

Adams, Ian H. *The Making of Urban Scotland*. London: Croom Helm and Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press, 1978. Tables, figures, maps and illustrations. Pp. 303. \$23.95

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Therefore, it is not clear whether he accepts the village/city dichotomy. There are other ways of looking at moral order. Historians of the family likely would adjust the setting of issues away from a sheer contrast between cities and other communities; they would examine the age profile, life-cycle characteristics and family networks of a population. No doubt Boyer is aware of this, just as he must realize the liberty he takes in referring to anxieties in "middle-class parlours" during the labour strife of the 1880s. Proof absolute, when all is said, is not possible nor necessary. It is enough to have written an intelligent exercise in persuasion.

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Adams, Ian H. The Making of Urban Scotland. London: Croom Helm and Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press, 1978. Tables, figures, maps and illustrations. Pp. 303. \$23.95.

Although Scotland produced Patrick Geddes, the biologist who pioneered town planning, urban history has not exactly flourished there. Dr. Adams ambitious survey of town and city development, from the middle ages to the present, is successful partly because the secondary writing, upon which much of his account depends, and which is drawn from a variety of academic disciplines, is not impossibly extensive and complex. His familiarity with unpublished sources, especially those in the Scottish Record Office, often enables him to deepen or push beyond conventional generalizations. His book is mainly, however, a valuable summary, attractively presented, with numerous tables, graphs, maps and photographs.

The first chapters deal with the medieval origins of burghs and their development, the eighteenth-century attempts at planned towns and villages, and the impact of industrialization. Two chapters on the influence of transport and on nineteenth-century municipal reform provide a prelude to the second part of the book. Here a central, unifying concern is with the intractable and distinctive housing problems which marred the facade of nineteenth-century Scottish society, and which in the twentieth century made Scotland the country in Western Europe with the highest proportion of municipal council tenants and the lowest proportion of owner-occupiers. It is particularly in its discussion of housing policies and regional and town planning that the book does more than draw together existing knowledge. It is perhaps least satisfactory when it raises issues concerned with the relationship between the urban environment and social problems, because this is one area where the need for further research is evident.

To some extent, the gaps are undoubtedly being filled. It is to be hoped that Graeme Dunstall will soon complete the substantial work

which he has carried out on crime, the courts and the police in Scottish cities in the later nineteenth century. The research project on the history of the police, which is starting under the direction of W. G. Carson, should also contribute to our understanding of nineteenth-century urban society in Scotland. At the moment, however, the reasons for the distinctive patterns of urban social life since the industrial revolution are not clear. Though G.F.A. Best's name is missing from the index, Dr. Adams refers to his suggestive generalizations to explain the differences between Scotland and the rest of Britain in terms largely of its separate legal system, and its tradition of firm and even authoritarian civic government, and, less certainly, a weaker network of voluntary agencies. Even after reading Dr. Adams, one must still return on these generalizations the verdict, available in Scots Law, of not proven.

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Summerson, John. Georgian London. Cambridge, Massachusetts and London, England: The MIT Press, 1978. Illustrations. \$15.00.

Altick, Richard D. The Shows of London. Cambridge, Massachusetts and London, England: Harvard University Press, 1978. \$35.00.

When Sir John Summerson's Georgian London appeared in 1945 it was intended to serve as an outline of the history of London building between 1660 and 1830. Although a number of book-length studies on particular aspects of London's building history have appeared since then --notably the publication four years ago of Dan Cruickshank's and Peter Wyld's, London: The Art of Georgian Building--Summerson's study remains, more than thirty years later, the best single source on this topic. For this reason alone this new revised third edition is most welcome.

In a series of stimulating chapters dealing with the major buildings and their builders the author distinguishes four major phases of development. These he explains not in terms of population increase or the dictates of rulers and administrators, but as the product of the trade cycle and of periods of peace and war. Hence, Restoration building reflected closely the consolidation of aristocrats in the west end; the building boom following the Peace of Utrecht (1713) represented the country lord establishing a town house which in turn attracted a professional group; the third phase (which did not peak for 10-15 years after the Seven Year's War) was occasioned by the country gentleman and changing internal urban migration patterns; the final burst closely followed the Napoleonic Wars and was the product of those forces that made up the two previous phases. Within this framework the author combines a wealth of detailed information that weaves together biography,