

Urban Project from Foz do Jamor to Belém

Regeneration of Public Space and Integration of Habitacional Use

Extended Abstract

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The following report is part of the academic work developed within the scope of the Projeto Final curriculum, included in the last semester of the master's degree in Architecture of Instituto Superior Técnico. Its purpose is to reflect on the project carried out during the academic year 2015/2016 and justify the strategies and choices made in the resolution of the proposed exercise.

The exercise refers to the urban reality of the riverfront between the Jamor and Belém, a territory strongly marked by the presence of road axles. In articulation with the City Hall of Lisboa and Oeiras and with the Administration of the Port of Lisbon, the selected theme focuses on the discontinuity between these types of territories and the city. In fact, beyond the barrier between the city and its riverfront, this is a problem of restructuring the territory, becoming an opportunity to rethink this urban void that has formed as a central urban public space of all its surroundings.



Intervention Area

The project was divided into two phases. The first one had the objective of reading the territory as a fundamental element for its transformation. In this phase lines of action are outlined and areas with potential to be transformed are delimited, seeking the redesign of the public space. The aim was to find new ways of articulation between the different systems and to seek solutions to give urban continuity to the territory under study.

The second phase was based on the strategy found in the first, but was worked on the scale of the building. Its purpose was to continue the main lines of action demarcated in the previous phase, developing on a more detailed scale a project unit, with some personal interest, determinant for accomplishment of the established strategy.

The work is organized in three parts. The first aims to construct the theoretical argument that supports the strategy adopted in the intervention of the zone. Particular emphasis is given to the role of public space in the perspective of the process of urban regeneration. Later, some strategies and reference cases are analyzed in Barcelona, Hamburg, Kentucky, Seoul, Seattle and Shanghai, aiming at exposing the different strategies that an urban regeneration can adopt in the approach of the city to the fronts of water, and to overcome the barriers that the Road lines provoke. These case studies have proved to be fundamental for a better understanding of the territory under study, and for the development of the project.

The second part focuses on an investigation of a theoretical and practical nature. It is a characterization of the intervention area, emphasizing the analysis of its formal characteristics and functional conditions. Its purpose is to obtain information to assess locks, dysfunctions and potential of the site, and the consequent capacity that the territory could have to accommodate the new urban public space. For this purpose the evolutionary process of the intervention area, complemented by the biophysical, spatial analysis, the edification and the mobility, is described. In this way, the main problems and attributes were identified and evaluated in order to define the intervention strategy. These characteristics consist of the following points:

WEAKNESS

Railway line constitutes a **physical barrier**: high-speed rail traffic does not allow the use of the site;

The road system: the duplication of the rapid transit traffic parallel to the river front and shortage of crossing create **difficulty in the pedestrian mobility and insecurity to the pawn**;

Sound and environmental pollution of the high flow of cars and railways;

The ecological system is disjointed, without continuity;

Threats to natural hazards such as **floods** and rising river beds;

The lack of qualified public spaces, not only of leisure, but of stay and of passage;

The scarcity of equipment for tourism, leisure and commerce contributes to the poor attractiveness of the area;

Aging of the resident population.

STRENGTHNESS

Proximity that the study area has with the **river**;

Existence of an intermodal station: **diversity of collective transportation**;

Good sun exposure and location;

Considerable equity component.

The last and main part of the report focuses on the description of the proposed proposal for this riverfront, and is divided into two parts - the urban project and the architectural project. Its purpose is to present and justify the choices made, with the support of graphic elements, detailing the concept, and in the case of architectural design, form, function and constructive aspects.



General Plan of the Urban Project

URBAN PROJECT

Firstly, the proposed program was taken as a guide for the development of the project. It should be emphasized that, because it is an academic project, it is important to understand, interpret and transform the pre-existing data to avoid a rigid implementation of the program. In this way, the program helped to understand the diversity of proposed activities as well as their functional requirements.

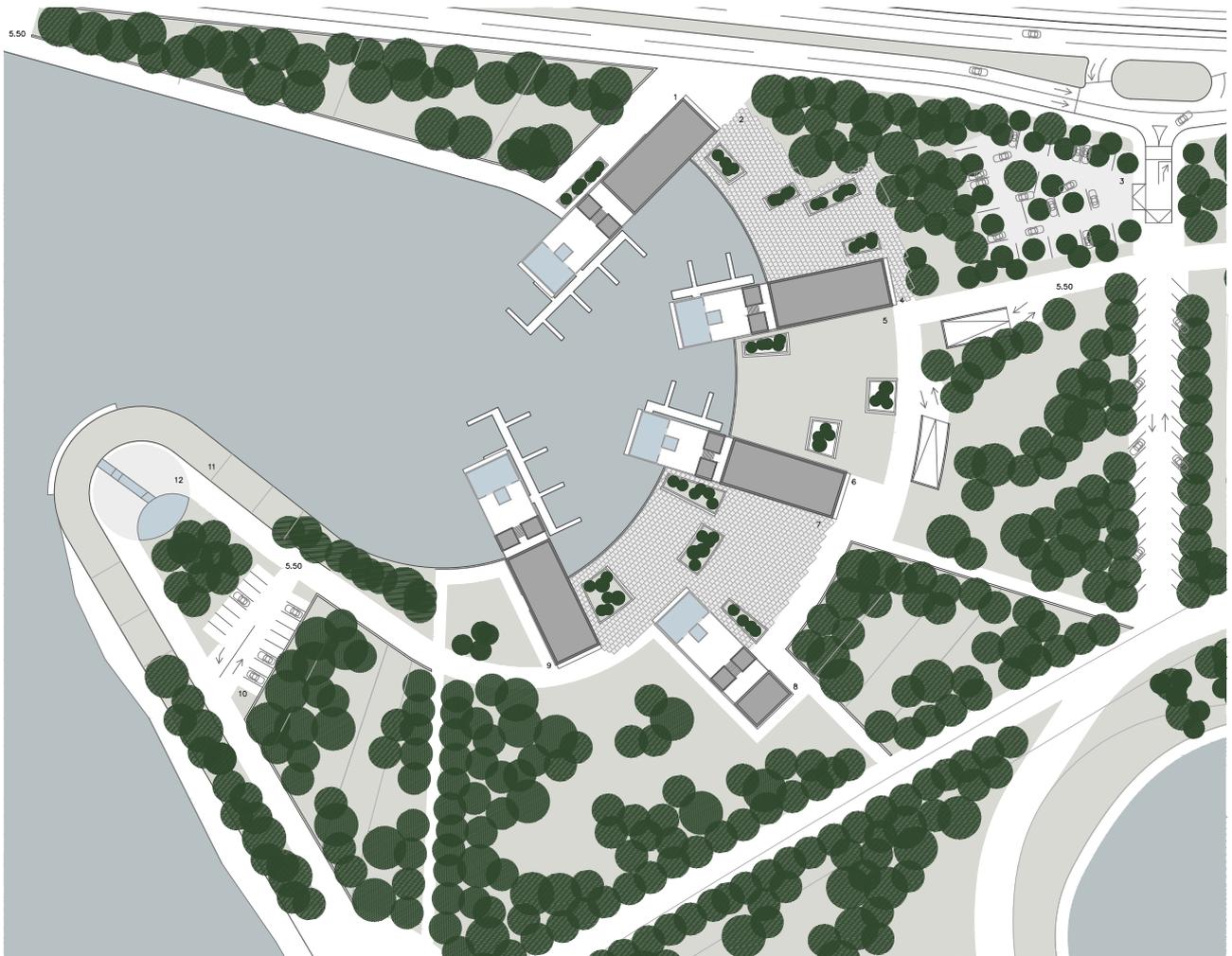
Next, the strategies that make up the concept of the proposal are defined so that it can be addressed later. The strategy focuses essentially on the regeneration and requalification of this riverside area, endowing the space with leisure places, conferring urban characteristics of quality for usufruct of the citizen. It is intended to establish a connection with existing systems that allows a continuous reading of the territory through a continuous and fluid pedestrian path, consisting of reference spaces, green structure, road system and new equipment. The articulation of the existing ecological structure, based on the creation of a “green spot” that arose from the continuation of three green spaces of relevance in this area: the Parque do Jamor, the Parque Florestal de Monsanto and the Jardins da Torre de Belém, establishes the concept for the development of the project. Thus, an **Urban Park** is proposed, transversal to the entire intervention area, articulated by a network of public spaces and pedestrian corridors and composed of different tree densities

Finally, a specific description is made of the components of the Urban Project, which are: the Urban Park; The Road Structure; The Pedestrian Net and the Public Space; The Cycling Network; The Structured Structure. Due to its transversal implementation, the park will reinforce not only the articulation with the existing ecological structure and the city, but also with the proposed buildings and all other elements of the Urban Project, thus synthesizing a good part of the strategy.

ARCHITECTURAL PROJECT

This last part of the proposal consists of two distinct programs, the Residential Complex and the Restaurant, and is divided into four themes. The first deals with the overall strategy of the project, which aims to create a space to live integrated in a public urban space without one conditioning the other, building the building and the public space at the same time, and explore the daily and direct contact with the environments Created by the urban proposal. However, in an academic context, but very close to reality, it is intended to develop a viable project, rejecting the utopian character. As such, the design of the residential buildings was carried out based on classical ideas, presenting a form that can be considered rigid. The proposal is characterized by the importance given to public spaces and their connection to the park, as well as the breadth and spatial refinement of the interior areas explored through regulated measures. As one of the objectives of the Architectural Project is to promote the attractiveness of the area not only for residents, it became relevant that it had a complementary and different program, thus projecting a volume to develop a Restaurant.

The next three parts are divided into form, function and construction, the last two of which are reported in the specific report for each of the buildings. Although divided and corresponding to different levels of depth in the design drawings, these are inseparable, as each influences the other.



Plan of Architecture Project



Architectural Project Rendering

The general form focuses on the implementation drawings and general outlines of the proposal, reflecting on the volumetric choices made during the project. The function analyzes the functional distribution of spaces by buildings, with general plans and sections of the proposal, to understand how spaces appropriate volumes and their division by floors. Finally, in the construction, emphasis is given to structural and materialization options through drawings in greater detail.

The proposal is based on a strategy of requalification of public spaces, in view of the visual and physical connection of the city consolidated with Rio. It is also supported by the improvement of accessibility, the adjustment of mobility to the proposed plan, and the multiplicity of spaces Proposed public. In general, the design of the project was understood as the quality of the public space as the element capable of leveraging the degree of centrality of this zone, through the urban and architectural valorization, thus it can be considered a consolidated work, since it gives a response to the Program or the needs of the place.