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House in Rua Faria Guimarães / Fala Atelier

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Blackbox / Form_art Architects

Architects

: [Fala Atelier](#)

Location

: Porto, [Portugal](#)

Design Team

: Filipe Magalhães, Ana Luisa Soares, Ahmed Belkhodja, Mariana Silva, Diogo Paixão, Paulo Sousa

Project Year

: 2016

Photographs

: [Ricardo Loureiro](#)

More Specs



From the architect. The old house was found in a sequence of equally discrete buildings from different periods of the 20th century. Built originally for a single family, and abandoned for decades, the brief proposed transforming the ruin into a housing unit with five apartments, responding to the accelerated gentrification process in the area.



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Serious Question: Do
Architects Learn Enough About
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Advanced Composites -
ShapeShell Freeform |
ShapeShell



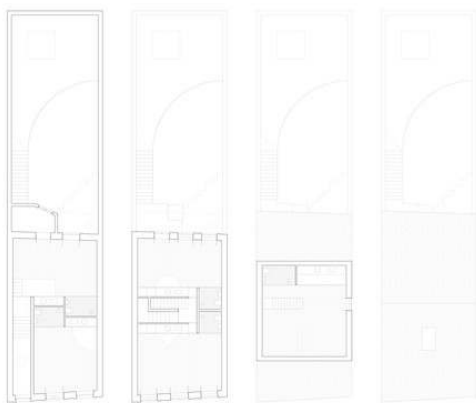
Doors - Integrated Folding
Doors | Centor



The perimeter of thick granite walls was preserved and the interior structure was completely refurbished, recurring only to light wood elements. The fragmented arrangement of small inner rooms was replaced with a sequence of almost identically dimensioned apartments.



In every unit, a modular wall of openable plywood panels was painted in a deep blue tone, concealing different functions: kitchens, bathrooms, cabinetry. Only upon a second look it is understandable the distinction between the five units: the consistent system and visual relation between the several apartments finds its contradiction in the necessary adaptation of its rhetorical rigidity to the geometry of the staircase, the existing windows, the form of the roof. In each studio, a piece of natural stone with a different form unbalances the apparently symmetrical inner elevations.



The street facade acts as a theatrical device with its unorthodox use of the traditional local tiles. Two double-doors with different colours suggest distinct hierarchies.



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Collage. Image Courte...



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Before. Image Courtes...



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Existing plan



Proposal plan



Axonometric

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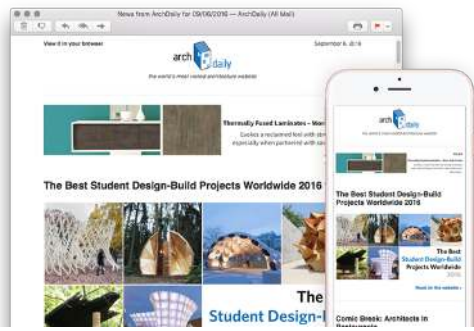
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