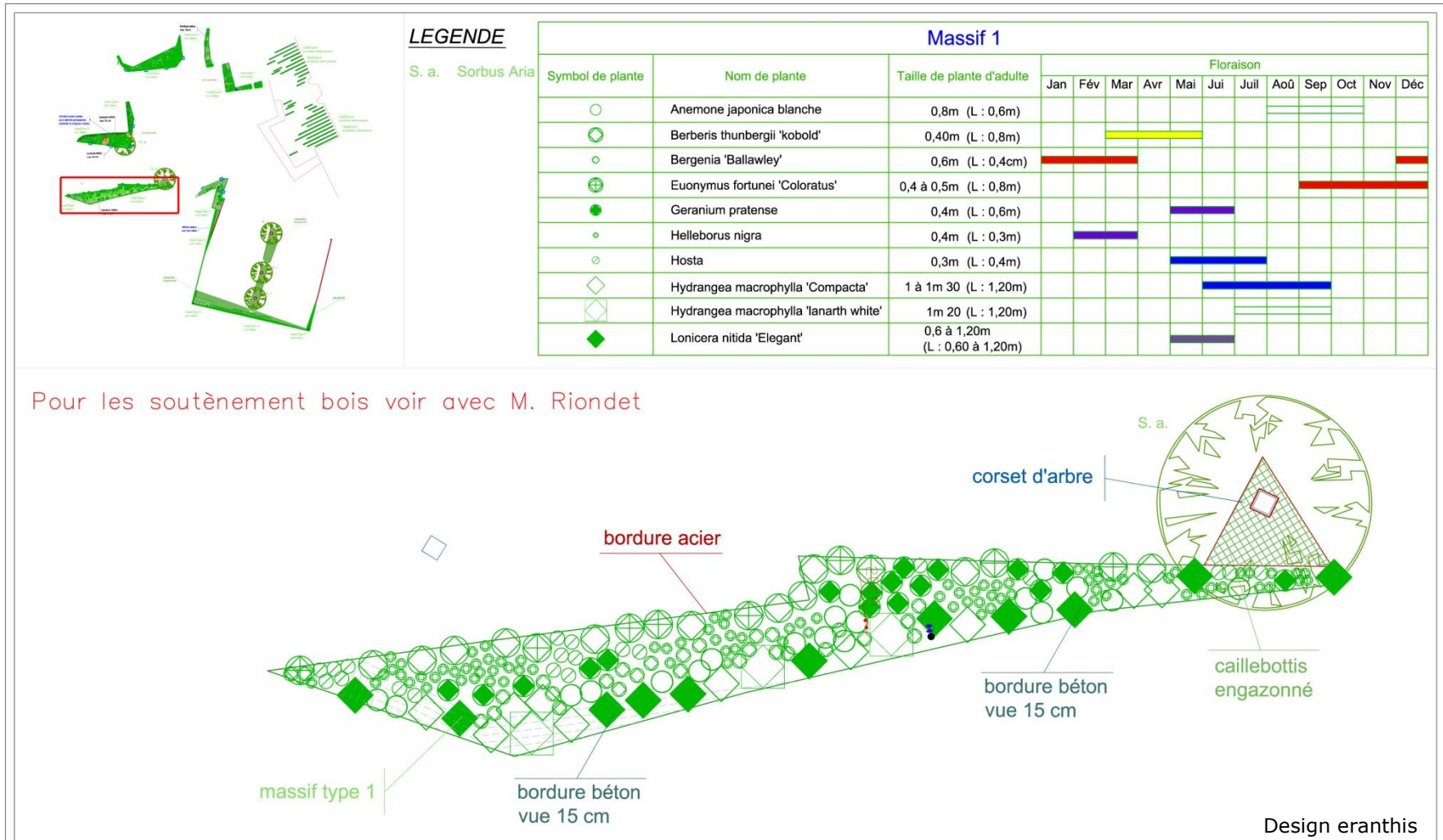


Photography Albert Videt



Floral diversity

Wet undergrowth garden:



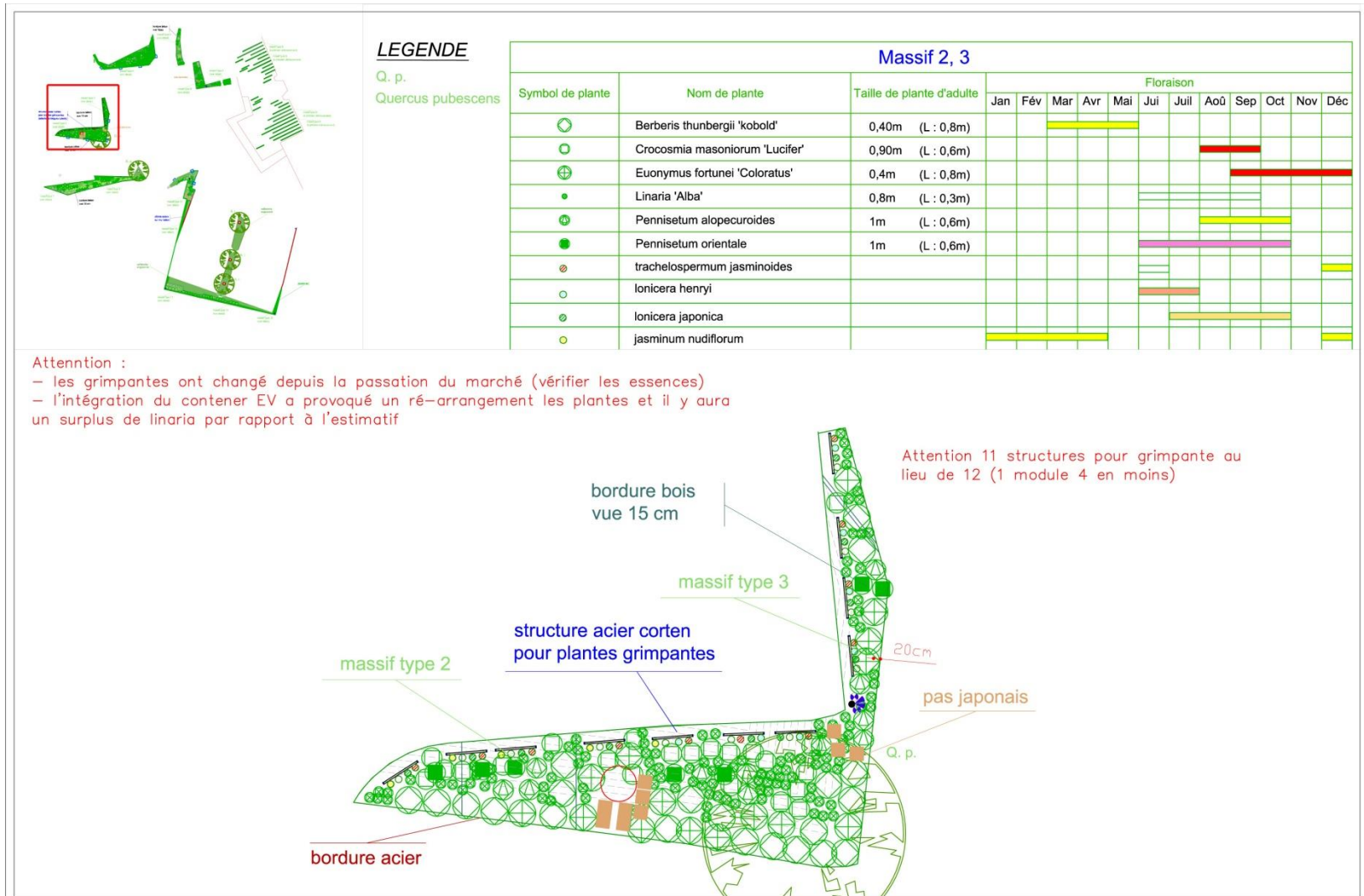
Floral diversity

Wet undergrowth garden:



Floral diversity

Sunny and wet garden:



Design eranthis

Floral diversity

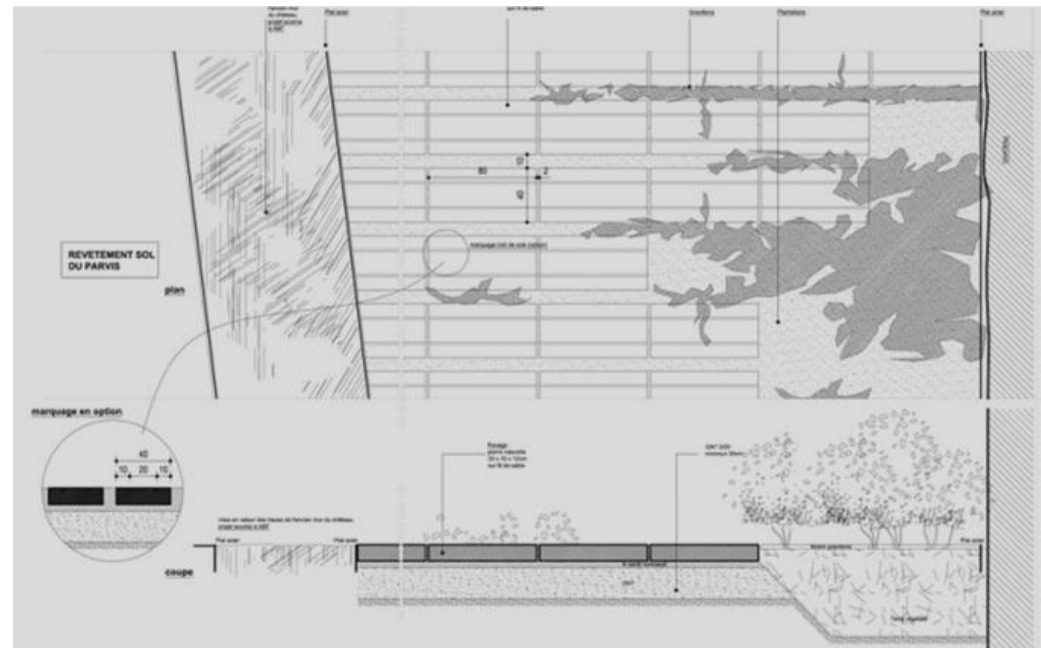
Sunny and wet garden:



Photography Albert Videt

Floral diversity

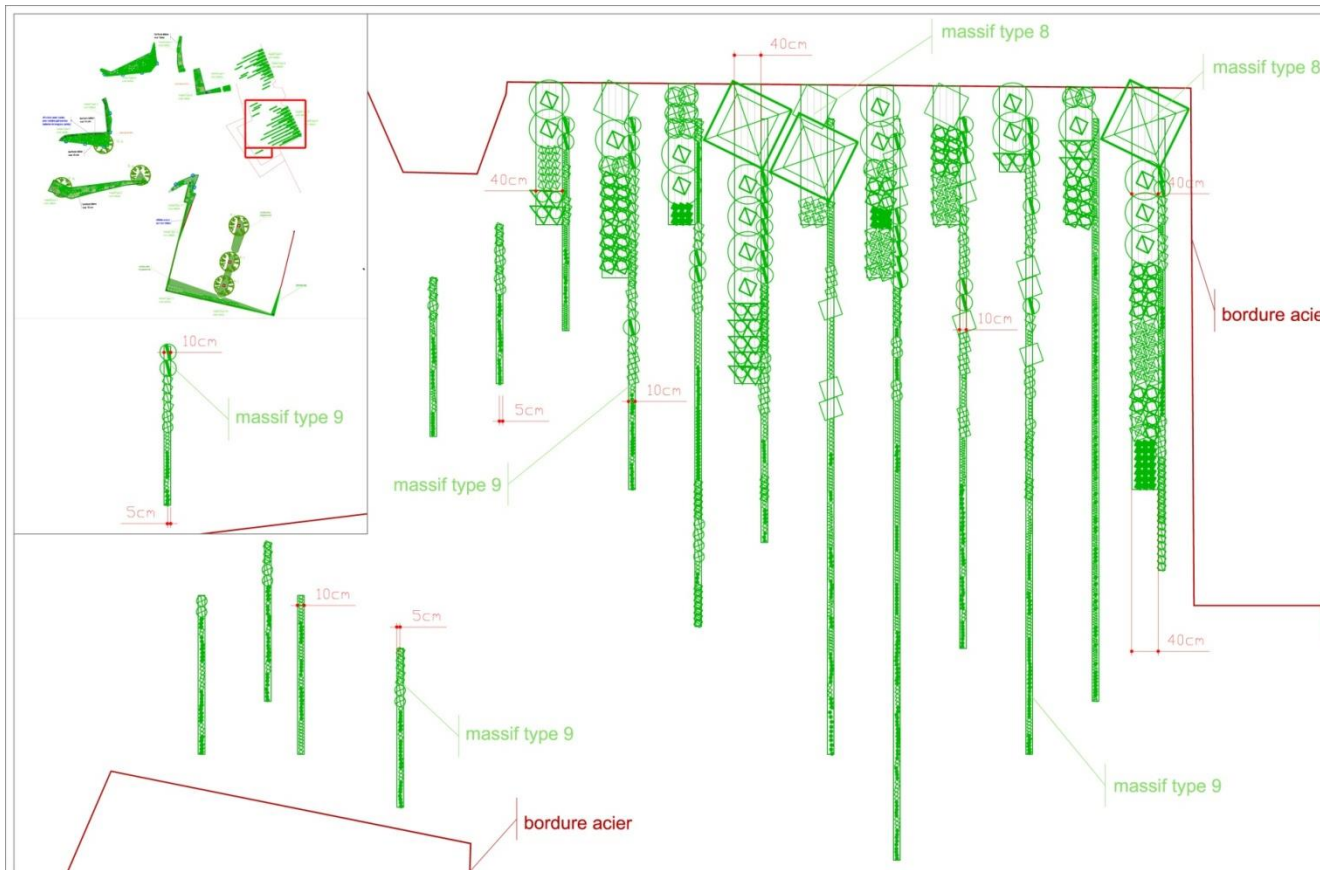
Dry stone garden:



Design eranthis

Floral diversity

Dry stone garden:



Design eranthis

Dry stone garden plants :

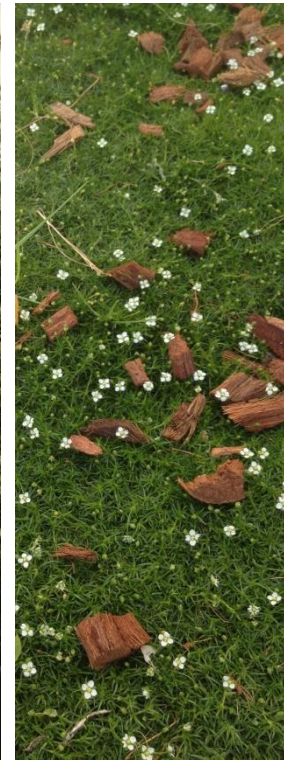
Androsace sarmentosa (cutting),
Campanula cochlearifolia
Galium caespitosum (Pyrenees),
Erinus alpinus (seeds)
Armeria juniperifolia Deep Form (cutting) (Pyrenees),
Arenaria stellata (cutting)
Dianthus arenarius (,
Draba aizoides (seeds),
Sedum album,
Silene Schafta,
Herniaria glabra

Culture spring 2010
Plantation spring 2011
Micro-clod 3 cm
Substratum : sand and humus

Main source : botanical garden of Lautaret

Floral diversity

Dry stone garden:



Castle square actors, partners and problematics evolving in time

Theory during conception :
Landscape architect
City garden department office

Confrontation to the construction :
Garden and landscaping firm
Plant nursery

Evolution of the uses:
City gardener
Citizens, local inhabitants, tourists
Dogs,
Etc.

Végétation alpine au pied du château d'Annecy

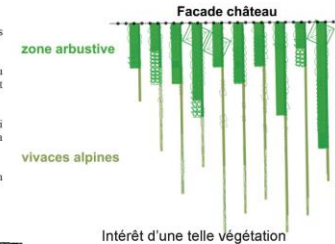
Vivaces alpines

Au pied de la façade du château les joints des dalles sont colonisés par des vivaces de milieu alpin.

Poussant au milieu d'éboulis, dans les rocailles, sur des arêtes rocheuses ou dans des zones caillouteuses elles n'ont pas besoin de beaucoup de substrat (Le substrat étant le support permettant l'enracinement du végétal.).

Adaptées aux fort changements climatiques cette végétation résistera aussi bien au vent et au gel durant les périodes hivernales qu'à la chaleur ou à la réverbération du soleil en été.

Les zones pierreuses formant un drain naturel, ces plantes n'ont pas besoin d'énormément d'eau et préféreront les sols secs.



Intérêt d'une telle végétation

On développe ici un nouveau type de « joints » vert en expérimentant l'adaptation de ce type de végétaux dans un milieu urbain dont les contraintes (pas de sol, peu de rétention d'eau) sont proches de celles de leur milieu naturel. Certaines de ces plantes font partie des espèces protégées sur notre territoire et les autres restent assez rares.

Il est donc important de les respecter.

Merci de :

-Ne pas les piétiner.

-Ne pas les arracher.

Végétaux implantés :

Androsace alpina, *Androsace helvetica*, *Primula integrifolia*,
Sanicula oppositifolia, *Silene acaulis*, *Dianthus armeria*,
Draba aizoides, *Sedum album*, *Silene Schaffa*, *Hieracium glabrum*



Thank you for your attention



Photography Albert Videt

