



Central to the logic of New Towns during the 20th century was the precise delineation of territory. Modern land use, planning and urban design practices were based on the rationalization of land parcels in order to regulate both space and people. The seemingly unthinkable morass of the 19th century European industrial metropolis, fueled by the Enlightenment belief in progress, generated an epistemological shift toward the control of actions in space, a *territorial imperative*. First, Garden City and later, CIAM devotees alike, capitalist and communist, homeland or colony, the New Town was a normative idea rooted in the belief that spaces designed with particular patterns containing settlements of determined sizes and stipulated uses would create "functioning" and "balanced" *communities*. Joining modernization and development to state power, the New Town was a perceived solution to national urban social and economic problems. That this often authoritarian control of space and human activity – which optimistically yoked together the *formal* methods of the Ideal City to the *social* content of Utopia – could be considered socially progressive is a paradox of 20th century design history particularly since many New Town projects became incubators for new social conflicts.

The tension embedded in the territorial imperative is the entry point for the research of this class. We will investigate the theories and histories of New Towns in their Euro-American context and colonial dispersals, mostly among their protagonists, and through their trajectories in the overlapping disciplines required by their implementation, including urban planning, urban design, architecture, sociology and policy. How were New Towns expected to perform? How can we evaluate their successes and failures? Broad surveys of the modern New Town have largely written them off as fiascoes of over-determination – the Achilles heel of architecture – but closer analysis should reveal ideas, plans and techniques ripe for positive re-appropriation. The territorial imperative, originally heavy handed or even repressive, might yet be cracked open for new consideration. The historical material in class will conclude around 1980, when globally-scaled neoliberal shifts in economy and governance fundamentally ended this modernist chapter in planning. However, New Towns continue to be built today, in Asia and elsewhere, and older examples are actively being renovated.

The project and work for the class will be documentary and curatorial, a *Guide*, the organization and shape of which will be part of the emergent seminar work. This *New Town Guide* will test the feasibility of graphic conventions to understand the New Town; it will facilitate their comparative and detailed analysis – as well as less-tangible, qualitative interpretations. The study of plans and sections, demographics, employment and uses, scale and size, infrastructure and movement, ecology and regions, siting and geography, and policy, governance and planning frameworks will allow us to understand more precisely the means – and, perhaps, the ends – of the territorial imperative. This will entail gathering primary and secondary materials, images and texts, re-scaling and redrawing plans and sections, and, perhaps most importantly, creating and evaluating metrics. Selected New Towns will be discussed in each seminar meeting but students are encouraged to research these and other new towns – built or not – as suitable examples for study. Students are also encouraged to consult the publications and website of the International New Town Institute (INTI).

Students seeking additional background reading on 19th and 20th century urban design and planning should consult: Peter Hall, *Cities of Tomorrow* (3rd edition, 2002); Anthony Sutcliffe, ed., *The Rise of Modern Urban Planning* (1980); D. Graham Shane, *Urban Design Since 1945: A Global Perspective* (2011).

SCHEDULE

1) 09/05 *Introduction: What Was a New Town?*

Part 1: Prehistory and Discourse

2) 09/12 Cities, Utopia, Modernity

Françoise Choay, *The Modern City: Planning in the 19th Century* (1969), excerpts.

Kenneth M. Roemer, "Paradise Transformed: Varieties of Nineteenth-Century Utopias," in Gregory Claeys, ed., *The Cambridge Companion to Utopian Literature* (2010).

Hilde Heynen, *Architecture and Modernity: A Critique* (1999) 8-25.

Ruth Eaton, *Ideal Cities: Utopianism and the (Un)Built Environment* (2002)

Françoise Choay, "Utopia and the Anthropological Status of Built Space," in van Schaik and Mâcel, eds., *Exit Utopia: Architectural Provocations 1956-76* (2005) 96-103.

G. M. Horner, "Kropotkin and the City: The Socialist Ideal in Urbanism," *Antipode* 10-11: 3 (December, 1978) 33-45.

Henri Lefebvre, "Industrialization and Urbanization," [1968] *Writing on Cities* (1996) 65-85.

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3) 09/19 Howard, Geddes and Garden Cities

Ebenezer Howard, *Garden Cities of To-morrow* [1898] (1902), excerpt.

Pierre Clavel, "Ebenezer Howard & Patrick Geddes: Two Approaches to City Development," in Parsons & Schuyler, eds., *From Garden City to Green City: The Legacy of Ebenezer Howard* (2002) 38-57.

Annette Ciré, "'Beyond the Metropolis:' Urban Design and Architecture of the 'Country House Colonies' and Garden Cities in Berlin Suburbs before 1914," in Scheer, Kleihues, Kahlfeldt, eds., *City of Architecture, Architecture of the City: Berlin 1900-2000* (2000) 53-65.

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Raymond Unwin, *Town Planning in Practice* (1909)

Daniel Schaffer, *Garden Cities for America: The Radburn Experience* (1982).

Stanley Buder, *Visionaries & Planners: The Garden City Movement and the Modern Community* (1990).

Joseph L. Arnold, *The New Deal in the Suburbs: A History of the Greenbelt Town Program, 1935-1954* (1971).

Wolfgang Voigt, "The Garden City as Eugenic Utopia," *Planning Perspectives* 4 (1989) 295-312.

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Alan March, "Democratic Dilemmas: Planning and Ebenezer Howard's Garden City," *Planning Perspectives* 19 (October, 2004) 409-433.

R. K. Home, "Town Planning and Garden Cities in the British Colonial Empire 1910-1940," *Planning Perspectives* 5 (1990) 23-37.

4) 09/26 Modernism and Territoriality

Clarence Arthur Perry, "The Neighborhood Unit," in *Regional Survey of New York and its Environs*, vol. 7: *Neighborhood and Community Planning* (New York, 1929).

Catherine Bauer, "A New Method: The Community Unit," *Modern Housing* (1935) 153-67.

Jose Luis Sert, *Can Our Cities Survive? An ABC of Urban Problems, their Analysis, their Solutions* (1942) excerpts.

J. Tyrwhitt, J. L. Sert and E. N. Rogers, eds., *Heart of the City: Towards the Humanisation of Urban Life* (1952) excerpts.

Albert Mayer, *The Urgent Future* (1967) excerpts.

Alan Altschuler, "The Goals of Comprehensive Planning," *City Planning Process* (1965)

James Dahir, *The Neighborhood Unit Plan* (1947).

Clarence S. Stein, *Toward New Towns for America* (1951).

Gilbert Herbert, "The Neighbourhood Unit Principle and Organic Theory," *The Sociological Review* 11: 2 (July, 1963) 165-213.

Herbert J. Gans, "The Balanced Community: Homogeneity or Heterogeneity in Residential Areas?" *Journal of the American Institute of Planners* 27: 3 (1961) 176-184.

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Dirk Schubert, "The Neighborhood Unit Paradigm: From Garden Cities to Gated Communities," in Freestone, ed., *Urban Planning in a Changing World* (2000) 118-138.

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Konstanze Sylva Domhardt, "The Garden City Idea in the CIAM Discourse on Urbanism: A Path to Comprehensive Planning," *Planning Perspectives* 27:2 (2012) 173-197

Part 2: Case Studies

5) 10/03 Britain – Harlow to Hook

Gideon Golany, *International Urban Growth Policies: New Town Contributions* (1978) 13-34.

John Madge, "The New Towns Program In Britain," *Journal of the American Institute of Planners* 28: 4 (1962) 208-219.

Mark Llewellyn, "Producing and Experiencing Harlow: Neighbourhood Units and Narratives of New Town Life 1947–53," *Planning Perspectives* 19 (April, 2004) 155-74.

London County Council, *The Planning of a New Town* (1961) excerpts.

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Lloyd Rodwin, *The British New Towns Policy: Problems and Implications* (1956).

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James M. Rubenstein, "French New Town Policy," in Golany (1978) 75-103.

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7) 10/17 "Suburban" New Towns – Columbia, Reston, Woodlands, Milton Keynes

Morton Hoppenfeld, "The Columbia Process: The Potential For New Towns," in David Lewis, ed., *The Pedestrian in the City* (1965) 34-47.

"A Plan for Growth, Report of the National Policy Task Force, AIA," in Bailey, ed., *New Towns in America* (American Institute of Architects, 1973) 143-154.

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Guy Ortolano, "Planning the Urban Future in 1960s Britain," *The Historical Journal* 54: 2 (2011) 477–507.

- Stephen Gardiner, "The City as Rug," in Derek Walker, ed., *New Towns*, AD Profile 111 (1994).
- Ray Thomas, "Milton Keynes: City of the Future?," *Built Environment* 9: 3/4 (1983) 245-254.
- David Crane, "In Search of 'New' New Towns," in *New Towns in America* (American Institute of Architects, 1973) 116-125.
- Nicholas Dagen Bloom, *Suburban Alchemy: 1960s New Towns and the Transformation of the American Dream* (2001).
- Ann Forsyth, *Reforming Suburbia: The Planned Communities of Irvine, Columbia, and The Woodlands* (2005). (ebook)
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- Melvin Webber, "The Urban Place and the Nonplace Urban Realm," (1964).

Part 3: Globalized Discourse

8) 10/24 Knowledge Transfer – Chandigarh and after

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- Tridib Banerjee, "U.S. Planning Expeditions to Postcolonial India: From Ideology to Innovation in Technical Assistance," *Journal of the American Planning Association* 75 (Spring 2009): 193-208.
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- Annapurna Shaw, "Town Planning in Postcolonial India, 1947-65: Chandigarh Re-examined," *Urban Geography* 30:8 (2009) 857-878.
- Gideon E.D. Omuta, "New Towns: The Concept and Relevance," in Robert W. Taylor, ed., *Urban Development in Nigeria* (1993).
- Sanjeev Vidyarthi, "Inappropriately Appropriated or Innovatively Indigenized?: Neighborhood Unit Concept in Post-independence India," *Journal of Planning History* 9:4 (2010) 260–276.
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9) 10/31 Northern Europe – Almere, Lelyland, Tapiola, Vaellingby

- A.K. Constandse, "New Towns on the Bottom of the Sea," in Golany (1978) 53-74.
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Jeroen Schilt, "47-57: Ten Years of Opbouw," *Het Nieuwe Bouwen in Rotterdam, 1920-60* (1982) 139-70.

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- V. N. Belousov, "Policies and Trends in the Development of New Towns in the USSR,"
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11) 11/14 Latin America

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 Clara Irazabal, "A Planned City Comes of Age: Rethinking Ciudad Guayana Today,"
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12) 11/21 Asia – Past and Future

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13) 12/05 Futures: TBA

