DECONSTRUCTING OPACITY

Unused verticality: El Corte Inglés.

El Corte Inglés is a department store company that expanded greatly in the 1970s, and is currently present in all the most important cities in Spain.

All the buildings of El Corte Inglés follow a similar architectural pattern characterised by opaque façades with no relation to the urban context.

Considering the typology of the Corte Inglés buildings uninteresting largely because of their characteristically opaque façade, this proposal attempts to define a strategy of deconstructing the façade that would be applicable to all buildings characterised by this type of façade.



Facade of El Corte Inglés of in honour of Marijaia. Bilbao, 1986.





Catalogue of buildings with similar characteristics: cases where an "anti-monumentation" strategy can be applied.



Córdoba, Andalucía.

















........



León, Castilla y León.



Zaragoza, Aragón.



Valladolid, Castilla y León.

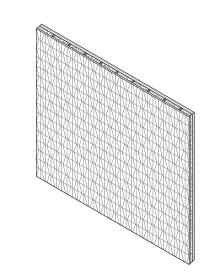
Burgos, Castilla y León.



Facade deconstruction strategy

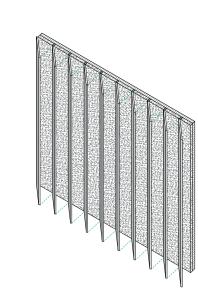
The deconstruction strategy is based on the distinction of layers and proposes a first superficial action affecting the external cladding. The strategy foresees future deconstruction actions that respond to the building's transformations.

1. DISTINCTION OF THE FACADE LAYERS.

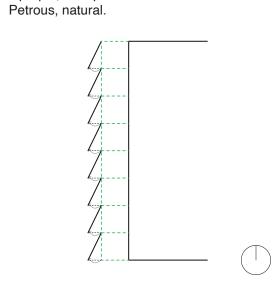


The facade is a cladding of the buildings in all cases, always independent of the main structure. -cladding: stone or ceramic material -substructure: frame to support the cladding and to attach it to the main structure -thermal insulation -interior cladding

2. FOLDING THE FACADE

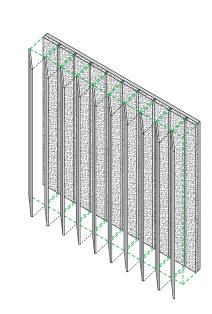


Dynamic perception. The two new directions that are created generate another two planes on each façade. This opens up the possibility of playing with different textures or opacities. Opaque, transparent.

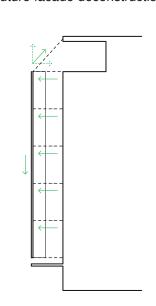


The new direction responds to the orientation. The facade opens to the south and provides light and possible natural ventilation.

3. NEW FACADE SUBSTRUCTURE



In-between space. The new facade structure generates an in-between space capable of hosting new programmes related to the city, as well as acting as an infrastructure for possible future facade deconstruction.



4. TEMPORARY PROGRAMME.

The main objective of the project is to rethink the relationship between the façade and the urban The proposal aims to bring a **positive footprint**

to the city.

-Awareness of the materials used in the intervention: Façade parts used: 6.780 Added structure: reusable metal structure of prefa-

bricated parts, built dry. 4 pieces make up a piece of 1.2x0.6 cm.

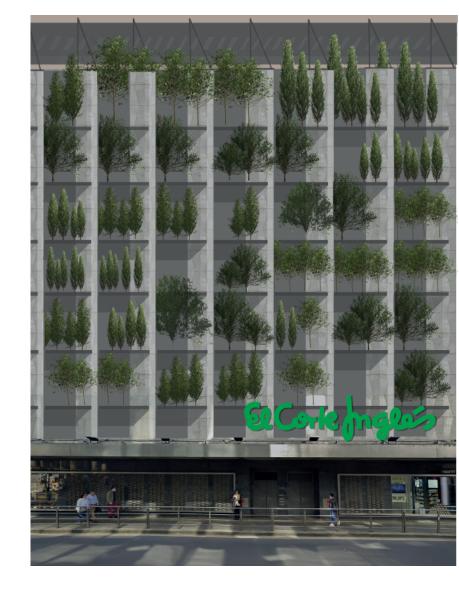
21.200m2:0,72m2=1695x4=6.780piezas

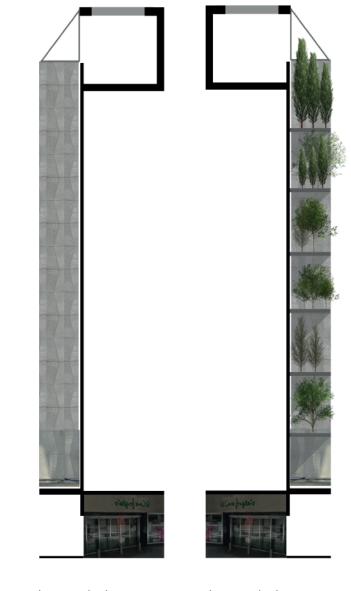
-Temporary programme: nursery for 1,1720 trees. The structure will house the trees that will later be planted in natural areas of the city.

Reference:1.306 plants for Timisoara (MAIO)



Front view





Front view

before

Lateral view Lateral view

after

Before