



POLITECNICO  
DI TORINO

# Honors thesis

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COURSE OF MASTER DEGREE IN  
ARCHITECTURE CONSTRUCTION CITY

*Abstract*

**Brasilia: a contemporary built landscape.  
Suggestions for a urban regeneration**

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Since her realization, Brasilia has been studied and large criticized marking the huge distance between the ideal city from the real one.

Last urban utopia that had the expectation of creating an urban project that could have contributed to the change of existing social realities, promoting the use of the egalitarian space.

Despite these ambitions, government action and building speculation contributed to the creation of a disaggregated urban reality, intensifying the differences between the inhabitants of Plano Piloto and the satellites cities around it.

This thesis concerns about the urban renewal of Setor Comercial Norte, a central area of Brasilia, designed by Lucio Costa.

This sector, as the others in downtown, is located within the perimeter of protection of the Conjunto Urbanístico of Brasília, recognized as a national and cultural heritage and under UNESCO protection since 1987.

The site is an important economic area, but is now in a state of urban decay.

The sector is characterized by different commercial and service buildings, typologically different; "Island buildings", as defined by Professor Frederico de Holanda, consisting of blind walls without any relation to the surrounding space.

The flow of people shows, at least during the week, some dynamism and potential of the area, but on the other hand mobility inside is almost impossible.

This thesis has a programmatic value and seeks to propose a project for an urban redevelopment.

In response has been studied two different project solutions: one at the University of Brasilia and a second one at the Polytechnic University of Turin.

The first one focus on street level design, creating new vibrant public space.

The second, instead, attempts to propose some of the key principles of the modern period, in contemporary terms, such as the separation of pedestrian and carriageway flows, and the relation between nature and architecture, preserving Brasilia as an architectural symbol.

This project, looking for a responsible urban regeneration solution, in terms of costs (avoiding demolitions), environmental issues (heat island management and water management), economic and architectural implications.

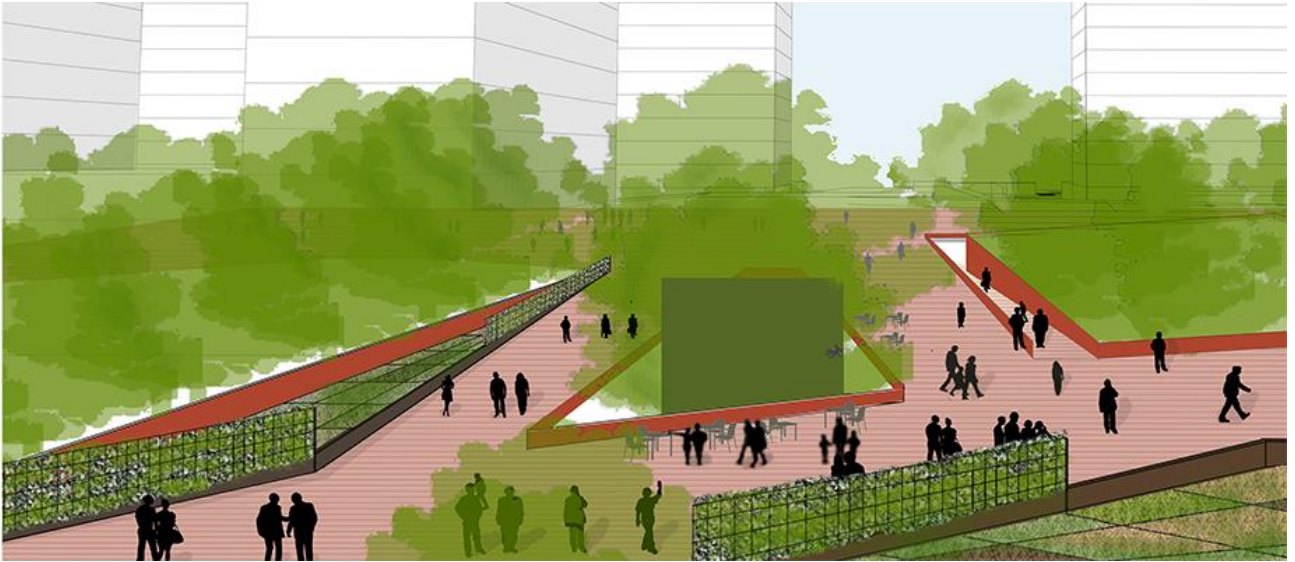
All these elements have been combined, creating a new system of two-level connections, ground floor flows and overflow paths, conceived as an integrated body that relate the different areas of the complex.

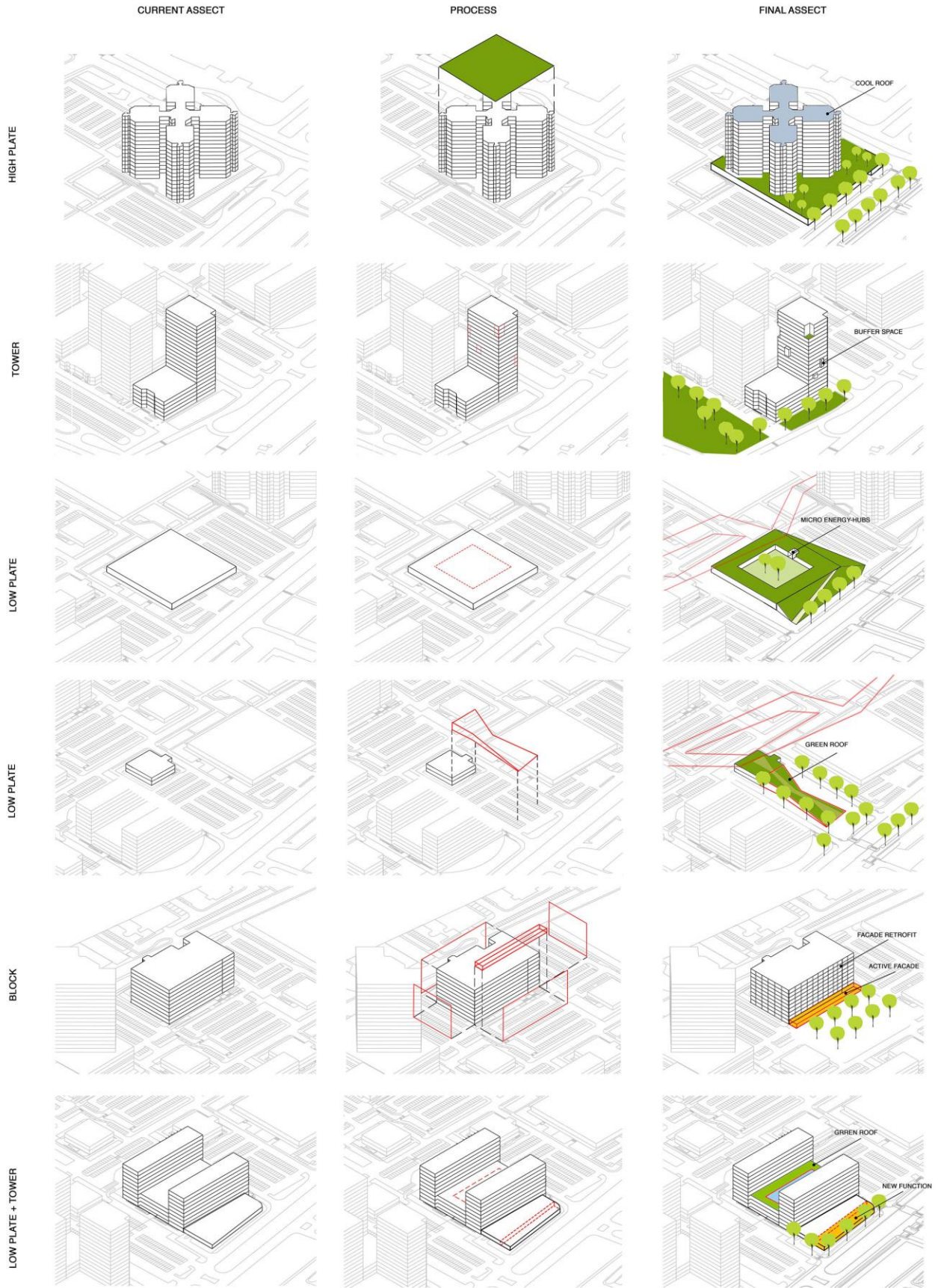
The project tends to convert the area into a new pole necessary to revitalize the economy, culture and social life of Setor Comercial Norte.

The area, now entirely destined for commerce, will be provided with service, housing and sport facilities.

The thesis also has a methodological value proposing an abacus of type solutions for new settlements that are adaptable to similar contexts of decay urban fabric, such as ex-former areas.

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