

The Cornish Alps: Re-Presenting Space, Place & Memory

This chapter is focused on how participatory practice can be used to engage communities. It will investigate the work and challenges associated with using photography as a tool for enquiring into the relationship between people and place through a process of representation.

Through community based workshops and photographic assignments participants presented their memories, their lives and the places where they live using digital photography. Implicit in the stories they told, the series of images they produced and the responses they gave is a social history, which is centred on the clay mining areas in Cornwall and also a personal history. By examining how the participants have developed and modified their vision of the world around them this chapter will seek to identify whether and how the creative practice of photography can be used as a research tool and how the relationship between the real exterior space and the space of memories and stories comes together in the form of the image. Ultimately asking whether the photograph can facilitate not only personal reflection but also intersubjective encounters through which new meanings can be formed collectively.