

Multilayered historic towns as "memory"

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In every time the choice of urban sites has been affected by the features of places and by their potentialities and resources, namely it has led to come out some sites considered as appropriate par excellence. That fact, together with the long history of the Mediterranean context, has produced a strong stratification of urban areas. Besides many remains, the stratification of tissues and uses has caused complexity and difficulty in giving suitable space to the different evidences emerging in the course of time.

The new cultural and scientific approaches, which lead to not give up the current needs, drive to look for the way of joining past, present and future.

What distinguishes a historic centre from an archaeological area consists in its being a living urban area. This fact means that it cannot be considered as an area containing fragments of archaeological finds unrelated to the whole system of life.

I think that the problem of many historic areas should not be faced by combining the contexts according to their analogies, but by allowing contexts to realize the interventions necessary for assuring suitable systems of life to the users. It's a question of working out projects capable of conveying "memory", trying to realize a sort of traceability. The projects of intervention that involve historic areas should enhance the peculiarities of historic heritage and consequently the identity.

A hint could also issue from some projects regarding new subway in different European towns or other interventions of the underground Naples.

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