Notes and Comments/Notes et commentaires

The Canadian Inventory of Historic Building: Volunteer Surveys

The Canadian Inventory of Historic Building (CIHB) is a computerized program designed to record the architectural heritage of the country. Originally planned to provide information on a comparative basis for the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, it now serves as a source of basic information on Canadian architecture for planners, researchers, historians, and all others interested in architectural heritage. It is an on-going, multiphase program, encompassing the recording of details of building exteriors in predetermined areas, the recording of interiors of selected buildings, and historical research.

The CIHB is always interested in updating its records by involving volunteers willing to work under its functional supervision. Groups such as the academic community, historical societies and other public or private agencies concerned with Canadian built heritage are invited to record buildings not previously surveyed by the CIHB or to update the CIHB's existing building records.

Depending on the nature and location of the volunteer survey to be undertaken, the CIHB will supply all the necessary forms and film for recording purposes. In some cases, computer printouts, back-up material from the CIHB's files, and a training session will be provided. Interested parties are requested to contact:

The Canadian Inventory of Historic Building
Parks Canada
National Historic Parks and Sites Branch
Les Terrasses de la Chaudière
Ottawa, Ontario. K1A 1G2

Inventaire des bâtiments historiques du Canada: les enquêtes volontaires

L’Inventaire des bâtiments historiques du Canada (IBHC) est un programme informatisé dont le but est de répertorier le patrimoine architectural du pays. Créé à l’origine pour fournir des données comparatives à la Commission des lieux et monuments historiques du Canada, ce programme, tout en poursuivant cet objectif, constitue maintenant une source de renseignements sur l’architecture canadienne. Urbanistes, chercheurs, historiens et tous ceux qui s’intéressent au patrimoine architectural peuvent y retrouver des informations utiles à leurs projets. Ce programme, de plusieurs phases, inclut le relevé des détails architecturaux de l’extérieur de bâtiments dans des régions données. Il comporte aussi le relevé de l’intérieur et la recherche historique des bâtiments les plus représentatifs de l’architecture canadienne.

Nous invitons les groupes œuvrant dans le milieu académique, au sein de sociétés d’histoire et les organismes publics et privés qui s’intéressent au patrimoine bâti de se joindre à notre effort. Vous pouvez nous aider en enregistrant les bâtiments non-répertoriés ou en effectuant la mise à jour de l’information contenue dans notre banque de données.

Si ce projet vous intéresse, vous pourrez compter sur le soutien technique de l’IBHC qui vous guidera dans votre démarche. Selon la nature et le lieu où s’effectuera l’enquête volontaire, l’IBHC fournira aux participants les formules d’enregistrement et les pellicules photographiques. Nous mettrons à votre disposition des listes mécanographiques et toute information complémentaire que nous possédons. Dans certains cas, nous donnerons une période de formation.

Les groupes intéressés sont priés de s’adresser à

L’Inventaire des bâtiments historiques du Canada
Parcs Canada
Direction des lieux et des parcs historiques
3e étage, Les Terrasses de la Chaudière
Ottawa, Ontario. K1A 1G2

The Atlantic Workshop, 1983

The Atlantic Workshop is an informal, interdisciplinary group of scholars with an interest in Atlantic Canada (broadly defined). The Workshop originated in 1977 when a group of graduate students at McGill University organized a workshop to which they invited historians, geographers, and anthropologists working on the “Gulf of St. Lawrence region.” Subsequent meetings of the group have been held in St. John’s, Newfoundland (1978) in conjunction with the annual conference of the Maritime History Group, and, with financial assistance from the SSHRC, at Mount Allison University in Sackville, New Brunswick (1979), and at the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic in Halifax (1981). In St. John’s, the focus was upon entrepreneurship in the Atlantic Provinces in the 19th century; in Sackville, papers dealt with aspects of “Land, Sea, and Livelihood” in the region; in Halifax, industrialization provided an organizing theme. Taken together the conferences have provided occasion for his-
torians, geographers, sociologists, anthropologists, economists, folklorists, museum curators, and archivists to engage in discussion and exchange.

The next meeting of the Atlantic workshop is scheduled for Caraquet, New Brunswick in October 1983, where proceedings will be held at the Village Historique Acadien. Tentative programme plans call for a handful of plenary sessions — in which recent work on particular facets of the region will be assessed and future lines of inquiry suggested — alongside several more informal workshops on selected themes — in which moderators will identify central questions and co-ordinate discussion of precirculated papers.

For more information, contact:

Dr. Graeme Wynn
Department of Geography
University of British Columbia
1984 West Mall
Vancouver, British Columbia. V6T 1W5

or

M. Clarence Le Breton
Historien, conservateur en chef
Village Historique Acadien
C.P. 820
Caraquet, Nouveau-Brunswick. EOB 1K0

Among possible workshop topics are: Community; Material Culture; Regionalism; Workers; and Underdevelopment. It is anticipated that facilities for simultaneous translation will be available at the Village Historique Acadien.

Association for Preservation Technology Conference
Banff, Alberta - 24-27 October 1982

An international organization based in Ottawa, the Association for Preservation Technology, aims "to provide a useful forum to promote the quality of professional practice in the field of historic preservation in North America." It recently held its annual conference for the first time in Western Canada. In the keynote address, Harold Kalman (Consultant in the History and Conservation of Architecture, Ottawa) traced the "progress of preservation." In its earlier, advocacy phase, at its height in the 1960s, he explained, preservationists were mainly activists whose efforts resulted in new policies and new programs; these actions were undertaken by governments in an expansive era and have been subsequently kept in place by efforts of such interest lobby groups as the National Trust for Historic Preservation in the United States and Heritage Canada as well as local groups and organizations. In its new, current phase, the preservation focus has shifted to how we preserve and conserve buildings; the objectives, as he pithily put it, are "don't let it come down" and "don't let it fall down." The real tasks of the preservation movement in the 1980s, as Kalman sees it, are to critically assess the movement as it stands today; to answer some first principles such as why buildings and landscapes should be preserved; to define an ideology or ethic for preservation and make it known; to develop the means to preserve and the rationale for their application; and to find mechanisms for preventing the fragmentation of the movement leading to its self-destruction. The current period of severe financial restraint can, and should be, used to ensure sounder preservation practice when money comes again.

In addition to the usual technical sessions on such themes as masonry conservation, radiographic technology, historic landscape preservation, monitoring systems, stabilization and maintenance, the program addressed some heritage conservation problems in Western Canada. Speakers described adaptive uses in Winnipeg, focussing on the financial and commercial buildings of the downtown warehouse district (Steve Barber, City of Winnipeg, Environmental Planning Department), the plight of the comparatively humble buildings which characterize Western Canadian architecture between Winnipeg and Vancouver and which invite demolition because of their ordinariness (Michael McMordie, University of Calgary), and the roles of the three interest groups — the "historians," the professional preservationists and the developers — with impact on preservation in Alberta and the context within which their influence is effected (Frits Pennekoeck, Alberta Culture).

Information about APT training programs, memberships and publications is available from:

Ann A. Falkner
P.O. Box 2487, Station D
Ottawa, Ontario. K1P 5W6

A City Celebrates:
The City of Toronto Sesquicentennial

March 6, 1984 will mark the 150th anniversary of the incorporation of the City of Toronto and to commemorate the event a city-wide celebration is being planned. The anniversary begins with a Sesquicentennial Ball and special ceremonies to mark the City's official birthday. This will be followed, over the next eight months, by numerous other celebrations, culminating with a prestigious International Conference of Cities.
Other festivities and events already planned include:

- Neighbourhood and community activities
- A Royal visit by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II
- The Toronto International Festival, a gathering of performing artists from around the world, planned for June, 1984
- International sporting and recreational events
- Parades, complete with floats and marching bands
- Lectures, films and displays
- Excavation and restoration of Fort Rouille, Toronto's earliest fort, located in the C.N.E. grounds
- Exchange programmes with Toronto's twin city, Amsterdam, and other cities celebrating similar anniversaries
- A city-wide tree planting and beautification programme
- A public subscription campaign to build a citizens' memorial at Union Station
- A reunion of Toronto armed forces units, with a military pageant to honour those units who have, over the years, received the Freedom of the City.

Publications Programme

It was recognized very early in the celebration planning that one of the more important, and certainly more permanent elements of the celebrations, would result from the development of a Sesquicentennial publications programme. To this end, the Sesquicentennial Board (then the Steering Committee) established a Publications Committee consisting of: R. Scott James (Chairman), Director of Records and City Archivist; Alderman Richard Gilbert, Ward 3; Ms Stephanie Hutcheson, Toronto Public Library; Mr. Andrew Gregorovich, Chairman, Toronto Historical Board; Professor Chris Armstrong, History Department, York University; Mr. Bob Ferguson, Toronto Board of Education; and Mr. Desmond Burge, Metropolitan Separate School Board. Subsequently, the Publications Committee has developed an interesting and exciting programme consisting of three main elements.

(1) History of Toronto in Art, 1834-1984

This elegant, large-format volume will tell the story of Toronto over the last 150 years as seen through artists' eyes. The author, Edith G. Firth, has selected 170 works of art by nearly 80 artists documenting aspects of the City's history, more than 100 of which have not been previously published. Seventy works will be reproduced in full colour. The book will be published by Fitzhenry and Whiteside in the fall of 1983.

(2) Volume of Scholarly Essays

The General Editor, Victor Russell, early in 1982, circulated notice of this publication throughout the scholarly community, inviting suggestions for contributions. As a result scholars from across Canada have undertaken to submit papers by March 1983 for publication in Spring 1984.

Gregory S. Kealey
Memorial University of Newfoundland
Proposal: Victorian Workers & Toronto Politics 1840-1896

James M. Pitsula
University of Regina
Proposal: Poverty in Toronto in 19th Century

Nicholas Rogers
York University
Proposal: Formation of Toronto Police Force, 1834-1880

Patricia Peterson
University of Toronto
Proposal: Structural Changes in 19th Century Civic Government in Toronto

Lorne Tepperman
University of Toronto
Proposal: The Evolution of the Toronto Elite

J.M.S. Careless
University of Toronto
Proposal: Toronto Semi-Centennial Celebrations, 1884

Paul M. Romney
University of Toronto
Proposal: Toronto in 1834

Peter G. Goheen
Queen's University
Proposal: Growth of Toronto in the Late 19th Century

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Through this $50,000 grant programme launched in July 1982, the Board intended to stimulate publication of books and other printed and illustrative material which will contribute to the City’s 150th anniversary celebrations in 1984.

Author Assistance and Aid to Publication grants were offered and forty-five applications were received. While the Board’s primary concern was to encourage publication of works of historical material, serious consideration was given to any publishing venture which would enhance the public’s appreciation of Toronto.

Works were judged on originality and readership appeal. Preference was given to proposals which depended upon the grant program for publication and which would receive effective distribution in the Toronto area.


Further information on any of these three programmes is available from:

R. Scott James, Chairman
Sesquicentennial Publications Committee
Director of Records and City Archivist
Department of the City Clerk
City Hall
Toronto, Ontario. M5H 2N2
Telephone: (416) 367-7042.
Prairie Landscapes, University of Calgary

A recent conference (October 27-28, 1982) organized by the Faculties of Environmental Design and Continuing Education at the University of Calgary examined Canadian prairie landscapes, past and present. From historical and cultural perceptions to design, plant material and environmental issues, it offered a wide-ranging interdisciplinary spectrum on research and practice. It served to emphasize both the importance of the interdisciplinary approach and the increasing frequency of the interdisciplinary conference.

A recurrent theme of the conference was how man's perception of the landscape was shaped by his own "aesthetic baggage" rather than by the landscape itself. Whether the observations of preconfederation travellers on the prairies, adamantly shaped in the mold of the British picturesque aesthetic (Ian MacLaren, University of Western Ontario), or the responses of the English emigrant to Saskatoon in the early 1960s (poet Peter Stevens, University of Windsor), man's preconceptions have dominated his attempts to comprehend the landscape. The ideal was typically imposed not only in verbal forms but also in physical terms, through man's perennial efforts to shape the stubborn prairie land in his preferred image — whether the American-inspired grid survey and rigid homestead regulations (James Richtik, University of Winnipeg), the corporate designs of banks and elevator companies (Derek Holdsworth, University of Toronto, and John Everitt, Brandon University), English cottage gardens in early Alberta settlements (Lewis G. Thomas, University of Alberta) or the City Beautiful parkland at Wascana Centre in flat, treeless Regina (Ronald Rees, University of Saskatchewan). Faced by a dominant cultural mode, distinctive ethnic landscapes most often took the form of ephemeral elements in the built environment (John Lehr, University of Winnipeg).

Heritage, cultural awareness and conservation have all recently begun to change past perceptions of the landscape. As Lehr argues, if distinctive ethnic landscapes are to survive in communities, they must be recognized in contemporary planning processes. As Peter Stevens indicated, contemporary prairie poets are trying to capture the prairies in poetry as novelist Aritha van Herk also does in her physical and psychological metaphors of the prairies. Is Parks Canada succeeding in its attempts to preserve and interpret past landscapes through interdisciplinary approaches in its historic parks and sites on the prairies? (Greg Thomas, Parks Canada, Prairie Region). Can restoration of the prairie landscape effectively extend to the reintroduction of a prairie ecosystem in a suburban residential development as landscape architect Charles Thomsen (University of Manitoba) has undertaken in his Winnipeg property?

Contemporary environmental concerns constituted the second principal theme of the conference. If man has traditionally imposed his own will in designing the land, can he afford to continue to order nature about at his own whim? In the conference's keynote address, Dr. Grant MacEwan reminded delegates of the responsibility of stewardship. Public environmental awareness is being extended in attempting to change the perceived role for the prairie river from a resource to be exploited to a protected river valley park (Michael Calvert with Glen Brismor, Meewasin Valley Authority). Careful water resource planning such as that practised at Buffalo Pound Lake, Saskatchewan can provide for both conservation and controlled recreational use in a fragile environment (Larry Diamond, University of British Columbia). In protecting the Alberta environment, the provincial government requires private developers to reclaim after surface disturbance. Nova Corp. exemplifies the corporate response through soil conservation and revegetation practices in its gas pipeline corridors (Klaus Exner, Nova Corp.). Native prairie plant restoration is desirable but still fraught with difficulties of supply, untested trials and alternative approaches (Ron Middleton, Alberta Environment). Irrigation has caused one of the greatest changes visually and ecologically in the rural prairie landscape; should this process now be extended to divert the Arctic watershed into arid Southern Alberta, particularly when a shortage of management rather than water appears to lie at the root of the current problems? (John Eisenhauer, University of Calgary).

A concluding panel, chaired by Michael McMordie (University of Calgary), addressed public policy for the prairie landscape: where do we go from here? why? and how do we get there? Brief position papers by special guest Dr. Hugh Horner, Canada West Foundation director David Elton, landscape architect Len Novak, architect Stephanie White, and political scientist John Woods led into a lively discussion of the holistic nature of the landscape, responsibility for food production and distribution, and the last frontier. Proceedings of the conference will be published, and hopefully Professor Sue Donaldson, who organized this stimulating exchange, will be willing to arrange another prairie landscapes conference in a year or so.

Susan Buggey
Parks Canada
Prairie Region
Institut national de la recherche scientifique—urbanisation

L’I.N.R.S.-Urbanisation fait partie de l’Institut national de la recherche scientifique, constituant de l’université du Québec. C’est un centre de recherche urbaine et régionale voué d’abord à la recherche appliquée où œuvrent, depuis 1970, des équipes multidisciplinaires formées d’économistes, de sociologues, de politicologues, d’urbanistes et de géographes, avec le soutien de services de secrétariat, de documentation, de cartographie et d’informatique.

Outre cet objectif général, le centre veut répondre en priorité aux besoins du Québec en matière de recherche urbaine et régionale et prévoir, dans la mesure du possible, les problèmes qui sont susceptibles de se poser au Québec au cours des années à venir dans ces domaines pour amorcer leur étude. L’I.N.R.S.-Urbanisation se veut au service de la collectivité en répondant à certaines demandes venant de groupes extérieurs ou de divers ministères et en ouvrant certains services du centre (comme la documentation et la cartographie) aux usagers de l’extérieur.


Économie foncière

La redistribution spatiale des ressources économiques suivant celle des activités, la demande pour certaines parties de l’espace urbain s’accroît alors que d’autres perdent de l’attrait. On assiste présentement à une modification importante des prix fonciers au sein des agglomérations métropolitaines. La poursuite des recherches sur les transformations du marché foncier — qui ont un impact sur les sources de financement des services collectifs — et sur la concentration de la propriété constitue donc une priorité du centre.

Gestion socio-politique de l’espace urbain

L’accent est mis ici sur l’évolution des attitudes à l’égard de l’intervention des gouvernements centraux et locaux dans le domaine foncier et immobilier, plus précisément sur le remplacement d’une stratégie surtout fiscale par une véritable stratégie de développement urbain, transformation qui pose la question de la décentralisation et des relations entre la ville centrale et les banlieues.

L’Espace micro-urbain

Le contexte socio-économique actuel a des répercussions dans le milieu de vie immédiat, particulièrement en ce qui a trait à l’accessibilité au logement et à la diversification des solutions d’habitat.

Adaptation et innovation sur le plan résidentiel

Les ménages et les agents économiques publics et privés qui interviennent dans la production du milieu de vie se tournent vers des solutions adaptées aux nouvelles situations: copropriété, coopératives, logements pour personnes âgées, formes d’habitat plus dense, bâtiments à faible consommation d’énergie, mise en commun d’équipement, recyclage de bâtiments ou de quartiers entiers, voire diminution de la qualité et du niveau de consommation, et partage de logements.

La recherche sur ces ajustements se situe dans le cadre des théories de la diffusion des innovations et prend en considération les aspects technologiques, économiques, réglementaires et socio-culturels des phénomènes observés.

Appropriation et désappropriation des milieux de vie

Si certains réussissent à s’approprier leur habitat, d’autres sont perdants dans la concurrence entre les groupes sociaux: entre jeunes et vieux, entre propriétaires et locataires, entre anciens occupants des quartiers centraux et nouveaux arrivants plus aisés ou d’une autre
appartenance ethnique. Dans ce domaine, l'I.N.R.S.-Urbanisation analyse particulièrement le rôle des institutions et des organismes grâce auxquels peut s'exercer le contrôle des citoyens sur leur habitat — coopératives de consommation ou de services, regroupements de personnes âgées, associations de locataires, conseils de quartiers éventuels.

La diffusion des résultats des recherches effectuées à l'I.N.R.S.-Urbanisation est assurée par l'organisation de colloques et de séminaires, par la participation à de telles activités à l'extérieur et par la publication des travaux à l'intérieur de deux collections: les Études et Documents (35 titres parus à date) et les Rapports de Recherche (7 titres déjà parus). Parmi les travaux récemment publiés quelques-uns méritent d'être soulignés ici.


Dans le cadre d'un programme de recherche sur les nouveaux espaces résidentiels dans l'agglomération de Montréal au cours des années soixante-dix, Georges Mathews a publié sur l'évolution générale du marché du logement depuis 1951 une étude qui sera complétée d'ici quelques mois par un ouvrage sur l'évolution des vieux espaces résidentiels de Montréal de 1951 à 1979 et Gérald Fortin, dans un essai sur la publicité sur le logement neuf, fait le bilan des modèles d'habitation nord-américains depuis la fin du siècle dernier.


L'I.N.R.S.-Urbanisation est dirigé par monsieur Luc-Normand Tellier. Pour de plus amples renseignements sur les programmes d'études et de recherche du centre ou sur ses publications, on peut s'adresser comme suit: M. Jean-Pierre Collin
Agent de recherche
I.N.R.S.- Urbanisation
Documentation/Publication
3465, rue Durocher
Montreal, Quebec. H2X 2C6

Recent Publications

Centre for Urban and Community Studies
University of Toronto
150 St. George Street
Toronto, Ontario. M5A 1A1

Research Paper Series

JEFFREY G. REITZ, Ethnic Group Control of Jobs
(February 1982), 42 pp., $3.00. Paper No. 133.

W.W. ISAJIW, Socialization as a Factor in Ethnic Identity Retention
(May 1982), 23 pp., $2.50. Paper No. 134.

ALAN HALL and BARRY WELLMAN, Support and Non-Support: A Network Analytic Approach
(October 1982), 37 pp., $2.50. Paper No. 135.

J. DAVID HULCHANSKI, The Evolution of Ontario's Early Urban Land Use Planning Regulations, 1900-1920

HANS BLUMENFELD, Have the Secular Trends of Population Been Reversed?
(November 1982), 16 pp., $1.75. Paper No. 137.

Major Reports

BARRY PINSKY, The Urban Population in Mozambique: Initial Post-Independence Responses, 1975-80

ROBERT G. DOWLER, Housing-Related Tax Expenditures: An Overview and Evaluation

Child in the Cities Series

ETHAN PHILLIPS and HOWARD ANDREWS, Residential Satisfaction and the Neighbourhood Perceptions of Young Adolescents in Public Housing

SANDRA FINKELMAN, Consequences of Teenage Motherhood
(December 1982), 50 pp., $3.50. Report No. 16.

HOWARD ANDREWS, Preventative Intervention for the Health and Well-Being of Urban Children
(December 1982), 72 pp., $4.00. Report No. 17.
Seminar on Urban History

The Chicago Historical Society has initiated a monthly seminar on urban history. Its purpose is to bring together practitioners of urban history, academic and non-academic, for a monthly meeting. Each session will consist of a single paper followed by discussion. The meeting will begin with cocktails and dinner. The seminar encourages papers on a broad range of topics, including Chicago, midwestern, and national. Comparative and international topics are especially welcome.

The inaugural meeting of the seminar will be on Thursday, September 29, 1983, beginning at 5:45 P.M. Professor Kenneth T. Jackson, Department of History, Columbia University, will discuss his forthcoming book on the history of suburbanization in the United States. The meeting will be held at the Chicago Historical Society, Clark Street at North Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60614. Serving as co-chairmen of the seminar are Professor Kathleen N. Conzen, University of Chicago, and Professor Michael H. Ebner, Lake Forest College. To be placed on the mailing list and receive reservation forms, please contact Timothy C. Jacobson, Editor, Chicago History, Chicago Historical Society, Clark Street at North Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60614.