Planning History

Bulletin of the Planning History Group

ISSN 0267-0542

Editor
Dennis Hardy
School of Geography and Planning
Middlesex Polytechnic
Queensway
Enfield
Middlesex
EN3 4SF
Telephone 01-368 1299 Extn 2299
Telex 8954762
Fax 01-805 0702

Associate Editor for the Americas
Dr Marc A. Weiss
Lincoln Institute of Land Policy
1000 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge
Massachusetts 02138
USA

Associate Editor for the Pacific
Dr Robert Freestone
DC Research
Design Collaborative Pty. Ltd.
225 Clarence Street
Sydney NSW 2000
Australia

Production
Design: Dawn Wilson
Word Processing: Sandy Weeks
Printing: Middlesex Polytechnic Print Centre

Planning History is published three times a year
for distribution to members of the Planning
History Group. The Group as a body is not
responsible for the views expressed and
statements made by individuals writing or
reporting in Planning History. No part of this
publication may be reproduced in any form
without permission from the editor.

Notes for Contributors
The prime aim of Planning History is to increase
an awareness of developments and ideas in
planning history in all parts of the world. In
pursuit of this aim, contributions are invited
from members and non-members alike for any
section of the bulletin. Articles should not
exceed 2000 words, and may well reflect work
in progress.

Contents

EDITORIAL
NOTICES
ARTICLES
Le Corbusier As Town Planner: Notes On New Sources From The Centenary Year........... 4
John R. Gold
Import Of Urban Planning Into Malaysia .................................................. 7
Goh Ban Lee
Planning History Bulletin: Index To Articles And Features, Vols. 1-9 .......................... 13
RESEARCH IN PROGRESS
Planning For Leisure 1918-1939 ............................................................. 17
Sa mantha Quested
Wythenshawe Housing Estate: Concept To Development ................................... 19
Kevin Brady
REPORTS
The Rebuilding Of Europe’s Bombed Cities After 1945 ...................................... 21
Anthony Sutcliffe
Women In Planning History: Theories And Applications ................................ 23
Alison Ravetz
SOURCES
Patrick Geddes Centre For Planning Studies ................................................ 26
PLANNING HISTORY PRACTICE
Harlow’s 40th Anniversary ................................................................. 28
Europa Nostra .......................................................... 28
NETWORKS
Historical Geography Research Group ................................................. 29
National Historic Communal Societies Association .................................. 29
PUBLICATIONS
Planning History Microfilm Series: British Planning History 1900-1952 .............. 31
Abstracts ........................................................................ 31
PHG ...................................................................... 35
Back Issues .................................................................. 35
Editorial

As the bulletin enters its tenth year - and with changes to the editorial team - it might be timely to take stock of how far it has come in this period, and to consider how best it can serve the interests of the Planning History Group in the future.

Compared with the pioneers who launched the first issue in 1979, we have the benefit of being able to draw on the product of nearly a decade of lively research and development that has added considerably to our store of knowledge and understanding. Planning history has gained in stature over this period, widening its circle of contributors and strengthening its international dimension. While the introduction of Planning Perspectives in 1986 has filled an important gap in terms of publishing in-depth articles and book reviews in this field, the bulletin retains a complementary role in keeping planning historians in touch with a whole range of new developments. Ours is a vibrant field of activity, and (as frontier historians will know) changes on the frontier constantly require new maps. Perhaps, then, it as a map to aid the traveller and to chart new paths that the bulletin can best continue to serve its readers.

Reflecting this approach, the reader will find a number of changes in the presentation of the bulletin - in its name (simplified now to Planning History), in the various sections, and in design and format. These are all changes designed to build on our experience with PHB, to continue to accommodate the catholic interests of planning historians, and to make use of new publishing technology. In drafting these proposals, the new editorial team is indebted for the enthusiastic support and advice of the PHG Executive.

What is unchanged is that Planning History remains a bulletin to carry news as well as short articles, an international notice-board to keep us all in touch. Like all new editors, I will always be keen to receive new material, from you and from other sources that you can help to identify.

At this juncture, our sincere thanks to the outgoing editor, Michael Hebbert, ever energetic and always receptive to new ideas, and to Daniel Schaffer (who is now busily engaged in editing his own journal). Robert Freestone stays on as Associate Editor for the Pacific, and Marc Weiss comes in as Associate Editor for the Americas.

Dennis Hardy
International Planning History Conference
The History of the International Exchange of Planning Systems
Tokyo, Japan : 11-12 November 1988

TOKYO INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM
The Centenary of Modern Urban Planning and Its Future Perspectives Towards the 21st Century
Tokyo, Japan : 8-10 November 1988

The Third International Planning History Conference (co-sponsored by the City Planning Institute of Japan and the Planning History Group) is being held in association with the Tokyo Symposium. The timing of the two events is to mark the centenary of the enactment of Japan’s first planning legislation, ‘Tokyo Shinkaietorei’.

The Conference follows in spirit the first and the second International planning history conferences (London, 1977; Bruges, 1986), but for the first time to be held outside the Western world. So the focus will be Japan and East Asia. There is agreement that during the past hundred years the modern Western planning system (i.e., legislation, administration, professionalism and planning concepts, ideologies and techniques) has been transferred to Japan and East Asia. Very little however, is known (especially in the West) about the actual encounter, influence, imitation, rejection or problems. Asian planning history will illustrate some points through which we might reconsider the historical nature and future perspective of modern Western urban planning. This may helpfully become a starting point for planning history and broaden its scope from the Western-centred one to a really broad “world history.”

The official languages will be English and Japanese with simultaneous interpretation provided. The programme on ‘Integrated Conservation of the Historic Environment’ will deal with towns of all sizes and be held outside the Western world.

Conference Contact:
Dr. C. Shinoda
Professor, Department of Geography
University of Tokyo, Tokyo 113, Japan
Fax: 03-740-7872

Japanese speakers contact:
Shun-ichi Watanabe (Dr.)
Chairman CPII Committee for the 3rd IIPH
Director, Urban Planning Dept.
Research Institute Tsukuba Science City 305
Japan
Telephone: 0298-62151 Ext.430
Fax: 0298-64-2899
Telex: 365250 BRIMOC

COUNCIL OF EUROPE CONFERENCE
Heritage and Successful Town Regeneration

This international conference is being arranged under the auspices of the Council of Europe’s study programme on ‘Integrated Conservation of the Historic Heritage’, and in association with the Council’s Standing Conference of Local and Regional Authorities. The joint organisers are the Council of Europe, the Department of the Environment and English Heritage.

The aim of the conference is to explore developments in the strategy of using heritage assets to revive towns as attractive places in which to work, live, visit and do business.

The emphasis will be practical – to study industrial and other towns in Britain, Europe and America which are successfully using this approach; to analyse the individual elements of a strategy; and to discuss the practicalities of turning analysis into action. The programme will deal with towns of all sizes.

Applications and nominations, including if possible a resume and references, should be sent to:
Professor Stephen B. Burbank
University of Pennsylvania Law School
34th & Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19104-6204

The University of Pennsylvania is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer. Women and minority candidates are encouraged to apply.

OBITUARY: Ivan Boileau

Ivan Boileau, who died on Christmas Day 1986, was until January 1984 Professor and Head of Department of Town Planning at the University of Auckland, New Zealand.

Born in England, his planning career included a spell shortly after the Second World War in the London office of Lord Holford. This was followed by two posts with county planning departments, before entering the academic world as a lecturer at the University of Manchester. At the end of the 1950s he moved to the University of Sydney, and then, in 1969, to Auckland.

During his time at Auckland, Ivan Boileau was involved in many issues, both academic and professional. He was a member of many national and Doctoral theses for many Australian universities, and an honorary Visiting Fellow at the Research School of Social Sciences, Australian National University. He was planning consultant to the Singapore Government as part of its UN programme for metropolitan planning and urban renewal, to the New Zealand Government for Rolleston New Town, and to the Auckland Regional Authority and the Auckland Harbour Board for the Waitetama Harbour Study and Plan.

He contributed to ANZAAS Conferences and was Section President for Architecture and Planning for the 1973 Perth Conference. In 1979 he was Session Chairman at the 4th Asian Pacific Social Development Seminar in Seoul, South Korea. He also served with the Technical Committee of the National Roads Board for Traffic and Safety, was a member of the Working Party on Urban Objectives for the Environmental Council and a member of the Working Party on Urban Expansion for the Physical Environment conference.

(Extract from full obituary in Planning Quarterly, New Zealand, March 1987.)
Articles

Le Corbusier As Town Planner: Notes On New Sources From The Centenary Year

John R. Gold

Geography Unit, Oxford Polytechnic

Many of the omens identifiable in advance of the Le Corbusier centenary suggested that little new scholarship would be forthcoming. Quite apart from the natural tendency of centenaries to generate into uncritical paean to individual genius, Corb's work has considerable symbolic significance for current architectural debate. To the critics of modernism, Corb's visual designs, especially his urban scale, have assumed symbolic properties out of all proportion to their actual significance - particularly for those who insist upon viewing the Ville Contemporaine/ Ville Radieuse as the prototype to which we may be attributed all the ills of the modern city. With this in mind, it was certainly possible that the beleaguered architectural establishment might have taken the opportunity to re-open the whole debate on architectural vision, using a sympathetic exposition of Corb's work as a vehicle to mount an ideological counter-offensive against critics. The ensuing debate would have been as polarised as it would have been sterile.

In the event, these fears were not realised. For the most part, the issues explored in the material on Le Corbusier published or released during 1987 retained a low ideological profile. Although it was perhaps depressing to see the frequency with which a familiar coterie of architectural commentators appeared and reappeared as exhibition designers, catalogue writers, authors of articles and monographs, reviewers and, even, film-makers, various new dimensions of Corb's work have been unearthed, especially with regard to the post-1945 period. Indeed, at their best, they have added substantially to our knowledge of the architect's work in the context of his times.

This review takes the theme of Le Corbusier's ideas on town planning and examines the insights available from major sources published during the centenary year which had come to hand by December 1987. It is divided into three sections, dealing respectively with exhibition catalogues, film, and books and collections.

1. Exhibition Catalogues.

The major exhibitions held in Britain and France all produced substantial exhibition catalogues. From the point of view of this review, the most useful, and accessible, volumes are those produced for the exhibitions at the Hayward Gallery, London (5th March - 7th June 1987) and the Pompidou Centre, Paris (6th October 1987 - 3rd January 1988).

Taking them in reverse order, the Pompidou Centre's exhibition was accompanied by an enormous catalogue, Le Corbusier: une encyclopédie. Following the chronological approach of the exhibition itself, the catalogue supplies an integrating perspective of the flow of Corb's urban schemes alongside his other architectural and literary works, although curiously little new information is added about the content of those schemes. Rather more useful is the slimmer catalogue to the thematic Hayward Gallery exhibition, Le Corbusier Architect of the Century. Tim Benton's section on urbanism (pp.200-237) provides a fine visual compendium of Corb's urban-scale projects; Sunand Prasad et al's chapter on Chandigarh (pp.278-337) provides a wealth of empirical material although continues to underplay the role played by Matthew Novicki and, for that matter, Jane Drew and Maxwell Fry; and Judi Loach's brief account (pp.338-343) opens up a neglected aspect of Corb's post-war work by looking at the buildings and projects for Firminy (near St Etienne). From the current viewpoint, however, the highlight of the catalogue was Kenneth Frampton's essay 'The other Le Corbusier: primitive form and the linear city' (pp.29-34). Although popular opinion associates Corb with the green, vertical 'city of towers', he equally worked on linear city plans throughout the inter-war period. The article itself demonstrates a flux in the Modern Movement's thinking at the urban scale that has rarely been documented adequately elsewhere.

2. Film.

Video recorders were probably working overtime in various West European nations in late 1987, with the television premiere of Jacques Barba's two-part film on Le Corbusier. Made with the participation of a large number of French governmental and cultural agencies and, significantly, the Fondation Le Corbusier, the film is a profoundly tentative project that scarcely needed the gratuitous introductions to the British showings by Stephen Gardiner - the most ardent of Anglophone Corbusier-philes. Yet despite having to endure endless sequences of Corb lecturing wide-eyed interviewers on how the world had spurned his genius, the film contains some highly valuable footage. Part 1 (pre-war) has a remarkably high-quality sequence on the Voisin Plan, a superb set of images overlain with comments from some of the so-called Athens Charter and, and, the real highlight, clips from Lazlo Moholy-Nagy's film of the key pre-war CIAM Congress (IV, held in Athens and on the SS Patria). Part 2 (post-war) is less focussed on the urban scale, but still contains useful material on the schemes for Saint-Dié and Marseille.


No new source published during 1987 rivalled the scope and interpretative powers of William Curt's fine text on Le Corbusier published in 1986; indeed the best of 1987's crop were essentially re-issues of material. Pride of place in this list must go to Geoffrey Ainley and J. F. H. Williams' pioneering Le Corbusier Guide. It incorporates material on Corb's units in an unusually subtle treatment of the subject of high-rise public housing - perhaps appropriately however, the most throughgoing treatment of Corb's career appeared in the Architectural Review, the journal that for long was the warhorse of British architectural modernism. Entitled 'Corbusier 100', the January 1987 issue contains a set of articles nominally united by a collective focus on Corb's (futurist) use of history. Although many of the articles are devoted to building or even interior design, useful material is available from Caroline Constant's 'From the Governor's palace and gardens at Chandigarh...to the attractive looking collecting...to the State of French housing that Le Corbusier founded during the war and which drifted on, in one form or another, until around 1960.

4. Conclusion.

Le Corbusier continues to receive an extraordinary large proportion of the attentions of those interested in modernism - indeed he feels rather sorry for that other great pioneer of modernism, Erich Mendelsohn, whose centenary might well have received much more attention.
Import Of Urban Planning Into Malaysia

Dr Goh Ban Lee
Centre for Policy Research
Universiti Sains Malaysia

Introduction
Urban planning is recognised as an important activity in regulating the use and development of land in Malaysia. This is evidenced by the establishment of a fairly well-structured planning machinery to carry out planning activities and the allocation of relatively large sums of funds to prepare urban development plans. It is also a statutory activity. This means not only that urban development plans are enforceable by law, but also the form, content, scope and the methods of planning are circumscribed by statutes.

But urban planning in Malaysia is not an indigenous activity. It is largely an import from the West, particularly England. In those words, the assumptions, ideology, scope, form and content of urban planning in Malaysia are largely copied from England.

The objective of this paper is to provide readers with an understanding of historical factors which moulded urban planning in this country. Towards this end, this paper will focus on how and by whom urban planning was introduced into Malaysia and how it evolved in the early stages of its development here.

Brief Notes on Malaysia
Malaysia is a federation of 13 states and two federal territories. Geographically, it is made up of two entities: Peninsular or West Malaysia comprising 11 states including the capital city of Kuala Lumpur and East Malaysia comprising Sarawak, Sabah and the Federal Territory of Labuan. This paper, however, is limited to the development of urban planning in West Malaysia.

In the early 20th century, when urban planning was emerging as a recognisable and distinct professional practice in Europe, several countries, by means of colonial administration, were already using the concept of urban planning in West Malaysia. However, the implementation of urban planning was initially resisted by the French and the British, who were skeptical of the concept of urban planning.

Notes
1. 'Le Corbusier', (pseud. Charles-Edouard Jeanneret), was born at La Chaux-de-Fonds (Switzerland) on 6th October 1887. He died at Cap-Martin, (France), on 27th August 1965.
2. It should be noted that I have not attempted to cover the large number of articles on Le Corbusier, which were published during the year, except where these form part of larger edited collections.
5. 'Le Corbusier' was produced for Ciné Service Techniques, with the participation of a large number of other networks including the British Channel 4. Although details as to showing rights are far from clear, inquiries about this film should be addressed to Channel 4.
6. Interestingly, Corb's war-time period in Vichy France is diplomatically omitted.
8. The three volumes are Towards a New Architecture, The City of Tomorrow and The Deconstructive Art of Tomorrow, all published (1987), London: Architectural Press. They are also available as a boxed set, priced at a very reasonable £29.50.
9. Brookes, H.A., ed. (1987) Le Corbusier: the Garland Essays, New York: Garland Publishing. Also available in paperback under the title Le Corbusier, Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press. In passing, I can't resist responding to the slightly supercilious note in Brookes' Foreword (p. viii) that: 'the British annoy me with their false familiarity, their name dropping, by insisting on calling him "Corb". Having spent a year interviewing the major surviving British modern architects of the inter-war period - all of whom were truly familiar with Le Corbusier and had no reason to drop names, yet all of whom referred to him affectionately as "Corby" - I see no problems in calling him 'Corb' here.

The need for Town Planning legislation was again raised in the Federal Council of the FMS in 1915. According to the speaker:...

...the conditions of bad housing are so closely allied with crime, mortality and wretchedness. Experience in Municipal life at Home has taught what is needed, and certain main principles are admitted: the need of control over private ownership, the relation between over-crowding and crime, open-space and health, the disastrous consequences of neglect to lay out streets, and so on, beforehand. Surely, it would be unparlamentable, if through lack of foresight, we allowed these experiences to be repeated in this country. (E. MacFadyen, FMS Council Proceedings, 1915:865).

Having shown that there was a need for town planning, the speaker then rebutted the officials
in February 1921. In Reade, Malaya could not have found a man more committed to urban planning, specifically planning in the tradition of the Garden Cities and Town Planning Association of England. From his own writings and those about him and his work, Reade was more than a practicing town planner. He was a crusader of urban planning.

Born in New Zealand in 1880, Reade went to London in the early 1900s and was attracted to the town planning movement. He was appointed Assistant Secretary to the Garden City and Town Planning Association. Since he was then a journalist, he wrote a series of newspaper articles expounding the need for town planning in the British colonies. These articles were later published into a book entitled The Revelation of Britain: A Book for Colonials (1909). Later, he also wrote a paper expressing "not the slightest doubt that Australian towns and cities stand much in need of expert and up-to-date information on modern Town Planning in Europe today..." (Reade, 1912:10).

Between 1914 and 1920, Reade was in South Australia, both as an advocate of urban planning and a town planner. The life and work of Reade in South Australia has been well written (Tregenza, 1986; Hutchings, 1986, 1987; Sandeckow, 1975; Cheeseman, 1986) and the Australian experience had shown, while it was relatively easy to prepare town schemes, it was another thing to get a draft planning bill accepted. According to Reade:

"...the difficulties to be faced, I find, are not merely the preparation of suitable plans and schemes within the means of the Government and Sanitary Boards, or the making of the preliminary civic survey and extended his service for another three years to 1925. Before the end of this term, the post of Town Planner was made into a permanent position and Reade was to serve in this country until 1930.

The case for a town planner was well received. However, instead of recruiting someone from Britain, the Government of the FMS approached the South Australian Government to request the service of the latter's town planner for a period of 12 months. His name was Charles Compton Reade.

Urban planning in Malaya officially began with the appointment of Charles Reade as the town planning advisor to the Government of the FMS.
and control the use and development of land was characteristically European and American, not English.

Soon after getting the Town Planning Enactment passed in the Federal Council, Reade set about educating the public about town planning. He made full use of the Malayagri-Agriculutural Show in 1926 to organise a Town Planning exhibition showing what town planning had done to the towns in Malaya and what could still be done. He also displayed the history of town planning from Ancient China and Greece to contemporary planning in Japan, United States of America and Australia, with special emphasis on Garden City concepts as implemented in England. A similar exhibition was held in Ipoh, the capital of Perak, in 1927.

Although Reade was confident about the progress of town planning in Malaya (see [TIP], 1926: p1-2), his impulsive personality and disdain for politicians (see Tregenza, 1986) earned him sever­al enemies in high places. Ironically, among his enemies was A.N. Kenio, who had earlier been among the first Federal Legislative Councillors to call for the qualified town planner in the Federated Malay States.

Reade was accused of being dictatorial in his planning decisions. Another criticism against Reade was his inclination for wide roads in his layout schemes. The speaker was worried that the Gov­ernment might not have the funds to build such wide roads (FMS Council Proceedings, 1924:B81).

As on previous occasions, Reade also had supporters. One such supporter was the British Resident in Selangor. According to him:

"I think experience has been that it is difficult to make main roads too wide. Everywhere roads have had to be widened, and land acquired for that purpose, and the fact that in Mr Reade's plan, the width of main roads is allowed for town streets and roads, and more especially suburban roads, does not mean that Government is going to put up large sums of money to convert road reserves into main roads. I think no fault can be found with Mr Reade for keeping very wide reserves for future use." (FMS Council Proceedings, 1924:B83).

Despite the support by some prominent person­alities, criticisms against Reade escalated. According to one critic:

"I see that the Government does not admit that Town Planning is a hopeless failure, but I am rather inclined to think that every Government Official regards this to be the same. The position seems to be going from bad to worse." (FMS Council Proceedings, 1926:B107).

**Town Planning Enactment of 1927**

The mounting criticisms of town planning then led to a review of the Town Planning Enactment of 1923 by a Select Committee of the Federal Legislative Council. As a result, the 1923 Enact­ment was replaced by the Town Planning Enactment of 1927 which was a very watered down version of the previous law. Basically it transformed town planning from a comprehen­sive exercise of demarcation of communication lines and land-use zones and nothing more. The new Enactment, however, retained the use of zoning as the main tool for regulating urban development.

The 1927 Enactment also provided that the compe­tent planning authority was the local authority, known as the Sanitary Board. The Board may appoint a Committee to oversee town planning matters. But unlike the previous Enactment, there was no provision to make the town planner responsible for his work. Only minor amendments may be included. The Government Town Planner, who was a Federal Officer, was only to advise the Board and to prepare planning schemes at the request of the Board.

The power of the town planner in influencing the development of a town was drastically reduced, if not totally taken away. As part of the effort to bring planning activity closer to the planning areas, the planning department was decentralised in 1927. Offices were set up in Ipoh, Kuala Lum­pur and Seremban, each under a Town Planning Superintendent. Indirectly, the post of the Gov­ernment Town Planner was abolished.

Reade's work was not confined to the states in the FMS only. He was instrumental in the governments of Kedah and Trengganu to help them formulate town planning legislation there. Reade's present was also felt in Sabah, then known as North Borneo. In 1927 he was on loan to the British North Borneo to assist in the development of the ports of Jesselton (Kota Kinabalu) and San­dakan.

It is uncertain whether Reade actually left Malaya in 1929 or 1930. It is generally believed that he finally establis­hed his service in Malaya, he was about 50 years old. So far, very little is known about the reason for his retirement. One likely reason could be that he had done what he set out to do: that is, the implantation of a town planning tradi­tion into Malaya and the establishment of machinery to carry out the act of preparing plans. The actual preparation of town plans could be left to others.

It was also possible that, given the abolition of the Government Town Planner's post in 1927, it meant that his position was reduced to just a Town Planning Superintendent in one of the states. There was to be no more of a prima-donna role for him. Being a town planning missionary, the restriction of a Town Planning Superin­tendent acting only on the requests of the Sanitary Boards might just not be enough for him. Just as in South Australia, his pioneering spirit would again take him to newer pastures.

Reade was supposed to go to Northern Rhodesia (Zimbabwe) as a Government Town Planner. But whether he actually went to that country or what he did there is not known. What is known is that in 1933 he was appointed a Town Planning Of­ficer in South Africa. Unfortunately, very shortly after his arrival in that country, he was found dead in his hotel room (Cheeseman, 1986).

**Conclusion**

Reade left a very strong imprint on the develop­ment of town planning in Malaya. He firmly established the urban planning tradition in this country. The planning machinery is now fairly well developed. From one urban planner in 1921, there are now about 217 planners working in the Federal Town and Country Planning Department, its regional offices, the State Town and Country Planning Departments and the various local auth­orities. This does not include about 200 more planners working in other public agencies and the private sector.

Equally significant, the planning system (includ­ing its assumptions, form, content and methodology established by Reade) survived almost intact for more than half a century. The importance of the 1927 Town Planning Enactment cannot be overstated. It was incorporated as Part IX of the Sanitary Board Enactment in 1929. With only minor amendments, this was in turn incor­porated as Part IX of the Town Board Enactment, popularly known as Cap 137, in the late 1930s. Though originally enacted to cover only the FMS, Part IX of Cap 137 was later extended to cover the states of Penang, Malacca Kedah and Perlis. Ke­lantan, Johore and Trengganu had similar planning laws. The major changes in planning laws was the enactment on the Town and Country Planning Act in 1976, which intro­duced a new rational planning system. Since it took several years for the planners to begin pre­paring development plans following the structure planning system, it is no exaggeration to main­tain that Reade largely dictated urban planning in Malaysia for almost its entire history.

Reade, of course, did not get all that he wanted. His original Town Planning Enactment (1923) was seriously mutilated by the 1927 amendment. The powerful role he envisaged for the planners was drastically reduced. Reade's vision of an omnipresent technocratic planner doing his work in a rational and professional manner for the good of all remained just a dream.

The "battle" between Reade and the politicians in the FMS and also in the Malayan government, repre­sentative of the dilemmas faced by planners. The expertise of planners is not appreciated by all sections of the community. To be effective, planners have to be backed by statutes. But this also places the planners at the mercy of the politicians who enact the laws. Unless the planners 'play footsie' with the 'powers-that-be', the power­base of the planners can be withdrawn or restricted. If nothing else, the early history of urban planning in Malaysia shows that planners are not altogether free to do as their professional idealisms dictate. Their role is circumscribed by the demands of the wider social relationships of the society. Successful planners, besides being knowledgeable in planning matters, are those who can best manoeuvre along the narrow cleavages in the social structure.

**NOTE**

One copy of Reade's plan of the Pudu area of Kuala Lumpur was sent to his successor in South Australia and has been reproduced as part of the South Australian Reports (1929-20-21) but this is insufficient to provide a good commentary of Reade's planning concepts in this country.

**REFERENCES**


This paper is an extract of a chapter in my forthcoming book on urban planning in Malaysia. The original draft of the chapter was written when I was a Visiting Fellow at the Urban Research Unit, the Australian National University. The facilities provided by the ANU are greatly appreciated. Furthermore, I would also like to acknowledge the generous assistance of Dr Robert Freestone and Mr Alan Hutching, both of Australia, in my collection of the materials contained in this paper.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>PHB</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Miller, M.</td>
<td>Hampstead Garden Suburb and Planning History</td>
<td>Vol.4(2) 1982</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freestone, R.</td>
<td>The History of Urban and Regional Planning in Australia: A Supplement to Sutcliffe</td>
<td>Vol.4(2) 1982</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kark, R.</td>
<td>Neighbourhood Planning in 19th Century Jerusalem - The Takanot</td>
<td>Vol.4(3) 1982</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freestone, R.</td>
<td>John Sulman and 'The Laying Out of Towns'</td>
<td>Vol.5(1) 1983</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barbey, G.</td>
<td>Site-Planning and the Control of Social Behaviour: The 'Ideology' of Residential Areas</td>
<td>Vol.5(1) 1983</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gaskell, S.M.</td>
<td>Factory Housing in Early Victorian Lancashire</td>
<td>Vol.5(1) 1983</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hall, T.</td>
<td>A Hundred Years Behind?</td>
<td>Vol.5(1) 1983</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sharpe, L.J.</td>
<td>Lord Redcliffe-Maud - A Memoir</td>
<td>Vol.5(2) 1983</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smets, M.</td>
<td>Research on the Belgian Reconstruction after World War I</td>
<td>Vol.5(2) 1983</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silver, C.</td>
<td>American Planners and the Changing City Center</td>
<td>Vol.5(2) 1983</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Van Der Valk, A.</td>
<td>History of Physical Planning in the Netherlands</td>
<td>Vol.5(2) 1983</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sutcliffe, A.</td>
<td>The History of Housing Reform and Planning in Belgium, 1830-1930, as seen by Marcel Smets</td>
<td>Vol.5(3) 1983</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stacey, S.</td>
<td>Neville Chamberlain and the Local Government Act, 1929</td>
<td>Vol.5(3) 1983</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Von Der Dollen, B.</td>
<td>City Planning, Conservation and Urban Historical Geography in Germany</td>
<td>Vol.5(3) 1983</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gibb, A.</td>
<td>The Genesis of Post-War Housing in Glasgow</td>
<td>Vol.5(3) 1983</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Van der Valk, A.</td>
<td>Short bibliography in the history of physical planning in The Netherlands</td>
<td>Vol.5(3) 1983</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sutcliffe, A.</td>
<td>Anglo-French Perspectives on the Creation and Experience of the Domestic Environment</td>
<td>Vol.6(1) 1984</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johnson, D.A.</td>
<td>Norris, Tennessee on the Occasion of its Fiftieth Anniversary</td>
<td>Vol.6(1) 1984</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methesius, S.</td>
<td>Professor Sir Nikolaus Pevsner</td>
<td>Vol.6(1) 1984</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long, M.</td>
<td>Before the Computer</td>
<td>Vol.6(1) 1984</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Esher, L.</td>
<td>Sir Frederick Gibbld</td>
<td>Vol.6(2) 1984</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>PHB</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cherry, G.E.</td>
<td>Sir Wilfred Burns</td>
<td>Vol.6(2) 1984</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hardy, D.</td>
<td>A Plotland Album</td>
<td>Vol.6(2) 1984</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pearson, L.F.</td>
<td>Cooperative Housekeeping</td>
<td>Vol.6(2) 1984</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daly, G.P.</td>
<td>A Retrospective View of Lewis Mumford's Report on Honolulu</td>
<td>Vol.6(3) 1984</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ferns, J.L.</td>
<td>Electricity Supply and Planning History</td>
<td>Vol.6(3) 1984</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beauregard, R.A.</td>
<td>George Orwell is not History</td>
<td>Vol.6(3) 1984</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pooley C.G.</td>
<td>Slum Clearance, Rehousing and Residential Space 1880-1940</td>
<td>Vol.7(1) 1985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marshall, R.</td>
<td>Town Planning Initiatives in Sheffield 1909-1919</td>
<td>Vol.7(1) 1985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bloomfield, E.</td>
<td>Bonusing and Boosterism: Industrial Promotion by Ontario Municipalities to 1930</td>
<td>Vol.7(2) 1985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ward, S.V.</td>
<td>British Boosterism: A area of interest for Planning Historians</td>
<td>Vol.7(2) 1985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engholm, Sir B.</td>
<td>The Scott Report - A Personal Perspective</td>
<td>Vol.7(2) 1985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parsons, D.W.</td>
<td>The Barlow Report and Development of British 'Regional Policy'</td>
<td>Vol.7(2) 1985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swenarton, M.</td>
<td>Seller and Unwin</td>
<td>Vol.7(2) 1985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Langmead, D.</td>
<td>Whose Vision? A Re-examination of the Founding of Adelaide, South Australia</td>
<td>Vol.7(2) 1985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aalen, F.</td>
<td>The British Isles' First Major Housing Programme</td>
<td>Vol.7(3) 1985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonta, J.P.</td>
<td>Contextualism, Historicism and their Tactical Advantages</td>
<td>Vol.7(3) 1985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goodey, B.</td>
<td>Urban Design: Context, Style and History in the Post-Modern Era</td>
<td>Vol.7(3) 1985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nicholson, H.N.</td>
<td>Fortified Towns and Extension Planning in Nineteenth Century France</td>
<td>Vol.8(1) 1986</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gregg, D.J.</td>
<td>The Origins and Philosophy of Parkways, with Particular Reference to the Contribution of Barry Parker</td>
<td>Vol.8(1) 1986</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Punter, J.</td>
<td>Circular arguments: Central Government and the history of aesthetic control in England and Wales</td>
<td>Vol.8(1) 1986</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Research in progress

Planning For Leisure 1918 - 1939

Samantha Quested
Department of Geography
Loughborough University of Technology, Leicesterhire

Recent research on leisure and planning in interwar Britain has focused on such issues as seaside development, the origins of the holiday camp and the spread of the bungalow. Research is lacking, therefore, on the established holiday centres of this time - the seaside resorts.

Yet the interwar years form a significant chapter in seaside resort development and events at this time provide us with a fascinating insight into early planning regulation by local government.

In 1937 it was estimated that 15 million people were taking a holiday away from home, most visiting a seaside resort. In response to this burgeoning tourist industry seaside resorts were investing vast sums of money in improving their leisure and entertainment facilities. Hastings Corporation, for example, spent over £4 million on ‘improvements’ between the wars and Walvin has calculated that for 1933 resort investment, as a whole, stood at between £200 and £300 million. This vast amount of public expenditure did not go unnoticed. Schemes for improvement had to undergo the scrutiny of ratepayers in the resorts as well as politicians and professionals seeking to ensure that all new development was planned and regulated. It was commonly felt that society was entering a new mass leisure age and concern was expressed in intellectual and political circles that the provision of leisure facilities and opportunities needed to be regulated to ensure their proper use. Seaside resorts as ‘specialised’ leisure environments visited by millions every year could play an important educative role in this respect. They were prime show places where progressive, planned leisure development could be shown to the people and advertised to the world. But although these views were expressed by planners, politicians and architects, practical responsibility for development lay in the hands of the local state.

I have devoted a substantial part of my doctoral research to this central question of planning and local government at the seaside between the wars: paying particular attention to the Sussex resorts of Bexhill, Hastings and Eastbourne to examine how far they fulfilled their role as providers of planned leisure environments. I have identified three main areas in which the resort municipalities used planning regulation, by implementing both statutory planning legislation and more informal means, to create a carefully controlled leisure environment; landscape conservation, residential development and leisure building. In the remainder of this paper I want to briefly introduce these three themes and draw some tentative conclusions about their wider significance in planning history.

Landscape Conservation

Between the wars the increasing use of the coast for recreative and residential purposes and the resultant despoliation of coastline by unregulated development was the source of widespread concern. The resorts, in particular, were at the forefront of disapproval on both economic and aesthetic grounds and some were successful in halting such development. Eastbourne Corporation, for example, used the opportunities provided by Private Bill legislation to safeguard the unique downland setting of their resort. The Eastbourne Corporation Act 1926 enabled the Corporation to secure about 4000 acres of downland for £87,510. This action ensured that the South Downs remained open to public access and prevented building development spreading over this most attractive landscape. But resorts did not have to rely on private legislation. Bexhill-on-Sea, for example, successfully utilized existing statutory planning legislation to prevent development at Norman’s Bay, a marshy stretch of coastal land to the west of the town. The land at Norman’s Bay was restricted under the local Town Planning Scheme against all residential development. But throughout the 1930s there were various attempts by local landowners to develop the site. An initial proposal was made to lay out the area as a high class residential resort, an idea which was rejected by the council on the grounds that the land was unsuitable for permanent residential development. The landowners then proposed to develop the land as a semi-permanent caravan and camping site. Bexhill Corporation blocked this scheme, declaring that it would not only despoil the coastline but would
also be an exorbitant burden on the rates if water and other public services had to be supplied. The Corporation’s decision was upheld by a Ministry of Health inquiry when the landowners took the matter to appeal.

By the late 1930s coastal preservation had become an important arena for political debate and after the war central government institutions took more responsibility for landscape preservation (4). It is certain that action taken by the resorts in this earlier period in the field of landscape conservation paved the way for later developments.

Residential Development

In the sphere of residential development and planning regulation resorts also had an important role to play. The experience of Bournemouth and Eastbourne had been cited by the Minister, John Burns, when he introduced the first general legislation on town planning in 1909. These towns were considered prime examples of all that was good in residential planning, with their emphasis on open spaces, tree-lined streets and avenues and low density housing. Such ideals were enshrined in planning legislation. Between the wars residential development continued apace but seaside towns resorts were particularly successful in regulating building development. The South Coast seaside resorts, in particular, relied so heavily upon pleasant and attractive residential environments. Statistical Town Planning enabled the seaside resorts, therefore, to create, order, planned and regulated leisure environments.

Conclusion

Most critics are dismissive of interwar planning, despite the vast amount of time and energy expended by local authorities and the Ministry of Health in implementing the new legislation. To many, interwar planning was a failure in that it allowed the proliferation of sprawling, formless and characterless suburban estates which are both aesthetically and socially displeasing. I would argue that this limited view of planning may be challenged by an examination of seaside resort development between the wars. In interwar Britain there existed a strong desire to regulate and order society’s leisure behaviour and this was achieved in the seaside resorts by the creation of planned, modern and rational leisure environments. Statutory Town Planning enabled resorts to play an important, early role in the preservation of the coastline and the overriding concern with aesthetic control that was enshrined in the early Acts was extremely important in towns whose main rationale was the creation and maintenance of a pleasant and attractive residential environment. But planning was not restricted to the implementation of statutory legislation, and there is also a multitude of evidence of local government initiative in such matters.

Footnotes


(4) For example the Coastal Survey undertaken by J.A. Steers in 1944.

(5) "Leisure at the seaside" Architectural Review 1936 v.80 July.


Wytchenshawe Housing Estate: Concept To Development

Kevin Brady
Department of Civil Engineering
University of Salford
Lancashire

In May 1987 I began an historical study of the development of the Wytchenshawe Housing Estate, Greater Manchester, as the subject of my research towards an M.Phil at Salford University under the supervision of Dr Pat Garside.

Initially I had intended to look at a number of what I perceived to be key considerations. Firstly, to consider the reasons for the decision to purchase the land on behalf of Manchester Corporation, and then to assess just what it was that Manchester intended to develop and perhaps to ask just what it was that Manchester thought it was doing in buying the land, incorporating it and later developing it as a major working-class housing estate. In outlining at least the idealism of the city’s intentions I then hoped to analyse opposition to the proposals, before going on to the developmental stage of the estate’s history. I further intended to look at the impact of Wytchenshawe on Manchester’s inner city housing problems, including a case displacement of Manchester residents to the estate from the older working-class areas of the city.

Reference to the estate’s history can be found in many publications, but often these are just in passing or used in the context of illustration of a particular hypothesis. Whilst researching for a paper when studying under Dr Garside in 1984, I felt sufficiently motivated to question further the basic concepts, ideals, and, perhaps, direction of thought underlying this quite huge project undertaken by Manchester Corporation in the interwar period.

Since May last I find I have become increasingly embroiled in an analysis and investigation of the years 1920-31, the years which saw the original ideas for the estate voiced, the purchase of the
land, Manchester's attempts at incorporation and eventual success in so doing, and the struggle between the city and Cheshire County Council and Bucklow R.D.C. over incorporation and development of the estate. In coming months I intend to focus further on these years in particular areas of investigation.

There are apparent contradictory views expressed by key figures supporting the Manchester proposals on the Manchester urban political scene in the early years of the twenties. There is some evidence of those who saw Wythenshawe developing along garden city lines, independent of Manchester in many respects, whilst others advocated a garden suburb. Professor Abercrombie was commissioned in December 1919 to produce a report on the suitability of the estate as a possible housing development, and his report when forwarded to the council in March 1920 favoured a satellite garden suburb.

"But in a commercial, rather than industrial city like Manchester, it is difficult to see how a satellite garden city as compared with a satellite garden suburb could be created at Manchester's instigation."

The City Surveyor submitted his own report alongside Abercrombie's, yet clung to the garden city model:

"...one of the finest Garden Cities in the United Kingdom, affording a residential district for the working-classes of Manchester".

Ernest Simon, perhaps the key figure in the whole grand plan, talked of a satellite garden town where:

"the satellite garden town is deliberately planned by a municipality to cover a large district including not only houses and parks but also a factory area, so as to preserve permanently all the amenities; the population working partly in the area and partly in the mother city". (p. 36 The Rebuilding of Manchester, Simon and Inman).

Further ambiguity exists over the intentions of the planners concerning those who were to live there. The City Surveyor suggested accommodating the working classes alone, and yet clung to the garden city model concerning the working classes alone, and yet clung to the garden city model.

Opposition to the proposals from within and without the Manchester Council needs further investigation, particularly to assess the nature of any organised opposition, perhaps in the form of ratepayers' associations, both in the urban and rural setting. Research so far indicates a rural opposition at county and local level. Cheshire County Council, in opposition to the 1927 Manchester Corporation Bill, expressed a fear of Manchester's expansion across the 'natural boundary' between Lancashire and Cheshire, the River Mersey, and contended that Manchester's real objective was purely to extend the city (and outside its own county at that).

Other facets of opposition centred on the availability of suitable land within the city boundaries and the unnatural displacement of urban working people to a rural setting, whose work would remain largely in close proximity to the city centre.

I intend to concentrate further on these areas, before looking at the development itself later in the year.

I would welcome any comments, advice, suggestions, etc. concerning this study, and any communications can be made to me c/o Dr Pat Garside, Department of Civil Engineering, Environmental Sciences Division, University of Salford, The Crescent, Salford, Lancs.

Reports
The Rebuilding Of Europe's Bombed Cities After 1945

Anthony Sutcliffe

The Rockefeller Foundation hosted a conference on post-1945 urban reconstruction at its Bellagio Centre on 1-5 June 1987. The organiser was Dr Jeffery Diefendorf of the Department of History, University of New Hampshire, a specialist in West German reconstruction legislation. His programme brought together representatives of the various national groups now engaged in research into the reconstruction experience across Europe. Although it was intended to emphasise national rather than local comparisons, the peculiarities of individual cities occasionally emerged, and the overall impression was one of diversity. The differences between Eastern and Western Europe were especially marked. However, the following themes tended to recur, whatever the context: the influence of pre-war practice and ideology, especially when, as in Belgium, an important reconstruction programme had been carried out after World War I; continuity from modernisation plans drawn up in the later 1930s, as at Hamburg and Gymnich; the role of ordinary people in determining reconstruction policy; and, of course, international movements of ideas.

The scene was set by Pieter Uyttenhove (Académie de l'Architecture, Paris), in a paper comparing reconstruction in Belgium after each World War. The main impact of destruction had come early in the First World War, and the reconstruction plans had been drawn up mainly by exiles in close contact with international currents, particularly in England. The building and planning style was however traditional, with pastiche architecture and St itertools streets and spaces striving to recreate and even improve upon a past which had been mutilated during the nineteenth century. So tenacious was this precedent that it influenced Belgian reconstruction even after the Second World War. The neighbouring Dutch experience provided a strong contrast. Dr. J.E. Bosma (Institute for Art History, University of Groningen) described the reconstruction of Middelburg on traditional Dutch lines. While E. Taverner (Institute for Art History, Groningen) offered a detailed paper on the radical replanning of the Lijnbaan at Rotterdam. He presented the Lijnbaan as a suburban shopping centre, transported into the middle of the city, very much on the American lines proposed by Victor Gruen. In Rotterdam the bombing damaged what would in any case have occurred in the course of time. In this and other respects strong parallels were established with the replanning of Coventry described by Dr Anthony Mason (Centre for Social History, University of Warwick). Here, work on a city centre plan had begun before the war and the post-1945 reconstruction was rational and functional, rather than aggressively modernistic. A centre of the motor industry, Coventry planned more boldly than most for the motor vehicle, and the result still stands as one of the more successful achievements of post-war reconstruction. Mason stressed however that technical decisions were underpinned by the Labour council's determination that planning should help create a better society.

Britain, of course, offered a clear national framework for local replanning, its origins dating back to 1941 or even to the Barlow Report of 1940. Papers by Professor Gordon Cherry (Department of Geography, University of Birmingham) and Dr Emanueller Marmaras (Department of Economic and Social History, University of Sheffield) reviewed these structures, showing how the war and the new welfare state made it possible to remedy some of the defects in the national planning system before the end of the war. Thus the war had more influence on slum clearance and city-centre renewal from the mid-1950s than it did on the reconstruction of bomb damage, which, in the British case, was limited in extent in comparison with Germany.

A framework for reconstruction was curiously lacking in Eastern Europe. In a unique account of the rebuilding of Dresden, Professor Jürgen Paul (Kunsthistorisches Institut, University of Tübingen) identified a number of gaps, contradictions and, above all, surprising interventions of the national authorities - at any rate in the eyes of the conference - a very fragmentary and even unsatisfactory result. It might of course be objected that socialist urban planning is seek-
other papers the devastating impact of death and destruction on the planners themselves. In the Hamburg case they assumed that the city was dead and candidates of a long plan reflected a profound pessimism about the future. This plan, however, played little part in post-1945 political work. US party member Gutschow was in disgrace.

Most of the urban planners of Nazi Germany were, however, able to continue their activities after 1945. To some extent they had to retrain and rethink but Nazi planning had not diverged sufficiently from international practice to require major adjustments. For instance, Gutschow’s assistant, Hillebrecht, went on to a very successful career as chief planner at Hanover. Werner Durth (Lehrstuhl Umweltgestaltung, University of Mainz) concentrated on the ways in which architects approached reconstruction, but his emphasis on continuity was applicable to planning in general. Finally, Dr H Hartmut Frank (Hochschule für bildende Künste, Hamburg) presented the early results of a Franco-German research project on German planning in occupied Lorraine between 1940 and 1944. Lorraine had been allotted a semi-Germanic status within the new empire, but time was too short to achieve anything of note.

Some of the most innovative contributions were provided by French scholars. Danièle Veldman (Institut d’Histoire du Temps Présent, Paris) described her use of oral history to identify a corps of planners stretching through from before the war, to Vichy, and ultimately to the Fourth Republic. The continuity of personnel produced a style of urban planning, impervious to changes of regime and, to some extent, to international influences. However, the quality of the French achievement in harmonising old and new emerged very strongly.

Further diversity was added by discussions of reconstruction in areas more peripheral to the main centres of damage. Emmanuel Marmaras presented a note on reconstruction in Greece which was too fragmentary to require major institutional reform. In Italy, as described by Professor Fabrizio Brunetti (Faculty of Architecture, University of Florence), significant damage occurred in seaports, industrial cities, and communication centres. A degree of legislative change ensued, but Brunetti concentrated on the debate on modes of rebuilding in the architectural press. Finally, in a fascinating paper, Erik Lorang (Oslo School of Architecture) examined the unique problems faced by Norway, especially in the reconstruction of small northern towns which had been completely obliterated in 1940. The very survival of some of these places was uncertain, and they were rebuilt using modest resources and small-scale plans. British influence was however prominent in the urban theories and methods used by the planners.

It is expected that the conference will lead to the publication of a selection of the papers under the editorship of Jeffery Dickendorf.

Anthony Sutcliffe
Department of Economic and Social History
University of Sheffield

Women In Planning History: Theories And Applications

Alison Ravetz

Around twenty people from London, Oxford, Bristol and northern cities, attended a seminar (12th April 1988) in the dignified surroundings of The King’s Manor, York, by courtesy of the Institute for Advanced Architectural Studies. In their several ways the six papers given explored the mechanisms by which residential planning and housing policy were influenced by the aspirations of women, in a male oriented society.

The morning’s contributions opened with a two part presentation by Ian Bentley and Helen Teague (Oxford Polytechnic) on “Gender Bias in Planning Ideology”. Taking as an axiom that women’s relation to built environment is conditioned by their role as individualised providers of unpaid labour, they contrasted the ‘traditional’ street layout of postwar council estates. The latter, as they illustrated from Helen’s personal journey through the Mozart and Marques Road estates in London, appears menacing to a woman. The contrasting designs of the two periods, based on entirely different planning ideologies, led them to a paradox. The environment that was more relaxed and enabling for women was the product of a period when they were more constrained by conventions, law and employment, while in the later period the reverse seems to be the case: greater freedom and economic independence are counterbalanced by a more regimented environment. They thus unexpectedly find it significant that there is now a movement back to a residential vernacular, when the recently won sexual, domestic and economic freedoms of women are under threat.

Patricia Roberts (Polytechnic of the South Bank), in a study of the “Image of Women in Postwar Plans for London”, looked first at the Abercrombie Plan. Like others of this period it aimed explicitly to promote a humane and livable environment for all, but a detailed study of his proposals for Shoreditch with a view to women’s actual experiences (taking kids to nursery in one direction, going to part-time job in another, and shopping in yet another) only shows how partial this really was.

In successive decades, despite changing planning orientations, the same gender blindness is seen. A genuine change in this concern with women’s groups, did not occur until the abortive 1983 draft alterations to the GLDP by the GLC. Now the only official reference to women would appear to be in a changing climate of thought within the planning profession itself.

In “Inside Pram Town: The Impact of New Town Design on Women’s Lives in the Early Fifties” Judy Attfield (Brighton Polytechnic) spoke of the experience by women of a predominantly non-representative New Town design. The only space where women had any control was the interior of the home, and in its early years the Development Corporation refused applications from firms who relied on women’s labour. Women’s attitudes were naturally thorough. Women’s waiting lists were inevitably the last to be filled. They did not regret the shared rooms, but they did miss Mum, and did indeed suffer from New Town blues. Perhaps in compensation, they threw themselves into polishing and pugging up resplendent lines of whites. As far as possible, they chose cosiness rather than functionality, and when they did start to earn money of their own they spent it on furnishing the home. The speaker pleaded for a sensitive appreciation of the significance of their behaviour. They had not been branded non-functional and obsessive, in creating the sort of environment that women identified with and felt proud of.

The afternoon’s three contributions each took different aspects of women’s relationship to environment, and each in its own way sketched a
highly interesting and neglected episode in the
subject. Richard Turkington (Liverpool Polytech-
nic) presented his ongoing study of 'The
Housewife's Choice: the Postwar Prefab Bunga-
low and its Appeal to Women'. This resurrected
a sociological study of the 'portals' and other pre-
fabs by the Council of Scientific Management in
the Home, connected with the Women's Group
on Public Welfare which is known for its report,
'Our Towns: a Close-up'. The study, published in
The Sociological Review 1951, looked at these sup-
posedly temporary dwellings with a view to meal
preparation, house cleaning, laundry and child
care. The investigators found that the bungalows
had a strong appeal to their 400 informants.
Richard Turkington's re-survey of a large Wolver-
hampton estate uses some of the original
questions and also compares the 'then and now'
attitudes of original tenants still in occupation. It
reveals that the tenants who arrived 40 years ago
can still find nothing really to dislike about their
homes. Cohorts who arrived in the 1960s and
1980s are a bit more critical of some of the old-fa-
sioned features, but nevertheless find a high
degree of contentment in the compact, detached
dwellings in small, friendly enclaves. Thus hous-
ing managers find a house type that was purely
opportunistic provides qualities of security and
individuality than would enable it to be let over
and over again.

Tanis Hindcliff (London) discussed a different
aspect of women's relationship to housing in
"Women Property Owners": studies of owner-
ship of houses by women in Islington between the
wars, and on the St John's North Oxford es-
tate from the 1860s onwards. The latter study has
only just begun, but the provisional findings are
that house ownership as an investment was re-
lated to the life cycles of middle-class families
and was common up to 1918. In general, owner-
ship by women was likely to be near where they
themselves lived, while men might own any-
where, but there was also a pattern of investment
by, or for, middle-class women in spa towns and
seaside resorts.

Financial and other changes in the early 1900s
made this kind of property ownership much less
profitable; but whereas men would tend to get
out of the market, women typically would retain
what became more and more an obsolete and un-
rewarding investment.

The last contribution, Lynn Pearson's preview of
her forthcoming book on Women and Cooperative
Housekeeping: the Architectural and Social History of
Cooperative Living (Macmillan) proved a surpris-
ing and entertaining end to a valuable day. The
history of this minority movement can be traced
back to 1834 in England, but its peak was in the
late 19th and early 20th century, when it coin-
cided with the Garden City movement. Fifteen
actual developments were completed between
1874 and 1935, and ten of them are still in use as
housing, the last cooperative function disappear-
ning as late as 1976. The last big cooperative
scheme was begun at Bournville in 1924. Our pre-
vious ignorance of the subject must be partly due
to the fact that information is not to be found in
architectural journals, but in women's and hous-
ing journals - for instance, Ideal Home 1921.

Cooperative housekeeping is to be distinguished
from communal living, and also, of course, from
today's housing coops, which offer shared tenure
but not shared living. Its best documented exam-

pluses are the blocks of family apartments or single
women's rooms built in college-like quadrangles
in the Garden Cities and Hampstead Garden Sub-
urb. A good few blocks of 'chambers' for single
women were put up in London, where they are
still to be identified by their handsome name
plaques. One amazing example in Finchley looks
like (and is now) a street of conventional middle-
class houses, but they were built without kitchens
and relied upon a central block for catering.

These were the creation of Alice Melvin, an inde-
fatigable woman who was also responsible,
among other schemes, for a Melvin Park and a
Melvin Hall. Despite such a colourful history,
however, the author of the study concludes that
the contribution of cooperative housing to the
main stream of housing has been negligible.

So many issues and aspects were raised
throughout the day that the time available for dis-
cussion could not in any way do them justice.
The seminar did not answer, but it did revolve
around some of the 'key questions' posed by Pa-
tricia Roberts: was there ever, in fact, a body of
theory representing women's aspirations and
standards which could have been heeded by the
environmental professionals, and if they had,
would our environment now be different? The
discussion frequently worked round to the conclu-
sion that social status and individualised
consumption were the dominant influences, and
that women tacitly, if not explicitly, concurred
with this. The cooperative housing movement
may have been the nearest that any body of
women came to working out a philosophy, and
even that was not the exclusive preserve of
women. More commonly, women availed them-

selves of the environment provided for them,
expressing positive satisfaction when it best
served their purposes, as in the case of the pre-
fabs. Their indifferent success as landladies
might be taken as evidence that their interest in
environmental was instrumental for personal ends,
rather than commercial. It was strongly condi-
tioned by their role in the family and the location
of that role in the domestic interior. Here, though
it was not passive, it was subtle and easily over-
looked or dismissed by insensitive observers,
who might even include other women, who had
themselves escaped the constraints of home.

Other than these two kinds of response, a com-
"pelling point was made by Clara Greed (Bristol Polytechnic) from a growing suspicion gained
through her research into the history of women
surveyors. This was that history is probably lit-
tered with vast numbers of small and forgotten
examples of women's work and interest in the
planning of the built environment. At any rate
the point seemed to be confirmed by the example
of Patricia Roberts' aunt, who had a copy of the
Abercrombie Plan tucked into her bookshelf, and
so lit a spark of curiosity in her niece.

Alison Ravetz
Department of Social Studies
Leeds Polytechnic
Sources

Patrick Geddes Centre For Planning Studies

In June 1985 the Patrick Geddes Centre for Planning Studies was opened by the Principal of the University of Edinburgh in the presence of a distinguished audience. The Centre is housed in the Edinburgh Room of the Outlook Tower, Castlehill, Edinburgh, thanks to a valuable contribution made by the University in terms of rehabilitation and refurbishing.

Through the generosity of Mr Ian Barr, Chairman of the Scottish Postal Board, a grant was awarded to Professor Percy Johnson-Marshall, Director of the Centre. Mrs Sofia G. Leonard has been appointed as Senior Research Fellow and work is proceeding successfully.

This may be recorded as a successful start of a programme to bring together at the Outlook Tower as many of Patrick Geddes' documents as possible, and to develop a Centre for Planning Studies which will evolve in the spirit of his work in the world today.

Already housed in the Outlook Tower is not only a considerable number of documents pertaining to Geddes, but a large collection from the Library of the former Association for Planning and Regional Reconstruction which acted during and after the Second World War very much as a follow-on of Geddes' teaching.

A third collection of more recent plans relating to Scotland is also included in the archive, and all three collections are being sorted, classified, and stored in a form where they may be used by scholars, not only in Scotland, but internationally, since Geddes had such a broad international influence.

In developing the Centre in the spirit of Geddes, it is proposed not only to mount exhibitions, but also to use the worldwide network of former planning students of the Department of Urban Design and Regional Planning in over sixty countries, to assist and progress the ideas of planning for human welfare.

1. The role of the Centre in Edinburgh

- To create an archive of the work of Patrick Geddes, one of Edinburgh's great citizens.
- To prepare exhibitions, first of Geddes' own work, and later to prepare contemporary exhibitions to help planning in Edinburgh, Scotland, and internationally.
- To act as a Centre and focus of planning and environmental ideas in Edinburgh, using the Outlook Tower and the Old Town wherever possible.
- To cooperate with the new Edinburgh Conservation and Renewal Committee as closely as possible.
- To promote symposia, public lectures, seminars and Summer Schools at the Outlook Tower.
- To organise a Society of Friends of Patrick Geddes to stimulate financial and moral support to the Centre's activities (including to restore some of the original functions of the Outlook Association).
- To publish:
  - Books and works of Patrick Geddes now out of print; the results of research done in connection with the Patrick Geddes Centre for Planning Studies.
  - The results of international research in the field of Urban Design and Regional Planning in connection with international Institutions associated with the Patrick Geddes Centre.

2. The role of the Centre internationally

- To act as a Centre and Headquarters for Planners from other countries.
- To act as a liaison for the former students of the Department of Urban Design and Regional Planning who are now working in over 60 countries.
- To develop joint research links with Institutions from other countries.

THE CENTRE'S PROJECTS

The Archive Project

The Centre holds within its premises a quantity of archive material relating to the life and work of Patrick Geddes. Geddes, generally regarded as the father of modern British Planning, lived and worked for many years in Edinburgh and was a prolific documenter of his theories and of his practice. At present, a great deal of the material is inaccessible to potential users because it is as yet unorganised. It is proposed to remedy this situation by organising it for use, by coordinating it with other collections of Geddes material in other parts of the UK and the world, and by making its existence and availability widely known.

The Conservation Project

This project refers in particular to Patrick Geddes' Cities and Town Planning Exhibition and First Survey of Edinburgh which forms an important part of the Archives of the Centre. The aim is, in the first instance, to preserve the items in the collection from further deterioration for the benefit of present and future generations of researchers. The second (although no less important) aim, is to restore those items which have suffered from bad storage, handling and packing in the past and to make them ready for exhibition.

The Exhibition Project

It is envisaged that, once restored, Geddes' famous Cities and Town Planning Exhibition will be shown to the public at the Edinburgh Festival 1988. The Centre also aims to organise a smaller but permanent exhibition to acquaint the Edinburgh visitor and citizen alike with some of the ideas and work of Sir Patrick Geddes which, even now, are a source of inspiration for the revitalisation of the city he loved and knew so well. The permanent exhibition should provide a focal and starting point for the Patrick Geddes Heritage Trail which is lacking at present.

The International Understanding Project

The Centre aims to promote a world-wide exchange of plans and interpretative information concerning human settlements and Ecology.

Sofia Leonard
Patrick Geddes Centre for Planning Studies
University of Edinburgh
Planning History Practice

Harlow’s 40th Anniversary

As a pioneering generation of new towns makes its own history, it is encouraging to find a recognition of this in different ways. Elsewhere in this issue is an advertisement for the series of new town histories published by ‘Publications for Companies’. In contrast, a variety of events in Harlow in 1987, sponsored by the local authority, aroused a wider community interest in what was the fortieth anniversary of the town designed by Sir Frederick Gibberd.

Recalling the language and spirit of postwar optimism that surrounded the whole programme, one of the pioneers looked back on Harlow “as a beacon...the star of a brave new world, a town fit for heroes. At least, that’s what we set out to achieve when we turned the first turf.”

Oral history projects formed an interesting part of the anniversary events. So, too, was a display of photographs of the late Sir Frederick’s town plans, the originals being held by Lady Gibberd.

Europa Nostra

Europa Nostra, founded in 1963, is a federation of conservation societies in twenty-two countries. A feature of its work is the annual award scheme, with awards made to three types of project – the restoration or reconstruction of old buildings, the conversion of restored buildings to modern use, and new buildings which blend particularly well with their surroundings.

The top eight awards for 1987 include several of interest to planning historians, including the two Scottish sites of New Lanark and New Town, Edinburgh. The full listing is as follows:

- Palais Feretel, Vienna, Austria: a 19th century building restored and converted to offices.
- Old Town, Rauma, Finland: a major programme of restoration and modernisation involving many buildings.
- Erechtheion Temple, Athens, Greece: a restoration programme on this Ionic temple of the Acropolis.
- Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland: reconstruction of the 18th century dining hall destroyed by fire.
- Monastery of Santa Maria la Real, Aguilar de Campoo, Spain: restoration and conversion to use as an education centre.
- Cultural Warehouse, Sundsvall, Sweden: the reconstruction of four warehouses and their conversion into a cultural centre.
- New Lanark, Scotland: revitalisation of the late 18th/early 19th century model industrial village.

To celebrate 1987 as the European Year of the Environment a second category of awards was made for architectural conservation projects affecting whole cities, towns and villages, with New Town and New Lanark emerging as winners too.

Networks

Historical Geography Research Group

Objectives and aims

The objectives of the Historical Geography Research Group are to initiate and foster research in the field of Historical Geography; to promote discussion by means of meetings and conferences; to further cooperation between cognate disciplines and organisations; and to effect publication of monographs, collected papers and discussion materials. Membership is open to all who subscribe to these aims.

Historical Geography Research Paper Series

The Historical Geography Research Paper Series is produced by the Historical Geography Research Group. The Research Paper Series is designed to provide scholars with an outlet for extended essays of an interpretive or conceptual nature that make a substantive contribution to some aspect of the field; critical reviews of the literature on a major problem; and commentaries on relevant sources. Eighteen issues have been published 1979–1987. Two or three numbers are produced annually. These can be purchased at a special annual subscription rate through membership of the Historical Geography Research Group (see below). Back numbers are available. Publication details and orders should be addressed to Dr Charles Withers, Hon. Editor HGRG, Department of Geography, The College of St Paul and St Mary, Cheltenham, Glos GL50 2RH, UK.

Contributions are invited for the Series. Papers should not normally exceed 20,000 words in length, inclusive of notes, tables and diagrams, and should be in English. Intending contributors should, in the first instance, send an outline of their proposed paper to one of the Co-Editors of the Series. Those in North America should contact Professor Aidan McQuillan, Department of Geography, University of Toronto, 100 St George Street, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5S 1A1. Those in the UK and the rest of Europe should contact Dr Charles Withers (as above). Those elsewhere may contact either Professor McQuillan or Dr Withers.

For membership details please contact:
Dr Richard Dennis
Hon. Secretary
Historical Geography Research Group
Department of Geography
University College London
26 Bedford Way
London WC1H OAP
England

National Historic Communal Societies Association

The National Historic Communal Societies Association grew out of meetings at New Harmony, Indiana, and Shakertown at Pleasant Hill, Kentucky, in 1974 and 1975. Our annual conferences are conducted at an historic communal site each October, and our Pacific Coast Chapter meets each May. Our purpose is to encourage the restoration, preservation and public interpretation of the communal heritage and the study of international communities, past and present.

Through a Centre for Communal Studies, a scholarly journal and a newsletter, we facilitate communications and cooperation among academicians, preservationists, and communalists.

The Centre for Communal Studies at the University of Southern Indiana is our administrative office, clearinghouse for information, and archival research facility. We have publications, manuscripts, recordings and photographs of seventy historic communal groups and from two hundred and seventy communities established since 1965. Inquiries and materials for deposit should be directed to N.H.C.S.A., executive director, Dr Donald E. Pitzer, at the above address, or call (812) 464-1719.

Manuscripts on all aspects of communalism are solicited for our interdisciplinary journal, Communal Societies. Submit two copies prepared according to A Manual of Style by Dr Michael Barkun, Editor, Communal Societies, Department of Political Science, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY 13244-1090. Send books for review to Dr James H. Sweetland, School of Library and Information Science, University of Wisconsin, Box 424, Milwaukee, WI 53201. Items for the newsletter go
Publications

Planning History Microfilm Series

British Planning History 1900-1952

Altair Publishing, in conjunction with the British Planning History Group, is pleased to announce the release in Spring 1988 of the first set of reels in a series of 35mm microfilms which will trace the development of British planning for the first half of the twentieth century.

Overall the project will include the archival and printed material of key planning organisations and associations and papers of individual planners as well as official documentation. Scholarly introductions, in the form of printed booklets, will be supplied with all microfilms.

The publications to start the series will comprise the archival and printed material from the Town and Country Planning Association, the National Housing and Town Planning Council and the Royal Town Planning Institute. These reels will include the following journals:

From the Town and Country Planning Association - Garden City 1904-08, Garden Cities and Town Planning 1908-1910, and Garden Cities and Town Planning (New series) 1911-52.


From the National Housing and Town Planning Council - Housing and Town Planning Bulletin 1940-48, and Housing and Town Planning Review, 1948-52.

For details of archival material from these organisations or other enquiries about the project, please contact:

Altair Publishing 21 Scott Green Drive Gildersome West Yorkshire LS27 7BZ England Telephone (0532) 536615 Telex 895011 ONEONE G Ref 20625001

Abstracts


This revised edition of a book long popular in Toronto examines the architecture of that city through to 1900. The Otto version is technically a better book and embraces scholarly improvements. Even so, recording and celebrating the city's architectural history takes precedence over critical inquiry in this volume.

Breheny, Michael J., and McQuaid, Ronald (eds) (1987) The Development of High Technology Industries: An International Survey. London: Croom Helm 363pp. ISBN 0-7099-3492-6, £35.00. Developing new high technology industries is seen by many countries as the best hope for future economic growth. The volume seeks to explain the reasons for the regional concentrations that have emerged, and the likely consequences. Case studies are made of the electronics and information technology production industries, with chapters focussed on the experience of the United State and Canada, the United Kingdom and France, Japan and Australia.


This volume offers the complete story of Manhattan's waterfront development in four historical phases - the 1660s to the mid-1800s, 1880-1920s, the 1930s and 1940s, and the current phase since the end of World War II. Her account shows that specific technologies, market forces and political coalitions in different periods shaped water-front development. Yet the important features remained constant over the 300 years covered by this volume. Private interests generally define the appropriate uses and structures while the public sector is slow to act in initiating or facilitating development. The volume addresses an import-
This volume seeks to provide an overview of city building in the South in the 19th century, with particular emphasis on the Gilded Age. The author contends that cities in the South differed only in degree from those in America. Although uneven in its treatment of key issues in southern urbanisation, the notes and essay on sources are useful.


The ten contributions assess the impact on rural life and environment of such factors as the mass exodus of labour to urban centres, emigration, immigration, environmental change and the changing role of women in rural communities. State-sponsored agrarian policies have weakened the power of traditional landed interests and, together with labour migration, have provoked new tensions and inequalities in rural society.


This book represents a study of the development of urban residential buildings, between 1860 and 1960, in 'Swiss romande', that is, the French-speaking Cantons of Switzerland. A general overview of the history of urban, popular housing types is followed by studies of the development of residential building and daily life in Geneva, Fribourg and Le Locle, three towns with different local histories. A triple approach has been used to examine the design, construction and use of urban dwelling units in terms of historical, social and economic, technical and legal parameters.


In offering a critical review of recent housing research and policy, and of architectural theory and practice, the author distinguishes between housing, dwelling processes and homes, which can only be understood within an historical perspective.

tives in terms of a range of architectural, cultural, social and psychological variables.

Melvin, Patricia Money (1987) The Organic City: Urban Definitio...
even in a legislative managerial sense, both within the States and territories and across Australia.


This well-crafted compilation of essays explores the controversial issue of gentrification from three vantage points - a theoretical perspective, a cross-national perspective, and a critical perspective. The editors contend in their concluding essay that to justify state intervention to support gentrification in terms of broader community interest in 'revitalisation' is not valid, since the benefits accrue mainly to the middle class while many in the community suffer. The accompanying essays tend to bolster this view based upon research in various urban settings.


This volume gives a fairly comprehensive summary of the major events in urban transportation planning from the 1950s through the early 1980s, but in a condensed form. It will be useful as a reference for those who want to check facts and dates but is not suitable as a text.


Principally concerned with the development of urban landscapes, especially over long periods of time, the main theme of the volume is the cyclical character of the process of development and redevelopment. The interplay of innovation, constructional activity and accessibility, when taken together, provides the basis for a theoretical schema to which a wide variety of aspects of the physical form of cities is related.


The National Trust movement in Australia was launched at a public meeting in Sydney's Royal Empire Society Hall on 5 November 1947. The organisation was modelled upon the National Trust in the UK and a leading figure in the early days, Mrs Annie Wyatt, had written away for information as early as 1935. The natural environment was an important early focus - Mrs Wyatt was also the leading light of a Tree Lovers' Civic League in Sydney. The demolition of historic colonial buildings in the central city was another catalyst in the formation of the Trust. By 1955 membership was well over 500 and the first sister organisation was founded in South Australia. In 1988 membership in NSW alone stands at over 30,000 and the Trust has established a solid and occasionally very influential professional competence in all aspects of the conservation of the built and natural environments. This valuable memoir charts the quantitative growth and qualitative change in the Trust in NSW over the past forty years.


Having outlined the way in which environmental issues are perceived in the USSR, the author describes how environmental protection became a Soviet concern, how the law functions primarily as a means of political socialisation, and how central planning and State ownership affects the administration of environmental programmes and pollution controls. Haphazard and inefficient, the State corporatist bureaucracy has been no more successful in securing environmental protection than Western democracies.

With acknowledgements to John Sheail and Robert Freestone for abstracts received.

PHG

Back Issues

Back issues of the bulletin are available from Vol. 1, No. 1, price £10.00 per volume or £4.00 per issue (inland and overseas mailing included - other rates available on request). Please contact the Treasurer in the first instance:

Dr D.W. Massey
Department of Civic Design
University of Liverpool
Liverpool L69 3BX
051-789 6022 Ext. 2528
The Planning History Group, inaugurated in 1974, is an international body. Its members, drawn from many disciplines, have a working interest in history, planning and the environment.

Chairman
Professor G.E. Cherry
Department of Geography
University of Birmingham
PO Box 363
Birmingham
B15 2TT
021-414 5537

Membership
Membership of the group is open to all who have an interest in planning history. The annual subscription is £10 (currency equivalents available on request).

Membership Secretary:
Dr Pat Carade
Planning History Group
Department of Civil Engineering
Salford University
The Crescent
Salford
M5 4WT
061-236 5843

Professor Gordon Cherry is Joint Editor with Professor Anthony Sutcliffe of an international journal concerned with history, planning and the environment: Planning Perspectives. There is a link between Planning History and Planning Perspectives and members of the Planning History Group are able to subscribe to the new journal at very favourable discount rates.