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.
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
- Recreation
- Water Source
- Education
- Vacant Empty Lot
- Parking Lot
- Art + Music
- Casino
- Government
- Detroit Transportation Dept
- Federal Bank Reserve
- Fire Dept
- Wilkins Street
- Mack Ave
- East Canfield Street
- Warren Ave East
- Jefferson Ave
- Athwater Street
- Detroit Riverwalk
- Holbrook Street
- Caniff Street
- Six Mile Road
- McNichols Road East
- Detroit River
- East Jefferson Street
- East Lafayette Street
- INTERSTATE 94
- INTERSTATE 75
- INTERSTATE 375
- Detroit Riverwalk
- Existing Programs
ACCESS TO HIGHWAY
ENTRANCES AND EXITS, POSSIBLE NODES ON SITE
HIGHWAY + PRODUCTION
COMPARING THE COUPLED TYPOLOGIES

EXTRUDED FORM / REPEITITIVE STRUCTURE

MATERIAL IN / MATERIAL OUT
ORGANIZATIONAL AXIS

TRANSVERSE MOVEMENT
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
garlic
beans, roots and tubers
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.

PUBLIC MOVEMENT THROUGH HIGHWAY
NODES: PEDESTRIAN ZONES

MAJOR INTERSECTIONS: PROGRAMS, HIGHWAY, WALKWAYS AND MARKETS
LONG SECTION
PROCESS SKETCHES
THE DRIVE-THRU
view downtown from Gratiot Ave
PEDESTRIAN VIEW
PLAN OF TRUCK IMPORT / EXPORT
VIEW FROM THE RIVERWALK LOOKING SOUTH