

# REHABILITATION OF PLAZA DE LA LEÑA



The Plaza de la Leña is located in a strategic position in the urban fabric of centre of Santander, next to Town hall square and of La Esperanza's market. A place consolidated as playground area between Guevara, Asilo and Jean León streets, with a lot of activity and circulation of vehicles and pedestrians, that have converted it in an inhospitable place, with poor visibility, unused, and with problems of noise and accessibility.

The building in Guevara 1, and stone masonry walls and dense vegetation of San Jose School, are the main actives of the place where other factors have spoiled the image and use of the square.

Massive parking on the edge; the significant presence of urban waste containers; excessive slope, which is resolved with terraces and concrete walls generating a hidden place with little visibility; and poor urban lighting; are some of the problems that make this place was converted in a residual space that contrasts with its location in the centre of the city, and that the playground area do not work in spite of the proximity of several schools and the lack of similar areas in the surroundings.

The work has for subject to recover the square in Guevara Street as an urban landmark ensuring greater visibility as a public space and rearranging the paths and the uses. In order to recover this public space, it must be solved different problems such as the excessive slope, the disconnected space, the car invasion and the appearance of elements clashing with the surroundings.

Under these lines, views of before and after works.

