Buildings and Urban Form: Investigating Buildings with a Positive Urban Transformation Dimension

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The construction of a building can, based on its project strategy, transform and improve the liveability and use patterns of the city fabric. Certain buildings are remarkable due to their relationship with urban space, leading to articulation spaces – patios, passageways, pathways – shaped by the building and adapted to the urban fabric. These buildings establish continuity with the surrounding area allowing for the construction of places in the city. However, the study of the city based on morphology and the interpretation of buildings according to typology has hindered the understanding of spaces generated by situations that occur in the frontier between architecture and urban design. The objective of this article is to identify and interpret project strategies that improve the qualities of urban space. The intention is to describe the spaces generated by the construction of the buildings that modify the form of the city introducing urban qualities in a pre-existing fabric. The qualities of the “path” and of the spaces of “permanence” generated by these interventions will be characterised – meaning the spatial situations generated by the buildings that create movement and spatial situations that define stable spaces. Five buildings located in Lisbon will be the case studies.

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