

Thesis Abstracts

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THESIS ABSTRACTS/RÉSUMÉS DES THESES

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Barry Wayne Luscombe. "Social Distance and Spatial Distance: Segregation and Dispersion of Social Classes in Regina, Saskatchewan." M.A. Thesis, Department of Geography, University of Regina, 1977.

This study investigates the social dimension of Regina's urban space. It seeks to isolate and to identify relationships between social distances and spatial distances and to show how these relationships manifest themselves in the spatial arrangement of the city.

A review of existing information about social stratification precedes an attempt to construct and identify an operational social structure of Regina. Although the social structure of Regina does not reveal a system of discrete classes, it does indicate that social differentiation exists, and that, contrary to the common conception of middle class uniformity, social inequalities and social classes prevail. For this study, a five-class structure was designed. Occupational status was chosen as the indicator of social position and was measured subjectively by means of a public opinion survey. Specific occupations were then selected as representatives of the social classes.

Since this study was concerned with urban social-spatial relationships, residential distribution data for the selected occupations were gathered from census sources and were statistically and graphically summarized. Various indices were

employed to identify quantitatively the influence of social class on the city's spatial form. Indices of dissimilarity and segregation measured the degree of differentiation in the residential distributions of the social classes. An index of clustering quantified the tendency for within-class residential associations and an index of centrality compared the relative distances of the social classes to the city centre. An index was developed to measure empirically the relationship between distances on the social scale and the actual spatial distances which separated the classes.

The study showed conclusively that social class is a dominant factor to be considered when attempting to describe and to explain the spatial form of the city. In general terms, it was found that dissimilarities in residential distributions of social classes were directly related to the social distances which separated them. Classes at the extremes of the social scale were most segregated from other classes while residential segregation was less for classes occupying a central position on the scale. Similarly, the highest and the lowest classes were the most residentially clustered. The study also showed that the degree of centrality is inversely related to social position; the lowest social class is the most centrally located. The relationship between social distances and actual spatial distances can be generalized, with few reservations, as a direct one. Because of much false consciousness

within the social structure, behaviour tends to be identified according to three major divisions of the structure - above middle, middle, and below middle. This tended to modify the influence of social distance upon spatial distance but not so significantly as to conceal or alter the generalized association.

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Donald George Ross. "Population Growth: The Catalyst of Spatial Changes in Regina, 1945-1975, With a Projection to the Future." M.A. Thesis, Department of Geography, University of Regina, 1979.

This study examines the effects of population growth (natural increase and migration) on the spatial growth of the city of Regina between 1945 and 1975 and the impact of continued population increase on the spatial growth of the city. The aim is to understand one of the processes that is shaping the spatial growth of the city: the influence of population growth on Regina's morphology and infrastructure; the physical expansion of the city by annexations; the extension of the transit system; the provision of Public and Separate Schools, playgrounds, and parks; the establishment of suburban shopping centres; and on land-use changes in the Central Business District (CBD).

The bulk of the material for this study was obtained from documents of the provincial and municipal governments. But although data on natural increase were adequately documented, those on net migration were not, necessitating a crude estimation. By cartographic means, the spatial growth is

illustrated, its relation to population growth analysed and a future development pattern estimated.

The study concludes that the population growth of Regina in the foreseeable future will remain at approximately 2,000 per year unless a larger number of migrants can be attracted to the city, that physical growth by large-scale annexations is unnecessary as a result of the slower population growth rate, and that if such annexations continue, they may be harmful to the surrounding rural municipalities.

Further, the study shows that there is a need for more intensive utilization of existing facilities, such as schools and the transit system, as well as a need for more recreational space. It reveals also an urgent need to co-ordinate and harmonize the functions of the CBD and the suburban shopping centres. But before any of these and other objectives can be attained the city needs to devise and adopt a development policy.

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Jesse Weldon. "The Salient Factors Contributing to the Earliest Settlement Patterns in East and West Hawkesbury Townships, Upper Canada, 1788-1846." M.A. Thesis, Department of Geography, Carleton University, 1980.

This thesis examines the original settlement of East and West Hawkesbury, Upper Canada. Particular themes treated are: the impact of the natural environment on settlement patterns; the role of accessibility to roads leading to market, to next-of-kin or friends; and the influence of official authority in regulating land

acquisition. Attention is also given to lesser contributory elements such as the use and disposal of Crown and Clergy Reserves, the incidence of squatting and mortgaging, and the impact of the fur trade and the lumber industry. The overall political and economic situation in Upper Canada is reviewed at the outset to provide a basis for comparison to the progress in the study area.

It is shown that the impress of official authority by virtue of its oscillating and often contradictory land policies was the major deterrent to efficient settlement at the outset. The constraints of the physical environment, especially the heavy, low-lying clay soils which developed on deposits of the ancient Champlain Sea, were also a principal stumbling block to compact and successful settlement. A lack of roads in this area, where the only notable river was lost to navigation by rapids, hampered communications and transportation of goods in and out of the study area. The lack of accessibility between one part of the study area and another prevented effective settler interaction and discouraged would-be settlers from seeking unclaimed lots.

Despite the auspicious location of the study area on the second major river of Upper Canada and on the border between the two provinces of Canada, the townships were, from the start, isolated from the mainstream of settlement in Upper Canada. Certainly John Graves Simcoe, the first Lieutenant-Governor, did not perceive it as playing any role in his scheme of events. The geographic location was, however, on the mainstream of both the fur

and timber trades, neither of which were considered by the administrators of the new province to be stimulants to settlement and orderly agrarian life styles.

The earliest map of the area is dated 1786 (Patrick McNiff, surveyor); the principal surveyor of the townships, however, William Fortune, was awarded 1,000 acres of land in 1788. He was probably the first settler, and Point Fortune, at the foot of the Long Sault rapids, was named in his honour. A handful of settlers arrived in 1796, but most of the land was assigned to prominent figures of Upper and Lower Canada and to Loyalists whose prime holdings were in the St. Lawrence townships. A classification of the large landowners is developed in the thesis. Absentee ownership had a large role to play in retarding settlement in East Hawkesbury especially.

The erection of the first lumber mills on the Ottawa River, on islands at the head of the Long Sault rapids, by Thomas Mears in 1804 was important to the economy of the townships. These mills provided employment opportunities, thereby stimulating growth and the founding of the urban nucleus, Hawkesbury Village, for supplies and services. There remains today some evidence of success from these early times in the form of substantial stone homes that have been preserved. The most impressive testimony of success is "Poplar Villa," a massive stone house built in 1817 in Point Fortune by John Macdonell, a partner in the North West Fur Company. Although the structure has been badly neglected and vandalized in recent years, it is now under the protection of the Ontario Government's Heritage

Foundation, and plans are underway for its restoration.

A second site to show evidence of urban activity was Vankleek Hill, also in West Hawkesbury Township, as was Hawkesbury Village, but located well back from the Ottawa in the heart of the best farming soils on Concession Six. It was named in honour of Simeon Vankleek, a Loyalist of German ancestry, who farmed the area from 1800. Urban functions to service the farming community were very slow to develop. Nonetheless, the centre survived and currently serves the same purpose.

The primary source materials used to reconstruct this earliest agrarian occupation of the townships include: The Abstract Index to Deeds; the Index to Land Patents; Assessment Rolls; surveyors' diaries, field notes and maps; papers of the Crown Lands' Department, the Ontario Archives Land Record Index, and Upper Canada Sundries; along with local histories, books and personal papers preserved from these early days of Upper Canada.

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Murray W.W. Nicolson. "The Catholic Church and the Irish in Victorian Toronto, 1850-1900." Ph.D. Thesis, Department of History, University of Guelph, 1980.

This dissertation deals with the evolutionary social interaction between the immigrant Irish population of Toronto and the Roman Catholic Church. Through various forms of persuasive and coercive control, the church eventually became the central cultural focus of the Irish Catholics. Prior to 1842, the church in Toronto had

been directed from Kingston, with its administration delegated to select, Family Compact members. This arrangement alienated the Irish population, who readily followed the leadership of Gallican priests, and culminated with the church in York being placed under interdict. Although the Diocese of Toronto was created in 1842, the untimely death of Bishop Power, in 1847, left the church ill-prepared for the inundation of the Famine Irish. There followed a three year period of interregnum.

Therefore, in this study, the year 1850 was selected as the focus for change from the mission era to the development of the modern, metropolitan system of the church. It was a period of crisis for the people and the church. There were few priests and schools and no charitable institutions to serve the needs of the deprived people. Furthermore, the loss of the immigrant Irish would have crippled the existence of the church for the Irish, in absolute numbers, were the Roman Catholic laity of the city.

Bishop A. Charbonnel, in 1850, evaluated the needs of the people and the institutional church. Utilizing the existing, external communication system of the universal church, he obtained personnel, money, and ideas from which he developed an internal, diocesan communication network. Through this application, the Irish laity were slowly forced to exercise their voluntary and communal traits and, with total involvement, to recognize the church as their only source of aid. Charbonnel instituted an all-encompassing form of social action, dependent upon the work of lay and religious orders. These began as a simple outdoor relief

program and evolved into vast, complex, social institutions.

In addition, Charbonnel and his successors, J. Lynch and J. Walsh, set standards for social and moral control to improve the behaviour of the Irish laity among whom drunkenness, violence, superstition, and family instability were common. This was accomplished through a religion-oriented school system and retreats and missions directed and administered by the various religious orders. A devotional renewal, supported by the beautification of church buildings and ceremonies and an abundance of spiritual literature and exercises, imbued the Irish with a new sense of the Holy. The church promoted the distribution of Irish Catholic literature in order to instill pride in ethnicity and religion. All of these elements were effective in the creation of what one could call *Irish Tridentine Catholicism*.

Locked out of municipal employment and preferment in the Orange city, the Irish were encouraged by the church to use their balance of political power to obtain separate schools, representation, and patronage from the Provincial and Federal Governments. The church overcame its fear of secret societies, sufficiently, to allow the Irish working classes to join specified unions as a means of protecting their livelihoods.

The interaction between the church and the people in Toronto produced a grateful laity who, proud of their Irish heritage, believed that to be Irish was to be Roman catholic. Through this process, an unique minority was saved from absorption into the

secular population of the city.

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Edward J. Noble. "Men and Circumstances: Entrepreneurs and Community Growth, A Case Study, Orillia, 1867-1898." Ph.D. Thesis, Department of History, University of Guelph, 1980.

This thesis is an analysis of the relationship between entrepreneurial decision-making and the external forces with which businessmen had to cope in their pursuit of economic development. This study indicates that in their ability control municipal government and financial expenditures, businessmen were able to implement projects conducive to business success and thereby increase their personal wealth. At the same time, entrepreneurial decisions influenced community growth.

During the years 1830 to 1867, businessmen established their business careers by tapping the markets provided by the lumber camps and small hamlets scattered throughout the northern hinterland of eastern Georgian Bay, Muskoka, and Parry Sound. These "frontier-merchants," who were engaged in retail-wholesale-manufacturing enterprises were subsequently able to expand their concerns after 1867, and under their direction, Orillia became the supply centre for the northern region.

Entrepreneurs garnered sufficient wealth to invest in a variety of business ventures, including real estate speculation. With the loss of hinterland trade due to the decline of the timber trade in the 1890s, however, the more important entrepreneurs

emphasized the development of manufacturing as a solution to the town's stagnant economy. Similarly, the "frontier-merchants," faced with the decline of the wholesale trade, pursued specialization of goods and service in order to meet the changing business circumstances.

Businessmen were able to dominate municipal institutions throughout the entire period and could use municipal financial resources to bonus railway extensions and to provide cheap public utilities. Railways facilitated the service centre function and enabled merchants and manufacturers to supply a wider market than the local community could offer. Businessmen were instrumental in the corporation adopting the principle of municipal ownership of the waterworks and hydro electric power. Both of these schemes played an important role in Orillia making the transition from a commercial centre to a small manufacturing town.

In the final analysis, however, by the turn of the century external forces were at work which were to place the advantage of large scale expansion with the more important urban centres. The metropolitan pull of Toronto placed a ceiling on growth beyond the ability of the local decision-makers to transcend. Orillia's leaders could only aspire to their town becoming a small manufacturing secondary city.

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Robert S. Robson. "Flin Flon: A Single Enterprise Community, 1927-1946." M.A. Thesis, Department of History, University of Manitoba, 1980.

The resource-based frontier community within the Canadian context is generally either the product of a single industry or single enterprise activity. The single industry community allows for the development of a resource-based community around several enterprises. The single enterprise community, such as Flin Flon, evolves from one enterprise. The Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Company Limited is the enterprise responsible for the development of Flin Flon. Its livelihood, and therefore the livelihood of Flin Flon, is dependent upon the exploitation of the resource wealth located within the district.

In Flin Flon, the Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Company made a firm commitment to develop the ore-body in 1927 when it received a Dominion Charter authorizing development. The ensuing growth of the community is discussed in this study under three major headings: the construction and organizational phase of growth, 1927-1934; a period of reaction, 1934; and the maturation of the community, 1934-1946, which culminated in the official incorporation of Flin Flon as a town in April of 1946.

The construction and organizational phase of growth witnessed the development of the industrial plant, the temporary townsite and, among other things, the organization of the Community Development Company as the responsible authority for townsite administration. The C.D.C. was intended to act as a transitional body between company and community influence in townsite affairs, but in essence it functioned as a subsidiary of the H.B.M. and S.

The Flin Flon strike in the

summer of 1934 was the culmination of employee dissatisfaction with the Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Company. It was a reaction to company dominance within the community and precipitated a growing trend on the part of the H.B.M. and S. to isolate itself from community affairs. The labour dispute is therefore viewed as the watershed in company-community relations, after which the company tended to concentrate its activities within the industry. This in turn forced the community to develop its own services and programs.

The period of maturation, 1934-1946, is discussed in light of the community's growing involvement in the management of its own affairs. The municipal council slowly took over services such as water, garbage, and sewage disposal, and while the H.B.M. and S. continued to influence community growth, it did so with the hope of encouraging community self-determination.

A concluding assessment of Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Company's participation in community development over the nineteen year period defines its involvement as reluctantly given. From the beginning, the company accepted responsibility for community affairs only as a last resort and when it saw no other alternative.