CALI and TURIN

Regeneration of underutilized plots in two different contexts





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INTRODUCTION

The constant search for an urban model that responds adequately to the unstoppable population increase in cities has only served to demonstrate that "In spite of its early promise, its frequent bravery, urbanism has been unable to invent and implement at the scale demanded by its apocalyptic demographics" (Koolhaas, 1995). The frequent change of techniques has led to the consolidation of cities through a sum of languages that have little or nothing to do with each other, and that respond to the priorities of the territory at the time they were created.

The first answer to the question of what to do in the absence of space for the inhabitants was relatively simple, the amount of free territory around the urban centers was provided as the opportunity to **EXPAND** the city, a horizontal growth also fostered by the promise of wider, more private, and more individual spaces. Nevertheless, a single process cannot respond to the complexity of the transformation phenomena of cities, and the idea of taking advantage of a smaller space to contain more people began to take hold, bringing with it a **DENSIFICA-TION** process.

However, the reality that the way we inhabit space has a direct consequence on the resources on which we live, has become increasingly present over the years, when its non-renewability has made it clear that it is time to make a change in the way we relate to the already built city, constantly ignored by new urbanization techniques, and which is not an unalterable element, but rather a scenario that can be exposed to necessary changes. For this reason, it is almost an obligation to take advantage of underutilized **spaces** in consolidated areas, spaces whose original uses have been transferred and which are now an example of the imminent abandonment, but which with the appropriate interventions can become new focuses of activity, revitalizing the consolidated city, taking advantage of the connectivity it has and responding to the needs of the people who inhabit it.



GROWING CITY

Recent discussions regarding the modalities of **city growth** seem to confront two visions or models of the city that are apparently opposed to each other. On one hand, a vision that sees a **high-density compact model** based on the **renovation of entire areas** of the city through **verticalization** mechanisms, which will theoretically accommodate a larger population in less space, freeing up land for public space and avoiding the "sprawl" or diffusion of the city into the surrounding territory.

On the other hand, an **expansive model** based on the democratization of land, the myth of the individual house and the garden city as a guarantee of a healthy habitat, essentially structured around private means of transportation.

These visions, which seem to **oppose each other** from the archetypes of Le Corbusier's "Ville Radieuse" and Frank Lloyd Wright's "Broadacre City", to the models of Duany-Plater's "New Urbanism" and Koolhaasian "culture of congestion", have declined in urban planning practice through alternate processes of **superposition, juxtaposition and coexistence** with other modalities of territorial organization, giving rise to a **hybrid and mixed urban territory**, where the differences between the two models seem to be diluted. (Molina y Rubio, 2016)

Top Image: Ville Radieuse, Le Corbusier Source: 99percentinvisible.org Bottom Image: Sketches for the Broadacre City project by Frank Lloyd Wright Source: motorsgroupie.com

CONCEPTS

URBAN DECAY

The horizontal growth of the city towards the periphery of the urban area generates the **gradual abandonment** of the most central areas, which in their time were the residential nodes that activated the different points of the city.

The disorderly growth of formal commerce, even more so of informal commerce, and the arrival of the immigrant population that takes over the available areas, those that are empty and abandoned, has resulted in the deterioration of the city center and its limits. As Kevin Lynch puts it, abandoned buildings are not something new in history, however, the lack of respect for the value that they retained at some point and that kept them waiting for a more favorable condition for their use, leads to the **destruction** of "their useful potential reserves" (Lynch, K. 1990), vandalism and demolition end the possibilities they could have.

The decrease in population as a result of this abandonment also has economic repercussions, at sunset all activity dies. "When sporadic neglect builds up, it can become contagious; expectations change, professional vandals begin to act, and owners turn to arsonists. When their properties fall to zero value, the owners burn them down to collect insurance rather than give them up... The cost of insurance increases and buildings that with minor repairs would have been useful again, become unsalvageable. Degradation speeds up." (Lynch, K. 1990)

Abandonment, then, is the first cause of deterioration, everything that begins to be left aside begins to lose value and is less likely to be preserved. Thus, as the city spread out and became increasingly segregated, "the old center was cordoned off and a new middle-class business district grew far out on the outskirts" (Lynch, K. 1990).

"The creation of a deteriorated space sometimes begins with a progressive and unintended decline. Abandonment leads to deterioration." (Lynch, K. 1990) However, this abandonment not only leaves the buildings to the process of natural deterioration, at the moment in which the original inhabitants of the area move to the outskirts of the city, it becomes the **lodging place par excellence** "for people who are on the fringes of society in one way or another: halfway houses, mental hospitals, or low-cost housing. There are also facilities that...need cheap neighborhoods or are unwilling or unable to pay for public services: marginal industries, squats, warehouses, and taxfree institutions" (Lynch, K. 1990)

This condition of abandonment also leads to the fact that as the city expands and the center becomes vacant, "dumpsters appear in the form of **empty lots**, boarded up houses, abandoned cars" (Lynch, K. 1990). The center and its limits become a **fragmented and ownerless space** and is now at the mercy of those who wish to use it as they please, and without any control or supervision, it only deteriorates more and more.

"Deterioration is a generalized process (although valiantly ignored) in human society... It is a characteristic of the underlying flow that drags along, the permanent temporality of things. There is a short-term deterioration of objects and a long-term deterioration of places... Trying to preserve things is a constant threat. If, on the other hand, we seek continuity and non-permanence, then deterioration can be taken into account. Rarely has an accumulation of waste caused the abandonment of an inhabited place, unless it has served to accelerate some natural evolution." (Lynch, K. 1990)

However, according to Lynch "deteriorated is what lacks value or utility for a human objective... it is loss and abandonment, decadence", a situation that occurs little by little in an area that begins to be un-inhabited and to transform without planning, however, "our opportunities in the face of deterioration multiply as we improve our control and forecasting of events. Deterioration implies negligence or human failure" (Lynch, K. 1990)

TERRAIN VAGUE

In 1995, the Spanish architect Ignasi de Solà-Morales coined the term "terrain vague" to talk about the **abandoned or underused urban spaces** that appear in a city as a consequence of its growth and the constant changes that this causes, where certain uses are displaced, or the inhabitant population migrates. These "terrain vagues", usually in a state of transition between different uses, become a point of interest because they can be understood as spaces that are part of the city but do not communicate with it.

"The triple signification of the french vague as "wave", "vacant" and "vague" appears in a multitude of photographic images. Recent photographers...have captured the condition of these spaces as internal to the city yet external to its everyday use. In these apparently forgotten places, the memory of the past seems to predominate over the present" (Solà-Morales, 1995)

According to Solà-Morales, terrain vague spaces are characterized by their **"in-between" nature**, which

makes them different from other urban spaces. They are neither fully built nor fully natural, and they occupy a kind of liminal zone that is both physically and culturally ambiguous. This ambiguity, Solà-Morales argued, creates a fertile ground for experimentation, where new social and cultural practices can emerge.

"The relationship between the absence of use, of activity, and the sense of freedom, of expectancy, is fundamental to understanding the evocative potential of the city's terrains vagues. Void, absence, yet also promise, the space of the possible, of expectation" (Solà-Morales, 1995)

However, the concept of "terrain vague" is not just about identifying and revitalizing abandoned urban spaces, but also about **rethinking how we approach urban design** and the role of the architect in shaping urban space.

The traditional method to urban design has focused on creating

clear, legible spaces that are easy to navigate and understand. This often prioritizes functional and aesthetic considerations over the **social and cultural dimensions of urban life**. By contrast, the spaces define as "terrain vague" offer an **opportunity to challenge the conventional**, by creating urban spaces that are more **complex and layered**.

"We should treat the residual city with a contradictory complicity that will not shatter the elements that maintain its continuity in time and space" (Solà-Morales, 1995)

For Solà-Morales, the key to activating terrain vague spaces is to approach them **not as empty canvases** waiting to be filled, but as complex and dynamic systems that are **already embedded** in the social and cultural fabric of the city. This means taking into account the **history**, **context**, **and local practices that have shaped the space**, and using this knowledge to inform new urban interventions that **build on and extend the existing social and cultural practices**. The concept of "terrain vague", then, serves as a way of **rethinking** how we use and understand urban space.

"How can architecture act in the terrain vague without becoming an aggresive instrument of power and abstract reason? Undoubtedly, through attention to continuity: not the continuity of the planned, efficient, and legitimated city but of the flows, the energies, the rhythms established by the passing of time and the loss of limits." (Solà-Morales, 1995)

URBAN REGENERATION

"No town or city is immune from either the external forces that dictate the need to adapt, or the internal pressures that are present within urban areas and which can precipitate growth or decline" (Roberts, P. 2000).

The process in which the city center is submerged, not only in Cali and Torino but in many other cities, **calls for an alternative** that avoids reaching the stage of deterioration where the destruction of assets that no longer have any value is a possibility. Fortunately, a process of **urban regeneration** can be "the response to the opportunities and challenges which are presented by urban degeneration in a particular place at a specific moment in time." (Roberts, P. 2000)

The term urban regeneration is presented by Dalia Lichfield as:

"Comprehensive and integrated vision and action which seeks to resolve urban problems and bring about a lasting improvement in the economic, physical, social and environmental condition of an area that has been

subject to change or offers opportunities for improvement." (Lichfield, D. 1990)

In this way, and taking into accout that "the purpose of the regeneration has been based on conserving and rehabilitating the heritage of the Historic Centers" (Taracena, E. 2013), it is that this is presented as the ideal opportunity to **return to the area** not only its prestige, but also its functionality, making it more attractive and a node for activities, for tourists and for citizens.

This opportunity also requires the study of the entire **context** surrounding the project's implementation area, since it is essential to plan activities, new buildings and new uses that **complement the identity** that the area initially possessed. Thus, **bringing life back** to the urban center that drastically changed is the idea that guides through the concept of regeneration. In like manner, this concept can be achieved "through the definition of **guidelines and strategies** for the formulation of public policies for urban

regeneration, which will guide the necessary actions for planning the urban environment" (Bucheli, 2014) of the area that will be intervene, and this strategies must "recognise and accept the uniqueness of a place" (Roberts, P. 2000), because, in the end, is this uniqueness what guides the process of urban regeneration. In addition, it is important to notice that urban regeneration not only contemplates control and spatial and physical intervention as elements to be taken into account in the project, it is a comprehensive approach from the role of citizens, rather than that of architects.

"Urban Regeneration as an instrument and resource is presented as a statement, the budget for its application implies discerning the meaning we give to our condition as citizens and overflowing the comfortable lethargy of doing nothing; It involves a new way of thinking and sensitivity where the encounter with the other is encouraged, respect for the rights of others and the recognition of social and cultural diversity." (Bucheli, 2014) However, it must be take into account that regenerate an area is a **long process** influence by many factors and many stakeholders, and sometimes is not possible to do everything that is needed: "However, as Tallon (2010) observes the reality is that regeneration often operates in a fragmented manner and not all problems are solved." (Roberts, P. 2000). It is important to read this as an opportunity, where every action is a **step torwards** the improvement of the urban space.

A HISTORY OF

CALI | TURIN



COMPARABLE INFORMATION

Turin

Country: Italy Region: Piedmont

Area: 130.01 km2

Elevation: 239 m

Weather: 2°C - 17°C 20°C - 30°C

Population:

Total: 1'792,163 Urban: 886,837

Density: 6,800/km2



239m 20 = 100.000

Cali

Country: Colombia Region: Valle del Cauca

Area: 564 km2

Elevation: 1018 m

Weather: 30,3°C - 19,2°C

Population: Total: 2'445,281 Urban: 2'408,653

Density: 4382/km2



1018m 20 = 100.000

History

Santiago de Cali was founded on July 25, 1536, after Don Sebastián de Belalcázar gave the order of "founding a city on the outskirts of the Western Cordillera, in a place close to the sea and in the Calima river region "(Alcaldía de Santiago de Cali, 2004).

The order led Cali to be located on the slopes of Cerro de las Tres Cruces, between the Cali River and the road to Juanchito and Candelaria.



Source: "Cali, urban traces" SS. Modify by the author.

It only had **two urban areas**, the one that comprised the neighborhoods of La Merced and San Antonio, the upper part of the city, with cobbled streets and ditches in the middle to collect rainwater and conduct the grey water from the houses in both sides of the road, and the one that included the neighborhood of San Nicolás, or the lower part of the city, with soil streets and without signs of a system for channeling water. (Alcaldía de Santiago de Cali, 2004)

Nonetheless, beyond this urban division or the development of the city, Cali defined its importance in Valle del Cauca and the area due to the **advantage offered by its location**, especially the cross-flow into which it became, that is, its direct relationship with the roads that connected it with the rest of the region, to the south with Popayán, northeast with Palmira and west with Buenaventura, which made it a **city of passage**, and more importantly, a center of commerce that greatly influenced the development of the city.



This characteristic that Santiago de Cali had as a "city of passage" and its configuration through routes (roads and river), makes the city set itself as a **linear urban model**, which was developed along the three main roads, and gave the shape of a "T" to the urban area. The urban center of the city is, therefore, where all these routes converge.

However, in the year 1915 there was another trade flow added to the ones already existing in the roads to Popayán, Palmira, Buenaventura, and the Cauca River, this trade flow was created with the construction and the beginning of the operation of the Pacific Railroad, which was intended to connect the region with the port of Buenaventura. Thus, Santiago de Cali changed from a small town to a city, allowed to place in its territory the transportation infrastructure that gave it economic and physical growth.



Source: "Pacific railroad and it's stations" Universidad del Valle

Source: "Pacific railroad and it's stations" Universidad del Valle

"Initially the "coffee road" was the Cauca River, from Virginia to Cali, to be transported to the Port. At the end

of the 1930s, the railroad and the central highway displaced navigation through the Cauca from this function. The forced passage through Cali, towards Buenaventura, allowed a series of commercialization, export and storage activities to be located in the capital of the Valle. With the sugarcane activity, coffee helped to promote and define the type of development in the region." (Vasquez, 1990)



The development brought by the Pacific Railroad in the first half of the 20th century, was **not only economic** but also physical, triggering the initial urban expansion of the city. The new opportunities that came with the economic grow attracted population from different parts of the country, a population that settled around the Station and the infrastructure of the Railroad, becoming these settlements, an expansion that would initiate new centers of activities and urban centers, beyond the one already consolidated around the Plaza de Caicedo. (Becerra, 2014)

Urban growth of Santiago de Cali Source: Estudio diagnóstico para la formulación del Plan del Centro Global de Cali. 2010

"Thus, the Railroad stimulated the first expansion: the station on Calle 25, the Talleres de Chipichape to the north, and the rail lines to the south and to Palmira became axes of development that extended the city. Whether industrial or residential developments, the city was born around the Railroad." (Becerra, 2014)

Growing process:

1. First popular neighborhoods: Santander, in 1920 and Jorge Isaacs, in 1923.

Wealthy families move to the north and east of the city, to the new neighborhoods Granada (1922), El Peñon (1930), and San Fernando.



Source: Google Earth. Modify by the author

2. Around 1948, important infrastructures were built over the Calle 5ta that marked the development towards the south: The University City, the Battalion in Meléndez and the Ciudad Jardín neighborhood.



Source: Google Earth. Modify by the author

3. New sports and recreational infrastructures due to the Pan American Games of 1971: Pascual Guerrero Stadium (1937), the bullring Cañaveralejo (1950), the Templete (1949), and Unidad Deportiva (1971). Urbanization in between these elements, and new types of buildings, like the firsts malls.



New centralities:

The growth of Santiago de Cali always faced different obstacles in its planning, its biggest problem being the scant application of each plan or standard, finding **two options to develop, densify or expand it**.

"Since 1979 the city faces an ambiguity in planning, confirming a double intention to face urban growth: densify and expand. The PIDECA of the same year raised a Densification strategy: occupying the free areas and renovating the center, however, it allowed the inclusion of new soils to meet the housing demand. In a similar spirit, the 1986 code declared both a policy of use and densification of free and central areas as well as three expansion zones for the same purpose: to satisfy the housing crisis." (Becerra, 2014)

The new centralities in Cali were generated in **two different ways,** initially, through the construction of equipment and infrastructure in the peripheral areas of the city, which led to the configuration of housing areas around them. On the other hand, these centralities had finished consolidating by adapting new construction areas to residential use, towards the north, south and east peripheries, where the creation of complementary centralities sought to "correct the distances to the traditional or historical center and the collateral needs of roads for accessibility to and from the new metropolitan residential peripheries of middle and high socioeconomic strata" (Martínez, 2015).

Initially, in the POT of 2000 there were identified 9 centralities in the city, each of which was generated by a specific element and requires a different treatment. These centralities have a particularity, they were not fully consolidated at the time they were defined as such, a few were chosen for their special characteristic of responding to a specific activity (Santa Elena, Puerta del Sol, Imbanaco), and these ended up being consolidated by creating housing within its limits; on the other hand, others such as Menga or Del Puente, were defined mainly by being a new housing area, to which

progressivily arrived complementary uses that responded to the needs of the inhabitants and that contributed to the abandonment of the traditional center, which although it maintains its characteristic of centrality, it has been displaced gradually.

However, in the POT of 2014, the number of centralities increased to **23 centralities, divided in 7 categories:** supplying, business, associated with large facilities, industrial, automobile services, industrial services, and associated with housing.

With the definition of these 23 centralities, the city shows it's decision to **formalize the vision of a dense and polycentric city**, leaving behind the idea of growing by expansion, in favor of guaranteeing **equitable access** to social services and system functionality.

SUPPLYING 1. Alameda 2. Alfonso Lopéz 3. Floresta 4. Santa Elena BUSINESS 5. Ciudad Médica 6. Del Norte 7. Jorge Isaacs 8. Lili 9. San Juan de Dios 10. San Pedro ASSOCIATED WITH LARGE FACILITIES 11. La Merced 12. Panamericana 13. Unidad Deportiva 14. Universidades INDUSTRIAL 15. Ferrocarril 16. Industrial AUTOMOBILE SERVICES 17. San Bosco 18. Terminal NDUSTRIAL SERVICES 19. Distrito tecnológico indus tria llimpia 20. San Nicolás ASSOCIATED WITH HOUSING 21. Aguablanca 22. Julio Rincón



Historic city center: Transformation

The situation in the historic center of Cali, however, was left in a **limbo** over and over again with each wave of expansion that was generated in the city. Although it was declared a National Monument in 1959, its intervention and renovation were constantly being considered without taking into account what this appointment implied. Likewise, the displacement of the wealthy social classes that inhabited the center towards the peripheries of the city, meant the **abandonment** of the residential areas of the center, places that were transforming their vocation and attracting other uses.

At some point, the center became an area where all kinds of **uses converge**, however, the problem that this entails is that its infrastructure and buildings were **not prepared** to host so many uses and activities. This arrival of uses **incompatible** with the Historic Center generated a setback in its development and an increasingly notable **loss of value**, both due to the changes in the dynamics, as well as the physical and spatial changes that were gener-



Taken by the author



xisting social interactions in the main square Taken by the autor



commerce in the city center Taken by the author

ated from different renovations with an effort to modernize, that in the end caused the disappearance of valuable pieces of this heritage area.

Furthermore, along with the changes in uses that occurred in the center, "were located in the areas of influence of the BICs land uses that interfere with their operation and induce deterioration" (raPOT, 2014) These situations also attract illegal and informal commerce, since the formal commerce decides to move to the safety of a peripheral commercial center. (Martínez, 2015) These activities begin to be located in the public space, invading it, as well as promoting new interventions in existing buildings, demolishing them to build more suitable elements to house the uses that are beginning to arrive.

The Historic Center of Santiago de Cali changed not only in the way the space was inhabited, but also physically, in this way, it passed "from a homogeneous center in whose urban morphology of continuous walls predominated the constructions of the periods of colonial and republished



Taken by the author





Taken by the author



Taken by the author



Taken by the author



Taken by the author

tradition... to a center that has experienced the effects of continuous waves of modernization" (Universidad del Valle, 2011). Hence, is generated an urban center "whose most obvious and characteristic feature is its volumetric, spatial and formal heterogeneity" (Universidad del Valle, 2011)

"In this center with its own expressions, patterns and modes of spatial behavior: small premises that offer products of the most heinous variety and quality at low prices, which coexist with congestion, tumult, the mixture of noises and smells and above all, with a great variety of informal activities that invade and deteriorate the public space, responsible, to a large extent, for that image of discredit, threat and insecurity that the center transmits today, which has resulted in a significant loss of its symbolic value." (PEMP. Special Management and Protection Plan of the Historic Center of Santiago de Cali. 2014)

TURIN

History:

Turin is an Italian city set against the back-drop of the Alps at the confluence of two major rivers, the Po and the Dora. It's history begins with a small village called Taurisia, populated by the "taurine" tribe, a settlement destroyed in 218 B.C. It was also a military citadel during Roman times, configured with parallel and perpendicular roads, that was given the name Augusta Taurinorum.

In 1280, the House of Savoy conquered the city, and under their reign, after the designation of Turin as the capital, the city experienced one of its most important transformations, becoming one of the major capitals of the Baroque era with the works of Ascanio Vitozzi, Amedeo and Carlo di Castellamonte, Guarino Guarini, Filippo Juvarra, and others. Turin "acquired a style, charm and elegance all its own that has been one of its distinctive features for centuries." (Comune di Torino). In 1798, the Savoy reign was interrupted when Napoleon's troops occupied the city. Piemonte became a part of France and Turin saw the

1640

1780



1680



1911

2011 1941

Source: MuseoTorino

crumbling of its defence walls, one of the distinctive traits of its planning structure. However, in 1814, the Congress of Vienna returned Turin to the Savoy.

Turin was also known as an **economic** center of production and exchange,

its trade, banking and early industries made it a rich city in a rich region. However, it was not only the economic aspect that was important, the city was the point of departure for civil society, for political and economic alliances, and even for the building of the first railways. In the 19th century it became the political and intellectual center of the Risorgimento, the movement for Italian political unification, and in consequence, it served as the first capital of a united Italy from 1861 to 1865.

The industrial city

In 1865, the capital was moved to Firenze, and Turin lost status, functions, jobs and investment. The population fell and the unemployment soared, the city entered a crisis that forced its leaders, private, and public

sectors to collaborated, to **rebuild the** reputation, economy, and identity with a strong industrial and entrepreneurial base, and the best example is the founding in 1899 of FIAT, with the construction of the Lingotto and Mirafiori factories.

With the founding of FIAT and other industries, Turin experienced a great economic boost and became one of the great industrial capitals of the world. The beginning of the 20th century then, meant the arrival of people from the countryside of Piemonte and the rest of Italy looking for employment, in a city with no infrastructure to accommodate them:

"The path-breaking factory, inspired by Henry Ford's Detroit model, led to the city's population growing by nearly 50 per cent in the following 15 years, while the exploding working population of the Fiat factories multiplied five-fold, and was packed into crowded slums. Most early immigrants came from the countryside and mountain valleys surrounding Torino." (Power, A. 2016)

TURIN

The beginning of the 20th century also meant the arrival of World War I and World War II, two historical events with opposite consequences for the city. Firstly, during WWI there was a massive demand for machine components and vehicles, which caused a growth of 40% of Turin's population between 1922 and 1939, with FIAT employing almost a third of the city's workforce (Power, A. 2016) Contrary to WWII that had a devastating impact on Turin, due to it's status as provider of engines and components for military vehicles and planes, it was a city victim of heavy bombing, causing the destruction of at least one third of its buildings.

"Post-war Italy was shattered, its people hungry and its infrastructure in ruins. Torino was not spared. Italian governments were too weak to respond and the Fiat of the Agnelli played an unusually powerful role in helping to keep the workforce in work and looked after, distributing emergency food supplies and providing cheap new housing on the periphery of the city." (Power, A. 2016)



Source: MuseoToring



Source: MuseoTorino



Source: Archivio Storico Citta Torino. (FT 11A04_237)



The Houses taked from Corso Grosseto, 545

Source: Archivio Storico Citta Torino

Nonetheless, between 1951 and 1971 when the **post-war economy boomed**, FIAT doubled it's workforce and produced almost 95% of Italy's cars. **Other industries** also start to flourish, such as Olliveti, Ferrero, and textile industries, and even most important, there was a rapid multiplication of **off-shoot production** and service companies that worked for major factories, filling gaps on supply chains and specialist skills.

Deindustralization and the need to redesign the city

In the late 20th century the **decline** of the automobile industry started; there was more competition on the field with the arrival of german and french producers, the labor costs rose making the production of FIAT less competitive, the social and welfare costs of the workforce rose, and neither the city or FIAT had the capacities to respond to it, furthermore the oil crisis of 1970 dropped the demand for petrol-based cars and pushed up cost of production. Now, it was time to **diversify the economy** of Turin, find new answers to the needs of the city.

"Jobs tailed off, particularly in manufacturing, and Fiat displayed dramatic job losses...The loss of economic firepower in the once dominant car industry affected the level of social support, cut demand for worker housing units, reduced the ability of local government to cope and reduced Torino's leverage on national government." (Power, A. 2016) Needless to say, this also meant the **decrease of the population** of the city, which had peaked by 1970 and now began a steady decline, mainly in the **periphery of the city** where housing was cheaper and built especially for the workforce of this industry. At the same time, this decline meant the **abandonment** of large factories and wasteland.

However, the deindustrialization of the city wasn't all that bad, it was also the **beginning** of a much needed change for Turin, now, there were all these places, spaces, and constructions as a possibility for the city to grow. In 1994, and with the arrival of Valentino Castellanti as the new major, this possibility took the shape of a **post-industrial, reconfigured, denser city**, supported by better public transport, and an opportunity to use and reuse all these spaces.

"The Master Plan further encouraged the restoration of many parts of the historic and potentially beautiful city centre. This overlapped with the ambition for neighbourhood renewal, since poorer residents were concentrated either in peripheral publicly owned "factory housing" areas, or in often grossly over-crowded apartments in the centre" (Power, A. 2016)

At the same time, and with the idea of renewing Turin, Castellani launched a "city-wided, citizen-based consultation of his plans and ideas for the city" (A. Power, 2016), with the goal of arriving to a consensus of the bases for the long-term development strategic plan for the city. From this consultation came ideas like reinforce the tourism as a pillar of the city economy, made it a gateaway city and a new learning center or, made Turin more sustainable and attractive with programs of city center and neighborhoods renewal with an environmental focus (Power, A. 2016)

However, it wasn't until 2006 that Turin had the chance to turn around it's identity and brought to reality the concept of renewing the city.



Source: Samuele Silva Blog



Source: OGR Torino



The new face of the city

In 2006, Turin won the bid to host the Winter Olympics of 2006, and this was its turning point. The games became the excuse to **change the face of the city**, first with the need for infrastructure for the games, and second with the quantity of people that were going to travel to the italian city for these games, however there were other strategies that were possible just because of this opportunity:

- "- Upgrading the city and providing new facilities;
- Attracting international attention, investment and visitors;
- Deploying engineering and productive skills to new unifying projects;
- Involving all levels of government in a major new international event;
- Creating new markets and enterprises;

-Transforming the image and reputation of the city." (Power, A. 2016)

With and after the Winter Olympics, Turin's numbers of tourists rose to almost 2 million, and it became a favorite destination in Italy, after Roma,

Source: Sky tg24. ANSA

Firenze and Venice. The new flow of people was just another reason to continue thinking about how to improve the city, and to continue planning and developing **projects** to work in the parts of the city that weren't in the influence zone of the Winter Olympics.

In fact, one of these projects was already in action before the games. It was launched in 1998, and it was a neighborhood recovering program

focused on the peripheral areas of the city, however, after the games, with the flow of tourism and with the crisis of 2007 that brought to Turin a lot of new immigrants from different parts of the world, it was obvious that the zone of action of the program needed to change, and include the new centers of the city define by this new and growing population.

"Torino continued to experience high levels of immigration from North Africa, Latin America, Romania, Albania and sub-Saharan Africa, in spite of high unemployment and serious recession, posing several challenges

to social cohesion in a period of deep austerity" (Power, A. 2016)



Aurora, Turin. Taken by the author.





Aurora, Turin. Taken by the author

Places like Aurora, or Barriera di Milano, took importance the moment its empty buildings became the home of people coming to Turin in search for new opportunities, it became a new multicultural and diverse reference node for a whole new population, and even if there were projects working on the renewal of the city, an industrial history as long as the one from Turin needs constant work to bring life to the many empty spaces left behind by the factories that once were inside the city, or the buildings left behind by the people that once lived there but now moved to new or traditional zones of Turin. Nevertheless, these spaces, these buildings, are just an opportunity that needs to be taken to reactivate the city, to bring life once again to the forgotten places, and maybe to connect the traditional side of Turin with these new centers that are just going to continue thriving.



Source: Google Earth



Source: Google Earth



Source: Google Earth

INTERVENTION SITE

A STUDY OF CONTEXT: CALI and TURIN 9.276 km apart

THE OTHER SIDE OF THE WORLD

The abandonment of the center, the presence of empty spaces in the middle of the urban area, horizontal growth, the displacement of residents to the outskirts of the city, are **phenomena that do not happen only in one city in the world, or in one specific type of city**.

"Large number of cities have relocated the city center's functions outside the city center to suburbs. It has totally changed the traditional dense and multifunctional structure of the city center which had a vital role in creating the dense and active social life. The resulted segregated city has produced deserted city centers in many cities in North and south America and Europe with large economic and social consequences." (Nooraddin, H. 2016)

The reality is that despite the differences, and the context, the city "while it may be stable in general outlines for some time, it is **ever changing** in detail... There is **no final result**, only a continuous succession of phases." (Lynch, K. 1960) and this requires making certain adjustments, initially improvised - which lead to the current state of the city centers and their immediate surroundings-, currently much more thought out and with the ability to amend the mistakes that could have been made in the past.

Cali and Turin are two cities that have more elements that **differentiate** them than elements that make them similar, beginning, with **their location on the globe** -which is surely the most obvious of their differences-, and continuing with their **process of growth** and how this affected the **role of each one in their countries.**

Santiago de Cali, for instance, developed alongside different urban centers in Valle del Cauca due to the social-economic framework of the region in which it is located. In this way, both the economic development and the physical development of the city are due to the close relationship with the coffee, sugar and agro-industry activities, and the transportation of all the products resulting from these industries, especially due to its prox-



al growth at Turin, Italy. Source: Google Earth.



Source: Google Earth.

THE OTHER SIDE OF THE WORLD

imity to the Cauca River, to the port of Buenaventura, and its position in the valley, elements that turned it into a node of flows that characterized it as a transit city, defined its importance over other urban centers in the region and gave it a linear urban configuration. On the other hand, there is Turin, a city that at one point positioned itself as the capital of Italy, with unprecedented political importance, and that after losing this title had to focus on recovering that same importance in one way or another, becoming thus in an **industrial node** not only for Italy but for all of Europe, it was no longer the political capital, but it could be considered the industrial capital of the country. Turin as an industrial center made the population, the economy, and the physical organization of the city revolve around industrial use, the city is configured around the factories and their employees. Turin becomes the starting point for thousands of routes to cities in Italy that fulfill the role of Cali, being a transit city.

However, it is not enough to take into

account what happened and how it happened, it is also necessary to talk about what is happening at this moment, how each of these cities behaves **today and now**, the present allows to found other similarities and differences that connect these two urban centers.

Santiago de Cali must respond to a context in constant development and constant change, to a city that continues to expand itself with each passing day because it has the land to **spread** and because it needs to grow to supply the population that is always increasing -also due to the arrival of displaced people from other parts of Colombia or from neighbouring countries like Venezuela-. Cali also believes in demolition as a response to the need for space, and it was only about ten years ago that started the conversation about the preservation of historical and important architectural, cultural, and urban elements, perhaps too late seeing the conditions of the center of the city and of many of these historical milestones -Coltabaco, La Ermita, La Inmaculada, etc.-





Source: Archilovers. Photo by: Angelo Luisi Montenegro



Source: OGR Torino. Photo by: Luigi De Palma



Re use example: Toolbox Source: Toolbox Coworking. Photo by: Stefano Borghi



Re use example: NH Collection Piazza Carlina Source: Archilovers. Photo by: Barbara Corsico

THE OTHER SIDE OF THE WORLD

Then there is Turin, a historic and consolidated city with a growing population but without the obvious eagerness to spread it's urban limits, where the changes in its center are few and never at the level of the changes that could be made in a Latin American city like Cali, where conservation is the key to urban development plans, and where the answer to many needs is found in re-using what already exists, not because there are no more options, but because it is the best among all the others, it allows to preserve the architectural, cultural and urban heritage of the city with the possibility of change in what happens inside them.

It is because of all these differences that it is even more incredible to find such **similar elements** in both cities, a historic center full of landmarks to **maintain, restore and reuse**, an urban center and its surroundings whose life is concentrated only in daytime activities, but which is **abandoned** at nightfall, a **changing** urban center despite being consolidated, with limited but existing **empty spaces as poten**- **tential points to intervene**, spaces that at some point were occupied, either by an activity or a construction, but that right now have been left aside due to the constant transformation of the city.

A center full of opportunities.





SELECTION CRITERIA

The sites of intervention have been chosen by finding **several similarities** between the two despite the contexts where they are located

	Turin	Cali	
Proximity to the city center, benefitig from its flows and activities.	1.4 km	400m	
Proximity to commercial nodes like Porta Palazzo and Plaza de Caicedo.	Porta Palazzo Taken by the author	Plaza de Caicedo Taken by the author	
Accesibility , main lines of trans- portation near the plot.	Stop Emilia, tram 4: 1 min. 73m	Stop La Ermita, MIO: 3 min. 270m	
Landscape potential, the presence of the river Cali and river Dora are a direct link to an important natural element of the city, and gives the opportunity to see the river not as a limit but as an asset to the city.		Cali River Puente Ortiz Source: UnivalleTV: Canal Universitario	
Stakeholders, both plots have public and private stakeholders interested in their development.	PRG	PEMP	
		55	







POT: Plan de Ordenamiento Territorial

The POT of Santiago de Cali is an arrangement made in 2014 that dictates the way the city needs to be developed. It divides the territory in **23 centralities,** divided in **7 categories**, these categories are complemented by corridors of activities that allow connections between all the centralities, creating a single system. The plot selected for the intervention is part of the **San Pedro Centrality**, which in turn is part of the **business** category. Just in front of the plot, there is a strategic corridor for business uses.

These categories are divided too, this time in **"Area of activities"**, allowing different kinds of activities in one category, -guaranteeing equitable access to social services and system functionality-, giving also the **guidelines** to which uses can be in each area.

Corridor: Business uses



Residential -net-

Endowment



AREA OF ACTIVITIES PLOT: MIX ACTIVITIES

USES ACCORDING TO THE POT

USES OF INTEREST	AREA OF ACTIVITY: BUSINESS	STRATEGIC CORRIDOR: BUSINESS	CONDITIONS
•••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••	•
Manufactury of bakery	Allowed with conditions	Allowed with conditions	Max. 25% of the area
Malls and chain stores	Allowed with conditions	Allowed with conditions	Only in areas greater than 1000 m ²
Commerce of:			•
Household items, books, newspaper, 🚦		: :	•
stationery supplies and materials,			
sports articles, culture and enter-	Allowed	Allowed	•
tainment items, clothes, footwear,			
pharmaceutical products, medicine,		•	•
cosmetics, etc.		•	•
Hotel accomodation	Allowed	Allowed	•
Restaurants, coffee shops, self-service		: :	•
restaurant	Allowed	Allowed	•
Tour operator activities	Allowed	Allowed	•
Educational support activities	Allowed	Allowed	
Plastic and visual arts	Allowed	Allowed	•
Live musical activities	Allowed with conditions	Allowed with conditions	Implementation and regularization
			scheme (art. 299)
Libraries and archives	Allowed	Allowed	
Books, magazines, newspaper editing	Allowed	Allowed	•
Audiovisual production and post pro-	Allowed	Allowed	•
duction activities			•
Audiovisual materal display	Allowed	Allowed	•
Sound recording and music editing	Allowed	Allowed	•
activities		: :	•
Programming and trasmission activi-	Allowed	Allowed	
ties in the sound broadcasting service :		:	•
Television programming and broad-	Allowed	Allowed	
casting activities			- - -
•		• •	•







PRG: Piano Regolatore Generale

Torino's PRG was coordinated in 2019, and similar to Cali, it divides the city into different **normative areas** "characterized by homogeneous morphology of plants and uses and governed by the regulations of the regulatory area in which they fall" (PRG, 2019). These normative areas define the **type of interventions** that can be done in each plot, and which **uses** are appropriate for them. In the selected plot and it's sorroundings, the following normative areas can be found:



The plot: PONTE MOSCA

Area: 17.308

Indice territoriale: mq/mq 1.35

SPL generated: mq 17.308 x 1.35 = mq 23.366

Residence R1:

 Residences built with unitary plans or projects.
Residential destination
Retail commercial activity allowed in the basement, ground and first floor.
Professional studies allowed on the floors above the first

Residence R3:

Residential blocks with building curtain towards public space with limited presence of activity compatible with the residence

 Residential destination

Retail commercial activity allowed in the basement, ground and first floor.
Professional studies allowed on the floors above the first

BOTH PRESENT IN THE SAME BLOCK AS THE SITE OF INTERVENTION



Taken by the author



Taken by the author.

Misto M1:

-Mostly residential mixed blocks. Harmful or harassing activities must be replaced with the residence or converted to uses compatible with it

 Residential destination
Retail commercial activity allowed in the basement, ground and first floor.
Receptive uses allowed on all floors (hotels, tourist residence, residence for particular users)

Aree TE:

Areas or complexes of buildings for tertiary use

 Exhibition, congress and tourist accommodation activities allowed
Retail commercial activities, catering, public businesses and service crafts allowed in the basement, ground, mezzanine and first floor
Residential use as long as the tertiary use is not less than 50% of the overall SLP verified on the intervention area

SITE OF INTERVENTION: AREE TE



Taken by the author.



Taken by the author
CHARACTERIZATION OF THE CONTEXT



The importance of the spaces in between the buildings



Perimetral: The buildings follow the form of the block.



The element: The buildings are disassociated from the form of the block. (OVNI)



Hybrid: The block can have both morphologies, a perimetral build-ing and a disassociated element.

The morphology of the blocks in Turin can be divided into **three types**, the first and most common in the city being the "perimetral", where the buildings surround the entire block, generating internal courtyards mostly for private use. This morphology means taking into account the **direct relationship between the building and the street**, since it is in constant contact with those who inhabit it.

The second type is a block where the buildings are located as **independent elements** within it, the continuity in this type of morphology is little or non-existent, and most of the time, the **empty space is predominant** in the block.

Finally, there is the third morphology, a **hybrid** between the two previous ones, which allows us to understand the conversation between the built and the context, but also shows the possibility of **interweaving** in the empty spaces that it has.



Whole: The buildings embrace the whole block, their height is not the same.



Holes: The whole is interrupted by voids between the buildings.



Incomplete: The block is not entirely build and it looks like it has missing parts.

In Cali, the way to build the block can also be divided into three types of morphology. First, we find the **consolidated block**, fully built, made possible by the difference in height of its buildings, and where the communication with the city arrives maximum, at the ground floor of the perimetral buildings.

Then there is the morphology of holes, where small courtyards appear at the **center of the block**, serving to the private use of each building, but not to the city.

Finally, a third morphology is identified and presented as an **opportunity for the city**, the block not completely built, and where the empty spaces that it has communicate directly with the street, becoming a **possible extension of it.**

HEIGHTS



Turin's height profile shows that they are all very **contained**, the highest being ten floors, a consequence of its **proximity to the city center**, where the idea is not to compete with the historic buildings in the area.

By law, the new buildings can't be taller than the existent buildings.

CALI

HEIGHTS



Cali has turned its city center into a **business area**, this allows a **freedom** in the heights that a European city does not have, since the predominant buildings are at least 10 floors tall, which is the maximum number of floors permitted in Turin.





The study of the flows in Turin helped to identify the **main axis** in the area, **Corso Giulio Cesare**, due to its connectivity with the historic center and the fact that it **crosses the city** from north to south. This flow is not only vehicular, since the presence of **commerce on the ground floor** of the perimeter buildings forces the citizen to walk and inhabit the axis.

On the other hand, there are roads such as Corso Brescia and Lungo Dora, not so significant at a macro level, but in the area, **feeding on the flows of Corso Giulio Cesare**, and the ground floor activities along them.

Minor flow axes are also identified, used only by people **who must pass through them**, such as Via Aosta, where you cross because you live there or because you get there from the Ponte del Carbone.

CALI





In the city of Cali, the Bulevar del Río project stands out as the main axis of the area, an intervention of public space that becomes a completely **pe**destrian axis where the streets of the historic center end, such as Calle 11 and Calle 12, both commercial passages with activity present throughout the day. However, there are not only flows, but also the nodes where they converge, in public spaces such as the Plaza de Caicedo, the city's central square, or the Parque de los Poetas. This makes the area **not only an** area of passage but also one of permanence.



WHAT IS COMMON IN BOTH CITIES?

1. Decadent multiporpuses:

The territories are identified by the multiplicity of uses coexisting in the same area, and even in the same plot, a common characteristic in lots close to the center of the city.

These uses that begin to decline without completely dissapearing when the activation of these territories are not a priority for the city, when it should be.

2. Historic arteries:

The presence of roads with flows consolidated by their constant presence in the history of the city, envelop the plots in an arterial system from which it could benefit.

3. Forgotten points of attraction:

The plots are in the midst of flows and activities that have been transformed over time and that could converge on them, however, these plots have been closed to these transformations, becoming stranded in time as empty spaces that become potentials to exploit.

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

CALI | TURIN

INTERVENTION STRATEGIES

DIRECTIONS



The directions to be follow are four:

- 1. Existing buildings
- 2. Important streets
- 3. Views
- 4. The river



These axes become the main lines of implantation for the project.

MORPHOLOGY





Construction base of the project.

Desired morphology transformation with the new volumes How are we going to complete the block?



Desired morphology transformation with the new volumes How are we going to complete the block?



FRAMING



Views as the way of living the project.



The volumes become the frame of the project, and the directions previously identified are the way of redirecting the view of the user.















CAL 00:00 03:00 06:00 09:00 12:00 15:00 18:00



Permanent population

The area in Cali has become a transit area, where people arrive to work at morning and then return to their home, leaving a dead city center behind.

The area in Turin is mainly a dormitory city, where the residence is the main use and the floating population is present only in the main axes.

Permanent population





TURIN: Where is the people?









Life bring by nodes of commerce





Life bring by students

Area with universities

Aerial view of Turin: nodes of activities burce: Google Earth. Modified by the author.

CALI: Where is the people?



Aerial view of Cali: nodes of activities urce: Google Earth. Modified by the author.

400 m

STRATEGIES APPLICATION









Cso. Giulio Cesare: Main connection to the city center Cso. Bresia: Commercial axis



• Permeability



~10.500 m² of 'permeable space' in the ground floor / Around 62% of the plot area

- Public space
- 🐖 Green areas
- Shops / commercial use
- ----- Flows



- Commercial
- Residential
- Student dormitories
- Hotel
- Amenities
- Stairwell

USES BREAKDOWN

12 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 0 Commercial Residential Student hotel Hotel Amenities •</

Uses that activate the plot in the day, bringing more floating population.





STRATEGIES APPLICATION

The Plot



() Blueprint



Keeping an internal courtyard to create a thermal comfort niche. In Cali, with its constantly warm tropical climate, it's important to create shaded public spaces.



'Bulevar del río': Promenade alongside the river, giving public space back to pedestrians. Below there is a tunnel for vehicular traffic.



① Permeability



~1.690 m² of 'permeable space' in the ground floor / Around 89% of the plot area

- Public space
- 뺆 Green areas
- Shops / commercial use
- ····· Flows



USES BREAKDOWN

12 1 2	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 0
		•
Uses that activate the plot in the night , bringing more permanent population.		
Commercial ——	rio project	nercial axis in the Bulevar del ness to the city center, business points of the city, bringing life
M² by use in Total: 3.		ó by use defined in the POT
1.728m²	1.872m²	48% 55%
Commercial Hotel		ed commerce el acccomodation

PROPOSALS

CALI and TURIN




































GROUND FLOOR



FIRST AND SECOND FLOOR



ROOF PLAN



HOTEL TOWER TYPE PLAN



SECTION A-A















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