

5th ISUFitaly International Conference
Rome, 19-22 February 2020

PROCEEDINGS

edited by
G. Strappa, P. Carlotti, M. Ieva
with the collaboration of
F. D. De Rosa, A. Pusceddu



URBAN SUBSTRATA & CITY REGENERATION

Morphological legacies and design tools

ISUFitaly
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ISUFitaly

International Seminar on Urban Form
Italian Network
<http://www.isufitaly.com/>

Contacts

Phone: +0668878832

Fax: +0668878832

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Giuseppe Strappa, Paolo Carloti, Matteo Ieva
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Francesca Delia De Rosa, Alessandra Pusceddu



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Presentation

URBAN SUBSTRATA & CITY REGENERATION **Morphological legacies and design tools**

The fifth Isufitaly Conference will focus on the notion of the substratum in its various aspects.

First, the typological one, as a set of rules inherited from the built landscape that allow reading and conscious transformation. We cannot reduce, of course, the complexity and richness of our ancient heritage to universal interpretational patterns that classify types and processes in a kind of taxonomy of the Ancient (that is true for any built environment). Instead, the identification of a few common criteria that allow us to interpret these phenomena through an architect's eyes, tracing the many outcomes back to the general rationales that produce them, can prove useful to morphological studies.

Then, the physical shape of the historical layer, which in many ancient cities has determined the structure of the current settlements. Substratum is, from this point of view, the part beneath the current built landscape that has no longer a function but still contribute to the form of new fabric. It is the prolific layer that gives rise to multiple organisms. We could then consider a 'substratum' as the composition of elements that once belonged to a built fabric or architectural organism. 'Substratum' despite having lost both their relationship of necessity that bound them together (their purpose and original organicity), and the continuity between the different phases of change and development, still transfer specific characters to the buildings originated by them.

Finally, the intangible aspect, the heritage of projects, experiences, and researches that constitute the working legacy on which current study can be based.

The notion of substratum could be, therefore, more than a specific issue, a way of seeing the built reality useful to the contemporary project.

The term not only includes the ideas of rooting and transmission; it also refers to the means, the tools we can use to reach the essence of the form, of its universal being. This universality, a quality that the actual building did not possess, constitutes a fertile abstraction: a reading as well as a project, how we give a new unity to the multiple and scattered forms of the remains we have inherited.

Furthermore, another theme, which is complementary to the substrata one, is that of urban regeneration. It is a topic extensively investigated by urban research which, in this context, could be reconsidered differently and innovatively.

In continuity with the previous Isufitaly meetings, the theme of the conference proposes a debate on the topics of the urban form transformation at different scales, in the light of our cultural heritage understood as a design tool.

The conference will take place at Palazzo Mattei di Giove, built on the ancient remains of the Teatrum Balbi, in one of the Rome areas where the relationship between the present city and the ancient substratum is more evident, even in its contradictions (the Porticus Octaviae, the Teatrum Marcelli, the archaeological area of Largo Argentina).

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INTRODUCTION TO THE CONFERENCE

Giuseppe Strappa

"Sapienza" University of Rome
President of the Isufitaly Scientific Society
gstrappa@yahoo.com

Thanks to the Sapienza University Vice Rector for his inspiring presentation of our Conference and thank to the Director of the Center for American Studies for hosting Isufitaly 2020 Conference in this magnificent venue.

Palazzo Mattei di Giove is an ideal place for our meeting devoted, as it has become tradition for our debates, to the transformation of the existing city.

This site is a perfect interpretation of the title of our Conference, a true explanation of the notions *Substrata* and *Regeneration*.

All this huge block, the so called *Insula Mattei*, was built on the site of the former *Teatrum Balbi*, not demolishing it, but transforming the ancient remains. It is a real text of *Urban Morphology*.

Today it is impossible to recognize the shape of the theatre, but if we take a look to the ground floor map of the block, we can realize that the theatre reappear buried in the basement structure as an underlying layer. It give form to the geometry of the new fabrics, even giving them their architectural character. Not by chance all this block, based on the consumption of an organic structure, is composed by special building, mostly palazzos, while the one just in front of it, based on the consumption of the serial structure of the *Crypta*, gave rise to base building composed mostly by merchant row houses. All the ancient structures are also a morphological lesson about the notion of a regeneration process. The whole area is an almost didactic evidence of the transformation phases of nature into architecture, where nature is however, we could say, artificial, made up of ancient remains.

Using Muratorian categories, the passage from matter to material is testified, a few meters from here, by the presence of a *calcara*, a furnace intended to produce lime using the remains of ancient columns, floors, architraves. The reuse of entire structures or of whole organism, such as the Marcellus theatre transformed by Peruzzi in Palazzo Orsini, is also evident.

It is obvious that the ruins have always had a great fascination for architects. Also a risky fascination, in my opinion, as ruins (from the latin *ruere*) means something fallen down, dead.

I believe that it is much more useful for us, as *Urban Morphology* scholars and architects, the notion of *substratum* (from the Latin *sub sternere*), the still vital layer on which new organisms originate.

Substratum is the part lying below the present built landscape that no longer has any practical purpose but can still contribute to the life of the new fabric, creating up to date building types. It is the distant and fertile foundation that gives rise to modern organisms.

The question was raised by Saverio Muratori who enumerated the criteria to be used when examining the cultural characters that make up the built environment (rational-cultural, economic-technical, ethical-political, aesthetic-historic), identifying four different ages of change in the Rome urban organism, of which no less than two (Royal – Republican and Imperial) concern the development of the ancient city. Muratori was particularly referring to Rome, though it is well known that he believed that the method he proposed was generally valid (and studies concerning existing city *substrata* outside Europe, for that matter, have shown how an analysis of the historic layers proves to be an important resource even in areas culturally very different).

In the same years Gianfranco Caniggia used his influential study on the city of Como to build up a method of interpreting the change from a *domus substrata* to a modern

residential organism using type-based phases: 'tabernisation', infilling, development from single-family to multiple-family house. In the same years that

But the notion of substratum also includes a second, immaterial aspect: the legacy of ideas, design, research which constitute the deep layer to contemporary action. For this reason we decided to organize our meeting with an opening plenary session devoted to the first aspect: to the concrete, solid, historical and archaeological substrata.

It will be dedicated to the relation between the work of the architect and the one of the archaeologists. A problematic relationship, which in my opinion has recently produced some good results, but also several disasters.

From the architect's point of view, I must admit that often the archaeological area (and more generally the historical intervention site) is considered the backdrop for refined objects that testify the creativity of the author. The culture of the architect-archaeologist, which for a long time has oriented the interventions congruently with the needs of the excavations and of the urban spaces, has been unfortunately lost.

For a true interdisciplinary collaboration there are considerable problems, however, also for archaeologists, who often seems to tend, today, to consider the archaeological excavation site as a laboratory. On the contrary excavation is architecture, transform the urban space. I would say clearly that the results of the recent excavations of the Imperial Forums, for example, as they are displayed today, are an extraneous and incomprehensible part of the city.

The closing plenary sessions will be devoted to the second aspect: to the immaterial substrata, namely our tradition of studies and designs. The sessions will be dedicated to the "memory of the masters", on the occasion of the missing of two eminent urban morphology scholars

Tradition is also a project. it is not inherited passively; it is rather a choice. Also, master is not just the author of seminal studies: he is as well a figure in which a scientific community recognize common ideals and aspirations.

And in this sense, remembering together Gian Luigi Maffei and Antonio Monestiroli has a profound meaning for those who know the stories of long divisions of the Italian morphological schools.

Thank you for your attention and have a successful conference.

The urban redevelopment project of San Lorenzo District in Rome

Rosalba Belibani

Sapienza University of Rome, DiAP - Department of Architecture and Design, Rome

Keywords: *urban design, redevelopment, architecture, regeneration*

Abstract

The district of San Lorenzo in Rome, so called because of its proximity to the basilica of the same name, has a historical fabric and particular morphological and environmental characteristics. Built on farmland belonging to the bourgeoisie at the end of the 1800s, it attracted migrants who saw a certainty of work in the thriving construction sector. This created the need to build cheap high-density dwellings for the working class, craftsmen and the people, taking advantage of the absence, until 1887, of a city building regulation and therefore, building without any planning.

In 1909 the Sanjust Plan provides for the completion but does not heal the degraded building fabric. During the Great War the war industry implemented the development of urban transport by rail and the urbanization of the land of Casal Bruciato transformed San Lorenzo from a suburban border into a transition area between the intramural city and the periphery. In 1962 the Master Plan provides for the construction of the East Tangenziale and excludes it from investments. Today the social and structural conditions, the high building density with reduced road sections, the organic lack of greenery and services require a reorganization process.

The Urban Project of the municipality of 2006 identifies areas of valorisation, limited by building permeability and inhomogeneity. The Aurelian Walls, the Verano cemetery, the University City and the Rome Termini railway are strengths in the regeneration of the neighborhood that provides a connection to the areas of valorisation. The areas of intervention are: C10 - via de Lollis; C11 - Verano; D - bombed buildings; B7 - borghetto dei Lucani; C4 - Atac deposit.

Introduction

The district of San Lorenzo in Rome, so called because of its proximity to the basilica of the same name, has a historical fabric and particular morphological and environmental characteristics.

In 1909 the Sanjust Plan provides for the completion but does not heal the degraded building fabric. During the Great War the war industry implemented the development of urban transport by rail and the urbanization of the land of Casal Bruciato transformed San Lorenzo from a suburban border into a transition area between the intramural city and the periphery. In 1962 the Master Plan provides for the construction of the East Tangenziale and excludes it from investments. Today the social and structural conditions, the high building density with reduced road sections, the organic lack of greenery and services require a reorganization process.

Through an historical and a morpho-typological approach, this paper highlights strengths and weaknesses of the Roman district. The primary objective of the redevelopment is the drafting of a unitary structure that does not alter the characteristics of the neighborhood but instead identifies the potential to reconvert unresolved areas with an urban design that welcomes new functions and relocates the existing activities in appropriate structures.

The projects we present are the result of an overall analysis of the neighborhood, which started with the study of the San Lorenzo redevelopment plan, launched by the Capitoline Admin in 2006.

Historical Evolution

Late 19th century

Prior to 1870, the area where the community of San Lorenzo was built, so named for its proximity to the basilica of the same name - located outside the Aurelian Walls - consisted mainly of land cultivated with vineyards and orchards, with some important pre-existences from Roman times.

An evolution of the neighborhood took place between 1884 and 1888 following the unification of the Kingdom of Italy, with a great building fever and without any social and hygienic criteria to guide the construction of new buildings. The first settlements were by immigrants and the working class, attracted to the area by the demand for artisanal labor due to the presence of the monumental cemetery of Verano (1859-1878), and by the imminent construction of the Rome-Tivoli railway (1879). The new residents, artisan workers, marble workers, glaziers and blacksmiths, confirm their vocation as a popular neighborhood.

At the basis of the construction of San Lorenzo, which took place without any planning, there was therefore the need to build popular housing at low prices for workers and artisans, taking advantage of the absence, until 1887, of a city building regulation.

The construction of the neighborhood took place at a time when no social and hygienic criteria drove the new buildings. The sewage network was built later; building lots were built with poor high-density housing materials (balcony houses), where a large population was continuously exposed to the risk of contracting serious epidemics.

Towards the new millennium the consolidation of the neighborhood becomes definitive.

At the beginning of the twentieth century San Lorenzo was a compact workers' nucleus. The Rome Brewery was built in 1902 and the Pastificio Cerere in 1905, elements that contributed to strengthening the social characterization.

The Church developed a robust welfare network, an oratory in via dei Campani and the Church of the Immaculate Conception, with the specific purpose of becoming a place for people to aggregate.

In 1907 Maria Montessori chose San Lorenzo to open the first Children's House and intervene in favor of the poorest.

In 1909 the neighborhood became part of the Sanjust plan, which did not reorganize the chaos of the city, but only provided for its completion.

Meanwhile, the Roman Institute for stable assets intervenes with a partial redevelopment of the living spaces, summarized in a report published in 1910, building bathrooms and kitchens where more families shared a single room.

The Great War

Sections of the popular, republican and socialist party are born in the neighborhood. The socialist section of Via dei Sardi, founded in 1914, is particularly active and carried out initiatives aimed above all at the socio-cultural development of San Lorenzo.

The Great War caused a deterioration in living standards, increasing the cost of food and the basic necessities. The call to arms of men accelerated the use of women in crafts and transport.

The war industry implemented the freight yard activity and the development of urban rail transport. The urbanization of the land of Casal Bruciato and Portonaccio transformed San Lorenzo from a suburban border into a transition area between the intramural city and the peripheral expansion.

The State Railways carried out the main residential construction works in the area north of via Tiburtina; building, between 1920 and 1925, a complex of economic houses for railway workers near Piazza dei Siculi.

The early 1920s were characterized by reactions to the early acts of fascist squads and San Lorenzo was definitively configured as a proletarian district with a socialist political orientation. The first movements of people (communists, socialists, anarchists) opposing the fascist regime spontaneously arose in 1922 with episodes of reaction and resistance to the penetration of the fascists in the neighborhood.

At the beginning of the 1930s, marked by an increase in housing costs, a reduction in wages and unemployment, the living conditions of the lower classes severely deteriorated.

On the other hand, there is an enrichment of the urban-architectural face and large artisans become small industries. The fascists entered San Lorenzo only in 1942, with the march on Rome.

The bombing of the neighborhood

On July 19, 1943, Rome was attacked by US bombers and San Lorenzo was the hardest hit neighborhood, almost completely razed to the ground. The Piazzale del Verano and the adjacent Piazzale San Lorenzo were destroyed, thus strengthening the separation of the district from the rest of the city.

The greatest devastations are concentrated in the triangle formed by Piazzale Sisto V, Piazzale San Lorenzo, Piazza Porta Maggiore.

The San Lorenzo district was a place of rebellion and as the first district of Rome bombed, experienced a worsening of living conditions, just as a counterattack to its reactionary nature. The liberation of 1944 highlights on the one hand the depopulation caused by workers looking for work in other areas of Rome and on the other an overcrowded housing in areas that remained intact after the war. To date only four buildings remain to testify to this event, showing the bombing left gaps of incompleteness in the reconstruction of the buildings themselves.

On 5 June 1944 San Lorenzo was freed after months of occupation and the seats of the anti-fascist parties reopened.

There was a new wave of immigration with families from southern Italy looking for work on the State Railways. The reconstruction of the district, however, proceeds slowly and many moved to other neighborhoods or return to their countries of origin.

The sewage networks were that of the early twentieth century, 50% of homes were in poor condition and production activities decrease by 30%, as many factories are transferred. The damage from the bombing of 1943 added to the already unresolved levels of crowding of houses and the need to renovate and redevelop the neighborhood from an urban point of view.

The expansion of the "La Sapienza University of Rome" led to the acquisition of several buildings located in the neighborhood and the increase in the presence of off-site stu-

dents. These phenomena implied an increase in rents and the removal of housing for the inhabitants of the area.

From the second half of the 1900s to Today

In the 1962 Regulatory Plan, San Lorenzo is basically excluded from the consolidation and investment processes up to the Multiannual Plan which defines the neighborhood as a 'recovery area'.

The construction of the buildings of Child Neuropsychiatry in Via dei Reti and of a new vehicular hub the Tangenziale Est, a double rapid sliding system that runs through the neighborhood, is planned, but no restoration or enhancement plan until 1979. With this plan the Municipality of Rome undertakes to maintain the residential and productive-artisan connotation of the neighborhood.

The Tangenziale Est, now partly demolished, becomes a landmark, an element of recognition of the neighborhood. Starting from the 1980s, there is a trend towards artistic experimentation, which is still evident today with the regeneration of spaces used for cultural environments such as ex Vetriere Sciarra, ex Pastificio Cerere and ex Cinema Palazzo.

The markedly artisan and proletarian connotation of the neighborhood becomes inspiration for artistic experimentation. The neighborhood is a hotbed of social cooperatives, welfare, voluntary and professional initiatives, which arise from the intent of the population to get involved in common and shared projects.

The tertiary sector becomes a fundamental sector in the neighborhood economy and the number of workers employed in the nearby Policlinico Umberto I, in public transport services and especially in the "La Sapienza" University of Rome, is more substantial.

The influences of socialist realities, artistic experimentation and the influence of the university world are tangible. From an architectural point of view, the consequences of the bombings that destroyed the neighborhood are still evident. Industrial architecture is being redeveloped and destined for new uses and in favor of new university locations: the former Cerere pasta factory transformed into a center of contemporary art, the Sciarra glassworks, the former postal sorting center and the Wuhrer brewery sold to Sapienza.

San Lorenzo becomes a place of a culture that marries the ideals of freedom and brotherhood, shared and present in the community.

Analysis

Morphological Analysis

Following the historical analysis, it is necessary to understand the position of the San Lorenzo district, bounded by strong borders and pressures such as the University City, which almost causes a compression towards the inhabited area, the railroad which creates a clear insurmountable barrier, and the Verano cemetery that defines a very vast and historically border.

The neighborhood is surrounded by large service areas affecting the city and the territory: Termini Station, the Freight Terminal, the General Hospital, the National Library, the CNR, the Sapienza University of Rome and the Verano.

The duality of the elevated ring road, now partly demolished, which serves as a link between the residential areas to the east and south east of Rome, is evident, but at the same time separates and isolates the neighborhood itself.

San Lorenzo is a central district, close to the traditional historic center, with hinge functions between the paths of Viale della Regina and Porta Maggiore.

Given these conditions, it can be seen that there have been three types of transformations taking place which have resulted in the expulsion of the popular classes of residents to peripheral areas, thus altering the social fabric.

The first transformation derives from the constant pressure of the large real estate companies that proceed with a tendency to concentrate properties, moving the tenant away by imposing different forms of payment. These companies carry out minor conservative restorations.

The second type of transformation concerns a possible process of private outsourcing,

which has not occurred over time as a determining factor.

The third type of transformation is consequent to the contiguous presence of the Sapienza, University of Rome, which is characterized in two aspects:

- the residence of off-site students allows on the one hand an increase in the low income of the owners, preventing a process of outsourcing, on the other increases the cost of rents per apartment;
- the progressive purchase of areas and building structures removed from the use of the neighborhood.

The service system is composed of functions related to transport, such as marginal industrial centers, small places of worship and various structures used for teaching or belonging to the Sapienza University.

The residential fabric system is characterized by complexes in line having a court or balcony to villas with front property.

The industrial centers are instead characterized by settlement rules out of context, isolated twentieth century buildings and post unitary buildings.

The infrastructure system is characterized by the presence of the railway, which connects Termini Station with the rest of the city and the country, and the neighboring metropolitan lines of the Policlinico, San Giovanni, Pigneto and Lodi which further determine their potential.

The road system includes the Eastern ring road, primary roads such as Via Tiburtina, Cesare de Lollis, Piazzale del Verano and Piazza di Porta Maggiore, and secondary roads.

Typological Analysis

The urban fabric is mainly composed of a building fabric (residential and services) and a consistent industrial fabric.

The differences are evident with the neighborhoods built in the same period in other parts of Rome. While the road network and building lots are similar, the differentiations concern:

- the dimensions of the neighborhood plan, which configures a high building density with reduced road sections;
- the organic shortage of greenery and services;
- the lack of urban decoration elements.

The environmental system is lacking in both private and public greenery.

With regard to housing, the comparative analysis of plants among building blocks discovers all the typological differences, which can be summarized as:

- greater covered area of the lot, with reduction of the role of the courtyard to a simple air well;
- cut of the apartments reduced to a minimum with prevalent typology of two rooms without services;
- reduced number of stairs which in an extreme case reach a staircase for thirty apartments on each floor.

This reveals the great contradiction of the city of the 19th century, which hides social differences and the differentiated use of the city behind the facades, while offering apparent starting conditions that are the same for everyone, given by the uniform texture of the layout and the facade configurations.

The typological characteristics of the residences, whether public or private, reflect the more or less clear conscience of the builders and designers of the role of the neighborhood and its social destination: the popular character of the houses has led to an adaptation to the minimum cultural and technical levels of some models of the bourgeois block on the one hand and the "on-line" layout of public housing on the other.

Three typological structures can therefore be identified in San Lorenzo:

- the bourgeois block type, which derives from those built in the neighborhoods for the middle-upper classes;
- the online type, prevalent in economic or cooperative public building;
- the balcony type, chosen for the working classes and artisans.

Experimental Design

Today San Lorenzo is surrounded by important and protagonist centralities such as Vera-

no, the University City, the Roma Termini railway line, the Aurelian Walls and Porta Maggiore that isolate the neighborhood, make the relationship with the immediate surrounding difficult and compressed on the edges.

With the Rome Municipal Urban Project in 2006, areas of enhancement have been identified, highly limited from the point of view of permeability, building inhomogeneity, equipped areas and urban green areas. Historical elements such as the Aurelian Walls and the Verano cemetery are strengths in the regeneration of the neighborhood which provides for an overall connection of all areas, in particular the areas of enhancement.

The areas of enhancement for the Urban Project as defined by the Capitoline Admin are four. Those having the letter B are i.e. "fabrics, buildings and open spaces, characterized by inconsistencies and imbalances of a morphological and functional type ...", where we find the area B7, which includes the Scalo San Lorenzo, via dei Lucani and via di Porta Labicana, and those with the letter C or "brownfields and mainly non-residential settlements".

They are part of this the area C4, which affects the Scalo San Lorenzo, the Tangenziale Est and Porta Maggiore; the Area C10 with via Tiburtina and via Cesare de Lollis; the C11 area with the Verano square and Largo Passamonti.

The strategies defined in the urban project intervention sub-areas therefore envisage new elements of reconnection with the neighboring neighborhoods starting from the insertion of a cycle circuit along the vehicular roads, to allow movement with gentle mobility, which is also foreseen in the raised green corridor which will become the new East Ring Road.

Furthermore, also close to the Aurelian walls, a redefinition of the space pertaining to the historical monument is expected, by inserting a new linear park.

In the general project masterplan there are five areas of intervention on which the project focuses:

- Area C10 (via de Lollis): it lies between the university city and the neighborhood and stands as an urban barrier in a state of severe degradation. Inside there are heterogeneous activities that have led to a blockage of the lot that is difficult to cross.

- Area C11 (Verano): the first sub-areas C11a concerns the Piazzale del Verano and is currently configured as a driveway and parking area. The built part is uneven due to the presence of sheds that prevent connection with the context. The second sub-area C11b focuses on Largo Passamonti, an open space occupied by ring road junctions and local roads; part of the area is occupied by parking.

- Area D (bombed buildings): empty space characterized by the presence of buildings that were bombed during the war and never recovered. The mesh is regular with courtyard houses and balcony, of architectural and historical importance.

- Area B7 (Borghetto dei Lucani): large urban void currently occupied by disused industrial and artisan warehouses. The elevation of a single floor contributes to the perception of urban emptiness despite the occupation of the land. Hence the need for redevelopment with reference to the resources of the Aurelian Walls and the artifact of Largo Talamo.

- Area C4 (Atac depot): area characterized by road and infrastructure junctions and separation elements. The beam of the tracks towards Termini station and the railway areas towards Tiburtina station, connected by the elevated, are the cause of atmospheric, acoustic and visual pollution. The Aurelian Walls and the aqueduct represent important references for the redevelopment.

For the design objectives of the individual areas see, in C10, a new swimming complex, in C11 the redevelopment of the Piazzale del Verano, in the out-of-scope sphere, attention goes to the recovery of bombed buildings, to complete the urban voids. In the area b7, the reconfiguration of the Borghetto dei Lucani is expected, and finally in C4 the regeneration of the Atac remittance.

The studio compares the current state with the design strategies. We can note that there is a barrier that creates difficulties in crossing the lot transversely, there are differentiated activities and discontinuous fronts; the regeneration target sees the opening of the lot with a cross connection that reconnects the neighborhood; the design of a cycle

path between the neighborhood and the university; the demolition and reconstruction of the building at the head; finally, the design of a swimming complex is planned to act as a mending of the neighborhood and that will be an aggregation center for citizens.

The C11 area is characterized by open spaces mostly driveways and parking areas and by a lack of homogeneity of functions and buildings. There are compact fronts that prevent connection with the rest of the neighborhood. Moreover, the Piazzale del Verano is in a totally degraded state.

The regeneration objectives of the Piazzale del Verano provide for the arrangement of the greenery in front of the cemetery, a homogeneous demolition and reconstruction of the buildings with the maintenance of current craft activities and a new uniform system equipped with an access filter. Lastly, the reconfiguration of the road section is planned.

This is a space characterized by the voids from the bombings of '43 and the consequent non-homogeneous fronts, with disused industrial and artisan warehouses; there is a low elevation of the buildings together with a substantial occupation of the land. The presence of historical artifacts such as the walls and the large thalamus artifact are to be preserved.

The reconfiguration of the area includes green areas to be connected to the ends of the lot, together with the design of the cycle path; a redesign of the buildings that is more coherent with the context, with the new destination for offices and support functions for them. Furthermore, the emergence of Largo Talamo is expected.

The last area, where the Atac garage is located, is characterized by a complex relationship between a bundle of tracks that connects with the nearby Termini and Tiburtina Stations, which determines a separation barrier.

The design strategy involves the recovery of the Atac artefact given its historical importance, with the preservation of the peculiar characteristics of the building related to its current function; a cycle path design that can reconnect the area with the San Lorenzo district.

Conclusion

San Lorenzo District is located in a central position within the Municipality of Rome, between well-structured and consolidated neighborhoods, which thus accentuate its connotation of an isolated neighborhood, which has characterized it since the beginning of its expansion. The history of the neighborhood shows how this arises from successive settlements of labor migrants. This created the need to build cheap high-density dwellings for the working class, craftsmen and the people, taking advantage of the absence, until 1887, of a city building regulation and therefore, building without any planning.

The Urban Project of the municipality of 2006 identifies areas of valorisation, limited by building permeability and inhomogeneity. The Aurelian Walls, the Verano cemetery, the University City and the Rome Termini railway are strengths in the regeneration of the neighborhood that provides a connection to the areas of valorisation. The areas of intervention are: C10 - via de Lollis; C11 - Verano; D - bombed buildings; B7 - borghetto dei Lucani; C4 - Atac deposit.

The objectives see a recovery of buildings of historical importance thanks to a path that can connect them; a cycle path design and a reconfiguration of open spaces, together with the introduction of new functions for the community.

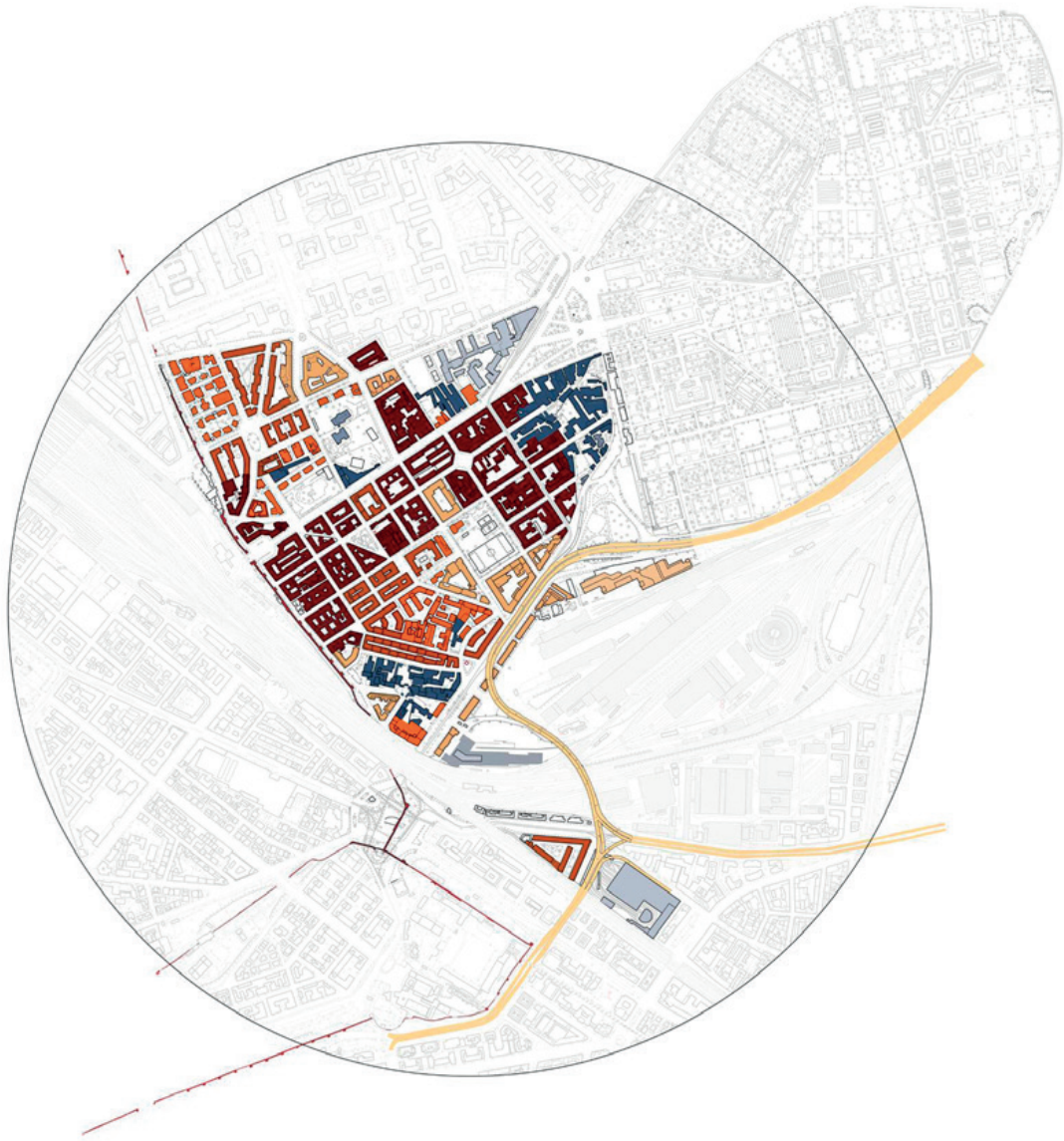


Figure 1. Residential typologies: in-line, balcony, courtyard, terraced, edited by L.Cecchetti, F. Cuppoletti, E. Dubini, F. Lucci and G. Mece.

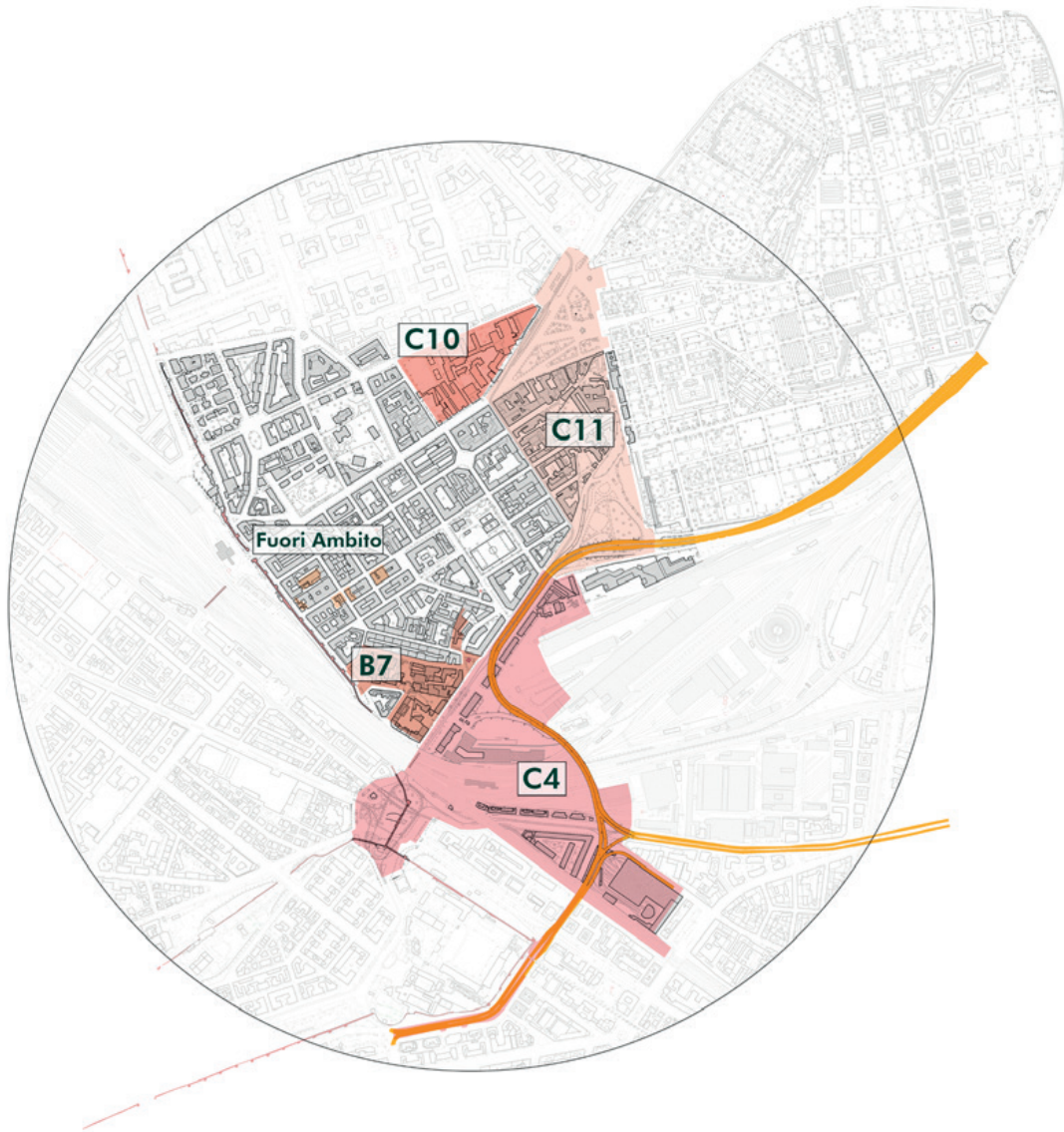


Figure 2. Areas of enhancement of the Urban Project, edited by L.Cecchetti, F. Cuppoli, E. Dubini, F. Lucci and G. Mece.



Figure 3. San Lorenzo District (orthophoto, Google Earth).



Figure 4. Masterplan, edited by L. Cecchetti, F. Cuppoletti, E. Dubini, F. Lucci and G. Mece.

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