



Spring 2018 workshop

BEYOND THE BOUNDARY

April 3-5, 2018

Introduction

The workshop "Beyond the limit" continues the long-time collaboration between Kent State University Florence, College of Architecture & Environmental Design and DIDA, Dipartimento di Architettura dell'Università degli Studi di Firenze. Previous experiences have seen students engaged in architectural design workshops focused on the reconstruction of the urban fabric in small Tuscan historical centers: Bientina (2008), San Miniato (2011), and Magliano in Toscana (2017).

The current workshop represents the final phase of the design research carried out in Magliano in Toscana. It will consider the overall redesign of a medium-sized area close to the city walls, in order to increase the values of urbanity and collective use.

Magliano in Toscana as a typical hillside village

The urban structure of the traditional Tuscan hillside village is the result of a stratification of interventions that date from the Etruscan civilization up to the present day. Despite the historical vicissitudes, the Italian hillside village, and especially the Tuscan one, still retains some of the characteristics that have made it a model of reference for architects and urban planners during the 20th century.

The value of this model refers to the harmonious insertion in the surrounding landscape, the clear definition of the limits of the settlement, the accentuated building density of the urban structure, the volumetric complexity of the buildings which compose it. Further elements of interest are the rich relationship between monumental architecture (churches, palaces, portals, walls) and residential buildings and the relationship between public, semi-public and private spaces. As such, the hillside village continues to be of inspiration to establish guidelines for the future development of the village itself and as an example of a settlement full of suggestions to be applied in other forms and design contexts.

Project site

A site has been selected on the outer boundary of Magliano in Toscana in an area where, according to the approved Structural Plan, a residential and commercial mixed-use development is already envisioned.

The workshop is aimed at identifying settlement principles, spatial solutions, morphological choices that are alternative to the urban form of the suburbs, as the latter has been taking shape over the last century.

THE WORKSHOP WILL TAKE PLACE AT KENT STATE UNIVERSITY FLORENCE //////////////////////////////////////
AND AT THE UNIVERSITÀ DI FIRENZE, SCUOLA DI ARCHITETTURA //////////////////////////////////////

IT WILL RUN FROM TUESDAY APRIL 3 TO THURSDAY APRIL 5, 2018 //////////////////////////////////////

