



POLITECNICO
DI TORINO

Honors thesis

Master of Science in Sustainable Architecture

Abstract

House in progress

Tutor/Correlator

Francesca de Filippi

by

Laura Camila Otálora

February 2021

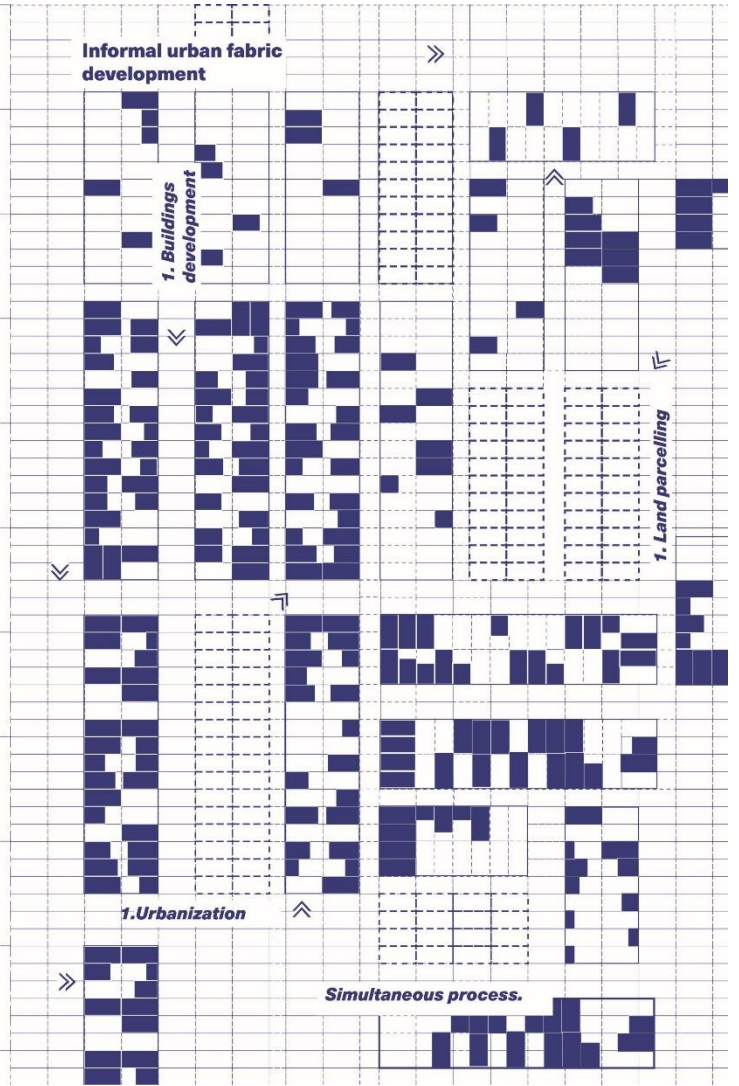
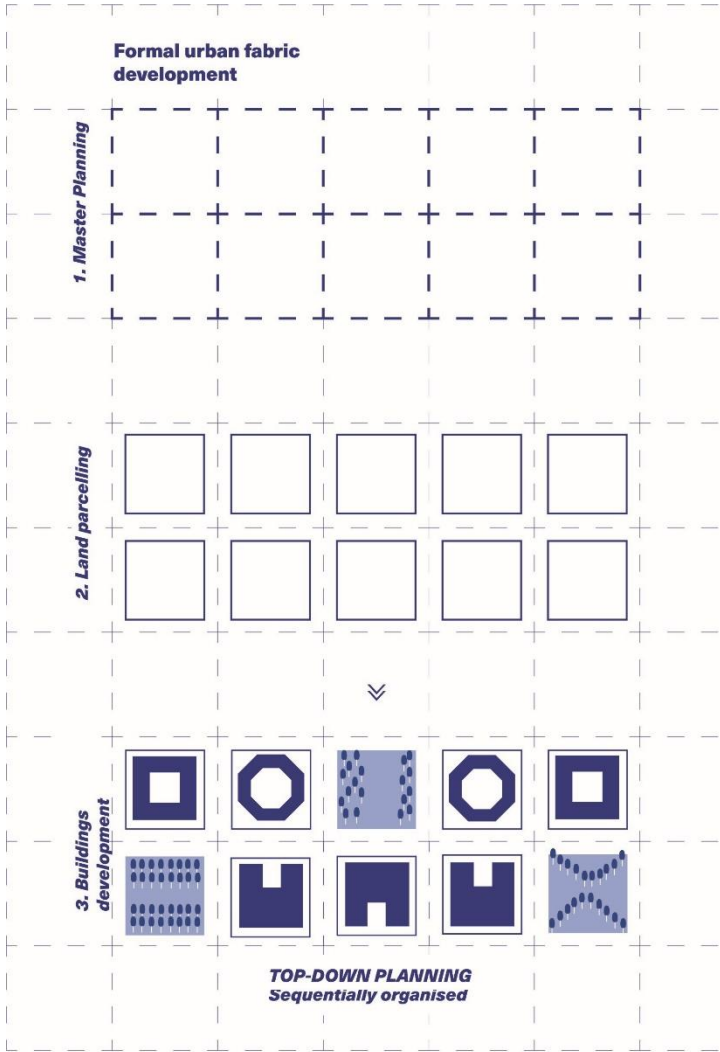
The need for shelter is what organizes, gathers, and encourages the creation of informal settlements. It is born as a consequence of the government's inability to provide affordable and quality housing. Informal housing develops precariously and systemically in the available spaces of the city. They settle on vacant areas or in unused buildings, claiming their right on the illicit property.

In the first stage, these temporary shelters arise in an improvised and illegal way. The new inhabitants build makeshift shelters made of wood, recycled elements, or any material that they have at their disposition. With time and security of tenure, informal housing has a second stage of development. Using more durable materials settles permanently in the territory and gradually helps to consolidate new informal urban fabrics.

This precariousness and improvisation in which informal settlements develop have opened up different research fields in Latin America. These are focused on how to prevent their appearance and how to improve the living conditions of the existing ones through participatory urbanism and upgrading tactics.

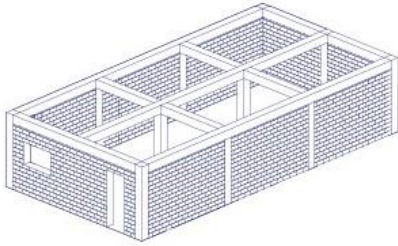
Therefore, this research aims to address the step-by-step development of informal housing and emphasize that its creation is a seed in a continuous transformation process. Through the study of its strengths and weaknesses, potential tools are highlighted to rethink the informal house as a solution for affordable housing and as the starting point for exploring new forms of habitability.

Considering Bogota is one of the cities with the highest rates of informal settlements in Latin America, this thesis uses profiling and control applications to define a case study and propose a possible solution of affordable housing in a defined plot. Aiming for a resilient relationship between the formal and informal city.

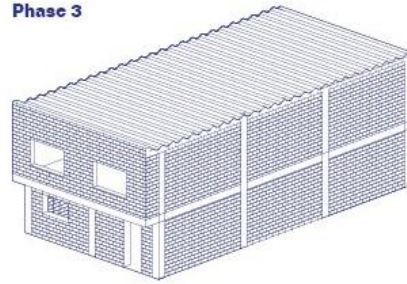


House development:

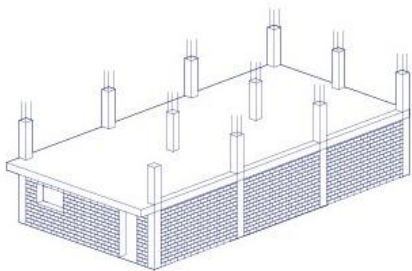
Phase 1



Phase 3



Phase 2



Phase 4

