

The SIXTH FAÇADE, Porto case study

Luís Barbosa, Dulce Marques de Almeida

Departamento de Arquitectura e Urbanismo

Universidade Lusófona do Porto, luisbarbosa@cm-porto.pt

Phone: 00 351 933421963

The theme of this paper reflects upon the importance of the city's sixth elevation - the pavement - in the redevelopment of the public space for the city revitalization. It observes the inherent needs of pedestrians, the users of public spaces, and tries to understand the sensory experiences involved in its use. An evaluation of the public space follows, comprising a systematic analysis of three study cases of different magnitude, focusing on various materials for paving urban space. This work reflects critically on some large operations developed throughout the last decade, in the public space of Porto "downtown", namely: Porto 2001, Metro do Porto and URBCOM. At the end of this paper a personal contribution to an on-going project of urban renewal in the *Morro da Sé* is presented.

Keywords: pavements, pedestrian public space, urban centers, revitalization, Porto.