

O. Aristone e A.L. Palazzo, *Città storiche. Interventi per il riuso*, Milano, Edizioni del Sole 24 ore, 2000.

There is general agreement about historical centers as the strongest and liveliest parts of cities despite their sensitivity to any transformation.

Despite the ravages of time, they still stand thanks to flexibility in accommodating new uses in a given *Forma Urbis*. Hence, urban form incorporates both matters related to the arrangement of spatial elements and key issues in achieving particular goals related to life experiences.

The book maps out some of the fundamental connections between methodological approaches, analytical, legal and technical tools and rehabilitation and regeneration of practical experiences within the historical city.

Reuse practices performed in a wide selection of case studies highlight two fundamental tendencies.

The former has its roots in urban planning tradition and in a wide range of codified knowledge, the latter tends to shape goals and objectives within the allusive dimension of the urban design.

Both approaches need to promote a different working style, prompting a new attitude towards governance schemes and decision-making processes.

They require flexibility, even when managing issues referring to a regulatory tradition, such as zoning, or urban real estate practices.