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Ward, Steven V., ed. *The Garden City: Past, Present and Future*. London: E & FN Spon, 1992. pp. xiv, 215 Maps, Illustrations, black and white plates, index, bibliography by chapter. \$112.50 (Hardcover only)

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sion," whereas the West German "satiric-lapsarian" mode operated within the framework of timeless principles enshrined in a constitution (Basic Law of 1949) presumed to protect Germans from political peril. While the GDR citizenship was based on an achieved socialist/political membership, the FRG maintained the particularistic, blood-based membership criterion prominent in its recent past. While the GDR sought to construct an egalitarian socialist society into which people were integrated, the FRG hierarchically assimilated according to class. While the self-representation of the GDR state foregrounded its activity in directing social change, the West German state foregrounded the autonomous consumer while retracting itself from direct view. While both asserted to represent the best interest of "the family", each state applied different strategies for its reconstruction. While in the FRG kinship was sentimentalized in the *Hausfrauenehe* at the heart of restoration policies until the 1970s, the GDR pursued policies of what Borneman termed kinship reconstruction and desentimentalization of the family.

The author analyzes each generation's inventive reactions to state narrative strategies and guides the reader through each successive generation, devoting the bulk of his own narrative to this task: childhood, youth, partnership/marriage, adulthood, and the aged, first the East and then the West. The wealth of material and the expanse of his analysis are at times breathtaking, and I will not attempt the folly to replicate it here. Perhaps the most successful depictions are those of Generation II, with whom he feels the most affinity, followed by those of Generation I. Treatment of Generation III is somewhat sketchy, but the author has already forewarned us of this. Differences between Generation I in East and West Berlin derive from experiences in the 1950s and 1960s. Whereas West Berlin-

ers experienced the *Wirtschaftswunder* as one of prosperity, the *Aufbau* in the East signified work. While West Berliners of this generation constructed lifecourse narratives largely according to the state versions, those of the East rarely did so. Generation II categorized their lifecourse experiences primarily according to state versions, but with differing trajectories. The initial egalitarian, utopian and integrative narratives generated by the GDR state among the children and youth yielded to later disappointment at the increasingly rigid state control in the late 1970s. The West German state, on the other hand, became more conciliatory and integrative as prosperity increased and the new social movements were seemingly successful.

This book represents an important contribution to history, anthropology and German Studies by correlating two types of strategies in creating a sense of nationness, practical and state/official narratives. It is a paradoxically unique for cultural anthropology in its investigation of the German ethnic majority and will hopefully encourage further research interest both on state narratives as well as on practical lifecourse strategies.

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Ward, Steven V., ed. *The Garden City: Past, Present and Future*. London: E & FN Spon, 1992. pp. xiv, 215 Maps, illustrations, black and white plates, index, bibliography by chapter. \$112.50 (Hardcover only)

After labouring in obscurity for years, Ebenezer Howard initiated a revolution in urban planning with the publication in 1898 of *To-morrow: a Peaceful Path to Real Reform*, (republished in 1902, slightly revised, under the famous title

Garden Cities of To-morrow). Even by the end of his life, the movement initiated by these books and Howard's accompanying activism led to considerable action on his ideas but little if any adherence to his social reform program. The Garden City movement, despite—or perhaps because of—the rejection or distortion of Howard's social ideals in most practical projects, remains a major influence on urban planning in much of the world.

The Garden City: Past, Present and Future attempts to assess the impact of Howard's ideas in various parts of the world, and, surprisingly, to argue that these ideas have a future in the industrialized world. While there is no chapter on Canada, the book is nevertheless of interest to Canadian readers, if only because as a study in the transmission and evolution of ideas, there is much here that students of Canadian planning history will find familiar, illuminating, or both.

Although the book does deal with the present and future, it is primarily historical; as such, this is a valuable set of essays that provide a solid overview of the Garden City influences on urban planning in the countries covered. Those contributors who do deal in some depth with future prospects come to widely divergent conclusions. Robert Fishman argues persuasively that the Garden City is irrelevant in the United States today, primarily because the possibilities for building compact, relatively isolated settlements with a strong sense of community have been overtaken by the massive automobile-oriented suburban growth of the last fifty years. Dennis Hardy, in contrast, sees a promising future for the Garden City in Britain and perhaps Europe, if only environmentalists would recognize the prospects for sustainable development implicit in the types of settlements advocated by Howard.

The common thread that runs through the stories of the different national contexts is that ideals tend to be shaped, often beyond recognition, by political, social, and economic realities. In Germany, for example, Gerhard Fehl shows that the Garden City was used by the Nazis as a means of ordering and controlling space in the course of wartime territorial expansion. Taking advantage of an earlier technocratic turn in planning, and employing the talents of Walter Christaller, they used the Garden City as the basis for a new regional planning that ruthlessly manipulated populations to abstract technical and nationalist ends. In the case of Japan, Shunichi Watanabe shows that the Garden City was not received in that country as an intact set of ideas with easily usable mechanisms. Instead, consistent with the interests of a powerful landed elite, Garden City ideas reached their fullest expression in a handful of middle-class suburbs. While there was much discussion of using the Garden City to achieve substantial reforms in urban morphology, its main impact was to form the basis of planning measures designed to rationalize new suburban land use. In the case of Australia, Robert Freestone shows that the absence of a need for decentralization and the relative paucity of the poor urban living conditions that spawned the Garden City movement in Britain meant that, parallel to the Canadian case, direct Garden City influences were confined largely to housing design and resource town development.

The national coverage is uneven. With four chapters exclusively or predominantly on Britain, two on the United States, and one each on France, Japan, Germany, and Australia, there would have been room to consolidate the British and U.S. cases into two or three, instead of six chapters, leaving room for more national cases. It might be argued, however, that there remain no national cases sufficiently well-studied to merit

similar treatment. In Canada, for instance, the Garden City direct influences on the urban fabric were few; and few scholars have attempted to understand the country planning history through the prism of the Garden City, and fewer still to identify and understand the specific examples of Garden City ideas in action. That means there is little literature to form the basis for a summary of Canada encounter along lines similar to the essays in this volume.

Nevertheless, there is at least a need here for some attempt to review the national cases that are as yet little-studied. In particular, I suspect that there has been an influence on less-developed countries, which goes unmentioned here. Indeed, if there is a future for Howard's program of land reform, decentralization, and small communities in which residence and industry are balanced, it is in those developing countries suffering from the effects of the emergence of enormous primate cities. Of course, any such countries that tried to adopt the Garden City would run up against many of the problems faced earlier this century in Britain and elsewhere, particularly the problem of building adequate and affordable working-class housing where capital is scarce and wages low.

On the whole, *The Garden City: Past, Present, and Future* is a valuable primer on an important movement in international urban planning. It is not, however, good value for money. Its hefty price tag puts the book out of reach for all but the most devoted specialists, and even, probably, for many Canadian university libraries, given current financial realities. This in itself belies some of the contributors' apparent hopes that the Garden City will once again be a widely embraced popular movement.

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Honey, Michael K. *Southern Labor and Black Civil Rights: Organizing Memphis Workers*. (The Working Class in American History). Urbana and Chicago: University of Illinois Press, 1993. Pp xiii, 364. 10 black and white photographs, index. \$49.95 (US) (cloth); \$17.95 (US) (paperback).

Thomas, Richard W. *Life for Us Is What We Make It: Building Black Community in Detroit, 1915-1945*. (Blacks in the Diaspora). Bloomington and Indianapolis: University of Indiana Press, 1992. Pp. xiv, 365. 13 black and white photographs, index. \$47.50 (cloth).

Twentieth century African-American urban history continues to be one of the most dynamic fields in U.S. history. Both of these books engage and expand the existing frameworks in this field, offer new structures, and provide considerable food for thought.

Initially, the concepts of northern migration and "ghettoization" dominated this topic. Historians focussed on the forces, such as banking, real estate interests, home owner associations, and municipal governments, and the processes, such as red-lining, restrictive covenants, block busting and political gerrymandering, which literally shaped the contours of black urban communities. In this framework, powerful white institutions and organizations were the actors, while powerless African-Americans were the acted upon.

In the late 1960s and early 1970s, the impact of the Civil Rights Movement seeped into historians' consciousness and subtly—but significantly—altered the