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Urban Change Over Time

The Photographic Observation of Schlieren 2005–2020 Reveals How Switzerland Is Changing

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- ***Urban Change Over Time*** is the most comprehensive photographic study of urban development in German-speaking Europe to date
- This unique image archive demonstrates how urbanisation processes affect local residents' habitats
- Visualises continuous spatial changes that are not immediately perceptible in everyday life
- This two-volume set features some 700 previously unpublished colour photographs taken over the research period 2005–20, supplemented with essays, analyses and interpretations, and maps

The long-term Photographic Observation Schlieren is a much-recognised unique research project that documents urban development in Switzerland. Over a period of 15 years, a photographic record of building activity and urbanisation processes was conducted to demonstrate how these are altering the character of a typical Swiss suburban community. The chosen example was the town of Schlieren, bordering the city of Zurich to the west, whose population grew from 13,000 to 20,000 residents during the observation period of 2005–20. At 63 locations throughout Schlieren, pictures were taken under identical conditions every two years that show the changes in the spatial interplay of buildings, streets, and green spaces. Simultaneously, series of topical detailed photographs were produced that focus on individual objects and tell of the appropriation, design, and aesthetics of habitats, such as store fronts, building entrances, playgrounds, parking entrances, etc.

This two-volume set brings together the results of this spectacular research. The Archive volume features the entire body of the eight images taken at each of the 63 sites to visualise the deep changes Schlieren has undergone during these 15 years. The Essays volume combines the topical image series with essays that offer in-depth examination of the study's subject, detailed analyses and interpretations, and interviews by expert authors from various disciplines.

Meret Wandeler is a Zurich-based photographer and artist who has conducted several artistic research projects on spatial development in Switzerland. **Ulrich Görlich** is an artist and former head of the Master of Fine Arts program at Zurich University of the Art ZHdK. **Caspar Schärer** is a Zurich-based architect and writer who also serves as secretary general of the Federation of Swiss Architects (BSA).

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