

WORKSHOP

PLAN BARRON

**Oblivious super-resistant Bunker as an
opportunity to a new cycle facing climate
emergency**
13-21 May 2022



UNIVERSIDADE
LUSÓFONA

Title: WORKSHOP PLAN BARRON Oblivious super-resistant Bunker as an opportunity to a new cycle facing climate emergency
May 2022

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Arq.ID - Centro de Estudos, Arquitectura e Desenvolvimento da Universidade Lusófona.

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University of Florence , Dept. of Civil and
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SINOPSE

Abandoned on the coast as skeletons, bunkers are the last theatrical gesture in the history Western military architecture (Virilio, 1975). Technically obsolete, this military territory has fallen into extinction and is now generally forgotten. We present Plan Barron of Defense of Lisbon and Setubal, a mid-twentieth-century set of bunkers, recently declassified and with no heritage classification, as a case study to discuss the future of this heritage facing climate crisis. Can oblivious super-resistant war architecture have an opportunity to a new cycle to fight climate emergency? We present Techno-aesthetic (Simondon, 1992) and Milieu (Georges Teyssot, 2021) concepts.

Present workshop will gather specialists, students and local stakeholders on a common work to understand, debate and propose architectural solutions for the future of this heritage. The works will happen in one of the Batteries: Bataria da Laje, in Oeiras.

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WORKSHOP BACKGROUND

Climate emergence has become a significant topic in urban, landscape, and architectural heritage policies and, it is noticed that many policy efforts at an international level have already been taken to address numerous major problems we are currently facing. UNESCO's "Policy Document on Climate Action for World Heritage", which establishes a "Policy Framework" together with an "Implementation Policy Document" has a new concern focused on the heritage adaptation to the climate impacts in heritage, but also on "climate mitigation", as point 59 describes, by creating "value and inspirational power of World Heritage properties to showcase 'win-win' mitigation practices that both reduce greenhouse gases and safeguard Outstanding Universal Value" (UNESCO, 2021, p. 12).

As Plan Barron is totally designed around the Lisbon Atlantic basin, we were driven to an understanding of the whole structure as a strategic waterfront facing Mean Sea Level rise. Can Plan Barron, a set of eight separated batteries, be understood as a set of architectural interests at a territorial level, so that it can have an impact on combating climate change?

This “Anthropofossil” (fossil from Anthropocene) is composed by a set of bomb-proof buildings resisting along Lisbon Coast. Our proposal reveals three features Trienal exhibition:

(1) **Techno-aesthetics** - Presenting the Map of Plan Barron.

The map explains PB design as a territorial machine for surveillance. The concept of Georges Simondon explains the aesthetical beauty of a technical object, a panopticon territorial machine.

(2) **Milieu** - Presenting the topographical and typological plans of Plan Barron.

Unlike previous forts and fortresses, bunkers were designed to be invisible and respond to a new geography of control and surveillance, through new technical and spatial devices (Bentham, 1791; Foucault 1975).

We also present Plan Barron as a camouflage design, a reason that brings an identification factor as well as a reason for greater forgetfulness and, in this sense, a greater enabler of nature’s growth and urban uniqueness.

According to Georges Teyssot this landscape can be seen as a “*milieu*”, a particular form of “*genius loci*”, as he calls it. Luke Bennett also noticed suggesting that bunkers may not be becoming redundant, the place where society is saved but an enlarged “*milieu*” (2018, p. 125).

(3) **Territory of aggression as future potencial** - Presenting a series of photographs by Daniel Malhão or Mónica de Miranda, together with a sound taken in these different eight “*milieus*”.

We have inherit a set of forgotten and protected “milieu’s”, made possible by decades of state and urban planning laws protection, and ecological resilience that allowed the preservation and development of countless animal and plant species, together with a set of camouflaged and hyper-strong construction. Plan Barron is a palimpsest waiting for a big change.

Caitlin Desilvey’s idea of curated decay (2017) prints the possibility to carefully control, not decay, but evolution through controlled maintenance of a territory. This concept could allow us to interpret UNESCO’s idea of looking into the past while looking ahead to a future, more sustainable and peaceful.

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WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION

What do to these super resistant landscapes?

The importance of the answer rely in other background multiple questions:

Can present peaceful Europe maintain the memory of its aggressive past? Is it useful to maintain peace?

Can we transform this memory of aggression into a common good?

In another relevant perspective, we are facing a “‘Crises’ of accumulation of the Past” (Harrison 2013).

Can we preserve the invisible bunker heritage?

And what about sustainability, can these landscapes be used as buffers zones to improve ecology facing climate crises?

We propose to look into military architecture and think in depth and critically about them, and about bunker landscapes in particular. For that we intend to mingle military, academia, local population, central politics and local stakeholders. The importance of this variety sits on the need for these different perspectives, to try to find a sustainable future for these.

To address the questions, we propose workshop that gather academics in architecture design that will lead project design workshops; students from 2nd and 3rd cycles that will participate and critically propose a future scenario for a case-study. These specialists should gather local experts, military experts, theoretical experts (landscapes of war, ruins, heritage, bunkers, military landscapes, ecology, sociology, construction and politics); local population and local stockholders that will be informed in advance; central political representatives, that will be invited to bring the European strategical lines, but also to bring from the event the knowledge for that place in particular and sensitivity to the topic more generally.

The event intend to discuss the FUTURE of these structures, pursuing **three main objectives/milestones**:

1. To know, locate and **experience** the built heritage of Plan Barron.

2. Think critically about existent structure at the level of architecture, degrees of ruination, social environment, cultural interest, economical interest; informal uses, cultural activism and ecological interest of Plan Barron structures.

3. Predict an "after-life" for the Bunker (Bennett 2018) solutions based on the premise of sustainability and in the alteration of nationalist readings in recognition of a common and public good, not forgetting the architectural classification.

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PLAN BARRON

Plan Barron of Defense of Lisbon and Setubal (PB) refers to a set of land areas and military buildings abandoned since 1999. The implemented Plan Barron has the following built parts:

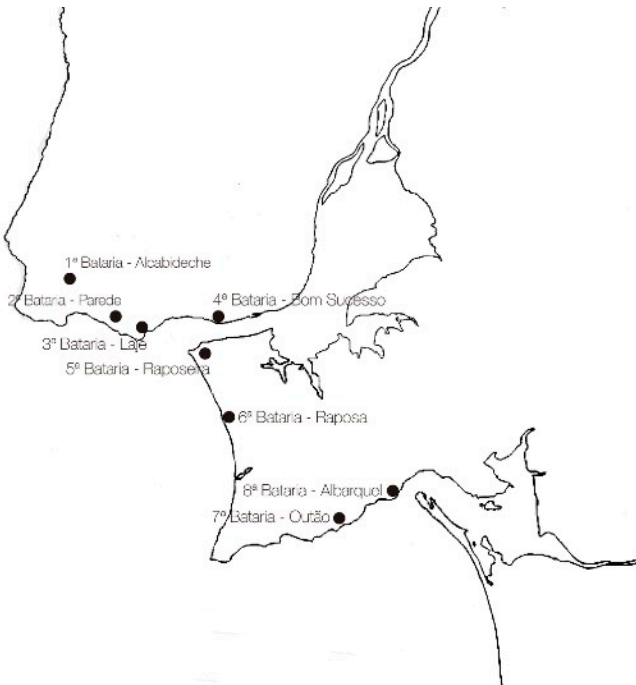


Figure 1. Map of Plan Barron

Shooting Command, Oeiras

Northern Group, including:

1st Battery - Alcabideche, 3 pieces of 23.4 cm Vickers

2nd Battery - Parede, 3 15.2 cm Vickers pieces

3rd Battery - Lage, 3 pieces of Krupp CTR of 15 cm

4th Battery - Forte do Bom Sucesso, 2 x 2 56 mm Vickers pieces

Southern Group, including:

5th Battery - Raposeira, 3 pieces of Krupp CTR of 15 cm

6th Battery - Raposa, 3 23.4 cm Vickers pieces

7th Battery - Outão, 3 pieces of 15.2 cm Vickers

8th Battery - Albarquel, 3 pieces of Krupp CTR of 15 cm

Plan Barron was implemented in three phases:

Phase 1 - 1938, Plan Barron preliminary project made by General Barron in the English War Office.

Phase 2 - 1939, Plan "B" that is the result of the revision made by a technical group composed by English and Portuguese specialists.

Phase 3 - 1943, Plan B Implementation

This 3rd Phase was implemented in the Summer of 1943 and after the transfer of the Lajes Base in the Azores to the United Kingdom. In exchange, Portugal demanded, after several years of waiting for equipment, on the part of the Portuguese government, Plan B be implemented so that could ensure the country's security against the expected enemies of the so-called *Allies*.

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The transfer of bases in Azores to England, in 1943, changes the course of Portuguese armament and to ensure the security of the new “allied” country, the *War Office* establishes a joint defense plan for the continent. This “English phase” revives a 1938 project, *Plan Barron* (PB) for the defense of Lisbon and Setúbal, designed by the WO with the Washington Naval Treaty in mind, which Portugal had signed in 1922. The set draws a geography of surveillance and counter-bombing in the Tagus and Sado basins with eight fixed, secret, camouflaged and fortified batteries. The PB set constitutes what Gilbert Simondon calls a *techno-aesthetic* work, “entirely successful and beautiful” (Simondon, 1992, p.255). The project takes homage to Reyner Banham in *Concrete Atlantis*, as *Bunker Atlantis* also investigates “abandoned installations (...) barely architecture at all” (1989, p.2), but above all recalls its reference to an imaginary island in the middle of the Atlantic, from Francis Bacon “Great Atlantis”. Lisbon is the only European capital that confronts the Atlantic, a plaza in the big ocean that has always needed particular defense. So, *Bunker Atlantis* proposes to investigate, for the first time after its declassification (1998 to 2004), the PB, a structure with about 575,500 m² of total area divided by eight batteries spread along the Lisbon coast. Each battery contains a set of large dimensioned bunkers to support long-range artillery pieces. Five are abandoned, one partially demolished and two have cultural use in other military areas. The variety of its forms is consistent with the

diversity of the territories where they are located, from the natural park of Arrábida and Fonte da Telha to the densely populated Lisbon suburbs.

The secrecy to which he was subjected for a long time, delayed this study by about 20 years. The project therefore features a team of international experts with extensive experience in this subject: Luke Bennett (*bunker "after-life"*), Caitlin Desilvey (*"palliative curation"*), Steve Graham (*space and war strategy*), Rudi Rolf (*bunker typology*) and Donatella Rita Fiorino (*military landscape and archives*).

Workshop: Plan Barron

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AGENDA

Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
Welc ome dinn er	Site visit	Con fere nce s	work shop	work shop	Mid presen tations	work shop	work shop	Final presen tations	Fre e

The workshop will take place in Lisbon between May 13 and 21. The works will happen in Bataria da Laje:

1st day - Welcome

2nd day - Site visit

3rd day - International Conference

4th day - Workshop

5th day - Workshop

6th day - Mid presentations

7th day - Workshop

8th day - Workshop

9th day - Final presentations

Workshop will provide a way to think about the future of Plan Barron. The idea gather architecture students, teachers, researchers, local authorities and local community to think together about possibilities for the future of the forgotten military structures. The event will gather different specialists, but also different experiences and points of view for open discussion. We will organize the participants in groups that will work together in specific strategic questions.

Site visit and final presentations will happen together with local authorities and Municipalities. Also, local community will take part in the organization, discussion and final debate.

FRIDAY, MAY 13, 2022

00:00am - 00:00am

Welcome to Lisbon - Guests will arrive and get their free time to accommodate. Team is ready to give support.

20:00

Welcome dinner at Clube Naval de Lisboa Terrace (price is included for those who make inscription). Please tell your name to organization)

Av. Brasília, 1300-501 Lisboa

Tel: +351213636014

SATURDAY, MAY 14, 2022

- 08:30** **Visitors gathering at Universidade Lusófona** (Campo Grande)
- 08:45** **Starting Bus trip** through Plan B
- 09:45** **Visit to Battery 8** (Albarquel, Arrábida- 38°30'45.8"N 8°54'46.3"W)
- 11:30** **Visit to Battery 7** (Outão , Arrábida 38°29'27.7"N 8°56'15.0"W)
- 13:00** **Visit to Battery 6** (Raposa - R. H 15, Almada)
Pic-nic with Sea View Lunch
- 15:00** **Visit to Battery 5** (Raposeira - Estr. Militar, Trafaria)
- 17:00** **Visit to Battery 2** (Parede - Estr. Militar, Parede)
- 18:30** **Passage through Battery 1** (Alcabideche, 38°43'53.2"N 9°25'08.0"W)
- 19:00** **Stop to leave students in the Youth Hostel** at Oeiras youth Hostel (Parque Inatel, Av. Marginal, 2780-267 Oeiras)
- 19:30** **Arriving to Universidade Lusófona** (Campo Grande)

SUNDAY, MAY 15, 2022

- 9:00 - 9:30** **Seminar Welcome**
- 9:30 - 9:45** **Opening Session - Welcome**
Maria Rita Pais with Coronel Alpedrinha, Filipe Quaresma
and Hugo Nazareth Fernandes
- 9:45 - 10:00** **PLAN BARRON - Oblivious super-resistant Bunker as an
opportunity to a new cycle facing climate emergency**
Maria Rita Pais
- 10:00 - 10:15** **Researching the Architecture of War**
Donatella rita Fiorino
- 10:15 - 10:45** **Keynote 1**
Coronel Berger
- 10:45 - 11:00** **Coffee break**
- 11:00 - 11:30** **Keynote 2**
Giulia Cherchi
- 11:30 - 12:15** **Keynote 3**
Luke Bennett
- 12:30 - 14:00** **Lunch at Comando's**
- 14:00 - 15:00** **Keynote 5-**
RAAAF
- 15:00 - 16:00** **Round Table-**
Carlos Moura-Carvalho, Donatella Rita Fiorino, Inês Moreira
and Maria Rita Pais
- 16:30 - 18:00** **Exhibition Opening**
with students of Photography from ULHT

MONDAY, MAY 16, 2022

- 09:00 **Workshop Welcome** (welcome desk, groups organization)
First contact with all team members in the welcome desk,
credentials distribution, groups organization.
- 9:15 - 9:30 **Workshop Welcome Session**
Carlos Guimarães
- 09:30 - 13:00 **Workshop sessions**
6 groups will work together with 3 tutors and the mentoring
group
- 13:00 - 14:00 **Lunch at Comando's**
- 14:00 - 18:00 **Workshop sessions**

TUESDAY, MAY 17, 2022

09:30 - 13:00 Workshop Sessions

6 groups will work together with 3 tutors and the mentoring group

13:00 - 14:00 Lunch at Comando's

14:00 - 18:00 Workshop Sessions

WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 2022

9:00 - 13:00

Presentation sessions

The 6 groups will present their work and juris will make their comments

Group 1 - 10 minutes + 30 minutes comments

Group 2 - 10 minutes + 30 minutes comments

Group 3 - 10 minutes + 30 minutes comments

Group 4 - 10 minutes + 30 minutes comments

Group 5 - 10 minutes + 30 minutes comments

Group 6 - 10 minutes + 30 minutes comments

13:00 - 14:00

Lunch at Comando's

14:00 - 18:00

Workshop sessions

THURSDAY, MAY 19, 2022

8:45 - 09:00

Workshop sessions

6 groups will work together with 3 tutors and the mentoring group

13:00 - 14:00

Lunch at Comando's

14:00 - 18:00

Workshop sessions

FRIDAY, MAY 20, 2022

9:00 - 13:00

Workshop sessions

6 groups will work together with 3 tutors and the mentoring group

13:00 - 14:00

Lunch at Comando's

14:00 - 18:00

Workshop sessions

SATURDAY, MAY 21, 2022

09:00 - 13:00

Workshop sessions

6 groups will work together with 3 tutors and the mentoring group

13:00 - 14:00

Healthy lunch

14:00 - 18:00

Final Presentations

6 groups will present their work and juris will make their comments

Group 1 - 10 minutes + 30 minutes comments

Group 2 - 10 minutes + 30 minutes comments

Group 3 - 10 minutes + 30 minutes comments

Group 4 - 10 minutes + 30 minutes comments

Group 5 - 10 minutes + 30 minutes comments

Group 6 - 10 minutes + 30 minutes comments

20:00

Closing Dinner

Workshop: Plan Barron

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ORGANIZATION

We invite teachers and experts to come and be mentors for the groups of students of Architectural Design Project.

To attend:

For teachers

130 €

Including:

Welcome Dinner

All lunches

Site visit

Closing Dinner

For students

230 €

Including :

All lunches

Site visit

Closing Dinner

9 nights at HI Oeiras - Pousada de Juventude

For Lusófona students

100 €

All lunches

Site visit

Closing Dinner

For students outside Lusófona

150 €

All lunches

Site visit

Closing Dinner

The organization will help in the production and ERASMUS +, through our invitation will provide financing for teachers and students.

YOU ARE WELCOME!



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