

## **Morphological research in planning, urban design and architecture**

**Vítor Olivera (ed.)**

The physical form of cities is structured in a number of elements of urban form. Each of these elements, and the way they are combined into distinct patterns, is shaped by different agents and processes of change. Planning, urban design and architecture are practice-oriented activities that have a significant impact on these elements. Yet, this 'action' on the physical form of cities tends to be separated from scientific 'knowledge' on this complex object. In fact, none of these activities is strongly related to urban morphology, the science of urban form. There are many reasons for this gap. One of the reasons is the lack of significant examples of how the bridging process can happen. The book addresses this issue. It gathers a number of cases, developed in the last years in different geographical contexts, that exemplify how to move from scientific research to professional practice. Each case(s) is(are) presented in one chapter. In general, each chapter is in two different parts. The first part presents the morphological view of his/her author(s) on the process of city building; the second part exemplifies how this reading is expressed into design.