



**Politecnico
di Torino**

Honors Thesis

Master's degree Science in Architecture Construction City
Master's degree Science in Architecture heritage preservation and enhancement

Abstract

Beyond Logistics.
**Urban transformation scenarios for the logistics hub of Castel San Giovanni,
Piacenza.**

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The subject of this thesis is the spaces of contemporary logistics activity, and its goal is to define scenarios for the transformation of areas urbanized by this type of activity in Castel San Giovanni, near Piacenza. The first part of the thesis deals with the debate on the spaces of contemporary logistics and the impact they generate on the territory when they invest it within closed, compact, impermeable arrangements with respect to local and monofunctional contexts, as is usually the case within the most diverse places on the planet. As well as in much recent literature, logistics spaces are observed, in the first part of the thesis, as spaces of highly automated contemporary work, which generates criticalities in many ways unprecedented with respect to human labor forms and workers' conditions. In particular, the Amazon case is studied as an emblematic example for understanding the complex mechanism governing the management of consumer goods and logistics organization. The second part of the thesis investigates the Castel San Giovanni logistics area embedded in the broader production context of the Piacenza area. This particular Logistic Park is one of Italy's main logistics hubs, highly organized and home, alongside Amazon, to some of the most important international logistics companies. The third part of the thesis proposes a transformation scenario for this territory. Beginning with the identification of the edges of the logistics plate, the focus is on the western edge, which is characterized by the presence of small and medium-sized companies in an urban fabric that, unlike the adjacent large logistics plate, has fragmented, poorly organized and in many respects obsolete spaces. The transformation scenario that the thesis proposes for these spaces aims to encourage their transformation and innovation, increasing the diversity of functions present, reducing rigidity and monofunctionality, thus increasing equipment and services to support companies and workers, spaces for research, commercial activities, alongside the inclusion of some new residences. To do this, the possibility was assumed that the built spaces of the established companies could apply for an expansion of their own volumes to foster and increase productivity. At the same time, the existing infrastructure system is reviewed and the construction of a new intermodal terminal is planned for the storage and distribution of goods of the settled companies. To support them, a hub dedicated to research and technological development is prepared, with the aim of increasing their competitiveness in the market. In addition, the scenario assumes the creation of new open spaces for public use and a river park along the creek that marks the boundary of the area to the west. Connected to the latter is the creation of a new residential system.

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