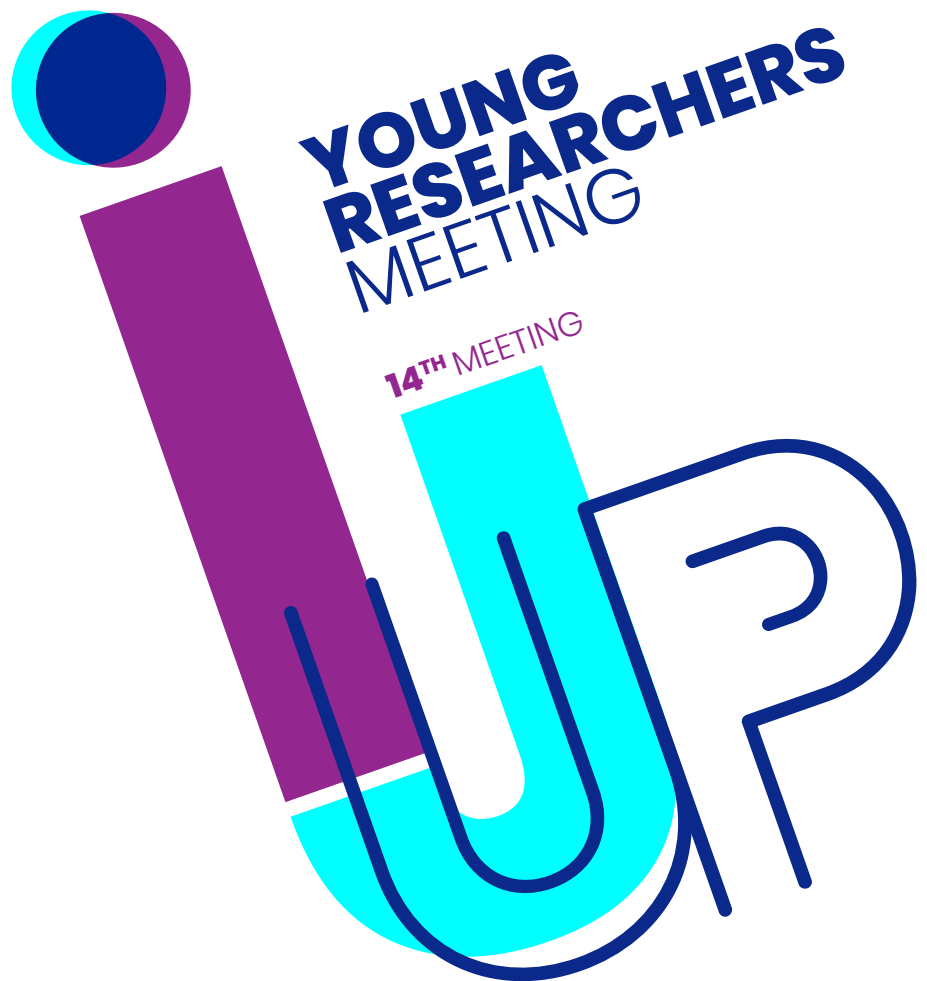




BOOK OF ABSTRACTS



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(I)material memory as fragments for a new place: the fraga of Fontainhas

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Abstract

Continuity and transformation of the city and its buildings is the foundation for this study.

This dissertation proposes the construction of a project exercise that aims to intervene in a fragmented part of Porto. The plot is located in Quinta da Fraga and served the purpose of a country side villa outside the city walls for the Jesuits Church priests in the 16th century. As the city evolved it was, over a long period of time, divided and urbanised. As a result, at the end of the 18th century, a new house and chapel were built by the river, later, in 1940, were turned into a ceramic factory. The buildings left by the priests were taken and turned over different uses as new additions were made, including housing for the factory workers, which are currently in ruin. The connection between river and city was established by a ramp, named Calçada da Corticeira, possibly built in the 1820's before the Siege of Porto. Through old cartography it's possible to understand the paths connecting the very steep scarp to the urban development happening around it. At the turn of the 21st century, with the construction of the Infante Bridge, a part of the scarp was left abandoned and the factory's buildings in ruin.

History has an important role in this investigation: understanding the evolution of Porto and the buildings in ruin represent a crucial part in constructing the project exercise. Analyzing archival documents and drawing the city leads to the making of a chronology so that all information is organised and can be looked at from a critical point of view.

The project proposal aims not only to reflect on the pre-existing structures and their value but to understand their place on a bigger scale. The program is to be centered around public space, but also proposing housing and spaces for the community. The intervention strives to have a deep foundation on how the fragment moved through time while constructing a new reality for the abandoned spaces shadowed by the bridge.



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