Abstract

Territori che cambiano. Riarticolazioni spaziali nel Biellese post-distrettuale

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Interpreting a territory also means shaping one’s design imagery. In those areas where, despite some radical changes, past territorial images are still heavy, both in terms of spatial organisation and people’s perception, a renewed interpretative action is necessary in order to frame new spaces for different projects.

Starting from this perspective, this work focuses on the Biellese area, which in the past was an important industrial district focused on textile production. The thesis tries to move away from the old and still heavy image that still rests on it. Through three, short and different glimpses towards the present:

– it questions what is left of the district, by arguing that only ‘one half’ of it still exists
– it observes some emerging phenomena, which break away from the previous image
– it seeks for spaces where small design intervention could nourish the new phenomena

Through these actions, the thesis does not endeavour to replace the old image with new, whole and round one. Rather, it attempts at softening it, by making the burden of the past lighter through a sensitive, yet persistent, observation of fine changes.

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