

B.E. CAMPBELL

CITY TRASFORMATION:

# CASERMA MONTELLO

MILANO

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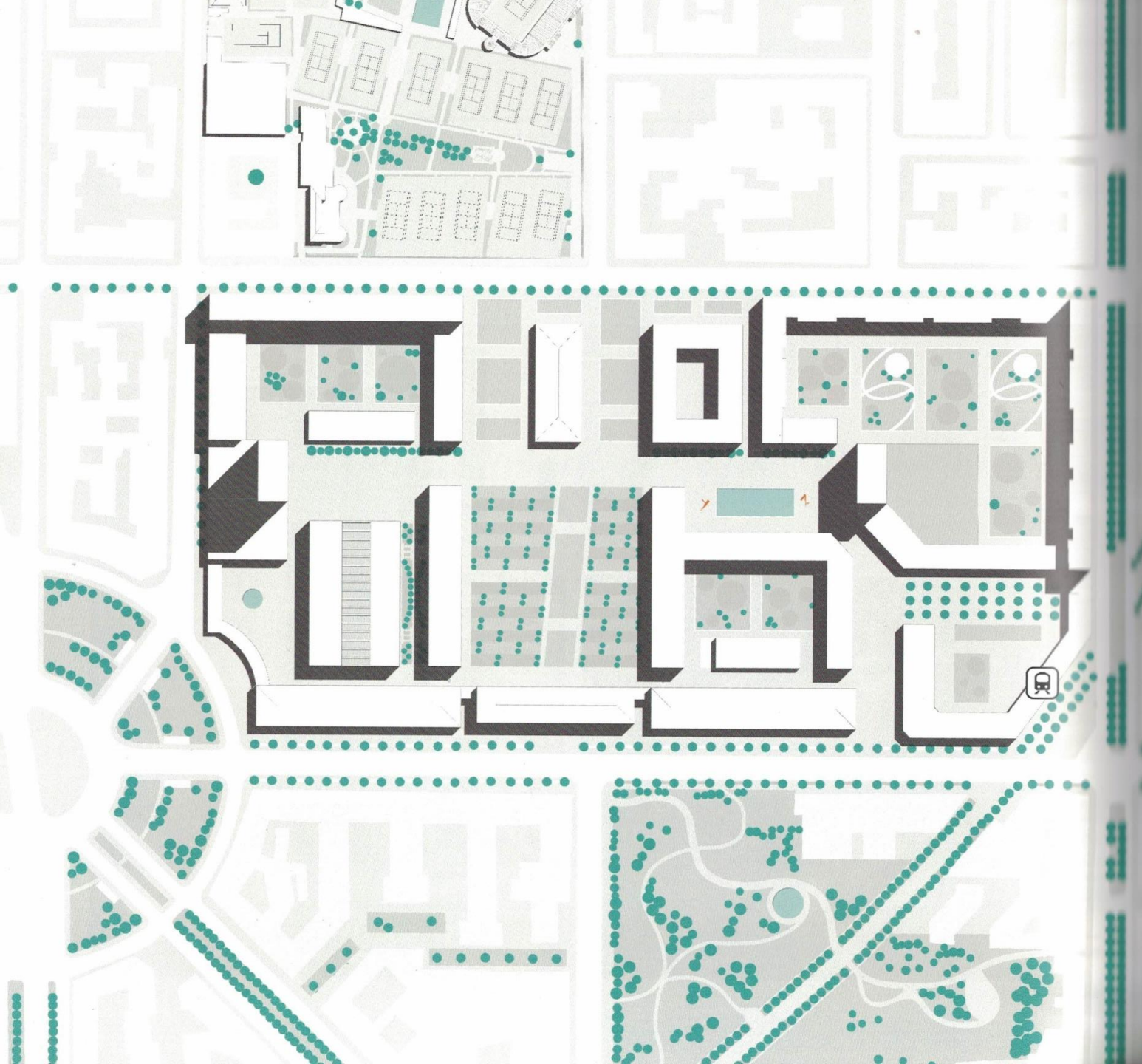
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## one for all

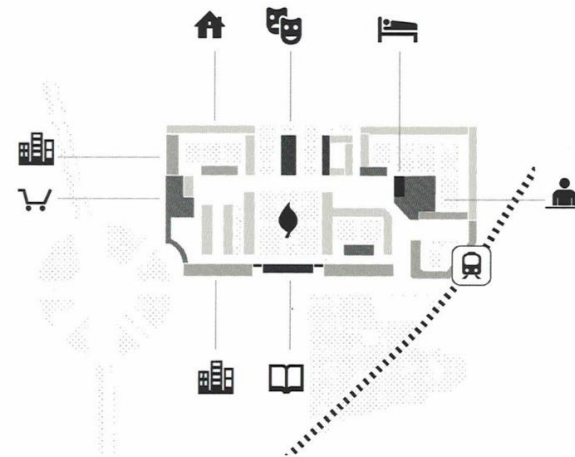
Carlo Biraghi  
Elisa Lepori

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The design proposal has three main objectives. First, to mend the urban fabric torn nowadays by the imposing Viale Monte Ceneri and Bacula overpass through a visual and functional re-qualification of the infrastructure itself. Second, to establish in the heart of the Montello precinct a place that offers both entertainment opportunities and revitalizing public life functions, for current and future residents, at the neighborhood scale. Third, to promote new relationships between diverse portions of the urban district presently divided by the TreNord railroad track with the creation, after its partial under grounding, of a linear park preconfigured as an integral part of the present day green-pedestrian system. The commercial activity aims to ensure the homogeneity of these three objectives.

*One For All* distinguishes itself for not pursuing the idea of an additional means of mass transportation in the Caserme Montello vicinity; the current accessibility program will suit the future needs of the area. Coverage is guaranteed within a radius of about one kilometer by the Garibaldi Train and Metro Station, the TreNord Railway stations of Domodossola, Bovisa, and Villapizzone, and the new 2015 Metro Line 5. A dense network of public trams and buses



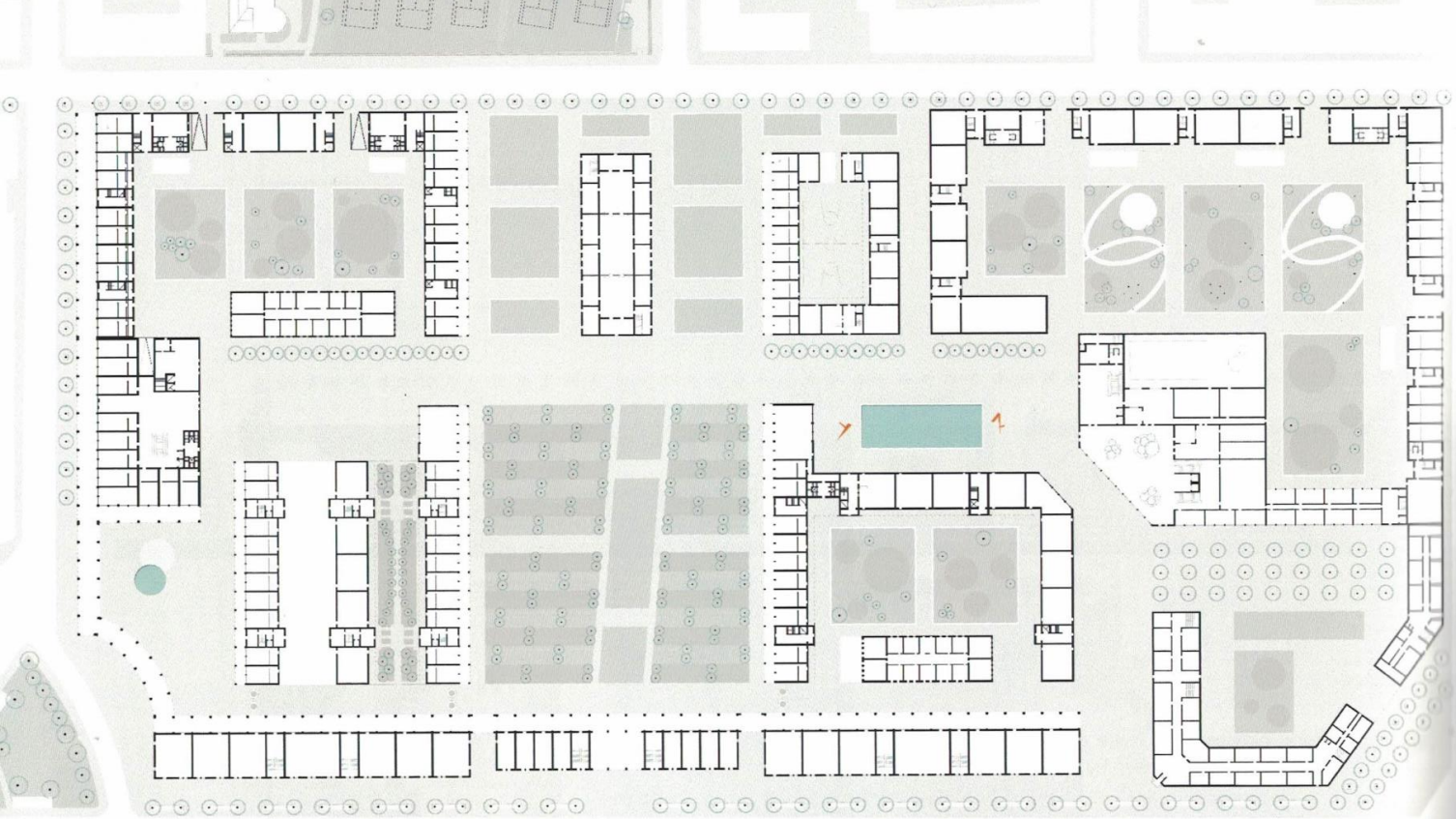
Closed space: 29.338 sqm

Covered space: 3.639 sqm

Open space: 59.505 sqm







also interests the neighborhood.

The urban fabric defined by Via Mac Mahon and Corso Sempione is definitely quieter than that of the two road axes that define it and presents a certain degree of urbanity. Hence, the one for all proposal continues the bicycle path network from Arco della Pace (Sempione Boulevard) in a relatively direct outward fashion, by passing through the less frequented and trafficked areas, under the principle entrance of the ex-Command Headquarter to reach the inner plaza, crossing over the PGT's programmed Regional Ring (Monte Ceneri) to continue along via Monte Generoso.

The isolating forces of Viale Monte Ceneri made it necessary to identify an urban design mechanism that would "lead" people to cross the psychological barrier of the high-line. Visible from the intersection of Monte Ceneri and Monte Generoso, an

urban square draws attention and establishes functions capable of attracting a fair number of people during diverse times of the day. By focusing attention on the study area's residential population, an increase of functions in the entertainment and cultural sector, which from the survey appeared quite weak, were located together with neighborhood amenities such as a library, social service center with an infant day care, and cinema.

The analysis brought to light the possibility of creating a commercial loop, comprehending Viale Mac Mahon, Via Cenisio, Via Bartolini and the corner of Piazza Firenze, with the proactive role of Viale Monte Ceneri. Two fundamental archetypes are present. Firstly, minute informal commercial activities, placed in strategic points, make use of the span between the high-line's structural columns. With reference to commercial arcade typologies, given is particular focus not to create, with the intent to merge, a greater separation

between the two sides of the roadway. Secondly, a continuous portico is articulated. Starting with the present day historical portico on the park side of the Commanders Headquarters, a new element is introduced which marks an important entrance on Piazza Firenze and follows along Via Bartolino until the corner of Via Arimondi. The portico underlines the creation of a new commercial axis, positioned a bit off the street therefore mitigating the noise of trams, pigeonholed into the portico bay frames. The linear continuity, crucial for commercial street fronts, is easily read from the "outside" while two small squares, connected by a zigzag path that cuts through the area, multiply the links to the otherwise isolated central parts.

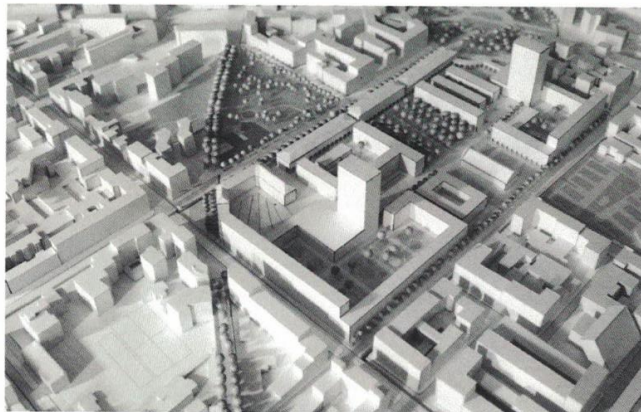
Approximately 50% of the built space is for residential use. The large common lawn hemmed in on the two sides lacking historic buildings has a simple low profiled architecture frame, which echoes the ex-barracks. Small local businesses, in response to the strong increase in population density, are on the first two floors with rental units above. Located in the towers, along Via Bartolini, and facing Via Mac Mahon up until the Fastweb Headquarters are free market apartments with student residences, distributed throughout the residential courts.

The project's wide and varied offering of green areas help reinforce a perceived network. Covering the TreNord railroad track, where possible, consents for a linear park to take form that follows the railway itself, from Piazza Caneva northward to Bovisa. An exclusive alternative crossing for pedestrians and bicycles is along the district's hidden edges as well as another type of landscape architecture experience, now absent in the city. Thus replaced by rows of unusual plantings are the unsightly present day noise barriers, blind alleys will become park entrances, the infamous underpasses appear as green nodes devoted to socializing, and the multiplication and regeneration of possible pathways vary everyday living. The perception of Caserma Montello quarter will, despite the dense construction foreseen, be one central green precinct for all.

**fig. 9.10.1**  
(left ) Ground level plan

**fig. 9.10.2**  
Trasversal section

**fig. 9.10.3**  
Study model







Beth Ellen Campbell, born and raised in the United States but living in Milan for the greater part of her life, received a BFA in Environmental Design from Parsons School of Design, NYC and a MA in Architecture from Politecnico di Milano. Her working experiences lie within three principal areas: project designer in both public and private sectors, local project manager for large, high quality, mixed-use developments, and pluriannual teaching experiences in both Urban Design Theory and Studio Work at Politecnico Di Milano. A dedicated professor she has also participated in international conferences as a keynote speaker and in numerous national and international competitions. Campbell joined One Works in 2014 as Strategy and Outreach Director bringing to the office comprehensive design and management skills. Her core work now focuses on the development of an ambitious and far-reaching communication organization network.

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