

In the second half of the twentieth century, Barro's social housing were designed as a new neighborhood which was made up of "cheap houses" on outskirts of Noia. These 2-story houses, with all the necessities included, were built in aim to house a little family and to provide its owners a little piece of land at the back. The houses were set up along four streets assembling two blocks with an interior patio that crosses them.

As time goes by, the owners of these houses decided to increase their homes at the expense of reducing the outside backspace and, consequently, the place where families used to socialize each other.

In the beginning, these streets were floored with concrete slabs that pedestrians used to share with motorized vehicles.

A few years ago, the urbanization was carry out according to the typology which separates the pedestrian area from the car lane. Thus, the section of this streets comes nowadays defined by two narrow pedestrian sidewalks, made with concrete floor tiles, and an asphalted central lane destined for wheeled traffic and car parking.

It should be noted that the neighborhood is close to the coastline and is mostly inhabited by sailors whose houses show the color of their boats in order to be able to be differentiate from the sea.



Mostly of residents use to meet each other and enjoy having a break together in the afternoons, taking out some chairs from their houses and taking up more than those little sidewalks they get some years ago.

Some years ago, the backyards were enough to accommodate neighboring relationships, but over time these spaces disappeared absorbed by constructions. Therefore, by this project we pretend to create new public spaces that replace them in the front of the houses, and two little squares on the far South of the two blocks.

So the purpose of this project is to improve the public space that surrounds Barro's social housing. In order to achieve this goal, we suggest an alternative street section that stands out this architectural ensemble, prioritizing pedestrians over cars. The solution we adopted materialize this idea using two different materials, emphasizing the identity and aesthetic richness of housing that reflects the social component of a seaside neighborhood.

At the same time, these works will resolve several problems of sanitation network and public lighting that cause insecurity and general unrest among the residents and visitors.

