



POLITECNICO
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Course of:
Architettura Costruzione e Città

Title:

**Above the Street. From the Sociological Analysis to the
Urban Project in the City Centre of Palermo.**

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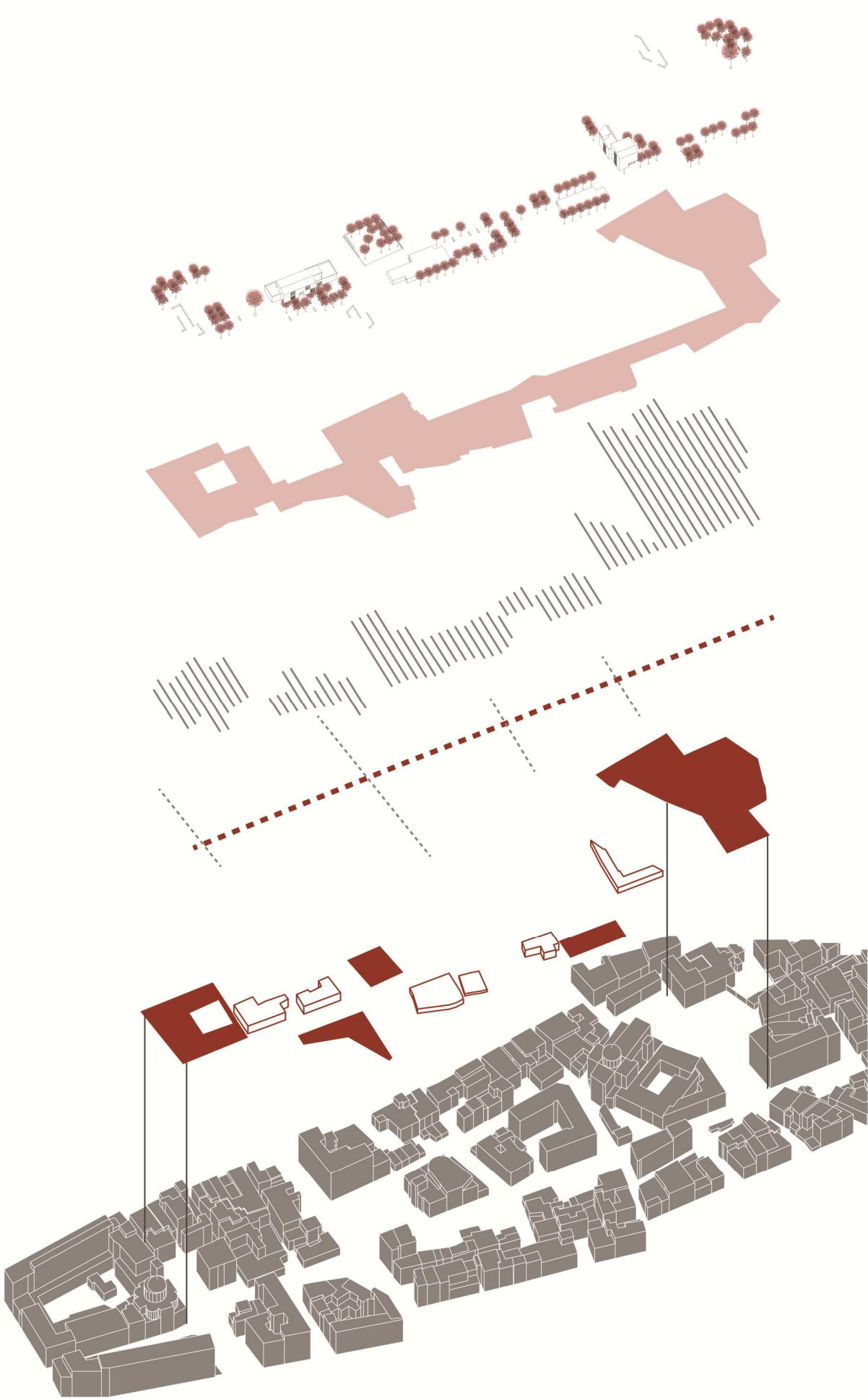
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Abstract:

The first approach stems from the desire to experiment in the development of architectural design the different tools of investigation and analysis, for the construction of a cognitive apparatus of a new city. By the apparatus of theoretical sociology, it was chosen the method of qualitative interviews as an effective tool for understanding the urban and social context through the perspectives of the inhabitants themselves. Palermo is an emblematic case study in the Mediterranean, where they crystallize social, political and economic character very Italian: lack of work, the inefficient management of the public good, to go by migration to the economic crisis. The discovery of the city is through a first trip, made in October 2014, to carry out the campaign of interviews on the topic of urban transformation and migration in the historic center. From preliminary observations conjunction with the survey interview takes shape an initial idea of the project is on the site of action, that the identified challenges. The market Ballarò the center of the district of the Albergheria collects many of the typical features of the city, the mix of different communities, the decay of the buildings and the lack of services; He tells stories of resistance against insecurity, in an informal way of living places and job opportunities, "..in a city that has long since tamed poverty ..". (V. Guarrasi, 2014)

Walking in the district, what is striking is the life exposed outside on the street is reflected in an important part of everyday life, but of course not everything that happens within the courtyards is exposed, although the process of privatization and commercialization of squares, streets and alleys represent a peculiarity of the place. From these practices on the use of space, created the first design suggestions, for which you choose to place the street level to the center of the process of transformation of the area between the market Ballarò and the Church of San Xavier. The pedestrian level becomes a new stratification, imagined as a unit surface area expands toward the edges of the site, the residual areas, ricucendone frayed edges. Based on the same principle they are thought four public buildings, that inserting in critical areas such as vacant lots or buildings gutted by bombs, redesign the front of built. Address the issue of public land in the context of the Albergheria, it brings an essential problem in the definition of the object of analysis. The second phase of the research, takes place during the campaign of interviews conducted in February 2015, as the deepening of the Albergheria neighborhood, examining the use of public space and the potential for economic development. This step was crucial to know the area and the relationships between the

actors, as their approach to social problems and the types of interventions. Across on the physical transformation of the city, the inclusion of places for the community, in an environment characterized by the appropriation of the individual open space, it is a vain and ineffective intervention without the involvement of institutions and social actors in the area . For this reason, for the purpose of research, it was thought a process of involvement of neighborhood associations on the example of the Treaty of Cooperation of the Municipality of Bologna; assuming the feasibility in terms of the involvement of these stakeholders in the development first, then in the management of places designed.





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