PLANNING HISTORY
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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.

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 Whitehead, 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 now, I think we're about ready then...
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 Hennet, Executive Secretary, ISOCARP, Mauritskade 23/ NL 2510 HD, Den Haag, Netherlands.
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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 Eugene L. Birch
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Professor Jeffrey M. Diefendorf
(University of New Hampshire, USA)
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Watanabe (Science University of Tokyo, Japan)
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(University of North Texas, USA)
Professor Theresa Zarebska
(Warsaw University of Technology, Poland)

Urban History Association: competitions for scholarly distinction

The 1997 competition
The Association has released the results of its competitions for 1997:
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 Everalde Hill, Department of Social Science, San Jose State University, San Jose, CA 95192-0212, USA. Do NOT send any submissions to Professor Hill.

A welcome to new IPHS members

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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/
THE DEVELOPING CAREER AND THOUGHTS OF JAN OLAF CHMIELEWSKI

ADAM KOTARBIŃSKI

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*, 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 1901 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 Édouard Rontaler secondary school and began studying at Warsaw Technical and Roiwrad 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 1919, this time at the Civil Engineering Faculty of Warsaw University of Technology. He later moved to the Architecture Faculty, where he became Professor Osip Sovosnovski’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 Tatras and Podhale region. He continued these studies with various academic institutions, and these regions remained an important subject of his observations, preoccupations and numerous expressions of opinion.

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 Wiśowa to Sokolow in Podhale. 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 direction of Stanisław Rożek. He came into contact with the leading urban planners working in the Warsaw region. In cooperation with Zygmunt Szyrko and others, Chmielewski presented ‘Functional Warsaw’ at the International Congress of Modern Architecture (CIAM) in 1939. 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.

Also in 1934, Chmielewski became Assistant Professor at the Urban Planning Studio managed by Professor Tadeusz Tołwiński at the Faculty of Architecture. Chmielewski then joined a group working towards establishing the Highlands Association. This organization was to coordinate two regional planning offices for Podhale/Beskid Zachodni and the Huvelsxzzyn. After the reorganisation, these offices and the Association effectively became small-scale models of the National Planning Office, which was set up in 1936 in the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister as a research unit for national planning, run by Stanisław Malecki. 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 Regional Planning Office, where, *inter alia*, he undertook the design of a new city centre district known as Mszczowska.

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 Roma district and the so-called Western Suppliers’ District. In 1944, he obtained a doctorate with a thesis on *Dynamic Trends in the Physical Development Plan of Warsaw* (recognised after the war in 1952). His concept of the East-West Warsaw Thoroughfare also originated in 1944. 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 Pawlik 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; 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. Regional town and country planning offices were thriving. The framework for the big task of planning was 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 towns 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 1963. 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 resorts (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, 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 Programming History Vol. 21 No. 1 1999 • Page 6 Planning History Vol. 21 No. 1 1999 • Page 7
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 yet widely engaged 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 1959, 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. 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, which was simply known as ‘Ghosts’ Studio’. 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 the request of Ryszard Paszkowski, who was later to become Secretary-General of 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.

Chmielewski had long dreamt of accomplishing two great tasks of Polish macro-spatial planning in this field: studying the long-lasting alliances 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.
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 fulfill all construction requirements). The 'plan' is the final product of the planning sequence.

Plans, in various dimensions, are coordinated components of the planned area landscape. Chmielwski 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. Chmielwski called it 'continuous synthesis'.

What, then, can we learn from Jan Chmielwski 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-oriented 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 form 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 reasonably grounds or claiming to have the greatest competence - is neglected.

Conclusion

Chmielwski 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. Chmielwski'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 authorship 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 Chmielwski 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 cooperation 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 analyses, exploring the heritage of Jan Chmielwski'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 Chmielwski'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 Podtatrzâ - in relation to Chmielwski's heritage, his activities in the Highlands Association and other institutions, both historical and still extant.

In planning, the decision to conserve the environment is taken in consideration of the varied effects of the planned area on the environment. A plan should take into consideration the continuity of planning, the succession of areas and the nature of the planned area landscape. Planning history is the study of the development of planning practices, the evolution of planning ideologies, and the impact of planning on society. Planning history is an interdisciplinary field that draws on the contributions of history, geography, architecture, urban studies, and environmental studies.


15. J. Chmielewski, ‘The health resorts issue’, in Ten Years of the Physical Planning Studio at the Polish Academy of Sciences 5th Department 1957 - 1968 vol. 4 part 1, 1968; see also Bibliography item 70.


61. J. Chmielewski, To recognise physical planning as a separate complex branch of science. Proposal for the Polish Academy of Sciences, 1956 (unpublished typescript); see also Bibliography items 45 and 65.

19. Polish Academy of Sciences, op. cit., p. 27.

21. See, for example, Bibliography items 7, 50, 68, 75, 80.

THE RECENT HISTORY OF CAMPUS DEVELOPMENT IN BLOEMFONTEIN, SOUTH AFRICA

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Revised manuscript accepted for publication 7 October 1998

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.

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. Public policy pronouncements often contain hidden agendas such as racial domination (basalisk in Afrikaans) or anti-British bias. However, mission
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 input.6 Consensus became a farce when administrative staff could not question top management.

One might assume that space standards for campus functions were laid down by the bureaucrats in Pretoria and should display a form of ‘organic growth’. 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! Thus some vital steps in site planning and teamwork were by-passed, and campus 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 internally 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 more opportunities for an informal arrangement, but walks across it may be too long.

These layouts vary in response to site 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, 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.

Because of their ‘exact science’ or economics mindset, some university administrators rarely connect site planning to broader objectives other than shelter for teaching. 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. 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 campus 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 1,142 metres). On its eastern edge, green hills reinforce the natural 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 down through the belt and straight to the town square; this is now a potential cycle route for students. 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 varying sub-districts such as academic, medical, residential, services and sport. Since there is no ‘in-town, off-campus’ housing tradition, administrations are burdened with 22 residential, such as academic, informal arrangement, but walk straight to the town square; this is now a potential cycle route for students. In stark contrast, the Brandwag convenience shopping centre is a congested and tawdry ‘gas alley’ 1 km north-east of the university.

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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.

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, ballards, 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. From privileged parking under a shed (ad-hoc), Bloemfontein's 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. 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 Seshoeshoe Library building (1977), 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 gardens. In a dry, hot and cold region, trees are felled randomly and the contrast of evergreen versus deciduous species is hardly addressed. 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. In the mid-1980s, the author wrote a minority report to the Registrar pleading for higher densities and pedestrianisation (author's emphasis).

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 (Omon Black), influenced events in favour of student and staff. The author wrote a minority report to the Registrar pleading for higher densities and pedestrianisation (author's emphasis).
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 source of Bain’s first survey. 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.

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.

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 University, 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.
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 enrolled. 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’.

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 elitist 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.

5. Minutes of the Physical Planning Committee, University of the Free State, 28 July 1980.
6. N. le Roux, unpublished memo about the long-range development plan to the Registrar, Free State University, 8 November 1978.
19. Author’s discussion with G. Mullins, a Senior Lecturer in Geography, Vista University, April 1994.
29. Author’s discussion with G. Mullins, a Senior Lecturer in Geography, Vista University, April 1994.
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 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. 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 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 the 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 1905 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. John Nolen was not only a subscriber to these journals, but he also contributed to them and his books were reviewed by them. I suspect that a detailed analysis of his personal library, now kept at the University of Pennsylvania, or 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, 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. 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, Guynqui, 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 but an Atlantic croesser. He indeed was a member of the Urban Internationale that met in conferences, exhibited at planning exhibitions 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 croesser 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. 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-Levy 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 developments in 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.59 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.60 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 minuteness 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-Levy, Jacques Greber, Patrick Geddes, the editor of Die Stadtplaner and many others whose addresses he had obtained from Nolen. Crane sent several letters to Nolen informing 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 programmes he proposed to US civic associations (such as the 'Civic tour' of the summer of 1921 which Nolen proposed to the American Planning Association and to the National Municipal League), he finally made it to Göteborg, 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, 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 common 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 Massachusetts Institute of Technology, at Harvard University, even giving to Unwin 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 and international co-operation and the League of Nations. In his presentation at the Boston Society of Landscape Architects, Unwin raised sufficient enthusiasm for a movement 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 crossing 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".61 Nolen would spend part of his last days with his 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 Göteborg 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 "Forbearance" folder of the Nolen papers begins in 1923. It includes letters revealing that, in Göteborg, 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 his new acquaintances. The German Gustav Langen, the Swede Lilienberg and the Dane Hendriksen were amongst his many new acquaintances.

With these German contacts made during the conference but also during the social events that went with it (professional and tourist visits), Nolen inaugurated some "network-forming" 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 planning waiting...
The material for this paper has been collected thanks to a Fulbright grant, the assistance of John Nolen Fund and the generous welcome of John Reps at Cornell University. They all made possible my stay at the Kroch Library at Cornell, where the John Nolen Papers are deposited. Herbert Finch, Lorna Knight and all the staff of the rare and manuscript collections there were of great assistance to a Frenchman on tour in US archives. Permission to quote from the John Nolen letters has been granted by Cornell University Library.

2. L. L. Hancock, John Nolen and the American City Planning Movement: A History of Culture Change and Community Response, unpublished PhD thesis, University of


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 reviewed at least on a question to which they all contributed, but other important aspects were municipal government or housing. Cornell University, Koch Library. John Nolen papers, Private papers #2093 (hereafter JN Papers), box 7 folder 1.


12. 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.

13. JN Papers, box 7, folder 1 "Nolen political endorsements", endorsement letter from Edward Feline.


15. Of course, this expression is borrowed from D. Rodger, *Atlantic Creations. Social Policies in a Progressive Age*, Cambridge, Mass: Harvard University Press, 1981. Nolen is one of the figures that illustrate Rodger's demonstration about the way in which US social politics were reappropriated importations from Germany or the United Kingdom.

16. Nolen himself exhibited at the International Federation exhibitions during conferences, such as in Berlin where he sent 16 items including the plan for Roseneck (Virginia), but also for smaller shows such as exhibitions at the Letchworth Grammar School or at the German Society for Housing Reform in 1933.

17. See, especially, the files gathered in JN papers, box 41.

18. JN papers, box 71, letter dated 26 January 1912.


21. JN papers, Box 8, folder 2 "Unwin", undated.

22. JN papers, box 1, black folder.

23. JN papers, box 69, folder 7 "Foreign correspondents", letter dated 28 December 1931.

24. 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". Crawford, 1995, op. cit.

25. Joel Outtes, at Oxford, is also working on the International Federation, as are Pál Marzanty, Veronique Faucher and Hartmut Frank in Hamburg. Renaud Payne, at the Institut d'études Politiques in Grenoble, is devoting time to the International Union of Local Authorities. Patricia Dogliani, Oscar Gaspari and Nico Raudenbur 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.


27. 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, Rodgers, 1998, op. cit., p. 5.
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 his text was felt world-wide, his support promoted construction of a garden city idea and helped to place Reade’s suburb in its national and international context. Important, 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 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

Thesis accepted 1997
University of South Australia

A review of 50 years of British planning

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 changes.

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 examines their lengthy and chequered birth, with an initial conception of an ‘outlying 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 ‘lambshack’ 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...
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 way 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 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 was not 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 concern, 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.
There have been several books and papers on the subject. This latest one is based on a 1985 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 some 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, “...American workers led the way in innovative and stunningly effective forms of environmental protest.”


Ayes describes how builders - particularly in London - developed the English terrace 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.

Ayes 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 over ‘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 craft that built the city, and their influence on form and style. This is an extremely well-written and readable book; copiously and appropriately illustrated.


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.


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


In many ways a complementary volume to Mander’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!


An evocative, photographic, and thought-provoking review of how planning treats its recent history.


...Unemployment is often thought of as a major problem of industrial society. This is a good book with a firm empirical base that looks at the industrial society and its problems in the 1970s.


In many ways a complementary volume to Mander’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.

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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!
I'll Juan Alcman,...


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


(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?

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 an 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, 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 1995 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 CERMO (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 CERMO 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 1980. 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 abeyance. 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 Thessalonian 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 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 abeyance, 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 coloniser. 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/UBRAMA, 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 Strobe!, an independent researcher from Cincinnati. Presented in abeyance, 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. Faris 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 until 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 African 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. Aalaa el-Habashi (American Research Center in Egypt/University of Pennsylvania) examined the Comite de conservation des monuments de l’Art ancien 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 specific 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 developments, he showed how replete they were with the imagery of imperial importation, 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 Ebene 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
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 to be submitted by 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-referred 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 Tuesday 30th 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:

Dr Christine Garnaut
Louis Laybourne Smith School of Architecture and Design
University of South Australia
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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 Buenos Aires, Calgary, Cardiff, Edinburgh, Lausce, Nancy, Prague, Riga, Rie de Janeiro and Thilisi.

Some authors consider single buildings, the individual studies include dwellings, including Wightwick Manor, religious buildings, such as Warley Church, and art schools, like the Gaspign School of Art and the "Bauhaus Oskau". The contributions are arranged under five subheadings: 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 dualities and contradictions into the raw 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. Powers suggests that Hermann Muthesius's distinction between Stilarchitektur and Frankist 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 homogeneous 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 whilst 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.

Michael Harrison
University of Central England

Arturo Almandoz Marte,
Urbanismo europeo en Canarias (1570-1940), Canarias: Equinocio (Ediciones de la Universidad Simón Bolívar) and FUNDARTE (Colección Rescate, No 23), 1997


Most research studies of Latin American cities tend to be conducted 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 Canaries 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 architecture, art, and urban history. The book provides an interesting period in which to study the historical evolution of Canaries. In the late-19th century, Canaries 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 planning decades to be formed and, from 1910 to 1945, the city experienced a period of major construction, led by the dictator Gomez. As Almandroho 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 primarily in 1870 as this coincides with the triumphal entry of General Guzman Blanco into Caracas. Guzman Blanco’s presidency, or more accurately, the disturbances and economic stagnation that had plagued Venezuela for much of the 19th century. It lasted from 1870 to 1888, and Almandroho 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 Guzman presidency 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 period covered, probably the only one with interest in urban planning and travelling around the cities of Europe (while in office). He set up an urban planning code in 1887, one year after entering office. One of Guzman Blanco’s major projects was the National Exhibition of 1891 - 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 embellishment 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 reason and Catholic. Hence he built both a roman temple and neo-classical basilica during his presidency.

Unfortunately, after the caustical 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 contribution to 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 Almandroho’s words they were ‘mad years’ of rapid oil-related 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 replica of New York or the Caribbean. As a result, Caracas needed a plan for expansion similar to the National Exhibition 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.

Arthur Almandroho’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 developed so carefully in giving the political and economic context to the urban growth of Caracas. However, apart from the Guzmante, the wider political and economic context is not so 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.

Dr Robert N Gwyne
University of Birmingham

Frank Tindall, Memoirs and Confessions of a County Planning Officer, Ford, Midlothian: The Pearson Press, 1948, 323 pp. £25.00, ISBN 0 553 40130 0 (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’s dining Frank. Frank lived it all. It might be true 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 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 strategies of achieving change in East Lothian, by action and initiative. 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 reform movements encouraged by the circumstances of the 1909-15 War. Margaret 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 the Geddesian influence when scanning so many developments - 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 strategies 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 shafts. 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 role in the campaign was central, simultaneously challenging the social caste system of the Lothians, and the philanthism of other departments of local government. But equally absorbing are his accounts of successes and sometimes failures in negotiating for new employment to support East Lothian’s efforts in physical development and conservation. The interchange between farming, industrial, conservation and political interests is specifically and entertainingly described, as with the effect of the historical row which Frank labouriously
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. These 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 energy. 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.

Urban Warrnap
University of Strathclyde


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, planners, architects and planners. 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 1945-1975, 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.

Michael Harrison
University of Central England

## ARTICLES

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

## OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS

Other types of contributions are also very welcome. Research reports should not be of more than 2,000 words. They need not be refereed, but any relevant publishers should be listed at the end, in the standard format. Illustrations, where provided, should conform to the above notes. Similar short pieces on important source materials, aspects of planning history practice (e.g. conservation) are also encouraged.
THE INTERNATIONAL PLANNING HISTORY SOCIETY

- endeavours to foster the study of planning history. It seeks to advance scholarship in the fields of history, planning and the environment, particularly focusing on industrial and post-industrial cities. In pursuit of these aims its interests are worldwide;
- welcomes members from both academic disciplines and the professions of the built environment. Membership of the Society is both multi-disciplinary and practice-oriented;
- encourages and gives support to networks, which may be interest-based, region- or nation-based, working in the fields of planning history;
- provides services for members: publishing a journal, promoting conferences, and providing an international framework for informal individual member contact;
- invites national organisations, whose work is relevant to IPHS, to affiliate status;
- administers its affairs through an elected Council and Management Board.

The Society was inaugurated in January 1993 as a successor body to the Planning History Society, founded in 1974. Its membership is drawn from several disciplines: planning, architecture, economic and social history, geography, sociology, politics and related fields. Membership is open to all who have a working interest in planning history. The Society for American City and Regional Planning History (SACRPH) and the Urban History Association (UHA) are American affiliates of IPHS.

Members of IPHS elect a governing Council every two years. In turn, the Council elects an executive Board of Management, complemented by representatives of SACRPH and UHA. The President chairs the Board and Council.

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