

Cultural Heritage and Urban Transformation

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ABSTRACT

Transformation from traditional manufacturing industry to other activities has from the 1980s taken place in several European cities, including Norwegian cities, and will probably continue in the years to come.

The paper discusses why culture, and in particular cultural heritage, are applied as strategies in urban transformation processes/place making processes. The paper also discusses local involvement, participation and forms of partnerships which are, or may, be applied in such processes.

It also discusses pitfalls and benefits of cultural strategies, and if such strategies may strengthen local identity and place attachment. The paper is based on Norwegian examples but will also relate to similar processes in other European countries as well as to literature on cultural planning and place making processes.

Key Words: culture, urban transformation