

THE RECOVERING OF
"CASCO VELLO DE VIGO"

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CODE J262

THE PAST
The Old Quarter of Vigo known as "O Casco Vello" is an **emblematic site of this city**. It emerged as the first settlers began working near the coastline, something that has been recorded since the romans settled there and began trade routes in its port. This **historic topographical pattern** has been identified throughout the northern coast of Spain and ending in San Sebastian's headland.

Because of the consolidation of communications in the XIX century, the layout of **Elduayen Street** comes to place, **dividing the historic area of the city in two**. The development of the city throughout the **XX century** goes in parallel with the economic and demographic retrogression of the Old Quarter. This situation of **deterioration and marginality** became even clearer in the uptown area of the historic neighbourhood.

"In a tangle of alleys is the house of sins, near the old dock. Night Prevails. Shimmering moonlight in the sea. Faraway songs from the coffeehouse. Winks from the stars. Clog footsteps. The moon shinning on the wet floor slabs."
The Old Quarter of Vigo, possible location of Valle Inclán's "Carnival Tuesdays. The dead man's finery." (1930)

PROJECT OBJECTIVES
This project, based on the **recovery of the Old Quarter of Vigo**, was an initiative founded in 2005 by the collaboration of both Local and Autonomic governments, with the purpose to work as an **engine of an integral renovation process** in all its ways of this area: architectural, urban, social and economic.

Due to the magnitude and area of the project (21 ha approx.), the actions will focus on the **uptown Old Quarter, the most deteriorated from an architectural and social point of view**. The main objective is to trigger not only a physical change but to motivate as well a **positive change in the collective thinking**.

