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

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Introduction. The plot for this research is located in Quinta da Fraga, a countryside villa which belonged to the Jesuit Church in the sixteenth century. At that time the land outside the walls of the city was divided into big plots that also served as countryside villas, Quinta do Bispo, Quinta da China amongst others.

The intention of the study is to construct a project proposal for the ruins of a small chapel and of a ceramic factory on the scarp.

Objectives. Looking at the pre-existing structures as fragments the purpose of the research is to firstly understand the memory and uncover the layers of transformation of the scarp as well as remains of the buildings, and then to reconnect the fragments to the city and the river.

Structure / Methodology. The work is, therefore, divided in three parts:
1- Historical and archival research which aims to construct a chronology, and the rigorous drawing of the ruins through measurements and field work.
2- The premises and intentions of the intervention, that aims to be centered around public space but to also propose housing and spaces for the community.
3- Project development, moving from the large scale towards the drawing of the connections between new and pre-existing.

Conclusion. The study seeks to understand continuity and transformation of the city and its buildings. With the reflection on the pre-existing structures and their value, comprehending them on a bigger scale, the purpose of this work is to construct a narrative for a project proposal. The intervention will strive to have a deep foundation on how the fragment moves through time while constructing a new reality for the abandoned spaces shadowed by the bridge.