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Architecture, discourse, and work within migrating spaces. Chile 1980-2010

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**Architecture, Discourse, and Work within Migrating Spaces.
 Chile 1980-2010**

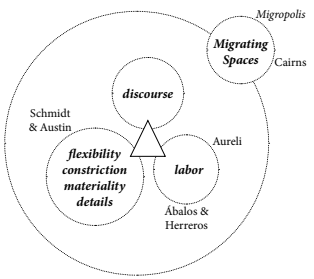
Abstract

The primary objective of this doctoral project is to study the relationship between architecture, architectural discourse, and work within migrating spaces. Taking a broad perspective, the thesis defined migrating spaces as places that resolve relations of globalization, either the displacement of people, information or goods.

The thesis carries out a typological research on flexible typologies and constrained ones in places that represent counterpoints of work, the self-determination of a migrating economy and the use of temporary and seasonal employment. In doing so, it is expected to demonstrate how architecture has defined work aspects with its materiality, architectural details and with the design of its flexibility or construction.

The thesis takes, as a spatial and temporal framework, Chile during its economic opening of the 90s, studying buildings that at different scales, incorporate Chile in front of a global scene. Moreover how these new kinds of buildings have been incorporated into the architectural discourse and professional practice.

Theoretical Frame



Question

How have *migrating spaces* solved the relationship between architecture, discourse and work in Chile between 1980 and 2010?

Hypothesis

The architecture of *migrating spaces* has solved work relationships and architectural discourses with its design features. On the one hand with the choice of its materials and details, on the other hand with the design of more or less flexible spaces.

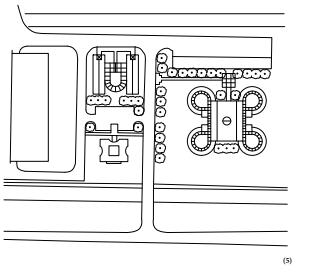
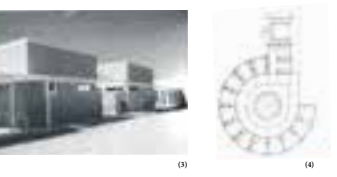
In the case of flexible spaces the architectural project its shaped understanding work as a productive potential (labor power). Meanwhile, in the exceptional case of constraints spaces, the notion of labor power is suspended with the spatial appropriation or eliminated with the incorporation of technology.

Case Studies

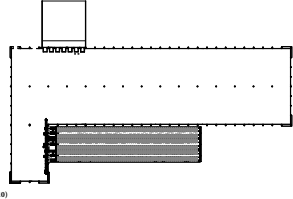
A Caracol



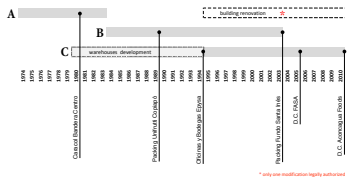
B Packing



C Distribution Center



Time line development of case studies



- (1) Caracol Bandera building, Bolton Larrain-Prieto-Loca Arquitectos, 1980
- (2) Caracol Bandera building, interior photograph from Cristóbal Palma
- (3) Packing Unifruitt Copiapu, photograph from Guillermo Hevia
- (4) Packing Unifruitt Copiapu, workers dormitories, Arch. Guillermo Hevia, 1987-1989
- (5) Packing Unifruitt Copiapu, general plan
- (6) Packing Santa Ines, photograph from Juan Carlos Sabbagh
- (7) Packing Santa Ines, Arch. Juan Carlos Sabbagh, 2003
- (8) FASA building, Arch. Guillermo Hevia, 2004-2005
- (9) FASA building, photograph from Guillermo Hevia
- (10) Aconagua Foods building, 2010-2011
- (11) Aconagua Foods building, authors photograph, 2018

The primary objective of this doctoral project is to study the relationship between logistics and building architecture through the question: How has logistics redefined the relationship between building and work, building and machinery and between building and city? The thesis will argue that the format of distribution, like the pallet and the single unit, have played a key role by redefining those relations. The thesis shows that the contributions of modern architecture were the free floor and the free facade to accommodate machines for assembly lines. Meanwhile, the contribution of logistics was redefining the relationship between architecture and machinery. This new relation can be seen in two logistics strategies for the organization of pallets, which in some instances have been used together. First using the rack as a load-bearing structure and creating a three-dimensional grid that supported the building. Second, introducing automation in the storage and order picking process. In these cases, when structure and automation merged, the architecture became a machine.

The thesis will explain this argument with the study of two food distribution centers in Chile, built between 2011 and 2018. These buildings were exceptional due to the Chilean logistics and seismic situation. Both buildings did not adopt automation as a strategy for efficiency, but rather as a political decision. In one case, the mechanization was part of a take over by a Mexican company, adopting their business model. In the second case, the mechanization was implemented to face new Chilean labor laws, which made the distribution process vulnerable to strikes. If the pallet as a distribution unit has redefined the relationship between architecture and machine, the thesis proposes that a new relationship between architecture and cities can be formulated by creating a system that can distribute single items. This is classically known as e-commerce and Amazon has been so far its primary platform. The thesis aims to design a homogenous distribution system based on the study of the patents of Amazon's distribution centers. These buildings as ideas are relevant because they use their own distribution system, based on the use of airspace and dismissing the city as an infrastructural context.