

POLITECNICO DI TORINO  
SECOND SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE  
Master of Science in Architecture  
*Honors theses*

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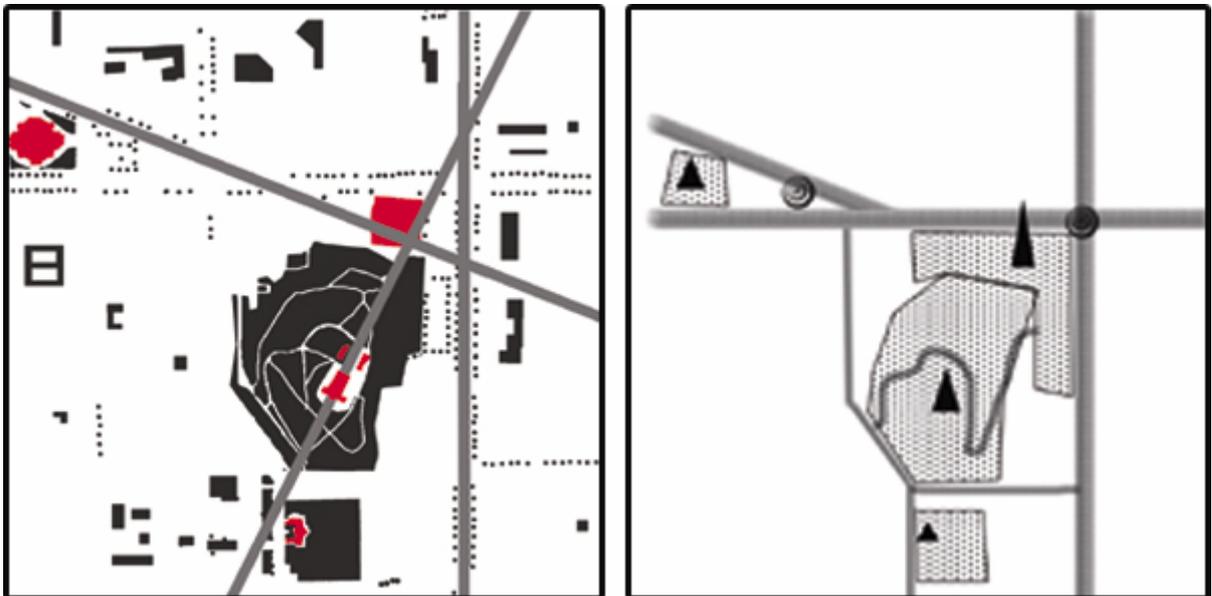
**The amplification of the public library in Stockholm**

by Chiara Caramassi and Riccardo Pellegrino

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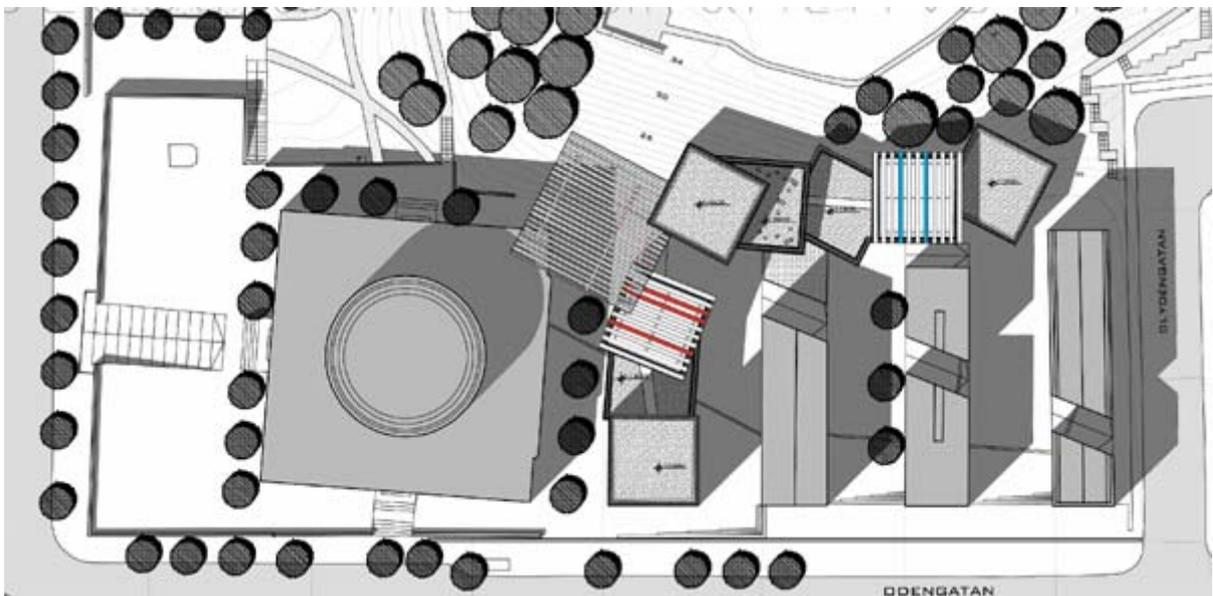
For our project, we started from Paola Viganò and Kevin Lynch's work. In this way we got a series of elementary schemes whose superimposition and interpenetration let us individualize the formal disposition of the component elements.



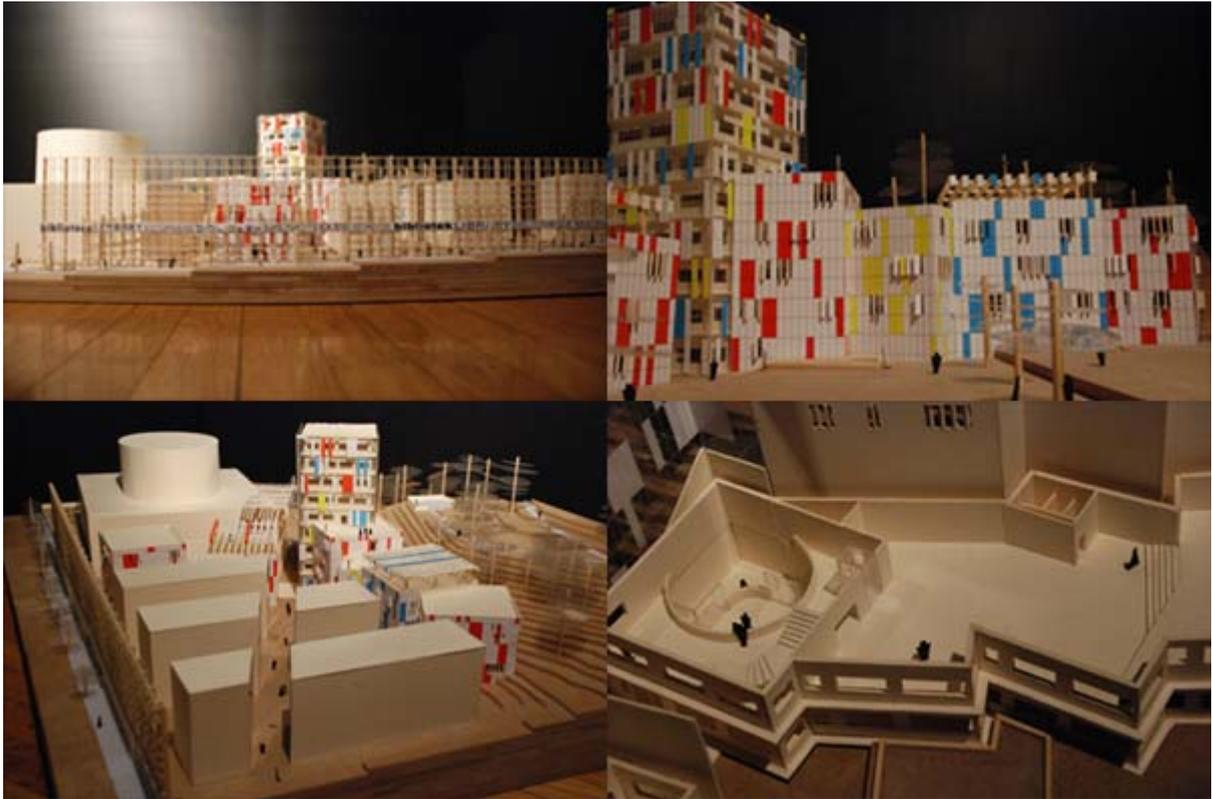
By aligning and reassembling the different elements (grid, street network, orientation, main axes and green areas) rise the fourth *annex*, the side-street aimed at defining in a better way and at completing the space concerning the library, and the wing as to complete the road front. The passing "cut" crossing the project derives directly from the prolongation of Odengatan road axis, remarkable and distinctive element of the area, and it flows into the park next to Asplund library, factor with high potentiality but so far not exploited properly.

The reference-point of the whole project is the verticality of the element dislocated in the point of junction of the two new bodies identified before, which on the plant seems to be the direct descendant of the pre-existing library.

Observing Stockholm skyline we noticed the presence of several cases where outstanding elements can be recognised from different parts of the city (from the townhall to the mall NK and some churches). So, it became obvious to consider such an element part of our project; as a matter of fact, the tower, around forty metres high, overlooks the other buildings trying to contrast its presence against the near tower for offices. The planimetry shows how the morphology of Asplund library is emphasized by the presence of a circular element inscribed in the perimeter, sometimes marked by a simple sign on the floor, sometimes outlined by a transparent tamponage which creates an area where to consult the library material or to get new classrooms.



In order to complete and to fix the boundaries of the space concerning the library, we decided to place a wing, a kind of semi-transparent grid which reminds of the modularity of Asplund library's facing. The wing is aimed at giving the road front uniformity, at present very fragmentary, and at creating a sort of metaphoric case preserving the different architecture of the different historical periods, a sort of exhibition of architecture evolving throughout time. The building where you can see the word "library" in different languages, can contain panels (of different size) aimed at sponsoring permanent or temporary events organized by the library.



The facing is anchored to the external walling of the building, and it is made up of a series of posts and cross-bars on which are fixed some colourful dull panels that, when necessary, can be opened from inside thanks to a simple electronic device which enables to control them individually. Beside granting the control of natural light by screening sun rays or by allowing their entrance on demand, this device allows you to perceive from outside a facing which is never similar to itself: an effect giving a great total dynamism. We used a green roof able to grant high insulation and thermal capacity; it retains exceeding water, in case of hard rain, and it prevents water from being conveyed directly into drainage systems, in order to avoid a dangerous overload. Thermophysical properties are influenced by external climate conditions which vary the content of water into the ground, although there have been benefits concerning winter heating and summer air-conditioning.

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