



POLITECNICO
DI TORINO

Honors thesis

Master degree in Architecture for the sustainable project

Abstract

PARALLEL TERRITORIES

Venice and the minor islands of the Venetian lagoon.
Transformation scenarios for Poveglia.

Tutor

Angelo Sampieri

by

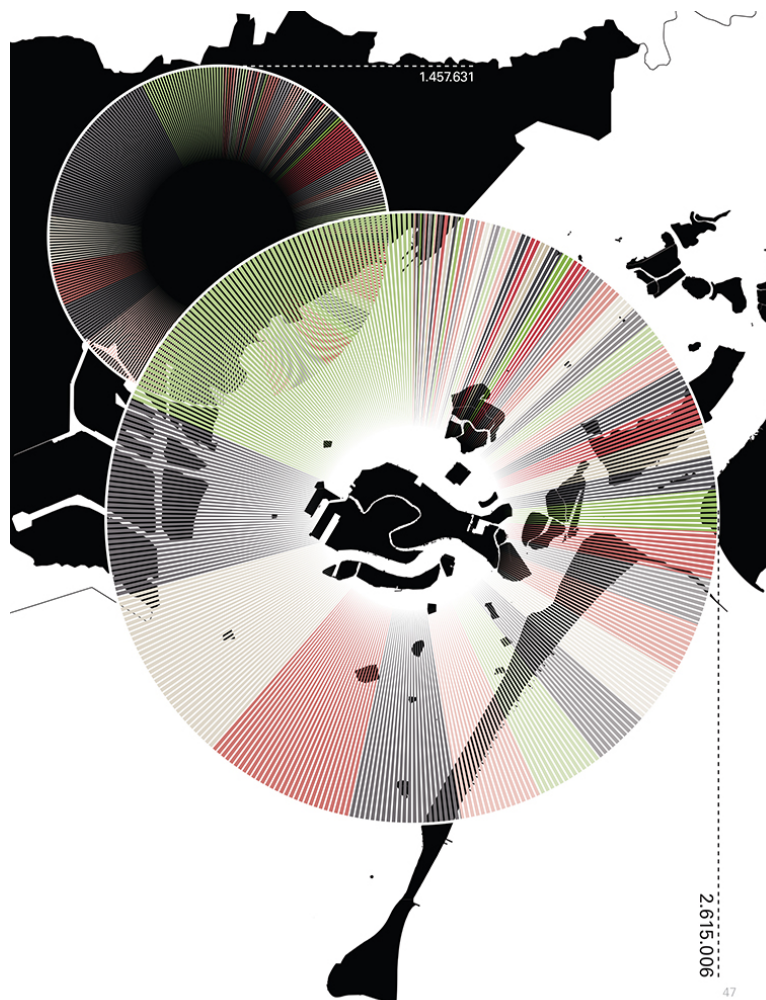
Giovanni Eberle

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In this thesis, Parallel Territories is a concept that define the minor island of the Venetian lagoon that are in close relation with the city of Venice. Parallel Territories are places with a continuous evolution that spread in several directions but develop without crossing path with each other.

In fact, the minor islands do not gravitate around the historic city centre of Venice or live as subordinate areas but they follow a parallel and independent development. These islands are far from the city centre, both in physical, functional and symbolical meaning and in most cases follow independent evolutions. Most of them have a high historical, architectural and environmental value and are very impressed in the memories of the citizen of the entire Venetian lagoon. They are places that seemed to have a doomed destiny of abandon and decadence but in reality they are symbolical fortresses that try to fight the growing aggressiveness of tourist economy, places in which venetians try to find a lost but deeply rooted connection with their territory.

Recently one of the most important symbol of this fight was Poveglia Island. The last part of this study try to properly focus on this place, trying to analyse and represent the different scenarios that layered into this territory.



Touristic arrivals in Venice divided by nationality and staying place

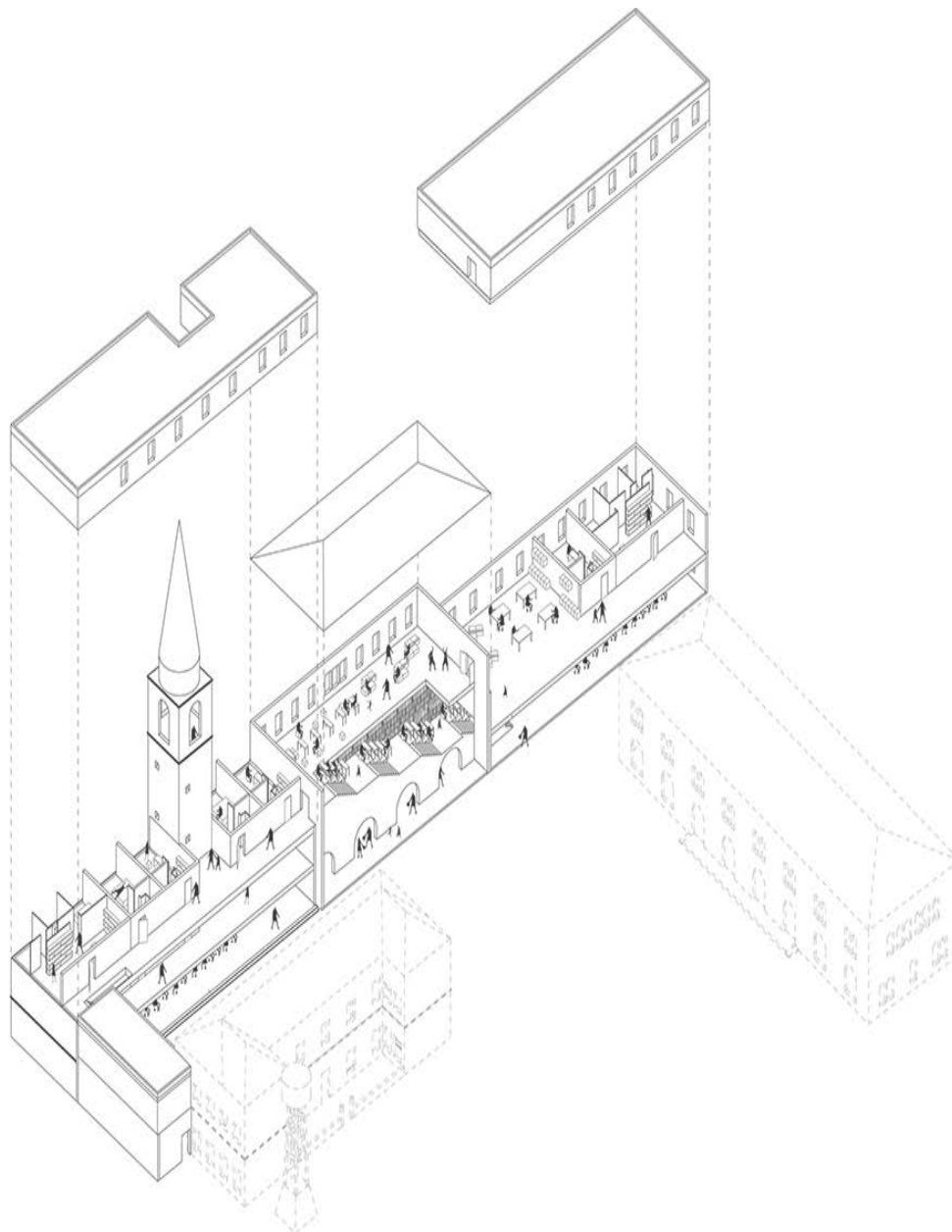
After the first part of study of the Venetian territory the next step was to compose a detailed photography of Poveglia, analysing both physical and environmental elements. Paths, borders and buildings were finely analysed as long as the natural environment that has developed in the island, all to have a detailed picture of the area. The analysis did not stop only in the physical level but continued screening also the social net that Venetian citizen have built and continue to build around this island. From the island abandon to his transformation into a symbol of the Commons, passing through all the competitions and projects that were developed for it.

Moreover, the research was completed by creating a dialogue with the association and the people that are trying to redefine an identity for the island and fighting for its reinclusion into the Venetian economy.



Graphic output of the physical survey of Poveglia

The synthesis of all this information is a critique analysis of all the projects that layered on this island and the destiny that this territory can have, finally proposing different scenarios for the future development of Poveglia while reflecting on the meaning of Commons, on how an extreme symbolisation of a territory can have a strong impact on its development and on the role that architecture can have with this spaces.



Possible internal distribution of one of the buildings in one of the proposed scenarios

For further information please contact:
Giovanni Eberle, e.giovanni92@yahoo.it