

POLITECNICO DI TORINO
Master of Science in Architecture Construction City
Honors theses

LAND SUBTRACTION.

DESIGN DEVICES ALONG TORINO-CERES RAILWAY

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Subtracted land. Those two words matched together generates an ambiguity that really fits the works performed on this thesis.

The land is a limited resources and is constantly used by the expanding building industry and for food production. Our main goal was to pinpoint the right way that might lead to the zero land usage by 2050. This approach identified some hot-spot where future expansion could be concentrated.

A subtraction to fight (land)subtraction.

This thesis isn't neither plain urban planning study nor a urban design research. More correctly it could be described as an exercise of investigation in search of new designing devices. It first analyze the land characteristics then overlaps said characteristic to draw a macro-scaled-map that define the different areas where to intervene. We try to outline a designing device highlighting the land more suitable for opportunism constructive; from a extreme scenario the mask obtained in the first part of the thesis might be filled with building in a unrestricted construction scene.

At this point becomes really important to think about land usage containment and constructed areas reuse. This is really a key point for outlining the right areas where to design a masterplan.

Nowadays a critical issue is the demographic decline, especially if combined with today's production sector crisis. Those elements led to the partial desertion of many industry and to the abandonment of chunks of city. We live in a time of turning and big changes for the design as we know it. We will not propose a new expansion plan, but we will design pivoting around an infrastructure embed in the land, architecture's foundation, trying to achieve new points of view in aid of new transformation processes linked to territorial policies.

"The city to be scrapped" is one of the thesis's key points, a new challenge that befalls on brownfields, the hearth of the debate and the administrative actions of the last decades. Through shapes and morphologies, history, geography and processes of economic rebalancing we will try to put order on the huge chaos existing.

The area we took for template on this research is the area that encloses the "Ciriace" e le "Valli di Lanzo", the same areas will be soon incorporated in the same homogeneous area (zona omogenea) that will be part of "Città metropolitana".

Those areas are connected by the "Sistema Ferroviario Metropolitano" A line. The "Torino-Ceres" so called because it connect said cities together. This railway is the red thread that link up all the space and the very structure of the thesis, leading us around thoughts about the grain of the built, the landscape, the environment and policies to be implemented.

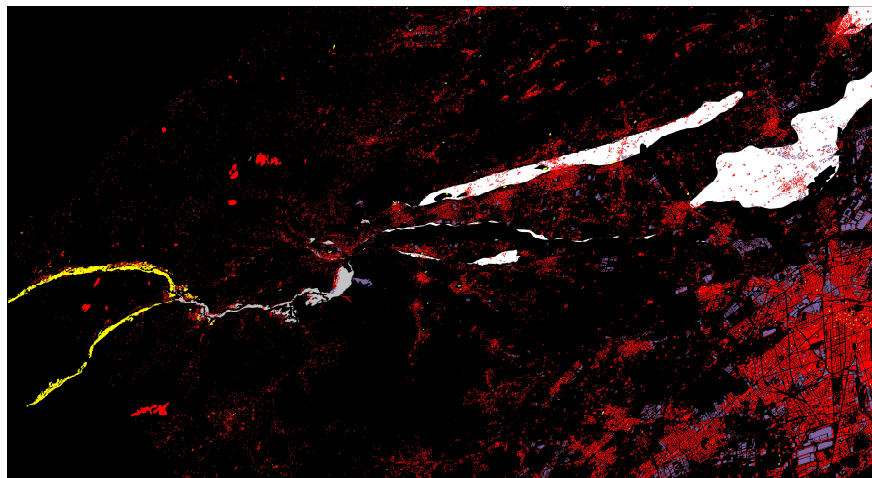
The infrastructure held the role of core of our design and holds together arguments at different scales. Also the graphical representation and the reworking of maps and spatial information has a key role within the thesis, displaying instantly the relationship between numerical data and the drawings.

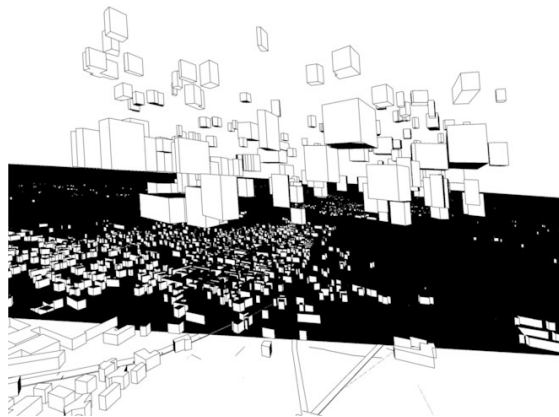
At the end, it's possible to find many calculation and estimation made with the intent of measuring the feasibility of the process.

It's also possible to view a video shot with the purpose of immerse the viewer inside the project, communicating with more ease about the devices design adopted and giving a glimpse of the real extent of the transformation hypothesized.

The devices proposed project within this elaborate goes through different scenarios, visions and hypothesis made visible. The intent is not to draw an absolute form that has to be followed, but more likely, to provide flexible tools, easy to understand, and mutually comparable .

More than result, more than shape itself, it becomes important accessibility and the transmission of mutually comparable information and refutable, open to a discussion group.





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