

Combatants of the Great War: An avenue, a garden

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The urban morphology is a reflection of a broad range of physical and human, particularly a result of policies and plans, and architectural trends. This effect is noticeable on roads and streets, the most important elements of urban morphology, in partnership with the buildings, their types and shapes. On this basis, we elected an avenue of the city of Oporto, the Avenue of the Combatants of the Great War which is intended to analyze the urban, historical, architectural and morphological point of view, in one word: "geographic". With this analysis you can understand how the opening of the avenue potentiated the changes in the urban surroundings, and if such changes comply the land use and allow a coherent and balanced development of the different elements that comprise the territory.

The choice of this avenue was based on its location, ambience and experience that translates into a distinct character, distinctive and personalized. In urban areas, as in other arteries of the city breathes a bit of garden city. The rapid growth of cities associated with urbanization conditions in deficit and with serious health hazard was a growing concern and for which it was necessary to find a solution. So, Ebenezer Howard¹, with its model of urban design City - Garden offers a balance between man and nature that encompasses the social aspects and economic cities planned, combining the advantages of industrial cities and living in rural areas.

So, the new towns can encompass the opportunities offered by *cities and the qualities of the countryside without any sacrifices associated with the city and the country must unite and this happy union will be born a new hope, new life, a new civilization*. Within this thought, we highlight the characteristics associated with the type of roads, buildings and their surroundings, as the width of the track axis, afforestation² and construction of buildings. So, from the literature's basic theme, combining the cartographic elements and complemented with a nice dose of *in-situ* observation and photography, will present a description and overview of urban dynamics verifies this avenue.

Today this avenue is one of the most emblematic of the city, with a beauty and diversity characteristics of buildings.

¹ Ebenezer Howard (29 de January de 1850, London - 1 May 1928, Hertfordshire) was an English pre-planner, theorist of Garden City.

² Every artery is lined with Plantains (*Platanus the family Platanaceae*)

Keywords: Avenue, Garden City, Oporto, urban morphology, urbanism.

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