EUROPAN 8

PALMELA, Portugal





TOPIC

To re-establish the links between urban and rural systems, adapting them to new concepts and form of fruition, modernizing the housing tissue with the introduction of new elements, envisaging a new urbanism and redefining the links and interpenetrations in a border area. This idea should be visually stressed, safeguarding the scale, the lifestyles and the heritage, the landscape, the productive and cultural values of the traditional urban nucleus.

CONURBATION

The urban agglomeration of Quinta do Anjo is extended alongside the National road 379 in an urban axis going from Palmela (The council town) to Azeitão, being located between southern industrial area of the metropolitan area of Lisbon and the natural barrier made up of the mountainous complex of the Arrábida Mountain Ridge, which is under protection as a Natural Park.

Palmela's urban dynamism, due to its location, proximity and accessibility to Lisbon, Setubal and important industrial units, together with the demand for houses in a pleasant and accessible place, has led to the rising demand for construction land.

SITE

The Barcelo Village, which is the "cradle" of human occupation in the Quinta do Anjo agglomeration, is characterized by an urban nucleus of relevant interest, where the duality urban/rural environment is still clearly visible. It is mainly made up of single and two storey houses alongside plots of land, patios and vegetable gardens, the constructions being set up alongside peripheral roads, wherein the few elements of traditional urban centrality are located (church, the Philarmonic Society and a water fountain).

Population: 351 inhabitants (Bacelo Village)

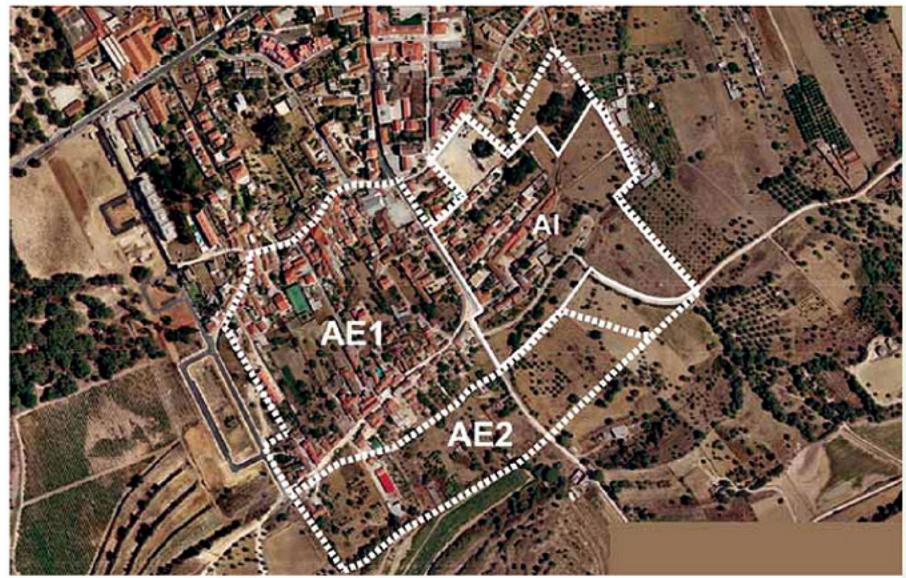
3 100 inhabitants (Quinta do Anjo)

53 353 inhabitants (Palmela Municipality)

Location: Bacelo Village Study area: 19.5 ha Project area: 5 ha

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PROGRAMME

Site area: multi-use buildings, a local council office, an environmental centre, an information office for nature-tourism, landscaping of the "Quinta do Anjo Caves" archaeology site, a residential unit within the "rural tourism and/or "village houses" typology.

Study area: new public areas, designing of the road and pedestrian accesses to the interiorised areas (old patios and vegetable gardens), occupation of the area not yet occupied, building to be preserved and to adapt them to the housing use.

ISSUES

Social / functional

The strong interdependent function previously existent (the residential, manufacture and storage of produce function counter-balanced the farm and grazing lands) and the changes which occurred in the economic and productive system.

Sensitive

The village's inclusion in the Arrábida Natural Park in an area of transition between the urban perimeter and the rural area at present out the borders between these two distinct systems, the urban and the rural/natural one.

Sustainability

To promote the integration of contemplation itineraries and lodges in the urban area, as well as to promote the balance between natural and constructed spaces, between heritage values and new interventions, as well as the creation of adapted spaces, not only for permanent activities, but also for ephemeral practices.

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