Detroit: Reproductive City

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DETOIIT: REPRODUCTIVE CITY

A SYSTEMS MOTIVATED TEST, COUPLING INFRASTRUCTURES AND FOOD PROCESSING FOR A PRODUCTIVE CITY CORE

MARIELLE VARGAS

ADVISORS: LENA VASSILEV, JON LOTT
I dedicate this book to all the fine people that made my B+ project possible.
Thank you.
And to Crisis City.
DETROIT : REPRODUCTIVE CITY

I contend that urban environments offer the greatest potential for efficient food production, process, and transport. By linking to systems existing in a city’s ecology, such as water supply, transportation networks and waste management, all potentially wasted energy can instead, be converted to food. I propose a food production infrastructure for Detroit that will facilitate urban farming by providing water, and means of process and marketing, to residential communities. Using the spatial organization of the assembly line, the infrastructure will utilize the cities existing highway system and integrate an irrigation system, food processing, public spaces, and market spaces: ultimately bringing Detroit back to its full productive potential.
SITE STRATEGIES
LOCATING NODES, FOR PEDESTRIAN INPUT/OUTPUT OF FOOD

TRANSPORTATION GRID
MAJOR AND SECONDARY ROUTES

CURRENT CONDITION
PEDESTRIAN NODES
PERMEABILITY

LIFTED HIGHWAY
EXISTING PROGRAMS

- East Eight Mile Road
- East State Fair
- Seven Mile Road East
- East Nevada Street
- Six Mile Road
- McNichols Road East
- East Eight Mile Road
- East Michigan
- Route 8
- Interstate 94
- Holbrook Street
- Caniff Street
- Gratiot Avenue
- East Jefferson Street
- East Lafayette Street
- East Grand Boulevard
- Detroit Riverwalk

Existing programs

- Office
- Worship
- Industry
- Commerce
- Residence
- Highway area
- Recreation
- Water source
- Education
- Vacant lot
- Parking lot
- Art + music
- Casino
- Government

Detroit Transportation Department
Federal Bank Reserve
First National Bank
Fire Department
Wilkins Street
Mack Avenue
East Canfield Street
Warren Avenue East
Six Mile Road
McNichols Road East
East Jefferson Street
East Grand Boulevard
Gratiot Avenue
INTERSTATE 75
INTERSTATE 375
INTERSTATE 94
Route 8
Holbrook Street
Caniff Street
Gratiot Avenue
East Jefferson Street
East Lafayette Street
East Grand Boulevard
Detroit Riverwalk

Existing programs
ACCESS TO HIGHWAY
ENTRANCES AND EXITS, POSSIBLE NODES ON SITE
HIGHWAY + PRODUCTION
COMPARING THE COUPLED TYPOLOGIES

EXTRUDED FORM / REPETITIVE STRUCTURE

MATERIAL IN / MATERIAL OUT
HIGHWAY SYSTEM
USING THE EXISTING SYSTEM TO CREATE A PRODUCTIVE URBAN CONDITION THAT CAN PROVIDE FOR THE SURROUNDING AREAS
POTENTIAL FARMLANDS
SHOWING THE CONNECTION TO THE PROCESSING
peppers and tomatoes
lettuces

cucumbers
peas

beans, roots and tubers

grains

herbs and garlic

rice paddies

brewing

cleaning/cutting

pickling

cooking / baking
LOCAL + REGIONAL

Using multiple scales (pedestrian, car and truck) the project extends past the highway with a larger scale connection.
NODES: PEDESTRIAN ZONES

MAJOR INTERSECTIONS: PROGRAMS, HIGHWAY, WALKWAYS AND MARKETS
PROCESS SKETCHES
THE DRIVE-THRU
the factory
THE PEDESTRIAN NODE
PROCESS SKETCHES
VIEW DOWNTOWN FROM GRATIOT AVE
THE ASSEMBLY

Auxiliary Spaces for Workers

Assembly Areas

Kitchen, Shelves, Chamber, etc.

Subframe