TACTICAL URBANISM:
HITS AND MISSES IN CAMPANHÃ; PORTO

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To my father

What attracts people most, it would appear, is other people.

William H. Whyte
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Abstract

The research thesis is a student’s work that tried to look at the possibilities of tactical urbanism that could be used as a tool to improve the public spaces in Campanhã, Porto. This tool of tactical urbanism is a bottom-up approach as opposed to that of formal municipality planning (top-down approach).

The research work investigated the problem pertaining to two public spaces in Campanhã and to carry out a temporary intervention which could improve the usage of one of the public spaces. In order to understand the scenario, 75 survey questionnaires were conducted with people who either have being staying or working in the area of Campanhã. The survey questionnaire was designed to get suggestions from people as to various elements lacking in the public space. After getting various suggestions, a temporary intervention was conducted for two days (weekday and weekend) to observe the change in usage of the public space.

The major findings from the analysis of temporary intervention were: people are hesitant to this kind of intervention; others are more acceptable to the new infrastructure than the local residents; local residents didn’t try to even move the furniture and sat as it was placed. Another factor discovered was the privatisation of the public space. Even though it is a public space, permission was required to conduct the intervention which clearly shows privatisation; leaving no freedom for the local residents to use their own public spaces.

To conclude, the three interpretations are: a community meeting would have given a better result; the space is too huge for people to own it (maybe these interventions could start at a smaller scale like streets) and no precedents have been seen before. Hence, the research work being new to the context of Porto, people will take time to get accustomed to the tool of tactical urbanism.

Keywords: Tactical urbanism, public space, bottom-up approach, privatisation, Campanhã.
Resumo

A dissertação corresponde a um trabalho académico que pretende analisar as possibilidades de utilização de ferramentas de urbanismo tático para melhorar os espaços públicos de Campanhã, Porto. O urbanismo tático é uma perspetiva de “baixo para cima” que se opõe a perspetivas mais formais de planeamento “de cima para baixo”.

O trabalho investigou os problemas de dois espaços públicos de Campanhã e desenvolveu uma intervenção temporária para a melhoria do uso de um desses espaços. Foi desenvolvido um inquérito a 75 potenciais utilizadores do espaço, que residem ou trabalham na área. O questionário recolheu ideias sobre os elementos que faltam neste espaço público. Recolhidas essas sugestões, foi desenvolvida uma intervenção temporária durante dois dias (um dia de fim de semana e um dia de trabalho) para observar mudanças no uso do espaço público.

As principais conclusões da análise dessa intervenção foram as seguintes: a hesitação das pessoas, sobretudo dos residentes locais, face a este tipo de intervenção; a necessidade de autorizações para o desenvolvimento das intervenções, evidenciando sinais claros de privatização (não deixando liberdade de intervenção, por parte dos residentes, no uso dos seus próprios espaços públicos). Da avaliação da intervenção decorrem três possíveis interpretações: a utilização de outras metodologias, como um encontro comunitário, poderia ter dado melhores resultados; o espaço escolhido é demasiado grande para permitir a apropriação pelas pessoas (e outra escala, como a escala da rua, poderia ter sido mais indicada); não existem precedentes. Como se trata de uma intervenção nova no contexto do Porto, será preciso tempo para as pessoas se acostumarem às ferramentas do urbanismo tático.
encontro comunitário, poderia ter dado melhores resultados; o espaço escolhido é demasiado grande para permitir a apropriação pelas pessoas (e outra escala, como a escala da rua, poderia ter sido mais indicada); não existem precedentes. Como se trata de uma intervenção nova no contexto do Porto, será preciso tempo para as pessoas se acostumarem às ferramentas do urbanismo tático.

Palavras chave: Urbanismo tático, espaço publico, baixo para cima, privatização, Campanhã.
# INTRODUCTION

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Tactical urbanism is an umbrella term which is used for various temporary and Do it yourself initiatives. These kinds of interventions are also termed as guerrilla urbanism as it doesn't follow the conventional planning method. These initiatives are temporary in nature often initiated by various NGO’s, urban designers or activists. These initiatives often take place in public spaces or abandoned sites which could be seen as an area for illegal activities. A public space is a space which is generally open to all without much restriction. These interventions not only help encourage people to use the public spaces but also helps reduce the illegal spots in a state; a city or in a neighbourhood. Tactical urbanism could only exist when one realises the lack of quality of life in a public space. The fundamental basis of this tool is the realisation of need from the various stakeholders. If one is satisfied with the existing scenario, then these interventions would not succeed or even initiate in the first place. In 1984, the word “tactic” was used for the first time by Frenchman Michel de Certeau in his book “The Practice of Everyday Life” in order to describe the events that occurred in 1968 in Paris. He described tactical urbanism in opposition to "strategic urbanism". (Elrahman, 2016). Tactical urbanism has been seen in various countries like the United States of America, Canada, Australia and many more. The Street Plans Collaborative (leading practicing office in tactical urbanism) produces a series of e-books. These e-books have various volumes where the first two volumes focus on Northern American case studies, the third volume being a Spanish-language guide to Latin-American projects and the fourth volume covers Australia and New Zealand. Apart from these countries, tactical
urbanism is also seen in northern European countries like the Netherlands and Denmark. But still this concept is very new for the European continent. So it is interesting to study how this concept could be developed in a European context. Hence, this tool of tactical urbanism could be beneficial for people to improve the public spaces. The concept of tactical urbanism is typically a bottom-up approach compared to that of top-down. Tactical urbanism works in collaboration with local communities and discusses various ideas by them to improve the quality of life.

Porto 2001 is an initiative envisioned along with Rotterdam to make them the Cultural Capital of Europe. This initiative comprised of a strong investment in the recovery and construction of the city's public spaces. This program has helped Porto with increasing tourism. These kinds of interventions (temporary) could be held in any place in order to set an example for the city but Campanhã is a parish of Porto which has low quality of life. The public spaces in the parish are not used so often. Furthermore, a regeneration programme for this area is being developed by the municipality. So, it is an interesting area for the study of the relations between Tactical urbanism and urban deprivation and also between Tactical urbanism and strategies by the municipality. Hence, this makes it even more important to conduct these kinds of temporary interventions which would set an example for the area. The kind of interventions to be implemented is site specific and could not necessarily be implemented in other parts of the city. The case study is suitable in accordance with the need of the area. It could be easy to select an area with more users and activities but the need for such interventions could be a huge driving factor in terms of success. Tactical urbanism being a bottom-up initiative largely makes it the responsibility of the citizens to take part in uplifting the site.

**AIM**

To improve the usage and the appropriateness of public spaces in the area of Campanhã, Porto.

**OBJECTIVES**

1. To test the concept of tactical urbanism which could be used as tool to improve the quality of life in a public space.

2. To understand the usage of some public spaces in the site-specific area and also what could be done in order to make it a better space for the people.

3. To observe and discuss the changes in usage of the public space after some small temporary interventions are conducted.
METHODOLOGY

For this research, various papers and books were referred on Tactical Urbanism and various other forms of DIY urbanism (Listed in Bibliography) to understand the concepts and concerns related to the topic.

To proceed with the research, a survey questionnaire was developed in order to get a notion of public spaces in Campanhã and also the extent of the usage. The survey questionnaire also inquires about various other elements and activities that could be added for the users to enhance the usage of those public spaces.

As shown in Figure 1, there are four basic types of research. Research can be classified in many different ways on the basis of the methodology of research, the knowledge it creates, the user group, the research problem it investigates etc.

The survey questionnaire designed is a mix of both Qualitative and Quantitative research.
All the accessible public spaces in the specific area were visited to get a context of the condition and usage of these public spaces.

In order to proceed with the study, public spaces outside Igreja do Bonfim (Church of Bonfim) and Estação da Campanhã (Train station of Campanhã) were considered as the two public spaces were in a good condition. These case studies selected are located near each other.

The survey questionnaire designed was filled by 75 people most of which are either residents or people who work in the area. These filled questionnaires gave an image about the usage of the public spaces as well as the elements missing according to the interviewers’ perspective (Further defined in Chapter 3).

After an overall image of the current situation, temporary intervention was carried out in a public space for two days (weekday and weekend) in order to observe if there are any changes in the usage of that particular public space. It was a participant observation method where the author did not interfere and was just an observant. The changes were documented in form of photographs as well as a graphical image to have a better understanding.

From the observations of these temporary interventions, permanent changes or interventions could be suggested to be implemented either by the local authority or by some NGOs.

**Scope and Limitations**

The area of Campanhã was studied as the area is of recent interest to be developed by the Local Authorities.

The intervention had some limitations, from a Tactical urbanism point of view as it was detached from local social organisations.

The interventions and suggestions will be site specific and may not be implemented in other parts of Porto.

English or not speaking Portuguese was a hindrance in the process which will be acknowledged as the research progresses.
BACKGROUND STUDY

1.1. BACKGROUND

“It is difficult to design a space that will not attract people. What is remarkable is how often this has been accomplished.”

-William. H. Whyte

There are various aspects in a city which contribute to the quality of it. These aspects vary from the range of various strata of citizens to the type and quality of spaces a city encompasses. In order for a city to be considered wholesome, various sections of people need to be included, involved and thought about in the city actions and plans. In terms of public spaces, a city requires to encompass usable public spaces which are inclusive for all the citizens to interact and to enjoy the surrounding. According to UNESCO, “A public space refers to an area or place that is open and accessible to all peoples, regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, age or socio-economic level. These are public gathering spaces such as plazas, squares and parks. Connecting spaces, such as sidewalks and streets, are also public spaces.” (UNESCO, 2017). These public spaces need to be at various levels such as street level, neighbourhood level, municipality level and then at the level of a city. The absence of such spaces or restrictions (selective target group) to these spaces makes a city divided in terms of different religious and economic based strata. In the book How to turn a place around by PPS (2005) it is stated that, “Indeed, great public spaces can be world-renowned, or they can be important because the people in a particular neighbourhood value them.” (Project for Public Spaces, 2005). In addition to this, the book also states the various benefits that places bring to the city. Public spaces give an economic advantage to the neighbourhood as they increase the value of real estate.
Segregation of public space has been observed since the beginning of human civilization. If we look at various ancient scriptures and stories, segregation has always been a very acceptable stance. Be it in the Western society where in the Greek agora, women and slave were not allowed to entry or be it in 21st Century where women are still not allowed to enter the Sanctum Sanctorum of some mosques. This could be further read in the book Insurgent public space where, “Agacinski (2001:133) notes that, before the French revolution, “the public” in the western tradition referred to the “literature and educated” and “was never thought to be the same as the people.” (Hou, 2010). In an article on The Mixed-use sidewalk, Kim (2012) also argues that “Critics also argue that exclusionary zoning contributes to racial segregation and poverty concentration that is not only unjust, but also draining the urban vitality out of cities.” (Kim, 2012)

Let us try and understand what a public space could help in achieving. There are two very important aspects that we need to focus on. These two aspects are social space and openness and accessibility. There are various authors and papers which talk about these aspects. “Ellickson (1996) does have a valid point: Our public spaces need to be more varied in order to be socially optimal, given a heterogeneous population.” (Kim, 2012). In Inclusion Through Access to Public Space by UNESCO, they relate the social integration of migrants through public spaces. It states that “Public spaces can play a key role in improving migrants’ inclusion by acting as places for intercultural dialogue and exchange.” (UNESCO, 2017). In addition to these qualities, Mould (2014) suggests that “Create high-quality public space, believing that the key to reversing the harmful effects of suburban sprawl is to promote compact, walkable, mixed-use neighbourhoods.” (Mould, 2014). This quotation adds another layer and puts emphasis on the neighbourhood scale in order to promote mixed-use and also walkability in a city and at a neighbourhood scale.

When Mould speaks about Suburban sprawl, he is talking about the expansion of human population away from central urban areas (city centre) into usually car-dependent communities. This kind of growth makes it difficult to plan sustainable community transportation network leaving them dependent on cars which takes away the walkable neighbourhood quality out of the city. The suburban sprawl could be either planned or unplanned. Looking at the unplanned nature of this sprawl, In a paper on Tactical Urbanism, Silva (2016) states that “Christopher Alexander, with ‘‘A City is Not a Tree’’, made room for the Unplanned in planning, based on the principle that a city’s life and citizens’ behaviours are not organised in a rigid, hierarchical and mono-functional way.” (Silva, 2016). This statement sheds light on the unplanned movements and growth of a city. Silva further talks about dealing with uncertainty. He adds that this form of growth is the most difficult and challenging work in planning process. Here a topic emerges which talks about planned and unplanned design processes. Most of the planned city works are often categorized under top-down initiatives. This means that a
planning work is done by professional people who often design based on their expertise. Silva (2016) furthermore adds, “The larger the scale, the longer the term and the more people involved, the less likely this kind of design is to be appropriate.” (Silva, 2016).

Is it time that we start doing simultaneous work and build a bridge between planned and unplanned. Is it justified to bring more bottom-up approaches than top-down? The answers to these are varying. There are various critics agreeing and disagreeing to these initiatives. The author believes that a bridge needs to be created and should be created very soon as there is no one best to suggest what a neighbourhood needs than the community using itself. This is not to say that planning is not required. There needs to be a balance and a need for both top-down and bottom-up initiatives. As said by Silva (2016), “A link will be forged with evolutionary and co-evolutionary processes, in order to understand the potential of tactical urbanism in relation to spatial planning.” (Silva, 2016). Adding to this, he states that “self-organised processes can be somewhere between formal and informal spheres.” (Silva, 2016). The term Tactical Urbanism will be discussed greatly in the following chapter. In the book How to turn a place around, planning approach has been discussed and given a possible alternative route. The current planning approach of project-driven to place driven (alternative) and discipline based to community based (alternative).

In tactical Urbanism: Towards an evolutionary cities’ approach by Paulo Silva (2016), he refers to the bottom-up processes that have been supported by planners and designers but the due share is not yet given. He further adds that many a times citizens are asked to participate but may be they still don’t have the hold to propose. Further adding to this, Silva states, “Directly interfering in a task that was considered that of the designer for decades has not been encouraged. Participation is still seen more like the inclusion of suggestions filtered by the designer instead of citizens’ participation being a key part of the proposal with spatial planners in a much more discrete place.” (Silva, 2016).

1.2. Tactical Urbanism: Introduction and Opportunity

“Tac . ti . cal
1. of or relating to small-scale actions serving a larger purpose
2. adroit in planning or manoeuvring to accomplish a purpose” (Lydon and Bartman, 2012)

“Urban . ism
The character of city life” (Bras, McCrehan and Murphy)
Let us try and understand the term Tactical Urbanism which will be used as an important keyword in the research. As described above, Tactical Urbanism is a small-scale action serving a larger purpose which can create or change the character of a city. Tactical Urbanism also sometimes known as Guerrilla Gardening, Pop-up urbanism or Do it yourself initiatives are a category of low cost projects which are temporary in nature. These initiatives are perceived to be carried out with the support of the community or the neighbourhood. Tactical Urbanism has been an initiative in the U.S which tries to improve the public spaces around. In an article on Tactical Urbanism by Abd Elraham (2016) states that “The word "Tactic" had been mentioned for the first time by the French ethnologist and historian of ideas Michel de Certeau.” (Elrahman, 2016). Though these initiatives are not completely new in nature, Tactical Urbanism became a famous planning trend in 2011-2012 after which it was highlighted majorly in the U.S official pavilion in the 13th International Venice Biennale. It was in 2011-12 that tactical urbanism started to become a growing practice amongst designers and activists. This could be seen especially in the case of the United States of America.

Tactical Urbanism often perceived to be a temporary intervention is seen something opposite to the strategic plans done by the municipalities or city planners. Though tactical urbanism is being widely used in The United States of America and Canada, there are hardly any instances that can be seen in the European Context. Tactical urbanism is seen growing in the European context in Italy where various DIY initiatives have been carried out since 2009 where spaces are created and also reclaiming the streets are major part of the program. This can be further seen in the publication by StreetPlans collaborative in partnership with Paola Bazzu and Valentina Talu. This research will explore tactical urbanism as a tool to encourage more bottom-up planning approach. As stated by Abd Elraham (2016), “Tactical urbanism is as a rapid / low cost approach that can make temporary change to the urban environment.” (Elrahman, 2016). There are numerous papers and articles which are discussing and highlighting the importance of tactical Urbanism and the various advantages related to it. Apart from this, various papers also talk about the roles and the involvement that can encourage a more harmonious growth of a city with the planning process and the community led initiatives. One such instance is, “The tactical Urbanism movement resolves around the idea that temporary interventions can help one understand what interventions might work in a particular context and lay the foundation for more permanent ones.” (Marshall, Duvall and Main, 2016). Here the authors are shedding light on the temporary nature of these interventions which could be used as a trial run. This trial run would not only indicate the further filters but would also help save government funds which could be better used in a more practical and acceptable projects.
Lydon et al. (2012) defines tactical urbanism as small scale actions intended to achieve long term solutions. The five characteristics listed down by the authors are:

- “A deliberate, phased approach to instigating change;
- An offering of local ideas for local planning challenges;
- Short-term commitment and realistic expectations;
- Low-risks, with possibly a high reward; and
- The development of social capital between citizens and the building of organizational capacity between public/private institutions, non-profit/NGOs, and their constituents.” (Lydon et al., 2012)

All these above mentioned characters are very crucial for the framework of future projects. Silva (2016) adds that “Tactical urbanism initiatives have been interpreted as an alternative and a challenge to formal spatial planning tools to the need for a more responsive planning system. Short-term implementation, scarce resources and citizens’ involvement are said to be the key characteristics of this emerging movement in urbanism.” (Silva, 2016). He further adds that this so called community led participatory urbanism demands a different kind of flexibility as the results are not certain and there seems to be lack of programming at its first level. Furthermore he adds that, “Tactical Urbanism concentrates more on transforming existing spaces, expecting immediate results (not necessarily durable ones), as well as focussing at a very local level, such as streets and blocks.” (Silva, 2016). As it focuses on existing spaces, it is definitely playing a part in the adaptation and evolution of a city and of a neighbourhood based on different interests.

Most of tactical urbanism initiatives described in North American cities (Lydon et al., 2011, 2012) also have a very specific time frame. Often, they are not made to last, although, their temporary nature may have a number of different aims and objectives. In some cases, temporary is a transition to permanent, like in “Site pre-vitalisation” or “Chair bombing”. In others, their temporary character is a way of allowing a discussion, like in “Pop-Up Town Hall”. In other contexts, they are temporary but cyclical, such as “Built Better Block”, “Park(ing) day”, “Pop-Up Retail” and “Open Streets”. The recurrent nature of these spaces allows people to get used to new ways of experiencing space, while allowing other activities to take place, but within different time frames.

“In a recently published thesis, Davidson is a bit more explicit and defines tactical urbanism as ‘a play on the physical and political landscape, manifested as a design intervention.’” (Marshall, Duvall and Main, 2016). The author here is taking the discussion ahead taking about the design interventions as people might mix tactical urbanism to political awareness. Tactical Urbanism has a focused goal for
upliftment of public spaces as opposed to the use of public spaces for political display which is often seen on billboards and different graffiti’s. The important point thus arises to merge and involve the expertise. In an article about Iconic eyeshores, the author Campo (2014) states that “Tactical or DIY actions are gaining in scale and complexity, and thus must draw upon the expertise and influence of professional planners, architects, urban designers and preservationists.” (Campo, 2014). Further to that, he says that “The 2012 Venice Biennale and other similarly spirited forums, designers and planners are not merely participants but often the instigators of tactical actions.” (Campo, 2014).

How can Tactical Urbanism make a difference is an important question to ask oneself. In Iconic eyeshores, Daniel Campo talks about the low cost, sweat driven practices as it comes from the community with none or sometimes very little resources. It is mostly the passion and the hard work of the local residents that is seen. He adds that these practices can be said to be market-less as they are not dependent on traditional market mechanisms and dynamics. He says that “In marketless projects, physical improvements can occur prior to the completion of major planning, design or engineering studies, adaptive reuse or market plans, or determinations of significance. Initial actions are often limited (e.g. a collective cleanup of a building or public space, or temporary installations or events on appropriated grounds) but can begin immediately and progress moves ahead in fits and starts.” (Campo, 2014). An important point addressed here is the simplicity of a work that can make a big difference. With regards to the ownership of these initiatives, much debate about the place and that tactics belongs to the locals and not the planners. This idea or debate comes from the point that most of these initiatives have originated from the locals and not necessarily the stake holder (municipality or the government). In tactical urbanism by Oli Mould (2014), he talks about the opportunities one sees and manipulates it in order to get a positive outcome. He further adds that “civic-minded and intended toward the functional improvement of lived urban spaces through skilful, playful, and localized actions, these increasingly visible yet often unattributed practices complicate common assumptions and have received little attention from social scientists or urban policy and planning professionals.” (Mould, 2014).

Paulo Silva adds an important question about the learning from tactical actions at various levels. He answers this question or gives suggestion in the best human scale possible. He states that “However, to improve the quality of contributions on a larger scale, tactical actions should be more than just a greater quantity of local events. The ability to evolve; to follow-up and to merge demonstrate potential that may help tactical actions to have a broader impact on urban design and spatial planning.” (Silva, 2016). Oli Mould (2014) states the acceptance of tactical urbanism. He states that “Despite its origins
in community-led, activist, unsanctioned and even subversive activities, Tactical Urbanism is becoming (if it is not already so) co-opted by prevailing ‘neoliberal development agendas’.” (Mould, 2014). Mould further doubts that Tactical Urbanism is becoming the quick fix that contemporary urban policy craves.

Paulo Silva confirms this doubt and shows concern to maintain the tactical urbanism spirit (non-hierarchal, simple targets, community led) if hijacked by planners and policy makers. It is difficult to say what would happen but various critics have their doubt. The main thing to maintain is to keep the main objects clear and frozen. Tactical Urbanism should be used as a tool but without altering its major principles and objectives.

1.3. Tactical Urbanism: Opportunistic in Nature

Various guidebooks are available for tactical urbanism. The most talked about is the guidelines for tactical urbanism by Street-Plans collaborative. They have done numerous works in the field of tactical urbanism in The United States. Other is the magazine Miller-McClune which recently reviewed the rise of “tactical urbanism”, the title of a document widely distributed on the web offering twelve “tactics” ranging from “mobile vendors” to “chair bombing”. Abd Elrahman (2016) states the notion of tactical urbanism which starts as a bottom-up process from public participation and not the other way (official plan). He adds that “Major tendencies consolidate the recent evolution of Tactical Urbanism in some countries as United States as: The returning back of people to the city, the Great Recession, the prompt use of the Internet and the gap between citizens and municipalities.” (Elrahman, 2016). He further highlights the unplanned nature of these initiatives by the inhabitants which can be documented through qualitative data collection method such as interviews and observations.

Where could we see opportunities to carry out such initiatives? In response to this question, Paulo Silva (2016) suggests that tactical urbanism is opportunistic. Further, he adds that “They spot each and every situation in which they can interfere and change the ‘normal’ role of events, affecting linearity. The opportunity often resides in wasted space, which can mean underused public space or a vacant private lot. While tactical urbanism looks for waste to intervene, planning institutions look for malfunctions.” (Silva, 2016). Abd Elrahman (2016) adds that opportunities to apply Tactical Urbanism exist from a blank wall, to an excessively wide street, to adequacy parking lot or vacant property. Guerrilla gardening, street signage, pavement-to-parks, open streets: are examples for temporarily,
sort-quick urban interferences. More pedestrian friendly, lively or enjoyable parts of the city can be achieved through inexpensive projects.

In a final conclusion, Abd Elrahman argues that “Tactical Urbanism cannot solve all the problems and challenges that face urban spaces in Cairo, but, it can respond to some needs of the inhabitants and raise awareness about continual problems.” (Elrahman, 2016). Tactical Urbanism is not a policy in itself. It is merely a tool which can be used to include all the citizens in not only decision making process but also in suggestion process. The author certainly believes that the need of a neighbourhood can be most well understood by the community itself. Planners and policy makers do everything possible to create a better environment and a liveable block but it is not always true to leave it to them. Community led processes are the new ahead and should be accepted in the design community in order to bring about a positive change and not merely a quick fix for all the loop holes.

The next sub-chapter discusses about the other initiatives that exist under tactical Urbanism or Do it yourself (DIY) Urbanism.

1.4. OTHER INITIATIVES

In tactical urbanism there are numerous other interventions that have been done prior to the coin of this term. These various interventions can be categorized as DIY (Do-it-yourself) initiatives. In the article we work it out, Bermann and Marinaro (2014) states that “The terms like DIY, guerrilla urbanism, tactical, pop-up urbanism have common objectives or motives, but they are not exactly the synonyms of each other. Each of them have different methods and context in which they try to solve certain problems having an umbrella objective to encourage more public space usage.” (Bermann and Marinaro, 2014). Though these are all different methods they have the same aim to encourage usage of public space in a better way and to empower the citizens. These various other tactics are: Play streets, Open streets, Build a better block - Park(ing) day - Guerrilla grading - Pop-up retail - Pavement to plazas - Pavement to parks - Popup cafes - Chair bombing - Food carts/trucks - Site pre-vitalization - Pop-up town hall - Informal bike parking - Intersection repair - Ad-busting - Reclaimed setbacks - Park mobile - Weed bombing - Mobile vendors – Micromixing - Park-making – camps are multiple opportunities to turn over places inside our cities. All of these various DIY have been there from a long time prior to Tactical Urbanism. Bermann and Marinaro (2014) further adds, “The term 'do-it-yourself urbanism’ describes an approach to improving the city and its capacity for social interaction that poses a radical alternative to the large-scale and 'master’ urban planning strategies of the 19th
and 20th centuries.” (Bermann and Marinaro, 2014). It is important to understand the origin of these initiatives which came out of dissatisfaction of Planning strategies which were central to cars and had given very little importance to public spaces in the 19th and 20th century. Finn (2014) talks about the many aspects of DIY urban design which are central to the core ideals of planning, particularly the participatory aspects in DIY urbanism. To this Finn points out an important question about the need for credential and capable planners if DIY is so capable of doing everything by itself. He adds that DIY approaches, at least to some degree, are also a form of soft rebellion against a planning status quo that is perceived to lack creativity, flexibility, imagination and efficacy. Adding to it he further says that “If you(people) think planning is ineffectual, or, worse, the cause of undesirable urban conditions and not a potential source of solutions, then the DIY approach to addressing issues on your block or in your neighbourhood becomes increasingly appealing.” (Finn, 2014).

Let us discuss some of these initiatives which have been named before.

According to Spataro (2016) in a paper on Against a de-politicized DIY urbanism, “Reclaim the streets is a social movement active in British and North American cities during the 1990s and early 2000s whose primary tactic involves temporarily blocking car traffic to open up spaces where people can create zones of conviviality and sociality”. (Spataro, 2016). In addition to this, he says that “Critical Mass is a regularly scheduled collective bike ride in which cyclists assert their claims to public streets and contest auto-centric urbanization.” (Spataro, 2016). Many other initiatives are:

Food not bombs is another form of tactical urbanism in which the main aim is to give free food to the needy. This DIY occupies a public space and distributes free food with an overview that no one should be hungry in this vast resources and wastage resources. This DIY is more form a social perspective which is equally important to empower each and every citizen without segregation.

Guerilla gardening is a movement in which gardens are created in the parts where the community/individual does not have legal rights but the state of the place is not acceptable. For instance, empty sites or abandoned land.

Parking-day is another such initiative where some volunteers pay for the parking spot for a few hours and create an artificial lawn and set-up benches for people to communicate and rest.

In continuation to the above mentioned initiatives, there are various critics who have given suggestions as to what and how can these initiatives be perceived, found and conducted. One such is Camponeschi’s ideas of ‘Place-Based Creative Problem Solving’ is that individuals have to be pushed up to become actively involved in the rehabilitation of their communities via interactive and international trends. Here, she tries to suggest ways in which people could benefit from various initiatives.
Some of the types that she identified are:

- Defamiliarization: Determine new opportunities in taken-for-granted spaces of the city.
- Refamiliarization: Re-occupation of estranged spaces in the city.
- Decommodification: Emphasizing of use values over exchange values in urban space.
- Alternative economies: such as recycling and dedicating economies actions, stepped by the everyday citizens.

Taking the idea of place based creative problem solving ahead, Paulo Silva (2016) suggests various stages and possible shifts in urban design. He adds that the below mentioned stages are a continuous process which could be developed and could be learned from each of the previous stages. They are as following:

- Specialising – Planning movements related to sustainability, despite set procedures being based on bottom-up participation and local action which clearly defines large objectives.
- Following-up –learning from the extensive experience of others.
- Adding – Adding is another aspect of the tactical initiatives. The fact that a city starts a certain programme makes another city follow the same but with the addition of another task or activity.
- Settling – Tactical urbanism is characterised by short-term initiatives. Nevertheless, some of the initiatives are openly running-tests for further permanent initiatives and occupation.
- Claiming – Most tactical urbanism projects are the result of demands made by either individuals or citizens’ organisations. Claiming what is rightfully yours (public spaces) and non-segregated access to them.
- Monitoring – While some initiatives are completely autonomous from public authorities, sometimes their activities are monitored, due to their specific nature.
- Merging – Some measures are quite specialised and simple, such as “Depave”. This is an initiative from neighbourhood activists and not-for-profit organisations. The main goal of this group is to remove asphalt to increase the permeability of urban soil. The way that soil is then used is a task for another group, perhaps a group made up of neighbourhood advocates engaged in “Guerrilla Gardening”. Some initiatives have the programs overlapping which could be merged.

According to Tardiveau and Mallo (2014) “Temporary urbanism is associated with urban spaces such as abandoned land, wasteland, brownfield sites, interstices, interim spaces, ‘terrains vagues’ or gap
sites. Gap sites are vacant spaces which have not been developed by the real-estate market, due to their lack of financial viability or current planning restrictions.” (Tardiveau and Mallo, 2014). In addition Mould (2014) says that “DIY urbanists experience the ‘poverty’ of low financial capital and are obliged to justify their projects, at least, in part, on the promise of returning capital to abjected urban space.” (Mould, 2014). Like Tactical Urbanism these initiatives also have some similar characteristics. Bermann and Marinaro (2014) add that these initiatives like tactical urbanism are low-risk, experimental and addressing the space and issues. These initiatives tend to be light, quick and reversible because of their unsanctioned nature. They add that “DIY urbanism is characterized by a range of scales, including the tiny; just as there is no size threshold for public space considered improvable, there is no threshold for defining the size and nature of ‘the public’.” (Bermann and Marinaro, 2014). Also, DIY efforts are generally more functional as opposed to merely aesthetic or political.

There are various forms in which these DIY initiatives have emerged. These initiatives have risen as a response to the inability of policy makers to cope with social, economic and environmental urban crisis. Oriented towards leisure, trade, tourism or culture, temporary urbanism has been celebrated for its potential to alter planning practices, influence local governance and to stimulate less tangible changes and more socially aware practices. According to Tardiveau and Mallo (2014), “The actions encompassed outdoor gatherings (on the grassed area outside the housing blocks) as well as indoor gatherings (in the nearby community hall). They took the form of tea parties, bingo sessions or simple opportunities to get together for a chat about the outdoor space of the estate.” (Tardiveau and Mallo, 2014). According to Finn (2014), the need for DIY is to overcome the top-down planning process. He quotes, “DIY is thus posited as a rational, and perhaps even necessary, tactic for citizens to rescue their communities from planning processes that are increasingly seen as part of an overly bureaucratic and intractably anachronistic system.” (Finn, 2014).

The challengers are immense ahead in order to co-operate these initiatives in the municipal planning process. The framework needs to understand these DIY actions and the scope of improvements which it can provide. There are numerous ways in which the planning process can be interested in DIY initiatives. These programs will help empower the citizens and get them involved in their local public spaces and their design and functional process in a more active way and not merely passive voice. In DIY urbanism, Finn (2014) states that “As Lang and Hall point out, the leap from citizen to DIY citizen-planner or citizen-designer is in some ways merely a logical extrapolation of longstanding precedent.” (Finn, 2014). Finn (2014) also tries to give importance to the fact that a lot of influential planning figures from the past were not trained or practicing planners. Finn is suggesting and giving the due diligence to these activities in order to keep the spirits and the creative aspect of a city lively. Adding to it he says that “Planning, indeed, prides itself on being a transparent and participatory
process in which citizens and non-planners provide foundational visions and legitimize the planning process through their participation.” (Finn, 2014).

Emily Talen (2014) in Do-it-yourself urbanism talks about the “everyday urbanism which reflects on the urban vernacular, where vendors improvise and use the commonplace objects like ‘doggie drinking fountains’ which makes everyday urban worlds something to celebrate.” (Talen, 2014).

Looking at the vast opportunities to imply or to conduct these urbanism or initiatives, Iverson (2013) in cities within cities states that “Walls and billboards are appropriated as spaces of communication. Roads are appropriated as spaces for gathering. Benches and rooftops are appropriated as spaces for play. Verges are appropriated as spaces for gardening. In such practices, the right to appropriate the city is not something that is requested or even demanded of the existing order.” (Iveson, 2013). All these statements are giving the due importance to the use of public spaces without any segregation but also give the right to the citizens to involve in these spaces as they feel appropriate.

The next chapter is a step forward and discusses some of the dilemma of Tactical urbanism experiments. This chapter also talks about segregation; public and private interests; differences in top-down and bottom-up approaches; difference in tactics and strategies and also some suggestions so as to what could be kept from all of the various initiatives and formal structure to make a better outline in terms of development and designing of public spaces. Unlike the fundamental principle of tactical urbanism being conducted without prior permissions; the sub-chapter about government help tries to suggest various ways to combine the two.

1.5. TACTICS v/S STRATEGIES! PUBLIC v/S PRIVATE!

“As important as many buildings and spaces are many participants in the building process. It is through this involvement in the creation and management of their city that citizens are most likely to identify with it and, conversely, to enhance their own sense of identity and control.” (Finn, 2014)

This section is divided in four parts where each of them discuss various aspects ranging from segregation, public v/s private, from top-down to bottom-up and finally some examples by policy makers to promote DIY or tactical urbanism. These sub-chapters are helpful to understand the various dilemmas in the whole debate of Tactical Urbanism as well as the formal planning process.
1.5.1. Segregation

In the article Against a de-politicized DIY urbanism, Spataro (2016) talks about a zero-tolerance policy which cities use to exclude unwanted people. This policy is for minor infractions under the quality-of-life violations. He adds that “New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani and Police Commissioner William Bratton launched a program to clean public spaces of panhandlers, peddlers, squeegee cleaners, and homeless people. They used a “zero tolerance” stance on graffiti, public drinking, sleeping, and urinating, among other minor infractions. This strategy was passed off as an anticrime program. Actually, it is a social cleansing strategy.” (Spataro, 2016). Spataro argues that this “clampdown” on openness and accessibility of public space shows the extent to which private market and capitalistic society works. This was a program exemplifying the extent of which segregation has always been a part in our society from poor, homeless and rebellious people.

Another instance of segregation is Rome where no adequate infrastructure was provided for a growing city. In the article we work it out; the expansion of Rome has been talked about. The author explains about the parallel development (informal city) that occurred due to the failure of the municipality in providing basic amenities. This informal city was created by the newly arrived and the poor who had to create their own houses to survive. Bermann and Marinaro (2014) says that “The city’s geographic expansion has been driven predominantly by private real estate speculation, resulting in a continuous and often dramatic shortage of low-income housing. The presence of shantytowns and ‘self-made’ neighbourhoods – the do-it-yourself (DIY) housing of necessity – has therefore been a regular feature.” (Bermann and Marinaro, 2014). Therefore DIY urbanism exists where residents of low income neighbourhoods have to improve their surroundings by creating streets, cleaning, filling gaps that have been left by the city which prioritized the centre and more affluent neighbourhoods. This shows that it is thus many a times these initiatives come out as being rebellious. The people are just left alone to fight for their own neighbourhoods. There exists not only economical segregation, but also a socio-political conflict, often among classes. In these cases, DIY (do-it-yourself) or tactical urbanism have a potential. People will do the needful to improve the quality of life in their surrounding which could be used as a huge driving force for these initiatives. Various examples of tactical urbanism deal with the betterment of spaces which could directly be used in cases where the people have been neglected by the official authorities.
1.5.2. Public v/s Private

As discussed above, there seems to be some influence of the private real estate market over the ownership or the programming of certain public spaces. According to Spataro (2016), “Public spaces - like sidewalks, parks, city streets, and plazas – are frequently cornerstones of redevelopment efforts. Publicly funded beautification of public spaces is used to jumpstart private property development, in part because improvements in public space have relational benefit to the value of surrounding private property. In this sense, private property development relies on public property redevelopment.” (Spataro, 2016). In this context, Wortham-Galvin discuss about the publicness of a public space. They state that “It is difficult to ascertain what ‘public’ really means in the context of the increasing privatisation, globalization, digitisation and commercialisation of urban space.” (Wortham-Galvin, 2013). Looking at some examples in the United States of America such as Times Square in New York, Wortham-Galvin suspects about the public quality of such spaces. They argue that “All the structures that define the space are controlled by private interests, and the space itself is dominated by commercial messages and corporate slogans rather than a socio-cultural identity.” (Wortham-Galvin, 2013). This is important to understand as we might believe a space to be public merely because of no walls or doors but it is not necessary that they are open and accepting everyone. Thus, if we as designers want to create more useful public spaces, we will have to remove the private aspect in the public realm. Here, this aspect of removing the private aspect from public spaces is a concern that the official bodies need to address. We as designers in our capacity can only underline the problems and help in the solutions but the change in the format has to be made by the authorities.

1.5.3. Tactical v/s Strategic

There are a series of concerns that come across while trying to differentiate between tactical urbanism and strategic planning. “Haydn and Temel (2006) define tactics and strategies in the glossary to Temporary Urban Spaces stating:

**Tactics**: Tactics is, like ‘strategy’, a term from a military context, where it refers to short-term battle planning in contrast to long-term, less flexible war planning. ‘Tactics’ means an approach from the weaker place, which is not in a position to dictate conditions to an opponent but is compelled to try to exploit relationships to its advantage, and by waiting for an opportunity and exploiting it flexibly and quickly. Tacticians have to work in others’ locations.
Strategy: Strategy is, like ‘tactics’, a term from a military context, where it refers to long-term war planning in contrast to short-term, more flexible battle planning. ‘Strategy’ means an approach that emerges from the planning desk and the sand table; it works from a position of power that is in a position to force its opponents to accept its conditions and to ignore limitations imposed by circumstances. Strategy plans for its own space, and that is a space of autonomy, where the objects, whether enemy soldiers or one’s own, can be manoeuvred at will.” (Pfeifer, 2013)

In the military context, it is described very easily where tactics is a short-term battle planning which is usually bottom-up approach whereas Strategy is a long-term war planning usually a top-down approach to conduct a war. If we relate these concepts to space planning, tactical urbanism is an act which is displayed by the community, or some small organizations and Strategies are planned in a room by the designers and the heads of department. If we go by this description, it is very difficult to understand the role of planners in tactical Urbanism.

There is another distinction made by the writings of Michel de Certeau (1980), where strategies are believed to be operated from a space and tactics on the other hand is based on time. Here it can be seen that strategic plans are made for a space trying to give it a character irrespective of the time. This happens when one aims at something without looking at the present conditions. In the other side, tactical plans are based on time where a certain space/place is given a character keeping the present condition and the time in which it has been initiated. This seems like tactics is for the weak and strategy is for the powerful ones. Let us now understand who can be seen or called as tacticians.

1.5.4. FROM TOP-DOWN TO BOTTOM-UP

This sub-section discusses various factors and points which would help us understand the shift from top-down to bottom-up planning process. Let us first talk about some of the draw backs in the top-down planning process argued by various critics. Emily Talen (2014) associates urban planning with top-down, capital-intensive, and bureaucratically sanctioned urban change. This shows the negative impression one has about urban planners and policy makers. In addition to this, Ismail and Said state that “Much of the design and planning of the spaces are done by the landscape architect and urban planners without community participation. This practice results in incompatibility of the spaces for the communities; underutilizing or abandoning the spaces, and worse vandalizing the properties of the spaces.” (Ismail and Said, 2015). Again here the critics do not see planning process as transparent and something that projects itself/their ideas on others. This is not good for a democratic society where each person has a right to do and believe what they want to. Abd Elrahman (2016) is precise and says
that “Planners are obsessing with control as cities are growing permanently.” (Elrahman, 2016). It is not easy to design for a city but in order to try and create a better city communication is important within a society. Paulo Silva (2016) states the idea of organizing and planning but also to understand the fact that cities do become an outcome of unplanned changes. He adds that “This happens not just due to the lack of means to introduce radical change in cities, but also because daily life is much more complex than a hierarchical and functional organisation of activities in cities.” (Silva, 2016). A much as we want to formally and structurally plan everything, it leaves very little room for Tactical Urbanism. Finn (2014) does not hesitate to address the current planning system. He says that “Modern planning is largely focused on developing a symbiotic relationship between private market forces (e.g. developers or entrepreneurs) and the public sector, with planners performing mostly creative, diplomatic and exhortative roles as shepherds of the public interest.” (Finn, 2014). This is where the conflict of interest arises.

Tactical Urbanism should be used in planning process for a better process and transparent system. This also does not imply that unchecked tactical urbanism should be promoted. Tactical Urbanism has often been perceived as a guerrilla thing in order to harm the existing infrastructure by the authorities. This can be seen in various examples in The United States of America where more than often the initiatives under tactical urbanism were removed or were asked to dismantle. Hence, these interventions could be checked and approved. But the nature of tactical urbanism is such that it has to be accepted with its challenges and opportunities. Urbanists, activists and local communities should come together to eradicate the negative outcomes and move forward in a positive planning direction. As Kim(2012) states that “Planners could further explore the dimension of time in planning public sidewalks, which provides new kinds of flexibility and possibilities in sharing space, especially in highly congested areas of the city.” (Kim, 2012). Here Kim (2012) talks about sidewalks but it can be applicable to other public spaces as well. Planners and urban designers should not neglect citizens’ ability to spot situations that needs to be fixed or changed. We as policy makers and designers need to instil confidence in the community that we so passionately work for. The interaction between the community and the policy makers’ needs to be increased which would allow co-evolution. All the stakeholders are concerned about cities at different scales and from different perspectives which needs to be considered while working together.

There definitely seems to be a gap between what policy makers’ deliver and what the society needs. This gap can be reduced only by more participation in the decision making process. It does not merely means the local participants to suggest small changes but it means to have the say in the conceptualization stages as well. In tactical urbanism, citizens become part of the process and of the solution, from the moment it starts. Paulo Silva (2016) recognises the efforts planners put to increase
public through and other officially-sponsored undertakings, Tactical Urbanism can be used as a tool for the informed citizens. There does seem to be an active interest by policy makers’ and planners in tactical urbanism. Paulo Silva (2016) suggests that “Tactical urbanism provides urban design and planning with ‘laboratorial’ outcomes for planning solutions, especially those initiatives with unexpected outcomes. For this reason, there should be room for tactical actions within planning process as a continuous activity.” (Silva, 2016).

In order to come to a common ground, tacticians also need to understand that some of these initiatives would be co-opted by cities and thus will have to lose some of its rebellious nature. The objectives need to be set clear in order to achieve the best out of both of these panning processes. The benefit of public participation in the planning process will ensure that the plan is more widely accepted by its users. Tactical urbanism in some kind achieves the similar where a temporary intervention is carried out which reversible and low cost. These interventions could be discontinued or changed depending on the outcome. Tactical urbanism does not completely ensure the working of a plan but it gives some hints so as to will the project work or not.

1.5.5. Tactical Urbanism: Initiatives Taken By Other Governments

This sub-section talks about previous instances where the policy makers and government officials have understood the need for Tactical Urbanism and have taken initiatives to promote them. These instances can be looked and could help adapt such programs for other government organizations in different parts of the world. As said by Oli Mould (2014), in the article Tactical Urbanism: The New Vernacular of the Creative City : “In September 2010, there was a competition called ’72 Hour Urban Action’, in which the teams planned, mapped and built a public, community project all within 72 hours. The winners of the competition were awarded a cash prize and perhaps more interestingly ‘the chance for its creation to remain in Bat Yam (a small city to the south of Tel Aviv, Israel) for good’.” (Mould, 2014). This instance in Israel not only gave importance to the need for Tactical Urbanism but also took measures to insinuate people in doing the same.

Other example is the city of San Francisco which created an online portal, SFBetterStreets.org, which could help the citizens to deal with city agency approvals for citizen-initiated projects and request neighbourhood amenities that “combines all the city’s guidelines, permit requirements, and resources for public space development onto one site, giving the user a handy step-by-step approach toward improving San Francisco’s streets. In addition to this, there are various countries and states which are
trying to make open data portals so that people could use any information needed in less time in order to create a better change. These open data portals are introduced under the Smart city umbrella which wants all the information to be up there for all to understand and access.

In Unpacking and Challenging Habitus, Tardiveau and Mallo (2014) argues about an activist role for architects and urban planners in order to give more local control to the citizens over the urban space. The role of activists does not mean to stop the framework from existing but it is trying to make the architects and planners understand the different position from where the citizens arise. This may give rise to more imaginative and innovative suggestions and design functions. Donovan Finn (2014) suggests that “cities could also take a more active role in soliciting DIY solutions to local issues. Various forms to do so are: Through Requests for Proposals (RFPs), small grant programs, special DIY-friendly overlay zones, targeted DIY experiment sites, DIY temporary use permits or even “hackathon”-style events similar to 72 Hour Urban Action, cities could use existing tools that planners are familiar with to solicit and invite targeted DIY interventions in specific locations or to address specific needs under city-approved parameters and oversight.” (Finn, 2014).

Are we ready yet for Tactical Urbanism to be adapted by the Government agencies and policy makers? Oli Mould (2014) has a precise perspective. According to Mould (2014), “Tactical Urbanism is being divorced from its citizenry and activist ethos and fast becoming the latest iteration of ‘cool’, creative urban policy language.” (Mould, 2014). The author tends to differ here. If tactical urbanism is adapted as a whole with its objectives and its characteristics then it may not turn out as Mould doubts. Tactical Urbanism (as a whole) if used as a tool to understand the needs of the people can be beneficial.

To conclude, tactical urbanism is a new trend that is being followed by various designers and NGO’s which look at this as a tool to improve the public spaces. Even though the initiatives are temporary they can be used to learn more about the people and what they think of a public space. The way the field of tactical urbanism has evolved is due to the efforts put in by the residents and various stakeholders like designers and activists. The success or failure of any initiative depends only on the community which gives an assurance for the success of these temporary interventions being converted to permanent ones. Being said that, one should find ways in which there can be some sort of collaboration between the top-down and the bottom-up approaches. There have been some cities in Northern America where active interest has been shown to use it as tool in order to increase the quality of life in public spaces. Hence, it becomes an important tool and method to be discussed and to be worked upon in order to test the success in different context as well. Northern America is not similar to that of Europe which makes it necessary to try in each changing context. The author believes that as
we progress ahead in the years, there will be a common consensus in both the different approaches to come together and work for the betterment of the people and the society.

In the research work ahead, there are a few challenges that need to be dealt with. First major challenge which would also test the previous works in tactical urbanism is the process of doing. This is a research work that might be able to strengthen the beliefs of how tactical urbanism should be conducted or it will destroy it partially. Another major challenge is to find a way to bring top-down approach by municipalities and bottom-up approach to some kind of consensus. In terms of the intervention part of tactical urbanism, the context of Porto is challenging as no precedents have been seen by citizens. This challenge comes with a hope to be able to show people what they could continue doing ahead in order to reclaim their public spaces. One should also be aware of the fact that tactical urbanism in one context is most likely not to get same results in a completely different context. Hence, the contrasts of top-down against bottom-up and public against private will be an interesting one to see in the research work as well as ahead in time.

Tactical urbanism is not just one intervention done by one person. It is a collective change in the community encouraging people to use their own public space the way they want. Tactical urbanism has to be the tool to uplift people from all sections of the society as well as create a constructive effort and not a destructive one.
CAMPANHÃ, PORTO

2.1. PORTUGAL

Portugal is a southern country of the European Union. It is surrounded by Spain on two sides and by the Atlantic Ocean on the other two. The capital of Portugal is Lisbon with a population of 10,341,330 (2015 census). (Instituto Nacional De Estatistica, 2017).

Fig. 2: (Left) The European Union Map with Portugal on the South-west of the European Continent; (Right) Map of Portugal with Porto (city of the case study highlighted). http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-dzC_SV-1WZo/UHSPkSR_dJI/AAAAAAA9g/lzv9oPQABG0/s1600/eu_map.gif; https://i.infopls.com/images/mporto.gif
2.2. PORTO

Porto is the second largest city located in the Northern part of Portugal with a population of 287,591 (2011 census). In 1996, Porto was declared a “World Heritage City” because of its historic wealth and value in the old town of the city. (Câmara Municipal do Porto, 2017). Presently, Porto is considered the cultural capital of Portugal also winning the Best European Destination for 2017.

2.2.1. BRIEF HISTORY OF PORTO

The existence of prehistoric traces has long been marked in the demarcated area of the city and the Porto region. Recent excavations at Casa do Infante have made it possible to perceive some of the evolution of the occupation of the city.

With the peninsular conquest by the Romans, the region of Porto witnessed profound changes, both in terms of spatial organization and in economic, religious and political terms. During the Roman conquest, The Sé was the centre of all Roman activities and was its most important strategic point. The expansion of the city went to the Ribeira area. In the present House of the Infant was found a Roman mosaic of IV century that attests the expansion of the city. There are important traces, for example from the fish salting industry in Campanhã and Angeiras. There was even a Roman villa in Campanhã and a Roman agglomeration in the Foz do Douro. For three centuries the Romanization of the whole territory was seen.

In the beginning of 5th century, Roman administration system was seen deteriorating resulting in the power of Visigothic (Barbarian people). Soon after a century this Visigothic monarchy ends and a Muslim army lands in 711 at the south of Iberian Peninsula rapidly advancing to the Douro.

During 1120, the city of Porto was the hill of Sé. The hill was surrounded by walls. The walls were quickly drawn out in all directions due to rapid development.

In 1330, Porto was an important and large city; it was an obligatory point of commercial activity.

In the middle of 14th Century, it became urgent to construct a new wall in the Port City. This ended in 1370, after about forty years of anonymous work, in the reign of D. Fernando. In total the wall covered
44.5 hectares, five doors defended by towers, numerous shutters, perfectly reconciling civil and military interests.

The port city of the 15th century was divided into three areas: Alta, Baixa and Monte do Olival.

The High zone was constituted by the hill of the Cathedral. It was connoted with power. The Baixa began to assert itself in the second half of the fourteenth century, the work of fishermen, merchants and people of Finance. Ribeira Square represented the buzz of this new life.

The 14th and 15th centuries, witness a huge growth of the city. Porto was the monopoliser of the regional economy. The road network improves considerably. New, wider squares appear. At the end of the 18th century, the growth of the city was directed outside the walls.

In 1725, the Italian architect Nicolau Nasoni arrived in Porto. The city owes him some legacies, the greatest example being the Tower of the Clerics. He was also responsible for the Freixo Palace and the façade of the Misericórdia Church.

João de Almada was the city's great urban planner. Prolonged several streets, such as S. João, Santa Catarina and Santo Ildefonso and also built new arteries, weaving an urban mesh similar to the current one.

In 1807, Napoleon's French troops invaded the country. The inhabitants, frightened by the approach of the French troops, fled on the bridge that joined the banks of the Douro. The wooden bridge, on boats, was broken and a the crowd falls to the river. Hundreds succumbed to that tragedy followed by the French looting the city until they fled in flight.

In 1856, the Yellow Fever arrives at the Port, causing the death to great number of population.

In 1891, The new ideas of republicanism begin to proliferate in the country. Porto is a thriving city, heavily industrialized, especially in the areas of wine, metal mechanics, textiles and footwear. The bridges D. Maria and D. Luíz were built. It is the city that elects the first Republican deputy of the country. This did not continue to be the case but the restoration of democracy finally took place on April 25, 1974. (Câmara Municipal do Porto, 2017).

Presently, the municipality of Porto constitutes of seven parishes (freguesias). In fact, three of them are "Unions", as a result of administrative reform implemented in 2013, with their municipal elections that year. These three Unions and four parishes are:
2.3. **CAMPAHÃ**

Campanhã is one of the parishes that fall under the Municipality of Porto. According to the latest data provided by INE-Instituto Nacional de Estatística, the freguesia of Campanhã is inhabited by 32,652 people (13.74% of the inhabitants of the county), of which 23.18% are over 65 and 12.27% are children or adolescents. For the purpose of this thesis, an area marked by the Municipality of Porto for the Urban rehabilitation of Campanhã – Station is studied further.
The limits marked by the Municipality of Porto are shown below. The total population of this area is 5338 inhabitants. Out of these 5338 inhabitants, 46.3% and 53.7% are males and females respectively. Also, 27.3% and 19% of the total population are 65 years above and 0-24 years old respectively. In terms of employment, 23.2% are unemployed with 82.3% of them looking for new (first) jobs. (Instituto Nacional De Estatistica, 2017). The data stated above is important to understand the demographic diversity pertaining to that area. There is a debate regarding the economic strata where tactical urbanism has more success. This economic background is considered to be upper-middle class but this is not the case in the area of intervention. On the other hand, the author also understands the opportunities and the need of these kinds of interventions to uplift the not so developed parts in a city. In terms of employment, 23.2% are unemployed whereas 46.3% of the total population are either elder citizens or are infants and students.

Fig. 4: Limits of Rehabilitation Area of Campanhã.
www.cm-porto.pt

2.4. **PUBLIC SPACES IN CAMPANHÃ**

The limit of the area has two public spaces which are important for religious and transportation purposes. These two spaces are the Igreja do Bonfim and the Estação da Campanhã respectively. These two public spaces are at close proximity from each other with a direct axis. There are other various spaces in the same axis which have the potential to develop as public spaces but currently are
not maintained or are in depilated state (figure shown below). The two potential spaces which could be developed are shown below in form of pictures showing their current state.

The figure shown in the next page is a compilation of the images which show the state of the potential space. The area of the site is not vast as compared to the other potential space but could be of great value for the residents living nearby. This space could be developed as a playground where children from around could play with safety and have a happy interaction with friends and family. In addition, elderly people of the society can have some fresh atmosphere outside the traffic noise on the roads.
Apart from the above space, there is another space which has the potential to be transformed into a public space in order to benefit the locals. The area of the site is big and also has houses which are commercial in nature facing the street on the other side and have their backs towards this space. This is so because of the condition in which the space is and also part of it is currently being used as a parking space for the garage nearby. If the space is transformed, the small commercial shops could open the side which could be profitable both for the business as well as for the residents using that particular public space. Most of these commercial shops are cafes, eateries and small markets along with a butcher shop on the corner. Shown in the next page is the compilation of images recorded by the author in order to depict their current state.

Fig. 6: Compilation of pictures for the potential public space 1. Nitika Nanda.
Apart from these two potential spaces, the other two important public spaces are discussed ahead. In the next page an image is shown of the two important buildings. The two important landmarks are The church of Bonfim and the Train Station of Campanhã.

Fig. 7: Compilation of images showing the state of the space currently of potential space 2. Nitika Nanda.
2.4.1. The Church of Bonfim/ Igreja do Bonfim

The Church of Bonfim was built from 1874 until 1894. The Church has two towers on each end which has a height of 42 meters each. There was a chapel before since 1786 which was then made into a Church due to the increasing population. Apart from the religious importance to the Church, it also has a cemetery just besides and a public space designed for people to cherish. Let us look at the images of the public space and what are the elements present. As shown in figure 9 (next page), there are various elements present in the public space such as benches, small garden, garbage bins, shade, steps etc. which could be considered as a well-designed space for people to enjoy. But this doesn’t seem to be the case. There are only two young residents sitting on the steps in the sun. The space is empty most of the times. The reasons for the same would be discussed in detail in Chapter 4. The garbage bin as shown in figure 9 is spilling on the ground which could be one of the reasons for people not to use the garden and the public space.
2.4.2. TRAIN STATION OF CAMPANHÃ / ESTAÇÃO DA CAMPANHÃ

The Train Station of Campanhã is another such space of importance. There are two main train stations in Porto which depart to different locations in Portugal. These two train station are: Estação da Campanhã (station of Campanhã) and Estação São Bento (station of Sao Bento). The Campanhã train station was opened in 1877 and is being running since then. The building of the station has a rectangular plan with the front façade facing the city of Campanhã whereas the back faces the train tracks. Apart from the train station, there are some other buildings nearby such as the NOS call-centre and lots of small eateries and cafes just across the road from the train station. The public space outside is also important because it is the merging point of various kinds of transportation networks. These various transportation networks are: Train Station (travelling in Portugal), Metro stop, Bus-stop as well as taxi stands. All these different transportation systems merged making it a very frequently used public space to transit from one mode to the other. Below shown are the images of the public space and what are the elements present.
As shown in figure 10, the public space has a huge area but there are very few elements as compared to that of the Church to motivate people in order to use the space. There are very few seats available without any shade, garden, shops etc. In order for a space which is used extensively as a transit passage should have elements that provide reasons for people to spend their time while waiting for their next trip. Also, a huge space which is paved fully radiates heat which could be reduced by introducing some elements like a garden or trees which would also provide shade and fresh air.

The Municipality of Porto has a preliminary program which is a structural project for rehabilitation of Campanhã. The objectives of the program are as follows: renovating the image of the zone by developing initiatives and innovative projects; restructuring the territory; articulation of green spaces keeping the natural ecology in mind; improving the environmental quality by reducing emission of greenhouse gases; increase pedestrian mobility and public transportation; improving the living conditions and well-being of the residents; attractive elements for new residents to promote social inclusion; improve local commerce and improvement in energy efficiency of buildings, public spaces and infrastructure. The project has various types of interventions in different areas such as creation of...
public space, rehabilitation of public space, rehabilitation of green space and infrastructure for bike lanes. (Câmara Municipal do Porto, 2017)

In terms of the train station, a competition was launched to design the space behind the train station for a better connectivity. According to the tender quotation of the winner, the Municipality of Porto website quoted that, “the project will allow an efficient, comfortable and secure interconnection between different means of transport, thus promoting the concept of intermodality in the transport system.”. This project aims to bring more people using the various transport systems connected in Campanhã. The project aims to build a bus terminal adding to the existing train and metro infrastructure.

According to the Municipality of Porto, the work is expected to start in 2018 and will be completed within an estimated time of 18 months. The future terminal is included in the Urban Rehabilitation Area of Campanhã station, which was recently announced by the Municipality of Porto and forecasts investments of around 75 million euros over the next 10 years. (Câmara Municipal do Porto, 2017).
3

METHODOLOGY

3.1. Selection Criteria

For the thesis purposes, various sites were considered to implement the thesis topic. One of the hurdles that was prominent throughout the thesis was the language barrier. It would have been easier for the author to choose a site where there would be tourists where English could be easy. But another aspect to consider was the requirement of these kinds of intervention in order to uplift the area. Keeping all the above points in mind, Campanhã was chosen to implement the temporary intervention. Campanhã is one of the biggest freguesia in Porto but the development of the area has not been done much. There are various notions attached to the area; these notions vary from safety to low-income class as well as pensioned old people. Campanhã needs these interventions in order to uplift the quality of life for the various stakeholders in the area.

3.2. Research Method

Various research papers and books were read in order to create a better understanding of the topic as well as discussing various aspects related to the topic of Tactical Urbanism.

In Tactical Urbanism, temporary interventions can be executed from roads to plazas. In this research thesis, interventions will be carried out in public spaces.

In tactical urbanism, various interventions are discussed and executed in a community meeting and consultation plan. Due to the language barrier, a survey questionnaire was designed to interview
people with the help of a friend. This method of doing a survey instead of a community meeting is to try and test if this could be another method to acquire information in tactical urbanism.

The survey questionnaire designed is a mix of both Qualitative and Quantitative research.

The survey questionnaire was designed based on the suggestions by book “How to Turn a Place Around: A Handbook for Creating Successful Public Spaces” by PPS, Inc. These suggestions were on evaluating a Public space as well as observation techniques, surveys and interviews.

In order to proceed with the study, public spaces outside Igreja do Bonfim (Church of Bonfim) and Estação da Campanhã (Train station of Campanhã) were considered as the two public spaces which are currently in a good accessible condition. These case studies selected are located near each other.

The survey questionnaire was drafted in English which was later translated in Portuguese (local language) with the help of a friend and was later verified with the supervisor. The survey questionnaire both in English and Portuguese is attached in the Appendix below.

The survey questionnaire designed was filled by 75 people most of which are either residents or people who work in the area. Out of these 75 people, 65 were people associated directly to the area and in order to get an overview of others, 10 visitors were interviewed who were around because of their transit time.

The questionnaire was filled in 4 days visiting the site both in weekdays and weekends.

Below attached is a compilation of the images taken while interviewing some stake holders. It is interesting to see the various usages from walking their pets to having some beers with friends to having chat with fellow colleagues.
The survey questionnaire had 3 to 4 lines of introduction for the interviewees to get the context of the subject and the purpose for which the survey is being conducted.

It was difficult in the first day to get attention of the people but later as trust was installed in people, it became easier.

After analysing the first not so successful attempt to grab attention in the public space, a strategic decision was taken to approach people sitting nearby cafes as they had some time to spare while waiting for their coffees. Another decision was to fill the questionnaire by the author in order to save time both of the stakeholders as well as that of the author.

Below attached is an image showing the various places were the various stake holders were interviewed.

that “The word "Tactic" had been mentioned for the first time by the French ethnologist and historian of ideas Michel de Certeau.” (Elrahman, 2016). Though these initiatives are not completely new in nature, Tactical Urbanism became a famous planning trend in 2011-2012 after which it was highlighted majorly in the U.S official pavilion in the 13th International Venice Biennale. It was in 2011-12 that tactical urbanism started to become a growing practice amongst designers and activists.

Fig. 12: Key plan showing the places where the survey questionnaires were conducted. Nitika Nanda.
These filled questionnaires gave an image about the usage of the public spaces as well as the elements missing according to the interviewers’ perspective.

After an overall image of the current situation, temporary interventions were carried out in the public space outside the train station of Campanhã for two days (weekday and weekend) in order to observe if there are any changes in the usage of that particular public space.

In order to show the possibilities, the author installed some furniture on the first day to observe the changes and how people react to the same. During the same day, flyers were distributed inviting people to bring out whatever they want to use in the public space for the next scheduled day.

Below attached is the flyer that was distributed for people to participate for the second day.

Fig. 13: Flyers that were distributed on the first day in order to encourage people using the public space. (Left): Flyer in English; (Right): Flyer in Portuguese which was distributed. Nitika Nanda.

The reason behind distributing the flyers was to make people understand the importance of public space and also giving them the liberty to use the public space as they want without vandalizing the existing infrastructure. (Flyers separately shown in appendix 3 and 4)
The changes were documented in photographs as well as a graphical image to have a better understanding.

In order to document these changes, 3 times were selected which were: 9 to 11 am; 1 to 3 pm and 5 to 7 pm. During these two hours, usage of the space was documented each 15 minutes giving a total of 24 readings for each day.

From the observations of these temporary interventions, permanent changes or interventions could be suggested to be implemented either by the local authority or by some NGOs.
4

ANALYSIS_SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE

The survey questionnaire had a total of 11 questions in order to understand various factors. Along with these 11 questions, 4 questions were asked in order to know the name, age, sex and e-mail id of the interviewee. There was also a 3-4 times introduction regarding the topic and a brief point about the aim. Age and sex were added in order to check for balanced data in terms of age and sex. Furthermore, e-mail id was added with an intention to mail the interviewee about the updates in regard to the specific thesis purpose, but was later discarded as many people were not seen comfortable answering it. Let us first discuss the current usage which was observed by the interviewer for 4-5 days on site and then discuss the various questions and their responses by the interviewee. A survey compilation is attached in the appendix below.

4.1. CURRENT USAGE

To discuss the questionnaire further ahead along with the results it is first necessary to look at the current usage of the public space outside the train station of Campanhã as well as other spaces around it. A key plan shows the different documented places in the next page.
In the key plan, there are four basic layers used to depict the following: Roads, sidewalks, building blocks as well as green area (trees, bushes and wild grass). As shown in the key plan, three spaces are further documented in detail to show the usage of these spaces. The three spaces are chosen to create a relative background and to understand what people are attracted more to in terms of usage of a space. As William H. Whyte rightly said; “People attract people”, hence as designers and planners, these simple documented maps can easily depict the interests and attractions for people which can be used in our advantage to create much better public spaces.

Discussing the usage of public space, let us look at the public space outside the train station of Campanhã. As shown in fig. 15 below, there is very low usage of the space outside. The humans are shown bigger for representation purposes. As a designer, there seems to be various elements missing from the space. One of the most important observation is about the few seating elements in such a huge public space. It seems like a vast concreted space which doesn’t seem very inviting because of the lack of elements such as a garden or some small shops wich people could use and stay longer in the public space. If one would count the number of seating elements, it would come to around 30-34 seating elements in the whole public space. This public space seems to give an impression that the space is designed only for transit and not for people to relax. If that being the case, it is a huge space used only for the purpose of transit. The train station is one of the points from where people enter the city. It should have a more welcoming enviornment as it is the first impression for people. Full A4 representation in appendix.
There are two streets across the train station of Campanhã which are documented further to look at the
difference in usage at a distance of 10 meters or so.

The figure 16 below shows a street which is on the west side of the train station of Campanhã hardly
15 meters away but has many people using the space.

Fig. 15: Plan showing the usage of public space outside the train station of Campanhã (not to scale).
Nitika Nanda.
There are few reasons resulting in the difference of usage according to the author. The first and most important one is the reason to be there. There are activities present such as small eateries, cafes, restaurants, shops and small supermarket which create a more inviting space. Although people coming to the area to Campanhã only for the reason specific to transportation also use these streets and avoid the public space outside the station. This could be realized by looking at people usually at these cafes or restaurants with travel bags. Another reason is the shade by umbrella that is above the tables outside the cafe. This creates a more comfortable environment in both summer and well as monsoon. Hence,
these elements could be understood and could be used in a more creative manner for people to enjoy public spaces and not just the commercial aspect of a city.

The fig. 17 above shows another street which is south-west of the train station of Campanhã which is 6 meters away from the south end and 15 meters away from the south-west but has many people using the space just like street 1. The humans shown in the figure are exaggerated for graphical representation. A4 size image is attached in the appendix for better understanding. The reasons for usage of this street is very similar to that of the previous one. There seems to be slight difference in the people using these two streets. In street 1, there is a mix of both locals as well as tourists where as this starts changing as we keep going further south in street 2. It starts being more used by locals and people who work in the area. In terms of commercial business, as we move from north to south on street 2, the business starts changing. It starts from cafes on north side and as one progress ahead it changes to local restaurants serving portuguese food and low-cost cafes. This indicates the absence of local people from using the public space outside the train station. If we look at the circle drawn at the map, it shows the resistance of people from using the public space outside the train station. Many
elderly people are seen sitting there in the evening chatting with colleagues rather than going to a café or a public space which is just 5 meters away from them. This clearly shows the inacceptance of the huge public space outside the train station.

4.2. Survey Compilation

As mentioned earlier, there were 11 questions surveyed in the interviews. Let us discuss each one of them and the results. Below shown is a graph that depicts the age and sex of the 75 interviewees. The survey shows balance in terms of gender but in terms of age there were less elderly people interviewed mainly because of less elderly people around. Another observation was that when the author approached the elderly people, they would refuse to answer stating that young people should be interviewed as they are going to stay longer to use the space. This shows a passive approach by elderly people in the process of improving the public space.

The survey was conducted only for people who either stay, work or study in the parish of Campanhã. Within these 75 interviewees, 10 of them were of visitors to verify the suggestions if they tend to be different. The first question was drafted in order to get an understanding of this and also to start with a question which would make it easier for people to answer and build confidence. Below is the graph attached for the same. 50% of the interviewees were local residents whereas other 50% were students, workers as well as tourists. It was necessary to involve people working in the area as there is a call centre for NOS on the north side of the public space outside the train station of Campanhã.
The second question was to a broader one to understand the opinion of the interviewees on the public space in Campanhã. This question is important to understand the views as there are only two active public spaces which are not used. Hence, this would make the author understand the various notions people have regarding public spaces. Below attached graph shows the general opinion of people liking the public space. Out of 75 conducted surveys, 65.33% of the interviewees like the public space in Campanhã. If we look at this statistics alone, one would get an impression of a well used and well maintained public space. An important observation was that people who were staying in the area since their childhood or for a long time took extreme pride in their area.
The second question was further inquired by the next question which asks a specific question about whether one uses the public space outside the train station. The way the questions were drafted was to go from a generic sense of public spaces in the area to a particular space. These two questions would give an overview of the notions. As soon as the third question was interviewed, the answers suddenly changed. If one would believe that 65.33% people like the public spaces in the area then it should have been validated by the answers in question 3 inquiring about the usage of the public space outside the train station. This doesn’t seem to be the case. Only 24% of people actually use the usage whereas 48% people don’t use the same and rest 28% used sometimes only. If we were to compare question 2 and 3, there are two assumptions that could be made. One is the pride that people take in their area because the second question was a general one which was important for an image of the area. Hence, people would always like what they are surrounded by. Secondly, there seems to be a sense of liking the space but no reason what so ever to use. The second assumption clearly states the inability to attract people.

The questionnaire was structured to go from general perception to quantitative responses. Hence, the fourth question was very specific in terms of the usage of the public space outside the train station in a week. It had very specific options ranging from Never, 1-2 times, 3 times, 4-5 times to always. This
question was a quantitative one to get exact numbers. Looking at the graph below, more than 52% of the interviewees never use the public space whereas only 18% of the interviewees used it daily.

![Graph showing usage of public space](image)

As shown in fig. 22, the right side pie chart is made in comparison between question 4 and question 2. From the 39 interviewees who never use the space, 51% of them said that they like the public spaces in Campanhã whereas 38% of them denied it. This again indicates the different responses people give to qualitative and quantitative questions. As an image, people accept the public spaces and find them to be appropriate but in terms of usage the same is not reflected. Hence, one could guess the lack of attractiveness in these public spaces.

Getting an understanding about the usage of the public space; the questionnaire now moves onto two qualitative questions which are required to understand what is the reason for not using the space whereas the other one looks out for suggestions by the interviewee which could be implemented in order to improve the public space. These two questions are specific to the public space outside the train station of Campanhã. These two questions will help us understand the reason of absence of people as well as the proposals by the various stakeholders.

As question 5 is a qualitative one, the percentage doesn’t matter but what matters are the various different reasons given by people for not using the public space outside the train station of Campanhã. Various responses by the people were as following:
• Working
• Nothing to do
• only uses as a passage
• Never went there
• Doesn’t need to use the space
• Not a green space
• Absence of spaces
• Stays more at home
• Not closeby
• Doesn’t have time
• Only a visitor
• I use the space frequently (N/A)

All the above responses were used repeatedly by some people. Looking at them at a glance we see two cases emerge out of it. One is the absence of need for the usage. This can be also translated into the fact that people associate this particular public space only with transit zone. They don’t see this public space as a place to spend some quality time with colleagues or by you. Some of them perceive it as a passage space. Another case comes across as that of happiness. Other group of people are not happy with the existing infrastructure and hence don’t use the public space. Taking this question one step further, people have also been very specific in pointing out the absence of green spaces. This step brings us to the next about.

The next question is asking for suggestions from the various stakeholders be it locals or visitors which could help uplift the public space and the social life of the people around it. Again as it is a quantitative response, all the suggestions will be mentioned and discussed. A very important point which should be noted is about the views by the locals as well as by the visitors. The various responses are:

• Green space
• Fountain and shade
• Garden
• vases with plants
• Kids park
• Chairs
• Ice-cream shop
• Outdoor Gym
• Shop
• Benches
• Coffee shop
• Parking space
• better access
• Garbage cans
• shop for animals
• Game salon
• tennis court, sports area
• Small business, garden, flowers
• better signs for metro

• Artists
• Events
• Anything
• music
• Cultural Events and activities

• Let it be like that (Perfect)

All these above highlighted suggestions have been repeated by various interviewees in different ways. The author simplified them in order to give a general idea about the missing elements (according to the various stakeholders) that could be introduced to encourage more usage of the public space. As seen above, the author has categorized various responses into 3 main headings. These headings are decided based on the nature of the suggestion. The main three categorized headings are: Green elements; Furniture/ infrastructure and Activities. These three categorises show the varied suggestion people have in order to improve the public space. In the category of green elements, people described the missing green elements be it from parks to vases to trees. Another addition to this list was a water fountain which could help people gets some cool air in the scorching heat. Another note is about the use of word shade by people instead of trees. This may be because people associate trees to shade. Hence, looking at the suggestions it can be concluded the fact that people lack the green elements in
the public space outside. Next category is about furniture/infrastructure as they could be temporary in nature but most of them need prior approvals and permanent settings. The responses range from shops to chairs and benches to spots zone to garbage cans and better access. Shops and chairs/benches have been discussed before by the author also suggesting their implementation. The interviewees (especially students around) pointed out the interest people have in pool table (snookers) in the area hence suggesting a game salons or a sports area. Another suggestion was about the garbage cans which are very few in numbers in such a huge space and are a bit far away from the existing seating elements. The third category was about the various activities which could be possible in the public space. These suggestions are from live artists to music events to cultural activities. These suggestions of cultural activities were referring to the activities that happen outside the metro station of trindade. And finally the last suggestion which was one of a kind was that of leaving the space as it is.

Looking at the three categories, the author believes that even if the green elements and the infrastructure are improved; activities will follow soon after. Hence, a collective action needs to be taken in order to uplift all the categories and not just simply doing one or two small things. In order for people to use the public space, they need to be attracted to it.

As mentioned earlier, the survey was conducted keeping two public spaces under consideration. Hence, the same questions were repeated but for the public space outside the church of Bonfim. The first question about the Church of Bonfim was similar to question number 3 which aims to inquire about the general view of people regarding the usage of the public space. There were three options to give an opinion about liking the public space. Those three options were: Yes, No or sometimes.
As shown in the figure 23 above, 90% of the interviewees do not use the public space outside the church of Bonfim. This shows the lack of interest in people for using the public space. There could be various reasons for the same which will be further discussed ahead. But if one compares the usage of the two public spaces, there seems to be a vast difference. As seen in figure 21, 48% of the interviewees don’t use the public space outside the train station but this number doubles to 90% of the interviewees not using the public space outside the church. Comparing these two graphs, as an outsider not knowing the two public spaces, one could make out the rejection of people for not using the later. One would imagine a deteriorated space which lacks everything for people not being able to enjoy the public space. But if one looks at figure 9 and 10 from chapter 2, this assumption would be instantly scuffled.

The above question is further quantitated by inquiring about the usage of the public space in a week. It has same parameters as in the question 4 for the train station. Observing the graph below, there are only 2 options that seem valid for the usage. Either people use it once or twice a week or never. Unlike the public space outside the train station which is used always by interviewees. Both the graphs in figure 23 and 24 have the same recordings. The number of people not using the space remains the same which validates each other and shows no discrepancies.

The pie chart on the right of figure 24 compares this question with question number 2 of the survey. Out of the 68 people, who never use the public space outside the church, how many of them actually like the public spaces in the area of Campanhã. From these 68 interviewees, 61.76% people actually
like the public spaces in Campanhã whereas 26.47% and 11.76% don’t like and is indifferent respectively. If we compare the pie chart of figure 22 and figure 24, the results are similar. Which further validates the point of patriotism that people feel towards their living environment.

Similar to the format of the previous questions for the public space outside the train station, the survey now inquires further to understand the quantitative aspects of it. The next two questions try to understand the reason for not using the space and asking for suggestions to improve the space further which would encourage people to use the public space. As a quantitative survey, the answers could be summarized in the following answers.

- Not religious
- It is not close by
- Doesn’t know
- Visit whenever I can
- Not well designed
- No repairs
- Doesn’t live there
- Not interested
- Nothing to do
- Too far away

Looking at the above mentioned answers, there are three responses which could be derived from it. First of these responses is about the religious aspect of it. People instantly associate the public space outside the church as part of the religious symbol. As soon as one hears about the church, they directly associate it with religiousness. Many a times the author tried to explain the interviewee about the question being about the public space and not about the church. This didn’t change the answer. Hence, the public space outside the church is considered to be a part of the complex. The second response is about the proximity to the space. Many interviewees didn’t use the public space as it doesn’t come on their way or they don’t live nearby to use it. The third aspect is about the design part of it. Very few people talked about the design part and talked about the need for repairs. Hence, there are these three problems of association; proximity and repairs which need to be addressed.
After understanding the reasons, let’s try and point down the suggestions given the interviewees. These suggestions can be used ahead to improve the quality of life in these public spaces. These suggestions that are stated below are as follows:

- Kids park
- Garden
- Fix the place
- Modernize
- Chairs
- Parking space
- Ramp to the church
- Gym machines
- better space for animals
- bathrooms
- a shop
- Religious festivities
- Nothing

Similar to the suggestions for the public space outside the train station, these suggestions are also divided in three parts: green elements; infrastructure and activities. Apart from these three, there is another response which says there is no need for any change. In the green elements, as there is a garden present; Kids Park, garden and modernization has been combined together. Many people gave the suggestion of repairing the public space which indicates towards the existence of elements but also indicates the poor condition of the space right now. The second category of infrastructure; suggestion ranges from chairs to ramp in the church. People also feel the need for shops, bathrooms and a proper space for animals and pets. The third category as activities again relates the public space to the church and suggests for some religious festivities. All of these suggestions could help uplift the quality of life in these public spaces.

The last question was designed to get an understanding of what people might like to use as a public space if they were converted and maintained as a public space. The four options were marked on the
map and also asked why to understand the thought process. As shown in figure 25 below, most of the people choose option 1 which could be used as a public space for reasons such as close proximity from work or home. 72% of the interviewees opted for space 1 where as others were divided in other public spaces. Some people also went for all the four which also shows the need of more public spaces in the area. People were keen to say all four in order to have more spaces and not just two huge ones and then maybe some small near their houses in form of island spaces. Island spaces (Isles) are widely seen in various house forms as buildings were developed around leaving some space for community interactions. These island spaces have now started to be used for construction of small houses in these residue plots.

This question was also added as the Municipality has a rehabilitation plan for the area. Hence, this might be helpful for the municipality to understand what people want and also to compare if they are paying attention to spaces where people would really be interested in using more often.

Fig. 25: Opinion on which space would people like to use more.

Nitika Nanda.
Understanding the usage of both of the above mentioned public spaces, due to the limited time period for the project and limited resources, only the public space outside the train station of Campanhã will be tested for the temporary discussed in the next chapter. Chapter 5 will discuss the method and execution of the temporary intervention as well as analyze the same in order to conclude the hits and misses of the topic.
As discussed in the earlier chapter about the methodology, temporary intervention was conducted in the public space outside the train station of Campanhã. The two days when the temporary interventions were a weekend (3rd of June, 2017) and a weekday (6th of June, 2017). On the 3rd of June, 2017, flyers were distributed to encourage people in order to bring out elements that they would like to use in the public space. Some of the flyers were distributed in the public space itself and others were distributed in the nearby coffee shops and some of them were left in the butcher shop and the fruit shop nearby to get attention of people who might not necessarily be using the public space itself. In order to carry out the interventions, official permission was applied to the municipality but no response was recived for the same. Considering the limited resources by the author, 9 chairs were put in the public space in order to record the usage of the same. Let us look at each of these days.

**Day 1: Weekend (3rd June, 2017)**

For the first day i.e. a weekend (3rd June, 2017); 9 chairs were shifted to the public space with the help of a colleague who had a car. The first day was chosen to be a weekend as the people using the space is higher and also the fact that no official permission was given by the municipality. A weekend was a better decision as not many officials work on a weekend giving a chance to be able to conduct the intervention. Within 15 minutes of putting the chairs there, an official inquired about the intervention but didn’t resist after showing a letter from the supervisor of the thesis. The timings during which the usage was recorded are as following:
Morning: 9:45 AM to 11:45 AM  
Afternoon: 1 PM to 3 PM  
Evening: 4 PM to 6 PM  

For each of these timings, readings were taken at a gap of 15 minutes to get a better understanding of the usage of the public space. Below attached are six A3 sheets which record each hour of these three slots (morning, afternoon and evening). These sheets consist of both a drawing as well as a photograph record of the same. These two are required to understand the overall usage of the public space in the weekend. The chairs were first arranged by the author and no instructions were prompted or given to the users. They were allowed to do what they wish within the intervention except taking the chairs outside the public space.
Looking at the readings shown in the A3 sheets, there are few important observations made by the author. The observations are as follows:

- **People not moving the chairs:** In the readings shown, it was prominently seen that people refrained from moving the chairs. In each 2 hours of readings, only 1 or 2 people maximum would try and move the chair in accordance to where they want to sit. Rest of the people would sit as the chairs were placed. This shows the way people behave and believe in not really altering any setting in the public space.

- **Accustomed to existing infrastructure:** Another observation is about the usage of existing infrastructure. People didn’t want to use the chairs. Most of the people who live in the area would always go and sit in the existing seating elements. It was also seen that tourists who were just visiting the space to catch their next mode of transportation were using the chairs more than the locals.

- **Didn’t like the chairs:** This was another problem that was faced by the author. People who used the chairs first cleaned it with a paper and then sat on them. Another issue was of some children wanting to sit on the chairs but the parents would refuse saying the chairs are dirty. People didn’t really trust the intervention in terms of the colour and the look of the chair (as they were white plastic chairs).

- **Usage of space:** During the time of the temporary intervention, very few local people were seen using the space. It was mostly tourists who would use the space validating the fact even more that additional infrastructure and activities need to be introduced for people to use the public space. This consists for both: the locals as well as for the tourists.

- **Directions for metro:** This reading is not really seen in the figures above but is a very observatory one. During the intervention multiple people would inquire about the metro station from the author as well as others in the public space. This also validates one of the points made in the survey analysis about proper signage for various modes of transportation.
Hence, there needs to be various aspects that need to be addressed specially in the public space of Campanhã. All the above observations are useful in addressing the issues.

Let us now discuss the second day of the intervention which was a weekday (6th of June, 2017).

**DAY 2: WEEKDAY (6TH JUNE, 2017)**

For the second day i.e. a weekday (6th June, 2017); 9 chairs were again shifted to the public space with the help of a colleague who had a car. In order to try and make the chairs more attractive for people, they were spray painted with green and yellow colour. These colours were chosen to cut the grey concrete feel of the public space and add a new interesting element to the space. Red was also kept as an option to highlight the chairs but it might have given a wrong signal as we often associate red with not doing something. Below shown are two chairs with the spray effect. One could see the highlight that the chairs get now.

![Spray painted chairs in the public space outside the train station of Campanhã. Nitika Nanda.](image)
The intention of the author was to take readings of the usage of the public space in respect to the usage of the chairs as following:

Morning: 10 AM to 12 AM  
Afternoon: 1 PM to 3 PM  
Evening: 4 PM to 6 PM

This unfortunately could not be the case. Within 15-20 minutes of putting the chairs an official from the Infrastructure of Portugal came and suggested to remove the chairs. In order to find a way out, the author went to another official to clarify the same and wanted to just conduct it for a few hours. This was not allowed and the author had to remove the chairs only with 2 readings of 10 AM and 10:15 AM. Within these 15 minutes all the chairs were occupied as well as were being moved around as per ones need. This shows the success just by making the elements attractive. In the A3 sheet attached next, a documentation of these 15 minutes is shown. The observations are the following:

- **Attractive elements being used:** As compared to the weekend where the chairs were plain white without any paint on them; after painting the chairs it became more attractive for people to use it. This gives us an idea to make elements more attractive with colours or other elements to make people use them.

- **People started moving chairs:** As opposed to that of the weekend, people started moving the chairs in order to sit in groups. One of the reasons for the same could be the group that people came with in order to sit together.

- **Using chairs more than the existing infrastructure:** On the weekday due to the attractiveness of the chairs, people preferred to use the chairs. People first started occupying the chairs and then after no chairs were left to use; people would use the existing infrastructure.

- **Tourists used the chairs more:** Even though the documentation was not completed, from the preliminary two readings; it was easy to conclude the usage of chairs by tourists or visitors. Locals either didn’t use the space or if they would; they preferred to use the existing
infrastructure. This again brings us back to the same point of need for activities and more infrastructures.

We could only imagine the success in terms of usage of the chairs if the temporary intervention was allowed. But from the two readings, the need is documented and now it is important to see what various stakeholders really do about it. This is if they want to do something about it or the fact that the space is designed and so top-down would stop them from introducing new things. Below attached is an A4 image of the two readings taken.
This is a clear case of privatisation of a public space. The officials didn’t consider the letter from the supervisor and also didn’t acknowledge the municipality. They were strict and were only stating to get permission from the Infrastructure of Portugal group. First and foremost is the lack of the municipality of Porto to communicate the various stakeholders that needed to be approached in order to get proper permissions.

- The permission process in the municipality is not transparent at all.
- No prior information was communicated or even didn’t reply to the e-mail in order to inform the author about the various stakeholders that needed to be approached for permission process.
- The space is a public space but is a clear example of privatisation.
- This makes a city rigid and calls for awakening to do more such kinds of intervention.
- Cities like this where no personal freedom is given to use the public space without authorization is beyond one’s imagination.
- One would understand the hesitance if any vandalism was caused during the process (clearly not the case) but not allowing a citizen to use the space as they wish is a very top-down approach installed very deeply in these organizations.
- This top-down approach is so badly installed in these organizations that even a kid is checked and questioned when one wants to play in the public space (observed by the author).
- This is a case of top-down approach which merges with the privatisation of a public space.
- The “Infrastructure of Portugal” group clearly showed the authority one holds without even acknowledging other stakeholders such as the citizens and the municipality.
- If not for temporary interventions, people would never be able to use the public space as they wish to.

With all these points in mind, there are a few questions that we all as urban planners and designers need to ask ourselves:

1. Do we need this rigid top-down approach? This approach clearly seems to create public spaces but has no quality of it.

2. Do we need privatisation of public spaces?
3. Even if we need privatisation in order to maintain the space, how much authority should they really have?

4. Is privatisation a method with which one would stop people from using the public spaces as they wish?

5. Would we as planners and designers, like to use such spaces?

6. What is the future of such planning and the consequences on the citizens who have no freedom what so ever?

7. Are we ready to take this in our hands to change it for the better?

8. Is this an only example or could we identify various such spaces in Porto and elsewhere?

9. What is transparent about this whole top-down approach?

10. With privatisation, is it even valid to call it a public space anymore?

These questions need to be thought about and needs to be addressed within whatever capacity we have. The author disagrees with most of the approaches completely. Privatisation maybe helpful in order to maintain a space but the boundaries of their authority should be clearly stated. It is eventually the citizens who are going to use the space. Citizens need to be the focus for a public space and not the privatisation of it.

It is time that we as citizens take charge of our public spaces, our neighbourhood and our cities. These kinds of interventions would face reluctance and resistance but we have to pursue it hard enough to have a logical conclusion out of it. It is evident from the above case that when the space was being used by people with additional chairs (temporary intervention) there was a sudden reluctance for it. It was an immediate hesitancy to accept new and innovative techniques to use the public space. This makes it an important debate to be held in the future many a times ahead for this kind of reluctance to
go away. This kind of reluctance was also observed in The United States of America to reject temporary interventions when the movement first started. The reluctance was later gone with various governments and municipalities using it as a tool which could be useful for all. Hence, the author looks at this as a first step which could be followed by various more in order to make it a successful tool. The author is hopeful for a dialogue to be created in the community which could be spread across for the betterment of the people.
CONCLUSION

Looking at the methodology along with the analysis of the temporary intervention conducted there are various points that can be discussed in order to conclude the research work. This conclusion is later followed by suggestions which could help students and researches who intent to continue the belief in tactical urbanism as a tool. The conclusion is mainly divided in two aspects: theoretical and physical reality observed on the site.

Firstly discussing about the theoretical method, the author critically looks at the way the research was conducted. As stated in the methodology the author tried to test if survey questionnaire could be a new alternative instead of doing community meetings. Survey questionnaire could be useful by formal organisations to understand the needs of the residents. This survey questionnaire is a form of top-down approach where suggestions are taken by the residents. Survey questionnaire was unable to communicate the aim of using a public space as they wish to. The survey questionnaire was not an obvious choice but was a calculated decision made keeping the language barrier in mind. Hence, community meeting is the best form of uplifting residents and making them aware of the surroundings and what could be done to make it better until other forms of two way communication are tried and tested. Looking at the results of the temporary intervention, it could be said that the survey questionnaire was still somewhat similar to a top-down approach than a bottom-up one.

Another theoretical discussion generated is about the author trying to install some temporary intervention where opposed to other cases seen, the community made things happen with the support
of designers and activists but the community was the prime reason other initiatives were successful in other contexts. This again was kind of top-down approach as opposed to what was envisioned to achieve. Hence, tactical urbanism is a pure bottom-up initiative which might not be as successful if a government organisation is included. Thus strengthening the process which cannot be neglected otherwise it would not be the same in terms of results and impact. The author still believes that tactical urbanism (bottom-up approach) and a governmental organisation (top-down approach) can come to some kind of consensus but maybe not at the beginning of such movements. This common consensus can only be reached after the organizations realise the need which could only be achieved by residents doing interventions frequently to make them see the various attempts made by residents and others.

Along with this, we should also discuss the temporary nature that is often attached to tactical urbanism. As designers and planners, we should be optimistic and should try to create a better change which could be permanent in nature. How can we make it permanent as opposed to that of temporary? For this, a simple suggestion would be to repeat and show the benefits ample amount of times that it becomes normal for all which could then be perceived as permanent even without physically being there all the times. Hence, the research work has a start point but not an end. This approach of doing various interventions multiple times as discussed in the paragraph earlier will be the starting point of acceptance by the authorities to use tactical urbanism as a tool and will not be perceived only as a destructive method.

Now let us conclude some results observed in the section below. These conclusions are site specific and may not be the same for another site in Porto itself. Hence, tactical urbanism is a very site specific method. The first part of this is the site itself. It was observed in the analysis of the intervention that people didn’t respond very well to it. This is of concern. According to the author, the disapproval or the refusal of the intervention could be due to the huge area of the public space. This could be supported by the fact that very few people use the public space overall. There are not activities available or existing in the public space that would encourage and motivate people to use the public space. Hence, if the vastness of the public space is of concern then tactical urbanism should start and focus on small public spaces and should focus on more street level interventions and activities. The vastness of the space could also be the reason for people not actively participating in the intervention as their houses are far away and it might not have been easier to bring things to add to the temporary intervention. As talked a little bit about the islands in Porto, may be the islands and the streets are a better scale to start temporary interventions which could make people accustomed to changes and finally would give them the courage to take better decisions for vast public spaces as well.
Another big issue that was seen was the privatisation of the space. This is not a very rewarding part when it comes to temporary interventions where permissions have not been obtained or have not been given. Thus, when one would start with the islands nearby their houses or nearby streets there would not be this issue of privatisation encouraging and giving people the confidence to pursue it further at a larger scale.

As there have been no previous precedents for residents to comprehend or experience, the hesitance was clearly observed in the residents. This could be solved only by setting up more such precedents in terms of temporary initiatives along with community meetings. Temporary interventions could be much more successful and accepted by the residents if there were previous precedents. This calls for more initiatives by various non-governmental organisations and various designers and activists to carry forward temporary interventions along with the community to set precedents for residents from other parishes and cities. Talking about precedents, a major setback for the research may be the non-acceptance by the residents. This non-acceptance might be the result of not finding many faults or not being able to comprehend what tactical urbanism aims to achieve. Tactical urbanism started with the realisation amongst the communities to change the way public spaces and other spaces are being developed for other purposes and not in order to include and uplift all. There is a chance that maybe people in Portugal or Porto have not reached that realisation and saturation point where they have to take actions in their own hands. Below shown is an image which states the four trends that have helped increase the use of tactical urbanism interventions in Tactical Urbanism: Short-term action for long-term change by Mike Lydon and Anthony Garcia (2015).

![Fig. 27: Trends that increased the use of tactical urbanism interventions. (Lydon and Garcia, 2015)](image-url)
This non-acceptance of the tactical urbanism movement might also stem from the belief of the residents that public space is something that a city should provide and maintain without much community involvement.

Last reason for the intervention not being successful in terms of community participation could be the factor that the area of Campanhã is not overall a very well to do economic group. This could be seen from the elderly and young population in the area and also the fact that many of the youth residents are looking for jobs. Hence, tactical urbanism if started in areas where the economic group is middle class or upper-middle class could turn to be a successful intervention. This is not to demotivate people from lower economic group but there might be a possibility for them not to bring elements that they would wish to have in the public spaces.
The following suggestions are made after conducting the research work and may or may not apply to other site specific cases. The suggestions are in order to conduct better and thorough research ahead. These suggestions could also be seen as some kind of guidelines that could be followed to develop similar kind of research. These guidelines are inspired by the present research work.

The suggestions are as follows:

- Making residents realise what is the current scenario and showing them some precedents that would help them understand the topic much better.

- In order to have a community meeting with residents without much difficulty, it is suggested that a NGO working in the specific area of intervention or parish should be contacted and should be kept in loop from the beginning of the research work.

- This would be of great help especially if you cannot speak the native language but will also be helpful to make contacts and get trust of the residents. Most of the NGO’s spend huge amount of their time building trust with the residents. Hence, this should be used for research work.
• For the interventions to be purely bottom-up; community meetings and trust building exercise is very important. One should not contemplate that one community meeting would do the work. Various meetings might need to be set-up in order to keep people motivated and also for different ideas.

• At the time of community meetings some incentives should be given to people in order to encourage them for coming to other meetings as well. These incentives could be as small as a cup of tea or coffee for all with some cookies. The community meetings should be something people would like to attend because of the atmosphere of the space as well as the idea of making the public space better.

• During the research work, after there have been consensus amongst the residents, a researcher should only help in arranging the logistics of the intervention and should not be doing it directly. In order to get resources for low economic group of residents, various corporate companies could be contacted in advance. Most of the corporate companies have to fulfil a responsibility called the SCR (Socio cultural responsibility) where these corporate companies are supposed to use some of their profit for the benefit of the local people. Hence, these corporate companies will be able to help and could reduce the weight of expenses on the shoulder of the residents or that of the NGO’s.

• All these steps are important in order to keep the residents interested and actively participating.

• If a formal permission is not obtained, try to choose areas where there is least possibility of hindrance during the intervention. No vandalism should be caused to the existing infrastructure during or after the temporary infrastructure has been done. If some kind of vandalism is observed, it would create further reluctance from the central authorities making it much more difficult to carry other such interventions.

If no precedents have been observed or experienced before in the city, it might be more helpful to start with areas where people are more aware and concerned which would set an example for other areas in
the city. For example: the city centre of Porto is widely used by people coming from all areas and parishes. Hence, if one would start something there, people would observe which would make them much more acceptable when it might come to their areas.
REFERENCES


APPENDIX

Survey questionnaire in English

Survey Questionnaire:

This is a student work for her thesis. The thesis is trying to understand the usage of public spaces (parks, plazas, green spaces and other open spaces) in Campanhã. The student will examine the lack of activities and furniture which results in the low use of some public spaces and will do a temporary intervention for a day in order to document the changes.

Name: Age: Sex:
E-mail id:

1) Since how many years have you been living in Campanhã?

2) Do you like the public spaces in the area of Campanhã?

Yes Neutral No

3) Do you use the public space outside the Campanhã train station?

Yes Sometimes No

4) How often do you use the public space outside the Campanhã train station (in a week)?

Everyday 4-5 times 3 times 1-2 times Never

5) If no, why don’t you use that public space?

6) What is missing? What can be added (furniture or activities) in the public space to be used more by the locals and others?

7) Do you use the public space outside the Igreja do Bonfim?

Yes Sometimes No

8) How often do you use a public space outside the Igreja do Bonfim (in a week)?

Everyday 4-5 times 3 times 1-2 times Never

9) Why don’t you use that public space?
10) What is missing? What can be added (furniture or activities) in the public space to be used more by the locals and others?

11) The municipality of Porto has a rehabilitation plan for various green spaces in the area of Campanhã. Out of the four marked in the plan, which one would you use after the rehabilitation and why?
Survey questionnaire in Portuguese

Questionário:

Este questionário faz parte da tese de mestrado do estudante. O objetivo deste trabalho é tentar perceber com que frequência as pessoas usam o espaço público de Campanhã. O estudante vai tentar perceber quais as causas para a ausência de certas atividades e no final irá eleger um dia onde com ajuda deste questionário será criado um evento com algumas das ideias recolhidas.

Nome:  
Idade:  
Sexo:  
Email:  

1) Há quantos anos vive em Campanhã?

2) Gosta dos espaços publicos de Campanhã?
   Sim  Indiferente  Não

3) Usa o espaço público localizado em frente a estação da Campanhã?
   Sim  Algumas vezes  Não

4) Com que frequência usa este espaço? (num espaço de uma semana)
   Todos os dias  4-5 vezes  3 vezes  1-2 vezes  Nunca

5) Qual a razão para a sua não utilização?

6) O que falta? O que poderia ser acrescentado no espaço público de forma a que o público desse mais uso ao mesmo (atividades ou mobiliário urbano).

7) Usa espaço público em frente a igreja do Bonfim?
   Sim  Algumas vezes  Não

8) Com que frequência usa este espaço público (no espaço de uma semana)?
   Todos os Dias  4-5 vezes  3 vezes  1-2 vezes  Nunca

9) Qual a razão para a sua não utilização?
10) O que falta? O que poderia ser acrescentado no espaço público de forma a que o público desse mais uso ao mesmo (atividades ou mobiliário urbano).

11) A Câmara Municipal do Porto tem um projeto que visa a reabilitação de diversos espaços verdes assinalados no mapa. Dos 4 espaços assinalados, qual passaria a utilizar depois da sua reabilitação? E Porquê?

Estação de Campanhã
Flyers designed to distribute

DIY: Do it yourself
Bring whatever you wish to
the public space.

Date: 6th June, 2017
Place: Public space outside the train station of Campanha
Timing: 9 AM to 7 PM

DIY: Do it yourself
Bring whatever you wish to
the public space.

Date: 6th June, 2017
Place: Public space outside the train station of Campanha
Timing: 9 AM to 7 PM
Flyers designed to distribute Portuguese_A4
Usage of public space outside the train station (not to scale)
Street 1 _ West from the train station of Campanhã (not to scale)
Street 2_ South-west from the train station (not to scale)
<table>
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<th>Stay</th>
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