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Detroit: Reproductive City

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DETROIT: 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.
D E T R O I T :  R E P R O D U C T I V E  C I T Y

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.
DE T R O I T ,  M I C H I G A N
C U R R E N T  S I T E  C O N D I T I O N S
SITE STRATEGIES
LOCATING NODES, FOR PEDESTRIAN INPUT/OUTPUT OF FOOD

TRANSPORTATION GRID
MAJOR AND SECONDARY ROUTES

CURRENT CONDITION
Pedestrian Nodes Permeability

Transportation Grid Major and Secondary Routes

Lifted Highway Current Condition Car Drive Through Truck Depot

Sectional Movement Zones
HIGHWAY + PRODUCTION
COMPARING THE COUPLED TYPOLOGIES

EXTRUDED FORM / REPEETITIVE 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
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
PROCESS SKETCHES
THE PEDESTRIAN NODE
THE PEDESTRIAN NODE
view downtown from Gratiot Ave
The Assembly

Auxiliary spaces for workers

Assembly areas

Kitchen, storage, change rooms, etc.

Subgrade