A. Solar panel surfaces.
B. Parking surface.
C. Tidal sedimentation basin.
D. Sedimentation culvert.
E. Existing creek.
F. Surface water puddles.
G. Surface drainage channels.
H. Service masts.
I. Existing retail buildings.
J. Ti Rakau Drive.
Panelbeating

Panelbeating (5) are not to be thought of as simply service spaces. Large carparks typically have distant corners which are rarely used for parking. These spaces take on another life, serving a range of complex functions, including demonstrating the volume of car audio systems, ghost-riding the whip, showing off, and making trademe meetups. This project proposes a strategic excess of parking in order to allow for these events. Rather than a place to leave your car, this project provides a space which is inhabited in continual reference to the mobile space of the car.

The site (6) is located on Ti Rakau Drive in Pakuranga, a main arterial route to the Botany Downs shopping centre, and the rapid suburban developments of East Auckland. The area is dominated by vehicular traffic, big-box retail, and industry. The large scale of the site is unfriendly to pedestrians.

Panelbeating (5) are sophisticated formal laboratories. Sheets of metal are shaped three-dimensionally through bending, hammering, rolling, routing, punching, denting.

Aftermarket modification is often sneered at as an amateur pursuit, aesthetically unworthy. The technologies and formal strategies of car modification are used in this project to address the primarily surface-based condition of a carpark.

Solar panel surfaces (1) made from laminate of toughened glass and extruded photovoltaic sheets collect power for lighting. Future increases in efficiency of photovoltaics will allow recharging of electric vehicles. Masts are folded up into low discs and oriented to collect sunlight.

Service masts (2) made from folded and welded steel sheets provide lighting and patchy surveillance. Selected masts also incorporate self-service fuel pumps and recharge ports. Rubbish bins are recessed into the ground.

Surface water (3) is gathered into shallow puddles which breach sheets of lightweight stone to drain. Puddles trap anoxic sediment and prevent trace metals and contaminants from entering groundwater and waterways.

Mangroves (4) trap anoxic sediment and prevent trace metals and contaminants from entering groundwater and waterways.

Service masts (2) are erected on precast concrete slabs which are also used for traffic light and surveillance masts. Selected masts also incorporate self-service fuel pumps and recharge ports.

Rubbish bins are recessed into the ground.

Surface water (3) is gathered into shallow puddles which breach sheets of lightweight stone to drain. Puddles trap anoxic sediment and prevent trace metals and contaminants from entering groundwater and waterways.

Mangroves (4) trap anoxic sediment and prevent trace metals and contaminants from entering groundwater and waterways.

The existing tidal creek (5) at the north boundary has been dredged and extended into large tidal sedimentation basins which collect surface water. Sediment will accumulate as mangroves take hold, and the system will stabilise according to the amount of runoff.

Cars (9) provide a closely tailored environment. They are intimate capsules. A large proportion of the population invest in cars rather than houses. It is insufficient to consider cars only as service implementations. For many people cars are the only space they own.