Joint Session 6
Cities and their Spaces: New approaches in urban studies and cartography
Jinan, 26 August 2015

International Commission for the History of Towns (ICHT)

Finnish National Committee of Historians (SHS)
Primeval forms of engaging with ‘cities and their spaces’

- City chronicles, laudes urbium, town views as propaganda
- Antiquarian interest in famous places and famous people
- Social turn in historiography: placing social groups
- Questions of Who? What? Where?
- Large-scale post-WW II archaeological projects
- Role of historical geography
Plan-analysis of Alnwick, UK
(Michael Conzen, 1960)

Plan-analysis of Lublin, Poland
(Terry Slater, 1989)
The ’Spatial Turn’ and Spatial Theories


„*We are confronted not by one social space but by many - indeed, by an unlimited multiplicity of unaccountable set of social spaces.*”  (Lefebvre 1991, 85)
New questions: How and Why?
Understanding the creation and use of urban space

Cities as power centres: The example of Cracow
Digital humanities:

New analytical tools for constructing and deconstructing spatial contexts
Urban space as contested heritage

The example of Londonderry (Ireland)
European Historic Towns Atlases – a project of ICHT

- Initial idea: in quest of the „original town plan”
- Based on the guidelines of the ICHT, initiated by Heinz Stoob (1968), revised by Anngret Simms and Ferdinand Opil (1995)
- Prescribed scale and contents to enable comparisons
  - cadastral map (mid-19th c.), redrawn at 1: 2500
  - growth-phase maps
  - thematic maps on social or architectural topography
  - reproductions of old maps and views
  - historical-topographical study
  - referenced topographical information (Gazetteer)
- Accomplished within national frameworks, with regard to modern state boundaries
- 19 European countries, more than 520 atlases
ICHT Conferences 2011–2015 (1): Cities and their Spaces

2011, Sibiu, Romania
organized by Paul Niedermaier

2012, Prague, Czech Republic
organized by Jozef Žemlička

- Conceptualization and mapping
- Topography and spatial development
- Sacred spaces and religious display
- Towns and their hinterlands
- Neighbourhoods and social change

ICHT Conferences 2011–2015 (2): Cities and their Spaces

2013, Lisbon, Portugal
organized by Magda Pinheiro

2014, Clermont-Ferrand, France:
La ville complexe, organized by Jean-Luc Fray

- Social and religious cohabitation, unity and diversity
- Marginality and the transformations of space
- Spaces of leisure, culture and tourism

2015, Zürich, Switzerland: Staging the Urban Community, organized by Martina Stercken
ICHТ General Topic, 2016–2019: Essential Functionalities of Urban Spaces through the Ages

Coordinated by Ferdinand Opll and Martin Scheutz (Austria)

1 (2016, Kiel) Political functions of urban spaces: sites of local autonomy, seigniorial residences, regional and national parliaments

2 (2017, Cracow) Economic functions of urban spaces: from market-places to shopping centres

3 (2018) Cultural and religious functions of urban spaces: devotional and secular, popular and elite

4 (2019) Social functions of urban spaces: burghers, barons, beggars; from the cradle to the grave

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JS 6: Cities and their Spaces, Part I

- Introduction to the topic
- Anna Anisimova, *Spatial Structures and their Construction in English Monastic Towns*
- Laurențiu Rădvan, *Space Distribution in Late Medieval and Pre-modern Towns in the Romanian Principalities*
- Preston Perluss, French Monastic Urban Wealth: Methodological Overview and Preliminary Observations
- Marjaana Niemi, Remarks to Papers 1-3 (10 min.)
- General discussion (20 min.)
- Tea Break (15 min., 15.30-15.45)
JS 6: Cities and their Spaces, Part II

- Salvatore Bottari, *The Sicilian port towns in the eighteenth century: trade, social actors, infrastructure improvements and urban development*
- Li Wei, *Gentrification in Canadian Inner Cities: Its Impact on Society*
- Lars Nilsson, *Urban Space in the Post-industrial Era*
- Marjaana Niemi, Remarks to Papers 4-6 (10 min.)
- General discussion (20 min.)
- Concluding remarks (5 min.)
- End of session: 17.15