

BARREJANT Colònia Sedó

MERGING systems, domains and functions to boost synergies

barrejar: cat. "Reunir en un tot coses heterogènies"

merge: eng. "To combine into a single body"

The Sedó colony is a paradigmatic example of a cultural landscape that illustrates an essential part of the history of Catalan work and society.

Among many other relevant aspects, it clearly shows the efforts made during industrialisation to specialise productive processes, which resulted in the segregation of functions, spaces, and users.

However, if we analyse its territory in more depth, we will discover that this segregation is an exception in comparison with the long historical period in which the triad of dwelling, socialising, and producing were solidly merged in the everyday life of the local communities. Can Broquetas Masia and its flour mill were vestiges of a territorial model in which all life domains were spatially integrated.

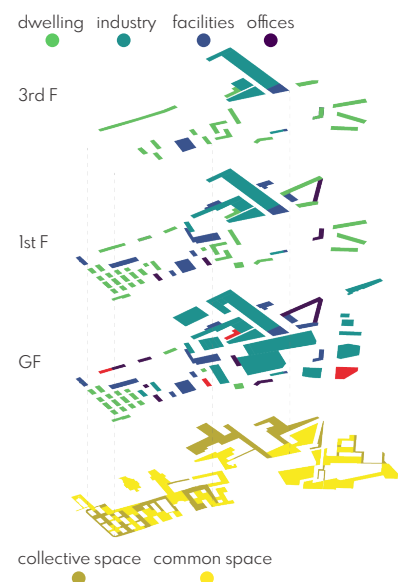
Based on these and other antecedents analysed in this territory, our proposal for Europan 16 seeks to integrate the Colony Sedó in its context, and internally, to generate a cohesive and inclusive productive milieu that merges once again the modern dichotomies of rural vs. urban, production vs. reproduction, public vs. private,

SEVEN STRATEGIES ARTICULATED AROUND THE CONCEPT OF MERGE:

[E1] FOSTERING MIXED TYPOLOGIES OF COLLECTIVE AND PRIVATE SPACES
to integrate functions and users

The modern idea of zoning, in which functions and users were segregated, has become obsolete. In contrast, we are now aware of the virtues of the confluence of heterogeneous activities and individuals in the same space.

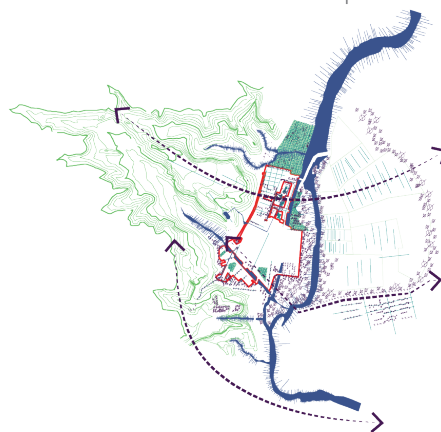
However, to achieve a successful mixing, it is essential to pay special attention to public-private transitions and common spaces, taking advantage of positive synergies while avoiding disruptions arising from incompatible activities.



[E2] TURNING BOUNDARIES INTO ECOTONES to knot the colony internally and with its environment, merging city and nature

The colony was originated following a model of industrial paternalism that tried to isolate workers from the external context. This model became obsolete several decades ago, as it was no longer able to meet the demands of an increasingly connected economic and social context.

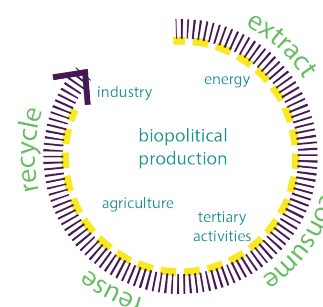
For this reason, it is proposed to selectively deconstruct the boundaries (without erasing the memory of the industrial enclosure) by transforming them into buffers in relation to their context. The aim is to integrate the colony with its urban and natural context and to blur the boundaries between the residential and industrial sectors of the current complex.



[E3] OVERLAPPING PRODUCTIVITIES to enhance production synergies and implement circular economies and metabolism.

Contemporary forms of production do not function as isolated compartments either. On the contrary, surplus value emerges more and more at the intersection between different forms of material and immaterial production. The gradual merging of knowledge production into the citizens daily life (biopolitical production) makes it increasingly difficult to separate work from leisure or reproduction. Furthermore, today it is essential to implement circular economies that make it possible to close metabolic cycles.

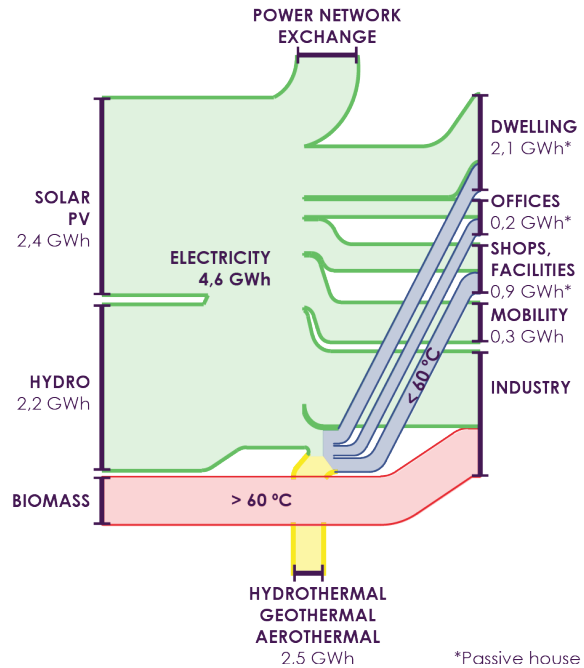
Probably the greatest potential for social cohesion and emancipation relies in the grassroots' capacity to control and take advantage of this challenging mix of circular production of goods, knowledge, and care.



[E4] PROMOTING A HOLISTIC AND SHARED ENERGY TRANSITION to build a sustainable and self-sufficient energy community

The combination of industrial roofs with potential for pv panels, the mini-hydropower plant currently operating, the hydrothermal energy, the biomass of the nearby forests, and the aerothermal energy, make the territory of Colonia Sedó an optimal scenario for energy transition. The Colònia SEC can be completely self-sufficient and even generate a 58%* surplus of energy available to share or to be sold. In addition, high-temperature heat energy generated from biomass have great potential to attract new industries.

* industry consumption is not included in this surplus



[E5] STRENGTHENING HYBRID COOPERATION (top-down and bottom-up) to enhance social cohesion and equity

All the project hypotheses raised in this proposal will be implemented through participatory processes that include the residents of the colony and surrounding populations. Special emphasis will be placed on fostering a multi-generational, gender-sensitive design that ensures equity and social cohesion, putting productive and reproductive work on the same level.

The objective is to encourage a hybrid system of cooperation (bottom-up and top-down) in which synergies between citizens, the private sector and the public administration could be maximised.

[E6] ENHANCING A COMPREHENSIVE VALORISATION OF CULTURAL LANDSCAPES to uncover a long span heritage palimpsest and empower local identity

Although in recent years there has been an emerging consensus on the value of the industrial heritage represented by the textile colonies in Catalonia, it is necessary to go a step further and understand the notion of heritage and cultural landscape from an even broader perspective. The area of the Colònia Sedó is of interest not only for its very important industrial legacy but also for its material and immaterial values preceding industrialisation. Can Broquetas farmhouse and flour mill, which can be considered the catalyst of the colony, could be the most representative example of this long and deep heritage palimpsest.

E7. COMBINING SOFT AND HARD MOBILITIES to foster active mobility and improve accessibility.

The drastic segregation of mobility modes, still defended in many urban planning forums, seems to go against the general logic that shows that the less specialised and segregated a system is, the more resilient it is.

For this reason, a rigorous study of the different modes of transport (cycling, pedestrian, logistics, etc.) was addressed in order to propose a network of efficient circuits that limit segregation to exceptional cases where the coexistence of different modes could entail real risks for people. We also propose, as complement of public transport network, a system of electric shared transport (cars, cargo vans, motorbikes and e-bikes) integrated into the energy community. The aim is to promote complementarity between hard and soft mobility systems, encouraging active mobility.



X PROJECTS FOR COLÒNIA SEDÓ: an open list of project hypotheses

Once general strategies have been defined, we propose the following open list of specific project hypotheses. Considering the scope of the project, interventions will be developed in phases and with a participatory approach involving the local community:

P1. INTEGRAL LANDSCAPE PROJECT FOR THE COLONY AND ITS SURROUNDINGS [E1, E2, E3, E4, E5, E6, E7]

Landscape intervention to consolidate a network of biodiverse open spaces that articulate the colony as a whole with its natural and urban surroundings.

P2. RESIDENTIAL FABRIC REHABILITATION [E1, E2, E3, E4, E5, E6, E7]

- P2.1 Improvement of mixed collective spaces
- P2.2 New spaces of common services (laundry, kitchen, co-working, shop...)
- P2.3 Opening and reinterpretation of access door to the industrial area
- P2.4 Energy efficiency upgrading and accessibility improvement of worker's dwelling (37)
- P2.5 Fonda refurbishment (6 dwellings and restaurant)
- P2.6 New mixed blocks (57 dwellings, productive spaces and amenities)
- P2.7 New cultural centre and "casal de barri" in the old church
- P2.8 Old theatre refurbishment

P3. INDUSTRIAL FABRIC REHABILITATION [E1, E2, E3, E4, E5, E6, E7]

- P3.1 Improvement of mixed collective spaces
- P3.2 Industry 4.0 pilot project
- P3.3 New mixed blocks (69 dwellings, productive spaces, offices and amenities)

P4. INTERPRETATION PROJECT OF COLÒNIA SEDÓ, MAS BROQUETAS AND THE FLOUR MILL CULTURAL LANDSCAPES AND THEMATIC ITINERARIES [E1, E2, E3, E4, E5, E6, E7]

- P4.1 Mas Broquetas viewpoint
- P4.2 Moli Fariner de Can Broquetas interpretation project
- P4.3 Project to make the traces of industry visible (railways, energy infrastructures, toponymy, etc.).
- P4.4 Aqueduct viewpoint, elevator and footpath
- P4.5 Musealisation of a worker's dwelling
- P4.6 Landscape restoration of the master's garden (selective boundary opening and water resilience - creating flood zones for future floodings-)
- P4.7 Three chimneys square
- P4.8 Improvement of the Bóvila chimney pathway and Barona fountain
- P4.9 Rehabilitation of the master's house (museum, temporary housing and centre for industrial landscapes studies)
- P4.10 Washing place refurbishment
- P4.11 Museum extension (mNACTEC): new visitor reception building, turbine hall and interpretation centre

P5. IMPROVEMENT OF FOOTPATHS TO CONNECT THE COLONY WITH ITS NATURAL SURROUNDINGS, THE NEW FF.CC HALT, ESPARRAGUERA AND OLESA DE MONSERRAT [E1, E2, E3, E4, E5, E6, E7]

- P5.1 Old Bridge reconstruction
- P5.2 La Barona pathway to Esparraguera
- P5.3 Colònia Sedó Avenue to Olesa
- P5.4 New footbridge attached to Broquetas Dam (Via Blava and FF.CC. halt)
- P5.5 The riverside path
- P5.6 Integration of the via blava in the Colony
- P5.7 Footpath to Ermita de Sta. María del Puig and Roques Blaves

P6. CONSTITUTION OF THE COLÒNIA SEDÓ ENERGY COMMUNITY [E1, E2, E3, E4, E5, E6, E7]

P7. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ELECTRIC SHARED TRANSPORT SYSTEM (CARS, CARGO VANS, MOTORBIKES AND E- BIKES) [E1, E2, E3, E4, E5, E6, E7]

P8. NEW URBAN GARDEN NETWORK [E1, E2, E3, E4, E5, E6, E7]

P9. REHABILITATION OF COLÒNIA SEDÓ EXTENSION IN OLESA [E1, E2, E3, E4, E5, E6, E7]

- P9.1. Improvement of mixed collective spaces
- P9.2 Energy efficiency upgrading and accessibility improvement of worker's dwelling
- P9.3 New mixed blocks (51 dwellings, productive spaces and amenities)

P.10 NEW COLÒNIA SEDÓ EXTENSION [E1, E2, E3, E4, E5, E6, E7]

- P10.1 New mixed collective spaces
- P10.2 New mixed blocks
 - Ground floor: Industry 4.0 and other productive spaces
 - Floors 1,2,3 and 4: 66 dwellings and amenities

