



## 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  
Commission Internationale pour l'Histoire des Villes  
Internationale Kommission für Städtegeschichte

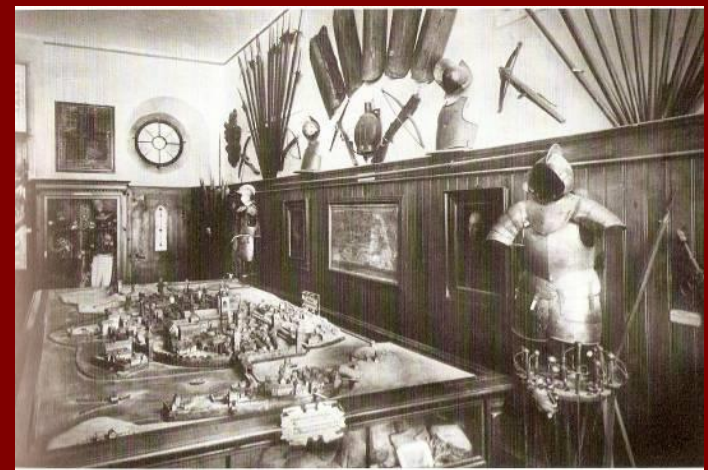
International Commission  
for the History of Towns (ICHT)

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

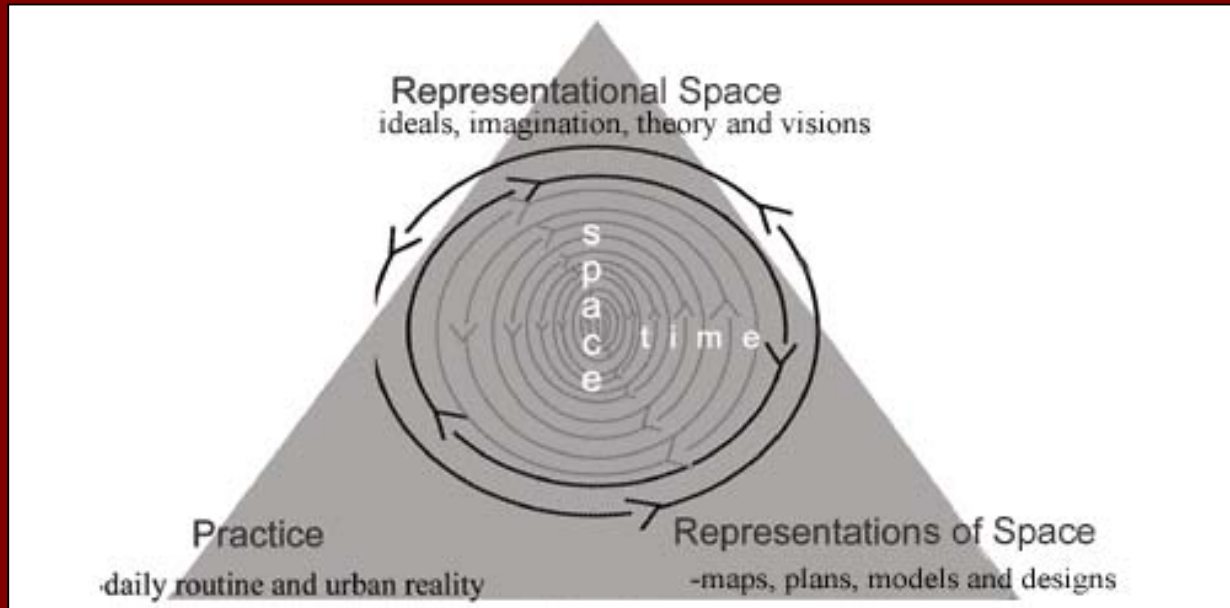






# The 'Spatial Turn' and Spatial Theories

Henri Lefebvre, *La production de l'espace* (Paris, 1974) /  
*The Production of Space* (Oxford, 1991)



*„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

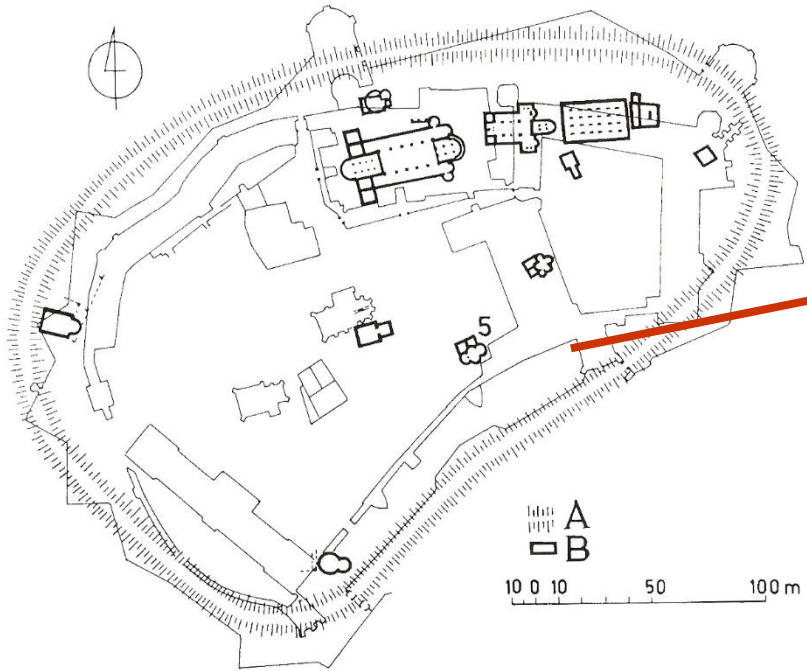
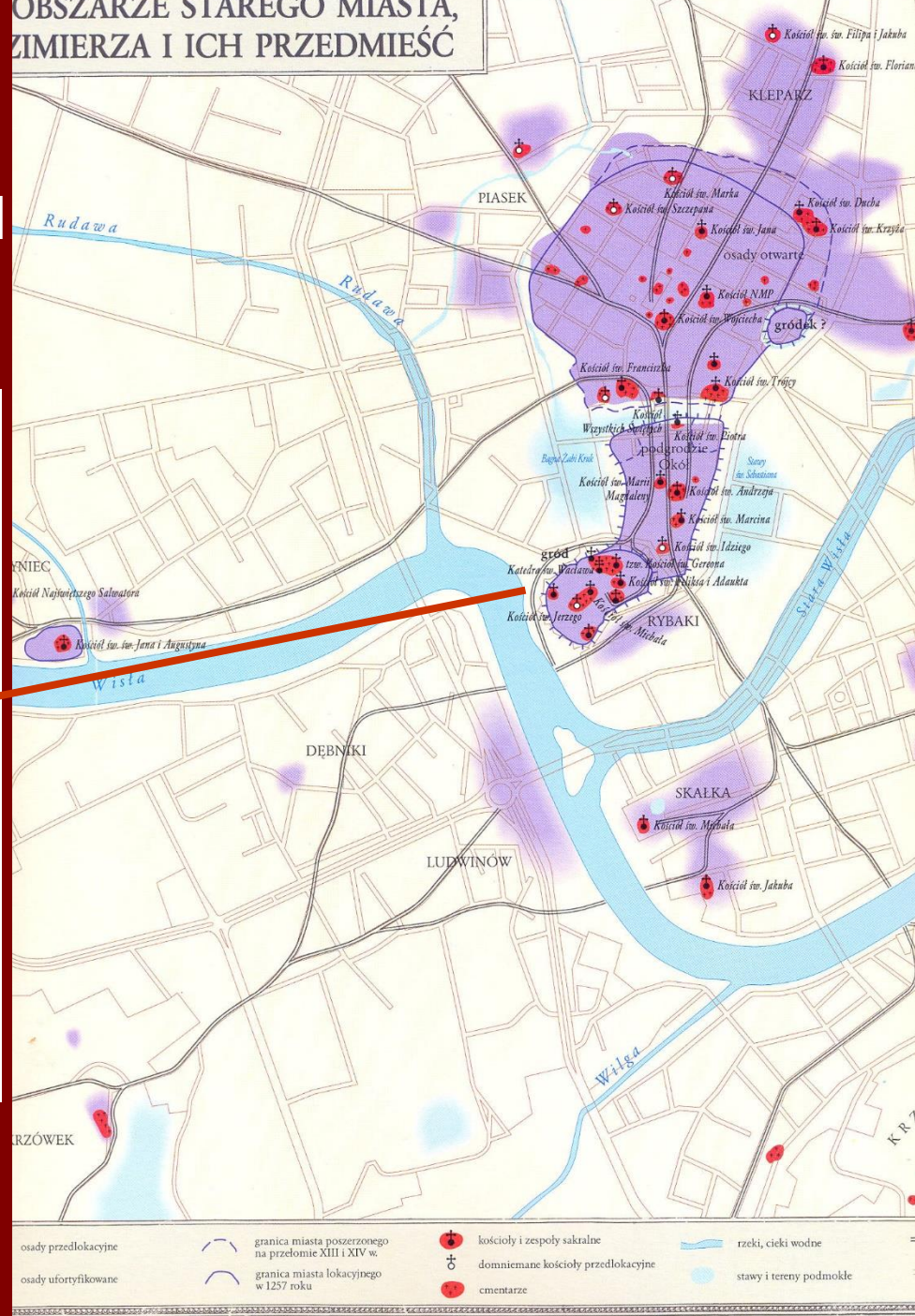


Abb. 21. Krakau, Wawel bis ins 12. Jahrhundert. A – Befestigung; B – Steingebäude (nach Firlert/Pianowski 1989).

## OBSZARZKA STAREGO MIASTA, ZIMIERZA I ICH PRZEDMIEŚĆ



# Cities as power centres: The example of Cracow

# Digital humanities:

New analytical tools for constructing and deconstructing spatial contexts

PREV

NEXT

1935

1977

2007



:: BEGIN IN THE PRESENT

:: BROWSE, NETWORK, SEARCH, UPLOAD, & DOWNLOAD  
CONTENT BASED ON SPACE & TIME

:: TRAVEL BACK IN TIME & CREATE FAMILY GENEALOGIES, MAKE THE PAST COME ALIVE.

PREV

NEXT

hypercities :: los angeles

COORDINATES:  
34°3'13"N 118°14'34"W  
YEAR: 2007

LOS ANGELES CITY HALL

ALSO VISIT  
TOKYO NATIONAL DIET BUILDING  
hypercities :: tokyo



YEAR: 1953

MAUSOLEUM OF MAUSSOLLOS  
350 BC



TALLEST STRUCTURE IN DOWNTOWN 1928 - 1969





# 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 OpII (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**



## MAP OF EUROPEAN TOWNS ATLASES 2015

Based on August Hirsch and Ferdinand Oppl, *List of the European Atlases of Historic Towns* (Bonn, 1976), with updates from web log [www.ria.ie/research/hta/european-project](http://www.ria.ie/research/hta/european-project).  
Directed by Sarah Gately, Irish Historic Towns Atlas © Royal Irish Academy.  
For an interactive map see [www.uni-muenster.de/Staedtegeschichte/portal/staedteatlanten/karte](http://www.uni-muenster.de/Staedtegeschichte/portal/staedteatlanten/karte)



<https://www.ria.ie/Research/IHTA/European-Project.aspx>

<http://www.uni-muenster.de/Staedtegeschichte/en/portal/staedteatlanten/karte.html>

# ICHT Conferences 2011–2015 (1): Cities and their Spaces

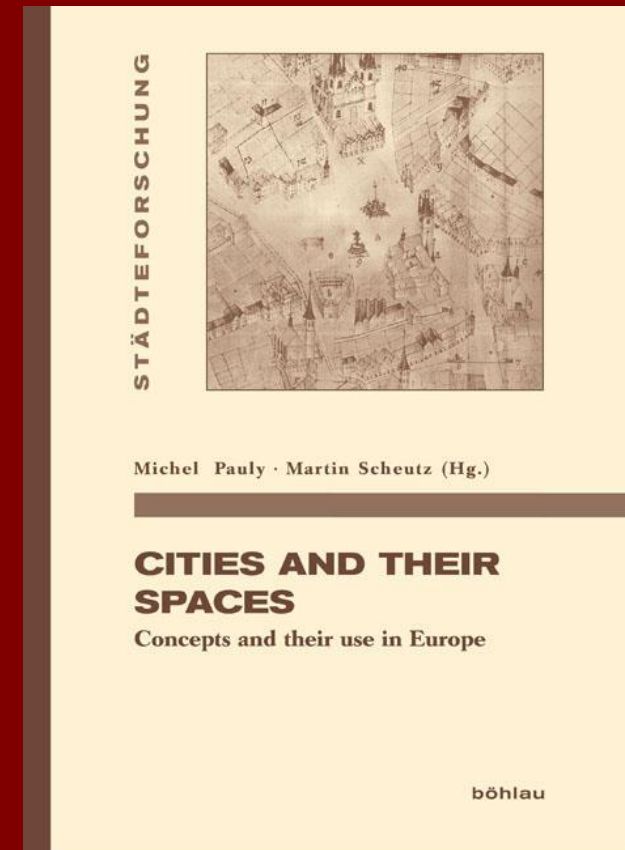
2011, Sibiu, Romania

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



Cologne, Vienna: 2014.



# 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



# ICHT 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

[www.historiaurbium.org](http://www.historiaurbium.org)



## 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