



**Politecnico
di Torino**

Honors Thesis

Master of Science in Architecture Construction City

Abstract

Countdown to ATP Finals 2021-2025. Into the action

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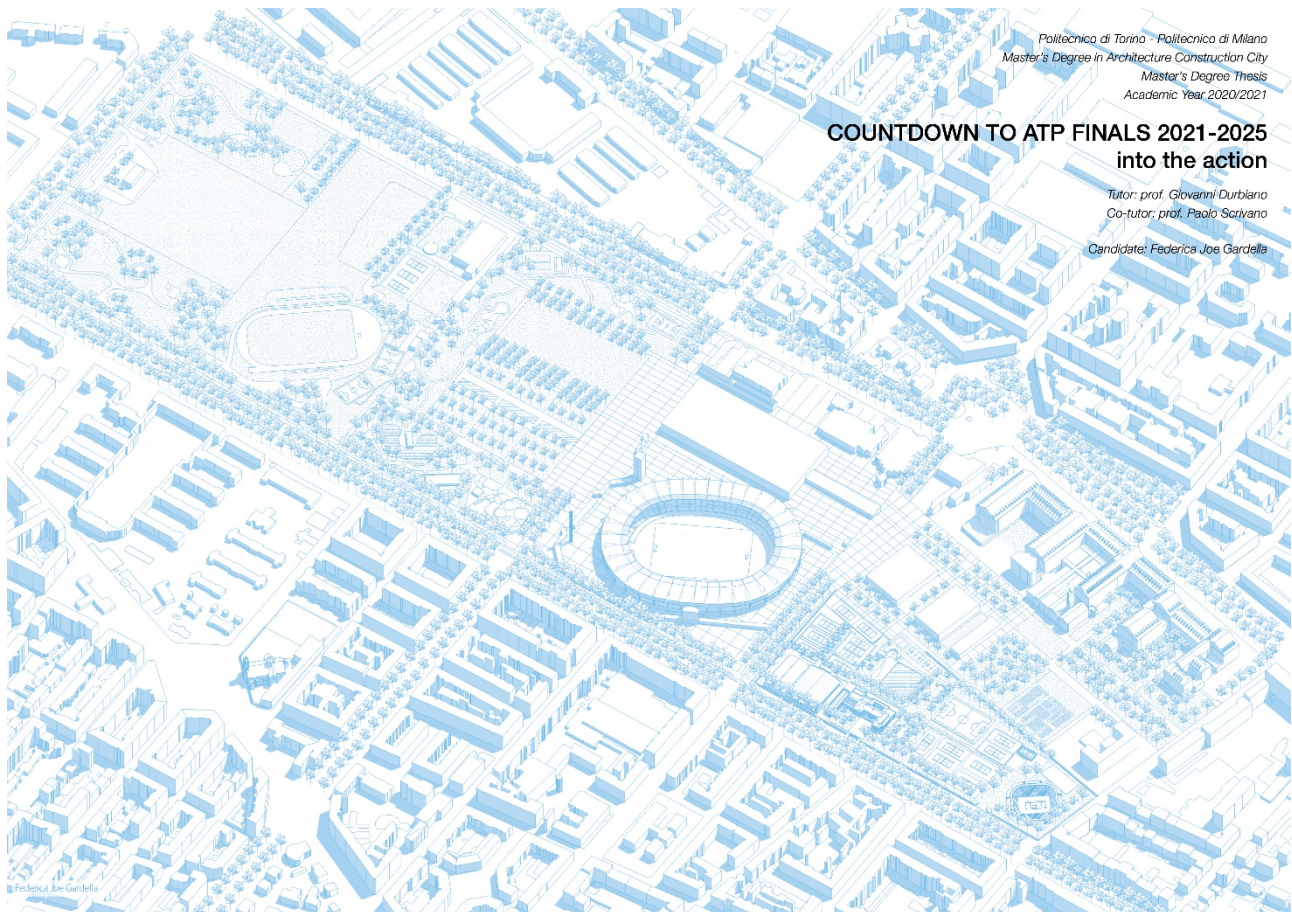


Image 1: Cover

In April 2019, Turin won, over London, Tokyo, Singapore, and Manchester the call to host the **ATP Finals 2021-25**, the most important world indoor tennis event. The Candidacy's Dossier develops around the PalaAlpitour, in the area that in the 1930s was named the "Quartiere dello Sport".

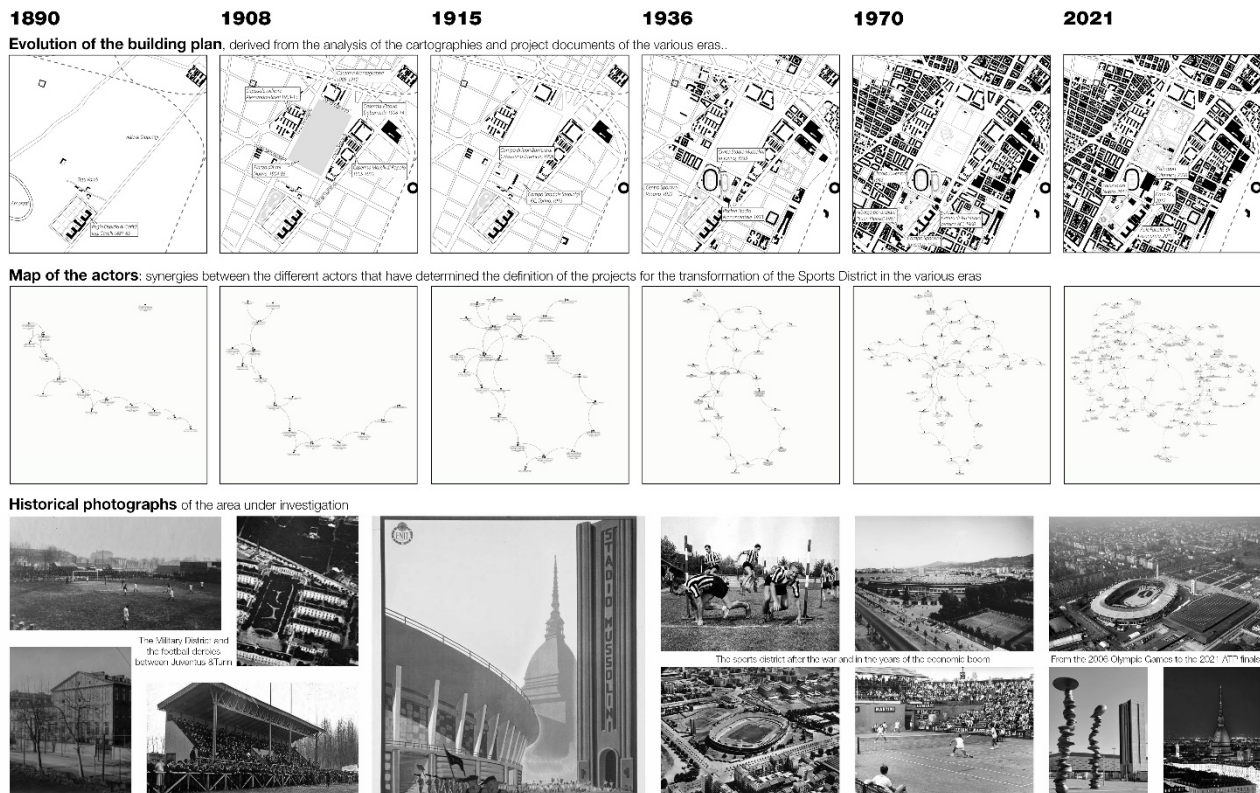
The victory kicked off the *countdown* for the organization, mobilizing multiple actors and developing intentions and promises that have gradually widened the boundary of the implications on this piece of territory.

The development of the thesis begins in 2019 to immediately intertwine with the process, building a methodology through which to open the horizons of possibility, testing the opportunities of prosecution and realization of material effects. The research structure adopted overlaps the **mapping of the dynamics of the place** with the **construction of transformation scenarios** and the **narration of future-oriented strategic lines**.

The mapping operations, on the one hand, investigate the ongoing process in its articulations, weaving subjects and objects, with particular attention to the negotiation and breaking points, which open the way to new possibilities and different transformations. On the other hand, overcoming the mere acceptance of the physical state of the place, intend to retrace, in the history of the area since the late Nineteenth Century, the ever-changing relationship between the project

and the political, economic, social conditions, and extract those moments that have played a crucial role in addressing the evolution of the site.

Historical development of the “Quartiere dello sport”



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Image 2: Historical development of the “Quartiere dello sport”

The mapping is configured as a trace for the construction of a **relational strategy that orients the form of the action**, useful for the explorations that the project conducts in relation to the individual situations gradually encountered during the process. In this perspective, the map is not an analysis of non-negotiable values and criteria placed a priori, and instead becomes a generative and over time changing scheme, starting from which a series of transformation scenarios are created, which do not modify the collective in its articulations and contradictions, but they can influence, through the project, operations of inclusion and exclusion of the different entities.

Immersing itself within an ongoing process, which offers continuous resistance to being investigated, the thesis intertwines with reality by proposing **partial narratives to the future represented as a complex and negotiated system through multitudes of actants**.

The final goal is not to create a univocal project, but an articulated “machine” that combines the relationship of documentary conditions with morphological spatialization, confronting the real process through the action of the project, which thus assumes a strategic value.

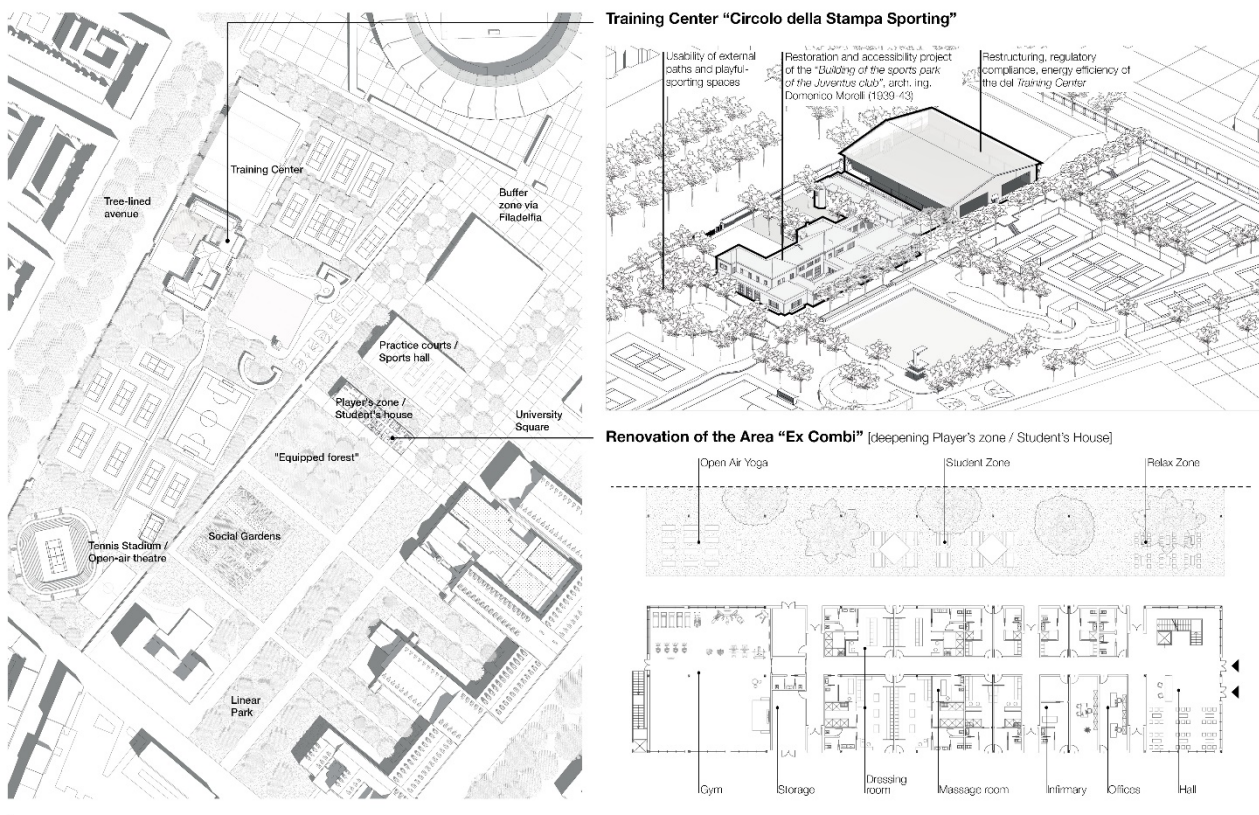
The “machine” relates to the future to explore it, starting from its contingent condition in continuous movement. Therefore, the **dimension of time** is

fundamental, from the fact that the date of the first appointment with the ATP Finals is set a priori for November 2021.

As a consequence, the performativity of a scenario will depend not only on the combination of entities that it manages, but also on its possibility of being effectively realized in the given terms. Over time, the field of possibility shrinks, and the initially more performative projects give way to quick execution and temporary solutions.

The appearance of new documents, constraints and interruptions, lead the project to deviate and take on new configurations to respond more effectively to the various entities; with the "state of emergency" of the COVID-19 pandemic, urgent measures amplify the indeterminacy and, at the same time, trigger a change of pace with new proposals and initiatives.

Transformation Scenarios



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Image 3: Transformation scenarios

In conclusion, the developed methodology provides an **operational tool for the architectural project in the course of action**, deploying it and tracing the entities it relates and the implications it generates, within its temporal contextualization.

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