Recovery of Iconic Places the Importance of Placemaking in Town Planning

Dr. Marta Pieczara
Institute of Architecture and Planning
Poznan University of Technology
Poznan, Poland

***Abstract*— A response to the crisis of civic architecture in the postwar period, the placemaking aims at reconciling man with his community and his city. Nowadays, creating such places is still needed to support formation of the modern civil society. To understand the process of designing unique places, it is particularly useful analyze some of the successful placemaking projects which do adapt former industrial sites to a new cultural function and which can sometimes be referred to as recovering of iconic places, giving a new life to the historically important places. This is, for example, the case of placing the European Solidarity Centre on the grounds of the famous Gdańsk Shipyard or reusing a vast area of a former coal mine to raise a modern cultural district in the city of Katowice. To create these unique places, as the analysis proves, the architects have taken into account the indications originating from the site analysis and have incorporated them into the design, balancing them with contemporary architectural and technological solutions. Derived from the character of their particular locations, the unique places are not only public spaces, but can sometimes become icons for the local society.**

***Index Terms*—place-form, placemaking, public space, town planning, architectural design.**

IJARE