Title: Heritage - Convictions and Conventions

Abstract

Heritage concepts have been the subject of deep reflection, shifting between more conservative and avant-garde positions. Over time, we find different postures that seek principles of intervention on the built heritage or urban fabrics, appealing to terms such as authenticity, museification, restoration, monumentality, and environment. If, on the one hand, time is a key issue in heritage matters, on the other hand, space has not always converged in intervention criteria or possible preservation measures.

However, the different theoretical positions reflect their contributions to Charters or Conventions on heritage, with particular emphasis on the sixties and seventies. The contents of some of these documents consolidate an idea of co-presence between the different times of architecture, the past, present, and future. However, this valorization of time and space relations as an essential reference for heritage interventions is an object of a different design approach.

In this context, we choose a paradigmatic case, where the relations and tensions of time are confronted with a specific space in the Lapa neighborhood in Lisbon – Quelhas 55. In this example, the forms of 18th-century urbanization and their legacy from the past are confronted with an intervention supported by a modernist reconstruction, possibly oriented towards a future heritage.

Keywords: Heritage, Rehabilitation, Architecture, Lapa district, Lisbon.