The recent ruins of Lisbon: exploring the emotions of abandonment

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The NoVOID’s inventory of ruins and vacant land in Lisbon
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• archive research (physical and virtual) – the genealogy of abandonment
• archaeology of contemporary past – photo recollection and inventory
• phenomenological methods and participant observation
• audio recording
• interviews

The NoVOID’s methodological approach
The case of AQUAPARQUE

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_1989: Inauguration of AQUAPARQUE.

_1993: 02 children disappear in the park. Frederico Duarte and Cristina Caldas died, sucked by the pipes of one of the pools that was without adequate protection.

_1997: The Municipality of Lisbon gives the right to use the company “Aventuras em Lisboa” for the installation of a new amusement park. The project is aborted some time later.

_2008-2013: The Municipality of Lisbon regains possession of Aquaparque and the Lisbon Administrative Court orders that the area returns to the Monsanto’s Forest Park.

_2017: The renaturalization is complete. A small playground is located close to the main facilities.

_2018: The beginning of the works for the installation of “Restelo Ecco Lab” – a public youth amusement equipment.

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The case of MATINHA gasworks
_1928-1934: Contract between the City Council of Lisbon and the Gas Company to change the location of the current gasworks of Belém. Selection of Quinta da Matinha as the future location.

_1938-1942: Works for plant installation - landfill and construction of structures

_1944: Inauguration of the New Gasworks plant


_1957: End of gas production from coal. Merger with Companhia SACOR and union with the Cabo Ruivo oil refinery | Beginning of decline

_1992: Lisbon is chosen to organize the "International Exhibition of 1998". The Cabo Ruivo Refinery is deactivated for the beginning of the works, but the area of the Matinha Gasworks is not part of the regeneration project.


_2005: Matinha’s Regeneration Project is prepared through a public urban design competition.

_2007: Demolition of part of the structures of the gasworks plant..

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