2018

Mapping-and-Designing (in) relationally composed fields
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mapping-and-designing in relationally composed fields

: methodology developed < through > experiments, tests/ applications
mapping-and-designing in relationally composed fields

methodology developed through experiments, tests/applications

logics of designing by thinking in relations
framework
mapping methodology’s scheme & testing case-studies
logics of mapping-and-designing in the city
framework

relationality:

“The cities must now be looked at as constellations of interactions, communications, relations, flows, and networks, rather than locations, and argue that location is, in effect, a synthesis of interactions”

(Michael Batty, New Science of cities, 2013: 13)

• emphasis on potential interactions and connections of things
• constantly changing relations among heterogeneous parameters
framework

relationality > complexity of places in regard to the parameter of the subject

- not fixed but in constant change
- connections of places
- rhizome generated in time and intersubjectively
- places connected physically and immaterially
framework

relationality > complexity of places in regard to the parameter of the subject

• not fixed but in constant change
• connections of places
• rhizome generated in time and intersubjectively
• places connected physically and immaterially

• objects-subjects interactions (trans)form city
framework (question of research)

How can we analyse and at the same time design

in regard to

city’s multiplicity, its relationality and its constant changing?
Framework

mapping:
analytical & generative process

“Mapping as an extensive and rhizomatic set of field operations precipitates, unfolds and supports hidden conditions, desires and possibilities nested within a milieu. (...) rhizomatic mappings provide an infinite series of connections, switches, relays, circuits for activating matter and information.”

(James Corner, The Agency of Mapping 1999: 250)
Framework (aims)

create a tool of/ to

• generative analysis for decision-making/ management processes
• analyse city in regard to its multiplicity parameters
• enable decompositions and recompositions
• activating/ revealing but also abstracting complexity
mapping methodology
1st level: data collection

2nd level: search for hyperlinks

3rd level: experiments & applications
1st case-study: 
public space in Athens

starting point of the experiment: 
mapping of the open-air spaces

collection: mapping of the open-air spaces in Athens center

potentialities of organising the open-air spaces into diverse sets of layers

2nd case-study: 
descriptions of Pedion Areos park

gathering of 31 descriptions

potential interrelations among descriptions

1st level logic of mappings’ collection

2nd level logic of interrelations & synergies of the mappings

3rd level testing experiments and applications

EXPERIMENT with the 26 mappings

collection of mappings: experiment of the 26 mappings

interrelations & synergies among the 26 mappings

potential interrelations among descriptions
experiment: public space in Athens
public space in Athens according to 26 mappings

mapping-and-designing in relationally composed fields | Athina Stamatopoulou
public space in Athens according to 26 mappings
interactive open map
interactive open map

system of:

**database**: mappings in their original form

**table**

**map**
interactive open map

system of:

database

**table**: references to mappings matched to properties

map
interactive open map

system of:

database
table

**map**: encoded references to the city
interactive open map
from the table to the map
interactive open map
from the map to the table
testing case-study: Pedion Areos park map

with all the encoded references to the park
## Case Study: Pedion Areos Park

### Properties List

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Property 1</td>
<td>Description 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property 2</td>
<td>Description 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property 3</td>
<td>Description 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>...</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Reference to the 31 Descriptions

- Description 1
- Description 2
- Description 3
- ...
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selection of the property - approach through “problems” - > activation of all references on the map
Perspectives of Design Logics
potential application in urban interventions: 1st scenario
1st scenario
1st scenario
1st scenario
2\textsuperscript{nd} scenario

The park, from the
Harpa's premises, is quite
visible. The
premises are in a very short
crossing. The Harpa, the park's
access, is very
visible. The
premises are in a very short
crossing.

No. 22 people don't feel
safe. Therefore, we should
place
the
park's
premises
in
a
very
short
crossing.

Need to build
connection
between
park
and
premises
in
a
very
short
crossing.

The Harpa, the abducted
Harpa, the
premises are in a very short
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Harpa, the park's
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Need to build
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2nd scenario

The park, from the citizens’ point of view it is dead today. At this moment people don’t feel safe. Therefore, you cannot enjoy the park. That’s why people prefer the May 1st square. If you go there in the afternoon, you will see many people and children there, but nobody will be inside the park area of Pedion Areos.

A first proposal is the opening of the commercial services (i.e. cafeteria/kiosks), so that one can take a glass of water or can have coffee with friends.

When entering in the Park from its main entrance (Aigíptou square) the smell of urine and a parterre of drug dealing welcome you.

What made the retired people who frequented the park by playing tavli and discussing to move to May 1st square, considering the park hostile?

But suddenly, while reaching Athena’s statue, I saw people and particularly families and children. A real oasis of life in a deserted Park. I approached them in order to ask if they were a nursery school or any event. I saw families sitting in a tablecloth placed in the grass, with picnic equipment and toys. This reminded me of my family trips in the countryside when I was a kid. This is something that we rarely see nowadays. They were a family coming from Kurdistan and Syria. They were happy, smiling, enjoying the park with their children. I asked them how they felt there. They thanked Greeks who have accepted in their country. They told me their names, with smiling and kindness expressions. I think of my heart: Sagel, Roukat, San, Avin, Isaiah, Thiva who brightened our Park. Who reminded me the joy of nature, of which you can take pleasure by being there with its body, not from a cafe. Something that it seems that we Athenians tend to forget.

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administrative - Epi Menoume group initiative

2017-2018

abandoned
bad maintenance
dead park
delinquency
deserted
devaluated
insecurity
lack of cleanliness
lack of WC services
oasis
suffering park
become clean (should)
become safe (should)
more people should go the park
return from chronic decline (should)

<>

administration
Athens Periphery
2nd scenario

Spatial relations through negative (-) and positive (+) attributed properties

A9
Attica Periphery
2018

abandoned, bad maintenance, in critical condition, become clean, become safe, infrastructure restorations
<>
Epi Menoume group initiative

The park won’t become “white” or “green” by painting buildings or some self-promotion attempts to hide the realities.
**2nd scenario**

A12
Observatory of Free Spaces in Athens
2003-2005

abandoned stray dogs
bad lighting
bad maintenance
communal space
dangers
dark
decay
decline
dirtiness
entertainment
fenced off areas
inaccessible at night
illegal buildings against green
insecurity
lost publicness/ commonness
monumental park
neglected
noise pollution by temporary markets
polluted

to relax
to think
to walk

<>
against:
the State,
Redevelopment Plans,
enterpreneurs

Spatial relations through negative (-) and positive (+) attributed properties
2nd scenario

Spatial relations through negative (-) and positive (+) attributed properties

A13
Tompazis Architectural Office (redevelopment plans report)
2005-2008

aged
bad lighting
bad maintenance
benches in bad condition
devaluated
destructions
diversity of trees/plants insecurity
lack of WC services
paths to be organized in hierarchies
vandalized monuments
nice view to Lycabettus hill
The park, from the citizens’ point of view, it is dead today.

At this moment people don’t feel safe. Therefore, you cannot enjoy the park.

That’s why people prefer the May 1st square. If you go there in the afternoon, you will see many people and children there, but nobody will be inside the park area of Pedion Areos.

A first proposal is the opening of commercial services (i.e. cafeteria/kiosks), so that one can take a glass of water or have coffee with friends.

When entering in the Park from its main entrance (Ai-giptou square) the smell of urine and a parterre of drug dealing welcome you.

What made the retired people who frequented the park by playing tavli and discussing to move to May 1st square, considering the park hostile?

But suddenly, while reaching Athena’s statue, I saw people and particularly families with children.

I approached them in order to see if they were a nursery school or an event. I saw families sitting in a beautiful place in the park, with picnic equipment and toys. This reminded me a lot of our vacations with my family in the countryside. When I was a kid, this is something that we rarely see nowadays. They were a family coming from Kurdistan and Syria. They were happy, they were enjoying (the park) with their children. I asked them how they were there. They thanked Greeks who have accepted in their country. They told me that they are very happy and generous people. I thought that even if they have problems, they are still thankful. These families who brightened our Park, who reminded me of the joy of nature, something that you can take pleasure by being there with its body, not from a cafe. Something that it seems that we Athenians tend to forget.

The ducks of the small lake in the large playground have disappeared long time ago.

The Playgrounds, the abandoned Theatres, the lakes, the fountains are in very bad condition. The small Playground closed, while around it the new illegal buildings of Panellinios Sports complex are erected.

The Heroes Alley is daily transformed into a commercial place.

The Spiral path with the roses is totally destroyed. The “Aries” is in quite good condition.

Former Aliki theatre: an abandoned space, totally degraded.

Sacred Band square in a quite good condition.

The central square has a nice view to Lycabettus hill.

The Administration office is in good condition.

The open-air surrounding of the churches are in quite good condition.

Representative of modern architecture in Greece, with many additions and bad maintenance, which has altered its identity.

The other kiosk (peripetia) functions as a refreshment point.

The Administration office is in good condition.

need to build connection between park and May 1st square

The park won’t become “white” nor “green” by painting buildings or other self-promotion attempts before the elections.
holistic approach

relationality-territoriality synergy

analysis-based design

heterogeneity of places/identities
thank you