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RESEARCH ARTICLE

VERNACULAR ARCHITECTURE AND SUSTAINABILITY

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Abstract

This research project implies the participation in the reflection of the issue of vernacular architecture, systems of representation, international charters and conventions, recovery systems linked to recovery and asset protection, in order to disseminate and collect scientific knowledge that contributes to value and mobilize their development process in our study area in Matosinhos Municipality.

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Introduction:-

Vernacular Architecture, as set out in international agreements, charters and conventions, currently integrates the vast concept of architectural, historical and cultural heritage that accompanies the evolution of mentalities, the complexification of societies and the phenomenon of globalization. However, despite this recognition, it still does not raise special protection and safeguard care, nor are precautionary measures known to prevent consented threats and the lack of memory to which it is subject despite being, together with the language, the one that best defines the cultural specificities of each community.

This understanding makes us face the imperative of combining scientific knowledge and the duties of citizenship with the enjoyment of goods that are, above all, heritage without borders generated by the community over centuries and testimony of identity that requires multidisciplinary efforts in defense and preservation intrinsic to the intangible heritage with which it relates.

Vernacular Architecture and Sustainability:-

As Manuel Diogo¹ studied in 2010 in the Research Project “Territory, Settlements and Frontier Architectures”, the permanence of rupture phenomena generated by processes of decay and physical and social degradation contributed to this cultural legacy falling into disuse, being ignored and alien to any structuring management system. This statement is very relevant because when we study Sustainability of the Territory in the Research Project “Urban Morphology and Sustainability: Fishing Settlements and Rural Nucleous” it comes up all the relevant issues of Vernacular Architecture.

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Fig. 1:- World Map and Portugal Map with Matosinhos Location.

This presupposition assumes that, from a technical-scientific point of view, it is essential to develop fieldwork that supports the increasingly fine-grained screening of heritage resources with regional, national and international impact, based on the diversity of cluster forms and the differentiation of conditions. of the physical environment, in the multiplicity of combinations that underlie diverse environmental realities.

Consequently, the Research Project focused on the geographic area comprising the sea coast of North of Portugal in the Union of Parishes of Perafita, Lavra and Santa Cruz do Bispo in the Municipality of Matosinhos as we can observe in Fig.1, will try to demonstrate that the Vernacular Heritage must be understood as a testimony of experiences that constitute a guarantee of legitimacy and identity, reminding us that at some point it was also contemporary, despite its cross-border peripheral location pointed in Fig.2.



Fig. 2:- Beach in Lavra, Matosinhos.

The understanding of habitat morphology, socioeconomic structure, organization of the cluster, its relationship with the territory and with vernacular architecture are expressions that combine environmental characteristics with physical and human structures that our Research Project intends to deepen, anchored in the concepts of social memory, cultural heritage, identity, systems of representation and meaning collectively shared and reproduced in the course of the historical process.



Fig. 3:- Perspective of Case Study, Lavra in “A Terceira Dimensão”

The theoretical-practical nature of the proposal intends to associate safeguarding and protection to built spaces and vernacular structures, assuming that despite its regional expression being a product of the application of local materials and construction techniques that cross aspects of cultural heritage transmitted throughout history by generations of anonymous actors, can make valuable contributions to the promotion and dissemination of scientific and technological knowledge with national and international impacts.

These thematic conditions, while not being exclusive, involve relationships and commitments that contribute to defining the essence of the units to be inventoried and differentiated with a focus on the case studies that shape the identity of the places and are cultural, economic and social assets that it is important to mobilize in the respective local development processes that sometimes seem to be the result of small opportunities create conditions to retain and attract people willing to seek independence and professional fulfillment.

Bearing in mind the main objectives to be achieved in the field of the research proposal, where it is specified that the survey, analysis and safeguarding of the vernacular architectural heritage will require the permanent commitment of researchers in thematic deepening of multidisciplinary incidence, the definition of the field of bibliographic references takes Let us mention that the interest in the architecture of each place already appears linked to theorists such as John Ruskin or William Morris² in the mid-nineteenth century.

Conclusion:-

Aware that the enumerated aspects require a rigorous scheduling of the field work to be carried out, the methodology to be used is based on the comparative method, although we can resort to deductive and inductive methods if the matters to be treated so require. In this circumstance, we will try to converge the results to a coherent whole, discovering regularities, understanding models and typologies, identifying transformations, spatial continuities and discontinuities, similarities and differences, since this method cannot be confused with a data collection technique. empirical; rather, it makes comparison a fundamental requirement in terms of surveys supported by swot analysis.

In this perspective, the comparative method will be used to demonstrate analogies between facts and compare cases in which similarities are simultaneously present or absent, trying to see if the variations they present demonstrate the principle that each effect corresponds to a causal relationship between determining elements and context contrasts that highlight their reciprocal differences and similarities regardless of the functions and symbolism they perform.

Therefore, the rigor and scientific experience of researchers on the set of material and immaterial goods that carry intrinsic values in the fields of memory, authenticity, originality and uniqueness with an impact on the fields of vernacular architecture, will contribute to enhancing the knowledge that we can extract and adapt to the requirements of contemporary architecture, promoting principles and strategies for recovering the vernacular heritage, based on the rigorous optimization of models and concepts of site and place.

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1Manuel Maria Diogo is Full Professor and was the Project Leader of the project nº PTDC / AUR-AQI / 120606/2010, entitled Território, Assentamentos e Linhas de Fronteira, approved by the Foundation for Science and Technology in 07-12-2011 classified with excellent by the panel of evaluators due to the innovative nature of the contribution of the project seen in the point of contribution to the knowledge in this field reinforcing the scientific assets.

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