

Abstract

This work consists in the representation of the historical city of Évora, through this visual language there will be an exploration of the concept of mental image that individuals have of this urban space.

This photographic representation will be developed and based on the work of Kevin Lynch carried through with the integration of the language of the city. This work gave way to the publishing of a book of the same topic. In this book, the urbanist and American architect develops throughout several years, in the North American cities of Boston, Jersey City and Los Angeles, various studies about how individuals understand space architecture and especially what kind of perspective these individuals have on these urban environment and also how they absorb information that is transmitted to them through these environments.

For the author this information reaches the individual mentally through his senses. These same senses are stimulated, because of the existence of certain objects in this same environment, or part of these that have strong characteristics, which make the individuals enhance these characteristics in a spontaneous form, mentally carrying out a representation of space or parts of, in which Lynch names this phenomenon as Mental Image.

The main objective of this work is to understand and identify, with the pre-intuition of photographing, the elements which form the city of Évora, with such strong characteristics that stay with the individual, leading them to create a mental image of this city.

Although there have been various studies carried out within the same scope of this city, with reference to the work carried out by the Planning Department of Biofísica and Landscapes of the University of Évora, there has not been one until today that coincides both forms of work, the method used in Lynch's investigation in *The Image of a City* and the consequent materialism of the same analyses, carried out through photography.

As Évora is a one of a kind and monumental city, linked through time and landscape of various people that marked it not only historical but also architecturally, and with this work, the main objective is to make this urban space known materializing the mental representation that the villagers have of the same, enhancing the elements considered primary in the urban space through photography.