



*figures* INFRASTRUCTURES  
an atlas of roads and railways

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SUN

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*figures* INFRASTRUCTURES is a unique exploration into the language of cartography.

This book demonstrates the capacity of maps to constructively re-imagine the everyday urbanised territory.

The case study of *figures*

INFRASTRUCTURES is the landscape of infrastructures portrayed in section E-18 to H-16 of the Michelin road map n°533 'regional Benelux.'

The cut-out roughly follows the contour of a square stretched around the cities of Ghent, Kortrijk (Courtrai) and Doornik (Tournai).

The content of this single map is recomposed into the format of a book and becomes an atlas. The lines on the map are a given but by transferring the lines into the format of the atlas, the conception of the infrastructural networks takes on a new shape.

Vice versa, the format of the atlas is expanded to assimilate and amplify the reconception of the infrastructural networks.

The structure of the atlas is topological, unraveling the spatial dynamics between the infrastructural networks – roads and railroads – as they develop historically over time into complex interrelated systems. Within this topological structure, three cartographic 'figures' operate between the infrastructures and the maps, each constructing a distinct narrative.

The authors of the book make extensive use of cartographic references as a way of accumulating – historical as well as and contemporary – cartographic knowledge.

*figures* INFRASTRUCTURES

reconstructs the view. This publication drastically widens our perception of the infrastructural landscape, by taking a whole new perspective on mapping.