



POLITECNICO
DI TORINO

Honors thesis

Master of Science in
ARCHITECTURE CONSTRUCTION CITY

Abstract

**Deconstruction.
Design for the dismantling**

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by

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Deconstruction is a research that aims to analyze a methodology that deals with the project of dismantling in relation to the building process. With a critical perspective on existing buildings it tries to figure out what kind of building elements and components could be reclaimed before these being considered as waste. Starting from the identification of two different design criteria, the work is developed on a dual track: on the one hand the dismantling process description of Save the Children's Pavilion at EXPO 2015 (Milan), in which the removal process is planned from the early stages of the building process, on the other hand the hypothesis of dismantling a building of the national architectural heritage intended for demolition, the Offices House of the company Gondrand (Turin), where the demolition/selective deconstruction project is not taken into account.

From an analysis and cataloguing of traceable strategies in different geographical contexts, related to the theme of re-use of construction products and elements, that we called *Atlante delle Possibilità*, we have tried to describe a theoretical generalizing model of action to support the dismantling: *Matrice delle Decostrazioni*. Comparing the matrix with the two case studies mentioned above allowed us to test the theoretical model. The critical analysis of process diagrams was based on the study of the differences and similarities between the actions expressed in the theoretical model and those activated in the two case studies.

The purposes of the thesis can be articulated on different levels. On the one hand describing the diagram of the building process, with particular attention to the stages of dismantling, and to represent its diachronic changes in relation with *Decostrazioni* used to support the dismantling process. The latter can be modified as compared to the conditions originally mapped. On the other hand, considering *Decostrazioni* as operational tools means defining guidelines for the design of this practice. It means readjusting technical tools to new design requirements, so that actions that already take place informally can become widespread and be shared. These actions have a different spatial definition: those defined as *Decostrazioni locali* are carried out in relation to the specific building; the other, named as *Decostrazioni territoriali*, have an effect on a wider context.

Limiting the field of research to technical issues related to the project of dismantling meant to exclude, temporarily, social and economic aspects which currently constrain the spread of this practice.

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