



Before the intervention



View to West side (Luis de Camões Square)



View to East side (Tourism Office)

## AIM OF THE INTERVENTION

*“He who, without betraying modern materials or programmes, produces a work that seems to have always existed and is, in a word, ordinary, may consider himself satisfied.”*

Auguste Perret, 1933

It has been a recurrent temptation of contemporary architecture to position itself as the key protagonist whenever it is called to intervene in historical sites. In this case we aimed to remain quasi-anonymous, making the site and the city the real protagonist and diluting the newness of the project as just another layer memory of the place.

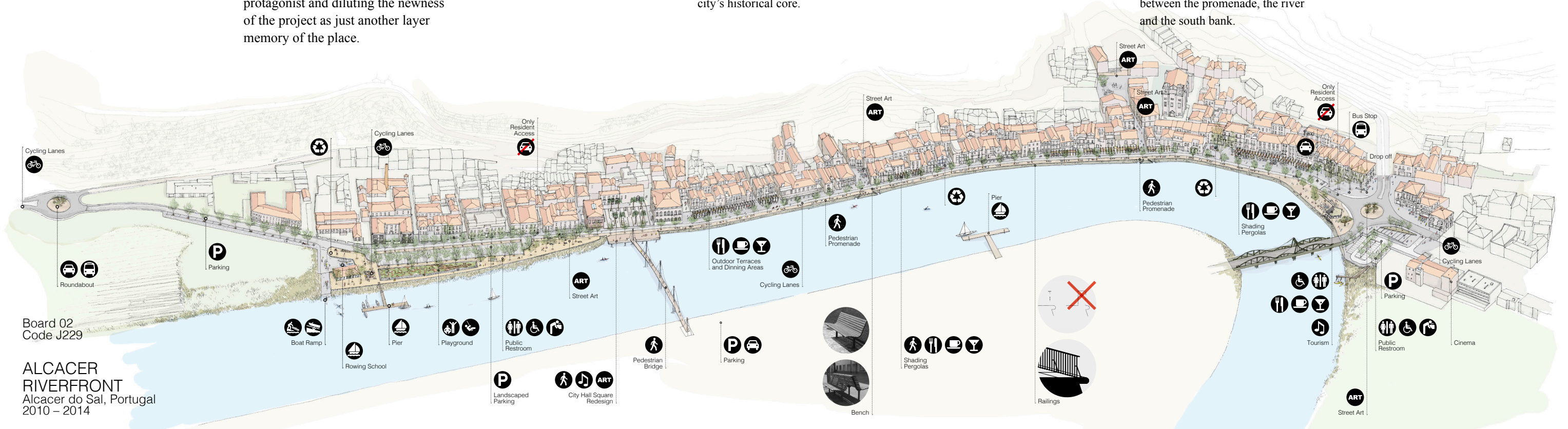
Our premises were:

- Design to physically and aesthetically weather with time guided by simple and austere solutions;
- Evoke an idea of solidity and simplicity without implying exceptional cost or toilsome maintenance;
- Detail construction to avoid gratuitous formalities, but neither quality nor authenticity;
- Assume an ethical imperative to design and build well from a citizen's viewpoint so as to effectively contribute to the rebirth of the city's historical core.

## DESCRIPTION

The riverfront project encompasses the following elements:

- Repaving of the entire site, with it a distinctively recreational character, offering a public promenade to allow the fruition of the city and the river.
- Regulate and filter road traffic, designing sidewalks for pedestrian and cycling lanes and relocating the existing parking facilities;
- Standardise shading pergolas for outdoor terraces and dining areas; redefine the visual relationship between the promenade, the river and the south bank.
- Increase natural shading areas by planting new species ensuring a comfortable pedestrian promenade along the riverbank.



Board 02  
Code J229  
**ALCACER RIVERFRONT**  
Alcacer do Sal, Portugal  
2010 – 2014