

Heritage and culture in the evolution of the night time city - the case of Lisbon

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Urban planning is elaborated considering mainly the daily activities of the city or at least those who work 24 hours. The leisure night activities , who can be in some cities an important economic and touristic factor, are in general forgot. May be because there dynamic is very fast in comparison with traditional planning time.

Local or regional culture determines the way of appropriation of the urban space by a specific population and presents great variations mainly in the nightly use of public space.

Industrial heritage has been, in the last decades, an important element of expansion of the nightly leisure activities by the rehabilitation and / or re-use of the buildings.

This research studies the evolution of the centrality, considering the culture and the built heritage of the city as a function of a set of activities that happen during a period that elapses after dinner time.

When it is studied the night time period, must considered that it varies along the year for a given place, at medium latitudes. Therefore in this work it is defined as the analyzed period, the one that is bounded by diner time and the first ours of the following day.

The evolution of the use of night time, in different activities, depends on the availability of energy so that these activities may work, namely the technologic evolution related to lighting, as well as the one related to comfort, available in closed spaces but nowadays, as well, in open spaces.

The centrality of a place is characterized by the set of activities or functions that can be found there, and that for this analysis are divided in: activities that last 24 hours, those that work until close to midnight and those that are only visible during the night, even though they could work out during the day. This centrality is perceived in different ways by those who work and by those who enjoy.

Centrality is also dependent on accessibility, that has been changing with the available public transportation, that don't show the same patterns of operation every weekly day. In what concerns private transportation its use varies according to the different users.

The preferential location of the activities, namely related to leisure, also considers climatic factors, such as temperature and humidity, that change quite a lot from winter to summer in the same given place, and are quite important considering the sensation of comfort for the use of open spaces namely the public ones.

The most relevant activities that operate 24 hours/7 days a week are connected to the health sector, including workers on one hand and eventual users on the other and generate some urban movement around them. The remaining 24 hours activities are limited to its workers in what concerns the flows of people.

Activities that function until close to midnight that are more relevant in what concerns the definition of centralities are nowadays, the shopping centers that aggregate restaurants and cinemas in the same place.

Leisure activities are those that generate more flows in determined periods of the night and may determine centralities that are different from those that exist during the day.

Activities and therefore centralities can be evaluated as a function of the age groups, as the nightly territories are not used indifferently by everybody and also by ethnic groups that for the same activities use different locations.

Centrality can also be seen within the neighborhood or within the city.

The case study we have been following is the city of Lisbon as the centre of the Metropolitan Area of Lisbon as the leisure activities who are developed there, like outdoor restaurants, bars, disco and night events and festivities.

In this paper we have chosen to do the analysis within the city, as most neighborhood present reduced nightly activity, that is not enough to give them any centrality, namely

since the last decades when the neighborhood cinemas have disappeared. The big shopping centers located in some neighborhoods present a city scale.

The centrality of the city of Lisbon has been changing in the last decades associated to processes of urban requalification that in some cases precede the phenomenon, but in many others are induced by the new activities that locate in axes or even in new disconnected territories.

Nightly activities of more recent development have occupied urban areas previously used by industrial activities that have disappeared, partly because they are in central position within the Metropolitan Area, or because they have big areas and also because they can be perceived as areas with built heritage that can be valued and at the same time help to promote these places.

This paper intend to recognize a tendency of expansion of night time activities in old industrial areas and study it as a tool to urban regeneration.