

can only be a matter of emphasis and not of sharp systematic division' (Conzen, 1969, p. 4).

One main goal was to propose a number of fundamental concepts for the explanation of town plans on evolutionary lines, using this market town for demonstration. In line with the pressure of the editor to reduce special terminology to a minimum, Smailes suggested that the glossary of technical terms should be eliminated. Conzen very reluctantly acquiesced in this, but successfully argued for the retention of a number of tables that quantified development by historical periods. He believed that the elimination of these quantitative features that had been suggested by Smailes would be an important methodological loss.

The preparation of the shortened version of the monograph, now about 48 000 words, incorporated the referee's and the editor's suggestions. Elimination of the glossary, meant that each technical term needed to be defined where it first occurred in the text. The opportunity was also taken to rearrange parts of the text and improve the presentation of major themes, in particular the discussion of fringe belts. In this process Conzen was supported by Herbert J. Fleure, who had considerable editorial experience and a long-term interest in urban morphology.

The final revised version included some new illustrations and some redesigned ones. There were in total 21 figures (maps and plans), some of them folded maps and a number in colour, and four plates. The use of coloured and folded illustrations was in Conzen's view absolutely necessary, but increased considerably the cost of publication.

As the IBG was a professional organization publishing on a non-profit basis, Steel asked Conzen to seek more financial contributions. The application for financial support to the Rector of King's College, Dr C. I. C. Bosanquet, was successful. In addition to the financial support provided by King's College, the Rector appealed to local institutions and individuals. The Sir James Knott Trust, the Duke of Northumberland, Lord Howick, Sir Steven Runciman, Mr William Robertson and the Rector himself, all contributed. This made it possible for several of the maps to be pull-outs and printed in two or three colours. The Rector's personal interest in the work was of major importance.

In October 1960, over 3 years after completion of the original manuscript, *Alnwick* was finally published. It has turned out to be a groundbreaking contribution to urban morphology. We can only speculate as to whether any of those involved in the efforts in the late 1950s to achieve its publication would have forecast such an outcome.

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Recent developments in the Caniggian School

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Over the last 2 decades, there has been an increasing interest in the theoretical and practical framework progressively developed by Gianfranco Caniggia. It has been manifested in a variety of journal articles, books and conference presentations. The English translation of the seminal book on processual typology (Caniggia and Maffei, 2001), published on the occasion of the ISUF conference in Cincinnati, was in a sense an invitation, addressed to an international audience, to reflect

on the content and method of Caniggia's work. Since the second edition of this translation is about to appear, it is timely to reflect on the main emerging lines of research.

The role of Saverio Muratori

Several contributions specifically address the role of Saverio Muratori, who was undoubtedly the

founding father of urban morphology and building typology in Italy, and of whom Caniggia was a former pupil. In particular these publications outline the innovativeness of Muratori's didactic methods in countering the still prevailing modernistic approach (Menghini and Palmieri, 2009); his originality as a practising architect (Maretto, 2012a); the importance of his position in the national and international debate on theory in architecture and urban design (Cataldi, 2013); and the unpublished research work he was developing, up to the very end, on the territorial framework envisaged at a global scale (Tagliacruzchi, 2015).

The anthropic space as an organism

Some authors were stressing the assimilation of the anthropic space as an organism, distinctive of Caniggia's approach, which tended to adapt to changes of agency according to phases and cycles (Maffei, 2003). In particular they were considering as still being relevant the need to interpret human activity in the transformation of the natural landscape through the correlation of scales, or levels of complexity, from the territorial to the architectural (D'Amato Guerrieri and Strappa, 2002). These authors continue to reveal the enduring vitality of Caniggian method in understanding the specificity of the European context (Strappa *et al.*, 2003), finding important confirmations abroad (Neglia, 2009), and additionally explaining the correlation between basic buildings and specialized ones (Maffei and Maffei, 2011).

Understanding modernity

The Caniggian method was also successfully applied to understanding and representing contemporary phenomena, notwithstanding that it was originally conceived, and later developed, in relation to analysis of the historical development of the city. In particular it seemed very fertile and inspirational in promoting the emerging claim for sustainability in urban design (Maretto, 2012b); in the morphological definition of the periphery (Strappa, 2012); in evaluating the role of construction in modern architecture (Strappa, 2014); and in clarifying the loss of territorial control in the Network City model owing to the overarching role of multi-modal infrastructures (Purini *et al.*, 2006).

The crisis and issue of the urban recycle

The most recent development of the Caniggian legacy can be traced back to the effect of the worldwide financial crisis on the many processes of densification, systematically propelled by globalization over the last 2 decades. As an immediate consequence, considerable quantities of land and vacant buildings became available as a stimulus to rethinking the form of European cities suffering heavily from recession. This condition has been creating increasing interest in recycling strategies. In comparison with very successful research programmes, like *Re_cycle Italy*, only processual typology seems to offer a consistent epistemic foundation for these strategies (Bonetti *et al.*, 2016). In this light, there is justification for the new English edition of Caniggia and Maffei's book, published on the occasion of the Twenty-Fourth ISUF Conference in Valencia (Caniggia and Maffei, 2017).

Dissemination of urban morphology

Last, but not least, there has been the continuing contribution of the Caniggian school in disseminating the discipline of urban morphology, spreading its principles and creating cross-fertilization with other research groups. This has been achieved through the many papers published in *Urban Morphology* and *U+D urbanform and design* (the recently launched organ of the Regional Network, ISUF Italy); international conferences (Trani, 2003; Artimino, 2008; Delft, 2012; Rome 2015 and Rome 2017) and seminars celebrating Caniggia (Cernobbio, 2002) and Muratori's centennial (hosted in Modena, 2010; Venice, 2011; Rome, 2011; Genova, 2011; Milano, 2012 and Delft, 2012); and dissemination of the pivotal work of leading international researchers such as M. R. G. Conzen (Cataldi *et al.*, 2012) and Jeremy Whitehand (Marzot, 2014).

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