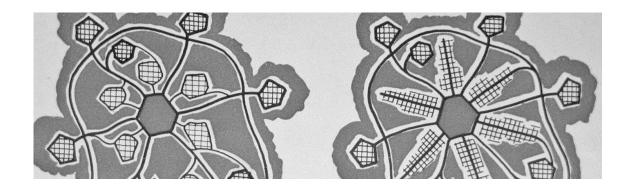
Territorial Imperative: The Discourse of Units in 20th Century Architecture and Planning David Smiley



Whether under the auspices of Garden Cities or CIAM (or some combination), in phases favoring de- or re-centralization, for empty sites or to-be-emptied sites, 20th century architecture and planning can be framed as the delineation and programming of territory. Expanding earlier theories of environmental improvement and rejecting the "chaos" of the metropolis, architects, planners and other land use specialists theorized that socially cohesive, smoothly-functioning communities could be created through scientific or rational planning. This was enacted through the language and techniques of the *neighborhood unit*, the *superblock* and the *new town* – a discourse based on a direct link between circumscribed parcels of land, prescribed uses and hierarchical conceptions of social order. This unit discourse proved more useful and emblematic than its theorists ever imagined; in the US and elsewhere, it came to provide professional and design norms and was institutionalized in property development and state regulation. The territorial imperative fueled and shaped methods for the management of land, people and resources under an array of political and economic contexts. The imperative also revealed the paradox of prescription: however progressive in origin, an authoritative thread ran through the operations and experience of urban change. The outcomes, however, were uneven and varied.

Territorial Imperative will chart the history of unit techniques with an emphasis on its developments in the US in comparison to its European and global trajectories. The role of government agencies, political structures, planning organizations and real estate professionals, all of whom participated in the construction of the norms of planning, require consideration. As it cuts across the professions of planning, architecture and urban design, the examination of unit discourse also enables an examination of the distinctions and tensions among these disciplines. The *lingua franca* of this discourse, as an hypothesis for this class, is the site plan.

Project: Archive of Territories

The class project entails the creation of an archive of *site plans*. The site plan is perhaps the central representation of the territorial imperative and its techniques. The site plan involves surveying, mapping and the creation of specifically named territories. The site plan is the link between broad and local policies, between the social machinery of production and of daily experience of a place and project. There is, however, no singular form of a site plan, and it can utilize many kinds of information, images and texts. It can render a proposal of thousands of acres or a small grouping of buildings and landscape features. A site plan may require added layers to chart functions, infrastructures, or social groups, to name a few. So too, a site plan may be incomplete, or even a misdirection, requiring other links to clarify a particular bounded territory. Students will collect images and texts – making extensive use of Avery and the Avery Index, of periodicals, to create a web-based archive. A fuller bibliography of projects will be circulated.

Individual Projects: Each student will submit a 2500 wd report on their specific archival research.

Schedule

1) TH 09/04 Introduction: Languages of Territory

2) Planning and Modernity

Leonardo Benevelo, The Origins of Modern Town Planning (MIT, 1967 [1963]) 39-80.

Anthony Giddens, The Consequences of Modernity (1990) 79-111.

Paul Barker, "Thinking the Unthinkable," in Hughes and Sadler, eds., *Non-plan: Essays on Freedom, Participation and Change in Modern Architecture and Urbanism* (2000) 2-21.

Recommended:

Richard Dennis, "Surveying the City," *Cities in Modernity: Representations and Productions of Metropolitan Space, 1840-1930* (Cambridge, 2008) 52-79.

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

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

Work AC, 49 Cities (2010)

3. Gardens and Fences

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

Raymond Unwin, Nothing Gained by Overcrowding! (1912), excerpt.

Howard Gillette, "The Garden City in America," in *Civitas by Design: Building Better Communities* (2010) 23-44.

Gerhard Fehl, "The Nazi Garden City," in Stephen V. Ward, ed., The Garden City (1992) 88-105.

Robert Stern, David Fishman, Jacob Tilove, Paradise Planned (2013) ch. 5.

Peter Hall, Cities of Tomorrow, 4th edition (2014) 91-148.

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

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

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.

4. Social Science and Metropolis

Georg Simmel, "The Metropolis and Mental Life," 1903.

Charles Horton Cooley, Social Organization: A Study of the Larger Mind (1909) 25-31.

Ernest W. Burgess, "The Growth of the City," in Robert E. Park, Ernest W. Burgess, and R. D. McKenzie, *The City* (Chicago, 1925) 47-62.

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

John D. Fairfield, "Alienation of social control: the Chicago Sociologists and the Origins of Urban Planning," *Planning Perspectives* 7 (1992) 418-434.

Sudhir Venkatesh, "Chicago's Pragmatic Planners: American Sociology and the Myth of Community," *Social Science History* 25: 2 (Summer, 2001) 275-313.

Daniel Rodgers, Atlantic Crossings: Social Politics in a Progressive Age (1998).

5. Units and Communities

Reginald Isaacs, "The Neighborhood Theory," *Journal of the American Institute of Planners* 14 (1948) 15-23.

Lewis Mumford, "The Neighborhood and the Neighborhood Unit," *Town Planning Review* 24 (January, 1954) 256-270.

Gilbert Herbert, "The Organic Analogy in Town Planning," *Journal of the American Institute of Planners* 29: 3 (1963) 198-209.

Richard Longstreth, "The Levitts, Mass-Produced Houses, and Community Planning in the Mid-Twentieth Century," in Diane Harris, ed., *Second Suburb* (2013).

Greg Hise, Magnetic Los Angles: Planning the Twentieth Century Metropolis (Johns Hopkins, 1997) 14-55.

Marc A. Weiss, The Rise of the Community Builders (1987) 55-80.

Lu Duanfang, "Travelling Urban Form: The Neighbourhood Unit in China," *Planning Perspectives* 21 (Oct., 2006) 369–392.

6. CIAM Gardens

Mark Swenarton, "Rationality And Rationalism: The Theory and Practice of Site Planning in Modern Architecture, 1905-1930," *AA Files* 4 (July, 1983) 49-60.

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.

Jose Luis Sert, Can Our Cities Survive? An ABC of Urban Problems, their Analysis, their Solutions (1942) 68-76.

Walter Gropius and Martin Wagner, "New City Pattern for the People and by the People," in Guy Greer, ed., *The Problem of the Cities and Towns* (Harvard, 1942).

Eric Mumford, The CIAM Discourse on Urbanism, 1928-1960 (MIT, 2002).

Kiki Kafkoula, "On Garden-City Lines: Looking into Social Housing Estates of Interwar Europe," *Planning Perspectives* 28: 2 (2013) 171–198

Susan Henderson, "Romerstadt: The Modern Garden City," Planning Perspectives 25: 3 (2010) 323–346.

7. Workshop

8. Urban Renewals

Richard Longstreth, "The Difficult Legacy of Urban Renewal," *CRM Journal* 3: 1 (Winter 2006). Samuel Zipp, *Manhattan Projects: The Rise and Fall of Urban Renewal in Cold War New York* (Oxford, 2010) 3-20; 73-113, 157-98.

Kenneth E. Corey, "Advocacy in Planning: A Reflective Analysis," *Antipode* 4: 2 (July, 1972) 46–63.

Gwendolyn Wright, USA (2008) Ch. 5.

Christopher Klemeck, *The Transatlantic Collapse of Urban Renewal Postwar Urbanism from New York to Berlin* (Chicago, 2011).

Samuel Zipp, "The Roots and Routes of Urban Renewal," *Journal of Urban History* 39: 3 (2012) 366–391. Florian Urban, *Tower and Slab: Histories of Global Mass Housing* (Routledge, 2012).

Monique Eleb "An Alternative to Functionalist Universalism: Ecochard, Candilis, and ATBAT Afrique," in Sarah Williams Goldhagen, ed., *Anxious Modernisms: Experimentation in Postwar Architectural Culture* (2001).

9. New Towns: Great Britain

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

Andrew Homer, "Creating New Communities: The Role of the Neighbourhood Unit in Post-War British Planning," *Contemporary British History* 14:1 (2000) 63-80.

Lucy Bullivant, "Cumbernauld: Tomorrow's Town Today," in Cor Wagenaar, ed., *Happy: Cities & Public Happiness in Post-War Europe* (Rotterdam: NAi Publishers, 2004) 165-175.

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

Hazel Evans, ed., New Towns: The British Experience (New York, Wiley, 1972).

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

Mark Clapson, The Plan for Milton Keynes [1970] (2013).

F. Osborn and A. Whittick, New Towns: Their Origins, Achievements and Progress (1977).

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

10. New Towns USA

David Crane, "In Search of 'New' New Towns," in *New Towns in America* (American Institute of Architects, 1973) 116-125.

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

Nicholas Dagen Bloom, Suburban Alchemy: 1960s New Towns and the Transformation of the American Dream (2001) [Reston, 17-32; Columbia, 33-52]

Ann Forsyth, "Planning Lessons from Three U.S. New Towns of the 1960s and 1970s," *Journal of the American Planning Association* 68: 4 (Autumn, 2002) 387-415.

Ann Forsyth, Reforming Suburbia: The Planned Communities of Irvine, Columbia, and The Woodlands (2005).

Irving Lewis Allen, ed., New Towns and the Suburban Dream: Ideology and Utopia in Planning and Development (1977).

Robert Stern, David Fishman, Jacob Tilove, Paradise Planned (2013).

11. New Towns Global

J. N. Tuppen, "The Development of French New Towns: An Assessment of Progress," *Urban Studies* 20: 1 (1983) 11-30.

Wouter Vanstiphout, "Ideology as an Achilles Heel: Visionary Urban Planning in Amsterdam and Teheran," in Provoost, ed., *New Towns for the 21st Century*, 46-57.

Peter Gotsch, "AlphaVille-Tamboré – A NeoTown Between Planning and Self-Organisation," in Provoost, ed., *New Towns for the 21st Century*, 60-71.

Martino Tattara, "Brasilia's Superquadra: Prototypical Design and the Project of the City," *Architectural Design* 81: 1 (Jan./Feb., 2011) 46–55.

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

Gideon Golany, International Urban Growth Policies: New Town Contributions (1978).

Pierre Merlin, New Towns: Regional Planning and Development (1971).

Alessandro Balducci, ed., Brasilia: A Utopia Come True, 1960-2010 (2010).

C. A. Doxiadis, "Islamabad: The Creation of a New Capital," Town Planning Review 36: 1 (April, 1965) 1-28.

12. New Towns: New Cities

- Andrew Friedman, "The Global Postcolonial Moment and the American New Town: India, Reston, Dodoma," *Journal of Urban History* 38:3 (2012) 553–576
- 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.
- Annapurna Shaw, "Town Planning in Postcolonial India, 1947-65: Chandigarh Re-examined," *Urban Geography* 30:8 (2009) 857-878.
- Sanjeev Vidyarthi, "Inappropriately Appropriated or Innovatively Indigenized?: the Neighborhood Unit Concept in Post-independence India," *Journal of Planning History* 9:4 (2010) 260–276.

Hasan-Uddin Khan, ed., Le Corbusier: Chandigarh and the Modern City (Mapin, 2009).

Norma Evenson, Chandigarh (Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press, 1966).

Vikramaditya Prakash, *Chandigarh's Le Corbusier: The Struggle for Modernity in Postcolonial India* (Seattle and London: University of Washington Press, 2002).

Jaspreet Takhar, Celebrating Chandigarh (Chandigarh: Chandigarh Perspectives, 2001).

Lawrence Vale, Architecture Power and National Identity, 2nd ed. (London: Routledge, 2008).

Stanislaus von Moos, "The Politics of the Open Hand: Notes on Le Corbusier and Nehru at Chandigarh," in *The Open Hand*, pp. 412-57.

13: Review