



**Politecnico
di Torino**

Honors Thesis

Master's degree Science in Architecture Construction City

Abstract

Fugitive Planning. A project for the Quilombo of Goiás

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This thesis investigates black spatialities, alternative modes of dwelling, and counter-cartographies of city-making as practices of introversion, escape, and protection. Positioned at the intersection of abolitionist geography, decolonial urbanism, Black feminism, and critical race theory, the research engages with transnational and transhistorical approaches to dwelling—as a collective, fugitive, and at times revolutionary ecology—challenging dominant notions of the “informal” and the “uninhabitable.”

Focusing on Afro-Brazilian communities in the state of Goiás, particularly *quilombola* settlements, the study explores how these communities articulate spatial practices of resistance, care, and autonomy in the face of systemic spatial injustice. Drawing from Black feminist thought and decolonial theory, the project introduces the concept of *fugitive infrastructures* as spatial and relational devices that enable the reconfiguration of intimacy, mutual support, and protection beyond the frameworks imposed by colonial modernity and capitalist urbanism.

Rather than portraying marginality as a site of deprivation, the thesis highlights the creative and generative capacities of these spatial practices. From affective bonds and subsistence strategies to the porous negotiation of boundaries between visibility and opacity, the spatial configurations of *quilombos* reveal alternative ways of inhabiting that resist normative binaries such as center/periphery, public/private, formal/informal. These forms of dwelling, embedded in histories of resistance, propose a decolonial urbanism grounded in care, solidarity, and non-extractive relationalities.

The result is a contradictory cartography—marked by both material precariousness and radical relational strength—that challenges hegemonic paradigms of the urban. This research ultimately argues that such practices offer valuable theoretical and design-based insights for reimagining contemporary urbanism from an anti-racist and anti-colonial perspective.

By foregrounding the spatial knowledge and lived experiences of Black and marginalized communities, this work contributes to a critical redefinition of architecture and urban studies—not only as tools for diagnosing spatial injustice, but as disciplines capable of fostering collective forms of resistance, care, and radical possibility.

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