

# 2.1 PERIPHERAL FRAGMENTATION AS NEGLECTED OPEN SPACES

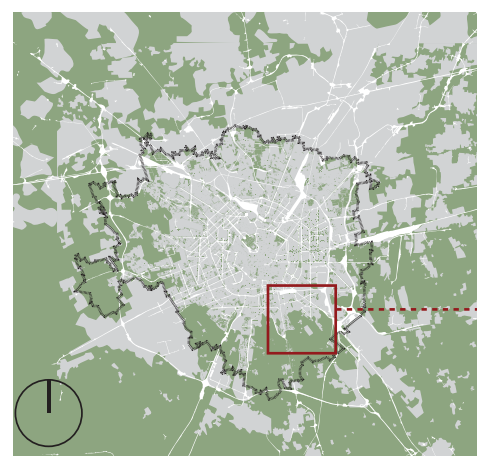


Fig. 2.1.1- General Map of Location - Build vs. Open

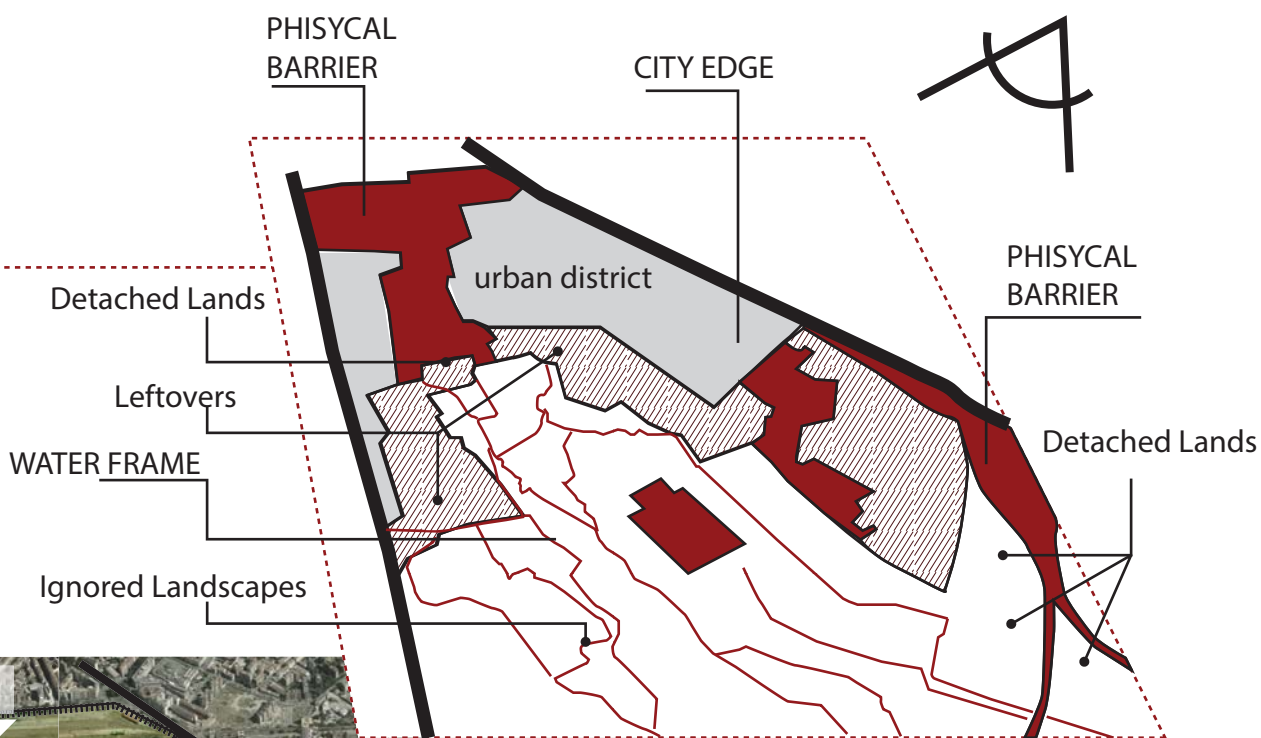


Fig. 2.1.2- Scheme of Fragmentation Processes in the Selected Area



Fig. 2.1.4- Types of Neglected Open Spaces

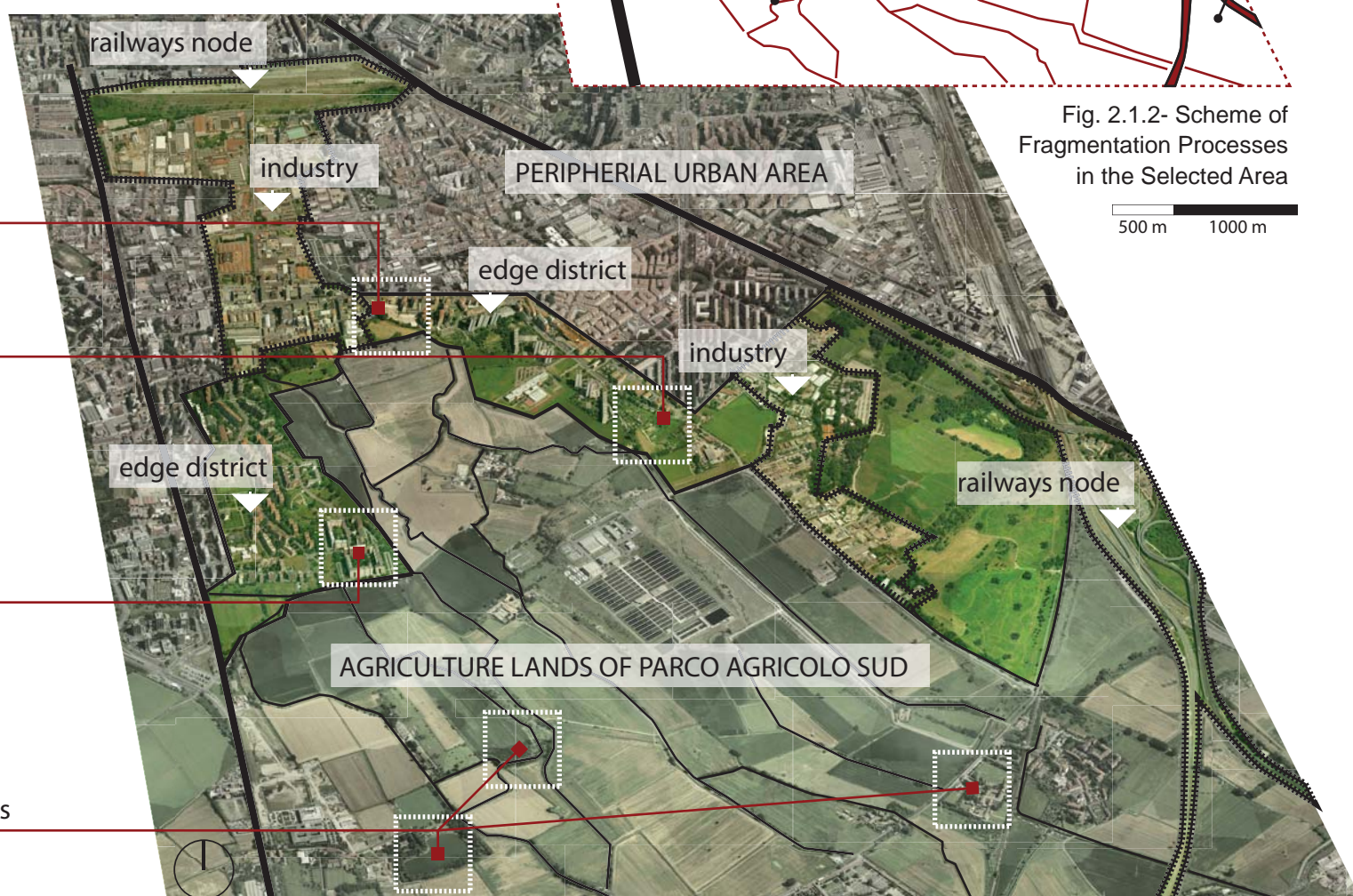


Fig. 2.1.3- Satellite of Selected Area with Focus on Fragmented Lands

The type of open space neglected as a "Not in my yard" attitude and its larger scale process of Policy Limits, appear a lot in the area as an integrated part of fragmentation, however in this scale it is hard to demonstrate it.

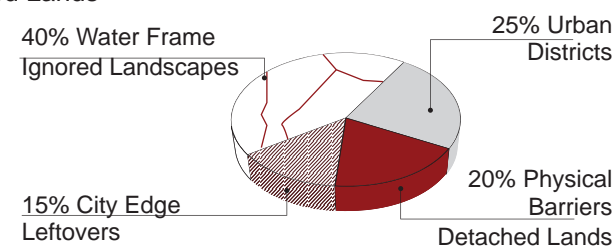


Fig. 2.1.5- Diagram of Fragmentation Appearance within the Selected Areas

## 2.1.1 - The Typology of Neglected Open Spaces

The open space is an integrate part of all of the processes that happens with territory. In this work I use the open space as a tool to examine the peripheral conditions. This is my starting point of analysis that helps to see the territorial conditions in particular landscape context. Open space can be regarded both as a the Cause - the scene that forms human behavior; and the Consequences - the footprint of planning, social activities and economical conditions.

Peripheral open spaces are suffering from various kinds of neglect, each of the type relates to different problematic process that occurs also in the larger scale. I propose to consider each type of neglect within the framework of the larger process of fragmentation.

In this work, I distinguished four types of neglected open spaces characterised the peripheral conditions; Leftovers, Detached Lands, Ignored Landscape and "Not in my Yard". I examined and analyzed each of them in the Fig. 2.1.5-2.1.8.

In parallel in city scale, I recognised four processes, that surrounds the city and shape its borders in their own ways. Each of them give its feature to the peripheral area as well as to the defragmentation process.

The name of those four peripheral borders are City Edge, Physical Barriers, Water Frame, Policy Limits. Here, I provide just a parallel between them and the neglected open space in the local scale, however, I will present them more in deep in the next two pages.

# AS A MATTER OF LARGE SCALE PROCESSES



## LEFTOVERS

Leftovers are the No Man's Land - the areas that situated in-between the city edge and the agriculture fields. Those areas are not related nor to urban nor to rural type, they are often dismissed and full of illegal activities, such as garbage area, storage, parking and similar.

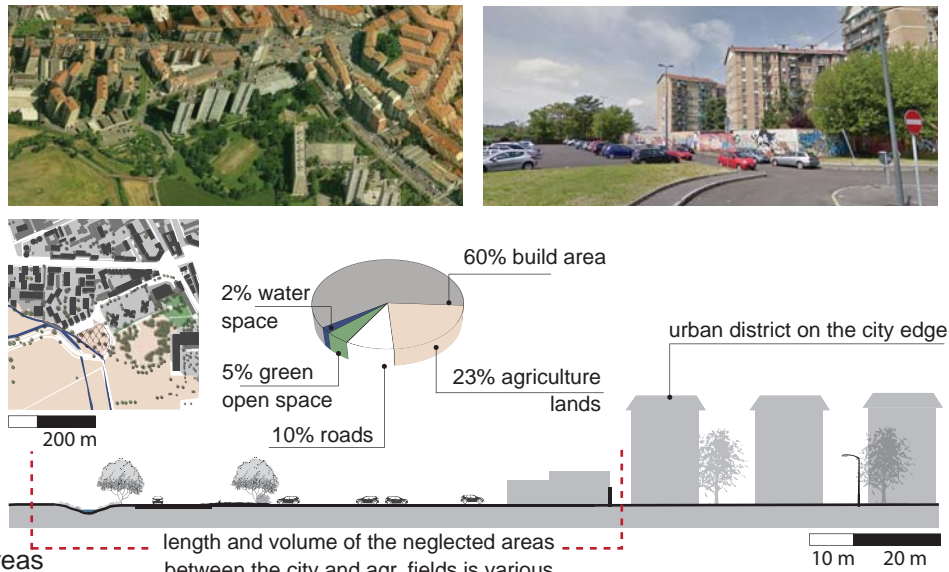


Fig. 2.1.6- Characteristics of Leftovers Areas



## DETACHED LANDS

Detached lands are the areas that appear near the city or within the urban fabric. Those lands often have some potential qualities, however, they are hardly accessible or absolutely isolated by highways and railways footprints or by a presents of brownfields.

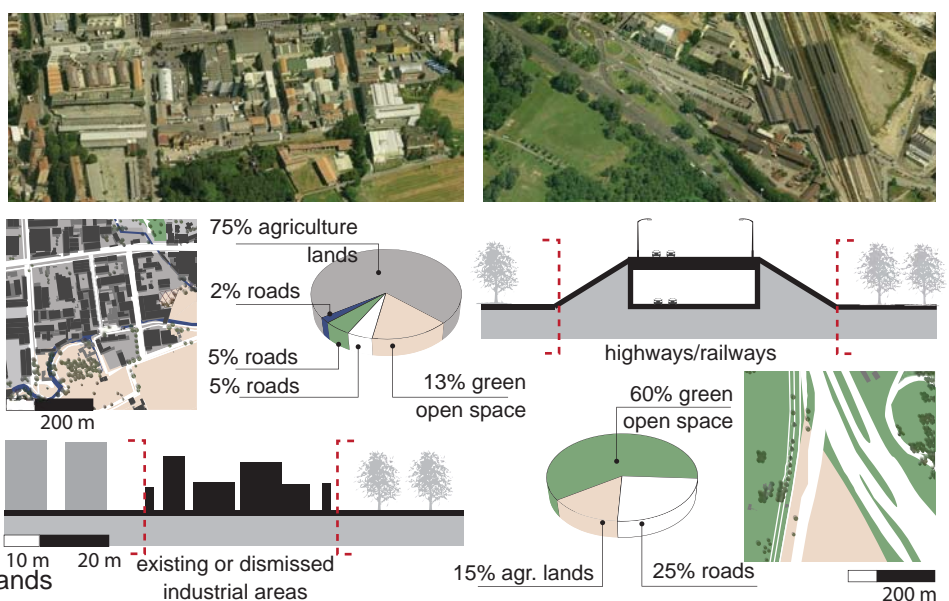
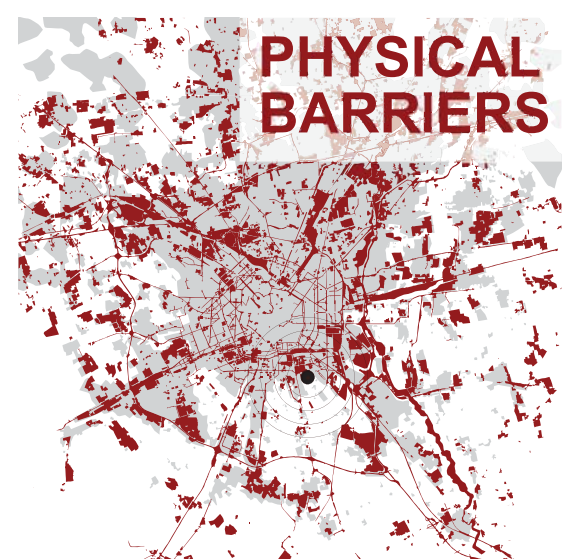


Fig. 2.1.7- Characteristics of Detached Lands



## IGNORED LANDSCAPES

Ignored Landscapes, are natural green areas, located within the agriculture fields. Those places has a high landscape qualities, however are lost in the fields, and have no possible access or low public awareness.

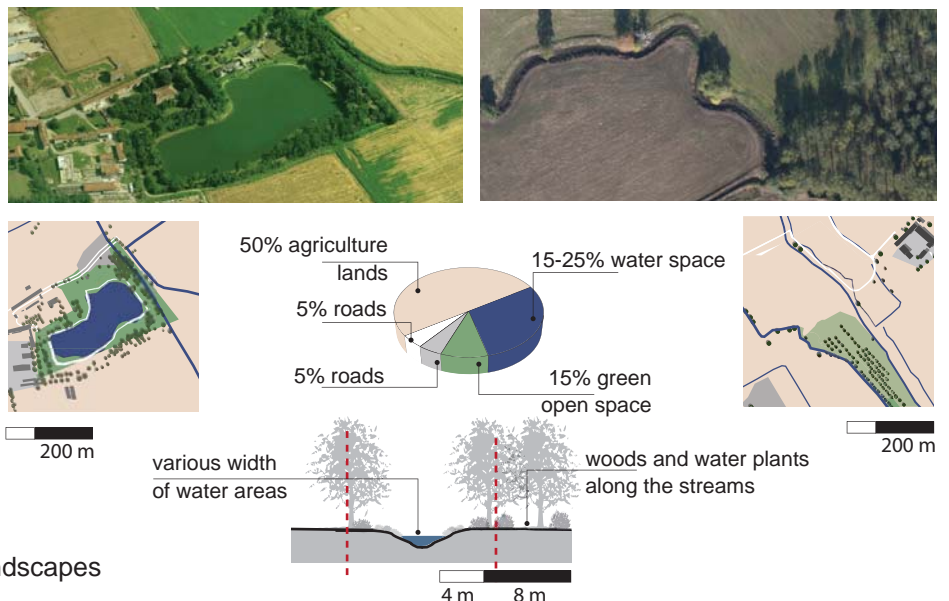
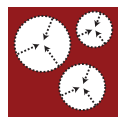
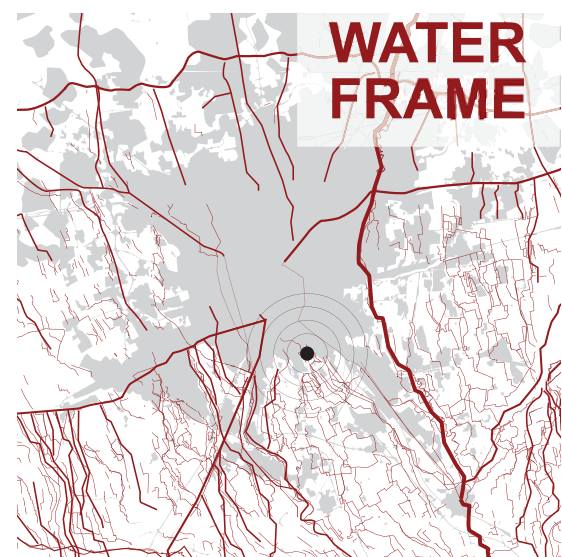


Fig. 2.1.8- Characteristics of Ignored Landscapes



## "NOT IN MY YARD"

This is an attitude to the environment in many projects in Milan and its periphery. Those lands are beside or between the build environment. Such areas are regarded as an underside - a void which often hasn't been taking to consideration at all. As a result the peripheral settlements are often disconnected from their landscape context and there is no relation among them.

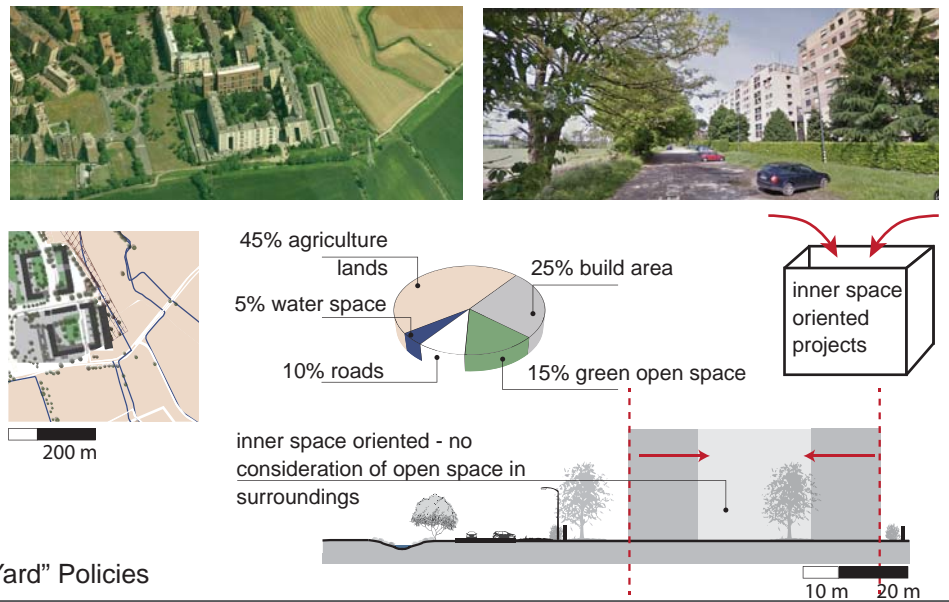
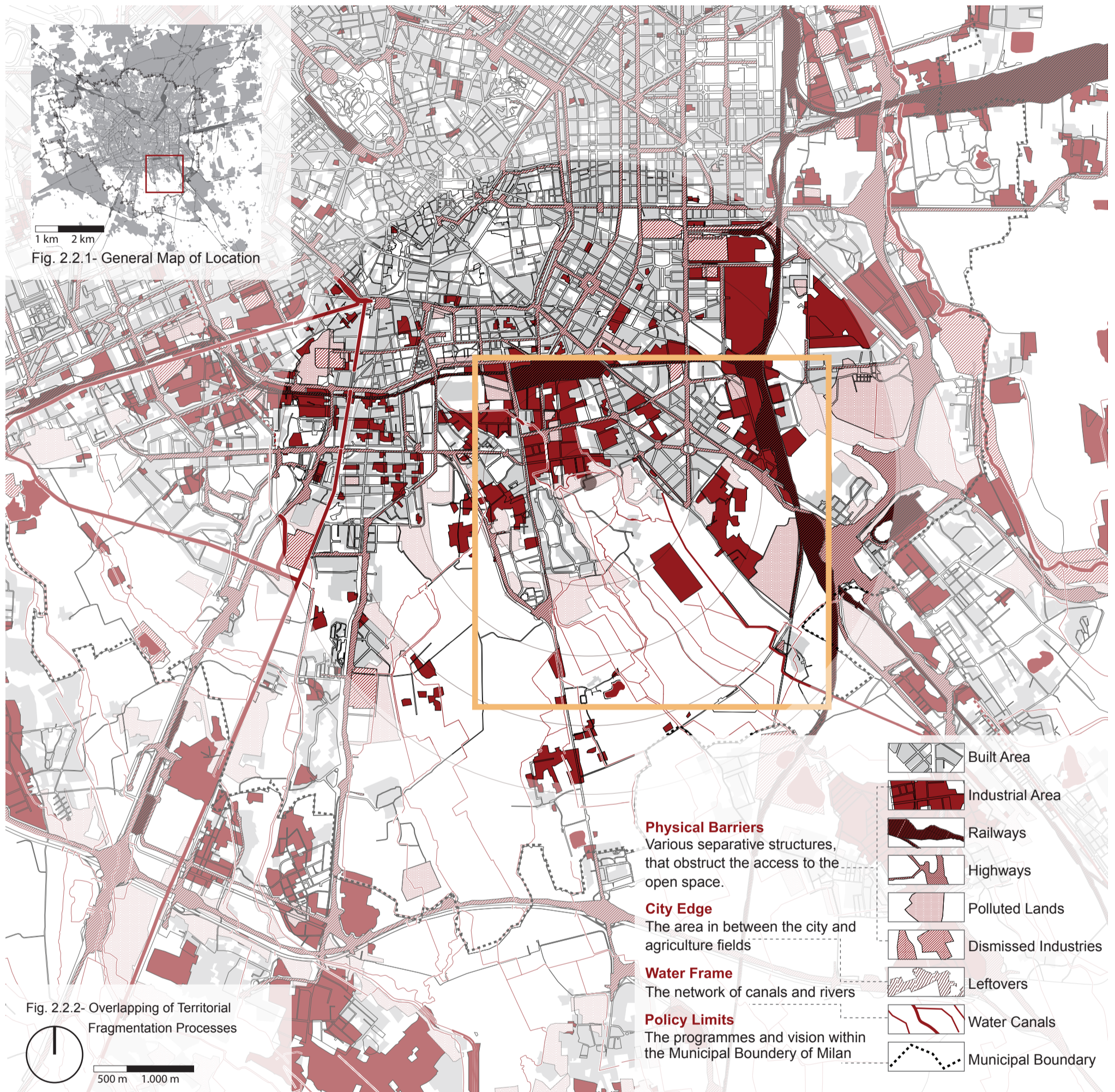


Fig. 2.1.9- Characteristics of "Not in My Yard" Policies



## 2.2 WAYS OF DEFRAGMENTATION BY DISTINGUISHING THE CAUSES



### 2.2.1- Causes of Fragmentation

The peripheral open space fragmentation is a result of many different processes that occur in the city border. I distinguished 4 main processes that influence to land fragmentation and shape the peripheral area, in different way. Each of them has its relation to the physical or virtual boundaries of periphery and a different reflection on a local scale. They are four different Open Space Stories that together describe the same condition of territory from their point of view.

- 1- **The City Edge** - A Story of No Man's Land
- 2- **The Physical Barriers**- A Story of Detached Periphery
- 3- **The Water Frame**- A Story of Ignored Landscapes
- 4- **The Policy Limits** - A story of Missing Scale

### 2.2.2- The Goals and Questions

One of the main aims of this work is to find a strategy for peripheral open space recovering. This idea is based on the intention to improve the quality of peripheral public spaces, to make the city edge surroundings a better place for its habitants and to develop a reasonable relationship between the city and its agricultural lands.

This is a general goal, besides, the separated four Open Space Stories, have their own Subgoals and Question (Fig. 1.3.3-1.3.6). Those Subgoals are more specific and help to develop the following chapter of analysis.

# SEARCHING FOR INDIVIDUAL GOALS

## CITY EDGE

### MAIN TOPICS:

- The Leftover Space
- The Hidden Values of Parco Agricolo Sud
- Landscape Qualities and Characteristics
- People and Allotments

### QUESTIONS:

- What kind of open public space can be appropriate to the edge situation?
- How the edge can become a stitch?

### GOAL:

- Develop a concept of public open space that works as a transition zone between the city and the agriculture fields.



Fig. 2.2.3- Profile of City Edge

## PHYSICAL BARRIERS

### MAIN TOPICS:

- Urban Fabric Qualities
- Time and Access
- Streets Characteristics

### QUESTIONS:

- What are the barriers that detach the area and why?
- What is the missing link to the city?
- What should be the intensity and capacity of accessibility network in the peripheral conditions?

### GOAL:

- Create a scenario for a better connectivity development

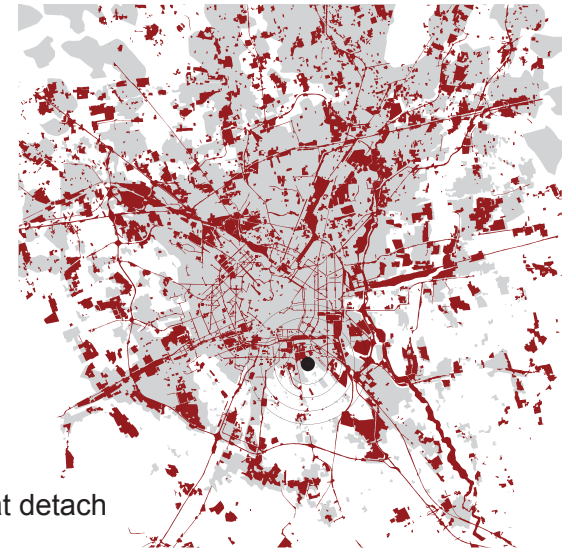


Fig. 2.2.4- Profile of Physical Barriers

## WATER FRAME

### MAIN TOPICS:

- Water Landscape
- Heritage and Agriculture
- The Water Network and Ecology

### QUESTIONS:

- What are the water values in the context of contemporary city?
- How it is possible to use the water as a link element between the areas that helps to read and enjoy the space?

### GOAL:

- Use the water surface as a platform for slow ways development dedicated for pedestrians and bicycle paths.

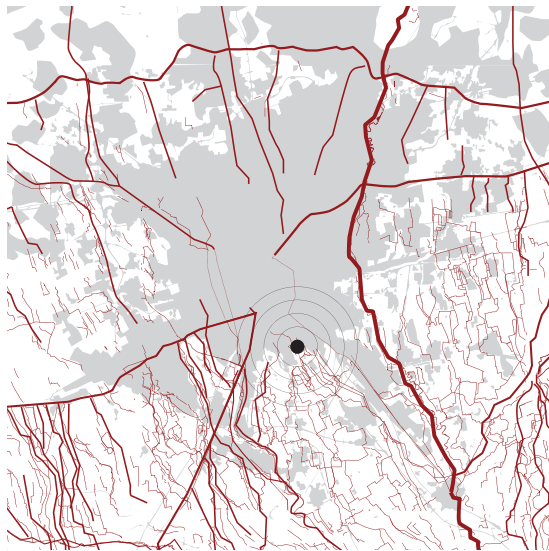


Fig. 2.2.5- Profile of Water Frame

## POLICY LIMITS

### MAIN TOPICS:

- Future Projects and Feasibility
- Green Visions
- The Middle Scale Actions

### QUESTIONS:

- What are the green vision for the peripheral open spaces?
- How to create a flexible framework?
- How to make a coexisting between the agriculture character and the human needs of public spaces?
- And what kind of activities can be promoted?

### GOAL:

- Create a set of policies for peripheral public spaces within the agricultural framework

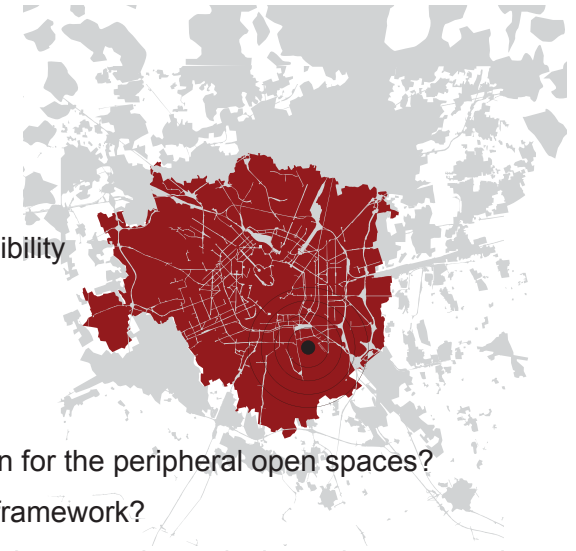


Fig. 2.2.6- Profile of Policy Limits

### 1.3.3 - The Process of Work

The process of this work can be regarded as a evolution of the sequential actions of division and compilation.

At first, the territorial field is conceptually divided to four main themes of analysis - The Open Space Stories. Each theme has its own story, actors and landscape feature. As a result, the following chapters will discuss and analyze the peripheral condition from four totally different perspectives and points of view. The themes will be considered separately and there will be developed the open space conclusions and strategies for each of them.

In the final chapter of conclusions, those independent landscapes concepts are combined again and together they present the entire strategy for peripheral open space recovering (Fig. 2.2.7).

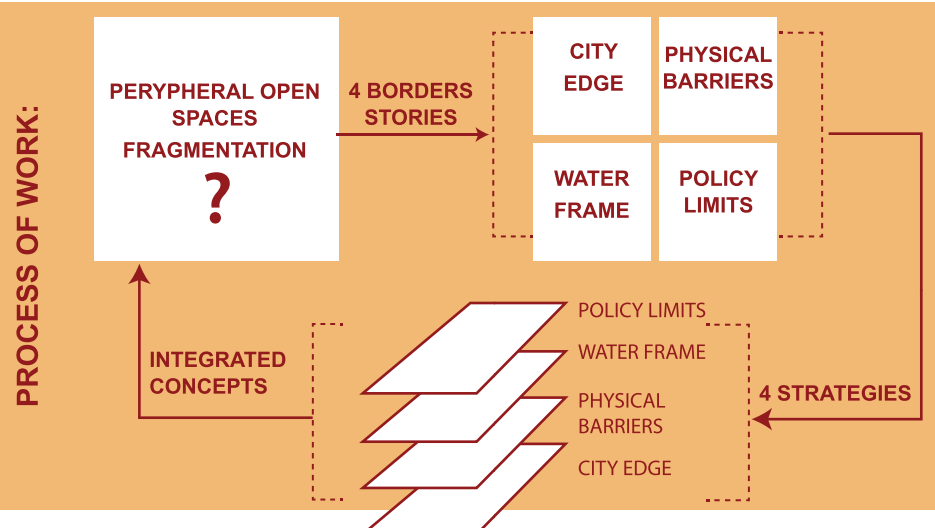


Fig. 2.2.7- Process of Work Scheme

## 2.3 WAYS OF DEFRAGMENTATION THROUGH FOUR OPEN SPACE STORIES

### 2.3.2 CITY EDGE - A Story of No Man's Land



#### PLACE AND TIME:

The story of City Edge Border is focusing on the current conditions of leftovers lands, between the city ends and the agriculture fields of Parco Sud. Nowadays they are abandoned and no strategy taken them to consideration, besides no one knows how long is their length or volume.

#### ATTITUDE TO THE OPEN SPACE:

Those Leftovers can be regarded as a abandoned "Coast Line" between the city and the "Open Sea" of agriculture fields. However, this land have a primarily importance in the periphery development, because they are the Potential Link between the city and the entrance to Parco Agricolo Sud.

#### PUBLIC SPACE:

The processes of human activity are already taken place in the Leftovers areas. People from nearby settlement create a new use of those forgotten lands, mostly illegal and dedicate to storage, but there are also a phenomena of city edge allotments that occurs along of the city edge. The main goal of analysis is to transform the Leftovers lands to public open space that suits the peripheral demands.

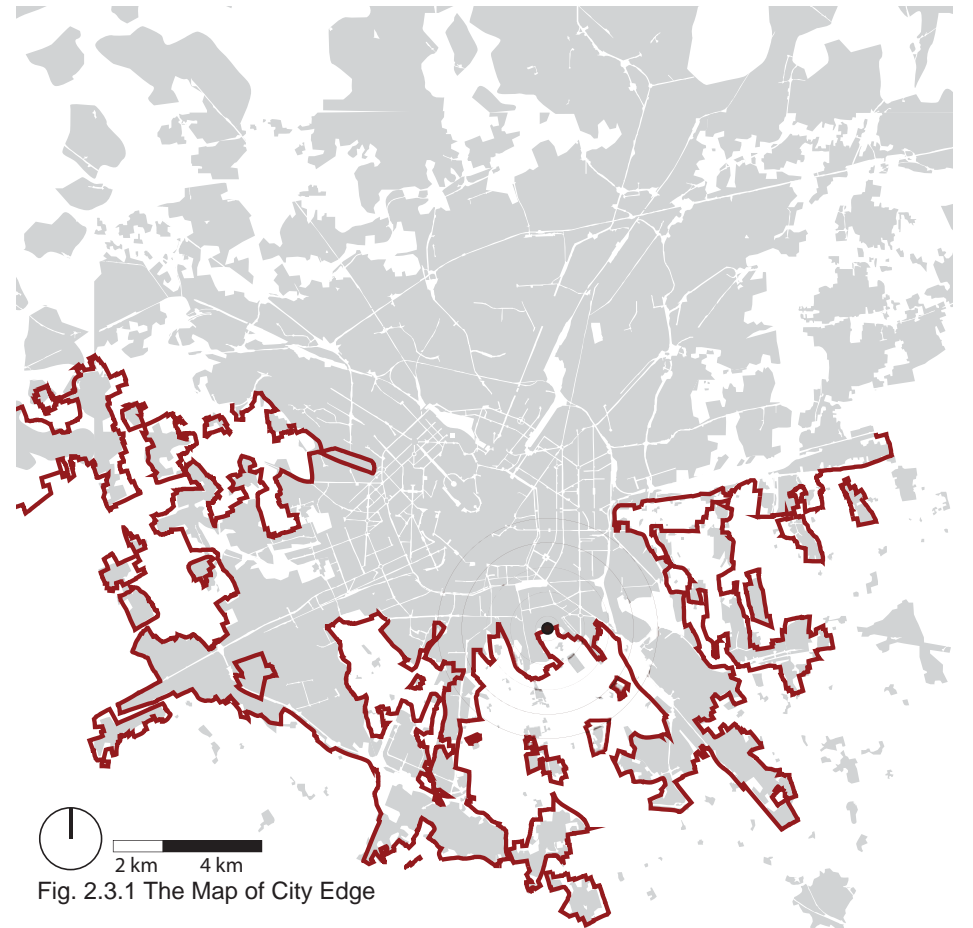


Fig. 2.3.1 The Map of City Edge

### 2.3.3 WATER FRAME - A Story of Ignored Landscapes



#### PLACE AND TIME:

The area of examination is taken place in the two surfaces. The first is the network of water landscapes and their qualities; the second is considering the historical values of water as a part of agriculture tradition and cultural heritage of Milan.

#### ATTITUDE TO THE OPEN SPACE:

This open space story focus on the hidden values of the IGNORED LANDSCAPES. The water landscape is reach of interesting places that have high importance from esthetic and ecological points of view, as well as a cultural meaning. Today they are hardly accessible or not recognized as an advantage.

#### PUBLIC SPACE:

The WATER FRAME story considers the canals as the strategic linear element that run through territory and can bring the potential sequence to the fragmented fabrics. Besides, the canals are not just lines, they have a space and volume of plants, that can become a platform for public open space within the agriculture framework.

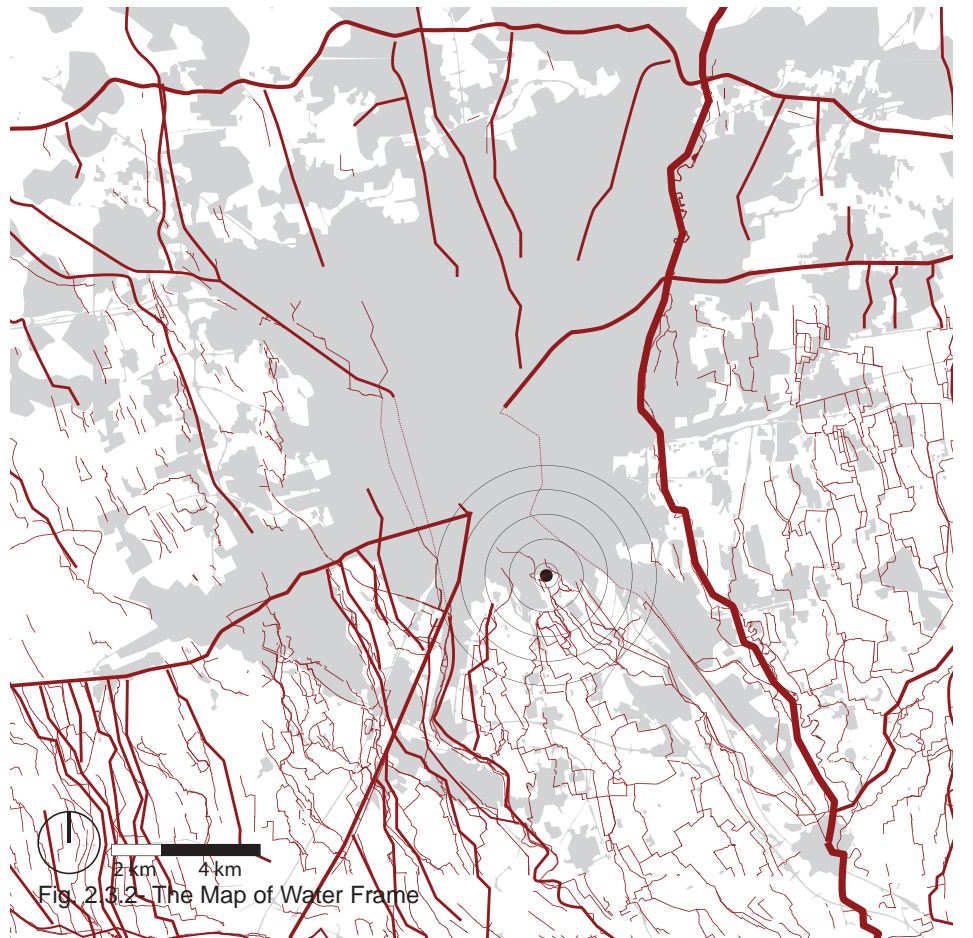


Fig. 2.3.2 The Map of Water Frame

### 2.3.1- Different Surfaces of Analysis

The peripheral area is a framework for many processes and tendencies. The Open Space Stories are interpretations of the peripheral condition that correspond to the fragmentation problems, but also to potentials of the periphery.

There is a relation between each Story and the problems of neglected open spaces that were regarded before. So, the attitude to the open space is various. For example, the City Edge regards the problems of Left-over spaces, the Physical Barriers focus on the Detached Lands, the Water Frame analyze the Ignored Landscapes and the Policy Limits are looking to the problems of the Not in my Yard attitude in the panning.

Although, the four stories examine the same peripheral conditions, they have a totally different focus on the area. For example, the City Edge Story gives more attention to the lands of Parco Agricolo Sud, especially on the in-between space, in the contrary, the Physical Barriers seek to the north direction and describe the urban fabric conditions; the Water Frame emphasizes the vertical connections going through city to the agriculture fields, when the Policy Limits have a virtual space of visions and management. (see Fig. 2.3.5- When, Where, What and How).

Also, the approach to the time period is different. For example, the City Edge underlines the current reality and its demands, while the Water Frame is looking to the present condition through the historical heritage. Physical Barriers examine the current conditions in the future perspectives, when Policy Limits shows the future plans and visions.

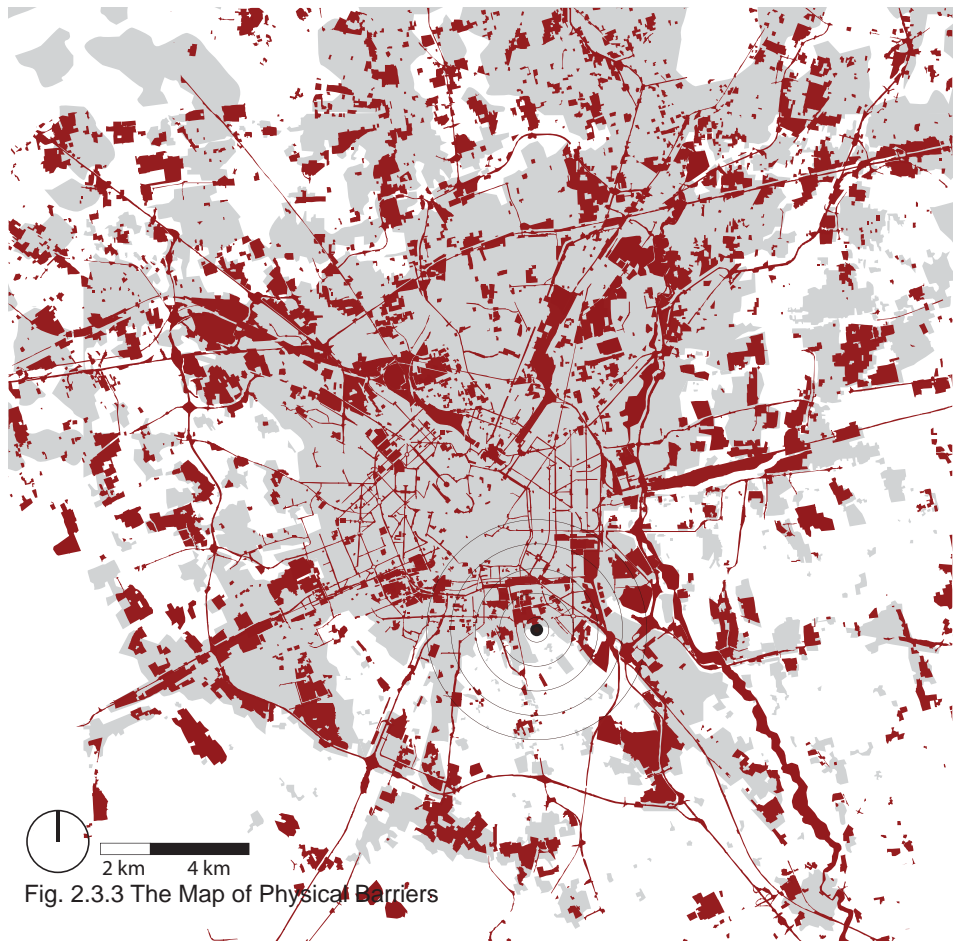


Fig. 2.3.3 The Map of Physical Barriers

### 2.3.4 PHYSICAL BARRIERS - A Story of Detached Periphery

#### PLACE AND TIME

The Story of Physical Barriers is explaining the various isolation aspects, such as accessibility problems, urban quality and the street networks.

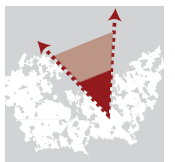
In this open space story, the main focus is given to role of the periphery in the urban transformation process. As a result, the area of analysis is switched more to the City Center direction, than to the Parco Agricolo Sud and takes to consideration the current problems as well as the future tendencies.

#### ATTITUDE TO THE OPEN SPACE:

This Story emphasizes the quality of streets space, which is an integrate element of the DETACHMENT phenomena of the periphery.

#### THE PUBLIC SPACE:

The main aim of the analysis is to bring life to the empty streets of periphery and to find a public place in the street surface.



### 2.3.5 POLICY LIMITS - A Story of The Missing Scale

#### PLACE AND TIME

The story of Policy Limits are taken place in the virtual field of visions and guidelines. They address more to the future period. However, there are also existing policies and realized projects, that cannot be ignored. As a result there is a gap between the pure visions of the perfect future and the existing situation.

#### ATTITUDE TO THE OPEN SPACE:

This border story examine the problems of the neglecting attitude to the underside open spaces - NOT IN MY YARD phenomena. Both in the existing and future development there is a kind of misleading of the space between the projects. A lot of middle scale spaces have not been taken to consideration, this have caused to a higher level of fragmentation and a lower effectiveness of the surfaces.

#### PUBLIC SPACE:

The main aim of this part of analysis is to find the missing scale policies for a better space reorganization. The focus is on the management solutions of public spaces within the agriculture frame of Parco Agricolo Sud.

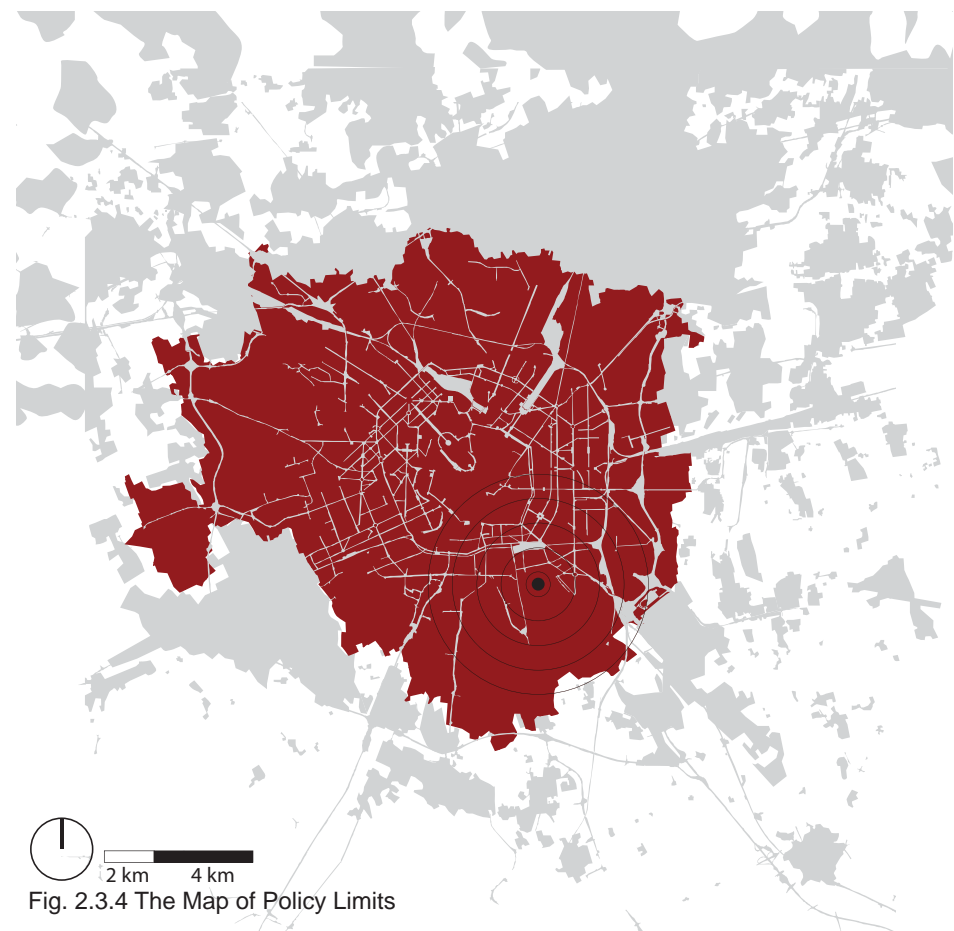
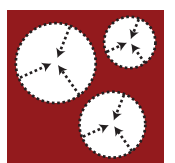


Fig. 2.3.4 The Map of Policy Limits

	CITY EDGE	PHISYCAL BARRIERS	WATER FRAME	POLICY LIMITS
<b>WHEN?</b> PRESENT The current conditions and demands	PRESENT The current conditions and demands	PRESENT&FUTURE The current conditions and their tendencies	PRESENT&PAST A current value within a historical heritage context	FUTURE VS. PRESENT The contradiction of visions to the current state
<b>WHERE?</b> IN-BETWEEN Focus on Parco Sud lands	IN-BETWEEN Focus on urban fabric conditions	IN-BETWEEN Focus on urban fabric conditions	LINEAR Focus on the sequence and volume of water	VIRTUAL Focus on the gap in policies of open space
<b>WHAT?</b> PHENOMENA OF LEFTOVERS	PHENOMENA OF DETACHED LANDS	PHENOMENA OF DETACHED LANDS	PHENOMENA OF IGNORED LANDSCAPES	PHENOMENA OF THE NOT IN MY YARD ATTITUDE
<b>HOW?</b> LEFTOVERS - As a Public Open Space and a Link to the lands of Parco Sud	STREETS - Public Space Quality as a key to regeneration of periphery	STREETS - Public Space Quality as a key to regeneration of periphery	WATER - As a public space and way to explore the territory and its values	SPACE REORGANIZATION - Solutions for public spaces within the agriculture frame

Fig. 2.3.5- When, Where, What and How