

Informal Urbanism

A Street-Centered Approach to Open Public Spaces

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Thesis Statement

This thesis focuses on addressing the challenges of informal settlements in Latin America caused by a lack of open public space. The urban fabric of the informal settlement is highlighted by the street environment, where residents engage in a variety of activities due to the lack of space. However, the informal still lacks space in the dense urban fabric, and by suggesting forms of urbanized spaces that build a relationship with the street, it will provide additional assets such as places of refuge within the informal and increase the quality of life in the neighborhood.

The study aims to answer the following research questions: What forms of public space and program would influence/relate back to the culture of the informal street? Through public space, what aspect of the informal is it solving? What characteristics of the street are vital to the cultural identity of the informal? By conducting qualitative investigations through on-site observations, interviews with locals, mapping, photos, and cinematography, the study gathers evidence to support the thesis. The thesis argues that open public space is lacking in the informal settlements, and the streets transform to become the primary form of public space where residents engage in various activities. However, residents still feel closed off and suffer from the lack of space in the informal, and adapting open space can highlight the importance of the street and also provide a sense of a higher quality of life in the informal.

One potential critique of the study is whether having open space would truly benefit the informal settlements, and how it would blend into the fabric of the unique urban network of streets. However, the thesis argues that open spaces tied to street life would allow for the informal to physically break away from the

dense urban network of streets and provide elements of acupuncture within. The study acknowledges the subjective nature of open space and that it may not be a necessity for survival but will become an oasis to the residents.

In conclusion, this thesis provides city planners, designers, and local organizations the opportunity to blend urbanized public planning with the informal to not hinder the unique atmosphere of the informal but to merge and relate to it. As informal settlements across the world continue to rise, the development and resources that go into planning and organizing these areas also need to increase.

Content Chapters

01 Introduction

02 Barrio, Siloe

03 Methods

04 Precedents

05 Informal Urbanism

06 Conclusion

07 Works Cited

08 Appendix

01

Introduction

As urbanized cities continue to grow, the ways in which people interact with their built environment and spaces change. Throughout history, technological advancements in agriculture, construction, and infrastructure have created opportunities for urban areas to evolve and meet the needs of its people, occupying a variety of needs. However, this growth often has lasting effects on the surrounding context, regardless of whether the land is public or private. In many countries in Asia, Africa, and South America, informal settlements are increasingly being created as a result of urban development. According to UN DESA in 2013, 27% of the world population lived in informal settlements, and this trend is set to increase with half of the population expected to live in such environments by 2050. While most informal settlements form in direct relation to urbanized city centers, many South American informal settlements existed before the large-scale urban cities. These settlements are built in a temporal manner that transforms into permanent housing over time, often resulting in overcrowding, poor housing conditions, lack of sustainable infrastructure and resources, low income, and lack of services, which affects the livelihoods of its residents. Unlike urbanized cities that are planned and organized by city planners, architects, and governing authorities, informal settlements are built from the ground up by local residents.

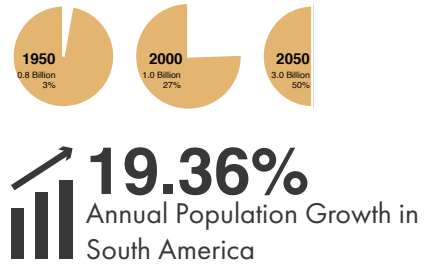


Figure 1.1 Annual Population Growth in South America



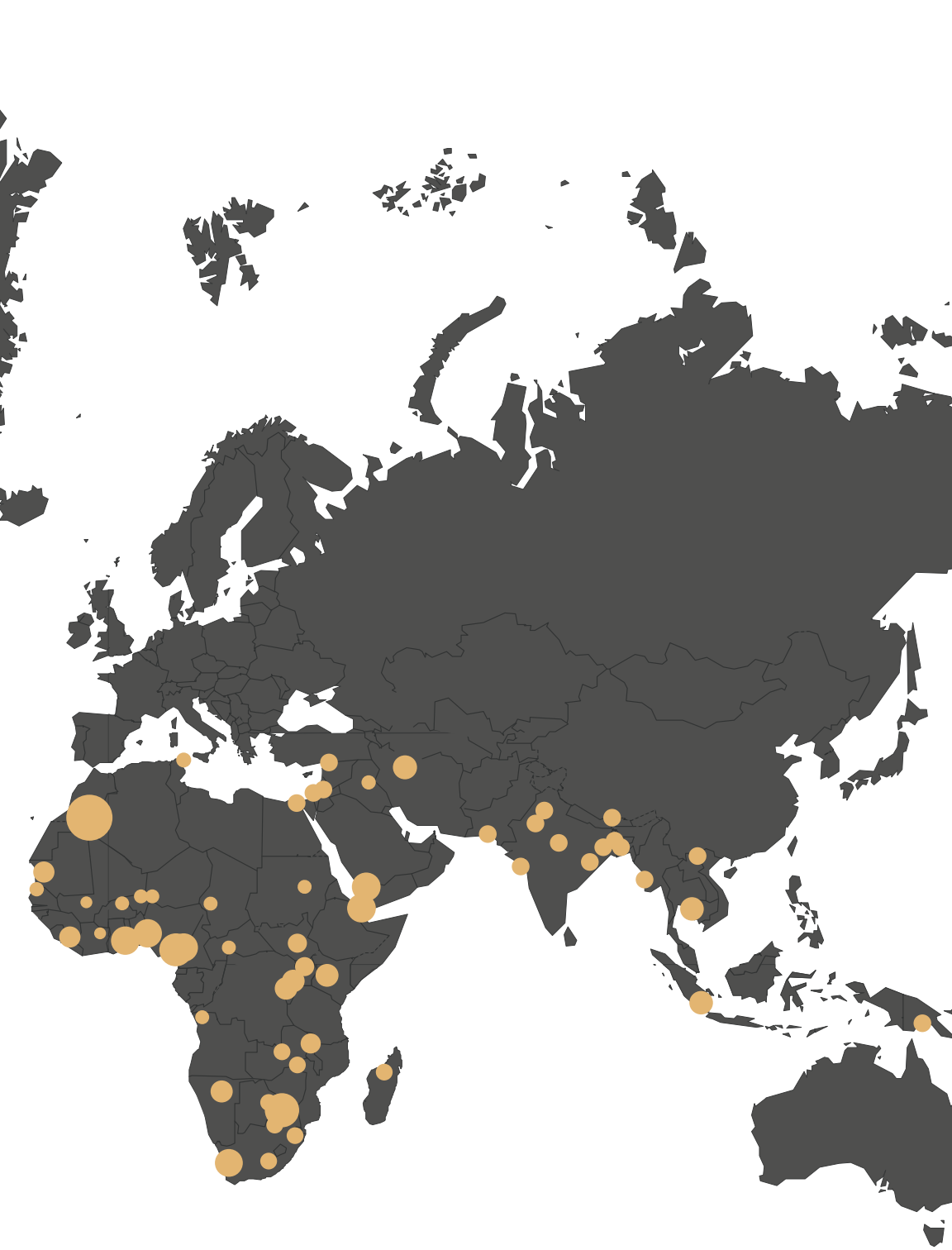


Figure 1.2 Annual Population Growth in South America Map

Challenges of Informal Settlements

The formation of informal settlements can lead to many difficulties for residents. These challenges are often due to legal, social, health, political, and economic factors. In this section, we will discuss some of the most significant difficulties faced by residents of informal settlements.

Legal Tension

The formation of informal settlements is a global phenomenon that continues to impact millions of people around the world. Edesio Fernandes, in his article "Regularization of Informal Settlements," highlights the many hardships that residents of informal settlements face, particularly in terms of legal and social issues. One of the most significant difficulties is the legal tension that arises due to the lack of land titles for the properties. Without proper documentation, residents are vulnerable to forced evictions by government authorities, which is an all too common occurrence in these settlements.

Forced evictions have been a major issue in informal settlements worldwide, and governments have often been in favor of these proceedings. The COHRE study in 2006 revealed that between 2004 and 2006, around 150,000 residents in informal settlements were evicted in Latin America alone. These evictions are not only traumatic but can also lead to a cycle of poverty and vulnerability that is difficult to escape.

Moreover, the lack of legal land titles also deprives residents of basic human rights that are often taken for granted by those living in urban areas. Access to essential services such as mail, credit, and the protection of their homes by the police is often denied to those

residing in informal settlements. This lack of legal recognition and protection further exacerbates the difficulties that residents face.





Figure 1.3 Manila's Informal Settlers facing Relocation

Social and Spatial Separation

Informal settlements are often physically separated from urban areas, which leads to a sense of social and cultural isolation. Physical walls and wide roads create a physical separation between informal settlements and urban areas, and this separation leads to a social and cultural stigma that views informal settlements as inferior to their urbanized counterparts. This stigma can lead to residents of informal settlements receiving policies that are not in their favor and becoming grounds for criminal activity, such as Latin American drug cartels.

It is important to recognize that drug cartels are not the defining characteristic of informal settlements, but they are a virus that further heightens the social and cultural stigma surrounding these settlements. The communities in informal settlements also face significant health and safety concerns due to the pollution caused by trash occupying the streets, smoke from illegal activities, and motor vehicles traversing within the community. The living conditions in informal settlements, including narrow streets, lack of infrastructure in terms of building materials and paved streets, and hands-on occupations, also create significant challenges for residents.

In Kibera, the physical separation between the informal settlement and urbanized areas is primarily due to the lack of proper planning and infrastructure. Kibera is located on land that is legally owned by the government, but residents have occupied it for years without proper permits or approvals. As a result, the settlement lacks basic infrastructure, such as paved roads and reliable water and electricity supplies, making it challenging for residents to access essential services. The lack of proper planning and infrastructure also means that Kibera is physically separated from the ur-

banized areas, creating a sense of social and cultural isolation.

Similarly, the city of Medellin in Colombia has also experienced physical separation between urbanized areas and informal settlements. In the past, Medellin was known for its high levels of violence, drug trafficking, and poverty, which disproportionately affected residents in informal settlements.



Figure 1.4 Kibera informal settlement: highlighting the division between the informal area to a developed golf course



Figure 1.5 Medellín, Colombia skyline with the informal settlements in the foreground and background

Politics

The residents in informal settlements have been worsened by political policies and legal quarrels, leading to a state of limbo regarding their rights. As these settlements continue to grow, political tension has resulted in policies that manipulate the lives of the residents in a confusing and often hazy manner. This can take the form of broken promises made by political leaders, who pledge to bring positive change to the settlements, but very little, if anything, is done. In some cases, the promised changes can even have negative effects on the settlements.

The lack of political rights and influence has made it increasingly difficult for residents of informal settlements to have their voices heard by political leaders. This lack of political representation leaves them feeling voiceless and powerless, with their opinions and needs ignored. As a result, it becomes almost impossible for real change to occur. This exacer-

bates the already challenging situation faced by residents of informal settlements, who are already struggling with numerous issues such as inadequate infrastructure, limited access to basic services, and a lack of security.

In response to these challenges, riots have erupted in some of these informal settlements as residents seek to draw attention to their situation and demand action from the authorities. However, these protests are often met with violence and repression from the police, leading to further tension and resentment.

Despite these challenges, residents of informal settlements are not giving up. Grassroots organizations have been formed to help plan for the future development of their own neighborhoods, empowering residents to take control of their own lives and build a better future for themselves and their families. These organizations aim to provide a platform for



Figure 1.6 Chilean Riots in the Streets

residents to have their voices heard and to advocate for their rights and the rights of future generations.

These grassroots efforts are a testament to the resilience and determination of these communities, who refuse to be silenced and are fighting for a better future. While the challenges they face are significant, the creativity and ingenuity of these organizations offer hope for a more equitable and just future for all. It is only through sustained effort and commitment that we can hope to address the complex issues facing residents of informal settlements and ensure that their voices are heard.



Figure 1.7 UCL The Bartlett Development Planning Unit

Economic

The economic hardships that come with living in informal settlements. As mentioned earlier, the lack of infrastructure and poor living conditions in these settlements result in low-income levels for their residents. The cost of repair and maintenance of basic amenities such as plumbing, sewage, garbage, home repairs, and ventilation exceeds the average cost of a new urban development by three times.

The lack of government oversight and influence in these settlements also makes it difficult for essential services such as electricity, water, sewage, and gas to be implemented, forcing residents to tap into pre-established service lines illegally. This illegal tapping further adds to the political and social tension between informality and urban cities.

Furthermore, the economic hardships faced by the residents of informal settlements extend beyond the lack of basic amenities and government services. In order to gain any sort of legal voice within the context of the settlement, residents are forced to pay property taxes. However, with the many issues surrounding land titles, maintenance, difficulty to work, and lack of facilities, the ability to gain wealth in the informal settlements is impractical.



Figure 2.1 Figure Group Map of Siloe, Colombia

02 Barrio, Siloe

Siloe is a large informal settlement located in the city of Cali, Colombia. It is one of the largest informal settlements in the country, with an estimated population of over 200,000 people. Despite its large size, Siloe lacks many of the basic services and infrastructure that are necessary for a safe and healthy living environment.

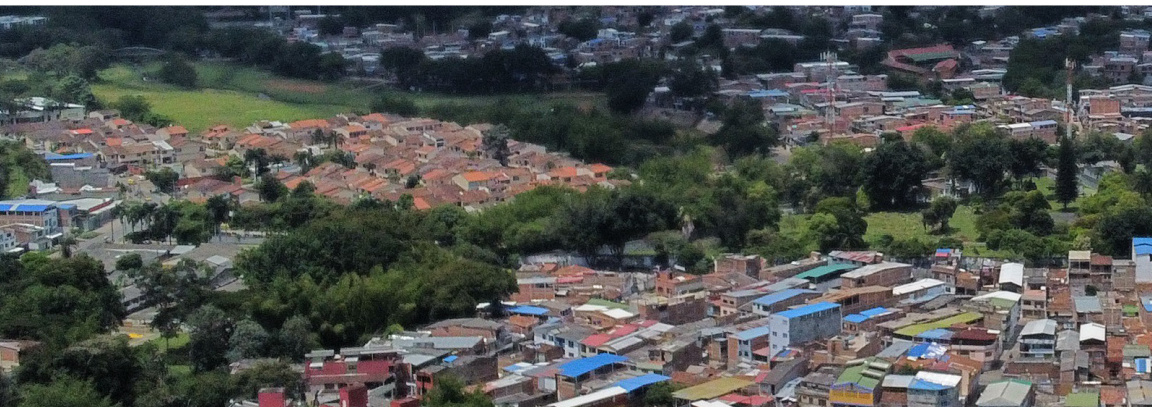
The reasons for the formation of Siloe and other informal settlements in Cali are complex and multifaceted. Some of the factors that have contributed to the growth of informal settlements in the city include a lack of affordable housing options, limited economic opportunities, and social and political marginalization. Additionally, the city has struggled with high levels of violence and crime, which have made it difficult for many residents to feel safe in their communities.

The lack of basic services and infrastructure in Siloe and other informal settlements in Cali is a major concern. Many residents do not have access to clean water or sanitation facilities, which can lead to a range of health issues. The settlement also lacks basic public services like garbage collection and adequate police protection, leaving residents vulnerable to crime and other threats.

Despite these challenges, there have been efforts in recent years to improve conditions in Siloe and other informal settlements in Cali. Nonprofit organizations and community groups have worked to provide access to basic services like clean water and sanitation, and have also helped residents to organize

and advocate for their rights. The city government has also taken steps to address the needs of informal settlements, including providing basic services and infrastructure and implementing policies aimed at reducing violence and crime.

However, much work remains to be done in Siloe and other informal settlements in Cali. The lack of affordable housing options and limited economic opportunities continue to be major challenges, and the settlement remains vulnerable to violence and crime. As the city continues to grow and change, it will be important to prioritize the needs of informal settlements like Siloe in order to ensure that all residents have access to safe and healthy living environments. And governing authorities, informal settlements are built from the ground up by local residents.



Topography

Due to the hilly topography, the development of Siloe has been a significant challenge. The steep slopes have limited the area of buildable land, making it difficult to construct homes, buildings, and infrastructure. The slope has also made it challenging to build roads and other transportation networks.

Moreover, the hilly terrain of Siloe has led to problems such as landslides, erosion, and flooding. During the rainy season, the steep slopes become unstable and prone to landslides, which can cause significant damage to homes and infrastructure. The issue is further compounded by poor drainage systems, which exacerbate the effects of flooding and erosion.

Despite these challenges, the community has adapted to the topography and has developed innovative solutions to address the issues it faces. For example, many homes are built into the hillsides, using the slope to their advantage to create multi-level homes that maximize space. Additionally, the community has developed unique transportation systems, including cable cars and funiculars, that provide easy access to and from different parts of the neighborhood.

Figure 2.2 Siloe, Colombia

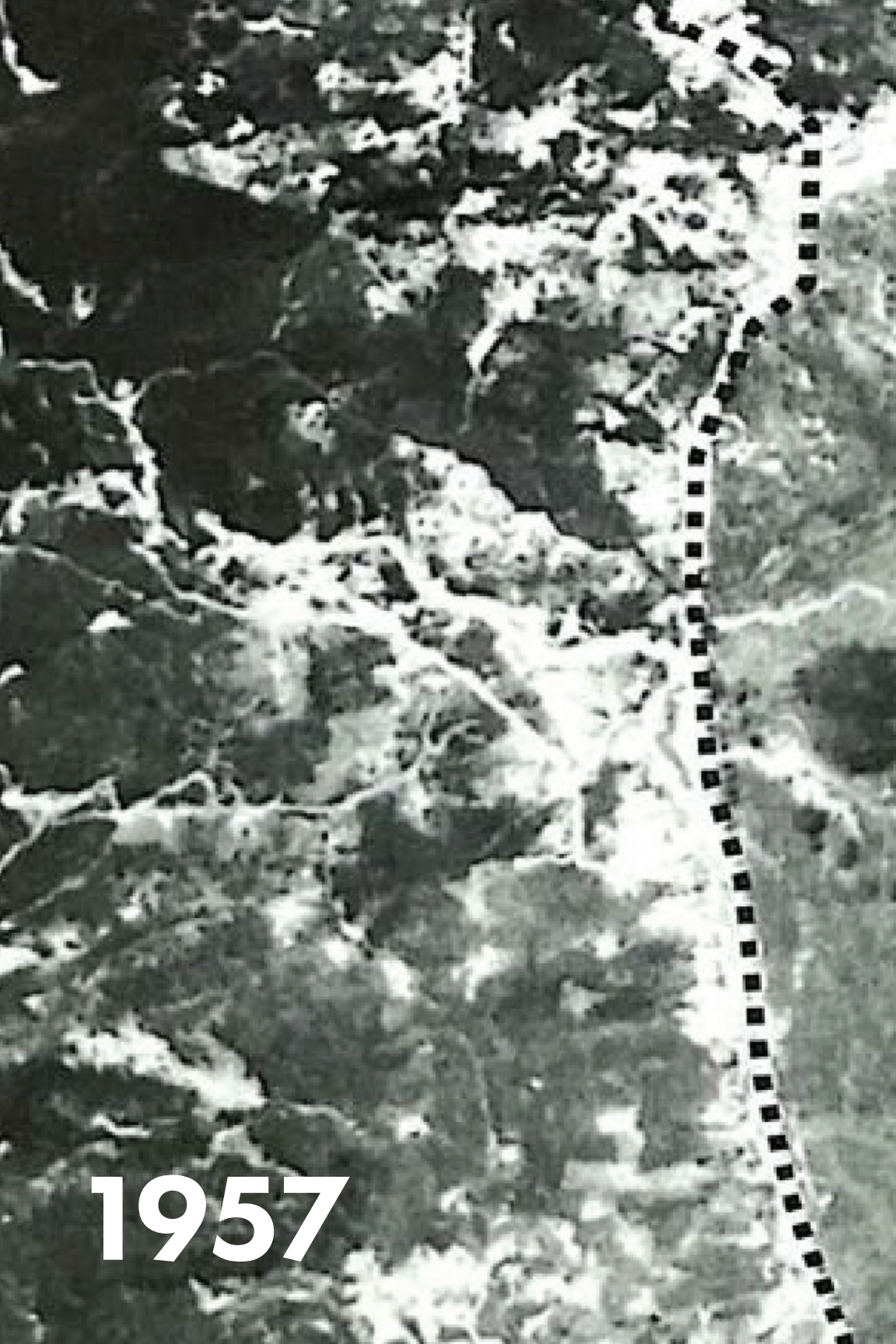


Formation

Siloe's formation can be traced back to 1943, when a group of displaced farmers settled in the area and began to cultivate the land. Over time, more families arrived, seeking refuge from violence and poverty in other parts of the country. As the population grew, so did the settlement, which expanded into neighboring hillsides and valleys.

The initial settlers in Siloe were primarily Afro-Colombian and indigenous people who had been forced off their land by large landowners or were fleeing conflict in other parts of the country. They arrived with few possessions and little knowledge of how to survive in the hills. They built their homes from whatever materials were available, including scraps of wood and metal, plastic sheeting, and cardboard. These structures were often precarious and lacked basic amenities such as running water, electricity, and sewage systems.

Despite the challenges of living in an informal settlement, the residents of Siloe built a strong sense of community and solidarity. They organized themselves into neighborhood associations and worked together to improve living conditions in the settlement. They built roads, schools, and community centers, and lobbied the government for basic services such as water and electricity.



1957





Figure 2.5 Path of Refugees into Colombia





Figure 2.6 Soldiers in the Streets



Figure 2.7 Dirt Road



Figure 2.8 Footpath in the Settlement

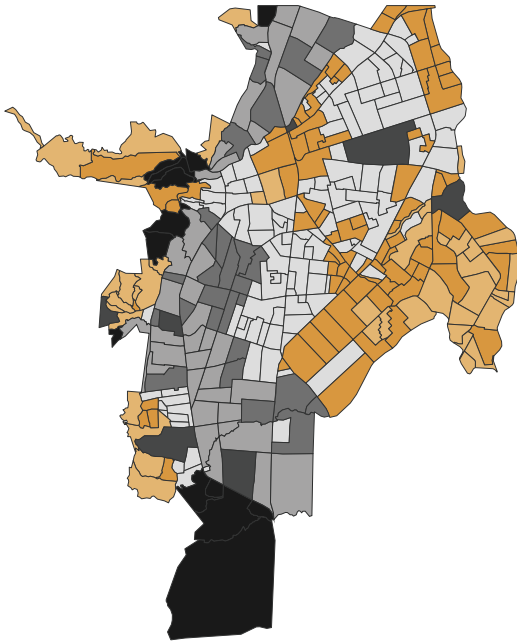
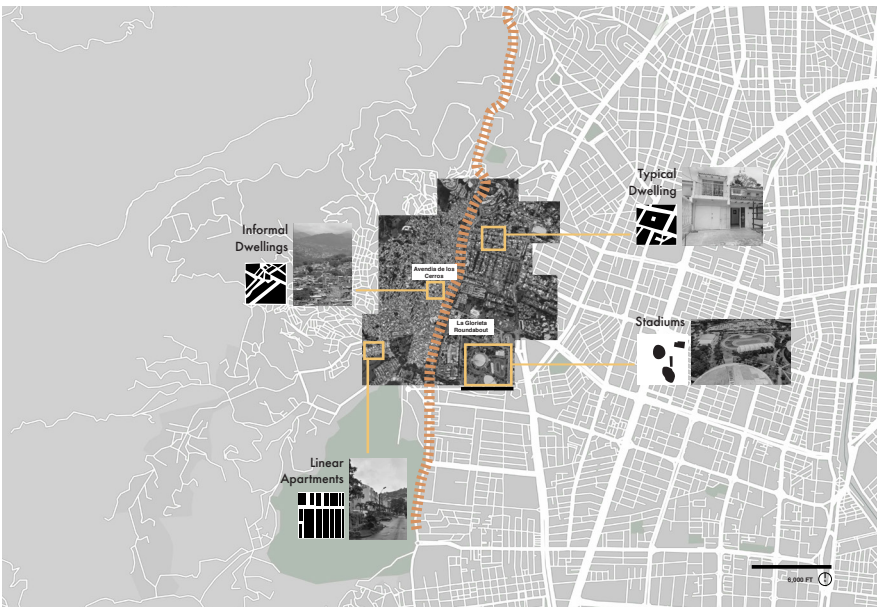


Figure 2.8 Strata Level Maps



The border condition of comuna 19 and 20 have been separated due to the difference in density and social standings (stratas). This has allowed for comuna 20 to be influenced by its past, making it difficult for the people to have many of the assets that residents in comuna 19 would be accustomed to, such as: large open public spaces, bus routes, higher education, large markets, hospitals, and shopping centers.

Figure 2.9 Typology Density Map

Informal to Urban Border

The border condition between comuna 19 and 20 in Colombia has resulted in a clear separation between the two areas due to differences in density and social status, known as “stratas” in the country’s classification system. The consequences of this separation have affected the residents of comuna 20, where many of the community members have been hindered by their past and are unable to enjoy the same benefits as those in comuna 19. This social divide has led to a stark contrast in the quality of life between the two communities.

Comuna 20 is located in the southern area of Cali, Colombia, and is known for its informal settlements, where residents have struggled to access basic services such as water, electricity, and sanitation. Unlike comuna 19, which has a higher density of infrastructure and more advanced social and economic opportunities, the residents of comuna 20 are restricted from many of the amenities that are essential for a good quality of life. For example, residents have limited access to health-care facilities, educational institutions, and job opportunities.

The residents of comuna 20 are impacted by the negative consequences of their past. Many of the community members were displaced due to violence, drug trafficking, and other conflicts that plagued the area in the past. These factors have contributed to the current living condi-

tions in comuna 20, where the community struggles to overcome the challenges of poverty and a lack of resources.

The separation between comuna 19 and 20 has created a divide between the two areas, with comuna 20 residents struggling to break free from the impact of their past. However, there are initiatives underway to improve the living conditions in comuna 20. For instance, government and non-governmental organizations are working together to provide basic services such as running water, sanitation, and electricity to the community. In addition, job training programs and educational institutions are being established to provide opportunities for the residents to improve their lives and break free from the cycle of poverty.



Figure 2.10 Siloe and Cali Division Line

Transportation

The limitations in transportation within Siloe pose a significant challenge for the residents of this informal settlement. Due to the density and topography of the area, larger vehicles such as trucks and buses cannot enter or go far into the settlement. This means that residents often have to rely on other means of transportation, such as small-scale cars or motorcycles, which can be prohibitively expensive.

One of the main forms of public transportation within Siloe is the use of vans, which are essentially taxi services that operate within the informal areas. These vans are not organized

by a company, but are instead supported through groups of people. Most drivers keep their business to themselves, allowing them to build wealth while operating within the informal settlement.

Despite the challenges posed by limited transportation options, there are some innovative solutions being developed to address this issue. One such solution is the Mio cable line, which was opened in 2015 and provides transportation to many people across the informal settlement. This cable car system has three stops within Siloe and one in Cali, making it a quick and efficient way for residents to



Figure 2.11 Mio Cable Line Path

travel to and from the metropolitan city.

The stations along the cable line also offer additional public space and activities for the residents of Siloe. Small parks and open spaces can be found at each station, which are used to host block-sized gatherings of a few dozen people. These spaces provide a much-needed respite from the dense and congested living conditions within the informal settlement, allowing residents to gather and socialize in a safe and welcoming environment.

While the Mio cable line allows for a new and engaging option to transportation, the

amount of area that it covers in terms of walking distance is quite low. The coverage of the stations in relation to the entity of Siloe makes it a valuable asset for some and an irrelevance to others.

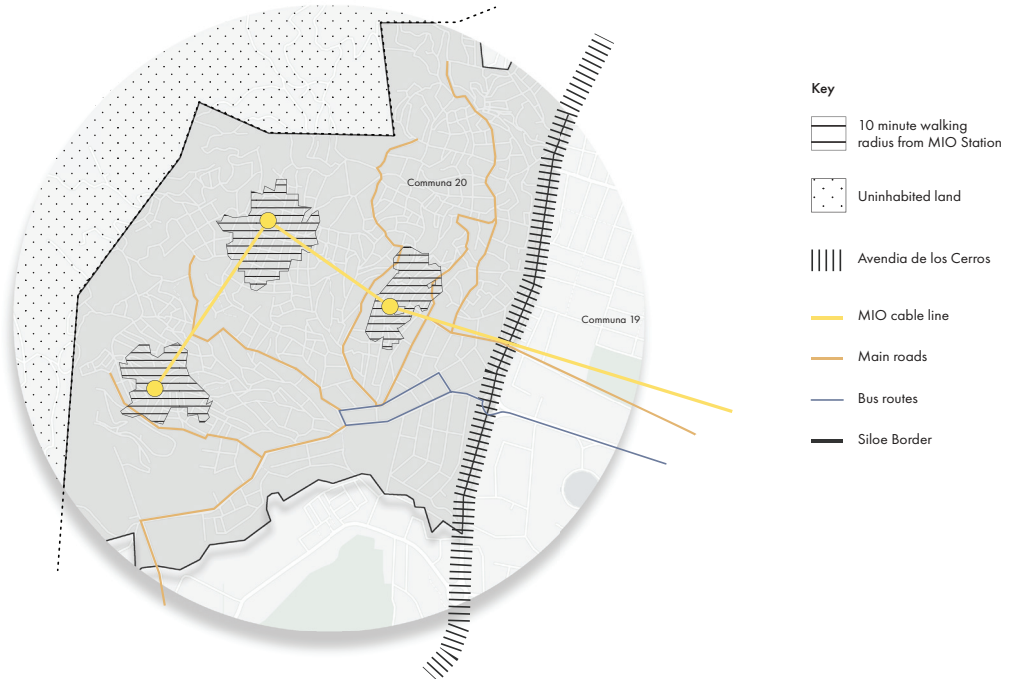


Figure 2.12 Siloe Map

03

Methods

After conducting an initial analysis of Siloe, Colombia, it became apparent that relying solely on peer-reviewed articles and literature was not sufficient to truly understand the lived experiences of the residents in this informal settlement. While such sources provided valuable insights into the broader issues affecting informal settlements, they did not capture the day-to-day struggles that residents faced in Siloe.

In order to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the challenges and complexities facing informal settlements like Siloe,

it was clear that further investigation was necessary. To this end, I decided to conduct several extensive on-site methods of analysis, in order to get a more nuanced and in-depth understanding of the experiences of Siloe's residents.

This on-site investigation allowed me to gather first-hand accounts from residents, as well as to observe the various systems and structures that shaped their daily lives. By engaging directly with the community, I was able to gain insights that would have been impossible to glean from academic sources alone.

Assumptions

It is unfortunate that many people form assumptions about certain areas based on negative social and cultural stigmas. Before traveling to Siloe and Cali, Colombia, there were certainly concerns about safety and the prevalence of violence and drug activity in the area. Coming from a background and family who are originally from Colombia, these assumptions were heavily talked about surrounding the idea of on-site investigations. However, it is important to recognize that these issues are not unique to Siloe or Colombia, but are present in many communities around the world.

Despite the warnings and negative comments from some, the decision was made to travel to Siloe and Cali in order to gain a first-hand understanding of the challenges faced by the residents of these areas. It was believed that by experiencing these communities firsthand, a more accurate and nuanced portrayal of the area could be presented, tell their story, and to address ongoing issues through urban development.

It is true that Pablo Escobar was once involved in drug activity in the region, but it is unfair to assume that this legacy defines the entire community. The residents of Siloe are hardworking and resilient individuals who are proud of their culture and heritage. These are people who do not want to be affiliated with the drug world and instead want to be able to develop further on their own.





Figure 3.1 Military Involvement

Booklet

Creating a booklet for my travels was a wise decision as it enabled me to document my findings and investigations in an organized and efficient manner. This foldable booklet was specifically designed to be taken on-site so that I could quickly jot down notes on several factors such as park density, availability of hospitals, religious centers, housing needs, and service requirements. By including base maps that were created prior to my trip, I was able to locate and identify important assets that were utilized by both the residents of Siloe and Cali.

This booklet proved to be an invaluable tool during my travels as it helped me to effectively capture and analyze the key characteristics of these informal settlements. By being able to record and document my observations in real-time, I was able to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the living conditions, infrastructure, and social dynamics that were present in these communities.

In particular, the ability to track and document the density of parks, the availability of healthcare facilities, and the distribution of religious centers provided valuable insights into the quality of life and social structure of these settlements. Furthermore, the booklet allowed me to identify important housing needs and service requirements, which will be essential in developing targeted interventions that can improve the lives of residents in these areas.



Figure 3.2 Booklet taken to Colombia

A Week in Columbia
: John Klopp



Comparison Video

One of the most effective ways to document the conditions in Siloe and Cali was through on-site visual recordings. This allowed for a more immersive and authentic representation of the day-to-day life in each area. By capturing the visual qualities of each area, it was possible to compare and contrast them with their neighboring areas.

The video footage revealed differences between the two areas. Cali, with its abundance of green spaces, parks, gardens, and open areas, was clearly better equipped to provide its residents with access to assets and resources that were lacking in Siloe. The activity in Cali was apparent in the form of bustling shopping centers, night markets, and soccer fields that took up a significant amount of space. These areas were not only sources of entertainment and recreation for the residents but also served as important community spaces for socializing and gathering. With

open space being a crucial component of urban environments, the abundance of green spaces, parks, and gardens in Cali provided residents with ample opportunities for leisure activities such as picnicking, strolling, or simply enjoying the outdoors.

The shopping centers in Cali were not just typical malls but were rather lively marketplaces that hosted a wide variety of activities. These spaces were occupied for several hours at a time and offered a range of applications such as trading and commerce, lounge spaces, and areas for children to play. Additionally, these spaces often had attached gyms or workout areas, further contributing to the active lifestyle of Cali's residents. The night markets were also a popular attraction, with a diverse range of food, music, and performances that drew large crowds, adding to the vibrancy and energy of the city and suburbs.

Figure 3.3 Cali Portion of Video





Temporary Night Market



Shopping Center



Skate Park



Soccer Fields

The built environment of Siloe is different to that of Cali. While Cali was characterized by open spaces and greenery, Siloe's urban landscape was characterized by high-density housing and a lack of open areas. The result was a significant hindrance to the availability of assets and resources, particularly those related to leisure and recreation.

In Siloe, the lack of green space and open areas was apparent in the footage. Residents were limited in their ability to engage in outdoor activities and often relied on small nooks and cramped spaces between homes to provide additional space. This made it challenging for residents to find areas to engage in physical activity or even simply spend time outdoors. The reliance on small spaces for recreation and leisure was particularly chal-

lenging for families with children, as the limited space made it difficult for children to play and engage in outdoor activities.

Moreover, the high density of Siloe's housing also presented a challenge for its residents. The area lacked sufficient housing, leading to overcrowding and insufficient living space. This not only affected the availability of assets and resources but also had an impact on the health and well-being of residents. With limited space and overcrowding, residents were more susceptible to respiratory issues, illness, and stress-related health issues.



Figure 3.4 Comparison Video QR Code

Figure 3.5 Siloe Portion of Video





MIO Cable System (2015)



Small Spaces Between Homes



Self Made Spaces



Personal Gardens

Interviews with Siloe Residents

To understand the way of life of people in Siloe, it was necessary to conduct interviews with locals. As dangerous and not advised, Accompanied by my mother, who acted as a translator, we set out on our journey to Siloe with no real plan. We took the Mio cable system and hoped to make our way around the area to meet locals and conduct interviews.

As we wandered around, we suddenly came across a school group touring the area. The group consisted of young students, their teachers, and a local guide who was showing them around Siloe. We approached the group and asked if we could join them. The guide, sensing our interest in the area, kindly agreed to let us tag along.

This chance interaction turned out to be the chain reaction that led us to meet so many people in the informal settlement and learn the stories of several individuals. We spoke to families who had been living in Siloe for generations, who shared their experiences of struggling to make ends meet and their hopes for the future. We also met young people who were determined to break free from the cycle of poverty and make a better life for themselves and their families.

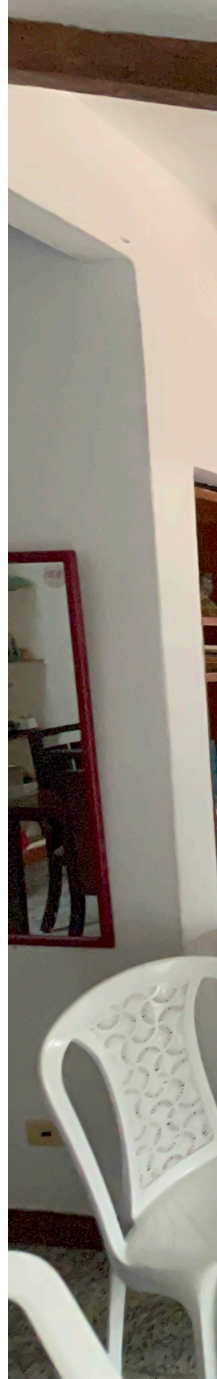


Figure 3.6 School Group Tour



Teresa's work with Olla Comunitaria is a shining example of the positive impact that community organizations can have on the lives of people living in informal settlements like Siloe. As a social worker and organizer for the organization, she is dedicated to improving the lives of those in her community by providing them with access to essential services and resources.

In our interview with Teresa, she explained that the organization's goal is to give back to the several communities in Siloe by providing a range of services, including food shelters and workshops for new mothers. These workshops focus on teaching mothers how to take care of their children and provide them with the support they need to ensure that their children grow up healthy and happy.

One of the most important services provided by Olla Comunitaria is the daily provision of meals to around 200 people in Siloe for just 1,000 COP. This low-cost service has been a lifeline for many families in the area, particularly during the difficult times brought on by the Covid pandemic. Unfortunately, due to the pandemic, the number of spaces available for Olla Comunitarias across Siloe has drastically decreased, leaving only a few of these spaces in operation.

Despite the challenges posed by the pandemic, Olla Comunitaria remains committed to serving the people of Siloe and making a positive impact in their lives. Through their tireless work, they have become a vital part of the community, providing much-needed support and resources to those who need it most.



Figure 3.7 Teresa Photo

Figure 3.8 Workshop space within Organization



Caroline and her daughter have been an integral part of the local community, and has built strong ties with the Olla Organization. Recognizing the importance of the organization's work in providing vital services to the community, Caroline generously allows them to utilize a portion of her own home for their operations.

Despite her unwavering commitment to the Olla Organization, Caroline admits that her work there does not provide sufficient income to support her family's needs. In order to stay financially stable, she is forced to venture into the urban centers of Cali, seeking work opportunities that will provide her with the necessary funds to support her family.

The residents of Siloe are all too familiar with the lack of space and resources in their community, and have been working tirelessly to find creative solutions to these challenges. One such solution has been the construction of personal gardens, where locals grow vegetables and other crops as a source of food and space. In some cases, these gardens have even taken over entire rooftops, transforming them into outdoor garden terraces that offer both beauty and practicality. "The neighborhood (Siloe) is aware of the lack of space and resources. People have started to construct personal gardens to grow vegetables for a source of food and space. Turning their roofs into outdoor garden terraces."



Figure 3.9 Caroline Photo

Figure 3.10 Rooftop Garden



Yonny is a prominent figure in the Siloe community, known for his inspiring leadership and unwavering commitment to the well-being of his fellow residents. He has made it his mission to work closely with all local organizations in the area, in order to create a unified vision for a better future for Siloe.

With this goal in mind, Yonny is constantly seeking out opportunities to collaborate with other community leaders, organizations, and activists. He firmly believes that by working together, Siloe can achieve great things, and he is determined to bring about positive change in any way he can.

One of Yonny's key priorities is the development of more public spaces in Siloe. He believes that access to safe and well-maintained public spaces is crucial for the health and happiness of the community, and is dedicated to making this a reality. Yonny is actively involved in discussions and planning around the creation of new parks, playgrounds, and other community spaces, and is constantly advocating for the needs and desires of Siloe residents in these discussions.

"Siloe is really lacking in good open public spaces. With only around 24 spaces in the neighborhood, it can not possibly accommodate everyone in Siloe..." "...If everyone stepped outside (in Siloe), they would only have 2 cm of space between each person. In Cali, the spacing would be about 12 meters."



Figure 3.11 Yonny Photo

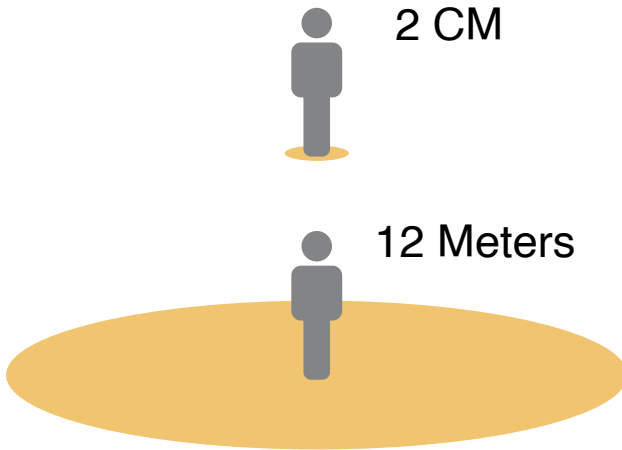


Figure 3.12 Available Open Space Diagram

John has strong ties to local gangs of Siloe and is considered a leader of his own territory within Siloe. For decades, Siloe has been divided by invisible territorial borders that have been created through gang activity. With modern times, the view of this division is lessening and the gangs of Siloe are working to compromise with one another. This is all in hopes that it will lead to a better community to future generations. "Siloe contains invisible territorial lines that are set by the local gang leaders. With the new generation leaving its mark on the neighborhood. The importance of good and health development of the youth will give Siloe a chance to make a real change from its own history." John with his important role, is lending a hand in developing a observatory that is to utilized the abandon water tank at the top of the informal settlement where the Siloe star landmark is.



Figure 3.13 John Photo

Figure 3.14 Star of Siloe



As a result of in-depth interviews conducted in the Siloe area, it has become apparent that the people living there have learned to adapt to the limited spaces available to them. Despite this adaptation, there is still a pressing need for more space in the settlement, but due to the extreme density of the area, developing new spaces is a challenging task. Nevertheless, the residents of Siloe continue to persevere and make the best of what they have available to them.

One of the most fascinating aspects of the informal settlement in Siloe is the importance of the street as a sense of place and public activity. Unlike many other places in the world, including developed first world countries like the United States, where the streets serve mainly as channels for transportation, the street in Siloe becomes the nucleolus of the informal settlement, occupying the needs that the residents require. The street serves as a place for socialization, play, and economic activity, and is essential for the survival of the community. Exploring the relationship that the street has with the residents and activity can lead to addressing the lack of open space in Siloe.

THE STREET IS THE
NUCLEOLUS
OF THE INFORMAL
SETTLEMENT

Street is Open Space

After conducting extensive on-site documentation, including video recordings and activity sketching exercises, as well as interviews with local residents, it has become evident that the public space in Siloe takes on a unique and integral form in the shape of the street. Despite its seemingly mundane and functional purpose, the street serves as a vital gathering place for the community, allowing people to congregate and interact with one another in a meaningful way.

One of the most striking aspects of the street space in Siloe is its flexibility and adaptability to the needs of the people. Unlike many other public spaces, which are rigid and unchanging, the street space in Siloe is fluid and constantly evolving, able to respond to the changing needs and desires of the community. This adaptability is reflected in the various forms that the street takes on, including micro economies, community services, public transportation, open spaces, and nodes.



Figure 3.15 Essence of the Street Framework

Micro
Economy

Community
Services

Public
Transportation

Open Space

Node

Micro Economy

The micro economy in the context of informal settlements in Latin America refers to the informal and small-scale economic activities that take place within the local community. This includes street vendors, small shops, and other informal businesses that operate within the community. These micro-economies often play an important role in providing employment opportunities and basic goods and services to residents.

Figure 3.16 Local Vendor



Community Services

Community services refer to the facilities and services that are provided to the residents of informal settlements in Latin America to meet their basic needs. These services may include access to clean water, sanitation, healthcare, education, and public safety. Community services are often provided by local organizations or government agencies.

Figure 3.17 Organizer for Siloe Star Events



Public Transportation

Public transportation in informal settlements in Latin America refers to the transportation systems that are available to residents to travel within and outside of the community. These transportation systems may include buses, van services, and individual forms of transportation such as motorcycles, bicycles, and small cars. The most common way of traveling around is by foot as many pedestrian footpaths are scattered throughout the informal settlements and do not allow for other means of transportation.

Figure 3.18 Colombia Van Service



Open Spaces

Open spaces are public areas within informal settlements in Latin America that are not developed or built upon. These areas may include parks, plazas, and other green spaces that are used for recreational activities and social gatherings. Open space is important in providing residents with a sense of community and a place to connect with nature.

Figure 3.19 Parque De La Horqueta



Nodes

Nodes in informal settlements refer to key points or landmarks within the community, such as markets, transportation hubs, or community centers. These nodes often serve as important gathering places for residents and may be focal points for economic activity and social interaction.

Figure 3.20 Open Space attached to Cable Cart System



Analysis of the Street



Nodes
Activated Residential Street Intersection



Micro Economy
Market at Bottom of the Barrio



Public Transportation
MIO Cable Line



Open Space
Pocket Park



Micro Economy
Market Near Star of Siloe



Open Space
Large Sidewalk

Figure 3.21 Essence of the Street Photo Analysis



Public Transportation

Stairs Providing Access to Elevated areas of Barrio



Community Services + Micro Economy

Convenience Store and Clinic



Node + Open Space

Futsal Court on Street



Community Services

Art Museum with in Star of Siloe



Open Space

El Paisa Soccer Field



Micro Economy + Community Service

Vendor Selling Photos Outside Siloe History Museum

Public Spaces

The Projects for Public Space, a non-profit organization, has developed a comprehensive framework for creating good public spaces. This framework highlights several key aspects that are essential to designing public spaces that are comfortable, accessible, functional, and sociable. The categories identified by the framework have been shown to be instrumental in driving engagement with the community and improving the overall quality of life for residents.

The four categories identified by the framework include comfort, access, uses, and sociability. Each of these categories plays a crucial role in creating public spaces that are welcoming, functional, and enjoyable to use. Comfort factors such as seating, shade, and lighting can greatly enhance the overall user experience, while accessibility features such as ramps, pathways, and tactile paving can ensure that the space is usable by everyone. Uses refer to the various activities and functions that the space can serve, including recreation, socializing, and cultural events. Finally, sociability refers to the level of interaction and connection that the space fosters among community members.

By applying this framework to the context of two comunas, it was found that the majority of these aspects were present in the city of Cali. However, this framework is not limited to modern practices and environments; it can also be adapted to suit the unique characteristics of informal settlements in Latin America. Indeed, the qualities identified by the framework can be applied to any public space, regardless of its location or context.



Public
Spaces



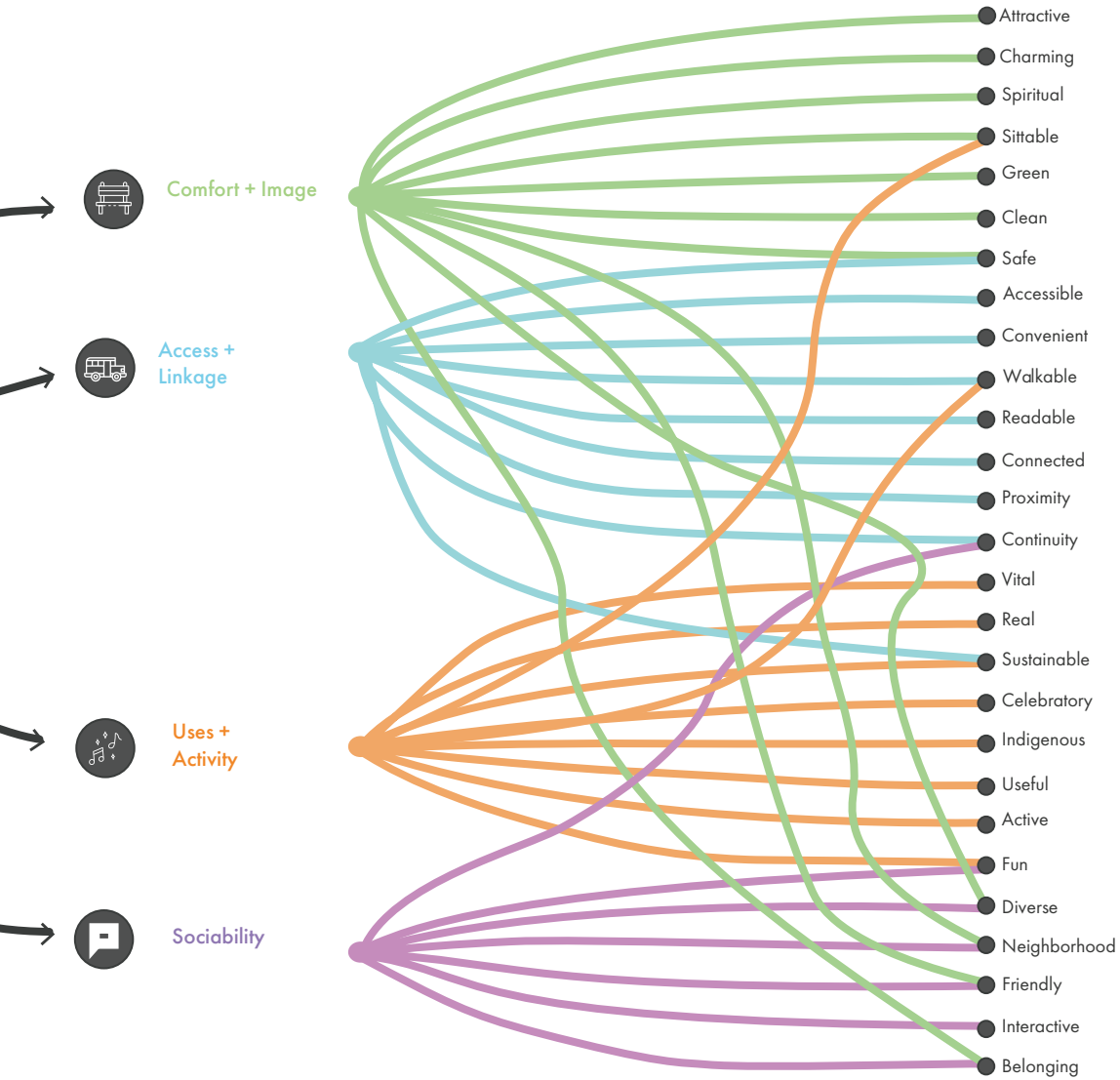


Figure 3.22 What Makes Good Public Spaces, Framework

Public Spaces in Cali and Siloe

In this study, a comprehensive analysis was conducted to evaluate several public spaces located in both Cali and Siloe. The study aimed to compare these spaces using Projects for Public Spaces' framework to identify the most prominent aspects that are represented in each area. Through this analysis, it was found that the level of comfort provided by the public spaces in Cali was remarkably high, reflecting the city's commitment to providing a pleasant and inviting environment for

its citizens.

In contrast, the public spaces in Siloe were primarily focused on facilitating various activities, such as socializing, playing sports, and engaging in community events. These spaces were optimized to be developed in high-density areas, catering to the needs of the densely populated community. The study also revealed that the public spaces in Siloe were designed to foster a sense of community



Stadium Grounds



City Plaza #1



City Plaza #2



Pocket Park #1



MIO Cable



Pocket Park #2



Parque El Gato De Tejada



Shopping Center



Pocket Park #3

among the residents and provide them with opportunities to come together and engage in various activities.

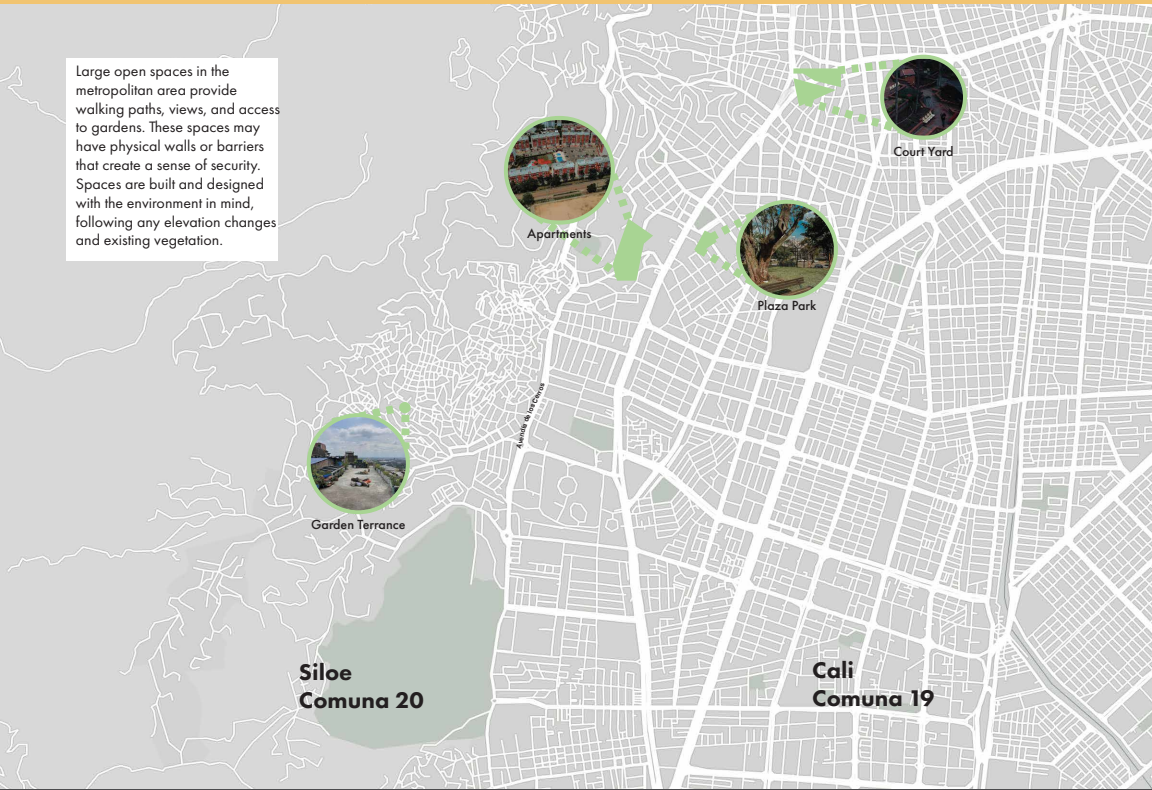
Figure 3.23 Photo analysis Comparing Public Spaces



Comfort + Image

Figure 3.24 Comfort + Image Analysis Map

Large open spaces in the metropolitan area provide walking paths, views, and access to gardens. These spaces may have physical walls or barriers that create a sense of security. Spaces are built and designed with the environment in mind, following any elevation changes and existing vegetation.

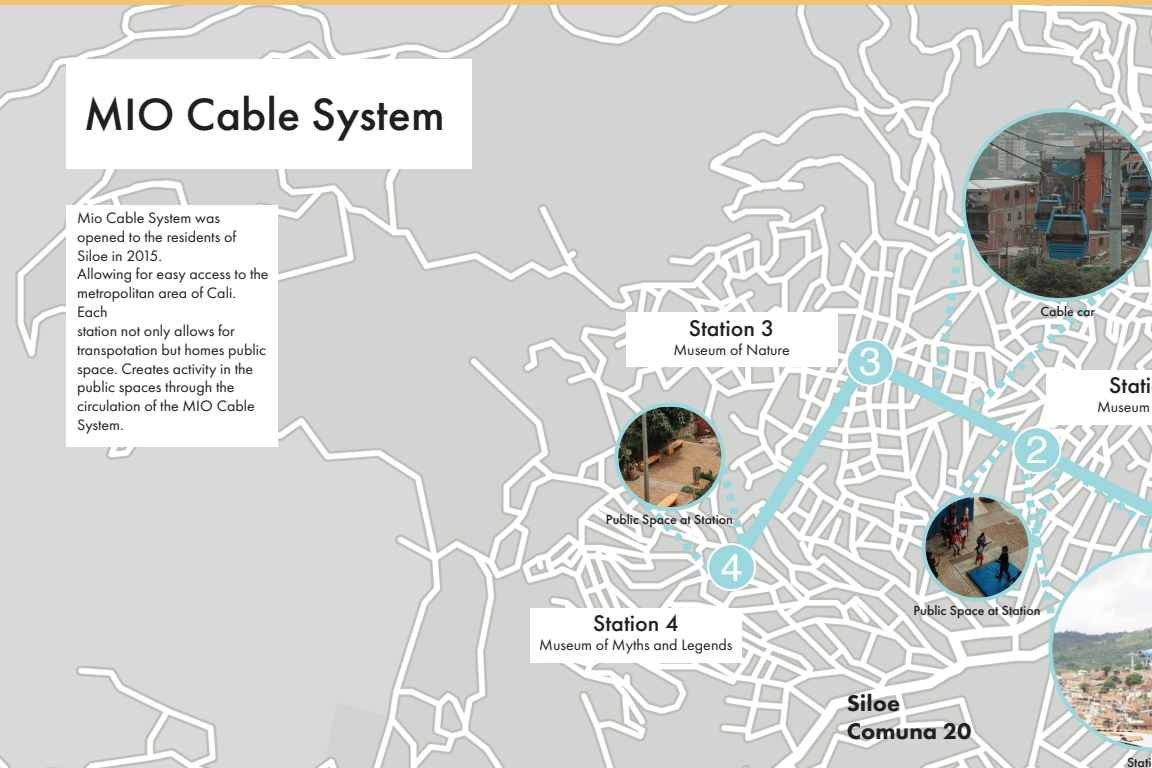


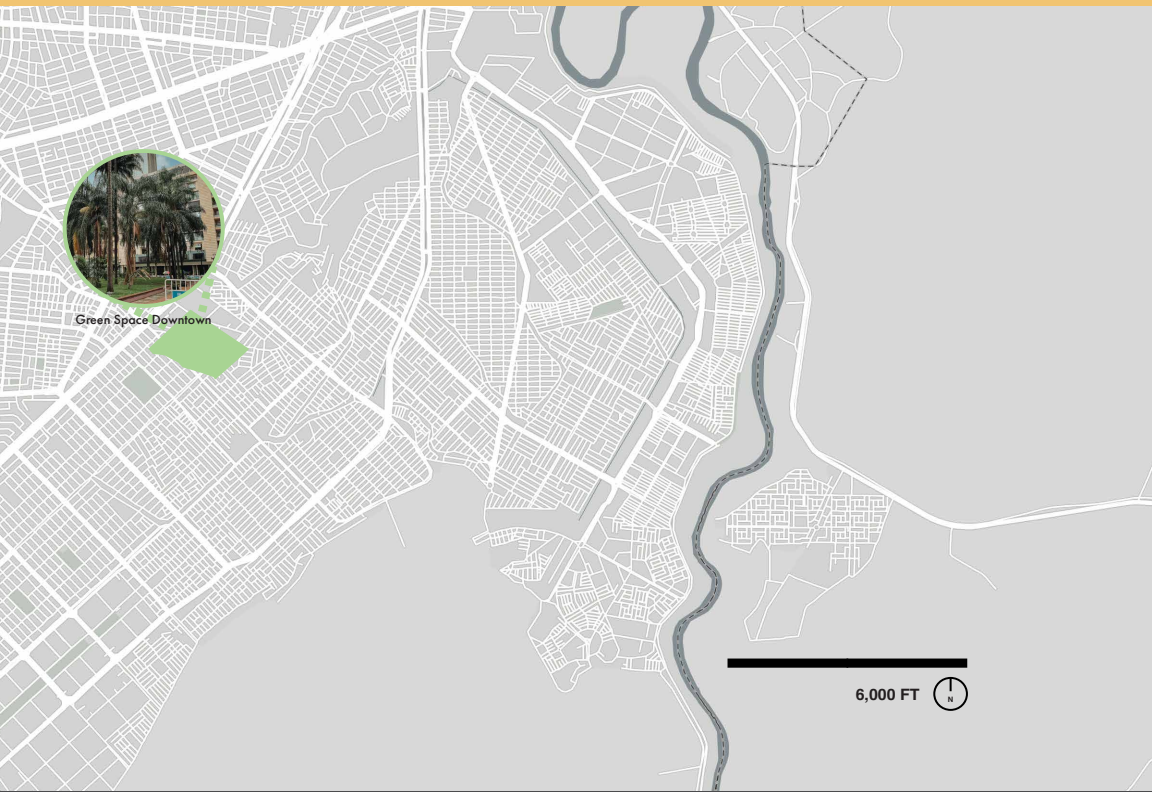
Access + Linkage

Figure 3.25 Access + Linkage Analysis Map

MIO Cable System

Mio Cable System was opened to the residents of Siloe in 2015. Allowing for easy access to the metropolitan area of Cali. Each station not only allows for transportation but homes public space. Creates activity in the public spaces through the circulation of the MIO Cable System.



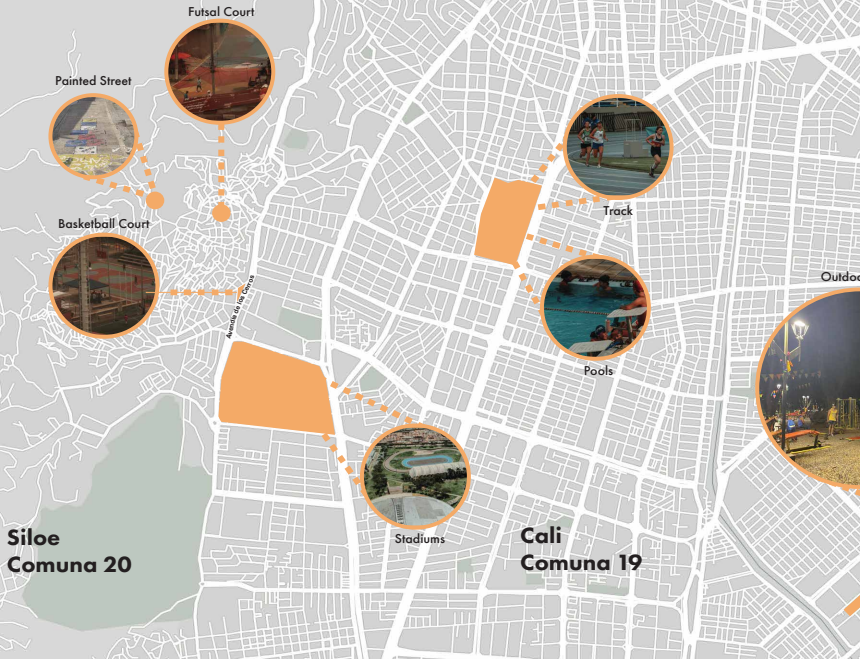


Usage + Activity

Figure 3.26 Usage + Activity Analysis Map

Siloe approaches it's public spaces with a temporal approach. Utilizing the streets and interceptions of streets to organize events and gatherings.

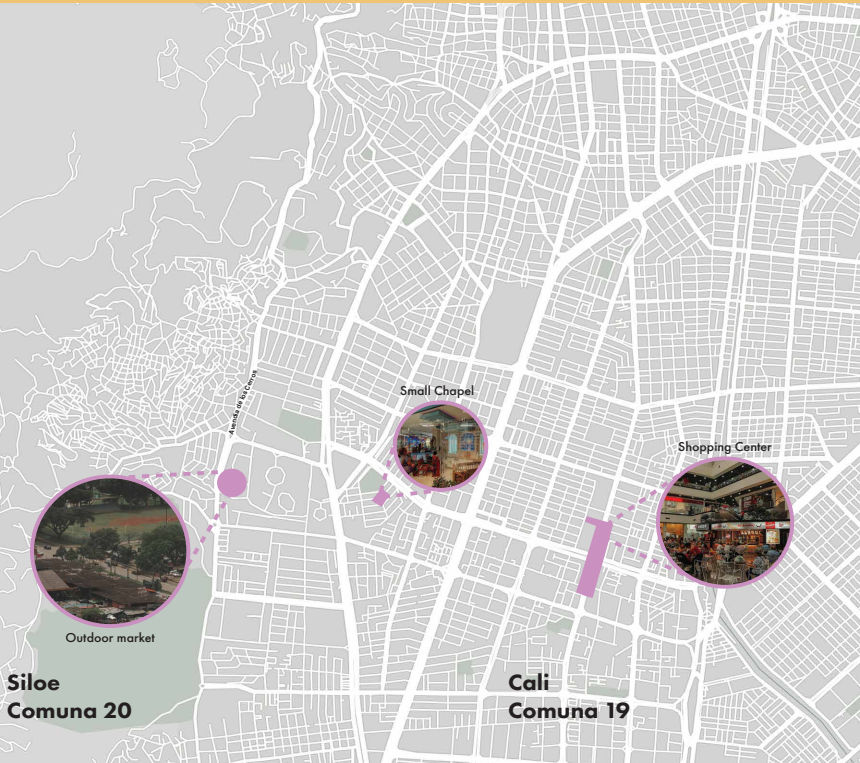
Cali's metropolitan area has many more fix spaces that are specifically programmed. Multiple facilities and fields directed for youth sporting events.

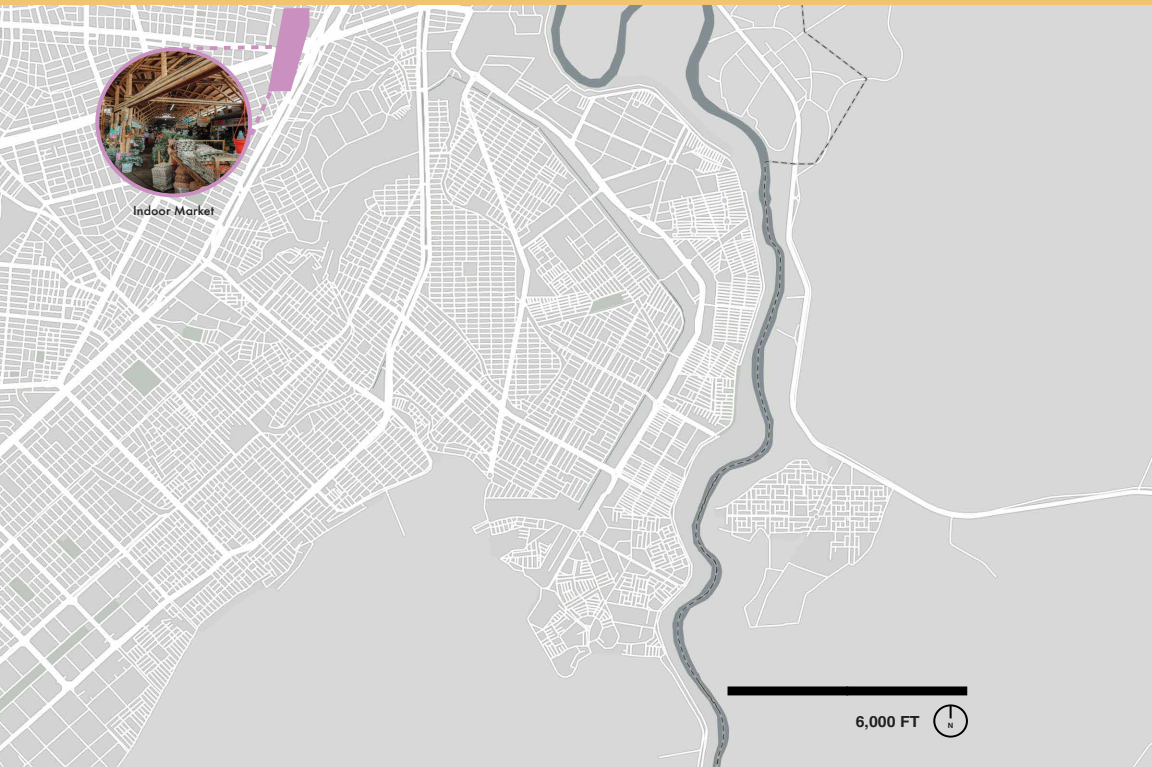
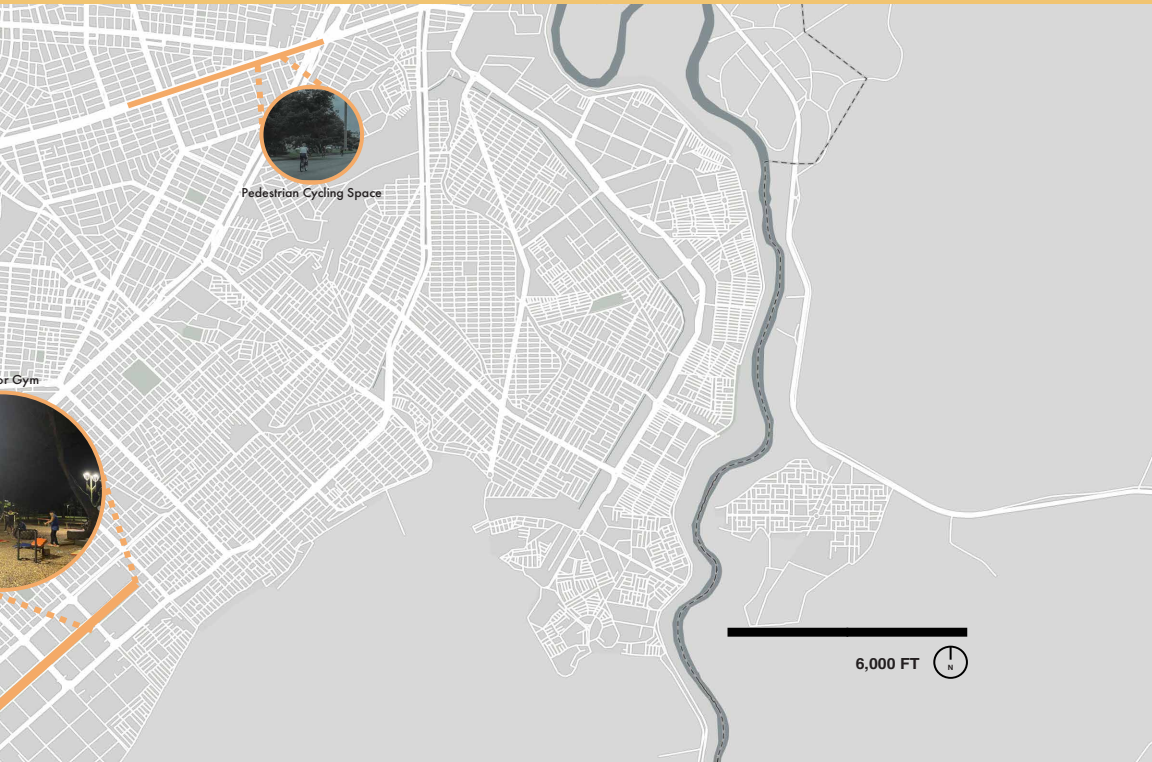


Sociability

Figure 3.27 Sociability Analysis Map

People tend to gather and interact in spaces where the activity is diverse and open to all people. Churches and markets are good examples because they allow for conversations to be generated and intentional in those spaces.





Informal Block Animation

An animation study of activity through a given day was conducted on a specific block in Siloe. The animation study was a detailed examination of the various activities that took place on this block, from the hustle and bustle of the morning rush hour, to the lull of midday, to the vibrant energy of the evening.

The study revealed that the block was a microcosm of the larger city, with its own unique set of challenges and opportunities. The micro economy that thrived on the block was a reflection of the larger economic system, with businesses relying on each other for support and survival. The community services provided by the block, such as clinics and schools, were essential to the well-being of the residents and played a vital role in the block's overall functioning.

Furthermore, the block acted as a node, connecting people and businesses to the rest of the city. It was a hub of activity, with people from all walks of life coming and going throughout the day. The study showed that the block was not just a physical space, but a social and cultural one as well, with its own unique identity and character.



Figure 3.28 Animation Block Video



Multi-functioning Home/Business

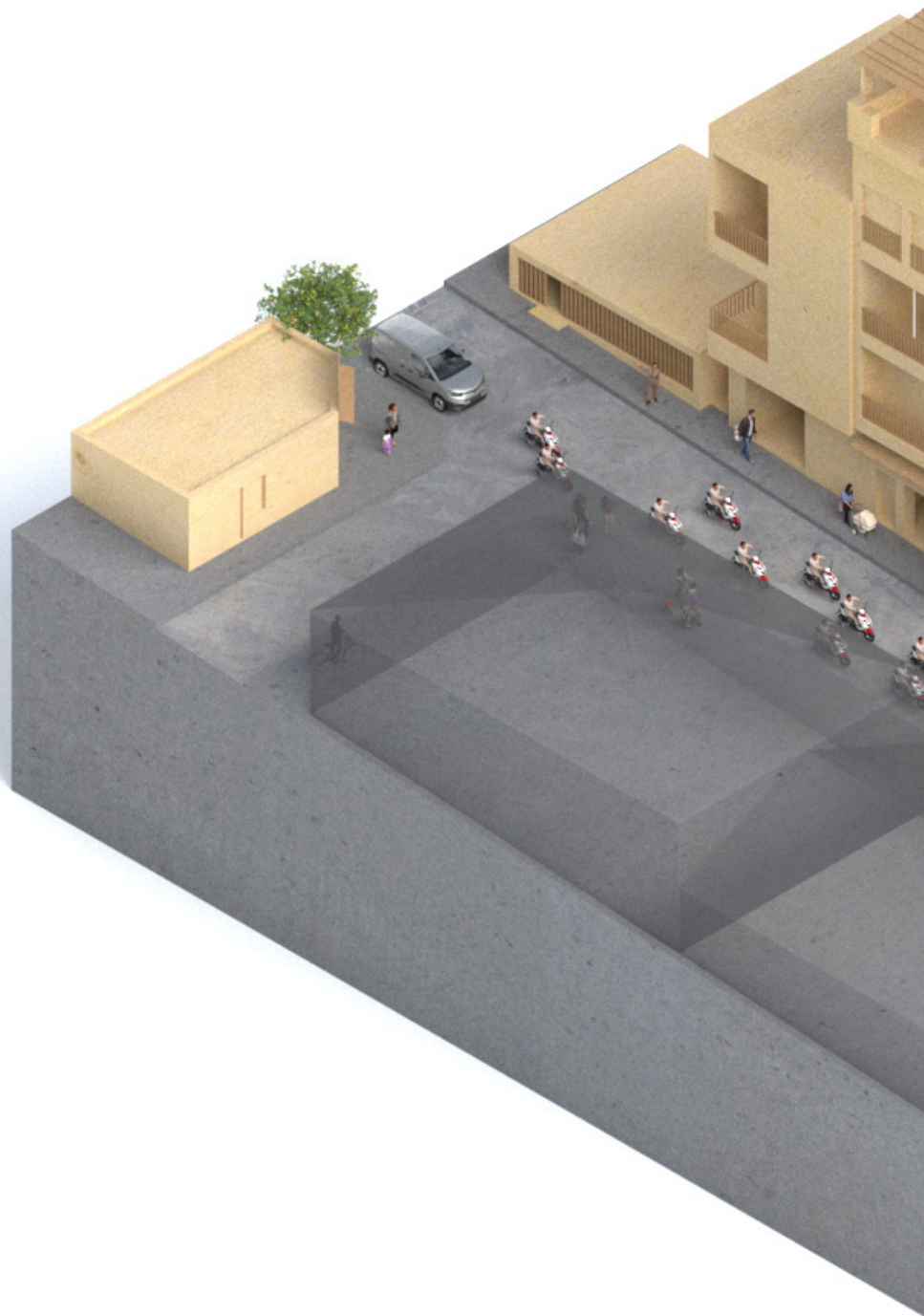


Street



Elementary School

Figure 3.29 Animation Block Context



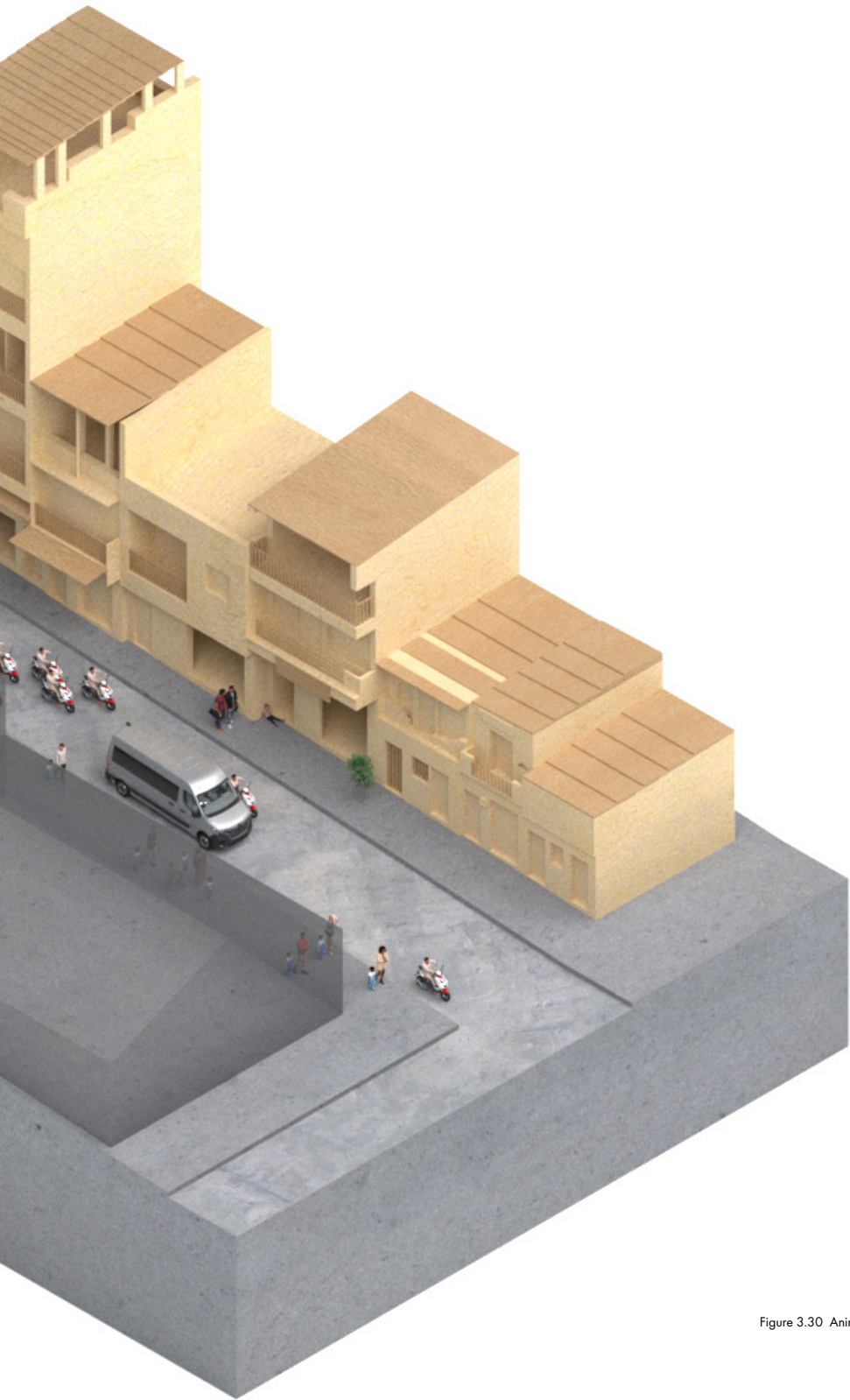


Figure 3.30 Animation Model

Street Conditions of the Neighborhoods

After conducting a thorough analysis of the relationship between street connectivity and the residents of three different block sizes, including the city of Cali, the border condition of Siloe, and an inner portion of Siloe, several key findings emerged.

The study revealed that the transition from the urbanized city of Cali to the inner Siloe created a blending of private and public spaces, resulting in increased opportunities for street-level social interaction. Conversely, while the city of Cali boasts an abundance of open space, a stronger emphasis on privacy creates a divide between locals and the street.

In the informal streets of Siloe, a range of activities take place, with residents often physically occupying the street itself. However, the inner Siloe block presents unique challenges, such as a lack of on-site services, limited access to community resources and open space, and a heightened concern for safety due to increasing levels of violence deeper within the informal settlement.



Figure 3.31 Cali Section: Street Relationship to Neighborhood

Cali - Comuna 19

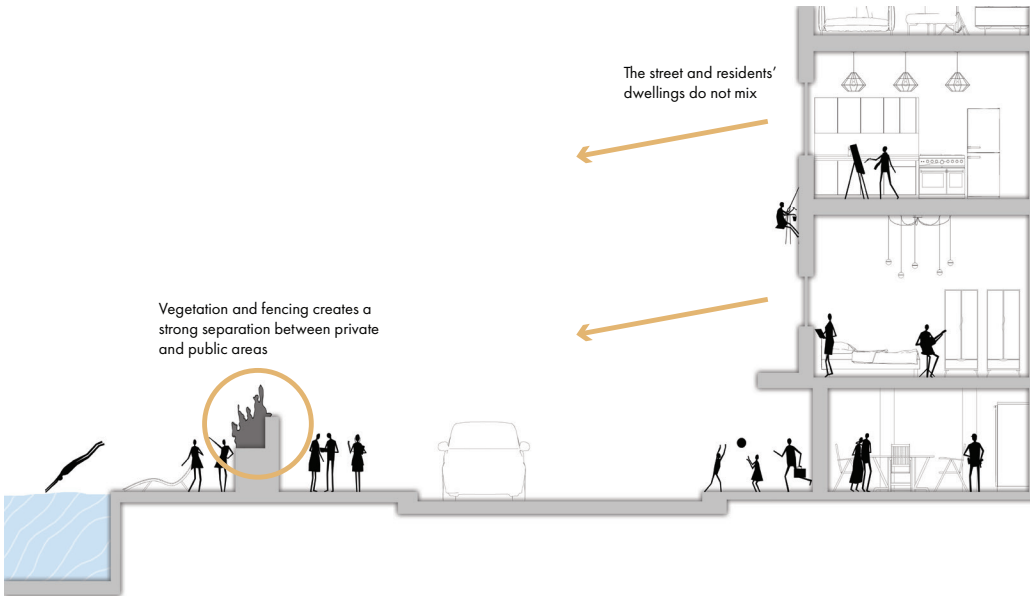
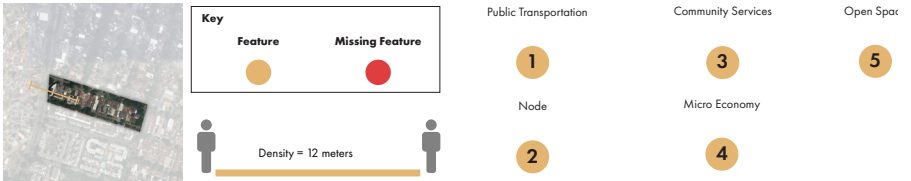
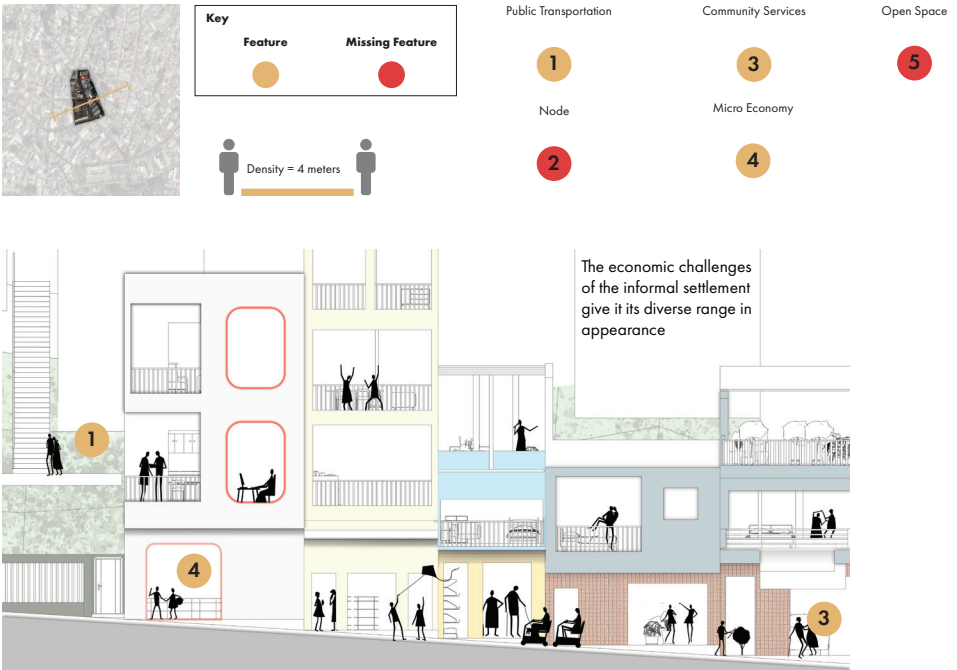
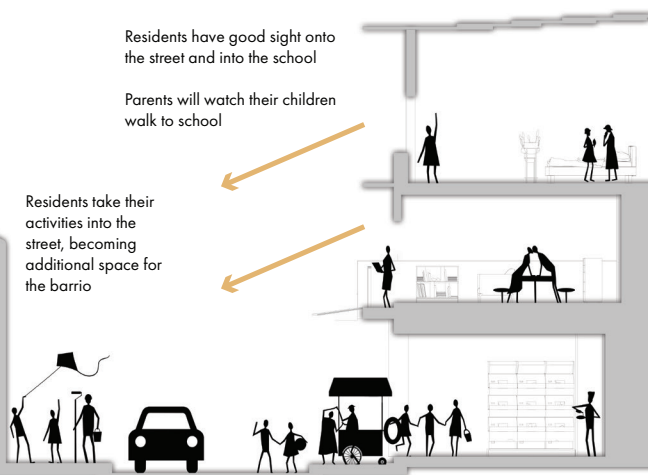


Figure 3.32 Siloe Border Section: Street Relationship to Neighborhood

Siloe Border - Comuna 20





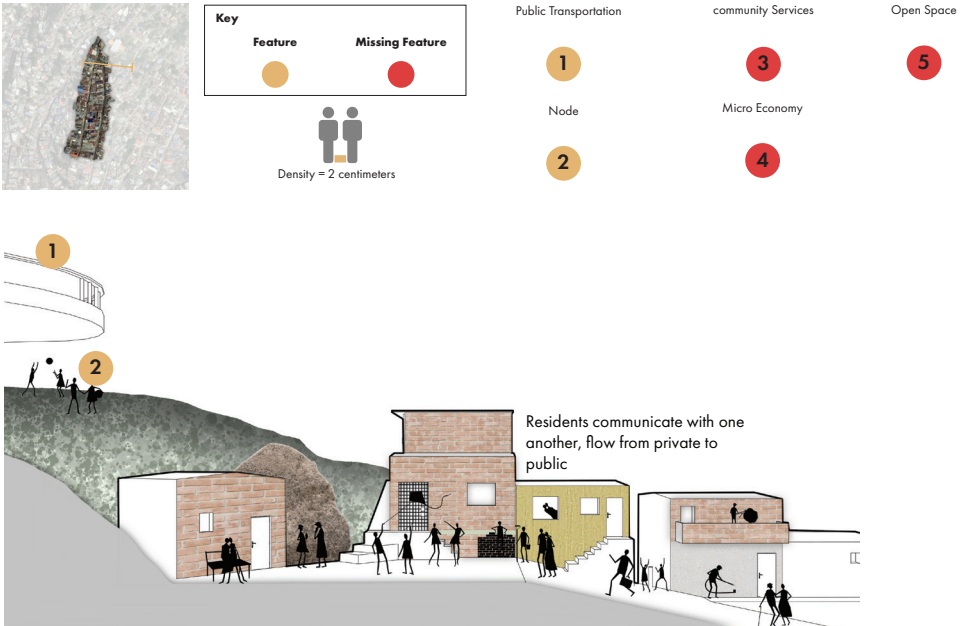
Residents have good sight onto the street and into the school

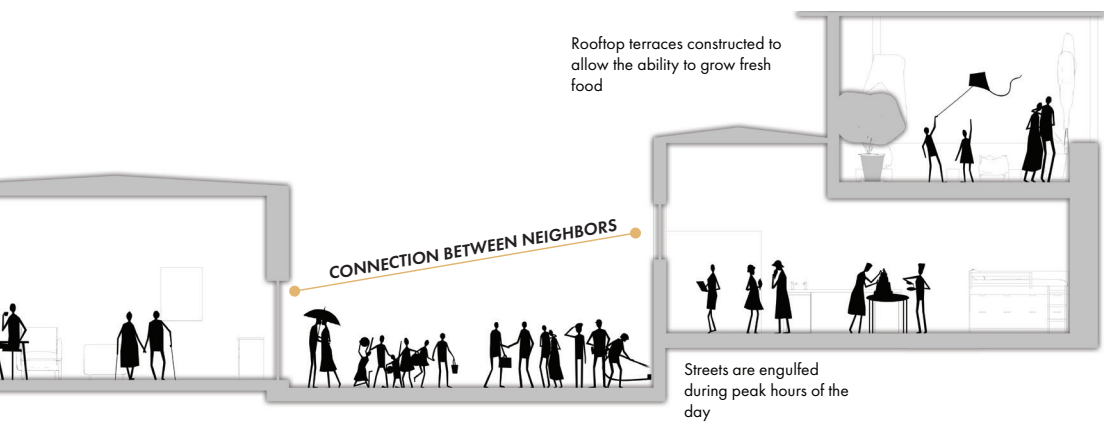
Parents will watch their children walk to school

Residents take their activities into the street, becoming additional space for the barrio

Figure 3.33 Inner Siloe Section: Street Relationship to Neighborhood

Inner Siloe - Comuna 20





04 Precedents

The significance of precedents in shaping the future of informal settlements cannot be overstated. By examining various programs and locations, researchers can uncover valuable insights that will guide the investigation towards innovative approaches that challenge conventional methods. These insights can help designers and policymakers to better understand the complex dynamics of informal settlements, including the social, economic, and environmental factors that contribute to their formation and growth.

Edesio Fernandes highlights three key factors to combat the issues prevalent in informal settlements and create a prosperous environment. The first factor involves providing formal legal recognition of the communities and individuals or other forms of ownership and legal possession. The second factor emphasizes remedying gaps in public services. The third

factor focuses on promoting local economic opportunities and growth.

Addressing and defining the known causes of informality in these settlements can help make strides towards securing real opportunities through policy and built environment. There are several factors that contribute to the formation of informal settlements, including low income, complications in wealth distribution and occupation, and the lack of public administration in these areas.

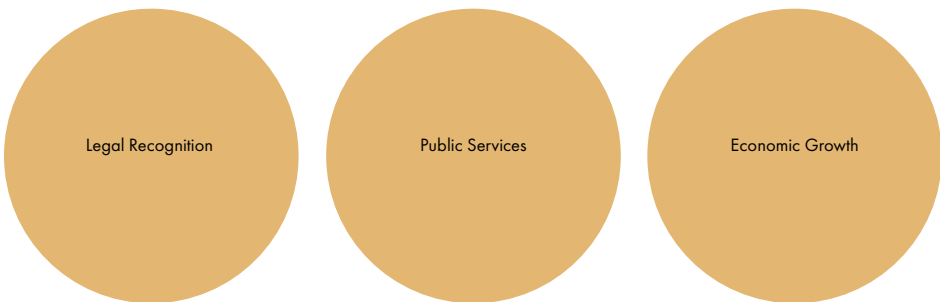


Figure 4.1 Edesio Fernandes Three Key Factors

The growth of urban cities has led to the development of informal settlements over time. These areas, which lack proper urban planning, have become large-scale cities with extremely dense populations. The personal history of each informal settlement is rooted in its culture and the needs and wants of its residents. This must be considered when planning interventions and changes to policy. To address the challenges and needs of informal settlements, frameworks have been developed in many areas of Latin America.

Figure 4.2 Medellin, Colombia Skyline



Favela Barrio Project

The issue of informal settlements have to be adapted and developed through organizations that have a focus on the people in these environments. The idea of developing the environment as a whole to allow for a higher quality of life experience is the end goal for these organizations.

One such example is the Favela-Barrio II program in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. This program aims to integrate local favelas, or informal settlements, into the urban city by linking infrastructure and city-wide services such as electricity, water, gas lines, police, fire, and garbage.

The program recognizes that poverty cannot be alleviated through infrastructure investments alone. Therefore, it combines these investments with improvements in the coverage and quality of social services, regulatory changes, and incentives and assistance for land legalization. This comprehensive approach seeks to address the underlying causes of poverty and inequality, rather than just treating the symptoms.

Favela-Barrio II demonstrate the potential for comprehensive and scalable approaches to addressing the issue of informal settlements. By integrating these settlements into the larger urban landscape and providing access to basic infrastructure and social services, these programs can significantly improve the quality of life for residents. It is important to continue to support and expand these efforts in order to create more equitable and sustainable cities around the world. The Favela-Barrio Project is a comprehensive framework designed to integrate informal settlements

into the urban cityscape. By identifying key elements that make up the fabric of urbanized development, this project aims to improve the quality of life for residents living in informal settlements. These key elements include sewage systems, garbage collection, public lighting, infrastructure for mobility, public transportation, electricity, external appearance of dwellings, street signs, postal services, water supply, and rainwater drainage systems.

One of the most significant challenges in informal settlements is the lack of proper sewage systems. The Favela-Barrio Project addresses this issue by providing access to public pipes, tubes, ducts, and conducts for both residents and service workers. This helps to prevent the illegal breaching of public sewage lines, which can lead to higher maintenance costs and the risk of waste overflow.

Another critical aspect of the project is improving the quality of garbage collection. The project aims to increase the number of bins placed on the streets to reduce overflow and prevent health and sanitation issues caused by the accumulation of trash.

Public lighting is also a key component of the project. In many informal areas, the lack of bright light at night can lead to increased criminal activity. By implementing more lighting posts in the streets, residents can feel safer and more secure.

Infrastructure for mobility is another critical element of the project. Streets, alleys, paths, stairs, and ramps are designed to be flexible for the inorganic nature of informal settlements. This is especially important given that motorcycles are the top means of transportation within the settlement, as large trucks and cars have trouble navigating the sharp cor-

ners and steep slopes.

Public transportation is also a vital component of the Favela-Barrio Project. Faster walk times allow residents to reach bus stops quickly, and other means of transportation include taxi, elevator, van services, and gondola systems that suspend residents high above the settlement.

The development of electricity is another essential element of the project. Establishing a wide range of coverage and limiting power outages is essential. While residents sometimes tap into the city's electrical grid, developing their own electrical grid that illegally sucks electricity from the urbanized areas can lead to problems.

The external appearance of the house is also critical in protecting residents from natural elements and challenges found on the exterior, such as odors, smoke, dust, and noise. This helps to create a welcoming neighborhood

that residents can be proud of.

Street signs and postal services are also essential in giving residents legitimacy to their land and identity to the overall context of the city. Being able to receive mail at their own address gives them a sense of human rights that have been lost due to poor policy.

Finally, a regulated and protected source of water is crucial to provide distributable water to residents. In some cases, the source of water can be used as a means to enter into trade and business with large distributors in the city centers.

Overall, the Favela-Barrio Project is a comprehensive framework that aims to integrate informal settlements into the urban cityscape. By identifying key elements of urbanized development, this project aims to improve the quality of life for residents living in informal settlements, creating a framework that can be

Figure 4.3 Favela-Barrio Program Development



duplicated and localized by government authorities and planners.
and more secure.

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Colombian Precedents

Colombia has undergone significant changes over the past few decades. One of the most pressing issues faced by many cities in the country is the rapid growth of informal settlements. These areas lack basic amenities such as sanitation, water supply, and access to healthcare, making them some of the most marginalized and vulnerable communities in the country.

To address these challenges, various development projects have been initiated across the country, with a focus on improving the living conditions of those residing in informal settlements. However, the success of these projects has been varied, with some communities benefiting more than others.

One approach that has proven successful in some areas is the creation of open spaces within informal settlements. In the city of Medellin, the construction of an escalator in Communion 13 transformed a single pathway into an open space that allowed for community activities and micro economies to thrive. The escalator acted as a node that connected different parts of the community, making it easier for people to move around and access services. This project was a prime example of how urban development can transform the lives of people living in informal settlements.



Figure 4.4 Medellín, Comuna 13, Urban Development



Similarly, in the Ciudad Bolívar District of Bogotá, the focus was on creating a vibrant cultural identity that spoke louder than public spaces in the city. This was achieved through the use of colorful artwork on the facades of buildings and the establishment of exhibition spaces along the streets. These spaces were filled with art from local artists, creating a sense of community pride and identity that was reflected in the urban landscape.



Figure 4.5 Ciudad Bolivar District of Bogotá, Creating a Sense of Cultural Identity



Results

The rapid growth of informal settlements in Colombia has led to significant challenges in terms of urban planning and development. While projects such as the escalator in Comuna 13 in Medellín and the colorful facades and exhibition spaces in the Ciudad Bolívar District of Bogotá have provided significant benefits to their respective communities, there is still room for improvement in terms of adapting these spaces to the changing street environment.

To address these challenges, it is essential to take a more holistic approach to urban development that takes into account the cultural identity and street environment of these communities. By combining the strengths of urbanized spaces and cultural identity, it is possible to create open spaces that are tied to the specific needs and values of the community.

The integration of these spaces with the existing street environment could help to create a more cohesive and integrated urban landscape. This could involve the use of sustainable and adaptive design practices that take into account the changing needs of the community and the environment over time.

URBANIZED SPACES

SYNERGIZED

WITH

CULTURAL

IDENTITY

EQUALS

ENGAGING OPEN SPACE

FOR THE

BARRIO

Urban Acupuncture

To achieve this, the Urban Think Tank, which is an informal urban planning firm, uses a technique known as urban acupuncture. This approach entails suggesting small-scale interventions in informal settings that address issues such as traffic flow, healthcare services, and recreational needs. These interventions are carefully designed to integrate with the unique street life of the area while providing practical solutions and additional open space for the community.

Central nodes are the focal points of urban acupuncture projects, and they are strategically located in areas where they can have the most significant impact. These nodes are designed to improve the quality of life for residents by providing additional services and open space that may be lacking in the area.

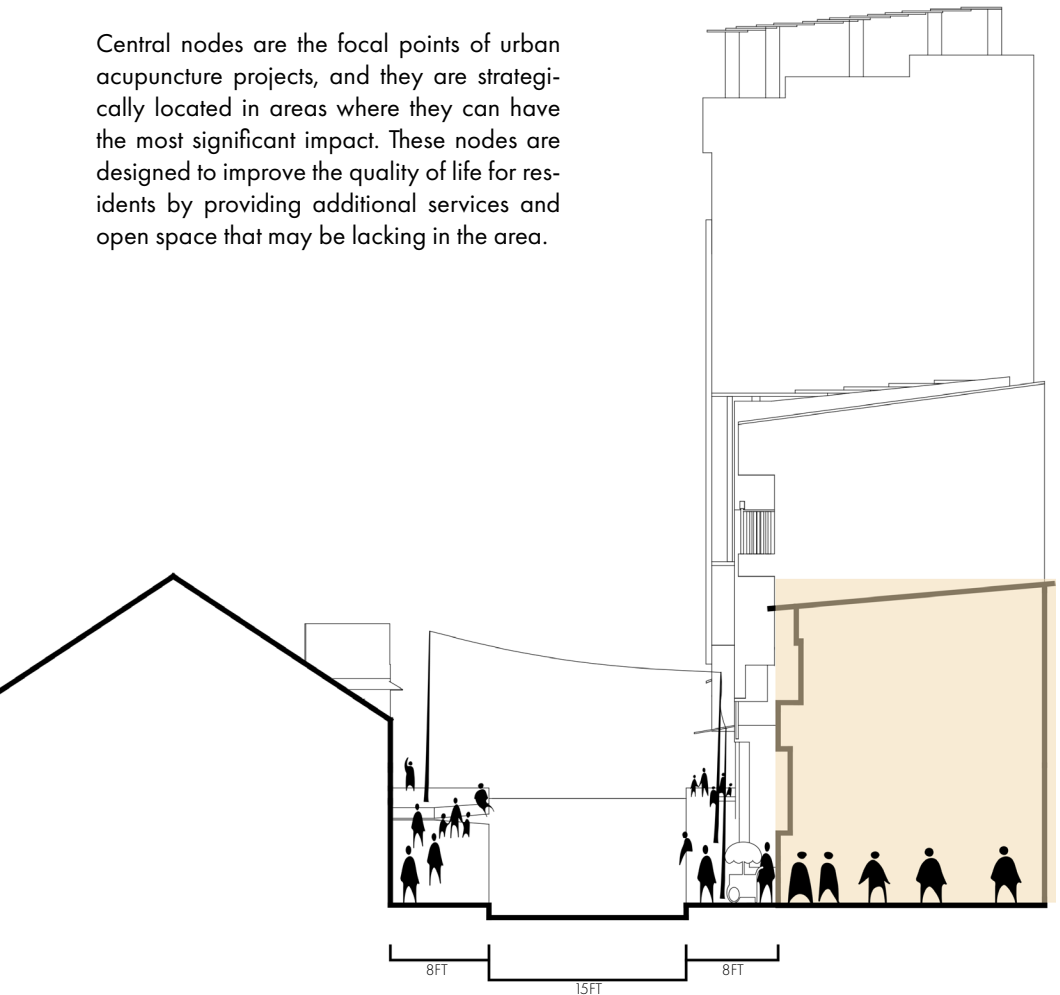


Figure 4.6 Section of Urban Acupuncture in Informal Settlements



Rooftop Utilization

Drawing inspiration from rooftop dwellings in Hong Kong, ascending to the rooftops in these informal areas could provide additional open spaces on the rooftops. This would allow the rooftops to become new homes, and offer additional public spaces that residents desire. By partnering with the vast number of personal gardens being formed on the rooftops in Siloe, new strategies can be developed for building into the roofs in the informal environment. This would provide the chance for the missing resources to become a part of these communities.

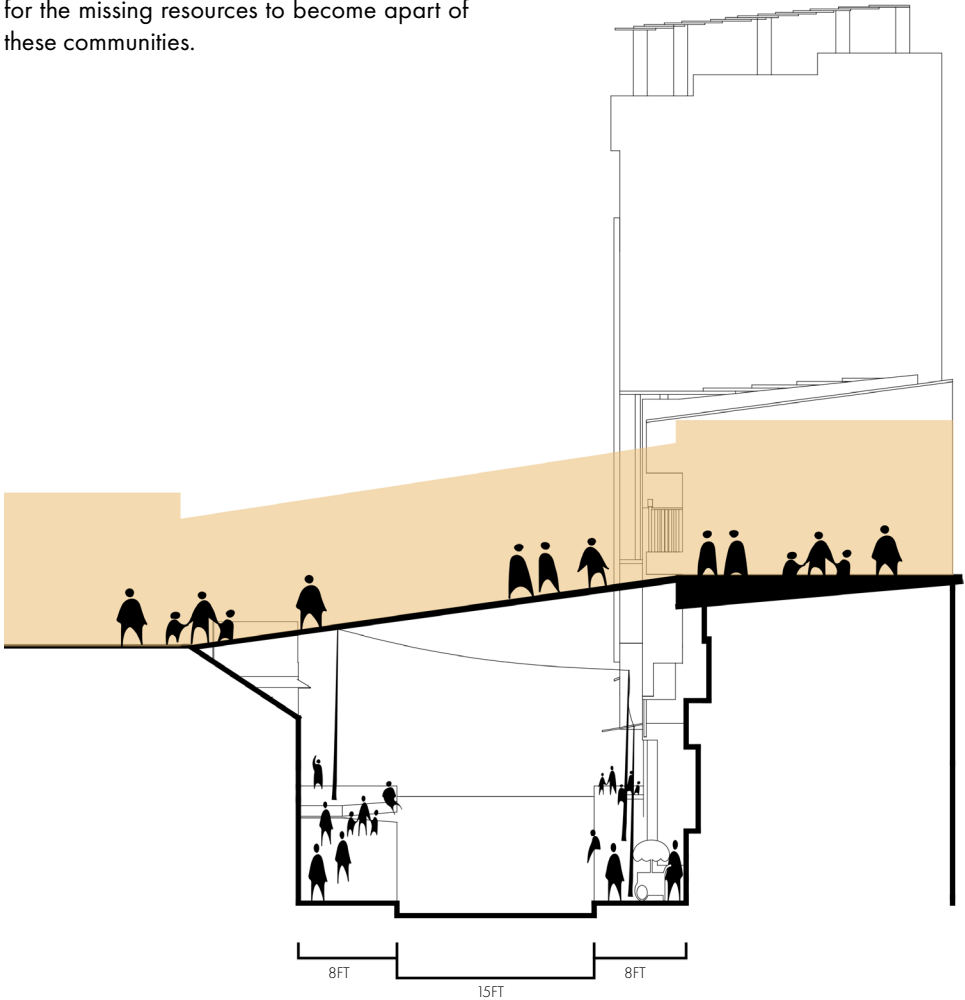


Figure 4.7 Section of Rooftop Utilization in Informal Settlements





Figure 5.1 Proposal Site Map

05

Informal Urbanism

To address the challenges brought about by informal settlements, a framework that cultivates informal urbanism is necessary. This framework involves the integration of two types of projects that would be attached to the urbanization plan of the informal settlement. These two types of projects are those that aim to reflect and develop around the aspect of public space and those that address the existing challenges of informal settlements.

The framework takes on four different forms, namely the node, horizontal circulation, vertical circulation, and open space. The node

pertains to a central point that serves as a hub for various activities and functions. Horizontal circulation involves the movement of people and goods across a particular area, while vertical circulation pertains to the movement of people and goods within a vertical space. Open space, on the other hand, pertains to the public areas that are accessible to everyone.

To realize the framework of informal urbanism, several elements need to be integrated into the urbanization plan of the informal settlement. One such element is the provision of

workshops that would provide opportunities for skill development and job creation. Access to public transportation is also crucial to ensure that residents can easily move around the city and access employment opportunities. Public gardens and religious spaces also provide a venue for social interaction and cultural exchange.

To ensure that the additional programs are accessible, nodes and rooftop passages should be inserted into the street environment. These passages would allow for the additional open space to be developed and aid in the need for more open space in the comuna. The development of these spaces would reflect the cultural integrity of the informal settlement and allow for these spaces to stay active for longer periods.

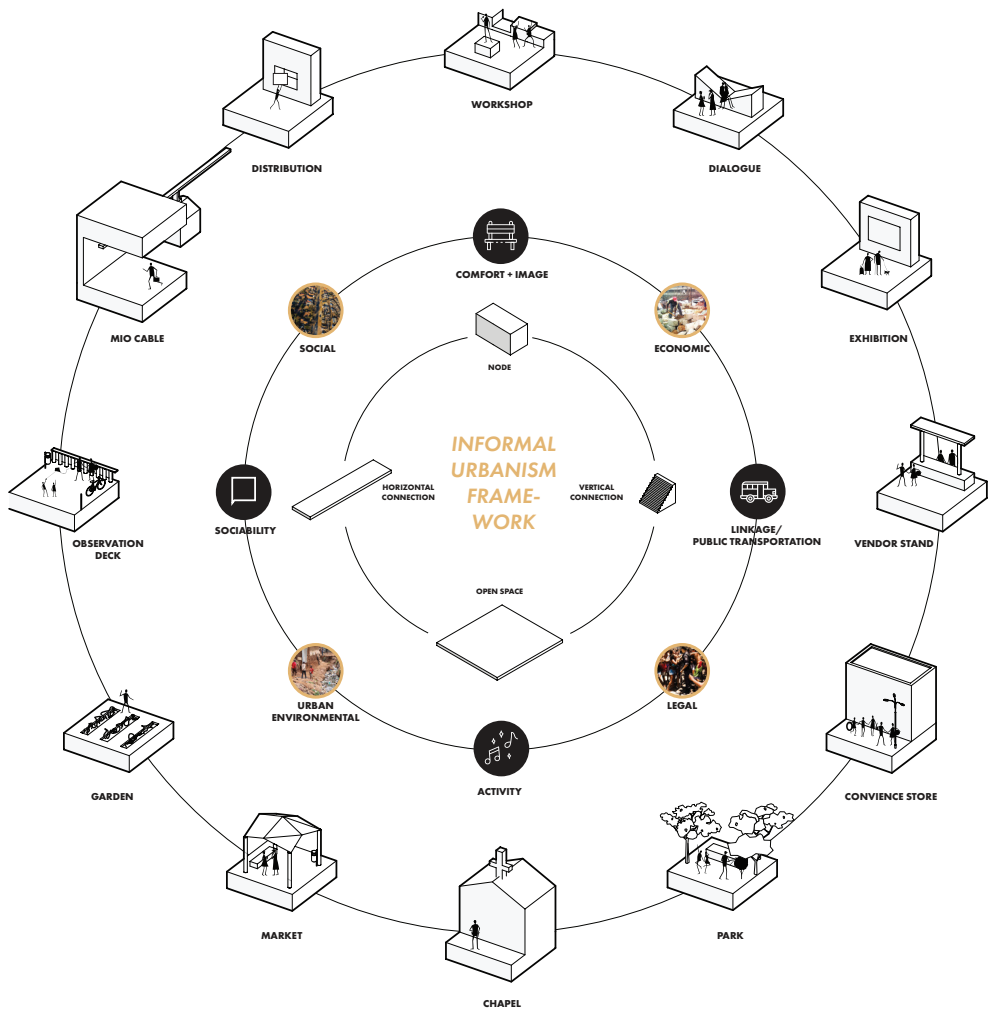


Figure 5.2 Informal Urbanism Framework

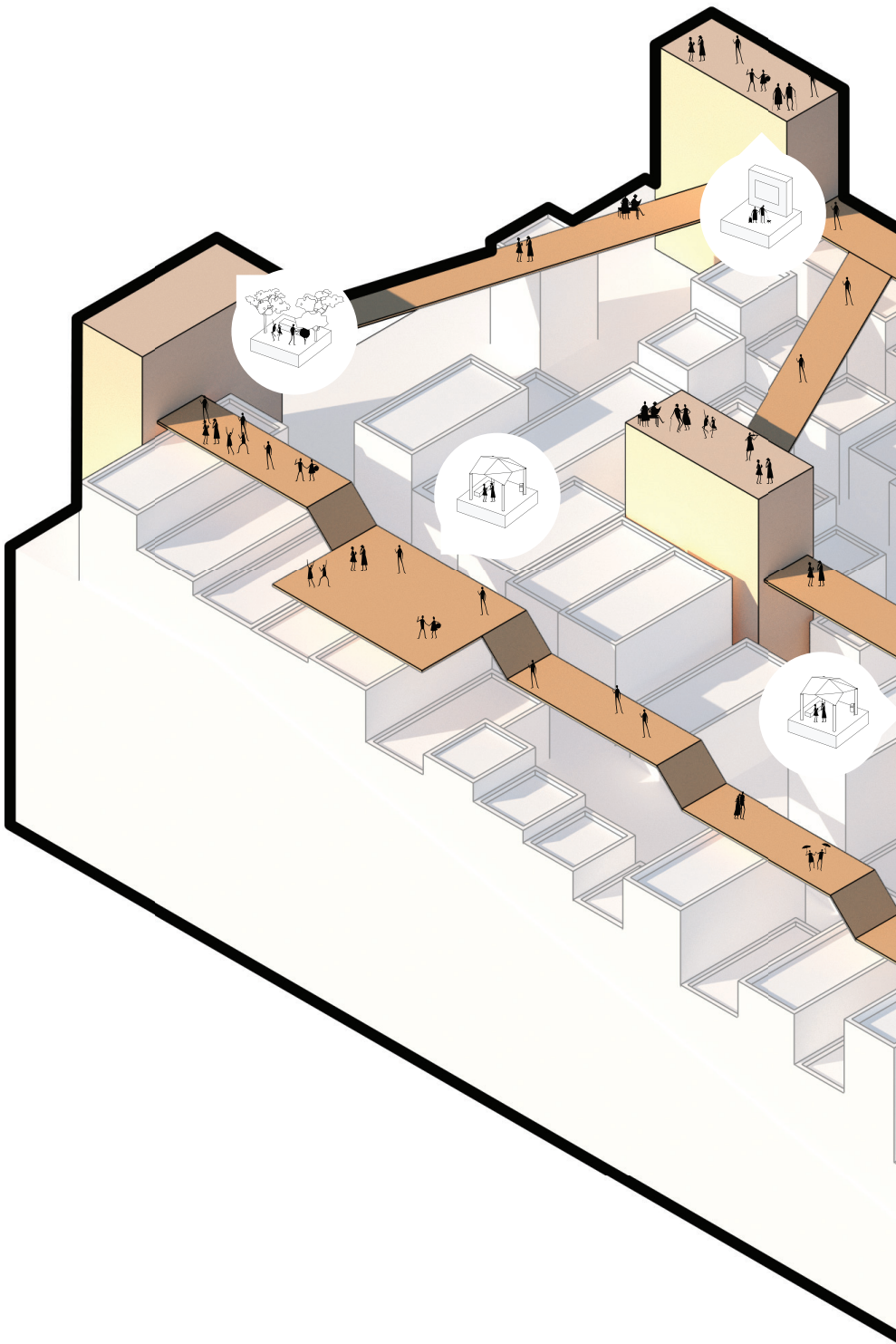


Figure 5.3 Isometric model of Informal Urbanism Proposal in Site

This isometric model shows how residents would be able to access the node and rooftop areas from the street. The rooftop circulation adapts to the change in elevation of rooftops to match the context while also providing additional programmable spaces.

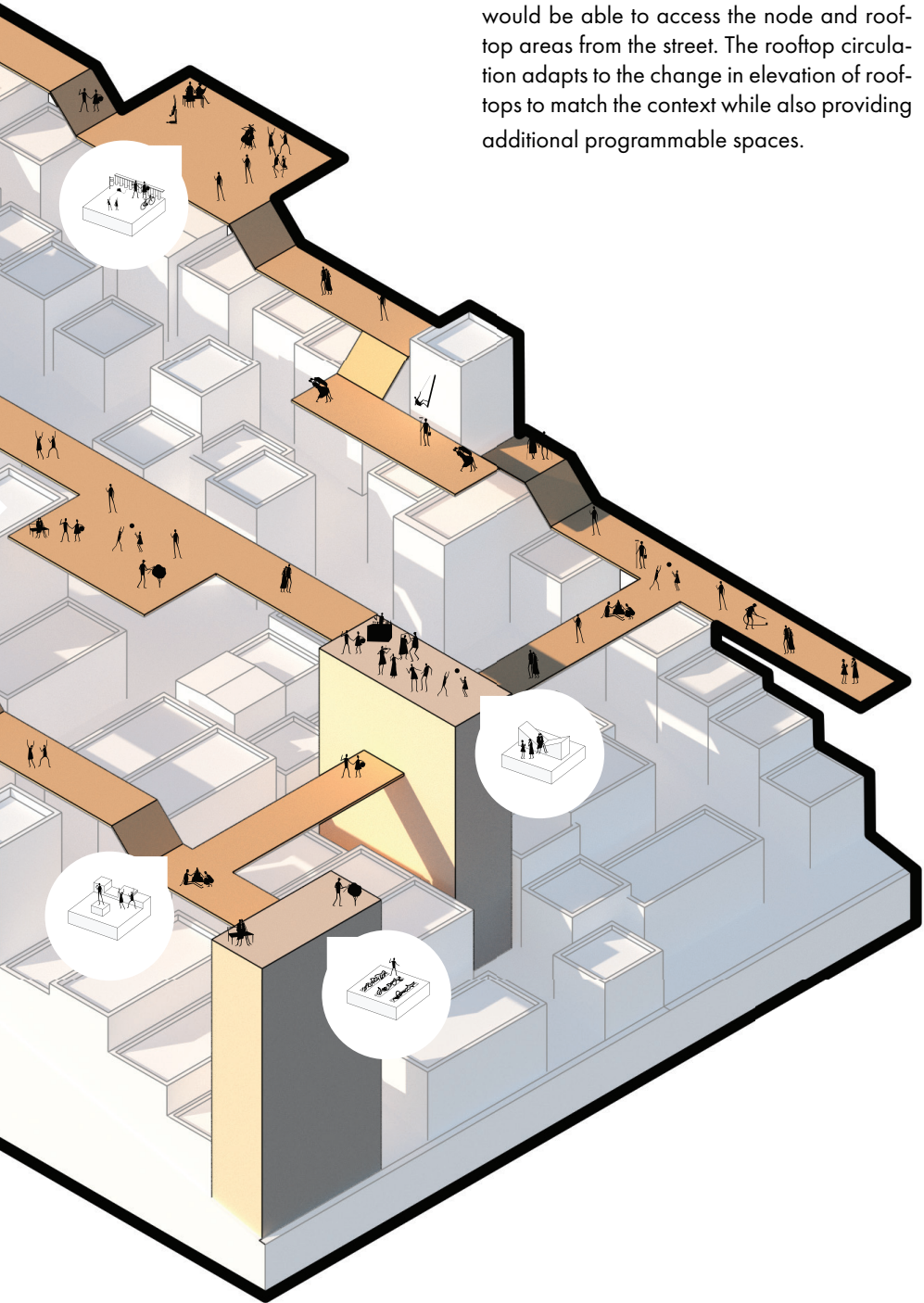




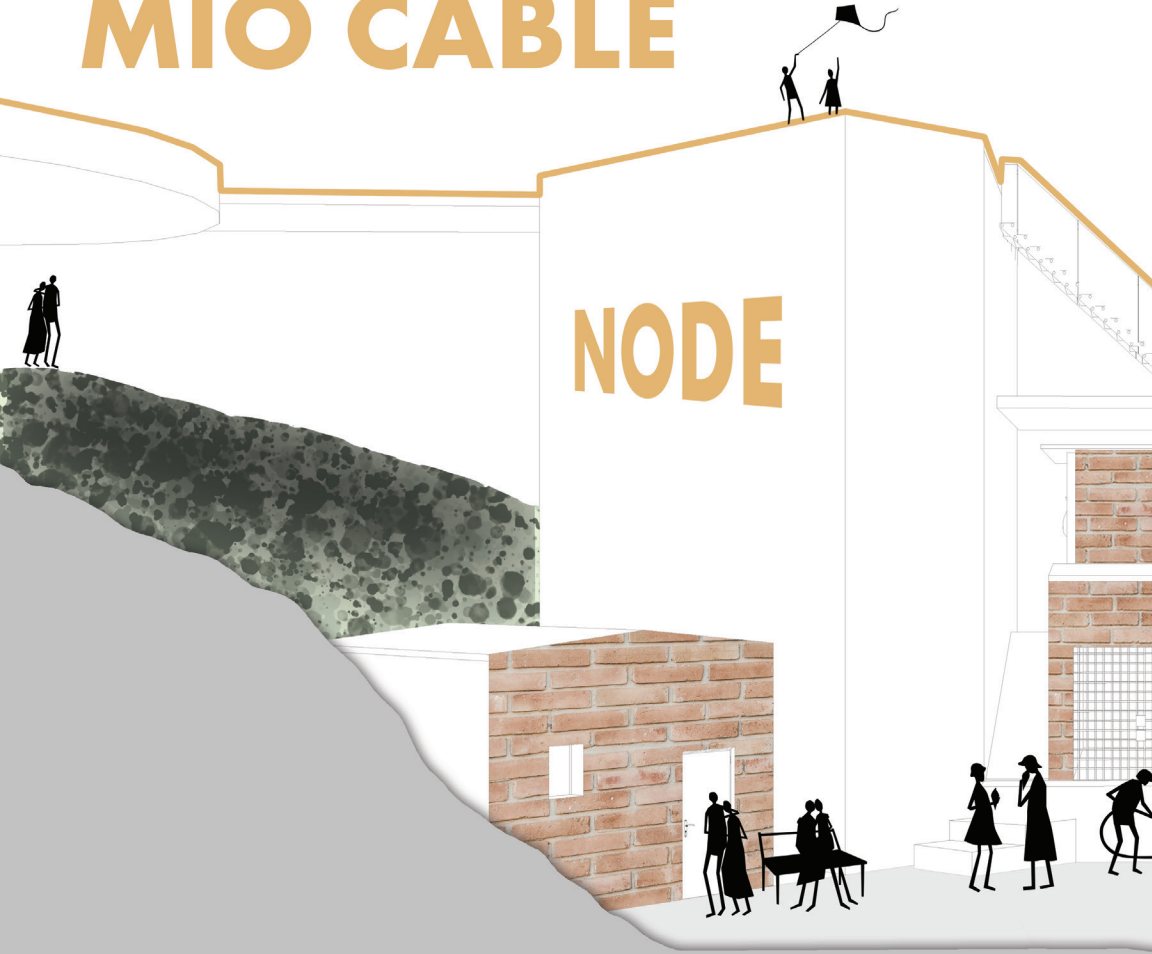
Figure 5.4 Collage of Informal Urbanism: Rooftops



Figure 5.5 Collage of Informal Urbanism: Street

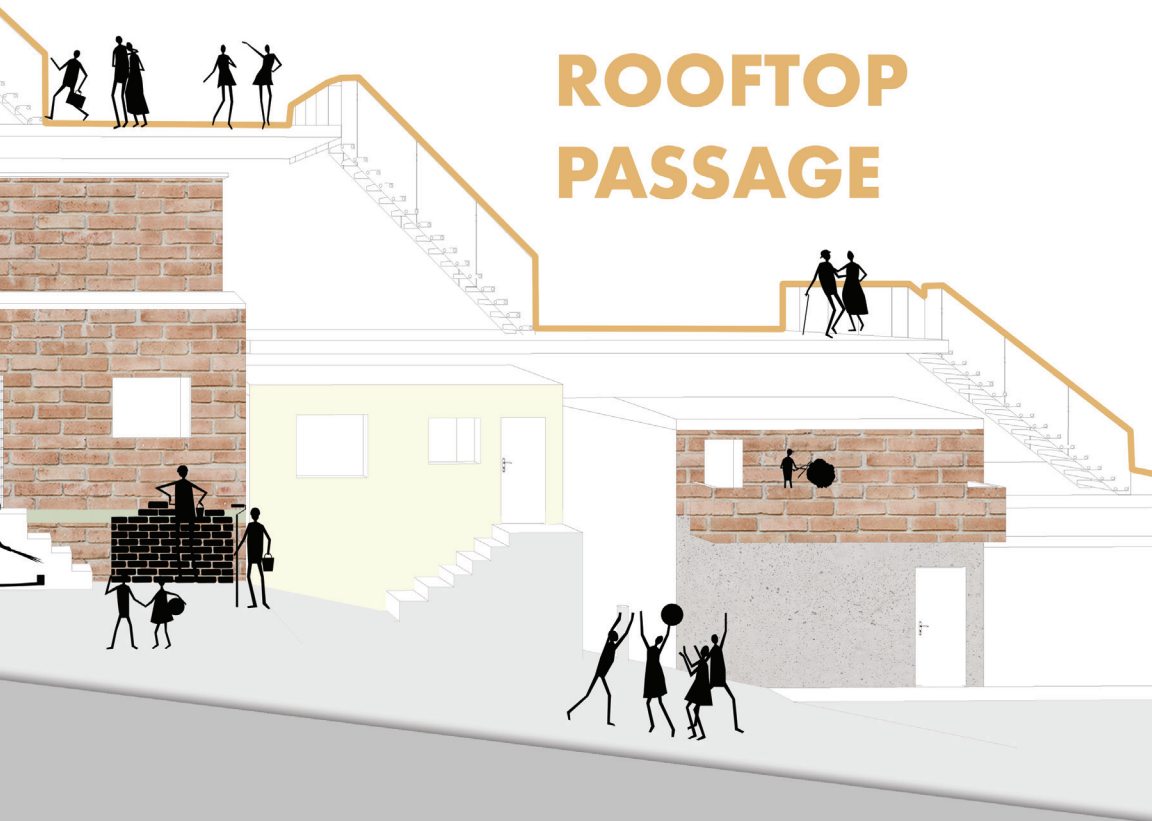
Figure 5.6 Elevation of Informal Urbanism Proposal

MIO CABLE



With the proposed framework, the missing assets from the inner Siloe block can gain back double with the additional open space. The rooftop passage is integrated into the community and homes of the people. Blurring the sense of privacy for a dynamic communal environment between locals. The transition between each area is seamless and flows within one another.

ROOFTOP PASSAGE



06

Conclusion

The goal of the thesis was to address the challenges faced by residents of a specific informal settlement, enabling them to continue to thrive within their environment. The research identified a critical need for more open public spaces within the settlement, which was then integrated into the framework plan using informal urbanism as a possible solution. However, it's essential to note that this is just one of several solutions available.

Despite its benefits, the framework plan's method poses some limitations, particularly in terms of social class separation. The change in elevation resulting from the creation of new open spaces may end up creating a dividing line within the informal settlement, rather than

fostering integration.

The initial analysis showed that the need for more space was not limited to public areas but extended to the interior of homes. Therefore, moving forward, it's important to investigate how improving the well-being of residents' interior spaces can be linked with the creation of more open public spaces, which could benefit everyone within the informal settlement. By considering the needs of both interior and exterior spaces, the thesis aims to create a more holistic solution that can improve the quality of life for all residents.

Figures

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Paraphrased Interviews Translated by Luz Elena Bermudez-Klopp

Orlando Garcia

Professor for many years in the city of Cali and Siloe.

Orlando Garcia goes to different public schools or government schools to help young children with the specific classes. In other words, he helps to capacitate his school children so they can go to the next level.

He says that the world John Charles is doing is very amazing or marvelous, because we need people or we need someone to show the other face of Siloe.

Siloe a territory of peace even though the media shows a different perspective. The reporters present a lot of sensationalist news. (fake news)

Siloe is a locality or a group of territories that only look for peace, progress and get out of misery. According to Mr. García the politicians are to blame for the status of Siloe. The most important is that Siloe is a cosmopolitan territory and is the center of many races and backgrounds. Making Siloe a mixture of cultures and races. You will find people from the south, the north, west and east parts of Colombia. For example people from Medellín, Bogotá, cost of Colombia, Nariño, Risaralda etc.

This mixture of cultures has made Siloe develop as a metropolitan city.

The imaginary lines in Siloe, there are certain violent groups that are trying to control the territory, but Siloe is a territory of all.

At this moment Siloe is looking for a great development, at different levels, social, cultural and economic.

We understand that it's not going to be easy, the road is still in development, but there are great advances that the private companies and governmental entities local, and national are helping Siloe to have a great transformation.

Some of those transformations are the 'Mío Cable' a form of transportation for the residents of the area.

When you ride the Mío cable, you will see all the culture that makes Cali and Siloe a Metropolitan city. In every stop of the cable cars, you will see murals, art and folklore representing the different cultures that make Siloe and Cali a metropolitan City.

Also, displaying the history is another way to preserve the traditions of Cali and Siloe. (you can add some of the stories that you saw and that I explain to you)

- we also have the Gandulas. form of transportation specific to drive around Siloe located in the hills of Cali.

A great culture is developing in Siloe. Thanks to entities like SIDOC, Siloe has its first philharmonic orchestra of young girls and boys from elementary and high school, representing Siloe and Colombia National and international.

There have been centers for atletismo and futbol (soccer) and we have a lot of famous people coming from that part of town Siloe. That the reason we say the Siloe has its own culture



08

Appendi

Luis Fernando Reinstein, architect of Valle University.(1975)

-there is a lack of public spaces, because the public spaces are the ones they invade and develop the new homes.

There is no planificación for the city.

They take a piece of land and they take possession. This is a social problem.

There is also a big conflict with the government because the city has the obligation to provide services like water and electricity.

He doesn't believe that architecture didn't bring neighborhoods together.

He thinks that maybe architecture helped blur the line in interconnecting one with each other.

The invisible lines in Siloe are a social problem, because they bring delinquency.

He believes that integration will be possible for social wellness.

There will always be a division between classes. It will take many years to change the mentality of the people.

There was a study made years ago, they were trying to prove that architecture will change society, but he believes that society will change the architecture .

He also believes that through public places they can change the architecture.

He also believes that the system is the one to blame for today's society .

The comunas will pass to be localidades.

There are 22 comunas and they will become

7 localidades within the same barrio.

Siloe is part of comuna 20.

He also talks about the communities in Israel.

He said that it doesn't seat communities like Silloway in Israel.

The land in Israel belongs to the government and you can see in one building, leaving addoctor or a carpenter.

He also says that there is not infrastructure in Siloe. Cali is located in the valley but Siloe is located in the mountains.

The rich lives in the Valkey and the poor has the best view of the city and live in the hills.

Colombia is a classist country just like Peru.

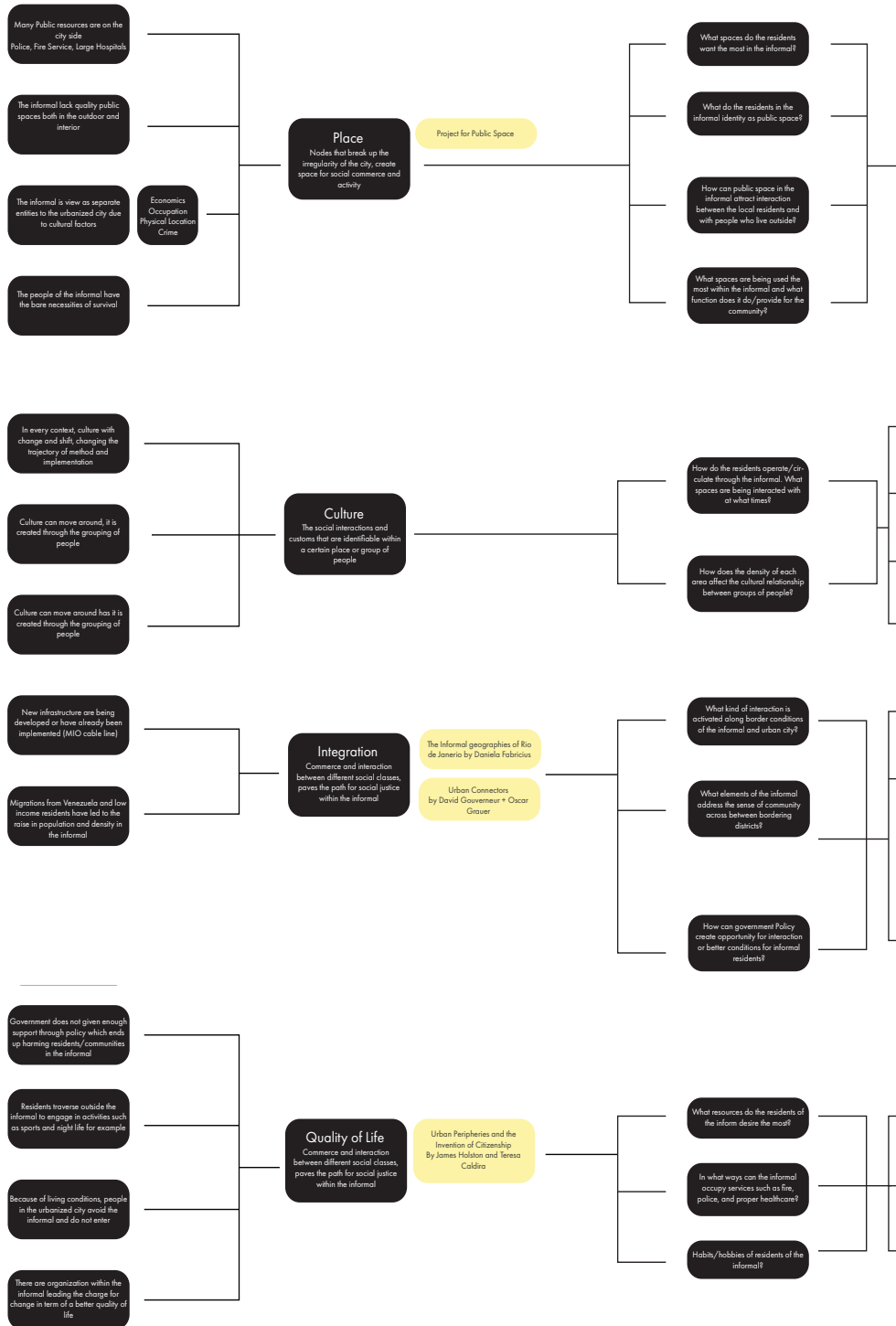
There are different Stratos in Cali, from one to 6-7

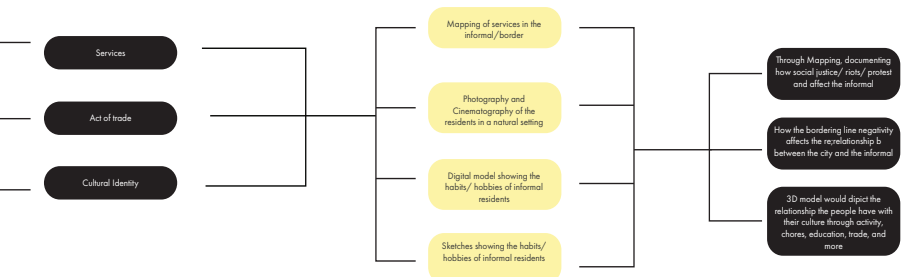
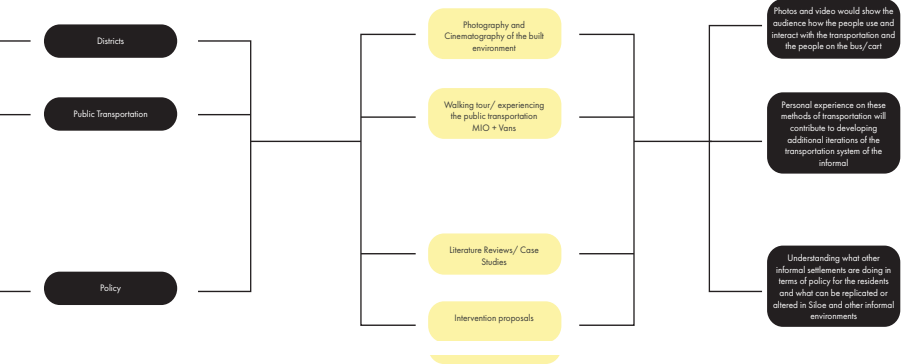
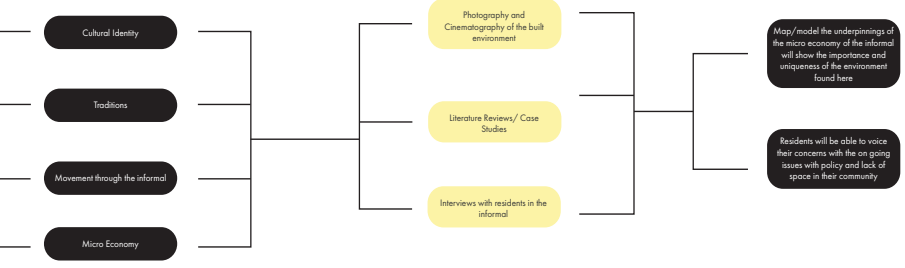
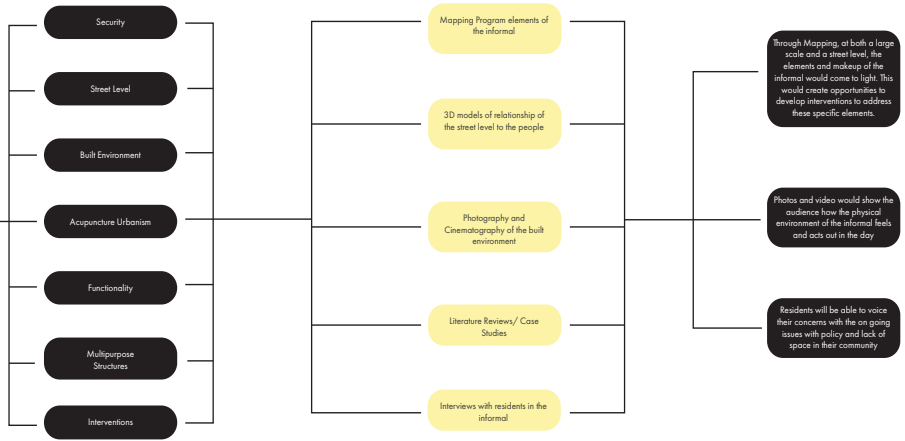
Delois is a Strato 1-2 and three .

They high stratus pay for the services of lower stratus but there are also people that have the services for free " pirate' connections of water and electricity.



Methods and Concept Diagram





Travel Photos



Google Drive With All the Photos





































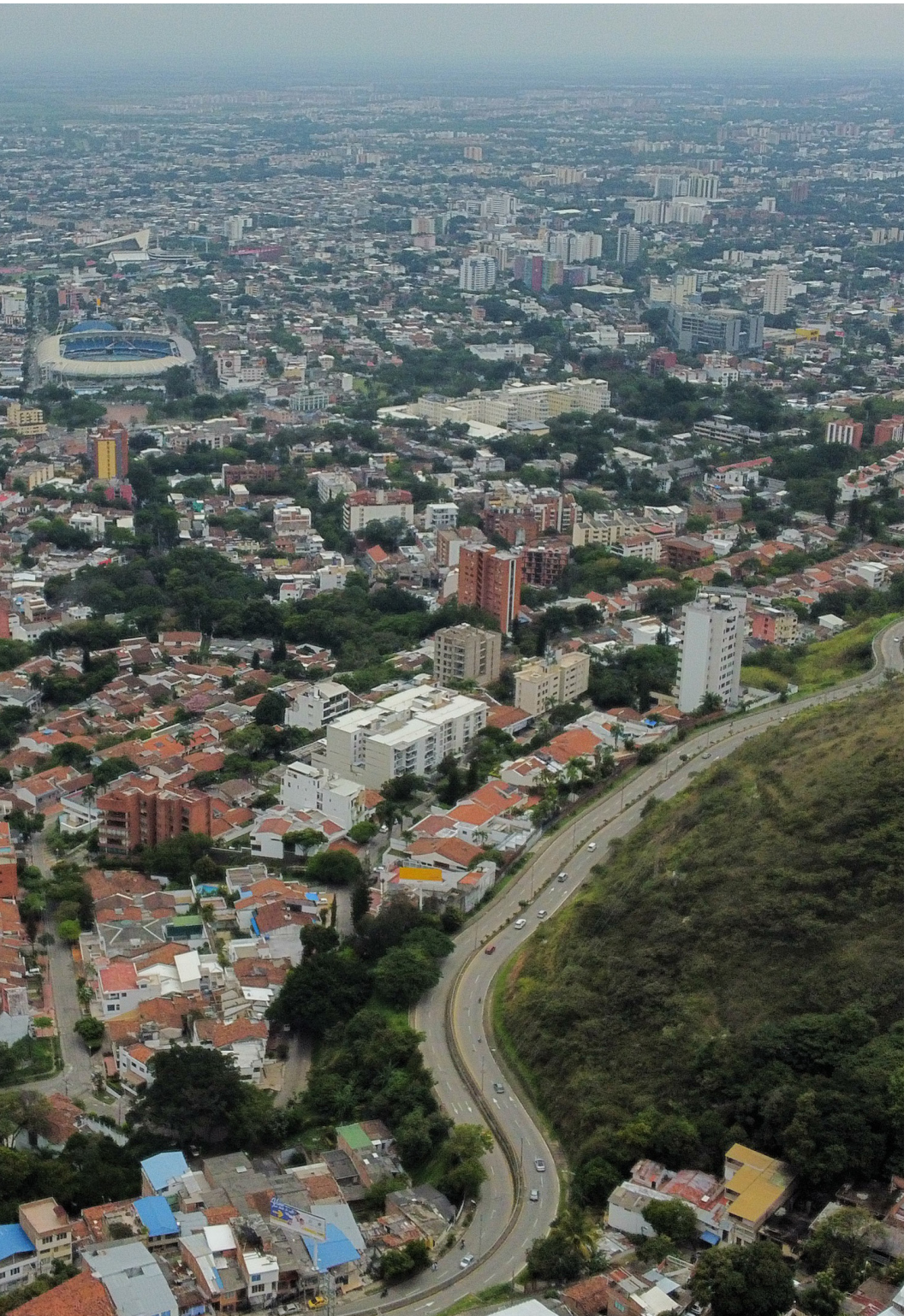








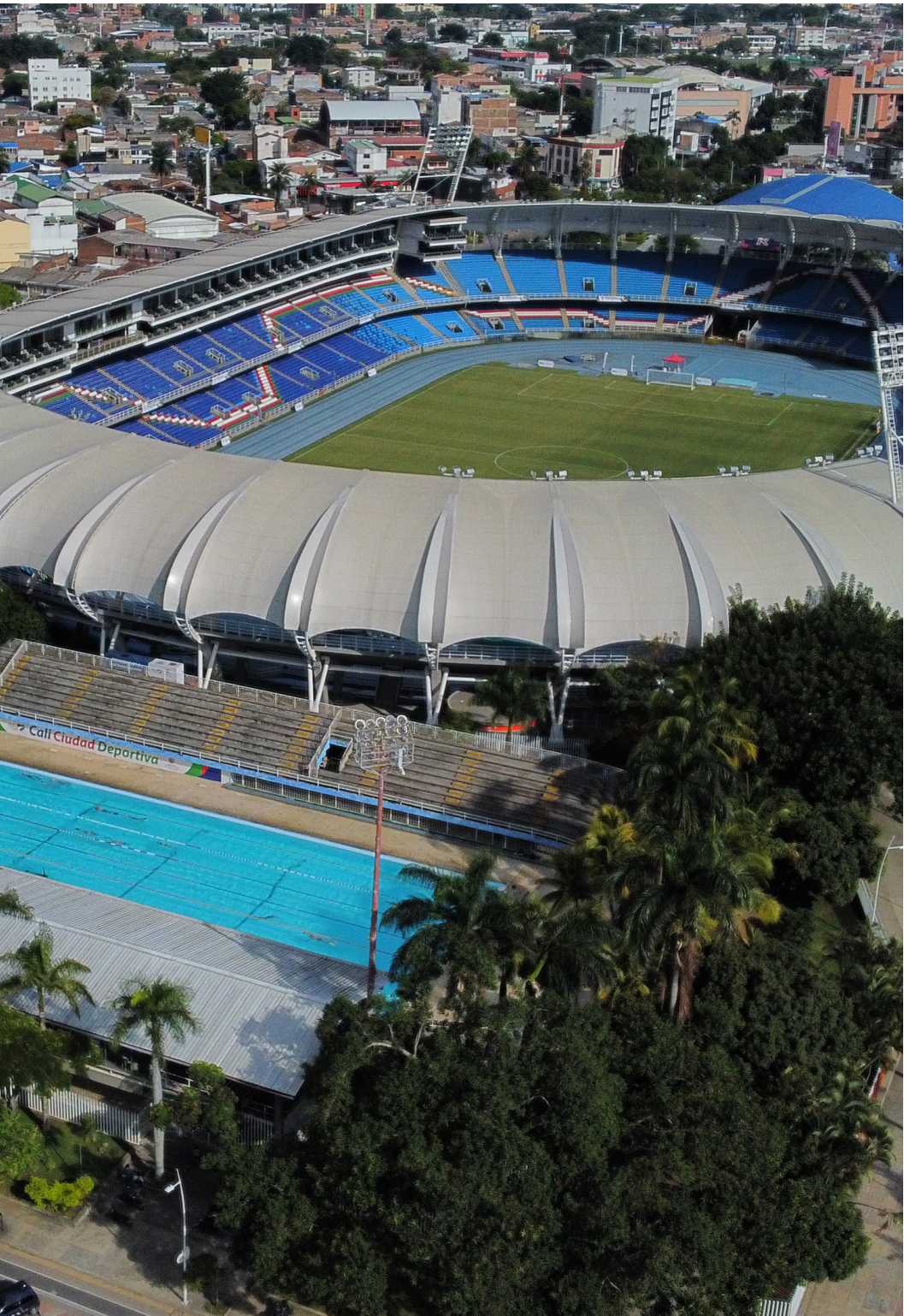


















This thesis aims to address the challenges faced by informal settlements in Latin America due to the lack of open public space. The thesis proposes urbanized spaces that build a relationship with the street, providing additional assets and improving the quality of life in the neighborhood. Informal settlements in Latin America are known for their lack of basic services and inadequate living conditions. One of the most pressing issues in these areas is the absence of open public spaces. With the increase in population density, the demand for space has become a critical concern for city planners, designers, and local organizations. The central question of this thesis is whether providing open public spaces to informal settlements would truly benefit the residents. The thesis critiques the existing arguments for open space and proposes alternative solutions that blend urbanized public planning with the informal settlement's unique atmosphere. This study employs a qualitative research approach, combining a review of the literature with case studies of informal settlements in Latin America. The research methodology includes interviews with residents, city planners, and local organizations to gather data and insights into the challenges of informal settlements. Creating 3d models and maps of built environment and circulation along the street environment allows for the understanding of life and activity of the informal settlement. The study finds that providing open public space to informal settlements can improve the quality of life for residents. However, it is crucial to design these spaces to be functional, safe, and accessible to all. The study also highlights the need for city planners, designers, and local organizations to blend urbanized public planning with the informal settlement's unique atmosphere. The study concludes that the proposed solutions can be implemented to improve the quality of life for residents in informal settlements. City planners, designers, and local organizations can benefit from the insights provided in this thesis to plan and organize these areas better. The thesis emphasizes the need for development and resources to be allocated to these areas, as informal settlements across the world continue to rise. Overall, this study provides valuable insights into the challenges faced by informal settlements in Latin America and proposes solutions that can be implemented to improve the quality of life of their residents. Future research can build on these findings to develop more effective strategies to address the challenges of informal settlements globally.