

from secondary reading, and not at all as original or engaging as the early Rotunda study, or the associated studies of the Lock Hospital and Hospital for Incurables, all of which were based on archival sources.

Despite the problems which this reviewer found with the structure, there is much here that is useful and original. Immense effort was invested in mapping the locations, and relocations, of so many institutions, some of which are notoriously difficult to pin down. Different aspects of architectural theory, most notably the work of Foucault, have been applied to this study with valuable results. In the epilogue, Boyd argues for the 'theatrical consistency' of Sackville Street and the persistence of a 'backstage Dublin', with its disease, poverty and vice still beyond the control of successive administrations irrespective of their political ideologies or cultural affiliations. In bravely tackling this shadowland, so much more elusive and poorly documented (by definition) than the 'monumental city', Boyd has modelled what might be done elsewhere.

This series is noted for the quality and number of its images and Boyd's text does not disappoint. The quality of practically all 96 illustrations is splendid. There is a judicious mixture of ground plans (some redrawn), elevations, contemporary map extracts and original maps constructed for this text, which are very carefully placed, and utilised to the full in the discussion. There are some delightful plates drawn from contemporary journals and guide books and, for comparison's sake, several illustrations from case studies outside Dublin. While it may seem a minor quibble, a list of the sources employed, for example primary manuscript sources listed by repository, followed by primary printed sources, would be a lot more useful than the two-page essay appended here, followed by a mixed list of printed materials. The editors might also be persuaded to allow footnotes for such studies as this which rely heavily on primary sources and need to be tightly referenced.

The advertising note claims that this book 'challenges the vision of eighteenth-century Dublin as an ideal Protestant city by investigating the hidden world behind its wide streets and magnificent Georgian façades'. The vice and poverty of eighteenth-century Dublin have been widely acknowledged by researchers for many years; for example, in the excellent work of Edel Sheridan, published in 2001 in this series, in the edited volume *Dublin through space and time, c. 900 - 1900*. Boyd's book does much more than expose the underbelly of the eighteenth-century

city; through its combination of architectural, planning and geographical perspectives, and their associated theories, it provides insights into the personalities, forces, and processes that have shaped the city – all of its spaces – both overtly and covertly.

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The Calgary project: urban form / urban life by *Beverly A. Sandalack* and *Andrei Nicolai*, University of Calgary Press, Calgary, AB, Canada, 2006, 209 pp. ISBN 1-55238-217-6.

In *The Calgary Project*, Beverly Sandalack and Andrei Nicolai trace the evolution of Calgary's urban form, providing a detailed history of its development by examining the city and its forms from the scale of the building to that of the regional. Calgary, a city of roughly one million citizens, is currently enjoying great wealth due to Alberta's booming oil and gas industry. Its history, however, is relatively short, having started in 1875 when it was established as a fort for the North West Mounted Police. Calgary's rapid growth, through the many dramatic booms and busts of Alberta's frontier economy, is detailed by the authors.

The book's primary chapters each focus on a distinct era of the city's history, detailing the changes which were imparted to the city's built form in each era, as well as the dominant actors and approaches to city building. Each of these chapters is organized in a similar structure, allowing for comparisons across eras as well as presenting the research in a logical, easily navigated volume.

After a short introduction, each chapter includes a section on the ideas, plans and planning of the era, where the authors detail opinions and preferences of the public, developers and planners. As in many other cities, tensions often existed amongst these actors. Development plans and goals were repeatedly drawn up, especially for the downtown core, only to be later shelved due to lack of support, which at times included fierce public opposition. The subsequent section in each chapter describes the spatial structure of the city, focusing on the distribution of land uses, transportation network development, and parks and public spaces. Especially of interest in this section is a discussion

of the development of the city's infrastructure, including water, sewage, power and communication systems. Although not as glamorous as other elements of the city, acknowledgment of the role that these essential services play in shaping the city is critical in explaining urban morphogenesis.

In the following section, entitled 'Urban form and urban types', the authors focus on specific areas of the city, including the downtown and residential neighbourhoods, allowing for finer-scale analysis of these areas. Since the entire city could not be studied at such a micro-scale, representative neighbourhoods are examined with the use of clever graphics showing land use, plots and building footprints. Elements of the streetscape and architectural styles are also illustrated for each of the eras. The book is well illustrated throughout with many photographs, maps and computer generated diagrams which add greatly to the discussion; however, many of the figures are too small to be fully appreciated.

The final chapter of the book raises the question 'Where to next?' By detailing the course of development throughout Calgary's history, the authors present a platform from which this question can begin to be answered. It is necessary to understand how and why the city's present shape has come to be. Although not always ideal, the current urban form has been inherited from past development shaped by ideas and pressures of the time in which it was created. Consideration of this allows for improvements to the existing fabric to be approached with greater understanding and success. Also, by learning from the past, it is possible to better shape new areas of the city. An appreciation of a city's history, such as that presented in this volume, is instrumental in guiding its future.

The public realm is one topic on which the authors highlight the need for greater attention in the future. They are concerned by the lack of consideration that the public realm has received in recent developments. In the past, as shown by their analysis, the public realm was intrinsic in development, but recently has been largely ignored or privatized. With such knowledge the future

development and redevelopment can be more attentive to public spaces, for it is in these areas that cities shine with creativity, networking and culture.

Sandalack and Nicolai have undertaken a townscape analysis of Calgary in order to illustrate the evolution of the city's urban fabric. They took a similar approach in their study of Halifax (Sandalack and Nicolai, 1998), although it can be argued that *The Calgary Project* offers a more refined version. Their approach melds morphological analysis with techniques of urban design and planning to provide a comprehensive picture of the city. These techniques make the book of interest to those who wish to learn how to read and interpret the landscape of a city. In addition, the book's potential audience includes those who are interested in Calgary's history specifically, and the development of Canadian cities in general.

A city of only 4000 people at the turn of the twentieth century, Calgary has experienced rapid development over the last century that continues today fuelled by the oil and gas industry. Its history is relatively short; its fabric has been woven over a brief period. As explained by the authors, its form has had little time to enter into a mature state; whereas many European cities have had successive generations of development and redevelopment in which their forms can be refined. Although still in its temperamental adolescent years, Calgary has the potential to mature into a fine city. This process is only possible with an understanding of the city's past, its growth and evolution, such as is provided by this book.

Reference

Sandalack, B. A. and Nicolai, A. (1998) *Urban structure – Halifax: an urban design approach* (Tuns Press, Halifax, NS, Canada).

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