

Pordenone, Piazza Risorgimento

Piazza Risorgimento is located in the immediate vicinity of the historic centre, in an area between Viale Dante (traced in 1938-39 as a ring road in the city) and Via Santa Caterina, once a land owned by the Cossettis who had a villa and farmhouse there. It was conceived by Ezio Cerutti (1911-1990) who in 1955 was called by the public administration to carry out the draft of the Town Plan. In the square, in addition to the usual residential functions, numerous offices were installed, including the INPS, INA, INAIL, the Land Registry, the Post Office and the headquarters of the Province and the terminus of the city's courier lines was also placed. The project was supposed to transform this space into an important gateway to the city and represent the transformations of the new socio-economic course of the first post-war period. The urban design of Cerutti, from Milan and of rationalist faith, is strongly influenced by a certain monumentalism, linked to experiences of designing large urban spaces. In the Pordenone context, the dimensions delineated by his design end up translating into a space that is not very consistent with the real dimensions of the city. In the years following its construction, piazza Risorgimento began a slow and progressive decline. Between 1994 and 1995 the square was modernized and embellished thanks to the interventions promoted by the Municipality. In 2005 it was decided to change the direction of travel of the roads delimiting it and in April 2008 the Administration transferred the bus terminus to the new terminal adjacent to the railway station. This change has created the conditions to concretely rethink the layout of the square and to be able to reinterpret it in relation to the real needs of the contemporary world. Today Piazza Risorgimento, thanks to initiatives promoted by the public administration and associations formed by residents and retailers, has been transformed into a welcoming and pleasant meeting point for all citizens of Pordenone.

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