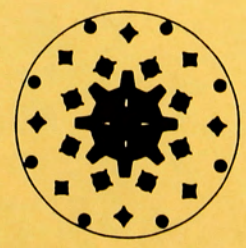
PLANNING HISTORY

BULLETIN OF THE INTERNATIONAL PLANNING HISTORY SOCIETY



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EDITORIAL

PETER J. LARKHAM, UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL ENGLAND

There are several key things to celebrate in this issue of *Planning History*. One is that this year marks the 25th anniversary of the founding meeting of the then Planning History Group, held at the University of Birmingham. It is sad, though, that we are marking this event in the absence of the one person who put most of his efforts and personality into encouraging the scholarly study of planning history - Gordon Cherry. However, a number of those present at that meeting 25 years ago are still with us. According to Jeremy Whitehand, the meeting began with the words "I think we're about ready then ...". Some of these founder members have agreed to celebrate the occasion in print in this volume of *Planning History*.

Another thing to celebrate - I believe - is that this can now truly be described as a 'peer-reviewed' journal. Every paper published has been reviewed by at least one person in addition to the Editor; and this has resulted in constructive and helpful suggestions being made to the authors in most cases. (At least, the intention is that these are constructive and helpful!) It has also resulted in the suggestion in several cases that the material submitted is not yet at a state where we can publish it. Interestingly, the standards of some reviewers are extremely high: I do sometimes have to balance their comments with the realisation that this is not a mainstream academic refereed journal. Nevertheless, this is a welcome mechanism for improving the quality of published papers. I am very grateful to members of the Editorial Board and to other colleagues, including Dr Ian Dickins and Professor John Gold, for their help in peer reviewing over the last year.

As ever, though, I would welcome the submission of papers, research notes, book reviews, conference reports and other relevant material!

Twenty-five years of planning history

DENNIS HARDY, MIDDLESEX UNIVERSITY

Although not a natural collector of things, I do possess a complete set of *Planning History* from 1979, when a bulletin replaced the original newsletter. This archive alone reveals something of the nature of change in the organisation's first 25 years.

For one thing, the content of these publications demonstrates a broadening international perspective. The Planning History Group, as it was at the outset, started in a small way with a largely British membership, though the foresight of Gordon Cherry and Anthony Sutcliffe in mounting what has become a notable programme of international conferences, soon secured this widening perspective. Another change can be seen in the way in which the organisation has represented itself, first through a newsletter, then a bulletin and now a professionally-produced journal with articles of high quality. Fortunately, throughout this process of evolution, each issue retains a much-valued source of information on planning history research, conferences and other events worldwide. Finally, in its quarter of a century, the focus of attention has embraced a more recent sweep of history; at the time of its inception, the 1940s represented an unwritten limit of interest, but it is legitimate now to review the subject in subsequent decades.

There is something reassuring about membership of this organisation. It deals sensibly with a subject that can still be regarded as esoteric by others, and the organisation is run on simple, non-bureaucratic lines, without the pomposity and politics that bedevil other bodies. Few would disagree that the tone of the organisation, as well as its success in other ways, is a legacy of the work of Gordon Cherry - to whom this anniversary might most appropriately be dedicated.

NOTICES

FIFTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON URBAN HISTORY IN BERLIN (August 31 - September 2, 2000)

Call for proposals of sessions (deadline 1st January 1999)

Under the title "European Cities Networks and Crossroads", the fifth International Conference on Urban History will be held in Berlin from August 31 to September 9, 2000. As with previous conferences such as that recently held in Venice, with about 300 participants, it will provide a forum for historians as well as sociologists, architects and urban planners who are working with historical perspectives. The title of the conference sets a framework which covers a wide range of topics from the medieval period up to the 20th century. Special interest will be given to comparative reflections on urban development in Eastern and Western Europe.

For the first stage we are asking for chair persons to organize sessions. There will be Main Sessions (10 papers maximum) and Specialist Sessions (5 papers maximum). All offers of a session will be considered.

The final selection will be made by the International Committee of the European Association of Urban Historians, by the end of February 1999.

Please send your proposals and a one-page description of the planned session to the programme chair (address below) before 1st January 1999.

The conference will be held at the Technical University of Berlin, located in the centre of the city. The official languages of the conference will be English and French.

For further information see the website
http://eauh2000.tu-berlin.de

Proposals for sessions should be sent to the Programme chairs:

Prof. Dr. Heinz Reif and Stefan Malinowski, MA
Technische Universität Berlin
Institut für Geschichts-wissenschaft / TEL 17-3 - EAUH2000 Ernst-Reuter-Platz 7
D-10587 Berlin

Tel: 49/30/314-26982 or -23867
Fax: 49/30/314-79438
E-mail: malihieh@linux.zrz.tu-berlin.de or reifnada@sp.zrz. tu-berlin.de

(Editor's note: although this notice reached us after the last issue was posted and the deadline has passed, members interested should still contact the organisers.)

NATURE, LANDSCAPE AND PEOPLE SINCE THE SECOND WORLD WAR: A CELEBRATION OF THE 1949 ACT

A conference organised by the Royal Society of Edinburgh in association with the Institute for Environmental History, University of St Andrews. The conference will explore some issues surrounding the 1949 National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act, including:

- How did the Act come about?
- How have its functions been modified by changing social, economic and political trends?
- What have been the impacts of changes in perception and of developments in science?
- What of the future?

The conference will be held on 23-25 June 1999 and includes an all-day field visit to Loch Lomond and the Trossachs.

Further details from 'Nature Landscape', The Meetings Office, The Royal Society of Edinburgh, 22-26 George Street, Edinburgh, EH2 2PQ.
Tel: 0131 240 5000
Fax: 0131 240 5025
E-mail: meetings@rse.org.uk

NOTICES

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF CITY AND REGIONAL PLANNERS 35th CONGRESS: THE FUTURE OF INDUSTRIAL REGIONS

This conference will be held in the Ruhr and will explore issues including the re-use of former industrial land and its contribution to the concept of 'sustainability'. There will be a historical dimension, for example in the exploration of case studies. The Congress will include the 3rd Biennial of Towns and Town Planners in Europe; and there will be both Pre-Congress and Post-Congress Tours.

For details contact: Judy van Hemert, Executive Secretary, ISOCARP, Mauritskade 23 / NL 25 10 HD, Den Haag, Netherlands.
Fax: 31 70 361 79 09.
E-mail: isocarp@bart.nl

ISOCARP *International Manual of Planning Practice*

ISOCARP has published a three-volume Manual, edited by Adriana Dal Cin and Derek Lyddon, covering planning practice in 61 countries (so far - this is a continuing project). The price of the three-volume set is $85 to members, $105 to non-members (postage extra). ISOCARP also publishes Proceedings from its Annual Congresses. Contact ISOCARP at the address immediately above.

IPHS Council

Omitted from the listing on p. 6 of the last issue were those Council members already in post (serving from 1997 to 2000).

Professor Eugenie L. Birch (University of Pennsylvania, USA)
Professor Jeffry M. Diefendorf (University of New Hampshire, USA)
Dr Michael Harrison (University of Central England, UK)
Dr Michael Lang (Rutgers University, New Jersey, USA)
Professor Helen Meller (University of Nottingham, UK)
Professor John Muller (University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa)
Professor Peter J. Smith (University of Alberta, Canada)
Professor Anthony Sutcliffe (Special Professor, University of Nottingham, UK)
Professor Shun-Ichi J. Watanabe (Science University of Tokyo, Japan)
Professor William H. Wilson (University of North Texas, USA)
Professor Theresa Zarebska (Warsaw University of Technology, Poland)

Dr Joe Nasr (American University of Beiruit) should be added to the list of Council members in office 1999-2002 (co-opted).

Urban History Association: competitions for scholarly distinction

The 1997 competition
The Association has released the results of its competitions for 1997:

Best doctoral dissertation in urban history, 1997: Mark Tebeau, *Eating smoke: masculinity, technology and the politics of urbanization, 1850-1950* (Carnegie Mellon University). Dr Tebeau is Visiting Assistant Professor of History at Carnegie Mellon.

Best book, North American urban history, 1997: Amy Bridges, *Morning Glories: Municipal Reporm in the Southwest* Princeton University Press. Amy Bridges is Professor of Political Science and Adjunct Professor of History at the University of California at San Diego.

Best journal article in urban history, 1997: Mary Corbin Sies, 'Paradise regained: an analysis of persistence in planned, exclusive suburbs', *Planning Persepctives* vol. 12 pp. 165-191. The author is Associate Professor of American Studies at the University of Maryland at College Park.

10th annual competition
During 1999, the Urban History Association is conducting its tenth annual round of prize competitions for scholarly distinction. The categories are as follows.

NOTICES

1. Best doctoral dissertation in urban history, without geographic restriction, completed during 1998.

2. Best book, North American urban history, published during 1998 (edited volumes not eligible).

3. Best book, non-North American urban history, published during 1998 (edited volumes not eligible).

4. Best journal article in urban history, without geographic restriction, with date of publication listed as 1998.

The deadline for receipt of submissions is June 15, 1999.

To obtain further information about procedures for submissions, please contact Professor Patricia Evridge Hill, Department of Social Science, San Jose State University, San Jose, CA 95192-0121, United States. Do NOT send any submissions to Professor Hill.

A welcome to new IPHS members

New members joining since the last issue include:

Nabil Aby-Dayyeh
Department of Architecture
University of Jordan
PO Box 9087
Amman 11191
Jordan
Tel: +962 6 535 5000 x2728
Fax: +962 6 463 2660
E-mail: abudayye@fet.ju.edu.jo / abudayye@index.com.jo

Nihal Perera
Department of Urban Planning
College of Architecture and Planning
Ball State University
Muncie
Indiana 47306
United States

Tel: +1 765 285 8606
Fax: +1 765 285 2648
E-mail: OOmnperera@bsuvc.bsu.edu

CORRECTION: Ebenezer Howard drawings

The e-mail address printed on page 45 of the previous edition, for those interested in acquiring slides of Howard's original hand-drawn diagrams, was incorrect. It should be:

kate.thompson@hertscc.gov.uk

(Thanks to several readers for pointing this out.)

Mervyn Miller points out that that 40 inquiries have been received so far, mainly from the US. The slide packs, containing 15 slides, have been costed at £20 (plus VAT for UK purchasers).

There is still time for anyone interested to contact Kate Thompson.

European Visual Archive

The European Commission is funding a new project "to exploit new technology to open up the photographic archives of two European cities, Antwerp and London, which will create a framework for easy access to other photographic collections in the future".

For further details check the website at www.eva-eu.org/

Inch's Books: new address

Inch's Books, the well-known dealer in second-hand planning and architecture books, have moved -

Inch's Books
13 Castlegate
Malton
North Yorkshire
YO17 7DP, UK

Tel: +44 (0) 1653 690077
Fax: +44 (0) 1653 691100
E-mail: inchs.books@dial.pipex.com
Website: http://dspace.dial.pipex.com/inchs.books

THE DEVELOPING CAREER AND THOUGHTS OF JAN OLAF CHMIELEWSKI

ADAM KOTARBIŃSKI
Puszczyka 17/19 m 33, 02-785 Warszawa, Poland
(formerly Scientific Secretary of the Committee of Architecture and Town Planning of the Polish Academy of Sciences)

Revised manuscript accepted for publication 10 October 1998

This paper explores the career and ideas of a key Polish planner, Jan Olaf Chmielewski. He played a major part in the development of planning ideas and practice in Poland from the wartime years onwards; some of his concepts are still relevant today.

Career and Development

Jan Chmielewski was a man of many parts and led an unusually active and eventful life. His personality and achievements have been described at length by several authors in *The Beginnings of Physical Planning in Poland*,[1] to which interested readers are referred. However, this publication is not an extensive account of Chmielewski's life and achievements. The source materials still require conservation and further research.

Jan Chmielewski was born on 8 February 1895 in Nizhny Novgorod. From early childhood he showed certain specific interests: cultivating small gardens and transforming them into model landscapes. In 1908, Olaf and his widowed mother moved to Warsaw. In 1913, he graduated from the Edward Rontaler secondary school and begun studying at Wawelberg and Rotwand Technology and Mechanics College. His studies were interrupted by the outbreak of the First World War, from which he emerged with the naval rank of Captain. He resumed his studies in 1918, this time at the Civil Engineering Faculty of Warsaw University of Technology. He later moved to the Architecture Faculty, where he became Professor Oskar Sosnowski's assistant. Pulmonary disease forced him to spend much time in the mountains. He used this as an opportunity to conduct intensive studies of the Tatra and Podtatrze region. He continued these studies with various academic institutions, and these regions became the permanent subject of his observations, preoccupations and numerous expressions of opinion.[2]

In 1930, Chmielewski obtained a university diploma in town and country planning. His is the first Polish thesis on the subject, and it describes Zakopane as the main link in the resort belt from Witow to Bukowina in Podhale.[3] The thesis enabled him to obtain the post of Head of the Town Planning Section in the Warsaw Town Planning Office, which was established in the same year under the Directorship of Stanisław Różański. Here he came into contact with the leading urban planners working in the Warsaw region. In co-operation with Szymon Syrkus and others, Chmielewski presented 'Functional Warsaw' at the International Congress of Modern Architecture (CIAM) in 1934. The presentation turned out to be a great success, and placed Polish town planning ideas in a leading world position. It also exerted a significant influence on the future town planning of Warsaw and its development areas.[4]

Also in 1934, Chmielewski became Assistant Professor at the Urban Planning Studio managed by Professor Tadeusz Tolwiński at the Faculty of Architecture. Chmielewski then joined a group working towards establishing the Highlands Association. This organization was to co-ordinate two regional planning offices for Podhale/Beskid Zachodni and Huculszczyzna.[5] After the reorganisation, these offices and the Association effectively became small-scale models of the National Planning Office,[6] which was set up in 1936 in the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister as a research unit for national planning, run by Stanisław Malessa. Chmielewski also became the chief consultant of the Highland and Coastal Areas Planning Committee and of the Regional Planning Office for Podhale and Beskid Zachodni. He took charge of the Warsaw Region Planning Office[7] where, *inter alia*, he undertook the design of a new city centre district known as Marszałkowska.[8]

Soon after the outbreak of the Second World War, he joined a clandestine organisation continuing the task of planning the urban development of Warsaw under the auspices of the Warsaw Building Society. He prepared studies and plans for the Rakowiec district and the so-called Western Suppliers' District.[9] In 1944 he obtained a doctorate with a thesis on *Dynamic Trends in the Physical Development Plan of Warsaw*[10] (recognised after the war in 1952). His concept of the East-West Warsaw Thoroughfare also originated in 1944.[11] Chmielewski actively participated in the work of the Municipal Government Urban Planning Section, where some issues were dealt with overtly, for example zones of close Warsaw influence, and some clandestinely, such as research on land and towns which were to be regained after defeating the aggressor. Chmielewski did not, however, succeed in avoiding persecution: there followed arrest, the Pawiak prison, Majdanek concentration camp from which he fled, the Warsaw Uprising, and exile.

In 1945 there was a radical change of system, which opened the prospect of the realisation of Jan Chmielewski's ideas in a completely new context. He became the head of the Urban Planning Section at the Warsaw Reconstruction Office; but after only a couple of months he was appointed a Vice-President of the Main Town and Country Planning Office. In 1947 the *Initial Concept of a National Plan* was presented.[12] Regional town and country planning offices were thriving. The frameworks for the big task of planning were being born. Unfortunately, these turned out to be delusions.

During the post-war transformation period, Chmielewski made a decision to serve his country as best he could, even though he had to conform to the new political situation. However, in 1947 his party membership (PZPR: the Polish United Labour Party) did not give him sufficient influence to prevent the destruction of the town and country planning system. The Main Town and Country Planning Office was closed. What remained of local planning became subordinate to the domain of construction; regional planning remained under the hegemony of central economic planning, and national town and country planning was abolished (not to reappear for many years).

Chmielewski did not surrender. After this bitter disappointment, he continued his fight for macro-spatial planning wherever he could. In 1947, he became the Director of the Physical Planning Institute of the Faculty of Architecture at Warsaw University of Technology and, in the following year, Deputy Director of the postgraduate Department of Physical Planning - of which he became Director in 1960. This gave him some opportunity to practice macro-spatial planning as part of the university curriculum. *Inter alia*, some student projects under his supervision were on health resort planning (he returned to this theme later).

In 1949, he was nominated as Assistant Professor and, in 1965, Professor at Warsaw University of Technology. However teaching, in the academic sense, was not the best medium for his interests and talents. Admittedly, he was interested in curricula and their relationship to the practical needs of physical planning;[13] but he was also deeply convinced that he should contribute more to real processes of physical planning. He therefore sought outlets for his ideas outside the academic world.

In this context, Chmielewski was the main instigator of the foundation of the

Committee for National Spatial Development at the Polish Academy of Sciences in 1958. However, this was an academic institution which, although developing important and valuable work, was not willing to engage in practical planning, limiting its activities to research, and presenting opinions and scientific advice.

In 1949, Chmielewski had been appointed Head of the Spatial Systems Division (which dealt with theoretical issues) at the Institute of Urban Planning and Architecture. This was a promising new research unit; however, it was not even given time to build up its staff before it was incorporated into the Division of Green Areas and Macro-spatial Systems. Prior to 1958, the unit managed to issue some publications on the development of the Tatra and Podtatrze region, issues of town and country planning as a separate discipline, water management and nature conservation in Poland.[14] Chmielewski's work in the unit eventually ceased as he invested his efforts elsewhere.

In 1958, he established the Fundamentals of Macro-spatial Planning Studio in the Department of Agriculture and Forestry at the Polish Academy of Sciences, known as '5P-PAN' for short, but also known as the 'Ghosts' Studio'.[15] This unusual name originates from the manner in which the studio was set up, which seems almost incredible today. Chmielewski was its head on an unpaid basis, and all his colleagues worked without contracts and co-operated with the unit simply from interest in the research and practical applications of the research results. The Polish Academy of Sciences subsidised the research, which was carried out in a small room made available at no cost by the Central Board of Polish Health Resorts. The 'Ghosts' Studio', not without some success, tried to carry out research on solving the problems of Polish water management.[16]

Chmielewski had long dreamed of accomplishing two great tasks of Polish macro-spatial planning in this field: retention of water flowing uselessly down to the Baltic, and the creation of waterway systems - especially of the Vistula, Bug and Odra rivers - because, in his opinion, rivers in Poland constituted a 'water traffic jam' in Central Europe. The unit also concentrated its research on the planning of health resorts, especially those where one could recuperate, and on environmental planning; the assets of which Jan Chmielewski was outstandingly able to recognize, appreciate, respect and put to good account.[17]

Another attempt by Chmielewski to establish a research unit is also worth mentioning. This was the National Urban Development Studio, which was set up in 1962 at the Intercollegiate Department of Basic Issues in Architecture, Urban Studies and Building, directed by Professor Bohdan Pniewski. Within a couple of years of its foundation, the Department had issued some publications reflecting Chmielewski's intentions and influence, but it disappeared in the reorganisation of research and teaching carried out at that time.[18]

One cannot fail to notice the paradox in Jan Chmielewski's career. On the one hand, his knowledge and expertise was recognised and appreciated. In the years 1949-1952, after the collapse of the seemingly wonderful future for macro-planning, he was offered an advisory post on the National Economic Planning Committee. He held similar posts in various institutions throughout his active professional life - as an adviser, consultant, expert and so on; and numerous existing documents give some account of these posts. On the other hand, no effort was ever made to guarantee that this outstanding man had a permanent and adequately-equipped workplace for his teaching and practically-applied research work, and this seems to be an unforgivable error in the application of human resources.

To the end of his life, Chmielewski had been attempting to find a suitable place for physical planning in the national economy,[19] meeting on his way few long-lasting allies and persevering colleagues. Instead, he had to face much ignorance, especially among those who were responsible for decision making.

Jan Chmielewski died on 1 December 1974 in Warsaw.

Appraising his influence: planning history and contemporary issues

Fifty years ago, in Vol. 2 of the *Bulletin of the Polish Urban Planners' Society in the United Kingdom*, a group of Polish urban planners who had been blown by the winds of war to the British Isles, wrote the following:

"We can distinguish a number of clearly defined and differing developmental stages of [the] urban planning of Warsaw. However, each of them was closely related to contemporary ideology, views and planning methods. In a sense we can talk about [the] juxtaposition of contrasting epochs in the urban planning in Warsaw".[20]

This is true not only then, and not only in Warsaw. We are currently in a so-called transitional period in Poland, in which urban planners are divided as to their general outlook and draw different, often opposing, conclusions about town and country planning. The reforms, begun in 1989 in an atmosphere of campaigning against a planned economy and central planning in particular, did not make any positive contribution to physical planning. Planning found itself in a situation where it was evolving from absolute destruction to the gradual formation of systemic solutions, at a time when the central government organisation was being transformed and decentralised; decision making powers and economic resources were being shifted downwards; and, at the same time, strong self-government was being developed and shuttled upwards to higher levels of territorial organization. In this complicated process, the thoughts of Jan Chmielewski, preserved in his writings and actions, need to be revived and updated, and adapted to the changes now being introduced.

Chmielewski did not leave behind any written work that presented a unified and coherent statement of physical planning principles. A bibliography of his works contains a dozen or so publications with methodological implications, sometimes even indicated in the title.[21] His methodological propositions result from his practical experience. Such experience was not the result of attempts to adapt practical solutions to *a priori* doctrinal assumptions, but provide the material for methodological generalisations.

In this respect, Chmielewski's argument entirely reflects current praxeological research directed towards meta-methodology, which is the highest layer of generalisation derived by a process of synthesis from practice in many areas. His language is not easy, and the terminology found in many pieces of his work needs to be adapted to contemporary literature. Nevertheless some of his expressions, such as 'continuous synthesis, insulating or recuperation' are worth preserving. Contemporary interpretation of his works permits the deduction that Chmielewski persevered in advocating systematic physical planning. This, above all, should be applied to the treatment of the object planned, i.e. physical space in its material structure, but also to the institutions responsible for creating and maintaining it.

Such an interpretation of Chmielewski's argument allows various ways of interpreting what constitutes the public good from the point of view of different hierarchies of values. At the same time, however, there are limitations. It calls for planning to be integrated with social, economic and spatial issues. Advocating this integration, Chmielewski realised that there are problems of co-operation between planning and these other disciplines; and social and economic matters have commonly been regarded as being the more important. In the time of the Polish People's Republic, physical planning was subordinated to social and economic policies; nowadays the situation is even worse. We should thus continue our fight for a proper place for physical planning in the integrated economic system that we demanded.

It was typical of Chmielewski to apply the method of gradual approximations. For didactic purposes, he liked to demonstrate the sequence of ideogram - scheme - plan. The 'ideogram' has nothing in common with ideological indoctrination, so eagerly condemned these days. An ideogram is a reflection of the structure of an object without incidental distortion; the structure that is more closely related to the object than to other ideal structures. A 'scheme' includes

unavoidable distortions in any given case, but it is still a long way from being a 'plan' (today we would say "from being a design", according to the praxeological suggestion that the term 'plan' should only be applied to such designs that fulfil all construction requirements). The 'plan' is the final product of the planning sequence.

Plans, in various dimensions, are co-ordinated components of the planned area landscape. Chmielewski says that one must learn to view an area as it would look from different heights. The higher one is, the less clear are the details and the more distinct are the outlines that one cannot comprehend while on the ground. The higher one is, the easier it is to perceive the interdependence of the area to be planned and its environment; and hence properly to understand the continuum of the physical area. We all know how difficult it is to frame in a landscape a certain entity without cutting across some of its elements; the geographical environment is complex. We therefore oppose the planning of separate areas in isolation, without consideration of everything that lies beyond the borders of such areas. We demand the taking into consideration of everything; that is, to use contemporary terms, at the input and output of a set.

Rational conservation of the continuum of a physical area requires constant exchange of information about its structure; information going from bottom to top and from top to bottom, from local dimensions and details to macro-spatial ones and back. From the methodological point of view, the interdependence of plans is just like that: from superior to inferior and *vice versa*. This should also be reflected in co-operation between various teams engaged in the preparation of plans. Chmielewski called it 'continuous synthesis'.

What, then, we can learn from Jan Chmielewski is, above all, careful observation, which grows more profound with increasing experience, and enables us to see things and events together with their complex interdependencies. This requires us to pay a great deal of attention to the organisation of proper monitoring, using modern research technology and computer science. Given the state of organisation of physical planning that we have now, this seems Utopian.

Monitoring, obviously, should take into consideration that, and only that, which is indispensable in a given planning task. Only the pieces of information vital to the task are incorporated into the process of co-ordination. It is nothing less than the building of a task-orientated diagnostic model which will serve as a basis for the design model; which, after suitable authorization, will become a plan. However, nowadays when there are so many competing hierarchies of values, all of the essential aspects of town planning are often not taken into consideration. Even worse, matters which do not fall within the scope of one's particular interest are often ignored. Such simplifications are often applied in attempts to attract investors. For some time now in Poland at least, priority has been given to those features of the model that are easily measured, neglecting those more difficult to estimate. Hence physical planning has become subordinated to finance. The present and future shape of space - where specialists in urban and physical planning have reasonable grounds for claiming to have the greatest competence - is neglected.

Conclusion

Chmielewski said that we must, above all, be able to observe in reality the functions reflected in the model. Furthermore, we must be able to imagine the functions of future spatial systems that we are attempting to create. Chmielewski's functionalism is as little and as much as the co-ordination of different sorts of functions and subordinating them to the leading one selected for the given area.

In Poland, the application of this principle has been dominated by one issue: who had the authority and responsibility to perceive that which should be perceived - who were the decision-makers? The decentralisation of decision-making power which resulted in the shifting of authority down to the *gmina* level made it unclear as to who was supposed to perceive what matters in large schemes, including those that extend beyond the *gmina* border. As a result, the

achievements of leading Polish spatial planners, who fought for global planning, have been neglected.

Jan Chmielewski aimed at the gradual introduction of larger scale physical planning, and it was probably he who coined the term 'macro-spatial planning'. He tried to convince whoever he could about the necessity of such planning, realising how quickly the need for co-operation on macro-scale matters would arise in many fields, and how slowly common sense would follow.

Future research

A number of themes would benefit from further detailed analysis, exploring the heritage of Jan Chmielewski's own professional work, writing and teaching, and how these issues have developed to the present day. They include the following.

Macro-spatial planning - in relation to Chmielewski's pre-war achievements, the situation in the first years of the Polish People's Republic, his later most important plans and work, and the then current physical planning law.

Warsaw and its region - in relation to 'Functional Warsaw' (1934) and contemporary studies on metropolitan Warsaw, to the current operative urban plan of the capital.

The Tatras and Podtatrze - in relation to Chmielewski's heritage, his activities in the Highlands Association and other institutions, both historical and still extant.

Water management - with particular consideration to the Vistula and Bug, dams and the current flood control system, and regulation of the waterways system.

Health and recuperation - with an analysis and synthesis of spa studies conducted under the direction of Chmielewski, and the description of characteristics of present problems of health resorts.

NOTES

1. Polish Academy of Sciences, Committee of Architecture and Urban Planning, *Beginnings of Physical Planning in Poland: Studies and Materials to the Theory and History of Architecture and Urban Planning*, vol. XX, Warsaw: PWN (National Scientific Publishers), 1979. The following Notes contain references to the Bibliography of Professor Jan Chmielewski's writings (ibid., pp. 7-11) (bold numerals refer to the entry in that Bibliography). Readers are urged to consult this comprehensive listing to supplement the Notes. Translation of titles into English is by the author.
2. **1**: J. Chmielewski, *Materials on the Issue of Various Forms of Temporary Settlement in the Tatras*, 1925-1932; **2**: J. Chmielewski, *Zakopane against the Background of Spatial Planning of Skalne Podhale*; **59**: J. Chmielewski, 'Spatial planning issues in the Tatras and Podtatrze regions', *Architektura*, vol. 8, 1958.
3. Compare **2**: *Zakopane against the Background ..., op. cit.*
4. **8**: J. Chmielewski and S. Syrkus, in collaboration with J. Hryniewiecki, Z. Różycki, H. Syrkus and T. Tillinger, 'Functional Warsaw: contribution to the urban planning of the Warsaw region', *Urban Planning Bulletin* vol. 1, 1935 and *Komunikat SARP* vol. 8, 1935. See also Bibliography items **6, 7, 9, 15, 19, 20, 21, 25, 27-34, 44, 56, 83**.
5. **14**: J. Chmielewski, *Issues on Highland Areas Planning*, Methodological Draft, 1937 (unpublished typescript); see also Bibliography items **7** and **63**.
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THE RECENT HISTORY OF CAMPUS DEVELOPMENT IN BLOEMFONTEIN, SOUTH AFRICA

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Introduction

When the National Party swept to power in 1948, there were only ten universities in South Africa, but 50 years later there is an over-supply of 31 institutions: some of which are quasi-universities named Technicons. For ideological reasons, the National Party systematically separated education of the races (Bantu education). Second-class establishments were started for blacks (some near the Homelands), while new lavishly-funded universities such as Rand Afrikaans University (Johannesburg) and Port Elizabeth arose. By using the Group Areas Act, the new Cape Technicon was inserted in the historic District Six.

The central province, Free State, contains 10% of the South African population with two metropolitan areas, namely the provincial capital Bloemfontein (1846) and Welkom (1950). Since the total population in both areas is the same, one would expect an equitable distribution of higher education institutions between them. Campus development in Bloemfontein started with Grey University College (1906) and led to two new institutions in the 1970s and 1980s, and student revolts in the 1990s. In the 1970s, the bureaucrats had to locate two institutions within the framework of political ideology and national policy. As well as nurturing the older Free State University, the politicians in the provincial capital appropriated two brand-new institutions, namely the Free State Technicon and a branch of the black Vista University. All three institutions are in one metropolitan area, competing for the same pool of students! Since it is concerned with hands-on skills, one would expect the Technicon to be nearer the industrial heartland, the Free State Goldfields, which has been called the Cinderella Metropolis.[1]

Three case studies are examined here in terms of site planning, namely Vista (to the south-east), the Technicon (city) and Free State University (on the west). Since the author taught and consulted at Free State from 1975 to 1995, most space will be devoted to it. This paper concludes that institutional site plans are complex overlays plagued by cross purposes, 'space wars', budget cuts, hidden agendas, crisis management and autocratic style. In the future, sensitivity and team work might replace manipulation by decision-makers.

Policy and decision making

Before the physical development of a campus, the first task is to discover how a university defines its basic values and mission. For example, Free State University and Technicon were based on a conservative Afrikaans, agricultural character and Christian-National principles, both of which imply exclusivity in a multi-racial and multi-cultural South Africa. Secondly, it is important that institutions spell out their academic policies early in the planning process; but this may cause problems, because of vague generalities. Pious policy pronouncements often contain hidden agendas such as racial domination (*baasskap* in Afrikaans) or anti-British bias. However, mission

statements are now being revised.

Generalities such as academic excellence, market-related or transformation have different results at different institutions. For example, the anti-social concept of Thatcherite rationalisation spawned the notorious 'coarse sieve' (*growwe sif*) in 1985 at Free State, in which departments were eliminated or amalgamated, and jobs 'frozen'. But, because of little transparency, unclear criteria and political manipulation, some bias towards Medicine and Science could be discerned in determining needs and resources.

Under the watchful eye of the former Department of National Education, a university campus was supposed to be autonomous and controlled by a single agency over a long period, concerned with the welfare of users rather than profit or efficiency. Alas, budget cuts have now put profits before welfare, and could start a long debate on the 'proper' role of universities in society! For example, does a community of scholars still exist, or the nice ideal that universities are more than purely utilitarian?[2]

By way of illustration, a university could formulate policies for some of the following:[3] language, gender and civil liberties; student numbers and admissions; the ratios between teaching, research and administration; spatial linkages, density and mix of facilities; student housing on or off campus, and the separation of pedestrian and motor traffic.

If a systems approach were adopted, university policy should be linked to campus development in a cyclical manner according to factors of time and scale, and allowing for feedback and revised inputs. Only when alternatives have been tested and priorities established should one spell out the various physical planning tasks. Within limits, long-term planning should allow for short-term demands such as budget cuts. However, lack of clear policies and priorities could lead to crisis management, and basic long-term planning could be pre-empted by crisis decisions.[4]

In theory, universities would be ideal places in which to apply user participation and post-occupancy evaluation. However, at Free State, the author found that students and teaching staff were not properly consulted by top management for fear of possible dissent or delay. For example, the membership of the Physical Planning Committee (chaired by the Vice-Chancellor) consisted of 25 members, of whom 10 were university officers, 9 deans, 2 council members: all very 'top down' and with no student inputs.[5] Consensus became a farce when staff and students could not question top management.

One might assume that space standards for campus functions were laid down by the bureaucrats in Pretoria (first tier) to encourage creative planning. However, as their fat subsidies diminished in the 1980s, university administrations (second tier) had to accept the rigid space standards of the bureaucrats at the Department of National Education. Then the hard-pressed department head (third tier) had to engage in 'space wars' with deans and domineering departments. National bodies such as the Committee of University Principals (CUP) were of little help, being unrepresentative and merely advisory.

In all three cases in Bloemfontein, architects and engineers dominated campus development. For example, at Free State, an engineer was in charge of physical planning, and only three architectural firms ever got any campus work. Without competition or a proper review panel, this could mean a cosy monopoly, as the following indicates. In a memo to the Registrar, the leader of a 'planning' consortium states that the work would be undertaken in the offices of the architect-planners, but that there were no corporate planners in either office![6] Thus some vital steps in site planning and teamwork were by-passed, and town planning considerations neglected.

Campus layouts

Myles Wright distinguished between two types of campus layout: 'spine and grid' or the 'green heart'.[7] In both, the *centre of the campus is kept for pedestrians, but in the spine, the buildings that serve the whole university are brought close together*, forming a series of enclosures (author's emphasis). In the green heart layout, the centre is kept clear, and buildings are arranged informally within it. Both types have

access from a peripheral road, but loop roads may also penetrate the site. The spine layout could offer economies in walking time, sufficient open space and convenient siting of new buildings. The green heart offers opportunities for an informal arrangement, but walks across it may be too long.

These layouts vary in response to site or climatic conditions. For example, Free State started out as a green heart, and the newer Vista has a pedestrian spine. Older existing campuses, including Cape Town University and Witwatersrand, display a form of 'organic growth'. For example, the planner of the new Middle Campus at Cape Town attempted to reinforce the basic terrace design of the Upper Campus. Elliott said that the Middle Campus is based on organic growth which allows for staged development and reassessment of the overall design at each stage.[8]

Because of their 'exact science' or economics mindset, some university administrators rarely connect site planning to broader objectives other than shelter for teaching and research. They should be encouraging qualities such as stimulus, spontaneous interaction or privacy in planning, and it could be argued that a campus layout is all about cross-fertilisation! Time distances, size or psychological barriers between functions may be critical in creating a vibrant campus and the encouragement of casual meetings. Face-to-face interaction and a five-minute walking radius for students and staff are seldom considered. For example, as walking distances increase, the campus begins to operate in sections, students find difficulty in moving between classes, and staff have to make special appointments to meet.[9] Low-density sprawl means that staff and students hop in their cars to visit the distant library or sports fields!

Three Bloemfontein case studies - two on open vacant sites and the third as infill near the city core - explore some of these points.

Free State University

The provincial capital Bloemfontein, with a population of 300,000, is some 500 km from the coast, near the Lesotho Highlands and 400 km south of Pretoria. The campus of Free State (left centre on Fig. 1) is situated in Steppe grassland 3.5 km west of the core of Bloemfontein on a rise known as Die Bult (at an altitude of 1,424 metres). On its eastern edge schools reinforce the academic atmosphere, while private residential areas wedge in to the south west. On its northern edge lies the busy and dangerous Kimberley Road, which feeds the main access to the campus, but with a poor sense of arrival (Fig. 2). Thirty years ago the main entrance was via the major east-west axis running downhill through the park belt and straight to the town square; this is now a potential cycle route for students![10] In stark contrast, the Brandwag convenience shopping centre is a congested and tawdry 'gas alley' 1 km north-east of the university.

For a campus housing about 10,500, there is a large area of 277 ha, made up of two parts: the older original Eastern portion (82 ha) and the incomplete Western Campus (196 ha). Thus the campus is rather like a small town, with vague sub-districts such as academic, medical, residential, services and sport.[11]

Since there is no 'in-town, off-campus' housing tradition, administrations are burdened with 22 residences on campus; some added piecemeal in the last 25 years, and oddly sited beyond the five-minute walking radius! Thus the university now has problems in filling all these bed spaces, high maintenance costs and a daunting catering load. Affluent white students also need car parks!

Socio-racial disputes since 1994 have added yet another unwelcome problem, owing to cultural differences and economic inequality. The watershed for white, middle-class students is mostly within the province, with significant numbers from conservative areas in Namibia and the old Transvaal. Black students come almost entirely from the metropolitan watershed, are poorer, and their total now exceeds that of the whites.

In the 1970s, the new academic hospital and teaching facilities added over one-fifth to the campus area, and sister faculties had to compete with status-conscious medics and capital-intensive equipment such as scanners. Perhaps this was why the new Department of Urban Planning of

Fig. 1 Plan of central Bloemfontein showing location of Free State and Technicon (source: municipality)

Fig. 2 Free State: main campus entrance. A poor sense of arrival! (Photograph: author)

1977 was so poorly housed and funded? Powerful personalities and party political loyalty also constituted the context of development. It speaks volumes that the founding Dean of the Medical Faculty, Professor Retief, returned in triumph to the campus as Vice-Chancellor (Rector) in 1985 to succeed the adviser to the State's former nuclear programme, Professor Mouton! Another noteworthy alumnus, the President of South Africa, C.R. Swart (*Oom* Black), influenced events in favour

of the Law Faculty. In physical terms, the grey slab-like academic hospital loomed over the quiet suburb of Universitas and could easily be seen, smelled and heard. Thus a new tension was created between town and gown or on the campus itself.

Although overlooked, the intertwined relationship between land use and circulation should top the list of campus development studies. First, land use might be expressed in terms such as density and intensity of function, linkages, mix and landscape. Secondly, density is often confused with the height of buildings, but useful volumes (intensity) are the desired product; and there are cost and energy disadvantages of isolated, low, linear buildings. The density and intensity of the existing Eastern campus is low, at about 15% coverage and 25% circulation (roads and parking). With the exception of the academic hospital, there are a few three-storey walk-ups, but many one storey buildings.

One might now examine circulation as the equal partner of land use and, sadly, note that Free State never adopted a policy on traffic separation. Yet this could have been applied to core areas, pedestrians' parking and through traffic.[12]

Before the building boom of the 1970s at Free State (Fig. 3), the east-west spine of a pedestrian-friendly campus could have been achieved, either horizontally or vertically. For example, people and vehicles could have been separated horizontally by means of loops, ring routes, culs-de-sac, bollards, or semi-malls; and a five-minute walking circle should have applied to major core functions including library, student centre and administration. Newer European universities even favour vertical separation near those very core areas of maximum pedestrian use by means of galleries in association with a parking garage.[13] From privileged parking under a tin shed (*afdak*), Bloemfontein built uncontrolled and unsupervised open parking lots on an *ad hoc* basis. These vast areas of asphalt or concrete blocks were either scorching or windswept, they were not hidden by means of plant material, levels or earth mounts (berms), and the expensive South African 'heavy engineering' solutions such as high kerbs were applied (Fig. 4).

Since students and staff make many short walking trips, it is reasonable to expect safety, convenience, accessibility and even sociability in pedestrian areas. Except for a few isolated pockets at Free State, pedestrians often move on pavements alongside roadways or between cars. As high-speed through-traffic is allowed, almost every street intersection becomes a potential conflict point. During two decades, the author as consultant and his Masters' students submitted urban design projects to solve these problems.[14]

Turning to built form, there is neither an architectural theme - such as the white walls and red-tiled roofs of Rhodes and Stellenbosch Universities - nor modular massing on a grid, but the symmetrical Old Main building of 1906 has historic charm with its tower on the main east-west vista. Another landmark on the axis, the Sasol Library building (1972), projects an isolated, hard image on the edge of the campus. As one of the core elements, a viable alternative was to expand the old library on its adjacent parking lot in the centre of the campus opposite Old Main, but architects and prestige prevailed over functional convenience or walking distances.

Landscape should concern environmental issues ranging from spaces between buildings to the use of plant material, seating, lighting, paving and water. The campus is situated on the extensive grasslands of the Highveld, but adopts petite suburban-style gardening, including water-consuming lawns and annuals. In a dry, hot and cold region, trees are felled randomly and the contrast of evergreen versus deciduous species is hardly addressed.[15] Well-known landscape principles for arid zones have not been applied. Much attention and money are focused on huge areas for active recreation with sports such as rugby, tennis, netball and cricket.

In short, low-density low intensity planning at Free State University placed core elements including the library and student centre about 1 km apart, which led to internal traffic problems.[16] In the mid-1980s, the author wrote a minority report to the Registrar *pleading for higher densities and pedestrianisation* (author's emphasis).

Fig. 3 Explosive growth of Free State University caused by the new Medical School and multiple residence building during the 1970s

Fig. 4 Pedestrians 'engineered' with kerbs and signs (Photograph: author)

Free State Technicon

The second case dates from 1978 and is an example of infill where politicians and bureaucrats 'inserted' a new institution, the Technicon (a cross between a Technical College and University). Just south of the Bloemfontein city core they neatly appropriated the grounds and buildings of Eunice Girls' School (1877) and the Training College (1910) (Fig. 1, bottom right). This has put major pressure on traffic arteries, the historic boulevard of President Brand Street, the original Spruit stream and the CBD (Fig. 5). Thus the Technicon expanded into the most historic sites of early Bloemfontein. In addition to the historic institutions already mentioned, the old Roman Catholic convent (1876) was demolished to make way for the Faculty of Engineering. However, a further two historic 'thumbs' survive on the north side of the campus, namely the small First Raadsaal (1849) and the Roman Catholic Church. Both of these are just several hundred metres away from the strategic water *erven* of Bain's first survey.[17] Such a situation required better teamwork and sensitive site planning. As the stubborn, old guard, decision-makers discovered, the forgotten strategy of user participation came back to haunt them in 1995 with massive student riots. Black enrolments now exceed those of whites.

Turning to the layout itself, an east-west axis was created by 'wisely' closing part of a major six-lane Bloemfontein artery, Park Road (Fig. 6), town surgery of which the previous Rector van Lill was rather proud! Note that there are 1,050 parking spaces on campus, enough for a small town. Mercifully, the old Training College building, a white jewel at the end of an avenue of karees and olives, is retained. At the repeated request of conservationists, the old Eunice *Vierkantgebou* (a courtyard building), with its 1912 windows and bricks, was refurbished.[18]

In terms of context, the Technicon has created new pressures on its neighbours: first a transitory population of students, staff and visitors around its boundaries; secondly the privatisation of part of Park Road; thirdly housing and service intrusion in an historic neighbourhood. Similar infill and encroachment problems are known at British universities.[19]

Vista

The Vista University was established *de novo* on the Highveld 6 km south of the city, near the black Group Area Mangaung. It was part of a policy of separate education for blacks. It is on an attractive ridge facing north: indeed, a site worthy of a new Parliament but, unfortunately, dense smoke pollution blankets the site in winter. In contrast with the Free State Technicon, near the city core, Vista had an open untouched site with two clear boundaries, namely Church Street extension on the east and a rocky ridge on the south (Fig. 7). Compared with Free State University's seven and the Technicon's three, the Vista University has only one controlled entrance point, which makes security and communication far easier.[20] An

Fig. 5 Technicon: view north to President Brand Street and the Provincial skyscraper (Photograph: author)

Fig. 6 Technicon: six-lane arterial Park Road, closed by the University (Photograph: author)

outstanding feature of the campus is the well-planned central pedestrian spine which ascends the hill, connects core elements including the library, administration and student centre, and then branches off to lecture halls. A few hundred white students are now enroled.

Vista has simple building forms, a unified design style, clear zoning of functions, and natural landscape merging with the Highveld grassland. On the negative side, an expensive, divisive ideological campus for 5,000 students consumed valuable resources that might better have been spent on upliftment and housing in the nearby Black township, Mangaung. Some argue that it should never have been built; that it was a classic 'cow college' showing political manipulation at work when middle-class white staff and administrators were seconded to propagate the Calvinistic tenets of Christian-National education among the 'heathen'.

Fig. 7 Vista: main pedestrian spine uphill and southward (Photograph: author)

For Vista, a site near Welkom Goldfields (population 400,000) would better serve the needs of the community and, ironically, a branch has now been built there at great expense to serve the Northern Free State. What a waste of scarce education resources in duplicate, and what a sad comment on the hidden agendas of politically- and racially-based education!

Conclusion

This brief review of university planning at the broadest scale (relative to national or regional trends and needs) and smallest scale (site design and layout) demonstrates several clear messages. Patronage and largesse were symptoms of the one-party state of the past, which followed an élitist approach with taxpayers' money. The politicians were neither serious about locating facilities throughout the province, nor about spreading education locally among the poor and disadvantaged. Autocratic decisions stifled participation. The needs of clients (students, staff and workers) were neither determined nor matched with resources in a transparent manner.

Decision-makers were spatially 'illiterate' and poorly advised. Campus development often became the creation of building sites for architects and engineers, or resulted in crisis management. Thus the function and quality of spaces were poor for work, play and living environments. Parking and roads for motor vehicles dominated the pedestrian, and low-density sprawl resulted.

In South Africa, the fat years of the 1980s have been followed by the lean years of shrinkage and transformation in the 1990s. However, one should demand that campus decision-makers show more sensitivity, accountability and flexibility for unexpected changes in the 21st Century. If there were to be a 'truth commission' on campus development in South Africa, some academics might discover that they allowed themselves to be manipulated.

The topic of this brief review is campus planning and history. There is no space here to review higher education policy, nor the gross inequalities of funding and language in the past.

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"ATLANTIC CROSSER": JOHN NOLEN AND THE URBAN INTERNATIONALE

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"John Nolen, born Philadelphia 1869, graduated University of Pennsylvania 1893; post graduate work, University of Munich 1900; A.M. Harvard 1905 ...". This vita, published in the volume edited by John Nolen in 1916 for the National Municipal League series, is familiar to many American scholars of city planning history.[1] Nolen is a major figure in this history, and has received considerable attention since John Hancock wrote his PhD thesis on Nolen at Nolen's own Alma Mater, the University of Pennsylvania.[2] Nolen, on the same footing as Geo. B. Ford or Frederick Law Olmsted, is one of those depicted by Mel Scott as 'founding fathers' in his history of American city planning,[3] and Donald Krueckeberger termed him the "most productive city planner of his time".[4] More severe judgements have also been pronounced, such as those by Marie Christine Boyer or Margaret Crawford, who stressed the business side of Nolen instead of his progressive commitments.[5] I am not here to carve another bust of Nolen as an American planner, but rather to use John Nolen as a window on the outside world.

All who have written on Nolen mentioned his wide participation in the international milieu of town planning. Indeed, this was the cause of my interest in him. Giorgio Piccinato was among the first historians of town planning to insist on the existence of a "town planning international society" in the years before the First World War.[5] This society was embodied in overlapping international congresses, exhibitions, networks of correspondences, translations of major books and friendships. Anthony Sutcliffe provided a first portrait of the town planning movement in four countries, showing how foreign 'influence' and international exchanges were important at the very time at which the drums of war were beating.[7] We also know about a number of personal links, general meetings, major international events and organisations.[8] Nevertheless, the nature, size and involvement of people in the world of international organisations, exhibitions and congresses has still to be explored fully.[9] The information networks constructed through personal links, journeys, readings are also hard to track. This is where I want to contribute here, by using John Nolen as a window opened on to this milieu, to suggest what was forming this milieu and what happened there.[10]

This is a first step in my research on the 'Urban Internationale', where I wish to demonstrate how much the international scale is a level that shapes the views, tools and policies of the city, as much as an arena where national definitions of these views, tools and policies compete. The main poles of this Urban Internationale are embodied by collective structures such as the US philanthropic Foundations, international organisations such as the League of Nations, the International Labour Office, the UN and UNESCO, and voluntary associations as the International Union of Local Authorities or the International Federation for Housing and Town Planning. However, even if I suspect that the relationship between those three poles are essential for our

Fig. 1 John Nolen (Photograph: Harry Bishop, supplied by Cornell University Library)

understanding of the Urban Internationale, we all know that relationships between structures are made by and through individuals who allow themselves enough space for agency and personal action. Paying attention to individual actions is, therefore, a necessary element of historical inquiry. By pointing the searchlight on Nolen in this paper, I want to briefly suggest what it meant for someone to be involved in the Urban Internationale. Of course, I do not pretend to give here a full acknowledgement of the consequences of such an involvement in Nolen's works or ideas, nor to give a view of the ideas that the international networks propagated or considered. Rather, I want to emphasise the nature of the relationship between Nolen and his foreign counterparts, and the possible uses of these international links.

Is Nolen a good tool for a quick glance at this milieu? First, I must stress how much the Nolen Papers offer a wonderful opportunity. As with other papers kept at the Kroch Library at Cornell University (such as the Russell Van Nest Black Papers for example), the Nolen Papers allow the reconstruction of almost any aspect of the man's professional career. The plans that the Nolen firm produced for cities such as Akron, San Diego or Kingsport are fully documented from their preliminary stages, including their financial aspects. But the Papers also include material concerning the wide activity of Nolen as a public lecturer, documenting his participation in a wide array of civic improvement societies, and his collected correspondence with many US and overseas counterparts. These records allow us to consider Nolen as a major figure in this Internationale.

In the 1920s, John Nolen was a member of at least 12 societies from the areas of urban and civic reform.[11] Three were foreign societies: the Town Planning Institute of Canada, to which Nolen belonged from at least 1924; the Town Planning Institute of England, of which he had been elected a member in December 1920; and the International Garden Cities and Town Planning Federation[12] that he joined in 1923. This membership was not mere ritual: Nolen did give papers in

London at the British Town Planning Institute and was present at several meetings, and he participated in some of the yearly meetings organised by the Canadian Town Planning Institute; he was a member of the Council and the Executive Board of the International Federation, before becoming its President from 1931 to 1936. Indeed, he was very active in this major structure of the Urban Internationale, participating in person and by mail in many commissions on specific subjects such as the glossary committee, the technical committee or the committee that was in charge of settling the conflict with the International Housing Association of Frankfurt.

The conferences organised by the International Federation were amongst the main objects of the 14 journeys which Nolen made to Europe (he also travelled to Canada and Mexico). But Nolen's journeys were never limited to attendance at the conferences of the International Federation. He toured Europe well before becoming a member; his first trip dating back to 1895 for an Oxford University summer course. Nolen also spent a full year in Europe in 1901-1902, when he studied at the University of Munich, and his trips from 1895 to 1935 frequently brought him to England and Germany, but also to other parts of Europe from Netherlands to the U.S.S.R. Spain, Portugal and the Balkans were the only regions that he ignored. Last but not least, Nolen was also an avid reader of international journals in his field. In the 1920s, his firm was receiving eight foreign planning and architectural journals, including the major reviews of German and British town planning.[13] John Nolen was not only a subscriber to these journals, but he also contributed to them and his books were reviewed by them.[14] I suspect that a detailed analysis of his personal library, now kept at the University of Pennsylvania, would have added the interest in foreign books to that picture: were the books purchased, or received as presents, as attested by the correspondence? Moreover, Nolen's huge collection of lantern slides,[15] as well as his many writings and conference details, all kept in his Papers at the Kroch Library, include a huge quantity of foreign references, especially European. Reading and speaking German and French surely helped Nolen to be that much ubiquitous.

To complete this portrait, it needs to be said that Nolen had contacts to use his planning skills abroad, in Mexico and in Czechoslovakia. This last point is an important hint: Edward Filene, the Boston department store magnate who was in close contact with Nolen since the first decade of this century, had recommended Nolen to the industrial shoemaker Bata, who was looking for the "best US planner" to make a plan for the Czech city of Zlin that housed his shoe factories.[16] According to Filene, Nolen was on his way to discuss the contract when Bata died in a plane crash.

Although he entered none of the great planning competitions that were landmarks in the field (Barcelona, Anvers, Guyaquil, Yass-Canberra amongst others), John Nolen seems to have strongly committed himself to the international scale. This great traveller, who spent half of the year out of his firm, was not only a man of American networks,[17] but an Atlantic crosser.[18] He indeed was a member of the Urban Internationale that met in conferences, exhibited at planning exhibitions[19] and shared flows of information through letters and visits. I will try here to suggest what being part of such a network could mean, and also how this belonging could be used.

Nolen the networker

Nolen was already an Atlantic crosser well before he became a landscape architect and contributed to the building of city-planning. His first trip to Europe took place in 1895, as he was Executive Secretary of the Society for the Extension of University at Pennsylvania. When he became a landscape architect, this interest for the Old World did not vanish, as is demonstrated by the lantern slides and notes which he used for the conferences that he gave all around the country.[20]

At the first National Conference on city planning and the problems of congestion in 1909, John Nolen developed his argument on the basis of European examples, as did Frederick Olmsted. He was, then, but one amongst the many American urban and municipal reformers

who, at the end of the 19th century, turned towards England or Germany to suggest remedies for the great American city. Nevertheless, this interest in European plans, events and literature does not seem to have been paralleled with inter-individual exchanges until 1911.

In March of that year, Nolen was appointed as a member of the Boston Metropolitan Planning Commission, with the architect J. Randolph Coolidge Jr and Edward Filene, who had launched the 'Boston 1915' movement in 1909. I suspect that there is a connection between this project and the trip to Europe organised by the Boston Chamber of Commerce in the summer of 1911, but it surely seems no accident that Nolen was a member of the delegation. They toured Europe, landing in Liverpool at the end of June to visit Port Sunlight, and making their way to France, Germany and other countries. It seems that this was the moment when Nolen began to build a first network of people whom he was able to contact for information and discussion. Raymond Unwin, Patrick Geddes, Thomas Adams (whom he had met before), Joseph Stübben, Georges Benoît-Lévy and Berlepsch-Valenda were amongst these, and Nolen quickly used their expertise in sending them a questionnaire from the Boston Metropolitan Planning Commission in October 1911.

A correspondence had then begun between Nolen and Adams, as might have been expected between those two great travellers. As stated by Adams, they had "many ways to give mutual service by exchanging information on the planning movement" in their countries. In early 1912, Nolen wrote to Adams: "I want to follow as carefully as I can the development of the English movement because I realise how significant it is". The two men also met at some US National Conferences on City Planning, Adams being a regular attendant since he arrived in Canada in 1914 to work as Advisor on Town Planning for the Conservation Commission.[22] Nolen also began a regular correspondence with Patrick Geddes when they both became members of the Jury for the Dublin Plan Competition launched by Lady Aberdeen, and he exchanged letters with Raymond Unwin, even during the war, in order to get information on British war housing.[23] He was also invited as a lecturer to the Summer School of Town Planning organised by the University of London at Hampstead in August 1912, at which Unwin was the leading figure.

But was all this forming a network, i.e. an organised, permanent, maintained and purposively used web of correspondents and colleagues? I am inclined to say not, as it is only with Unwin and Adams that Nolen has a dense correspondence; sending his reports, pamphlets and plans, receiving Unwin's and exchanging information. It might also be that the Nolen papers lead to some fallacy in this instance, as they include little pre-1914 correspondence. It is not known whether this is a result of the lack of correspondence, or to a lack of archival work in the agency. The minutiae of Nolen nevertheless tends to indicate the former explanation as the most plausible. The first post-war years were devoted to nourishing these links, in an explicit action by Nolen to increase his knowledge of European and British experiences.

As soon the war was over, Nolen again turned his eyes towards Europe. First, he tried to gain as much information as he could, through reading but also through the eyes of others. When the young engineer Jacob Crane asked him for some tips for a visit to Europe in 1921, Nolen opened his address book wide, asking the young technician to send him information on city planning in Europe. Crane visited France, Germany, Switzerland and Italy, and met Georges Benoît-Lévy, Jacques Greber, Patrick Geddes, the editor of *Die Städtbau* and many others whose addresses he had obtained from Nolen. Crane sent several letters to Nolen to inform him about the state of the art.

But, above all, Nolen tried hard to go back to the Old World. After the failure of some organised journeys whose programmes he proposed to US civic associations (such as the 'Civic tour' of the summer of 1921 which Nolen proposed to the American Planning and Civic Association and to the National Municipal League), he finally made it to Götteborg, in Sweden, for the conference of the International Garden Cities and Town

Planning Federation in the summer of 1923. Although Nolen was certainly aware of the existence of the Federation since its creation in Paris in 1913 and its first Congress in London in 1914,[24] he had not made a move in its direction since those days.

Raymond Unwin seems to have been the kingpin of this new endeavour. He and Nolen had more than planning concerns in common, and this was why their relationship developed. They both shared an interest in foreign affairs, paid heed to the Irish problem, discovered one another as being "progressive minded", and were also strong supporters of the new League of Nations. Moreover, Unwin's daughter married an American citizen and lived in Chicago, giving good reason for Unwin to visit the USA. A friendship developed that led to visits, sending the children to each other's home, and common European study trips in the 1920s and 1930s. Very quickly, Nolen developed the idea to have Unwin invited for a series of conferences, and mentions this to him in mid-1920. Unwin eventually visited the USA in September 1922, and Nolen seems to have organised the planning part of this visit. He suggested that Charles Norton should invite Unwin to act as a consultant for the new Regional Plan Committee set up by the Russell Sage Foundation. He organised conferences at the Massachussetts Institute of Technology, at Harvard University, even giving to Unwin and his son-in-law indications of the fees they should ask. He also wrote to local journalists to offer them interviews with Unwin.

While in Boston, Unwin spent some time at the Nolen's home, but also visited Edward Filene, gave a talk to the Boston Society of Landscape Architects and various interviews. He spoke about city planning, but also about peace, international co-operation and the League of Nations. In his presentation at the Boston Society of Landscape Architects, Unwin raised sufficient enthusiasm for a motion for the decentralisation of cities along the lines of the garden-city to be passed, and it was decided to form a new American association of garden-cities under the presidency of James Pray of Harvard University. Unwin and Nolen hoped that this would be affiliated to the International Federation, thus promoting the internationalisation of this too-European organisation. Unfortunately, the Bostonian committee did nothing to promote such a structure, and Unwin conceived another plan to widen the membership of the International Federation, of which he was the treasurer. As he wrote to Nolen, "if the time does not seem right for creating such a society [a US garden-city association], it might be useful to enlist a number of individuals all over the States who could individually join the International Garden Cities and Town Planning Association".[26] Nolen would spend part of his life raising interest for international planning and for the IF in the rank and file of US planners and their organisations.

Nolen's decision to participate in the Götteborg conference grew from this context of friendship with Unwin, long interest in European planning and devotion to the idea of international co-operation. With people such as Lawrence Veiller, another major Atlantic crosser, he travelled across the Baltic to Sweden, for the trip that really founded his network. Indeed, the "Foreign correspondence" folder of the Nolen papers begins in 1923. It includes letters revealing that, in Götteborg, Nolen asked many people to send him city planning information about their country, and that he did not hesitate to write to them asking for details, or to order specific items such as photographs to turn them into lantern slides. The German Gustav Langen, the Swede Lilienberg and the Dane Hendriksen were amongst his many new acquaintances.

With these Götteborg friends, met during the conference but also during the social events that went with it (professional and tourist visits), Nolen inaugurated some 'network-founding' routines that lasted until his death. One of his favourite techniques was to send his publications to his international peers and new friends as quickly as possible. When he met someone at an IF conference, he was efficient enough to telegraph his orders to his secretary in Cambridge, so that his new friends would find his latest pamphlets or his most recent plan waiting

for them as soon as they returned from the conference venue. For his books, the process was more sophisticated, with a special list of international people to whom he wanted the book sent. To foster what can be now called a network, Christmas cards were sent each year, and their return undelivered is recorded on the back of the cards from the special international address file created in the 1920s, so that the knowledge of who was where was always available.

This network kept on growing, thanks to the visits Nolen made to the International Federation Conferences (1926, 1928, 1931, 1935), his other journeys through Europe (especially in 1931 when he extensively toured through Germany thanks to an Oberlaender Trust grant, and went to Moscow for three weeks), and also through the visits and letters he received and sent. If one believes the address files kept in the Nolen papers (two separate files dating from the 1920s), Nolen had been in touch, although with very unequal intensity, with some 180 foreign individuals, associations and organizations during the 1920s and 1930s. They were principally from England and Germany, although with noticeable numbers from Canada, Sweden, Japan, Australia and the Netherlands. The rest of the world is scarcely represented, but a map of these addresses would show 22 countries as far as Brazil, Kenya or France with at least one correspondent. One can imagine that this correspondence, and Nolen's journeys, were a heavy financial and material burden for his office. What, then, was the network for?

It seems to me that it is a wrong question to decide between the cynicism of a Nolen who would have fancied international contacts to promote his career, and the ingenuousness of a Nolen who would have sacrificed to international understanding and the ritual of friendly conferences. Both facets, as one would expect, are true to life. On the one hand see, for example, when Nolen, as was very common in the USA, carefully selected a sentence from a letter from Ebenezer Howard, sent to acknowledge the receipt of his book *New Towns for Old*, in order to have it printed in journals such as *American City Magazine*.[26] On the other hand, consider the way in which Nolen heartily wrote to the eccentric Hendrik Christian Andersen offering his support for the project of an International World Centre that the Danish sculptor had long been developing.

It is as true of Nolen as of many of his foreign correspondents who sought his approval, support[28] or help, that he tried to promote himself as a planner by using foreign references, by getting information on planning abroad, by disseminating this information or by giving lists of "things and people to see" to people going abroad. Moreover, controlling international fluxes of information may not only give access to symbolic profits, such as fame and reputation. Fame could easily be turned into contracts and deals on the US market but, further, having a wide international network could also provide some occasions of business. Carlos Contreras, the Mexican architect whom Nolen had met in Europe for an International Federation Conference, and who later had governmental responsibilities, did propose that Nolen should be his associate in the town planning of Vera Cruz, and asked him to act as an intermediary between him and the American public works firms. But, at a time when promoting oneself as a city planner also meant participating in the invention of a new profession, Nolen's roots in the international sphere were more than an acute sense of business.

'Proving' to the United States that planning was something trustable and efficient in England, Canada or Germany was a device used by numerous municipal and housing reformers in late-19th century America, and widely used in the planning field (examples include Frederick Howe, Charles M. Robinson or Benjamin Marsh). Nolen, influential in so many US civic and technical organisations, was committed to this same task of promoting the planning ideals, but also to another dimension, stressed by Margaret Crawford: that of inventing the planning professional.[29] The international dimension was crucial in this respect, as it allowed the creation of a sense of professional community beyond the national borders, the circulation of experience, the attempt to invent a common language and the building of a network of advisers and supporters that

could be used when necessary. This was a new form of attitude towards the management of the city, marked by the rise of permanent organisations based on the new professions of planning and by the definition of the urban question as a universal problem.

The voluntary associations, such as the International Federation, are important elements in this conjunction between the rise of professional expertise and the definition of the urban question as an international one.[30] This is why Nolen devoted time and energy to the International Federation, being instrumental in bringing its conference in New York City in 1924, accepting its presidency in a time of internal turmoil and attempting to bring the conference again to the US in the early 1930s. Nolen was also involved or interested in the National Conference on City Planning, the American Society of Landscape architects, the American Planning and Civic Association, the American Society of Planning Officials, the American City Planning Institute, the American Planning Foundation, the International Union of Local Authorities and many other organisations dealing with the urban question.

This moment, which could be termed the 'voluntary professional' moment, differs in its forms, stakes and consequences from the figure of amateur élite philanthropy that led people such as Thomas Coglan Horsfall to tour Germany on his own at the end of the 19th century, to bring back remedies to his beloved city of Manchester.[31] It also differs from the type of international experts linked to international bodies such as the UN, that develops from the 1930s and reaches full power in the 1950s.

I suspect that these differences have consequences for the way in which urban problems are considered, on urban policies at the national and international scales, on the self-perception and organisation of planning professionals around the world, and also on the orientation of the flows of international information.[32] This is why I am interested in the Urban Internationale in this period 1910-1950 - which offers consideration of these various configurations. John Nolen, man of good will and professional, is a first key. There are many others. The door that they can open, as far as planning history is concerned, is the one that leads to consideration of what town planning owed to the international scale as such. A comparative approach between national histories of town planning is one thing, and this still has a lot to offer. But, as Daniel Rodgers pointed out, it is finally the connections between national expressions of a similar contingency that makes the national outcomes and their comparisons interesting and significant. "There are gains to be made by starting with connections", Rodgers wrote.[33] Let's take the bet.

NOTES AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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1. J. Nolen, *City Planning. A Series of Papers Presenting the Essential Elements of a City Plan*, New York: Appleton, 1916, p. viii.
2. J.L. Hancock, *John Nolen and the American City Planning Movement: A History of Culture Change and Community Response*, unpublished PhD thesis, University of

Pennsylvania, 1964.

3. M. Scott, *American City Planning Since 1890. A History Commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the American Institute of Planners*, Berkeley: University of California Press, 1971.
4. D.A. Krueckeberger (ed.), *The American Planner: Biographies and Recollections*, New York: Center for Urban Policy Research, 1994, p. 15 (first edition New York: Methuen, 1983).
5. M.C. Boyer, *Dreaming the Rational City: the Myth of American City Planning*, Cambridge, Mass: MIT Press, 1983; M. Crawford, *Building the Working Man's Paradise. The Design of Company Towns*, London: Verso, 1995, chapter 8 "Professional solutions: John Nolen and the standardisation of company town planning".
6. G. Piccinato, *La Costruzione dell'Urbanistica: Germania 1871-1914*, Roma: Officina Edizioni, 1974, pp. 543, 552.
7. A.R. Sutcliffe, *Towards the Planned City. Germany, Britain, the United States and France, 1780-1914*, London: Blackwell, 1981.
8. Apart from Piccinato, 1974, *op. cit.*, which gives a basic chronology of exhibitions and congresses, I wish to remind readers of the under-acknowledged work by D. Calabi and M. Folin (eds), *Werner Heggeman. Catalogo delle Esposizioni Internazionali di Urbanistica, Berlin 1910, Dusseldorf 1911-12*, Milano: Saggiatore, 1975.
9. H. Meller, 'Philanthropy and public enterprise: international exhibitions and the modern town planning movement 1889-1913', *Planning Perspectives*, vol. 10, 1995, pp. 295-310.
10. This research on John Nolen is part of my ongoing research on the 'Urban Internationale 1910-1950' that deals with international associations such as the International Federation of Housing and Town Planning, the International Union of Local Authorities, the International Housing Association, the International Institute of Administrative Sciences, international bodies such as the League of Nations, International Labour Office, United Nations or UNESCO, and the big American philanthropic Foundations. Planning is part of the urban question to which they all contributed, but other important aspects were municipal government or housing.
11. Cornell University, Kroch Library, John Nolen papers, Private papers #2903 (hereafter JN Papers), box 7 folder 1.
12. Previously the International Garden Cities and Town Planning Association, later the International Federation for Town and Country Planning and Garden Cities, then the International Federation for Housing and Town Planning. Hereafter called the International Federation for convenience.
13. *Planning* (London), *Town Planning Review* (Liverpool), *Journal of the Town Planning Institute* (London), *Town Planning* (Ottawa), *Gartenstadt* (Germany), *Garden Cities and Town Planning* (London), *Bulletin of the International Federation for Housing and Town Planning* (London), *Baukunst und Städtebau* (Berlin).
14. For a complete bibliography of Nolen's works, see J. Hancock, *John Nolen. Bibliographic Record of Achievement*, Cornell University, Program in Urban Studies, 1976. Nolen published in the *Town Planning Review*, *Städtbau*, and his books were reviewed at least since 1916 in *Garden Cities and Town Planning*, and so on.
15. The slide collection is contained in 237 wooden boxes. Those I have inspected contained some 30-40 slides. Therefore it is a huge collection, that could surely be used by anybody interested in the circulation of references in early city planning. I use this opportunity to remember how much the use of lantern slides was an essential element of city planning propaganda in the US, the UK or France. In each of those countries, individuals were touring with their illustrated lectures, and organisations were lending slides or organising programmes of such lectures. This was an important factor in communication engineering that brought urban planning to public attention.
16. JN Papers, box 7, folder 1 "Nolen political endorsements", endorsement letter from Edward Filene.
17. See Crawford, 1995, *op. cit.*
18. Of course, this expression is borrowed from D. Rodgers, *Atlantic Crossings. Social Politics in a Progressive Age*, Cambridge, Mass: Harvard University Press, 1998. Nolen is one of the figures that illustrate Rodgers' demonstration about the way in which US social politics were reappropriated importations from Germany or the United Kingdom.
19. Nolen himself exhibited at the International Federation exhibitions during conferences, such as in Berlin where he sent 16 items including the plan for Roanoke (Virginia), but also for smaller shows such as exhibitions at the Letchworth Grammar School or at the German Society for Housing Reform in 1933.
20. See, especially, the files gathered in JN papers, box 40.
21. JN papers, box 71, letter dated 26 January 1912.
22. See A.F.J. Artibise and G.A. Stelter, 'Conservation planning and urban planning: the Canadian Commission of Conservation in historical perspective', in R.J.P. Kain (ed.) *Planning for Conservation*, London: Mansell, 1981.
23. C. Topalov, *Naissance de l'Urbanisme Moderne et Reforme de l'Habitat Populaire aux Etats Unis 1900-1940*, Paris: Centre de Sociologie Urbaine, 1988, p. 95, note 82.
24. For the creation of the International Federation, see D. Hardy, *From Garden Cities to New Towns. Campaigning for Town and Country Planning 1899-1946*, London: Spon, 1991.
25. JN papers, Box 8, folder "2 Unwin", undated.
26. JN papers, box 1, black folder.
27. JN Papers, box 69, folder "2. Foreign correspondence", letter dated 28 December 1931.
28. See, for example, Gustav Langen's letter (ibid, dated 12 April 1929), where the German author asked Nolen if he "could agree upon this work [a book he had just sent to Nolen] *in an American journal*".
29. Crawford, 1995, *op. cit.*
30. Joel Outtes, at Oxford, is also working on the International Federation, as are Panos Mantzarias, Veronique Faucheur and Hartmut Frank in Hamburg. Renaud Payre, at the Institut d'etudes Politiques in Grenoble, is devoting time to the International Union of Local Authorities. Patricia Dogliani, Oscar Gaspari and Nico Rauderaad are also working to build a network of scholars interested in the international municipal movement. I would welcome any information about ongoing work in this field.
31. M. Harrison, 'Thomas Coglan Horsfall and the "example of Germany"', *Planning Perspectives*, vol. 6, 1991, pp. 297-314.
32. The flow that carried American urban reformers to Europe began to reverse in the 1920s and 1930s, and is definitely oriented the other way round after the Second World War. The role of the large American philanthropic foundations in this change is especially important. See P.-Y. Saunier, 'Sketches from the Urban International 1910-1950. Voluntary associations, international organisations and the US philanthropy', forthcoming.
33. Rodgers, 1998, *op. cit.*, p. 5.

Model and maker: Colonel Light Gardens and Charles Reade

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Colonel Light Gardens, situated approximately 6 km south of Adelaide, South Australia, is a garden suburb planned in 1917 according to principles defined by the British garden city movement. The movement's ideology evolved from the garden city idea conceived by Ebenezer Howard and explained in his book *Tomorrow: A Peaceful Path to Real Reform* (1898). The influence of Howard's text was felt world-wide, his message conveyed through propaganda campaigns at home and abroad. Aiming not only to disseminate the idea in theory, his supporters promoted construction of a tangible model. In reality, the vision proved difficult to implement. The first model, Letchworth Garden City (1903) in Hertfordshire, was held up as an object lesson in how the garden city idea could improve the residential environment. Offspring were spawned - the garden village and suburb - practical, achievable demonstrations of Howard's idea at the micro-level. Colonel Light Gardens was one of them.

The thesis is a case study in planning historiography. Using the empirical approach and a chronological organisation, it investigates the Adelaide garden suburb's design origins, plan and early development as well as its architecture and designer, Charles Reade (1880-1933). Colonel Light Gardens' impact as a "model" garden suburb is assessed, in its own time and later. Whilst the focus is on the place, the biographical dimension emphasises the role of the individual in disseminating the garden city message. Moreover, it provides the opportunity to give a human face to the designer, until now a relatively unknown personality.

Primary archival materials gathered from a range of local, national and international agencies constitute the principal resource. Oral histories taken from first-, second- and third-generation residents of Colonel Light Gardens, as well as from Reade's children and niece, enrich the study. Site visits in Australia and Britain have aided understanding of the application of the garden city idea and helped to place Reade's suburb in its national and international context. Importantly, they have confirmed the study's central theme that at the micro-level, planning "on garden city lines" was achievable.

The thesis adds to the existing body of knowledge about the transmission of the garden city idea from Britain to Australia in the 1910s-1920s. It is relevant and timely in several respects. Since the mid 1980s, research interest in Howard's idea has heightened internationally as witnessed by the steady output of literature. In Australia, there is a growing appreciation and interpretation of the country's planning history, again evident in current research and literature. In Colonel Light Gardens itself, there is a popular determination not only to find out more about the suburb's origins and history, but also to make its difference known to state and federal authorities. *Model and Maker: Colonel Light Gardens and Charles Reade* contributes to the discussion at each of these levels.

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A review of 50 years of British planning

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About to be published by the Athlone Press is a collection of papers on *British Planning: 50 Years of Urban and Regional Policy*. Edited by Barry Cullingworth, this covers major aspects of post-war planning - from the optimistic vision of the 1940s through the vicissitudes of the following half century to the rethinking that has begun under the Blair government. Despite the constant flow of legislation and the bewildering spate of policies (particularly in relation to the countryside, inner cities, housing, and regional problems), the planning system today would be readily recognisable to its founders of the 1940s - with the major exception of the loss of development charges.

Paul Balchin surveys post-war housing policies and comments on their uneasy relationship with planning policies. He is critical of the overall achievements, and points to the severity of present housing problems which have arisen because of inadequate policies in the past. He lays much of the blame on the planning system, but argues that it is this system that could help to rectify the situation by the development of a new generation of new towns. Philip Booth analyses the discretionary nature of British planning which is in marked contrast to the zoning systems more widely adopted elsewhere. But all it not what it seems, and Booth's journey around the relevant issues shows that all systems have an essential degree of flexibility, though not usually to the same degree. Currently, the role of development plans is again under question and it is not clear that there is any easy way of reconciling the desirable certainty of plans with the equally desirable flexibility to deal with unforeseen and changing circumstances. Development plans are examined in a different context by Lyn Davies who (using Public Record Office documents) examines their lengthy and chequered birth, with an initial conception of an 'outline plan' eventually becoming the 1947 development plan. He raises important questions which remain to be settled, particularly the relationship between plans as a regulatory instrument and plans as a strategic planning document.

The centrality of the compensation - betterment issue is the subject of Malcolm Grant's chapter. Three brave attempts have crashed on political rocks, and there is no "no political will to revisit past failures". Instead, Grant proposes a rationalisation of the current 'ramshackle' device of planning gain.

Peter Hall's chapter on 'the regional dimension' shows how policies have been preoccupied with regional disparities, with only occasional land-use planning relationships. The plethora of policies were originally aimed at creating (or saving) jobs, but the focus shifted to national economic growth and to the disparities between inner cities and suburbs. Further change is now under way. Policies in relation to the countryside have been equally numerous and even more bewildering, as Ian Hodge notes in his chapter on the changing nature of countryside planning 'from urban containment to sustainable development'. As with so many aspects of planning, the scene has been transformed by social and economic change, and adopting policies to meet this presents acute difficulties. One of these is the question of property rights, which arises in

a different form in heritage planning. Peter Larkham surveys this policy area and notes its underlying ambiguity: it has no underlying or consistent philosophy, and unlike other areas of planning, there is no indication of any significant change. Of all the unforeseeable influences on post-war planning, perhaps that of Europe is the most unexpected. It may also be the least understood. Vincent Nadin provides an overview and also shows how 'spatial planning' is emerging in Europe. What impact it will have on Britain is unclear, particularly given the dramatic institutional change which is now in hand. Few planning issues have proved as controversial as design, with central attitudes changing not only with new governments but also with new ministers. John Gummer well illustrates the point. John Punter's chapter traces the policy vicissitudes and uncertainties, and argues for the broadening of the terms of the debate on design to embrace "a more sustainable approach to development and to questions of future urban forms and overall design quality".

The role of the courts in the British planning system is a limited one, but it operates within the context of an absence of a written constitution. The result, argues Michael Purdue in a discussion of 'the changing role of the courts in planning', is that at times the courts give "too much leeway to the decision maker". A number of significant issues arise in this discussion; and these may well assume a greater immediacy as changes continue to be made in the governmental and constitutional framework. Brian Robson's chapter on urban social policy is written in a distinctive personal style, emphasising the intractability of the problems and the inadequacy of the multiplicity of governmental initiatives. He recalls the vision of the wartime and post-war years, which is now largely forgotten and probably impossible to recreate. Some hope is provided by the new approaches made by the Blair government, but solutions are elusive. Robson points to the importance of public participation in planning, but what does this mean and how is it to be facilitated? Such questions are addressed by Yvonne Rydin in a discussion of post-war experience. Though she clearly points to the important role which 'participation' should play in the planning process, there are issues where local wishes have to be subservient to wider public interests. She concludes that "the real issue is over the legitimacy of the planning system": this requires that "the public feel that grievances have been adequately dealt with". The difficulties of public participation are well illustrated by the seemingly intractable problems with transport. Paul Truelove outlines the issues, and shows how the Buchanan Report's worst fears have come to pass, with "poor traffic access and a grievously eroded environment". The most extraordinary aspect of the history of transport policies is the persistent refusal to acknowledge the fundamental relationship between transport and land-use planning. This is now apparently accepted in words (as in the 1998 White Paper *A New Deal for Transport*) but it remains to be seen how effective action will be.

Most of the chapters in this book point up failures in post-war planning, but the new towns constitute a remarkable achievement. Urlan Wannop (a new town planner of long experience) surveys the features of this achievement. He starts with the observation that it was remarkable that the policy was ever adopted (and probably would not have been without the commitment of Lewis Silkin, the Minister of Town and Country Planning). The 32 new towns differ widely in many ways: the 'programme' consisted of many parts and was added to irregularly: "some intended additions

never arrived, and many parts became distorted". There is thus no single yardstick by which they can be measured. Judging their overall success is as difficult as deciding on the relevant criteria (several of which Wannop examines). His personal opinion is that they provide a means for dealing with current and emerging problems of urban development. For this purpose, the developing agency could be some form of partnership. This is the focus of Stephen Ward's chapter on 'public-private partnerships'. These have a surprisingly long history: they blossomed in the early post-war years in land assembly and redevelopment of commercial areas. They also operated in large-scale development of green-field sites, as at Cramlington in Tyneside, and South Woodham Ferrers in Essex. Partnerships were also employed in urban regeneration. Indeed, the idea "now permeates all aspects of public policy".

Christopher Wood's chapter on environmental policy illustrates the way in which issues move up and down the political attention ladder. This is typically the result of some disaster such as an oil spill or the London smog of 1952, though most dramatic was Mrs Thatcher's sudden conversion in 1988 to an environmental ethic. After periods of unconcern, and of renewed interest, intense environmental awareness is now in the mainstream of public policy. Finally, an American observer, David Callies, provides an outside perspective on British planning. He provides comments and insights which are both challenging and helpful in comprehending the complex system which we label 'town and country planning'. As a postscript, Barry Cullingworth highlights the nature of major current planning issues, the need to overcome NIMBYism, and the crucial importance of positive, proactive planning.

Inclusion in these announcements of publication does not preclude fuller review at a later date

London Docklands CD-ROM, AVP Multimedia, 1998, £69 (discount for quantity)

Originally produced for the London Docklands Development Corporation, this CD-ROM summarises the history of the Docklands and its regeneration. It chronicles:

- the history of the area from the mediaeval to the present day, and shows the reason for the area's decline;
- the story of the docklands regeneration, with particular reference to transport systems;
- details of the architectural and planning issues that arose from the urban redevelopment;
- the various ecological and wildlife projects that provide material useful for studying environmental change; and
- the relevant social aspects, including education, health care, recreation and work.

Meredith Burgmann and **Verity Burgmann**, *Green Bans, Red Union: Environmental activism and the New South Wales Builders Labourers' Federation*, Sydney: UNSW Press, 1998, ISBN 0 86840 760 7 $(Aus)29.95 pb

The Australian Green Ban Movement of the 1970s - building construction workers withholding their labour on projects for environmental, heritage and social reasons rather than as part of campaigns for the traditional better pay and conditions - represent a unique chapter in urban planning history.

There have been several books and papers on the subject. This latest one is based on a 1981 PhD in political science from Macquarie University by one of the authors, now a state politician but also a union activist in the 1970s. It thus integrates much primary material into the account and is keenly sensitive to the political and industrial relations scene of the times. While largely divorced from the urban / historical / planning context, it remains a valuable and detailed record of a remarkable period when, according to the publisher's blurb, "Australian workers led the world in innovative and stunningly effective forms of environmental protest".

James Ayres, *Building the Georgian City*, New Haven: Yale University Press, 1998, 288 pp, ISBN 0 300 07548 0, £45.00 hb

Ayres describes how builders - particularly in London - developed the English terraced house and town-centred building systems that influenced the architecture of Bath, Edinburgh, Dublin and even Philadelphia. He takes us through the building processes craft by craft, from the work of the surveyors and labourers who established the foundations to the joiners and painters who finished the interiors.

Ayers outlines the ways in which forms not only follow functions but are also conditioned by materials and methods. He describes how, with the burgeoning industrialisation of the second half of the 18th century, a separation emerged between making and designing; a division that led to the decline of the craftsman as designer and to a shift in power from the empirical understanding of those involved in the processes of making to the theoretically-based activities of the architect.

There is little overt 'planning', but - for the Georgian city where Summerson and others have explored the planning and architecture well - this is an extremely thorough exploration of the crafts that built the city, and their influence on form and style. This is an extremely well-written and readable book; copiously and appropriately illustrated.

Peter Hall and **Colin Ward**, *Sociable Cities: the Legacy of Ebenezer Howard*, Chichester: Wiley, 1998, 229 pp, ISBN 0 471 98505 8, £15.99 pb

This book was published to coincide with the centenary of Howard's *Tomorrow* - arguably the most influential work on city planning in the 20th century. Howard's revised *Garden Cities* argued for a return to civilised and sustainable urban communities (in today's planning terms). Here, Hall and Ward assess how Howard's work has faced up to the concerns of the 20th century. Rarely have these concerns been so pressing. In analysing future trends, the authors take Howard's vision into the 21st century.

An accessible review of Howard, explicitly linking planning history to planning's future.

Allen Cunningham (ed.), *Modern Movement Heritage*, London: Spon, 1998, 180 pp, ISBN 0 419 23230 3, £27.99 pb

An edited collection of 19 chapters from authors in 11 countries, structured in three parts: Conjectures and refutations; Strategies and policies; and Case studies. The book focuses on DOCOMOMO, the international movement launched in 1990 to conserve aspects of the Modern Movement (DOcuments and COnservation of buildings, sites and neighbourhoods of the MOdern MOvement). This is an interesting, well-illustrated and thought-provoking review of how planning treats its recent history.

Michael Stratton (ed.), *Structure and Style: Conserving 20th century Buildings*, London: Spon, 1997, 230 pp, ISBN 0 419 21740 1, £29.95 pb

A companion volume to the above. Fewer contributions, but each is lengthier, and explicitly addresses problematic issues of philosophy, practice and the problems of modern materials and techniques.

John Cornforth, *The Country Houses of England, 1948-1998*, London: Constable, 1998, ISBN 0 09 479150 3, £25.00 hb

In many ways a complementary volume to Mandler's book of 1997 but focusing solely on post-war issues. Published to mark the 25th anniversary of the Historic Houses Association, the book looks at what has happened, what has been saved and what lost, what has been achieved through the development and improvement of legislation and by private owners as well as public bodies, why professional thinking has broadened out and how public opinion has changed.

It is an interesting facet of planning history, relying not on planning issues *per se* but on finance - tax regimes, budgets and on personal initiative - from owners, politicians and pressure groups.

An interesting read and very reasonably priced; but too clearly written at speed for the anniversary - and most frustrating of all is the total lack of references!

Andrew S. Dolkart, *Morningside Heights: a History of its Architecture and Design*, Columbia University Press, 1998, 472 pp, ISBN 0 231 07850 1, £39.95

Christine Hunter, *Ranches, Rowhouses and Railroad Flats: American Homes and Neighborhoods*, New York: W.W. Norton, 1998, 192 pp, ISBN 0 393 730 25 5, £21.50

Richard W. Longstreth, *City Center to Retail Mall: Architecture, the Automobile and Retailing in Los Angeles, 1920-50*, Cambridge, Mass: MIT Press, 1998, 528 pp, ISBN 0 262 62125 8, new edition in paperback, £23.95

Hélène Vacher, *Projection Coloniale et Ville Rationalisée: le Rôle de l'Espace Colonial dans la Constitution de l'Urbanisme en France, 1900-1931*, Publications of the Department of Languages and Intercultural Studies, Aalborg University, vol. 17, 1997, 423 pp, ISBN 87-7307-552-3, kr. 300.00.

Ginette Baty-Tornikian in collaboration with **Catherine Titeux**, *Cités-Jardins en Europe: Politique, Patrimoine et Art de Vivre*, Ecole d'Architecture de Paris-Belleville, 1997, 168 pp. Photocopy available at 80FF from Ville Recherche Diffusion, Ecole d'Architecture de Nantes, rue Massenet, 44300 Nantes, France.

Charles E. Beveridge (edited by **David Larkin**), *Frederick Law Olmsted: Designing the American Landscape*, Universe Publishing, 1998, 240 pp, ISBN 0 7893 0228 4, £15.95 pb.

Peter Burman (ed.), *Architecture 1900*, Shaftesbury: Donhead, 1998, 366 pp, ISBN 1 873394 32 2 hb

Nancy Steiber, *Housing Design and Society in Amsterdam: Reconfiguring Order and Identity 1900-1920*, Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1998, 392 pp, ISBN 0 226 77417 1, £35.95

Peter Ennals and **Deryck Holdsworth**, *Homeplace: Making of the Canadian Dwelling over Three Centuries*, Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1998, 320 pp, ISBN 0 8020 4340 2, £45.00

Kermit Parsons (ed.), *Writings of Clarence S. Stein: Architect of the Planned Community*, Johns Hopkins University Press, 1998, 744 pp, ISBN 0 8018 5756 2, £49.50

David de Long (ed.), *Frank Lloyd Wright and the Living City*, Skira Editore, 1998, 336 pp, ISBN 88 8118 392 7, $40.00

PUBLICATIONS

Juan Manuel Bonet, *Ciudad Moderna: Arquitectura Racionalista en Valencia*, IVAM Centre Julio Gonzalez, 1998, 208 pp, ISBN 84 482 1666 0, £25.00.

Frank Tindall, *Memoirs and Confessions of a County Planning Officer: East Lothian, 1950-75*, Pantile Press, 1998, 350 pp, ISBN 0 9534013 08, £25.00 hb

Lois Wille, *At Home in the Loop: how Clout and Community built Chicago's Dearborn Park*, Southern Illinois University Press, 1998, ISBN 0 8093 2225 0, £15.50

Jukka Jokilheto, *History of Architectural Conservation*, Butterworth, Oxford, 1998, 384 pp, ISBN 0 7506 3793 5, £55.00

Mark Clapson, *Invincible Green Suburbs, Brave New Towns: Social Change and Urban Dispersal in Post-War England*, Manchester: Manchester University Press, 1998, 241 pp, ISBN 0 7190 4135 X, £45.00 hb

Andrzej Olechnowicz, *Working Class Housing in England Between the Wars: the Becontree Estate*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1997.

Danielle Voldman, *La Reconstruction des Villes Francaises de 1940 a 1954: Histoire d'une Politique*, Paris: L'Harmattan, 1997

Leo van den Berg, *Metropolitan Organising Capacity: Experiences in Organising Major Projects in European Cities*, Aldershot: Ashgate, 1997

Liliana Carmona, *Ciudad Vieja de Montevideo, 1829-1991: Transformaciones y Propuestas Urbanas*. Fundaction de Cultura Universitaria, 1997.

Ronn Pineo and **James A. Baer**, *Cities of Hope: People, Protests and Progress in Urbanizing Latin America, 1870-1930*, Westview Press, 1998.

(Thanks to the Urban History Association's *Urban History Newsletter* and to Rob Freestone for some titles; other titles are taken from publishers' catalogues and the trade press. Contributions for this section are very welcome - particularly from non-English language areas!)

REPORTS

Imported or Exported Urbanism? Report of Seminar, Beirut, Lebanon, 20th-22nd December 1998

Stephen V. Ward, Oxford Brookes University, UK

Introduction

December 1998 did not find the Middle East at its most peaceful. The American and British air forces were bombing Iraq; there was serious unrest in the emergent Palestinian state and South Lebanon remained a zone of conflict. Yet, aside from Israeli fighters occasionally overflying the city and causing sonic booms, a peaceful if (at least to a Englishman abroad) rather hectic normality prevailed in the streets of Beirut.

The city suffered cruelly during the long Lebanese civil war and still bears many obvious scars from this conflict, especially in the central district. Yet a truly remarkable rebuilding process is now under way. It is directed by *Solidere*, a redevelopment agency that makes a fascinating contrast with the agencies recently charged with analogous roles in western countries. Although we are apt to see these (the recently extinguished London Docklands Development Corporation is a good example) as mere ciphers of private development capital, the western model actually involves a *public sector* agency.

Solidere, by contrast, is an entirely *private sector* body, impressively well funded, largely from Lebanese sources (albeit mainly from outside Lebanon itself). The actual replanning is truly international, and the lavish *Solidere* book explaining the replanning, *Beirut Reborn*[1], makes explicit reference to recent examples of urban development drawn from all the familiar western models, together with a few from other major Middle Eastern cities such as Cairo and Tel Aviv. There is evidence, too, of wide international representation in the planning expertise which has been drawn on and deployed.

This active contemporary evidence of borrowing from a wide range of sources is only the latest of many diffusions of ideas and practices through this remarkable and deeply engaging city. Beirut has long been the principal interface between the ideas and customs of the west and the Arab world. This traditional "crossroads" role gave a particular appropriateness to the use of Beirut as the location for the seminar "Imported or Exported Urbanism", which explored more widely the diffusions of planning models and their encounters with indigenous ideas and practices.

The original idea for the seminar, which took its title from seminal writings on the subject in the late 1970s by Tony King (State University of New York, Binghamton, USA), was born in October 1996 during the IPHS conference at Thessaloniki, Greece. By chance, I happened to be present at its conception, at a restaurant close by the city's historic Rotonda. What turned out to be the Beirut seminar grew out of a conversation between Mercedes Volait (of URBAMA, the research centre for the study of urbanisation in the Arab world at the University of Tours, France) and Joe Nasr, then of the University of Pennsylvania but now of the American University and CERMOC (the Research Centre for the Study of the Contemporary Middle East) in Beirut. It is testimony to the resilience and persistence of the two organizers and the generosity and hospitality of the French research council (CNRS), the American University of Beirut and CERMOC that the seminar finally took place. The results certainly justified all these efforts.

The first day

The format for the seminar involved invited pre-circulated papers, presented

and discussed at greater length than is usual in larger conference sessions. The first paper was by Mercedes Volait herself. In it, she detailed the influence of European, especially British and French, planning models on Cairo between 1870 and 1950. Drawing on a very wide range of sources, she showed how subtle was the interplay of external and indigenous actors, very different from being a simple process of colonial imposition. The next paper, by Brenda Yeoh (National University of Singapore), was presented *in absentia*. It made an interesting comparison with the first by tracing Singapore planning from colonial times when British notions of, for example, public health and use of public space were sharply contested by the colonised people. After independence, planning, specifically in relation to housing and heritage, became a vehicle for building national identity.

The following session took this point a stage further. Reinforcing the Thessalonikan origins of the meeting, Alexandra Yerolympos (Aristotle University of Thessaloniki) reviewed the connections between emergent national identities and the adoption of western ideas of planning in the Balkans of the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries. She exemplified these particularly in relation to the great 1918 plan for Thessaloniki by the French *urbaniste* Ernest Hebrard, which reshaped the former Ottoman city into a western mould. The following paper, by Sharon Nagy (DePaul University, Chicago), was far more contemporary but again probed the relationship of foreign planning experts with indigenous society, this time in the oil-rich state Gulf state of Qatar. Sharon's anthropological background added a particular distinctiveness because it allowed her to make Qatar society into the subject rather than the object of her study. Inevitably in most such studies, planning and architectural historians have a tendency to focus on the foreign planners.

The next paper, by Frank Spaulding (Ohio State University, Columbus), also delivered *in absentia*, was another example of this useful interplay of anthropology and planning history. His subject was the politics of planning Islamabad, the purpose-built capital of Pakistan. In it, he showed how the plan, prepared by the Greek planner Constantinos Doxiadis, embodied many of the imperatives of the authoritarian military-controlled post-independence state. Following this, Fuad Malkawi (Jordan University of Science and Technology, Irbid) then reviewed Jordanian planning discourse over a longer period in relation to the planning of the Jordanian capital, Amman. Chosen as capital under the British mandate in the 1920s, he showed how the British connection was hugely important in establishing Jordanian planning. Again though, it was the interplay of colonialism, nationalism and planning which formed the most striking aspect.

The second day

We reconvened on Monday to hear first John Archer (University of Minnesota, Minneapolis) present his paper on Calcutta in the early-nineteenth century. Again, close attention was paid to the relationship of the indigenous and the colonisers. In particular, John showed how the imperatives of imperialism demanded two contradictory reactions by the British. One was to impose imperial authority by creating new buildings and spaces, the other was to sustain the existing forms that were part of the very economic activity that had drawn the British. Next, May Davie (University of Balamand, Lebanon/URBAMA, University of Tours) spoke about the making of the famous Etoile area of Beirut under the French mandate. It was commenced in 1927 and

completed (with some modifications) during the 1930s. Its star-shaped street pattern converging on a central place with a clocktower, though they required demolition of part of the old city, have become one of Beirut's most characteristic quarters, now carefully being renovated in the post-war rebuilding. The key question explored in the paper was how far it could be understood simply as a colonial model, essentially arguing that the process was far from being a simple process of imposition.

Something of the subtlety of the process of "imposing" external planning models came through in the next paper, by Roland Strobel, an independent researcher from Cincinnati. Presented *in absentia*, the paper showed how the new socialist Germany first adopted the modernist principles of the Weimar era. Very soon, however, its architects and planners were called to Moscow to be instructed in the new principles of socialist realism. This approach rejected the notion of an internationalist architecture in favour of approaches which contained more local references. The early examples were very attractive, but their high costs made them impractical as a model for widespread emulation. Joe Nasr then spoke about the way in which planning models were imposed, or diffused, within one country. He dealt with the planning of two historic towns in France, showing how, in a centralized country, there were some comparisons with the colonial experience. His paper also illustrated the remarkable continuities that were apparent in French planning in the 1940s, so that Vichy initiatives continued almost unaltered after the Liberation.

In the following session, two of the three papers were also presented *in absentia*. Fasil Zewdou (Temple University, Philadelphia) examined how Patrick Abercrombie followed up his 1944 Greater London Plan with a similar plan for Addis Ababa. The context was particularly interesting since it followed an invitation from the Ethiopian Emperor, rather than being a more straightforward exercise in colonial planning. Nevertheless, the plan served to introduce many western planning concepts in a way that paralleled what was happening in African colonies. The only South American contribution came from Alicia Novick (University of Buenos Aires) who reviewed the impact of French *urbanisme* on the Argentinian capital. In a paper which combined analysis and narrative, she showed how the French connection evolved and embodied different motivations on the part of the experts themselves, producing different patterns of interaction with Argentinians. The same basic theme of interaction between indigenes and foreigners was apparent in the third paper of this session, whose author was actually able to be present. Alaa el-Habashi (American Research Center in Egypt/University of Pennsylvania) examined the *Comite de conservation des monuments de l'Art arabe* in Egypt, which existed from 1881-1961. Again, the paper challenged the simple notion of western dominance, showing how Egyptian views of heritage were increasingly important, culminating in their dominance when the *comite* was abolished.

The last session on Monday was given over to the keynote speaker, Tony King, who reflected on developments in the field since his original thoughts. His address, entitled 'Writing trans-national space: identities, post-colonialisms and the cultural politics of representation in the 1990s' was an extensive review of a field now somewhat wider than his original focus on planning history. Perhaps the most fundamental point was how much a colonialism of the mind continues to shape the experience of former colonies. As he pointed out, the very fact that we find it

meaningful to refer to post-colonialism speaks volumes about the limited reach of the process of decolonisation. The automatic presumption of western superiority continues to structure the thinking of many of the most influential groups in the former colonies. He illustrated this in relation to transnational communities, especially those originally from the Indian sub-continent. Using many advertisements for Indian property developments, he showed how replete they were with the imagery of imperial Britain or the United States.

The final day

On Tuesday we resumed with individual papers. Sibel Zandi-Sayek (University of California/Berkeley) returned us to the transformation of Ottoman cities that had never been very far away. Her subject was very specific: the transformation of the harbour area of Izmir (Smyrna) in the later nineteenth century. Yet it was a microcosm of a very much wider process of transformation; and, again, showed how complex were the interactions of indigenous and western influences. Sherry McKay (University of British Columbia) then examined the interplay of modernism and regionalism in Algiers in the 1930s. She showed how many French thinkers developed a concept of a Mediterranean region that would embrace both France and Algeria. This was reflected in many architectural and urbanistic projects that revealed something of the unique complexity of the French-Algerian connection. Finally in this session, Michael Lang (Rutgers University, Camden) and Leonid Rapoutov (Moscow Architectural Institute) re-examined, *in absentia*, the very favourable reception of garden city ideas on Russia in the pre- and post-revolutionary periods.

The last session began with Nora Lafi (Institut de recherche sur le Maghreb contemporain-Tunis) who again brought us back to Ottoman cities, specifically Tripoli 1868-1911, which remained as a relatively isolated outpost of Ottoman influence. She showed how western models of urban reform absorbed by Istanbul were then re-exported to Tripoli, giving a rather different experience to the adjoining areas which felt the more direct hand of French colonial influence. Finally, the session closed with another paper presented *in absentia*, by Carola Hein (Kogakuin University, Tokyo). Her paper also showed how western ideas absorbed, in this case by Japan as a means of avoiding colonisation, were re-exported to colonies and other Asian countries.

The last main session took the form of a visit to the *Solidere* headquarters and a walking tour around the central district, where we were briefed about the rebuilding. It gave also a glimpse of the complex historical layering of this area and the opportunity to see the Etoile quarter about which we had heard the previous day.

Overall, these few days had proved to be a very worthwhile gathering, with an impressively high standard of well-focused papers. The extensive work on the Arab and former Ottoman world was particularly valuable, potentially filling a gap, at least in literature available in English. Fortunately, plans are being made to produce a book which should make at least some of the papers more widely available. In the meantime, further inquiries should be directed to the organisers.

Note

1. A. Gavin and R. Maluf, 1996, *Beirut Reborn: The Restoration and Development of the Central District*, London: Academy Editions.

List of Authors and Paper Titles

John ARCHER (Cultural studies and Comparative literature, University of Minnesota, USA): 'Paras, Palaces, Pathogens: Frameworks for the Growth of Calcutta (1800-1850)'.

May DAVIE (History, URBAMA, France/Institut d'Urbanisme de l'ALBA, Lebanon): 'Beirut and the "Etoile" Area: An Exclusively Colonial Project?'.

Alaa el-HABASHI (Architecture and Historic preservation, American Research Center in Egypt, Egypt/University of Pennsylvania, USA): 'The Preservation of Egyptian Cultural Heritage through Egyptian Eyes: The case of the Comité de conservation des monuments de l'Art arabe'.

Carola HEIN (Architecture and Urban planning, Kogakuin University, Japan): 'The Transformation of Western Planning Ideas in Japan and its Colonies'.

Nora LAFI (History, Institut de recherche sur le Maghreb contemporain-Tunis, Tunisia): 'From Europe to Tripoli in Barbary, via Istanbul: The Municipality and Reforms in an Outpost of the Ottoman Empire (1868-1911)'.

Michael LANG (Urban planning, Rutgers University, USA) and Leonid RAPOUTOV (History of architecture, Moscow Architectural Institute, Russia): 'Capital City as Garden city: The Planning of Post-Revolutionary Moscow'.

Fuad MALKAWI (Architecture and Urban planning, Jordan University of Science and Technology, Jordan): 'The Genesis of City Planning Discourse in Jordan'.

Sherry McKAY (Architecture, University of British Columbia, Canada): 'The Politics of Invention: Regionalism in Algeria in the 1930s'.

Sharon NAGY (Anthropology, DePaul University, USA): 'The Formalization of the Government's Role in Planning and Development in Qatar and its Impact on Relations between Government Agencies and the Public'.

Joe NASR (Urban planning, American University of Beirut and CERMOC, Lebanon): 'Local Wishes and National Commands: Planning Continuity in French Provincial Towns in the 1940s'.

Alicia NOVICK (Architecture and Urban planning, Facultad di Arquitectura y Urbanismo de Buenos Aires, Argentina): 'Foreign Experts and Urbanism in Buenos Aires (1902-1938)'.

Frank SPAULDING (Anthropology, Ohio State University, USA): 'The Politics of Planning Islamabad: An Anthropological Reading of the Master Plan of a New Capital'.

Roland STROBEL (Urban planning, Independent researcher, Cincinnati, USA): 'Socialist Realism in East Germany: The Importation of Stalin's Urban Design'.

Mercedes VOLAIT (History of architecture, CNRS/URBAMA, France): 'The Making of Modern Cairo (1870-1950): Hybrid Models for a 'European-style' Urbanism'.

Brenda YEOH (Geography, National University of Singapore, Singapore): 'From Colonial Neglect to Post-Independence Planning: The "Housing Question" in the Central Area of Singapore'.

Alexandra YEROLYMPOS (Urban planning and Architecture, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece): 'Urbanism as Social Engineering: Aspects of Balkan Town Planning and the Hébrard Plan for Thessaloniki'.

Sibel ZANDI-SAYEK (History of architecture and urbanism, University of California at Berkeley, USA): 'Commercialism, Modernity and Ethnic Politics: The Making of the Quays in 19th-Century Izmir'.

Fassil ZEWDOU (Architecture, Temple University/EI Associates, USA): 'The Capital and its Planner: Addis Ababa and Patrick Abercrombie'.

Keynote speaker

Anthony KING (Art History and Sociology, State University of New York - Binghamton, USA): 'Writing Transnational Space: Identities, Postcolonialisms and the Cultural Politics of Representation in the 1990s'

LATE NOTICE

CALL FOR PAPERS

5th AUSTRALIAN URBAN HISTORY/PLANNING HISTORY CONFERENCE, ADELAIDE, Thursday 13th-Saturday 15th April, 2000

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA (CITY WEST CAMPUS) NORTH TERRACE, ADELAIDE

CONFERENCE OVERVIEW

The 5th Australian Urban History/Planning History Conference will be held at the University of South Australia from 13th-15th April 2000. In keeping with the four previous conferences (Sydney 1993, Canberra 1995, Melbourne 1996, Sydney 1998), the Adelaide 2000 conference encourages papers in urban history and planning history from academics, practitioners and post-graduate students from a range of social science and humanities related disciplines including urban and cultural studies, political science, sociology, history, geography, planning, landscape architecture, architecture and related design fields.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Jane Jacobs (University of Melbourne) and Mark Peel (Monash University) have been invited to give keynote addresses. Jane Jacobs, cultural geographer and author of *Edge of Empire*, will provide a post-colonial perspective on urban historical themes. Mark Peel, urban historian and author of *Good Times, Hard Times: The Past and the Future in Elizabeth* will draw on his work on disadvantage, social justice and activism in contemporary Australian cities.

PROPOSALS FOR PAPERS

Proposals are invited for papers dealing with any aspect of urban history and planning history in Australia or overseas. Presentations of work-in-progress would be welcome as would papers that raise issues regarding the study/teaching of urban and planning history. Ideas for thematic or panel sessions are invited.

The conference encourages refereed and non-refereed papers. Refereed papers will be published in the Conference Proceedings. Copies of non-referred papers will be available at the conference. A schedule of dates relating to the refereeing process, as well as style guidelines, will accompany notice of acceptance of papers. To enable the Proceedings to be prepared in time for the conference, final refereed papers will be required by 31st December 1999. Whether or not the paper is to be refereed, potential presenters are requested to submit an Abstract by the date indicated below.

SUBMITTING A PROPOSAL

The paper proposal should include:

* your name
* affiliation
* postal, e-mail, phone and fax contact details
* title of paper
* an abstract of 250 words (maximum)
* an indication of whether or not you wish your paper to be refereed. If there is no indication, the conference organisers will assume that the paper is not to be refereed.

DUE DATE FOR RECEIPT OF ABSTRACTS:

Friday 21th May 1999

ENQUIRIES AND PROPOSALS

All enquiries and proposals for papers should be sent to:

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PUBLICATIONS: BOOK REVIEWS

Peter Burman (ed.), **Architecture 1900**, Shaftesbury: Donhead, 1998, 366pp, ISBN I 873394 32 2

This wide-ranging book is based, in part, on contributions to an international conference held in York in May 1997. The delegates came from 19 countries and the resulting volume contains 36 essays by 38 contributors. The pieces touch on global and local issues and consideration is given to everything from decorative schemes to whole districts. Countries which figure in the various chapters include England, Belgium, New Zealand, Spain, and parts of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Some of the essays concentrate on individual cities or parts of those cities. There are pieces on Beunos Aires, Calgary, Cardiff, Edinburgh, Lisbon, Nancy, Prague, Riga, Rio de Janiero and Tblisi.

Some authors consider single buildings. The individual studies include dwellings, including Wightwick Manor, religious buildings, such as Warley Church, and art schools, like the Glasgow School of Art and the 'Bauhaus Osaka'.

The contributions are arranged under five sub-headings: Style and Technique, Personalities and Cross-Currents, The Home, The Urban Context, and Attitudes to Conservation. In his introductory chapter, Alan Powers dismisses the older monolithic and Whiggish histories of Modern architecture, and suggests that "we should bring dualisms and contradictions to the fore rather than conceal them".

Despite the differences between the many examples of architecture from the period 1880-1914 covered in this volume, there are certain themes which keep recurring throughout the book. The most obvious relate to the rejection of Art Nouveau and the desire to produce a national style. Pouers suggests that Hermann Muthesius's distinction between *Stilarchitektur* and *Baukunst* is the key to the architecture of the period around 1900. The growing interest in the latter helps to explain why the widespread admiration for the English Arts and Crafts could be reconciled with a desire to produce an architecture which expressed national values.

The period around 1900 was a period of architectural vitality in many countries. It was a period of local, national and international architectural experimentation, and these essays offer an interesting introduction to the complex and sometimes interlinked aesthetic and social experiences of the time. They touch on the desire to live in harmony with nature, the quest for a homogenous culture in many states and the conservative and progressive elements in the architecture of the time. Some of that architecture has been much studied, but many of the contributions to this volume will undoubtedly widen the horizons of its readers. Some of the later chapters highlight the need for conservation in some cities, while others point to the dilemmas in conservation and restoration.

This book should appeal to those with an interest in architecture and urban development in this period, especially those seeking to develop a more complex and international perspective on the period. It also contains material of interest to those interested in conservation.

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Arturo Almandoz Marte, *Urbanismo europeo en Caracas (1870-1940)*. Caracas: Equinoccio (Ediciones de la Universidad Simón Bolivar) and FUNDARTE (Colección Rescate, No. 23), 1997. ISBN USB: 980-237-163-7 or ISBN FUNDARTE: 980-253-337-8.

Most research studies of Latin American cities tend to be concerned with the contemporary era, or at least the latter half of the 20th century. In terms of historical research, many urban studies examine the evolution of the Hispanic colonial city before the early-19th century. The book by Arturo Almandoz is therefore interesting as it examines the growth of Caracas in the latter third of the 19th century and only a little more than the first third of the 20th century. The book is a Spanish version of a doctoral thesis that the author was awarded by the Architectural Association in London in 1996, and reflects a wide range of research work in archives in both Caracas and London.

It does provide an interesting period in which to study the historical evolution of Caracas. In the late-19th century, Caracas was still a sleepy colonial city, relatively unaffected by the growth of economic activity that distinguished the capitals of most other South American countries. However, following the discovery of oil in the early-

20th century, the stagnant urban economy began to be transformed and, from 1910 to 1940, the city experienced a period of major construction under the dictator Gomez. As Almandoz points out, the major influences were European during the period covered by the book rather than North American. It was only after 1940 that the influence of North American architecture and planning started to mould Caracas into an outpost of the North American continent.

The book starts purposely in 1870 as this coincides with the triumphal entry of General Guzman Blanco into Caracas. Guzman Blanco's presidency (or the *Guzmanato* as the author refers to it) halted the political chaos and economic stagnation that had plagued Venezuela for much of the 19th century. It lasted from 1870 to 1888, and Almandoz devotes a third of the book to this period. Guzman Blanco was a great Europhile - indeed he spent two extended periods of time travelling in Europe during his presidency, leaving deputies in charge in Caracas. Guzman was particularly drawn to Great Britain and France rather than elsewhere in Europe, and the author attributes the *Guzmanato* as the period that broke the post-colonial dependence on Spain and modernised Caracas by bringing in new urban designs imported from Northern Europe and, most particularly, those from Paris during the Second Empire.

Guzman Blanco was one of the few 'well-educated' presidents of Venezuela during the 19th century, and probably the only one with an interest in urban planning and travelling around the cities of Europe (while in office!). He set up an urban planning code in 1871, one year after entering office. One of Guzman Blanco' s major projects was the National Exposition of 1883 - which led to, or coincided with, the electrification of the capital, the building of a 46 km aqueduct and a municipal theatre, the creation of boulevards and the refurbishment of the Calle del Comercio (at that time the main north-south road in the capital). Such was Guzman Blanco's interest in infrastructure that he had created the Ministry of Public Works in 1874 and established a School of Civil Engineering and Architecture at the Central University of Venezuela in Caracas in the same year. Another facet to Guzman Blanco was that he was both a mason and catholic. Hence he built both a masonic temple and neo-classical basilica during his presidency.

Unfortunately, after the colourful Guzman Blanco, there was no president interested in urban planning. Furthermore, after his presidency, economic and political chaos resumed. However, the Tachira strongmen, Castro, Gomez and Contreras ruled Venezuela with an iron fist from 1899 to 1941 - without much consideration for urban niceties. It was during this time that Venezuela's prevailing architectural influence began to change from the European to the North American. However, although in Almandoz's words they were "mad years" of rapid oil-fuelled growth, significant improvements in health and hygiene and a rapid expansion in housing, population and transport networks occurred. By the end of the period, however, a *Plan Monumental de Caracas* was published, envisaging Caracas as a focal city of the Caribbean. As a result, Caracas needed a plan for expansion similar to that of Haussmann for Paris. French planning was still contextualising the growth of Caracas - soon, however, to be replaced by the growth of North American influence in the 1940s.

Arturo Almandoz's book is certainly a useful resource for all those interested in the growth of the Latin American city, and particularly before the period of rapid growth that took place after the 1940s. The book has been very careful in giving the political and economic context to the urban growth of Caracas. However, apart from the *Guzmanato*, the wider political and economic context is not that relevant to the focus of study. Nevertheless, the exploration of how the European tradition in urban planning continued in Caracas until the 1940s is one valuable contribution of the book to the historical development of the Latin American city.

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Frank Tindall, *Memoirs and Confessions of a County Planning Officer*, Ford, Midlothian: The Pantile Press, 1998, 325 pp, £25.00, ISBN 0 953 4013 0 8 hb

This is an exceptional book. Few planners ever describe anything of their working experience, and fewer could do so with such enthusiasm and charm as the book displays - just as Frank Tindall did in life. It might be truer to describe it as a unique book, because I can think of no other planner from the UK who has or is likely to write so fully of a career spanning from the passage of the Town and Country Planning Act 1947 to the mid-1980s, and in retiral for over a decade subsequently. Frank died in 1998, and the book runs to that point.

Frank worked early with Lubetkin at Peterlee and with Mears in the Lothians, but only late in Frank's career did practice at large catch up with his long-held ideals in sustainable development and conservation, pursued for almost 40 years as County Planning Officer for East Lothian and then as Director of Physical Planning for the Lothian Region. The Regional Council perhaps less suited his style and the talents and experience he had developed in East Lothian, and the book is relatively light on his later years working from Edinburgh.

He was a socialist from public school and university at Cambridge. He was an historian whom many more than I always took to be an architect, so much did his work and interests seem to be from that background. He was from the group of passionate planners whose idealism was shaped by the reformist movements encouraged by the circumstances of the 1939-45 War.

He writes in tribute to Geddes's influence, and to the 'vision' he saw in Mear's 1948 Regional Plan for Central and South East Scotland. But he also comments how he found the Plan to be of little practical help in preparing the first County Development Plan for East Lothian. One wonders how benign was the Geddesian influence when scanning so many development plans - particularly from the 1950s - in which the massive weight of data forms a marvellous historical record, but seems to have had relatively little bearing on the shape of the consequential plan.

Frank did not become immersed and drowned in the repetitive tides of survey and plan. He created his own ways of achieving change in East Lothian, by action and initiative beyond the statutory necessity of paper plans. The book records this by case after case, described vividly in text and richly illustrated by photographs and diagrams. His early work included help to the post-1945 housing drive by finding room to build where surfaces were riddled with old mine workings. Then, as the scope for planning could be widened there were problems of flooding, hill and coastal erosion to be faced, together with conservation of the fine classical and vernacular architecture of East Lothian and of its coast, farmland and moors.

The rescue of both the physical fabric and economic base of the historic but decayed county town of Haddington became a principal effort over some 25 years. Tindall's drive in the campaign was central, simultaneously challenging the social caste system of the town and the philistinism of other departments of local government. But equally absorbing are his accounts of success and sometimes failures in negotiating for new employment to support East Lothian's efforts in physical development and conservation. The interplay between farming, industrial, conservation and political interests is specifically and entertainingly described, as with the effect of the *boutonnière* rose which Frank habitually wore and which captured for the county the Norwegian television manufacturer, Tandberg.

Similarly engrossing are accounts of negotiations over the design and locations of the Cockenzie coal-fired and Torness nuclear power stations, and the progress of initiatives to conserve and restore historic buildings and woodlands in the Lothians.

Notably, both planners who pioneered environmental action in Scotland were from England. It was a coincidence depending most of all on the rich character of the two men, whose careers ran parallel not just in time but in spanning the Forth estuary. Slightly puckish Frank Tindall with a black beret resting on outrigger wings of residual hair pioneered the saving and restoration of historic buildings and townscapes on the southern shore; bluff and burly-seeming Maurice Taylor led in reclaiming the squalor of the subsidence and coal bings left by the declining pits in Fife on the northern shore. The two men died within ten months of each other, but recollection of their humanity, pragmatic idealism, guile and determination is a legacy of pleasure to match the rare contributions both made to the quality of Scotland.

Frank's memoir is an exceptional, entertaining and fascinating historical account. It is to be wished that there were other extensive personal accounts of how planning has been achieved. For cases like Hertfordshire, Lancashire, Coventry, Glasgow or Manchester, the academic and official accounts are scarcely real without the kind of intimacy which Tindall brings. David Eversley wrote revealingly about his time in the GLC, and Ted

PUBLICATIONS: BOOK REVIEWS

Kitchen has produced a constrained account of Manchester in recent years; but neither covered their work as broadly nor as roundly as does Tindall, whose book gives colour and substance to the contemporary burgeoning of academic analyses and theoretical critiques of planning processes. It is an absorbing record of Frank's highly personal contributions to planning. Even the book has been published from his own home.

There are rich, vivid and crisp accounts of how projects were carried through. Anecdotes indirectly reveal how Frank's personality must have contributed as much to the success of his work as did his methodical pursuit of his goals. The examples of projects of many kinds are extensive. However, the book is not quite a teach-yourself-manual in planning, because to match what Frank achieved would require equal ingenuity, vision and a comparable input of charm. Those who were uncertain about Frank's projects had to be beguiled or, if resistant, had to be bulldozed in the last resort. But the lessons of experience recounted are both a delight to read and an encouragement to those of lesser confidence. The book is a wonderful additional gift by Frank to the wider literature of planning to add to all the physical evidence of his work for the Lothians. Planning history does not come any more authoritative or entertaining than this.

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Miles Glendinning (ed.), *Rebuilding Scotland: The Postwar Vision 1945-1975*, East Linton: Tuckwell Press, 1997, 194pp, ISBN I 898410 33 X, £20.00 pb

This book seeks to open up the study of this period of vigorous, but widely condemned, period of urban redevelopment in Scotland. The authors seek to begin to clear away the blanket condemnations of these schemes and dissolve the Utopia-Dystopia presentations of these ventures. The book draws on a series of national symposia and exhibitions staged by the Scottish National Group of DOCOMOMO and other organisations.

The volume is divided into four main sections. The first contains a brief architectural historical introduction to the period by the editor. The next two sections contain direct testimonies by key figures from the time, politicians, planners and architects. One part relates to patronage and building, and the other is concerned with 'Architects' Architecture'. The book ends with a preliminary register of 60 key monuments from the period 1945-1970, compiled by members of DOCOMOMO. This initial list was chosen to represent the diversity of building types, the variety of architectural styles (though Modern design predominated) and the values of the time.

This introductory reassessment of this dramatic period of reconstruction seeks to capture some of the energy, passion and daring felt at the time. It is presented in the belief that we are now reaching a position where we can begin to build up a historical perspective of the period. It should, at least - as the Prologue suggests - lay down markers for future research.

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PLANNING HISTORY

BULLETIN OF THE INTERNATIONAL PLANNING HISTORY SOCIETY

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The prime aim of *Planning History* is to increase awareness of developments and ideas in planning history in all parts of the world. In pursuit of this, contributions (in English) are invited from members and non-members of the International Planning History Society alike, for any section of *Planning History*. Non-native English speakers should not be concerned if their English is not perfect. The Editor will be happy to help improve its readability and comprehension, but unfortunately neither he nor the Society can undertake translations.

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These should be in the range of 2,000 - 3,000 words. They may be on any topic within the general remit of the IPHS and may well reflect work in progress. Articles should normally be referenced with superscript numbers and endnotes. Refer to recent issues for guidance on referencing and text style.

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Notices of relevant publications from publishers' publicity material are useful; and full publication reviews (700 - 1,000 words) are encouraged. Abstracts of relevant journal papers, particularly those originally published in a language other than English, are requested.

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