



The commune of Oeiras is part of Greater Lisbon. Located to the west of the capital, Oeiras is bordered to the south by the river Tagus. By reason of its geographical situation, and its physical and natural characteristics, Oeiras, with a distinct identity, has a high standing, both in its own right and as a place to live. It is currently developing new economic activities designed to preserve its significant natural and cultural heritage.

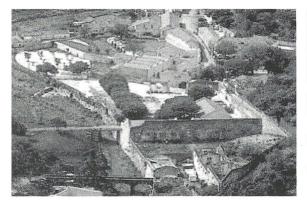
The zone is composed of a fragmented urban fabric whose infrastructures are inadequate. Amenities and green spaces are lacking; interstitial spaces are under-exploited; much of the scattered population works in neighbouring communes, mostly in the tertiary sector. The site area is largely occupied by small kitchen gardens, but includes part of the former Barcarena Gunpowder factory, which was active from 1540 to 1978, and is now to be converted into a cultural complex.

Regeneration and integration of the land and the gunpowder factory's hydraulic installations heads the design brief, as does the restructuring of the road network, including the creation of new means of access. Restoration of the factories existing buildings conforms to their new role as cultural and social facilities. The brief is for a multifunctional programme that serves to complement the rest of the sector. Housing (70 dwellings) is to be aimed at young occupants, and be backed up by adequate amenities. The creation of a large, environmentally high quality green space have to be able to cater for a wide range of sports and other recreational activities.

Population 162.128 (conurbation) 4.067 (town) Location Tercena Study area 10 ha Site area 3 ha

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EXPLORING THE LIBBANISED EDGES









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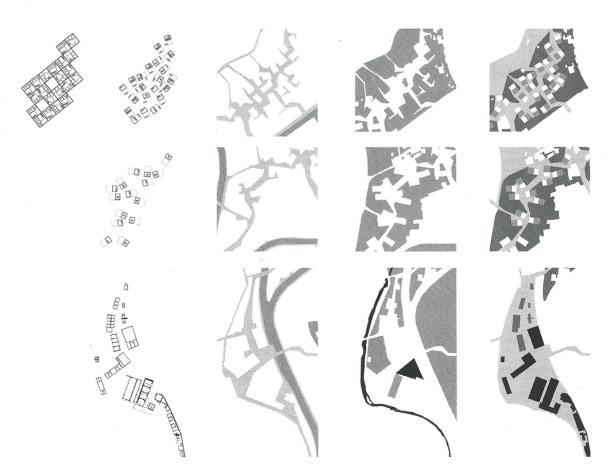
The idea of the project is to keep the landscape character of the site and, undertaking the architectonical typology of the gunpowder-factory-area, to create a residential scheme with an own identity. The existing and new-designed building systems are organised around a south-north road, as a main communication link, crossed by a number of east-west paths, leading to the ecological park and the promenade in the river valley.

ONCE UPON A HOUSE

Each of the 3 site-sections has a particular urban density and a specific residential and public character. The tight agglomeration up in section A offers two typologies of housing units. Patio-houses with various plan solutions are "buried" in the earth in order to keep the landscape visually free. Their introverted ambiance is opposed to the extroverted character of the independently situated buildings on the upper (ground) level. Section B is less dense and offers a different living-

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quality: that of the free standing plinth-house. The plinth, in itself a house-garden, is a means of grading residential spatial privacy – from the open green meadow around the buildings to the enclosed interior. The cultural, social, research, educational and sport activities are integrated in section C - the public space of the Lower Plant.

