

BOOK REVIEWS

Alessandro AURIGI and Fiorella DE CINDIO (eds), *Augmented Urban Spaces*, Ashgate, Aldershot 2008, 367 pp.

The city, augmented. That is what technology results in when directed toward the urban topography. Bladerunner-style screens are now commonplace throughout the cities arterial routes; subway platforms, escalators, building lobbies and foyers are all places where adverts and messages spill off the walls and into our consciousness. Our increasingly crowded cities are ever more saturated by technological advancements, from the micro to the meta, all of which has a profound effect on our daily lives and our interaction with the urban topography.

The continuing veracity of the two processes (increased urbanisation and expanding technological capacity) creates a tumultuousness which demands understanding, and hence this edited collection is a timely intervention to the field of urban studies. The book itself comprises an eclectic mix of authors, architects, artists and academics, all of which adds to the explorative nature of this burgeoning academic field. The editors have organised the chapters into three broad parts, *Augmented Spaces*, *Augmented Communities* and *Planning Challenges in the Augmented City*, which are by themselves self-explanatory. The predominant overtone of the chapters is empirical, which means that theoretical engagement is more often than not an after-thought in most chapters, particularly those penned by practitioners. This reliance on empirics to the discussion is no doubt a reflection on the literal infancy of the topic and is hence entirely justified, however, it leads to a wonderment in the reader as to how the valuable empirics and data being unearthed is applicable to the wider urban academy.

The eclecticism in authorship serves to produce a somewhat disjointed narrative within the different 'parts', but this does not detract from the messages being conveyed in the individual chapters. The chapters throughout the first part of the book carry a similar ethos, that the technologies afforded to us in the augmented city are somehow creating 'hybrids' of humans, technology and the city; a more connected society in which communication thrives and is the life blood of the urban process. The opening chapter of the first part, entitled *Places, Situations and Connections*, by architect/artist Katherine Willis, discusses the notion of Euclidian space and how technology influences it. She concludes by suggesting that 'spatial concepts such as separation, boundeness, linkage, presence and temporality are reconfigured by mobile and wireless technologies so that although the physical setting influences our actions, many aspects of social connectedness are further elaborated and accentuated' (p. 24). Chapter 3, by Heesang

Lee, entitled *Mobile Networks, Urban Places and Emotional Spaces*, bucks the trend of the rest of the chapters by providing a fascinating theoretical insight into the role of mobile phones as they blur the lines between humans, technology and the city. A theoretical augmentation of Deleuze and Guattari's (1987) body-without-organs to suggest that urbanites are bodies-with-mobiles is an interesting development and the kind of rigorous engagement that is required to gain a more nuanced understanding of the augmented city; and makes this chapter one of the more engaging in the book as a whole.

The empirics of the chapters range from the location and spread of wi-fi services, the use of mobile devices in locating ourselves within the city, city-run broadband projects, the use of information communication technologies in planning procedures and the use of CCTV and the 'surveillance society'. On this particular topic, one chapter notably stands out, that is David Murakami Wood's chapter entitled *Towards Spatial Protocol: The Topologies of the Pervasive Surveillance Society*. He discusses ubiquitous 'pervasive computing', which is computing and technological capabilities, that when functioning is not seen – it is only when it fails that it becomes 'recognised' and forced out of the urban background and into the public consciousness (p. 97). Through a discussion of Radio Frequency Identification tags, the author suggests pervasive computing demands changes in human behaviour, and so rightly needs to be taken as dystopic and treated as such. By concluding that open-sourced 'spatial protocols' create more civility, Murakami Wood aligns with the prevailing ethos of the book which suggests the augmented urban spaces need to encourage collaboration, community cohesion and commensurability as opposed to a Panoptic-like dystopian vision which will alienate and subvert urban populations.

Other impressive chapters that stand out from the book in this regard include Anthony Townsend's chapter entitled *Public Space in the Broadband Metropolis: Lessons from Seoul*, which highlights how digital planning procedures in the city based on 'lines' creates exclusion areas, and instead suggests that 'planning with borderlands means on the contrary, thinking of thick, open zones of potentiality where urban subjects can get constituted through a communicational process' (p. 251). Digital planning, it is argued throughout the third part of the book, is broadly economically-focused and a relic of a pre-technological and Web 2.0 era. In Mark Gaved and Paul Mullholland's chapter, entitled *Pioneers, Subcultures and Cooperatives: The Grassroots Augmentation of Urban Places*, the authors place the community firmly at the forefront of the information communication revolution, and by outlining case studies from each category of their taxonomy outlined in the chapter title, give a sense of empirical credence to their reasoning.

Due to the literal infancy of the subject in academia, it is no surprise that edited collections such as this book appear. In laying the groundwork for further research and analysis, this book is extremely useful in equipping urban researchers with vignettes of empirics, morsels of theoretical insight and plenty of food for thought. It is unlikely to become core text for mainstream urban studies modules, and its mix of writing standards makes it a complicated, and at times, frustrating read. This is not helped by elementary grammatical and referencing errors (particularly toward the beginning of the book) which adds to a general feeling of over alacrity within the book, perhaps a symptom of

a desire to publish the material while it is still very much a contemporary commentary, rather than a description of technologies and cases that have been outdated by future advances as per Moore's law.

And it is this point that serves as a paradox for this collection. Due to the fast-paced nature of the augmentation of urban topographies, the themes of this book will fall foul of its own thematics and sooner rather than later become outdated. This, of course, is not a problem for those chapters which have expanded on the pure empirical engagement to embrace a broader applicability, however, as this is the exception rather than the rule, then the main functionality of the collection will be an empirical reinforcement of existing literature rather than a disciplinary touchstone. The variety of writing styles and levels of sophistication with the broader urban studies, social science and social theory literature means that there will be sections of the book that appeal to undergraduates, established urban researchers, high-ranking academics and practitioners.

Cities continue to stir the whole spectrum of emotions within those authors charged with writing about them, and the augmentation of cities with technological capabilities can only serve to increase our resolve to understand and critically engage with the built environment and its virtual plugins. This book will no doubt inspire others to research and analyse our augmenting built environment, and for that, it must be applauded.

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Luigi Fusco GIRARD and Peter NIJKAMP (eds), *Cultural Tourism and Sustainable Local Development*, Ashgate, Farnham 2009, 319 pp.

The contemporary society is visibly the 'society on the move' which makes tourism one of the biggest trades of today, gaining increasing importance. Moreover, tourist demand and consumption constantly evolve, in the recent years there is *inter alia* a visible shift from mass tourism to more and more individualistic tourist consumption and creation of many different specialised and niche markets. Among them, cultural tourism is certainly presently regarded as very promising, and often perceived as a potentially more socially, culturally and ecologically responsible tourism segment with sizeable potential to inspire local and regional development. Ideally, cultural tourism should be profitable and beneficial to everyone. Tourists may count on being provided with means of enjoyment, leisure and relaxation as well as spiritual and intellectual inspiration. The local popula-

tion should get a chance to open up or be employed in tourist related businesses and services as well as broaden their horizons through contacts with representatives of different nations and cultural circles. Most importantly, local authorities, heritage organisations and owners of historic building stock should acquire financial means for restoration and conservation activities, counting on the fact that if heritage generates tourism it should also profit from it. In reality, the issue is much more complex, with tourism offering not only chances and opportunities but creating many threats to the local cultural milieu and heritage (e.g. Bendixen, 1997).

The book *Cultural Tourism and Sustainable Local Development* edited by Luigi Fusco Girard and Peter Nijkamp and published within the Ashgate series *New Directions in Tourism Analysis* explores the very timely issue of the relation between tourism, specifically cultural tourism and sustainable local development. It is a collection of essays gathered together following an international conference *Cultural Heritage, Local Resources and Sustainable Tourism* organised in Naples in 2006. The volume is divided into four parts: *Tourism Development as a Sustainable Strategy, Policies on Sustainable Tourism and Cultural Resources, Case Studies* and *New Departures for Evaluation*, supplemented by an index of main topics and key concepts.

The unquestionable strength of the book, making it a valuable addition to the body of literature in the field of tourism, is the wealth of methodological approaches and attempts at their application with respect to measuring the potential and effects of tourism, specifically cultural tourism on regions, cities and sites. It offers both a useful review of such approaches and shows how they may be applied in diverse contexts ranging from evaluation of sustainability of tourism policies in regions to supporting decision-making with respect to heritage conservation and adaptation projects as well as the content of museum exhibitions. Broad lists of references appearing at the end of each chapter are likewise a very good up to date literature guide for anyone interested in the topic.

The first part of the book usefully starts with the interesting text by David Throsby in which he analyses the tourist demand for heritage and the three 'golden rules' which should be followed if it is to be used sustainably ('get the values right, get the sustainability principles right and get the analytical methods right'). In the following chapter on *Tourism and Development: Towards Sustainable Outcomes* Geoffrey Wall highlights several issues such as the need for broad strategies recognising the interdependence between heritage, tourism and other fields and domains, the 'fuzziness' of the concept of sustainable development perhaps involving irreconcilable ideas and the complexity and difficulty of defining heritage as the main resource for cultural tourism. Next, Harry Cocossis discusses the opportunities and threats tourism brings to cultural heritage underlining the idea of tourism as a catalyst for economic development thanks to its multiplier effects but also the problem of dealing with excessive tourism volumes and taking into account the carrying capacity of the sites. In the last chapter of the first part Peter Nijkamp and Patrizia Riganti bring the very interesting and complex challenge of the evaluation of cultural heritage to the fore, allowing to include this largely non-market good in cost benefit analysis and in the decision-making processes. Different measurement methods are proposed depending on whether use values are measured (in this case revealed preferences methods for e.g. using travel cost methods and hedonic pricing),

non-use values are examined (then stated preference methods are needed such as contingent valuation methods and conjoint analysis) or a wide selection of variables applied (multicriteria analysis). The first part of the book thus offers an excellent, in-depth and sound theoretical insight taking a step forward in the analysis of the interaction between tourism and cultural resources from simple description of problems and hazards to measuring them and using the obtained data for strategy formulation and evaluation. As such it foreshadows the themes and considerations surfacing throughout the remaining chapters.

The second part of the book intends to take the question of sustainable cultural tourism further into the realm of policy and planning, however does so much less convincingly than the first part. The aim is most explicitly fulfilled in the text of Christian Ost attempting to present main policy guidelines for sustainable tourism strategies. Maria Giaoutzi, Christos Dionelis and Anastasia Stratigea discuss the more general issue of the need of rational use of energy and utilisation of renewable energy sources for any type of tourism activities. The remaining two papers are less insightful though Antonio Saturnino points to important issues related to cultural heritage, economic development and sustainability of tourism as seen from the perspective of Southern Italy.

The third part of the book is devoted to case studies, among them the issues of: involvement of the local government in networking (the text of Francesco Polese) and the Romanian experiences in the development of cultural tourism described by Daniela L. Constantin and Constantin Mitrut mainly from the angle of the much needed infrastructural development in the postsocialist state. The Romanian case also highlights the important issue of the use of EU programmes and co-financing as a great opportunity to develop cultural tourism products under different headings ranging from straight forward infrastructure development to rural development, urban regeneration and tourism promotion programmes. In this context in the future perhaps it would be useful to compare the experiences of mature capitalist economies with those of Eastern and Central Europe. Maria Francesca F. Cracolici, Miranda Cuffaro and Peter Nijkamp in turn present a methodologically very interesting analysis of the efficiency with which Italian provinces utilise their available tourist resources, while Danatella Cialdea proposes the use of GIS to aid the local authorities in the sustainable management of coastal areas as demonstrated by the Interrreg IIIA Adriatic Cross Border Project GES.S.TER. Lastly, Ken Willis and Naomi Kinghorn use the case of Shipley Art Gallery in north-east England to demonstrate how stated preference choice experiments can be used in the art gallery management taking into account audience preferences. This is a very useful contribution showing the growing audience focus of museums and galleries though it is a pity that it seems to have been only a pilot project with rather few interviews conducted in a non-tourist season which probably also affected the results of the survey.

The final part of the book is very interesting although it seems slightly incoherent mixing articles of more general character with case studies which would perhaps fit better in the previous part. The two more case-study oriented texts are the paper by Andrea De Montis, in which he presents the use of multicriteria decision support system using the example of the proposed restoration of the historic roadmen houses in Sardinia, and the article by Douglas Noonan, who evaluates the impacts of heritage policies,

precisely the effects of landmark designation on the real estate prices in Chicago in the 1990s. Other texts are more general in nature. Luigi Fusco Girard and Francesca Torrieri present an overview of tourism evaluation possibilities, methods and indicators also underlining the problem of data scarcity. Patrizia Riganti takes the discussion a step forward usefully moving from general discussion of cultural tourism and its measurement to e-evaluation and e-tourism. Girard and Nijkamp in the concluding text recall the most important themes of the book indicating that 'research on and planning for cultural tourism in the context of local sustainability is a challenging task' still in need to develop a mature research methodology with many possibilities open for further studies. As such the book opens up the discussion rather than ends it.

Tourism is a spatial phenomenon referring to concrete regions, localities and sites; from that point of view what one would have perhaps wished for in the book would be a broader geographical scope of presented cases and examples, here mainly narrowed to Italian experiences to which three other main examples have been added. The Charles Bridge in Prague placed on the book's cover and being the symbol of many problems experienced by the Czech capital due to the uncontrolled development of tourism since the fall of the Iron Curtain seems to promise a more diverse geographical distribution of cases. The book would also benefit from adding to it an index of places and sites, especially that several pages have been left blank at the end of the volume.

Last but not least two other points have to be mentioned. The first is the definitions and concepts of cultural tourism which broadly understood relates not only to the past reflected in cultural heritage but also to present day culture and contemporary artistic life of a given locality, i.e. larger urban centres but also smaller settlements, villages and countryside. Not all cultural tourism is focused on the legacy of the past and not all of it is urban. For example, both positive and negative effects of cultural tourism may be more acutely and visibly present in smaller localities and communities. Although the authors of the book seem to agree with such approach, they describe and analyse cultural tourism as essentially an urban phenomenon and a phenomenon related almost exclusively to the heritage of places. The second important question which comes to mind is the realisation that although throughout the book the issues of sustainable tourism and sustainable development are constantly referred to, few authors actually consider or address the question of sustainable *local* development nor attempt to define it, although precisely this particular concept is a part of the book's title.

The book is well edited, however, some chapters seem to have not been proofread enough. This pertains for example to the chapter of Giuliana Di Fiore in which many spelling mistakes may be found in addition to numerous Italian words used instead of proper English words while the cited references which are exclusively in Italian can only be found useful by Italian speakers. Throughout the book there is also a great incoherence in the style of tables and figures and, to some extent, of citations and references. It is also a pity that some very interesting figures are hardly readable (e.g. too small font size, overlapping of symbols). In one case the same figure is erroneously printed twice under two different titles (figures 12.2 and 12.3).

Despite these few shortcomings the book may surely be recommended as a very useful compendium on the topic of evaluation of tourism policies and projects from the point of view of sustainable development taking into account ecological, but also

cultural, spatial, economic and social impacts of tourism. The question of tools supporting decision-making on tourism and heritage projects remains a relatively unexplored issue, similarly greater advancements have so far been made in ecological valuation and more research done on the issue of measurement of ecologic efficiency of projects than on the issue of heritage sustainability. Such presentation of issues of cultural tourism, for example from the point of view of cultural economics and various economic valuation techniques, is thus quite novel and interesting.

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Gert DE ROO and Geoff PORTER (eds), *Fuzzy Planning. The Role of Actors in a Fuzzy Governance Environment*, Aldershot: Ashgate, Aldershot 2007, 246 pp.

'Beware of beautiful days. [...] Beware of having a plan!' These quotes, taken from the beginning of Nicci French's novel *The Red Room*, open the central part of this edited volume, called *The Actor-Consulting Model* (chapter 6). Plans fail to meet society's demands, they fail to engage with the actors concerned, and they fail to be implemented in a satisfactory way. Two decades or so ago, the 'beautiful' days of post-war rational-technical Planning ended. Not only were the Plans' results often highly disappointing, as manifested by rising traffic congestion, environmental pollution, and sprawling sleeping towns punctuated by sterile business and shopping parks; planning was also seen as deeply undemocratic and, perhaps worst of all, terribly ignorant - failing to take into account amongst others the insights and preferences of 'lay' people whose lives were directly affected by the Plans. Even the development of more strategic approaches in the form of *scenario planning* could not resolve these shortcomings.

The initial response was, so the story goes, *communicative planning*. In chapter 6, Gert de Roo explains how the communicative approach, based on a socially constructivist worldview, serves to reach consensus when actors' interest oppose each other. In communicative planning, much attention is paid to the coordination of planning *process*. This can only be effective, however, when actors' power positions are relatively equal, and where the core challenge is to deal with complexities and uncertainties. Yet, most planning issues do not meet these conditions. In a continuum running from 'technical' to 'communicative', most issues sit somewhere in the middle. They entail moderate levels of complexity and uncertainty, and involve certain dominant actors. It is the domain of

'fuzzy planning': what is at stake is not so much the opposition between actors but the fuzziness of the core planning concepts and contexts. This middle arena of 'fuzzy planning' can be reached from the technical side by using 'scenario planning'; but how can it be reached from the side of communicative planning?

This edited volume provides the answer: the actor-consulting model. In this model 'all actors reflect upon perceptions and interpretations of the roles they play (or believe they are playing) and the responsibilities they carry within a particular policy arena', aiming at 'a mutually agreed frame of reference that guides regulatory mechanisms in an efficient and effective way' (p. 53). The model is also characterised as a post-modern and pragmatic method of problem structuring, that includes some degree of top down coordination. Where communicative approaches target discursive planning, Actor-consulting presents an iterative five-step model focusing on the framing of problems, solutions and evaluations (p. 136). In this method, the key goals are, to some extent, known beforehand, captured by notions such as 'sustainability' or 'compact city'. A key objective of actor consulting is to turn these fuzzy concepts into more concrete targets. The basic model thus works from the 'desired contribution' to planning goals such as sustainability, which through confrontation with the concrete 'present contribution' results in the formulation of the 'potential contribution' (p. 140). The approach thus follows a mix between substantive and procedural rationality. While a substantive public interest is taken on board from the onset (like sustainability), this is given full shape and consensual significance use communicative procedures.

As a whole, and in contrast to many other edited volumes, *Fuzzy Planning* presents a well structured and smoothly integrated set of contributions revolving around the actor-consulting model. Part A introduces the problem context: new but illusive planning ambitions, such as striving for sustainability (chapter by Patsy Healey), in an increasingly complex and fuzzy planning environment (Healey and Karel Martens), involving new scales (such as regional planning, Henk Voogd and Johan Woltjer) and methods (Donald Miller on the use of indicators). Part B explains the actor-consulting model, followed by a series of case studies in which the model is applied (part C). In the latter, the use of actor-consulting ranges from an inventory of new planning ideas (Newcastle Great Park), to reaching a shared vision on sustainability (Viborg, Groningen-Assen and how it should be achieved (two cases in the Province of Drenthe), to improving the implementation of agreed planning ambitions (Dutch Wadden Sea).

So what is the significance of actor-consulting? As the authors themselves acknowledge, it does not really present a new practice, but labelling it this way may bring important lessons to the field. Comparing with the communicative approach, the approach comes across as somewhat less theoretically and normatively loaded, and more hands-on and pragmatic. For those who have increasingly become frustrated with the overly procedural, drawn-out nature of communicative planning processes, this may yield a clear benefit. The way the approach is presented, however, also comes with some weaknesses. While its practical elements are well described and illustrated, the concept's theoretical foundations remain somewhat obscure while the case studies are lacking in analytical depth. Various references are made to core contributions from planning and sociology (Niklas Luhmann, John Forester), but others are missing. In particular, despite the mentioning on framing, the relevant literature is not used. Likewise, with the exception of the conceptual chapter by Healey, little attention is paid to the broader societal contexts in which planning processes

take place. Healey emphasises the inherently political-discursive nature of planning concepts, which stands in stark contrast to the insistence on well-defined and well-performing concepts found in other chapters. As authors like Forester have argued, certain concepts play an important communicative and social role thanks precisely to the lack of precise definitions. Marten's interesting debate on institutional forms of governance, given an increasingly 'fuzzy' governance environment, also provides useful insights that receive insufficient attention later on. What remains unclear, for instance, is the relationship between fuzzy concepts and fuzzy governance. Besides political and institutional aspects, also the normative dimension is somewhat thin. Here, Scharpf's (1997) work on actor-centred institutionalism (social norms) or cultural planning approaches inspired by Sandercock (1998), just to name a few, would have provided useful ideas.

In conclusion, while as a script actor-consulting will prove its usefulness, its broader significance remains doubtful. More is needed to understand, and work on, the link between cognition, language and collective action than is provided in this volume. Indeed, actor-consulting as framed here echoes the instrumental stance much planning literature tends to display towards communicative and social methods. Rather than seeing such alternatives as challenges to the role and status of planning itself, as demanded by a truly democratic perspective, the basic goal is to make planning more effective and efficient. While this book does raise fundamental questions – how to respond to the democratic deficit, how to engage those who do not usually raise their voice – the current elaboration of actor-consulting does not provide adequate answers.

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William S. SAUNDERS (ed.), *Nature, Landscape, and Building for Sustainability*, Harvard Design Magazine Readers Series, University Minnesota Press, Minneapolis 2008, 201 pp.

'Humans have torn themselves from the rest of nature, and sustainable design is the only way to repair the rift'. So begins this series of essays, which cannot be faulted for its ambitious scope. The first six chapters are grouped into a theme of imagining nature. They address current thinking in environmental philosophy and how it relates to landscape architecture and urban design. In the first essay Albert Borgman considers how technological developments such as GPS and air travel have changed our relation-

ship with physical space – into something he calls technological space. While not the first commentator to make the link between technology and physical space, it is the implications for urban design that are of most interest.

‘When you first visit a new acquaintance in a metropolitan area, you find your way by the number and directions of an expressway, the name or number of an exit, the number of blocks first in this direction and then that, and finally by a house number’.

He says that it is only over time and with familiarity this counting is unnecessary as a corridor of familiarity and orientation emerges. While it is not possible to return to a premodern city it is possible to ‘demobilise’ for periods of time and restore nearness and openness – for example in New Urbanist walkable neighbourhoods.

Two of the essays look at the re-creation of nature. Lucy Lippard considers the Grand Canyon in Arizona and its status as both a wilderness and a natural spectacle for tourists. She looks at the desire among artists and landscape designers to ‘explore the potential of manufactured materials to simulate nature and reconstitute a comparable sublime’. She points to recent trends in the design of zoos, indoor beaches or indoor ski slopes as examples. She also looks at public sculpture including Andrea Zittel’s work, which aims to bring a small amount of the ‘action adventure’ of nature to Central Park in New York. John Beardsley argues that two sites of re-creation today, the shopping mall and the nature-based theme park are fundamentally different. In shopping malls he examines the way in which nature is packaged for consumption through stores such as the Body Shop, the Nature Store and the Rainforest Café. He suggests that the Rainforest Café is less a simulation of nature and more a simulacrum: a copy for which no precedent exists. He highlights the ‘hodgepodge’ of different ecosystems – rainforest, coral reef and savannah that are brought together. Exhortations from the talking tree (called Tracy) on the one hand urged customers to engage in environmental behaviour like recycling, while on the other hand urge customers to buy more merchandise. In the message put forward by the Rainforest Café, the Body Shop and the Nature Store there is no conflict between environmental protection and increased consumption. The essay concludes by putting the case that shopping malls should adapt to play a role as sites of production and not just consumption – by for example generating their own energy and treating their own wastewater.

Catherine Howett explores the boundaries between sculpture and landscape architecture. She focuses particularly on the work of Robert Smithson, who through his writing and work as an artist tried to challenge prevailing views that art was an expensive luxury beyond the understanding of ordinary people. She continues by exploring Smithson’s role as part of a larger group of environmental artists that includes Walter De Maria, George Trakas and Alice Ayccock. Artists face public censure when they diverge from dominant ideas about the beauty and harmony in nature. Controversial work by Richard Serra was removed from a prominent location in Manhattan because it did not conform.

The second part of the book is made up of nine essays themed around the idea of designing for nature. In one of the most focused essays in the book Susannah Hagan looks at the arguments for practitioners adopting environmental design. She contrasts the work of architects who look to nature for inspiration with built-form to those who look to nature for new ways to construct and run buildings. She rejects arguments that environmental design would reduce creativity, and looks at the benefits an environmental design approach can bring. Peter Buchanan looks at what lessons the US could draw from high profile green development projects in Europe: the Commerzbank tower

in Frankfurt; the Reichstag in Berlin and BEDZED in south London. He argues that one of the reasons that Europe is so far ahead of the US in green design is fee structures that allow more design input, research and testing by the engineers involved. The selection of three very particular projects presents problems for drawing wider lessons, which are not explored in the chapter. From a European perspective the essay does not appear to be constructively critical of some of the challenges and shortcomings experienced in bringing forward green building projects.

Robert France reviews progress in the landscape architecture profession towards the inclusion of sustainability in the training of new professionals. He finds that while the professional societies have taken a vigorous role, many academic programmes lag behind. He is critical of the teaching of landscape architecture which does not include any academic study of environmental ethics or even prepare students for wise stewardship of natural resources. He continues by arguing that there should be no conflict between creating aesthetically pleasing projects and those which enhance the natural environment, giving examples of wetland restoration projects.

In the final essay Peter Del Tredici discusses some of the issues raised by invasive species. He argues that programmes of eradication and replanting with native species have committed landscape managers to long-term programmes of management which amount to little more than gardening. The polarised debate around exotic versus native species ignores the valuable ecological functions many non-native species perform in urban and suburban environments. In these environments native plants would struggle with soil compaction, air pollution, heat build-up and road salt.

Some common themes emerge from a number of the authors: education; re-creating synthetic versions of nature; the role of artists in sustainable design. However, none of the authors appear to have read each others work so they are not able to bring together any of these common threads. The brief introduction and conclusion do not really manage to do this adequately. More illustrations showing the work of artists, landscape designers and architects could have helped readers engage with the material more readily. Finally, and perhaps most frustratingly, many of the papers spend a long time on well-rehearsed arguments about environmental ethics with much less attention focused on how these arguments relate directly to urban design and landscape architecture. There are a plethora of books that address broad themes on environmental ethics but far fewer that look at applying these ideas to the built environment and landscape.

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John EYLES and Allison WILLIAMS (eds), *Sense of Place, Health and Quality of Life*, Ashgate, Aldershot 2008, 221 pp.

The core argument Eyles and Williams seek to highlight is that an individual's sense of place is an important factor in determining population health and health outcomes. As such, the aim of the various chapters collected together is to highlight the determinants that appear to be central to the link between sense of place and health. In chapter 2, Lily

DeMiglio and Allison Williams provide a comprehensive review of the sense of place and Allison health literature, across the various disciplines that have taken an interest in the subject. DeMiglio and Williams point out that 'interpretations of sense of place' are discipline specific, with certain disciplines considering an individual's sense of place contributes to well-being more than others. However, they further point out that all disciplines agree that an individual's sense of place can have a positive or negative effect on an individual's well-being. DeMiglio and Williams further highlight the factors that have been found to mediate an individual's sense of place. These variables include; time, residential location, age, ethnicity and the characteristics of the place itself. However, they also stress that the variables that influence one's sense of place will depend on the place itself. Chapters 3 and 4 extend DeMiglio and Williams's consideration of sense of place. Edward Relph examines sense of place and well-being in terms of the environmental challenges of the past century. He essentially offers a humanistic approach to place which balances individual and local concerns within a system of shared values and interests. Relph argues that place as a concept is inseparable from being and as such that ways of dealing with global issues must be balanced against sense of place. Ingrid Leman Stefanovic in her effort to define sense of place and its relationship with health examines the common elements in the philosophies of place and health. Using an example of 'place-making' among children, Stefanovic highlights the health-inducing attributes that acquiring a sense of place/homeliness can induce among the young.

Chapters 5 and 6 offer methodologies that main be used to study the concept of sense of place and its relationship to health and well-being. In chapter 5, John Eyles provides an overview of the various qualitative mythologies and their various strengths and weaknesses in studying sense of place. These methods include; narrative, phenomenological, grounded theory, ethnographic and case study methodologies. In contrast, in chapter 6, Allison Williams, Christine Heidebrecht, Lily DeMiglio, John Eyles, David Streiner and Bruce Newbold provide an overview of a quantitative approach to a study of sense of place. Using a series of focus groups, data facet design, expert panel evaluation, one-to-one cognitive testing and psychometric testing, Williams *et al.*, propose that they will be able to quantify an individual's sense of place. These two chapters provide a strong methodological background to the book and provide the reader with a basic knowledge of the tools that are currently/potentially used to study an individual's sense of place.

The final seven chapters provide a diverse range of case studies, all of which seek to examine sense the relationship between sense of place and health and well-being. In chapter 7, Lynne C. Manzo emphasises the relationship between sense of place and health by examining the concept of home and homeliness. Using environmental psychological concepts such as place attachment, she examines the effect of the displacement of low-income families in the US and reports on how such change can reduce sense of place and well-being. Through her analysis, Manzo concludes that state policies should not perpetuate programmes that may threaten the well-being of already vulnerable individuals. In chapter 8, Daniel R. Williams and Michael E. Patterson use a number of cases with regard to recreational pursuits in natural settings to argue that time-use, in this case through leisure, is also an important dimension of health and well-being. Williams and Patterson found that for many people, relationships to specific areas were a central facet in their individual identity. Thus, they aim to show hoe people seek place-based meaning and identity through the places they frequent. As such, Williams

and Patterson argue that leisure, recreation and tourism in general provide important venues for building and maintaining an individual's relationship with place.

In chapter 9, Carles Carreras examines young people's sense of place in Sarajevo. He study examines how a city which has experienced considerable political, economic and religious upheavals over time, effects individuals depending on their age and generation. Carreras finds that given the historical context of Sarajevo that it is the desire of the young for consumerism and emigration that shapes their sense of place and well-being. In chapter 10, Marko Krevs continues the focus on fast-changing contexts, by examining post-socialist realities in Eastern Europe, in particular Slovenia. Noting the changing quality of life in these countries, Krevs notes the influence that quality of life and changing quality of life intersect in the mindset of Slovenians. Quality of life is something that is aspired to and a principle aim when changing place for these people.

In chapter 11, Paula Santana and Helena Nogueira study based in Lisbon, aims to discover the health determinants of obesity. Interestingly, their research finds that in terms of obesity, an individual's sense of place is unimportant. However, they do point to previous work, which found that social environment and Body Mass Index (BMI) can be linked. Santana and Nogueira conclude that the work on the environmental effect on weight (and overall health) is a new area of research and that improved/different methodologies may provide a different result.

In chapter 12, Michael Buzzelli emphasises the importance inequities and individuals sense of place, through considering of environmental injustice in disadvantaged backgrounds. He points that that while these communities may develop a sense of place that this sense may indeed negatively affect on individuals/communities well-being and health. As mentioned in chapter 2, sense of place is not unidirectional and may have strong negative effects on an individual's well-being and health. In the final chapter, Gregory Ashgate attempts to define place and sense of place through an individuals sense of heritage. Ashgate, using Dutch policies as a specific example, argues that heritage may create an identity over time and questions if this can be maintained through future policies.

The contributions in this book provide a holistic approach to the current debate on sense of place. Outlining and using a variety of methodologies both quantitative and qualitative this book provided a clear overview of the present research on the relationship between sense of place and well-being and health. Each case study provided a different insight into how individuals interact within their 'place' to create or destroy a sense of well-being. The non-directional relationship between sense of place and well-being (i.e. its ability to be both positive and negative) is a strong message throughout the book. In their concluding chapter Williams and Eyles point out that it is more than twenty years since the first studies on the influence of social relationships on mortality. In that intervening time, numerous studies across a variety of disciplines have sought to solidify this relationship. Thus, the aim of this book was to provide a set of distinct chapters that provided evidence that sense of place and well-being are interlinked. Given the research contributed throughout this book, the reader is left to conclude that understanding individual's sense of place is an important determinant of well-being and health.

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Mick SMITH, Joyce DAVIDSON, Laura CAMERON and Liz BONDI (eds), *Emotion, Place and Culture*, Ashgate, Farnham 2009, 318 pp.

With *Emotion, Place and Culture*, Joyce Davidson, Mick Smith and Liz Bondi have further extended their successful cooperation in the field of emotional geography. Laura Cameron, Canada Research Chair in Historical Geographies of Nature, with whom Davidson and others co-organised the 2006 international conference on *Emotional Geographies*, completes the editorial team of the book at hand. Perhaps this extension of the editorial team is responsible for the more historical piece of emotional geographies that was explored in this collection.

The volume starts off with a brilliant introduction, partly based on Cameron and Smith's entry on emotional geographies in the *Encyclopedia of Human Geography*. The editors provide explanation of the coming into existence of the emotional in sciences in general and the emotional turn in geography is placed in a context of theoretical as well as methodological evolutions in the field. The authors hold a warm pleading for the necessity of 'de-abstracting (or re-humanizing) inhabitants from numbers in computer systems or dots on Cartesian coordinates in an abstract space by treating them as diverse, living (not just *thinking*, but also *feeling*) beings' is being clarified (p. 12). While the predecessor of this book – *Emotional Geographies* (2005) – mainly explored the emotional dimensions of social and cultural geography, the claim made explicitly in this book is that 'emotional geographies critique and re-constitute almost everything that geography has so far taken for granted' (p. 13). It is explained how emotional geographies can not be seen as a new science that will focus on how to map or define emotions and emotional landscapes, rather, like other critical geographies – as feminist, non-representational, psycho-analytic and phenomenological – they want to enter upon a struggle against a pure materialistic view of the world where the emotional is seen as a disturbance of rationality. The set-up of the collection is to illustrate how the assumptions and activities embodied in the ordinary practices of everyday life might be transformed by doing emotional geographies.

Apart from the introduction, *Emotion, Place and Culture* consists of 16 essays. Understandably, this work that tries to cross borders between different disciplines does not use some kind of disciplinary classification, but rather a thematical one. The chapters are organised in five sections: remembering, understanding, mourning, belonging, and enchanting – so broad and overlapping that you could question their actual importance. For this reason, I will not make use of this organisation in the review, although that would perhaps make it easier to wander through the book. Alternatively, I will shortly run through some of the most significant essays to give an idea of the broad scope of the book.

One remarkable contribution is of the hand of Nigel Thrift, who challenges the separation of the social and the biological in contemporary political action. Because the concept of affect makes it possible to merge these two analytical objects, he disputes that the recent interest in it can be written off as just another passing intellectual fad. The political diagnosis he starts here remains unfinished, opening pathways to new thinking, that in these times of political passions greatly relying on sentiment and media attention, will undoubtedly be continued.

As Thrift, Jennifer Foster sees affect as a highly relevant key to get insight in current political formations by focusing on how people imagine and experience nature – codifying social order and as a consequence excluding different social groups. The overview of literature she provides is particularly interesting for those studying human-environment relationships.

Examining the reproduction of emotions in a historical context, Associate Professor of English and Theatre Studies R. Darren Gobert uses the concept of 'katharsis' as a modus to successfully infer and demonstrate that emotions are inescapably historical and cultural constructs. Commentators in different historical moments have not had the same thing in mind when they were writing of emotions. It is an instructive case, enabling to understand that presuppositions are historically constituted and can not be taken apart from the cultural embedding in which they were/are described.

Same point is made in the unusual essay of Emilie Cameron about *Senecio lugens*, and the naming of and giving meaning to this flower by the European explorers of the Arctic. In her well-written account, Cameron reveals the role of (hidden) emotion and story in early nineteenth century so called 'universalizing, detached and emotionless' scientific practice.

In the part on Belonging – but also talking about mourning and remembering – Katy Bennett's essay considers nostalgic feelings and practices in the community of Wheatley Hill, an ex-mining village in County Durham. She elucidates how a collective identity is (re)created by a particular group of people that has dealt with extraordinary changes in the course of its lifetime. It is specified how the village's smooth stories help to avoid or erase painful experiences, or recast them in more emotionally manageable terms, but also how gender stereotypes and feelings of belonging serve to exclude.

This is a theme that is explored in Deborah Thien's discussion of the emotional geographies of the Royal Canadian Legion as well. In this in-depth case study, masculine Legion spaces and more specifically the related image of the ultimate un-feeling soldier are described in much detail and are connected with a spatial politics of emotion as sign of weakness. This same theme of the friction between manhood and emotions returns a couple of time throughout the book, for example in the very first chapter, on fatal encounters with Other animals on the road and explicitly in chapter 12 about masculinity, nature and emotion in the novels of David Adams Richards and Matt Cohen.

Avril Maddrell, once herself an insider of the Isle of Man and the Peel community, observes the memorial benches opposite St Patrick's Isle as spaces of bereavement, where place is central to giving the bereaved a focus for locating grief. Embodied emotions are intricately connected to specific sites and contexts, she states. Spaces in that way become 'sacred', emotionally heightened spaces, places of representation, sites of identity markers, or, as one of her respondents called it 'thin spaces' – where the gap between heaven and earth is almost non-existent. Emotional landscapes are in this way revealed as deeply rooted in local place meaning and belonging.

That the emotional turn implicates reflection on our own way of working and researching as well, is demonstrated by Richard Powell's ethnographic studies in the Canadian Arctic. Concerned and careful approach to ethical issues in research is highly relevant to ethnographers and I would say to all scientists. In this very personal essay, Powell walks the recognisable line you sometimes find yourself on as an 'emotional

geographer' (in both meanings), where you can ask yourself for instance whether some knowledge should be recorded at all. The feeling of guilt plays a central role here, in the sense of 'What can I give in return?'

How fiction works as a catalyser for emotions is shown in the chapter '*What We All Long for*': *Memory, Trauma and Emotional Geographies* of Anh Hua about handling trauma in the Vietnamese community as in Dionne Brand's novels. In the next chapter, Mary O'Neil discusses the transformative power of creative arts in coping with grief. These chapters, as well as the one on human-computer-interaction are not always comprehensibly written and could leave the impression of drifting too far away from any concrete geographical world. Dianne Newell and Jolene McCann, and Alexandre Gillet follow with more on art, books, writers and poetry. Personally I find these 'arty' pieces less my piece of cake, but mentioning them only briefly is probably disrespectful, since imaginably people with a broader background in arts and literature, or philosophy, could enjoy these sound case studies, where geography seems to be used mainly as a metaphor, rather than as referring to concrete places.

It is clear that this highly interdisciplinary piece of work is not to be missed by anyone with special interest in emotions in recent scientific work. The book illuminates the recent emotional turn in geography from diverse perspectives whereby the rich and insightful collection of essays will be inspiring to anyone interested in understanding the emotional, feeling and affect. Although there is something in it for everyone, interest in and some basic knowledge about philosophy could come in handy when reading. Some essays can make it quite heavy to get through, certainly because not all chapters are as readable as one would like. Though unless the differences in quality of the chapters, the editors certainly deserve a feather in their cap for mapping and bringing into the picture of such a controversial and interdisciplinary subject.

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Joyce DAVIDSON, Liz BONDI and Mick SMITH (eds), *Emotional Geographies*, Ashgate, Aldershot 2005, 258 pp.

Non-representational theory and concerns with the geographies of embodied performance are slowly making their presence 'felt' in the broader disciplines of human geography. This text contributes to this emerging research foci on emotions and space by contributing to our further understanding of the complex interaction between affect and ecology through which place is experienced, perceived and to a degree constructed. In doing so, this text revisits the perspectives, arguments and practices of previously established work on phenomenology and 'sense of place' conducted by Anne Buttimer, Yi-Fu Tuan and Edward Relph. This 'reboot' of the subject however, has some interesting things to say, albeit within the context of an Anglophile perspective on the complex interplay between space and emotion.

The text is divided into three main sections entitled respectively *Locating Emotion*; *Relating Emotion* and *Representing Emotion*. In the first section the site of emotional experience ranging from terminal care for cancer patients and place of emotions in later life in the United Kingdom, to monitoring women's reaction to hysterectomies in Australia, to mapping the 'guilty' pleasures of McDonald's 'globally', concludes with a cogent, and thoughtful chapter, illustrating elements of literary geography by John Urry entitled *The Place of Emotions within Place*. Urry draws upon the works of the Romantic poets and Raymond Williams, to explicate the emotional language of landscape in the face of current environmental concerns.

The second section highlights work which concerns itself with attempts to come to grips with emotional terrains of mental health problems in the Scottish Highlands; self-landscape encounters in Dorset, southern England parsed through the lens of non-representational theory; the embodied experiences of 'going-out' in the spaces of a night life produced by the public houses and fleshpots of Leicester, to an examination of the geographical dynamics of consumer culture which draws upon feminist psychoanalytic theory, to the phenomenology of the Reike massage experience.

The final section *Representing Emotion* examines variously Victorian paintings and the social prescription, location and situating of the expression of human emotion., an interesting dissection of popular assumptions concerning the nature of intimacy, an attempt to perform (rather more a reflection) an exploration of emotion, memory, self and landscape, and a short treatise on environmental ethics by Mick Smith, which strives to cast a wider net than the 'emotional geographies' situated by the volume. The text's editors argue cogently for an 'emotional turn' in geography, and provide an interesting and thought provoking work, though with an emotional scope which betrays a bit strongly an Anglophilic tendency in the geographical sense.

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Guy M. ROBINSON (ed.), *Sustainable Rural Systems: Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Communities*, Ashgate, Aldershot 2008, 210 pp.

Since the publication of the Brundtland Report in 1987, 'sustainable development' has become one of the most widely used terms in public policy and international development. It has also become a core focus of research interest for geographers and other natural and social scientists (see Whitehead, 2007 for details). This edited collection provides an analysis of sustainable rural systems, focusing on sustainable agriculture and sustainable rural communities. The continued critical scrutiny surrounding industrial models of food provisioning, alongside growing recognition for the need to limit the impact human settlements and 'consumer lifestyles' have on the environment, indicates that this volume is a timely contribution. The book stems from a session dedicated to the above themes and debates at the International Geographical Union's 30th Congress, held

in Glasgow in 2004, with some additional invited contributions. It comprises ten chapters and is divided into three main parts.

Part 1, *Introduction*, starts with a chapter by Guy M. Robinson introducing sustainable rural systems, particularly sustainable agriculture as a concept and research focus and, to a lesser extent, sustainable rural community development. This is followed by a useful chapter by Mark Tilzey and Clive Potter which puts debates about sustainability in wider macro-scale socio-economic and political contexts, examining in particular how 'post-productivism' is represented in the European Union, the United States and Australia. The authors argue that in all three contexts productivism remains dominant. They use this evidence to critique tendencies to conflate post-productivism (a form of production) with post-Fordism (a regime of accumulation/mode of social regulation) and argue instead that 'there has been a shift to post-Fordism, combining an increasingly dominant market productivism with subaltern elements of post-productivism' (p. 57). In their view, sustainability discourses must therefore be situated and understood within their particular political context if they are to have meaning and substance.

Part 2 then scales down to these more particular contexts and comprises five chapters that examine different aspects of sustainable agriculture. They are all based in the UK. This includes: a chapter by Rosie Cox, Moya Kneafsey, Laura Venn, Lewis Holloway, Elizabeth Dowler and Helena Tuomainen (chapter 3) on 'Alternative' Food Networks (AFNs) and their particular constructions of sustainability; a chapter by Nick Evans and Richard Yarwood (chapter 4) examining the way that farm livestock have been neglected in debates about sustainable agriculture; an essay by Frances Harris, Guy M. Robinson and Isabel Griffiths (chapter 5) on the reasons why some farmers are exiting organic farming; a text by Bruce D. Pearce (chapter 6) on the genetically-modified (GM) foods debate in the UK, especially in relation to environmental, economic and social sustainability; and a study by Christopher Short (chapter 7) on high-value nature conservation sites within lowland England. Each of the chapters makes an interesting contribution in terms of unpacking specific aspects of sustainable agriculture. The chapter by Evans and Yarwood, for example, makes a good point about the way that farm animals have been overlooked in these contexts, including in (UK-based) agri-environment schemes. Equally, the Harris, Robinson and Griffiths chapter plugs a useful knowledge gap in terms of why some farmers in the UK are opting to leave organics. Essentially, the decision, they argue, is a financial one. They define this group as 'pragmatic organic farmers', initially motivated largely by the price premiums of organic food and subsequently put off by diminishing organic premiums (especially for milk) and negative experiences with the certification and inspection process. What is missing in this part of the book though, and more generally, is a sense of how these different chapters and quite different topics link together to make some broader collective points about sustainable agriculture. What is the link between AFNs, farm animals, GM foods, organic farming and high-value nature conservation sites? Is there a link or do they represent very different perspectives on sustainable agriculture? Yes, probably. Some wider discussion about these thematic connections – in the introductory chapter – would have strengthened this part of the book and the rest of the volume more generally.

Three chapters in part 3 examine sustainable rural communities. The first of these, by Mary Cawley and Desmond A. Gillmor (chapter 8), applies the 'culture economy'

concept to the development of integrated tourism in the west of Ireland. Their research shows how entrepreneurs (i.e. those selling tourist goods/services) have a much more economic emphasis than resource controllers, who are more concerned about conservation and the environment. The emphasis on integrated tourism and different stakeholder perspectives is useful in relation to debates about sustaining rural communities. The last chapter in the book (chapter 10), by Robinson, also makes a useful link to debates about how different forms of active citizenship can help to promote sustainability at a community level, discussed in this case in relation to two environmental programmes implemented in Canada. Sandwiched between these two chapters is an empirical evaluation of the Cumbria Hill Sheep Initiative in the uplands of Cumbria in northern England by Lois Mansfield (chapter 9). The chapter contrasts farmer perspectives of the uplands, which tend to be productivist, with public attitudes of the uplands, which tend to be 'post-productivist'. This section on rural communities is heavily farmer focused, with the exception of Cawley and Gillmor's chapter.

All in all then, this is a useful collection of papers. The sustainable rural communities theme is less well developed relative to the emphasis on sustainable agriculture. Perhaps a sole emphasis on the latter would have been preferable, especially as this may also have enabled the edited collection to develop a stronger collective thesis in terms of what the individual papers tell us about sustainable development? Despite this criticism, the book has obvious merits and is likely to prove a useful resource to researchers interested in different aspects of sustainable rural systems. This is particularly likely now, as debates about sustainability become increasingly aligned to debates about food security, adaptation to climate and environmental change, vulnerability and resilience.

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Edward BEST, Thomas CHRISTIANSEN and Pierpaolo SETTEMBRI (eds), *The Institutions of the Enlarged European Union – Continuity and Change*, Edward Elgar, Cheltenham (UK), Northampton (MA, USA) 2008, 262 pp.

Since the fall of the Soviet block in the 1990s, the enlargement of the European Union to encompass the countries of Central and Eastern Europe has been regarded as an extremely critical challenge for the future of European integration. The possibility that the EU would have expanded from 15 to 27 member states in the first decade of the

2000s posed fundamental questions, concerning both the objectives and processes of European integration. So fundamental were these questions that they started to shape the debate on all aspects and dimensions of the EU, from policy development to institutional and decision-making reforms, the conundrum being related to the maximum level of diversity the EU could accommodate before it ceases to be a durable community.

It is almost universally accepted that the European Union constitutes a unique political organisation, a complex system in which the function of control is distributed among multiple actors located at different territorial levels, which needs constantly to adapt in relation to its ever-changing environment. In more than doubling its membership from six to fifteen over less than forty-years, such 'adaptation processes' were required many times before. However, the challenges raised for the Union by the possibility of nearly doubling its membership again in a shorter time-scale were qualitatively different from those faced before.

In the past, the enlargement debate was more fragmented, and focused on the problems of particular states and policy areas. Though the EU has, from time to time, engaged in a more wide-ranging debate about the effects of diversity – for instance in the late 1970s and early 1980s, as the likelihood of enlargement into Mediterranean increased – pragmatic compromises were usually found, and the more fundamental implications of recasting the whole system were left unexplored. On the other hand, the collapse of the USSR, leading to the creation of new sovereign states and to the political and economic reorientation of Central and Eastern Europe, has transformed the environment in which further EU enlargement would have taken place, openly challenging those assumption of integration based on the shared objectives and historical experiences of a small core group of Western European states.

Building on the above assumption, the book *The Institutions of the Enlarged European Union* examines the effects that the enlargements which occurred in 2004 and 2007 have had on the institutional structure and functioning processes of the European Union. Building on the common expectations that the institutional structure of the EU was ill-equipped to deal with the much wider number of players and the more diverse range of interests implied by the acquisition of its new eastern dimension, the main aim of the editors is to investigate empirically and systematically the precise nature of those changes that have affected key institutions and institutional mechanisms of the EU as a consequence of the enlargement.

While earlier publications on similar issues agree with the overall conclusions that decision-making within the new EU could be safely described as 'business as usual', they all prudently warned that it was too early to suggest that European institutions would have been able to cope with existing rules in the long term. At the same time, official statements seemed quite contradicting as well, with the European Commission's *Enlargement Strategy and Main Challenges* affirming both the preservation of the capacity of the European institutions to take decision as well as the need to check the effectiveness and the accountability of the EU decision making process in the future. Similarly, the European Parliament, in its *Report on the Institutional Aspects of the European Union's Capacity to Integrate the New Member States*, conditioned the proper functioning of the EU to further institutional reforms. Further contributing to the described debate, the volume manages, on the one hand, to extend the time frame of earlier academic contributions, in so doing allowing for more solid conclusions charting changes also beyond and across individual institutions. In second place, it complements

official ex-post assessment, producing meaningful findings to be used in the debate on the future EU institutional setting.

In order to achieve these results, the book offers individual evaluations of the evolution of the European Union's main institutional bodies in the context of the enlargement, as well as an assessment of trends in the rules and practices governing the interactions between EU public bodies, national contexts and private actors. The different chapters aim explicitly to avoid any normative assumptions about the nature of institutional change and/or ideal forms of institutionalisation in the EU setting, with the contributors that were asked to answer a number of key questions concerning the very nature of the changes produced by the enlargement in relation to the different EU institutions and organisational practices.

The different chapters are highly consistent, both in terms of obtained results as well as the adopted methodology, and explore the degree of formalisation of the changes, their intensity as well as their short- or long-term nature. Going more in details to the different institutional bodies, the enlargement did not seem to have locked the activity of the European Council, as decision-making continue to run smoothly, without any relevant change in terms of outputs' quantity and substance. Similarly, the Council of Ministries have assimilated the new members into decision-making dynamics avoiding any stand still. Also the role of the European Commission has not been fundamentally altered, with the enlargement having only contributed to reinforce the impact of pre-existing trends, including the increase of flexibility and the tendency towards a higher presidential leadership. As far as the European Parliament is concerned, only minor changes were noticed, with new members having aligned to existing the way of acting, hence following their political – rather than national – affiliation. The European Court of Justice, on its side, took the enlargement process as an opportunity to effectively address some of its existing problems in terms of working methods, while the European Central Bank, due to its peculiar nature, was almost unaffected by relevant changes. Finally, whereas the enlargement does not seem to have altered the role and the functioning of the European Economic and Social Committee, the changes that took place in the Committee of Regions were more relevant, mainly relating to a growing interest of the other institutions in its role as a legitimate channel of communication with the European citizens.

As regards the changes in the inter-institutional relations that characterise EU multi-level governance, the book provides three interesting insights. The analysis of the evolution of the EU's legislative process shows that the Union has proved to be an extremely flexible system, provided with an extraordinary adapting capacity. The post-enlargement EU delivers an amount of acts comparable to that of the EU 15, doing it faster and without engaging in greater political contestation. Nevertheless legislation is now shaped by an increased variety of interests, contributing to significantly longer acts. Similarly, the enlargement does not seem to have significantly affected the implementation of EU legislation within the different national contexts, as the increasing formalisation of procedures contributed to guarantee the level of delivery of the so-called 'comitology'. Whereas formal legislative process has not changed much, the increased diversity within the EU is reported as a relevant factor in the consolidation of non-legislative approaches and alternative forms of policy coordination, as the Open Method of Coordination.

Elaborating on the evidence of the different contributions, in their conclusive remarks the editors suggest that the enlargement affected the nature of both formal and informal arrangements in the EU only to a minor extent, mainly through higher formalisation of official meetings and procedures. At the same time, the increase in the use of informal channels and methods to prepare 'pre-cooked' decisions reinforces the already ongoing trend of more and more decisions taken within administrative spheres rather than in the political arenas of the EU, with the enlargement showing to be an important catalyst towards greater efficiency, but potentially undermining EU accountability.

In any case, although contributing to the described developments, it is not correct to individuate the enlargement as their main cause. The recent changes are more likely interpretable as pre-existing long-term trends of European governance, with the impact of the enlargement having been mainly to reinforce them. The book shows how it is impossible to identify factors affecting the evolution of EU policies which are specifically and uniquely caused by the enlargement. There have been broader changes in the international political and policy environment, as well as endogenous changes which may have been caught up in – and catalysed by – the specific elements introduced by the enlargement. Therefore, when looking across the board of institutional politics in the EU the most appropriate perspective to adopt in order to understand the impact of the enlargement it is to consider its intertwining with these secular trends, and the additional and new demands coming from a greater and more diverse membership.

Keeping this in mind, the challenge is not much that of the Union adapting to newcomers as of a new Union learning to manage its new self – including a wider territory, a higher number of people, a wider range and depth of underlying interests and diversities. In this connection, the more important shift in the long term may regard the balance of perceptions and interests affecting the way in which the EU responds to questions regarding the most appropriate way of responding to internal and external pressure, i.e. the impact of the enlargement may foster changes both in the nature of the challenge and in the evaluation of possible answers. By now, the EU seems to have managed to protect its administrative efficiency rather well, but it is also clear that its democratic accountability is – and will be – further challenged by the greater resort to informal arrangements that characterise post-enlargement decision-making.

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Martin SCHIEFELBUSCH and Hans-Liudger DIENEL (eds), *Public Transport and its Users. The Passenger's Perspective in Planning and Customer Care*, Ashgate, Aldershot 2009, 330 pp.

What does the user think? The crucial question for market research, marketing campaigns and consumer reports to promote and develop more successful products became in the last years also increasingly important for spatial planners. Keywords that describe this trend are citizen participation, governance or planning communication. The

involvement of the user perspective in planning processes leads to more democratic planning processes and better planning results as the resource 'knowledge of the citizen' is also used – at least that is what the theory says.

This book, edited by Martin Schiefelbusch and Hans-Luidger Dienel focuses on public transport and asks the question if involvement of the users can lead to the growth and improvement of public transport. Therefore the authors discuss a topic which appears in a similar way in other fields of urban planning: what tangible effects does public participation really have? The answer to this question is – from a dramaturgic point of view a little bit unfavorable – already given on page one: in almost all cases that passenger rights have been enforced, the number of passengers has increased, and the image as well as the economic situation of the public transport companies has improved. Why and how this can happen is the subject of this well-written book. The authors pursue an interdisciplinary approach and tackle the issues of public transport and user participation from legal, planning related, political and socio-organisational point of view.

The book deals with passenger *rights* and passenger *participation*. Passenger *rights* describe the legal position of the passengers and the possibilities they have like consumer protection, service guarantees or complaint management. The authors present examples of these passenger rights mainly from Germany and come to the conclusion that the implementation of passenger rights is of high importance for the overall service quality of transport companies.

The issue of passenger participation is closely related to the discussions in other fields of urban and regional planning and is worth a deeper look.

The authors differentiate between direct formal and informal citizen participation. Case studies which represent 'positive exceptions rather than contemporary practice' describe successful formal and informal participation processes in public transport. The Swiss Timetable participation, the Customer Dialogue Process in Berlin and informal methods like the planning cell method and a Future Search Conference in Hannover and Düsseldorf are examples of public participation in public transport.

Participation in public transport differs from that in other areas of planning – for example transport companies often have quasi monopoly. Because of their unrivalled service they not necessarily have to improve their quality and involve the customers. Even though these characteristics exist the participation methods are similar to other planning processes and led in the illustrated examples to positive results.

In addition to the formal/informal citizen participation the passengers' perspective in public transport is also represented through organised interest organisations. These passenger associations represent the users not only against the transport companies but these independent groups also do political lobbying and public relations and take part in legislative procedures. It seems that in comparison to the direct user involvement this organised interest groups have a far more substantial influence in all fields of public transport including the legislative framework.

The book provides not only examples from Germany but also gives an overview of the customer representation and legal passenger rights in different European countries. As it could have been expected, passenger rights in countries like the UK, Italy, Austria or Germany show significant differences. The title of this chapters conclusion *Different Solutions for Similar Problems* summarises the findings of the European comparison and

shows the heterogeneity of the approaches. But in all analysed countries passenger organisations as independent groups address the rights of bus and train customers. What kind of influence these independent groups have in the different European countries and what relationship to the direct formal/informal user participation exists, lays beyond the scope of the book.

The book concludes with an optimistic outlook and predicts an increasing importance of passenger rights and passenger participation. The European Commission is seen as a motor for passenger rights and in the opinion of the authors will strengthen also the importance of passenger participation. Also the trend towards a withdrawal of the state from all types of infrastructure supply will lead towards an increasing significance of the user, in some cases not only as a consumer but also as provider of public transport, as the example of the citizen bus in North Rhine Westphalia shows.

Schiefelbusch and Dienel demonstrate with this book, that participation in public transport is important and can lead to improvement of its quality. Especially impressive is the interdisciplinary approach of the book and the merging of aspects from law, sociology or planning studies to a readable book for practitioners and scholars interested in public transport and transportation.

My concluding remarks emphasise the importance of analysing the users of public transport in a more detailed way. With the growing plurality of society also the passengers of public transport are becoming more heterogeneous and also their demands on public transport: old people could have different needs than younger people, families other than singles and so on. Therefore it can be argued that the user with certain needs concerning public transport does not exist but instead a multitude of different user groups with a plurality of different needs. The big challenge – and this is true not only for public transport but for all participation processes – is therefore to find ways and methods that secure the involvement of *all* user groups and not only some users. In this context, it could be also a fruitful research task to analyse the organised interest groups, which seem so important for customer representation in public transport regarding their representation of minority/special group interests.

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Barry GOODCHILD, *Homes, Cities and Neighbourhoods: Planning and the Residential Landscapes of Modern Britain*, Ashgate, Aldershot 2008, 356 pp.

Rapid urbanisation puts great pressure on housing provision. When towns grow relatively slowly piecemeal expansion of the housing stock by small developers may be sufficient to meet demand. Such organisations will undoubtedly be insufficient in periods of fast growth, however, especially catering for the less well-off in society, who may dominate the expanding population. In such circumstances, occupancy of the existing stock will increase, with the higher densities almost inevitably associated with

poor living conditions and ill-health; alternatively, residents may build their own homes, as in the squatter settlements that characterise many Third World cities.

The first of these situations characterised British cities in the industrial revolution's early decades, but by the twentieth century such conditions were unacceptable in an advanced society. Means of providing mass housing of reasonable quality were needed (not least after both of the world wars), which involved a combination of state and market mechanisms concerned with not only the production of homes but also planning of the environments in which they are sited. Goodchild's book focuses on those combinations in Britain, from the beginning of the twentieth century on. He identifies three periods – early modern (pre-1914); modern (1920–c.1980); and post-modern (c.1980–); the division between the first two is marked especially by the introduction of central planning.

Of the book's two main sections, the first deals with the provision of mass housing in the modern period and the development of major land use and transport plans (though it is not clear what the two types of planning in the title of chapter 4 were, and the chapter ends with a brief comparison with the French situation rather than a conclusion). There is plenty of material, but a lack of detail that would help the reader 'ground' it. There are no illustrations, for example, for a subject that cries out for both maps (of street layouts within the pre-urban cadastre, of building arrangements within those layouts, and of building types) and photographs (including aerial views). There are nine, poorly-reproduced, stand-alone plates at the start of the book and we are told that 'Image and narrative are best considered as complementary' (p. 24) – but the author does not live up to his own precepts. A third chapter is about the search for alternatives towards the period's end – being more a discussion of what was not than what was.

The book's other main section comprises four chapters on the post-modern period, which read as a series of essays (even essays within essays) rather than components of a coherent argument. Thus the chapter on *(Re)tracing the Context* contains much on various theories of planning and of governance regarding how the housing stock was to be replenished and expanded. The following chapter on *Quantity and Quality in Housing Development* starts with a discussion of housing prices linked to the growing (relative) scarcity of land – in which there is no solid empirical material to sustain the general argument made; it moves on to the responses of the large house-building firms to this situation and the changing role of the (increasingly fragmented yet still rigid) planning system, before turning to a discussion of quality in housing provision, catering for special needs, and zero-carbon homes. A chapter on *Urban Design and the Environment* similarly ranges widely – over sustainable cities, urban form and densities, and mixed versus segregated residential developments. The section's final chapter on *Neighbourhoods of Choice and Constraint* has a similar broad remit, covering the relationships between neighbourhoods and communities (with no discussion of the possible links between community and housing design), on policies targeting resources at certain areas, housing and population types, regeneration, gentrification and studentification, deprived suburban social housing estates, and landscapes of fear. The brief concluding chapter on *Looking Back and Looking Forward* deals with trends in housing and neighbourhood quality under the first part of that title, and on planning and housing in future periods of possible economic decline.

The book covers a large field, though patchily: there is a massive literature on which any author has to draw selectively, but much (especially detailed empirical research) appears to have been omitted. Each chapter introduces important material and may be a way in to a wider literature – though for whom, as an intended market is indicated by neither author nor publisher, other than all those interested in the interaction between planning, housing markets and the urban environment in Britain? – but the whole is not more than a sum of the parts (and some of the parts no more than the sum of their own parts).

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Lauren C. HEBERLE and Susan M. OPP (eds), *Local Sustainable Urban Development in a Globalized World*, Ashgate, Aldershot 2008, 293 pp.

The title of this book could be turned into the question the book endeavours to address: is local sustainable urban development possible in a globalised world? The attempted answer from the editors is a resounding yes, but to accept this readers need to exercise a fair amount of trust in the two initial cornerstone premises of the book posed by Lauren Herbele: ‘local sustainable planning alternatives may be pursued in spite of the constraints generated by the process of globalization’ and ‘the array of public policy options, [...] could reduce the effect of globalized forces in shaping the local alternatives’ (p. 2). These premises addressed by Lauren C. Herbele as ‘facets of local sustainability planning’ are debunked in several of the book’s contributions, most forcefully in the three contributions representing non-industrialised and non-Western countries. Lidia Mierzejewska (Poland), describes the difficult task of maintaining a local commitment that can ensure healthy ecological conditions after the country’s switch to a global market economy; Kasama Polakit and Davisi Boontharm (Thailand) demonstrate how oblivious to the plight of the poor (survival of traditional traders, street and canal vendors) can become a process of urban development to be flexible to global market forces; and, Mamoru Taniguchi, Hirofumi Abe and Yoshiro Ono try to coin a definition for a self-reliant region seeking to articulate a parameter that can show ‘the antinomy or paradox of the relationship between environment and growth’ (p. 154). In this same vein Andrea Collins and Andrew Flynn speculate whether developers of an international sport village in Cardiff, wedded as they are to market forces and developmental positions, can be at all persuaded or influenced, and so lament and acknowledge the risk that tools for sustainable decision making, like the Ecological Footprint, may end up being used in the context of rationalisations for unsustainable decisions made by powerful actors. Thus, while it is possible to agree with Herbele about the real opportunities for achieving success in local sustainable policy implementation, asserting that this success can reduce the effects of external global pressure would require empirical proving. And as hypothesis it is challenged in several accounts throughout the book. On the other side of the coin,

the expectation that successful local strategies could add up to global sustainable solutions needs also proving, and is mostly discussed as a challenge by some of the contributors. Katrina M. Harmon questions whether the task of measuring fragmented efforts and specific indicators at the city level can be related to sustainability measured at the regional or global level, appropriately encapsulating this dilemma as the 'challenges of connecting local relevance to global significance' (p. 107). Also, Robin Ganser warns us that a too narrowly defined target or indicator may not adequately serve to monitor overarching sustainability objectives. Harmon brings us back from confronting the intractability of the global dilemma by reminding us that 'cities are crucial testing grounds for the pursuit of sustainable development' (p. 108).

Global forces and global significance aside, and accepting the urban context as testing ground for sustainability the book provides a number of excellent contributions ranging from single disciplinary approaches in economic, sociology, geography, and political science to interdisciplinary contributions in urban, transport and regional planning. All bringing forward the complexity of the task at hand and the kind of innovative thinking that emerges when researchers, planners and decision-makers are truly engaged in attempting to make possible local sustainable urban development. A good number of the book's contributions, discussed shortly in this review, make for recommended reading to academics, policy-makers, practitioners working on urban, regional and transport planning and related interdisciplinary subjects, in three key areas of urban sustainability debate into which this book has been assembled: the significance of frameworks (legal, planning, institutional) to urban sustainable policy implementation; evaluation of measurement tools for assessing progress towards sustainability and, the role of education and participation.

Having a clear legal, planning and institutional framework for sustainability implementation has been a priority for many years in the Netherlands and the articles by Jan Jaap de Boer and Jaap van Staalduine demonstrate the latest conceptual evolution taking place there re-focusing land use planning objectives from the 'standard-oriented' approach – that furnished an equally exhaustive list of environmental quality requirements and legislation to all urban areas – to a 'quality-oriented approach' that allows each urban area to set priorities according to their particular specificities. Raquel Pinderhughes enthuses us with a long 'to-do' and a 'must-do' list for sustainability, making calls to lending institutions, wealthy nations, governments etc., that may leave the reader wondering about who will part take in this 'to-do' list and who will enforce the 'must-do' list. Gerhard Steineback, Robin Ganser and Simone Allin rightly points at the discrepancies between the German Federal Planning Act and the two-tier local urban planning system, signalling as one of the chief problems delays created by the required public and multi-agent consultation. Their suggestion that e-government can be a fair substitute for active democratic participation does not seem to contemplate the possibility that e-government may in turn create new exclusionary lines between the haves and the have-nots access to electronic means or knowledge, or between those who can/cannot properly articulate written demands. Ending the first section Hai-Feng Hu and Tzu-Chia Chang seek to make a case for how to reach efficiency in voluntary agreements regarding land use distribution. Efficiency and utility are concepts difficult to match with the essence of the task at hand in sustainable urban planning which, as Ruth

Yabes and David Pijawka later in the third part of the book emphasise, needs to consider equity at its core, as in their example concerning implementation of programmes centred on sustainability to redevelop inner city areas. Also Criseida Navarro-Diaz emphasises the importance of fairness in planning and urban policy and the need for attentive consideration to social (cost of living, affordable housing projects, migration patterns) and, environmental justice to reduce the effects that economic policies, aimed at creating flexible conditions (to global forces) for the development of a high-tech region in a city-region can have.

Harmon advances the debate on the important role of tools for measuring progress towards sustainability arguing how indicators alone do not promote action; and why fragmented efforts i.e.: when each city defines its own set of indicators — make it difficult to learn how and whether sustainability is being attained at a regional or global level. She re-considers the question: Is it fair to say that if sustainability has made it into the public agenda that is progress? Marta Moreno and Juan Pedro Ruiz demonstrate one of the key factors for the meager results transport sustainability can claim across the globe: people do not change attitudes when provided with more information because they do not trust others will change and, for the most part, they will let their own egoistic motives prevail when making everyday travel decisions. The authors conclude that pricing policies and deliberation may accomplish more in the end to change behaviour. This positivist approach to human capabilities for learning and changing is also present in the final section regarding environmental education. Georgina Echániz Pellicer considers that the education needed for a transition towards sustainability is one that should encourage planners, politicians and decisions-makers to gain autonomous knowledge which will put them in better position to prevent environmental problems and propose solutions. Karen Cairns discusses the relationship between environmental education, participatory democracy and the precautionary principle claiming that an extensive use of these three concepts in the public arena will facilitate a proactive rather than reactive approach towards environmental issues in planning and decision-making. While calls for education towards environmental local-global citizenship are important they tend to leave open the question of agency (who participates and how) and power (who decides) which are issues difficult to address more directly in planning. This makes more valuable the contribution by Singh Intrachotoo, Luke Yeung and Yaourai Suthiranart demonstrating how and why it is necessary to educate architects to address urban problems in building design and why and how urban sustainability needs to be practiced from the universities to the cities.

Susan M. Opp had the difficult task of bringing the book to an end including drawing conclusions from the book's limited attention to the global dimension. Despite the small number of contributions from Southern/Eastern countries, the ones presented give a tasteful spoon of other narratives, other stories that are begging to be told, researched, published and acknowledged. It is striking then to read how Opp finds mostly general misunderstanding and no contradiction between the forces of economic growth and sustainable development and disingenuously attributes lack of advancement towards sustainable development, in developing country cities, to these countries position on the Maslow's Hierarchy of Human Needs. Unsurprisingly, she fails to take notice of the inadequacy of Maslow's theory to explain why the more unsustainable living conditions

in the world are extruded by the one-third of the world's population that long ago achieved satisfaction of their basic human needs and, how they continue to show no interest in accepting responsibility for the disastrous environmental consequences of their unstoppable and unquenchable consuming appetite. I like the quote she chose to end the book from Mahatma Gandhi: 'one has to do the right thing' (p. 283). If we are to start doing the right thing a first step will be to open our own research, editorial and urban planners eyes to understand and include the different realities in the South and the East accepting that what we have to learn from there is an important part of the learning for sustainability that we all need to embrace.

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Máiréad Nic CRAITH, Ulrich KOCKEL and Reinhard JOHLER (eds), *Everyday Culture in Europe; Approaches and Methodologies*, Ashgate, Aldershot 2008, 190 pp.

This edited book argues for European ethnology to be seen as a unique discipline, rather than subsumed by another discipline such as history. It illustrates European ethnology's historical polemics and entangled realities, especially in terms of the reproduction of national ideologies through ethnological endeavours. Due to the multi-vocality of the book as a whole, each chapter requires some attention.

From National to Transnational: A Discipline en route to Europe (chapter 1) by Máiréad Nic Craith is arranged into an articulate history of ethnology as a term, methodology and discipline. This introduction will leave the reader with a good starting point on various uses and variations of ethnology. In discussing European Ethnology as an emerging disciplinary field, the author states, 'This emancipatory movement can be a cry for freedom from oppression or an attempt "to soar to new heights of understanding, being and becoming"' (p. 1). Immediately, this statement rings of romanticism and has quite a strong emotional pull.

From CIAP to SIEF: Visions for a Discipline or Power Struggle (chapter 2) by Bjarne Rogan is an adventure unto itself. The chapter is fraught with suspense, betrayal, and an academic organisational *coup-d'état*. The amount of archival hunting and research is immensely impressive and reconstructs well the trials and tribulations of *la Commission Internationale des Arts et Traditions Populaires*. While there is a detailed discussion of key figures, the impact of this organisation on the discipline of ethnology is not made clear, especially since the author talks about other ethnological organisations in existence, such as the *International Union of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences*, the *Comision Internacional Permanente de Folklore*, and *Ständige Internationale Atlas-kommission*.

Small National Ethnologies and Supranational Empires: The Case of the Hapsburg Monarchy (chapter 3) by Bojan Baskar begins with, 'The expression "small national ethnologies" suggests a central and east-European provenance' (p. 65), but fails to

elucidate on what this claim is based. For someone reading the book to learn about ethnology, this important assumption needs clarification. The insights are striking in discussing how the national aids in the reproduction of the supranational. While the approach is critical, the author assumes the reader shares the same mental boundaries of west, central, and eastern Europe, which are shifting and at times blurry.

How Large are the Issues for Small Ethnographies? Bulgarian Ethnology Facing the New Europe (chapter 4) by Galia Valtchinova illustrates nicely how ethnology has supported the national ideology and how the cultural is part of the national through 'the making and remaking of national borders' (p. 95). The author emphasises this 'home' or 'native' perspective as an important positioning for an ethnographer and is a key theme throughout the book. The real gem of this chapter is how the author cautions that 'there is a real risk for the "native" ethnologist ... to remain blind for his own role as producer of authoritative discourse' (p. 90).

Challenges to the Discipline: Lithuanian Ethnology between Scholarship and Identity Politics (chapter 5) by Vytis Ciubrinskas states, 'Nationalism went along with Romanticism and the discipline of ethnology was born as a child of the Romantic nation-state building ideology of Central/East Europe' (p. 103). Ethnology then sounds very much like the counterpart to geopolitics; where geopolitics looks through a nationalist lens at understanding and defining the global environment, ethnology then can (or at least has in the past) look through a nationalist lens inward to understand and define itself. Nationalism as a tool of identity construction is a key foundation for the nation-state, but what seems to be missing from this book overall is how this nationalism plays out on a larger scale.

When is Small Beautiful? The Transformations of Swedish Ethnology (chapter 6) by Orvar Löfgren contributes to the discussion of ethnology and nation building. Also, he draws attention to the importance of studying heterogeneity in communities. Both of these points come across as being intrinsic to the discipline. In discussing the historical field of ethnology, Löfgren's description could easily be that of regional geography or archaeology. Statements like, 'measuring dilapidated barns before they collapsed, studying villages before the last open fields were enclosed, collecting forgotten artefacts hiding in attics in outhouses' (p. 122) reveals the myriad overlaps in academic disciplines.

The Hybridity of Minorities: A Case-Study of Sorb Cultural Research (chapter 7) by Elka Tschernokoshewa talks about bilingualism, multiculturalism, hybridity and 'multiple perspectivity' for the Sorb in particular and minorities in general. These are pressing and important topics in the current global environment for a researcher to consider. 'What is significant therefore is the explicit and open recognition of difference, and, at the same time, the attempt to bundle together otherness and sameness conceptually' (p. 144). Tschernokoshewa's discussion includes insights into relational shifts and border permeability. This type of work is desperately needed in academia to illuminate 'social processes and everyday practices' (p. 139).

Turning the World Upside Down: Towards a European Ethnology in (and of) England (chapter 8) by Ullrich Kockel touches on some of the central debates discussed in chapter 2, specifically, evolutionism versus diffusionism. Critically examining England's lag in employing ethnological approaches, Kockel illustrates how the term folklore and

ethnology in England come across as interchangeable. This is a point of contention discussed throughout sections of the book. In discussing perspectives on ethnology, the author gives a nice breakdown of conceptual phases.

Ethnology in the North of Ireland (chapter 9) by Anthony D. Buckley comes across as a grand literature review. He narrows this massive literature down to main approaches that are clear and important trends for the ethnology of this area. Buckley quickly gives a working definition of ethnology, which he notes can fit a description for numerous fields, as 'the study of the everyday lives, actions and activities of the broad mass of the population' (p. 165). I thought this literature review was astutely laid out.

As a side note, the referencing system is an important part of any book, chapter, or article, yet here it is inconsistent leaving half the items I wish to follow impossible, therefore diminishing one of the central features of a book of this type. While the book stresses the turns in ethnology to a heterogeneous perspective and the importance of the 'home' ethnologist, I caution that there could be a tendency to forget the greater scope. Each nation-state is not an island unto itself and each case study needs to be placed in a larger context. There is a running argument in the book that at one point describes European ethnology as 'an interdisciplinary or, indeed, post-disciplinary discipline' (p. 160). Throughout the book, the various authors discuss how ethnology is or has been equated with anthropology, philology, etymology, cultural studies, history, literature, languages, geography, sociology, folklife, and folklore. The reader is left with no cookie-cutter explanation of ethnology, but given a glimpse into the entangled reality of this endeavour.

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Talja BLOKLAND and Mike SAVAGE (eds), *Networked Urbanism: Social Capital in the City*, Ashgate, Aldershot 2008, 241 pp.

Although, as Talja Blokland and Mike Savage suggest in their preface to *Networked Urbanism*, 'the concept of social capital has now been so much discussed that one may wonder whether there is anything to add' (p. xiii), it is likely that many readers will agree with the editors when they reject this view. Indeed, ten years after Markusen (1999) accused social capital of being a fuzzy concept lacking theoretical rigour, subsequent literature suggests that we are still seeking to explain what social capital is, how we can measure it, what it does and how it works (e.g. Beugelsdijk and van Schaik, 2005; Leonard, 2004; Mohan and Mohan, 2002). *Networked Urbanism* concentrates less on the first two issues, which have been the focus of much of the literature. Instead, this collection of articles considers the arguably less often discussed but perhaps more important issues of what social capital can do and how. In their introductory chapter, Blokland and Savage trace the evolution of the concept and argue that we need to 'relate social capital to matrices of power and inequality' (p. 4) and 'to explore more fully, how

the actual ties and relationships which bring about social capital about are spatially and socially organised' (p. 4). This approach is a welcome antidote to some previous work which sees social capital as a panacea for all social ills, regardless of the effects of class, gender, race and space, such as that by Coleman (1988) and Putnam (2000), which has promoted overly simplistic policy initiatives. Rather, their approach builds on work, such as Leonard (2004), which has sought to unpick the immensely complicated social processes from which social capital arises, in particular exploring 'the specific kinds of inter-personal ties which facilitate mobilisation' (p. 4) and employing the concept of networked urbanism. This concept 'emphasises the need to understand contemporary "sociation" not in terms of bounded, small-scale communities with an intense public realm, but in terms of their decentralised, diffuse, and sprawling character' (pp. 4–5).

The book consists of three parts, *Social Capital and the End of Urbanism*, *Networks and Urban Social Capital* and *Urban Associations and Social Capital*. In the first part, Talja Blokland and Douglas Rae's chapter *The End to Urbanism: How the Changing Spatial Structure of Cities Affected its Social Capital Potentials* explores the changing structure of urban society, resulting, they argue, not in a loss of social capital, but a change in its form. It makes for slightly frustrating reading if the reader is not familiar with previously published work on the two studies on which the authors draw extensively. However, it provides an elucidation of the concept of networked urbanism, which is very useful for placing the subsequent two chapters in a theoretical context. These are Rowland G. Atkinson's article *The Flowing Enclave and the Misanthropy of Networked Affluence* and Bruce D. Haynes and Jesus Hernandez's article *Place, Space and Race: Monopolistic Group Closure and the Dark Side of Social Capital*. With much literature focussing on the role of social capital in relieving poverty and deprivation, it is refreshing to read about the workings of social capital in more affluent areas of society. In particular, these chapters make important points about the exclusionary nature of social capital, not in 'bonding social capital – bad', 'bridging social – good' type statements, but by pointing out that the use of social capital by privileged groups in order to maintain their privilege may have the flip side of excluding less privileged groups and keeping them in their less privileged positions.

In the second part, the focus of the papers shifts towards exploring networks. Alexandra M. Curley's chapter *A New Place, a New Network? Social Capital Effects of Residential Relocation for Poor Women*, is a particularly interesting read for those interested in the policy implications of social capital theory. Her study of a relocation programme aimed at deconcentrating poverty shows that the close ties can be both positive and negative for those living in deprived communities, and that while deconcentrating poverty can mean that women are freed from negative draining ties, they may also be freed from the supportive ties which enable them to survive their poverty (a trusted neighbour who can provide free child care, for example). Similarly, weak ties with more affluent communities are not necessarily positive if you do not possess the human and economic capital to make use of them and are not necessarily increased by relocation. For instance, weak ties are little use for finding better employment if you do not possess the qualifications or access to affordable child care which would enable you to apply for any positions of which you hear through these ties. Such points may seem obvious to those with knowledge of deprived communities, but the implementation of

relocation policy suggests that they are not obvious to the designers of such programmes. Talja Blokland and Floris Noordhoff's chapter *The Weakness of Weak Ties: Social Capital to Get Ahead Among the Urban Poor in Rotterdam and Amsterdam* further explores the social complexities of weak ties, in particular revealing how leveraging them can threaten independence and respect, especially for women, rather than empowering their possessors as is sometimes theorised. Meanwhile, Alberta Andreotti and Patrick Le Galès' chapter, *Middle Class Neighbourhood Attachment in Paris and Milan: Partial Exit and Profound Rootedness*, presents empirical evidence that a complete end to urbanism is not due anytime soon, at least in Europe. The middle classes remain rooted in urban communities, even if they have disengaged with public activities in the city to a large extent.

The voluntary association, an institution which has been central to the social capital literature since Putman (1993, 1995, 2000) singled it out for attention, comes under further consideration in the third part. Fiona Devine, Peter Halfpenny, Nadia Joanne Britton and Rosemary Mellor's chapter *Conserving the Past of a Quiet Suburb: Urban Politics, Association Networks and Speaking for 'the Community'* is perhaps the most disappointing article in this section of the book. Their descriptive account of the conflict between those wishing to develop and those wishing to conserve middle class Manchester suburbs, promises an enlightening critical analysis that never arrives. On the other hand, Blokland's chapter, *Gardening with a Little Help from Your (Middle Class) Friends: Bridging Social Capital Across Race and Class in a Mixed Neighbourhood*, really does provide insights into workings of social capital, and in particular why weak ties between heterogeneous groups do not necessarily provide the bridging type social capital thought to be so beneficial to communities. In her study of New Haven, Connecticut, Blokland shows how middle class ideology inspires some middle class bridge builders, while power relations between groups coupled with differing understandings of community and reciprocity mean that bridge building attempts can end up reinforcing discourses concerning class, race and poverty, with real opportunities for assisting individuals missed. Mike Savage, Gindo Tampubolon and Alan Warde employ social network analysis in their chapter, *Political Participation, Social Networks and the City*, to examine engagement within Manchester voluntary associations. Comparing a conservation society with a local branch of the Labour Party, they find that the network structures and interactions, institutional environment and the spatial distribution of such groups are important factors in the generation and maintenance of activism and social capital, as well as providing evidence that the difference between bridging and bonding social capital is not necessarily clear or helpful. Finally, Tim Butler looks at social capital in relation to the gentrification of various areas in inner London in his chapter *Social Capital and the Formation of London's Middle Classes*. He suggests that gentrification has resulted in the loss of Putman type social capital in the areas studied, with little engagement in the civic public realm compared to the emphasis placed on socially exclusive friendships ties amongst the gentrifying middle class incomers. However, to a reader not familiar with these areas, it is not clear what sort of social capital existed in these areas before gentrification, since this is not described. It seems to be assumed that such social capital existed simply because these areas were previously predominantly working class. This may be the case, but some evidence would have strengthened the

argument. However, Butler does produce a convincing account of the formation of middle class groups living separate and parallel lives to their non-middle class neighbours in gentrified areas under study and the construction of middle class ‘mini habitases’ in these groups.

In conclusion, then, *Networked Urbanism* provides a number of useful insights into the social and spatial processes behind the formation and working of social capital in relation to the contemporary city, revealing complexities that suggest there is plenty of room for the social capital debate to run for a good while yet. One minor complaint is the frequent typographic errors – nearly one on every page in some chapters – which sometimes impair understanding.

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Bernard GAZIER and Frédéric BRUGGEMAN (eds), *Restructuring Work and Employment in Europe – Managing Change in an Era of Globalisation*, Edward Elgar Publishing Cheltenham (UK), Northampton (MA, USA) 2008, 424 pp.

The book has been published using the knowledge base of Monitoring Innovating Restructuring in Europe (MIRE) project and benefited from exchanges with other projects in this specific field. More than 150 researchers, human development managers, trade unionists, outplacement and redeployment of re-employment experts, and members of territorial bodies participated in the project. As the authors wrote in the *Introduction*:

More than ever at the beginning of the new century, restructuring processes, the fears they inspire and changes they trigger, are the top of the European agenda. [...] One often implicit but persistent choice made by policymakers in Europe, has been and still is, not to abandon depressed areas when firms leave them, but to re-develop territories and help regions doing it. The choice is congruent with the strong propensity of many European workers to stay in their region of origin even if companies and job opportunities leave (p. 1.)

The reasons for dissatisfaction with the recent situation are:

1. Less favoured, less skilled and less adaptable are very often caught in a real trap, and may endure severe loss of income, prolonged unemployment and even poverty and exclusion. Not only in mature welfare states, but in New Member States (NMS) of the EU a new generation of rights has emerged, connected to career management, building competencies, coaching and reconciling work and family life. We could see a collective policy failure: we are still not able to reconcile necessary economic change with basic security for the common people.

2. Restructuring remains associated with fear and feeling of injustice and the EU is less seen as a protector against its consequence. The globalisation process and the evolution of institutions of the EU seem to converge in the connection of markets and the ascendancy of mobile capital over immobile labour. In this specific context the European Union seems to be a threat to employment security rather than solution. In the opinion of the reviewer coming from a NMS (Hungary) the protective role of the EU seems rather weak and indirect, while the globalisation process forced the workers into direct and unregulated competition.

3. Restructuring is becoming a permanent process (Tronti, Carabelli, 1999) and even profitable firms consider cutting jobs, reorganising production, externalising and offshoring activities. As a consequence it is no longer possible to deal with this problem on an ad hoc basis, and enduring responses are needed in the face of a permanent challenge.

There are 18 authors in the group, representing France, Sweden, Germany, Great Britain and Belgium, five 'old member states' of the EU. The majority of them are academics and researchers, with many of them having connections with market actors via national and international projects. They are specialists in a wide range of knowledge areas including management, business administration, economics, psychology, law, health, sociology, history and gender studies, organisational theory, and issues relating to labour and trade unions.

Some of the issues addressed in case studies include the corporatist regime of Belgium, the law driven restructuring system of France, the negotiated restructuring process in Germany, the 'Swedish model' and the market driven restructuring phases in the United Kingdom. These are all highly developed countries with a long history of the capitalist regime with well defined institutional backgrounds. However, it must be noted that the specific local/national roots of economic and administrative development resulted in quite different ways of, for example, negotiation, consultancy, or career assistance, but from the East-European point of view the major structures seems highly similar. One of the most important conclusions of the book is that we need to make use of the experience of those countries in developing comprehensive policies regarding creation of the missing institutions, NGOs, social workers networks and the routine paths of problem solving rather than deal with these problems on an *ad hoc* basis.

After a quite illuminating *Introduction* Frédéric Bruggeman and Bernard Gazier (the editors of the book) discuss the major elements of *Comparing Processes across Europe*. The title suggests a continent-wide review of the problems, however, the focus is on the well developed, highly industrialised part of the EU.

In the next two chapters – *The Restructuring Process: Towards a Comprehensive Analysis and Innovation: From Employment Protection to Anticipation* – Gazier and Dominique Bernard theorise on the process of restructuring and concentrate on a new model of solving the problem. After the five case studies the authors carried out a highly detailed investigation in the areas of company experiences (chapter 9.), the traditional and new roles of trade unions (chapter 10), and job transactions from the specific perspective of workers' representatives and agencies (chapter 11). Spatial issues are dealt with in chapter 12, discussing the role of regions (territorial units) and regional governments in the consultancy and negotiation phases of restructuring through local administrative capacities and knowledge, local development resources and activity in global investment markets. The next two chapters (13 and 14) concentrate on two new phenomena: networking employment groups, as bottom-up organised actors in direct and indirect personal help in the restructuring period, and health impacts before, under and after the restructuring, including physical and mental health. The unique way of thinking in MIRE project, as we can see in the book, is how to integrate new elements into the 'traditional' methods of problem solving and forming new focal points for the improved model. The question Claude Emanuel Triomphe asked in chapter 15 – *Does Europe Have Restructuring Policies?* – implies an answer – probably there are some useful elements, but we need a more proper political background for treatment of this specific problem. It is blindness on the part of the NMS representatives to look at restructuring as a process in which our countries 'get' industrial plants etc. from the 'West', thus creating new job opportunities, resulting in improvement of incomes and so on. There are at least two major aspects of the process from the NMS point of view: the emerging competition of the Pacific Economic Zone has resulted in job losses not just in 'traditional' industrial sectors, but also in high-tech industries and services, and the rate of unemployment in the Western part of the EU is increasing or stagnating, so the dynamic converging economies of NMSs will lose their major export markets and the possibility of a high rate of development.

The major question of the *Conclusion* is:

What would a coherent system of managing restructuring processes, that really focuses on the protection of the interest of the various actors involved, look like? To answer this question, one needs to heed innovations and understand them not as 'good (or bad) practices' that can be identified by case studies, but rather as a 'subject for decision' (p. 368).

The editors suggest that in the different countries the local/national regulations differ but the principles, stages and consequences of restructuring processes are similar. The mechanic use of models and methods is dangerous, the desirable result of intervention seems uncertain, far from the optimal way of problem solving.

In other words, countries often use the same basic tools to respond to the same type of problems with different legal and institutional resources and constraints (p. 368).

In the concluding chapter the editors defined the major steps of capacity building, the formation of multi-actor transition and risk management, and the specific roles of actors in the restructuring process. The authors also gave some general recommendations for policy-makers and potential actors at different territorial levels. They defined five cornerstones and blind spots as key elements of the successful management of the restructuring process.

The reviewed book is based on a specific project concerning economic restructuring with a particular focus on unemployment and re-employment. In comparison with some other recent works (Castree *et. al.*, 2004; Benner, 2002; Fagan and Webber, 1999; Herod, 2000; Jessop, 2001 and others) the connection with mainstream economic geography is relatively weak in this book, however, the authors tried to find the common points with some fundamental works. The outlook from the 'Western' point of view at least to the horizon of NMSs is still missing. The most important conclusions on transition and (industrial) restructuring (see e.g. Bradshaw, 1996; Pickles and Smith, 1998, Bradshaw and Stenning, 2004) could help them to generalise their impressive results.

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Stewart BARR, *Environment and Society: Sustainability, Policy and the Citizen, Studies in Environmental Policy and Practice*, Ashgate Aldershot (UK), Burlington (VT, USA) 2008, 280 pp.

Stewart Barr's book *Environment and Society: Sustainability, Policy and the Citizen* attempts to offer a practical response for policy-makers and society at large. The UK government, DEFRA-funded research aims to build a case for making sustainable lifestyles significantly more mainstream through methodologies and approaches that are linked to 'social marketing' and 'social-psychological research'. In so far as the average citizen in the UK has *not* responded positively to previous initiatives aiming to move towards sustainability, accounts for this research headed by Barr.

The contention and critique, aimed at human geographers, is that with the 'Scientisation' and politicisation of environmental issues and their solutions, the issue has become characterised as elitist and top-down, and consequently has failed to effectively persuade sufficient behavioural changes in the majority, to the degree that was 'rationally' expected. Furthermore, the assumption that individuals are 'rational agents' and therefore knowledge of (and by inference responsibility *for*) environmental problems will lead to concern and then the desired action by the individual (the policy-makers favoured 'linear' model of behaviour change) is challenged in this book. Barr argues for a more 'deliberative' perspective on behaviour change, which involves both the nature and manner in which information on the environment and sustainable development is presented and the pragmatic recognition of 'the spatial and temporal scales at which individuals are expected to take action' in response to such information. In short, the information is less prescriptive but more about democratically engaging, with the aim of not merely identifying solutions to problems but also 'reframing' the nature of the challenges to be met. The argument is that it is by further 'democratisation' of the sustainability issue at local levels, and by using the marketing skills already established in today's consumer society, and particularly the segmentation of society into groups warranting particular attention with specific messages aimed at determining a desired response, that the government's policy objectives and long-term sustainability strategy will arguably be more effectively met.

The book provides very useful introductory chapters on the dilemmas inherent in 'green issues' and some background to the increasing importance of the environment in terms of awareness, relevance, debate and policy actions at the international, national and personal level. Pertinent references are made to Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring*, Garrett Hardin's *Tragedy of the Commons* and the Club of Rome's *Limits of Growth* (1972). This latter provided the springboard for other international and UN meetings discussed, including Gro Harlem Brundtland's *Report of the World Commission on the Environment and Development* (1987), responsible for institutionalising of 'sustainability' and therefore the catalyst for the Rio Earth Summit, 1992 and its offshoot, *Agenda 21*. As well as bringing environmental issues to the fore in the developed world, the Rio Summit, through *Agenda 21*, incorporated many issues related to Third World concerns around poverty and development, and also emphasised for the first time the importance of individual and citizen participation, together with government institutions, in addressing environmental problems. The complex of ethical, social, economic, psycho-

logical and practical aspects related to 'green issues', policy development and behaviour are thoroughly covered in the first part. The second part, called *Perspectives*, includes two chapters *Behaviour Change: Policy and Practice* and *The Social Psychology of Environmental Action* engaged particularly with environmental policies in the UK and provides background to the research project evaluating the environmental attitudes and behaviour of 1,260 households divided between four areas in Devon, UK. The methodology employed, with its merits and shortcomings, is competently described. A wide range of factors were investigated, providing results that are interesting though not altogether surprising. The conundrum for the policy-makers is how to take up the challenge of effectively employing the marketing techniques recommended by the research team to persuade more constituents to behave in the manner desired.

Despite the excellent analytical engagement with the interrelated topics of sustainability and the citizen, something of deep importance was missing or neglected. As well as the increasingly relevant issues of population increase and environmental pollution, was the *unsustainability* of growth, which is dependant on continued extraction of non-renewable resources that were - and still are - adding to the constantly rising material standards of living of the developed world, standards, which are understandably seen as primary aspirations of the developing world. Debate about the extent of these resources there can be, but that they *are* finite, some more critically so than others and many technically irreplaceable, is not denied. However, long-term 'sustainability', in the analysis of this book, does not really address the profound implications of this point. Brundtland Report's emphasis on present human needs (poverty alleviation and redressing deepening inequalities) as central to sustainable development, built into the agenda and subsequent policies of the UN's environmental programmes. However, this is the proviso regarding the primary developmental needs of the world's poor and therefore a cue for the continuing growth model of the developed world. The inherent paradox, between the Western economic growth model and developing world aspirations, and the inevitable environmental cost, remains, and in practical, ethical and political terms is exemplified by the issue of climate change and the different stances taken by the major economic groupings in addressing it. To employ the persuasive skills of the developed consumer market economy may have minor positive impacts on *some* people's behaviour, but to address the *real* and profound environmental issues of the present surely greater political courage, imagination and leadership at the national and international level are desperately called for if the profound culture shift needed is to be realised.

The book should nevertheless be read as a 'rigorous alternative' (p. 258) to critical human geography and political ecology approaches. Generally, it is recommended for the academics, students at higher levels and the policy-makers looking for a comprehensive outline of many of the issues and challenges involved in environmental policy and the public. The description and explanation for empirical research, illuminated in the third part, should provide excellent insight for those engaged in research.

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Mike ROBINSON and David PICARD (eds), *The Framed World: Tourism, Tourist and Photography*, Leeds Metropolitan University, Leeds 2009, 263 pp.

Tourists love taking photographs. Very often they are associated with always taking photographs. They (including us) enjoy the 'snapshot moments'. Imagine the time when we, along with our family or friends, visited various 'exotic places' as enthusiastic as when we told our friends about the 'exotic experiences' in visual narratives when we came home. Taking photographs has become one of the most characteristic and symbolic moments in tourism for years.

While that activity seems a typical practice of tourists, there are interesting questions that emerge from this. Why do tourists take photographs? Why do tourists frame certain things or events? How do tourists photograph a vast variety of people, places and events? What does it mean when tourists shoot, capture or take photographs? How does tourism photography mediate or change the realm of the photographed? Who controls tourist photography and who owns the photographic images? Do tourist photographs need captions or voice-overs? What happens to tourist photographs once the tourists have returned home? What do those photographs tell us about the photographer and photographed?

Mike Robinson and David Picard now offer us new and fresh perspectives on understanding the relationship between tourism, tourists and photography together with an international and interdisciplinary team of contributors. They believe that the relationship will bring us into broader issues of sociality in tourism.

Robinson and Picard start their examination with providing the historical context of photography development. Imbued by the need of renaissance travel and exploration for recording the discovery process, photography started its role as representation and circulation medium to the vast majority of population in an ambiguous manner between artistic endeavour and the shift to objectification and recording things.

Photography then initiated new visual economy development from the late 1830s throughout the nineteenth century. A new term 'travel photography' emerged – a marriage between photography and travel, which was not only creating new tourism industry structure but also mirroring the society development marked and defined by the term of 'immediacy' reflecting a speeding up of social life and the closing down of distances.

In the early twentieth century, photography was controlled (in its production and circulation) by a small number of producers and publishers providing a series of views framed by the professionals. The idea of personalising the photograph was out of reach until the time of 'Kodak Brownie' revolution in 1900. Technology development provided brilliant innovation in making the personal camera. Everybody could take photographs now! New terms, such as 'tourist photography', 'holiday photography' or 'family photography' came into fashion.

Personal camera (followed by digital camera) had serious social impacts in a touristic context. It gave everyone more power (in capturing the world) than what was done by the professionals before. Suddenly everyone had the same absolute right and opportunity to determine where, when and how an object or situation was to be captured in tourist photographs. It was something that had never happened before. Now there is a direct, personal, intimate relationship between the photographers (tourists) and the photo-

graphed. Consequently the photograph narratives also became personal rather than performed in tourism brochures made by the professionals. There had been transfer of power and projection of social development stage as instant society.

Robinson and Picard use the historical context of photography development in building construction and re-construction of our understanding of various tourist, tourism and photography identities and terms. They examine the term 'capture' and our understanding of what is precisely captured in tourist photography. They also examine the meaning of 'framing' and 'performance' as well as the meaning of 'materiality' and 'memory' of photography. Although tourist photography has less significance outside the social context of family and friends, this book proposes to us a possibility that photography, and tourist photography particularly, actually has a unique and important role.

This fourteen-chapter book clearly provides us not only with a historical examination of photography, but also gives us a platform for deeper investigation to re-contextualise the photography in its very processes and meanings. It offers surprising perspectives on tourist, tourism and photography. Rather than provide us with rigid categorisation relating to the various approaches taken in the examination of tourism and photography, Robinson and Picard prefer to invite some authors to address their interests in tourism and photography from different historical, anthropological and sociological perspectives.

In chapter 2, Matthew Martinez and Patricia Albers offer a diachronic study of the visual techniques, ideologies and power relationships underlying the touristic enchantment, imaging and imagining Pueblo people in Northern New Mexico. Nineteenth century tourism photography is seen here as a powerful means of generating, diffusing and controlling a conventionalised representation of Pueblo people and their place within the wider social worlds of North American society.

Vassiliki Laloti, in chapter 3, analyses how the Greek National Tourism Organization uses virtual representations of 'Greekness' to define and position Greece as a tourism destination within an international, and primarily Western European context. Through a historical and ethnographic study of ancient Greek theatres as 'visual images', Laloti reveals the genealogy of the 'semiosphere' in which Greece and its capital, Athens, evolved and were touristically enchanted as the birthplace of secular European civilisation.

Chapter 4 deals with persistent and pervasive colonial representations and their global cultural context. Brian Cohen and Ilyssa Manspeizer study the dilemma faced by Western agencies working in the fields of relief and development; that of picturing 'Africa'.

Stan Frankland, in chapter 5, studies the tourist consumption of Pygmies as an ethnic tourism product and the way in which photography is implicated in this process. For Frankland, the touristic value of the Pygmy 'brand name' resides precisely in their social ethnic 'otherness' satisfying the touristic search for 'untouched' environments and populations.

Also within the seemingly constant context of colonialism, Elvi Whittaker, in chapter 6 analyses how tourism photography within the colonial realms of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries established a pervasive visual discourse about race and human difference. In these contexts, photographic technology was considered as truth-recording machinery, able to objectify images of the human condition and its presumed discontinuities.

In chapter 7, Teresa E. P Delfin studies how the visual rhetoric of tourism advertisements influences the imaginings and symbolic constructions of tourism reality. She

argues that the visual rhetoric of tourism advertising goes beyond the colonial trope of empty land, by marketing a trope of palimpsest, with layers of meaning to contribute to.

Janet Hoskins explores in chapter 8 the colonial stereotype of the native who 'fears that camera will steal his soul' and the alternative phantasm of 'global vampirism', both corresponding to a discursive formation in colonial thought. Colonial writings of the nineteenth century recurrently document stories about 'local superstitions' regarding the power of a photo camera to absorb into itself some of the vitality of photographed people or sacred objects.

In chapter 9 Andy Letcher, Jenny Blain and Robert Wallis analyse the contested interpretations and uses of stone circle in Stonehenge and Avebury, in England. Through a critical discourse analysis of pictorial representations by conservation agencies, the authors reveal how these stone circles are being produced and consumed as images of prehistoric sites.

Photographs are a central instrument in the 'making' of tourist sites or sights. In chapter 10, Celmara Pocock studies how photography has created the Great Barrier Reef in Australia as an object of tourism consumption.

Joyce Hsu-yen Yeh, in chapter 11, analyses tourism photography as a social act and a performance enabling the creation and mediation of sociality in both tourism and post-tourism contexts. Her study focuses on Taiwanese students she accompanied to England.

Rebecca Sobel in chapter 13 studies the progressive development of post-tourism narratives following forms of politically instrumentalised tourism to Israel. For Sobel, photographs become mediators for social and emotional links to a place.

Arguably, one of the most influential concepts in the study of tourism, that of the 'tourist gaze' as used by John Urry (1990, 2002) is examined in chapter 14 by Marie-Françoise Lanfant. Lanfant interrogates Urry's use of the term 'gaze' and reflects on it as being a departure point for a reflection on the complexity of what is shown, what is 'given to see' and what is actually seen in the field of tourism.

Finally, Robinson and Picard propose to us to embrace an approach which can bring different disciplinary lenses to bear and a range of methodological approaches. Actually we need to increasingly explore the many overlapping contexts, spaces and practices of tourist photography with photography in general so that we can better understand how tourists frame the world. Reading this book not only provides us with a lot of useful and rich materials for photography and tourism study, but also privately makes us realise that every time we are taking photographs, actually we are also taking part in the social practice of representing the world.

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