
Beijing Forum, 2-4 November 2007

The Beijing Forum, held annually in Beijing, China, seeks to promote the study of the humanities and social sciences in the Asia-Pacific region. Organized by Peking University, Beijing Municipal Commission for Education, and the Korean Foundation for Advanced Studies, the Fourth Forum in the series had as its theme 'Diversity in the development of human civilization'. It drew over 300 invited scholars from 35 different countries.

One of the eight concurrent panel sessions was on the 'Inspiration of human heritage for the progress of civilizations'. It was devoted largely to discussion of the preservation and management of human heritage and the theory and practice of cultural heritage conservation. A wide range of research and practice was presented by 38 participants. The subjects covered can be very broadly divided into two categories. One was the issues and challenges of conservation in the global context of socio-economic and political changes. The other was research on, and the practice of, preservation and conservation in China.

Papers were presented by representatives of major international organizations, including UNESCO and ICOMOS. In particular they highlighted problems of heritage preservation within the constraints of diversified development. A prominent topic was the need to establish and develop educational and specialized training programmes and international management networks for long-term conservation. Participants from China were mainly concerned with the relationship between heritage conservation and economic development, the role of heritage in social development and the ways of utilizing human

heritage. Rapid urbanization, increasing population and limited resources have created great pressure on heritage conservation in China. It was argued that interdisciplinary research, effective government policies and international collaboration were high priorities.

Two invited presentations on urban morphological perspectives on conservation in China were made by J. W. R. Whitehand and Kai Gu. Both papers, 'Conserving urban landscape heritage: a geographical approach' and 'Urban conservation in China: problems and needed research', explored the cross-cultural application of Conzenian concepts and methods in Chinese cities. Despite the rapid development of urban conservation in China in the past 30 years, they stressed that a major challenge for conservation planning is to identify methods by which historical urban landscapes can be maintained as functioning entities without losing their essential historicity. The morphogenetic approach advocated in the papers contrasted with the prevalent one in which individual sites and buildings are treated largely in geographical isolation, divorced from the historical processes of which they are an integral part.

The growing interest in urban morphology among Chinese researchers and practitioners was evident at this meeting, not least among the younger generation. Exciting developments are in prospect as East Asian countries become further integrated into international networks.

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Workshop on City History and Multi-scale Spatial Masterplanning London, UK, 11-16 October, 2007

This workshop organized by the Bartlett School of Graduate Studies, University College London, was the first of a series being carried out in conjunction with ARUP Group Limited and Space Syntax Limited. Funded by the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council, the main purpose was to set up a network to bring together UK and Chinese researchers with a common interest in 'the historical development of Chinese and European

cities, and spatial masterplanning' at a variety of scales and thereby stimulate collaborative research proposals. It is hoped that a good deal can be learned by these two countries sharing their different experiences of industrialization and urban expansion. The way in which urban structures relate to social cultures will be a main focus of the network.

Some 50 Chinese- and UK-based researchers

took part, and short presentations were made outlining present work and interests. Alan Penn, who hosted the meeting, spoke about the uncertainty concerning the future of the city in the West. Present government proposals to build large numbers of houses will lead, in some cases, to the densification of existing cities in the UK. This could be very damaging to the character of particular landscapes within those cities. Should development be encouraged outside existing cities along transportation corridors instead? We need to consider what might be the needs of the future population. How does this compare with the present situation in China where the massive scale of urbanization is beyond anything experienced in the West?

A number of presentations were made that dealt with matters of particular interest to urban morphologists. Jeremy Watson (ARUP) emphasized the importance of understanding historical legacies before any building is constructed, and not treating heritage in isolation; Nan Shi (Urban Planning Society of China) expressed his concern that urban regeneration was often a threat to historical preservation; and Kecheng Liu (Architectural Society of China) spoke of his personal commitment to cultural heritage conservation. In particular, he was concerned about regions in the west of China where

many people are poor, the environment polluted and the economy weak. Here preservation and conservation faced many problems. Luxin Huang (China Academy of Urban Planning and Design) commented on how important it was to influence planning, both provincial and national. Anrong Dang (Tsinghua University), a specialist in GIS and RS applications in urban planning, spoke of his work on a number of projects including one concerned with conservation planning for Beijing inner city; and Xingguo Zhang (Chongqing University) expressed his interest in working with partners interested in conservation and the development of urban space and forms.

The last two days, led by Ian Cooper (Eclipse Research Consultants), focused on groups of people working together to establish common interests and potential partnerships. A number of topics were outlined that might be starting points for the preparation of proposals for funding. The next meeting is scheduled to be in Shanghai in May 2008.

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ArchNet International Journal of Architectural Research

ArchNet International Journal of Architectural Research (ArchNet-IJAR) is an interdisciplinary scholarly journal of architecture, planning, and built environment studies, that is peer reviewed and published on the World Wide Web three times a year. The first volume appeared in 2007.

ArchNet-IJAR is published and archived by ARCHNET (<http://www.archnet.org>). ARCHNET is an online community of architects, planners, urban designers, interior designers, landscape architects and scholars working in these fields. The journal is produced by the MIT School of Architecture and Planning in close co-operation with The Aga Khan Trust for Culture, an agency of the Aga Khan Development Network.

The *ArchNet-IJAR* objective is to establish a bridge between theory and practice in the fields of architectural and design research, and urban

planning and built environment studies. The journal reports on the latest research findings – for example, on approaches for creating responsive environments. There is an emphasis on architecture and planning in developing countries. A major aim is to strengthen ties between scholars from different parts of the world and attract contributors and readers from across geographical boundaries and cultures.

Articles come from architects, interior designers, planners and landscape architects, and from those working in these fields in academic institutions, universities, research centres, government agencies, and private practice.

Enquiries should be directed to Ashraf Salama, Chief Editor, *ArchNet-IJAR*, Qatar University, Qatar (E-mail: IJAR@MIT.EDU).

Fourteenth International Seminar on Urban Form, Ouro Preto, Brazil, 28-31 August 2007

This was the first ISUF conference to be held outside Europe and North America. It was also by far the largest ISUF conference to date. Out of 412 abstracts submitted by prospective speakers, 220 survived the vetting process and formed the basis for presentations at the conference. The number of participants, 310, was also a record, as was the number attending from countries as far away as China (14) and Russia (10). However, the Centro de Artes e Convenções da Universidade Federal de Ouro Preto and the local hotels were well able to cope with this influx of urban morphologists, provision for visitors in this rather remote town having been stimulated by its designation as a World Heritage Site in 1980. The Brazilian organizers of the conference, led by Staël de Alvarenga Pereira Costa (Universidade de Federal de Minas Gerais), are to be congratulated on their organization of this unexpectedly large and very productive event.

For those arriving in good time, a prelude to the conference was a walking tour of Ouro Preto led by June Komisar (Ryerson University) who has undertaken detailed research on the town over a number of years. Brought into existence by the discovery of gold at the end of the seventeenth century, the town now known as Ouro Preto developed as a series of hamlets located in relation to the veins of gold and connected by paths across the mountainous landscape. The gradual consolidation of these initial settlements, with their often prominent churches, and the planning in the early eighteenth century of a town centre (Figure 1) were

among the themes developed during the tour.

After the official opening of the conference, the paper sessions began with a keynote address by Ivor Samuels (University of Birmingham and Oxford Brookes University) on typomorphology and urban design practice. It was exemplified largely by work done in England, but the wide relevance of his argument was manifest. At its core was the application of the explanatory powers of urban morphology in planning practice. He argued that this is not only a matter of managing conservation and change in historical urban landscapes, but also of using the lessons learned from past landscapes to create new ones. In particular he argued for the much greater emphasis on enduring structures, such as the pattern of streets and plots, as distinct from the relatively ephemeral architectural superstructure. Major parts of Samuels's argument are developed elsewhere in this issue (pp. 58-62).

The ensuing proceedings that day and in the following two days covered a very wide range of topics, most of them dealt with in concurrent sessions of paper presentations. There were also five further plenary sessions and a New Researchers' Forum. The plenary sessions covered five themes: non-Western cities; urban morphology and computers; urban form and density; architecture and urban design restoration; and open spaces, squares, forms and landscape. As always, a good deal of fruitful discussion took place during informal exchanges during coffee breaks (Figure 2)



Figure 1. Part of the main core area of Ouro Preto, with the eighteenth-century central plaza in the middle ground.



Figure 2. A gathering of participants during one of the coffee breaks.



Figure 3. Applications of the methods examined in the workshop being discussed in the field.

and at meal times. All submitted papers were made available to participants on DVD.

Immediately following the conference, about 50 of the participants took part in a two-day workshop on the Brazilian, English and Italian 'schools' of urban morphology. In the case of each school there were presentations on basic tenets and methods, discussions of applications to the case of Ouro Preto, and demonstrations in the field (Figure 3).

Before returning to their respective countries in distant parts of the world, many participants took part in one of four excursions. These were in Belo Horizonte, Brasilia, Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo. Providing a brief view of some of the landscapes of Brazil's burgeoning cities, they were a fitting finale.

Before this conference, participation by Brazilians in the activities of ISUF had been limited

to a dozen or so members. It has become evident during the past 18 months, in the course of preparing for the conference in Ouro Preto and at the conference itself, that the interest in urban morphology in Brazil is very substantial. Visits to ISUF's website from Brazil are in frequency now third only to those from the United States and the United Kingdom. It is to be hoped that the momentum that has been created by the first ISUF conference in Brazil will be reflected in South American participation in forthcoming ISUF events in other parts of the world.

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ISUF business meetings, Ouro Preto, Brazil, August 2007

Meetings of the Council and Editorial Board of ISUF took place on Tuesday 28 August in Ouro Preto, immediately before the annual conference. A General Meeting of ISUF took place during the conference. This report covers all three meetings.

Secretary-General's report

The decision to hold the conference in 2008 in

Rabat, Morocco, was reviewed owing to organizational difficulties experienced by the local organizer. Abdellah Abarkan was seeking alternative venues. If the conference could not be relocated to another venue in Morocco, it would be held in Italy in association with the meeting of ISUF Italia.

The conference in 2009 would be held at South China University of Technology (SCUT),

Guangzhou, China from Friday 4 September to Monday 7 September 2009. The principal organizer would be Professor Yinsheng Tian of the Department of Architecture at SCUT. Dr Kai Gu of the University of Auckland would co-ordinate the conference on behalf of the Council of ISUF.

Treasurer's report

Keith Lilley was unable to attend the meetings but submitted a report which indicated that ISUF's finances were healthy. For the year 2006/7 payments exceeded receipts but money overdue from institutional subscriptions should offset the deficit. The Treasurer thanked Professor Abdellah Abarkan for the funds received from the Stockholm conference.

ISUF's main expenditure continued to be the production of *Urban Morphology* and it was noted that there had been a small increase in costs this year.

The number of individual members continued to grow. Members who had joined in Ouro Preto would benefit from an extended membership period until 31 December 2008. This would include free copies of the journal. The Treasurer noted that an improved membership database for both individual and institutional members was needed. He recommended that consideration be given to the appointment of a Membership Secretary.

Editor's report

Jeremy Whitehand reported that there had been some improvement in the quality of articles received but there was still a need to improve diversity. In particular more submissions would be welcome from outside Europe and North America. Regional reviews and thematic progress reviews were continuing. The flow of 'viewpoints' remained satisfactory, but it was hoped to enlarge the size of the book review section.

Access to the journal through the website is available for the early issues (up to and including 2001). Library subscribers have access to recent issues. It is hoped to provide free access as soon as possible to library subscribers for the whole run of issues.

The flow of manuscripts has been such that the number of pages in the journal has remained at the increased level of Volume 10. About one-third of the articles submitted were accepted for publication.

During 2006/7 the average time lapse between receipt of revised version of an article and publication was approximately 6.5 months. This is the longest time lapse since the journal began, but is still substantially less than for most journals.

New appointments

To fill the vacancies created by the retirement of Sylvain Malfroy, Attilio Petruccioli and Jeremy Whitehand, and the appointment of Nicola Marzot as Secretary-General, the following people were elected to Council: Abdellah Abarkan, Jason Gilliland, Peter Larkham and Shigeru Satoh. Kai Gu was co-opted onto the Council. Emily Talen was appointed to the Editorial Board, following the retirement of Anne-Sophie Cléménçon.

Webmaster's report

Elwin Koster was unable to attend the meetings, but submitted a written report. The website continued to grow in 2006/7. A user database has been set up on which users can add and change their own data. It is hoped to expand the database so that it can be used for conference registration.

Regional associations

Giuseppe Strappa reported that ISUF Italia had had three meetings so far and these had been very successful. 42 individuals had joined the Group. Current members are all from an architectural background. It is hoped to attract others, such as Italian geographers, in order to maintain the interdisciplinary ethos of ISUF.

New Researchers' Forum

It was agreed that there should be greater encouragement for younger members and that they should have a more substantial time allocation at conferences. Their participation in regional associations should be encouraged and their contributions to a Newsletter were welcomed.

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Visual planning and urbanism in the mid-twentieth century: conference at Newcastle upon Tyne, UK, 11-13 September 2007

Planning attitudes with a particular focus on visual and three-dimensional planning have been insufficiently studied in histories of modernism. This conference, sponsored by the UK Arts and Humanities Research Council, focused on 'a strand of more practical urbanism, modernist in flavour but historically informed [which sought] to recover positive conceptions of the city and town after the perceived deprivations of the nineteenth century'. Dealing with a timespan similar to that of narratives of modernist planning which targeted a radical reformation of the city – from the CIAM doctrine codified by the Athens Charter to the de-urbanist proposals of Frank Lloyd Wright's Broadacre City – most of the attitudes discussed in the conference papers remained critical of such radical restructuring. Facing demand for speedy transformation and the post-war need for reconstruction and conservation, they were formulated in order to cope with pressures exerted by twentieth-century modernization. Having been developed in the UK and having acquired international following, the concept of 'townscape' is well known, although its history has only recently been researched. However, the conference revealed that this was one among many visual planning concepts developed in countries such as Italy, Spain, Germany, Greece, France, Japan and India.

The conference was planned as part of the research and archival project 'Town and townscape: the work and life of Thomas Sharp'. A significant voice within the post-1930s debates on the development of and the threats to town and countryside, Thomas Sharp had a lasting influence in the UK and beyond. Produced just before the rebuilding that occurred after the Second World War, his plans for historic cities such as Oxford, Exeter and Durham (most published by the Architectural Press in book form) were formative in the development and dissemination of townscape as urban design and town planning pedagogy, and in setting precedents for the planning profession. Accompanied by an exhibition of Sharp's personal papers, drawings, and books catalogued and conserved in the collection by the project, the conference also presented an opportunity to introduce scholars to this unique collection (see www.ncl.ac.uk/library/sharp/index.php for more information).

The conference opened with an introduction by John Pendlebury (Newcastle University, and leader of the 'Town and townscape' project). There

followed a keynote paper by Heleni Porfyriou of Centro di Conservazione delle Opere d'Arte, Rome. Providing a historical introduction to visual planning, Porfyriou's paper on 'The legacy of Camillo Sitte from civic art to visual planning' recontextualized Sitte's oeuvre with reference to the nineteenth-century scientific foundations of his analysis of cities. Porfyriou noted that epistemological discoveries of subjective vision had a fundamental influence on Sitte's formulation of an art of urban space. Addressing the uninformed criticism that dismissed the work of Sitte as being a result of aesthetic preference based on scenographic arrangement, Porfyriou stated that Sitte was interested in 'the act of seeing', that is 'the physiological mechanism that gives rise to the perception of space on which all architectural effects are based' in order to explore the ramifications of scientific discovery in urban design.

Porfyriou's paper was followed by a historical re-evaluation of a tradition of pictorial composition in British architectural practice. Studying 'sketchbooks of collages of details and scenes' as inspirational precedents for future work, Michael Hebbert and Andrew Crompton (University of Manchester) argued that such practices, and knowledge acquired via such practices, are as valuable for the design of urban spaces as are theoretical explorations in architectural education. Jos Bosman (Eindhoven University of Technology) evaluated the 'German *stadtbild* discussion applied to English pastoral imagery' in the post-war reconstruction work of Werner Hasper in Kassel and Rudolph Schwarz in Cologne. Nicholas Bullock (Cambridge University) further demonstrated the tension between visual planning attitudes and the standpoints of CIAM in his examination of the work of Gaston Bardet and his supporters in France. Bardet was in vigorous and successful antagonism to Le Corbusier's urbanism in demanding a reconciliation of modernism with older French traditions and conservation of heritage. Bullock argued that by presenting an alternative approach in journals such as *Architecture Française* and *Urbanisme*, Bardet's approach was most influential in French post-war reconstruction.

Francesca Bonfante and Christina Pallini (Politecnico di Milano) pointed to the wealth of theoretical work after the Second World War in response to the urgency of maintaining the

historical dimension and geographical context of cities. The growing awareness among Italian architects of a unified approach to architecture and town planning that was structurally, functionally and morphologically flexible and adequate for city reconstruction was further clarified by Filippo de Pieri (Politecnico di Torino). He focused on the increased use of visual media in promoting urban conservation and redefining national identity. Eamon Caniffe (Manchester Metropolitan University) concluded the session on Italian reconstruction by pointing to the division between those who saw the potential of the Italian urban environment for tourism and those, such as the adherents of Team X, who claimed to see beyond that to an underlying structure.

The two sessions dedicated to work on Thomas Sharp opened with the personal reflections of Kathy Stansfield (now editor of *The Structural Engineer*), author of an MA thesis on the life and work of Thomas Sharp, a version of which was published in 1981 as a chapter in Gordon Cherry's *Pioneers in British planning*. In his keynote paper, Stephen Ward (Oxford Brookes University) presented an elaborate reassessment of Sharp's planning and writing career. He drew attention to the need to reposition Sharp more centrally in the history of the planning discipline and profession, especially of the 1930s and 1940s. According to Ward, British planning history, traditionally told largely in terms of the garden city and modernism, does not do justice to Sharp, although his impact on both camps is evident. John Pendlebury (Newcastle University) added that although visual planning was central to Sharp's approach, he was antagonistic to the garden city and suburb as well as social segregation and functional zoning. Sharp gave priority to pedestrians, mixed use and the street as the urban building block – views that seemed anachronistic at the time but which have now become commonplace. His emphasis on the conservation of urban character came into conflict with local and national priorities at the time of his plan for Chichester, according to the detailed and lively account by Peter Larkham (Birmingham City University). Erdem Erten (Izmir Institute of Technology) presented the results of his research on the Sharp collection which focused on Sharp's close collaboration with the *Architectural Review* in the development and dissemination of 'townscape', especially during the publication of his plans for Durham, Exeter, Oxford and Salisbury by the Architectural Press, the company that also produced the magazine edited and half-owned by H. de C. Hastings.

Nadia Fava (University of Girona) introduced her research on Leon Jaussely's Romulus plan of 1905 for Barcelona. Providing a foretaste of Sitte's principles put into practice, Jaussely accompanied his plans with 21 perspectives depicting the quality of urban space. Andrea Yuri Urushima (Kyoto University) and Keiichi Kobayashi (Tohoku University) presented their research on the echoes of 'townscape' in Japanese urbanism. Urushima focused on Uzo Nishiyama's role in opposing mainstream planning currents and his distrust of grandiose modernist planning schemes while looking for alternative approaches to city form.

Gordon Cullen's work on Calcutta (now Kolkata) in the 1960s was presented by Monica K. Bhargava (Centre of Built Environment, Calcutta). Bhargava, a collaborator of Santosh Gosh who had worked with Cullen, showed some of Cullen's unpublished sketches to illustrate his 'townscape' proposals for the city. Barnabas Calder (British Architectural Library, London) described the conflict between Denys Lasdun and Thomas Sharp stemming from Lasdun's proposals for tower blocks in Cambridge. Calder argued that the opposition between advocates of New Brutalism and those of 'townscape' was not as radically apparent in the New Brutalists' design principles: the New Brutalists owed debts to Sharp and his contemporaries.

Alluding to Robert Venturi's remarks on America's Main Street, the paper by Eleanor Smith Morris (Commonwealth Human Ecology Council) on 'Is New Urbanism almost all right?' established affinities between Thomas Sharp's approach and New Urbanism, sparking discussion on whether Sharp would have approved of New Urbanism. Aidan While and Malcolm Tait (University of Sheffield) reflected on Sharp's response to Princesshay in his plan for Exeter with reference to the dynamics of contemporary conservation practice, and how Sharp reconciled the demands of reconstruction and pedestrian experience with the memory of the blitzed city. Adding the final touch of theory, Andrew Law (Newcastle University) argued that the language of 'townscape', including the writings of Thomas Sharp, share an 'Anglo-American romantic language of organicism and landscape that has its roots in a philosophical and ideographic movement of the late nineteenth and early twentieth century'. Law warned that Sharp's language sometimes borders on an 'urban organic essentialism', connected to a 'twentieth-century imaginary of the urban as a living organism that could be growing in both 'healthy' and 'unhealthy' ways'.

On the final day, participants chose one of two field trips based on Sharp's planning career. While one party visited Durham, the spectacular cathedral city for which Sharp's plan was published in 1945, a second party visited a number of villages in northern England that Sharp analysed in his classic *The anatomy of the village*. Places visited included Kielder, built and only partially realized according to Sharp's designs for the Forestry Commission, and Stonehaugh and Byness, villages inspired by Sharp's studies for his book.

It is hoped that this conference will be one contribution among many to investigations into the history of strategies and pedagogical positions developed in response to emergent planning problems which aimed to mediate the pressures of a modern, technology-driven society and the need

for conservation in reconstruction. Although most historical work still concentrates on ideas on improving the 'functional performance' of the city or the post-war 'neo-avant-garde', these histories can only be made more meaningful when complemented by recent research on alternative positions. The most significant outcome of this conference was that the papers pointed to the possibility for alternative historical narratives. It is hoped that the results will soon be disseminated to a wider audience in various publications.

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ISUF 2009: Urban morphology and urban transformation

The Sixteenth International Seminar on Urban Form (ISUF 2009), co-hosted by South China University of Technology and Guangzhou Urban Planning Bureau, will take place in Guangzhou, China from Friday 4 September to Monday 7 September 2009. The theme of the conference is *Urban morphology and urban transformation*. The organizers and the Council of ISUF invite participation in the Conference by interested academics and professionals. Topics on which proposals are particularly welcome include:

- Urban morphological theory
- Urban morphology, planning and design
- Urban morphology and architectural design
- New developments in research on building typology
- Typological research, planning and design
- Cities in transition
- Cities in a global era
- Urban form in Asia
- Traditional urban form
- Urban heritage and change
- Geospatial technology in urban morphology

Proposals for papers should take the form of abstracts of papers, in either English or Chinese. They should be prepared in the following format: title of paper, author(s) name, affiliation, address, e-mail address, telephone number, key words and 250-word abstract. They should be addressed to

Professor Yinsheng Tian, Department of Architecture, College of Architecture and Civil Engineering, South China University of Technology, Guangzhou 510640, P. R. China (e-mail: ISUF2009@scut.edu.cn). Abstracts of papers must be received on or before 31 December 2008. Notification of whether abstracts have been accepted will be provided by 1 March 2009. Those whose abstracts have been accepted will be required to pay a registration fee by 15 June 2009 to have their papers included in the conference programme. The registration fee includes membership of ISUF, and conference lunches and dinners.

Following acceptance of abstracts, submission of papers (not exceeding 4000 words) is optional. If submitted, they should be received by Professor Tian by 15 July 2009. Authors should consult the notes for the guidance of contributors to *Urban Morphology*, available on the ISUF website (www.urbanform.org) or in recent copies of the journal, before preparing their papers. Selected papers may be published after the conference.

The official conference languages are English and Chinese. There will be a New Researchers' Forum, in which researchers new to the field are invited to take part. New researchers should indicate when they submit their abstracts whether they would like to be included in the New Researchers' Forum.

The city of Guangzhou, with over 2000 years of



South China University of Technology, Guangzhou: venue of ISUF 2009.

history, is the third largest city in China. Capital of one of the most economically dynamic provinces in China and located some 120 kilometres north west of Hong Kong, Guangzhou is the southern gateway of China. A number of excursions to places in the city and the region will be featured.

Enquiries and suggestions concerning the conference should be forwarded to Professor Yinsheng

Tian (e-mail: ISUF2009@scut.edu.cn), or Dr Kai Gu (e-mail: k.gu@auckland.ac.nz). The Conference organizing committee comprises Yinsheng Tian and Yunding Lu, South China University of Technology; Dong Wang and Haojun Ye, Guangzhou Urban Planning Bureau; Kai Gu, University of Auckland; and J. W. R. Whitehand, University of Birmingham.

Heritage Regeneration International

It is becoming increasingly recognized that historical buildings provide a foundation for regeneration. They reinforce communities, contribute to local economies and act as catalysts for far reaching improvements.

There are still many places around the world where the regeneration potential of historical structures is not recognized and communities are failing to gain the substantial benefits they could bring. Traditional buildings are often seen as out-dated and are swept away in favour of more fashionable, global styles. This process can destroy

what is unique about a place, erasing its identity, beauty and a huge repository of traditional crafts.

Heritage Regeneration International is a new initiative established to help communities obtain the skills and knowledge to benefit from the regeneration of their historical buildings. It is led by a small group with experience of initiating heritage regeneration projects, and connected to an international network of like-minded professionals.

Further information is available from Richard Dollamore at info@heritageregenerationinternational.org.uk
