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The Urban Morphology of Braga between Late Antiquity and the

Fourteenth-Fifteenth centuries

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Abstract

This paper aims to approach the urban transformation processes occurring in the city of Braga

between Late Antiquity and the fourteenth-fifteenth centuries. Our approach is based upon

the cross-referencing of documental, iconographic and cartographic data with data emerging

from archaeological works conducted across the city throughout the last two decades.

Despite the scarcity in sources documenting the historical period under study, a similar

circumstance registered in other western European cities; new and emerging archaeological

data associated with a regressive analysis of available information for the forthcoming

centuries - documents, maps, plans and illustrations, have been contributing towards an

advance in the overall knowledge regarding the continuity and changing processes impacting

upon the bracarense urban area.

Thereby, our goal is to develop a synthesis work describing the major evolutionary stages

happening in Braga from the fifth to the fifteenth centuries and based upon an integrated

analysis of the architectonic markers, the morphology present in the urban setting, the

existing Christian topography, the defensive system and the main road network.