

POLITECNICO DI TORINO
FIRST SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE
Master of Science in Architecture (Construction)
Honors theses

A project for Parco Agricolo Sud Milano

by Caterina Testa

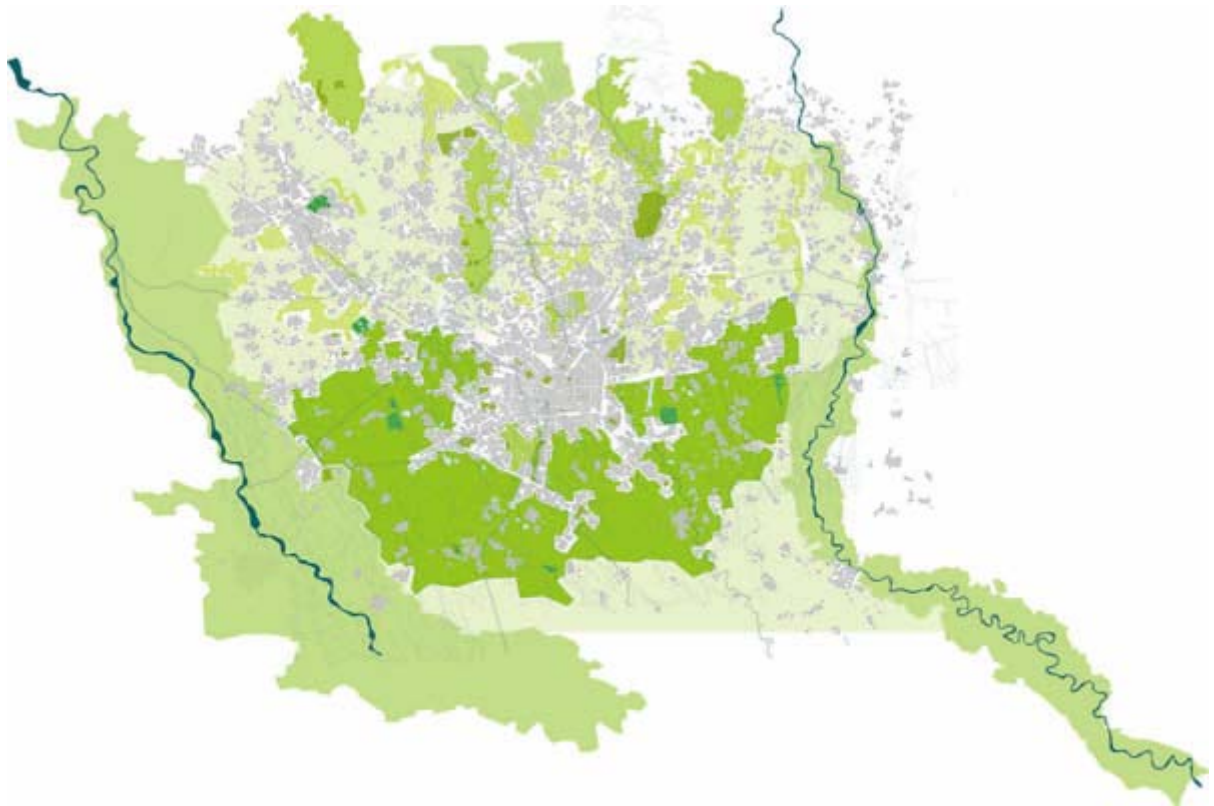
Tutor: Andrea Boschetti

Co-tutor: Pierre Alain Croset

This research includes two parts: one about the project of Parco Agricolo Sud Milano and the other one about the study of different cases of open spaces.

Before starting with the project itself, it was necessary to understand what kind of space and dimension was involved in the project and, if possible, to compare it to other similar situations. After the collect of different cases and the interviews of many experts, the project appeared as a chance to think about the contemporary relation between the city and the countryside, between the urban space and the open agricultural one, not only in spatial way, but also in a functional way.

Parco Agricolo Sud Milano includes an area of 47.000 hectares in the southern region of Milano; in this space the agricultural countryside coexists with the metropolis.



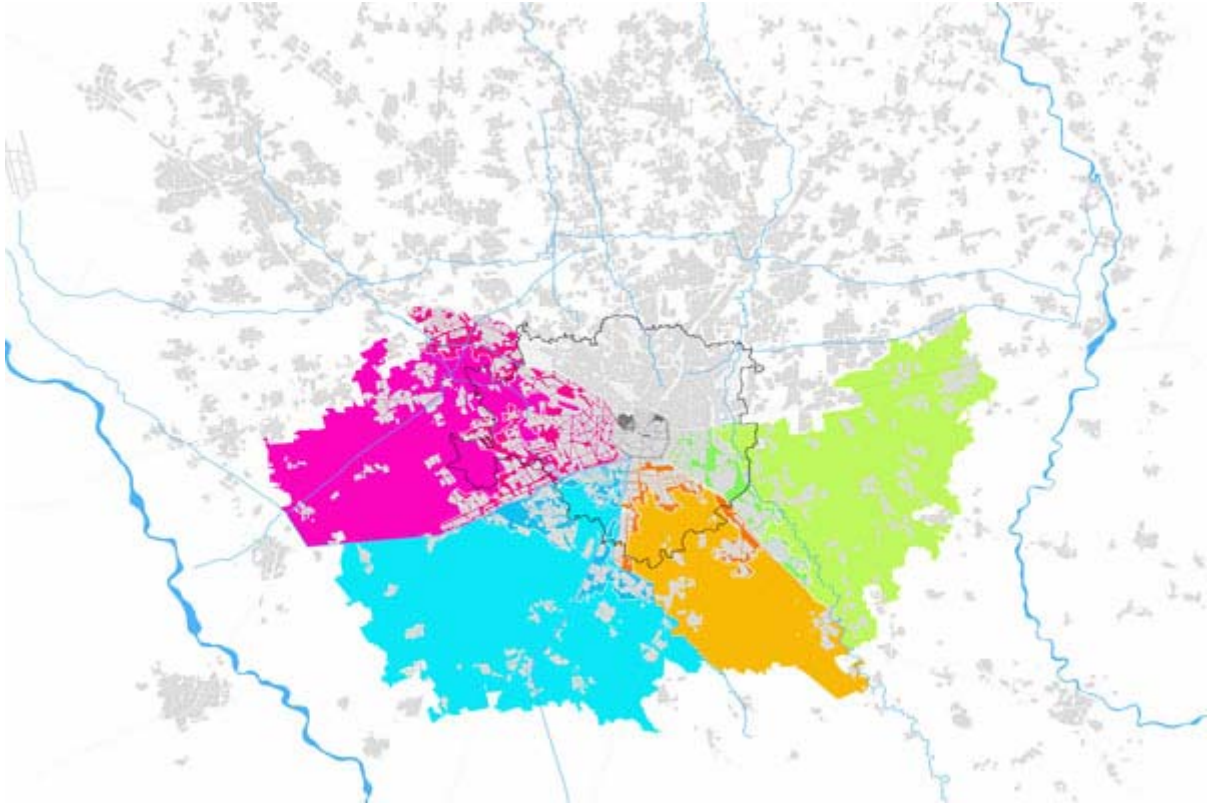
The countryside has to satisfy a double goal: keeping the production of primary resources and becoming a recreational space for the city through three different actions, *using*, *travelling* and *living* according with the historical farm production. From a spatial point of view, the project considered those spaces where countryside and metropolis are in contact, the border between the park and the city. This approach caused the specification of three different landscapes corresponding to three different relations between the park and the city and different strategies to make the project reality.

Three geographic metaphors indicate these three landscapes: the *harbour* describes a direct and frontal contact between city and park, the *delta* evokes penetration, where piece of land invade the sea, and then the *archipelago*, describing the relation between the villages in the middle of Parco Sud isolate in the landscape like islands in the middle of the sea.



Later, it was necessary to keep three portions of the metropolitan region corresponding to the harbour, the delta and the archipelago, to prove the previous strategies and instruments.

A second level of interpretation considered the different identities and characteristics of Parco Agricolo Sud related to the Milanese metropolitan territory. Four different spheres were located according to four different identities and way of use of the park and the city faced to it: *ovest sphere: big events park*; *Navigli sphere: entertainment park*; *Milano – Sud sphere: radial park*; *east sphere: parks in the park*.



The essence of this research is to consider the park and the city as parts of one system, both fundamental for the metropolitan region, and not two opposite parts competing for the open space.

For further information, e-mail:
Caterina Testa: cate.testa@hotmail.it