

URBAN PROJECT FROM THE CONTENTS OF PERIPHERAL TERRITORIES. THE MORPHOLOGY OF THE CITY OF VIANA DO CASTELO

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Abstract:

The physical form of Viana do Castelo's city can be understood by the dynamism of their own city limits, both in technical-formal and informal terms. In general, the increscent development of this city limits is related to the territorial "experiences" triggered in the second half of last century and when the territorial confront with social enjoyment was pressured by urban culture tendencies (J. Gaspar, 1987). National policies to promote economic and social trends boosted the tendency for the growing of urbanity experience (M. Silva, 1984; J. Silva Lopes, 1996; A. Reis, 2000), contributing to the strengthening of a large asymmetric and unbalanced urban matrix in most of national regions.

The urban city limits' geometry (INE-Portugal, 2002, 2004) is a starting point for interpreting the relationship with its urbanities, with the morphology of the city territories and the physical and natural framework that supports it. In this case, the city limits/suburbs are the basis of this relational analysis and helps to a better understanding of the diverse nature and different trace or track that is the finis of urbanity, which is not confined to conventional planning systems increasingly outdated and bureaucratic.

The nature and diversity of these city limits give today to cities, whether as a border or as a city limit, new horizons of urban design, composite type of land uses and different understandings needed to face the new paradigms brought by the crisis or by the (mis) governance. In the context of "return" to the city's' qualification and in terms of planning and urban fringe program, the role of regional cities is to demonstrate the appropriate basis for an urban action strategy of defining category (s) of consistent and stable urban morphology for the whole of its periphery. But not all of the cities limits morphology are or will be dynamic (Cruz Lopez, 2007) and the identification, discovery and systematization of phenomena or materials that constitute this morphological reality

is our study proposal. The organization of urban land obeys to its historical-cultural past and to an urban project desire, signalled by geography and qualified for the environment and its architecture as the best contemporary human address.

We aim to demonstrate how, from the analysis and provision of intrinsic "materials" or "operational contents" to each territorial under analyze, one can validate the urban project. The type of analysis will allow, after its systematization and graphics overlay, to obtain specific information on how the design of urban space will be signed and formalized.

Keywords:

urban diversity, territorial morphology; city limits, urban project/design, operational contents

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