

The street of the Duque de Saldanha: an urban morphology of public and private initiative

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The street of the Duque of Saldanha, in the parish of Bonfim, was opened in the 20's of twentieth century. Oriented north to south, opened in Wide Balthazar Guedes and "ends" in the Field August 24th.

☒ It takes its place name to military and political, Joao Carlos de Saldanha¹, outstanding personality of Portuguese political life of his time.

☒ In the nearby surroundings place names are almost always associated with figures of nobility, which reflects the movement of the bourgeoisie and certain nobility² in the post-industrial era, in addition to the historic city, urban areas in search of more qualified.

☒ It was opened in stages³: the longest stretch on the north from the Field August 24th. "It's an open artery in Quinta do Reimão, bought in 1882 (...) in order to urbanize the place" (Cunha, 1999: 308).

The farm was subdivided and urbanized. Buildings and streets were constructed. ☒ In his letter of 1892⁴, just adjacent to the Field August 24th buildings there. Urban growth⁵ occurs in the late 20's and 30's twentieth century. and justified to some extent the morphological unity of the whole.

☒ The street connects between the extensive Balthazar Guedes, from the College of Orphans and Field August 24th. On the urban front spring, to the street by Joaquim António de Aguiar, the town has a masonry facade, facing the Prado do Repouso Cemetery.

☒ To the west lies St. Victor's street and Duque de Palmela's street. The fronts of urban morphology have built the kind consolidated⁶, except near the crossing of Joaquim António de Aguiar 's street and Rodrigues de Freitas Avenue, classified as urban front continuous consolidation.

¹ João Carlos Gregório Domingos Vicente Francisco de Saldanha Oliveira e Daun, was emblematic of liberal wars, especially in the action at the siege of Porto and Regeneration. At Saldanha was awarded, in addition to the street from the Duque de Saldanha, the place name, street Marechal Saldanha, in Foz do Douro and Nevogilde.

² Duque da Terceira; Duque de Loulé; Barão de Nova Sintra; Barão de S. Cosme; Visconde de Bóveda

³ ☒ Although this stretch lie the police paragraphs higher.

⁴ Augusto Telles Ferreira de 1982 1/2500 e 1/500

⁵ Building permits in the existing CMP mostly relate to the decade of 20/30 sec.XX.

⁶ PDM do Porto, Resolução do Conselho de Ministros n.º19/2006

The industrial age in the early twentieth century, shaped the urban form: the street addresses of the houses of the bourgeoisie were massively busy with tiny townhouses, forming two lines within the lot designated - "islands." Occupation that still lingers in the west street of the Duque de Saldanha, filling the block to the street of St. Victor. The population remained in the area even after the de-industrialization, with the same occupational model.

☒ The lack of healthy conditions of housing was also a concern of state and the Municipality of Porto. Therefore, in addition to the neighborhoods built by the government, from 1930 until the improvement plan of 1956, CMP has initiated measures to improve the quality of life for residents.

Indeed the investigation of health inspection⁷ revealed degrading living conditions of the population of the islands. He pointed to the collective construction of buildings to locate in the vicinity of the islands to demolish. These proposals were opposed to state policies and existing urban interests, which favored single-family houses in outlying areas.

☒ That is how the initiative of the Municipality of Porto (1938) builds the first multifamily housing property in the city: the designated block Duque de Saldanha, situated on the eastern side of Duque de Saldanha 's street n.º 106, with a total of 115 dwellings. Be rehoused population of the islands in the area of St. Victor. The building is unique in terms-morphological type. Develops in depth into the block, by invoking the multi-family type characteristics of the islands in the way we had depth in the interior of the lots. A modernist project in terms of concept materials and color (white) in a current very popular at the time. Adjacent to the south with the pack Duque de Saldanha, there is a private transaction.

☒ This also refers to all forms of occupation of the islands, since it combines the pivotal movement with respect to front face of housing, providing neighborly relations identical. In addition to these two housing developments, there are three villages, islands in the eighteenth century and buildings dating from the eighteenth century, many, targeted to open garages at the ground floor.

☒ The urban morphology of Duque de Saldanha's street identifies these natural interventions that have attempted to be an intervention model that would solve the housing problem (eradication of the islands) and public use to the interiors of the blocks.

Keywords: Block, Duque de Saldanha, islands, public and private initiative, urban morphology

⁷ Fátima Loureiro de Matos, *Bairros sociais no espaço urbano do Porto: 1901-1956*, *Análise social* Vol. XXIX, (127), 1994, (3.º) 677-695



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