



Universitat
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de Barcelona

Departament
de Geografia

Urban transitions: Replacing traditional work practices in traditional workspaces

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Overview

- Introduction
- Research question
- Literature
- Methodology
- Results
- Concluding remarks

Research question and working hypothesis

- **Economic Social spaces**
- **Public intervention**
- Why new environments
- Social claim
- **Political requirement**
- Is it compatible
- Why ideological spaces **are picky and not evenly distributed** over the space
- What are the **determinants**
- WORKING HYPOTHESES: **Ideological economic spaces** appear where there have been a concentration of civic society movements, work unions, working labor movements
- This IES produce a **ideological atmosphere**

Elements

- Firms
- Space
- Actors
- Governance
- Functions
- Ideology

Firms

- Very small one to two-person firms in a multiple sector start-ups of collaborative economy
- Location: traditional industry buildings

Space

- Former traditional industry space
- Historic work and social associations
- Industrial heritage
- Medium to tiny spaces

Actors

- Civil society organized in social networks
- Neighborhood organizations
- Cultural groups
- Artists
- Local authorities
- Private owners

Individuals

- Leader transitions
- Former worker union leaders
- Neighborhood association heads
- Social activist
- Low-wage workers
- Low-skill workers
- Manual chores

Governance

- Bottom up demands for the city:
 - Social facilities
 - Libraries
- Heritage conservation
- Private housing

Functions

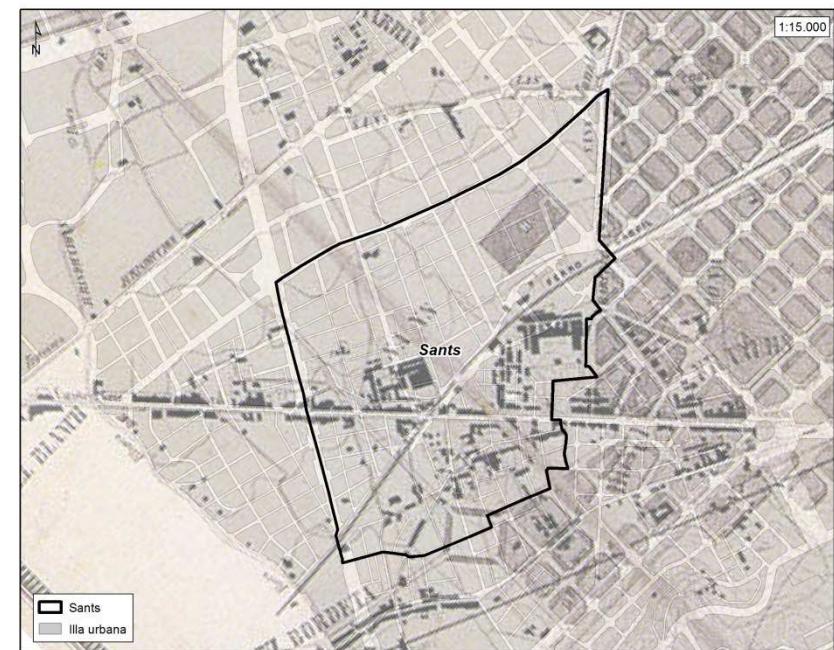
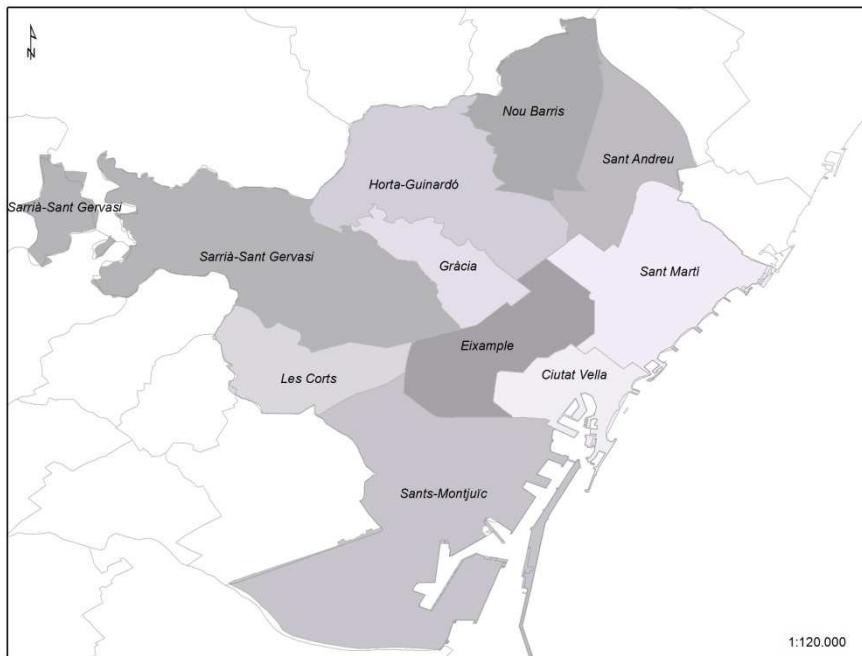
- Transitional functions:
 - Nano enterprises
 - Production of physical and knowledge goods
 - Cultural activities
 - Artistic exhibitions
 - Community strength
 - Mutual cooperation
 - Collaboration

Ideology

- Economic crisis 2007-2015
- Bottom-up movements
- Conquered traditional urban spaces
- New propositions of urban fabric
- Undetermined future
- Ideology forged the space
- Economic activity: mutual actions, gain a stipend, contribute to activist movement
- Causes: surviving, struggling forces behind,

Can Batlló Barcelona

- Neighborhood of Sants



Sants neighborhood



Transitional economic spaces

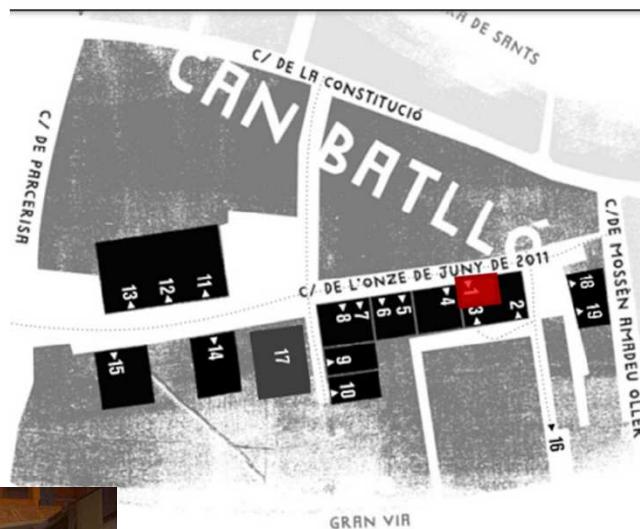


Struggle 1978-2017



2009

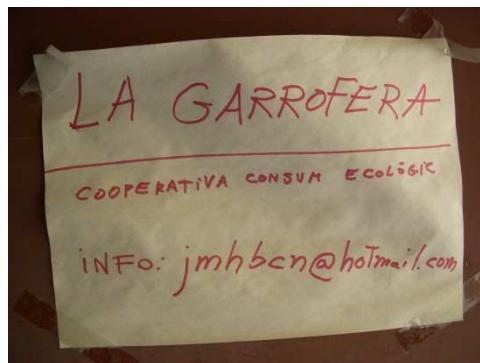
The turning point



- 1-Espai de trobada/bar
- 2-Auditori
- 3-Biblioteca Popular Josep Pons
- 4-Nau 69
- 5-Taller d'infraestructures
- 6-Fusteria col·lectiva
- 7-Imprenta col·lectiva
- 8-Arts Can Batlló
- 9-Centre de Documentació
- 10-Taller de cervesa
- 11-Espai arts escèniques
- 12-La Nau Espai Familiar
- 13-Mobilitat Can Batlló
- 14-Zona de gossos
- 19-La capella - espai d'exposicions
- 15-Horts comunitaris
- 17-Zona esportiva
- 18-La Garrofera de Sants - Cooperativa ecològica autogestionada



From occupying to tenants



“El Bloc Onze com a cavall de Troya. En aquí hi ha diferents projectes: escola, fusteria, horts i jardins, mobilitat, alimentació... Destaca el projecte viver de cooperatives que serà Barcelona Activa.”

Joan Costa. Plataforma Can Batlló

“The (initiative) Bloc Onze (The Eleven Bloc) will be the Trojan Horse. There are different projects: school, carpentry, orchards and gardens, mobility, food ... It is important to mention the project nursery of cooperatives. Which will be coached by Barcelona Activa. “

Joan Costa. Can Batlló Platform

Economic projects and ideology

- “The **carpentry project** (4 employees) has (authorization) to work for private clients part of their time, to “earn their lentils.” Although the **(Platform) philosophy** is oriented so that everyone could use the tools **in exchange** for donations.”
- “Permits are given from the **Assembly** every six months.”
- “Carpenters converted into **autonomous cooperative?** In any case a % of profits must go to Can Batlló.”

“El projecte de la fusteria (amb 4 treballadors) té excepcionalment alguns dies que fa treballs privats per guanyar-se les llenties. Encara que la filosofia és orientar perquè cadascú utilitzi les eines a canvi de donacions.”

“Els permisos es donen des de l’Assemblea cada 6 mesos.”

“Fusters autònoms convertits en cooperativa? En tot cas un % dels beneficis han d’anar a Can Batlló. ”

Cooperative and self-financing

- “**Decisions are made by a weekly assembly and a committee meeting.**”
“Es funciona per assemblea setmanal decisòria, i per reunió de comissió.”
- “Economic and all type activities **do not pay rent**. Carpenters do not pay. The Council pays electricity and water. **No space can make profit** (except for those with permission).”
“Les activitats privades paguen lloguer? La fusteria no paga. L’Ajuntament paga llum i aigua. Cap espai pot fer lucre (a excepció de qui tingui permís).”
- “The cafeteria is **self-financed**: even the volunteers pay for their coffee.”
“La cafeteria s’autoautofinança: els mateixos voluntaris paguen pel cafè.”

From volunteers to cooperatives

- “There is an **economic and social return**. For example, in a theater company play, the return amount varies: 70-30, or 80-20.”
- “We must make a leap forward because (we understand that) **voluntary work has its limits**. The project Coòpolis as a cooperative nursery would make this function. This project is at the beginning.”

“Hi ha un retorn econòmic i social. Per exemple, una companyia de teatre, es fa una taquilla inversa de 70-30, o de 80-20 (si és un motiu solidari).”

“S’ha de fer un salt endavant perquè el voluntariat té límits. El projecte Coòpolis, com a planter de cooperatives, sí que faria aquesta funció. És un projecte a madurar.”

Joan Costa. Can Batlló Platform

Concluding remarks

- Economic spaces
- Public intervention
- Social spaces
- Why and how a new environment
- Social claim
- Political requirement
- Is it compatible
- Transformation of the urban fabric from bottom-up activities

Thanks!

Montserrat Pallares-Barbera

