

Pla Estel*

Plaza Joan Miró

Previous state

Plaza Joan Miró was one of the first public spaces in Montornès de Vallès, occurring after strong local demand in the 70's. It has always been an important site of the community. Joan Miro's mural defined the identity of the space, while the everyday activities and the annual celebrations designate its role as a generator of the public realm.

However, due to the creation of new urban spaces, its dynamic has been debilitated by the time limiting its daily activities to children's play. Anymore, people would visit it massively, for the annual celebration and the dance of city's giants, although, the square's restricted capacity could not afford the needs of this event which brings together locals and visitors.

The physical space of that urban square, was consisted by two main levels. On the upper part there was a small landing with a bench next to the degraded allegorical mural and a tree. The access to the lower part was happening by the pedestrian street Jacint Verdaguer or by two staircases that were forming an amphitheater. This zone was consisted by trees on the margins, a playground on the two sides next to the school's wall and a pavement of substandard condition which was leading to the pedestrian street Jacint Verdaguer; a significant extension of the square where bar's and school's entrances could be found.



Plaza Joan Miró before the intervention _Summer 2014

Aim of the intervention

In May 2014, Montornès town council assigned to Pla Estel the process for a collaborative analysis and diagnosis of the square in order to define the proposals for improvement. This led to a collaborative design of the preliminary project for the renovation of the square. The process was coordinated by the municipality implementing, meanwhile, various measures such as the project "Open patios" and the renovation of the mural using local resources.

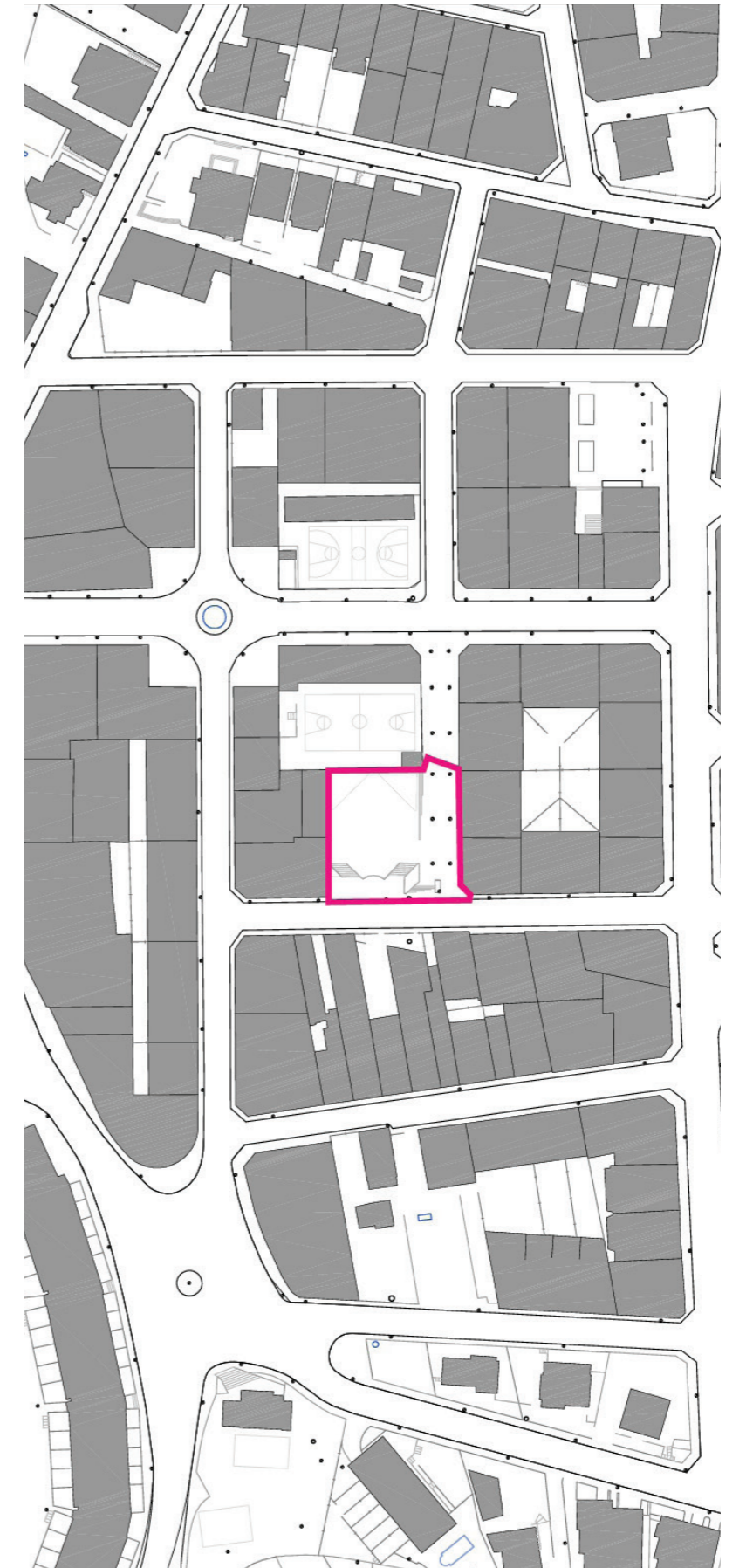
This process was consisted by two main phases. For the first one it has been followed the participation methodology known as Investigation, Action and Participation (IAP). During that, various agents have been activated. Amongst them the political and administrative team of the municipality, associated entities and non-associated citizens and Pla Estel technical team.

The reached agreements in this phase were organized in nine main topics: character, area of influence, bleachers, environment, shade, playground, surrounding facades and others.

Therefore, in the second phase the executive reform of the plaza was finalized, reflecting the accordances of the previous one. The agreed concept seek to reinforce the identity of the plaza reclaiming its centrality to the city.



Public waiting for the inauguration of the event_ Battle Dance_September 2017



Plan of the urban context